

Nitrogen and sulfur deposition on regional and global scales: A multimodel evaluation

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[1] We use 23 atmospheric chemistry transport models to calculate current and future (2030) deposition of reactive nitrogen (NO_y , NH_x) and sulfate (SO_x) to land and ocean surfaces. The models are driven by three emission scenarios: (1) current air quality legislation (CLE); (2) an optimistic case of the maximum emissions reductions currently technologically feasible (MFR); and (3) the contrasting pessimistic IPCC SRES A2 scenario. An extensive evaluation of the present-day deposition using nearly all information on wet deposition available worldwide shows a good agreement with observations in Europe and North America, where 60–70% of the model-calculated wet deposition rates agree to within $\pm 50\%$ with quality-controlled measurements. Models systematically overestimate NH_x deposition in South Asia, and underestimate NO_y deposition in East Asia. We show that there are substantial differences among models for the removal mechanisms of NO_y , NH_x , and SO_x , leading to $\pm 1 \sigma$ variance in total deposition fluxes of about 30% in the anthropogenic emissions regions, and up to a factor of 2 outside. In all cases the mean model constructed from the ensemble calculations is among the best when comparing to measurements. Currently, 36–51% of all NO_y , NH_x , and SO_x is deposited over the ocean, and 50–80% of the fraction of deposition on land falls on natural (nonagricultural) vegetation. Currently, 11% of the world's natural vegetation receives nitrogen deposition in excess of the “critical load” threshold of $1000 \text{ mg(N) m}^{-2} \text{ yr}^{-1}$. The regions most affected are the United States (20% of vegetation), western Europe (30%), eastern Europe (80%), South Asia (60%), East Asia

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(40%), southeast Asia (30%), and Japan (50%). Future deposition fluxes are mainly driven by changes in emissions, and less importantly by changes in atmospheric chemistry and climate. The global fraction of vegetation exposed to nitrogen loads in excess of $1000 \text{ mg(N) m}^{-2} \text{ yr}^{-1}$ increases globally to 17% for CLE and 25% for A2. In MFR, the reductions in NO_y are offset by further increases for NH_x deposition. The regions most affected by exceedingly high nitrogen loads for CLE and A2 are Europe and Asia, but also parts of Africa.

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1. Introduction

[2] Reactive nitrogen Nr (NO_y , NH_x) plays a central role in the chemistry of the atmosphere as well as in the productivity of marine, freshwater and terrestrial ecosystems. There is a host of evidence that increasing human activities seriously disturb the natural nitrogen cycle [Galloway et al., 2004; Phoenix et al., 2006; Vitousek et al., 1997]. Nr enters the environment through a number of processes related to fertilization, waste discharge and atmospheric emissions.

[3] Nitrogen oxide (NO) is emitted into the atmosphere by natural processes such as lightning or soil emissions, and by human activities related to power generation, industry, traffic and open biomass burning. In the atmosphere NO is converted into a number of other oxides of nitrogen, generally denominated as NO_y (in this work $\text{NO}_y = \text{NO} + \text{NO}_2 + \text{HNO}_3 + \text{HNO}_4 + \text{NO}_3 + 2x\text{N}_2\text{O}_5 + \text{PAN} + \text{organic nitrates}$). NO emissions can lead to the formation of ozone in both the background troposphere [Crutzen, 1974] as well as in rural environments [Finlayson-Pitts and Pitts, 1986], with detrimental effects for human health [World Health Organization, 2003], natural vegetation and agricultural crops [Emberson et al., 2000; Mauzerall and Wang, 2001]. In addition, NO emissions influence the oxidation capacity of the atmosphere [Lelieveld et al., 2002; Wang and Jacob, 1998].

[4] The alkaline gas ammonia (NH_3) is predominantly emitted from agricultural sources and reacts readily in the atmosphere with sulfuric acid (H_2SO_4), nitric acid (HNO_3) and other acids, to form particulate ammonium (NH_4). Ammonium influences the abundance, composition and radiative properties of aerosol and its climatic impact [Metzger et al., 2002]. The sum of $\text{NH}_3 + \text{NH}_4$ is generally referred to as NH_x . Since the chemistry of ammonia is closely connected to that of sulfate (SO_4), an integral part of our study involves the analysis of the sulfur dioxide (SO_2) emissions and $\text{SO}_x (= \text{SO}_2 + \text{SO}_4)$ deposition.

[5] The ultimate fate of the NO_y , NH_x and SO_x is removal by wet scavenging and dry deposition on terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems. Deposition of reactive nitrogen induces a cascade of environmental effects [Galloway et al., 2004]. Since the net primary production of most terrestrial ecosystems is limited by nitrogen availability, deposition of reactive nitrogen may enhance ecosystem productivity [Vitousek et al., 1997] with possible consequences for the global carbon cycle [Prentice et al., 2001]. On the other hand, eutrophication by Nr can cause acidification [Rodhe et al., 2002], an imbalance in nutrient cycling leading to a

change of ecosystem diversity [Bobbink et al., 1998; Phoenix et al., 2006; Sala et al., 2000], as indicated by the exceedance of critical loads [Bobbink et al., 1998; Bouwman et al., 2002b]. In fresh water and coastal regions, nitrogen inputs can lead to noxious and toxic algal blooms, increased turbidity, and disruption of ecosystem functioning, shifts in food webs and loss of fish stocks [Rabalais, 2002]. Nitrogen deposition to coastal waters leads to denitrification and enhanced emissions of N_2O , which is in turn a strong greenhouse gas and perturbs the chemistry of the stratosphere [Seitzinger and Kroeze, 1998].

[6] Owing to increasing anthropogenic activities, such as the use of fossil fuels and agricultural production, the global emissions of NO, NH_3 and SO_2 may have increased by more than a factor of 3 since the preindustrial era. Regionally, these increases have been even more substantial and emissions from large portions of North America, Europe and Asia increased by more than a factor of 10 during the last century [Aardenne et al., 2001]. Recent studies [Galloway et al., 2004; Lamarque et al., 2005; Nakicenovic et al., 2000] indicate substantial further increases of emissions and deposition toward 2050 and 2100.

[7] In this work we focus on nitrogen and sulfur deposition in the year 2030 using a new set of emission scenarios for NO_x , SO_2 , CH_4 , and CO recently developed at IIASA (International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis) and described by Dentener et al. [2005, and references therein]. The scenarios differ substantially from the previous SRES [Nakicenovic et al., 2000] scenarios, since they address concerns about the environmental impacts of the rapid growing economies of countries in Asia and Latin America. Therefore in the early 2000s a number of countries have issued legislation on advanced emission controls, which can significantly cap the air pollution emissions at the regional and global scales. This is the basis of our CLE (Current Legislation) scenario. Further, we evaluate the effects of the emissions of a MFR (Maximum Technologically Feasible Reduction) scenario. To illustrate the situation of rapid economic growth paired with no further controls on air pollutant emissions, we also use the SRES A2 scenario. Both CLE and MFR are based on economic developments consistent with the moderate SRES B2 scenario. For NH_3 , IIASA and IPCC-SRES have no emission scenarios available. We used the RIVM-IMAGE regional assumptions on population increase and agricultural developments from the SRES A2 and B2 scenarios, to make a separate estimate for the development of NH_3 emissions.

[8] These emission scenarios were used by a large set of global atmospheric chemistry-transport (CTMs) and general

Table 1. Overview of Simulations and Global Annual Anthropogenic Emissions (Including Biomass Burning) of NO_x, NH₃, SO₂, CO, and NMVOC

Simulation	Meteorology	Description	NO _x Tg N	NH ₃ Tg N	SO ₂ Tg S	CO Tg CO	NMVOC Tg NMVOC
S1-B2000	CTM 2000 GCM SSTs 1990s	baseline	38.0	53.4	55.6	977.0	147.1
S2-CLE/CLEc	CTM 2000 GCM SSTs 1990s	IIASA CLE 2030 Current Legislation scenario	42.9	69.8	58.8	904.1	145.5
S3-MFR	CTM 2000 GCM SSTs 1990s	IIASA MFR 2030 Maximum Feasible Reduction scenario	23.3	69.8	17.9	728.7	104.4
S4-A2	CTM 2000 GCM SSTs 1990s	SRES A22030, the most "pessimistic" IPCC SRES scenario	64.8	74.3	101.1	1268.2	206.7
S5c-CLE2030c	only GCM SSTs 2030s	IIASA CLE 2030 + climate change	42.9	69.8	58.8	904.1	145.5

circulation models (GCMs) to evaluate present and future (2030) ozone air quality, ecosystem exposure to nitrogen/acid deposition, and impacts of climate change on atmospheric chemistry. Detailed results on these aspects can be found in a series of publications recently published or in press [Dentener et al., 2006; Stevenson et al., 2006; van Noije et al., 2006; Shindell et al., 2006] or in preparation (K. Ellingsen et al., Ozone air quality in 2030: A multi-model assessment of risks for health and vegetation, manuscript in preparation, 2006). This paper evaluates nitrogen and sulfur deposition in the present and in future, analyzing both intermodel and interscenario differences.

[9] In section 2 we will describe the set-up of the model experiment, give model characteristics, and describe the input emissions. In section 3.1 we will give an evaluation of the current ability of models to calculate wet deposition, with an emphasis on what we can learn from the multimodel approach. Section 3.2 describes how deposition changes in the future, and how this may impact regional and ecosystem specific deposition. In section 4 we present the discussion and concluding remarks. This manuscript is accompanied by auxiliary material¹ containing additional information and analyses.

2. Simulations, Models, and Emissions

[10] Of the 26 models participating in the ACCENT IPCC-AR4 modeling exercise, 23 models labeled A–W, submitted deposition calculations (Table ts01). Some of these models share common modules and/or meteorological input data. In this work, we treat each model with equal weight. One model had a resolution of 1° × 1° in North America, Europe and Asia, 9 models had resolutions between 2° × 2° and 3° × 3°; 12 models had a grid spacing of around 5° × 5°, and one model had a resolution of 23.5° × 10° (longitude × latitude). Of the 23 models, 10 models included the tropospheric sulfur cycle, and 7 models included NH_x chemistry. Up to five simulations were performed by each model (Table 1 and Table 2). S1-B2000 evaluated the reference year 2000, whilst S2-CLE, S3-MFR, and S4-A2 assessed the year 2030. CTMs used the meteorological year 2000. GCMs performed typically 5–10 years of simulations, using a climate appropriate for the time period 1995–2004. To evaluate

the impacts of climate change, an additional simulation (S5-CLE2030c) was computed by 10 of the GCM-driven models, using various projections of climate appropriate for 2030, corresponding to a global mean surface warming of about 0.7K between 2000 and 2030. Global anthropogenic emissions of SO₂ and NO were generated by IIASA, and spatially distributed using the EDGAR3.2 database [Dentener et al., 2005]. NH₃ emissions were calculated using the agricultural and land-use modules of the Earth system model IMAGE2.2 [Eickhout et al., 2004] and spatially distributed using the Bouwman et al. [2002a] global ammonia NH₃ inventory. Only two NH₃ emissions scenarios were generated using the assumptions made regarding economical and agricultural developments in the SRES B2 and A2 scenarios. For simplicity we group the B2 scenario together with the IIASA CLE scenario. Since thus far no realistic MFR analysis for worldwide NH₃ emission reduction potentials has been made, we also used the B2 emissions for our MFR (S3) scenarios, but we do not focus on these results. Ship and aircraft emissions were also included in this study; however, no separate estimate for the MFR and A2 scenario was made. Aircraft emissions followed the IPCC aircraft scenario described by Isaksen et al. [1999]. Ship emissions in all three scenarios included an assumed global increase of 1.5% yr⁻¹ (resulting in a 70% increase by 2030), without assuming improvements of engine performance. A recent evaluation of present and future ship emissions [Eyring et al., 2005] shows large uncertainty in the estimates of current emissions, and a larger possible range of future emissions due to technological developments.

[11] In this exercise we assumed that biomass burning emissions remained constant between 2000 and 2030. We took the CO emissions from the Global Fire Emissions Dataset GFED1.0 [Van der Werf et al., 2003] averaged for the years 1997–2002, and scaled them with the ecosystem specific emissions factors for other components compiled by Andreae and Merlet [2001]. Note here that a recent revision of that database (A. Andreae, personal communication, 2005) indicates lower emissions for NO from savannah fires, which was not included in this work. All models also included natural emissions, for which global source strengths were recommended. However, since models often calculate natural emissions, we did not provide specific emission data sets. Some of the climate models included a (small) feedback of climate on these natural emissions. Probably the only relevant climate-emission feedback included in some models involves lightning,

¹Auxiliary material data sets are available at <ftp://ftp.agu.org/apend/2005gb002672>. Other auxiliary material files are in the HTML.

which we will analyze in section 3.5. In Table 1 we present the global emissions of NO, NH₃, and SO₂, CO and NMVOC for each scenario, while regional and sectoral breakdown of the anthropogenic NO, NH₃, and SO₂ emissions for the year 2000, and the development of the total emissions for the 3 scenarios are presented and discussed in auxiliary Tables ts02, ts03, and ts04.

3. Results

[12] We start in section 3.1 with an evaluation of the ability of the models to calculate current wet deposition. We focus on wet deposition since a fair amount of data are available worldwide. Dry deposition is an equally important process to remove nitrogen and sulfur species. Some observations relevant to derive dry deposition are available in, for example, North America and Africa. However, the analysis of these measurements would involve a careful analysis of aerosol and gas surface concentrations and dry deposition parameterizations in the models and would not have a global coverage. Therefore it is beyond the scope of this manuscript. In section 3.2 and 3.3 we analyze current and future total deposition. Section 3.4 deals with the role of climate change, whereas 3.5 concerns ecosystem specific deposition. Model results of individual models were interpolated to $1^\circ \times 1^\circ$ for further analysis. We calculated per $1^\circ \times 1^\circ$ grid box the mean, median and standard deviation from the individual model results. In the following we call this the “mean” and “median” model. We will show that there is very little difference in the mean and median model results, and in section 3.2 and further we will mainly use the mean model results.

3.1. Evaluation of Current Wet Deposition

[13] We evaluate the annual average wet deposition of all models, and most results pertain to the mean of these models. Results for individual models are available at <http://ccupeople.jrc.it/dentener/index.htm>. For North America we used wet-only deposition measurements for 2000 of the North American Deposition Program (NADP) network available through the internet (<http://nadp.sws.uiuc.edu/>). For Europe we use wet-only deposition measurements for 2000 from EMEP (<http://www.nilu.no/projects/ccc/emepdata.html>). For Africa we use the deposition data from the IDAF (Igac Debites Africa) program (<http://medias.obs-mip.fr/idaf>). Of the eight available stations, four stations had measurements for the year 2000, but only one of them (Niger) had reliable measurements. For the other four stations we included a multiannual average representative for 1996–1999. IDAF data are described in various publications [Galy-Lacaux *et al.*, 2003; Jaeglé *et al.*, 2004]. For East Asia we obtained data from the recently established Acid Deposition Monitoring Network in East Asia [EANET, 2001] for the year 2000. The complete network consists of 46 stations, 9 in China, 10 in and around Japan, 4 in Indonesia, and 1–3 stations in Malaysia, Mongolia, the Philippines, Korea, Asian Russia, Thailand and Vietnam. We selected the regional and remote stations and ignored the data that were reported not to meet EANET quality checks. Some very high SO₄ rain-water concentrations were correlated with high concentrations of Ca. Since a

significant fraction of the CaSO₄ may originate from the dust-source regions [Grassian, 2001], we ignored SO₄ deposition measurements coinciding with calcium deposition larger than $20 \text{ mmolm}^{-2} \text{ yr}^{-1}$. However, we cannot exclude that part of the SO₄ was derived from anthropogenic emissions, mixed with natural dust. We complemented the EANET data with five stations from the IMPACT (Integrated Monitoring program on acidification of terrestrial Ecosystems) network in China for 2001–2003 [Larsen *et al.*, 2004].

[14] For India we used the precipitation chemistry compilation of Kuhlshrestha *et al.* [2005]. The data set spans about 100 stations, of which we used the 50 stations which were characterized as “rural” and “sub-urban.” We discarded “urban” and “industrial” measurements since they are not representative for the coarse resolution models used in this study. Only few stations operated wet-only measurements. Most data apply to the 1995–2000 period. Very few publications reveal their QA procedures. We will see later that our models seriously overestimate measured NH₄ deposition and we can not exclude that in many cases sample degradation may have lead to an underestimate of NH₄ in the measurements.

[15] For South America we used a variety of data for various years described by Dentener and Crutzen [1994] and Whelpdale *et al.* [1997] supplemented with the more recent measurements reported by Filoso *et al.* [1999] and Lara *et al.* [2001]. Altogether we report on South American wet deposition measurements in 17 locations. Given the heterogeneity of data sources, we expect that data quality and representativeness are important issues.

[16] Finally, to evaluate worldwide background deposition, we used the set of 11 stations described in more detail by J. N. Galloway *et al.* (Atmospheric wet deposition in remote regions: Benchmarks for change, manuscript in preparation, 2006). Data covered the period 1980–1999. For this work we made multiannual averages. Measurement locations are mostly background locations on remote islands, Australia and South America.

[17] In Figures 1, 2, and 3 we display scatter plots of the mean model NO₃, NH₄ and SO₄ wet deposition for four networks in Europe, North America, East Asia, and Africa, respectively. The model NO₃ deposition contains the contribution of gas phase HNO₃ and aerosol nitrate (the latter only for the models that included aerosol nitrate). The model SO₄ contains the wet SO₄ and SO₂ deposition (assuming that in the rainwater dissolved SO₂ gets oxidized). Model NH₄ deposition contains the sum of aerosol NH₄ and gas phase NH₃ wet deposition. Similar plots are available at http://ccupeople.jrc.it/dentener/resultsIPCC_meas.htm for all models and all regions under consideration. A summary of the statistical analysis for all regions and the mean/median model is presented in auxiliary Tables ts05, ts06 and ts07 for NO₃, NH₄, and SO₄ deposition, respectively. Figure 1 shows that the mean model convincingly represents NO₃ deposition in Europe, North America and Africa, and East Asia; 70–80% of the mean model results agree within $\pm 50\%$ with the observations. The mean model underestimates NO₃ deposition in South and East Asia, and somewhat overestimates in Africa (auxiliary Table ts05).

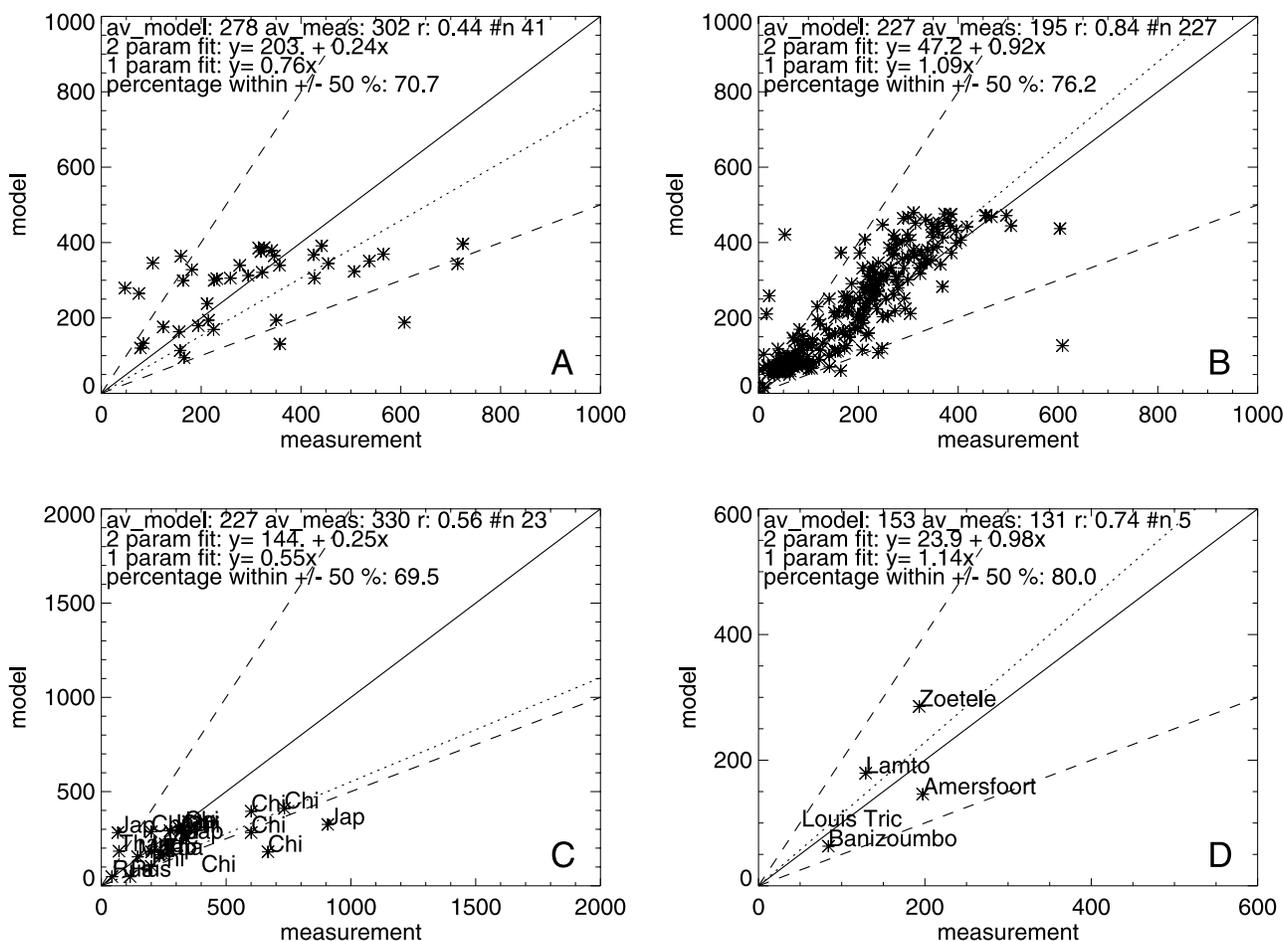


Figure 1. Scatterplots for simulation S1 of nitrate (HNO_3 and aerosol nitrate) wet deposition of the mean model versus measurements for four networks in (a) Europe, (b) North America, (c) East Asia, and (d) Africa. Dashed lines indicate \pm factor 1:2 and 2:1. The dotted line is the result of linear regression fitting through 0.

Also NH_4 is rather well modeled in those four regions (Figure 2); however, in East Asia, NH_4 is somewhat underestimated. In South Asia (India) NH_4 deposition is strongly overestimated by on average $350 \text{ mg(N)m}^{-2} \text{ yr}^{-1}$ (auxiliary Table ts06). This overestimate could be simply related to an overestimate of the highly uncertain NH_3 emissions in India. Alternatively, the measured NH_4 could be underestimated owing to biological degradation of unstabilized samples. An additional likely explanation for the underestimate is the interaction of dust and sulfate which may neutralize sulfate and reduce the ammonium sulfate formation.

[18] This important aerosol interaction was not included in the models participating in this exercise. Good agreement is found for SO_4 deposition in North America, Europe and Africa (Figure 3), but not for Southeast and East Asia. The disagreement would be even larger had we used the SO_4 deposition fluxes in high dust deposition regions. A possible explanation could be that the sulfur emission factors for coal burning in China are too low, and/or unaccounted sources from small industrial activities. Note that SO_2 emissions in China in this study are higher by 40% compared to the widely used TRACE-P inventory for 2000 [Streets *et al.*, 2003].

[19] The question now arises as to how representative the mean or median model are for the set of model simulations in our study. To answer this question we display in Figure 4 and auxiliary Figures fs02 and fs03 the spatial correlation coefficient (“r”) of the annual wet deposition of all models and measurements and their spatial standard deviation for NO_y , SO_x , and NH_x for the four networks in Europe, North America, East Asia, and Africa. In our study we used standard deviation defined as

$$sd = \sqrt{\frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \text{mean}(x))^2}{n-1}}. \quad (1)$$

These so-called Taylor [2001] plots then give the “best” model as the shortest distance to the observation. The mean represents the region average of the annual deposition at n stations. The best agreement between modeled and measured NO_3 wet deposition is found in North America (Figure 4), corresponding to spatial correlation coefficients of around 0.8 and spatial standard deviations of models similar to those measured. The correlation in Europe (EMEP) is for most models around 0.6, with an under-

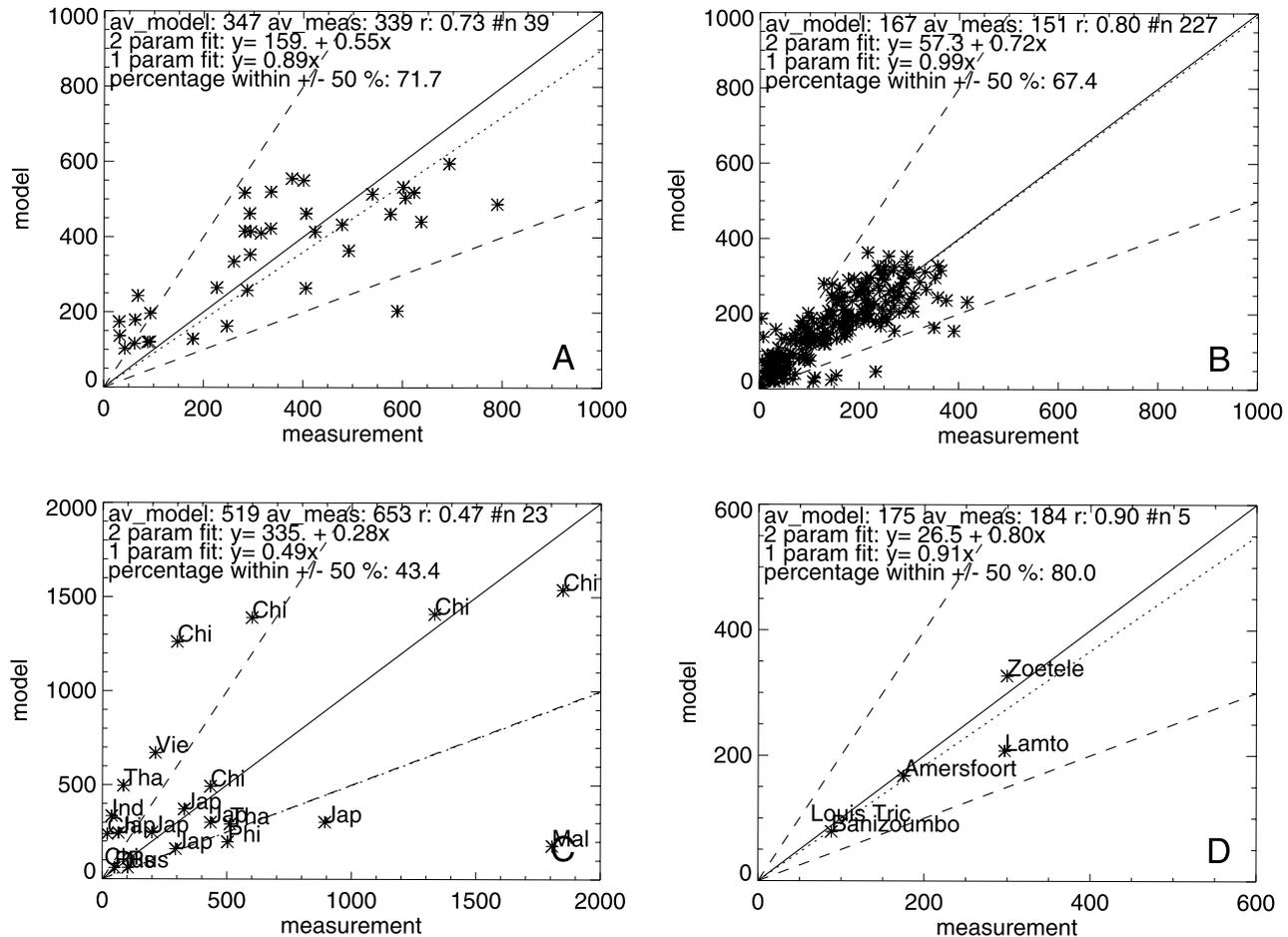


Figure 2. As in Figure 1 for ammonium wet deposition.

estimate of spatial variability in most models, except for those with relatively high spatial resolutions (e.g., A, B, T and U; for model codes see auxiliary Table S1). This result is remarkably better than found by *Lamarque et al.* [2005], who report correlation coefficients of 0.2–0.4. We explain the difference from the fact that in this study we used an up-to-date emission dataset for the year 2000, whereas in the *Lamarque et al.* [2005] study, older emission data sets were used. In Southeast Asia (EANET) and Africa spatial correlations are generally between 0.4 and 0.6, together with an underestimate of measured spatial variability. The “mean” and “median” models are generally among the best of the set model simulations, but never superior to the best single model result for a specific region. Auxiliary Figure fs02 shows that the model-and measurement deviations of the short-lived component NH_x is generally larger than those of NO_3 with a high correlation in Europe and North America and, as expected, an underestimate of the spatial variability. For SO_4 in North America, Europe and Africa (auxiliary Figure fs03) we see a similar picture, along with the strong underestimate of calculated SO_4 deposition by all models in East Asia. No single model could represent the measurements and underestimates of wet SO_4 deposition were found throughout Asia, which strongly indicates shortcomings in the SO_2 emissions estimates.

[20] In Figures 5a–5c we present a synthesis of worldwide modeled and measured wet deposition, by averaging all measurements that were obtained in a 10° longitude \times 5° latitude region and plotting it on the calculated deposition. This presentation highlights that the worldwide deposition patterns of NO_3 , NH_4 , and SO_x are well represented in our mean model. In general modeled NO_3 deposition agrees within $\pm 100 \text{ mg(N)m}^{-2} \text{ yr}^{-1}$ with measurements. The deviations of NH_4 deposition with measurements in South Asia (India) is apparent in Figure 5b, but otherwise NH_4 deposition agrees relatively well with observations. The modeled and measured SO_4 deposition seems fairly consistent. However, as indicated before, there are serious model underestimates of SO_4 deposition in Asia, which are not obvious in Figure 5c.

3.2. Present Deposition

[21] Whereas in the previous section we evaluated the wet deposition calculations, in this section we focus on the total (wet + dry) deposition of NO_y , NH_x , SO_x , and total reactive nitrogen Nr for the present and future scenarios.

3.2.1. Global Budgets of NO_y , NH_x , and SO_x Deposition

[22] A comparison of the global deposition budgets for the individual models is presented in auxiliary Figure fs05.

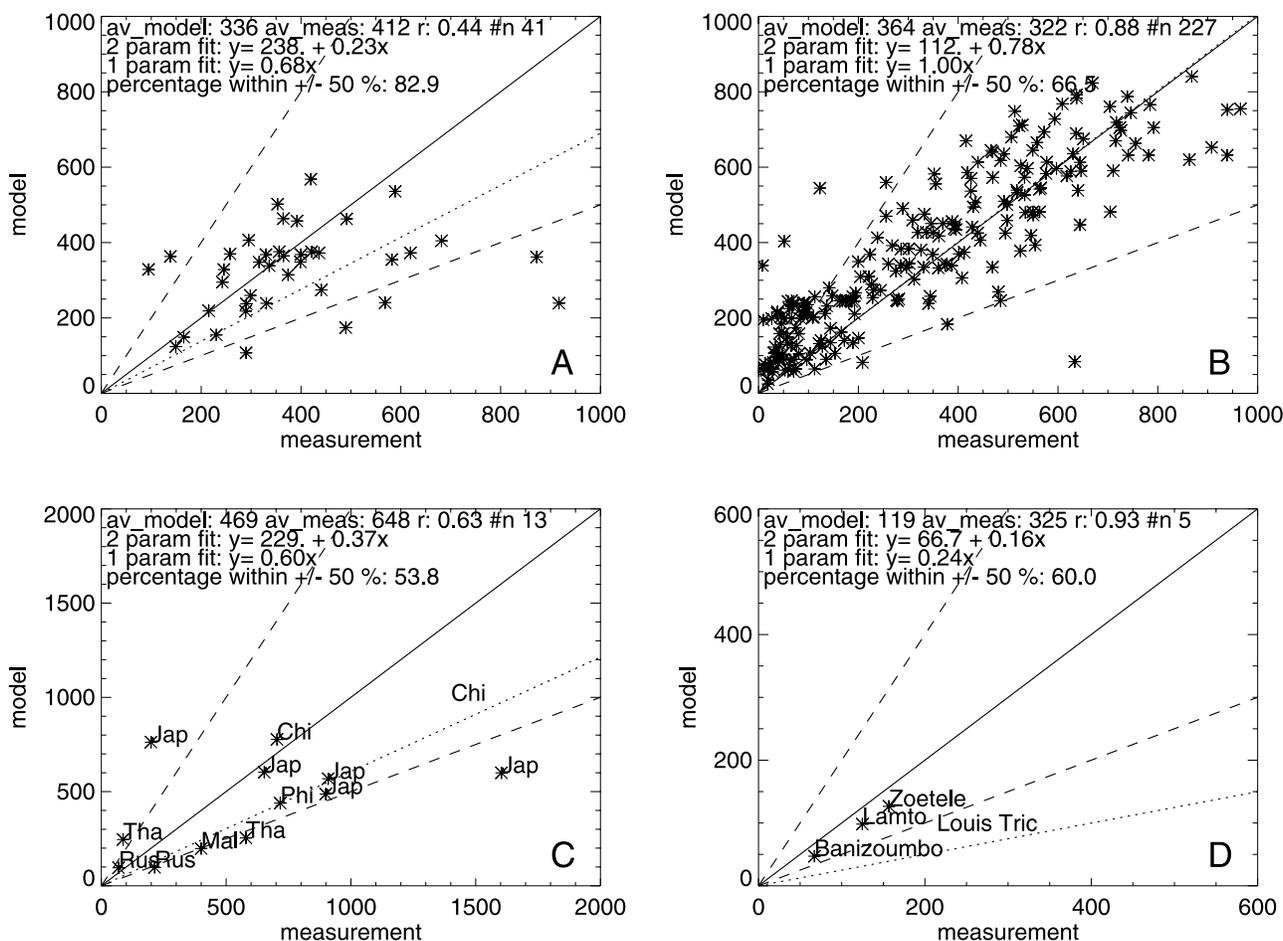


Figure 3. As in Figure 1 for sulfate wet deposition.

The spread ($\pm 1\sigma$) of about 6%, 8%, and 10% in the total global model deposition of NO_y , NH_x , and SO_x , respectively, gives an indication of the global variability of natural emissions among models. We note here that although we gave recommendations on the source strength of natural emissions, most models used their own parameterizations to calculate, for example, oceanic DMS, lightning, and soil NO_x emissions. To gain insight into the relative importance of dry and wet deposition in our calculations we present in auxiliary Figure fs06 for all models the ratio of global wet to total NO_y , NH_x , and SO_x deposition, respectively. The relative importance of wet and dry deposition for removal of NO_y varies significantly among models. Globally, between 40% and 70% of NO_y (auxiliary Figure fs06a) is removed by wet deposition. The models are remarkably consistent regarding the importance of gaseous HNO_3 and aerosol- NO_3 deposition, accounting for 80–90% of all NO_y deposition (auxiliary Figure fs06b). The remainder is deposition of NO_2 and organic nitrates. For NH_x (auxiliary Figure fs06c) the fraction of wet deposition ranges hugely among models, from less than 40% to more than 80%. The assumptions used in various models regarding the NH_3 dry deposition velocity, and the atmospheric chemistry of NH_4 formation, are causing these differences. Also, model mixing characteristics and resolution are

likely to be important for the NH_x budget. Finally, relatively consistent among models, wet deposition contributes between 50 and 70% to the total global SO_x deposition.

[23] There are small differences in the ratio of wet to total deposition for scenarios S2–S5; for instance, most models predict a larger fraction of NO_y removed by wet deposition in scenario S3-MFR compared to S1-B2000 and a somewhat lower fraction when comparing S4-A1 and S1-B2000. These changes in the global budgets can be explained by the dissimilar interaction of emissions, chemistry, and meteorology in various parts of the world contributing differently in the various scenarios. Note that meteorology (e.g., precipitation) in simulations S1–S4 was prescribed so that the wet and dry removal rates were unchanged in simulations S1–S4. Differences in the global removal processes of S5-CLEc and S2-CLE are also small and will be further discussed in section 3.4.

[24] How different are the models results on regional scales and what is the role of model resolution? To illustrate this we present in Figures 6a–6c the calculated wet, dry and total NO_y deposition [$\text{Tg}(\text{N})\text{yr}^{-1}$] of all models over the eastern part of Asia (20°N – 45°N ; 110°E – 130°E), separating the deposition over land and over sea. We assume here that to a large extent the eastern Asian budget is closed meaning that the emissions over eastern Asia should be

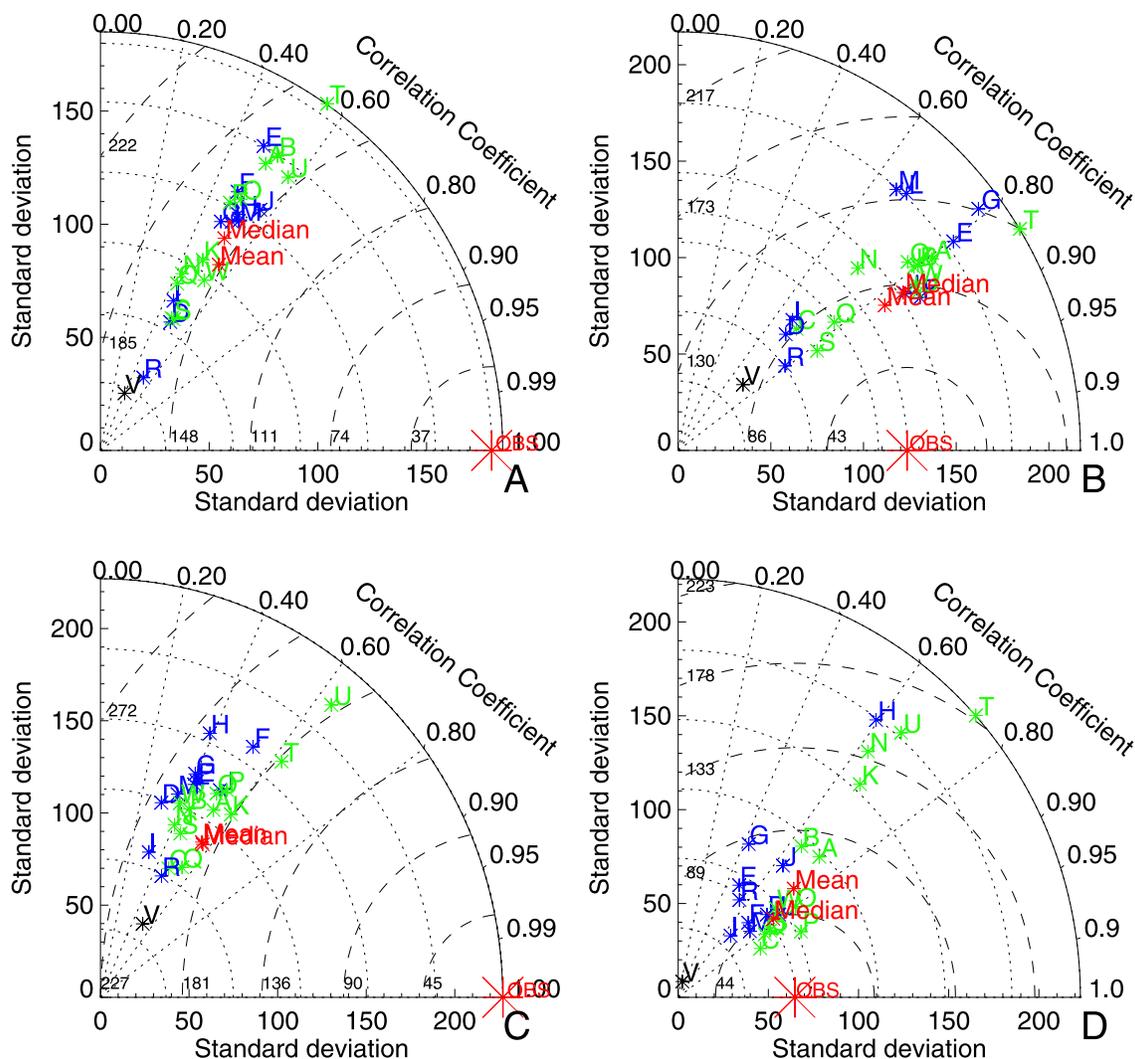


Figure 4. Taylor plots of correlation of modeled and measured NO_3 (HNO_3 and aerosol nitrate) wet deposition, and standard deviation of the model and measurements for four networks: (a) EMEP, Europe, (b) NADP, North America, (c) EAnet Asia, and (d) IDAF/DEBITS, Africa. Models indicated in green have resolution between $1^\circ \times 1^\circ$ and $3^\circ \times 4^\circ$; models in blue have resolutions around $4^\circ \times 5^\circ$. OBS (large red cross) indicates the mean of the observations. The horizontal and vertical axes give the standard deviation; the curved axis gives the correlation coefficient. The distance of a model to the observation is a measure of the root-mean-square error. Similar diagrams for NH_x and SO_4 deposition and model labels are found in the auxiliary material.

either deposited over land or exported to and deposited into the adjacent ocean. Surprisingly, the wet and total deposition over land shows a larger variability (standard deviation $\sigma = 20\%$) than over sea ($\sigma = 11\%$). Nevertheless, the total deposition taken from single models may differ by up to 30% from the mean model. Unfortunately, our study cannot resolve which individual model process (or resolution) caused the difference in calculated deposition, but it is not likely that resolution alone would cause these differences. For example the higher resolution models TM5 ($1^\circ \times 1^\circ$ over Asia), and CHASER ($2.8^\circ \times 2.8^\circ$) do not show obviously different deposition distributions over land and ocean than the mean model.

3.2.2. Total Deposition

[25] In Figures 7a–7c we present the mean, absolute and relative standard deviations of the present (S1-B2000) modeled NO_y total deposition. The mean regions of high deposition are North America, western and eastern Europe, and East Asia. Despite large differences in model resolutions, chemistry parameterizations, and wet and dry removal processes, the variability ($\pm 1 \sigma$) of the model results in the source regions is relatively small compared to the absolute deposition (20–30%). Larger relative variations (100% and more) in NO_y deposition are found over the poles, oceans and in some tropical regions. Note, however, that the absolute deposition is small in these

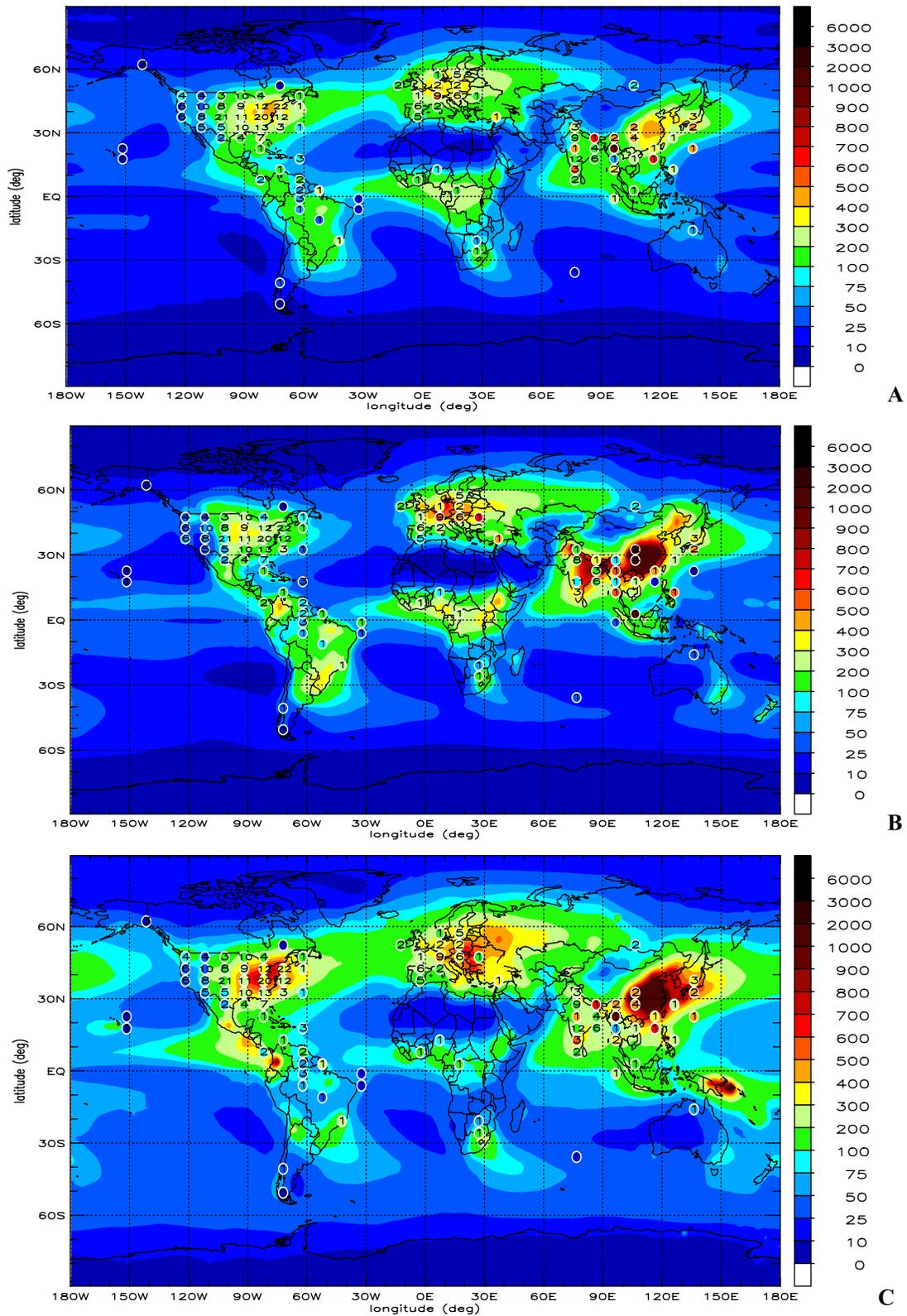


Figure 5. Annual (a) NO_3 (HNO_3 and aerosol nitrate), (b) NH_x wet deposition, and (c) SO_4 wet deposition for simulation S1 along with measurements grouped in 5° latitude and 10° longitude. The numbers within the circles indicate the number of stations in this latitude/longitude band.

regions. In Figures 8a–8c we present the corresponding total deposition fields for NH_x , SO_x , and reactive Nitrogen (Nr) for S1-B2000. The largest total deposition of NH_x is found over Europe, India and East Asia. SO_x deposition dominates over North America, Europe and East Asia. Nr deposition is above the $1 \text{ gm}^{-2} \text{ yr}^{-1}$ level in extended parts of North America, Europe and Russia, Africa, South and East Asia. We further discuss the consequences for natural ecosystems in section 3.5.

3.3. Future Deposition: Scenario Results

[26] In Figures 9a–9c, 10a and 10b we present scenario results for the mean model of NO_y and Nr for scenarios S2-CLE, S3-MFR and S4-A2 respectively; the corresponding figures for NH_x and SO_x are presented in auxiliary Figures fs07 and fs08. For CLE in Europe and parts of Russia the NO_y deposition (Figure 9) decreases by 10–50% ($100\text{--}250 \text{ mg(N) m}^{-2} \text{ yr}^{-1}$). In North America, South and East Asia, NO_y deposition further increases by 10–100% ($100\text{--}500 \text{ mg(N) m}^{-2} \text{ yr}^{-1}$). In contrast, NO_y deposition decreases by 30–70% ($100\text{--}500 \text{ mg(N) m}^{-2} \text{ yr}^{-1}$) for MFR over the continents. Note that the increase of NO_y deposition over the Atlantic Ocean is related to ship emissions for which in all cases we assumed a CLE scenario (see section 2). Finally, NO_y deposition increases by 50% in North America and Europe and up to a factor of 4 in South America, Africa and Asia, corresponding to an increase of $500\text{--}2000 \text{ mg(N) m}^{-2} \text{ yr}^{-1}$ worldwide assuming the A2 scenario. The high increase over northern Siberia is due to inconsistencies in the assumed industrial activities between the SRES A2 scenario and the year 2000 S1 emissions; a similar situation may apply for the almost unchanged deposition over Australia. In both cases the absolute amounts of NO_y deposition are rather small.

[27] NH_x deposition in 2030 (auxiliary Figure fs07) decreases by 20–30% ($100\text{--}250 \text{ mg(N) m}^{-2} \text{ yr}^{-1}$) in Europe and Australia for CLE. In North and South America NH_x deposition increases by 5–20%, and in Africa and Asia by 50–100%, corresponding to increases by up to $1000 \text{ mg(N) m}^{-2} \text{ yr}^{-1}$. Instead, the results for the A2 scenario indicate a small further increase by 10% of NH_x deposition over Europe. The smaller increase of NH_x deposition over India of A2 (20%) compared to CLE (50%) is caused by the smaller emissions of NH_3 in A2 in that region than in CLE (B2). This counterintuitive result for India can be explained from the relatively small increase in population in the 2030 A2 scenario compared to present. In contrast, in the B2 scenario fewer people consume a more protein-rich diet, associated with the need for more arable land and more intensive agriculture. We further remark here that only two models provided NH_x deposition for the S4-A2 scenario, making the averaged results less robust.

[28] SO_x deposition in 2030 (auxiliary Figures fs08a–8c) decreases strongly in middle Europe (50%), and moderately in the surrounding European countries, in North and Central America, Australia, and Japan (20–50%) due to current legislation measures (S2-CLE). Also, northern Africa, in the outflow of Europe, profits from emission reductions in eastern Europe. In contrast, very strong increases of more

than 50% ($1000 \text{ mg(S) m}^{-2} \text{ yr}^{-1}$) are foreseen for India and other parts of Asia and South America. In contrast, for the MFR scenario SO_x deposition will strongly reduce by 50–80% in North America, Europe, and East Asia. Even the pessimistic SRES A2 scenarios assumed some SO_2 emission controls in North America and Europe resulting in decreased deposition by 50%, whereas SO_x deposition in South America, Africa, South and East Asia would strongly increase by more than a factor of 2.

[29] Finally we present in Figures 10a and 10b the change in Nr deposition considering CLE and A2. Except for Europe and Australia, for CLE nitrogen loads in 2030 would further increase by 20–100% (up to $2000 \text{ mg(N) m}^{-2} \text{ yr}^{-1}$ in South Asia). For A2 deposition on the continents would increase worldwide by 50–100%, with the largest absolute increases of up to $2 \text{ g(N) m}^{-2} \text{ yr}^{-1}$ over East and South Asia.

3.4. Role of Climate Change

[30] How can climate change influence these deposition patterns? Climate feedbacks on deposition may occur through changes in meteorology (hydrological cycle, circulations patterns), atmospheric chemistry (oxidation capacity which is important for secondary aerosol formation), and emissions of nitrate, ammonium and sulfate precursors. In auxiliary Figures fs09a and fs09b we evaluate for five models the mean changes of deposition due to climate change by comparing S5 and S2.

[31] Both for NO_y and SO_x deposition the effects are relatively small compared to the predicted changes in the emissions, similar to what is reported by *Lamarque et al.* [2005]. The mean model (using results from the five models) indicates a slight increase of 0.6% in total NO_y deposition due to climate change to be compared to an increase of 11% due to emission changes in the CLE scenario (S2-S1). Regionally, differences may amount to 20%. All five models suggest increased precipitation, inducing an increase in wet and total NO_y deposition, while the sign of the changes in global dry NO_y deposition varies among the models. The largest effects are seen in the tropics where in most models climate change intensified the monsoon circulation. Another potential impact of climate change could be through changes in lightning emissions. Global lightning NO_x emissions increase by 10% at most in the S5 simulations (only two models provided results), with most of the changes occurring in the tropics. We mention here also the possibility of a change of NO_y influx from the stratosphere into the troposphere; in our study we did not quantify this influx, but we estimate the effect to be small. However, it is unclear to what extent this increase translates into changes in NO_y deposition.

3.5. Deposition on Continents, Coastal Shelves, and Ecosystems

[32] Auxiliary Tables ts08, ts09, and ts10 present the mean, median and the standard deviation of the calculated deposition using the IMAGE2 world region definition (see auxiliary Figure fs01) for the year 2000. On the basis of these tables we compare in auxiliary Figure fs06 the

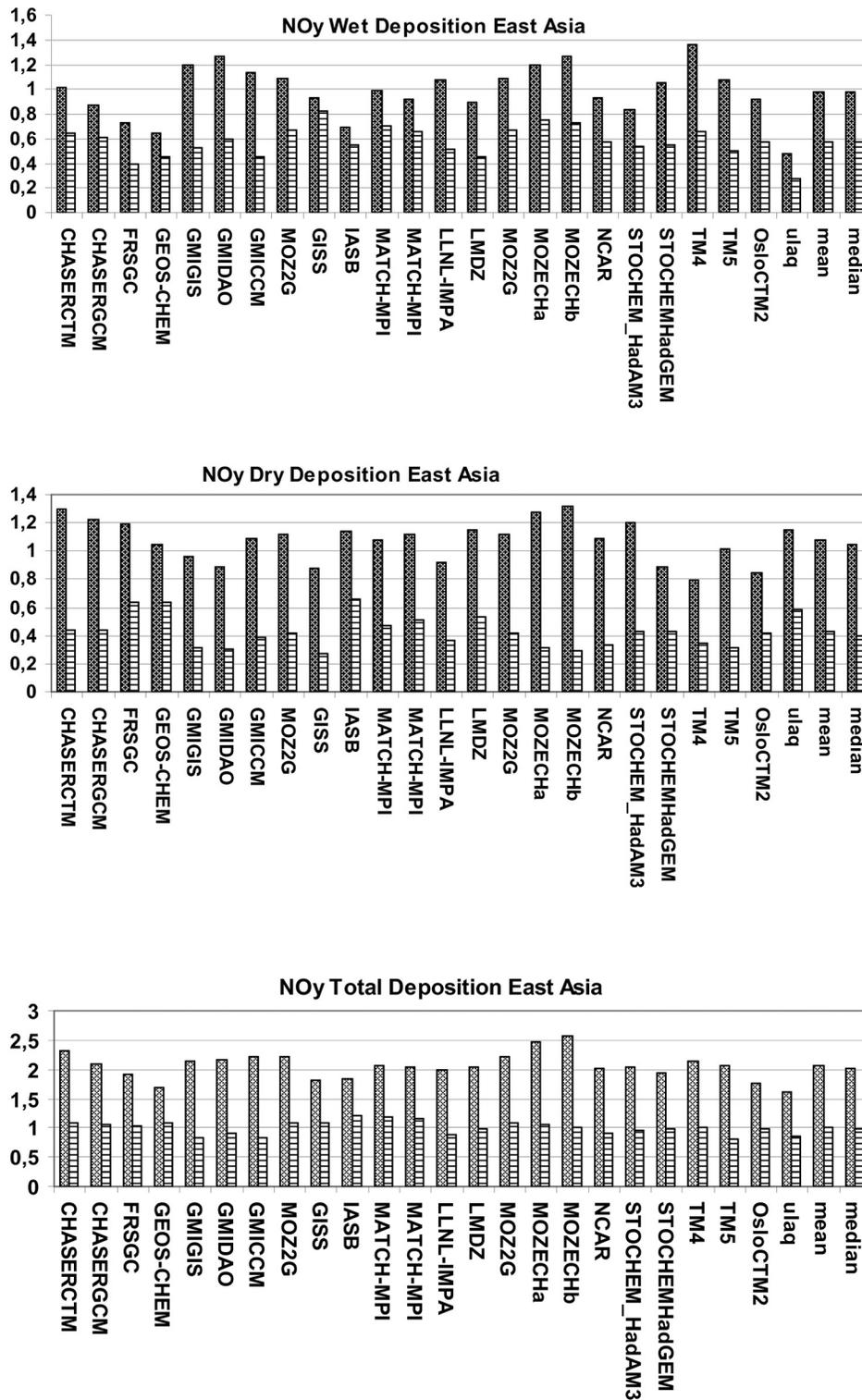


Figure 6. Analysis of the annual NO_y deposition budgets (Tg (N) yr^{-1}) for simulation S1 over East Asia ($20^\circ\text{N}–45^\circ\text{N}$; $110^\circ\text{E}–130^\circ\text{E}$) analyzing the deposition over land and sea for individual models (a) NO_y wet deposition, (b) NO_y dry deposition, and (c) NO_y total deposition. Left bars denote land; right bars denote ocean.

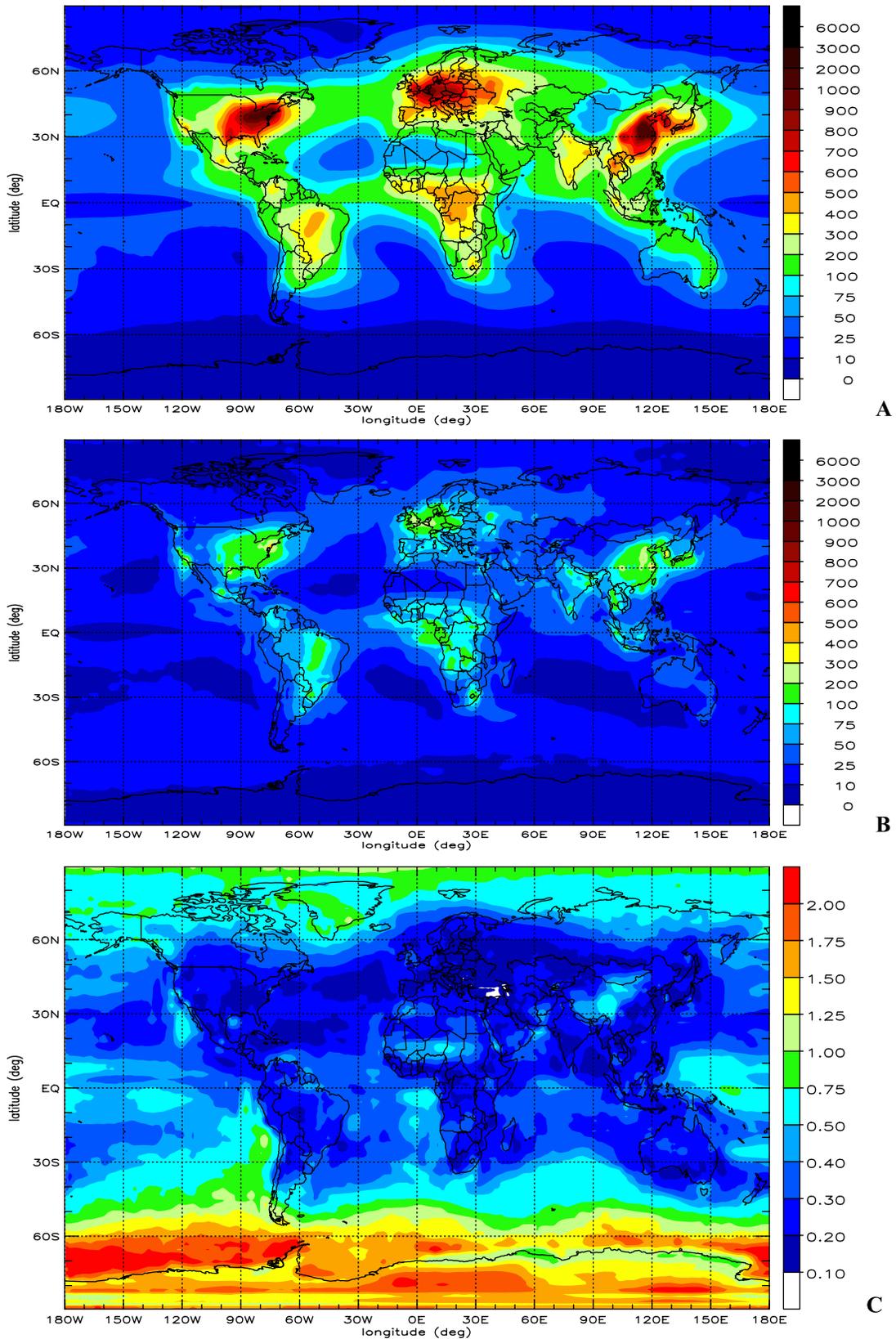


Figure 7. (a) Total annual deposition of NO_y ($\text{mg(N)m}^{-2} \text{yr}^{-1}$) for the mean model; (b) absolute standard deviation ($\text{mg(N)m}^{-2} \text{yr}^{-1}$) of the NO_y deposition, and (c) relative standard deviation of the mean NO_y deposition for simulation S1.

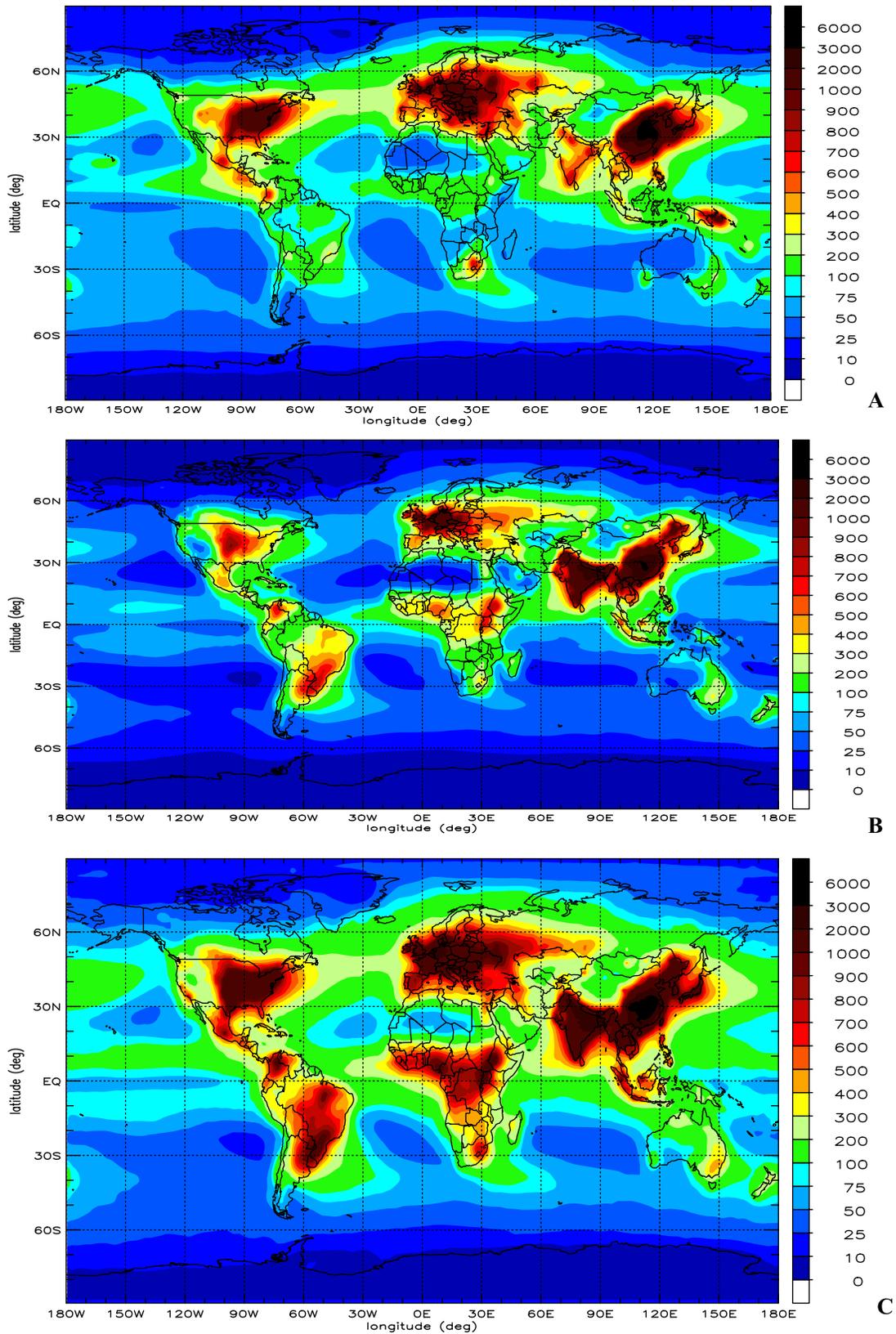


Figure 8. (a) Total deposition ($\text{mg(S)m}^{-2}\text{yr}^{-1}$) of SO_x , (b) total deposition ($\text{mg(N)m}^{-2}\text{yr}^{-1}$) of NH_x , and (c) total deposition ($\text{mg(N)m}^{-2}\text{yr}^{-1}$) of Nr for year 2000.

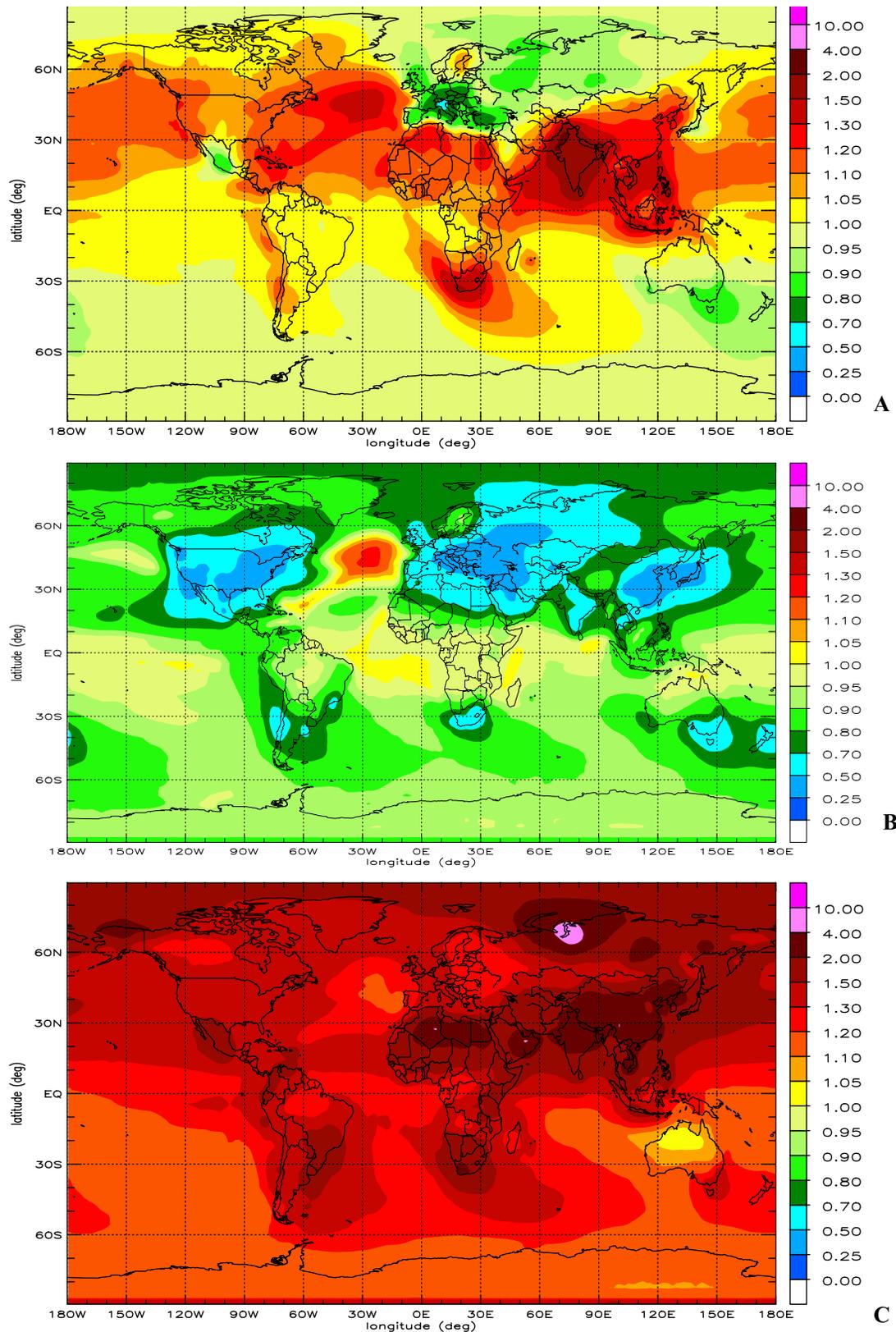


Figure 9. a: Ratio of total deposition of NO_y of the mean model for scenario (a) S2 CLE compared to base simulation S1 (B2000), (b) S3/MFR compared to S1, and (c) S4/A2 compared to S1.

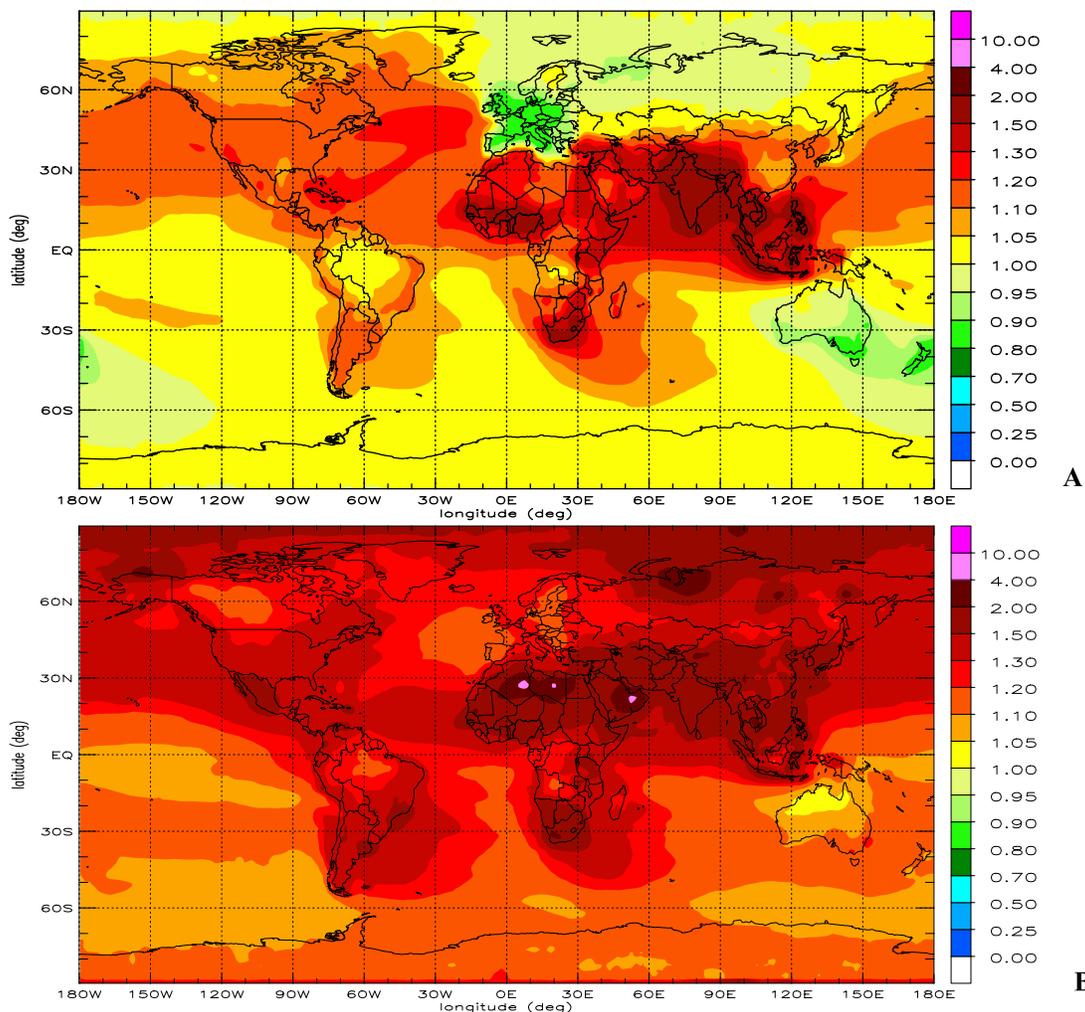


Figure 10. a: Ratio of total deposition of reactive Nr of the mean model for scenario (a) S2/CLE compared to base simulation S1 (B2000) and (b) S4/A2 compared to S1.

corresponding anthropogenic emission and deposition fluxes to evaluate regional balance of nitrogen and sulfur import and export. The regions with largest average NO_y deposition are the United States, western (OECD) and eastern Europe and Japan. These regions are also large net exporters of NO_y . Oceans receive $22.6 \text{ Tg(N)yr}^{-1}$ of which the coastal shelves 3.7 Tg(N)yr^{-1} , representing 43% and 7.5% of all NO_x emissions. This fraction of NO_y deposition over the oceans is substantially different from the previous estimate by Lamarque *et al.* [2005] amounting to 30%. The difference is due to a different set of models in the latter study, and the fact that their model results were gridded to T30 resolution and associated with a similar land-sea mask. In contrast the calculations in this paper were all performed on $1^\circ \times 1^\circ$ resolution. For NH_x the regions exposed to deposition larger than $300 \text{ mg(N)m}^{-2} \text{ yr}^{-1}$ are South America, OECD and east Europe, and all regions in Asia. Oceanic receive 23.5 Tg(N)/yr of which coastal regions 4.0 Tg(N)/yr , corresponding to 37% and 6% of all emissions, respectively. Note that oceans are thought to be a NH_3 source of

$4\text{--}8 \text{ Tg(N)yr}^{-1}$ [Bouwman *et al.*, 1997; Galloway *et al.*, 2004]; a small fraction of these emissions are transported to the continents. Large net exporters of NH_x are Europe and Asia. Regions with largest SO_x deposition are the United States, Europe, East Asia and Japan. The largest exporters of SO_x are the USA, eastern Europe, Middle East, and South and East Asia. Interestingly, in contrast to NO_y and NH_x , Japan receives almost equal amounts of SO_x compared to the emitted amounts; this is due to the vicinity of sulfur emitting volcanoes, as well as transport of sulfate from China.

[33] We use the 23 classes of the global land cover data set GLC 2000 (<http://www-gvm.jrc.it/glc2000>), which used an underlying resolution of $1 \text{ km} \times 1 \text{ km}$, to classify vegetation on a $1^\circ \times 1^\circ$ resolution in four groups: natural (nonagricultural) vegetation, agricultural and urbanized land use types, bare soils and deserts, and water bodies (including oceans). This grid matches the resolution of the interpolated model results.

[34] Figures 11a–11c presents an analysis of the fraction of the continental NO_y , NH_x and SO_x deposition on these

Table 2. NO_y, NH_x and SO_x Deposition for the Four Scenarios per Region^a

Scenario Region	S1 NO _y	S2 NO _y	S3 NO _y	S4 NO _y	S1 NH _x	S2 NH _x	S4 NH _x	S1 SO _x	S2 SO _x	S3 SO _x	S4 SO _x
Canada	83.8	93.0	↓48.8	↑117.2	79.6	86.9	98.1	119.6	115.3	↓43.0	↓87.7
USA	386.5	425.2	↓177.5	↑542.4	297.0	321.0	↑375.9	557.4	521.8	↓119.5	↓405.9
C. America	219.9	218.0	↓135.5	↑353.2	248.0	325.6	↑366.9	335.3	↓230.5	↓138.6	↓596.4
S. America	218.9	223.2	194.7	↑311.8	300.9	↑342.5	↑400.7	139.0	152.7	113.7	↑301.9
N. Africa	113.2	134.4	↓74.3	↑230.1	74.1	89.9	↑98.6	130.5	↓118.5	↓65.0	↑246.5
W. Africa	261.0	281.2	249.2	↑368.7	239.9	369.0	↑373.3	92.4	94.0	↓62.6	↑229.1
E. Africa	169.0	188.5	157.0	↑262.5	289.0	↑413.0	↑408.8	99.9	105.8	↓60.9	↑217.0
S. Africa	236.6	266.1	216.7	↑363.8	169.6	↑240.0	↑226.5	131.5	136.0	↓55.7	↑476.7
OECD Europe	465.7	392.7	↓280.1	↑619.8	537.1	↓462.2	540.2	580.1	↓402.9	↓272.3	↓435.5
E. Europe	618.5	485.0	↓278.8	761.4	705.3	659.7	712.0	1358.8	↓643.9	↓290.7	1383.4
Former USSR	146.4	137.8	↓79.9	↑216.7	164.0	176.4	197.9	272.2	↓169.9	↓67.8	304.1
Middle East	192.7	193.2	↓100.3	↑355.6	160.5	↑260.0	↑294.9	311.0	↓185.0	↓68.8	↑577.9
South Asia	262.5	↑455.6	↓180.2	↑569.3	1108.3	↑1855.6	↑1474.7	411.9	↑1045.7	↓182.0	↑1502.7
East Asia	300.1	370.9	↓151.2	↑666.4	741.8	795.9	869.9	858.0	910.9	↓214.5	↑1344.0
S. East Asia	254.8	↑326.6	↓193.2	↑428.8	478.3	↑819.6	↑761.8	301.8	↑484.3	↓174.5	↑877.2
Oceania	87.5	85.2	76.5	97.7	92.3	91.0	98.5	99.5	98.5	↓68.8	102.4
Japan	433.8	430.8	↓184.0	↑712.4	434.5	481.5	↑569.5	794.7	776.2	↓390.4	↑1577.3
Greenland	17.7	18.9	15.6	↑25.7	9.6	11.8	↑15.8	24.8	23.2	↓15.7	24.1
Ocean	60.7	68.0	48.1	↑86.6	62.9	75.3	↑84.1	112.1	120.9	↓82.0	↑165.0
NH	150.4	169.0	101.0	↑239.1	188.9	240.8	↑252.2	248.0	256.1	↓114.1	↑374.8
SH	53.9	56.7	48.1	↑71.5	63.9	72.6	↑80.1	71.9	75.1	61.9	↑115.0
World	102.2	112.9	↓74.5	↑155.3	126.4	156.7	↑166.2	160.0	165.6	↓88.0	↑244.9

^aUnits are mg(N/S)m⁻²year⁻¹. Changes of more than ±25% compared to the reference simulation S1 are indicated with an arrow up or down.

four surface types (see Table 2). In most regions the largest fraction (50–70%) of NO_y, NH_x and SO_x deposition falls on natural vegetation. Exceptions are northern Africa and the Middle East, where deserts receive most deposition, and eastern Europe where most deposition is on agricultural regions. Worldwide in the year 2000, about 42% of all NO_y is deposited on natural vegetation, 12% on agricultural and urbanized regions, a few percent on deserts (consistent with auxiliary Tables ts08–ts10), and the remainder on water bodies. Rather similar numbers are found for NH_x: 40%, 18% and 38%. In contrast, a large fraction of sulfate deposition takes place over the ocean (53%) This is related to the relatively large contribution of natural DMS and volcanic emissions to the sulfur budget; 32% and 12% of the SO_x deposition is on natural vegetation and urban/agricultural land, respectively.

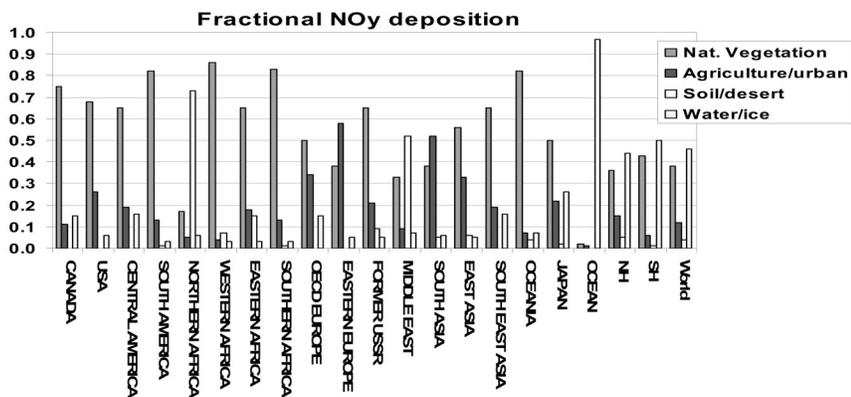
[35] In Figure 12a we give the fraction of the natural vegetation that receives nitrogen deposition above a threshold level of 1 g(N)m⁻² yr⁻¹. In sensitive ecosystems above this threshold changes in ecosystem functioning may occur [Bobbink *et al.*, 1998; Bouwman *et al.*, 2002b], a concept known as “critical nitrogen load.” According to our calculations 10% of the world’s natural vegetation is currently exposed to nitrogen deposition above this critical nitrogen load, a number which may further increase to 15% assuming CLE, and 20% for A2. For MFR, for which we did not have a separate NH₃ emission scenario, the decreased NO_y deposition is compensated by increased NH_x deposition. More than 20% of the natural vegetation in the United States, Europe, and Asia (including Japan) receives atmospheric nitrogen deposition in excess of 1 g(N)m⁻² yr⁻¹. Whereas for S2-CLE this exceedance slightly decreases in Europe, it further increases in Asia. For the CLE scenario parts of Africa will become exposed to excess nitrogen loads. For S4-A2 nitrogen deposition are in excess of 1 g(N)m⁻² yr⁻¹ for large fractions of almost all world regions corresponding to a worldwide increase of 150%.

We note that in the previous analysis we assumed that future land use would be similar to that in the year 2000.

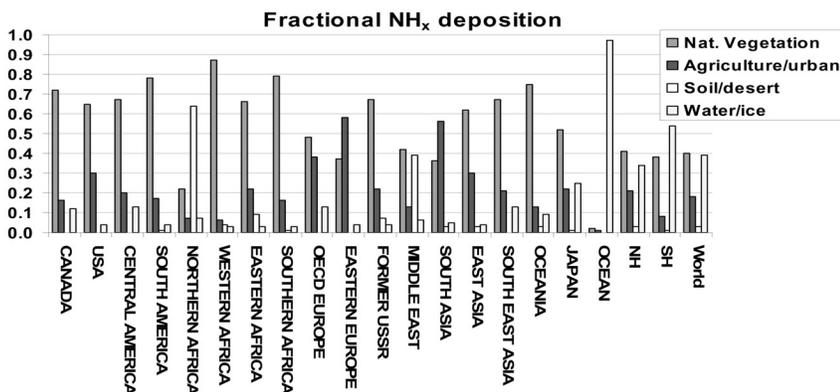
[36] We finish with a qualitative assessment of the importance of a multimodel analysis for nitrogen deposition. *Phoenix et al.* [2006] use the ecosystem biodiversity hotspot map of *Myers et al.* [2000] to calculate the threat of N deposition to biodiversity at the global scale; they find that currently 8 of 25 hotspots receive nitrogen deposition above the 1 gm⁻² yr⁻¹ threshold. Their analysis was based on the results of a single model (TM3). Since these hotspots are often located at a distance of 500–1000 km from emission regions, it is interesting to analyze how different models predict the long-range transport and deposition of nitrogen components to these sensitive regions. We choose from these hotspots (e.g., Brazilian Atlantic Forest) a single 1° × 1° model grid (e.g., 23°S–135°W) and determined the minimum, mean, and maximum of Nr deposition. Figure 12b shows that at these hotspots the model spread of Nr deposition is of the order of 50%. At some locations the spread of the ensemble model calculation is larger than the predicted increase for the future scenarios; this is important in the context of the threshold based estimates of ecosystem vulnerability.

4. Discussion and Conclusions

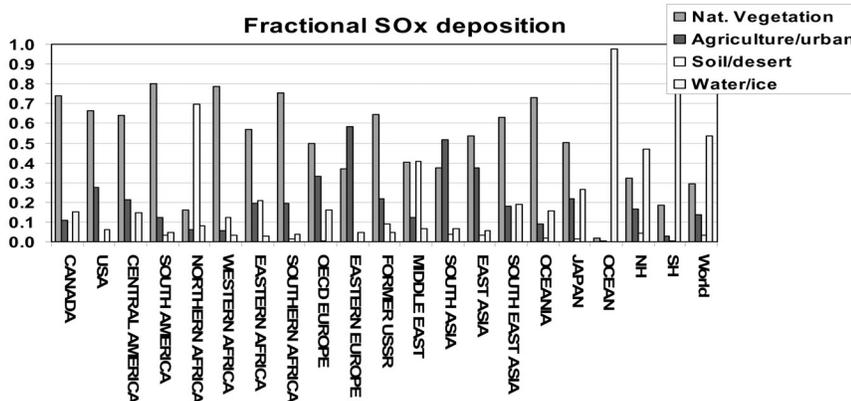
[37] We compute current and future deposition of reactive nitrogen (NO_y and NH_x) and sulfate to land and ocean surfaces using a 23-member ensemble of models. The models are driven by three different emission scenarios for the year 2030. The first (CLE) reflects worldwide currently decided air quality legislation, while the second (MFR) represents an optimistic case assuming that all technology currently available would be used to achieve all possible emissions reductions. However, it does not consider progressive energy use scenarios, or for instance a substantial fuel shift toward hydrogen, which may have similar (or even better) effects on reducing emissions than



A



B



C

Figure 11. Fraction of deposition on natural vegetation, agricultural/urban surfaces, soils desert, and water for the year 2000 for (a) NO_y, (b) NH_x, or (c) SO_x.

MFR. We contrast these scenarios with the pessimistic IPCC SRES A2 scenario. An extensive discussion on the use of these scenarios was given by Dentener *et al.* [2005]. The actual development of emissions in the next decades will critically depend on whether and to what extent emission regulations will be implemented.

[38] This study also included an evaluation of the role of reduced nitrogen NH₃ emissions. Much less is known about current and future developments of worldwide NH₃ emissions [Bouwman *et al.*, 2002a, 1997; Dentener and Crutzen,

1994]. Often emission factors in developing countries are derived by simple adaptation or scaling of factors from Europe and North America. Future scenarios may profit from better knowledge of emission factors in developing countries, and of the anticipated development of the global food production system. Linking future emissions to FAO projections regarding anticipated increase in population and food demand would be desirable. In this study we did not consider a separate MFR scenario for NH₃, since a serious evaluation of the potential to reduce NH₃ emissions was

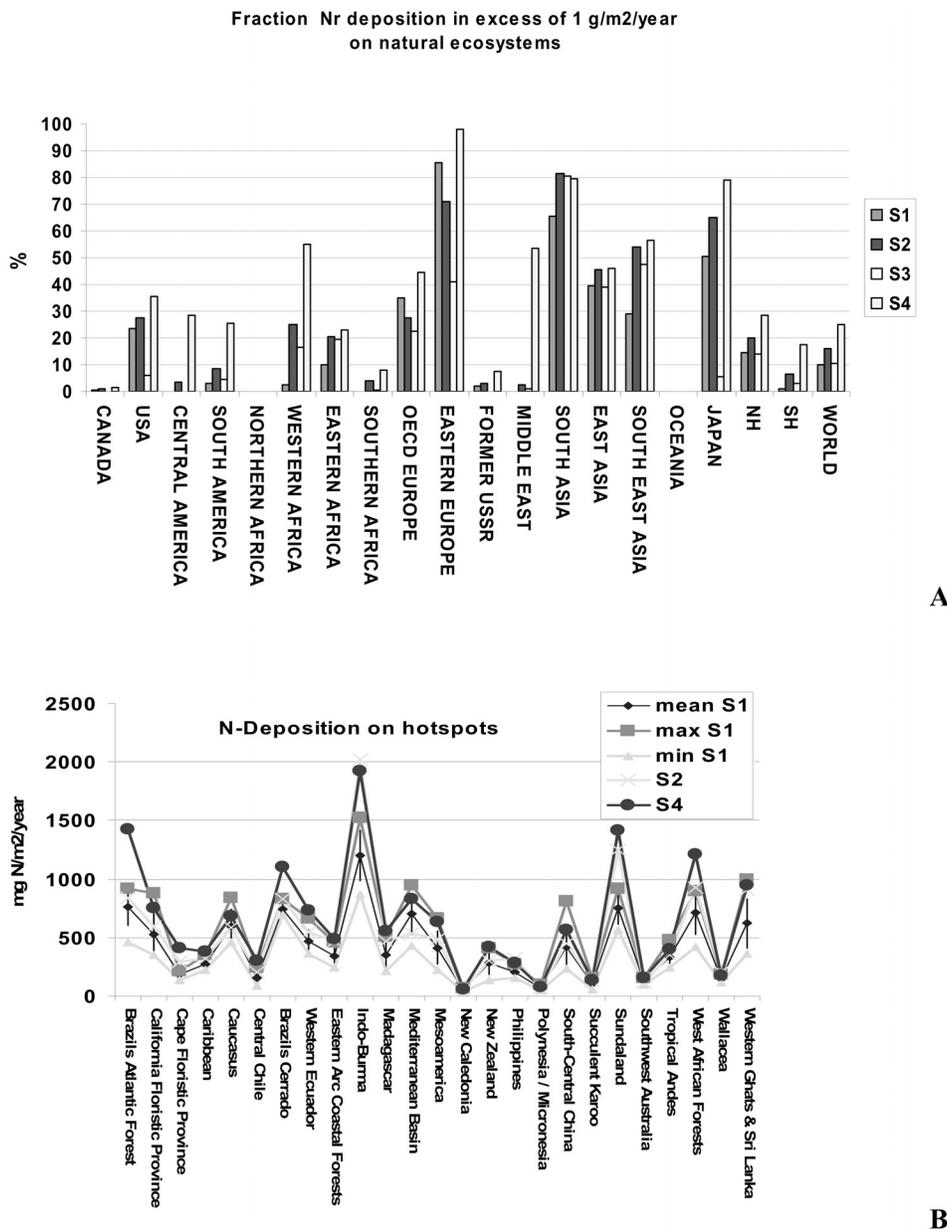


Figure 12. (a) Fraction (%) of natural vegetation with Nr deposition larger than 1 g(N)m⁻² yr⁻¹ (or 10 kg(N)ha⁻¹ yr⁻¹). S3 includes NH_x deposition results from S2. (b) Nitrogen deposition mg(N)m⁻² yr⁻¹ on ecological hotspot areas [Phoenix *et al.*, 2006].

beyond the scope of this study. However, we think there are possible ways to stabilize or even reduce global NH₃ emissions. For instance, owing to serious eutrophication problems, some countries such as the Netherlands have introduced measures that reduced NH₃ emissions by almost a factor of two during the last 15 years, while maintaining a high level of food production. It can be expected that, for example, China, which is faced with enormous eutrophication problems, will in future optimize fertilizer use.

[39] We used worldwide wet deposition measurements to evaluate our calculations for the year 2000. For this purpose, we gathered results from deposition networks in North America, Europe, Africa and Southeast Asia, and added

measurements for South America, India and remote stations. Wet deposition of nitrate (taken as the sum of HNO₃ and aerosol nitrate) is in relatively good accordance with measurements in most continents, with 60–70% of the model calculated deposition agreeing within ±50% with measurements. These results are in good agreement with the previous study by Lamarque *et al.* [2005] on NO_y deposition in 2000 using an ensemble of nine models. Despite good agreement of the average model results, in South America the low spatial correlation indicates problems in either the models or emissions or the measurements. In India, modeled nitrate deposition is strongly underestimated by 130 mg(N)m⁻² yr⁻¹, roughly a factor of 2.

[40] The agreement of NH_x deposition with measurements is generally somewhat less than for NO_y , with 30–60% of the modeled deposition within 50% of the measurements. The mean model bias is small in most regions, except for East Asia where measurements indicate 50% higher NH_x deposition, and India where the model overestimates NH_x measurements with 200–300 $\text{mg(N)m}^{-2}\text{yr}^{-1}$ or almost a factor of 2. Our study cannot identify whether measurement problems, model errors such as the neglect of mineral dust, or perhaps most importantly inaccurate emission inventories are causing these discrepancies. A comparison with NH_3 measurements from passive samplers and comparison of aerosol concentrations may shed some light on this discrepancy. In general a good agreement of SO_4 deposition is found with 60–80% of the model results agreeing to within 50% of the measurements. Only in East Asia, SO_4 deposition is strongly underestimated. We propose two possible reasons for this discrepancy: The SO_2 emission factor of coal used in our study could be too low, but we also suspect that the measured SO_4 deposition is substantially influenced by SO_4 related to mineral dust, where in the models the calculated SO_4 strictly refers to products of anthropogenic and biogenic emissions. The mean of model results showed a good performance compared to measurements, effectively canceling out outliers from individual model results.

[41] In our study we solely used wet deposition measurement to evaluate deposition. This means that we did not evaluate other modeled and measured parameters that could give additional information on deposition fluxes, i.e., concentrations of aerosol and precursor gases, rainfall rates and micrometeorological parameters needed to calculate dry deposition fluxes. However, the AEROCOM model intercomparison exercise (<http://nansen.ipsl.jussieu.fr/AEROCOM/>) evaluated in parallel to this work the aerosol calculations by a host of global models. Some of the models that participated in this study also contributed results to AEROCOM. Taking all aerosol types together, models underestimate aerosol optical depth by 30–40% [Kinne *et al.*, 2005]. Large regional differences in aerosol removal processes and residence times were identified [Textor *et al.*, 2005]. This is confirmed by our analysis of the relative importance of wet deposition, which typically varied between 40 and 70% of the total deposition among models. Differences in rainfall, but perhaps more importantly in the parameterizations of the wet removal by that rain, may cause these discrepancies, but were not further analyzed in this study. Also, large variations in dry deposition parameterization and the resulting deposition velocities will add to the uncertainties. We showed that model resolution may contribute to model variations, but is perhaps not the most important one, since at a distance of a few hundred kilometers from the high-emission regions deposition patterns are rather similar. These model differences are translated into a variability of total deposition of about 30% in the emission regions, despite the use of prescribed emissions. We showed that in ecological hotspot regions, the variations may be around 50%, and in remote regions, such as the Northern Polar Regions and SH the relative variability is up to a factor of 2. Our study indicates

that substantial fractions of the mainly land-borne emissions are deposited into the coastal and open oceans: 43% and 7% of all NO_y deposition is on the open ocean and coastal zones, respectively. Less NH_x is deposited on the coastal and open sea: 6% and 36%; whereas for SO_x the large contribution of volcanic and DMS emission lead to a larger deposition on ocean (51%) and coastal systems (8%).

[42] Consistent with the CLE emission scenario, NO_y deposition remains roughly unchanged in 2030 in most parts of the world, with the exception of Asia where NO_y deposition further increases by 50% to 100%. NO_y deposition for MFR could decrease by 50% worldwide upon introduction of advanced NO emission control techniques; however, deposition in Africa and Oceania are changing less owing to dominance of natural NO_x emissions. A2 would imply further increases of NO_y deposition in the polluted parts of the world by a factor of 2.

[43] NH_4 deposition decreases by 20% in Europe assuming CLE, but increases by 40–100% in Central and South America, Africa, and parts of Asia. The results from the A2 scenario are rather similar to the CLE assumptions, but differ in Europe, where no emission reductions are realized under A2. Deposition of SO_x varies strongly among the scenarios. For CLE, sulfur deposition remains constant or goes down everywhere, except in Asia. Assuming MFR, large reductions in deposition can be realized throughout the world, whereas A2 implies large increases in deposition everywhere except for North America and Europe.

[44] Climate change in 2030 is predicted to have fairly small impacts on deposition, compared to the emission induced changes; the changes seem to be mainly related to changes in monsoon circulation and associated precipitation. Changes in the atmospheric composition (e.g., oxidants) and hence the chemical lifetime and transport distance influence deposition patterns of the aerosol and aerosol precursor. Our experiments cannot assess the significance of these processes, since we varied all processes at the same time. Dedicated tracer experiments would be required to isolate the feedback mechanisms per component and region. However, from analysis of regional wet to total deposition ratios for selected continents we can estimate that chemical feedback processes are not likely to change regional scale deposition by more than a few percent.

[45] Over land relatively large fractions of NO_y , NH_x and SO_x are deposited on natural vegetation, typically between 50 and 80%, indicating the importance of atmospheric transport in dispersing pollution from agricultural and industrial emission regions to the surrounding natural ecosystems. A first analysis of the regions exposed to nitrogen deposition in excess of 10 $\text{kg(N)ha}^{-1}\text{yr}^{-1}$ (or 1 $\text{g(N)m}^{-2}\text{yr}^{-1}$), which is the lower threshold value for sensitive ecosystems, shows that substantial parts of the world ecosystems, especially in Europe, parts of Africa and Asia, can be potentially damaged by excessive inputs of Nr. Except for Europe, the current legislation regarding air pollutant emissions does not substantially improve this situation, whereas substantial improvements could be made considering MFR for NO_y . It would be interesting to evaluate how NH_3 emission abatement could reduce Nr deposition to below the threshold. We note here that in

order to make a careful analysis of potential to eutrophication risk for ecosystems a more detailed analysis per ecosystem and soil type is needed. We plan to do this analysis in a follow-up project along with an analysis of soil sensitivity to acidification. Further, we recommend refining our study with higher-resolution regional-scale models.

[46] A further important link of nitrogen deposition and ecosystems is the response of N₂O emissions in coastal and terrestrial ecosystems, and the possible increased carbon uptake in terrestrial ecosystems. Deposition fields in this study will be made available for further assessments.

[47] This work was part of a larger analysis of a multi-model assessment of the impacts of various emission scenarios on atmospheric composition. Other aspects of this study focused on changes in lifetimes and budgets of ozone, CO, NO₂ columns and OH radical, radiative forcing, air quality and surface ozone. Some information arising from those studies is consistent with our findings here. For example, the modeled underestimate of NO_y deposition in China is also found in the comparison of modeled and measured NO₂ from the GOME satellite. However, also in Europe and North America, GOME NO₂ seems higher than calculated by our models, which is not confirmed by our modeled deposition. In India, retrieved NO₂ and measured NO_y deposition seem, despite large uncertainties, relatively consistent with the model calculations. However, most models seem to strongly overestimate the surface ozone resulting from the NO emissions.

[48] This study showed that it is important to enforce current worldwide air quality legislation (CLE) when considering current exposure of ecosystems to eutrophying and acidifying deposition. Introduction of all currently known technical measures would be expected to substantially decrease the ecosystem exposure to N deposition. Especially in Asia, further studies on the impact of NH_x deposition on ecosystems would be necessary. Nonattainment of these policy objectives, such as expressed in SRES-A2, would lead to adverse impacts on ecosystems along with a negative impact on air quality [Dentener et al., 2005, 2006; Shindell et al., 2006; West and Fiore, 2005] and radiative forcing of climate [Stevenson et al., 2006].

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