



香港中文大學

The Chinese University of Hong Kong

# Impacts of Ammonia-Aerosol-Climate Feedbacks on Food Security and Air Quality

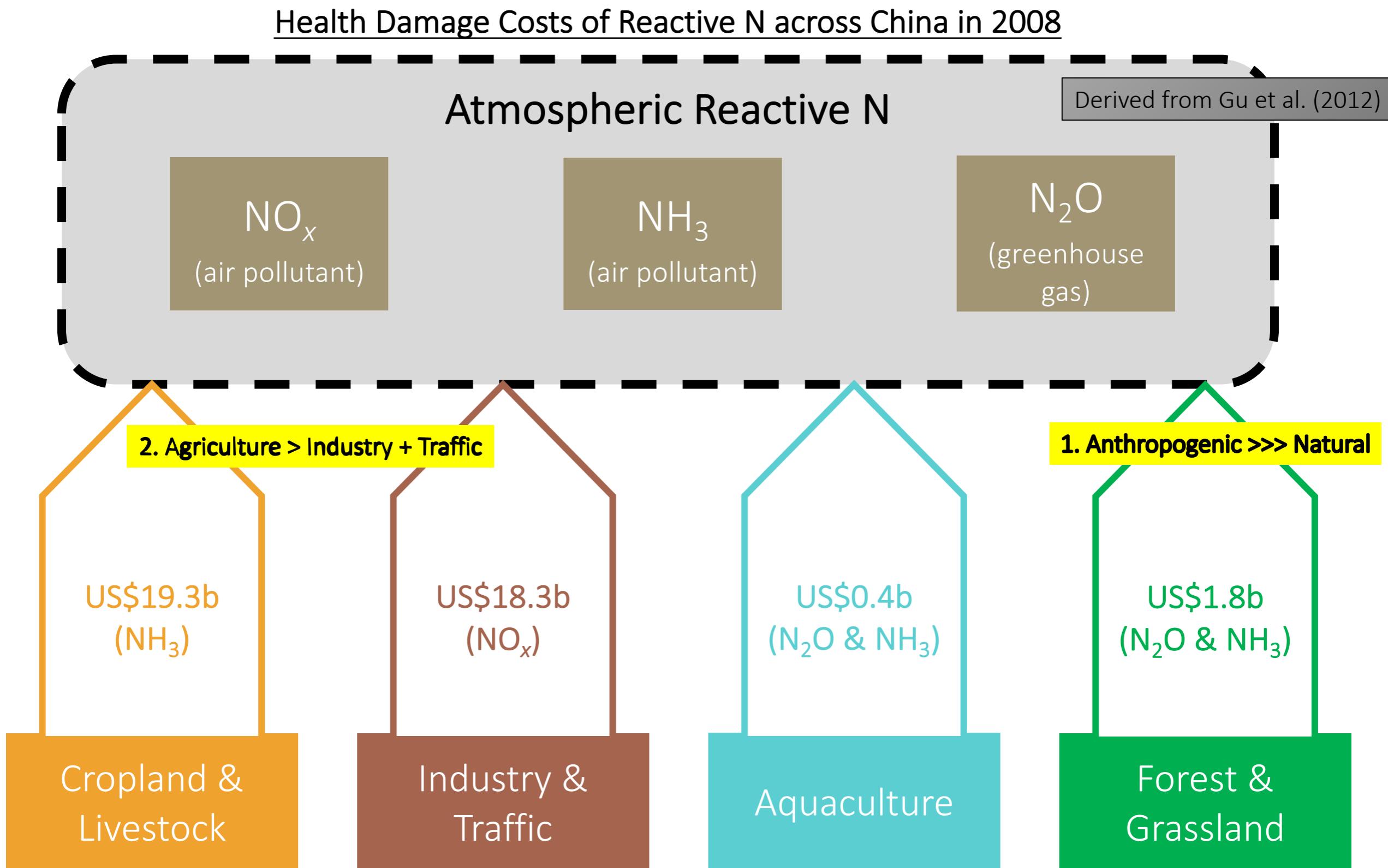
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Amos Tai (The Chinese University of Hong Kong)

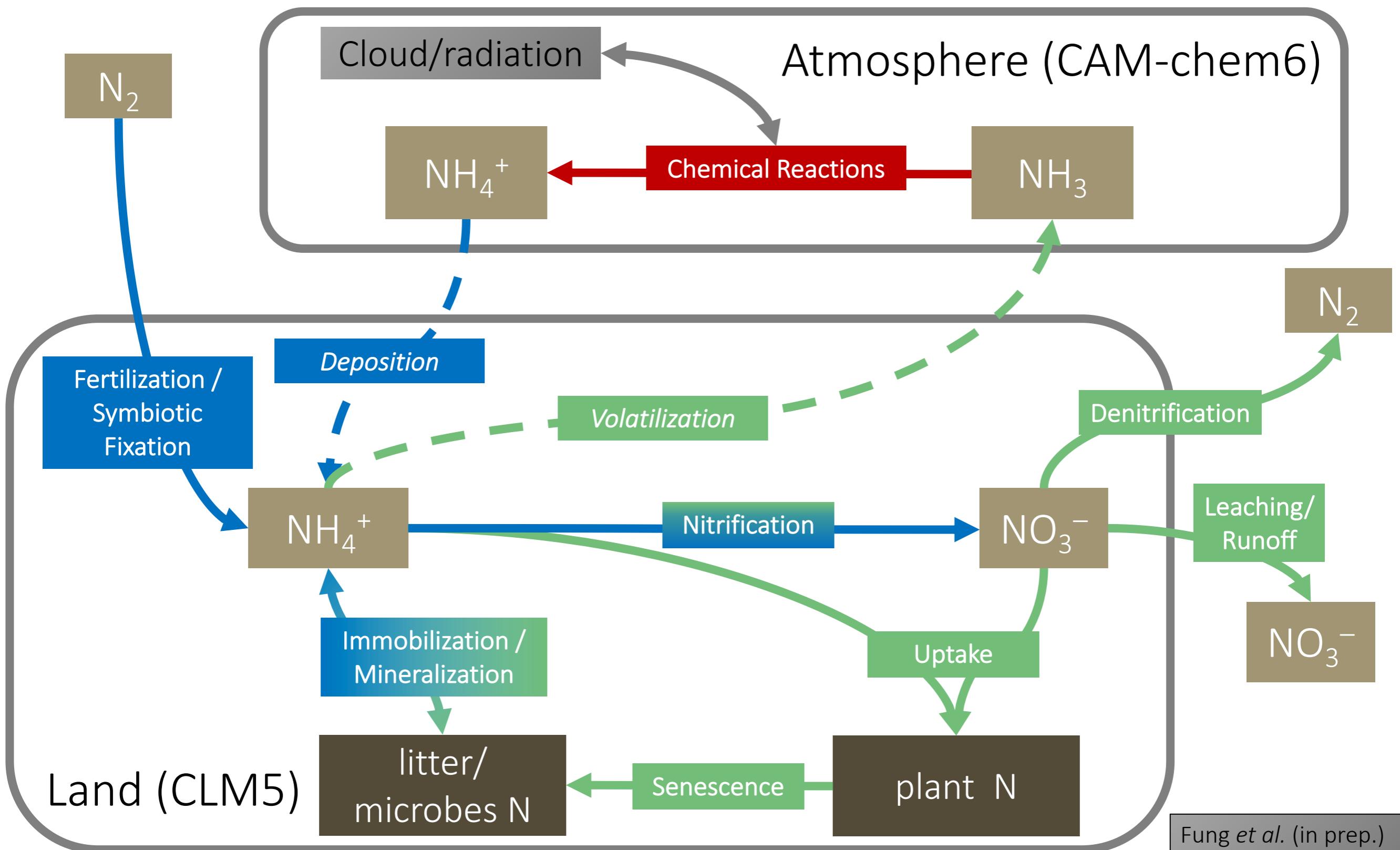
Maria Val Martin (University of Sheffield)

CESM LMWG Meeting, March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2020

# Agricultural NH<sub>3</sub> is equally harmful as reactive N from factories and vehicles



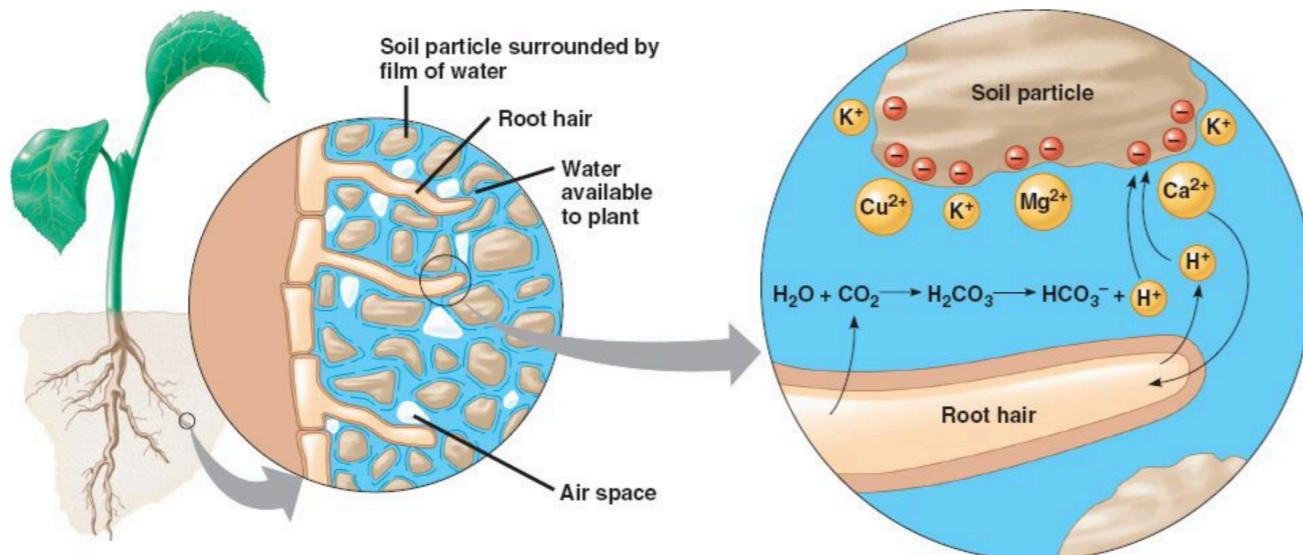
# The current N cycle in CESM2 and the missing bidirectional exchange of $\text{NH}_3$ & $\text{NH}_4^+$



We implement into CLM the “multi-step” NH<sub>3</sub> volatilization scheme from DNDC (Li *et al.*, 2012)

$$\left( \frac{d[NH_3(g)]}{dt} \right)_{\text{from soil}} \approx [NH_4^+_{(\text{soil})}] (1 - f_{\text{adsorption}}) f_{\text{dissociation}} f_{\text{vaporization}} \left( \frac{1}{\Delta t} \right)$$

Campbell et al. (2008)



Dissociation of free-flowing NH<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup>:



rate constant of dissociation

$$f_{\text{dissociation}} = \frac{K_w}{[H^+] K_a}$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} K_a = (1.4 + (0.01)T_{\text{soil}}) \times 10^{-5} (\text{mol. L}^{-1}) \\ K_w = 10^{0.09 + (0.04)T_{\text{soil}}} \times 10^{-15} (\text{mol}^2 \text{ L}^{-2}) \end{array} \right\}$$

$$[H^+] = 10^{-\text{pH}} (\text{mol. L}^{-1})$$

$$\text{pH} = 6.8$$

soil temperature (°C)

more about this assumption later

Aqueous NH<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup> adsorbing on negative soil surface:

$$f_{\text{adsorption}} = 0.99(7.27f_{\text{clay}}^3 - 11.22f_{\text{clay}}^2 + 5.72f_{\text{clay}} + 0.03)$$

clay fraction

Fraction of NH<sub>3</sub> (aq) to vaporize:

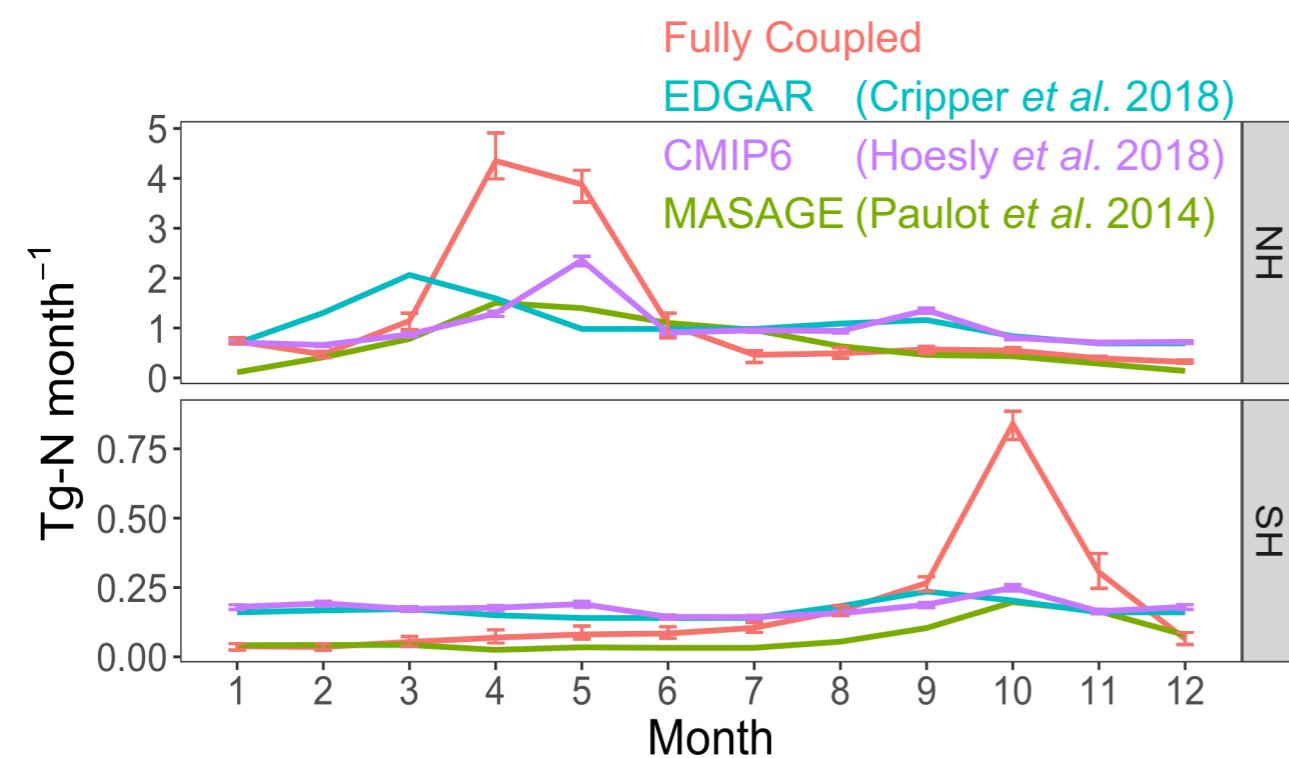
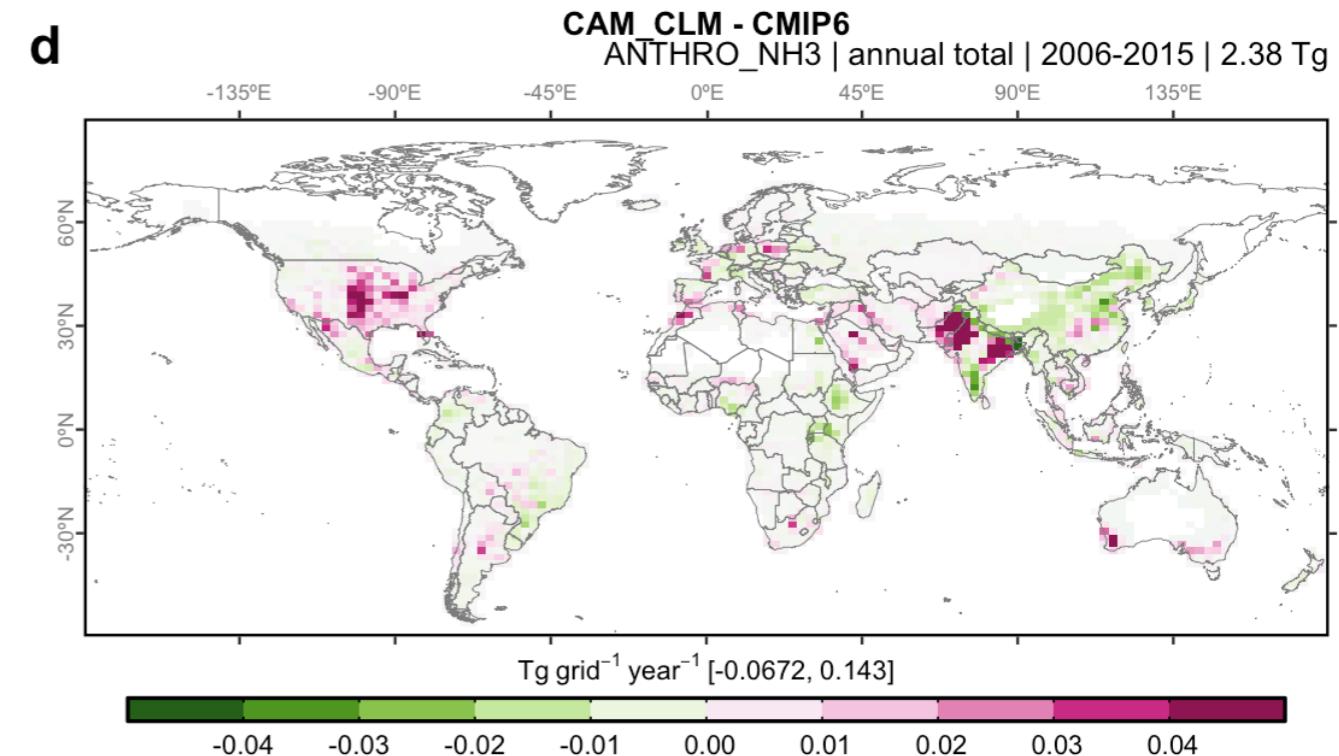
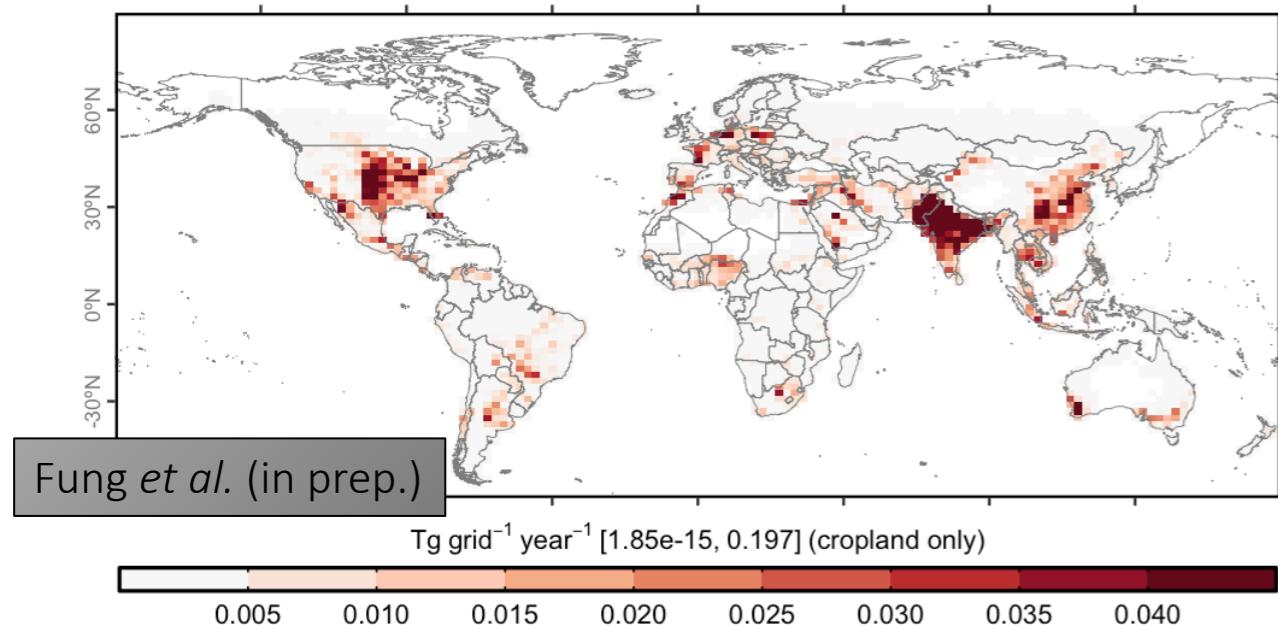
soil layer depth (m)

$$f_{\text{vaporization}} = \left( \frac{1.5s}{1+s} \right) \left( \frac{T_{\text{soil}}}{50 + T_{\text{soil}}} \right) \left( \frac{l_{\text{max}} - l}{l_{\text{max}}} \right)$$

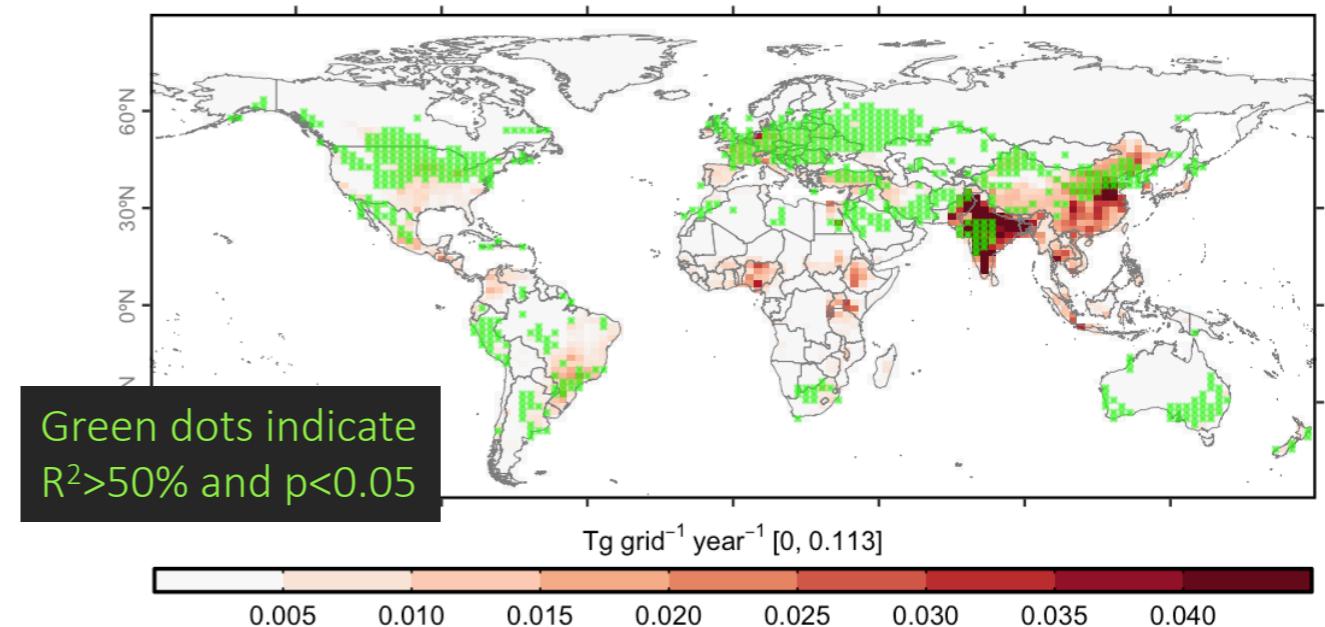
wind speed (m s<sup>-1</sup>)

# Our cropland NH<sub>3</sub> emission agrees reasonably well with inventories around hotspots

**Fully Coupled: NH<sub>3</sub> Emission due to Fertilizers**  
(Global Total = 16.6 Tg-N year<sup>-1</sup>)



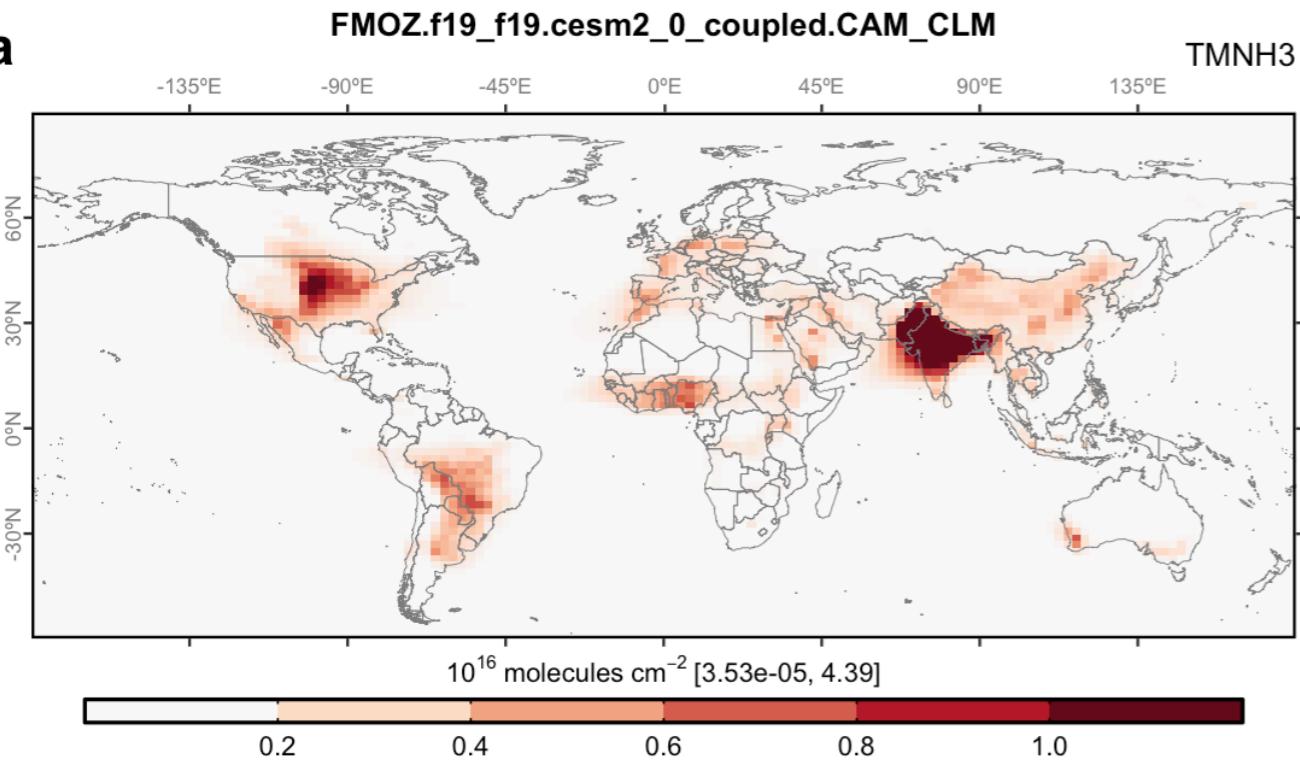
**Grid-by-grid Correlation of Monthly Emission Rates (Fully Coupled vs CMIP6)**



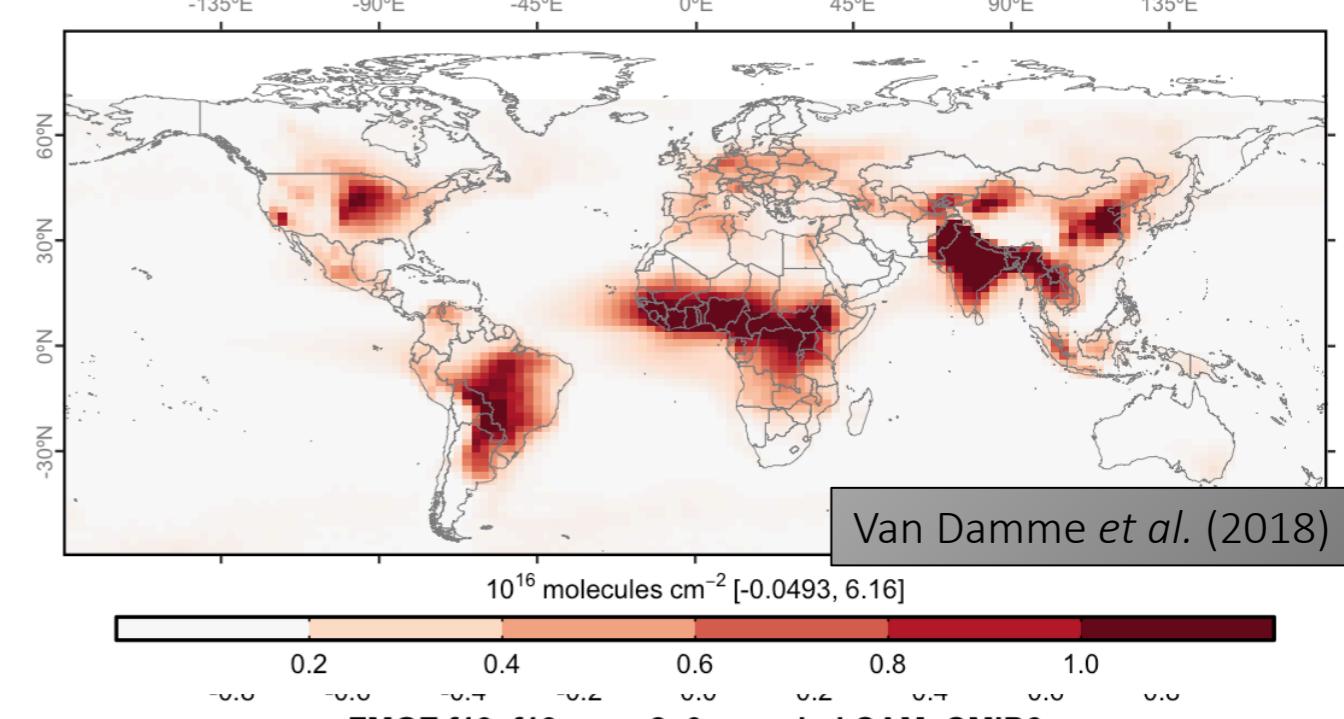
Colormaps are saturated at respective values.

# Atmospheric $\text{NH}_3$ is less biased comparing to observations than default CESM2

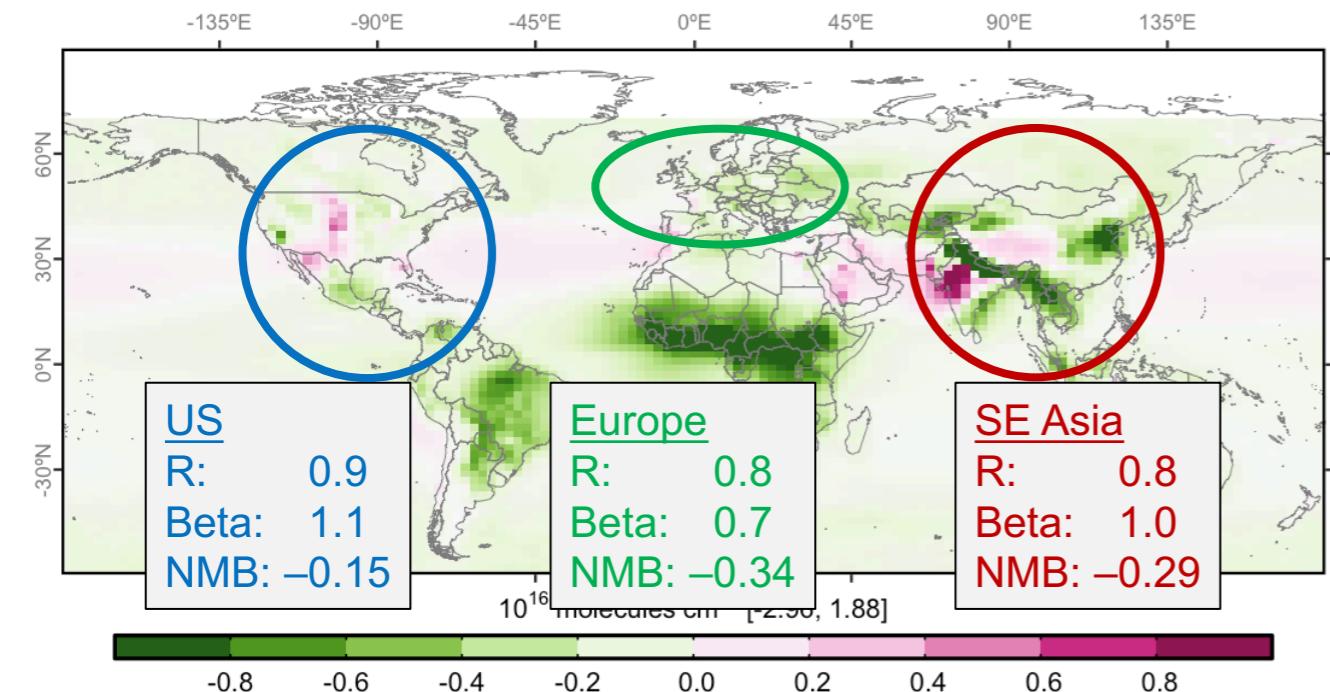
a



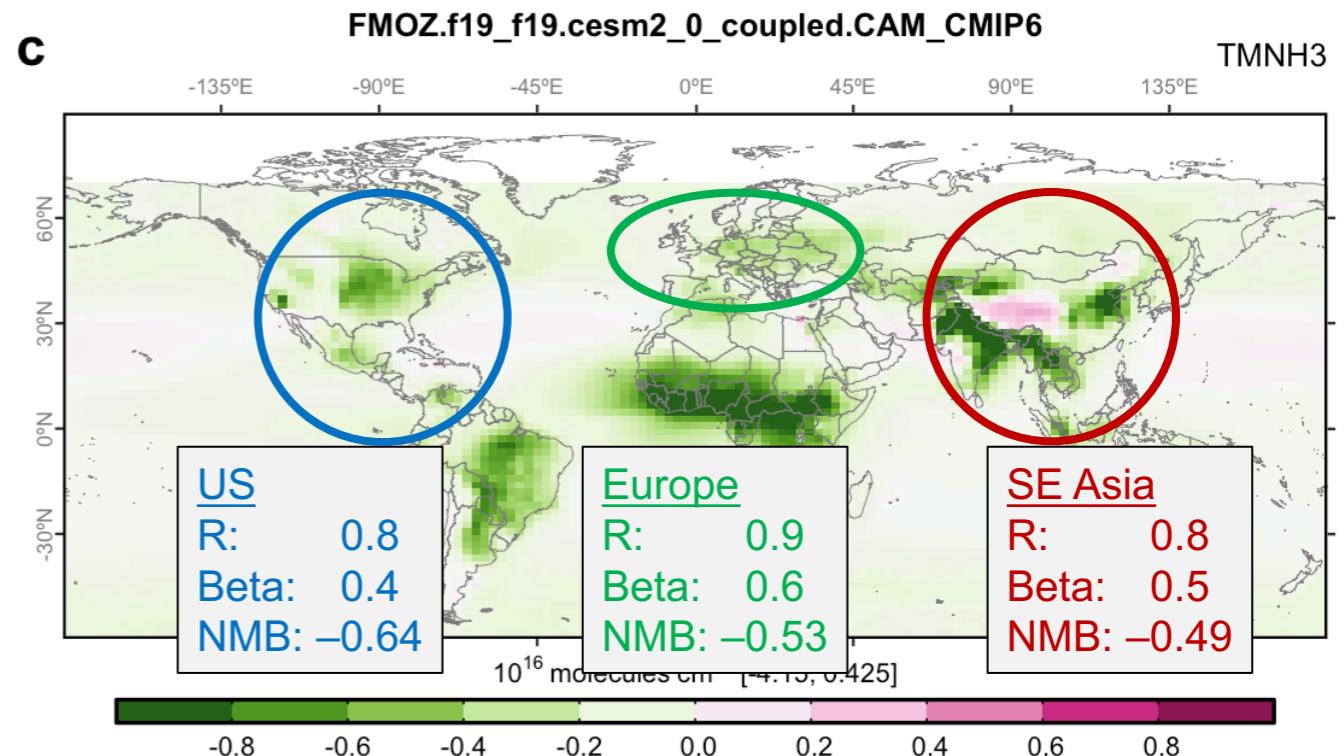
## NH<sub>3</sub> Observed by Satellite-based IASI (2008-2016)



## Fully Coupled – IASI

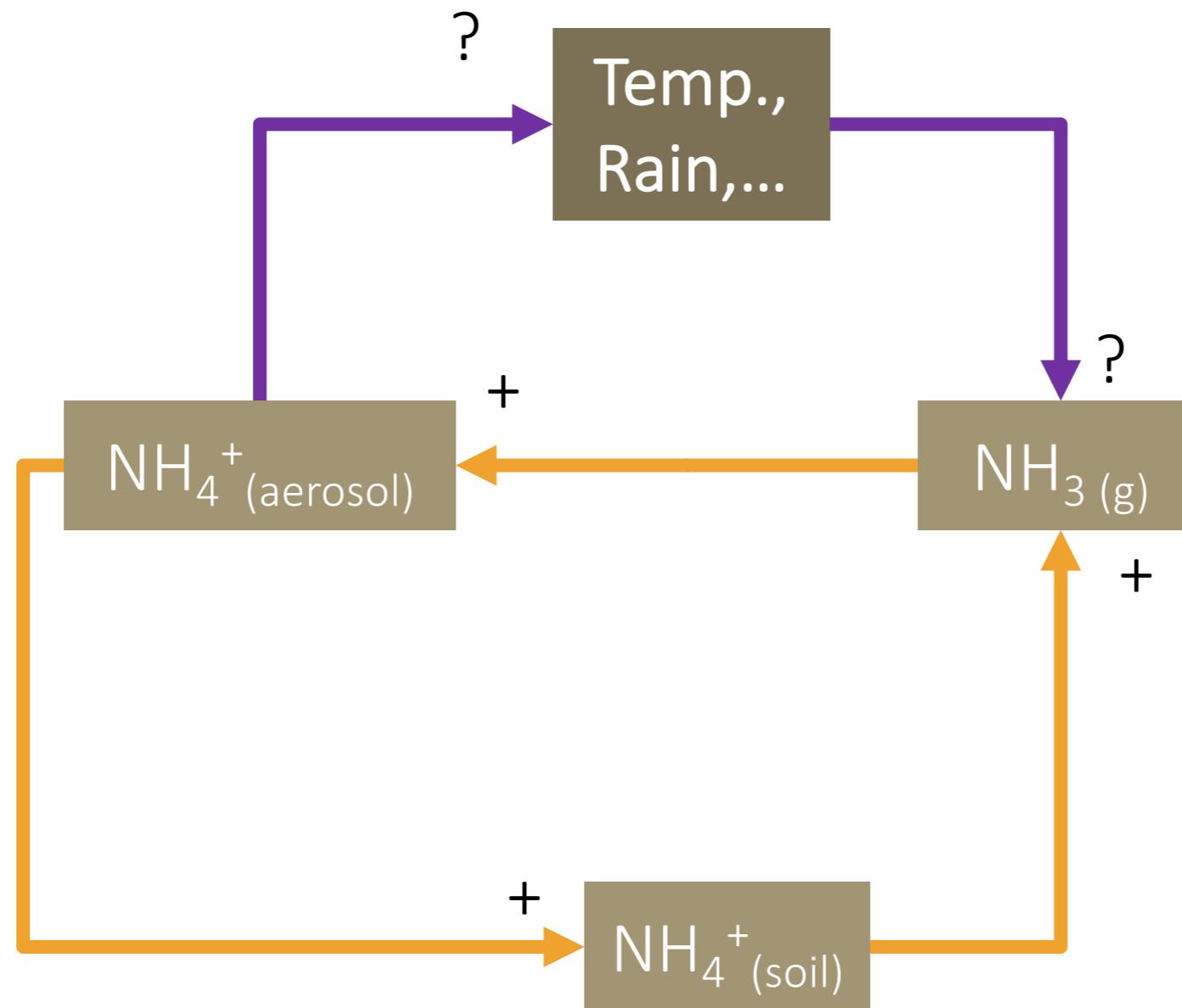


c

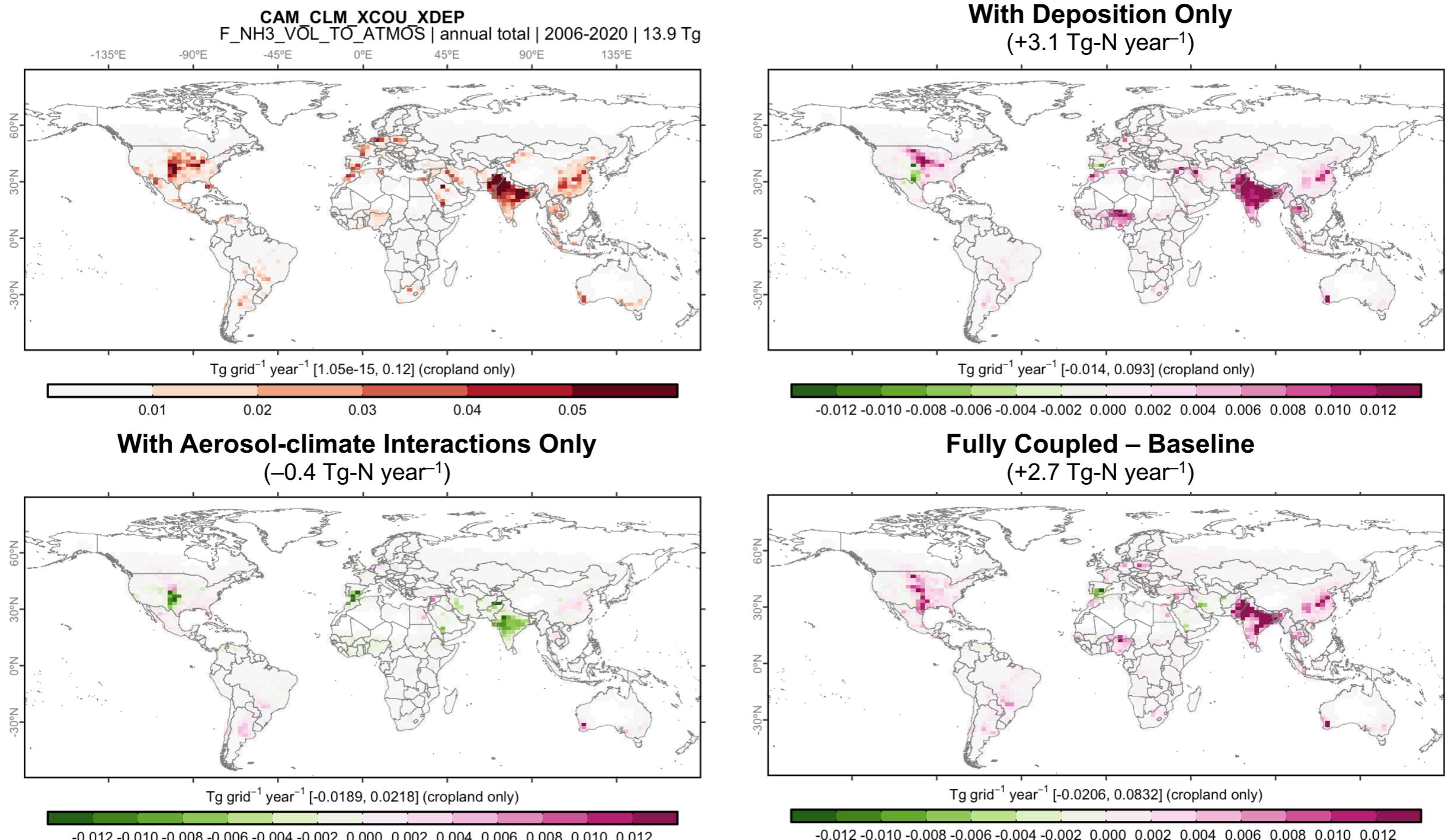


Colormaps are saturated at respective values.

# Experiment 1: Feedbacks between $\text{NH}_3$ , aerosol, and climate



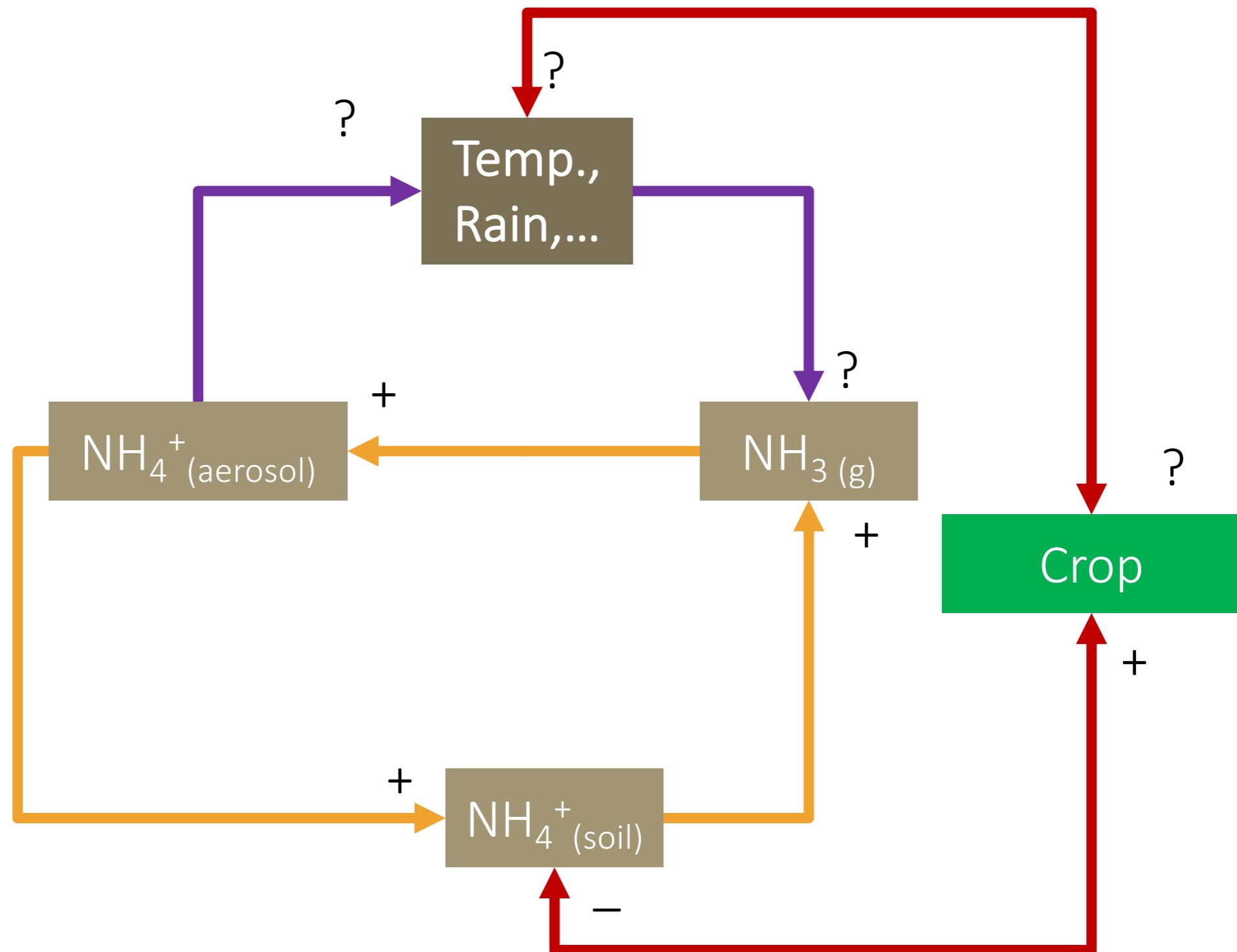
# Cropland NH<sub>3</sub> emission raised by N deposition, but suppressed by aerosol-climate interactions



Colormaps are saturated at respective values.

Fung et al. (in prep.)

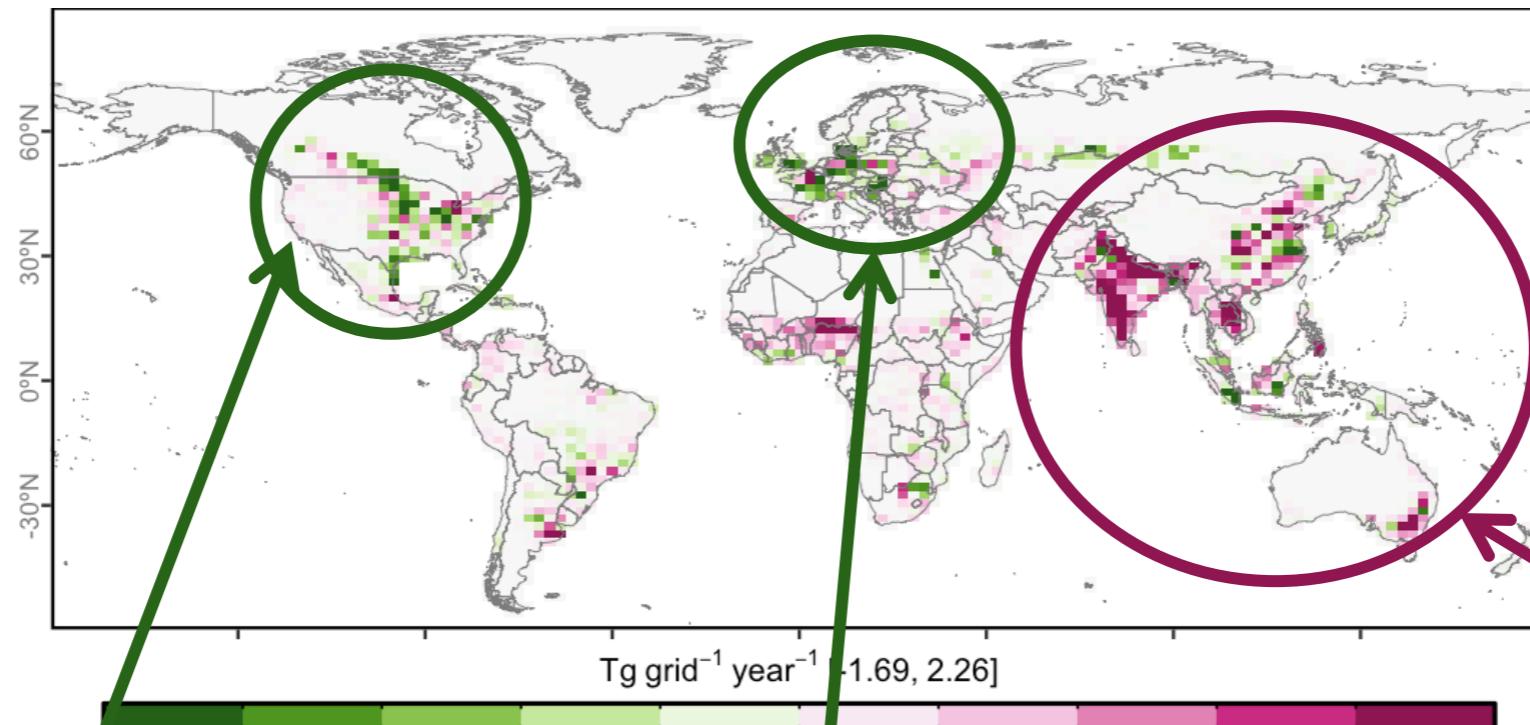
# Experiment 2: Impacts of the feedbacks on crop production



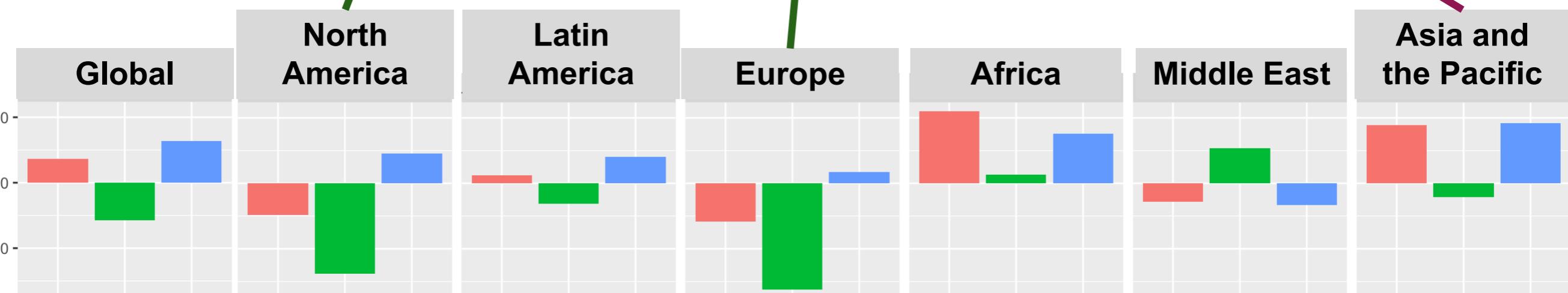
# Diverging effects on grain production: ups in Asia, downs in the US and Europe

**Fully Coupled – Baseline: Grain Production**

(Global Total = +47 Mt-C year<sup>-1</sup> / +3.5 %)



Tg grid<sup>-1</sup> year<sup>-1</sup> [-1.69, 2.26]



Grain-C production relative to the baseline, annual total (%)

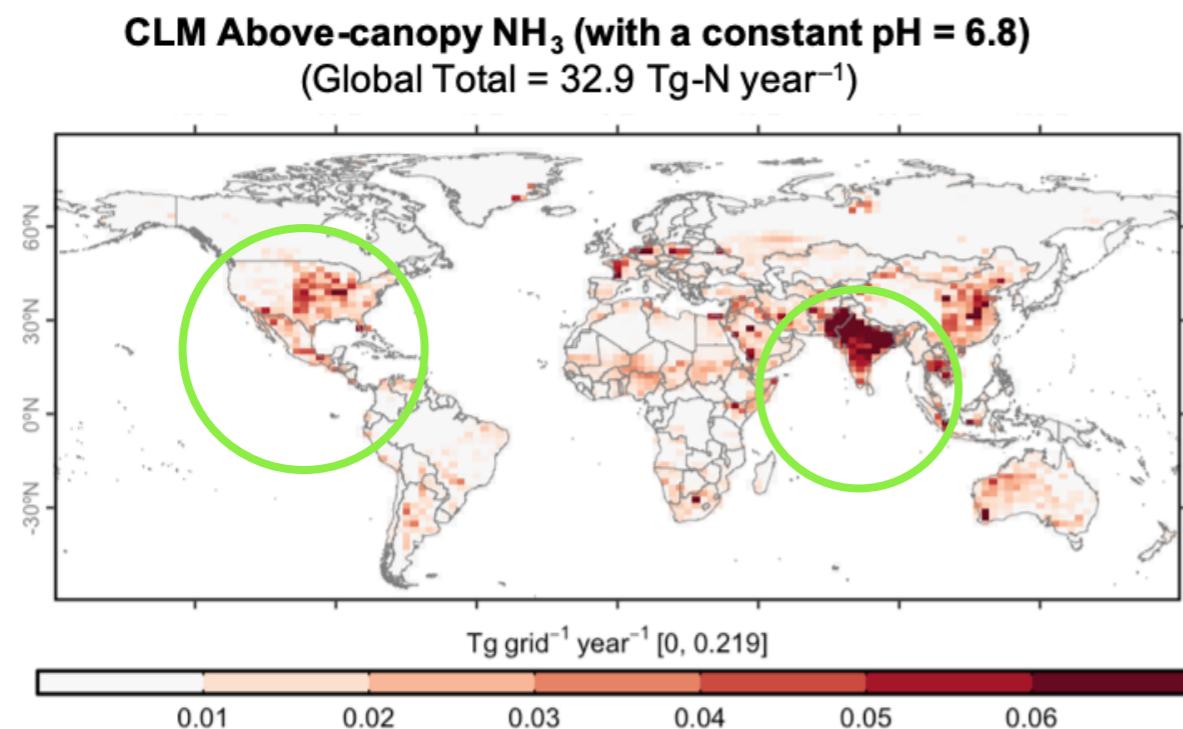
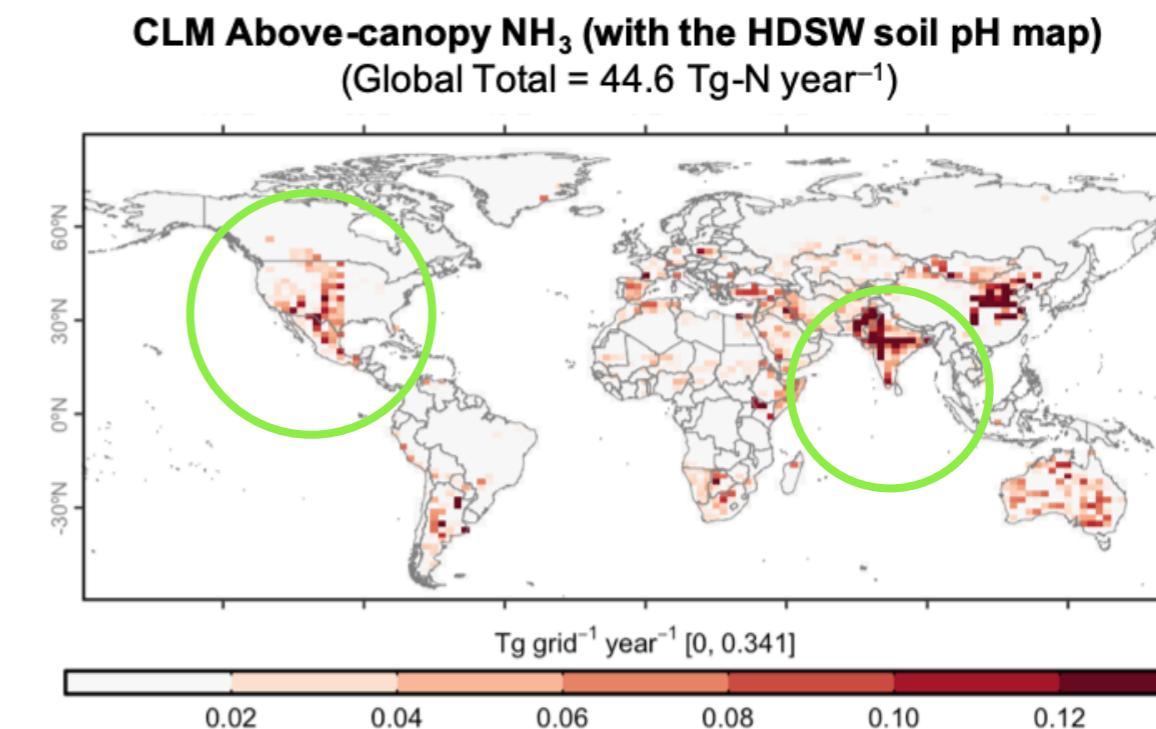
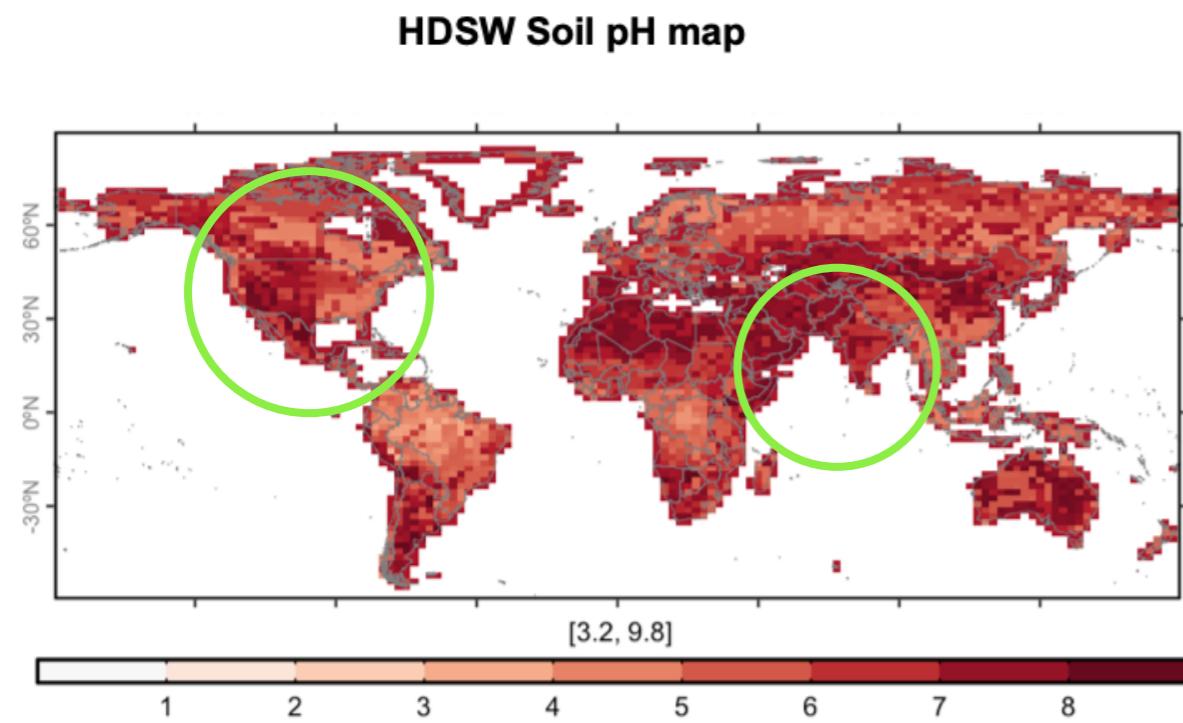
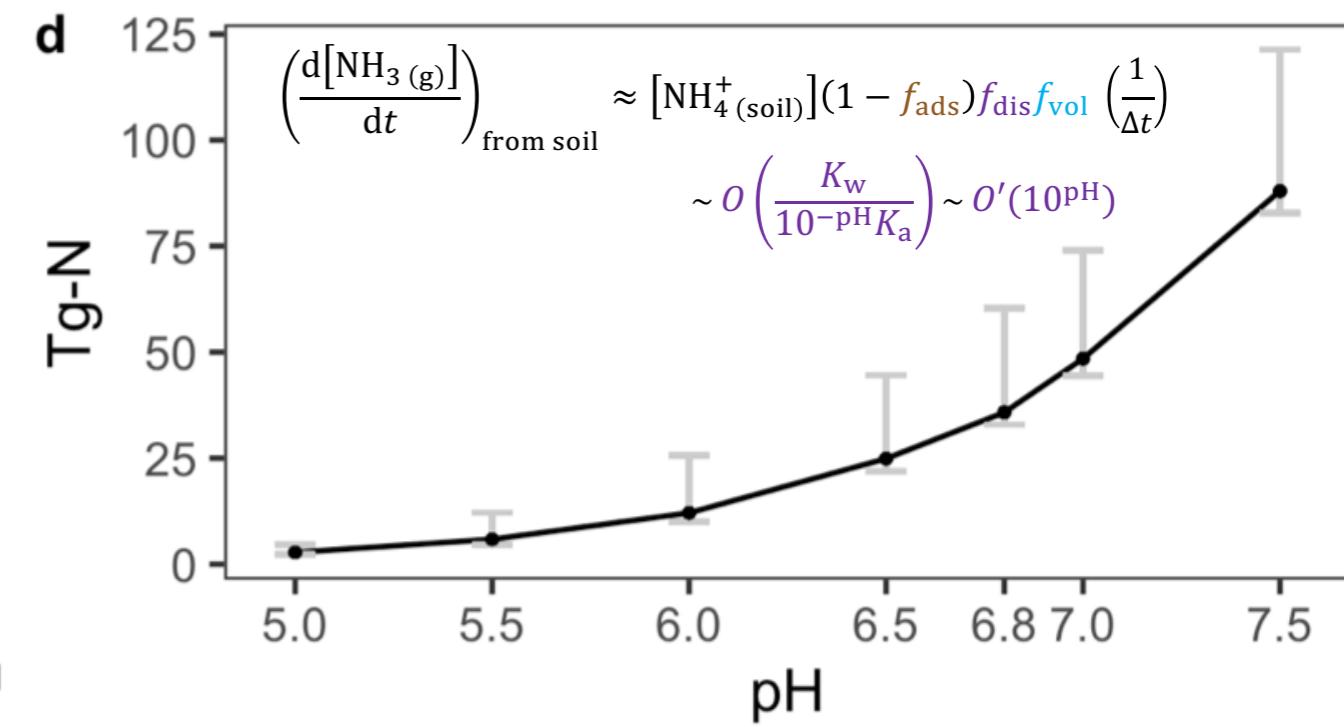
**Fully Coupled**

**Aerosol-climate  
Interactions Only**

**Deposition  
Only**

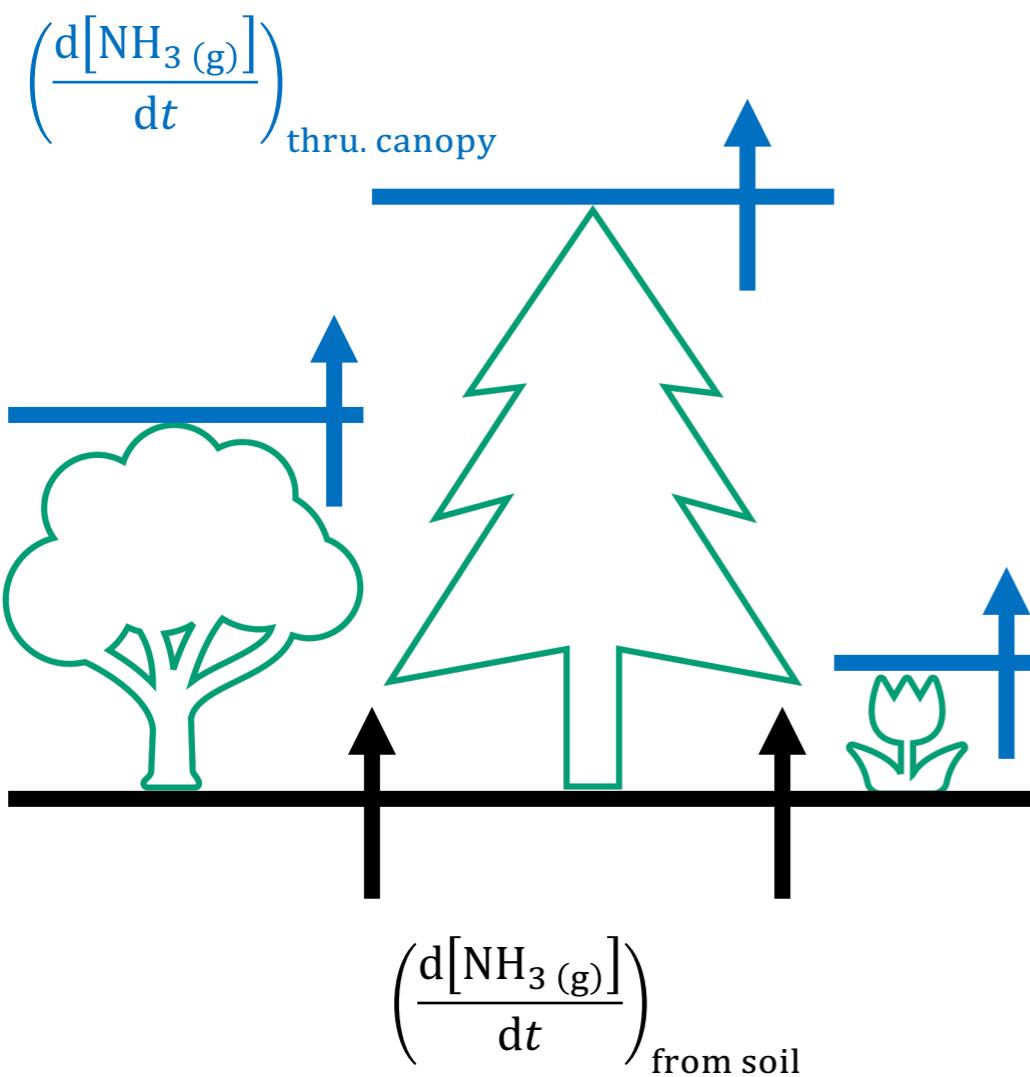
Fung et al. (in prep.)

# Uncertainty: NH<sub>3</sub> emission is highly sensitive to soil pH

**a****b****c****d**

# Uncertainty: Canopy capture process of emitted $\text{NH}_3$

$$\left( \frac{d[\text{NH}_3(\text{g})]}{dt} \right)_{\text{thru. canopy}} = \left( \frac{d[\text{NH}_3(\text{g})]}{dt} \right)_{\text{from soil}} (1 - f_{\text{capturing}})$$



Derived from DNDC (Li *et al.*, 2012) and CMAQ (Pleim *et al.*, 2013), fraction of  $\text{NH}_3$  captured by canopy is estimated as:

$$f_{\text{capturing}} = b(h_{\text{top}} - h_{\text{bot}}) \times \text{TLAI} \times \frac{1}{v_{\text{fric}}} \times \text{RH}_{\text{canopy}} \times v_{\text{NH}_3}$$

Effect of canopy height;  $b = 14 \text{ m}^{-1}$  here

Snow-free one-sided leaf area index (LAI)

friction velocity ( $\text{m s}^{-1}$ )

Relative humidity within canopy

Deposition velocity of  $\text{NH}_3$  on leaves ( $0.05 \text{ m s}^{-1}$  here)

# On-going: modeling sustainable farming alternatives, such as intercropping (already implemented into CLM4.5)

- Assuming surface area of a crop's root is proportional to its mass, a crop's competition factor (CF) is then defined as:

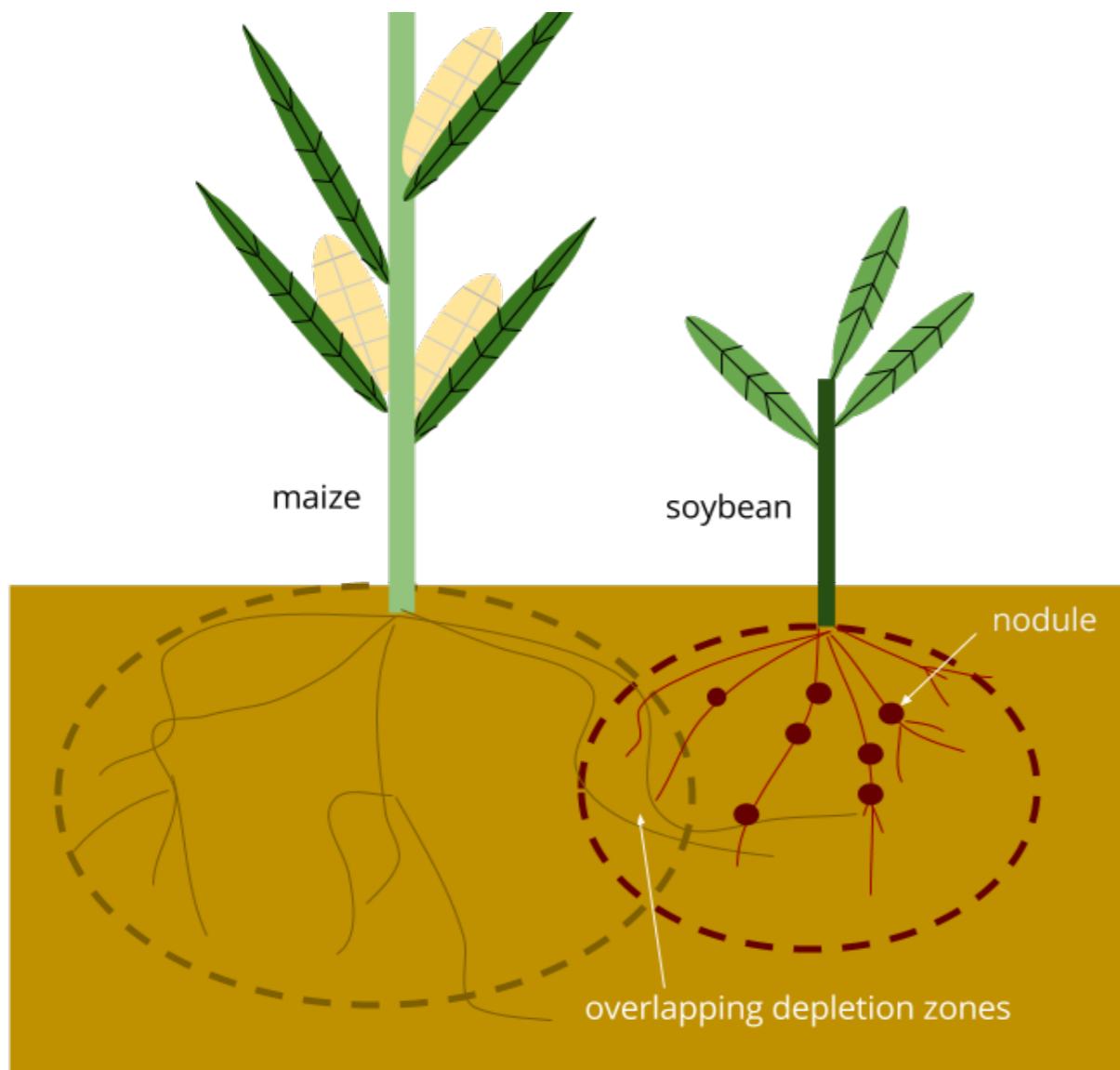
$$CF_{\text{crop}} = \frac{\text{total root surface area a crop}}{\text{total root surface area of both crops}}$$

$$\approx \frac{\text{mass}_{\text{root,crop}} \cdot \text{weighting}_{\text{crop}}}{\sum_{\text{system}} \text{mass}_{\text{root,crop}} \cdot \text{weighting}_{\text{crop}}}$$

- The amount of soil N a crop can take up is co-limited by its demand and accessible soil N:

$$N_{\text{uptake,crop}}$$

$$= \min \left( N_{\text{demand,crop}}, CF_{\text{crop}} \cdot \sum_{\text{system}} N_{\text{deployed,crop}} \right)$$



# Summary

# Thank you!

Please visit <https://kamingfung.wordpress.com> for more.

*Special thanks to the NCAR LMWG Travel Support,  
and other supports from Colette Heald's Group*

- **Coupled NH<sub>3</sub> emission and NH<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup> deposition** between CLM5 and CAM-chem6
  - Cropland NH<sub>3</sub> emission agrees well with CMIP6 inventory
  - Modeled atmospheric NH<sub>3</sub> is less biased than the default simulation when comparing with IASI NH<sub>3</sub> observations
- Feedbacks of N deposition and aerosol-climate interaction
  - **NH<sub>3</sub> emission** raised by N deposition (+22%) but suppressed by aerosol-climate interactions (-3%)
  - **Grain production** is lower in North America & Europe (-5%) likely due to dryer & warmer regional climate, but higher in Asia and Africa primarily because of N enrichment by deposition (+10%)
- Next steps:
  - **Dynamic soil pH**
  - Finetuning the **canopy capture** scheme
  - Investigate whether NH<sub>3</sub>-aerosol-climate feedbacks would hinder sustainable farming under future scenarios and climate conditions