

# Supplementary Information: Photovoltaics-driven power production can support human exploration on Mars

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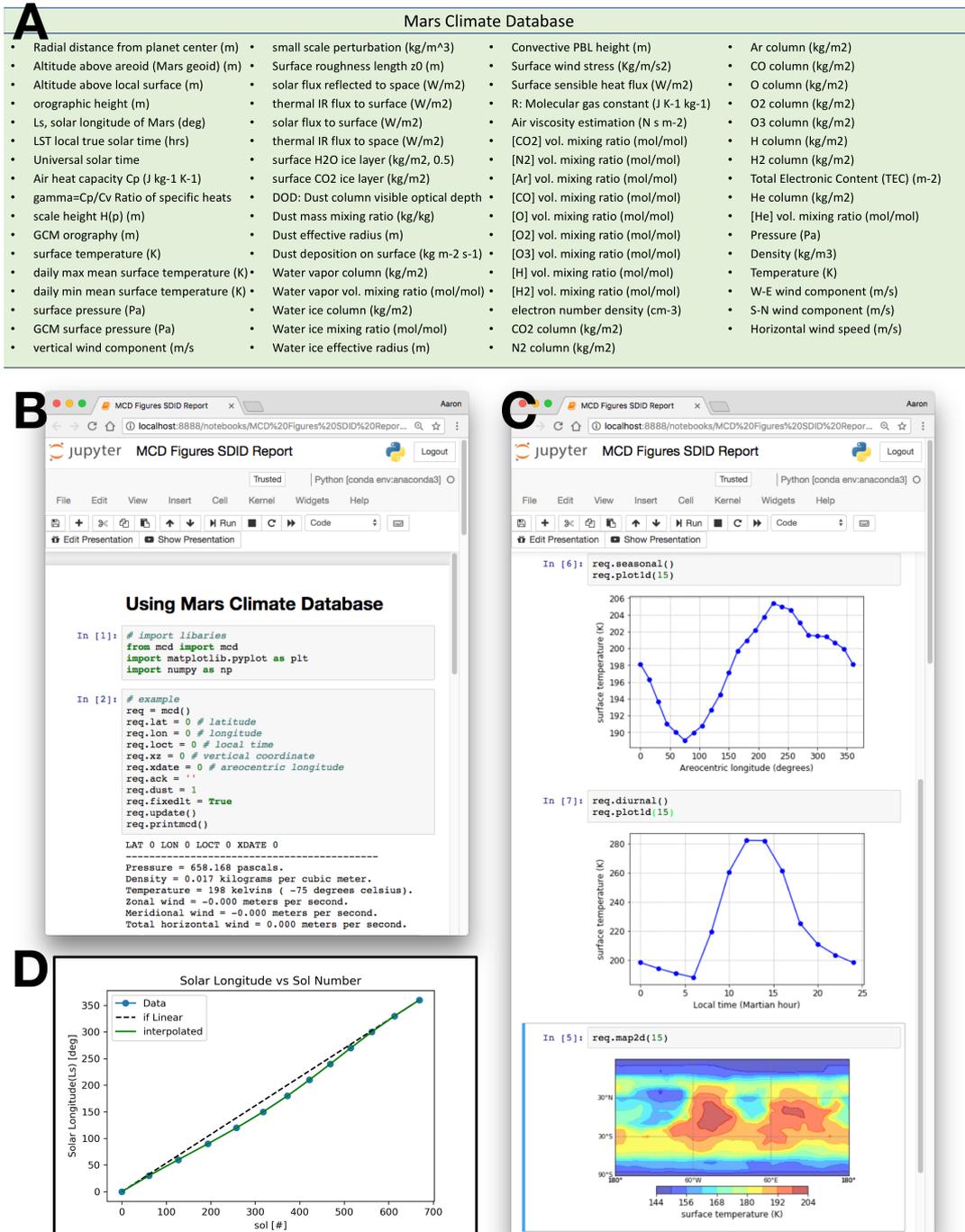
WDC, APA, or DSC.

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## 1 INTRODUCTION AND OVERVIEW

2 A central question surrounding possible settlement of Mars is whether human life can be supported by  
3 available technologies using *in situ* resources. Here we present a detailed analysis showing that photovoltaic  
4 and photoelectrochemical devices would be adequate and practical to sustain a crewed outpost for an  
5 extended period over a large fraction of the planet's surface. Climate data were integrated with a radiative  
6 transfer model to predict spectrally-resolved solar flux across the Martian surface, which informed detailed  
7 balance calculations for solar cell devices supporting power systems, agriculture, and manufacturing.  
8 Optimal design and the corresponding production capacity over a Martian year revealed the size and  
9 mass of a solar cell array required to support a six-person mission, which represents less than 10% of the  
10 anticipated payload.

11 The following SI describes the `redSun` software created as an integration of available software and custom  
12 code written in Python 3.6 with UNIX and Fortran backends. It can be found at <https://github.com/cubes-space/redSun>.



**Figure 1.** (A) all parameters available for query in the MCD; (B.) example query to MCD; (C.) i. plot of surface temperature vs areocentric longitude for local time  $t = 9:00$ ; ii. plot of surface temperature vs local time for LATITUDE = LONGITUDE = 0; iii. cylindrical projection of surface temperature; (D.) Plot of solar longitude vs sol number, demonstrating the eccentricity of Mars’s orbit and the approximate season, with northern summer solstice occurring when  $L_s = 90$  and northern winter solstice when  $L_s = 270$ .

## 2 ENVIRONMENTAL DATA AGGREGATION

### 14 2.1 Mars Climate Database

15 Downstream radiative transfer calculations require a number of input streams describing the Martian  
 16 environment. We make use of the Mars Climate Database (MCD) [1] developed by Le Laboratoire de

17 Meteorologic Dynamique (LMD) in Paris, queried via the mcd-python package, to model most climate and  
 18 environmental constraints, including photon flux and power spectra over time and location. The software  
 19 engineering processes for building and using MCD somewhat efficiently are illustrated in Figure 1, along  
 20 with input parameter profiles and sample output plots.

## 21 2.2 Initial Geotemporalspatial Grid

22 We began by first initializing the geotemporalspatial grid from which all downstream radiative transfer  
 23 and PV/PEC calculations would be based. The grid was composed as a `.netCDF` file with dimensions of 19  
 24 points of  $10^\circ$  latitude  $\times$  37 points of  $10^\circ$  longitude  $\times$  25 points of  $15^\circ$  areocentric longitude  $\times$  13 points  
 25 of 2 (Martian) hours. Additionally, we included the dimension of altitude above the Martian datum in 20  
 points ranging from 0 to 120 km. The dimensions for the initial grid are shown in Table 1.

Dimension	Units	Initial	Final	Step	Number
Latitude	degrees north	-90	90	15	19
Longitude	degrees east	-180	180	15	37
Wavelength	nm	300.5	4000	N/A	1340
Level	km	0	120	6.32	20
Aerocentric Longitude	deg	0	360	15	25
Hour	hr	0	24	2	13

Table 1. Initial grid dimensions.

26

## 27 2.3 Atmospheric Variables

28 Through a combination of custom code in redSun and modifications to the Python-based extension of  
 29 MCD, we then looped through Lat, Lon, Hr, and Ls dimensions to initialize the data variables in Table 2.

## 30 2.4 Planetary Variables

31 While most of the required environmental variables could be sourced from MCD, additional efforts were  
 32 made to add data on the planetary albedo and zMOL as shown in Figure 2 and in Table 3.

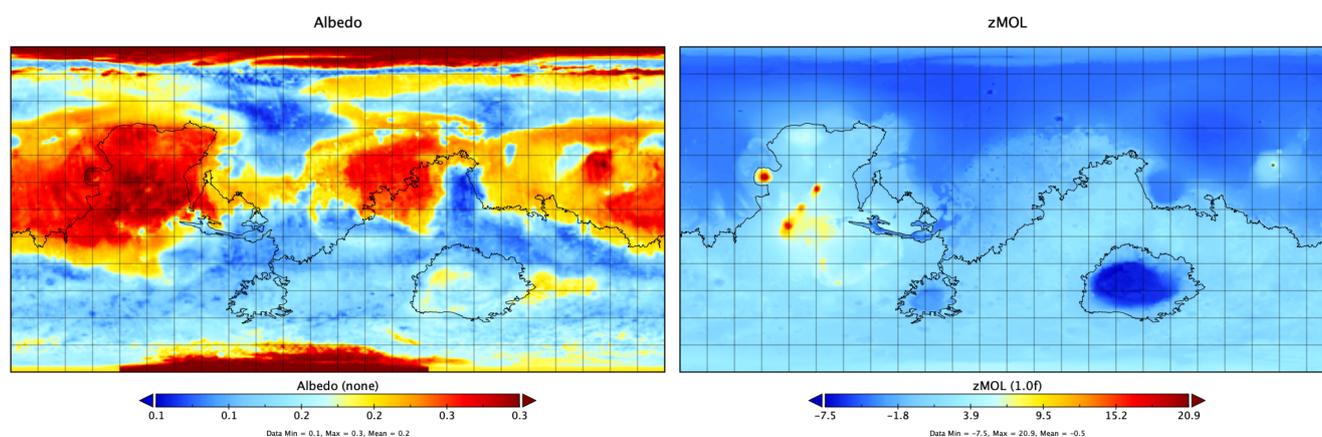


Figure 2. Albedo and zMOL (height above the Martian datum) maps.

Variable	Units	Dimensions	Dimension Number
Air Density	cm <sup>-3</sup>	lat,lon,level,ls,hr	5
Datum Altitude	km	lat,lon,level	3
CO <sub>2</sub> Partial Pressure	cm <sup>-3</sup>	lat,lon,level,ls,hr	5
H <sub>2</sub> O Partial Pressure	cm <sup>-3</sup>	lat,lon,level,ls,hr	5
O <sub>2</sub> Partial Pressure	cm <sup>-3</sup>	lat,lon,level,ls,hr	5
O <sub>3</sub> Partial Pressure	cm <sup>-3</sup>	lat,lon,level,ls,hr	5
NO <sub>2</sub> Partial Pressure	cm <sup>-3</sup>	lat,lon,level,ls,hr	5
Pressure	hPa	lat,lon,level,ls,hr	5
Temperature	K	lat,lon,level,ls,hr	5
Ice Content	g/m <sup>3</sup>	lat,lon,level,ls,hr	5
Ice Effective Radius	um	lat,lon,level,ls,hr	5
Dust Content	g/m <sup>3</sup>	lat,lon,level,ls,hr	5
Dust Effective Radius	μm	lat,lon,level,ls,hr	5
Long Wave Downward Flux	W/m <sup>2</sup>	lat,lon,ls,hr	4
Short Wave Downward Flux	W/m <sup>2</sup>	lat,lon,ls,hr	4
Long Wave Upward Flux	W/m <sup>2</sup>	lat,lon,ls,hr	4
Short Wave Upward Flux	W/m <sup>2</sup>	lat,lon,ls,hr	4
Top of Atmosphere Irradiance	W/(nm.m <sup>2</sup> )	lat,ls,hr,wl	5

**Table 2.** Initial atmospheric grid variables sourced from MCD.  
i

Variable	Units	Dimensions	Dimension Number
Albedo	None	lat,lon	2
zMOL	None	lat,lon	2

**Table 3.** Initial planetary grid variables sourced from MCD.

### 33 2.5 Solar Variables

In addition to atmospheric and planetary variables, our initial environmental data for downstream radioactive transfer required that we calculate the solar flux at the top of the atmosphere (TOA). Downstream radiative transfer calculations required as input the spectral flux in W/(m<sup>2</sup>·nm) whereas MCD only provided an integrated solar flux in W/(m<sup>2</sup>). For a given Lat, Lon, Hr, and Ls, we were able to calculate the spectral flux  $F_0$  via[2]

$$F_0 = \mu F_{1.52} \left( \frac{d^2}{r^2} \right) \tag{1}$$

$$F_0 = F_{1.52} \left( \sin \theta \sin \epsilon \sin L_s + \cos \theta \cos \left( \frac{2\pi t}{P} \right) (1 - \sin^2 \epsilon \sin^2 L_s)^{1/2} \right) \left( \frac{1 + e \cos(L_s - L_{s,p})}{1 - e^2} \right)^2 \tag{2}$$

34 where  $r$  is the Sun-Mars distance along its orbit,  $d$  is the mean Sun-Mars distance of 1.52 AU,  $\mu$  is the  
 35 cosine of the solar zenith angle  $z$ ,  $e$  is the Martian eccentricity ( $e = 0.0934$ ),  $L_s$  is the aerocentric longitude,  
 36  $L_{s,p}$  is the aerocentric longitude of perihelion (250°),  $\theta$  is the latitude,  $\epsilon$  is the Martian obliquity (25.2°),  $P$   
 37 is the duration of the Martian solar day (88775 s),  $t$  is any time measured from local noon, and  $F_{1.52}$  is the  
 38 flux at the average Sun-Mars distance[3].

While the separation of the aerocentric longitude and hourly time dimensions was helpful in indexing our grid, these two dimensions are related. For any aerocentric longitude index, there are 13 time points, and as these times correspond to movement of Mars around the sun, so does the aerocentric longitude. Therefore, when computing the TOA flux  $F_0$ , we updated  $L_s$  to correspond to the change in time  $t$  using the build in functions `Ls2Sol` and `Sol2Ls` from the `MCD` package. These functions relate  $L_s$  and  $t$  through Kepler's Problem via

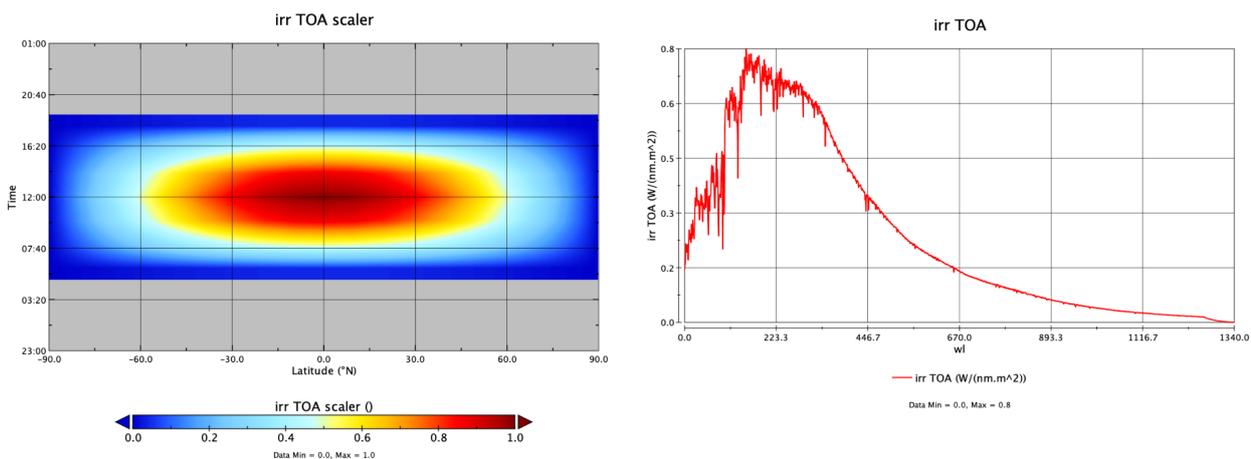
$$L_s = \left( \nu \frac{180}{\pi} + L_{s,p} \right) (mod360) \tag{3}$$

$$\nu = 2 \arctan \left[ \sqrt{\frac{1+e}{1-e}} \tan \left( \frac{E}{2} \right) \right] \tag{4}$$

$$M = E - e \sin E = 2\pi \frac{D_s - t_p}{N_s} \tag{5}$$

39 where  $D_s$  is the sol number,  $t_{peri}$  is the time at perihelion,  $N_s$  is the number of sols in a Martian year,  $\nu$  is  
 40 the true anomaly,  $E$  is the eccentric anomaly,  $M$  is the mean anomaly, and  $N_s$  is the number of sols in a  
 41 Martian year.

42 The data variables shown in Figure 3 were then added to the grid for downstream use as shown in Table 4.



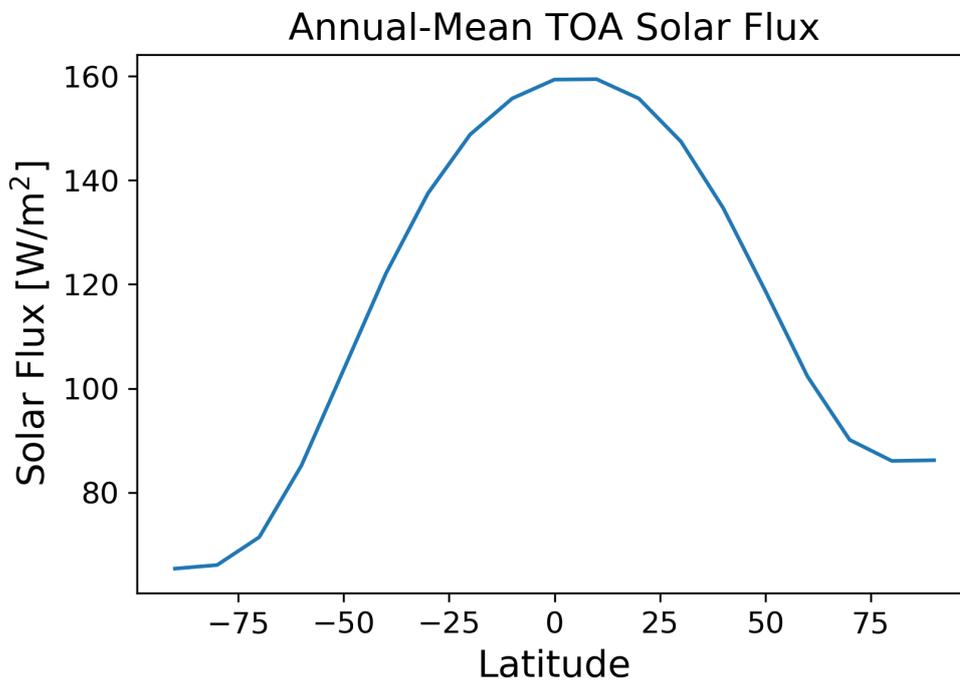
**Figure 3.** Left shows the calculated  $mu$  parameter as a scalar across geospace for  $L_s = 0$ . Right shows the spectral flux for  $lat=0$ ,  $t=12$  noon, and  $L_s = 0$ .

Variable	Units	Dimensions	Dimension Number
Solar Zenith Angle	deg	lat,ls,hr	3
Solar Correction	None	lat,ls,hr	3
Top of Atmosphere Irradiance	W/(nm.m <sup>2</sup> )	lat,ls,hr,wl	5

**Table 4.** Initial solar grid variables.

43 As a sanity check, we calculated the integrated standard solar flux at TOA at 1.52 AU (average Sun-Mars  
 44 distance) at 576.92 W/m<sup>2</sup>. Given a solar constant for Mars is 490 W/m<sup>2</sup>, the equatorial annual-mean flux  
 45 at the top of the atmosphere (TOA) should be ~156 W/m<sup>2</sup>. Our calculated equatorial annual-mean TOA

46 flux was found to be  $159.43 \text{ W/m}^2$  which differs by  $\sim 1.5\%$  from the theoretical value. We extended this  
 47 calculation across all latitudes as shown in Figure 4 to confirm our methods.



**Figure 4.** Calculated Annual-Mean TOA Solar Flux distributed across Latitude

### 3 RADIATIVE TRANSFER CALCULATIONS

#### 48 3.1 libRadtran

49 The radiative transfer calculations were carried out using the libRadtran library (version 2.0.4)[4, 5].  
 50 libRadtran is a collection of C and Fortran functions and programs for calculation of solar and thermal  
 51 radiation in the Earth's atmosphere and is freely available under the GNU General Public License at  
 52 <http://www.libradtran.org/doku.php>.

#### 53 3.2 Mie Scattering Calculations

54 The presence of dust and cloud particles in the Martian atmosphere affect the propagation of sunlight.  
 55 The size of such dust and cloud particles falls within the Mie scattering range.

56 The libRadtran package was used for Mie scattering calculations of the scattering phase matrices and  
 57 corresponding Legendre polynomials[6]. Input files for both dust and ice were constructed (Listing 1) and  
 58 fed to the MIEV0 tool.

```
591 mie_program MIEV0 # Select Mie code by Wiscombe
602 basename cloud.
613 refrac file MieCloudRefrac.DAT# Use refractive index file
624 r_eff 0.00322766 100.1 10.0 # Specify effective radius grid
635 distribution lognormal 1.8903 # Specify lognormal size distribution
646 nstokes 1 # Calculate all phase matrix elements
657 nmom 6000 # Number of Legendre terms to be computed
```

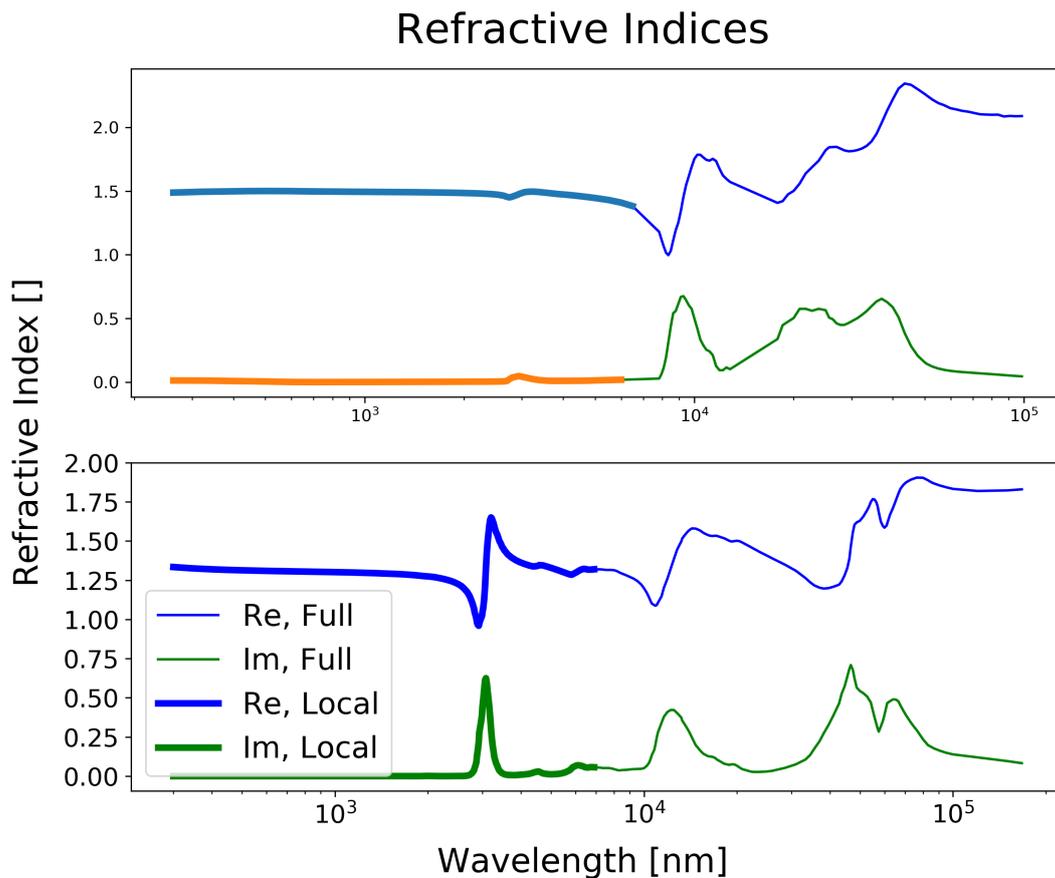
```

668 ntheta_max 2000 # Maximum number of scattering angles to be
679 output_user netcdf # Write output to netcdf file
680 verbose # Print verbose output

```

**Listing 1.** Input file for Mie calculations of cloud aerosols

69 Refractive indices for dust and ice were sourced from NASA Ames Legacy Mars Global Climate Model[7]  
70 (available at <https://github.com/nasa/legacy-mars-global-climate-model>) and  
71 fed as input (Figure 5).



**Figure 5.** Refractive Indices for Dust (top) and Clouds (Bottom).

For clouds, an effective radius  $r_{\text{eff}}$  grid was set between 0.00322766 and 100.1  $\mu\text{m}$  in steps of 10  $\mu\text{m}$  and with a lognormal distribution with standard deviation  $\sigma = 1.8903$  described as

$$n(r) = \frac{a}{r} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{\ln(r) \ln(r_0)}{\ln \sigma}\right)^2\right) \quad (6)$$

72 where  $r_0$  is the logarithmic mode of the distribution, calculated from  $r_{\text{eff}}$ . Through a series of trial-and-error  
73 attempts, we specified additional parameters for clouds such as the number of phase matrix elements set at  
74 1, the number of Legendre terms to be computed set at 6000, the maximum number of scattering angles set  
75 to 2000. The resulting output from `MIEV0` was a `.netCDF` file of  $\sim 100$  MB.

76 For dust, an effective radius  $r_{\text{eff}}$  grid was set between 0.00310352 and 10.1  $\mu\text{m}$  in steps of 1.0  $\mu\text{m}$  and  
 77 with a lognormal distribution with standard deviation  $\sigma = 1.3616$ . Again, through a series of trial-and-error  
 78 attempts, we specified additional parameters for dust such as the number of phase matrix elements set at 1,  
 79 the number of Legendre terms to be computed set at 2500, the maximum number of scattering angles set  
 80 to 2000. The dust calculations provided more computationally expensive than those for clouds due to the  
 81 smaller  $r_{\text{eff}}$  grid size. The resulting output from `MIEV0` was a `.netCDF` file of  $\sim 10$  MB.

82 The output `.netCDF` files include the dimensions and variables in Table 5 and a sample of the output  
 83 variables are shown in Figure 6.

Name	Description	Dim/Var	Unit
<code>n<sub>lam</sub></code>	Wavelength Number	Dim	-
<code>n<sub>mommax</sub></code>	Legendre Polynomial Number	Dim	-
<code>n<sub>phamat</sub></code>	Phase Matrix Element Number	Dim	-
<code>n<sub>reff</sub></code>	Refractive Index Number	Dim	-
<code>n<sub>thetamax</sub></code>	Theta Max Number	Dim	-
<code>n<sub>rho</sub></code>	Density Number	Dim	-
<code>w<sub>avelen</sub></code>	Wavelength	Var	micrometer
<code>r<sub>eff</sub></code>	Effective radius	Var	micrometer
<code>n<sub>theta</sub></code>	Number of scattering angles	Var	-
<code>theta</code>	Theta Max Number	Var	degrees
<code>phase</code>	phase	Var	-
<code>n<sub>mom</sub></code>	number of Legendre polynomials	Var	-
<code>p<sub>mom</sub></code>	Legendre polynomials	Var	including factor $2 \cdot l + 1$
<code>ext</code>	extinction coefficient	Var	$\text{km}^{-1}/(\text{g}/\text{m}^3)$
<code>ssa</code>	single scattering albedo	Var	-
<code>gg</code>	Asymmetry factor	Var	-
<code>ref<sub>re</sub></code>	refractive index (real)	Var	-
<code>ref<sub>im</sub></code>	refractive index (imaginary)	Var	-
<code>rho</code>	density of medium	Var	$\text{g}/\text{cm}^3$

**Table 5.** Dimensions and variables in `.netCDF` Mie output file.

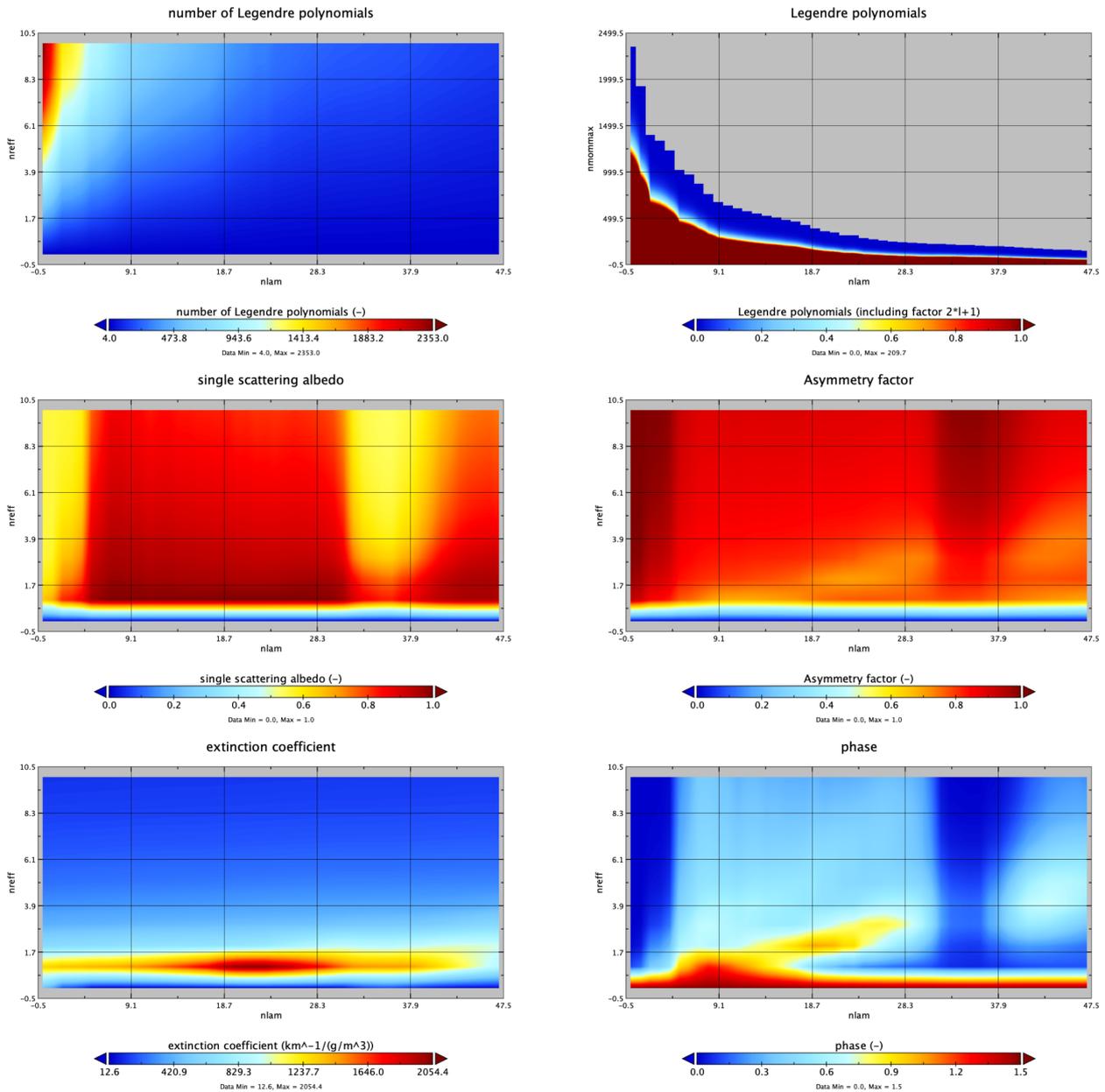
### 84 3.3 uvspec

85 The `uvspec` program was designed to calculate the radiation field of the atmosphere for Earth. Modifications  
 86 were carried out such that `uvspec` could be leveraged for similar calculations of the Martian radiative transfer.  
 87 Input to the model are the constituents of the atmosphere including various molecules, aerosols and clouds.  
 88 The absorption and scattering properties of these constituents were calculated via the `MIEV0` tool. Boundary  
 89 conditions are the solar spectrum at the top of the atmosphere and the reflecting surface at the bottom[8].  
 90 The `uvspec` program was called for each point in the geotemporalspatial grid and provided with a custom,  
 91 programmatically generated input file – an example of which is shown in Listing 2.

```

921 # libRadtran Calc test
932 wavelength 300.5 4000 # choose wavelength range for computation
943 atmosphere_file __2WKSII17KGatmos.DAT # load atmosphere profile
954 mixing_ratio CH4 0.0 # update null mixing ratios
965 mixing_ratio N2O 0.0
976 mixing_ratio F11 0.0
987 mixing_ratio F12 0.0
998 mixing_ratio F22 0.0
1009 altitude -0.48425 # specify altitude above datum

```



**Figure 6.** Sample Visualization of variables in `.netCDF` Mie output file for dust.

```

1010 source solar __2WKSIII17KGflux.DAT # load solar profile
1021 # corrected for Sun-Mars Distance
1032 # corrected for geometry
1043 ic_file 1D __2WKSIII17KGcloud.DAT # setup cloud profile (assuming water/ice clouds)
1054 ic_properties MieCalc/cloud.mie.cdf interpolate
1065 profile_file dust 1D __2WKSIII17KGdust.DAT # setup dust profile (using aerosol type)
1076 profile_properties dust MieCalc/dust.mie.cdf interpolate
1087 earth_radius 3389.5 # reset earth_radius to Martian radius in [km]
1098 rte_solver disort pseudospherical # choose radiative transfer solver
1109 pseudospherical
1110 number_of_streams 6 # choose number of streams
1121 output_user lambda edir eglo edn eup enet esum # define output

```

1132 albedo 0.3073502629995346 # choose albedo

## Listing 2. Sample input file for uvspec calculation

114 Due to the peculiar way `uvspec` must be called, input for atmosphere, solar flux, dust conditions, and cloud  
 115 conditions are required in the form of text-based `.DAT` files. Because multiple `uvspec` calls were carried out  
 116 in parallel, a random string was generated (“2WKSIII7KG” in the case of Listing 2) and used to identify  
 117 specific `.DAT` files. For each point of the grid, an input `.INP` file was created along with correspond `.DAT`  
 118 files for atmosphere, solar flux, dust conditions, and cloud conditions. The atmosphere file contained the  
 119 altitude above sea level in km, pressure in hPa, temperature in K, air density in  $\text{cm}^{-3}$ , ozone density in  
 120  $\text{cm}^{-3}$ , Oxygen density in  $\text{cm}^{-3}$ , water vapor density in  $\text{cm}^{-3}$ ,  $\text{CO}_2$  density in  $\text{cm}^{-3}$ , and  $\text{NO}_2$  density in  
 121  $\text{cm}^{-3}$ . The dust and cloud aerosol files contained altitude above sea level in km, dust/cloud content in  
 122 kg/kg, and effective radius in  $\mu\text{m}$ . The solar flux file contains the wavelength in nm and the spectral flux  
 123 for that wavelength in  $\text{mW}/(\text{m}^2\text{nm})$ . Data for each of these files was sourced from the MCD data organized  
 124 in the `Stupidgrid.nc` file and converted to the appropriate units using functions in the `redSun` codebase.

125 The wavelength range was set from 300.5 to 4000 nm. This range was selected to match available data  
 126 for solar flux and significance to downstream photovoltaic calculations. Wavelengths outside these bounds  
 127 were found to have negligible impact on bandgap calculations or to require substantial computational  
 128 efforts, and were thus ignored. The mixing ratios for atmospheric  $\text{CH}_4$ ,  $\text{N}_2\text{O}$ , and greenhouse gases (GHG)  
 129 F11, F12, and F22 were set to 0.0 to reflect the change from Earth to Mars conditions. The altitude for the  
 130 location was also programmatically added to the input file to specify the exact position of the surface in  
 131 relationship to the Martian datum. The filenames from the Mie scattering calculations for dust and cloud  
 132 aerosols were passed as well. The radius of the planet was changed to the Martian value of 3389.5 km. The  
 133 albedo of the grid-point was also provided programmatically.

We selected the DIScrete ORdinate Radiative Transfer solvers (`pseudospherical disort`) radiative transfer solver for our calculations using 6 streams. The discrete ordinate method was first developed in 1960 with significant updates in 1988 and 2000 and offer 1D calculations of radiance, irradiance, and actinic flux. We opted for pseudo-spherical methods to offset any spherical effects associated with using the smaller Martian geometry. In pseudo-spherical calculations, the monochromatic radiative transfer equation in 1D can be formulated as

$$\mu \frac{dI(\tau, \mu, \phi)}{\beta^{\text{ext}} d\tau} = I(\tau, \mu, \phi) - \frac{\omega(r)}{4\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} d\phi' \int_{-1}^1 d\mu' p(\tau, \mu, \phi; \mu', \phi') I(\tau, \mu', \phi') - (1 - \omega(r)) B[T(r)] - \frac{\omega(\tau) I^0}{4\pi} p(\tau, \mu, \phi) \quad (7)$$

where  $B[T(r)]$  is the Planck function,  $\beta$  is an extinction coefficient,  $\mu_0$  is the solar zenith angle,  $\phi_0$  is the azimuth angle,  $p$  is the phase function, and the single scattering albedo  $\omega(r)$  is

$$\omega(r) = \omega(r, \nu) = \frac{\beta^{\text{sca}}(r, \nu)}{\beta^{\text{ext}}(r, \nu)} \quad (8)$$

Additionally,  $f_{ch}$  is the Chapman function [9, 10] for describing the extinction path in a spherical atmosphere and is formulated as

$$f_{ch}(r_0, \mu_0) = \int_{r_0}^{\infty} \frac{\beta^{\text{ext}}(r, \nu) dr}{\sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{R+r_0}{R+r}\right)^2 (1 - \mu_0^2)}} \quad (9)$$

134 where  $R$  is the planet radius and  $r_0$  is the distance above the atmosphere.

135 The output of each `uvspec` call was a text-like file that was indexed with a matching random string identifier.  
 136 Each file consisted of the direct, global, diffuse downward, diffuse upward, net and sum irradiance in  
 137  $\text{mW}/(\text{m}^2\text{nm})$  for each nm in the input flux file. The output file was then read back with additional functions  
 138 from `redSun` for use in downstream calculations.

## 4 PHOTOVOLTAIC POWER AND PHOTOELECTROCHEMICAL COMMODITY CALCULATIONS

139 We use the detailed balance model to calculate the energy efficiency of one-, two-, and three-bandgap  
 140 photovoltaic solar cells and one- and two-bandgap photoelectrochemical devices. This model has been  
 141 used to calculate the limiting efficiency of ideal photovoltaic and photoelectrochemical devices for single  
 142 and multiple bandgap architectures previously [11, 12, 13].

The current density (J)-voltage (V) dependence  $J(V, E_g)$  for a single bandgap is given by

$$J(V, E_g) = J_G(E_g) + J_R(V, E_g) \quad (10)$$

where  $J_G$  is the photogeneration current,  $J_R$  is the recombination current due to radiative recombination, and  $E_g$  is the bandgap of the absorber material. The generation current  $J_G$  is calculated according to

$$J_G(E_g) = q \int_{E_g}^{E_{\max}} \Gamma(E) dE \quad (11)$$

where  $q$  is the electronic charge,  $\Gamma(E)$  is the photon flux at a given photon energy  $E$ , and  $E_{\max}$  is maximum photon energy in the solar spectrum. We used a minimum wavelength of 300 nm in our calculations, corresponding to a maximum photon energy of  $\sim 4.14$  eV because photons above 4 eV contribute negligibly to the photon flux [11]. The recombination current density  $J_R$  is calculated according to

$$J_R(V, E_g) = \frac{2\pi q}{c^2 h^3} \int_{E_g}^{\infty} \frac{E^2}{\exp\left(\frac{E - qV}{kT}\right) - 1} dE \quad (12)$$

143 where  $c$  is the speed of light in vacuum,  $h$  is Planck's constant,  $k$  is Boltzmann's constant, and  $T$  is the  
 144 temperature of the device (we assume the local surface temperature in these calculations).

The photovoltaic energy efficiency  $\eta_{PV}$  at a given operating voltage is written as

$$\eta_{PV}(V, E_g) = \frac{V}{F} J(V, E_g) \quad (13)$$

145 where  $F$  is the calculated total power flux at the Martian surface. The operating voltage can then be selected  
 146 to maximize the efficiency for a given bandgap. In technoeconomic calculations (see below), we assume  
 147 the device efficiency is 80% of the calculated detailed balance limit to account for absorber material and  
 148 device inefficiencies (i.e., nonradiative recombination losses not captured by the detailed balance limit).

The photoelectrochemical device energy efficiency  $\eta_{\text{PEC}}$  is given by

$$\eta_{\text{PEC}}(V, E_g) = \frac{E^0}{F} J(V, E_g) \quad (14)$$

where  $E^0$  is the minimum thermodynamic potential required to drive the electrochemical reaction (1.23 V for H<sub>2</sub> generation from water splitting). In practical devices, the operating voltage of the photoelectrochemical device will be larger than  $E^0$  to account for anode and cathode overpotentials and resistive potential drop in the electrolyte and electrodes. Hence, for these devices the operating voltage is

$$V = E^0 + V_o \quad (15)$$

149 where  $V_o$  is the overpotential associated with the above-mentioned losses. In all technoeconomic  
 150 calculations (see below) we assume the overvoltage is 700 mV, corresponding to a practical minimum that  
 151 also accounts for absorber material inefficiencies (*i.e.*, nonradiative recombination losses not captured by  
 152 the detailed balance limit)[12].

For two- and three-bandgap tandem devices, we assume the absorber layers are connected optically and electronically in series. Generation and recombination currents are calculated as described above, with the modification that  $E_{\text{max}}$  is substituted with  $E_{g,n-1}$  for absorber  $n$  (counted sequentially starting with the top absorber) to reflect the assumption that each absorber layer is optically thick (*i.e.*, absorbs all the above-bandgap light incident on its surface). In tandem devices, the total current density must be equal in each absorber layer, while the total operating voltage is given by the sum of the voltages developed across each cell. For example, for a three-absorber photovoltaic device

$$J(V) = J_1(V_1, E_{g,1}) = J_2(V_2, E_{g,2}) = J_3(V_3, E_{g,3}) \quad (16)$$

$$V = V_1 + V_2 + V_3 \quad (17)$$

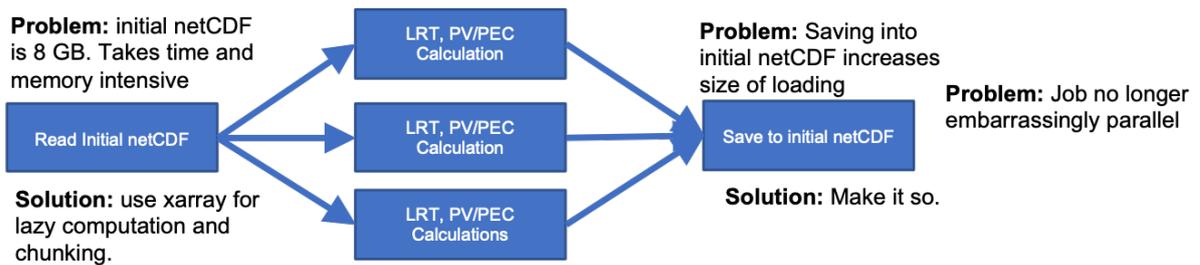
153 For tandem devices, the efficiency is calculated analogously to the single-junction devices but as a function  
 154 of each absorber bandgap.

## 5 GRID CALCULATIONS VIA PARALLEL COMPUTING

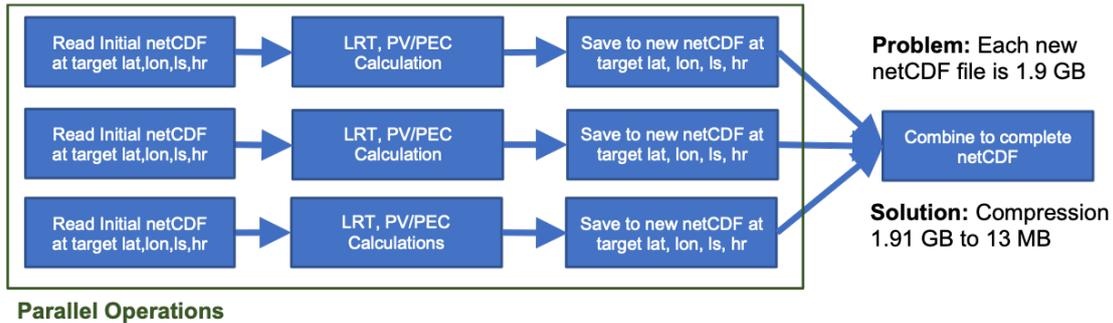
### 155 5.1 SinglePoint Calculation

156 The calculation of a single gridpoint's spectral flux (via `libRadtran`) and the corresponding photovoltaic  
 157 and photoelectrochemical production quantities ran for  $\sim 5$  minutes. Given the grid of 228475  
 158 geotemporalspatial points composed of 19 points of 10° latitude  $\times$  37 points of 10° longitude  $\times$  25  
 159 points of 15° areocentric longitude  $\times$  13 points of 2 (Martian) hours, a serial calculation would require  
 160 2.17 years. Wanting to avoid that lengthy calculation, we opted for an “embarrassingly parallel” computing  
 161 method shown in Figure 7. Since our computations require some initial or final communication (generally in  
 162 the distribution and collection of data, then we call it nearly embarrassingly parallel. In parallel computing,  
 163 an embarrassingly parallel workload or problem is one where little or no effort is needed to separate the  
 164 problem into a number of parallel tasks. This is often the case where there is little or no dependency or  
 165 need for communication between those parallel tasks, or for results between them. In the ideal case, all the  
 166 sub-problems or tasks are defined before the computations begin and all the sub-solutions are stored in

### Problem Configuration



### Solved Configuration



**Figure 7.** Initial (problem) and final (solution) configurations for the RedSun software on the UC Berkeley cluster.

167 independent memory locations (variables, array elements). Thus, the computation of the sub-solutions is  
 168 completely independent<sup>1</sup>.

169 Files were not constructed for grid-points that did not receive sunlight, and so the result was the storage  
 170 of ~150k .netCDF files, each with a size of ~4-5 MB.

## 171 5.2 Stitching

172 The ~150k singlepoint .netCDF files were initially stitched across time dimensions of hours and areocentric  
 173 longitude to produce ~700 time series .netCDF files, each for a different pair of latitudes and longitudes  
 174 using the tcsh scripts provided in Listing 3 and 4.

```

1751 #!/bin/tcsh -f
1762 if ($#argv != 1) then
1773     echo "--> usage: csh " $0 " netcdf_file"
1784     exit
1795 endif
1806 set link = `ncdump -v ls,hr,lat,lon $argv[1] | sed -n '/^data:/, $p' | sort | paste -s -d " " - | awk '{
181     printf("%s%03d%02d%s%02d%s%02d%s\n", "ttlrecall_", $15, $3, "_", $11, "_", $7, ".nc");}'`
1827 ln -sv $argv[1] $link
    
```

**Listing 3.** Stitching Algorithm Part 1: Create Dynamic Links

```

1831 #!/bin/tcsh -f
1842 set lat = minimum_lat_value
1853 set lon = minimum_lon_value
1864 while ($lat <= maximum_lat_value)
    
```

6

<sup>1</sup> [https://www.cs.iusb.edu/~danav/teach/b424/b424\\_23\\_embpar.html](https://www.cs.iusb.edu/~danav/teach/b424/b424_23_embpar.html)

```

1875 set latv = `echo $lat | awk '{printf("%02d\n",$1)}'`
1887 while ($lon <= maximum_lon_value)
1898     set lonv = `echo $lon | awk '{printf("%02d\n",$1)}'`
1909     nccat ttlrecall_${lonv}_${latv}.nc redsun_timeseries_${lonv}_${latv}.nc
1910     echo "Done: " $lonv $latv
1921 @ lon++
1932     end
1943 @ lat++
1954 end

```

**Listing 4.** Stitching Algorithm Part 2: Assemble into Time Series

### 196 5.3 Production Mapping

The resultant timeseries `.netCDF` files were then used for constructing the final maps of PV and PEC production. For each time series `.netCDF` file, we began by calculating PV power  $P$  and PEC production rate  $\dot{m}_c$  via

$$P = \Gamma \eta_{pv} \quad (18)$$

$$\dot{m}_c = \epsilon_c \Gamma \eta_{pec} = \frac{Z_c}{n_c V_c F} \Gamma \eta_{pec} \quad (19)$$

197 where  $\Gamma$  is the solar flux in  $\text{W/m}^2$  sourced from the `MCD` data in `StupidGrid.nc`,  $\epsilon$  is the electrochemical  
 198 equivalency factor,  $\eta$  is the calculated PV/PEC efficiency,  $Z$  is the molar mass,  $n$  is the number of moles of  
 199 electrons required to make one mole of the product,  $F$  is the Faraday constant, and  $V$  is the voltage. The  $c$   
 200 term corresponds to the chemical of interest in the set of  $\text{H}_2$ ,  $\text{NH}_3$ , and  $\text{AA}$ . The values used to produce the  
 201  $\epsilon$  for each chemical is given in Table 6.

Chemical	$n$	$Z$	$V$
$\text{H}_2$	2	2.016	1.23
$\text{NH}_3$	6	17.031	1.17
$\text{AA}$	8	60.052	1.09

**Table 6.** Electrochemical equivalency factor parameters.

We calculated the optimal sol-averaged 3-junction PV  $P_{\text{opt}}$  and 2-junction PEC  $\dot{m}_{c,\text{opt}}$  across all bandgap combinations given the form

$$P_{\text{opt}} = \max \left( \frac{1}{N} \int_{t_2} \int_{t_1} P_{ijk} dt_1 dt_2 : \forall i, j, k \in B_1, B_2, B_3 \right) \quad (20)$$

$$\dot{m}_{c,\text{opt}} = \max \left( \frac{1}{N} \int_{t_2} \int_{t_1} \dot{m}_{c,ij} dt_1 dt_2 : \forall i, j \in B_1, B_2 \right) \quad (21)$$

202 where  $i, j, k$  are indices of bandgaps  $B_1, B_2, B_3$ ,  $t_1$  is the time variable across a sol ( $\sim 24.616$  hrs/sol), and  
 203  $t_2$  is the time variable across a Martian year given as  $N = 688$  sols/year.

204 Computationally, we began by converting our  $L_s$  values to the sol number using an inverted Kepler  
 205 problem with a function `ls2sol` shown in Listing 5.

```

2061 def ls2sol(ls):

```

```

2072 N_s = 668.6
2083 ls_peri = 250.99
2094 t_peri = 485.35
2105 a = 1.52368
2116 e = 0.09340
2127 epsilon = 25.1919
2138 if (ls == 0).any():
2149     ls = .01
2150 nu = np.radians(ls) + 1.90258
2161 E = np.arctan((np.tan(nu/2))/(np.sqrt((1+e)/(1-e))))*2
2172 M = E - e*np.sin(E)
2183 Ds = (M/(2*np.pi))*N_s + t_peri
2194 if (Ds < 0).any():
2205     Ds = Ds + N_s
2216 if (Ds > N_s).any():
2227     Ds = Ds - N_s
2238 return(Ds)

```

**Listing 5.** Function for converting  $L_s$  to sol number

224 The computational instance of calculations for 2J H<sub>2</sub> production is provided in Listing 6.

```

2251 def point_loop(file):
2262     sg = xr.open_dataset('StupidGridFull.nc', group='flux')
2273     ds = xr.open_dataset(file)
2284     lat = ds['lat'][0]
2295     lon = ds['lon'][0]
2306     G = np.zeros(len(ds['lon']))
2317     for ri in range(0, len(ds['lon'])):
2328         ls = ds['ls'][ri]
2339         hr = ds['hr'][ri]
2340         G[ri] = sg['flux_dw_sw'][lat, lon, ls, hr]
2351     lss = np.unique(ds['ls'])
2362     Z = 2.016
2373     n = 2
2384     F = 96485.33212
2395     V = 1.23
2406     sg = 0
2417     sols = np.zeros(len(lss))
2428     for i in range(0, len(lss)):
2439         sols[i] = ls2sol(lss[i]*15)
2440     hrs = np.arange(0, 25, 2)
2451     vals = np.zeros(13)
2462     try:
2473         P = G[:, np.newaxis, np.newaxis] * ds['j2_etaPEC_H2_2bg'] * 0.01 * Z / (n*F*V)
2484         zz = np.zeros((len(lss), len(ds['j2-bg1']), len(ds['j2-bg2'])))
2495         for i in range(0, len(lss)):
2506             hr_int = np.where(ds['ls']==lss[i])
2517             inds = np.array(ds['hr'][hr_int])
2528             for j in range(0, len(ds['j2-bg1'])):
2539                 for k in range(0, len(ds['j2-bg2'])):
2540                     y = P[:, j, k][hr_int]
2551                     for m in range(0, len(inds)):
2562                         vals[inds[m]] = y[m]
2573     z = np.trapz(vals*60*60, x=hrs*1.02569)

```

```

2584         zz[i, j, k] = z
2595     z = np.zeros((len(ds['j2-bg1']), len(ds['j2-bg2'])))
2606     for j in range(0, len(ds['j2-bg1'])):
2617         for k in range(0, len(ds['j2-bg2'])):
2628             y = zz[:, j, k]
2639             z[j, k] = np.trapz(y, x=sols)
2640     j2h2 = np.max(z)
2651     j2h2i = np.unravel_index(np.argmax(z), np.shape(z), order='C')
2662     h2 = j2h2 * (1/688)
2673     bg1 = ds['j2-bg1'][j2h2i[0]]
2684     bg2 = ds['j2-bg2'][j2h2i[1]]
2695     return ([[lat, lon, 0], [h2, bg1, bg2]])

```

**Listing 6.** Function for calculating the optimal H<sub>2</sub> production rate

270 The results from the calculation of the optimal sol-averaged 3-junction PV  $P_{\text{opt}}$  and 2-junction PEC  $\dot{m}_{\text{copt}}$   
 271 and their corresponding bandgap combination were again saved as `.netCDF` files with dimensions of latitude  
 272 and longitude.

273 The resulting PV power and PEC production for H<sub>2</sub> is provided in Figure 8-10 with the corresponding  
 274 Bandgaps distributions over the Martian grid. The distribution of bandgaps are provided in Figure 11.

Commodity	Best efficiency at averaged solar noon	Best production over a year
Power (PV, 3-junction)	Top: 1.77 eV	Top: 1.83 eV
	Middle: 1.16 eV	Middle: 1.16 eV
	Bottom: 0.72 eV	Bottom: 0.67 eV
H <sub>2</sub> (PEC, 2-junction)	Top: 1.64 eV	Top: 1.77 eV
	Bottom: 0.95 eV	Bottom: 0.83 eV

**Table 7.** Comparison of optimal bandgaps for different optimization strategies

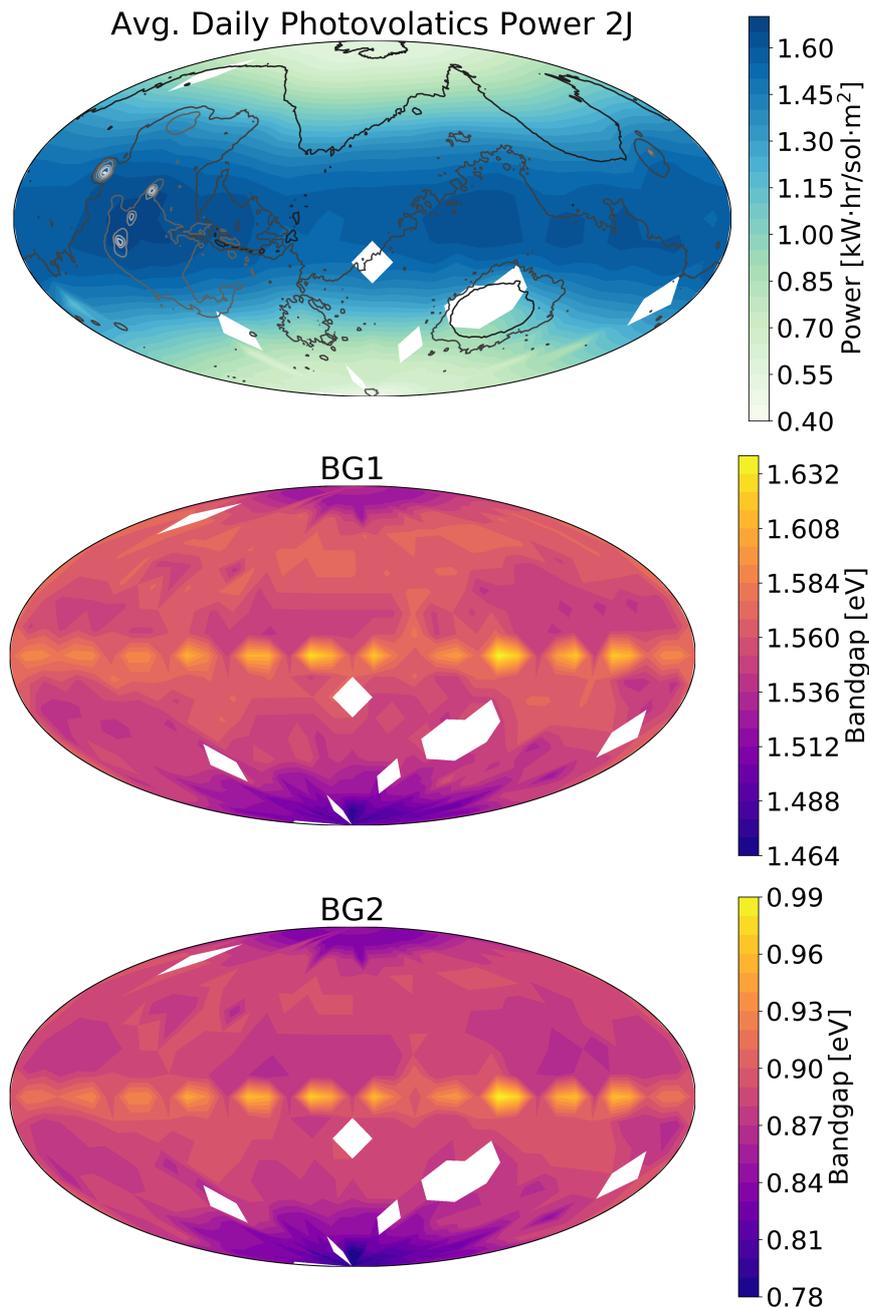
## 275 5.4 Missing Location Values

276 We were able to complete the calculations for ~97% of the 228475 geospatial points across the Martian  
 277 grid. We found that ~6000 of these points could not be completed due to a number of issues our method  
 278 of using libRadtran for Mars-based calculations. Upon inspection, we found that the missing values were  
 279 generally concentrated in areas with very low elevation below the Martian datum. Further inspection  
 280 confirmed that the issues in resolving the radiative transfer were caused by errors in interpolation by the  
 281 solver for the gas concentrations below the datum. However, these ~2% of missing values do not prevent  
 282 us from offering a meaningful analysis.

## 6 TECHNOECONOMIC CALCULATIONS

### 283 6.1 Primary Power and Energy Demands

284 We consider four different power production and energy storage scenarios for comparison (Fig. 12):  
 285 (1) Nuclear power generation with the Kilopower system; (2) Photovoltaic power generation with



**Figure 8.** Two Junction Photovoltaic Power Production and Optimal Bandgaps distributed over the Martian Grid

286 battery energy storage; (3) Photovoltaic power generation with compressed H<sub>2</sub> energy storage, and  
 287 (4) Photoelectrochemical H<sub>2</sub> generation with compressed H<sub>2</sub> energy storage.

288 In all cases, power and/or energy demand is driven by continuous power required for habitat operations,  
 289 including lighting, heating/cooling, pressurization, power draw for ISRU processes, and power draw  
 290 for rover travel, and by materials demand for ISRU manufacturing. We assume that ammonia, methane,  
 291 and plastics are produced using H<sub>2</sub> as the starting material (along with N<sub>2</sub> and CO<sub>2</sub> sourced from the  
 292 atmosphere), which we use to calculate power demands based on water electrolysis to produce H<sub>2</sub>. We  
 293 note that methane could be diverted for bioprocess production (dashed lines in Fig. 12), although we don't

294 explicitly consider this scenario here since it would not change the relative mass requirements of the four  
295 systems we consider.

296 To compare the carry-along mass necessary for each system, we include the mass of elements unique to  
297 or uniquely sized for a given energy supply scenario. For example, we consider the mass of photovoltaic  
298 cells because the area of cells necessary to power the habitat and ISRU manufacturing will be different  
299 depending on the strategy for energy storage. However, we don't include the mass of the Sabatier reactor  
300 for methane production, since this mass will be equivalent regardless of the upstream processes producing  
301 H<sub>2</sub> and collecting CO<sub>2</sub> from the atmosphere. In this way, we can determine the mass contributions only of  
302 the uniquely necessary components for each energy supply scenario. The carry along masses are provided  
303 in Figure 13.

### 304 6.1.1 Nuclear Power

Power derived from the Kilopower nuclear reactor system is fed directly to habitat power systems and to an electrolyzer producing H<sub>2</sub> for ISRU manufacturing. Hence, the power draw is given by:

$$P_K = P_{\text{Hab}} + \alpha_E \left( \dot{N} \alpha_{\text{HB}} + \dot{M} \alpha_S + \dot{B} \alpha_{\text{HB}} \right) \quad (22)$$

$$P_K = P_{\text{Hab}} + \alpha_E \Lambda \quad (23)$$

305 where  $P_K$  is the total power draw for Kilopower nuclear reactor system,  $P_{\text{Hab}}$  is the power draw for the  
306 habitat,  $\alpha_E$  is the energy demand per unit of H<sub>2</sub> produced for the electrolyzer,  $\dot{N}$  is the ammonia demand  
307 rate,  $\dot{M}$  is the methane demand rate,  $\dot{B}$  is the bioplastic demand rate, and  $\alpha_i$  is the conversion factor  
308 between, e.g., the ammonia demand rate and the H<sub>2</sub> demand rate for the Haber-Bosch process. We also  
309 define  $\Lambda = \dot{N} \alpha_{\text{HB}} + \dot{M} \alpha_S + \dot{B} \alpha_{\text{HB}}$ .

The carry-along mass requirements for this scenario is given by

$$M_K = \frac{P_K}{p_K} + \frac{\Lambda}{p_E} \quad (24)$$

310 where  $p_K$  is the specific power of the Kilopower reactor (6.25 W/kg) and  $p_E$  is the specific productivity of  
311 the electrolyzer (kg H<sub>2</sub>/h/kg).

### 312 6.1.2 Photovoltaic power with battery energy storage (PV+B)

Power generated by photovoltaic cells can be transferred either directly to power-drawing systems (habitat systems, water electrolysis) or diverted to battery stacks for storage to enable continuous operation either at night or during low-sunlight days (due to high dust conditions). We define the fraction of power supplied directly to power systems as  $\chi$ , which, for photovoltaic systems, can be thought of as the fraction of the day that solar cells produce equal or more power than what is consumed by power-drawing systems. Unless otherwise stated, we assume in our calculations  $\chi = 1/3$ . Hence, the total power draw for the PV+B system is given by:

$$P_{\text{PV+B}} = \chi P_{\text{Hab}} + \frac{1 - \chi}{\eta_B} P_{\text{Hab}} + \chi \alpha_E \Lambda + \frac{1 - \chi}{\eta_B} \alpha_E \Lambda \quad (25)$$

where  $P_{PV+B}$  is the total power draw for the PV+B system and  $\eta_B$  is the energy efficiency of the battery storage system. More compactly,

$$P_{PV+B} = \left( \chi + \frac{1 - \chi}{\eta_B} \right) (P_{Hab} + \alpha_E \Lambda) \tag{26}$$

The carry-along mass required for the PV+B scenario is given by

$$M_{PV+B} = \frac{P_{PV+B}}{p_{PV}} + \frac{(P_{Hab} + \alpha_E \Lambda)}{e_B} t_{store} + \frac{\Lambda}{p_E} \tag{27}$$

313 where  $p_{PV}$  is the specific power of photovoltaic cells,  $t_{store}$  is the desired back-up power availability time,  
 314 and  $e_B$  is the specific energy of the battery stack (units of energy per mass).

Parameter	Value	Unit	Reference
<b>Power and Material Demands</b>			
$P_{Hab}$	40	kW	Note 6.2.1
$\dot{N}$	$8.33 \times 10^{-3}$	kg h <sup>-1</sup>	Note 6.2.2
$\dot{M}$	0.61	kg h <sup>-1</sup>	Note 6.2.3
$\dot{B}$	0.1	kg h <sup>-1</sup>	Note 6.2.4
<b>Conversion Factors</b>			
$\alpha_{HB}$	0.196	kgH <sub>2</sub> kgNH <sub>3</sub> <sup>-1</sup>	Note 6.2.2
$\alpha_S$	0.554	kgH <sub>2</sub> kgCH <sub>4</sub> <sup>-1</sup>	Note 6.2.3
$\alpha_{BP}$	0.155	kgH <sub>2</sub> kgAA <sup>-1</sup>	Note 6.2.4
$\alpha_E$	54.13	kWh kgH <sub>2</sub> <sup>-1</sup>	Note 6.2.5
$\alpha_{FC}$	0.064	kgH <sub>2</sub> kWh <sup>-1</sup>	Note 6.2.5
$\alpha_{HS}$	3.39	kWh kgH <sub>2</sub> <sup>-1</sup>	Note 6.2.5
<b>Power[14] and Energy Density[15]</b>			
$p_K$	$6.25 \times 10^{-3}$	kW kg <sup>-1</sup>	Note 6.1.1
$\eta_B$	80	%	Note 6.1.2
$p_E$	$1.14 \times 10^{-2}$	kgH <sub>2</sub> h <sup>-1</sup> kg <sup>-1</sup>	Note 6.2.5
$e_B$	0.16	kWh kg <sup>-1</sup>	Note 6.1.2
$p_{FC}$	0.365	kW kg <sup>-1</sup>	Note 6.2.5
$e_{HS}$	$7.18 \times 10^{-2}$	kgH <sub>2</sub> kg <sup>-1</sup>	Note 6.2.5
<b>Solar Cell Array Mess</b>			
$M_{PV}$	2	kg m <sup>-2</sup>	Note 6.2.6
$M_{PEC}$	2.4	kg m <sup>-2</sup>	Note 6.2.6
<b>Other Parameters</b>			
$\chi$	0.33	–	Assumed
$t_{store}$	24.6	h	Assumed

Table 8.

### 315 6.1.3 Photovoltaic power with H<sub>2</sub> energy storage

In this scenario, power generated by photovoltaic cells can either be directly fed to habitat systems or to an electrolyzer, which produces H<sub>2</sub> for consumption in ISRU manufacturing and for consumption by fuel cells the supply power to the habitat and other demands when direct power cannot (e.g., at night). Here, the total power demand for the system is given by

$$P_{PV+E} = \chi P_{Hab} + \alpha_E \dot{m}_{H_2} \quad (28)$$

where  $P_{PV+E}$  is the total power draw for the PV+E system and  $\dot{m}_{H_2}$  is the flow rate of H<sub>2</sub> necessary to support the remaining system requirements. This flow rate is written as

$$\dot{m}_{H_2} = \frac{(1 - \chi)P_{Hab}\alpha_{FC} + \Lambda}{1 - \alpha_{HS}\alpha_{FC}} \quad (29)$$

316 where  $\alpha_{FC}$  is the H<sub>2</sub> consumed per unit of energy produced by the fuel cell and  $\alpha_{HS}$  is the energy consumed  
317 per unit of H<sub>2</sub> stored by the H<sub>2</sub> storage tanks (driven by compression of H<sub>2</sub>).

The carry-along mass required for the PV+E scenario is given by

$$M_{PV+E} = \frac{P_{PV+E}}{p_{PV}} + \frac{\dot{m}_{H_2}}{p_E} + \frac{P_{Hab} + \alpha_{HS}\dot{m}_{H_2}}{p_{FC}} + \frac{(P_{Hab}\alpha_{FC} + \Lambda)t_{store}}{e_{HS}} \quad (30)$$

318 where  $p_{FC}$  is the specific power of the fuel cell and  $e_{HS}$  is the specific mass of the H<sub>2</sub> storage tanks (in units  
319 kgH<sub>2</sub>/kg<sub>tank</sub>).

### 320 6.1.4 Photoelectrochemical (PEC) H<sub>2</sub> generation with H<sub>2</sub> energy storage

This scenario uses an H<sub>2</sub> demand as opposed to a power demand to size the PEC array. The total H<sub>2</sub> demand rate is given by

$$\dot{m}_{H_2} = \frac{P_{Hab}\alpha_{FC} + \Lambda}{1 - \alpha_{HS}\alpha_{FC}} \quad (31)$$

The carry-along mass required for the PEC scenario is given by

$$M_{PEC} = \frac{\dot{m}_{H_2}}{m_{PEC}} + \frac{P_{Hab} + \alpha_{HS}\dot{m}_{H_2}}{p_{FC}} + \frac{(P_{Hab}\alpha_{FC} + \Lambda)t_{store}}{e_{HS}} \quad (32)$$

321 where  $m_{PEC}$  is the specific productivity (kgH<sub>2</sub>/h/kg) of PEC cells. All parameters for these calculations are  
322 compiled in Table 8.

## 323 6.2 Secondary Power and Energy Demands

### 324 6.2.1 Habitat Power Demand

325 Continuous power demand estimates for a Martian habitat range between 4 and ~100 kW. We use 40 kW  
326 as a baseline value following the NASA Baseline Values and Assumptions Document (BVAD)[16]. This  
327 value includes ISRU power demands, including for crop growth, so we only calculated additional power  
328 demands for H<sub>2</sub> production for the ISRU processes considered.

## 329 6.2.2 Ammonia Demand

To calculate an upper-bound ammonia demand, we followed the optimization strategy by Do *et al.* assuming no recycling of nitrogen via urea recovery[17]. Briefly, we assumed that the metabolic demands for six crew members would be met entirely by food crops grown in hydroponic chambers. We used values from the BVAD and related literature to calculate nitrogen demand per nutrient availability for a given crop[16, 18]. The optimization function was defined to balance minimization of area necessary for crop growth with maximization of crop variability for human morale as

$$f = w_1 \sum_i A_i + w_2 \sigma(\mathbf{A}) \quad (33)$$

$$s.t. : \sum_i A_i r_i x_{i,j} > X_j \quad (34)$$

where  $f$  is the optimization function,  $A_i$  is the growth area for crop  $i$ ,  $\sigma$  is the standard deviation of the vector of crop areas ( $\mathbf{A}$ ),  $r_i$  is the static growth rate,  $x_{i,j}$  is the nutritional content of crop  $i$  for nutrient  $j$ , and  $X_j$  is the crew member demand for nutrient  $j$ . The relative weights  $w_1$  and  $w_2$  are related by

$$w_2 = 1 - w_1 \quad (35)$$

330 and  $w_1$  was varied between 0 and 1. Using  $w_1 = 0.25$ , all 5 crops we considered (soybeans, wheat, lettuce,  
331 potatoes, peanuts) were included, resulting in a total crop growth area of  $\sim 421 \text{ m}^2$  and an ammonia demand  
332 of  $\sim 205 \text{ g/sol}$ , which we converted to  $8.33 \text{ g/h}$  for consistent units in Table 8. The nitrogen demand ranged  
333 between  $\sim 285 \text{ g/sol}$  and  $\sim 194 \text{ g/sol}$  for  $0 < w_1 < 1$ .

We assume ammonia is produced via the Haber-Bosch process with the characteristic reaction



334 Hence, the  $\text{H}_2:\text{NH}_3$  conversion factor is  $0.196 \text{ kgH}_2/\text{kgNH}_3$  assuming 90% conversion of  $\text{H}_2$ .

## 335 6.2.3 Methane Demand

Resupply and crew member return to Earth from Mars will require that interplanetary transit vehicles can be refueled on Mars. We use the estimate by Kleinhenz and Paz[19] that such refueling requires  $6978 \text{ kgCH}_4$  produced every 480 sols, corresponding to a  $\text{CH}_4$  production rate of  $0.61 \text{ kg/h}$ . We assume this methane is produced via the Sabatier reaction:



336 resulting in an  $\text{H}_2:\text{CH}_4$  conversion factor of  $0.554 \text{ kg H}_2/\text{kgCH}_4$  assuming 90% conversion efficiency.

## 337 6.2.4 Bioplastics and Biopharmaceutical Demand

338 Bioplastics and pharmaceutical demands for a Martian habitat are not well-defined in the literature.  
339 For a system where 50% of spare parts necessary for a habitat are generated via additive manufacturing  
340 based on ISRU, Owens *et al.* estimated that  $9800 \text{ kg}$  of spare parts mass would be necessary over 260  
341 months (an extremely long duration with multiple resupplies and crew member exchanges)[20] Assuming  
342 these spares are generated from bioplastics, which are in turn produced from acetic acid at 50% yield  
343 by  $\text{C}_2$  feedstock-utilizing microorganisms[21], this corresponds to  $\sim 0.1 \text{ kg/h}$  acetic acid demand. We

344 assume acetic acid is produced by acetogens with a molar ratio of 4.2:1 (corresponding to 95% of H<sub>2</sub>  
345 reducing power diversion to acetic acid production, a common value for acetogens), this corresponds to an  
346 H<sub>2</sub>:CH<sub>3</sub>COOH ratio of 0.155 kgH<sub>2</sub>/kg CH<sub>3</sub>COOH assuming 90% conversion.

347 Pharmaceutical demand is not expected to exceed 1 g/sol, so we neglect this amount for the purposes of  
348 our calculations here.

### 349 6.2.5 Water electrolyzer, H<sub>2</sub> fuel cell, and H<sub>2</sub> storage systems

350 Water electrolysis and H<sub>2</sub> fuel cell power demands are based on commercially available, low-weight fuel  
351 cell systems designed for transportation vehicles<sup>2</sup>. The electrolyzer requires 54.13 kWh/kgH<sub>2</sub>, while the  
352 fuel cell requires 0.064 kgH<sub>2</sub>/kWh. We assume H<sub>2</sub> storage is accomplished with Type IV compression  
353 chambers at 350 bar, which stores H<sub>2</sub> at 20.77 kgH<sub>2</sub>/m<sup>3</sup> with a tank mass of 289.23 kg/m<sup>3</sup>, corresponding  
354 to a H<sub>2</sub> storage density of 0.0718 kgH<sub>2</sub>/kg[22, 23]. For these systems, 3.39 kWh/kgH<sub>2</sub> is required to  
355 compress H<sub>2</sub> to 350 bar, which we account for in the total power demand[22].

### 356 6.2.6 Solar Cell Array Mass

357 Commercial low-weight, flexible solar cell arrays have an installed mass of 2.0 kg/m<sup>2</sup><sup>3</sup>. We are not  
358 aware of similarly commercial PEC arrays, so we assume that the installed mass is driven primarily by  
359 the absorber material as opposed to the catalyst layers or ion exchange membrane. We therefore estimate  
360 an installed mass of 2.4 kg/m<sup>2</sup> by assuming the absorber and housing components comprise 80% of the  
361 installed mass.

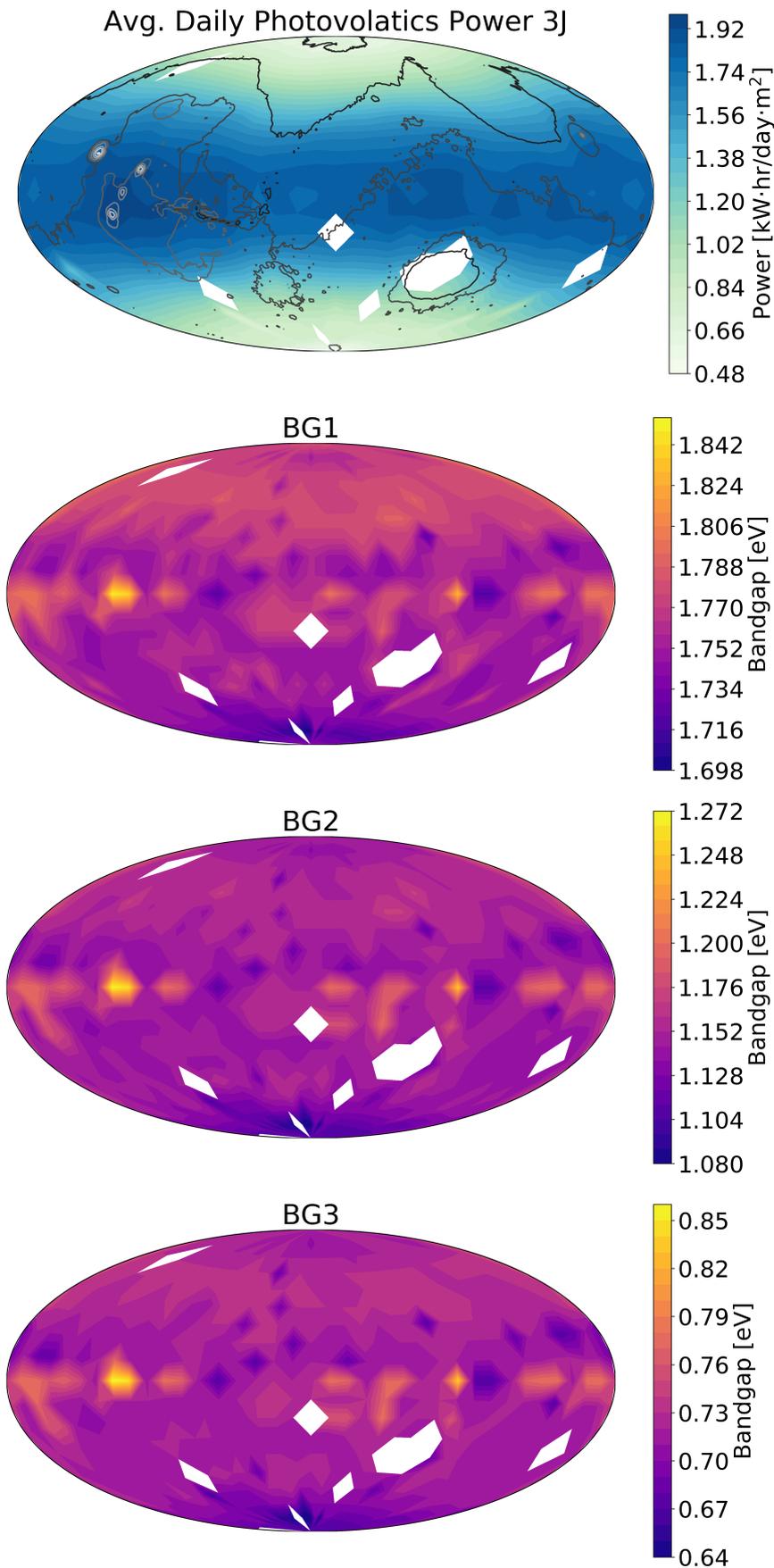
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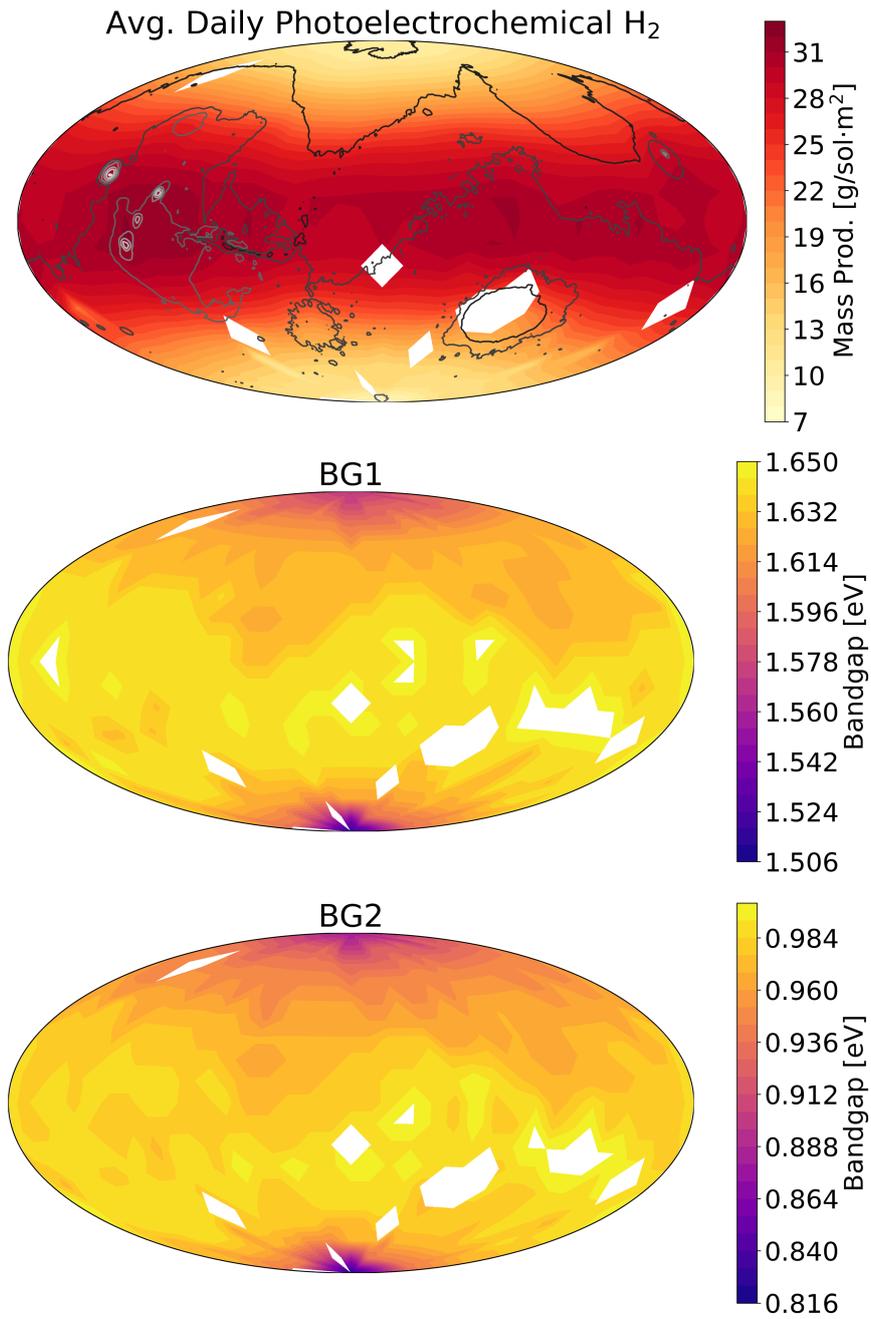
<sup>2</sup> G-HFCS-6kW Hydrogen Fuel Cell Power Generator (Fuel Cell Store, Product Code: 1035012)

<sup>3</sup> MiaSolé Flex-03W Series Module with adhesive

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**Figure 9.** Three Junction Photovoltaic Power Production and Optimal Bandgaps distributed over the Martian Grid



**Figure 10.** Two Junction Photoelectrochemical H<sub>2</sub> Production and Optimal Bandgaps distributed over the Martian Grid

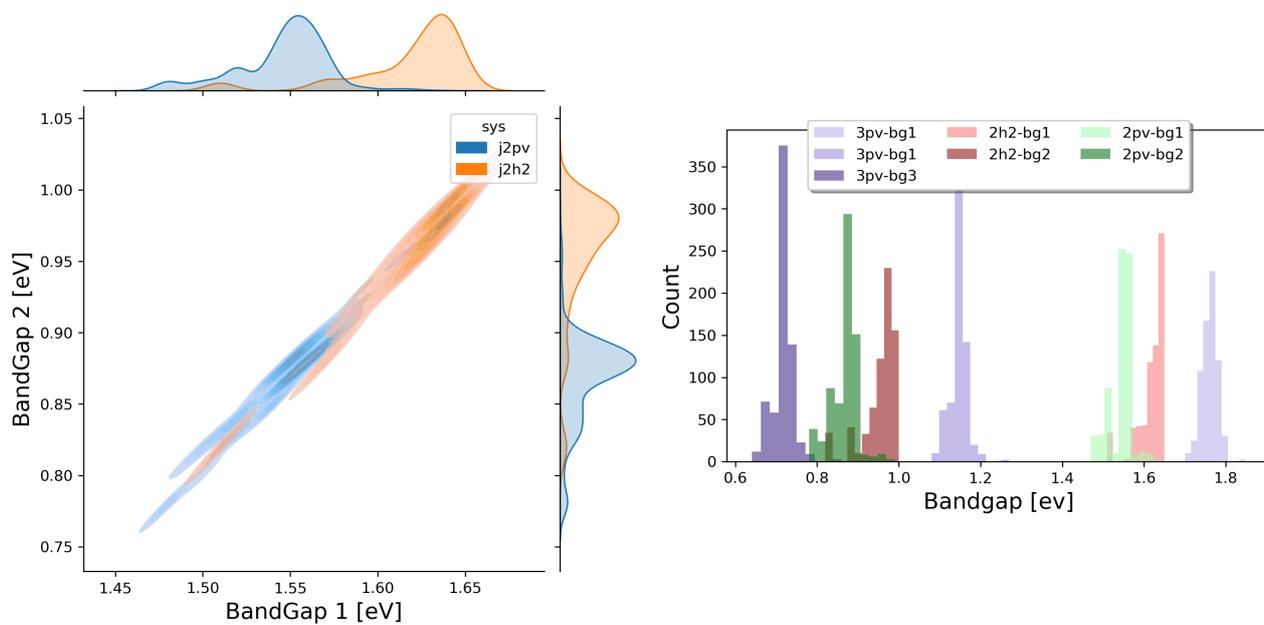
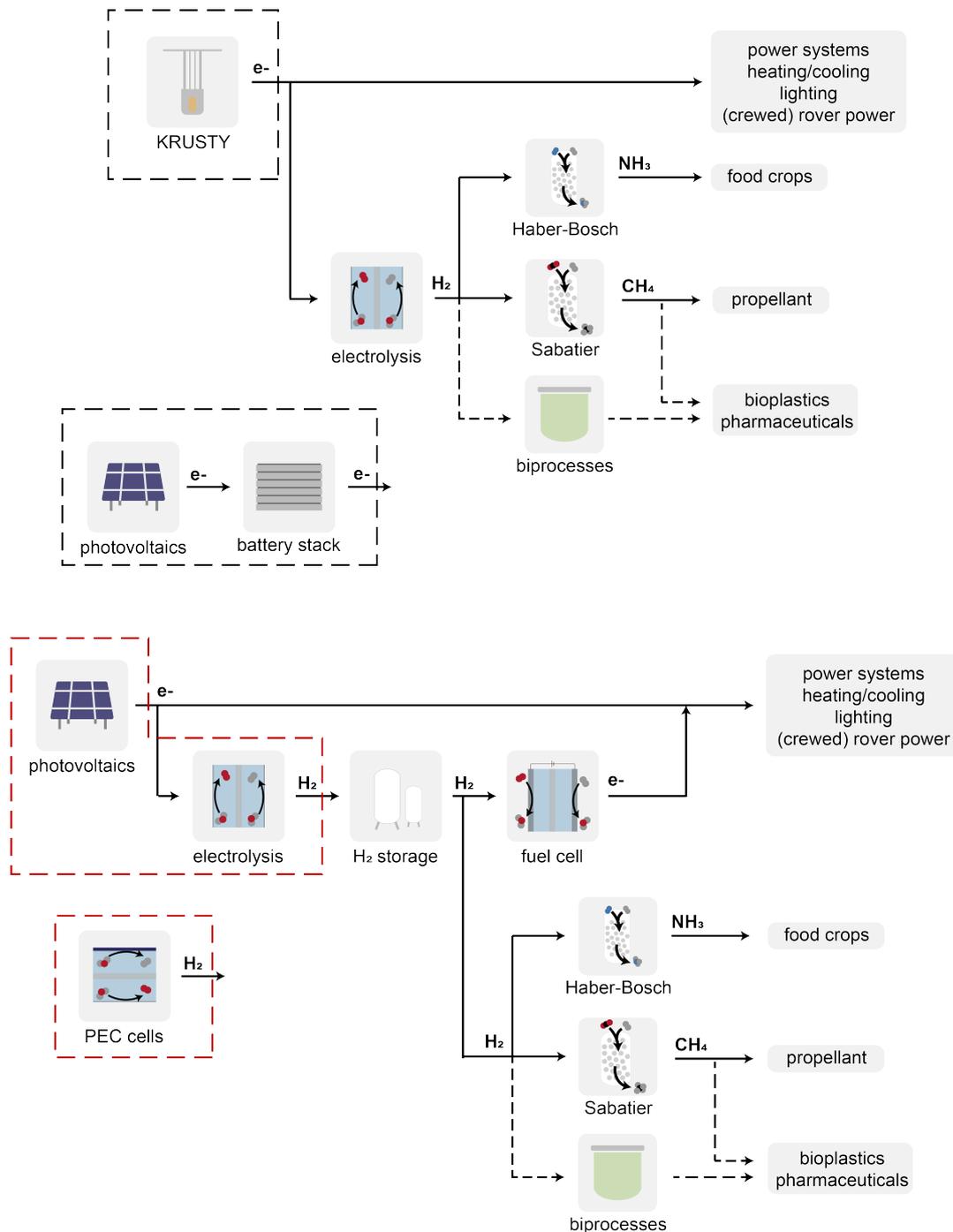
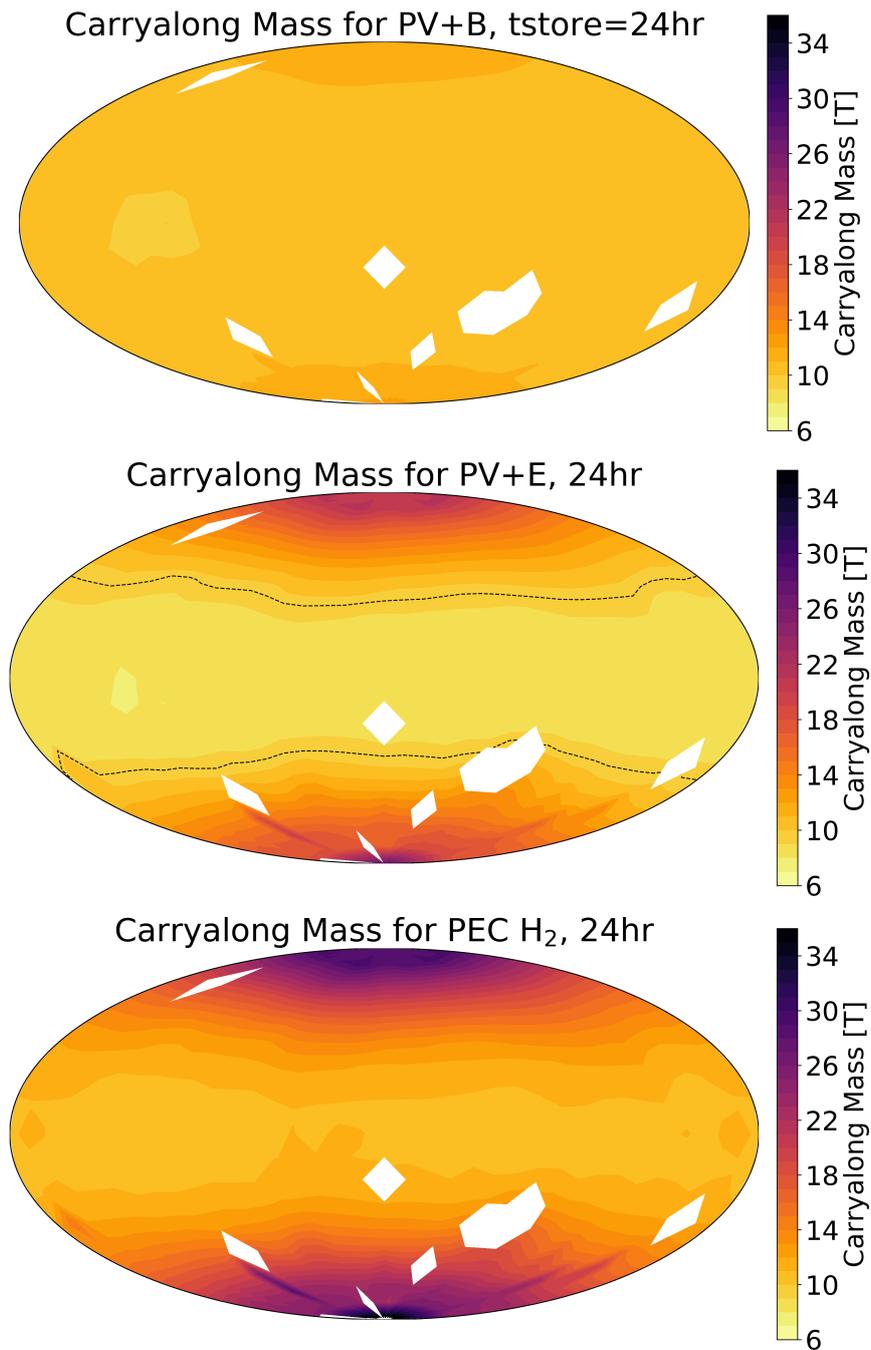


Figure 11. Optimal Bandgap Distributions.



**Figure 12. Power generation systems options.** Habitat power systems and ammonia, propellant, and bioplastics production can be powered by nuclear power generation (KRUSTY), photovoltaics with battery storage (PV+B), photovoltaics with  $H_2$  energy storage from hydrolysis (PV+E), or photoelectrochemical  $H_2$  generation and storage (PEC).



**Figure 13. Carry-along mass for different power generation scenarios.** Carry-along mass across the Martian surface for PV+B, PV+E, and PEC power generation systems. PV+B and PEC systems cannot reach parity with nuclear power generation in terms of carry along mass (no locations at which the projected mass of the PV+B or PEC systems is less than the projected mass of the nuclear system).