

1 **Title:**

2 **Modeling the Global Emission, Transport and Deposition of Trace Elements Associated with Mineral Dust**

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Modeling the Global Emission, Transport and Deposition of Trace Elements Associated with Mineral Dust

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Abstract Trace element deposition from desert dust has important impacts on ocean primary productivity, the quantification of which could be useful in determining the magnitude and sign of the biogeochemical feedback on radiative forcing. However, the impact of elemental deposition to remote ocean regions is not well understood and is not currently included in global climate models. In this study, emission inventories for eight elements primarily of soil origin, Mg, P, Ca, Mn, Fe, K, Al, and Si are determined based on a global mineral dataset and a soil dataset. The resulting elemental fractions are used to drive the desert dust model in the Community Earth System Model (CESM) in order to simulate the elemental concentrations of atmospheric dust. Spatial variability of mineral dust elemental fractions is evident on a global scale, particularly for Ca. Simulations of global variations in the Ca/Al ratio, which typically range from around 0.1 to 5.0 in soils, are consistent with observations, suggesting that this ratio is a good signature for dust source regions. The simulated variable fractions of chemical elements are sufficiently different; estimates of deposition should include elemental variations, especially for Ca, Al and Fe. The model results have been evaluated with observations of elemental aerosol concentrations from desert regions and dust events in non-dust regions, providing insights into uncertainties in the modeling approach. The ratios between modeled and

53 observed elemental fractions range from 0.7 to 1.6, except for Mg and Mn (3.4 and 3.5, respectively). Using
54 the soil database improves the correspondence of the spatial heterogeneity in the modeling of several
55 elements (Ca, Al and Fe) compared to observations. Total and soluble dust element fluxes to different ocean
56 basins and ice sheet regions have been estimated, based on the model results. Annual inputs of soluble Mg, P,
57 Ca, Mn, Fe and K associated with dust using the mineral dataset are 0.28 Tg, 16.89 Gg, 1.32 Tg, 22.84 Gg,
58 0.068Tg, and 0.15 Tg to global oceans and ice sheets.

59

60 **Key word:** dust; Ca/Al ratio; dust; minerals; atmospheric deposition; global model

61 **1 Introduction**

62 Desert dust aerosols are soil particles suspended in the atmosphere by strong winds, and originate primarily
63 from regions with dry, un-vegetated soils. Desert dust particles are thought to contain several important
64 chemical elements, which can impact the earth system by influencing biogeochemical cycles, in particular,
65 marine primary productivity (Martin et al., 1991; Duce and Tindale, 1991; Herut et al., 1999, 2002, 2005; Okin
66 et al., 2004; Jickells et al., 2005). Iron (Fe) is considered the most important element carried in dust, and low
67 Fe supplies combined with a low dust solubility are thought to limit phytoplankton growth in High Nutrient
68 Low Chlorophyll (HNLC) regions. The HNLC regions feature residual macronutrient (e.g. nitrogen (N) and
69 phosphorus (P)) concentrations, but productivity remains limited by the low supply of Fe (e.g. Martin et
70 al., 1991; Boyd et al., 1998). Further studies have linked Fe to the nitrogen cycle because of high Fe
71 requirements of N fixing organisms (e.g. Capone et al., 1997). While there are internal sedimentary sources of
72 Fe in the ocean, dust deposition is an important source of new Fe to remote regions of the ocean (e.g. Fung et
73 al., 2000, Lam and Bishop, 2008; Moore and Braucher, 2008). Desert dust also contains P, which is a limiting
74 nutrient in some ocean and land regions (e.g. (Mills et al., 2004; Okin et al., 2004; Swap et al., 1992)),
75 especially on longer time scales. In addition, as a dominant constituent of mineral dust, silicon (Si) is an
76 important nutrient for diatoms which are central in ocean productivity (Morel et al., 2003). Other elements
77 released from mineral dust which may be important for ocean biogeochemistry including manganese (Mn) as a
78 biologically essential nutrient and aluminum (Al) as a tracer of atmospheric inputs (e.g. Nozaki, 1997;
79 <http://www.geotraces.org/science/science-plan>).

80 Previous studies have emphasized the importance of measuring elemental composition of dust elements
81 (Kreutz and Sholkovitz, 2000; Cohen et al., 2004; Marino et al., 2004; Marteel et al., 2009), and there are a
82 range of studies highlighting observations of elemental distributions and ecosystem impacts (e.g. Baker et al.,
83 2003; Herut et al., 2002; Buck et al., 2006; Paytan et al., 2009; Chen and Siefert, 2004; Measures and Vink,
84 2000). In-situ observations show evidence of heterogeneities in elemental fractions over arid soil regions
85 (Svensson et al., 2000; Zhang et al., 2003; Shen et al., 2005, 2006; Li et al., 2007). Ratios between elements
86 including Si, Al, Mg, Ca, and in particular Ca/Al ratios have also been used to distinguish dust source regions,

87 for example the Asian desert (Zhang et al., 1996; Sun et al., 2005; Han et al., 2005; Shen et al., 2007) and
88 African deserts (Bergametti et al., 1989; Formenti et al., 2008).

89 Xuan (2005) has simulated the emission inventory of trace elements in the dust source regions of East Asia.
90 However, there has not yet been a study to model the distribution of dust-associated elements on a global scale.
91 Global dust models usually assume a fixed fraction (e.g. normalized to Al) of each element in dust to simulate
92 global dust elemental transport and deposition. For example, Fe is thought to contribute 3.5% and P 0.075% to
93 mineral dust (by mass) (e.g. Luo et al., 2008; Mahowald et al., 2008). Besides spatial variations in elemental
94 compositions, particle size distribution forms another important determinant of elemental abundance in
95 deposited dust. Depending on the particle size distribution, trace elements may remain more or less suspended
96 in the atmosphere and deposited by dry or wet deposition at various distances from desert regions (Seinfeld
97 and Pandis, 1998). There have been very few studies investigating particle size distribution and elemental
98 concentrations in soil and dust by direct measurement (Schütz and Rahn, 1982; Reid et al., 2003; Castillo et al.,
99 2008; Engelbrecht et al., 2009a,b), and even fewer modeling studies have included this. The ability to model
100 the deposition of specific elements associated with dust in global simulations has been hindered by a lack of
101 understanding of the spatial and temporal variability, as well as the particle size distribution associated with
102 different dust sources. As noted by Lawrence and Neff (2009), it seems most appropriate to use a globally
103 averaged value of dust composition to estimate the elemental flux from dust, given the lack of direct
104 measurements of the spatial distribution of elements in dust. However, the use of a global mineral map
105 (Claquin et al., 1999; Nickovic et al. 2012, 2013; Journet et al., 2014) and chemical compositions of minerals
106 (Journet et al., 2008) allows us to simulate global elemental inventories from mineral soils, which could be
107 used in a global dust model.

108 This study aims to introduce a technique to determine a size-fractionated global soil elemental emission
109 inventory based on two different datasets, a global soil dataset and a mineralogical dataset. A companion paper
110 evaluates the ability of the model to simulate mineralogy and the impact on radiation (Scanza et al., 2015). The
111 elemental emission dataset estimated for Mg, P, Ca, Fe, Mn, K Al, and Si was used as an input to a model
112 simulation of the global dust cycle to present the elemental distributions, which were compared against
113 available observations of concentration and deposition to different ocean regions.. Our goal is to assess the
114 variability of elemental fractions in atmospheric and deposited dust, and to investigate whether the elemental
115 emission dataset can adequately predict this variability. This study focuses on desert dust particles, and thus
116 disregards other potentially important sources of the elements such as combustion processes (e.g. Guieu et al.,
117 2005; Luo et al., 2008; Mahowald et al., 2008). We focus on total elemental concentrations, but discuss two
118 methodologies for soluble metal distributions from soil emissions. We also do not consider any atmospheric
119 processing, which is likely to be important for some chemical components (e.g. Mahowald et al., 2005; Baker
120 and Croot, 2010).

121

122 **2 Materials and Methods**

123 2.1 Soil and mineral datasets

124 The soil map of the world used in this study comes from the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of
125 the United Nations soils dataset, and includes 136 soil units [FAO-United Nations Educational, Scientific, and
126 Cultural Organization (FAO-UNESCO, 1995) at a 5-minute resolution. The global dataset of soil clay and silt
127 data are used in this study. Following [Claquin et al. \(1999\)](#) and [Nickovic et al. \(2012\)](#), the illite, hematite,
128 kaolinite, smectite, quartz, feldspars, calcite and gypsum contents are specified for different clay and silt soil
129 types, and the global mineral distribution is presented in [Scanza et al \(2015\)](#). Some minerals found in dust such
130 as dolomite were not considered by [Claquin et al. \(1999\)](#) and [Nickovic et al. \(2012\)](#) and have also been
131 disregarded in this study due to the lack of data on their distribution.

132 The elemental compositions of hematite and aluminosilicate minerals used in this study are taken from
133 previous works ([Journet et al. \(2008\)](#) and unpublished data provided by E. Journet, 2012) and were obtained by
134 X-ray fluorescence spectrometry (XRF) (Table 1a). Most of minerals used by [Journet et al. \(2008\)](#) are
135 reference materials from the Society's Source Clays Repository, i.e. hematite, illite, kaolinite, montmorillonite.
136 The elemental compositions obtained by XRF are in the range of published values for these reference materials
137 (e.g. [Mermut and Cano, 2001](#); [Gold et al., 1983](#)), validating the obtained composition for the unreferenced
138 materials. Moreover, the purity of all minerals samples is estimated by X-Ray diffraction. Note that the
139 mineralogical maps used in this study do not distinguish feldspar and smectite subtypes. For feldspars, the
140 elemental composition is mostly averaged based on 2 subtype minerals: orthoclase (potassic feldspar) and
141 oligoclase (sodium-calcium feldspar). For smectites, the montmorillonite subtype is the most commonly
142 identified smectite in desert dust, particularly for Saharan dust e.g. [Goudie and Middleton, 2006](#)). The
143 chemical composition of montmorillonite is used in this study as an analog for smectite. For calcite, gypsum,
144 and quartz, the natural minerals could contain substitutions or impurities from clays, which are
145 variable depending on origin, formation, contamination, etc. of minerals. Because regional silt samples were
146 not available for spectroscopy, we use the theoretical composition of elements in calcite, gypsum and quartz
147 (Table 1a). The mass fraction of Ca in calcite (CaCO_3) and gypsum ($\text{CaSO}_4 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$) are taken as 40% and
148 23.3%, respectively. A mass fraction of 46.7% Si is used for pure quartz (SiO_2).

149 Following the total element calculation, soluble elemental fractions are estimated based on soluble elemental
150 contents of minerals at pH=2 reported by [Journet et al \(2008\)](#) for hematite and the aluminosilicates, and is
151 listed in Table 1b. The fractional solubility of Ca in calcite and gypsum used is 7% and 0.56%, respectively,
152 and that of Si in quartz was 0.0003% based on individual solubility product (K_{sp}) at pH=2 ([Petrucci et al.,](#)
153 [2001](#)). Here the mineral dependent method used to calculate soluble elements is defined as Method 1 (Sol-1).
154 To present uncertainties, another approach (Method 2, defined as Sol-2) is introduced as a reference. It is based
155 on the extractable elemental fractions of in-situ 20 μm sieved soil samples reported by [Sillanpaa \(1982\)](#) (Table
156 S1) and is combined with an FAO soil dataset to get a global soluble elemental inventory independent of soil
157 minerals. It is noted that there is no detailed size distribution for soil samples in Sol-2. Thus, the fractions of
158 soluble elements in clay and silt are assumed to be equal to that of the bulk soils themselves.

159 Table S1 Averaged macronutrient contents (%) of soils classified by FAO/Unesco soil units *

160 One drawback of our approach is that we disregard the large variability of soils included within each defined
161 “soil type”. The range of minerals within each soil type is large (e.g. [Claquin et al., 1999](#)), and the range of
162 elemental concentrations in each mineral is also large ([Journet et al., 2008](#)). The resolution of our model is
163 such that despite the actual heterogeneity of soils at a particular location, we prescribe an average at each
164 gridbox which tends to reduce the variability in elemental composition in the mineral dust in the atmosphere.
165 This is likely to be the largest source of uncertainty in our approach.

166 **Table1 (a) Generalized mineral compositions (%) applied in this study ;(b) Elemental solubility as a percentage of**
167 **the element contained in the minerals (%)**

168 **Table 2 Emission rates (Tg/yr) and percentages of elements over desert regions (%)**

169

170 2.2 Numerical Model description

171 Community Earth System Model version 1.0.3 (CESM1.0.3) is coordinated by the National Center for
172 Atmospheric Research (NCAR), and has been used to simulate elemental dust emission, transport and
173 deposition in this study. The bulk mineral aerosol in the Community Atmosphere Model version 4 (CAM4)
174 was adapted to include eight trace elements within total dust ([Scanza et al., 2015](#)). In this model simulation, the
175 physical scheme CAM4 is driven by the meteorological dataset MERRA, and is simulated spatially at 1.9×2.5
176 degree resolution for the years 2000-2010. The soil erodibility map used by the dust model has been spatially
177 tuned ([Albani et al., 2014](#)). There are four size classes of dust particles used in the dust emission module in the
178 bulk scheme with particle diameters of 0.1-1.0, 1.0-2.5, 2.5-5.0 and 5.0-10.0 μm . The sub-bin size distribution
179 is assumed to follow a log-normal distribution with a mass median diameter of 3.5 μm ([Mahowald et al., 2006](#))
180 and a geometric standard deviation of 2.0 μm ([Zender et al., 2003](#)). Combining these log-normal parameters
181 with the brittle fragmentation theory of dust emission ([Kok, 2011](#)) yields each bin’s partitioning of dust aerosol
182 mass between the soil’s clay and silt size fractions (see Table B3 and [Scanza et al., 2015](#)). The elements in the
183 dust undergo three-dimensional transport individually in each of the different size bins, identically to bulk dust
184 in the original model. Elemental atmospheric mixing ratios, and wet and dry deposition are updated at each
185 model time step based on actual elemental fields and the corresponding tendencies.

186 *By splitting the dust into its different mineral elements, we may add additional numerical errors, because the*
187 *elements are transported separately. There has been considerable work on improving advection algorithms in*
188 *atmospheric models, and here we use the finite volume advection algorithm as part of the CAM [Lin and Rood,*
189 *1997]. While no advection scheme is perfectly mass conserving, monotonic, shape preserving and*
190 *computationally efficient, this scheme does a good job of balancing these multiple goals and maintaining the*
191 *strong gradients required in modeling atmospheric constituents (e.g. [Rasch et al., 2006]). Studies focused on*
192 *elemental distributions in ocean models have suggested the relatively small uncertainties associated with these*
193 *types of numerical errors (e.g. [Christian, 2007]), and compared with the errors in the source distribution of*
194 *the minerals, errors from advection are likely to be small and are neglected here.*

195 **Table S2. The fraction of dust aerosol mass contributed by the soil clay and silt fractions for each of the 4 particle size**
196 **bins for the bulk scheme in CAM4.**
197

198**2.3 Observational data**

199 An element dataset of ground based aerosol measurements at 17 sites (Table B3) is used to evaluate the
200 elemental dust simulation (Sun et al., 2004a,b; Wang et al., 2010; Chen et al., 2008; Engelbrecht et al., 2009;
201 Carpenter et al., 2010; Cohen et al., 2011; Guo et al., 2014; Formenti et al., 2008; Desboeufs et al., 2010). The
202 sites are close to major dust-producing regions (Figure 1), including 10 Asian sites (Central Asia: Hetian,
203 Tazhong; East Asia: Yulin, Duolun, Shengshi; South Asia: Hanoi, and Marnila; Middle East: Balad, Baghdad,
204 Taji), 5 African sites (West Africa: Cape Verde Atmospheric Observatory (CVAO); East Africa: Eilat; North
205 Africa: Tamanrasset, Banizoumbou, and Douz), and 2 Australian sites (Muswellbrook, Richmond). Generally,
206 these field aerosol samples (Total Suspended Particulates (TSP), PM₁₀, PM_{2.5}) have 1-3 day collection periods
207 during the period 2001-2010, and were chemically analyzed for elemental composition. No observational
208 aerosol mass concentrations at the Cape Verde station could be used in this study. At this site, the particulate
209 matter (PM) concentrations are estimated by assuming an Al to total dust mass ratio of 0.0804. In order to be
210 certain that only desert dust elements are compared with the model results, only data collected during dust
211 storm seasons are selected. Measurement sites from which data are taken are listed in Table B3, which includes
212 related methodological details.

213 In addition, the dataset of dust deposition at more than 100 sites worldwide is used to evaluate modeled dust
214 deposition fluxes (Albani et al., 2014).

215 **Fig.1. Observational sites** (S1-Hetian, China; S2-Tazhong, China; S3-Yu Lin, China; S4-Duolun, China; S5-
216 Shengsi, China; S6-Hanoi, Vietnam; S7-Marnila, Philippines; S8- Balad, Iraq; S9-Balad, Iraq; S10-Taji, Iraq; S11-
217 Eilat; S12-Cape Verde Atmospheric Observatory (CVAO); S13-Muswellbrook, Australia; S14-Richmond, Australia;
218 S15-Tamanrasset, Algeria; S16-Banizoumbou, Niger; S17-Douz, Tunisia) **and dust-producing regions** (WAsia:
219 West Asia; NC-As: North Central Asia; CAsia: Central Asia; SC-As: South Central Asia; EAsia:East Asia; WN-
220 Af:North West Africa; EN-Af: North East Africa; S-NAf: Southern North Africa; SAf: Southern Africa; MNWAm:
221 Middle North West America; SNWAm: Southern North West America; SAm1: Northern South America; SAm2:
222 Southern South America; WAus: West Australia; EAus: East Australia)

223 **Table S3. Locations of 17 sampling sites**

224 **3 Results and Discussion**

225 **3.1 Fractions of element in arid soil regions**

226 The global distributions of the elements Mg, P, Ca, Mn, Fe, K, Al, and Si in bulk soils as mass percentages
227 in soils are presented in Fig. 2.

228 **3.1.1 Global mapping of soil associated elements**

229 Fractions of elements in soils vary between mineralogical clay and silt fractions. Spatial variability of soil
230 chemistry is seen on a global scale (Fig.2). A large range of variability for some elements within one given
231 source region is observed (e.g. Ca, Fe, Mn, Al). The most extreme variability is observed for Ca in soil silt,
232 which varied from 0.5 to 34.3%, and is much higher in West and Central Asia, South Africa and Northern
233 South America than in other parts in the world. This is ascribed to the presence of feldspar and gypsum, both
234 being important source minerals for Ca in these regions. In Central and East Asia, the Ca content increased
235 from east to west, showing a similar spatial trend to that reported by Xuan et al. (2005). A south to north
236 gradient of Ca content was also observed in the Sahara following the carbonate distribution of soils (Kandler et
237 al., 2007; Formenti et al., 2011). In southern North Africa, South Africa and the Western Australia, clay soil
238 and fine dust emissions have higher Al and P concentrations than elsewhere. In Eastern Australia, Patagonia,
239 and the northern South Africa, the Fe content of soils is also higher than in other regions. Due to their high
240 content of quartz, soils generally have 25-40% Si. These elemental distributions are in agreement with other
241 published data for Fe, as they are derived from similar regions (e.g. Claquin, 1999; Hand, 2004).

242 **Fig.2 Global elemental distributions (in mass percentage) in a1: Clay Mg, a2: Clay P, a3: Clay Ca, a4: Clay Mn, a5: Clay**
243 **Fe, a6: Clay K, a7:, Clay Al, a8: Clay Si; b1: Silt Mg, b2: Silt P, b3: Silt Ca, b4: Silt Mn, b5: Silt Fe, b6: Silt K, b7: Silt Al,**
244 **b8: Silt Si.**

245 **3.1.2 Elemental composition of soils and airborne dust**

246 Trace elements in soils show different associations with particle size patterns depending on the size
247 distribution of soil minerals. For example, Mg, P, Fe, Mn, and Al are dominant in the clay size fraction (< 2
248 μm) (Fig. 3b). Fractions of Al and Fe reach 11.7% and 3.1% in clay fractions of soils, while only 2.8% and 1.2%
249 in silt fractions of soils, respectively. However, Ca and Si show a slight enrichment in coarser soil fractions. Ca
250 comprises 2.6% of soils in the clay fraction but 3.6% in the soil silt fractions. This is consistent with the size
251 distribution of Ca and Fe-rich individual particle groupings measured in Saharan dust (Reid et al., 2003). K has
252 nearly equal distributions in clay and silt fractions of soils. Taking the fractions of elements in soils as inputs,
253 the fractions of elements in dust emission can be predicted. Our classification of soil particles into four aerosol
254 sizes (Table B2) provides heterogeneity in elements across sizes, but allows for a mixing across soil sizes,
255 reducing the differences among size fractions. For example, the percentage of Fe remains unchanged from clay
256 soil to fine mode dust emission, but changes substantially from silt soil (1.2%) to coarse mode dust (2.2% in
257 Bin 3). A similar pattern appears for the other elements, and the differences between elemental percentages
258 in the soils are reduced when dust emissions are considered (Fig. 3a vs. 3b).

259 **Fig.3 Global mean elemental percentages in (a) four-bin dust emission and (b) clay and silt fractions of soils (Bin1-4 refer to**
260 **particle range listed in Table S2, clay refer to < 2 μm , silt refer to > 2 μm)**

261 **3.1.3 Elemental dust emissions over desert regions**

262 Annual elemental dust emissions over 15 dust-producing regions (shown in Fig.1) are determined (Table 2).
263 The annual average of total global dust emission is estimated to be 1582 Tg based on 2001-2010 simulations,

264 and is within the wide range (514 to 5999 Tg/yr) as reported by previous studies (e.g. Textor et al., 2006,
265 2007; Prospero et al., 2010; Huneeus et al., 2011). Africa and Asia account for 68% and 31% of the global
266 emissions, respectively. Correspondingly, trace element emissions are dominant from African desert regions,
267 with percentages ranging between 65%-70%. Specifically, Al emission from Africa account for 70% of global
268 Al emissions, of which 64% originated from the Western Sahara. For Asian desert regions, elemental dust
269 account for 29-34% of the global total amount, with Ca being the strongest contributor (34%) to global Ca
270 emissions. The percentage of Fe is similar to Al in the total dust emissions with 67% and 32% of Fe from
271 Africa and Asia, respectively. The maximum % element for Ca at 5% was in dust emission from West Asia,
272 being more than 4 times higher than Southern North Africa (1.2%). However, the fraction of Al and Si is
273 largest in dust emission from Southern North Africa, with values of 9.0% and 31%, respectively. The fractions
274 of Fe and P are 2.8%, and 0.08% in Australia, which is higher than that in other source regions. The simulated
275 elemental fractions in dust suggest that differentiating elements in soils between global source areas is
276 necessary and meaningful.

277 **Table 2 Emission rates (Tg/yr) and elemental composition of dust over desert regions (%)**

278

279 **3.2 Spatial and seasonal distribution in fractions of elements in atmospheric and deposited** 280 **dust**

281 **3.2.1 Elemental fractions in global atmospheric dust and deposited dust**

282 The modeled fractions of different elements in atmospheric dust have substantial spacial variability (Fig. 4). Fe
283 content is greater than 2% for most regions, with a global mean of 2.7% in atmospheric dust. The maximum
284 contributions of Fe, Al, P and Mn fractions are observed in the tropical Pacific region with values greater than
285 3%, 10%, 0.08%, and 0.02%, respectively. For Ca, Si and K, a higher fraction is evident in terrestrial
286 environments. There are obvious land-ocean gradients existing in the distributions of elemental fractions, with
287 higher Ca and Si fractions in terrestrial regions and higher P, Fe, and Al fractions in oceanic areas, likely due
288 to their differences in particle size distribution (Fig. 3). There are very similar spatial patterns and magnitudes
289 shown for the elemental fractions in deposited dust compared with those in atmospheric dust for each element
290 (Fig. S1, Fig. 5). Higher fractions of Ca and Si in deposited dust is observed in regions close to desert dust
291 sources where the two elements occur in the coarser size fractions. Conversely, lower Mg, P, Mn, Fe and Al
292 contents are found in dust deposits close to source regions but higher contents are found over oceans, which is
293 consistent with the clay soil fraction dominating the finer particle size fractions. The importance of relative
294 location of the source compared to the deposition to the elemental ratio adds complexity in applying simple
295 percentages to dust deposition to obtain elemental deposition amounts.

296

297 Fig.4 Percentages of elements in dust concentration (mass %) : a. Mg, b. P, c. Ca, d. Mn, e. Fe, f. K, g. Al, h. Si.
298 Elemental % shown here are calculated using the annual mean element concentration divided by the annual mean dust
299 concentration.

300 Fig.S1 Percentages of elements in deposited dust (%) :a. Mg, b. P, c. Ca, d. Mn, e. Fe, f. K, g. Al, h. Si. Elemental
301 annual mean % are calculated using the annual mean emission of each element divided by the annual mean emission of
302 dust.

303 Fig.5 Ratio of mass fractions of elements in dust deposition to that in atmospheric dust : a. Mg, b. P, c. Ca, d. Mn, e. Fe, f.
304 K, g. Al, h. Si. Elemental ratios shown here are calculated using the annual mean element deposition divided by the
305 annual mean dust deposition.

306

307 3.2.2 Seasonal variability of elemental fractions

308 As described above, the fractions of elements in dust fluctuate temporally and spatially on a global scale. There
309 are seasonal variations in dust emissions from various desert regions showing different emission patterns
310 (Fig.S2). The peak periods for dust emissions for various desert regions are consistent with those found by
311 Werner et al., (2002) (Figure S2). Combining the seasonal cycles in atmospheric dust production with the
312 element distributions in desert regions, the elemental fractions show large monthly variability but small inter-
313 annual variability during 2001-2010 (Fig. A3). Ca and Al have clear seasonal cycles, with Ca having the
314 largest monthly variability with peak concentrations in the between July and September. This is ascribed to the
315 higher Ca content of dust originating in West Asia, Central Asia and Southern Africa, regions that provide
316 large global dust emissions in this period (JJAS).. For the other elements, the peak concentrations usually
317 occurred between March and May (MAM) or November through January (NDJ), corresponding to the periods
318 when global dust emissions reach a maximum.

319 We modeled the seasonal variability of these elemental fractions. Elemental percentages are calculated using
320 the climatological monthly mean emission of each element divided by the climatological monthly mean
321 emission of dust. An index describing monthly variability is calculated by:
322

$$323 \text{Monthly variability (\%)} = \frac{SD \text{ of mean fraction}_{month}}{\text{Mean fraction}_{month}} \times 100 \quad (\text{Eq. 1})$$

323

324 Twelve monthly mean fractions are averaged from the ten year simulation, with the corresponding standard
325 deviations (SDs).. Finally, the percentages (Eq.1) of the standard deviation in the monthly means is derived to
326 describe the variability in elemental fractions of atmospheric dust and deposited dust (Fig. 6 and 7).

327 The monthly mean variation is greatest for Ca, reaching more than 30% variability in some regions. The
328 temporal variability of elemental percentages in deposited dust tended to be larger than those in atmospheric
329 dust and show a greater spatial gradient from land to sea. That is similar to the trend of the elemental fractions
330 in atmospheric and deposited dust (section 3.2.1) since the temporal variation is originally induced by the

331 spatially variable elemental fraction. In the South Indian Ocean and the South Atlantic Ocean, the monthly
332 variability is even higher and is attributed to the combined effect of variability in dust emissions,
333 spatial elemental concentration, and dust transport patterns.

334

335 **Fig.S2 Monthly dust emission (kg/m²/s) over 15 dust-producing regions (WAsia: West Asia; NC-As:North Central Asia;**
336 **CAsia:Central Asia; SC-As: South Central Asia; EAsia:East Asia; WN-Af:North West Africa; EN-Af: North East Africa;**
337 **S-NAf: Southern North Africa; SAF: Southern Africa; MWNAm: Middle North West America; SWNAm: Southern North**
338 **West America; SAm1: Northern South America; SAM2: Southern South America; WAus: West Australia; EAus: East**
339 **Australia)**

340 **Fig.S3 Seasonal cycle of global mean elemental percentages (%) in atmospheric dust from 2001 to 2010. Elemental % are**
341 **calculated using the climatological monthly mean emission of each element divided by the climatological monthly mean**
342 **emission of dust.**

343

344 **Fig.6 Ten-year monthly variability in mean of elemental percentages in atmospheric dust (mass %) : a. Mg, b. P, c. Ca, d.**
345 **Mn, e. Fe, f. K, g. Al, h. Si. Elemental monthly mean % are calculated using the monthly mean emission of each element**
346 **divided by the monthly mean emission of dust.**

347 **Fig.7 Ten-year monthly variability in mean of elemental percentages in dust deposition (mass %):a. Mg, b. P, c. Ca, d.**
348 **Mn, e. Fe, f. K, g. Al, h. Si. Elemental monthly mean % are calculated using the monthly mean emission of each element**
349 **divided by the monthly mean emission of dust.**

350

351 **3.3 Spatial Ca/Al distribution in soils and dust plumes**

352 Of specific interest is the Ca/Al ratio in soil, atmospheric dust and deposited dust as this ratio may be
353 indicative of specific source regions (Fig. 8). Of all considered ratios, the Ca/Al ratio in soils show the greatest
354 variability in relation to the relevant desert region (e.g. [Formenti et al. \(2011\)](#)). The Ca/Al ratio ranges mainly
355 between 0.1-1 in clay fractions of soils and 0.5-5.0 in silt fractions of soils (Fig. 8a,b). The maximum Ca/Al
356 ratios reaches 160 times the global mean Ca/Al ratio of 1.96 in the silt fraction of soils (Fig. 8b), much higher
357 than those of other ratios such as Fe, K, and Mn to Al. Asian desert soils have higher Ca/Al ratios, with values
358 greater than 5 in West Asia and Central Asia. The Ca/Al ratio in dust emissions from Central Asia (1.0-1.6) are
359 higher than in East Asia (~0.5), which is close to Ca/Al ratios (1.0-1.7) derived from source profiles of Asian
360 dust ([Zhang et al., 1997](#); [Zhang et al., 2003](#)), and also match the observed Ca/Al ratios (0.7-1.3) during Asian
361 dust events ([Sun et al., 2004a,b](#); [Shen et al., 2007](#)). In addition, the Ca/Al ratio in dust emissions in North
362 Africa are below 0.5, confirming the application of the Ca/Al ratio of 0.3 (or 3.8 with Al/Ca) as an indicator of
363 North African dust transport to the eastern United States ([Perry et al., 1997](#)). Ambient PM_{2.5} dust measured on
364 the Canary Islands suggests a different ratio (Ca/Al = 1.004) ([Engelbrecht et al., 2014](#)). However, this ratio
365 could be larger for PM₁₀ or TSP. The high Ca/Al ratio (4.0-10.0) in a range of desert soils in some regions
366 including South Africa, yields a Ca/Al ratios in dust emissions of 1.0, being much larger than those from North
367 Africa. The modeled spatial pattern of Ca/Al ratio in dust emissions from Asia and northwest Africa is
368 consistent with the currently available dust pattern compiled by [Formenti et al. \(2011\)](#), but shows relatively
369 lower values for the Central Asian desert region.

370 Despite experiencing mixing of airborne dust from various source regions and as a result of dust processing
371 during transport, the Ca/Al ratios still show spatial variations in global atmospheric dust and deposited dust.
372 Relative to the Ca/Al ratio in source regions (Fig. 8a,b), the Ca/Al ratio in atmospheric dust over most of

373 terrestrial Asia ranges between 0.5-0.8, with a maximum of 1.8. This is due to the spatial variability of Ca/Al
374 ratio in dust emissions (Fig. 9a) and despite the preferential gravitational settling during transport of silt
375 fraction which represents the highest Ca/Al variability. The variability in Ca/Al ratio in dust deposited into
376 oceans and onto ice sheets are also shown in Fig. 9b. Near West Asia and Western Sahara, higher Ca/Al ratios
377 are noted and the North Indian ocean and Mediterranean sea have a Ca/Al ratio above 0.65 in deposited dust.
378 As the combined downwind region of central Asia and East Asia, the North Pacific has a Ca/Al ratio around
379 0.5. The Ca/Al ratio in dust deposited over the Atlantic ranges between 0.3-0.4 due to the influence of southern
380 North Africa desert region and East Sahara desert both with low ratios of Ca/Al. Since the soil dataset has a
381 high spatial resolution of 5 arc minutes (Fig. 8a,b), there is opportunity to increase the model grid resolution
382 ($1.9 \times 2.5^\circ$ in this study) to a finer resolution. It is expected that Ca/Al ratio will show more spatial
383 heterogeneity when a finer model resolution is used. We conclude that the Ca/Al ratio can be used to identify
384 different source areas and the model can be used to support the observations.

385

386 **Fig.8 Ca/Al in Soil and ten year averaged Ca/Al ratio in dust emission, concentration and deposition. Top two (a,b) refer**
387 **to ratio in clay and silt desert soil, middle one (c) refer to ratio in dust emission, and bottom two (d,e) refer to ratio in dust**
388 **concentration and deposition. Elemental annual mean % are calculated using the annual mean emission of each element**
389 **divided by the annual mean emission of dust.**

390 **Fig.9 Ten year averaged Ca/Al ratio in (a) dust emission of source regions and (b) dust deposition into various ocean**
391 **basins and glaciers. Elemental ratios are calculated using the annual mean emission of Ca divided by the annual mean**
392 **emission of Al.**

393 **3.4 Model evaluation with observational data**

394 The averaged modeled fractions of elements in atmospheric dust at each site for the periods for which
395 observations are available are comparable with observations for most of the sites (Fig. 10a,b). It is clear most
396 scatter values of model and observations are in the range of 2:1 and 1:2 line for most elements in TSP
397 except for Mg, Mn and Si. It shows the emission inventories based on mineralogy and elemental
398 compositions are generally consistent with the available data. A large variability in the % of different elements
399 is observed at the 17 observational sites for most elements, especially for Ca (Fig. 10). The fraction of Fe in
400 the fine mode particle ($PM_{2.5}$) is closer to the observational data than the TSP Fe fraction, implying that Fe in
401 the clay soils is more accurate than that for silt. Since there are only a few reported observations of Si, this
402 element is particularly difficult to verify. Based on averaged elemental fractions in TSP at 13 sites, the
403 correlation coefficients (R) between modeled and observed fractions range widely (Table 3). Ca and Al had the
404 highest correlations (0.75 and 0.72, respectively). However, the correlation coefficients for P, Mn and K were
405 negative. For Fe, if we neglect the 3 sites in North Africa, the correlation coefficient increases from 0.29 to
406 0.50; in this area, the observational Fe fractions in TSP are high whereas the modeled ones are low (Fig.
407 10.a,5). The modeled elemental fractions in TSP are close to the observed data, with most ratios ranging
408 between 0.7 and 1.6 (Table3).

409 For this comparison (above), we calculate the elemental fractions and average the fractions temporally for each
410 site and compare to observations, but alternatively, we could average the elemental concentrations and divide
411 by the elemental dust concentrations instead, and this will make a difference in our interpretations. For
412 example, taking site 2-Tazhong, the averaged fraction is 3.5% when we calculate the fractions of iron firstly
413 and average those temporally. However, when we calculate the averaged iron mass and dust mass separately,
414 their ratio is 2.3%. For site3-Yulin, the ratio is 3.6% and 3.1% for the first method and second method,
415 respectively. This difference maybe due to dust storm events. For this comparison, we use the first method, as
416 we think it is more suitable for our goal of simulating the % of each element correctly.

417 The averaged fractions of Mg and Mn in dust are underestimated by the model at all observational sites. It
418 should be noted that there are some uncertainties when comparing elemental fractions. When the elemental
419 concentration is divided by particle mass concentration to obtain the elemental fraction, the errors are
420 amplified due to error propagation associated with the combination of the error on the particle mass and that of
421 the element concentrations. Even though the available observational data are chosen from source sites or dust
422 events in non-source regions, the contribution from other sources could be important, especially for fine mode
423 particles. The modeled fraction of Mn and Al in fine particles show a larger inconsistency than that those in
424 TSP when compared with observations. Some of the discrepancies may be because the model only includes
425 particles up to 10 μm in diameter, while the observations include larger particle fractions in TSPs. In South
426 Asia, the elemental fractions in dust with the exception of Mn, are always much lower than at another sites,
427 perhaps due to anthropogenic contributions to elemental particulate matter concentrations. In particular, many

428 metals in insoluble forms in dust particles could be from other sources such as the refractories and steel
429 industries, construction, biomass burning or volcanic emissions (Castillo et al., 2008; Gaudichet et al., 1995;
430 Hinkley et al., 1999; Paris et al., 2010).

431 The daily elemental fractions across all times and sites where there is data show that while the mean of the
432 model was similar to the mean of the observations, there are some systematic differences (Figure 11a,b). The
433 modeled elemental fractions are not as variable as the observations. This could be due to several issues. First
434 there is a greater variability in the soil mineralogy and elemental composition of minerals than those included
435 in the model (we only include the average values). Secondly, the dust model could introduce systematic errors
436 (through advection, although this is likely to be small, as discussed in the methods section 2.1), or there could
437 be some unaccounted anthropogenic particulate sources, modifying the dust aerosol. Also inconsistencies in
438 the collection methods and differences in aerosol sampling periods and times could yield the observed
439 variations in elements as concluded by Lawrence and Neff (2009).

440 However, the ranges of the modeled fractions of P, Ca, Fe, K and Al are close to the dominant range of the
441 observational fractions (Fig. 11a,b). The fractions of elements in dust measured are reported to be 0.5%-2.3%
442 for Mg, 0.065-0.2% for P, 1.0-10.2% for Ca, 0.028%-0.124% for Mn, 1.3%-7.8% for Fe, 1.2%-4.6% for K,
443 3.7-12.7% for Al, and 22.4%-35.7% for Si (Wilke et al., 1984; Reheis and Kihl, 1995; Stoorvogel et al., 1997;
444 Zhang et al., 1998; Yadav and Rajamani, 2004; Goudie and Middleton, 2006; Moreno et al., 2006; Jeong, 2008;
445 Lawrence and Neff, 2009; Formenti et al., 2008; Desboeufs et al., 2010). The modeled elemental fraction in
446 dust for P, Ca, Fe, K, Al and Si were similar to observations. However, the modeled fractions of Mg and Mn
447 are lower (3.4 times and 3.5 times, respectively (Table 3)) than the observed ones for samples used in this
448 study or of the above cited results. Underestimation of Mg and Mn could be due to a deficiency of minerals
449 containing high concentrations of Mg and Mn in our model, as dolomite ($MgCO_3$) or palygorskyte
450 ($(Mg,Al)_2Si_4O_{10}(OH)\cdot 4(H_2O)$) are often identified in dust particles for Mg (e.g. Diaz-Hernandes et al., 2011;
451 Kalderon et al., 2009). Moreover, it is known that the chemical composition of minerals could be variable
452 according to the regional origin of minerals and possible impurities. For example, the Mg content in calcite
453 ranges from 0% to 2.7% in the natural environment (Titschack et al., 2011). But in this study, the assumed
454 fraction of Mg in calcite is zero because we took calcite as a pure mineral (see Table 1). So the
455 underestimation of Mg in dust could be a propagation of errors in previous compositions in minerals
456 considered in this study.

457

458 **Fig.10 Comparison of observed and modeled mean fractions of elements at each site for total suspended particulates (TSP).**
459 **(1-Hetian, China; 2-Tazhong, China; 3-Yu Lin, China; 4-Duolun, China; 5-Shengsi, China; 6-Hanoi, Vietnam; 7-Marnila,**
460 **Philippines; 8- Balad, Iraq; 9-Baghdad, Iraq; 10-Taji, Iraq; 11-Eilat; 12-Cape Verde Island; 13-Muswellbrook, Australia;**
461 **14-Richmond, Australia, 15-Tamanrasset, Algeria; 16-Banizoumbou, Niger; 17-Douz, Tunisia).** Here we calculate the
462 elemental fractions and average the fractions temporally for each site and compare to observations.

463
464

465 **Fig.11 Mean and quartile modeled and observational fractions of elements in (a) TSP and (b) PM_{2.5} for all sites**
466 **together, the box line presents 25%, 50% and 75%, individually.** Here we calculate the elemental fractions and
467 average the fractions temporally for each site and compare to observations.
468

469

470

471 **Table 3 Comparison of modeled and observed fractions of elements in TSP and tuning ratio based on 14-site**
472 **measurements**

473

474 For reference we show the comparison of the modeled dust deposition versus observed deposition (Fig. 12).
475 The modeled dust deposition flux agrees well with observations. The correlation coefficient between modeled
476 and observed dust deposition is 0.86. The median of model to observation ratio is 1.15. Overall the model has
477 been tuned to represent dust deposition, concentration and Aerosol Optical Depth (AOD) (Albani, et al., 2014),
478 however the model has difficulty matching both deposition and concentration observations, similar to other
479 models (Huneeus et al., 2011), suggesting more work on dust emission, transport and deposition processes is
480 needed.

481 **Fig.12 (a) Observational and (b) modeled dust deposition (g/m³/year). The scale is the same for both panels. (c) A scatter**
482 **plot shows the comparison between the model and observations. The correlation coefficient between observations and**
483 **model results reach 0.86.**

484 **3.5 Deposition of total and soluble dust elements over the ocean, land and ice sheets**

485 Comparisons between observations and the model simulations presented here suggest some bias in the model
486 results (Figure 11, Table 3); subsequently the model deposition values are adjusted to better match observed
487 measurements by the tuning ratios (Table 3; Figure 13).. Of course, improving our elemental estimates in the
488 source region would be preferred in future studies. From the observations, we have found a wide range in
489 fractions of elements at individual sites and at the sites together; the ratio of the maximum and minimum in
490 measured fractions could reach more than 700 for element K, and more than 200 for Ca and Mn. Because of
491 the limited observations, we use a global tuning factor, based on the median elemental %, and contrast this
492 result with our default modeling approach (Table 3). It is noted that both the median of observed (3.10 %) and
493 modeled (2.9 %) Fe was lower than 3.5%, which was thought to be the fraction of Fe in dust (e.g. Luo et al.,
494 2008; Mahowald et al., 2008).

495 This study suggests significant variability in the elemental fractions in dust deposition (Figure 13, Table 4),
496 and showed that the assumption that the fixed composition of dust being deposited over oceans is unlikely to
497 be correct. Consistent with Mahowald et al. (2008), most dust deposition occurred downwind of dust
498 generating regions bordering the North Atlantic, North Pacific and North Indian Ocean. The Greenland ice
499 sheet accounted for the dominant part of elemental deposition to ice sheets regions, which is equal to the total
500 amount of elements deposited in the whole of the South Atlantic Ocean. Fe and P are key elements in the
501 marine ecosystem, with 6.3 Tg Fe and 184 Gg P added annually to all oceans and ice sheets (Table 5).

502 **Table 4 Fractions (%) of elements in dust deposition into different ocean basins and ice sheets***

503 Also, the amounts of soluble dust element deposition are determined over different regions (see Section 2.1)
 504 (Figure 14). No atmospheric processing of natural dust or other sources of particles (e.g. anthropogenic sources)
 505 is included in this simulation. To better understand the uncertainties of soluble element deposition, estimates
 506 from two methods are used (Section 2.1) in simulating soluble elemental emission, transport and deposition.
 507 Fractional solubility of elements could not be estimated due to the lack of total element data from Method 2
 508 (Sillanpaa (1982)). Spatial variations in fractional solubility of elements are identified by Sol-1 (mineral
 509 method) (Fig.14). Fractional solubility of Ca increases with distance from source regions because its solubility
 510 is higher in clay than in silt (Table 1b). Fractional solubility of modeled P in deposition ranges from 5% to
 511 15%, with Saharan and Australian dust sources having solubilities averaging ~10%, consistent with Baker et al.
 512 (2006a;2006b). Previous observations suggest a fractional solubility for P of 7-100% [e.g., Graham and Duce,
 513 1982; Chen et al., 1985; Bergametti et al., 1992; Herut et al., 1999, 2002; Ridame and Guieu, 2002]. Fractional
 514 solubility of Fe is 0.8%-1.2% in regions (Fig.14) where clay minerals such as illite play an important role
 515 (Journet et al., 2008) with a mean value of 1.17% of fractional Fe solubility (Table 1b). There is an obvious
 516 North-South gradient in the distribution of fractional solubility for Fe and Al, but with opposing magnitude
 517 (Fig.14). The fractional solubility could not be calculated using Sol-2 (Sillanpaa method) since total elemental
 518 fractions in soil were not reported in Sillanpaa (1982). Thus, the proportions of soluble Fe and K in total dust
 519 using two methods are compared with each other. This shows similar distribution patterns but the values are
 520 different (Fig. 15). The mineral method resulted in lower soluble Ca deposition and higher soluble Mg, P, Mn
 521 (Fig. 15). Our results suggest significant differences in the spatial distribution of solubility depending on which
 522 dataset is used to estimate soil solubility of elements. It should be noted that the solubility measurements by
 523 Sillanpaa (1982) were performed at different pH values (pH of 7 vs. 2) and media of extraction (acidified
 524 ultrapure waters vs. organic ligand solutions). It is known that pH and organic complexation greatly influence
 525 the fractional solubility, at least for Fe (e.g. Paris et al., 2011). Thus, that would explain the differences in
 526 elemental solubility that we computed for the dust. The soluble elemental deposition over ocean basins and ice
 527 sheets are determined using two methods and are listed in Table 5. Annual inputs of soluble Mg, P, Ca, Mn, Fe
 528 and K from mineral dust using method Sol-1 (Sol-2) were 0.28 (0.30) Tg, 16.89 (7.52) Gg, 1.32 (3.35) Tg,
 529 22.84 (6.95) Gg, 0.068 (0.06) Tg, and 0.15 (0.25) Tg to oceans and ice sheets.

530 **Fig.13 Percentages of elements in dust deposition (%) after tuning. It is tuned based on original percentages of elements in**
 531 **dust deposition in Fig. S1 by ratioing Obs./Mod. ratios listed in Table 3. Si did not change because there are not enough**
 532 **observational data available**

533 **Fig. 14 Fractional solubility of elements (soluble element / total element) in dust deposition (%):a. Mg, b. P, c. Ca, d. Mn, e.**
 534 **Fe, f. K, g. Al, h. Si**

535 **Fig. 15 Percentages of soluble elements in total dust deposition using(a) Sol-1 & (b) Sol-2 (%), Sol-1 refer to mineral method**
 536 **after tuning, Sol-2 refer to Sillanpaa method described in the methods section (2).**

537 **Table 4 Deposition of dust elements into different ocean basins and glaciers**

538 **4 Summary and Conclusions**

539 A new technique combining soil and mineralogical datasets is introduced to estimate the global emission
540 inventory of soil associated elements Mg, P, Ca, Mn, Fe, K, Al, and Si. The spatial elemental dust emissions,
541 transport and deposition are simulated using CESM from 2001-2010. Spatial variability of soil element
542 fractions is characterized globally (Fig 2), and shows that the use of a constant element fraction in dust across
543 the globe is not consistent with existing observational data for Ca and Al (Fig 10 and 11). There are few
544 observations for elemental distributions in source regions to verify these emission, concentration and
545 deposition simulations, but for some elements (Ca and Al), the soil elemental distribution combined with the
546 transported dust flux in the model better captures the percentage of chemical elements in dust concentrations
547 observed (Figure 10, 11). However, both Mg and Mn levels are underestimated by the model using the present
548 mineral maps. The correlation of the percent of elements at different sites is not statistically significant for
549 several elements (Mg, Mn, P and K), suggesting that improvements in the soil inventories or simulations is
550 required, although these results could also be due to low numbers of observations. The observations and model
551 results suggest the elemental fractions in dust varied globally and between different dust production regions,
552 especially for Ca with values from 1% to 30%. The ratio of Ca/Al, ranged between 0.1-5.0, and is confirmed as
553 an indicator of dust source regions (Zhang et al., 1997; Zhang et al., 2003; Sun et al., 2004a,b; Shen et al.,
554 2007). For Fe in TSP, the median of modeled fraction is 2.90%, less than the commonly assumed 3.5% Fe
555 used in dust models (e.g. Luo et al., 2008; Mahowald et al., 2008).

556 Seasonal variability of emission, concentration and deposition of most elements are simulated in the model.
557 Also, different soluble elemental datasets show that the fractional solubility of elements varies spatially.
558 Mineral dust element deposition fluxes into ocean basins are updated using a variable fractional elemental
559 inventory and could have potentially important impacts on evaluating their biogeochemical effects. This study
560 shows that soil emission inventories do a fairly good job at predicting dust elemental concentrations during
561 dust events, except for Mg and Mn. However, the high spatial heterogeneity in elemental distributions is not
562 captured in the model. Several sources of uncertainties exist in the model projections, the largest of which is
563 likely to be the assumptions in the soil mappings from soil types to minerals to elemental distributions. In the
564 future, these dust emission inventories can be combined with anthropogenic elemental inventories to further
565 improve our understanding of elemental deposition to the oceans.

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571

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Main Tables 1- 5

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843 **Table1a Generalized mineral compositions (%) applied in this study**

844 **Table1b Elemental solubility as a percentage of the element contained in the minerals (%)**

845 **Table 2 Ten year averaged emission rates (Tg/yr) and percentages of elements over desert regions (%)**

846 **Table 3 Comparison of modeled and observed fractions of chemical elements in TSP and tuning ratio based**
847 **on 14-site measurements**

848 **Table 4 Fractions (%) of elements in dust deposition into different ocean basins and ice sheets***

849 **Table 5 Deposition of dust elements into different oceans and ice sheets***

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Table1a Generalized mineral compositions (%) applied in this study

Mineral	Mg	P	Ca	Mn	Fe	Al	Si	K
Smectite	1.21	0.17	0.91	0.03	2.55	8.57	27.44	0.27
Illite	0.85	0.09	1.45	0.03	4.01	10.47	24.11	4.28
Hematite	0.09	0.18	0.12	0.07	57.50	2.67	2.11	0.07
Feldspar	0.15	0.09	3.84	0.01	0.34	10.96	25.24	5.08
Kaolinite	0.02	0.16	0.03	0.01	0.24	20.42	20.27	0.00
Calcite	0.00	0.00	40.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Quartz	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	46.70	0.00
Gypsum	0.00	0.00	23.30	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

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Table1b Elemental solubility as a percentage of the element contained in the minerals (%)

Mineral	Mg	P	Ca	Mn	Fe	Al	Si	K
Smectite	14.09	2.93	79.20	25.35	2.60	0.00	0.05	31.41
Illite	7.80	30.58	50.96	24.93	1.17	0.15	0.05	2.87
Hematite	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.39	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00
Feldspar	5.17	0.00	4.46	4.71	3.01	0.12	0.02	4.53
Kaolinite	22.32	0.00	21.97	0.00	4.26	0.38	0.37	0.00
Calcite	0.00	0.00	7.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Quartz	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0003	0.00
Gypsum	0.00	0.00	0.56	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

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*Fe content came from Journet et al. (2008), the other elements were from personal communication with E. Journet.

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864 **Table 2 Ten year averaged emission rates (Tg/yr) and percentages of elements over desert**

865 **regions (%)**

866 (For this table, annual mean emission of each element is divided by the annual mean emission of

867 dust to obtain the %.)

Source Regions	Mg	P	Ca	Mn	Fe	K	Al	Si	Dust
WAsia	0.91	1.77E-01	12.73	3.53E-02	5.53	3.70	16.71	72.43	251.17
NCAAsia	0.50	9.27E-02	6.05	1.80E-02	2.26	1.90	8.36	37.99	128.59
CAsia	0.13	2.54E-02	1.57	4.98E-03	0.70	0.55	2.35	9.77	33.82
SCAsia	0.05	1.07E-02	0.54	1.93E-03	0.29	0.22	1.04	4.07	13.91
EAsia	0.21	4.38E-02	1.62	8.16E-03	1.28	0.85	4.22	18.27	58.90
Asian Region	1.79	3.50E-01	22.52	6.84E-02	10.06	7.23	32.67	142.54	486.4
ESah	1.23	2.74E-01	11.98	4.83E-02	6.62	5.41	26.45	102.59	346.16
WSah	2.62	5.31E-01	30.67	1.01E-01	14.25	11.04	50.35	208.70	712.00
SNAf	0.02	1.17E-02	0.17	1.47E-03	0.37	0.12	1.25	4.33	13.98
SAf	0.01	3.10E-03	0.18	5.90E-04	0.11	0.06	0.31	1.34	4.46
Africa	3.89	8.20E-01	42.99	1.51E-01	21.34	16.63	78.36	316.96	1076.6
NWNAm	0.00002	4.70E-06	0.0001	8.00E-07	0.0002	0.0001	0.0005	0.0019	0.030
SWNAm	0.02	3.01E-03	0.16	6.00E-04	0.10	0.07	0.29	1.27	4.20
North America	0.02	3.02E-03	0.16	6.00E-04	0.10	0.07	0.29	1.27	4.2
SAm	0.0005	1.20E-04	0.01	2.00E-05	0.003	0.002	0.01	0.04	0.15
Patag	0.03	6.79E-03	0.27	1.32E-03	0.20	0.13	0.62	2.82	9.08
South America	0.03	6.91E-03	0.27	1.34E-03	0.21	0.13	0.63	2.86	9.2
WAstr	0.0005	1.30E-04	0.003	2.00E-05	0.003	0.002	0.01	0.05	0.16
EAstr	0.02	5.13E-03	0.20	9.10E-04	0.16	0.10	0.48	1.78	6.11
Australia region	0.02	5.26E-03	0.20	9.30E-04	0.17	0.10	0.49	1.83	6.3
Global	5.75	1.18E+00	66.14	2.22E-01	31.87	24.15	112.44	465.46	1582.7
Global mean % element	0.36	0.07	4.18	0.01	2.01	1.53	7.10	29.41	/
Min. % element in 15 SR*	0.17	0.07	1.19	0.01	1.67	0.86	6.50	28.84	/
Max. % element in 15 SR*	0.39	0.08	5.07	0.02	2.68	1.63	8.96	31.38	/

868 *SR refer to source regions

869

870 **Table 3 Comparison of modeled and observed fractions of chemical elements in TSP, and tuning**
 871 **ratio based on 13-site measurements. (For this table comparing the elemental ratios at the**
 872 **measurement sites, the % value at each time measured is averaged across time and space for this**
 873 **comparison.)**

	Mg	P	Ca	Mn	Fe	K	Al
Corr. coeff. Of Averaged Fractions	0.14	-0.32	0.75	-0.51	0.29	-0.16	0.72
Median of Obs. (%)	1.45	0.09	5.42	0.070	3.10	1.79	5.26
Median of Mod.(%)	0.43	0.08	3.41	0.020	2.29	1.54	7.81
Obs./Mod. Median Ratio (tuned ratio)	3.4	1.1	1.6	3.5	1.4	1.2	0.7

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875

876 **Table 4 Fractions (%) of elements in dust deposition into different ocean basins and ice sheets ***

Ocean Basins/Glacier	Mg	P	Ca	Mn	Fe	K	Al	Si**
North Atlantic	1.43	0.10	5.36	0.06	3.05	1.89	5.96	28.32
South Atlantic	1.50	0.10	5.36	0.06	3.35	1.84	6.01	28.07
North Pacific	1.56	0.10	5.92	0.06	3.26	1.90	5.78	28.01
South Pacific	1.47	0.10	5.30	0.06	3.87	1.86	6.15	27.61
North Indian	1.38	0.08	7.90	0.05	3.13	1.81	4.95	28.29
South Indian	1.53	0.10	6.50	0.06	3.64	1.87	5.88	27.33
Southern Ocean	1.56	0.10	5.12	0.06	3.74	1.88	5.88	28.25
Arctic	1.60	0.10	6.23	0.06	3.31	1.96	5.76	27.76
Mediterranean	1.37	0.08	7.14	0.05	2.90	1.88	4.85	29.14
Antarctic ice sheets	1.50	0.10	4.90	0.06	3.54	1.82	5.55	29.17
Greenland ice sheets	1.50	0.09	7.49	0.06	2.82	1.89	5.24	28.00
Averaged	1.49	0.10	6.11	0.06	3.33	1.87	5.64	28.18

877 *After timing tuned ratios (Table 3) except for Si

878 ** Not tuning

879 (For this table, annual mean deposition of each element is divided by the annual mean deposition of
 880 dust to obtain the %.)

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882

883

Table 5 Deposition of dust elements into different oceans and ice sheets *

Ocean / ice sheet	Mg (Tg/yr)		P (Gg/yr)		Ca (Tg/yr)		Mn (Gg/yr)		Fe (Tg/yr)		K (Tg/yr)							
	Total	Sol-1	Sol-2	Total	Sol-1	Sol-2	Total	Sol-1	Sol-2	Total	Sol-1	Sol-2						
North Atlantic	1.50	0.16	0.14	103.12	8.81	4.10	5.64	0.68	1.81	58.90	12.08	3.87	3.20	0.036	0.033	1.99	0.008	0.136
South Atlantic	0.13	0.01	0.02	8.84	0.79	0.38	0.47	0.06	0.17	5.17	1.07	0.34	0.30	0.003	0.003	0.16	0.007	0.014
North Pacific	0.28	0.03	0.03	17.47	1.66	0.65	1.06	0.13	0.33	10.58	2.25	0.58	0.58	0.007	0.006	0.34	0.014	0.025
South Pacific	0.01	0.001	0.001	0.86	0.07	0.04	0.04	0.006	0.01	0.50	0.10	0.03	0.03	0.0003	0.000	0.02	0.0007	0.001
North Indian	0.56	0.06	0.06	34.38	3.54	1.52	3.23	0.29	0.63	21.86	4.62	1.35	1.28	0.013	0.013	0.74	0.03	0.049
South Indian	0.05	0.005	0.005	3.03	0.30	0.20	0.20	0.02	0.05	1.85	0.39	0.16	0.11	0.001	0.001	0.06	0.002	0.004
Southern Ocean	0.002	0.0003	0.0003	0.15	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.001	0.003	0.09	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.0001	0.0001	0.00	0.0001	0.0002
Arctic	0.02	0.002	0.0020	1.34	0.13	0.05	0.09	0.01	0.02	0.83	0.18	0.04	0.05	0.0005	0.0004	0.03	0.001	0.002
Mediterranean	0.18	0.02	0.02	10.66	1.07	0.36	0.92	0.09	0.22	6.76	1.42	0.36	0.37	0.004	0.004	0.24	0.011	0.017
Antarctic ice sheets	0.001	0.0001	0.0001	0.08	0.007	0.003	0.00	0.001	0.002	0.05	0.01	0.003	0.00	0.00003	0.00003	0.00	0.0001	0.0001
Greenland ice sheets	0.09	0.01	0.01	5.39	0.49	0.21	0.44	0.04	0.10	3.30	0.71	0.19	0.17	0.002	0.002	0.11	0.005	0.007
Total	2.83	0.30	0.28	185.32	16.89	7.52	12.11	1.32	3.35	109.89	22.84	6.95	6.10	0.068	0.06	3.69	0.153	0.25

884 *Here the soluble element deposition using Sol-1 has been tuned by timing tuned ratios (Table 3); Sol-1 refer to mineral method after tuning, Sol-2 refer to Silanpaa method
885 described in the methods section (2).

886 **Main Figures 1- 15**

887 **Fig.1. Observational sites** (S1-Hetian, China; S2-Tazhong, China; S3-Yu Lin, China; S4-Duolun,
888 China; S5-Shengsi, China; S6-Hanoi, Vietnam; S7-Marnila, Philippines; S8- Balad, Iraq; S9-Balad,
889 Iraq; S10-Taji, Iraq; S11-Eilat; S12-Cape Verde Atmospheric Observatory (CVAO); S13-
890 Muswellbrook, Australia; S14-Richmond, Australia; S15-Tamanrasset, Algeria; S16-Banizoumbou,
891 Niger; S17-Douz, Tunisia) **and dust-producing regions** (WAsia: West Asia; NC-As: North Central
892 Asia; CAsia: Central Asia; SC-As: South Central Asia; EAsia:East Asia; WN-Af:North West Africa;
893 EN-Af: North East Africa; S-NAf: Southern North Africa; SAf: Southern Africa; MWNA: Middle
894 North West America; SWNA: Southern North West America; SAm1: Northern South America;
895 SAm2: Southern South America; WAus: West Australia; EAus: East Australia)

896 Fig.2 Global elemental distributions (in mass percentage) in a1: Clay Mg, a2: Clay P, a3: Clay Ca, a4: Clay Mn, a5:
897 Clay Fe, a6: Clay K, a7: Clay Al, a8: Clay Si; b1: Silt Mg, b2: Silt P, b3: Silt Ca, b4: Silt Mn, b5: Silt Fe, b6: Silt
898 K, b7: Silt Al, b8: Silt Si.

899 Fig.3 Global mean elemental percentages in (a) four-bin dust emission and (b) clay and silt fractions of soils (Bin1-4
900 refer to particle range listed in Table S2, clay refer to < 2 μ m, silt refer to > 2 μ m)

901 Fig.4 Percentages of elements in dust concentration (mass %) : a. Mg, b. P, c. Ca, d. Mn, e. Fe, f. K, g. Al, h. Si.
902 Elemental % shown here are calculated using the annual mean element concentration divided by the annual mean
903 dust concentration.

904 Fig.5 Ratio of mass fractions of elements in dust deposition to that in atmospheric dust : a. Mg, b. P, c. Ca, d. Mn, e.
905 Fe, f. K, g. Al, h. Si. Elemental ratios shown here are calculated using the annual mean element deposition divided
906 by the annual mean dust deposition.

907 Fig.6 Ten-year monthly variability in mean of elemental percentages in atmospheric dust (mass %) : a. Mg, b. P, c.
908 Ca, d. Mn, e. Fe, f. K, g. Al, h. Si. Elemental monthly mean % are calculated using the monthly mean emission of
909 each element divided by the monthly mean emission of dust.

910 Fig.7 Ten-year monthly variability in mean of elemental percentages in dust deposition (mass %):a. Mg, b. P, c. Ca,
911 d. Mn, e. Fe, f. K, g. Al, h. Si. Elemental monthly mean % are calculated using the monthly mean emission of each
912 element divided by the monthly mean emission of dust.

913

914 Fig.8 Ca/Al in Soil and ten year averaged Ca/Al ratio in dust emission, concentration and deposition. Top two (a,b)
915 refer to ratio in clay and silt desert soil, middle one (c) refer to ratio in dust emission, and bottom two (d,e) refer to

916 ratio in dust concentration and deposition. Elemental annual mean % are calculated using the annual mean
917 emission of each element divided by the annual mean emission of dust.

918 Fig.9 Ten year averaged Ca/Al ratio in (a) dust emission of source regions and (b) dust deposition into various ocean
919 basins and glaciers. Elemental ratios are calculated using the annual mean emission of Ca divided by the annual
920 mean emission of Al.

921 Fig.10 Comparison of observed and modeled mean fractions of elements at each site for (a) total
922 suspended particulates (TSP) and (b) PM_{2.5}. (1-Hetian, China; 2-Tazhong, China; 3-Yu Lin, China; 4-
923 Duolun, China; 5-Shengsi, China; 6-Hanoi, Vietnam; 7-Marnila, Philippines; 8-Balad, Iraq; 9-Baghdad,
924 Iraq; 10-Taji,Iraq; 11-Eilat; 12-Cape Verde Island; 13-Muswellbrook, Australia; 14-Richmond,
925 Australia, 15-Tamanrasset, Algeria; 16-Banizoumbou, Niger; 17-Douz, Tunisia). Here we calculate the
926 elemental fractions and average the fractions temporally for each site and compare to observations.
927

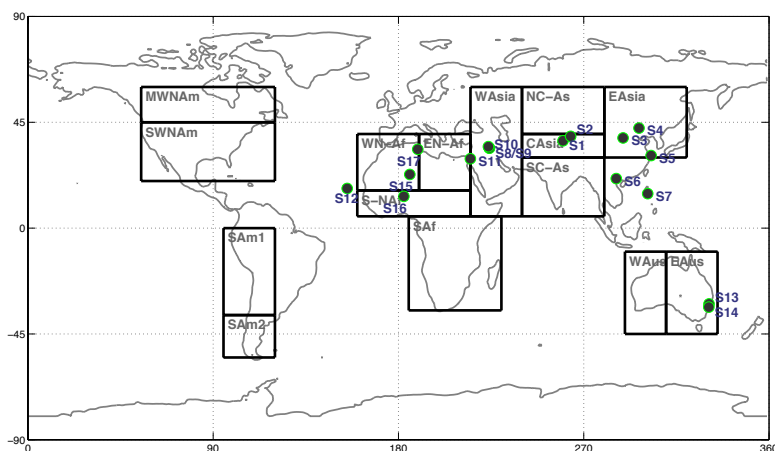
928 Fig.11 Mean and quartile modeled and observational fractions of elements in (a) TSP (b) PM_{2.5} for all
929 sites together, the box line presents 25%, 50% and 75%, individually. Here we calculate the elemental
930 fractions and average the fractions temporally for each site and compare to observations.
931

932 Fig.12 (a) Observational and (b) modeled dust deposition (g/m³/year). The scale is the same for both
933 panels. (c) A scatterplot shows the comparison between the model and observations. The correlation
934 coefficient between observations and model results reach 0.86.

935 Fig.13 Percentages of elements in dust deposition (%) after tuning. It is tuned based on original
936 percentages of elements in dust deposition in Fig. S1 by timing Obs./Mod. ratios listed in Table 3. Si
937 did not change because there are not enough observational data available

938 Fig. 14 Fractional solubility of elements (soluble element / total element) in dust deposition (%):a. Mg, b.
939 P, c. Ca, d. Mn, e. Fe, f. K, g. Al, h. Si

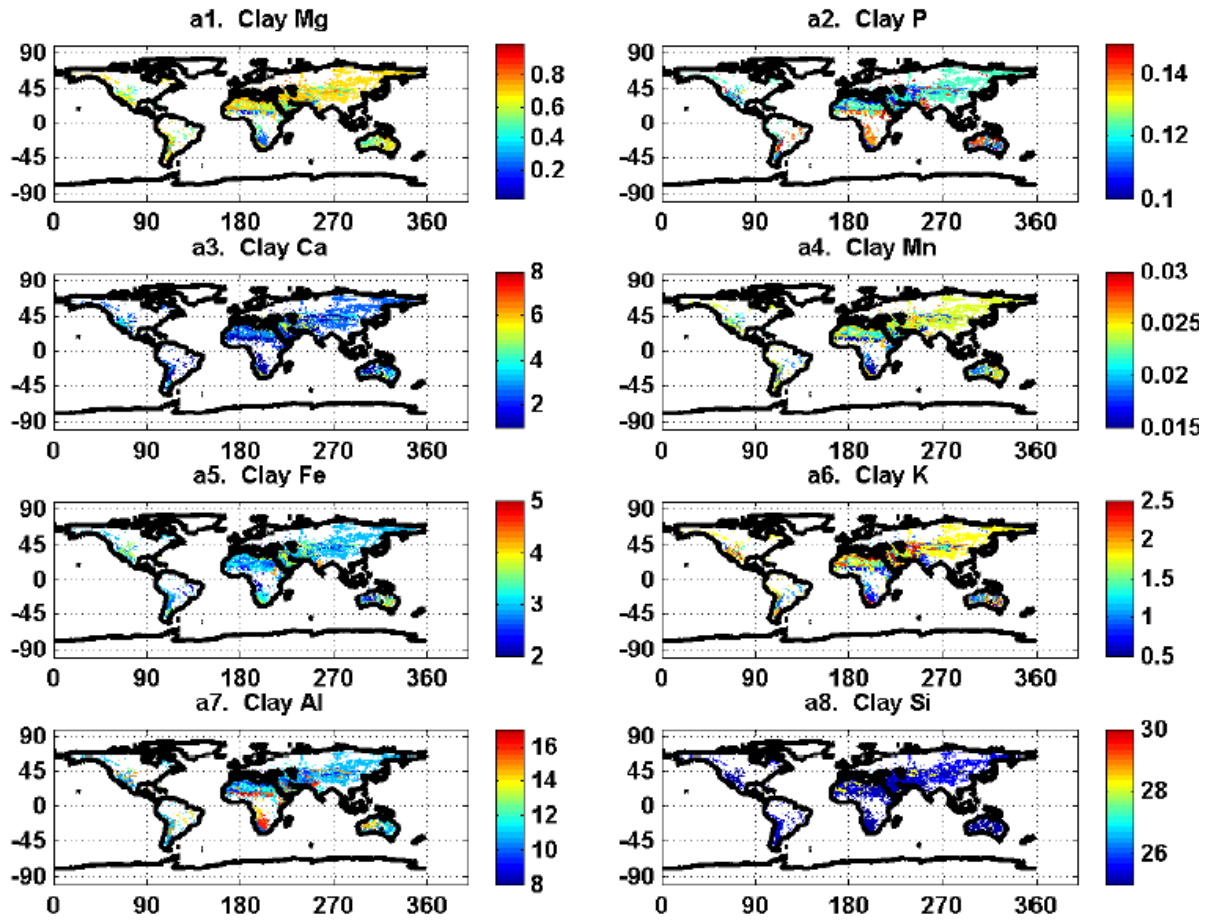
940 Fig. 15 Percentages of soluble elements in total dust deposition using(a) Sol-1 & (b) Sol-2 (‰), Sol-1
941 refer to mineral method after tuning, Sol-2 refer to Sillanpaa method described in the methods section
942 (2).



943

944 **Fig.1. Observational sites** (S1-Hetian, China; S2-Tazhong, China; S3-Yu Lin, China; S4-Duolun,
 945 China; S5-Shengsi, China; S6-Hanoi, Vietnam; S7-Marnila, Philippines; S8- Balad, Iraq; S9-Balad,
 946 Iraq; S10-Taji, Iraq; S11-Eilat; S12-Cape Verde Atmospheric Observatory (CVAO); S13-
 947 Muswellbrook, Australia; S14-Richmond, Australia; S15-Tamanrasset, Algeria; S16-Banizoumbou,
 948 Niger; S17-Douze, Tunisia) **and dust-producing regions** (WAsia: West Asia; NC-As: North Central
 949 Asia; CASia: Central Asia; SC-As: South Central Asia; EAsia:East Asia; WN-Af:North West Africa;
 950 EN-Af: North East Africa; S-NAf: Southern North Africa; SAF: Southern Africa; MWNAm: Middle
 951 North West America; SWNAm: Southern North West America; SAm1: Northern South America;
 952 SAm2: Southern South America; WAus: West Australia; EAus: East Australia)

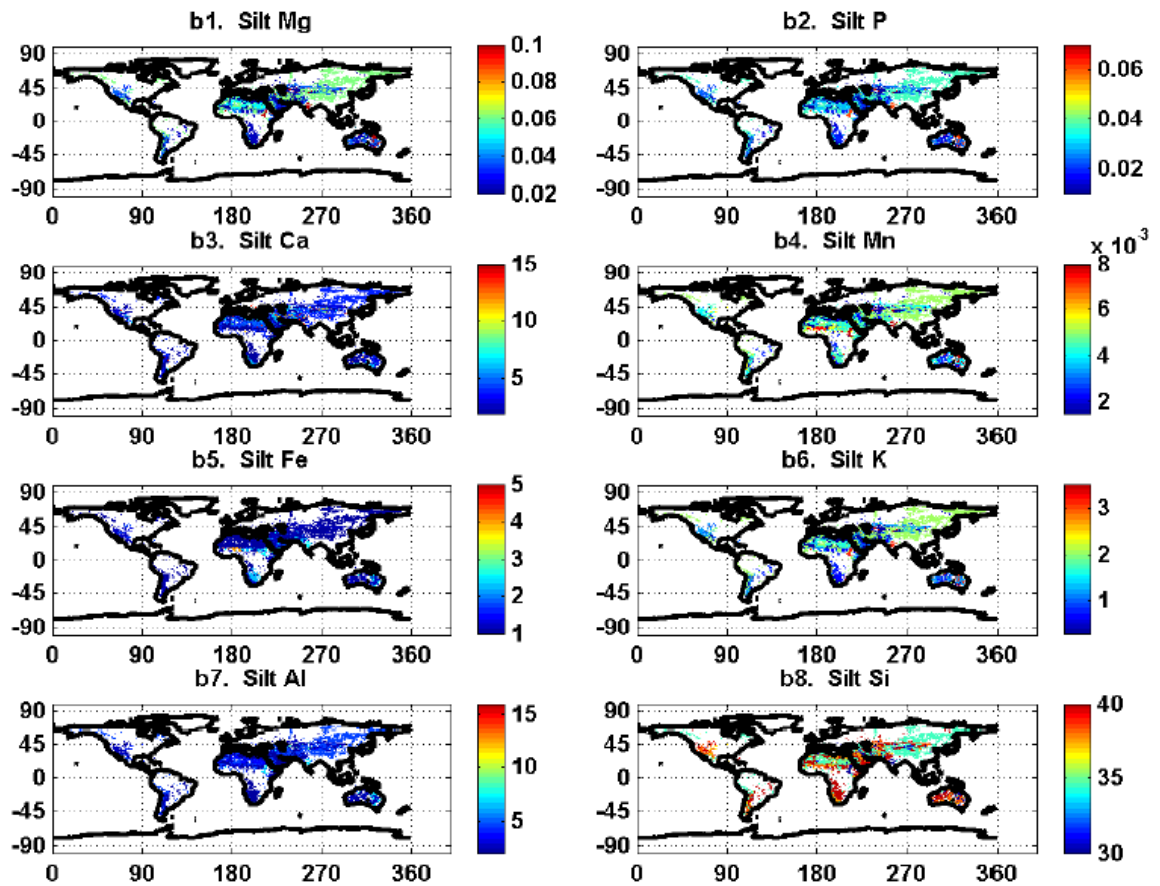
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(a) in soil clay

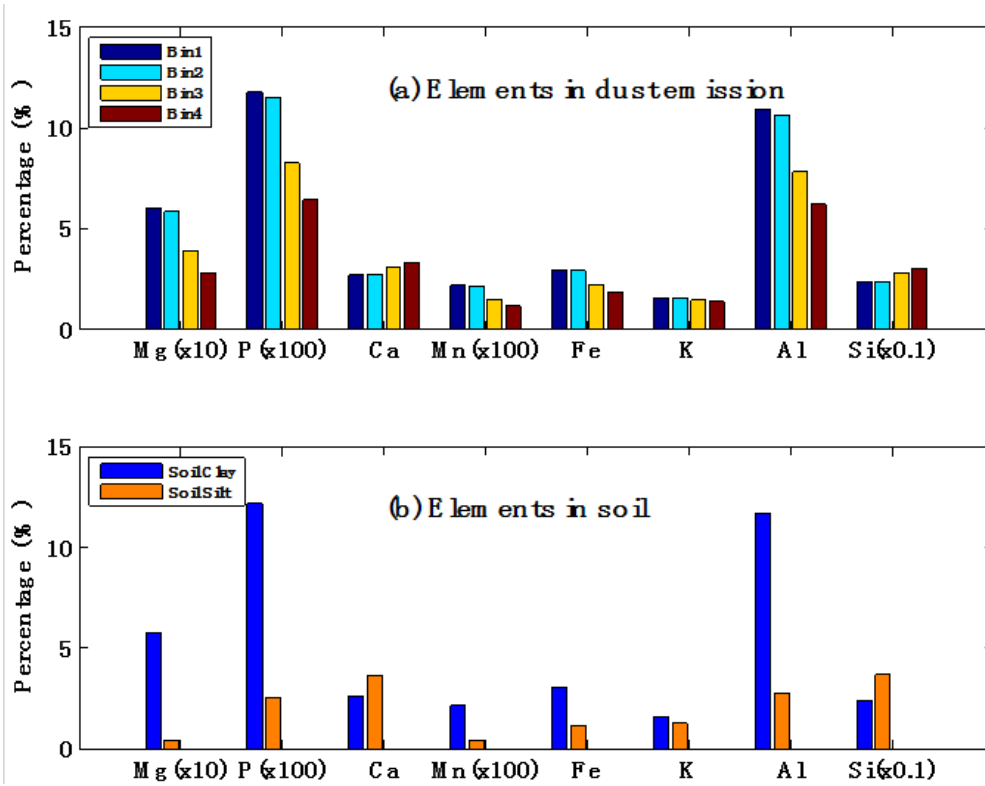


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(b) in soil silt

958 Fig.2 Global elemental distributions (in mass percentage) in (a) soil clay, a1: Clay Mg, a2: Clay P, a3: Clay Ca, a4:
 959 Clay Mn, a5: Clay Fe, a6: Clay K, a7: Clay Al, a8: Clay Si; (b) soil silt, b1: Silt Mg, b2: Silt P, b3: Silt Ca, b4:
 960 Silt Mn, b5: Silt Fe, b6: Silt K, b7: Silt Al, b8: Silt Si.

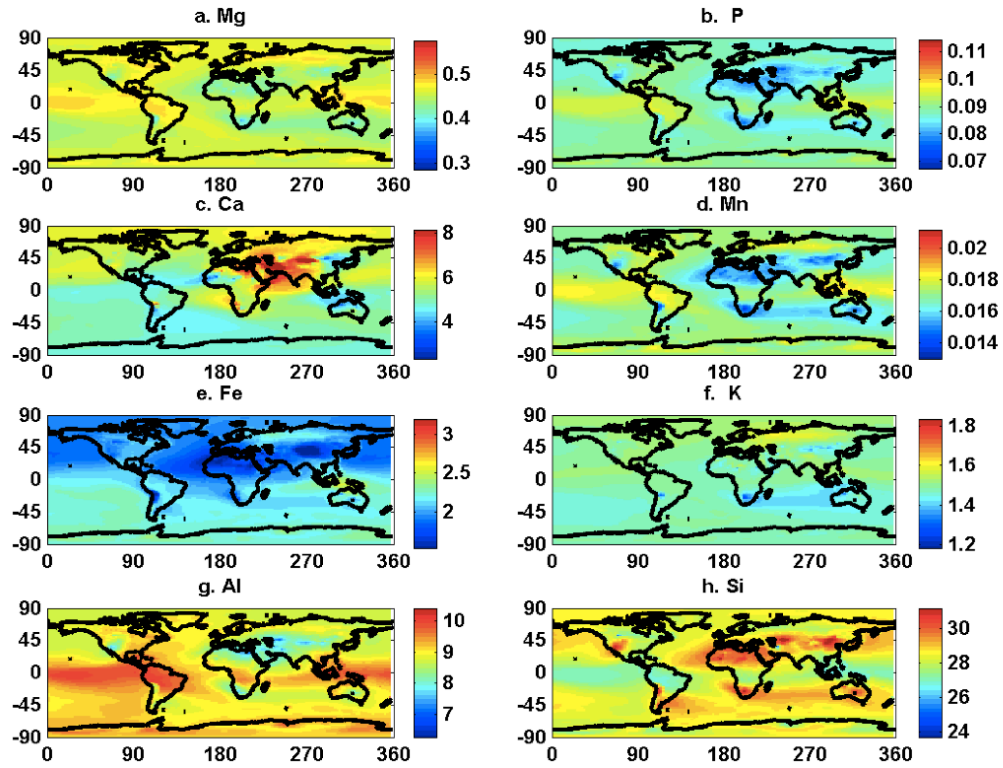


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962 Fig.3 Global mean elemental percentages in (a) four-bin dust emission and (b) clay and silt fractions of soils (Bin1-4
 963 refer to particle range listed in Table S2, clay refer to <2µm, silt refer to >2µm)

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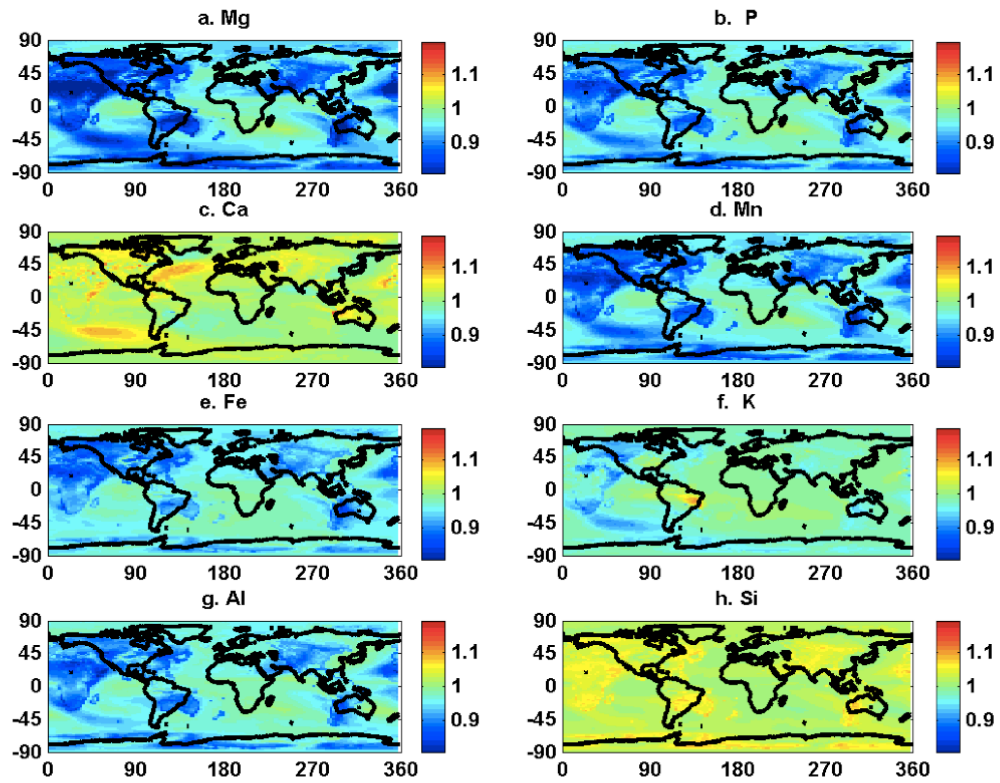
966

967 Fig.4 Percentages of elements in dust concentration (mass %) : a. Mg, b. P, c. Ca, d. Mn, e. Fe, f. K, g. Al, h. Si.

968 Elemental % shown here are calculated using the annual mean element concentration divided by the annual mean
969 dust concentration.

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971

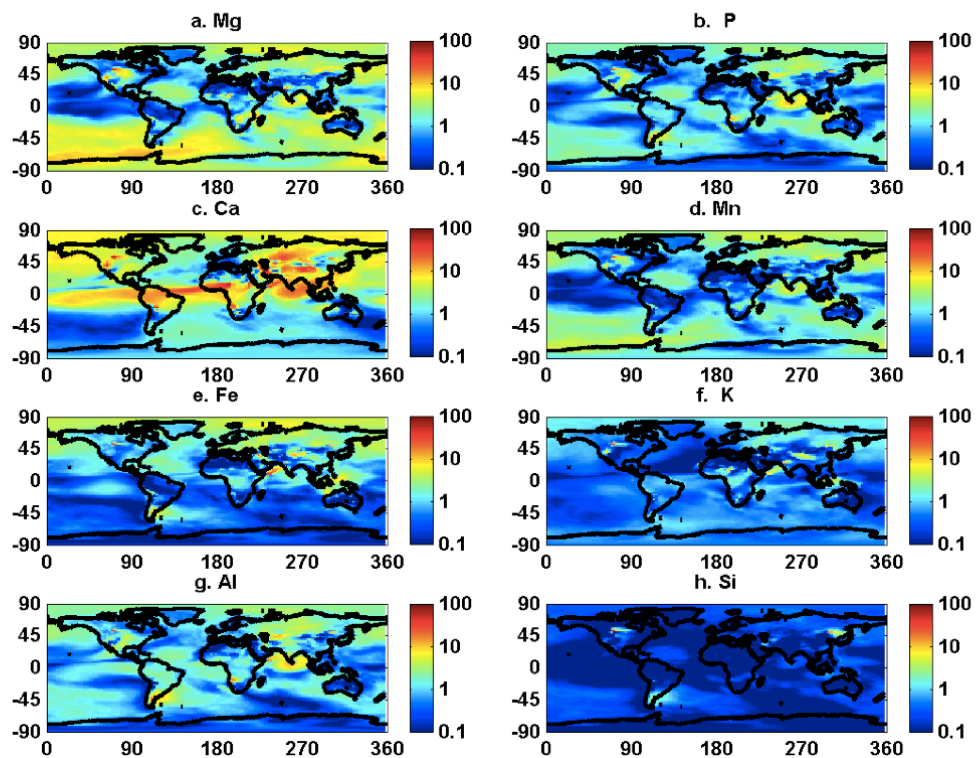


972

973 Fig.5 Ratio of mass fractions of elements in dust deposition to that in atmospheric dust : a. Mg, b. P, c. Ca, d. Mn, e.

974 Fe, f. K, g. Al, h. Si. Elemental ratios shown here are calculated using the annual mean element deposition divided

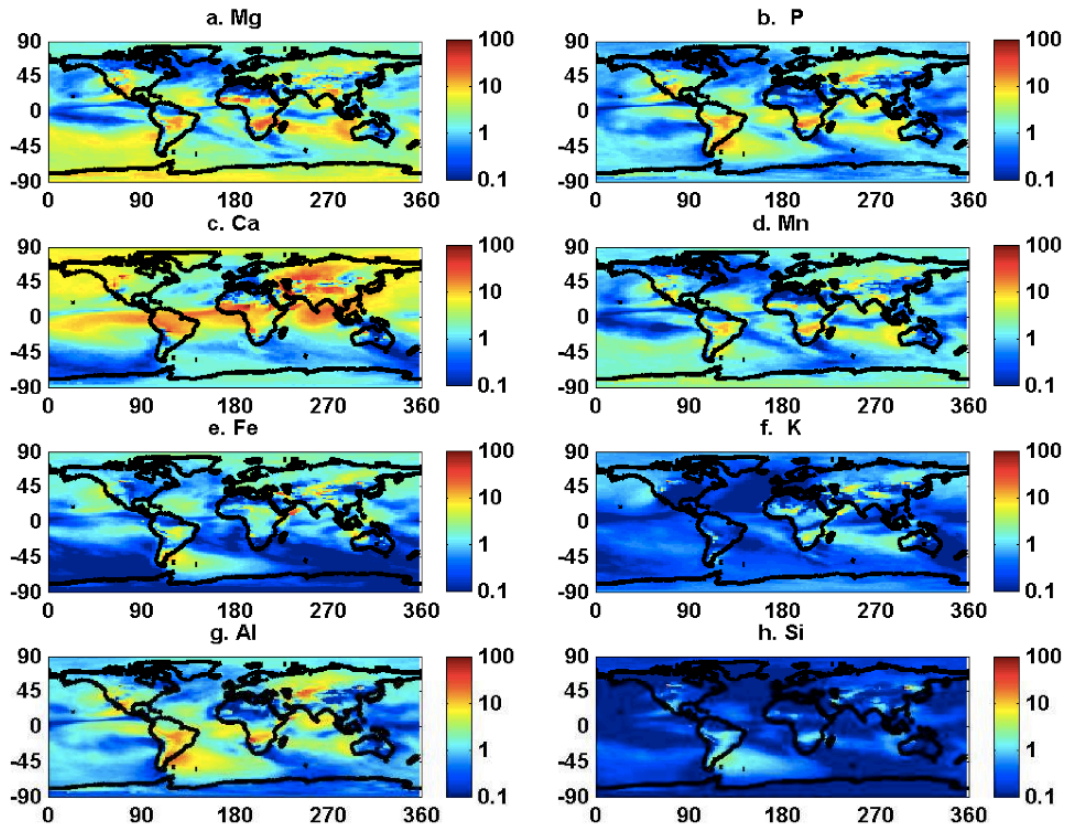
975 by the annual mean dust deposition.



976

977 Fig.6 Ten-year monthly variability in mean of elemental percentages in atmospheric dust (mass %) : a. Mg, b. P, c.
 978 Ca, d. Mn, e. Fe, f. K, g. Al, h. Si. Elemental monthly mean % are calculated using the monthly mean emission of
 979 each element divided by the monthly mean emission of dust.

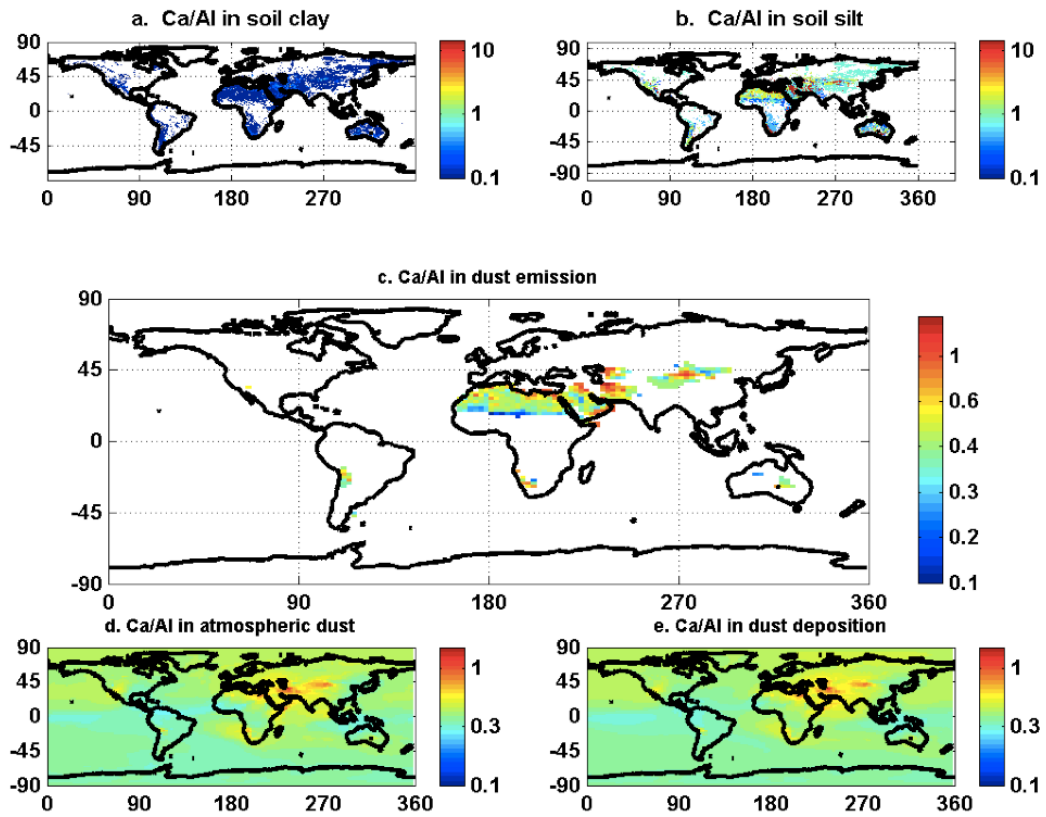
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981

982 Fig.7 Ten-year monthly variability in mean of elemental percentages in dust deposition (mass %):a. Mg, b. P, c. Ca,
 983 d. Mn, e. Fe, f. K, g. Al, h. Si. Elemental monthly mean % are calculated using the monthly mean emission of each
 984 element divided by the monthly mean emission of dust.

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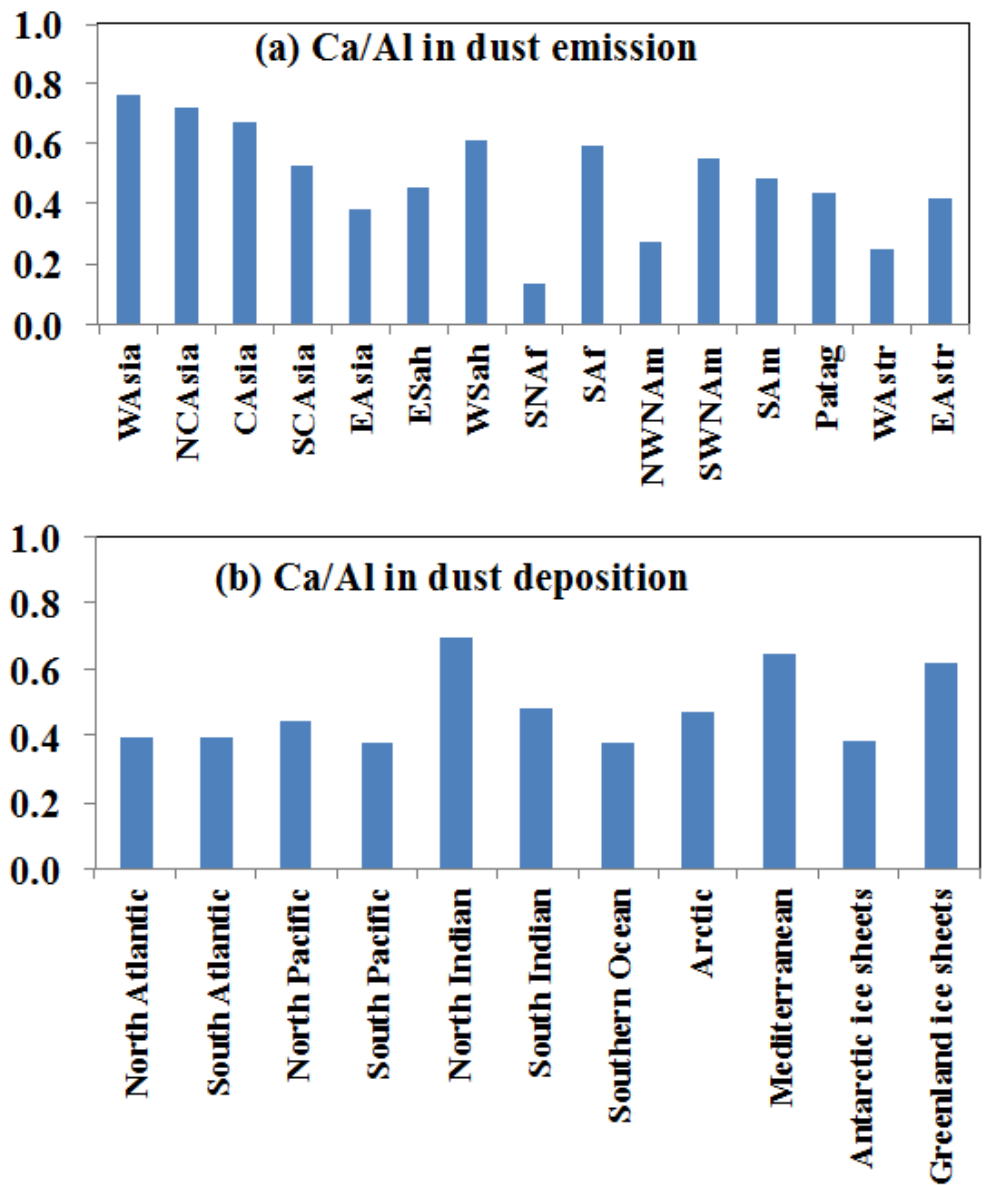


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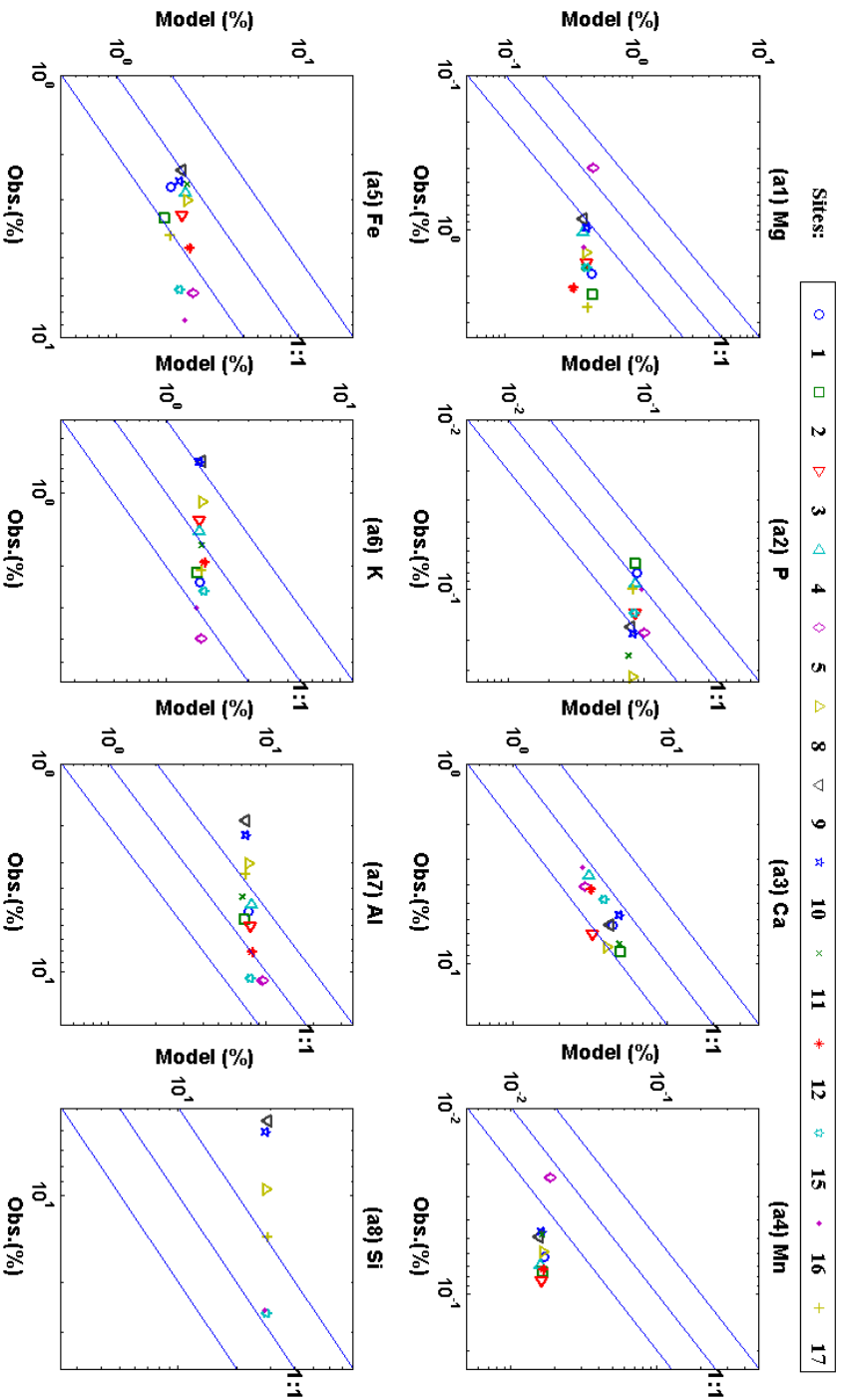
988 Fig.8 Ca/Al in Soil and ten year averaged Ca/Al ratio in dust emission, concentration and deposition. Top two (a,b)
 989 refer to ratio in clay and silt desert soil, middle one (c) refer to ratio in dust emission, and bottom two (d,e) refer to
 990 ratio in dust concentration and deposition. Elemental annual mean % are calculated using the annual mean
 991 emission of each element divided by the annual mean emission of dust.

992

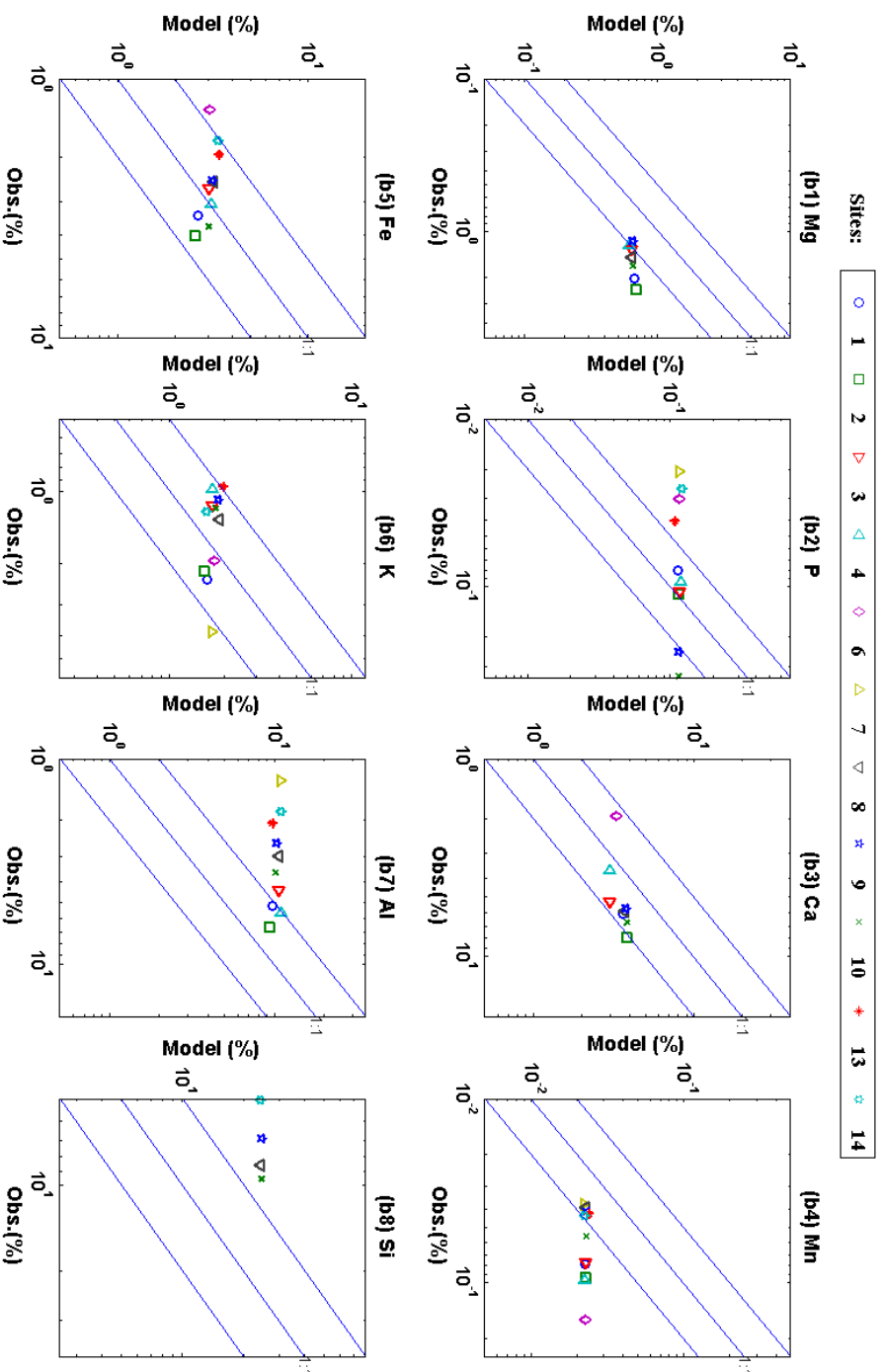


993

994 Fig.9 Ten year averaged Ca/Al ratio in (a) dust emission of source regions and (b) dust deposition into various ocean
 995 basins and glaciers. Elemental ratios are calculated using the annual mean emission of Ca divided by the annual
 996 ean emission of Al.



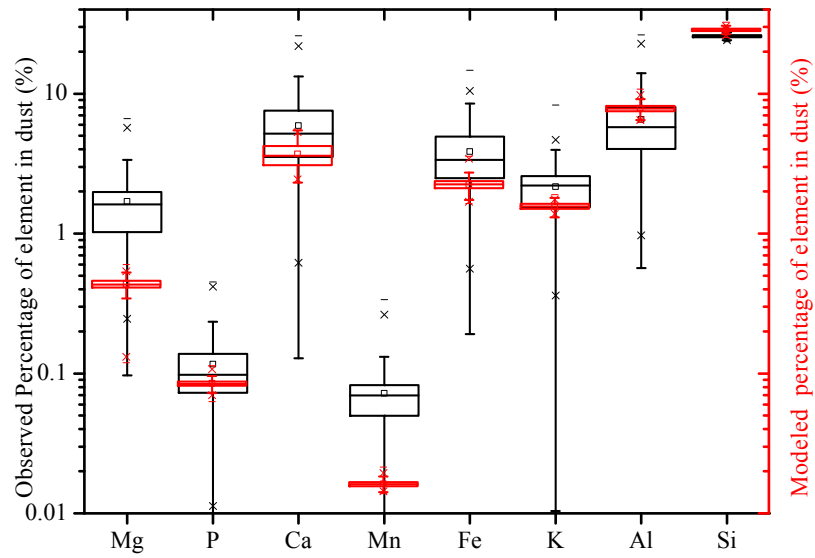
(a) TSP



(b) PM_{2.5}

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 1000
 1001 Fig.10 Comparison of observed and modeled mean fractions of elements at each site for (a) total suspended particulates (TSP) and (b) PM_{2.5}. (1-Heitan, China; 2-Tazhong,
 1002 China; 3-Yu Lin, China; 4-Duolun, China; 5-Shengsi, China; 6-Hanoi, Vietnam; 7-Marrila, Philippines; 8-Balad, Iraq; 9-Baghdad, Iraq; 10-Taji,Iraq; 11-Eilat; 12-Cape Verde
 1003 Island; 13-Muswellbrook, Australia; 14-Richmond, Australia, 15-Tamanasset, Algeria; 16-Banizoumbou, Niger; 17-Douz, Tunisia). Here we calculate the elemental fractions
 1004 and average the fractions temporally for each site and compare to observations.

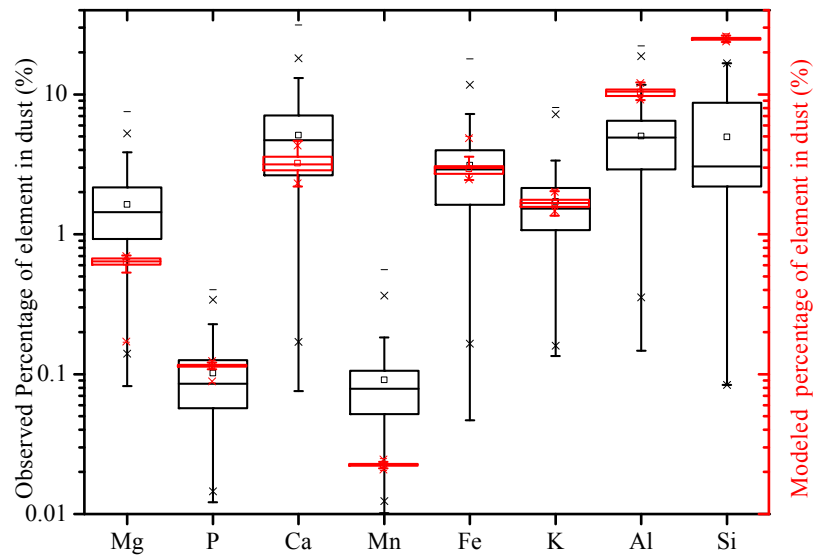
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(a) TSP

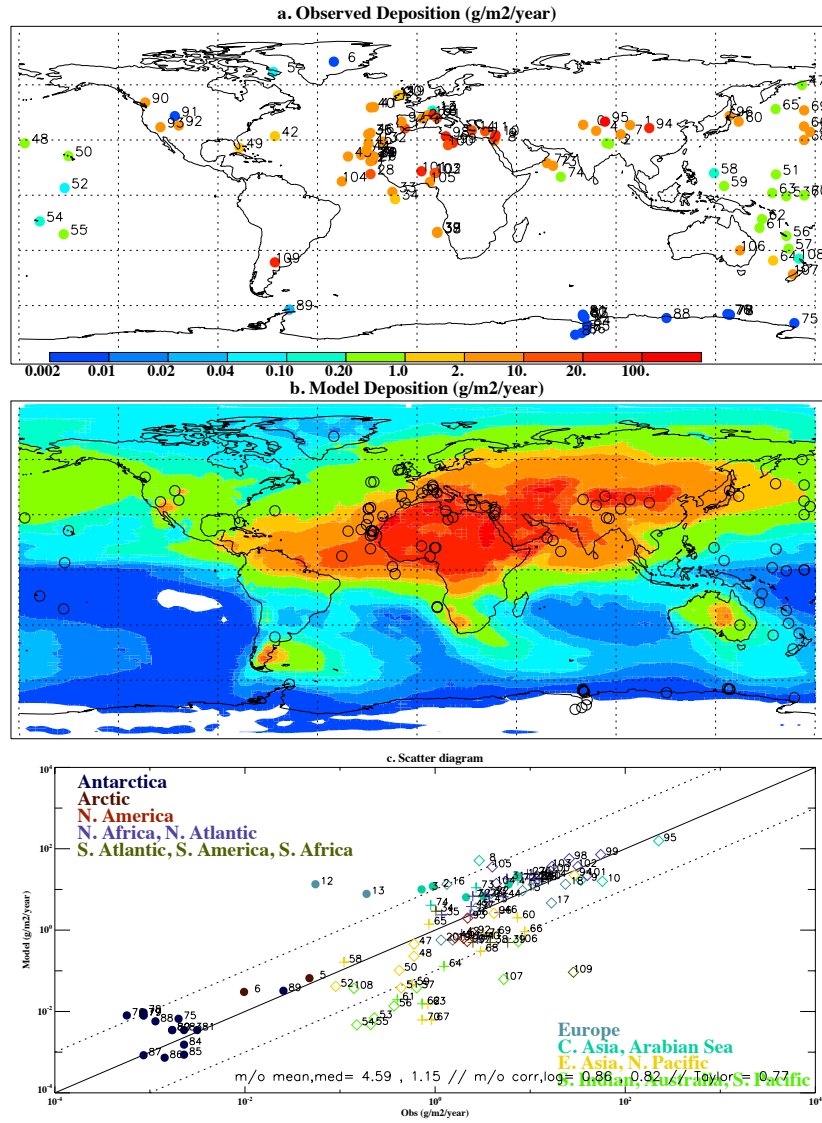


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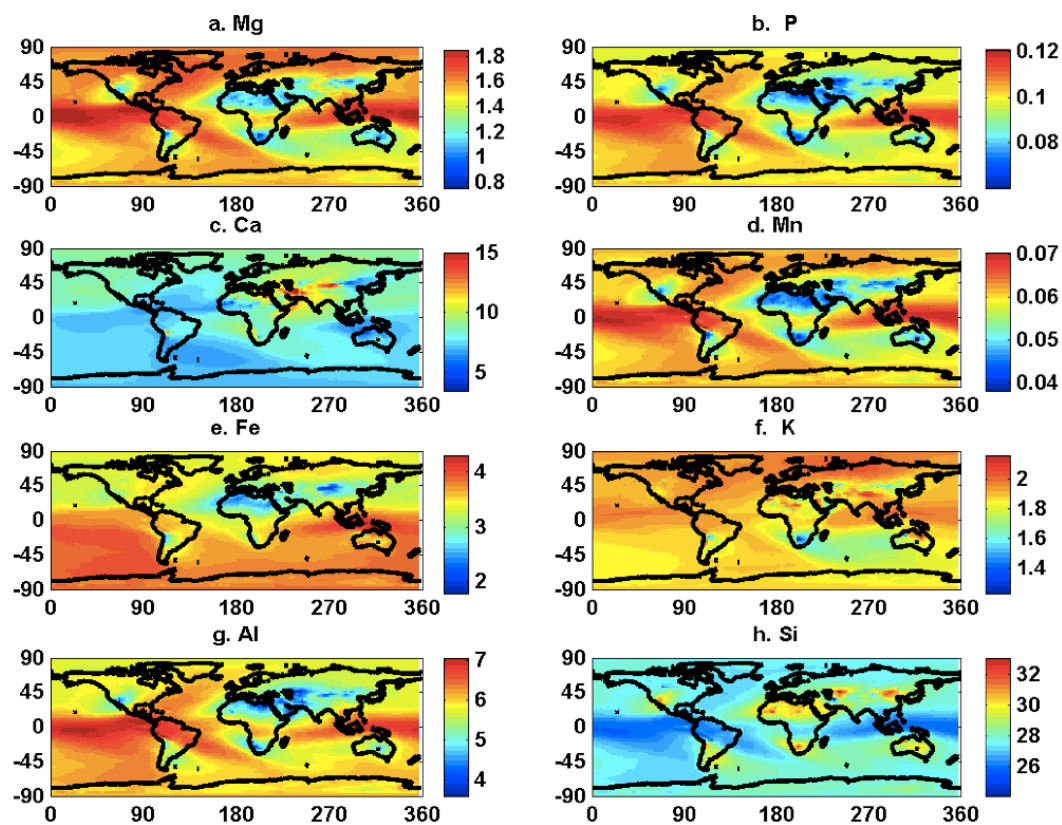
(b) PM_{2.5}

1010 Fig.11 Mean and quartile modeled and observational fractions of elements in (a) TSP (b) PM_{2.5} for all
1011 sites together, the box line presents 25%, 50% and 75%, individually. Here we calculate the elemental
1012 fractions and average the fractions temporally for each site and compare to observations.



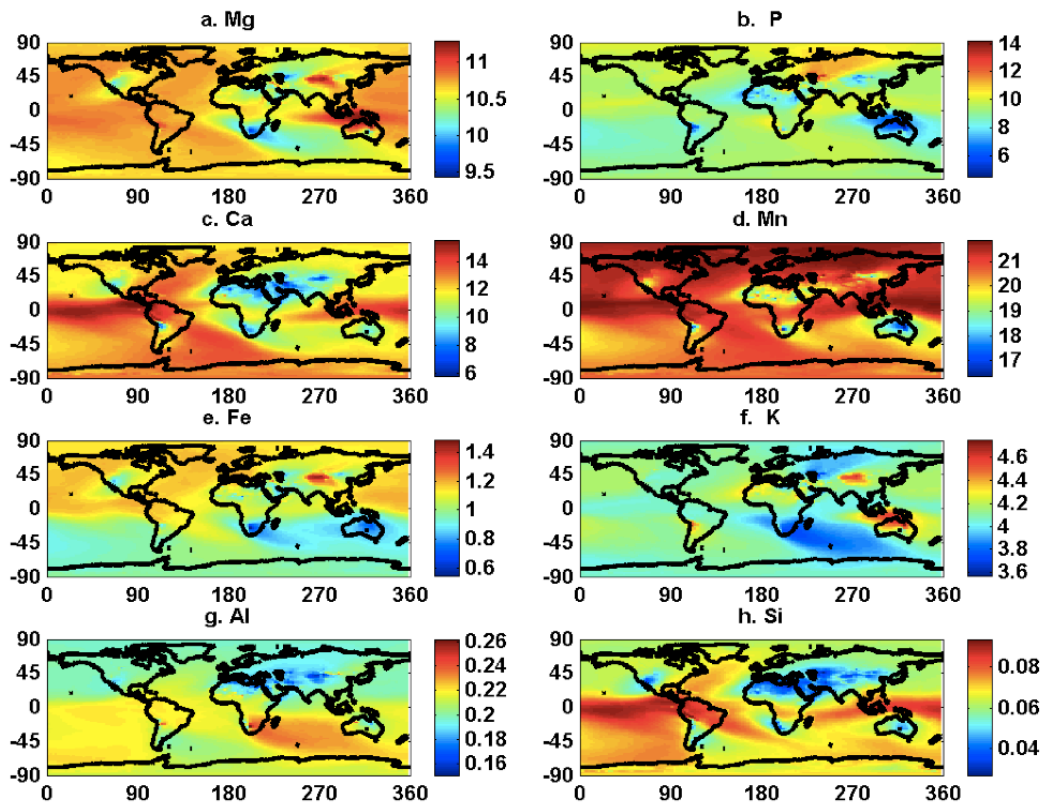
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1014 Fig.12 (a) Observational and (b) modeled dust deposition (g/m³/year). The scale is the same for both
 1015 panels. (c) A scatterplot shows the comparison between the model and observations. The correlation
 1016 coefficient between observations and model results reach 0.86.



1017

1018 Fig.13 Percentages of elements in dust deposition (%) after tuning. It is tuned based on original
 1019 percentages of elements in dust deposition in Fig. S1 by timing Obs./Mod. ratios listed in Table 3. Si
 1020 did not change because there are not enough observational data available



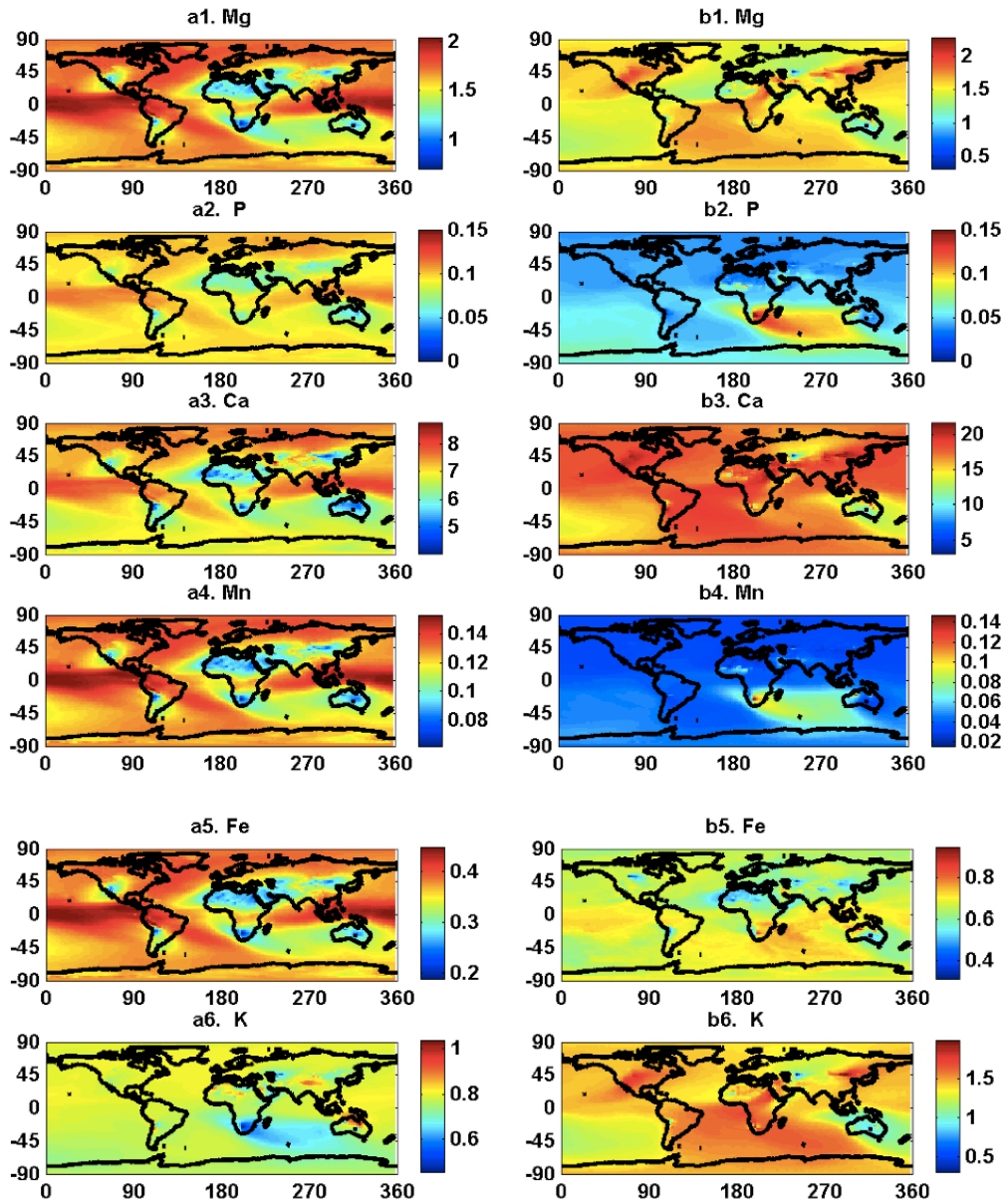
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1022 Fig. 14 Fractional solubility of elements (soluble element / total element) in dust deposition (%):a. Mg, b.

1023 P, c. Ca, d. Mn, e. Fe, f. K, g. Al, h. Si

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1025



1028 Fig. 15 Percentages of soluble elements in total dust deposition using(a) Sol-1 & (b) Sol-2 (%), Sol-1
1029 refer to mineral method after tuning, Sol-2 refer to Sillanpaa method described in the methods section
1030 (2).

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