

Interactive comment on “Changes in soil organic carbon storage predicted by Earth system models during the 21st century” by K. E. O. Todd-Brown et al.

Anonymous Referee #2

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Todd-Brown and other present an excellent analysis of soil organic carbon (SOC) simulations by earth system models (ESM). The authors identify the major driver of SOC changes in these simulations and evaluate the quality of the simulations using data and discuss their findings in a careful and comprehensive manner. This work is clearly an important contribution to the evaluation of the CMIP5 simulations and helps to guide model development. Thus, the publication is certainly in the scope of Biogeosciences. Overall, the paper is clearly structured and well written.

Having said this, I have one minor suggestion. The authors did not take use of data on isotopes or discuss its use in evaluating soil carbon models. A few sentences on this kind of data in the discussion could add to the already comprehensive discussion.

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Figures and caption require some corrections: The caption of Figure 1 is truncated. Figure 6b and 6c are swapped. Figure 7 is a table. In Table 1 the units are missing.

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