

Dear Prof. Kirk-Davidoff,

I wish to express my profound gratitude for recommending my manuscript titled 'Carbon Budget Concept and its Deviation Through the Pulse Response Lens' as a highlight in the 'Earth System Dynamics' journal. The article has improved significantly in the last two rounds of major revisions. Hence, I would like to thank you for your patience in guiding the revision process and being responsive to any clarifying questions that arose along the way. Moreover, thank you for your flexibility and support in granting an extension for the revision when it was needed.

Moreover, I am grateful to the reviewers for their highly constructive feedback and criticism, which helped shape the manuscript into its current form.

The final upload of the manuscript incorporates the technical corrections suggested by the second reviewer, who worked generously and assiduously to identify them. Indeed, I would like to thank her/him once again through this channel for their immense contribution to this paper.

The only correction that slightly stands out from their recommendation is that I chose to use the term a simple climate model (SCM) instead of a reduced-complexity model in most places (instead of a full model). The motivation was to avoid confusion, as Green's function could be arguably interpreted as a "reduced-complexity" model of an associated reduced-complexity model. In many places, I just stated "FaIR" instead.

Finally, the figures in the Supplement were already re-labeled in the previous iteration. Now, they stand as Figure S1 instead of Figure 1 (referring to the Notification to the authors in MS records).

Thank you again.

Best regards,

Vito Avakumović