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Interactive comment on "Complementary principle of evaporation: From original linear relationship to generalized nonlinear functions" *by* Songjun Han and Fuqiang Tian

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The authors provided an informative yet in-depth review of the research activities over the past half-century using the complementary principle of evaporation. I enjoyed the reading and feel it is overall a timely and nice contribution to the hydrology community. Nevertheless, I do challenge the authors to elevate the presentation quality, in a spirit to make it valuable for a variety of audiences, from those who are not very familiar with this type of research but would like to have some background information, to those who are really active in the field. In its current form, the writing style is still, more or less, in favor of the latter.

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Discussion paper

Response: Thanks for the positive comment to our manuscript. In the revised manuscript, we will add a new section “Integrating with other approaches for future development” to compare the complementary approach of evaporation estimation with the approaches which are more popular in the research community, such as the Penman approach, the Budyko approach et., and propose a suggestion of integrating these approaches with the complementary principle for a new generation of evaporation estimation method. We think this new section would help the readers who are not very familiar with the complementary principle. In addition, we will try to elevate the presentation quality.

Also, I feel it might be more straightforward to include the word "review" in the title and abstract. Otherwise, some readers may not realize this is a review article until the end of the introduction.

Response: We will change the title to “A review of complementary principle of evaporation: From original linear relationship to generalized nonlinear functions”, and the word “review” will also be included in the abstract.

Interactive comment on Hydrol. Earth Syst. Sci. Discuss., https://doi.org/10.5194/hess-2019-545, 2019.

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