

Interactive comment on “Evaluation of drought propagation in an ensemble mean of large-scale hydrological models” by A. F. Van Loon et al.

Anonymous Referee #2

Received and published: 4 September 2012

This paper by Van Loon et al. evaluates the propagation of drought through 10 hydrological or land-surface models. I found this to be a good, interesting paper and well thought out. It is also useful because it shows (1) how capable the current generation of models are in capturing droughts, and (2) suggestions for improving the models. I have a few comments, but these are only minor suggestions and I believe the paper will make a good contribution to HESS.

There are a few instances in the text where the English is not grammatically correct. I won't go through all individual cases here (e.g. p8397 line 9 "a immediate" should be "an immediate"). Also, this is a pedantic comment, but in a number of cases "less" is used, when "fewer" should be used e.g. P8376 line 17; p8388 line 25 (this mainly

C4103

occurred when talking about droughts).

I think there are a few cases when "Mean discharge" is mentioned, but I think the authors really should say "Mean runoff" e.g. p8382 line 22, p8383 line 1.

On page 8384 in section 2.3.2, it would be useful to add a sentence on aggregating the data in certain models from 1 hour to 24 hour resolution. Also, out of interest do the finer temporal resolution (1hr) models perform better than the coarser resolution (24hr) models?

Does the Narsjo catchment have any snow storage (p8382 lines 24-25)?

P8387-8388: I think it would be best to talk about "rows" instead of "panels"; this may make it easier for the reader to view the figures.

Interactive comment on Hydrol. Earth Syst. Sci. Discuss., 9, 8375, 2012.