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Interactive comment on “Analysis of vegetation and land cover dynamics in north-western Morocco during the last decade using MODIS NDVI time series data” by C. Höpfner and D. Scherer

Anonymous Referee #1

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The manuscript aims at quantifying land cover dynamics and variability and at differentiating between human- and climate-driven changes using MODIS NDVI time series data for northwestern Morocco. The manuscript contributes to environmental monitoring literature by proving the merit of deriving information about spatially- and temporally-varying environmental conditions from remotely-sensed time series data which is vital to sustainable management and use of natural resources. However, the manuscript is teemed with grammatical mistakes (just a few were stated below) and needs to be thoroughly corrected before its publication in order to improve its readability.

Page 3; line 13: “A comparison of NDVI time series data sets acquired by AVHRR

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and MODIS sensors was done...” should read “...was made...” Line 22: “...plenty studies use MODIS time series data...” should read “plenty of studies...” Line 26: “...proving that MODIS 250 m NDVI data (16 day composites) has a sufficient temporal ...” should read “...data (16 day composites) have a sufficient temporal...” Page 4; line 21: “...actual start of season was done by Wardlow et al. (2006).” should read “...season was made by Wardlow et al. (2006).”

Page 3; line 7: “...green vegetation and as a descriptor of ecosystem functions has been...” Page 4; line 4: “...spatial resolution of MODIS data has potential...” Page 4; line 21: “...actual start of season was made by Wardlow et al. (2006). Page 4; line 26: “...of the phenology of land surface, it is still in development and is regarded as a key to understanding land-surface processes...” Page 5; line 13: “...A sequence of correlations was carried out...” Page 6; line 4: “...data are still negatively...” Each Table and Figure should be understood without having to resort to reading text. Some Figures (3 and 9) do not have clearly explained X axis. In Figures 13 and 14, giving both r and r^2 is redundant. Instead, SE or SD information is more explanatory and should be given. Tables should be re-formatted.

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