

Exploring planetary atmospheres with numerical modeling

Aymeric SPIGA

... on behalf of the
LMD planetary group



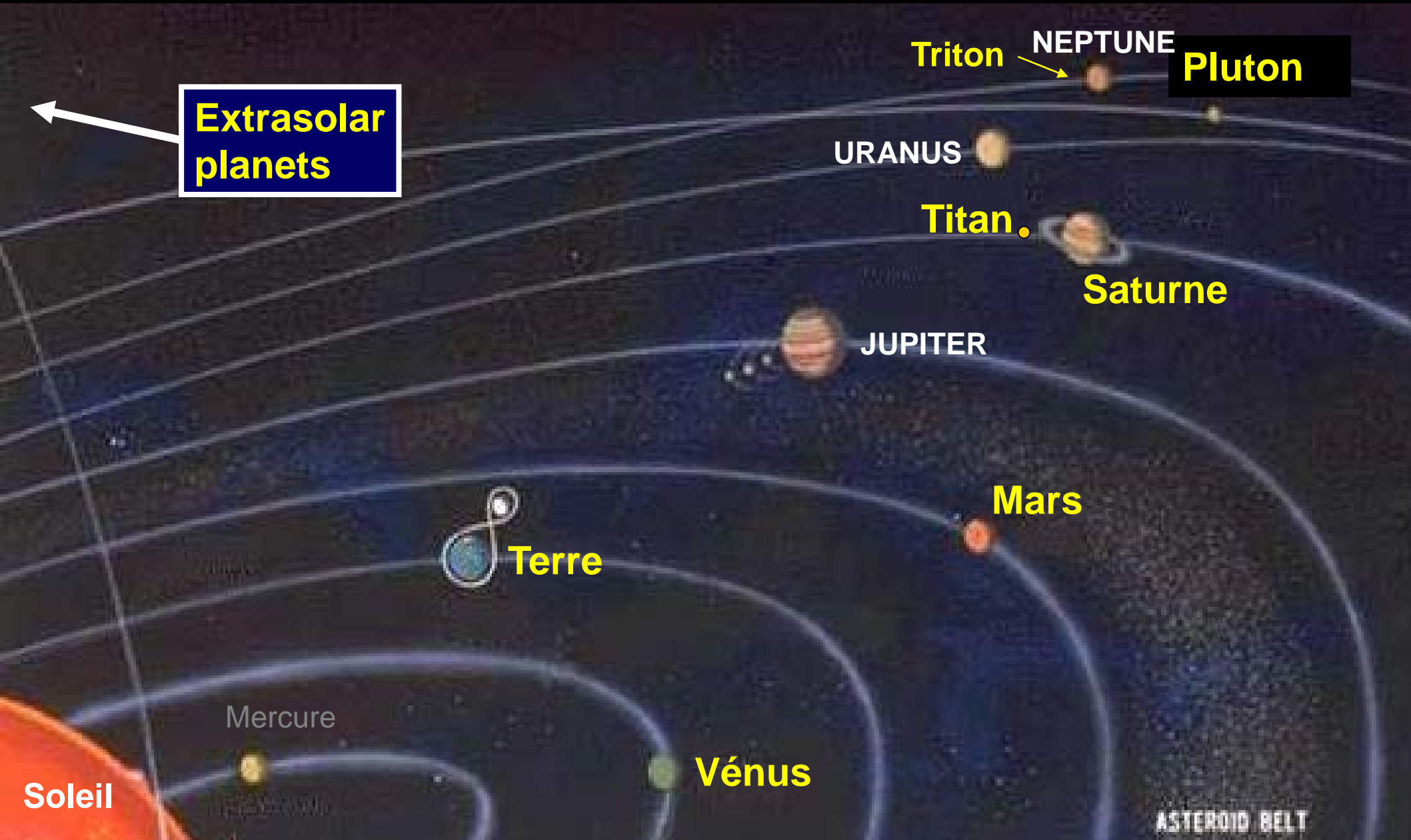
LMD



Meet the LMD team

- **4.5 permanent scientists** 102 « peer-reviewed »
papers between 2007
and mid-2012
 - François Forget (Senior scientist, CNRS)
 - Sébastien Lebonnois (Scientist, CNRS)
 - Ehouarn Millour (Research engineer, CNRS)
 - Aymeric Spiga (Associate Professor, UPMC, recruited 2010)
 - Also: Frédéric Hourdin (Senior scientist, CNRS), Francis Codron (UPMC)
- **6-10 postdoc/PhD/engineer (e.g. right now: 4 + 4 + 1)**
- **Institutions: CNRS, UPMC, ANR, Fondation de France, IPSL, ...**
- **Funding from spatial agencies : CNES (FR) ESA (EU) sometime via contracts with industry (Thales-Alenia Space, Astrium)**
- **Many collaborations**
 - France: LATMOS, LESIA, IAS, LERMA, Obs. Bordeaux, LPN, LPG
 - Europe: Oxford, Open University, Instituto de Astrofisica de Andalucia, INAP
 - USA: NASA Ames, GFDL, Brown Univ., Lawrence Livermore, Univ. of Texas
 - In Japan: CPS with Yoshiyuki Takahashi, to be continued!

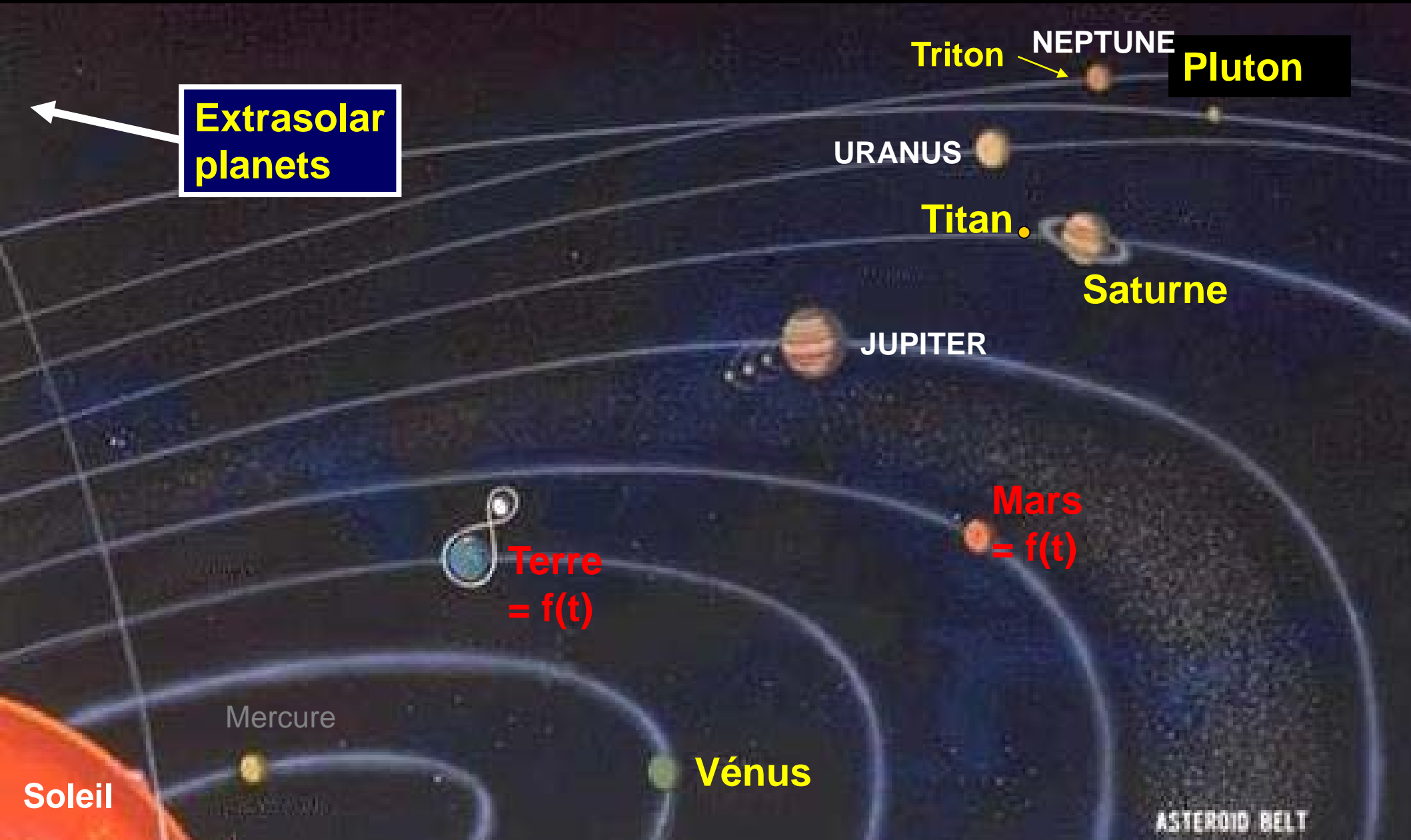
A journey in the Solar System... and beyond



太陽系で...そして向こう旅



A journey in the Solar System... and beyond



Extrasolar
planets

Triton

NEPTUNE

Pluton

URANUS

Titan.

Saturne

JUPITER

Mars
= f(t)

Terre
= f(t)

Mercure

Vénus

Soleil

ASTEROID BELT

How GCMs work ? :

1) 3D “Hydrodynamical core”

⇒ *to compute large scale atmospheric motions and transport*

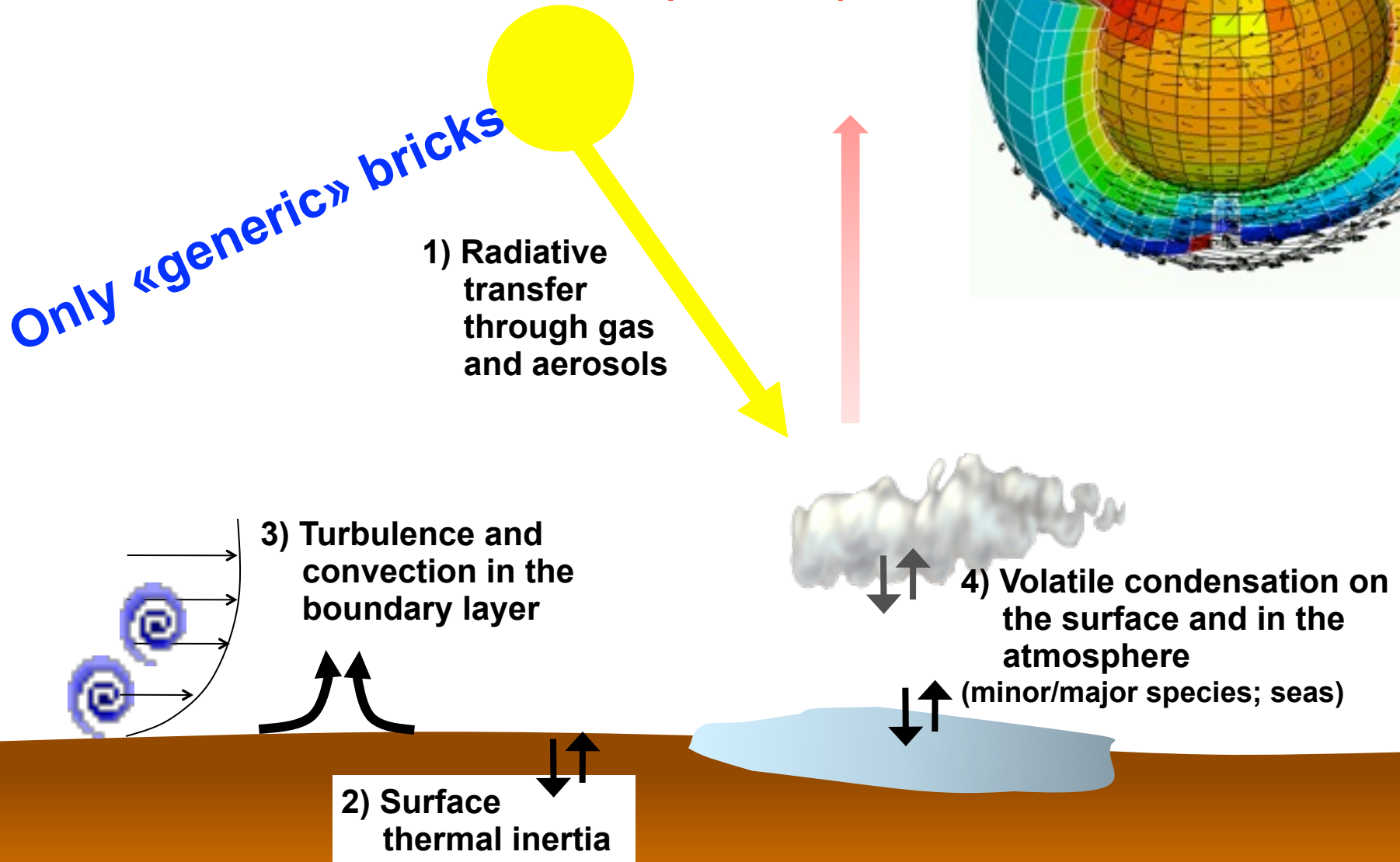
2) At every grid point : Several physical parameterizations

⇒ *to force the dynamic*

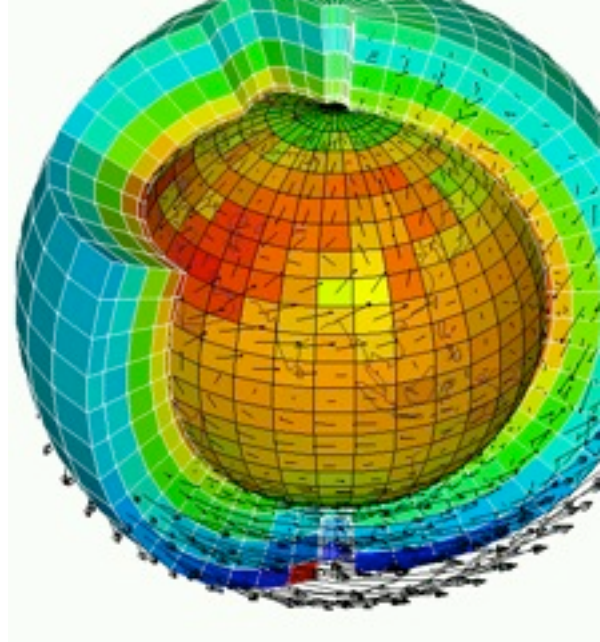
⇒ *to compute the details of the local climate*



Toward a “generic” Global climate model (LMD)



Toward a “generic” Global climate model (LMD)



1) Use parametrisations “universal” for all planets:

- **Standard dynamical core** (grid point)
- Surface and subsurface thermal model
- “Universal” Turbulent boundary layer scheme

2) The key : Versatile, fast and accurate radiative transfer code (see next slide)

3) Simple, Robust, physically based parametrisation of volatile phase change processes

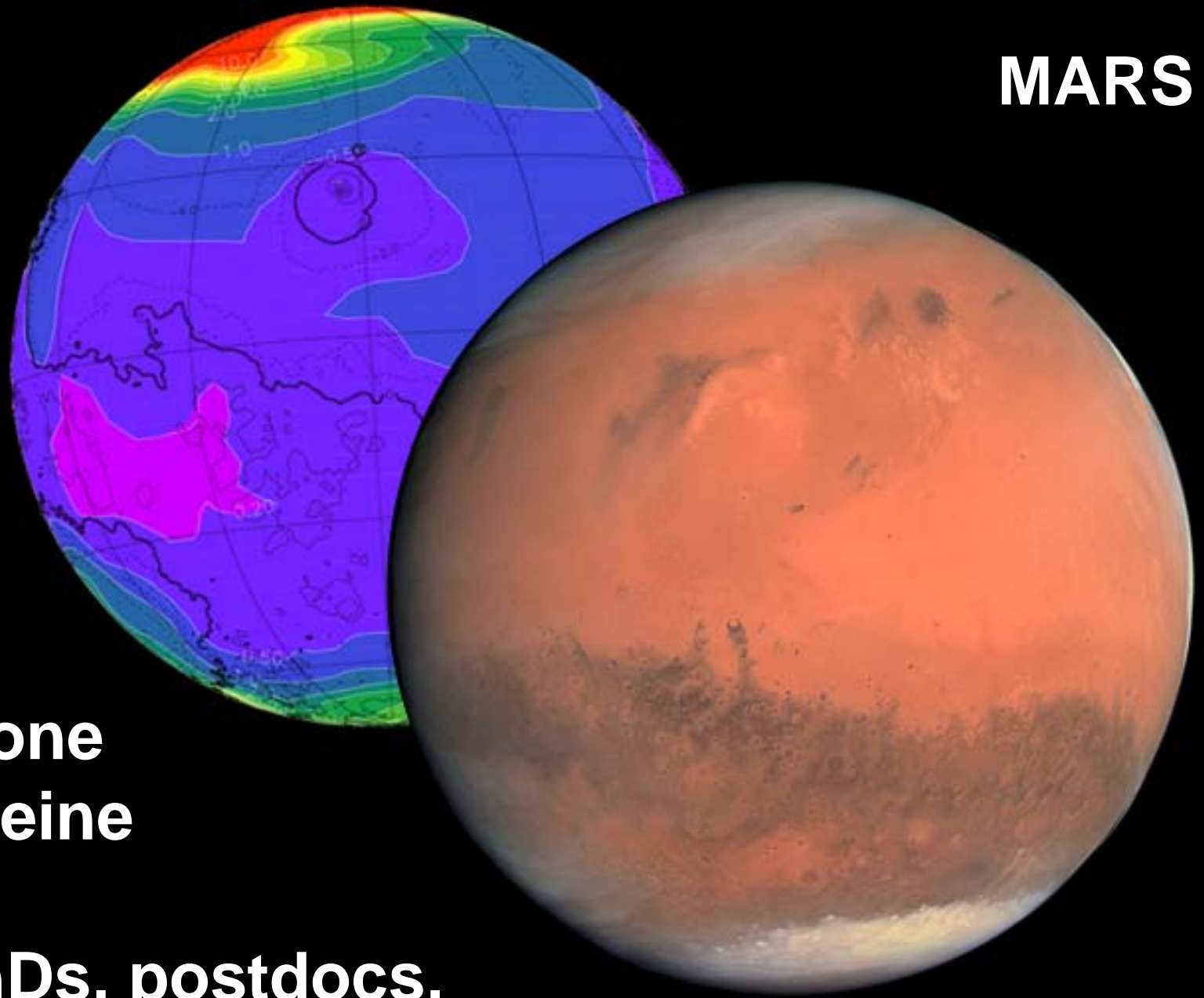
- Including robust deep convection representation : wet convection
- Clouds are represented by splitting condensed phase on a prescribed number of Cloud Condensation Nuclei (radii \Rightarrow scattering/sedimentation)
- Precipitation above a threshold mixing ratio.

4) If needed: simplified physical “slab ocean + sea ice” scheme.

Developing a Versatile, fast and accurate radiative transfer code for GCM

- **Input : assumption on the atmosphere:**
 - Any mixture of well mixed gases (ex: CO₂ + N₂ + CH₄ + SO₂)
 - Add 1 variable gases (H₂O). Possibly 2 or 3 (e.g. Titan)
 - Refractive Indexes of aerosols.
- **Semi automatic processes:** Spectroscopic database (Hitran 2008) ⇒ Line by line spectra (k-spectrum model) ⇒ correlated k coefficients ⇒ radiative transfer model
- RT Model can also simulate **scattering by several kind of aerosols** (size and amount can vary in space and time)
- **Key technical problems:**
 - Gas spectroscopy in extreme cases
 - Predicting aerosol and cloud properties
- **Key scientific problem** : assumptions on the atmosphere!

MARS



F. Forget

E. Millour

A. Spiga

L. Montabone

J.B. Madeleine

**+ many PhDs, postdocs,
collaborators, ...**

Mars climate now : atmospheric circulation, dust , CO2 (and some water)

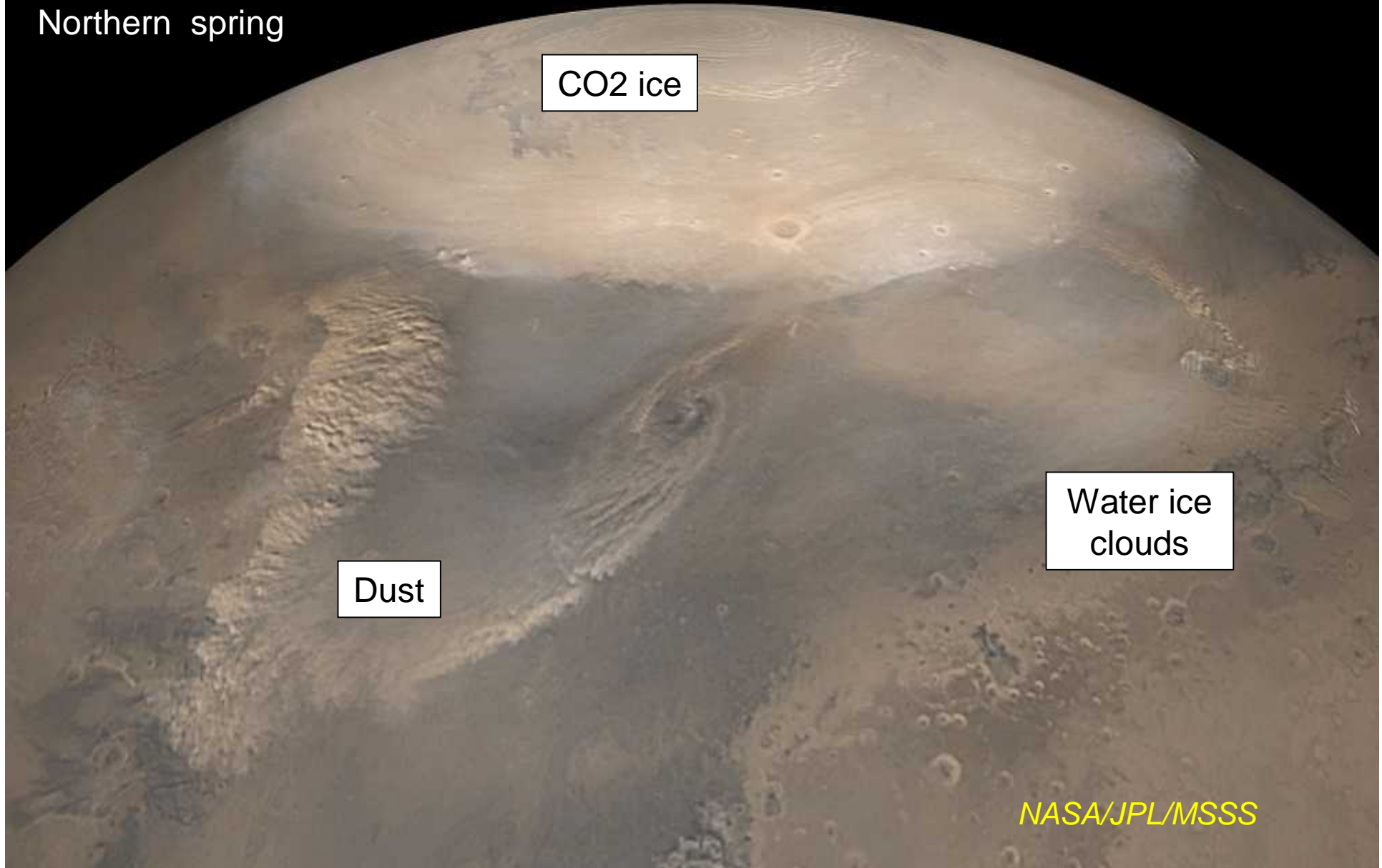
Northern spring

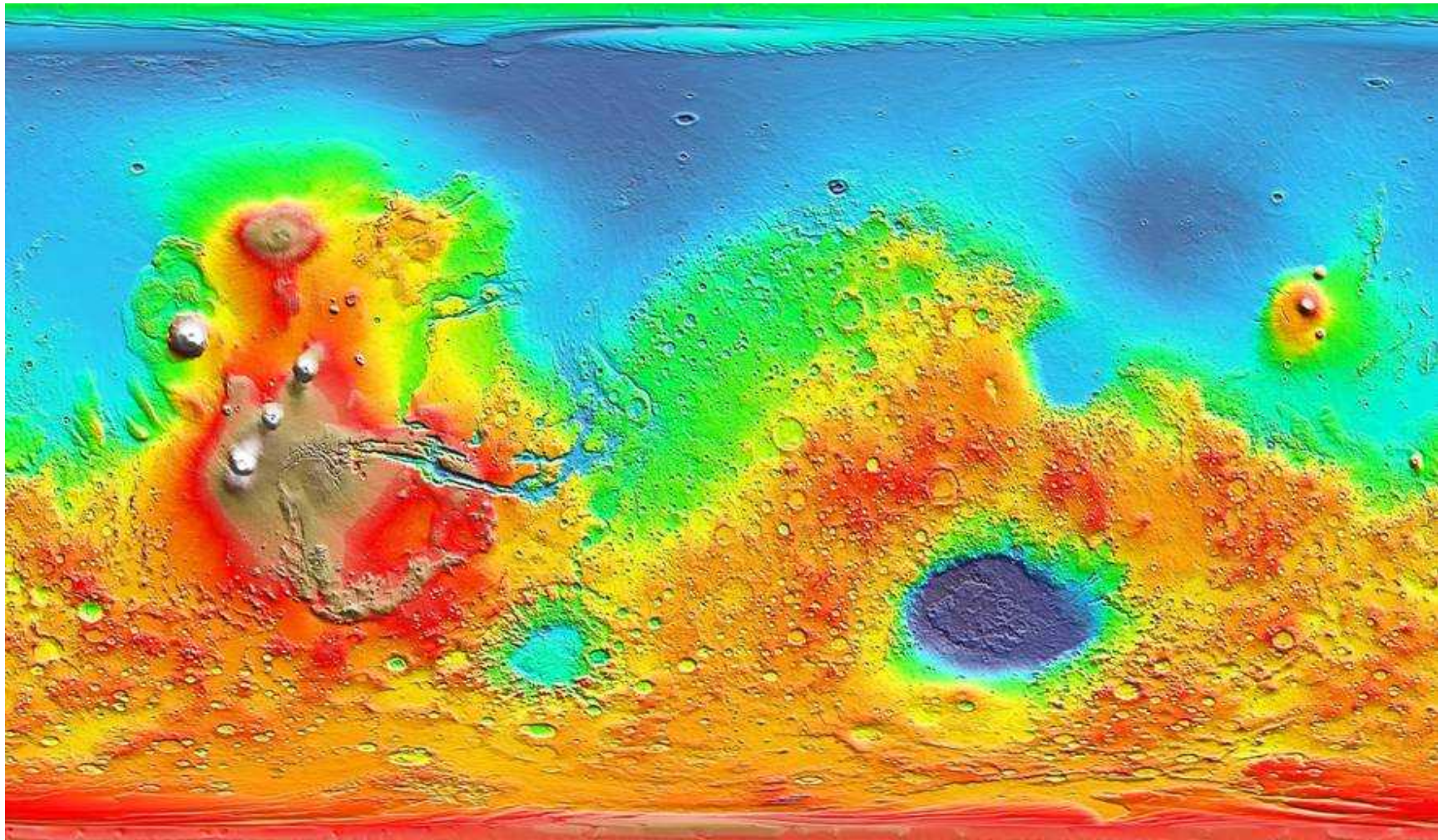
CO2 ice

Dust

Water ice clouds

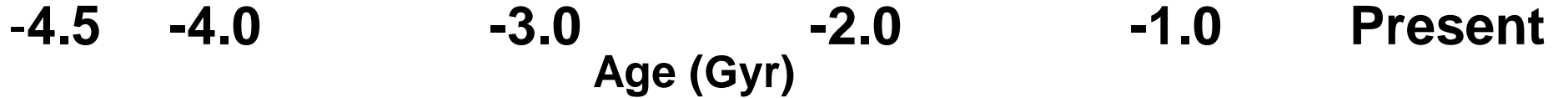
NASA/JPL/MSSS



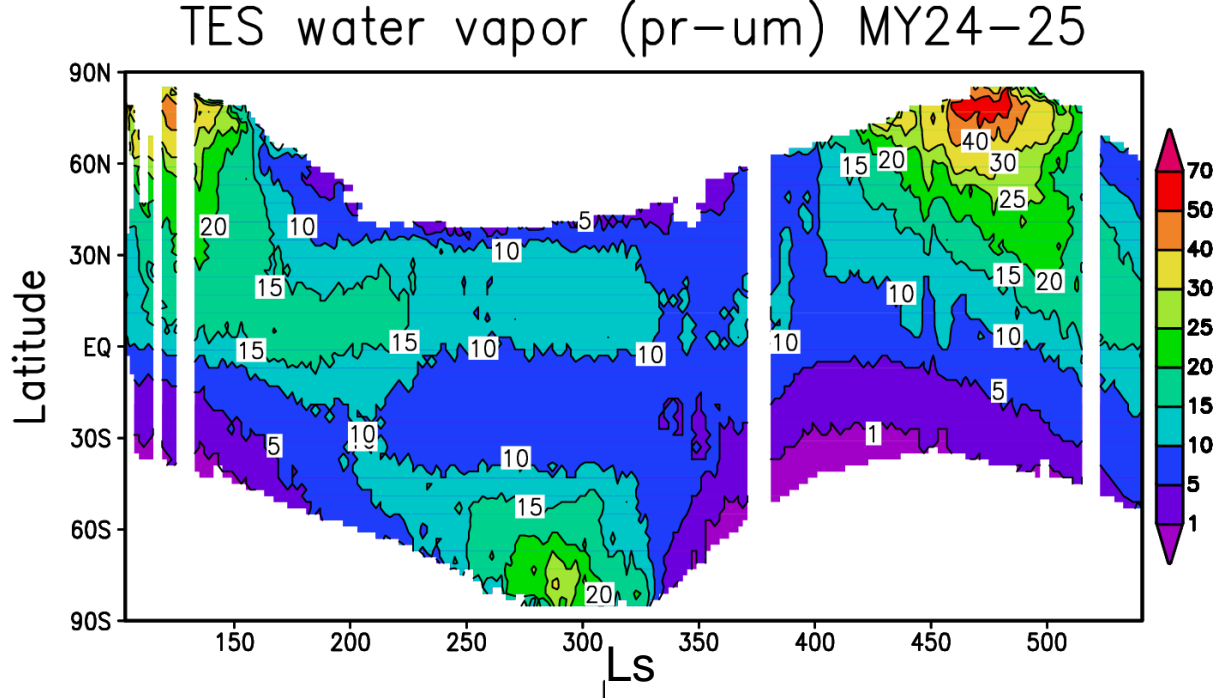


Ancient terrains
Lake, rivers ??

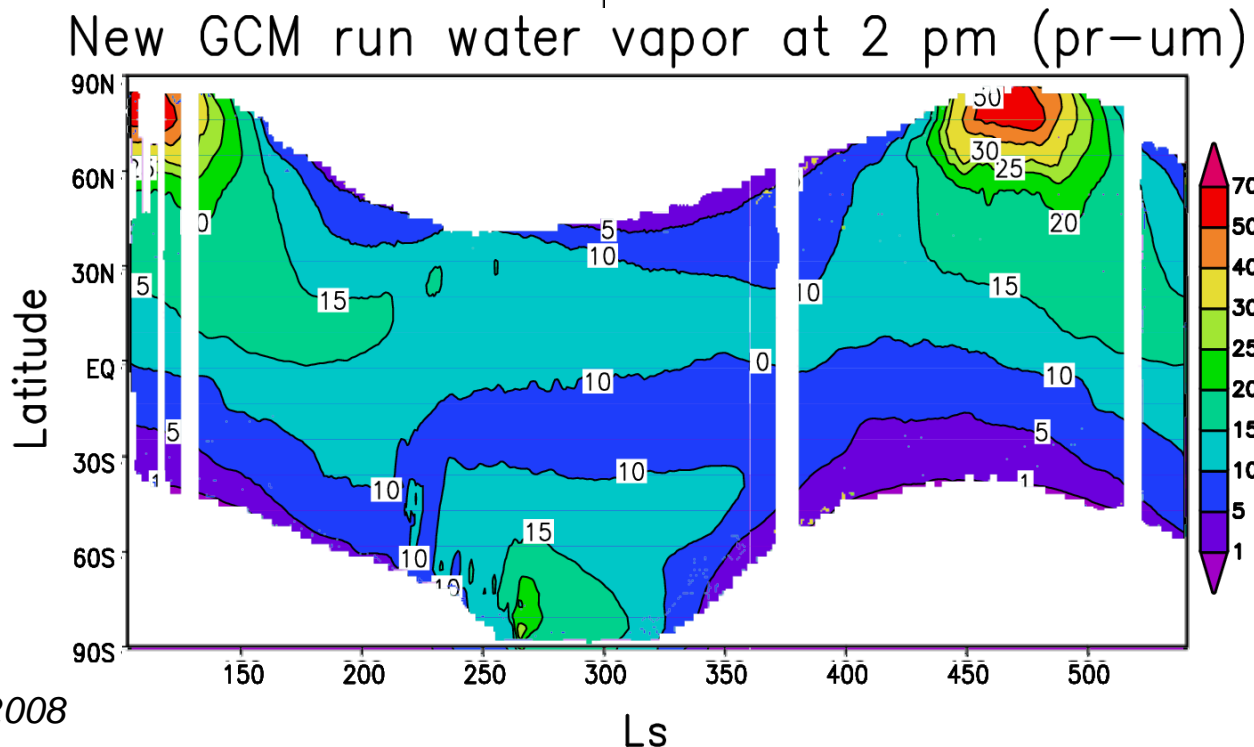
AMAZONIAN : ice caps, glaciers, gullies...



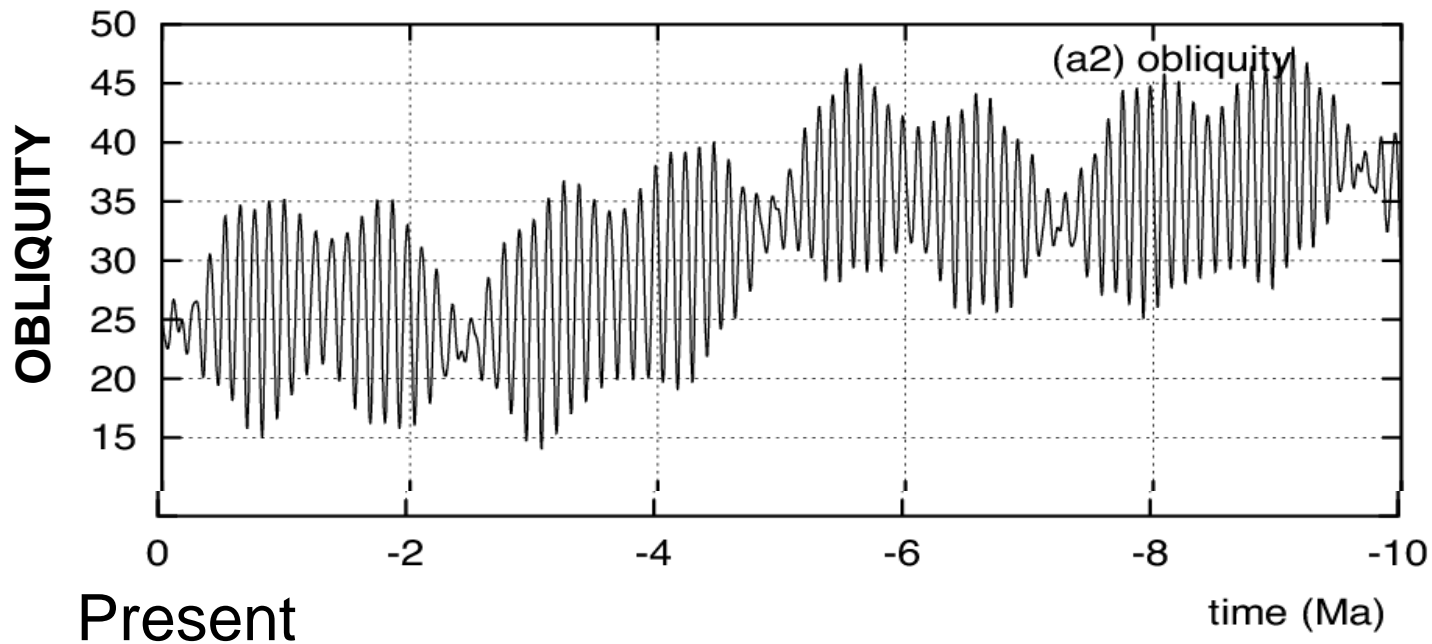
**SEASONAL
WATER CYCLE
OBSERVATIONS**
(MGS TES)



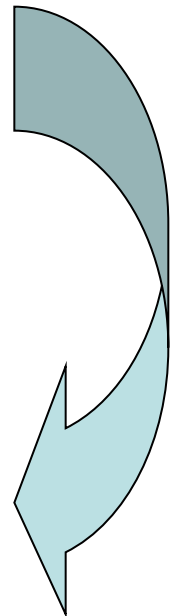
MODEL
(LMD GCM)



Climate variation in the recent past: orbit and obliquity variations

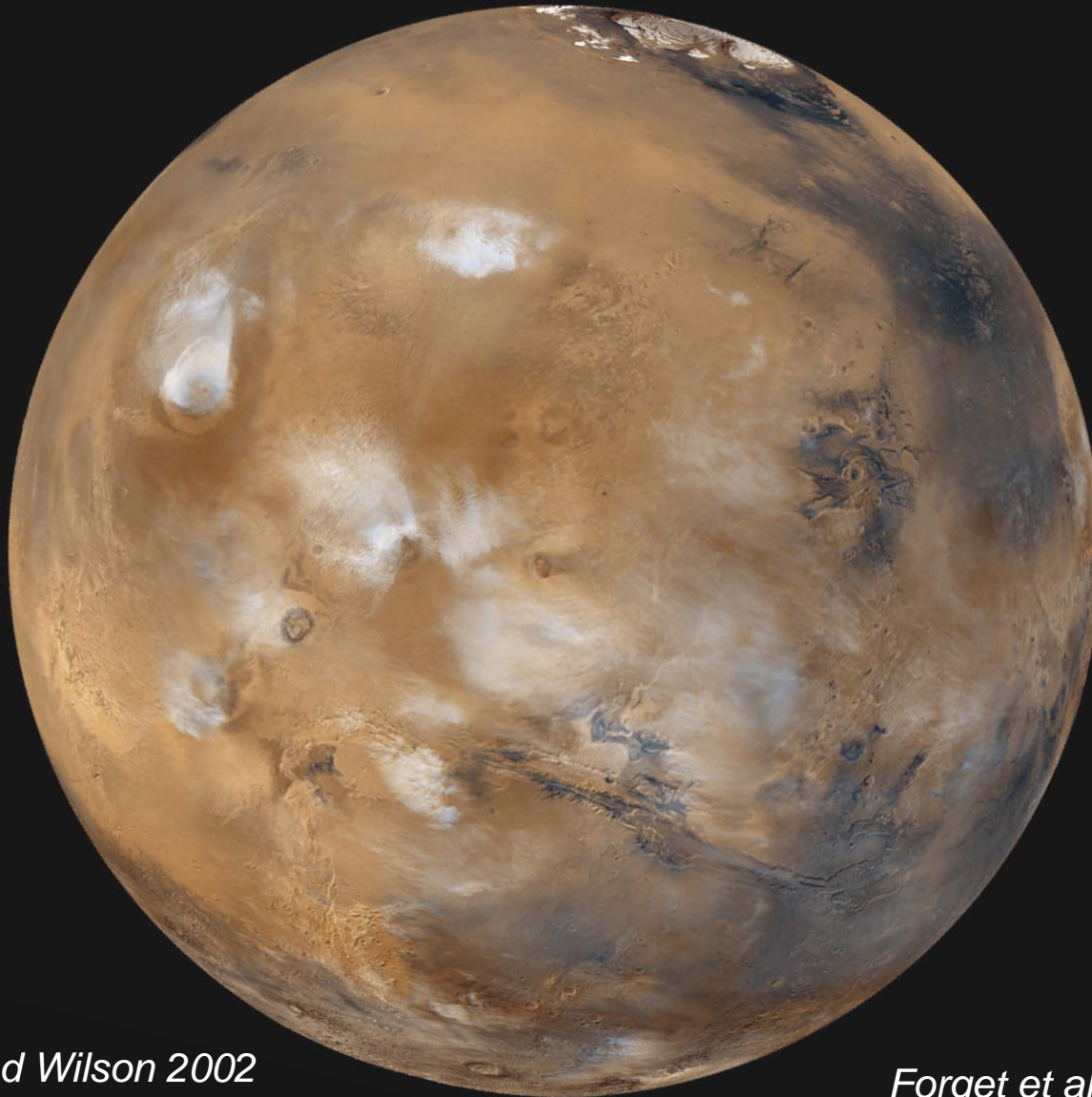


During Mars History, most likely
obliquity: 41.8° (Laskar et al. 2004)



Mars water cycle at high obliquity

Solar flux

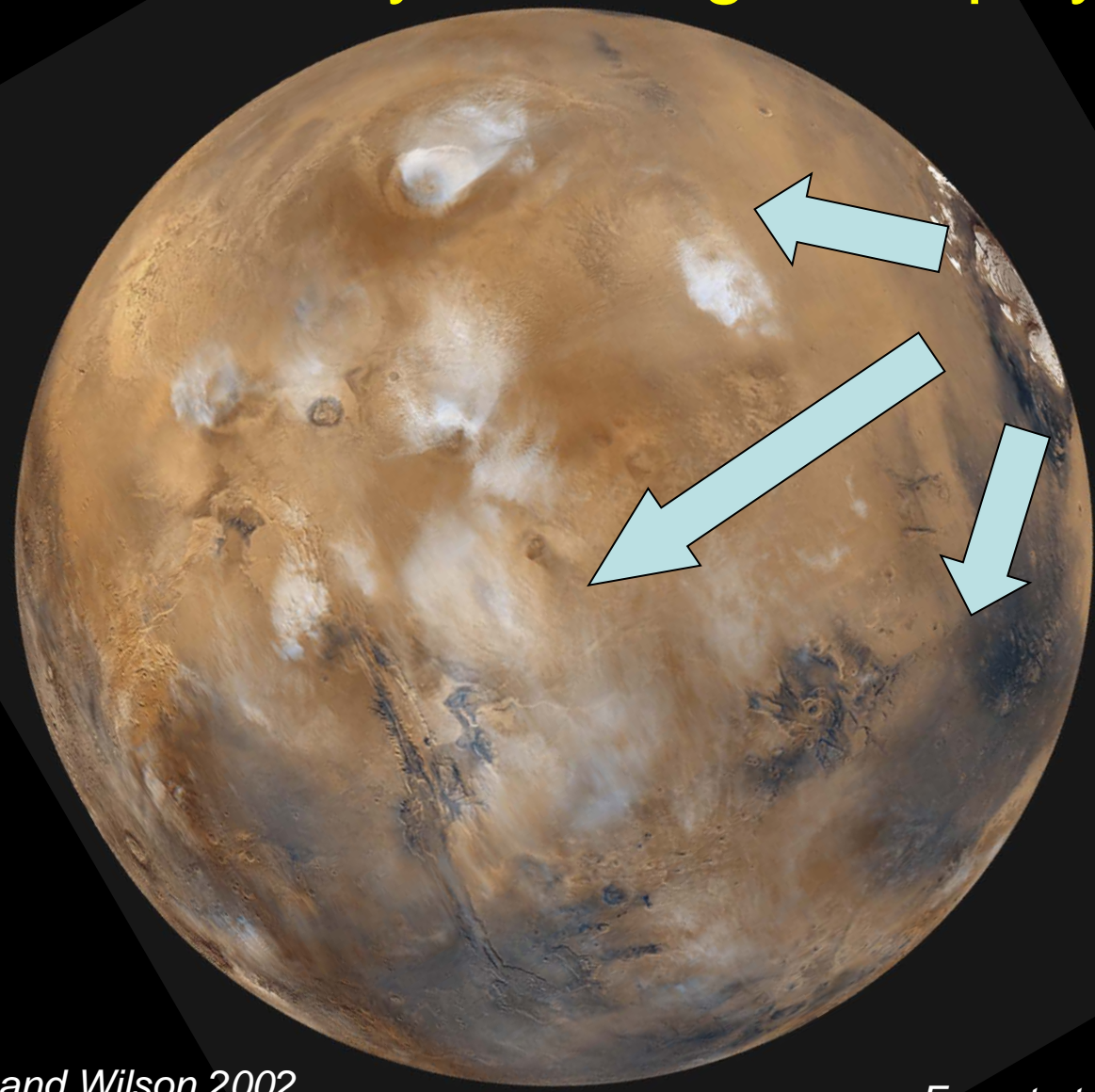


Richardson and Wilson 2002
Mischna et al. 2003
Levrard et al., 2004
Mischna and Richardson 2005

Forget et al., 2006
Madeleine et al., 2009
Levrard et al. 2007

Mars water cycle at high obliquity

Solar flux



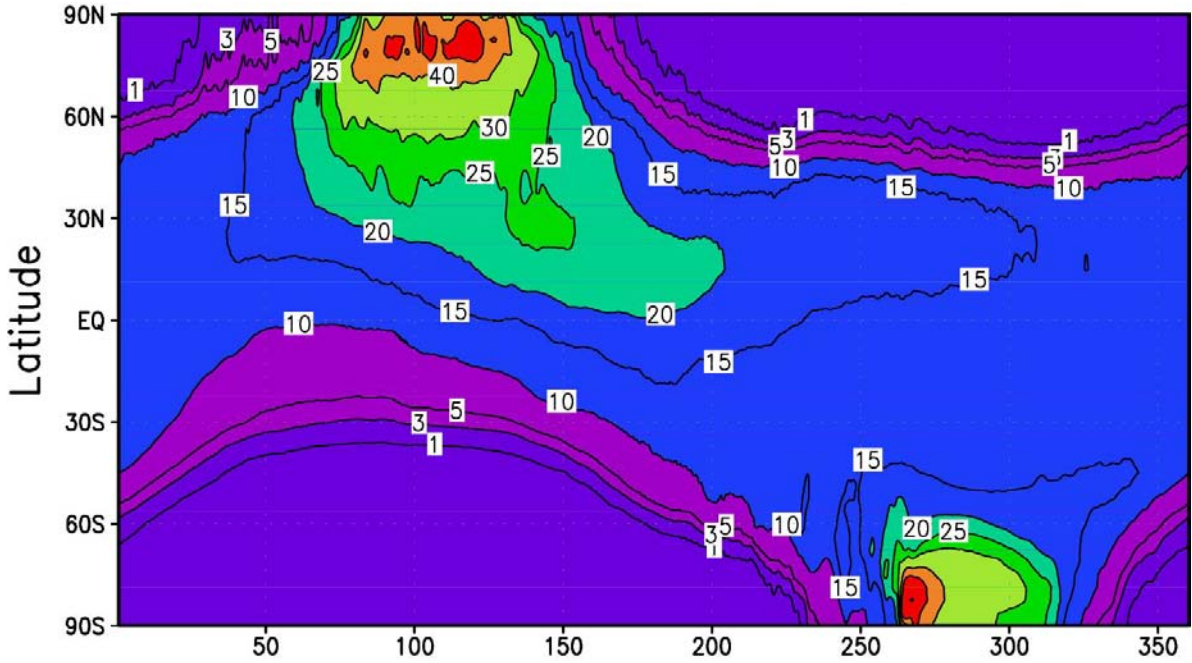
Richardson and Wilson 2002
Mischna et al. 2003
Levrard et al., 2004
Mischna and Richardson 2005

Forget et al., 2006
Madeleine et al., 2009
Levrard et al. 2007

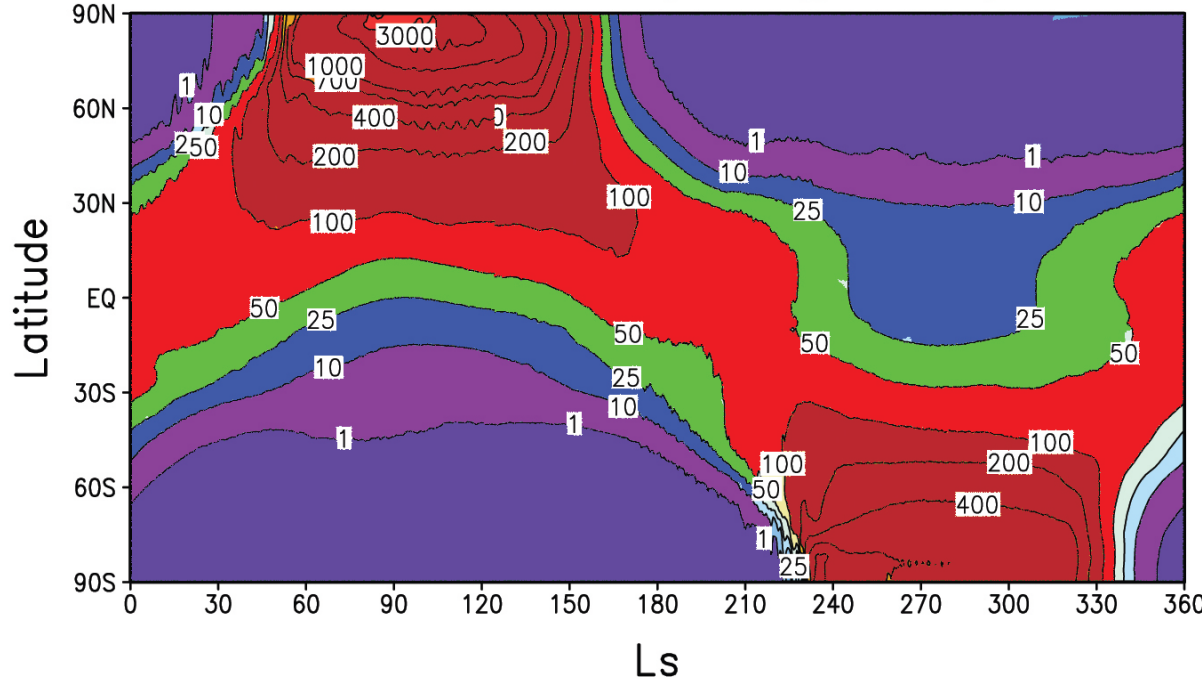
LMD GCM Simulations:

Water vapor column
(*precipitable –microns*)

On present-day Mars :



**Same, but 45° Obliquity
(Circular orbit)**

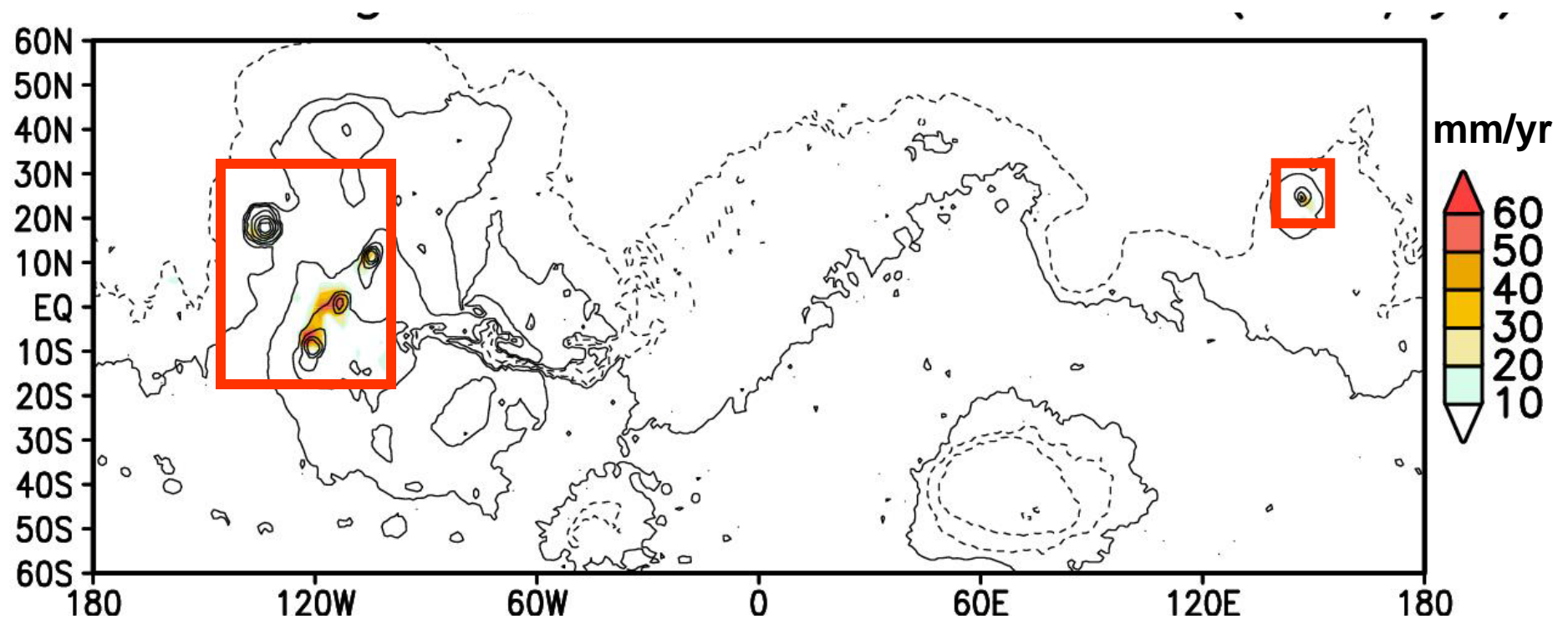


Ice accumulation rate (mm/yr)

high resolution simulation ($2^\circ \times 2^\circ$)

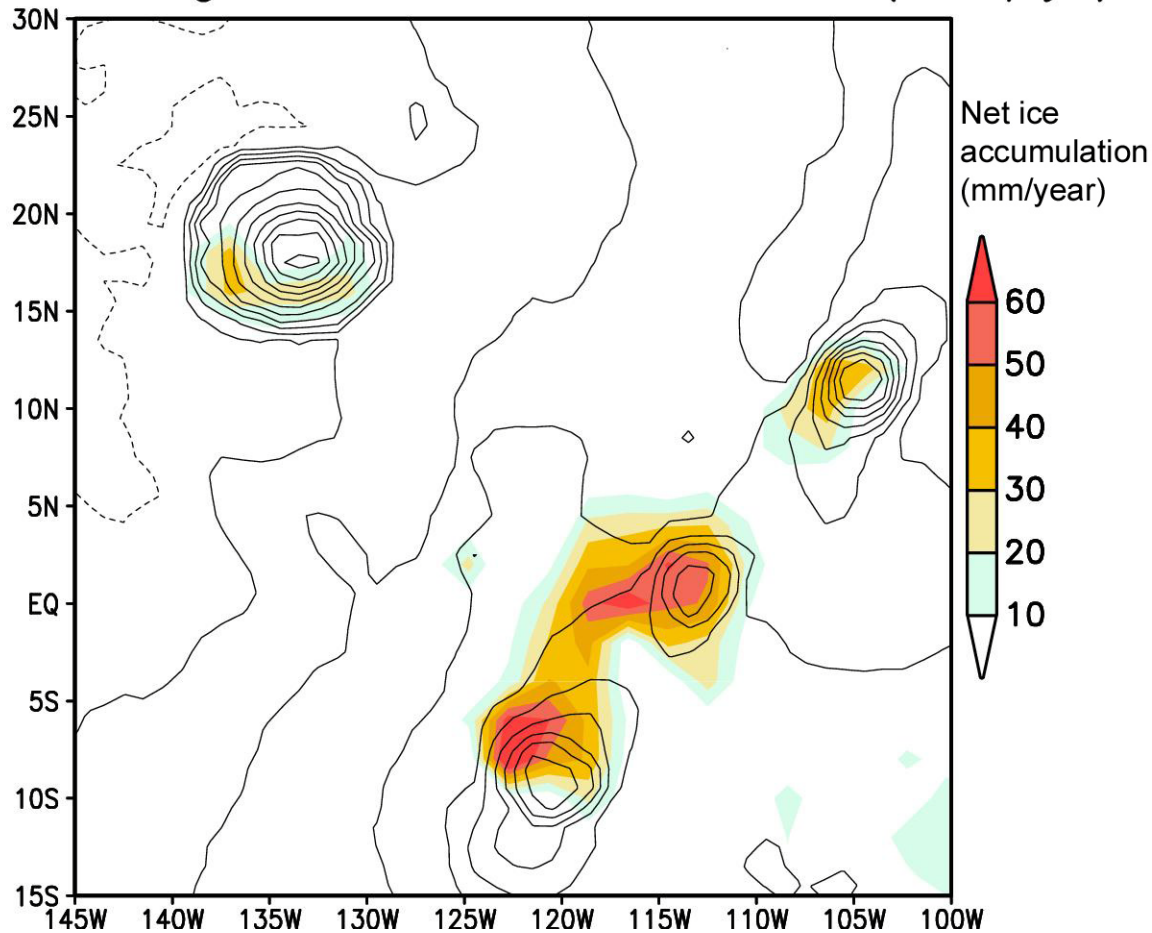
Obliquity = 45° , Excentricity = 0 , Dust Opacity = 0.2

Forget et al. Science 311, p368, 2006



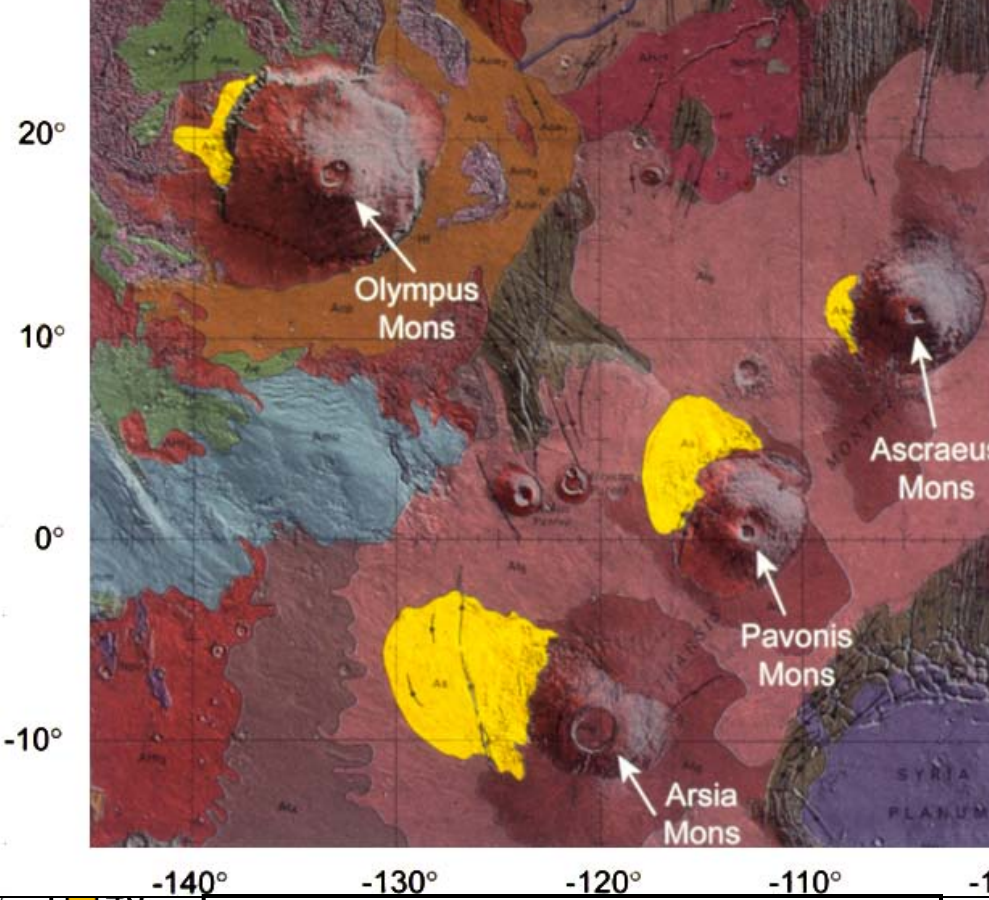
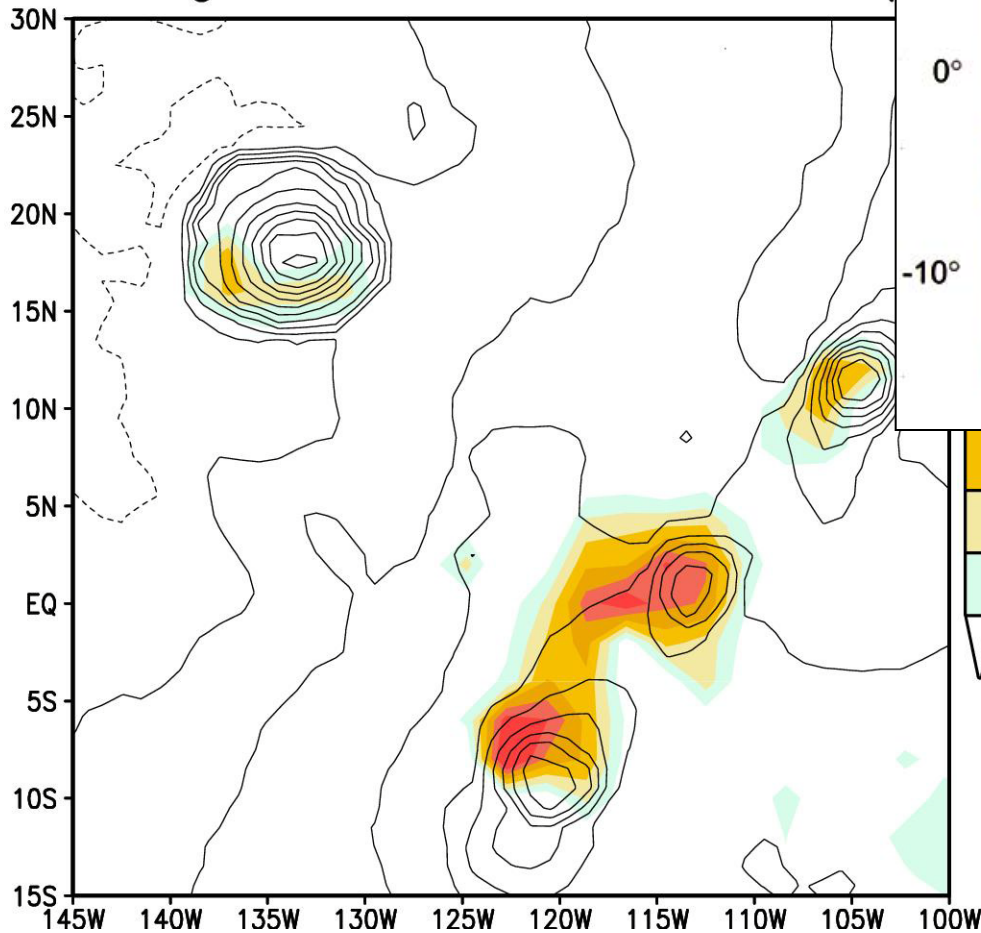
The formation of glacier : Ice accumulation rate (mm/yr) in a new very high resolution simulation

Forget et al. 2006: Obliquity = 45° , Excentricity = 0, Dust Opacity = 0.2



The format accumulation very high re

Forget et al. 2006: Obliquity = 45



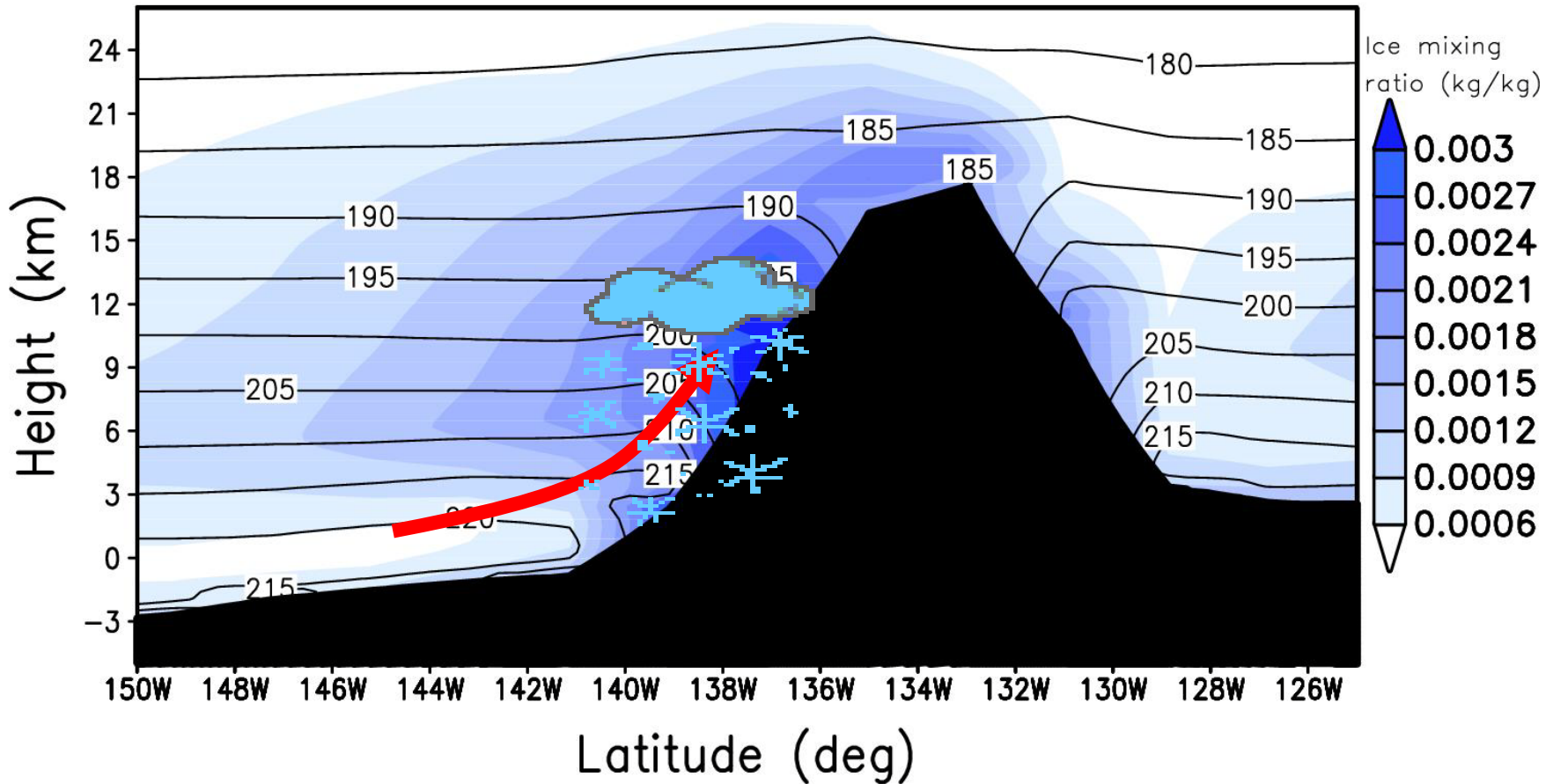
- Fan shaped deposits, drop moraines characteristic of cold based glaciers.

- Rock glaciers

Lucchitta 1981, Head et al. 2003, Shean et al. 2005, 2007, Head et al. 2005, Kadish et al. 2008, Schon and Head 2012

At high obliquity: Ice accumulation by ice precipitation on windward slope

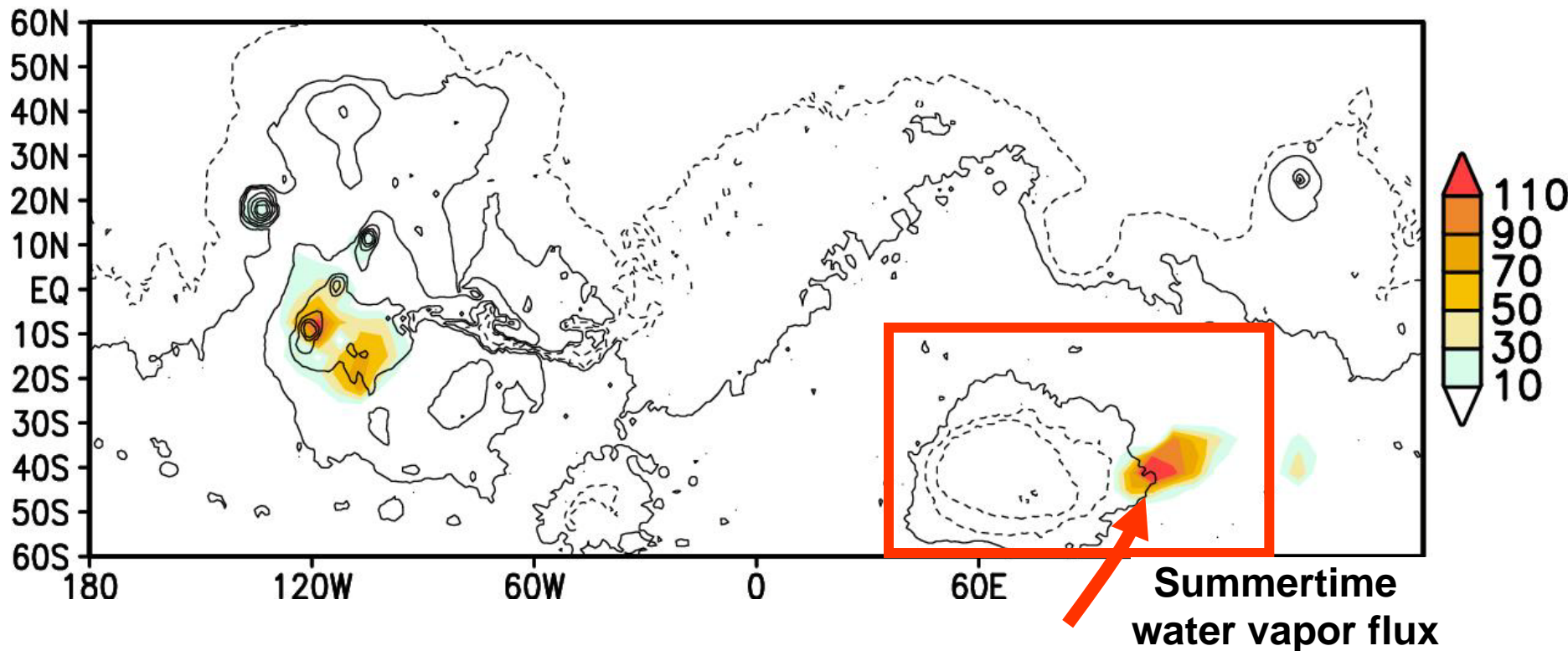
T(K) and cloud ice at 16N Ls=125–155

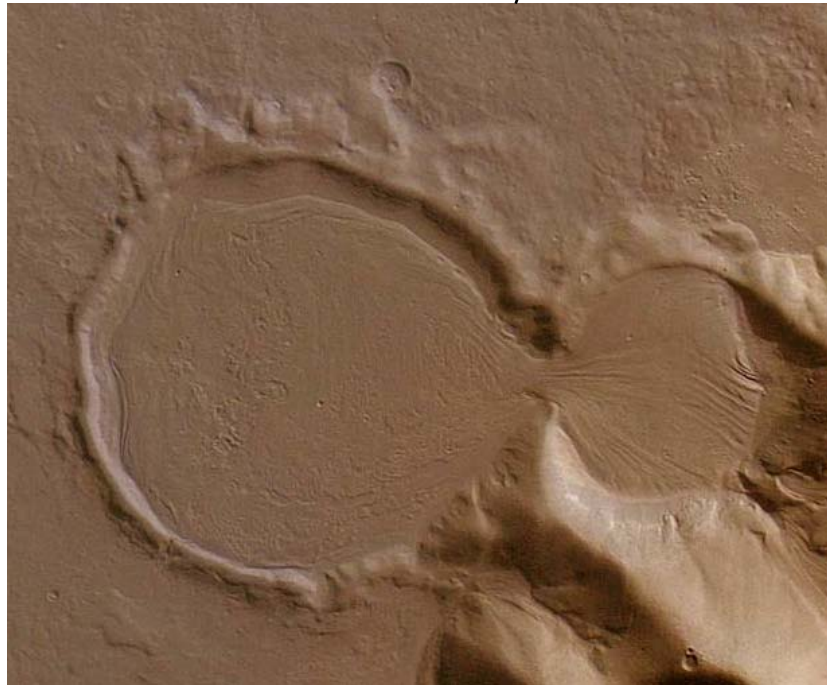
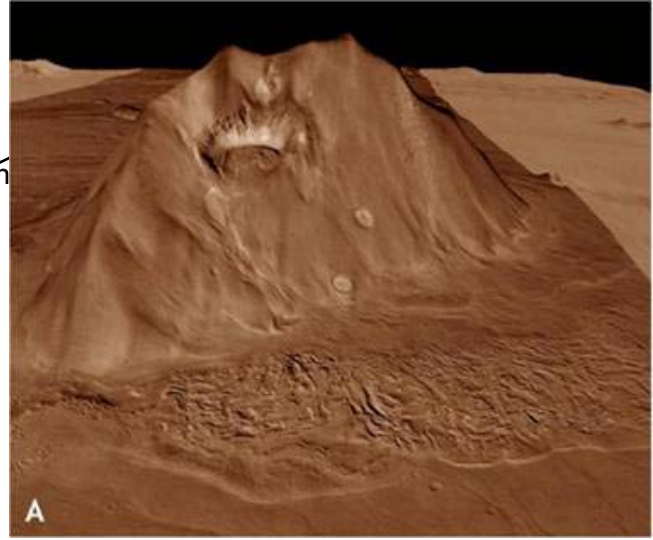
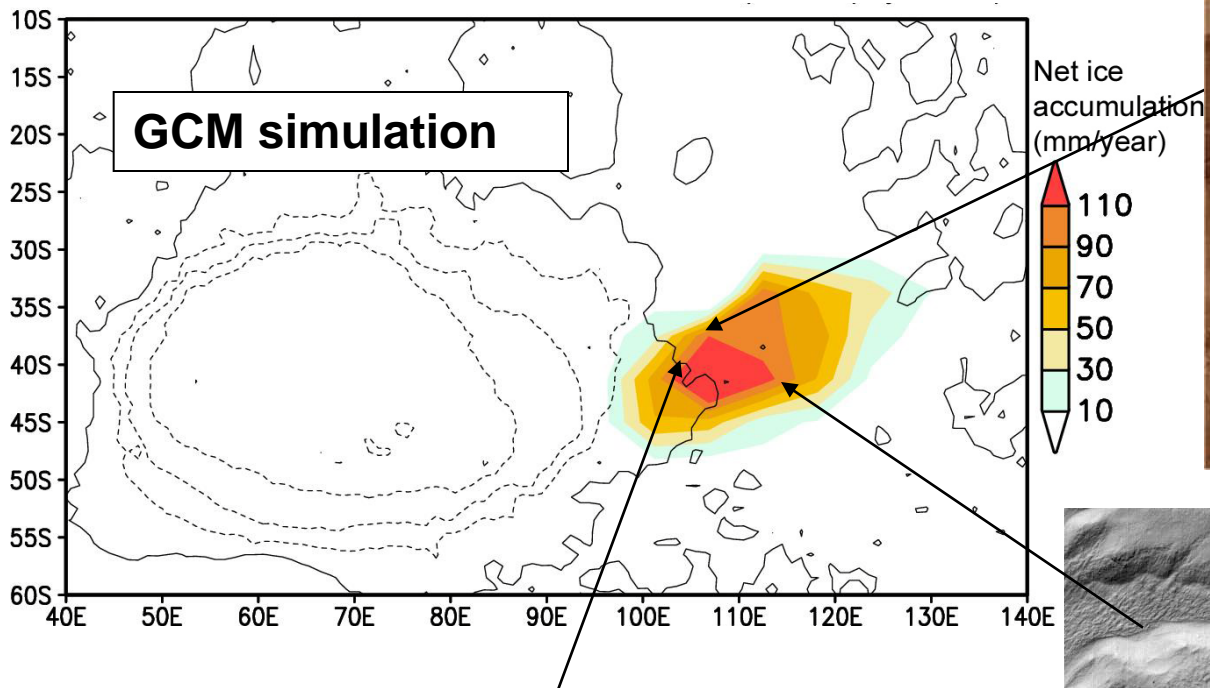


High Obliquity Simulation with a water ice cap at the south pole

(Forget et al. 2005)

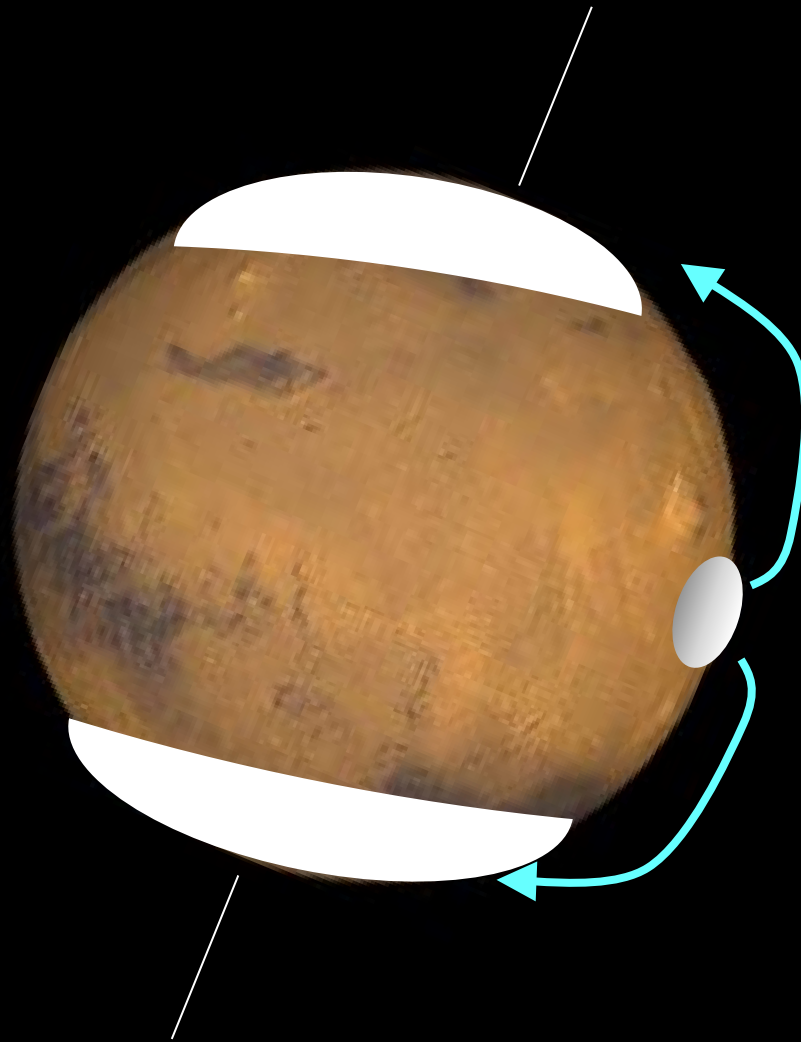
Yearly accumulation rate (mm/year) (10th year simulation)





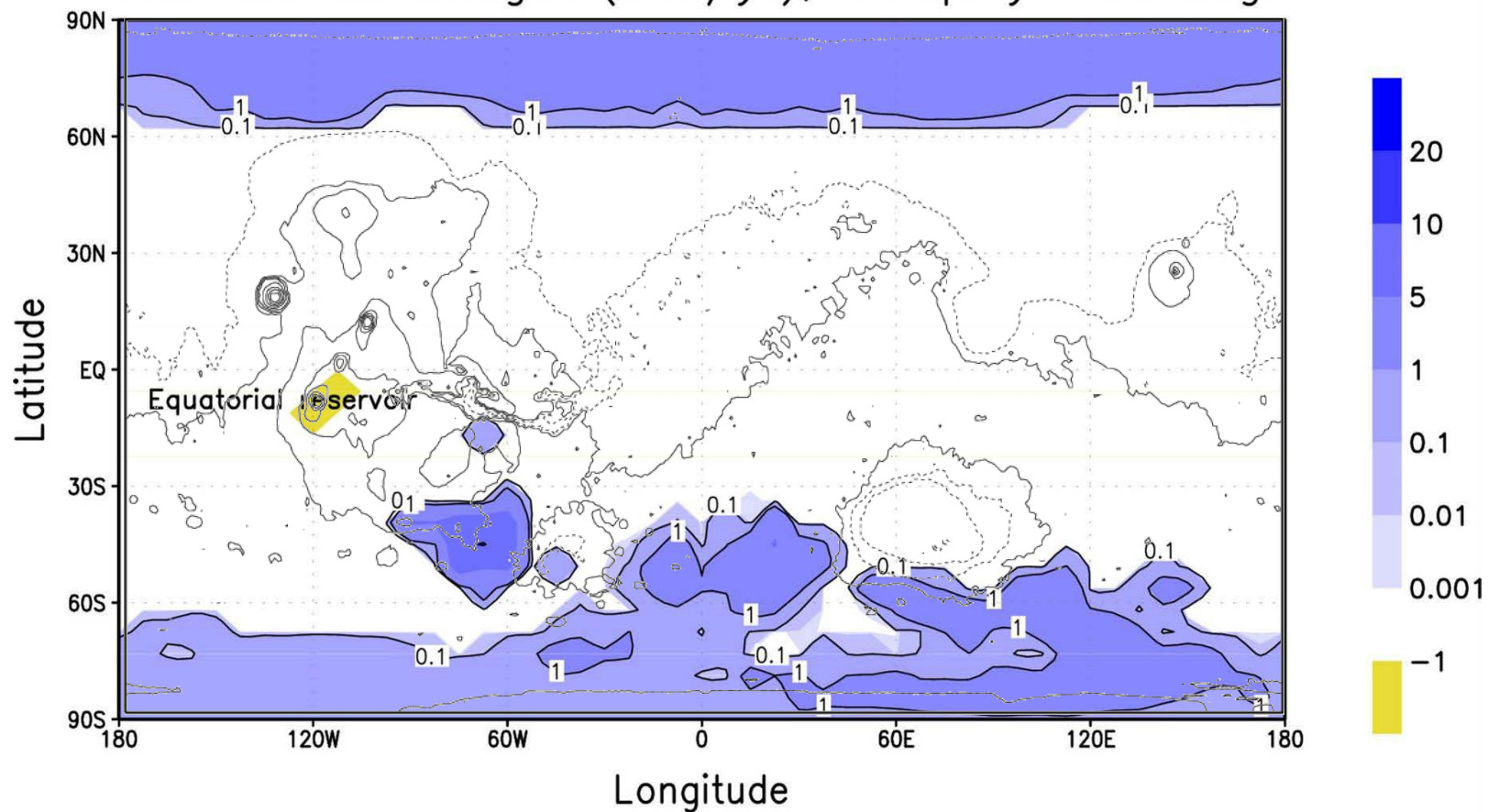
Head et al.
Hartmann et al.
Crown et al.
Etc...

Back from high obliquity to low obliquity

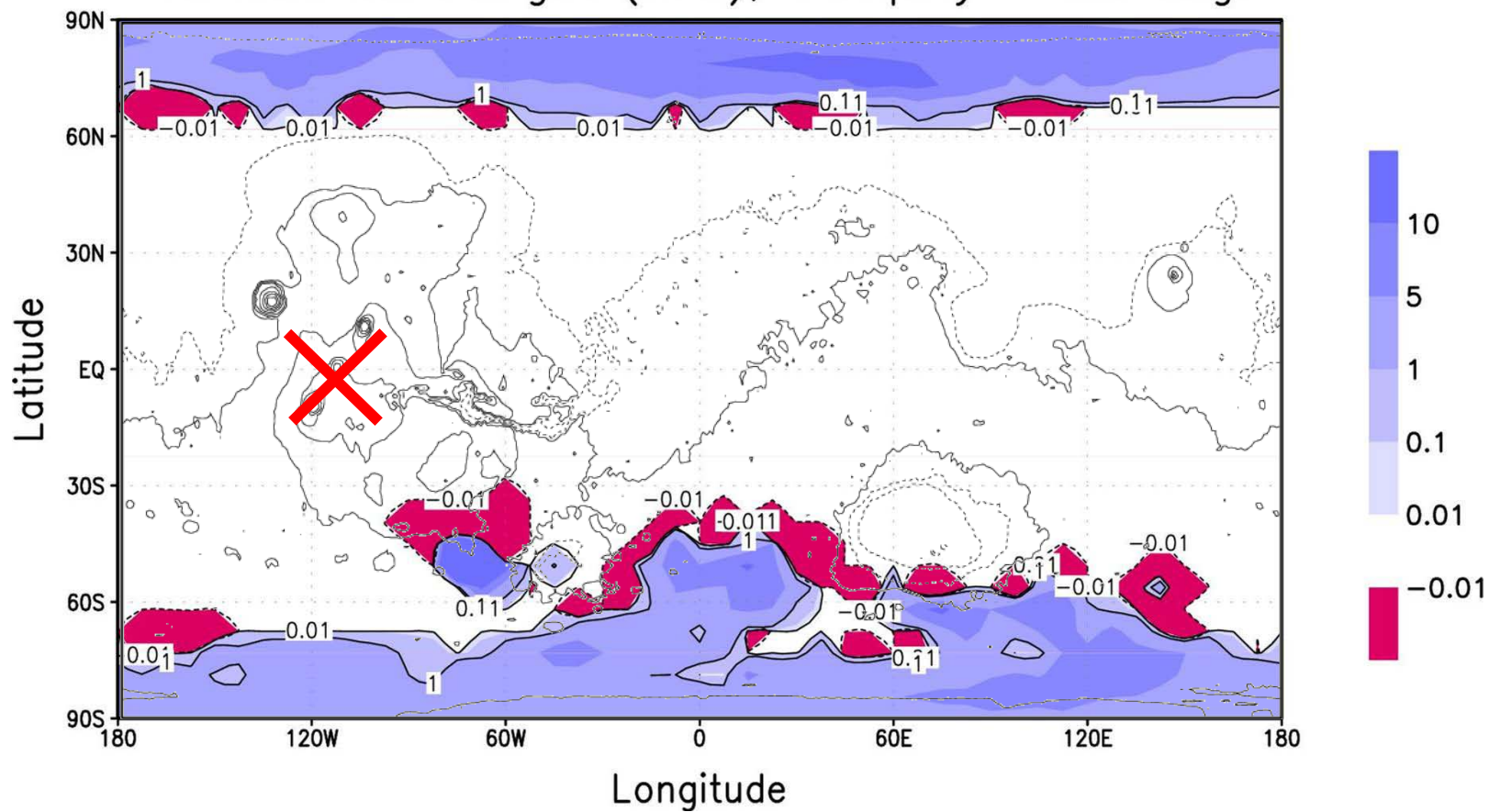


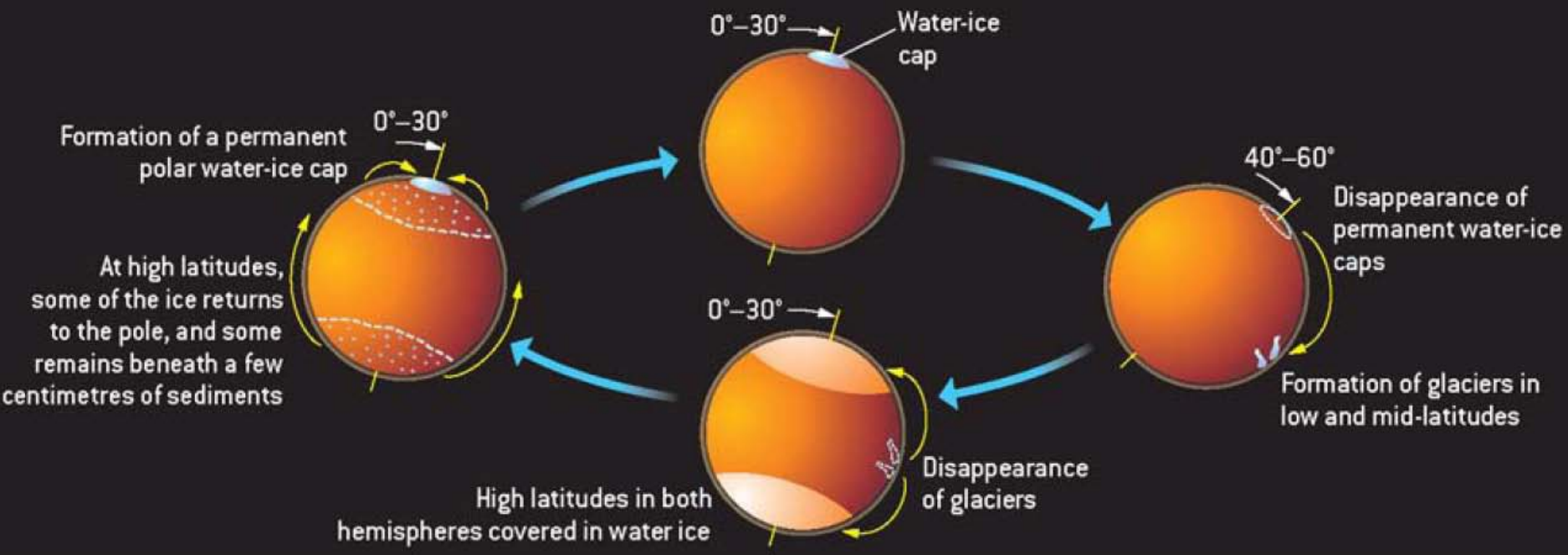
Levrard et al. (2004)

Surface ice budget (mm/yr); Obliquity= 20 deg.



Surface ice budget (mm); Obliquity = 20 deg.





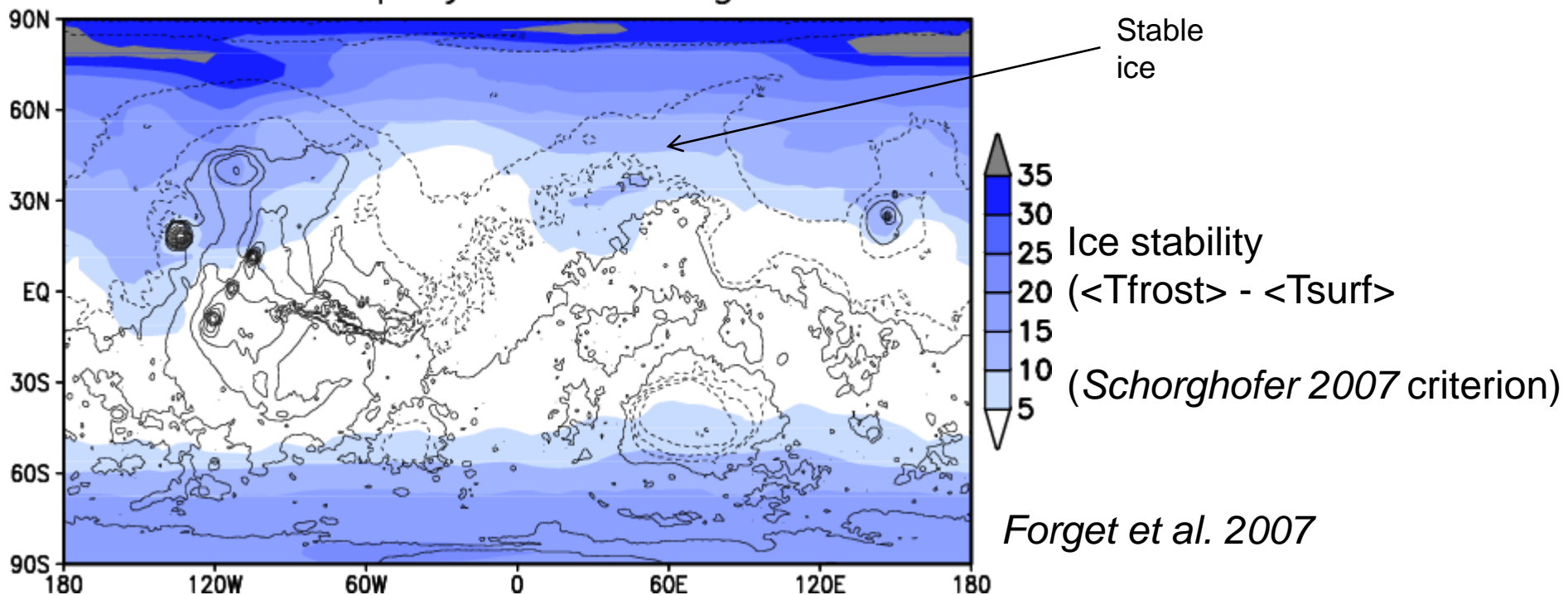
Impact of obliquity on SUBSURFACE ice stability

Obliquity increases :

⇒ More water vapor : ice more stable

⇒ Mean temperature and **summer** temperature increase :
ice less stable

Obliquity = 55 deg



Early Mars Climate

**François Forget, Robin Wordsworth,
Ehouarn Millour, Jean-Baptiste
Madeleine, Benjamin Charnay,
Vincent Eymet and Bob Haberle**



More and more observations suggesting that « early Mars » was different, with flowing liquid water, possibly precipitation:

Only in ancient terrains:

- **Valley networks**
- **High Erosion rate in very ancient terrains**
- **Layers, « Lacustrine » deposits, deltas**
- **Mineralogy related to water alteration :**
- **Clays** (*detected by Mars Express Omega*): *in very ancient terrains*
- **Sulfate** (*detected by Omega & MER*): *less ancient terrains*
- **Hematite** (*detected by MGS TES*)
- **Silica (Opal)** (*Spirit*)

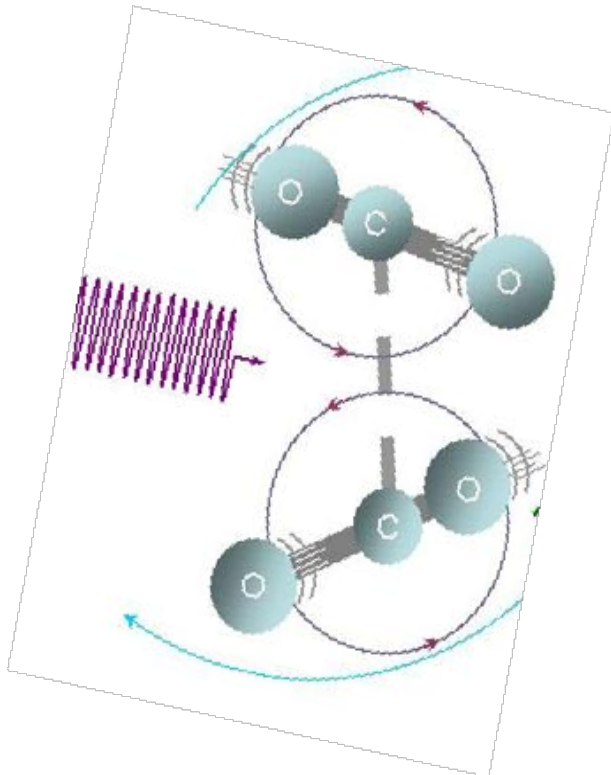
Early Mars: a completely different world!

CO₂-CO₂ collision-induced absorption was overestimated

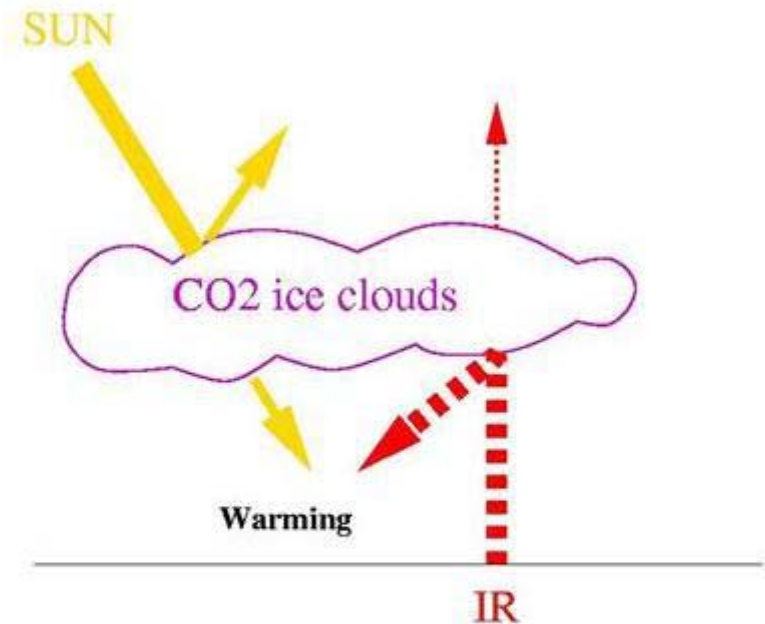
New parametrisation

⇒ Reduced CO₂ greenhouse effect !

(*Wordsworth et al. Icarus 2010*)



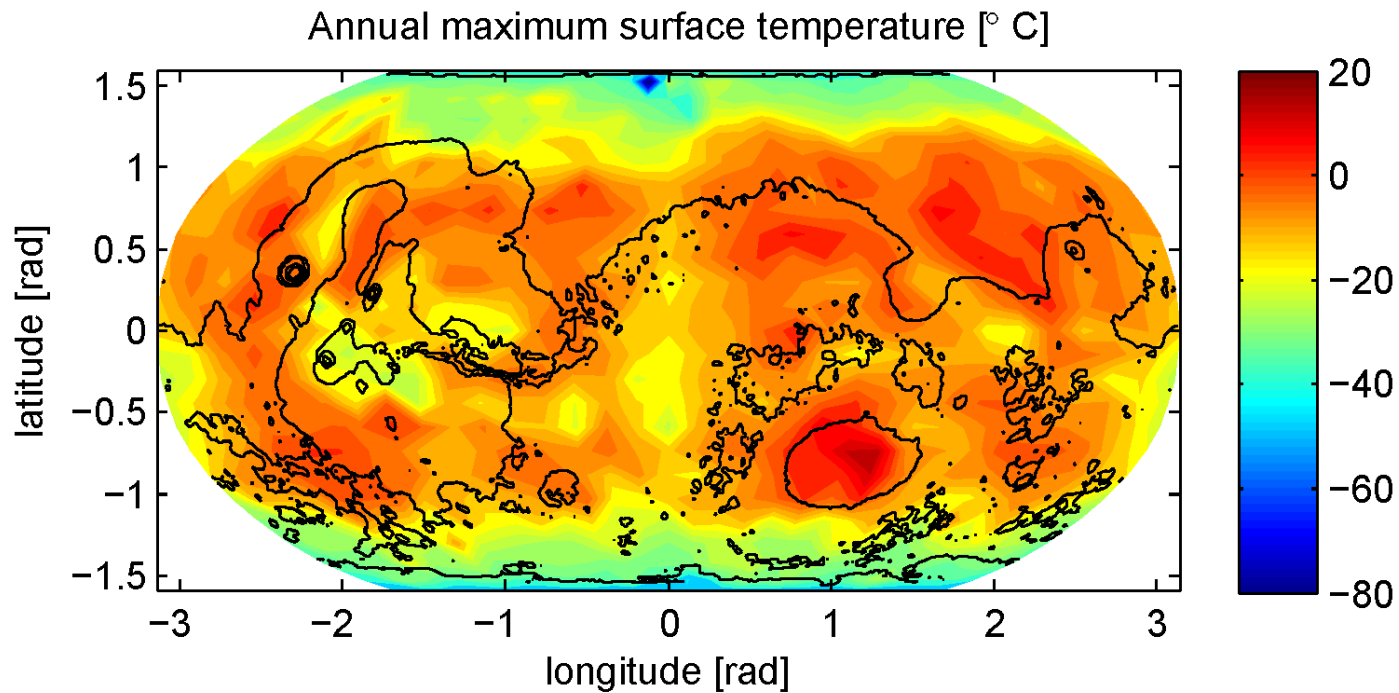
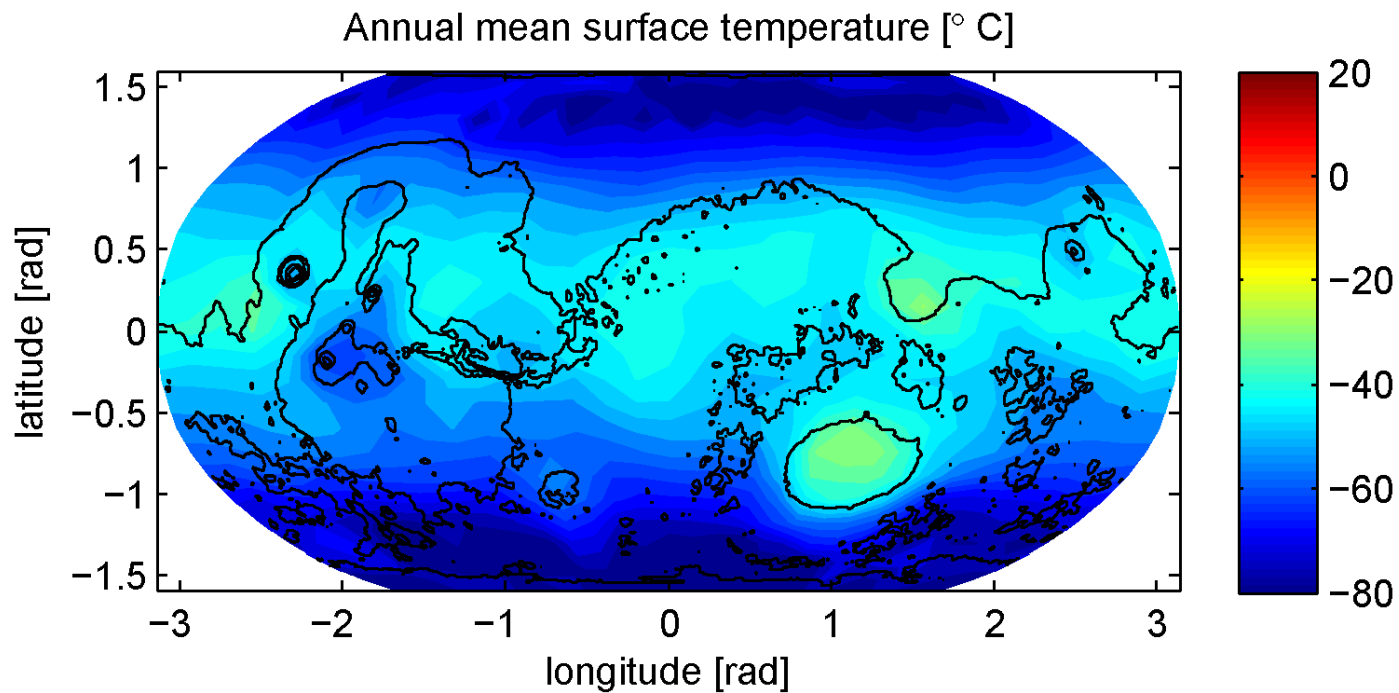
**CO₂ ice clouds warming
15 to 20K**



Forget and Pierrehumbert 1997

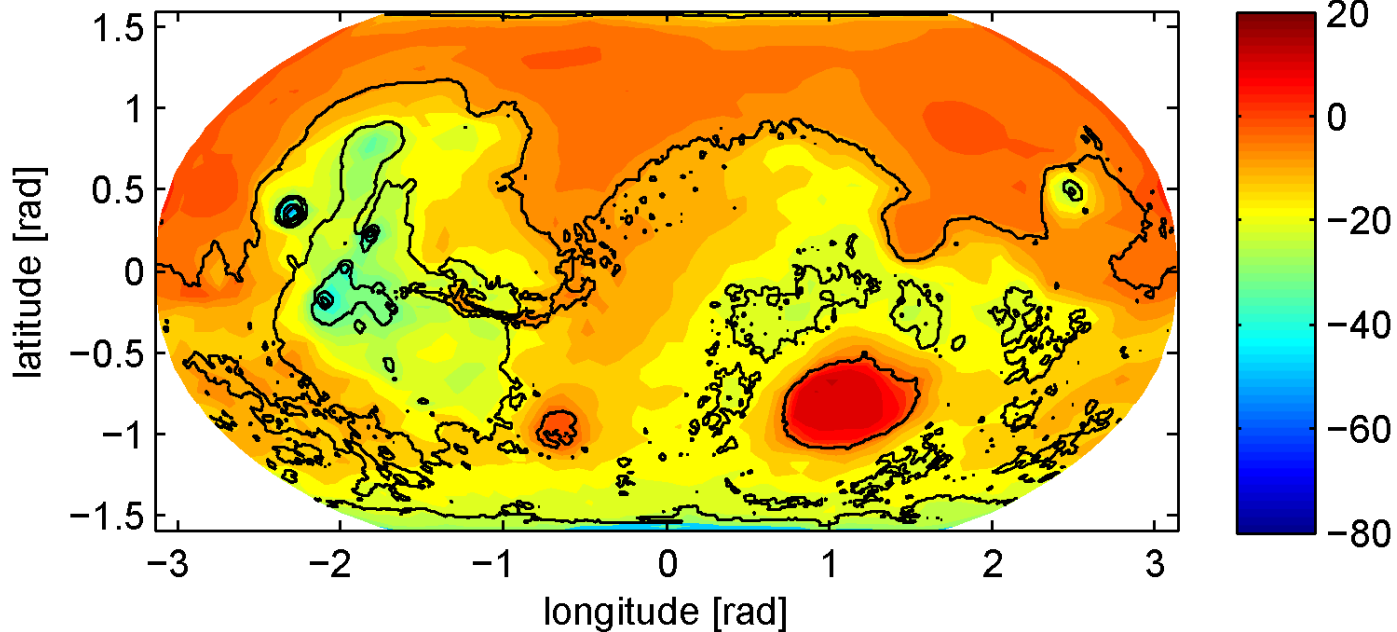
0.5 bar

Surface
CO₂ ice

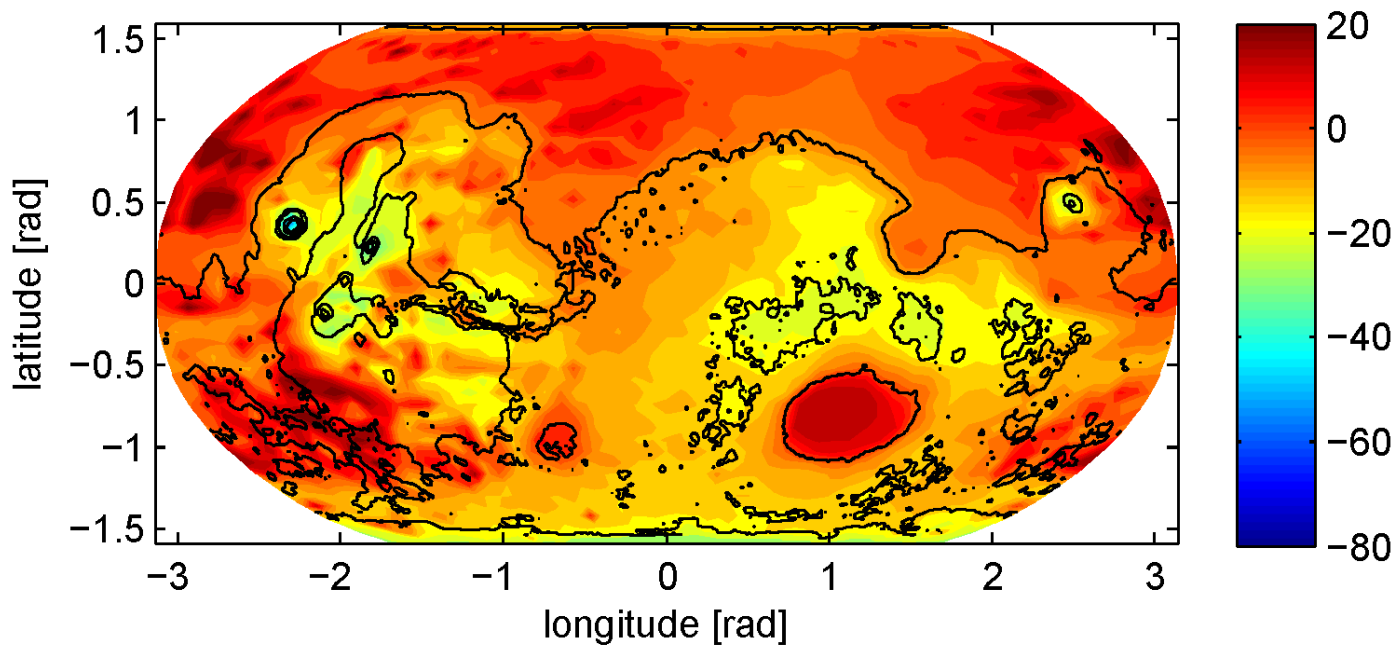


5 bar

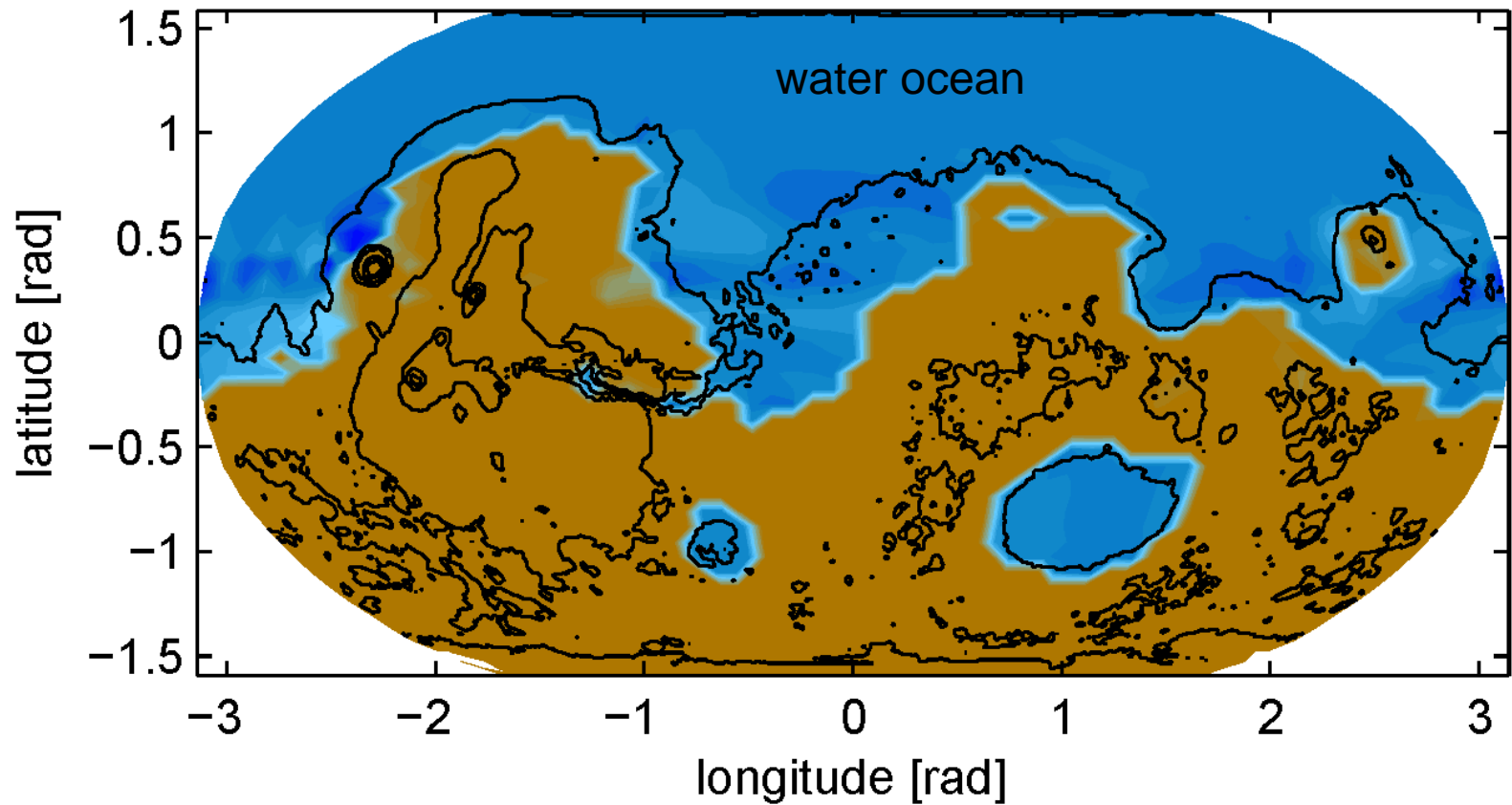
Annual mean surface temperature [° C]



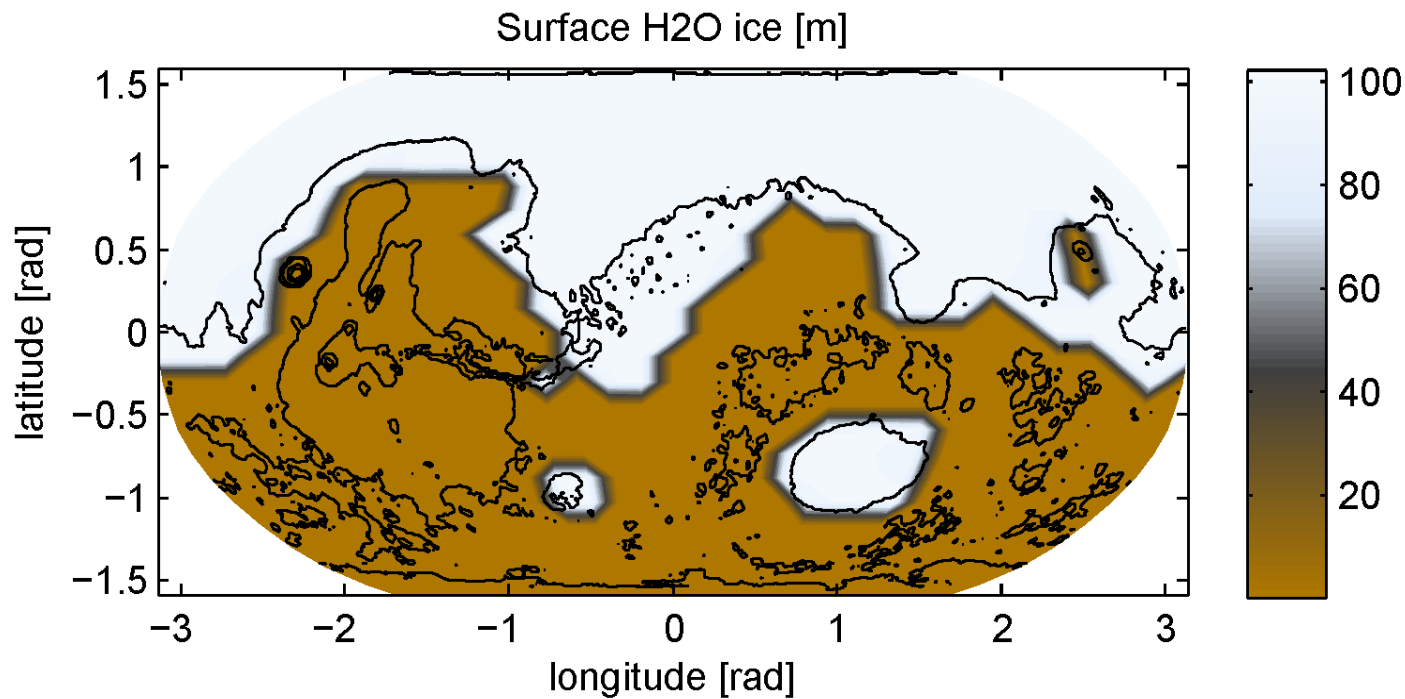
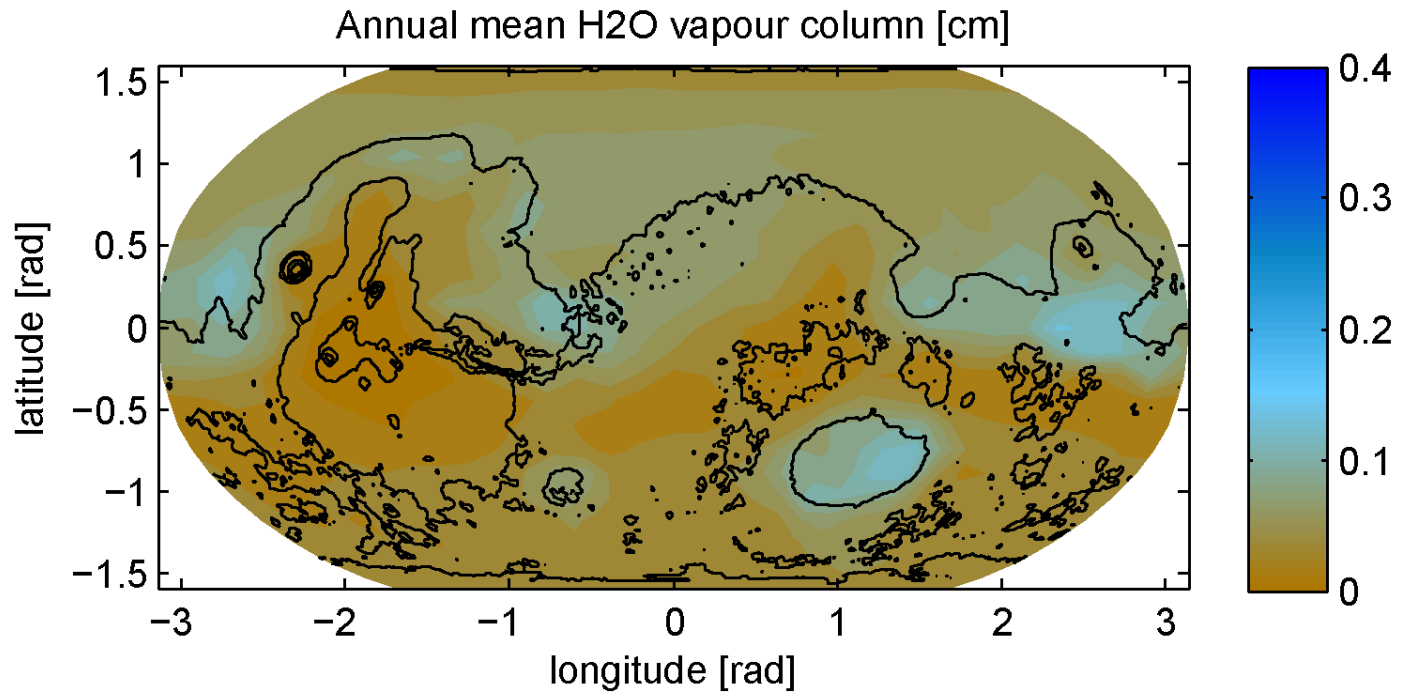
Annual maximum surface temperature [° C]



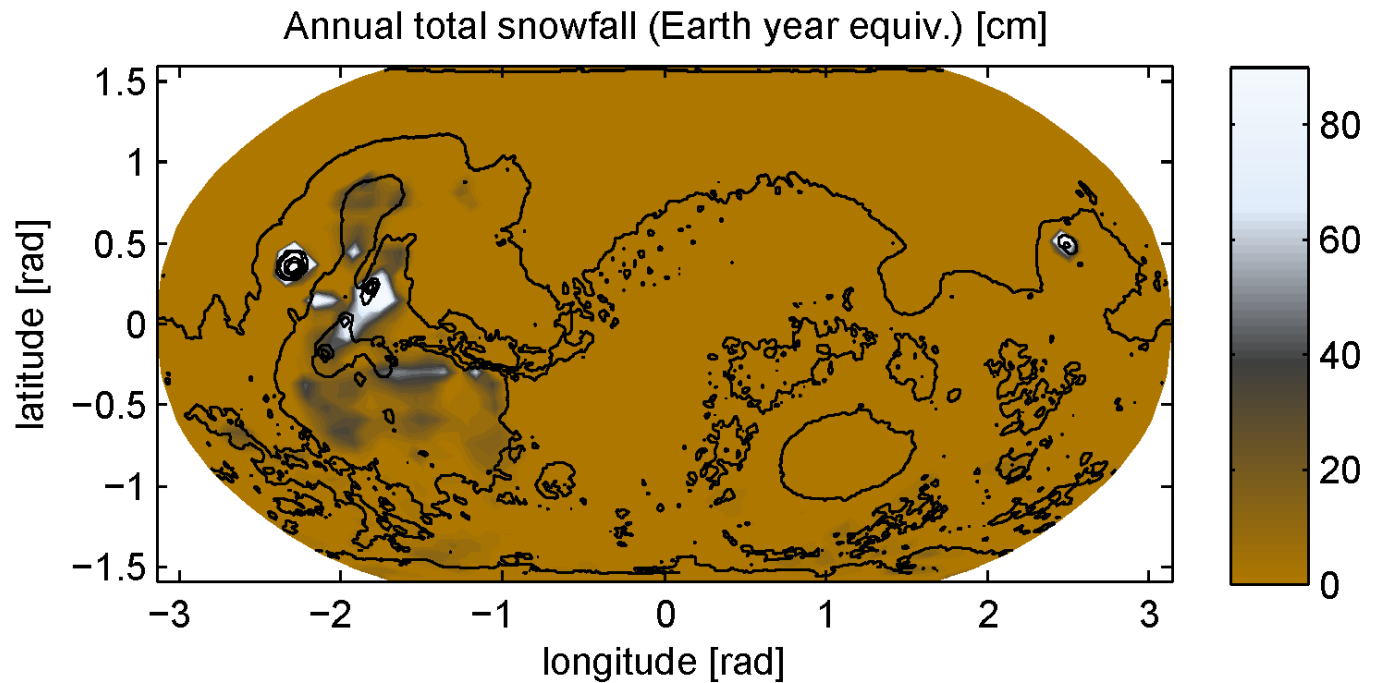
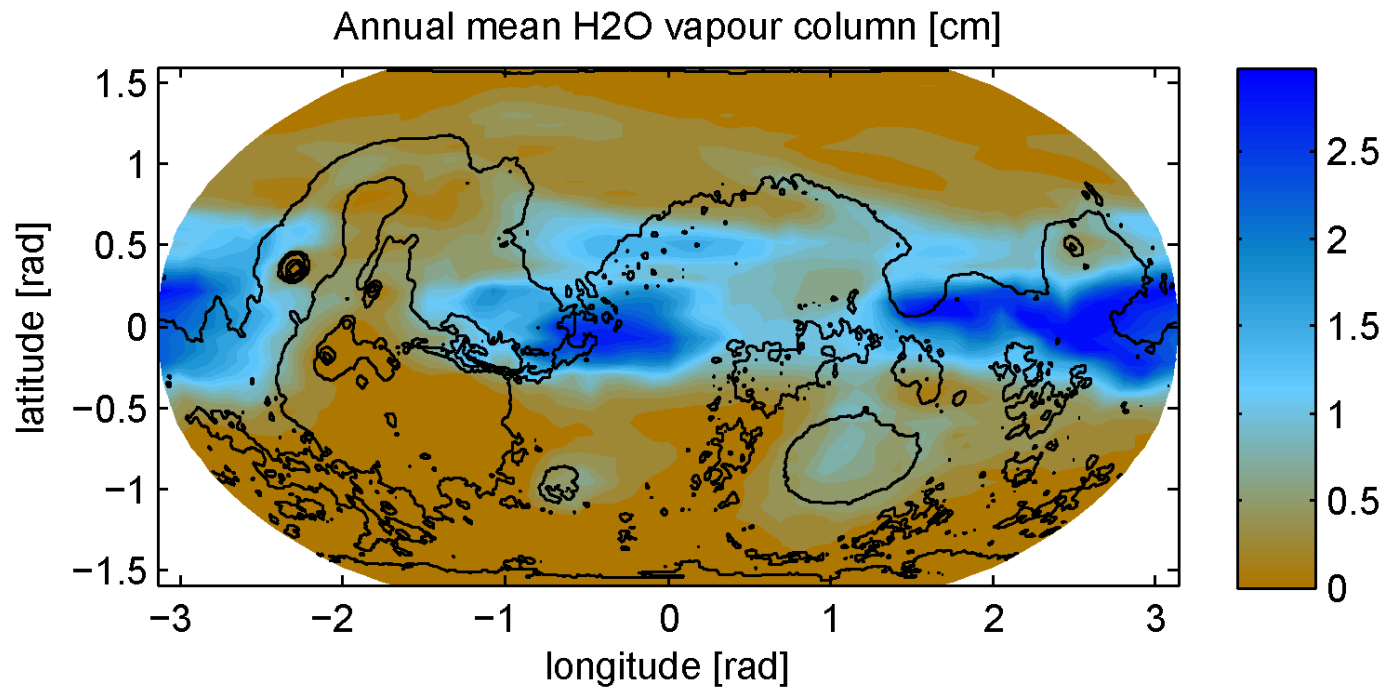
3D initial conditions for H2O



**2 bar,
ocean**



**5 bar,
ocean**



5 bars of CO₂ ???

Initial Mars inventory > 10 bars (probably)

BUT recent studies suggest a much thinner inventory for the Noachian Martian atmosphere:

- Primordial atmosphere maybe removed quickly (*Tian et al., 2009*)
- Tharsis outgassing probably overestimated. *Morschhauser 2011*
- After heavy bombardment, weak atm. escape (*Lammer et al. 2011*)

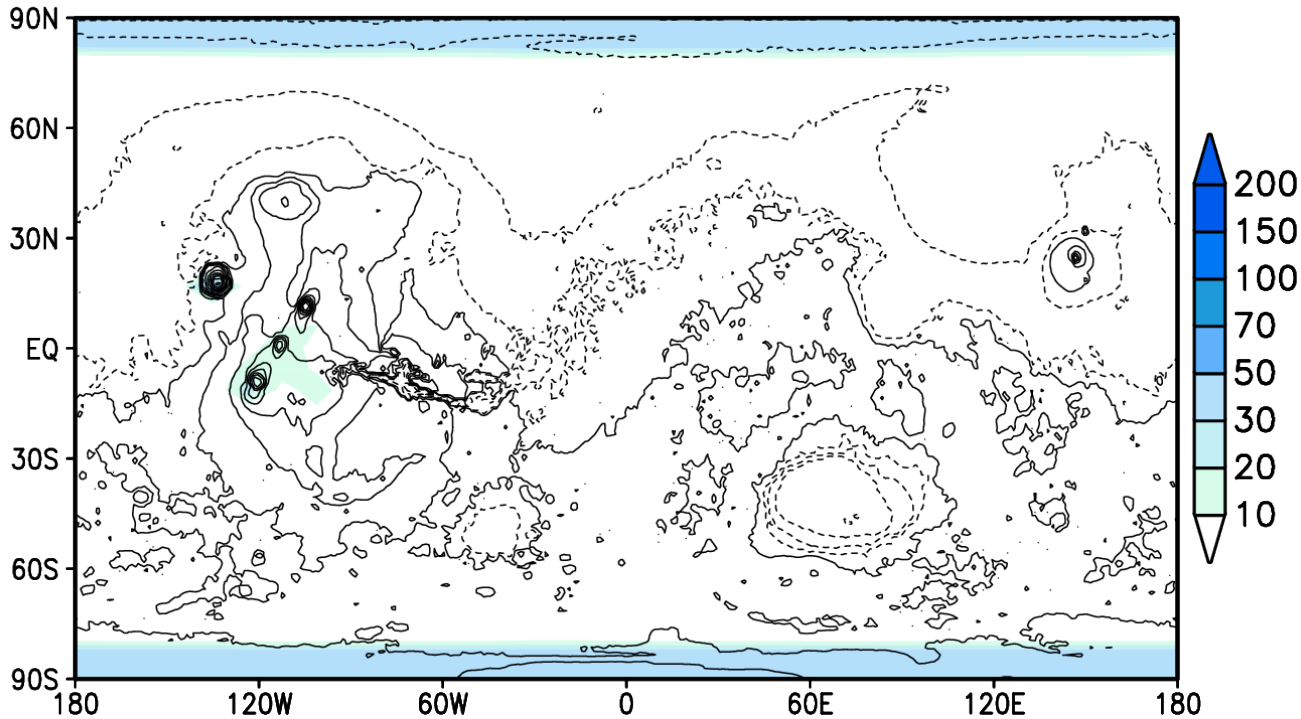
⇒ 500 mbar of CO₂ may be an upper limit on ancient Mars ? . It will still be very different than today :

- Cold traps in the mountains (like on Earth)
- Liquid water much more stable
- Larger ice inventory ? (less ice sequestered?)
- Some greenhouse effect

Mars with ~500 mbar of CO₂

Starting with limited polar caps:

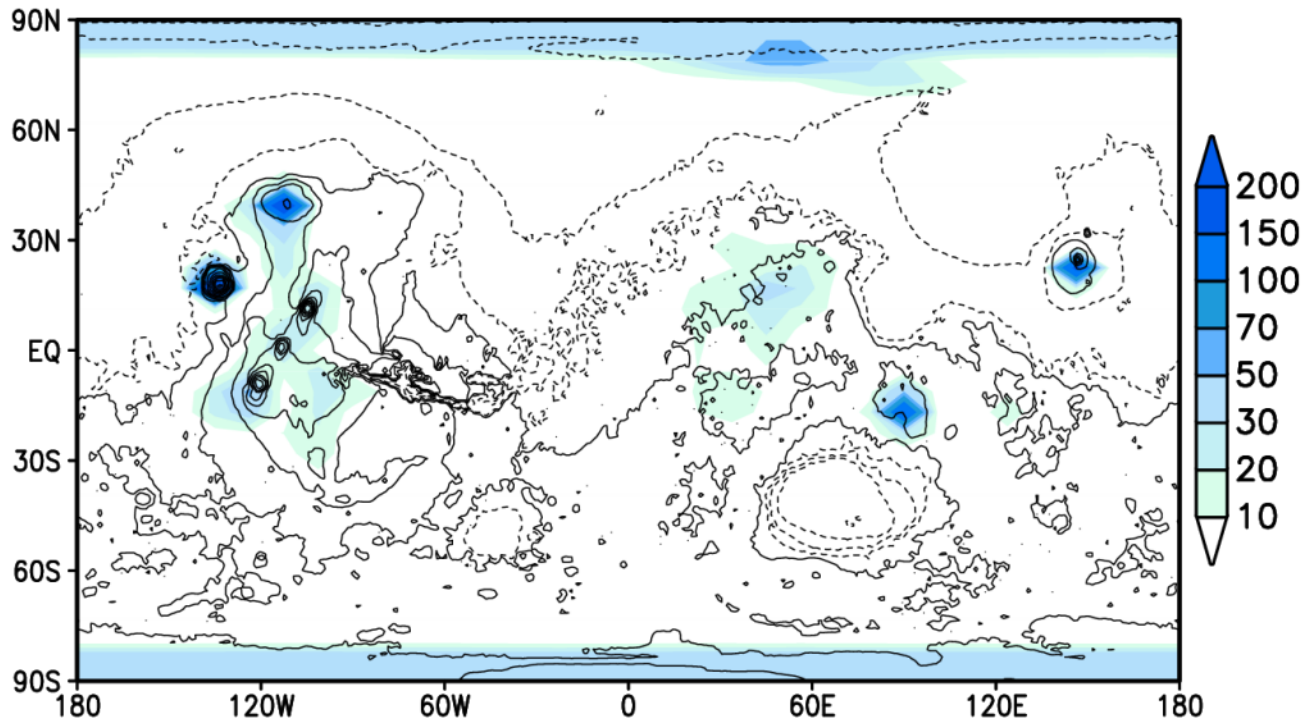
Surface ice (kg/m²) : initial state → same after 50 years
Ps = 0.5 bar obliquity=25°



Mars with ~500 mbar of CO₂

Starting with limited polar caps: HIGHER obliquity (45°)

Surface ice (kg/m²) : AFTER 50 years
Ps = 0.5 bar obliquity=45°

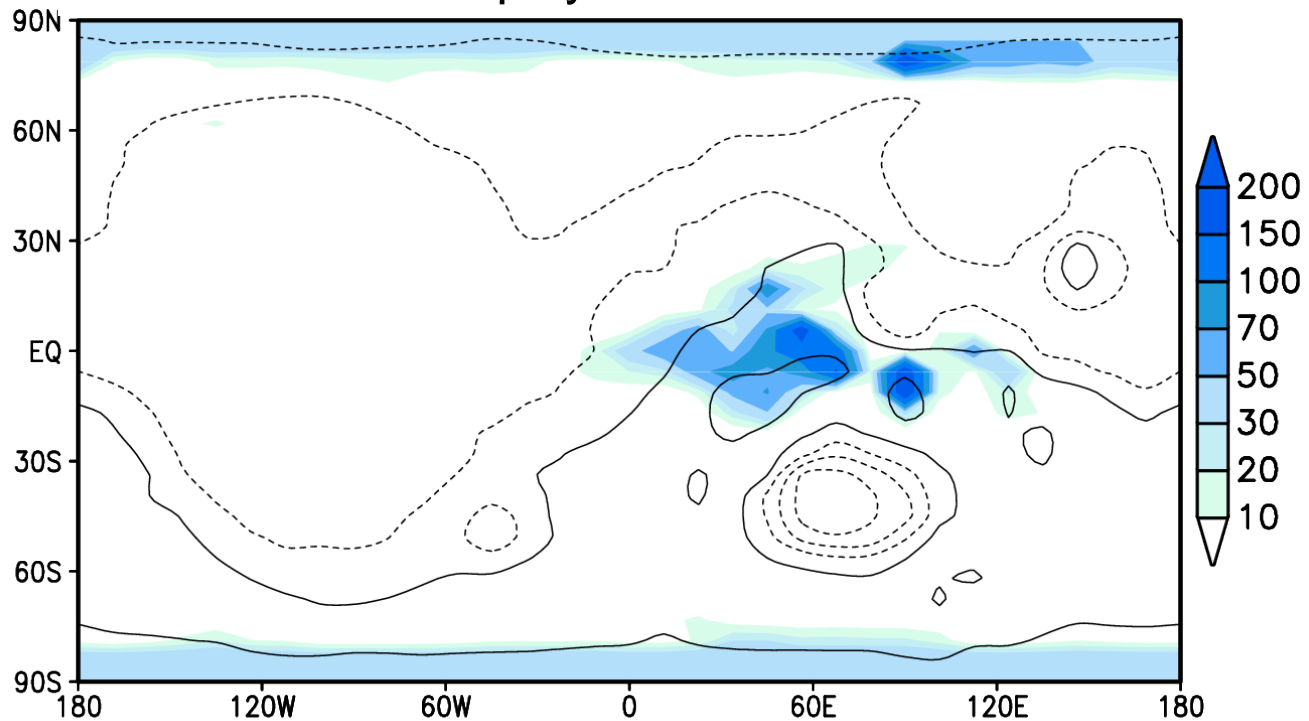


Starting with limited polar caps: REMOVING THARSIS

Next step: remove the LHB basin

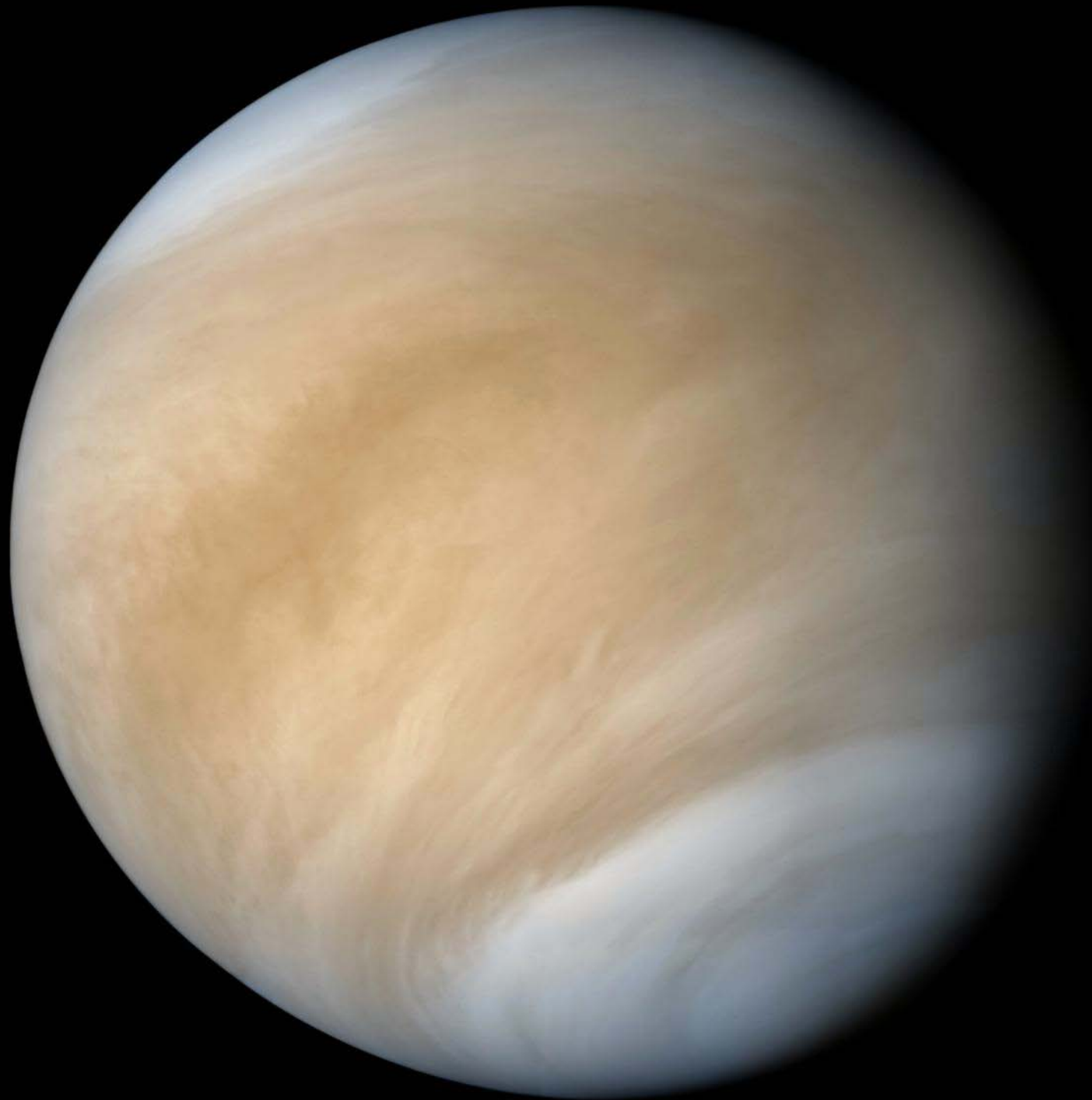
Surface ice (kg/m²) : AFTER 50 years

Ps = 0.5 bar obliquity=25°



VENUS

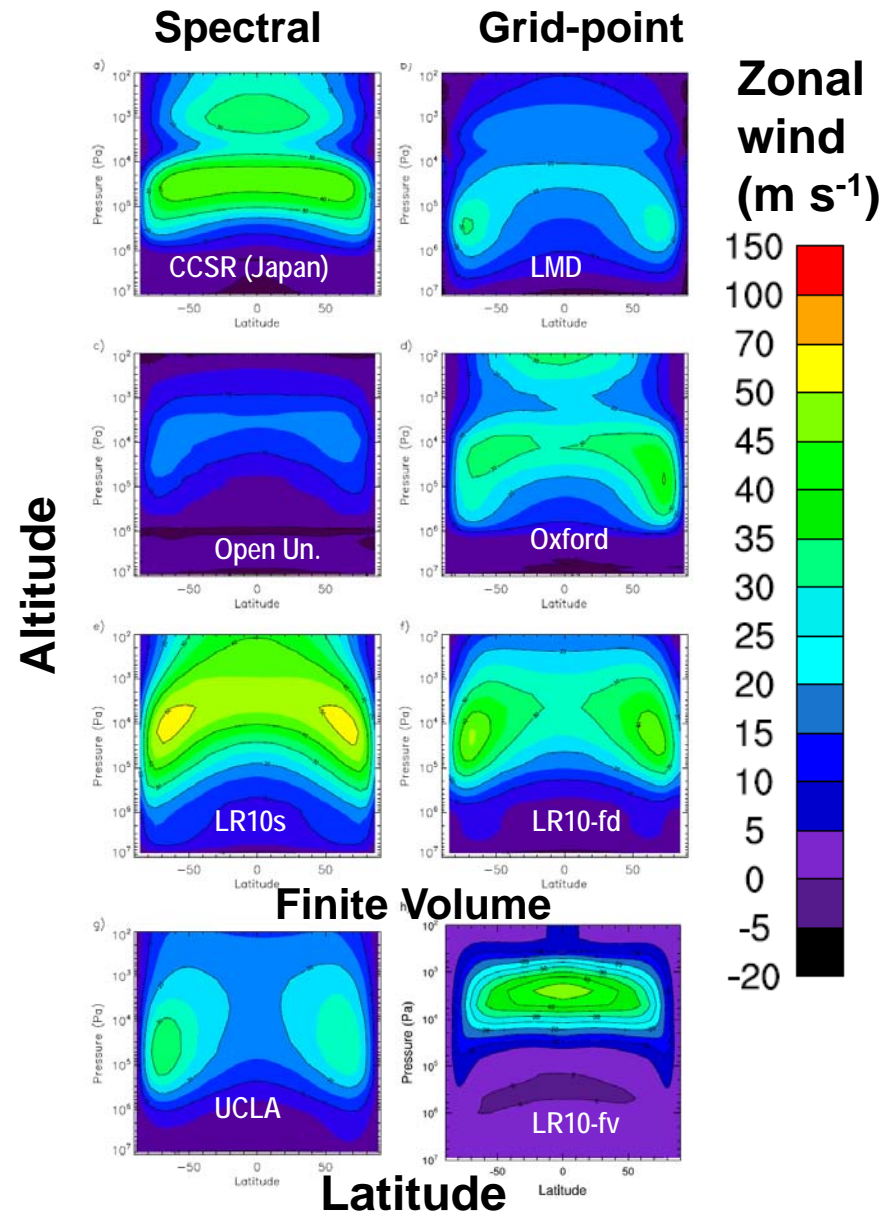
**S. Lebonnois
+
Many
collaborators**



Venus is an extreme case for dynamical cores given its slow forcings

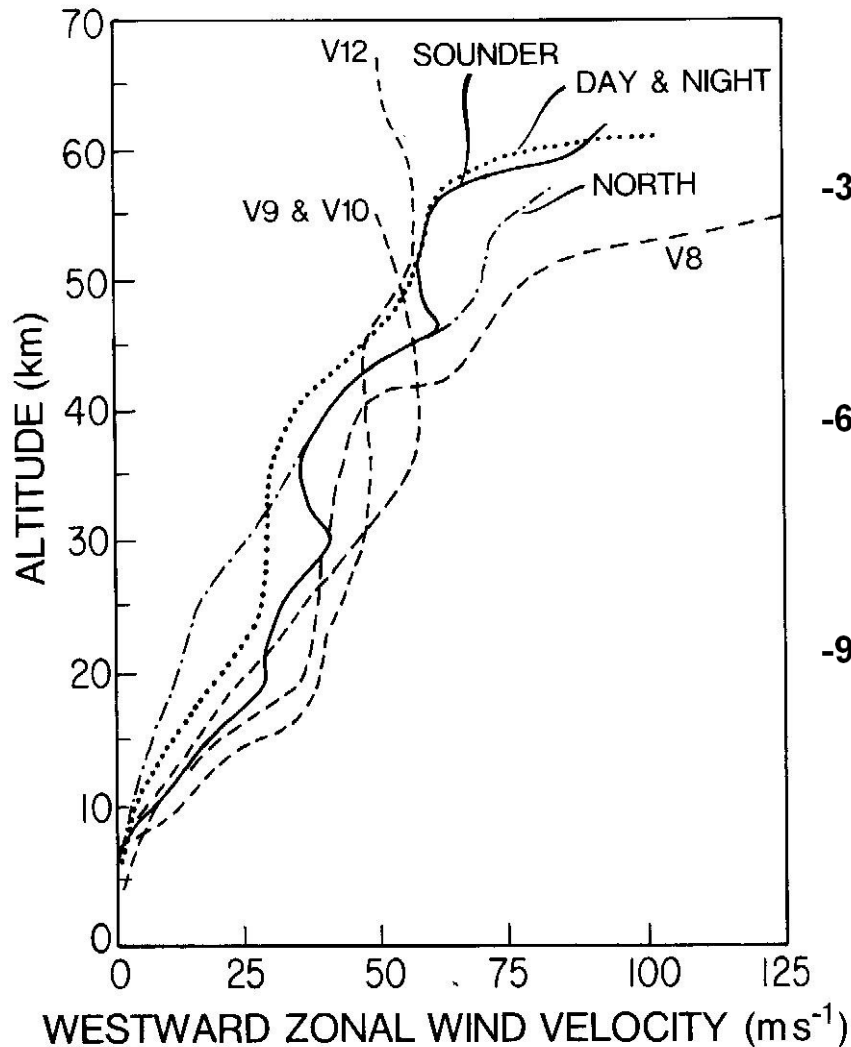
Intercomparison
Lebonnois et al. 2012

All models are run with a simple
Newtonian relaxation!

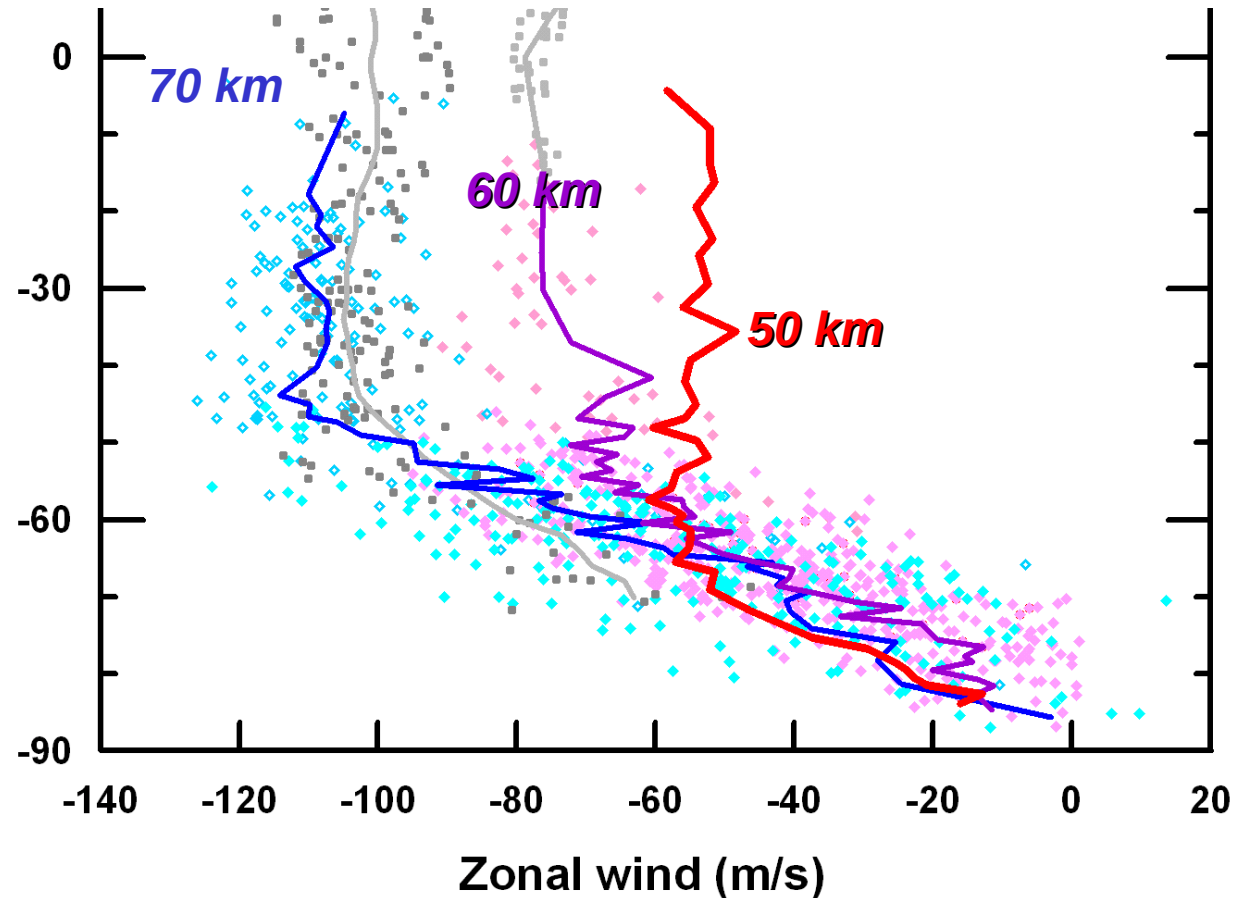


Observations of superrotation

Pioneer Venus and Venera probes



VENUS

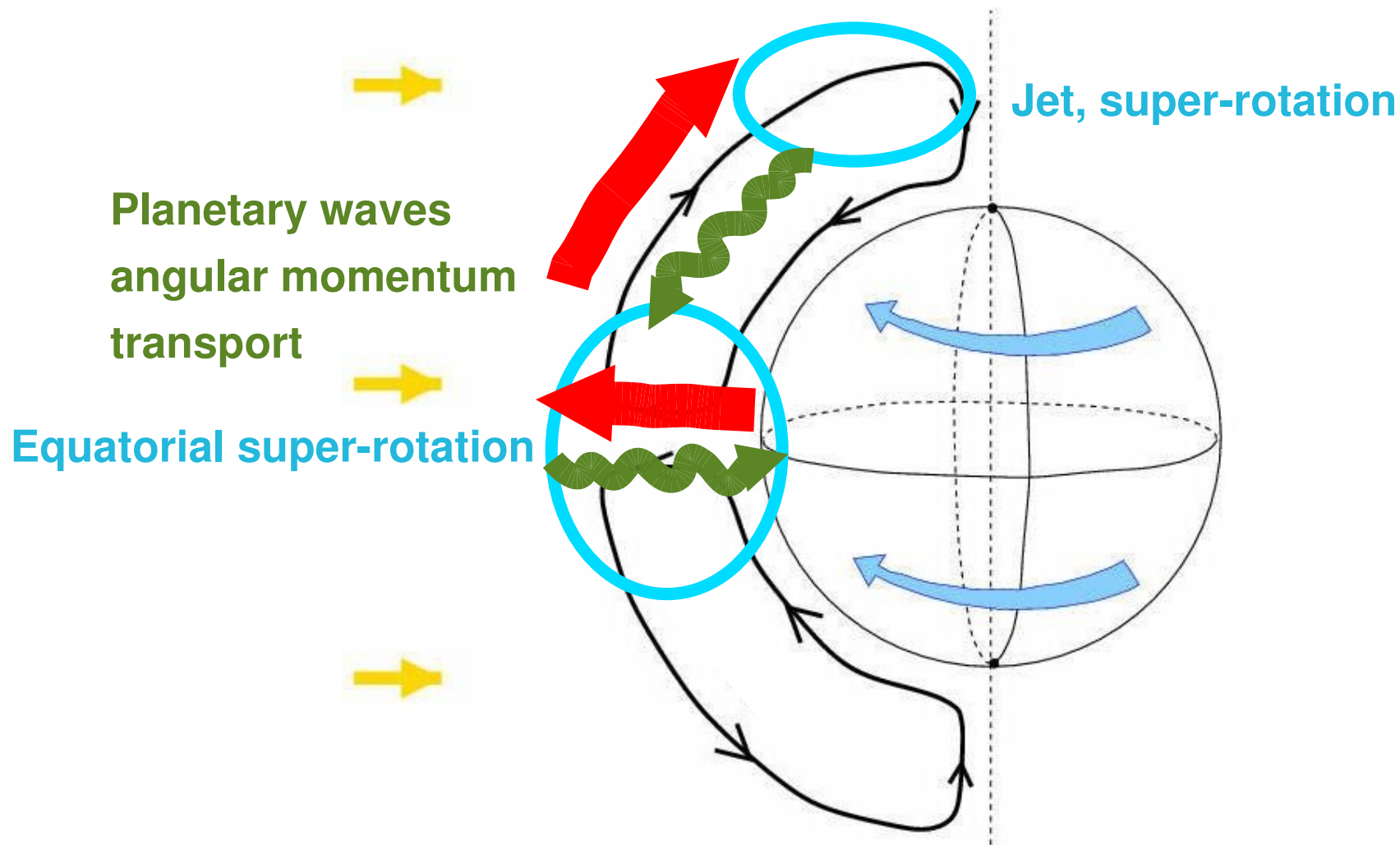


Venus Express/VIRTIS cloud tracking

The superrotation question

Superrotation at the equator:

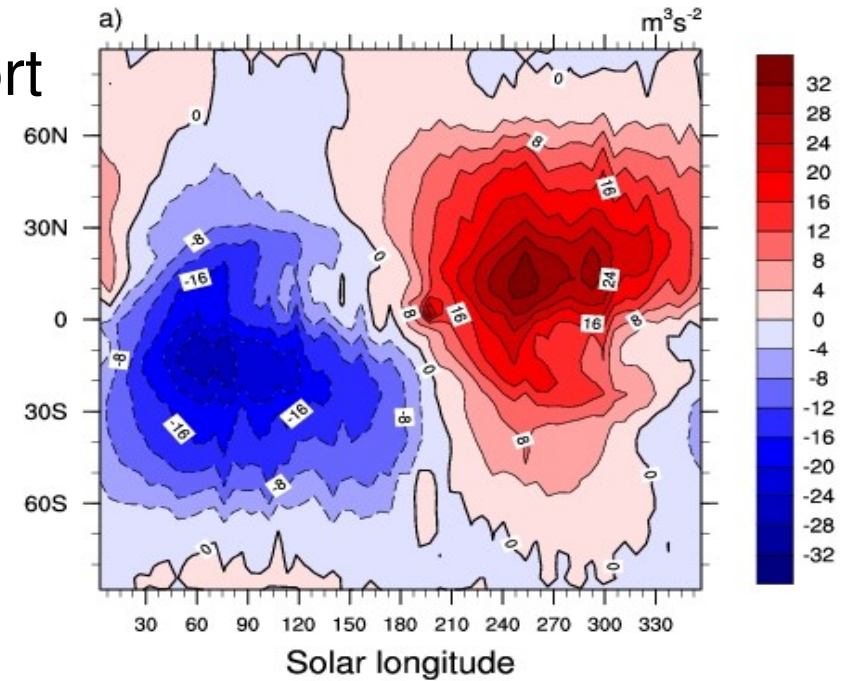
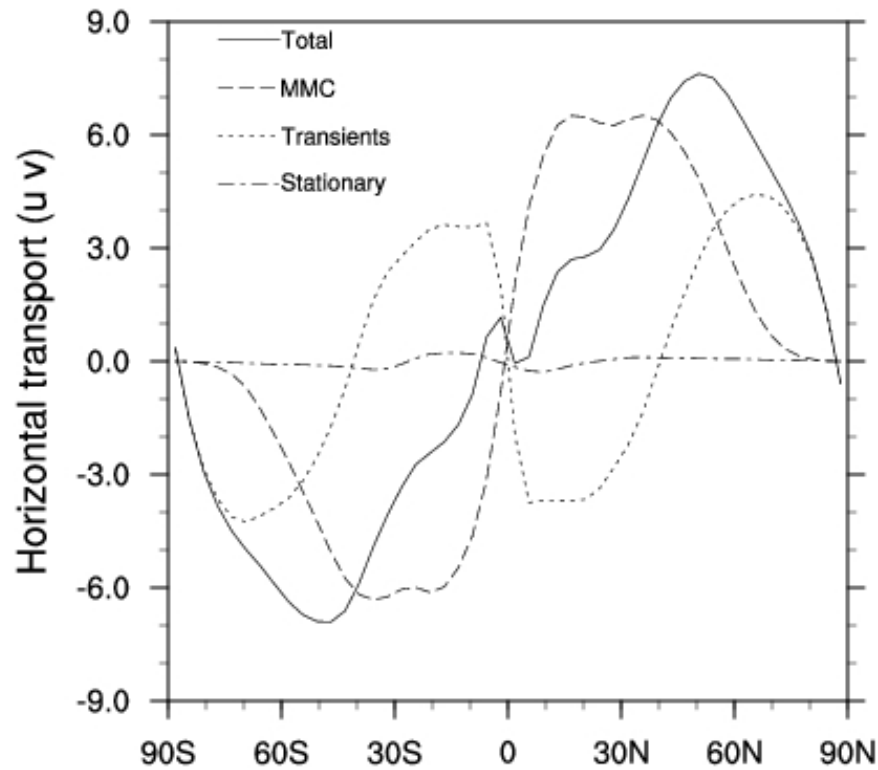
need for non-axisymmetric planetary waves



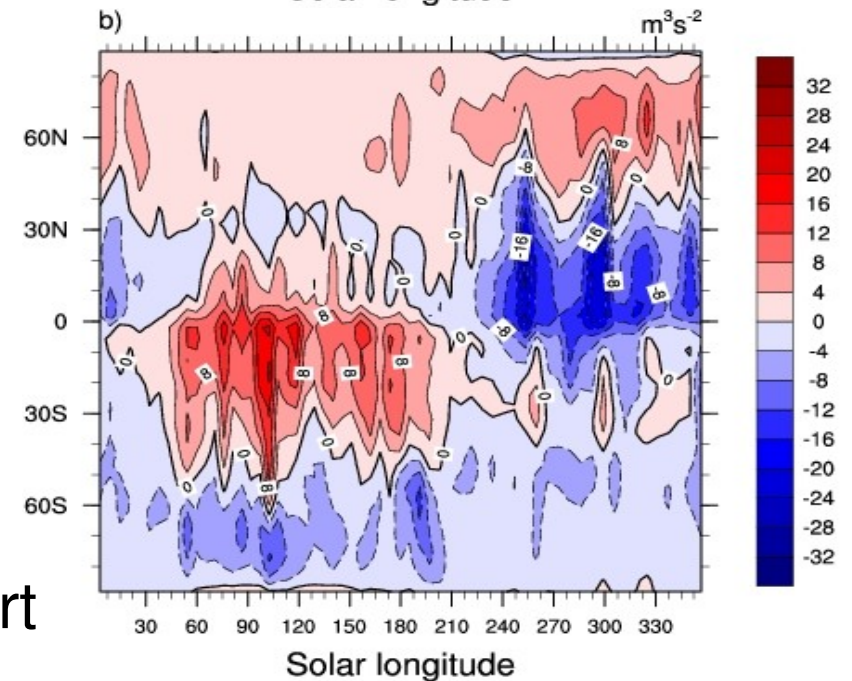
Angular momentum transport

MMC transport

Annual mean

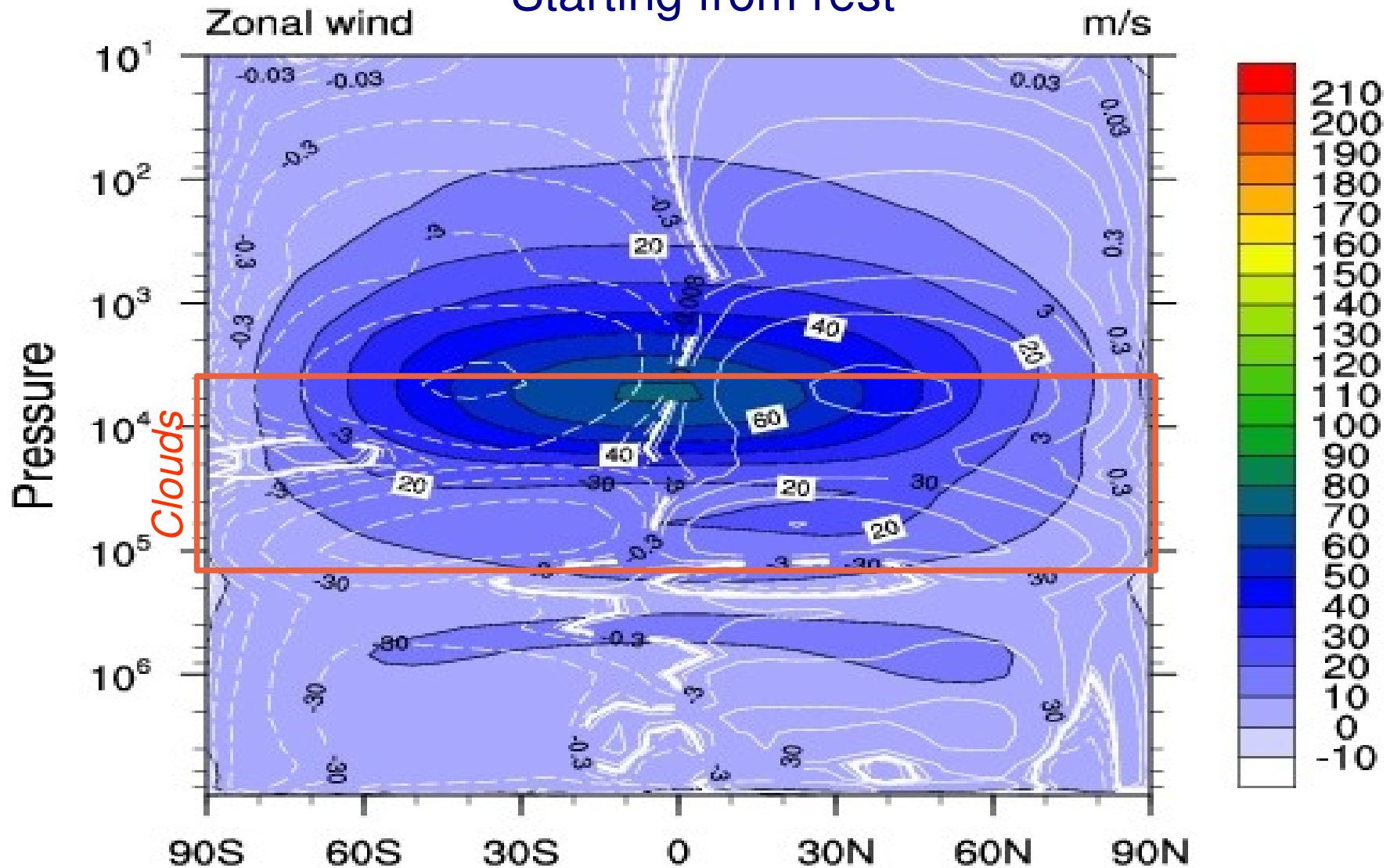


Transients transport



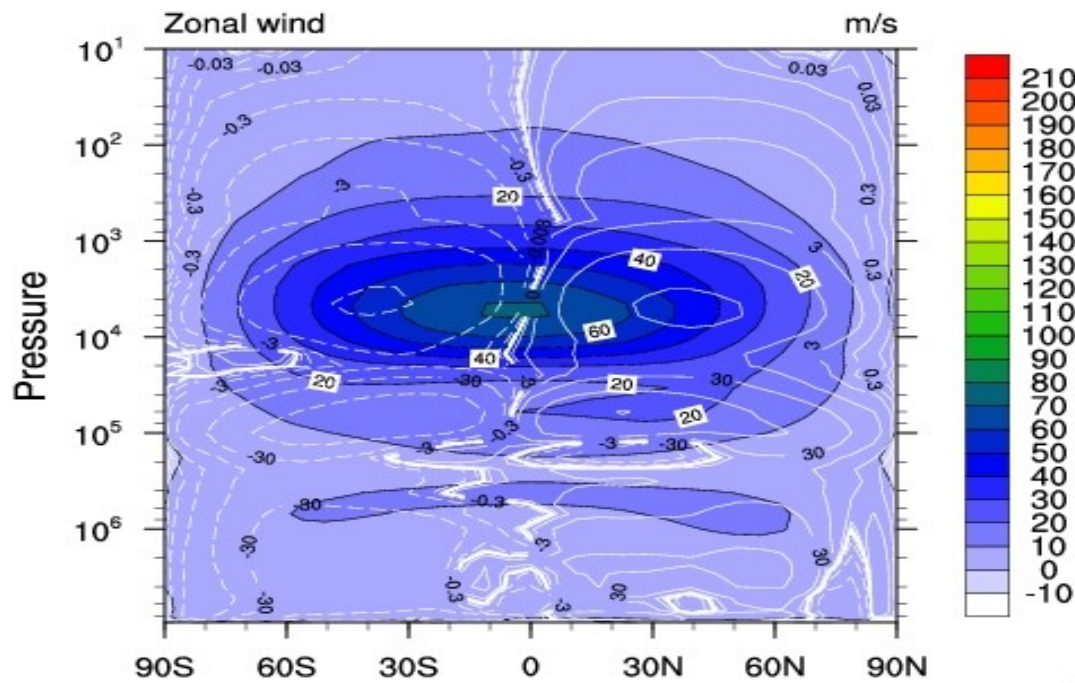
Venus Superrotation

Starting from rest



Mean zonal wind and stream function after 1000+ Vdays
(Topography, diurnal cycle)

Role of the diurnal cycle

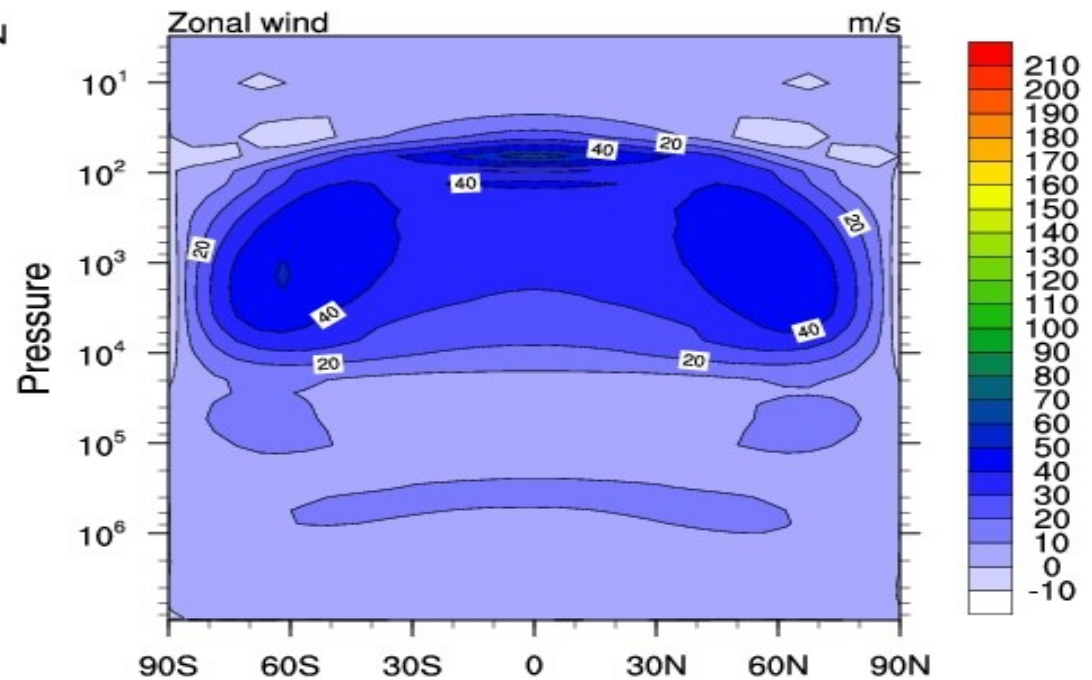


With diurnal cycle

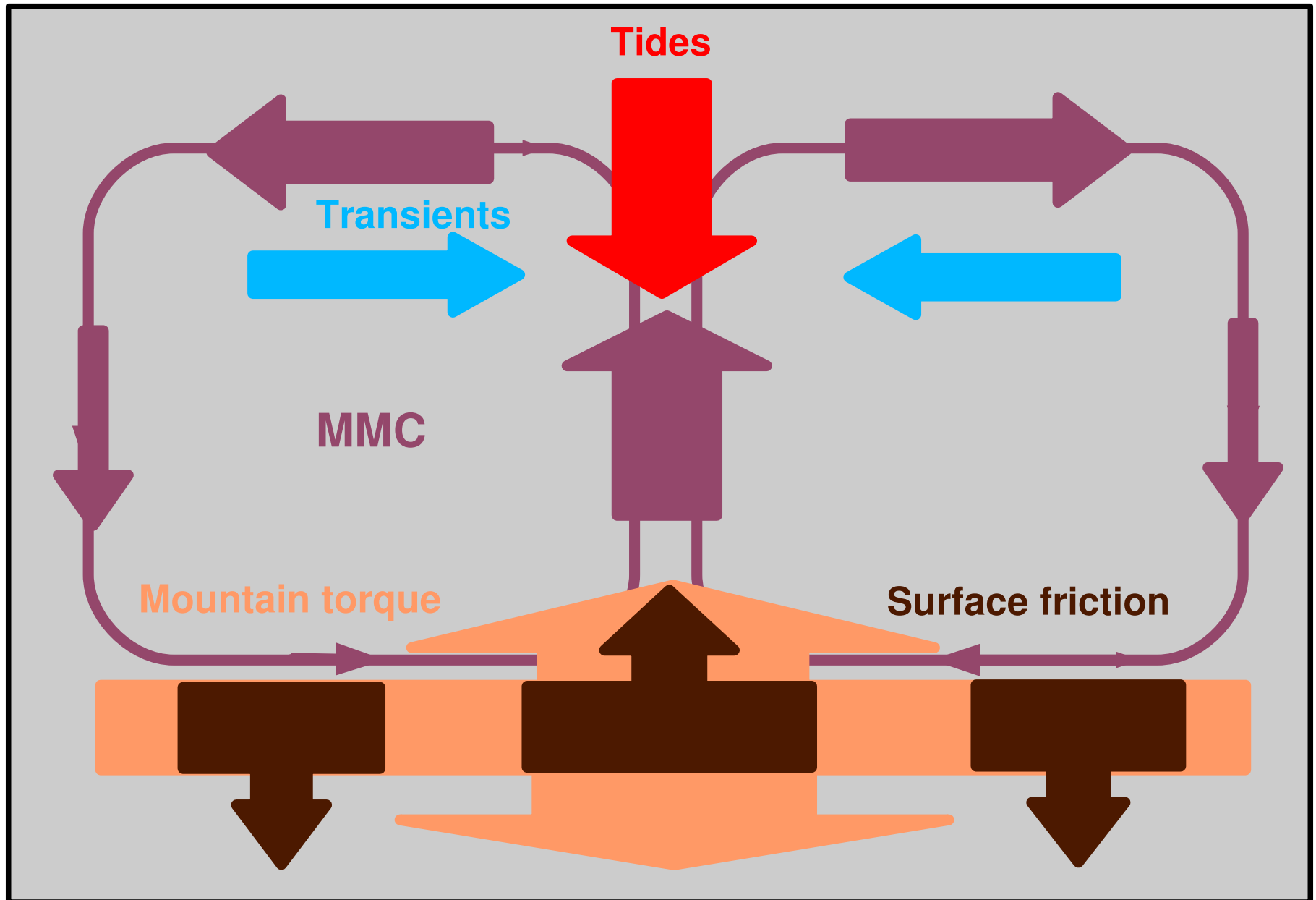
Influence of thermal tides in angular momentum transport:

downward transport in the equatorial 64-90 km region.

Without diurnal cycle



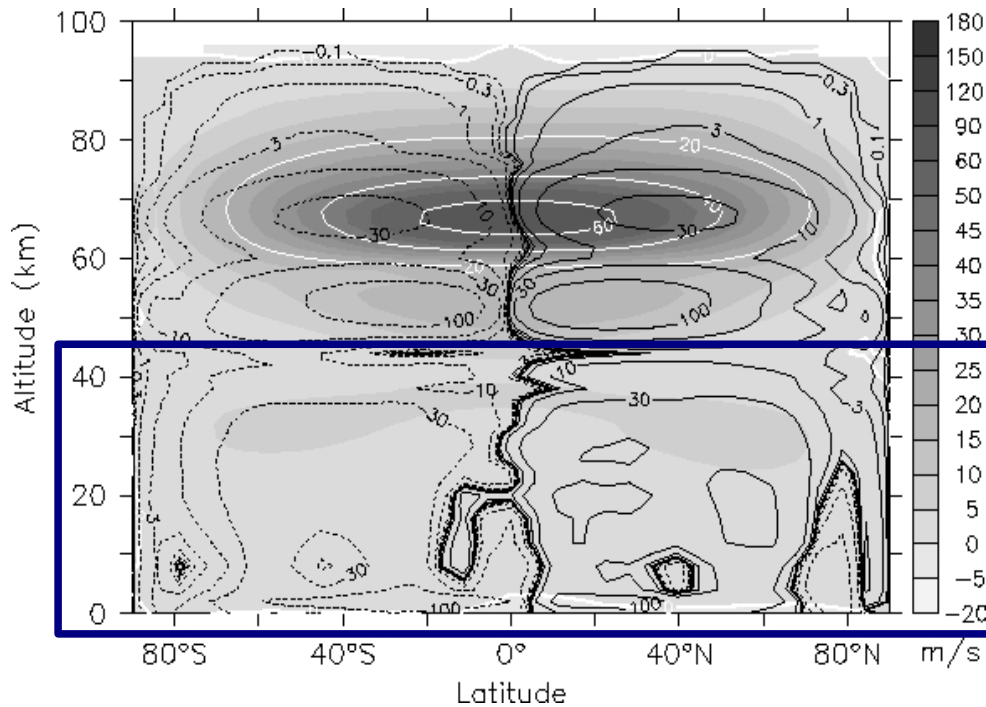
Discussion



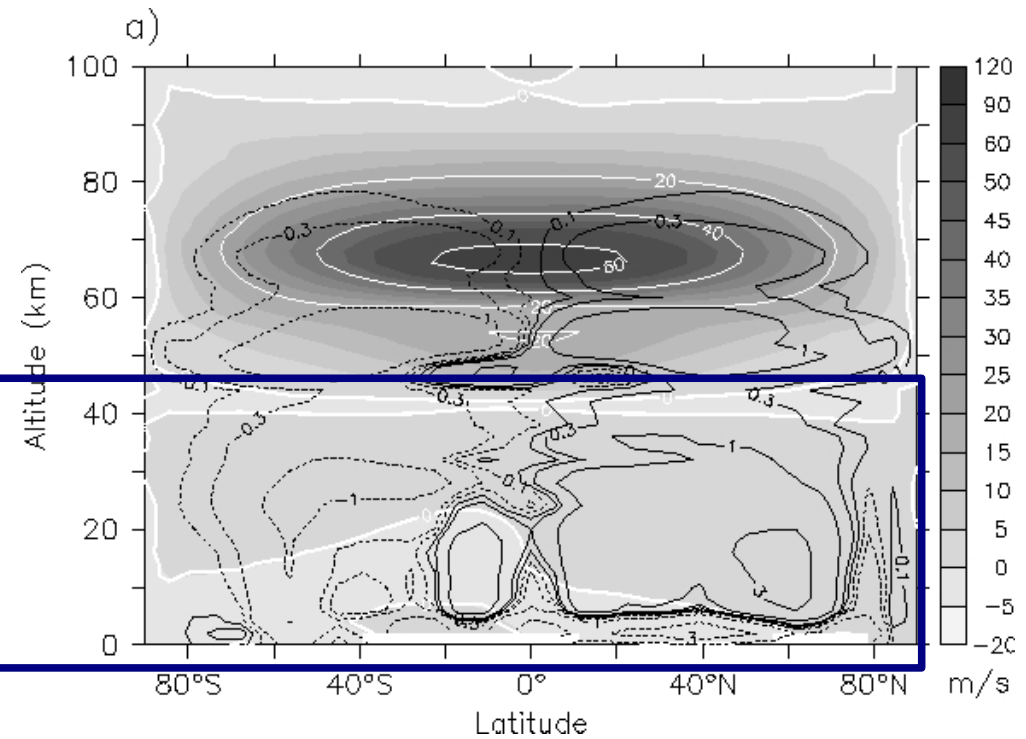
Additional aspect: Titan vs Venus: the influence of seasonal variations.

Examples of such impacts

PBL scheme in Venus simulations :



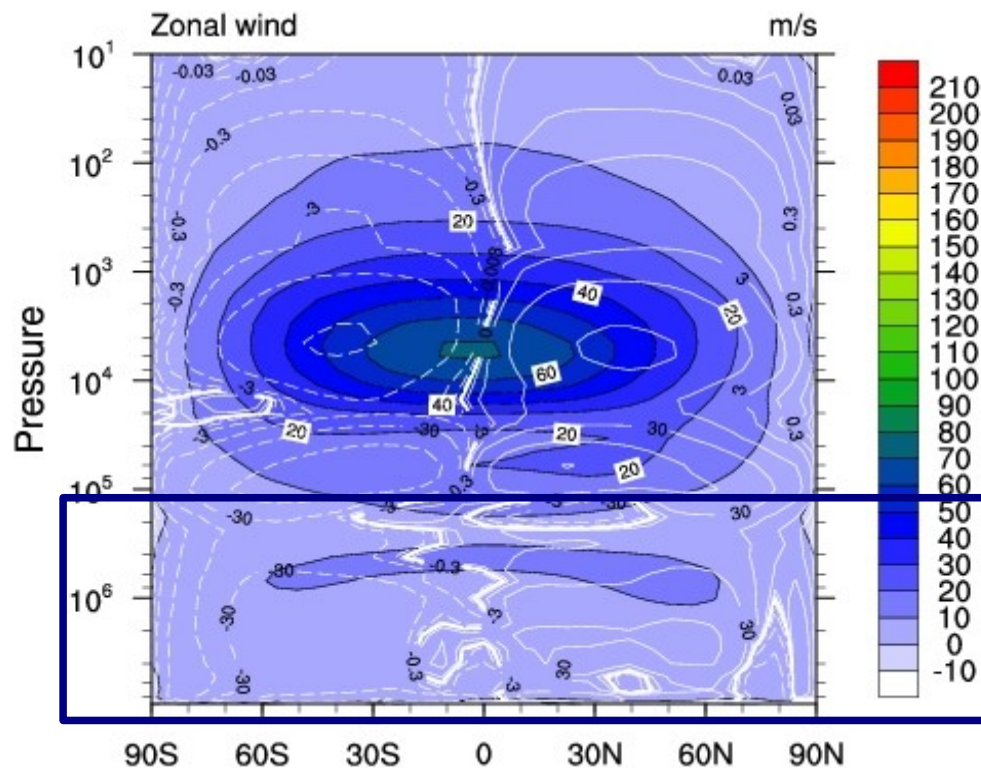
Mellor & Yamada (1982) scheme



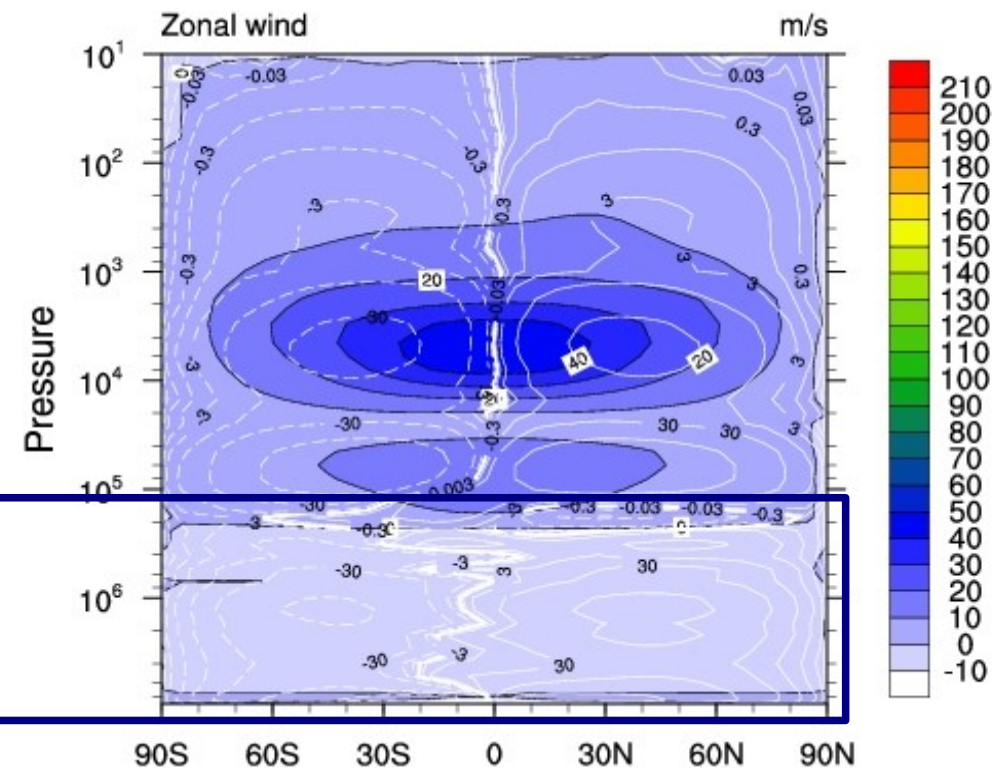
Previous scheme
(Lebonnois et al 2010)

Examples of such impacts

Topography in Venus simulations :



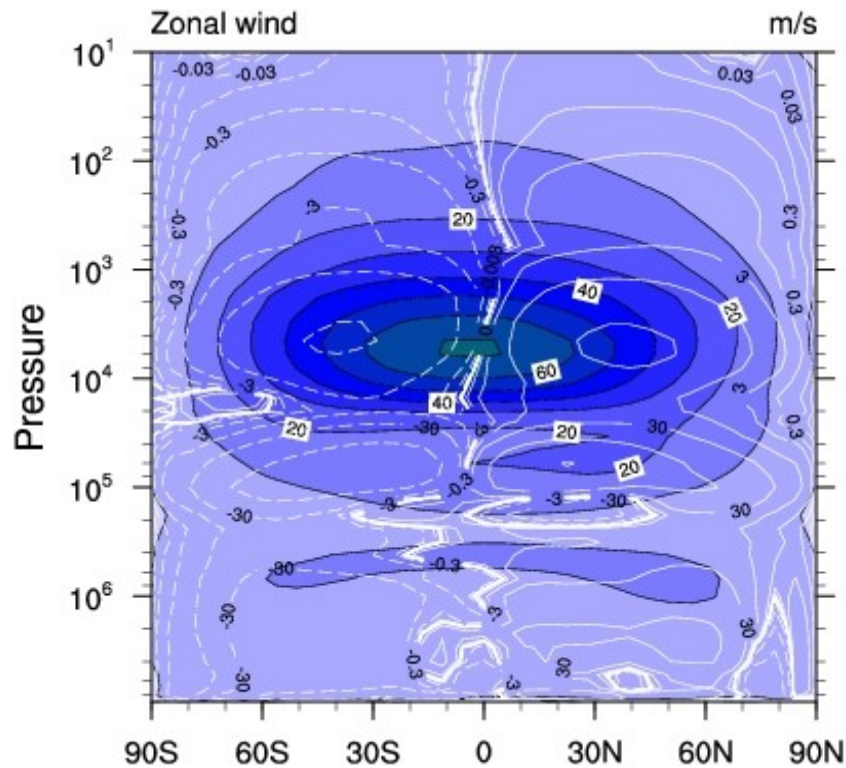
With topography



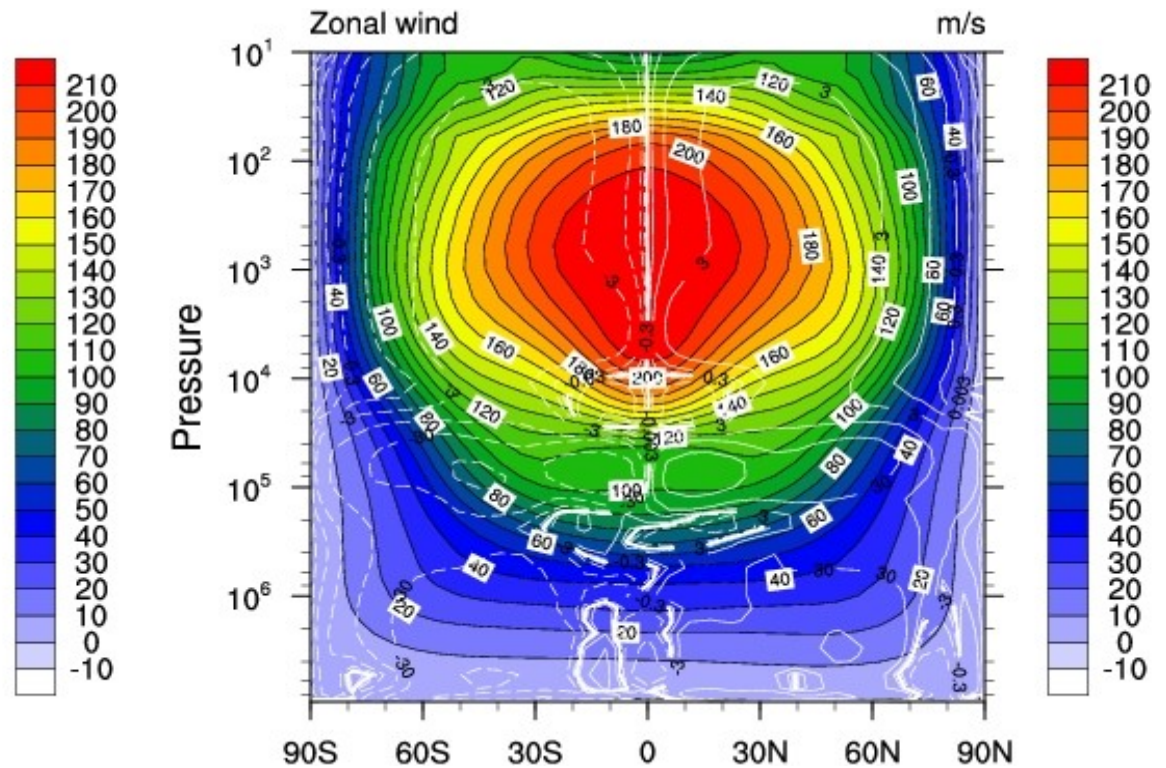
Without topography

Examples of such impacts

Initial conditions in Venus simulations :



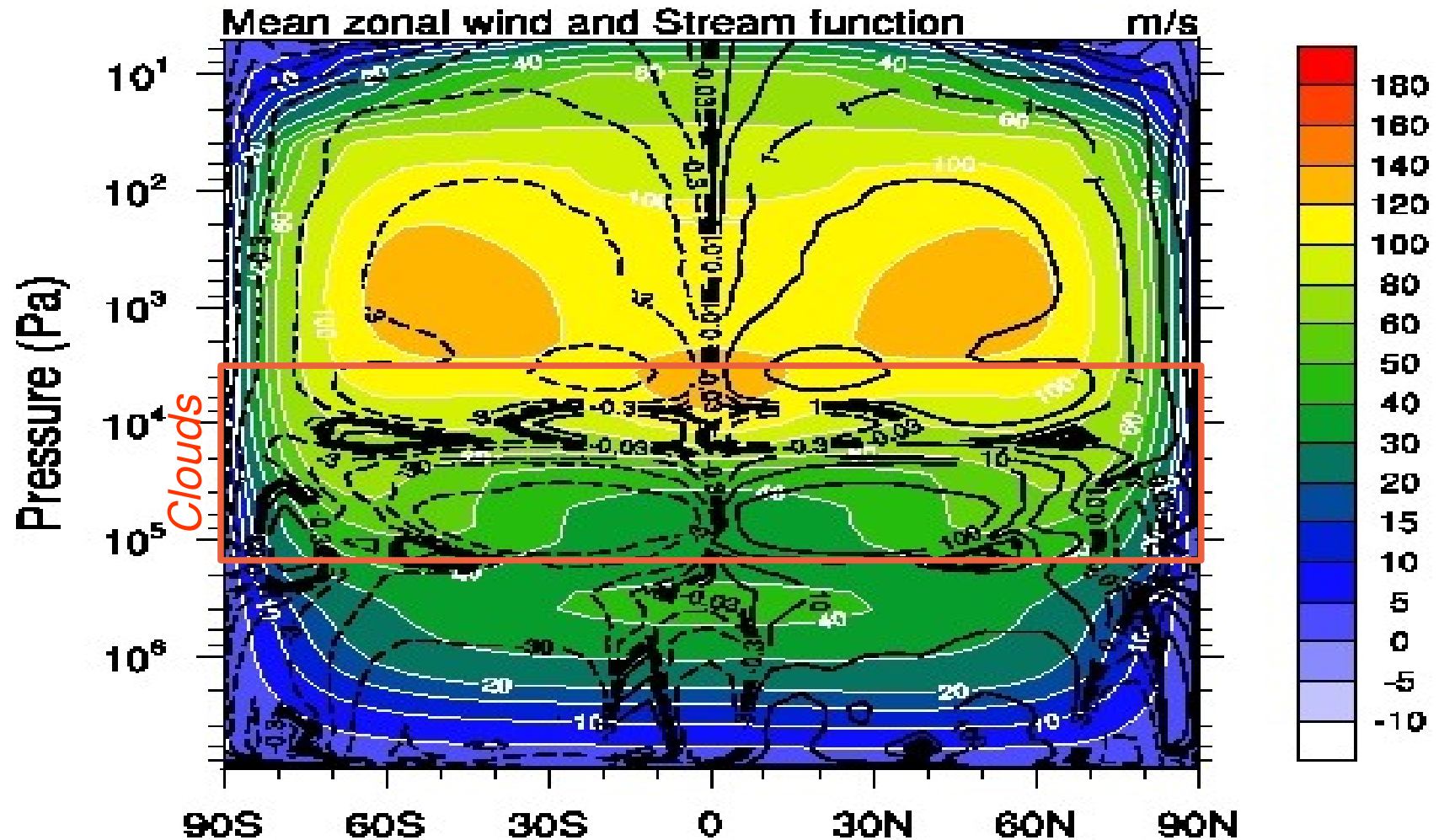
Started from rest



Started from realistic wind profile

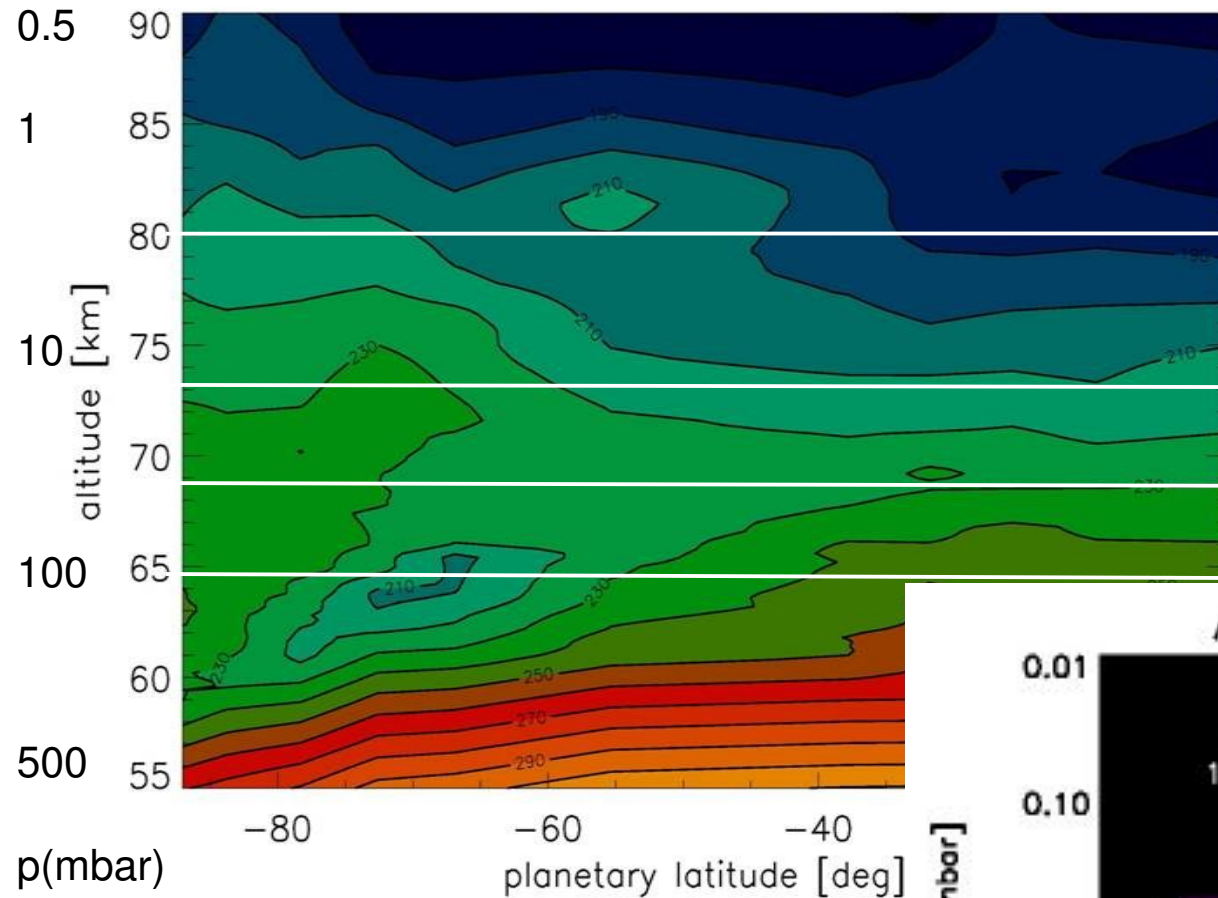
Gravity waves

Impact on the simulation started from superrotation



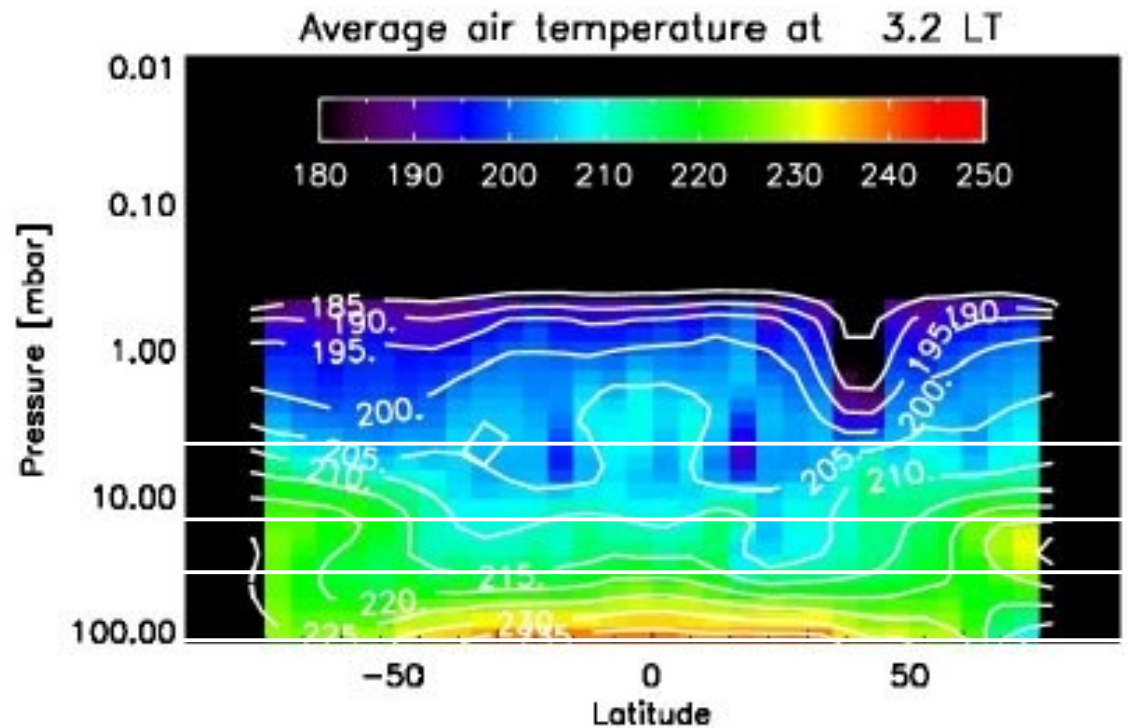
Closer to observations, though cloud-bottom to cloud-top gradient still too strong.

Temperature meridional distribution



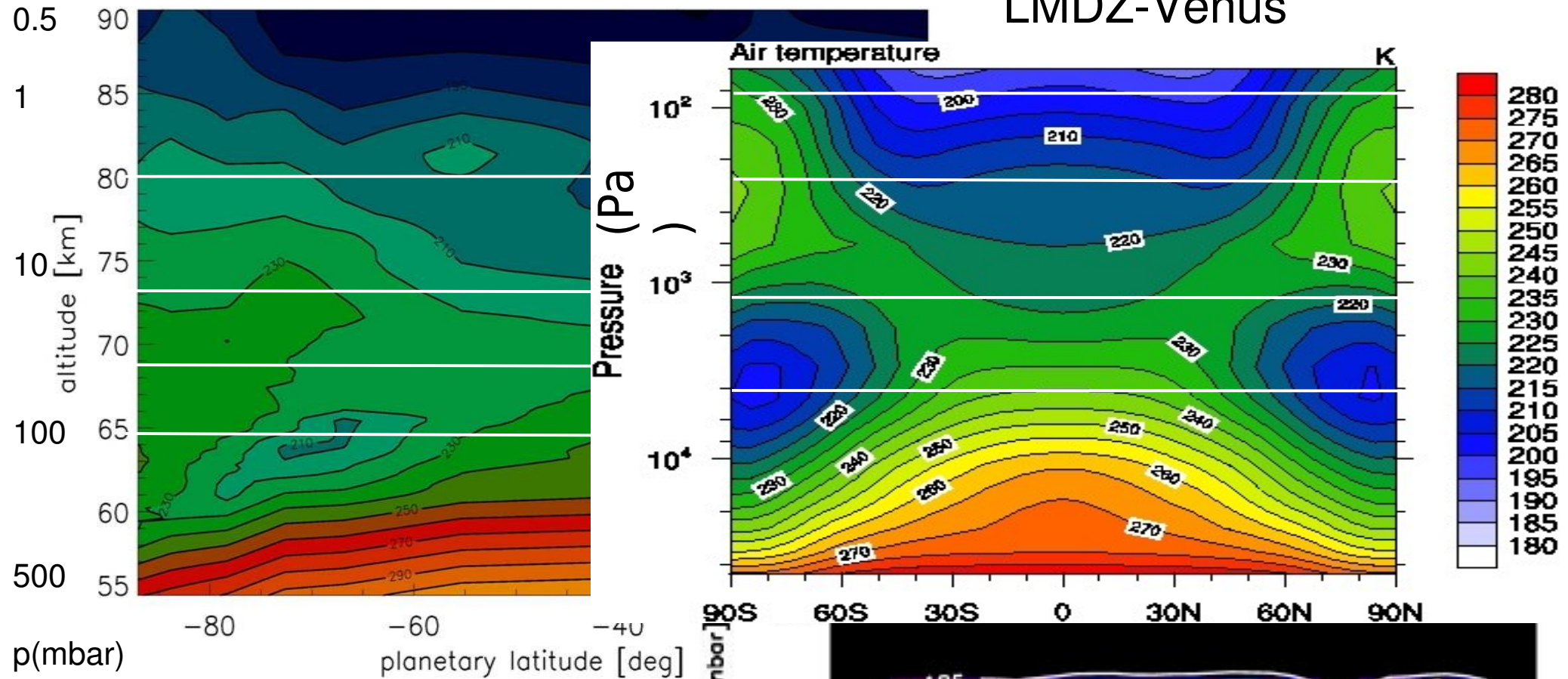
VIRTIS, Venus Express

VeRa, Venus Express

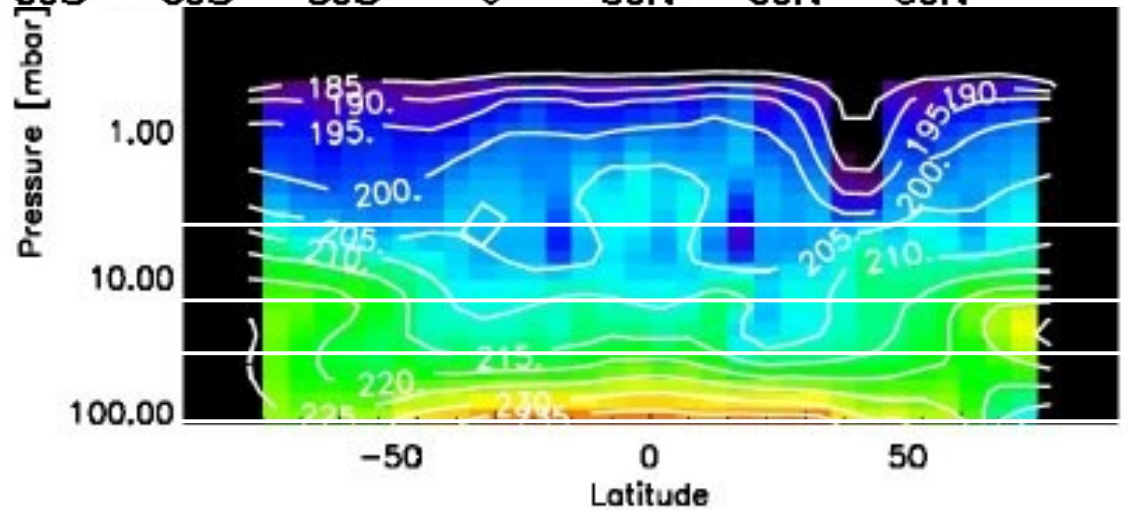


Temperature meridional distribution

LMDZ-Venus



VeRa, Venus Express



Titan

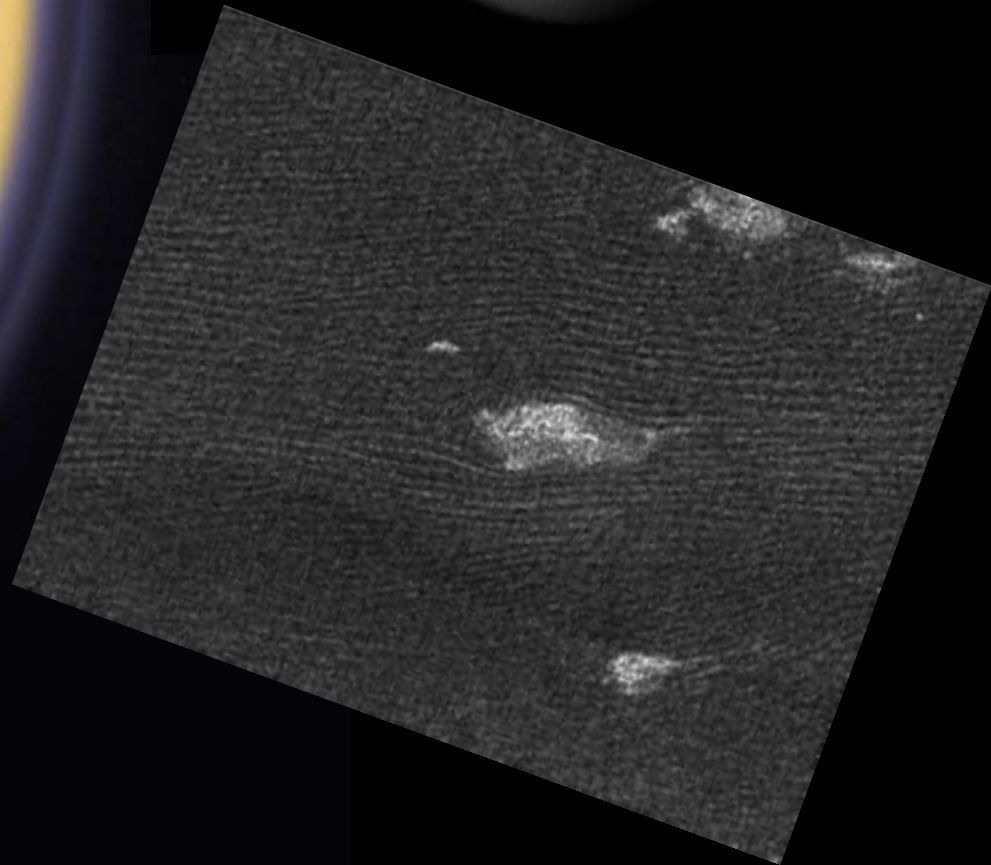
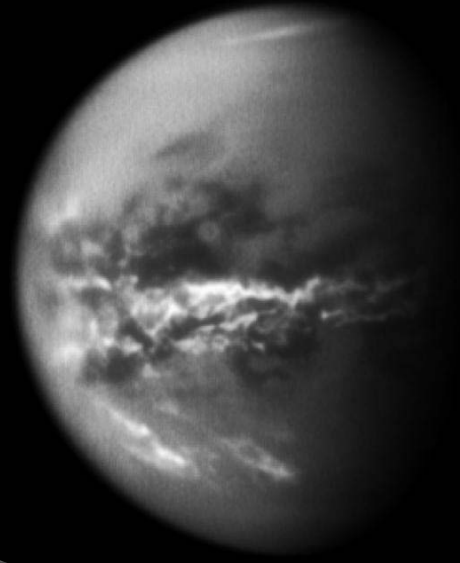
S. Lebonnois

B. Charnay

F. Hourdin

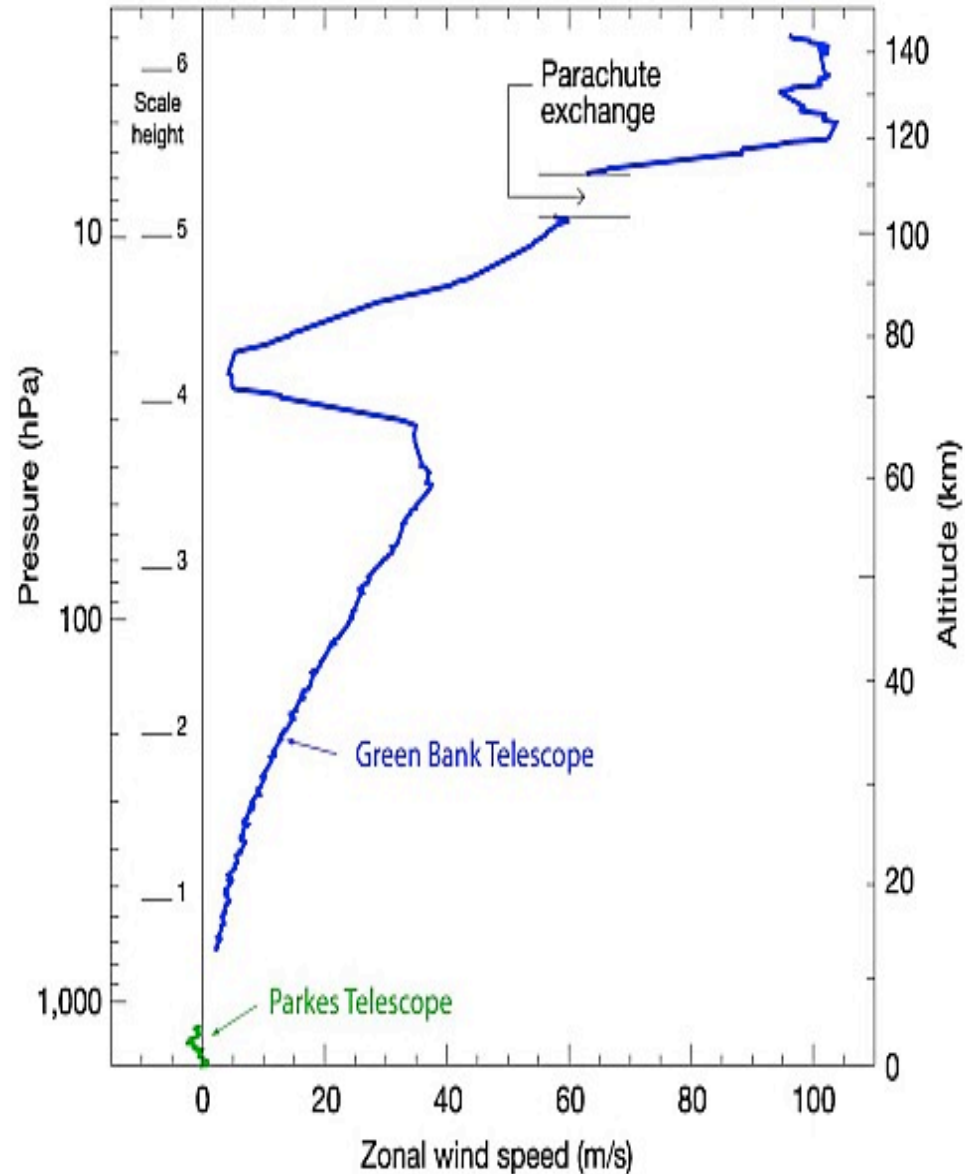
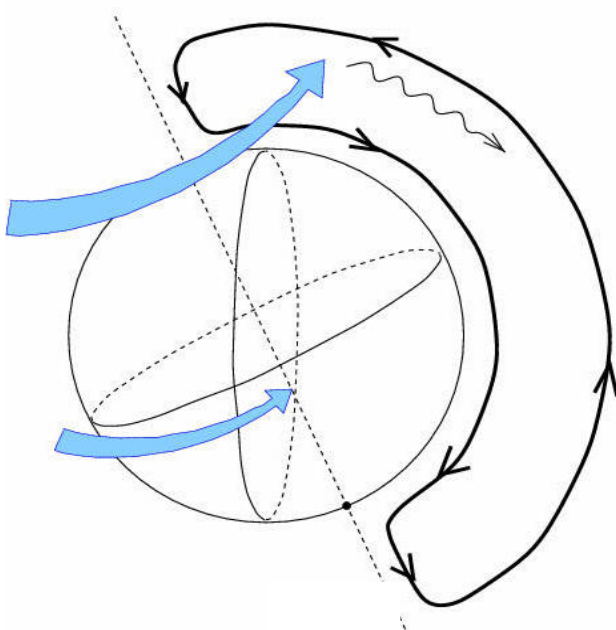
P. Rannou

...



Main characteristics of Titan's atmosphere

- Super-rotation
- Methane cycle
- One Hadley cell. Equinox reversal
- Radiative time scale ~ 2.5 Titan years
 - Weak diurnal cycle ($\Delta T_s < 1$ K)
 - Circulation \sim Mean circulation
- Pressure influenced by gravitational tides induced by Saturn

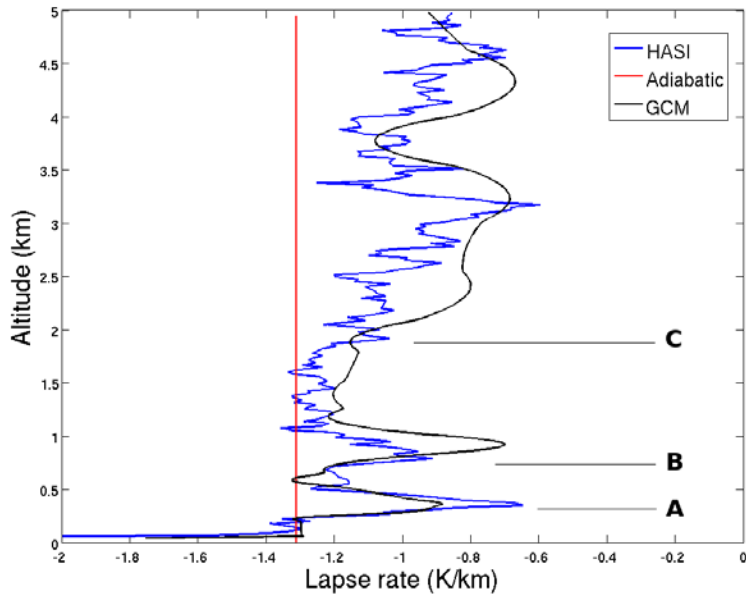




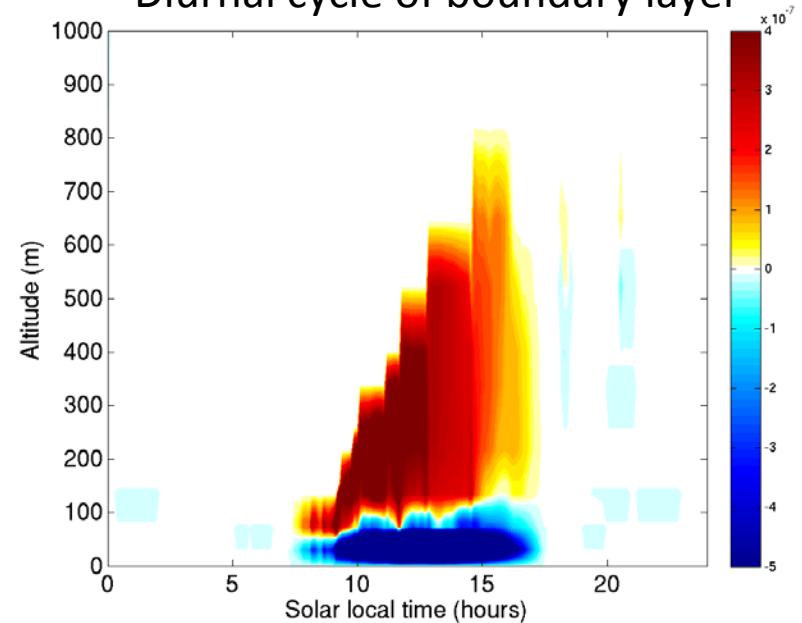
Lower troposphere and boundary layer of Titan

Charnay & Lebonnois, *Nature Geoscience* (2012)

Thermal structure



Diurnal cycle of boundary layer



- Boundary layer forced by diurnal cycle, up to 2 km @ ITCZ
- Hadley cell confined in the lowermost 2 km
→ additional boundary layer circulation

Formation of giant dunes

Andreotti et al., *Nature* (2009)

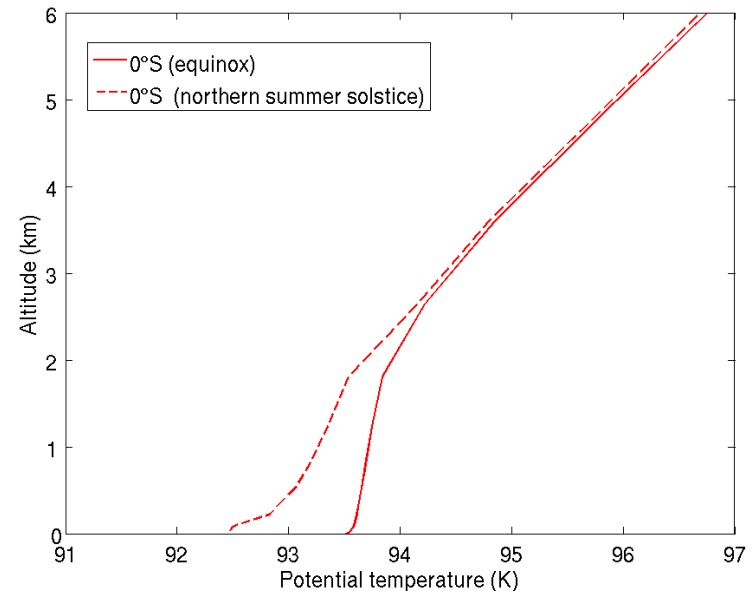
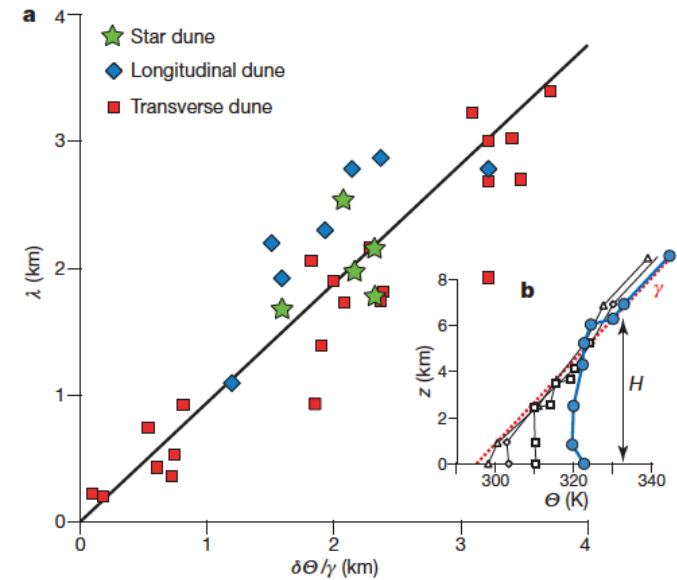
PBL controls size & spacing of giant dunes: $\lambda \approx H$

Dune spacing on Titan ≈ 3 km

➔ Agreement with a PBL 2-3 km deep (Lorenz et al, 2010)

Thermal structure compatible with 2 km-deep PBL → explains dune size and spacing.

Charnay & Lebonnois (2012)



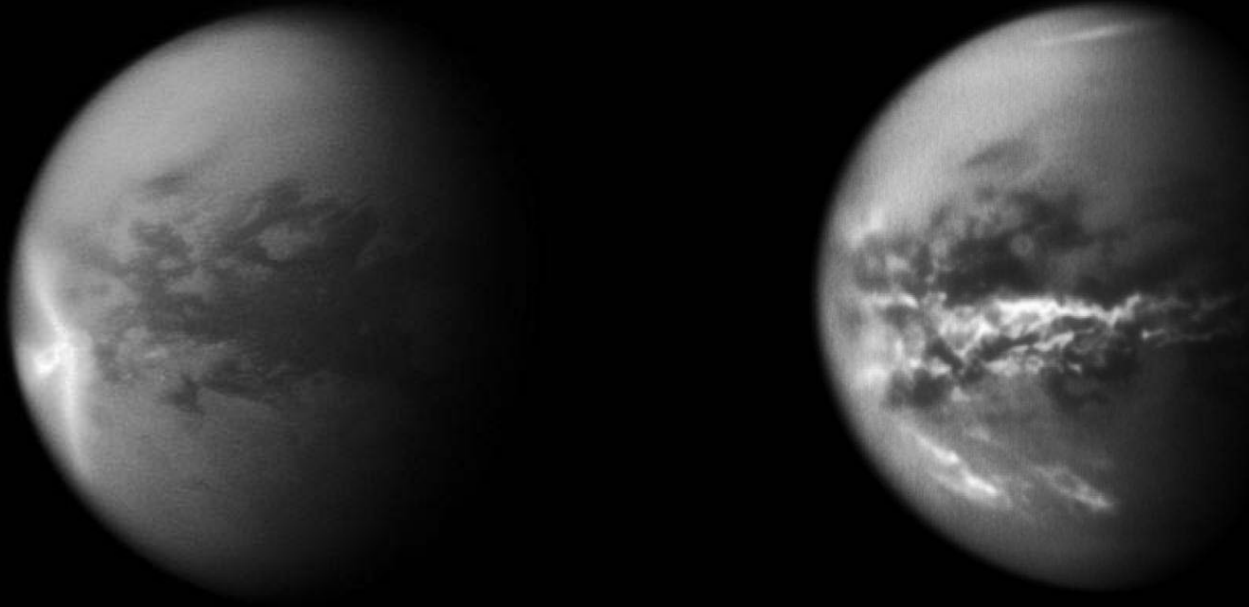
Dune orientation

Equator → direction opposed to mean zonal wind in GCMs!



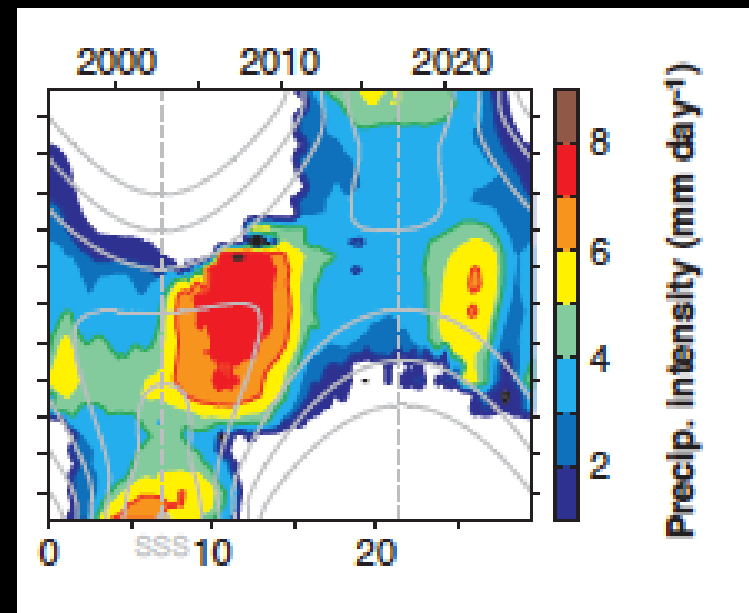
**Why
GCM winds
are opposed to
dune winds?**

- Either: an important atmospheric process is missing (topography, methane cycle, ...)
- Or: dunes do not form by saltation; dunes are paleo-dunes (different climate) ; ...



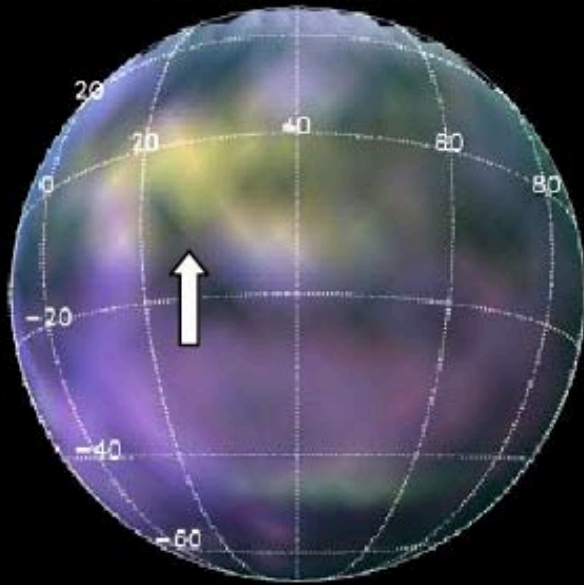
Convective storms at the equator at equinoxes
Turtle et al (2010,2011)

Could be reproduced by GCMs
Schneider et al (2011)

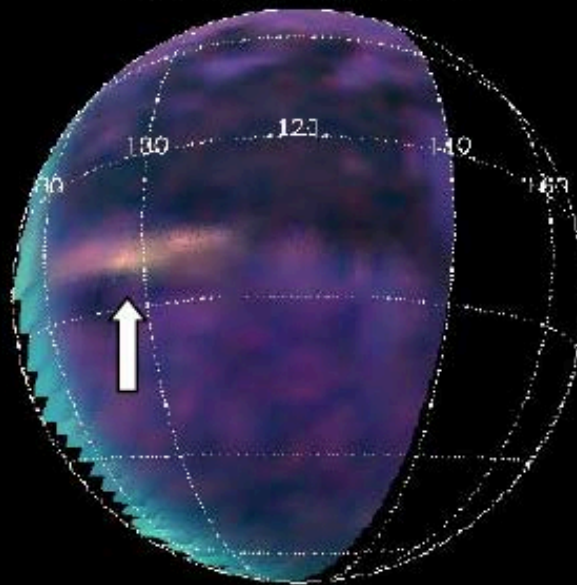


Possible dust storms on Titan

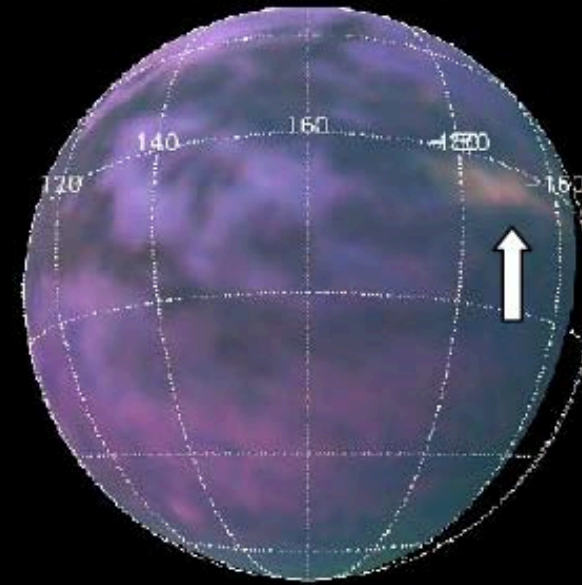
T56
8 June 2009



T65
13 January 2010



T70
21 June 2010

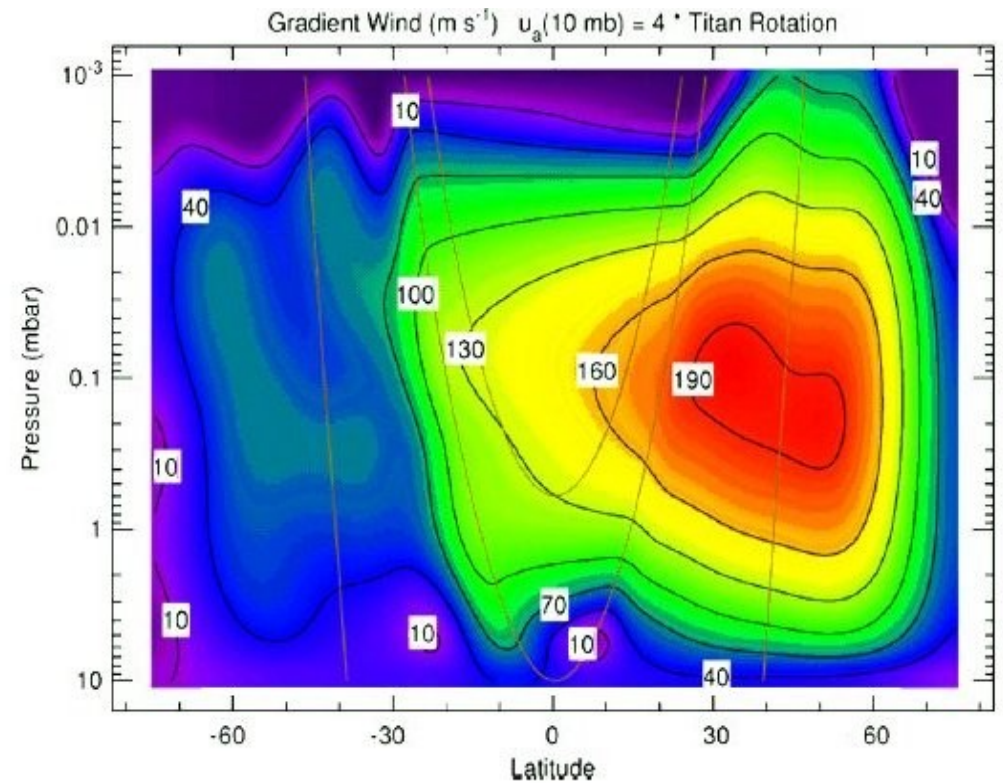
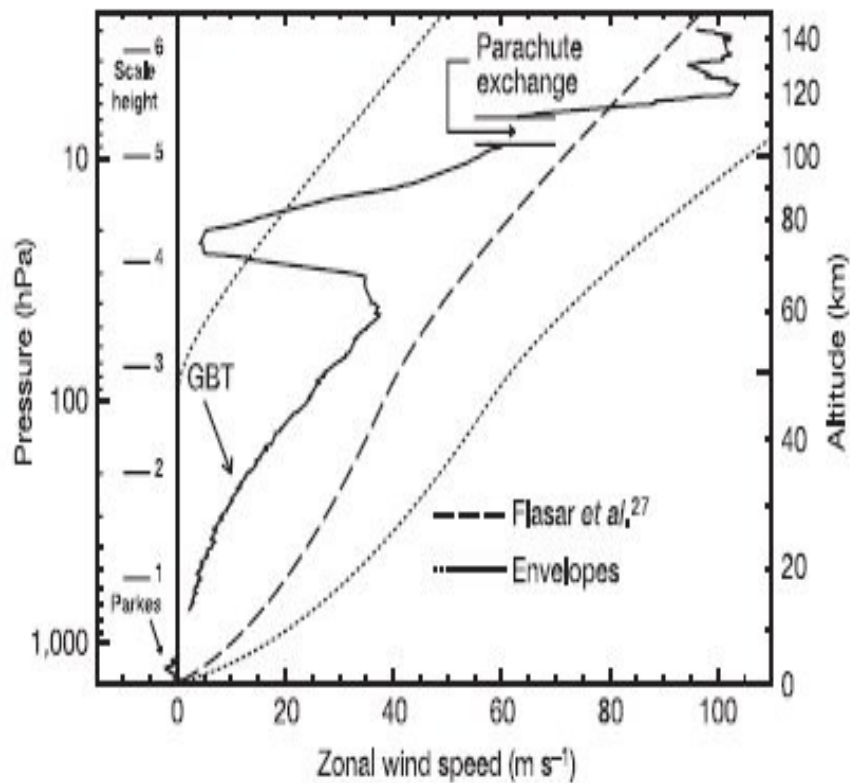


Rodriguez et al, LPI 2012

Observations of superrotation

TITAN

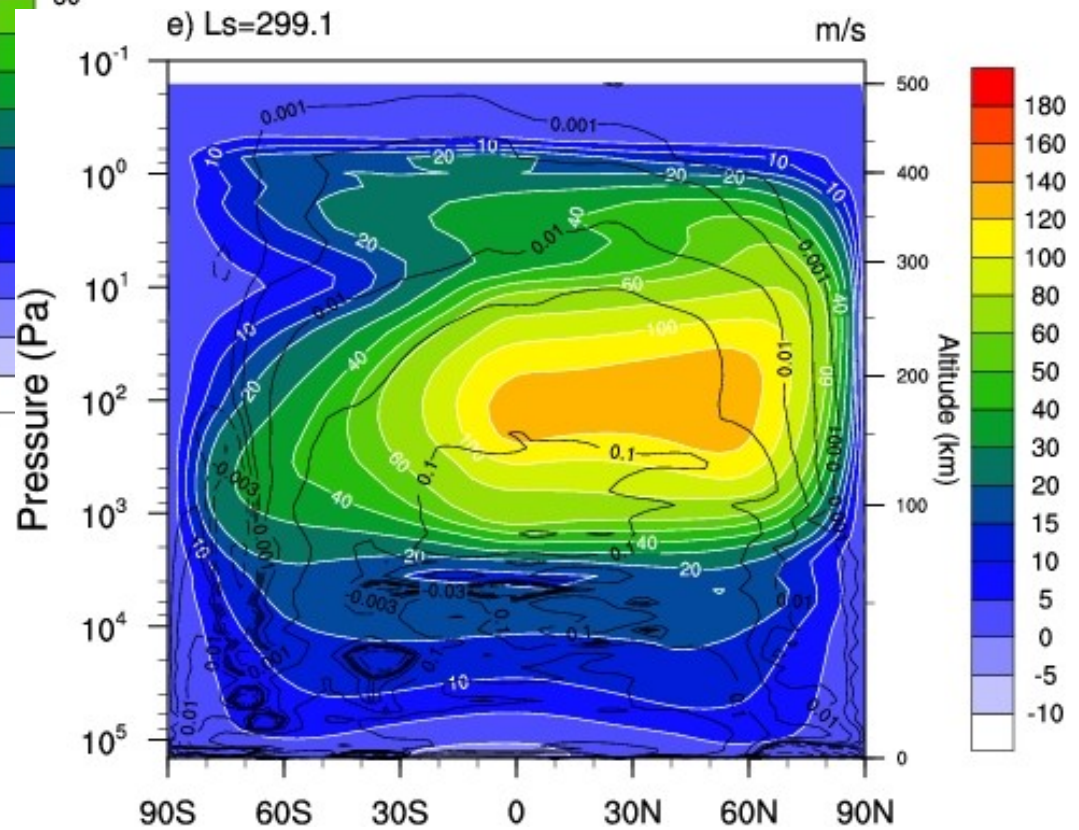
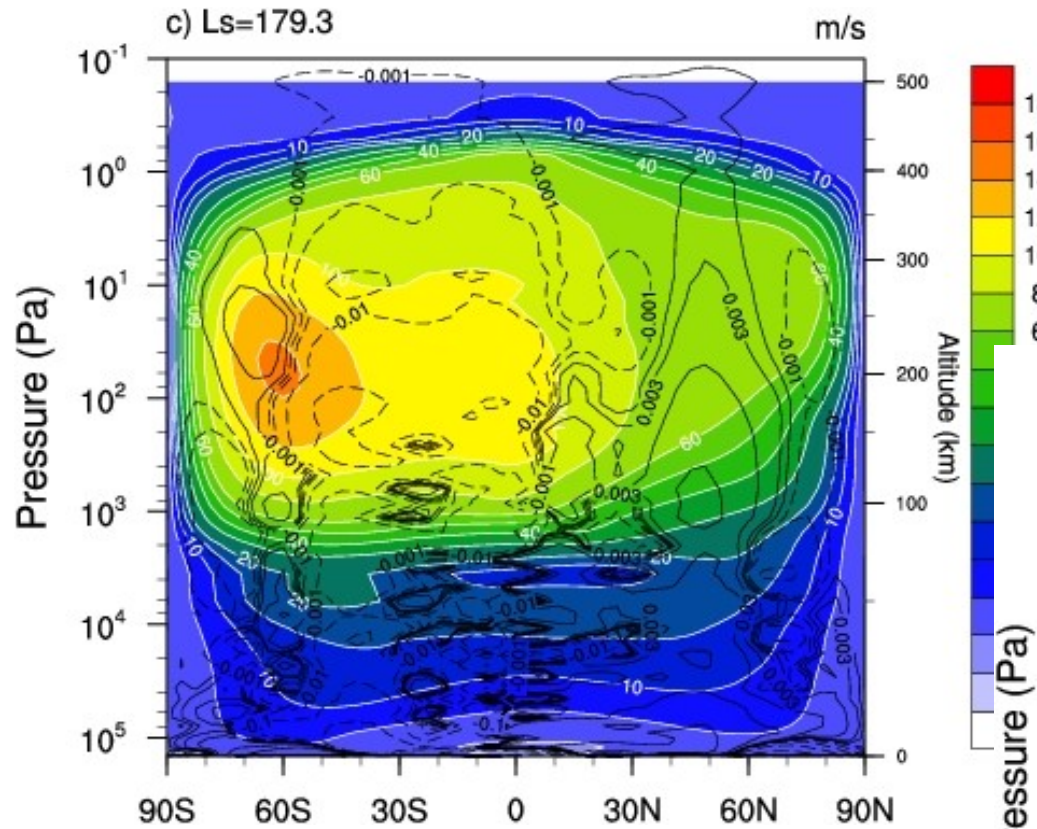
Huygens/DWE vertical profile at 10°S (Ls ~ 300°)



Cassini/CIRS thermal winds retrieval (Ls ~ 300°)

Titan Superrotation

Started from 2D-CM simulations,
interactive haze



Mean zonal wind and stream function after 12 Titan years

Pluto and Triton

Triton $P_s=1.4 \text{ Pa}$ (N_2) observed by Voyager 2 (1989)

First GCM : retro-super-rotation; observed winds explained

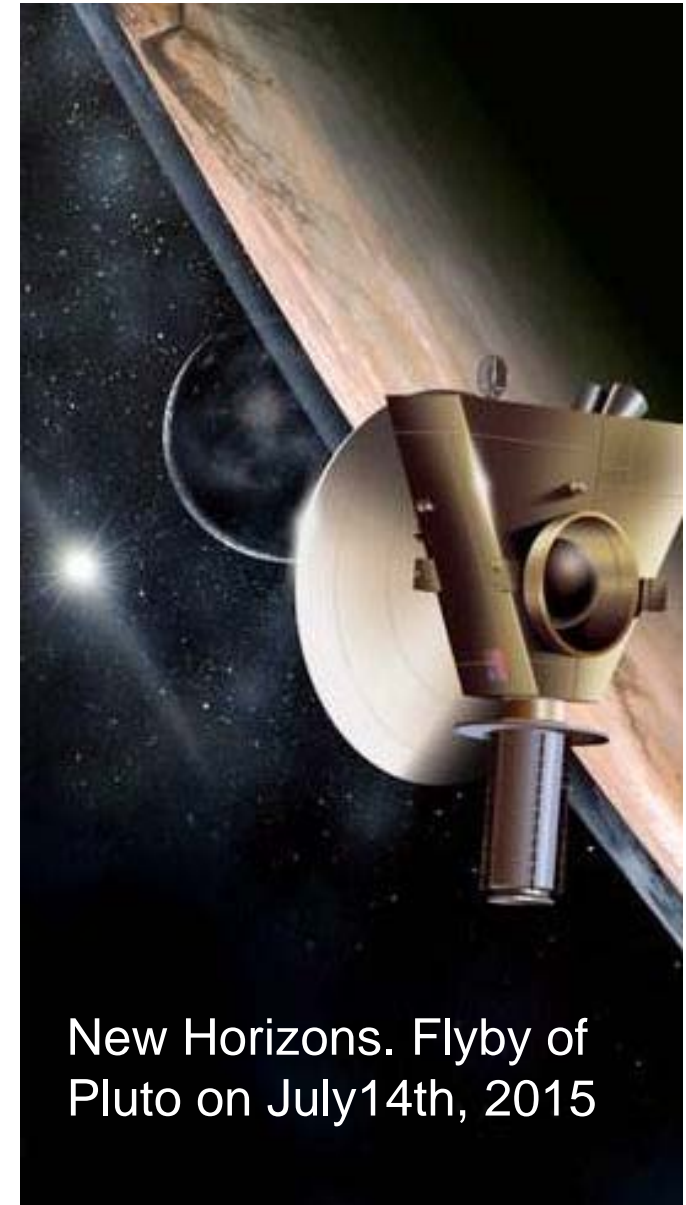
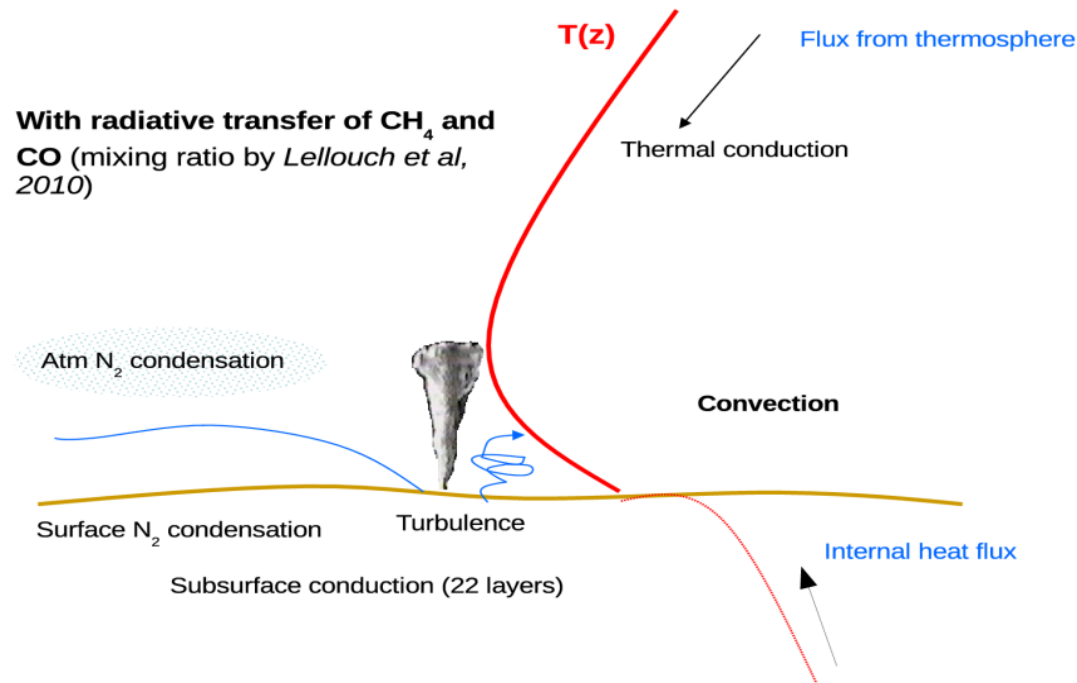
Seasonal model for ices (run over 3000 years!)

Pluton $P_s= 2\text{Pa}$ ($\text{N}_2 + 0,5\% \text{ CH}_4$)

First complete GCM

Circulation , methane cycle, organic haze

Preparation of the NASA New Horizons mission→



New Horizons. Flyby of Pluto on July 14th, 2015

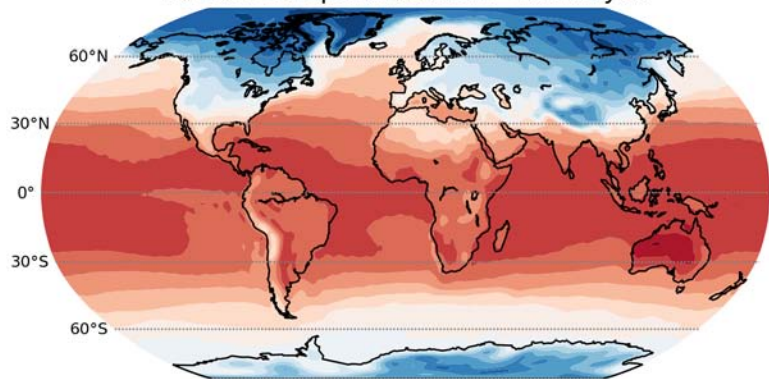
Archean Earth



Benjamin Charnay, François Forget, Robin Wordsworth, Jérémy Leconte, Ehouarn Millour, Francis Codron and Aymeric Spiga

Observations (Reanalysis)

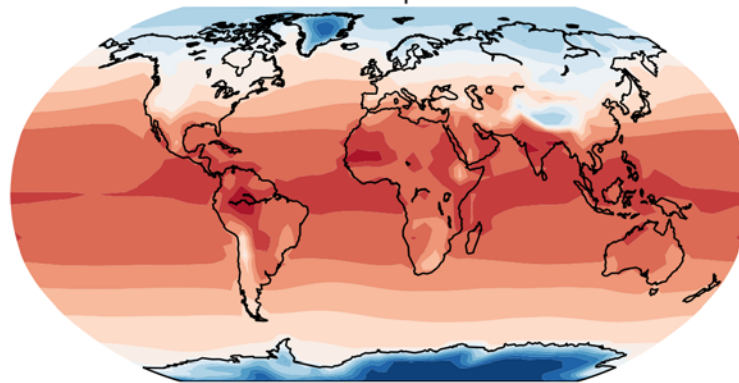
Surface temperature NCEP Reanalysis



$\langle T_{surf} \rangle = 14.7^\circ\text{C}$

LMDZ Generic

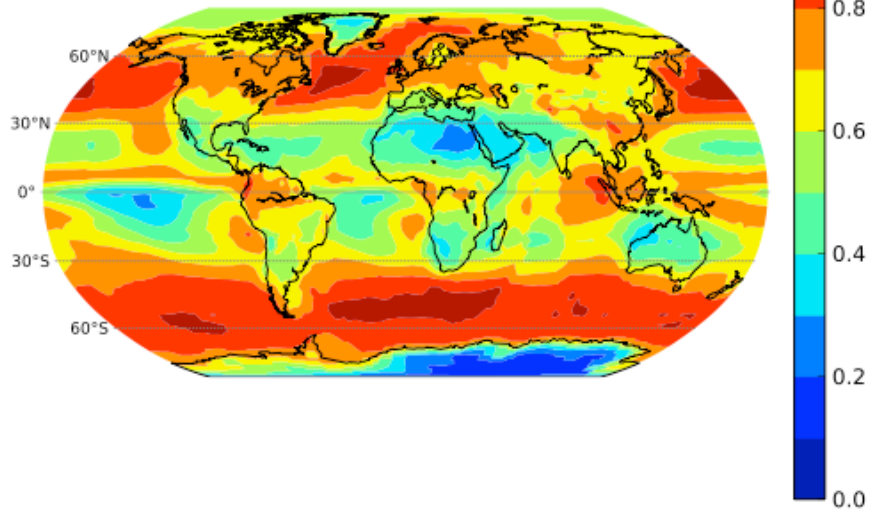
Surface temperature



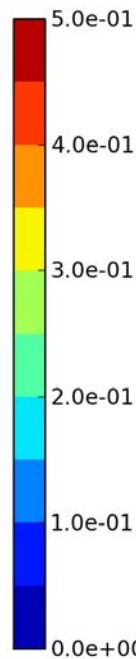
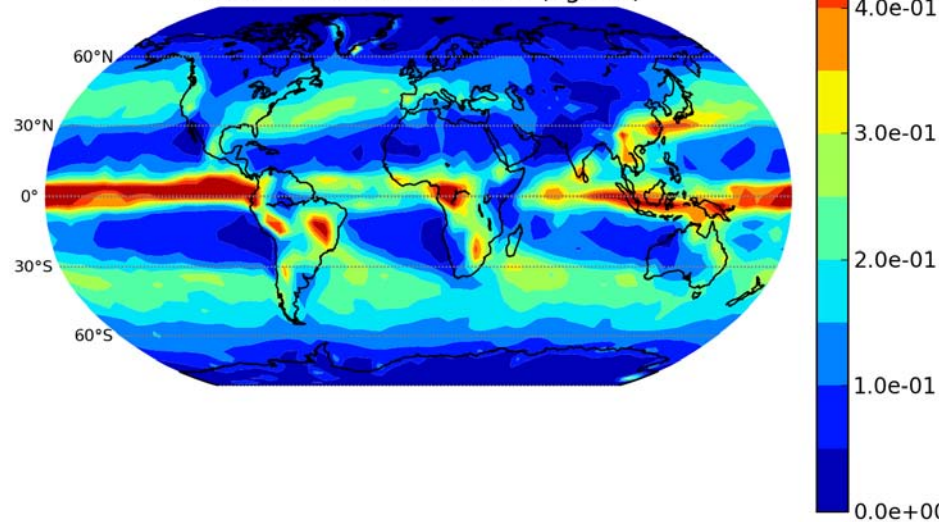
$\langle T_{surf} \rangle = 14.7^\circ\text{C}$



Mean cloud fraction ISCCP



Condensed water column (kg/m²)



The faint young Sun paradox:

- Sun 20-25% weaker during the Archean
- Geological evidence for liquid water and primitive life
- Need for warming processes

Solutions:

Greenhouse gases

- CO₂
- CH₄
- NH₃
- ...

A reduced planetary albedo

- less lands
- larger cloud droplet

Other effects

- higher atmospheric pressure
- faster rotation

Can we get a temperate early Earth with the geological constraints?

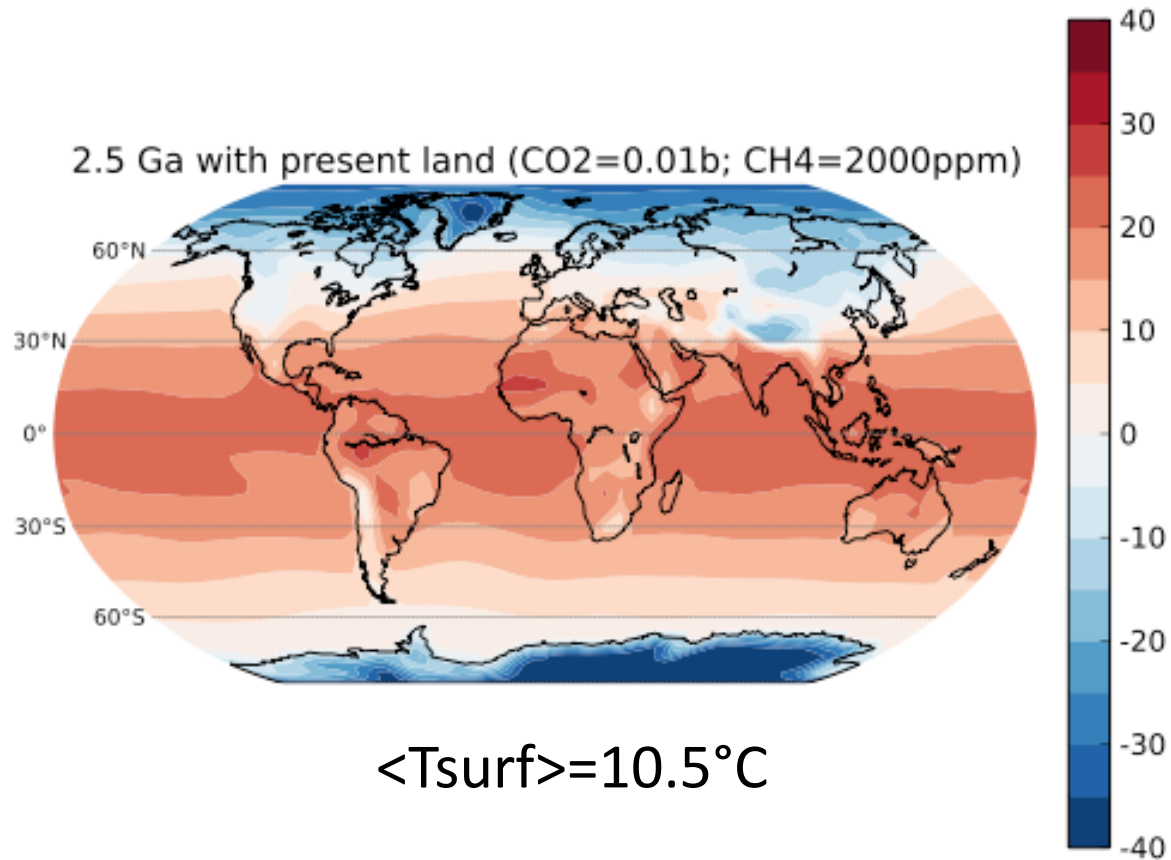
Maximal partial pressure of CO₂ at 2.5 Ga: 0.01-0.02 bar

Maximal haze free CH₄/CO₂ ratio: 0.1-0.3



Climate obtained with present day lands

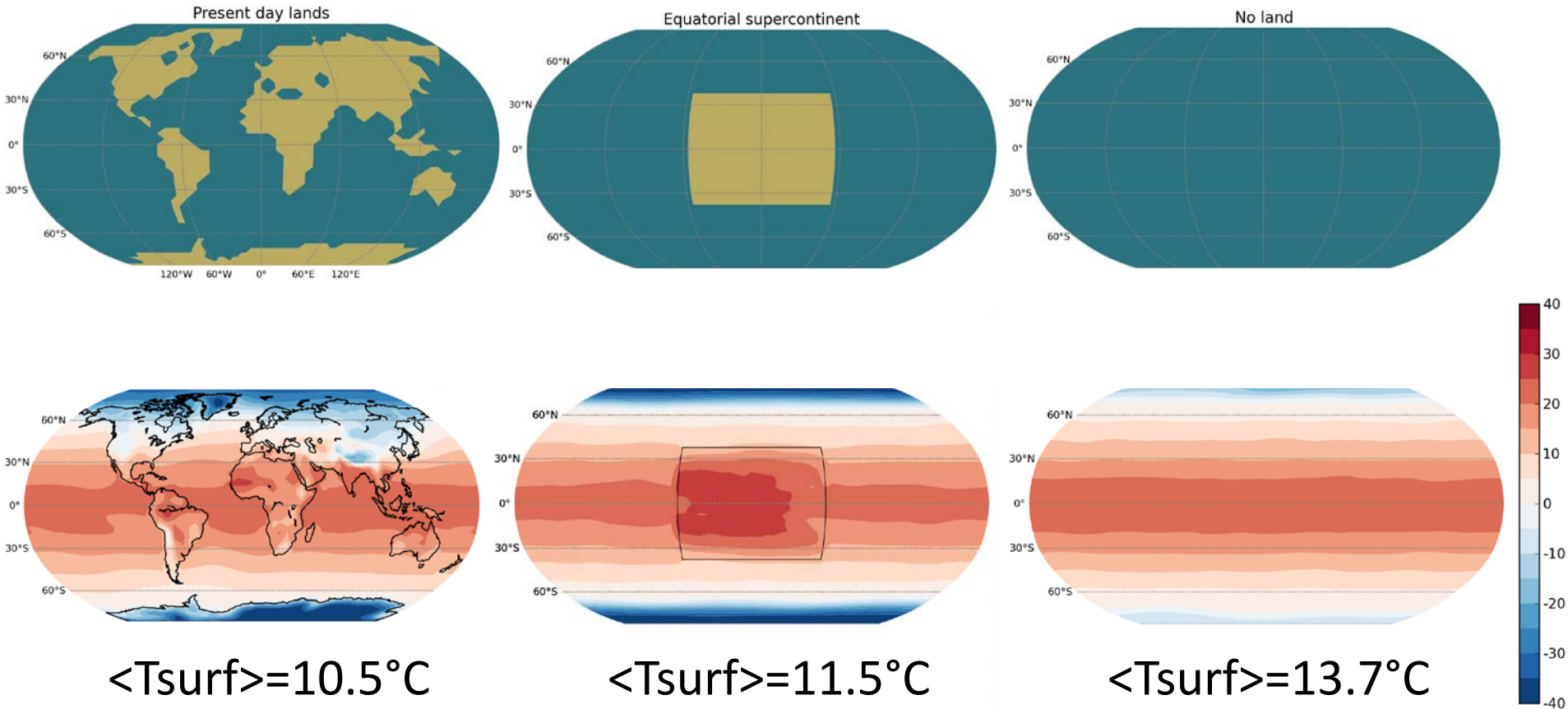
(simulations at 2.5 Ga with $\text{CO}_2=0.01$ bar; $\text{CH}_4=2$ mb)



- Colder climate than today
- Continental ices at high latitudes
- Maybe acceptable with geological constraints

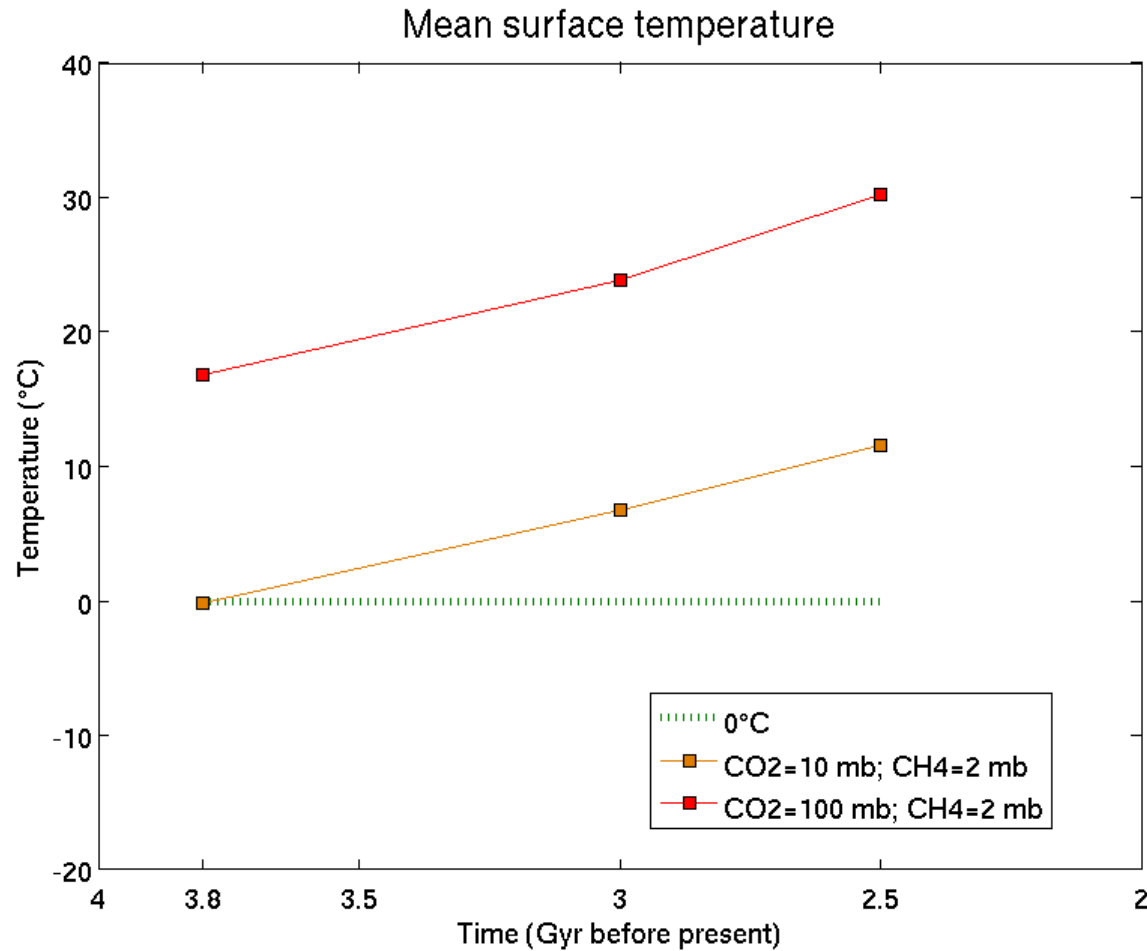
Climates obtained with different lands

(simulations at 2.5 Ga with $\text{CO}_2=0.01$ bar; $\text{CH}_4=2$ mb)



- $\Delta T_{\text{surf}} = 0-3^\circ\text{C}$
- Case with supercontinent fully acceptable

Effect of greenhouse gases

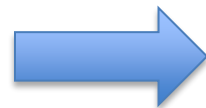
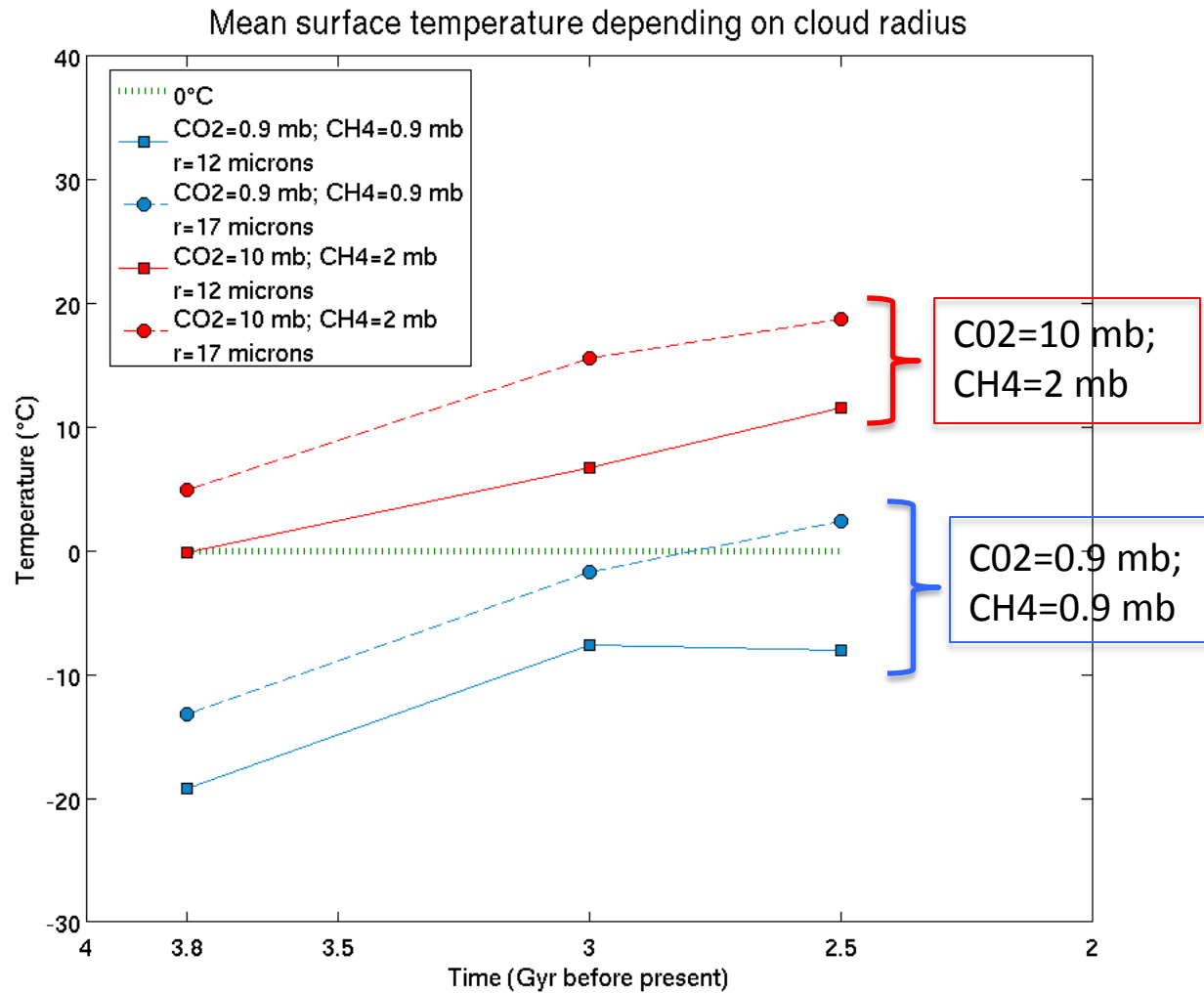


Conditions for temperate climates:

Late-Archean: CO₂=0.01 b and CH₄=2 mb

Earlier Archean: CO₂=0.1 b and CH₄=2 mb

Effect of cloud droplet size on surface temperature

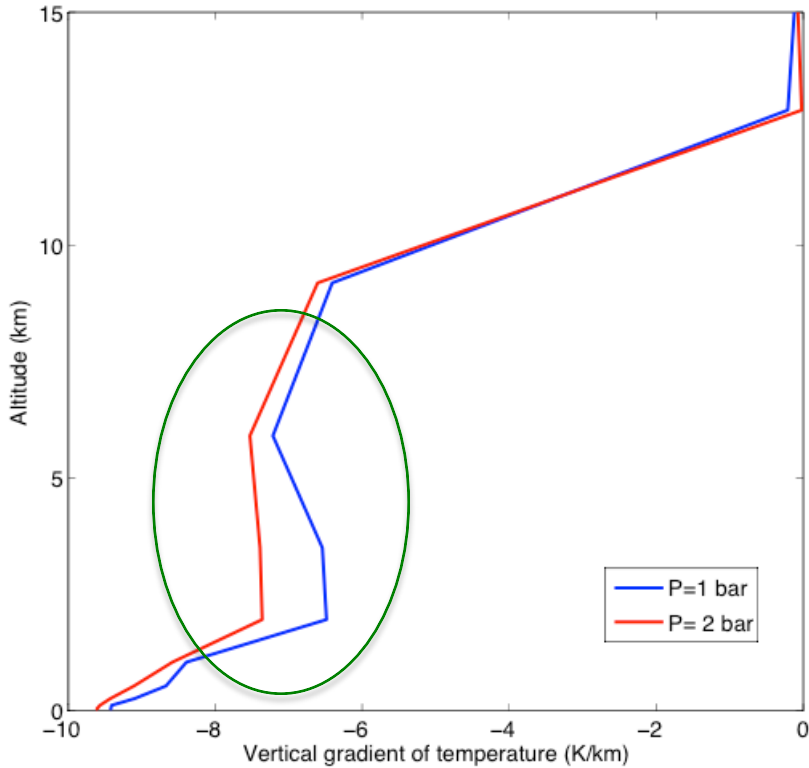


$\Delta T_{surf} = 5-10^{\circ}\text{C}$

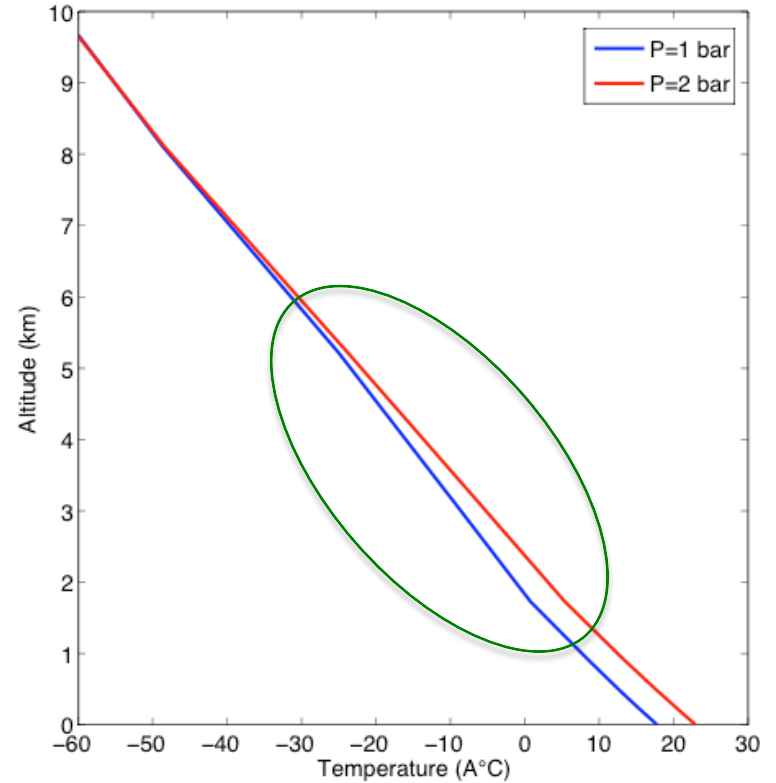
Effect of atmospheric pressure

(simulations at 3 Ga with CO₂=0.01 bar; CH₄=2 mb; N₂=1-2 bar)

Temperature lapse rate



Temperature profile



$\Delta T_{\text{surf}} = 4-8^{\circ}\text{C}$

Effect of the rotation period

Earth's rotation period at 4 Ga \approx 14h
Tidal friction rised it to 24h now.

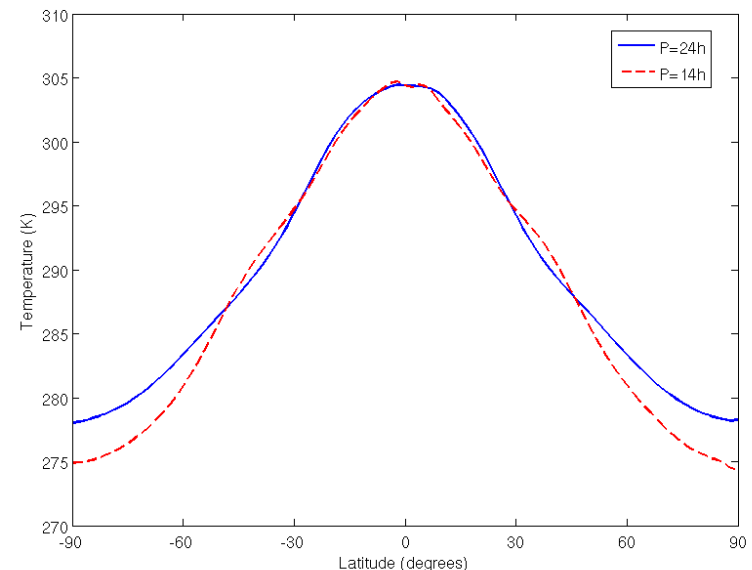
Meridional transport $\propto \frac{1}{\Omega^2}$
(Stones 1972)



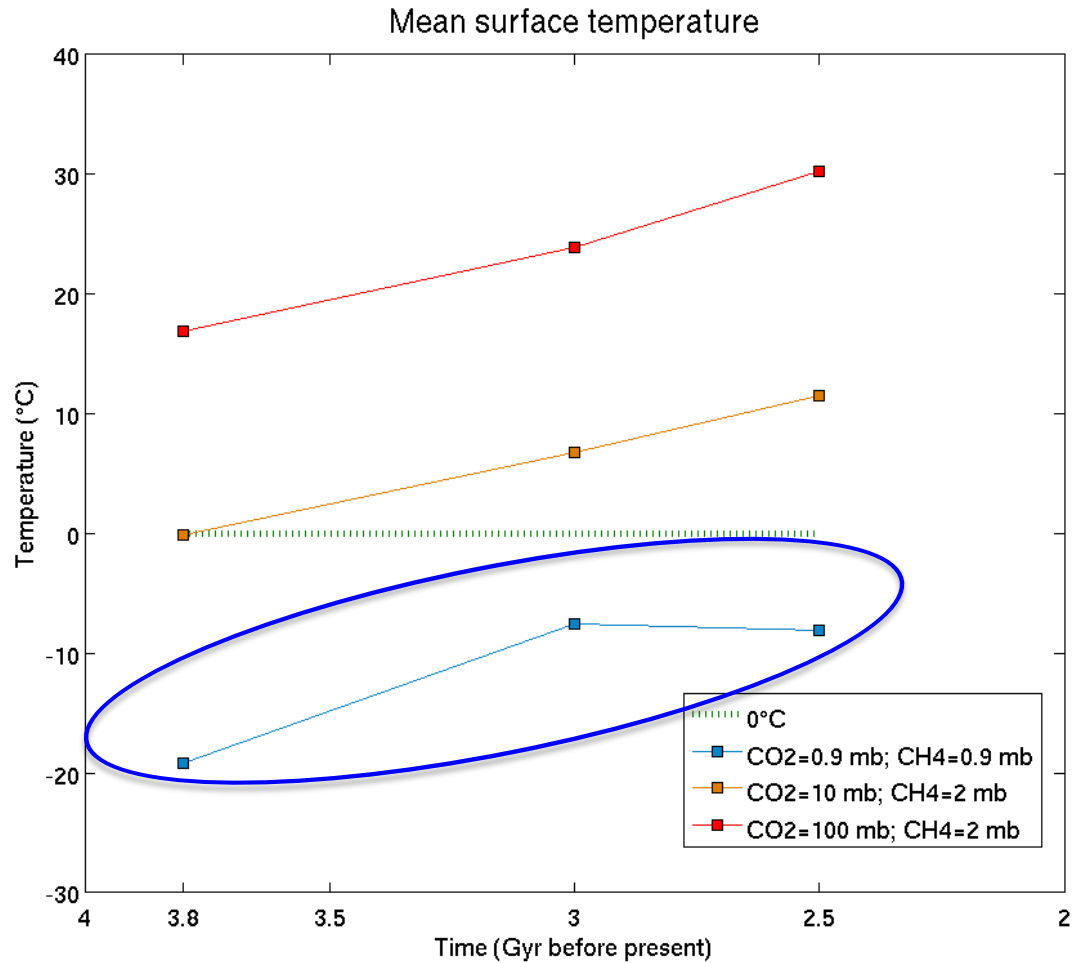
- Colder poles/warmer equator
- Possible effects on cloud covering (Jenkins 1995)

With our GCM:

- Cooling of less than 1 K for temperate climates
- Warming for cold climates



Case of a cold early Earth



Cold climates and waterbelts

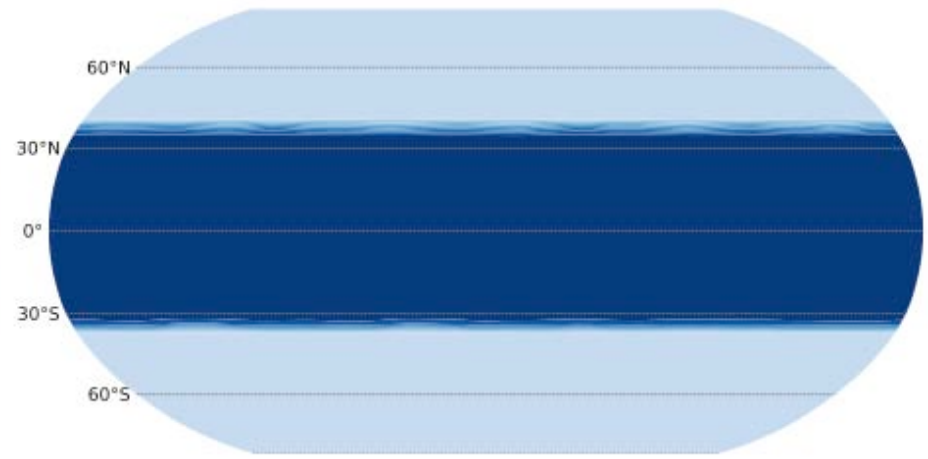
(simulations at 3.8 Ga with $\text{CO}_2=0.9$ mb; $\text{CH}_4=0.9$ mb; no land)

P=24h



$\langle T_{\text{surf}} \rangle = -18^\circ\text{C}$

P=14h

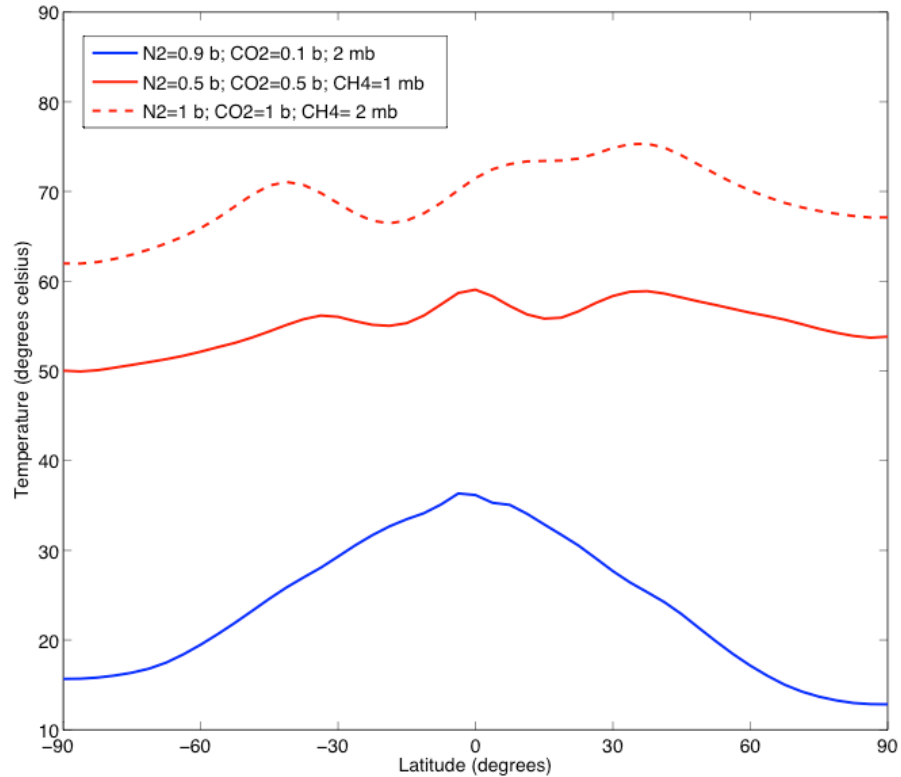


$\langle T_{\text{surf}} \rangle = -15^\circ\text{C}$

Hot climates

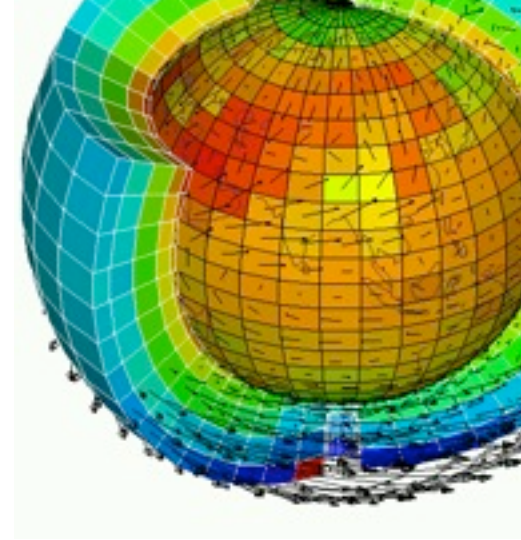
(simulations at 3.8 Ga with $r=17$ microns and no land)

Preliminary results



Composition	$\langle T_{surf} \rangle$	Precipitable water	Albedo
N ₂ =0.9 b; CO ₂ =0.1 b; CH ₄ =2 mb	27.5 °C	40 kg/m ²	0.25
N ₂ =0.5 b; CO ₂ =0.5 b; CH ₄ =1 mb	56 °C	280 kg/m ²	0.24
N ₂ =1 b; CO ₂ =1 b; CH ₄ =2 mb	70.5 °C	470 kg/m ²	0.22

Simulating exoplanetary atmospheres: Living beyond the runaway greenhouse limit



Jeremy Leconte

Francois Forget, Robin Wordsworth, B.
Charnay, E. Millour, F. Codron, A. Spiga, F.
Selsis, V. Eymet

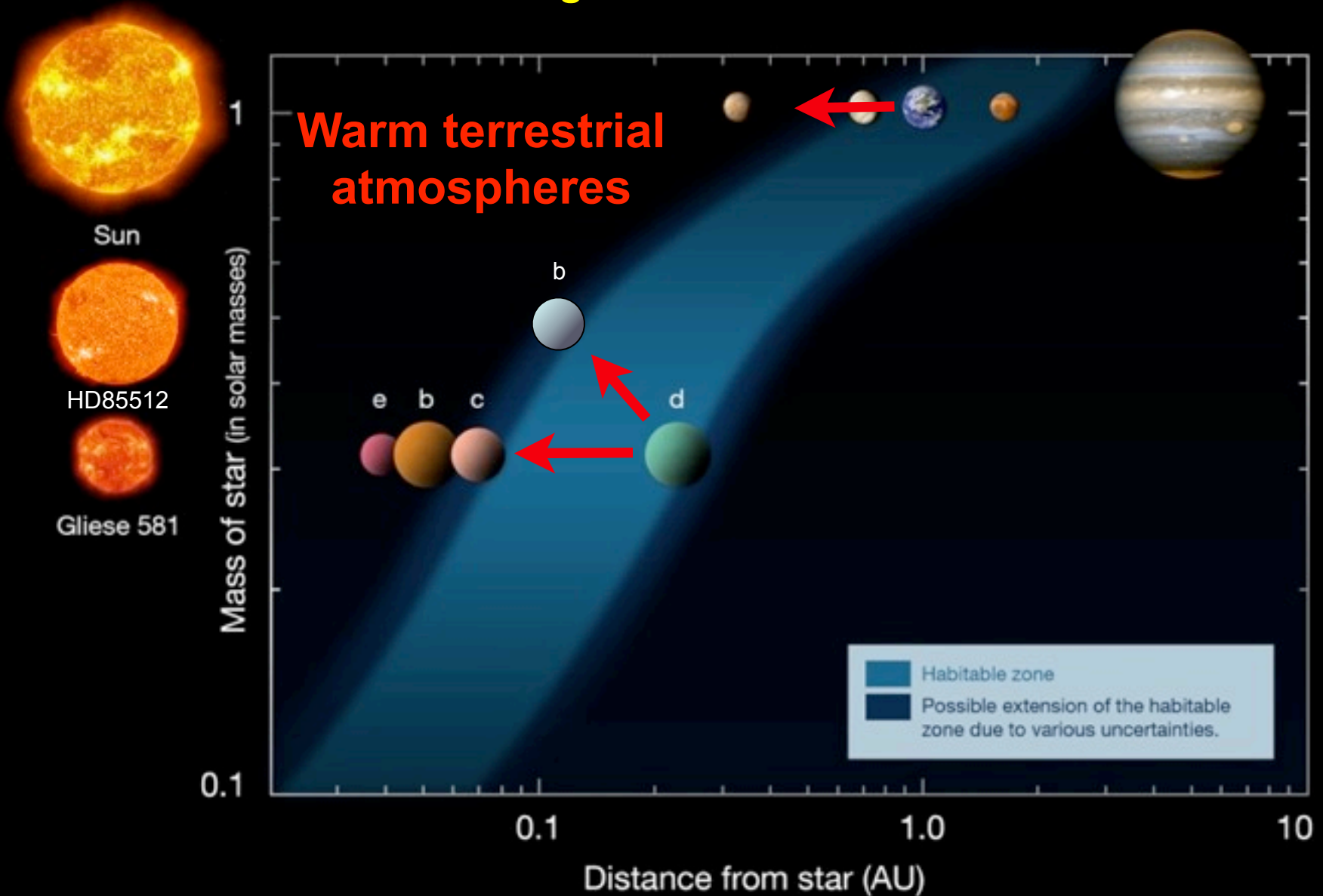
*LMD, Institut Pierre Simon Laplace, Université Pierre et Marie
Curie, BP 99, 75005 Paris, France*

What we have learned from solar system GCMs

- **To first order: GCMs work**
 - A few equations can build « planet simulators » with a realistic, complex behaviour and strong prediction capacities
- **However Problems with :**
 - Missing physical processes (*e.g. radiative effects of Martian clouds*)
 - Positive feedbacks and instability (*e.g. ice albedo feedback on the Earth*)
 - Non linear behaviour and threshold effect (*e.g. dust storms on Mars*)
 - Complex, large System with small forcing (*e.g. Venus circulation*). /Sensitivity to initial state
 - Complex subgrid scale process and poorly known physics (*e.g. clouds on the Earth, Gravity waves on Venus*)

=> whatever the quality of the model, heavy study of model sensitivity to parameters will always be necessary.

Roaming the Habitable zone


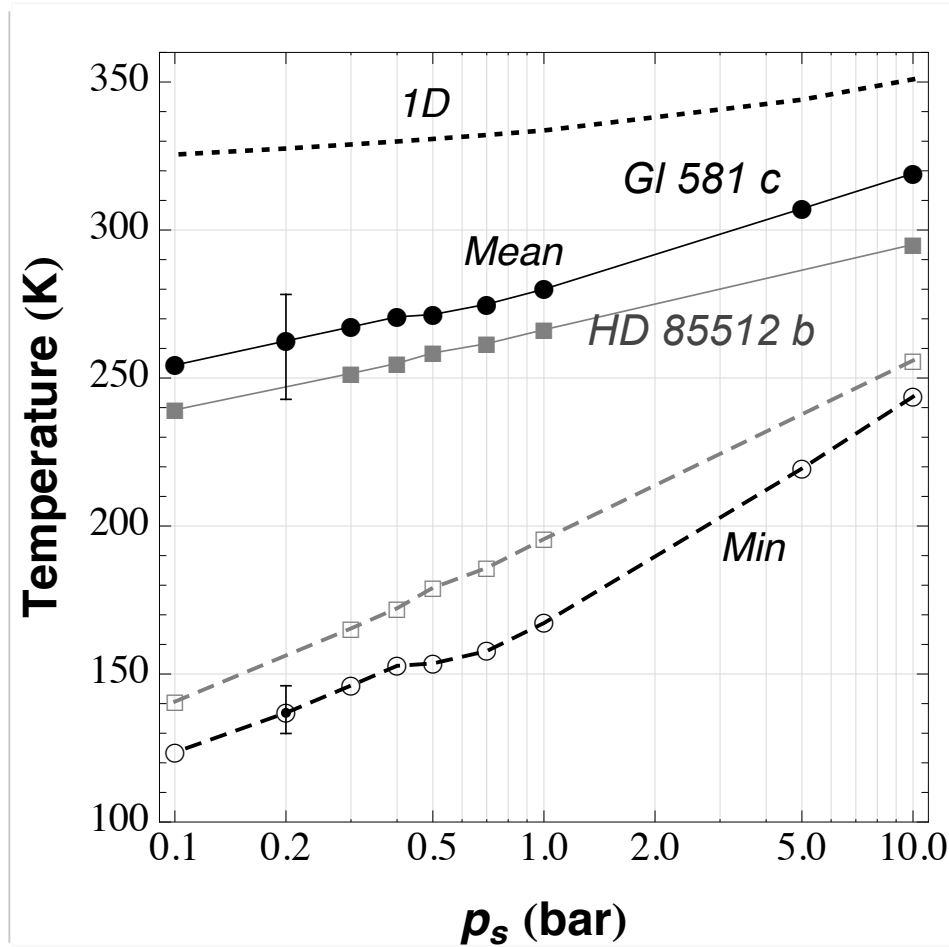


The goal is not only to model a given planet climate!

Selsis et al. 2007

1D vs D3: systematic biases

Systematic
1D/3D
discrepancy

$$\bar{T}_s = \frac{1}{4\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} d\phi \int_0^1 d \cos \theta_* \left(\frac{(1 - A) F_* \cos \theta_*}{\sigma_{\text{SB}}} \right)^{1/4} = \frac{2\sqrt{2}}{5} \bar{T}_{\text{equ}}$$

wind maps (m/s)

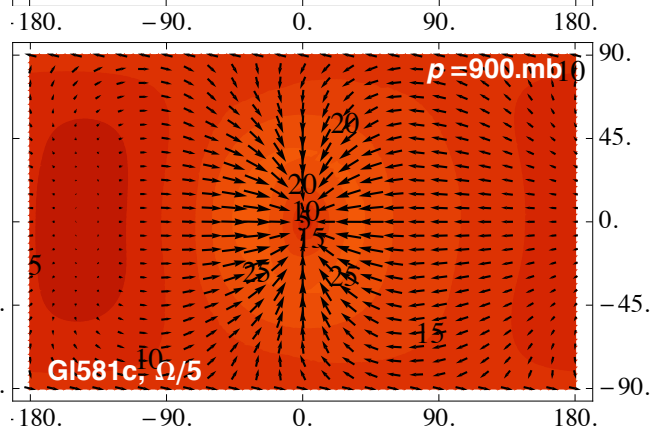
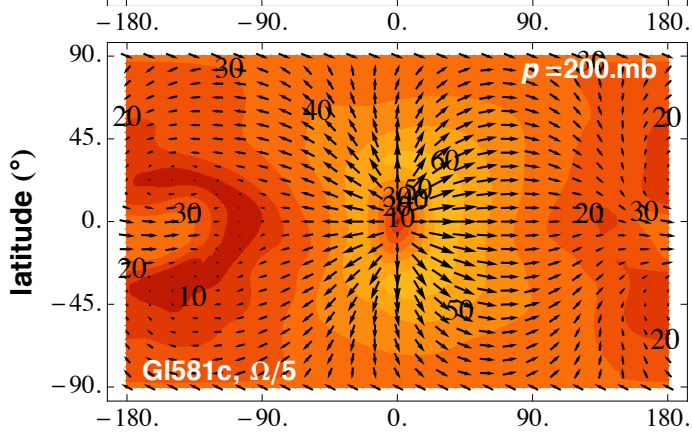
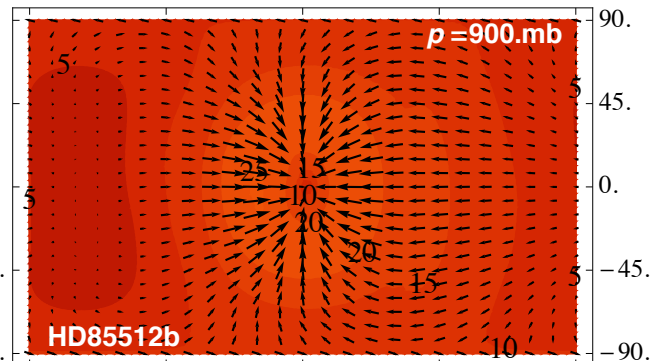
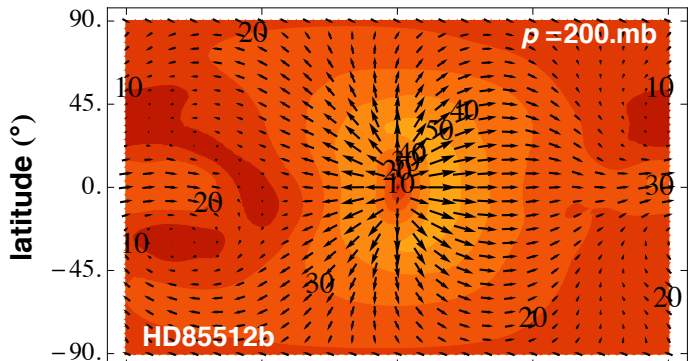
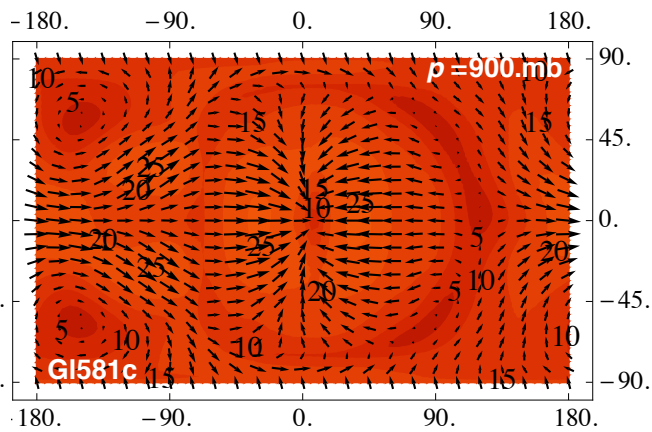
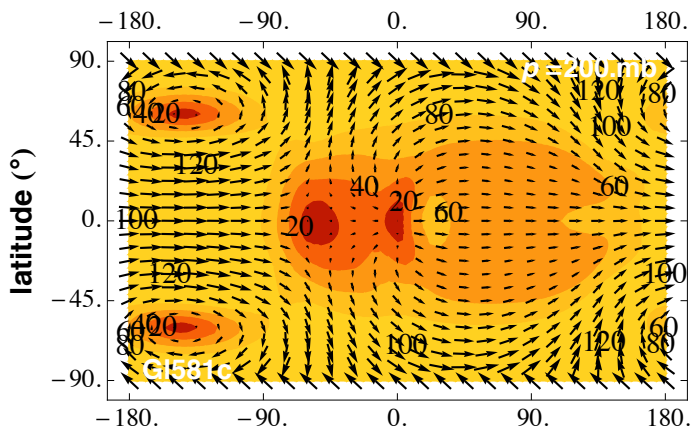
~4km Altitude

Near Surface

GI 581 c

HD 85512 b

Slow
GI 581 c



longitude (°)

longitude (°)

latitude (°)

latitude (°)

latitude (°)

90.

45.

0.

-45.

-90.

90.

45.

0.

-45.

-90.

90.

45.

0.

-45.

-90.

90.

45.

0.

-45.

-90.

-180.

-90.

0.

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180.

-180.

-90.

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180.

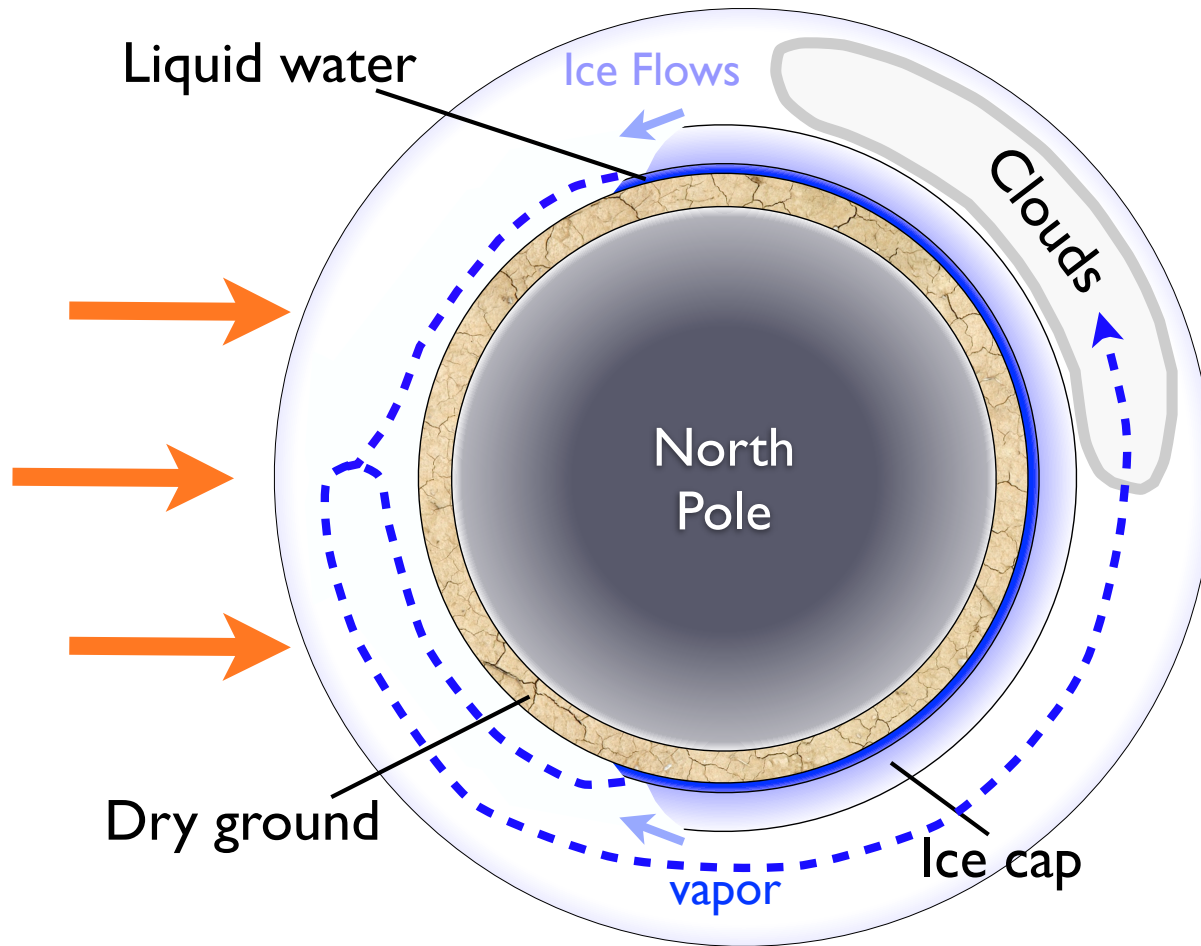
-90.

0.

90.

180.

Can these planet bear liquid water?



*Like on Earth, if a thick ice cap is present (a few km),
Ice flows and subsurface water could exist.*

Gliese 581d is the first discovered terrestrial-mass exoplanet in the habitable zone

Robin D. Wordsworth,^{1*} François Forget,¹ Franck Selsis,^{2,3}
Ehouarn Millour,¹ Benjamin Charnay,¹ Jean-Baptiste Madeleine¹

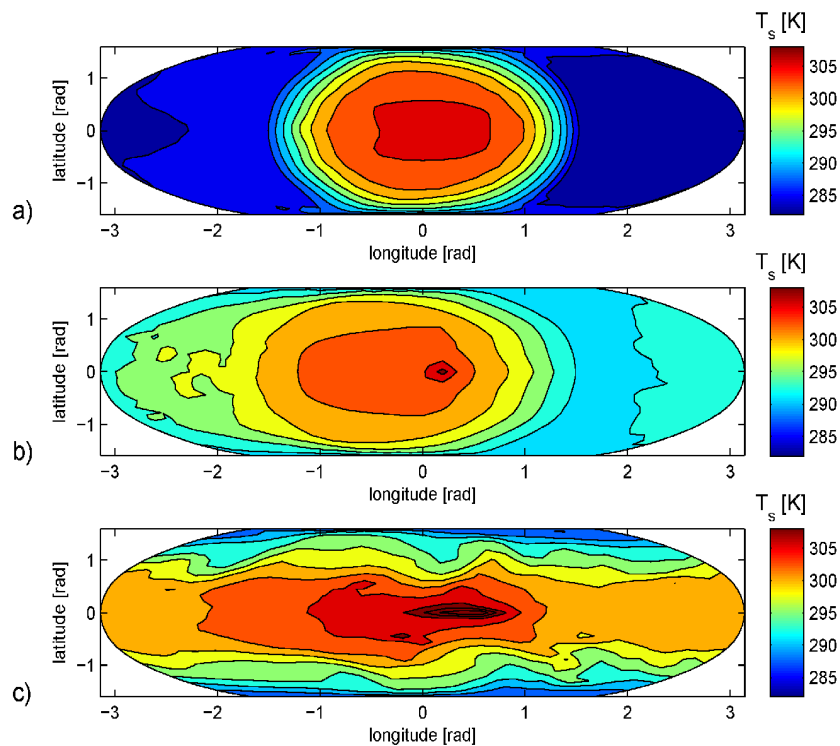


Fig. 1.— Surface temperature snapshots after 60 orbits integration time for rocky planet simulations with a) 1:1, b) 1:2 and c) 1:10 tidal resonance and a 20-bar CO₂ atmosphere.

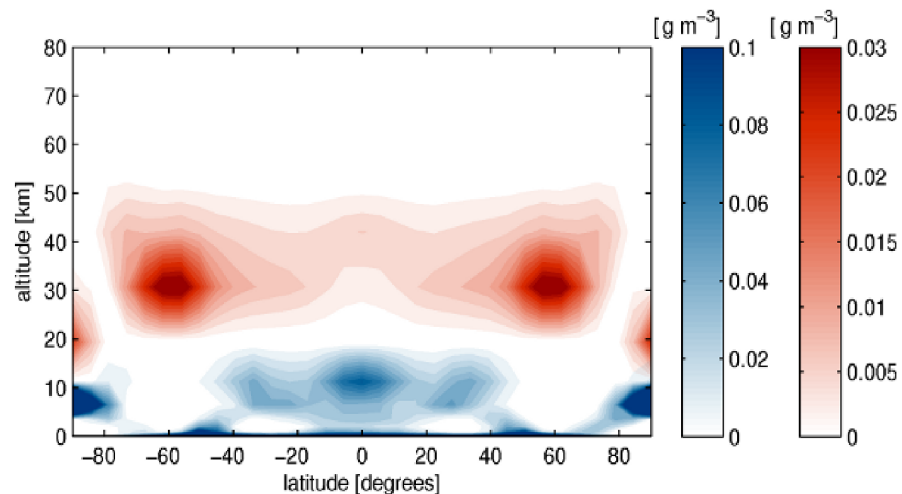
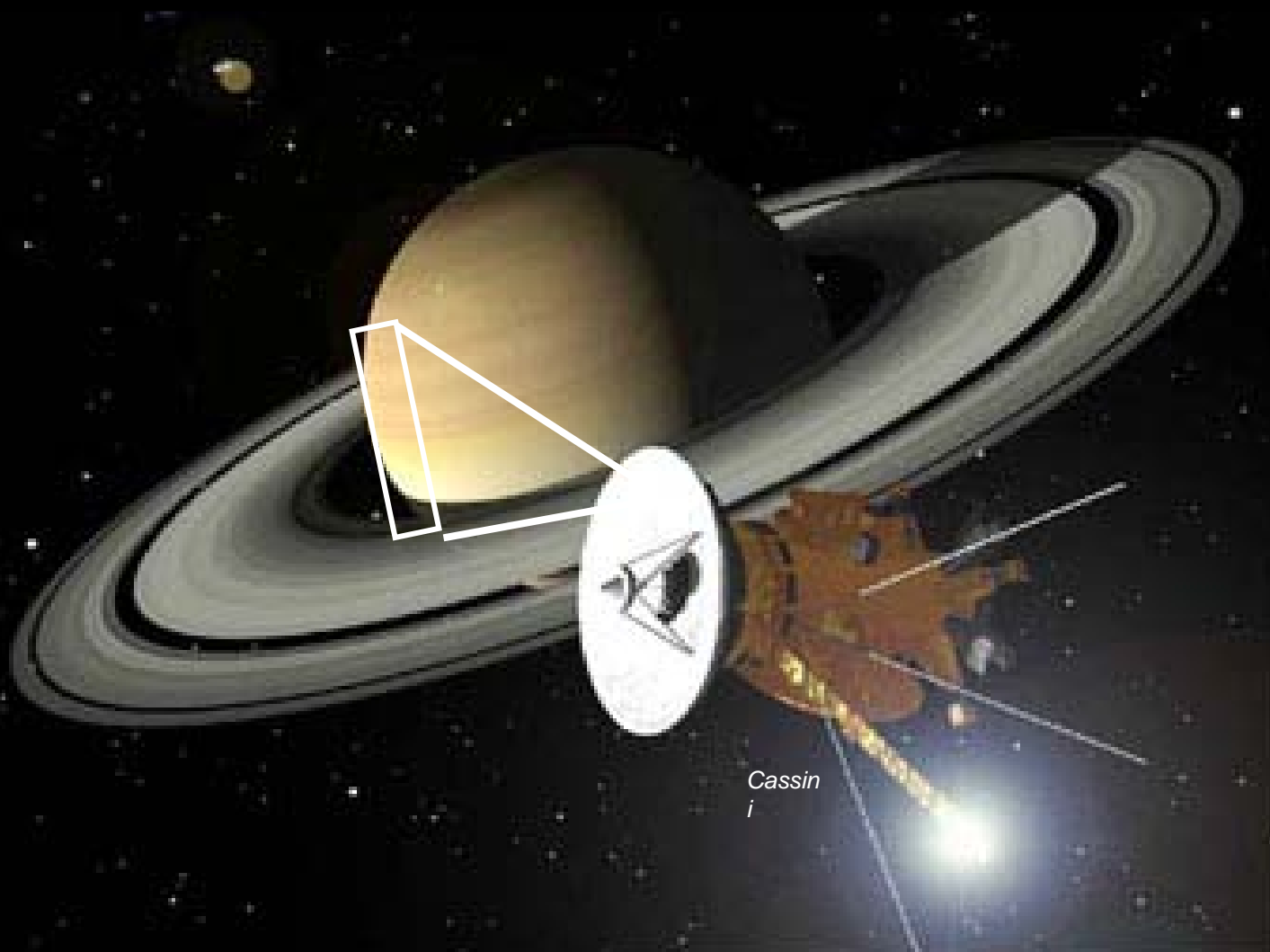


Fig. 3.— Latitude-altitude map of H₂O (blue) and CO₂ (red) cloud coverage for a 20-bar ocean simulation with 1:2 resonance, averaged in longitude and over one orbit. While the cloud deck altitudes were similar for all simulations, the latitudinal distribution depended strongly on the atmospheric dynamics and hence on the rotation rate and total pressure.

SATURN and GIANT PLANETS



A. Spiga
with
T. Fouchet
S. Guerlet
M. Sylvestre
E. Millour

EmerGéantes : a new Saturn GCM

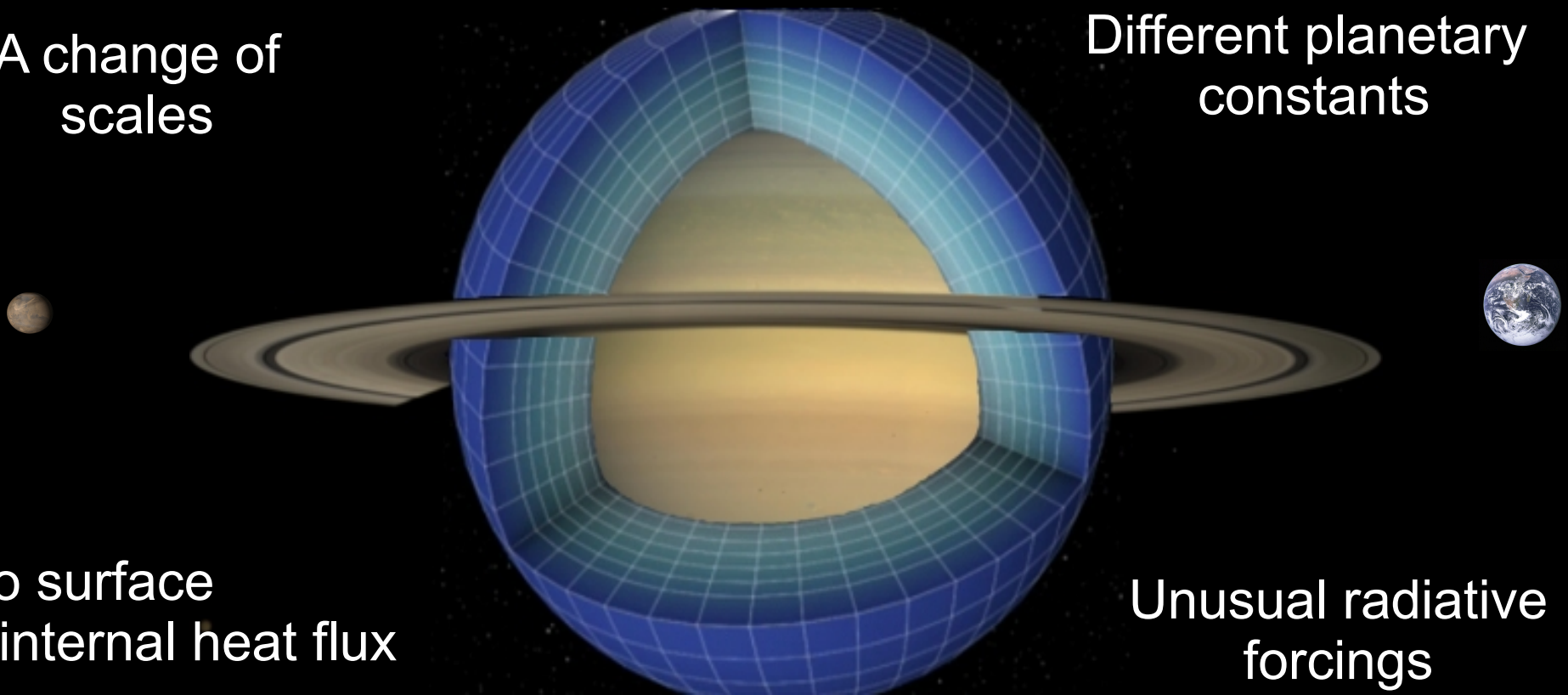
A lot of challenges!

A change of
scales

Different planetary
constants

No surface
+ internal heat flux

Unusual radiative
forcings



Numerous applications

Application 1

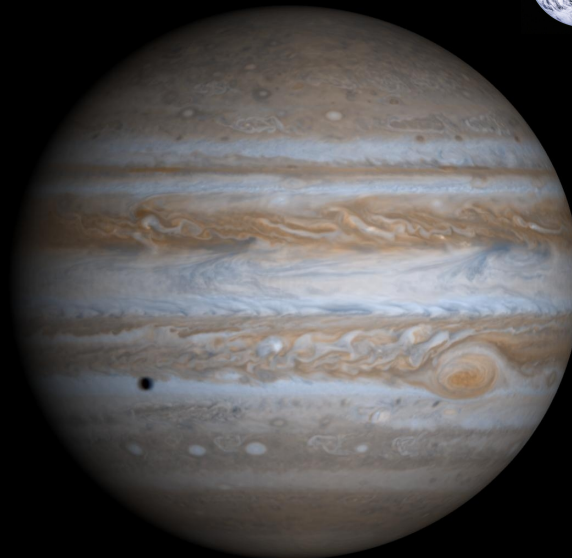
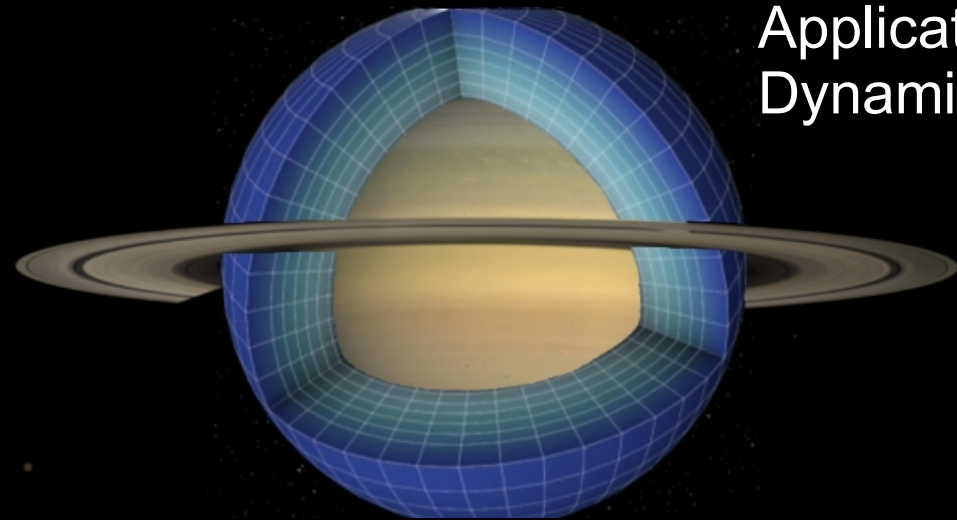
Dynamical enigma in the Saturn stratosphere

Application 2

Comparative planetology

Application 3

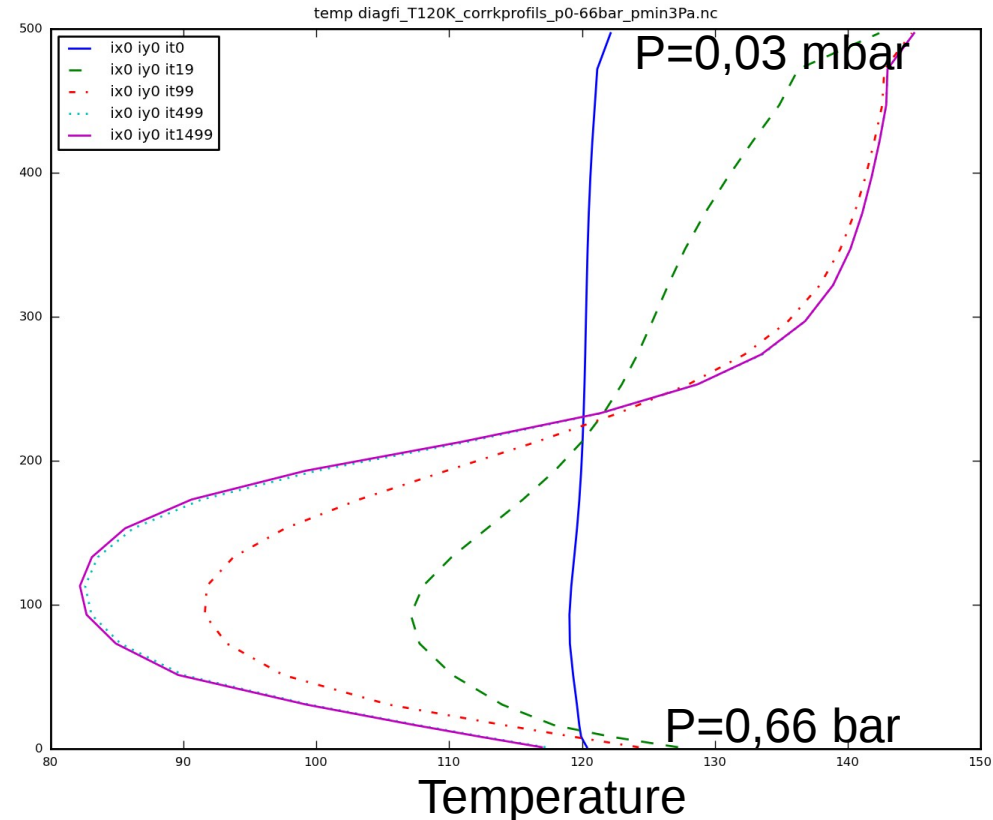
Exoplanets : hot Jupiters



HD 189733 b

Development of a first prototype

- Main ingredients: absorption by CH₄, thermal emission by CH₄, C₂H₆, C₂H₂, H₂/He continuum. We use correlated-k distributions.
- Radiative transfer tested in a 1D set-up of the GCM: typical temperature profile well reproduced
- First 3D test runs in progress



Goal: Present first results at EPSC and DPS 2013 !

A recipe for our work

1. Exploration and fun (but we are very serious about our work)
2. New models adapted from existing « bricks » from past projects
3. Benefit from Earth climate modeling at LMD
4. Excellent young students, post-docs, engineers...
5. LOTS of collaborations, and not only atmospheric scientists
6. Strong link to spatial programs, missions, instruments

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6. Strong link to spatial programs, missions, instruments
7. French wine

あなたの温かいおもてなしとご関心をお寄せいただきあ
りがとうござい

Aymeric SPIGA
えめりく すぴが

