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## ***Interactive comment on “Improved GRACE regional mass balance estimates of the Greenland Ice Sheet cross-validated with the input-output method” by Z. Xu et al.***

**E. Berthier (Editor)**

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Dear Authors,

Three reviewers have now provided a detail assessment of your TCD paper. Although they agree that your study has the potential to make a valuable contribution to TC, they all requested some major corrections and clarifications. I recommend that you take the necessary time to strongly improve your manuscript. Note that all three referees requested to read the revised version of your manuscript.

I find it unfortunate that you did not really take into account my access review, prior to publication in TCD. In particular when I stated: "The main problem of the paper is that it

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is not clear, at least for scientists that are not that familiar with the processing of GRACE data and with earlier studies using the I/O method. Although it is not mandatory for publication in TCD, I would recommend that you try to clarify the paper, make sure the notations are homogeneous."

I consider that the time of reviewers is precious. I will only send them the revised version of your paper if their comments is addressed carefully on a point-by-point basis. As noted by one referee, strong input by all co-authors should help to achieve a suitable paper.

To facilitate the review process, please attach to your revised tracked-changed manuscript a cover letter detailing the changes you made in response to ALL referee comments.

Looking forward to read the revised version of your study,

Best regards,

Etienne Berthier

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Interactive comment on The Cryosphere Discuss., 9, 4661, 2015.

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