



# The Chemistry-Climate Biogeophysical Response to Tree Restoration

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# Background

- **Tree restoration (TR)** captures CO<sub>2</sub> (**biogeochemical effect**) & helps to *mitigate* climate change.
- **Biogeophysical effects** (e.g., *decreased* albedo, *increased* ET) can **enhance** or **diminish** the **negative biogeochemical effect**.
- Importance of **atmospheric chemistry** & **SLCFs**, including **BVOC** impacts on **aerosols**, **methane** and **ozone** remains uncertain:
  - **Net atmospheric chemistry effect** associated with **historical cropland expansion** is a **negative climate forcing** (Unger et al., 2014).
  - A similar study that also included **aerosol cloud interactions** found that **global deforestation** led to an overall **positive radiative forcing** from **SLCFs** (Scott et al., 2018).
  - **Forestation** led to a **combined albedo** and **chemistry** radiative effect that **offset up to a third** of the **enhanced land carbon storage** (Weber et al., 2024).

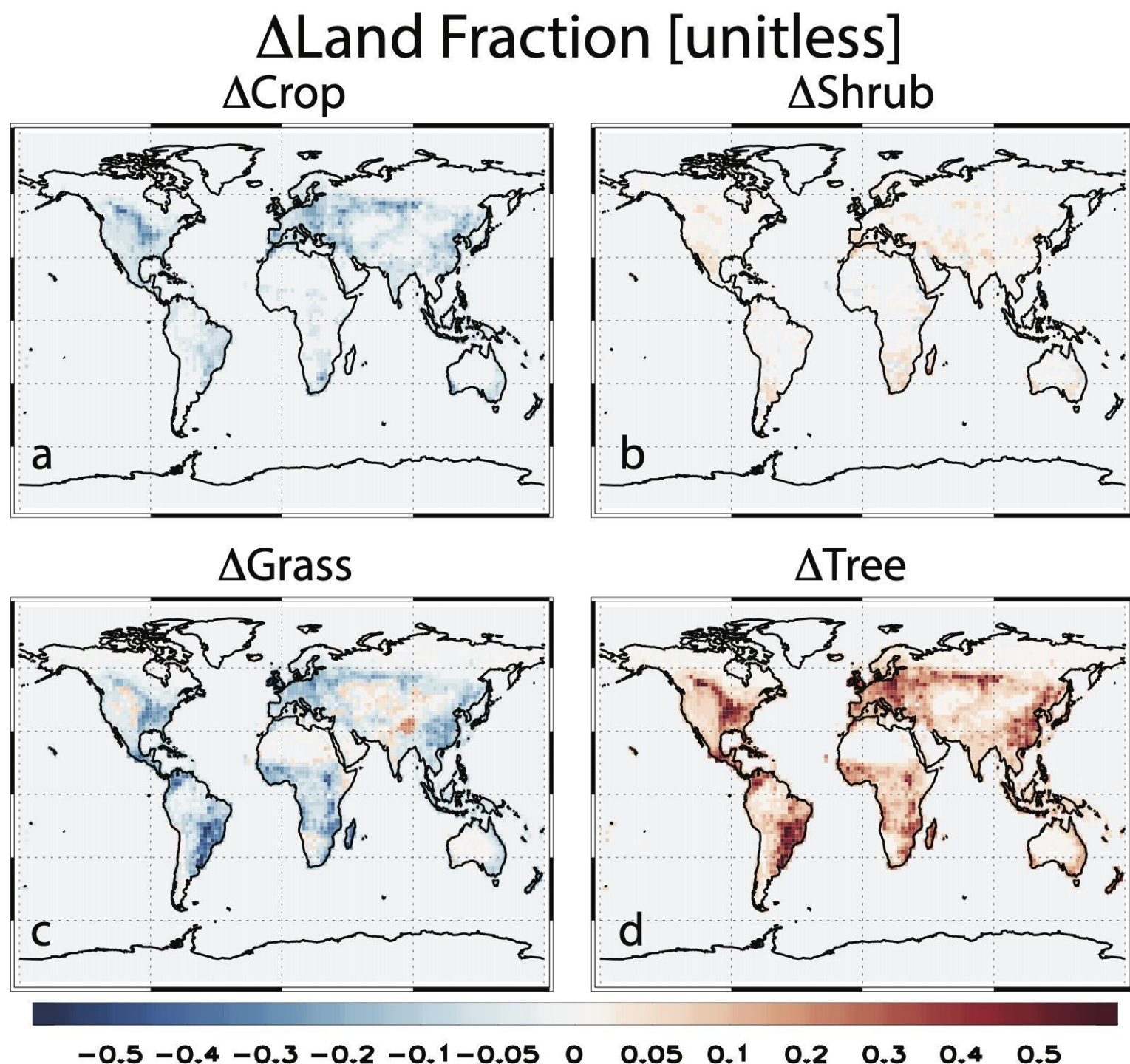
# Model Simulations

- **CAM6** present-day time-slice simulations coupled to a **slab ocean model**:
  - **TR experiment** & a control **with interactive atmospheric chemistry** □ **CHEM**.
  - Identical pair **without** interactive atmospheric chemistry □ **NOCHEM**.
- **CHEM** minus **NOCHEM** *isolates* the **chemistry-climate effect**.
- Integrated for **200 years**, the last **150 years** used for analysis.
- Analogous sets of **45-year climatological SST/sea-ice (FSST)** simulations:
  - Isolate **Effective Radiative Forcing (ERF)** and **Rapid Adjustments (RAP\_ADJ)**.
- All simulations use **prescribed atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> concentrations** and thus **do not include** the **biogeochemical effects** on temperature/climate.
  - **BGC effects** estimated offline using the **TCRE**.

## • Tree Restoration (TR)

### methodology:

- **Step 1**  **Reforestation**  If the preindustrial (PI) tree fractional area for a grid cell is larger than that in present-day (PD), the PI value replaces the PD baseline.
  - **Step 2**  **Afforestation**  If an SSP in year 2100 has a larger tree fractional area for a grid cell than currently exists from Step 1, it replaces the current value.
- This perturbation is **instantaneously imposed**  we focus on a **biophysical *upper limit*** of TR.
- **+12.3 Mkm<sup>2</sup> Tree area** (135% area of US):
    - 5.6 Mkm<sup>2</sup> Tropical
    - 6.0 Mkm<sup>2</sup> Temperate
    - 0.8 Mkm<sup>2</sup> Boreal

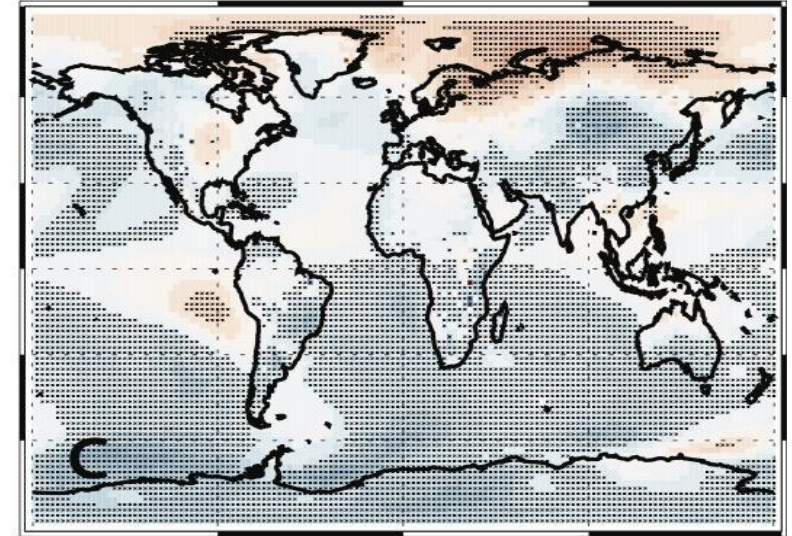
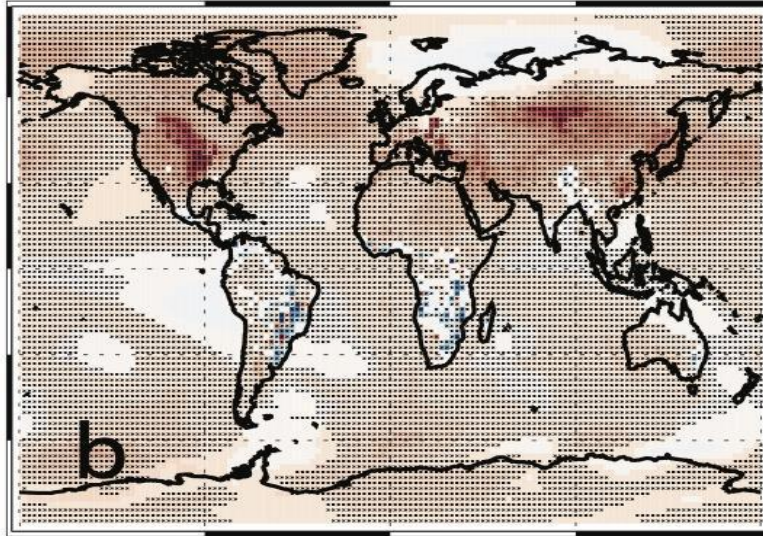
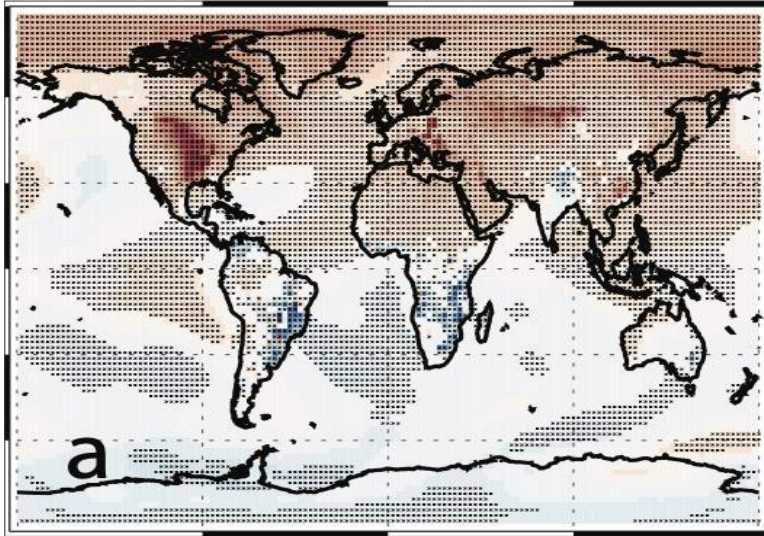


# ΔNear-Surface Air Temperature [K]

Interactive Chemistry

No Interactive Chemistry

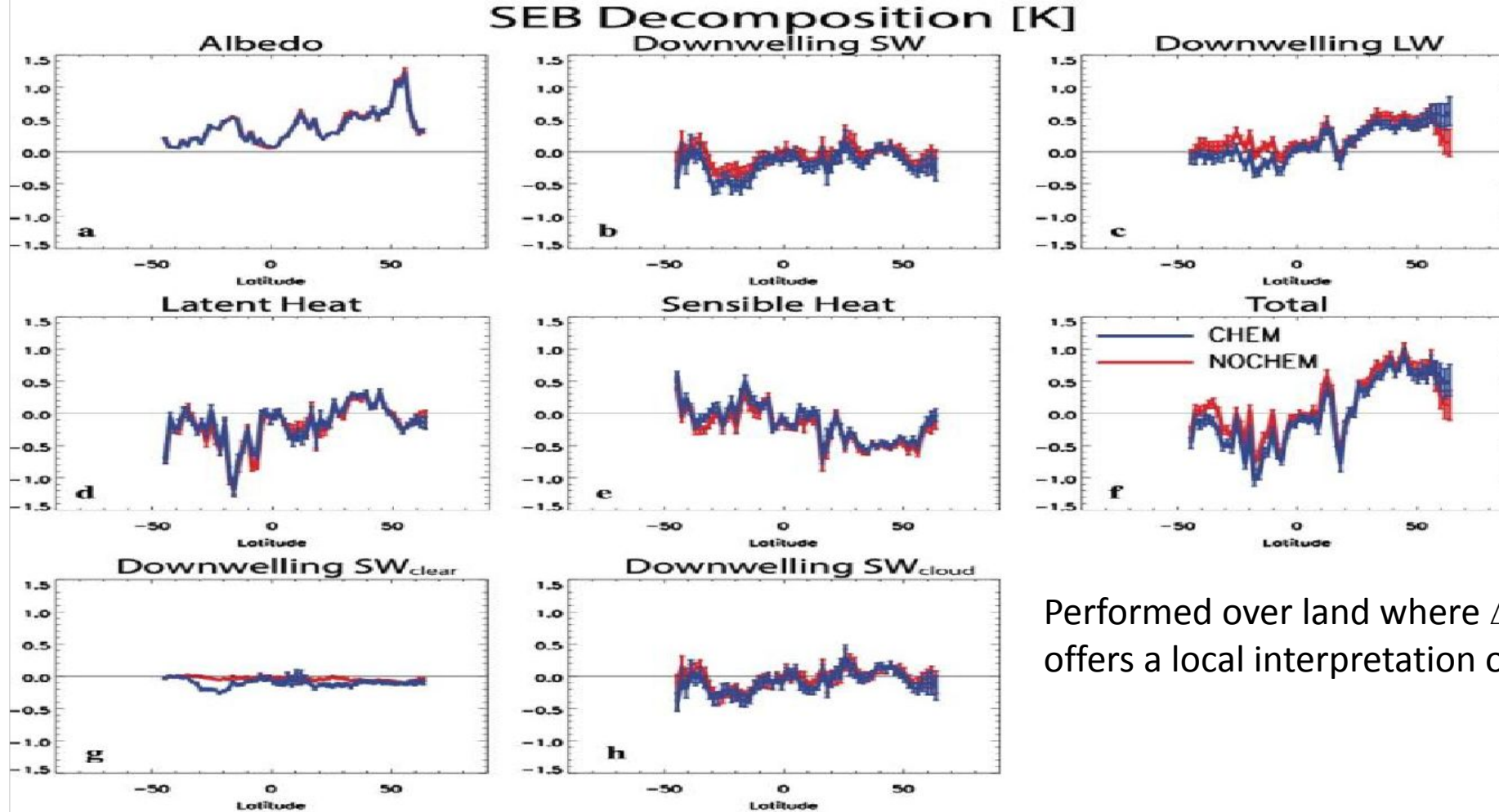
Chemistry Effects



-1.5   -1   -0.8   -0.6   -0.4   -0.2   0   0.2   0.4   0.6   0.8   1   1.5

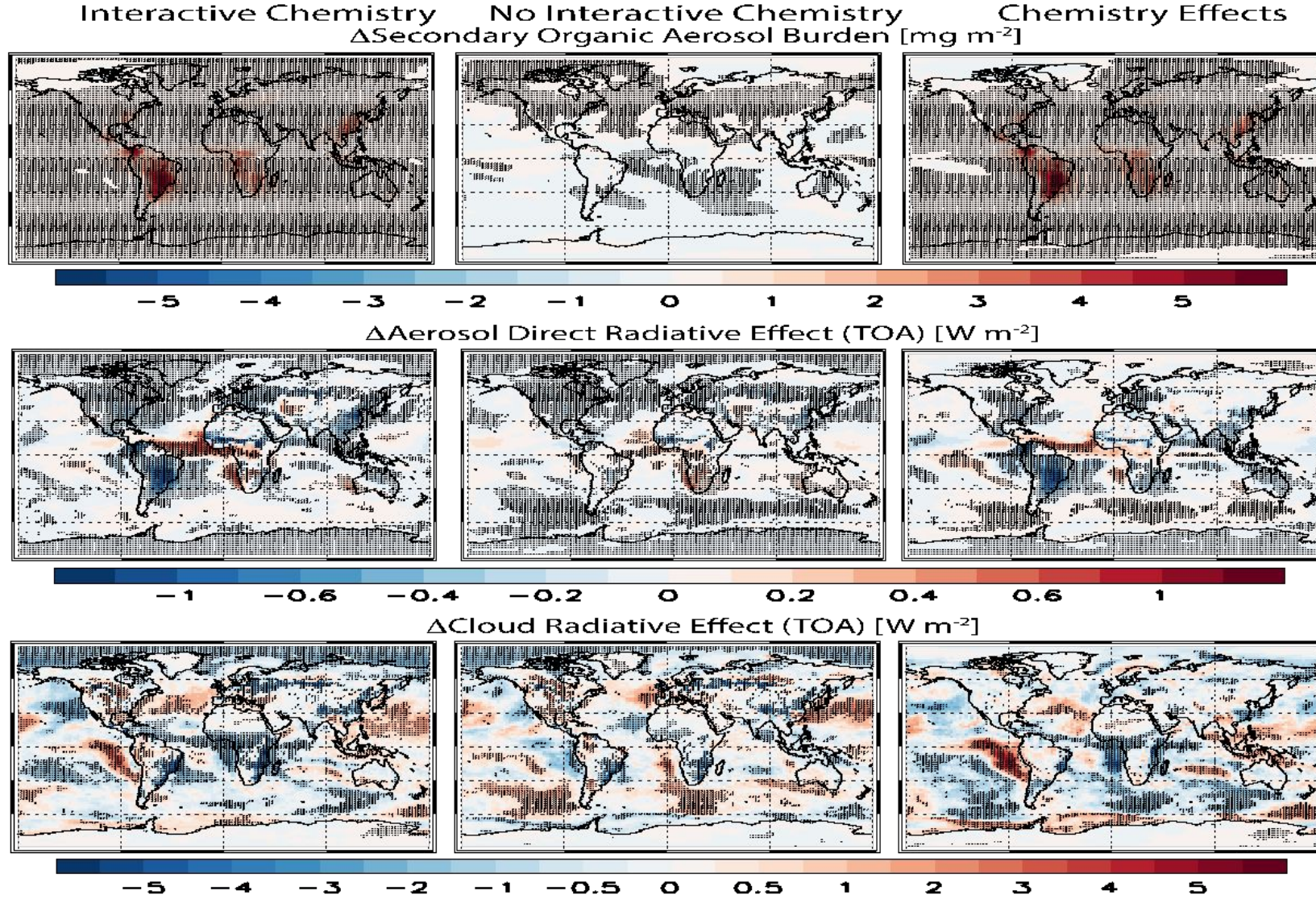
	Chemistry			No Chemistry			Chemistry Effects		
	NH	SH	GL	NH	SH	GL	NH	SH	GL
TAS	$0.19 \pm 0.03$	$-0.04 \pm 0.03$	$0.07 \pm 0.03$	$0.26 \pm 0.03$	$0.11 \pm 0.03$	$0.19 \pm 0.03$	$-0.06 \pm 0.05$	$-0.16 \pm 0.04$	$-0.11 \pm 0.04$

- **Chemistry effects** yield **cooling**, esp. in the **SH**.

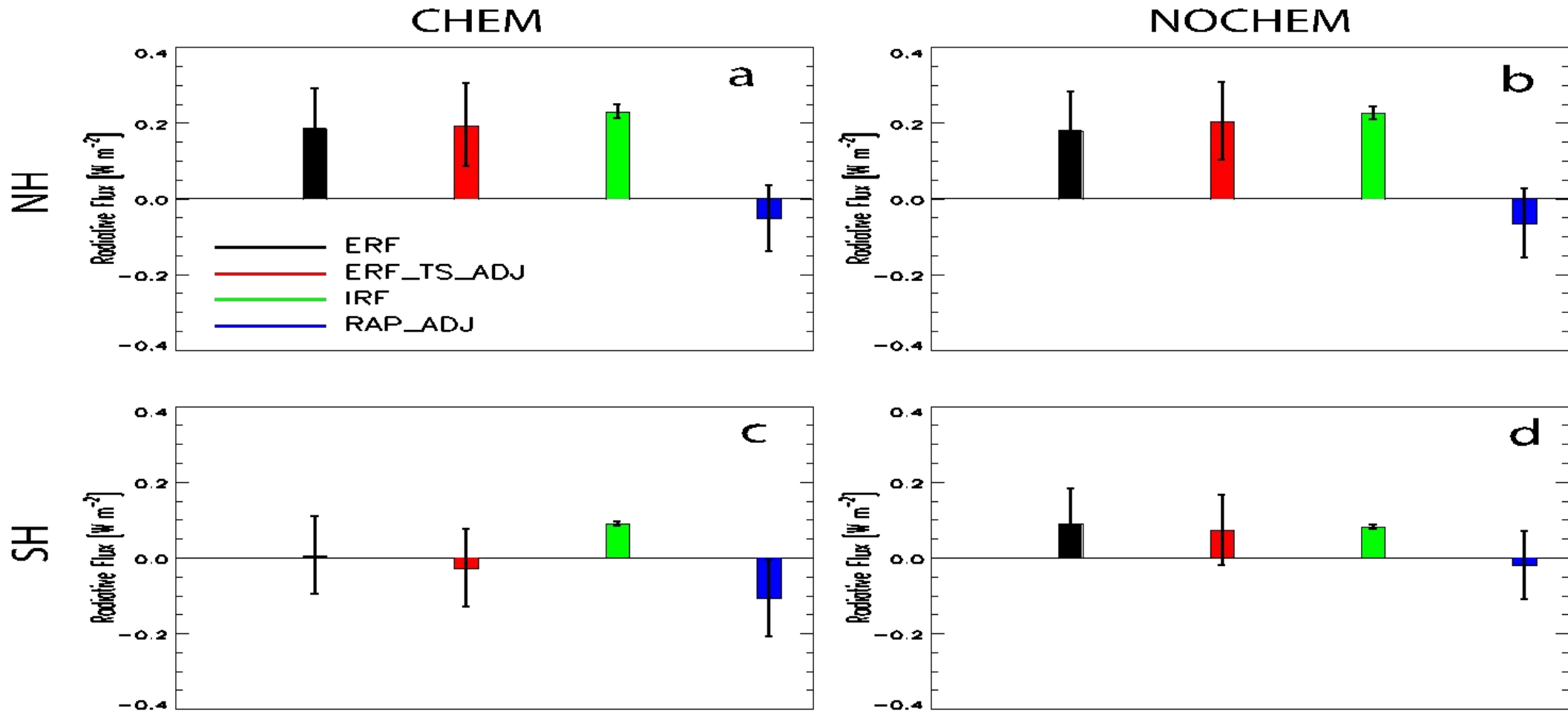


Performed over land where  $\Delta\text{tree\_frac} > 0.1$   offers a local interpretation on mechanisms.

- **Warming** under both **CHEM** and **NOCHEM** largely due to **albedo term**.
- LH/SH terms  **net cooling** under **CHEM** and **NOCHEM**  **Strong LH cooling** in SH.
- **Stronger cooling** under **CHEM** due to **larger decrease** in **downwelling SW**.
  - **Stronger SW cooling** under clear skies for **CHEM**.
  - **Clouds** tend to be associated with **SW cooling** under both **CHEM** and **NOCHEM**.



- Consistent with the **reduced NH warming** & **SH cooling**, **CHEM** yields:
  - **Increases** in **BVOCs** and **SOA**, esp. in SH Tropics.
  - **Larger negative Aerosol Direct Radiative Effect** over land (e.g., South America, US).
  - **Larger negative Cloud Radiative Effect**, esp. over SH oceans (outside of eastern Tropical Pacific).



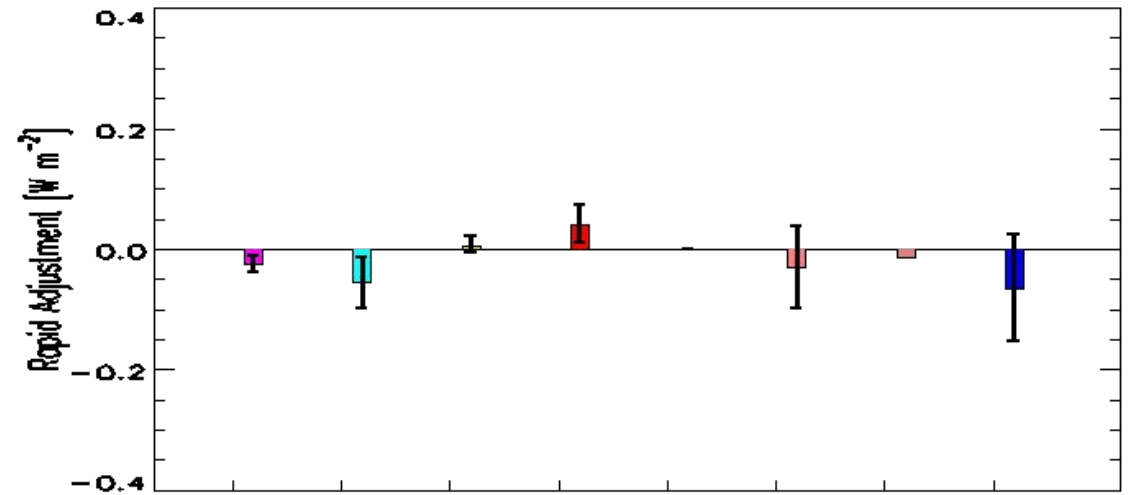
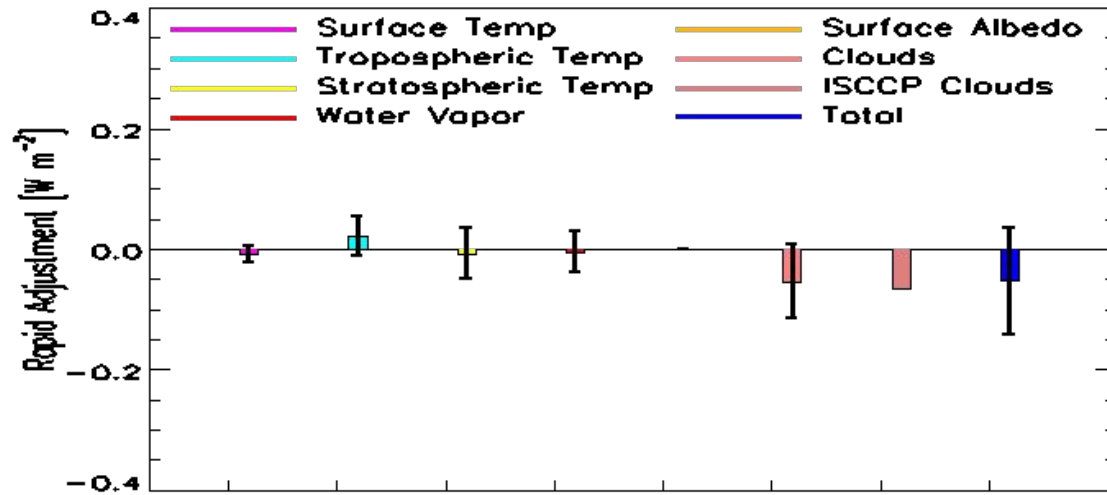
- **NH warming** is consistent with a **positive ERF** under both **CHEM** and **NOCHEM**.
  - Largely due to the **positive IRF** (from the **surface albedo radiative kernel**).
- **Similar statements** generally apply in the **SH** under **NOCHEM**.
- **SH cooling** under **CHEM** consistent with a **relatively large negative RAP\_ADJ**.
  - Offsets **positive IRF**, leading to a **negligible ERF**.
  - Weakly **negative surface temperature adjusted ERF**.



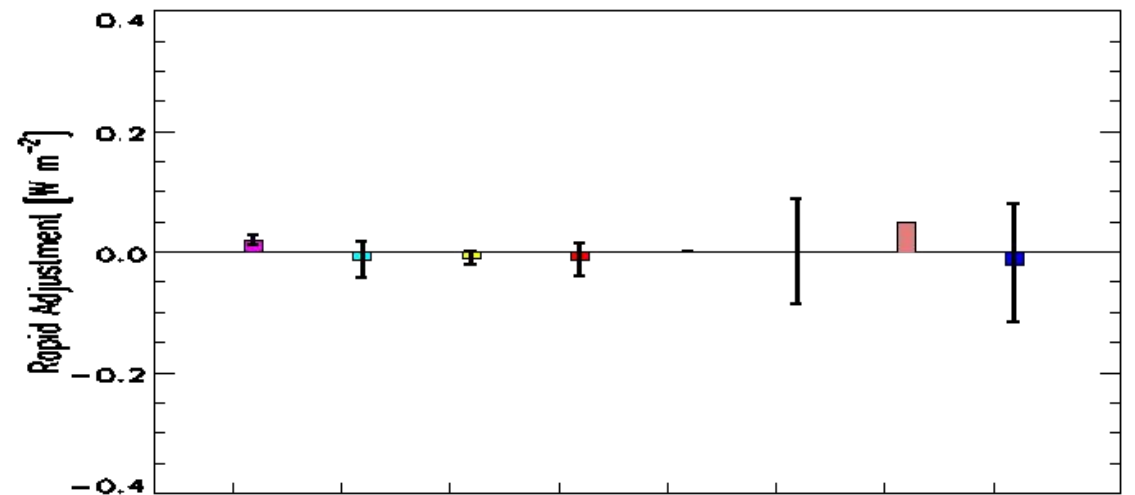
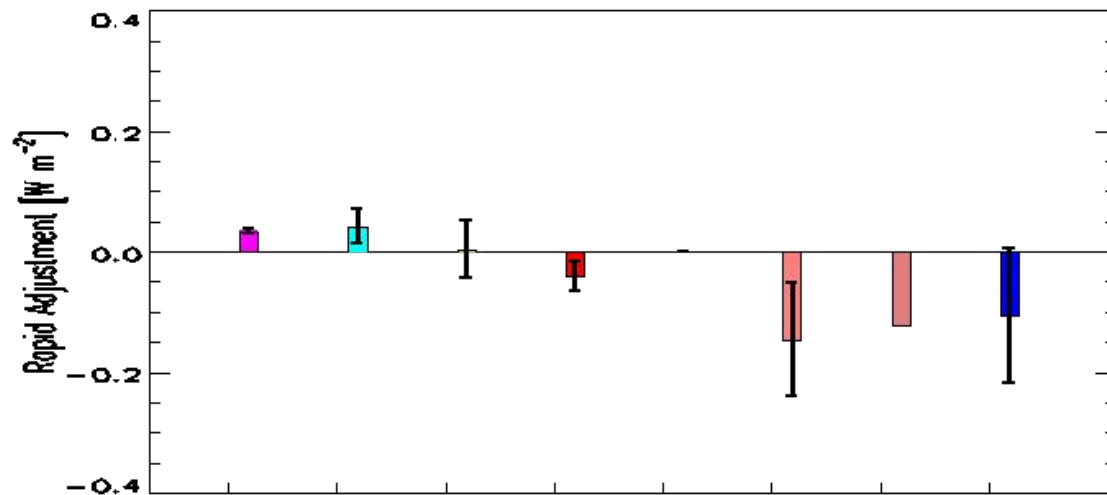
## CHEM

## NOCHEM

NH

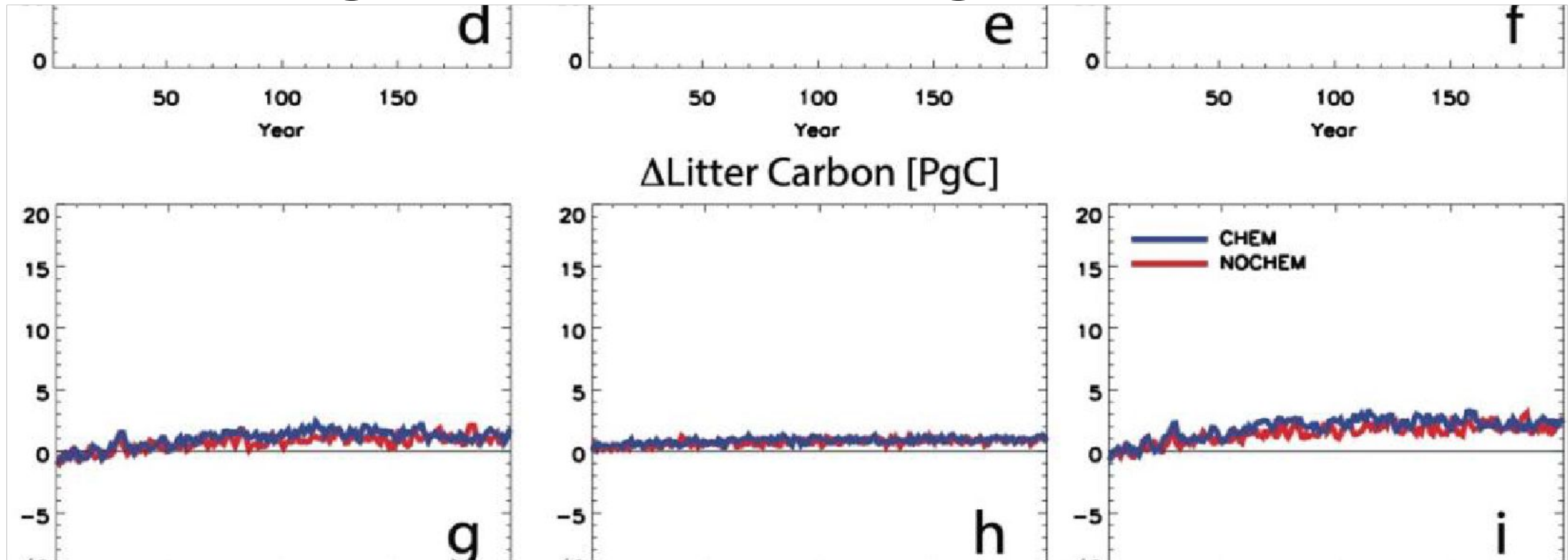


SH



- Radiative kernels to *decompose* **RAP\_ADJ** into its components.
- **Negative RAP\_ADJ** under **CHEM** in the **SH** is largely due to **clouds**.
  - Consistent results w/ kernel difference method and the ISCCP simulator.

# Biogeochemical Cooling Dominates



- Both **CHEM** and **NOCHEM** yield similar *increases* in **land carbon storage**.
- The best estimate of the **TCRE** is 1.65 (1.0 to 2.3) K per 1000 PgC (Canadell et al., 2021).
- **CHEM** and **NOCHEM** yield *similar estimates* of **biogeochemical cooling**:
  - **CHEM** □ -0.35 (-0.21 to -0.48) K. (biogeophysical warming is 0.07+/-0.03 K)
  - **NOCHEM** □ -0.33 (-0.20 to -0.45) K. (biogeophysical warming is 0.19+/-0.03K)

# Summary

- **Tree restoration** leads to **global mean cooling** due to **biogeochemical effects**.
- **Cooling muted** by **biogeophysical effects**, largely **surface darkening**.
- **Biogeophysical effects mute 58%** of the **biogeochemical cooling** under **NOCHEM**.
- **Biogeophysical effects mute 20%** of the **biogeochemical cooling** under **CHEM**  **increases** to **31%** when **methane effects** are accounted for.
- Including **interactive chemistry** yields **larger net cooling** under **tree restoration**, largely associated with **enhanced SOA** and **cloud responses**.
- Strong **hemispheric asymmetries** due in part to **chemistry effects**:
  - **Biogeophysical cooling** in the **SH** under **CHEM**.

**The End**