

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

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## Abstract

Surface albedo 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 surface solar solutions 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 of reverse forcing. We provide insights into “Earthly areas” that might 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 possibly mountain regions, 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 result is highly dependent on the heat capacity and irradiance of the area selected. The versatile model was also used to provide UHIs global warming and cooling estimates.

## 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, Greenhouse Gas (GHG) reduction 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 hotspot regions as Solar Amplified Areas (SAA) relative to Nominal Land Albedo (NLA) areas (25% albedo, see Sec. 5.2).

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 [5-17] 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 and other UHI mitigations have not received adequate attention compared to GHG efforts. This oversight is unfortunate and makes the business of an albedo solar solution and its 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, politicians and so forth, to incorporate environmental considerations and solutions, if these concepts are not widely understood. Therefore, a key strategy employed in this study is to demonstrate the advantages, feasibility and importance of cooling solar amplified areas made by man (and possibly nature). We provide simple geoengineering equations that can aid designers. We need to recognize that the whole is equal to the sum of the parts in global warming; humankind’s resolve to greenhouse gas and albedo improvements, both need to be addressed for a realistic solution.

## 63 2. Outline for Geoengineering and Implementing an Albedo Solution

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

66

67 **Section 3:** In this section we first identify a key Planck-albedo parameter

68

$$69 \gamma_{\% \Delta \alpha \Delta T} \approx 1W / m^2 / \Delta \% \alpha \quad (1)$$

70

71 The parameter multiplied by  $\% \Delta \alpha$  (albedo percent albedo change) converts to  $\Delta P_T$ , the reverse forcing from the  
72 target area, where the total reverse forcing  $\Delta P_{Rev\_S}$  is

73

$$74 \Delta P_{Rev\_S} = -\gamma_{\% \Delta \alpha \Delta T} \% \Delta \alpha (1 + f_2) A_F = \Delta P_T (1 + f_2) A_F \quad (2)$$

75

76 Here  $f_2$  is the 2019 re-radiation parameter, about 0.63 (found in Appendix A, Table A-1) and  $A_F$  is an estimate of the  
77 anticipated GW feedback reduction.

78

79 **Section 4:** In this section an Albedo model is developed to use the  $\Delta P_T$  goal where

80

$$81 \Delta P_T = \frac{A_T}{A_E} \frac{S_N}{4} 0.33 H_{T-N} [(\alpha'_T - \alpha_T)] \quad (3)$$

82

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

87

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

89

90 **Section 5:** In this section, we provide examples on implementation of these models for different target areas  
91 including UHIs yielding their warming and cooling estimates.

92

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

95

96

### 97 3.0 Geoengineering a Reverse Forcing Solution

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99 In this section, we present and describe a simple solar geoengineering formula needed for a reverse forcing estimates  
100 due to a percent global albedo change from a target area given by

101

$$102 \Delta P_{Rev\_S} = -\gamma_{\% \Delta \alpha \Delta T} \% \Delta \alpha (1 + f_Y) A_F = \Delta P_T (1 + f_Y) A_F \quad (4)$$

103 Here we define

104

105  $\Delta P_{Rev\_S}$  is the reverse power per unit area change

106  $\% \Delta \alpha$  is the percent global albedo change due to modification of a target area

107  $\gamma_{\% \Delta \alpha \Delta T}$  = Planck-albedo parameter, 1 Watt/m<sup>2</sup>/% $\Delta$ Albedo [5]

108  $f_Y$  = the re-radiation parameter about 0.63 for year Y=2019 (see Appendix A)

109  $A_F$  is an estimate of the anticipated GW feedback reduction

110  $\Delta P_T = \gamma_{\% \Delta \alpha \Delta T} \% \Delta \alpha$  is the reverse forcing change from the target area T

111

112 The Planck-albedo parameter is so named as it relates to blackbody ( $P_\alpha$ ) absorption. Its value can be estimated when  
113 considering an albedo change from two different time periods, having a global albedo change from  $\alpha_1$  to  $\alpha_2$  or we  
114 can simplify it as follows

115

$$116 \gamma_{\% \Delta \alpha} = \frac{(\Delta E_o)_\alpha}{\alpha_1 - \alpha_2} \frac{1}{100} = \frac{E_o (\alpha_1 - \alpha_2)}{\alpha_1 - \alpha_2} \frac{1}{100} = E_o \alpha_1 / 100 \approx 1W / m^2 / \% \Delta albedo \quad (5)$$

117

118 Here the incoming solar at the top of the atmosphere is  $E_o=1360W/m^2/4=340W/m^2$  and when  $\alpha_1$  is 0.294118, the  
 119 value is approximately  $1.000W/m^2/\Delta\%albedo$ . We note the value 29.4118% ( $100W/m^2/340W/m^2$ ) and  $E_o$  are given  
 120 in AR5 [18] in their energy budget diagram.

121  
 122 As an example, in Appendix A, an analysis of the warming was estimated from 1950 to 2019, and results are  
 123 presented in Table A-1. The change in the long wavelength radiation  $\Delta P_\alpha$  is estimated as  $1.228W/m^2$  due to an  
 124 albedo percent change of 1.2% (from 1950 to 2019) so that

$$125 \quad 126 \quad \gamma_{\% \Delta \alpha} = \Delta P_\alpha / \% \Delta albedo = 1.023 W / m^2 / \Delta \% albedo \quad (6)$$

127  
 128 This parameter provides a relatively simple and reasonable estimate of the reverse forcing that occurs due to a global  
 129 percent albedo change from a target area change of the Earth. Then the corresponding estimated power reduction  
 130  $\Delta P_T$  in long wavelength radiation emission due to an albedo target area reverse forcing is

$$131 \quad 132 \quad \Delta P_T = -\gamma_{\% \Delta \alpha} \Delta \% \alpha \quad (7)$$

133  
 134 However, there is also a reduction in the re-radiation from less GHG re-radiation. This factor is  $1+f_Y$ . Here  $f_Y$  is the  
 135 re-radiation that occurs from long wavelength emission given off by the Earth from solar heating where Y represents  
 136 the estimate value for that year. This value can be reasonably estimated and we provide a model in Appendix A. Its  
 137 estimated value found in Appendix A is  $f_Y=f_{2019} \approx 0.63$  for 2019.

138  
 139 Lastly we have included an allowance for anticipated feedback amplification reduction denoted as  $A_F$ .

140  
 141 The effect of the target change results can be quantified as

$$142 \quad 143 \quad Effect = \frac{\Delta P_{Rev\_S}}{\Delta P_{Total}} \quad (8)$$

144  
 145 Here  $\Delta P_{Total}$  is the total forcing that has occurred while  $\Delta P_{Rev\_OLWR} = \beta^4 \Delta P_{Rev\_S}$  is the reverse forcing at the surface.  
 146 The temperature reduction can be estimated from [19]

$$147 \quad 148 \quad \Delta T_{Rev} = -\frac{\beta^4 \Delta P_{Rev\_S}}{\lambda_o} \quad (9)$$

149  
 150 In theory,  $\Delta T_{Rev}$  is only an estimate since this equation is valid when no feedback issues result [19]. The reason it is  
 151 a reasonable value is that  $\beta^4 \Delta P_{Rev\_S}$  is a good estimate of the Outgoing Long Wavelength Radiation (OLWR) as we  
 152 will illustrate in the next Section.

### 153 154 **3.1 Example of a Reverse Forcing Goal**

155  
 156 In this section, we consider a goal of 1.3% geoengineering albedo change, with  $f_v=0.63$  and a decrease in water-  
 157 vapor feedback anticipated, we might use a value of  $A_F \approx 2$  [20]. However, with other feedbacks, this is likely higher.  
 158 According to Appendix D, Eq. D-4 this is about 2.61. We will use a middle value of  $A_F=2.3$  to be a bit conservative.  
 159 Then from Equation 4,

$$160 \quad 161 \quad \Delta P_{Rev\_S} = -1W/m^2 / \% \times 1.3\% \times (1+f_2) \times 2.3 = -1.3W/m^2 \times (1+f_2) \times 2.3 = -4.87 \text{ Watt}/m^2 \quad (10)$$

162  
 163 This estimate can be compared with the re-radiation model results in Table A-1 showing a forcing of  $5.21 W/m^2$   
 164 since 1950. Then the relative effect from Eq. 8 is 94% for this particular geoengineering solution. From Equation 9  
 165 an estimate of the temperature cooling can be obtained where  $\Delta P_{Rev\_OLWR} \approx \beta^4 \Delta P_{Rev\_S} = -3.0W/m^2$  giving

$$166 \quad 167 \quad \Delta T_{Rev} = \frac{3.0W / m^2}{\lambda_o} = -0.91^\circ K \quad (11)$$

168  
 169 This would indicate a significant resolution to the current warming trend since 1950, where there is an observed  
 170 warming of  $0.95^\circ K$  that occurred by the end of 2019. As one might suspect, a 1.3% albedo change requires a lot of  
 171 modified area. Feasibility is discussed in the rest of this paper. We note a number of solar geoengineering solutions  
 172 have been proposed [2-4].

173  
 174

#### 175 4.0 Converting the Reverse Forcing Goal to a Target Area

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177 We can write the short wavelength solar absorption as

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$$179 \quad P = \frac{Q}{A} = \frac{S_N}{4} \sum_i \frac{A'_i}{A_E} (1 - \alpha_i) + \frac{S_N}{4} H_{T-N} \frac{A'_T}{A_E} (1 - \alpha_T) + \frac{S_N}{4} \frac{A_C}{A_E} (1 - \alpha_C) \quad (12)$$

180

181 Here  $A'_i$  is the  $i^{\text{th}}$  effective area having an albedo  $\alpha_i$ ,  $S_N=1360 \text{ W/m}^2$  and  $A_E$  is the surface area of the Earth and  $A_C$  is  
 182 effective cloud coverage. We consider a change to a hotspot target effective area  $A_T$  with albedo  $\alpha_T$ . In addition,  
 183 because we select a particularly problematic solar absorbing target compared to a nominal area (N), it has hotspot  
 184 irradiance sensible heat storage potential  $H_{T-N}$ , a function of the heat capacity, mass, temperature storage, and solar  
 185 irradiance. Essentially this has the effect of amplifying the target area.  $H_{T-N}$  is described and enumerated in  
 186 Appendix B. As an example, many UHIs, due to their large heat capacity act like large heat sinks, creating an  
 187 inversion effect. This causes the UHI to be hotter at night than during the day resulting from solar energy stored up  
 188 during the daytime (see Appendix C).

189

190 The overall equation prior to changing the albedo is subject to the area constraint

191

$$192 \quad A_E = A_{EU} + A_{EC} = \left( \sum_i A'_i + A_T \right) + A_C = 0.33 \left( \sum_i A_i + A_T \right) + A_C, \quad A_{EU} = 0.33 \left( \sum_i A_i + A_T \right), \quad A_{EC} = A_C \quad (13)$$

193

194 Here we have denoted the portion of the Earth covered from direct sunlight by clouds as  $A_{EC}=A_C=67\%A_E$  [21].  
 195 Then the uncovered portion of the Earth is  $A_{EU}=33\%A_E$ . This is likely conservative as clouds do let some sunlight  
 196 through. However, that means that roughly on average only 33% of the time areas on the Earth receive sun during  
 197 daylight hours.

198

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

200

$$201 \quad P' = \frac{Q'}{A} = \frac{S_N}{4} \sum_i \frac{0.33A_i}{A_E} (1 - \alpha_i) + \frac{S_N}{4} \frac{0.33A_T}{A_E} H_{T-N} (1 - \alpha'_T) + \frac{S_N}{4} \frac{A_C}{A_E} (1 - \alpha_C) \quad (14)$$

202

203 Note the 0.33 cloud factor is now added. The heat absorbed is just a function of the target where from Eq. 12

204

$$205 \quad (dP_T)_\alpha = \frac{S_N}{4} \frac{0.33A_T H_{T-N}}{A_E} (-d\alpha_T) \quad (15)$$

206

207 where the subscript  $\alpha$  indicates all other Earth albedo components are held constant. Using the example goal of the  
 208 target area  $\Delta P_T=1.3\text{W/m}^2$  in Eq. 4 and 10, Equation 15 is just

209

210

$$211 \quad \Delta P_T = P - P' = -\frac{S_N}{4} \frac{0.33A_T H_{T-N}}{A_E} [(\alpha'_T - \alpha_T)] = -1.3\text{W/m}^2 \quad (16)$$

212

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

215

$$216 \quad \Delta P_{T-N} = -\frac{S_N}{4} \frac{0.33A_N}{A_E} \{(\alpha'_N - \alpha_N)\} = -1.3\text{W/m}^2 \quad (17)$$

217

#### 218 5.0 Area Estimates

219

220 Comparing the target SAA to the NLA, we have

221

$$\frac{\Delta P_T}{\Delta P_{T-N}} \approx \frac{A_T H_{T-N} [(\alpha'_T - \alpha_T)]}{A_N [(\alpha'_N - \alpha_N)]} = 1 \quad (18)$$

As an example, assume  $H_{T-N} \approx 9$  (see Appendix B),  $\alpha_N=0.25$  (see Sec. 5.2),  $\alpha_T=0.12$  [22], and for  $\alpha'_N=\alpha'_T=0.9$ , we obtain

$$\frac{A_N}{A_T} = \frac{H_{T-N} [(\alpha'_T - \alpha_T)]}{[(\alpha'_N - \alpha_N)]} = \frac{9[(0.9 - .12)]}{[(0.9 - 0.25)]} = 10.8 \quad (19)$$

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

In assessing our goal, we have from Eq. 16

$$\Delta P_T = \frac{S_N}{4} \frac{0.33 A_T H_{T-N}}{A_E} [(\alpha'_T - \alpha_T)] = -1.3W / m^2 \quad (20)$$

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

$$\Delta P_T = -340 \frac{A_T}{A_E} [0.78] \times 0.33 = -1.3W / m^2 \quad (21)$$

and

$$\frac{A_T}{A_E} = 0.0137 = 1.49\% \text{ of Earth} \quad (22)$$

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

$$\frac{A_T}{A_E} = 0.149\% \text{ of Earth} \quad (23)$$

Recall that the goal for a  $1.3W/m^2$  corresponded to a 1.3% albedo change (see Sec. 3.1). We can check results of  $A_T/A=1.49\%$  when  $H_{T-N}=1$ , yields a 1.3% albedo change using a related expression to Eq. 20. This is given by

$$\Delta\alpha\% = 0.33 \frac{A_T}{A_E} \frac{[(\alpha'_T - \alpha_T)]}{\alpha} = 0.33(1.485\%) \frac{[(0.9 - 0.12)]}{0.294118} = 1.3\% \quad (24)$$

where the global albedo is taken as  $\alpha=0.294118$  which is indicated in AR5's energy budget figure [18].

### 5.1 Cooling Estimates Compared to Urban Heat Island Areas

Since UHI are likely good target areas, we can compare these results to the total global urbanized area. Such estimates of urbanization unfortunately vary widely partly due to the confusing definition of what is urban. However, two studies are of interest. A Schneider study [23] on 2000 data estimated that 0.148% of the Earth was covered by UHI and the associated surrounding urban areas. Due to city growth, this extrapolates to 0.188% [5] in 2019. Similarly, a study from GRUMP [24] showing global urbanization value in 2000 of 0.783% extrapolates to 0.953% [5] of the Earth's area in 2019. These extrapolations are based on an average yearly urbanization growth rates averaging between 1.3% and 1.6% [5]. Lastly, note that UHIs have their own hotspot amplification factors [5] that vary between is assessed in Appendix C with estimates of 3.1 and 8.4. These are listed in Table 2 for  $H_{T-N}$ . Therefore, compared to these 2019 estimates for urban heat island and surrounding areas, the required area changes for different  $H_{T-N}$  values (discussed in Appendix C) are summarized in Table 2. Note that an IPCC (Satterthwaite et. al. [25]) AR5 report references the Schneider et al. [23] results in urban coverage of 0.148% of the Earth.

268  
269**Table 2** Cooling required areas relative to UHI areas

| $H_{T-N}$ | $A_T/A$<br>(% of<br>Earth)<br>$\alpha'_T = 0.9$ | Schneider Factor<br>( $A_T/A$ )/0.188%<br>(Conservative)<br>$\alpha'_T = 0.9$ ( $\alpha'_T = 0.5$ ) | GRUMP Factor<br>( $A_T/A$ )/ 0.953<br>$\alpha'_T = 0.9$ ( $\alpha'_T = 0.5$ ) |
|-----------|---|---|---|
| 1         | 1.485   | 7.90 (16.2)   | 1.56 (3.2)  |
| 3.1       | 0.479   | 2.55 (5.23)   | 0.50 (1.03)   |
| 8.4       | 0.177   | 0.94 (1.93)   | 0.19 (0.38)   |
| 9         | 0.165   | 0.88 (1.80)   | 0.17 (0.36)   |

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

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271

272 Table 2 results are highly dependent on target albedo change and  $H_{T-N}$  which is overviewed in Appendix B and C. It  
 273 is important to develop better estimates for both  $H_{T-N}$  and urbanization sizes than estimated here. Other important  
 274 factors may exist. For example, UHI surfaces create hydro-hotspots [26] which may contribute to higher values of  
 275  $H_{T-N}$ . A hydro-hotspot is a hot surface that creates moisture in the presence of precipitation. Such surfaces create  
 276 excess moisture in the atmosphere promoting a local greenhouse effect. Zhao et al. [28] observed that UHI  
 277 temperatures increase in daytime  $\Delta T$  by 3.0°C in humid climates but decreasing  $\Delta T$  by 1.5°C in dry climates. We see  
 278 that  $H_{T-N}$  is a highly complex factor for UHIs. We note that the 0.12 albedo value applies to UHI [22], may be a  
 279 good upper value when looking for hotspot targets. The albedo and two  $H_{T-N}$  values cited here have been studied in  
 280 Feinberg [5]. The assessments for  $H_{T-N}$  applicable to UHIs are also provided to aid the reader in Appendix C.  
 281 Results in Table 2 illustrate feasibility and the probable geoengineering challenges.

282

283 A worldwide effort would provide motivation from a number of key benefits; resolving much of global warming,  
 284 providing assurance against a tipping point, and local health benefits by cooling off cities. UHIs pose a number of  
 285 challenges in trying to cool off their areas. The Schneider results in Row 2 and 3 indicate that the potential area  
 286 needed may be 1.9-5.2 times their current size. Therefore, if this was proven to be the most accurate estimate,  
 287 supplementary target areas would be required to reach the 94% objective. Furthermore it is unrealistic to realize an  
 288 overall UHI albedo goal of 0.9 due to their complex nature so we also provide a goals of  $\alpha'_T=0.5$  in the table.

289

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

294

### 295 **5.2 Warming Estimates Due to Urban Heat Island Area**

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297 We can use this same model to estimate the global warming contributions due to UHIs. In this case, instead of  
 298  $\alpha'_T=0.9$ , we evaluate by restoring the UHIs to their original estimated albedo value of  $\alpha'_T=0.25$  (pre-UHI estimate).  
 299 This albedo value is based on a study by He et al. [29] which found that land albedo varies from 0.1 to 0.4 with an  
 300 average of 0.25. Then using the  $H_{T-N}$  values in Section 5.1, we estimate the percent of the Earth needed to obtain a  
 301 94% solution and compare results to the known UHI coverage areas.

302

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

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$$305 \quad \Delta P_T = -\frac{1361W/m^2}{4} \frac{0.33A_T 3.1}{A_E} [(0.25 - 0.12)] = -1.2W/m^2 \quad (25)$$

306 and

$$307 \quad \frac{A_T}{A_E} = 2.87\% \quad (26)$$

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

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$$311 \quad \frac{A_T}{A_E} = 1.06 \% \text{ of Earth} \quad (27)$$

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Table 3 summarized the warming trend results

**Table 3** UHI Warming estimates

| $H_{T-N}$ | $A_T/A$<br>(% of<br>Earth) | Schneider Factor<br>( $A_T/A$ )/0.188%<br>(Conservative) | GRUMP Factor<br>( $A_T/A$ )/ 0.953 | GW%<br>1/Schneider<br>Factor<br>/ 0.94* | GW%<br>1/GRUMP<br>Factor<br>/ 0.94* |
|-----------|----------------------------|--|------------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|
| 3.1       | 2.87                       | 15.3   | 3.02                               | 6.96                                    | 35.3                                |
| 8.4       | 1.06                       | 5.6  | 1.11                               | 18.9                                    | 95.6                                |

\* $A_T/A$  GW represent 94% of the solution (see Sec. 3.1), and are adjusted to 100% in Column 5 & 6316  
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Results in Column 5 and 6 are reasonably comparable to Feinberg 2020 [5] (finding between 5 and 44% of GW could be due to UHIs and their coverage). This model shows that between 7% and 95% of global warming could be due to UHIs and their coverage. We note these large variations are due to the difficulty in estimating  $H_{T-N}$ , knowledge of UHI area coverages (i.e, Schneider vs. GRUMP study), and feedback values. However, the model provides a reasonable way to make estimates which can be further refined once better values are known.

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Furthermore, we note the cooling potential in Table 2 is about a factor of 3 to 6 times compared to the warming shown in Table 3. For example in Table 2 and 3, the area warming to cooling ratio 15.3/2.55 yields an effective potential factor of 6 for  $\alpha'_T=0.9$ , and a factor of 2.9 (15.3/5.23) for  $\alpha'_T=0.5$ . As stated above, obtaining the full cooling potential ( $\alpha'_T=0.9$ ) for UHIs and their impermeable surfaces is likely unobtainable due to the complex nature of cities therefore the value  $\alpha'_T=0.5$  is a better guide.

### 330 5.3 Some Hotspot Target Areas

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

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

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

As a summary, Equations 4 and 20 can be combined to provide a resulting solar geoengineering equation for reverse forcing obtained in this study where

$$351 \quad \Delta P_{Rev\_S} = -\gamma_{\% \Delta \alpha \Delta T} \% \Delta \alpha (1+f) A_R = - \left\{ \frac{S_N}{4} 0.33 H_{T-N} \frac{A_T}{A_E} [(\alpha'_T - \alpha_T)] \right\} (1+f) A_R \quad (28)$$

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with suggested values  $H_{T-N}=6$ ,  $\alpha'_T=0.5-0.9$ ,  $\alpha_T=0.12$ ,  $\Delta P_{Rev\_S}=4.9W/m^2$ , and  $f=0.63$ .

### 355 6. Conclusions

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

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

- A target albedo goal of  $-4.9\text{W/m}^2$  ( $\Delta P_{\text{Rev\_OLWR}} = -3\text{W/m}^2$ )
- The target area required to resolve 94% of global warming is about 0.2% to 0.5% (Table 2) of the Earth, if proper hotspots are cooled with highly reflective surfaces. This represents a 1.3% albedo change.
- The cooling potential of UHIs is about a factor of three times higher than their warming contribution if highly reflective surfaces can be realized
- Likely target areas may include problematic hotspots such as UHIs and impermeable surfaces. While certainly environmentally unfriendly, we may have to consider mountains regions and ocean areas [2]
- Selecting proper hotspots can reduce the required target area by an estimated factor of 11 compared to non-hotspot areas.
- Changing the albedo has a 1.63 benefit factor due to GHG re-radiation
- UHIs and their coverage likely contribute significantly to global warming. This suggests a reasonable risk exists that major greenhouse gas reduction alone, could fall well short of global warming mitigation
- Solutions are highly dependent on  $H_{T-N}$  and urbanization estimates.

378 Finally, we suggest:

- Tasking agencies worldwide, such as NASA, to work full time on solar geoengineering, which at this late time should be our highest priority
- Worldwide albedo guidelines for both UHIs and impermeable surfaces similar to on-going CO<sub>2</sub> efforts
- Worldwide guidelines for future albedo design considerations of cities
- Changing impermeable surfaces of roads, sidewalks, driveways, parking lots, industrial areas such as airports, distribution centers, and roof tops to reflective surfaces. We note that their cooling potential can be much larger compared to their warming contribution, and a full review should be performed
- Manufacturing cars to be more reflective including reducing their internal solar heating. Although, worldwide cool vehicles (e.g., silver or white) may not contribute significantly to global warming mitigation, recommending them could. It would help raise badly needed albedo awareness similar to electric automobiles that help improve CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. It could increase interest in similar projects thereby promoting other related changes by city planners and architects for cool roofs, reflective building designs, and road engineers for pavement color changes and so forth.

## 394 Appendix A: Re-radiation Global Warming Model Introduction

395  
396 When initial long wavelength emission occurs due to solar absorption, part of this  $P_\alpha$  radiation, is re-radiated back to  
397 Earth. In the absence of feedback we denote this as  $f_1$ . This presents a simplistic but effective model

$$399 \quad P_{\text{Pre-Industrial}} = P_\alpha (1 + f_1) = \sigma T_s^4, \quad \text{where } P_\alpha = \frac{S_N}{4} (1 - \alpha) \quad (\text{A-1})$$

400 where  $T_s$  is the surface temperature. As one might suspect,  $f_1$  turns out to be exactly  $\beta^4$  in the absence of feedback,  
401 so that  $f_1$  is a redefined variable taken from the effective emissivity constant of the planetary system. We identify  
402 this as 0.618034 here. One of the main goals in this appendix is to find the re-radiation  $f_2$  for 2019. That is, in 2019,  
403 due to increases in GHGs, albedo changes and feedbacks, we anticipate an increase in re-radiation so that

$$406 \quad f_2 = f_{2019} = f_1 + \Delta f = \beta_1^4 + \Delta f \approx \beta_2^4 + \Delta f \quad (\text{A-2})$$

407  
408 In this way  $f_{2019} = f_2$  is a function of  $f_1$ . The RHS of Eq. A-2 (indicates that  $\beta_1 \approx \beta_2$ ) will become apparent in  
409 application (Eq. A-13 and A-14) and verification. The key issue is that we would like to avoid CO<sub>2</sub> doubling theory  
410 (which has a large variance) and simplify feedback estimates, as we only need a simplistic model for solar  
411 geoengineering. As it turns out in our model, estimating  $\Delta f$  is not going to cause much error as it is relatively small  
412 compared to  $(1+f_1)$ .

### 414 A.1 Basic Re-radiation Model and Estimating $f_1$

415  
416 In geoengineering, we are working with absorption and re-radiation, we define



417 
$$P_{Total} = \sigma T_S^4 = \sigma \left( \frac{T_e}{\beta} \right)^4 \text{ and } P_\alpha = \sigma T_\alpha^4 = \sigma (\beta T_S)^4 \quad (\text{A-3})$$

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

421  
 422 
$$P_{GHG} = P_{Total} - P_\alpha = \sigma T_S^4 - \sigma T_\alpha^4 \quad (\text{A-4})$$

423  
 424 To be consistent with  $T_\alpha = T_e$ , since typically  $T_\alpha \approx 255^\circ\text{K}$  and  $T_S \approx 288^\circ\text{K}$ , then in keeping with a common definition of  
 425 the global beta (the proportionality between surface temperature and emission temperature) for the moment  
 426  $\beta = T_\alpha / T_S = T_e / T_S$ .

427  
 428 This allows us to write the dependence

429  
 430 
$$P_{GHG} = \sigma T_S^4 - \sigma T_\alpha^4 = \frac{\sigma T_\alpha^4}{\beta^4} - \sigma T_\alpha^4 = \sigma T_\alpha^4 \left( \frac{1}{\beta^4} - 1 \right) = \sigma T_\alpha^4 \left( \frac{1}{f} - 1 \right) \quad (\text{A-5})$$

431  
 432 Note that when  $\beta^4 = 1$ , there are no GHG contributions. We note that  $f$ , the re-radiation parameter equals  $\beta^4$  in the  
 433 absence of feedback.

434  
 435 We can also define the blackbody re-radiated by GHGs given similarly by some fraction  $f_1$  such that

436  
 437 
$$P_{GHG} = f_1 P_\alpha = f_1 \sigma T_\alpha^4 \quad (\text{A-6})$$

438  
 439 It is important in geoengineering to view the re-radiation as part of the albedo effect. This is a key difference in how  
 440 we view the total effect from short wavelength absorption by the inclusion of the re-radiation effect. Consider  $f = f_1$ ,  
 441 in this case according to Equations 7 and 8, it requires

442  
 443 
$$P_{GHG} = \sigma T_\alpha^4 \left( \frac{1}{f_1} - 1 \right) = f_1 \sigma T_\alpha^4 \quad (\text{A-7})$$

444  
 445 This dependence leads us to the solution of the quadratic expression

446  
 447 
$$f_1^2 + f_1 - 1 = 0 \text{ yielding } f_1 = 0.618034 = \beta^4, \beta = (0.618034)^{1/4} = 0.88664 \quad (\text{A-8})$$

448  
 449 This is very close to the common value estimated for  $\beta$  and this has been obtained through energy balance in the  
 450 planetary system providing a self-determining assessment. In Appendix A.5, we double check this model in another  
 451 way by balancing energy in and out of our global system. Then in Section A.2, we apply the model to demonstrate  
 452 its capability and consistency with the Planck parameter. We note that the assumption  $f = f_1$  only works if planetary  
 453 energy is in balance without feedbacks.

## 454 455 **A.2 Re-radiation Model Applied to 1950 and 2019**

456  
 457 Global warming can be exemplified by looking at two different time periods. The model applied for 1950 needs to  
 458 be consistent with Eq. A-3 and A-5. Here we will

- 459  
 460 • assume no feedback issues causing a warming trend in 1950 so that from our model

461  
 462 
$$P_{Total, 1950} = P_\alpha + P_{GHG} = P_\alpha + f_1 P_\alpha = P_\alpha (1 + f_1) = 1.618 P_\alpha \quad (\text{A-9})$$

463  
 464 where  $P_\alpha = S_o \{0.25x(1 - Albedo)\}$  and  $S_o = 1361 \text{W/m}^2$ . Although 1950 is not truly pre-industrial, we proceed under  
 465 the assumption of no changes in GHG and feedback issues at this time to establish our baseline, since  
 466 geoengineering a solution to earlier dates would pose even higher challenges. Under this assumption,  $1 + f = 1.618$   
 467 becomes the 1950 albedo-GHG reference value. Since its value is related to the re-radiation parameter, it is  
 468 subjected to changes due to variations in our aging climate system. As a reference value, it is constrained by the  
 469 energy balance in Eq. A-7 and as discussed in Section A.5.

470

471 In 2019 due to global warming trends, this model is more complex and harder to separate out terms. However, for  
 472 what we need in geoengineering a solution, it is reasonably accurate since we are fitting the model to the Earth's  
 473 average temperature data with the goal in mind of finding a reasonable estimate of total forcing  $\Delta P_{Total}=P_{Total\ 1950}$ -  
 474  $P_{Total2019}$  and  $f_{2019}$ . Therefore, we proceed similarly and results and verification will also justify its use, then

$$475 P_{Total2019} = P_{\alpha'} + P_{GHG'+Feedback} \approx P_{\alpha'} + f_2 P_{\alpha'} \quad (A-10)$$

476  
 477 Here,  $P_{GHG'+Feedback}$  includes the 1950 GHGs and 2019 increase with feedbacks such as water-vapor concentration,  
 478 lapse rate effect and other changes including increase in snow-ice albedo variations that are hard to separate out.  
 479 That is, feedbacks are related to GHG increases and albedo change.  $P_{\alpha'}$  represents the 2019 point in time with its  
 480 albedo due to changes in UHI absorption, cloud absorption, ice and snow melting, and so forth that can be discerned.  
 481 The model does not demand rigid accountability in its application (see Sec.4.2) but reasonable estimates are helpful.  
 482 We note that unlike  $f_1$ ,  $f_2$  is not a strict measure of the emissivity.

483  
 484 As one will see result provide more than adequate accuracy for  $f_2$  and  $\Delta P_{Total}$ .  
 485

### 486 **A.3 Results Applied to 1950 and 2019**

487  
 488 Since the re-radiation parameter is fixed for  $f_1=0.618034$ , to obtain the average surface temperature  $T_{1950}=13.89^\circ\text{C}$   
 489 (287.038°K), the only adjustable parameter left in our model is the global albedo. This requires an albedo value of  
 490 0.3008 (see Table 1) to obtain the correct value  $T_{1950}$ . This albedo number is reasonable and similar to values cited in  
 491 the literature [30].  
 492

493  
 494 In 2019, the average temperature of the Earth is  $T_{2019}=14.84^\circ\text{C}$  (287.99°K). Here we are not sure of the albedo value  
 495 since it likely changed due to UHI increase, snow and ice melting and cloud coverage changes. The IPCC value in  
 496 AR5 [18] is 0.294118 (100W/m<sup>2</sup>/340W/m<sup>2</sup>). However, this would represent a 3% change since 1950 which may be  
 497 an overestimation. In this assessment, we will assume a low middle value of 1.2% change. Then, the  $f_2$  parameter is  
 498 adjusted to 0.6311 to obtain  $T_{2019}$ . Table 1 summarizes model results for the specified albedos and observed Earth's  
 499 surface temperatures. The results yield  $P_{Total\ 1950}=384.935\ \text{W/m}^2$  and  $P_{Total\ 2019}=390.055\ \text{W/m}^2$ .

500  
 501

**Table A-1 Model results**

| Year               | T(°K)       | $T_\alpha$ (°K) | $f_1, f_2$    | $\alpha, \alpha'$      | $P_\alpha, P_{\alpha'}$<br>(W/m <sup>2</sup> ) | $P_{GHG'+feedback}$<br>$P_{GHG}$ (W/m <sup>2</sup> ) | $P_{Total}$<br>(W/m <sup>2</sup> ) |
|--------------------|-------------|-----------------|---------------|------------------------|--|--|------------------------------------|
| 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<br><b>(1.2%)</b> | <b>1.228</b>                                   | 3.893  | <b>5.12</b>                        |

502

503 From Table 1 we now have identified the reverse forcing at the surface needed since

$$504 \Delta P_{Total} = P_{2019} - P_{1950} = 5.121\ \text{W} / \text{m}^2 \quad (A=11)$$

506

507 and

$$508 \Delta T_{Total} = T_{2019} - T_{1950} = 0.95^\circ\text{C} \quad (A-12)$$

509

510 as modeled.

511

### 512 **A.4 Showing Model Consistency with the Planck Parameter**

513

514 To show model consistency, the forcing change, 5.121 W/m<sup>2</sup>, resulting in a 0.95°K rise, should agree with what is  
 515 expected when using the Planck feedback parameter.

516

517 In order to show model consistency, we will need some exact values for beta using the temperatures in Table A-1,  
 518 these are from the two different time periods

519

$$520 \beta_{1950} = \frac{T_\alpha}{T_S} = \frac{T_e}{T_S} = \frac{254.51}{287.04} = 0.88667 \text{ and } \beta_{1950}^4 = 0.61809 \quad (A-13)$$

521

522 as this value is consistent with Eq. A-8, and

523

$$\beta_{2019} = \frac{T_\alpha}{T_S} = \frac{T_e}{T_S} = \frac{254.83}{287.99} = 0.88485 \text{ and } \beta_{2019}^4 = 0.61304 \quad (\text{A-14})$$

525  
526 Although these two are very close and provide show model consistency with beta values, we use both values due to  
527 the need for high accuracy; model self-consistency is required.

528  
529 From the definition of the Planck parameter  $\lambda_o$  and results in Table A-1, we can estimate [19]  
530

$$\lambda_o = -4 \frac{\Delta R_{OLW}}{T_S} = -4 \left( \frac{237.9W/m^2}{287.04^\circ K} \right)_{1950} = -3.315W/m^2/^\circ K \quad (\text{A-15})$$

532 and

$$\lambda_o = -4 \frac{\Delta R_{OLW}}{T_S} = -4 \left( \frac{239.13W/m^2}{287.99^\circ K} \right)_{2019} = -3.321W/m^2/^\circ K \quad (\text{A-16})$$

534  
535 Here  $\Delta R_{OLW}$  is the outgoing long wave radiation change. We note these are very close in value showing minor error  
536 and consistency with Planck parameter value, often taken as  $3.3W/m^2/^\circ K$ . While there are only small differences  
537 between each beta and these two Planck parameters, final warming verification using a Planck parameter method,  
538 requires values found from the model. This self-consistency helps in providing accuracy for estimating  $\Delta T$  by  
539 reducing compounding error within the model. We then use the generalized form for the long wavelength estimate  
540 in Equation A-20 (and similar to Eq. A-15 and A-16), yielding the approximate warming change in terms of the total  
541 power and the Planck parameter method as [19]  
542

$$\Delta T = T_{1950} - T_{2019} = -4 \left\{ \left( \frac{\beta^4 P_{Total}}{\lambda_o} \right)_{1950} - \left( \frac{\beta^4 P_{Total}}{\lambda_o} \right)_{2019} \right\} \quad (\text{A-17})$$

544  
545 where  $\beta^4 P_{Total} \approx R_{OLW} \approx P_\alpha$ . Using Table 1, the temperature warming results is  
546

$$\Delta T = -4 \left( \frac{0.6181 \times 384.935W/m^2/^\circ K}{3.315W/m^2/^\circ K} - \frac{0.61304 \times 390.056W/m^2/^\circ K}{3.3215W/m^2/^\circ K} \right) = 0.92^\circ K \quad (\text{A-18})$$

548  
549 This equation illustrates consistency of the re-radiation model with the Planck parameter showing reasonable  
550 accuracy helping to verify the model from a different perspective.

## 552 **A.5 Re-radiation Model's Energy Balance**

553  
554 Although  $f_1$  has been uniquely defined in Eq. A-8, this should also result from balancing the energy in and out of our  
555 global system.

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

558  
559 In equilibrium the radiation that leaves must balance  $P_\alpha$ , from the energy absorbed, so that  
560

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Energy}_{Out} &= (1-f_1)P_\alpha + (1-f_1)P_{Total} = (1-f_1)P_\alpha + (1-f_1)\{P_\alpha + f_1P_\alpha\} \\ &= 2P_\alpha - f_1P_\alpha - f_1^2P_\alpha = \text{Energy}_{in} = P_\alpha \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A-19})$$

562  
563 This is consistent, so that in 1950 Eq. A-19 requires the same quadratic solution as Eq. A-8. It is also apparent that  
564

$$P_\alpha = f_1 P_{Total\_1950} = \beta_1^4 P_{Total\_1950} \quad (\text{A-20})$$

566 since

$$P_\alpha = f_1(P_\alpha + f_1P_\alpha) \text{ or } 1 = f_1(1 + f_1) \quad (\text{A-21})$$

570  
571 The RHS of Eq. A-21 is Eq. A-8. This illustrates  $f_1$  from another perspective as the fractional amount of total  
572 radiation in equilibrium. As a final check, the application in Section A.3, Eq. A-18, illustrate that  $f_1$  provides  
573 reasonable results.

574  
575

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

577

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

581

582 We consider a ratio for a target (T) area relative to a nominal (N) area defined in Sec. 5. Consider a target area with  
583 sensible heat storage  $q$  due to a mass  $m$ , having specific heat capacity  $C_p$  experiencing a day-night  $\Delta T$  change in  
584 time  $\tau$ , then the suggested potential for sensible hotspot heat storage  $H_{T-N}$  has the form

$$585 \quad H_{T-N} = \frac{q_T}{q_N} \times \frac{I_T}{I_N} = \frac{m_T C_{pT} \Delta T_T}{m_N C_{pN} \Delta T_N} \times \frac{I_T}{I_N} \approx \frac{\tau_T C_{pT} \Delta T_T}{\tau_N C_{pN} \Delta T_N} \times \frac{I_T}{I_N} \quad (\text{B-1})$$

587

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

591

592 As a numeric example, first consider a 90% irradiance target area (compared to the equator) with nominal mid-  
593 latitudes (45°) roughly 70%, compared to say the Arctic and Antarctic Circles at 40% [31]. Then the irradiance ratio  
594 is

$$595 \quad \frac{I\%_T}{I\%_N} = \frac{90\%_T}{70\%_N} = 1.3 \quad (\text{B-2})$$

596

597 For the sensible heat numeric portion, consider a rocky area as the target (such as Flaming Mountains). This can be  
598 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  
599 50% difference compared to a nominal soil area of 1.33 g/cm<sup>3</sup> [32]. The heat capacity of rocks compared with  
600 vegetated land is 2000 to 830J/Kg/°K [33]. Then  $\Delta T$  is estimated from tables for a day-night cycle [34]. The estimate  
601 is

$$602 \quad \frac{q_T}{q_N} = \frac{m_T C_{pT} \Delta T_T}{m_N C_{pN} \Delta T_N} = \frac{\rho_T C_{pT} \Delta T_T}{\rho_N C_{pN} \Delta T_N} = \left( \frac{2.65}{1.33} \right)_\rho \left( \frac{2000}{830} \right)_{C_p} \left( \frac{10^\circ\text{C}}{6.9^\circ\text{C}} \right) = 2 \times 2.4 \times 1.45 = 6.96 \quad (\text{B-3})$$

603

604 Then including irradiance

$$605 \quad H_{T-N} \approx 9 \quad (\text{B-4})$$

606

## 607 Appendix C: UHI Amplification Factors

608

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

### 611 C.1: UHI Area Amplification Factor

612

613 To estimate the UHI amplification effects, it is logical to first look at UHI footprint (FP) studies as they provide  
614 some measurement information. Zhang et al. [35] found the ecological FP of urban land cover extends beyond the  
615 perimeter of urban areas, and the FP of urban climates on vegetation phenology was 2.4 times the size of the actual  
616 urban land cover. A more recent study by Zhou et al. [36], looked at day-night cycles using temperature difference  
617 measurements in China. This study found UHI effect decayed exponentially toward rural areas for the majority of  
618 the 32 Chinese cities. Their comprehensive study spanned from 2003 to 2012. Zhou et al. describes China as an  
619 ideal area to study as it has experienced the most rapid urbanization in the world during the decade evaluated.  
620 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  
621 and nights, respectively. We note that the average day-night amplification footprint coverage factor is 3.1.

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

$$624 \quad AF_{UHI \text{ for } 2019} = f(\overline{Build}_{Area} \times \overline{Build}_{C_p} \times \overline{R}_{wind} \times \overline{LossE}_{vtr} \times \overline{Hy} \times \overline{S}_{canyon}) \quad (\text{C-1})$$

625 were

- 626  $\overline{Build}_{Area}$  = Average building solar area  
 627  $\overline{Build}_{C_p}$  = Average building heat capacity  
 628  $\overline{R}_{wind}$  = Average city wind resistance  
 629  $\overline{LossE}_{vir}$  = Average loss of evapotranspiration to natural cooling & loss of wetland  
 630  $\overline{H}_y$  = Average humidity effect due to hydro-hotspot  
 631  $\overline{S}_{canyon}$  = Average solar canyon effect

632  
 633 To provide some estimate of this factor, we note that Zhou et al. [36] found the FP physical area (km<sup>2</sup>), correlated  
 634 tightly and positively with actual urban size having a correlation coefficients higher than 79%. This correlation can  
 635 be used to provide an initial estimate of this complex factor. Therefore, as a model assumption, it seems reasonable  
 636 to use area ratios for this estimate.

637 
$$AF_{UHI\ for\ 2019} = \frac{\sum(UHI\ Area)_{2019}}{\sum(UHI\ Area)_{1950}} \quad (C-2)$$

638 Area estimates have been obtained in the Feinberg [5] yielding the following results for the Schneider et al. [23] and  
 639 the GRUMP [24] extrapolated area results:

640 
$$AF_{UHI\ for\ 2019} = \frac{(Urban\ Size)_{2019}}{(Urban\ Size)_{1950}} \approx \begin{cases} \left( \frac{[0.188]_{2019}}{[0.059]_{1950}} \right)_{Schneider} = 3.19 \\ \left( \frac{[0.952]_{2019}}{[0.316]_{1950}} \right)_{GRUMP} = 3.0 \end{cases} \quad (C-3)$$

641 Between the two studies, the UHI area amplification factor average is 3.1. Coincidentally, this factor is the same  
 642 observed in the Zhou et al. [36] study for the average footprint. This factor may seem high. However, it is likely  
 643 conservative as other effects would be difficult to assess: increases in global drought due to loss of wet-lands,  
 644 deforestation effects due to urbanization, and drought related fires. It could also be important to factor in changes of  
 645 other impermeable surfaces since 1950, such as highways, parking lots, event centers, and so forth.

646  
 647 The area amplification value of 3.1 is then considered as one of our model assumptions for H<sub>T-N</sub>.

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

649  
 650 An alternate approach to check the estimate of Equation C-3, is to look at the UHI's dome extent. Fan et al. [37]  
 651 using an energy balance model to obtain the maximum horizontal extent of a UHI heat dome in numerous urban  
 652 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  
 653 daytime value of 2.0 to 3.3 (2.65 average).  
 654

655  
 656 Applying this energy method (instead of the area ratio factor in Eq. C-3), yields a diameter in 2019 compared to that  
 657 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  
 658 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  
 659 steady state occurred about 4 hours after sunrise and 5 hours after sunset yielding an effective UHI amplification  
 660 factor of 2.9. We note this amplification factor is in good agreement with Equation C-3. Fan et al. [37] assessed the  
 661 heat flux over the urban area extent to its neighboring rural area where the air is transported from the urban heat  
 662 dome flow. Therefore the heat dome extends in a similar manner as observed in the footprint studies. If we use the  
 663 dome concept, we can make an assumption that the actual surface area for the heat flux is increased by the surface  
 664 area of the dome. We actually do not know the true diameter of the dome, but it is larger than the assessment by Fan  
 665 et al. Using the dome extend due to Fan et al. [37] applied to the area of diameter D, the amplification factor should  
 666 be correlated to the ratios of the dome surface areas:

667 
$$AF_{UHI\ for\ 2019} = \left( \frac{D_{2019}}{D_{1950}} \right)^2 = 2.9^2 = 8.4 \quad (C-4)$$

668 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  
 669 an alternate approach in estimating the effective UHI amplification factor [5]. We will have two values, 3.1 and 8.4  
 670 to work with that provides an upper and lower bounds for effective amplification area.

671

## 672 Appendix D: Albedo Change compared to GHG change with resulting feedback

673

674 We can look at an important ratio, the power created by the albedo effect compared to GHGs in 1950. The initial  
 675 radiation is  $P_{\alpha}$ , and then according to Eq. A-10 and Table A-1, the energy is increased by  $P_{GHG}$  due to re-radiation  
 676  $fP_{\alpha}$  that yields the ratio

$$677 \left\{ \frac{P_{\alpha} + P_{GHG}}{P_{GHG}} = \frac{P_{\alpha} + f_1 P_{\alpha}}{f_1 P_{\alpha}} = \frac{1 + f_1}{f_1} = \frac{1.62}{0.62} = 2.62 \right\}_{1950} \quad \text{also note that} \quad \left\{ \frac{1 + f_2}{f_2} = 2.58 \right\}_{2019} \quad (D-1)$$

679

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

682

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

$$685 \Delta P_{\alpha} = \Delta P_{\alpha'} + f_2 \Delta P_{\alpha'} = 1.631 \Delta P_{\alpha'} \quad (D-2)$$

687

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

$$689 \Delta P_{GHG} = \Delta f P_{GHG} = 1.311\% (f_2 P_{\alpha'}) = 0.827\% P_{\alpha'} \quad (D-3)$$

691

692 This resulting ratio from Table 1 is

$$693 \frac{\Delta P_{\alpha}}{\Delta P_{GHG}} = \frac{\Delta P_{\alpha'} (1 + f_2)}{\Delta f f_2 P_{\alpha'}} = \frac{1.228W / m^2}{0.0131} \frac{1.631}{0.631 \times 239.1W / m^2} = 1.01 \quad (D-4)$$

695

696 Note this ratio is of course dependent on the 2019 albedo 1.2% change, selected here to obtain unity for illustrative  
 697 purposes. The model indicates that a 1.2% albedo change would offset the GHG change and feedback effects. Our  
 698 estimates in modeling from Eq. 10 using a different formula indicated that about 1.3% would mitigate about 94% (or  
 699 of global warming. Therefore these are reasonably comparable using different assessments. The key difference is  
 700 that  $A_F$  is likely a bit higher (2.61) used in Eq. 10 for feedback reduction.

701

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705

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