

Responses to reviewer#1

We thank the reviewer for his/her diligent effort to help improve the manuscript. In the following please find our point-by-point response to these comments, marked with a “R:”

- 5 1) NCAR Community Land Model Version 4.5 (CLM4.5) is a big component in this study. The authors may need to give more information about CLM4.5 by summarizing the main characteristic of CLM4.5.

R: The following texts have been added in the revised manuscript to describe the characteristic of CLM:

10 “Surface heterogeneity in CLM is represented using a nested hierarchy of grid cells, land units, snow/soil columns, and plant functional types (PFTs). Different PFTs differ in physiological, structural and biogeochemical parameters. Within each vegetated land unit, multiple columns can exist, and multiple PFTs can share a column; vegetation state variables, surface mass and energy fluxes are solved at the PFT level, and soil parameters and processes are solved at the column level. Surface fluxes at the grid cell level (e.g., ET) are the area-weighted average across different components (PFTs, columns, and land units).”

15 2) HR could be expressed in different spatial scale (i.e., patch scale and/or landscape scale). The authors may need to clarify this point. Also recent studies show that HR in cases with groundwater are significantly in contrast to the cases without ground water. However, at this time the information about the root depth/distribution, the potential access to ground water is lacked.

R: For the scale, we have explained the routine practice in applying land surface models to a site and try to avoid calling it a specific scale, namely, “At each study site, the simulations were implemented for the footprint of eddy flux tower” (lines 5-20 6, page 4).

The following sentences have been added to illustrate the root depth/distribution information and the potential access to groundwater:

“There are ten active soil layers in CLM, and a maximum depth of 3.8 m is used in this study (Table 3). The PFT-level root fraction r_i in each soil layer is,

$$25 \quad r_i = \begin{cases} 0.5 \cdot [exp(-r_a z_{i-1}) + exp(-r_b z_{i-1}) - exp(-r_a z_i) + exp(-r_b z_i)] & \text{for } 1 \leq i < 10 \\ 0.5 \cdot [exp(-r_a z_{i-1}) + exp(-r_b z_{i-1})] & \text{for } i = 10 \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

where z_i is the depth at the bottom of soil layer i , and z_0 is zero. The PFT-dependent root distribution parameters r_a and r_b are adopted from Zeng (2001). From Equation (1), r_i decreases exponentially with depth. In the present study, roots did not have access to groundwater through the simulation periods at all sites except US-Wrc where groundwater could rise into the tenth soil layer during the wet season. However, the groundwater level was below the tenth soil layers during dry season when HR occurred at the US-Wrc site as shown in Results section 3.1.2” (lines 8-16, page 4).

30 3) Indeed, there are some studies which have simulated the magnitude of HR flux itself and also the effects of HR on ET and vegetation. Thus, the authors may change the focus of novelty in this study. Would the novelty of this study focus on the comparison in the eight Ameriflux sites characterized by contrasting climate regimes and multiple vegetation types? Especially the six new sites along the Southern California Climate Gradient where HR has been less investigated? The integration of empirical data into CLM 4.5?

R: To clarify this, we revised the corresponding sentences in abstract and introduction sections:

Changed from: 'few (if any) has tackle the magnitude of the HR flux itself or the soil moisture dynamics from which HR magnitude can be directly inferred', to: 'few (if any) has done cross-site comparisons for contrasting climate regimes and multiple vegetation types via the integration of measurement and modeling'.

5 In introduction section:

Changed from: "However, most of these studies focused on how including HR might improve the model performance in simulating ET and in some cases soil moisture, and few (if any) has tackled the magnitude of the HR flux itself or the soil moisture dynamics from which HR magnitude can be directly inferred. It is not clear from these previous studies whether the HR-derived model performance might be caused by HR compensating for other hydrological deficiencies in the default model" to "Currently, few (if any) has investigated the effects of HR on land surface water and energy cycles in a comprehensive manner by using both the monitoring and modeling methods for contrasting climate regimes and multiple vegetation types";

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Changed from: 'The objective of this study is to examine the performance of a commonly used modeling approach, the Ryel et al. (2002) approach, in capturing the magnitude of HR flux and/or soil moisture dynamics from which HR can be directly inferred', to: 'The objectives of this study are to investigate the impact of HR on land surface water and energy budgets based on both observational data and numerical modeling, and to explore how the impact may depend on climate regimes and vegetation conditions. Observed soil moisture at the six Southern California Climate Gradient sites was corrected for temperature first, and then HR signal was checked using the wavelet method. The modeling investigation is done through incorporating the HR scheme of Ryel et al. (2002) into the NCAR Community Land Model Version 4.5 (CLM4.5). To apply the hybrid model to the eight AmeriFlux sites, we first examined the performance of the hybrid model in capturing the magnitude of HR flux and/or soil moisture diel fluctuation from which a reasonable HR flux magnitude can be directly inferred; we then analyzed the role of HR in the water and energy cycles. The sensitivity of the modelled HR to parameters and the uncertainty in the modeling were also investigated in the present study. (lines 1-9, page 3)

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4) HR could also affect vegetation photosynthesis, growth, and dynamics. The results of vegetation dynamics as affected by HR may need to be included. There are also potentially two way interactions between vegetation and HR.

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R: Vegetation dynamics is simulated in our following-up study that investigates the influences of HR on plant growth and more importantly on carbon/nitrogen cycles. Interestingly, for the HR impact on surface water and energy budgets, the results based on dynamic vegetation (which are being included as supplemental materials for our follow-up paper on carbon and nitrogen dynamics) are qualitatively similar. In the present manuscript however, we stick to the prescribed LAI so that the model and observational data pertain to the same vegetation conditions. However, in response to this comment, we have added the rationale of using prescribed LAI:

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'More subtle and interesting sources of uncertainty also likely influenced the model-measurement match. For example, strong inter-annual variation of precipitation, fire, and recovery from fire caused rather abrupt changes of PFT coverage and LAI at the US-SCs site. The US-SCg site is undergoing restoration to a native grassland community, and a large community

of ephemeral annuals comes up following winter or summer rains at the US-SCc site. These variations were difficult to capture by satellite remote sensing data but undoubtedly affected soil moisture and ET in interesting ways. Without detailed ground-observational data to quantify them, simulations in this study used a climatological LAI seasonal cycle'. (lines 7-13, page 13)

- 5) The modeling simulations tend to overestimate HR as compared to field studies. There are some studies which argue the dynamics root uptake (compensation) and plant water storage by stems could undermine the magnitude of HR. These points may need to be recognized in some details in the discussion.

R: we had calibrated and analyzed the magnitude of the HR flux in the present study, as shown in the method (lines 14-20, page 5) and results section (section '3.1.1 HR flux simulations').

- The influences of the dynamic root uptake and plant water storage by stems on HR simulation have been mentioned, and two more references have been added in the discussion section in the revised manuscript, as

"In addition, the effects of several important factors warrant further investigation, including for example the root architecture (Yu and D'Odorico, 2014), dynamic root water uptake (Zheng and Wang, 2007), deep tap roots (Markewitz et al., 2010), above ground storage capacity (Hultine et al., 2003), temperature fluctuation-driven vapor transport within soil (Warren et al., 2015), and macro-pore flow (Fu et al., 2012,14). It is also important to compare different representations of HR models (Amenu and Kumar, 2008; Quijano and Kumar, 2015) to examine uncertainties related to model structure. (lines 23-28, page 13)

- Other minors points: Abstract (page 1): there are some sentences which are very similar with those in the main text. The authors may want to rephrase these sentences.

R: we have done some slight revisions to the abstract.

line 25: it may be better to specify what the model-measurement match are.

R: It is now specified that the match is for "evapotranspiration, Bowen ratio, and soil moisture dynamics".

Introduction line 1 (page 2): delete soil moisture content since you have already talked about soil water potential gradient.

- May add isotope since isotope is another major method.

R: Some former studies did monitor soil water potential or soil moisture only, so we decided to keep both variables. Isotope method and corresponding reference have been added.

line 4: may delete "following a precipitation event". Hydraulic descent generally occur after rainfall events, but not necessarily since in theory hydraulic descent occur as long as soil water potential in the shallow soil is higher than that in deep soil.

- R: We have specified it to be "usually following a precipitation event" (line 5, page2).

Line 12: delete "found" and also two ","

R: "found" and corresponding colon have been deleted in the revised manuscript.

Line 13: may need to give more information about dynamics root uptake since some readers (especially the beginners studying HR) may not know this well. Line 15: again, the authors may need to change the novelty of this study.

R: The following annotations have been added to illustrate the dynamic root uptake, “(preferential uptake of moisture from areas of the root zone where moisture is more available, Lai and Katul, 2000)”. (lines 15-16, page2)

5 Line 17: the authors may need to add more information about “compensating for other hydrological deficiencies in the default model”. I guess that not too many readers as beginners studying HR know about this.

R: we have deleted this sentence during rephrasing the novelty of the study.

Line 25: add “that” between “show” and “trees and shrubs: :”

R: Added.

10 Page 3 Line 1: change “use modeling approach, the Ryel et al. (2002) approach,” to “use modeling approach by Ryel et al. (2002)”

R: we have deleted this sentence during rephrasing the novelty of the study.

Line 2: delete “from which HR can be directly inferred”? since it is obvious that the magnitude of HR flux is determined by soil water potential gradient (soil moisture) based on Ryel et al. (2002) approach

15 R: What was ‘inferred’ here is the validity of the magnitude of HR, so we are apt to keep it unchanged.

Page 4 Line 9: what is the time scale of vegetation dynamics in CLM4.5. Or do you keep vegetation dynamics static in the model?

R: In the revised manuscript, we have added: ‘The plant growth and carbon / nitrogen cycles were not simulated in this study. Instead, LAIs for each PFT were prescribed based on observational data’. (lines 1-2, page4)

20 Line 27: change “for” to “because of”

R: Changed to “due to”.

Page 6 The results about figure 1: some points may need to be clarified. First: is the soil moisture reported as the daily or 30 min value? Second: when I analyzed the soil moisture value in the shallow and deep soil with and without HR for US-SRM, there is clearly hydraulic descent. But when looking at the soil moisture value in the shallow and deep soil with and without

25 HR for US-Wrc, the red line (without HR) is consistently lower than the blue line (with HR) for some period (may be dry seasons when HR is significant), which means that hydraulic lift (HL) occurs across all the soil profile (0-230 cm). This is in contrast to what is shown in figure 3.

R: ‘at daily time scale’ has been added to illustrate the time scale in Fig. 1. (line 22, page 6)

30 Actually, the red line (without HR) is NOT consistently lower than the blue line (with HR). The red line (without HR) was lower than the blue line (with HR) above 29 cm and was higher than the blue line below “49 cm” during dry periods at US-Wrc site, illustrating hydraulic lift from below 49 cm to above 29 cm, and it was consistent with what was shown in Fig. 3.

Page 7 Line 4: change Table 6 to Table 5? Since the authors showed Table 6 before Table 5 in the result section

R: The sequence of the Tables has been corrected.

Line 18: sap flow measurements are usually done for individual trees (patch scale). The authors may need to check whether Scott et al (2008) report the values of HR for individual trees (patch scale) or landscape scale.

R: Scott et al (2008) reported the values of HR for landscape scale/ecosystem scale, and we have added “at ecosystem scale” in the revised manuscript. (line 8, page 8)

5 Line 25: the authors may want to present the results to appendix.

R: we have presented the results as Fig. S9 in appendix.

Page 10 Line 16: while doing sensitivity analysis, the range of CRT (0.1-1.5) seems to be large with an order of magnitude. Did the author try other values with narrower range (say 0.4-0.8)? The study “Modeled hydraulic redistribution in tree-grass, CAM-grass, and tree-CAM associations: the implications of Crassulacean Acid Metabolism (CAM).” shows that HL is not sensitive to CRT with narrower range.

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R: As shown in Fig. S10, the modeled HL was sensitive to CRT even with a narrow range, such as 0.5-0.75.

Line 23: change “Measurement and modeling both” to “Modeling simulations”? since HR is not directly measured in this study.

R: we have changed “Measurement and modeling both” to “The cross-ecosystem comparisons” in the revised manuscript.

15 Page 11 Line 8-10: change “The US-Wrc panel in Fig. 4 also shows: : ... (It is worth noting that the CLM4.5+HR model does not include the temperature fluctuation-driven vapor transport within soil shown by Warren et al. (2011))” to “The US-Wrc panel in Fig. 4 also shows: : ..., although the CLM4.5+HR model does not include the temperature fluctuation-driven vapor transport within soil shown by Warren et al. (2011)”?

20 R: The contents in parenthesis are for information only, and are not closely related to the preceding sentence. So no change has been made.

Line 12: change 2 m to 2000 mm

R: Changed as suggested.

Line 13-15: change the sentence “Hydraulic descent is limited, averaging 5.0 mm H₂O yr⁻¹ during 1999-2012, perhaps because soil moisture is higher with depth, limiting the driving gradient for hydraulic descent. ” to “Hydraulic descent is limited with the average values being 5.0 mm H₂O yr⁻¹ during 1999-2012”? If soil moisture is higher with depth, HL would occur.

25

R: Changed as suggested.

Line 25: may need add reference about bedrock if it is available.

R: ‘as shown in Kitajima et al. (2013)’ has been added in the revised manuscript.

30 Page 13 Line 2-4: the authors may need to give more information about “deep water uptake” (Markewitz et al., 2010), “HR representation models” (Amenu and Kumar, 2008; Quijano and Kumar, 2015) or rephrase “deep water uptake” and “HR representation models”. At this time, there are not clear.

R: About deep water uptake, we have changed it to ‘deep tap roots (Markewitz et al., 2010); we have also changed “HR representation models” to “It is also important to compare different representations of HR models ...” in the revised manuscript. (lines 25-27, page 13)

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Responses to reviewer#2

We thank the reviewer for his/her diligent effort to help improve the manuscript. In the following please find our point-by-point response to these comments, marked with a “R:”

Specific Comments

1. In this manuscript, it is stated that the Ryel HR scheme (Ryel et al., 2012) is used. However, there are some differences between the Equation 1, which representing the HR process, of this manuscript and the original equation (i.e., Equation 6 in Ryel et al., 2012): (1) This manuscript: c_j , the factor reducing soil-root conductance in the giving soil layer j ; Ryel et al.: $\max(c_i, c_j)$, the larger one of the two factors in the receiving soil layer i and the giving soil layer j ; (2) In the denominator: This manuscript: $F_{root}(j)$, the root fraction in the giving soil layer j ; Ryel et al.: This parameter can be $F_{root}(i)$ or $F_{root}(j)$, which depends on the comparison between soil moisture of the layer i and that of the layer j ; (3) This manuscript: It is not explicitly stated whether HR occurs during daytime in the modeling; Ryel et al.: It is stated that HR is “turned off” during daytime in the modeling of their study. These aspects can be explained in this manuscript.

R: The implementation is the same as described in Ryel et al. 2012. In the manuscript, i and j have been stated as receiving and giving soil layers, respectively, which means that the soil water potential $\varphi_j > \varphi_i$. According to the Equation 7 in Ryel et al., 2012 (namely Equations (2) in the present study), $c_j = 1 \div [1 + (\varphi_j \div \varphi_{50})^b]$, with $b=3.22$ and $\varphi_{50} = -1$ MPa, $\varphi_j > \varphi_i$ implies that $c_j > c_i$, so $c_j = \max(c_i, c_j)$.

In our simulation, we assumed that water was able to be transferred from giving layer j to receive receiving layer i only under condition of $\varphi_j > \varphi_i$ and $\theta_j > \theta_i$. This assumption is only very slightly different from that in Reyl et al., 2002. We also set the HR off during the day. In the revised manuscript, we have added the following note: “ D is a switching factor, set to 1.0 during night and 0.0 during the day since, during day time, the transpiration-induced gradient of water potential within a plant continuum dictates a transport of water from roots to leaves”.

In addition, if the definition of C_{RT} here is same as that of Ryel et al., “of the entire active root system for water” needs to be added after “soil-root conductance” in Page 4 Line 19.

R: It has been added as suggested.

2. Root distribution along the vertical direction in the soil column is an important input in the HR modeling. In Page 4 Line 20, it is mentioned that the root distribution is based on Zeng (2001). More information about root distribution can be

provided (e.g., how is the root distribution represented; Root-distribution differences between the eight AmeriFlux sites; etc.). This information can be helpful for the readers to understand the simulation results.

R: In the revised manuscript, we have added the following note:

“There are ten active soil layers in CLM, and a maximum depth of 3.8 m is used in this study (Table 3). The PFT-level root fraction r_i in each soil layer is,

$$r_i = \begin{cases} 0.5 \cdot [exp(-r_a z_{i-1}) + exp(-r_b z_{i-1}) - exp(-r_a z_i) + exp(-r_b z_i)] & \text{for } 1 \leq i < 10 \\ 0.5 \cdot [exp(-r_a z_{i-1}) + exp(-r_b z_{i-1})] & \text{for } i = 10 \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

where z_i is the depth at the bottom of soil layer i , and z_0 is zero. The PFT-dependent root distribution parameters r_a and r_b are adopted from Zeng (2001). From Equation (1), r_i decreases exponentially with depth”.

Technical Corrections

10 Page 1 Line 18: Add “land” between “on” and “surface water”.

R: Changed as suggested.

Page 1 Line 19: Replace “it” with “the impact”.

R: Changed as suggested.

Page 2 Lines 8-9: Remove “do so by”.

15 Page 2 Line 9: Replace “incorporating” with “incorporate”.

R: we think the original expression may reflect our thoughts better.

Page 2 Line 9: Add “e.g.,” before “Ryel et al., 2002” (because some studies listed did not use the Ryel HR scheme, for example, Lee et al., 2005).

R: Changed as suggested.

20 Page 2 Line 24: Replace “CA” with “California”.

R: Changed as suggested.

Page 2 Line 30: Replace “2m of soil” with “2-m soil layer”.

R: Changed as suggested.

Page 3 Line 1: Replace “objective” with “objectives”; Replace “is” with “are”.

25 R: Changed as suggested.

Page 3 Lines 1-2: Replace “modeling approach, the Ryel et al. (2002) approach,” with “HR scheme (or model ?) (Ryel et al., 2002)”.

R: we have changed “the Ryel et al. (2002) approach” to “the HR scheme of Ryel et al. (2002)” throughout the manuscript.

Page 3 Line 3: Add “land” between “on” and “surface water”; Replace “it” with “the impact”.

30 R: Changed as suggested.

Page 3 Line 4: Rephrase “This is done through incorporating Ryel et al.’s (2002) simple empirical equation for HR flux” to be “For these objectives, we incorporated the Ryel HR scheme”.

Page 3 Line 5: Add “(CLM4.5)” after “4.5”; Replace “applying” with “applied”; Remove “the” before “eight AmeriFlux sites”.

R: we have rephrased the novelty of the present study in the revised manuscript, and correspondingly this sentence has been rephrased to “The modeling investigation is done through incorporating the HR scheme of Ryel et al. (2002) into the NCAR

5 Community Land Model Version 4.5 (CLM4.5)”.

Because we have described these eight sites, we would like to keep “the” before “eight AmeriFlux sites”.

Page 3 Line 20: Replace “degrees C” with “°C”.

R: Changed as suggested.

Page 4 Line 12: Replace “quantify” with “represent”; Replace “Ryel et al.’s (2002) equation” with “the Ryel HR scheme
10 (Ryel et al., 2002)”.

R: Changed as suggested.

Page 4 Lines 12-14: Rephrase “This equation has been widely used in HR modeling studies (Lee et al., 2005; Zheng and Wang, 2007; Wang, 2011; Li et al., 2012) and its variations (e.g. Yu and D’Odorico, 2015).” to be “Many HR modeling studies used this HR scheme (e.g., Zheng and Wang, 2007; Wang, 2011; Li et al., 2012) or its variations (e.g., Lee et al.,
15 2005; Yu and D’Odorico, 2015).”.

R: Changed as suggested.

Page 4 Line 25: Rephrase “The relationship between root hydraulic conductivities and soil moisture in equation (2) is similar to ...” to be “The relationship of Equation 2 is similar to ...”. (because the description is not accurate)

R: In the revised manuscript, we have deleted this sentence to avoid confusion.

20 Page 4 Line 28: Replace “equation 1” with “Equation 1”.

R: Changed as suggested.

Page 5 Line 1: Replace “MPb” with “MPa”.

R: Changed as suggested.

Page 5 Line 2: Replace ““Ryel et al. 2002” equation” with “Ryel HR scheme”.

25 R: Changed as suggested.

Page 5 Line 6: Add “Clapp and Hornberger” between “influences of” and ‘ “B” ’.

R: Changed as suggested.

Page 5 Line 6: Replace “based on” with “in the”.

R: Changed as suggested.

30 Page 5 Line 11: Replace ‘ “B”s ’ with ‘ “B” values ’; Replace “lower” with “deeper”.

R: Changed as suggested.

Page 5 Lines 12-13: Rephrase “... identical parameter “B” tuned ...” to be “... the identical “B” value tuned ...”.

R: Changed as suggested.

Page 5 Lines 16-17: Remove “for the sites”.

- R: Changed as suggested.
- Page 5 Line 23: The meaning of “conservatively” is not clear.
- R: “were used conservatively” has been changed to “were used more cautiously” in the revised manuscript.
- Page 5 Lines 25-26: “... in surrounding portions of the signal trace ...” is not clear.
- 5 R: annotation of “larger oscillations beginning around day 180 in the 5 cm trace” has been added.
- Page 5 Line 26: Add “existence of” before “HR”.
- R: Changed as suggested.
- Page 6 Line 4: Replace “increment” with “soil layer”.
- R: Changed as suggested.
- 10 Page 6 Line 12: Add “ – ” after “the models”.
- R: Changed as suggested.
- Page 6 Lines 20-21: Remove the comma “ , ”; Remove “US-SRM”; Add “at this site” after “... 90-100 cm depths”.
- R: Changed as suggested.
- Page 6 Line 22: Replace “rain” with “soil water”; Replace “surface” with “shallow”; Rephrase “it could be delivered by
- 15 percolation alone” to be “the percolation process”.
- R: we have revised this sentence to “when root systems redistribute the infiltrated rainwater from shallow to deep soils faster than it could be delivered by percolation alone”. We think “infiltrated rainwater” is more suitable than “soil water” here; we are apt to keep “it could be delivered by percolation alone” unchanged, because two processes were referred here: hydraulic descent via roots and percolation through the soil.
- 20 Page 6 Line 31: The “hydrological effect” was “far lower” than what?
- R: “(than wetter sites such as US-Wrc)” has been added here.
- Page 7 Line 14: Add “flux” after “HR”.
- R: Changed as suggested.
- Page 7 Line 16: Replace “... the magnitude of ...” with “... the magnitude in the ...”. (to make this sentence more readable)
- 25 R: Changed as suggested.
- Page 7 Line 19: The hydraulic descent magnitude (12 – 38 mm/day and 35 mm/day) seems to be very large. Please verify these values.
- R: yes, we have checked. The hydraulic descent at the SRM site did have such magnitude at ecosystem scale.
- Page 7 Line 25: “..., the maximum depth of HR-induced soil moisture increases ...” is not clear.
- 30 R: we have changed it to “the maximum depth at which the HR-induced soil moisture increases are identifiable”.
- Page 7 Lines 28-29: “... used soil suction to roughly control the magnitude of HR ...” is not clear.
- R: we described it in section 2.3 as “At the three drier southern California sites (US-SCw, US-SCc, and US-SCd), C_{RT} was further adjusted to relatively small values (0.05-0.1) to limit the hydraulic descent in order to reduce the model bias for soil water potential during dry periods. If $C_{RT} > 0.1$, the modeled soil water potential would be always higher than -1 MPa during

dry periods, which is not realistic for such dry sites”. To keep consistence and remove confusion, we have changed “soil suction” to “soil water potential” here.

Page 8 Line 3: Remove “+HR” after “CLM4.5”; Replace “percent” with “percentage points”.

R: Changed as suggested.

- 5 Page 8 Line 5: Add “those of” before “decreased soil moisture”.

R: Changed as suggested.

Page 8 Line 8: Remove “at the six Southern California US-SC sites”.

R: US-Wrc and US-SRM do not belong to the six Southern California US-SC sites, so we need to keep “at the six Southern California US-SC sites” unchanged here.

- 10 Page 8 Line 11: Add “in” before “2011”.

R: Changed as suggested.

Page 8 Line 13: Replace “Ryel et al.’s (2002) HR model” with “the Ryel HR scheme”.

R: Changed as suggested.

Page 8 Line 14: Remove “up to 1%”; Add “ (up to 1%) ” after “soil moisture”.

- 15 R: Changed as suggested.

Page 8 Line 15: Remove “up to 4%”; Add “ (up to 4%) ” after “soil moisture”.

R: Changed as suggested.

Page 8 Line 16: Remove “%”; Add “ (in the unit of %) ” after “soil moisture change”.

R: Changed as suggested.

- 20 Page 8 Line 18: Switch “site” and “US-Wrc”.

R: Changed as suggested.

Page 8 Line 19: Switch “HR” and “downward”.

R: Changed as suggested.

- 25 Page 8 Lines 23-24: “... , a gradient in the depth and temporal extent of HR on modeled soil moisture was clear.” needs to be rephrased.

R: it has been changed to “a gradient in the vertical and temporal effect of HR on modeled soil moisture was clear”.

Page 8 Line 27: Add “range” after “depth”; Replace “influence of HR” with “HR influence”.

R: Changed as suggested.

Page 8 Line 29: Add “H2O” between “mm” and “d-1”. (to be consistent with the same unit in this paragraph)

- 30 R: Changed as suggested.

Page 8 Lines 30-32: It is not clear these results are from a specific year, or average values of multiple years?

R: “for all simulation years” has been added here.

Page 9 Line 4: Replace “varying” with “various”.

R: Changed as suggested.

Page 9 Line 7: Remove “also improvement”.

R: we are apt to keep it unchanged here.

Page 9 Line 9: Remove “(hourly) ”.

R: Changed as suggested.

5 Page 9 Line 9: These results are average values of one year, or multiple years?

R: “for all simulation years” has been added here.

Page 9 Line 10: Replace “tends” with “tended”.

R: Changed as suggested.

Page 9 Line 10: Remove “observed mid-day”. (These words are redundant.)

10 R: Changed as suggested.

Page 9 Lines 10-11: Fig. 6 shows that, for most circumstances, the modeled high ET values from CLM4.5+HR are closer to the observations, as compared to those from CLM4.5. This point can be put forward around here.

R: the following sentence has been added “Under most circumstances, the simulated ET peaks in CLM4.5+HR are closer to observations than those in CLM4.5”.

15 Page 9 Lines 17-18: “... was subsequently taken up from deeper layers by plants during transpiration.” – But soil water in deep layers could also be transferred to the shallow soil via the upward HR process when plant transpiration rate is low.

R: Hydraulic lift might occur later, but the lifted soil water to shallow soil layers was also mainly consumed by transpiration. This sentence has been changed to “... was eventually consumed by plants during subsequent transpiration”.

20 Page 9 Line 21: Move “(0.47 mm H₂O d⁻¹)” to after “US-SCf site”; Remove “corresponding ET increase is”.

R: Changed as suggested.

Page 9 Line 22: Add “site” after “US-SRM”.

R: Changed as suggested.

Page 9 Line 25: Replace “Ratio” with “ratio”.

25 R: Changed as suggested.

Page 9 Line 32: Rephrase “synthesizes” to be “reflects the integration of”.

R: we think “synthesize” is a suitable word here, and it is concise compared with “reflects the integration of”.

Page 10 Line 5: Rectify “hear” to be “heat”.

R: Changed as suggested.

30 Page 10 Line 8: “... beyond those studied here” is not clear.

R: this sentence has been changed to “also commonly measured at other field sites”.

Page 10 Line 10-11: Rephrase “... HR-induced increases in ET are maximal at sites with midrange soil moistures” to be “... HR-induced large increases in ET primarily occur at sites with mid-range soil moistures”. (because in Fig. 8, for sites of moderate soil moisture, some HR induced increases of ET are small)

R: it has been changed to “it is clear that maximal HR-induced increases in ET primarily occur at sites with mid-range soil moistures”.

Page 10 Line 14: Replace ‘ “Ryel et al. 2002” equation ’ with ‘Ryel HR scheme’.

R: Changed as suggested.

5 Page 10 Line 17: “at the height of HR” is not clear.

Page 10 Line 17: Add “during the periods with high HR flux”. (because in Fig. S10, hydraulic lift magnitude could double when HR flux is moderate or low)

R: “at the height of HR” has been changed to “during the periods with high HR flux”.

Page 10 Line 27: Add “as” after “considered”.

10 R: Changed as suggested.

Page 11 Line 7: Replace “yr” with “year”.

R: Changed as suggested.

Page 11 Line 13: Replace “dominated” with “primarily caused”.

R: because both hydraulic lift and hydraulic descent (although very minor) exist during dry season, we are apt to keep

15 “dominated” unchanged.

Page 11 Line 14: Replace “H2O” with “H₂O”.

R: Changed as suggested.

Page 11 Line 17: Add “soil” before “water content”.

R: Changed as suggested.

20 Page 11 Line 20: Replace “is” with “was”.

R: Changed as suggested.

Page 11 Line 25: Add “missing representation of” before “hydraulic lift”.

R: Changed as suggested.

Page 11 Line 31: Remove “the monitored”.

25 R: Changed as suggested.

Page 12 Line 2: Rephrase “, including at sites modeled here” to be “including those conducted at sites of this study”.

R: we changed this to “including at sites studied here”.

Page 12 Line 3: Replace “contributed” with “supplied”; Replace “to” with “of”; Rephrase “upper 2 m of the soil” to be “top 2-m soil layer”.

30 R: Changed as suggested.

Page 12 Line 5: Replace “similar” with “comparable”. (The meaning of 28% is different from that of 32%: 28% = HL / ET from the top 2-m layer; 32% = HL / ET from the whole soil column.)

R: Changed as suggested.

Page 12 Lines 6-7: Add “transpiration of the” after “estimated”; Remove “transpiration” before “in 2004”.

- R: Changed as suggested.
- Page 12 Line 21: Replace “are” with “were”.
- R: Changed as suggested.
- Page 12 Line 28: Replace “idea” with “hypothesis” or “assumption”.
- 5 R: Changed as suggested.
- Page 13 Line 3: The reference “Quijano and Kumar, 2015” is missing in the reference list.
- R: this reference has been added to the reference list.
- Page 13 Lines 8-10: These hydraulic lift results are maximum values in a time period? Or mean values of some periods?
- R: “; Table 6” has been added here, and we have also added “for all simulation years” to the caption of Table 6.
- 10 Page 13 Line 14-16: These ET increases are maximum values in a time period? Or mean values of some periods?
- R: “; Table 6” has been added here, and we have also added “for all simulation years” to the caption of Table 6.
- Page 13 Line 23: Replace “Ryel et al. 2002 equation” with “Ryel HR scheme”.
- R: Changed as suggested.
- Page 13 Line 25: Add “during the periods with high HR flux” after “hydraulic lift”.
- 15 R: Changed as suggested.
- Page 13 Lines 25-26: Add “larger change of” before “hydraulic descent”; Remove “was more sensitive”.
- R: we think both descriptions are OK, and are apt to keep the original statement unchanged.
- Page 13 Lines 29-31: “HR has been confirmed in many ecosystems” does not convincingly support the argument that “HR should be included for all ecosystems”. Need some revising here.
- 20 R: “HR has been confirmed in many ecosystems” has been changed to “HR has been confirmed in various ecosystems” here.
- Page 13 Line 32: Replace “a large number of” with “eight”. (Eight is not a large number.)
- R: Changed as suggested.
- Page 18 Lines 3, 6: Replace “Ryel et al.’s 2002 equation describing HR” with “the Ryel HR scheme”.
- R: Changed as suggested.
- 25 Page 19: Columns 1 and 2: it is better to align left.
- R: Changed as suggested.
- Page 20: Column 5 Row 3: Add “m” after “0.25-5”.
- R: Changed as suggested.
- Page 22 Line 1: Replace ““Ryel et al. 2002” HR model ’ with “Ryel HR scheme”.
- 30 R: Changed as suggested.
- Page 22 Line 2: Add “of the entire active root system for water” after the first “conductance”, if the definition of CRT is same as that in Ryel et al. (2002).
- R: Changed as suggested.
- Page 22 Line 3: Remove the quotation marks “ ” around b .

R: Changed as suggested.

Page 23: Need to specify the results of Table 5 are mean values of one year or mean values of multiple years.

R: “for all simulation years” has been added in the caption.

Page 23: The last column: these values need to be multiplied by 100.

5 R: Changed as suggested.

Page 24: The 4th line from the bottom: Replace “soil moistures” with “soil moisture data”.

R: Changed as suggested.

Page 24: The 2nd line from the bottom: Remove “RMSE for”. (They are redundant.)

R: Changed as suggested.

10 Page 24: The last line: Rephrase “improved model fit to data” to be “a better fit between model results and observed data”.

R: we think both descriptions are OK, and are apt to keep the original statement unchanged.

Page 25: The 2nd Line from the bottom: Replace “at 0-30 cm depth” with “at different depths in the top 30-cm soil layer”.

R: The monitoring depths of all probes at each southern California site are all 0-30 cm, so we keep “at 0-30 cm depth” unchanged here.

15 Page 25: The last two lines: “Results were shown for the last two years only for the above 30 cm depth at US-SRM site for clarity.” is not clear. This sentence seems to mean that: “For the top 30-cm soil layer at the US-SRM site, only the results of the last year (Year 2012) were shown for clarity.”

R: it has been changed to “Results were shown for the last year only (2012) for the top 30 cm depths at US-SRM site for clarity”.

20 Page 25: The last line: “The rectangular box” is missing in the figure.

R: it has been added in the revised manuscript.

Page 27: The last line: Remove the first “soil moisture”.

R: Changed as suggested.

Page 28: The units are missing in Fig. 4.

25 R: “(unit: %)” has been added.

Page 29 Lines 1 and 2: Remove “(mm)” in the legend.

R: Changed as suggested.

Page 30: In the ET plots, the meaning of the thin vertical lines is not described.

R: the following note has been added in the caption “The thin vertical lines represent one standard deviation of simulation with HR”.

30

Page 30: The 2nd line from the bottom: “dry season and wet season” are from one year or multiple years.

R: “for all simulation years” has been added in the caption.

Page 31: The results of Year 2004 at the US-SRM site are contrary to the other results, which can be discussed in the text.

R: The simulation at the SRM site started with a period with significant hydraulic descent (January in 2004), which resulted in lower simulated soil moisture with HR than that without HR in shallow soil layers (e.g., at depth 0-30 cm) before Julian day 180, although hydraulic lift occurred during days 120-180. Lower simulated soil moisture resulted in lower/smaller simulated ET, as shown in results of 2004 in Fig. 5 and 7. So the lower simulated ET with HR during the dry period (around 5 120-180) than that without HR, could be seen as the "spinning up" process of the model. Considering the substantial amount of information in the manuscript, we have not added explanations about this phenomenon in order to avoid confusions in the revised manuscript. Instead, in the revised manuscript, we have deleted the results for 2004 for the SRM site in Figs. 5 and 7.

Page 33: Replace " $\phi 50$ " with " $\phi 50$ ".

R: " $\phi 50$ " has been changed to " $\phi 50$ ".

10 Page 33: Units of CRT and $\phi 50$ are missing.

R: Units have been added in the revised manuscript.

Page 33: The last two lines: Replace "Ryel et al.'s 2002 equation describing HR" with "the Ryel HR scheme".

R: Changed as suggested.

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Combined measurement and modeling of the hydrological impact of hydraulic redistribution using CLM4.5 at eight AmeriFlux sites

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Abstract. Effects of hydraulic redistribution (HR) on hydrological, biogeochemical, and ecological processes have been demonstrated in the field, but the current generation of standard earth system models does not include a representation of HR. Though recent studies have examined the effect of incorporating HR into land surface models, few (if any) have tackled the magnitude of the HR flux itself or the soil moisture dynamics from which HR magnitude can be directly inferred. done cross-site comparisons for contrasting climate regimes and multiple vegetation types via the integration of measurement and modeling. Here we incorporated the HR scheme of Ryel et al.'s (2002) empirical equation describing HR into the NCAR Community Land Model Version 4.5 (CLM4.5), and examined the ability of the resulting hybrid model to capture the magnitude of HR flux and/or soil moisture dynamics from which HR can be directly inferred, to assess the impact of HR on land surface water and energy budgets, and to explore how the impact may depend on climate regimes and vegetation conditions. Eight AmeriFlux sites characterized by contrasting climate regimes and multiple vegetation types were studied, including the US-Wr Wind River Crane site in Washington State, the US-SRM Santa Rita Mesquite Savanna site in southern Arizona, and six sites along the Southern California Climate Gradient (US-SCs, g, f, w, e, and d). HR flux, evapotranspiration, and soil moisture were properly simulated in the present study, even in the face of various uncertainties. Our cross-ecosystem comparison showed that the timing, magnitude, and direction (upward or downward) of HR vary across ecosystems, and incorporation of HR into CLM4.5 improved the model-measurement matches of evapotranspiration, Bowen ratio, and soil moisture particularly during dry seasons. Our results also reveal that HR has important hydrological impact (on evapotranspiration, Bowen ratio, and soil moisture) in ecosystems that have a pronounced dry season but are not overall so dry that sparse vegetation and very low soil moisture limit HR.

1 Introduction

Hydraulic redistribution (HR) is the transport of water from wetter to drier soils through plant roots (Burgess et al., 1998). Several recent reviews (Neumann and Cardon, 2012; Prieto et al., 2012; Sardans and Peñuelas, 2014) summarize results

from the hundreds of empirical and modeling papers describing HR that have emerged over the last three decades. Monitoring of sap flow (e.g., Scott et al., 2008), soil water potential (e.g., Meinzer et al., 2004), and soil moisture content (e.g., Brooks et al., 2002), and isotope (e.g., Brooks et al., 2006) all indicate that HR can occur in many ecosystems worldwide, ranging in climate from arid to wet, particularly if the system has a pronounced dry season. HR-induced transport of water can be upward (as “hydraulic lift”) from moist deep soils to dry shallow soils (Richards and Caldwell, 1987), downward (as “hydraulic descent”) usually following a precipitation event (Ryel et al., 2003), or lateral (Brooks et al., 2002).

Though effects of HR on hydrological (e.g. Scott et al., 2008), biogeochemical (e.g. Domec et al., 2012; Cardon et al., 2013), and ecological (e.g. Hawkins et al., 2009) processes have been amply demonstrated in the field, the current generation of standard dynamic global vegetation and earth system models do not include a representation of HR (Neumann and Cardon, 2012; Warren et al., 2015). The several modeling studies at ecosystem and regional scales that do include HR do so by incorporating empirical equations describing HR (e.g., Ryel et al., 2002) into various land surface models (Lee et al., 2005, CAM2-CLM; Zheng and Wang, 2007, IBIS2 and CLM3; Baker et al., 2008, SiB3; Wang, 2011, CLM3; Li et al., 2012, CABLE; Luo et al., 2013, VIC-3L; Yan and Dickinson, 2014, CLM4.0; Tang et al., 2015, CLM4.5). For example, Li et al. (2012) modeled three evergreen broadleaf forests, found in tropical, subtropical, and temperate climate, and showed that the ability of CABLE to match observed evapotranspiration and soil moisture was improved by including HR and dynamic root water uptake (preferential uptake of moisture from areas of the root zone where moisture is more available, Lai and Katul, 2000). However, currently, most of these studies focused on how including HR might improve the model performance in simulating ET and in some cases soil moisture, and few (if any) has investigated the effects of HR on land surface water and energy cycles in a comprehensive manner by using both the monitoring and modeling methods for contrasting climate regimes and multiple vegetation types tackled the magnitude of the HR flux itself or the soil moisture dynamics from which HR magnitude can be directly inferred. It is not clear from these previous studies whether the HR-derived model performance might be caused by HR compensating for other hydrological deficiencies in the default model.

In this study, we attempt to address this research gap based on both field measurements and numerical modeling at an ecologically broad selection of eight AmeriFlux sites characterized by contrasting climate regimes and multiple vegetation types. Of the eight sites, two have a long history of empirical research focused on HR: the US-Wrc Wind River Crane site in the Pacific Northwest (Washington state), and the US-SRM Santa Rita Mesquite Savanna site in southern Arizona. The other six are new sites along the Southern California Climate Gradient (US-SCs, g, f, w, c, and d), each with a pronounced dry season, where we suspect HR may occur during dry periods.

At one of the six Southern California Climate Gradient sites (the James Reserve, US-SCf), Kitajima et al. (2013) recently used the HYDRUS-1D model and isotopic measurements of xylem water to show that trees and shrubs use deep water, probably delivered both by HR and to some extent by capillary rise, during summer drought. In the Pacific Northwest, adjacent to the Wind River Canopy Crane Research Facility (US-Wrc), stands of Douglas fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii* (Mirb.) Franco) have been the focus of numerous papers examining the importance of HR in this overall-moist but

seasonally-dry ecosystem. For example, Brooks et al. (2002) used sap flow and soil moisture information to show that 35% of the total day-time water consumption from the upper 2-m-of soil layer was replaced by HR during July-August in 2000. Brooks et al. (2006) further reported that HR was negligible in early summer but increased to 0.17 mm/d by late August. Meinzer et al. (2004) reported that the seasonal decline of soil water potential was greatly reduced by HR. Based on monitoring of sap flow of Prosopis velutina Woot (velvet mesquite) and soil moisture, both hydraulic lift and hydraulic descent were found at (Scott et al., 2008) or near (Hultine et al., 2004) the Santa Rita Arizona savanna (US-SRM) site.

The objectives of this study ~~is arc to examine the performance of a commonly used modeling approach, the Ryel et al. (2002) approach, in capturing the magnitude of HR flux and/or soil moisture dynamics from which HR can be directly inferred, to demonstrate~~ investigate the impact of HR on land surface water and energy budgets based on both observational data and numerical modeling, and to explore how the impact# may depend on climate regimes and vegetation conditions. Observed soil moisture at the six Southern California Climate Gradient sites was corrected for temperature first, and then HR signal was checked using the wavelet method. The modeling investigation# is done through incorporating the HR scheme of Ryel et al. (2002) simple empirical equation for HR flux into the NCAR Community Land Model Version 4.5 (CLM4.5), and To applying the hybrid model to the eight AmeriFlux sites, characterized by contrasting climate regimes and multiple vegetation types, we first examined the performance of the hybrid model in capturing the magnitude of HR flux and/or soil moisture diel fluctuation from which a reasonable HR flux magnitude can be directly inferred; we then analyzed the role of HR in the water and energy cycles. The sensitivity of the modelled HR to parameters and the uncertainty in the modeling were also investigated in the present study.

2 Materials and Methods

2.1 Study sites

The sites in this study were chosen based on several criteria. Concurrent meteorological forcing data, soil moisture data throughout the soil profile, and evapotranspiration (ET) data for a continuous period of several years had to be available. The sites cover a range of annual rainfall amounts and vegetation types, and have seasonally dry climate - a good indicator of ecosystems where HR may occur (Neumann and Cardon, 2013). Two of the eight sites (US-SRM and US-Wrc) were specifically chosen because they have a strong record of hydraulic redistribution research. In contrast, the six Southern California gradient sites were chosen because it was not yet known whether HR occurred at them, and modeling results could be compared to new empirical data. Table 1 presents location, elevation, climate, vegetation type, annual precipitation, average temperature, and years for which we have atmospheric forcing data, for each of the eight Ameriflux sites. Further details about these eight sites can be found on the AmeriFlux website (<http://ameriflux.lbl.gov/sites/site-search/>). All sites except Santa Rita Mesquite have a Mediterranean climate (rainy winters, dry summers); Santa Rita Mesquite (US-SRM) is a semi-arid site with a dominant summer rainy season. Precipitation varies from ~2200 mm (US-Wrc) to ~100 mm (US-

SCw) per year. Average temperature ranges from 8.7 (US-Wrc) to 23.8 ~~degrees_°C~~ (Sonoran Desert US-SCd). Vegetation ranges from needle-leaf and broad leaf forest to chaparral, grassland, and desert perennials and annuals.

2.2 CLM4.5 parameterization

The NCAR Community Land Model Version 4.5 (CLM4.5) (Oleson et al., 2013) is used in this study to simulate the energy fluxes and hydrological processes at the eight AmeriFlux sites. [Surface heterogeneity in CLM is represented using a nested hierarchy of grid cells, land units, snow/soil columns, and plant functional types \(PFTs\). Different PFTs differ in physiological, structural and biogeochemical parameters. Within each vegetated land unit, multiple columns can exist, and multiple PFTs can share a column; vegetation state variables, surface mass and energy fluxes are solved at the PFT level, and soil parameters and processes are solved at the column level. Surface fluxes at the grid cell level \(e.g., ET\) are the area-weighted average across different components \(PFTs, columns, and land units\). The plant growth and carbon / nitrogen cycles were not simulated in this study. Instead, LAIs for each PFT were prescribed based on observational data. At each study site, the simulations were implemented for the footprint of eddy flux tower.](#) Table 2 presents the sources of data used as model input, for atmospheric forcing and surface properties including coverage of different plant functional types (PFTs), LAI, canopy height, soil texture, and soil organic matter content. At each site, atmospheric forcing data used to drive CLM4.5 are taken from the corresponding AmeriFlux tower. Surface properties in the model are set to reflect the AmeriFlux site conditions when such information is available and were drawn by interpolation from corresponding gridded datasets in the NCAR database (Oleson et al., 2013, and Notes S1) in the absence of site-specific data. [There are ten active soil layers in CLM, and a maximum depth of 3.8 m is used in this study \(Table 3\). The PFT-level root fraction \$r_i\$ in each soil layer is,](#)

$$r_i = \begin{cases} 0.5 \cdot [exp(-r_a z_{i-1}) + exp(-r_b z_{i-1}) - exp(-r_a z_i) + exp(-r_b z_i)] & \text{for } 1 \leq i < 10 \\ 0.5 \cdot [exp(-r_a z_{i-1}) + exp(-r_b z_{i-1})] & \text{for } i = 10 \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

[where \$z_i\$ is the depth at the bottom of soil layer \$i\$, and \$z_0\$ is zero. The PFT-dependent root distribution parameters \$r_a\$ and \$r_b\$ are adopted from Zeng \(2001\). From Equation \(1\), \$r_i\$ decreases exponentially with depth. In the present study, roots did not have access to groundwater through the simulation periods at all sites except US-Wrc where groundwater could rise into the tenth soil layer during the wet season. However, the groundwater level was below the tenth soil layers during dry season when HR occurred at the US-Wrc site as shown in Results section 3.1.2.](#)

Within CLM4.5, the Clapp and Hornberger “ B ” parameter (the exponent in the soil water retention curve that varies substantially with soil texture) strongly influences simulated soil moisture. We used available sources of soil texture information for the eight sites (Table 2) to set the range of appropriate “ B ” for each site and depth (Table 3), following Clapp and Hornberger’s (1978) ranges of “ B ” for different soil types. Within each range, however, we tuned the values for “ B ” with depth to get a good match between modeled and measured soil moisture.

The atmospheric forcing data at the US-Wrc and US-SRM sites include incident long-wave radiation, incident solar radiation, precipitation, surface pressure, relative humidity, surface air temperature, and wind speed. Because incident long-wave radiation and surface pressure data were not available at the six Southern California sites, CLM4.5 assumes standard atmospheric pressure and calculates the incident long-wave radiation based on air temperature, surface pressure, and relative humidity (Idso, 1981). Gap-filled atmospheric forcing data are at 30-minute resolution, and the time step for model simulations is also 30 minutes. Time frames for which atmospheric forcing data are available for each site are shown in Table 1.

2.3 HR model parameterization

To quantify HR, we incorporated [the HR scheme of Ryel et al.'s \(2002\) equation](#) into CLM4.5. ~~This equation has been widely used in Many HR modeling studies used this HR scheme (Lee et al., 2005; e.g., Zheng and Wang, 2007; Wang, 2011; Li et al., 2012) and or its variations (e.g., Lee et al., 2005; Yu and D'Odorico, 2015).~~ HR-induced soil water flux $q_{HR}(i, j)$ (cm h⁻¹) between a receiving soil layer i and a giving soil layer j is quantified as:

$$q_{HR}(i, j) = -C_{RT} \cdot \Delta\varphi_m \cdot c_j \cdot \frac{F_{root}(i) \cdot F_{root}(j)}{1 - F_{root}(j)} \cdot D \quad (42)$$

By summing all giving and receiving layer pairs within the soil column, total q_{HR} can be calculated. C_{RT} is the maximum radial soil-root conductance [of the entire active root system for water](#) (cm MPa⁻¹ h⁻¹), $\Delta\varphi_m$ is water potential difference between two soil layers (MPa), $F_{root}(i)$ is root fraction in [soil layer \$i\$](#) (weighted average of PFT-level root fractions; Zeng, 2001), [D is a switching factor, set to 1.0 during night and 0.0 during the day since, during day time, the transpiration-induced gradient of water potential within a plant continuum dictates a transport of water from roots to leaves.](#) ~~and~~ The factor reducing soil-root conductance for water in the giving layer c_j is

$$c_j = \frac{1}{1 + \left(\frac{\varphi_j}{\varphi_{50}}\right)^b} \quad (23)$$

In [Equation \(23\)](#), φ_j is soil water potential in layer j (MPa), φ_{50} is the soil water potential where soil-root conductance is reduced by 50% (MPa), and b is an empirical constant. ~~The relationship between root hydraulic conductivities and soil moisture in equation (2) is similar to that in Amenu and Kumar (2008).~~ Values for b (3.22) and φ_{50} (-1 MPa) were taken from Ryel et al. (2002) ~~for due to~~ lack of site-specific parameters, and we tested the model sensitivity to the parameters C_{RT} , b , and φ_{50} at each site. Rather than tuning C_{RT} as Ryel et al. (2002) did to match modeled HR (calculated in [Equation \(42\)](#)) to measured HR (from soil sensor data) after a saturating rain, we based the tuning of C_{RT} on comparison of modeled and measured magnitude and dynamics of water content in upper soil layers (0-30 cm) at hourly scale during dry periods. At the three drier southern ~~CA~~ California sites (US-SCw, US-SCc, and US-SCd), C_{RT} was further adjusted to relatively small values (0.05-0.1) to limit the hydraulic descent in order to reduce the model bias for soil water potential during dry periods. [If \$C_{RT} > 0.1\$, The the modeled soil water potential would be always higher than -1 MPa-MPa during dry periods, if \$C_{RT} > 0.1\$,](#) which is

not realistic for such dry sites. Specific values of the parameters in the [HR scheme of Ryel et al. \(2002\)](#) equation used for the eight study sites are shown in Table 4.

2.4 Combined model

Two multi-year simulations were carried out at each of the eight study sites. “Without HR” used the default land surface model CLM4.5; “with HR” (CLM4.5+HR) used the version of the model including Ryel’s representation of HR. To distinguish the influences of [the Clapp and Hornberger](#) “*B*” and HR on the soil moisture modeling, the tuning of the parameter “*B*” was done ~~based on~~ [in the](#) wet season (with high soil moisture) when the HR influence is negligible at the US-Wrc and ~~CA~~ [Southern California](#) sites. Therefore the “*B*” values do not depend on whether the tuning was done with CLM4.5 or with CLM4.5+HR. At the SRM site, HR is mainly in the form of hydraulic descent during rainfall events (as shown later in the Results section), we tuned “*B*” during dry periods when hydraulic descent was minimum to make the minimum value of the modeled soil moisture from CLM4.5 be close to the observation for surface soil layers. The “*B*” [values](#) for soil layers ~~lower~~ [deeper](#) than 83 cm were not tuned -- using the default value generated by CLM at the US-SRM site. Therefore, at each site, “without HR” and “with HR” simulations used identical ~~parameter-“*B*”~~ [values](#) tuned for that site. We then examined whether for these eight ecologically diverse sites, CLM4.5 with and/or without HR were able to reproduce basic patterns observed at the sites in ET, soil moisture with depth, and Bowen ratio.

2.5 Field observations

ET, sensible heat flux, and soil moisture data at the US-SRM and US-Wrc sites were obtained from Ameriflux databases ~~for the sites~~. Data for these variables at the six Southern California gradient sites were obtained from the Goulden lab (<http://www.ess.uci.edu/~california/>). Observed soil moisture was available for multiple soil layers with the maximum depth of 200 cm and 100 cm at the US-Wrc and US-SRM sites, respectively. Soil moisture data at [Southern California](#) ~~CA~~ sites were processed as described in the Notes S2. Briefly, each [Southern California](#) ~~CA~~ site had four CS-616 water content reflectometers (three reflectometers at US-SCd), each sensing 0-30 cm depth. All [Southern California](#) ~~CA~~ sites except US-SCd also had five CS-229 thermal dissipation probes sensing water potential at five depths (to 200 cm). Data from both soil moisture sensor types at the Southern California sites were used ~~conservatively~~ [more cautiously](#). Though sensor output suggesting nighttime increases in soil moisture followed by daytime decreases is often used in the literature as a signature of HR, we only recognized such oscillations from the 0-30 cm CS-616 ~~or CS-229~~ probes as signatures of HR if they were clearly stronger than a putative temperature-induced oscillation in surrounding portions of the signal trace (e.g. Fig. S1a, [larger oscillations beginning around day 180 in the 5 cm trace](#)) and if wavelet transform analysis of the CS-229 probe data corroborated the [existence of](#) HR (Notes S2, Fig. S1b, c).

3 Results

3.1 Soil moisture observations and simulations

Observed soil moisture (grey lines) and CLM4.5 model simulations with (blue lines) and without (red lines) HR are plotted in Fig. 1 [at daily time scale](#) for selected years, for the top 0-30cm ~~increment-soil layer~~ and also at multiple depths where such data are available. As noted above, CS-229 thermal dissipation probes were installed from 0 to 200 cm depth at five of the six California sites, but are known only to provide reliable information down to approximately -2.5 MPa; sensor output thus flatlined for lower water potentials during drought. We therefore chose only to include 0-30 cm CS-616 probe data in Fig. 1, with panels ordered from West (US-SCs, Coastal Sage) to East (US-SCd, Sonoran Desert) down the panels. However, modeled output by depth increment at the five instrumented US-SC Southern California sites is plotted in Figs S2-6 along with temperature-corrected data from the CS-229 probes.

Modeled soil moisture content generally follows the magnitude and dynamics in observational data (Fig. 1), except at depth at US-Wrc. At that site, we set “*B*” – the only parameter in the soil water retention curve in the models – based on the soil texture information from the biological data file at the US-Wrc Ameriflux ftp website <ftp://cdiac.ornl.gov/pub/ameriflux/data/Level1/> (sandy loam and loamy sand) with the maximum value being 6.65 (Table 3). However, Shaw et al. (2004) (and <http://ameriflux.ornl.gov/fullsiteinfo.php?sid=98>) report that in some locations soil at depth can approach silt to clay loam for which the range of “*B*” is 8.5 +/- 3.4 (clay loam, Clapp and Hornberger, 1978). Using a higher *B* value in the simulations would have reduced the difference between the simulated and observed soil moisture at depth at the US-Wrc site.

At US-SRM (Fig. 1), modeled soil moisture at depth (≥ 49 cm) was more dynamic in CLM4.5+HR (blue line) than in CLM4.5 (red line). The dynamism is also clearly seen in the observed soil moisture data (grey lines); in both the ~~US-SRM~~ 60-70 and 90-100 cm depths [at this site](#). In CLM4.5+HR, this dynamism is caused by downward HR (hydraulic descent) when root systems redistribute [the infiltrated rainwater](#) from ~~surface-shallow~~ to deep soils faster than it could be delivered by percolation alone (Ryel et al., 2003). In Figs S2-6, similar measured dynamism at depth is also detected by CS-229 probes for large rain events at the five instrumented Southern California gradient sites.

As discussed in the Notes S2, using wavelet analysis of site measurement data, we found clear evidence of upward HR at the most moist Southern California site US-Scf (Oak Pine Forest), and spotty evidence at US-SCw (Pinyon Juniper Woodland) and US-SCc (Desert Chaparral) sites (Fig. S1). We did not find clear phase-based evidence of upward HR at US-SCg (Grassland) or US-SCs (Coastal Sage) sites, and temperature oscillations at the US-SCd (Sonoran Desert) site were very large, precluding easy identification of periods of upward HR. Still, the CLM4.5+HR results suggested that HR could occur at the Southern California sites given the rooting distribution of plants and the seasonal drought, but its hydrological effect on landscape-level eddy flux was predicted to be far lower [\(than wetter sites such as US-Wrc\)](#) where plant biomass was small (e.g. US-SCd). This combination of factors (drought, rooting depth, density of vegetation) influenced the simulated magnitude of soil moisture fluctuations, and we plot them with the sensor data in Fig. 2 and Fig. S7. The

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noticeable discrepancy between modeled and measured rainy season soil moisture at the US-SCd site (indicated with ~~grey~~ rectangular box in Fig. 1) are most likely caused by the incomplete precipitation record (Notes S3).

Overall, Fig. 1 and the corresponding Root Mean Squared Error (RMSE) illustrate clear improvement of the match between modeled and observed soil moisture at the US-SRM site by incorporating HR into CLM4.5 (Table 65, Fig. S8). At the Southern California sites, the match is improved at the US-SCs, g, and f sites during dry periods (Table 65, Fig. S8); inclusion of HR makes little difference at the US-SCw, c, and d sites (Table 65, Fig. S8). Improvement of simulated soil moisture at shallow layers (e.g. 0-30 cm, 17-29 cm) was observed at the US-Wrc site during dry periods by incorporating HR (Table 65, Fig. S8), but at depth, the modeling challenges associated with the Clapp and Hornberger (1978) B factor (described above) precluded detection of any change in RMSE with inclusion of HR in CLM4.5. The reduced model performance in soil moisture modeling at depth by including HR at site like US-Wrc is an unnegligible challenge in HR modeling.

3.1.1 HR flux simulations

To evaluate the simulation of the HR flux, the modeling results were compared to both direct measurement of HR flux itself and measurement of soil moisture dynamics from which HR flux could be inferred. These include: (a) observed downward sap flow at the US-SRM site, (b) observed diel fluctuations of soil moisture for depth of 0-30 cm during dry periods at all eight sites, (c) the vertical change of the magnitude ~~of in the~~ observed diel fluctuations of soil moisture at the US-Wrc and US-SRM sites, and (d) the seasonal pattern of HR's influences on soil moisture at the US-Wrc site.

At the US-SRM site, Scott et al. (2008) monitored sap flow and estimated hydraulic descent during days 31-109 in 2004 to be 12-38 mm H₂O d⁻¹ at ecosystem scale; the CLM4.5+HR estimate for the same period was 35mm H₂O d⁻¹, within the scope provided by Scott et al. (2008). CLM4.5+HR could largely capture the amplitude of the HR-induced diel fluctuations of soil moisture for depth of 0-30 cm at US-Wrc, US-SRM, US-SCs, US-SCg, and US-SCf sites during drought (Fig. 2; Fig. S7). The simulated amplitude of diel fluctuation during the dry periods decreased from shallower to deeper layers at all eight sites. For example, the simulated amplitude decreased from 0.002 at depth of 2-5 cm to essentially zero at depth of 17-29 cm at the US-SRM site, and the decrease of amplitude with depth is quantitatively consistent with observations at the US-Wrc and US-SRM sites (results ~~now shown in~~ Fig. S9). At the US-Wrc site, the maximum depth at which the HR-induced soil moisture increases are identifiable during dry seasons (mainly limited to the upper 60 cm) and the seasonal pattern of HR's influences on soil moisture could also be correctly reproduced by the CLM4.5+HR (as shown in detail in 'Soil moisture simulations with and without HR' and discussion sections). As discussed in the 'HR model parameterization' section, we used soil ~~suction-water potential~~ to roughly control the magnitude of HR at the three drier Southern California CA sites, where the diel fluctuation of soil moisture was clearly influenced by temperature. These comparisons indicate that the HR flux is properly simulated in the present study.

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3.1.2 Soil moisture simulations with and without HR

Differences between CLM4.5 and CLM4.5+HR in modeled volumetric soil moisture are plotted in Fig. 3 and Fig. S9-S10 for all sites. Inclusion of HR in CLM4.5+HR increased summertime soil moisture by several percentage points (above the zero line) in the six Southern California US-SC sites (0-30 cm depths), US-Wrc, and US-SRM (0-49 cm depths) sites (Fig. 3). In the US-Wrc model profile, these periods of increased shallow soil moisture clearly coincide with those of decreased soil moisture at depth (49-380 cm depth), consistent with hydraulic lift. In the US-SRM (Fig. 3) and Southern California US-SC site model profiles (Fig. S9-S10), the patterns of soil moisture with depth are more complex, with central layers being sources or sinks of water depending on time of year and year itself. During rainy winter seasons at the six Southern California US-SC sites, CLM4.5+HR produced periods of reduced soil moisture in shallow 0-30 cm layers in all years at US-SCs (Coastal Sage) and US-SCg (Grassland) sites, consistent with hydraulic descent (Fig. 3). Similar patterns are most clear only during the wettest winter in 2011 for US-SCd (Sonoran Desert), SCc (Desert Chaparral), SCw (Pinyon Juniper), and SCf (Oak Pine) sites.

Pulling together averaged model output from all years, for 0-250 cm depths at each site, Fig. 4 illustrates the complex patterns in the change in volumetric soil water content driven by inclusion of the HR scheme of Ryel et al.'s (2002) HR model in the CLM4.5 modeling framework, over the annual cycle. Blue indicates an increase of (up to 1%) volumetric soil moisture in the CLM4.5+HR vs. the CLM4.5 model output. Yellow indicates a decrease of (up to 4%) volumetric soil moisture in the CLM4.5+HR vs. CLM4.5 model output. Isolines are labeled with (in the unit of %) soil moisture change in the CLM4.5+HR vs. CLM4.5 cases. (Contours are generated from soil moisture increases or decreases in each CLM4.5-defined layer node; node depths increase exponentially downward). At the wettest site-US-Wrc site, modeled upward HR (hydraulic lift) is mainly concentrated during the dry season July-September (~days 180-240), followed by downward HR (hydraulic descent) during October. Effects of HR on modeled soil water content persist for a longer time during the year at the other seven sites. At the US-SRM site, hydraulic lift was most evident in May and June (just before the North American monsoon season July-September); hydraulic descent could be found almost throughout the year, and the most significant hydraulic descent occurred during the monsoon season. Among the six Southern California sites, a gradient in the depth-vertical and temporal extent-effect of HR on modeled soil moisture was clear. The largest increases (and decreases) in soil moisture occurred at the most moist (but still seasonally dry) US-SCf (Oak Pine) site with deciduous oak trees, followed by US-SCg (Grassland) and US-SCs (Coastal Sage), and US-SCw (Pinyon Juniper). At the much drier US-SCc (Desert Chaparral) and US-SCd (Sonoran Desert) sites with sparse vegetation, the temporal spread and depth range of influence of HR influence were far more limited. Still, hydraulic descent occurred during at least a small portion of December (between days 330-365) at all Southern California US-SC sites.

Table S-6 shows the average modeled hydraulic lift (in mm $\text{H}_2\text{O d}^{-1}$) during dry periods for all simulation years, for all sites; highest values were found at the two forested sites with highest annual precipitation (0.71 and 0.60 mm $\text{H}_2\text{O d}^{-1}$ for

US-SCf and US-Wrc sites, respectively). Modeled hydraulic lift is comparatively small at the US-SRM (0.19 mm H₂O d⁻¹) and the three drier Southern California sites (US-SCw, US-SCc, and US-SCd: 0.10-0.22 mm H₂O d⁻¹).

3.2 Evapotranspiration observations and simulations

Fig. 5, documents the model performance in simulating ET at the daily time scale, at all eight study sites, over multiple years. Fig. 5 shows that CLM4.5+HR can simulate ET well at the US-Wrc and US-SRM sites, but tends to underestimate ET during the high ET periods at the six Southern California sites. An increase in modeled ET associated with HR during drought can be identified (to ~~varying~~ various degrees) at all eight sites. Fig. 5 and the corresponding RMSE (Table 65) illustrate that including HR leads to improvement in ET simulation at the US-SRM and US-SCf sites during dry periods and year round, and also improvement at the US-SCs and US-Wrc sites during dry periods. At other sites, the corresponding ET simulations from CLM4.5+HR and CLM4.5 are very similar.

Fig. 6 shows the average diel cycles of ET and its components (~~hourly~~) during dry and wet periods for all simulation years, at the eight sites (Notes S4). From Fig. 6, CLM4.5+HR ~~tends~~ tended to underestimate the ~~observed mid-day~~ ET peak around noon at the US-Wrc, US-SRM, US-SCf, and US-SCw sites, but reproduced observations fairly well at the US-SCc and US-SCd sites. Under most circumstances, the simulated ET peaks in CLM4.5+HR are closer to observations than those in CLM4.5. HR-induced increase in simulated mid-day transpiration and subsequent increase of ET can be identified during the dry periods at all eight sites, though it is very weak at US-SCc and US-SCd. Compared to dry periods, HR-induced changes in simulated ET were relatively limited during wet periods at all eight study sites. At the US-SRM site, a decrease of ground evaporation and increase of transpiration were both evident during wet periods, caused by significant hydraulic descent at this site (Fig. 1, 4). The soil water in shallow layers that would otherwise be evaporated was redistributed to deep layers during and after rain events in the monsoon season (July-September), and was ~~eventually consumed~~ subsequently taken up from deeper layers by plants during subsequent transpiration.

Table 5-6 shows the HR-induced increase in ET (mm H₂O d⁻¹), estimated as the difference in ET between simulations with and without HR. The contribution of HR to ET (unit: %) refers to this difference normalized by the ET from CLM4.5+HR. The HR-induced ET increase (~~0.47 mm H₂O d⁻¹~~) is largest at the US-SCf site (0.47 mm H₂O d⁻¹), and corresponding ET increase is comparatively small at the US-SRM site (0.18 mm H₂O d⁻¹) and the three drier Southern California sites (US-SCw, US-SCc, and US-SCd: 0.06-0.13 mm H₂O d⁻¹) (Table 56).

3.3 HR-induced Bowen ratio change

The partitioning of surface energy between latent and sensible heat fluxes, often characterized using the Bowen Ratio-ratio (the ratio of sensible heat to latent heat flux), drives the dynamics of boundary layer growth and subsequently the triggering mechanisms of convective precipitation (Siqueria et al., 2009). The influence of HR on Bowen ratio is therefore important for understanding the broader impact of HR beyond the land surface. Including HR improves the model performance in reproducing the Bowen ratio (Fig. 7, Table 65), especially during dry periods, at all sites except the two driest Southern

California sites (US-SCc and US-SCd). This indicates that the ET or soil moisture comparison alone does not capture the full benefit of including HR in the model. Instead, HR's impact on ET and soil moisture influences surface temperature and therefore sensible heat flux. The Bowen ratio synthesizes these effects of HR. The better agreement between model and observation in Bowen ratio than in ET may be related to the challenge of the eddy covariance flux measurement. Since ET (latent heat flux) and sensible heat flux are both derived from the same eddy covariance measurement, potential errors in quantifying the eddy covariance (which are not uncommon as reflected by the energy closure challenge facing many flux tower measurements) are likely to have a much smaller impact on the Bowen ratio estimate than on the magnitude of latent heat flux or sensible ~~heat~~ heat flux alone.

Combining the modeling results for daily ET into Fig. 8, a larger pattern emerges from the cross-site comparison. Each site is color-coded differently, and HR-induced increases in ET are plotted against shallow soil moisture (0-30 cm, [also](#) commonly measured at [other](#) field sites ~~beyond those studied here~~). At low soil moisture, the driest Southern California gradient sites have little water to redistribute and very sparse vegetation to carry out HR. At high soil moisture, little driving gradient exists to support HR. By including all sites in Fig. 8, it is clear that [maximal](#) HR-induced increases in ET ~~are~~ [primarily occur maximal](#) at sites with mid-range soil moistures.

3.4 Sensitivity to HR model parameters

The sensitivity of modeled hydraulic lift, hydraulic descent, and contribution of HR to ET (defined in Table [S6](#)) to parameters C_{RT} , ϕ_{50} , and b in the [HR scheme of Ryel et al. \(2002\) equation](#) was tested for four sites (US-Wrc, US-SRM, US-SCs and US-SCw). Both hydraulic lift and hydraulic descent were nearly insensitive to variation in b (ranging from 0.22 to 4.22) (Figs. [S11](#), [S12](#)). Variation of approximately an order of magnitude in C_{RT} (from 0.1 to 1.5 cm MPa⁻¹ h⁻¹) and ϕ_{50} (from -0.5 to -4.0 MPa) resulted in less than a doubling of the magnitude of hydraulic lift, even ~~at the height of~~ [during the periods with high HR flux](#) (Fig. [S11](#)). However, hydraulic descent was notably more sensitive; increasing C_{RT} from 0.1 to 1.5 cm MPa⁻¹ h⁻¹ resulted in nearly an order of magnitude increase in maximum hydraulic descent at US-Wrc (from ~0.1 to ~1 mm d⁻¹), and a tripling of hydraulic descent at the other sites (Fig. [S12](#)). A change in ϕ_{50} from -4.0 MPa to -0.5 MPa led to at most a tripling of hydraulic descent at all sites. Similarly, the modeled contribution of HR to ET was sensitive to C_{RT} and ϕ_{50} and insensitive to b (Fig. [910](#)).

4 Discussion

[The cross-ecosystem comparisons](#) ~~Measurement and modeling both~~ demonstrate that the timing, magnitude, and direction (upward or downward) of HR vary across ecosystems (Figs 1, 4), and incorporation of HR into CLM4.5 improved model-measurement match particularly during dry seasons (Table [65](#)). The hydrological impact of HR is substantial in ecosystems that have a pronounced dry season but are not overall so dry that sparse vegetation and very low soil moisture limit HR (Figs

4, 7, 8). The lack of HR representation in the current generation of land surface or earth system models thus should be considered [as](#) a source of error when modeling seasonally-dry ecosystems with deep-rooted plant species.

4.1 HR-induced soil moisture change

Several of the AmeriFlux sites investigated here have hosted previous field investigations of impacts of HR on soil moisture.

5 CLM4.5+HR was able to capture patterns published from those empirical data, and added to those data a more comprehensive view of the seasonal dynamics in the systems (Fig. 4). For example, at US-Wrc (a ~450-year old stand of Douglas Fir), the CLM4.5+HR results indicated that HR-induced soil moisture increases during dry seasons were mainly limited to the upper 60 cm of soil (Fig. 4), which is consistent with field measurements (soil moisture and soil water potential) in a ~20-year-old and a ~450-year-old Douglas Fir stand in the Pacific Northwest (Brooks et al., 2002; Brooks et al., 2006; Meinzer et al., 2004). The US-Wrc panel in Fig. 4 also shows that as soil drying progressed, more water was redistributed to depth of 20-60 cm from lower layers in late summer than in early summer. (It is worth noting that the CLM4.5+HR model does not include the temperature fluctuation-driven vapor transport within soil shown by Warren et al. (2011) to occur at the site.)

15 US-Wrc is the site with the highest annual rainfall (> 2000 mm per year) among those modeled (Table 1), and the effects of HR are constrained to the mid-year dry season and dominated by hydraulic lift (Fig. 4). Hydraulic descent is limited ~~with~~ [an averaging average value being](#) 5.0 mm H₂O yr⁻¹ during 1999-2012, perhaps because soil moisture is higher with depth, limiting the driving gradient for hydraulic descent. In contrast, hydraulic lift and hydraulic descent are active nearly year-round at five of the other seven AmeriFlux sites (Fig. 4). At the two driest sites US-SCc and US-SCd, due to the scarcity of water that can be moved and the sparse vegetation, the HR-associated dynamics in [soil](#) water content are relatively subdued (Fig. 4). At the US-SCf site, Kitajima et al. (2013) simulated hydraulic lift from 2007 to 2011 using the HYDRUS-1D model on a daily scale (without simulating the diel fluctuation of soil moisture), and the simulated hydraulic lift averaged ~ 28 mm per month in July and August, which ~~is~~ [was](#) close to the 24.7 mm per month from CLM4.5+HR. The annual hydraulic lift was ~112 mm in Kitajima et al. (2013), and was 121 mm in CLM4.5+HR. However, the two modeling approaches are quite different. Kitajima et al. (2013) attributed the source of hydraulic lift to deep moisture in the weathered bedrock, and did not account for the hydraulic redistribution within the soil layers. In contrast, CLM4.5+HR included HR among the soil layers 25 but not the hydraulic lift from deep bedrock. Hydraulic descent occurring after rain was not included in Kitajima et al. (2013), but featured prominently at year end in the output from CLM4.5+HR (Fig. 4, panel US-SCf, right-hand side). The [missing representation of](#) hydraulic lift from deep bedrock [as shown in Kitajima et al. \(2013\)](#) is also a possible reason for the reduced model performance in soil moisture modeling at depth for site like US-Wrc.

30 Though sap flow indicated little hydraulic lift during 2004-2005 (Scott et al., 2008), CLM4.5+HR-simulated hydraulic lift is significant during dry periods at the US-SRM site (Fig. 4), and diel fluctuations of soil moisture indicative of HR were observed during soil drydown (Fig. 2). Scott et al. (2008) calculated hydraulic descent using the downward flow in taproots, and calculated hydraulic lift using lateral root flow moving away from the tree base. Flow was more concentrated and more

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easily measured in the taproot than in lateral roots, which was considered as the reason why ~~the monitored~~ hydraulic descent was far more detectable than hydraulic lift.

4.2 HR-induced evapotranspiration change

The influence of HR on transpiration and/or ET has been estimated in many studies, including at sites ~~modeled~~ studied here. At the US-Wrc site, Brooks et al. (2002) used diel fluctuations in soil moisture, and total soil water use, to calculate that HR ~~contributed~~ supplied about 28 % ~~to of~~ the total daily water use from the ~~upper top 2-2-m of the~~ soil layer in a 20-year-old Douglas-fir stand during dry August, ~~similar~~ comparable to the 32 % estimated here (Table ~~5~~ 6). At the US-SRM site and seasonal scale, Scott et al. (2008) reported that the hydraulic descent during the dormant season (DOY 31-109) represented 15-49 % of the estimated transpiration of the growing season (DOY 110-335) ~~transpiration~~ in 2004; the corresponding simulated value during the same period in the present study is 36 %. ET was notably underestimated at the US-SCf site by both CLM4.5+HR and HYDRUS-1D (Kitajima et al., 2013). The lack of hydraulic lift from bedrock in this study, and the lack of HR within soil layers in Kitajima et al. (2013), might be reasons for this underestimation.

4.3 Sources of uncertainty

Results in this study are subject to uncertainties from a number of sources. As noted in the methods, data essential for the CLM4.5 and HR models were drawn from each site when available, but otherwise were drawn from large datasets commonly used in large-scale models (Table 2). Also as noted in the methods and Notes S2, soil moisture measurements were challenging at the Southern California sites because large temperature gradients developed along CS616 probes, soils dried outside the range of CS-229 probes, and there appeared to be a thermal gradient between reference thermistor and sensor connection points in measurement junction boxes aboveground. More subtle and interesting sources of uncertainty also likely influenced the model-measurement match. For example, strong inter-annual variation of precipitation, fire, and recovery from fire caused rather abrupt changes of PFT coverage and LAI at the US-SCs site. The US-SCg site is undergoing restoration to a native grassland community, and a large community of ephemeral annuals comes up following winter or summer rains at the US-SCc site. These variations ~~are~~ were difficult to capture by satellite remote sensing data but undoubtedly affected soil moisture and ET in interesting ways. Without detailed ground-observational data to quantify them, simulations in this study used a climatological LAI seasonal cycle.

Another potentially important source of uncertainty is the parameters C_{RT} , b , and ϕ_{50} in the HR model. Quantifying these parameters remains a major challenge. Results from our sensitivity experiments show that CLM4.5+HR output is relatively insensitive to variation in the parameter b , so of the three parameters, giving b a default value is least problematic. As shown in Ryel et al. (2002), maximum conductance C_{RT} can be determined from site-specific data (soil moisture, soil water potential, and root distribution). But in the absence of such data, an approach might be developed based on the ~~idea~~ hypothesis that in any ecosystem, there must be sufficient maximum soil-whole plant conductance (C_{RT}) to support the annual maximum observed LAI when soil is saturated (Wullschlegel et al. 1998). Determining a reasonable way to estimate

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ϕ_{50} may require the most effort. Field measurements combined with modeling may be necessary to enable setting the value of ϕ_{50} and to ground-truth a relationship between C_{RT} and annual maximum LAI, ideally across a range of ecosystem types, vegetation densities, soil textures, and/or other site-specific properties that are already input variables for earth system models. In addition, the effects of [several important factors warrant further investigation, including for example the root architecture \(Yu and D'Odorico, 2014\), dynamic root water uptake \(Zheng and Wang, 2007\), deep tap roots water uptake \(Markewitz et al., 2010\), above ground storage capacity \(Hultine et al., 2003\), temperature fluctuation-driven vapor transport within soil \(Warren et al., 2015\), and macro-pore flow \(Fu et al., 2012,14\). It is also important to compare different and representations of HR ~~representation~~-models \(Amenu and Kumar, 2008; Quijano and Kumar, 2015\) \[to examine uncertainties related to model structure on the quantitative estimates of HR, temperature fluctuation driven vapor transport within soil, and how to distinguish hydraulic descent from macropore flow \\(Fu et al., 2012, 2014\\), all need further investigations.\]\(#\)](#)

5 Main Findings

The key findings in this study include,

- Simulated hydraulic lift was largest at the two forested sites with highest annual rainfall (0.60 US-Wrc and 0.71 mm H₂O d⁻¹ US-SCf; [Table 6](#)), and smallest at US-SRM and the three driest Southern California sites (0.10 US-SCc to 0.22 mm H₂O d⁻¹ US-SCw; [Table 6](#)).
- Hydraulic descent was a dominant hydrologic feature during wet seasons at semi-arid US-SRM (Fig. 1, 4) and four (moister) of the six Southern California sites (Fig. 4, Figs S2-6) with annual precipitation $\leq \sim 500$ mm (Table 1), contributing to significant dynamism in soil moisture at depth.
- HR caused modeled ET to increase, particularly during dry periods; values for the increase ranged from 0.06, 0.10, and 0.13 mm H₂O d⁻¹ at the driest sites (US-SCc, US-SCd, and US-SCw, respectively; [Table 6](#)) to 0.18, 0.26, 0.29, 0.35, and 0.47 mm H₂O d⁻¹ at the wetter sites (US-SRM, US-SCs, US-Wrc, US-SCg, and US-SCf, respectively; [Table 6](#)).
- Measurement and modeling both demonstrate that the timing, magnitude, and direction (upward or downward) of HR vary across ecosystems, and incorporation of HR into CLM4.5 improved model-measurement match for Bowen ratio, evapotranspiration, and soil moisture (e.g. shallow layers), particularly during dry seasons.
- Modeling and measurements indicate that HR has hydrological impact (on evapotranspiration, Bowen ratio, and soil moisture) in ecosystems that have a pronounced dry season but are not overall so dry that sparse vegetation and very low soil moisture limit HR.
- CLM4.5+HR output was relatively insensitive to variation in the parameter b in the [HR scheme of Ryel et al. \(2002\) equation](#), but was somewhat sensitive to variation in C_{RT} and ϕ_{50} . Variation of approximately an order of magnitude in C_{RT} and ϕ_{50} resulted in less than a doubling of the magnitude of hydraulic lift [during the periods with high HR flux](#), but hydraulic descent was more sensitive.

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Previous modeling studies either focus on model-data comparison at one site or conduct large scale simulations with few concrete data to compare against, making it very difficult to answer the fundamental question: When and where must HR be included to appropriately model hydrologic characteristics of diverse ecosystems? HR has been confirmed in ~~many various~~ ecosystems where plant root systems span soil water potential gradients (Neumann and Cardon, 2012; Prieto et al., 2012; Sardans and Peñuelas, 2014). For this reason, one might argue that HR should be included for all ecosystems. However, our comparative study using combined empirical data and modeling helps hone the answer by including ~~a large number of eight~~ AmeriFlux sites that differ in vegetation, soil, and climate regimes. The summary suggestions are (a) hydrological modeling will not be clearly influenced if not including HR for overall drier sites that have little water to redistribute and sparse vegetation to carry out HR and overall wetter sites / periods that are likely to develop little driving gradient to support HR, while HR should be included for the seasonally dry ecosystems with mid-range annual rainfall and soil moisture, and (b) quantifying parameters in the HR model is a key if including HR in hydrological modeling.

Acknowledgements

This research was supported by the Office of Science (BER), U.S. Department of Energy (DE-SC0008182 ER65389). Funding for the eight Ameriflux sites was also provided by the U.S. Department of Energy's Office of Science.

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Supporting Information

Fig. S1 Detection of HR using wavelet analysis. (a) CS-229 probe traces from the Oak Pine Forest (US-SCf) site, during late June and early July, 2011. (b) Wavelet analysis, comparing the period and phase of oscillations in 5, 10, and 100 cm probes with the 200 cm probe. (c) Subset of wavelet analysis during mid-April, 2011, at the Desert Chaparral (US-SCc) site, comparing period and phase of oscillations in 10 & 50 cm probes with the 100 cm probe. In (b) and (c), the thick black contour designates the 95% confidence level against AR(1) red noise, and the cone of influence where edge effects affect interpretation is shown as a lighter shade. The period unit is day. Large power in (b) and (c) implies clear fluctuation with a certain periodicity in a certain time frame. (d) Representative relationships between CS-616 probe output (integrating moisture from 0-30 cm), and a 5cm (red dots) and 25 cm (blue dots) CS-229 probe.

Fig. S2 Observed and simulated soil moisture from 5 to 200cm depth, over multiple years, at the US-SCs Coastal Sage site. Depths of observed and simulated soil moisture are shown at upper right in each panel. Grey lines included in the 5cm, 10cm, and 25 cm layers are data from the four CS-616 soil moisture sensors integrating information from 0-30 cm depth. Blue and red lines are simulated soil moisture from CLM4.5+HR and CLM4.5, at the depths indicated. Each depth panel also contains one colored line (magenta, pink, orange, green, cyan, light blue, for 5, 10, 25, 50, 100, and 200 cm CS-229 probes, respectively).

Fig. S3 Observed and simulated soil moisture from 5 to 200cm depth, over multiple years, at the US-SCg Grassland site. Lines as described for Fig. S2.

Fig. S4 Observed and simulated soil moisture from 5 to 200cm depth, over multiple years, at the US-SCf Oak Pine Forest (James Reserve) site. Lines as described for Fig. S2.

Fig. S5 Observed and simulated soil moisture from 5 to 200cm depth, over multiple years, at the US-SCw Pinyon Juniper Woodland site. Lines as described for Fig. S2.

Fig. S6 Observed and simulated soil moisture from 5 to 200cm depth, over multiple years, at the US-SCc Desert Chaparral site. Lines as described for Fig. S2.

Fig. S7 Observed and simulated diel fluctuations of soil moisture for depth of 0-30 cm during dry periods. One specific observed (simulated) soil moisture fluctuation is firstly cut by the straight line between the minimum soil moisture of two adjacent days, then, the subsequent diel fluctuations are averaged over the entire dry period (defined Table S6). SW1-4 for Southern California sites are from four CS-616 water content reflectometers (each sensing 0-30 cm depth). SW1 is not available at the US-SCd site.

Fig. S8 Root Mean Squared Error quantifying the match between modeled and observed soil moisture shown in Fig. 1. For the Southern California sites, data for each individual CS-616 probe (four per site) are shown.

[Fig. S9](#) The vertical change of the magnitude of observed diel fluctuations of soil moisture at the US-Wrc and US-SRM sites.

Fig. ~~S9~~ S10 Soil moisture difference between simulations with HR and without HR at each southern California site (US-SCs,g,f,w,c).

5 **Fig. ~~S10~~ S11** Sensitivity of simulated upward HR (hydraulic lift) to selected parameters in [the HR scheme of Ryel et al. \(2002\) equation describing HR](#). Parameters are shown in Tables 3 and 4 except those shown in each sub-figure. Results shown here are the averaged values for Julian days over the entire simulation period. Interruptions are periods when hydraulic descent occurs.

10 **Fig. ~~S11~~ S12** Sensitivity of simulated downward HR (hydraulic descent) to selected parameters in [the HR scheme of Ryel et al. \(2002\) equation describing HR](#). Parameters as in Fig. S10.

Notes S1 Parameterization of CLM4.5 when site-specific data were not available from AmeriFlux sites.

Notes S2 Site-specific data processing of thermal dissipation probe data at Southern California gradient sites.

Notes S3 Discrepancies between modeled and measured rainy season soil moisture at the Southern California gradient sites.

Notes S4 Partitioning of evapotranspiration into transpiration and ground and canopy evaporation.

Table 1. Study site information.

Site	Location	Elevation (m)	Climate	Vegetation	Annual precipitation (mm)	Average temperature (°C)	Atmospheric forcing data
Wind River Crane Site (US-Wrc)	45.8205°N, 121.9519°W, WA	371	Mediterranean (Csb)	Douglas-fir/western hemlock	2223 ^{1#}	8.7 [#]	1999-2012
Santa Rita Mesquite (US-SRM)	31.8214°N, 110.8661°W, AZ	1116	Cold semi-arid (BSk)	Mesquite tree, Grass	377 ^{2#}	19.6 ^{3#}	2004-2012
Southern California Climate Gradient - Coastal Sage (US-SCs)	33.7342°N, 117.6961°W, CA	475	Mediterranean (Csa)	Coastal Sage	288 ^{4#}	16.2 ^{4#}	2007-2012
Grassland (US-SCg)	33.7364°N, 117.6947°W, CA	470	Mediterranean (Csa)	Grass	281 ^{4#}	16.6 ^{4#}	2007-2012
Oak Pine Forest (US-SCf)	33.8080° N, 116.7717°W, CA	1710	Mediterranean (Csa)	Oak/pine forest	526 ^{4#}	13.3 ^{4#}	2007-2012
Pinyon Juniper Woodland (US-SCw)	33.6047° N, 116.4527°W, CA	1280	Mediterranean (Csa)	Pinyon, juniper	100 ^{4#}	16.5 ^{4#}	2007-2012
Desert Chaparral (US-SCc)	33.6094°N, 116.4505°W, CA	1300	Mediterranean (Csa)	Desert shrubland	153 ^{4#}	16.3 ^{4#}	2007-2012
Sonoran Desert (US-SCd)	33.6518°N, 116.3725°W, CA	275	Mediterranean (Csa)	Desert perennials and annuals	123 ^{5#}	23.8 ^{5#}	2007-2011

Notes: 1#: 1978-1998, statistic is based on a NOAA station located 5 km north of the US-Wrc tower. 2#: 1937-2007, from Scott et al. (2009). 3#: 2004-2012. 4#: 2007-2012. 5#: 2007-2011.

Table 2. Sources of data for model inputs.

Site	Atmospheric forcing data	Land coverage	LAI	Canopy height	Soil texture	Soil organic matter
US-Wrc	AmeriFlux tower data	Google Earth map; Table 2 in Shaw et al. (2004) (overstory trees: 24%; vine maple: 36%; salal and oregon grape: 40%)	Shaw et al. (2004); AmeriFlux biological data file	Table 3 in Shaw et al. (2004) (mean overstory tree height: 19.2 m)	Fig. 4 in Warren et al. (2005). Sandy loam, with loamy sand at some depths.	Table 1 in Shaw et al. (2004); AmeriFlux biological data file
US-SRM	AmeriFlux tower data	Dr. Russell Scott from USDA-ARS (bare ground: 40%; mesquite canopy: 35%; grass: 25%)	Dr. Russell Scott from USDA-ARS	Potts et al. (2008) (Tree height: 0.25-5 m)	AmeriFlux biological data file. Mixed sandy loam and loamy sand.	AmeriFlux biological data file
US-SCs	UCI Goulden Lab	Estimation based on site picture (bare ground: 10%; coastal sage: 90%)	NCAR database	NCAR database	UCI Goulden Lab Shallow sand, deep loamy sand.	NCAR database
US-SCg	UCI Goulden Lab	Estimation based on site picture (bare ground: 10%; grass: 90%)	NCAR database	NCAR database	UCI Goulden Lab Shallow sand, deep loamy sand.	NCAR database
US-SCf	UCI Goulden Lab	Table 3 in Anderson and Goulden (2011) (Doak)	Table 2 in Fellows and Goulden (2013)	NCAR database	UCI Goulden Lab Sandy loam, with loamy sand at some depths.	NCAR database
US-SCw	UCI Goulden Lab	Table 3 in Anderson and Goulden (2011) (Oshrub)	NCAR database	NCAR database	UCI Goulden Lab Estimated as sand (sand: 90%; clay: 7.5%)	NCAR database
US-SCc	UCI Goulden Lab	Google Earth map (bare ground: 78%; chaparral: 22%)	UCI Goulden Lab	NCAR database	UCI Goulden Lab Estimated as sand (sand: 90%; clay: 7.5%)	NCAR database
US-SCd	UCI Goulden Lab	Table 3 in Anderson and Goulden (2011) (LowDes)	NCAR database	NCAR database	UCI Goulden Lab Estimated as sand (sand: 99%; clay: 0.5%)	NCAR database

Table 3. Clapp and Hornberger “*B*” used in this study.

Layers	Depth at layer interface (m)	US-Wrc		US-SRM		US-SCs		US-SCg		US-SCf		US-SCw		US-SCc		US-SCd	
		<i>B</i>	Soil texture1#	<i>B</i>	Soil texture1#	<i>B</i>	Soil texture1#	<i>B</i>	Soil texture1#	<i>B</i>	Soil texture1#	<i>B</i>	Soil texture2#	<i>B</i>	Soil texture2#	<i>B</i>	Soil texture2#
1	0.0175	3.96	SL	3.15	LS	5.07	S	4.46	S	3.15	SL	4.09	S	4.09	S	2.27	S
2	0.0451	4.31	SL	3.15	LS	5.09	S	4.49	S	3.26	SL	4.09	S	4.09	S	2.27	S
3	0.0906	4.46	SL	3.15	LS	5.13	S	4.53	S	3.39	SL	4.10	S	4.10	S	2.27	S
4	0.1655	4.52	SL	3.16	LS	5.30	LS	4.65	S	3.18	SL	4.11	S	4.11	S	2.27	S
5	0.2891	4.39	SL	3.41	LS	4.83	LS	4.27	LS	3.34	SL	4.11	S	4.11	S	2.27	S
6	0.4929	4.31	SL	3.66	LS	4.63	LS	4.19	LS	3.27	SL	4.11	S	4.11	S	2.27	S
7	0.8289	4.00	SL	3.91	LS	3.94	LS	4.33	LS	3.27	LS	4.11	S	4.11	S	2.27	S
8	1.3828	5.85	LS	4.41	LS	3.51	LS	4.08	LS	3.30	SL	4.11	S	4.11	S	2.27	S
9	2.2961	6.65	SL	4.40	LS	3.15	LS	3.90	LS	3.50	SL	4.10	S	4.10	S	2.27	S
10	3.8019	6.65	SL	4.40	LS	3.15	LS	3.90	LS	3.50	SL	4.10	S	4.10	S	2.27	S

Note: 1#-derived from soil sample data in former studies; 2#-estimated by UCI Goulden Lab. “S” represents sand, “LS” loamy sand, and “SL” sandy loam. *B* values for sand, loamy sand, and sandy loam were 2.27-5.83, 2.91-5.85, and 3.15-6.65 in Clapp and Hornberger (1978), respectively.

Table 4. Parameters used in the [HR scheme of Ryel et al. \(2002\)](#) ~~HR model~~ for the study sites. “ C_{RT} ” is the maximum radial soil–root conductance [of the entire active root system for water](#), “ ϕ_{50} ” is the soil water potential where conductance is reduced by 50%, “ b ” is an empirical constant.

Site	C_{RT} (cm MPa ⁻¹ h ⁻¹)	“b”	ϕ_{50} (MPa)
US-Wrc	0.1	3.22	-1.0
US-SRM	1.0	3.22	-1.0
US-SCs	1.0	3.22	-1.0
US-SCg	0.25	3.22	-1.0
US-SCf	1.0	3.22	-1.0
US-SCw	0.1	3.22	-1.0
US-SCc	0.05	3.22	-1.0
US-SCd	0.05	3.22	-1.0

Table 5. Modeled contribution of hydraulic redistribution (HR) to evapotranspiration (ET) during dry periods (mean \pm s.d., columns 3-6):

Site	Dry period (month/day)	HL* (mm H ₂ O d ⁻¹)	$ET_{\text{without HR}}$ (mm H ₂ O d ⁻¹)	$ET_{\text{with HR}}$ (mm H ₂ O d ⁻¹)	HR induced ET increase ($ET_{\text{with HR}} - ET_{\text{without HR}}$) (mm H ₂ O d ⁻¹)	$\frac{HL}{ET_{\text{with HR}}}$	Contribution of HR to ET ($\frac{ET_{\text{with HR}} - ET_{\text{without HR}}}{ET_{\text{with HR}}}$, %)
US We	6/1-9/30	0.60 \pm 0.44	1.61 \pm 0.82	1.90 \pm 0.77	0.29 \pm 0.35	0.32	0.15
US SM	5/1-6/30	0.19 \pm 0.10	0.34 \pm 0.45	0.52 \pm 0.39	0.18 \pm 0.20	0.37	0.34
US Cs	4/1-9/30	0.41 \pm 0.18	0.63 \pm 0.50	0.89 \pm 0.48	0.26 \pm 0.17	0.46	0.29
US Cg	4/1-9/30	0.48 \pm 0.13	0.59 \pm 0.46	0.94 \pm 0.38	0.35 \pm 0.19	0.51	0.37
US Cf	4/1-9/30	0.71 \pm 0.26	0.85 \pm 0.50	1.32 \pm 0.47	0.47 \pm 0.33	0.53	0.35
US Cw	4/1-9/30	0.22 \pm 0.07	0.34 \pm 0.31	0.47 \pm 0.31	0.13 \pm 0.10	0.46	0.29
US Ce	4/1-9/30	0.10 \pm 0.07	0.39 \pm 0.42	0.45 \pm 0.43	0.06 \pm 0.07	0.21	0.13
US Cd	4/1-9/30	0.14 \pm 0.08	0.34 \pm 0.38	0.44 \pm 0.36	0.10 \pm 0.08	0.21	0.22

* HL represents hydraulic lift (upward HR).

Table 65. Root mean square error (RMSE) comparing field observations with modeled output from CLM4.5 or CLM4.5+HR.

Site	Bowen Ratio (multi-year, dry period)		Evapotranspiration (multi-year, dry period)		Soil Moisture (0-30 cm)* (multi-year, dry period)		Soil Moisture (middle / deep layers) (multi-year, dry period)										
	CLM4.5	CLM4.5+ HR	CLM4.5	CLM4.5+HR	CLM4.5	CLM4.5+HR	CLM4.5	CLM4.5+HR									
US-Wrc	1.36	>**	0.74	0.77	>	0.69	7.09	>	5.92	60 cm: 6.11 <	60 cm: 7.67	100 cm: 8.81 <	100 cm: 9.86	150 cm: 11.56 <	150 cm: 11.95	200 cm: 22.67 <	200 cm: 23.08
US-SRM	13.30	>	6.84	0.53	>	0.35	2.35	>	1.15	60 cm: 1.36 >	60 cm: 0.39	90 cm: 1.56 >	90 cm: 0.47				
US-SCs	6.36	>	4.71	0.47	>	0.42	4.65	>	3.85	-	-	-	-				
US-SCg	2.72	>	1.80	0.53		0.54	2.67	>	2.46	-	-	-	-				
US-SCf	3.35	>	1.09	1.14	>	0.82	2.67	>	2.45	-	-	-	-				
US-SCw	6.04	>	3.02	0.40		0.37	2.30		2.36	-	-	-	-				
US-SCc	5.25		5.27	0.42		0.44	2.38		2.29	-	-	-	-				
US-SCd	6.02		6.05	0.28		0.30	1.67		1.51	-	-	-	-				
Site	Bowen Ratio (multi-year, dry&wet)		Evapotranspiration (multi-year, dry&wet)		Soil Moisture (0-30 cm) (multi-year, dry&wet)		Soil Moisture (middle / deep layers) (multi-year, dry&wet)										
	CLM4.5	CLM4.5+ HR	CLM4.5	CLM4.5+HR	CLM4.5	CLM4.5+HR	CLM4.5	CLM4.5+HR									
US-Wrc	2.87		2.94	0.74		0.71	8.39	>	8.01	60 cm: 5.35 <	60 cm: 6.17	100 cm: 8.59 <	100 cm: 9.17	150 cm: 14.45 <	150 cm: 14.65	200 cm: 22.15 <	200 cm: 22.40
US-SRM	9.13	>	4.11	0.51	>	0.29	1.00		0.88	60 cm: 1.79 >	60 cm: 1.15	90 cm: 2.23 >	90 cm: 1.12				
US-SCs	5.02	>	4.36	0.49		0.47	7.18		7.34	-	-	-	-				
US-SCg	2.01	>	1.29	0.58		0.61	4.85	<	5.36	-	-	-	-				
US-SCf	2.70	>	0.89	0.94	>	0.70	3.02	>	2.79	-	-	-	-				
US-SCw	5.33	>	2.85	0.38		0.36	3.51	<	3.87	-	-	-	-				
US-SCc	3.80		3.98	0.41		0.42	3.60		3.59	-	-	-	-				
US-SCd	4.44		4.31	0.27		0.28	2.43	>	2.19	-	-	-	-				

*Southern California observed soil moisture [data](#) were calculated from the average of four (or three, for US-SCd) soil moisture probes.

**Differences between ~~RMSE for~~ CLM4.5 and CLM4.5+HR larger than 0.2 (for Bowen Ratio and Soil Moisture) and 0.05 (for Evapotranspiration) are indicated with ">" or "<". Smaller RMSE indicates improved model fit to data.

Table 6. Modeled contribution of hydraulic redistribution (HR) to evapotranspiration (ET) during dry periods for all simulation years (mean \pm s.d., columns 3-6).

Site	Dry period (month/day)	HL* (mm H ₂ O d ⁻¹)	$ET_{without\ HR}$ (mm H ₂ O d ⁻¹)	$ET_{with\ HR}$ (mm H ₂ O d ⁻¹)	HR-induced ET increase ($ET_{with\ HR} - ET_{without\ HR}$) (mm H ₂ O d ⁻¹)	$\frac{HL}{ET_{with\ HR}}$	Contribution of HR to ET ($\frac{ET_{with\ HR} - ET_{without\ HR}}{ET_{with\ HR}}$ · %)
US-Wrc	6/1-9/30	0.60 ± 0.44	1.61 ± 0.82	1.90 ± 0.77	0.29 ± 0.35	0.32	15
US-SRM	5/1-6/30	0.19 ± 0.10	0.34 ± 0.45	0.52 ± 0.39	0.18 ± 0.20	0.37	34
US-SCs	4/1-9/30	0.41 ± 0.18	0.63 ± 0.50	0.89 ± 0.48	0.26 ± 0.17	0.46	29
US-SCg	4/1-9/30	0.48 ± 0.13	0.59 ± 0.46	0.94 ± 0.38	0.35 ± 0.19	0.51	37
US-SCf	4/1-9/30	0.71 ± 0.26	0.85 ± 0.50	1.32 ± 0.47	0.47 ± 0.33	0.53	35
US-SCw	4/1-9/30	0.22 ± 0.07	0.34 ± 0.31	0.47 ± 0.31	0.13 ± 0.10	0.46	29
US-SCe	4/1-9/30	0.10 ± 0.07	0.39 ± 0.42	0.45 ± 0.43	0.06 ± 0.07	0.21	13
US-SCd	4/1-9/30	0.14 ± 0.08	0.34 ± 0.38	0.44 ± 0.36	0.10 ± 0.08	0.31	22

* HL represents hydraulic lift (upward HR).



Fig. 1. Observed and simulated soil moisture over selected years. Labels at the upper right corner of each soil moisture panel show the depths of observed and simulated soil moisture. For example, “20 cm VS 17-29 cm” means the observation depth of soil moisture is 20 cm and the simulated results at depths of 17-29 cm were compared with this observation. Within panels for southern California sites (US-SCs, US-SCg, US-SCf, US-SCw, US-SCc, and US-SCd), the four grey lines are data from the four CS-616 soil moisture sensors at 0-30 cm depth. Results were shown for the last ~~two~~ years only (2012) for the ~~above-top~~ 30 cm depths at US-SRM site for clarity. The rectangular box indicated period with incomplete precipitation record.

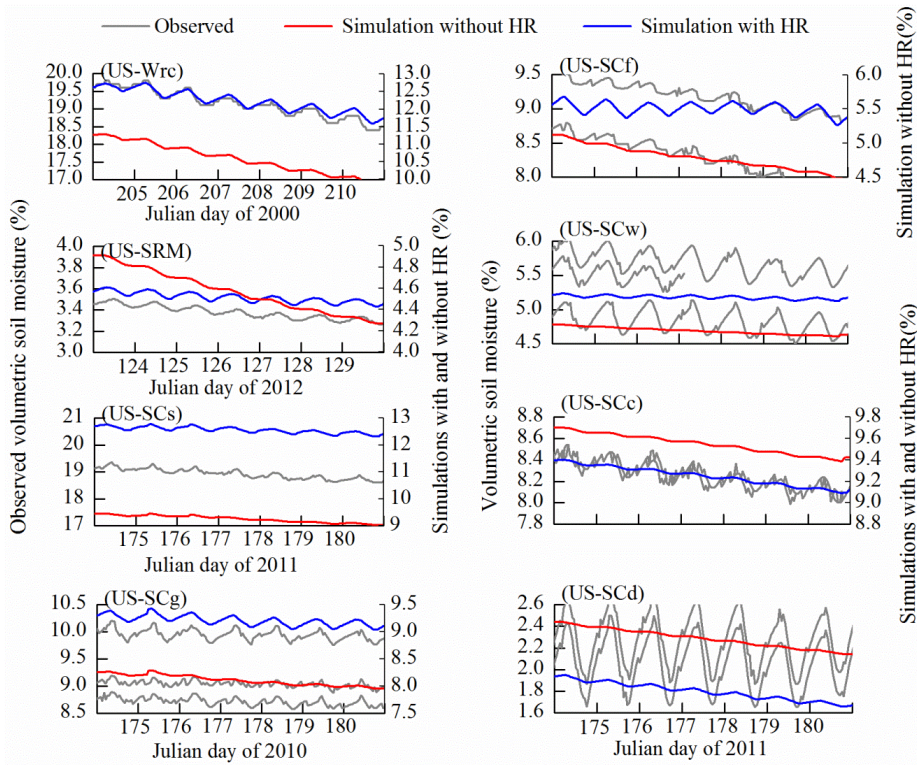


Fig. 2. Observed and simulated soil moisture for depth of 0-30 cm during dry periods.

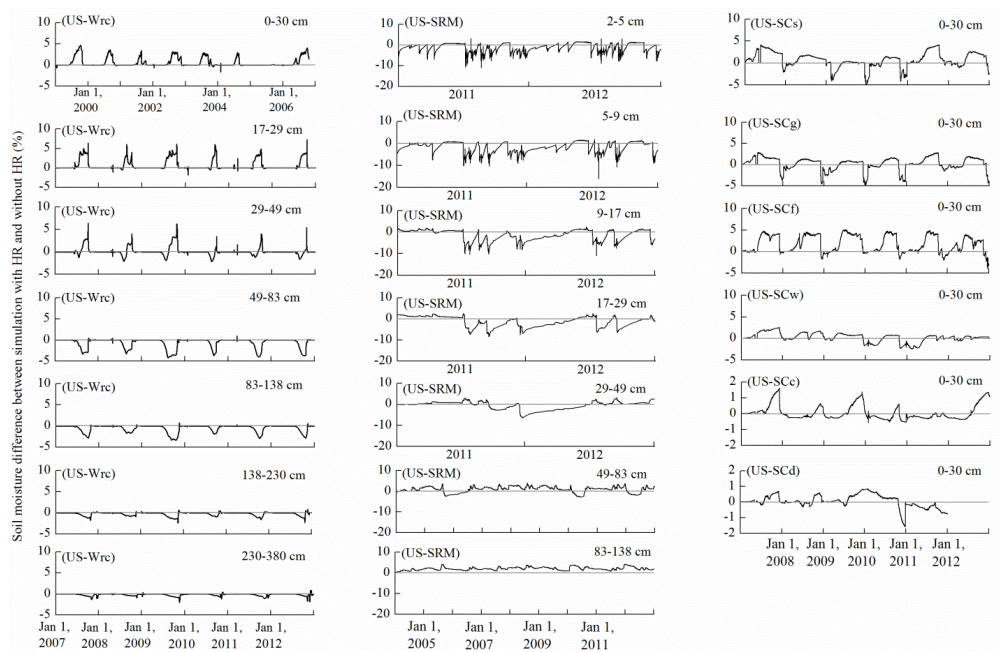
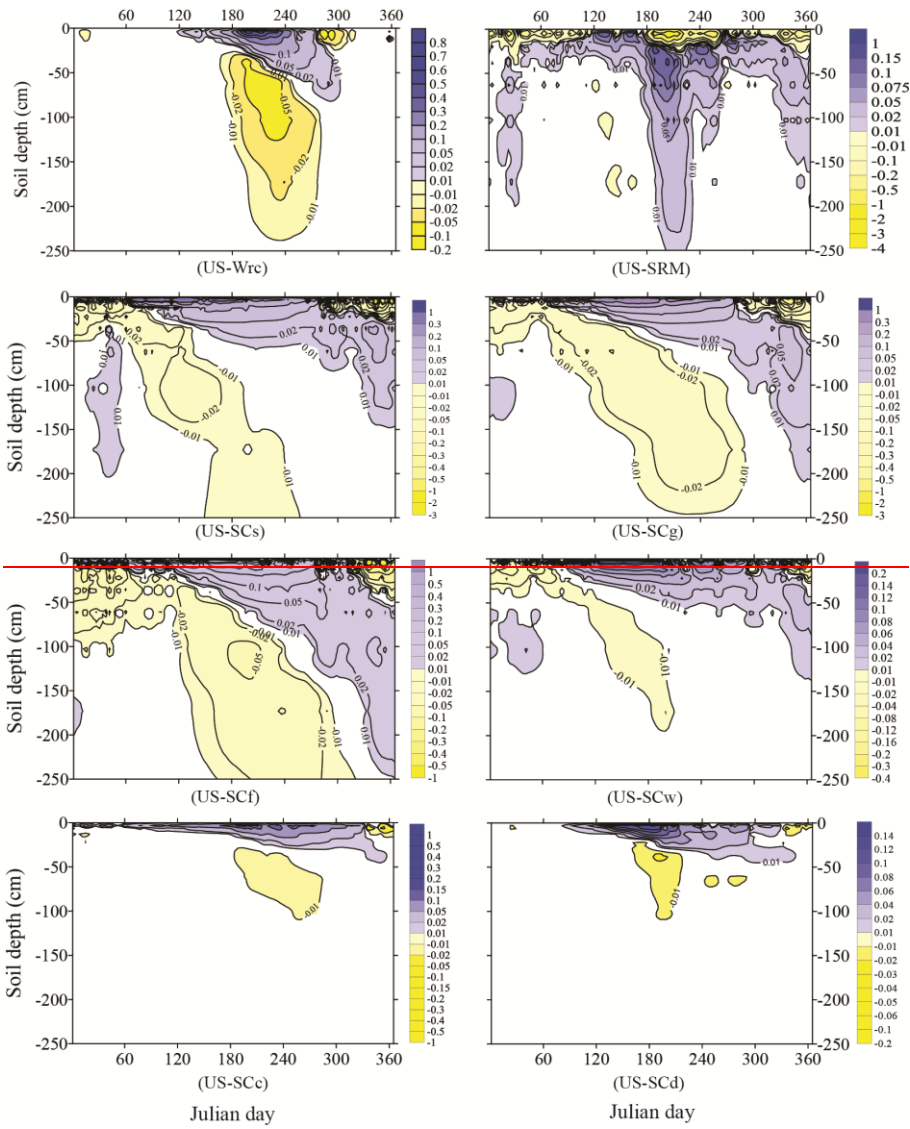


Fig. 3. Soil moisture difference between simulations with HR and without HR at each site. Labels at the upper right corner of each ~~soil moisture~~ panel show the depths of simulated soil moisture.



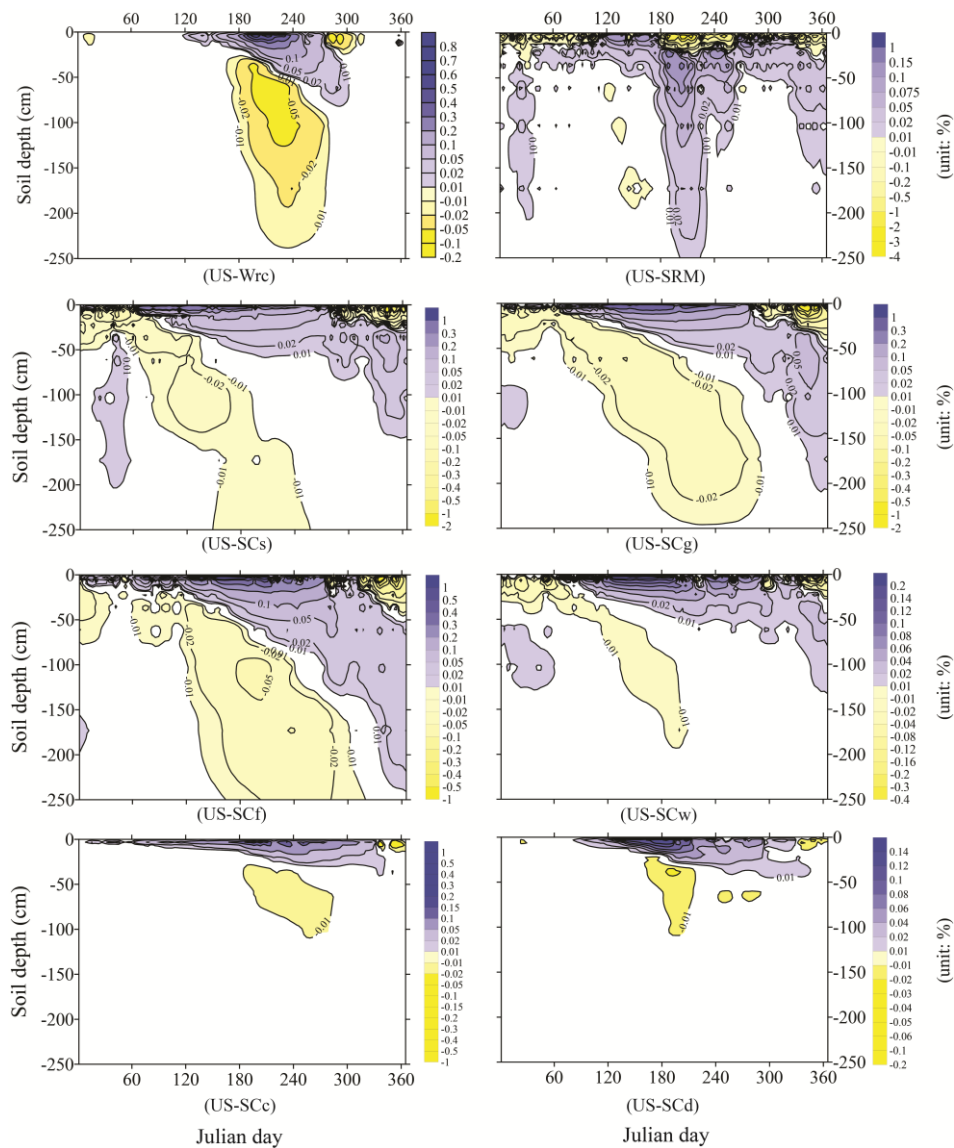
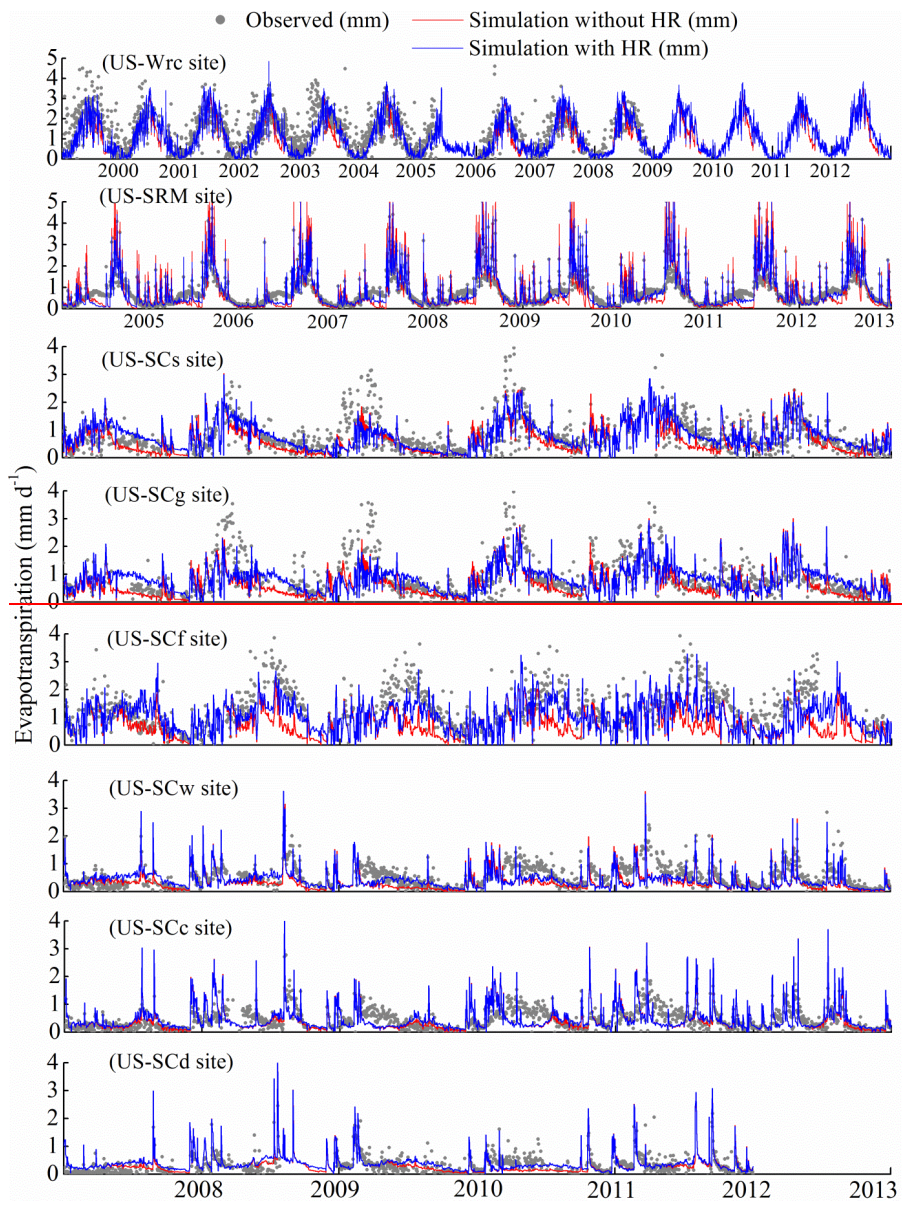


Fig. 4. Modeled hydraulic redistribution (HR)-induced change in volumetric soil moisture at the eight study sites. Results shown here are the averaged values for Julian days over the entire simulation period.



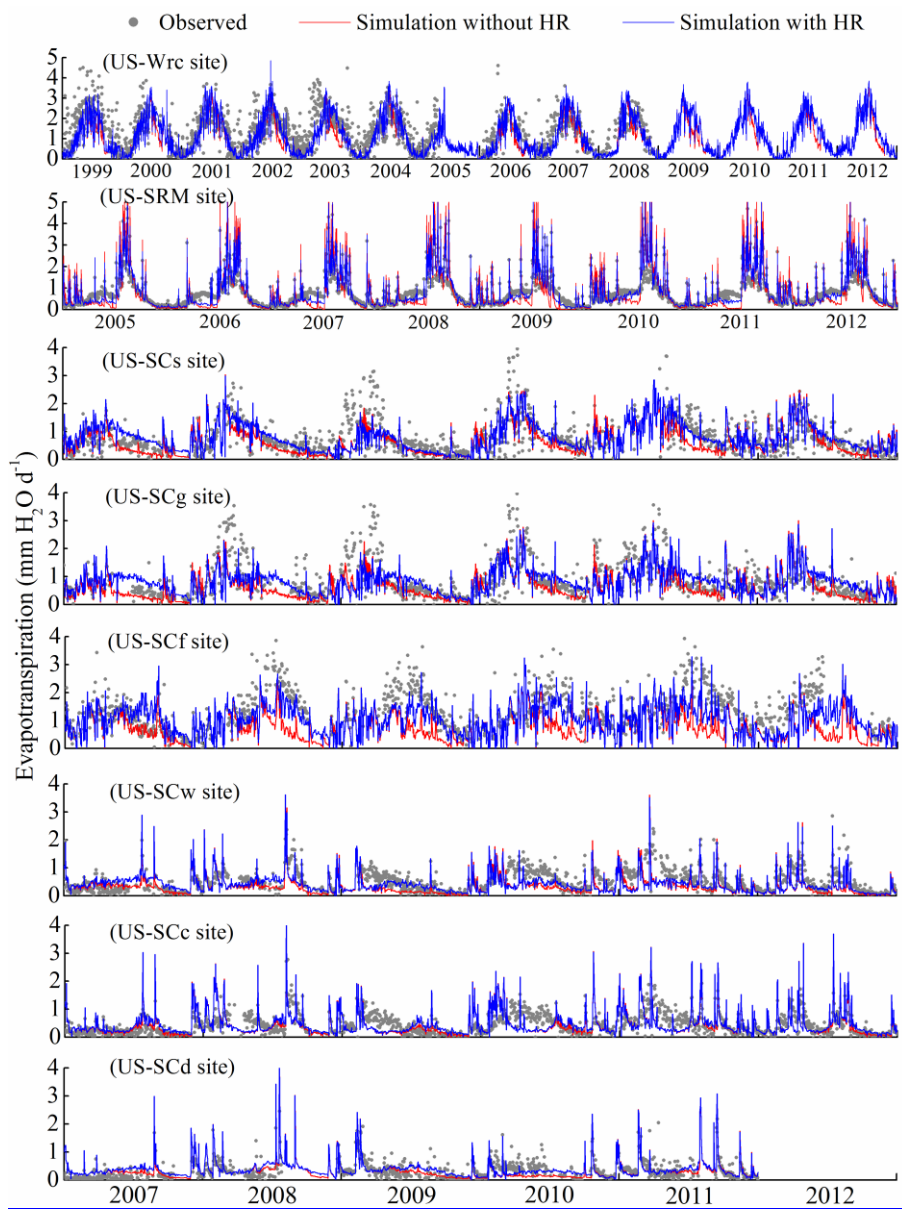


Fig. 5. Observed and simulated daily evapotranspiration at the eight study sites.

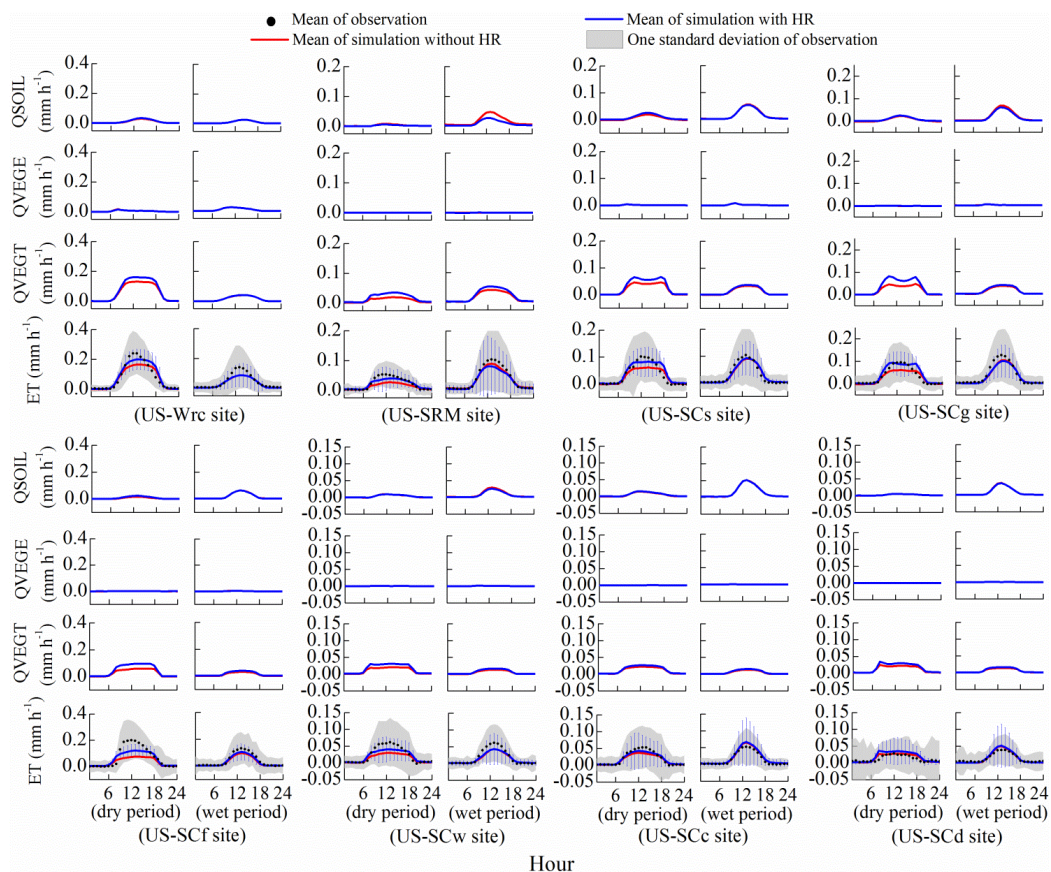
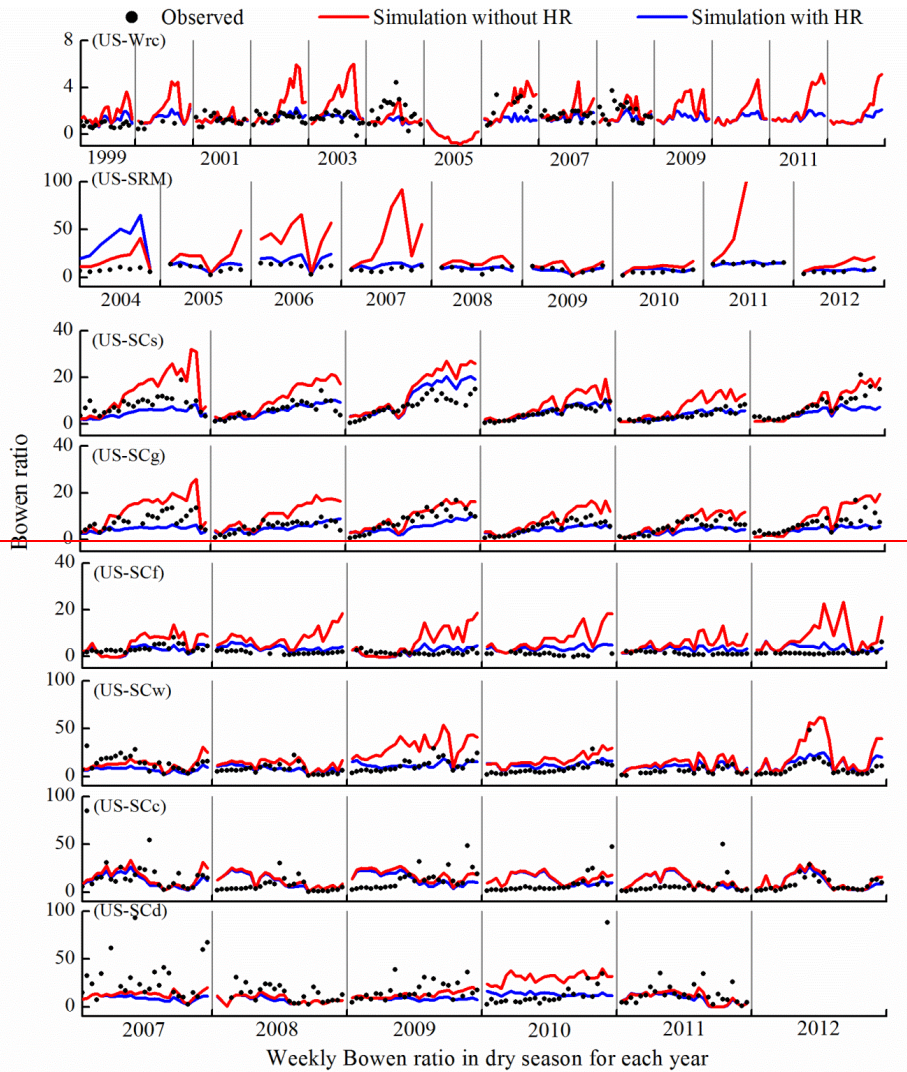


Fig. 6. Observed and simulated hourly evapotranspiration (ET) and its components at the eight study sites. “QSOIL” is ground evaporation, “QVEGE” is canopy evaporation, and “QVEGT” is transpiration. “Observation” represents observed evapotranspiration. “Dry period” and “wet period” represent average values over dry season and wet season (defined in Table 56) for all simulation years, respectively. The thin vertical lines represent one standard deviation of simulation with HR.



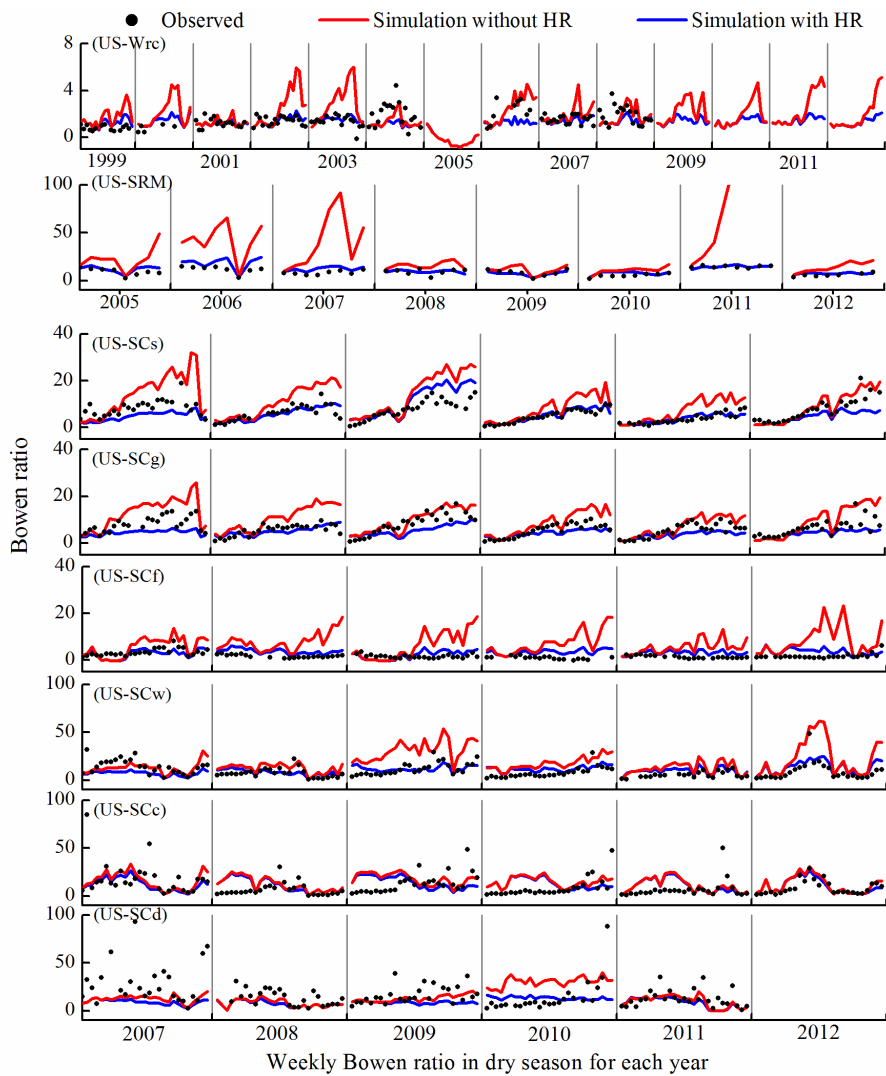


Fig. 7. Observed and simulated weekly Bowen ratio during dry periods.

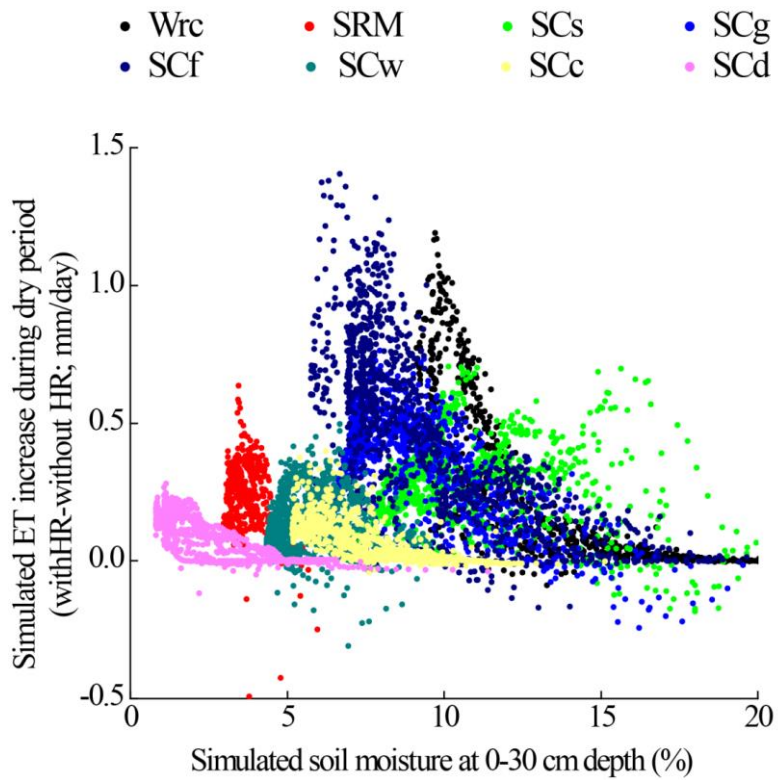
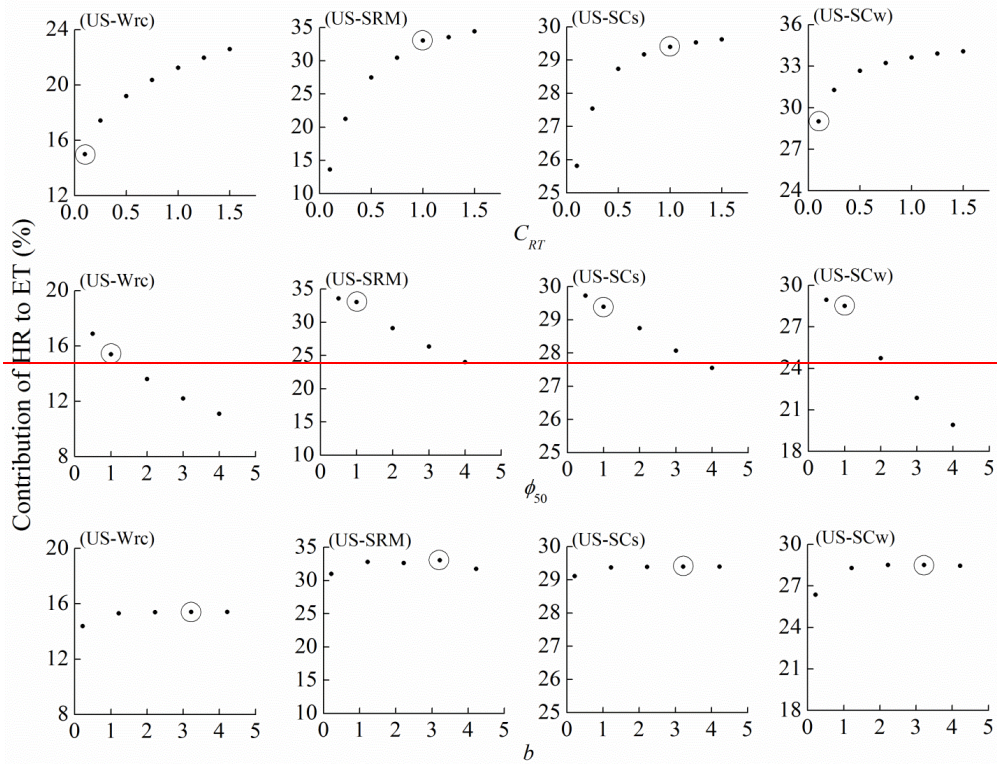


Fig. 8. Simulated changes in evapotranspiration (ET) caused by hydraulic redistribution (HR) as a function of soil moisture at all eight sites.



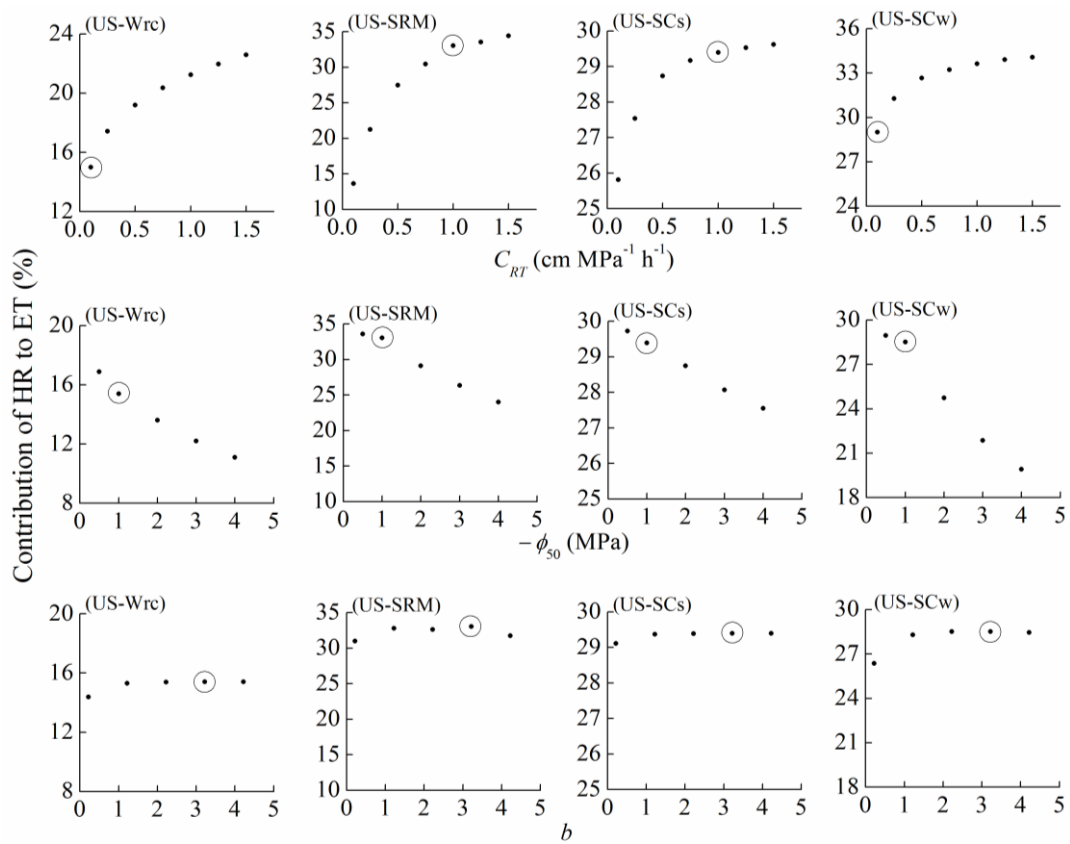


Fig. 9 Sensitivity of simulated contribution of HR to ET (defined in Table 56) to selected parameters in the HR scheme of Rye et al. (2002) equation describing HR. Circled parameter set was used in Table 56.