

## ***Interactive comment on “Global assessment of Vegetation Index and Phenology Lab (VIP) and Global Inventory Modeling and Mapping Studies (GIMMS) version 3 products” by M. Marshall et al.***

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We would like to thank the reviewer for her/his comments on our manuscript. The purpose of Figure 7 is to show that VIP tends to have a higher mean and is more variable than GIMMS, as we might expect since it uses an atmospheric algorithm for correction as opposed to statistical smoothing. The latitudinal graph shows where (spatially) in general this relationship is strongest and weakest. It is easier to visualize and less cumbersome than the alternative, which would be to plot global difference maps ( $VIP_{mean} - GIMMS_{mean}$  and  $VIP_{sd} - GIMMS_{sd}$ ). The temporal comparison is made at a monthly timestep, because seasons are not consistent with latitude, e.g.

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July-August-September is more appropriate to capture the summer season in Western Africa, while June-July-August is more appropriate for the United States. In addition, the winter season in the southern hemisphere spans two years (December-January-February).

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