

1 **Global Distribution of Asian, Middle Eastern, and ~~Saharan~~North African**

2 **Dust Simulated by CESM1/CARMA**

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11 **Abstract.**

12 ~~Dust aerosols affect the radiative and energy balance at local and global scales by scattering and~~
13 ~~absorbing sunlight and infrared light. Parameterizations of dust lifting, microphysics, as well as~~
14 ~~physical and radiative properties of dust in climate models are still subject to large uncertainty. Here~~
15 ~~we use a sectional aerosol model (CARMA) coupled with a climate model (CESM1) to investigate the~~
16 ~~global distribution of dust aerosols, with an emphasis on the vertical distribution of dust. Consistent~~
17 ~~with observations at locations remote from source regions, simulated dust mass size distributions peak~~
18 ~~at around 2–3 micrometres in diameter and increase by 4 orders of magnitude from 0.1 μm to 2 μm .~~
19 ~~The size distribution above 2 μm is highly variable depending on distance from the source, and subject~~
20 ~~to uncertainty due to possible size dependent changes in physical properties such as shape and density.~~
21 ~~Simulated annual mean dust mass concentrations are within one order of magnitude of those found by~~
22 ~~the surface measurement network around the globe. Simulated annual mean aerosol optical depths are~~
23 ~~~10% lower than AERONET observations near the dust source regions. Both simulations and in-situ~~
24 ~~measurements during the NASA ATom field campaign suggest that dust mass concentrations over the~~
25 ~~remote ocean drop by two to three orders of magnitude from the surface to the upper troposphere (200~~
26 ~~hPa). The model suggests that Saharan, Middle Eastern, and Asian dust accounts for ~59.7%, 12.5%,~~
27 ~~and 13.3% of the global annual mean dust emissions, with the remaining 14.5% originating from~~
28 ~~scattered smaller dust sources. Although Saharan dust dominates global dust mass loading at the~~
29 ~~surface, the relative contribution of Asian dust increases with altitude and becomes dominant in the~~
30 ~~upper troposphere. The simulations show that Asian dust contributes ~60.9% to the global and annual~~
31 ~~mean dust concentration between 266 hPa and 160 hPa. Asian dust is mostly lifted in the spring by~~
32 ~~mid-latitude frontal systems. However, deep convection during the Asian summer monsoon (ASM)~~
33 ~~favours the vertical transport of local dust to the upper atmosphere. Simulated dust accumulates in the~~
34 ~~ASM anticyclone and forms a local maximum; however, the simulated dust mass concentration is only~~
35 ~~~0.04% of the total aerosols in the Asian Tropopause Aerosol Layer (ATAL), which are dominated by~~
36 ~~organics, sulfates and nitrates.~~

37 Dust aerosols affect the radiative and energy balance at local and global scales by scattering and
38 absorbing sunlight and infrared light. Previous study suggests dust size distribution is one of the major
39 sources of uncertainty in modelling the dust global distribution. Climate models overestimates the fine
40 dust ($\leq 5 \mu\text{m}$) by an order of magnitude, while underestimates the coarse dust ($\geq 5\mu\text{m}$) ranges between

41 half to one-and-a-half orders of magnitude compared with the global observations. Here we improved
42 the simulated size distribution of dust aerosol using a sectional aerosol model coupled with the
43 Community Earth System Model (CESM1/CARMA). Simulated dust mass size distributions peak at
44 around 2-3 micrometers in diameter and increase by 4 orders of magnitude from 0.1 μm to 2 μm . Our
45 model demonstrates that North African, Middle Eastern, and Asian dust accounts for ~59.7%, 12.5%,
46 and 13.3% to the global annual mean dust emissions, with the remaining 14.5% originating from
47 scattered smaller dust sources. The model dust vertical distributions are validated against the NASA
48 Atmospheric Tomography (ATom) field campaign datasets. Both simulations and ATom in-situ
49 measurements during ATom field campaign suggest that dust mass concentrations over the remote
50 ocean drop by two to three orders of magnitude from the surface to the upper troposphere (200 hPa).
51 Our model suggests that Asian dust contributes to more than 40% of annual mean dust mass
52 abundances in the global upper troposphere and lower stratosphere (UTLS). Model suggests that the
53 Asian dust dominates the dust mass budget in the UTLS of the Asian summer monsoon (ASM) region,
54 with a relative contribution 1-2 orders of magnitude higher than the dust originated from North African
55 and Middle Eastern deserts.

56 **1 Introduction**

57 Mineral dust, from both natural and anthropogenic sources, accounting for more than 50% of the total
58 global aerosol mass burden (Textor et al., 2006; Andreae, 1995; Andreae et al., 1986; Zender et al.,
59 2004). Mineral dust impacts the radiation balance of the planet by scattering and absorbing sunlight,
60 and unlike most other types of aerosols, dust has significant effects on thermal radiation due to its
61 relatively large particle sizes (i.e., Satheesh and Moorthy, 2005; Sokolik and Toon, 1996; Balkanski et
62 al., 2007; Tegen and Lacis, 1996). ~~Dust optical properties vary between different sources (Sokolik and
63 Toon, 1999), making it complex to construct global models of dust radiative effects. Dust also
64 indirectly impacts climate by serving as a prominent nuclei for heterogenous ice formation (e.g.,
65 Maloney et al., 2022; Cziczo et al., 2013). Despite being insoluble, dust can also serve as cloud
66 condensation nuclei due to the large particle sizes of dust, influencing cloud microphysical and rainfall
67 processes (Rosenfeld et al., 2001; Levin et al., 1996). ~~The climate effects of mineral dust are profound
68 because it can be entrained into the boundary layer and transported long distances (Grousset et al.,
69 2003; Prospero, 1996).~~~~

70 Tegen and Schepanski (2009) suggest that the Sahara and Asia are the largest source regions of
71 mineral dust on Earth, accounting for more than 60-95% of the global dust load. Saharan dust is lifted
72 all year, primarily due to subtropical weather systems. Saharan dust can travel across the Atlantic
73 Ocean, driven by the trade wind circulation (Karyampudi, 1979; Karyampudi et al., 1999). Asian dust
74 is mostly lifted in the spring by mid-latitude frontal systems, and is likely to be removed near its source
75 due to rainfall though it can be carried at upper levels across the Pacific (Su and Toon, 2011). The
76 North African and Asian dust can be transported to the upper troposphere (UT) and even farther around
77 the Earth by subtropical westerly jets (Yang et al., 2022).

78 The accurate representation of the dust emissions from individual source regions is important to
79 understand the climate impact of dust on the Earth system (Kok et al., 2021). The contributions of dust
80 from the different source regions to the global dust load are still uncertain. Global model simulations
81 show that the dust emission from different source regions differ by an order of magnitude among
82 different models (Huneus et al., 2011). ~~Kok et al. (2021) suggests that current models on average
83 overestimate the contribution of North African dust to the global burden by ~65%, while
84 underestimating the contribution of Asian dust by ~30%.~~

85 Long-term in situ measurement of dust aerosols over source regions and oceanic regions affected
86 by transport has been conducted at only a few sites in the last several decades (Schulz et al., 2012;
87 Rodriguez et al., 2012). For example, the emission and surface concentration of dust have been
88 measured in Barbados from 1965 to the present (Prospero and Lamb, 2003; Prospero and Nees, 1986).
89 These measurements suggest that dust mass concentration increased by a factor of four from the 1960s
90 to 1980s. The measurements include data obtained from cruises and monitoring sites. Monthly mineral
91 dust concentration measurements are available at numerous marine sites around the globe from 1972 to
92 1998, taken by the Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science at the University of Miami
93 (Prospero, 1989; Arimoto et al., 1996). In addition to surface measurements, a number of studies
94 characterize dust concentration using visibility from ground-level meteorological observation systems
95 (Wang et al., 2008; Chepil and Woodruff, 1957; Mohamed and Frangi, 1986; d'Almeida, 1986). But
96 these long-term monitoring stations alone do not provide enough observational constraints for a
97 comprehensive quantification of dust loads in the full atmosphere (lower, middle and upper
98 troposphere) and an understanding of their associated impacts and processes (Knippertz and Todd,
99 2012).

100 Measurements of the vertical distribution of dust are crucial for understanding the vertical and
101 long-distance transport of dust aerosols. Bourgeois et al. (2015) showed that the residence time of dust
102 is significantly affected by its vertical location during long-range transport. Colarco et al. (2003)
103 showed that the sedimentation and downward vertical winds significantly affect Saharan dust's vertical
104 profile across the North Atlantic Ocean. However, in situ measurements of dust's vertical distribution
105 from the surface to the upper troposphere are extremely limited compared with surface measurements.
106 Remote sensing techniques including lidars and satellites are used to explore the vertical distribution of
107 dust aerosols in the atmosphere (Murayama et al., 2001; Di Sarra et al., 2001). Yu et al. (2015a)
108 calculated the vertical mass flux of dust by converting the dust extinction coefficient of CALIOP to
109 dust mass concentration, yielding estimated dust mass fluxes with an uncertainty of \pm (45–70%). Kim et
110 al. (2019) deduced the vertical profiles of dust aerosols over Asia and the North Pacific using five
111 global models that participated in the AeroCom phase II, the dust optical depth (DOD) provided by
112 multiple satellite and ground-based measurements, which revealed a longitudinal gradient during trans-
113 Pacific transport. Based on CloudSat satellite data from 2007 to 2009 combined with CALIOP/CPR
114 nighttime measurements, Yang et al. (2022) suggested that the dust mass loading at 4–10 km in the

115 Northern Hemisphere reaches a maximum in March–April–May. The dust concentrations in 4–6 km
116 have an opposite phase with the wind speed over Africa and West Asia. Despite the great coverage of
117 satellite data, remote sensing techniques have considerable uncertainty in retrieving the dust vertical
118 distribution. In this study, we constrain the simulations with the airborne in-situ measurement of dust
119 vertical distribution from the Atmospheric Tomography Mission (ATom) from 2016 to 2018 (Froyd et
120 al., 2022; Wofsy et al., 2018). These data are primarily taken over the oceans, well away from dust
121 source regions.

122 Climate models are used to quantify the budget, emission, deposition, and climate implications of
123 dust aerosols. However, climate models have considerable uncertainty in their parameterizations of the
124 emissions, horizontal and vertical transport, and wet/dry deposition processes of dust aerosols
125 (Huneeus et al., 2011; Kim et al., 2014; Pu and Ginoux, 2018; Boucher et al., 2013). Limited in-situ
126 observations of dust properties on the global scale introduce considerable uncertainty to the simulated
127 dust cycle (e.g., Kim et al., 2014; Wu et al., 2020). For instance, the simulated global dust mass burden
128 varies by a factor of four among the dust models reported in Zender et al. (2004). Huneeus et al. (2011)
129 found large differences in the simulated dust lifetime among AeroCom models, mostly between 1.6 and
130 7.1 days. In addition, the simulated annual emissions of dust ranged between 500 and 4400 Tg yr⁻¹
131 among the 15 GCMs. Shindell et al. (2013) showed that simulated dust AOD varies by more than a
132 factor of two among ten climate models in the Atmospheric Chemistry and Climate Model
133 Intercomparison Project (ACCMIP). Pu and Ginoux (2018) found that the Coupled Model
134 Intercomparison Project Phase 5 (CMIP5) models failed to capture interannual variation in the optical
135 depth of dust (DOD). Yu et al. (2010) showed that the modeled dust extinction of GOCART exceeded
136 CALIOP's measurements by more than a factor of two from the middle to the upper troposphere over
137 the northwestern Pacific.

138 One source of uncertainty in quantify the emission of dust aerosols that can be attributed to the
139 size distribution of dust aerosol (Tegen, 2003). The emitted dust size distribution is a basic parameter
140 to simulate (Huneeus et al., 2011) and the lifetime and radiative of dust with different particle sizes
141 differ substantially that impact the simulation of dust on global scale (Kok, 2011). Kok (2011) showed
142 that most Global Climate Models (GCM) overestimate the dust emitted fraction with particle size less
143 than 2 μm by a factor of ~2-8 and underestimate the fraction of emitted with greater than 5 μm which
144 causes the underestimation of dust global emission rate.

145 The vertical distribution of dust are crucial for understanding the vertical and long-distance
146 transport of dust aerosols. Bourgeois et al. (2015) showed that the residence time of dust is
147 significantly affected by its vertical location during long-range transport. However, in-situ
148 measurements of dust's vertical distribution from the surface to the upper troposphere are extremely
149 limited compared with surface measurements. Yu et al. (2015a) calculated the vertical mass flux of
150 dust by converting the dust extinction coefficient of CALIOP to dust mass concentration, yielding
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152 modeled dust extinction of GOCART exceeded CALIOP's measurements by more than a factor of two
153 from the middle to the upper troposphere over the northwestern Pacific. Based on CloudSat satellite
154 data from 2007 to 2009 combined with CALIOP/CPR nighttime measurements, Yang et al. (2022)
155 suggested that the dust mass loading at 4-10 km in the Northern Hemisphere reaches a maximum in
156 March-April-May. The dust concentrations in 4-6 km have an opposite phase with the wind speed over
157 Africa and West Asia. Despite the great coverage of satellite data, remote sensing techniques have
158 considerable uncertainty in retrieving the dust vertical distribution. From 2016-2018, a pole-to-pole
159 airborne in-situ measurement from NASA Atmospheric Tomography Mission (ATom) field campaign
160 (Froyd et al., 2022; Wofsy et al., 2018) in-situ measured dust vertical distributions from pole to pole
161 and from surface to the upper troposphere over the remote ocean.

162 Dust aerosol can be transported to the upper troposphere (UT) via the deep convections. Dust
163 transported to the upper troposphere can affect cirrus formation through heterogeneous nucleation (???
164 Froyd et al., 2022). Ma et al. (2019) simulated the chemical composition of Asian tropopause aerosol
165 layer and found a dust maximum inside the anticyclone of Asian Summer Monsoon (ASM) . However,
166 the abundance, source attributions, and spatial-temporal distribution of dust in the UT of ASM are still
167 of large uncertainties.

168 We use a sectional aerosol model coupled with a climate model to study the global distribution of
169 dust, with a focus on the size distribution and vertical distribution. We compare the simulated dust
170 abundance ~~infrom~~ the lower and surface to the upper troposphere with ~~satellite and~~ in-situ
171 measurements from ~~a pole to pole airborne ATom~~ ATom field campaign (Froyd et al., 2022) ~~and the global~~
172 ~~surface dust measurement network.~~ Then we use the constrained model to simulate the spatiotemporal
173 distribution of dust coming from the Sahara, Middle East, and East Asia. Finally, we estimate dust
174 source attributions during the Asian summer monsoon from the three source regions.

175 2 Methods

176 2.1 CESM1/CARMA model

177 We use a sectional aerosol microphysics model, the Community Aerosol and Radiation Model for
178 Atmospheres (CARMA) (Yu et al., 2015b; Yu et al., 2019; Bardeen et al., 2008; Toon et al., 1988)
179 coupled with the NSF/DOE Community Earth System Model (CESM) to simulate the global
180 distribution of dust between 2014 and 2019. The model simulations are conducted at a horizontal
181 resolution of $1.9^{\circ} \times 2.5^{\circ}$ and with a time step of 30 min. The model has 56 hybrid levels from the surface
182 up to about 45 km, with a vertical resolution of about 1 km near the tropopause. The meteorological
183 fields were nudged to Goddard Earth Observing System (GEOS5) reanalysis data.

184 CESM1/CARMA includes two groups of particles. The first group is liquid sulfuric acid droplets
185 that form from gas phase nucleation and span a diameter range from 0.2 nm to 2.6 μm . The second
186 group is an internal mixture of primary emitted organics, secondary organics, dust, sea salt, black
187 carbon, and condensed sulfate (Yu et al., 2015b). The mixed particles are resolved with 20 discrete size
188 bins with diameters ranging from 100 nm to 17 μm in the model. The aerosol optical properties in
189 CESM1/CARMA are estimated using a Mie scattering code, with inputs based on particle size, relative
190 humidity, and aerosol composition (Yu et al., 2015b). We assume that dust has a density of 2.65 g/cm^3
191 and use ~~mid-visible~~wavelength dependent refractive indices ~~of~~(RI) (Yu et al., 2015b). The RI at 532 nm
192 is 1.53-0.006i in the mode, which is independent of the dust source region, even though these
193 properties vary with dust source in reality. Note that the reported imaginary part of the refractive index
194 of dust aerosol ranges from 0.0006 to 0.0048 according to previous studies (Sinyuk et al., 2003; Di
195 Biagio et al., 2019; Balkanski et al., 2007), which suggests that our model may overestimates the
196 absorption aerosol optical depth from dust aerosol.

197 2.2 Dust emission parameterization

198 Mineral dust emission is simulated as a saltation-sandblasting process, which can be explained by the
199 wind erosion theory. The process is driven by surface stress, which is usually expressed as friction wind
200 velocity (~~Su and Toon, 2009~~;Ginoux et al., 2001). When the frictional wind speed exceeds a certain
201 threshold, the force of the wind will overcome the gravitational force of the sand grains and the
202 cohesive forces between particles, and sand-sized particles will saltate. When they impact the surface
203 dust particles will be lofted into the air (Marticorena and Bergametti, 1995). The wind-driven emission

204 of dust aerosols in CESM1/CARMA is provided by Su and Toon (2009) and Yu et al. (2015b). The total
205 emission flux is parameterized as:

$$206 \quad F_{total} = C \times S_e \times (u - u_t) \times u^2,$$

207 where F_{total} is the particle size dependent flux of dust; C is an arbitrary constant that depends on
208 the spatial resolution of the climate model among other factors and is set to $0.6 \mu g s^2 m^{-5}$; u is the 10-
209 m wind speed, which is parameterized by the surface friction velocity (u^*) and the 10-m drag
210 coefficient (C_d) so that under neutral conditions $u = \frac{u^*}{\sqrt{C_d}}$; and u_t is the threshold wind speed, which
211 depends on the particle size (Su and Toon, 2009; Marticorena and Bergametti, 1995). Details on u^* , u_t ,
212 and C_d can be found in Yu et al. (2015b). S_e is the dust erodibility factor, which denotes the efficiency
213 of dust lifting and derived from the TOMS aerosol index reported by Ginoux et al. (2001).

214 Following Prospero and Bonatti (1969), the model assumes that 90% of the dust emission mass
215 flux is distributed in silt bins with diameter ranges from 2.6 to 17.4 μm , and the remaining 10% is in
216 clay bins with diameter ranges from 0.1 to 2 μm (Yu et al., 2015b). In the present study, we adjust the
217 relative mass fractions in clay and silt bins to match the data reported by Adebisi and Kok (2020) and
218 discussed in section 3.1 below.

219 **2.3 Convective transport parameterization**

220 Particles are primarily activated at the cloud base. CESM1/CARMA considers the ~~secondary~~ activation
221 of particles, including dust, from the entrained air above the cloud ~~base in convective plumes (bases~~
222 (secondary activation, Froyd et al., 2022; Yu et al., 2019). Previous studies have found that climate
223 models that fail to consider secondary activation above the cloud base overestimate the abundance of
224 primary particles like sea salt and black carbon in the upper troposphere by orders of magnitude (Yu et
225 al., 2019; Murphy et al., 2021). A comparison with global airborne measurements of dust suggests that
226 dust is also subject to secondary activation above the cloud base and subsequent in-cloud removal
227 (Froyd et al., 2022). For below-cloud scavenging, ~~we assume that dust's~~ the tuning parameter for
228 aerosol's solubility in CESM1/CARMA is 0.2 ~~which is lower than~~ for dust and 1.0 for sea salt's
229 ~~solubility of 1.0.~~ (Yu et al., 2015b). For convective removal, we treat dust's removal efficiency the
230 same as other aerosol types. Details of the parameterizations can be found in Wang et al. (2013), Grell
231 and Freitas (2014), and the supplement of Yu et al. (2019).

232 2.4 ATom airborne field campaign

233 The Atmospheric Tomography Mission (ATom) was an airborne field campaign with in-situ
234 measurements of atmospheric composition in the remote troposphere from about 0.18 to 12 km in
235 altitude in the Pacific and Atlantic basins, spanning from $\sim 82^{\circ}\text{N}$ to $\sim 86^{\circ}\text{S}$ latitude (Spanu et al., 2020;
236 Wofsy et al., 2018). It consisted of 48 science flights by the NASA DC-8 aircraft with 548 vertical
237 profiles during four flight series covering roughly the same loop (Bourgeois et al., 2020). A
238 comprehensive set of aerosol measurement data including mineral dust was collected from July 2016 to
239 May 2018.

240 In this study we compare the simulations with measured dust concentrations during the ATom
241 mission from 2016 to 2018. Dust concentration data are based on data from the National Oceanic and
242 Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Particle Analysis by Laser Mass Spectrometry (PALMS)
243 instrument (Froyd et al., 2019; Brock et al., 2019; Murphy et al., 2003). The PALMS instrument measures
244 the chemical composition of individual ambient particles from about ~~0.151~~ to ~~54.8~~ μm in diameter by
245 evaporating individual particles and then using a time of flight mass spectrometer to analyze ions
246 (Murphy et al., 2006). Dust and other particle types are classified using spectral signatures. Dust mass
247 concentrations are then determined by combining the PALMS classifications with absolute particle
248 concentrations from independent optical particle counters (Froyd et al., 2019; Froyd et al., 2022). The
249 measured aerodynamic particle size are converted to the geometric diameter using a constant density and
250 shape factor as described Froyd et al. (2022). To directly compare with ATom dust vertical profiles
251 measured by PALMS, we sample the simulated dust concentration with diameter between 0.1 μm and
252 4.5 μm along the ATom flight track.

253 2.5 Surface measurement networks

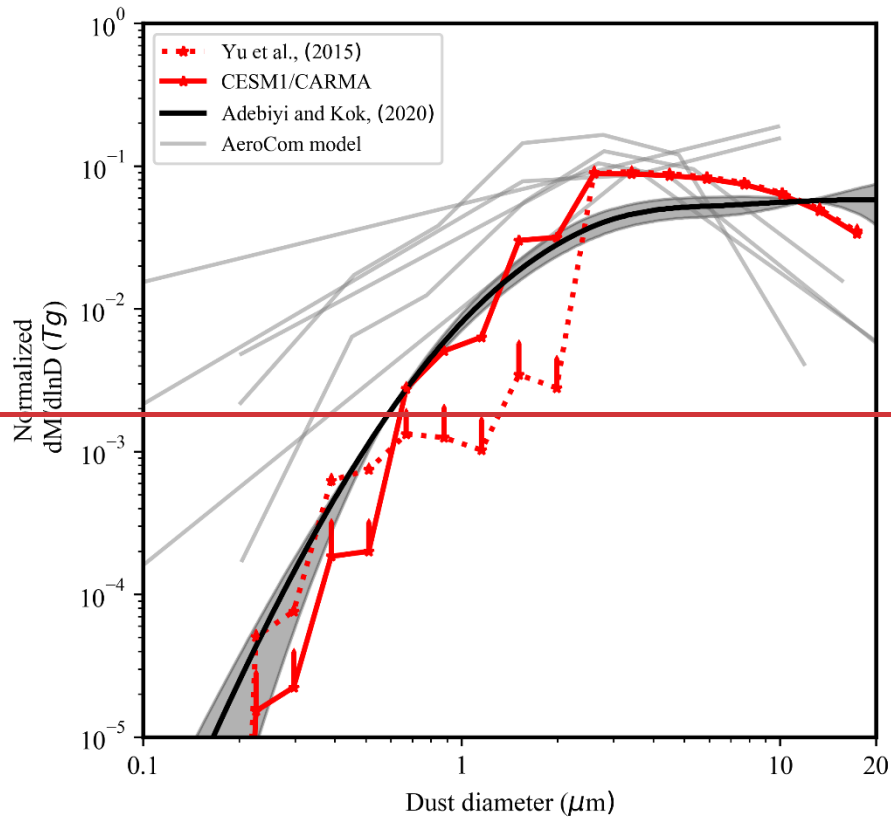
254 Huneus et al. (2011) summarize dust measurements at the surface around the globe including ~~those~~
255 ~~from cruises and long-term surface measurements~~ compiled by Mahowald et al. (2009) and the
256 University of Miami network (Prospero, 1989; Arimoto et al., 1996). Data compiled by Mahowald et
257 al., (2009) contain the data set of short-term measurements from cruises and ~~long-term~~
258 ~~measuring/monitoring~~ stations with ~~monthly/daily~~ averaged surface dust concentrations. Cruises
259 measured iron (Fe) and converted to dust by assuming a 3.5% Fe in dust. The iron content in dust
260 varies according to the source regions and this value is the average iron content of the Earth's crust

261 (Mahowald et al., 2005). Long-term observations by the University of Miami include Pacific, Atlantic,
262 and Antarctic Ocean sites globally and measure the mass concentration of dust with diameter less than
263 40 μm (Prospero, 1989, 1996; Arimoto et al., 1996).

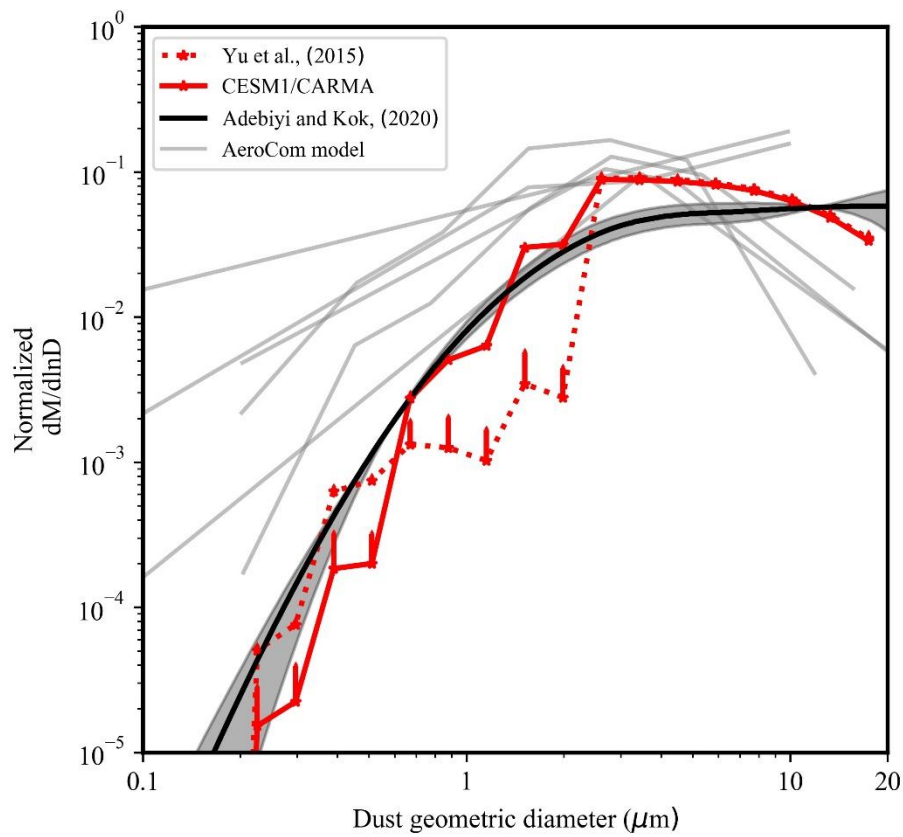
264 **3 Model validation**

265 **3.1 Dust size distribution and emission**

266 Based on global measurements of atmospheric dust size distributions, Adebisi and Kok (2020) found
267 that the global models in AeroCom (Aerosol Comparison between Observations and Models project)
268 underestimate the coarse dust mass load in the atmosphere by a factor of four and overestimate the fine
269 dust mass load by 1-3 orders of magnitude. Figure 1 shows that CESM1/CARMA Yu et al. (2015b)
270 generally reproduces the measured dust size distribution with diameter less than 1 μm or greater than 3
271 μm within the variabilities of the data. However, the CESM1/CARMA Yu et al. (2015b)
272 underestimates the dust in the size range between 1 and 3 μm by one order of magnitude (red dashed
273 line). In this study, we simply adjust the mass fraction of the emitted dust in the silt bins with geometric
274 diameter ~~less~~greater than 2 μm from 90% to 94%. The global dust size distribution simulated in the
275 modified model (CESM-CARMA solid red line in Fig.1) agrees better with measurements from
276 Adebisi and Kok (2020) (Figure 1). The simulation show that the model underestimates the coarse-
277 mode dust with diameter larger than 10 μm by ~48%. The modeled total dust concentration at surface
278 can be biased low, while modeled dust in the upper troposphere is not significantly affected as giant
279 dust particles sediments quickly.



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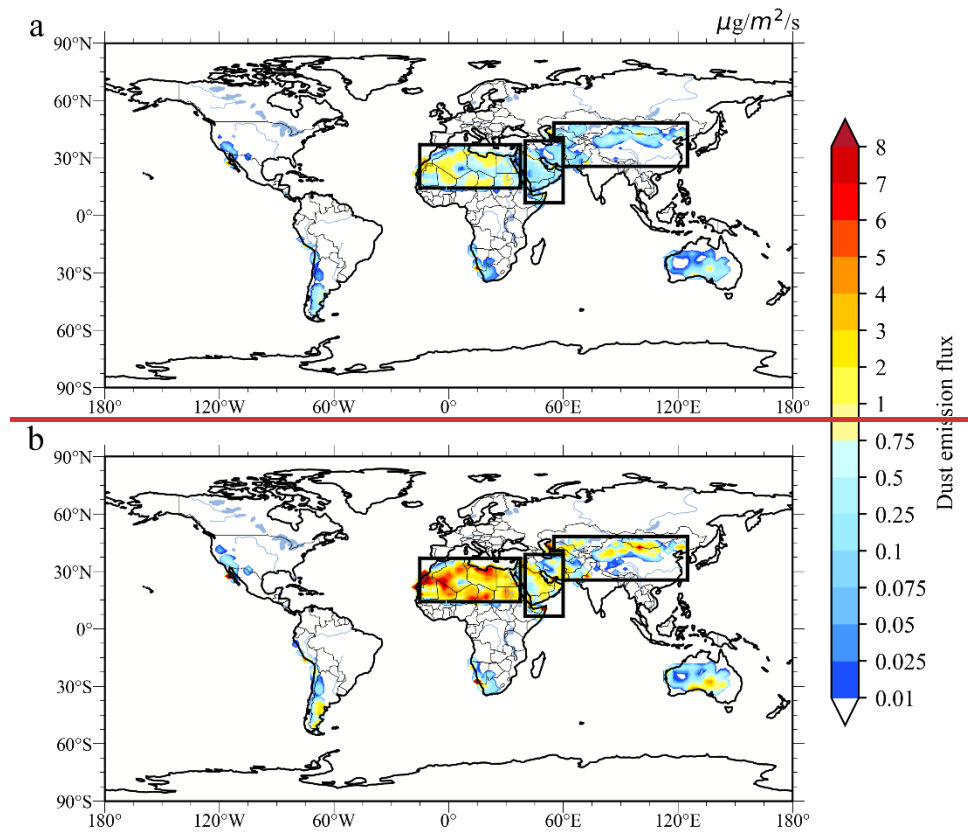
Figure 1. Comparison of the simulated and measured normalized global mean dust size distributions.

283

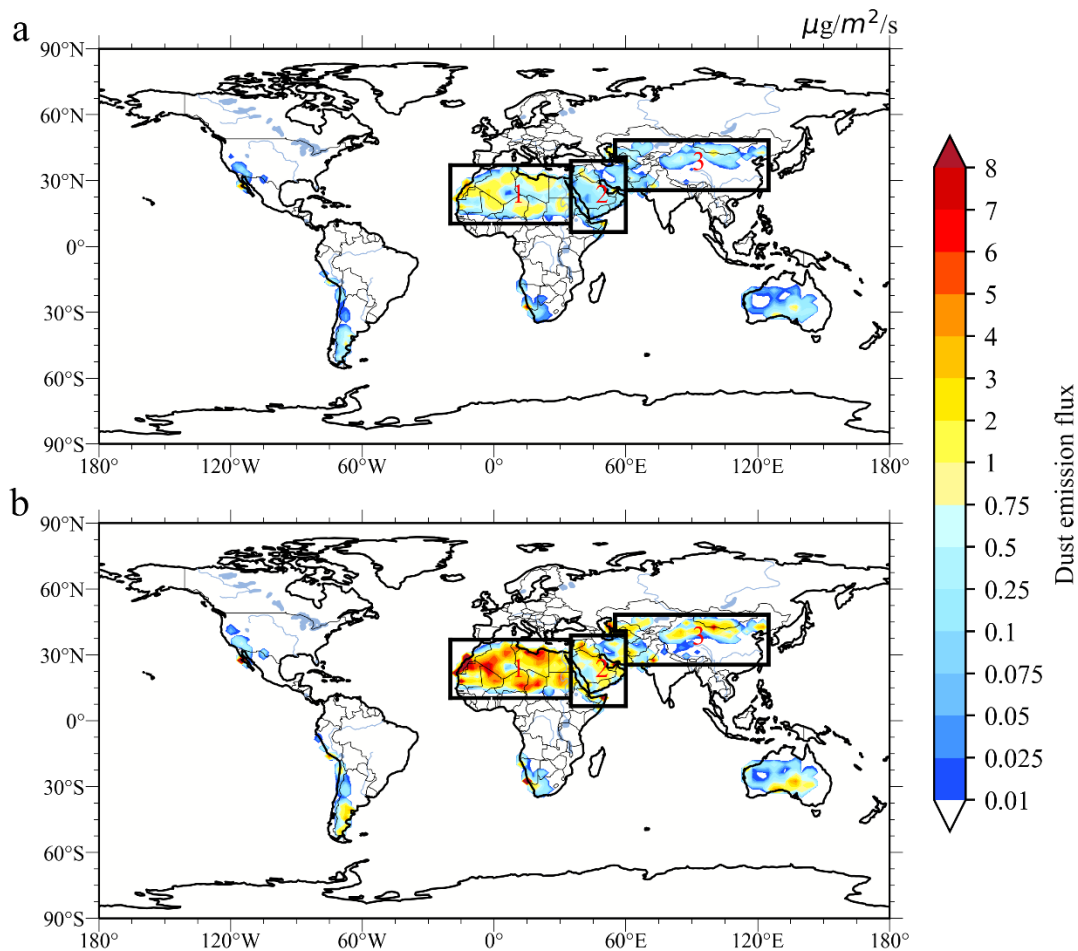
The dust mass size distributions are divided by the total dust mass integrated over the size range (i.e.

284 the area under each $dM/d\ln D$ curve). The global and annual mean dust size distribution simulated by
 285 CESM1/CARMA with the dust emission parameterization described in Yu et al. (2015b) is shown by
 286 the dashed red line; the simulation by CESM1/CARMA with the modified emission parameterization is
 287 shown by the solid red line; temporal variabilities (1 standard deviation) from Yu et al., (2015b) and
 288 CESM1/CARMA are denoted by green and cyan lines; the simulated size distribution by the AeroCom
 289 models reported in Adebisi and Kok (2020) is denoted by the gray lines; the measured dust size
 290 distribution derived from the global measurements reported in Adebisi and Kok (2020) is denoted by
 291 the solid black line; the shading represent the 95% confidence interval.

292 Figure 2 shows the global annual mean emission of fine (with diameter less than $4.5 \mu\text{m}$) and
 293 coarse (with diameter greater than $4.5 \mu\text{m}$) dust simulated by CESM1/CARMA. The simulated global
 294 and annual mean mass emission of coarse dust is higher than that of fine dust by a factor of 2.8. The
 295 three largest dust source regions in the world, i.e., the Sahara, Middle East, and Asia contribute $\sim 85\%$
 296 of total global dust emissions, and about 97% of Northern Hemisphere (NH) dust. Dust emissions from
 297 the Sahara in North Africa account for $\sim 59.7\%$ of global emissions by mass. Middle Eastern and Asian
 298 dust emissions account for $\sim 12.5\%$ and 13.3% of global emissions, respectively.



299



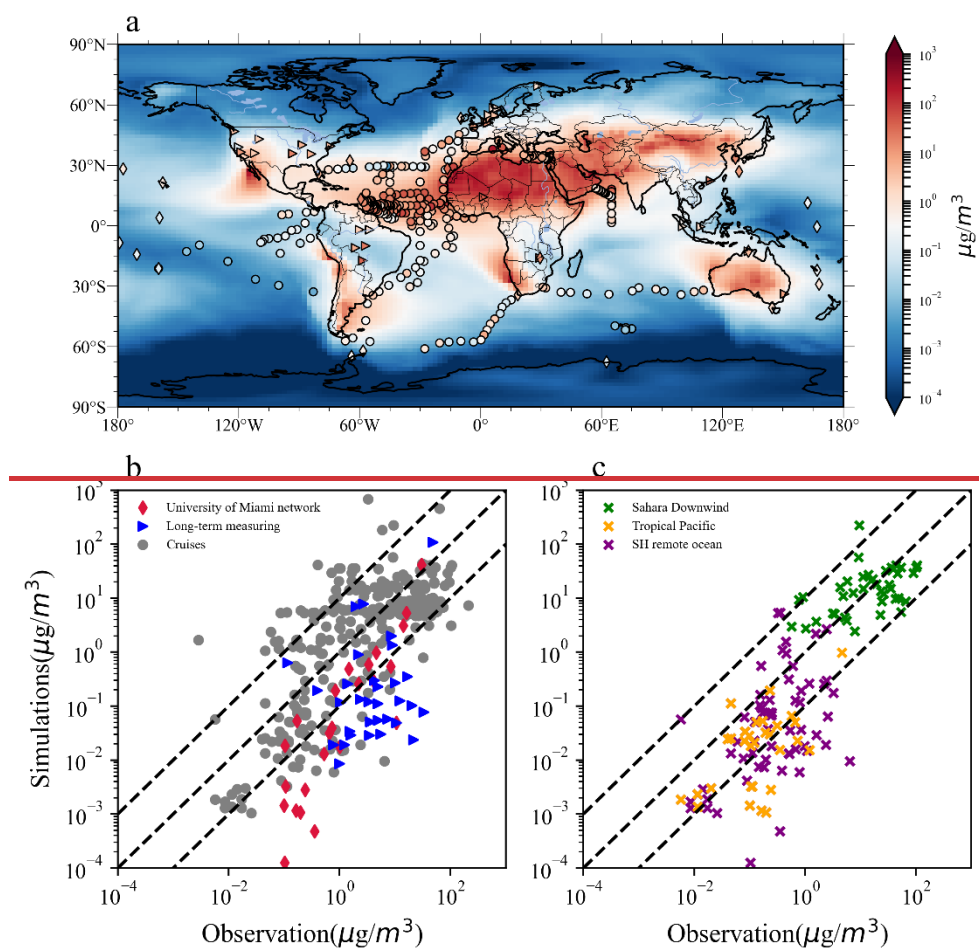
300

301 **Figure 2.** (a) Simulated annual emission flux ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^2/\text{s}$) of dust with geometric diameter less than 4.5
 302 μm in CESM1/CARMA averaged from Feb 2014 to Jan 2018. (b) same as (a) but for dust with
 303 geometric diameter larger than 4.5 μm . The regions of interest (Saharan, are denoted by the black boxes.
 304 The coordinates of the three regions are (1) North African source (20°W-35°E; 10.4°-36.9°N), (2)
 305 Middle Eastern source (35°-60°E; 6.6°-38.8°N), and (3) Asian source regions) are denoted by the
 306 black boxes, (55°-60°E for 40.7°-48.3°N, and 60°-125°E for 25.5°-48.3°N).

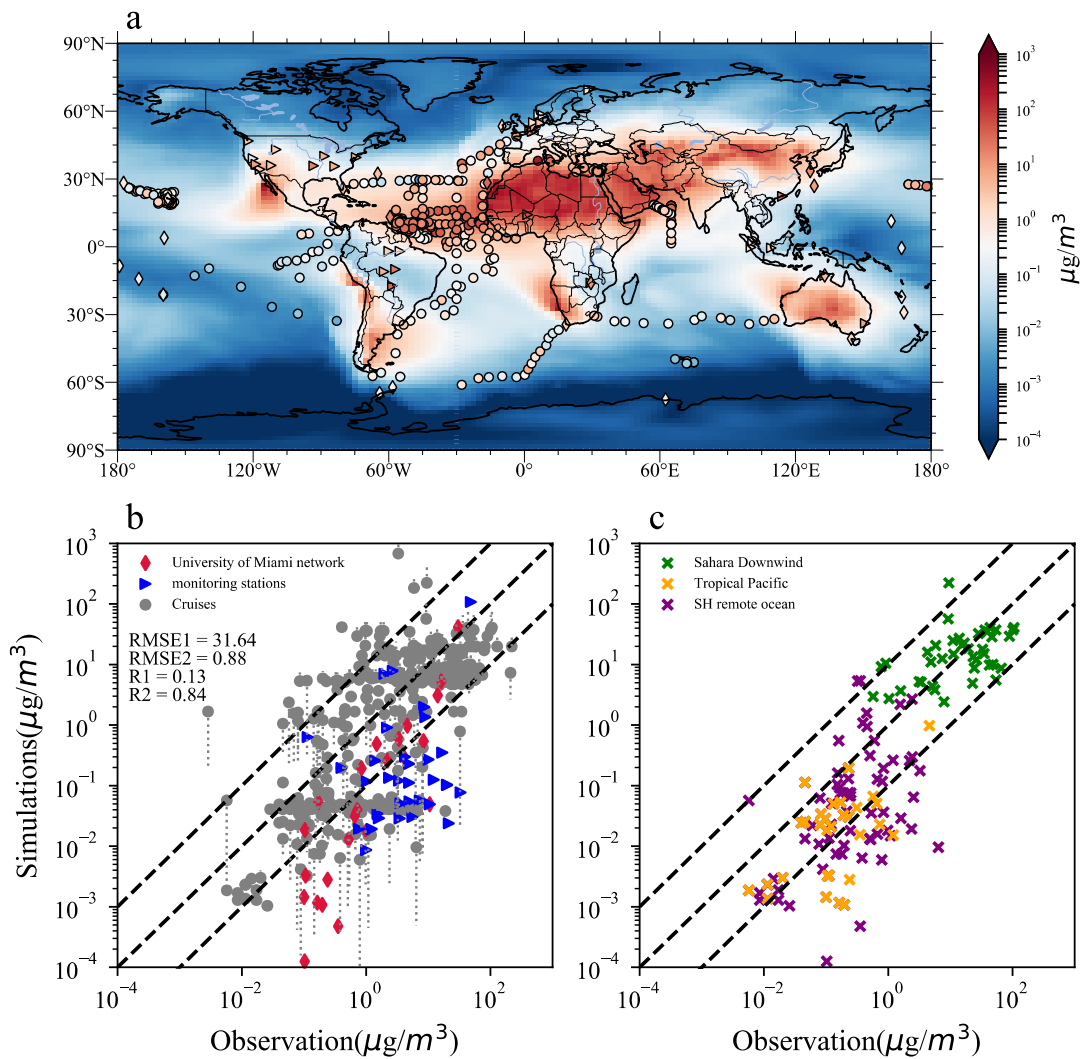
307 3.2 Comparison with dust surface measurements

308 In Figure 3, we compare the simulated annual mean dust concentrations at the surface from 2014 to
 309 2018 with the observational datasets summarized in Huneus et al. (2011). In general, the simulated
 310 dust concentrations are within one order of magnitude of observations (Figure 3b). The simulated dust
 311 underestimated the measured dust concentration from University of Miami network by 70%, while
 312 overestimated the dust concentration from the compiled dataset (Mahowald et al., 2009) by a factor of
 313 3.75. Both the model and observations show that the dust concentration in the Northern Hemisphere
 314 (NH) is about one order of magnitude higher than that in the Southern Hemisphere (SH) due to higher
 315 NH dust emissions because of the greater area of Northern Hemisphere deserts. Simulated dust

316 concentrations are underestimated by 13% and 57% comparing with University of Miami network and
 317 the compiled datasets from Mahowald et al. (2009), respectively. (NH) deserts. Because a lack of
 318 detailed date information in measurements compiled by Mahowald et al. (2009), the comparison of
 319 annual mean model concentration and short-term observations possible result in a large bias but still
 320 provide valuable information (Wang et al., 2015). In order to explain the bias, we show the error bars
 321 by the median 66 % of the modeled daily averaged model concentration (denoted by the vertical
 322 dashed line) for each cruise data following the method suggested by Mahowald et al. (2008) and
 323 Huneus et al. (2011). Near the dust source region (e.g., downwind of the Sahara), the model
 324 underestimates the measured median dust surface concentrations by 5.4%. The dust simulation
 325 underestimates the averaged ship cruise measurements by 11% over remote ocean basins in the SH.
 326 Higher model low biases of 72% are found in the tropical Pacific, which indicates that dust is removed
 327 too efficiently amid transport from the source regions.



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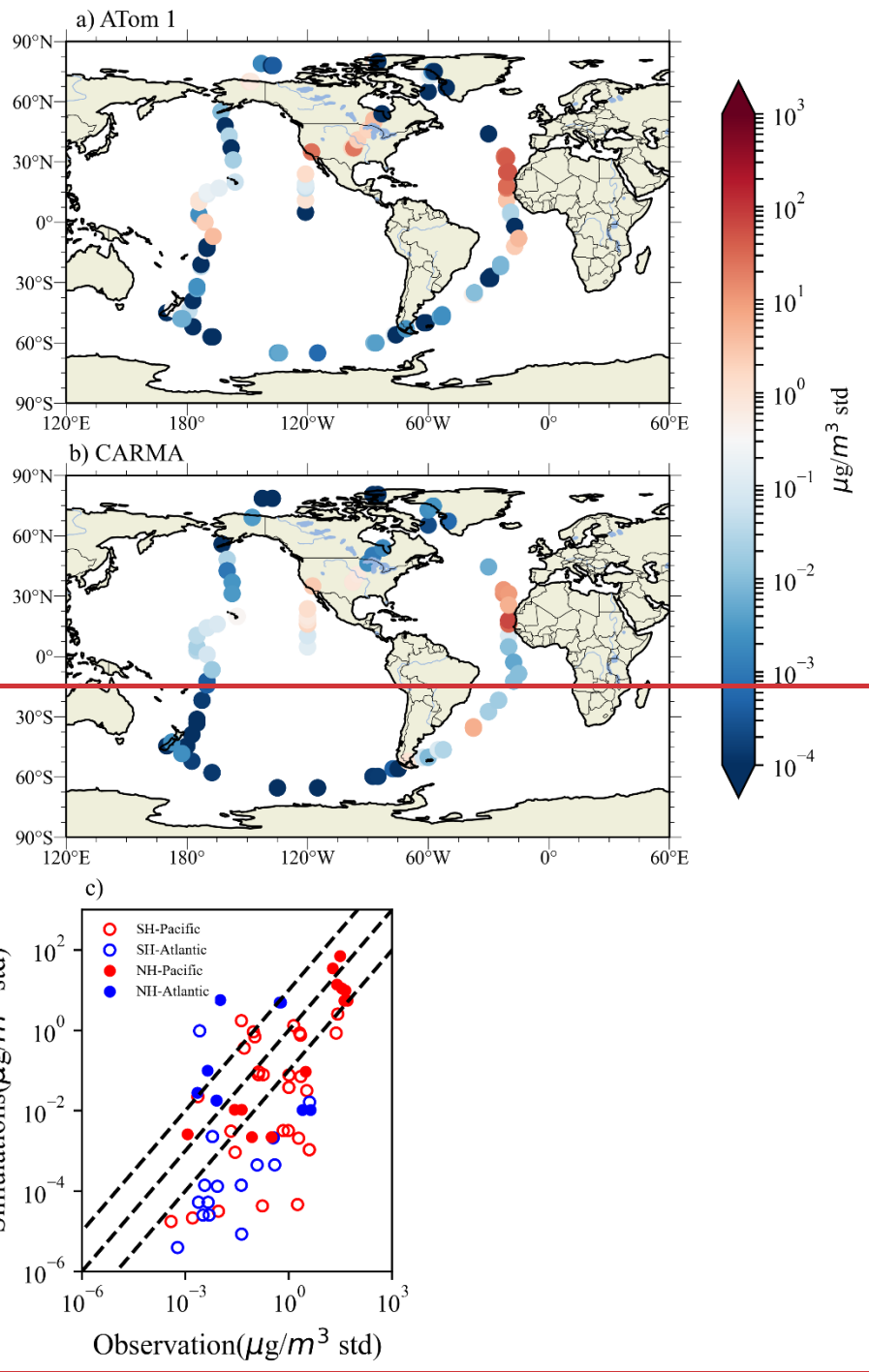


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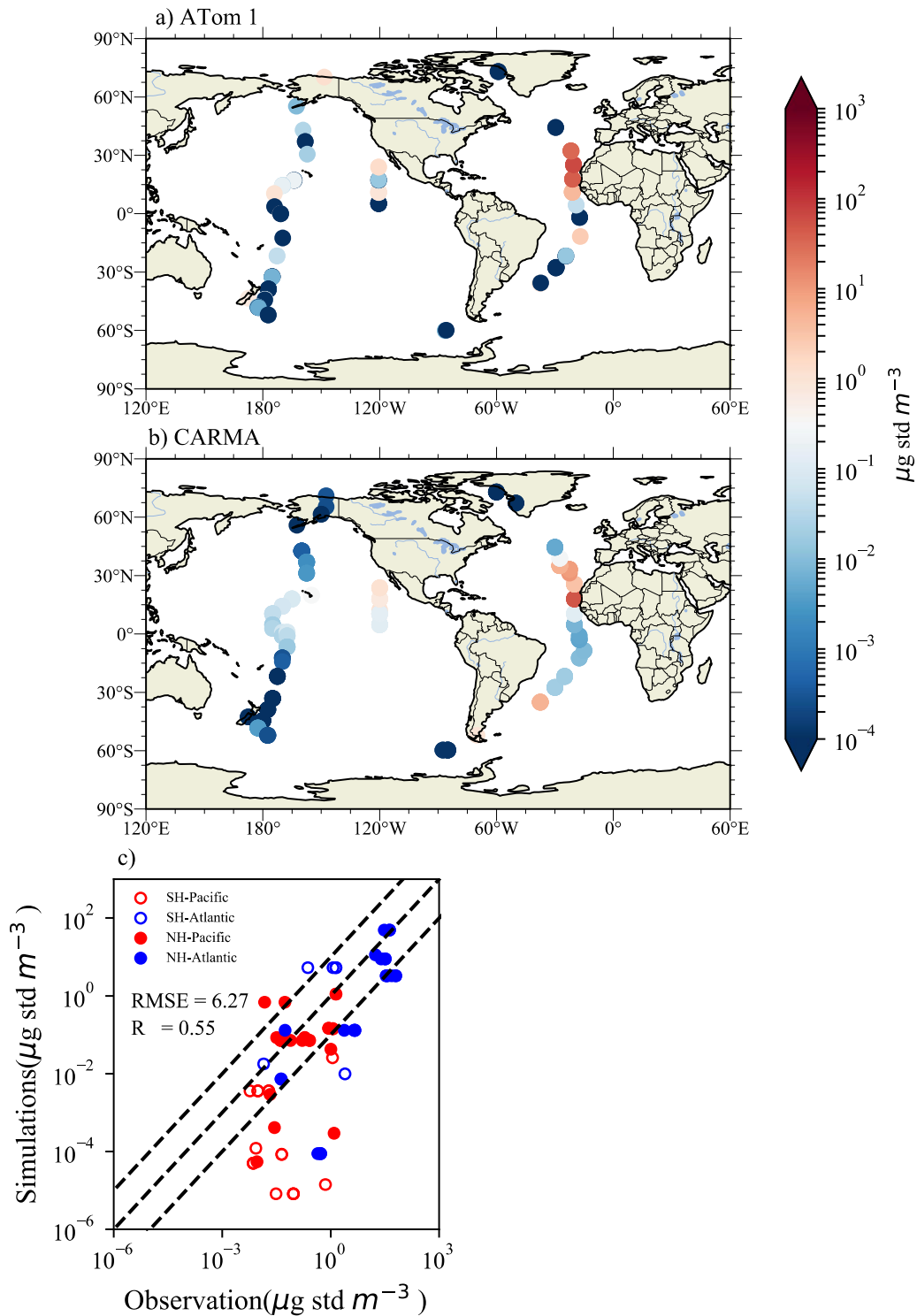
330 **Figure 3.** (a) Simulated global dust surface concentrations ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$) averaged from 2014 to 2019 from
 331 CESM1/CARMA shown in the filled contour. The summarized dust surface concentration data sets
 332 from Huneus et al. (2011) are denoted by markers of different shapes. Compiled observations
 333 including those from long-term observational sites and cruise data reported in Mahowald et al. (2009)
 334 are denoted by triangles and circles, respectively; measurements from the University of Miami network
 335 ([PROSPERO, Prospero](#) 1989; Arimoto et al., 1996) from 1981 to 1998 are denoted by diamonds. (b)
 336 Comparison of the simulated dust concentrations by CESM1/CARMA with the compiled observational
 337 dataset from Mahowald et al. (2009) and University of Miami network. Gray circles and blue triangles
 338 represent selected data from Mahowald et al. (2009) short-term cruises and long-term observations,
 339 respectively; red diamonds represent the University of Miami network measurements. “R1” and
 340 “RMSE1” represents correlation coefficient (R) and the Root mean square error (RMSE) between
 341 simulations and measurements from Mahowald et al., (2009), respectively. In the meantime, “R2” and
 342 “RMSE2” denoted the University of Miami dust data. The gray dotted line donated the simulated error
 343 bar extracted from the simulated daily concentration following the method in Mahowald et al. (2008).
 344 (c) Same as (b), but the North African downwind area as well as the tropical Pacific basin and Southern
 345 Hemisphere ([SH](#)) remote ocean are represented as green, orange, and purple stars, respectively. The
 346 1:1, 1:10, and 10:1 relationships between the simulated and observed dust concentrations are denoted

347 by the black dashed lines.

348 Figure 4 compares the simulated concentrations of dust below 1 kilometer above the sea level with
349 diameter less than 4.5 μm near the surface (0-1 km above sea level) over remote ocean basins with the
350 NASA Atmospheric Tomography (ATom1) airborne field campaign (Froyd et al., 2022; Wofsy et al.,
351 2018). Both observations and the model suggest that higher dust concentrations are found in the
352 Atlantic basin downwind of the ~~Saharan Desert~~North African and near the west coast of North
353 America. As shown in Figure 4c, the model underestimates the average dust surface concentrations
354 observed during ATom1 by ~~-4362~~%, with a correlation coefficient of ~~0.5155~~. Except for the Southern
355 Ocean, the modeled dust concentration is within an order of magnitude of the observations in general.
356 The model strongly underestimates the observed dust concentration in the remote Southern Ocean by
357 over one order of magnitude. The underestimation of southern Pacific Ocean dust could be partly due
358 to underestimation of the emissions in SH. In addition to a possible lack of emissions, the model may
359 generate too much convection and thereby have a too efficient wet scavenging of dust aerosols.



360



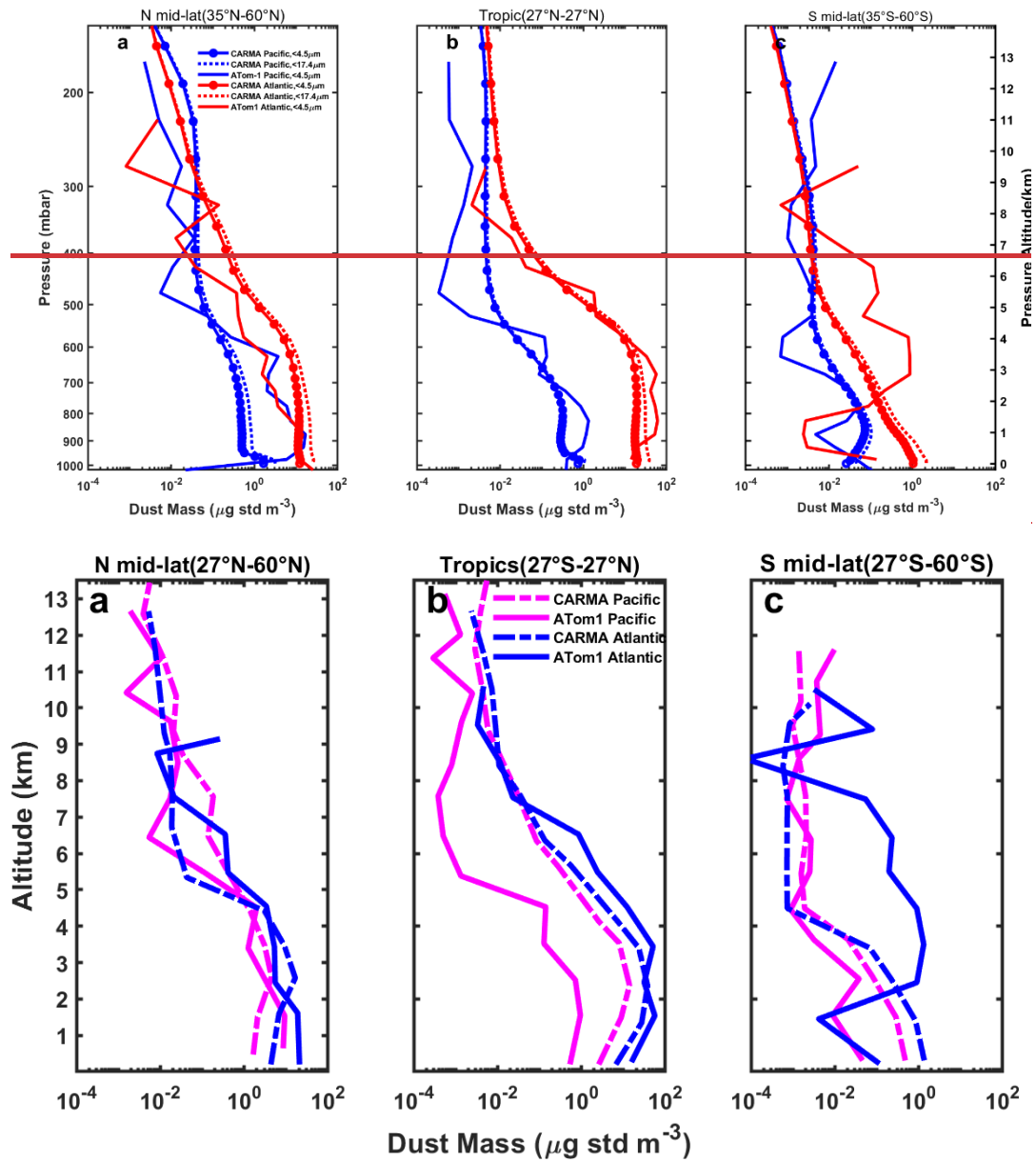
361

362 **Figure 4.** Comparison of the dust concentration below 1 kilometre above sea level (900 mb) with particle
 363 diameter less than $4.5 \mu\text{m}$ simulated by CESM1/CARMA with the NASA ATom 1 airborne campaign.
 364 Both model and observations are sampled along the NASA Atom-1 flight track. (a) Observed dust
 365 surface concentration according to ATom 1; (b) same as (a), but simulations from CESM1/CARMA. (c)
 366 Scatterplot of CARMA simulation compared with ATom 1 for dust surface concentration. Southern
 367 Pacific and Atlantic basin sites are denoted by red and blue circles, respectively, while northern Pacific
 368 and Atlantic basin sites are denoted by red and blue points, respectively. The black dashed lines in each

369 panel denote 1:10, 1:1, and 10:1 relationships between observations and simulations, respectively.

370 **3.3 Comparison with dust vertical distribution**

371 Figure 5 compares the dust vertical distribution between CESM1/CARMA and measurements by
372 PALMS during ATom1 in August 2016. The observed dust concentrations in the lower tropospheric NH
373 midlatitudes (27°N-60°N) and tropics (27°S-27°N) are about an order of magnitude higher than those in
374 the SH midlatitudes (27°S-60°S) due to higher surface emissions in NH (Figure 2). The tropical lower
375 tropospheric dust loading in the Atlantic basin, which is downwind of the ~~Saharan Desert~~North African,
376 is over one order of magnitude higher than that in the Pacific Ocean. Both observations and the model
377 show that the dust concentration decreases by two to three orders of magnitude from the surface to
378 about ~~200 hPa~~12 km. The strong vertical gradient is consistent with the findings reported in Yu et al.
379 (2019) and Froyd et al. (2022), that deep convection activates the entrained dust aerosols above the
380 cloud base and subsequently removes the particles in-cloud. Maloney et al. (2022) suggests that there is
381 a strong removal of dust by ice formation through heterogeneous nucleation. The model overestimates
382 the observed dust concentration in the mid and upper troposphere possibly because our model does not
383 include the interaction. A layer of dust between ~~8002~~ and ~~400 hPa~~8 km, which the model fails to
384 reproduce over the southern Atlantic, is observed during ATom1 but not in ATom2-4 (Figure S1-S3).
385 Figure ~~S51~~ shows that about ~~5235~~% of the simulated dust near the surface are coarse mode dust (4.5µm
386 – 17 µm) and the coarse dust mass fraction drops rapidly with altitude. Simulations show that 95% of
387 the total dust concentration ~~in the upper troposphere~~above 5 km is fine dust (with diameter less than 4.5
388 µm) because coarse dust is subject to more efficient wet and dry deposition during long-range transport
389 vertically or horizontally.



390

391

392 **Figure 5.** Simulated (dotted-solid-long dash line) and measured (solid line) vertical profiles of the dust concentrations in August 2016 during the ATom1 field campaign. The dashed lines represent Both model and observations are sampled along the simulated vertical distribution of the total dust concentration (diameter up to 17.4 μm)-flight track. The profiles are averaged over the Pacific Ocean (red/pink) or Atlantic Ocean (blue) in the Northern Hemisphere (NH) midlatitudes (27°N-60°N, panel a) and tropics (27°S-27°N, panel b), and in the Southern Hemisphere (SH) midlatitudes (27°S-60°S, panel c).

399

3.4 Comparison with AERONET in Asia and the Sahara North Africa

400

The simulated aerosol optical depth (AOD) at 4020532 nm wavelength from CESM1/CARMA is

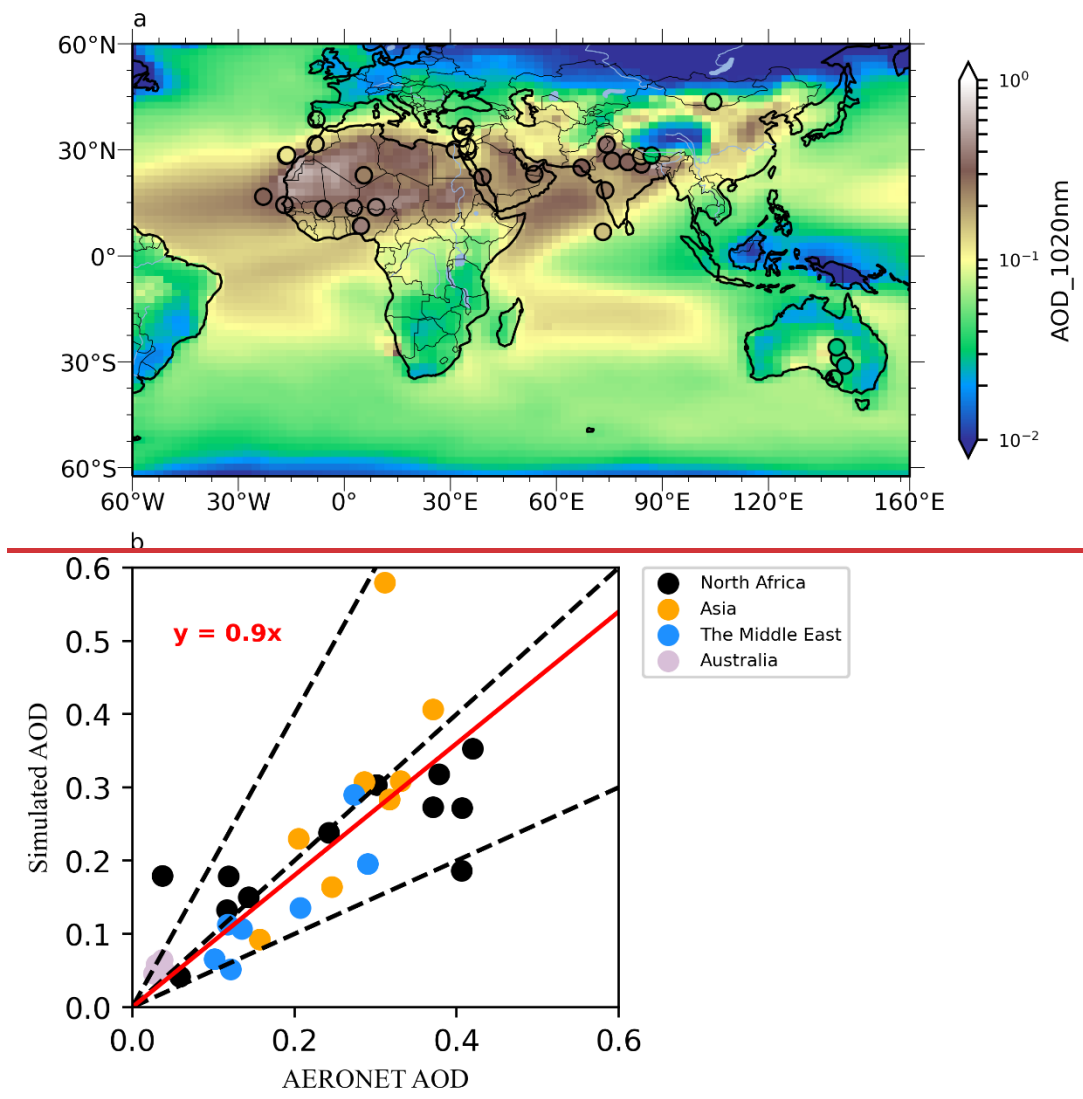
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compared to the measurements near dust source regions from 2014 to 2018 for most of the Aerosol

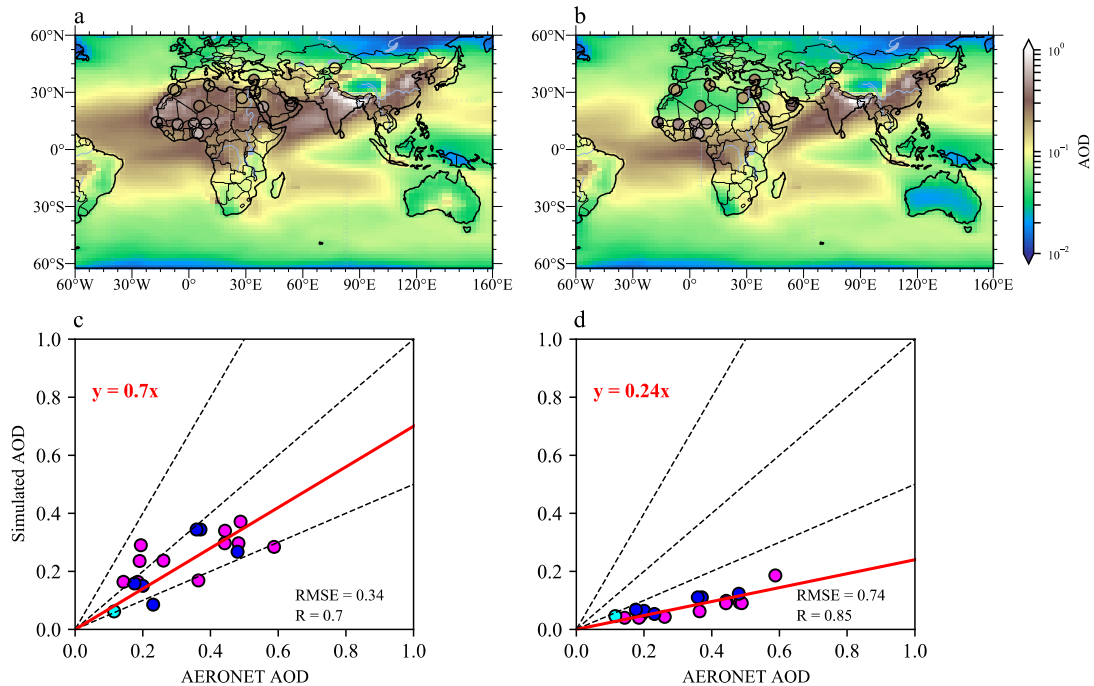
402

Robotic Network (AERONET) sites (Figure 6a). On average, the model underestimates the averaged

403 AOD of all AERONET sites by ~10%, with ~21% underestimation in the Sahara and Middle East
 404 where dust dominates the AOD (Chin et al., 2009). We use 18 AERONET sites inside of the major dust
 405 emission region shown in Figure 2. On average, the model underestimated the annual mean AOD of the
 406 selected 18 AERONET sites by 19%. The model underestimates the averaged AOD by ~14% in North
 407 Africa and ~25% in Middle East. Figure 6b shows the simulated AOD without dust emitted in the
 408 model underestimated the AERONET AOD by 74% on average. The simulations with and without dust
 409 emission suggest that dust contribute to over 50% of simulated AOD in the selected AERONET sites.
 410 Consistent with the dust emission distribution shown in Figure 2, the simulated and observed AOD
 411 near the dust source regions in the tropics and NH (e.g., Sahara, Middle East, and Asia) is significantly
 412 higher than that near SH deserts (e.g., central Australia). Dust from the source regions in NH and
 413 tropical deserts is transported downwind into the Pacific and Atlantic Ocean basins.



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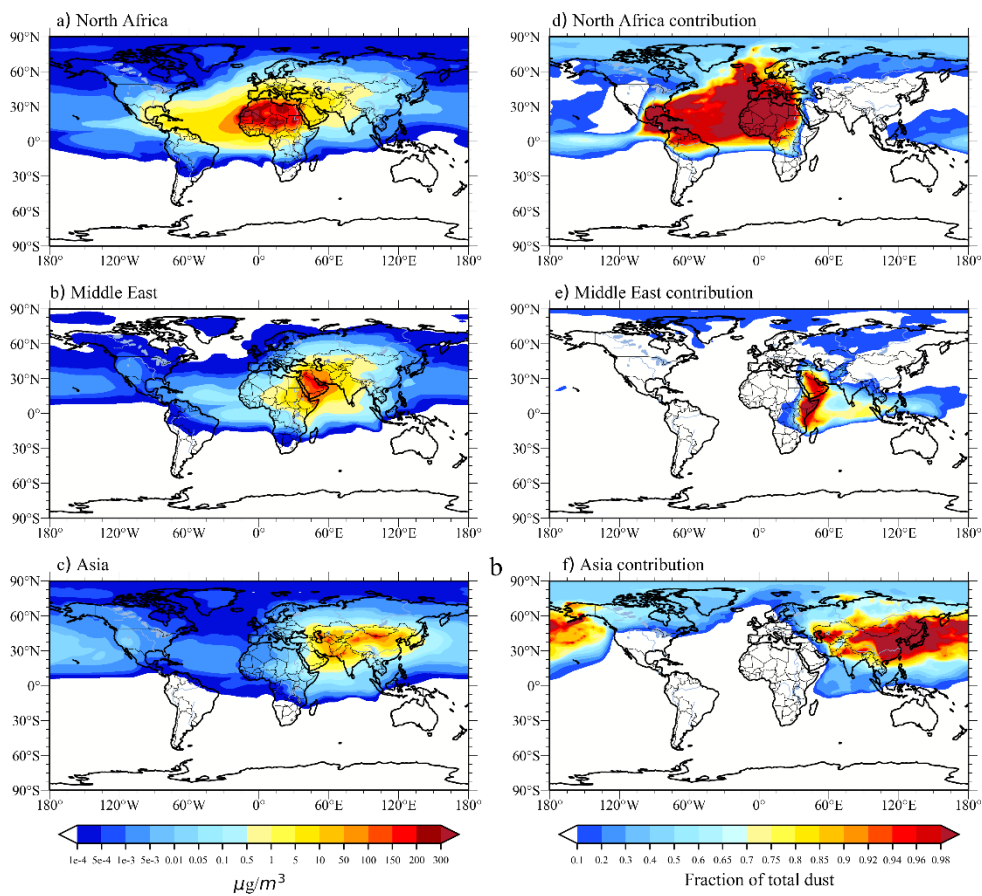
416 **Figure 6.** (a) Annual mean AOD at 1020.532 nm wavelength from 2014 to 2018 simulated by
 417 CESM1/CARMA, denoted by the color-filled contours; (b) same as (a) for simulation without dust.
 418 The measured AOD from 3318 AERONET ground sites is located inside the major dust emission
 419 regions (Figure 2) are denoted by the color-coded circles. (c) Comparison of the simulated annual
 420 mean AOD at 1020.532 nm wavelength with measurements from 2014 to 2018 for the most of the
 421 AERONET sites except for Australian sites. Due to the limited data availability in Australian
 422 AERONET sites, the multiyear annual mean AOD from year 1998 to 2022 are used. North Africa, the
 423 Middle East, Asia, and Australia/Asia are represented as black, green, blue, pink, cyan and pink
 424 circles/blue number, respectively. (d) same as (c) but for without dust. The solid red line denotes the
 425 best fit. The dashed black lines represent 1:2, 1:1, and 2:1 relationships between the observations and
 426 simulations.

427 4 Global distributions of Saharan/North African, Middle Eastern, and Asian dust

428 In this section, we show the global distributions and source attributions of dust from the surface to the
 429 lower stratosphere. Consistent with previous studies (Tanaka et al., 2006, Chin et al., 2007 and Kok et
 430 al., 2021), modeled North African dust accounts for about 50-60% total global dust loading (mostly in
 431 the lower troposphere). Validated by the recent global NASA ATom measurements, our study
 432 calculated the dust source attributions in each altitude and the dust source attribution in the anticyclone
 433 of the Asian summer monsoon region. We show that the Asian dust with less annual emission than the
 434 North African dust is transported higher and become dominant in the upper troposphere and lower
 435 stratosphere (UTLS).

436 **4.1 Surface distribution of dust**

437 Figure 7 shows the simulated annual mean surface concentrations of **SaharanNorth African**, Middle
 438 Eastern, and Asian dust and their relative contributions to the simulated total dust from 2014 to 2018.
 439 In general, the simulated maximum concentrations are located near the source regions. The dust
 440 concentrations decrease dramatically by about two to three orders of magnitude from the source to
 441 remote regions due to efficient dry and wet scavenging. Limited dust is transported across the equator
 442 from NH to SH midlatitudes at the surface level. The simulated NH dust can travel to SH once
 443 convection lifts the dust into the upper troposphere and lower stratosphere (Section 4.2).



444
 445
 446 **Figure 7.** Simulated global spatial distribution of annual mean surface dust mass concentrations and
 447 the fractional contribution of each source. Simulations are averaged from 2014 to 2018. Left panels
 448 represent each source’s concentration of dust. Right panels represent each source’s contribution to total
 449 dust.

450 **SaharanNorth African** dust dominates the surface dust concentrations in the Western Hemisphere
 451 including the North Atlantic basin, Europe, Caribbean, and eastern North America. The model suggests
 452 that simulated **SaharanNorth African** dust concentrations drop by three orders of magnitude during

453 transport from North Africa to 60 °N and peaks in the Caribbean. The modeled shape and direction of
454 the transported dust plume is similar to the simulations of Colarco et al. (2003). [The trans-Atlantic](#)
455 [transport of the African dust to Amazon Basin in the northeasterly trade winds are observed \(Yu et al.,](#)
456 [2015c; Swap et al., 1992; Prospero et al., 2014\).](#) Based on satellite and in-situ deposition data, Yu et al.
457 [\(2015c\) quantified the deposition of African dust in the Amazon basin. Consistently, our simulated dust](#)
458 [over Amazon Basin is primarily transported from the North Africa.](#)

459 The simulated annual mean dust concentration in Asia is about 24% of that in the [Saharan](#)
460 [Desert](#)[North African](#), which Su and Toon (2011) attribute to Asia having a much smaller area of dust
461 sources than the Sahara. Asian dust dominates in the Eastern Hemisphere including the North Pacific
462 basin, Russia, and some can be transported to Alaska and Canada. Previous studies have indicated that
463 dust from the Gobi Desert region entrained in a surface cyclone arrives in the western U.S. boundary
464 layer via cross-Pacific transport (Arimoto et al., 1996). With CARMA we show that although some
465 Asian dust can be transported to the western U.S. across the Pacific basin (Figure 7), its relative mass
466 contribution to the total dust concentration in the Western U.S. is about 1% on the annual basis (Figure
467 3). Simulated dust in the boundary layer is mostly removed by wet and dry deposition during the cross-
468 Pacific transport, while lifted Asian dust can be transported more efficiently across the Pacific basin
469 and accounts for about 50% of the dust loading in the middle troposphere above the western U.S.
470 (Figure [S4S5](#)). The Pacific Dust Experiment (PACDEX) shows that the coarse mode Asian dust is
471 rapidly removed amid the remote transport, while the fine mode dust less than 2.5 μm in diameter is
472 entrained into the upper air and transported across the Pacific Basin by the upper tropospheric westerly
473 jets (Stith et al., 2009). Consistent with PACDEX, our model shows that 92% of Asian dust mass that
474 transported 10 km above U.S. are less than 2.5 μm in diameter (not shown). Middle Eastern dust
475 contributes significantly to surface dust loading over the Indian Ocean, eastern edge of Africa, southern
476 India, and Southeast Asia. The simulated latitudinal transport of Middle Eastern dust is limited (Figure
477 [S4S5](#)). Our model suggests that the contribution of [Saharan](#)[North African](#) and Asian dust to the surface
478 dust in the Arctic is similar. [Significant contributions of Asian dust are confirmed through ice core](#)
479 [isotopic analysis of the dust deposited at the ice camp in Greenland \(Bory et al., 2002; 2003\).](#) Note that
480 the current model fails to consider high-latitude dust sources in Siberia and Alaska, which are believed
481 to be the major contributors to Arctic dust (Lambert et al., 2015; Zwaafink et al., 2016).

482 4.2 Vertical distribution of dust

483 Figure 8 compares the simulated vertical distributions of ~~Saharan~~North African, Middle Eastern, and
484 Asian dust in the lower, middle, and upper troposphere averaged from 2014 to 2018. Simulated global
485 dust concentrations drop by one order of magnitude from the surface to about 600 hPa and by four
486 orders of magnitude from the surface to 160 hPa. The rapid decline of dust mass concentration is due
487 mostly to deposition and subgrid-scale convective removal above the cloud base (Yu et al., 2019; Froyd
488 et al., 2022). However, Maloney et al. (2022) show that heterogenous nucleation of ice on dust,
489 followed by sedimentation also contributes to loss of dust from the mid and upper troposphere. Model
490 results show that the dust from the Sahara, Middle East, and Asia accounts for ~61.7%, 12.9%, and
491 13.9% of global annual mean surface dust concentration, respectively. In the NH midlatitudes, the
492 relative contribution of Asian dust increases with altitude and becomes dominant in the upper
493 troposphere. Asian dust contributes ~60.9% of the dust at pressures from 266 hPa to 160 hPa. Asian
494 dust is mostly lifted in the spring by mid-latitude frontal systems (Caffrey et al., 2018). This higher
495 relative contribution of Asian dust in the upper troposphere of the NH midlatitudes and tropics suggests
496 that Asian dust is lifted more efficiently than ~~Saharan~~North African dust. Asian dust is mostly lifted in
497 mid-latitude springtime weather systems that are efficient at transporting dust aloft. ~~Saharan~~North
498 African dust is lifted in tropical systems that are less efficient at transporting dust to high altitudes since
499 there is widespread descending air at the latitudes of the ~~Saharan-Desert~~North African, which is in the
500 descending branch of the Hadley circulation (Su and Toon, 2011). The upward transport of
501 ~~Saharan~~North African dust is restricted due to infrequent deep convection over the ~~Saharan~~
502 ~~Desert~~North African (Froyd et al., 2022). Frequent convective activity and cold frontal systems (Kawai
503 et al., 2018, 2015; Hara et al., 2009) transport Asian dust upward to higher altitudes. Figures 8d-8e
504 show that the upper tropospheric dust concentration in the NH midlatitudes is about one order of
505 magnitude higher than that in the tropics. Note that the tropical dust in the middle and upper
506 troposphere over the Pacific basin is overestimated by one order of magnitude compared with the
507 Atom1 observation (Figure 5). However, model's performance on the tropical dust varies with seasons.
508 For example, model underestimated the Atom3 observation by one-order of magnitude, while better
509 agreements are made compared with Atom2 and Atom4 observations (Supplement figures S2-S4). In
510 general, modeled annual mean distribution of tropical dust is subject to large uncertainties (in Figure

8). Especially the convective transport parameterization for a climate model with coarse resolution is still highly uncertain.

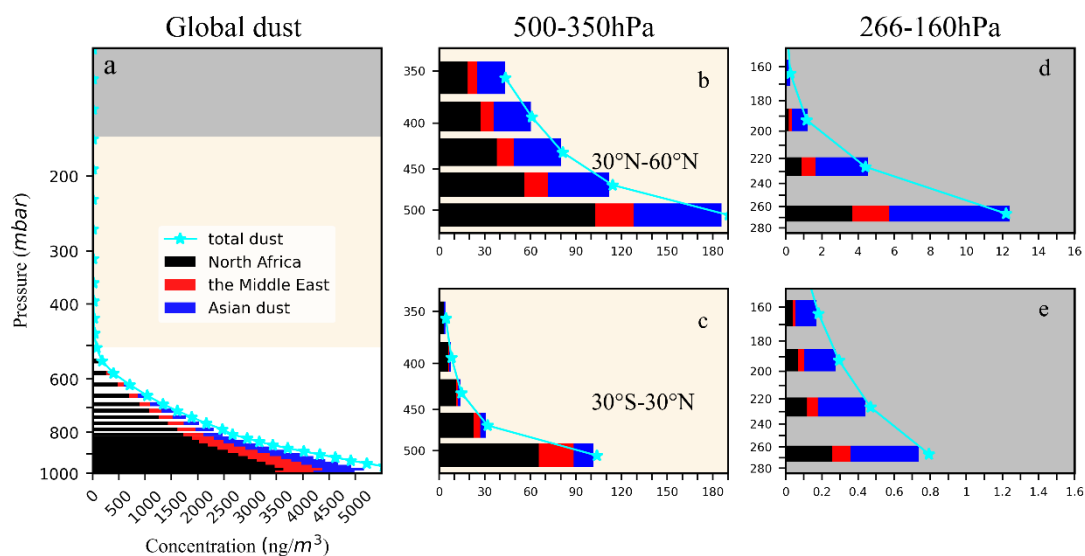
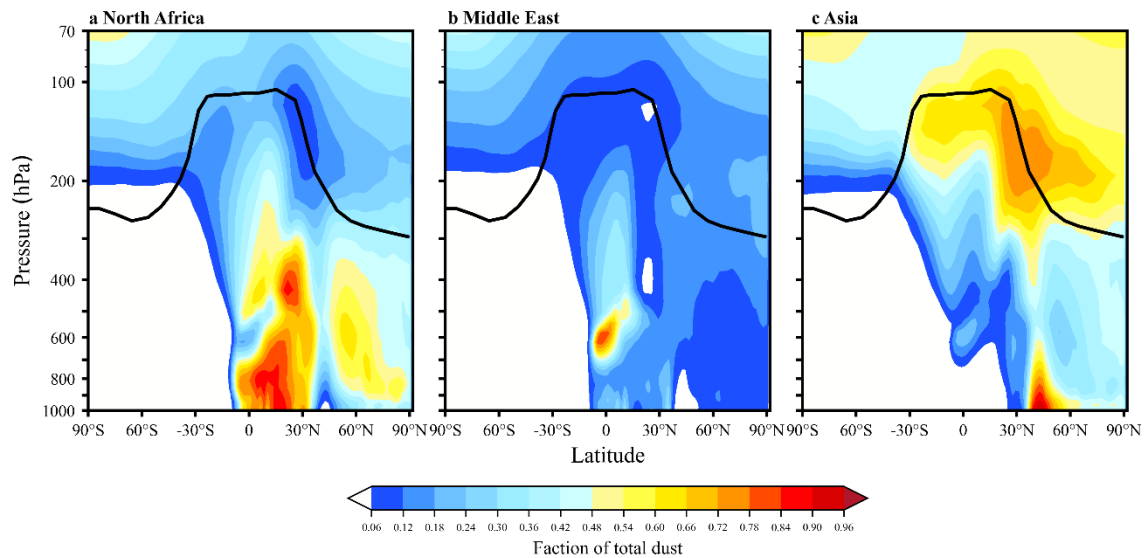


Figure 8. (a) Simulated vertical profiles of average dust concentration for 2014 to 2018 from each desert emission zone; green bars denote SaharanNorth African dust, red bars denote Middle Eastern dust, and blue bars denote Asian dust. (b-d) Same as Figure 8a but averaged for Northern Hemisphere (NH) midlatitudes (30°N-60°N) and tropics (30°S-30°N) from 500 to 350 hPa. (d-e) Same as Figure 8b-8c but for pressure levels from 266 to 160 hPa.

Figure 9 shows the vertical distribution of the zonal and annual mean dust fractional contributions from the three dust source regions. The Sahara dominates the tropical dust budget from the surface to the upper troposphere and accounts about 50% of dust in the troposphere of the NH mid-high latitudes. The model shows that limited SaharanNorth African dust is transported into the stratosphere. In contrast, Asian dust contributes less than SaharanNorth African dust in the troposphere except for the midlatitudes where the sources are located. Asian dust contributes more than 40% of the dust in the global UTLS, with the peak in the NH midlatitude UTLS having a mass fraction of more than 60%. Once the Asian dust is lifted high enough into the stratosphere, some can be transported to the SH UTLS. Our model suggests that Asian dust might be the dominant source of ice nucleating particles in the global UTLS. The simulations show that the fractional contribution of SaharanNorth African and Asian dust is comparable in the lower and middle troposphere of the Arctic.



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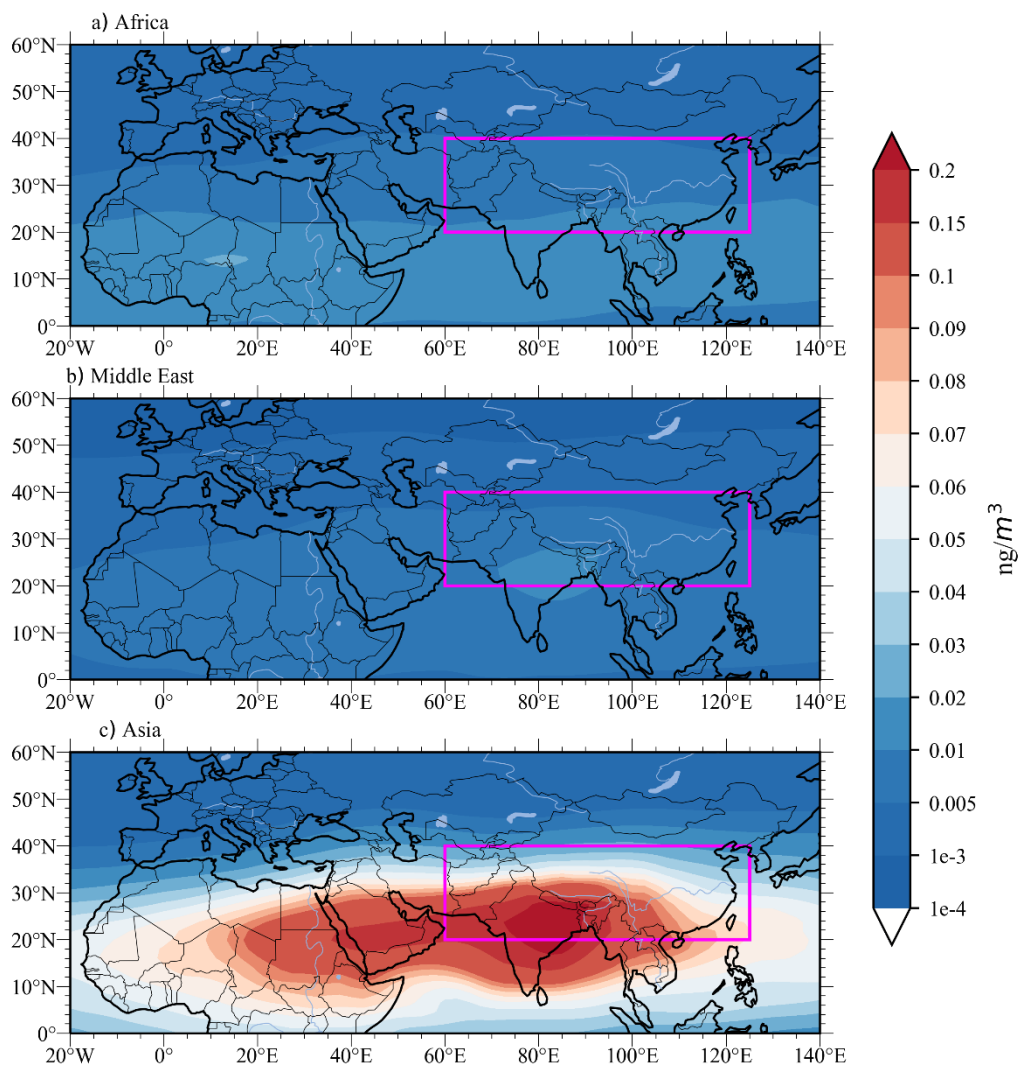
Figure 9. Simulation of each dust source’s fractional contribution to zonal and annual average total dust as a function of altitude (left axis) and latitude (bottom axis). Shading indicates dust concentrations, and the black line in each figure denotes the annually averaged simulated tropopause height.

537 **54.3 Dust attribution in the Asian summer monsoon region**

538 A layer of aerosols in the UTLS of the ASM is revealed by satellites (Thomason and Vernier, 2013;
539 Vernier et al., 2015; Vernier et al., 2011) and balloon-borne optical particle counters (Vernier et al.,
540 2018; Yu et al., 2017). In the meantime, a high occurrence of cirrus clouds is found by satellites (Sassen
541 et al., 2008; Nazaryan et al., 2008), and). The relative contributions of dust particles might play an
542 important role in to the cirrus formation cloud in the ASM region remain unquantified and worth future
543 evaluation. Recent airborne in-situ measurements suggest that the ASM tropopause aerosol layer is
544 composed of mostly sulfate, organics, and nitrate (Hopfner et al., 2019; Appel et al., 2022). The budget
545 of dust particles near the tropopause (~100 hPa) and at cirrus altitudes (e.g., 500-200 hPa) remains
546 unquantified.

547 Figure 10 illustrates the simulated June-July-August (JJA) dust concentrations at 100 hPa
548 averaged from 2014 to 2018. A peak of dust is simulated in the ASM region associated with the
549 anticyclonic air flow similar to sulfate and organics. However, the dust abundance is extremely limited
550 compared with sulfate and organics. The simulated mass fraction of aerosol contributed by dust is
551 ~34% at 200 hPa and 0.0408% at 100 hPa inside the ASM- (Figure S6). As expected, Asian dust
552 dominates the dust budget in the ASM region, with a relative contribution 1-2 orders of magnitude

553 higher than SaharanNorth African and Middle Eastern dust. There is limited SaharanNorth African and
 554 Middle Eastern dust transport to the ASM region by the strong upper tropospheric westerlies (Tanaka et
 555 al., 2005; Prasad and Singh, 2007). Note that the dust concentration simulated by CESM1/CARMA at
 556 100 hPa in the ASM region is about $9 \times 10^{-5} \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$, which is about 3 orders of magnitude smaller than
 557 the values simulated by the CESM-MAM7 model reported by Bossolasco et al. (2021). Such low
 558 values of dust concentration are due to inclusion of secondary activation of dust above the cloud base
 559 in the convective transport scheme revised by Yu et al. (2019). Failure to include this removal will lead
 560 to large overestimates of dust aloft.



561
 562 **Figure 10.** Simulated mass concentrations of SaharanNorth African, Middle East and Asian dust at 100
 563 hPa (left) averaged in June-July-August (JJA) from year 2014 to 2018. Purple boxes denote the Asian
 564 Summer Monsoon region.

565 **6.5 Summary**

566 This study uses a sectional aerosol model coupled with a climate model, CESM1/CARMA, to simulate
567 the global distribution of dust, 85% over which comes from Asian, Middle Eastern, and [SaharanNorth](#)
568 [African](#) sources. Compared with measurements reported in Adebisi and Kok (2020), the model of Yu et
569 al. (2015b) underestimates the observed dust in the size range between 1 and 3 μm by one order of
570 magnitude. We modified the size distribution of the dust emission, and the improved model is within
571 the error bars of measurements summarized by Adebisi and Kok (2020). Both observations and the
572 simulations suggest that the dust mass size distribution increases by about 4 orders of magnitude from
573 0.1 μm to 2 μm , reaches its highest values around 2-3 micrometers in diameter and remains fairly
574 constant for larger sizes up to 20 μm diameter. We compared the simulated dust distributions with
575 multiple observational datasets including surface and airborne in-situ measurements over remote
576 regions and aerosol optical depth measurements near the dust source regions. CESM1/CARMA
577 reproduces the annual mean dust surface concentrations around the globe within one order of
578 magnitude of the observations summarized in Huneus et al. (2011). The global vertical distributions of
579 dust measured by PALMS during the NASA ATom field campaign are used to constrain the model.
580 Both the model and PALMS measurements suggest that dust mass concentrations over remote ocean
581 basins drop by two to three orders of magnitude from the surface to the upper troposphere (200 hPa).
582 Simulations show that about 52% of dust near the surface are coarse, while 95% of the total dust
583 concentration in the upper troposphere is fine dust (with diameter less than 4.5 μm). The rapid decline
584 of dust aerosols with altitude is associated with the efficient in-cloud convective removal of dust
585 aerosols (Froyd et al., 2022; Yu et al., 2019). However, in situ cirrus formation can also lead to
586 downward transport of dust (Maloney et al., 2022). In addition, both the model and PALMS
587 measurements suggest that dust concentrations in the lower troposphere of the NH midlatitudes (27°N-
588 60°N) and tropics (27°S-27°N) are about an order of magnitude higher than that in the SH midlatitudes
589 (27°S-60°S). The model captures ~90% of the annual mean column aerosol optical depth measured by
590 33 AERONET stations near the dust source regions.

591 Our simulations suggest that the annual mean dust emissions from the Sahara, Middle East, and
592 Asia account for ~59.7%, 12.5%, and 13.3% of global annual mean dust emissions, respectively. Dust
593 emitted from the Sahara is transported toward Europe, but mostly to the Western Hemisphere including

594 the North Atlantic basin, and eastern North America. Asian dust dominates the Eastern Hemisphere
595 including the North Pacific basin, Russia, and some can be transported to Alaska and Canada. Middle
596 Eastern dust contributes significantly to the surface dust over the Indian Ocean, the eastern edge of
597 Africa, southern India, and Southeast Asia. Although ~~Saharan~~North African dust dominates global dust
598 mass loading at the surface, the relative contribution of Asian dust increases with altitude and becomes
599 dominant in the upper troposphere of the northern hemisphere- (NH). Once the Asian dust is lifted high
600 enough into the stratosphere, some can be transported to the SH UTLS. Asian dust might be the
601 dominant source of ice nucleating particles in the global UTLS. Asian dust contributes ~60.9% of the
602 dust mass at pressure levels from 266 hPa to 160 hPa. The increasing fractional contribution of Asian
603 dust is due to efficient vertical transport in midlatitude weather systems, while tropical weather systems
604 are not as efficient due to subsiding motion in the descending branch of the Hadley circulation and
605 convective activity over the Sahara is relatively infrequent (Froyd et al., 2022). Asian dust dominates
606 the dust budget in the global upper troposphere during the summer months, with the peak fractional
607 contribution in the ASM region, which is about 1-2 orders of magnitude higher than that of
608 ~~Saharan~~North African and Middle Eastern dust. The model suggests that the dust forms a local
609 maximum in the ASM anticyclone as well as organics and ~~sulfate-nitrate~~ (Yu et al., 2022). However, the
610 simulated dust mass concentration is only ~0.0408% of the total aerosols in the Asian Tropopause
611 Aerosol Layer (ATAL). Constrained by the state-of-the-art measurements of dust at the global scale,
612 our model highlights the significant contribution of Asian dust to the global upper troposphere where
613 cirrus clouds may form heterogeneously.

614 *Data availability.* Dust surface measurements data are reported in Huneus et al. (2011) and can be
615 found at https://aerocom-classic.met.no/DATA/download/DUST_BENCHMARK_HUNEEUS2011/;
616 NASA ATom data are available at <https://espo.nasa.gov/atom/content/ATom>; AERONET data can be
617 found <http://aeronet.gsfc.nasa.gov/>.

618

619 *Author contributions.* P.Y. designed the research and ran CESM1/CARMA model. S.L. analyzed the
620 model output, observational datasets and wrote the paper. L.Z, D.M.M, K.D.F and O.B.T provided
621 effective and constructive comments on the study. K.D.F and D.M.M provided the PLAMS datasets.
622 All authors edited the paper.

623

624 *Competing interests.* The authors declare no competing interests.

625

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635

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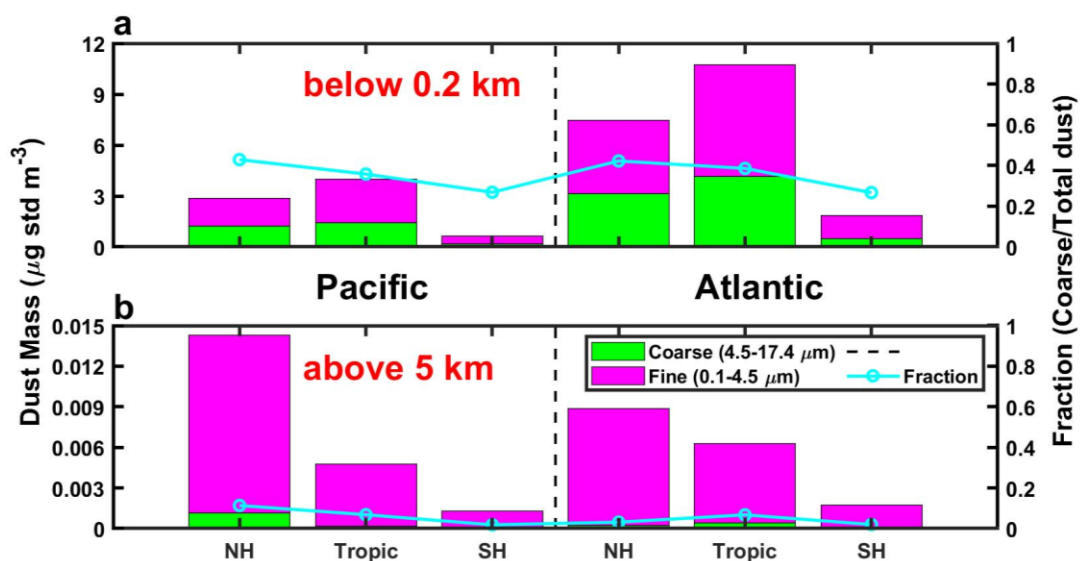
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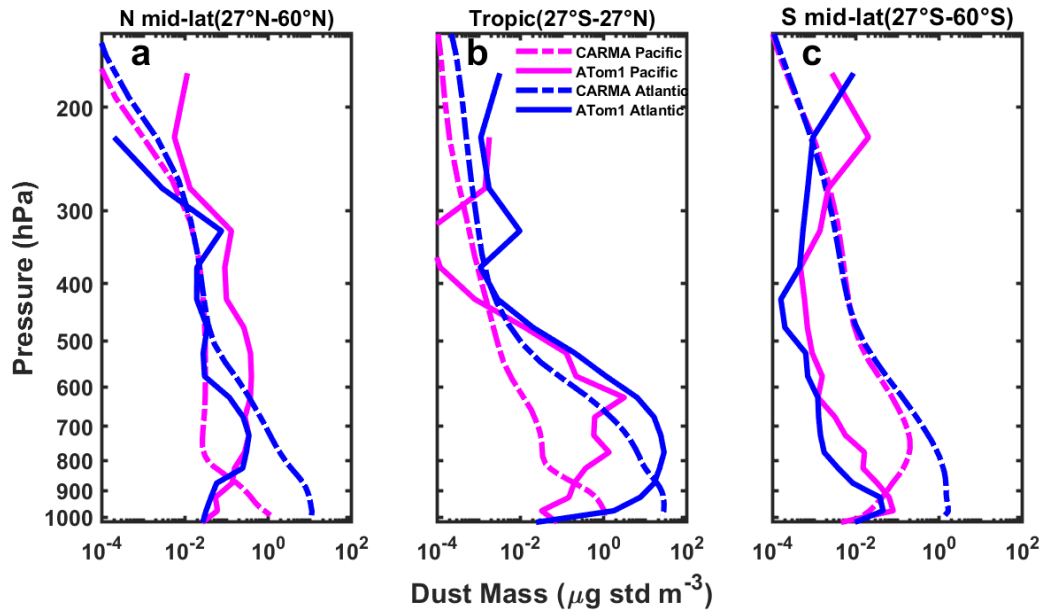
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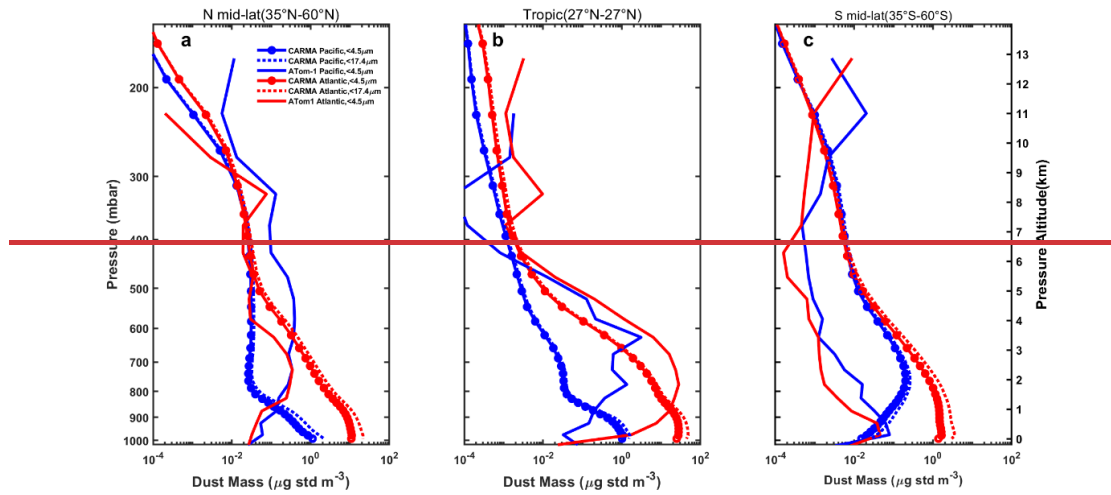
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946 **Figure S1.** The dust mass concentration averaged for different latitude bands (same as Figure 5) below
 947 0.2 km and above 5 km during the ATom1 field campaign. The green and pink bar denoted coarse-
 948 mode (with diameter greater than $4.5 \mu\text{m}$) and fine mode (with diameter less than $4.5 \mu\text{m}$) dust mass
 949 concentration, respectively. Lines (right axis) present the coarse mode dust concentrations fraction of
 950 total dust (cyan).

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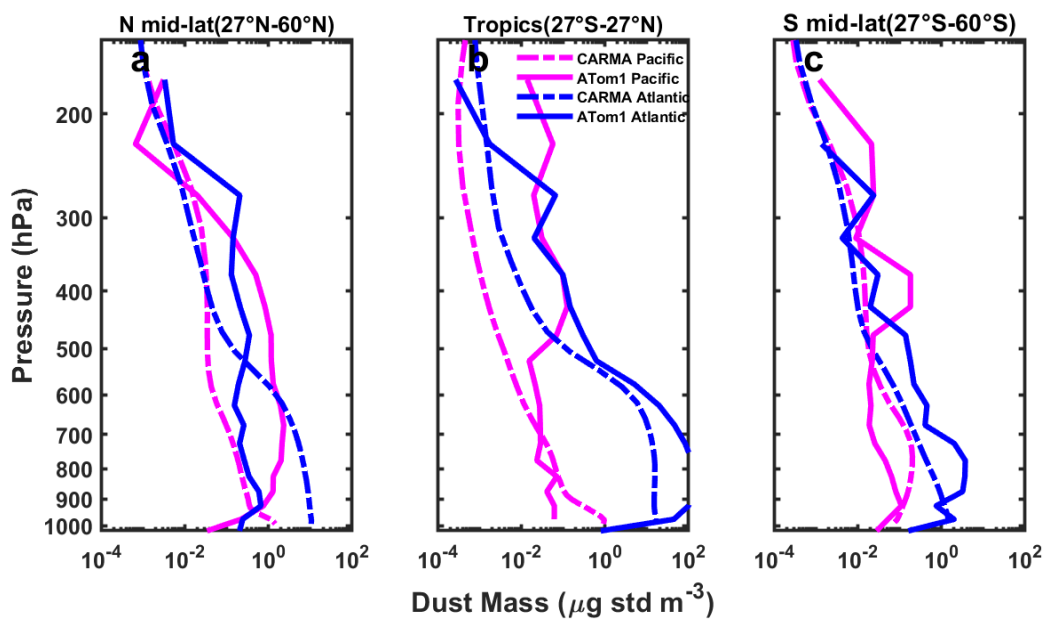
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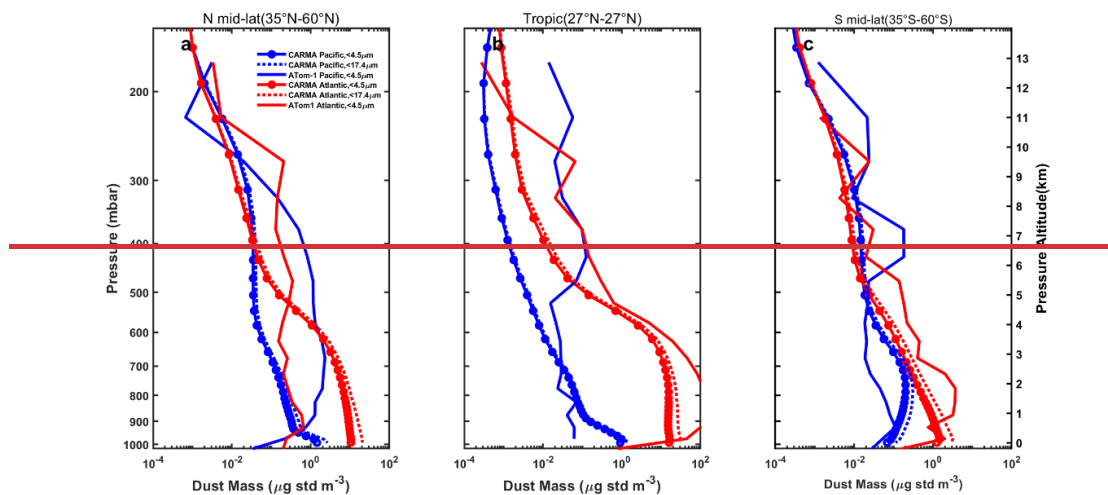
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954 **Figure S12.** Simulated (~~dotted-solid-long dash line~~) and measured (solid line) vertical profiles of the
 955 dust concentrations in February 2017 during the ATom2 field campaign. Graphs are equivalent to
 956 Figure 5. ~~The dashed lines represent the simulated vertical distributions of the total dust concentrations~~
 957 ~~(diameter up to 17.4 μm).~~ The profiles are averaged over the Pacific Ocean (~~red/pink~~) or Atlantic Ocean
 958 (blue) in the Northern Hemisphere midlatitudes (27°N-60°N, panel a) and tropics (27°S-27°N, panel b),
 959 and in the Southern Hemisphere midlatitudes (27°S-60°S, panel c).

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963 **Figure S23.** Simulated (dotted-solid) and measured (solid) vertical profiles of the

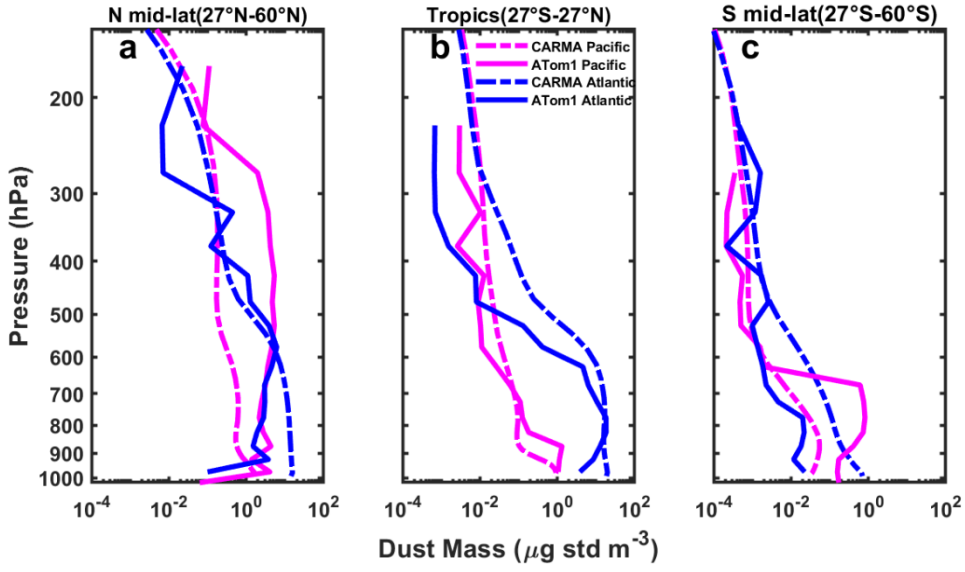
964 dust concentrations in October 2017 during the ATom3 field campaign. Graphs are equivalent to Figure

965 [S1S2](#).

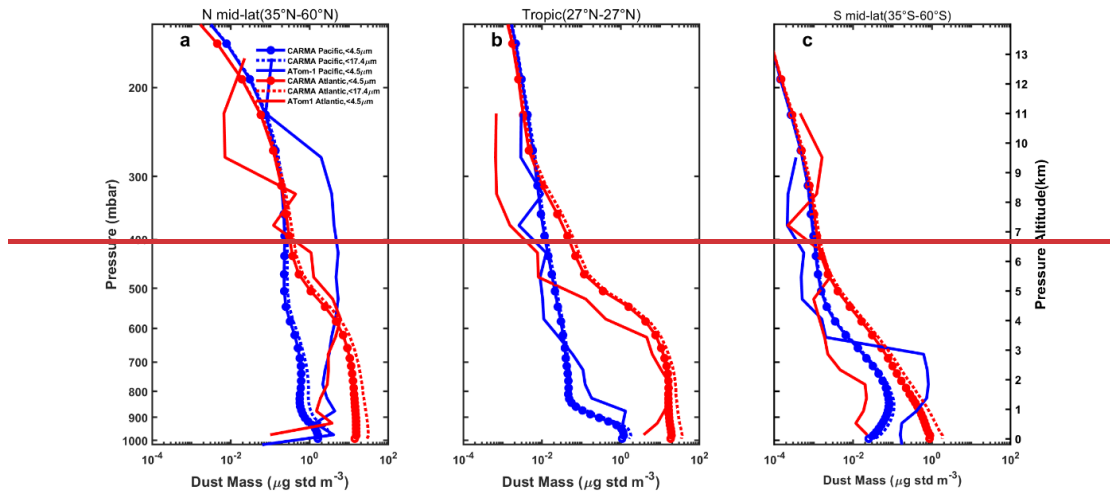
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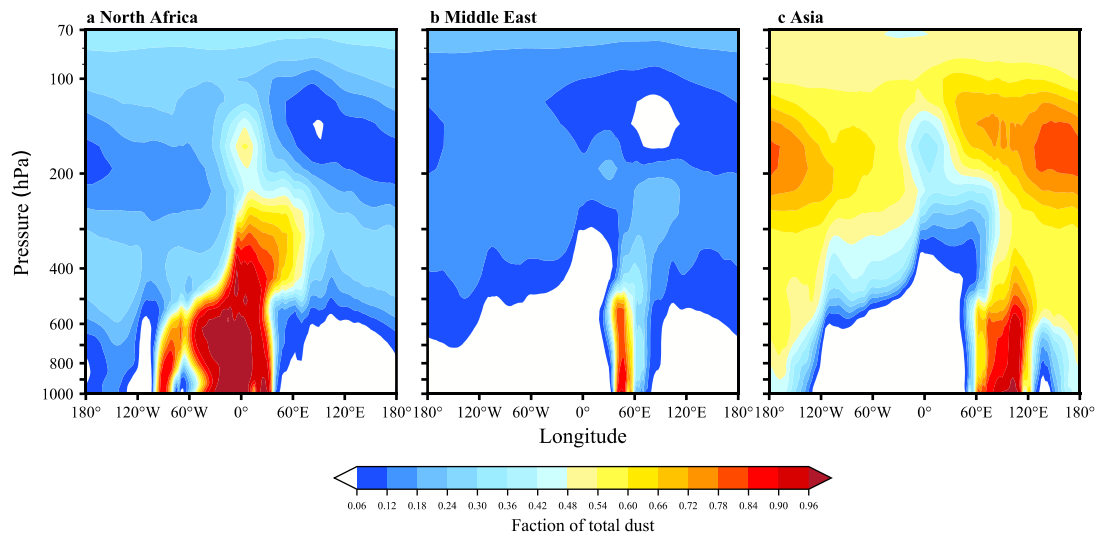


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Figure S34. Simulated (dotted solid long dash line) and measured (solid line) vertical profiles of the dust concentrations in May 2018 during the ATom4 field campaign. Graphs are equivalent to Figure S1S2.



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974 **Figure S45.** Simulation of each dust source’s fractional contribution to total dust as a function of
 975 altitude (left axis) and longitude (bottom axis). Shading indicates dust concentration.

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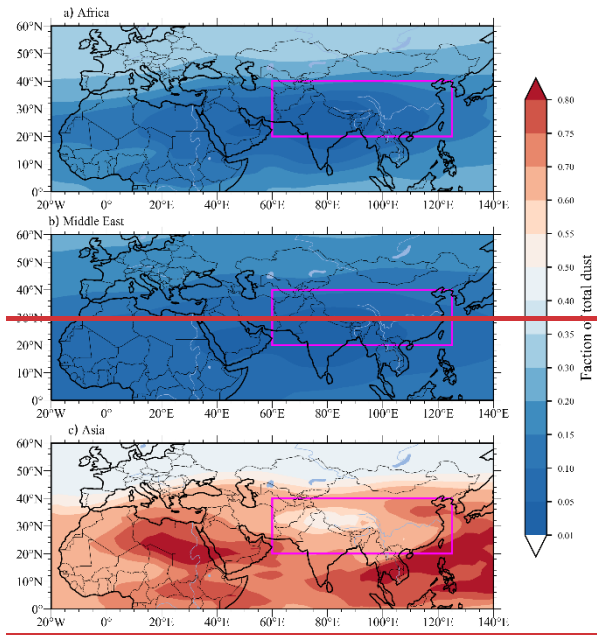
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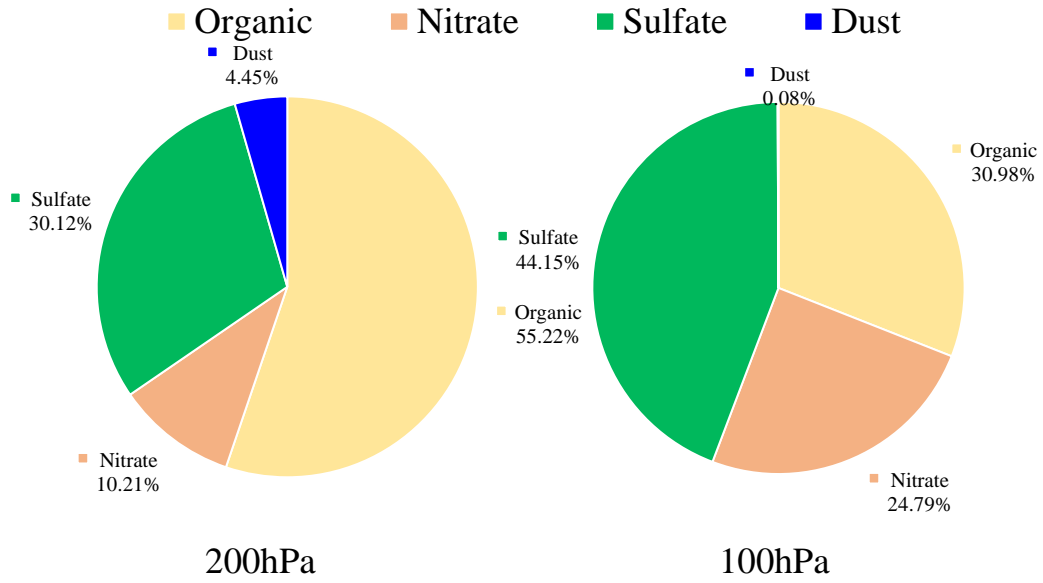
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Figure S5. Simulated global distributions of each dust contribution at 100 hPa levels. Graphs are

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equivalent to Figure 9.



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992 **Figure S6. (a) Simulated mass fractions of dust, organics, nitrate and sulfate at 200 mb in the Asian**

993 **summer monsoon (ASM); (b) same as (A) but for mass fractions at 100 mb.**

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