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Interactive Comment

Interactive comment on "A comparison of rainfall measurements by multiple instruments" by X. C. Liu et al.

Anonymous Referee #1

Received and published: 4 March 2013

This paper compares rainfall measurements from three different types of rain gages, a weather detector, and two different disdrometers. Many events over a period of ten months have been used in this study. DSD parameters are also compared between the two disdrometers, i.e. JWD and 2DVD.

This is a very useful paper, well written and well presented, well structured, concise, and is certainly suitable for publication in AMTD. There are just a few comments/questions which need further clarification, as given below:

- 1) Page 3, line 4: Please add the proper reference for JWD.
- 2) Page 3, line 15: no space between TRMM
- 3) Page 7, line 15: 'where' should be 'whereas'

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- 4) Fig. 2 and Table 1: How is an 'event' defined when (what the authors call) rain amount is determined?
- 5) Fig. 4(a) and (b): The plots are difficult to interpret; can they be replotted in color to make the curves clearer?
- 6) Page 9, lines 12-15: This sentence is not at all clear, and needs to be rewritten.
- 7) Fig. 4 and 5: Are these 1-minute rainfall rates please specify.
- 8) Fig. 6: Again, were these determined from 1-minute DSDs please specify.
- 9) Fig. 7a-d: it's not clear how many DSDs are used in each R interval case; do they represent the 'averaged' DSDs for a given R interval?
- 10) Also, regarding the JWD measurements, was dead-time correction applied (because this can alter the estimated DSD parameters)?
- 11) Rain rate comparisons: much depends on the weighting function used in the comparisons, so justification for equation (3) needs to be elaborated upon. For example, why use dynamic weighting function what are advantages, etc.
- 12) For rain rate and DSD parameters comparison, would there be improvements if a running average over 3 minutes is used? If so, by how much.

Publication is recommended, after consideration of the above points.

Interactive comment on Atmos. Meas. Tech. Discuss., 6, 519, 2013.

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