Dear reviewers, editors,

The authors thank you for considering and reviewing our work entitled "Real-time Flood Forecasting with Machine Learning Using Scarce Rainfall-Runoff Data."

We greatly appreciate the extensive and positive comments provided by both reviewers. Their constructive feedback and insightful questions have been invaluable, and we have addressed each comment accordingly. These responses outline the significant changes we will make to the article based on the reviewers' suggestions.

Below, you will find a point-by-point response to the comments from Reviewer 2, with our answers highlighted in blue.

Reviewer 2

In terms of the selection of evaluation indicators, NSE (a common indicator for measuring the simulation accuracy of hydrological models), persistence index, which helps evaluate the stability of the model, and relative peak error (RPE) were selected as one of the indicators for evaluating the accuracy of flood peak simulation by hydrological models. These three indicators focus on the integrity, stability, and simulation accuracy of the flood peak, but do not consider the peak time of the flood peak. The flood peak occurrence error is an indicator that measures the difference between the simulated flood peak occurrence time and the actual observation data, which helps to evaluate the simulation accuracy of the flood peak occurrence time. Adding this indicator can more comprehensively evaluate the performance of the hydrological model in flood simulation.

This criterion could indeed be considered. However, our events mostly contain only one peak, and this criterion could also be too sensitive to noises and not yield any decisive information. Moreover, we believe that the conclusions will remain consistent as long as all events and models are compared using the same criteria (the ones that are currently in the paper).