

Climate Effects and Efficacy of Dust and Soot in Snow

Charlie Zender, Mark Flanner, and Jim Randerson

Department of Earth System Science, University of California, Irvine

Natalie Mahowald, Phil Rasch and Masaru Yoshioka

Climate and Global Dynamics Division, NCAR, Boulder, CO

Tom Painter

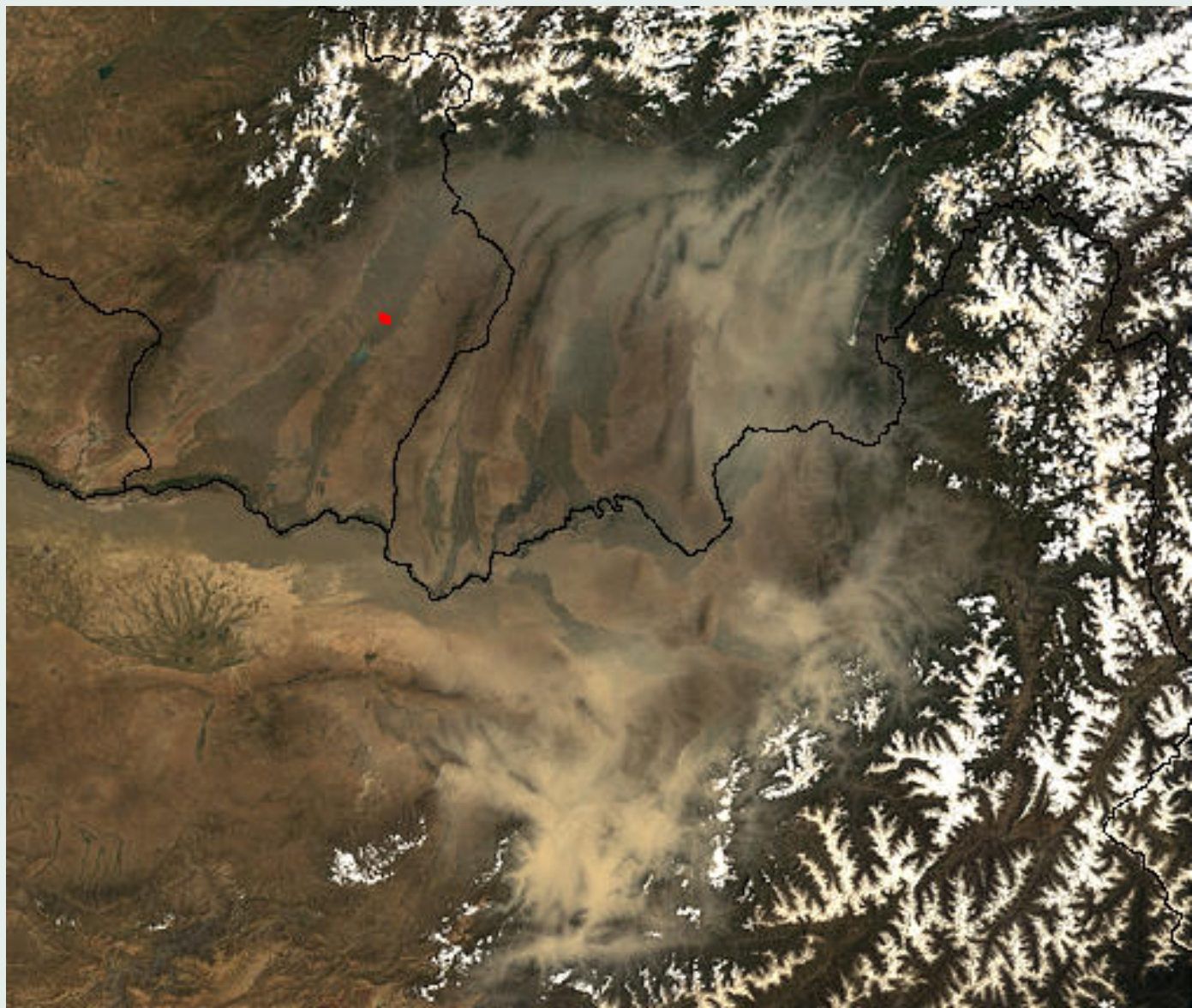
National Snow and Ice Data Center, Boulder, CO

Contributions from:

M. Andreae (MPI), T. Bond (UIUC), D. Bundy (NCAR), P. Khasibhatla (Duke)

C. Luo (UCI), D. Muhs (USGS), T. Roush (NASA)

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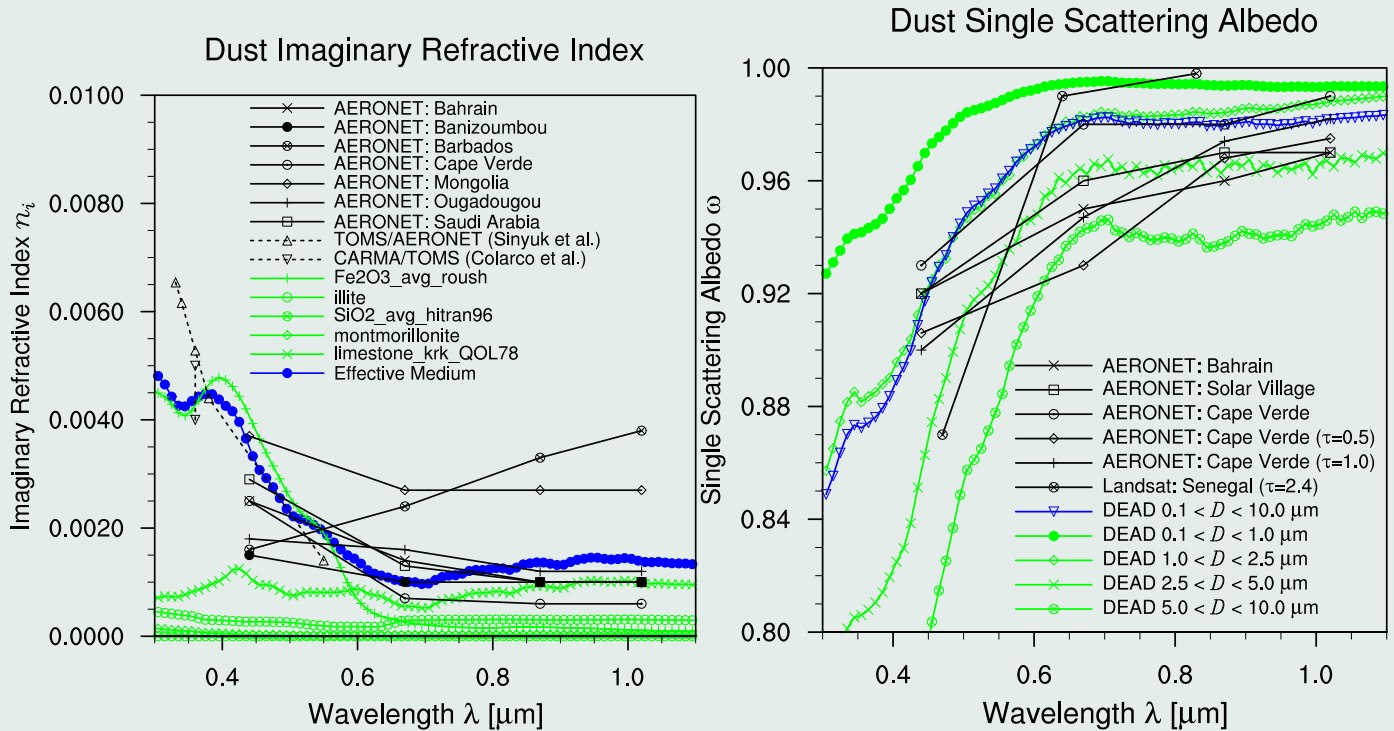


Figure 2: Imaginary refractive index and single scattering albedo for dust comprising 47% Quartz, 25% Illite, 25% Montmorillonite, 2% Limestone, 0.8% Hematite (i.e., 0.6% Fe). Retrievals from [Kaufman et al. \(2001\)](#), [Dubovik et al. \(2002\)](#), [Colarco et al. \(2002\)](#), and [Sinyuk et al. \(2003\)](#).

1. Global Dust-Soot-Snow Methods

1. Community Atmosphere Model with Slab Ocean Model (CAM/SOM)
2. Industrial Carbonaceous aerosol emissions (Bond et al., 2004)
3. Global Fire Emissions Database (GFED2) (Randerson et al., 2005; van der Werf et al., 2006)
4. BC/OC Emissions factors (Andreae and Merlet, 2001, updated)
5. BC/OC Optical properties (Chang and Charalampopoulos, 1990; Bond and Bergstrom, 2005; Bond et al., 2006)
6. Dust Entrainment and Deposition model (DEAD) (Zender et al., 2003; Mahowald et al., 2006)
7. Dust Optical Properties (Sokolik and Toon, 1999; Dubovik et al., 2002; Sinyuk et al., 2003)
8. **SNow, ICe, and Aerosol Radiative model (SNICAR)** (Flanner and Zender, 2005, 2006; Flanner et al., 2007)
9. Experiment(Control): Soot+Dust are (not) radiatively active in snow-pack

Present BC/Snow Surface Concentration

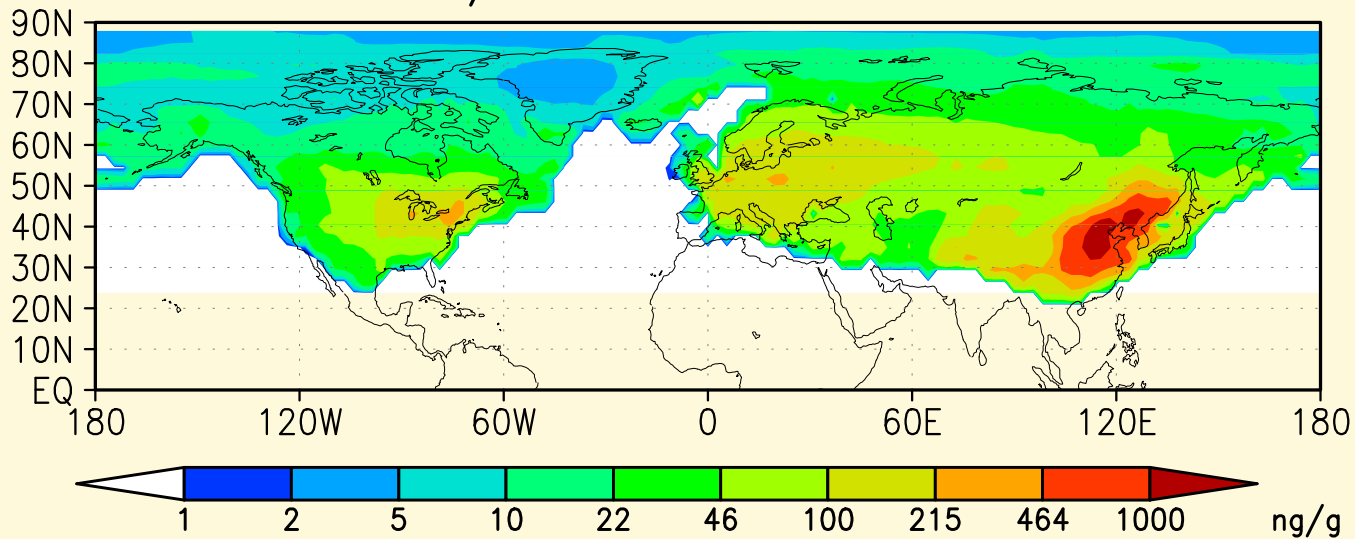


Figure 3: Present day soot concentration in snowpack, 2002 emissions. (Flanner *et al.*, 2007, *JGR*). Global mean $\sim 18 \text{ ng g}^{-1}$.

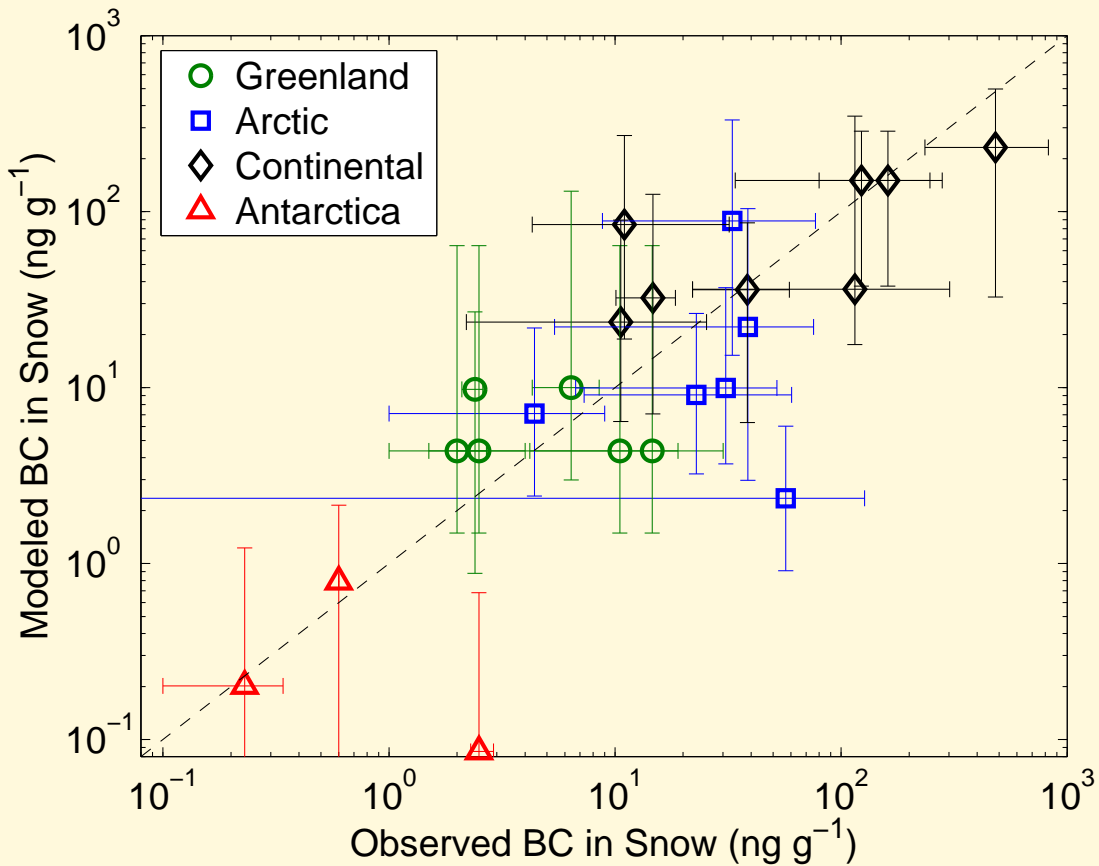


Figure 4: Observed and simulated BC concentrations (Flanner *et al.*, 2007, *JGR*).

Present Dust/Snow Surface Concentration

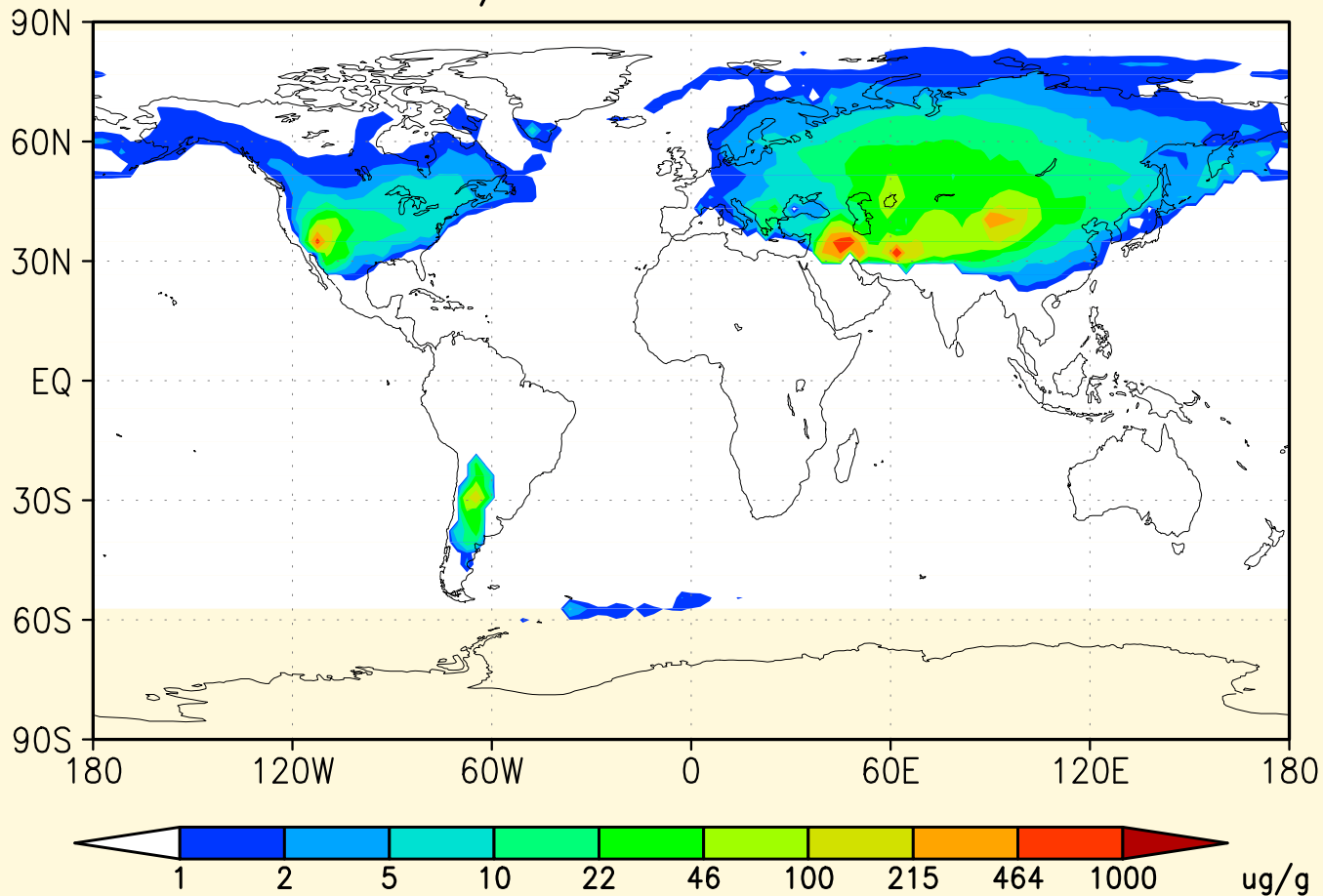
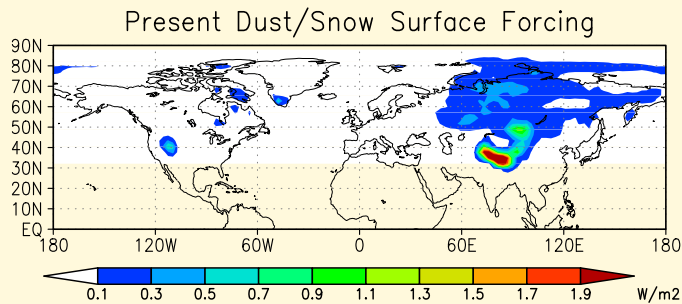
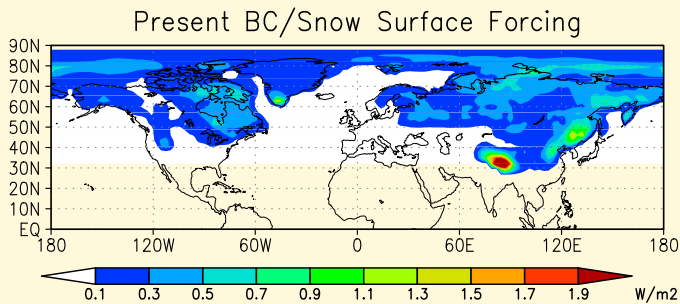


Figure 5: Present day dust concentration in snowpack. Global mean $\sim 3.2 \mu\text{g g}^{-1}$.



Present BC+Dust/Snow Surface Forcing

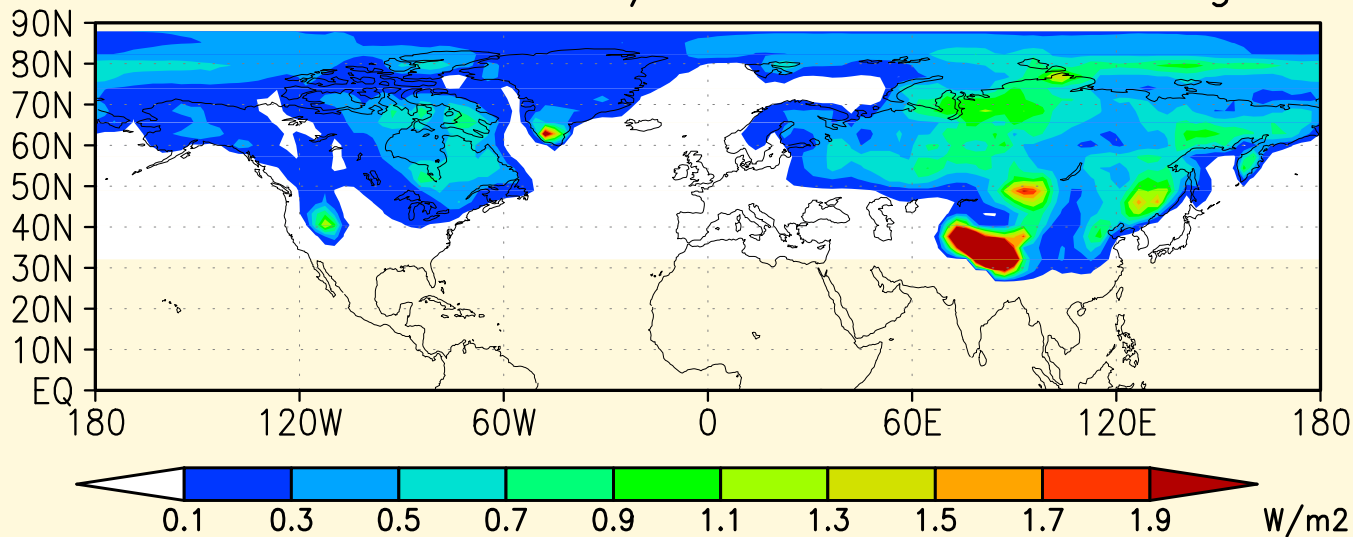
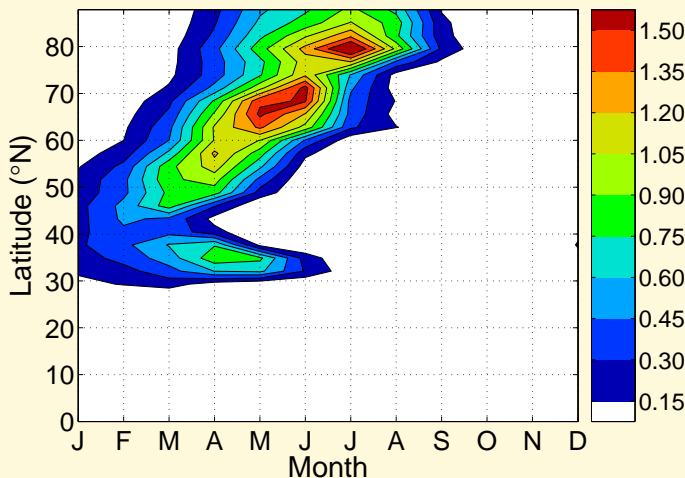
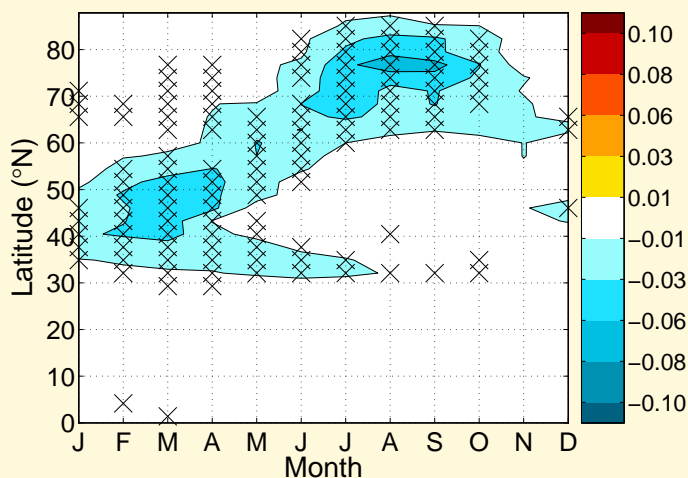


Figure 6: Present day global surface forcing by soot and dust in snowpack. Global mean $\sim 0.064 W m^{-2}$.

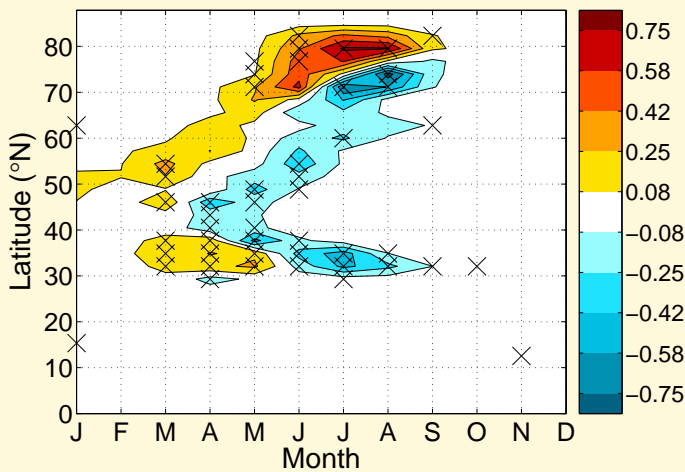
Present BC+Dust Snow Forcing ($W m^{-2}$)



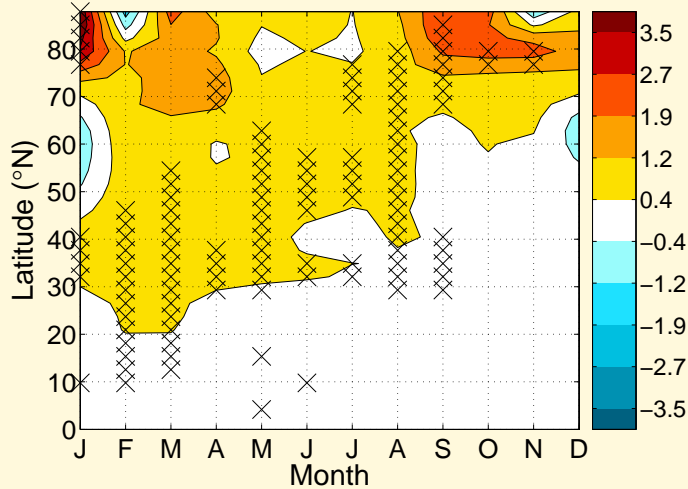
Pres. BC+Dust/Snow ALBS Change



Pres. BC+Dust/Snow QMELT Change ($mm day^{-1}$)



Pres. BC+Dust/Snow Temp. Change ($^{\circ}C$)



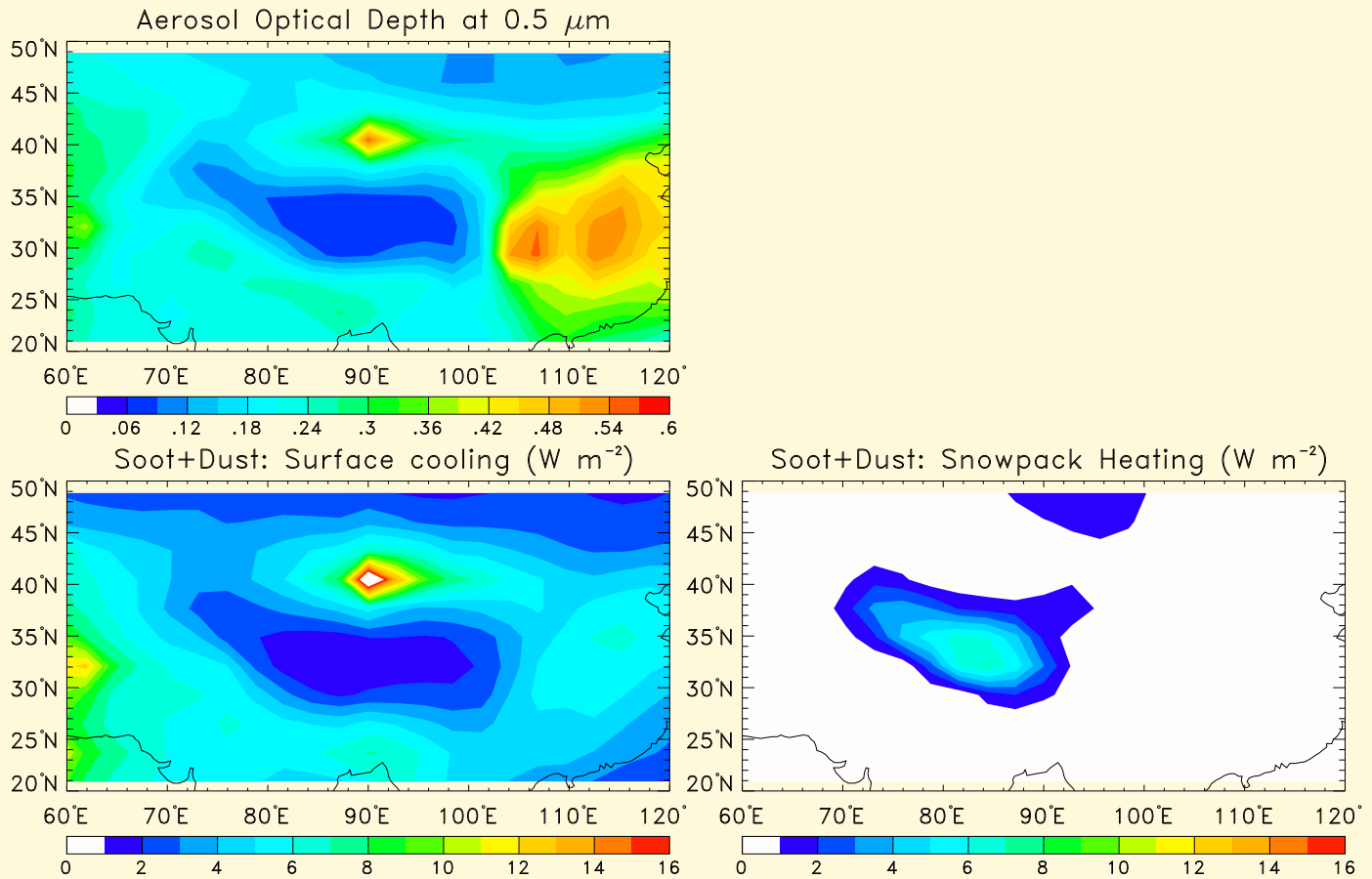


Figure 8: Forcing by aerosol impurities in snowpack exceeds forcing by atmospheric aerosol (and GHGs) in the Tibetan Plateau region.

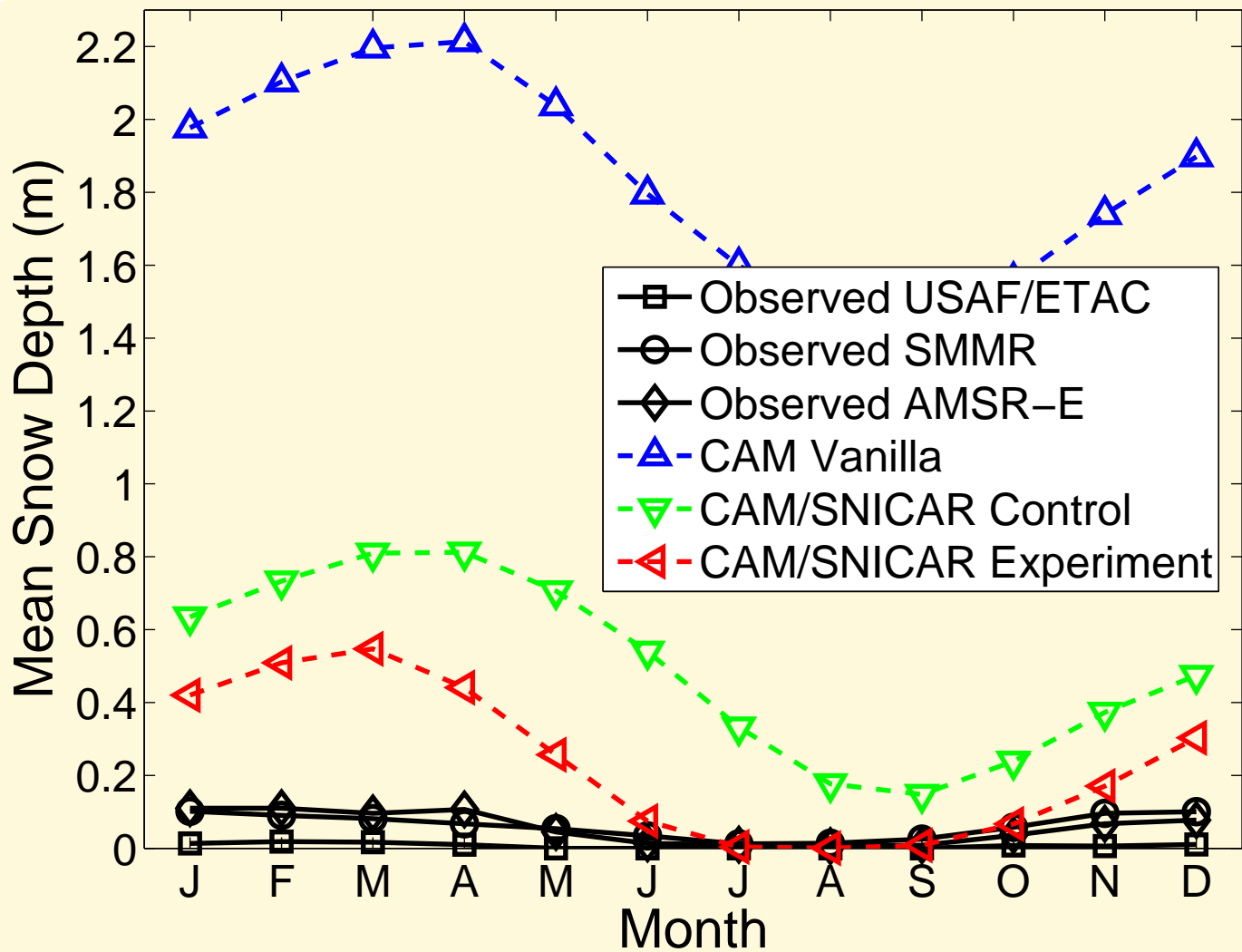


Figure 9: Observed and simulated Tibetan Plateau snow depth.

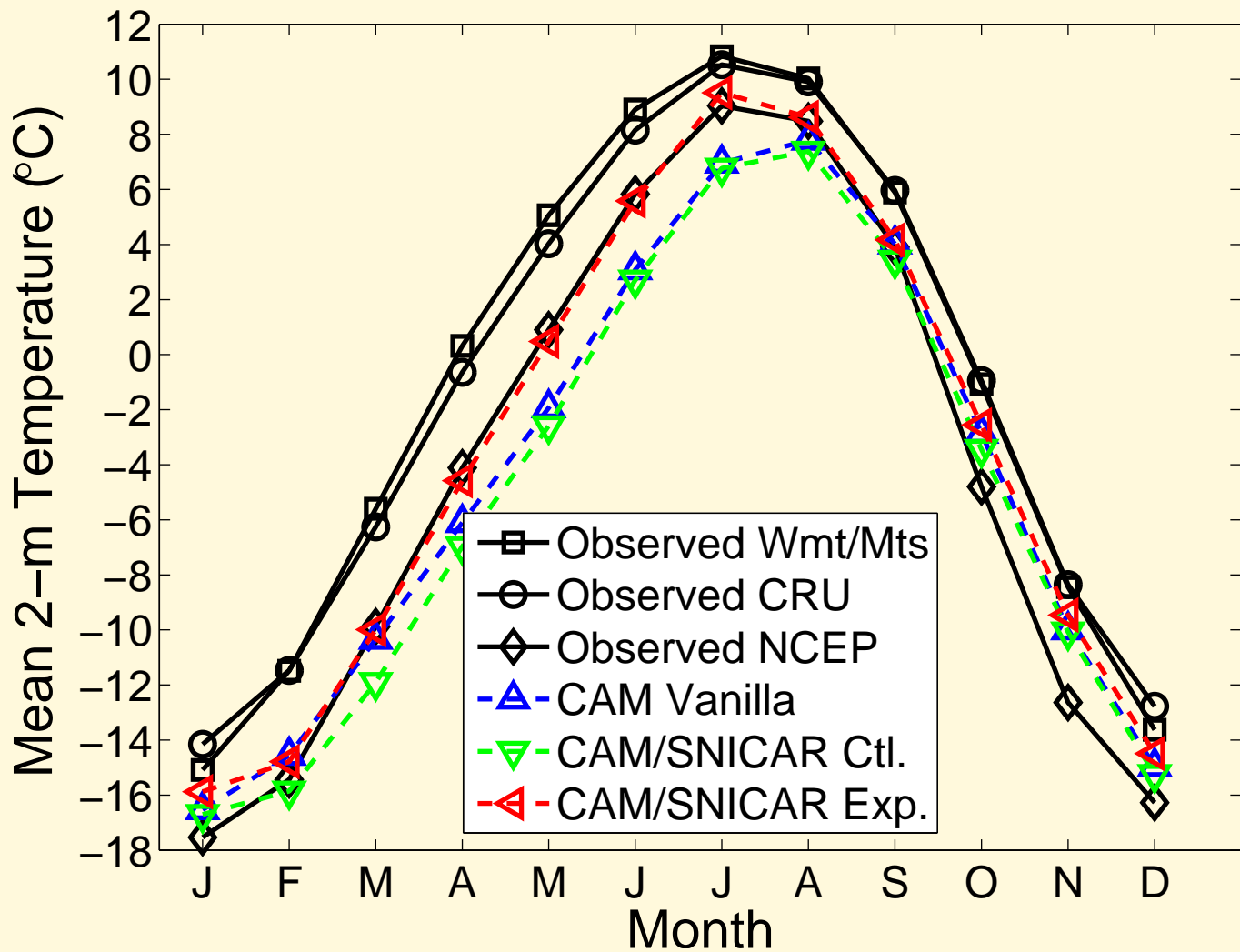


Figure 10: Observed and simulated Tibetan Plateau 2 m air temperature.

Efficacy E_a : Response relative to response to equivalent CO_2 forcing

$$\begin{aligned}
 E_a &\equiv \frac{\lambda(\text{dirty snow})}{\lambda(\Delta\text{CO}_2)} \\
 &= \frac{(\Delta T_s / \Delta F_R^{\text{Trp}})_{\text{dirty snow}}}{(2.47 \text{ K}) / (3.58 \text{ W m}^{-2})} \\
 &= \frac{(\Delta T_s / \Delta F_R^{\text{Trp}})_{\text{dirty snow}}}{0.69 \text{ K (W m}^{-2})^{-1}}
 \end{aligned}$$

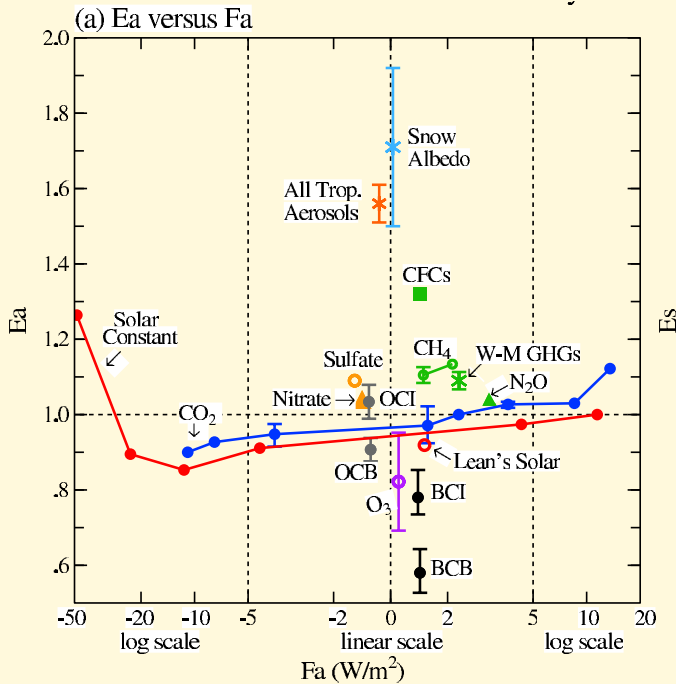


Figure 11: Hansen et al. (2005) forcing efficacies.

2. Conclusions: Climate Effects and Efficacy of Dirty Snow

Global results:

- Dirty snowpack forcing is $\sim 70/30\%$ soot/dust globally
- Dust efficacy \sim soot efficacy $E_a \sim 3-4$
- Dirty snow warms climate 0.10–0.20 K ($\sim 60\%$ by anthropogenic soot)
- Significant climate affects on NH albedo, melt seasonality, T

Dirty snow has the greatest influence on the Tibetan Plateau:

- Pristine skies yet strong aerosol forcing via snowpack impurities
- Reduced snowpack 50% in seasonal snow areas due to snow-albedo feedback, snow grain size-temperature feedback
- Dirty snow warms TP ~ 2 K, remediates model biases

Overall:

- With forcing efficacy $E_a \sim 3-4$, **Dirty snow is the most efficient climate forcing agent known. Reducing soot emissions may be an optimal strategy to mitigate cryospheric warming.**

3. References

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