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Interactive comment on "A method for predicting the factor of safety of an infinite slope based on the depth ratio of the wetting front" by B.-G. Chae et al.

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I got a chance to review the paper "Technical Note:A method for predicting the factor of safety of an infinite slope based on the depth ratio of the wetting front" and found the paper very suitable for this journal. The paper is very well written from introduction to end. The paper discussed regarding, predicting the factor of safety based on depth ratio of wetting front. But the thing that make me confuse regarding the determination of characteristics in unsaturated column and its reliability. As we know that rainfall infiltration affected by number of other factors such as density of raindrop, rain velocity, As there is no discussed regarding that.

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In addition to that saturation is affected by geometry conditions, initial moisture conditions and boundary conditions.? Sometimes the failure not occurred even after saturation, but with the development of pore pressure. The landslide may not be initiated only in saturated parts of the slope, as saturation at critical location is important. Before the rainfall only upper shallow layer of soil relatively dry, however sub-surface is more saturated than upper layer so is it feasible to predict the factor of safety based on depth ratio of wetting front?

Interactive comment on Nat. Hazards Earth Syst. Sci. Discuss., 3, 791, 2015.