

***Interactive comment on “The AACES field experiments: SMOS calibration and validation across the Murrumbidgee River catchment” by S. Peischl et al.***

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We acknowledge the feedback by the reviewer and his suggestions to improve our manuscript.

Comment: A description of the aircraft platform used for collecting the data would be useful.

Response: We have included some additional information on the aircraft platform in the airborne data description in section 3.

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“The airborne measurements were conducted using a single-engine fixed-wing aircraft, which can carry a typical science payload of up to 250 kg in addition to a scientist and pilot. The typical cruising speed is about 150-270 km h<sup>-1</sup> with a range of 9 hrs reserve (5 hrs for maximum payload). The aircraft ceiling is 3000 m or up to 6000 m with oxygen supply. The scientific equipment carried during experiments is installed in an underbelly pod and in the wingtips. The aircraft navigation and flight lines for the experiments, as well as instrument statuses are displayed via a computer screen in front of the scientist/co-pilot.”

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Interactive comment on Hydrol. Earth Syst. Sci. Discuss., 9, 2763, 2012.

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