

Interactive comment on “Patterns in Woody Vegetation Structure across African Savannas” by Christoffer R. Axelsson and Niall P. Hanan

Christoffer R. Axelsson and Niall P. Hanan

christoffe@hotmail.com

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We thank Galina Toteva for comments on the Abstract and Results sections:

Abstract: The abstract gives a good overview of the scope of the paper. However, the same amount of information could probably be conveyed with fewer words. Additionally, the description of the results is particularly detailed but not quantitative enough. Finally, the abstract would benefit from concluding sentence.

Response: We added numbers for change in woody properties with increasing rainfall to make it more quantitative. We also deleted a sentence that was not needed.

Results section: You mentioned that there was a “strong relationship” between woody cover and mean crown size (line 197). However, you did not state any threshold in

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regards to that value or how you arrived at it. Similarly, you referred to the “large majority” of sites (line 206) without specifying exactly how many. Another suggestion that we have about the results section, is to consider the interaction effect between the variables in the analysis. Generally, it is not entirely clear whether you answered your research question and how you can quantify the success of this research project. It is also more convenient to have the graphs and figures within the text rather than in an appendix but we assumed this is because the paper is still undergoing review.

Response: We have rephrased the paragraph starting on line 197 to clarify it. We also added a number for the percentage of sites on line 206 to make it less vague.

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