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Interactive  
comment

# ***Interactive comment on “Variability in $^{14}\text{C}$ contents of soil organic matter at the plot and regional scale across climatic and geologic gradients” by T. S. van der Voort et al.***

**Anonymous Referee #2**

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The paper explores variations in  $^{14}\text{C}$  contents of soil organic matter within and between forest sites in Switzerland. It is an interesting, experimentally well done, and clearly described piece of work and will be useful in the design of future studies using  $^{14}\text{C}$  to trace turnover times of soil organic matter. There is little that I can add to what has already been mentioned in the two other reviews.

Perhaps it is a matter of taste. In many instances in the text I would replace the adjective “high” with “large” or “great” (e.g. line 47: “large carbon stock” instead of “high carbon stock”).

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Interactive comment on Biogeosciences Discuss., doi:10.5194/bg-2015-649, 2016.

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