

## ***Interactive comment on “Monitoring Groundwater Storage Depletion Using Gravity Recovery and Climate Experiment (GRACE) Data in the Semi-Arid Catchments” by Nizar Abou Zaki et al.***

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The paper is interesting in the context of serious water issue in the region, especially regarding the groundwater. The country is suffering critically from nonavailability of a correct mapping of the extent of problem, which is the basis of correct management setup. This paper suggests an independent approach to data collection and evaluation, which is very important. However, I suggest the publication of this paper after the authors address the following questions more clearly in the paper.

• How did the smaller study area affect the GRACE derived results

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• How does the geology of the catchment interrupt with the water mass variation

• How does the water mass change in the catchment indicates the groundwater recharge and depletion

• What are other factors interrupting the water mass variation, other than discussed in the paper

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