

# On Geoengineering and Implementing an Albedo Solution with Urban Heat Islands Global Warming and Cooling Estimates

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## Abstract

Solar geoengineering is vital in Global Warming (GW) as results can reverse trends and reduce the probability of a tipping point. This paper focuses on geoengineering and implementation of a surface solar geoengineering solution to global warming. Although an albedo solution is reasonably practical, work in this area appears stagnant and even implementing Urban Heat Island (UHI) cool roofs on a global level has not yet been widely adopted. This paper provides basic modeling and motivation by illustrating the potential impact for reverse forcing. We provide insights into “Earthly components” that can be utilized to increase the opportunity for reducing climate change. Modeling shows that by solar geoengineering hotspots with large heat capacities, such as UHIs, and mountain region, the effective area could be roughly 11 times smaller than nominal non-hotspot regions in influencing global warming. We find that between 0.2 and 0.5% of the Earth would require modification to resolve most of global warming. This is highly dependent on the heat capacity and irradiance of the area of interest. The versatile model presented, also shows significant global warming estimates due to UHIs and their coverage.

## 1.0 Introduction

When we consider climate change solutions, in the race against time, it is advantageous to look at the practical aspects of implementing an albedo solution. Given the slow progress reported with greenhouse gas reduction, and the continual increase in the Earth’s average yearly temperature, it is important to revisit alternative albedo solutions. Unlike geoengineering solutions, GHG mitigation is highly difficult to result in reversing climate change, especially with reports on large deforestation occurring [1].

Implementation is a key focus on geoengineering an albedo surface solution. There have been a number of geoengineering solutions proposed [2-4] that are either atmospheric or surface-based. In this study, we focus on targeting surface regions and present practical engineering formulas and values.

The target areas that have the highest impacts are likely ones with:

- high solar irradiance
- large heat capacities
- low albedo
- ability to amplify nature’s albedo

To clarify the last target area, we infer that cooling down certain areas may cause natural compounding albedo changes to occur, such as increases in snowfall and ice formations. We can term these as Solar Amplified Areas (SAA) relative to Nominal Land Albedo (NLA) areas (25% albedo, see Sec. 7.2).

Although the task is highly challenging, it is easier to do geoengineering of surface reflectivity compared with building cities. Often, UHIs and impermeable surfaces are haphazardly constructed in terms of solar absorption considerations. While numerous authors [4-17] have found significant warming due to UHIs, the only motivated work in this area is a result of health concerns. Therefore, albedo cool roof solutions have not received adequate attention compared to GHG efforts. This is unfortunate and makes the business of solar solution and it’s financing less desirable. It is important that not just scientists understand the importance of the albedo solution. There is a lack of knowledge when it comes to the word albedo and its potential contribution. We cannot expect architects, road engineers, car designers, city planners and so forth, to do their job correctly in the green area, if these concepts are not widely understood. Therefore, a key strategy employed in this study is to demonstrate the advantages, feasibility and importance in cooling solar amplified areas made by man. We provide simple geoengineering equations that can aid the designer. We need to recognize that the whole is equal to the sum of the parts, mankind’s contributions to both greenhouse gases and albedo reduction need to be addressed for a realistic solution.

## 2. Outline of the Geoengineering the Albedo Solution

We present a brief outline to overview and clarify our modeling objectives and motivate interests.

63 **Section 3:** In this section, we identify a practical re-radiation model to help obtain accurate important values in  
 64 geoengineering a global warming albedo solution. In the absence of feedback, our model has the simplified form:

$$65$$

$$66 \quad P_{Pre-Industrial} = P_{\alpha} + f_1 P_{\alpha} = \sigma T_S^4 \quad (1)$$

67  
 68 Here  $T_s$  is the Earth's average surface temperature,  $P_{\alpha}=1361W/m^2/4 \times (1-\alpha)$  is the short wavelength absorption and  
 69  $f=\beta^4=0.618$  is a GHG re-radiation parameter, a redefined variable taken from the effective emissivity constant of the  
 70 planetary system. The model is then extended so that it can be applied with climate feedback and verified using the  
 71 Planck parameter.

72  
 73 **Section 4:** Using the Model in Section 3, we apply it to temperature data from 1950 to 2019 and assess  $\Delta P_{Total}$ , the  
 74 total forcing that has occurred. This is required in order to estimate the amount of reverse forcing corrective action  
 75 needed.

76  
 77 **Section 5:** In this section we first identify a key Planck-albedo parameter

$$78$$

$$79 \quad \gamma_{\% \Delta \alpha \Delta T} \approx 1W / m^2 / \Delta \%albedo / ^{\circ}K \quad (2)$$

80 The parameter converts a percent albedo  $\% \Delta \alpha$  change to  $\Delta P_T$ , the reverse forcing from the target area where the total  
 81 reverse forcing  $\Delta P_{Rev\_S}$  is

$$82$$

$$83 \quad \Delta P_{Rev\_S} = -\gamma_{\% \Delta \alpha \Delta T} \% \Delta \alpha (1 + f_2) A_F = \Delta P_T (1 + f_2) A_F \quad (3)$$

84  
 85 Here  $f_2$  is the 2019 re-radiation parameter, about 0.63,  $A_F$  is an estimate of the anticipated GW feedback reduction.

86  
 87 **Section 6:** In this section an Albedo model is developed to use the  $\Delta P_T$  goal where

$$88$$

$$89 \quad \Delta P_T = \frac{A_T}{A_E} \frac{S_N}{4} 0.33 H_{T-N} [(\alpha'_T - \alpha_T)] \quad (4)$$

90 The factor,  $H_{T-N}$  is the hotspot irradiance sensible heat storage potential, a function of the heat capacity, mass,  
 91 temperature storage, and solar irradiance by comparison to a nominal area. Here  $\alpha_T$  is the initial target albedo,  $\alpha'_T$  is  
 92 the modified target albedo, and 0.33 is the estimate fraction of time the target area is not covered by clouds. Then  
 93 the final goal relative to fraction of Earth's area,  $A_E$ , needing modification is

- 94
- 95 •  $A_T / A_E$ , where  $A_T$  is the target area

96  
 97 **Section 7:** In this section, it all comes together by applying these models for different target areas including UHIs  
 98 yielding their warming and cooling estimates.

99  
 100 Therefore, our task is to essentially find reasonable values for  $\Delta P_{Total}$ ,  $f_2$ ,  $\Delta P_{Rev\_S}$ ,  $H_{T-N}$ ,  $\gamma$ ,  $\Delta P_T$ ,  $\% \Delta \alpha$ , in order to  
 101 estimate a geoengineering GW solution by modifying the select fractional target area  $A_T/A_E$  of the Earth.

### 102

### 103 3.0 The Re-radiation Global Warming Model

104  
 105 In geoengineering, we are working with absorption and re-radiation, we define

$$106$$

$$107 \quad P_{Total} = \sigma T_S^4 = \sigma \left( \frac{T_e}{\beta} \right)^4 \quad \text{and} \quad P_{\alpha} = \sigma T_{\alpha}^4 = \sigma (\beta T_S)^4 \quad (5)$$

108 The definitions of  $T_{\alpha}=T_e$ ,  $T_S$  and  $\beta$  are the emission temperature, surface temperature and  $\beta=0.887$ , respectively.  
 109 Consider a time when there is **no feedback issues** causing warming trends. Then by conservation of energy, the  
 110 equivalent power re-radiated from GHGs in this model is dependent on  $P_{\alpha}$  with

$$111$$

$$112 \quad P_{GHG} = P_{Total} - P_{\alpha} = \sigma T_S^4 - \sigma T_{\alpha}^4 \quad (6)$$

113  
 114 To be consistent with  $T_{\alpha}=T_e$ , since typically  $T_{\alpha} \approx 255^{\circ}K$  and  $T_s \approx 288^{\circ}K$ , then in keeping with a common definition of  
 115 the global beta (the proportionality between surface temperature and emission temperature) for the moment  
 116  $\beta=T_{\alpha}/T_s=T_e/T_s$ .

117  
 118 This allows us to write the dependence

119

$$P_{GHG} = \sigma T_s^4 - \sigma T_\alpha^4 = \frac{\sigma T_\alpha^4}{\beta^4} - \sigma T_\alpha^4 = \sigma T_\alpha^4 \left( \frac{1}{\beta^4} - 1 \right) = \sigma T_\alpha^4 \left( \frac{1}{f} - 1 \right) \quad (7)$$

Note that when  $\beta^4=1$ , there are no GHG contributions. We note that  $f$ , the re-radiation parameter equals  $\beta^4$  in the absence of feedback.

We can also define the blackbody re-radiated by GHGs given similarly by some fraction  $f_1$  such that

$$P_{GHG} = f_1 P_\alpha = f_1 \sigma T_\alpha^4 \quad (8)$$

It is important in geoengineering to view the re-radiation as part of the albedo effect. This is a key difference in how we view the total effect from short wavelength absorption by the inclusion of re-radiation effect. Consider  $f=f_1$ , in this case according to Equations 7 and 8, it requires

$$P_{GHG} = \sigma T_\alpha^4 \left( \frac{1}{f} - 1 \right) = f_1 \sigma T_\alpha^4 = f \sigma T_\alpha^4 \quad (9)$$

This dependence leads us to the solution of the quadratic expression

$$f^2 + f - 1 = 0 \text{ yielding } f = 0.618034 = \beta^4, \beta = (0.618034)^{1/4} = 0.88664 \quad (10)$$

This is very close to the common value estimated for  $\beta$  and this has been obtained through energy balance in the planetary system providing a self-determining assessment. In Appendix A, we double check this model in another way by balancing energy. Then in Section 4.2, we apply the model to demonstrate its capability and consistency with the Planck parameter. We note that the assumption  $f=f_1$  only works if planetary energy is in balance (also see Appendix A) without feedbacks.

#### 4.0 Re-radiation Model Applied to Two Different Time Periods

Global warming can be exemplified by looking at two different time periods. The model applied for 1950 needs to be consistent with Eq. 6 and 8. Here we will

- assume no feedback issues causing a warming trend in 1950 so that from our model

$$P_{Total,1950} = P_\alpha + P_{GHG} = P_\alpha + f_1 P_\alpha = P_\alpha (1 + f_1) = 1.618 P_\alpha \quad (11)$$

where  $P_\alpha = S_o \{0.25x(1 - Albedo)\}$  and  $S_o=1361W/m^2$ . Although 1950 is not truly pre-industrial (see Eq. 1), we proceed under the assumption of no changes in GHG and feedback issues at this time to establish our baseline, since geoengineering a solution to earlier dates would pose even higher challenges. Under this assumption,  $1+f=1.618$  becomes the 1950 albedo-GHG reference value. Since its value is related to the re-radiation parameter, it is subjected to changes due to variations in our aging climate system. As a reference value, it is constrained by the energy balance in Eq. 9 and as discussed in Section 4.2.

In 2019 due to global warming trends, this model is more complex and harder to separate out terms. However, we proceed similarly and results and verification will justify its continual use, then

$$P_{Total,2019} = P_{\alpha'} + P_{GHG'+Feedback} \approx P_{\alpha'} + f_2 P_{\alpha'} \quad (12)$$

Here,  $P_{GHG'+Feedback}$  includes the 1950 GHGs and 2019 increase with feedbacks such as water-vapor concentration, lapse rate effect and other changes such as increase in snow-ice albedo variations that are hard to separate out. That is, feedbacks are related to GHG increases and albedo change.  $P_{\alpha'}$  represents the 2019 point in time with its albedo due to changes in UHI absorption, cloud absorption, ice and snow melting, and so forth that can be discerned. The model does not demand rigid accountability in its application (see Sec.4.2) but reasonable estimates are helpful. We note that unlike  $f_1$ ,  $f_2$  is not a strict measure of the emissivity.

In 1950  $f_1$  defines the GHG re-radiation function (with no feedbacks) and is consistent with the estimates for beta. In 2019, it is more complex and according to Eq. 12, must include feedbacks. The value  $f_2$  while close to the beta value in Eq. 10, is no longer identical as  $f_1$  (see Equation 13). The value  $f_2$  can also be assessed relative to  $f_1$  as described

176 in the next section. However, in general, between the two time periods, we will find  $P_{GHG} \approx P_{GHG'+Feedback}$  (see results  
177 in Section 4.2).

#### 178 179 **4.1 Warming Imbalance in 2019**

180  
181 The re-radiation parameters  $f_1$  and  $f_2$ , are connected and from Eq. 10, 11 and 12 we have

$$183 \quad f_2 = f_1 + \left( \frac{P_{2019}}{P_{\alpha'}} - \frac{P_{1950}}{P_{\alpha}} \right) = f_1 + \left( \frac{P_{GHG'+F}}{P_{\alpha'}} - \frac{P_{GHG}}{P_{\alpha}} \right) = f_1 + \Delta f = \beta_1^4 + \Delta f \approx \beta_2^4 + \Delta f \quad (13)$$

184 In this way  $f_2$  is a function of  $f_1=0.618$  and the differences in the global warming residuals that is identified in Eq. 12  
185 as  $\Delta f$ . The RHS of Eq. 12 (indicating that  $\beta_1 \approx \beta_2$ ) will become apparent in application (Eq. 16 and 17) and  
186 verification.

#### 187 188 **4.2 Results Applied to 1950 and 2019**

189  
190 Since the re-radiation parameter is fixed for  $f_1=0.618$ , to obtain the average  $T_{1950}=13.89^\circ\text{C}$  ( $287.038^\circ\text{K}$ ), the only  
191 adjustable parameter left in our model is the global albedo. This requires an albedo value of 0.3008 (see Table 1) to  
192 obtain the correct value  $T_{1950}$ . This albedo number is reasonable and similar to values cited in the literature [18].

193  
194 In 2019, the average temperature of the Earth is  $T_{2019}=14.84^\circ\text{C}$  ( $287.99^\circ\text{K}$ ). Here we are not sure of the albedo value  
195 since it likely changed due to UHI increase, snow and ice melting and cloud coverage changes. The IPCC value in  
196 AR5 [19] is 0.294118 (100/340). However, this would represent a 3% change since 1950 which may be an  
197 overestimation. In this assessment, we will assume a low middle value of 1.2% change. Another reason for this  
198 choice is in a resulting analysis in Appendix A.2. Then, the  $f_2$  parameter is adjusted to 0.6311 to obtain  $T_{2019}$ . Table  
199 1 summarizes model results for the specified albedos and observed Earth's surface temperatures. The results yield  
200  $P_{Total\ 1950}=384.935\ \text{W/m}^2$  and  $P_{Total\ 2019}=390.055\ \text{W/m}^2$ .

201  
202 **Table 1** Model results

Year	$T(^{\circ}\text{K})$	$T_{\alpha}(^{\circ}\text{K})$	$f_1, f_2$	$\alpha, \alpha'$	$P_{\alpha}, P_{\alpha'}$ ( $\text{W/m}^2$ )	$P_{GHG'+feedback}$ $P_{GHG}$ ( $\text{W/m}^2$ )	$P_{Total}$ ( $\text{W/m}^2$ )
2019	287.991	254.83	0.63114	29.719	239.131	150.925	390.056
1950	287.041	254.51	0.6180	30.08	237.903	147.032	384.935
$\Delta 2019-1950$	<b>0.95</b>	0.328	<b>1.311%</b>	0.361	<b>1.228</b>	3.893	<b>5.12</b>
				<b>(1.2%)</b>			

203  
204 From Table 1 we now have identified the reverse forcing needed since

$$205 \quad \Delta P_{Total} = P_{2019} - P_{1950} = 5.121\ \text{W} / \text{m}^2 \quad (14)$$

206  
207 and

$$208 \quad \Delta T_{Total} = T_{2019} - T_{1950} = 0.95^\circ\text{C} \quad (15)$$

209  
210 as modeled.

#### 211 212 **4.3 Showing Model Consistency with the Planck Parameter**

213 To show model consistency, the forcing change,  $5.121\ \text{W/m}^2$ , resulting in a  $0.95^\circ\text{K}$  rise, should agree with what is  
214 expected when using the Planck feedback parameter.

215 In order to show model consistency, we will need some exact values for beta using the temperatures in Table 1,  
216 these are from the two different time periods (see Eq. A-3)

$$217 \quad \beta_{1950} = \frac{T_{\alpha}}{T_s} = \frac{T_e}{T_s} = \frac{254.51}{287.04} = 0.88667 \text{ and } \beta_{1950}^4 = 0.61809 \quad (16)$$

218 as required (Eq. 10), and

$$219 \quad \beta_{2019} = \frac{T_{\alpha}}{T_s} = \frac{T_e}{T_s} = \frac{254.83}{287.99} = 0.88485 \text{ and } \beta_{2019}^4 = 0.61304 \quad (17)$$

220  
221 Although these two are very close, we use both values due to the need for high accuracy; model self-consistency is  
222 required.

228 From the definition of the Planck parameter and results in Table 1, we can estimated [20]

229

$$230 \quad \lambda_o = -4 \frac{\Delta R_{LWR}}{T_S} = -4 \left( \frac{237.9W/m^2}{287.04^\circ K} \right)_{1950} = -3.315W/m^2/^\circ K \quad (18)$$

231 and

$$232 \quad \lambda_o = -4 \frac{\Delta R_{LWR}}{T_S} = -4 \left( \frac{239.13W/m^2}{287.99^\circ K} \right)_{2019} = -3.321W/m^2/^\circ K \quad (19)$$

233

234 We note these are very close in value showing minor error and consistency with Planck parameter value, often taken  
 235 as  $3.3W/m^2/^\circ K$ . While there are only small differences between each beta and these two Planck parameters, final  
 236 warming predictions using a Planck parameter method, requires values found from the model. This self-consistency  
 237 helps in providing accuracy for estimating  $\Delta T$  by reducing compounding error within the model. We then use the  
 238 generalized form for the long wavelength estimate in Equation A-2, yielding the approximate warming change in  
 239 terms of the total power and the Planck parameter method as [20]

240

$$241 \quad \Delta T = T_{1950} - T_{2019} = -4 \left\{ \left( \frac{\beta^4 P_{Total}}{\lambda_o} \right)_{1950} - \left( \frac{\beta^4 P_{Total}}{\lambda_o} \right)_{2019} \right\} \quad (20)$$

242

243 Using Table 1, the temperature warming results is

244

$$245 \quad \Delta T = -4 \left( \frac{0.6181x384.935W/m^2/^\circ K}{3.315W/m^2/^\circ K} - \frac{0.61304x390.056W/m^2/^\circ K}{3.3215W/m^2/^\circ K} \right) = 0.92^\circ K \quad (21)$$

246

247 This equation illustrates consistency of the re-radiation model with the Planck parameter showing reasonable  
 248 accuracy helping to verify the model from a different perspective. The model allows for a number of helpful  
 249 comparisons that are described in Appendix A.2.

250

## 251 5.0 Geoengineering Reverse Forcing Solution

252

253 The albedo changes and  $\Delta P_\alpha$  in Table 1, are:  $\% \Delta \alpha = 1.2\%$  and  $1.228W/m^2$ , respectively. We note that we can define  
 254 a unique Planck-albedo parameter  $\gamma_{\% \Delta \alpha} = \Delta P_\alpha / \% \Delta \text{albedo}$ . To illustrate from Table 1

255

$$256 \quad \gamma_{\% \Delta \alpha} = 1.023 W/m^2/\Delta \% \text{albedo} \quad (22)$$

257

258 This parameter can also be expressed per degree (noting the  $0.95^\circ K$  change in Table 1)

259

$$260 \quad \gamma_{\% \Delta \alpha \Delta T} \approx 1W/m^2/\Delta \% \text{albedo}/^\circ K \quad (23)$$

261

262 The helpful parameter [5] is featured here as a modeling tool. We term it the Planck-albedo parameter, since it  
 263 relates to blackbody ( $P_\alpha$ ) absorption. A simple numeric example is given in the conclusion to illustrate how it  
 264 provides helpful estimates along with the albedo-GHG factor. This interesting parameter simplifies from the basic  
 265 assessments of the two different time periods as

266

$$267 \quad \gamma_{\% \Delta \alpha} = \frac{(\Delta E_o)_\alpha}{\frac{\alpha_1 - \alpha_2}{\alpha_1} 100} = \frac{E_o (\alpha_1 - \alpha_2)}{\frac{\alpha_1 - \alpha_2}{\alpha_1} 100} = E_o \alpha_1 / 100 \approx 1W/m^2/\% \Delta \text{albedo} \quad (24)$$

268

269 where  $E_o = 340 W/m^2$  and when  $\alpha_1$  is 0.294118, the value  $1.000W/m^2/\Delta \% \text{albedo}$  is obtained. We note the value  
 270 29.4118% ( $100/340$ ) is given in AR5 [19].

271

272 The albedo-GHG and the Planck-Albedo parameter may now be combined in order to provide a simple solar  
 273 geoengineering solution estimate for reverse forcing

274

$$275 \quad \Delta P_{Rev\_S} = -\gamma_{\% \Delta \alpha \Delta T} \% \Delta \alpha (1 + f_2) A_F = \Delta P_T (1 + f_2) A_F \quad (25)$$

276

277 These variables have been defined in the outline (Section 2.0). This equation provides a fairly simple and practical  
 278 way to estimate  $\Delta P_{Rev\_S}$ . In solar geoengineering, anticipating an allowance for the climate system to equilibrate [21]  
 279 is not considered here. Furthermore, one might expect that a positive compared to negative albedo change may not

280 have a strong hysteresis effect. Note that the 1+f factor accounts for one process of initial absorption change  $\Delta P_T$   
 281 followed by subsequent partial re-radiation from GHGs. This value helps to clarify our goal.

282  
 283 The effective results

$$284 \quad Effect = \frac{\Delta P_{Rev\_S}}{\Delta P_{Total}} \quad (26)$$

285  
 286 and  $\Delta P_{Rev\_OLWR} = \beta^4 \Delta P_{Rev\_S}$  the temperature reduction can be estimated from [20]

$$287 \quad \Delta T_{Rev} = -\frac{\beta^4 \Delta P_{Rev\_S}}{\lambda_o} \quad (27)$$

288 In theory,  $\Delta T_{Rev}$  is only an estimate since this equation is valid when no feedback issues result. The reason it is a  
 289 reasonable estimate is that  $\beta^4 \Delta P_{Rev\_S}$  is a good estimate OLWR (also see Eq. A-2).

### 291 5.1 Example of a Reverse Forcing Goal

292  
 293 In this section, we consider a goal of 1.5% geoengineering albedo change. Using Equation 25, with a decrease in  
 294 water-vapor feedback anticipated, we might use a value of  $A \approx 2$  [21], then

$$295 \quad \Delta P_{Rev\_S} = -1 \text{ W/m}^2 / \% \times 1.5\% \times (1+f_2) \times 2 = -1.5 \text{ W/m}^2 \times (1+f_2) \times 2 = -4.9 \text{ Watt/m}^2 \quad (28)$$

297 This estimate can be compared with the re-radiation model results in Table 1 showing a forcing of  $5.21 \text{ W/m}^2$  to  
 298 obtain the relative effect of 94% from Eq. 26 for this particular geoengineering solution. Equation 28 expressed in  
 299 terms of temperature cooling from Eq. 27 where  $\beta^4 \Delta P_{Rev\_S} = \Delta P_{Rev\_OLWR} = -3.0 \text{ W/m}^2$  is

$$300 \quad \Delta T_{Rev} = \frac{3.0 \text{ W/m}^2}{\lambda_o} = -0.91^\circ \text{K} \quad (29)$$

303 This would indicate a significant resolution to the current warming trend. As one might suspect, a 1.5% albedo  
 304 change requires a lot of modified area. Feasibility is discussed in the rest of this paper. We note a number of solar  
 305 geoengineering solutions have been proposed [2-4].

### 308 6.0 Converting the Reverse Forcing Goal to Target Area

309 We can write the short wavelength solar absorption as

$$310 \quad P = \frac{Q}{A} = \frac{S_N}{4} \sum_i \frac{A'_i}{A} (1-\alpha_i) + \frac{S_N}{4} H_{T-N} \frac{A'_T}{A} (1-\alpha_T) + \frac{S_N}{4} \frac{A_C}{A} (1-\alpha_C) \quad (30)$$

313 Here  $A_i$  is the  $i^{\text{th}}$  effective area having an albedo  $\alpha_i$ ,  $S_N = 1361 \text{ W/m}^2$  and A is the surface area of the Earth and  $A_C$  is  
 314 effective cloud coverage. We consider a change to a hotspot target effective area  $A_T$  with albedo  $\alpha_T$ . In addition,  
 315 because we select a particularly problematic solar absorbing target compared to a nominal area (N), it has hotspot  
 316 irradiance sensible heat storage potential  $H_{T-N}$ , a function of the heat capacity, mass, temperature storage, and solar  
 317 irradiance. Essentially this has the effect of amplifying the target area.  $H_{T-N}$  is described and enumerated in  
 318 Appendix B.

320 We note that the Earth Albedo change will only be a function of the target area variation, so from Eq. 30

$$321 \quad (dP_T)_\alpha = \frac{S_N}{4} H_{T-N} \frac{A'_T}{A} (-d\alpha_T) \quad (31)$$

323 where the subscript  $\alpha$  indicates all other Earth albedo components are held constant.

324 The overall equation prior to changing the albedo is subject to the constraints

$$325 \quad P = 240 \text{ W/m}^2 \text{ and } A = \sum_i A'_i + A_T + A_C = A'_E + A_C \text{ but } A'_E = (1 - \%A_C) \times A_E = 0.33 A_E \quad (32)$$

328

329 This indicates that because of the cloud coverage term  $A_C$ , about 67% of the actual Earth's area  $A'_E$  [23] is covered  
 330 from direct sunlight. This is likely conservative as clouds do let some sunlight through. However, that means that  
 331 roughly 33% of the time areas receive sun during daylight hours.

332

333 We now alter the target albedo  $\alpha_T$  to  $\alpha'_T$  of a SAA so that

334

$$335 \quad P' = \frac{Q'}{A} = \frac{S_N}{4} \sum_i \frac{0.33A_i}{A} (1-\alpha_i) + \frac{S_N}{4} \frac{0.33A_T}{A} H_{T-N} (1-\alpha'_T) + \frac{S_N}{4} \frac{A_C}{A} (1-\alpha_C) \quad (33)$$

336

337 Note the 0.33 factor is added due to the percent of time the albedo change is effective. Using the example goal of the  
 338 target area  $\Delta P_T = 1.5W/m^2$  in Eq. 28, the change in heat absorbed is a function of the target area as indicated by Eq.  
 339 31, where

$$340 \quad \Delta P_T = P - P' = \frac{S_N}{4} \frac{0.33A_T H_{T-N}}{A} [(\alpha'_T - \alpha_T)] = 1.5W/m^2 \quad (34)$$

341

342 However, the same results can be obtained by changing the albedo of a nominal area; so in this case  $H_{T-N} = 1$ . The  
 343 equivalent change for the NLA is

344

$$345 \quad \Delta P_{T-N} = \frac{S_N}{4} \frac{0.33A_N}{A} \{(\alpha'_N - \alpha_N)\} = 1.5W/m^2 \quad (35)$$

346

## 347 7.0 Geoengineering Application

348

349 Comparing the target to the nominal areas, we have

350

$$351 \quad \frac{\Delta P_T}{\Delta P_{T-N}} \approx \frac{A_T H_{T-N} [(\alpha'_T - \alpha_T)]}{A_N [(\alpha'_N - \alpha_N)]} = 1 \quad (36)$$

352

353 As an example, assume  $H_{T-N} \approx 9$  (see Appendix B),  $\alpha_N = 0.25$  (see Sec. 7.2),  $\alpha_T = 0.12$  [24], and for  $\alpha'_N = \alpha'_T = 0.9$ , we  
 354 obtain

$$355 \quad \frac{A_N}{A_T} = \frac{H_{T-N} [(\alpha'_T - \alpha_T)]}{[(\alpha'_N - \alpha_N)]} = \frac{9[(0.9 - 0.12)]}{[(0.9 - 0.25)]} = 10.8 \quad (37)$$

356

357 This indicates that the nominal area would have to be about 11 times larger than the target area for equivalent  
 358 results.

359

360 In assessing our goal, we have from Eq. 28

361

$$362 \quad \Delta P_T = \frac{S_N}{4} \frac{0.33A_T H_{T-N}}{A_E} [(\alpha'_T - \alpha_T)] = 1.5W/m^2 \quad (38)$$

363

364 For  $H_{T-N} = 1$ ,  $\alpha'_T = 0.9$ , and  $\alpha_T = 0.12$  then

365

$$366 \quad \Delta P_T = 340 \frac{A_T}{A} [0.78] \times 0.33 = 1.5W/m^2 \quad (39)$$

367 and

$$368 \quad \frac{A_T}{A} = 0.01714 = 1.714\% \text{ of Earth} \quad (40)$$

369

370 For  $H_{T-N} = 10$ ,  $\alpha'_T = 0.9$ , and  $\alpha_T = 0.12$  then

371

$$372 \quad \frac{A_T}{A} = 0.1714\% \text{ of Earth} \quad (41)$$

373 Recall that the goal for a  $1.5\text{W}/\text{m}^2$  corresponded to a 1.5% albedo change (see Sec. 5.1). We can check results of  
 374  $A_T/A=1.714\%$  when  $H_{T,N}=1$ , yields a 1.5% albedo change using a related expression to Eq. 38. This is given by  
 375

$$376 \quad \Delta\alpha\% = 0.33 \frac{A_T}{A} \frac{[(\alpha'_T - \alpha_T)]}{\alpha} = 0.33(1.714\%) \frac{[(0.9 - 0.12)]}{0.294118} = 1.5\% \quad (42)$$

377  
 378 where the global albedo is taken as  $\alpha=0.294118$  which is indicated in AR5's energy budget figure [19].  
 379

### 380 **7.1 Cooling Estimates Compared to Urban Heat Island Area**

381  
 382 Since UHI are likely good target areas, we can compare these results to the total global urbanized area. Such  
 383 estimates of urbanization unfortunately vary widely partly due to the confusing definition of what is urban.  
 384 However, two studies are of interest. A Schneider study [25] on 2000 data estimated that 0.148% of the Earth was  
 385 covered by UHI and the associated surrounding urban areas. Due to city growth, this extrapolates to 0.188% [5] in  
 386 2019. Similarly, a study from GRUMP [26] showing global urbanization value in 2000 of 0.783% extrapolates to  
 387 0.953% [5] of the Earth's area in 2019. These extrapolations are based on an average yearly urbanization growth  
 388 rate between 1.3% to 1.6% [5]. Lastly, note that UHIs have their own hotspot amplification factors [5] that vary  
 389 between 3.1 and 8.4 (see Appendix C) which are listed in Table 2 and can be applied for  $H_{T,N}$ . Therefore, compared  
 390 to these 2019 estimates for urban heat island and surrounding areas, the required area changes for different  $H_{T,N}$   
 391 values (discussed in Appendix C) are summarized in Table 2.  
 392  
 393

**Table 2** Cooling required areas relative to UHI areas

$H_{T,N}$	$A_T/A$ (% of Earth) $\alpha'_T = 0.9$	Schneider Factor ( $A_T/A$ )/0.188% (Conservative) $\alpha'_T = 0.9$ ( $\alpha'_T = 0.5$ )	GRUMP Factor ( $A_T/A$ )/0.953 $\alpha'_T = 0.9$ ( $\alpha'_T = 0.5$ )
1	1.714	9.1 (18.7)	1.8 (3.7)
3.1	0.55	2.93 (6)	0.58 (1.2)
8.4	0.2	1.06 (2.2)	0.21 (0.43)
9	0.19	1 (2.1)	0.2 (0.41)

\* $A_T/A$  represent 94% of the solution (see Sec. 5.1)

394  
 395  
 396 Note that an IPCC (Satterthwaite et. al. [27]) AR5 report references the Schneider et al. [25] results in urban  
 397 coverage of 0.148% of the Earth.  
 398

399 Table 2 results are highly dependent on target albedo change and  $H_{T,N}$  which is overviewed in Appendix C. It is  
 400 important to develop better estimates for both  $H_{T,N}$  and urbanization sizes than estimated here. We note that the 0.12  
 401 albedo value applies to UHI [24], which is acceptable upper value when looking for hotspot targets. The albedo and  
 402 two  $H_{T,N}$  values cited here have been studied in Feinberg [5]. The assessments for  $H_{T,N}$  applicable to UHIs are also  
 403 provided to aid the reader in Appendix C. Results in Table 2 illustrate feasibility and the probable geoengineering  
 404 challenges. A worldwide effort would provide motivation from a number of key benefits; resolving much of global  
 405 warming, providing assurance against a tipping point, and local health benefits by cooling off cities. UHIs pose a  
 406 number of challenges in trying to cool off their areas. The Schneider results in row 2, indicate that the potential area  
 407 needed may be 3-6 times their current size. Therefore, if this was proven to be the most accurate estimate,  
 408 supplementary target areas would be required to reach the 94% objective. Furthermore it is unrealistic to realize an  
 409 overall UHI albedo goal of 0.9 due to their complex nature so we have also provided goals at 0.5 as well in the table.  
 410

411 Generally, UHIs meet a lot of the requirements for good targets having high heat capacity with large hotspot areas  
 412 and massive sensible heat storage. One helpful aspect to note is that cool roof implementation also allows for more  
 413 stable albedo maintenance over time compared to other areas like mountain regions. However, the complex nature  
 414 of cities also makes it highly challenging.  
 415

### 416 **7.2 Warming Estimates Due to Urban Heat Island Area**

417  
 418 We can use this same model to estimate the global warming contributions due to UHIs. In this case, instead of  
 419  $\alpha'_T=0.9$ , we evaluate by restoring the UHIs to their original estimated albedo value of  $\alpha'_T=0.25$ . This albedo value is



420 based on a study by He et. al. [28] which found the land albedo varied from 0.1 to .4 having an average of 0.25.  
 421 Then using the  $H_{T-N}$  values in Section 7.1, we estimate the percent of the Earth needed to obtain a 94% solution and  
 422 compare results to the known UHI coverage areas.

423

424 For  $H_{T-N}=3.1$ ,  $\alpha_T'=0.25$ , and  $\alpha_T=0.12$  then

425

$$426 \quad \Delta P_T = \frac{1361W / m^2}{4} \frac{0.33A_T 3.1}{A_E} [(0.25 - 0.12)] = 1.5W / m^2 \quad (43)$$

427 and

$$428 \quad \frac{A_T}{A} = 3.3\% \quad (44)$$

429

430 of the Earth. Similarly for  $H_{T-N}=8.4$ ,  $\alpha_T'=0.25$ , and  $\alpha_T=0.12$  then

431

$$432 \quad \frac{A_T}{A} = 1.2 \% \text{ of Earth} \quad (45)$$

433

434 Table 3 summarized the warming trend results

435

436

**Table 3** UHI Warming estimates

$H_{T-N}$	$A_T/A$ (% of Earth)	Schneider Factor ( $A_T/A$ )/0.188% (Conservative)	GRUMP Factor ( $A_T/A$ )/ 0.953	GW% 1/Schneider Factor / 0.94*	GW% 1/GRUMP Factor / 0.94*
3.1	3.3	17.6	3.5	6.1	31
8.4	1.2	6.4	1.26	16.9	85.4

437

\* $A_T/A$  GW represent 94% of the solution (see Sec. 5.1), and are adjusted to 100% in Column 5 & 6

438

439 Results in Column 5 and 6 are reasonably comparable to Feinberg 2020 [5]. The model shows that between 6.1%  
 440 and 85% of global warming could be due to UHIs and their coverage. We note these large variations are due to the  
 441 difficulty in estimating  $H_{T-N}$  and knowledge of UHI area coverages, as shown in the differences found between  
 442 Schneider and the GRUMP studies. However, the model provides a reasonable way to make estimates which can be  
 443 further refined once better values are known.

444

445 Furthermore, we note the cooling potential in Table 2 is about a factor of 3 to 6 times compared to the warming  
 446 shown in Table 3. For example in Table 2 and 3, the area full warming to cooling ratio 17.6/2.93 yields an effective  
 447 potential factor of 6 for  $\alpha_T'=0.9$ , and a factor of 2.9 (17.6/6) for  $\alpha_T'=0.5$ . As stated above, obtaining the full cooling  
 448 potential ( $\alpha_T'=0.9$ ) for UHIs and their impermeable surfaces is likely unobtainable due to the complex nature of  
 449 cities therefore the value  $\alpha_T'=0.5$  is a better guide.

450

### 451 **7.3 Some Hotspot Target Areas**

452

453 There are many hotspots that provide likely target areas. Deserts would be highly difficult to maintain any albedo  
 454 change. However, mountains, UHI cool roofs in cities, and impermeable surface such as roads might be logical  
 455 target areas. Some interesting known hotspots include

456

- 457 • Flaming Mountains, China
- 458 • Bangkok, Thailand (planet's hottest city)
- 459 • Death Valley California
- 460 • Titat Zvi, Israel
- 461 • Badlands of Australia
- 462 • Urban Heat Islands & all Impermeable surfaces
- 463 • Oceans [2]

464

465 We note that mountain areas in cool regions should not be excluded; natural compounding albedo effects may occur  
 466 from increases in snow-fall and ice formations. Albedo changes could be performed in summer months and then in  
 467 winter months compounding effects assessed.

468  
 469 As a summary, Equations 25 and 35 can be combined to provide a resulting solar geoengineering equation for  
 470 reverse forcing obtained in this study where

$$471 \Delta P_{Rev\_S} = -\Lambda_{\% \Delta \alpha T} \% \Delta \alpha (1+f) A_R = \left\{ \frac{S_N}{4} 0.33 H_{T-N} \frac{A_T}{A} [(\alpha'_T - \alpha_T)] \right\} (1+f) A_R \quad (46)$$

472  
 473 with suggested values  $H_{T-N}=6$ ,  $\alpha'_T=0.9$ ,  $\alpha_T=.12$ ,  $\Delta P_{Rev\_S}=4.8W/m^2$ , and  $f=0.63$ .

## 474 8. Conclusions

475  
 476 The albedo solution is vital in mitigating global warming. Today, technology has numerous advances that include  
 477 improvements in materials, drone capability, artificial intelligence, which could be helpful in geoengineering  
 478 surfaces. Mankind has addressed many technological challenges successfully. It is not illogical to consider a global  
 479 albedo solution while time permits prior to a potential tipping point.

480  
 481 In this paper we have provided a number of important estimates that include:

- 482 • A target albedo goal of  $-4.8W/m^2$  ( $\Delta P_{Rev\_LWR}=-2.97W/m^2$ )
- 483 • The target area required to resolve 94% of global warming is about 0.2% to 0.5% (Table 2) of the Earth, if  
 484 proper hotspots are cooled with highly reflective surfaces. This is likely on the order of UHIs coverage  
 485 today
- 486 • The cooling potential of UHIs is about a factor of 3 time higher than their warming contribution if highly  
 487 reflective surfaces can be realized
- 488 • Likely target areas may include problematic hotspots such as UHIs, mountains regions and possibly ocean  
 489 areas [2]
- 490 • Selecting proper hotspots can reduce the required target area by an estimated factor of 11
- 491 • Changing the albedo has 1.6 benefit factor due to GHG re-radiation
- 492 • UHIs likely contribute significantly to global warming
- 493 • Solutions are highly dependent on  $H_{T-N}$ .

494  
 495 Finally we suggest:

- 496 • Tasking agencies worldwide, such as NASA, to work full time on solar geoengineering, which at this late  
 497 time should be our highest priority,
- 498 • Worldwide albedo guidelines for both UHIs and impermeable surfaces similar to on-going CO<sub>2</sub> efforts
- 499 • Worldwide guidelines for future albedo design considerations of cities,
- 500 • Changing impermeable surfaces of roads, sidewalks, driveways, parking lots, industrial areas such as  
 501 airports, distribution centers, and roof tops to reflective surfaces. We note that their cooling potential can be  
 502 much larger compared to their warming contribution, and a full review should be performed. Furthermore,  
 503 such surfaces create hydro-hotspots [29] which may contribute to higher values of  $H_{T-N}$ . A hydro-hotspot is  
 504 a hot surface that creates moisture in the presence of precipitations. Such surfaces create excess moisture in  
 505 the atmosphere promoting a local greenhouse effect.
- 506 • Manufacturing cars to be more reflective including reducing their internal solar heating. Although,  
 507 worldwide solar cool vehicles (e.g., silver or white) will likely not contribute significantly to global  
 508 warming mitigation, recommending them would. It will help raise awareness, similar to electric  
 509 automobiles that help improve CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and could increase interest in similar projects thereby  
 510 promoting other related changes like cool roofs.

## 511 Appendix A: Re-radiation Model's Energy Balance

512 Although  $f_1$  has been uniquely defined in Eq. 10, this should also result from balancing the energy in and out of the  
 513 global system.

### 514 A.1 Balancing $P_{out}$ and $P_{in}$ in 1950

522  
523  
524  
525

To balance the energy in 1950, we start with Eq. 11. In equilibrium the radiation that leaves must balance  $P_\alpha$ , from the energy absorbed, so that

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Energy}_{out} &= (1-f_1)P_\alpha + (1-f_1)P_{Total} = (1-f_1)P_\alpha + (1-f_1)\{P_\alpha + f_1P_\alpha\} \\ &= 2P_\alpha - f_1P_\alpha - f_1^2P_\alpha = \text{Energy}_{in} = P_\alpha \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A-1})$$

527  
528  
529

This is consistent, so that in 1950 Eq. A-1 requires the same quadratic solution as Eq. 10. It is also apparent that

$$P_\alpha = f_1P_{Total\_1950} = \beta_1^4P_{Total\_1950} \quad (\text{A-2})$$

531  
532  
533

since

$$P_\alpha = f_1(P_\alpha + f_1P_\alpha) \text{ or } 1 = f_1(1 + f_1) \quad (\text{A-3})$$

535  
536  
537  
538

The RHS of Eq. A-3 is Eq. 10. This illustrates  $f_1$  from another perspective as the fractional amount of total radiation in equilibrium. As a final check, the application in Section 4.2, Table 1, illustrate that  $f_1$  provides reasonable results.

## 539 A.2 Comparisons Using the Albedo-GHG Factor

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541  
542  
543  
544

We can look at an important ratio, the power created by the albedo effect compared to GHGs in 1950. The initial radiation is  $P_\alpha$ , and then according to Eq. 11 and Table 1, the energy is increased by  $P_{GHG}$  due to re-radiation  $fP_\alpha$  that yields the ratio

$$\left\{ \frac{P_\alpha + P_{GHG}}{P_{GHG}} = \frac{P_\alpha + f_1P_\alpha}{f_1P_\alpha} = \frac{1+f_1}{f_1} = \frac{1.62}{0.62} = 2.62 \right\}_{1950} \quad \text{also note that} \quad \left\{ \frac{1+f_2}{f_2} = 2.58 \right\}_{2019} \quad (\text{A-4})$$

546  
547  
548  
549

We note the ratio is reduced in 2019 due to the addition  $\Delta P_{GHG}$  and feedbacks. If  $f$  could eventually approach a catastrophic value of unity, this ratio reduces to a minimum of 2.

550 In this engineering view, a change in albedo forcing compared with a change in GHGs can be described. The variation in the energy due to an average albedo change and its re-radiation is

$$\Delta P_\alpha = \Delta P_{\alpha'} + f_2 \Delta P_{\alpha'} = 1.631 \Delta P_{\alpha'} \quad (\text{A-5})$$

554  
555  
556

The average change in GHGs can be written in terms of  $\Delta f$

$$\Delta P_{GHG} = \Delta f P_{GHG'} = 1.311\% (f_2 P_{\alpha'}) = 0.827\% P_{\alpha'} \quad (\text{A-6})$$

558  
559  
560

This resulting ratio from Table 1 is

$$\frac{\Delta P_\alpha}{\Delta P_{GHG'}} = \frac{\Delta P_{\alpha'} (1+f_2)}{\Delta f P_{\alpha'} f_2} = \frac{1.228W/m^2}{0.0131} \frac{1.631}{239.1W/m^2 \cdot 0.631} = 1.01 \quad (\text{A-7})$$

562  
563  
564  
565  
566  
567

Note that this ratio is of course dependent on the 2019 albedo 1.2% change, selected here to obtain unity for illustrative purposes. The ratio,  $\Delta P_\alpha/\Delta f$ , is an interesting aspect of climate change. In 2019, if we have knowledge of values, we can compare the dominant aspect of the warming trend. It also provides us with a measure of solar reversibility

$$\Delta P_{\alpha'} \geq \Delta f \frac{P_{\alpha'} f_2}{(1+f_2)} 1.02 \approx 1.21W/m^2 \quad (\text{A-8})$$

569  
570  
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572  
573  
574  
575  
576

This ratio is dependent on the change in the albedo compared with a GHG change. It may be helpful in assessing negative CO2 emissions vs an albedo reduction. Although, it is perhaps not the best way to assess geoengineering estimates. True values of  $\Delta \alpha$  and  $\Delta f$  are not easily obtained in 2019. However, it avoids CO2 doubling estimates, which are also difficult to evaluate. Furthermore, in some instances, a local change in  $\Delta P_\alpha$  can create excess increase in GHGs. This has been a concern with cool roofs in the winter which might require additional anthropogenic energy. This might be a good way to estimate by Eq. A-8, whether such a change is beneficial by comparison.

577 It is important to simplify further to provide a more productive approach. In reverse solar geoengineering a global  
 578 warming solution, it is helpful to have simple reliable values. In this view, the 1.6 albedo-GHG factor (which is  
 579 reasonably accurate) is an important engineering number. Another important engineering value is described by a  
 580 Planck-albedo parameter found in Section 5.

## 581 **Appendix B: Estimating the Potential for Hotspot irradiance Sensible Heat Storage $H_{T-N}$**

582 A candidate hotspot irradiance sensible heat storage potential  $H_{T-N}$  was described in Section 6. Here we provide a  
 583 preliminary suggested model to clarify and enumerate this factor. It is likely that more rigorous models can be  
 584 developed. Such solutions are outside the scope of this paper.

585 We consider a ratio for a target (T) area relative to a nominal (N) area defined in Sec. 6. Consider a target area with  
 586 sensible heat storage  $q$  due to a mass  $m$ , having specific heat capacity  $C_p$  experiencing a day-night  $\Delta T$  change in  
 587 time  $\tau$ , then the suggested potential for sensible hotspot heat storage  $H_{T-N}$  has the form

$$591 \quad H_{T-N} = \frac{q_T}{q_N} \times \frac{I_T}{I_N} = \frac{m_T C_{pT} \Delta T_T}{m_N C_{pN} \Delta T_N} \times \frac{I_T}{I_N} \approx \frac{\tau_T C_{pT} \Delta T_T}{\tau_N C_{pN} \Delta T_N} \times \frac{I_T}{I_N} \quad (\text{B-1})$$

592 Here we provide the option of using temperature change in time  $\tau$  in place of mass. For example, the time to 63%  
 593 change in  $\Delta T$  might be useful (similar to a time constant). We also consider that the irradiance (I) term is needed  
 594 since not all solar absorption energy is stored.

595 As a numeric example, first consider a 90% irradiance target area (compared to the equator) with nominal mid-  
 596 latitudes (45°) roughly 70%, compared to say the Arctic and Antarctic Circles at 40% [29]. Then the irradiance ratio  
 597 is

$$601 \quad \frac{I\%_T}{I\%_N} = \frac{90\%_T}{70\%_N} = 1.3 \quad (\text{B-2})$$

602 For the sensible heat numeric portion, consider a rocky area as the target (such as Flaming Mountains). This can be  
 603 compared with a nominal vegetative land area. As a rule of thumb, most rocks have a density of 2.65 g/cm<sup>3</sup>, about  
 604 50% difference compared to a nominal soil area of 1.33 g/cm<sup>3</sup> [32]. The heat capacity of rocks compared with  
 605 vegetated land is 2000 to 830J/Kg/°K [32]. Then  $\Delta T$  is estimated from tables for a day-night cycle [33]. The estimate  
 606 is

$$607 \quad \frac{q_T}{q_N} = \frac{m_T C_{pT} \Delta T_T}{m_N C_{pN} \Delta T_N} = \frac{\rho_T C_{pT} \Delta T_T}{\rho_N C_{pN} \Delta T_N} = \left( \frac{2.65}{1.33} \right)_\rho \left( \frac{2000}{830} \right)_{C_p} \left( \frac{(10^\circ\text{C})}{(6.9^\circ\text{C})} \right) = 2 \times 2.4 \times 1.45 = 6.96 \quad (\text{B-3})$$

608 Then including irradiance

$$609 \quad H_{T-N} \approx 9 \quad (\text{B-4})$$

## 610 **Appendix C: UHI Amplification Factors**

611 An analysis of UHI amplification effects which can be applied to  $H_{T-N}$  was originally provided in Feinberg [5] and  
 612 this work is added here to aid the reader.

### 613 **C.1: UHI Area Amplification Factor**

614 To estimate the UHI amplification effects, it is logical to first look at UHI footprint (FP) studies as they provide  
 615 some measurement information. Zhang et al. [34] found the ecological FP of urban land cover extends beyond the  
 616 perimeter of urban areas, and the FP of urban climates on vegetation phenology was 2.4 times the size of the actual  
 617 urban land cover. A more recent study by Zhou et al. [35], looked at day-night cycles using temperature difference  
 618 measurements in China. This study found UHI effect decayed exponentially toward rural areas for the majority of  
 619 the 32 Chinese cities. Their comprehensive study spanned from 2003 to 2012. Zhou et al. describes China as an  
 620 ideal area to study as it has experienced the most rapid urbanization in the world during the decade evaluated.  
 621 Findings state that the FP of UHI effect, including urban areas, was 2.3 and 3.9 times that of urban size for the day  
 622 and nights, respectively. We note that the average day-night amplification footprint coverage factor is 3.1.

628 The UHI Amplification Factor (AF) is highly complex, making it difficult to assess from first principles as it would  
629 be some function of

$$630 \quad AF_{UHI \text{ for } 2019} = f\left(\overline{Build}_{Area} \times \overline{Build}_{C_p} \times \overline{R}_{wind} \times \overline{LossE}_{vtr} \times \overline{Hy} \times \overline{S}_{canyon}\right) \quad (C-1)$$

631 were

632  $\overline{Build}_{Area}$  = Average building solar area

633  $\overline{Build}_{C_p}$  = Average building heat capacity

634  $\overline{R}_{wind}$  = Average city wind resistance

635  $\overline{LossE}_{vtr}$  = Average loss of evapotranspiration to natural cooling & loss of wetland

636  $\overline{Hy}$  = Average humidity effect due to hydro-hotspot

637  $\overline{S}_{canyon}$  = Average solar canyon effect

638

639 To provide some estimate of this factor, we note that Zhou et al. [35] found the FP physical area (km<sup>2</sup>), correlated  
640 tightly and positively with actual urban size having a correlation coefficients higher than 79%. This correlation can  
641 be used to provide an initial estimate of this complex factor. Therefore, as a model assumption, it seems reasonable  
642 to use area ratios for this estimate.

$$643 \quad AF_{UHI \text{ for } 2019} = \frac{\sum(UHI \text{ Area})_{2019}}{\sum(UHI \text{ Area})_{1950}} \quad (C-2)$$

644 Area estimates have been obtained in the Feinberg [5] yielding the following results for the Schneider et al. [24] and  
645 the GRUMP [26] extrapolated area results:

$$646 \quad AF_{UHI \text{ for } 2019} = \frac{(Urban \text{ Size})_{2019}}{(Urban \text{ Size})_{1950}} \approx \begin{cases} \left( \frac{[0.188]_{2019}}{[0.059]_{1950}} \right)_{Schneider} = 3.19 \\ \left( \frac{[0.952]_{2019}}{[0.316]_{1950}} \right)_{GRUMP} = 3.0 \end{cases} \quad (C-3)$$

647 Between the two studies, the UHI area amplification factor average is 3.1. Coincidentally, this factor is the same  
648 observed in the Zhou et al. [35] study for the average footprint. This factor may seem high. However, it is likely  
649 conservative as other effects would be difficult to assess: increases in global drought due to loss of wet-lands,  
650 deforestation effects due to urbanization, and drought related fires. It could also be important to factor in changes of  
651 other impermeable surfaces since 1950, such as highways, parking lots, event centers, and so forth.

652

653 The area amplification value of 3.1 is then considered as one of our model assumptions.

654

### 655 C.2: Alternate Method Using the UHI's Dome Extent

656

657 An alternate approach to check the estimate of Equation C-3, is to look at the UHI's dome extent. Fan et al. [36]  
658 using an energy balance model to obtain the maximum horizontal extent of a UHI heat dome in numerous urban  
659 areas found the nighttime extent of 1.5 to 3.5 times the diameter of the city's urban area (2.5 average) and the  
660 daytime value of 2.0 to 3.3 (2.65 average).

661

662 Applying this energy method (instead of the area ratio factor in Eq. C-3), yields a diameter in 2019 compared to that  
663 of 1950 with an increase of 1.8. This method implies a factor of 2.5 x 1.8=4.5 higher in the night and 2.65 x 1.8=4.8  
664 in the day in 1950 with an average 4.65. This increase occurs 62.5% of the time according to Fan et al., where their  
665 steady state occurred about 4 hours after sunrise and 5 hours after sunset yielding an effective UHI amplification  
666 factor of 2.9. We note this amplification factor is in good agreement with Equation C-3. Fan et al. [36] assessed the  
667 heat flux over the urban area extent to its neighboring rural area where the air is transported from the urban heat  
668 dome flow. Therefore the heat dome extends in a similar manner as observed in the footprint studies. If we use the  
669 dome concept, we can make an assumption that the actual surface area for the heat flux is increased by the surface  
670 area of the dome. We actually do not know the true diameter of the dome, but it is larger than the assessment by Fan  
671 et al. Using the dome extend due to Fan et al. [35] applied to the area of diameter D, the amplification factor should  
672 be correlated to the ratios of the dome surface areas:

673

674

$$AF_{UHI\ for\ 2019} = \left( \frac{D_{2019}}{D_{1950}} \right)^2 = 2.9^2 = 8.4 \quad (C-4)$$

675 Thus, this equation is a second value for  $H_{T-N}$ , where it is reasonable to use the ratios of the dome's surface area for  
 676 an alternate approach in estimating the effective UHI amplification factor [5]. We will have two values, 3.1 and 8.4  
 677 to work with that provides an upper and lower bounds for effective amplification area.

678

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682

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