Biogeosciences Discuss., 9, C6464–C6467, 2012
www.biogeosciences-discuss.net/9/C6464/2012/


Biogeosciences Discussions



# *Interactive comment on* "The critical factors that affected the distribution of aboveground biomass in the alpine steppe and meadow, Tibetan Plateau" *by* J. Sun et al.

**J. Sun et al.**

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Dear Referee,

Thank you for your helpful comments and suggestions on our manuscript. We have modified the manuscript accordingly, and detailed corrections are listed below point by point: 1) Fig.2 (B) & (C): X-axis is OK? Please revise the numbers to X-axis VS Y-axis.

We have revised the X-axis VS Y-axis of the Fig.2 carefully according to your suggestion.

2) Fig. 3: Confusing. Please show the Table in these data.



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The Fig.3 has been converted to Table 2, it was shown in end of manuscript.

3) Fig. 4: I think latitude and clay are not environmental factors.

The viewpoint of referee was accurate, when the indictor-latitude was used in the small-scale or field plot. In our manuscript, we considered that the latitude could be taken as an environmental factor for the latitude was related to the water-heat gradient in the large-scale or regional scale. Meantime, the clay affects the soil water content, and then affects the distribution of aboveground biomass, thus we classified the indicator-clay into environmental factors in this paper.

Thank you,

Yours,

Jian Sun & Gengwei Cheng

2012/12/10

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Interactive comment on Biogeosciences Discuss., 9, 14559, 2012.





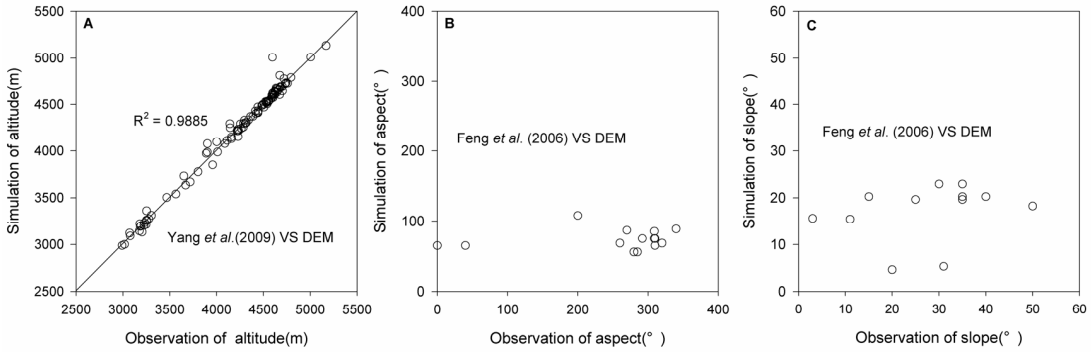


**Fig. 1.**



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**Table2** The correlations between AGB with environmental factors

| AGB | | Longitude | Latitude | Altitude | MAT | MAP | Moisture | Clay | Silt | Nitrogen | SOC1 | SOC2 | SOC3 | Iam |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Alpine steppe | Pearson Correlation | .620** | .645** | -.616** | -0.177 | .504** | .555** | 0.121 | .519** | .583** | .683** | .696** | .720** | .465** |
| | Sig. (2-tailed) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.131 | 0 | 0 | 0.302 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | N | 74 | 74 | 74 | 74 | 74 | 74 | 74 | 74 | 74 | 74 | 74 | 74 | 74 |
| Alpine meadow | Pearson Correlation | .503** | .389* | -.418* | 0.071 | 0.092 | 0.303 | 0.132 | .342* | .502** | .433** | .432** | .417* | 0.022 |
| | Sig. (2-tailed) | 0.002 | 0.019 | 0.011 | 0.679 | 0.594 | 0.072 | 0.443 | 0.041 | 0.002 | 0.008 | 0.009 | 0.011 | 0.9 |
| | N | 36 | 36 | 36 | 36 | 36 | 36 | 36 | 36 | 36 | 36 | 36 | 36 | 36 |

*. Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed).

**. Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).

**Fig. 2.**



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9, C6464–C6467, 2012

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