

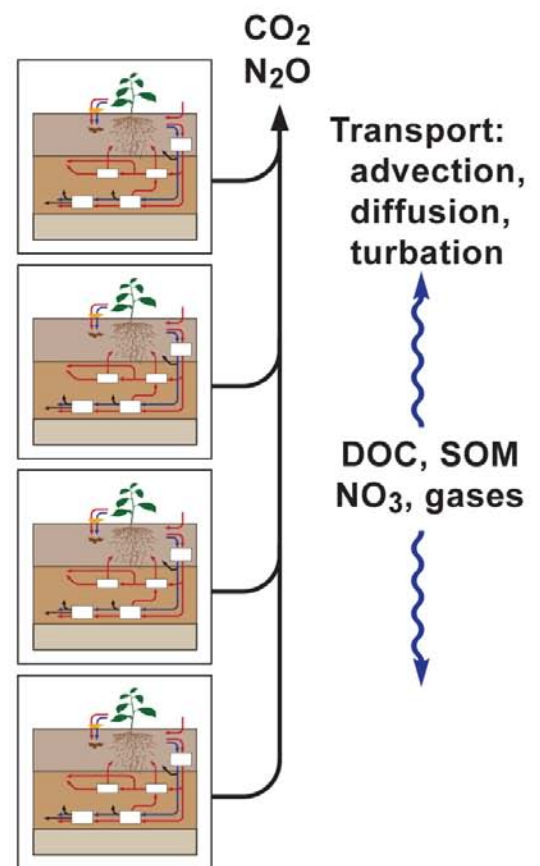
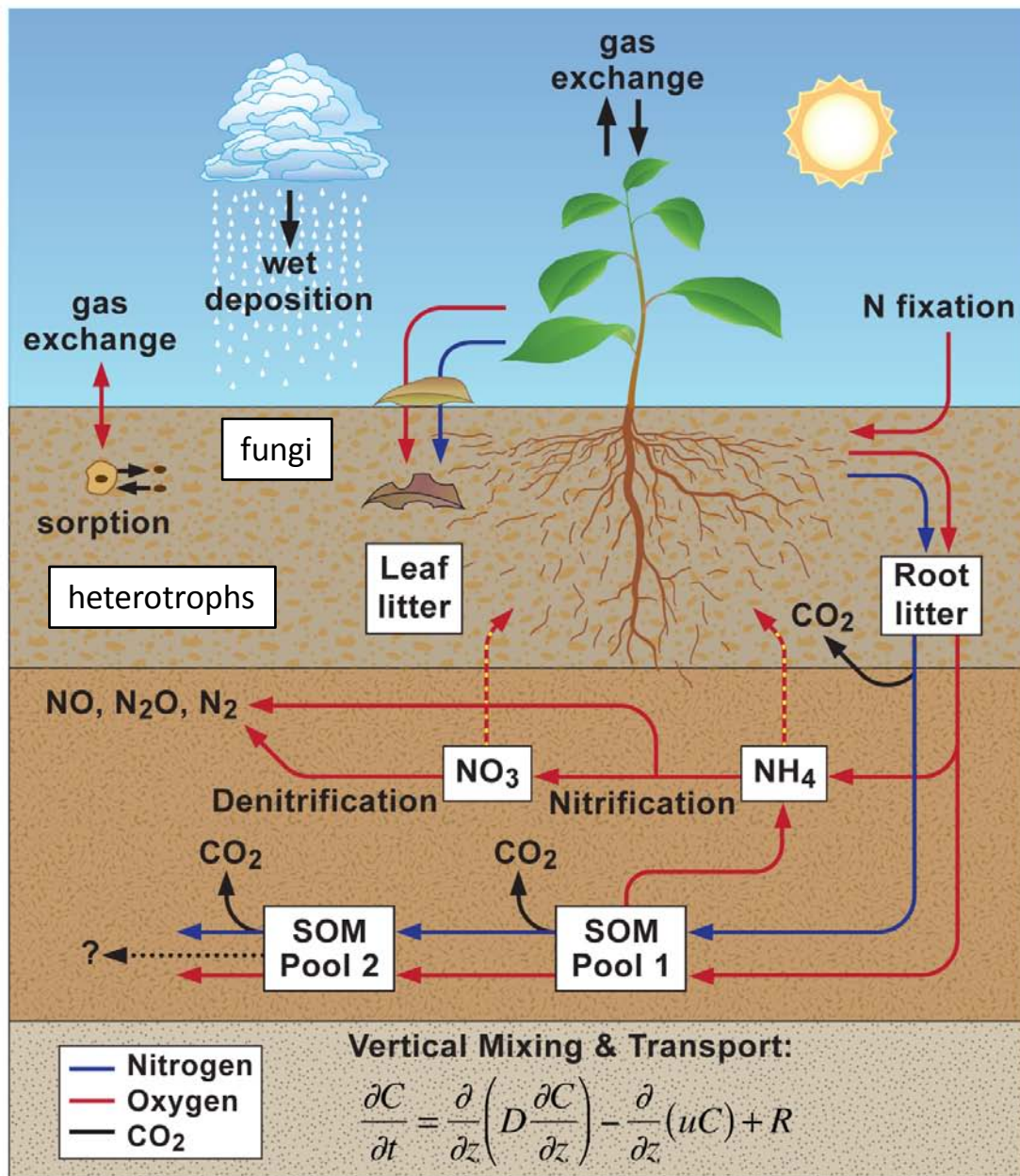
# Progress Toward a Mechanistic Belowground N Cycle in CLM

Bill Riley

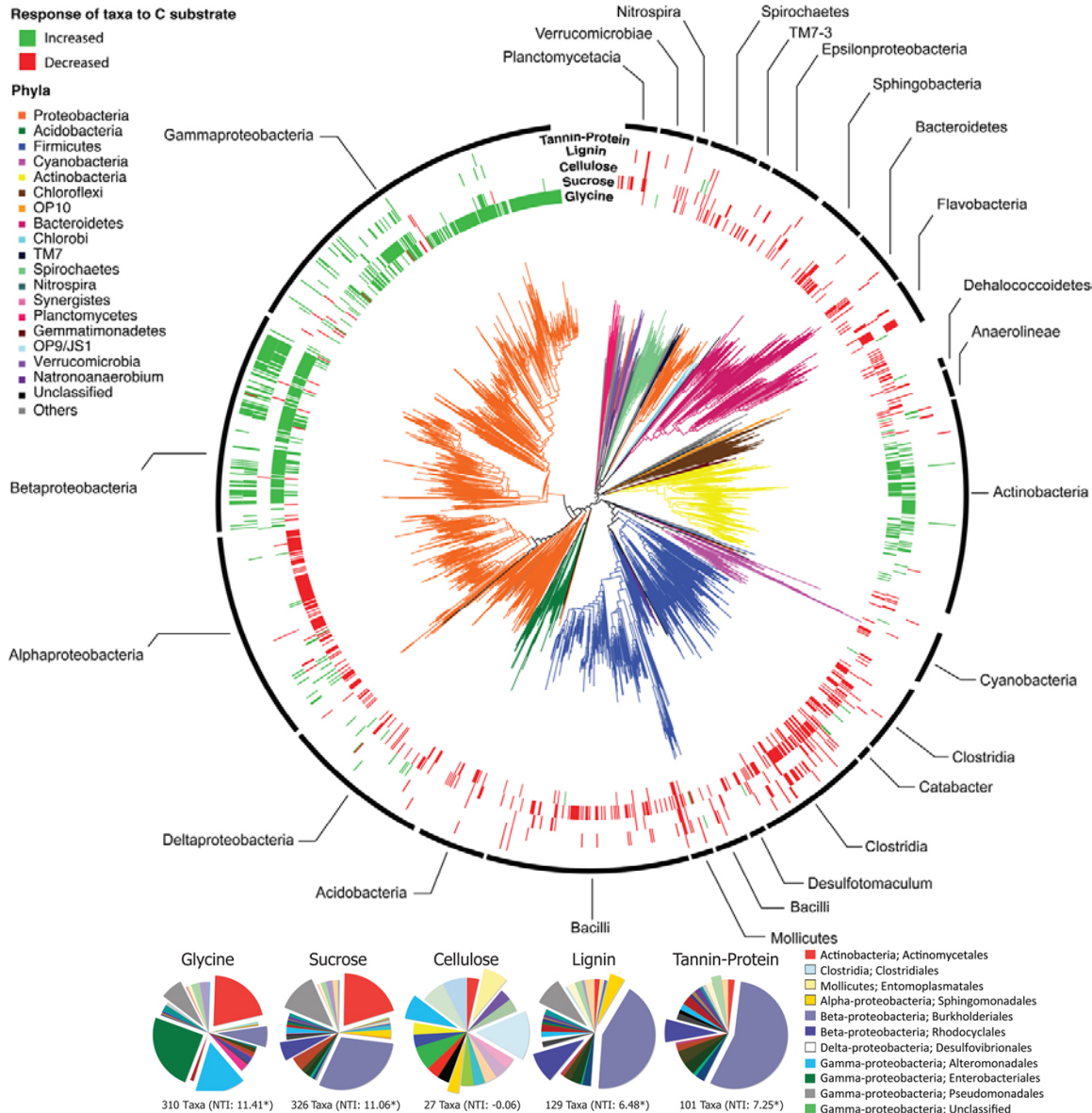
Charlie Koven, Zack Subin, Jinyun Tang

Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory

DOE BER



# Soil bacteria exhibit differential growth responses to carbon substrates of varying chemical recalcitrance



- Only growing bacteria were targeted (BrdU captured DNA) analyzed by PhyloChip microarrays
- Growth response of ~2,200 bacterial taxa compared following addition of C substrates of varying chemical recalcitrance.
- Organisms responding to 'labile' C were phylogenetically clustered
- Organisms responding to 'recalcitrant' C were phylogenetically dispersed.

Goldfarb et al (2011). *Frontiers in Terrestrial Microbiology*, 2:94.

# Atmosphere

Lamarque et al., 2011

Table 4. Continued.

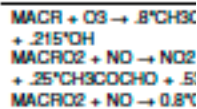
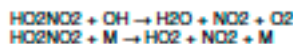


Table 4. Continued.



### C-1 Degradation (Methane, CO, CH<sub>2</sub>O and

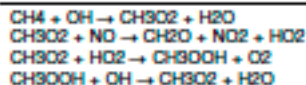


Table 4. Continued.

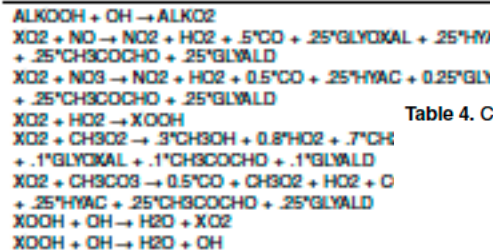
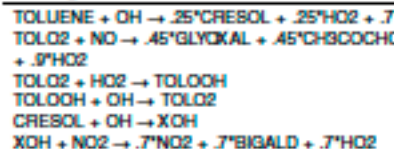
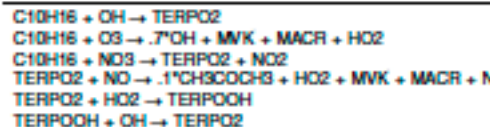


Table 4. Continued.

### C-7 Degradation



### C-10 Degradation



### Radon/Lead

### Odd hydrogen reactions

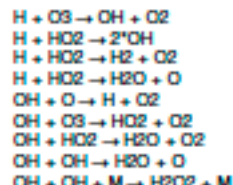
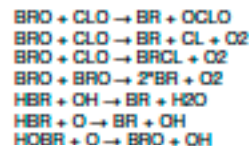
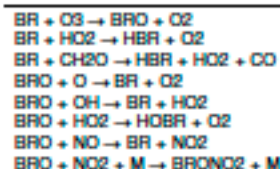


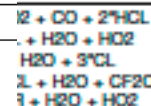
Table 4. Continued.

### Odd Bromine Reactions

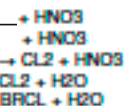


### RO + NO<sub>3</sub>

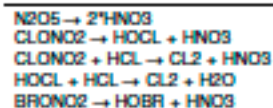
### Reactions with Cl, OH



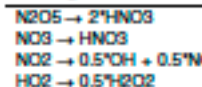
### Reactions



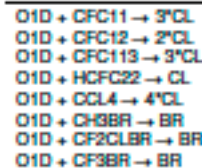
### Nitric acid di-hydrate reactions



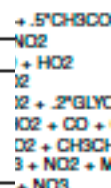
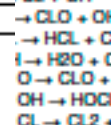
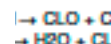
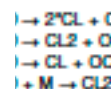
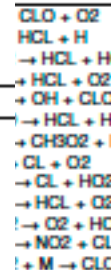
### Heterogeneous reactions



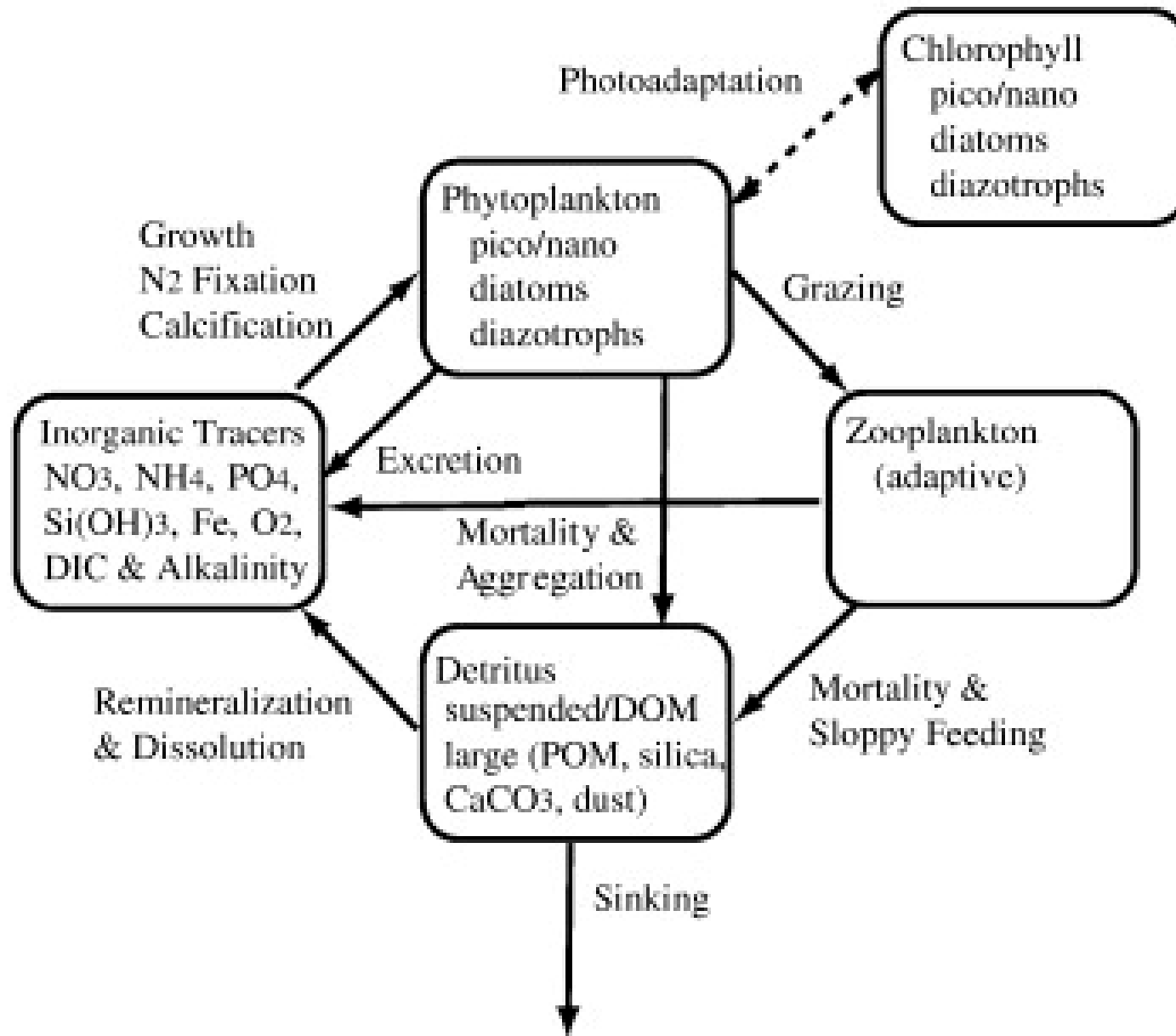
### O<sub>1</sub>D reactions with halos



### Reactions



# Ocean BGC



# Belowground N Cycle Goals in CLM

- Represent belowground N dynamics in a mechanistic way
- Biological processes
  - Nitrification
  - Denitrification
  - Mineralization, interaction with C dynamics
  - Fixation
  - Biological populations
- Physical and chemical processes
  - Advection (vertical, horizontal)
  - Gas production ( $\text{CO}_2$ ,  $\text{N}_2\text{O}$ ,  $\text{CH}_4$ ,  $\text{NO}$ )
  - Stabilization (aggregation, mineral interactions, etc.)
  - Multi-phase (aqueous, gaseous, sorbed)
  - pH, redox, oxygen
- Current version of CLM4 contains little mechanistic representation of these processes

# Two Parallel Paths for Improving CLM's Belowground N Cycle Representation

- CLM4.5
- CLM4-BeTR

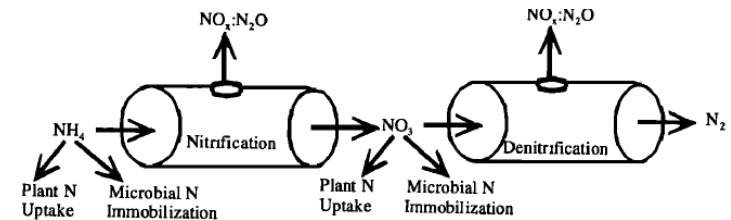
# CLM4.5

- C cascade

- Century structure currently included
- Easily modified structure and parameters

- Vertical discretization

- Each layer has the complete C & N cascade
- Surface and root litter
- Radiocarbon,  $^{13}\text{C}$
- Mixing, cryoturbation



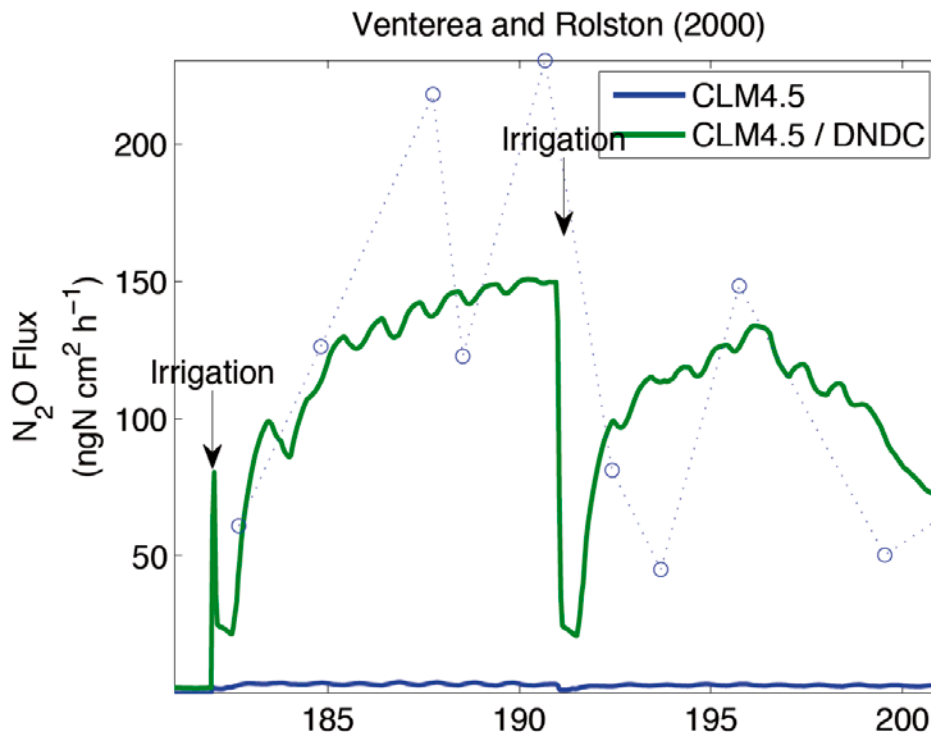
- Century nitrification (Parton et al., 2001), denitrification (DelGrosso et al., 2000), N<sub>2</sub>O emissions

- Nitrification rate:  $F_{\text{NO}_3} = \text{Net}_{\text{min}} * K_1 + K_{\text{max}} * \text{NH}_4 * F(t) * F(\text{WFPS}) * F(\text{pH})$
- N<sub>2</sub>O production:  $F_{\text{N}_2\text{O}} = K_2 * F_{\text{NO}_3}$
- Denitrification rate:  $D_t = \min[F_d(\text{NO}_3), F_d(\text{CO}_2)] F_d(\text{WFPS})$ .
- N<sub>2</sub>O production:  $R_{\text{N}_2/\text{N}_2\text{O}} = F_r(\text{NO}_3/\text{CO}_2) F_r(\text{WFPS})$ .



# Evaluating BG N Cycle Predictions

- Plants complicate interpretation of N observations for soil BGC processes
- Use N observations before emergence or in controls
  - Isolates soil BGC
  - Many such studies exist, often with measurements of  $\text{NO}_3$ ,  $\text{NH}_4$  concentrations, rates, and gas fluxes



- Baseline model fails to reproduce rates or gas fluxes
- Adding microbial activity and updating parameterizations improved dynamics

# Rate Dependence on $\Theta$ and T Uncertain

A. Rodrigo et al. / Ecological Modelling 102 (1997) 325–339

- Multi-model comparison (Rodrigo et al. 1997):

$$h(T, \theta) = f_T g_\theta$$

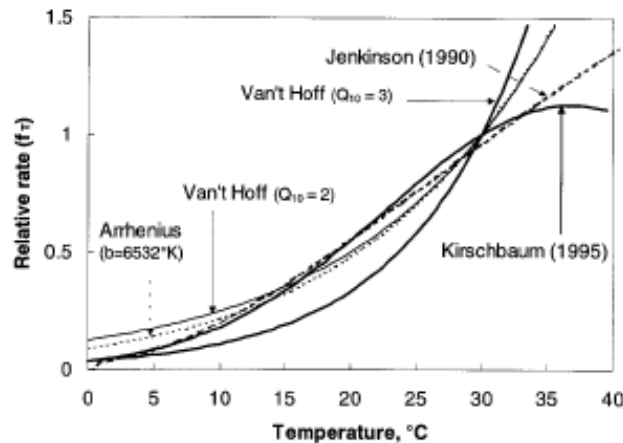
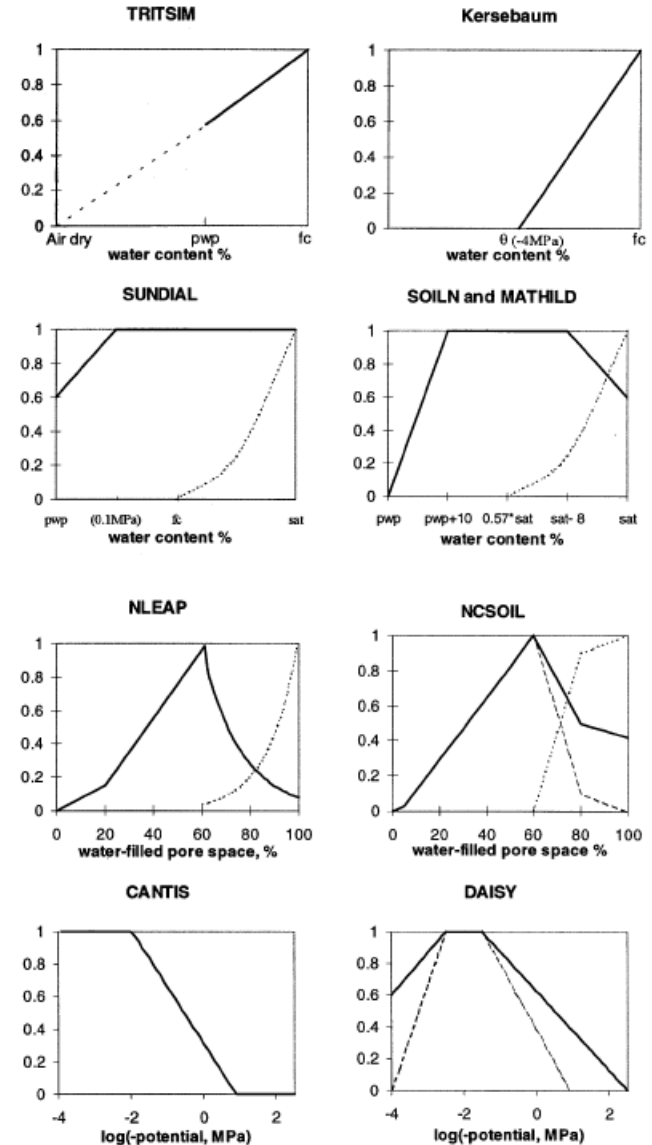
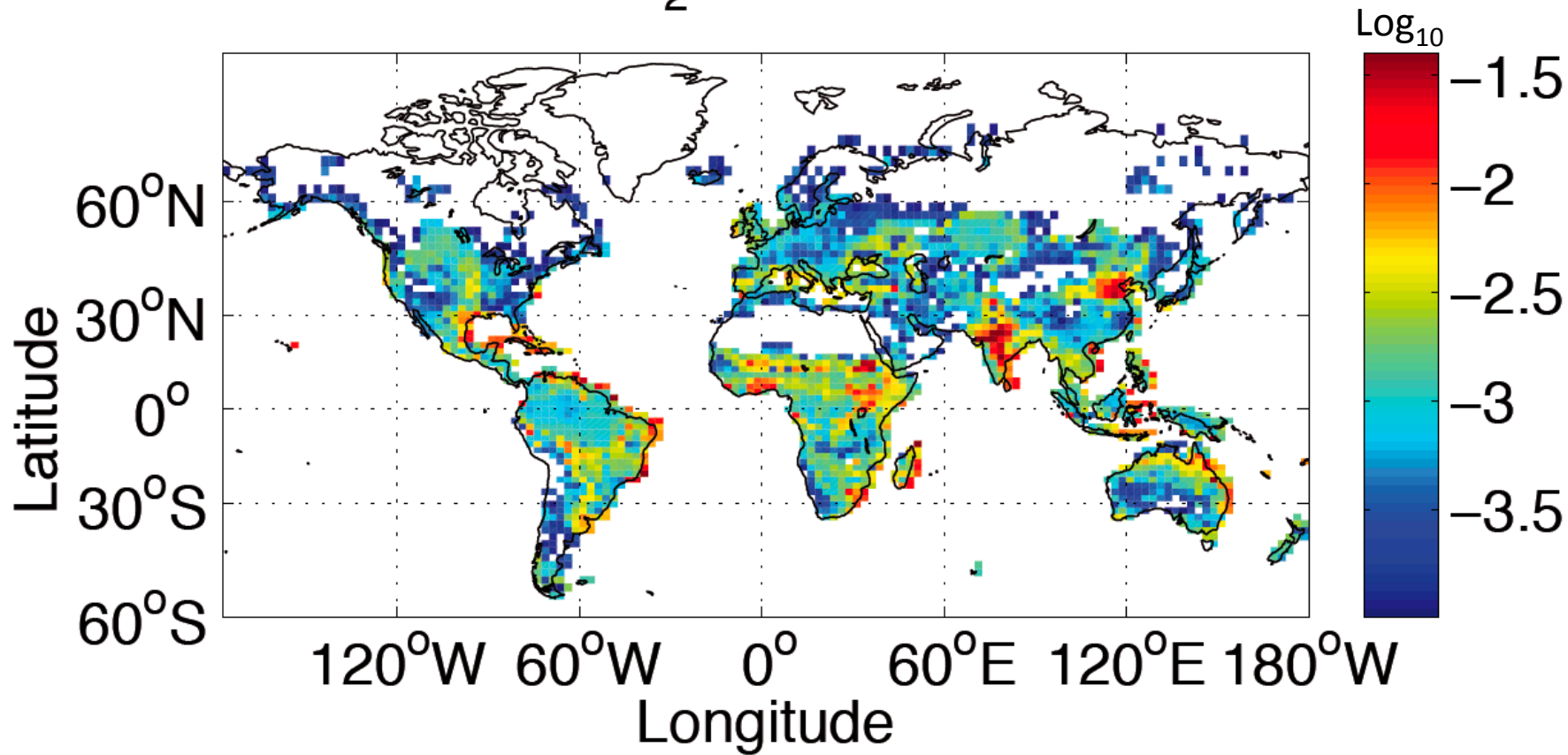


Fig. 1. Variation of the relative rate of microbial activity ( $f_T$ ) with temperature using Van't Hoff (two values of  $Q_{10}$ ), Arrhenius, Jenkinson (1990) ( $f_T = 47.9/[1 + \exp(106/(T + 18.3))]$ ) and Kirschbaum (1995) ( $f_T = \exp[-3.432 + 0.168T(1 - 0.5T/36.9)]$ ) equations.



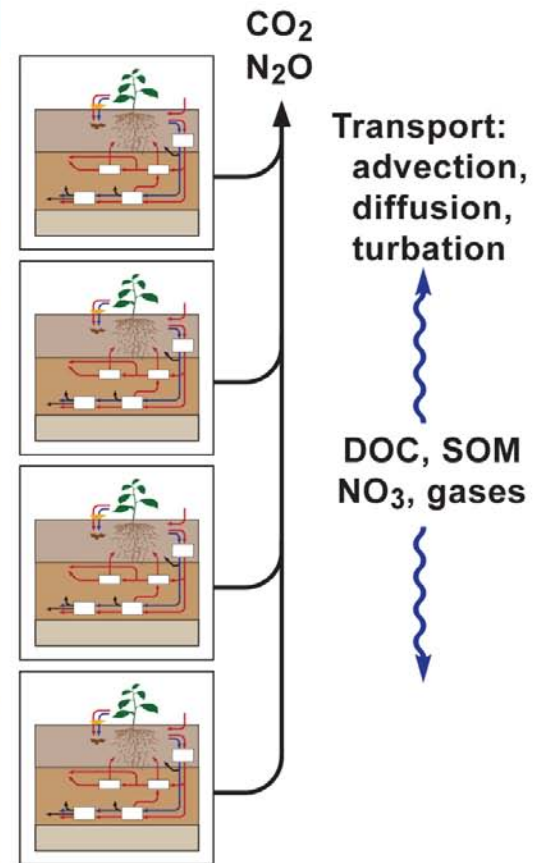
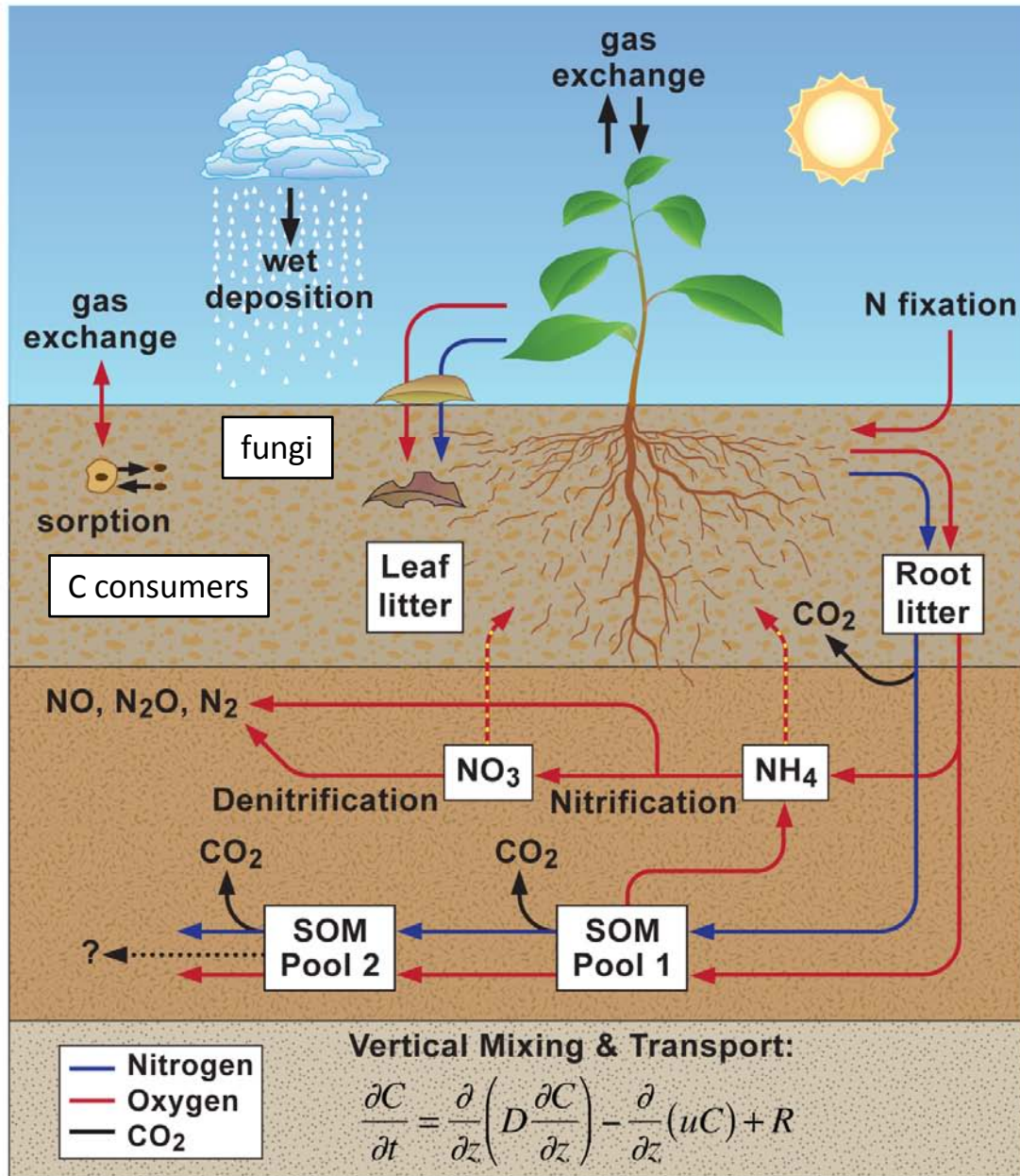
Annual Terrestrial N<sub>2</sub>O Emission = 12.6 TgN y<sup>-1</sup>



# CLM4-BeTR

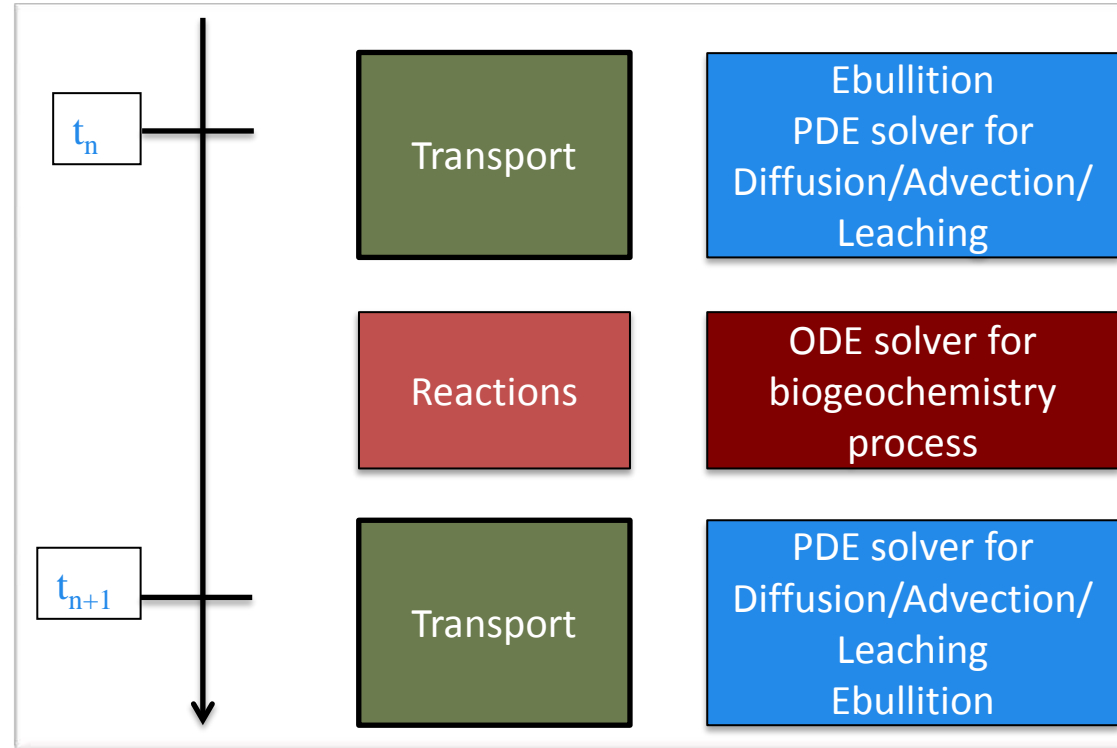
- General reactive/transport solver that includes
  - Arbitrary number of tracers
  - Aqueous, gaseous, sorbed phases
  - Vertical aqueous and gaseous and runoff fluxes
  - Transport into plants
  - Microbial dynamics
  - Isotopes
    - $^{18}\text{O}$  and D in water (with D Noone and T Wong)

# CLM4-BeTR

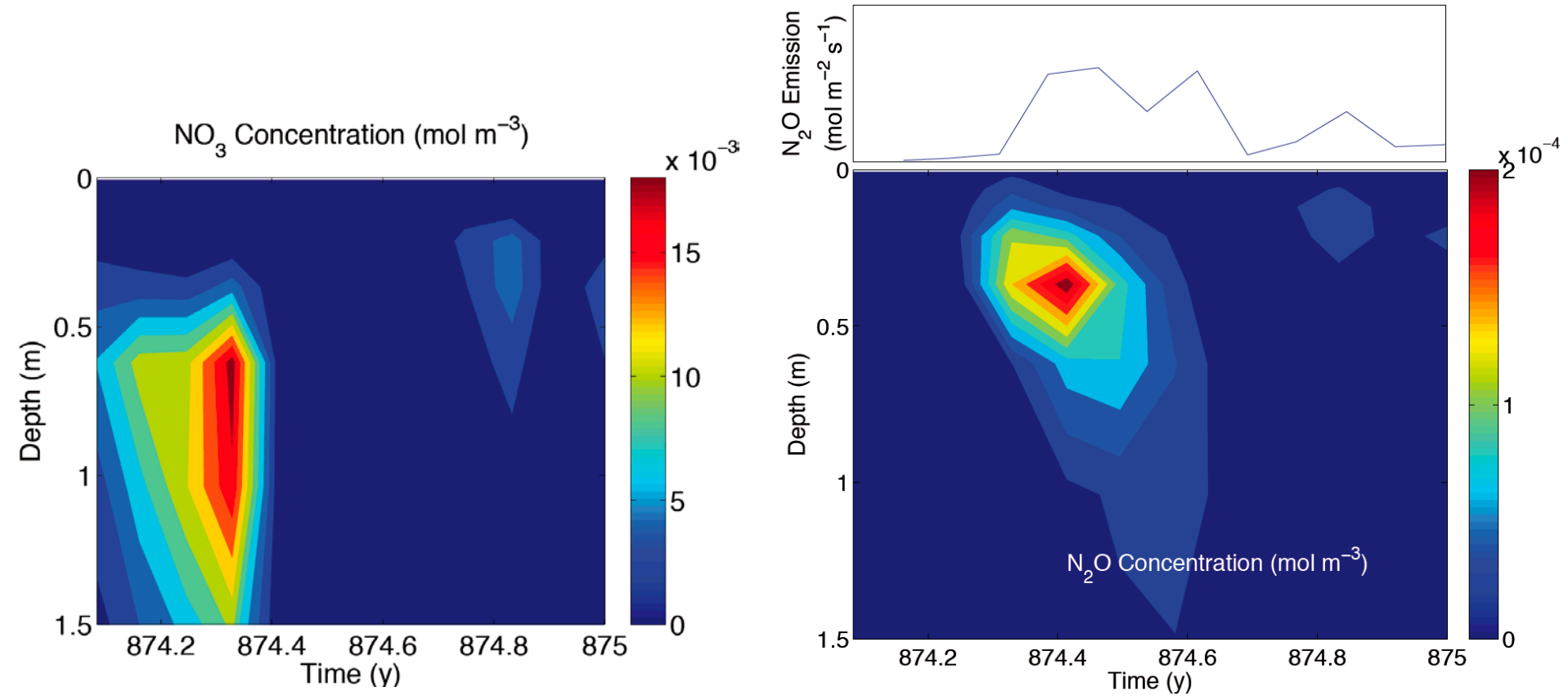


# CLM4-BeTR Numerical Scheme

- **Processes evolve at different time scales**
- **Solved with standard numerical solvers at different internal time steps**
- **Mass conservation maintained at each sub-step**
- **Diffusion solved with a Crank-Nicolson finite-volume method**
- **Advection solved with 1<sup>st</sup> order upstream or 2<sup>nd</sup> order flux-limited scheme**
- **Biogeochemical processes solved with a standard ODE solver**

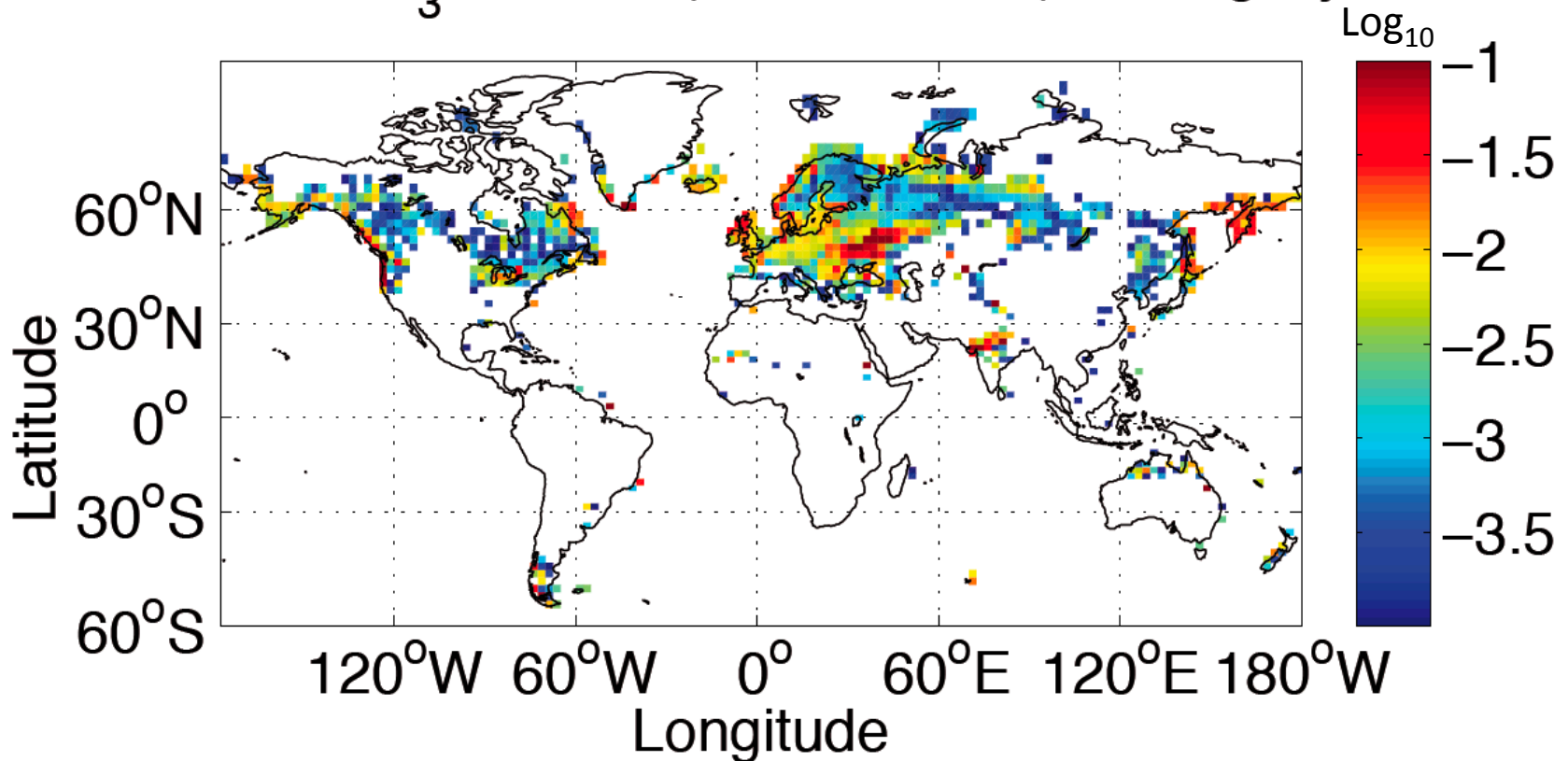


# CLM4-BeTR N Cycle Simulations



# NO<sub>3</sub> Leaching

Annual NO<sub>3</sub> leached (CLM4–BeTR) = 41 TgN y<sup>-1</sup>





# Next Steps

- **Model development**
  - Integrate microbial processes and evaluate impacts
  - Crop model with fertilization
  - Integration of CH<sub>4</sub> dynamics (CLM4-Me)
- **Model testing**
  - Existing N experiments and controls
  - Sorption and stabilization mechanisms for C
  - Regional and global N<sub>2</sub>O emission predictions against inversions and other estimates
- **Model applications**
  - Coupled C & N simulations; characterizing atmospheric interactions and feedbacks
  - Priming
  - C stabilization and potential destabilization under climate change
  - ...