



Interactive comment on “Climate forcing reconstructions for use in PMIP simulations of the Last Millennium (v1.1)” by G. A. Schmidt et al.

Anonymous Referee #2

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This is a very useful publication updating the forcing records recommended for PMIP simulations of the last millennium. The paper is well written, and informative. I only recommend a few changes that I think would make it even more helpful:

1) the discussion of land use change is somewhat confusing. The writing doesn't clearly bring out the differences between Kaplan and Pongratz. Does Pongratz assume that land use per person is largely unchanged over time, or does the land use change (the writing mentions that the uncertainty estimates consider changed practices over time). The difference between both could be worked out clearer, to get the reader to better understand where the relatively large difference in land use change comes from. It would also be interesting to hear if the regional changes are similar in both (basically close to scaling) or if they are different. 2) I am unconvinced that the albedo change

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is the only relevant aspect for radiative forcing by land use change – does that stand up to using other GCMs? How important are changes in the hydrological cycle caused by deforestation which would change cloudiness? 3) Fig 3 caption could spell out SSI, Fig 2 caption could spell out the land use data and figure 4 needs to spell out what the acronyms for the forcings mean (makes no sense to the noninitiated like this...)

Interactive comment on Geosci. Model Dev. Discuss., 4, 2451, 2011.

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