

## RESEARCH ARTICLE

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## Key Points:

- Global sea-air fluxes of DMS are quantified
- Effect of 25 years of modelled climate change is dominated by reduced wind
- Coccolithophores are estimated to have a small effect on DMS fluxes

## Supporting Information:

- Readme
- Figure S1
- Figure S2
- Figure S3
- Figure S4
- text01

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## Exploiting satellite earth observation to quantify current global oceanic DMS flux and its future climate sensitivity

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**Abstract** We used coincident Envisat RA2 and AATSR temperature and wind speed data from 2008/2009 to calculate the global net sea-air flux of dimethyl sulfide (DMS), which we estimate to be  $19.6 \text{ Tg S a}^{-1}$ . Our monthly flux calculations are compared to open ocean eddy correlation measurements of DMS flux from 10 recent cruises, with a root mean square difference of  $3.1 \mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{ day}^{-1}$ . In a sensitivity analysis, we varied temperature, salinity, surface wind speed, and aqueous DMS concentration, using fixed global changes as well as CMIP5 model output. The range of DMS flux in future climate scenarios is discussed. The CMIP5 model predicts a reduction in surface wind speed and we estimate that this will decrease the global annual sea-air flux of DMS by 22% over 25 years. Concurrent changes in temperature, salinity, and DMS concentration increase the global flux by much smaller amounts. The net effect of all CMIP5 modelled 25 year predictions was a 19% reduction in global DMS flux. 25 year DMS concentration changes had significant regional effects, some positive (Southern Ocean, North Atlantic, Northwest Pacific) and some negative (isolated regions along the Equator and in the Indian Ocean). Using satellite-detected coverage of coccolithophore blooms, our estimate of their contribution to North Atlantic DMS emissions suggests that the coccolithophores contribute only a small percentage of the North Atlantic annual flux estimate, but may be more important in the summertime and in the northeast Atlantic.

## 1. Introduction

The global oceans are the largest natural source of atmospheric sulfur through the emission of the gas dimethyl sulfide (DMS) [Bates *et al.*, 1992]. Derived from the growth and decay of phytoplankton, DMS is ubiquitous in the surface ocean, with dissolved concentration grossly supersaturated relative to the overlying air, resulting in consistent emission to the atmosphere. Once in the marine atmosphere, the oxidation of DMS leads to sulfur dioxide, sulfuric acid, and sulfate aerosols, among other products. These acidic and hygroscopic species affect atmospheric chemistry [Charlson and Rodhe, 1982], and contribute to the nucleation of new particles as well as the growth of existing particles to cloud condensation nuclei (CCN). Such condensation nuclei affect the Earth's radiation budget (and thus climate) by directly scattering sunlight and indirectly influencing cloud physics and albedo [Charlson *et al.*, 1987].

Despite increasing anthropogenic sulfur emissions, DMS remains the predominant source of sulfur mass to the remote marine atmosphere [Yang *et al.*, 2011b]. There is, however, much debate over the exact role that DMS plays in regulating our climate. Gunson *et al.* [2006] modeled a  $0.8^\circ\text{C}$  cooling for a doubling of DMS emission, and a  $1.6^\circ\text{C}$  warming for a halving of DMS emission. Furthermore, their modeled DMS emission increases over time in response to warming and decreases in response to cooling, consistent with a negative climatic feedback. Other studies suggest less climate sensitivity to DMS. For example, Boucher and Lohmann [1995] and Woodhouse *et al.* [2010] found the radiative properties of clouds to depend more on total sulfate and cloud droplet number concentrations (partly anthropogenic) than on DMS and naturally derived sulfate. Similarly, Quinn and Bates [2011] argued that the climate regulation by DMS is weak mostly because of other sources of CCN, e.g., sea salt and organics, while Clarke *et al.* [2013] found the main source of CCN in the marine boundary layer (MBL) to be entrainment of preexisting aerosols from the free troposphere rather than nucleation and growth within the MBL. The impact of DMS on clouds is thought to be most significant in regions with minimal competitions from anthropogenic CCN [Twomey, 1991]. Boucher *et al.* [2003] showed large spatial heterogeneity in their modeled indirect radiative forcing due to DMS-derived aerosols, varying from close to zero to  $-5 \text{ Wm}^{-2}$ . Woodhouse *et al.* [2013] recently demonstrated highly variable sensitivity of CCN production as a function of DMS emission and argued for the importance of

monitoring of future changes in spatial DMS distributions. *Six et al.* [2013] argued that ocean acidification would reduce DMS emissions, resulting in a radiative forcing of  $0.4 \text{ Wm}^{-2}$ .

Previous estimates for the present day global sea-to-air flux of DMS range from 15 to  $33 \text{ Tg S a}^{-1}$  [Elliott, 2009; Kettle and Andreae, 2000; Simó and Dachs, 2002]. Based on the most recent DMS climatology, Lana *et al.* [2011] estimated a mean annual emission of  $28.1 \text{ Tg S a}^{-1}$ , with a range from 17.6 to  $34.4 \text{ Tg S a}^{-1}$  depending on the choice of transfer velocity parameterization (see subsection 4.1). Predictions of future DMS emission vary significantly, especially on a regional scale [Cameron-Smith *et al.*, 2011; Halloran *et al.*, 2010] due to combined uncertainties in the changes of seawater DMS concentration, winds, temperature, etc. Observations and recent modeling studies indicate that the concentration of DMS in surface seawater is the net result of rapid but variable biological production and consumption processes [Galí *et al.*, 2013]. A small perturbation in DMS source or sink can significantly influence the amount of seawater DMS available for air-sea exchange.

Earth observation (EO) data from satellites have the potential to help predict regional changes in DMS emissions. In the Arctic, where in situ observations are rare, the use of EO data underpinned by field data is currently the most feasible way of reliably monitoring sea-air gas fluxes. EO data have previously been used to derive sea-air fluxes of  $\text{CO}_2$  at the global scale [e.g., Boutin *et al.*, 2002], and the improved quasi-global availability of EO data has facilitated recent studies of  $\text{CO}_2$  sea-air exchange over a substantial area of the Arctic Ocean [Arrigo *et al.*, 2010; Else *et al.*, 2008]. In comparison, the use of EO data to study sea-air gas exchange of trace gases including DMS is novel. Such methods have the potential to improve our understanding of the global sulfur cycle and its impact on climate.

One specific example of EO data utility is the potential to constrain the contribution to the global DMS flux from coccolithophore blooms. Algal species produce a large range of intracellular dimethylsulfoniopropionate (DMSP), which is the major algal precursor to DMS [Keller *et al.*, 1989]. Diatoms are low DMSP/DMS producers, with intracellular DMSP on the order of  $0.86 \text{ mmol/mol C}$  [Stefels *et al.*, 2007]. In sharp contrast, the haptophyte phytoplankton group, which contains coccolithophores, has a higher intracellular DMSP content ( $11 \text{ mmol/mol C}$ ), which is second only to dinoflagellates ( $22 \text{ mmol/mol C}$ ) [Stefels *et al.*, 2007]. In the open ocean, certain coccolithophore blooms are clearly detectable by satellites. Some blooms have been observed to produce substantially elevated DMSP and DMS concentrations and are thought to contribute substantially to the DMS sea-to-air flux [Malin *et al.*, 1993; Matrai and Keller, 1993; Steinke *et al.*, 2002a].

Globally and regionally, predicting future DMS emissions requires predictions of (1) surface seawater DMS concentration; (2) changes in forcing parameters (e.g., wind speed, SST, salinity), and (3) the sensitivity of DMS flux to these forcing parameters.

Here we use spatially and temporally coincident EO data from the European Space Agency's (ESA) Envisat satellite to estimate the global flux of DMS in 2008 and 2009. We then evaluate the sensitivity of sea-air DMS exchange in the global ocean to changes in temperature, salinity, wind speed, and aqueous DMS concentration, both using fixed scalar changes in conditions and arising from future climate model scenarios.

## 2. Methods

### 2.1. Data Inputs

We used EO data from Radar Altimeter 2 (RA2) and Advanced Along Track Scanning Radiometer (AATSR) on ESA's Envisat satellite. RA2 is an altimeter that can provide estimates of wind speed at 10 m height ( $U_{10}$ ) with a small surface footprint. In the absence of clouds, AATSR provides estimates of sea surface skin temperature  $SST_{skin}$  over a much wider swath [Donlon *et al.*, 2007]. The fields of view of the two instruments overlap, providing spatially and temporally coincident measurements. Globally, RA2 has an error standard deviation of  $1.25 \text{ ms}^{-1}$  and a bias of  $-0.28 \text{ ms}^{-1}$  [Queffelec *et al.*, 2010], while AATSR has a standard deviation of  $0.16^\circ\text{C}$  and bias of  $+0.2^\circ\text{C}$  [O'Carroll *et al.*, 2008]. We processed the RA2 and AATSR data for 2008–2009 using standard ESA methods and binned them to a  $1^\circ \times 1^\circ$  geographic grid, see [Land *et al.*, 2013] for details.

Climatological values of the bulk concentration of DMS in surface seawater ( $DMS_w$ ) were obtained on a  $1^\circ \times 1^\circ$  grid from the Lana *et al.* [2011] climatology, while climatological salinity values were obtained on the same grid from the NOAA National Oceanographic Data Center (<http://www.nodc.noaa.gov/OC5/>)

**Table 1.** Summary of DMS Concentrations and Fluxes From 10 Cruises, Compared to Fluxes From This Study

| Cruise                    | TAO                   | PHASE                   | BIO                     | Knorr 06                | DOGEE a <sup>a</sup>  | DOGEE b <sup>a</sup>  | Knorr 07                | SO GasEx            | VOCALS             | Knorr 11           |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Location                  | Equatorial Pacific    | North Pacific           | Sargasso Sea            | South Pacific           | Northeast Atlantic    | Northeast Atlantic    | North Atlantic          | Southern Ocean      | Southeast Pacific  | North Atlantic     |
| Latitude <sup>b</sup>     | -1                    | 5                       | 30                      | -16                     | 43                    | 54                    | 48                      | -51                 | -20                | 50                 |
| Longitude <sup>b</sup>    | -98                   | -179                    | -66                     | -106                    | -17                   | -11                   | -51                     | -38                 | -80                | -45                |
| Time                      | Nov 2003              | May–Jun 2004            | Jul–Aug 2004            | Jan 2006                | Jun–Jul 2007          | July 2007             | July 2007               | Mar–Apr 2008        | Oct–Nov 2008       | Jun–Jul 2011       |
| $DMS_w^c$                 | 2.6 (0.8)             | 1.7 (0.7)               | 2.6 (0.4)               | 3.8 (2.2)               | 1.2 (0.6)             | 6.9 (3.1)             | 2.5 (1.1)               | 1.6 (0.7)           | 2.8 (1.1)          | 4.1 (2.0)          |
| $DMS_a^c$                 | 0.0064 (0.0020)       | 0.0036 (0.0020)         | 0.0056 (0.0022)         | 0.0140 (0.0152)         | 0.0053 (0.0034)       | 0.0203 (0.0073)       | 0.0125 (0.0087)         | 0.0052 (0.0024)     | 0.0024 (0.0021)    | 0.0167 (0.0127)    |
| $DMS_w/DMS_a$             | 406                   | 470                     | 464                     | 271                     | 226                   | 340                   | 200                     | 308                 | 1120               | 245                |
| In Situ Flux <sup>d</sup> | 7.1 (3.7)             | 5.1 (3.1)               | 6.2 (2.4)               | 12.1 (15.0)             | 2.7 (2.4)             | 18.1 (9.4)            | 5.9 (4.9)               | 2.9 (2.1)           | 3.4 (1.9)          | 7.6 (7.6)          |
| EO Flux <sup>e</sup>      | 3.2 (-1.1)            | 5.0 (0.0)               | 5.1 (-0.5)              | 8.8 (-0.2)              | 6.6 (1.6)             | 12.0 (-0.6)           | 2.5 (-0.7)              | 2.6 (-0.1)          | 4.9 (0.8)          | 6.4 (-0.2)         |
| Publication               | Huebert et al. [2004] | Marandino et al. [2007] | Blomquist et al. [2006] | Marandino et al. [2009] | Huebert et al. [2010] | Huebert et al. [2010] | Marandino et al. [2008] | Yang et al. [2011a] | Yang et al. [2009] | Bell et al. [2013] |

<sup>a</sup>These two are the same cruise but two distinct water masses.

<sup>b</sup>Cruise Mean, Degrees N or E.

<sup>c</sup>Cruise Mean,  $\mu\text{mol m}^{-3} = \text{nM}$ .

<sup>d</sup>Cruise mean (standard deviation),  $\mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{day}^{-1}$ .

<sup>e</sup>Mean of all cruise months in a  $5^\circ \times 5^\circ$  window (deviation from cruise mean/cruise standard deviation).

WOA09/pr\_woa09.html). Global daily air pressure fields were provided by the European Centre for Medium-range Weather Forecasting (ECMWF) operational data set (N80 Gaussian gridded analysis on surface levels; ERA-40 format, 6 h fields). The pressure data were reprojected from their original  $2.5^\circ \times 2.5^\circ$  grid to the  $1^\circ \times 1^\circ$  grid using linear interpolation. Daily sea ice coverage data were provided by the Operational Sea Surface Temperature and Sea Ice Analysis (OSTIA) system [Donlon et al., 2011; Stark et al., 2008] based on the EUMETSAT Ocean and Sea Ice Satellite Application Facility (OSI-SAF) daily analyses. These daily global OSTIA sea ice coverage data were averaged from their original  $0.05^\circ \times 0.05^\circ$  grid to the same  $1^\circ \times 1^\circ$  grid. We used a  $4096 \times 2048$  global land mask ( $0.09^\circ \times 0.09^\circ$ ) to determine the proportion of land by area in each  $1^\circ \times 1^\circ$  pixel. The land mask is needed to calculate the net fluxes and the use of a higher spatial resolution subgrid for the land mask gives a more accurate representation of the integrated flux from coastal pixels.

## 2.2. Calculating Sea-Air DMS Fluxes

We estimated the sea-to-air flux of DMS ( $F$ ) in  $\mu\text{mol S m}^{-2} \text{day}^{-1}$  as the product of the gas transfer velocity,  $K_w$  ( $\text{cm h}^{-1}$ ), and the difference in DMS concentration (nM) between the base [ $DMS_{aqw}$ ] and the top [ $DMS_{aq0}$ ] of the mass boundary layer at the sea surface, multiplied by 0.24 to convert  $K_w$  into  $\text{m day}^{-1}$ :

$$F = 0.24K_w([DMS_{aqw}] - [DMS_{aq0}]). \quad (1)$$

$[DMS_{aqw}]$  is set to the bulk concentration  $DMS_w$  from Lana et al. [2011], while  $[DMS_{aq0}]$  is set to  $H DMS_a$ , where  $H$  is the dimensionless Henry's Law solubility from liquid to gas, calculated as a function of temperature and salinity using the methods of Johnson [2010], and  $DMS_a$  is the bulk concentration of DMS in air, giving

$$F = 0.24K_w(DMS_w - H \times DMS_a). \quad (2)$$

$DMS_a$  (units  $10^{-9} \text{ mol/L}$  of air) is estimated as  $DMS_w$  (in units of nM) divided by 400, where both concentrations are expressed in equivalent units. The dimensionless water/air ratio of 400 represents an order of magnitude value based on observations from 10 open ocean cruises (see Table 1). This fixed ratio clearly does not capture variations on small temporal or spatial scales, but is intended to be broadly representative of the ratio on a regional to global level. The relative importance of the  $H \times DMS_a$  term varies with temperature (and slightly with salinity) due to changes in  $H$ . In 2 years of monthly global data at  $1^\circ$  spatial resolution,  $H \times DMS_a$  varies from 2% of  $DMS_w$  in the warmest waters to 7% in the coldest.

$K_w$  is the reciprocal of the total resistance to gas transfer on both sides of the air/water interface [Liss and Slater, 1974], given by

$$1/K_w = 1/k_w + H/k_a \quad (3)$$

Daily maps of the in-water gas transfer velocity  $k_w$  were derived from the  $SST_{skin}$  and  $U_{10}$  data using the wind-based parameterization of Goddijn-Murphy et al. [2012], who compared all available DMS eddy correlation measurements of gas-transfer velocity with altimeter-derived  $U_{10}$ :

$$k_w = (2.2U_{10} - 3.4) \left( \frac{S_c}{660} \right)^{-0.5}, \quad (4)$$

where  $S_c$  is the Schmidt number of DMS, calculated as a function of temperature and salinity using the methods of *Johnson* [2010]. We calculated  $k_d$  for DMS as a function of wind speed and temperature using the methods of *Johnson* [2010].

### 2.2.1. Net DMS Fluxes

Using equations (2–4), we calculated the flux  $F$  per unit area of open water. Land and sea ice coverage data were used with  $F$  to calculate the net DMS flux from a  $1^\circ \times 1^\circ$  grid cell. Open water area in a given cell was calculated by subtracting land surface area and sea ice surface area, if any, from the cell. Following the *Takahashi et al.* [2009] approach for  $\text{CO}_2$ , we considered  $<10\%$  sea ice coverage to have a negligible effect on the DMS flux from a cell, and the calculated flux was unmodified. Sea ice coverage  $>90\%$  still allows some flux of DMS due to leads, polynyas etc. (where sea-air DMS fluxes may be very strong, *Else et al.* [2011]), so in this case coverage was set to 90%. Multiplying  $F$  (per unit area) by the remaining ice free ocean area gives the net DMS flux from the cell. This differs from the methodology of *Lana et al.* [2011], who set DMS flux to zero if sea ice coverage exceeded 75%, neglecting ice effects otherwise. In 2 years of monthly global  $1^\circ$  gridded data, the RMS difference in the annual hemisphere-integrated flux between the two methods of dealing with partial ice cover is negligible on a global scale ( $0.003 \text{ Tg S a}^{-1}$  in the northern hemisphere and  $0.02 \text{ Tg S a}^{-1}$  in the southern hemisphere – compare with figures in Table 3).

### 2.2.2. Missing Data

In a given cell on a given day, it may be that not all the required data are present. RA2 has a small footprint, so daily coverage of RA2 data is generally smaller than that of AATSR. AATSR is vulnerable to cloud contamination, so it is quite rare for both data sets to give coincident valid data. The salinity and  $DMS_w$  data sets are also incomplete, with a small amount of missing data around some coastlines. To address this problem, we adopted a hierarchical strategy:

1. If all daily composite data sets are valid at a given position, we use these values;
2. If RA2 or AATSR daily data are missing, we use the monthly composite of that data set.
3. If monthly composite data are missing, we use a composite of that month over the whole time series (currently 2 years).
4. If time series composite data are missing, in the case of  $U_{10}$ , we substitute  $U_{10}$  from the daily ECMWF data. If  $SST_{skin}$  is missing, the cell flux is not directly calculable. The same is true if  $DMS_w$  or  $S$  is missing, but this only happens for a very small number of pixels around coastlines, where land masks differ slightly. In these cases, we estimate the cell flux as the monthly average flux in the corresponding  $10^\circ$  latitude band and apply it to the cell. This averaging occurs for 2.2% of the global open water area and 17% of the area in the Arctic over the 2 years.

### 2.3. Sensitivity to Temperature, Salinity, Wind Speed, and DMS Concentration

We initially varied  $SST_{skin}$ , salinity,  $U_{10}$  and  $DMS_w$  independently and uniformly over all months and positions. Though these are not realistic scenarios, they give us a simple insight into the sensitivity of the global flux to changes in individual climate variables. In order to give a more realistic simulation of the effects of predicted climate change, we then used output from the fully coupled ocean-atmosphere Met. Office Hadley Centre Earth System model HadGEM2-ES [*Collins et al.*, 2008] downloaded from version 5 of the Coupled Model Intercomparison Project (CMIP5), using the RCP8.5 scenario [*Taylor et al.*, 2012]. This makes monthly global predictions from 2006 to 2100 assuming a scenario of high anthropogenic  $\text{CO}_2$  emissions. We considered variations in  $SST$ , salinity,  $U_{10}$ , and  $DMS_w$ . The model  $SST$  is the temperature a few metres below the sea surface, not  $SST_{skin}$ . However, the difference is a few tenths of a degree, averaging  $0.14^\circ\text{C}$  for wind speeds greater than  $6 \text{ ms}^{-1}$  [*Donlon et al.*, 2002], so the temporal changes described in subsection 3.2 are largely unaffected. Each parameter was reprojected to the  $1^\circ \times 1^\circ$  grid and averaged over 6 years in each month of the year. The data for 2006–2011 were then compared with those for 2031–2036 to estimate the effect of 25 years of change. Averaging over 6 years reduces the effect of transient features in a given year, such as the El Niño-Southern Oscillation. We used pixel by pixel changes in this case rather than a uniform

**Table 2.** Monthly Coverage of *E. Huxleyi* Blooms in the North Atlantic (75°W–11°E, 35–68°N) and Northeast Atlantic (40°W–11°E, 60–68°N) During April–September<sup>a</sup>

|                    | Coverage (%) |       |      |      |        |           | Annual |
|--------------------|--------------|-------|------|------|--------|-----------|--------|
|                    | April        | May   | June | July | August | September |        |
| North Atlantic     | 0.003        | 0.08  | 0.29 | 0.95 | 0.44   | 0.14      | 0.16   |
| Northeast Atlantic | 0.003        | 0.005 | 0.36 | 3.7  | 2.8    | 0.87      | 0.65   |

<sup>a</sup>Coverage in other months is assumed to be negligible.

global change because there is strong spatial variability, especially in salinity,  $U_{10}$  and  $DMS_w$ , which exhibit significant regions of both positive and negative trends.

The sensitivity of DMS flux to plausible changes in each of the four parameters was investigated by applying 25 years of change to one parameter while keeping the others fixed at their original values. SST variations were applied to  $k_w$ ,  $k_a$ ,  $H$  and hence  $F$  through the temperature dependence of  $S_c$  ( $k_a$  is not expected to have a large temperature dependence because the airside Schmidt number is largely temperature independent). For consistency, salinity variations were applied to  $k_w$ ,  $H$  and hence  $F$  through the small salinity dependences of  $S_c$  and  $H$ , though this was not expected to have much effect. The salinities at the surface and at a depth of a few meters were assumed to covary.  $U_{10}$  and  $DMS_w$  changes were applied as percentages, since in both cases variations can be negative or positive and values can be close to zero.  $U_{10}$  variations were applied to  $k_w$  and  $k_a$ , and  $DMS_w$  variations were applied directly in equation (2). Finally, we applied 25 years of change to all four parameters (SST, salinity,  $U_{10}$ , and  $DMS_w$ ) simultaneously.

This analysis enabled us to gain insight into the impact of plausible changes in temperature, salinity, wind speed, and aqueous DMS concentration from 2006–2011 to 2031–2036.

#### 2.4. Contribution of Coccolithophores to the North Atlantic DMS Flux

The Lana et al. [2011] climatology was constructed from all available data and no overarching sampling strategy was employed to coordinate the data collection. Some past research activities have focussed on reduced sulfur cycling and certain fieldwork thus specifically targeted coccolithophore blooms [e.g., Steinke et al., 2002b]. Other DMS data have been collected along transect lines, objectively analysing whatever seawater masses are encountered. Bloom features thus have the potential to be underrepresented or overrepresented within the climatology, which is not scaled to account for the spatial and temporal frequency of phytoplankton blooms.

**Table 3.** Annual Mean DMS Flux ( $Tg\ S\ a^{-1}$ ) per 10 Degree Latitudinal Band in 2008–2009, Compared With the Climatology of Lana et al. [2011]

| Latitude               | 2008–2009 Mean Flux | Climatology |
|------------------------|---------------------|-------------|
| 90°–80°N               | 0.0                 | 0.0         |
| 80°–70°N               | 0.1                 | 0.1         |
| 70°–60°N               | 0.2                 | 0.2         |
| 60°–50°N               | 0.6                 | 0.9         |
| 50°–40°N               | 0.9                 | 1.5         |
| 40°–30°N               | 1.0                 | 1.5         |
| 30°–20°N               | 1.1                 | 1.4         |
| 20°–10°N               | 1.8                 | 2.6         |
| 10°–0°N                | 2.1                 | 2.6         |
| 0°–10°S                | 2.1                 | 2.2         |
| 10°–20°S               | 2.5                 | 3.5         |
| 20°–30°S               | 2.1                 | 3.0         |
| 30°–40°S               | 1.9                 | 2.7         |
| 40°–50°S               | 1.6                 | 2.8         |
| 50°–60°S               | 1.1                 | 2.1         |
| 60°–70°S               | 0.5                 | 0.9         |
| 70°–80°S               | 0.1                 | 0.1         |
| 80°–90°S               | 0.0                 | 0.0         |
| Northern hemisphere    | 7.8                 | 10.8        |
| Arctic (north of 66°N) | 0.2                 | -           |
| Global                 | 19.6                | 28.1        |

The coccolithophore *Emiliana huxleyi* is an ideal phytoplankton species for Earth Observation. When the plankton grow and divide at a high rate, they shed their calcium carbonate plates (liths) into the surrounding seawater [Paasche, 2001]. In bloom conditions, the liths create a strong backscattering signal that can be observed by satellite remote sensing [Balch et al., 1991], and can have a significant local effect on radiative forcing [Gondwe et al., 2001]. Recent work has facilitated the routine identification of coccolithophore blooms in the North Atlantic [Shutler et al., 2010]. Shutler et al. [2013] used this approach to estimate the proportion of time and space that coccolithophore blooms are present within the North Atlantic (75°W–11°E, 35–68°N), see Table 2.

Observations of surface water DMS values within phytoplankton blooms containing high coccolithophore cell density range between 4.8 and 25.0 nM (Table 1). How long this

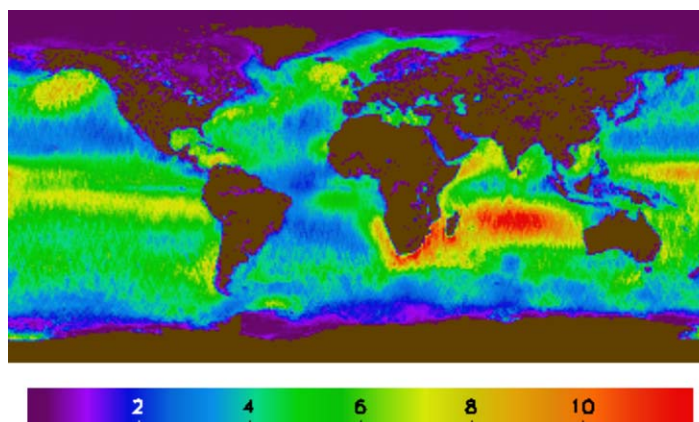


Figure 1. Annual mean sea-air DMS flux ( $\mu\text{mol S m}^{-2} \text{ day}^{-1}$ ) over 2008–2009.

increase in DMS is sustained over the course of a coccolithophore bloom is not well known. We combined satellite-derived spatial coverage of North Atlantic coccolithophore blooms (calculated using the methods of Shutler *et al.* [2013] and summarized in Table 2) with a range of estimates of the increase in DMS levels due to the bloom and the duration of the increased DMS, to estimate coccolithophore bloom-driven sea-to-air DMS flux over plausible ranges of bloom DMS

enhancement and duration, in the hope that future work will constrain these ranges. We calculated the increase in annual DMS flux assuming that blooms increase DMS by 5, 15, and 25 nM while a bloom is identified from satellite in a given pixel, and this effect is assumed to continue for 1–20 days, day 1 being the day of satellite detection.

### 3. Results and Discussion

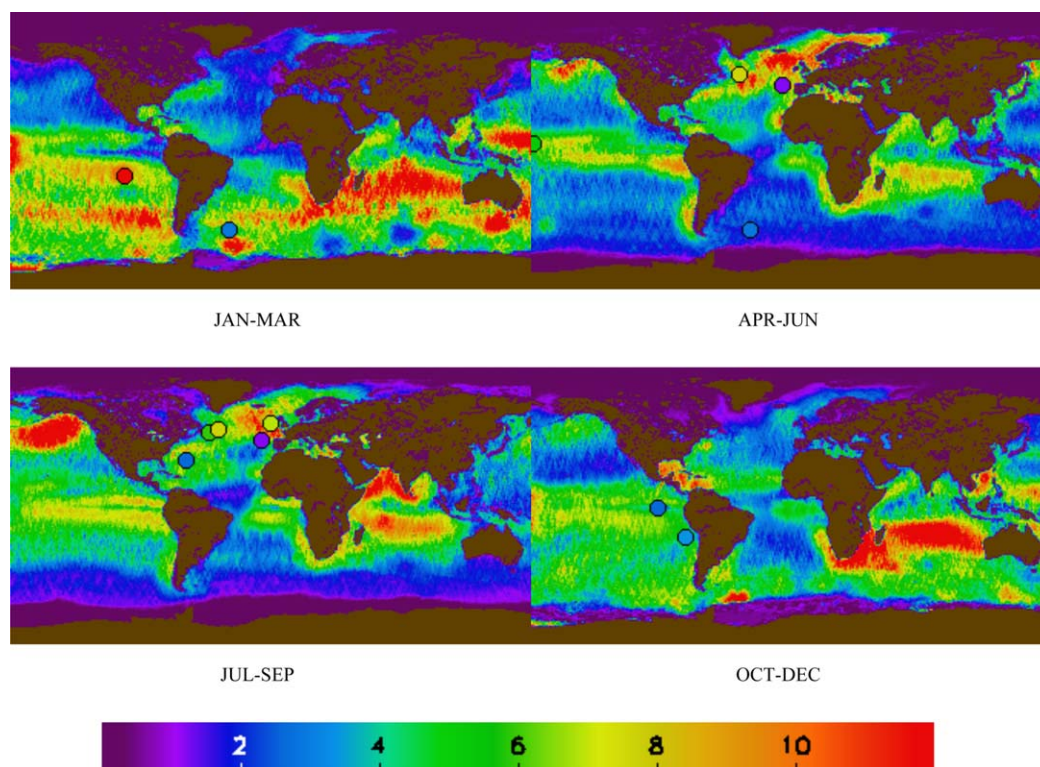
#### 3.1. Integrated DMS Flux

The mean daily open water DMS flux  $F$  over 2008–2009 is shown in Figure 1, and its seasonal variations are shown in Figure 2, which also shows eddy correlation measurements of DMS flux from 10 cruises (cruise mean, not seasonal mean). Cruises that overlap two seasons are shown in both. The annual integrated DMS fluxes over  $10^\circ$  latitude bands are listed in Table 3, along with the annual global, northern hemisphere, and Arctic (north of  $66^\circ\text{N}$ ) DMS fluxes. These figures are compared with the equivalent climatological values from Lana *et al.* [2011]. The cruise data shown in Figure 2 are summarized in Table 1, which also shows the mean EO modeled DMS flux  $F$  (“EO Flux”) over the cruise months in 2008–2009 in a  $5^\circ \times 5^\circ$  window around the mean cruise position.

Eight out of 10 of the EO fluxes are less than the in situ fluxes, implying a possible bias. However, all but two of the differences are less than the standard deviation of in situ flux, and a paired t-test reveals no significant difference between the two ( $p = 0.16$ ). As a further check, we estimated the bias between the two data sets by calculating the mean of each, weighted by the reciprocal of the standard deviation of in situ flux. The in situ mean was  $5.2 \mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{ day}^{-1}$  and the EO mean was  $4.9 \mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{ day}^{-1}$ , both with a standard error of  $1.1 \mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{ day}^{-1}$ , implying an EO underestimate of  $7 \pm 28\%$ .

The root mean square difference between the mean in situ fluxes and the mean EO flux is  $3.1 \mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{ day}^{-1}$ , similar to the global mean flux of  $3.5 \mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{ day}^{-1}$  calculated from our data. Much of this variability can be accounted for by differences in DMS between ship and climatology (RMS difference in DMS is 32%, equating to a 32% difference in flux, see Section 3.2) and differences in wind speed between ship and satellite (RMS difference in wind speed is 16%, equating to a 21% difference in flux), while SST has much less effect (RMS difference of  $0.9^\circ\text{C}$ , suggesting a flux difference of 2.5%).

Lana *et al.* [2011] found a global flux of  $28.1 \text{ Tg S a}^{-1}$ , while our analysis suggests a global flux of  $19.6 \text{ Tg S a}^{-1}$ . In the northern hemisphere, Lana *et al.* [2011] estimate a flux of  $10.8 \text{ Tg S a}^{-1}$  while we find  $7.8 \text{ Tg S a}^{-1}$ . A significant part of these differences can be ascribed to the choice of flux parameterization. This study uses a linear relationship between  $k_w$  and wind that has been derived from direct measurements of DMS flux [Goddijn-Murphy *et al.*, 2012], while Lana *et al.* [2011] use the quadratic relationship of Nightingale *et al.* [2000], resulting in increased fluxes at high wind speeds. It has been proposed that the difference in the functional form of these gas exchange parameterizations results from bubble-mediated gas transfer at high winds, which is enhanced for insoluble gases [Woolf *et al.*, 2007]. Highly insoluble gases were used to estimate the nonlinear relationship between  $k$  and wind speed in Nightingale *et al.* [2000]. In contrast, DMS is moderately soluble, and



**Figure 2.** Seasonal mean sea-air DMS flux ( $\mu\text{mol S m}^{-2} \text{ day}^{-1}$ ) over 2008–2009. Also shown in black circles are cruise mean fluxes from Table 1. January–March (left to right): Knorr 06, January 2006; SO GasEx, March–April 2008; SOAP, February–March 2012. April–June (left to right): PHASE, May–June 2004; Knorr 11, June–July 2011 (top, yellow); SO GasEx, March–April 2008 (bottom, blue); DOGEE a, June–July 2007. July–September (left to right): BIO, July–August 2004; Knorr 07, July 2007; Knorr 11, June–July 2011; DOGEE a, June–July 2007; DOGEE b, July 2007. October–December (left to right): TAO, November 2003; VOCALS, October–November 2008.

recent eddy correlation measurements at high wind speeds do not suggest gas-transfer velocity enhancements at high-wind speeds [Bell *et al.*, 2013; Goddijn-Murphy *et al.*, 2012; Marandino *et al.*, 2009; Yang *et al.*, 2011a]. When we recalculate our fluxes using Nightingale *et al.* [2000], we obtain a global flux of  $23.1 \text{ Tg S a}^{-1}$  and a northern hemisphere flux of  $8.8 \text{ Tg S a}^{-1}$ .

### 3.2. Sensitivity to Predicted Changes in Temperature, Salinity and Wind Speed

In the initial sensitivity study, we changed a single parameter by a fixed amount, independent of location or month. In all cases, we found the effect to be linear ( $r^2 > 0.997$ ), so only the effect per unit change in the parameter is quoted. The effect of increasing  $SST_{skin}$  uniformly was an increase in mean global DMS flux of  $0.55 \text{ Tg S } ^\circ\text{C}^{-1}$  ( $+2.8\% \text{ } ^\circ\text{C}^{-1}$ ). The effect of increasing salinity uniformly was a decrease in global flux of  $0.028 \text{ Tg S PSU}^{-1}$  ( $-0.14\% \text{ PSU}^{-1}$ ). The effect of increasing  $\log(U_{10})$  uniformly (i.e., increasing  $U_{10}$  by a uniform proportion) was an increase in global flux of  $25 \text{ Tg S}$  per unit of (natural)  $\log(U_{10})$ , hence a 1% increase in  $U_{10}$  results in an increase in global flux of  $0.25 \text{ Tg S}$  ( $+1.3\%$ ), reflecting the approximately linear relationship between flux and wind speed. The effect of increasing  $\log(DMS_w)$  uniformly was an increase in global flux of  $20 \text{ Tg S}$  per unit of (natural)  $\log(DMS_w)$ , hence a 1% increase in  $DMS_w$  results in an increase in global flux of  $0.19 \text{ Tg S}$  ( $+1.0\%$ ), reflecting the approximately linear relationship between flux and  $DMS_w$ .

The modeled 25 year changes in  $SST$ , salinity,  $U_{10}$  and  $DMS_w$  in four seasons, each with 3 months, are shown in Figures 3–6. Some of the spatial and temporal variability of  $SST$ , salinity and  $DMS_w$  changes can be explained simply as a function of latitude, independent of longitude or month (22, 23, and 21% of variance explained for  $SST$ , salinity and  $DMS_w$ , respectively). Figure S1 (supporting information) shows the mean annual changes in  $SST$ , salinity, wind speed, and  $DMS_w$  over all longitudes as a function of latitude and month.

The effects on global annual integrated flux of applying 25 years of predicted changes in  $SST$ , salinity,  $U_{10}$  and  $DMS_w$  are shown in Table 4, along with the effects of changing all four parameters simultaneously. The

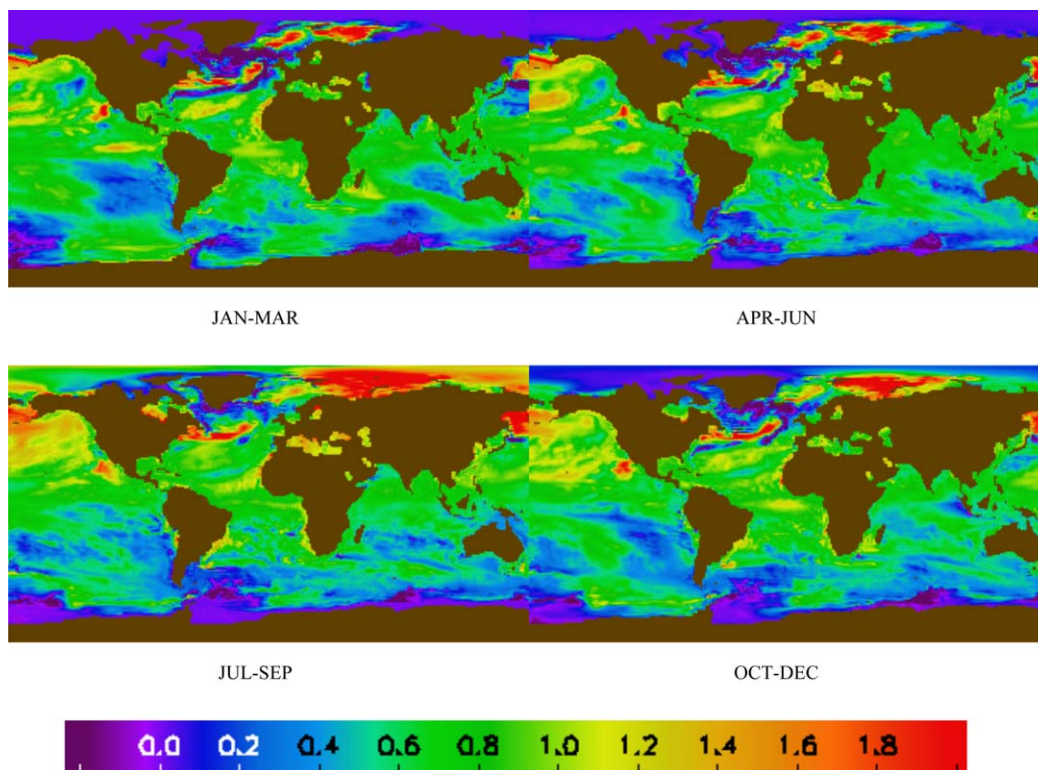


Figure 3. Change in SST (°C) using CMIP5 data over the 25 years from 2006–2011 to 2031–2036.

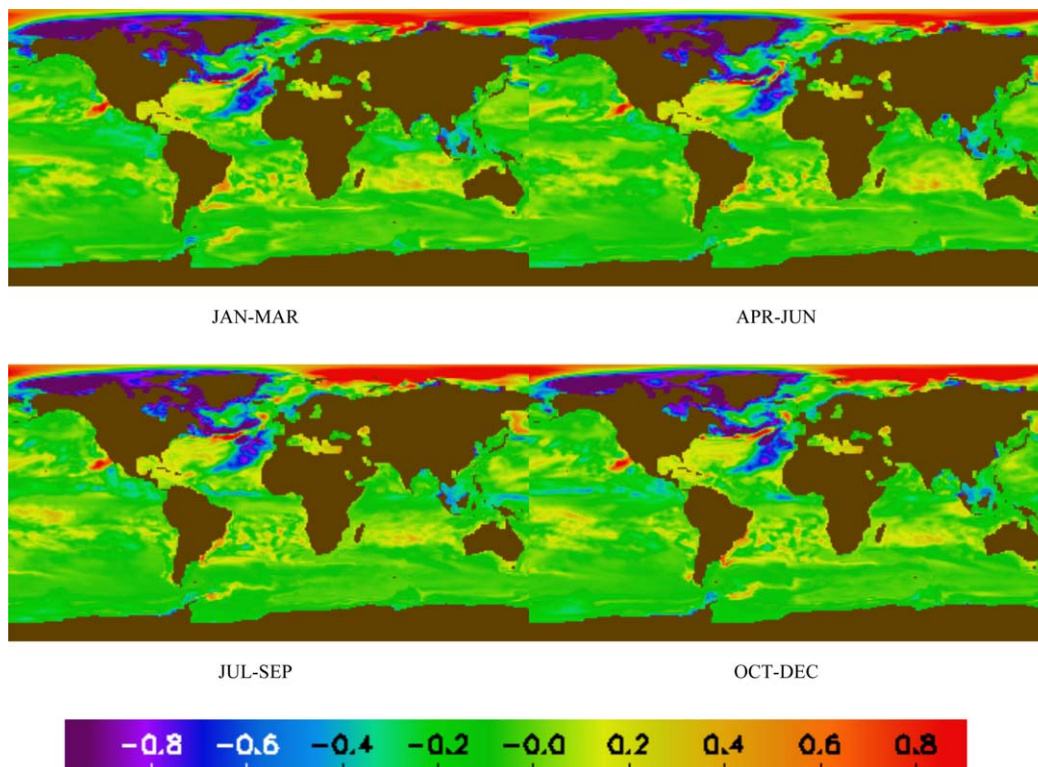


Figure 4. Change in salinity (PSU) using CMIP5 data over the 25 years from 2006–2011 to 2031–2036.



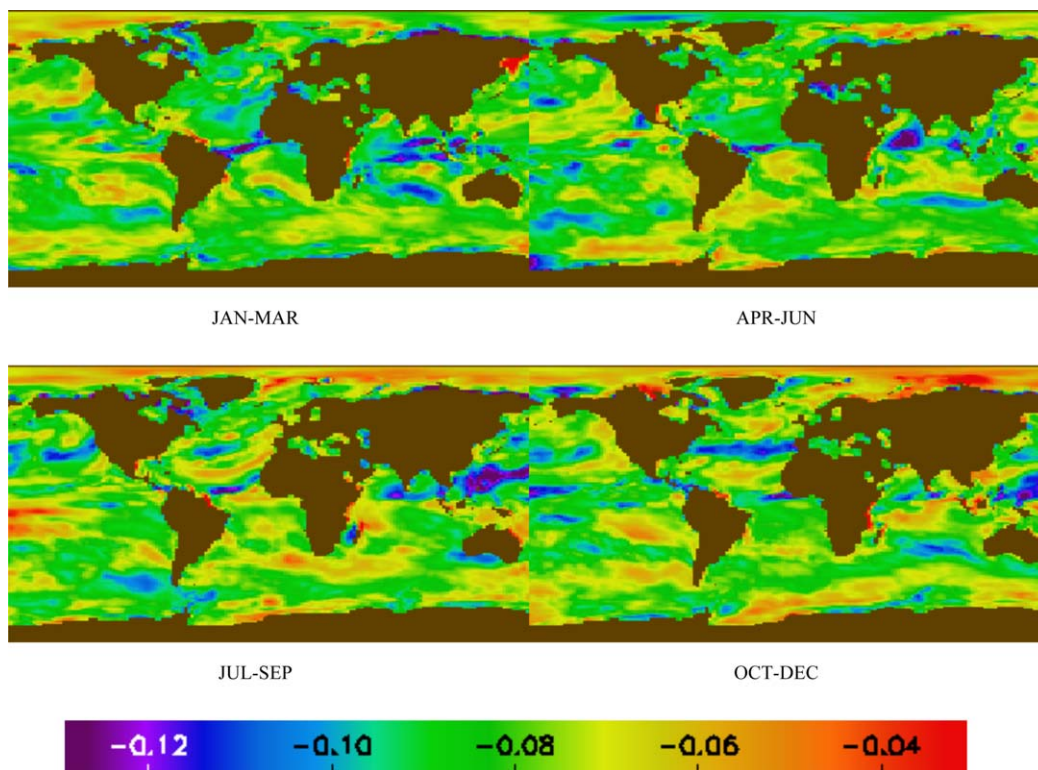


Figure 5. Change in  $\log_{10}$ (10 m wind speed) using CMIP5 data over the 25 years from 2006–2011 to 2031–2036.

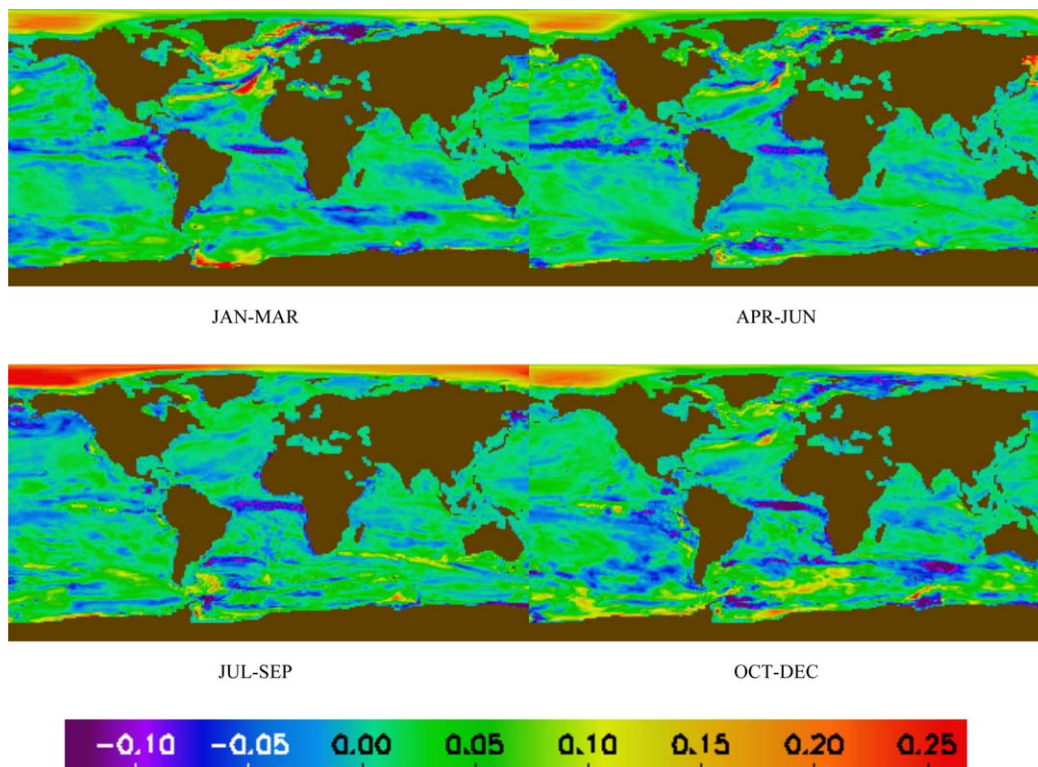


Figure 6. Change in  $\log_{10}$ (DMS concentration) using CMIP5 data over the 25 years from 2006–2011 to 2031–2036.

**Table 4.** Changes in Global Annual Mean DMS Flux ( $\text{Tg S a}^{-1}$ ) Due to 25 Years of Changes in SST, Salinity, 10 m Wind Speed and DMS Concentration

| Parameter | 25 Year Change ( $\text{Tg S a}^{-1}$ ) |
|-----------|---|
| SST       | +0.46 (+2.3%)                           |
| Salinity  | +0.10 (+0.5%)                           |
| $U_{10}$  | -4.3 (-22%)                             |
| $DMS_w$   | +0.33 (+1.7%)                           |
| All four  | -3.7 (-19%)                             |

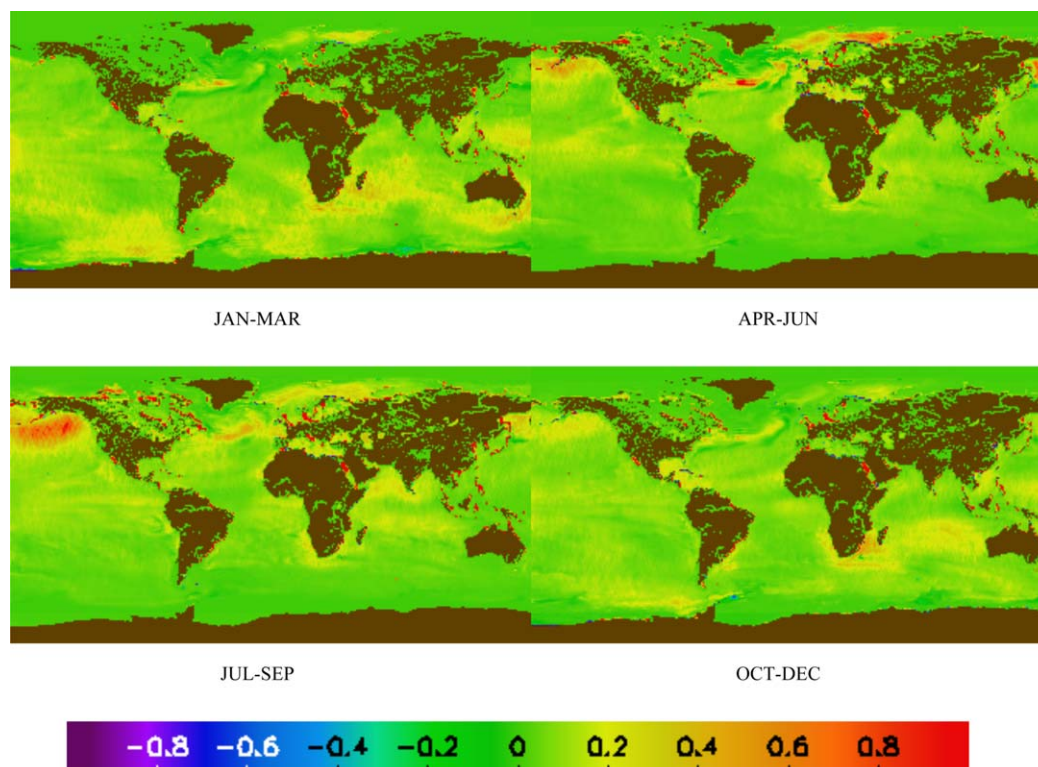
effects on annual mean  $F$  of applying 25 years of predicted changes are shown in Figure S2 (supporting information). It can immediately be seen from supporting information Figure S2 that the effect of salinity changes is by far the smallest except very close to the coast. The effects of SST changes are typically small and positive, increasing in areas where the flux is already large (Figure 1). The effects on flux of  $U_{10}$  changes are large and negative in most regions (due to the model predicting decreased wind speed), although less so in polar regions. The effect of  $DMS_w$  changes is highly variable, with localized "hot spots" of positive or negative change. The effect of changes in

all four parameters is dominated by the effect of wind, so the net effect is generally negative with some positive "hot spots," notably in the eastern Atlantic around  $40^\circ\text{N}$ , which has increased  $DMS_w$  (Figure 6), and in the Sea of Okhotsk north of Japan, which has increased wind speed and  $DMS_w$  (Figures 5 and 6). Applying 25 years of predicted changes in SST,  $U_{10}$ , and  $DMS_w$  affects seasonal mean  $F$  as shown in Figures 7–9. The effect of applying all four changes simultaneously is shown in Figure 10. The effect of salinity was generally as small in each season as the annual effect shown in supporting information Figure S2b, so this is not shown individually.

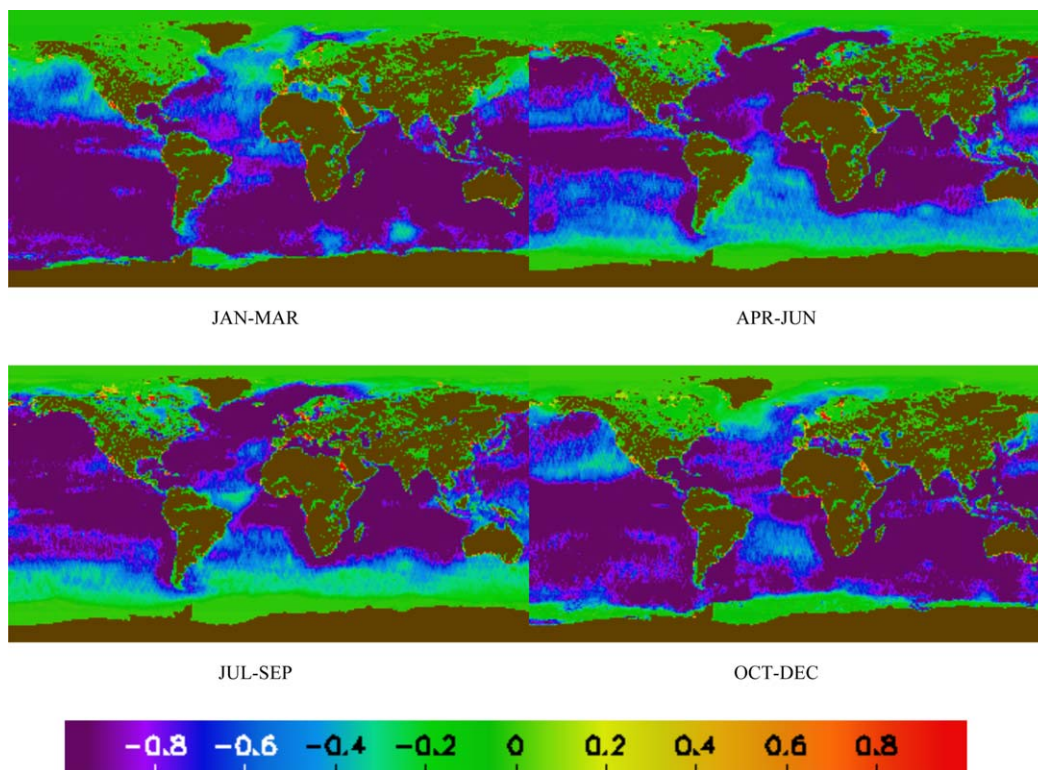
Our results suggest a decrease in global DMS flux in the 25 year scenario examined, mostly due to physical changes, i.e., reduced wind speed. It should be noted that if the surface DMS concentrations were to increase more than predicted by the CMIP5 model due to biological processes/feedbacks unaccounted for in the current model, the DMS flux would increase correspondingly.

### 3.3. Uncertainties and Error Propagation

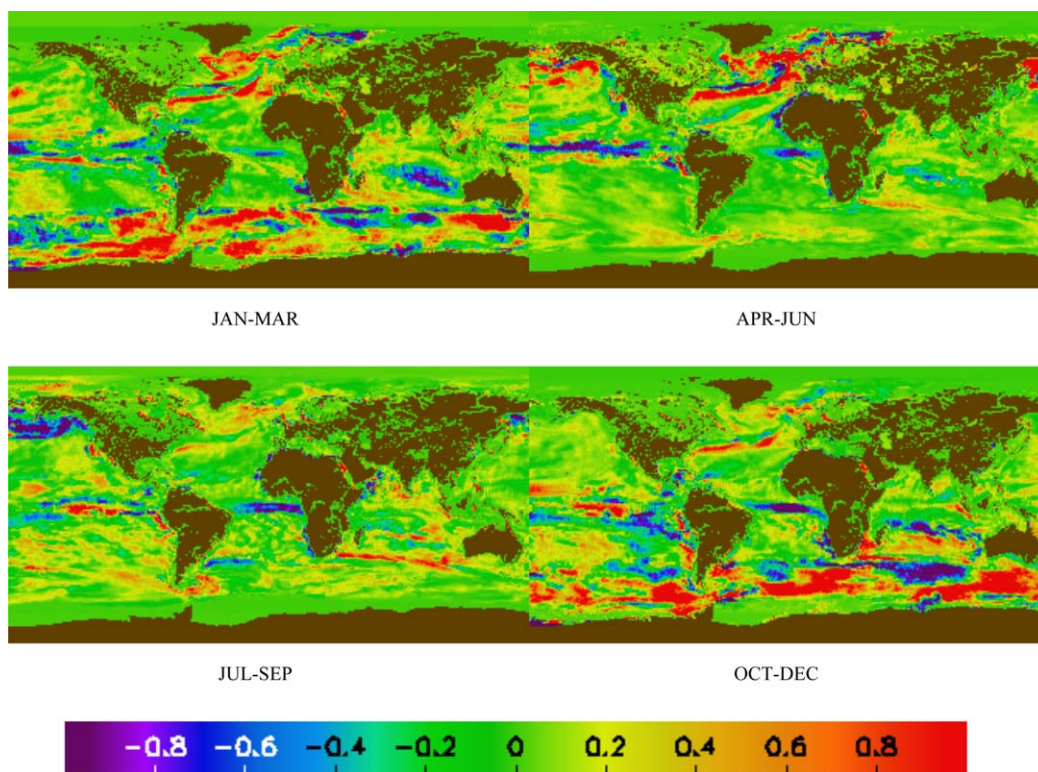
Uncertainties and bias in the remote sensing data used to calculate  $F$  could have a significant impact on the resultant DMS fluxes. Previous work on  $\text{CO}_2$  fluxes [Land et al., 2013] has shown that the effect of random errors in SST and  $U_{10}$  is of the order of 1% of the total uncertainty estimate in the Arctic, and a similarly small proportion is likely for global DMS fluxes, hence this error source is neglected. To investigate the effect of possible bias in the input data sets, we follow Land et al. [2013] and take the precautionary step of using



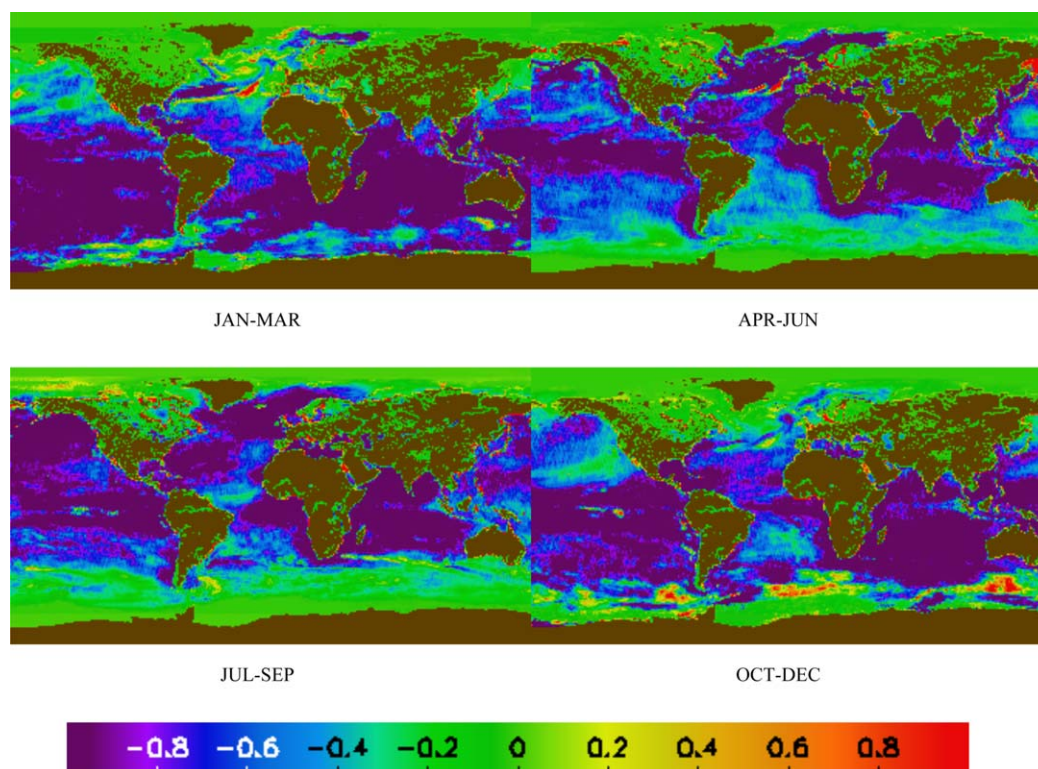
**Figure 7.** Changes in seasonal mean sea-air DMS flux ( $\mu\text{mol S m}^{-2} \text{ day}^{-1}$ ) due to 25 years of predicted changes in SST.



**Figure 8.** Changes in seasonal mean sea-air DMS flux ( $\mu\text{mol S m}^{-2} \text{ day}^{-1}$ ) due to 25 years of predicted changes in 10 m wind speed, on the same scale as Figure 7.



**Figure 9.** Changes in seasonal mean sea-air DMS flux ( $\mu\text{mol S m}^{-2} \text{ day}^{-1}$ ) due to 25 years of predicted changes in DMS concentration, on the same scale as Figures 7 and 8.



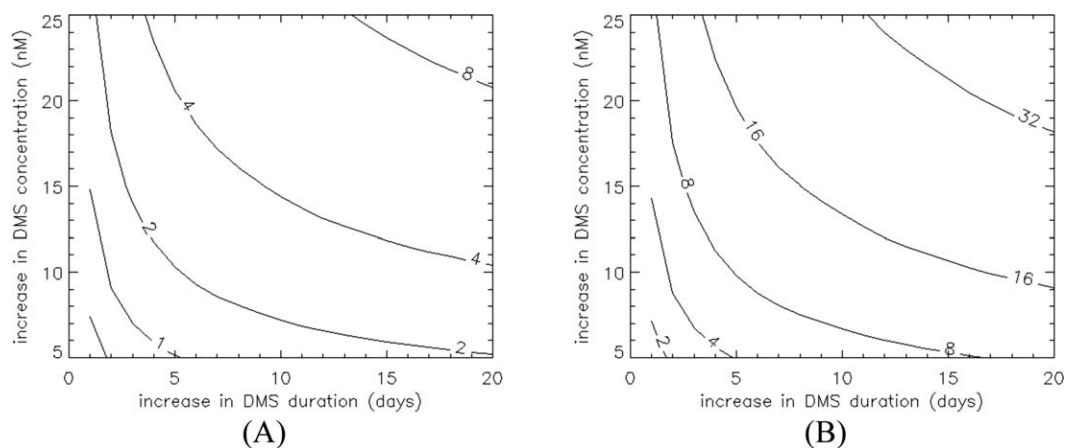
**Figure 10.** Changes in seasonal mean sea-air DMS flux ( $\mu\text{mol S m}^{-2} \text{ day}^{-1}$ ) due to 25 years of predicted changes in SST, salinity, wind speed, and DMS concentration on the same scale as Figures 7–9.

the square root of the sum of squares of the published global bias and standard deviation for each data set. This allows for the possibility of regional biases that cancel in the global bias but contribute to the global standard deviation. The standard deviations of  $SST$  and  $U_{10}$  are  $0.16^\circ\text{C}$  and  $1.25 \text{ ms}^{-1}$ , respectively, and the global biases are  $0.2^\circ\text{C}$  and  $0.28 \text{ ms}^{-1}$ , combining to  $\sqrt{0.16^2 + 0.2^2} = 0.26^\circ\text{C}$  and  $\sqrt{1.25^2 + 0.28^2} = 1.28 \text{ ms}^{-1}$ . These should be considered to be upper estimates of the error due to bias. The mean and standard deviation of  $DMS_w$  are given regionally by Lana *et al.* [2011]. We converted these to a regional error in  $\ln(DMS_w)$  and found the area weighted global average of  $\delta \ln(DMS_w)$  to be 0.12, or a 12% error in  $DMS_w$ . We can use the sensitivities found in subsection 3.2 to translate these errors in  $SST$  and  $DMS_w$  into errors in global DMS flux. These are  $0.14 \text{ Tg S}$  (0.7%) and  $2.4 \text{ Tg S}$  (12%), respectively. The fixed error in wind speed is incompatible with the proportional change used in subsection 3.2, so instead we offset all wind speeds by  $1.28 \text{ ms}^{-1}$  and recalculated the global flux, resulting in a change in global flux of  $4.8 \text{ Tg S}$  (25%). Assuming them to be uncorrelated, these errors sum to  $5.4 \text{ Tg S}$  (27%). Correlation between errors may result in higher total errors.

Goddijn-Murphy *et al.* [2012] give an RMS error of  $\delta k_w = 5.5 \left(\frac{\text{S}}{660}\right)^{-0.5}$  for their  $k$  parameterization. Again assuming the worst case of bias equal to the RMS error, we recalculated fluxes using  $k$  values  $\delta k_w$  greater than predicted, resulting in an increase in global DMS flux of  $9.4^\circ\text{Tg S}$  (48%). Clearly this dominates the uncertainty in global flux, which then becomes  $10.9 \text{ Tg S}$  (55%).

### 3.4. Contribution of Coccolithophores to the North Atlantic DMS Flux

Table S1 (supporting information) shows the increase in annual mean flux over the whole North Atlantic due to DMS increases within detected coccolithophore blooms of 5, 15, and 25 nM, and with durations of 1–20 days. It is also shown as a percentage of the annual mean flux calculated from the Lana *et al.* [2011] climatology. Figure 11a shows the percentage data as a contour plot, while Figure 12 shows the spatial distribution of the increase in flux for the most conservative case (5 nM increase for 1 day). It should be noted that the most extreme case at the upper right of Figure 11a, an increase of 25 nM for 20 days, is highly unlikely to be a good representation of North Atlantic blooms as a whole; we include these extremes to ensure that the unknown actual values are represented in supporting information Table S1 and Figures 11



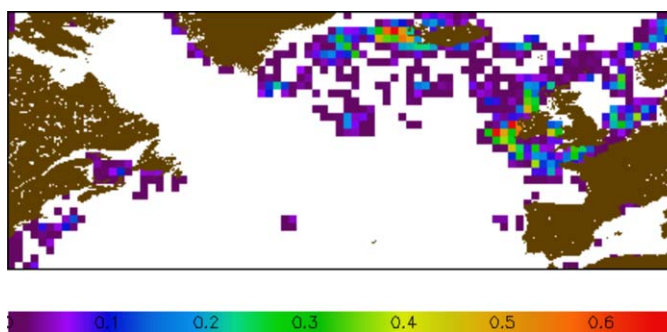
**Figure 11.** (a) Change in North Atlantic annual mean flux; (b) change in monthly mean flux in the northeast Atlantic ( $40^{\circ}\text{W}$ – $11^{\circ}\text{E}$ ,  $60$ – $68^{\circ}\text{N}$ ) in July. Both are shown as a function of increase in DMS concentration within a coccolithophore bloom and duration from the last satellite bloom detection, expressed as a percentage of the mean flux calculated from the *Lana et al.* [2011] climatology. For reference, the annual mean flux in the North Atlantic is  $4.44 \mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{day}^{-1}$  and the mean flux in the northeast Atlantic in July is  $10.20 \mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{day}^{-1}$ . Note that these include the effects of coccolithophores.

and supporting information S4. For a given increase and duration, this approach is likely to be an underestimate of the true DMS flux as satellite backscatter cannot identify all coccolithophores (some do not shed their liths) or other DMS-producing, noncoccolithophore species. Also, it should be noted that the method of *Shutler et al.* [2013] specifically targets anomalously high reflectances, and so does not detect any background concentration of coccolithophores, which may also contribute a DMS flux.

Our calculations suggest that the contribution to the annual DMS flux by coccolithophore blooms identified using satellite backscattering may be a relatively small proportion of the *Lana et al.* [2011] climatological flux, which includes some contributions from coccolithophores. This suggests that noncoccolithophore species and coccolithophore species not identifiable from space are collectively an important driver of North Atlantic seawater DMS concentrations. An alternative explanation for our analysis is that the ad hoc sampling approach for data in the DMS climatology has led to an inherent bias toward DMS blooms and a subsequent overestimate of the DMS flux. Objective sampling tracks (i.e., non bloom-focussed) for future DMS data collection would address this issue.

In summer, DMS flux from coccolithophores has the potential to be substantial (Table 2), particularly in the northeast Atlantic where blooms are more prevalent (Figure 12). To illustrate this, the increase in DMS flux due to coccolithophore blooms in the northeast quadrant of the North Atlantic ( $32^{\circ}\text{W}$  to  $11^{\circ}\text{E}$ ,  $52$  to  $68^{\circ}\text{N}$ , shown as a black box in Figure 12) in July is shown in Figure 11b as a percentage of the equivalent flux calculated from the *Lana et al.* [2011] climatology.

The progression of coccolithophore bloom activity is illustrated in supporting information Figure S3, showing the distribution of bloom effect on monthly DMS flux from April to August. Blooms start in the Celtic



**Figure 12.** Change in North Atlantic annual average DMS flux ( $\mu\text{mol } 5 \text{ m}^{-2} \text{day}^{-1}$ ) with a  $5 \text{ nM}$  increase in DMS concentration during a coccolithophore bloom and a duration of 1 day. White areas have no coccolithophore blooms detected, brown is land.

Sea and English Channel in April, moving to the shelf break west of Ireland in May, the shelf break north of Ireland, the North Sea and the Greenland Sea between Greenland and Iceland in June, concentrating in a small region west of Iceland and the southern North Sea in July and August. To investigate the local impact of coccolithophore blooms, we calculated the mean percentage effect on DMS flux for all

pixels with nonzero effect, i.e., pixels identified as being bloom affected (pixels not colored white or brown in Figure 12 and supporting information Figure S3). Results are shown annually in supporting information Figure S4a and for July (the month of greatest effect on North Atlantic fluxes) in supporting information Figure S4b. The annual effect ranges from 1 to 38%, while the effect in July ranges from 5 to 147%.

To more accurately quantify the contribution of coccolithophore blooms to regional DMS emissions, detailed investigations are required into the relationship between bloom intensity (spectral backscattering) and seawater DMS concentration.

#### 4. Conclusions

In this paper, we describe a new method for calculating net DMS fluxes from EO data using a  $k$  parameterization that is calibrated for DMS, showing the applicability of EO data to the monitoring of DMS net fluxes. Specifically, we look at the effect of predicted changes in climate on the flux of DMS from ocean to atmosphere. It shows that the effect of 25 years of changes predicted by a CMIP5 climate model is globally dominated by the prediction of decreased surface wind speed, which results in a 22% decrease in global DMS flux, while changes in temperature, salinity, and DMS concentration have smaller positive effects, with a combined effect of a 19% decrease in global flux. We also evaluate DMS emission from satellite-observed coccolithophore blooms in the North Atlantic, which is small compared to the annual climatology, but may be more important in the summertime and in the northeast Atlantic.

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