

***Interactive comment on “Ecosystem effects of
CO₂ concentration: evidence from past climates”
by I. C. Prentice and S. P. Harrison***

Anonymous Referee #1

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I would really thanks the authors for this paper. Whereas the current tendency is to find a lot of papers showing numerous simulations mainly descriptive with few explanations about the underlying processes it is very pleasant to find such theoretical paper which is both a review paper and a reflexion about our current knowledge about effect of CO₂ concentration on vegetation functioning and its implication on carbon cycle and vegetation dynamics by one of those who initiated the development of the DGVM's.

I think it would have been interesting to complete the paper by a perspective on implications of these reflexions about role of the CO₂ on past vegetation functioning (an in particular the limits of methods used to infer carbon cycle and vegetation dynamics) for the prediction of future carbon cycle and vegetation dynamics with climate change. In particular it would be help to understand the limit of current approaches and possible

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way to improve our predictions.

Interactive comment on Clim. Past Discuss., 5, 937, 2009.