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HESS Opinions "Crash tests for a standardized evaluation of hydrological models"

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Abstract. As all hydrological models are intrinsically limited hypotheses on the behaviour of catchments, models – which attempt to represent real-world behaviour – will always remain imperfect. To make progress on the long road towards improved models, we need demanding tests, i.e. true *crash tests*. Efficient testing requires large and varied data sets to develop and assess hydrological models, to ensure their generality, to diagnose their failures, and ultimately, help improving them.

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