

Interactive comment on “Soil biogenic emissions of nitric oxide from a semi-arid savanna in South Africa” by G. T. Feig et al.

Anonymous Referee #2

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This MS contains valuable information that deserves to be published as it will provide a useful account of the effects of the exogenous nitrogen on NO emissions from a typically arid climate region. As noted by the authors, relatively little data is available in choose area. This study therefore makes a valuable contribution to our understanding of NO resources with human activity and landscape influences at a regional scale.

However, the value of the data, in the regard, will be much enhanced if there is some modification in the presentation. Using a simple way of GIS and only consider two factors of soil water content and temperature to estimate regional NO emission looks not so fair, as the authors understand, soil biogenic emissions of NO will be influenced by more environmental factors, so the varations of soil physical and chemical characteristics should be considered . This kind of the work should be better to use both

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biogeochemistry model (such as DNDC model) and GIS to increase the estimate precision. It would be better to describe more clearly on climate conditions of experiment area, such as annual mean precipitation and its variations, highest and lowest temperature in the year with the month. It is necessary to put the important information of exact soil depth in the table 1 of soil physiochemical characteristics.

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