

## ***Interactive comment on “Compacting the Description of a Time-Dependent Multivariable System and Its Time-Dependent Multivariable Driver by Reducing the System and Driver State Vectors to Aggregate Scalars: The Earth’s Solar-Wind-Driven Magnetosphere” by Joseph E. Borovsky and Adnane Osmane***

**Joseph E. Borovsky and Adnane Osmane**

jborovsky@spacescience.org

Received and published: 16 August 2019

The authors have added text to the paper to better motivate the reason the complexity analysis was performed.

Concerning the reviewers comments about page 25: The preservation of the correla-

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tional structures in the linear combinations S1-S3 is not surprising, but not guaranteed either. The permutation entropy is invariant under any monotonic transformations (for instance, if one scales the time series by a positive real number, or if one were to take the logarithm). However, if one used a linear combinations of non-monotonic functions, for instance some linear combination of trigonometric function, then the permutation entropy would not be invariant. Since the Jensen-Shannon complexity is a function of the permutation entropy, it is also invariant under monotonic transformations. Additionally, if one takes an average around the mean of some time series over a time  $\tau$ , one will reduce the noise level for fluctuations with timescales less or comparable to  $\tau$ . Thus, the stochastic nature of the signal will be reduced, and the permutation entropy and Jensen-Shannon complexity would move up in the plane towards the chaotic or/and periodic regions.

We have clarified this point in the text on page 7 and 8 and have added a few sentences to justify the use of the Jensen-Shannon complexity on page 7 as well.

Please also note the supplement to this comment:

<https://www.nonlin-processes-geophys-discuss.net/npg-2019-2/npg-2019-2-AC2-supplement.pdf>

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Interactive comment on Nonlin. Processes Geophys. Discuss., <https://doi.org/10.5194/npg-2019-2, 2019>.

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