Comment on bg-2020-460
Anonymous Referee #3

Referee comment on "MODIS Vegetation Continuous Fields tree cover needs calibrating in tropical savannas." by Rahayu Adzhar et al., Biogeosciences Discuss., https://doi.org/10.5194/bg-2020-460-RC3, 2021

This study evaluates the bias of MODIS VCF with field data and implements a correction for VCF. The manuscript is well written and presented with nice figures. But I am more interested in the method part you developed to do comparisons than the corrected VCF map and the findings of underestimated tree cover which are not surprising. As I get worried about the feasibility of using the limited number of samples to correct MODIS VCF maps covering the whole tropics, which will further make the related results pale. For the IGBP map, please specify year used and the spatial coverage of IGBP for grouping. My suggestion is to just focus your analysis at the site level or to limit your study area to where the TROPBIT data are representative.

Small questions,

1, specify the meaning of the terms “tree cover distributions”

2, should consider moving the details about the TROBIT field data to methods section

3, please specify the rationality of using the equation 1.