

Interactive comment on “Using SHAP to interpret XGBoost predictions of grassland degradation in Xilingol, China” by Batunacun et al.

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Dear authors,

in my role as Executive editor of GMD, I would like to bring to your attention our Editorial version 1.2:

<https://www.geosci-model-dev.net/12/2215/2019/>

This highlights some requirements of papers published in GMD, which is also available on the GMD website in the ‘Manuscript Types’ section:

http://www.geoscientific-model-development.net/submission/manuscript_types.html

Therefore,

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- as the python scripts are essential for your work, these python scripts need to be archived persistently (DOI) and made public available.
- as XGBoost and SHAP are sufficiently specialist that the model wouldn't make sense without them, they also need to be archived (a github link does not cut it).
- You haven't identified any of the input data with sufficient specificity that the work could be reproduced. That needs to change. Mostly you just provide top level organisation websites as data sources. You need to provide proper data citations.

Yours,

Astrid Kerkweg

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