

## ***Interactive comment on “Intercomparison of freshwater fluxes over ocean and investigations into water budget closure” by Marloes Gutenstein et al.***

**Marloes Gutenstein et al.**

marloes.gutenstein@dwd.de

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Thanks to the referees' numerous comments and suggestions, we were able to make valuable improvements to the manuscript. In addition to those improvements, we decided to update the outdated SEAFLEX version 2 data to version 3, which became publicly available shortly after the submission of our manuscript. We realize that making changes to the manuscript without being prompted by the editor or referees is somewhat unusual, but we believe that performing the inter-comparison with the newest algorithm versions is of most use to the community. Moreover, although SEAFLEX3 evaporation data compares better with the other data sets, the satellite ensemble mean

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(SEM), to which we compared all data, was only marginally affected by the change in data sets. In particular, the general outcome and conclusions of our study remain the same.

Please find our answers to the referees' comments and suggestions in the supplemented pdf.

Please also note the supplement to this comment:

<https://hess.copernicus.org/preprints/hess-2020-317/hess-2020-317-AC1-supplement.pdf>

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