

Dear Prof. Markus Hrachowitz,

Thank you for your time and attention in handling our manuscript, as well as for providing us an opportunity to revise and improve its quality. We are pleased to submit a revised R2 version. The manuscript has been moderately revised according to Prof. Michael K. Stewart's comments and suggestions. In addition, the reference list of the manuscript has been compiled according to HESS standards. We believe that the revised R2 version is now significantly improved from the R1 version with respect to the English language or grammas. We would like to sincerely thank you, two reviewers for these valuable comments. The following are point-by-point responses to the reviewers' comments.

Again, thank you for your consideration.

Yours faithfully,

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## General Comment

This paper has been revised after several reviews. The paper is now much more readable and I recommend that the paper now be accepted for publication in HESS, with consideration of the detailed comments below.

## Detailed Comments

Minor details noted while reading the paper:

Page 1, Line 16: Suggest change to “..The H-O isotopic compositions of rivers in ..” from “..The spatial H-O isotopic compositions in ..”

**Reply: Corrected.**

P10 & 11, Fig. 3 and Fig. 4 captions: Should be “The dashed lines ..” not “The light lines ..”

**Reply: Corrected.**

P15, L315: Should be “.. and increase river flows.” not “.. and rapidly recharge the river.” (Note, groundwater systems are recharged, while river flows are increased.)

**Reply: Corrected.**

P16, L345: Should be “.. and groundwater feed the river water during the wet season ..” not “.. and groundwater recharge the river water during the wet season ..”

**Reply: Corrected.**

P19, L370: Should this be Fig. 4 not Fig. 5?

**Reply: Corrected.**

P20, L 402: Should be “.. and further depleted the groundwater ..” not “.. and was further depleted in the groundwater ..”

**Reply: Corrected.**

P20, L412: Should be “.. is the combination of different periods of atmospheric ..” not

“.. is different periods atmospheric ..”

**Reply: Corrected.**

P20, L 413: Should be “.. decreasing ..” not “.. decreased ..”

**Reply: Corrected.**

P23, L459: Should be “.. owing to smaller and steadier meltwater recharge ..” not “.. owing to less and more steady meltwater recharge ..”

**Reply: Corrected.**

P24, L491: “.. isotopic measurements in water bodies over the past 40 years suggests that there is a range of interannual variability ..” not “.. isotopic variability in water bodies over the past 40 years suggests that there is a variable degree of interannual variability ..”

**Reply: Corrected.**

P25, L513: “.. storage increases and lake expansions. The ..” not “.. storage increase and lake expansion. The ..”

**Reply: Corrected.**

P30, L575: “.. River base flow is maintained by groundwater discharge during the dry season, and rivers receive varying proportions ..” not “.. The base flow is maintained by groundwater recharge during dry season, while receiving varying proportions ..”

**Reply: Corrected.**

P30, L593: “.. accelerating the water cycle and increasing water storage in the ..” not “.. accelerating water cycle and raising water storage uncertainties in the ..”

**Reply: Corrected.**

P31, L597: “.. areas becomes severely out of balance due to extreme climatic changes.” not “.. areas becoming severely out of balance undergone climatic extreme changes.”

**Reply: Corrected.**