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Associate Editor

*Biogeosciences, Copernicus Publications*

Dear Dr Akihiko Ito,

On behalf of all the co-authors I would like to thank you for evaluating our revised version of the manuscript. Following your suggestions about technical corrections, we have now adjusted the reference style to match the one required by the journal, accessed through:

[https://www.biogeosciences.net/Copernicus\\_Publications.ens](https://www.biogeosciences.net/Copernicus_Publications.ens)

We have also enlarged font size in the requested figures (Fig. 2, S2 and S12) in the manuscript and the supplement.

Kind Regards,

Peter Horvath