

Dear Dr. Ribas,

We want to thank you for the valuable review of our manuscript. We agree with the constructive comments and have modified the manuscript to take these on board. Please see below our responses to your comments.

*The authors have carefully considered and replayed to all the comments and suggestions of the two reviewers, including all those that were feasible in the text. To my opinion, the article can already be published mostly as it is.*

We thank you for the positive analysis of our manuscript.

*I only recommend the authors to double-check the following two technical corrections:*

**1) Revise one of the new sentences, which is somewhat confusing to me:**

*"It is used during a tournament to deduct from the fitness result of the longer equation among two competitors that present identical results, the longer one being discarded." (lines 169-170). Maybe you can simply write: "It is used during a tournament to discard from the fitness results the longer equation among two competitors that present identical results."*

Thank you for pointing out this confusion. We agreed with your suggestion and have rewritten the sentence as recommended (lines 168-169).

**2) Revise the sentence:** *"Correlation and agreement results showed by O'Grady et al. (2019)'s equation are also close to Eqs. (10) and (4) (Ji et al., 2018)." (lines 250-251). What does (4) stands for? Do you mean eq. (4) of Ji et al. (2018)? You did not mention this eq. number in all the previous citations to Ji et al. (2018)... Please, clarify.*

Yes, (4) stands for eq. (4) of Ji et al. (2018). Thank you for pointing this out. We agree it is not clear. At the beginning of this paragraph, we refer to Table 3 and follow the same pattern for all other equations except the one you mentioned. We have now clarified it in the text as follows.

*"Correlation and agreement results showed by O'Grady et al. (2019)'s equation are also close to Ji et al. (2018)'s and Eq. (10) in this work." (lines 249-250)*

Once again, we thank the reviewers very much for the time and careful consideration of our study. These have greatly improved the quality of our manuscript.

Kind regards, The Authors.