

Imaging spectroscopy of radiative forcing
by dust and black carbon in snow :
quantifying the insidious killer

Thomas H. Painter, JPL/Caltech

Ann C. Bryant, U of Utah

McKenzie Skiles, UCLA

Snow Pit Speech

Tom Painter, JPL Snow
Scientist

Lori Garver, NASA Deputy Admin



May 2011

Guiding Science Questions

How does variation in snow albedo modulate river runoff and glacier mass balance?

How has radiative forcing by increases in dust and black carbon loading in the Anthropocene changed river runoff and glacier mass balance?

Outline

- Perspective on snow and ice melt
- Impacts of changes in albedo
- Global changes in dust and BC loading
- Global need for HypsIRI (USGCRP goals 1&2, Advance Science and Inform Decisions)
- Imaging spectroscopy of radiative forcing
- Upper Colorado River Basin, Spring 2011

Mountain Snow and Ice

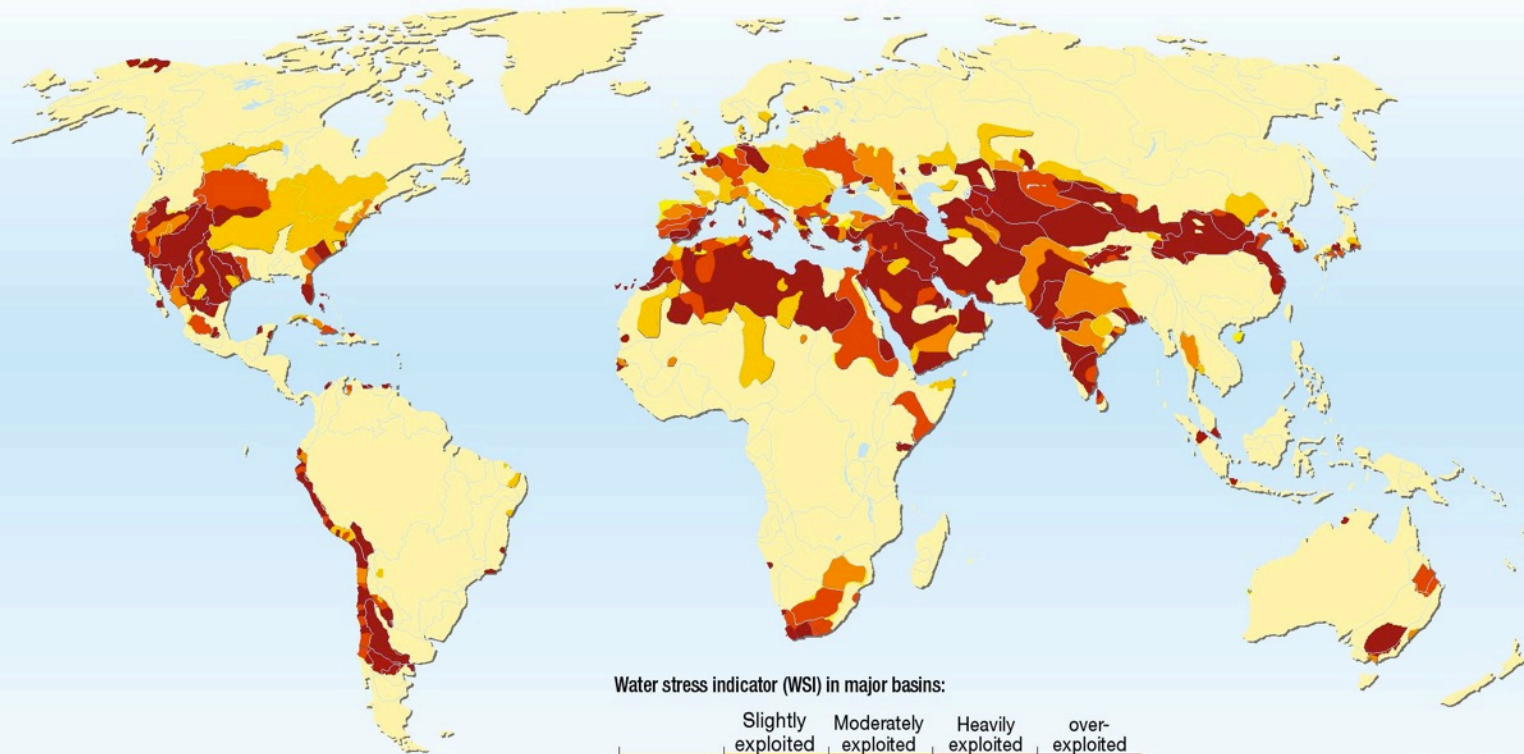
A photograph of a mountain snowfield. The foreground is a vast, white snowfield with some small ice patches. In the middle ground, a person is visible walking across the snow. The background features jagged, rocky mountain peaks under a clear blue sky.

- In the Western US, ~75% of freshwater comes from mountain snowmelt.
- Mountain snow and ice of the globe provides freshwater to nearly 2 billion people

Global Glacier Retreat



Global Water Stress



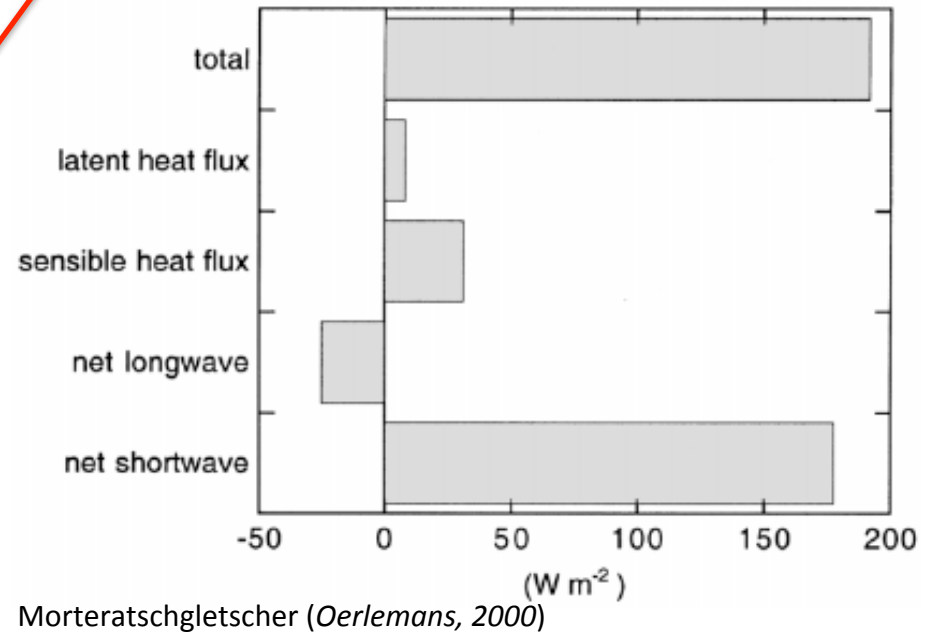
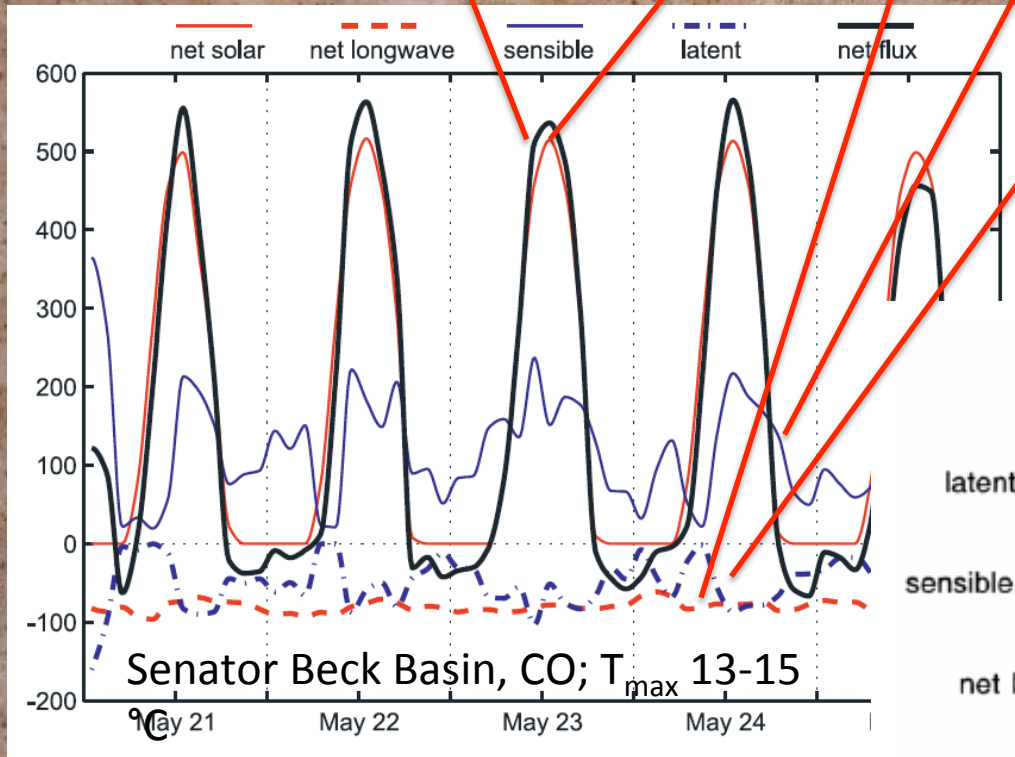
Sources: Smakhtin, Revenga and Döll, 2004.

PHILIPPE REKACEWICZ
FEBRUARY 2002

Source: <http://www.unep.org/>

$$\frac{dU}{dt} + Q_m = (1 - \alpha)S + L^* + Q_s + Q_v + Q_g + Q_r$$

What controls snowmelt?



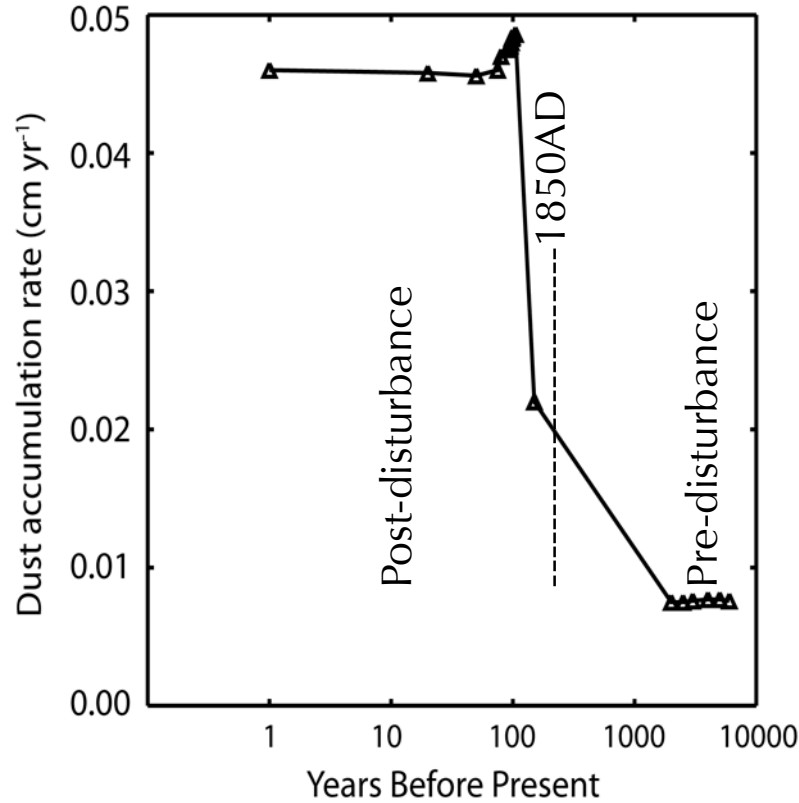
Elk Range, Colorado River Basin, April 2009

Upper Colorado River Basin

ARTICLES

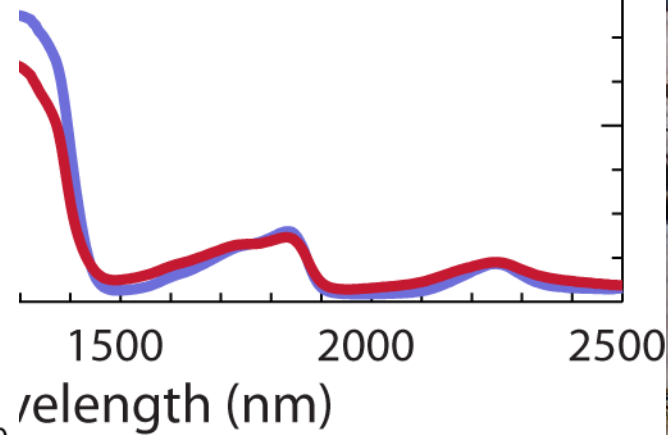
Increasing eolian dust deposition in the western United States linked to human activity

J. C. NEFF^{1,2*}, A. P. BALLANTYNE¹, G. L. FARMER^{1,3}, N. M. MAHOWALD^{4,5}, J. L. CONROY⁶,
C. C. LANDRY⁷, J. T. OVERPECK^{6,8,9}, T. H. PAINTER¹⁰, C. R. LAWRENCE¹ AND R. L. REYNOLDS¹¹



Clean
Dust-laden

First snow spectra
from AVIRISng



Response of Colorado River runoff to dust radiative forcing in snow

Thomas H. Painter^{a,b,1}, Jeffrey S. Deems^{c,d}, Jayne Belnap^e, Alan F. Hamlet^f, Christopher C. Landry^g, and Bradley Udall^d

^aJet Propulsion Laboratory, California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, CA 91109; ^bJoint Institute for Regional Earth System Science and Engineering, University of California, Los Angeles, CA 90095; ^cNational Snow and Ice Data Center, Boulder, CO 80309; ^dNational Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Western Water Assessment, Boulder, CO 80309; ^eUnited States Geological Survey, Southwest Biological Center, Moab, UT 84532; ^fUniversity of Washington, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, Seattle, WA 98195; and ^gCenter for Snow and Avalanche Studies, Silverton, CO 81433

Edit:
review

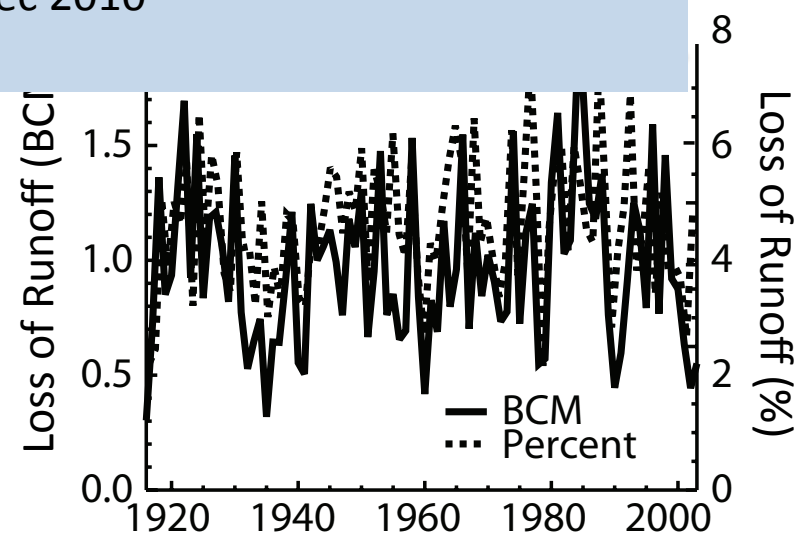
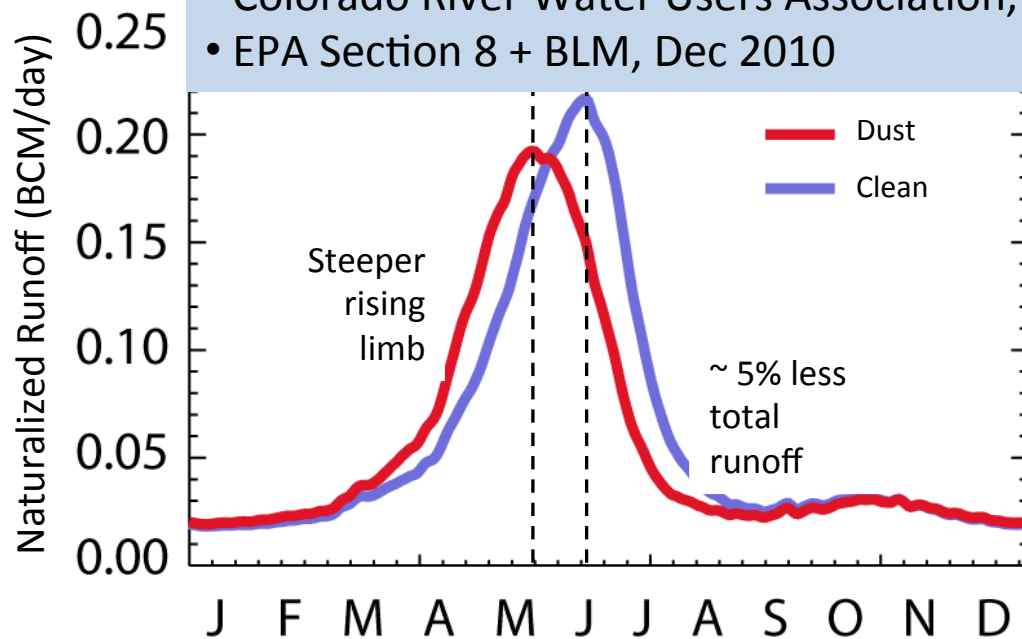
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Government and Manager Briefings:

- Anne Castle, Asst Secretary of Interior for Water and Science, Nov 2010
- US Global Change Research Program, Nov 2010
- NOAA HQ, Nov 2010
- Colorado River Water Users Association, Dec 2010
- EPA Section 8 + BLM, Dec 2010

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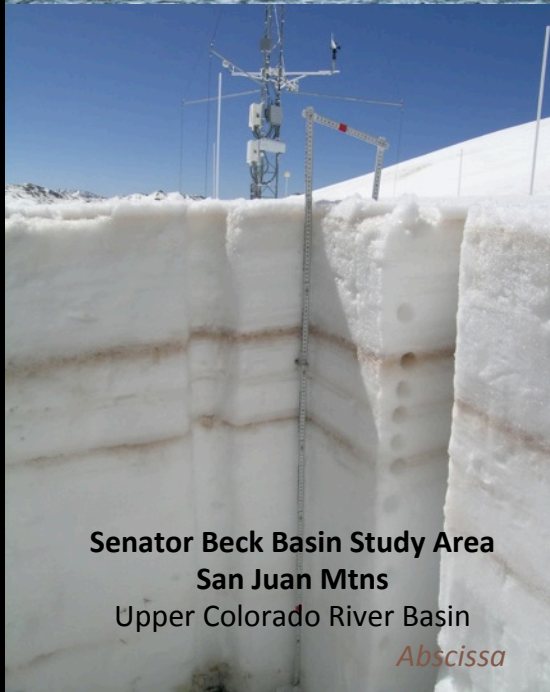


Dust radiative forcing in snow in the Upper Colorado River Basin reduces annual runoff by ~5% or more than half of Mexico's annual commitment under treaty. Painter et al 2010, PNAS

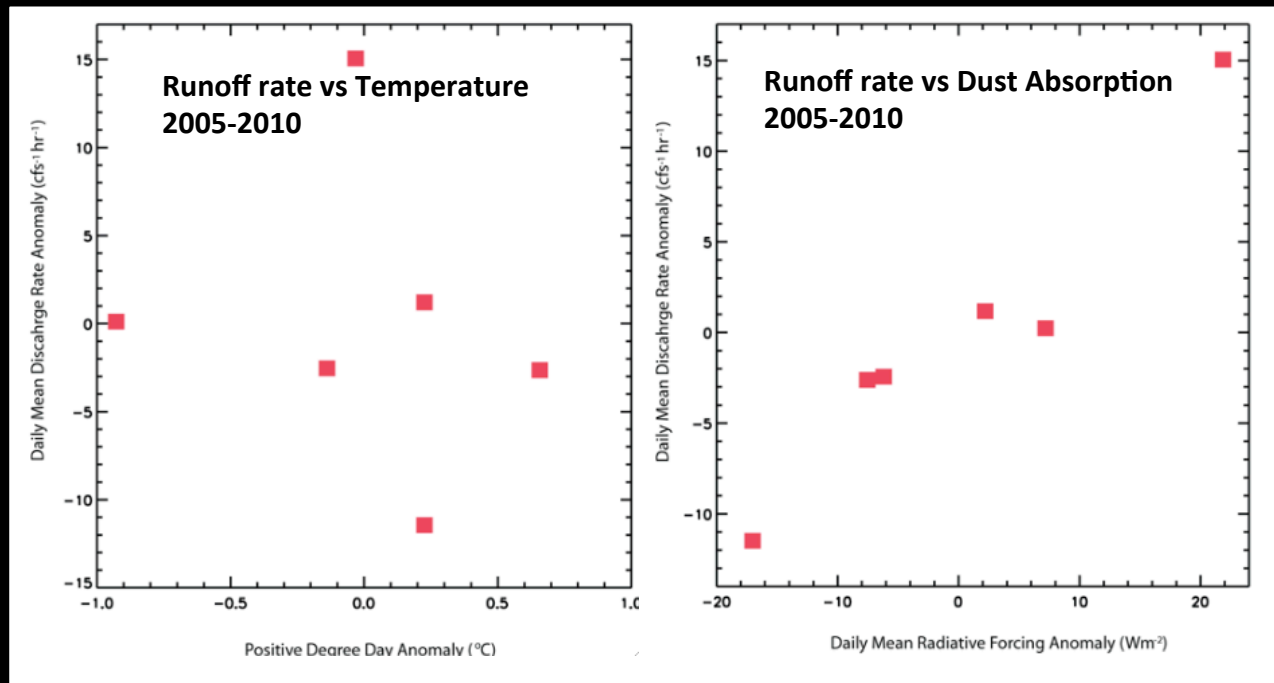
Snowmelt Runoff and Dust Forcing



Uncompahgre River, Colorado
Upper Colorado River Basin
Ordinate



Senator Beck Basin Study Area
San Juan Mtns
Upper Colorado River Basin
Abscissa

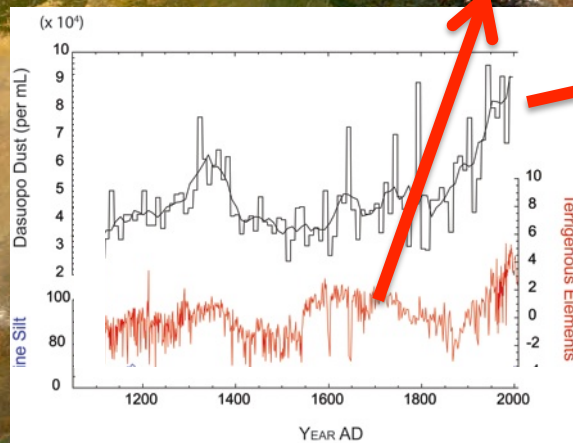


Take Home: Albedo and radiative forcing drive

Painter et al (in preparation)
Funding: NASA Interdisciplinary Science

Kiang Co (lake sediments)
Conway and Overpeck, 2010

Dasuopu Core
Thompson et al, 2000



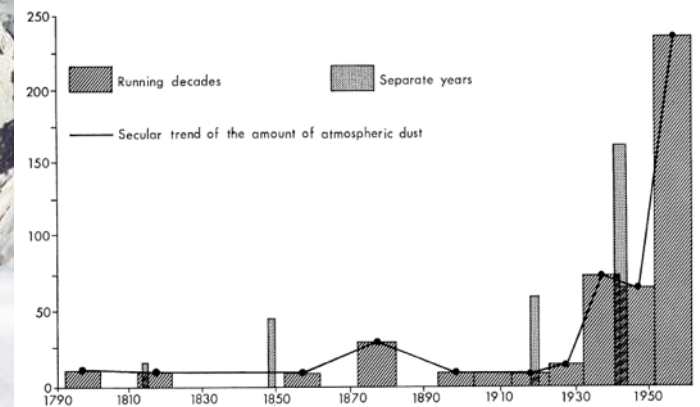
Caucasus Mountains



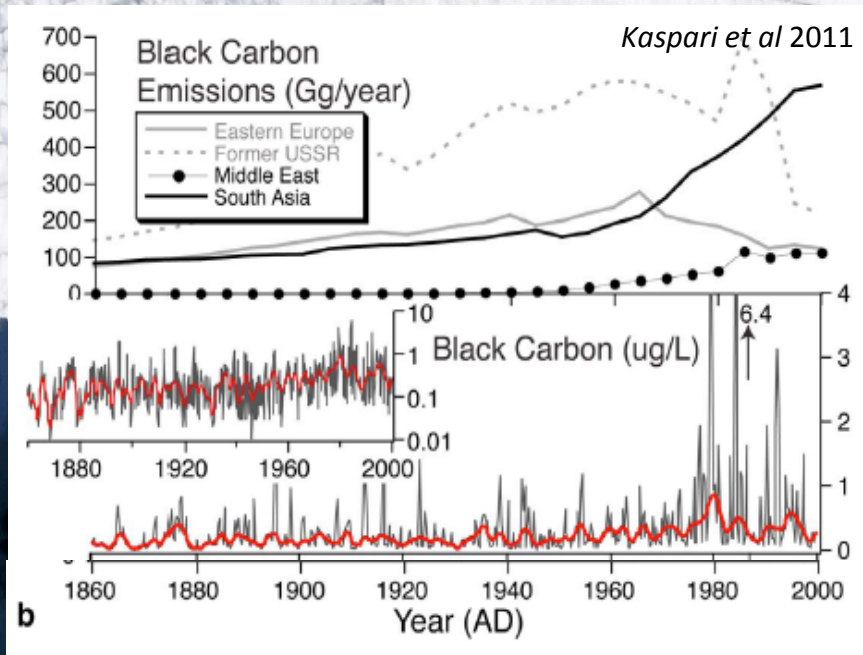
ATMOSPHERIC DUST CONTENT AS A FACTOR AFFECTING GLACIATION AND CLIMATIC CHANGE¹

F. F. DAVITAYA

*Academician F. F. Davitaya, Director, Vakhushti Institute of Geography,
Academy of Sciences of the GSSR, Tbilisi, Georgia, USSR
Visiting Professor, Department of Geography,
University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee*



Black Carbon



Black soot and the survival of Tibetan glaciers

Baiqing Xu^{a,b}, Junji Cao^b, James Hansen^{c,1}, Tandong Yao^a, Daniel R. Joswiak^a, Ninglian Wang^d, Guangjian Wu^a, Mo Wang^a, Huabiao Zhao^a, Wei Yan^a, Xianqin Liu^a, and Jianqiao He^d

JOURNAL OF GEOPHYSICAL RESEARCH, VOL. 114, D03108, doi:10.1029/2008JD011039, 2009

*Key Laboratory
 100085, China
^bNASA Goddard
 Sciences, Lanzi
 Contributed
 Article

We find evi
 glaciers hav
 rapid glacie
 reduced gre
 Himalayan
 fresh water

Effects of soot-induced snow albedo change on snowpack and hydrological cycle in western United States based on Weather Research and Forecasting chemistry and regional climate simulations

Soot climate forcing via snow and ice albedos

James Hansen^{***} and Larissa Nazarenko^{**}

Atmospheric Research 92 (2009) 114–123



Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Atmospheric Research

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/atmos



Black Carbon (BC) in the snow of glaciers in west China and its potential effects on albedos

Jing Ming^{a,b,c,d,e,*}, Cunde Xiao^{b,c}, Helene Cachier^f, Dahe Qin^{a,c}, Xiang Qin^c, Zhongqi Li^c, Jianchen Pu^c

Vol 448 | 2 August 2007 | doi:10.1038/nature06019

nature

LETTERS

Warming trends in Asia amplified by brown cloud solar absorption

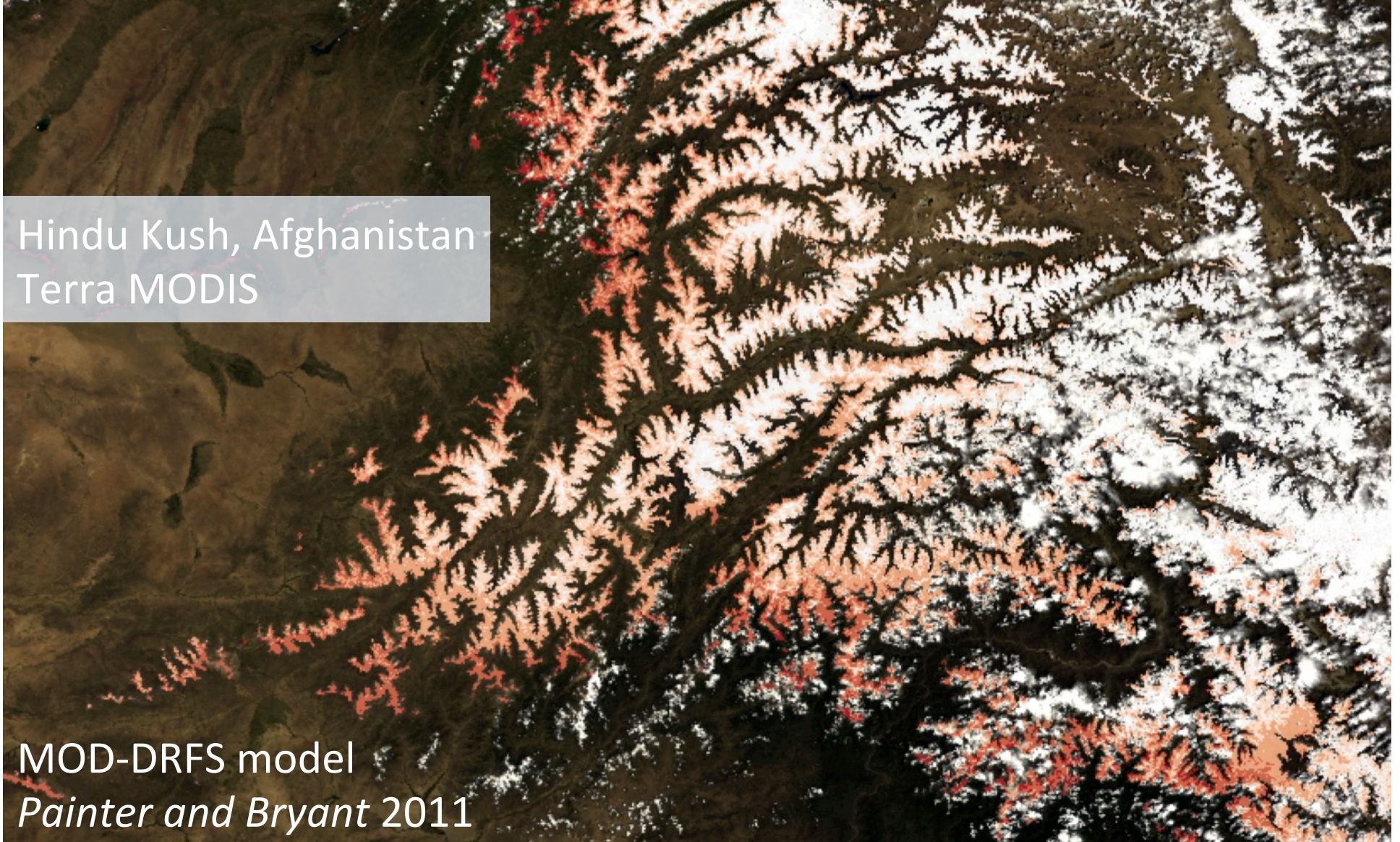
Veerabhadran Ramanathan¹, Muvva V. Ramana¹, Gregory Roberts¹, Dohyeong Kim¹, Craig Corrigan¹, Chul Chung¹ & David Winker²

We propose that the combined warming trend of 0.25 K per decade may be sufficient to account for the observed retreat of the Himalayan glaciers^{4–6}.

What about MODIS and VIIRS?

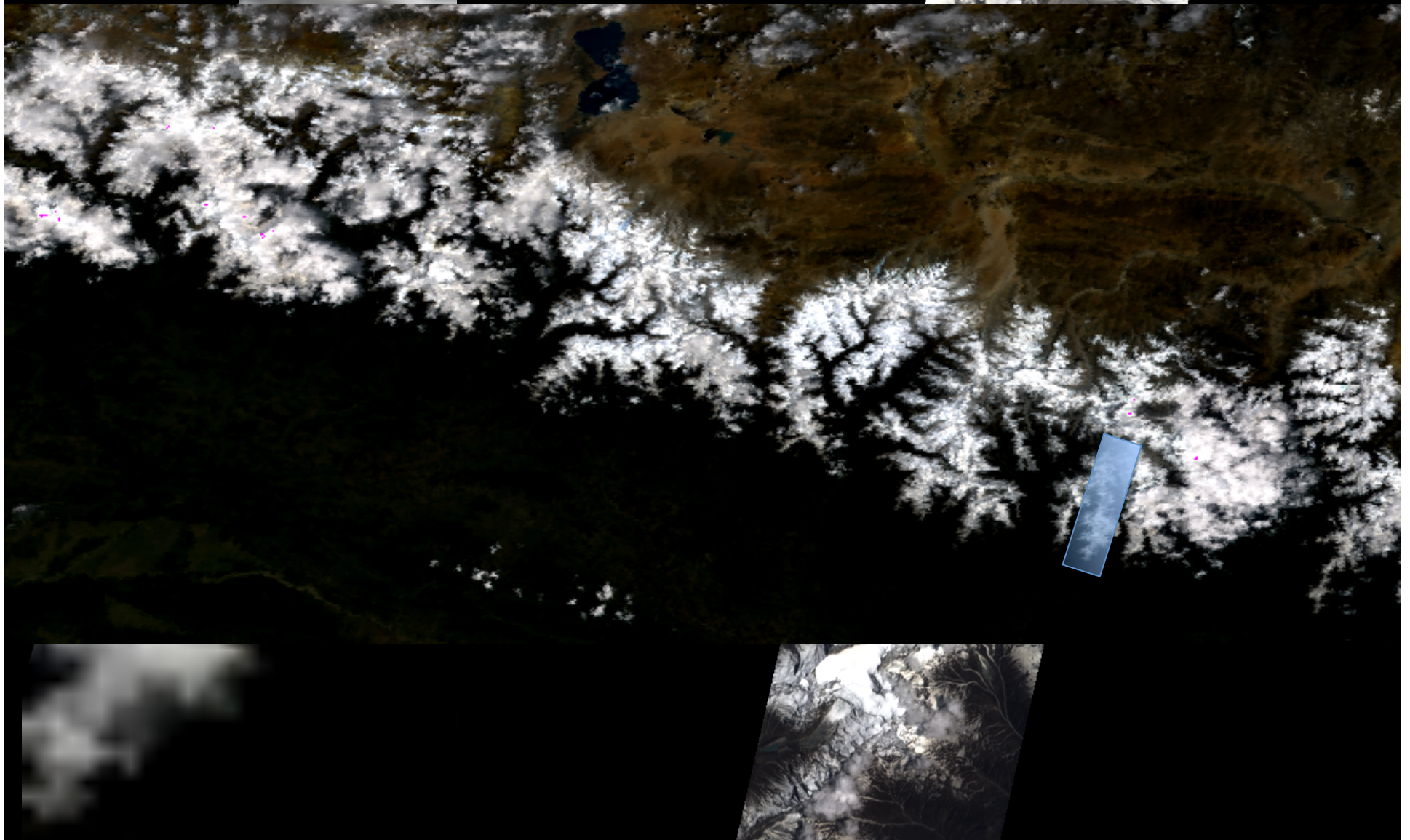
Hindu Kush, Afghanistan
Terra MODIS

MOD-DRFS model
Painter and Bryant 2011



MODIS
500 m

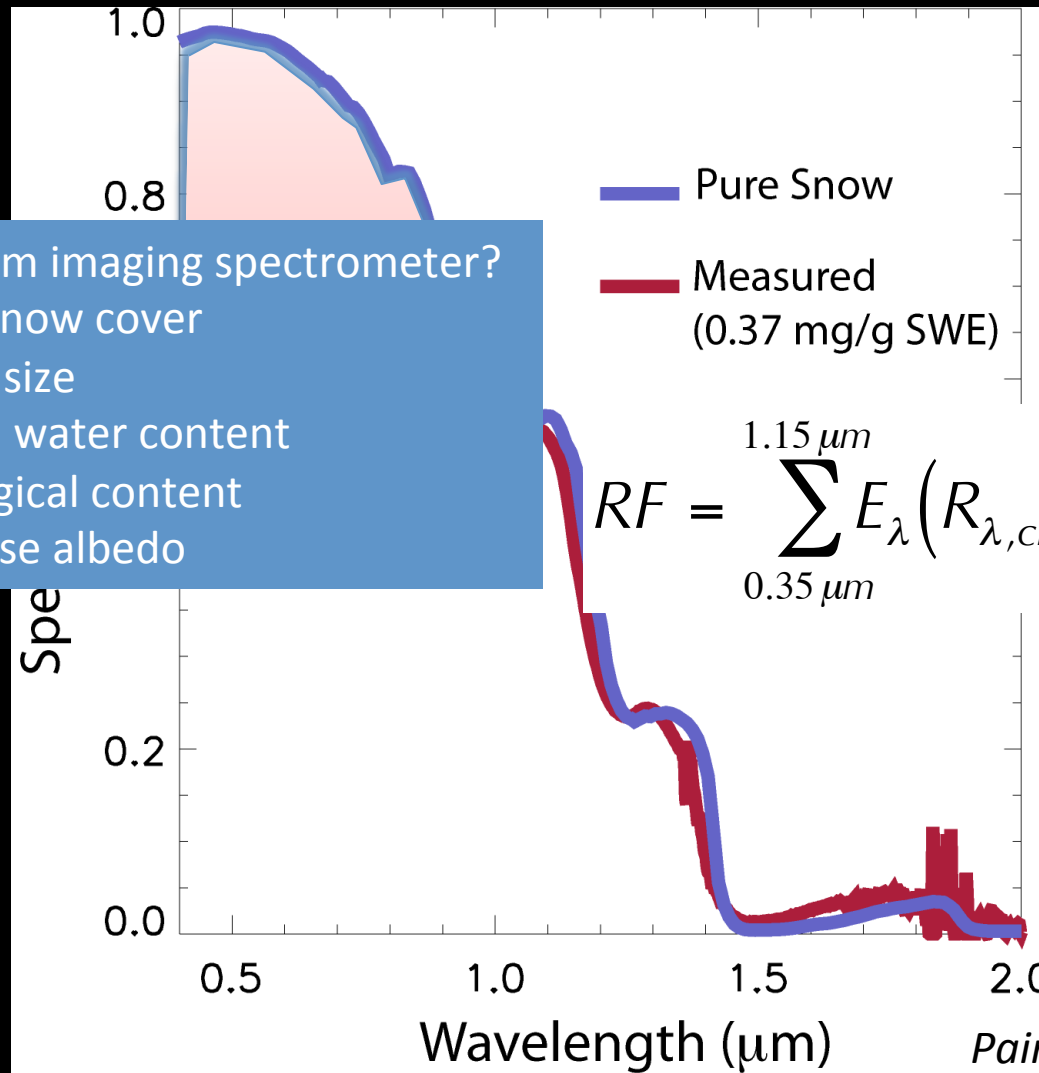
Hyperion
30 m



Radiative Forcing in Snow

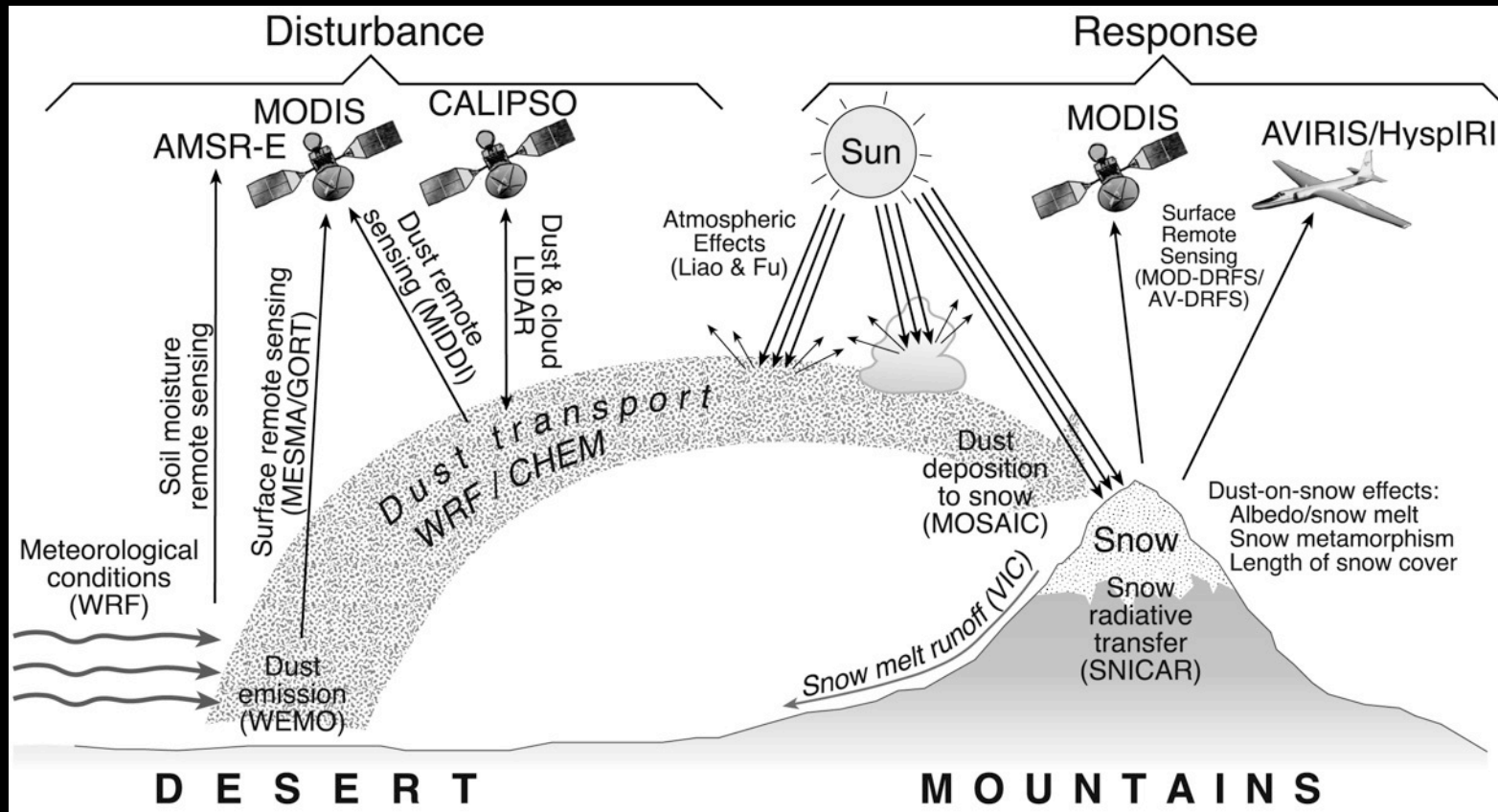
What else from imaging spectrometer?

- Fractional snow cover
- Snow grain size
- Snow liquid water content
- Snow biological content
- and of course albedo



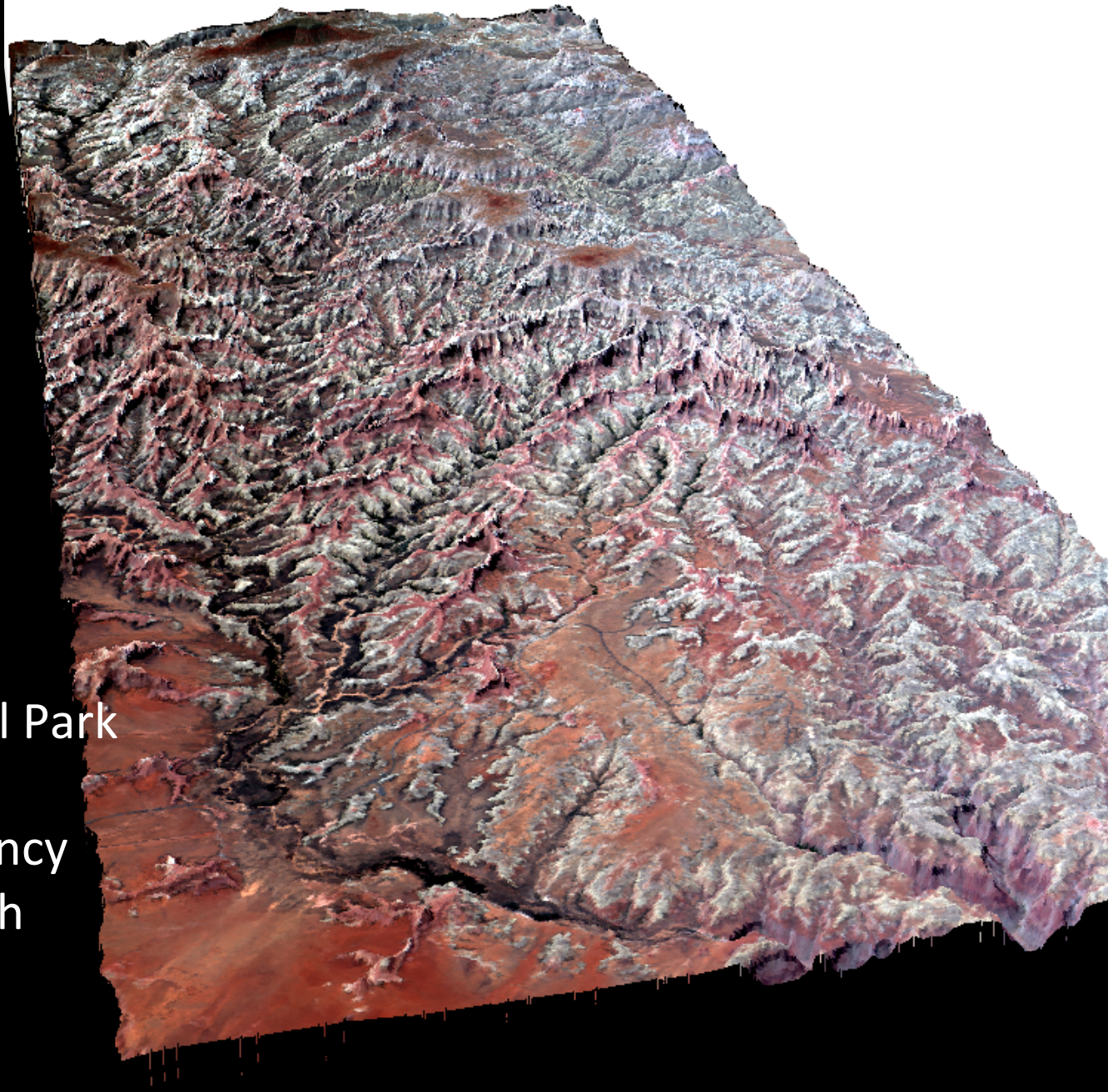
Pair

NASA IDS *Integrated hydrologic response to extreme dust deposition to mountain snowcover of the Colorado River Basin*

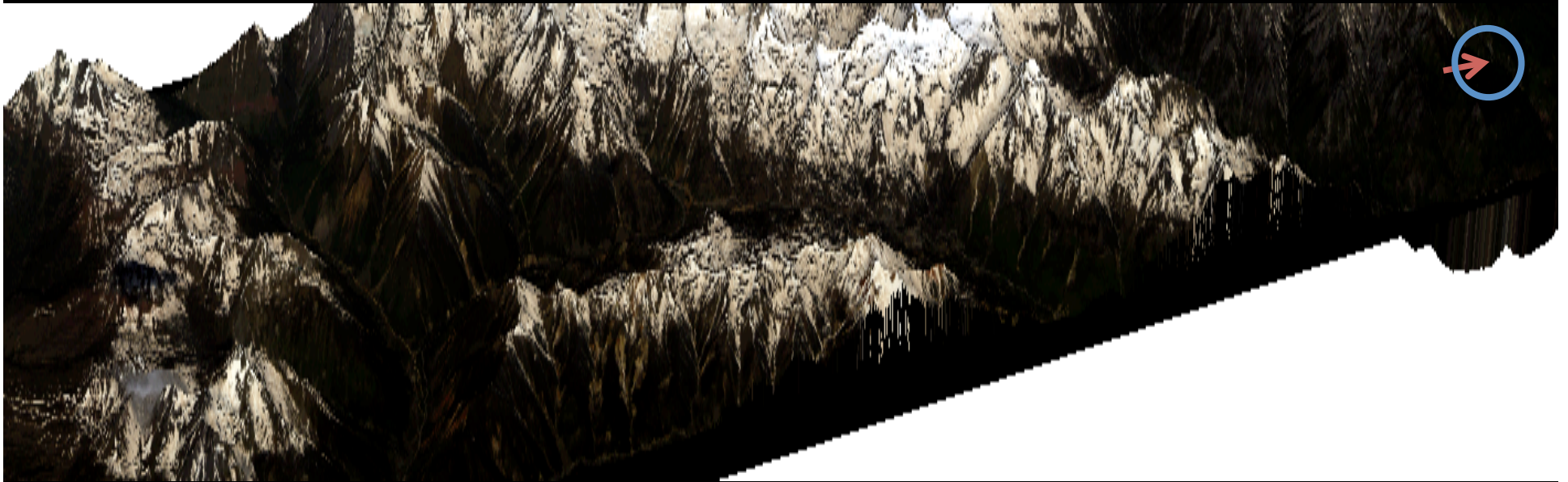


AVIRISclassic
6/23/2011

Canyonlands National Park
and
The Nature Conservancy
Canyonlands Research
Center



Upper Colorado River Basin
San Juan Mountains, CO
15 June 2011



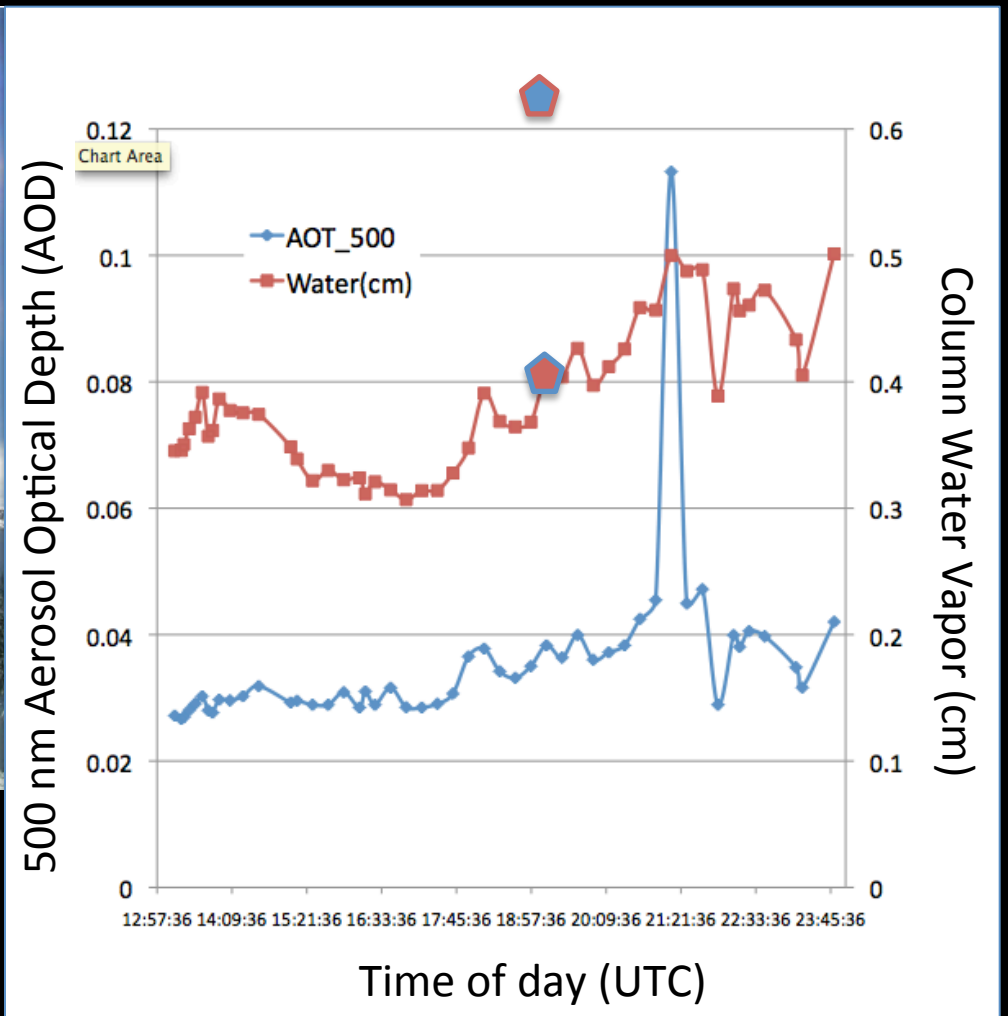
Atmospheric Correction in Rough Terrain

- AVIRISclassic acquisitions over spring 2011 (only 15 June presented here)
- ReSe Applications ATCOR4.0
- Rugged terrain model
- Variable visibility calculation
- Full spatial/spectral irradiance (direct & diffuse) reportage

Constrained by sunphotometer

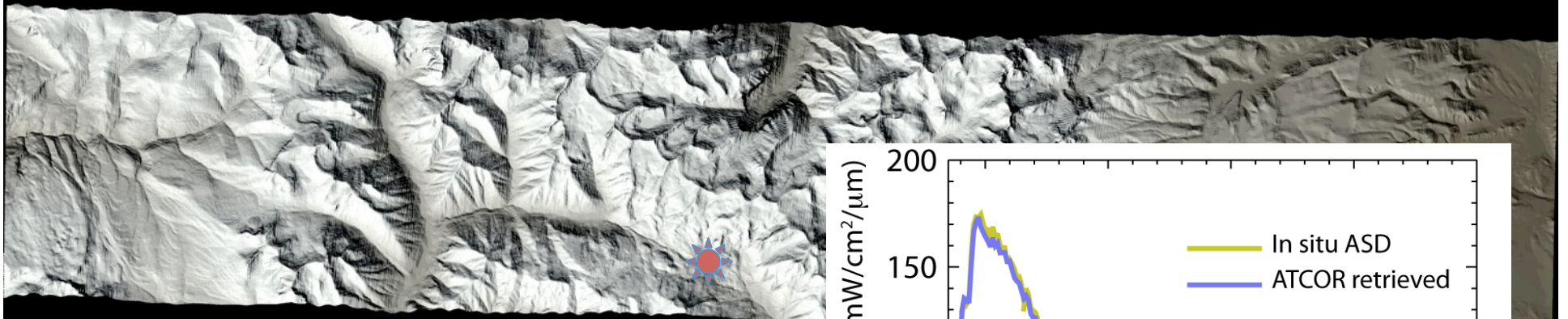


Red Mountain Pass AERONET site
Swamp Angel Study Plot

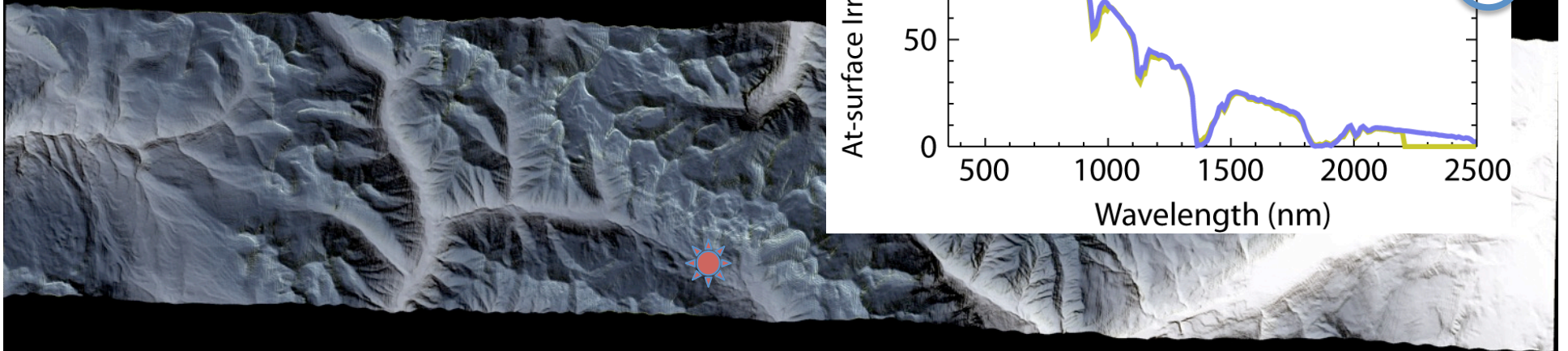


15 June 2011

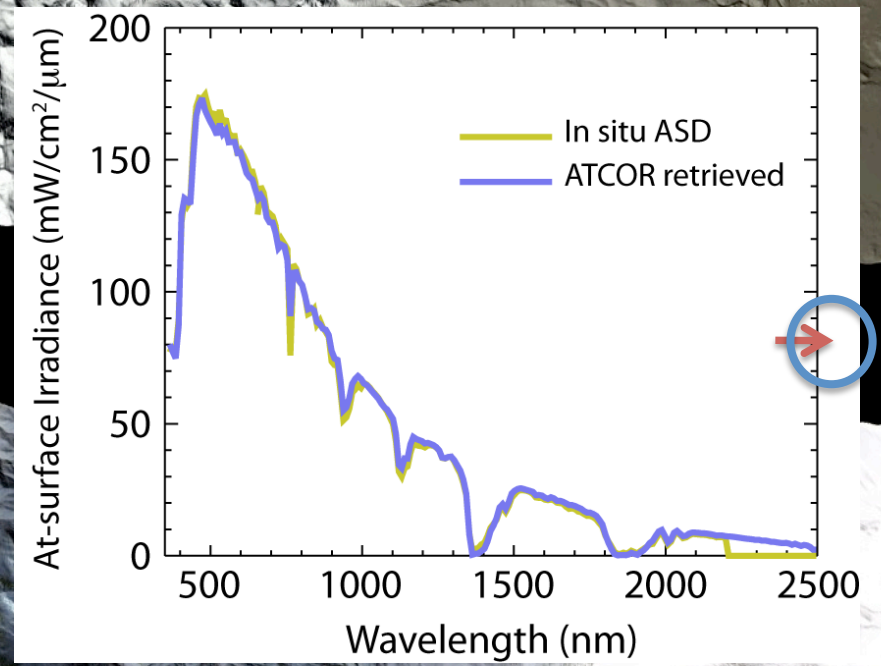
Irradiances



Direct irradiance

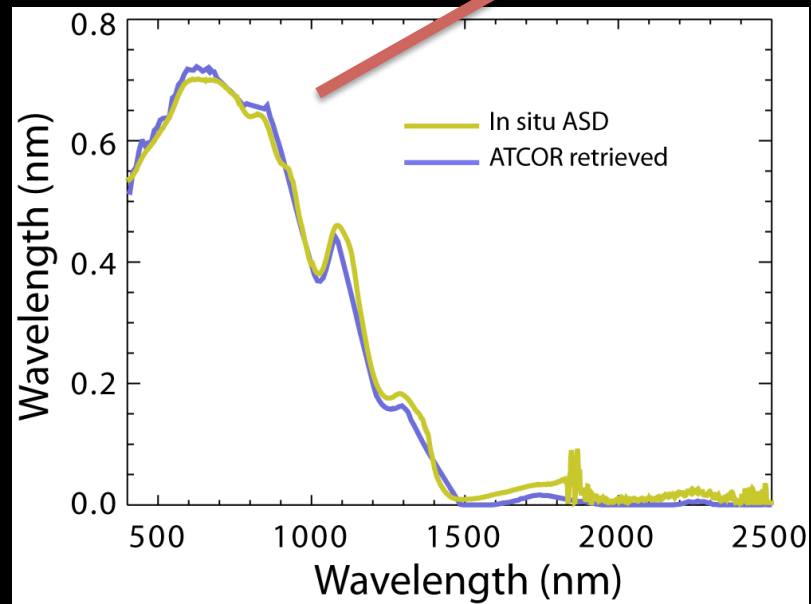


Diffuse irradiance

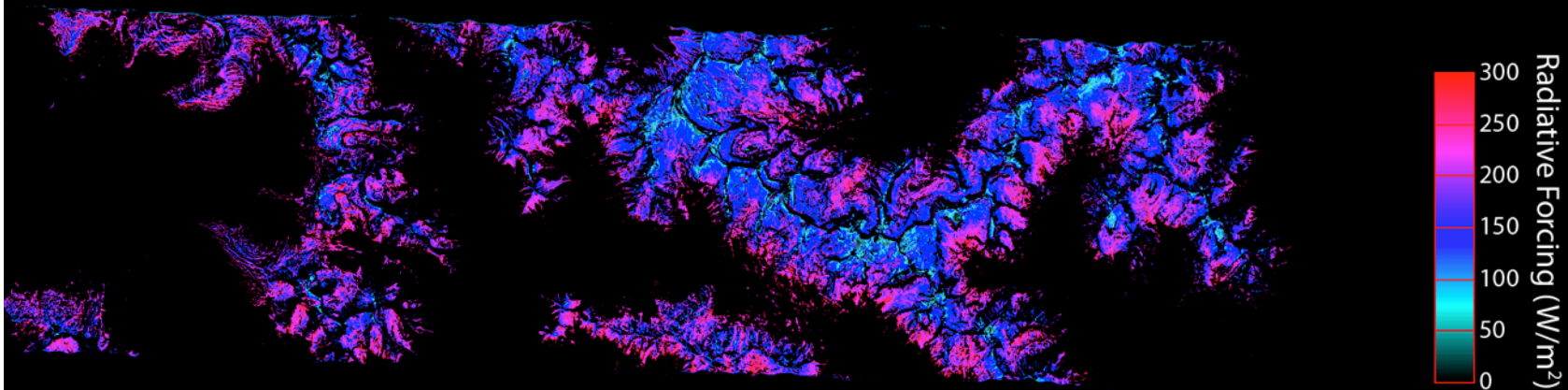
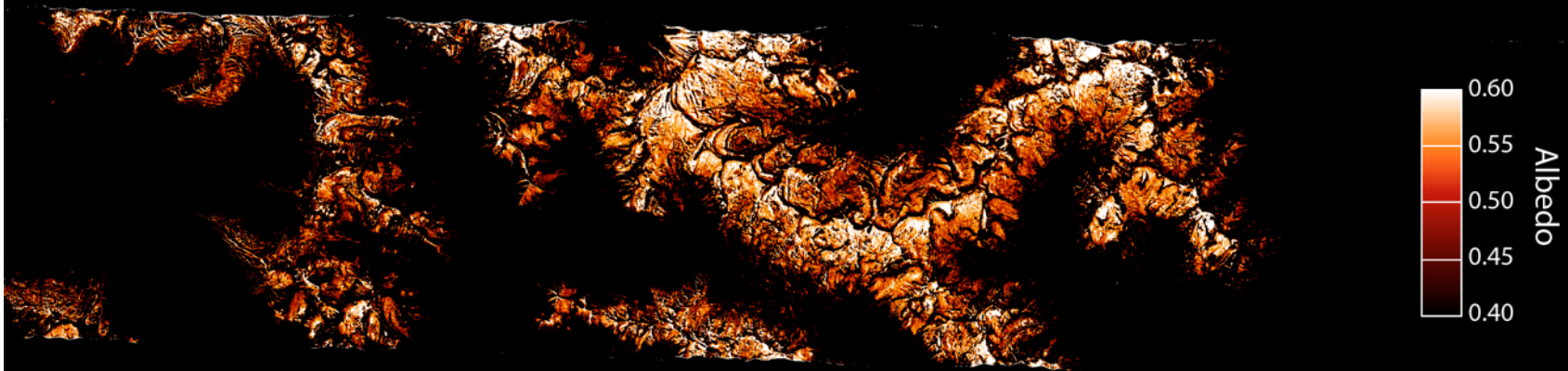


15 June 2011, San Juan Mtns

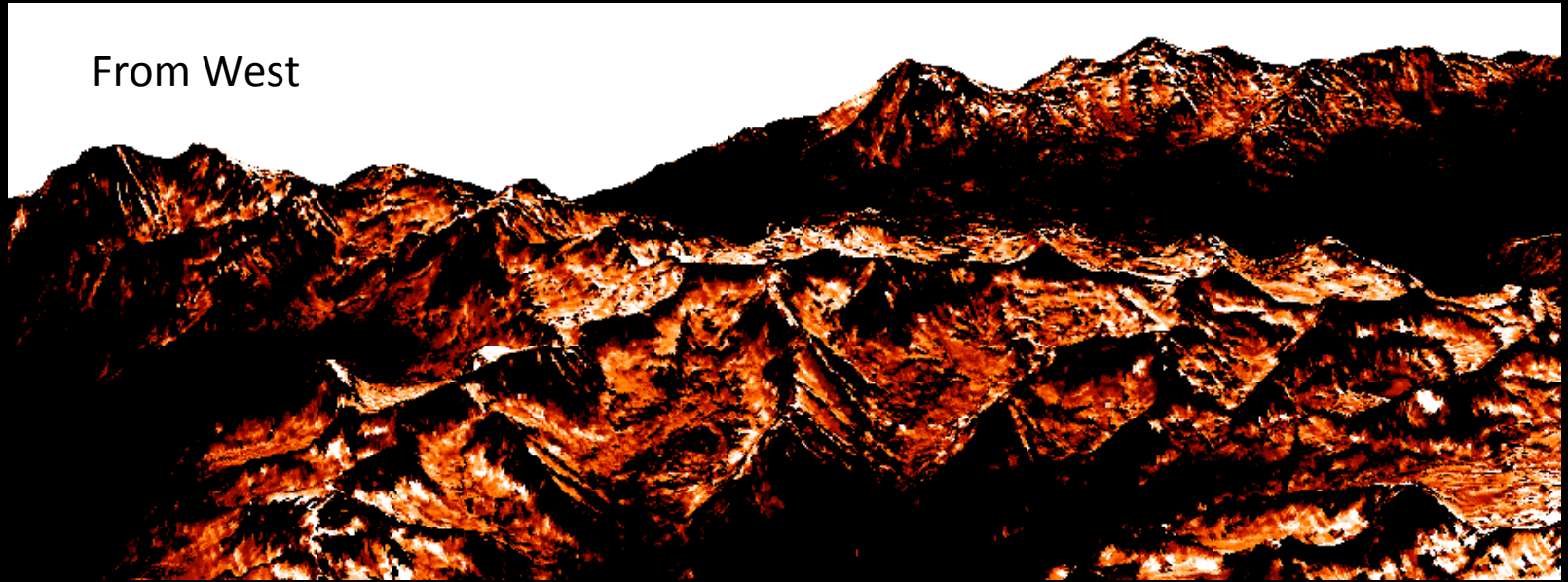
Reflectance



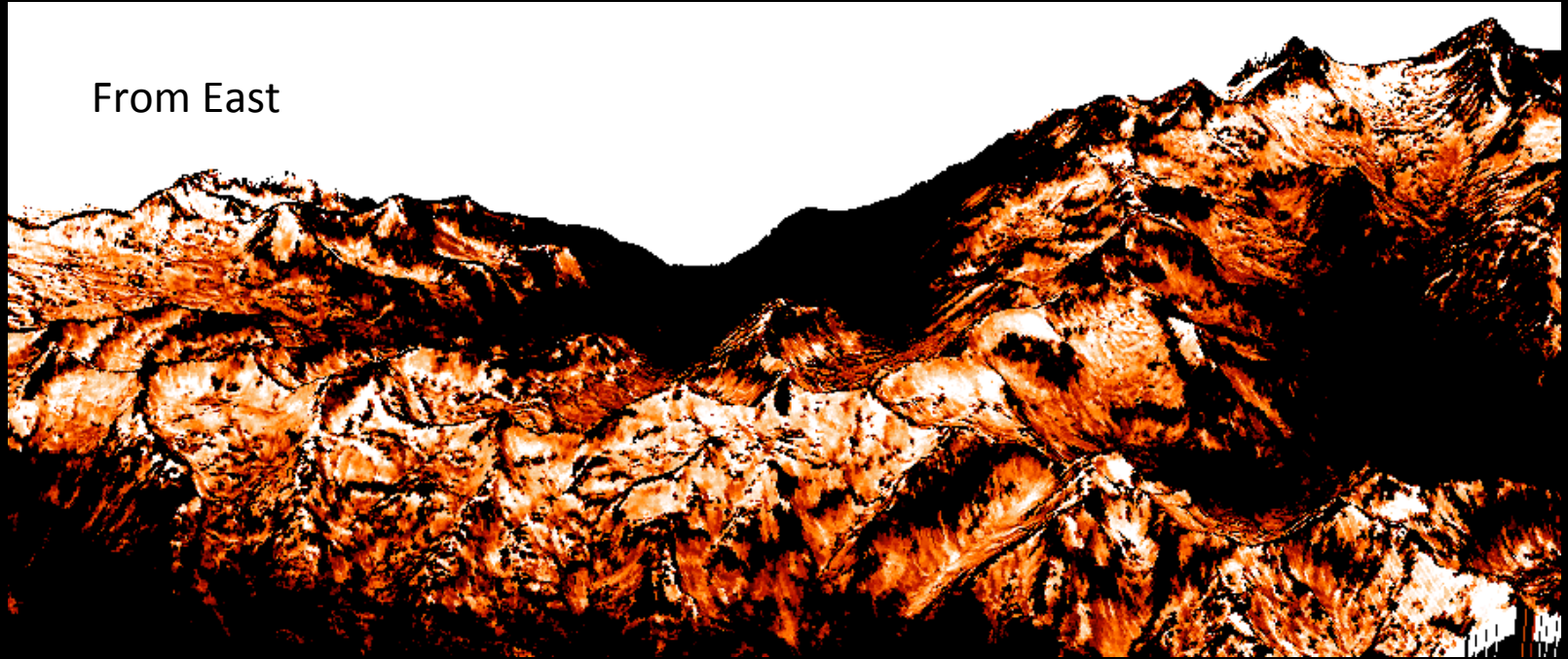
Albedo and radiative forcing



From West



From East

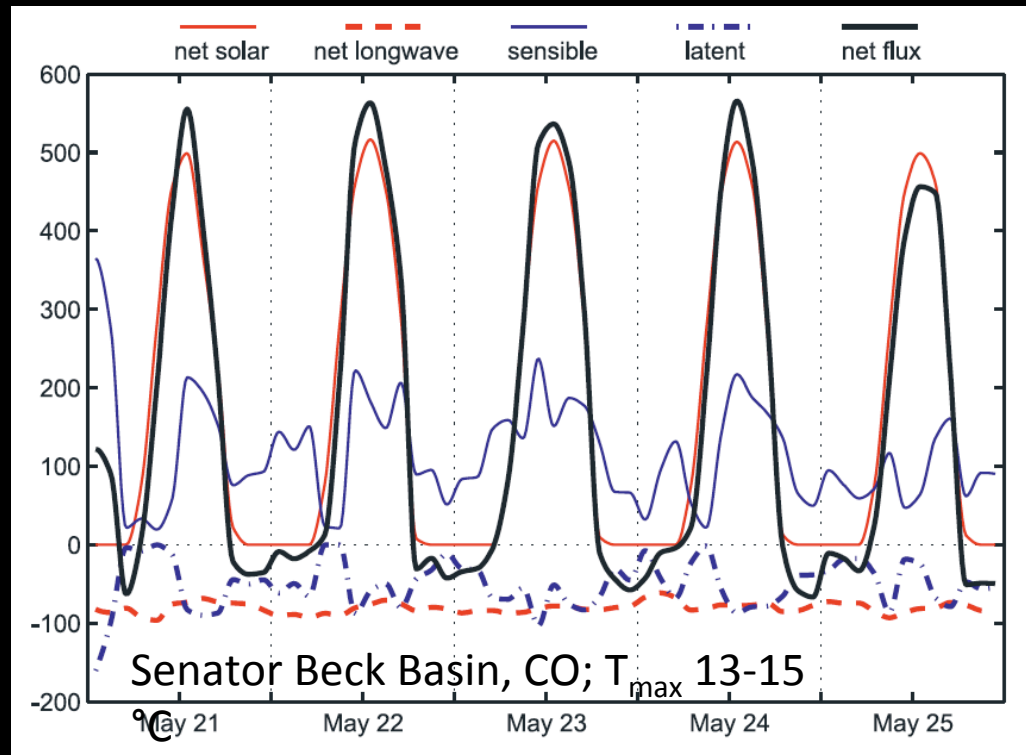


What about the thermal bands?

$$\frac{dU}{dt} + Q_m = (1 - \alpha)S + L^* + Q_s + Q_v + Q_g + Q_r$$

Snow Temp < 0 °C

Snow Temp = 0 °C



Summary

- Changes in global snow and ice drive powerful positive feedbacks in the Earth system and
- HypsIRI will provide global direct access to snow albedo, radiative forcing by dust and BC, and the snow thermal response
- HypsIRI will also provide a baseline against which reductions in dust loading and BC may be assessed
- Aerosol model remains the powerful challenge for reflectance retrievals, particularly in rough mountain terrain
- Thanks to Diane Wickland, Jared Entin, Rob Green, Ian McCubbin, Michael Eastwood, Sarah Lundeen

