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# A new data set of soil mineralogy for dust-cycle modeling

E. Journet<sup>1,2</sup>, Y. Balkanski<sup>3</sup>, and S. P. Harrison<sup>1,4,5</sup>

<sup>1</sup>School of Geographical Sciences, University of Bristol, Bristol, BS8 1SS, UK

<sup>2</sup>LISA, CNRS UMR7583, Université Paris-Est Créteil, Université Paris Diderot, 75013 Paris, France

<sup>3</sup>LSCE, CNRS UMR8212, CEA, Université de Versailles Saint-Quentin, France

<sup>4</sup>Department of Biological Sciences, Macquarie University, North Ryde, NSW 2109, Australia

<sup>5</sup>Geography & Environmental Sciences, School of Human and Environmental Sciences, Reading University, Whiteknights, Reading, UK

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Correspondence to: E. Journet (emilie.journet@lisa.u-pec.fr)

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## Abstract

The mineralogy of airborne dust affects the impact of dust particles on direct and indirect radiative forcing, on atmospheric chemistry and on biogeochemical cycling. It is determined partly by the mineralogy of the dust-source regions and partly by size-dependent fractionation during erosion and transport. Here we present a data set that characterizes the clay and silt sized fractions of global soil units in terms of the abundance of 12 minerals that are important for dust-climate interactions: quartz, feldspars, illite, smectite, kaolinite, chlorite, vermiculite, mica, calcite, gypsum, hematite and goethite. The basic mineralogical information is derived from the literature, and is then expanded following explicit rules, in order to characterize as many soil units as possible. We present three alternative realisations of the mineralogical maps that account for the uncertainties in the mineralogical data. We examine the implications of the new database for calculations of the single scattering albedo of airborne dust and thus for dust radiative forcing.

## 15 1 Introduction

Dust particles, emitted in large quantities by aeolian erosion of arid and semi-arid soils, play an important role on the Earth's climate system. During atmospheric transport, they affect the earth radiative budget directly by absorbing or scattering the solar or infrared radiation (Sokolik et Toon, 1996) or indirectly by acting as Cloud Condensation Nuclei (CCN) or Ice Nuclei (IN) (Rosenfeld et al., 2001; DeMott et al., 2003; Creamean et al., 2013). Dust also plays a role in atmospheric chemistry (Cwiertrny and Young, 2008). Mineral dust deposition to the ocean affects marine biochemistry (Jickells et al., 2005) by increasing the supply of micronutrient iron with implications for the CO<sub>2</sub> budget (Martin et al., 1991). Mineral dust may also fertilize terrestrial ecosystems (Okin et al., 2004), particularly in areas such as the Amazon Basin (Swap et al., 1992).

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ogy (e.g. Claquin et al., 1999; Nickovic et al., 2012) have focused on soil mineralogy in arid and semi-arid areas. Given that dust source regions are likely to change in the future (e.g. Mahowald et al., 2003; Tegen et al., 2004; Woodward et al., 2005), as indeed they have in the past (e.g. Mahowald et al., 1999; Werner et al., 2003; Takemura et al., 2009), mineralogical information has to be available globally (i.e. not simply for modern-day source regions). Here, we present a new database, created using a similar approach to Claquin et al. (1999) and Nickovic et al. (2012), which describes the size-resolved mineralogical composition of the erodible fraction of soils for most regions of the globe. We then examine some of the consequences of using this database to specify the properties of airborne dust.

## 2 Construction of the database

The database contains information of the relative abundance of 12 minerals: quartz, feldspars, illite, smectite, kaolinite, chlorite, vermiculite, mica, calcite, gypsum, hematite and goethite. This is an expanded set of minerals compared to the Claquin et al. (1999) compilation. We first estimate the distribution of these minerals in different size classes, including characterizing the iron species in the clay fraction. We then determine the average size-resolved mineralogical composition for each soil unit of the FAO (The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations) Soil Classification (FAO-ISRIC, 1990).

### 2.1 Distribution of minerals by size class

The mineralogical composition of airborne dust depends on both the mineralogy of the soil source and size fractionation during emission and transport. Only the smallest soil particles are light enough to stay in suspension in the atmosphere and to be transported long distances. To be able to account for these fractionation effects, we specify the mineralogical composition of the clay (< 2 µm) and silt (between 2 and 63 µm)

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fractions independently. There are insufficient measurements to assign an explicit size range for each mineral, so we determine an average mineralogy for each size class.

Primary minerals (quartz, feldspars and mica) are mostly found in the silt-sized fraction and secondary minerals (clay minerals, soluble minerals and iron oxides) in the clay-sized fraction. We adopted an allocation, summarized in Table 1, is as follows:

- Clay minerals (*illite*, *smectite*, *kaolinite* and *vermiculite*) are important chemical weathering products, are small and mostly belong to the clay size fraction (Pedro, 1984).
- The clay mineral, *chlorite* is an exception since it occurs both in the clay size class and throughout the silt range (Griffin et al., 1968), depending on whether it is formed by hydrothermal alteration or inherited from bedrock.
- *Mica* is a primary phyllosilicate mineral and consequently is silt-sized or coarser (Mitchell and Soga, 2005).
- *Quartz* and *Feldspars* are present in all size fractions of soils. They are present in only minor amounts in the clay fraction, but are abundant in the silt fraction.
- *Gypsum* is most often found in the coarser fraction of soils (FAO, 1990) and is therefore only allocated to the silt fraction.
- *Calcite* seems to be present in all size fractions. Abtahi (1980) has shown that calcite occurs mostly in the large size fractions of arid soils, but can also be found in significant quantity in the fine fractions. Therefore, we assign calcite to both the clay and silt fractions.
- *Iron oxides* are generally formed through the alteration of the most common rocks. Their mineralogy and crystallinity reflect the alteration environment and are strongly linked to climatic conditions (Cornell et Schwertmann, 2003). Iron oxides occur as very small individual particles (50 to 100 Å) (Greenland et al., 1968), often in combination with particles of kaolinite or as aggregates (e.g. Schwertmann

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et Kampf, 1985). *Hematite* and *goethite* are the most common iron oxides found in soil. Kandler et al. (2009) showed that 66 % of the total iron oxide minerals are in the clay fraction and 33 % in the silt. There is no size-resolved iron species data available and the limited evidence for the size-distribution of hematite and goethite is conflicting. Gangas et al. (1973), for example, claim that hematite and goethite are concentrated in the clay fraction, while Lafon et al. (2006), found an even distribution between the clay and silt-sized fractions of three arid soils. Coudé-Gaussen (personal communication, 1999) suggests that goethite particles are common on large quartz grains of size > 40 µm. We assume that only goethite is found in both size fractions, and hematite is confined to the clay fraction.

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## 2.2 Iron content of the clay-size fraction

The mineralogical speciation of iron is distinguished in the database because iron from clay minerals is more soluble than iron from hematite or goethite (Journet et al., 2008). The total iron content in the clay fraction is estimated from the iron content for each mineral. This method does not account for variations that reflect the conditions in which the minerals were formed. Hematite and goethite are the most iron-rich minerals. According to their stoichiometry, hematite ( $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3$ ) contains 69.9 % iron and goethite ( $\text{FeOOH}$ ) 62.8 %. Clay minerals and feldspars also contain a small proportion of iron trapped in their crystal lattice. The average iron content of the different minerals present in the clay fraction, collected from the literature, is given in Table 2.

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## 2.3 Associating mineralogy with soil unit

Mineralogy is not a diagnostic criterion used in soil profile descriptions or a property used in soil classification. Following Clauquin et al. (1999), we hypothesise that the mineralogy of the surface depends on the size distribution, the chemistry and the color of the soil, in order to infer an average mineralogical composition for each soil unit. We use the Harmonized World Soil Database (HWSD; FAO, 2009), a 30 arc-second raster

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database, to determine the geographic distribution of soil units. The HWSD uses the FAO-Unesco soil classification system, which is based on soil-profile descriptions and the presence of diagnostic horizon(s). The FAO classification has undergone several revisions since it was first used for the “FAO Soil Map of the World Legend” (FAO-Unesco, 1974). The number of major soil groups has been increased, from 26 major soil groups in the 1974 version, to 28 in 1990 version (FAO-ISRIC, 1990). Each major soil group is divided into second order soil units. The number of soil units also expanded between the 1974 and 1990 versions. For example, the Arenosols were sub-divided into 4 soil units in the 1974 version (Albic, Cambic, Ferralic and Luvic) but 7 units in the 1990 version (Albic, Calcaric, Cambic, Ferralic, Gleyic, Haplic and Luvic). The HWSD combines both versions of the classification, giving a total of 211 individual soil units. The HWSD incorporates a number of regional and national updates of the soil information. Although information on soil properties (e.g. textural class, calcium carbonate and gypsum content) is available for each soil unit, individual units are grouped together into soil associations, designated by the dominant soil unit, for mapping purposes.

## 2.4 Database of topsoil mineralogy

We conducted an extensive literature review to compile the available data on soil mineralogy. To select representative measurements for each soil, we used the following criteria:

1. The mineralogical analyses were made on size-resolved fractions: the clay fraction ( $< 2 \mu\text{m}$ ) and/or on the silt fraction (between 2 and  $63 \mu\text{m}$ ).
2. The mineralogical analyses were made on the topsoil (surface horizon) because sub-surface layers are not subject to aeolian deflation.
3. The information could be associated with a specific FAO soil unit, even if the authors used an alternative classification in the original study.

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Only data that met all three criteria were retained. The database contains quantitative information (mean and standard deviation) on the mineralogical composition of the clay and silt fractions of each FAO soil unit, and associated metadata including the source of the mineralogical information. The geographic coordinates of the original data are given, either obtained directly from the source publication or inferred from the description of the general location of the soil profile. The soil texture (abundance of clay, silt and sand size fractions) was taken from the original publication; when this information was lacking, we used the mean texture for the soil unit. The standard method of determining soil texture involves wet sieving, and thus results in the loss of soluble minerals such as calcite or gypsum. We therefore include the total calcite and gypsum content of the bulk soil (< 2 mm) when size-resolved estimates were not available. Iron oxides and hydroxides (hematite and goethite respectively) occur in very small quantities in most soil and their abundance is rarely quantified. The database includes information on the average iron content and the mineralogical species present, where known. Given that the presence of iron oxides in the soil results in distinctive red or yellow coloration (Torrent et al., 1983), we include soil color (using the Munsell Soil Color Chart designation: Munsell Color Company, 1995) in the database. The hematite and goethite content is then inferred from the soil color (Fontes and Carvalho, 2005).

The final database contains data from 700 soil descriptions from more than 150 publications. Most of the records (ca 600) document the mineralogy of the clay fraction; there are far fewer records for the silt fraction. The spatial distribution of the data is shown on Fig. 1. There is little data from Russia, Alaska, Canada and Greenland, and records are sparse across Central Asia as much of the information from this region is in Chinese language publications. The distribution of records from other regions is inhomogeneous: the North America records are mostly from the western part of the continent, the South American records from Argentina and Brazil, while there is little or no data from West and central Africa or from central Australia. Nevertheless, the database represents a substantial improvement on the Claquin et al. (1999) compilation (Fig. 1) and samples 55 % of the FAO soil units.

## 2.5 Expansion of the database

Despite the extensive literature compilation, the database is deficient in information about the calcite, hematite and goethite content of the clay fraction. Information about silt mineralogy is also sparse. To overcome these problems, we have used a number of empirical approaches (described below) to fill critical gaps in creating the final maps.

### 2.5.1 Mineralogy of the clay fraction

Analysis of the available data shows that the amount of  $\text{CaCO}_3$  in the clay and silt fractions is linearly related to the clay/silt content of the soil (Fig. 2). Thus, we estimate the amount of calcite in the clay and the silt fraction of each soil unit from the total  $\text{CaCO}_3$  and the amount of clay/silt in that soil. To estimate the hematite and goethite content, we applied the empirical relationships established by Torrent et al. (1983) and Fontes and Carvalho (2005) between soil color and hematite and/or goethite content. Torrent et al. (1983) show that the hematite content in the clay fraction can be estimated from the soil Redness Rating (RR). Fontes and Carvalho (2005), link the ratio hematite/(hematite + goethite) in the fine earth fraction (< 2 mm) to the soil Redness Factor (RF). RR and RF are determined from the Munsell color of the soil. The inferred hematite content is entirely allocated to the clay fraction of the soil. The inferred goethite content is allocated to both the clay and the silt fractions. Following size-resolved mineralogical data provided by Kandler et al. (2009) for mineral dust particles sampled close to an African source area, 67 % of the goethite was assigned to the clay fraction and 33 % to the silt fraction.

The use of these empirical relationships allows us to attribute a mean mineralogical composition for 92 of the 211 soil units. For 18 of the remaining units, for which soil color information was lacking, we assumed that the hematite and/or goethite content was that of the major soil class to which the units belong. Data on the average clay mineralogical composition of the 120 soil units are presented in Appendix A. Nevertheless, there are

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still 90 soil units for which there is no information about the mineralogical composition of the clay fraction in the database.

## 2.5.2 Mineralogy of the silt fraction

Quantitative information on the amount of quartz, feldspars, mica and chlorite in the silt fraction is available for only 25 soil units (see Appendix A), and the amounts of calcite, gypsum and goethite are often lacking. We derived the calcite content of the silt fraction using the same method as for the clay fraction (see Fig. 2). We assume that the total amount of gypsum is divided equally between the silt and the sand fractions. We assume that 67 % of the total goethite is in the clay fraction and 33 % in the silt fraction (Kandler et al., 2009). Using these approximations, we are able to specify the calcite and gypsum content of the silt fraction for all the 211 units, and the goethite content for 181 soil units.

Information about the quartz, feldspars, chlorite and mica contents of the silt fraction is available for only 12 % of the soil units. We assigned the same quartz and feldspars content for all soils units within a major soil group, on the assumption that the content of these minerals in soils is determined by the mineralogy of the original bedrock and the classification of major soil groups is strongly related to the nature of the bedrock. The mica and chlorite contents of soils, however, is determined by soil-forming processes not bedrock mineralogy. Where quantitative information on mica and chlorite content is missing, we assign an average value based on the average of all the silt fraction records.

## 2.6 Creation of the mineralogical maps

The database provides mass percentages for ten minerals (illite, smectite kaolinite, chlorite, vermiculite, feldspars, quartz, calcite, hematite, goethite and iron) in the clay-sized fraction and mass percentages of 6 minerals (feldspars, quartz, mica, chlorite, calcite and goethite) in the silt-sized fraction for individual FAO soil units. These values

are assigned to all the geographical locations with that soil unit in the HWSD database. The HWSD grid is then aggregated onto a regular grid with a resolution of  $0.5^\circ \times 0.5^\circ$ . The resultant mineralogical map (CASE 0, Fig. 3) only shows information for soil units for which there was primary or derived mineralogical data. When mineralogical information is available for less than 50 % of the grid cell area, these cells are not mapped (white areas in Fig. 3). Two further maps were created for the clay mineralogy of soils. In the first map (CASE 1), we assign a mineralogical composition to the 92 soil units for which we have no information in the database, based on the mineralogical composition of the soil units whose profile characteristics are the closest. In the second map (CASE 2) we assign the average mineralogical composition of the major soil group to which they belong to the missing units. The CASE 1 and CASE 2 maps have continuous coverage.

Even for the baseline case (CASE 0), there is good coverage of the tropics and mid-latitude regions, particularly mid-latitude regions of the Southern Hemisphere (Fig. 3). Most of the modern-day arid and semi-arid source areas are well covered: there is mineralogical data for more than 90 % of the Sahara/Sahel and Middle East, and more than 80 % of the South African and South American, dust sources. The coverage of Chinese, Australian and North American dust sources is poor, in large part because of lack of mineralogical data for the most widespread soil units (Luvic Kastanozem, Luvic Yermosol) in these regions. The lack of information about Australian dust sources is due to the fact that most of the soil data comes from coastal regions (Fig. 1). The data set provides reasonable coverage of tropical and mid-latitude regions that are not sources today. Because data on Gelic soils (i.e. with permafrost) were not included in the database, there is poor coverage for the high latitudes of the Northern Hemisphere (NH) and the Tibetan Plateau.

## 2.7 Validation of the mineralogical maps

The HSWD provides information about the location of illite-rich soils (defined as having an illite content in the clay fraction of > 50 %) which can be used to validate our

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approach (Fig. 4). The areas with illite-rich soils broadly correspond with those with > 50 % illite in the clay-fraction in the CASE 0 map.

### 3 The mineralogical maps

#### 3.1 Minerals in the clay fraction: the example of illite

- 5 Illite occurs in almost all soil units and is therefore represented across all regions of the globe (Fig. 5). The amount is highly variable, ranging from 0 to 94 % with a mean value at 20.5 %. The highest amounts are found in the NH high and mid-latitudes, under cool and temperate climates. This is consistent with the controls on the clay-mineral formation: where water is scarce and temperature is low, physical alteration predominates  
10 and favors minerals similar to those of the parent rock, predominantly illite. The lowest amounts of illite are found in the wet equatorial zone where soil hydrolysis limits its occurrence. Previous studies (Caquineau et al., 2002; Claquin et al., 1999) have suggested that there was a latitudinal gradient in the amount of illite present in North Africa, but this is not so obvious in our dataset. The highest amounts of illite occur east  
15 and south of the Sahara, associated with Haplic and Cambic Arenosols.

#### 3.2 Mineralogy of the silt fraction: the example of mica

- Mica and gypsum only occur in the silt fraction. The gypsum content of soils is always < 2 % and relatively homogeneous; the mica content is more variable. Although mica contents of up to 25 % are obtained, most areas have between 6 and 9 % mica. This homogeneity may reflect the assignment of average values to soil units lacking specific data. However, mica-rich soils occur locally in Alaska, along Mediterranean coast of  
20 North Africa, in the Middle East, in Northern India and in Eastern China.

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### 3.3 Minerals occurring in both silt and clay fractions: the example of calcite

Calcite occurs in both the silt and clay fractions of soils. The amount of calcite in the silt fraction is generally low, rarely exceeding 5 % in the Southern Hemisphere (SH) and only exceeding 12 % in the NH in the hot deserts of the northern intertropical zone

- 5 (Sahara and Middle East) where it reaches 25 % (Fig. 7). A similar pattern is seen in the clay fraction, but the amounts are larger (up to 40 %). The calcite content in the clay fraction is closely related to rainfall: calcite content is low in regions where the annual rainfall is > 400 mm (< 1 %), varies between 5 and 15 % in semi-arid regions (200 and 400 mm) and only exceeds 15 % in arid areas where annual rainfall is < 200 mm.

### 10 3.4 Distribution of iron and iron oxides

The total iron content of the clay fraction ranges between 0 and 15 % (Fig. 8a). The total iron content reflects not only the presence of hematite and goethite but also on iron-rich clay minerals, such as illite or smectite, which often dominate the clay fraction.

- 15 The hematite content in the clay fraction is usually < 1.5 % (Fig. 8b) but reaches 5 % in some regions, including the longitudinal band from Montana to Texas in the US, a latitudinal band across Southern Russia, and arid regions of Northern Africa, while soils in Southern Brazil/Northern Argentina have hematite contents > 5 %. Goethite occurs in both the clay- and silt-sized fractions. The amount of goethite in the clay fraction is generally higher than the amount of hematite, and more variable (from 0 to 20 15 %). The highest amounts of goethite are found in moist soils in the equatorial zone and over parts of the Eastern US. The amount of goethite in the silt fraction is more homogeneous and represents < 2 % of the mass except in the equatorial zone where it can reach > 5 %, as in soils in Brazil. Goethite is generally more abundant in humid tropical environments while hematite becomes more abundant in the seasonally dry tropics.

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### 3.5 Mineralogical composition over modern dust-source regions

The largest sources of dust emissions to the atmosphere are located in the NH “dust belt” that extends from Northern Africa to the Middle East, and from Central and South Asia to China. Dust emissions also occur from arid areas in South America, 5 South Africa and central Australia. The dust from a particular source generally influences a specific region (Griffin et al., 2002). Dust from Northern Africa, for example, is transported over the North Atlantic (Delany et al., 1967) and the Mediterranean Basin (Ganor and Mamane, 1982) and into Europe and the Americas, while dust from Asia is transported over the North Pacific to North America (Duce et al., 1980). We defined 7 dust-source regions (Arabia: 13°–23° N; 25°–65° E; Asia: 10°–50° N; 65°–130° E; Australia: 110°–160° E; 45°–10° S; South Africa: 35° S–0° ; 2°–52° E; South America: 62° S–10° N; 100–30° W; Sahara: 20°–36° N; 25° W–42° E; and Sahel: 0°–20° N; 25° W–42° E) 10 and calculated an average mineralogical composition for each region (Fig. 9) to examine whether the differences in the mineralogy of airborne dust were large enough to influence regional climate. The average composition was calculated by weighting the mineralogical composition of each soil unit within the region by the percentage of surface it covers.

Kaolinite is the dominant mineral in all the source regions, but the abundance varies from 24 % (Arabia) to 36 % (South Africa). The next most abundant minerals are illite 20 and smectite. The total amount of clay minerals (kaolinite, illite, smectite, vermiculite and chlorite) is about 60 % in all regions. Quartz and feldspars never exceed 6 % of the clay fraction. In contrast, the amount of calcite varies from region to region: the South African, South American and Sahelian sources have < 4 % whereas the Arabian and Saharan sources have values around 10 %. The amount of iron oxide and hydroxide 25 minerals in the clay fraction vary from 3.0 % (Arabia) to 4.6 % (South America, South Africa). The total iron content of each source ranges between 4 and 5 % of the clay fraction (Fig. 10). More than half is “free” iron, associated with goethite and hematite, while the rest is Fe associated with the aluminosilicate lattice of clay minerals such

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as illite and smectite. Vermiculite and chlorite are less abundant in the soil but also contribute to the total iron.

The largest differences between regions are for vermiculite and calcite (Relative Standard Deviations, RSD, ca 50 %) and to a lesser extent, because of its very low abundance in the clay fraction, feldspars. Regional differences for the other minerals are less marked (RSD ca 20 %). The amount of illite ( $19.3 \pm 1.7\%$ ) and iron ( $4.6 \pm 0.4\%$ ) are similar from region to region. The source areas of the Sahel, South Africa and South America have a similar mineralogical composition (high kaolinite, low calcite and smectite, and high iron from goethite), which is nevertheless distinct from the mineralogical composition of the Sahara and Arabia sources (low kaolinite, high calcite, and relatively low iron).

### 3.6 Differences between soil and airborne dust mineralogy

We use a General Circulation Model with an aerosol scheme (LMDZ-INCA) to transport the minerals as individual tracers. For each mineral, 5 yr of simulations were analyzed after a 3-months initialization period used to bring the aerosol distribution to a steady state. These simulations allowed us to determine the volume fraction of the different minerals relative to the volume of total dust. Each mineral is transported in the atmosphere using a modal scheme to represent the size distribution with a mass median diameter of  $2.5 \mu\text{m}$  and a sigma of 2.0 (Schulz et al., 1998). Figure 11 illustrates the global averaged differences in mineralogy between the clay fractions of soil and airborne dust. The mineralogical composition of airborne dust is broadly similar to that of the clay fraction of the soil. The most abundant minerals in both soil and airborne dust are kaolinite, illite and smectite, which represent 68.6 % (by mass) of the soil and 64.5 % of the airborne dust. Kaolinite is less abundant in airborne dust than soil (23.6 % vs. 35.3 %), whereas the amount of illite and smectite is slightly higher in airborne dust. The largest differences between soil and airborne dust are in terms of the abundance of feldspars and of minerals outside the group considered here (other). Feldspars are not abundant in the soil (0.7 %) but are a significant component of airborne dust (3.7 %);

other minerals form 8.9 % of the soil and only 5.2 % of airborne dust. These differences reflect the fact that the values for the soil are the average composition of all the world's soils whereas the airborne dust is related only to the dust-producing regions.

The distribution of illite in the clay fraction of soils and yearly-averaged airborne dust from our CASE 0, CASE 1 and CASE 2 maps is shown in Fig. 12. Illite comprises from 5 20 to 30 % of the total mass of airborne dust over most of the Northern Hemisphere in CASE 0 and CASE 1. Emissions from the Lake Chad region and the Taklamakan Desert contribute to the elevated illite content that creates a North/South gradient. In contrast, CASE 2 shows a relatively low illite fraction over the Gobi Desert.

10 Feely et al. (2009) assume that transported calcite has a mass content of 3 %, and use this fraction to limit the heterogeneous uptake of acids such as nitric acid by mineral dust. This is not consistent with our results, where the calcite fraction in the three different cases ranges from 7.9 to 8.9 % of the mass of the airborne clay fraction. Airborne calcite exceeds 12 % in the clay fraction over Mauritania, Morocco and the 15 western United States (Fig. 13).

## 4 Discussion

### 4.1 Comparison with Clauquin et al. (1999) results

The Clauquin et al. (1999) data set provides mineralogical information for arid dust-source regions. We have extended this approach to cover soils over most of the world 20 (with the exception of cold areas with permafrost), on the assumption that this will be useful for specifying dust mineralogy as dust sources change in response to climate changes. We have been able to capitalize on the much-expanded literature now available to provide mineralogical information for 110 or the 124 soils units described in the FAO classification. We have expanded the number of minerals considered, compared 25 to Clauquin et al. (1999), by including information on chlorite, vermiculite, feldspars, goethite and hematite in the clay fraction. Although relatively unimportant individually,

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together these minerals can be ca. 45 % of the mass in some soil units (e.g. Humic Ferralsols). We have added mica and chlorite in the silt fraction, and attribute the iron oxide in this fraction to goethite (rather than hematite as in Claquin et al., 1999). We have chosen not to normalize the distribution of individual minerals to 100 % of the mass, in order to avoid artificially inflating the amount of an individual mineral recorded; up to 17 % of the mass remains unidentified for some soils.

The major components of the silt-sized fraction are quartz and feldspars, and the estimates of their abundance in the two datasets (for common regions and soil units) are not significantly different. Our estimates of the abundance of quartz in the clay-sized fraction are ca 10 % less than those of Claquin et al. (1999) (see Fig. 14a and b) but this difference is not important as quartz represents only a small fraction of the mass. The calcite content is also quite similar, except for Calcic Fluvisols, Calcic Xerosols, Luvin Xerosols and salt flats, where the differences are > 10 %. However, there are large differences between the two data sets in the amount of kaolinite, illite and smectite for over half of soil units identified in the Claquin et al. (1999) data set.

## 4.2 Implications for dust optical properties: single scattering albedo

Most of the minerals in airborne dust, with the exception of iron oxides, have similar optical properties in the shortwave part of the spectrum (from 0.2 to 4.0  $\mu\text{m}$ ). Here we use the refractive index of illite for everything except hematite and goethite. Hematite and goethite are more absorbing than the other minerals (Balkanski et al., 2007), hematite being even more absorbing than goethite. The same relative volume of hematite compared to goethite will absorb substantially more radiation in the short wave and its density is 25 % greater than goethite. The absorption of dust, and hence its single scattering albedo, depends not only on the total amount of optically-active iron oxides that are present but also on the relative proportion of hematite and goethite.

We used a core-shell optical model from Toon and Ackerman (1981) to calculate the albedo of dust over the whole range of relative abundances of illite, goethite and hematite shown in the database. The refractive index of this shell was determined using

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a dielectric model as described in Balkanski et al. (2007). These different core-shell assemblages are fully determined by two variables: the percentage of the total volume occupied by the shell made of iron oxides (i.e., volume goethite + volume hematite (%)) and the ratio,  $R$ , of the volume of Hematite to the total volume of iron oxides

5  $R = \text{vol. hematite}/(\text{vol. hematite} + \text{vol. goethite})$

Illite, goethite and hematite were transported as inert tracers in the General Circulation Model with an aerosol scheme (LMDZ-INCA). For each mineral, 5 yr of simulations were analyzed after a to determine the volume fraction of illite, goethite and hematite 10 relative to the volume of total dust. In these simulations, the yearly average volume fraction of iron oxides relative to the total dust volume remains between 1.5 and 5% over most regions except over India where the values can fall below 1.5 % (Fig. 15a). The plot of the  $R$  ratio (Fig. 15b) shows that goethite is more abundant than hematite over both hemispheres ( $R < 0.5$ ) except for a region centered over Central Europe.

15 **4.3 Single scattering albedo of dust computed from iron oxides**

We created a table with 286 values of the total iron oxides mass and the  $R$  ratio to determine the single scattering albedo of the airborne dust. The values obtained for 20 single scattering albedo represent a yearly averaged situation (Fig. 16). Values for  $\omega_0$  range from 0.935 to 0.975. The gradients shown here cannot be obtained from any method based upon optical measurements.

**5 Conclusions**

There is a clear need for detailed information on mineralogy to improve assessments 25 of the environmental and climatic impacts of dust. Although the size fractionation that occurs during emission leads to an aerosol composition that is different from the parent soil (Gomes, 1990; Grini et al., 2002; Kok, 2011), there is still much work required

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to quantify these differences. Given the lack of data on the mineralogical composition of airborne dust, an indirect approach using the size-resolved mineralogical composition of parent soils is still the best way of specifying dust mineralogy globally. Clauquin et al. (1999) were the first to produce mineralogical maps of arid and semi-arid soils for this purpose, providing information on eight minerals (quartz, feldspars, calcite, gypsum, illite, kaolinite, smectite and hematite) in both the clay- and silt-sized soil fractions. More recently, Nickovic et al. (2012) revised these maps to include three new soil units and soil phosphorus contents. The present work is a major improvement on these earlier compilations, because it is not confined to arid and semi-arid soil units and provides information on a wider range of minerals.

Despite having the benefit of a more extensive literature, data is still lacking for a number of soil units and it was therefore necessary to make a number of assumptions to extrapolate mineralogical information to cover all soil subtypes. There is comparatively little information on the calcite and iron oxides and hydroxides (hematite and goethite) contents of both the clay- and silt-sized fractions because they are almost always measured on the bulk soil. The same is true for gypsum. There is less information available about the mineralogy of silt compared to the clay fraction. This may be less important than the lack of information about the mineralogy of the clay-fraction because, although the silt fraction is important in dust total deposition, it is a less important component of the radiatively active fraction of dust that is transported long distances from the source regions. The data coverage for Australia, South America and Asia is not satisfactory. Information may be available for Asia, although we were unable to access this literature. Information on the mineralogical composition of Ferralic Arenosols, Luvis Yermosols, Sodic Planosols and Luvis Calcisols would considerably improve the database for Australia and South America. We have produced a dynamic database, designed to evolve through inclusion of new data. Data on the FAO soil units for which we were unable to obtain mineralogical information (see Appendix B), would greatly enhance the utility of the database. More information of the particle-size distribution

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of calcite, gypsum and iron (hydr-)oxides would improve the level of confidence in the mineralogical maps.

The current database and associated mineralogical maps provides a tool for specifying dust mineralogy in dust-cycle simulations. It can be used to deduce the mineralogy of both modern dust sources and dust sources created by changed conditions. This opens the way to examine the impact of changing dust sources in response to past or future climate and land-use scenarios.

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**Table 1.** Distribution of the selected minerals in the clay and silt fraction of soils.

Minerals	Clay fraction	Silt Fraction
Illite	Dominant (100 %)	Negligible (0 %)
Kaolinite	Dominant (100 %)	Negligible (0 %)
Smectite	Dominant (100 %)	Negligible (0 %)
Vermiculite	Dominant (100 %)	Negligible (0 %)
Chlorite	Present	Present
Mica	Negligible (0 %)	Dominant (100 %)
Quartz	Minority	Majority
Feldspar	Minority	Majority
Gypsum	Negligible (0 %)	Dominant (100 %)
Calcite	Present	Present
Hematite	Dominant (100 %)	Negligible (0 %)
Goethite	Present (70 %)	Present (30 %)

**Table 2.** Average iron content in selected minerals.

Mineral	References	Mean Fe (% w)
Illite	Journet et al. (2008), Seabaugh et al. (2006), Taylor et al. (2000), Gold et al. (1983), Robert (1973), Carroll et Starkey (1971), Deer et al. (1962)	4.3 %
Smectite	Journet et al. (2008), Ramesh et al. (2007), Bayrak (2006), Garcia-Rodriguez et al. (1995), Yilmaz (1981), Osthaus (1956)	2.6 %
Kaolinite	Journet et al. (2008), Temuujin et al. (2001)	0.23 %
Chlorite	Cathelineau and Nieva (1985), Kramm (1973)	12.5 %
Vermiculite	Andronova (2007), Seo et al. (2004)	6.7 %
Feldspars	Journet et al. (2008)	0.34 %

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**Table A1.** Average mineralogical composition of the clay fraction of the 120 soil units of the FAO soil classification (AV = average composition, SD = standard deviation, n = number of samples studied), the bold text and numbers correspond to the average composition

unit	subunit	n	illite	smectite	kaolinite	chlorite	vermiculite	feldspars	quartz	n	calcite	n	hematite	n	goethite
Acrisols	–	AV	<b>17,5</b>	<b>3,9</b>	<b>0,0</b>	<b>7,6</b>	<b>4,6</b>	<b>0,0</b>	<b>5,2</b>	2	<b>0,2</b>	26	<b>0,9</b>	16	<b>7,9</b>
		SD	21	20,8	8,0	19,0	9,9	9,0	0,0	8,1	2	2,0	16	6,2	
Acrisols	ferric	AV	<b>13,3</b>	<b>2,8</b>	<b>32,1</b>	<b>12,9</b>	<b>4,0</b>	<b>0,0</b>	<b>5,2</b>	0	<b>0,0</b>	10	<b>0,6</b>	9	<b>11,1</b>
		SD	8	10,4	5,2	9,7	12,8	7,4	0,0	7,5	0	1,5	9	6,3	
Acrisols	gleycic	AV	<b>15,0</b>	<b>0,0</b>	<b>13,0</b>	<b>0,0</b>	<b>31,0</b>	<b>0,0</b>	<b>0,0</b>	1	<b>0,5</b>	1	<b>0,0</b>	7,9	
		SD	1										0		
Acrisols	haptic	AV	<b>46,7</b>	<b>16,7</b>	<b>18,3</b>	<b>0,0</b>	<b>7,3</b>	<b>0,0</b>	<b>9,3</b>	0	<b>0,0</b>	4	<b>0,5</b>	4	<b>4,6</b>
		SD	3	40,4	14,4	23,1	0,0	12,7	0,0	16,2	1	0,5	4	3,4	
Acrisols	humic	AV	<b>3,0</b>	<b>0,0</b>	<b>30,0</b>	<b>0,0</b>	<b>1,0</b>	<b>0,0</b>	<b>0,0</b>	0	<b>0,0</b>	5	<b>0,5</b>	7,9	
		SD	1									0,7	0		
Acrisols	orthic	AV	<b>10,0</b>	<b>10,0</b>	<b>25,0</b>	<b>0,0</b>	<b>10,0</b>	<b>0,0</b>	<b>20,0</b>	0	<b>0,0</b>	1	<b>1,1</b>	5,3	
		SD	1									1	1		
Acrisols	plinthic	AV	<b>4,4</b>	<b>0,0</b>	<b>57,6</b>	<b>11,2</b>	<b>0,0</b>	<b>0,0</b>	<b>4,0</b>	0	<b>0,0</b>	1	<b>0,0</b>	1	<b>1,5</b>
		SD	5	0,9	0,0	13,1	3,6	0,0	0,0	2,0	0	2	2	2	
Alisol	haptic	AV	<b>21,6</b>	<b>12,4</b>	<b>28,6</b>	<b>1,4</b>	<b>8,4</b>	<b>0,5</b>	<b>2,2</b>	0	<b>0,0</b>	1	<b>0,7</b>	4,9	
		SD	6	23,3	13,8	19,9	2,1	5,7	1,2	5,3	0	1	1	1	
Andosols	–	AV	<b>7,3</b>	<b>0,0</b>	<b>21,0</b>	<b>0,0</b>	<b>21,1</b>	<b>1,7</b>	<b>1,1</b>	0	<b>0,0</b>	11	<b>2,1</b>	4,4	
		SD	7	13,6	0,0	20,8	0,0	23,8	2,2	1,2	2	2,5	6	2,7	
Andosols	haptic	AV	<b>7,3</b>	<b>0,0</b>	<b>21,0</b>	<b>0,0</b>	<b>21,1</b>	<b>1,7</b>	<b>1,1</b>	0	<b>0,0</b>	4	<b>2,9</b>	4,4	
		SD	7	13,6	0,0	20,8	0,0	23,8	2,2	1,2	2	2,1	6	2,7	
Andosols	humic	AV	<b>17,5</b>	<b>0,0</b>	<b>46,1</b>	<b>0,0</b>	<b>0,0</b>	<b>0,0</b>	<b>2,0</b>	0	<b>0,0</b>	3	<b>3,8</b>	7,5	
		SD	2									2			
Andosols	umbritic	AV	<b>16,0</b>	<b>0,0</b>	<b>27,0</b>	<b>0,0</b>	<b>35,0</b>	<b>0,0</b>	<b>0,0</b>	0	<b>0,0</b>	2	<b>1,1</b>	1,7	
		SD	1									0,4	2		
Arenosols	–	AV	<b>36,1</b>	<b>13,5</b>	<b>27,9</b>	<b>2,3</b>	<b>0,6</b>	<b>1,1</b>	<b>3,3</b>	0	<b>0,5</b>	3	<b>0,2</b>	1,0	
		SD	11	25,0	13,1	28,7	5,1	2,0	3,8	5,6	3	0,4	10	0,5	5
Arenosols	calcaric	AV	<b>13,0</b>	<b>7,6</b>	<b>26,0</b>	<b>12,5</b>	<b>0,0</b>	<b>0,0</b>	<b>7,1</b>	0	<b>14,9</b>	1	<b>0,0</b>	0,0	
		SD	2									1			
Arenosols	cambic	AV	<b>59,1</b>	<b>24,7</b>	<b>4,4</b>	<b>0,0</b>	<b>0,0</b>	<b>0,0</b>	<b>0,0</b>	0	<b>0,0</b>	5	<b>0,0</b>	1,0	
		SD	5	10,2	10,2	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0	0,0	0	0,0	0	
Arenosols	haptic	AV	<b>40,4</b>	<b>6,7</b>	<b>40,4</b>	<b>0,0</b>	<b>0,0</b>	<b>0,0</b>	<b>0,0</b>	1	<b>0,2</b>	1	<b>1,3</b>	2,8	
		SD	1									1	1		
Arenosols	luvitic	AV	<b>11,6</b>	<b>1,0</b>	<b>64,2</b>	<b>0,0</b>	<b>2,2</b>	<b>4,2</b>	<b>7,4</b>	0	<b>0,6</b>	2	<b>0,5</b>	1,1	
		SD	3	12,6	1,7	23,2	0,0	3,8	7,2	5,9	2	2	2	2	
Calcisol	–	AV	<b>24,1</b>	<b>12,6</b>	<b>11,2</b>	<b>2,3</b>	<b>3,1</b>	<b>3,3</b>	<b>5,7</b>	0	<b>17,5</b>	5	<b>0,5</b>	1,0	
		SD	15	15,9	12,1	8,3	5,2	5,4	7,4	10,0	15	19,9	17	1,0	14
Calcisol	haptic	AV	<b>15,5</b>	<b>11,8</b>	<b>7,3</b>	<b>5,0</b>	<b>6,6</b>	<b>0,0</b>	<b>0,9</b>	0	<b>28,3</b>	2	<b>0,2</b>	1,0	
		SD	7	5,1	8,6	9,8	6,9	6,4	0,0	2,5	7	19,9	8	0,4	6
Calcisol	petric	AV	<b>44,0</b>	<b>26,3</b>	<b>12,8</b>	<b>0,0</b>	<b>0,0</b>	<b>0,0</b>	<b>0,0</b>	3	<b>14,4</b>	2	<b>0,0</b>	1,6	
		SD	2									2			
Cambisol	–	AV	<b>24,1</b>	<b>8,4</b>	<b>26,2</b>	<b>6,0</b>	<b>8,9</b>	<b>1,8</b>	<b>4,6</b>	35	<b>5,6</b>	46	<b>1,4</b>	38	
		SD	100	18,7	14,3	19,5	9,1	12,0	3,3	5,6	6,4	1,4	38	5,7	
Cambisol	calcaric	AV	<b>37,1</b>	<b>5,4</b>	<b>13,3</b>	<b>12,0</b>	<b>2,1</b>	<b>3,3</b>	<b>6,0</b>	0	<b>18,3</b>	5	<b>0,5</b>	2,9	
		SD	9	3,4	2,0	1,7	2,3	1,0	1,2	1,0	1	1	0		
Cambisol	calcic	AV	<b>8,1</b>	<b>23,2</b>	<b>13,9</b>	<b>0,0</b>	<b>11,9</b>	<b>7,2</b>	<b>9,3</b>	4	<b>6,6</b>	2	<b>0,4</b>	5,6	
		SD	2									2			
Cambisol	chromic	AV	<b>32,4</b>	<b>8,6</b>	<b>16,3</b>	<b>1,9</b>	<b>6,0</b>	<b>4,0</b>	<b>8,9</b>	2	<b>0,8</b>	5	<b>0,2</b>	2,0	
		SD	16	20,6	14,3	21,5	2,4	6,3	5,2	8,8	5	0,4	5	2,7	
Cambisol	dystric	AV	<b>22,6</b>	<b>5,4</b>	<b>28,7</b>	<b>5,3</b>	<b>12,0</b>	<b>0,6</b>	<b>4,0</b>	3	<b>0,2</b>	17	<b>1,4</b>	15	
		SD	30	18,5	13,8	16,0	11,0	16,4	1,9	4,8	0,4	17	1,4	6,7	
Cambisol	eutric	AV	<b>26,8</b>	<b>12,3</b>	<b>22,3</b>	<b>10,9</b>	<b>6,1</b>	<b>1,1</b>	<b>1,1</b>	30	<b>5,0</b>	6	<b>1,1</b>	2,7	
		SD	14	16,3	14,7	23,2	11,0	9,0	2,9	7,5	6	1,4	5	2,8	

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Cambisols	ferralic	AV	11,1	7,4	36,7	6,6	7,0	2,5	3,8	0,0	0,0	0,0	7,4
		SD	12	10,1	17,6	22,4	8,4	11,2	4,0	2,3	0	10	0,0
Cambisols	gleytic	AV	22,0	13,7	33,0	0,0	11,2	0,0	3,6	0,0	0,3	0,0	2,0
		SD	5	18,5	13,7	14,7	0,0	10,5	0,0	8,0	0	2	2
Cambisols	humic	AV	8,1	0,7	36,5	0,0	19,7	0,0	0,0	0,5	0,5	0,0	15,4
		SD	7	7,5	1,9	13,1	0,0	12,0	0,0	0,0	1	1	1
Cambisols	vertic	AV	49,6	47,6	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,2	0,0	0,0	1,7
		SD	1						0	1	1	1	
Chernozems	—	AV	33,3	16,1	16,5	10,0	0,6	0,0	3,0	2,9	0,0	0,0	0,0
		SD	5	22,5	19,9	12,8	9,3	1,3	0,0	6,2	4,6	4,0	0,0
Chernozems	calcic	AV	59,5	0,0	11,7	18,9	0,0	0,0	0,0	9,8	0,0	0,0	0,0
		SD	1						1	1	1	1	
Chernozems	haplic	AV	21,2	28,3	21,2	14,1	0,0	0,0	14,1	1,0	0,0	0,0	0,0
		SD	1						1	0	0	0	
Chernozems	luvic	AV	56,0	7,0	0,0	17,0	3,0	0,0	0,0	3,1	0,0	0,0	0,0
		SD	1						0	0	0	0	
Dunes	—	AV	35,2	17,7	14,3	4,2	13,0	0,2	4,8	6,3	4,0	0,0	
		SD	24	19,0	17,2	12,7	5,3	27,7	0,8	8,8	5,4	5,3	6,9
Ferralsols	—	AV	2,3	0,0	50,7	3,8	4,9	0,8	1,9	0,0	2,9	9,3	
		SD	12	4,5	0,0	20,5	7,1	8,0	1,5	3,1	4	0,0	20
Ferralsols	acric	AV	0,0	0,0	42,9	14,3	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	21,4
		SD	1						0	1	1	1	
Ferralsols	haplic	AV	2,0	0,0	43,0	0,0	17,0	0,5	7,5	0,0	0,0	0,0	2,0
		SD	2						2	1	1	1	
Ferralsols	humic	AV	0,0	0,0	26,0	0,0	7,5	2,0	1,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	35,1
		SD	2						1	2	2	2	
Ferralsols	orthic	AV	3,3	0,0	64,0	7,8	0,0	0,0	0,8	0,0	0,0	0,0	8,2
		SD	4	6,7	0,0	18,7	9,7	0,0	0,0	1,5	0	4	0,0
Ferralsols	rhodic	AV	5,2	0,0	68,3	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	7,9	4,4	
		SD	2						0	7	5,9	6	1,7
Ferralsols	xantic	AV	0,0	0,0	35,0	0,0	10,0	4,0	3,0	0,0	0,4	0,4	5,7
		SD	1						1	4	0,9	4	3,4
Fluvisols	—	AV	21,0	25,2	15,2	5,8	8,1	0,4	2,3	20,0	0,6	1,5	
		SD	21	21,6	21,2	15,6	7,4	9,0	1,0	4,6	15	14,7	7
Fluvisols	calcaric	AV	42,8	7,9	9,7	9,7	0,7	0,0	2,7	25,2	0,7	1,7	
		SD	6	27,1	10,1	9,1	11,0	1,8	0,0	4,9	9	15,5	4
Fluvisols	dystric	AV	13,0	30,5	37,0	0,0	13,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,7	2,0	
		SD	2						0	1	0	0	
Fluvisols	eutric	AV	10,9	37,3	21,9	4,4	13,4	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,5	1,2	
		SD	8	12,1	21,1	15,9	4,1	8,3	0,0	0,0	2	2	
Fluvisols	Salic	AV	29,0	0,0	10,0	21,0	0,0	0,0	17,0	1,0	0,6	1,5	
		SD	1						2	0	0	0	
Gleysols	—	AV	10,0	12,3	36,3	0,9	19,6	1,7	4,3	0,0	0,2	0,9	
		SD	9	10,1	16,4	12,5	2,7	13,3	4,0	7,1	3	0,0	5,7
Gleysols	dystric	AV	6,3	13,7	47,0	0,0	26,3	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	
		SD	3	4,5	9,9	1,0	0,0	9,1	0,0	0,0	1	1	1
Gleysols	eutric	AV	7,6	23,3	39,3	0,0	20,3	0,0	1,3	0,0	0,4	0,4	1,1
		SD	3	2,5	23,8	11,1	0,0	13,5	0,0	2,2	0	4	0,8
Greyzems	haplic	AV	28,2	14,1	28,2	0,0	28,2	0,0	0,0	1,5	0,0	0,0	0,0
		SD	1						0	0	0	0	
Greyzems	orthic	AV	19,8	26,4	19,8	19,8	0,0	0,0	13,2	0,9	0,0	0,0	0,0
		SD	1						1	0	0	0	
Gypsisols	—	AV	7,7	28,5	10,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	12,2	0,0	0,0	
		SD	1						3	6,1	2	2	
Kastanozem	—	AV	34,6	8,3	19,3	4,6	0,6	0,0	6,0	12,0	2,2	0,3	
		SD	8	27,1	7,8	17,4	7,9	1,6	0,0	8,3	5	18,3	6
Kastanozem	calcic	AV	36,2	2,1	10,4	0,0	4,3	0,0	16,7	3,3	7,1	0,0	
		SD	1						0	1	1	1	



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Kastanozems	haplic	AV	0,0	0,0	57,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	5,0	2,9	0,0	
Leptosols	-	AV	19,7	6,7	37,4	1,5	8,5	0,0	0,0	0	22,6	1,3	1,6	
Leptosols	dystric	AV	SD 12	22,8	11,8	30,9	4,7	14,2	0,0	0,0	6	26,7	3	1,4
Leptosols	eutric	AV	SD 1	80,0	0,0	14,0	2,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0	0,0	0,0	0,0
Leptosols	lithic	AV	SD 2	30,7	0,0	21,6	0,0	20,3	0,0	0,0	2	22,7	1,7	2,1
Leptosols	mollic	AV	SD 2	7,9	21,5	57,8	7,9	0,0	0,0	0,0	2	1,3	1,3	1,5
Leptosols	rendzic	AV	SD 1	7,6	31,1	20,1	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	1	13,4	1,3	1,6
Leptosols	umbritic	AV	SD 1	0,3	4,6	1,9	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	1	66,4	1,3	1,6
Lithosols	-	AV	SD 4	13,9	0,0	55,2	0,0	12,5	0,0	0,0	0	0,0	1,3	0,0
Lithosols	-	AV	SD 2	9,0	0,0	40,0	0,0	14,4	0,0	0,0	0	0,0	0,0	0,0
Lixisols	haplic	AV	SD 2	8,2	23,2	59,9	8,2	0,0	0,0	0,0	2	1,4	1,3	1,5
Luvisols	calcic	AV	SD 1	18,8	18,8	62,5	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0	0,0	0,0	2,0
Luvisols	-	AV	SD 2	37,4	7,9	21,6	2,8	2,6	0,8	4,6	0	2,3	1,8	3,4
Luvisols	albic	AV	SD 56	27,2	16,2	18,9	7,3	6,2	2,1	7,2	23	4,2	40	3,5
Luvisols	chromic	AV	SD 1	20,0	26,7	20,0	0,0	20,0	0,0	13,3	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0
Luvisols	ferric	AV	SD 4	28,0	14,6	30,7	0,9	3,1	0,0	0,0	0	11,8	0,9	3,6
Luvisols	gleyic	AV	SD 4	23,5	11,6	30,3	1,7	4,5	0,0	0,0	3	4,6	3	4,8
Luvisols	haplic	AV	SD 21	34,5	12,9	22,0	3,0	2,7	0,2	6,2	0,0	1,0	2,7	3,1
Luvisols	orthic	AV	SD 1	27,9	20,5	17,7	9,4	6,9	0,8	9,3	12	1,7	12	4,4
Luvisols	stagnic	AV	SD 4	14,9	0,0	19,9	19,9	0,0	5,0	0,0	0,0	0,5	0,0	10,0
Luvisols	stagnic	AV	SD 4	26,3	15,5	28,8	0,0	0,0	0,8	8,0	1	0,6	0,0	7,0
Luvisols	stagnic	AV	SD 4	18,3	31,0	19,6	0,0	0,0	1,0	5,6	1	4	0,0	4,8
Nitosols	-	AV	SD 4	33,7	5,8	37,6	2,7	1,3	0,5	6,7	0,0	1,0	1,0	7,5
Nitosols	dystric	AV	SD 4	33,1	9,6	23,6	5,5	2,5	1,0	7,9	1	2	2	2
Nitosols	eutric	AV	SD 4	24,0	2,4	16,2	0,0	3,0	0,0	0,0	3	0,8	4	1,0
Nitosols	orthic	AV	SD 4	28,8	0,0	0,5	8,3	11,3	6,3	10,3	0,0	0,0	1,8	3,4
Nitosols	stagnic	AV	SD 4	26,0	0,0	1,0	6,7	10,3	4,3	2,9	1	0	0	0
Nitosols	-	AV	SD 4	25,3	5,5	57,2	0,0	1,2	0,0	3,7	0,0	0,0	1,7	5,4
Nitosols	dystric	AV	SD 4	20,5	6,6	13,3	0,0	2,5	0,0	7,5	0	3	2,9	3,8,2
Nitosols	eutric	AV	SD 1	0,0	0,0	60,0	0,0	5,0	0,0	15,0	0,0	0,0	2,5	8,4
Nitosols	eutric	AV	SD 3	34,5	7,5	58,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0	0,0	0,0	0,0
Phaeozems	-	AV	SD 22	30,2	30,0	13,2	5,7	2,5	1,6	3,7	2,2	0,2	0,2	2,0
Phaeozems	calcaric	AV	SD 3	18,7	23,8	20,3	9,3	5,5	4,5	5,7	9	4,7	7	0,4
Phaeozems	haplic	AV	SD 13	35,2	36,6	9,8	1,2	1,5	2,7	3,0	0,8	0,0	0,0	1,0
Phaeozems	luvitic	AV	SD 4	16,6	23,9	20,0	2,9	3,4	5,6	4,8	6	0,4	5	0,9
Planosols	-	AV	SD 6	12,5	2,7	19,3	2,4	13,1	5,0	18,2	2,1	0,0	0,0	0,0
Planosols	dystric	AV	SD 4	8,0	3,0	6,0	2,5	15,3	7,5	23,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0
Planosols	eutric	AV	SD 2	21,4	2,2	46,0	2,2	8,7	0,0	8,7	4,2	0,0	0,0	0,0



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Plinthosols	-	AV	17,3	0,0	46,2	15,5	0,0	0,0	3,5	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,8
	SD	4	32,6	0,0	21,0	7,4	0,0	0,0	2,5	0	1	1	1
Plinthosols	Albic	AV	1,0	0,0	54,0	18,3	0,0	0,0	4,7	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,8
	SD	3	1,0	0,0	17,1	5,7	0,0	0,0	1,2	0	0	0	0
Plinthosols	eutric	AV	66,1	0,0	22,7	6,9	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,8
	SD	1							0	0	1	1	1
Podzols	-	AV	38,7	0,0	23,9	1,4	4,4	1,8	13,0	0,0	0,0	0,5	0,1
	SD	5	27,0	0,0	25,2	1,9	6,7	4,0	29,1	2	6	1,2	0,2
Podzols	Carbic	AV	26,0	0,0	41,0	3,0	15,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0
	SD	1							0	0	1	1	1
Podzols	Haplic	AV	51,5	0,0	32,0	2,0	3,5	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0
	SD	2							1	1	4	0,0	4,0
Podzoluvisols	dystric	AV	29,3	0,0	0,0	13,9	8,0	0,0	41,8	0	0,0	0,5	1,3
	SD	1							0	0	0	0	0
Podzoluvisols	eutric	AV	29,3	0,0	0,0	13,9	8,0	0,0	41,8	0	0,0	0,5	1,3
	SD	1							0	0	9	0,7	9,0
Regosols	-	AV	26,6	16,1	22,7	5,9	1,2	1,4	6,0	0	8,4	0,3	2,6
	SD	24	19,6	19,4	19,3	8,6	2,6	3,2	11,1	11	13,0	13	0,6
Regosols	calcaric	AV	26,1	10,6	19,5	11,8	1,1	3,1	7,0	0	6,0	0,2	3,3
	SD	11	17,1	11,7	12,2	9,4	2,0	4,3	5,0	2	5	4,0	3,4
Regosols	dystric	AV	0,0	0,0	78,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	4,0	0	0,0	2,0	10,0
	SD	1							0	0	1	1	1
Regosols	eutric	AV	31,3	21,8	23,5	2,3	0,0	0,0	2,2	0	7,7	0,3	1,0
	SD	5	16,4	15,5	6,3	5,1	0,0	0,0	4,8	5	10,2	5	0,4
Regosols	gypsic	AV	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	41,0	0	0,3	2,6
	SD	1							1	0	0	0	0
Regosols	umbric	AV	3,0	0,0	70,0	0,0	7,0	0,0	0,0	0	0,0	0,3	2,6
	SD	1							0	0	0	0	0
Rendzinas	-	AV	0,0	0,0	13,1	0,0	13,1	0,0	0,0	40,0	0	0,5	1,6
	SD	1							1	1	1	1	1
salt flats	-	AV	34,7	31,7	11,6	9,8	1,1	0,0	0,0	7,7	0	0,0	0,0
	SD	28	13,5	19,0	13,6	8,7	3,0	0,0	0,0	29	16,3	3	0,0
Solonchaks	-	AV	24,9	31,6	14,8	4,2	0,5	0,0	1,4	0	21,1	0,3	1,0
	SD	10	17,5	17,8	22,0	6,7	1,9	0,0	4,0	7	20,5	5	0,0
Solonchaks	gleycic	AV	17,1	28,1	0,0	4,8	0,0	0,0	3,4	0	29,7	0,0	0,0
	SD	1							1	1	1	1	1
Solonchaks	mollic	AV	43,5	49,3	1,2	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	4,2	0	0,3	1,0
	SD	4	12,5	10,4	2,5	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0	0	0	0,9
Solonchaks	orthic	AV	15,9	15,9	47,8	4,9	0,0	0,0	0,0	9,2	0	0,3	1,1
	SD	3	1,5	1,5	4,5	8,6	0,0	0,0	0,0	4	2,9	0	0
Solonchaks	sodic	AV	14,2	34,0	8,7	13,7	3,0	0,0	6,2	0	3,6	0,0	0,0
	SD	2							0	2	1	1	1
Solonetz	-	AV	28,6	9,3	25,7	3,9	1,9	2,2	9,8	0	8,3	0,8	0,6
	SD	12	19,7	11,0	21,5	5,5	5,3	3,6	10,6	7	13,0	9	1,3
Solonetz	haplic	AV	26,3	5,3	36,2	0,0	0,0	6,8	19,1	7	1,8	0,5	2,2
	SD	2							0	2	2	2	2
Solonetz	orthic	AV	29,0	10,1	23,6	4,7	2,2	1,3	7,9	0	8,3	0,9	0,6
	SD	10	20,5	11,7	22,9	5,7	5,8	2,6	10,6	7	13,1	7	0,0
Vertisols	-	AV	13,4	44,8	19,0	1,4	1,0	1,5	6,1	0	7,8	0,6	3,2
	SD	27	16,3	23,0	12,8	4,2	2,6	5,9	11,9	20	12,3	13	0,0
Vertisols	calcic	AV	4,1	41,0	8,2	4,1	0,0	0,0	8,2	0	25,8	1,2	2,1
	SD	1							2	1	1	1	1
Vertisols	chromic	AV	14,7	42,0	23,5	1,8	0,8	0,8	5,8	0	2,9	0,6	3,7
	SD	15	18,6	24,0	13,7	5,4	2,3	3,0	7,2	9	3,4	10	0,0
Vertisols	eutric	AV	8,1	38,0	15,7	0,0	2,4	7,1	14,3	0	9,3	0,0	1,7
	SD	4	12,7	35,5	12,3	0,0	4,9	14,3	28,6	3	8,3	1	1
Vertisols	pellic	AV	0,0	48,7	12,2	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0	2,6	0,6	3,2
	SD	1							1	0	0	0	0



**Table A1.** Continued.

Xerosols	-	AV	16,9	23,9	35,8	3,6	5,0	1,6	2,1	8,9	0,7	1,4
		SD	8	15,6	16,4	26,4	6,0	8,8	4,4	4,5	3	13,3
Xerosols	calcic	AV	21,6	47,2	7,9	7,9	7,9	0,0	0,0	6,1	0,8	1,4
		SD	1						0	1	1	1
Xerosols	halpic	AV	12,0	13,2	62,8	5,5	0,0	0,0	0,0	1,4	0,7	1,4
		SD	3	10,6	11,5	15,7	9,5	0,0	0,0	2	0	0
Xerosols	luvetic	AV	15,1	26,4	0,0	5,3	8,3	0,8	4,5	24,5	0,7	1,4
		SD	1						1	0	0	0
Yermosols	-	AV	19,6	20,6	18,6	2,1	0,0	2,6	7,4	16,5	0,7	3,1
		SD	3	9,1	6,7	20,1	3,7	0,0	4,6	8,0	4	14,3
Yermosols	calcic	AV	21,1	22,1	20,1	2,3	0,0	2,9	8,0	17,8	0,7	3,4
		SD	1						0	1	1	1
Yermosols	halpic	AV	12,9	12,9	0,0	6,4	0,0	0,0	6,4	16,5	0,5	3,4
		SD	1						4	14,3	2	2

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**Table A2.** Average mineralogical composition of the silt fraction of the 25 soil units of the FAO soil classification (AV = average composition, SD = standard deviation, n = number of samples studied), the bold text and numbers correspond to the average composition.

unit	subunit	n	feldspars	quartz	mica	chlorite	n	goethite	n	calcite
<b>Acrisols</b>	gleycic	AV	<b>2,0</b>	<b>81,3</b>	<b>7,7</b>	<b>2,0</b>				
		SD	3	0,0	13,3	4,7	2,0	0	0	
<b>Andosols</b>	–	AV	<b>1,0</b>	<b>30,0</b>	<b>0,0</b>	<b>0,0</b>				20
		SD	1					0	1	
<b>Arenosols</b>	–	AV	<b>17,9</b>	<b>70,2</b>	<b>4,4</b>	<b>0,0</b>		1	1	
		SD	1							
<b>Calcisols</b>	Haplic	AV	<b>4,0</b>	<b>44,0</b>	<b>17,0</b>	<b>17,0</b>		<b>1,5</b>	2	12,5
		SD	2							
<b>Cambisols</b>	Calcaric	AV	<b>20,5</b>	<b>61,9</b>	<b>10,3</b>	<b>7,1</b>				
		SD	10	6,6	11,4	3,1	2,6	0	0	
<b>Cambisols</b>	Chromic	AV	<b>20,0</b>	<b>60,9</b>	<b>3,7</b>	<b>3,1</b>				
		SD	9	15,1	19,9	2,4	2,7	0	0	
<b>Cambisols</b>	dystric	AV	<b>19,2</b>	<b>71,9</b>	<b>3,8</b>	<b>0,0</b>				
		SD	1					0	0	
<b>Cambisols</b>	eutric	AV	<b>11,0</b>	<b>54,0</b>	<b>17,0</b>	<b>0,0</b>				
		SD	2					0	0	
<b>Fluvisols</b>	–	AV	<b>8,4</b>	<b>40,1</b>	<b>14,5</b>	<b>10,8</b>		<b>2</b>	0	22
		AV	8	11,3	15,1	4,9	4,2	0	0	
<b>Fluvisols</b>	calcaric	SD	18,2	36,4	18,2	9,1				
		AV	1					0	0	
<b>Gleysols</b>	dystric	SD	4,5	50,4	13,3	12,6				
		AV	13	3,9	6,6	4,8	2,5	0	0	
<b>Gleysols</b>	eutric	SD	1,5	37,0	25,5	18,5				
		AV	2					0	0	
<b>Luvisols</b>	chromic	SD	2,5	33,5	0,0	3,0		<b>4</b>	2	0
		AV	2							
<b>Luvisols</b>	gleycic	SD	5,0	51,7	0,0	0,0		<b>3</b>	2	0
		AV	3	1,0	7,5	0,0	0,0	3	2	0
<b>Luvisols</b>	orthic	SD	7,0	54,7	6,3	7,0		<b>2</b>	1	2
		AV	4	9,6	11,0	7,2	6,5	3	1	
<b>Luvisols</b>	Stagnic	SD	27,7	52,0	4,0	3,0				
		AV	3	10,3	3,1	1,1	2,0	0	0	
<b>Phaeozems</b>	haplic	SD	27,0	64,5	0,0	0,1				
		AV	2					0	0	
<b>Planosols</b>	dystric	AV	<b>30,3</b>	<b>54,0</b>	<b>2,0</b>	<b>0,3</b>				
		SD	3	0,6	3,6	1,7	0,6	0	0	
<b>Podzoluvisols</b>	–	AV	<b>21,8</b>	<b>71,0</b>	<b>2,8</b>	<b>0,0</b>				
		SD	2					0	0	
<b>Podzoluvisols</b>	dystric	AV	<b>12,3</b>	<b>75,2</b>	<b>7,6</b>	<b>1,7</b>				
		SD	2					0	0	
<b>Regosols</b>	calcaric	AV	<b>22,0</b>	<b>58,5</b>	<b>11,0</b>	<b>8,0</b>				
		SD	4	1,6	2,4	1,8	0,8	0	0	
<b>Solonetz</b>	–	AV	<b>7,0</b>	<b>55,0</b>	<b>0,0</b>	<b>0,0</b>				
		SD	1					0	0	
<b>Xerosols</b>	–	AV	<b>16,0</b>	<b>45,0</b>	<b>0,0</b>	<b>0,0</b>				
		SD	1					0	0	
<b>Vermosols</b>	–	AV	<b>18,2</b>	<b>36,4</b>	<b>18,2</b>	<b>9,1</b>				
		SD	2					0	0	
<b>sand dune</b>	–	AV	<b>28,8</b>	<b>51,4</b>	<b>3,5</b>	<b>4,9</b>		<b>0</b>	1	3
		SD	5	15,0	18,2	1,2	3,5	1	1	

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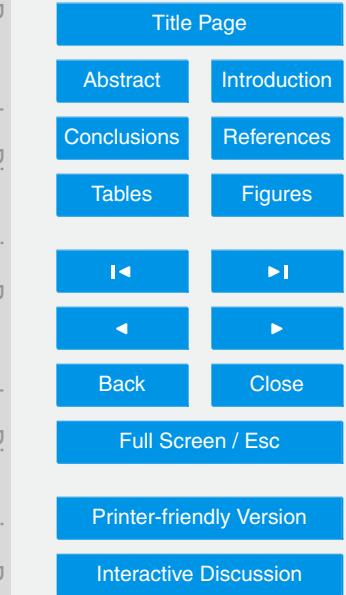
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**Table B1.** List of the FAO soil units for which the mineralogy of the clay fraction is not filled.

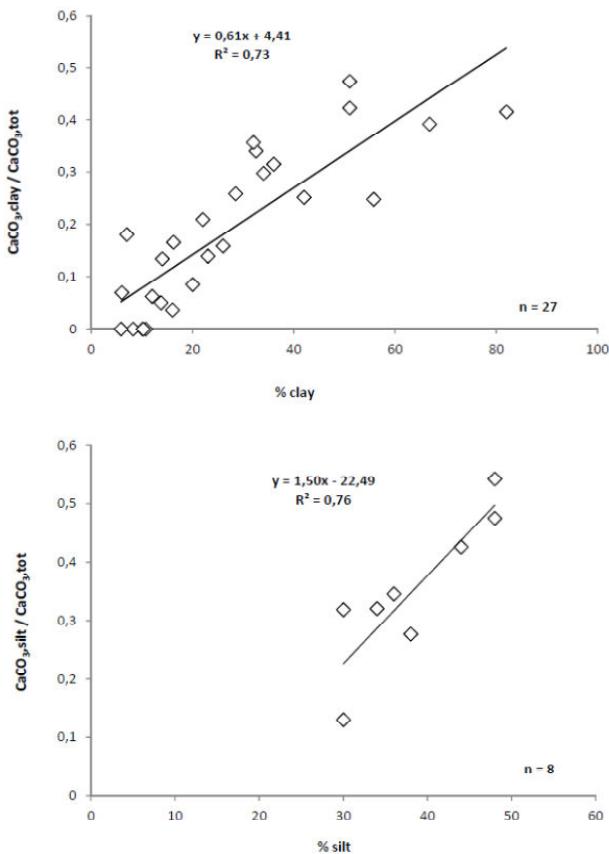
<b>Alisols</b>	ferric	<b>Gleysols</b>	thionic	<b>Planosols</b>	umbric
<b>Alisols</b>	gleyc	<b>Gleysols</b>	umbric	<b>Plinthosols</b>	dystric
<b>Alisols</b>	humic	<b>Gypsisols</b>	calcic	<b>Plinthosols</b>	humic
<b>Alisols</b>	plinthic	<b>Gypsisols</b>	haplic	<b>Podzols</b>	cambic
<b>Alisols</b>	stagnic	<b>Gypsisols</b>	luvic	<b>Podzols</b>	ferric
<b>Andosols</b>	gelic	<b>Gypsisols</b>	petric	<b>Podzols</b>	gelic
<b>Andosols</b>	mollic	<b>Histosols</b>		<b>Podzols</b>	gleyc
<b>Andosols</b>	ochric	<b>Histosols</b>	dystric	<b>Podzols</b>	humic
<b>Andosols</b>	vitric	<b>Histosols</b>	eutric	<b>Podzols</b>	leptic
<b>Anthrosols</b>		<b>Histosols</b>	fibric	<b>Podzols</b>	orthic
<b>Anthrosols</b>	aric	<b>Histosols</b>	folic	<b>Podzols</b>	placic
<b>Anthrosols</b>	cumulic	<b>Histosols</b>	gelic	<b>Podzoluvisols</b>	gleyc
<b>Anthrosols</b>	fimic	<b>Histosols</b>	terrific	<b>Podzoluvisols</b>	stagnic
<b>Arenosols</b>	albic	<b>Histosols</b>	thionic	<b>Regosols</b>	gelic
<b>Arenosols</b>	ferralsic	<b>Kastanozem</b>	luvic	<b>Solonchaks</b>	calcic
<b>Arenosols</b>	gleyc	<b>Leptosols</b>	gelic	<b>Solonchaks</b>	gypsic
<b>Calcisols</b>	luvic	<b>Lixisols</b>	albic	<b>Solonchaks</b>	haplic
<b>Cambisols</b>	gelic	<b>Lixisols</b>	ferric	<b>Solonchaks</b>	takyric
<b>Chernozems</b>	gleyc	<b>Lixisols</b>	gleyc	<b>Solonetz</b>	calcic
<b>Chernozems</b>	glossic	<b>Lixisols</b>	plithnic	<b>Solonetz</b>	gleyc
<b>Ferralsols</b>	geric	<b>Lixisols</b>	stagnic	<b>Solonetz</b>	gypsic
<b>Ferralsols</b>	plinthic	<b>Luvisol</b>	plithnic	<b>Solonetz</b>	mollic
<b>Fluvisols</b>	mollic	<b>Luvisol</b>	vertic	<b>Solonetz</b>	stagnic
<b>Fluvisols</b>	thionic	<b>Nitosols</b>	haplic	<b>Vertisol</b>	dystric
<b>Fluvisols</b>	umbric	<b>Nitosols</b>	humic	<b>Vertisol</b>	gypsic
<b>Gleysols</b>	calcaric	<b>Nitosols</b>	rhodic	<b>Xerosols</b>	gypsic
<b>Gleysols</b>	calcic	<b>Phaeozems</b>	gleyc	<b>Yermosols</b>	gypsic
<b>Gleysols</b>	gelic	<b>Phaeozems</b>	stagnic	<b>Yermosols</b>	luvic
<b>Gleysols</b>	humic	<b>Planosols</b>	humic	<b>Yermosols</b>	takyric
<b>Gleysols</b>	mollic	<b>Planosols</b>	mollic		
<b>Gleysols</b>	plinthic	<b>Planosols</b>	sodic		



**Fig. 1.** Location of the data collected this work (in red) and for Claquin et al. (1999) (in blue).

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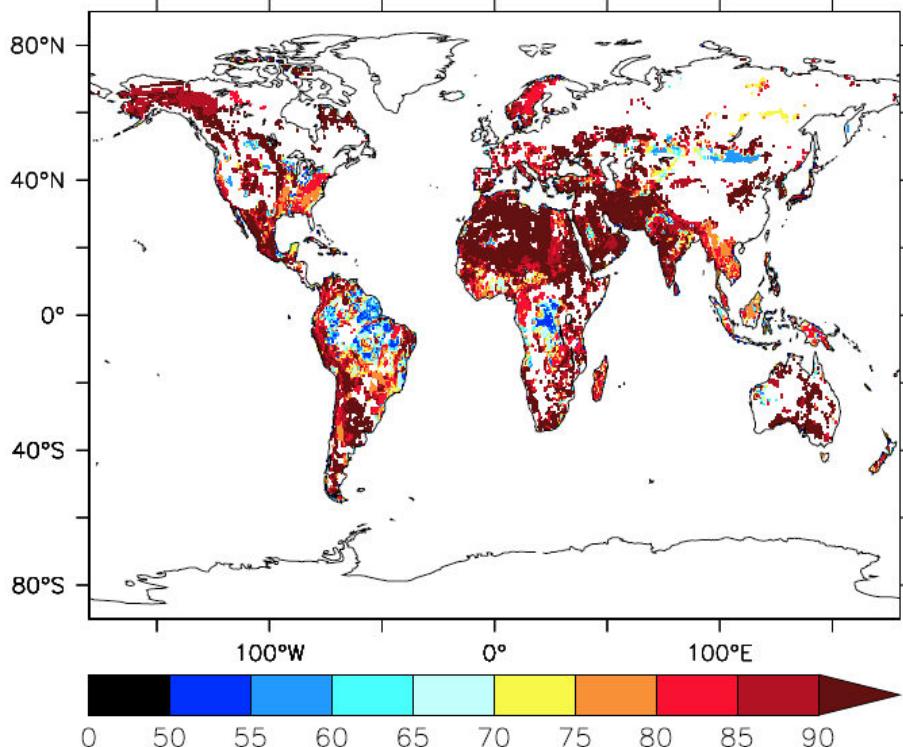
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**Fig. 2.** Empirical relationships (a) between the percentage of calcite in the clay fraction and the ratio of the calcite in the clay fraction to the clay content of the soil and (b) between the percentage of calcite in the silt fraction and the ratio of the calcite in the silt fraction to the total calcite content of the soil (right).

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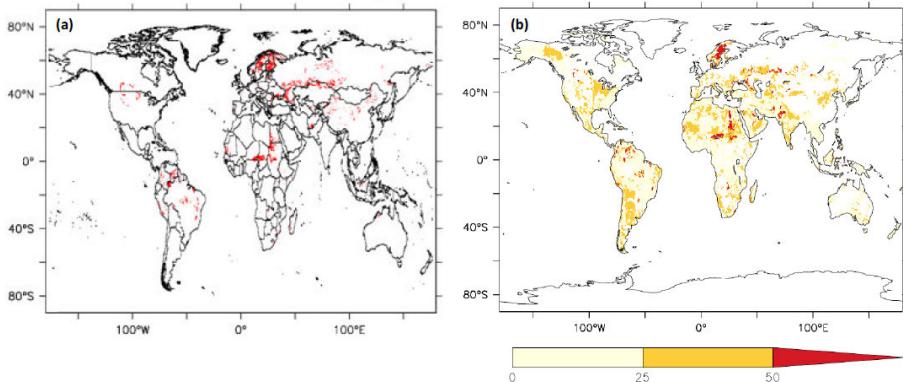
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**Fig. 3.** Spatial coverage of the database: percentage of soils with mineralogy.

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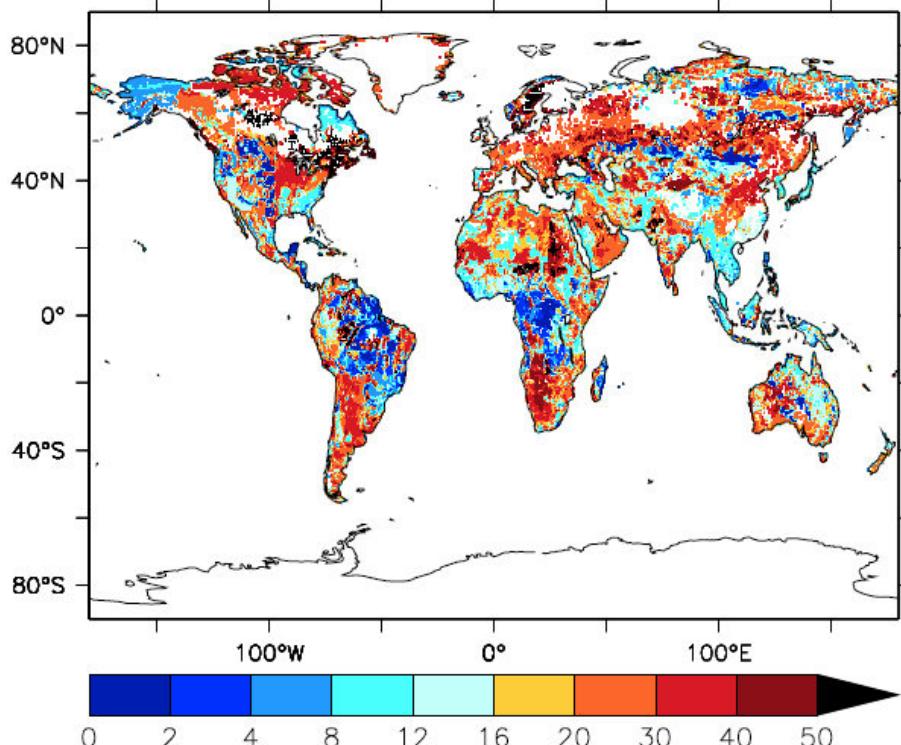


**Fig. 4.** (a) Illite-rich soils (> 50 % of the clay fraction) covering at least 50 % of the grid point; (b) percentage of illite in the clay fraction of soils (CASE 0).

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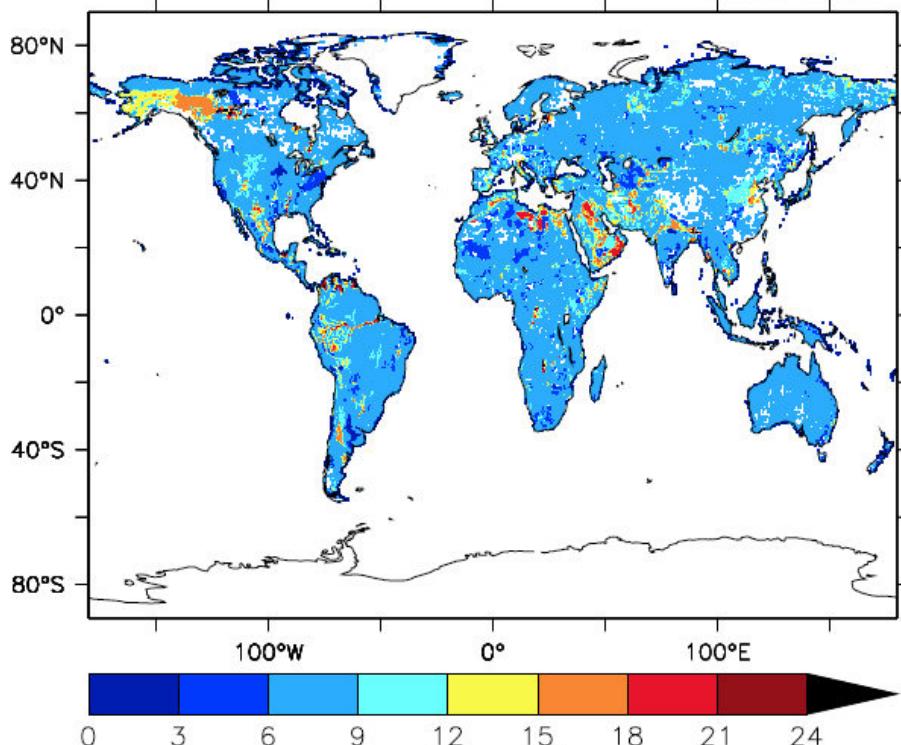
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**Fig. 5.** Illite content in the clay fraction of soils (CASE 1).

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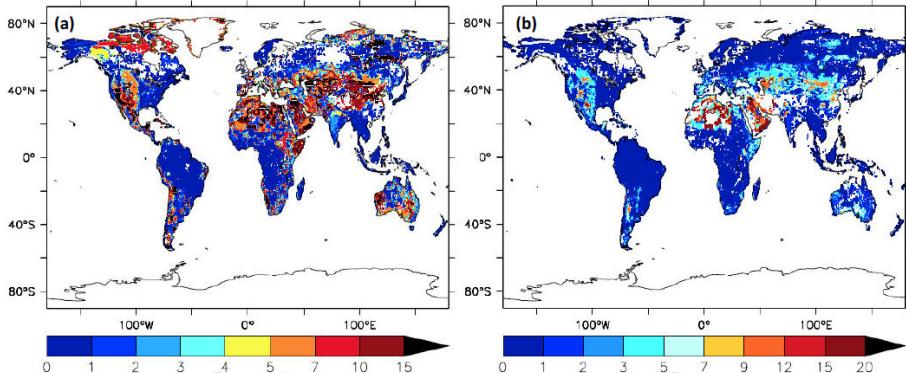
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**Fig. 6.** Mica content in the silt fraction of soils.

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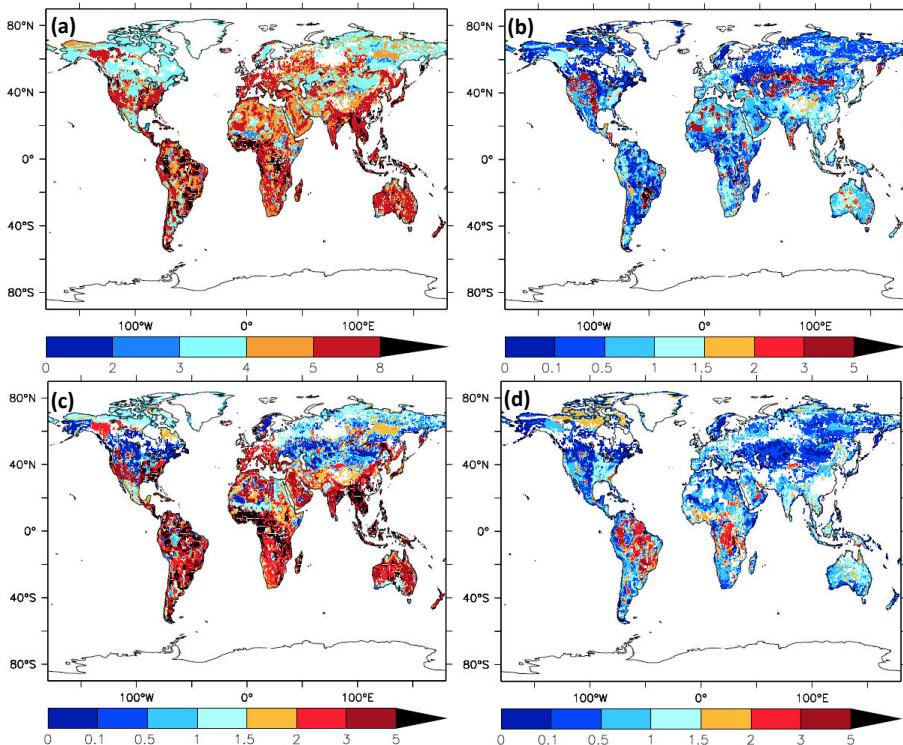


**Fig. 7.** Percent calcite **(a)** in the clay fraction of soils (CASE 1) and **(b)** in the silt fraction of soils.

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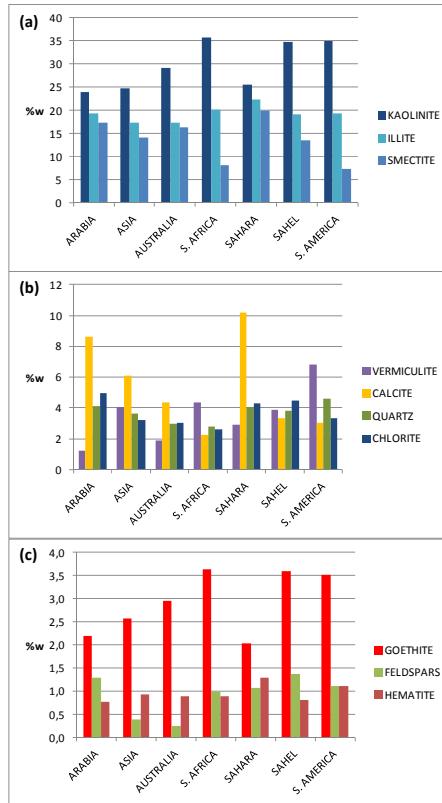


**Fig. 8.** Iron and iron oxides in soils: (a) iron in the clay fraction, (b) hematite in the clay fraction, (c) goethite in the clay fraction and (d) goethite in the silt fraction of soils.

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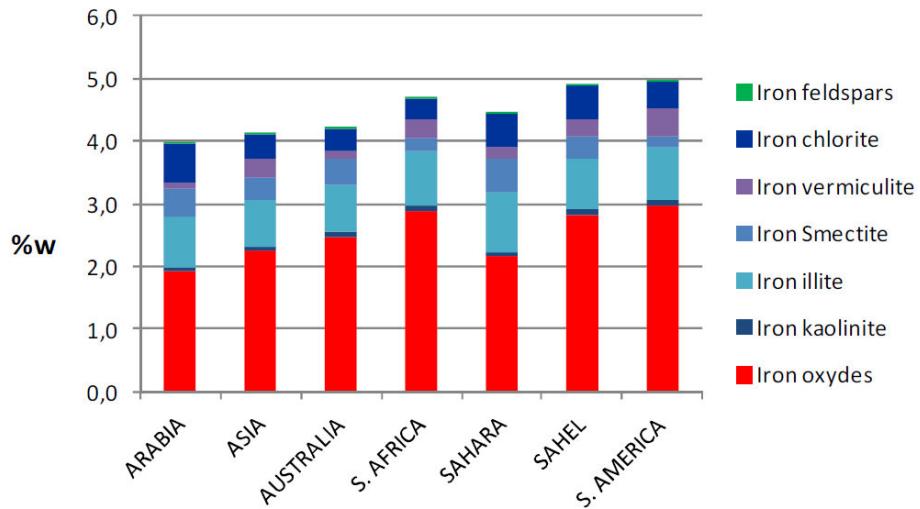
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**Fig. 9.** Average mineralogical composition of the major dust source regions (clay fraction, CASE 0). The first panel shows the three major clay minerals with levels > 5%, the second shows calcite and quartz with levels of ca. 5%, and the third shows minerals which contribute < 4% of the mass: iron oxides and feldspars.

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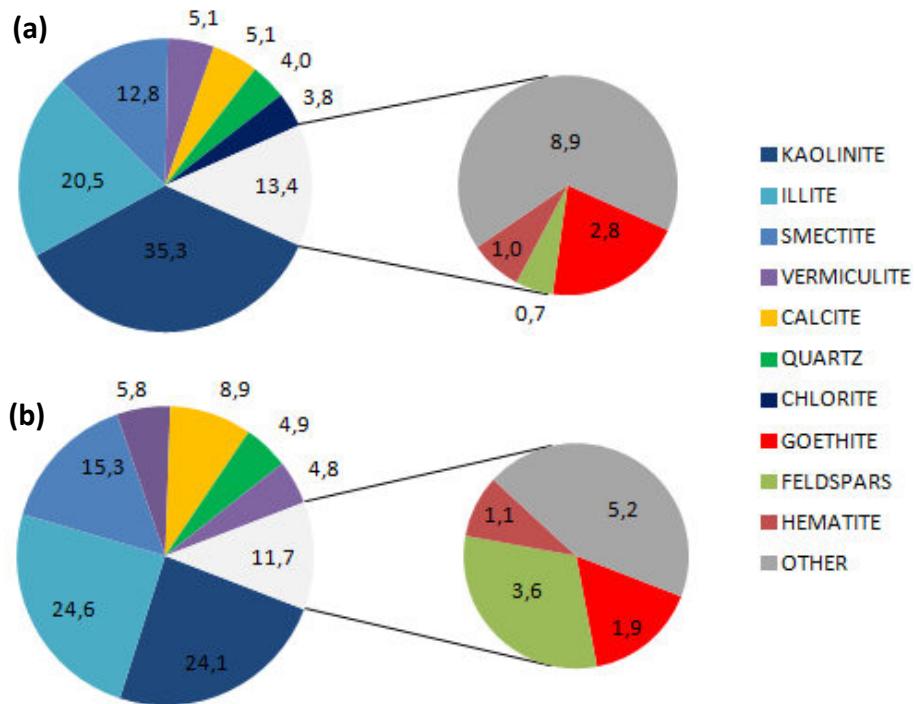
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**Fig. 10.** Average iron content and speciation of the major dust source regions (clay fraction, CASE 0).

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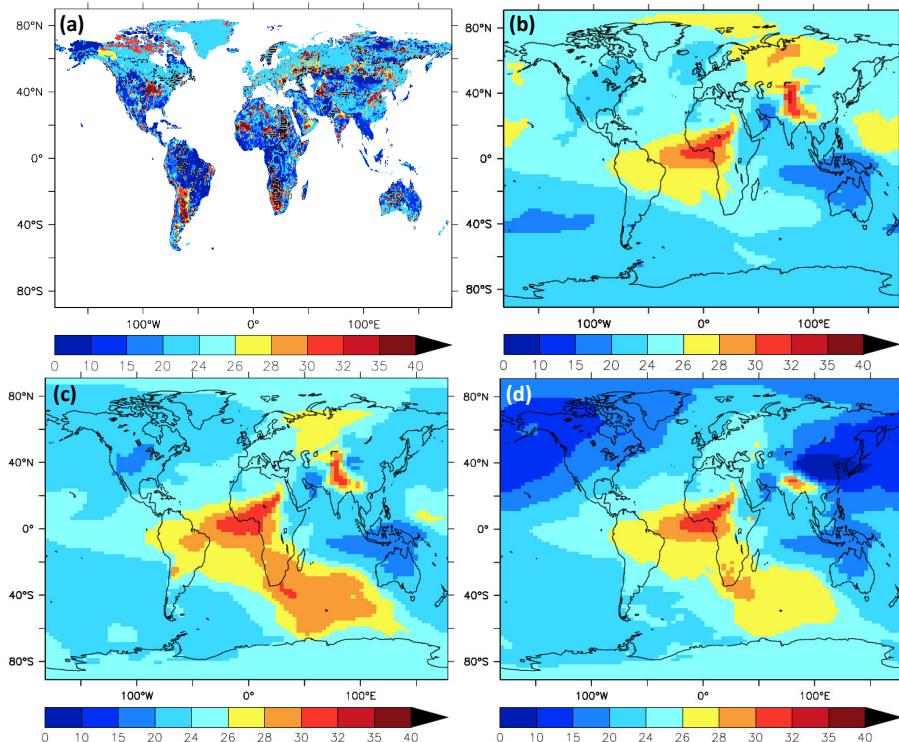
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**Fig. 11.** Global yearly average composition (% mass) of (a) clay fraction of soil and (b) airborne minerals.

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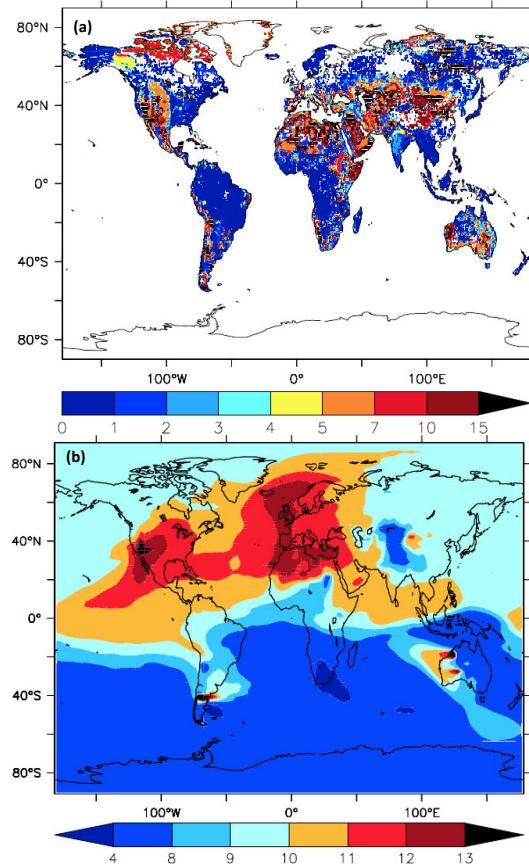


**Fig. 12.** Comparison of Illite (% mass) (a) in soil; (b) airborne, CASE 0; (c) airborne CASE 1; (d) airborne CASE 2.

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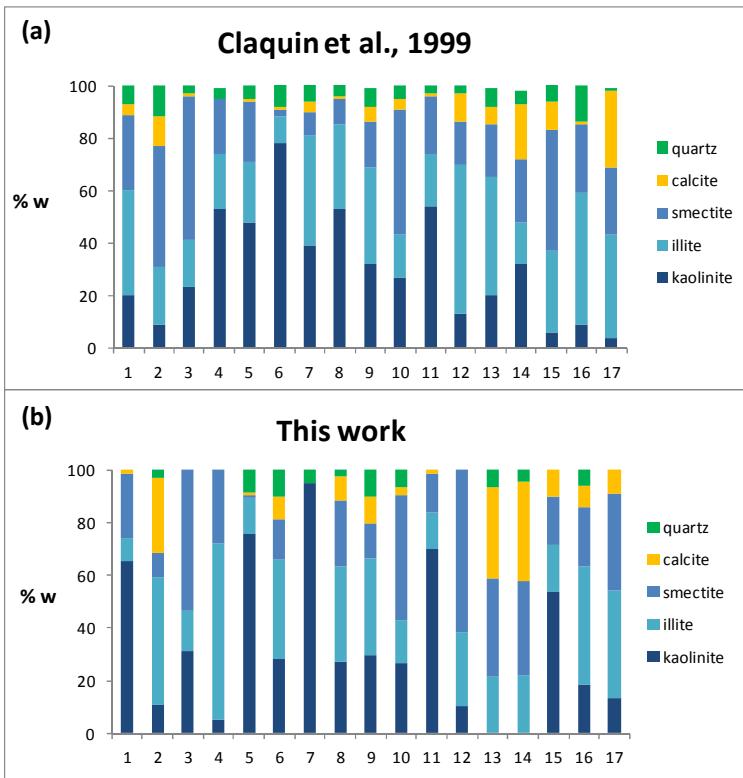
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**Fig. 13.** Comparison of calcite content (% mass) **(a)** in soil **(b)** airbone.

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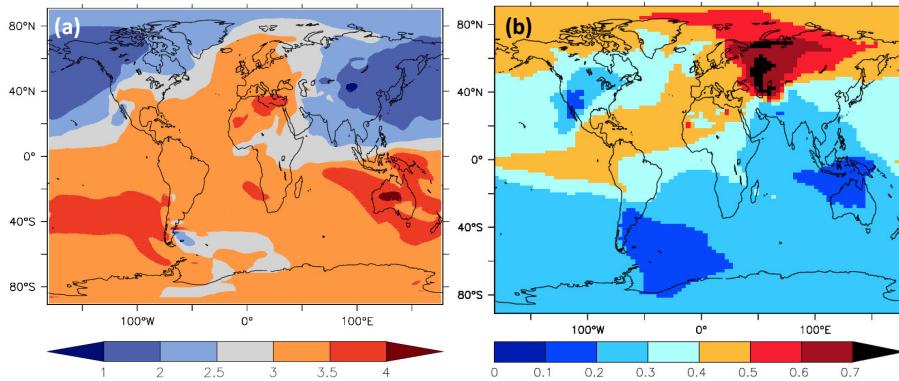
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**Fig. 14.** Mean mineralogical composition normalized to 100 % of the 17 soils types described by Claquin et al. (1999). **(a)** According to the database of Claquin et al. (1999). **(b)** According to this work.

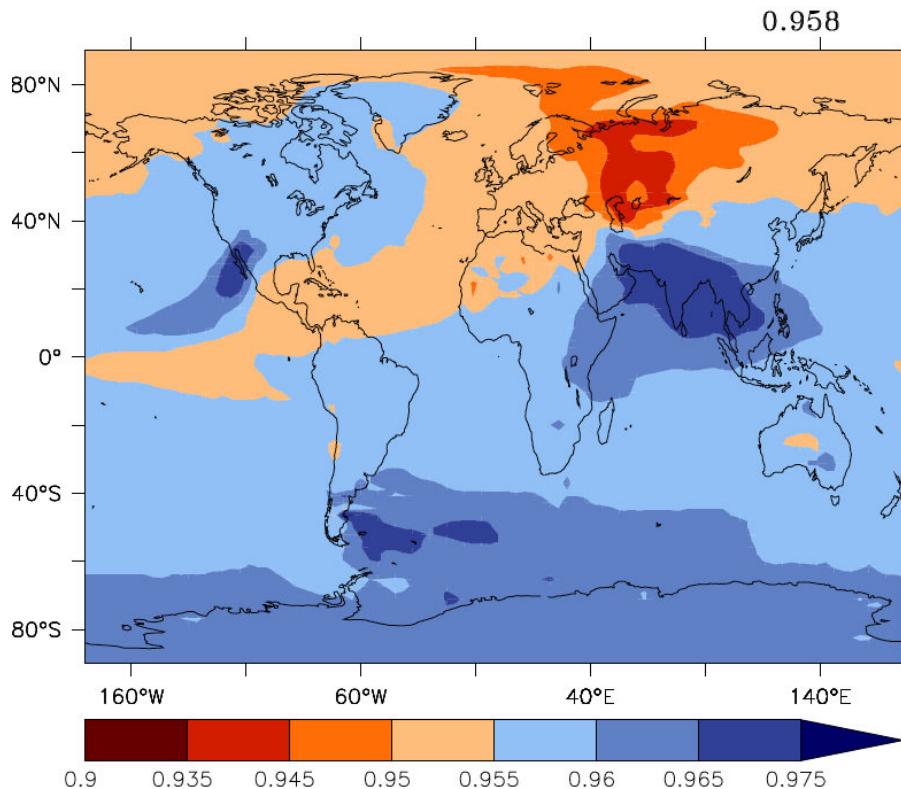
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**Fig. 15.** (a) Sum of the % mass of hematite plus goethite. (b) Relative mass ratio of hematite to hematite plus goethite.

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**Fig. 16.** Single scattering albedo of airborne dust.

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