

# ***Interactive comment on “Examining bias in pollen-based quantitative climate reconstructions induced by human impact on vegetation” by Wei Ding et al.***

## **Anonymous Referee #1**

Received and published: 18 May 2017

This is a very careful and thorough study that uses different type of pollen data-sets to establish the climate-pollen transfer functions. By selecting natural and human-impact pollen spectrum, the bias effect from human impact on the climatic reconstructions was clearly illustrated. The workload is extraordinary (synthesis on a 1600 pollen record) and the methodology is also robust. I thus highly recommended this paper and I trust it will attract wide interest from paleoclimatologists and paleontologists.

I have only one suggestion on this manuscript. It is essential to reveal the relationship between modern pollen and climate, i.e. to illustrate how important the specific climatic variable ( annual precipitation in this case) in explaining the pollen communities. This ms has given detailed numbers (in Table 1) but I think an ordination diagram (bi-plot,

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environmental variables vs pollen taxa, for both natural and human-impacted dataset) illustrating the importance, significance and the interactions among environmental variables will be preferable. That will also clear show the difference in pollen communities between natural and human-impact scenarios.

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Interactive comment on Clim. Past Discuss., doi:10.5194/cp-2017-63, 2017.

## CPD

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