



1 **Upper Atmosphere Responses to the 2022 Hunga Tonga-Hunga Ha’apai**

2 **Volcanic Eruption via Acoustic-Gravity Waves and Air-Sea Interaction**

3 Qinzeng Li<sup>1,5</sup>, Jiyao Xu<sup>1,2\*</sup>, Aditya Riadi Gusman<sup>3</sup>, Hanli Liu<sup>4</sup>, Wei Yuan<sup>1,5</sup>, Weijun Liu<sup>1,5</sup>,  
4 Yajun Zhu<sup>1,5</sup>, and Xiao Liu<sup>6</sup>

5

6 1. State Key Laboratory of Space Weather, National Space Science Center, Chinese Academy of  
7 Sciences, Beijing, 100190, China

8 2. School of Astronomy and Space Science, University of Chinese Academy of Science, Beijing,  
9 100049, China

10 3. GNS Science, Lower Hutt, New Zealand

11 4. High Altitude Observatory, National Center for Atmospheric Research, Boulder, Colorado,  
12 USA

13 5. Hainan National Field Science Observation and Research Observatory for Space Weather, National  
14 Space Science Center, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing, 100190, China

15 6. School of Mathematics and Information Science, Henan Normal University, Xinxiang, China

16

17 Corresponding author: Jiyao Xu ([jyxu@swl.ac.cn](mailto:jyxu@swl.ac.cn))



## 18 **Abstract**

19 Multi-group of strong atmospheric waves (wave packet #1-#5) over China associated  
20 with the 2022 Hunga Tonga–Hunga Ha’apai (HTHH) volcano eruptions were observed in the  
21 mesopause region using a ground-based airglow network. The phase speed wave packet #1  
22 and wave packet #2 is approximately 312 m/s and 238 m/s respectively, which is consistent  
23 with Lamb wave L0 mode and L1 mode from theoretical prediction. The wave fronts of Lamb  
24 wave L0 and L1 below the lower thermosphere are vertical, while the wave fronts of L0 mode  
25 tilt forward above exhibiting internal wave characteristics, which show good agreement with  
26 the theoretical results. Two types of tsunamis were simulated, one type of tsunami is induced  
27 by the atmospheric pressure wave (TIAPW) and the other type tsunami is directly induced by  
28 the Tonga volcano eruption (TITVE). From backward ray tracing analysis, the TIAPW and  
29 TITVE were likely the sources of the acoustic-gravity waves (AGWs) accompanying wave  
30 packet #2 and wave packet #4-5, respectively. The scale of tsunamis near the coast is very  
31 consistent with the atmospheric AGWs observed by the airglow network. The AGWs triggered  
32 by TITVE propagate nearly 3000 km inland with the support of duct and persist for about 4.5  
33 hr and almost covers the Chinese Mainland. The atmospheric pressure wave can directly affect  
34 the upper atmosphere, and can also be coupled with the upper atmosphere through the indirect  
35 way of generating tsunami and subsequently tsunami generating AGWs, which will provide a  
36 new understanding of the coupling between ocean and atmosphere.



## 37 **1. Introduction**

38 Hunga Tonga–Hunga Ha’apai (HTHH) volcano, which erupted at 04:14:45 UT on  
39 January 15, 2022, produced the largest volcanic eruption in terms of energy release of a single  
40 event since the Krakatoa volcanic eruption (Symons, 1888) in 1883. This volcanic eruption  
41 triggered broad spectrum atmospheric disturbances (Adam, 2022; Duncombe, 2022; Wright et  
42 al., 2022), including Lamb waves (Kanamori and Given, 1983, Zhang et al., 2022), acoustic  
43 waves, gravity waves (GWs) (Fritts and Alexander, 2003; Liu et al., 2022), and shock waves  
44 (Astafyeva et al., 2022). In addition, the travelling ionospheric disturbances (TIDs) caused by  
45 this volcanic eruption have also been reported (Themens et al., 2022; Lin et al., 2022).

46 Lamb waves are external wave propagating along Earth’s surface at the speed of sound  
47 (Beer, 1974). They are non-dispersive or nearly non-dispersive (Francis, 1973) and can  
48 propagate horizontally over long distances. Lamb wave mainly occupies the troposphere, and  
49 its perturbation pressure decays exponentially with height (Yeh and Liu, 1974). The Lamb  
50 waves excited by the Tonga volcano eruptions went around the Earth several times  
51 (Duncombe, 2022; Amores et al., 2022). Liu et al. (2023) reproduced the Lamb wave L0 and  
52 L1 modes consistently with theoretical predictions (Francis, 1973) using high-resolution  
53 Whole Atmosphere Community Climate Model with thermosphere/ionosphere extension  
54 (WACCM-X). Li et al. (2023) identified Lamb wave L1 mode from GNSS TEC analysis.

55 The 2022 HTHH volcano eruption triggered tsunamis that affected the whole world  
56 (Carvajal et al., 2022; Ghent et al., 2022). Tsunamis are typically generated by localized sea  
57 surface displacements caused by sources such as earthquakes and volcanoes, similar to the  
58 tsunamis directly induced by the 2022 Tonga volcano eruption (TITVE). Another significant



59 mechanism that occurred was the atmospheric pressure wave that excited the tsunamis  
60 (Kubota et al., 2022; Gusman et al., 2022). Tsunami can generate upward propagating AGWs  
61 through water-air interface and propagate to the height of the thermosphere/ionosphere (Hines,  
62 1972; Peltier and Hines, 1976; Pradipta et al., 2023; Hickey et al., 2009, 2010; Occhipinti et  
63 al., 2013; Vadas et al., 2015). Using the red line airglow imager, Makela et al. (2011) detected  
64 airglow disturbance in Hawaii that arrived before the tsunami. Also using the redline airglow,  
65 Smith et al. (2015) observed sea wave and GW almost simultaneously in Chile. Inchin et al.  
66 (2020) used a 3D numerical model to simulate the atmospheric AGWs generated by tsunamis.  
67 They found that bathymetry variations significantly affected the tsunamis and the AGWs  
68 excited by tsunamis, leading to their nonlinear evolution process. More recently, Inchin et al.  
69 (2022) simulated the modulation of tsunami induced AGWs on the mesopause airglow  
70 radiation, and found that large-scale tsunamis can cause detectable and quantitative  
71 disturbances of mesopause airglow through AGWs.

72 As far as we know, the research on the impact of tsunamis induced atmospheric AGWs  
73 on the atmosphere and ionosphere shown above is all caused by conventional tsunami. There  
74 are only two studies on the ground-based airglow observations of AGWs caused by this  
75 typical type tsunami, and both are limited to red line observations (Makela et al., 2011; Smith  
76 et al., 2015). However, the observation of tsunami induced GWs in the mesopause region  
77 observed by ground-based airglow imaging has never been reported. Neither has AGWs  
78 originate from tsunamis induced by the atmospheric pressure wave (TIAPW) been studied. In  
79 this study, we first reported the propagation characteristics of the AGWs generated by the  
80 tsunamis triggered by the 2022 HTHH volcano eruptions in the mesopause region using the



81 ground-based airglow observation network. We then focus on the coupling process of  
82 atmospheric pressure waves triggering tsunamis, and then tsunamis generating atmospheric  
83 AGWs (air-water-air-coupling process) in the far-field area of the 2022 HTHH volcano  
84 eruption.

## 85 **2. Data and Methods**

### 86 **2.1 Double layer airglow network**

87 A multi-layer airglow observation network (Xu et al., 2021) was built to study atmospheric  
88 disturbances excited by severe weather events, such as thunderstorms (Xu et al., 2015),  
89 typhoons (Li et al., 2022) and volcanic activities. The multi-layer airglow observation network  
90 mainly includes the OH airglow network, which has been used to observe the airglow layer at  
91 the height of 87 km; the OI airglow network has been used to observe the airglow layer at the  
92 height of 250 km. In addition, there were 557 nm airglow and Na airglow imagers installed at  
93 some stations, such as Xinglong Station. The airglow network can provide observation with  
94 high temporal and spatial resolution. The temporal resolution is 1 min and the spatial  
95 resolution is 1 km. The airglow image was calibrated with the help of standard star map and  
96 projected into geospatial space. The background radiation is removed by differential method,  
97 to highlight atmospheric fluctuations.

### 98 **2.2 Tsunami simulation model**

99 Tonga submarine volcano erupted on 15 January 2022, and generated tsunamis that were  
100 detected around the globe, affected particularly the Pacific region. In this study, two types of  
101 tsunamis were simulated, conventional tsunami simulations and atmospheric pressure  
102 wave-induced tsunami simulations. For the tsunami simulations from a localized source, a



103 B-spline function (Koketsu and Higashi, 1992) is used to represent the circular water uplift  
104 source at the volcano. For the second type of tsunami source, the atmospheric pressure wave  
105 model is based on the Equation (1) in Gusman et al. (2022). The moving change pressure  
106 terms as an input to tsunami simulation momentum equation. For detailed tsunami simulation  
107 algorithms, please refer to Gusman et al. (2022).

### 108 2.3 Ray tracing method

109 The following ray tracing equations (Lighthill, 1978) describes the propagation path of AGWs.

$$110 \quad \frac{dx_i}{dt} = \frac{\partial \omega}{\partial k_i} = c_{g_i} \quad (1)$$

$$111 \quad \frac{dk_i}{dt} = -\frac{\partial \omega}{\partial x_i} \quad (2)$$

112 There is no real-time temperature data available in this study. Temperature data used to  
113 study the propagation characteristics of AGWs is from the Sounding of the Atmosphere using  
114 Broad band Emission Radiometry (SABER) instrument on the Thermosphere Ionosphere  
115 Mesosphere Energetics and Dynamics (TIMED) satellite. There are three TIMED satellite  
116 tracks with descending track at about 12:07 UT and ascending track at about 21:18 UT and  
117 with ascending track at about 22:54 UT inland China as shown in Fig.7a. Using the dispersion  
118 relation of acoustic gravity wave (Yeh and Liu, 1974), we can assess the vertical propagation  
119 state of AGWs. The dispersion relation is as follows

$$120 \quad m^2 = \frac{\omega^2}{c_s^2} \left(1 - \frac{\omega_a^2}{\omega^2}\right) - k^2 \left(1 - \frac{\omega_b^2}{\omega^2}\right) \quad (3)$$

121 where  $m$  is the vertical wave number,  $k$  is the horizontal wave number,  $c_s$  the local speed of  
122 sound,  $\omega = k(c - u)$  is intrinsic frequency,  $c$  is the horizontal phase speed,  $u$  is the background  
123 wind speed in the direction of wave propagation from Horizontal Wind Model 14 (HWM-14)



124 (Drob et al., 2015).  $\omega_a^2 = \frac{g}{T} \frac{dT}{dz} + \frac{\gamma g}{4H}$  is acoustic cutoff frequency,  $\omega_b^2 = \frac{g}{T} \frac{dT}{dz} + \frac{(\gamma-1)g}{\gamma H}$  is

125 buoyancy frequency,  $g$  is the gravitational acceleration, and  $T$  is temperature from the SABER/

126 TIMED satellite observation. When  $\omega > \omega_a$  or  $\omega < \omega_b$ ,  $m^2 > 0$ , AGW can propagate freely, while

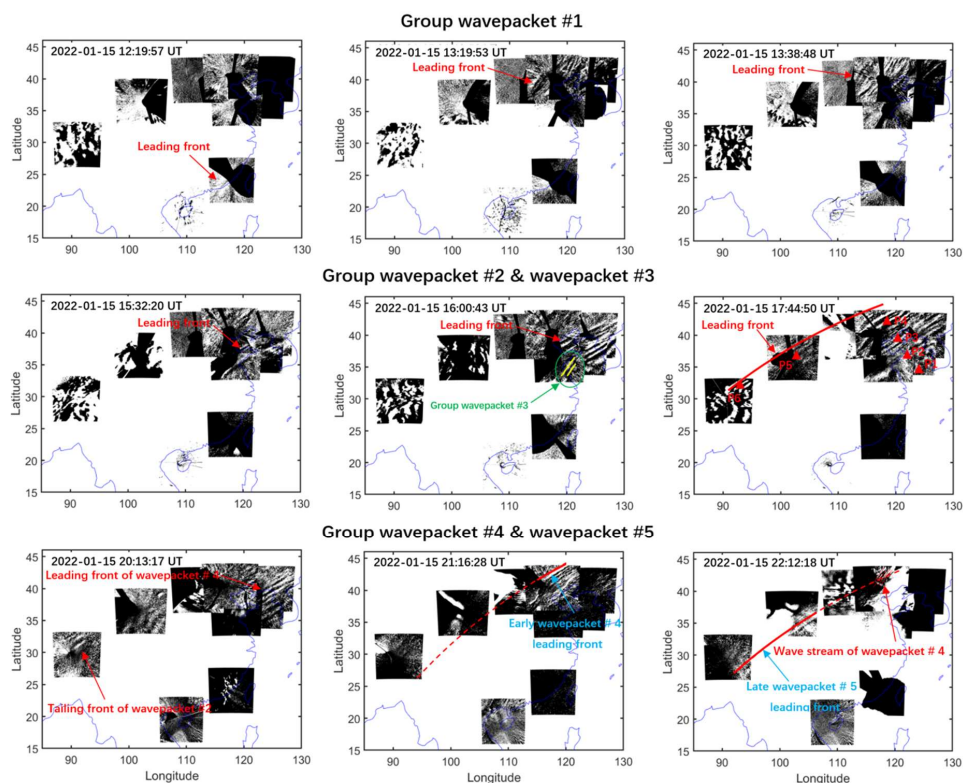
127 when  $\omega_b < \omega < \omega_a$ ,  $m^2 < 0$ , the wave is evanescent.

### 128 3. Results and Discussion

#### 129 3.1 Upper Atmospheric Airglow Responses to HTHH Volcanic Eruption via Lamb

##### 130 Waves

131 Five groups of atmospheric waves (wave packet #1-5) were observed in the mesopause  
132 region by the ground-based airglow network. Figure 1 shows the wave packet #1 observed at  
133 each station of the OH airglow network (top panels). Wave packet #1 entered the view of the  
134 OH airglow network approximately 8 hr after the HTHH volcanic eruption. Three hours after  
135 wave packet #1 entered the field of view, wave packet #2 was observed by the OH airglow  
136 network. The leading front of wave packet #2 has an uninterrupted continuous front, which  
137 almost covers the whole Chinese Mainland (middle panels). Interestingly, we observed AGWs  
138 accompanying wave packet #2 (hereafter wave packet #3) over the northwest region of the  
139 Yellow Sea (Middle image of middle panels). Wave packet #2 always keeps a stable state in  
140 the process of propagation, and maintains a regular front when propagating over Lhasa Station  
141 (29.7°N, 91.0 °E). Wave packet #4 exhibits strong instability characteristics during  
142 propagation. Compared to the continuous leading front of wave packet #2, the fronts of wave  
143 packet #4 and #5 are separated (bottom panels). We also found that wave packet #5 (Left  
144 image of bottom panels) propagate more than 3000 km inland (propagating to the area west of  
145 longitude 90°E).



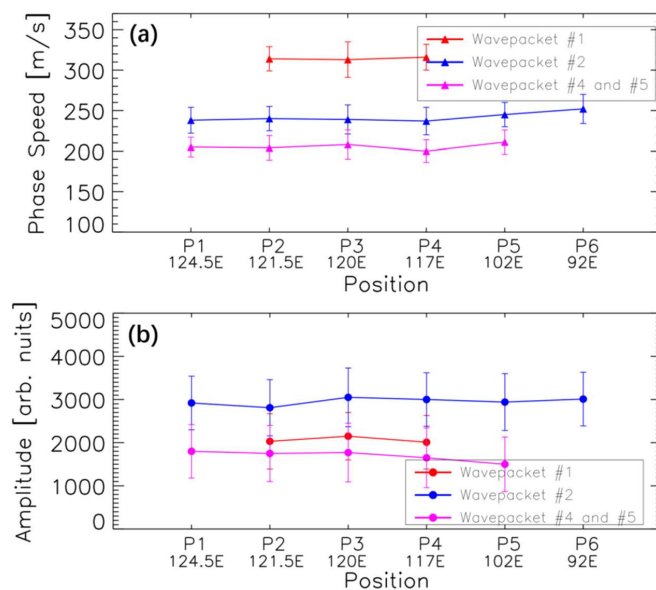
146

147 **Figure 1** Five strong group atmospheric waves associated with the Tonga volcano eruptions were observed  
 148 in the mesopause region by the ground-based airglow network.

149

Figure 2 shows the relationship between horizontal phases speed and relative amplitude  
 150 and longitude. The phase speed of wave packet #1 is approximately 312 m/s. Wave packet #2  
 151 displays a slightly slower phase speed, with average phase speed of 238 m/s. The horizontal  
 152 phase velocity of group wave packet # 4-5 is less than that of the first GW, which is  
 153 approximately 207 m/s. For wave amplitude, the relative amplitude of wave packet #2 is  
 154 greater than that of wave packets #1 and # 4-5, with a maximum amplitude of nearly 30%, and  
 155 wave packet #4-5 has the smallest relative amplitude.





156

157 **Figure 2** Variation of (a) phase speed and (b) relative amplitude of GWs with longitude.

158 The HTHH volcano eruption produced Lamb waves that propagate around the globe<sup>4</sup>,

159 causing sudden changes in surface pressure. Figure 3 shows vertical distribution

160 characteristics of atmospheric waves caused by Tonga volcano eruption from the surface to the

161 thermosphere atmosphere. Figure 3d shows the surface air pressure data of Xinglong station

162 (40.4°N, 117.6 °E). At 13:15 UT on January 15, 2022, the air pressure dropped sharply from

163 920 Pa to 917.7 Pa, indicating that Lamb wave arrived at the surface of Xinglong station at

164 13:15 UT. A small disturbance of air pressure occurs at 16:33 UT. The time when wave packet

165 #1 (Fig. 3b) and wave packet #2 (Fig. 3c) reach the zenith direction of Xinglong Station from

166 OH airglow observation is 13:13:34 UT and 16:32:16 UT, which matches the time for surface

167 pressure disturbances quite well. The phase speed of the wave packet #1 (~312 m/s) is very

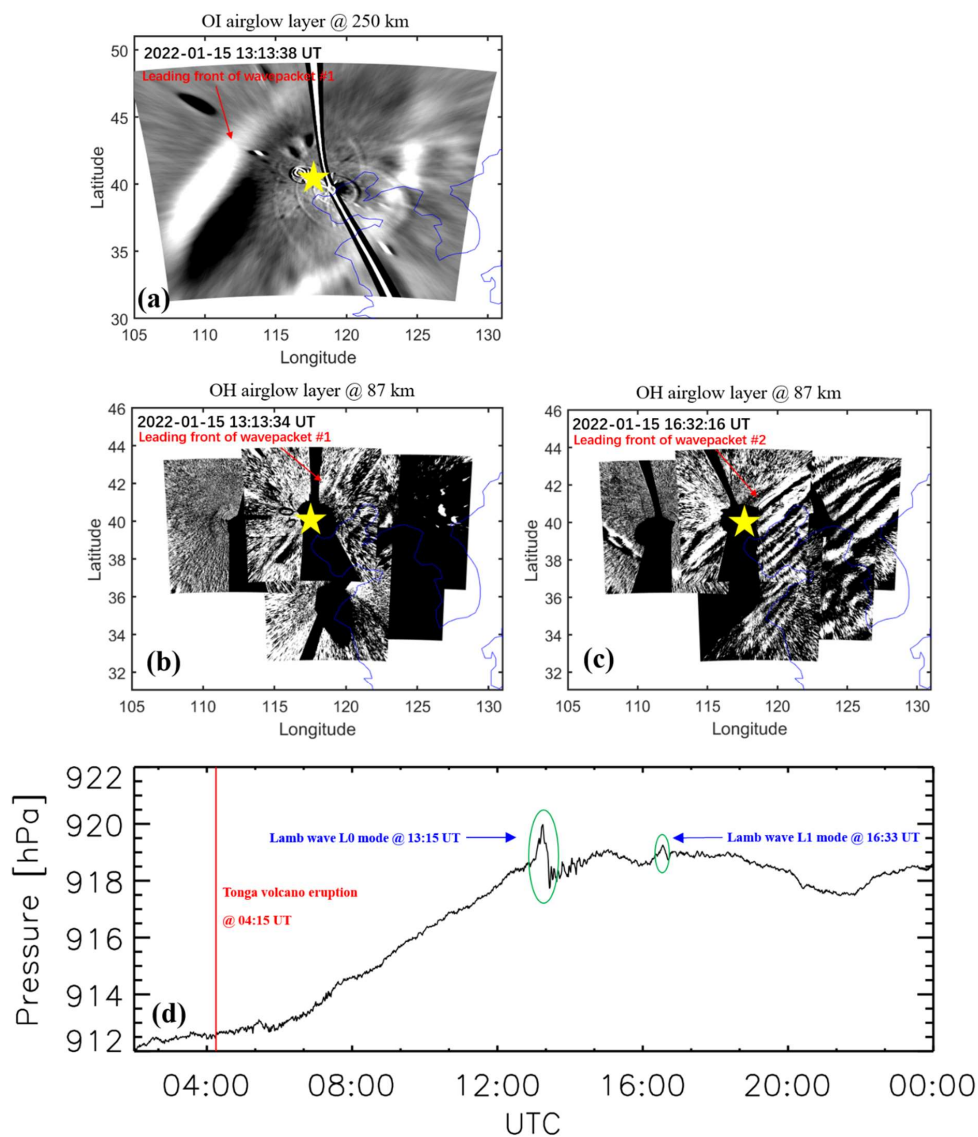
168 close to the speed of surface Lamb wave (L0 mode). The wave packet # 2 with a slower phase

169 speed (~238 m/s) is consistent with the Lamb wave L1 mode in theoretical predictions



170 (Francis, 1973) and simulations from WACCM-X model (Liu et al., 2023). However, at almost  
171 the same time, the wave front observed in the thermosphere with a slightly faster phase speed  
172 of 342 m/s is nearly 550 km a head of the wave front in the mesopause region in the horizontal  
173 propagation direction and ahead of time approximately 30 min (Fig. 3a). This is in good  
174 agreement with theoretical and modeling results (Fig. 4 of Lindzen and Blake, 1972; Fig. 2 of  
175 Liu et al. 2023), which show that the wave fronts of Lamb wave L0 below the lower  
176 thermosphere are vertical and tilt forward above. As for Lamb wave L1 mode, the ground and  
177 mesopause region provide waveguide surfaces, resulting in maximum wave energy between  
178 the two layer, while the phase does not change with height (Francis, 1973).

179 As mentioned above, the amplitude of Lamb wave L1 mode in the mesopause region is  
180 greater than that of L0 mode, which may be due to the fact that L1 mode is an internal wave  
181 below the mesopause (Liu et al. 2023). For an isothermal atmosphere, the Lamb wave L0  
182 mode amplitude grows with altitude  $z$  as  $e^{\kappa z/H}$ , where  $H$  is the scale height,  $\kappa = (\gamma - 1)/\gamma$ , and  $\gamma$   
183 is the ratio of specific heats ( $\sim 1.4$ ). However, the amplitude of internal GWs varies as  $e^{z/2H}$ .  
184 The amplitude of internal waves increases with height at a rate greater than that of surface  
185 modes.



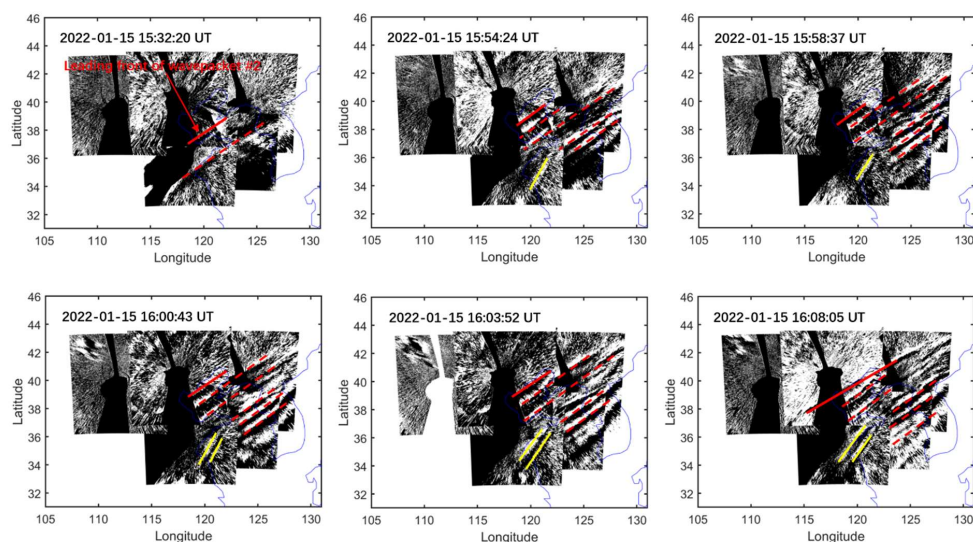
186

187 **Figure 3** (a) OI 630 nm airglow observation at 13:13:18 UT. OH airglow network observations when (b)  
 188 wave packet #1 and (c) wave packet #2 pass through the zenith direction of Xinglong Station at 13:13:34  
 189 UT and at 16:32:16 UT, respectively. (d) The surface pressure profile obtained from Xinglong observation  
 190 station. The sudden change of air pressure at 13:15 UT indicates the arrival time of Lamb wave L0. A small  
 191 disturbance of air pressure occurs at 16:33 UT indicates the arrival time of Lamb wave L1. The yellow stars  
 192 represent the position of the Xinglong station.

193

194

195



196

197 **Figure 4** The red solid lines indicate leading wave front of the wave packet #2. The yellow solid line marks  
198 other wave fronts, which are clearly not parallel to the wave fronts of wave packet #2.

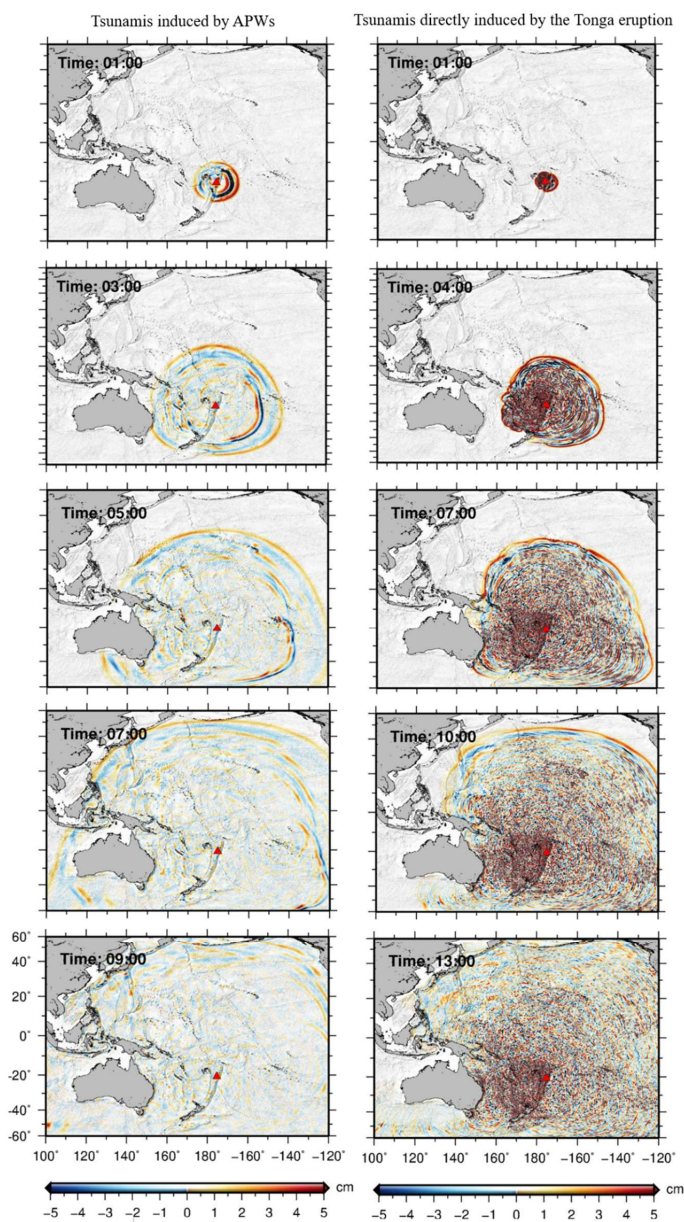
199 Figure 4 shows the time sequence of propagation image of wave packet #3. We found  
200 that with the propagation of wave packet #2, there is an AGW with a certain angle between its  
201 phase plane and the phase plane of wave packet #2. This implies that the source of the wave  
202 packet #3 is different from that of wave packet #2. The horizontal wavelength of the wave  
203 packet #3 near the coast is  $84 \text{ km} \pm 5 \text{ km}$ . We find the horizontal wavelengths of the  
204 atmospheric AGW observed by airglow network are very consistent with the simulated  
205 tsunamis near the coast.

### 206 3.2 Simulation of Tsunami induced by HTHH Volcano Eruption

207 The 2022 HTHH volcano eruption triggered global atmospheric pressure waves. The  
208 simulated atmospheric pressure waves propagate at an approximate constant speed of 317 m/s,  
209 and the amplitude decreases with the distance from the volcano (Gusman et al., 2022). Figure 5  
210 shows snapshots of the TIAPW and TITVE simulation results. The leading TIAPW excited by



211 the pressure disturbances travels at the same speed as the atmospheric pressure wave. The  
212 propagation speed of TITVE from the shallow water (long) wave approximation is  $v = \sqrt{gH_0}$   
213 (Salmon, 2014), where  $g$  is the gravitational acceleration and  $H_0$  is the ocean depth. For sea  
214 water with a general depth of 4 km, the speed of shallow water wave is about 200 m/s.  
215 Therefore, the TIAPW is significantly faster than the TITVE. We found that the TIAPW  
216 arrived along the coast of Chinese Mainland about 4-5 hours earlier than the TITVE. However,  
217 in the relatively shallow Yellow Sea, the leading TIAPW is very small and only the later  
218 waves of the TIAPW are relatively large.



219

220 **Figure 5** Snapshots of simulated tsunamis induced by the atmospheric pressure wave (left panels) and  
221 tsunamis directly induced by the Tonga volcano eruption (right panels).

### 222 3.3 Upper atmosphere responses to HTHH volcanic eruption via Air-Sea Interaction

223 Figure 6 shows the simulation results of TIAPW and TITVE near the coast of Chinese



224 Mainland 11 hr (15:15 UT) and 15 hr (19:15 UT) after the volcanic eruption, respectively.

225 Air pressure waves are not very efficient at directly exciting tsunamis in shallow water due

226 to the weaker air-sea coupling (Gusman et al., 2022; Yamada et al., 2022). The Yellow sea is

227 quite shallow, so the amplitude of the leading of TIAPW is very small there. The leading

228 wave is followed by subsequent waves with larger amplitudes, which propagate in the same

229 direction as the leading wave but at the conventional tsunami speed (Gusman et al., 2022).

230 We found that the TIAPW and TITVE on the continental shelf have shorter wavelengths

231 compared with those in the deep ocean. When the tsunamis approached the coast of China,

232 three groups of AGWs (wave packet #3 and wave packet #4-5) were observed by the

233 airglow network. The time when the AGW entered the view of the airglow network was

234 very close to the time when the Tonga tsunamis reached the coast of Chinese Mainland. The

235 wave packet #3 entered the airglow network at 15:30 UT and the wave packet #4-5 entered

236 the airglow network at 19:40 UT. This strongly suggests that the wave packets detected by

237 the airglow network are correlated to the tsunamis near the coast. We found that as the

238 tsunamis approached the coast of China, they diffracted between Taiwan and Philippines

239 and became discontinuous. And the wave packet #4 and #5 we observed was also

240 discontinuous, which further confirms the correlation between wave packet # 4-5 and

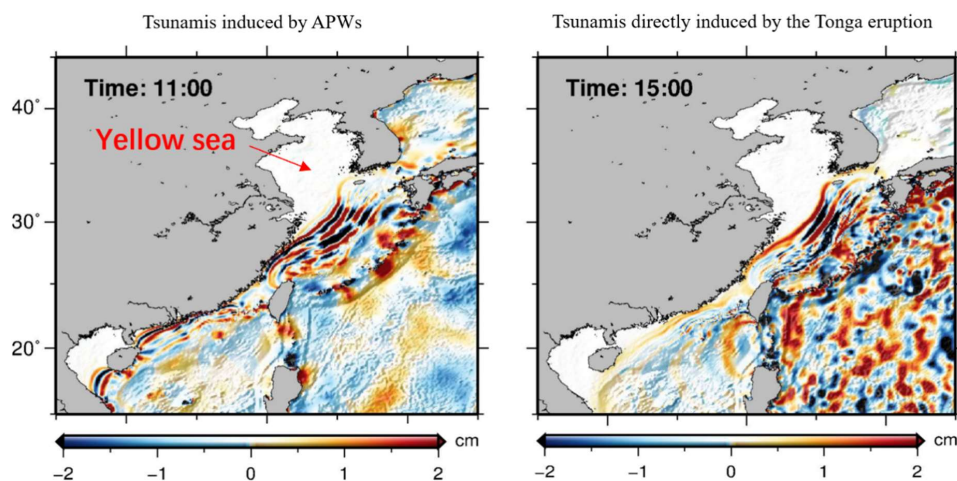
241 discontinuous tsunamis. We estimate that the average wavelength of TIAPW near the coast

242 of the Yellow Sea is approximately  $82 \text{ km} \pm 4 \text{ km}$ , while the average wavelengths of TITVE

243 near the coast of the Yellow Sea and South Sea are  $95 \pm 5 \text{ km}$  and  $86 \pm 5 \text{ km}$ , respectively.

244





245

246 **Figure 6** Simulated tsunamis induced by the atmospheric pressure wave (left panels) and tsunamis directly  
247 induced by the Tonga volcano eruption (right panels) near the coast of Chinese Mainland. The marked time  
248 represents the time after the volcanic eruption.

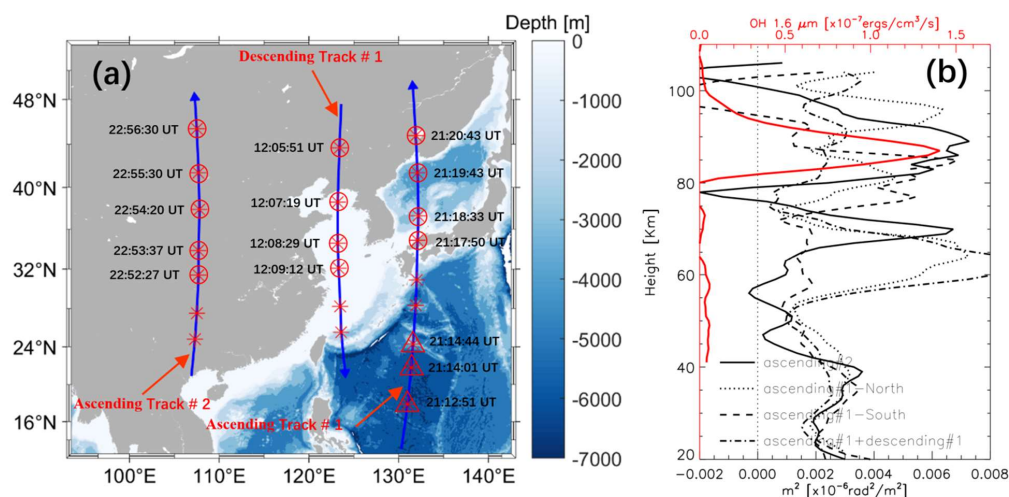
249 Figure 7b shows the square of vertical wave number  $m^2$  profile (black) derived from the  
250 average temperature from the limb viewing of the Sounding of the Atmosphere using SABER/  
251 TIMED measurement locations marked by the red circles and triangles in Fig.7a. We take the  
252 average temperature of ascending track #1 and descending track #1 serves as the background  
253 temperature for the wave packet #3 and ascending track #1 as the background temperature of  
254 the wave packet #3 when they propagate in the coastal vicinity. We take ascending track #2 as  
255 the background temperature of wave packet #3 when they propagate inland China. The wind  
256 field is from ERA-5 (Hersbach et al., 2020) and HWM-14. The peak height of OH airglow  
257 layer is 87 km. We found that the propagation of wave packet #3 (dash-dotted line) is in a state  
258 of free propagation in the coastal vicinity.

259 Figure 8 shows the results of ray tracing for the wave packet #3. We find that the source  
260 location of AGWs over the coast of Chinese Mainland falls in the near coast where the  
261 tsunami occurred. Therefore, we suggest that the waves with larger amplitudes following the

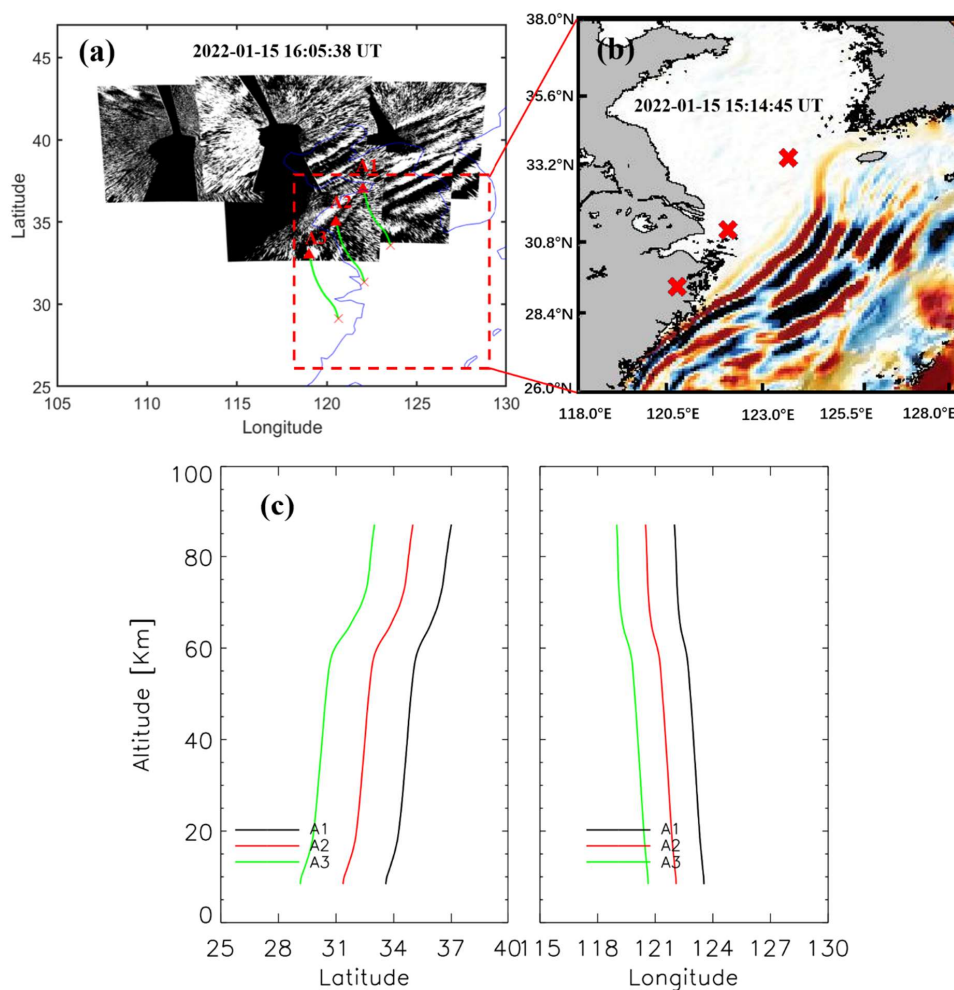




262 leading of TIAPW interact with the atmosphere after arriving at the coast of Chinese Mainland  
 263 to generate the upward propagating AGW packet.



264  
 265 **Figure 7** (a) Ascending and descending SABER/TIMED satellite tracks over Chinese Mainland. Background  
 266 representative ocean depth map. (b) Square of vertical wave number  $m^2$  profiles: black solid line profile  
 267 derived from the ascending track #2 (marked by the red circle), dotted line profile derived from the  
 268 ascending track #1-North (marked by the red circle), dashed line profile derived from the ascending track  
 269 #1-South (marked by the red triangle), and dash-dotted line profile derived from the average the ascending  
 270 track #1 and descending track #1 (marked by the red circle) from the SABER/TIMED measurement  
 271 locations in (a). The red line represents the OH 1.6  $\mu m$  emission intensity obtained by the SABER/TIMED.  
 272  
 273



274

275 **Figure 8** (a) Backward ray tracing results of the wave packet #3 observed by the OH airglow network. The  
 276 red triangles and red crosses represent the trace start and termination points, respectively. (b) Simulated  
 277 tsunamis induced by the atmospheric pressure wave (TIAPW) corresponding to the dotted rectangular area in  
 278 (a). (c) Ray paths of the wave starting from the seven sampling points in (a).

279 According to the theory of AGW dispersion, the AGW propagating obliquely has the  
 280 following approximate relationship:  $\sin(\varphi) \sim T_B/T$ ,  $\varphi$  is the oblique propagation angle,  $T_B$   
 281 is the buoyancy period,  $T$  is the intrinsic period. Azeem et al. (2007) found that the  
 282 disturbances in the ionosphere excited by the 2011 Tohoku tsunamis when they reached the  
 283 west coast of the United States. They concluded that the fluctuations observed in TEC satisfy



284 AGW dispersion relation, and the period and horizontal wavelength of the TEC disturbances  
285 increased with distance from the West Coast of the U.S.

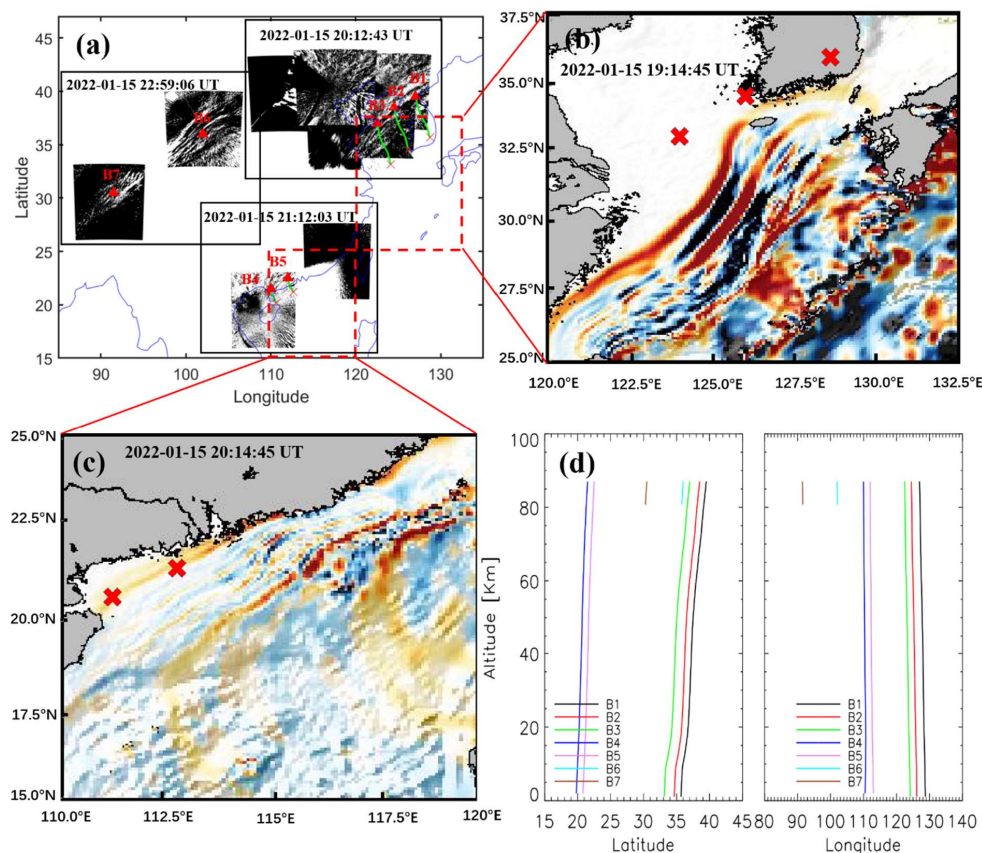
286 From the airglow network observations, we found that the wave packet #4-5 excited by  
287 the tsunamis, continues to propagate over the main land more than 3000 km from the coast. If  
288 the AGWs observed by the airglow network satisfy the dispersion relation, we will obtain the  
289 propagation characteristics similar to that observed by Azeem et al. (2007) in the ionosphere  
290 from TEC observations.  $T_B$  is about 5min from the SABER/TIMED observation. The period of  
291 wave packet #3 is between 5.5 min and 8.5 min. The minimum propagation angle  $\varphi$  equals  
292  $35^\circ$ , and the corresponding maximum propagation distance  $L$  is 125 km from  $L \sim H_{oh}/\tan(\varphi)$   
293 estimation, where  $H_{oh}=87$  km is the height of OH airglow layer. However, our observation  
294 does not satisfy the free oblique propagation dispersion theory of AGWs. In addition, we did  
295 not find that the GW horizontal wavelength increased with the distance from the shore, as  
296 predicted by the theory of AGW oblique propagation. Therefore, the AGWs excited by the  
297 tsunami we observed in the mesopause region may be modulated by duct.

298 We did find a duct structure between 80 and 93 km (black solid line in Fig. 7b), while  
299 the wave packet #3 were in a state of free propagation when they propagate around the coastal  
300 vicinity of Chinese Mainland (dotted line and dashed line). The duct almost includes the whole  
301 OH airglow layer. Therefore, we believe that AGWs generated by TITVE may enter the duct in  
302 the process of propagation over Chinese Mainland. The duct structure over Chinese Mainland  
303 can explain that the GWs generated by the tsunamis can propagate thousands of kilometers  
304 inland.

305 Figure 9 shows the results of ray tracing for wave packet #4-5. The horizontal



306 wavelength of wave packet #4 and #5 observed near the coast by the OH airglow network  
307 approximately  $89 \text{ km} \pm 6 \text{ km}$  and  $80 \text{ km} \pm 4 \text{ km}$ . We find that the source location of AGWs  
308 over the coast of Chinese Mainland falls in the near tsunami area, while the location of AGW  
309 ray termination over the inland (position B6 and B7 in Fig. 9d) is around 80 km, which  
310 indicates that the wave meets the evanescent layer (Wrasse et al., 2006). This is consistent  
311 with the duct structure obtained through dispersion relation. Therefore, we suggest that TITVE  
312 interact with the atmosphere after arriving at the coast of Chinese Mainland to generate the  
313 upward propagating AGW packet. After reaching the mesopause region, this wave packet  
314 enters the wave duct structure in the horizontal propagation process, and this wave duct  
315 supports wave packet #3 to propagate more than 3000 km inland China.



316

317 **Figure 9** (a) Backward ray tracing results of the fourth and five group GWs observed by the OH airglow  
 318 network. The red triangles and red crosses represent the trace start and termination points, respectively. (b)  
 319 and (c) Simulated tsunami directly induced by the Tonga volcano eruption (SWITVE) corresponding to the  
 320 dotted rectangular area in (a). (c) Ray paths of the wave starting from the seven sampling points in (a).

#### 321 4. Conclusions

322 Strong atmospheric disturbances, including Lamb waves, acoustic waves, and gravity  
 323 waves, were triggered by the 2022 HTHH volcano eruption. The HTHH submarine volcanic  
 324 eruption also triggered an unusual tsunami, which can generate atmospheric gravity waves  
 325 (Fig. 10). We observed five strong group atmospheric waves associated with the HTHH  
 326 volcano eruption from the ground-based airglow network observations.

327 The phase speed of the wave packet #1 is approximately 312 m/s, which is observed



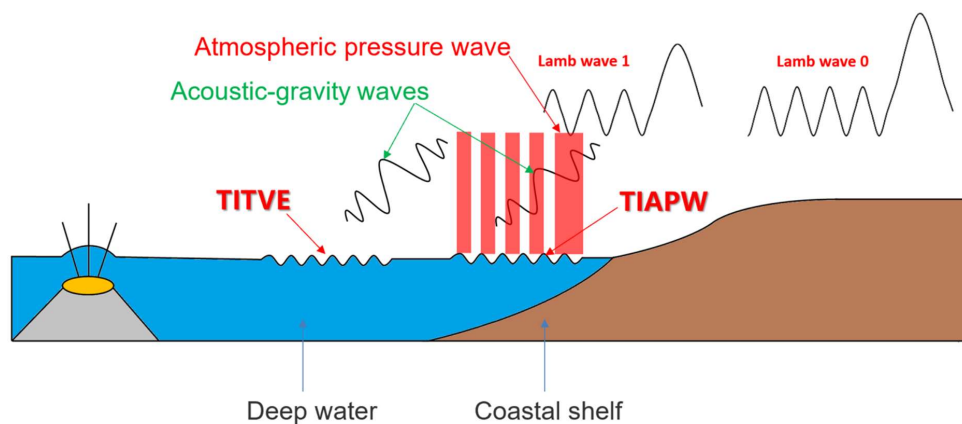
328 almost simultaneously with the surface Lamb wave L0 mode. Wave packet #2, with average  
329 phase speed of 238 m/s, has been confirmed as Lamb wave L1 mode from theoretical  
330 prediction. Wave packet # 3 and wave packet #4-5 are generated by TIAPW and TITVE from  
331 backward ray tracing analysis. The horizontal phase speed of the wave packet #4-5 is less than  
332 that of the wave packet #1 and wave packet #2, which is approximately 207 m/s. The  
333 horizontal wavelengths of the atmospheric AGWs observed by the airglow network are very  
334 consistent with those of the tsunami near the coast. This is the first time that we observed the  
335 AGWs triggered by the oceanic waves in the mesopause region using optical detection  
336 equipment. It is also the first time to report atmospheric gravity waves excited by TIAPW.

337 The AGWs generated by TITVE propagate nearly 3000 km inland and almost covers the  
338 entire Chinese Mainland. When the wave excited by TITVE propagate far away from the coast,  
339 the characteristics of AGWs are not consistent with the dispersion of free propagation AGWs.  
340 We find these wave packets are controlled by the duct, which can support the propagation of  
341 these GWs for thousands of kilometers after the tsunami were stopped at the coast. Therefore,  
342 ocean waves can have a significant impact on the upper atmosphere over inland areas far from  
343 the ocean through AGWs.

344 The surface atmospheric pressure wave generated by the 2022 HTHH volcano eruption  
345 can directly affect the upper atmosphere. The atmospheric pressure wave from the eruption  
346 generated a fast tsunami never before observed by tsunami observation networks. When the  
347 tsunamis reach the coast, their speeds decrease but their amplitudes increase, and the  
348 atmospheric gravity wave generated by them will also affect the upper atmosphere. Therefore,  
349 it exhibits special dynamic coupling process between air and sea via acoustic gravity waves



350 (Fig. 10). This indirect impact on the upper atmosphere provides a new perspective for us to  
351 study the coupling between the ocean and the atmosphere.



352

353 **Figure 10** The Tonga volcano eruptions triggered two types of tsunamis, one type of tsunami is induced by  
354 the atmospheric pressure wave (TIAPW) and the other type tsunami is directly induced by the Tonga  
355 volcano eruption (TITVE). The acoustic gravity waves (AGWs) caused by tsunamis can propagate to the  
356 mesopause region.

357

#### 358 **Data availability**

359 The Double Layer Airglow Network data is available at <https://data2.meridianproject.ac.cn/data>.

360 TIMED/SABER data is accessed from <http://saber.gats-inc.com/data.php>. The ERA5 reanalysis

361 data are able to be downloaded from the Copernicus Climate Change Service Climate Data

362 Store through <https://www.ecmwf.int/en/forecasts/datasets/reanalysis-datasets/era5>.

363

#### 364 **Author contributions**

365 J.X and Q.L. conceived the idea of the manuscript. Q.L. carried out the data analysis,

366 interpretation and manuscript preparation. A.R.G. developed and performed the numerical

367 simulations. W.L and Y.Z compiled, processed and analysed satellite data. H.L.L., X.L and



368 W.Y. contributed to the data interpretation and manuscript preparation. All authors discussed  
369 the results and commented on the manuscript.

370

### 371 **Competing interests**

372 The authors declare no competing interests.

373

### 374 **Acknowledgements**

375 This work was supported by the National Science Foundation of China (42374205, 41831073  
376 and 41974179). The project is also supported by the Specialized Research Fund for State Key  
377 Laboratories. We acknowledge the use of data from the Chinese Meridian Project.

378

### 379 **References**

380 Adam, D.: Tonga volcano eruption created puzzling ripples in Earth's atmosphere, *Nature*, 601,  
381 497, 2022.

382 Amores, A., Monserrat, S., Marcos, M., Argüeso, D., Villalonga, J., Jordà, G., and Gomis, D.:  
383 Numerical simulation of atmospheric Lamb waves generated by the 2022 Hunga-Tonga  
384 volcanic eruption, *Geophysical Research Letters*, 49, 2022.

385 Astafyeva, E., Maletckii, B., Mikesell, T. D., Munaibari, E., Ravanelli, M., Coisson, P., et al.  
386 The 15 January 2022 Hunga Tonga eruption history as inferred from ionospheric  
387 observations, *Geophysical Research Letters*, 49, 2022.

388 Azeem, I., Vadas, S. L., Crowley, G., and Makela, J. J.: Traveling ionospheric disturbances  
389 over the United States induced by gravity waves from the 2011Tohoku tsunami and  
390 comparison with gravity wave dissipative theory, *J. Geophys. Res. Space Physics*, 122,





- 391 3430–3447, 2017.
- 392 Beer, T. Atmospheric Waves, 300 pp., John Wiley, New York, 1974.
- 393 Carvajal, M., Sepúlveda, I., Gubler, A., and Garreaud, R. Worldwide signature of the 2022  
394 Tonga volcanic tsunami, *Geophysical Research Letters*, 49(6), 2022.
- 395 Duncombe, J.: The surprising reach of Tonga’s Giant atmospheric waves, *Eos*, 103, 2022.
- 396 Drob, D. P., Emmert, J. T., Meriwether, J. W., Makela, J. J., Doornbos, E., Conde, M.,  
397 Hernandez, G., Noto, J., Zawdie, K. A., McDonald, S. E., Huba, J. D., and Klenzing, J.  
398 H.: An update to the Horizontal Wind Model (HWM): The quiet time thermosphere,  
399 *Earth and Space Science*, 2, 301–319, 2015.
- 400 Fritts, D. C., and Alexander, M. J.: Gravity wave dynamics and effects in the middle  
401 atmosphere, *Rev. Geophys.*, 41,1003, 2003.
- 402 Francis, S. H.: Acoustic-gravity modes and large-scale traveling ionospheric disturbances of a  
403 realistic, dissipative atmosphere, *J. Geophys. Res.*, 78 (13), 2278– 2301,1973.
- 404 Ghent, J. N., and Crowell, B. W.: Spectral characteristics of ionospheric disturbances over the  
405 southwestern Pacific from the 15 January 2022 Tonga eruption and tsunami, *Geophysical  
406 Research Letters*, 49, 2022.
- 407 Gusman, A.R., Roger, J., Noble, C. et al. The 2022 Hunga Tonga-Hunga Ha’apai Volcano  
408 Air-Wave Generated Tsunami, *Pure and Applied Geophysics*, 2022.
- 409 Hersbach, H., Bell, B., Berrisford, P., Hirahara, S., Horányi, A., Muñoz-Sabater, J., Nicolas, J.,  
410 Peubey, C., Radu, R., Schepers, D., Simmons, A., Soci, C., Abdalla, S., Abellan, X.,  
411 Balsamo, G., Bechtold, P., Biavati, G., Bidlot, J., Bonavita, M., De Chiara, G., Dahlgren,  
412 P., Dee, D., Diamantakis, M., Dragani, R., Flemming, J., Forbes, R., Fuentes, M., Geer,  
413 A., Haimberger, L., Healy, S., Hogan, R. J., Hólm, E., Janisková, M., Keeley, S.,



- 414 Laloyaux, P., Lopez, P., Lupu, C., Radnoti, G., deRosnay, P., Rozum, I., Vamborg, F.,  
415 Villaume, S., and Thépaut, J. N. The ERA5 global reanalysis, *Q. J. R. Meteorol. Soc.*,  
416 146, 1999–2049, 2020.
- 417 Hickey, M. P., Schubert, G., and Walterscheid, R. L.: Propagation of tsunami-driven gravity  
418 waves into the thermosphere and ionosphere, *J. Geophys. Res.*, 114, 2009.
- 419 Hickey, M. P., Schubert, G., and Walterscheid, R. L.: Atmospheric airglow fluctuations due to  
420 a tsunami-driven gravity wave disturbance, *Journal of Geophysical Research*, 115(A6),  
421 A06308, 2010.
- 422 Hines, C.: Gravity waves in the atmosphere, *Nature*, 239 (5367), 73–78, 1972.
- 423 Inchin, P. A., Heale, C. J., Snively, J. B., and Zettergren, M. D.: The dynamics of nonlinear  
424 atmospheric acoustic-gravity waves generated by tsunamis over realistic bathymetry,  
425 *Journal of Geophysical Research: Space Physics*, 125, 2020.
- 426 Inchin, P. A., Heale, C. J., Snively, J. B., and Zettergren, M.D.: Numerical modeling of  
427 tsunami-generated acoustic-gravity waves in mesopause airglow, *Journal of Geophysical*  
428 *Research: Space Physics*, 127, 2022.
- 429 Kanamori, H., and Given, J. W.: Lamb pulse observed in nature, *Geophys. Res. Lett*, 10,  
430 373–376, 1983.
- 431 Koketsu K. and Higashi S.: Three-dimensional topography of the sediment/basement interface  
432 in the Tokyo Metropolitan area, Central Japan, *Bull. seism. Soc. Am.*, 82, 2328-2349,  
433 1992.
- 434 Kubota, T., Saito, T., & Nishida, K.: Global fast-traveling tsunamis driven by atmospheric Lamb  
435 waves on the 2022 Tonga eruption, *Science*, 377, 91-94, 2022.



- 436 Li, X., Ding, F., Yue, X., Mao, T., Xiong, B., and Song, Q.: Multiwave structure of traveling  
437 ionospheric disturbances excited by the Tonga volcanic eruptions observed by a dense  
438 GNSS network in China, *Space Weather*, 21, 2023.
- 439 Lighthill, M. J.: *Waves in Fluids*, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, UK, New York,  
440 504 pp.. ISBN: 0-521-01045-4, 1978.
- 441 Lin, J.-T., Rajesh, P. K., Lin, C. C. H., Chou, M.-Y., Liu, J.-Y., Yue, J., et al. Rapid conjugate  
442 appearance of the giant ionospheric Lamb wave signatures in the northern hemisphere  
443 after Hunga-Tonga volcano eruptions, *Geophysical Research Letters*, 49, 2022.
- 444 Lindzen, R. S., and Blake, D.: Lamb waves in the presence of realistic distributions of  
445 temperature and dissipation, *Journal of Geophysical Research*, 77(12), 2166 – 2176,  
446 1972.
- 447 Li, Q., Xu, J., Liu, H., Liu, X., and Yuan, W.: How do gravity waves triggered by a typhoon  
448 propagate from the troposphere to the upper atmosphere?. *Atmos. Chem. Phys.*, 22,  
449 12077–12091, 2022.
- 450 Liu, H.-L., Wang, W., Huba, J.D., Lauritzen, P. H., and Vitt, F. Atmospheric and Ionospheric  
451 Responses to Hunga-Tonga Volcano Eruption Simulated by WACCM-X, *Geophysical*  
452 *Research Letters*, 2023.
- 453 Liu, X., Xu, J., Yue, J., and Kogure, M.: Strong gravity waves associated with Tonga volcano  
454 eruption revealed by SABER observations, *Geophysical Research Letters*, 49, 2022.
- 455 Makela, J. J., Lognonné, P., Hébert, H., Gehrels, T., Rolland, L., Allgeyer, S., et al. Imaging and  
456 modeling the ionospheric airglow response over Hawaii to the tsunami generated by the  
457 Tohoku earthquake of 11 March 2011, *Geophysical Research Letters*, 38 (24), 2011.



- 458 Occhipinti, G., Rolland, L., Lognonné, P., and Watada, S.: From Sumatra 2004 to Tohoku-Oki  
459 2011: The systematic GPS detection of the ionospheric signature induced by  
460 tsunamigenic earthquakes, *Journal of Geophysical Research: Space Physics*, 118,  
461 3626–3636, 2013.
- 462 Peltier, W., and Hines, C.: On the possible detection of tsunamis by a monitoring of the  
463 ionosphere, *Journal of Geophysical Research*, 81(12), 1995–2000, 1976.
- 464 Pradipta, R., Carter, B. A., Currie, J. L., Choy, S., Wilkinson, P., Maher, P., and Marshall, R.: On  
465 the propagation of traveling ionospheric disturbances from the Hunga Tonga-Hunga  
466 Ha'apai volcano eruption and their possible connection with tsunami waves. *Geophysical  
467 Research Letters*, 50, 2023.
- 468 Salmon, R.: *Introduction to ocean waves*, Scripps Inst. of Oceanogr., Univ. of Calif., San Diego.,  
469 2014.
- 470 Smith, S.M., Martinis, C. R., Baumgardner, J., and Mendillo, M.: All-sky imaging of  
471 transglobal thermospheric gravity waves generated by the March 2011 Tohoku  
472 Earthquake, *J. Geophys. Res. Space Physics*, 120, 10,992–10,999, 2015.
- 473 Symons, G. J.: *The Eruption of Krakatoa, and Subsequent Phenomena: Report of the Krakatoa  
474 Committee of the Royal Society (Wiley Online Library)*, 1888.
- 475 Themens, D. R., Watson, C., Zagar, N., Vasylkevych, S., Elvidge, S., McCaffrey, A., et al.  
476 Global propagation of ionospheric disturbances associated with the 2022 Tonga volcanic  
477 eruption, *Geophysical Research Letters*, 49(7), 2022.
- 478 Vadas, S. L., Makela, J. J., Nicolls, M. J., and Milliff, R. F.: Excitation of gravity waves by  
479 ocean surface wave packets: Upward propagation and reconstruction of the thermospheric



- 480 gravity wave field, *J. Geophys. Res. Space Physics*, 120, 9748–9780, 2015.
- 481 Wright, C.J., et al. Surface-to-space atmospheric waves from Hunga Tonga-Hunga Ha’apai  
482 eruption, *Nature*, 609 (7928), 741–746, 2022.
- 483 Xu, J., Li, Q., Sun, L., Liu, X., Yuan, W., Wang, W., Yue, J., Zhang, S., Liu, W., Jiang, G., Wu,  
484 K., Gao, H., and Lai, C.: The Ground - Based Airglow Imager Network in China: Recent  
485 Observational Results, *Geophysical Monograph Series*, 261, 365-394, 2021.
- 486 Xu, J., et al. Concentric gravity waves over northern China observed by an airglow imager  
487 network and satellites, *J. Geophys. Res. Atmos.*, 120, 11,058–11,078, 2015.
- 488 Yamada, M., Ho, T.-C., Mori, J., Nishikawa, Y., and Yamamoto, M.-Y.: Tsunami triggered by  
489 the Lamb wave from the 2022 Tonga volcanic eruption and transition in the offshore  
490 Japan region, *Geophysical Research Letters*, 49, 2022.
- 491 Yeh, K. C., and Liu, C. H.: Acoustic-Gravity Waves in the Upper Atmosphere, *Reviews of*  
492 *Geophysics and Space Physics*, 12 (2), 193, 1974.
- 493 Wrasse, C. M., Nakamura, T., Tsuda, T., Takahashi, H., Medeiros, A. F., Taylor, M.  
494 J., Gobbi, D., Salatun, A., Suratno, E. A., and Admiranto, A. G.: Reverse ray tracing of the  
495 mesospheric gravity waves observed at 23°S (Brazil) and 7°S (Indonesia) in airglow  
496 imagers, *J. Atmos. Sol. Terr. Phys.*, 68, 163– 181, 2006.
- 497 Zhang, S., Vierinen, J., Aa, E., Goncharenko, L. P., Erickson, P., Rideout, W., et al. 2022 Tonga  
498 volcanic eruption induced global propagation of ionospheric disturbances via Lamb waves,  
499 *Frontiers in Astronomy and Space Sciences*, 9, 1–10, 2022.
- 500
- 501