

Interactive comment on “Methodological interference of biochar in the determination of extracellular enzyme activities in composting samples” by K. Jindo et al.

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There are a couple of important articles that have been overlooked by the authors in the present version of the manuscript. Firstly, Swaine et al. (2013) have also considered a similar problem to the one faced by the authors of the present manuscript, albeit not in composted samples, and used a similar approach to solve the problem.

Swaine, M., Obrike, R., Clark, J.M., Shaw, L.J. (2013), Biochar Alteration of the Sorption of Substrates and Products in Soil Enzyme Assays. Applied and Environmental Soil Science 2013 Article ID 968682

Secondly, I think that definitely it would be convenient for the authors to discuss that
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soil enzymatic activity can be measured if there is substrate saturation and scientists take into account to correct the absorption of product by biochar. In this sense, enzymatic assays that have estimated the PNP retained by the biochar are available. It is necessary to give examples in the text where this kind of research has been produced (Paz-Ferreiro et al., 2012; 2014) and not only mention it as a theoretical possibility (lines 26-28, page 921).

Paz-Ferreiro, J., Fu, S., Méndez, A., Gascó, G. 2014. Interactive effect of biochar and the earthworm *Pontoscolex corethrurus* on plant productivity and soil enzyme activity. *Journal of Soil and Sediments* 14, 483-494.

Paz-Ferreiro, J., Gascó, G., Gutiérrez, B., Méndez, A. (2012). Soil biochemical activities and the geometric mean of enzyme activities after application of sewage sludge and sewage sludge biochar to soil. *Biology and Fertility of Soils* 48, 511-517.

Interactive comment on Solid Earth Discuss., 6, 919, 2014.