December 10, 2014

Re: Revision of bg-2014-346

Dear Dr. Xiao,

Thanks for your thoughtful comments about our revised manuscript "Moderate forest disturbance as a stringent test for gap and big-leaf models". We apologize that it has taken a month to resubmit this, but adding GPP and ER to the study took some time, as we had to obtain the required observational data (please note we have added Dr. Gil Bohrer as a co-author, as these are unpublished) and re-running all the models.

Re your other comments:

I suggest that the sentence on Lines 40-42 and other relevant statements be rephrased.
We have done so.

For Figs 2 and 5, it is kind of hard to tell ED from ZELIG.
We now use more easily distinguished lines.

For parameter optimization, did you use a prior range for each parameter? …
The only range we defined was to penalize the algorithm if it strayed more than 2 sigmas from its original mean; this range was based only on expert judgment. This is now noted in the text.

Finally, as most papers of the special issues have been published or accepted, I would like to see the new papers cite the relevant published/accepted papers in the issue if appropriate…
Thanks for this suggestion. We agree that the Wang et al. manuscript is highly relevant, along with Mathys et al. (also from the special issue). We now cite these in addition to several other recent papers.

All changes are marked in red in the resubmitted manuscript. Thank you for considering this for publication.

Yours sincerely,

Ben Bond-Lamberty and co-authors