Interactive comment on “A new approach to accurate validation of remote sensing retrieval of evapotranspiration based on data fusion” by C. Sun et al.

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- There are two models for estimation of ET in our paper: (1) RS-retrieved, (2) Penman-Monteith model. The Penman-Monteith model is adopted in the SWAT as a basic module. It is no difference between (2) and (3). We will modify the Section 3.3 and 3.4 to reduce misunderstandings.

- We have modified the diagram to demonstrate our approach more clearly: 1) RS-derived ET is used as one of the input factors for SWAT, 2) RS-derived ET and other data (Digital Elevation Model (DEM), landuse data, soil data, etc) are processed together in SWAT to simulate the hydrological cycle, 3) The Runoff is output from the SWAT, 4) The output Runoff is compared with observed runoff data, 5) The RS-derived ET is evaluated based on the results of 4).

The PM-derived ET could also be evaluated in the same way with SWAT. This part is used to indicate the commonly used point-based approach only. It is not used for evaluation of RS-derived ET.

Thank you very much for your consideration. We will revise the manuscript later according to your comments.

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Fig. 1. diagram