

Interactive
Comment

Interactive comment on “Measurement depth effects on the apparent temperature sensitivity of soil respiration in field studies” by A. Graf et al.

Anonymous Referee #2

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1. General comments

The manuscript deals with the soil respiration rate and its temperature sensitivity measured in field experiments. Intensive studies have been carried out on temperature sensitivity of SOM decomposition but many details are still unclear. Therefore this study is of general interest. The ms is well written. The experimental design is sound. After considering some changes I highly recommend this manuscript for publication.

2. Specific comments

Methods, 2.1. Literature review. The second paragraph (lines 6-14 on page 1870) can be condensed if more information is moved to Table 1. For example information concerning land use and climate would be suitable for that.

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In Appendix A, Page 1886, line 1. is mentioned two articles summarizing temperature sensitivity functions. It would be worthwhile to add also: Tuomi et al. 2008. Heterotrophic soil respiration – Comparison of different models describing its temperature dependence. Ecological Modelling 211, 182-190.

The Conclusions is too long and needs more focus; the entire section should be condensed by 30%. For example, material from the last long paragraph can be moved to the Discussion.

3. Technical corrections

On page 1872 on lines 3 and 6 is referred to "Appendix" without more information. The letter of Appendix should be added.

In Fig.4. the text is difficult to read due to small font size. Try to use bigger font if possible.

Interactive comment on Biogeosciences Discuss., 5, 1867, 2008.

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5, S769–S770, 2008

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