

# ***Interactive comment on “Identifying required model structures to predict global fire activity from satellite and climate data” by Matthias Forkel et al.***

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Dear Astrid Kerkweg,

thank you for your short comment. We very much appreciate that you check that manuscripts meet the editorial requirements of GMD which ensures the high quality of the journal.

We were aware about the editorial requirements. Especially, we knew that #1 the model name and version number needs to be given in the title for "model description papers", and #2 that this rule applies for "development and technical papers" if the development is related to a single model or if a new development is shown with one specific model.

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We did not include the model name and a version number in the title of our manuscript because we think that these rules do not apply to our manuscript. “SOFIA” is a more generic data-driven approach to model fire from which we created a large ensemble of different models with different types of forcing variables, different considered processes, and thus different model structures and complexities. This means that a single specific SOFIA model does not exist (although some specific models can be selected or rejected from the ensemble based on their performance). As the one single SOFIA model does not exist, we also cannot assign a version number. Based on these reasons, we did not include a model name and version in the title.

As an alternative, we suggest to include the term “SOFIA” (without a version number) in the title as the name of the modelling approach, e.g.: “Identifying required model structures to predict global fire activity from satellite and climate data: introducing the SOFIA modelling approach”

Please let us know if our reasoning and the suggested change of the title is in agreement with the editorial requirements of GMD.

Kind regards,

Matthias Forkel

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Interactive comment on Geosci. Model Dev. Discuss., doi:10.5194/gmd-2016-301, 2016.

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