The Cryosphere Discuss.,
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The Cryosphere Discussions

Interactive comment on "Real-Time Snow Depth Estimation and Historical Data Reconstruction Over China Based on a Random Forest Machine Learning Approach" *by* Jianwei Yang et al.

Florent Dominé (Editor)

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Dear Authors,

Your work has benefited from four useful and constructive reviews. All reviewers have issues with the choice of your machine learning methods and with your training strategy. For example, reviewer 4 wonders why you did not save some stations for validation rather than just save some years for that purpose? This is just one example, and there are many other objections. I feel that your work is overall potentially valuable and may deserve being published. However, my feeling is that you may need to demonstrate convincingly your machine learning choice of methods and perhaps rerun your training

using different schemes to test whether you have indeed made the best choices. I suspect that significant work is required to adequately address the reviewers' reasonable objections, but it is certainly worth the effort as I feel your paper is potentially of significant interest.

Also, in agreement with our data accessibility guidelines, please make sure the data you use are made accessible to other investigators on a data repository. https://www.the-cryosphere.net/about/data_policy.html

Not being myself an expert in machine learning method, I will most likely send your revised version for further review.

I look forward to reading your responses to the constructive reviews.

Best regards

Florent Domine Editor

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