

*What have I done in the past 5 months?*

(numerical fun with the global weathering thermostat  
and other climate control knobs)

Andy Ridgwell





long-term  
feedbacks on  
atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub>





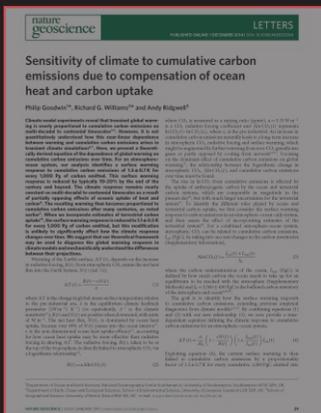
long-term  
feedbacks on  
atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub>



Lord et al. [in press]



Colbourn et al. [2015]



Goodwin et al. [2015]



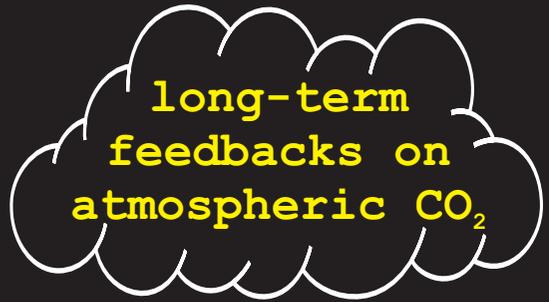
**An impulse response function for the 'long tail' of excess atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> in an Earth system model**  
 N. S. Lord<sup>1</sup>, A. Ridgway<sup>1,2</sup>, M. C. Thomas<sup>1</sup> and J. Lunt<sup>1,3</sup>  
<sup>1</sup>School of Geographical Sciences, University of Bristol, Bristol, UK,  
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 M&P Science and Associates Limited, Harrogate, Bishop Auckland, County Durham, UK

**Accepted Article**

**Corresponding author:** N. S. Lord, School of Geographical Sciences, University of Bristol, University Road, Clifton, Bristol, BS8 1SS, UK. Email: lord@bristol.ac.uk

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Lord et al. [in press]

**AGU PUBLICATIONS**  
**Global Biogeochemical Cycles**

**RESEARCH ARTICLE**  
**The time scale of the silicate weathering negative feedback on atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub>**  
 G. Colburn<sup>1</sup>, A. Ridgway<sup>1,2</sup> and N. Lunt<sup>1,3</sup>

**Abstract** The silicate weathering negative feedback is a stabilizing mechanism that regulates Earth's atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> concentration over long time scales. However, the time scale of this feedback is poorly understood. We use a coupled climate-carbon cycle model to investigate the time scale of the silicate weathering negative feedback. We find that the time scale of the feedback is approximately 100,000 years, which is significantly longer than previously estimated. This longer time scale has important implications for the interpretation of the geological CO<sub>2</sub> record and for the design of Earth system models.

**Introduction** The silicate weathering negative feedback is a stabilizing mechanism that regulates Earth's atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> concentration over long time scales. However, the time scale of this feedback is poorly understood. We use a coupled climate-carbon cycle model to investigate the time scale of the silicate weathering negative feedback. We find that the time scale of the feedback is approximately 100,000 years, which is significantly longer than previously estimated. This longer time scale has important implications for the interpretation of the geological CO<sub>2</sub> record and for the design of Earth system models.



Colbourn et al. [2015]

**RESEARCH ARTICLE**  
**CLIMATE CHANGE**  
**Combustion of available fossil fuel resources sufficient to eliminate the Antarctic ice Sheet**  
 K. Winkelman<sup>1,2</sup>, A. Ridgway<sup>1,2</sup>, J. Lunt<sup>1,2</sup>, M. C. Thomas<sup>1,2</sup>, N. S. Lord<sup>1,2</sup>, M. C. Thomas<sup>1,2</sup>, N. S. Lord<sup>1,2</sup>, M. C. Thomas<sup>1,2</sup>, N. S. Lord<sup>1,2</sup>

**Abstract** The Antarctic ice sheet is a major component of Earth's cryosphere and a significant source of sea level rise. We use a coupled climate-carbon cycle model to investigate the time scale of the silicate weathering negative feedback. We find that the time scale of the feedback is approximately 100,000 years, which is significantly longer than previously estimated. This longer time scale has important implications for the interpretation of the geological CO<sub>2</sub> record and for the design of Earth system models.

Winkelman et al. [2015]

**nature geoscience** LETTERS

**Sensitivity of climate to cumulative carbon emissions due to compensation of ocean heat and carbon uptake**  
 Philip Goodwin<sup>1</sup>, Richard G. Williams<sup>1</sup> and Andy Ridgway<sup>1</sup>

**Abstract** The sensitivity of climate to cumulative carbon emissions is a key question in Earth system science. We use a coupled climate-carbon cycle model to investigate the sensitivity of climate to cumulative carbon emissions. We find that the sensitivity of climate to cumulative carbon emissions is significantly higher than previously estimated. This higher sensitivity has important implications for the interpretation of the geological CO<sub>2</sub> record and for the design of Earth system models.

Goodwin et al. [2015]

**RESEARCH ARTICLE**  
**CLIMATE CHANGE**  
**Combustion of available fossil fuel resources sufficient to eliminate the Antarctic ice Sheet**  
 K. Winkelman<sup>1,2</sup>, A. Ridgway<sup>1,2</sup>, J. Lunt<sup>1,2</sup>, M. C. Thomas<sup>1,2</sup>, N. S. Lord<sup>1,2</sup>, M. C. Thomas<sup>1,2</sup>, N. S. Lord<sup>1,2</sup>, M. C. Thomas<sup>1,2</sup>, N. S. Lord<sup>1,2</sup>

**Abstract** The Antarctic ice sheet is a major component of Earth's cryosphere and a significant source of sea level rise. We use a coupled climate-carbon cycle model to investigate the time scale of the silicate weathering negative feedback. We find that the time scale of the feedback is approximately 100,000 years, which is significantly longer than previously estimated. This longer time scale has important implications for the interpretation of the geological CO<sub>2</sub> record and for the design of Earth system models.

Williams et al. [2012]



Accepted Article

An impulse response function for the 'long tail' of excess atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> in an Earth system model

N. S. Lord<sup>1</sup>, A. Ridgway<sup>1,2</sup>, M. C. Thomas<sup>1</sup> and D. J. Lunt<sup>1,3</sup>

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Lord et al. [in press]

AGU PUBLICATIONS

Global Biogeochemical Cycles

RESEARCH ARTICLE

The time scale of the silicate weathering negative feedback on atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub>

S. Colbourn<sup>1</sup>, A. Ridgway<sup>1,2</sup> and N. S. Lord<sup>1</sup>

**Abstract.** The feedback of CO<sub>2</sub> silicate weathering on atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> is a stabilizing mechanism that acts over long time scales. This study uses a coupled climate-carbon cycle model to estimate the time scale of this feedback. The model shows that the time scale of the silicate weathering negative feedback is approximately 100,000 years, which is significantly longer than previously estimated. This longer time scale has implications for the interpretation of geological CO<sub>2</sub> records and the design of carbon capture and storage (CCS) systems.

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Colbourn et al. [2015]

nature geoscience

LETTERS

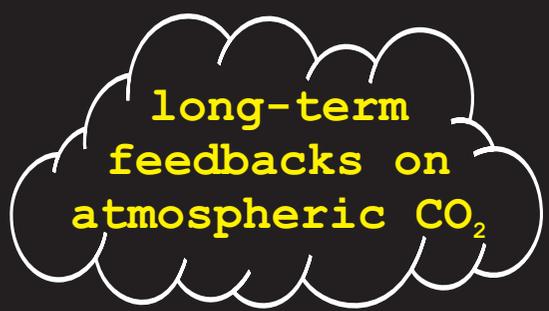
Sensitivity of climate to cumulative carbon emissions due to compensation of ocean heat and carbon uptake

Philip Goodwin<sup>1</sup>, Richard G. Williams<sup>2</sup> and Andy Ridgway<sup>3</sup>

**Abstract.** The ocean heat capacity is a key factor in determining the sensitivity of climate to cumulative carbon emissions. This study shows that the ocean heat capacity is significantly larger than previously estimated, leading to a more stable climate over long time scales.

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Goodwin et al. [2015]



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RESEARCH ARTICLE

CLIMATE CHANGE

Combustion of available fossil fuel resources sufficient to eliminate the Antarctic ice Sheet

S. Winkelman<sup>1,2</sup>, A. Ridgway<sup>1,2</sup>, J. M. Gregory<sup>1,2</sup> and M. Collins<sup>1,2</sup>

**Abstract.** The Antarctic ice sheet is a major component of the Earth's cryosphere. This study shows that the combustion of available fossil fuel resources is sufficient to melt the ice sheet, leading to a significant sea level rise.

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Winkelman et al. [2015]

nature climate change

LETTERS

Enhanced weathering strategies for stabilizing climate and averting ocean acidification

L. L. Taylor<sup>1</sup>, J. S. Cole<sup>2</sup>, R. M. M. Woodwell<sup>3</sup>, P. M. Vitousek<sup>4</sup>, J. M. Amundson<sup>5</sup>, J. M. Blanton<sup>6</sup>, M. S. Brantley<sup>7</sup>, S. A. Brandt<sup>8</sup>, S. A. Burns<sup>9</sup>, S. A. Butt<sup>10</sup>, S. A. Butt<sup>11</sup>, S. A. Butt<sup>12</sup>, S. A. Butt<sup>13</sup>, S. A. Butt<sup>14</sup>, S. A. Butt<sup>15</sup>, S. A. Butt<sup>16</sup>, S. A. Butt<sup>17</sup>, S. A. Butt<sup>18</sup>, S. A. Butt<sup>19</sup>, S. A. Butt<sup>20</sup>

**Abstract.** Enhanced weathering of silicate rocks is a potential strategy for stabilizing atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> and averting ocean acidification. This study shows that such strategies are feasible and effective.

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Taylor et al. [in press]

RESEARCH ARTICLE

CLIMATE CHANGE

How warming and ice melt have led to the rise in atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> concentrations

W. Williams<sup>1</sup>, R. G. Williams<sup>2</sup>, P. Goodwin<sup>3</sup> and A. Ridgway<sup>4</sup>

**Abstract.** The rise in atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> concentrations is a result of both warming and ice melt. This study shows that these two factors are closely linked and have significant implications for climate change.

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Williams et al. [2012]

# Talk outline: PALEO

# GEO250.2015

Accepted Article

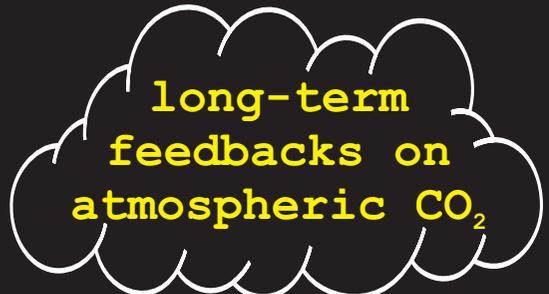
An impulse response function for the 'long tail' of excess atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> in an Earth system model

N. S. Lord<sup>1</sup>, A. Ridgwell<sup>1,2</sup>, M. C. Thomas<sup>1</sup> and J. Lunt<sup>1,3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>School of Geographical Sciences, University of Bristol, Bristol, UK;  
<sup>2</sup>Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences, University of Colorado, Boulder, CO, USA;  
<sup>3</sup>McMillan and Associates Limited, Harrogate, North Yorkshire, County Durham, UK

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Lord et al. [in press]

AGU PUBLICATIONS

Global Biogeochemical Cycles

RESEARCH ARTICLE

The times scale of the silicate weathering negative feedback on atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub>

S. Colburn<sup>1</sup>, A. Ridgwell<sup>1,2</sup> and M. Langer<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>School of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences, University of Colorado, Boulder, CO, USA; <sup>2</sup>Department of Geological Sciences, University of Colorado, Boulder, CO, USA

Abstract: The silicate weathering negative feedback on atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> is a key mechanism for Earth's long-term climate stability. However, the timescale of this feedback is poorly understood. We use a coupled Earth system model to investigate the timescale of the silicate weathering negative feedback on atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> by varying the rate of silicate weathering. We find that the timescale of the feedback is strongly dependent on the rate of silicate weathering, with faster rates leading to shorter timescales. Our results suggest that the silicate weathering negative feedback on atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> operates on a timescale of 10<sup>4</sup> to 10<sup>5</sup> years, which is significantly shorter than previous estimates. This has implications for the interpretation of geological CO<sub>2</sub> records and the role of silicate weathering in Earth's climate history.

Colburn et al. [2015]

RESEARCH ARTICLE

CLIMATE CHANGE

Combustion of available fossil fuel resources sufficient to eliminate the Antarctic ice sheet

K. Winkelmann<sup>1,2</sup>, A. Lorenzen<sup>1</sup>, J. Ridgwell<sup>1,2</sup> and S. Colburn<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences, University of Colorado, Boulder, CO, USA; <sup>2</sup>Department of Geological Sciences, University of Colorado, Boulder, CO, USA

Abstract: The Antarctic ice sheet is a major component of Earth's cryosphere and a significant source of sea level rise. Understanding the potential for ice sheet collapse is crucial for assessing future sea level rise. We use a coupled Earth system model to investigate the potential for ice sheet collapse under different scenarios of fossil fuel combustion. We find that the combustion of available fossil fuel resources is sufficient to melt the Antarctic ice sheet, leading to a sea level rise of approximately 60 meters. This result has implications for the interpretation of geological CO<sub>2</sub> records and the role of fossil fuel combustion in Earth's climate history.

Winkelmann et al. [2015]

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LETTERS

Enhanced weathering strategies for stabilizing climate and averting ocean acidification

L. L. Taylor<sup>1</sup>, J. S. Boyle<sup>1</sup>, R. M. Howarth<sup>1</sup>, P. A. Rochford<sup>1</sup>, A. Ridgwell<sup>1</sup>, M. Langer<sup>1</sup>, J. Lunt<sup>1</sup>, S. Colburn<sup>1</sup>, A. Lorenzen<sup>1</sup>, J. Ridgwell<sup>1,2</sup> and S. Colburn<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences, University of Colorado, Boulder, CO, USA; <sup>2</sup>Department of Geological Sciences, University of Colorado, Boulder, CO, USA

Abstract: Ocean acidification is a major threat to marine ecosystems and a significant component of global climate change. Enhanced weathering strategies, such as the application of silicate minerals to agricultural soils, have been proposed as a means of reducing atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> and averting ocean acidification. We use a coupled Earth system model to investigate the potential for enhanced weathering strategies to stabilize climate and averting ocean acidification. We find that enhanced weathering strategies can significantly reduce atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> and avert ocean acidification, but that the benefits are limited by the availability of silicate minerals. Our results suggest that enhanced weathering strategies should be used in conjunction with other climate change mitigation measures.

Taylor et al. [in press]

# NOT GENIE

AGU PUBLICATIONS

Geophysical Research Letters

RESEARCH LETTER

Assessing the controllability of Arctic sea ice extent by sulfate aerosol geoengineering

L. L. Taylor<sup>1</sup>, J. S. Boyle<sup>1</sup>, R. M. Howarth<sup>1</sup>, P. A. Rochford<sup>1</sup>, A. Ridgwell<sup>1</sup>, M. Langer<sup>1</sup>, J. Lunt<sup>1</sup>, S. Colburn<sup>1</sup>, A. Lorenzen<sup>1</sup>, J. Ridgwell<sup>1,2</sup> and S. Colburn<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences, University of Colorado, Boulder, CO, USA; <sup>2</sup>Department of Geological Sciences, University of Colorado, Boulder, CO, USA

Abstract: Arctic sea ice extent is a key indicator of global climate change and a significant component of the Earth's cryosphere. Sulfate aerosol geoengineering has been proposed as a means of reducing atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> and averting ocean acidification. We use a coupled Earth system model to investigate the potential for sulfate aerosol geoengineering to stabilize Arctic sea ice extent. We find that sulfate aerosol geoengineering can significantly increase Arctic sea ice extent, but that the benefits are limited by the availability of sulfate minerals. Our results suggest that sulfate aerosol geoengineering should be used in conjunction with other climate change mitigation measures.

Jackson et al. [2015]

nature geoscience

LETTERS

Sensitivity of climate to cumulative carbon emissions due to compensation of ocean heat and carbon uptake

P. Williams<sup>1</sup>, R. M. Howarth<sup>1</sup> and A. Ridgwell<sup>1,2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences, University of Colorado, Boulder, CO, USA; <sup>2</sup>Department of Geological Sciences, University of Colorado, Boulder, CO, USA

Abstract: The ocean plays a crucial role in Earth's climate system and a significant component of the carbon cycle. Understanding the sensitivity of climate to cumulative carbon emissions is crucial for assessing future climate change. We use a coupled Earth system model to investigate the sensitivity of climate to cumulative carbon emissions due to compensation of ocean heat and carbon uptake. We find that the sensitivity of climate to cumulative carbon emissions is strongly dependent on the rate of ocean heat and carbon uptake. Our results suggest that cumulative carbon emissions should be used in conjunction with other climate change mitigation measures.

Goodwin et al. [2015]

RESEARCH ARTICLE

CLIMATE CHANGE

The sensitivity of climate to cumulative carbon emissions due to compensation of ocean heat and carbon uptake

P. Williams<sup>1</sup>, R. M. Howarth<sup>1</sup> and A. Ridgwell<sup>1,2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences, University of Colorado, Boulder, CO, USA; <sup>2</sup>Department of Geological Sciences, University of Colorado, Boulder, CO, USA

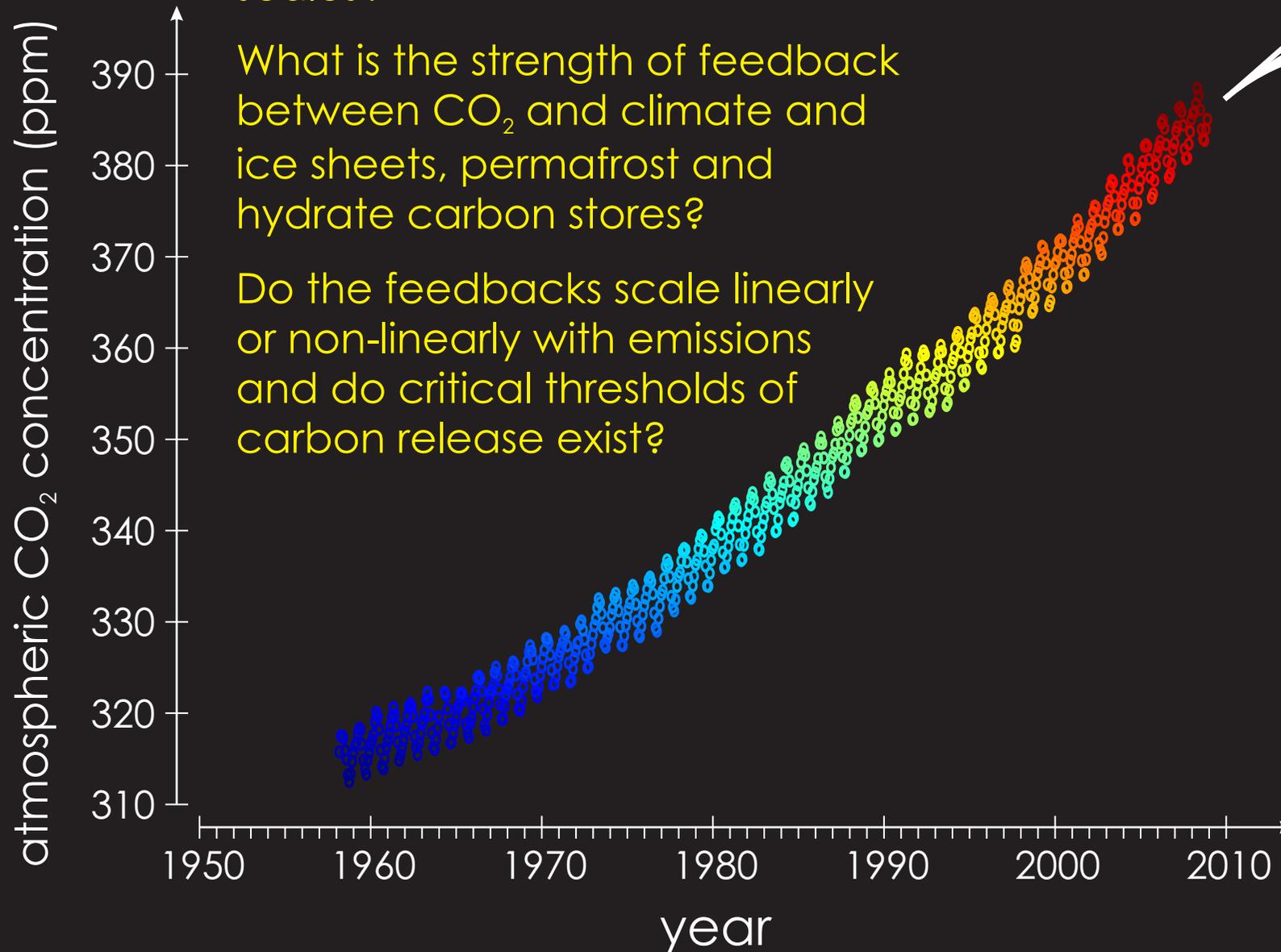
Abstract: The ocean plays a crucial role in Earth's climate system and a significant component of the carbon cycle. Understanding the sensitivity of climate to cumulative carbon emissions is crucial for assessing future climate change. We use a coupled Earth system model to investigate the sensitivity of climate to cumulative carbon emissions due to compensation of ocean heat and carbon uptake. We find that the sensitivity of climate to cumulative carbon emissions is strongly dependent on the rate of ocean heat and carbon uptake. Our results suggest that cumulative carbon emissions should be used in conjunction with other climate change mitigation measures.

Williams et al. [2012]

What is the 'fate' of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions on hundred, thousand, and ten thousands of year time-scales?

What is the strength of feedback between CO<sub>2</sub> and climate and ice sheets, permafrost and hydrate carbon stores?

Do the feedbacks scale linearly or non-linearly with emissions and do critical thresholds of carbon release exist?

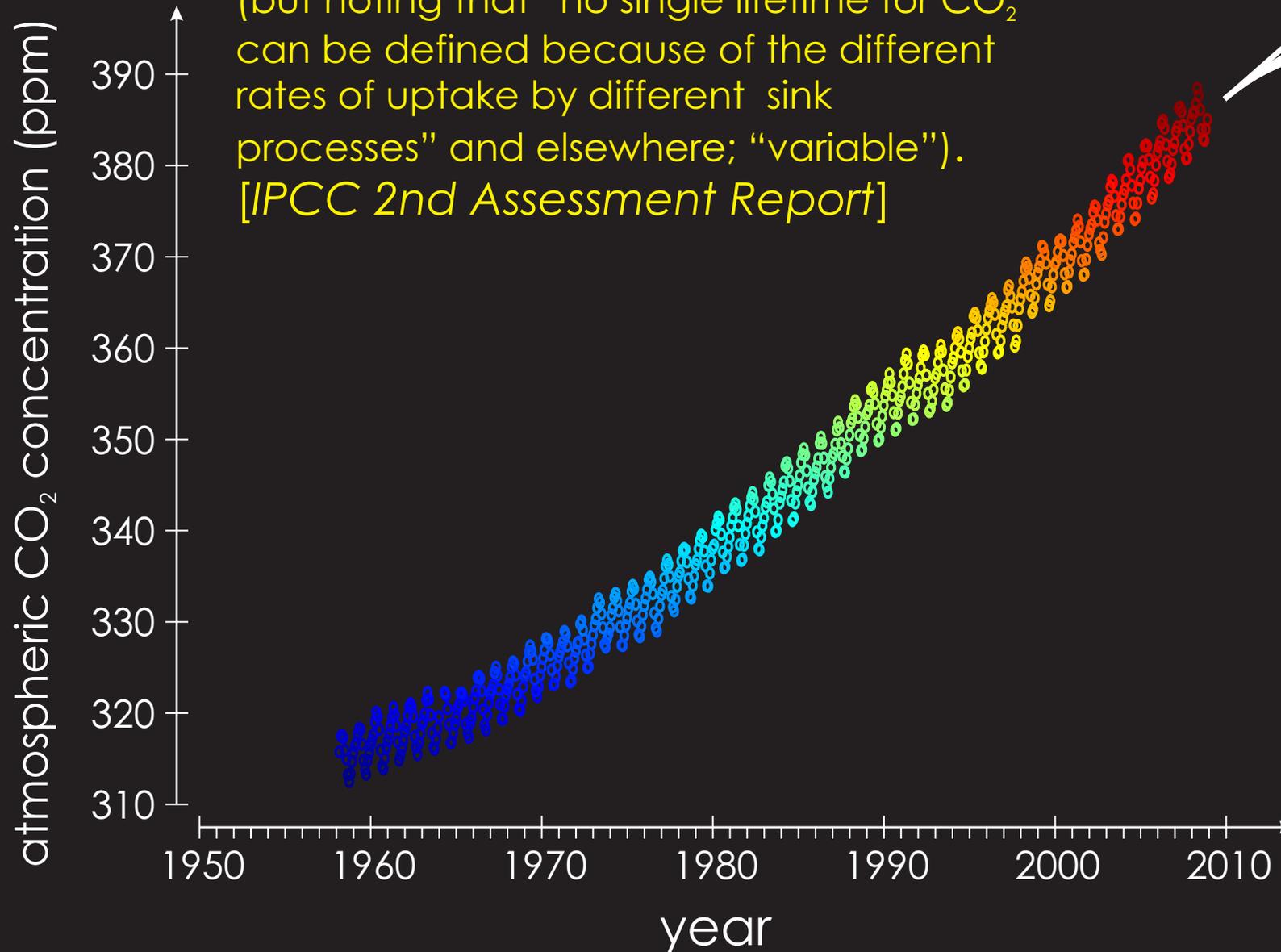


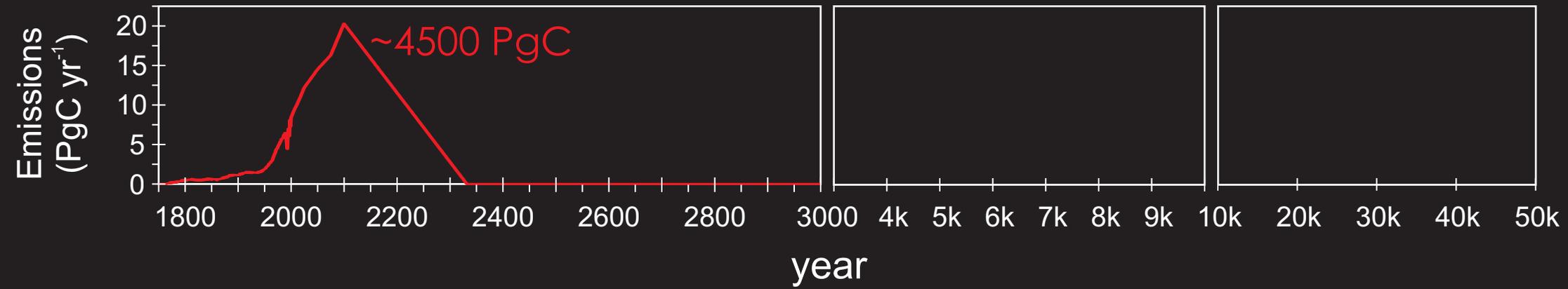
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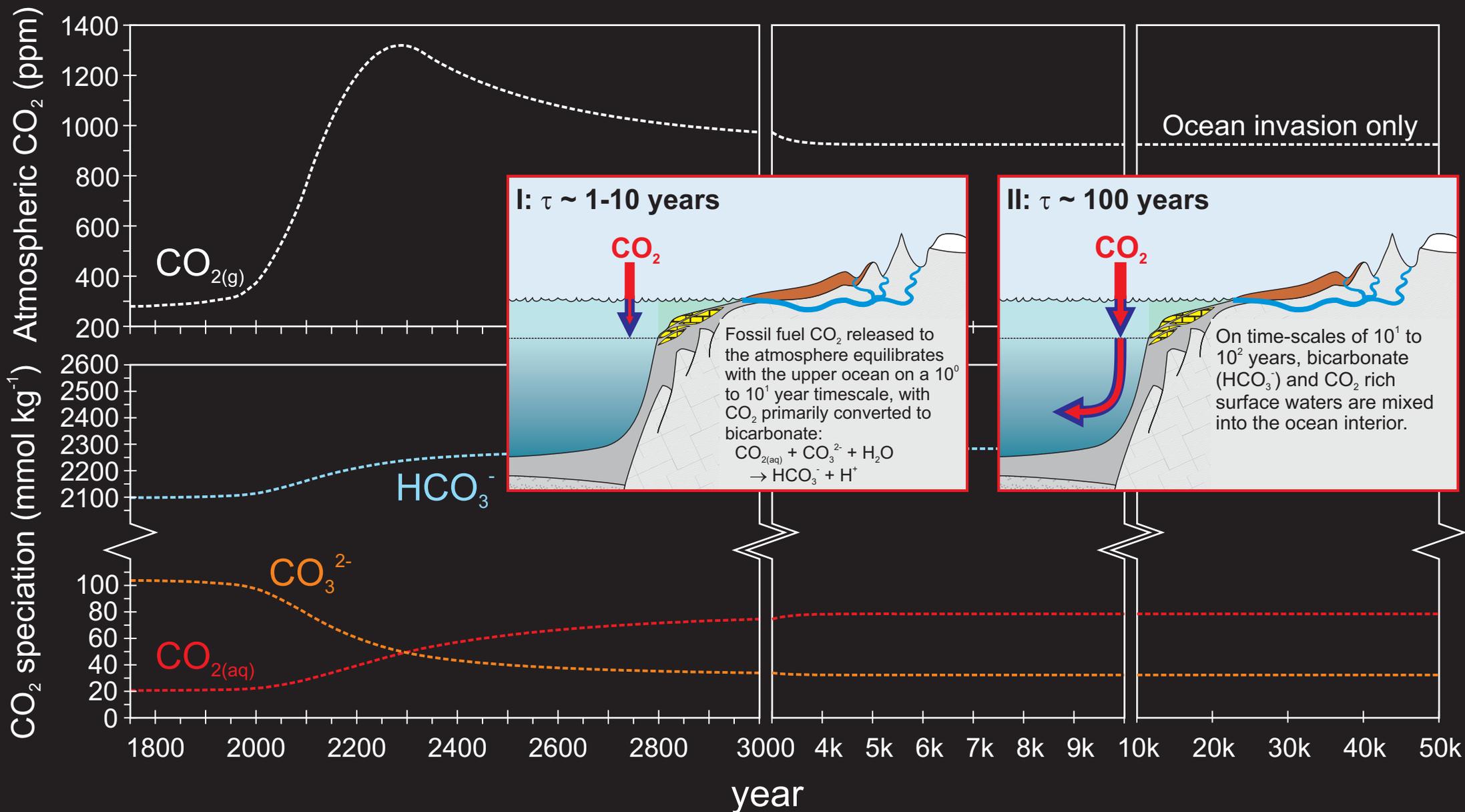
“CO<sub>2</sub> has an atmospheric lifetime of 50-200 years”

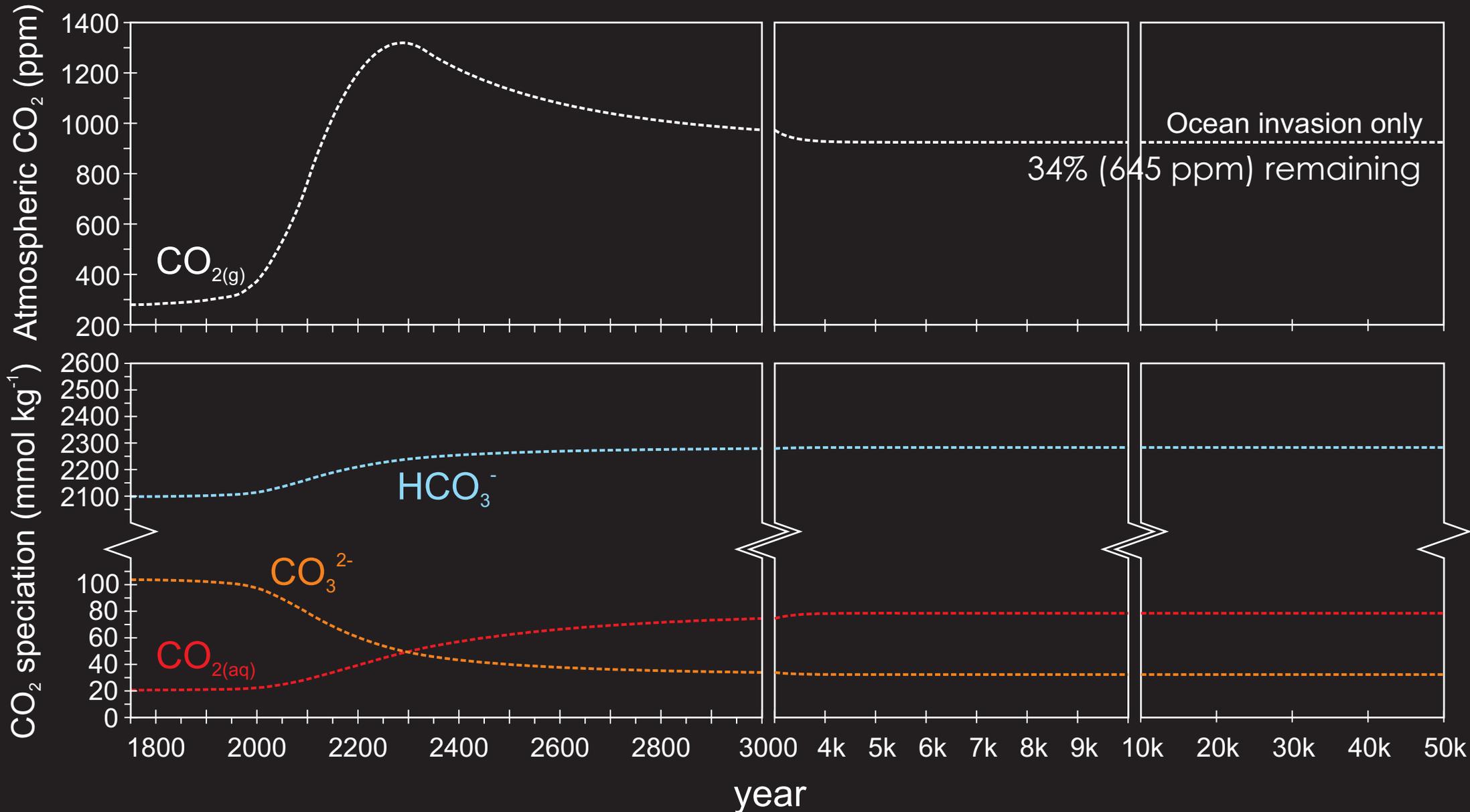
(but noting that “no single lifetime for CO<sub>2</sub> can be defined because of the different rates of uptake by different sink processes” and elsewhere; “variable”).

[IPCC 2nd Assessment Report]

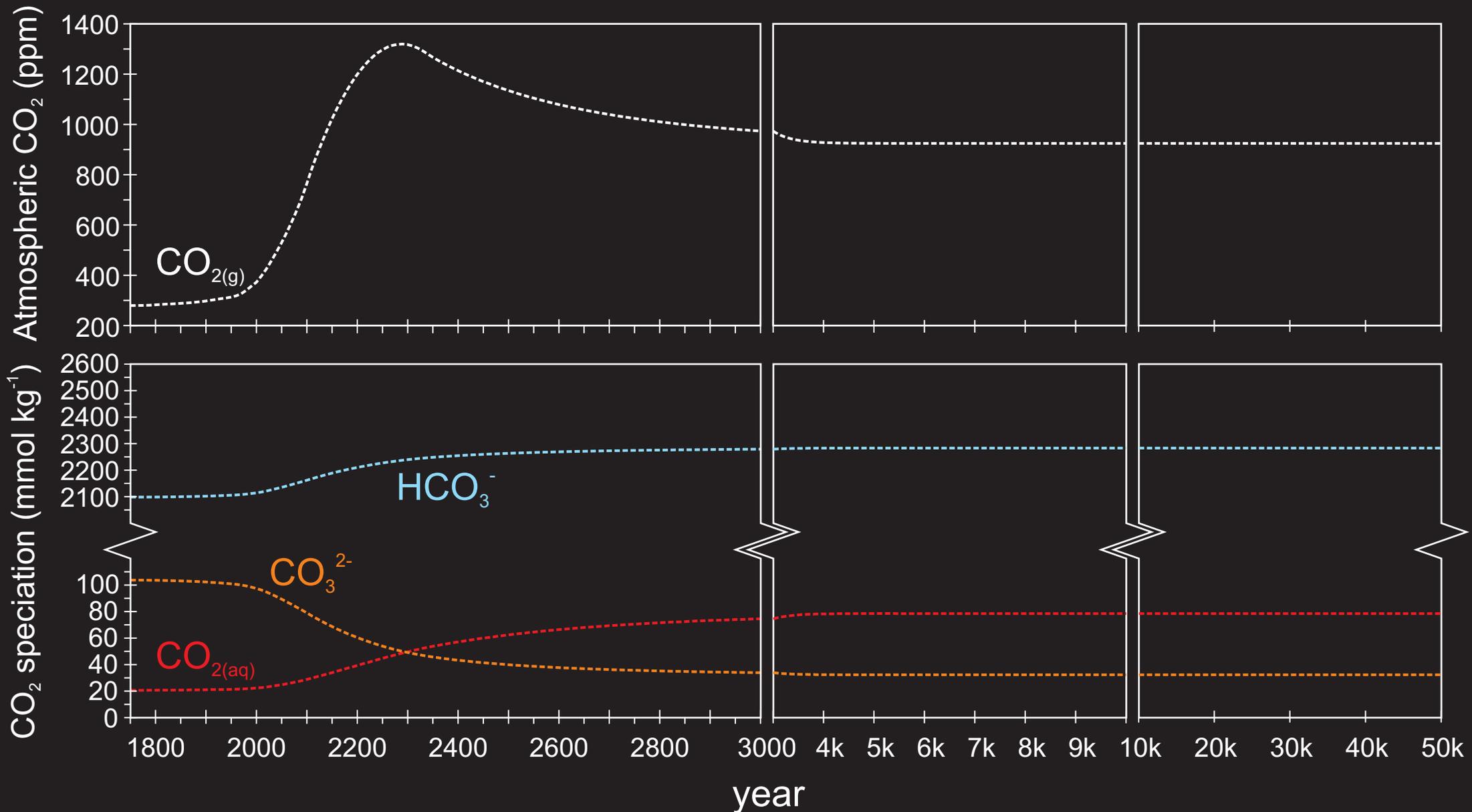




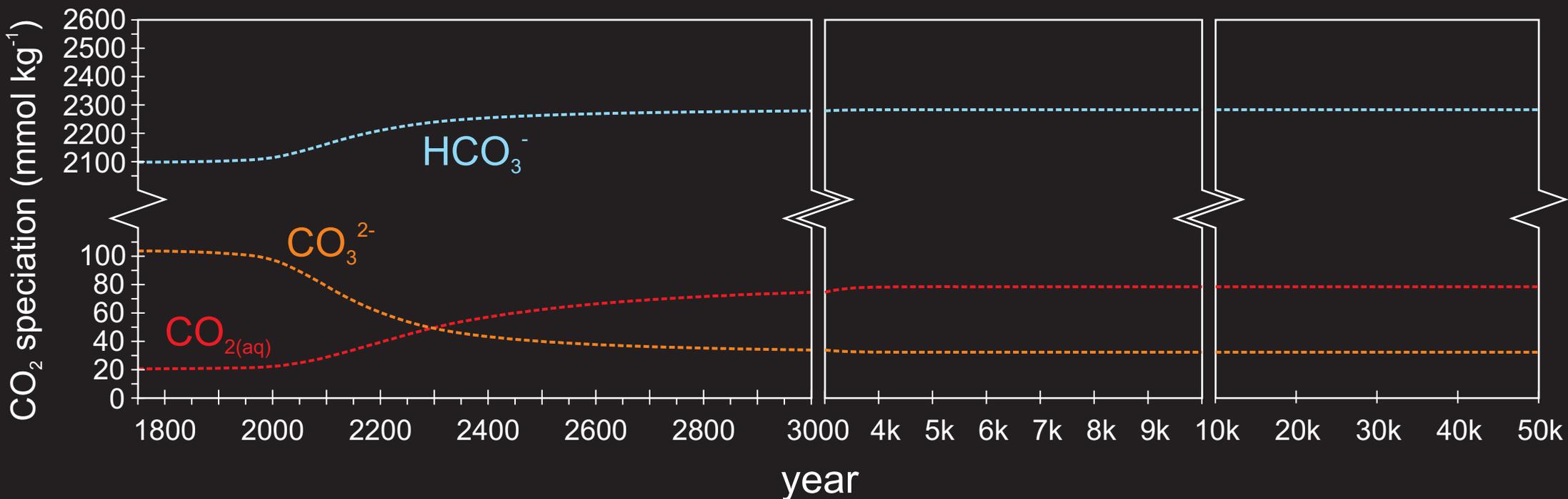
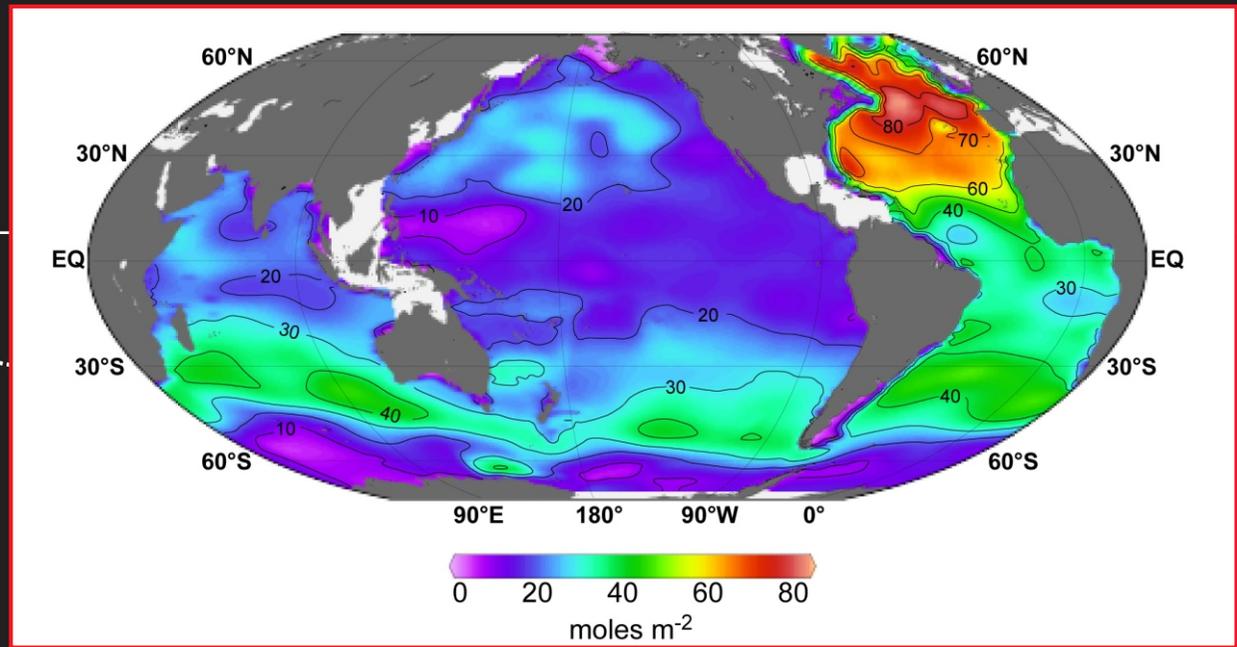
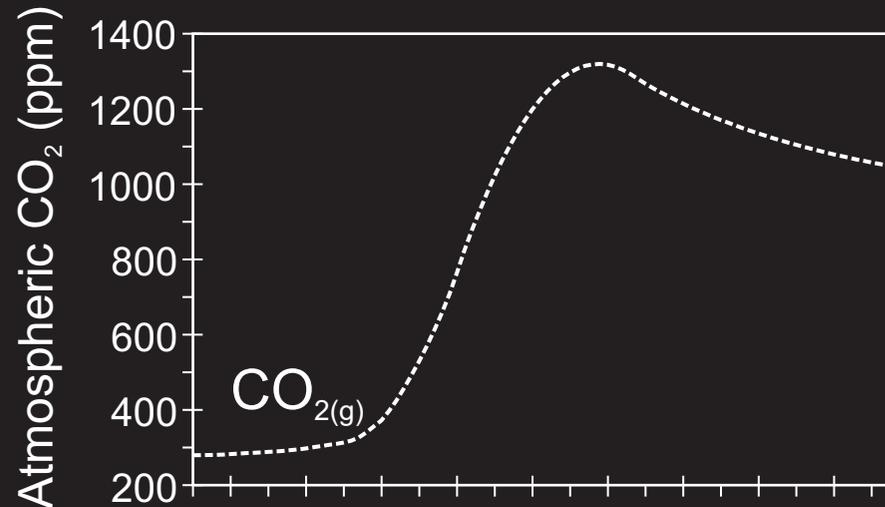


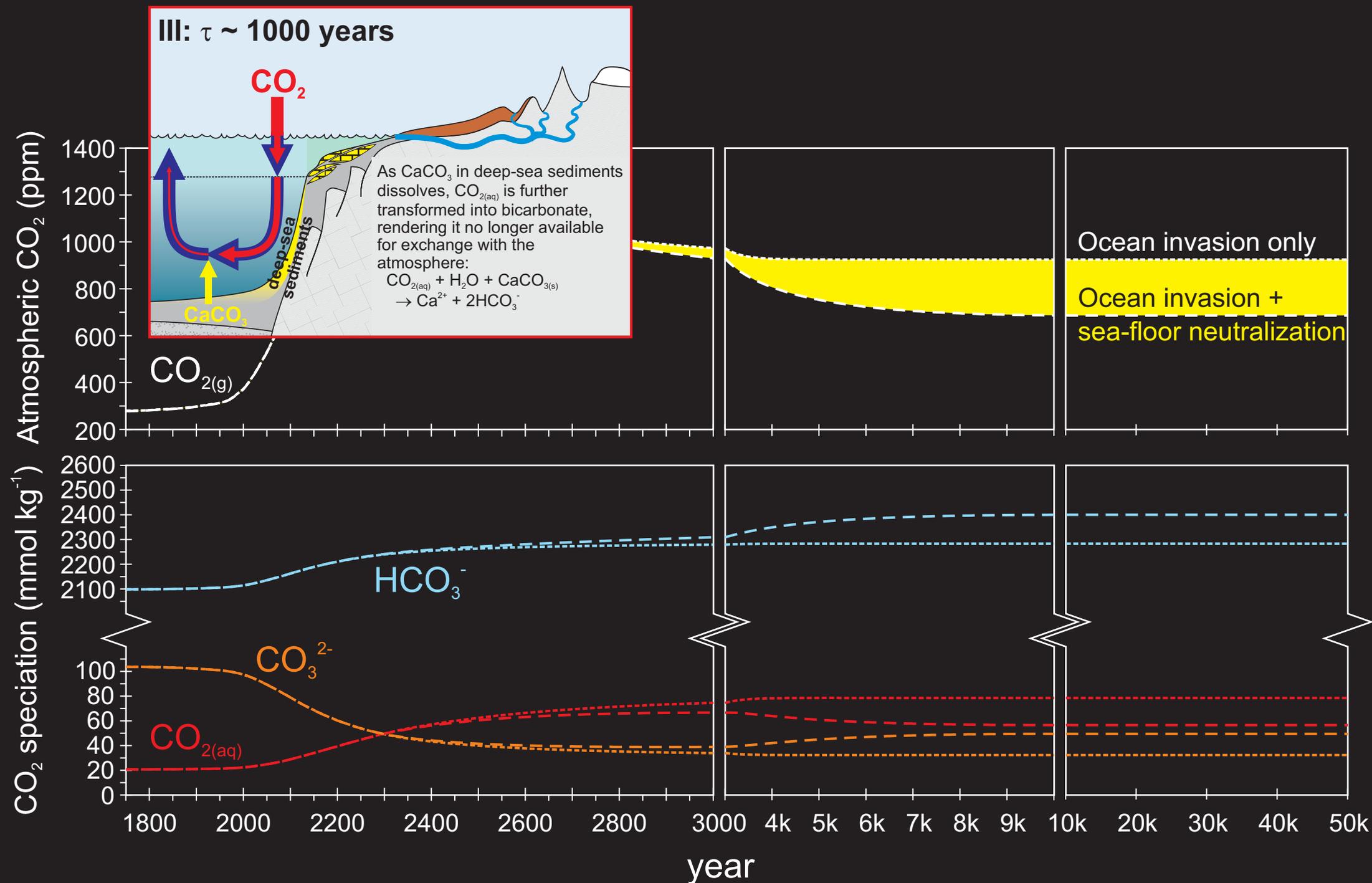


evidence?

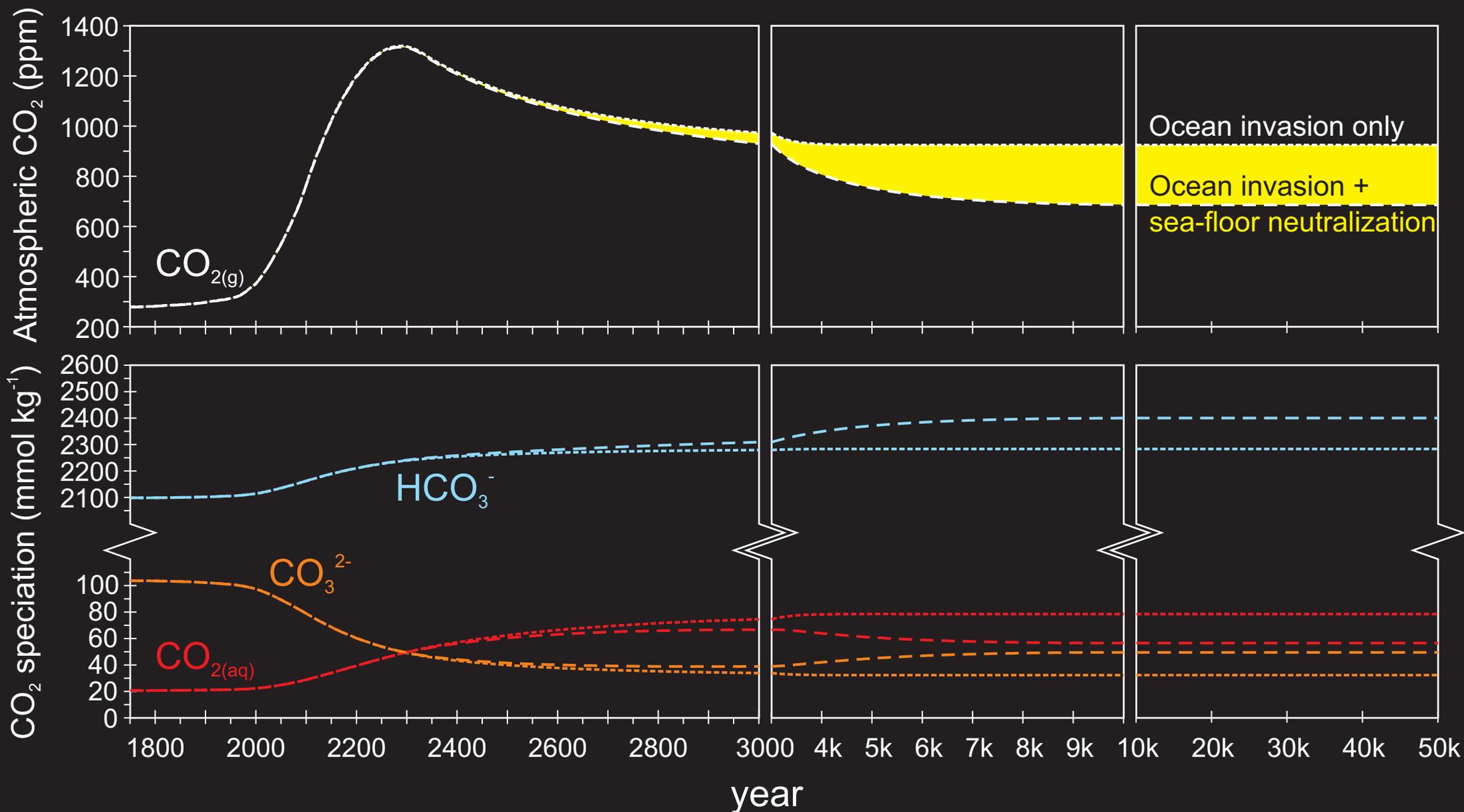


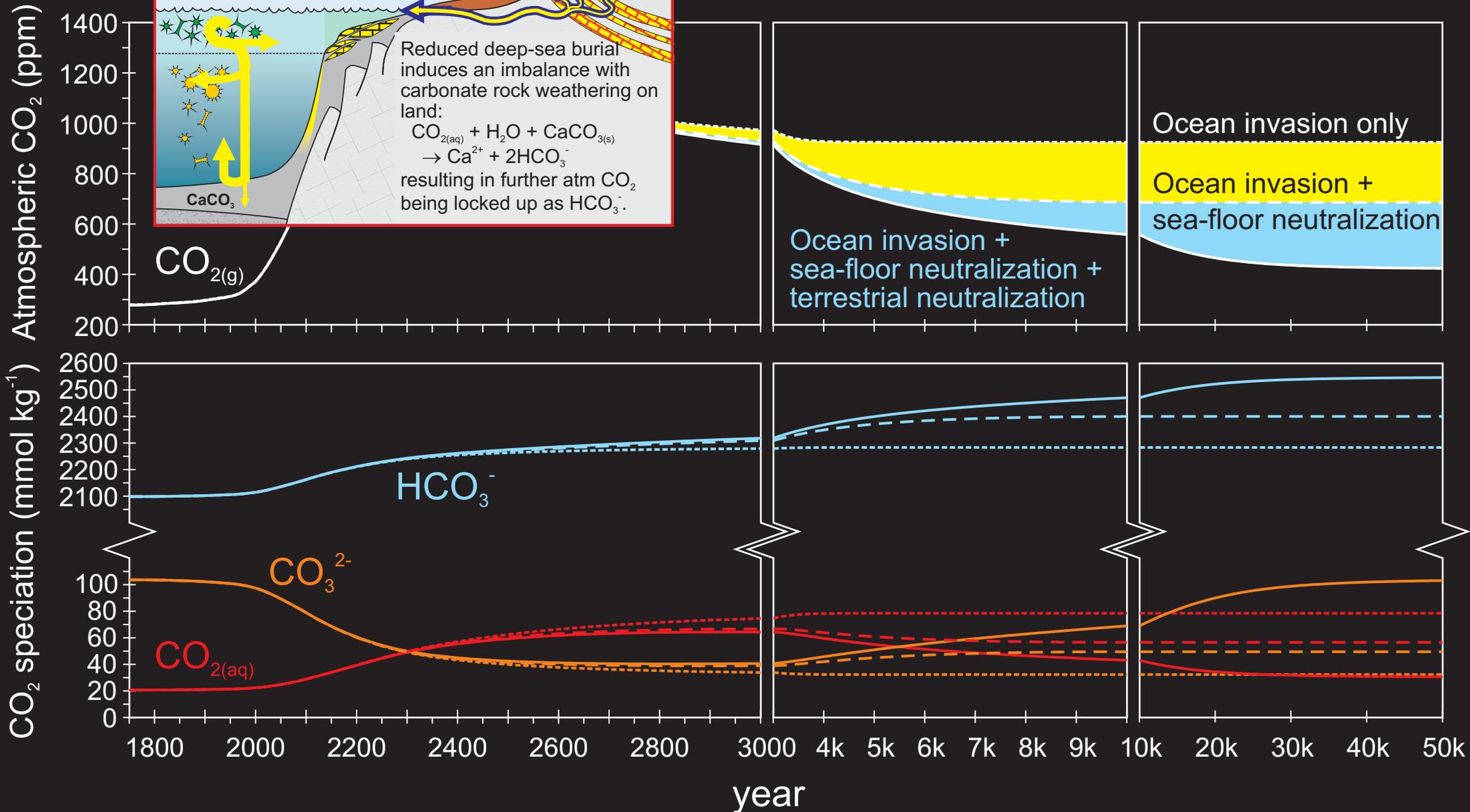
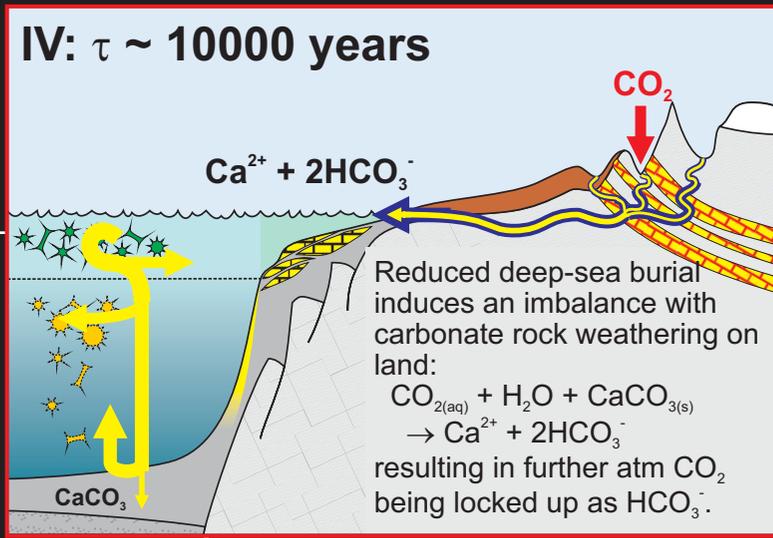
evidence?



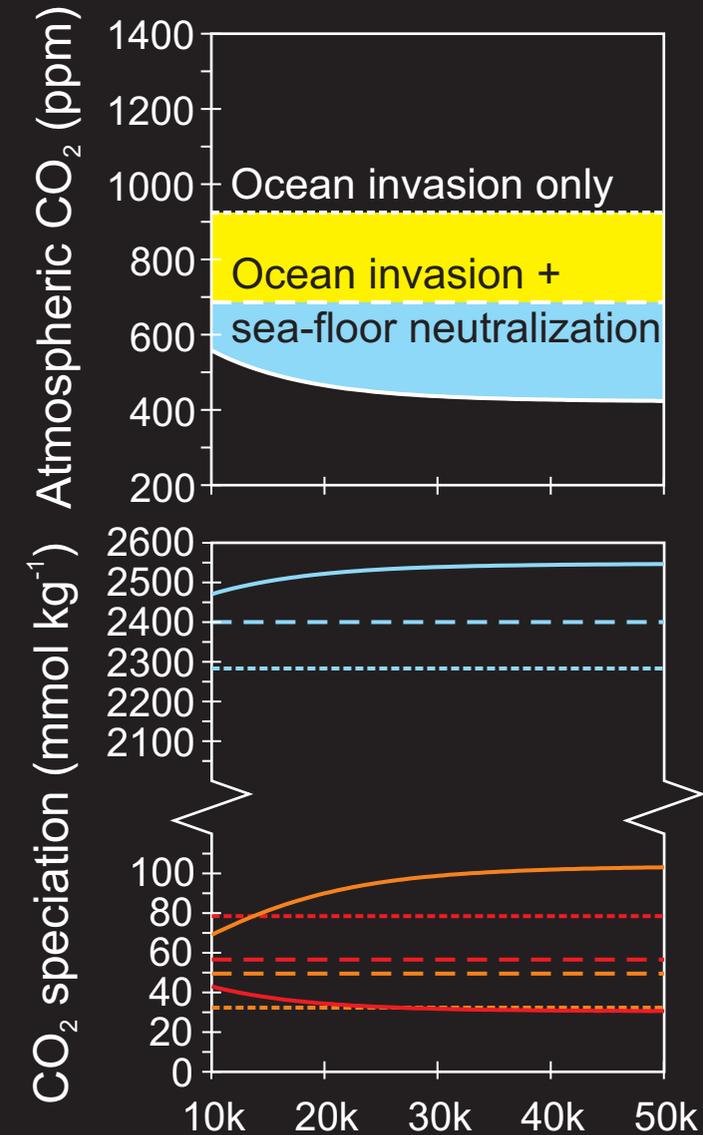


evidence?





Q. Is a residual fraction of CO<sub>2</sub> persisting for ever ... 'OK'?



Terrestrial weathering can be (approximately equally) divided into carbonate (CaCO<sub>3</sub>) and calcium-silicate ('CaSiO<sub>3</sub>') weathering:



Ultimately, the (alkalinity: Ca<sup>2+</sup>) weathering products must be removed through carbonate precipitation and burial in marine sediments:



It can be seen that in (2) + (3), that the CO<sub>2</sub> removed (from the atmosphere) during weathering, is returned upon carbonate precipitation (and burial). In (1) + (3) (silicate weathering) CO<sub>2</sub> is permanently removed to the geological reservoir. This CO<sub>2</sub> must be balanced by mantle (/volcanic) out-gassing on the very long term.

Furthermore, the rate of silicate weathering should scale with climate. Hence a ca. 100 kyr time-scale **silicate weathering feedback** is formed:

higher pCO<sub>2</sub> → higher temperatures (and rainfall) → higher weathering rates  
→ lower pCO<sub>2</sub>

(A regulating feedback system linking CO<sub>2</sub> and climate with ocean productivity and oxygenation, and organic carbon burial, can also be formulated but not discussed further here.)



# (I) An impulse response function for the 'long tail' of CO<sub>2(excess)</sub>

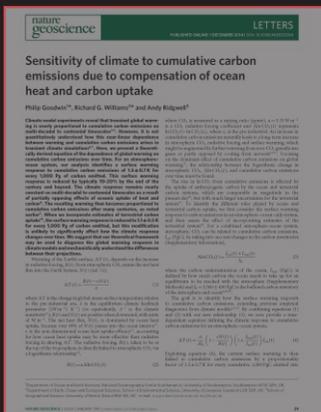
GEO250.2015



Lord et al. [in press]



Colbourn et al. [2015]



Goodwin et al. [2015]

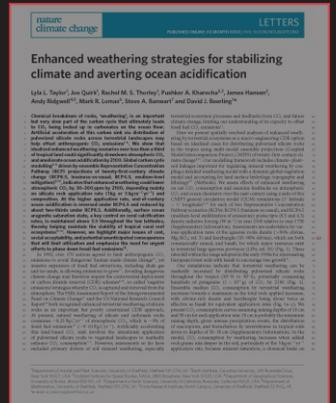
long-term feedbacks on atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub>



Winkelmann et al. [2015]



Williams et al. [2012]



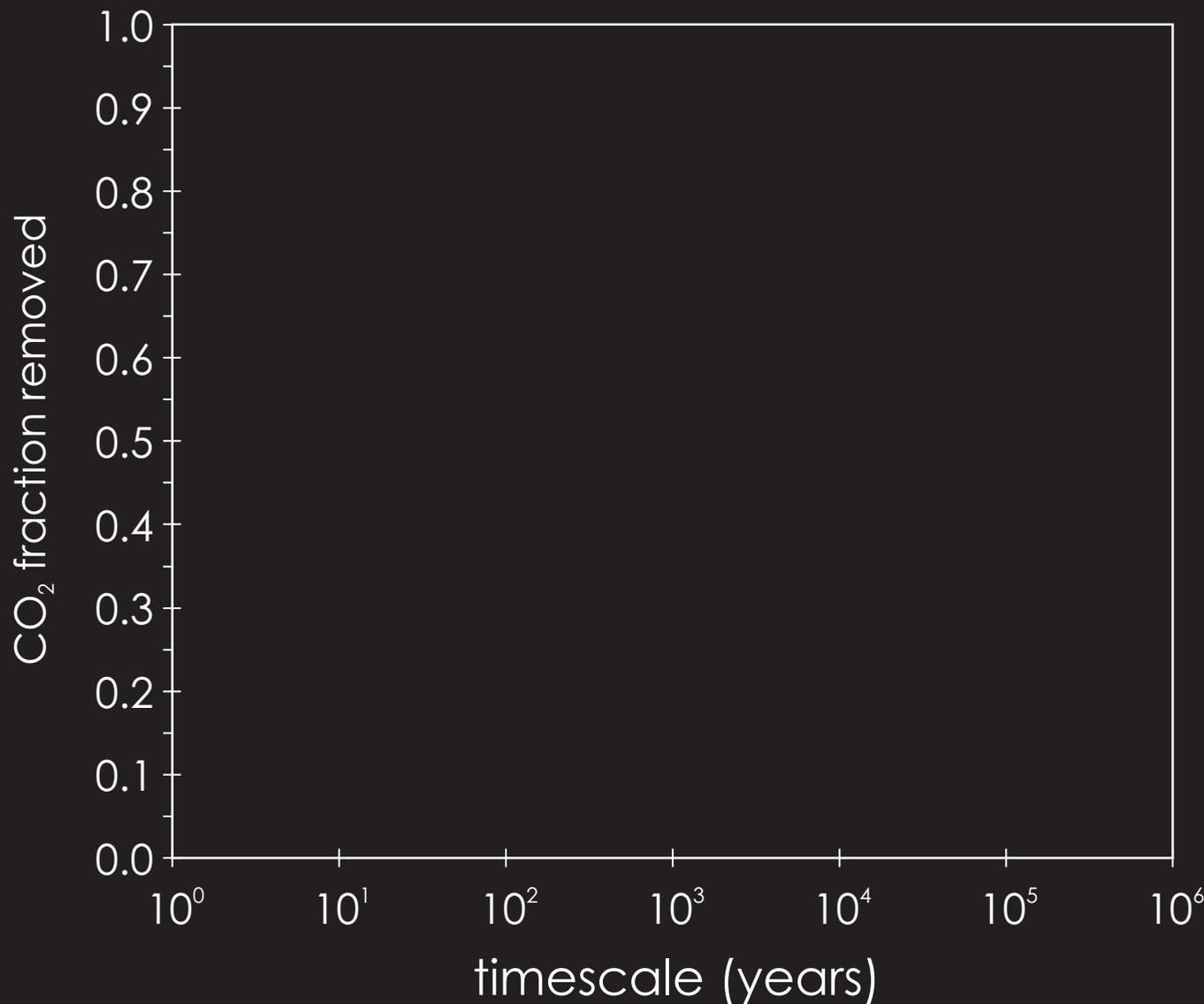
Taylor et al. [in press]

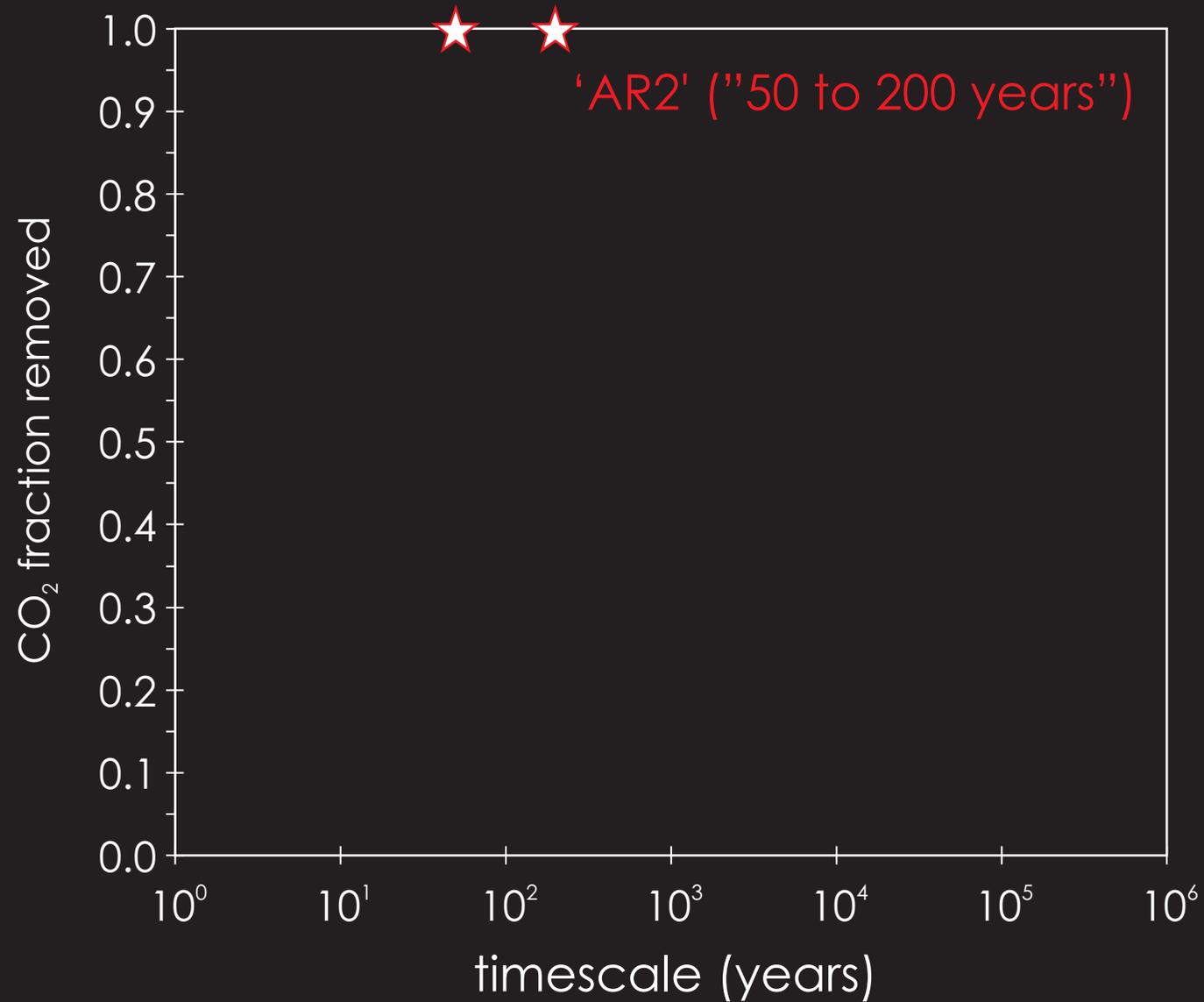
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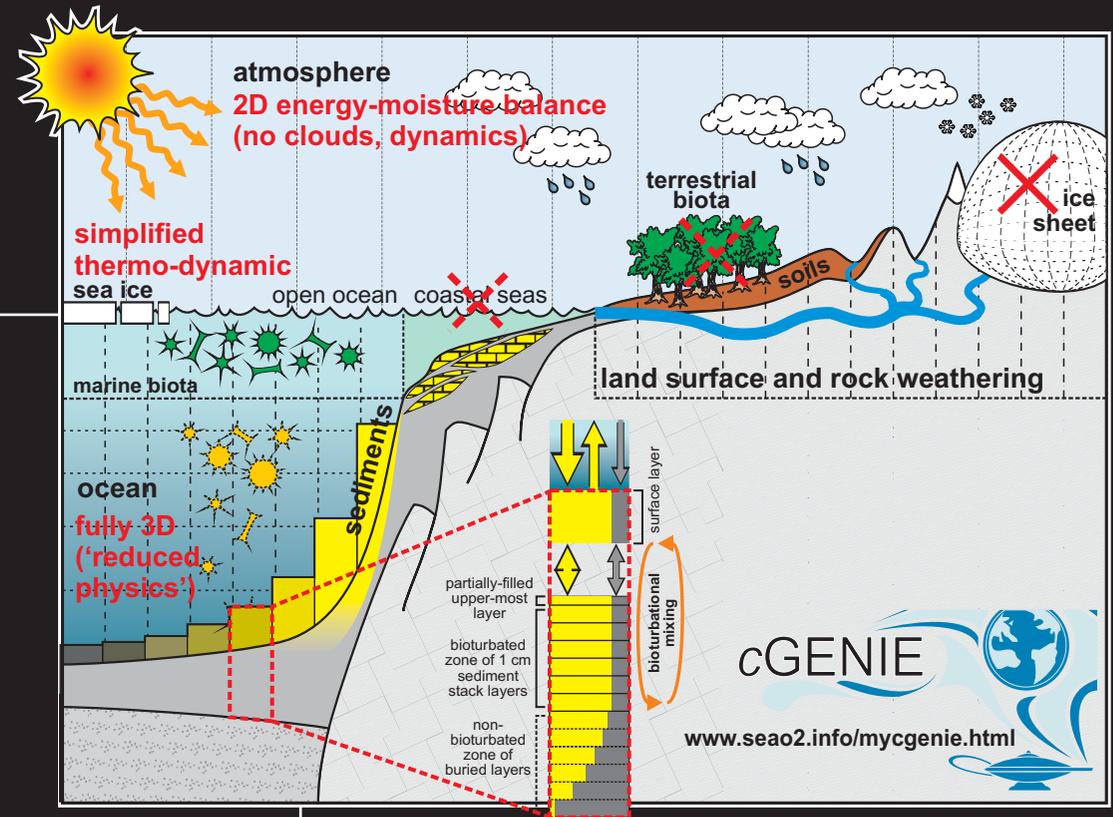
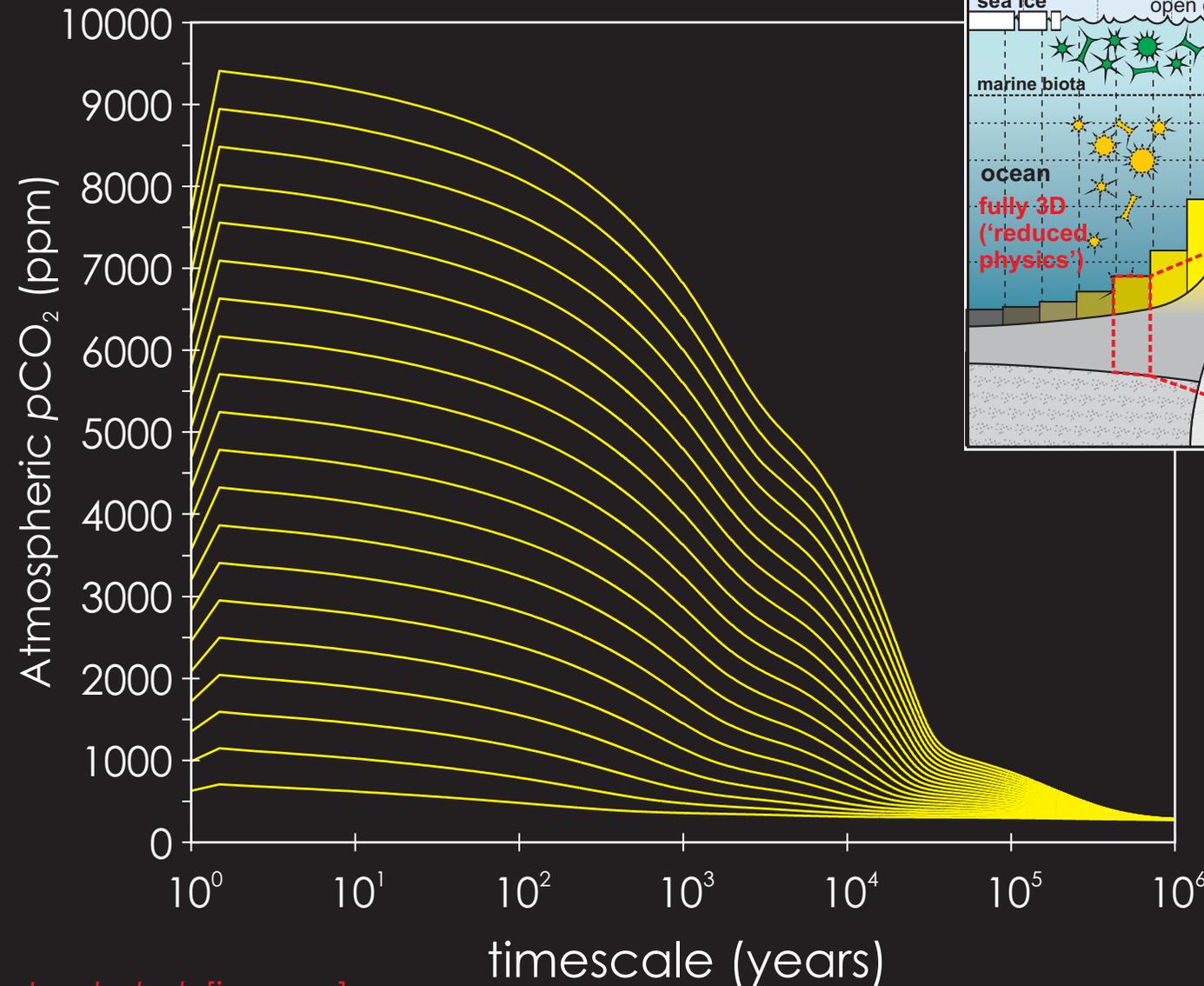
Jackson et al. [2015]

Cross-plot of the fraction of total  $\text{CO}_2$  emissions to the atmosphere removed by a particular process (carbon sink), vs. the characteristic (e-folding) time-scale of that process ( $\log_{10}$  scale).

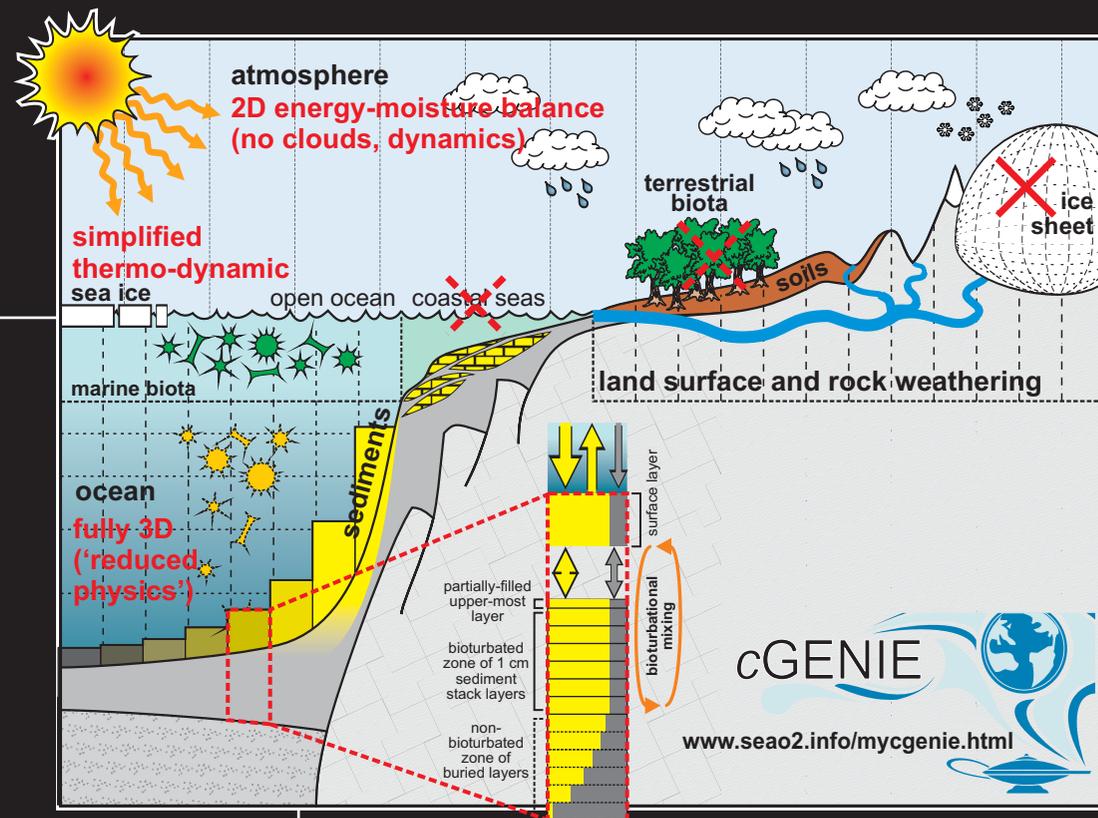
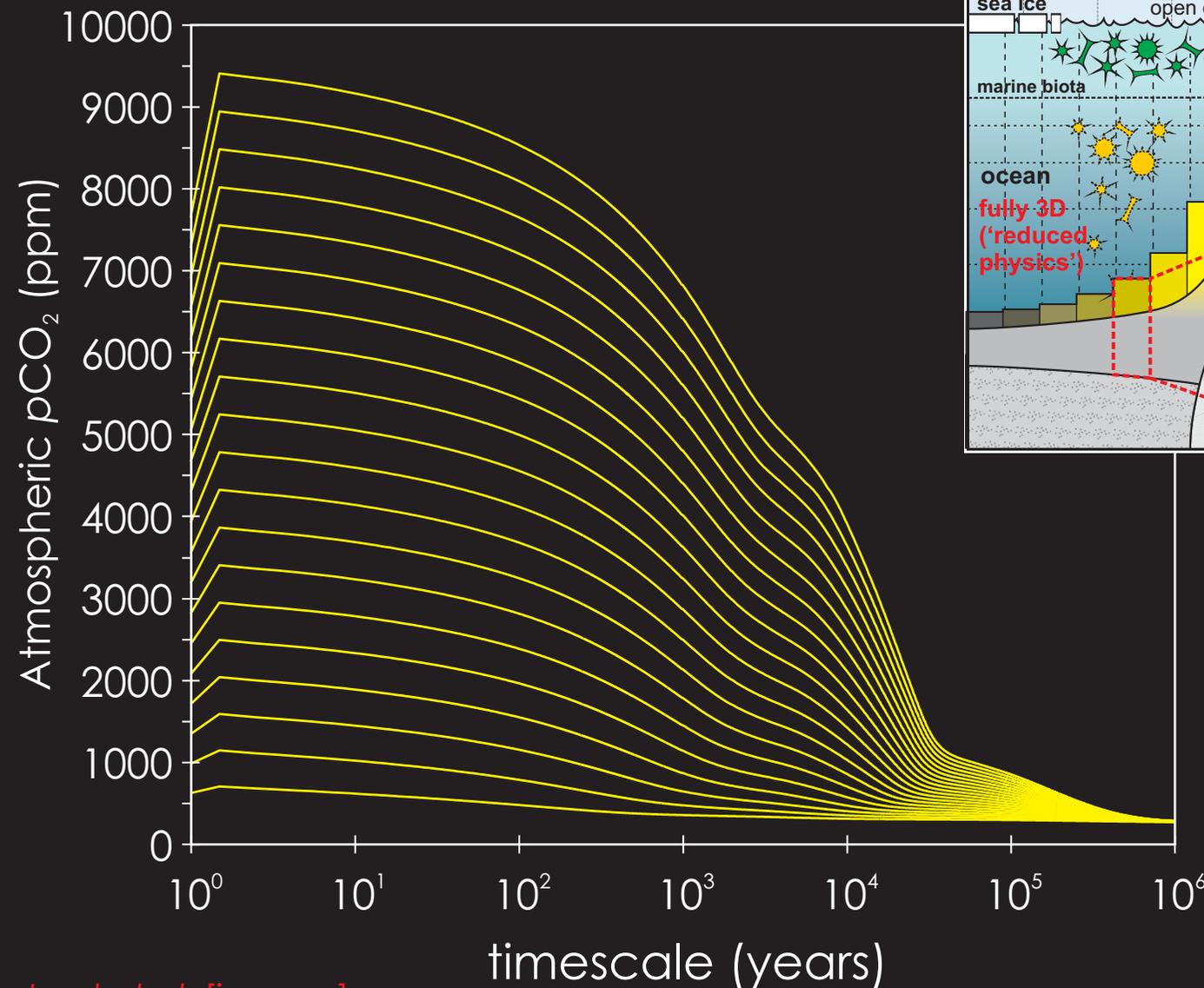




(1) Series of 1 Myr Earth system model experiments. CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from 1,000 to 20,000 PgC (GtC). Release interval: 1 yr.



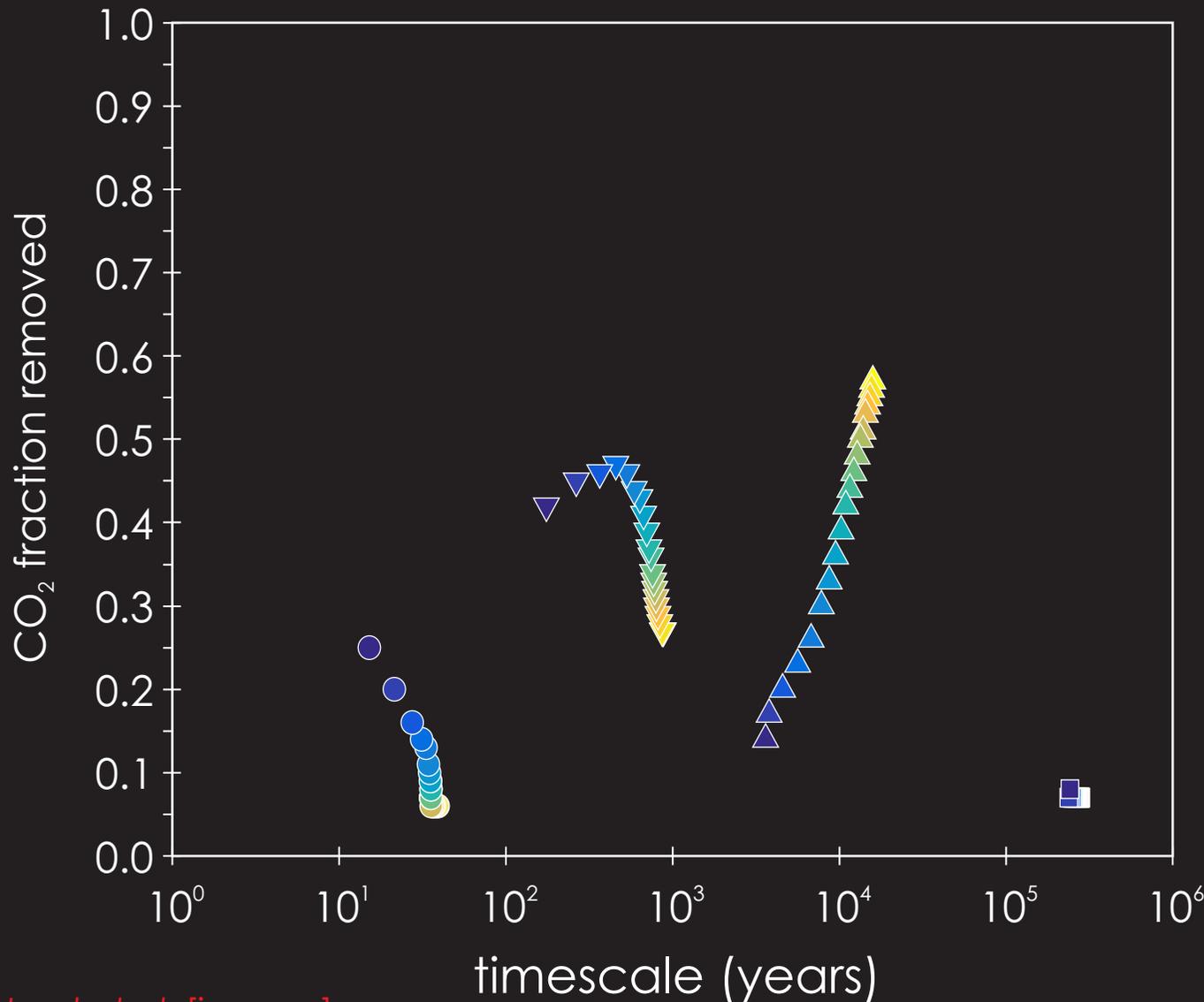
(1) Series of 1 Myr Earth system model experiments.  $\text{CO}_2$  emissions from 1,000 to 20,000 PgC (GtC). Release interval: 1 yr.



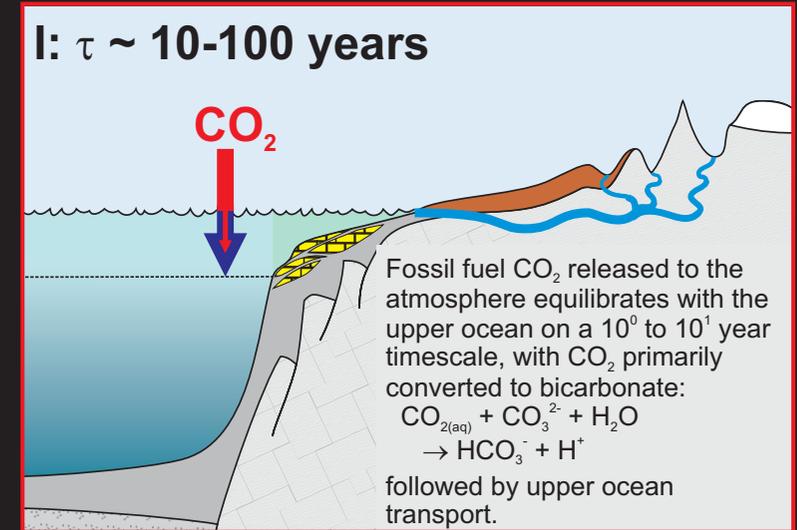
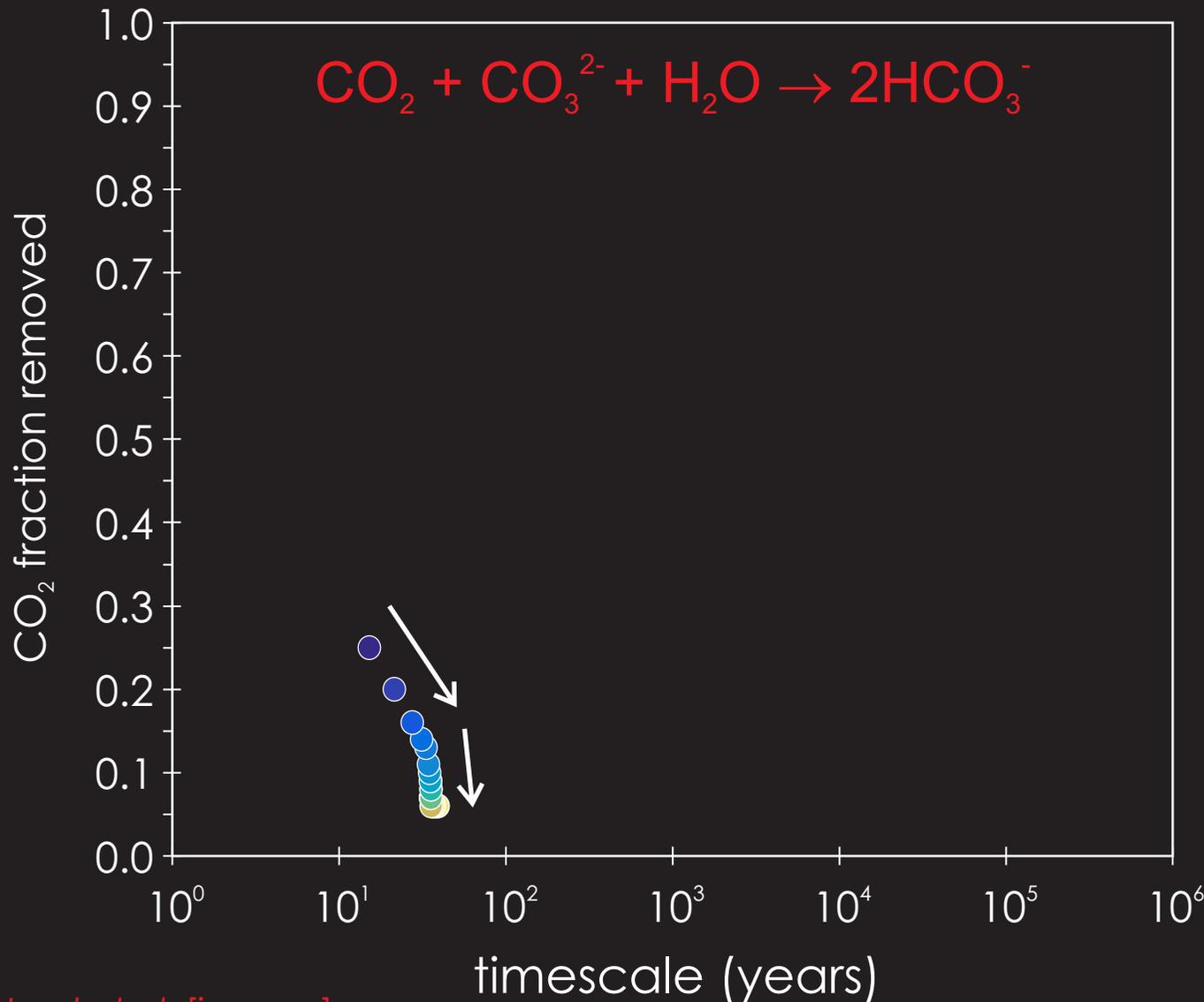
(2) Fit each  $\text{CO}_2$  decay curve with a series (4 optimal) of exponentials. Extract the fraction of  $\text{CO}_2$  and time-scale associated with each.

(The resulting empirical model can be used in place of a mechanistic model for projecting the long-term fate of carbon release.)

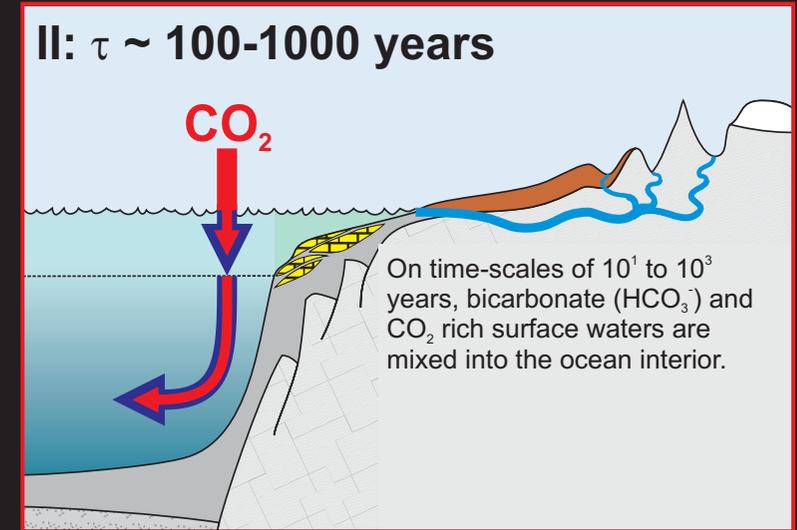
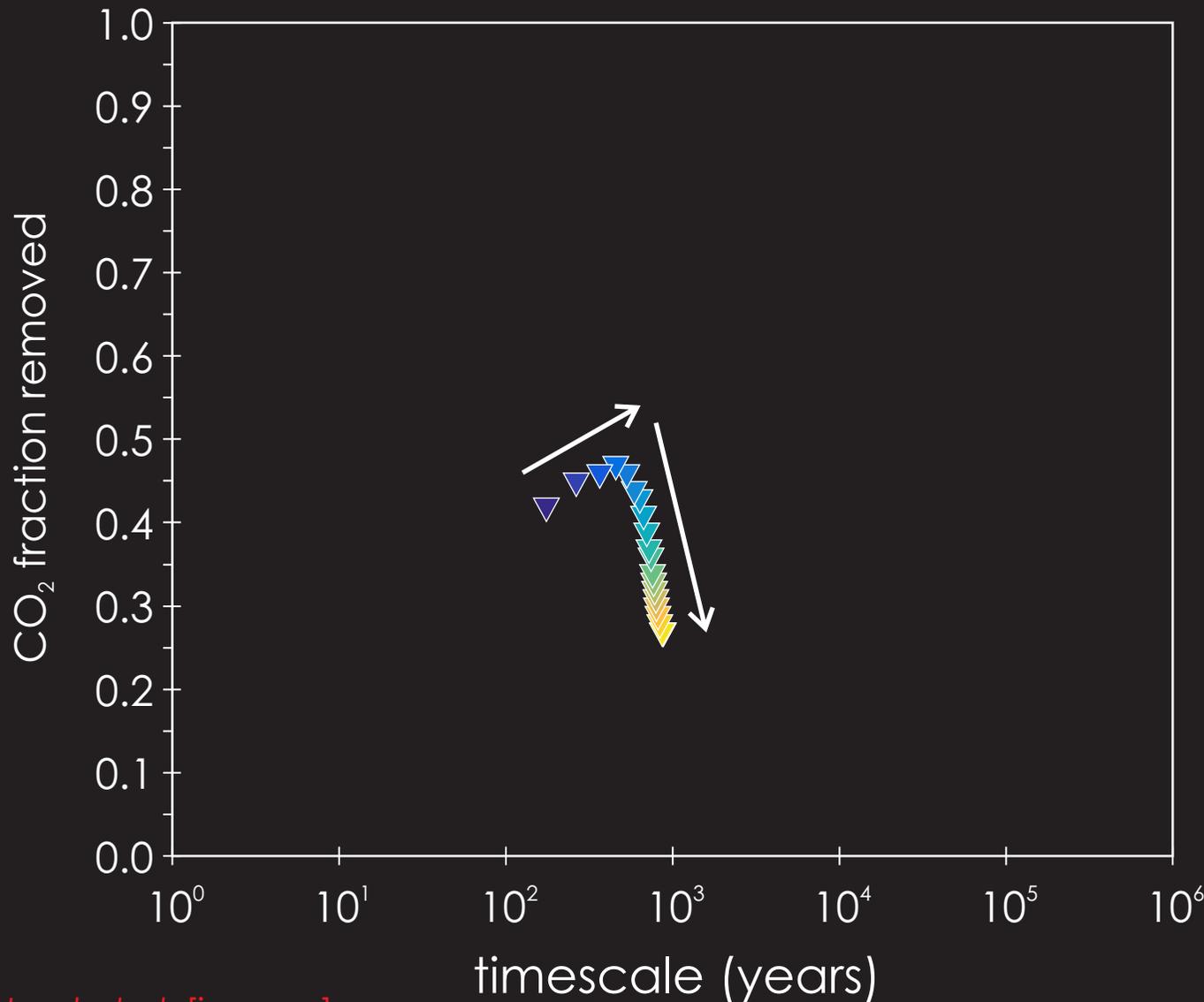
Response of fraction of  $\text{CO}_2$  removed vs. the characteristic time-scale, as a function of total emissions, ranging from 1,000 PgC (dark blue) to 20,000 PgC (yellow).



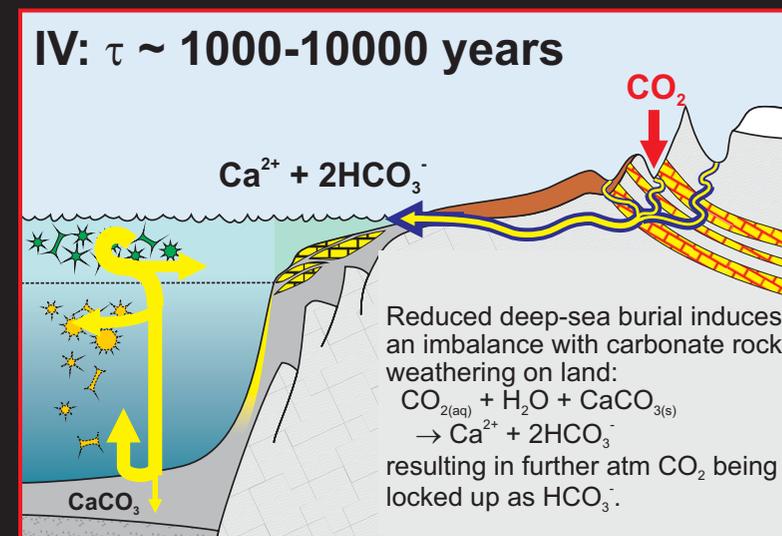
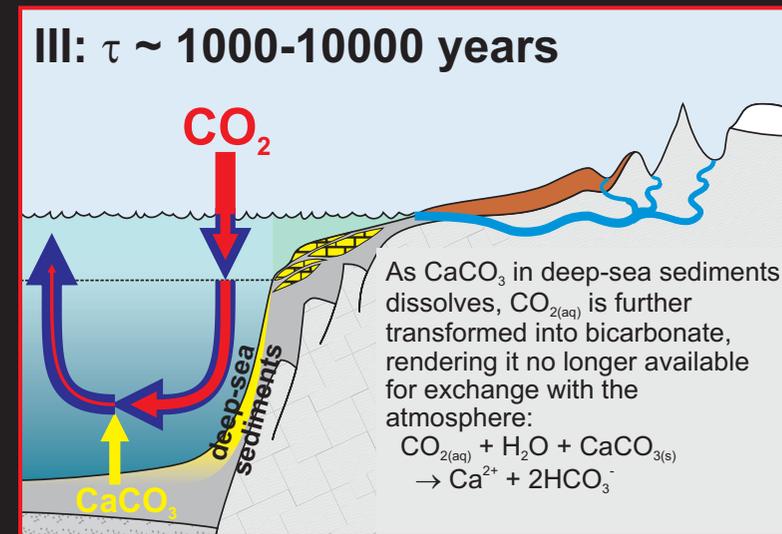
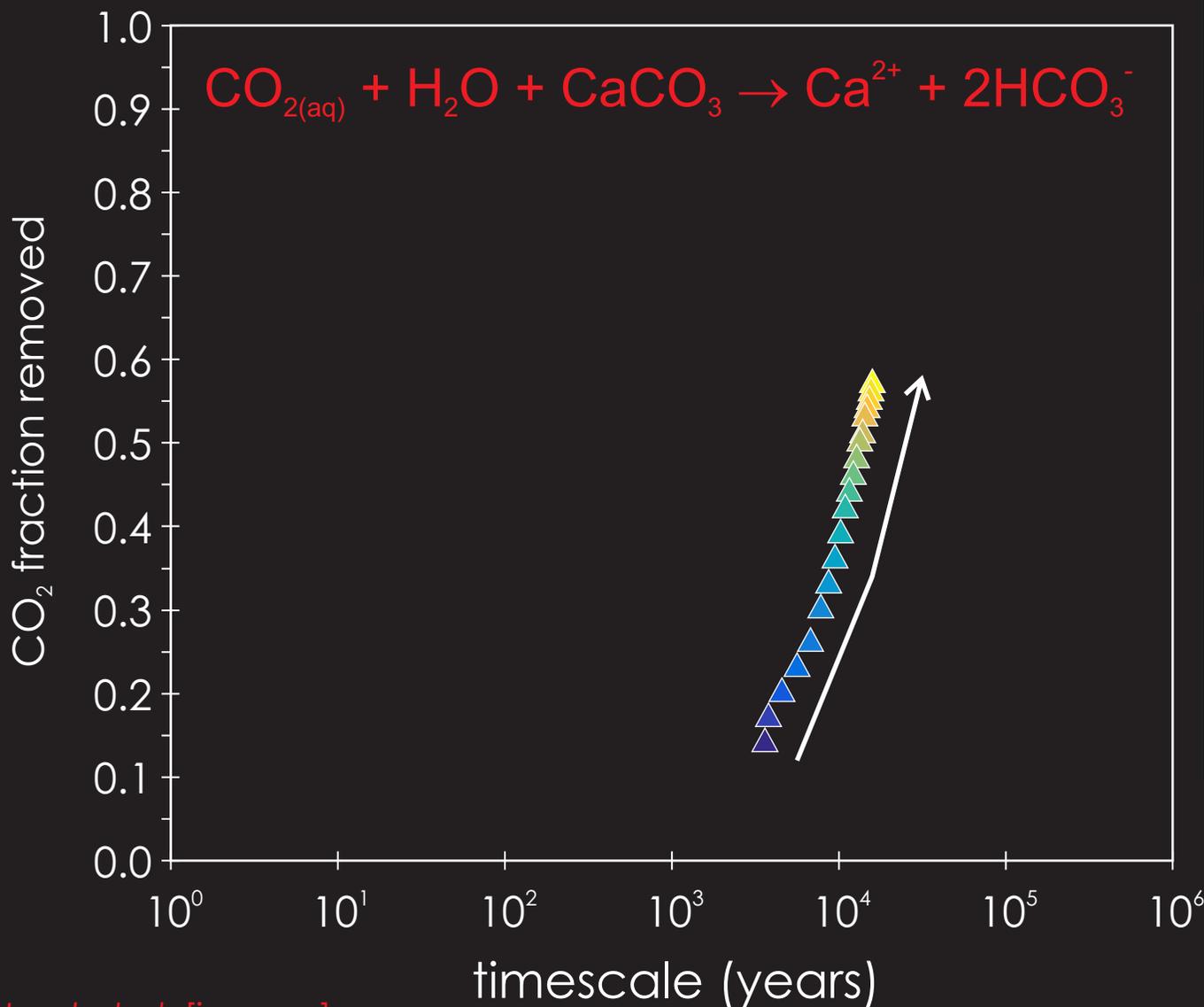
Depletion of mixed layer carbonate buffer;  
ocean stratification and reduced surface  
mixing. Warming and reduced  $\text{CO}_2$  solubility.



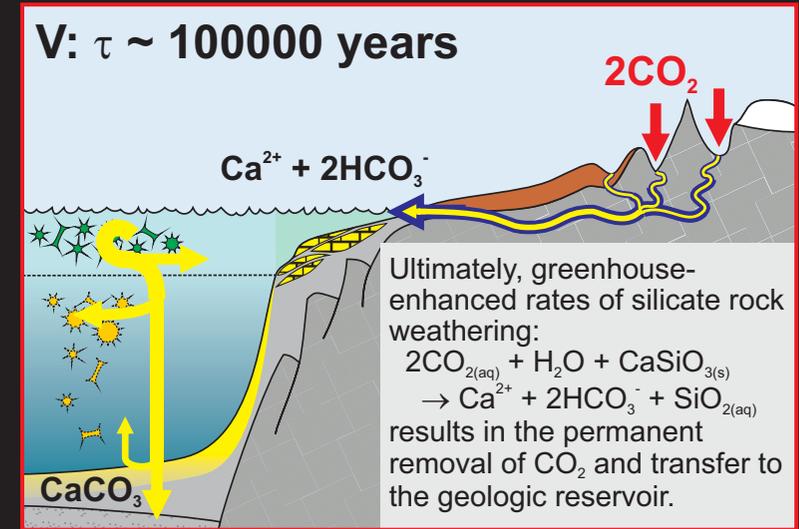
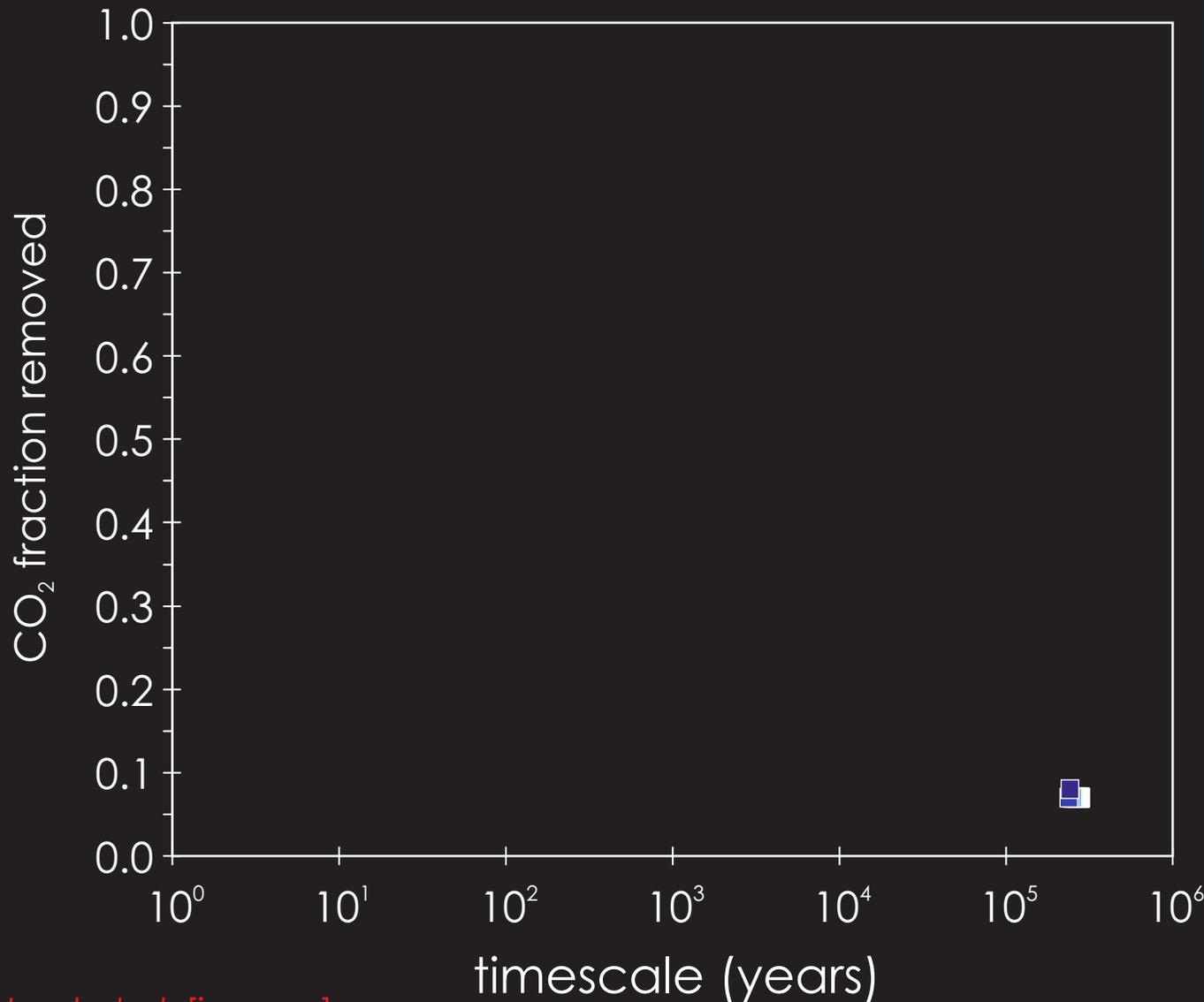
Ocean stratification and collapse of the AMOC  
(in this particular model).  
Threshold reached @ ~4000 PgC?

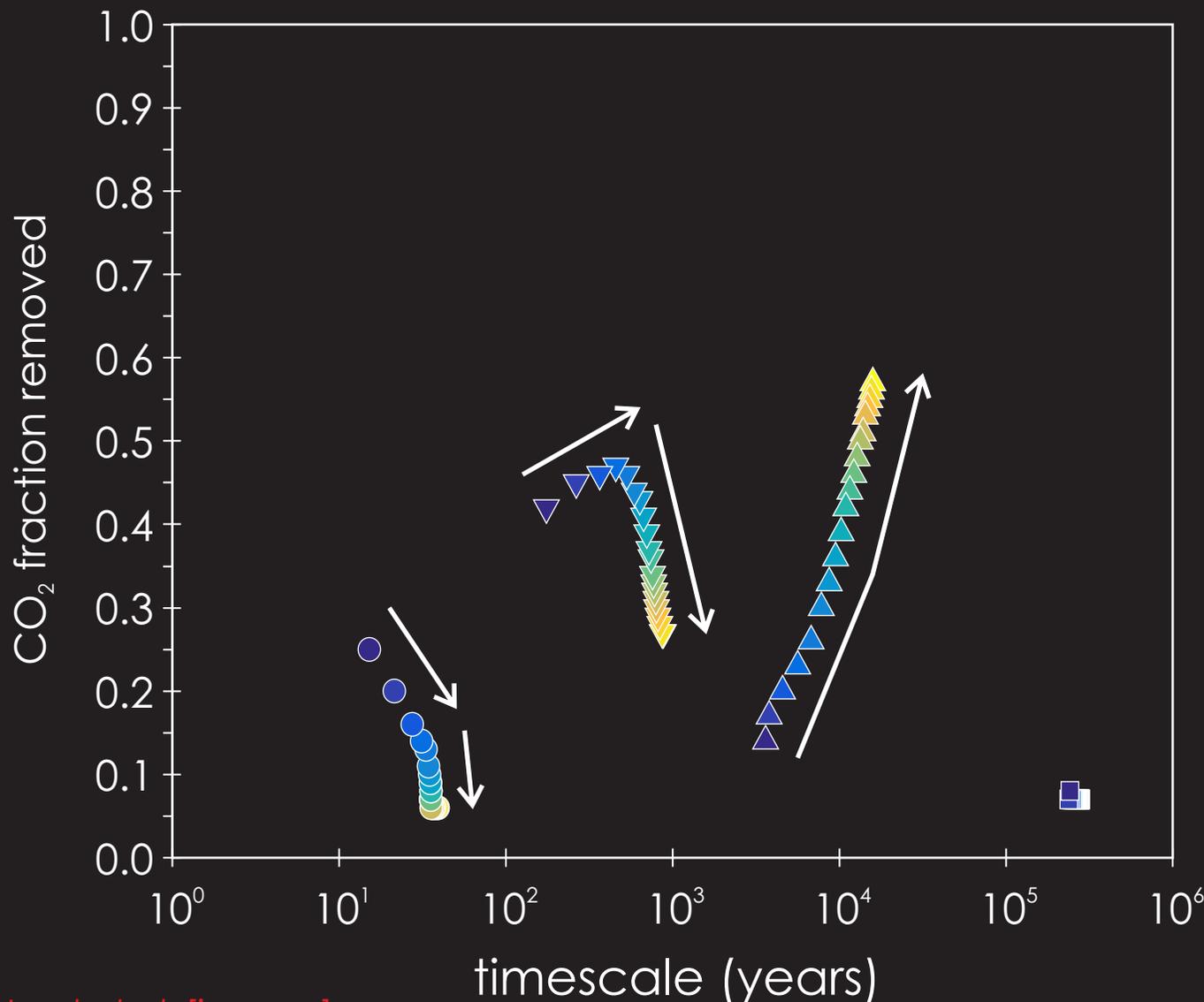


Geologic  $\text{CO}_2$  removal via carbonate rocks and marine sediments – occurring on an increasing protracted time-scale.



Silicate weathering (no time-scale response!).





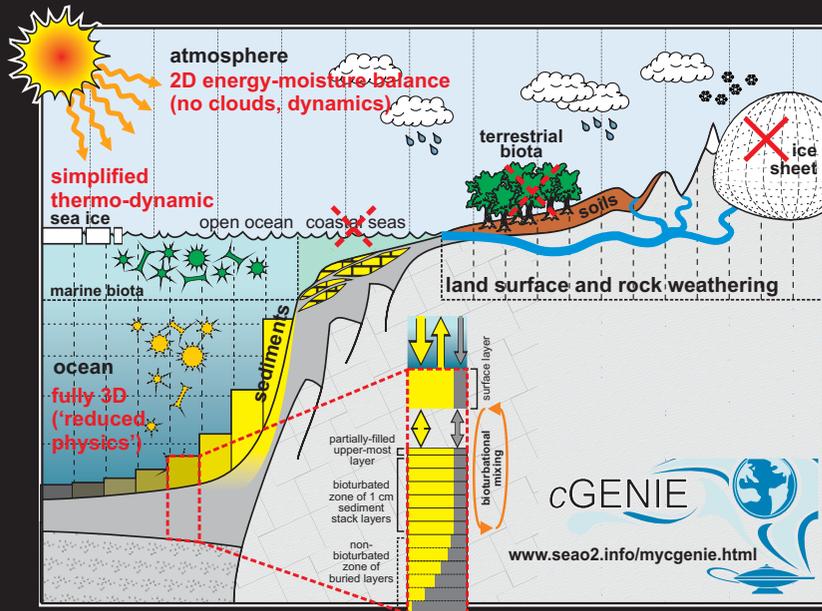
Lord et al. [in press]

## Summary:

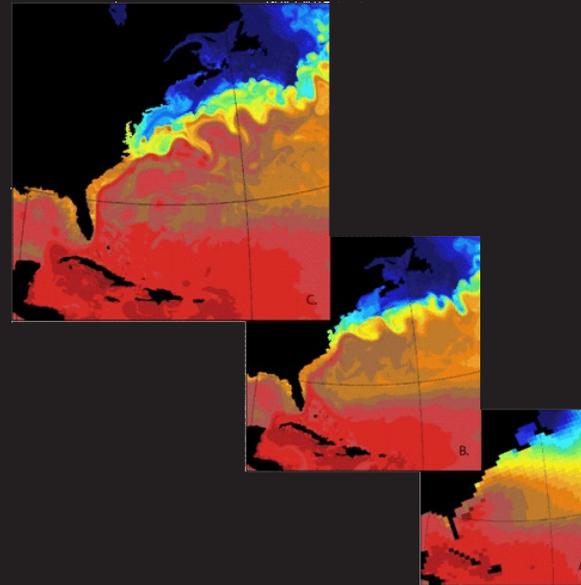
With increasing total  $\text{CO}_2$  emissions, the response time of all sinks (bar silicate weathering) lengthen, and the shorter time-scale two weaken at the expense of the  $\sim 10,000$  year  $\text{CaCO}_3$  burial process. Elevated atmospheric  $p\text{CO}_2$  (and hence warming) will hence become more persistent as the main short-term  $\text{CO}_2$  feedbacks weaken.

Only a (almost invariant) small fraction ( $\sim 7\%$ ) of  $\text{CO}_2$  is extremely persistent. BUT, the majority of carbon removal beyond  $\sim 10,000$  PgC is removed only on time-scales exceeding 10,000 years.

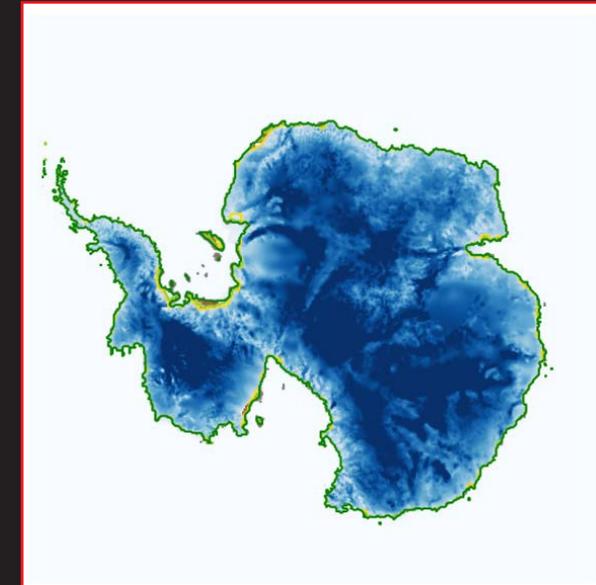




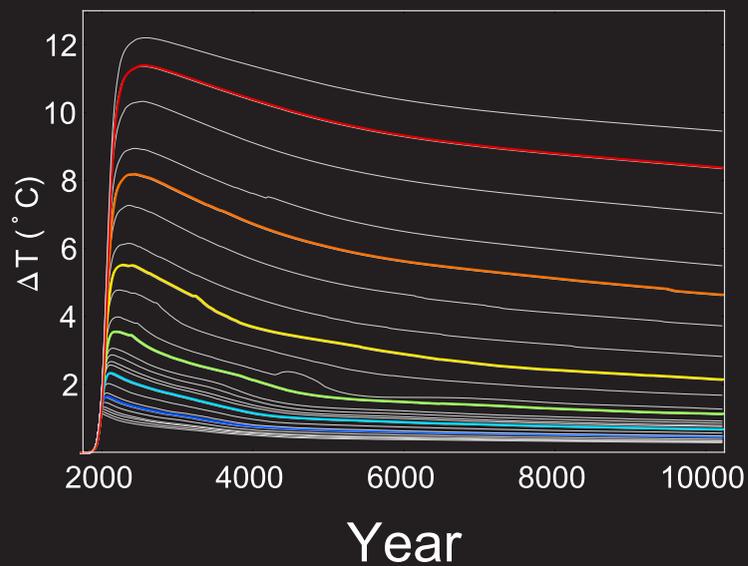
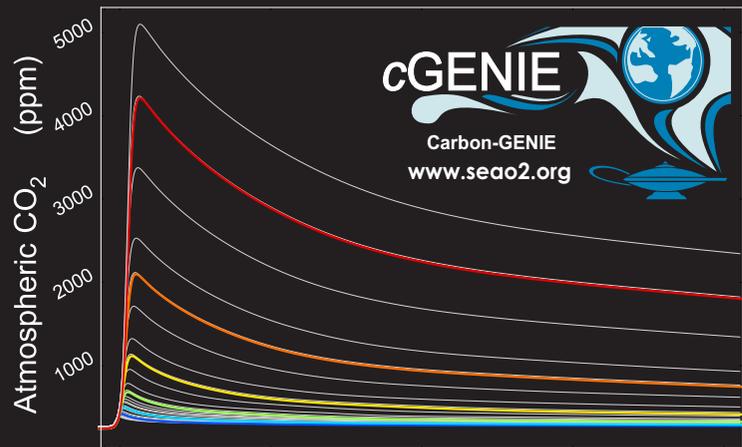
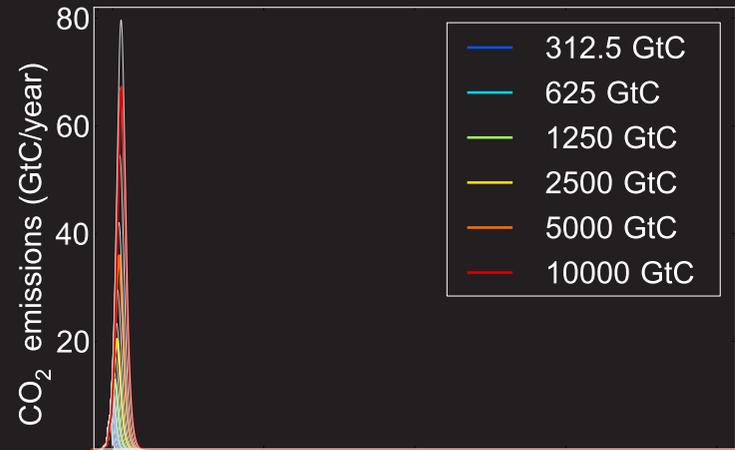
Earth system model  
(CO<sub>2</sub> and mean SST trajectories)

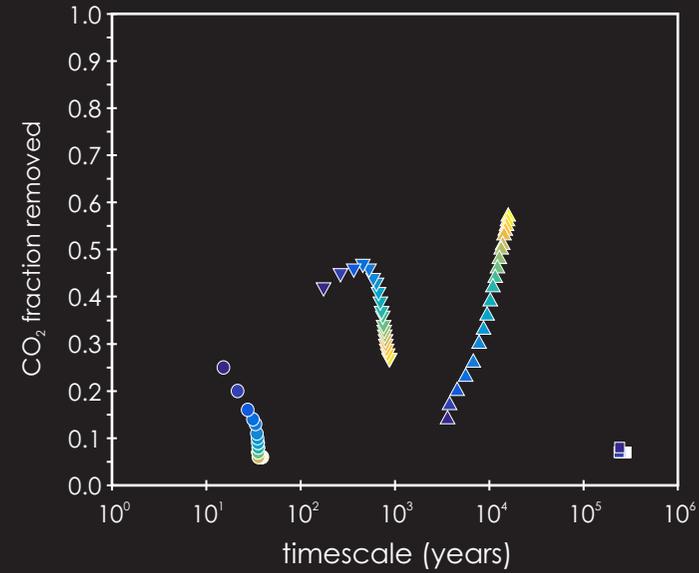
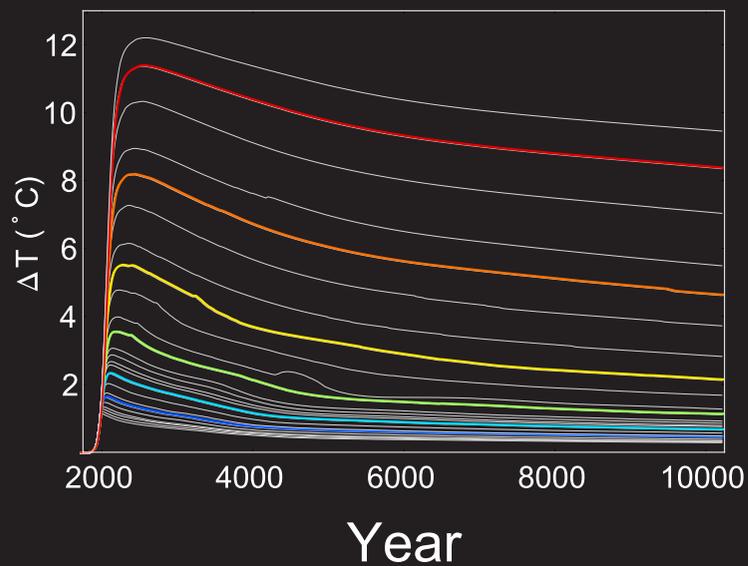
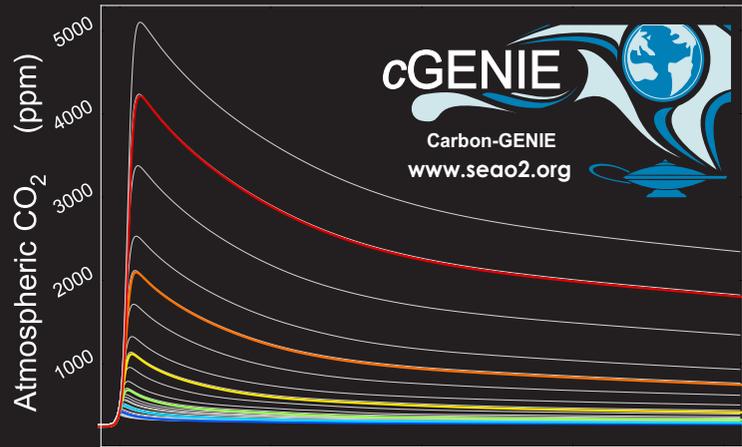
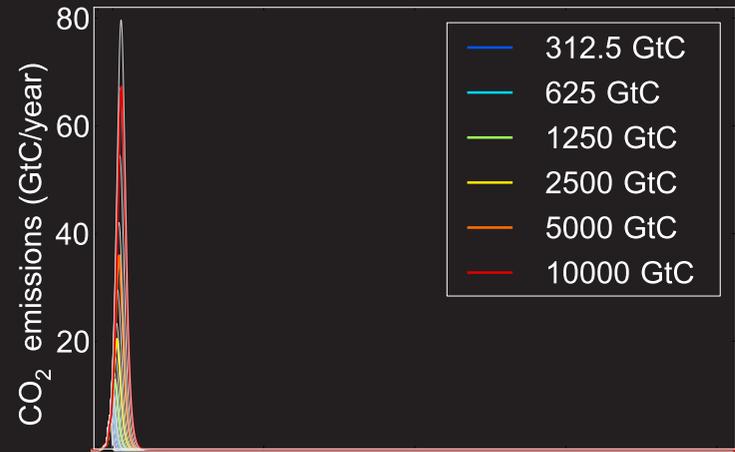


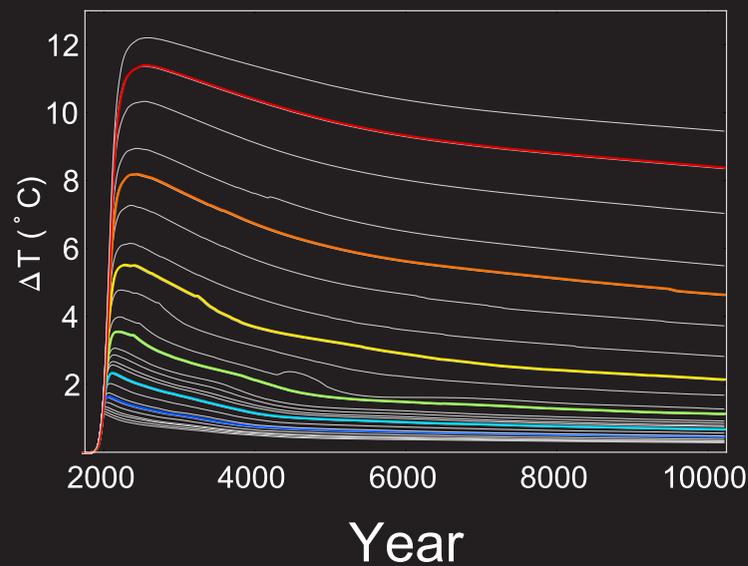
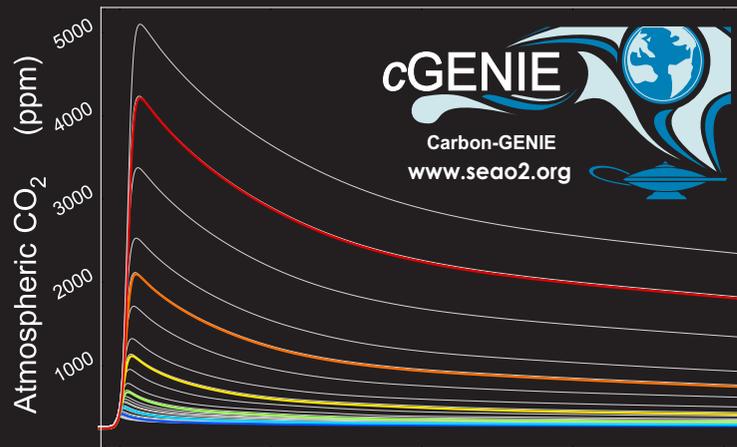
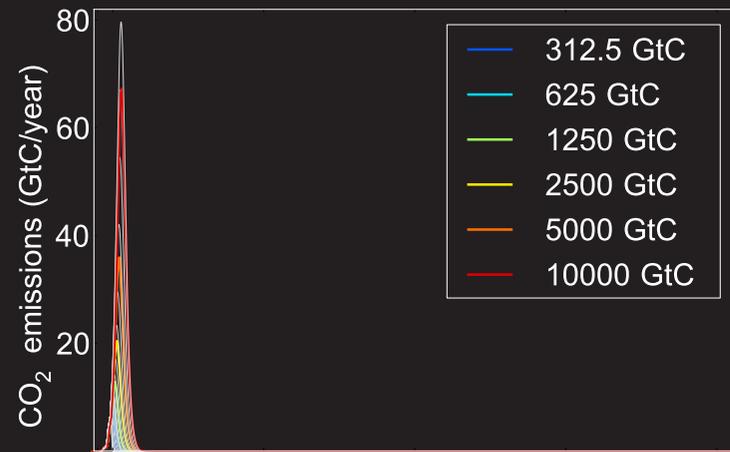
Downscaling  
(50 SST and regional climate)



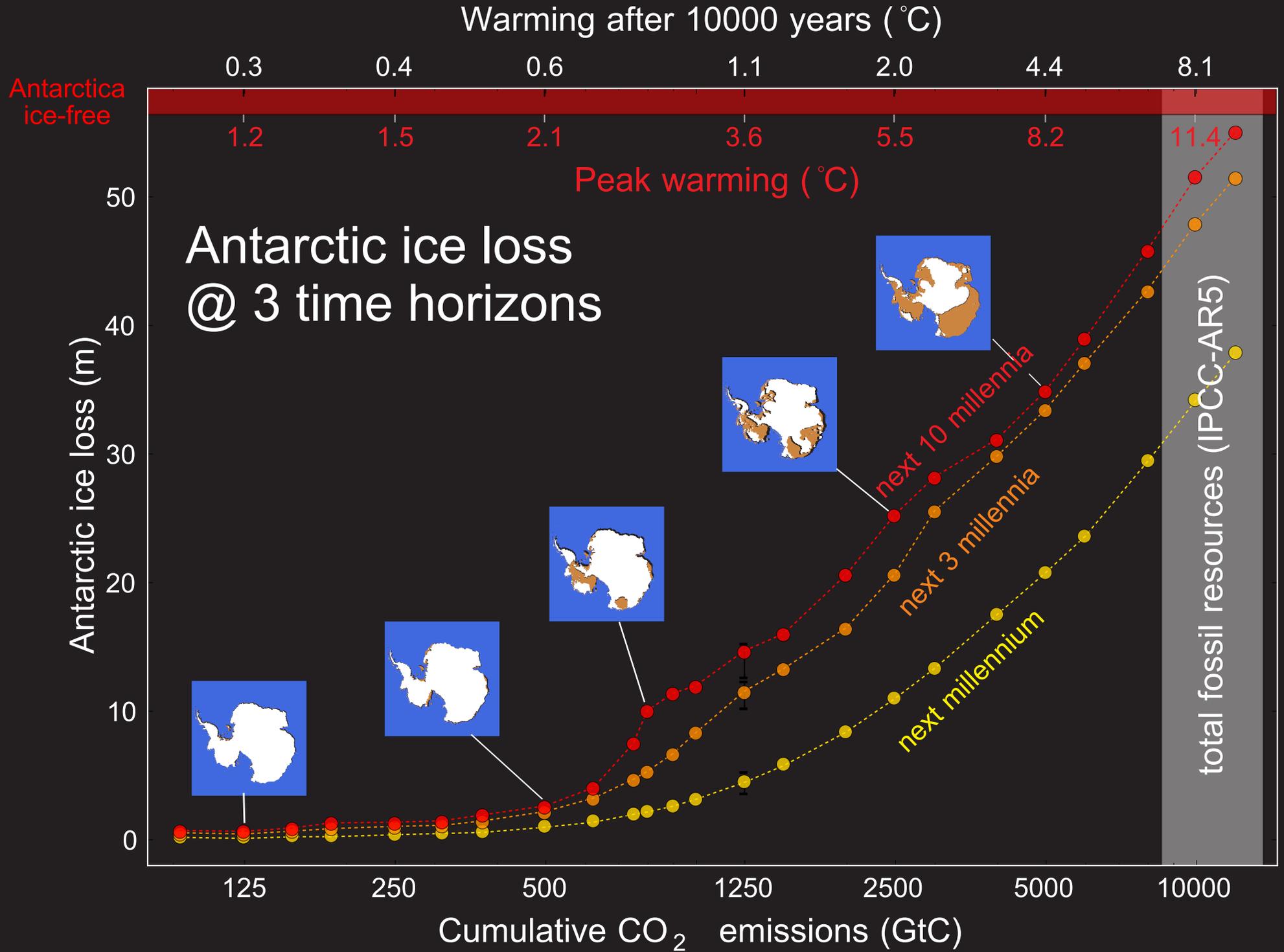
Ice sheet model



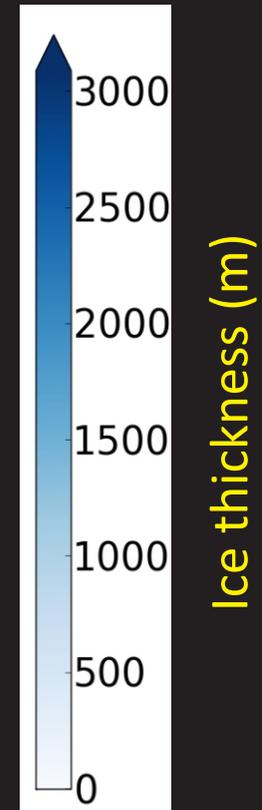
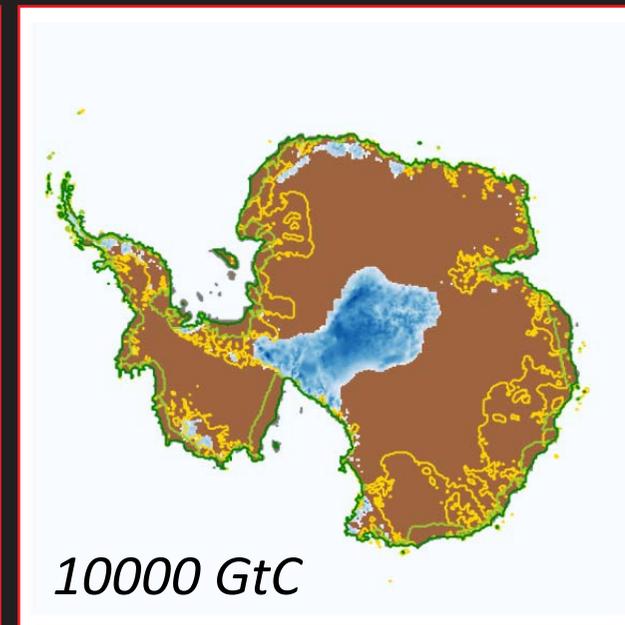
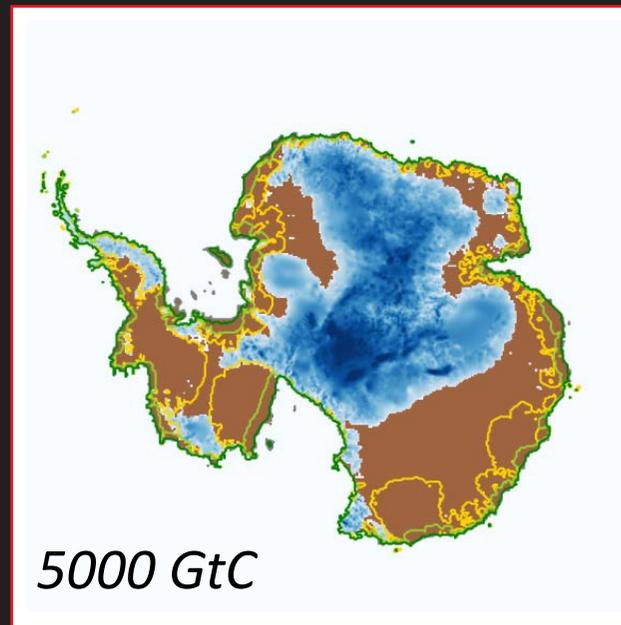
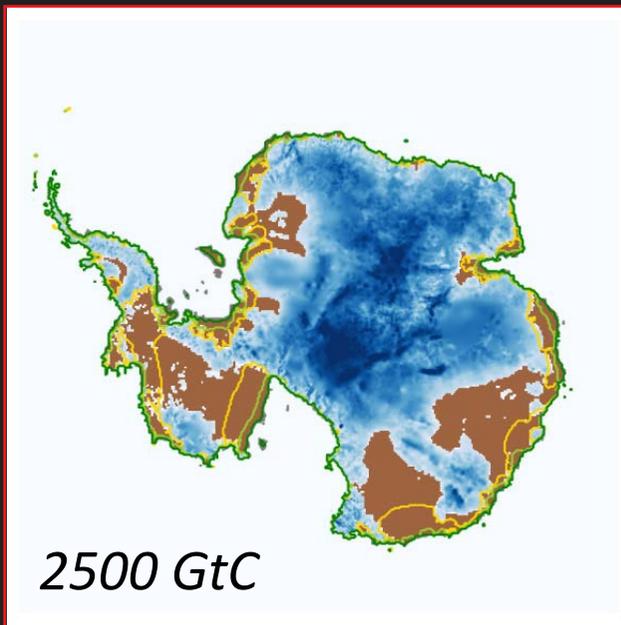
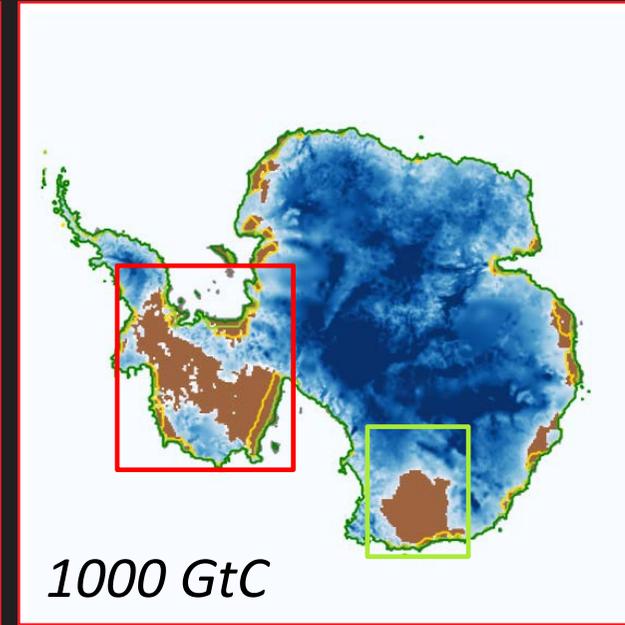
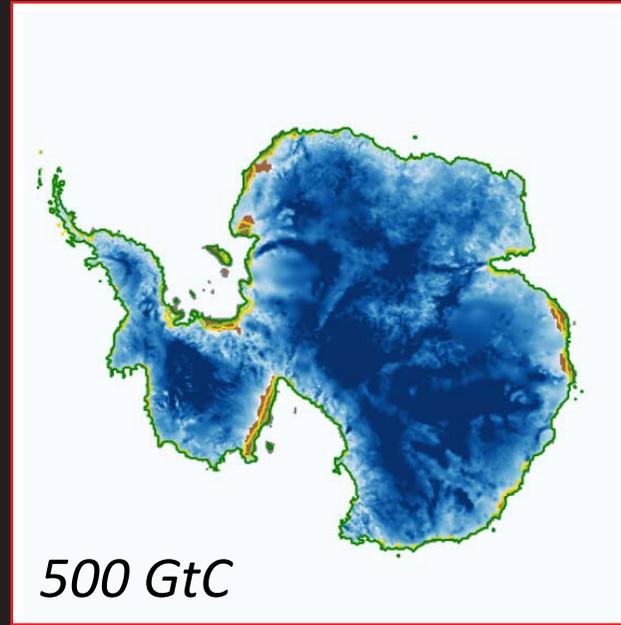
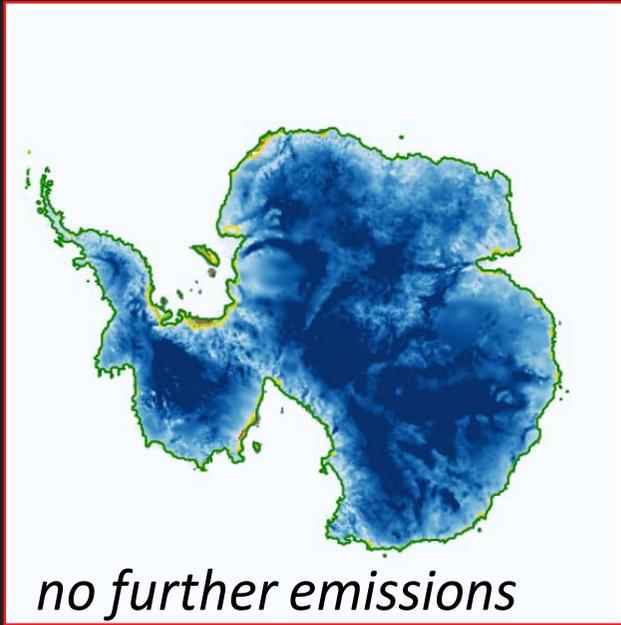




↔  $\Delta F \propto \ln(C/C_0)$



Projected ice sheet extent after 10,000 years



# (III) Enhanced weathering (CO<sub>2</sub> removal geoengineering)

GEO250.2015

# NOT GENIE



## long-term feedbacks on atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub>

Accepted Article

An impulse response function for the 'long tail' of excess atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> in an Earth system model

N. S. Lord<sup>1</sup>, A. Ridgway<sup>1,2</sup>, M. C. Thomas<sup>1</sup> and D. J. Lunt<sup>1,3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>School of Geographical Sciences, University of Bristol, Bristol, UK  
<sup>2</sup>Climate Science, University of Bristol, Bristol, UK  
<sup>3</sup>Department of Earth Sciences, University of California, Riverside, CA, USA

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Lord et al. [in press]

AGU PUBLICATIONS

Global Biogeochemical Cycles

RESEARCH ARTICLE

The times scale of the silicate weathering negative feedback on atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub>

G. Colburn<sup>1</sup>, A. Ridgway<sup>1,2</sup> & M. Lomas<sup>1</sup>

Abstract: The silicate weathering negative feedback is a critical mechanism for Earth system stability. However, the timescale of this feedback is poorly understood. We use a coupled Earth system model to investigate the timescale of the silicate weathering negative feedback. We find that the timescale of the silicate weathering negative feedback is on the order of 100,000 years, which is significantly longer than previously estimated. This finding has important implications for the design of geoengineering strategies that aim to reduce atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> concentrations.

Colburn et al. [2015]

RESEARCH ARTICLE

CLIMATE CHANGE

Combustion of available fossil fuel resources sufficient to eliminate the Antarctic ice Sheet

K. Winkelman<sup>1,2</sup>, A. Ridgway<sup>1,2</sup>, J. Ridgway<sup>1,2</sup>, S. J. Gray<sup>1,2</sup>, M. Lomas<sup>1</sup>

Abstract: The Antarctic ice sheet is a critical component of the Earth system. It is currently melting at an accelerating rate, and its collapse would have significant implications for global sea level rise. We use a coupled Earth system model to investigate the potential for the combustion of available fossil fuel resources to eliminate the Antarctic ice sheet. We find that the combustion of available fossil fuel resources is sufficient to eliminate the Antarctic ice sheet by the year 2100.

Winkelman et al. [2015]

nature climate change

LETTERS

Enhanced weathering strategies for stabilizing climate and averting ocean acidification

L. L. Taylor<sup>1</sup>, J. Qu<sup>1</sup>, R. M. Carter<sup>1</sup>, M. L. Thompson<sup>1</sup>, P. Hubner<sup>1</sup>, D. S. Shaver<sup>1</sup>, J. M. Hansen<sup>1</sup>, A. Ridgway<sup>1,2</sup>, M. Lomas<sup>1</sup>, S. J. Gray<sup>1,2</sup>, M. Lomas<sup>1</sup>, S. J. Gray<sup>1,2</sup>, M. Lomas<sup>1</sup>

Abstract: Geoengineering strategies to stabilize climate and averting ocean acidification are being developed. However, the potential for these strategies to have unintended consequences is not well understood. We use a coupled Earth system model to investigate the potential for enhanced weathering strategies to stabilize climate and averting ocean acidification. We find that enhanced weathering strategies can stabilize climate and averting ocean acidification, but they also have the potential to have unintended consequences, such as increased soil erosion and nutrient runoff.

Taylor et al. [in press]

AGU PUBLICATIONS

Geophysical Research Letters

RESEARCH LETTER

Assessing the controllability of Arctic sea ice extent by sulfate aerosol geoengineering

L. A. Jackson<sup>1</sup>, J. A. Hansen<sup>1</sup>, S. J. Davis<sup>1</sup>, M. L. Thompson<sup>1</sup>, P. Hubner<sup>1</sup>, D. S. Shaver<sup>1</sup>, J. M. Hansen<sup>1</sup>, A. Ridgway<sup>1,2</sup>, M. Lomas<sup>1</sup>

Abstract: Arctic sea ice extent is a critical component of the Earth system. It is currently melting at an accelerating rate, and its collapse would have significant implications for global sea level rise. We use a coupled Earth system model to investigate the potential for sulfate aerosol geoengineering to stabilize Arctic sea ice extent. We find that sulfate aerosol geoengineering can stabilize Arctic sea ice extent, but it also has the potential to have unintended consequences, such as increased soil erosion and nutrient runoff.

Jackson et al. [2015]

nature geoscience

LETTERS

Sensitivity of climate to cumulative carbon emissions due to compensation of ocean heat and carbon uptake

Philip Goodwin<sup>1</sup>, Richard G. Williams<sup>1</sup> and Andy Ridgway<sup>1</sup>

Abstract: The climate system is highly sensitive to cumulative carbon emissions. However, the sensitivity of the climate system to cumulative carbon emissions is not well understood. We use a coupled Earth system model to investigate the sensitivity of the climate system to cumulative carbon emissions. We find that the climate system is highly sensitive to cumulative carbon emissions, and that the sensitivity of the climate system to cumulative carbon emissions is significantly higher than previously estimated.

Goodwin et al. [2015]

RESEARCH ARTICLE

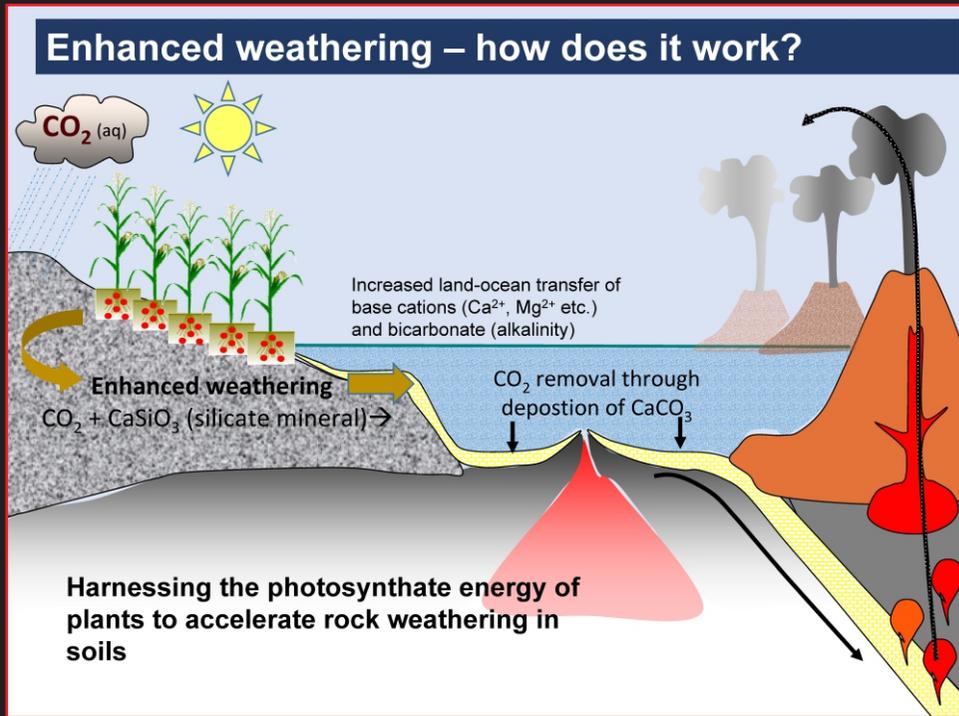
CLIMATE CHANGE

How warming and ice melt level the carbon cycle

R. Williams<sup>1</sup>, P. Goodwin<sup>1</sup>, A. Ridgway<sup>1,2</sup>, M. Lomas<sup>1</sup>

Abstract: The carbon cycle is a critical component of the Earth system. It is currently melting at an accelerating rate, and its collapse would have significant implications for global sea level rise. We use a coupled Earth system model to investigate the potential for the carbon cycle to level the carbon cycle. We find that the carbon cycle is highly sensitive to warming and ice melt, and that the carbon cycle is significantly more sensitive to warming and ice melt than previously estimated.

Williams et al. [2012]



David Beerling

Terrestrial weathering can be (approximately equally) divided into carbonate (CaCO<sub>3</sub>) and calcium-silicate ('CaSiO<sub>3</sub>') weathering:



Ultimately, the (alkalinity: Ca<sup>2+</sup>) weathering products must be removed through carbonate precipitation and burial in marine sediments:



It can be seen that in (2) + (3), that the CO<sub>2</sub> removed (from the atmosphere) during weathering, is returned upon carbonate precipitation (and burial). In (1) + (3) (silicate weathering) CO<sub>2</sub> is permanently removed to the geological reservoir. This CO<sub>2</sub> must be balanced by mantle (/volcanic) out-gassing on the very long term.

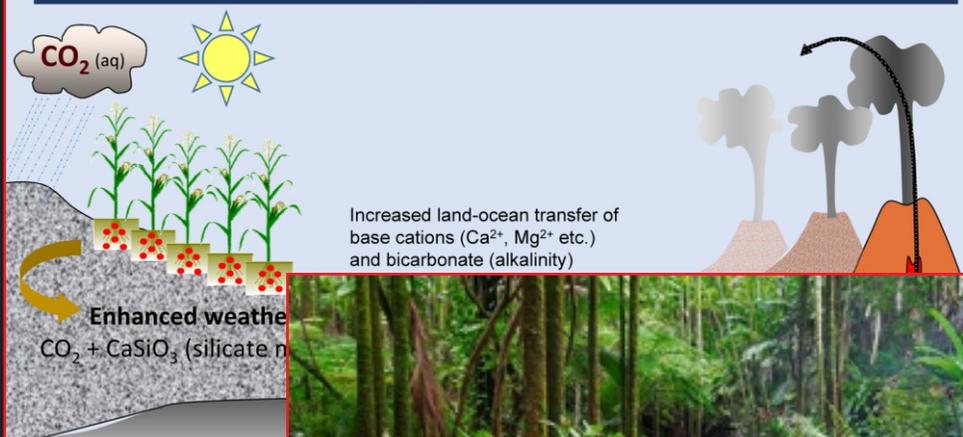
Furthermore, the rate of silicate weathering should scale with climate:

higher pCO<sub>2</sub> → higher temperatures (& rainfall) → higher weathering rates → lower pCO<sub>2</sub>

Equally:

greater mineral surface availability → higher weathering rates → lower pCO<sub>2</sub>

### Enhanced weathering – how does it work?



The diagram illustrates the process of enhanced weathering. On the left, a cloud labeled  $\text{CO}_2(\text{aq})$  is shown with rain falling over a field of corn plants. A yellow arrow points from the plants down to the soil, indicating the process of enhanced weathering. Below the soil, the chemical reaction  $\text{CO}_2 + \text{CaSiO}_3$  (silicate mineral) is shown. On the right, a volcano is depicted with smoke rising from it, and a black arrow points from the volcano towards the left, representing the transfer of base cations and bicarbonate to the ocean.

Increased land-ocean transfer of base cations ( $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Mg}^{2+}$  etc.) and bicarbonate (alkalinity)

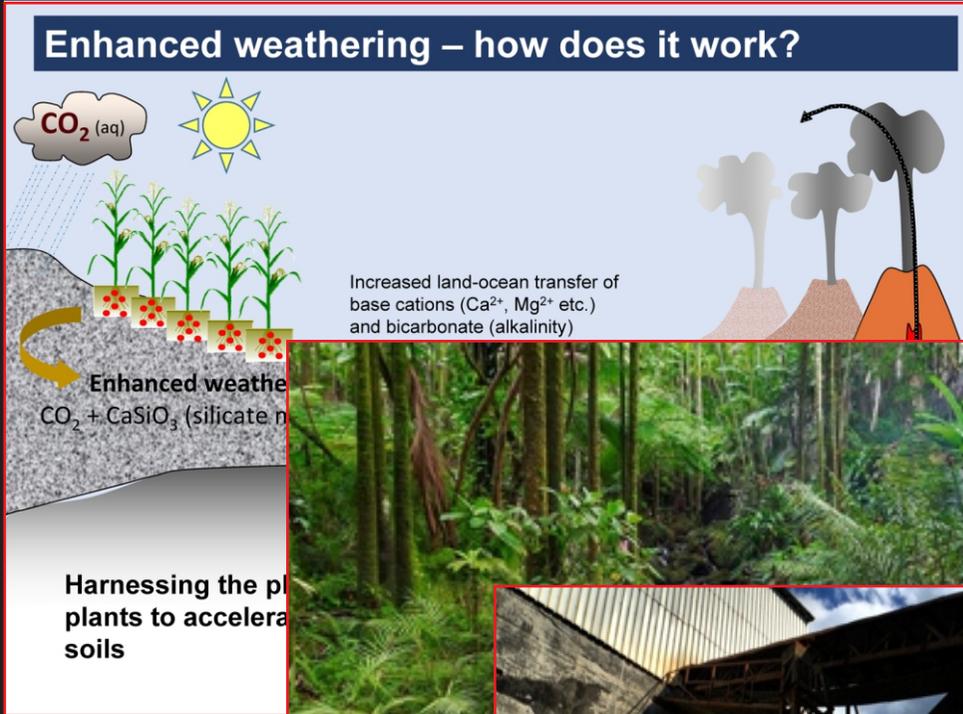
Enhanced weathering  
 $\text{CO}_2 + \text{CaSiO}_3$  (silicate mineral)

Harnessing the power of plants to accelerate soil weathering

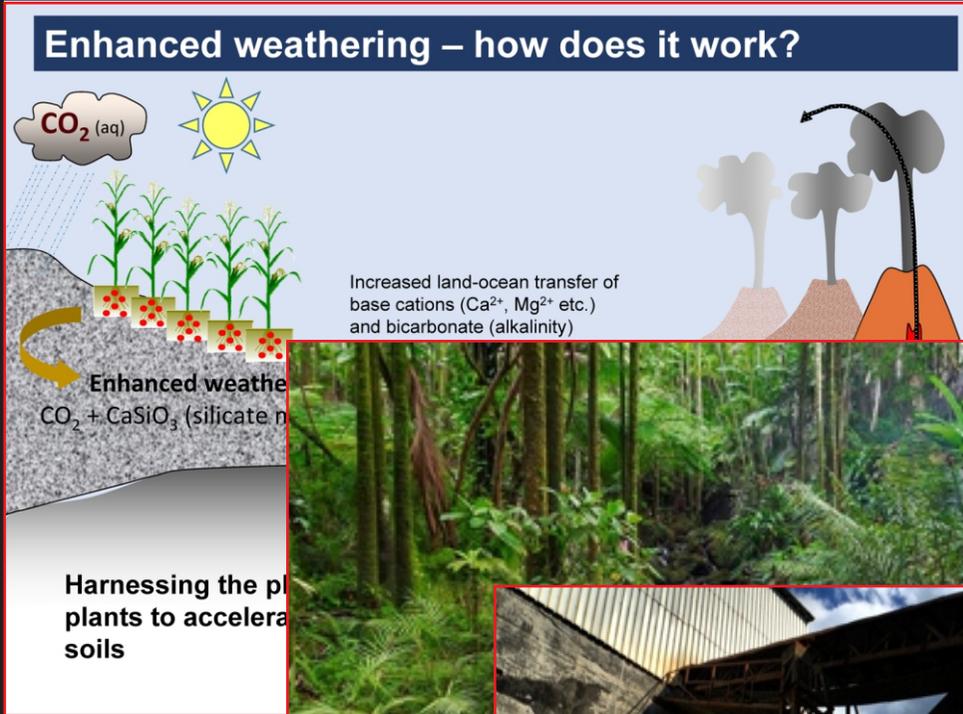


A photograph of a lush tropical forest stream. The water flows over mossy rocks, surrounded by dense green vegetation, including ferns and tall trees.

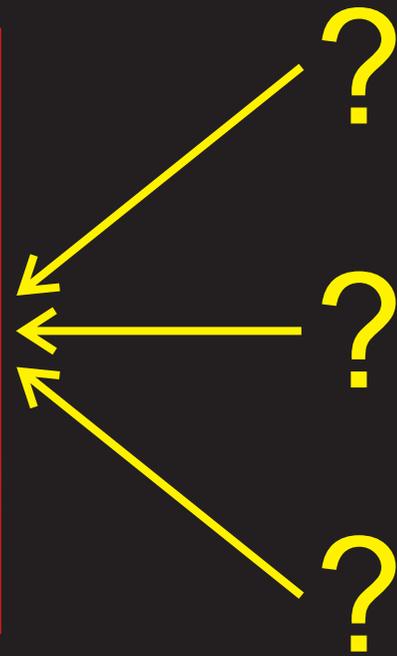
David Beerling

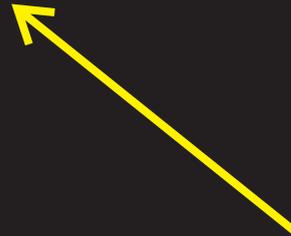
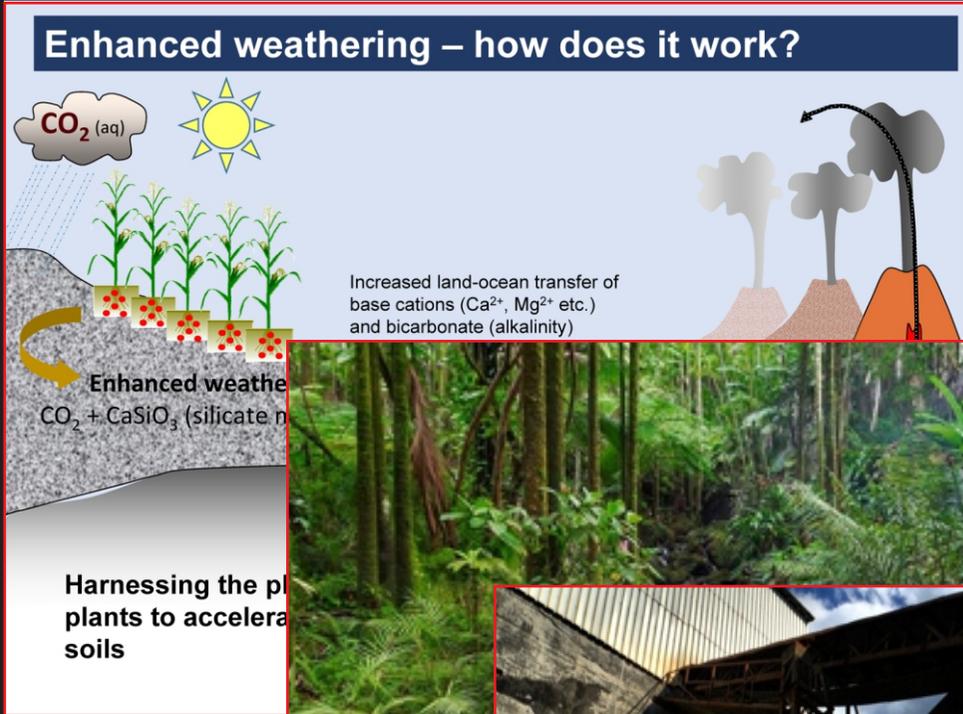


David Beerling

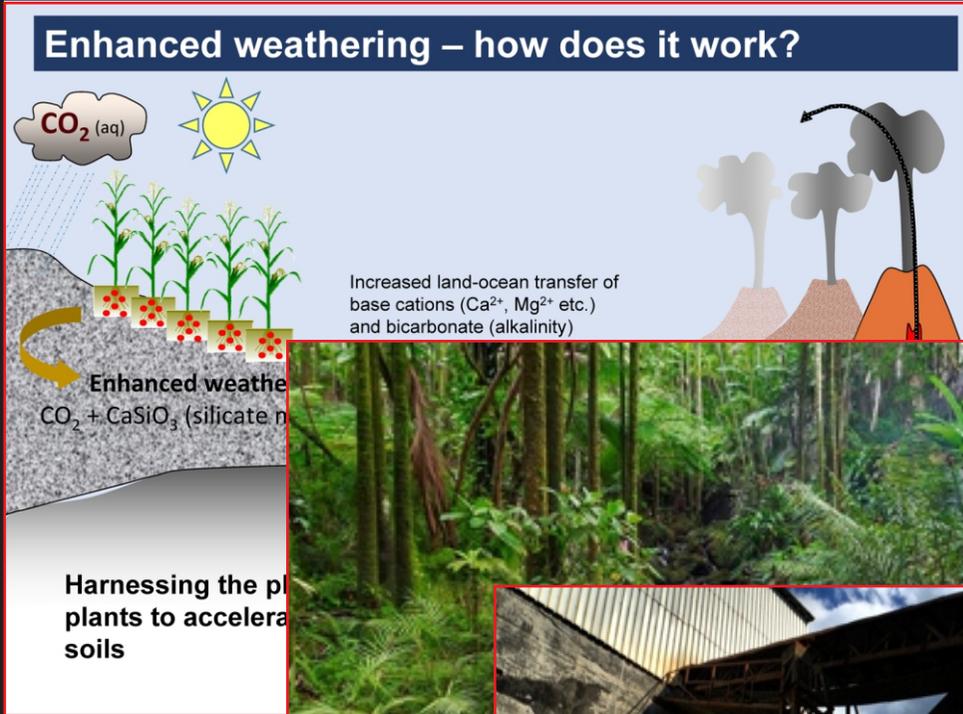


David Beerling





David Beerling

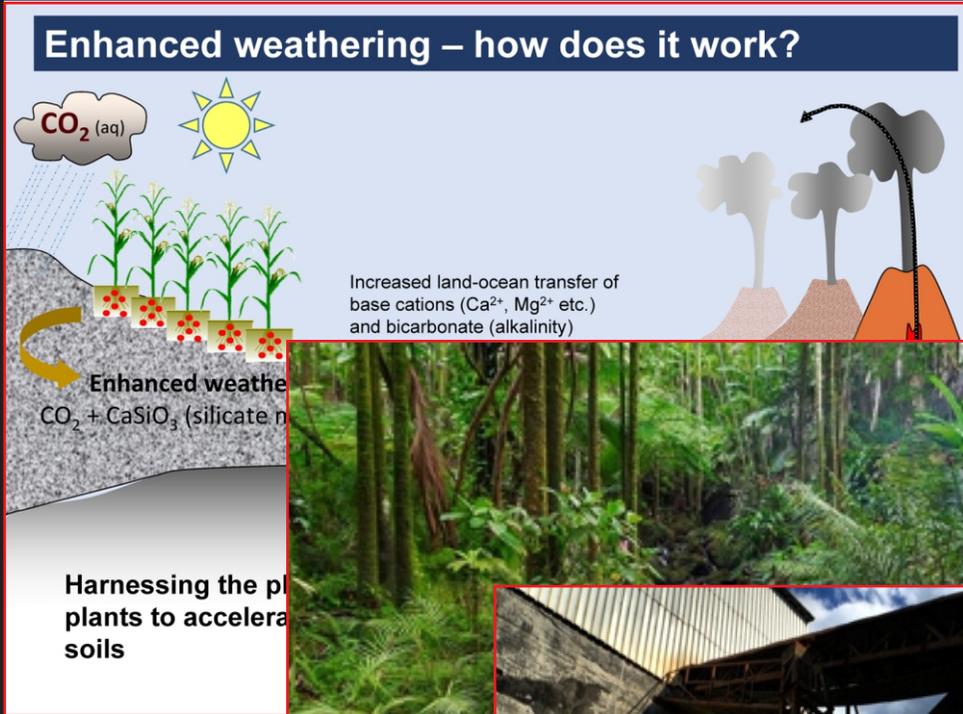


David Beerling

>90% olivine: (Mg<sup>+2</sup>, Fe<sup>+2</sup>)<sub>2</sub>SiO<sub>4</sub>

Dunite



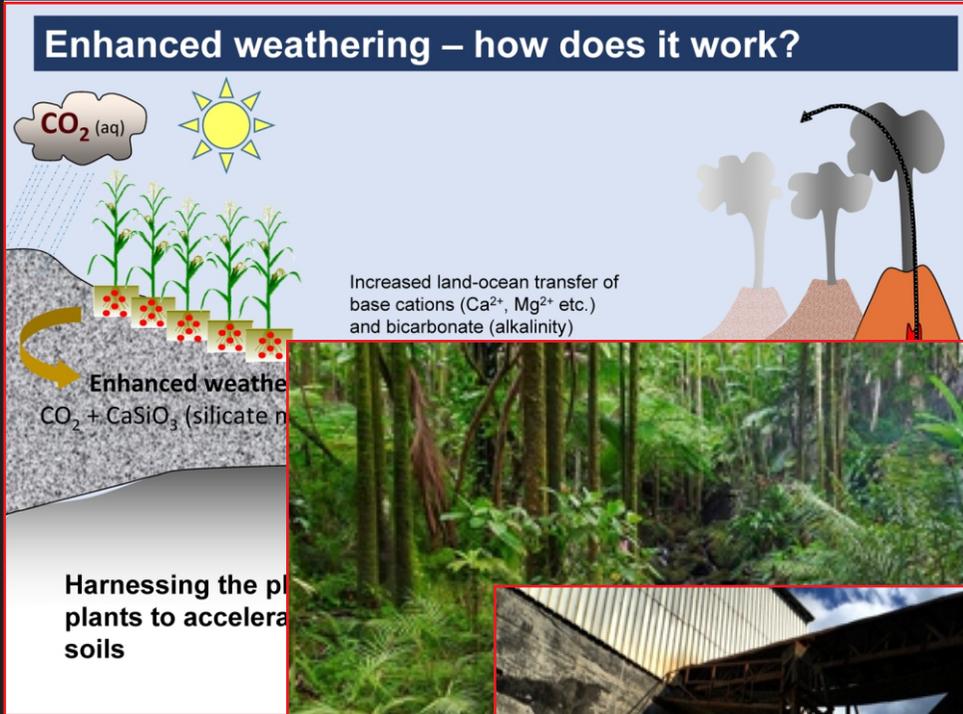


>90% olivine: (Mg<sup>+2</sup>, Fe<sup>+2</sup>)<sub>2</sub>SiO<sub>4</sub>



Dunite

David Beerling



David Beerling

Harzburgite

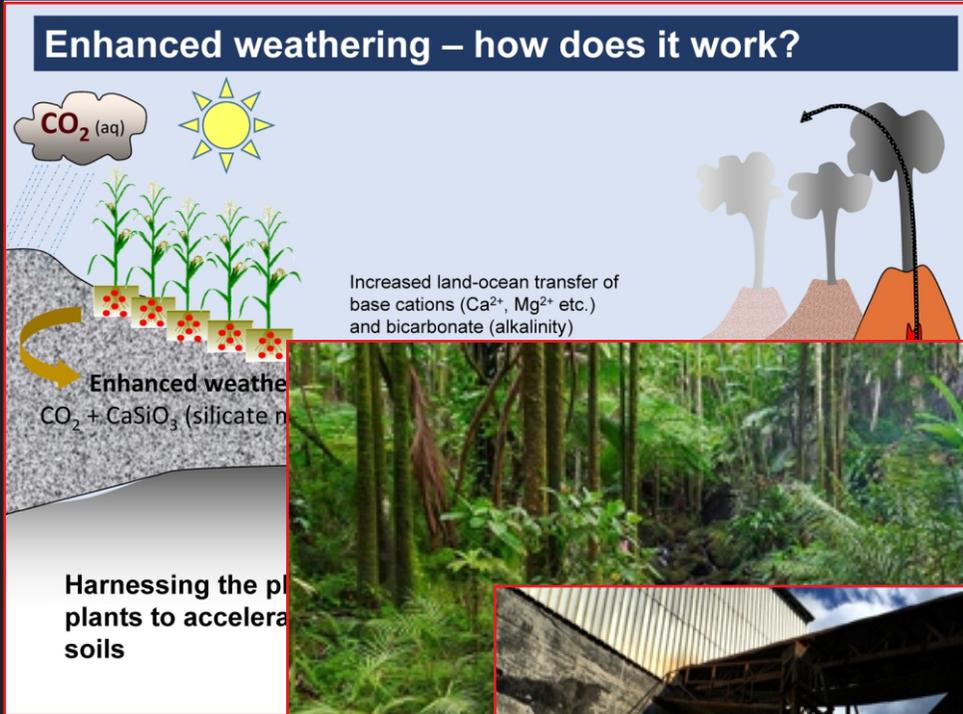
~ olivine + pyroxene



Dunite

>90% olivine: (Mg<sup>+2</sup>, Fe<sup>+2</sup>)<sub>2</sub>SiO<sub>4</sub>





David Beerling

Harzburgite

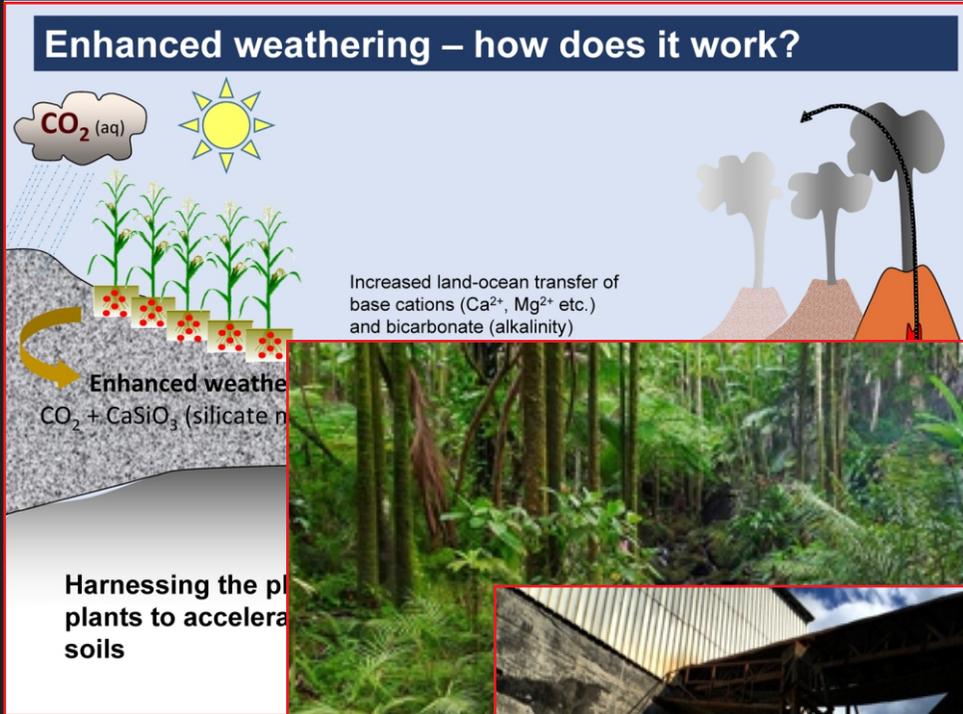
~ olivine + pyroxene



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Dunite





David Beerling

Harzburgite

~ olivine + pyroxene

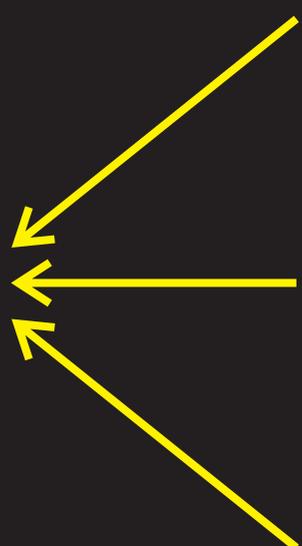


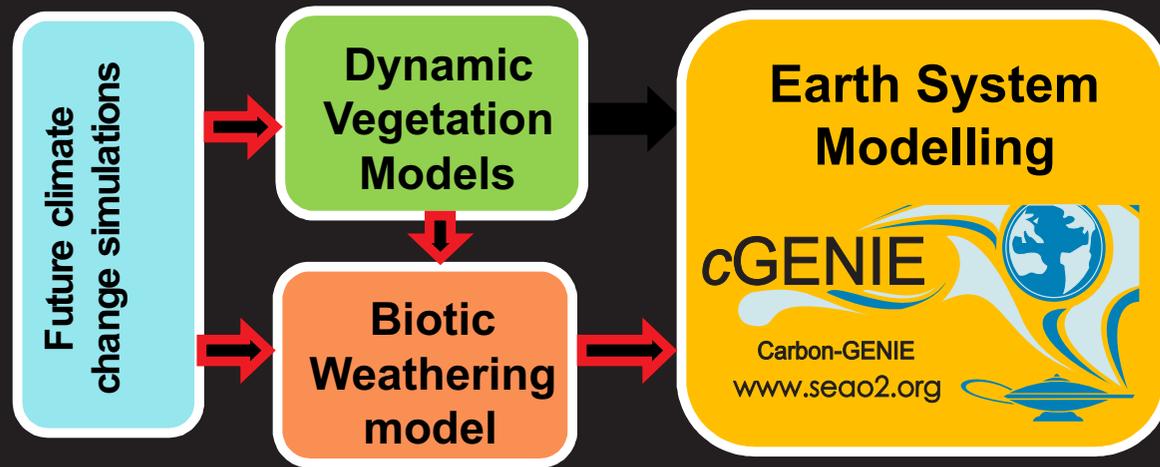
~ plagioclase + pyroxene (+olivine)



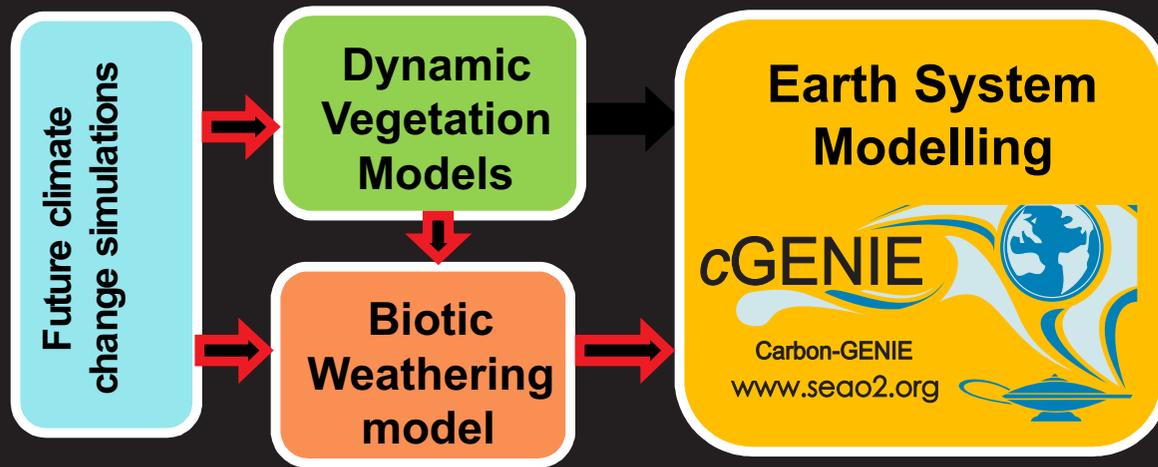
>90% olivine: (Mg<sup>+2</sup>, Fe<sup>+2</sup>)<sub>2</sub>SiO<sub>4</sub>

Dunite

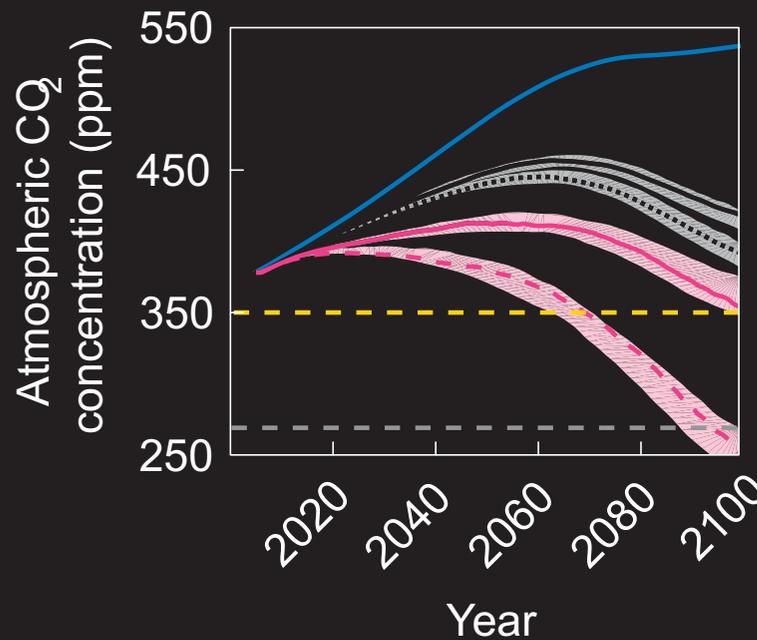
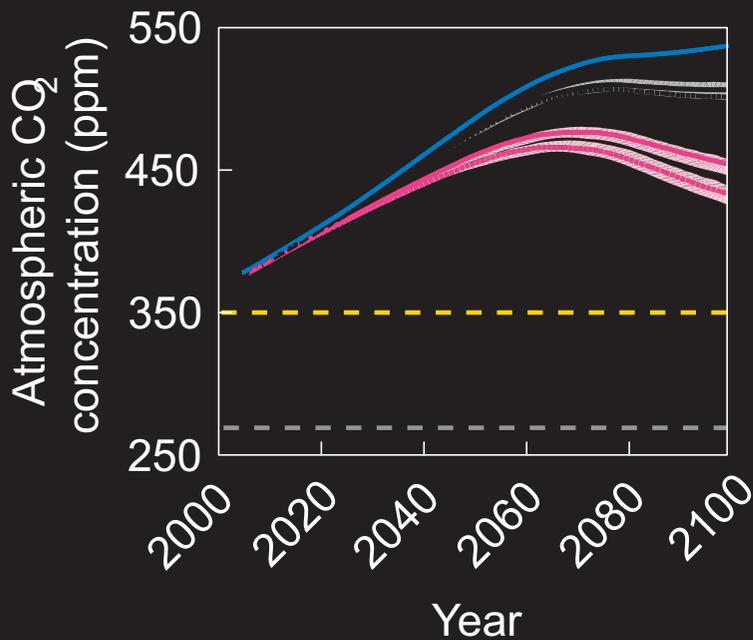




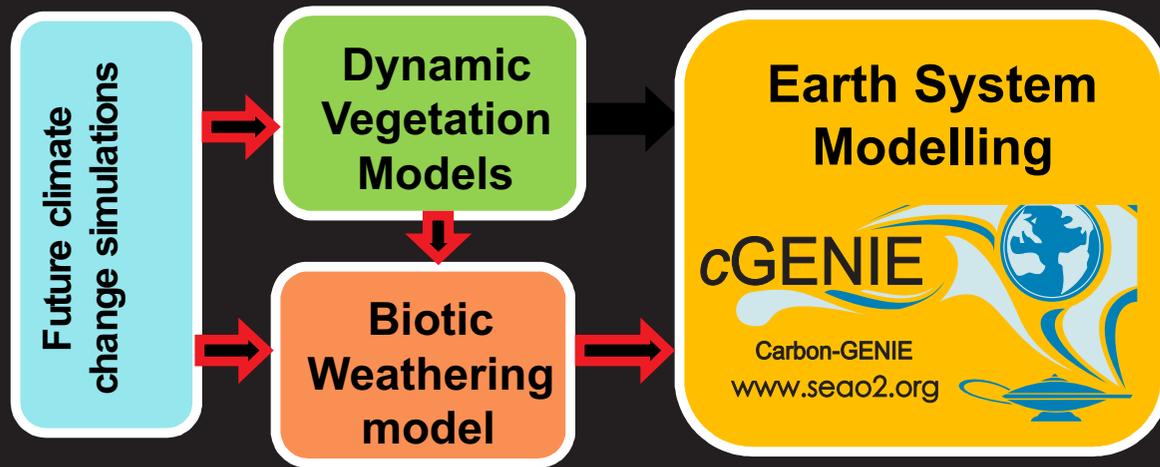
Taylor et al. [in press]



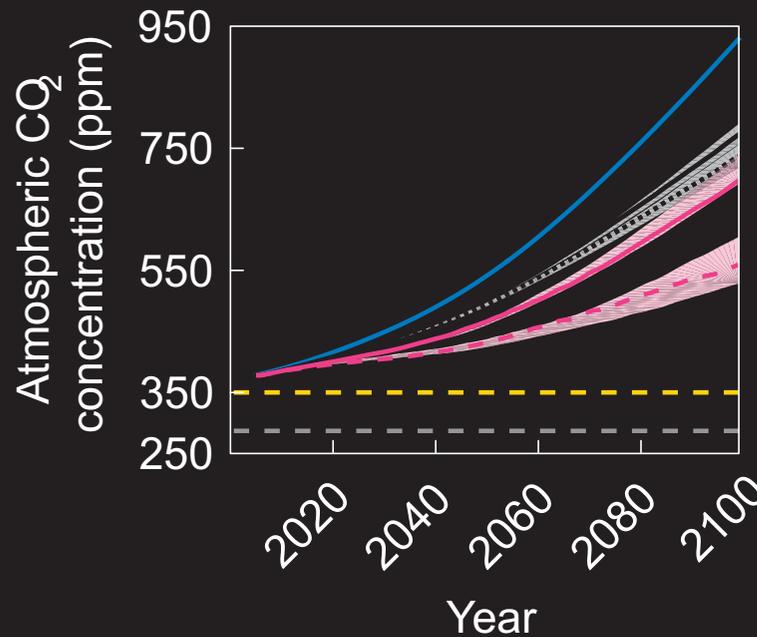
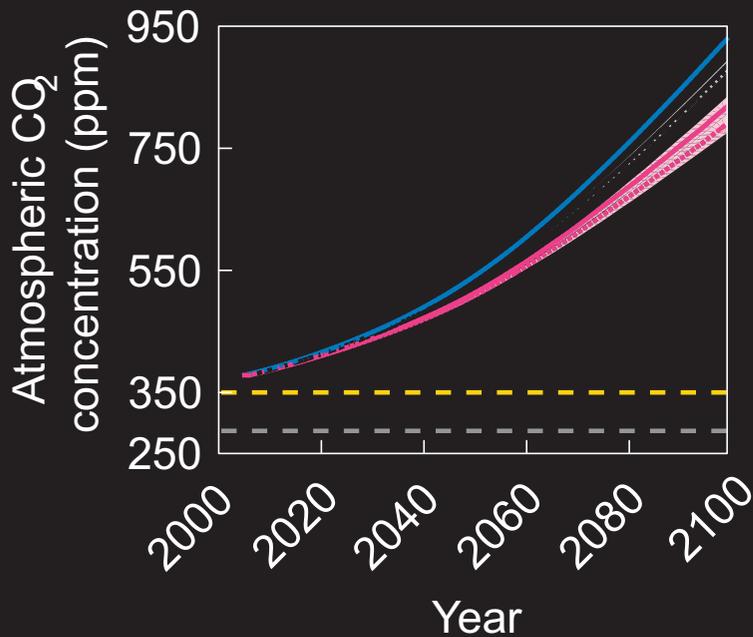
Taylor et al. [in press]



- RCP scenario
- Basalt 10 cm
- Basalt 30 cm
- Harzburgite 10 cm
- Harzburgite 30 cm
- - - 350 ppm CO<sub>2</sub>
- - - Pre-industrial CO<sub>2</sub>



Taylor et al. [in press]



- RCP scenario
- Basalt 10 cm
- Harzburgite 10 cm
- Basalt 30 cm
- Harzburgite 30 cm
- - - 350 ppm CO<sub>2</sub>
- - - Pre-industrial CO<sub>2</sub>

Current global oil  
consumption =  
90,136×10<sup>3</sup> barrels per  
day

$$\begin{aligned} 1.0 \text{ barrel} &= 159 \text{ l} \\ &= 159 \times 10^3 \text{ cm}^3 \end{aligned}$$

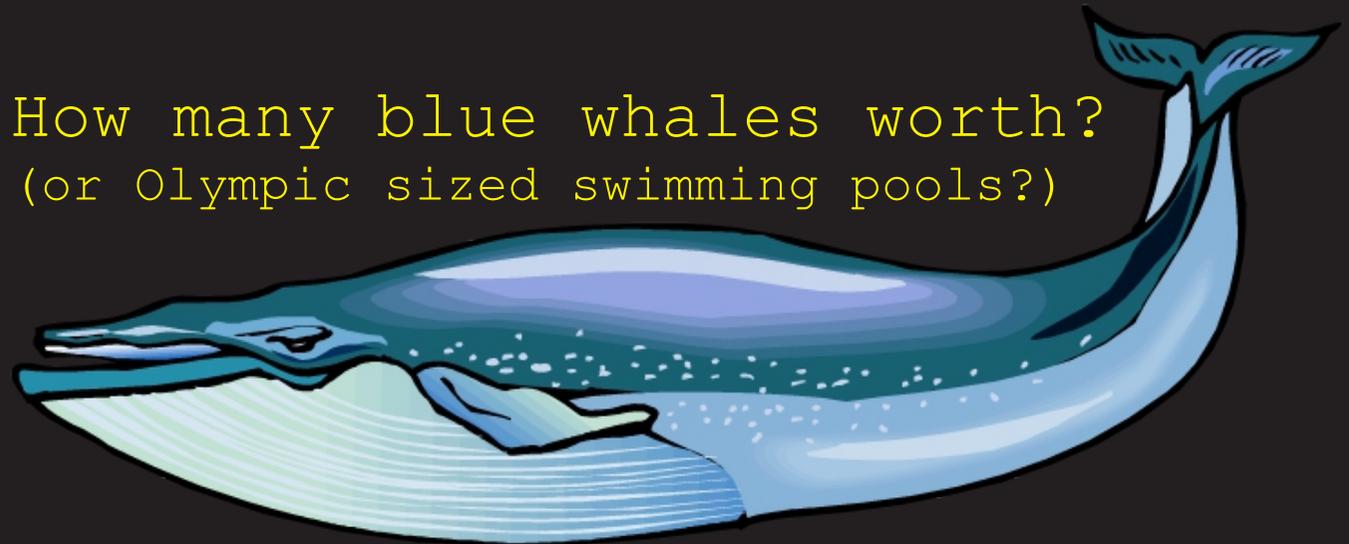
$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow \text{oil consumption} & \\ &= 5.23 \times 10^{15} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ year}^{-1} \\ &= \mathbf{5.23 \text{ km}^3 \text{ year}^{-1}} \end{aligned}$$

Current global oil  
consumption =  
 $90,136 \times 10^3$  barrels per  
day

1.0 barrel = 159 l  
=  $159 \times 10^3$  cm<sup>3</sup>

⇒ oil consumption  
=  $5.23 \times 10^{15}$  cm<sup>3</sup> year<sup>-1</sup>  
= **5.23 km<sup>3</sup> year<sup>-1</sup>**

How many blue whales worth?  
(or Olympic sized swimming pools?)



Current global oil  
consumption =  
 $90,136 \times 10^3$  barrels per  
day

1.0 barrel = 159 l  
=  $159 \times 10^3$  cm<sup>3</sup>

⇒ oil consumption  
=  $5.23 \times 10^{15}$  cm<sup>3</sup> year<sup>-1</sup>  
= **5.23 km<sup>3</sup> year<sup>-1</sup>**

How many Yosemite Valleys?  
(equivalent volume)



Current global oil  
consumption =  
90,136×10<sup>3</sup> barrels per  
day

$$\begin{aligned} 1.0 \text{ barrel} &= 159 \text{ l} \\ &= 159 \times 10^3 \text{ cm}^3 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow \text{oil consumption} \\ &= 5.23 \times 10^{15} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ year}^{-1} \\ &= \mathbf{5.23 \text{ km}^3 \text{ year}^{-1}} \end{aligned}$$

Yosemite Valley  
(Wikipedia):

1,200m deep × 1,600m  
across, 12.0 km long

⇒

$$\begin{aligned} \text{volume} &= 1.2 \times 1.6 \times 12.0 \\ &= \mathbf{23.0 \text{ km}^3} \end{aligned}$$

How many Yosemite Valleys?  
(equivalent volume)



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**Geophysical Research Letters**

**RESEARCH LETTER** Assessing the controllability of Arctic sea ice extent by sulfate aerosol geoengineering

**Key Points**  
• Key points should be included in the abstract and should be concise and to the point.  
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**Abstract**  
An assessment of how Arctic sea ice extent could be controlled in a warming world via sulfate aerosol geoengineering is presented. A simple, but novel, geoengineering model is used to assess the potential for sulfate aerosol geoengineering to control Arctic sea ice extent. The model is used to assess the potential for sulfate aerosol geoengineering to control Arctic sea ice extent. The model is used to assess the potential for sulfate aerosol geoengineering to control Arctic sea ice extent.

**1. Introduction**  
Climate models project that the Arctic will warm and contract during the 21st century, with ice loss continuing to increase. This is a concern because of the potential for a loss of Arctic sea ice extent. This is a concern because of the potential for a loss of Arctic sea ice extent.

**2. Methods**  
A simple, but novel, geoengineering model is used to assess the potential for sulfate aerosol geoengineering to control Arctic sea ice extent. The model is used to assess the potential for sulfate aerosol geoengineering to control Arctic sea ice extent.

**3. Results and Discussion**  
The model is used to assess the potential for sulfate aerosol geoengineering to control Arctic sea ice extent. The model is used to assess the potential for sulfate aerosol geoengineering to control Arctic sea ice extent.

**4. Conclusions**  
The model is used to assess the potential for sulfate aerosol geoengineering to control Arctic sea ice extent. The model is used to assess the potential for sulfate aerosol geoengineering to control Arctic sea ice extent.

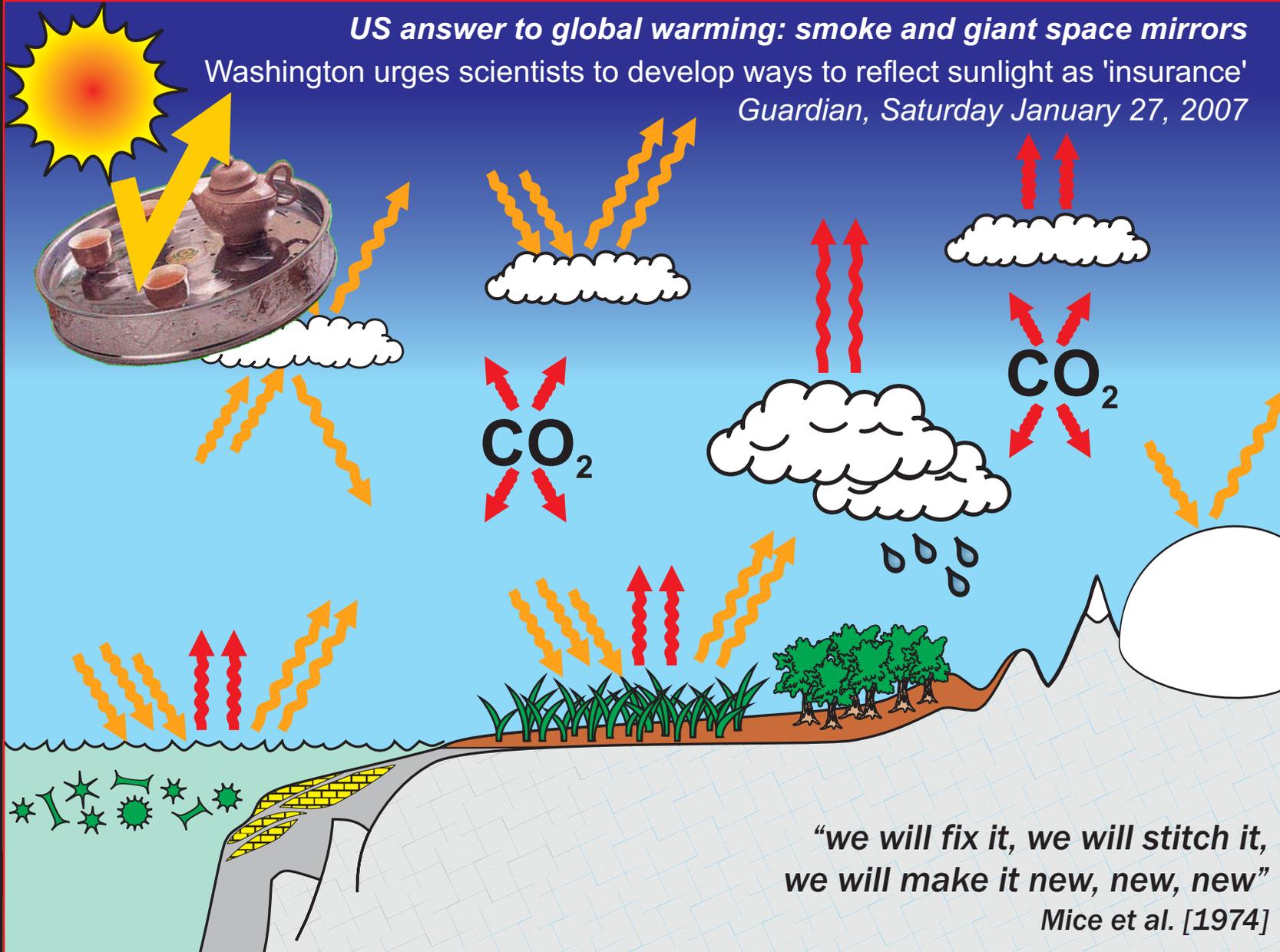
**References**  
• Jackson, J. J., et al. (2015). Assessing the controllability of Arctic sea ice extent by sulfate aerosol geoengineering. *Geophysical Research Letters*, 42, L12301. doi:10.1002/2015GL065888

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**US answer to global warming: smoke and giant space mirrors**  
 Washington urges scientists to develop ways to reflect sunlight as 'insurance'  
*Guardian, Saturday January 27, 2007*



**"we will fix it, we will stitch it,  
 we will make it new, new, new"**  
*Mice et al. [1974]*

**AGU PUBLICATIONS**  
 Geophysical Research Letters

**RESEARCH LETTER** Assessing the controllability of Arctic sea ice extent by sulfate aerosol geoengineering

**L. S. Jackson<sup>1</sup>, J. A. Knox<sup>2</sup>, A. S. Scaife<sup>3</sup>, M. Scaife<sup>4</sup>, M. Scaife<sup>5</sup>, M. Scaife<sup>6</sup>, and M. Scaife<sup>7</sup>**

**ABSTRACT** An assessment of how Arctic sea ice extent could be maintained in a warming world via sulfate aerosol geoengineering is presented. The Arctic region is particularly sensitive to global warming, and the loss of sea ice has significant implications for the global climate system. Sulfate aerosol geoengineering is a proposed method of reducing global temperatures, and its potential to maintain Arctic sea ice extent is investigated. The results show that sulfate aerosol geoengineering can maintain Arctic sea ice extent in a warming world, but the extent of sea ice is reduced compared to a no-geoengineering scenario. The results also show that sulfate aerosol geoengineering can reduce the rate of sea ice loss, but the extent of sea ice is reduced compared to a no-geoengineering scenario. The results show that sulfate aerosol geoengineering can maintain Arctic sea ice extent in a warming world, but the extent of sea ice is reduced compared to a no-geoengineering scenario.

**1. Introduction**

Sea ice extent in the Arctic region has declined by 1.2 M km<sup>2</sup> per decade during 1979–2013 (Serreze et al., 2000). Climate models predict that this decline will continue and accelerate during the 21st century, with the loss of sea ice having significant implications for the global climate system. Sulfate aerosol geoengineering is a proposed method of reducing global temperatures, and its potential to maintain Arctic sea ice extent is investigated. The results show that sulfate aerosol geoengineering can maintain Arctic sea ice extent in a warming world, but the extent of sea ice is reduced compared to a no-geoengineering scenario. The results also show that sulfate aerosol geoengineering can reduce the rate of sea ice loss, but the extent of sea ice is reduced compared to a no-geoengineering scenario.

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**RESEARCH LETTER**  
 Assessing the controllability of Arctic sea ice extent by sulfate aerosol geoengineering

**Li, X. Jackson, J. A. Cross, A. Scaife, M. Lesinska, A. M. Scaife, M. Scaife, and M. Scaife**

**Abstract**  
 An assessment of how Arctic sea ice extent could be controlled in a warming world via sulfate aerosol geoengineering is presented. A simple, but effective, model is used to simulate the Arctic region, which is compared against a control run. The model shows that sulfate aerosol geoengineering can be used to control Arctic sea ice extent, but that the control is not perfect. The model also shows that sulfate aerosol geoengineering can be used to control Arctic sea ice extent, but that the control is not perfect. The model also shows that sulfate aerosol geoengineering can be used to control Arctic sea ice extent, but that the control is not perfect.

**1. Introduction**  
 Sulfate aerosol geoengineering is a proposed method for reducing global temperatures and sea level rise. It involves injecting sulfate aerosols into the stratosphere, where they can reflect incoming solar radiation and cool the Earth's surface. This method has been proposed as a potential means of mitigating the effects of climate change, particularly the rapid warming of the Arctic region. However, there are concerns about the potential impacts of sulfate aerosol geoengineering on the environment, including the possibility of increased acid rain and damage to ecosystems. This paper assesses the controllability of Arctic sea ice extent by sulfate aerosol geoengineering, using a simple model to simulate the Arctic region. The model shows that sulfate aerosol geoengineering can be used to control Arctic sea ice extent, but that the control is not perfect. The model also shows that sulfate aerosol geoengineering can be used to control Arctic sea ice extent, but that the control is not perfect.

Jackson et al. [2015]







