

The reviewer's feedback is highly appreciated. We believe this will help improve the quality of our submission. Below are our brief responses to the issues raised in the supplementary document. Our responses are in **blue** while reviewer's comments are in black.

### **General Comments**

- 1. Some sentences are quite length and become convoluted. I recommend splitting long sentences into shorter sentences.**

**This is noted.**

2. There are many instances where the author seems unsure of the results and will state something to the effect of "XYZ probably indicates..." or "ZXY might indicate..." The discussion of the results is fine, and while uncertainty in some areas is unavoidable it should not be the default position to 'hedge your bets'.

**This is noted.**

3. Parts of the Materials and Methods section can be summarised and synthesised. It is already quite a lengthy manuscript and parts of the Materials and Methods sections provide unnecessary detail.

**Our intention with the lengthy materials and methods was to be as explicitly as possible. However, we appreciate the need to be concise. This will be addressed.**

### **Abstract**

Line 34 – 35: Please rephrase the beginning of the sentence: "This goes to show that during the dry season Miombo..."

**This is noted**

### **Introduction**

Line 55 – 56: "...and may go up to November...: - do you mean extend into November? Please change here and in the Materials and Methods section.

Line 56 – 57: Please rephrase the sentence. It is clear what you are stating but it can be stated better (...phenophases require to study the evaporation process...?)

**This is noted**

## Materials and Methods

Line 104 – 105: please rephrase: “It is also located in the largest Miombo Ecosystem component, wetter central Zambezian Miombo...” Line 195: Please check Eq. 7 – should  $\Delta ea$  not be written as  $\Delta ea.fit$ ? Please check consistency between symbols/conventions between Eqs. 5 – 9. Line 371 – 375: Please rephrase these sentences e.g. “The 2 m length was observed sufficient length for the temperature...”

**The observations are noted and will be addressed.**

## Results and Discussion

Figure 6: Please correct the unit for wind direction.

**This was an oversight. Noted**

Line 558: Please correct the sentence: “The BR-DTS approach appear to have correctly captured...”

**Noted**

Line 572 – Line 576: Please split the following sentence into multiple sentences: “The plausible explanation for the relatively higher evaporation in August and September during the dormant phenophase could be that the leaf fall and leaf colour transitions (i.e., Figure 8) in some Miombo species at a given time, across the three phenophases, is compensated by the leaf flush process in other species thereby striking the dry season 30 percent variation (Frost, 1996) balance in canopy cover display ensuring availability of 70 percent evaporative surface that increases as the phenophases transition from dormant to green-up.”

**Noted**

Line 730 – 750: Please go through these paragraphs and correct where necessary e.g. “Possible explanation for this pattern in MOD16...” and “...which indicate occurrence of healthy green vegetation...”

**Noted**

## References

Please ensure a consistent reference style. A few references are presented differently to the majority (names and initials in full & journal title etc.).

**Very important observation. Well noted.**