Review comments are in black, while responses to the reviewer are in red. When text from the manuscript is quoted, new text is in bold face. The authors would like thank both reviewers for both their positive feedback, as well as their constructive criticism, which improved the manuscript. We revise the text as suggested by the reviewers.

Anonymous Referee #1:

1 General comments

The modelling study by Zhang et al. that is presented here attempts to assess the effect of the spatial variability in the elemental composition of dust sources on the transport and deposition of trace elements by dust. Presently, the deposition of trace elements is often calculated from bulk dust deposition, assuming a fixed elemental composition of dust; given that dust sources can differ quite dramatically in their elemental composition this is a significant progress and certainly justifies publication in Biogeosciences.

The first step in the study by Zhang et al. is the compilation of a map of soil elemental composition using a high resolution soil data set from the FAO, then estimating the fractions of different minerals in the different soils, following Claquin et al. (1999) and Nickovic et al (2012), finally combining them with data sets on the elemental composition of different minerals from the literature. As the authors acknowledge, the assumptions on the mineral composition of soil types likely underestimates the variability present. The authors also note that impurities in gypsum, calcite and quartz can lead to variability in trace elements that is disregarded here. Very likely thus the spatial variability in dust source elemental composition is underestimated by the approach taken here; nevertheless, the first-order-trends are likely correct. For iron, similar attempts have been undertaken by Nickovic et al. (2013) (side-note: Only the precursor to that paper, Nickovic et al., 2012, is cited) and Journet et al. (2014), but the extension to more elements is a significant step that also allows a better validation.

The second step is then to calculate the the emission, transport and deposition of this dust, using the Community Earth System Model that has already been widely used for dust transport modelling before. The novel aspect here is that the model now transports the different elements individually, so that at each point in space and time the elemental composition varies.

Finally, in a third step the modeled elemental composition of dust and of dust deposition are verified by comparing them to a dataset of ground-based observation at a number of sites around the world.

Although the results of the validation are somewhat mixed, the paper presents a significant step forward, and I think the paper should be published after suitable revision.

However, before coming to my points of criticism, I'd like to mention that the whole paper is still written in an English that contains too many errors to list all of them at the end of this review, so I will limit myself to listing only a subset. In this form the paper cannot be published and I would urge the native English speaking coauthors to help the first author to rewrite it.

We thank the reviewer for their comments, and have worked to ensure that the English is improved in the resubmitted version.

2 Main points of criticism

For the review of the paper I have several main points that I would like the authors to answer:

Firstly, the transport of the different elements in the dust by the earth system model is applied to each element individually; in reality, the elements are bound together in different particles of variable composition. The assumption of individual elemental transport is likely to introduce some smoothing, i.e. an error. The situation is similar to that in marine ecosystem models with variable stoichiometry, where the variable stoichiometry of individual hytoplankton cells is mixed through by the ocean models advection and diffusion. For the latter case, Christian (2007) has examined the magnitude of the error introduced by that assumption (and generally found it to be handle-able); maybe the authors could have a look into that paper and come up with a similar argumentation?

In CESM, we treat eight elements as tracers in model, like dust. As the reviewer says, by splitting the dust into parts, we are introducing an error; usually most of this error comes from the advection algorithm itself. Of course, there is no advection algorithm that is mass conserving, monotonic, shape preserving and computationally efficient. There is quite a bit of literature on this issue, and we are using a state-of-the-art advection algorithm, which minimizes many of these issues. Because in our methodology we did not include every element that is in dust, we cannot explicitly examine the size of this error, but from other studies (including the one cited) we can assume it is not a large source of error for our calculation, but rather the errors associated with the source mineralogy is probably larger. We add in the following paragraph in the methods section:

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

And we also add in a sentence in the conclusions highlighting that we think the soil map is the largest source of uncertainty in this study.

Secondly, the authors validate their model to a large extent with averaged elemental fractions in dust (line 21 to 23 on page 17505), but do not describe adequately how they calculated the average. Did they calculate the elemental fractions and then average those temporally for each location, or did they first average the amount of element and dust (or element and dust flux) at

a location and then form the ratio of the two? And then, averaging the elemental fractions at the different validation sites, did they weigh the fractions by the amount of dust or dust flux? Depending on what you do the results may differ quite a bit. It would be interesting to see method of averaging affect e.g. the elemental fraction of iron (lines 8-10 in page 17506).

This is an important point, and we agree that we should discuss this more. We add in the following calculation into the section identified by the reviewer, and we add to each table and figure caption how the % is calculated to be clear. In this study we calculate the elemental fractions and average those temporally for each site. We have added the following paragraph into the paper to illustrate this point better:

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

Thirdly, the authors describe that the comparison between modeled and observed elemental fractions is not very good for two elements, namely magnesium and manganese (see e.g. the correlations in table 3). However, the authors do not discuss why that is. I suspect that it has to do with the uncertainty in the assumed average mineral composition (table 1); calcite e.g. often contains quite a bit of magnesium, but the assumed fraction in table 1 is zero. Maybe the authors could try to discuss the propagation of errors in table 1 onto their results a bit.

This is a very good question to answer. Originally we just discussed in paper separately with Table1 using **"Underestimation of Mg and Mn could be due to a deficiency of minerals contaning high concentrations of Mg and Mn in our model, as dolomite(MgCO3) or palygorskyte ((Mg,Al)2Si4O10(OH)·4(H2O)) are often identified in dust particles for Mg. Moreover, it is known that the chemical composition of minerals could be variable according to the regional origin of minerals and possible impurities. For example, the Mg content in calcite ranges from 0% to 2.7% in the natural environment."** Now we have added in P17507 with the sentence of **"But in this study, the assumed fraction of Mg in Calcite is zero because we took Calcite as a pure mineral (see Table 1). So the underestimation of Mg in dust could be a propagation of errors in previous compositions in minerals considered in this study".**

Fourthly, and most importantly, the authors use the ratio of the median elemental fraction in model and observations (documented in table 3) to 'tune' their results. This is a quite drastic step, and I wondered what the justification for that step is. I think the authors should give more reasons for this step than just the last line in table 3. Does it bring the models closer to

the observations at all measurement sites uniformly? Does it reduce bias? What is the variance ratio between model and data?

For the tuning ratio, we aim to bring the models closer to the observations at all measurement globally, i.e. uniformly, so that downstream users (e.g. oceanographers), can use more accurate estimates. From observations, we have found a wide range in fractions of elements in individual site and all sites together, the ratio of the maximum and minimum in measured fractions could reach more than 700 for element K, and more than 200 for Ca and Mn. Using the ratio of averaged ones could introduce a bigger bias. So it is safer to choose a tuning ratio of medians from model and observation to adapt our model result. We add in a discussion of our motivation and the rationale better in the new text in Section 3.4. A better solution would be to solve the problem at the source, of course, which is why we highlight the problem (as discussed in the previous comment by the reviewers). We add text to better explain this point at beginning of Section 3.5.

And finally, at the present size many the figures resemble more a stamp collection and are almost completely useless to the reader. The authors should think about ways to present their results in a form that allows the reader to have a look without magnifying glasses.

We have revised the figures to make them more readable. Please note that an additional problem is that the discussion paper uses a square format, while the final paper will have the figures be rectangular, and thus will be larger using the format we use here.

3 An incomplete list of typographical, language and other errors

The list of smaller language errors would quite long, and I have therefore not listed minor ones, such as omitted 'the' etc.

Page 17497: many errors on this page; one example: line 27, 'calculating' should be 'calculation'

In updated manuscript the 'calculating' has been changed into 'calculation'.

Page 17498: What does the sentence 'Here the mineral dependent method is defined as M1' mean? I have no idea.

To compare the mineral method with silianpaa method, we define the mineral method as Method 1. For the clarity, we have rewritten this sentence to **"Here the mineral dependent method to calculate soluble element is defined as method 1 (Sol-1). To present uncertainties, the other approach (Method 2, defined as Sol-2) is introduced as reference. It is based on the extractable elemental fraction of in-situ 20μm sieved soil samples, reported by Silianpaa (1982) (Table S1) to combine with FAO soil dataset to get a global soluble elemental inventory independent of soil minerals"**.

Page 17502, lines 4-5: What does the sentence want to say?

We mean the global source areas are emitting dust with variable elemental fractions so differentiating in soil elements in source areas in model is necessary and meaningful. We have rewritten this sentence into **"The simulated elemental fractions in dust suggest the differentiating in elements in soils between global source areas is neccessary and**

meaningful" to make the clarity.

Page 17502: Many small errors, like missing empty spaces between word, missing word like 'are found (in) dust' Page 17502, lines 23-25: what is a 'relative location'? I don't understand the sentence. The importance of something adds complexity in applying something else?

We have tried to fix the errors listed here and other similar errors in the updated manuscript.

Page 17503, lines 15 ff: 'The monthly variability is calculated by': No, the variability is something that is already defined. I would write 'An index describing montly vaiability..

Yes, the sentence has been changed into **"An index describing monthly variability is calculated by".**

Page 17504, lines 22-24: Where is the verb in that sentence? Page 17508, lines 16-18: Sentence unclear. Table 2, column 1: textbfAfrica -> **Africa**

Here "yielded" is a verb. The sentence of "Due to the high Ca/Al ratio (4.0-10.0) in a range of desert soils in some regions including South Africa, yielded Ca/Al ratios in dust emissions of 1.0, being much larger than those from North Africa." has been changed in **"The high Ca/Al ratio (4.0-10.0) in a range of desert soils in some regions including South Africa, yields a Ca/Al ratio in dust emissions of 1.0, being much larger than those from North Africa"**.

Page 17508, lines 16-18 has been changed into **"The Greenland ice sheet accounted for the dominant part of receiving elements deposition to ice sheets regions, which is equal to the total amount of elements deposited in the whole of the South Atlantic Ocean."**

Table 3: Capitalization of words in column 1 needs to be checked

Table 4: caption: ifferent -> different

footnote b: tunning -> tuning

We have tried our best to fix all the errors listed here and other errors in the updated manuscript.

Table 5: I don't understand the footnote! Also, the table is much too small to be read

Figure 4: Why do the right and left panels have different sizes? Also the colourmap in d) is different from the others. Figure 5: All colorscales are identical! This is probaly wrong. Figure 13: The text in the caption is almost un-understanable

For the footnote of Table 5, it means the modeled element deposition has been tuned to adapt the model results to the observed element. It is changed into **"*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 Sillanpaa method described in the methods section (2)"** to make it more clear.

For Figure5, the colorbar scale is identical due to the value means the ratio of the elemental fraction in atmospheric dust and dust deposition. It is the same order for all the elements.

For Figure 13, the caption has been changed into **"The percentages of elements in dust deposition (%) after tuning. It is tuned based on original percentages of elements in dust deposition in Fig. S1 by timing Obs./Mod. ratios listed in Table 3. Si did not change**

because there are not enough observational data available."

References not already present in the manuscript

Christian, J.R. (2007). Advection in plankton models with variable elemental ratios. Ocean Dynamics, 57(1), 63-71. doi:10.1007/s10236-006-0097-7

Nickovic, S., Vukovic, A., and Vujadinovic, M. (2013). Atmospheric processing of iron carried by mineral dust. Atmos. Chem. Phys., 13, 9169–9181, doi:10.5194/acp-13-9169-2013, 2013.

The references above have been cited in the updated manuscript.

Anonymous Referee #2

The paper presents a method of using soil mineral maps to model the elemental content of atmospheric dust. The paper focuses on eight elements (Mg, P, Ca, Mn, Fe, K, Al, and Si), which are mostly of importance for ocean biogeochemistry. The technique represents an attempt to improve upon models that assume fixed fractions for these elements to simulate ocean deposition. This is a daunting task, since gridded soil maps can not capture all of the regional mineralogical variabilities, the range of elemental concentrations in soils and minerals is quite large, and the concentrations of minerals and elements in soils is different than the concentrations of minerals and elements in the atmosphere. Although the description of the model is quite brief in this paper and I am not a modeler, I suspect that many of the model parameterizations required to simulate elemental concentrations in the atmosphere are rudimentary at the present time. Nonetheless, this work is important for evaluating and improving key linkages between soil and atmospheric aerosol composition, and the effect dust deposition on ocean biogeochemisty. I have only minor comments that should be considered before publication.

We thank the reviewer for the very helpful comments, and revise the text to clarify the points addressed by the reviewer. We also agree that this is a first step, and insert a sentence in the conclusions discussing that we think the largest source of uncertainty is in the soil map conversion to elements in the source regions.

There are a few spelling errors here and there. For instance, words like fractionsof, dustis, and observedin appear on line 19 of page 12. This may have occured in the typesetting process, but a spell checker could easily weed out these problems.

Thank you for identifying these typographic and English errors: we have tried to improve the English in the text and correct some errors in the updated manuscript.

There are some grammar issues in a few places: line 28 on page 15, line 28 on page 16.

Page 7, line 5 and Table 1b: I find it a little odd that the authors are citing "personal communication" with one of the co-authors. Perhaps "unpublished data" would be more appropriate?

Yes, it is already changed into “unpublished data”.

Pages 8 & 13: SD is never defined. I know that it means standard deviation, but it might be a small barrier for some readers.

SD is defined in the updated manuscript.

Page 15, line 23: I don’t know that I would say that the model and observations are generally consistent in Figure 10, but then again, I am having a really hard time analyzing such small figures. At first glance, I see a lot of red bars that are much higher than the blue bars. Perhaps a scatter plot with a 1:1 line would be more appropriate for such a comparison? You could use different shapes and colors of the points for the various sites. At any rate, figures are important for "hooking" your readers into reading more, and these small panels will hook few people.

As you suggested, we have used the scatter plot to replace the bar figure in the updated manuscript. It is clear the values are close to 1:1 line (most in the range of 2:1 and 1:2 line) for most elements at most sites except for Mg, Mn and Si.

Figure 2: Way to many world maps for one figure – break it up!

We have split Fgiure2 to 2 pages to make the size bigger.

Figure 10: Figure panels are also way too small, and the resulting axes fonts are too small, too. Try to limit yourselves to four panels per figure.

Figure 10 has been replotted. Also all the figures in our paper has been reorganized and are much more readable.

Title:

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 radiatiave 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

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and observed elemental fractions range from 0.7 to 1.6, except for Mg and Mn (3.4 and 3.5, respectively). Using the soil database improves the correspondence of the spatial hetereogeneity in the modeling of several elements (Ca, Al and Fe) compared to observations. Total and soluble dust element fluxes to different ocean basins and ice sheet regions have been estimated, based on the model results. Annual inputs of soluble Mg, P, 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, 0.068Tg, and 0.15 Tg to global oceans and ice sheets.

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

1 Introduction

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

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

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

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

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

2 Materials and Methods

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2.1 Soil and mineral datasets

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

The elemental compositions of hematite and aluminosilicate minerals used in this study are taken from previous works (Journet et al. (2008) and unpublished data provided by E. Journet, 2012) and were obtained by X-ray fluorescence spectrometry (XRF) (Table 1a). Most of minerals used by Journet et al. (2008) are reference materials from the Society's Source Clays Repository, i.e. hematite, illite, kaolinite, montmorillonite. The elemental compositions obtained by XRF are in the range of published values for these reference materials (e.g. Mermut and Cano, 2001; Gold et al., 1983), validating the obtained composition for the unreferenced materials. Moreover, the purity of all minerals samples is estimated by X-Ray diffraction. Note that the mineralogical maps used in this study do not distinguish feldspar and smectite subtypes. For feldpars, the elemental composition is mostly averaged based on 2 subtype minerals: orthoclase (potassic feldspar) and oligoclase (sodium-calcium feldspar). For smectites, the montmorillonite subtype is the most commonly identified smectite in desert dust, particularly for Saharan dust e.g. Goudie and Middleton, 2006). The chemical composition of montmorillonite is used in this study as an analog for smectite. For calcite, gypsum, and quartz, the natural minerals could contain substitutions or impurities from clays, which are variable depending on origin, formation, contamination, etc. of minerals. Because regional silt samples were not available for spectroscopy, we use the theoretical composition of elements in calcite, gypsum and quartz (Table 1a). The mass fraction of Ca in calcite ($CaCO_3$) and gypsum ($CaSO_4 \cdot 2H_2O$) are taken as 40% and 23.3%, respectively. A mass fraction of 46.7% Si is used for pure quartz (SiO_2).

Following the total element calculation, soluble elemental fractions are estimated based on soluble elemental contents of minerals at pH=2 reported by Journet et al (2008) for hematite and the aluminosilicates, and is listed in Table 1b. The fractional solubility of Ca in calcite and gypsum used is 7% and 0.56%, respectively, and that of Si in quartz was 0.0003% based on individual solubility product (K_{sp}) at pH=2 (Petrucci et al., 2001). Here the mineral dependent method used to calculate soluble elements is defined as Method 1 (Sol-1). To present uncertainties, another approach (Method 2, defined as Sol-2) is introduced as a reference. It is based on the extractable elemental fractions of in-situ 20 μm sieved soil samples reported by Sillanpaa (1982) (Table S1) and is combined with an FAO soil dataset to get a global soluble elemental inventory independent of soil minerals. It is noted that there is no detailed size distribution for soil samples in M2. Thus, the fractions of soluble elements in clay and silt are assumed to be equal to that of the bulk soils themselves.

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Table S1Averaged macronutrient contents (‰) of soils classified by FAO/Unesco soil units *

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

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

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

2.2 Numerical Model description

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

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

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

2.3 Observational data

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

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

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

Table S3. Locations of 17 sampling sites

3 Results and Discussion

3.1 Fractions of element in arid soil regions

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

3.1.1 Global mapping of soil associated elements

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

Fig.2 Global elemental distributions (in mass percentage) in a1: Clay Mg, a2: Clay P, a3: Clay Ca, a4: Clay Mn, a5: 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 K, b7: Silt Al, b8: Silt Si.

3.1.2 Elemental composition of soils and airborne dust

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

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

3.1.3Elemental dust emissions over desert regions

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

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

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

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

3.2.1 Elemental fractions in global atmospheric dust and deposited dust

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

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

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 annual mean % are calculated using the annual mean emission of each element divided by the annual mean emission of dust.

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

3.2.2 Seasonal variability of elemental fractions

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

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

$$Monthly\ variability\ (\%) = \frac{SD\ of\ mean\ fraction_{month}}{Mean\ \ fraction_{month}} \times 100 \qquad \text{(Eq. 1)}$$

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

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

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variability is even higher and is attributed to the combined effect of variability in dust emissions, spatial elemental concentration, and dust transport patterns.

Fig.S2 Monthly dust emission (kg/m^2/s)over 15 dust-producing regions (WAsia: West Asia; NC-As:North Central Asia; CAsia:Central Asia; SC-As: South Central Asia; EAsia:East Asia; WN-Af:North West Africa; EN-Af: North East Africa; S-NAf: Southern North Africa; SAf: Southern Africa; MWNAm: Middle North West America; SWNAm: Southern North West America; SAm1: Northern South America; SAm2: Southern South America; WAus: West Australia; EAus: East Australia)

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

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

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

3.3 Spatial Ca/Al distribution in soils and dust plumes

Of specific interest is the Ca/Al ratio in soil, atmospheric dust and deposited dust as this ratio may be indicative of specific source regions (Fig. 8). Of all considered ratios, the Ca/Al ratio in soils show the greatest variability in relation to the relevant desert region (e.g. Formenti et al. (2011)). The Ca/Al ratio ranges mainly 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 ratios reaches 160 times the global mean Ca/Al ratio of 1.96 in the silt fraction of soils (Fig. 8b), much higher than those of other ratios such as Fe, K, and Mn to Al. Asian desert soils have higher Ca/Al ratios, with values greater than 5 in West Asia and Central Asia. The Ca/Al ratio in dust emissions from Central Asia (1.0-1.6) are higher than in East Asia (~0.5), which is close to Ca/Al ratios (1.0-1.7) derived from source profiles of Asian dust (Zhang et al., 1997; Zhang et al., 2003), and also match the observed Ca/Al ratios (0.7-1.3) during Asian dust events (Sun et al., 2004a,b; Shen et al., 2007). In addition, the Ca/Al ratio in dust emissions in North 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 North African dust transport to the eastern United States (Perry et al., 1997). Ambient $PM_{2.5}$ dust measured on the Canary Islands suggests a different ratio (Ca/Al = 1.004) (Engelbrecht et al., 2014). However, this ratio could be larger for PM_{10} or TSP. The high Ca/Al ratio (4.0-10.0) in a range of desert soils in some regions including South Africa, yields a Ca/Al ratios in dust emissions of 1.0, being much larger than those from North Africa. The modeled spatial pattern of Ca/Al ratio in dust emissions from Asia and northwest Africa is consistent with the currently available dust pattern compiled by Formenti et al. (2011), but shows relatively lower values for the Central Asian desert region.

Despite experiencing mixing of airborne dust from various source regions and as a result of dust processing during transport, the Ca/Al ratios still show spatial variations in global atmospheric dust and deposited dust. Relative to the Ca/Al ratio in source regions (Fig. 8a,b), the Ca/Al ratio in atmospheric dust over most of terrestrial Asia ranges between 0.5-0.8, with a maximum of 1.8. This is due to the spatial variability of Ca/Al

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

Fig.8 Ca/Al in Soil and ten year averaged Ca/Al ratio in dust emission, concentration and deposition. Top two (a,b) 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 ratio in dust concentration and deposition. Elemental annual mean % are calculated using the annual mean emission of each element divided by the annual mean emission of dust.

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

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3.4 Model evaluation with observational data

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

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

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

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

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

However, the ranges of the modeled fractions of P, Ca, Fe, K and Al are close to the dominant range of the observational fractions (Fig. 11a,b). The fractions of elements in dust measured are reported to be 0.5%-2.3% 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, 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; Zhang et al.,1998; Yadav and Rajamani,2004; Goudie and Middleton, 2006; Moreno et al., 2006; Jeong, 2008; Lawrence and Neff, 2009; Formenti et al., 2008; Desboeufs et al., 2010). The modeled elemental fraction in dust for P, Ca, Fe, K, Al and Si were similar to observations. However, the modeled fractions of Mg and Mn are lower (3.4 times and 3.5 times, respectively (Table 3)) than the observed ones for samples used in this study or of the above cited results. Underestimation of Mg and Mn could be due to a deficiency of minerals contaning high concentrations of Mg and Mn in our model, as dolomite (MgCO3) or palygorskyte ($(Mg,Al)_2Si_4O_{10}(OH)\cdot 4(H2O)$) are often identified in dust particles for Mg (e.g. Diaz-Hernandes et al., 2011; Kalderon et al., 2009). Moreover, it is known that the chemical composition of minerals could be variable according to the regional origin of minerals and possible impurities. For example, the Mg content in calcite ranges from 0% to 2.7% in the natural environment (Titschack et al., 2011). But in this study, the assumed fraction of Mg in calcite is zero because we took calcite as a pure mineral (see Table 1). So the underestimation of Mg in dust could be a propagation of errors in previous compositions in minerals considered in this study.

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

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

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

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

Fig.12 (a) Observational and (b) modeled dust deposition (g/m^3/year). The scale is the same for both panels. (c) A scatter plot shows the comparison between the model and observations. The correlation coefficient between observations and model results reach 0.86.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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4 Summary and Conclusions

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

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

Acknowledgements

We would like to thank the US Department of Defense (DOD) for sharing chemical data from their Enhanced Particulate Matter Surveillance Program (EPMSP), and anonymous reviewers for helpful comments. We acknowledge the support of NSF grant 0932946 and1137716 and DOE-SC0006735. Simulations were conducted on the NSF National Center for Atmospheric Research's supercomputers.

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Main Tables 1- 5

Table1a Generalized mineral compositions (%) applied in this study

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

*SR refer to source regions

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

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

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

** Not tuning

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

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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	**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

*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 Sillanpaa method described in the methods section (2).

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Main Figures 1- 15

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

Fig.2 Global elemental distributions (in mass percentage) in a1: Clay Mg, a2: Clay P, a3: Clay Ca, a4: Clay Mn, a5: 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 K, b7: Silt Al, b8: Silt Si.

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

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

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

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

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

Fig.8 Ca/Al in Soil and ten year averaged Ca/Al ratio in dust emission, concentration and deposition. Top two (a,b) 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

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

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

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-Hetian, China; 2-Tazhong, China; 3-Yu Lin, China; 4-Duolun, China; 5-Shengsi, China; 6-Hanoi, Vietnam; 7-Marnila, Philippines; 8-Balad, Iraq; 9-Baghdad, Iraq; 10-Taji,Iraq; 11-Eilat; 12-Cape Verde Island; 13-Muswellbrook, Australia; 14-Richmond, Australia, 15-Tamanrasset, Algeria; 16-Banizoumbou, Niger; 17-Douz, Tunisia). Here we calculate the elemental fractions and average the fractions temporally for each site and compare to observations.

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

Fig.12 (a) Observational and (b) modeled dust deposition (g/m^3/year). The scale is the same for both panels. (c) A scatterplot shows the comparison between the model and observations. The correlation coefficient between observations and model results reach 0.86.

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

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

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

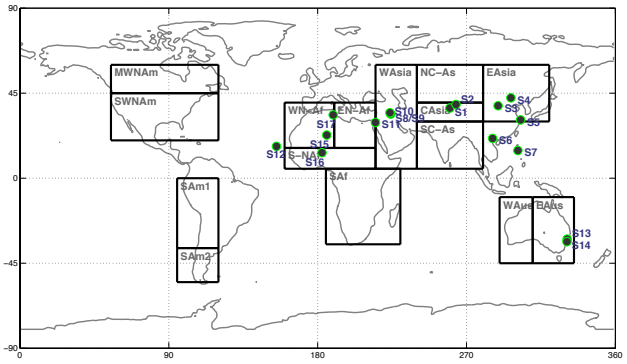
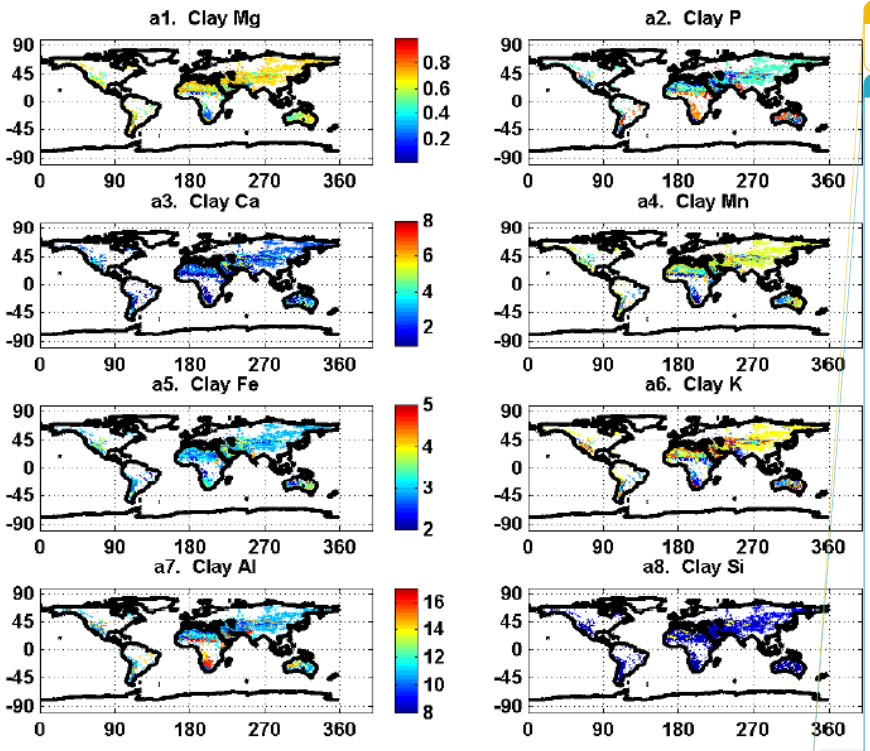


Fig.1. Observational sites (S1-Hetian, China; S2-Tazhong, China; S3-Yu Lin, China; S4-Duolun, China; S5-Shengsi, China; S6-Hanoi, Vietnam; S7-Marnila, Philippines; S8- Balad, Iraq; S9-Balad, Iraq; S10-Taji, Iraq; S11-Eilat; S12-Cape Verde Atmospheric Observatory (CVAO); S13-Muswellbrook, Australia; S14-Richmond,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



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105 (a) in soil clay

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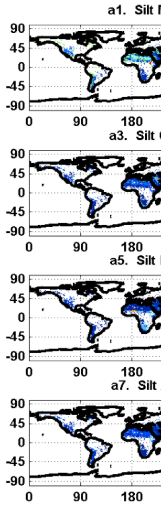

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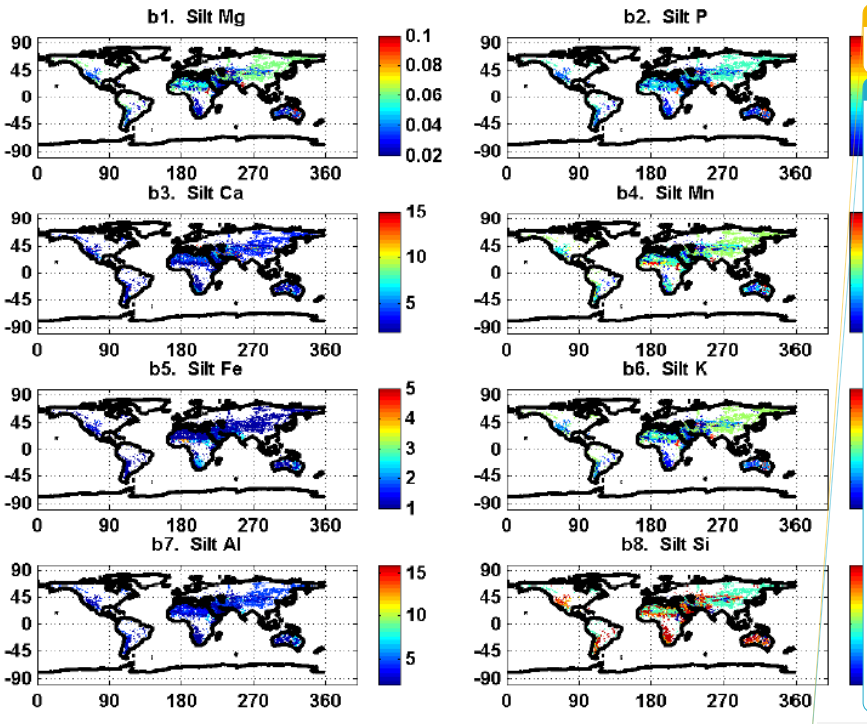

(b) in soil silt

Fig.2 Global elemental distributions (in mass percentage) in (a) soil clay, a1: Clay Mg, a2: Clay P, a3: Clay Ca, a4: 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: Silt Mn, b5: Silt Fe, b6: Silt K, b7: Silt Al, b8: Silt Si.

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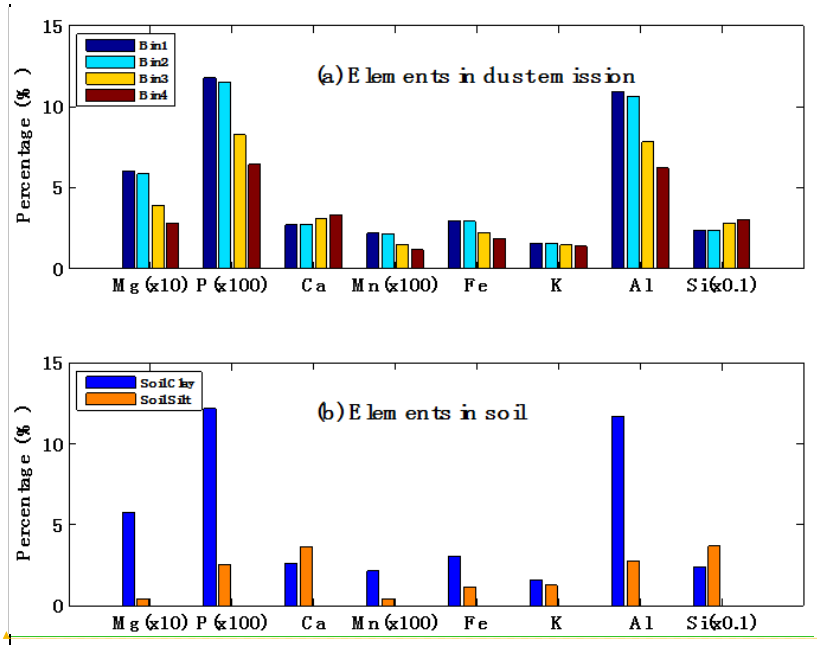

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116 Fig.3 Global mean elemental percentages in (a) four-bin dust emission and (b) clay and silt fractions of soils (Bin1-4

117 refer to particle range listed in Table S2, clay refer to < 2um, silt refer to > 2um)

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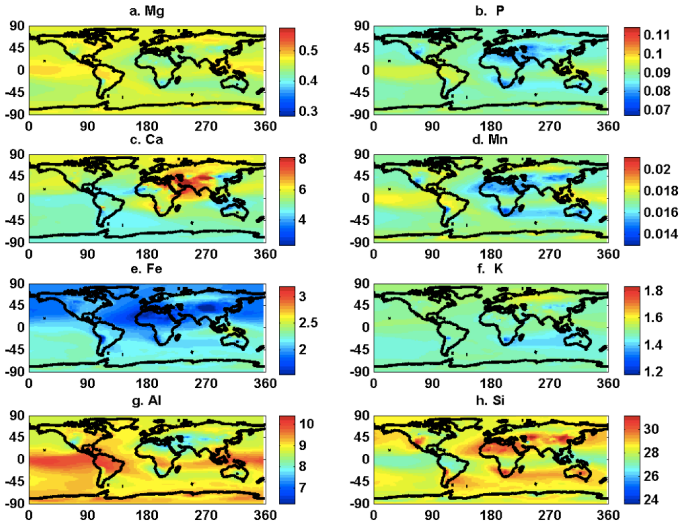

Fig.4 Percentages of elements in dust concentration （mass %）: a. Mg, b. P, c. Ca, d. Mn, e. Fe, f. K, g. Al, h. Si. Elemental % shown here are calculated using the annual mean element concentration divided by the annual mean dust concentration.

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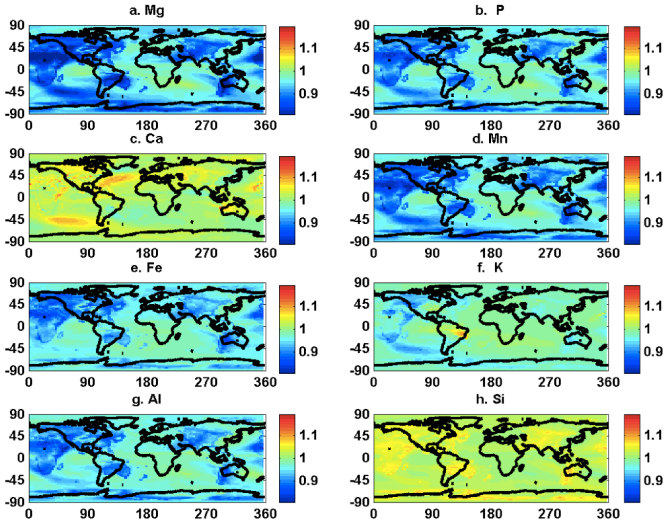

Fig.5 Ratio of mass fractions of elements in dust deposition to that in atmospheric dust : a. Mg, b. P, c. Ca, d. Mn, e. Fe, f. K, g. Al, h. Si. Elemental ratios shown here are calculated using the annual mean element deposition divided by the annual mean dust deposition.

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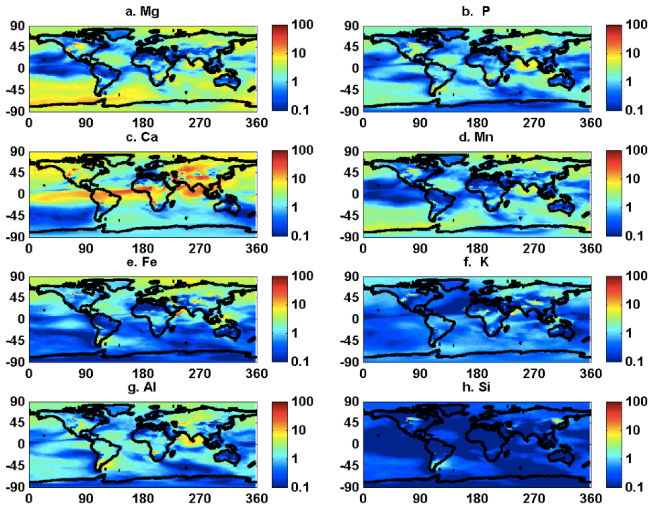

Fig.6 Ten-year monthly variability in mean of elemental percentages in atmospheric dust (mass %) : a. Mg, b. P, c. Ca, d. Mn, e. Fe, f. K, g. Al, h. Si. Elemental monthly mean % are calculated using the monthly mean emission of each element divided by the monthly mean emission of dust.

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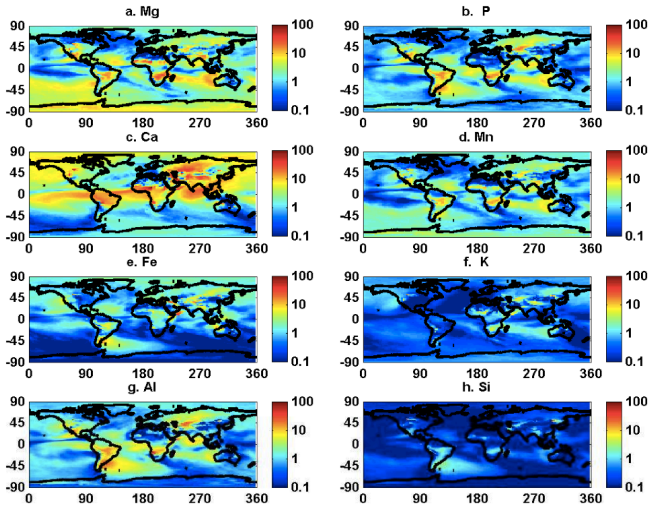

Fig.7 Ten-year monthly variability in mean of elemental percentages in dust deposition (mass %):a. Mg, b. P, c. Ca, d. Mn, e. Fe, f. K, g. Al, h. Si. Elemental monthly mean % are calculated using the monthly mean emission of each element divided by the monthly mean emission of dust.

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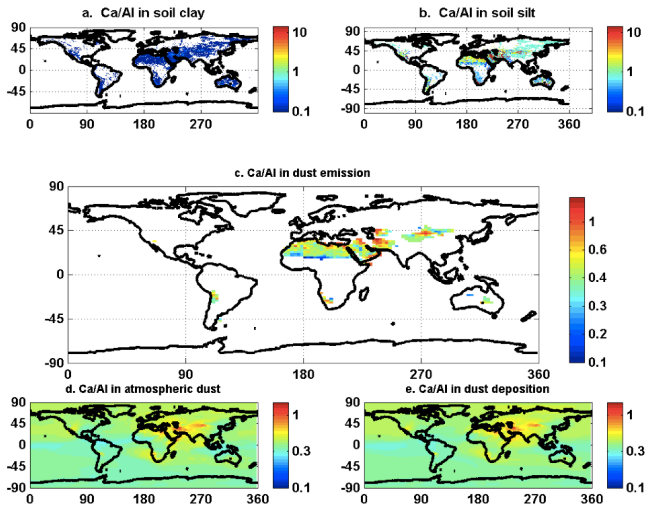

Fig.8 Ca/Al in Soil and ten year averaged Ca/Al ratio in dust emission, concentration and deposition. Top two (a,b) refer to ratio in clay and silt desert soil, middle one (c) refer to ratio in dust emission, and bottom two (d,e) refer to ratio in dust concentration and deposition. Elemental annual mean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

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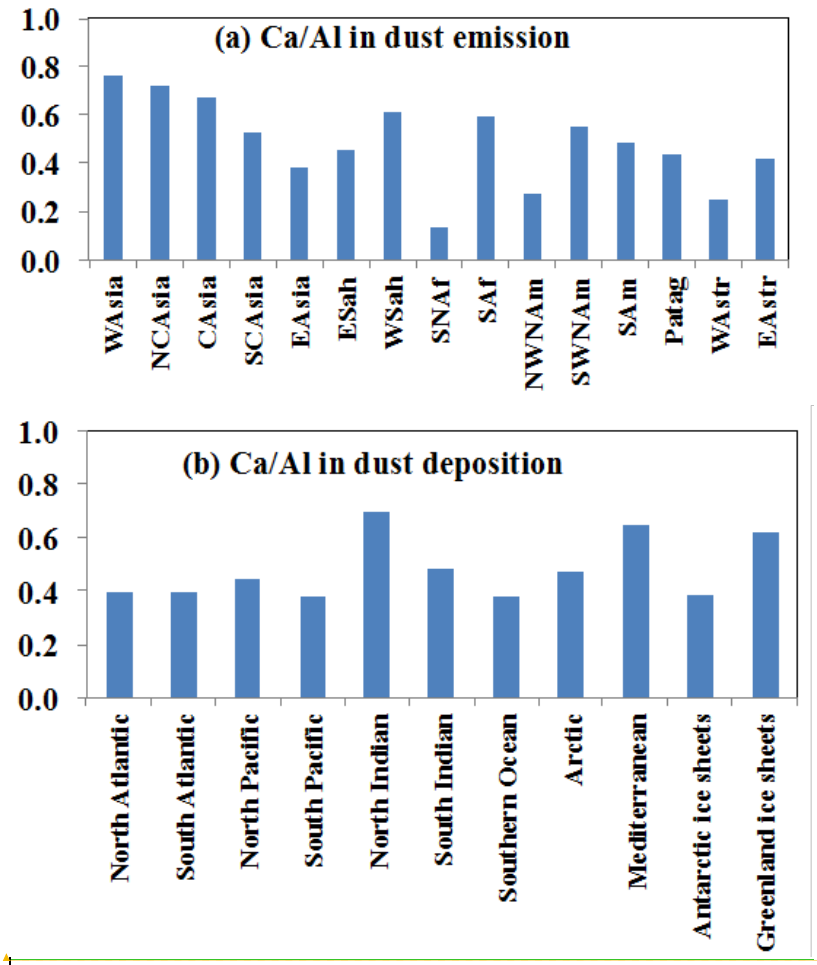

147

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

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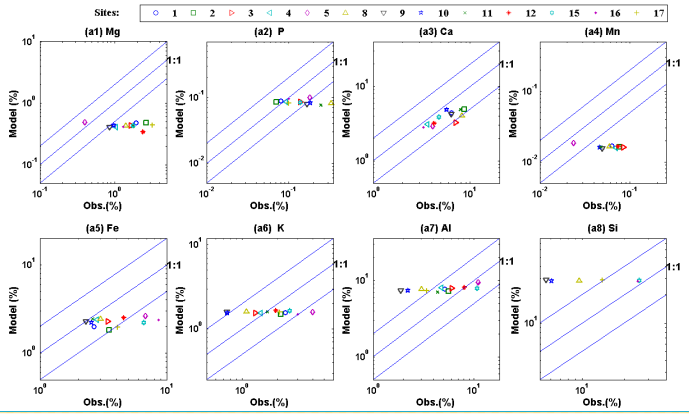
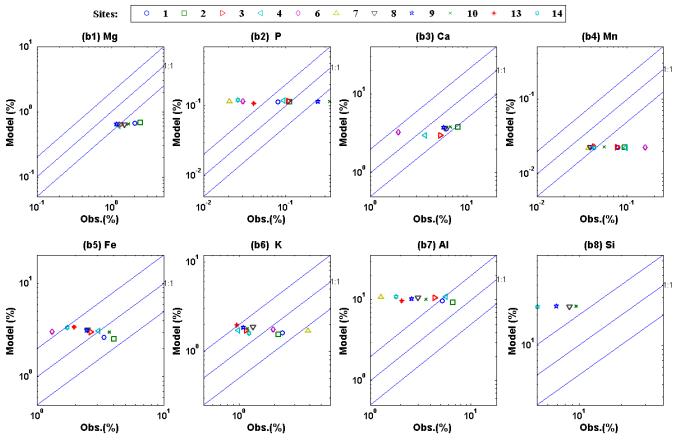


(a) TSP



(b) $PM_{2.5}$

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-Hetian, China; 2-Tazhong, China; 3-Yu Lin, China; 4-Duolun, China; 5-Shengsi, China; 6-Hanoi, Vietnam; 7-Marnila, Philippines; 8-Balad, Iraq; 9-Baghdad, Iraq; 10-Taji,Iraq; 11-Eilat; 12-Cape Verde Island; 13-Muswellbrook, Australia; 14-Richmond, Australia, 15-Tamanrasset, Algeria; 16-Banizoumbou, Niger; 17-Douz, Tunisia). Here we calculate the elemental fractions and average the fractions temporally for each site and compare to observations.

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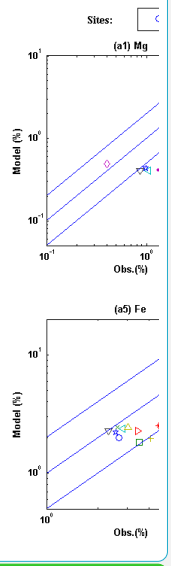

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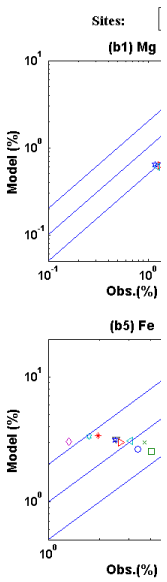

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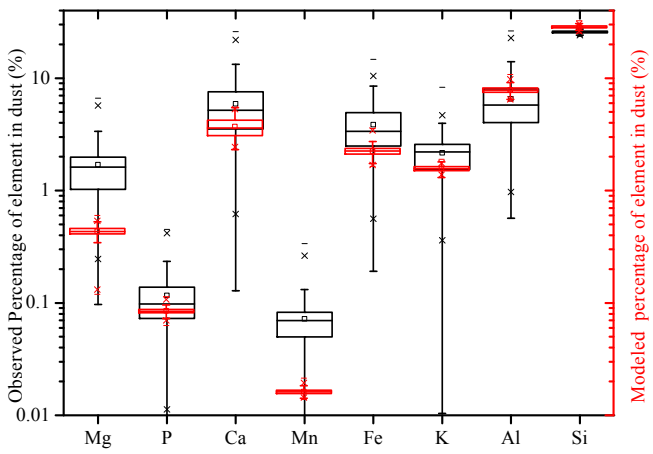
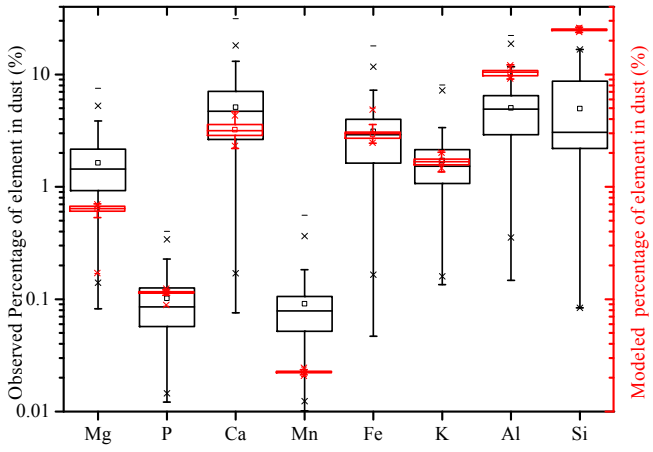


(a) TSP



(b) $PM_{2.5}$

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

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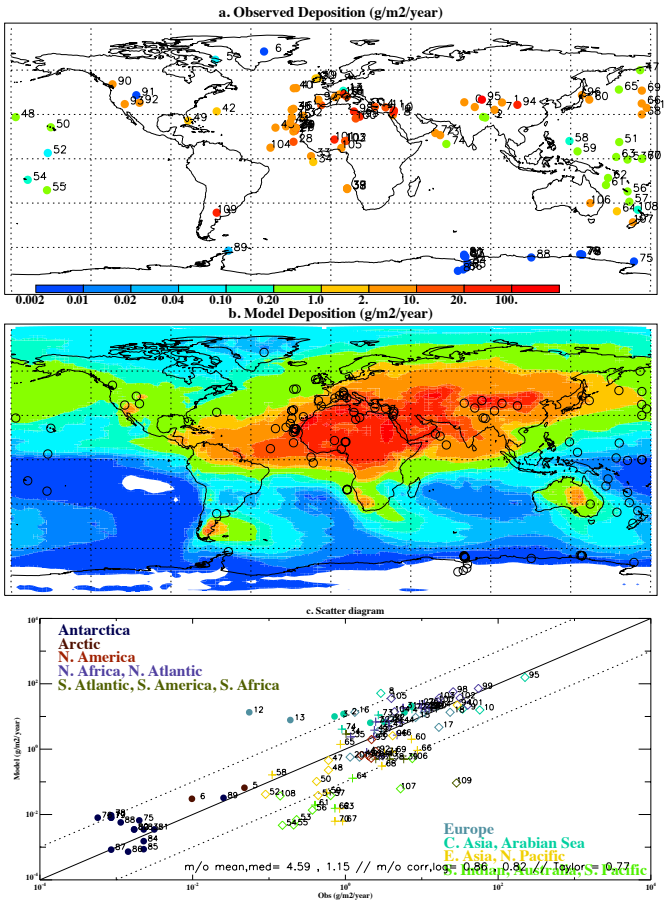

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176 Fig.12 (a) Observational and (b) modeled dust deposition (g/m^3/year). The scale is the same for both
177 panels. (c) A scatterplot shows the comparison between the model and observations. The correlation
178 coefficient between observations and model results reach 0.86.

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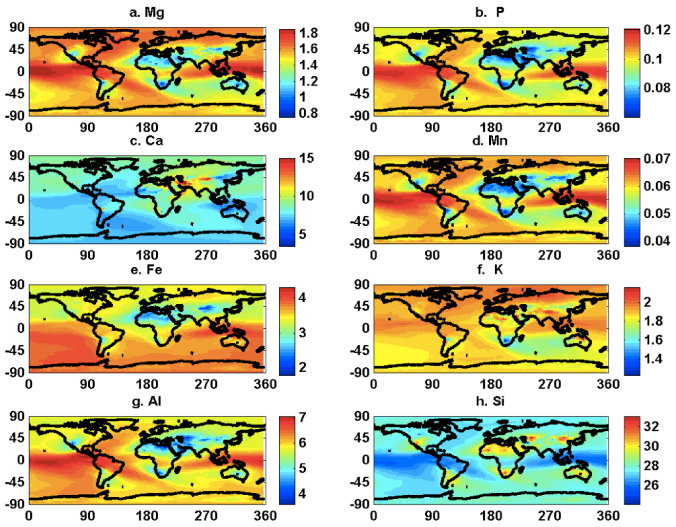

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180 Fig.13 Percentages of elements in dust deposition（%) after tuning. It is tuned based on original
181 percentages of elements in dust deposition in Fig. S1 by timing Obs./Mod. ratios listed in Table 3. Si
182 did not change because there are not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

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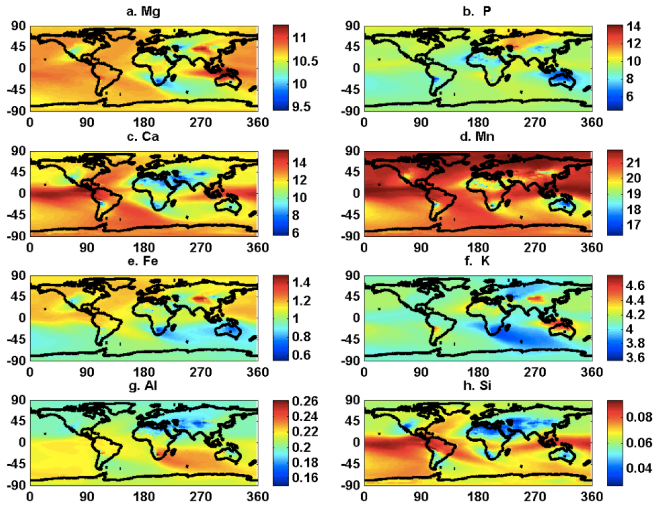

Fig. 14 Fractional solubility of elements (soluble element / total element) in dust deposition (%):a. Mg, b. P, c. Ca, d. Mn, e. Fe, f. K, g. Al, h. Si

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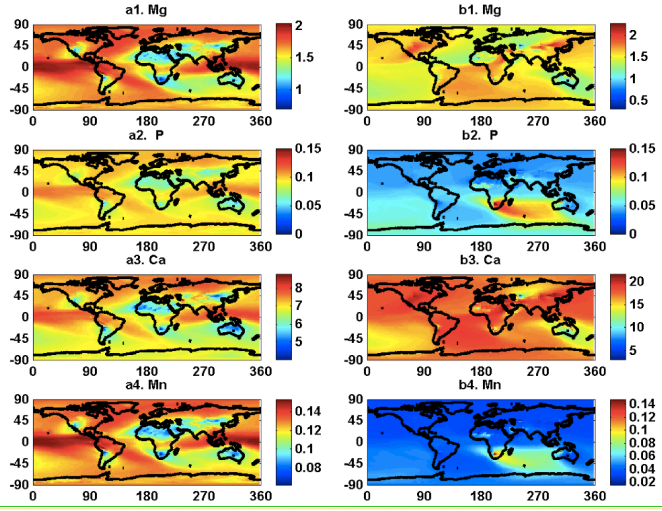

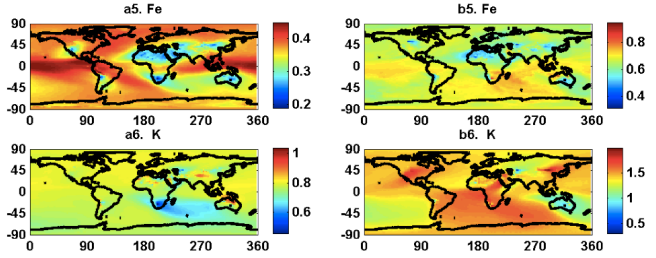

Fig. 15 Percentages of soluble elements in total dust deposition using(a) Sol-1 & (b) Sol-2 (‰), Sol-1 refer to mineral method after tuning, Sol-2 refer to Sillanpaa method described in the methods section (2).

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Supplementary Tables S1-S3

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

Table S2 The fraction of dust aerosol mass contributed by the soil clay and silt fractions for each of the 4 particle size bins for the bulk scheme in CAM

Table S3 Locations of 17 sampling sites

Supplementary Tables S1-S3

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

Soil types	Mg	P	Ca	Mn	Fe	K
Acrisols	0.092	0.006	0.465	0.029	0.058	0.060
Cambisols	0.104	0.011	0.980	0.012	0.144	0.069
Chernozems	0.111	0.012	2.058	0.009	0.046	0.067
Rendzinas	0.220	0.005	4.127	0.007	0.035	0.102
Ferralsols	0.052	0.005	0.313	0.031	0.054	0.043
Gleysols	0.103	0.018	0.615	0.026	0.123	0.079
Phaeozems	0.137	0.010	1.262	0.016	0.073	0.223
Lithosols	0.117	0.003	2.225	0.004	0.026	0.137
Fluvisols	0.348	0.007	2.253	0.005	0.069	0.183
Kastanozems	0.259	0.005	2.713	0.006	0.023	0.204
Luvisols	0.155	0.009	1.587	0.011	0.092	0.094
Nitosols	0.072	0.006	0.388	0.032	0.032	0.058
Histosols	0.123	0.017	0.800	0.007	0.423	0.058
Podzols	0.033	0.031	0.562	0.015	0.144	0.070
Arenosols	0.032	0.032	0.305	0.025	0.096	0.063
Regosols	0.139	0.013	1.553	0.010	0.062	0.134
Andosols	0.043	0.006	0.608	0.032	0.042	0.149
Vertisols	0.262	0.005	2.791	0.007	0.054	0.135
Planosols	0.240	0.009	1.623	0.014	0.087	0.210

Xerosols	0.253	0.005	2.387	0.003	0.027	0.231
Yermosols	0.185	0.003	2.026	0.003	0.036	0.168
Halosols	0.300	0.004	2.314	0.003	0.062	0.102

*these values calculated based on extractable contents (mg/L) of micronutrients of soil from Sillanpaa (1982, Apendix 6-7) assuming soil density of 2.6 g/cm^3（Hillel 1980）.

15

16 **Table S2. The fraction of dust aerosol mass contributed by the soil clay and silt fractions for**
17 **each of the 4 particle size bins for the bulk scheme in CAM**

Particle size bin	Lower bin limit (μm)	Upper bin limit (μm)	Fraction of aerosol mass from soil clay fraction	Fraction of aerosol mass from soil silt fraction
1	0.1	1	1	0
2	1	2.5	0.970	0.030
3	2.5	5	0.625	0.375
4	5	10	0.429	0.571

18

19 **Table S3. Locations of 17samplingsites**

No.	Sites	Longitude	Latitude	Citation
1	Hetian,China	79.92	37.12	Sun et al., 2004; Shen et al.,2007; Wang et al., 2010; Guo et al., 2014
2	Tazhong,China	83.67	39.0	
3	Yulin,China	109.13	38.33	
4	Duolun,China	116.83	42.5	
5	Shengsi,China	122.69	30.85	
6	Hanoi,Vietnam	105.80	21.05	Unpblished data provided by D. Cohen
7	Manila,Philippines	121.07	14.65	
8	Balad, Iraq	44.15	34.02	Engelbrecht et al., 2009;
9	Baghdad, Iraq	44.43	33.33	
10	Taji, Iraq	43.68	34.6	
11	Gulf of Aqaba,Eilat	34.91	29.51	Chen et al., 2008
12	Cape Verde, Atlantic	335.08	16.85	Carpenter et al., 2010;
13	Muswellbrook, Australia	150.88	-32.23	Cohen et al., 2011

14	Richmond,Australia	150.75	-33.62	
15	Tamanrasset, Algeria	5.53	22.97	Formenti et al., 2008;
16	Banizoumbou, Niger	2.6	13.5	Desboeufs et al., 2010;
17	Douz, Tunisia	9.4	33.46	unpublished data provided by K. Desboeufs, 2014

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Supplementary Figures S1- S3

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 annual mean % are calculated using the annual mean emission of each element divided by the annual mean emission of dust.

Fig.S2 Monthly dust emission ($kg/m^2/s$)over 15 dust-producing regions (WAsia: West Asia; NC-As:North Central Asia; CAsia:Central Asia; SC-As: South Central Asia; EAsia:East Asia; WN-Af:North West Africa; EN-Af: North East Africa; S-NAf: Southern North Africa; SAf: Southern Africa; MWNAm: Middle North West America; SWNAm: Southern North West America; SAm1: Northern South America; SAm2: Southern South America; WAus: West Australia; EAus: East Australia)

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

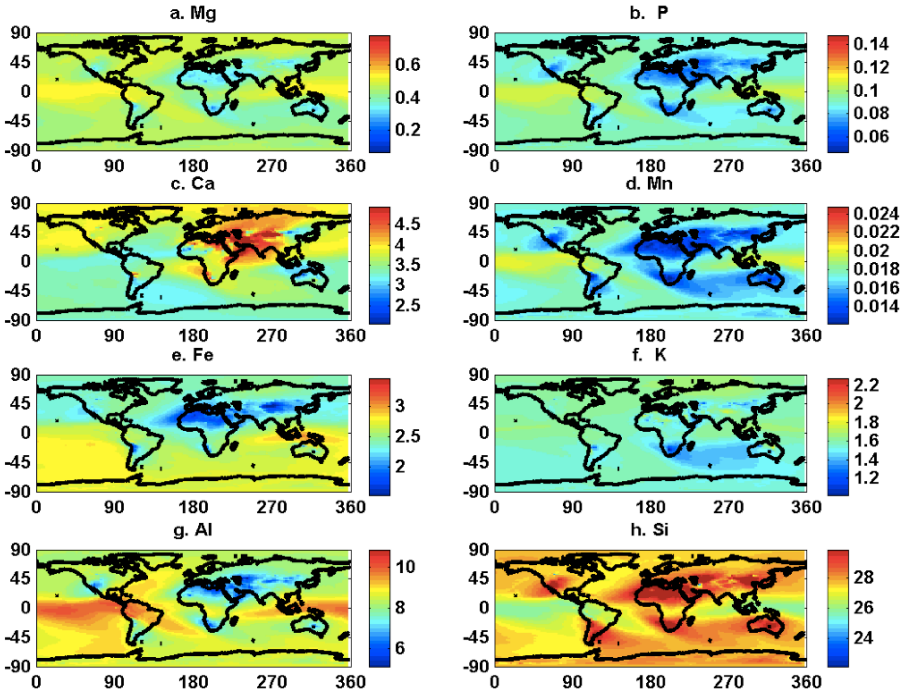


Fig.S1 Percentages of elements in deposited dust（%）:a. Mg, b. P, c. Ca, d. Mn, e. Fe, f. K, g. Al, h. Si. Elemental annual mean % are calculated using the annual mean emission of each element divided by the annual mean emission of dust.

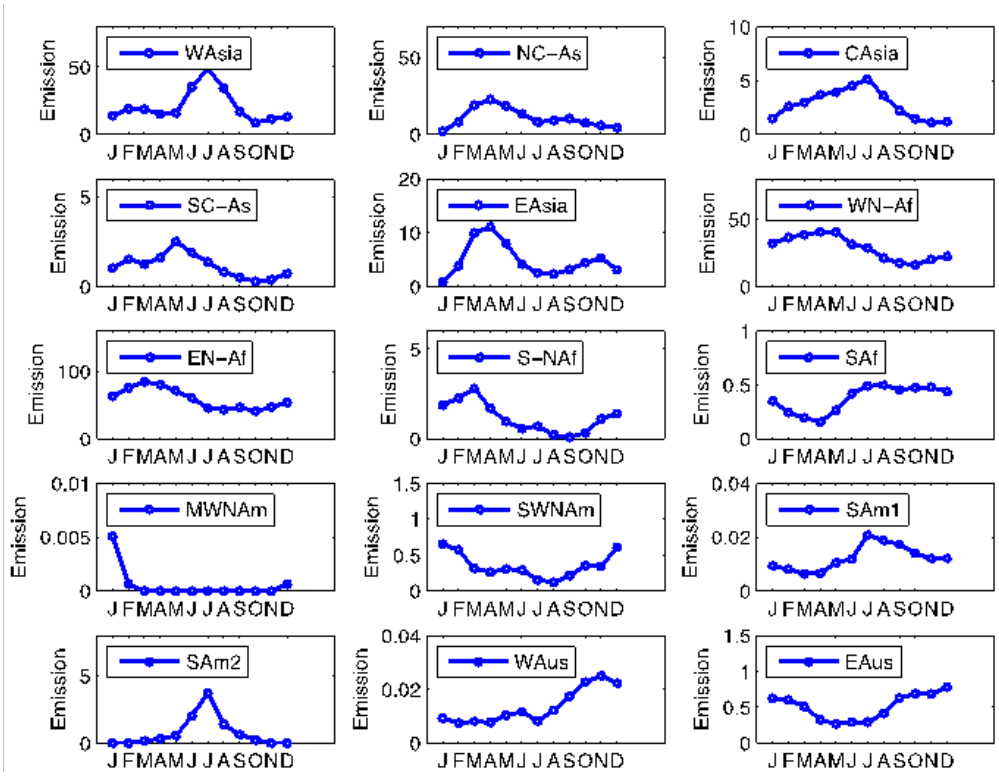
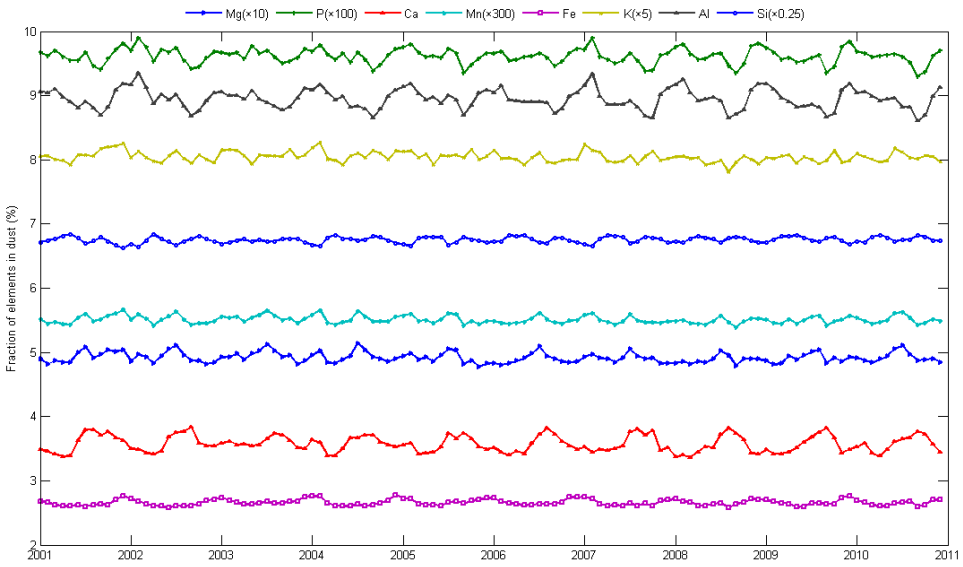


Fig.S2 Monthly dust emission (kg/m^2/s)over 15 dust-producing regions (WAsia: West Asia; NC-As:North Central Asia; CAsia:Central Asia; SC-As: South Central Asia; EAsia:East Asia; WN-Af:North West Africa; EN-Af: North East Africa; S-NAf: Southern North Africa; SAf: Southern Africa; MWNAm: Middle North West America; SWNAm: Southern North West America; SAm1: Northern South America; SAm2: Southern South America; WAus: West Australia; EAus: East Australia)



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