Both reviewers find this study extremely interesting and well presented and recommend only minor revisions. Reviewer 1 raised a key issue regarding the estimation of regional mass balances, this was discussed in detail in the public discussion. In the paper in its current form, the analysis between glacier mass balance changes and compensation effects plays a minor role and I therefore agree with reviewer 2 that the best solution is probably to remove this part. Future detailed details on selected regions, with good mass balance data, might then drive this research further.

Accordingly, I invite the authors to revise their paper along the lines discussed here.