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Comment

## ***Interactive comment on “Vegetation in karst terrain of southwestern China allocates more biomass to roots” by J. Ni et al.***

### **Anonymous Referee #1**

Received and published: 31 March 2015

I would like to congratulate the authors for the work they are doing. I am aware that sampling roots is a very difficult work, especially in karst terrains. On the other hand, I think that the manuscript has been well written, it is nice to read.

I have added some comments; I hope these would be useful to the authors. I recommend publish this work after some minor improvements.

2.1. THE STUDY AREA Could authors include the main soil type, following FAO or Soil Taxonomy classification?

2.2. ROOT BIOMASS MEASUREMENTS I suppose that plots of each vegetation patch are concentrated in only one locality, separated of the other vegetation types. In other words, replicates corresponding to each level of vegetation type factor are not inter-

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spersed with the other levels of this factor. If it is the case, there may be confusion between the factor vegetation type and the factor locality. Have authors any opinion about this issue?

**FIGURES** Could authors include statistical significances? For example, authors could use the same letter (meaning no differences) and different letters (meaning significant differences)

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Interactive comment on Solid Earth Discuss., 7, 1209, 2015.

**SED**

7, C321–C322, 2015

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