

Response to feedback from the editor

Thank you for your quick response and your suggestions for improving our argumentation. We see the point that you bring up here and agree with you that to base our argumentation on an assumption (i.e. the lack of response to T_a as a result of the thermal buffer) is not very objective and therefore less strong. Therefore, we agree to strengthen our motivation based on your suggestion where we argue that using VPD and vertical vapour pressure gradient, rather than using T_a , is based on the explicit use of these variables by Dalton and Penman in their equations.

We therefore have adjusted the following text:

P8.L21: *“To be specific, the choice of including VPD and vertical vapour pressure gradient in the regression analysis was motivated by the apparent drivers of the Dalton and Penman equations. It was decided to give preference to the use of VPD over air temperature as dependent variable in the regression analysis due to its explicit mention in the Penman equation, whereas air temperature only features implicitly in the definition of the slope of the vapour pressure gradient (s), and VPD.”*

P14.L1: *“It should be reminded that air temperature was not explicitly included in the regression analysis as explained in Section 2.5.”*