

Title: Matching the Turc-Budyko functions with the complementary evaporation relationship: consequences for the drying power of the air and the Priestley-Taylor coefficient

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This manuscript aimed to relate the Budyko curve with the complementary relation of evaporation and then explore the varying coefficient α in the Priestley-Taylor equation (which was redefined) to calculate potential evaporation. Furthermore, a function was proposed to relate this coefficient with the shape parameter of the Budyko hypothesis and aridity index. It is an interesting research. However, some improvements are required. Especially the significance needs further highlighting.

Detailed comments

1. In this manuscript, the authors introduced a new parameter α_0 into the complementary relationship between potential evaporation and actual evaporation. In fact, E_0 estimated by equation (3) and E_p estimated by equation (2) are equivalent in this manuscript. Therefore, α_0 represents the ratio between radiative item and aerodynamic item in the potential evaporation calculated by the Penman equation. The variation in α_0 can be revealed according to Penman equation. Therefore, more discussion was required to show the theoretical significance of this manuscript. In application of estimating actual evaporation, this method has a precondition, which is to determine α_0 according to Budyko curve. However, the Budyko curve has an ability of estimating actual evaporation. What is the objective of estimating α_0 using the Budyko curve and then estimating actual evaporation using the CE?
2. According to equations (6), (7) and (3) (If E_0 and E_p are equivalent), it can yield

$$E = (2\alpha_w - \alpha_0) \frac{\Delta}{\Delta + \gamma} R_n.$$

Where $\alpha_w = 1.26$, α_0 is determined by aridity index and the parameter λ , which is a constant in a special catchment because of constant aridity index and the parameter λ . Therefore, E only depends on R_n (temperature has a small impact on Δ and γ). The rationality needs more discussion.

3. In this manuscript, α_0 was named the Priestley-Taylor coefficient to calculate potential evaporation, and at the same time, another Priestley-Taylor coefficient $\alpha_w = 1.26$ in the Priestley-Taylor equation was used to calculate the wet environment evaporation. It is likely to cause confusion.

4. The timescale should be pointed out when relate the BT to CE, because the BT is general used on the long-term time scale or annual scale.
5. Turc-Budyko curves should be replaced with Budyko-Type curves.
6. P.4, line 24, more explanation on $\alpha w \leq \alpha_0 \leq 2\alpha w$ are required.