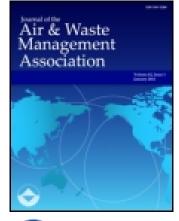
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# Air Quality and Climate Connections

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#### CRITICAL REVIEW

# Air Quality and Climate Connections

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Multiple linkages connect air quality and climate change. Many air pollutant sources also emit carbon dioxide ( $CO_2$ ), the dominant anthropogenic greenhouse gas (GHG). The two main contributors to non-attainment of U.S. ambient air quality standards, ozone  $(O_3)$  and particulate matter (PM), interact with radiation, forcing climate change. PM warms by absorbing sunlight (e.g., black carbon) or cools by scattering sunlight (e.g., sulfates) and interacts with clouds; these radiative and microphysical interactions can induce changes in precipitation and regional circulation patterns. Climate change is expected to degrade air quality in many polluted regions by changing air pollution meteorology (ventilation and dilution), precipitation and other removal processes, and by triggering some amplifying responses in atmospheric chemistry and in anthropogenic and natural sources. Together, these processes shape distributions and extreme episodes of  $O_3$  and PM. Global modeling indicates that as air pollution programs reduce  $SO_2$  to meet health and other air quality goals, near-term warming accelerates due to "unmasking" of warming induced by rising  $CO_2$ . Air pollutant controls on  $CH_4$ , a potent GHG and precursor to global  $O_3$  levels, and on sources with high black carbon (BC) to organic carbon (OC) ratios could offset near-term warming induced by  $SO_2$ emission reductions, while reducing global background  $O_3$  and regionally high levels of PM. Lowering peak warming requires decreasing atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub>, which for some source categories would also reduce co-emitted air pollutants or their precursors. Model projections for alternative climate and air quality scenarios indicate a wide range for U.S. surface  $O_3$  and fine PM, although regional projections may be confounded by interannual to decadal natural climate variability. Continued implementation of U.S.  $NO_x$  emission controls guards against rising pollution levels triggered either by climate change or by global emission growth. Improved accuracy and trends in emission inventories are critical for accountability analyses of historical and projected air pollution and climate mitigation policies.

*Implications:* The expansion of U.S. air pollution policy to protect climate provides an opportunity for joint mitigation, with  $CH_4$  a prime target. BC reductions in developing nations would lower the global health burden, and for BC-rich sources (e.g., diesel) may lessen warming. Controls on these emissions could offset near-term warming induced by health-motivated reductions of sulfate (cooling). Wildfires, dust, and other natural PM and  $O_3$  sources may increase with climate warming, posing challenges to implementing and attaining air quality standards. Accountability analyses for recent and projected air pollution and climate control strategies should underpin estimated benefits and trade-offs of future policies.



Arlene M. Fiore

# Introduction

Climate and air quality are inextricably connected. Many sources of "conventional" air pollutants are also sources of  $CO_2$ , other *GHGs* (see Table 1 for list of acronyms), and/or particles that affect climate (see Key Terms). These air pollutants interact with solar and terrestrial radiation and perturb the planetary energy balance,

leading to changes in climate (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change [IPCC], 2013a). Climate change influences air pollution by altering the frequency, severity, and duration of heat

waves, air stagnation events, precipitation, and other meteorology conducive to pollutant accumulation (e.g., Jacob and Winner, 2009; Weaver et al., 2009; Ordóñez et al., 2005; Tressol et al., 2008; Vieno et al., 2010). We focus on PM and  $O_3$  and their major components and precursors; these two air pollutants are responsible for the most widespread violations of the U.S. National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) (Environmental Protection Agency [EPA], 2013), and contribute to climate change (Table 2).

A measure of the perturbation to the climate system due to changes in various atmospheric constituents between the preindustrial and present day atmosphere is *radiative forcing* (RF; Figure 1). Positive RF induces a warming, whereas negative

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Table 1. Acronyms.

AAOD	aerosol absorption optical depth			
ACCMIP	Atmospheric Chemistry and Climate Model Intercomparison			
	Project			
AeroCom	Aerosol Comparisons between Observations and Models			
AOD	aerosol optical depth			
AR5	Fifth Assessment Report of the IPCC			
BC	black carbon			
BrC	brown carbon			
CASTNet	Clean Air Status and Trends Network			
CCM	chemistry-climate model			
CCN	cloud condensation nuclei			
CCSP	Climate Change Science Program			
CLE	current legislation			
CMIP	Coupled Model Intercomparison Project			
CTM	chemistry-transport model			
DU	Dobson unit			
ENSO	El Niño Southern Oscillation			
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency			
ERF	effective radiative forcing			
ERFaci	ERF due to aerosol-cloud interaction			
ERFari	ERF due to aerosol-radiation interaction			
GCM	general circulation model			
GHG	greenhouse gas			
GMST	global mean surface temperature			
GWP	global warming potential			
HCFC	hydrochlorofluorocarbons			
HFC	hydrofluorocarbons			
IAM	integrated assessment model			
IN	ice nuclei			
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change			
ITCZ	InterTropical Convergence Zone			
MDA8	daily maximum 8-hourly average ozone concentration			
MFR	maximum feasible reduction			
NAAQS	National Ambient Air Quality Standards			
NARCCAP	- ·			
NMVOC	nonmethane volatile organic compounds			
NRC	National Research Council of the U.S. National Academy of			
	Sciences			
NTCF	near-term climate forcer			
OC	organic carbon			
PAN	peroxyacetylnitrate			
PM	particulate matter			
RCP	representative concentration pathway			
RCTM	regional chemistry-transport model			
RF	radiative forcing			
RFari	RF due to aerosol-radiation interaction			
RCM	regional climate model			
RTM	radiative transfer model			
SLCF	short-lived climate forcer			
SLCF	short-lived climate forcer short-lived climate pollutant			
SOA	secondary organic aerosol			
SOA SRES	Special Report on Emission Scenarios			
SKES TF HTAP	Task Force on Hemispheric Transport of Air Pollution			
WG1	Working Group 1 of the IPCC			
	working Group 1 of the fi CC			

RF induces a cooling of the earth's surface and troposphere. The increase in the atmospheric burdens of GHGs, including  $CO_2$ , and that of tropospheric  $O_3$  and its precursor methane  $(CH_4)$  over the past few centuries have exerted a warming influence. In contrast, the net effect of PM (termed "aerosols" in Figure 1, as conventional in climate science) is to cool the planet, although the magnitude is much more uncertain than for

#### **Key Terms**

#### Classes of climate forcing atmospheric constituents

Greenhouse gases (GHGs) are gaseous atmospheric constituents that absorb and emit specific wavelengths of terrestrial radiation such that radiation that would otherwise escape to space is trapped, leading to surface and tropospheric warming (IPCC, 2013d). Major greenhouse gases include natural and anthropogenic constituents such as water vapor, CO<sub>2</sub>, nitrous oxide, CH<sub>4</sub>, and O<sub>3</sub>, along with gases such as sulfur hexafluoride (SF6), chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs), hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), and perfluorocarbons (PFCs) that are entirely human-made. Aside from water vapor, O<sub>3</sub>, and some HFCs, these gases are sufficiently long-lived as to be fairly well mixed in the troposphere such that a few measurements at remote locations on the earth's surface can reliably be used to estimate the tropospheric burden; this subset of GHGs is often referred to as well-mixed greenhouse gases (WMGHGs; see Box 8.2 of Myhre et al., 2013a).

Near-term climate forcers (NTCFs) and short-lived climate forcers (SLCFs) are defined as radiatively active atmospheric constituents, and their precursors, whose impact on climate occurs primarily in the first one to three decades (near term) after their emission, such as  $O_3$ , aerosols, and CH<sub>4</sub> (Myhre et al., 2013a). While SLCF has been widely used in the published literature, IPCC (2013a) adopts the NTCF terminology since it clearly includes CH<sub>4</sub> (also a WMGHG), avoiding the ambiguity as to whether CH<sub>4</sub> is "short-lived" (it is relative to CO<sub>2</sub>, but not compared to most air pollutants such as BC or tropospheric  $O_3$  for example).

*Short-lived climate pollutants (SLCPs)* are the subset of NTCFs that have a warming influence on the climate system. The Clean Air and Climate Coalition (CCAC) names CH<sub>4</sub>, tropospheric O<sub>3</sub>, HFCs, and BC as the major SLCPs (CCAC, 2014).

#### Metrics for comparing climate impacts

Radiative forcing (RF) is defined as the perturbation in the net radiative flux (W m<sup>-2</sup>) at the tropopause or top of the atmosphere, typically after allowing stratospheric temperatures to adjust but holding all surface and tropospheric conditions fixed, that occurs due to a change in the atmospheric abundance or distribution of a radiatively active atmospheric constituent (IPCC, 2013d). It is common practice to report RF as that induced by differences between present-day and preindustrial atmospheric burdens of a particular atmospheric constituent, in order to quantify the anthropogenic contribution. IPCC (2013a) uses 1750 as the beginning of the industrial era. The RF modifies the energy balance of the earth system, inducing changes in the earth's surface temperature in order to reestablish equilibrium (a balanced energy budget).

Effective radiative forcing (ERF) is the change in the net top-of-the-atmosphere downward radiative flux induced by a change in GHGs or aerosols, after allowing for physical quantities such as atmospheric temperatures, water vapor, and clouds, but not the ocean or sea ice, to adjust (IPCC, 2013d). For PM, ERF thus includes both aerosol-radiation interactions and aerosol-cloud interactions. Including these rapid adjustments in the ERF is thought to provide a better estimate of the eventual temperature response to atmospheric perturbations to these constituents than RF (Boucher et al., 2013; Myhre et al., 2013a). For many non-aerosol constituents, rapid adjustments are not well characterized (e.g., tropospheric  $O_3$ ), so the RF metric is used.

Global warming potential (GWP) is a metric commonly used to compare climate impacts of an atmospheric constituent relative to CO<sub>2</sub>. Specifically, GWP measures the integrated RF following a pulse unit mass emission of an atmospheric constituent relative to that of a unit mass of CO<sub>2</sub> over a selected time period, combining the effects of atmospheric lifetimes and potency (i.e., efficacy of trapping terrestrial radiation) relative to CO<sub>2</sub> (IPCC, 2013d). The most common choice for time period is 100 years (GWP<sub>100</sub> shown in Table 2), but some favor 20 years for SLCPs. The choice of time scale implicitly includes value judgments (Myhre et al., 2013a). The strengths and limitations of this metric are discussed in Myhre et al. (2013a); a notable weakness is that GWP cannot convey information regarding regional climate responses unless they scale directly with global RF.

Climate penalty is either the increase in surface  $O_3$  resulting from regional climate warming in the absence of precursor emission changes or the additional precursor emission reductions needed to achieve a targeted level of air quality in a warmer climate (Wu et al., 2008a). Bloomer et al. (2009) defined the "climate penalty factor" as the slope of the local-to-regional observed  $O_3$ -temperature relationship. This observed "climate penalty factor" may not be a good indicator of the "climate penalty" if the observed relationship is not stationary (i.e., reflects a common dependence of temperature and  $O_3$  on another driver).

Return level describes the probability of exceeding a specified value of some quantity of interest within a specified time window using statistical methods from extreme value theory. These methods are commonly used to quantify hydrological extremes, for example, the level of the "50-year" flood. In an analogous manner, Figure 11 shows return levels for the 1-year summertime  $O_3$  event, corresponding to the probability of observing an  $O_3$  event of that level or higher on one out of 92 summer days.

Pollutant	Lifetime	Major sources	Anthropogenic emissions <sup>b</sup>	GWP <sup>c</sup> 100
Methane (CH <sub>4</sub> )	~10 years	Agriculture (livestock, rice production), oil and gas systems, coal mining, waste management	350 Tg CH <sub>4</sub>	29
Tropospheric ozone (O <sub>3</sub> )	Days (near-surface, summer) to months (free troposphere, winter)	Multiple sources of precursors (see Figure 2) CH <sub>4</sub> (above) Carbon monoxide (CO) Nitrogen oxides (NO <sub>x</sub> ) Nonmethane volatile organic compounds (NMVOC)	1040 (Tg yr <sup>-1</sup> ) 39 (Tg N yr <sup>-1</sup> ) 210 (Tg yr <sup>-1</sup> )	1.9 -11 <sup>d</sup> 4.5 <sup>h</sup>
Black carbon (BC)	Days to weeks	Open biomass burning, residential cooking and heating with biomass and coal, industrial coal, diesel engines	$8.2 (Tg yr^{-1})$	660 900 <sup>e</sup>
Organic carbon (OC)	Days to weeks	Same as BC for directly emitted OC; secondary organics from some biogenic and anthropogenic precursor gases	36 (Tg yr <sup>-1</sup> )	$-66^{f}$
Sulfur oxides (SO <sub>x</sub> )	Days	Energy-related fossil fuel combustion, industrial processes such as metal smelting, marine shipping	54 (Tg S yr <sup>-1</sup> )	-38
CO <sub>2</sub>	100 to $\gg$ 1000 years	Fossil fuel combustion, cement production, land-use change <sup>g</sup>	$10 (Pg C yr^{-1})$	1

**Table 2.** Near-term climate forcing air pollutants (and precursors) with  $CO_2$  shown for comparison; although emissions for SLCPs are much smaller than  $CO_2$ , they have much larger GWPs<sup>a</sup> over 100 years.

*Notes:* <sup>a</sup>*Global Warming Potential* (GWP; see Key Terms) is an imperfect measure used to compare the relative warming produced by different pollutants relative to CO<sub>2</sub> over a period of time (here, 100 years). A ton of CH<sub>4</sub> emissions is 28.5 times more potent than a ton of CO<sub>2</sub> over 100 years. The short lifetimes of the non-CH<sub>4</sub> O<sub>3</sub> precursors and PM components result in higher values for nearer time periods (e.g., GWP<sub>10</sub>). GWPs for precursors reflect forcing from secondary products including sulfate and nitrate aerosols, O<sub>3</sub>, and indirect effects on reactive GHGs (e.g., CH<sub>4</sub>). See also Figure 1.

<sup>b</sup>Present-day estimates (~2010) from IPCC AR5 WGI (Ciais et al., 2013; Myhre et al., 2013a; IPCC, 2013b).

<sup>c</sup>From Table 8.SM.17 of Myhre et al. (2013a).

<sup>d</sup>The net negative represents competition between NO<sub>x</sub>-induced increases in O<sub>3</sub> (warming) versus decreases in CH<sub>4</sub> (cooling), which cause the GWP for nearer time periods (GWP<sub>10</sub> or GWP<sub>20</sub>) to be positive.

<sup>e</sup>From Bond et al. (2013). Range of 120 to 1800 including all forcing mechanisms.

<sup>1</sup>Even more uncertain than estimates for the other highly uncertain short-lived species because this estimate assumes OC is scattering (cooling) but there is some evidence for a stronger contribution from absorbing (warming) organic particles (see main text).

<sup>g</sup>Includes conversion of forests to agriculture and other human-induced transitions to land cover; biofuel and open burning are included to the extent that these activities are a net source of atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub>.

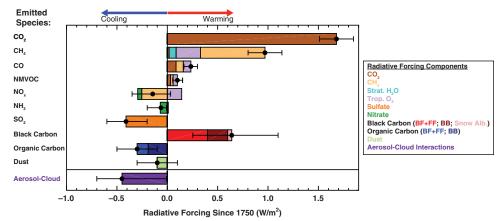
<sup>h</sup>From Table 8.A.5 of Myhre et al. (2013).

the GHGs. This net cooling effect of PM reflects offsetting influences from warming BC and "brown" organic carbon (BrC) particles versus cooling sulfate, nitrate, and other OC particles. All individual PM components can interact with clouds, disrupting natural precipitation and circulation patterns (e.g., Boucher et al., 2013; Bond et al., 2013).

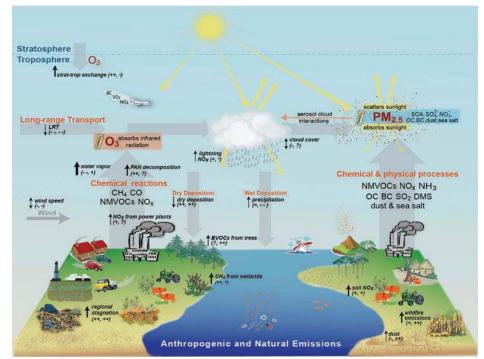
Interactions between air quality and climate occur on multiple space and time scales, through various mechanisms (Figure 2). Tropospheric O<sub>3</sub> forms from photochemical reactions involving nitrogen oxides (NO<sub>x</sub>), nonmethane volatile organic compounds (NMVOCs), CH<sub>4</sub>, or carbon monoxide (CO). Fine PM with diameter smaller than 2.5  $\mu$ m (PM<sub>2.5</sub>) is both directly emitted from surface sources (primary PM) and formed in the atmosphere through gas- and aqueous-phase chemical reactions among precursor species (secondary PM). Direct emissions are the main sources of sea salt, mineral dust, and BC and OC from combustion. Secondary components include sulfate (via oxidation of precursor gases SO<sub>2</sub> and dimethyl sulfide [DMS]), ammonium nitrate (via reactions of NO<sub>x</sub> and NH<sub>3</sub> gases), and secondary organic aerosols (SOA; via oxidation of some NMVOCs). The abundance of all secondary aerosols also depends on anthropogenic influences that affect aerosol formation from emitted precursors (Unger et al., 2006; Carlton et al., 2010; Shindell et al., 2009; Leibensperger et al., 2011).

The production, distribution, and combustion of fossil fuels (e.g., in power plants, residential heating and cooling, on-road and off-road vehicles, ships, and aircraft) are major sources of PM and  $O_3$  precursors, and  $CO_2$  to the atmosphere. Anthropogenic CH<sub>4</sub> is emitted from agricultural activities (e.g., raising livestock), and from landfills and wastewater treatment facilities. The inadvertent release during production of natural gas, particularly through hydraulic fracturing operations, is receiving attention (e.g., Brandt et al., 2014). Many air pollutants and GHGs have natural sources: Wildfires produce all of the species shown in Figure 2; the terrestrial biosphere emits NMVOCs and  $NO_x$ ; the oceanic biosphere is a source of sulfur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>, via oxidation of DMS) and possibly OC (e.g., Quinn and Bates, 2011). Sea salt aerosol is considered natural, while the source of mineral dust can be influenced by human activities (Ginoux et al., 2012). Lightning is a source of NO<sub>x</sub>, and volcanoes release SO2. The largest single source of CH4 is from wetlands. Many of these species are removed from the atmosphere by chemical reactions, photolysis, or deposition to the surface. PM is removed by both wet and dry deposition, with higher rates of wet deposition for the soluble species and mixtures that dominate the fine fraction.

The climate variables depicted in Figure 2 represent local thermodynamic responses as well as broader changes in



**Figure 1.** Globally averaged radiative forcing (RF; see Key Terms) of climate from preindustrial (1750) to present (2011) of air pollutants and their precursor emissions, as compared to carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions. PM components (also referred to as aerosols) include sulfate, nitrate, black carbon (BC), organic carbon (OC) and dust. The RF from aerosol–radiation interactions is shown for aerosol components except for "aerosol–cloud," which is the effective radiative forcing (ERF; see Key Terms) from aerosol–cloud interactions. Values are the IPCC (2013a) best estimates assessed by Myhre et al. (2013a; their Table 8.SM.6; colored bars), with uncertainty ranges (their Table 8.SM.7; black vertical bars). Through atmospheric chemistry, many emitted species (methane [CH<sub>4</sub>], carbon monoxide [CO], nonmethane volatile organic compounds [NMVOC], nitrogen oxides [NO<sub>x</sub>], ammonia [NH<sub>3</sub>], and sulfur dioxide [SO<sub>2</sub>]) influence multiple atmospheric constituents ("Radiative Forcing Components"). Also shown are BC and OC RFs from biofuel and fossil fuel combustion (BF + FF), from biomass burning (BB) and from BC deposited on snow (Snow Alb.). Rapid adjustments to all aerosol-radiation interactions reduce the ERF by  $-0.1 \text{ W m}^2$  (Table 8.6; Myhre et al., 2013a). The total global average anthropogenic RF for all components (including additional GHGs such as halocarbons and nitrous oxide, and land-use change) is +2.3 W m<sup>-2</sup> (90% confidence range of +1.1 to +3.3 W m<sup>-2</sup>; Myhre et al., 2013a).



**Figure 2.** Air quality and climate connections, following Figure 2 of Isaksen et al. (2009), Table 1 of Jacob and Winner (2009), and Table 1 of Fiore et al. (2012). Anthropogenic and natural emitted species include  $CH_4$ , CO, NMVOC,  $NO_x$ ,  $SO_2$ ,  $NH_3$ , OC, BC, dimethyl sulfide (DMS; from oceanic biota), mineral dust, and sea salt. Orange text describes atmospheric processing (formation, removal, and transport) of air pollutants. Black text with black arrows indicates the sensitivity of these processes to climate warming; thinner arrows denote lower confidence or regional variability in the sign of the change (increase is up; decrease is down; double-headed arrow implies no clarity on the sign of change) in response to a warming climate. Dual black symbols in the parentheses indicate how (O<sub>3</sub>, PM) respond to the change indicated for each process (for double-headed arrows, the (O<sub>3</sub>, PM) response denoted is for an increase in the process): ++ consistently positive, + generally positive, = weak or variable; - generally negative, - consistently negative, ? uncertainty in the sign of the response, and \* the response depends on changing oxidant levels. Not shown are primary biological aerosol particles (PBAP; e.g., pollen, fungi, bacteria, algae, and viruses), which may affect climate (Després et al., 2012).

atmospheric circulation, which may undergo climatological shifts in response to changes in the energy budget induced by perturbing the abundances of GHGs and PM. These changes in climate affect the sources and sinks of air pollutants (Figure 2). They also alter the chemical and transport processes modulating the formation and accumulation of pollution from the nearsurface atmosphere where they are hazardous to human health, vegetation, and the built environment. For example, numerous studies highlight the potential for more frequent drought in the southwestern U.S. as the climate warms; the resulting impacts on wildfires and dust could worsen PM pollution (Seager et al., 2007; Cook et al., 2009; Spracklen et al., 2009; Flannigan et al., 2009). The potential for climate warming to exacerbate  $O_3$  pollution in populated (polluted) regions (Jacob and Winner, 2009; Weaver et al., 2009; Fiore et al., 2012; Kirtman et al., 2013) has led to widespread use of the term climate penalty (Wu et al., 2008a; see Key Terms) to convey the adverse impact of climate change on air pollution. These strong connections between air pollution and climate underlie calls for a more coordinated approach to addressing climate change and air quality goals (e.g., Ravishankara et al., 2012).

Air quality management faces multiple challenges. Healthbased evidence supports tighter air quality standards. A lower  $O_3$  NAAQS level may be set in 2015, and the PM<sub>2.5</sub> annual mean NAAQS was lowered in 2012. Lower NAAQS levels raise the relative importance of background levels, which do not respond directly to regulated U.S. emission sources, but include components such as global CH<sub>4</sub> or transported foreign pollution that might be addressed through international negotiations (e.g., Task Force on Hemispheric Transport of Air Pollution [TF HTAP], 2010a, 2010b, 2010c). CH<sub>4</sub> is not presently regulated as an O<sub>3</sub> precursor in the U.S., as its lifetime of about a decade precludes it from contributing to local or regional O<sub>3</sub> pollution episodes, though it does increase background  $O_3$  levels in surface air (Fiore et al., 2002). The recent addition of climate goals to U.S. air pollution policy raises the profile of CH<sub>4</sub> emission reductions for attaining air quality and climate goals simultaneously (EPA, 2009). This expansion of scope to include climate goals further implies a need to quantify climate warming induced by health-motivated reductions of cooling PM<sub>2.5</sub> components such as sulfate (Raes and Seinfeld, 2009) so that actions can be taken to offset this climate disbenefit. Finally, the vehicles and electricity-generating units initially targeted for CO<sub>2</sub> reductions have already been regulated for decades under the Clean Air Act, to improve health and reduce acid rain and visibility impairment, though those controls did not slow CO<sub>2</sub> emission growth (Bachmann, 2007; Watson, 2002).

In the following, we (1) describe the historical and future emissions frequently used to address both the impacts of air pollutants and their precursors on climate and the influence of climate change—and variability—on U.S. air pollution; (2) review major interactions between air quality and climate, including impacts on extreme  $O_3$  and PM pollution events in the context of changing air pollutant emissions; (3) highlight emerging challenges to U.S. air quality management; and (4) recommend research directions aimed at supporting a more holistic approach to U.S. air pollution management and at advancing our understanding of air quality-climate connections. Throughout this critical review, we summarize findings from IPCC (2013a) and extend or revise those findings in light of newer work where possible.

## **Emissions of Air Pollutant NTCFs**

Quantifying climate impacts from a particular species, region, or sector requires accurate global emissions. High-quality inventories are needed to underpin international agreements aimed at limiting long-range transport of air pollution (e.g., TF HTAP, 2010a) or to attain global air quality or climate goals. In some cases, emissions are directly measured (e.g., continuous emission monitors on U.S. power plant smokestacks) or modeled (e.g., from mobile and biogenic sources). At the global scale, bottom-up emissions from human activities are typically calculated as the product of activity data (e.g., energy consumption, agricultural activities, industrial production) and an emission factor for a particular chemical species per activity, and are allocated onto a geographical grid (Lamarque et al., 2010, and references therein). Several gridded regional and global emission inventories exist for air pollutants (see http:// www.geiacenter.org).

Emission inventory quality varies widely because of diversity in methodology, input data, and assumptions (Granier et al., 2011). The U.S. and Europe have implemented strong air pollution control programs, spurring efforts to quantify emissions from specific sources and track their changes over time, leading to multiple estimates that are in better agreement and show consistent declines in key pollutants since the 1980s (see Figure S1; Supplemental Text S1; Granier et al., 2011). Emission inventory development and validation is supported in these regions by continuous emissions monitors, ambient monitoring networks, and air quality modeling. In sharp contrast, large uncertainties exist in emission inventories for developing countries because of a lack of emissions monitoring, lack of validation against in situ measurements, and incomplete and conflicting activity data (e.g., Bond et al., 2013; Sadavarte and Venkataraman, 2014), resulting in low-quality emission inventories (see Figure 5 of Granier et al., 2011; Amann et al., 2013; Bond et al., 2013; Smith et al., 2011; TF HTAP, 2010a).

Global air pollutant emissions have increased since 1850 and have undergone spatial and sectoral redistribution (Lamarque et al., 2010; Smith et al., 2011). Modeled preindustrial  $O_3$  and PM distributions based on historical emission inventories generally simulate levels higher than the limited and uncertain observations (e.g., Bauer et al., 2013; Lee et al., 2013; Myhre et al., 2013a, Stevenson et al., 2013), indicating uncertainty in model-based preindustrial to present-day RF (or the effective RF) estimates discussed in the next section. New measurements from ice cores in Greenland offer the possibility of improved constraints on the temporal evolution of *near-term climate forcer* (NTCF) emissions since the preindustrial (Geng et al., 2015).

Due to targeted air pollution controls, anthropogenic air pollutant emissions decoupled from  $CO_2$  in the U.S. (Bachmann, 2007; www.epa.gov/airtrends/aqtrends.html) and

other developed nations (Amann et al., 2013) after peaking in the 1970s. Decreases in U.S. emissions of SO<sub>2</sub> and NO<sub>x</sub>, driven by Clean Air Act requirements through federal rules and state plans since the 1970s and 1990s, respectively, are confirmed by in situ and satellite observations (de Gouw et al., 2014; Reuter et al., 2014, Russell et al., 2012; Duncan et al., 2013; Lamsal et al., 2015; Tong et al., 2015) and incorporated into more recent emission inventories (Xing et al., 2013; Klimont et al., 2013). In China, emission controls and improved energy efficiency led to SO<sub>2</sub> and CO emission decreases, while NO<sub>x</sub> and VOC emissions continued to grow during 2005-2010 (Zhao Y. et al., 2013; Kurokawa et al., 2013), indicating that the latter remain tightly coupled to CO<sub>2</sub> and therefore to energy consumption. In contrast, air pollutant emissions from India increased rapidly after 2000, driven by growth in energy demand and absence of regulation (Kurokawa et al., 2013; Sadavarte and Venkataraman, 2014). Emissions from developing nations are more uncertain, but rapid advances in spacebased estimation of emissions are anticipated when tropospheric composition is observed continuously from geostationary platforms (e.g., Hoff and Christopher, 2009; Streets et al., 2013, 2014; Chance et al., 2013). While the northern midlatitudes will likely be well covered, maintaining global coverage as achieved with current polar-orbiting satellites or through additional geostationary platforms will be crucial for observing emission changes in the tropics and southern hemisphere.

Future air pollutant emissions scenarios have been developed systematically for use in climate modeling (see Supplemental Text S1). Air pollutant emission projections based on the IPCC Special Report on Emission Scenarios (SRES) (Nakicenovic et al., 2000) were not suitable for air quality projections, as they did not consider the emerging emissions controls in developing countries after 1990 (Amann et al., 2013), projecting continued growth in emissions (e.g., global NO<sub>x</sub> emissions in 2100 relative to 2000 change by -12 to +175%) and model-simulated O<sub>3</sub> concentrations (e.g., Prather et al., 2003). To address this flaw, near-term pollutant emission scenarios were developed (Dentener et al., 2005; Cofala et al., 2007) that implement either current air quality legislation (CLE) or all technologically feasible control strategies globally regardless of cost (maximum feasible reduction, MFR) to 2030 (Dentener et al., 2005, 2006; Stevenson et al., 2006; Kloster et al., 2008). The new Representative Concentration Pathways (RCPs) (Moss et al., 2010; van Vuuren et al., 2011a) climate forcing scenarios include both air pollutants and GHGs (including stratospheric ozone depleting substances). The fundamental difference between the SRES and RCP scenarios is that the SRES versions are tied to specified socioeconomic changes while the RCPs are not, and thus multiple socioeconomic and environmental pathways can yield the same RCP RFs (Nakicenovic et al., 2014; O'Neill et al., 2014).

The four RCP scenarios span a range of RF in 2100 relative to preindustrial atmospheric composition, from 2.6 W m<sup>-2</sup> (assuming implementation of stringent climate policies) to 8.5 W m<sup>-2</sup> (no climate policy), with each RCP produced by a different integrated assessment model (IAM; Masui et al., 2011; Riahi et al., 2011; Thomson et al., 2011; van Vuuren et al. 2011b). For continuity with historical emissions (Lamarque et al., 2010; see Supplemental Text S1), the IAM emissions, projected over the 2005–2100 time period, were harmonized (set equal) to the emissions in year 2000 in the historical data set (van Vuuren et al., 2011a) to provide a temporally smoothed trajectory for global GHG abundances and gridded anthropogenic and biomass burning emissions of air pollutants and their precursors from 1850 to 2100 (Lamarque et al., 2010; Meinshausen et al., 2011; van Vuuren et al., 2011a). The models branch at 2006 into the four RCP pathways. This data set formed the basis of chemistry– climate model (CCM) simulations for the Atmospheric Chemistry and Climate Modeling Intercomparison Project (ACCMIP) (Lamarque et al., 2013) and the Coupled Model Intercomparison Project (CMIP5) (Taylor et al., 2012) studies assessed in the Fifth Assessment Report of the IPCC (IPCC AR5) (e.g., Bindoff et al., 2013; Collins M. et al., 2013; Flato et al., 2013; Kirtman et al., 2013; Myhre et al., 2013a).

Over the 21st century, all RCPs project a declining trend for  $O_3$  and PM precursor emissions except NH<sub>3</sub>, which rises with population and food demand in all scenarios, and CH<sub>4</sub> in the RCP8.5 scenario, where a high fossil-intensive energy sector combines with increasing population and associated high food demand (Riahi et al., 2011) (Figure S2). The trends in sectoral emissions differ by world regions (e.g., U.S. vs. East Asia in Figure S2). Despite growth in fossil-intensive emissions from the energy and industry sectors (particularly high in East Asia) in RCP8.5, air pollutants emissions decrease (earlier in the U. S., later in East Asia). A key feature of the RCP2.6 scenario is that it assumes bioenergy and carbon capture and storage technologies to achieve negative CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by the end of the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

Two assumptions common across the RCPs drive the decline in air pollution emissions: (a) air pollution controls become stringent with time as income levels rise, and (b) climate policies aimed at controlling GHG emissions decrease air pollutant emissions from common sources (van Vuuren et al., 2011a). These assumptions lead to a small spread across the RCP global short-lived pollutant emissions. For example, the RCP aerosol and O<sub>3</sub> precursor emissions are factors of 1.2 to 3 smaller than SRES by 2030 (Kirtman et al., 2013). Similarly, the spread across RCP air pollutant emissions by 2030 is much smaller than the range between the CLE and MFR scenarios:  $\pm 12\%$  versus  $\pm 31\%$  for NO<sub>x</sub>;  $\pm 17\%$  versus  $\pm 60\%$  for SO<sub>2</sub>;  $\pm 5\%$  versus  $\pm 11\%$  for CO (Kirtman et al., 2013). Most of this narrow range of projected pollutant emissions in the mid to long term across the RCPs is driven by uncertainties in projecting emissions from developing nations and is not fully representative of other possible scenarios with little or no pollution controls (e.g., SRES) (Chuwah et al., 2013; Amann et al., 2013; Kirtman et al., 2013; Rogelj et al., 2014a). The small range for air pollutant emissions across the RCPs, aside from CH<sub>4</sub>, limits their utility in gauging the range of possible future changes in air quality and in climate responses to NTCFs.

### Influence of Air Pollutants on Climate

We review here recent estimates of RF and *effective radiative forcing* (ERF) (see Key Terms) from various air pollution-related gases and particles (Table 2), as well as estimates of changes in global and regional climate resulting from perturbations to their abundances in the atmosphere. Methods used to estimate impacts on the climate system are summarized in Table S1. A quantitative understanding of the climate effects of air pollutants is critical in the mitigation of future climate change for two principal reasons.

First, the net cooling impact of anthropogenic PM on 20thcentury climate change (Figure 1) obfuscates, or "masks," the effect of CO<sub>2</sub>. The lack of a precise quantification of this cooling influence lessens confidence in future climate projections. If anthropogenic PM were a significant contributor to 20th-century climate, then it must have coincided with a large warming from increasing levels of CO<sub>2</sub> and other GHGs to produce the observed increase in global mean surface temperature (GMST; linear trend of +0.85°C from 1880 to 2012; see Supplemental Text S2; Table S2). The converse is also true: If anthropogenic PM has a small impact on climate, then the influence of the increase in CO2 on the climate system ("climate sensitivity"; typically defined as the equilibrium GMST change from a doubling of atmospheric  $CO_2$ ) is not required to be as strong to reproduce observed changes. Models with a strong response to anthropogenic PM tend to simulate a larger climate sensitivity, implying that models with strong aerosol forcing will project more warming from GHGs as the PM burden decreases (Kiehl, 2007; Knutti, 2008).

Second, an improved understanding of air pollutant impacts on climate is necessary to assess the unintended climate impacts of recent and future air quality regulations (Leibensperger et al., 2012a; Makkonen et al., 2012; Levy et al., 2013; Rotstayn et al., 2013) and the potential to mitigate near-term warming by selective emission reductions of *shortlived climate pollutants* (SLCPs) (e.g., Ramanathan and Xu, 2010; Schmale et al., 2014), the warming subset of NTCFs (see Table 2 and Key Terms). Uncertainties in the location and strength of PM emission sources, atmospheric chemistry, transport and removal processes, and interactions with clouds and radiation compound into large uncertainties in assessing the ultimate regional and global climate changes induced by PM and its precursors (e.g., Climate Change Science Program [CCSP], 2008; Boucher et al., 2013; Myhre et al., 2013a).

Longer lived substances are generally well quantified from a few measurements around the globe. In the case of CH<sub>4</sub> and even longer lived  $CO_2$  (Table 2), ice cores record preindustrial concentrations, so the differences in CH<sub>4</sub> and CO<sub>2</sub> abundances from the preindustrial to present atmosphere (monitored by global networks), and resulting RFs, are well known. By contrast, the short lifetimes of O<sub>3</sub> and PM lead to high spatial variability, confounding precise knowledge of the present-day atmospheric burden, with few available measurements documenting preindustrial to present-day changes. Estimates of RF from O<sub>3</sub> and PM, or its individual components, thus rely on models. Models simulate different atmospheric distributions even when driven with the same emission inventories (e.g., Shindell et al., 2013; Stevenson et al., 2013; Young et al., 2013), leading to different RFs (and ERFs) for the same emission perturbation in different models. Observations, both in source regions (e.g., Ryerson et al., 2013) and in remote regions of the atmosphere (e.g., Wofsy et al., 2011), are needed to differentiate among the wide range of geographic and altitudinal distributions of NTCFs in current models.

In contrast to the spatially varying abundances and associated RFs of air pollutants and their precursors, only one-third to one-half of an emitted  $CO_2$  pulse is taken up by the land and ocean within several decades, with 15-40% remaining in the atmosphere for 1,000 years (Ciais et al., 2013). Higher cumulative CO<sub>2</sub> emissions produce higher CO<sub>2</sub> atmospheric fractions that remain for millennia (Ciais et al., 2013; see their Box 6.1). As such, the climate forcing and the responses triggered by changes in air pollutant emissions occur over a much shorter period than for CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, a direct consequence of the short time scale between ceasing emissions and lowering RF. The climate system has a delayed time scale in reaching equilibrium temperature changes in response to RF, whether induced by short- or long-lived atmospheric constituents, due to oceanic heat storage (Held et al., 2010). Because of its long atmospheric lifetime, the climate impacts from CO<sub>2</sub> (and other long-lived GHGs) integrate over time with a dependence on their cumulative emissions, whereas the climate effects of  $O_3$ , PM, and their precursors reflect their emission rates (see, e.g., Pierrehumbert, 2014).

Regional climate responses, including temperature, precipitation, and atmospheric circulation patterns, are of most relevance for societal impacts. These regional climate responses are unlikely to scale simply to global mean RF (or GMST), and thus threedimensional numerical general circulation models (GCMs; Table S1), are our best tools for exploring regional climate responses. Developed over the last decade by merging GCMs with chemistry-transport models (CTMs), models of atmospheric chemistry and climate (CCMs) represent a new tool for studying air pollutant-climate interactions by directly coupling the climate system with atmospheric composition (Table S1). In GCMs, CCMs, and CTMs, CH<sub>4</sub> is typically set to observed abundances, by fixing a concentration or lower boundary condition, as either a global average or latitude-dependent abundance (e.g., Lamarque et al., 2013). For O<sub>3</sub> and PM, precursors are emitted in CTMs and CCMs and undergo chemical and physical processing prior to eventual removal in the models (Figure 2), whereas they are prescribed (i.e., specified and noninteractive) in GCMs. The ACCMIP (Lamarque et al., 2013) and AeroCom (Aerosol Comparisons between Observations and Models), Phase II (Schulz et al., 2009), have recently evaluated the current generation of CCMs and CTMs with available observations (see summary in Supplemental Text S3).

CTM-RTM (radiative transfer model) and CCM studies find that short-lived species induce spatially heterogeneous RF, roughly following the geographic patterns of emissions (e.g., Fuglestvedt et al., 1999; Naik et al., 2005; Berntsen et al., 2005). The forcing location (geographic and vertical) may affect regional surface temperature, precipitation, and circulation patterns (e.g., Shindell and Faluvegi, 2009; Shindell et al., 2010; O'Gorman et al., 2011; Menon et al., 2002; Leibensperger et al., 2012a; Levy et al., 2013), although the climate responses do not necessarily mirror the spatial patterns of the RF (e.g., Levy et al., 2008, 2013; see PM as discussed later). In the following, we review the contributions from  $O_3$ , PM, and their precursors to anthropogenic RF, ERF, and climate responses based on the recent IPCC AR5 Working Group I (WGI) report (Boucher et al., 2013; Myhre et al., 2013a) and update with newer work.

#### Methane and ozone

Summing the RF from emissions of CH<sub>4</sub> and other tropospheric O<sub>3</sub> precursors (NO<sub>x</sub>, NMVOC, and CO) in Figure 1 yields two-thirds of the ERF from CO<sub>2</sub> alone. Changes in the atmospheric CH<sub>4</sub> and tropospheric O<sub>3</sub> abundances together contribute roughly half of the CO<sub>2</sub> ERF from the preindustrial (1750) to the present day (2011). This comparison, however, does not convey the time scales involved in altering the atmospheric abundances of CH<sub>4</sub> and O<sub>3</sub> relative to CO<sub>2</sub> (e.g., Table 2).

*Methane*. CH<sub>4</sub> is a potent GHG; the change in its atmospheric abundance from 1750 to 2011 contributes an RF of  $+0.48 \pm 0.5$  W m<sup>-2</sup>, second only to CO<sub>2</sub> among the GHGs. Cast in terms of the change in CH<sub>4</sub> emissions, the estimated RF nearly doubles to +0.97 W m<sup>-2</sup> (90% confidence intervals of +0.74 to +1.20; Figure 1; IPCC, 2013c). This doubling reflects the additional RF contributed by the tropospheric O<sub>3</sub>, stratospheric water vapor, and CO<sub>2</sub> produced during CH<sub>4</sub> oxidation. The CH<sub>4</sub> RF estimated from the abundance change is grounded in direct measurements and more robust than estimates based on more uncertain emission changes.

Changes in emissions of NOx, NMVOC, and CO alter the lifetime of CH<sub>4</sub> through atmospheric chemistry (Prather, 1996, 2007). Specifically, the preindustrial to present-day growth in CO and NMVOC emissions lengthens the atmospheric lifetime of CH<sub>4</sub>, raising its abundance (Figure 1), because these short-lived gases compete for the hydroxyl radical (OH), the major  $CH_4$  sink. The contemporary rise in NO<sub>x</sub> emissions, however, shortens the  $CH_4$  lifetime (by increasing OH), more than offsetting the impact from the concomitant rise in CO and NMVOC emissions (Figure 1; John et al., 2012; Naik et al., 2013). Through this competition for OH, increases in CH<sub>4</sub> emissions prolong the lifetime of CH<sub>4</sub>; the estimated time scale for oxidation of a pulse of  $CH_4$  emitted today is ~12 years (Ehhalt et al., 2001; Holmes et al., 2013; Fiore et al., 2009), as compared to the estimated atmospheric lifetime (burden divided by emission rate) of 9.1  $\pm$  0.09 years (Prather et al., 2012). Rising CH<sub>4</sub> emissions have also been implicated in lengthening the lifetimes of other NTCFs (e.g., hydrofluorocarbons [HFCs] and hydrochlorofluorocarbons [HCFCs]) and in decreasing the (cooling) sulfate burden (Shindell et al., 2009), though other models show a weaker response of sulfate to changes in CH<sub>4</sub> emissions (Fry et al., 2012). Most estimates of CH<sub>4</sub> impacts on the climate system have neglected changes in the stratospheric O<sub>3</sub> burden, which Holmes et al. (2013) suggest enhance the RF from CH<sub>4</sub> emissions by producing a net increase in stratospheric O<sub>3</sub>.

*Tropospheric*  $O_3$  *and its precursors.* The preindustrial to present-day rise in tropospheric  $O_3$  contributes an estimated RF of +0.40 W m<sup>-2</sup> (+0.20 to +0.60), the third highest RF among GHGs (Myhre et al., 2013a). This  $O_3$  RF is induced by

increasing emissions of its precursor gases (Figure 1), attributed by a set of CCM-RTMs (Table S1) to  $CH_4$  (44 ± 12%),  $NO_x$  (31 ± 9%), CO (15 ± 3%), and NMVOC (9 ± 2%) (Figure 1; Stevenson et al., 2013). The impact of changes in  $NO_x$ , CO, and NMVOC on the tropospheric O<sub>3</sub> burden occurs on short time scales (days to months), whereas the portion of the tropospheric O<sub>3</sub> burden produced via  $CH_4$  oxidation responds on the decadal timescale of atmospheric  $CH_4$  perturbations (see Methane subsection and Supplemental Text S3 for evaluation of models used to estimate O<sub>3</sub> RF).

The combined forcings from NO<sub>x</sub>, CO, and NMVOC as mediated through CO2, O3, CH4 lifetime, and nitrates (Figure 1), have been estimated using CTM-RTMs (Table S1). A complementary approach combines tropospheric O<sub>3</sub> retrieved from the Tropospheric Emission Spectrometer (TES) satellite instrument with an adjoint CTM (Table S1) to characterize the variability in the RF from O<sub>3</sub> precursor emissions in different regions (Bowman and Henze, 2012). These studies find a larger impact on RF from NOx and NMVOC emitted in tropical regions due to their stronger leverage on atmospheric OH (highest in the tropical lower troposphere where radiation and water vapor are abundant; OH increases with NOx, but decreases with NMVOC) and thereby the CH<sub>4</sub> lifetime, and due to active convection that can loft  $O_3$  to the cold tropical upper troposphere where it is most efficient at trapping terrestrial radiation (e.g., Fuglestvedt et al., 1999; Naik et al., 2005; Fry et al., 2012, 2014; Stevenson et al., 2013). The  $O_3$  produced from  $CH_4$  is not strongly sensitive to emission location but does depend on the atmospheric NO<sub>x</sub> distribution (Fiore et al., 2008).

Anthropogenic emissions of CO and NMVOC exert a net positive RF by increasing tropospheric  $O_3$  and CH<sub>4</sub>, with a larger net impact from CO (e.g., Fry et al., 2012, 2013, 2014), which partially reflects its dominant role as a sink for tropospheric OH (e.g., Spivakovsky et al., 2000). The longer CO lifetime as compared to NMVOC translates into less dependence of RF on emission location than for NMVOC (Fry et al., 2013, 2014). Reducing NO<sub>x</sub> emissions lowers the atmospheric abundances of O<sub>3</sub> and nitrate, but increases CH<sub>4</sub> long-term; higher CH<sub>4</sub> raises tropospheric O<sub>3</sub> and stratospheric water vapor (e.g., Fuglestvedt, et al., 1999; Wild et al., 2001; Shindell et al., 2009).

The damage  $O_3$  causes to plants leads to an additional, highly uncertain, influence on the carbon cycle and thus atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> (e.g., Sitch et al., 2007; Fry et al., 2012; W. J. Collins et al., 2013); interactions may also occur through nutrient (e.g., nitrogen, phosphorus) or acid deposition (Quinn Thomas et al., 2010; Mahowald, 2011). Changes in oxidant availability may also affect PM abundances (e.g., less OH, less sulfate; Unger et al., 2006; Rae et al., 2007), though models disagree on the magnitude of the sulfate response to these oxidant changes (e.g., Fry et al., 2012). While the net effect of NO<sub>x</sub> on the climate system is likely cooling, the magnitude is uncertain, and overlaps zero (Figure 1). This uncertainty reflects large, opposing effects that occur on different time scales: NOx reductions lead to short-term cooling from O<sub>3</sub> versus short-term warming from nitrates and long-term warming from CH<sub>4</sub>. The RF from NO<sub>x</sub> emission perturbations varies spatially with the latitude and altitude of emissions (e.g., Holmes et al., 2011). Surface emissions are much less efficient at perturbing upper tropical tropospheric  $O_3$  burdens (where RF is greatest) than stratosphere-to-troposphere transport or light-ning NO<sub>x</sub>. All of these complexities are challenging to encapsulate in a simple metric of climate impacts (e.g., Table 8.A.3 from Myhre et al., 2013a).

#### PM and components

All PM components (aerosols) scatter sunlight (Watson, 2002), a fraction of which is directed back to space and cools the surface. A portion of aerosol components (BC, mineral dust, brown carbon) additionally absorbs solar radiation, warming the atmosphere but also cooling the surface below as less radiation reaches the surface (e.g., Ramanathan and Feng, 2009). These aerosol-radiation interactions are referred to as the "direct effect," but updated nomenclature from IPCC AR5 (Boucher et al., 2013) replaces this term with "radiative forcing due to aerosol-radiation interactions" (RFari; Figure 3).

Absorbing aerosols can trigger rapid cloud adjustments by modifying the vertical temperature profile, sometimes causing clouds to "burn off," called the "semi-direct effect" and incorporated into the effective radiative forcing due to aerosol– radiation interactions (ERFari; Figure 3). By altering the vertical temperature profile (warming aloft and cooling at the surface), absorbing aerosols enhance atmospheric stability and the potential for pollutant accumulation (Ackerman et al., 2000; Ramanathan et al., 2005).

Other aerosol-cloud interactions trigger rapid adjustments that are incorporated into the effective radiative forcing due to microphysical cloud interactions (ERFaci; Figure 3). Aerosols alter the climate by modifying cloud microphysical properties, processes referred to as "aerosol indirect effects." Both natural and anthropogenic aerosols serve as cloud condensation nuclei (CCN) and ice nuclei (IN), aiding in the formation of liquid droplets and ice crystals, respectively. A liquid cloud with more anthropogenic aerosols contains more CCN, producing more cloud droplets. Each drop will be

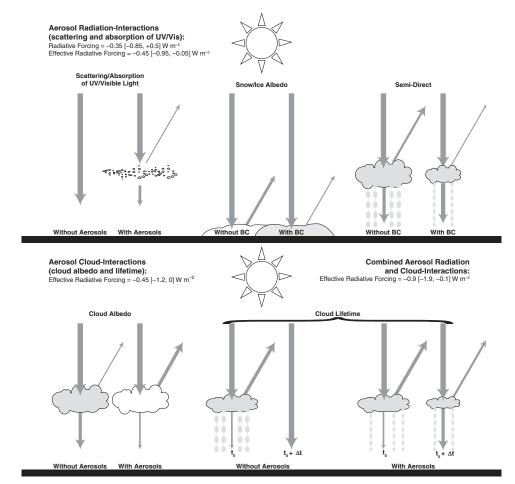


Figure 3. Interactions between aerosols and solar radiation and clouds. The top panel shows aerosol-radiation interactions, which include the direct influence of scattering and absorbing aerosol particles and albedo reduction of surface snow/ice cover by BC, and the rapid feedback due to atmospheric warming by BC, the semidirect effect. The lower panel depicts aerosol-cloud interactions and aerosol-induced changes in cloud properties, including higher albedo (left) and longer lifetime (right). The cloud albedo effect is often termed the first aerosol indirect effect (Twomey, 1977) and the cloud lifetime effect is often termed the second aerosol-induced interactions nomenclature is a recasting of the aerosol direct effect and aerosol indirect effects, respectively (Boucher et al., 2013). Radiative and effective radiative forcing estimates include 5th–95th percentile confidence intervals (Myhre et al., 2013a).

smaller than its "clean cloud" counterpart since the cloud liquid water is distributed across a greater number of droplets. More numerous and smaller droplets modify cloud optical properties, making clouds brighter and more reflective (cloud-albedo effect). Smaller cloud drops also slow droplet growth rates, prolonging the lifetime of a cloud before precipitation (cloud lifetime effect). Both of these effects indirectly increase the amount of solar radiation scattered to space by clouds, and also change precipitation patterns (Figure 3).

Many estimates of aerosol RF or ERF depend on GCMs driven by prescribed aerosol abundances, CTMs, or fully coupled CCMs that simulate aerosol abundances from emissions (Table S1). The AeroCom II and ACCMIP CCMs and CTMs form much of the basis for multimodel aerosol forcing estimates presented in the following (see Supplemental Text S3). Reliable observations of aerosols extend, at best, to the 1960s, with most long-term site records beginning in the late 1980s or early 1990s. Long-term (1980-2000) trends retrieved over water from the AVHRR satellite instrument are subject to uncertainties in the retrieval method, but are qualitatively reproduced by models. Preindustrial aerosol abundances can only be inferred from ice (McConnell et al., 2007a,b; Ruppel et al., 2014; Zdanowicz et al., 2015) or sediment cores (Husain et al., 2008), which are collected in remote regions not necessarily representative of conditions close to source regions. Background levels can be estimated using present-day abundances of natural aerosols, that is, the nonanthropogenic component, but pristine conditions are difficult to find (Hamilton et al., 2014). Sea salt is a natural PM component in the marine environment and important in determining background marine CCN distributions, but its abundance remains uncertain (Jaeglé et al., 2011; Grythe et al., 2014). Mineral dust levels are uncertain, often large, and mostly natural (Huneeus et al., 2011), with recent estimates suggesting an anthropogenic contribution of at least 25% (Ginoux et al., 2012; Stanelle et al., 2014). Organic aerosols from natural sources can act as CCN and scatter solar radiation, and the BrC fraction absorbs sunlight, but segregating the anthropogenic contribution from natural remains challenging, due in part to anthropogenic influences on aerosol formation from biogenic precursor gases (Carlton et al., 2010; Ford and Heald, 2013). Anthropogenic aerosols alter the local physical climate and nutrient (or pollutant) supply to ecosystems, thereby inducing changes in biogeochemical cycles that might otherwise be considered natural. One study estimates that aerosol-induced changes in the carbon cycle have lowered atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> and associated RF by 0.5  $\pm$  0.4 W  $m^{-2}$ (Mahowald, 2011).

IPCC AR5 estimates the net global mean RFari for all aerosols to be -0.35 [5–95% uncertainty range of -0.85 to +0.15] W m<sup>-2</sup> and ERFari to be -0.45 [-0.95 to +0.05] W m<sup>-2</sup> (Boucher et al., 2013). The total ERF encapsulating both aerosol-radiation and aerosol-cloud interactions is estimated to be -0.9 [-1.9 to -0.1] W m<sup>-2</sup> (Boucher et al., 2013). These estimates are based upon model calculations, primarily drawing from the AeroCom II (Myhre et al., 2013b) and ACCMIP (Shindell et al., 2013) multimodel studies, and observation-

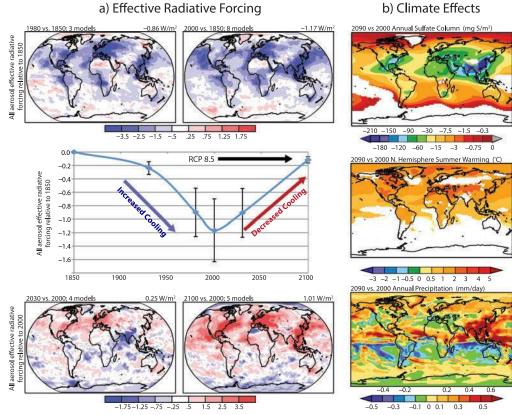
based analyses (Myhre et al., 2009; Bellouin et al., 2013; Bond et al., 2013). Large uncertainty in the overall aerosol ERF arises from insufficient knowledge of the preindustrial aerosol abundance (Carslaw et al., 2013), present-day aerosol abundance (Koch et al., 2009a), model representation of clouds and their changes (Boucher et al., 2013; Flato et al., 2013), aerosol-cloud interactions, and the semidirect component of ERF (Bond et al., 2013; Golaz et al., 2013).

The spatially inhomogeneous distributions of aerosols and their RF, as compared to CO<sub>2</sub> and other well-mixed GHGs, can elicit different climate responses for the same global mean RF (e.g., Hansen et al., 2005; Shindell, 2014). Figure 4a illustrates spatial patterns of anthropogenic ERF for 1980 and 2000 relative to 1850, as well as for projections to 2030 and 2100 relative to 2000 (Shindell et al., 2013). The global anthropogenic aerosol abundance and ERF are projected to climax around present day. Continued reductions are projected for the 21st century (Figure 4a) under the RCP scenarios (see Emissions section above). These reductions are estimated to benefit human health (Silva et al., 2013), improve visibility, and lessen acid deposition. They would also lessen the net cooling influence that has slowed the increase in GMST induced by rising GHGs, and would reduce aerosol-induced perturbations of precipitation patterns. Figure 4b shows an example from one CCM in which anthropogenic aerosols are reduced, inducing surface warming (most locations in the Northern Hemisphere warm in summer by an additional 1°C, with some regions over 2°C) and changes in precipitation (particularly strong over Asia) by the end of the 21st century. The decrease in the sulfate burden in Figure 4b corresponds to the spatial pattern of ERF determined from the ACCMIP multimodel ensemble in Figure 4a, emphasizing the dominant role of anthropogenic sulfate in pre-industrial to present-day climate forcing, and its decline along the RCP scenarios.

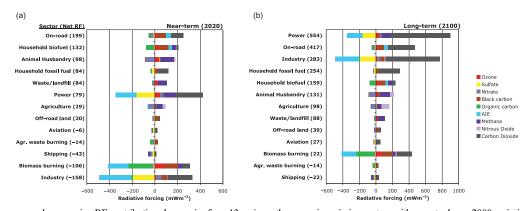
The climate impacts resulting from spatially inhomogeneous aerosol forcings can span local to global scales (Jacobson et al., 2007; Shindell and Faluvegi, 2009; Shindell et al., 2010; Ming et al., 2011; Leibensperger et al., 2012a; Levy et al., 2013). The spatial correlation between the change in sulfate column burden and the ultimate changes in surface air temperatures or precipitation is fairly weak (Figure 4b). Kloster et al. (2009) noted an amplified response of the hydrological cycle to changes in aerosols relative to GHGs. The climate effects of changes in domestic PM emissions may extend well beyond the jurisdiction of a given source region. Ganguly et al. (2012) and Bollasina et al. (2014) found that both local and remote aerosol sources have influenced the South Asian Monsoon, particularly precipitation in India, with the local aerosol source dominating the effect. Shindell and Faluvegi (2009) and Shindell et al. (2010) found that mid-latitude aerosol RF influences climate on a global scale, with a particularly large effect on the Arctic.

In the following, we summarize the RF, ERF, and climate impacts of the major anthropogenic aerosol components. Aerosol formation, removal, and natural sources are expected to respond to climate (Figure 2), and we discuss specific processes in Supplemental Text S4.

#### All Aerosol:



**Figure 4.** Estimated climate forcing from aerosols at selected historical and future time periods, and an example of changes in climate by the 2090s due to aerosol reductions. (a) Global mean ERF (see Key Terms) relative to 1850 estimated from multimodel (ACCMIP CCMs) time slice simulations at 1930, 1980, 2000, 2030, and 2100. Also shown are the spatial patterns of all aerosol ERF at 1980 and 2000 relative to 1850, and at 2030 and 2100 under RCP8.5 relative to 2000. (b) Estimated impact on climate from 21st-century reductions in atmospheric aerosol abundances as projected by one CCM (GFDL CM3) for RCP4.5; SO<sub>2</sub> trends are similar to RCP8.5. Top panel: decrease in annual sulfate burden at the end of the 21st century. Middle and bottom panels: changes and temperature and precipitation, respectively, induced by the aerosol reductions. The changes in (b) are obtained by differencing a set of scenarios: One follows the RCP4.5 scenario for both GHGs and PM, and another holds PM and its precursors at 2005 levels but follows RCP4.5 for GHGs. White areas in the top two panels are where the difference between the two simulations is less than twice the standard deviation of annual variability in a control simulation (perpetual 1860 conditions). Adapted with permission from (a) Figure 18 of Shindell et al. (2013) in accordance with the license and copyright agreement of European Geosciences Union, and (b) Figure 6 of Levy et al. (2013) according to the license and copyright agreement of American Geophysical Union.



**Figure 5.** Illustrative approach comparing RF contributions by species from 13 major anthropogenic emission sectors with perpetual year 2000 emissions by (a) 2020 and (b) 2100, adapted with permission from Figure 1 of Unger et al. (2010). The RFs from  $O_3$  and PM and their precursors are estimated using a CCM, while the RFs from CH<sub>4</sub>, nitrous oxide (N<sub>2</sub>O), and CO<sub>2</sub> are estimated with a reduced complexity climate model (Table S1). The net RF is shown next to each sector. Reductions in emissions from sectors with positive RFs will produce a climate cooling, and vice versa. The RF from individual atmospheric constituents is shown in color, for example, of BC-rich sectors as household biofuel, and on-road transportation (largely from diesels). AIE denotes aerosol–cloud interactions formerly referred to as the aerosol indirect effect (Figure 3). Sector rankings (from strongest warmers to strongest coolers) change from near-term (a) to long-term (b) due to different atmospheric lifetimes of species. Uncertainties in these estimates reflect poorly bounded emission magnitudes including for cooling versus warming agents and naturally arising climate variability, and are largest for household fossil fuel and biofuel, off-road (land) transportation, shipping, biomass burning, and agricultural waste burning.

Sulfate. Sulfate aerosols form through  $SO_2$  oxidation in both gaseous and aqueous phases. Sulfate contributes most to the cooling component of anthropogenic aerosol RF, with an IPCC AR5 RFari of -0.4 [5–95% uncertainty range is -0.6 to -0.2] W m<sup>-2</sup> (Myhre et al., 2013a; Figure 1), consistent with more recent estimates (e.g., Li et al., 2014; Heald et al., 2014; Zelinka et al., 2014). Sulfate also plays a dominant role in anthropogenic aerosol–cloud interactions (Takemura et al., 2012; Shindell et al., 2013). Zelinka et al. (2014) estimate a total ERF (ERFari + ERFaci) for sulfate of -0.98 W m<sup>-2</sup>, which is 84% of their estimate for net forcing from all aerosols.

Anthropogenic sulfate is most concentrated in the midlatitudes of the Northern Hemisphere where anthropogenic SO<sub>2</sub> sources are largest. This nonuniform forcing distribution creates a hemispheric disparity in cooling that can alter the large-scale atmospheric circulation. Sulfate cooling of the Northern Hemisphere has been hypothesized to shift the Intertropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) southward (Hwang et al., 2013). The ITCZ is the principal tropical band of precipitation, and a southward shift may have contributed to the Sahel drought (Biasutti and Giannini, 2006; Giannini et al., 2008; Ackerley et al., 2011) and influenced the frequency of hurricanes (Merlis et al., 2013). Within the Northern Hemisphere, sulfate cooling is largest in the midlatitudes (~40° N) and may induce a southward shift of the jet stream (Rotstayn et al., 2014). Shifts in the jet stream have large ramifications, including for air pollution, given their association with the trajectory and intensity of mid-latitude storm systems that ventilate the polluted boundary layer. Sulfate cooling has also been found to influence precipitation within mid-latitude storms (Igel et al., 2013; Thompson and Eidhammer, 2014), the intensity of the Pacific storm track (Wang, Yuan et al., 2014), the southward shift of precipitation in eastern China (Wang et al., 2013), spatial shifts in largescale and convective precipitation in northeastern North America (Mashayekhi and Sloan, 2014), and precipitation and lightning within supercell thunderstorms (Morrison, 2012; Mansell and Ziegler, 2013; Kalina et al., 2014).

The cloud-albedo effect, which is dominated by sulfate in current models, depends on assumed preindustrial abundances (Carslaw et al., 2013) due to the logarithmic relationship between aerosol number concentration (number of particles per volume) and cloud droplet number concentration (number of cloud droplets per volume). This nonlinear dependence leads to a plateau in the concentration of cloud droplets as aerosol abundances increase. Stevens (2013) suggested that the cloudalbedo effect is now irrelevant since its magnitude may have leveled off in the 1980s despite continued increases in the global aerosol burden (Carslaw et al., 2013). This view, however, ignores the continuing effect of fine PM reductions in North America and Europe since the 1980s (see previous section). While trends vary by region, global emissions of SO<sub>2</sub> declined by 2010 to a level not seen since the 1960s (Klimont et al., 2013; Smith et al., 2011). Moreover, the RCP scenarios project SO<sub>2</sub> emissions nearing preindustrial levels by the end of the 21st century (Figure S2). Such large changes could lead to CCN also reverting to near preindustrial levels, unleashing additional unmasking of GHG warming. Observed

decreases in aerosols (Murphy et al., 2011; Leibensperger et al., 2012b; Keene et al., 2014) have apparently already produced near-term climate impacts. Leibensperger et al. (2012a) attributed a portion of the rapid warming in the U.S. during the 1980s to reductions in the cooling influence of sulfate aerosols.

Nitrate. Nitrate aerosol forms via oxidation of NO<sub>x</sub>, but it is closely coupled to sulfate because of their shared interaction with ammonia and interdependence through aerosol thermodynamics, which favors formation of ammonium sulfate over ammonium nitrate. Nitrate aerosol formation requires the presence of ammonia to neutralize gaseous nitric acid and form ammonium nitrate particles (Seinfeld and Pandis, 2006; Pinder et al., 2007; Pinder et al., 2008). The lifetime of nitrate is usually shorter than sulfate due to its high volatility (high temperatures favor the gas phase). The RFari of nitrate is estimated at -0.11 [-0.3 to -0.03] W m<sup>-2</sup> (Boucher et al., 2013; Figure 1), but may become increasingly important as decreasing SO<sub>2</sub> emissions lower the sulfate demand on ammonia, enabling increased (ammonium) nitrate formation (Bauer et al., 2007; Bellouin et al., 2011; Hauglustaine et al., 2014). The magnitude of nitrate changes, however, varies by region (Blanchard et al., 2007) and with PM composition (Ansari and Pandis, 1998), which could result in minimal nitrate compensation of sulfate decreases. Differing seasonal cycles of sulfate (greatest in summer) and nitrate (greatest in winter) also complicate nitrate compensation. Nitrate RF was not included in most of the ACCMIP models, but two project an increase, while one indicates little change (Shindell et al., 2013).

Black carbon (BC). The primary source of BC is inefficient combustion of carbon-containing fuels (Table 2). BC absorbs sunlight, exerting a positive RF, which warms the atmosphere. Current knowledge of emissions, RF, and climate impacts was summarized by Bond et al. (2013) and EPA (2012). IPCC AR5 estimates a BC RFari for anthropogenic fossil fuel and biofuel use of +0.4 [+0.05 to +0.8] W  $m^{-2}$  (Boucher et al., 2013; Figure 1), which is a compromise between a lower value from the AEROCOM II model intercomparison (+0.23 W  $m^{-2}$ ) (Myhre et al., 2013b) and the higher value from Bond et al. (2013) (+0.51 W m<sup>-2</sup>). IPCC AR5 estimates additional contributions of  $+0.2 \text{ W m}^{-2}$  from biomass burning sources and +0.04W m<sup>-2</sup> from BC deposited on bright snow and ice surfaces (Myhre et al., 2013a), yielding a total of +0.64 W m<sup>-2</sup> (Figure 1). Rapid adjustments are particularly important for BC, which extend the fossil fuel, biofuel, and biomass burning BC RFari ( $\pm 0.71 \text{ W m}^{-2}$ ) of Bond et al. (2013) to an ERFari  $\pm$ ERFaci of +1.1 [+0.17 to +2.1] W m<sup>-2</sup>, largely through cloud modifications (+0.23 [-0.47 to +1.0] W m<sup>-2</sup>) and changes in surface albedo (+0.10 [+0.014 to +0.30] W m<sup>-2</sup>). We discuss below the uncertainties in estimating BC ERFari and ERFaci.

The RFari from BC is sensitive to its vertical profile (Samset et al., 2013) and the assumed mixing state of aerosol particles (Jacobson, 2000). Chemically inactive, BC can acquire coatings of hydrophilic gases and aerosol species that generally scatter sunlight, including sulfate and some organic aerosol, as it ages. The absorption cross section of BC particles increases with this coating and the surface scattering components focus sunlight into the BC core, enhancing absorption ("lensing effect"). Estimates of BC RFari can differ by up to  $0.5 \text{ W m}^{-2}$  depending on BC mixing-state assumptions (Klingmüller et al., 2014). Observations indicate that accurate representation of hydrophilic coatings of BC, and of the time scale for their accrual, is critical in determining the atmospheric lifetime of BC against wet deposition, the dominant BC sink (Jacobson, 2012; Wang X. et al., 2014, and Wang Q. et al., 2014). Models including these processes better match remote aircraft observations, and suggest revising downward the RFari from BC by as much as 25% (Samset et al., 2014; Wang, X. et al., 2014; Wang, Q. et al., 2014).

BC and BrC (see OC section) have an additional indirect forcing pathway following their removal from the atmosphere: deposition onto bright snow and ice surfaces, which decreases surface albedo and increases absorption of incoming sunlight (Figure 3). If the presence of BC induces melting that reveals underlying dark ground or ocean surfaces, there is an additional forcing adjustment that constitutes a positive feedback. Myhre et al. (2013a) and Bond et al. (2013) estimate this pathway to contribute a global mean ERFari (which includes the rapid adjustments from cryospheric or land-surface feedbacks triggered by the deposited BC) of +0.10 [0.014 to 0.30] W m<sup>-2</sup>.

By serving as IN, or CCN if sufficiently coated in hydrophilic material, BC modifies ice, mixed-phase, and liquid clouds, but the magnitude and sign of these effects are uncertain. BC induced atmospheric warming can evaporate cloud droplets, "burning off" the cloud (semidirect effect; Figure 3). This alters precipitation and reduces cooling from clouds. For example, Panicker et al. (2014) observed less cloud liquid water and increased absorption of solar radiation in BC-polluted cloud layers in northeast India than in cleaner cloud layers. BC absorption is enhanced when it serves as a CCN, due both to a lensing effect and to scattering cloud particles that focus sunlight on a BC particle within a cloud. Cloud absorption effects are potentially a large positive RF (Jacobson, 2012, 2014). Bond et al. (2013) estimate radiative effects of BC (including the semidirect effect) on liquid clouds to be -0.1 [-0.3 to +0.1] W m<sup>-2</sup>, on mixed-phase clouds to be +0.18 [0.0 to +0.36] W m<sup>-2</sup>, and on ice clouds to be 0.0 [-0.4 to +0.4] W m<sup>-2</sup>, based upon two, three, and two modeling studies, respectively.

The eventual, net climate effect of BC is surface warming (Wang, 2004; Hansen et al., 2005; Chung and Seinfeld, 2005; Jones et al., 2007; Koch et al., 2009b; Jacobson, 2010), even though the local surface directly beneath BC cools initially. BC is generally found to decrease precipitation (Figure 3), reflecting the net sum of two opposing influences: atmospheric heating aloft versus BC-induced surface warming, which would tend to increase precipitation (Andrews et al., 2010; Ming et al., 2010; O'Gorman et al., 2012). BC has been tied to a stronger temperature response at northern mid-latitudes (Shindell and Faluvegi, 2009), regional northward shifts of the ITCZ (Wang, 2007), and expansion of the tropical zone (Allen et al., 2012). Large sources of BC in India and China

likely influence the Asian monsoon (Menon et al., 2002; Meehl et al., 2008; Randles and Ramaswamy, 2008; Wang et al., 2009; Bollasina et al., 2011; Ganguly et al., 2012; Bollasina et al., 2014).

Organic carbon (OC). The IPCC AR5 estimate for organic aerosol (primary and secondary) RF is -0.12 [-0.4 to +0.1] W m<sup>-2</sup> (Boucher et al., 2013; Figure 1). OC includes aerosols from both primary combustion sources, which are largely the same as for BC, and secondary organic aerosols (SOA) formed from natural and anthropogenic organic precursor emissions (Lambe et al., 2013). Both primary and secondary sources can include partially absorbing components, collectively termed brown carbon (BrC; see also Supplemental Text S4).

New techniques are improving measurements of speciated OC and total carbon (Turpin et al., 2000; Chow et al., 2005; Goldstein and Galbally, 2007; Chow et al., 2011; Chen et al., 2014), crucial for source apportionment and identifying the chemical mechanisms leading to SOA formation (Carlton et al., 2009; Aumont et al., 2012; Zhang and Seinfeld, 2013). Models typically underestimate organic aerosols (Heald et al., 2005), but consideration of aqueous cloud processing (of isoprene oxidation products; e.g., Lim et al., 2005; Carlton et al., 2007; Ervens et al., 2008) improves model-observation comparisons (Carlton et al., 2008; Fu et al., 2008), and these processes are beginning to be incorporated into the models in Table S1 (He C. et al., 2013). Additional SOA formation pathways occur on aqueous aerosols (e.g., McNeill et al., 2012; McNeill, 2015) and may depend on anthropogenic sulfate via aerosol liquid water (Carlton and Turpin, 2013), but many of these processes are not yet included in the models used to estimate climate forcings.

The AeroCom models attribute -0.03 [-0.04 to -0.01] W m<sup>-2</sup> of the OC RF to biofuel and fossil fuel sources and another -0.06 [-0.15 to +0.03] W m<sup>-2</sup> from biomass burning (Myhre et al., 2013b). The IPCC AR5 estimates SOA RF to be -0.03 W m<sup>-2</sup>, with a wide 90% confidence interval (-0.27 to +0.20 W m<sup>-2</sup>); SOA increases since the preindustrial era reflect enhanced partitioning of biogenic precursor gases to anthropogenic particles and oxidation changes associated with anthropogenic activities (Myhre et al., 2013a; see their Table 8.4). The large, but uncertain, biogenic fraction of OC complicates RF estimates, especially for aerosol–cloud interactions due to the sensitivity to background levels of cloud droplet number concentration (Scott et al., 2014).

The absorbing component of OC, BrC, is neglected in many models. Observations over California indicate that BrC absorption is 20–40% that of measured elemental carbon (Bahadur et al., 2012; Chung et al., 2012), which peaks in summer with SOA production and forest fire frequency (Bahadur et al., 2012). Smog chamber experiments indicate that BrC from biomass burning depends mainly on burn conditions, and can be parameterized as a function of BC to organic aerosol ratios (Saleh et al., 2014). Woo et al. (2013) suggest that secondary BrC forms through aqueous chemistry in aerosol and cloud droplets. X. Wang et al. (2014) used AERONET AAOD (aerosol absorption optical depth) and in situ observations to conclude that BrC absorption has been incorrectly attributed to BC, and that BrC contributes an RF of  $+0.11 \text{ W m}^{-2}$ . Aircraft observations over the U.S. reveal BrC throughout the troposphere, increasing relative to BC with altitude, consistent with a free tropospheric, secondary BrC source (G. Lin et al., 2014). A large absorbing BrC component could cancel the scattering portion of OC, leaving the net forcing of BC plus OC aerosols roughly equal to the forcing of BC (Chung et al., 2012).

#### Attributing climate impacts to specific sectors

Thus far, we have focused on climate impacts resulting from perturbations to individual air pollutants (Figure 1), yet most sources emit more than one air pollutant. A single emitting source thus alters multiple atmospheric constituents, and each perturbation sets in motion a suite of climate responses. While some air pollution controls can remove a single pollutant from some sources (e.g., PM, NO<sub>x</sub>, or SO<sub>x</sub> from power plants), the current lack of widely applicable technology to prevent CO<sub>2</sub> release to the atmosphere means that controlling CO<sub>2</sub> emissions necessarily involves changes in co-emitted species by improving combustion, switching to less carbon intensive fuels, or switching to renewable energy sources. Consideration of the full suite of air pollution and climate implications when developing climate or air pollution strategies may help to maximize public health, climate, and other benefits, while guarding against unintended adverse consequences.

In a conceptual exercise, Unger et al. (2010) attributed climate forcing to specific economic sectors (Figure 5), illustrating the complexity introduced by considering co-emitted pollutants, a viewpoint absent from Figure 1. Adjoint methods (Table S1) offer an efficient approach to estimating RF for sectors or regions of interest (Henze et al., 2012), and complement the forward-model source perturbation approach of Unger et al. (2010). Figure 5 contrasts the temporal differences in RF from NTCFs versus CO<sub>2</sub>. Sectors that warm near-term climate (2020; Figure 5a) the most include high-CH<sub>4</sub> emitters (animal husbandry and waste/landfill sectors) or BC-rich emitters (on-road vehicles and household biofuel and household fossil use). For long-term climate warming (2100; Figure 5b), the energy sector becomes the major player with its high CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, followed by road vehicles. Industry switches from inducing a strong net cooling in 2020 to a strong net warming by 2100 as the negative RF due to shortlived sulfates (and associated aerosol-cloud interactions) is overwhelmed by CO<sub>2</sub> RF in the long term (Figure 5a vs. Figure 5b). For BC, lowering emissions from "BC-rich" sectors including diesel engines and household biofuel and fossil-fuel use appears more likely to offer climate benefits than reducing biomass burning (Bond et al., 2013; Unger et al., 2010; Figure 5). Thus, continued BC emissions reductions from diesel PM regulations, widely adopted in the developed world are likely to produce a near-term climate benefit (EPA, 2012; Ramanathan et al., 2013).

Figure 5 reveals opposite-signed RF from aerosol-cloud interactions, with warming attributed to BC-rich sources but cooling attributed to sulfate-rich sources. This result stems from different cloud responses to BC versus sulfate, all of

which are highly uncertain (for more detail see Jacobson, 2012; Bond et al., 2013; Boucher et al., 2013). Jacobson (2014) suggests that the net negative forcing for biomass burning in Figure 5a may be incorrect, in part due to BC cloud absorption effects, and to other factors such as BrC neglected in prior estimates, which combined might lead to a net warming on a 20-year time scale.

Several studies examine the impact of the aviation sector on atmospheric composition and climate (Holmes et al., 2011; Unger, 2011; Köhler et al., 2013; Olsen et al., 2013). Aviation NO<sub>x</sub> exerts a stronger impact on climate than equivalent NO<sub>x</sub> emissions from surface sources (e.g., Wild et al., 2001; Unger, 2011), and even these vary as a function of latitude, with larger impacts at lower versus higher latitudes (Köhler et al., 2013). Figure 5 suggests aviation switches sign from near- to long-term as warming from CO<sub>2</sub> outweighs the near-term cooling from sulfate and the decrease in CH<sub>4</sub> associated with NO<sub>x</sub> emissions, though the net RF is small relative to other sectors (Figure 5; Holmes et al., 2011).

Emissions from the agricultural and animal husbandry sectors are projected to increase over the 21st century as population grows. Decreasing CH<sub>4</sub> emissions from these sectors (Figure S2) could lessen near-term warming, while reducing the associated N<sub>2</sub>O would lessen long-term warming (Figure 5), as well as helping meet stratospheric  $O_3$ objectives (Ravishankara et al., 2009). Several studies project an increase in global nitrate aerosol over the 21st century as SO<sub>2</sub> emissions decline while NH<sub>3</sub> emissions from agricultural sources rise (Liao and Seinfeld, 2005; Bauer et al., 2007; Pye et al., 2009, Bellouin et al., 2011; Hauglustaine et al., 2014). Preventing growth in NH<sub>3</sub> could thus help maintain some of the air quality benefits attained from controlling  $SO_x$  (e.g., Lehmann et al., 2007; Leibensperger et al., 2012b), along with the climate disbenefits. Emissions of NH<sub>3</sub> and CH<sub>4</sub> from the agriculture, animal husbandry, and waste/landfill sectors, however, are poorly quantified (e.g., Pinder et al., 2006; Dlugokencky et al., 2011; Kirschke et al., 2013; Matthews, 2012). Measurements from field campaigns targeting regions heavily influenced by agriculture (Ryerson et al., 2013) and from satellite-based instruments that can provide a global picture of NH<sub>3</sub> (e.g., Shephard et al., 2011; van Damme et al., 2014) and CH<sub>4</sub> (e.g., Frankenberg et al., 2008; Bloom et al., 2010; Wecht et al., 2012; Turner et al., 2015) offer the potential to advance our understanding of emissions from these sectors. Wecht et al. (2014a) demonstrate the potential for spacebased instruments to provide spatially detailed information within a region (California). The long-term remote network measuring CH<sub>4</sub> is invaluable for tracking global CH<sub>4</sub> changes and bounding the total emissions (e.g., Dlugokencky et al., 2003; 2009) but needs extension to bound regional or sectoral emissions (Dlugokencky et al., 2011). Isotope measurements offer promise for distinguishing among CH<sub>4</sub> sources (e.g., Mikaloff Fletcher, 2004a, 2004b; Monteil et al., 2011).

The broad definitions of the economic sectors in Figures S2 and 5 do not provide information as to the impacts from specific practices within a sector that may change the mix of

emitted species. For example, a switch from entirely coal-based power generation to entirely natural gas within the energy sector would reduce CO<sub>2</sub> and sulfates, but net CH<sub>4</sub> emissions might rise if there is substantial leakage in the production and distribution of natural gas that outweighs the decline in CH<sub>4</sub> release from reduced coal mining (Wigley, 2011). While the reduction of sulfate is beneficial to health and welfare, it accelerates near-term warming (e.g., Wigley et al., 2009), as would any additional CH<sub>4</sub> released to the atmosphere. To assess the climate impacts from fuel transitions, Alvarez et al. (2012) propose a new "technology warming potential" that extends the global warming potential (GWP; see Key Terms and Table 2), considering only CO<sub>2</sub> and CH<sub>4</sub>, to include the impacts from changes in the dominant fuel used for energy production or transportation. A more complete metric would include NTCFs such as  $SO_x$  and BC (Table 2). The utility of metrics to gauge the impacts of changing technological (or agricultural) practices is, however, limited by the credibility of emission estimates.

Accordingly, determining whether U.S. oil and gas operations, including expanded hydraulic fracturing, are in fact releasing much larger amounts of CH<sub>4</sub> to the atmosphere than expected based on older inventories has commanded attention (Brandt et al., 2014). Observational analyses find that emission inventories underestimate U.S. CH<sub>4</sub> emissions, particularly those from fossil fuel extraction and refining (Pétron et al., 2012, 2014; Peischl et al., 2013; Karion et al., 2013; Miller et al., 2013; Kort et al., 2014). An aircraft campaign over southwestern Pennsylvania suggested that shale gas wells in the drilling phase were leaking CH<sub>4</sub> emissions at 2-3 orders of magnitude greater than that estimated by EPA (Caulton et al., 2014). Space-based remote sensing supports these conclusions, indicating leakage rates of ~10% over the Bakken and Eagle Ford shale plays, rates sufficiently high as to call into question the climate benefits of switching from coal to gas (Schneising et al., 2014). Collectively, these observations suggest an upward revision of current estimates of CH<sub>4</sub> release from oil and gas production is needed. Wecht et al. (2014b) find that satellite-inferred CH<sub>4</sub> emissions suggest little need to revise the overall U.S. oil and gas emission budget, but that the livestock source requires upward revision, also noted by Miller et al. (2013). Measurements are crucial to validate the emission inventories used in life-cycle assessments of changes in GHG emissions resulting from fuel switching within the energy sector (e.g., Burnham et al., 2011).

Concerns have been raised as to the air pollution impacts from oil and gas operations (e.g., Litovitz et al., 2013). High wintertime  $O_3$  episodes over snow-covered western U.S. oil and gas fields have been observed (e.g., Pinto, 2009; Schnell et al., 2009). Analysis of measurements during wintertime field campaigns indicates that snow-covered ground enhances photolysis rates to drive rapid  $O_3$  production from the extremely high NMVOC present alongside  $NO_x$  in oil and gas fields (Edwards et al., 2014). Under strong wintertime temperature inversions,  $O_3$  produced photochemically in this manner can accumulate to high concentrations (Edwards et al., 2014).

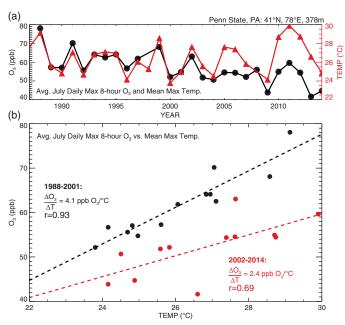
# Climate Influences on Ground-level O<sub>3</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub>

Local to regional weather determines pollutant transport into, within, and out of a given region, while also influencing atmospheric chemistry and emissions. We examine here the responses of ground-level  $O_3$  and  $PM_{2.5}$  to regional climate. These responses include changes in natural emissions, which not only influence local air quality but may also change global atmospheric composition, and thus climate forcing (Figure 2), serving as a feedback to the climate system (Supplemental Text S4). While mercury, persistent organic pollutants, and other air toxics are expected to respond to changes in regional climate (see Jacob and Winner, 2009; TF HTAP, 2010b, 2010c), we retain our focus on  $O_3$  and  $PM_{2.5}$  because of their two-way interaction with the climate system described earlier.

The influence of meteorology on air pollution poses two challenges to air quality management. First, variations in weather on weekly to annual scales introduce an uncontrollable random component that can mask the true efficacy of air quality improvement strategies in the short-term (Gégo et al., 2007). Second, climate change can alter regional meteorology conducive to pollutant buildup, imposing a "climate penalty" (see Key Terms) or, for example, can enhance ventilation of the polluted boundary layer, yielding a "climate benefit" (e.g., Trail et al., 2013). A quantitative understanding of how air pollution meteorology responds to climate change and natural variability is needed to inform air quality planning and regulation accountability for the coming decades (Ravishankara et al., 2012; Dawson et al., 2013).

Studies documenting strong correlations between individual meteorological variables and ozone or PM2.5 were reviewed by Jacob and Winner (2009), and updated by Fiore et al. (2012) and Kirtman et al. (2013). Collectively, these studies constitute a strong line of evidence documenting the potential for changes in regional air pollution meteorology to alter air pollution levels. Historically observed relationships between relevant meteorological variables and O<sub>3</sub> (e.g., Bloomer et al., 2009; Lin et al., 2001) and PM<sub>2.5</sub> (e.g., Tai et al., 2010; Dawson et al., 2013) provide tests for model responses to regional climate variability and change (Rasmussen et al., 2012; Brown-Steiner et al., 2015). CCMs used to project the response of air pollution to changes in climate should accurately represent these present-day relationships (Supplemental Text S5). Applying local observed relationships for statistical downscaling of future air pollution responses to climate change could lead to inaccurate projections when individual meteorological-chemical relationships reflect a common underlying driver such as synoptic meteorology (e.g., the nonstationary temperature-O<sub>3</sub> relationship in Figure 6 and Supplemental Text S6).

An important component of air pollution meteorology is the ventilation and dilution of a pollutant from its source, which often correlates with temperature and humidity in synoptic weather systems. The rate of ventilation is governed by wind speed, direction, and mixing height (vertical extent of surface air mixing): faster winds in a deeper mixed layer rapidly



**Figure 6.** Covariance between  $O_3$  and temperature as measured at the Pennsylvania State Clean Air Status and Trends Network (CASTNet) site in Pennsylvania (41° N, 78° E, 378 m). (a) July mean maximum daily 8-hr average (MDA8)  $O_3$  (black line and circles; left axis) and July mean daily maximum temperature (red line and triangles; right axis) from 1988 to 2014. (b) Scatterplot of the time series in (a) for 1988–2001 (black) and 2002–2014 (red); ordinary least squares slopes and correlation coefficients are shown, illustrating the shift after 2002 induced by regional NO<sub>x</sub> emission controls (Bloomer et al., 2009). A color version of this figure is available online.

disperse and dilute pollutants. Shallow mixed layer depths and low wind speeds restrict vertical motion, trapping air close to the surface and raising near-surface pollutant concentrations. The covariance of a pollutant with mixing depth, however, depends on its vertical profile. For example, free tropospheric  $O_3$  concentrations generally increase with altitude, implying that a deeper mixed layer will mix  $O_3$ -rich air to the surface, as is suggested to occur at high-altitude western U.S. regions (Zhang et al., 2014).

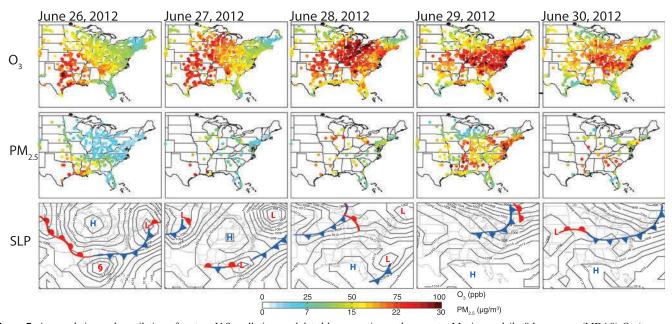
PM<sub>2.5</sub> is affected by precipitation as well as ventilation and mixing, as most components are soluble and undergo wet deposition (in contrast to O<sub>3</sub> and some of its precursors). Regional changes in precipitation influence the spatiotemporal patterns of both fine and coarse particles (Jacob and Winner, 2009, and references therein), and levels of most PM2.5 components correlate negatively with precipitation (Tai et al., 2010). Forecasting the effects of anthropogenic climate change on regional precipitation is subject to major uncertainties (Deser et al., 2012; Deser et al., 2013; Melillo et al., 2014), reflecting notoriously noisy (i.e., subject to large internal variability) and model-dependent projections (Supplemental Text S2). Multiple GCM projections indicate that 21st-century warming will increase winter and spring precipitation over the northern U.S. (Supplemental Text S2). In some regions, changes in precipitation frequency may be most relevant for projecting changes in PM<sub>2.5</sub> (Jacob and Winner, 2009; Fang et al., 2011).

Individual meteorological parameters with physical and quantifiable relationships to air quality include temperature (Bloomer

et al., 2009; Day and Pandis, 2011), humidity, cloud cover, wind speed and direction (Dawson et al., 2007a, 2007b; Kleeman, 2008), boundary-layer depth, and precipitation (Dawson et al., 2013). Changes in these parameters, which tend to vary together on synoptic time scales (days to 1-2 weeks; Tai et al., 2010), alter the propensity for pollutant accumulation within the planetary boundary layer, as well as for secondary formation and removal. Eastern U.S. air pollution episodes commonly develop under the warm, cloud-free, and stagnant conditions of summertime highpressure systems (Logan, 1989; Vukovich, 1995; Hegarty et al., 2007) and terminate with a passing convective storm or cold front (Cooper et al., 2001; Leibensperger et al., 2008). Daily to weekly variation in air pollution meteorology is thus driven by the fluctuation between low- and high-pressure systems. The relationship between air pollution and individual meteorological variables is inflated through covariation on synoptic time scales.

The worst air pollution episodes in the eastern U.S. occur under stagnation events in which stalled high-pressure systems create prolonged periods of light winds, clear skies, and high temperatures. Stagnation events over the eastern U.S. commonly occur under westward excursions of the Bermuda High (Eder et al., 1993; Zhu and Liang, 2012) and North Atlantic atmospheric blocking events (Box 14.2 of Christensen et al., 2013). Figure 7 shows the progression of a June 2012 stagnation event over the eastern U.S., during which air pools and degrades air quality until a cold front arrives. Cold fronts lift warm surface air away from the surface and replace it with cool, clean air. The frequency of stagnation events and its inverse, the number of cold-front passages, are thus strong predictors of air pollution episodes. In lieu of cold fronts, the number of mid-latitude cyclones is commonly used (Leibensperger et al., 2008; Turner et al., 2013), because low-pressure systems are easier to identify and track in both observations and model data: A minimum of sea-level pressure is identified and followed throughout the life cycle of the cyclone. Mid-latitude cyclones migrate under the jet stream, suggesting that jet location may affect air quality, as has been found for decadal time scales (Barnes and Fiore, 2013). A few studies emphasize the role of synoptic meteorology in driving observed daily variations in PM<sub>2.5</sub>. developing predictors that encapsulate changes in numerous meteorological variables (Appelhans et al., 2012; Tai et al., 2012a, 2012b). These statistical predictors are based upon the most frequent meteorological patterns, which resemble the stagnation-cold front progression just described (Tai et al., 2012a). As climate warms during the 21st century, the frequency of migratory cyclones over the northeastern U.S. declines in one CCM (Turner et al., 2013), broadly consistent with a multimodel analysis of 15 GCMs (Tai et al., 2012b).

Climate change is expected to degrade air quality in polluted regions through unfavorable modifications to air pollution meteorology (Kirtman et al., 2013), particularly over the northeastern U.S. (Table S3), likely tied to a decline in the number of mid-latitude cyclones and the decrease in pollution ventilation by their associated cold fronts. Similarly, Horton et al. (2014) project increased stagnation affecting 55% of the global population with upward of an additional 40 days per year in the subtropics, and note a strong susceptibility to increased



**Figure 7.** Accumulation and ventilation of eastern U.S. pollution modulated by synoptic weather events. Maximum daily 8-hr average (MDA8)  $O_3$  (top row), daily 24-hr average PM<sub>2.5</sub> (middle row) measured by the EPA Air Quality System, and sea-level pressure (SLP, bottom row) during a late June 2012 heat wave event, following Figure 1 of Leibensperger et al. (2008). On June 26,  $O_3$  and PM<sub>2.5</sub> remain low as a high-pressure system begins to build in the Midwest behind a passing mid-latitude cyclone (low-pressure system). As the high pressure slowly migrates southeastward June 27–28, pollutants accumulate to maxima exceeding 90 ppb for MDA8  $O_3$  and 25 µg m<sup>-3</sup> for 24-hr PM<sub>2.5</sub>, degrading air quality. Relief arrives through ventilation by the cold front of a mid-latitude cyclone on June 29–30. SLP data are from the National Center for Environmental Prediction-Department of Energy Reanalysis 2, and synoptic analysis is based upon the NOAA Daily Weather Maps archive (http://www.hpc.ncep.noaa.gov/dailywxmap). A color version of this figure is available online.

stagnation in the western U.S. A quantitative understanding of how air-pollution meteorology responds at the regional scale to both climate warming and variability could help to inform air quality planning for the coming decades.

# U.S. Regional Air Quality Projections for the 21st Century

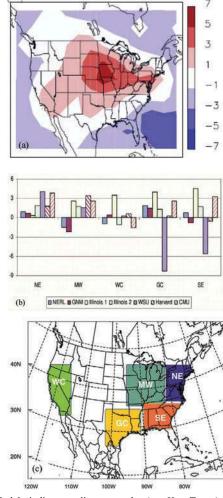
Anthropogenic and natural emission changes, as well as climate-induced changes in air pollution meteorology, will influence future air quality. In this section, we discuss projections for U.S. surface  $O_3$  and  $PM_{2.5}$  in response to climate change in the absence of emission changes, as well as in response to combined changes in climate and emissions, synthesized from various modeling studies. We show surface  $O_3$  and  $PM_{2.5}$  based on RCP projections from the ACCMIP and CMIP5 multimodel initiatives over seven U.S. regions with the regional boundaries used by Melillo et al. (2014). Finally, we address how natural climate variability confounds detection of regional climate change.

# Impact of climate change on U.S. air quality

Numerous modeling studies offer initial insights into U.S. air pollution responses to changing climate or climate variability (Table S1), but there is little agreement across models, with regional changes often conflicting in sign (Figure 8). Changes in surface  $O_3$  and  $PM_{2.5}$  in the different U.S. regions

attributed to climate change by various modeling approaches are compiled in Table S3 (column 5), for 2030, 2050, and 2100. Differences in modeling frameworks, including scenarios, simulation length, and the reported metrics, lead to a wide range in the estimated responses to climate change (Table S3). These studies show that at present-day emission levels, future climate change will degrade O<sub>3</sub> air quality over the U.S., especially over more polluted (high NO<sub>x</sub>) areas, such as the U.S. Northeast, Southeast, Midwest, and southern California (Figures 8 and 9a; Gonzalez-Abraham et al., 2014, Hedegaard et al., 2013; Kelly et al., 2012; Trail et al., 2014; val Martin et al., 2015; Fann et al., 2015). An increase in pollution episodes in the eastern U.S. has been tied to decreasing numbers of summertime frontal passages (Mickley et al., 2004; Leibensperger et al., 2008; Tai et al., 2012a), which may in turn be associated with a northward migration of the midlatitude jet stream (Barnes and Fiore, 2013).

Of the three RCP scenarios considered in Table S3, the air pollution response is greatest for RCP8.5, the no-climate policy (highest RF) scenario. CCM, regional climate model (RCM)– regional chemistry–transport model (RCTM), and GCM–CTM studies suggest that the impact of climate change on U.S. surface  $O_3$  predominantly occurs in summer, with increases of up to 9 ppb over the eastern U.S. (Figures 8 and 9a; Gonzalez-Abraham et al., 2014; Kelly et al., 2012; Trail et al., 2014; val Martin et al., 2015). Many of these studies, however, analyzed a single scenario of short simulation length such that some of this range may reflect climate variability rather than the anthropogenic climate change signal (see



**Figure 8.** Models indicate a climate penalty (see Key Terms) on surface  $O_3$  over the northeastern U.S. but disagree over other regions. Simulated changes in summer mean MDA8  $O_3$  (ppb) in surface air in 2050 relative to 2000 under climate warming, holding  $O_3$  precursor emissions constant at 2000 levels: (a) estimated with a GCM-CTM, the first to point out the climate penalty (reproduced with permission from Figure 2b of Wu et al. [2008a] in accordance with the license and copyright agreement of American Geophysical Union); and (b) regional spatial averages from seven models, each represented by an individual bar, with each group of bars representing one of (c) five U.S. regions. The Harvard model bars in (b) are derived from the simulation shown in (a). Panels (b) and (c) are reproduced from Figures 6 and 7a of Weaver et al. (2009). ©American Meteorological Society. Used with permission. A color version of this figure is available online.

Supplemental Text S2 and below). Trail et al. (2014) find that MDA8 increases in spring in all but one of nine contiguous U. S. regions, and in autumn over the Pacific and Eastern regions, suggesting that climate warming lengthens the  $O_3$  pollution season, consistent with Nolte et al. (2008) and Racherla and Adams (2008), and Figure 9a.

The response of  $PM_{2.5}$  to climate change varies across modeling studies (Table S3), depending strongly on the simulated meteorology. Opposing influences of changes in temperature, precipitation, relative humidity, and stagnation on the individual  $PM_{2.5}$  components and their chemistry confound a clean deciphering of  $PM_{2.5}$  changes. Many studies neglect potentially

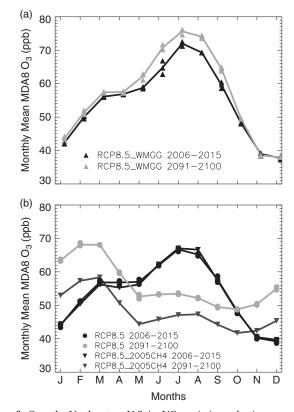


Figure 9. Over the Northeastern U.S.A., NOx emission reductions may guard against a climate penalty (see Key Terms) on MDA8 surface O3 and may reverse the O3 seasonal cycle; rising CH4 induces a year-round O3 increase, most pronounced in winter when the O3 lifetime is longest. Simulated MDA8 surface O<sub>3</sub> (ppb) over the northeastern U.S. (36–46° N, 70–80° W; land only) averaged over 2006-2015 (black) and 2091-2100 (gray) in the GFDL CM3 CCM. (a) A regional warming of 5.5°C increases O<sub>3</sub> from May to September (gray vs. black triangles), diagnosed from a simulation in which well-mixed GHGs follow RCP8.5 but air pollutants are held fixed at 2005 levels (RCP8.5 WMGG; CH<sub>4</sub> follows RCP8.5 for climate forcing but is held at 2005 levels for chemistry). (b) Under the RCP8.5 scenario, CH<sub>4</sub> roughly doubles by the end of the century but NOx emissions decline, decreasing O3 during the warm season but increasing it during the cold season (black vs. gray circles). The NO<sub>x</sub> emission reductions yield summertime O<sub>3</sub> decreases but wintertime increases, diagnosed with a sensitivity simulation in which CH<sub>4</sub> is held at 2005 levels but all other air pollutants and GHGs follow RCP8.5 (RCP8.5\_2005CH<sub>4</sub>; black vs. gray triangles). Doubling of global CH<sub>4</sub> partially offsets the warm season decrease and amplifies the winter-spring increase (gray circles vs. gray triangles). Symbols show decadal averages from individual ensemble members where available; lines show ensemble means. Adapted with permission from Figure S3 of Clifton et al. (2014) according to the license and copyright agreement of American Geophysical Union.

important climate-induced changes in emissions from natural sources, such as increasing wildfires in the western U.S. Simulated climate warming leads to small increases in annual mean  $PM_{2.5}$  in the northeastern U.S. through increased sulfate from SO<sub>2</sub> oxidation (Avise et al., 2009; Dawson et al., 2007b; Gonzalez-Abraham et al., 2014; Kelly et al., 2012; Trail et al., 2014) but there is no agreement on the magnitude. Trail et al. (2014) find that higher temperatures lower OC and ammonium nitrate particles by favoring gas-phase partitioning. Finally, couplings between anthropogenic and biogenic emissions occur; for example, initial estimates suggest that more than half of SOA

derived from BVOC emissions may be controllable (e.g., Carlton and Turpin, 2013; Xu et al., 2015).

Impact of combined changes in climate and emissions on U.S. air quality

Projected changes in regional U.S. surface O<sub>3</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub> from combined changes in climate and emissions in 2030, 2050, and 2100 are summarized in Table S3 (column 6). The anthropogenic precursor emissions assumed in these studies usually follow either the SRES scenarios (e.g., Penrod et al., 2014) in which air pollutants and precursors span a wide future range, including increases (Prather et al., 2003), or RCP scenarios (e.g., Clifton et al., 2014) in which air pollutants and precursors decrease, with the exception of CH<sub>4</sub> in RCP8.5 (Figure S2; Table S4). Alternative lower air pollutant emission projections are also considered (Gonzalez-Abraham et al., 2014; Trail et al., 2014). A few studies estimate future climate-driven emission increases in U.S. PM or O<sub>3</sub> from biogenic sources, wildfires, or anthropogenic land use (e.g., Gonzalez-Abraham et al., 2014; Penrod et al., 2014; val Martin et al., 2015).

Stringent precursor emission reductions projected in the RCP scenarios (Figure S2) lead to summertime surface O3 decreases over the U.S. throughout the 21st century (Table S3; Figures 9b and 10a; Clifton et al., 2014; Gao et al., 2013; Gonzalez-Abraham et al., 2014; Kelly et al., 2012; Pfister et al., 2014; Rieder et al., 2015; val Martin et al., 2015; Trail et al., 2014). These reductions in O<sub>3</sub> precursor emissions more than offset any climate penalty incurred from rising GHGs. Summertime  $O_3$  air quality improves most over the eastern U.S., although the inter-model range is large (shaded region and vertical lines in Figure 10a). Across the majority of U.S. regions, O<sub>3</sub> decreases most under RCP2.6 and least under RCP8.5 as CH<sub>4</sub> increases, with the O<sub>3</sub> projections under the RCP2.6, RCP4.5, and RCP6.0 scenarios dominated by the projected regional  $NO_x$  (and other  $O_3$  precursor) reductions (Figure S2). Trail et al. (2014) find little change in the sensitivity to NO<sub>x</sub> in summer over the 21st century, consistent with the approximately linear dependence of various O<sub>3</sub> metrics on eastern U.S. NOx emission changes found in one CCM (Rieder et al., 2015).

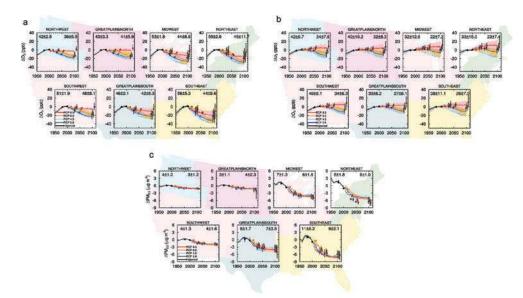
Both global and regional models project some regional wintertime  $O_3$  increases, particularly in the northeastern U.S. and in metropolitan areas (e.g., Los Angeles, New York City), attributed in part to less  $O_3$  titration by NO<sub>x</sub> in winter (Gao et al., 2013; Clifton et al., 2014; Trail et al., 2014). Trail et al. (2014) note negative sensitivity of MDA8 to emissions of NO<sub>x</sub> during fall, which indicates  $O_3$  titration by NO<sub>x</sub> over the northeastern U.S. in their regional model, consistent with the  $O_3$  increases found in a CCM by Clifton et al. (2014) in nonsummer months (RCP4.5 and RCP8.5\_2005CH<sub>4</sub> in Figure 9b). Under the RCP8.5 scenario,  $O_3$  increases in winter (Figure 10b), spring, and fall, largely reflecting the high CH<sub>4</sub> levels that raise background tropospheric  $O_3$  and the longer  $O_3$  lifetime in the cold season (Figure 9b; Clifton et al., 2014; Gao et al., 2013; Pfister et al., 2014). Rising global CH<sub>4</sub> increases

near-surface  $O_3$  in nonsummer months and offsets some of the warm-season decreases attained with regional NO<sub>x</sub> emission reductions, underscoring the combined air quality and climate benefits obtained via CH<sub>4</sub> emission reductions. Increasing foreign anthropogenic emissions of CH<sub>4</sub> and other O<sub>3</sub> precursors, which are challenging to project accurately, may also confound U.S. efforts to abate O<sub>3</sub> pollution (e.g., TF HTAP, 2010a), as would changes in U.S. biogenic sources or wildfires from either climate or land-use change (Gonzalez-Abraham et al., 2014; Pfister et al., 2014; val Martin et al., 2015).

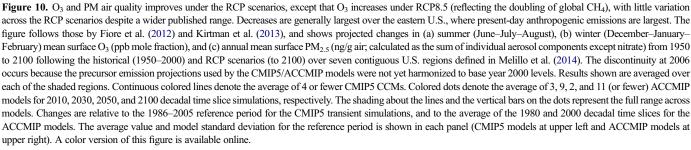
The studies in Table S3 also project PM2.5 decreases over most of the U.S. when climate warms but anthropogenic emissions of PM and precursors are reduced, with the strongest decreases over the eastern U.S., where  $SO_2$  emissions were high in 1995–2004 but decline quickly during the 21st century (Figure S3; note the consistency with NO<sub>x</sub>; Gonzalez-Abraham et al., 2014; Kelly et al., 2012; Penrod et al., 2014; Trail et al., 2014; val Martin et al., 2015). Global CCMs also project decreases in U.S. annual mean PM2.5, largest in the eastern U.S., with little difference across the RCPs (Figure 10c). The PM<sub>2.5</sub> response to future climate and emission changes differs by U.S. region, reflecting variability in PM2.5 composition. val Martin et al. (2015) and Spracklen et al. (2009) find that climate-driven increases in wildfire emissions enhance PM<sub>25</sub> concentrations over the western U.S. and Great Plains, a process absent from the projections in Figure 10c.

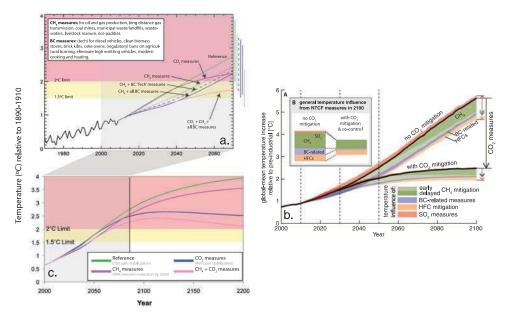
A few studies find that future eastern U.S.  $PM_{2.5}$  will become more sensitive to changes in BVOC emissions, which influence SOA, induced by climate and land-use changes as NOx and SO2 are controlled (Gonzalez-Abraham et al., 2014; Trail et al., 2014). Several studies, however, emphasize the dependence of SOA formation on anthropogenic emissions, but mechanistic understanding is still developing (Hoyle et al., 2011; Carlton and Turpin, 2013; McNeill, 2015, and references therein). Reducing uncertainty in global modeling of SOA requires accurate emissions, reaction rates, and multiphase SOA formation mechanisms (Pye and Seinfeld, 2010; Spracklen et al., 2011). G. Lin et al. (2014) found that none of the multiphase SOA formation schemes implemented in a global model could represent all available observations, including over the U.S., China, and Europe. Therefore, it is not yet clear how SOA (and PM<sub>2.5</sub>) will respond to concomitant anthropogenic emission controls, and climate and land-use driven changes in BVOC emissions.

In summary, models indicate that regional climate change and the processes it triggers (Figure 2) incur a climate penalty on surface  $O_3$  over the northeastern U.S., but disagree over other regions. Continued efforts to reduce U.S.  $NO_x$  emissions should protect against this climate penalty. Scenario uncertainties (i.e., the projected trajectories for precursor emissions including CH<sub>4</sub>) lead to a wide range of projected U.S. surface  $O_3$  and PM<sub>2.5</sub> levels, and some regions are highly sensitive to changes in air pollutant emissions from the biosphere (e.g., wildfires in the western U.S., biogenic emissions in the eastern U.S.). Global CH<sub>4</sub> increases would raise U.S. background O<sub>3</sub>, confounding efforts to reduce U.S. O<sub>3</sub> via regional precursor emission controls.



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**Figure 12.** Comparison of GMST response to  $CO_2$  versus SLCPs. (a) Observed temperature evolution from 1970–2010 (black line) and future scenarios: reference (green line), control measures applied to anthropogenic emissions of  $CO_2$  to stabilize at 450 ppm (purple), and control measures phased in between 2010 and 2030 for CH<sub>4</sub> (blue dotted line), CH<sub>4</sub> plus BC (with technological measures only; blue dashed line), CH<sub>4</sub> plus all BC (both technological and regulatory measures; solid blue line). Also indicated are 1°C and 2°C temperature thresholds relative to 1890–1910. Adapted with permission from Shindell et al. (2012), in accordance with the license and copyright agreement of *Science* magazine. (b) Comparison of 21st-century GMST relative to preindustrial for "no CO<sub>2</sub> mitigation" (RCP8.5) versus "with CO<sub>2</sub> mitigation" (RCP2.6) pathways; color indicates contributions from specific NTCF control measures (see inset for larger view of their influence on GMST in 2100). Adapted with permission from Figure 1 of Rogelj et al. (2014b). (c) Extension of the scenarios in (a) to 2200 shows that SLCP reductions absent CO<sub>2</sub> controls can only delay the eventual CO<sub>2</sub>-driven warming (purple vs. blue lines), and may lead to greater decadal warming rates once SLCP controls are fully implemented (compare slopes of the purple line in the early vs. late 21<sup>st</sup> century). CO<sub>2</sub> mitigation eventually slows the decadal warming rate (blue vs. purple lines in the second half of the 21st century). Combined CO<sub>2</sub> and SLCP controls (pink line) lessen both near-term and long-term warming, and the rate of increase to peak warming. Adapted with permission from Figure 2 of Shoemaker and Schrag (2013) in accordance with the license and copyright agreement of *Climatic Change*.

#### Influence of climate variability

Computational limitations have restricted the simulation length of many of the global and regional CTM and CCM studies in Table S1, with conclusions often based on 5 or fewer years of future versus present-day climate from a single realization from one climate model (Fiore et al., 2012, and references therein). Over these short simulation lengths, any meteorological changes may reflect internal variability that arises naturally in the chaotic climate system rather than a forced climate signal (Deser et al., 2012; Deser et al., 2013; Nolte et al., 2008; Supplemental Text S2). A major advance resulting from the growth in computational resources is the generation of "large ensembles" (i.e., differing only slightly in initial conditions) in a single climate model. Deser et al. (2012) used a 40-member ensemble with the NCAR climate model (CCSM3) to examine climate change and variability over North America under one climate change scenario (SRES A1B) and to illustrate the uncertainty inherent in any climate projection for the next several decades. Even on a 50-year time scale, trends in temperature and precipitation in many U.S. regions are subject to large uncertainties solely due to natural variability (Deser et al., 2012). By mid-century, model simulations with identical anthropogenic forcing generate U.S. temperature increases ranging from twice as large as the ensemble mean (4-5°C vs. 2-3°C) to <1°C over the Midwest; precipitation patterns conflict in sign over some regions between individual ensemble members and remain within natural variability over much of the central and mid-Atlantic U.S. (Deser et al., 2012).

The regional downscaling studies in Tables S1 and S3 thus depend crucially on their parent large-scale GCM, and often rely on a single ensemble member for a small number of years due to computational expense. While spatially refining the response of the GCM can be useful for decision making (Hall, 2014), the simulated regional climate change remains limited to a single realization out of a wide range of possibilities arising from natural variability. Detecting regional climate responses from changes in NTCFs is similarly confounded by internally generated climate variability, with more ensemble members or longer simulation periods needed to discern climate responses to smaller forcings.

An example of naturally arising climate variability is the El Niño Southern Oscillation (ENSO), whose frequency of occurrence is largely unpredictable and varies between decades and centuries (Wittenberg, 2009). Once an El Niño or La Niña event occurs in the tropical Pacific, however, well-established regional climate responses follow for precipitation, temperature, and circulation patterns associated with floods and droughts (the so-called "teleconnections"; Diaz et al., 2001; Goodrich et al., 2007). These atmospheric responses to climate variability induce changes in regional atmospheric composition (e.g., Langford et al., 1998; Koumoutsaris et al., 2008; Ziemke et al., 2010), including via dust events in the southwestern U.S. (Okin and Reheis, 2002) and wildfires in the northwestern U.S. (Hessl et al., 2004). Low-frequency variability (decadal time scales and

longer) in natural climate fluctuations can confound the attribution of observed changes in chemical constituents to trends in emissions, as found for the 40-year tropospheric  $O_3$  record at Mauna Loa, Hawaii (M. Lin et al., 2014).

Irrespective of whether the "forced" (anthropogenic) signal from climate change has been accurately quantified, the range of projections reported in Table S3 nevertheless provides a sampling of possible futures. Each individual projection reflects some combination of a forced regional climate signal, superimposed with internally generated climate variability. Barring a substantial change in the variance or shape of the distribution (as is expected from emission changes; see next section), observed year-to-year variability in air pollution (Leibensperger et al., 2008; Patz et al., 2014; Figure 6) provides a useful range for long-term planning. One study finds that rising background combined with a warming climate will increase the variance in future MDA8 U.S. surface O<sub>3</sub> (Pfister et al., 2014). Multiple studies find that, in the absence of U.S. emission changes, climate change will lead to a higher mean  $O_3$  level, about which variations will occur, in at least some polluted U.S. regions (Figures 8 and 9a; Table S3). If the RCPprojected air pollutant emission reductions are realized, then mean U.S. pollutant levels will decrease (Figure 10), and the variance will shrink (e.g., Rieder et al., 2015; Pfister et al., 2014), as observed for  $O_3$  in response to U.S.  $NO_x$  emission controls implemented in the 1990s and 2000s (Simon et al., 2014). Continued preparation for year-to-year fluctuations in regional air pollution associated with changes in weather should help to guard against the possibility of a climate penalty (EPA, 2014a).

# Extreme O<sub>3</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub> Pollution

Any particular extreme event is influenced both by meteorological conditions and by the chemical and emission processes that respond to changes in meteorology (see earlier discussion and Supplemental Text 4). The most extreme O<sub>3</sub> events typically occur during heat waves, when abundant radiation facilitates photochemical production, including from temperature-sensitive biogenic and anthropogenic emissions, leading to accumulation in poorly ventilated near-surface air (National Research Council [NRC], 1991). The connection between extreme O3 levels and extreme heat manifests as strong correlations in the number of days exceeding specific temperature and O<sub>3</sub> thresholds (e.g., Lin et al., 2001; Patz et al., 2014). Large events include the 2003 European heat wave (e.g., Ordóñez et al., 2005; Vautard et al., 2005; Tressol et al., 2008; Vieno et al., 2010) and the 1988 summertime eastern U.S. heat wave, a year with the largest number of O<sub>3</sub> episodes over this region (Lin et al., 2001). These individual events contribute to the observed year-to-year variability in monthly or seasonal averages (Fiore et al., 1998; Figure 6). Eastern U.S. NO<sub>x</sub> emission control programs have alleviated some of the large-scale O<sub>3</sub> buildup during extreme heat wave events, as evidenced by the much smaller increase in July mean MDA8 O<sub>3</sub> in 2012 relative to 1988 as illustrated for one

eastern U.S. site in Figure 6a (20 ppb lower despite hotter temperatures). While  $O_3$  is still high in hot summers relative to cooler years, the enhancement of  $O_3$  per degree of warming is lower as  $NO_x$  emissions decline (Figure 6b; Bloomer et al., 2009; Rasmussen et al., 2012).

Historically, the most extreme PM episodes have occurred during wintertime temperature inversions in which PM from inefficient coal combustion accumulated in a shallow boundary layer (e.g., the London fogs of the 1950s, and several U.S. cities in the 1940s-1960s; Bachmann, 2007). In China, recent wintertime inversions have led to PM2.5 accumulation to levels of hundreds of micrograms per cubic meter (~25 times the U.S. standard; NASA, 2013). Accumulation of PM, daily albeit much lower than the historical U.S. events or current Chinese events, still occurs in the U.S. during wintertime inversions (Dawson et al., 2013). Residential wood burning in stoves and fireplaces contributes to peak daily PM2.5 above the NAAQS level, particularly in the western U.S., New York, and New England. Dawson et al. (2013) find that air stagnation correlates with higher PM2.5 levels year-round in Birmingham, AL,, and Tai et al. (2010) report a U.S.-wide average PM<sub>2.5</sub> increase of 2.6  $\mu$ g m<sup>-3</sup> on stagnant days.

In the absence of changes in other factors, warmer temperatures during stagnation episodes are expected to exacerbate peak pollution levels (IPCC, 2013c), through the mechanisms described in Supplemental Text S4. More heat waves are anticipated with climate warming, with the North American Regional Climate Change Assessment Program (NARCCAP) RCMs (Mearns et al., 2009, 2012) projecting increases of 25–50 days above 90°F (32.2°C) in much of the southern U.S. and of 10–25 days in much of the northern U.S. by 2041–2070 relative to 1971–2000 (Peterson et al., 2013). Increases in air stagnation events are projected as climate warms in many populated regions around the world, including within the U.S. during all seasons (Horton et al., 2012; Horton et al., 2014; Pfister et al., 2014), and imply a heightened susceptibility to pollutant accumulation.

Typical approaches to quantify extreme pollution events consider values at a specific high percentile (e.g., Wu et al., 2008a; Weaver et al., 2009) or the number of events above a fixed value that is considered extreme at present or relevant to attaining air quality standards such as the U.S. NAAQS (Lin et al., 2001; Lei et al., 2012; Rieder et al., 2015). Studies across a range of modeling platforms suggest larger increases of peak (typically 95th percentile) U.S. summertime MDA8 O<sub>3</sub> in response to regional climate warming, as compared to mean simulated increases (Jacob and Winner, 2009; Weaver et al., 2009; Fiore et al., 2012; Pfister et al., 2014; Trail et al., 2014), with one study specifically attributing increases in 95th percentile  $O_3$  by the 2050s (up to a few ppb) to more intense heat waves (Gao et al., 2013). Large-scale extreme events occur under synoptic conditions (e.g., heat wave events) that are resolved even at the coarse scale of CCMs. Available studies provide strong evidence that the qualitative results from CCMs and CTMs are consistent with observations (Supplemental Text S5).

Wildfires and dust events can produce extreme PM levels that are typically classified as exceptional events (see next section). Yue et al. (2013) estimate that future increases in wildfires could enhance OC and BC levels above the 84th percentile by ~90% and ~50%, respectively, in Federal Class I areas within the Rocky Mountains, with associated decreases in visibility. Drought can also contribute to extreme dust events, particularly in regions with strong land-surface feedbacks; anomalously high dust loadings can in turn induce regional climate responses, exacerbating the drought, as may have occurred during the 1930s dust bowl (Cook et al., 2009). Variations of PM with drought conditions provide a means for improving process-level understanding of air pollution responses to climate variability, and the relative roles of various competing processes on the overall PM level. Wang Yuxuan et al. (2014) find a 26% increase in observed PM<sub>2.5</sub> over the southern U.S. from June 2010 to the June 2011 drought, mainly driven by higher OC from wildfires; they also find an 11% decrease over Texas due to less aqueous-phase sulfate formation as cloud cover decreased during the 2011 drought.

We highlight two new approaches to studying extreme pollution levels. The first systematically maps pollution episodes (MDA8 O<sub>3</sub>) by considering the 10 most polluted days observed in each year from 2000 to 2009, corresponding to 97.3%, or the top 10% of events each summer (when most events occur) at each location on a  $1^{\circ} \times 1^{\circ}$  grid (Schnell et al., 2014). Schnell et al. (2014) find that  $O_3$  episodes occur most frequently during June, with a peak in 2002, one of the warmest and most stagnant summers, with the fewest cyclone passages (Figure 9 of Leibensperger et al., 2008) over the northeastern U.S. for the 2000-2009 period considered. Schnell et al. (2014) also use their metric to evaluate the skill of global CCMs and GCM-CTMs in capturing the observed spatial extent (typically more than 1000 km) and duration of these O<sub>3</sub> extremes, including their regional migration over multiple days (e.g., Figure 7). This approach harnesses the strength of global CCMs and CTMs at capturing the synoptic, large-scale variability that drives the accumulation of pollutants (see Supplemental Text S5). This climatology describes the spatial extent and persistence of O3 episodes, offering a benchmark against which to gauge changes, complementing the more common focus on their frequency and intensity (below).

The second approach characterizes the frequency and intensity of pollution episodes (MDA8 O<sub>3</sub>) by applying extreme value theory statistical methods (Rieder et al. 2013). Figure 11 illustrates return levels (see Key Terms) for the "1-year" O<sub>3</sub> event over the eastern U.S. (probability of an event of that magnitude or higher occurring on 1 out of 92 summer days). The top two panels characterize air quality improvements in terms of declining 1-year return levels from the 1990s to the 2000s, estimated from decades-long observational records (Figure 11) and attributed to  $NO_x$  emission reductions (Rieder et al., 2013). The large NO<sub>x</sub> emission reductions under RCP4.5 (Figure S2) yield lower 1-year return levels across the domain (Figure 11c), falling below 70 ppb by the 2030s and below 60 ppb by the 2060s (Figure 11e), levels that should attain compliance with proposed O<sub>3</sub> NAAQS levels, assuming high O<sub>3</sub> events occur in the summer season. In contrast, half of the domain is subjected to 1-year return levels above 75 ppb throughout the 21st century when the scenario is adjusted to

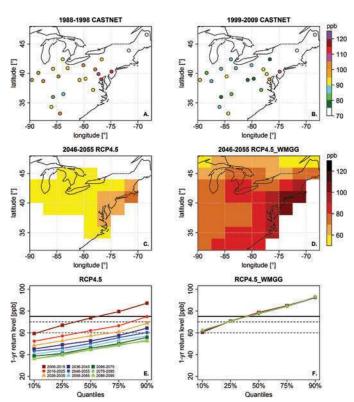


Figure 11. Extreme summer (JJA) MDA8 O<sub>3</sub> pollution levels in near-surface air over the eastern U.S. characterized in terms of 1-year return levels (see Key Terms) for 23 sites in the U.S. Clean Air Status and Trends Network (CASTNet) for (A) 1988-1998 and (B) 1999-2009. Also shown are 1-year return levels projected with a CCM (GFDL CM3; bias corrected as described by Rieder et al., 2015). Panels C and D show 1-year return levels at midcentury (2046-2055); panels E and F show 1-year return levels for each 21stcentury decade, spatially averaged over the region in C and D. Following RCP4.5 (C and E), both air pollutant emissions and GHGs change, but under RCP4.5 WMGG (D and F), air pollutant emissions are held at 2005 levels while GHGs follow RCP4.5. Observed decreases in (B) relative to (A) are attributed to NO<sub>x</sub> emission reductions (e.g., NO<sub>x</sub> SIP Call) during this period; additional NOx emission reductions projected under RCP4.5 (decreases of 60% by 2030, 75% by 2050, and 84% by 2100, relative to 2005 values over the eastern U.S.) produce even lower 1-year return levels in C and E. Increases in 1-year return levels induced by climate change are limited to a few ppb, with some regions experiencing decreases of up to a few pbb. (Rieder et al., 2015). Panels A and B are adapted from Figures 3a and 3c of Rieder et al. (2013) in accordance with the Creative Commons Attribution 3.0 Unported (CC-BY) license available at http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/3.0; panels C, D, E, and F are adapted with permission from Figures 5c, 7b, 7b, and 8b, respectively, of Rieder et al. (2015), in accordance with the license and copyright agreement of American Geophysical Union. A color version of this figure is available online.

hold regional  $O_3$  precursor emissions constant (Figures 11d and 11f). The intensity of future  $O_3$  pollution events thus depends on the anthropogenic emission scenario (see also Kirtman et al., 2013).

While the  $O_3$  response to climate change shown in Figures 11d and 11f appears small in the context of the large projected emission changes under the RCP4.5 and other future scenarios (Prather et al., 2003; Fiore et al., 2012), it is not trivial. Increases and decreases of up to 4 ppb in 1-year return levels averaged across three available CCM ensemble members

under the RCP4.5 scenarios occur by 2100 (Rieder et al., 2015). These changes are smaller than the upper end of the range reported in studies cited earlier, but this study more fully samples climate variability. Consideration of 30 years (10 years from each of three ensemble members), however, may yet be too small to quantify the anthropogenic climate signal (Deser et al., 2012).

Various factors can alter the frequency, intensity, and duration of O<sub>3</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub> extremes. When an extreme is defined relative to a standard concentration at present, for example, the 98th percentile in the daily PM2.5 NAAQS, then its frequency of occurrence will change if there is a simple shift in the distribution to a higher mean state. A change in the width (variance) or shape (e.g., skewness) of the distribution will also alter the frequency of extremes. Understanding the factors shaping the overall pollutant distribution can thus help interpret changes in extreme concentrations. A mean shift could occur if baseline O<sub>3</sub> or PM<sub>2.5</sub> levels change. For example, changes in atmospheric CH<sub>4</sub> levels induce a mean shift in the U.S. near-surface summertime O3 distribution in surface air (West and Fiore, 2005), a robust finding across models (Fiore et al., 2009). In contrast,  $NO_x$  emissions preferentially reduce the high tail of the summertime O<sub>3</sub> distribution in polluted regions (e.g., Fiore et al., 2002; West and Fiore, 2005; Rieder et al., 2015; Simon et al., 2014). Processes such as biogenic emissions, wildfires, deposition, and anthropogenic emissions associated with electricity generation are sensitive to daily weather fluctuations (Supplemental Text S4) and can amplify the high tail of the O<sub>3</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub> distributions.

# Toward a Holistic Approach to Meeting Air Quality and Climate Goals

The multiple linkages between air pollution and climate (e.g., Figures 1 and 2 and Table 2) imply that their joint consideration would increase benefits to public health and the environment, while reducing unintended adverse impacts (e.g., Ramanathan and Xu, 2010). In light of the substantial estimates of adverse health impacts around the globe, emission controls on SO<sub>2</sub>, BC, and O<sub>3</sub> precursors may continue to be imposed irrespective of climate policy (Smith et al., 2014; Anenberg et al., 2010; Silva et al., 2013). Changes in these NTCFs may alter near-term warming rates, as well as precipitation and regional circulations that affect the buildup of pollution. Avoiding disbenefits to air pollution from climate change requires additional controls on regional air pollutant and precursor emissions. While lessening any climate penalty, CO<sub>2</sub> reduction programs may also yield co-benefits to air quality by decreasing co-emitted air pollutants (e.g., West et al., 2013; Thompson et al., 2014). Not all climate mitigation strategies, however, improve air quality (e.g., Jacobson, 2007). Developing a more robust and quantitative scientific understanding about these connections-as well as about other environmental impacts-can help to reduce inadvertent undesirable consequences. In the following, we review recent research that aims to quantify the potential for SLCP reductions to lessen near-term warming, as well as the increase in nearterm warming associated with anticipated reductions of cooling PM components. We also highlight growing challenges to U.S. air quality management from the rising relative importance of background levels for attaining U.S. air quality standards and provide some recommendations for research directions to support a more holistic approach to climate and air quality management.

#### Impacts of air pollution control strategies on climate

Reducing PM<sub>2.5</sub> or tropospheric O<sub>3</sub> requires a multipollutant approach (e.g., Hidy and Pennell, 2010), due to the various chemical classes that comprise fine particles, and the multiple O<sub>3</sub> precursors (Figure 2). The available evidence indicates that reducing atmospheric CH<sub>4</sub> is likely to benefit climate and improve O<sub>3</sub> air quality, while sulfate reductions reflect a trade-off between climate and air quality goals. Reducing BC and OC would yield global public health benefits (Anenberg et al., 2012), particularly from decreasing residential fuel use (Smith et al., 2014), and may reduce near-term RF, in contrast to decreases in major SO<sub>x</sub> sources. The net climate impact from BC (and BrC) sources is more uncertain due to co-emitted OC, with reductions in BC-rich diesel engines and kerosene lamps, followed by residential fuel use, most likely to reduce near-term RF (Lam et al., 2012; Bond et al., 2013). A strong scientific understanding of the implications of these health-motivated emission changes for the climate system is needed to underpin a holistic approach to environmental management. The majority of studies investigating the potential role of SLCP reductions as a supplement to strategies for CO<sub>2</sub> and other long-lived GHG examine targets such as limiting peak warming and near-term warming rates of GMST. Climate goals, however, might also include reducing anthropogenic disruption of the hydrological cycle and the cryosphere.

Projected 21st-century changes in NTCFs and implications for GMST. Table S4 summarizes 21st-century RF projections for selected NTCFs under a stringent climate policy scenario (RCP2.6) versus a scenario with continued growth in GHGs (RCP8.5). Projected atmospheric CH<sub>4</sub> ranges from decreasing levels to a more than doubling in RCP8.5. The global tropospheric O<sub>3</sub> burden is most sensitive to changes in CH<sub>4</sub> and NO<sub>x</sub>, rising and falling with changes in their emissions (Wang and Jacob, 1998; Fiore et al., 2002; Prather et al., 2003; Shindell et al., 2005; Stevenson et al., 2006; Fiore et al., 2009; Young et al., 2013). Global  $NO_x$  emissions decline across all RCPs by 2100 (Figure S2), and tropospheric  $O_3$  decreases in three of the RCP scenarios (IPCC, 2013b), falling below half the present-day RF under RCP2.6 (Table S4). By contrast, the O<sub>3</sub> RF increases by 50% from 2000 to 2100 under RCP8.5, attributed mainly to rising CH<sub>4</sub> (Table S4).

As noted earlier, the coincident growth of the sulfate burden (negative RF) along with GHGs over the 20th century has been masking some portion of GHG-induced warming that would otherwise occur (Figure 1; Bindoff et al., 2013). All RCPs project decreasing SO<sub>2</sub> emissions (Figure S2), and thus declining sulfate burdens, which decrease total aerosol ERF by an order of magnitude from 2000 to 2100 (Table S4). This loss of cooling RF exposes the climate system to the full warming RF from GHGs and absorbing particles. Such "unmasking" occurs for widespread control or replacement of coal-fired power plants (Figure 5; Shindell and Faluvegi, 2010) as anticipated from climate-driven CO<sub>2</sub> emission reductions (Wigley et al., 2009). One model study highlights the impact of rapid sulfate reductions attributed to decreased coal burning on near-term warming rates, finding higher near-term (2010–2025) warming rates under RCP2.6 relative to RCP4.5, even though the GHG forcing is lower (Chalmers et al., 2012).

All RCPs assume continued decreases in the major PM components, sulfate, BC, and OC during the 21st century (Table S4; Figure S2). In GCM and CCM simulations that consider only changes in non-GHG forcing agents (dominated by aerosols) since the preindustrial era, GMST changes by -0.6to 0.1°C from 1951 to 2010 (Bindoff et al., 2013). This range implies a maximum warming from complete removal of all fine particles due to human activities of up to +0.6 °C, but these simulations did not cleanly isolate the impacts from PM and depend on uncertain model representation of PM impacts on the climate system. One CCM study isolated the impact from aerosol emission reductions imposed in the RCP4.5 scenario and found that aerosol reductions induce GMST increases of about +0.2°C in the near term and +1°C by 2100 compared with sulfate and other PM components maintained at presentday levels (Levy et al., 2013). The lack of a coordinated, systematic exploration of sensitivities to individual PM components across multiple models-or of sufficient observational evidence-prevents a conclusive enumeration of the changes they induce in regional temperature, precipitation, or circulation.

Leverage on near-term versus peak warming: Combined SLCP and  $CO_2$  reductions. Different time scales for realizing the climate impacts from NTCF and CO<sub>2</sub> emission reductions reflect their atmospheric lifetimes (persistence). The ultimate peak warming at Earth's surface induced by rising atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> depends on the cumulative CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, such that delaying CO<sub>2</sub> emission reductions locks in additional climate warming (IPCC, 2013a; M. Collins et al., 2013; Ciais et al., 2013). Shoemaker and Schrag (2013) estimate a GMST increase of 0.75°C for each 15-year delay in CO2 emission controls (while CO<sub>2</sub> emissions remain at their current rate). Even if emissions ceased in year 2000, the IPCC-class GCMs estimate a continued warming of 0.6°C relative to 1980-1999 by 2100 (Meehl et al., 2007). Mitigating long-term warming thus requires CO<sub>2</sub> emission reductions, capture and geological storage of emitted CO<sub>2</sub> (e.g., White et al., 2003), and/or the removal of CO<sub>2</sub> from the atmosphere (IPCC, 2014). CO<sub>2</sub> emission reductions today would reduce warming in future decades. Rogelj et al. (2014b) find warming rates from 2030 to 2050 of +0.15°C per decade for a CO<sub>2</sub> emission trajectory consistent with limiting peak warming to 2°C, and 2030-2050 warming rates of +0.35°C per decade on a trajectory for 4°C peak warming.

Decreasing  $CO_2$  emissions, however, has little impact on near-term warming, which is already guaranteed by the current atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> level and oceanic heat uptake from past forcing (M. Collins et al., 2013). In contrast, atmospheric abundances of air pollutants respond to changes in emissions within weeks to a few decades (Table 2), and their climate impacts thus largely scale with changes in the rate at which they are emitted, with similar impacts on peak warming regardless of when the reductions are phased in (e.g., Rogelj et al., 2014b; Pierrehumbert, 2014). Changes in NTCFs can offer some leverage on near-term (i.e., within a decade) warming rates (e.g., Rogelj et al., 2014b), relevant for adaptation of ecosystems as well as human systems (e.g., Raes and Seinfeld, 2009). Simultaneous mitigation of both near-term and long-term climate warming can thus proceed by decreasing warming NTCFs in parallel with—not at the expense of—CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.

Debate swirls, however, around the extent to which reducing emissions of warming NTCFs (SLCPs, which include CH<sub>4</sub>, BC, and some HFCs; see Key Terms) would lessen the magnitude and rate of near-term climate warming (e.g., Shoemaker et al., 2013). Controversy appears rooted in value judgments regarding the chosen time horizon over which to estimate global warming, which are implicit in any attempt to develop a common framework for considering the climate impacts from SLCPs and CO<sub>2</sub> (and other long-lived GHGs) emissions (Myhre et al., 2013a). Another point of contention is the choice of reference scenario against which the warming avoided by reducing SLCPs is gauged.

Shindell et al. (2012), expanding on United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP) and World Meteorological Organization (WMO) (2011), identified 14 emission control measures targeting CH<sub>4</sub> and BC (Figure 12a). These measures were applied in two global CCMs to generate atmospheric distributions and RFs that were then used in analytic equations (representing rapid and slow global climate system responses) to estimate changes in GMST. Relative to their reference scenario, Shindell et al. (2012) found that all CH<sub>4</sub> and BC control measures avoid a GMST warming of ~0.5°C by 2050 (Figure 12a; green vs. solid blue lines), with CH<sub>4</sub> controls (24% decrease in emissions phased in between 2010 and 2030) contributing over half of the estimated avoided GMST warming (+0.28  $\pm$  0.10 °C in 2050; dotted vs. solid blue lines in Figure 12a). BC technological controls on incomplete combustion sources are estimated to reduce GMST warming by 0.12°C (range of +0.03 to +0.18) (Figure 12a; dotted versus dashed blue lines). BC regulatory measures such as banning agricultural waste burning, removing high-emitting vehicles from the fleet, and replacing home biofuel use with modern cooking and heating could avoid another  $+0.07^{\circ}C$  (-0.02 to +0.11) in 2050 (Figure 12a; dashed versus solid blue lines). Uncertainties for BC controls are much larger than for CH<sub>4</sub>, and include for some sources the possibility of little benefit due to co-emitted species and uncertain aerosolcloud interactions. The 78% decrease in BC emissions applied from 2010 to 2030 is close to the maximum obtainable by applying current technologies globally regardless of cost (MFR in Table S5). For comparison, the percentage changes in anthropogenic BC emissions between 2010 and 2030 are -27%, -5%, -12%, -15% relative to 6.1, 5.6, 5.3, and 5.1 Tg C yr<sup>-1</sup> emitted in 2010 in RCP2.6, 4.5, 6.0, and 8.5, respectively.

Any estimate of peak warming avoided by some future year depends critically on the assumed "reference" scenario. If one assumes that the world will adopt climate policies, then the NTCFs that are co-emitted with CO<sub>2</sub> will be reduced; neglecting these connections would overestimate the benefits of SLCP reductions in scenarios with explicit climate policies (Smith and Bond, 2014). For example, BC emission controls in any scenario with substantial climate-motivated CO<sub>2</sub> controls offer less benefit than in a no-climate policy scenario since some major BC emission sources would be phased out to reduce GHGs (Figure 12b; Rogelj et al., 2014b). Anthropogenic BC emissions in RCP8.5 are about twice as large as in RCP2.6 by 2100 (Figure S2). The magnitude of avoided warming by 2100 from CH<sub>4</sub> (and HFC) emission controls is lower than in a scenario without CO2 mitigation, but smaller source overlap (Table 2) and correspondingly fewer co-benefits from  $CO_2$ control, implies more opportunity for CH<sub>4</sub> (compared to BC) reductions to influence climate (Figure 12b).

Reducing SLCPs but not CO<sub>2</sub> can increase decadal warming rates once the SLCP emission reductions have been fully phased in (Figure 12c). Continual decreases in the rate of SLCP emissions would be needed to perpetually offset warming induced by rising CO<sub>2</sub>, underscoring the urgency for reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in parallel with any effort to reduce SLCPs. As for peak warming (see earlier discussion), the reference scenario choice affects the quantitative assessment of the potential for SLCPs to reduce near-term warming. Smith and Mizrahi (2013) estimate less avoided warming from SLCP reductions than Shindell et al. (2012), reflecting in part the climate-motivated CH<sub>4</sub> emission controls in their reference scenario. Smith and Bond (2014) find that the balance between emission controls on warming (e.g., BC) versus cooling  $(SO_2)$  NTCFs (see also Ramana et al., 2010) can either diminish or enhance, respectively, the near-term warming rates set by rising CO<sub>2</sub>.

The GMST projections in Figure 12 rely on reduced complexity models or analytic equations that do not spatially resolve responses induced by horizontal gradients in the forcing, implicitly assuming equivalence in climate responses to any RF. Evidence exists, however, that the sensitivity of regional climate to a unit change in RF may vary by the region in which the RF occurs (Shindell and Faluvegi, 2009), and RF itself varies by region for a unit change in emissions (e.g., mid-latitudes vs. tropics; see Naik et al., 2005; W. Collins et al., 2013). In one model, different RF spatial patterns produce different regional climate responses (Shindell and Faluvegi, 2009). An analysis of four GCMs indicates that land surface temperature responses at northern mid-latitudes are sensitive to the latitude of the RF, with responses extending ~12,000 km in the zonal direction, but only ~3500 km in the meridional directions (Shindell et al., 2010). Shindell et al. (2012) apply one GCM to examine the spatial patterns of the equilibrium temperature and precipitation responses to the CH<sub>4</sub> versus CH<sub>4</sub> plus BC measures in Figure 12a, and find enhanced regional temperature responses and a shift in the Asian monsoon when BC measures are included alongside CH<sub>4</sub> measures. Shindell (2014) uses an ensemble of GCMs and CCMs to infer a stronger transient (i.e., near-term) response of GMST to RF from  $O_3$  and PM due to their concentrated RF in northern mid-to-high latitudes where they can induce land responses and other amplifying feedbacks (the same mechanisms that cause GHG RF to produce amplified responses in the northern hemisphere relative to the global mean).

Rogelj et al. (2014b) compare the Shindell et al. (2012) SLCP reduction scenarios with the CLE and MFR scenarios, which explicitly consider the application of air pollution policies (Table S5). BC emissions decrease by 54% from 2010 to 2030 under CLE (implementation of planned air pollution legislation, but no explicit climate policy), as compared to the 78% reduction due to BC measures of Shindell et al. (2012), which are close to the MFR scenario (maximum pollution control but no climate policy). Under the SLCP reductions scenarios, SO<sub>2</sub> declines by only 2% from 2010 to 2030, yielding almost no climate disbenefit in that reference scenario. By contrast, sulfate would decrease by 45% under CLE (2010 to 2030), 72% under MFR, or 30% under climate policy (in the absence of air pollution control, to prevent atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> abundances from exceeding 450 ppm). Rogelj et al. (2014b) found that stringent SO<sub>2</sub> emission controls lead to more near-term warming in their model than when all available BC control measures are applied. Any of these air pollution or climate policies incurs a nearterm warming from SO<sub>2</sub> reductions, and provides grounds for an argument to reduce SLCPs to diminish the stress on human and natural systems that must adapt to this near-term warming. Near-term reductions of SCLPs might, therefore, serve as a supplement to overall climate strategies focused on CO<sub>2</sub> and other long-lived GHGs.

Influence of U.S. air pollutant emissions on U.S. climate. Observed ambient U.S. PM<sub>2.5</sub> decreased by more than 25% between 1990 and 2004 (Murphy et al., 2011), with even larger relative decreases before 1990 (Leibensperger et al., 2012b). The net RF of U.S.-sourced PM is negative, so that a reduction of PM leads to warming. Mickley et al. (2012) estimated  $+0.5^{\circ}$ C warming in the eastern U.S. in a model with complete removal of U.S. anthropogenic PM. Leibensperger et al. (2012a) simulated the time course of PM cooling between 1950 and 2050, finding a maximum cooling of about 1°C in the central U.S. in concert with maximum PM in 1970-1990, following rapid declines with PM and SO<sub>2</sub> regulation. They attribute the observed lack of warming within the central U.S. during much of the 20th century (referred to as the "warming hole") to U.S. PM regulation. Yu et al. (2014) also attribute the warming hole to U.S. anthropogenic PM, but invoke a different mechanism connecting PM and changes in temperature. Leibensperger et al. (2012a) also find that after  $SO_2$  emissions peaked, U.S. warming commenced (during the 1980s and 1990s), consistent with  $CO_2$ -induced warming that is no longer masked by rising sulfate. U.S.-sourced PM likely affects climate throughout the hemisphere (Shindell and Faluvegi, 2009).

Additional changes in U.S. climate are likely as PM levels decrease (Jacobson et al., 2007; Zhang et al., 2010; Mashayekhi and Sloan, 2014). California diesel regulations

have decreased ambient BC by 50% between 1998 and 2008 with an estimated lowering of local BC radiative forcing of 1.4 W m<sup>-2</sup> (Bahadur et al., 2012). Modeling this trend and a factor of 5 long-term BC decline in California since 1960, Ramanathan et al. (2013) find that BC reductions cooled the lower atmosphere (1–2 km) with a small warming of regional surface temperature (through the reduced absorption of solar radiation) but a net decrease in global warming.

Further decreases in PM are expected as SO<sub>2</sub>, NO<sub>x</sub>, and BC emissions are continuously reduced (Trail et al., 2014). The definition of "present day" must be considered when assessing the resulting climate change impacts. Many modeling studies use year 2000 as present day (e.g., Figure 4), which may not be particularly egregious on global scales as worldwide emission of SO<sub>2</sub>, NO<sub>x</sub>, OC, and BC may have somewhat plateaued since then. This plateau, however, reflects large U.S. and European decreases (Xing et al., 2013; Figure S1) and Asian increases (Figure S2). The U.S. contribution to global aerosol RF has fallen; a 20% decrease of year 2001 PM concentrations in North America would change global aerosol RF by +0.014 W m<sup>-2</sup>, smaller than comparable 20% decreases in Europe and East Asia (Yu et al., 2013). Given the U.S. PM reductions realized through 2010, future reductions are unlikely to yield as large a climate change as that already observed (Leibensperger et al., 2012a). The large U.S. RF changes in Figure 4 reflect the use of 2000 as a base period. The definition of "present day" should thus be chosen with care when investigating regional climate impacts of PM (Murphy et al., 2011).

#### Additional challenges for air quality management

The proposed range for lowering the O3 NAAQS level (EPA, 2014b), if adopted, might result in a relatively more important role for background O<sub>3</sub> in contributing to future exceedances (e.g., McDonald-Buller et al., 2011). U.S. background O<sub>3</sub> consists of contributions from wildfires (e.g., Emery et al., 2012; Zhang et al., 2014), stratospheric O<sub>3</sub> intrusions (e.g., Langford et al., 2009; 2012; M. Lin et al., 2012a), soil  $NO_x$  (e.g., Wu et al., 2008b; Hudman et al., 2010), lightning NO<sub>x</sub> (e.g., Kaynak et al., 2008), biogenic NMVOC (e.g., Andersson and Engardt, 2010; Chen et al., 2009), and intercontinental transport (TF HTAP, 2010a), including from Asian emissions (e.g., M. Lin et al., 2012b) and global CH<sub>4</sub> (e.g., Clifton et al., 2014). Different model treatments of lightning NO<sub>x</sub>, wildfires, and isoprene oxidation chemistry, as well as stratospheric intrusions contribute to discrepancies among background estimates in U.S. near-surface air, and the relative importance of a particular process varies by region and season (Fiore et al., 2014a).

Numerous studies find that reducing  $CH_4$  emissions globally lowers the  $O_3$  background including in near-surface air. Unlike other  $O_3$  precursor emissions (or PM components),  $CH_4$  RF does not depend strongly on the emission location, implying that the lowest cost  $CH_4$  emission controls can be targeted (Fiore et al., 2002; Fiore et al., 2008). The western U.S. is particularly susceptible to pollution produced by rising Asian emissions (Jaffe et al., 1999; Jacob et al., 1999, Cooper et al., 2012), with the largest impacts in spring (Fiore et al., 2009; Reidmiller et al., 2009). Satellite products reveal trans-Pacific transport of dust (e.g., Husar et al., 2001) and CO (Heald et al., 2003), a tracer for anthropogenic pollution. A model analysis of aircraft, ground-based, and sonde data over southern California and the southwestern U.S. finds that this transported Asian pollution can be sufficiently large as to push counties above the current and proposed NAAQS levels (Lin et al., 2012a). U.S. efforts to reduce intercontinental transport or global  $CH_4$  requires continued international discussions and agreements (e.g., TF HTAP, 2010a).

Under climate change, the western U.S. is projected to be increasingly susceptible to wildfires and the resulting PM, and possibly also to additional  $O_3$  stratospheric intrusions (Supplementary Text S4). While these events may be classified as "exceptional events" and thus not counted against air quality determinations, a sharp uptick in frequency may render them no longer "exceptional." In situ data needed to support exceptional event claims is often lacking, though new approaches using satellite data offer promise (e.g., Fiore et al., 2014b).

Multiple factors influence the photochemical pollution season length, such as regional meteorology, anthropogenic and biogenic emissions, and transported background. As reviewed earlier, several studies find that climate warming may extend the U.S. pollution season. Continued reductions of anthropogenic emissions lower the photochemical production of pollution in summer, but in the case of NO<sub>x</sub> can raise O<sub>3</sub> levels in other seasons as titration decreases (see Supplemental Text S5). Growth in global air pollutant emissions can also lengthen the O<sub>3</sub> pollution season by raising the background above which regional photochemistry builds (TF HTAP, 2010a). Detecting these changes requires longterm, year-round monitoring.

#### Recommendations

Table 3 lists recommendations for synergistic efforts among field, laboratory, theory, and modeling approaches to fill some of the current knowledge gaps hindering a holistic approach to air quality and climate management. Projecting future climate and air quality impacts from changing emissions requires models, but their credibility is rooted in the ability to diagnose, interpret, and evaluate properly their process-level representation with high-quality measurements. While satellite data offer much promise, they too require ground-truthing, with in situ aircraft observations (e.g., Crawford and Pickering, 2014) and ground-based networks (e.g., Flynn et al., 2014; Schafer et al., 2014), particularly for PM chemical composition, which is not directly detectable from space (Hoff and Christopher, 2009). Changing land-use and agricultural practices should be examined, including their impacts on biogenic sources, which may influence air quality (e.g., Wiedinmyer et al., 2006; Heald et al., 2008; Chen et al., 2009; Jiang et al., 2010; Wu et al., 2012) and climate (Unger, 2014).

Products or tools that can facilitate rapid decision making would help to inform a more holistic approach to air pollution and climate management, as information is often needed at a pace that leaves little time for existing information to be synthesized into a useful format. Concerted efforts are afoot to translate research into digestible products (e.g., Jacob et al., 2014), and to train air managers in using data products and analysis tools (Duncan et al., 2014; Streets et al., 2014; Witman et al., 2014). Published tools evaluate the benefits to climate (measured in RF) and air quality (human health impacts) under technology and policy scenarios (Akhtar et al., 2013) or from imposing fees on a single energy sector (electricity generation; Brown et al., 2013). Trade-offs will always be necessary between the statistical power of large ensembles and the complexity of process-level representation, including finer spatial resolution. Several initiatives reviewed earlier have coordinated multimodel projections (e.g., Figures 4, 8, 10), as well as quantified emissionresponse relationships (e.g., Wild et al., 2012), and ongoing initiatives are expected to deliver additional information on climate and air quality projections for the 21st century (Eyring and Lamarque, 2012; Eyring et al., 2013).

# Conclusions

Climate and air quality are closely coupled through many processes (Figure 2). Air pollutants and their precursors are often co-emitted with  $CO_2$  or other GHGs. Emission inventories thus underpin retrospective and future estimates of impacts from air pollutants and their precursors on climate and air quality. Many air pollutants interact with solar and terrestrial radiation, and PM components modify cloud properties, thereby altering climate through changes in temperature, precipitation, and atmospheric circulation patterns (Figures 1 and 3). Climate change alters air pollution meteorology, including large-scale stagnation events such as during heat waves, which modulate the formation and accumulation of pollution.

After  $CO_2$ , increases in  $CH_4$  and tropospheric  $O_3$  since the pre-industrial era have exerted the most warming of any GHGs (Figure 1), with  $CH_4$  best documented of any NTCF. PM components exert opposing influences on the climate system. While BC alone is a strong warming agent, by some estimates even surpassing CH<sub>4</sub>, its capacity to alter climate is subject to much larger uncertainties surrounding its interactions with clouds and to the relative fraction of BC versus co-emitted cooling OC particles that may even produce a slight net cooling from some BC-emitting sources. A portion of OC, both directly emitted and produced from gaseous organic precursors, absorbs light (BrC) and thus warms, but is not well quantified at present. Cooling sulfates have dominated the increase in anthropogenic PM during the industrial era, partially masking the warming from rising CO<sub>2</sub> and confounding detection of climate sensitivity from observed climate changes. Both BC and sulfate also alter precipitation patterns through interactions with clouds, in addition to circulation and other changes in response to altered local-to-global radiation budgets. The short lifetimes of PM and O3 concentrate their abundances and climate forcing downwind of source regions, predominantly in the northern hemisphere, and thus can produce different temperature, precipitation, and circulation responses than for

#### Table 3. Recommendations to fill current knowledge gaps.

#### Emissions

- Support efforts to reduce uncertainties in the magnitude and spatial distributions in emissions inventories for air pollutants and their precursors, and their historical and recent trends
- Improve estimates of warming versus cooling agents emitted from individual activities and within sectors
- Implement, wherever possible, reporting, monitoring, and assessment programs for air pollutant and GHG emissions in undersampled regions such as developing economies and areas dominated by biogenic and other poorly quantified sources to help produce high-quality emission inventories
- Advance techniques to quantify emissions and their trends with higher accuracy including from satellite instruments to bound bottom-up inventories for air pollutants and GHGs
- Continue to analyze ice cores or other paleo records for new estimates of anthropogenic GHG and NTCF pollutant emissions since the preindustrial era to bound the impact of anthropogenic NTCFs on the climate system
- · Update inventories rapidly to reflect the best available information from which to project future changes
- Consider widely varying possible future trajectories for alternative climate policy projections to the RCPs, which span only a narrow range of possibilities, to bound air quality and climate impacts from changing emissions

#### NTCF influence on climate

- Consider two-way couplings with the stratosphere, including the role of changes in stratosphere-to-troposphere exchange on the upper tropospheric O<sub>3</sub> burden, where it is most effective as a GHG, and of changes in CH<sub>4</sub> on stratospheric O<sub>3</sub>, to better quantify the net impact of NTCFs on climate
- Observe and construct climatologies of tropospheric NTCF distributions, including vertical distributions of absorbing versus scattering PM components, NO<sub>x</sub>, and troposphere O<sub>3</sub> to test models and bound their RF estimates
- Improve understanding of aerosol-cloud interactions, particularly those triggered by BC and OC including BrC, as well as sulfate, and their impacts on regional
  precipitation patterns
- Better quantify the regional effects of PM deposition on snow and ice, and the balance of regional versus long-distance transport of PM to climate-sensitive
  regions including the Arctic
- Continue to derive satellite-based RF estimates for O<sub>3</sub> and absorbing versus scattering PM to help bound their climate impact

#### Effects of climate change and variability on air pollution

- Assess the utility of simple global metrics and projected changes in meteorology to estimate air quality responses to regional and global climate change, and GCM skill at representing regional-scale meteorology relevant for air quality
- Quantify any climate penalty on air pollution incurred by changing air pollution meteorology that might confound improved air quality via precursor emission controls
- Use large ensemble model simulations to supplement observations and help disentangle climate change from variability
- · Continue developing statistical approaches to characterize the frequency, spatial extent, duration, and severity of extreme pollution events
- Further investigate dynamical and statistical downscaling approaches to spatially refine global GCM/CCM/CTM projections, including application of model bias correction techniques
- Improve quantitative understanding of local-scale processes (emissions, chemistry, deposition) triggered by large-scale extreme meteorological conditions (e.g., heat waves) and their impacts on local-to-regional pollution

#### Cross-cutting recommendations

- Advance process-level understanding of regional-scale feedbacks, including NTCF exchange with the biosphere and uncertain chemical processes (e.g., isoprene oxidation, SOA and BrC formation, tropospheric halogen chemistry, and heterogeneous chemistry) and their dependence on anthropogenic emissions
- Establish tools that translate research into easily digestible products that connect air pollution and climate responses to health and environmental (e.g., ecosystem, visibility) outcomes for air pollution management decisions
- · Undertake accountability analyses of both air quality and climate impacts from past and future emission controls
- Improve confidence in climate sensitivity and the balance between GHG-driven warming and aerosols, including specific aerosol components, to narrow uncertainties in near- and long-term climate change
- Through coordinated model experiments, identify robust impacts of regional emission reductions in PM and other NTCFs relative to CO<sub>2</sub> on temperature, precipitation, and circulation patterns relevant to pollution accumulation
- · Examine the role of changing land-use and agricultural practices on regional climate and air pollution

well-mixed GHGs with more uniform forcing distributions. An important distinction arises from the short PM and  $O_3$  lifetimes in contrast to  $CO_2$ : the climate impacts from  $CO_2$  depend on the cumulative  $CO_2$  (or other long-lived GHG) emissions, while those from NTCFs depend on the emission rates.

Many source categories emit multiple GHGs and NTCFs (Figure 5). Quantifying the near- and long-term effects of reducing some or all of the emissions from such sources requires consideration of the combined effects from all of the multiple pollutants involved. Over the last 40 years, air

pollution programs implemented to protect public health and welfare have decreased PM and  $O_3$  precursors from stationary and mobile sources, particularly in developed nations, with little impact on  $CO_2$  and  $CH_4$  which have continued to rise. For many air pollutants, these reductions have been offset by increases in developing countries with rapidly expanding economies. An exception is  $SO_2$  emissions, which have declined globally since the 1980s. Lowering the cooling sulfate burden "unmasks" near-term warming from GHGs (and warming particles).

Climate change is expected to degrade air quality in many polluted regions by changing air pollution meteorology (ventilation and dilution), precipitation and other removal processes and the atmospheric chemistry, anthropogenic and natural sources, which respond to changing meteorology. Modeling of alternative climate and air quality scenarios indicate a wide range in projected U.S. surface O<sub>3</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub>. Projecting the effects of climate change on air quality can be confounded by year-to-year and decade-to-decade natural climate variability, requiring substantial computational resources to discern a climate change (signal) from the climate variability (noise). Regional climate change and the processes it triggers can offset some of the benefits from anthropogenic emission controls (the climate penalty, which includes but is not limited to emissions increases from natural and manmade sources), with some regions more sensitive than others (e.g., more wildfires in the western U.S.). Several studies find that continued regional  $NO_x$ emission reductions, such as over the eastern U.S., may guard against this climate penalty, and could lead to a full reversal of the O<sub>3</sub> seasonal cycle in some polluted regions. Global CH<sub>4</sub> increases can raise U.S. background O3, confounding efforts to reduce U.S. O<sub>3</sub> via regional precursor emission controls.

Multiple linkages between air pollution and climate suggest joint mitigation might increase benefits and reduce costs, but may be challenging as the priority goals for each program can diverge. Many 21st-century projections assume that developing nations will adopt more stringent air pollution regulations for PM and  $O_3$  to meet health and environmental goals, implying greater near-term warming rates as cooling sulfate is removed from the atmosphere. Prioritizing application of air pollutant controls on CH<sub>4</sub> and sources with high BC to OC ratios could offset this near-term warming induced by SO2 emission reductions, while reducing global background O<sub>3</sub> and regionally high levels of PM. Lowering projected peak warming requires major CO<sub>2</sub> emission reductions, but has little impact on nearterm climate change. Slowing the rate of increase and eventually reducing surface and tropospheric temperatures through CO<sub>2</sub> controls would also reduce emissions of air pollution from some source categories and minimize any climate penalty that would otherwise weaken the efficacy of future air pollution control strategies.

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## **Supplemental Materials**

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## **Air Quality and Climate Connections**

## **Supplemental Material**

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#### SUPPLEMENTAL TEXT

#### S1: Emissions

*Historical emissions*. In preparation for the IPCC AR5 report (IPCC, 2013a), a consistent set of historical emissions of air pollutants (NO<sub>x</sub>, CO, NMVOCs, SO<sub>2</sub>, NH<sub>3</sub>, OC, BC, and CH<sub>4</sub>) was developed for use in CCMs, and for generating NTCF atmospheric constituent distributions for use in GCMs. Lamarque et al. (2010) combined several existing regional and global anthropogenic and biomass burning emission inventories for the year 2000 with long-term global emission datasets to produce monthly, sectoral, gridded dataset covering the 1850-2000 period, referred to as the Atmospheric Chemistry-Climate Model Intercomparison Project (ACCMIP) inventory.

Granier et al. (2011) compared and evaluated several emission inventories, including the ACCMIP dataset, over the 1980-2010 period – a time period covered at least partially by most of the inventories (e.g., Figures S1 and S2). At the global scale, there is consensus across inventories of anthropogenic emissions of CO,  $NO_x$ , and  $SO_2$  for most years and of BC up to 2000, but this agreement does not indicate low uncertainty. Global inventories differ at the regional scale, especially for CO, BC and  $SO_2$  (e.g., on average a factor of 2 differences across inventories for BC emissions in India over the 1980-2005 period).

For the U.S.A., Figure S1 shows a difference of more than a factor of two between the highest BC emissions (J&L inventory) and the lowest (Bond inventory) in the 1980s, but all inventories agree to within 50% in 2000. For CO, emissions provided by the EPA show large differences versus other inventories prior to 1995. U.S. emissions of BC, CO, and SO<sub>2</sub> were declining at the start of the period, and both SO<sub>2</sub> and NO<sub>x</sub> decreases accelerated in the mid to late 1990s (Figure S1). These trends are consistent with an inventory built upon the latest activity and emission control data (Xing et al., 2013).

Substantial discrepancies remain in our understanding of the global CH<sub>4</sub> emission budget. Constraints exist on the total CH<sub>4</sub> sink by tropospheric oxidation (e.g., Montzka et al., 2011), and the atmospheric burden and growth rate are well approximated by the global surface network of CH<sub>4</sub> measurements (Dlugokencky et al., 2011 and references therein). Together, knowledge of the CH<sub>4</sub> oxidation sink, atmospheric burden, and growth rates provide fairly strong constraints on total global CH<sub>4</sub> emissions. The sectoral distribution of emissions, however, is poorly understood, with large discrepancies remaining in bottom-up and top-down estimates (Kirschke et al., 2013). Uncertainties in the global emissions of NH<sub>3</sub>, originating predominantly from agriculture (Bouwman et al., 1997; Paulot et al., 2014), have not been thoroughly analyzed; Lamarque et al. (2013a) note possible errors in the NH<sub>3</sub> ACCMIP inventory, including for the U.S.A.

*Future emissions*. Early efforts to project global anthropogenic air pollutant emissions, specifically NO<sub>x</sub>, CO, NMVOCs, and SO<sub>2</sub>, involved developing gridded emissions following the IPCC Special Report on Emission Scenarios (SRES) scenarios (Nakicenovic et al., 2000). The

SRES scenarios encompassed several specific socioeconomic storylines with each one simulated by a different "marker" Integrated Assessment Model (IAM). The SRES scenarios covered a wide range of demographic, economic, and technological driving forces of emissions but did not explicitly include any climate policy. Emissions of GHGs including ozone depleting substances, and short-lived air pollutants, with the exception of carbonaceous aerosols, were provided globally and within four world regions (Nakicenovic et al., 2000). Individual modeling groups gridded the SRES emissions or made largely ad-hoc assumptions regarding future trajectories of unspecified species, which resulted in diverse trends and spatial distributions of projected air pollutant concentrations and forcings (Shindell et al., 2008; CCSP 2008).

The SRES scenarios were developed by the IPCC and then sequentially applied in GCM simulations. The systematic development of future scenarios for air pollutants and GHGs in a consistent manner for coordinated international climate modeling first occurred in the early 2010s (van Vuuren et al., 2011; Amman et al., 2013). In that effort, the Representative Concentration Pathway (RCP) emission trajectories were designed to target four levels of radiative forcing (RF) in the year 2100 and were developed by the research community in a 'parallel process' that enabled GCMs to project future climate change while the IAMs developed socioeconomic trajectories consistent with the RCPs (Moss et al., 2010). Unlike the SRES scenarios, the RCPs explicitly explore the impact of different potential approaches to mitigating climate change in addition to a no-climate-policy scenario (RCP8.5), and span the full range of published climate scenarios. Figure S2 shows the emissions for individual air pollutant species under the four RCP scenarios described in the main text.

#### S2: Climate Change

*Observations: Surface Temperature and Precipitation.* Global mean surface temperature has increased by +0.85 °C (linear trend with 95% confidence intervals of 0.65 to 1.05 °C) from 1880 to 2012, and the number of warm days and nights has increased since about 1950, while the number of cold days and nights has decreased (Hartmann et al., 2013). The U.S. National Climate Assessment (Melillo et al., 2014) reports that U.S. average temperature has increased by +0.7 to +1.1°C (+1.3 to +1.9 °F) since 1895, with most of the increase occurring since 1970. Increases in temperature are widespread across the United States with the notable exception of the Southeastern and South-Central regions where temperature measurements indicate either a cooling or an absence of warming over the 20<sup>th</sup> Century, referred to as the "warming hole" (Melillo et al., 2014; Hartmann et al., 2013). Proposed mechanisms involve regional circulation changes and interactions with the hydrologic cycle resulting from specific patterns of sea surface temperature variability (Meehl et al., 2012) or from regional aerosol forcing (Leibensperger et al. 2012a, Yu et al., 2014).

On average over mid-latitude land areas, precipitation has increased since the middle of the 20<sup>th</sup> century; heavy precipitation has increased in frequency or intensity over North America ( $\geq$ 66% probability), with heavier precipitation events increasing over Central North America (Hartmann et al., 2013) particularly over the Central and Midwestern U.S. regions (Groisman et

al., 2005). Annual mean precipitation is higher in 1991-2012 versus 1901-1960 over much of the United States, however there are regional differences with increases in the Central and Northeast regions and a combination of areas with increases or decreases in the Southeast and Southwest U.S. (Melillo et al., 2014).

*Model Evaluation.* Taken together (i.e., averaging across multiple models), current generation GCMs and CCMs capture the observed changes from pre-industrial to present-day, including the more rapid globally averaged warming in the second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, cooling induced by volcanic eruptions, the spatial patterns of temperature change (global spatial pattern correlation of  $r \sim 0.99$ ), and changes in the frequency of extreme warm and cold days (Flato et al., 2013). The observed temperature change over the 20<sup>th</sup> century, however, is produced in GCMs/CCMs with various combinations of RF from GHGs and NTCFs (Kiehl, 2007), which implies a wide range of future warming in response to GHGs as aerosols are reduced under air pollution control programs. Simulating regional precipitation remains a challenge (model vs. observed global spatial pattern correlation r = 0.82), with models generally underestimating the sensitivity of extreme precipitation to temperature variability (Flato et al., 2013). Major uncertainties remain in simulating clouds, including their interactions with aerosols (Flato et al., 2013). GCMs generally simulate more intense and frequent extreme precipitation events in response to rising greenhouse gases (Flato et al., 2013) but with regional variations due to internal variability and interactions with aerosols (Kirtman et al., 2013).

21<sup>st</sup> century projections of climate change. Three major sources of uncertainty surround climate change projections. First, the specific scenario for GHGs and other climate-relevant species (the "climate forcing" trajectory) contributes to uncertainty. Consideration of multiple possible trajectories for GHGs and climate forcing agents produced by IAMs based on assumptions about the driving forces (Nakicenovic et al., 2000; Moss et al. 2010, van Vuuren et al. 2011), provides a measure of the uncertainty associated with the choice of scenario. Second, the simulated climate impact, global or regional, of an imposed forcing somewhat depends on the particular model setup used to estimate the response ("model response uncertainty"). This component of uncertainty has the potential to be narrowed as scientific understanding and its representation in climate models improves (Hawkins and Sutton, 2009; Hawkins and Sutton, 2010). Third, internally generated climate variability (chaos in the climate system; see Kirtman et al., 2013) confounds detection of the anthropogenic climate change signal. Due to internal variability, it is expected that (1) climate models will not reproduce the exact observed state of the planet in any given year, and (2) a set of climate models, or a set of simulations in a single model with different initial conditions will generate diverse responses to identical climate forcing. In other words, another model realization with the exact same forcing but with slightly different initial conditions may generate a different meteorological response. For these reasons, climate modeling approaches use multiple realizations of the climate system generated by multiple climate models. For an individual climate model, a set of simulations with identical climate

forcing but slightly different initial conditions is termed an "ensemble", with each individual simulation referred to as one "ensemble member". Consideration of this variability is particularly critical for projecting climate for the near term when the (forced) climate change signal is small relative to (unforced) climate variability (Kirtman et al., 2013). The required number of ensemble members, or simulation years, needed to detect the forced signal depends on the size of the forced signal, the quantity (*i.e.*, climate variable such as temperature or precipitation), region, and time frame of interest, with more realizations needed for quantities with large intrinsic variability, smaller regions, smaller forced signals and closer time periods (Deser et al., 2012; Hawkins and Sutton, 2010; Kirtman et al., 2013). Natural variability in temperature is generally smaller than in precipitation, and the near-term signal of anthropogenic influence on temperature is clearest in the tropics where natural variability is low (Flato et al., 2013).

IPCC (2013a) assesses GCMs and CCMs forced with RCP scenarios to project near-term (1986-2005 to 2016-2035) global mean surface temperature changes of +0.3 to +0.7 °C, and assigns over a 50% probability of reaching 1°C above 1850-1900, and  $\leq$ 10% probability of crossing 1.5 °C (Table S2), with land warming more rapidly than oceans (Kirtman et al., 2013). Over the U.S.A., temperature is projected to increase during the 21<sup>st</sup> century, though the rate of warming may vary by region (Melillo et al., 2014; Kirtman et al., 2013; M. Collins et al., 2013) and will fluctuate with natural variability (Deser et al., 2012). Models project drying over Texas and much of the Southwest (Melillo et al., 2014; Seager et al. 2007). Precipitation is projected to increase in much of the northern U.S., particularly in winter and spring in response to rising GHGs (Melillo et al., 2014).

# **S3.** Evaluation of ACCMIP and AeroCom models used to estimate RF *O*<sub>3</sub>

Uncertainties in the  $O_3$  RF estimates associated with the particular RTM scheme used are within ±10% (Stevenson et al., 2013). Some evidence indicates that CCMs and CTMs, while qualitatively reproducing observed features, underestimate century-scale lower tropospheric baseline  $O_3$  trends at northern mid-latitudes (Parrish et al., 2014; Cooper et al. 2014). While this finding might imply an underestimate of the RF from tropospheric  $O_3$  estimated with these models (Mickley et al., 2001), it is unclear whether trends in these lower tropospheric observations are relevant for  $O_3$  RF, which is strongest in the upper troposphere. Furthermore, the observations are sparse and the trends they record may reflect regional climate variability rather than emission trends.

Parameterizations based on sensitivities of surface  $O_3$  to precursor emissions diagnosed in a coordinated set of simulations with 14 CTMs indicate that models capture some of the observed global increases in surface  $O_3$  over the past three to four decades, though they generally underestimate the increase at continental sites (Wild et al., 2012). While these discrepancies could indicate problems with the emission inventories, they could alternatively suggest a role for changing natural sources or climate (Wild et al., 2012). Indeed, Lin et al. (2014) emphasize the

importance of considering climate variability when interpreting observed long-term trends at the Mauna Loa site, one of the sites used for model evaluation by Wild et al. (2012). Young et al. (2013) evaluated ACCMIP models with tropospheric ozonesonde measurements and satellite data; the model ensemble mean captures these observations, including the seasonal cycle, with some exceptions in the tropical upper troposphere. Comparison with satellite-based (OMI/MLS) tropospheric O<sub>3</sub> columns suggests that the global mean is also well represented by the ACCMIP models, but tends to be biased high in the northern hemisphere and low in the southern hemisphere (Young et al., 2013).

#### PM.

Satellite products of aerosol optical depth (AOD), the vertically integrated extinction of solar radiation by scattering and absorption, are currently one of the best benchmarks for modeled aerosol distributions and optical properties. Shindell et al. (2013) report that the spatial patterns in total AOD are broadly captured by the ACCMIP models, but generally biased low over Asia. The multi-model mean global average AOD (0.14) is slightly lower than retrievals from the MODIS (0.16) and MISR (0.17) satellite instruments (Shindell et al., 2013), though it is important to note the many uncertainties involved in the retrievals. The ACCMIP models capture AOD over large continental-sized regions as measured by surface AeroNet sun photometers, but the ability of individual models to simulate smaller regional features varies, and they differ in their estimates for the relative importance of specific PM components (Shindell et al., 2013). The ACCMIP models generally overestimate AOD at AeroNet sites between 40-60°N, implying an overestimate of anthropogenic sulfate (Shindell et al., 2013). In contrast, absorbing AOD (AAOD), a measure of the amount of absorption by dust, BC, and BrC, is strongly underestimated in many regions compared to those derived from the OMI satellite instrument, with a factor of 2 low bias globally and poor spatial pattern correlations (Bond et al. 2013; Shindell et al., 2013). While BC atmospheric burdens in the ACCMIP models varied by a factor of 3, their projected increases in pre-industrial to present-day atmospheric burdens by factors of 2.5-3 are consistent with the ACCMIP emission inventory increase of a factor of 2.5.

Regional forcing estimates for BC deposition on bright surfaces (e.g., snow and ice) can exceed 10 W m<sup>-2</sup> (Zhao et al., 2014). The common modeling practice of prescribing deposition rates and decoupling those rates from snowfall, however, biases surface albedo RF estimates high by a factor of 1.5-2.5 (Doherty et al., 2014). Model estimates of the BC surface albedo effect are also sensitive to simulated BC spatial distributions, snow albedo parameterizations, and modeled snow cover (Lee et al., 2013). BC deposition to snow and ice surfaces is a particularly effective agent of climate change with ties to Arctic (Hansen and Nazarenko, 2004; Koch et al., 2009; Flanner et al., 2009), North American (Qian et al., 2009), and Himalayan snow and ice melt (Ramanathan and Carmichael, 2008; Menon et al., 2010), which amplify regional temperature increases, some of which may occur in response to BC RF.

Four ACCMIP models included SOA (though generally not its aqueous formation pathways or BrC), estimating 1850 to 2000 RFs of -0.07, -0.03, -0.01, and +0.32 W m<sup>-2</sup>. The

simulated large positive RF from SOA occurs due to imposed land-use changes, which lowers SOA abundance compared to the pre-industrial era (Shindell et al., 2013). The AeroCom models report a range of organic aerosol burdens (biogenic and anthropogenic) ranging from 0.6 to 3.8 Tg, but tend to underestimate observations in urban (62%), remote (15%), and marine (30%) environments (Tsigaridis et al., 2014).

# S4. Sensitivity of Atmospheric Chemistry, Sources, and Sinks to Regional Climate Change and Variability

We outline here the current understanding for several climate-sensitive atmospheric reactions, sources and sinks. These processes serve as feedbacks on the climate system when they alter emissions of NTCFs or CO<sub>2</sub>, and influence the sensitivity of regional air pollution to climate change and variability. We note where additional research is needed to build confidence in projections of air pollutant responses to future climate change.

*Atmospheric chemistry*. Three thermally sensitive factors (isoprene emissions, peroxyacetyl nitrate, and water vapor) have long been recognized as strong controls on the response of O<sub>3</sub> to meteorology, including on daily time scales (e.g., Trainer et al., 1987; Chameides et al., 1988; Sillman and Samson, 1995; Johnson et al., 1999; Jacob et al., 1995; Steiner et al., 2006). Under warmer conditions, less NO<sub>x</sub> is locked up in PAN, and instead contributes to local O<sub>3</sub> formation (e.g, Sillman and Samson, 1995). A warmer atmosphere holds more water vapor, leading to increased chemical O<sub>3</sub> destruction in the remote (low-NO<sub>x</sub>) atmosphere reducing background O<sub>3</sub> levels (IPCC, 2013a). In high-NO<sub>x</sub> polluted regions where O<sub>3</sub> production is limited by the supply of HO<sub>x</sub> radicals, higher water vapor can increase O<sub>3</sub> (e.g., Jacobson, 2008), though the importance of this factor varies locally, with regional-scale O<sub>3</sub>-water vapor relationships more likely to reflect synoptically-driven correlations (Jacob and Winner, 2009; Camalier et al., 2007). Isoprene emissions increase with temperature and react rapidly to produce O<sub>3</sub> (see below). Doherty et al. (2013) demonstrate that the sum of increases in these three individual factors: PAN decomposition, water vapor, and isoprene emissions, captures roughly half ( $r^2 = 0.52$ ) of the spatial variance in the annual mean surface O<sub>3</sub> response to climate change in a CCM.

Understanding of isoprene oxidation chemistry remains incomplete (Paulot et al., 2009). Alternative treatments of isoprene-NO<sub>x</sub> interactions affect the global O<sub>3</sub> burden (Ito et al., 2009) and the sign of the local surface O<sub>3</sub> response to an increase in isoprene emissions (e.g., Fiore et al., 2005; Weaver et al., 2009), with a strong sensitivity to assumptions regarding organic nitrate chemistry (Browne and Cohen, 2012). Based on laboratory and field measurements Mao et al. (2013a) conclude that the local surface O<sub>3</sub> response to isoprene emissions is positive, as isoprene does not titrate OH (necessary for the isoprene-O<sub>3</sub> reaction to serve as a sink for O<sub>3</sub>).

The individual PM components respond differently to meteorological changes. Higher temperatures and humidity can enhance gas-phase sulfate formation, though aqueous phase sulfate production decreases under cloud-free conditions, and there is less partitioning of nitrate and volatile organics into the aerosol phase (e.g., Jiang et al., 2010; Liao et al., 2006; Aw and

Kleeman, 2003; Pye et al., 2009; Racherla and Adams, 2006; Kleeman, 2008). For example, measurements at two sites during wintertime PM episodes in the Midwest indicate over a factor of two increase in nitrate associated with air stagnation, attributed at least partially to stronger partitioning towards the aerosol phase (Stanier et al., 2012). PM also varies with oxidant levels, including those induced by remote emissions (Unger et al., 2006; Leibensperger et al., 2011). Major uncertainties surround model chemical mechanisms for oxidation of isoprene and other biogenic volatile organic compounds (BVOC), and the ensuing impacts on O<sub>3</sub> and SOA (e.g., Lelieveld et al., 2008; Carlton et al., 2009; Paulot et al., 2009; Hoyle et al., 2011; Murphy et al., 2012; Mao et al., 2013a). New mechanistic understanding is emerging on aqueous phase SOA production (e.g., Fu et al., 2009; Carlton et al., 2010; Ervens et al., 2011; McNeill et al., 2012, 2015; He C. et al., 2013). Finally, uncertainties persist regarding heterogeneous chemistry of aerosols and their influence on tropospheric composition and regional air quality (e.g., Jacob, 2000; MacIntyre and Evans, 2010; Mao et al., 2013b).

Anthropogenic Emissions. Higher anthropogenic NO<sub>x</sub> emissions associated with meeting electricity demands to power air conditioning on the hottest days have been estimated to produce at least one-third of the observed O<sub>3</sub> dependence on temperature, with an estimated ~2.5-4% °C<sup>-1</sup> increase in power plant NO<sub>x</sub> emissions for 1997-2011 (He et al., 2013). Bloomer et al. (2009) and others have documented the decreasing response of O<sub>3</sub> to temperature as NO<sub>x</sub> emission controls have been implemented since the late 1990s. Loughner et al. (2014) report that in 1980, there were twice as many days with O<sub>3</sub> above the current 75 ppb NAAQS level as the number of hot days (defined as maximum temperature  $\geq$  90 °F) whereas from 2009-2013 there were fewer high-O<sub>3</sub> days (above 75 ppb) than hot days. With model simulations, Loughner et al. (2014) further demonstrate that emission controls phased in since 2002 prevented 3 to 11 high-O<sub>3</sub> days during the hot July of 2011 throughout Maryland. Figure 6a shows this improvement in air quality: despite similar temperature excursions throughout the record, July mean maximum daily average 8-hour (MDA8) O<sub>3</sub> levels did not exceed 65 ppb from 2003-2014.

*Natural Sources.* We discuss here natural sources that are climate-sensitive and expected to influence  $O_3$  or  $PM_{2.5}$  in some U.S. regions. These changes in natural sources can also alter global  $O_3$  and PM distributions, serving as a feedback to climate change. Some models project  $O_3$  enhancements from higher natural sources such as stratosphere-to-troposphere and lightning  $NO_x$  in a warmer climate (e.g., Stevenson et al., 2013; Young et al., 2013). While these climate-change induced increases in natural sources are uncertain, they influence  $O_3$  in the mid-to-upper troposphere where the  $O_3$  lifetime is longer and it is more effective as a GHG. The accompanying changes in RF may not be evident from consideration of global mean changes in  $O_3$  burdens as one of the most robust impacts of climate warming is to decrease lower tropospheric  $O_3$ , which could offset larger upper tropospheric natural sources in terms of the global mean burden.

Biogenic NMVOC emissions: Biogenic NMVOC includes isoprene and terpenes, which

are strongly temperature dependent, and some also respond strongly to variations in sunlight and soil moisture (e.g., Guenther et al., 2006). Emissions in CCMs and CTMs are typically parameterized using spatial maps of base emissions that are adjusted according to the local temperature and sunlight, with some approaches incorporating additional factors such as soil moisture or leaf age (Guenther et al., 2006; 2012) or tying emissions directly to photosynthesis in a dynamic vegetation land model (Unger et al., 2013). Rising CO<sub>2</sub> may suppress isoprene emission (Rosenstiel et al., 2003), opposing the influence of rising temperatures (Pacifico et al., 2012). The species-specificity of isoprene emissions (Guenther et al., 1995) further implies that any changes in the distribution of particular plant species, whether induced by a changing climate (e.g., Sanderson et al., 2003) or land-use (e.g., Lathiere et al., 2010; Purves et al., 2004; Wiedinmyer et al., 2006; Heald et al., 2008, Wu et al., 2012), will alter emissions and the local air quality. Huang et al. (2015) estimate that monthly isoprene emissions vary by over 30% from year to year, and that Texas droughts in 2006 and 2011 reduced isoprene and monoterpene emissions by as much as 24%. Formaldehyde, a short-lived intermediate of isoprene oxidation, has been retrieved from satellite instruments since the mid-1990s and offers some bounds on monthly and inter-annual variability in isoprene emissions over the United States (Abbot et al., 2003; Palmer et al., 2006; Millet et al., 2008). Where isoprene is abundant,  $O_3$  is strongly  $NO_x$ limited (e.g., Jacob et al., 1995), such that rising isoprene emissions are unlikely to offset the O<sub>3</sub> decreases resulting from NO<sub>x</sub> reductions projected under the RCPs (Figure S2). SOA production from biogenic emissions is expected to vary with climate (Heald et al., 2008; Jiang et al., 2010) but yields remain uncertain and likely vary with local factors including organic aerosol loading, NO<sub>x</sub>, the degree of oxidation including through aqueous pathways (e.g., Carlton et al., 2009; McNeill, 2015). We emphasize the important distinction between biogenic and natural, since over half of SOA derived from biogenic VOC emissions may be controllable via anthropogenic emissions (e.g., Carlton and Turpin, 2013; Xu et al., 2015).

<u>*Wildfires:*</u> Wildfires contribute to high-PM<sub>2.5</sub> events, particularly in the western United States (e.g., Jaffe et al., 2008a) where they are the major driver of inter-annual variability in OC (Spracklen et al., 2007). From a policy perspective, these events can be screened from counting towards attainment determinations as exceptional events (e.g., Taubman et al. 2004; see also Fiore et al., 2014a). Nevertheless, they do pose a direct threat to public health, with fire conditions linked with a 50% higher probability of people seeking emergency care as compared to non-fire conditions (Thelen et al., 2013). The contribution of wildfires to O<sub>3</sub>, including during individual events, is under debate (e.g., Jaffe and Wigder, 2012; see Fiore et al., 2014b and references in their Table 1).

Wildfires have been increasing in the Western U.S. with spring and summer temperatures (Westerling et al., 2006). While global fire emission inventories exist based upon space-based products of area burned (e.g., Duncan et al., 2003; van der Werf et al., 2006; 2010; Kaiser et al., 2012; Wiedinmyer et al., 2011), computationally efficient predictive capability such as needed to project air pollutants with CCMs is only beginning to be developed (e.g., Pechony and Shindell, 2009), as are mechanistic representations of fires in vegetation models (e.g., Flannigan et al.,

2009). Regression models that account for current and antecedent meteorology and a parameterization that considers temperature, precipitation, relative humidity, Santa Ana winds and geographical dependence of wildfires all project increases (ranging from 10% to doubling depending on the region and approach) in area burned by mid-21<sup>st</sup> century, as well as the possibility of a longer fire season in southwestern California due to warmer and drier conditions on Santa Ana days in November (Yue et al., 2014). Related approaches have been used to project area burned, combined with wildfire emission factors, in CTMs that project increases in western U.S. OC and BC levels in surface air of 46-70% and 20-27%, respectively by midcentury (Yue et al., 2013; Spracklen et al., 2009). Hurteau et al. (2014) considered additional factors including changing population distributions and development densities, and hydrologic variables obtained by downscaling temperature and precipitation for two scenarios from three GCMs for each 1/8° grid cell over California. With this approach, they find wildfire emission increases of 19-101% (median of 56%) over the 21<sup>st</sup> century, with the largest increases in northern California (Hurteau et al., 2014).

Jaffe et al. (2008b, 2011) point out that summertime mean  $O_3$  is enhanced in the Western U.S.A. in years with high wildfires. This relationship may reflect a common underlying relationship with temperature rather than a direct impact of wildfires on  $O_3$ . Zhang et al. (2014) find little response of Western U.S.  $O_3$  in their model to year-to-year changes in wildfire emissions, but instead find that warmer years are associated with deeper mixing depths, enabling higher  $O_3$  levels from the free troposphere to reach the surface in warmer years. Uncertainty remains, however, in the possible role of PAN transport and subsequent  $O_3$  production from fire plumes in this region (Zhang et al., 2014).

<u>Wetland and permafrost CH<sub>4</sub></u>: Globally, emissions from wetlands drive much of the observed inter-annual variability in atmospheric CH<sub>4</sub> (Kirschke et al., 2013), and are expected to increase in a warmer climate, though the magnitude and regional distribution are uncertain (Ciais et al., 2013). O'Connor et al. (2010) review parameterizations for climate-sensitive wetland emissions that have been incorporated into GCMs and CCMs, some of which consider changing areal extents for wetlands. Only two of the ACCMIP models (Figure 10) included changes in CH<sub>4</sub> emissions from wetlands in their projections since the majority fixed CH<sub>4</sub> abundances either directly or through a lower boundary condition (Lamarque et al., 2013b). None of the ACCMIP models included a possible, but highly uncertain, CH<sub>4</sub> source from thawing permafrost, which may increase as the Arctic climate continues to warm (e.g., Schuur et al., 2015). Increases in atmospheric CH<sub>4</sub> will raise baseline tropospheric O<sub>3</sub>, thus serving as a positive feedback on climate, and raising ground-level O<sub>3</sub> globally.

<u>Soil  $NO_x$ </u>: Soil NO<sub>x</sub> emissions vary with temperature and precipitation, with pulsing induced by precipitation following dry spells (Yienger and Levy, 1995). Some CTMs and CCMs include a climate-dependent parameterization based on Yienger and Levy (1995). Estimates with updates to that parameterization, including new fertilizer application data, indicate that soil NO<sub>x</sub> enhances MDA8 O<sub>3</sub> in surface air over the U.S. Great Plains by 3 ppb on average in June, with weather-dependent inter-annual variability increasing this value to 5 ppb in June of 2006 (Hudman et al., 2010).

<u>Lightning NO<sub>x</sub></u>: Lightning activity is expected to change in a warming climate (Price, 2013; Williams, 2005). The tropospheric O<sub>3</sub> and CH<sub>4</sub> burdens and resulting climate impacts (note that NO<sub>x</sub> increases O<sub>3</sub> but decreases CH<sub>4</sub>) are more sensitive to changes in lightning NO<sub>x</sub> than anthropogenic NO<sub>x</sub> (e.g., Wild et al., 2001; Labrador et al., 2005; Murray et al., 2013), though surface O<sub>3</sub> is typically much more sensitive to regional anthropogenic NO<sub>x</sub> emissions. Some studies, however, find lightning NO<sub>x</sub> influences of up to 10-14 ppb in U.S. surface air (Kaynak et al., 2008; Zhang et al., 2014). Present-day simulations of the lightning NO<sub>x</sub> source can be constrained with flash rates observed by satellite instruments (Murray et al., 2012) or by assimilating multiple species retrieved from satellite (Miyazaki et al., 2014). Model parameterizations based on convective cloud top heights (Price and Rind, 1992), convective mass fluxes or convective precipitation (Allen et al., 2002) generally project increased lightning NO<sub>x</sub> in warmer climates (e.g., John et al., 2012; Lei et al., 2012; Young et al., 2013, Murray et al., 2014), one model with a microphysically-based representation of lightning NO<sub>x</sub> projects decreases due to declining numbers of ice crystals (Jacobson and Streets, 2009).

<u>Dust</u>: Dust emissions, both anthropogenic and natural, depend strongly on climate, particularly on changes in the hydrological cycle as reviewed by Ginoux et al. (2012). Models (CTMs and CCMs) often include climate-dependent dust emissions (e.g., Ginoux et al., 2001; Lamarque et al., 2012). Studies conflict, however, in projections of the dust response to climate change (Mahowald and Luo, 2003; Tegen et al., 2004; Myhre et al., 2013).

<u>Downward Transport from the Stratosphere:</u> The western U.S. is downwind from an active region for stratosphere-to-troposphere O<sub>3</sub> transport in spring (e.g., Skerlak et al. 2014), which can contribute to O<sub>3</sub> events above the NAAQS level (Langford et al., 2009; Lin et al., 2012a). Several modeling studies suggest increased stratosphere-to-troposphere flux under climate change associated with the combination of stratospheric O<sub>3</sub> recovery and a change in stratospheric circulation, which may increase the downward flux of O<sub>3</sub> at northern mid-latitudes (e.g., Hegglin and Shepherd, 2009; Kawase et al., 2011). New evidence from satellite data exploits natural climate variability to support the model-based increases in stratosphere-to-troposphere O<sub>3</sub> exchange with climate warming (Neu et al., 2014). Observations during a field campaign over the central United States in summer 2012 also suggest that thunderstorms may enable fine-scale transport of stratospheric O<sub>3</sub> into the troposphere that is not resolved in current CCMs (Pan et al., 2014).

*Dry and Wet Deposition*. Both wet and dry deposition remove PM and O<sub>3</sub> precursors. The suppression of O<sub>3</sub> dry deposition by vegetation under drought conditions has been implicated in contributing to extreme pollution events (Solberg et al., 2008) and has been projected to change with regional climate (Andersson and Engardt, 2010). The representation of dry deposition varies widely in current global models (Hardacre et al., 2014), reflecting a lack of clear process-based understanding from observations (e.g., Fowler et al., 2009; val Martin et al., 2014). Changes in wet deposition are tied to precipitation changes, discussed in the main text.

# S5. Evaluating Models Used To Study U.S. Air Quality Responses To Emissions Or Meteorology

Computational advances now enable global CCMs and CTMs to perform decadal and centennial simulations at  $1^{\circ}x1^{\circ}$  or  $2^{\circ}x2^{\circ}$  horizontal resolution (e.g., Lamarque et al., 2013b and references therein), with resolutions comparable to those of RCMs and RCTMs possible for shorter periods (e.g., Lin et al., 2012ab; Zhang et al., 2014). Pfister et al. (2014) demonstrated that high-resolution models may simulate different mean states as they spatially refine simulations relative to a coarse resolution configuration, but that the coarse- and high-resolution versions both project similar changes about their respective mean states. Similar findings have been noted for present-day applications of coarse- versus high-resolution models, as well as the decoupling of model capability to represent temporal (e.g., day-to-day) variations versus mean  $O_3$  levels at individual monitoring sites (e.g., Fiore et al., 2003; 2014a). These findings imply that bias-correction or statistical downscaling methods to spatially refine projections from global models may provide useful information at the local scale (see also Hall, 2014), though urban-rural differences not represented at the coarse scale should be considered.

*Surface O*<sub>3</sub>. A systematic positive bias in summertime eastern U.S. surface O<sub>3</sub> plagues many regional and global models (e.g., Murazaki and Hess, 2006; Nolte et al., 2008; Fiore et al., 2009; Reidmiller et al. 2009; Naik et al., 2013a; Brown-Steiner et al., 2015). val Martin et al. (2014) attribute a portion of this bias in some models to an erroneous implementation of dry deposition. Despite mean state biases, these models generally capture the salient features of O<sub>3</sub> pollution episodes, including their areal extent and duration (Fiore et al., 2003), as well as year-to-year variability (Schnell et al., 2014), indicating that they represent the underlying processes controlling the build-up of air pollution events, and are thus suitable tools for studying how air pollution events will change as climate and emissions evolve.

Observed U.S. air quality responses to emission controls implemented over recent decades provide key tests for the CCMs and CTMs used to project future air quality in response to proposed emission control programs (e.g., Table S1). NO<sub>2</sub> columns retrieved from satellite instruments and ground-level NO<sub>2</sub> measurements from the U.S. Air Quality System both indicate an average decrease of 38% in U.S. tropospheric NO<sub>2</sub> columns from 2005 to 2013, along with a changing amplitude of the NO<sub>2</sub> seasonal cycle in response to declining NO<sub>x</sub> emissions (Lamsal et al., 2015). "Dynamic evaluation" of emission-response relationships tests model skill at simulating the observed differences due to meteorology and emission shifts from one year to another (e.g., Gilliland et al., 2008; Nolte et al., 2008). Prior studies have attributed eastern U.S. decreases in various O<sub>3</sub> metrics over recent decades to NO<sub>x</sub> emission controls (Frost et al., 2006; Gégo et al., 2007; Bloomer et al., 2009; 2010; Kang et al., 2013; Napelenok et al., 2011; Zhou et al., 2013; Figures 6, 10 and 11). The highest observed surface O<sub>3</sub> levels decrease most (Cooper et al., 2012; Rieder et al., 2013), broadening the seasonal cycle to a spring-summer maximum in

polluted regions where summertime peaks were typically observed during the 1990s (Clifton et al., 2014; Cooper et al., 2014). The overall  $O_3$  distribution is thus more narrow, particularly as the lowest concentrations are increasing in many U.S. regions (e.g., Cooper et al., 2012; 2014; Simon et al., 2014). CTMs and CCMs generally represent the observed summertime decreases, wintertime increases, and larger declines on the highest (and warmest) days in response to  $NO_x$  emission reductions (e.g., Clifton et al., 2014; Rieder et al., 2015; Brown-Steiner et al., 2015).

Historically observed relationships between relevant meteorological variables and air quality (Lin et al., 2001; Bloomer et al., 2009; Tai et al., 2010) provide tests for model responses to changing meteorology. An evaluation of the O<sub>3</sub>-temperature relationship reveals more success in capturing observed relationships over the Northeast and Midwest than over the mid-Atlantic (Rasmussen et al., 2012). Tawfik and Steiner (2013) find that O<sub>3</sub> in the Southeast correlates strongly with surface drying (evaporative fraction) suggesting that regional O<sub>3</sub>-temperature relationships respond to differences in the soil moisture-atmosphere coupling regime. The higher model skill in the Northeast thus likely reflects the more accurate simulation of large-scale synoptic conditions, which shape the O<sub>3</sub>-temperature relationships and extreme O<sub>3</sub> on the number of vertical levels in the CCM, cloud cover, photolysis, isoprene emissions, and the model meteorology (Brown-Steiner et al., 2015).

*Surface PM.* Ambient concentrations and deposition of  $PM_{2.5}$  components have been observed for decades (Lehmann et al., 2007). Models (e.g., Pozzoli et al., 2011; Leibensperger et al., 2012b) and observations (e.g., Sickles and Shadwick, 2015) attribute the observed eastern U.S. decline in sulfate concentrations to SO<sub>2</sub> emission controls. Leibensperger et al. (2012b) also showed that a CTM reproduces the lack of a trend in ammonium wet deposition but indicates little trend in nitrate deposition despite decreasing observations, suggesting poor model representation of emission trends, and possibly the sulfate-nitrate-ammonium system. Decadal and longer records from satellite offer new opportunities to evaluate air quality trends globally (Martin, 2008; Streets et al., 2013). Boys et al. (2014) infer a decrease from 1999 to 2012 in eastern U.S.  $PM_{2.5}$  of -0.37±0.13 µg m<sup>-3</sup> yr<sup>-1</sup> from satellite data as compared to -0.38±0.06 µg m<sup>-3</sup> yr<sup>-1</sup> from ground-based sites, attributed to decreasing sulfate-nitrate-ammonium aerosol.

Models generally capture surface distributions of BC but show large discrepancies with remote observations (Q. Wang et al., 2014; X. Wang et al., 2014), reflecting uncertainties in emissions, aging mechanisms, optical properties (when assessed by AAOD), and wet scavenging (Bond et al., 2013). Over the U.S.A., BC decreases of 1-5% yr<sup>-1</sup> are estimated for 1990 to 2004 (Murphy et al., 2011), but models generally fail to capture these trends (Koch et al., 2011; Leibensperger et al., 2012b). Simulating OC remains problematic (Kanakidou et al., 2005; Tsigaridis et al., 2014), especially in the southeastern U.S.A. (Ford and Heald, 2013), though improvement occurs with updated SOA mechanisms (Carlton et al., 2010). Uncertainties in SOA

stem from the anthropogenic and biogenic precursor NMVOC emissions and the subsequent atmospheric chemistry (Hallquist et al., 2009).

# S6. Observed Relationships Between Air Pollutants and Meteorology and Statistical Downscaling Approaches

Numerous statistical methods exist to remove the influence of meteorology on observed air pollutant trends in order to discern the efficacy of pollution control programs (e.g., Porter et al., 2001). The U.S. EPA has begun to provide both the raw observed and weather-adjusted trends in summer mean  $O_3$  and annual  $PM_{2.5}$  (http://www.epa.gov/airtrends/reports.html; http://www.epa.gov/airtrends/weather.html). Long-term observations thus contain information regarding the response of air pollution to variability in meteorology, which may offer insights to the response to climate change.

One method to estimate future changes in air quality combines GCM or RCM projections of regional climate change with observed relationships between air pollution and meteorology (Statistical Downscaling in Table S1). Many of the observed relationships between a single meteorological variable and an air pollutant, however, reflect the net response to air pollution meteorology, atmospheric chemistry and sources and sinks. For example, the strong observed correlation between O<sub>3</sub> and temperature in many polluted U.S. regions (Figure 6) reflects several processes (Figure 2; see also Weaver et al., 2009; Rasmussen et al. 2012). These include: (1) the impact of temperature on reaction rates, particularly on the thermal suppression of peroxyacetyl nitrate (PAN) formation which leads to additional NO<sub>x</sub> available to produce O<sub>3</sub> locally (e.g., Sillman and Samson 1995; Steiner et al., 2010); (2) the impact of temperature on precursor availability, including from anthropogenic NO<sub>x</sub> (higher electricity demand; He H et al., 2013), and biogenic NMVOC (Guenther et al., 1995; Steiner et al., 2006; Andersson and Endgart, 2010); see also Supplemental Text 4, and (3) the underlying dependence of extreme temperature and pollution on air pollution meteorology, including cloud-free conditions with abundant radiation needed for photochemistry (Logan, 1989; NRC, 1991).

Over the Southeastern U.S.A., the  $O_3$ -temperature correlation is weaker than in the Northeast (e.g., Camalier et al., 2007). In this region, surface drying, expressed as evaporative fraction, has been shown to correlate better with  $O_3$  than temperature, specific humidity, or radiation, which may reflect a fundamental shift in the soil moisture-atmosphere coupling regime between the Northeast and Southeast U.S.A. (Tawfik and Steiner, 2013). The present-day relationship between  $O_3$  and temperature has been quantified (Bloomer et al., 2009; Rasmussen et al., 2013), but the processes controlling this relationship are unlikely to scale simply with temperature (Steiner et al., 2010; Kirtman et al., 2013; Tawfik and Steiner, 2013).

Statistical downscaling approaches that identify the underlying drivers of observed relationships, such as stagnation events (Leibensperger et al., 2008; Tai et al., 2012ab; Thishan Dharshana et al., 2012), proximity to the summertime mid-latitude jet (Barnes and Fiore, 2013), or surface drying (Tawfik and Steiner, 2013) may be more reliable. At present, however, this approach is limited by GCM (or CCM) skill of projecting changes in the frequency, duration,

and intensity of regional air stagnation (particularly those events associated with atmospheric blocking (e.g., Christensen et al., 2013), the jet latitude (e.g., Barnes and Polvani, 2013), and land-atmosphere couplings (Dirmeyer et al., 2013). Statistical downscaling approaches based solely on air pollution meteorology can be confounded by the dependence of present-day relationships on the chemical regime (e.g., availability of NO<sub>x</sub> and VOC) (Bloomer et al. 2009; Rasmussen et al., 2012, 2013; Steiner et al. 2006, 2010; Figure 6). For example, Rasmussen et al. (2013) illustrate the strong dependence of the O<sub>3</sub>-temperature relationship on precursor emissions for two urban airsheds in California, adding this information to O<sub>3</sub> isopleth plots, which indicate the efficacy of possible O<sub>3</sub> precursor control strategies. Future changes in the balance between local-to-regional and background pollutant levels such as due to changing water vapor, global CH<sub>4</sub> or changes in stratospheric O<sub>3</sub> influx (Kirtman et al., 2013; Lamarque et al., 2011; Kawase et al., 2011; Clifton et al., 2014) may also complicate projections based on present-day relationships between air pollutants and meteorological conditions. The response of PM<sub>2.5</sub> will vary by region and in time with the major components of PM<sub>2.5</sub>. For example, formation of the nitrate component of PM<sub>2.5</sub> is inhibited at warmer temperatures, and the regional PM<sub>2.5</sub> response may be dominated by climate-sensitive sources such as wildfires, dust, and biogenic precursors of organic carbon (Jacob and Winner, 2009; Dawson et al. 2014; Supplemental Text S4).

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Approach	Example questions	Advantages	Advantages Limitations							
Methods applied to study air pollutant impacts on the climate system										
Model (RTM) forced with distributions of atmosphericforcing (RF) from changes in one or more atmospherico in in more atmosphericconstituents from a Chemistry-Climateconstituents (or to a change ine		Enables attribution of RF to changes in individual atmospheric constituents (or emission perturbations)	Inputs such as cloud distributions in the RTM are not necessarily consistent with the simulation of the atmospheric constituents. The simulations used to estimate changes in atmospheric distributions of constituent(s) are often limited to a few years of meteorology.	Feng et al., 2013; Fry et al., 2012; 2013; 2014; Fuglestvedt et al., 1999; Naik et al., 2005; Stevenson et al., 2013; Wild et al., 2001.						
Global CCM driven by fixed (monthly- varying) sea surface temperatures, (also called "Radiative Flux Perturbations")	What is the effective radiative forcing (ERF) from a particular atmospheric species or emitted compound?	As above but includes rapid adjustments <sup>a</sup> such as aerosol-cloud interactions	Land warming complicates the calculation.	Boucher et al., 2013; Hansen et al., 2005; Lohmann et al., 2010; Shindell et al., 2013; Unger et al., 2010.						
Regression of net energy imbalance onto the change in GMST <sup>b</sup> in a transient climate simulation	As above	As above	Estimate can be confounded by natural variability or time-varying feedbacks.	Boucher et al., 2013; Gregory et al., 2004.						
General Circulation Models (GCMs)	How will climate evolve? What is the climate response to a given forcing agent?	Long, multi- ensemble simulations allow separation of climate change signal from variability	Prescribed ozone and aerosol fields drive evolution of climate system, introducing inconsistencies in the distributions of chemical and meteorological variables; calculating RF from a single constituent requires double calls to	Typical IPCC-class models used to project changes in climate variables, e.g. Collins, M. et al., 2013; Flato et al., 2013; Leibensperger et al., 2012b.						

## Table S1. Summary of Methods used to study air quality-climate connections

		representation of processes	and the GCM skill at representing large-scale circulation.	
Global CCMs, either coupled to a full ocean model, or driven by sea surface temperatures and sea ice archived from a GCM	How does the climate system respond to changes in air pollutants?	Consistent simulation of meteorology and air pollutants; represents at least some two-way interactions between air pollutants and climate	Computational expense from chemistry implies coarser resolution than possible with GCMs; simplistic or absent representations of some processes; multiple sensitivity simulations required for source attribution; calculating RF from a single constituent requires double calls to radiation code.	Bellouin et al., 2011; Collins et al., 2011; Jones et al. 2011; Lamarque et al., 2012; Levy et al., 2013; Naik et al., 2013a; Pawson et al., 2008; Pozzoli et al., 2008; Rotstayn et al., 2013; Shindell et al., 2006; 2012; 2013; Szopa et al. 2012; Watanabe et al., 2011; Zhang et al., 2012.
Regional CCMs	How does regional climate respond to local changes in air pollutants (or to global forcings via changing boundary conditions)?	As above but with higher resolution and/or more complex description of processes such as for resolving clouds	As for RCMs, plus boundary conditions for chemical and meteorological variables are not necessarily consistent.	Kalina et al., 2014; Mashayekhi and Sloan, 2014; Morrison 2012; Thompson and Eidhammer, 2014.
Nested grid models (e.g., one-way global through urban scales)	How do air pollutants or specific sectors affect local- to regional climate?	Fully consistent simulation that resolves processes at the relevant scale in the region of interest	Limited by ability to resolve relevant processes, or if two-way couplings between scales are important.	Jacobson et al., 2007; Jacobson, 2008.
Reduced-complexity climate (and carbon cycle or earth system) models	How does GMST (or another climate response) evolve under a wide range of scenarios?	Emulates GCMs for rapid calculation of GMST or other climate response to multiple emission scenarios	Simple representation of climate system may not properly account for couplings in the system such as chemical feedbacks.	Meinshausen et al., 2011; Rogelj et al., 2014; Shoemaker et al., 2013; Shoemaker and Schrag, 2013; Smith and Mizrahi, 2013; Unger et al., 2010.
Analytical formulae	What is the RF from changes in a well- mixed GHG?	Simple relationship between equilibrium RF to a change in abundance (or	As above.	Ramaswamy et al., 2001.

		emissions)		
Simple box models	What is the GMST response to different RF scenarios?	Can incorporate multiple time scales to estimate transient and steady-state GMST changes for a variety of scenarios	As above; neglects possible dependence of GMST response to the spatial distribution of RF and thus is unlikely to approximate well the response to short-lived air pollutants.	Boucher and Reddy, 2008; Held et al., 2010; Pierrehumbert, 2014; Shindell et al., 2012.
Adjoint methods in a GCTMWhich emissions (species, region, sector) contribute to RF by a particular atmospheric constituent (regional, global)?Receptor-orient framework allow attribution to multiple factors single simulatio forward modelin source attribution		multiple factors in a single simulation; complementary to forward modeling source attributions	Assumes linear system; by design targets a single quantity ('receptor').	Henze et al. 2012.
				D1 ( 1 2000
Observed relationships between chemical and meteorological variables	How does air pollution respond to changing weather?	Observational constraints on models	Does not directly provide information on how climate will change, and may not correctly identify the underlying drivers of the correlation.	Bloomer et al., 2009; Dawson et al. 2014; Jacob and Winner, 2009; Rasmussen et al., 2012; Tai et al., 2010, 2012a.
Statistical downscaling using observed relationships (above) and climate change projections	How will air pollution respond to changes in regional or global climate?	Can be applied to a large suite of GCM physical climate change simulations (or their emulators)	Assumes stationarity in the air pollutant response to the projected meteorological variable.	Holloway et al., 2008; Tai et al., 2012b.
CTMs driven by perturbed meteorological variables	How does air pollution respond to changes in a meteorological driver?	Develops process- level understanding of air pollutant response to changes in a single factor; helps diagnose responses in more complex models	Changes in air pollutants do not feed back on the climate system.	Section 4 of Jacob and Winner, 2009; Rasmussen et al., 2013; Steiner et al., 2006.
Global CTM driven by	How do changes in	Sensitivity	As above, plus often limited to a	Jacob and Winner, 2009;
meteorology from a	climate alter air	simulations separate	few years of meteorology from the	West et al., 2013; Wu et

GCM (or observed for present-day source attributions)	quality?	role of changes due to meteorology versus emissions or chemistry.	parent GCM, complicating attribution to climate change.	al. 2008ab; Weaver et al., 2009.
Regional CTM driven by meteorology from a GCM or RCM	As above, but with a region-specific focus.	As above, may also consider region- specific feedbacks or processes	As above but with additional dependence on chemical and meteorological boundary conditions which may not be consistent.	Gao et al., 2013; He et al., 2014; Jacob and Winner, 2009; Kelly et al., 2012; ; Penrod et al., 2014;Trail et al., 2014; Weaver et al., 2009
Global CCMs	How do changes in climate alter air quality?	As above but with a consistent simulation of meteorology and pollutants	Coarse resolution; simplistic or absent representations of some processes, particularly interactions with the biosphere.	Clifton et al., 2014; Doherty et al., 2013; Fang et al., 2013; Fiore et al., 2012; Jacobson and Streets, 2009; Lamarque et al., 2011; Rieder et al., 2015; Young et al., 2013.
Regional CCMs	As above, but with region-specific focus.	As above but with higher resolution and/or more complex description of processes	Boundary conditions for chemical and meteorological variables not necessarily consistent.	Shalaby et al., 2012.
Global-to-regional nested CCM (one-way)	As above.	As above but avoids inconsistent boundary conditions	Limited by ability to resolve relevant processes, or if two-way couplings between scales are important.	Jacobson, 2008

a. Rapid adjustments are not dependent on the change in temperature, and thus do not act as a feedback to a change in temperature. They include processes such as cloud changes, including those induced by interactions with aerosols, as well as lapse rate changes, geographic temperature variations, and changes in the biosphere that are not direct responses to temperature; some rapid adjustments occur for many atmospheric constituents, including CO<sub>2</sub>. See Boucher et al. (2013) for a thorough explanation.

b. Global Mean Surface Temperature

**Table S2:** Global annual mean temperature changes for the 2081–2100 period relative to 1850-1900 as projected with GCMs and CCMs (first four rows), excerpted from M. Collins et al. (2013). Shown are temperature changes for each RCP scenario (mean,  $\pm 1$  standard deviation and 5 to 95% ranges obtained by multiplying the model ensemble standard deviation by 1.64), assuming that 0.61°C warming has occurred prior to 1986–2005 (third column). The final three columns show the percentage of models projecting 2081–2100 temperatures above levels of 1°C, 2°C, and 4°C for each RCP scenario. The last row shows the global annual mean temperature change for the 2016-2035 relative to 1986-2005 assessed as likely ( $\geq$ 66%) by Kirtman et al. (2013).

Time period	Scenario	ΔT (°C)	$\Delta T > +1.0$ (°C)	$\Delta T > +2.0$ (°C)	$\Delta T > +4.0$ (°C)
2081-2100	RCP2.6	$1.6 \pm 0.4 \ (0.9, 2.3)$	94%	22%	0%
	RCP4.5	$2.4 \pm 0.5 (1.7, 3.2)$	100%	79%	0%
	RCP6.0	2.8 ± 0.5 (2.0, 3.7)	100%	100%	0%
	RCP8.5	4.3 ± 0.7 (3.2, 5.4)	100%	100%	62%
2016-2035 versus 1986-2005	All RCPs considered	+0.3 to +0.7 °C	50%		

**Table S3.** Estimates of the impact of climate and emission change on  $O_3$  and  $PM_{2.5}$  air quality in the U.S.A. as derived from various studies applying modeling approaches described in Table S1. Regions are abbreviated: Northeast (NE), Southeast (SE), Midwest (MW), Great Plains (GP), Northwest (NW), and Southwest (SW) following the regions defined in Melillo et al. (2014), and InterMountain West (IMW) following Clifton et al. (2014). Regional ranges are subject to uncertainties as most numbers were obtained by reading them from maps provided in the papers.

	Reference and Modeling Approach	Scenario	Time horizon	Metric Reported	Climate change (holding air pollutant emissions	Climate + emissions change
	Modening Approach			Reporteu	constant)	
ed)	Combined ranges from studies cited in Table 2 from Jacob and Winner (2009) and Figure 7 of Weaver et al. (2012) GCM-CTM; RCM- RCTM	Various (SRES A1B, A1FI, A2, B1)	Various, mainly end of century	JJA (or July) mean MDA8	NE: up to +8 MW: -2 to +3 Western US (mainly CA and NV): -2 to +3 Gulf Coast (mainly TX/LA): -8 to +4 SE: -6 to +5	N/A
b or as noted)	Ranges from studies cited in Figure 3 of Fiore et al. (2012); GCM- CTM; RCM-RCTM	IS92a (2030); SRES A1B, A2 (2050)	2030, 2050	Various	Entire U.S. -0.4 to + 1.2 (2030), -6 to +10 (2050)	N/A
Surface O <sub>3</sub> change (ppb or	Avise et al. (2009) RGCM-RCTM	A2	5 separate Julys from 2045- 2054 vs. 1990- 1999	Spatially averaged July mean MDA8	EPA Regions <sup>a</sup> : 1-3 combined: +4 4: -5 5: +1 6: -6 7: -1 8: +0 9: +0 10: -1	EPA Regions <sup>a</sup> : 1-3 combined: +12 4: +3 5: +7 6: +3 7: +5 8: +9 9: +12 10: +7
	Clifton et al. (2014) CCM	RCP4.5, RCP8.5	2091-2100 vs. 2006-2015	Monthly, 3-ensemble member mean <sup>b</sup>	NE (JJA): +1 to +2 (RCP4.5); +3 (RCP8.5) IMW (Jun-Nov): -4 to -1 (both scenarios); little change rest of year	NE JJA: -15 (RCP4.5); -10 (RCP8.5); DJF: up to +5 (RCP4.5); up to +20 (RCP8.5). IMW JJA: up to -15 (RCP4.5); little change (RCP8.5); DJF: up to -4 (RCP4.5); up to +14 (RCP8.5).
	Doherty et al. (2013) 3 CCMs	SRES A2	2095 vs. 2000	Annual mean;	NE: -1 to +6 SE: -2 to +6	N/A

Gao et al. (2013) Kim et al. (2015) GCM/RCM-RCTM	RCP4.5, RCP8.5 (SSTs used to drive GCM are taken from the closest SRES scenario)	2057-2059 vs. 2001-2004	spatial range over 3 CCMs Spatial range of seasonal mean MDA8 <sup>b</sup>	MW: -1 to +4 GP: -2 to +4 NW: -4 to 0 SW: -2 to +1 N/A	JJA: NE, SE, SW: Mostly < -10; GP, NW: < -10 to 0; MW: mostly < -10 to -6; urban areas change little or increase (RCP4.5) NW/GP: little change; MW, NE: mostly -6 to -0; SE: -10 to 0; urban areas increase (RCP8.5) DJF: NE, SE, MW: 0 to > +10; GP, SW: -4 to 0; NW: -2 to +2; urban areas: +5 to > +10 (RCP4.5) SW: +2 to +6; SE, GP: +2 to +7; NE, MW: +5 to >+10; urban areas >+10s (RCP8.5)
Hedegaard et al. (2013) GCM-RCTM	RCP4.5	2090-2099 vs. 1990-1999	in annual mean	Spatial range over contiguous U.S.: up to +20%, highest in NE	Spatial range over contiguous U.S.: -10% to < -20%
Lei et al. (2012) CCM	B1, A1B, A1FI	2048-2052 vs. 1998-2002	Jun-Aug MDA8 mean	N/A	NE: -20 to -5 (B1, A1B), +10 to +20 (A1FI). SE: -20 to -5 (B1, A1B), +10 to +20 (A1FI); MW: -20 to -5, (B1, A1B), +10 to +20 (A1FI). GP: -10 to 0 (B1, A1B), +5 to 20 (A1FI). NW: -10 to +5 (B1, A1B), +10 to +20 (A1FI). SW: -20 to 0, (B1, A1B), +10 to +20 (A1FI).
Kelly et al. (2012) RCM-RCTM	SRES A2 climate, RCP6.0 emissions	2041-2050 vs. 1997-2006	JJA MDA8	NE: 0 to +6; SE: 0 to +6; MW: 0 to +7; GP: -1 to +4; NW: -1 to +2; SW: -1 to >+7; largest increases in urban areas	NE, MW: -25 to -5. SE: -35 to -5. GP, NW, SW: mostly -15 to 0; small regions with larger decreases; increases only in Los Angeles (>+15 ppb).

Penrod et al. (2014) RCM-RCTM	SRES A1B	2026-2030 vs. 2001-2005	Seasonal mean MDA8 <sup>b</sup>	N/A	NE: DJF: 0 to +4; JJA: < -5 to -2. SE: DJF: -3 to +3; JJA: <-5 to -1 except coastal FL/LA increases up to +5. MW: DJF: 0 to +4; JJA: <-5 to +4. GP: DJF: -3 to +2; JJA: <-5 to +1 except >+5 in Houston. NW: DJF: -2 to +1; JJA: -3 to +1. SW: DJF: -3 to +4; JJA: <-5 to -1 except urban areas increase.
Pfister et al. (2014) GCM-RCCM	SRES A2 climate, RCP8.5 emissions	2046-2058 vs. 1996-2008	JJA MDA8	N/A	NE: -25 to -20. SE: -25 to -15. MW: -25 to -9. GP: -20 to 0. NW: -20 to -5. SW: -20 to -5.
Rieder et al. (2015) CCM	RCP4.5; mean of 3 ensemble members	2026-2035, 2045-2055, 2091-2100 vs. 2006-2015	10%, 50%, 90% of regional JJA MDA8 distribution	NE: 2030s: +1, +1, +1 2050s: 0,+1, +1 2090s: +1, +2, +1 Spatial range of mean: -1 to +3 (2050s) -1 to +4 (2090s). Spatial range of 90% MDA8: -2 to +3 (2050s) -3 to +4 (2090s)	NE: 2030s: -4, -9, -14 2050s: -6, -16, -20 2090s: -11, -23, -30 Spatial range of mean: -20 to -5 (2030s) -25 to -5 (2050s) -35 to -10 (2090s) Spatial range of 90% MDA8: -25 to -5 (2030s) -35 to -10 (2050s) -40 to -20 (2090s)
Trail et al. (2014) GCM/RCM-RCTM	RCP4.5 climate; NEI 2005 emissions are projected to the future with the EPA MARKAL 9R model	2048-2052 vs. 2006-2010	Summer MDA8 (reported spring and fall too)	NE: -1 to +4 SE: 0 to +4 MW: -5 to +2 GP: -4 to +4 (up to +7 in TX cities) NW: -4 to +3 SW: -5 to +4	NE: -12 to -3 SE: -12 to -3 MW: -10 to -1 GP: -8 to +3; NW: -6 to -1 SW: <-12 to +1
val Martin et al. (2015) CCM	RCP4.5, RCP8.5	9-year time slice	Annual mean	NE: 0 to +3 (RCP4.5); +2 to +5 (RCP8.5).	NE: -10 to -2 (RCP4.5); -5 to +1 (RCP8.5)

			simulations for 2050s vs. 2000s	MDA8	SE: 0 to +5 (both) MW: +0 to +3 (RCP4.5); 0 to +4 (RCP8.5) GP: -1 to +2 (RCP4.5); 0 to +2 (RCP8.5)	SE: -10 to -5 (RCP4.5); -4 to -1 (RCP8.5) MW -7 to 0 (RCP4.5); -4 to +4 (RCP8.5) CP: 5 to 0 (RCP4.5); -2 to +5
					NW: 0 to +1 (RCP4.5); +1 to +2 (RCP8.5) SW: -1 to +2 (RCP4.5); 0 to +3 (RCP8.5)	GP: -5 to 0 (RCP4.5); -2 to +5 (RCP8.5) NW: -5 to 0 (RCP4.5); 0 to +5 (RCP8.5) SW: -8 to -5 (RCP4.5); -2 to + 2 (RCP8.5)
	Gonzalez-Abraham et al. (2014) GCM/RCM-RCTM	SRES A1B; US anthropogenic emissions of $NO_x$ and $SO_2$ decrease while those for other precursors increase globally	2050s vs. 2000s; five representative summers selected from 1995-2004 vs. 2045-2054	JJA MDA8	NE, SE, MW: up to +9 GP: -1 to +6 NW: -2 to +2 SW: -3 to +4	NE: -6 to +6 SE: -4 to +4 MW, GP: up to +12 and decrease up to -2 over northeast TX NW: -3 to +5 SW: -6 to +9
	Fann et al. (2015) GCM/RCM-RCTM	RCP8.5 RCP6.0, two different GCMs are employed for each scenario	2025-2035 vs. 1995-2005	May- September mean MDA8	Spatial range of contiguous U.S.: -5 to -1 ppb, increases in some regions including central U.S. and California	N/A
Surface PM <sub>2.5</sub> (µg m <sup>-2</sup> , or as noted)	Avise et al. (2009) RGCM-RCTM	A2	5 separate Julys from 2045- 2054 vs. 1990- 1999	Spatially averaged July mean	EPA Regions: 1-3 combined: +0.2 4: -3 5: -1 6: -1 7: -1 8: +0 9: -0.4 10: -0.2	EPA Regions: 1-3 combined: +4 4: +1 5: +3 6: +2 7: +3 8: +2 9: +2 10: +2
Surfa	Hedegaard et al. (2013)	RCP4.5	2090-2099 vs. 1990-1999	annual mean	Spatial range over contiguous U.S.: -15% to +15%	Spatial range over contiguous U.S.: -90% to -60%

Kelly et al. (2012)	SRES A2	2041-2050 vs.	Summer	NE: +0.1 to 0.9	NE: -7 to 0
RCM-RCTM	climate, RCP6.0	1997-2006	mean	SE: +0.1 to 1.3	SE: -6 to +2
	emissions			MW: +0.3 to 1.1	MW: $-7$ to $+1$ but >+7 in Chicago,
				GP: -0.5 to +0.5	IL
				NW: +0 to +0.5;	GP: -3 to +1
				SW: -0.5 to +0.5; up to	NW: -3 to +1
				+1.5 in Los Angeles	SW:-1 to +1 except larger
					increases and decreases near Los
					Angeles, CA
Penrod et al. (2014)	SRES A1B	2026-2030 vs.	Summer	N/A	NE: DJF: -2 to 0; JJA: < -5 to -1
RCM-RCTM	SILLSTILD	2001-2005	and winter	1.071	SE: DJF:-5 to 0; JJA: <-5 to 0
		2001 2002	24-hour		MW:DJF:-2 to +1; JJA: < -5to 0
			average		GP: DJF: -3 to 0 except up to -5 in
			uveruge		Houston, TX; JJA: -5 to +1
					NW: DJF, JJA: -2 to 0 but <-5 in
					Portland, OR
					SW: DJF: -2 to 0; JJA: mostly -4
					to +1.
Trail et al. (2014)	RCP4.5 climate;	2050 vs. 2010	Annual and	NE: -0.5 to +1.5	NE: -4 to -1
GCM/RCM-RCTM	NEI 2005		4 seasons	SE: -2 to +1.5	SE: -4 to +1
	emissions are		average	MW: -4 to +2.5	MW: -4 to +1
	projected to the		U	GP: -2 to -0.5	GP: -2 to +1
	future with the			NW: -1 to +1	NW: -1.5 to +0.5
	EPA MARKAL			SW: -1.5 to +3	SW: -1 to +0.5
	9R model				
val Martin et al. (2015)	RCP4.5, RCP8.5	2050 vs. 2000	Annual	NE: -1 to 0 (both)	NE: -8 to -2 (RCP4.5); -10 to -2
ССМ	,		mean	SE: -1 to 0 (RCP4.5);	(RCP8.5)
				-0.5 to 0 (RCP8.5)	SE: -8 to -2 (RCP4.5); -8 to -4
				MW: -2 to 0 (RCP4.5); -	(RCP8.5)
				1 to 0 (RCP8.5)	MW: -10 to -3 (RCP4.5); -10 to -2
				GP: -2 to +0 (RCP4.5); -	(RCP8.5)
				0.5 to 0 (RCP8.5)	GP: -6 to -1 (RCP4.5); -6 to 0
				NW: -0.5 to 0 (both)	(RCP8.5)
				SW: -0.5 to +0.5 (both)	NW: -2 to 0 (both)
					SW: -5 to 0 (RCP4.5); -6 to 0
					(RCP8.5)
Gonzalez-Abraham et al.	SRES A1B;	2050s vs.	JJA mean	NE: -0.4 to +0.6	NE: -4 to +2 (large changes

(2014)	US	2000s; five	SE: -0.4 to 0.	8 co	oncentrated in the NY and DC
GCM/RCM-RCTM	anthropogenic	representative	MW: 0 to +0	4 ai	reas)
	emissions of	summers	GP: -0.4 to +	).4 S	E: -0.4 up to 4
	$NO_x$ and $SO_2$	selected from	NW: +0.2 to	+0.8 N	IW: -0.6 to $>2$ (decreases in
	decrease while	1995-2004 vs.	SW: +0 to +0	.8 u	rban centers)
	those for other	2045-2054		G	P: -0.6 up to 2
	precursors			N	W: $-0.6$ to $+0.2$ (increases only
	increase globally			in	and around Seattle) SW: -0.6 up
				to	+2 (large increases in and
				aı	round LA and San Diego)

<sup>a</sup> EPA regions are shown at http://www2.epa.gov/aboutepa#pane-4 <sup>b</sup> Full-year results were reported, but we focus on the contrast between winter and summer since spring and fall changes lie in between.

	2000	201	0	2	2030		50		2100				
	Global Atmospheric Abundances												
$CO_2 (ppm)^b$	369*	388	*	431	449	433	541	421	936				
$CH_4 (ppb)^b$	1773*	1798	3*	1600	2132	1452	2740	1254	3751				
<b>Trop.</b> $O_3$ (Tg) <sup>c</sup>	337±23	N/A	A	319±22	357±26	N/A	N/A	276±25	395±36				
Sulfate (Tg S) <sup>b,d</sup>	1.55	1.57	2.54	1.21	1.44	0.94	1.20	0.71	0.94				
<b>BC</b> $(Tg)^{b,d}$	0.164	0.170	0.170	0.144	0.153	0.103	0.127	0.068	0.099				
		F	Effective	<b>Radiative</b>	Forcing (W/m	<sup>2</sup> )							
CO <sub>2</sub> <sup>b</sup>	1.51	1.8	0	2.34	2.56	2.49	3.56	2.22	6.49				
CH <sub>4</sub> <sup>b</sup>	0.47	0.43	8	0.42	0.62	0.36	0.80	0.27	1.08				
Trop. O <sub>3</sub> <sup>b</sup>	0.36	0.40	) <sup>e</sup>	0.32	0.44	N/A	N/A	0.17	0.60				
Total aerosol <sup>b</sup>	-1.17±0.28			N/A	$-0.91 \pm 0.22^{f}$	N/A	N/A	N/A	$-0.12 \pm 0.03^{f}$				

**Table S4.** Atmospheric Abundances and Effective Radiative Forcing (ERF) for selected decades and NTCFs, compared to  $CO_2$ , for scenarios with aggressive climate policy (RCP2.6; left, with no shading) vs. no climate policy (RCP8.5; right, with gray shading)<sup>a</sup>

\*measured.

<sup>a</sup>RCPs are shown by sector in Figure S2 and discussed in the main text (Emissions).

<sup>b</sup>From IPCC (2013b).

<sup>c</sup>15-model mean  $\pm$  standard deviation from ACCMIP models reported in Table 1 of Young et al. (2013).

<sup>d</sup>Standard deviation across models is about 50%. 2000 and 2010 results are based on 18 models; RCP 2.6 and RCP8.5 estimates are based on 12 and 16 models, respectively. The sulfate and BC loadings do not necessarily rank with the RCPs as they do for the GHGs where higher concentrations occur in higher RCPs; see main text (Emissions)). For example, BC is highest in RCP4.5 through 2050, though some of these differences could reflect different numbers of models used in the estimates (19 for RCP4.5 versus 13 for RCP2.6) and the wide ranges in modeled distributions even with the same anthropogenic emissions (see main text and Supplemental Text S3).

<sup>e</sup>2011; the IPCC AR5 assessed value (Myhre et al., 2013).

<sup>f</sup>RCP8.5 only; see main text Figure 4a.

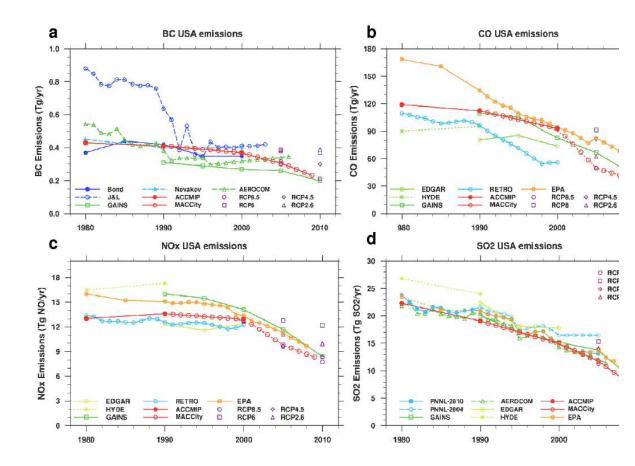
**Table S5**. Relative decrease in global anthropogenic  $SO_2$  and BC emissions between 2010 and 2030 for various scenarios reported in Table S5 of Rogelj et al. (2014). The year 2010 emission levels are 5.48 Tg C and 49.1 Tg S for BC and SO<sub>x</sub>, respectively (Table S4 of Rogelj et al., 2014).

Scenario	Anthropogenic SO <sub>2</sub>			Anthropogenic BC		
	REF	450 <sup>a</sup>	ABCM <sup>b</sup>	REF	450	ABCM
UNEP/WMO REF	-1%	-30%	-2%	-2%	-11%	-78%
Frozen legislation <sup>c</sup>	-2%	-38%		+5%	-15%	
CLE <sup>d</sup>	-45%	-63%		-54%	-64%	
Stringent SO <sub>2</sub> controls	-65%	-75%		-71%	-78%	
MFR <sup>e</sup>	-72%	-79%		-77%	-83%	

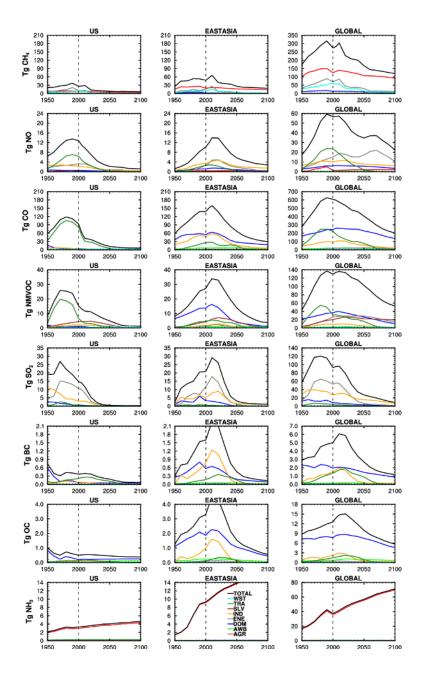
<sup>a</sup>450 refers to controls on CO<sub>2</sub> emissions to limit atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> abundances to 450 ppm. <sup>b</sup>ABCM refers to All Black Carbon Measures in UNEP/WMO (2011) and Shindell et al. (2012), roughly equal to BC reductions under MFR.

<sup>c</sup>Frozen legislation assumes that no air pollution controls are applied beyond 2005 (Rogelj et al, 2014).

<sup>d</sup>CLE is the Current Legislation Emissions scenario which assumes air pollution legislation around the globe is implemented in the coming decades (see main text (Emissions) and Dentener et al., 2005). <sup>e</sup>MFR is the Maximum Feasible Reductions possible with available technology applied globally (see main text (Emissions) and Dentener et al., 2005).



**Figure S1**. Comparison of anthropogenic emissions of a) BC, b) CO, c)  $NO_x$  and d)  $SO_2$ United States from 1980 to 2010 across inventories (reproduced with permission from Gra al., 2011). See Table 1 of Granier et al. (2011) for information. The MACCity inventor derived from decadal ACCMIP emissions by linearly interpolating for each year betweer and 2010, with emissions after 2000 following the RCP8.5 scenario. Declining trer pollutant emissions are generally consistent across the inventories reflecting impacts of U pollution control programs related to the Clean Air Act. Although all emissions estimat developed as the product of activity data and emission factor, inconsistencies in these dat by emission inventory developers leads to diversity in the estimates across inventorie example, the J&L inventory was constructed using activity data (fuel production, use, and from sources that may not have considered information on emission controls within the U.S



**Figure S2a.** Total and sector-based anthropogenic emissions of air pollutants and their precursors from 1950 to 2000 from Lamarque et al. (2010) and 2005-2100 following the RCP2.6 scenario for the US, East Asia, and the globe (Riahi et al., 2011). Sectors include agricultural (AGR), agricultural waste burning (AWB), residential and commercial combustion (DOM), energy production and distribution (ENE), industrial processes and combustion (IND), solvent production and use (SLV), land transport (TRA), waste treatment and disposal (WST), and sum total of all sectors (TOTAL). Global emissions do not include contribution from shipping. EASTASIA region includes China, Japan, South and North Korea. Note the different y-axis scale for GLOBAL emissions. This figure was produced from the emissions ingested by the CCMs prior to the harmonization step noted in the main text (EMISSIONS), thus resulting in small

differences in the regional and/or global totals compared with those provided on <a href="http://tntcat.iiasa.ac.at:8787/RcpDb/dsd?Action=htmlpage&page=compare">http://tntcat.iiasa.ac.at:8787/RcpDb/dsd?Action=htmlpage&page=compare</a>.

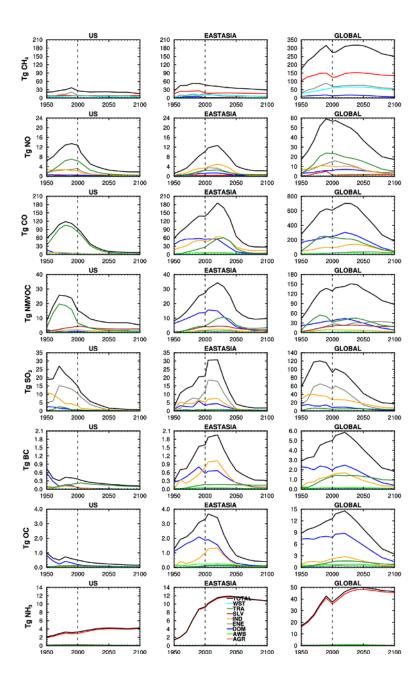


Figure S2b. Same as for Figure S2a but for RCP4.5.

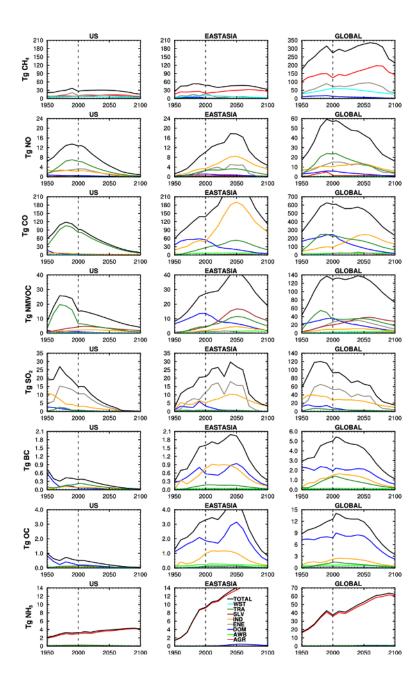


Figure S2c. Same as for Figure S2a but for RCP6.0.

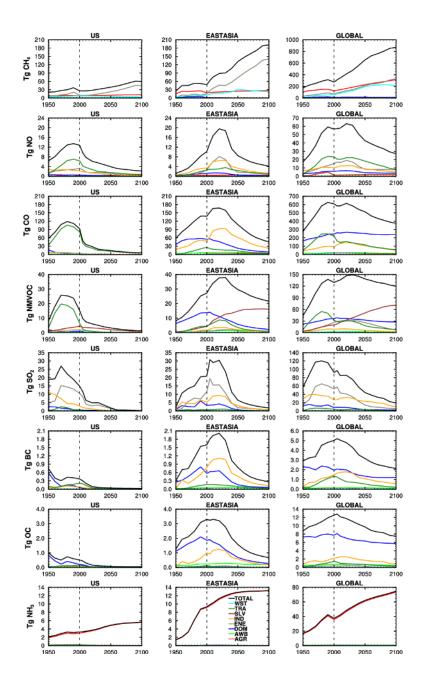
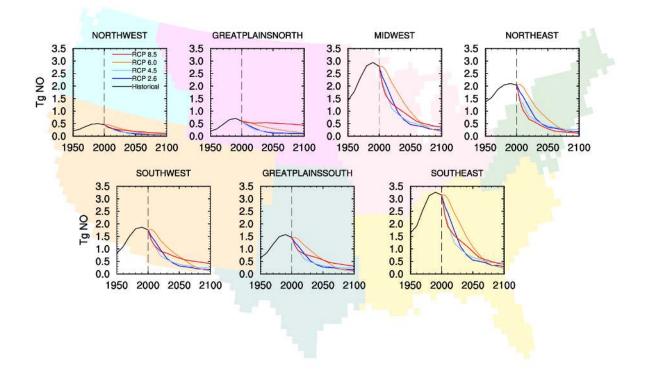


Figure S2d. Same as for Figure S2a but for RCP8.5.



**Figure S3a**. Total (anthropogenic plus biomass burning) emissions of NO from 1950-2100 following Lamarque et al. (2010) over the historical (1950 to 2000) period and van Vuuren et al. (2011) over the 2005-2100 period aggregated over seven contiguous U.S. regions defined in the Third National Climate Assessment report (Melillo et al., 2014).

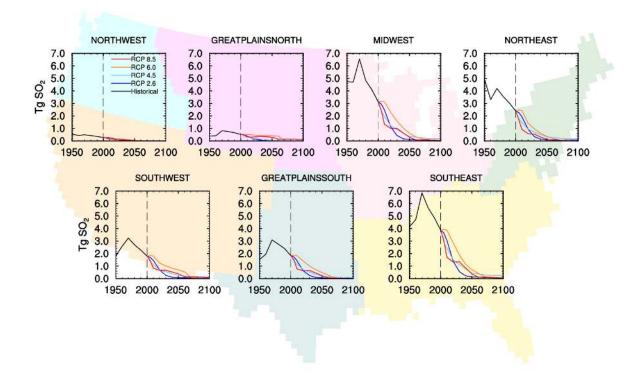


Figure S3b. Same as for Figure S3a but for SO<sub>2</sub>.