

GRACE Satellite Gravity Measurements and Geophysical Applications

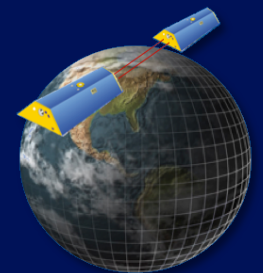
Jianli Chen

(陈剑利)

Ph.D., Senior Research Scientist

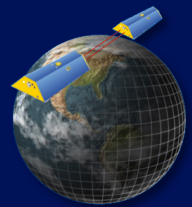
Center for Space Research, University of Texas at Austin

2014 SEOGC Summer School 07/14-07/19, Shanghai



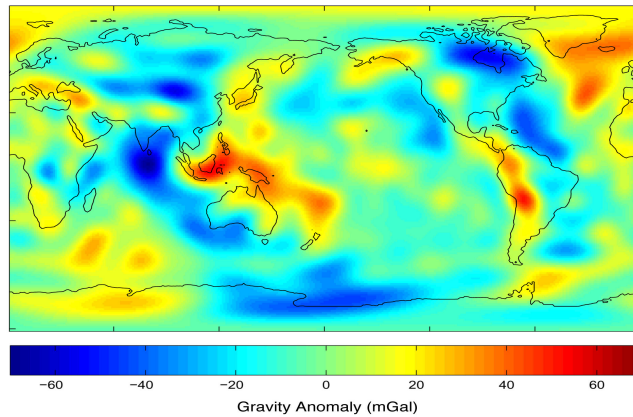


GRACE Satellite Gravity Measurements and Geophysical Applications

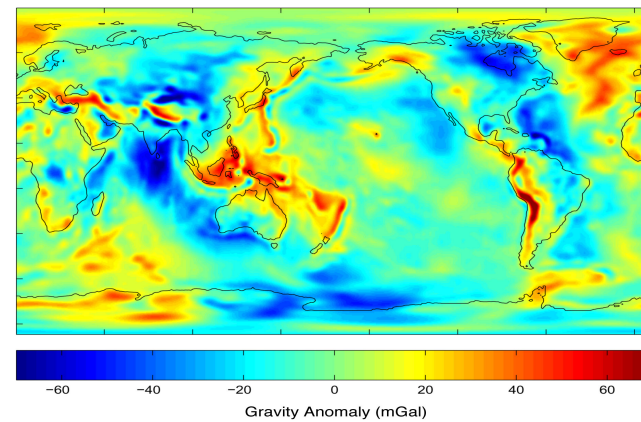


Progress in Gravity Field Resolutions

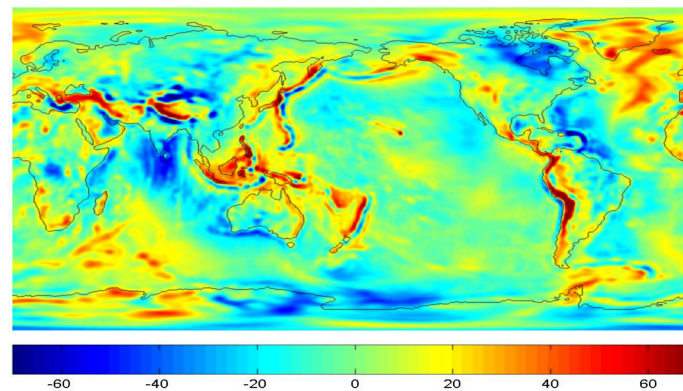
Decades of tracking to geodetic satellites



111 days of GRACE data



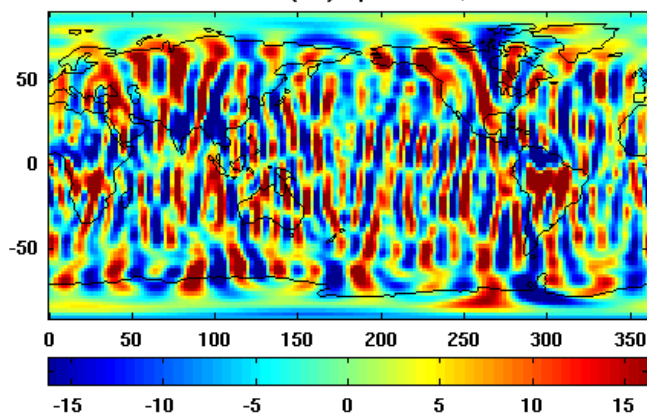
13 months of GRACE data



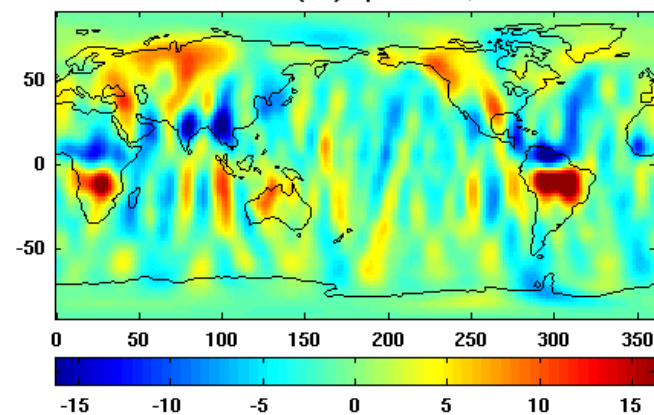


Challenges of GRACE Data Processing

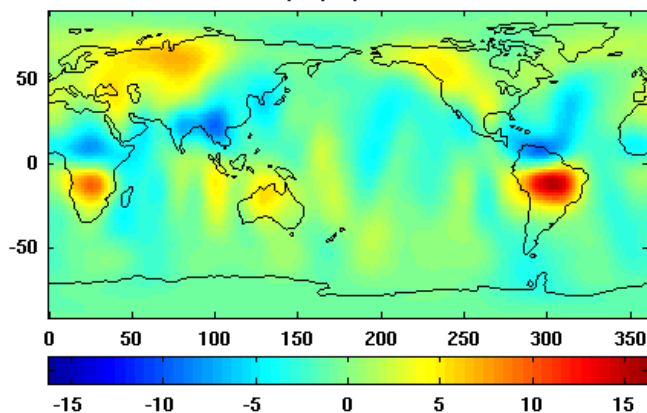
GRACE Mass (cm): Apr 03 - Ave, 300km



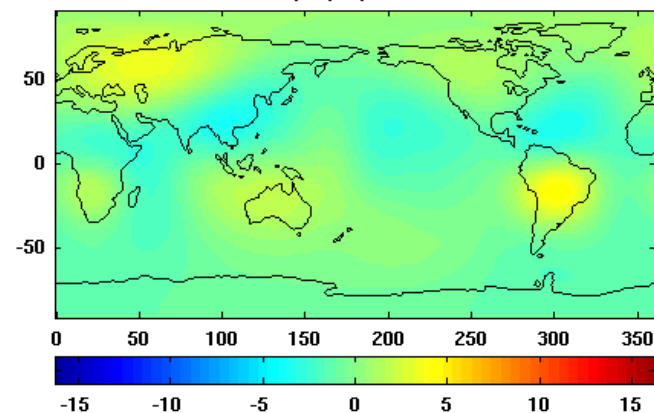
GRACE Mass (cm): Apr 03 - Ave, 600km



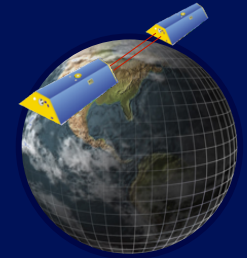
GRACE Mass (cm): Apr 03 - Ave, 1000km



GRACE Mass (cm): Apr 03 - Ave, 2000km



GRACE and Global Climate Change



□ Hydrosphere

- Land water storage
- Precipitation
- Evapotranspiration
- Runoff
- Ground water
- Droughts
- Floodings

□ Ocean

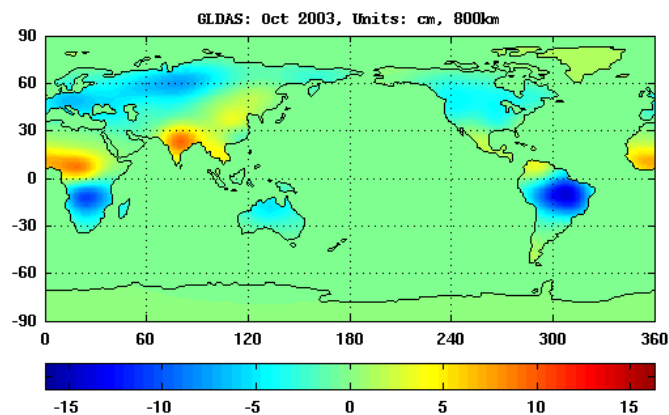
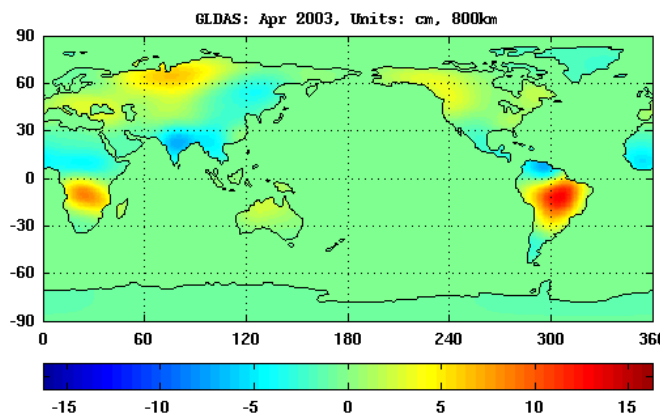
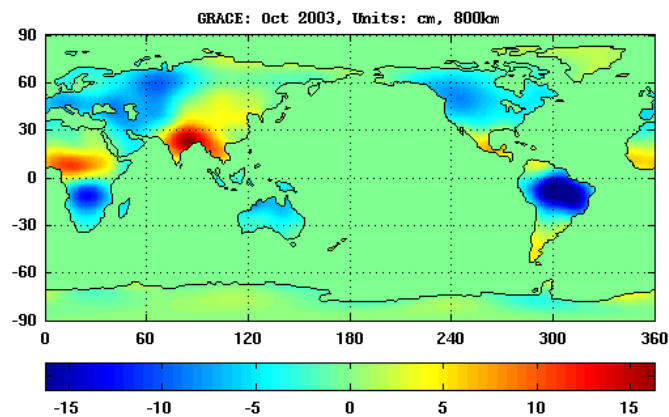
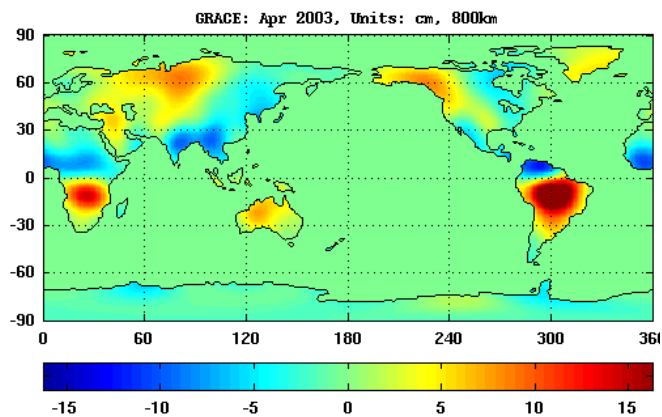
- Global sea level change
- Ocean heat content variation

□ Cryosphere

- Polar ice sheets mass balance
- Mountain glaciers mass balance

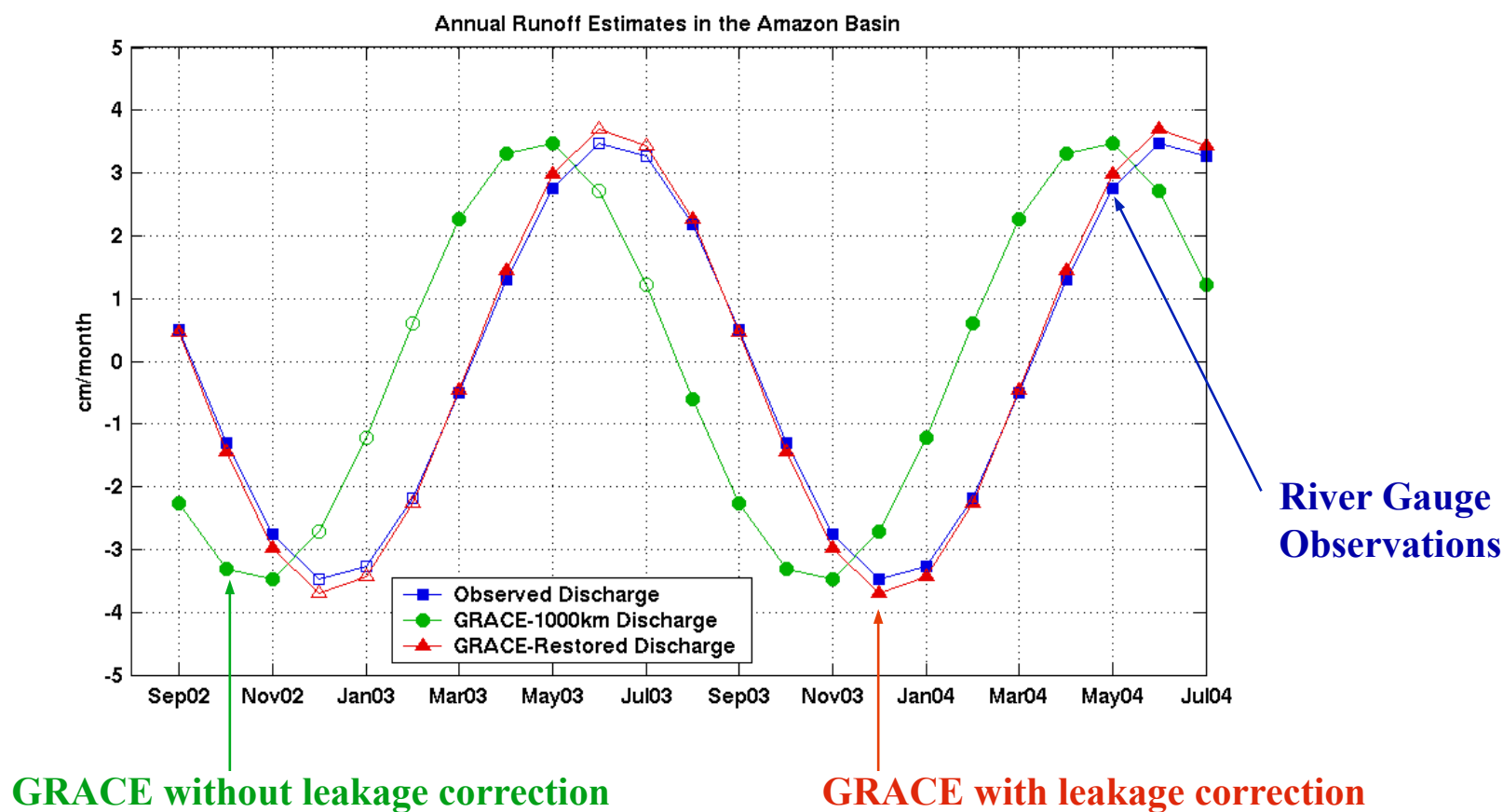


Global Water Storage Change from GRACE



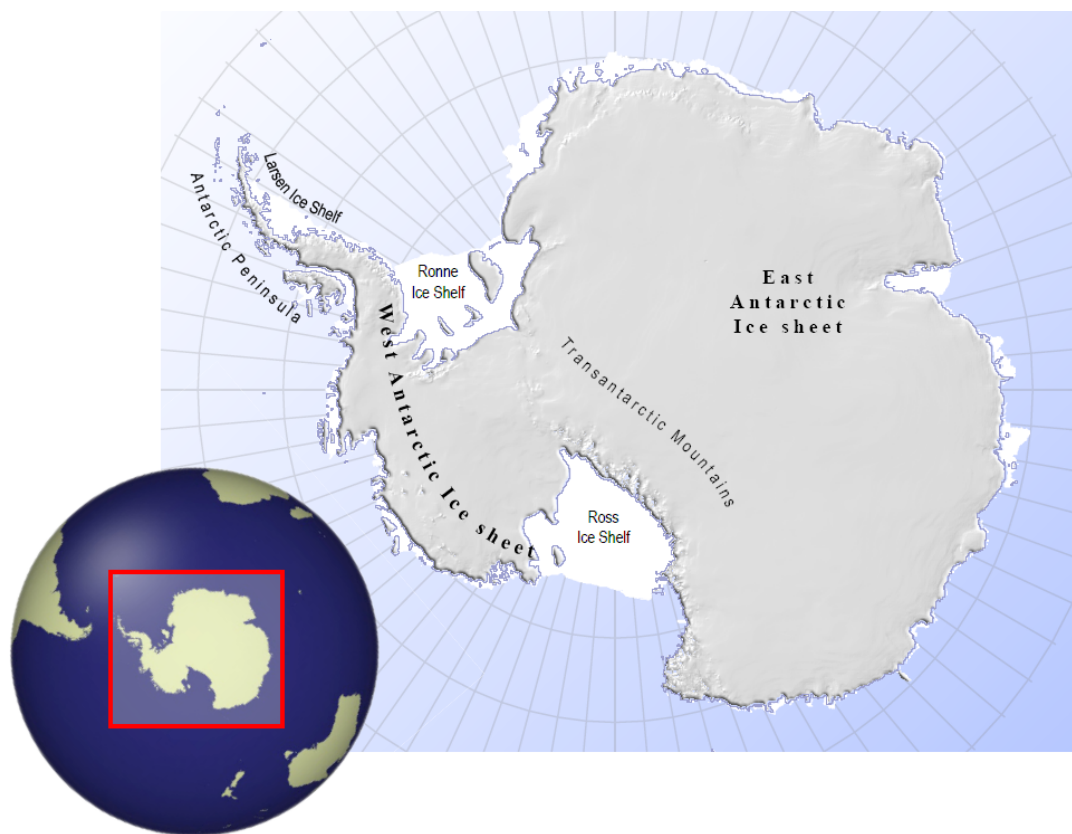


Annual Runoff Estimates in Amazon Basin



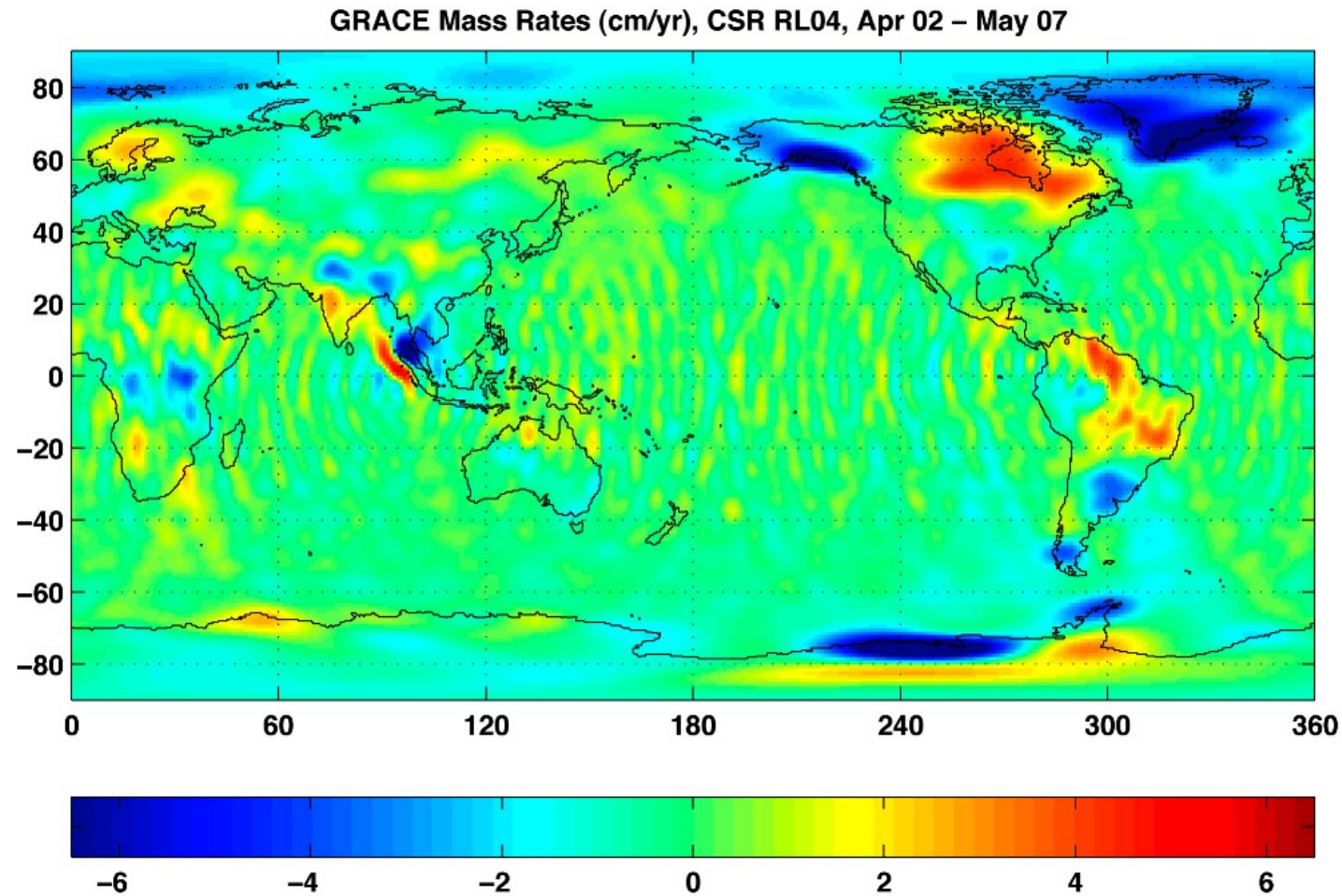


Antarctic Ice Sheet Mass Balance From GRACE



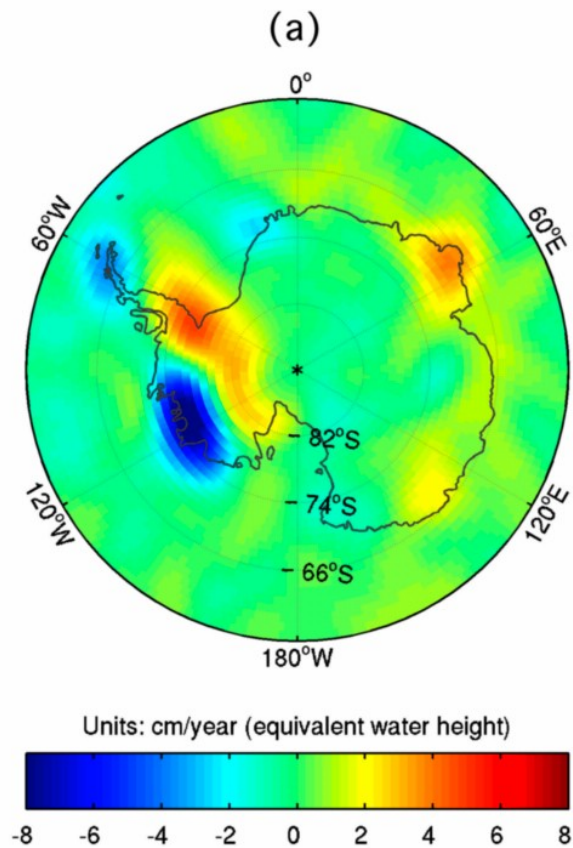
The Antarctic ice sheet has a total area of $\sim 14,000,000 \text{ km}^2$ and averaged ice sheet thickness of $\sim 2.16 \text{ km}$, accounts for 90% of the world's ice and 75% of the world's fresh water resources, and has the potential to raise the global sea level by over 70 meters if completely melt.

Global long-term mass change rates from GRACE

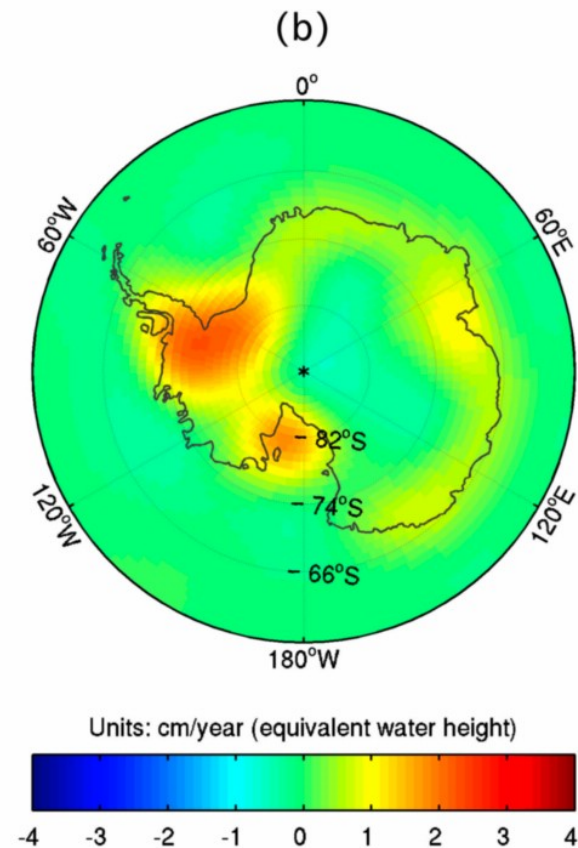


Based on 58 CSR RL04 monthly gravity solutions from April 2002 to May 2007.

GRACE-observed mass change rates (in cm/year of water height) over Antarctica, P4M6 + 300 km Gaussian smoothing.

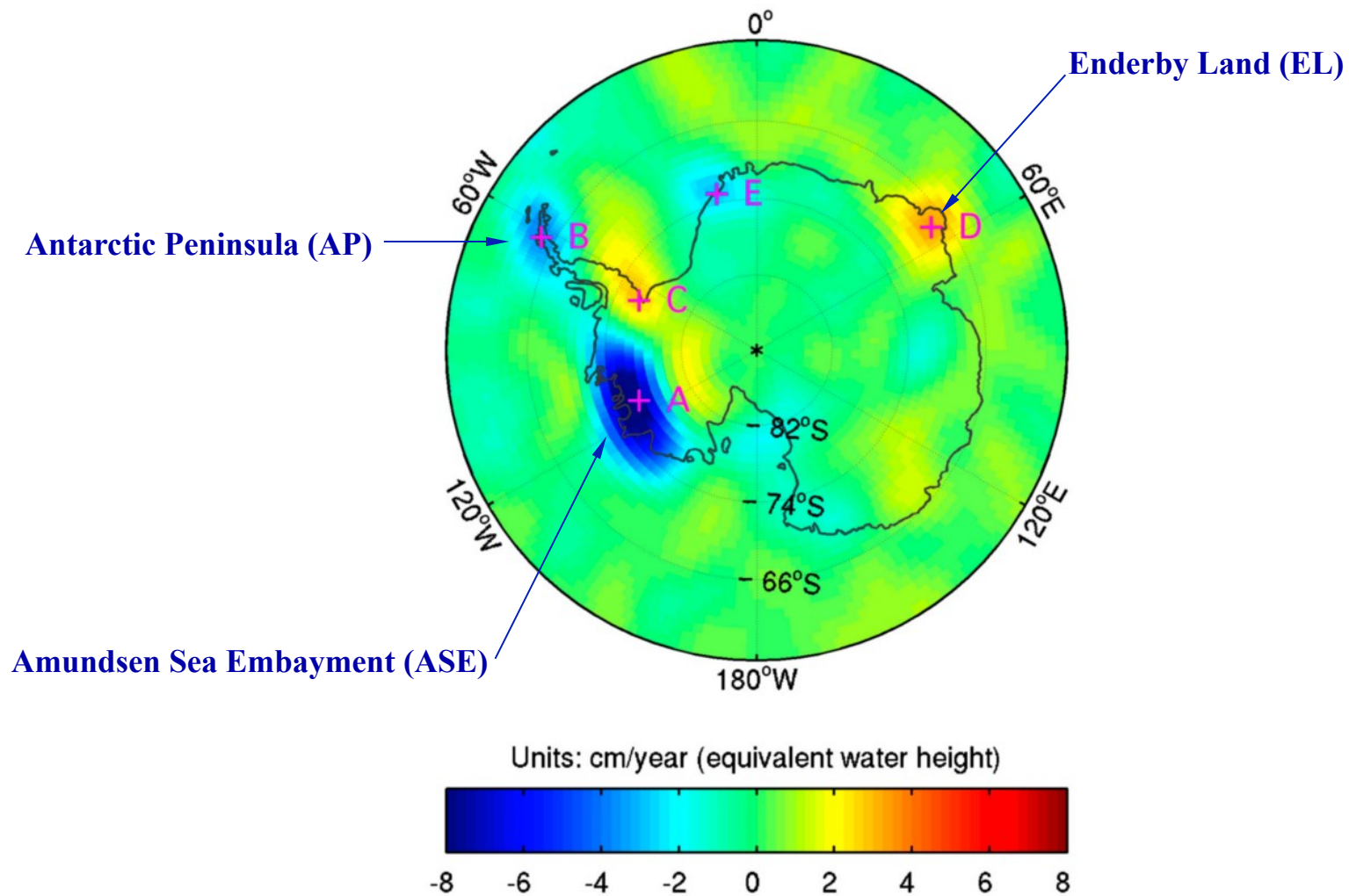


PGR effects (in mass equivalent) over Antarctica from the IJ05 PGR model, P4M6 + 300 km Gaussian smoothing.



(Please note the different color scales, ± 8 vs. ± 4 .)

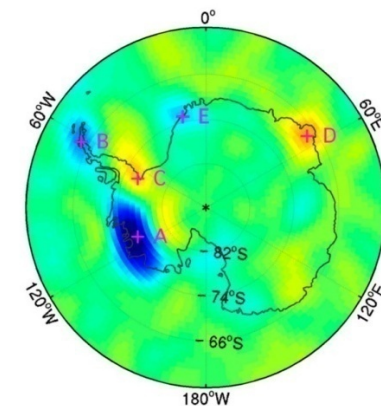
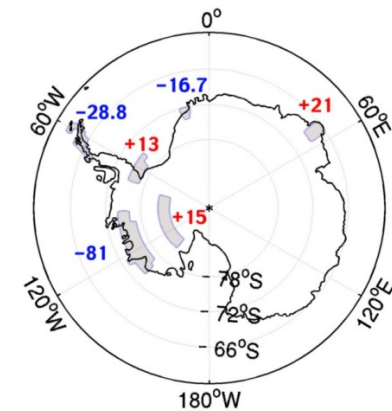
Antarctic long-term ice mass change rates (GRACE - PGR)



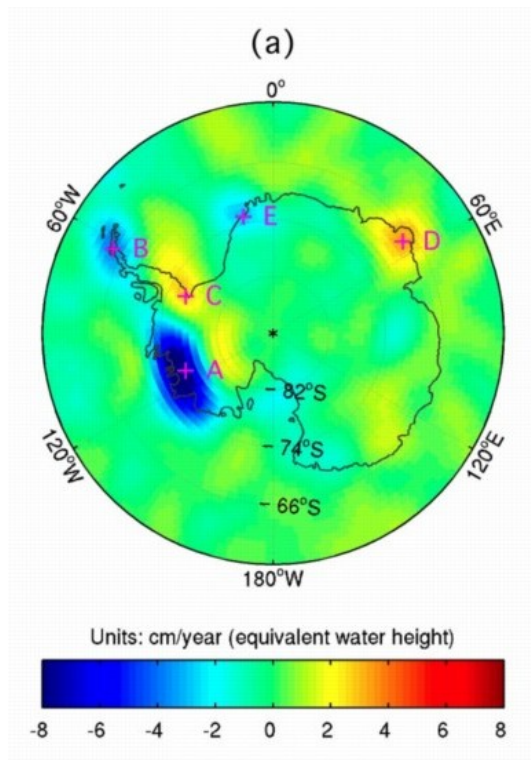
Forward Modeling



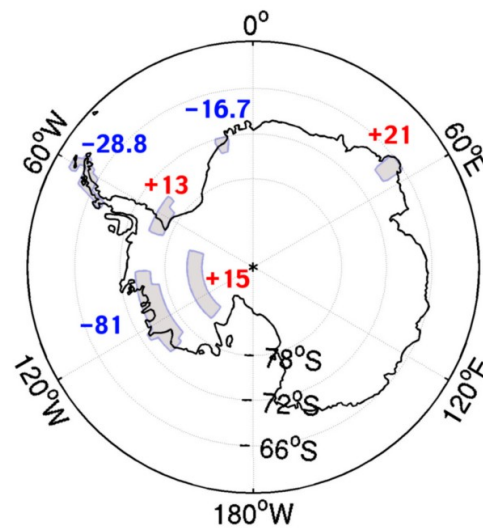
- ❑ **Step-1:** To choose six regions (shaded) where GRACE data show prominent signals. In each region (on $1^\circ \times 1^\circ$ grid), a trial mass rate (in units of km^3/yr) is distributed uniformly. The remainder of the grid (outside Antarctica) retains GRACE mass rates. Therefore, spatial leakage from the 6 regions to areas outside Antarctica should be evident when comparing the model and GRACE rate maps. This is a variation of the forward modeling technique in our previous studies.
- ❑ **Step-2:** To convert the constructed mass rate grids into spherical harmonics.
- ❑ **Step-3:** To replicate procedures (used to transform GRACE data) to compute surface mass changes (no degree-1 terms, same truncation and same 2-steps filtering, ...).
- ❑ **Step-4:** To adjust model rates and region shapes until there is general agreement with the GRACE map. As a final constraint, we force model integrated mass rate for each region (sum over grid points with cosine of latitude weights within boundaries where magnitude exceeds 1 cm/year) to agree with the GRACE map.



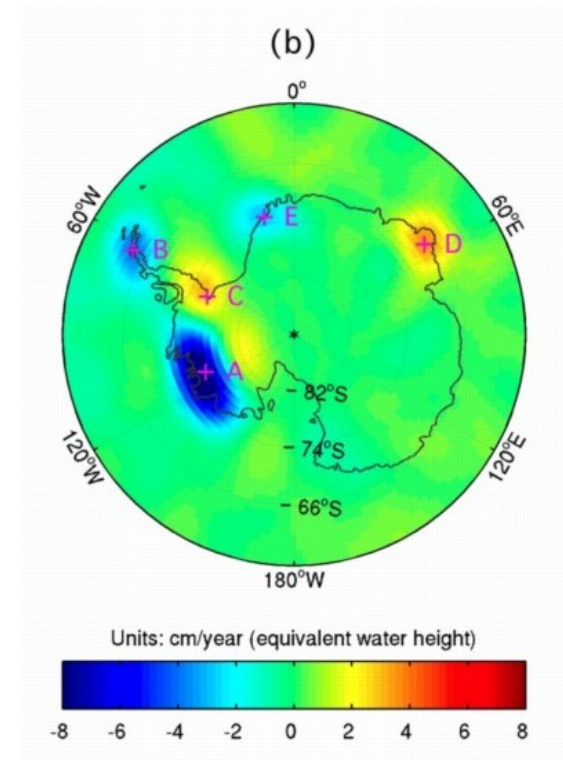
GRACE Observations (GRACE-PGR)



Modeling Scheme



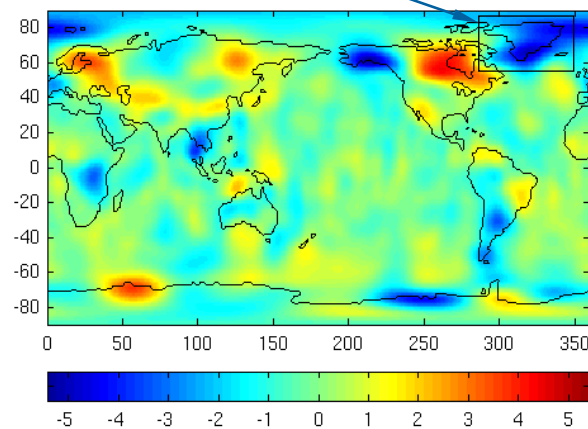
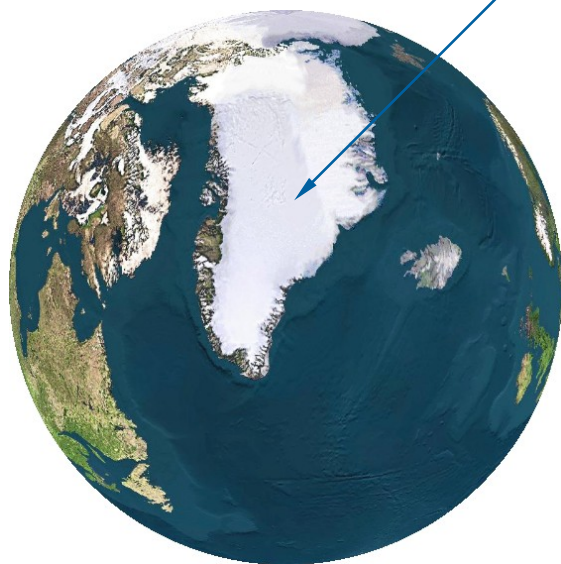
Forward Modeling Estimates



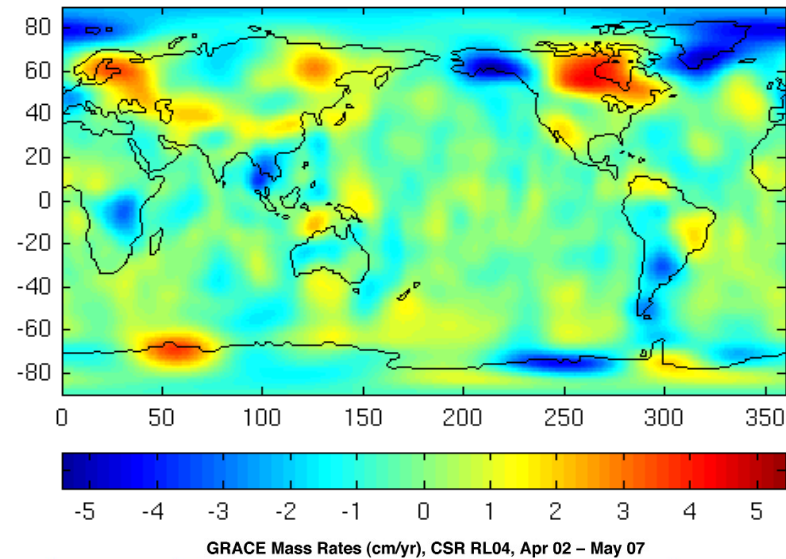


Climate Change and Greenland Ice Loss

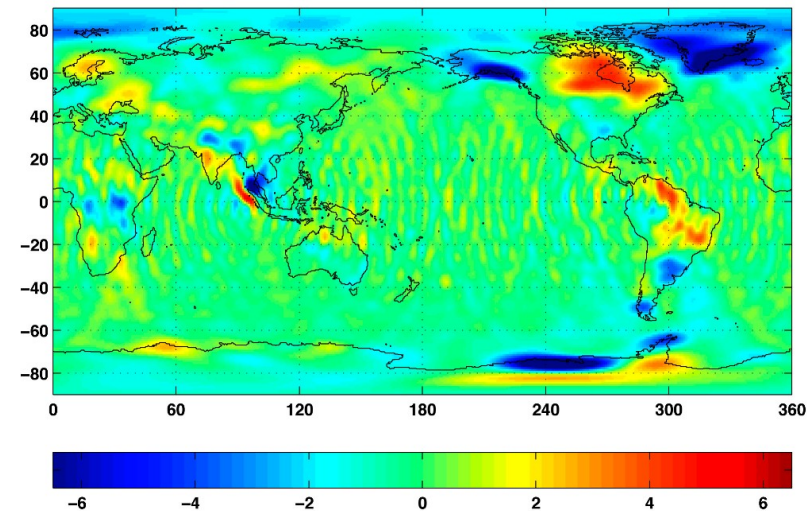
Greenland Ice Sheet



The Changing Climate & Greenland Ice Mass Change



RL01 - 3.5 Years
(Apr 2002 - Nov 2005)



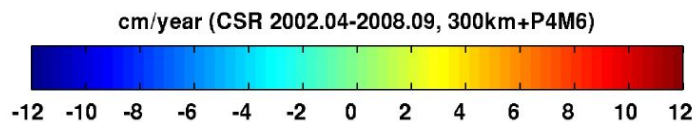
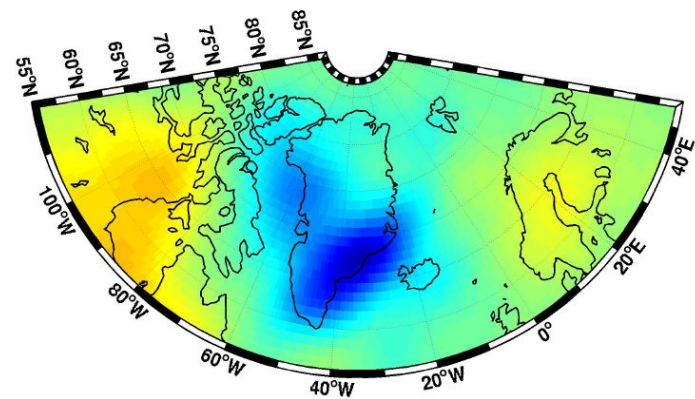
RL04 - 5 Years
(Apr 2002 - May 2007)



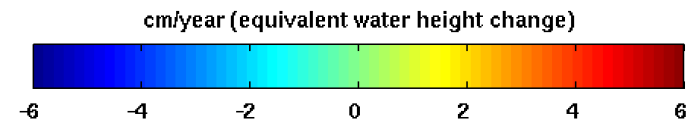
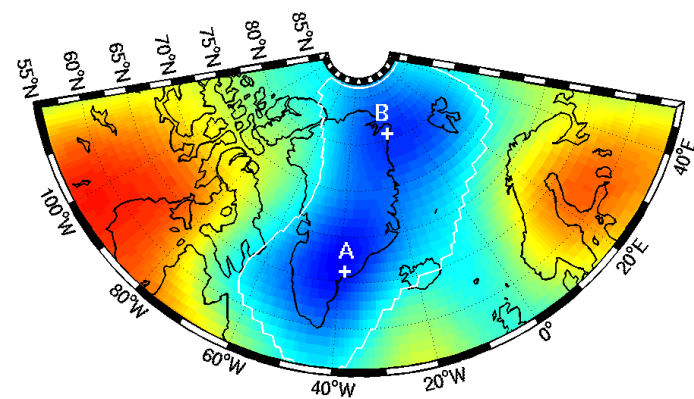
The Changing Climate & Greenland Ice Mass Change



GRACE RL04 - 6.5 Years
2002.04 - 2008.09



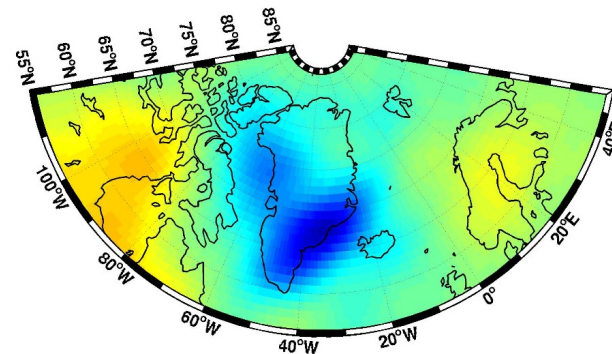
GRACE RL01 - 3.5 Years
2002.04 - 2005.11



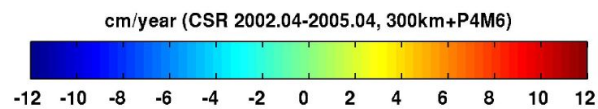
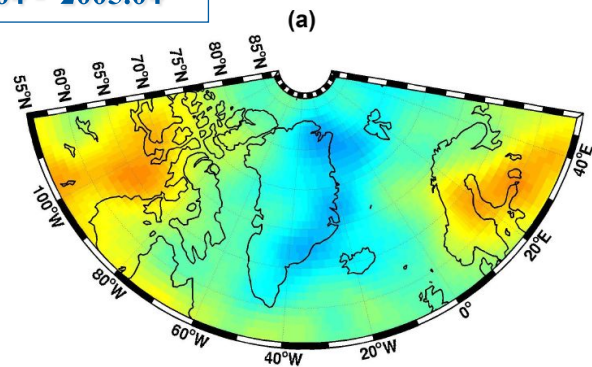
The Changing Climate & Greenland Ice Mass Change



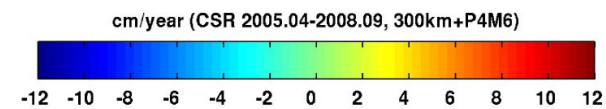
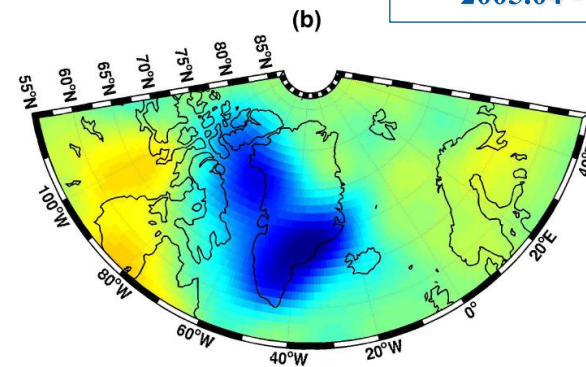
GRACE RL04 - 6.5 Years
2002.04 - 2008.09



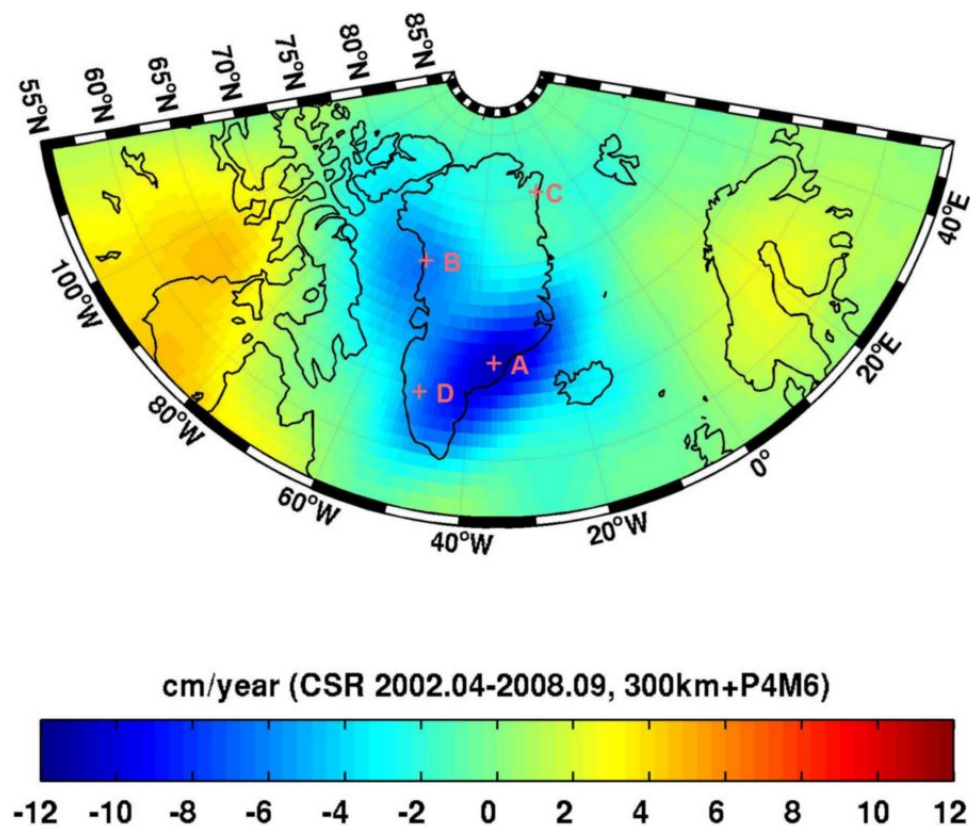
RL04 - First 3 Years
2002.04 - 2005.04



RL04 - Recent 3.5 Years
2005.04 - 2008.09

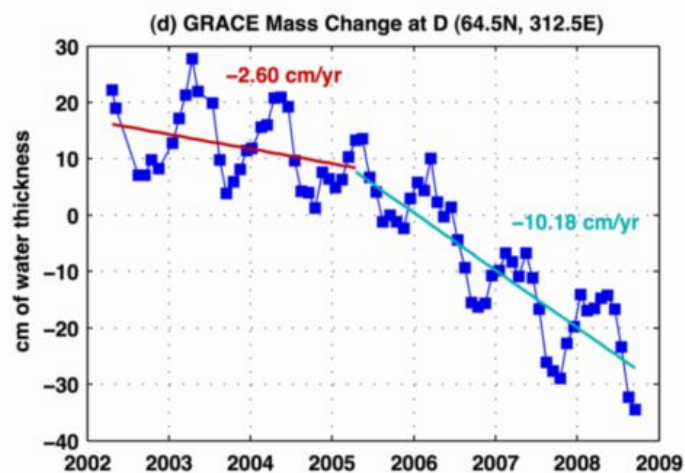
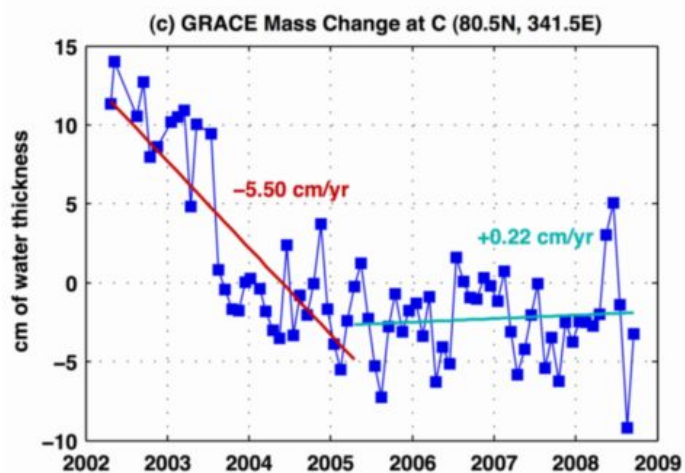
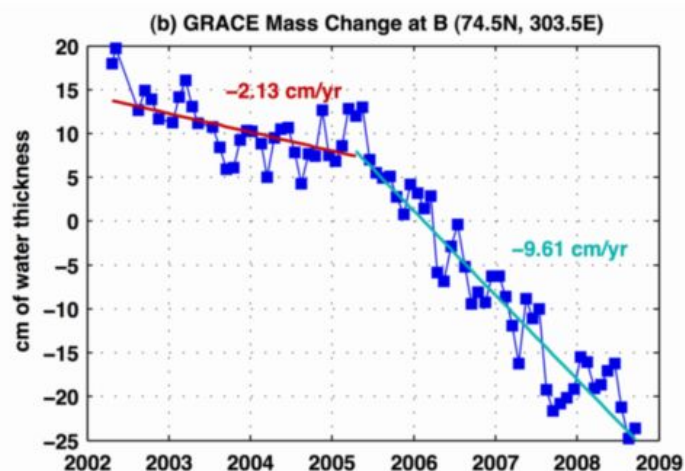
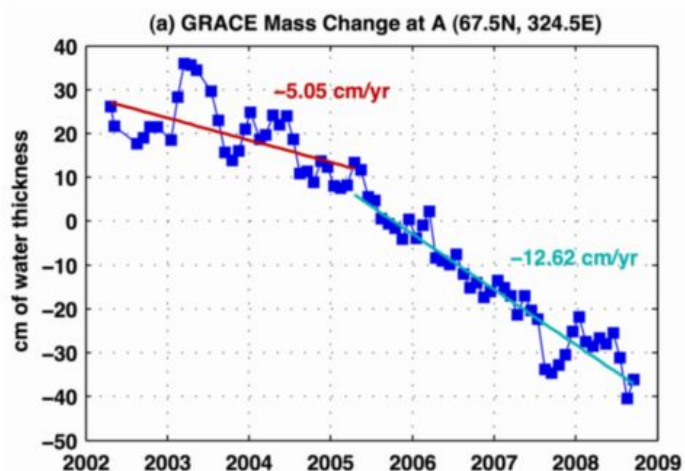


GRACE Time Series at 4 Selected Locations (A, B, C, D)



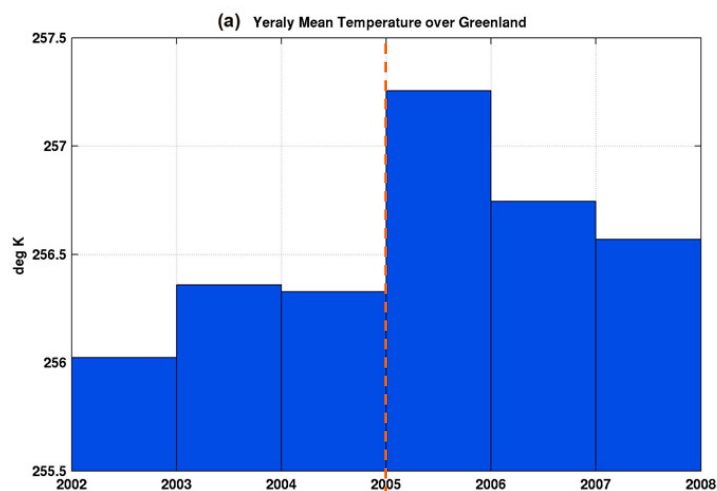


GRACE Time Series at 4 Selected Grids (A, B, C, D)

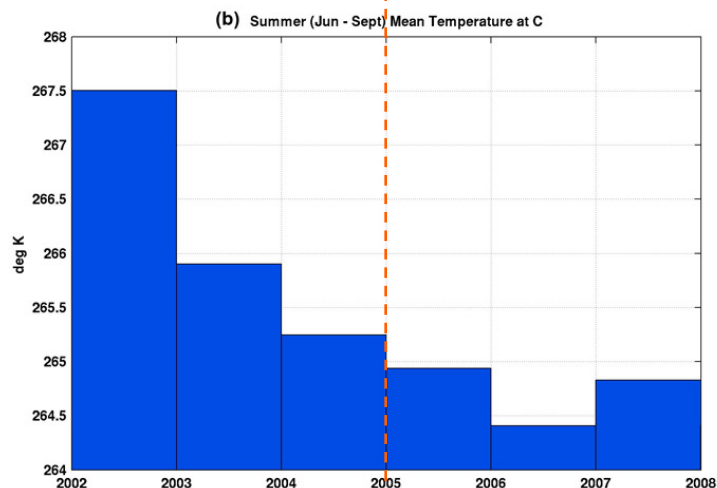




The Changing Climate in Greenland



Yearly Mean Temperature (2m)
Over Greenland



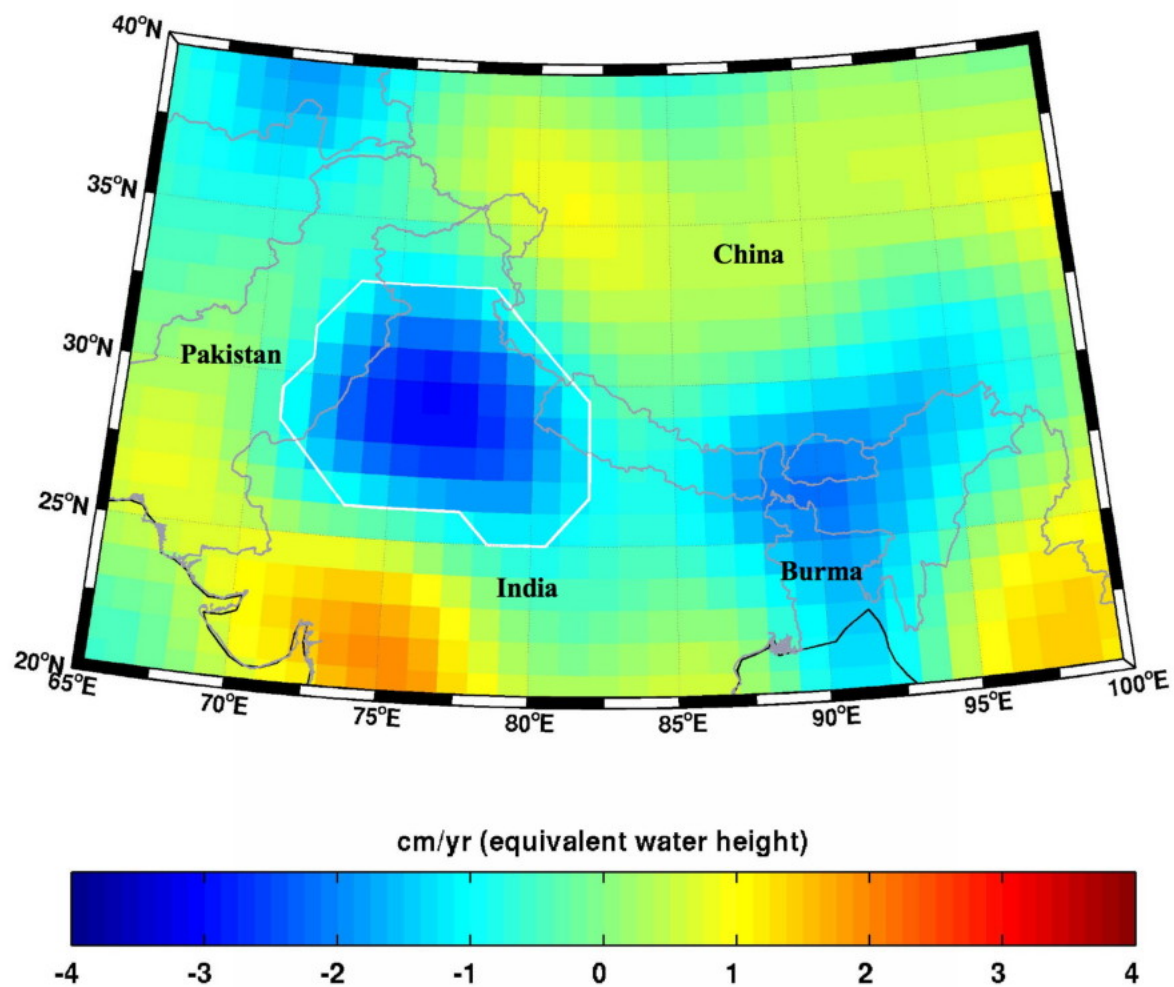
Summer (Jun - Sept) Mean
Temperature (2m) at Point C

2005



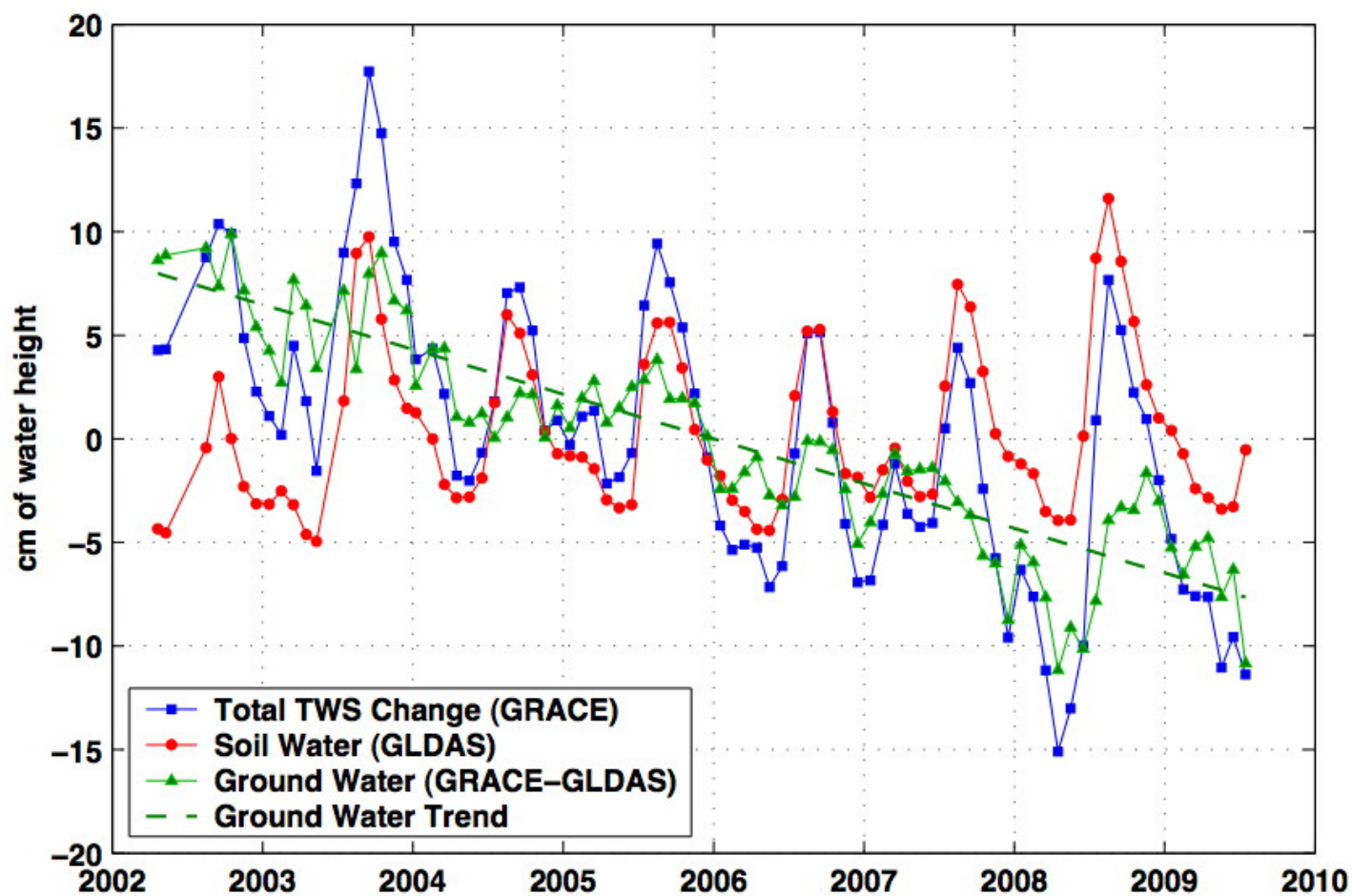


Excessive Groundwater Depletion in Northwest India





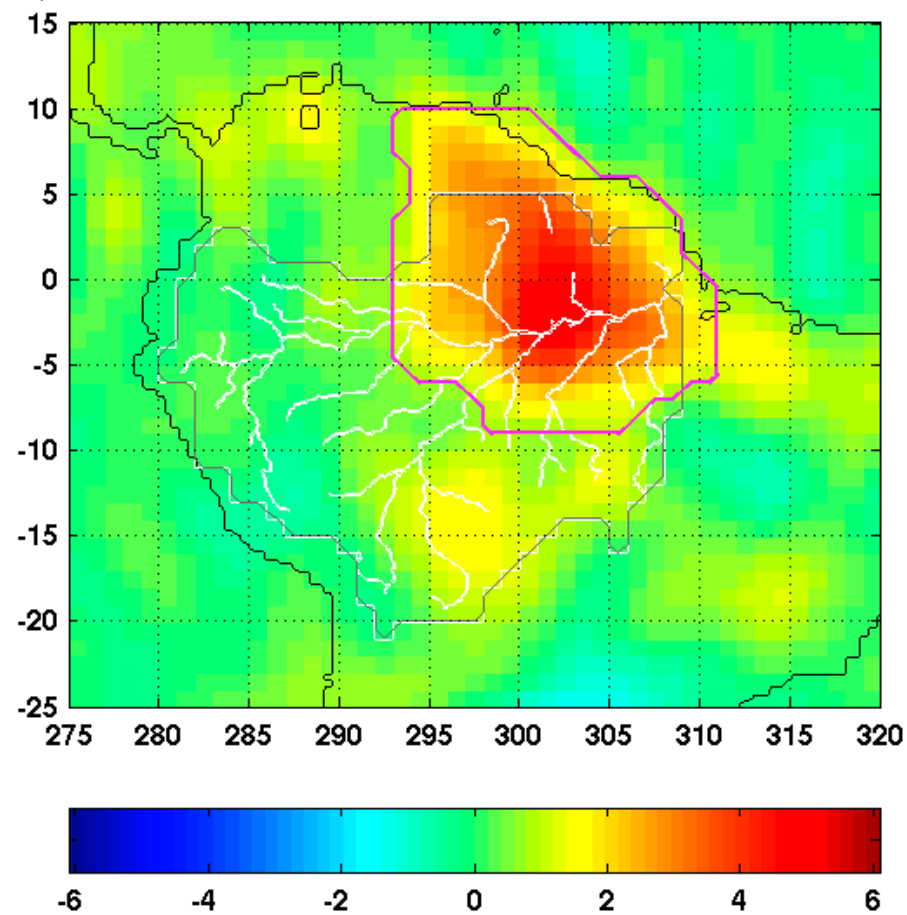
Excessive Groundwater Depletion in Northwest India



The 2009 Exceptional Flood in Lower Amazon

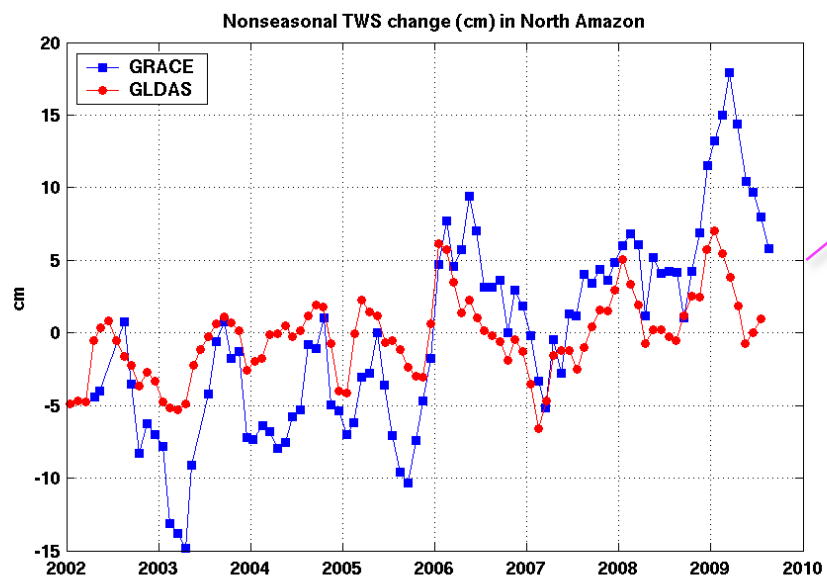
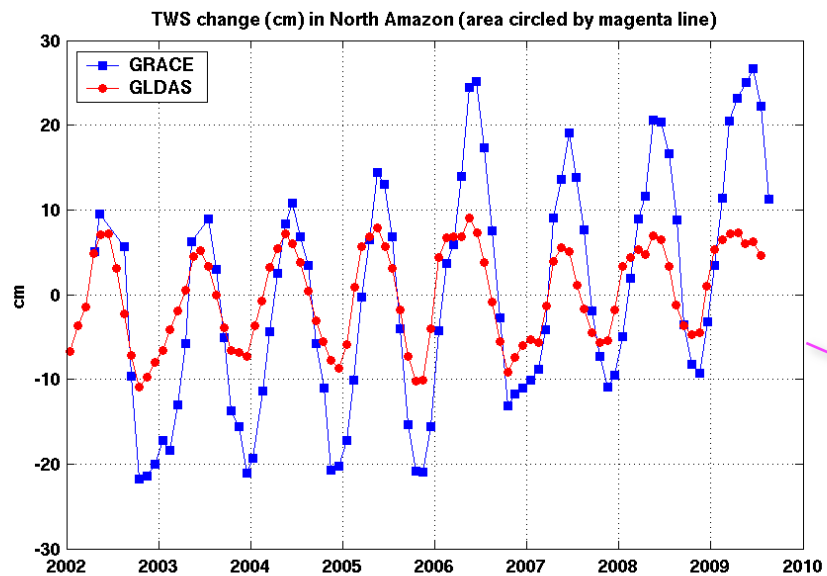


GRACE Mass Rate (2002.04 - 2009.08)

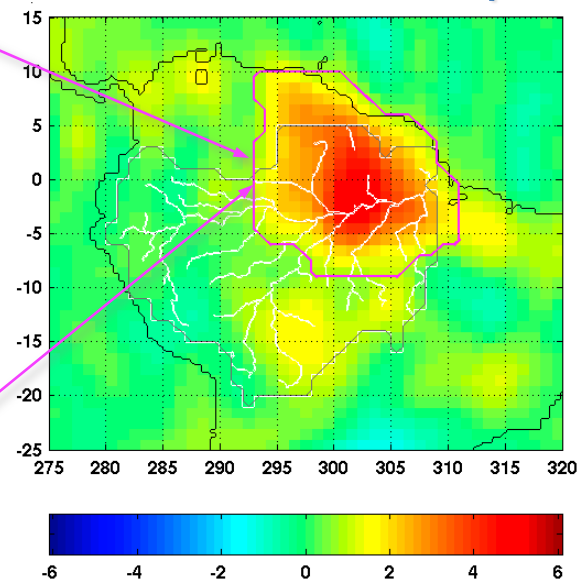


(Units: cm/year of equivalent water height)





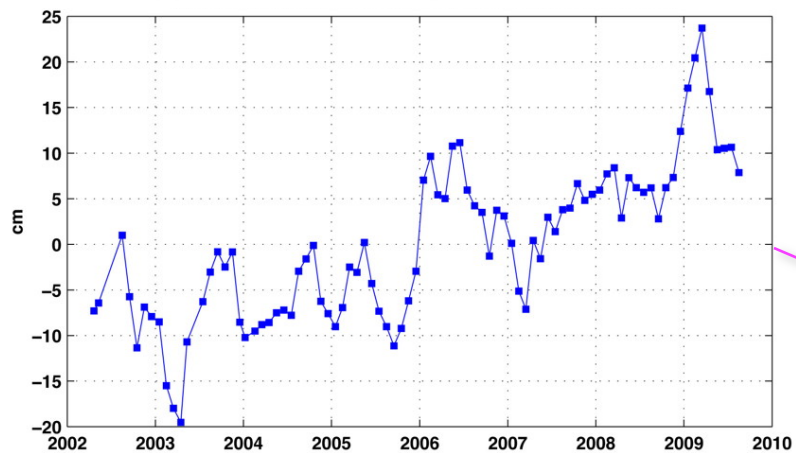
GRACE TWS Rate Map



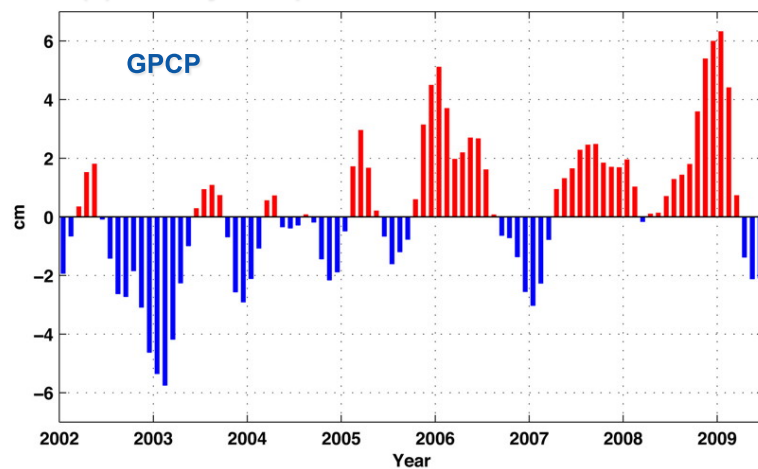
Units: cm/yr of water thickness



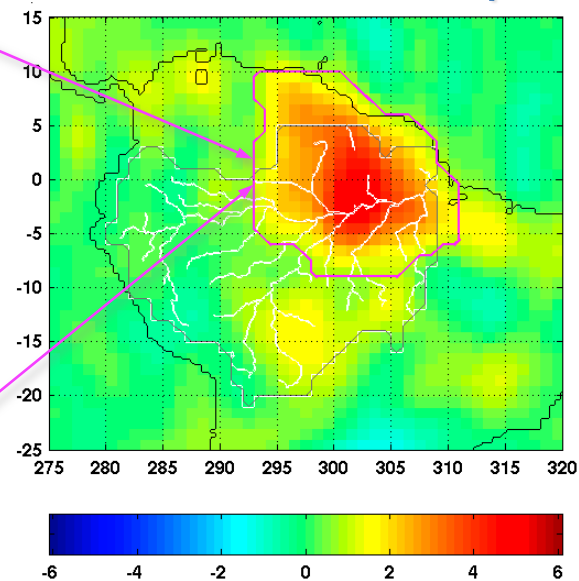
(a) GRACE TWS Change in Lower Amazon

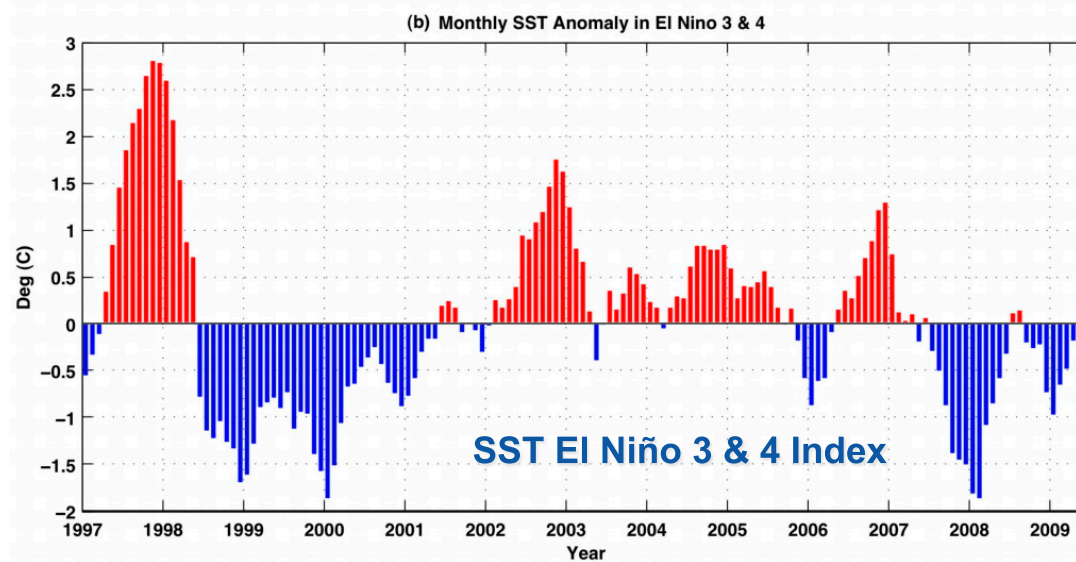
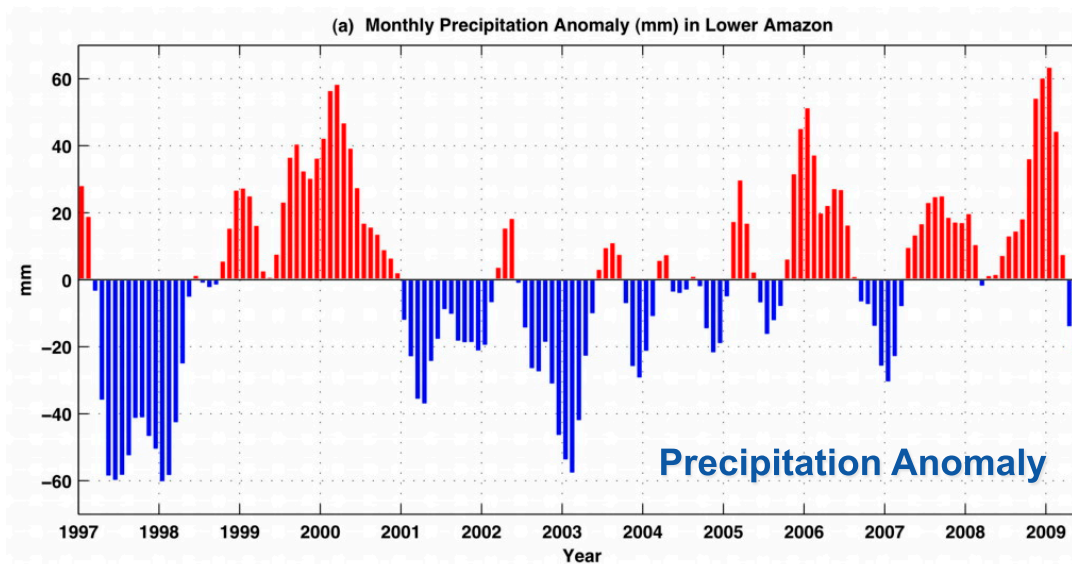


(b) Monthly Precipitation Anomalies in Lower Amazon

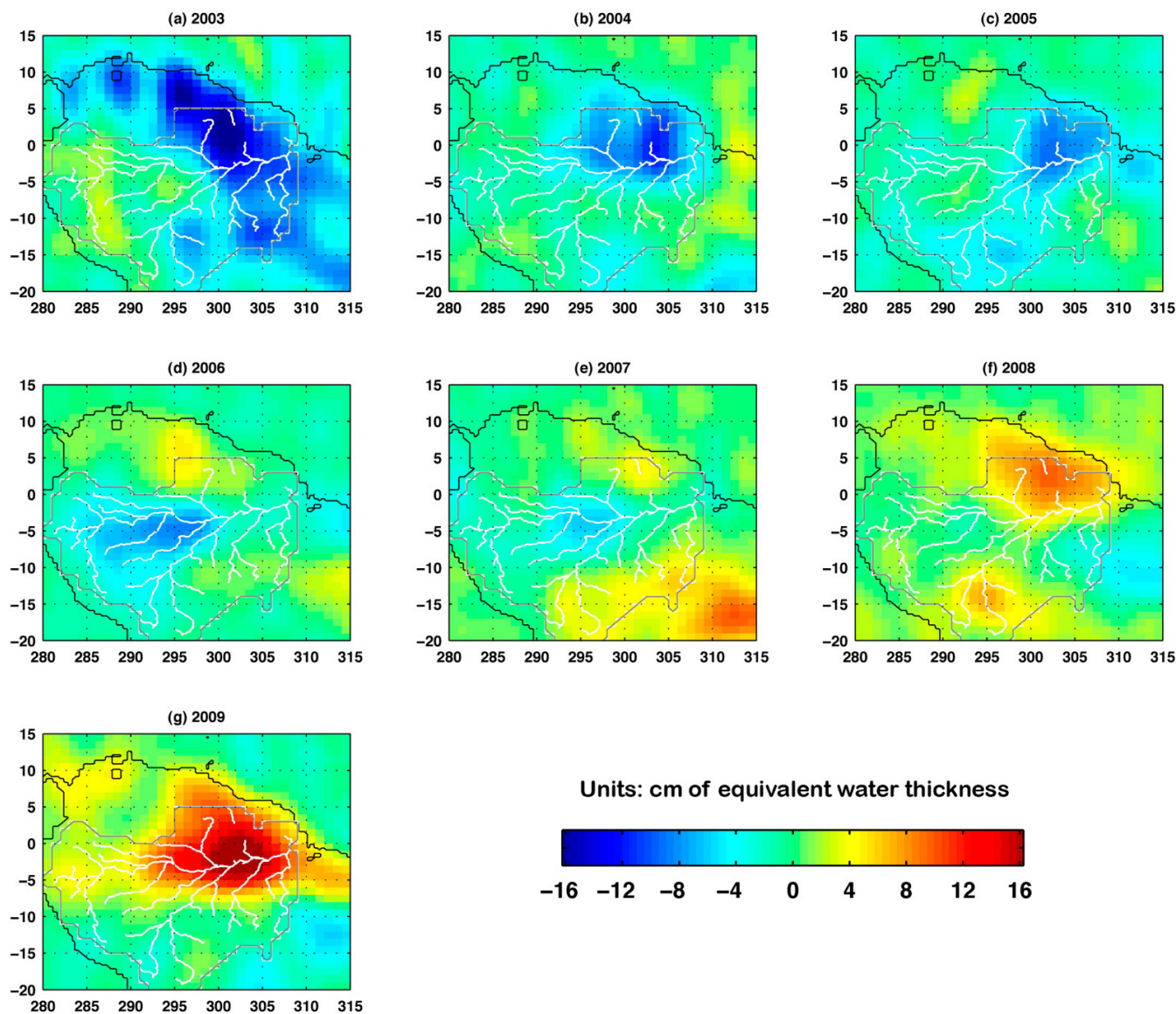


GRACE TWS Rate Map



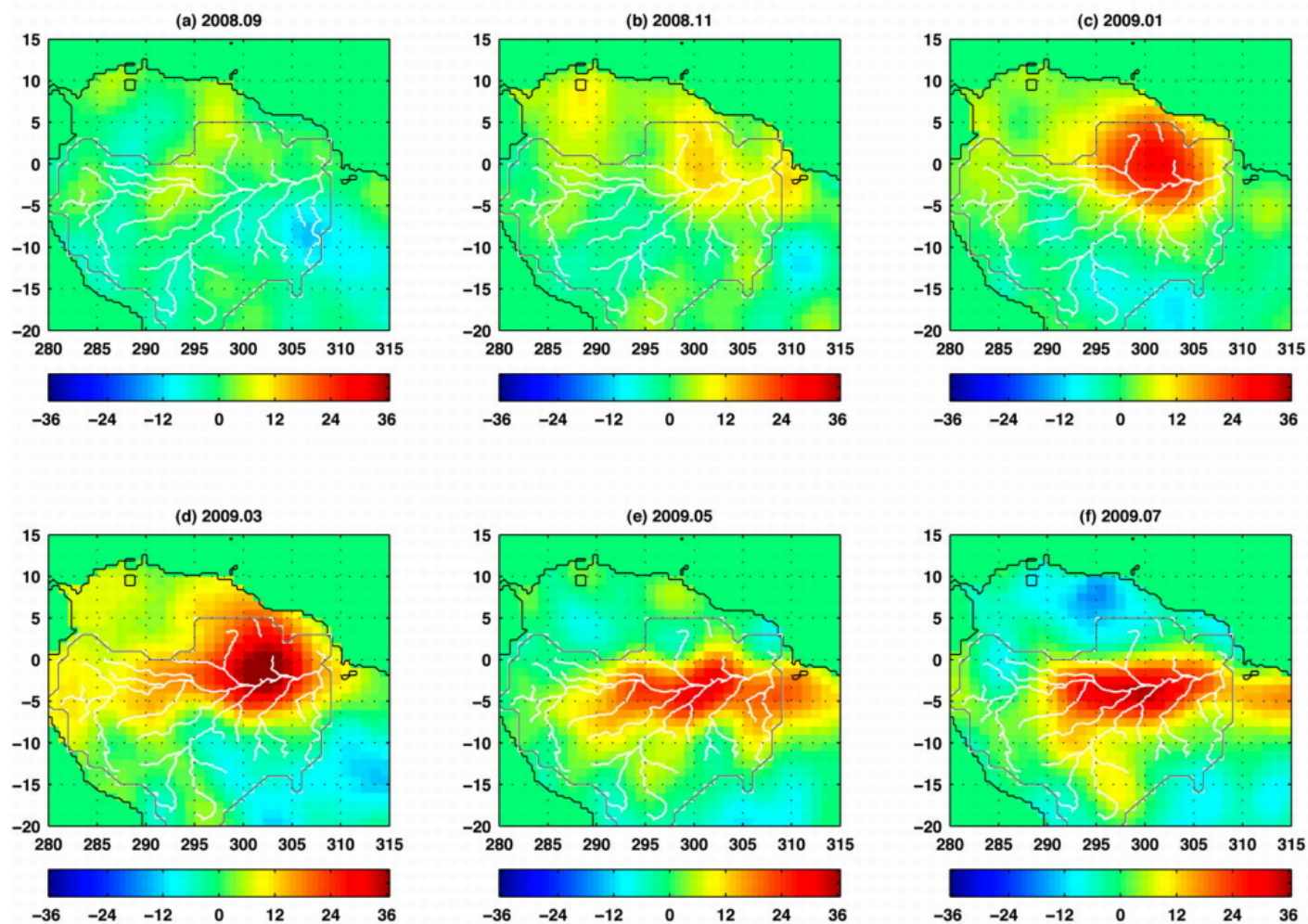


GRACE Yearly TWS change (Yearly = Average from July of the previous year through June)



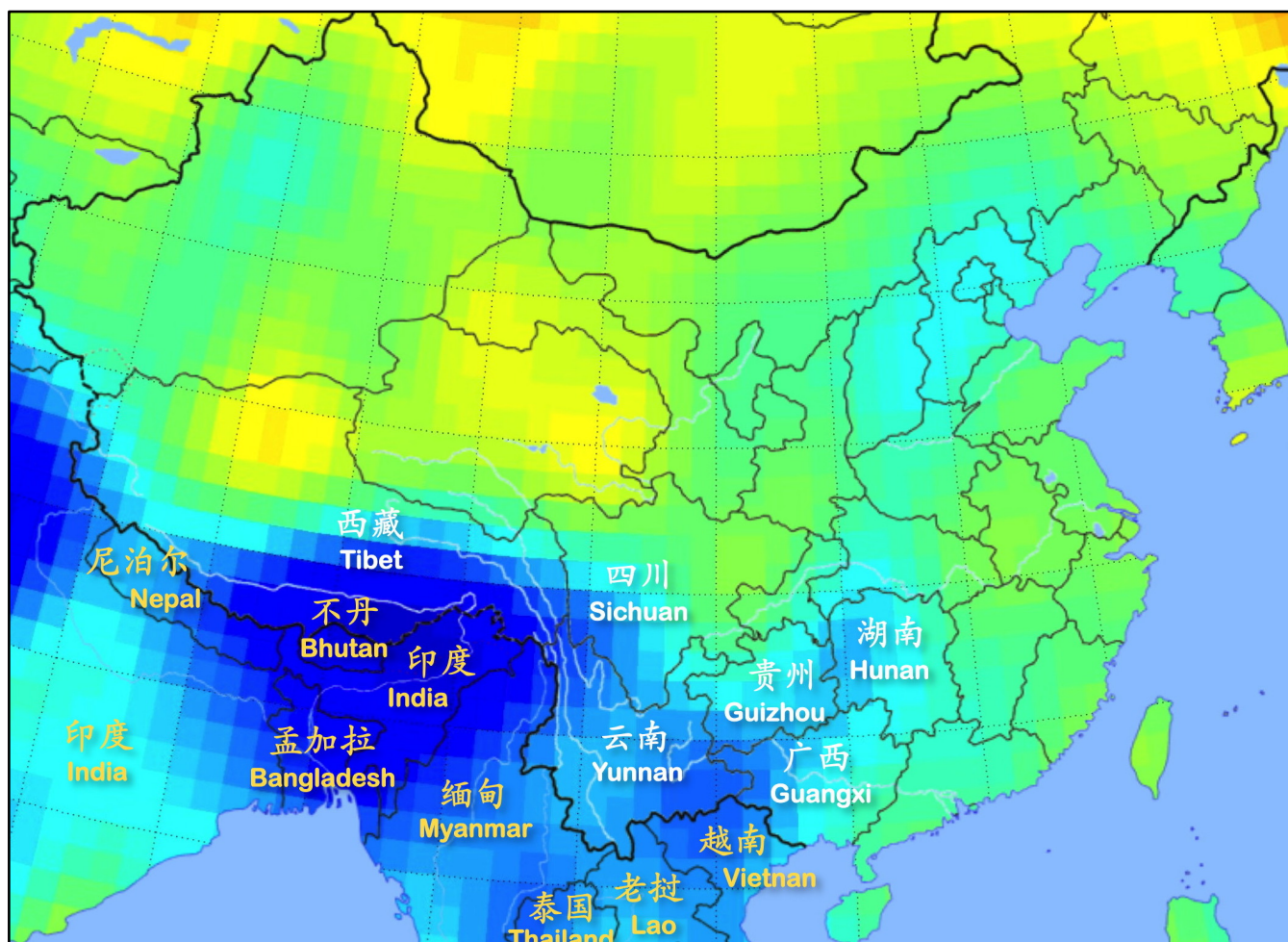


Development of the exceptional 2009 Amazon flood from GRACE

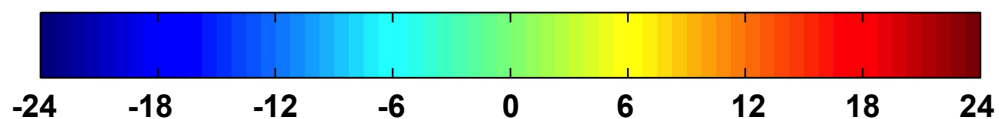


GRACE observed monthly TWS anomaly (seasonal signal is removed)

The 2010 Severe Drought in Southeast Asia (GRACE 2010.01)



Units: cm (equivalent water thickness)



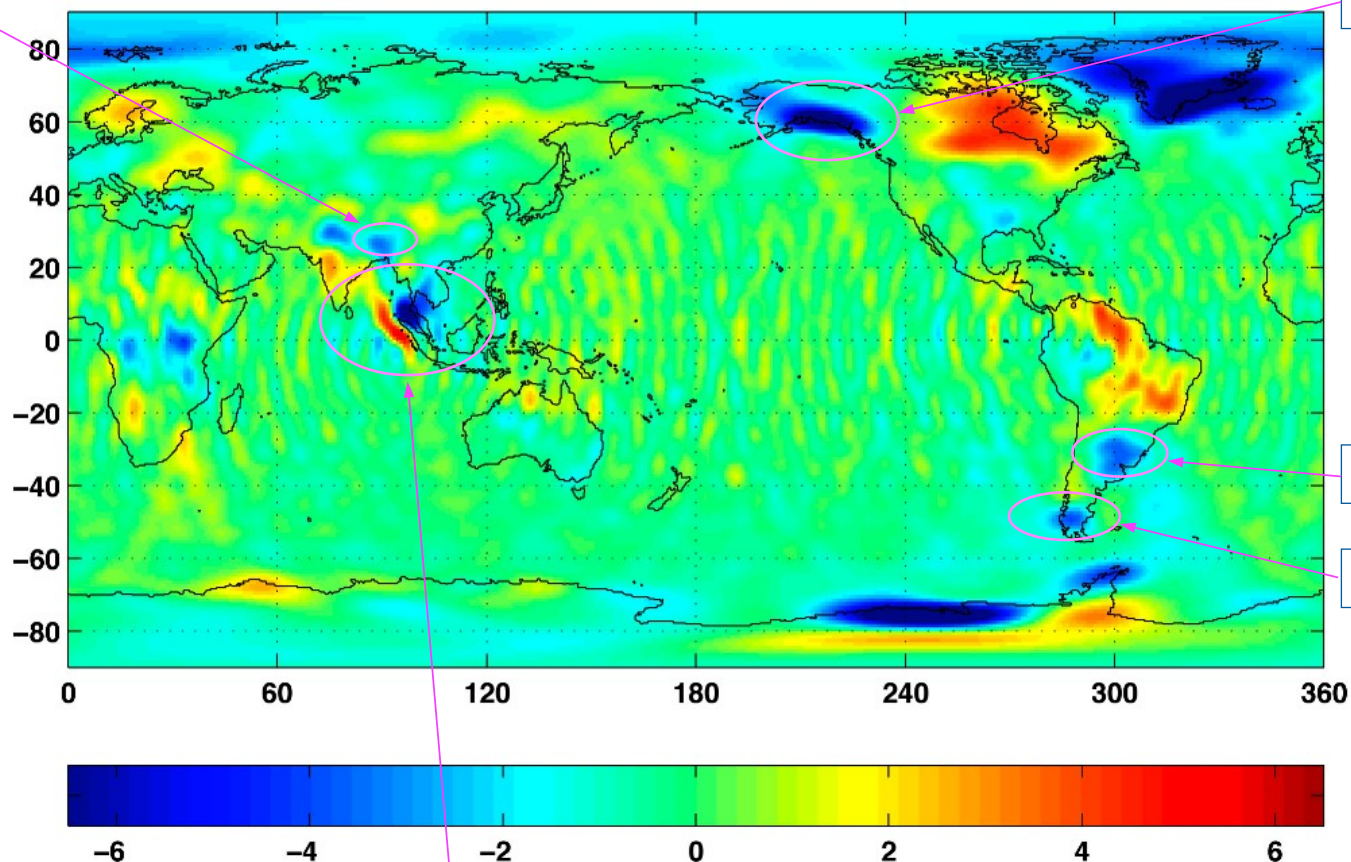


Any other applications of GRACE?

Himalaya Glaciers

GRACE Mass Rates (cm/yr), CSR RL04, Apr 02 – May 07

Alaskan Glaciers



La Plata Basin

Patagonia Ice Fields

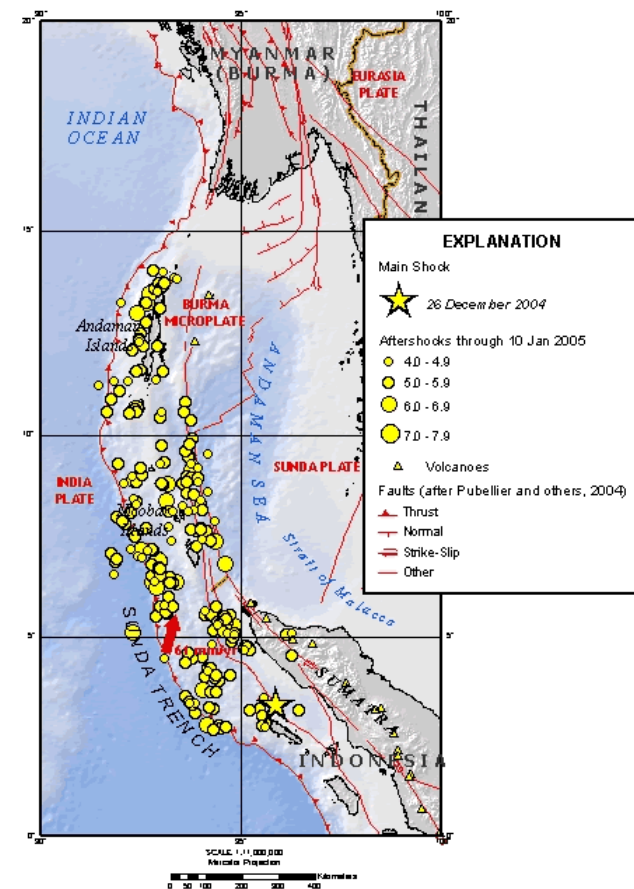
Sumatra-Andaman Earthquake



GRACE Other Applications - Coseismic & Postseismic Deformation



- ❑ The Sumatra-Andaman earthquake ($M_w=9.1$) on December 26, 2004, the 2nd largest in modern history.
- ❑ Special processing of GRACE range rate data (Han et al. 2006) revealed co-seismic gravity changes .
- ❑ Examine GRACE RL04 spherical harmonic products for evidence of coseismic change.
- ❑ RL04 time series may be examined for postseismic deformation.

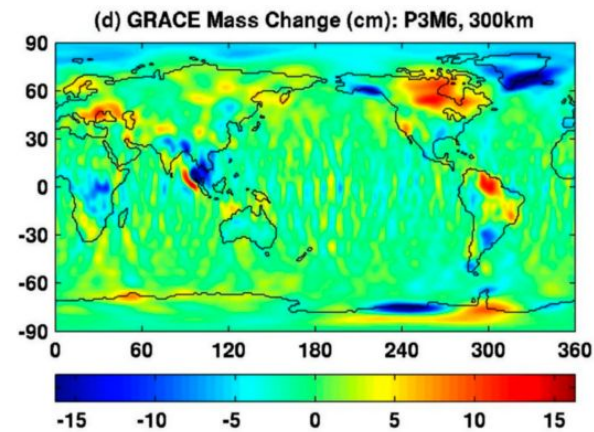
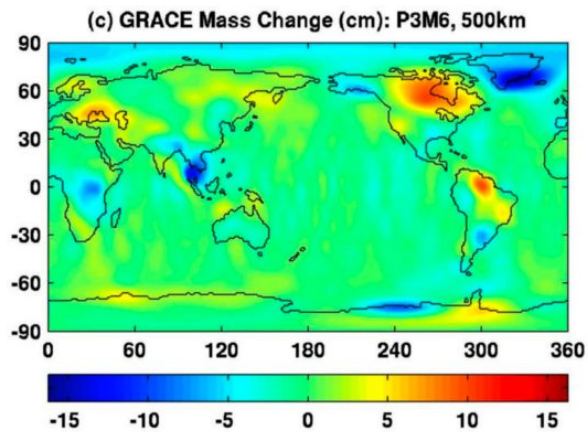
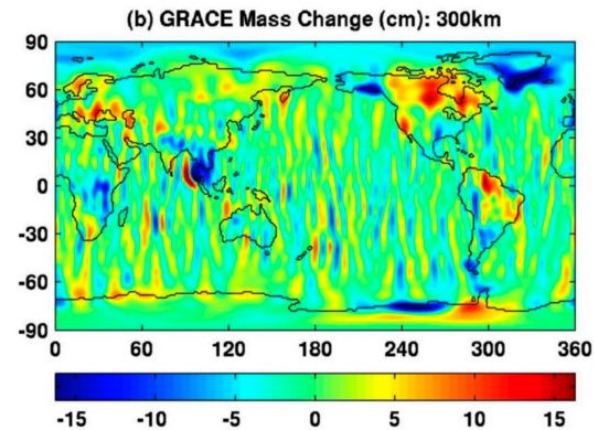
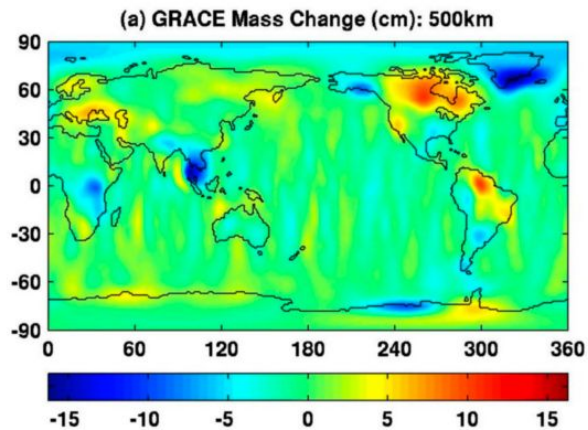




GRACE Data and Processing

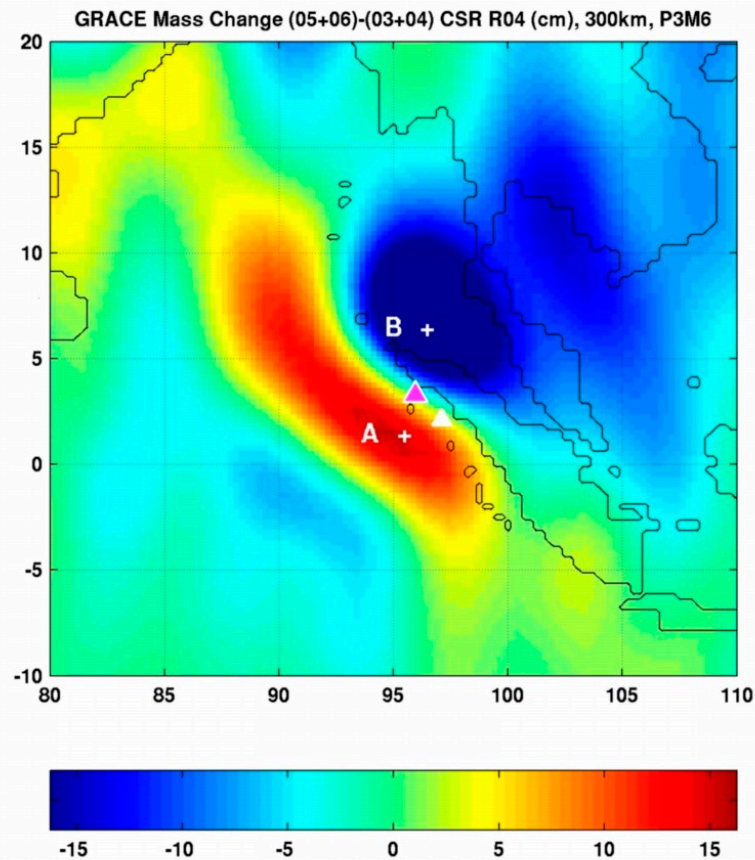
- ❑ **CSR GRACE RL04 solutions**
 - ❑ April 2002 through February 2007 (updated to January 2009);
 - ❑ 55 (or 79) monthly solutions, up to degree & order 60
- ❑ **Applied Filters**
 - ❑ De-correlation filtering [Swenson and Wahr, 2006]
 - ❑ 300 km Gaussian smoothing
- ❑ **Coseismic Change**
 - ❑ [mean of (2005 + 2006)] minus [mean of (2003 + 2004)] ;
 - ❑ 21 solutions in each mean;
 - ❑ (2003 + 2004): Jan. 2003 - Nov. 2004;
 - ❑ (2005 + 2006): Jan. 2005 - Sept. 2006; (Dec. 2004 excluded);
- ❑ **Postseismic Change**
 - ❑ Use entire 55 (or 79) point time series;
 - ❑ Examine pre-seismic and post-seismic periods

GRACE-observed mass change: [mean of 2005+2006] - [mean of 2003+2004]

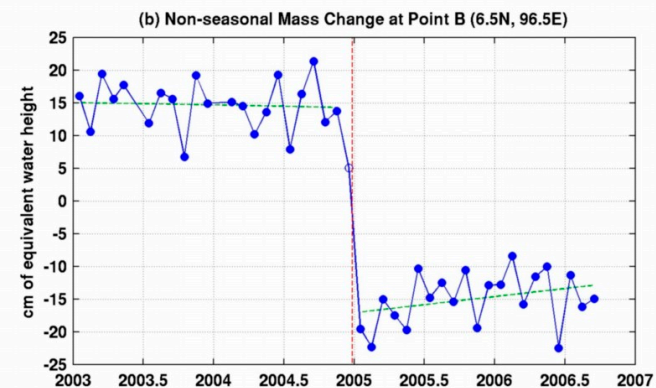
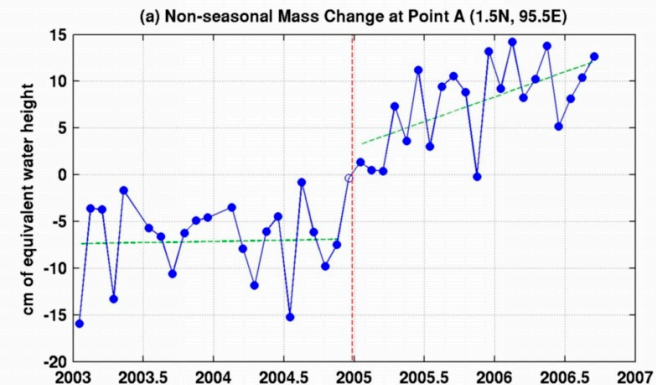


From 4 different filtering schemes (in cm of equivalent water thickness change).

Coseismic Deformation Estimate (cm water equivalent mass change)



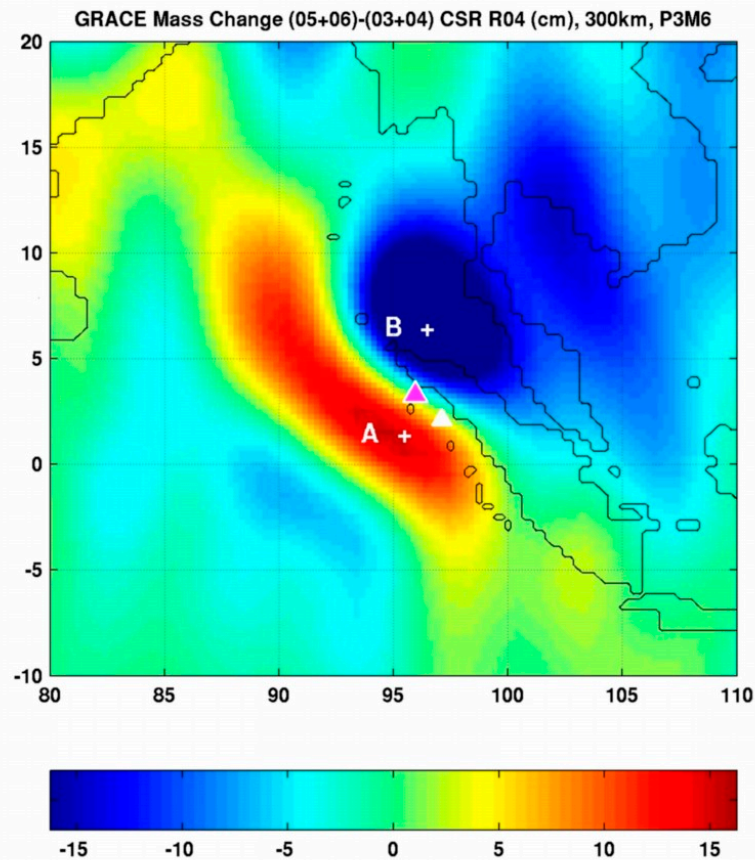
Epicenters of Sumatra-Andaman ($M_w=9.1$) and Nias ($M_w=8.7$) earthquakes are marked by pink and white triangles.



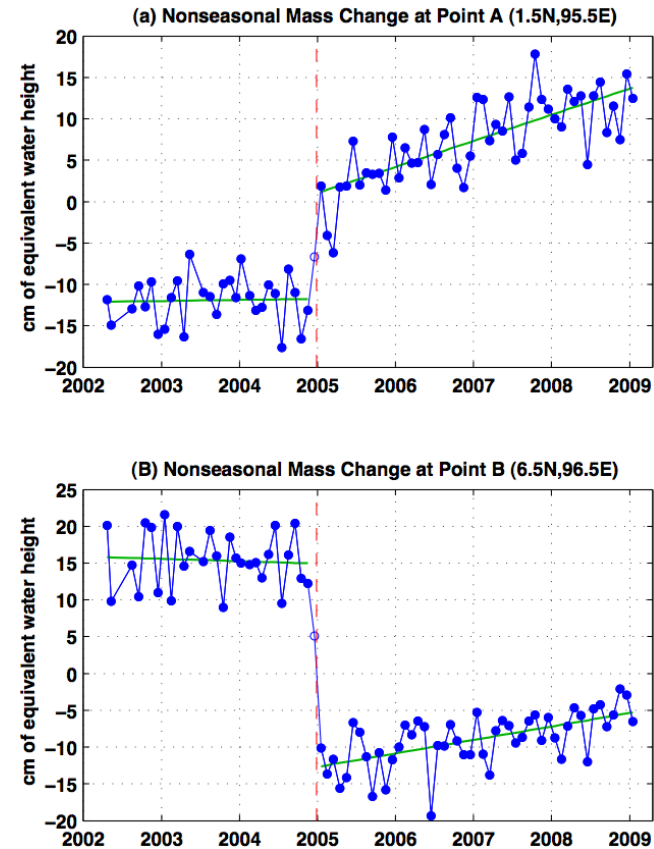
GRACE time-series at point A & B.

Chen et al., *GRACE Detects Coseismic and Postseismic Deformation from the Sumatra-Andaman Earthquake*, *Geophys. Res. Lett.*, 34 (13), L13302 10.1029/2007GL030356, 2007.

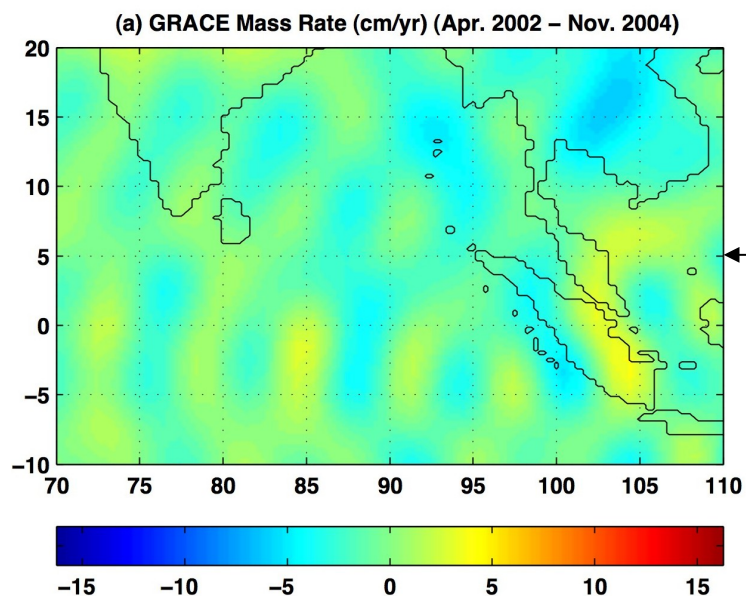
Coseismic Deformation Estimate (cm water equivalent mass change)



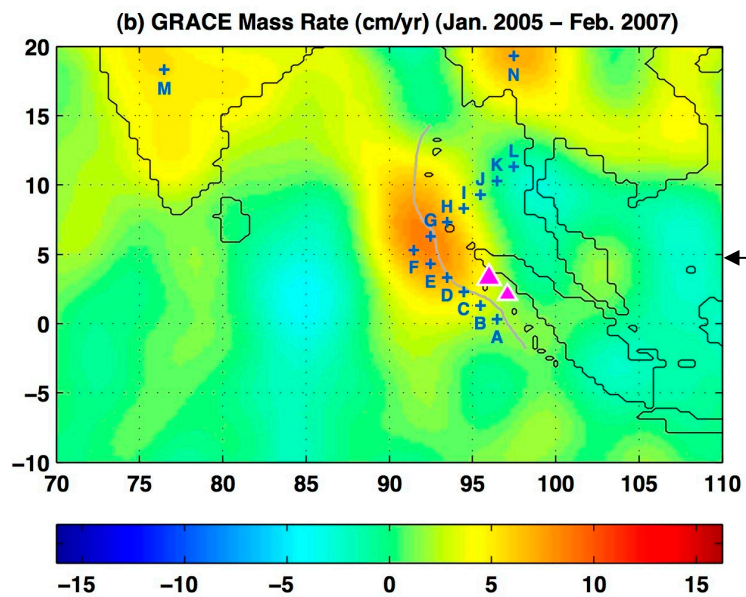
Epicenters of Sumatra-Andaman (Mw=9.1) and Nias (Mw=8.7) earthquakes are marked by pink and white triangles.



Extended GRACE time-series at point A & B.

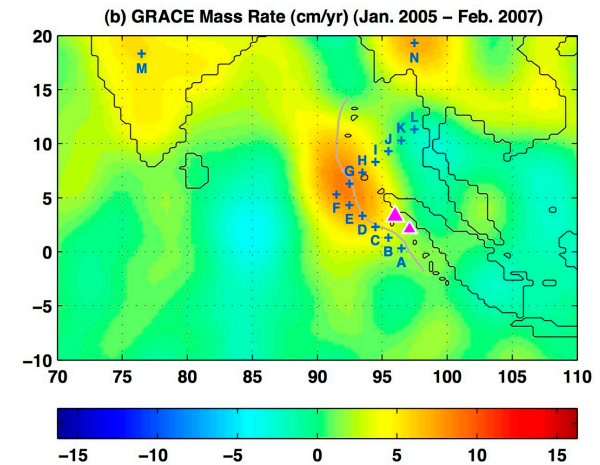
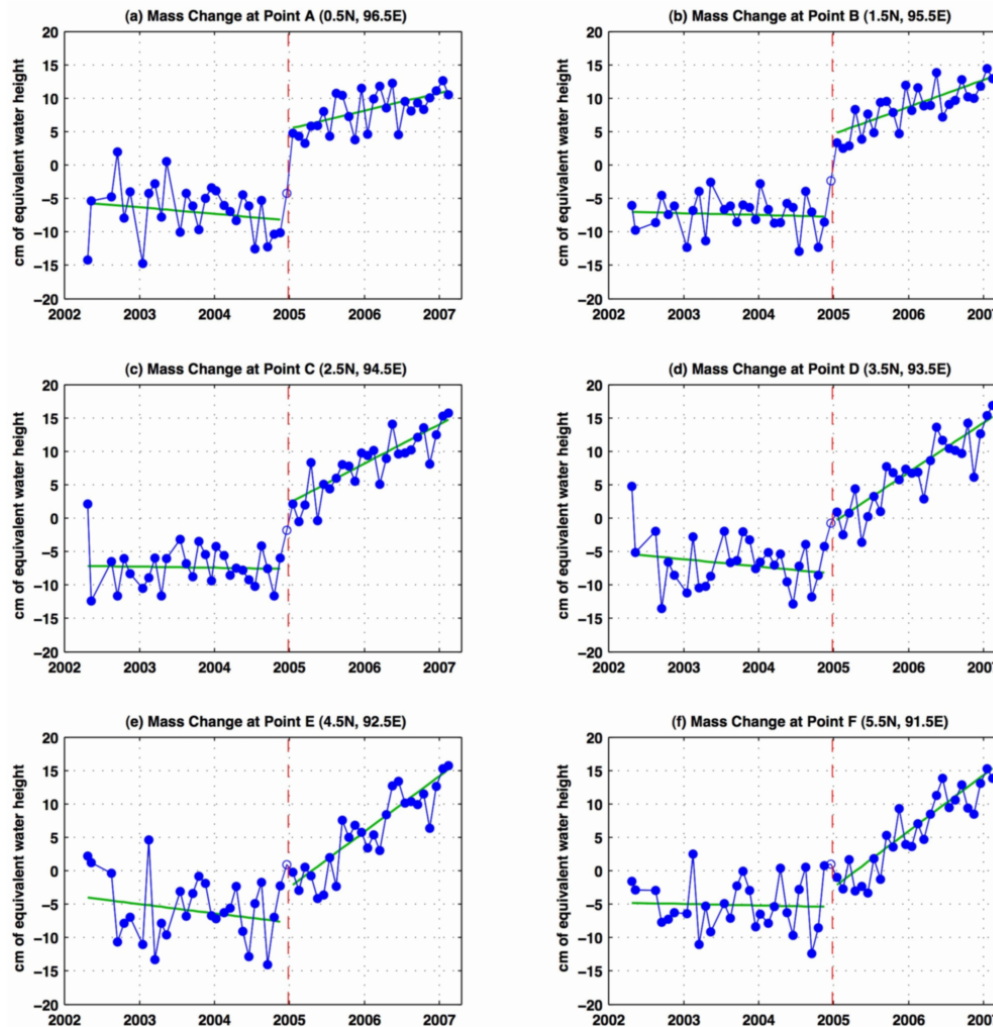


Preseismic
Mass Rate Map



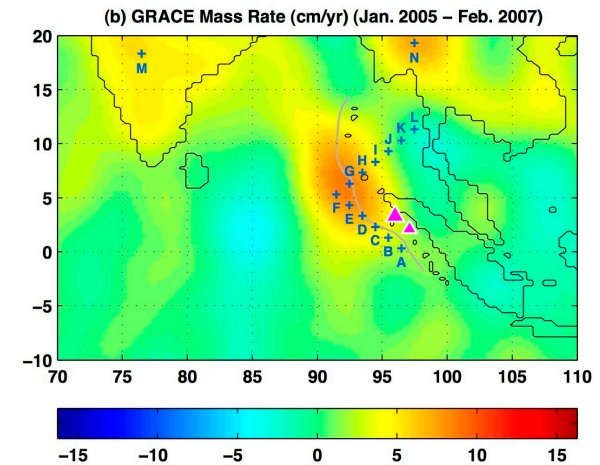
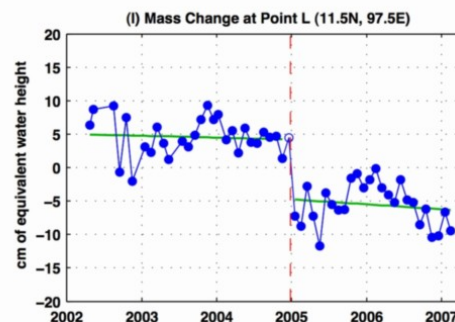
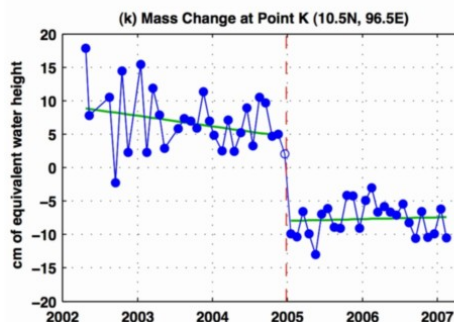
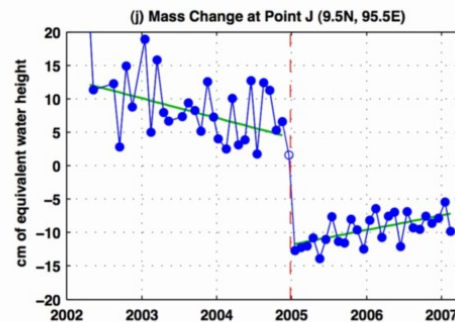
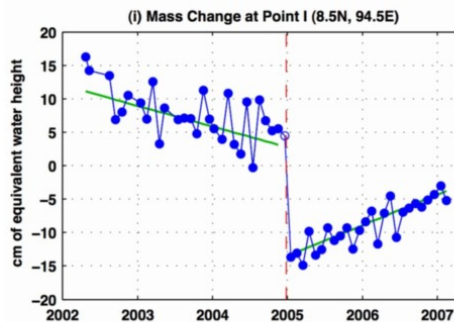
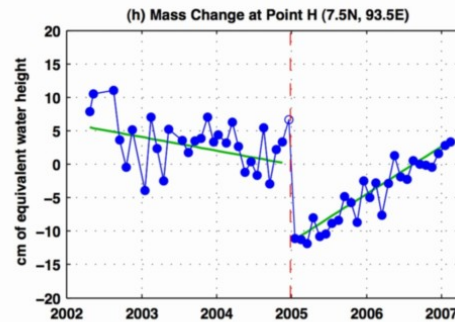
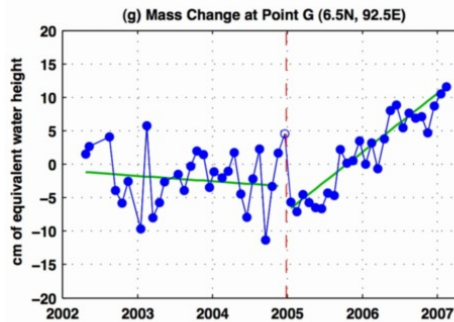
Postseismic
Mass Rate Map

Mass Rate Time Series at Points A-F



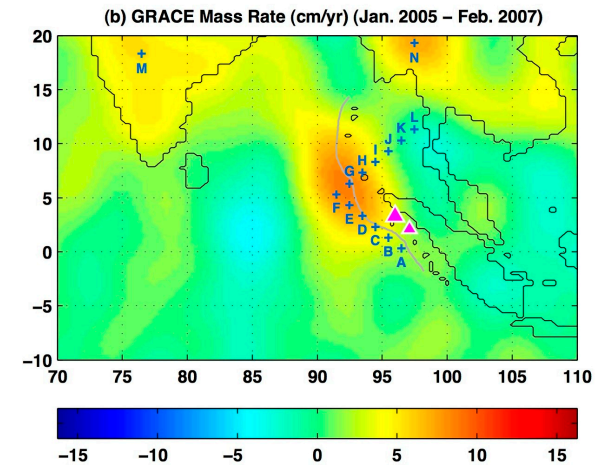
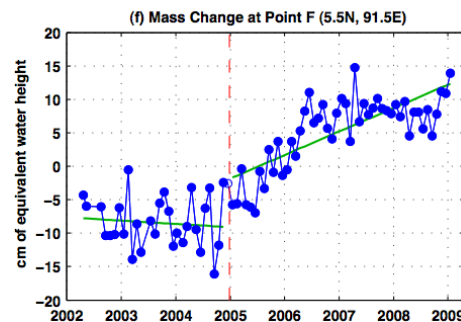
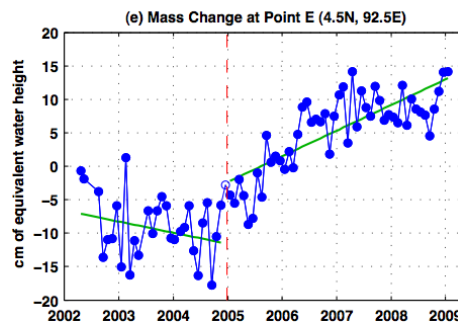
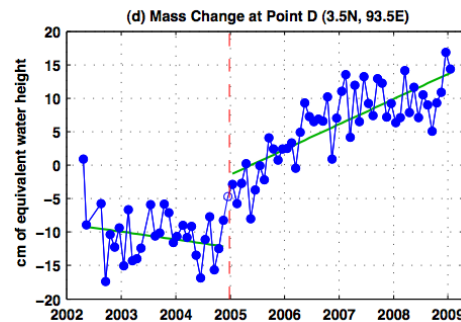
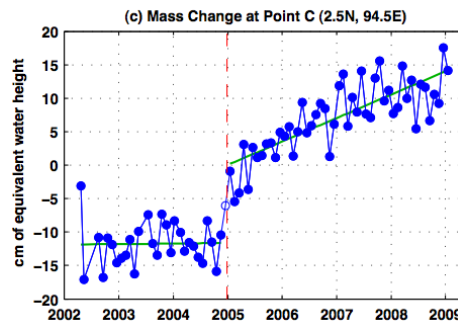
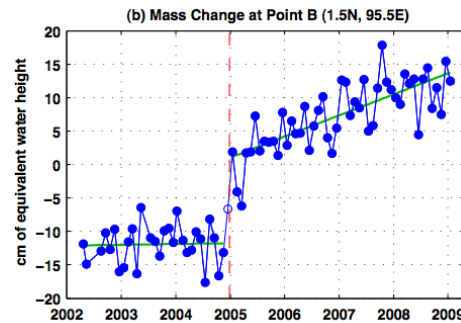
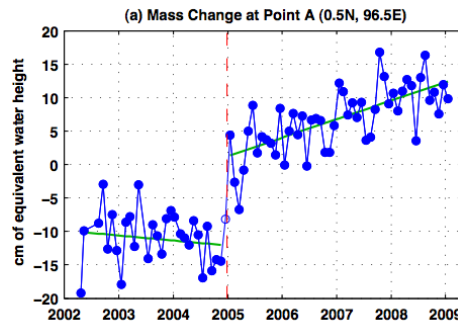
At points in uplift zone.

Postseismic Mass Rates at Points G-L



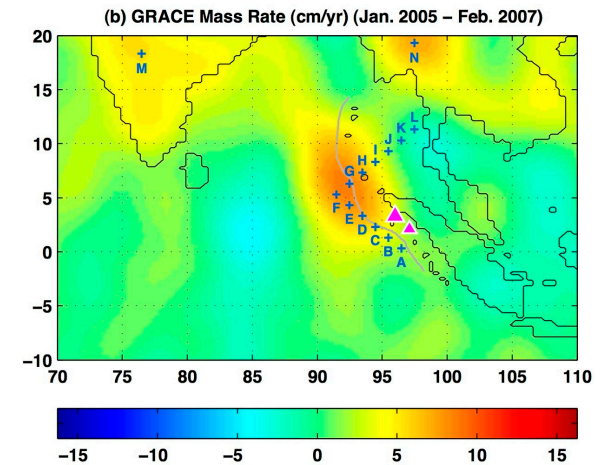
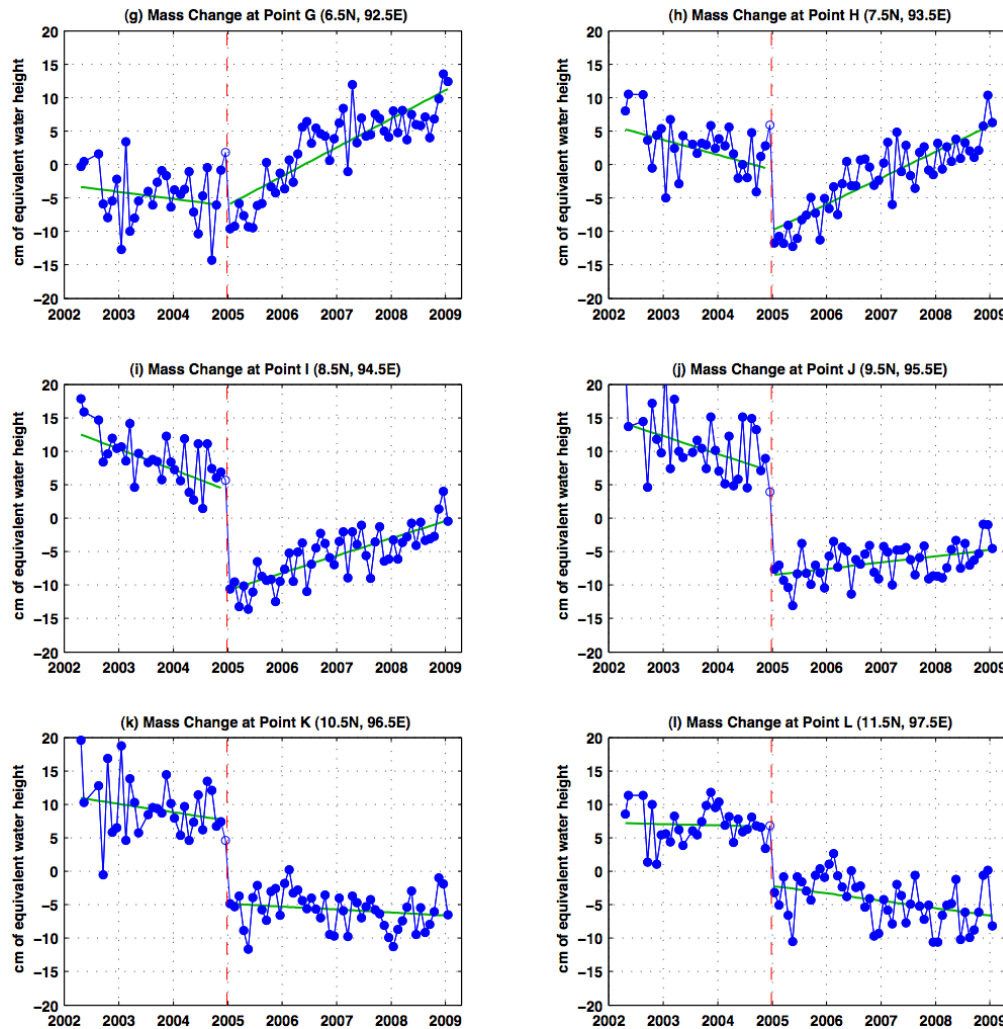
At points in subduction zone.

Mass Rate Time Series at Points A-F



At points in uplift zone with extended GRACE time series.

Postseismic Mass Rates at Points G-L



At points in subduction zone with extended GRACE time series.



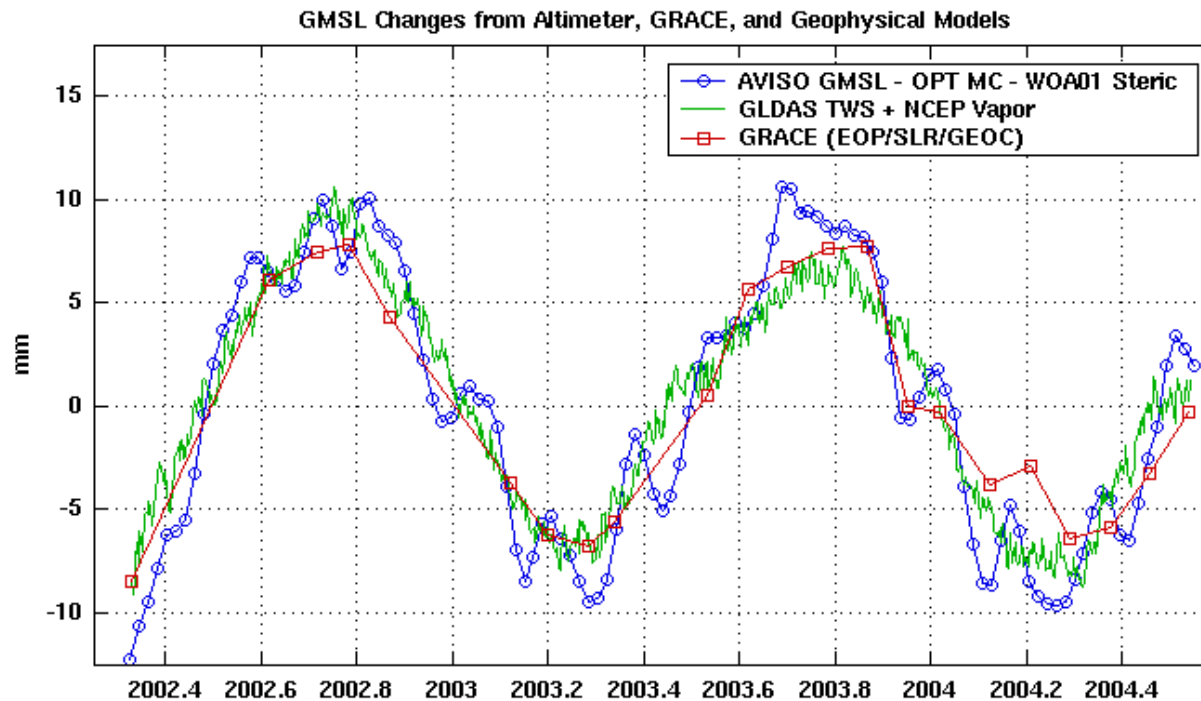
Conclusions (co- & postseismic deformation)

- ❑ GRACE RL04 gravity data are of sufficient spatial resolution to capture mass redistribution of Sumatra-Andaman earthquake.
- ❑ After appropriate filtering, RL04 data clearly delineate effects of the rupture, extending over 1800 km, consistent with previous GRACE estimates, deformation model estimates and other geodetic measurements.
- ❑ RL04 time series show steady mass increase, presumably related to post-seismic uplift, equivalent to ~ 8 cm/year of water mass in a broad region northwest of the epicenter centered on the Andaman-Sunda fault zone.
- ❑ Time series of gravity change (mass rates) provide a new coseismic/postseismic measure of major earthquakes.
- ❑ Mass rate estimates (for tectonic, seismic and other non-climate studies) may be contaminated by interannual variability in regions with large seasonal signals

GRACE Other Applications - Sea Level Change



Global Non-Steric Sea Level Change From GRACE



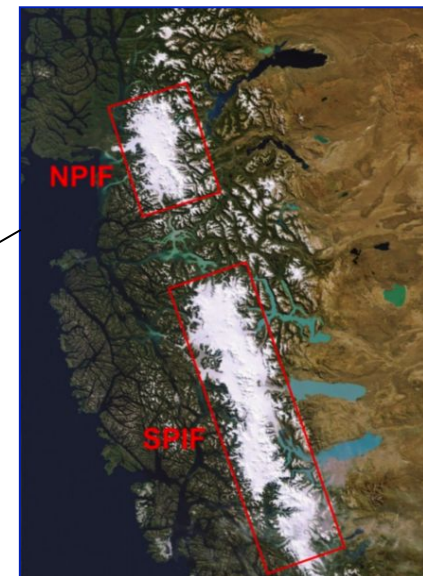
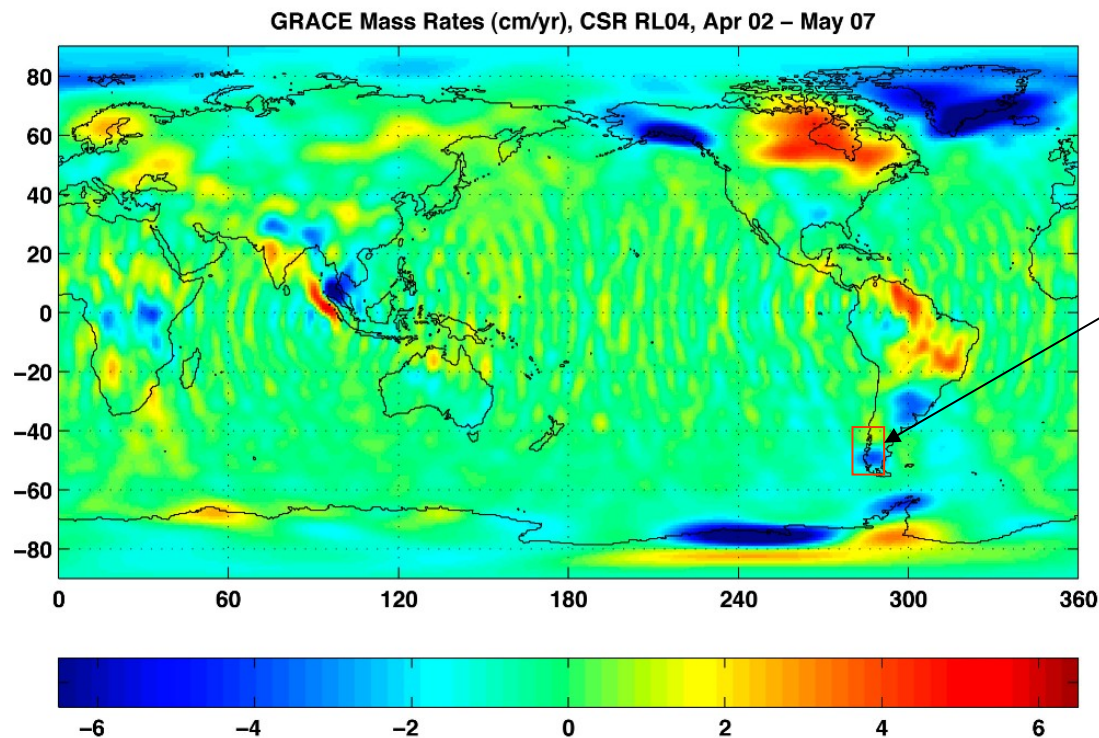
(See Chen et al. 2005 (JOG, Vol. 79, No. 9, 532-539) for details.)



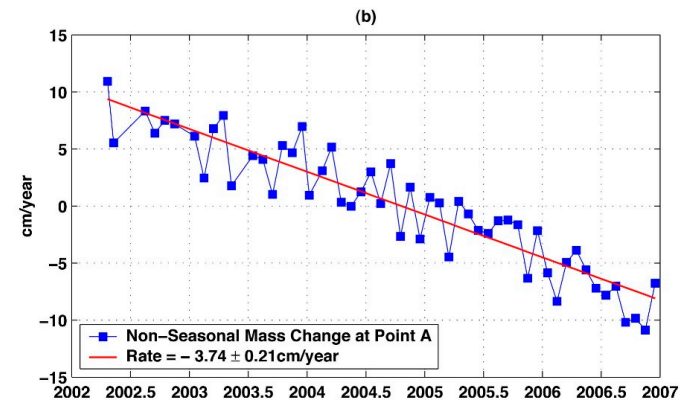
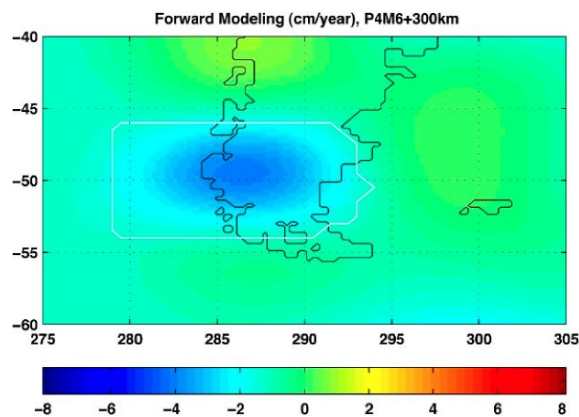
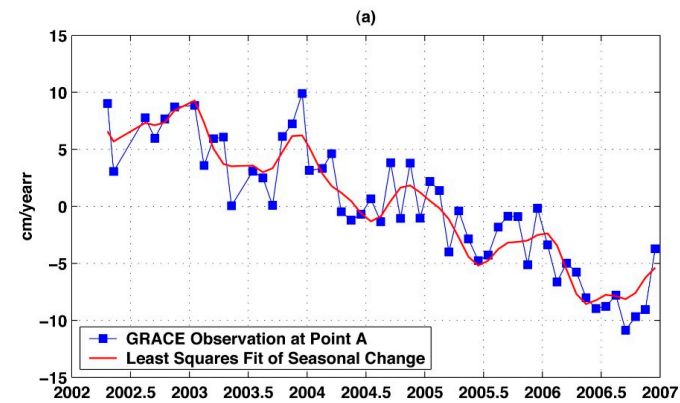
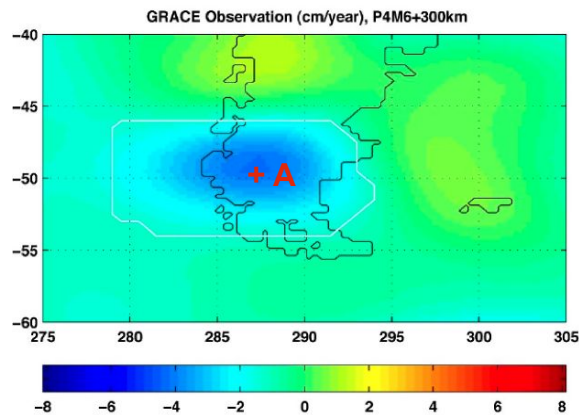
GRACE Other Applications - Mountain Glaciers



Patagonia Ice Fields Melting From GRACE



GRACE Observed Mass Rates in the PIF Region



GRACE estimated PIF ice melting rate based on forward modeling is 25.0 ± 9.2 km³/year - first successful 'direct' measurement of PIF mass balance of recent years [Chen et al. 2007, GRL].

A composite image of Earth from space, showing the Americas. Three satellites are depicted in orbit: two blue and yellow satellites in the upper left, and one larger satellite with a large solar panel in the upper right. A smaller satellite is in the lower left. The background is a starry space.

Thanks!

The Magic Blue Marble