



1 **Enhancing Climate Model Performance through Improving**
2 **Volcanic Aerosol Representation**

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12 **Abstract**

13 An accurate representation of Earth's surface temperature is crucial for simulating climate change. Yet many climate
14 models struggle to reproduce the evolution of historical temperature records, especially after the major 1963 Mt.
15 Agung volcano eruption. This study investigates whether the method of specifying the volcanic forcing could be
16 contributing to this bias using the Energy Exascale Earth System Model (E3SM). The CMIP6 protocol represents
17 volcanic eruptions through simplified radiative forcing, neglecting the interaction between volcanic aerosols and
18 clouds. Here we adopt a new approach based on an updated volcanic eruption inventory, which includes volcanic
19 sulfur dioxide emissions and hence allows for a more realistic representation of subsequent physical processes that
20 involve volcanic aerosols. With this new approach, E3SM simulates slightly warmer surface temperatures and
21 improved interannual variability during years 1940-1980 compared to the standard CMIP6 approach. The
22 improvements mainly stem from two factors: 1) the inclusion of volcanic aerosol-cloud interactions, which reduces
23 aerosol indirect effect by volcanic quiescent warming effect, and 2) the more accurate representation of volcanic
24 eruptions after 1963, which leads to less volcanic aerosol cooling. Overall, this study highlights the importance of
25 more accurate volcanic forcing in improving climate simulation and is strongly in favor of an emission-based
26 volcanic forcing treatment.

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1. Introduction

Volcanic eruptions, as manifestations of natural radiative forcing, play a crucial role in modulating climate changes (e.g. Chim et al., 2023; Hegerl et al., 2003). Numerous studies have demonstrated their significant impacts on Earth's climate. For example, the eruption of Tambora (Indonesia) in April 1815 led to the 'Year Without a Summer' of 1816 in Europe and North America — which extended to several years in China—as well as severe disruptions to the Indian monsoon and to other global climate patterns (Raible et al., 2016). The 1991 eruption of Mt. Pinatubo resulted in a peak top-of-the-atmosphere radiative forcing of roughly 3-4 W/m² and cooled global temperatures up to 0.4 °C (e.g. Dhomse et al., 2014; Mills et al., 2017; Ramachandran et al., 2000; Rieger et al., 2020).

Intensive volcanic eruptions emit a variety of gases and particles into the stratosphere. The emitted sulfur dioxide (SO₂) forms sulfate aerosols through atmospheric chemical reactions, which are the primary drivers of climate perturbation (i.e. Dhomse et al., 2014; Mills et al., 2016). Water vapor is scarce in the stratosphere. Sulfate aerosols can persist for months to years due to lack of wet removal as compared to days in the troposphere (Mills et al., 2017). By scattering incoming solar radiation, these sulfate aerosols induce cooling at the Earth surface while simultaneously absorbing longwave radiation, thereby warming the surrounding air (Schmidt et al., 2018). This effect caused specifically by volcanic sulfate aerosol is volcanic aerosol-radiation interactions (VARIs). Additionally, akin to anthropogenic sulfate aerosols, volcanic sulfate particles can act as cloud condensation nuclei (CCN), facilitating the formation of cloud droplets and changing of cloud albedo properties (Schmidt et al., 2012). This is volcanic aerosol-cloud interactions (VACIs).

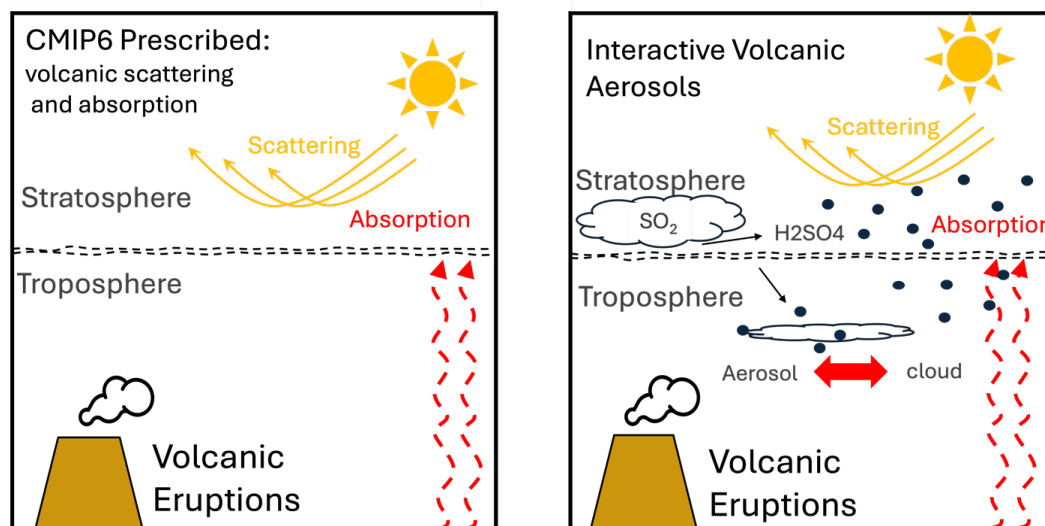
In the CMIP6 simulations, many climate models underestimated global mean surface temperature in the middle of the 20th century mainly due to cloud enhancement caused by aerosol-cloud interactions (Flynn and Mauritsen, 2020; Zhang et al., 2021). Notably, in the case of E3SM version 2 (E3SMv2), the simulated historical surface temperatures exhibit a distinct low bias since year 1940 (Golaz et al., 2022). This temperature bias becomes more pronounced after the eruption of Mt. Agung in 1963. This temporal alignment of temperature low bias with volcanic eruption events motivates our investigation into whether the model's representation of volcanic activity has been contributing to the temperature low bias.

Importantly, the impact of volcanic eruptions can extend beyond isolated events (Chylek et al., 2020; Cole-Dai, 2010; Robock, 2000). Schmidt et al. (2012) emphasized the importance of volcanic aerosols induced aerosol-cloud interactions in the pre-industrial (PI) and present-day (PD) baseline simulations. When factoring in the indirect effect of volcanic sulfate aerosols in PI and PD simulations, the historical aerosol's indirect radiative effect was diminished. It is worth noting that most of climate models participating in CMIP6 didn't represent the VACIs in their aerosol-cloud parameterizations. Adding the same amount of volcanic SO₂ in PI and PD simulations, the relative Cloud Droplet Number Concentration (CDNC) changes, $(PD_{cdnc}-PI_{cdnc})/PI_{cdnc}$, become less due to higher PI background aerosol concentration. Furthermore, as volcanic emissions fluctuate over time, opposite to relatively stable anthropogenic emissions, their impact on aerosol-cloud interactions also varies with time. During volcanic quiescent periods, with eruptions below the historical average, the reduced volcanic emissions could partially offset anthropogenic SO₂ emission increases, resulting in a relative warming effect. Conversely, during volcanic active periods, additional volcanic emissions could augment total sulfate aerosol burden on the top of anthropogenic emissions. These **volcanic quiescent warming effect** and **volcanic surplus cooling effect** underscore the importance of considering volcanic aerosols in climate simulations, which will be described in detail in Section 2 and discussed in Section 3.

Recognizing the limitations of the CMIP6 volcanic forcing treatment, here we propose a new methodology, which involves using volcanic SO₂ emissions to replace prescribed volcanic stratospheric forcing, thereby capturing both the VARIs and VACIs effects. By incorporating the averaged volcanic SO₂ emissions in the PI control simulations, the volcanic quiescent warming and surplus cooling effects can be appropriately represented in subsequent historical simulations. These model developments have been integrated into the version 3 of E3SM (see Figure 1, right panel).



84 To assess whether the new volcanic treatment improves E3SMv2 simulated climate, we conducted new historical
 85 simulations by implementing the updated treatment in E3SMv2, which includes new PI control simulations and
 86 transient simulations spanning from 1850 to 2014. Further details regarding these simulations are outlined in the
 87 methods and experimental sections (Section 2). Result analysis is presented in Section 3, followed by conclusions in
 88 Section 4.
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Figure 1. Volcanic forcing representations in E3SM: Prescribed stratospheric scattering and absorption following CMIP6 protocol (left) and the interactive volcanic aerosols used in this study (right).

2. Methods and Experiments

2.1 The Volcanic Forcing Representation in E3SMv2

100 E3SMv2 is the state-of-the-art earth system model including a atmosphere model at 110 km horizontal resolution, a
 101 land model at 165 km horizontal resolution, a 0.5°- horizontal resolution river routing model, and an ocean and sea
 102 ice model with mesh spacing ranging from 60 km in mid-latitudes to 30 km at the equator and poles. The
 103 atmosphere component, E3SM Atmosphere Model (EAM) v2, comprises 72 vertical layers extending to
 104 approximately 60 km. Within EAMv2, the Cloud Layers Unified By Binormals (CLUBB) parameterization (Guo et
 105 al., 2015) handles the subgrid turbulent transport and the macrophysics of stratiform and shallow cumulus clouds,
 106 while the planetary boundary layer (PBL) depth is diagnosed following the scheme by Holtslag and Boville
 107 (Holtslag and Boville, 1993). Deep convection is represented by a scheme developed by (Zhang and McFarlane,
 108 1995), with an improved trigger function combining the dynamic Convective Available Potential Energy (dCAPE)
 109 trigger (Wang et al., 2020b) and unrestricted air parcel launch level (ULL). Grid-scale cloud microphysical
 110 processes are parameterized using the version 2 of the Morrison and Gettelman (Morrison and Gettelman, 2008)
 111 microphysics scheme. E3SMv2 demonstrates enhanced performance compared to E3SMv1, with nearly double the
 112 computational speed and improvements in various metrics such as precipitation and cloud representation. Notably,
 113 its climate sensitivity is substantially lower, with an equilibrium climate sensitivity of 4.0 K, as opposed to the less
 114 plausible value of 5.3 K in E3SMv1. However, similar to many other CMIP6 models E3SMv2 simulates a low
 115 surface temperature bias in the middle of 20th century, primarily due to excessive aerosol radiative forcing (Golaz et
 116 al., 2022).
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118 Following the CMIP6 protocol, E3SMv2 employs prescribed volcanic shortwave extinction and longwave
119 absorption above the tropopause (Golaz et al., 2022) (Zanchettin et al., 2016). Particularly, the stratospheric aerosol
120 extinction and absorption are overwritten by prescribed values at each time step. For the period spanning 1979-2014,
121 data predominantly rely on assimilated satellite data from sources like the Stratospheric Aerosol and Gas
122 Experiment (SAGE), SAGEII, the Stratospheric Aerosol Measurement (SAM), the Cloud-Aerosol Lidar and
123 Infrared Pathfinder Satellite Observation (CALIPSO), and the Optical Spectrograph and InfraRed Imager System
124 (OSIRIS), with the Cryogenic Limb Array Etalon Spectrometer (CLAES) data utilized for gap-filling in cases of
125 missing data (Rieger et al., 2020; Thomason et al., 2018). During the period from 1850 to 1978, particularly during
126 volcanically quiescent periods, the monthly mean background aerosol data measured by SAGE II (during the
127 volcanic quiescent period of 1996-2005) is utilized. The volcanic eruption contribution is then calculated using the
128 two-dimensional sulfate aerosol model developed at the Atmospheric and Environmental Research Inc., Lexington,
129 MA, USA (AER-2-D). The AER-2-D model has sulfuric acid aerosol microphysics in a global domain with 9.5°
130 horizontal resolution and 1.2 km vertical resolution. The aerosol microphysics scheme has 40 size bins spanning the
131 range 0.4 nm to 3.2 μm . There is no interaction between aerosols, radiation forcings, and dynamics and the
132 dynamical fields, such as U, V, and T, for all simulated cases are based on Pinatubo eruption climatology (1991).
133 Additionally, stratospheric AOD is calibrated using the photometer data whenever available; otherwise, the best
134 estimate of sulfur ejection is utilized for the volcanic contribution, often estimated from proxies such as ice core data
135 (Arfeuille et al., 2014). For the PI control simulation, the volcanic quiescent background values are used.

137 This study focuses on volcanic activities during the year 1940-1979 period (the reason will be described in section
138 2.2). During this period, Arfeuille et al. (2014) recorded two volcanic eruptions (Table 1). For the Agung (1963)
139 eruption, AER-2-D model evenly injected SO₂ in the 15°S-0° and 0°-15°N regions of Southern and Northern
140 Hemispheres, respectively. For the Fuego (1974) eruption, SO₂ was injected evenly in the 0°-15°N band only
141 (Arfeuille et al., 2014). Compared to injecting emissions at limited grids, evenly distributing the emission in a broad
142 latitude band dilutes the SO₂ concentration and consequently results in smaller particle sizes and thus higher
143 efficiency of scattering the solar radiation and prolonged aerosol lifetime (Niemeier et al., 2019; Timmreck et al.,
144 2010).

147 2.2 The interactive volcanic aerosol treatment

148 In E3SMv2, the aerosol process is represented by 4-mode version of the modal aerosol model (MAM4) (Liu et al.,
149 2012; Wang et al., 2019), which is a comprehensive approach to simulate aerosol particles in the Earth system. It
150 encompasses four distinct aerosol modes representing different aerosol types and sizes: Aitken mode, accumulation
151 mode, coarse mode, and primary carbon mode for black carbon and primary organic carbon particles emitted
152 directly into the atmosphere. This model accounts for aerosol processes such as emissions, transport, chemical
153 transformation, and removal.

155 In the current version of MAM4, there are six aerosol species represented: sulfate, black carbon, organic carbon,
156 dust, sea salt, and secondary organic aerosols. In E3SMv2, sulfate aerosols primarily originate from the
157 condensation of H₂SO₄ gas as well as aqueous phase production in cloud water. The model utilizes a simple gas-
158 phase chemistry package to calculate the formation of H₂SO₄, incorporating prescribed oxidant, hydroxyl radical
159 (OH), to oxidize SO₂ and DMS gases in the atmosphere.

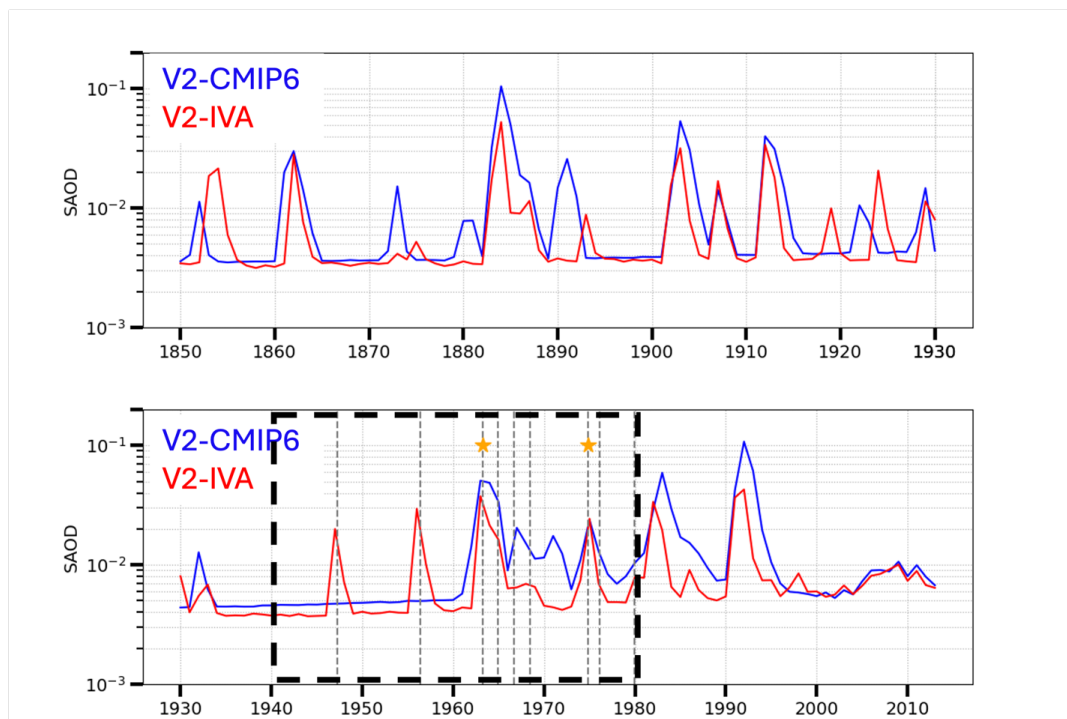
161 It is worth noting that the MAM4 in E3SMv2 hasn't been designed to accurately reproduce the volcanic aerosol
162 direct effect caused by volcanic eruptions. Modifications are needed to well reproduce the Mt. Pinatubo's (1991)
163 aerosol direct impact on shortwave forcing, compared to observations (Mills et al., 2014). But such modifications
164 caused unexpected drawbacks of ice cloud formations over upper troposphere and lower stratosphere (Visioni et al.,
165 2017). The remedy efforts for both CESM and E3SM will be represented in a following-up paper that documents a
166 new development of adding a stratospheric sulfate mode on top of MAM4 (Ke et al., in preparation). Furthermore, it
167 is important to use unchanged MAM4 and E3SMv2 configurations to provide an apple-to-apple comparison to
168 evaluate the impacts of the change of volcanic aerosol representation on simulated aerosol direct and indirect effects
169 during middle of 20th century.

171 To introduce interactive volcanic aerosols into E3SMv2, we utilize the volcanic Emissions from Earth System
172 Models (volcanEESM) dataset, which serves as a source of volcanic SO₂ emissions (Danabasoglu et al., 2020; Neely
173 and Schmidt, 2016). This dataset, funded by the NCAR/UCAR Atmospheric Chemistry and Modeling Visiting



174 Scientist Program and the University of Leeds School of Earth and Environment, provides detailed information on
 175 historical volcanic eruptions, including dates, locations, injection height ranges, and SO₂ emission amounts. Given
 176 that E3SMv2 lacks comprehensive stratospheric chemistry for processing SO₂ gas, we employ the simplified
 177 chemistry package where volcanic SO₂ is oxidized using prescribed OH concentrations derived from the historical
 178 monthly mean from the CESM-WACCM simulations. Past research has demonstrated that this approach yields
 179 reasonable results with high efficiency compared to models employing the comprehensive stratospheric chemistry
 180 (Smith et al., 2014). We validate this approach by comparing the simulated interactive stratospheric aerosol optical
 181 depth (SAOD) in E3SMv2 with SAOD produced using the default method (see Figure 2).
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183 Figure 2 depicts the simulated SAOD based on volcanEESM dataset and CMIP6 default method, respectively.
 184 Generally, the two simulated SAOD curves align closely in terms of eruption timing and intensity. However, notable
 185 discrepancies emerge between 1940 and 1980 (black dashed box). Specifically, volcanEESM records two moderate-
 186 intensity eruptions during 1940 to 1960, whereas no eruptions are recorded in the CMIP6 volcanic dataset for this
 187 period. Additionally, the CMIP6 shows higher SAOD values than those predicted from the volcanEESM for the Mt.
 188 Agung (1963) eruption and the two subsequent eruptions, which were not recorded in the CMIP6 document (Table
 189 1, Arfeuille et al., 2014). These significant disparities motivate our study to investigate the impact of the
 190 volcanEESM inventory on simulated climate compared to that using the default E3SMv2 model with the CMIP6
 191 volcanic dataset. The volcanic eruptions during 1940 to 1980 from CMIP6 and volcanEESM are presented in Tables
 192 1 and 2, respectively.
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 196 Figure 2. The simulated stratospheric AOD (SAOD) by E3SMv2 using different volcanic representations. The
 197 E3SMv2 with CMIP6 prescribed volcanic scattering (V2-CMIP6) is shown in blue line, while the E3SMv2 with
 198 interactive volcanic aerosol treatment (V2-IVA) is shown in red line. During the year 1940-1980 period, the
 199 volcanic eruptions recorded by CMIP6 data are marked by orange stars, while the eruptions recorded by
 200 volcanEESM are marked by grey dashed lines.
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Table 1. Recorded eruptions based on Arfeuille2014 (CMIP6).

	Injection Height (km)	NH (SO₂ Tg)	SH (SO₂ Tg)
1963 Agung	27	3.4	6.5
1974 Fuego	33.5 (as Pinatubo)	2.3	0.0

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Table 2. Recorded eruptions from volcanEESM during year 1940-1979.

YYYY/MM/DD	LAT	LON	ALTMIN	ALTMAX	SO2(TG)
1947/03/29	64.0	339.3	15.0	19.6	2.3
1956/03/30	56.0	160.6	15.5	18.5	3.9
1963/03/17	-8.3	115.5	18.0	20.0	7.5
1964/11/12	56.7	161.4	15.0	19.6	2.3
1966/08/12	3.7	125.5	15.0	19.6	0.8
1968/06/11	-0.4	267.5	15.0	19.6	0.8
1974/10/10	14.5	268.1	16.7	21.3	3.0
1976/01/22	59.4	205.6	7.0	10.0	0.8
1979/11/13	-0.8	268.8	1.5	14.0	1.2

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2.3 Mechanisms of volcanic aerosols to affect climate

Studies have highlighted that among the various gases and ash particles emitted during volcanic eruptions, the primary climate impact stems from sulfate aerosols formed through atmospheric chemical reactions from emitted SO₂ gas. Depending on the eruption's intensity, SO₂ can be injected into either the troposphere or the stratosphere. In the troposphere, where moisture is abundant, sulfate aerosols are swiftly removed through the wet scavenging process, with a lifespan of 2 to 5 days. However, if emissions reach the stratosphere, where water vapor is scarce,



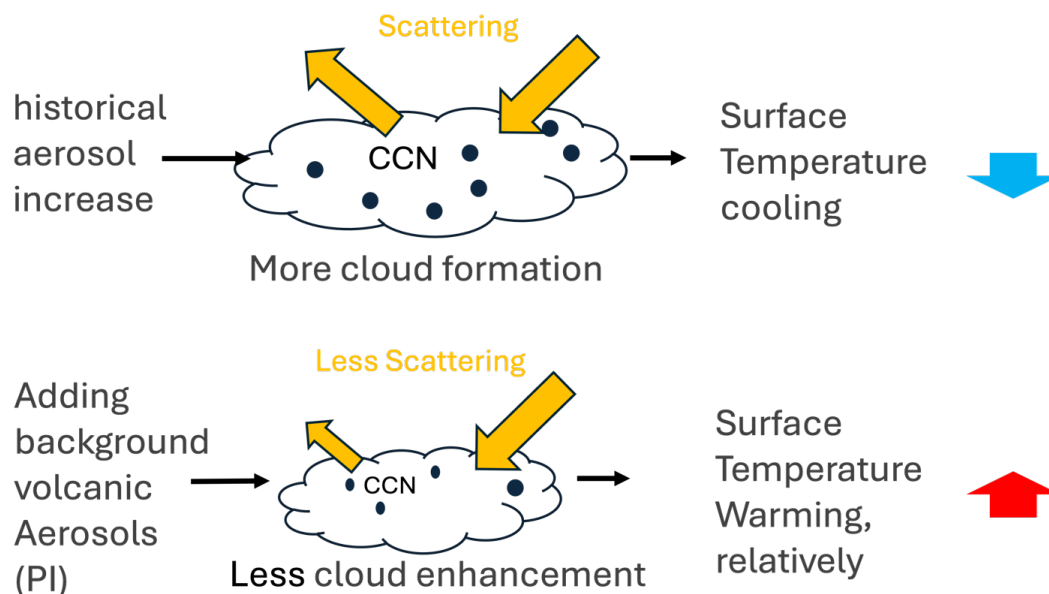
256 sulfate aerosols are primarily removed through gravitational settling and dry deposition, prolonging their lifespan for
257 months or even years (Cole-Dai, 2010; Robock, 2000).

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259 The literature has extensively documented the direct and indirect effects of sulfate aerosols on climate (Bauer and
260 Menon, 2012; Boucher et al., 2013; Ghan et al., 2012; Grandey et al., 2018; Liu et al., 2012; Penner et al., 2001;
261 Wang et al., 2020a; Zhang et al., 2022). Directly, sulfate aerosols scatter the incoming solar radiation, cooling the
262 atmosphere below, while they simultaneously absorb the longwave radiation, warming the surrounding air. Volcanic
263 sulfate aerosols reflect solar radiation in the stratosphere, reducing net shortwave forcing both at the top of the
264 atmosphere and at the surface, while also absorbing longwave radiation from below, warming the stratosphere.
265 Hereafter this effect is referred to as the VARIs. Furthermore, sulfate particles descending from the stratosphere to
266 the lower troposphere act as cloud condensation nuclei (CCN), facilitating the cloud formation. Increased CCN
267 concentration results in smaller and more numerous cloud droplets, making clouds brighter and more reflective.
268 Hereafter this effect is referred to as the VACIs.

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270 The aerosol radiative forcing in the historical period primarily arises from anthropogenic SO₂ emissions, which
271 increases aerosol concentrations, initiating aerosol-cloud interactions (ACIs) that amplify cloud formation and
272 prolong cloud lifetimes (Chylek et al., 2020; Zhang et al., 2021, 2022). Consequently, clouds scatter more incoming
273 shortwaves (see Figure 3, upper panel). Simulations including averaged volcanic SO₂ emissions in preindustrial
274 control scenarios showed a rise in background aerosol concentrations at PI. Consequently, the same increase in
275 anthropogenic SO₂ emissions induces weaker ACIs, resulting in relatively less cloud droplet increase and reduced
276 shortwave scattering by clouds. Ultimately, this leads to a warmer surface temperature compared to the former
277 scenario (see Figure 3, bottom panel).

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279 However, the historical periods, when volcanic emission amount equal to the historical average are rare. It's more
280 common to observe volcanic quiescent and active periods. During volcanic quiescent periods, during which volcanic
281 emission amount below the historical average, the volcanic aerosol change is negative compared to the baseline.
282 This negative change can partially offset anthropogenic emission growth, resulting in reduced historical aerosol
283 change compared to the control case, where volcanic aerosols are not considered. Consequently, a less amplified
284 cloud cooling effect is expected during volcanic quiescent periods compared to the control, which we term as the
285 **volcanic quiescent warming effect**.

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287 Conversely, during volcanic active periods, when volcanic aerosol emissions exceed the historical mean, the
288 volcanic aerosol change is positive. In this scenario, an enhanced aerosol indirect effect is expected, leading to
289 increased cloud cooling compared to the control case. This effect is termed as the **volcanic surplus cooling effect** in
290 this study.
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Figure 3. Schematic illustrating the aerosol-cloud interaction mechanism driving historical aerosol forcing. Upper panel: Aerosol-cloud interactions (ACIs) amplify cloud formation and prolong cloud lifetimes, increasing shortwave scattering. Bottom panel: Incorporating volcanic SO₂ emissions shows a rise in background aerosol concentration, relatively diminishing cloud formation and reducing shortwave scattering, resulting in a relatively warmer surface temperature.

2.4 The Experimental Design

2.4.1 Averaged volcanic emission in pre-industrial control simulation

The CMIP6 protocol recommends using averaged volcanic forcing in the historical period in the PI control simulations. The average volcanic SO₂ emission is $2.26 \times 10^{-8} \text{ Tg s}^{-1}$, equivalent to 0.7 Tg year^{-1} , calculated by averaging emissions from all eruptions between 1850 and 2014. To determine the horizontal emission distribution, we assume a normal distribution along latitude and even distribution along longitude. Using each eruption amount as a weight, the weighted mean emission latitude is 20.67° north, with a standard deviation of 28.83° . Vertically, the mean injection height has an upper limit of 18 km and a lower limit of 14 km.

2.4.2 Control ensembles and V2-IVA and V2-IVA-NPI ensembles

The V2-CMIP6 (control) run comprises a 5-member ensemble of E3SMv2 coupled historical transient simulations spanning from 1850 to 2014, conducted and archived by Golaz et al., 2022. In contrast, the V2-IVA experiment investigates the influence of interactive volcanic aerosols on historical transient simulations by replacing the default prescribed volcanic stratospheric forcing with volcanic SO₂ emissions in E3SMv2. This experiment underwent a 100-year spin-up under the same preindustrial (PI) control configuration as V2-CMIP6, except with interactive volcanic treatment, utilizing averaged volcanic emissions from 1850 to 2014 (see section 2.4.1). Following the model spin-up, one member simulation is conducted from 1850 to 2014, with additional two members conducted from 1940 to 2014 to minimize noise in coupled simulations. By comparing V2-IVA to V2-CMIP6, the impact of volcanic treatments on simulated climate can be assessed.



324 Additionally, to evaluate the influence of background volcanic aerosols on historical transient simulations, the V2-
 325 IVA-NPI experiment was conducted, which is identical to V2-IVA but the averaged volcanic emissions removed
 326 during its 100-year PI control spin-up. Like V2-IVA, V2-IVA-NPI also has one member conducted from 1850 to
 327 2014, with additional two members conducted from 1940 to 2014 to minimize noise in coupled simulations. These
 328 three experiments are summarized in Table 3.

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Table 3. Experiment configurations.

	Simulation Type	Historical Volcanic Forcing	piControl Volcanic Setting
V2-CMIP6 (E3SMv2 default)	V2 archived 5 members: 1850-2014	Prescribed in Stratosphere (following CMIP6)	Prescribed in Stratosphere (volcanic quiescent background)
V2-IVA	1 member 1850-1940 3 members 1940-2014	Interactive treatment (using VolcanEESM)	Averaged emission (1850-2014)
V2-IVA-NPI	1 member 1850-1940 3 members 1940-2014	Interactive treatment (using VolcanEESM)	No volcanic emission

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3. Results

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3.1 Simulated Sulfate Aerosols and Forcing Fields

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VolcanEESM recorded eight eruptions during the years spanning 1940-1979 (see Table 2). These eruptions are

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directly reflected in sulfate aerosol concentrations simulated by the V2-IVA experiment (see Figure 4, panel a).

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Prior to these eruptions, the background sulfate aerosol concentration between 100 and 50 hPa was approximately

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0.1 $\mu\text{g}/\text{kg}$. Helka (1947) and Bezymianny (1956), emitting 2.3 and 3.9 Tg SO_2 gas respectively, induced spikes in

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sulfate aerosol concentrations, with global mean concentration peaks reaching up to 7 and 12 $\mu\text{g}/\text{kg}$ in the

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stratosphere, respectively. The eruption of Mt. Agung in 1963 with a SO_2 emission of 7.5 Tg, caused a peak global

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mean concentration of up to 20 $\mu\text{g}/\text{kg}$ between 100 and 10 hPa. Subsequent to the Mt. Agung (1963) eruption, three

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eruptions resulted in high aerosol concentrations lingering in the stratosphere until 1972, with eruptions in 1974 and

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1976 sustaining global mean concentrations above 0.5 $\mu\text{g}/\text{kg}$ for additional four years.

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In addition to their significant amounts in the stratosphere, volcanic sulfate aerosols gradually descended into the

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troposphere. As V2-CMIP6 did not account for volcanic aerosols, the sulfate aerosol difference between V2-IVA

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and V2-CMIP6 illustrates the descent of these aerosols into the troposphere, which is depicted in Figures 4b to 4e.

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Four out of the eight eruptions recorded by volcanEESM (1947, 1956, 1964, 1976) occurred in northern hemisphere

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high latitudes (above 50° N), while the other four occurred in the tropical regions (20° S to 20° N, see Table 2).

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Strong sulfate aerosol footprints were observed in the troposphere (below the tropopause, gray lines) in northern

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high latitudes (Figure 4c) compared to tropics (Figure 4d) and southern high latitudes (Figure 4e). Despite no

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eruptions occurring in southern hemisphere high latitudes, volcanic aerosols tended to descend more over these

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regions compared to tropical regions due to the Brewer-Dobson circulation. Overall, a substantial amount of sulfate

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aerosols reached the troposphere from the stratosphere, highlighting the potential aerosol-cloud interactions.

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SAOD describes the impact of aerosols on the optical properties of the atmosphere in the stratosphere. The

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simulated SAOD from the V2-IVA ensemble is shown in Figure 5, upper panel. Prior to eruptions, the background

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SAOD values were approximately 0.008 over high latitudes and 0.002 over the tropics. The volcanic eruptions of

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Helka (1947) and Bezymianny (1956) elevated SAOD to 0.06 and 0.13 over northern hemisphere high latitudes

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(compared to Figure 5 in Danabasoglu et al., 2020). Since these two volcanic eruptions were absent in V2-CMIP6,

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the two red spikes emerged when comparing V2-IVA with V2-CMIP6 (Figure 5 lower panel). Despite their

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relatively small magnitudes, the impact of these two volcanoes was limited to two years and north of 30 degrees in

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the Northern Hemisphere.

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For the Mt. Agung eruption in 1963, V2-IVA SAOD displayed a clear spike spreading from the tropics to the South

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Pole, with peak values exceeding 0.2, consistent with previous studies (Dhomse et al., 2020; Niemeier et al., 2019).

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Due to a lower strength recorded by volcanEESM, the simulated SAOD in V2-IVA was approximately 0.03 lower

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than in V2-CMIP6 (Figure 5, lower panel). Additionally, V2-CMIP6 simulation indicated three events with slightly

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higher SAOD than V2-IVA in 1967, 1972, and 1974, spanning from the tropics to southern hemisphere high

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latitudes, while V2-IVA recorded an extra eruption in 1976 in northern hemisphere high latitudes. Consequently,

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V2-IVA simulated two moderate volcanic eruptions during the 1940-1959 period and a relatively dimmer volcanic

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impact over the 1960-1979 period.

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Aerosol extinction vertical profiles measure the scattering and absorption of solar radiation by aerosols. Figure 6

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examines the difference in simulated extinction between V2-IVA and V2-CMIP6 across time and pressure levels. In

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the V2-IVA simulation, extinction resulted from simulated aerosol scattering and absorption effects, including

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volcanic aerosols, whereas in V2-CMIP6, the extinction caused by volcanic eruptions was prescribed. In the panel

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for global mean, distinct red stripes caused by the Helka (1947) and Bezymianny (1956) eruptions extend from the

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stratosphere into the upper troposphere, coinciding with the comparison of sulfate aerosol concentrations (Figure 4).

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This is attributed to V2-IVA's interactive treatment of volcanic aerosols, allowing for their light extinction effect to

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penetrate below the stratosphere as particles descend into the troposphere, a more realistic representation compared

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to the prescribed treatment in V2-CMIP6. The light extinction of the Helka (1947) and Bezymianny (1956)

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eruptions is primarily observed between 50 and 350 hPa globally. In northern high latitudes, the impact of the

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Bezymianny (1956) eruption could extend to the middle to lower troposphere below 500 hPa, whereas its impact

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over the tropics was relatively weaker.

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393 Regarding the Mt. Agung eruption, V2-IVA simulated a weaker response above 100 hPa compared to V2-CMIP6,
394 resulting in negative values. However, V2-IVA simulated stronger extinction between 100 and 300 hPa compared to
395 V2-CMIP6, as the injection was concentrated in the middle to lower stratosphere (18-20 km) in V2-IVA (see Table
396 2). For the eruptions subsequent to Mt. Agung, V2-IVA simulated dimmer eruptions compared to V2-CMIP6 on a
397 global average. In detail, V2-IVA simulated slightly stronger extinctions over northern high latitudes, while showing
398 dimmer scattering over the tropics and the southern hemisphere.
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402 Figure 7 shows the shortwave and longwave radiative forcings from V2-IVA and V2-CMIP6 ensembles at the top of
403 the model. In panel *a*, the shortwave forcing under clear-sky conditions is shown. As anticipated, the Helka (1947)
404 and Bezymianny (1956) eruptions caused clear-sky cooling effects in the V2-IVA simulations, with global mean
405 radiative forcing dropping by 0.6 and 1.0 W/m², respectively. These drops took more than a year for the forcing to
406 recover, whereas there were no such drops in the V2-CMIP6 simulations. For the Mt. Agung (1963) eruption, V2-
407 IVA simulated a drop of 2.3 W/m², while V2-CMIP6 simulated a drop of 2.7 W/m². Three years later (1966), both
408 simulations showed the same level of forcing, with a small discrepancy appearing again during 1967-1974 due to
409 differences in volcanic forcing mentioned in Figures 5 and 6. This reduced volcanic effective ARI forcing agrees
410 with previous studies which pointed out that CMIP6 volcanic aerosols' direct radiative forcing (VARI) would be too
411 strong (Chylek et al., 2020; Dhomse et al., 2020; Niemeier et al., 2019).

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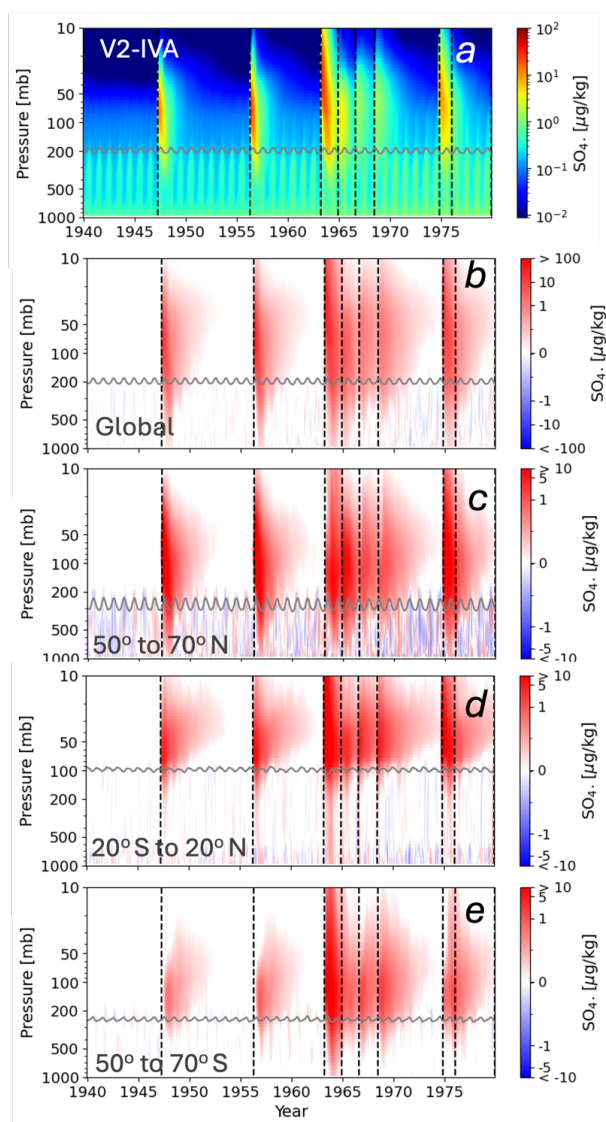
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Panel *c* examines the shortwave forcing under all-sky conditions. The discrepancy caused by the Helka (1947) eruption becomes less clear. This indicates that the volcanic scattering effect over high latitudes partially is offset by cloud warming effect. The dimmer eruptions simulated by V2-IVA compared to V2-CMIP6 in the 1960s are consistent with panel *a*.

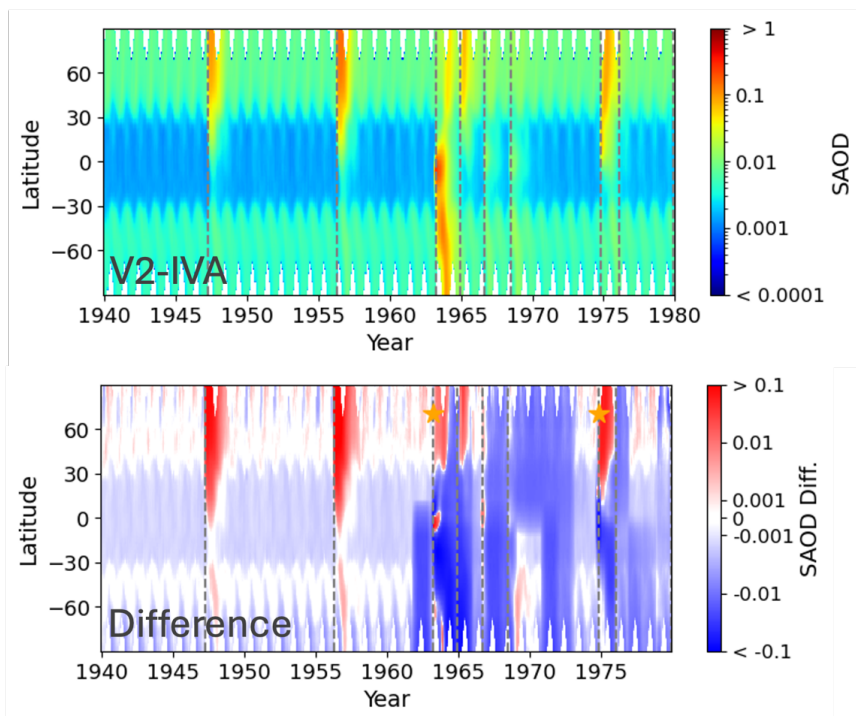
In panel *d*, we present the outgoing longwave forcing at the top of the model. There is no clear signal for the Helka (1947) eruption, and the weaker values caused by Bezymianny (1956) simulated by V2-IVA indicate longwave warming, partially offsetting the cooling in the shortwave spectrum (panel *c*). After 1963, V2-IVA simulated more outgoing longwave forcing compared to V2-CMIP6.

The above analysis looked at how volcanic eruptions and sulfate aerosols affect radiative forcings, comparing between V2-IVA and V2-CMIP6. It examined sulfate concentration, SAOD, extinction profiles, and radiative forcings at the top of the model to highlight how the change of the volcanic representation lead to variations in radiative forcings and aerosol concentration fields. In the next section, we will examine the difference in simulated temperature fields.



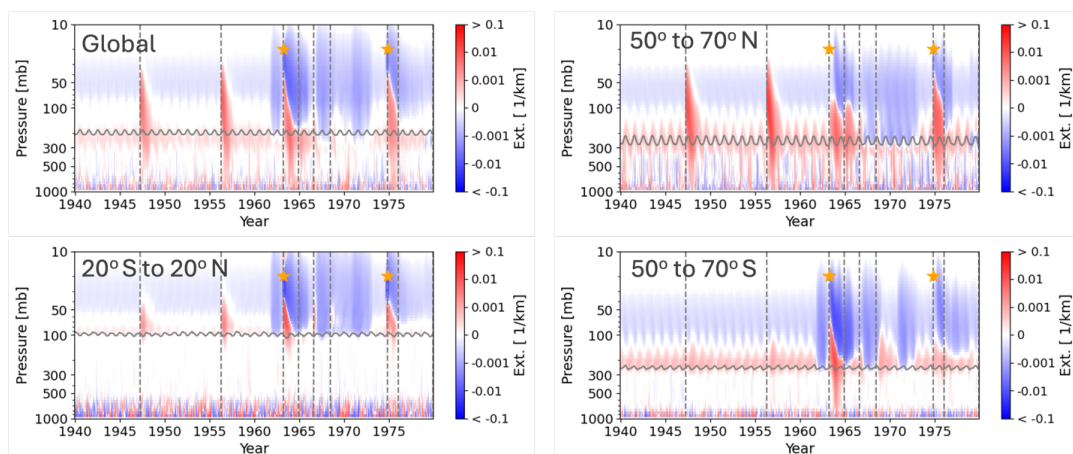
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Figure 4. Simulated sulfate (SO_4) aerosol concentrations or differences ($\mu\text{g}/\text{kg}$). The x-axis represents time in years, while y-axis represents pressure levels in hPa. The global averaged sulfate aerosol concentrations from V2-IVA are shown in panel *a*. Panels *b*-*e* show the SO_4 concentration differences between experiment V2-IVA and V2-CMIP6 over different latitude bands. The eruptions recorded by volcanEESM are marked by grey dashed lines (see Table 2).



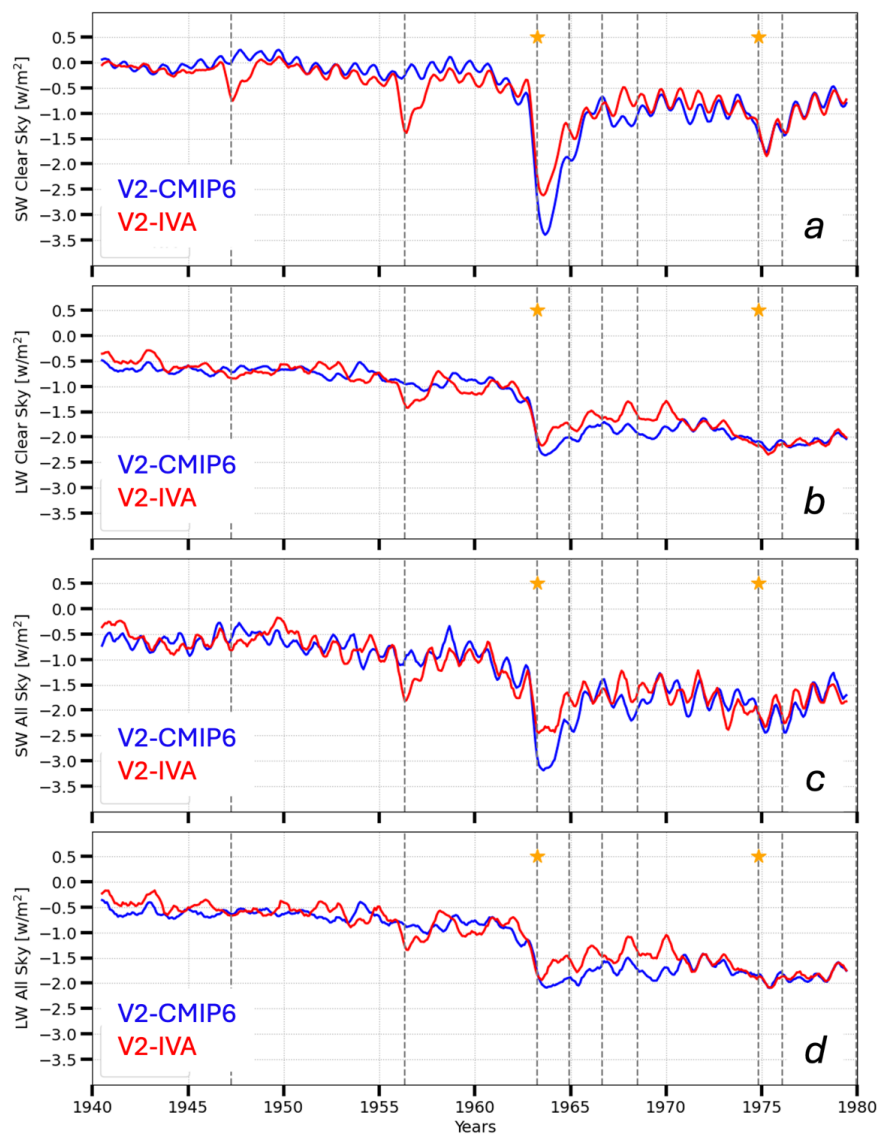
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Figure 5. Simulated time (in year) and latitude (in degree) variations of SAOD from V2-IVA ensemble (upper panel) and the SAOD difference between V2-IVA and V2-CMIP6 (bottom panel). The dashed lines represent volcanic eruptions in volcanEESM (Table 2), while the stars indicate volcanic eruptions in the CMIP6 documentation (Table 1)



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Figure 6. Difference of mean extinction between V2-IVA and V2-CMIP6 over the entire globe and at different latitude bands. The x-axis represents time in years, and the y-axis represents pressure level in hPa. The vertical dashed lines represent volcanic eruptions in volcanEESM (Table 2), while the stars indicate volcanic eruptions in the CMIP6 documentation (Table 1). The solid gray curves represent tropopause simulated by model.



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Figure 7. Time series of simulated global mean radiative forcings at the top of model by V2-IVA and V2-CMIP6 ensembles, including the global average of clear-sky shortwave forcing (a), clear-sky longwave forcing (b), all-sky shortwave forcing (c), and all-sky longwave forcing (d). The vertical dashed lines represent volcanic eruptions in volcanEESM (Table 2), while the stars indicate volcanic eruptions in the CMIP6 documentation (Table 1).

3.2 Simulated Historical Temperature

Since each historical experiment began with a different baseline derived from distinct PI control simulations, directly comparing simulated temperatures across ensembles is not meaningful. Instead, it is more appropriate to compare temperature anomalies from ensemble means, which represent temperature departures from its 1850-1899 climatology. For instance, the temperature anomaly for V2-CMIP6 during the 1940-1979 period was calculated by V2-CMIP6 ensemble mean temperature during year 1940-1979 period subtracting the V2-CMIP6 ensemble



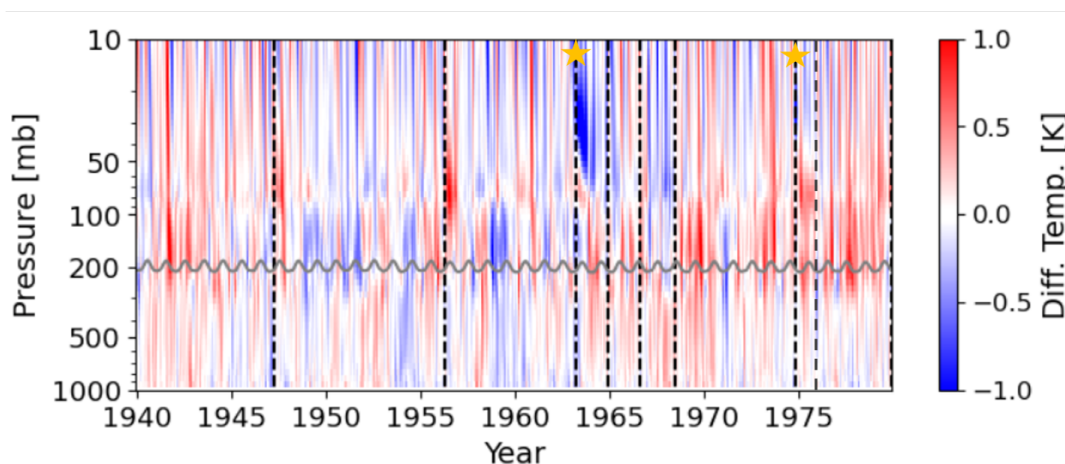
476 climatology during the 1850-1899 period. This approach intends to evaluate the changes relative to the climate
477 before anthropogenic emissions took off.

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479 Figure 8 illustrates the difference in temperature anomalies between V2-IVA and V2-CMIP6. During the 1940-1959
480 period, the eruptions of Helka (1947) and Bezymianny (1956) lead to brief stratospheric warming. However, V2-
481 IVA shows cooler temperatures in the troposphere shortly after these eruptions compared to V2-CMIP6, particularly
482 over northern high latitudes. This contrast becomes more pronounced when examining temperature anomalies at
483 different pressure levels in Figure 9. At the 200 hPa level, V2-IVA exhibits higher temperature anomalies than V2-
484 CMIP6 after these two eruptions, whereas the situation has been reversed at 500 hPa and the surface. Notably,
485 eruptions only cause short-lived cooling in the troposphere. In general, V2-IVA simulated a warmer troposphere
486 than V2-CMIP6 during the 1940-1959 period.

487
488 During the 1963-1972 period, dimmer volcanic eruptions result in a cooler middle to upper stratosphere in V2-IVA
489 due to reduced aerosol absorption (Figure 6). Consequently, temperatures at 200 hPa level to the surface are
490 moderately warmer in the V2-IVA ensemble compared to the V2-CMIP6 ensemble. Figure 9 shows that V2-IVA
491 simulated temperature anomalies are warmer than V2-CMIP6 simulated ones at all three levels. By 1968, the
492 temperature difference between V2-IVA and V2 reaches 0.16 °C at the surface, 0.21 °C at 500 hPa, and 0.22 °C at
493 200 hPa. These findings highlight how differences in the volcanic representation impact interannual temperature
494 changes. In general, V2-IVA simulates a warmer troposphere than that simulated by V2-CMIP6 during the 1960-
495 1979 period mainly due to warmer clear-sky shortwave forcing, 0.13 W/m², resulted from less volcanic aerosol
496 radiation interaction (ARI) from volcanic eruptions, which agree with previous studies (Chylek et al., 2020).
497 Previous studies ((Dhomse et al., 2020; Niemeier et al., 2019) indicated that the smaller
498 Mt Agung (1963) emission, around 7 Tg SO₂, should be used in climate models compared to the 9.9 Tg SO₂ used in
499 CMIP6 volcanic forcing simulation (Arfeuille et al., 2014).

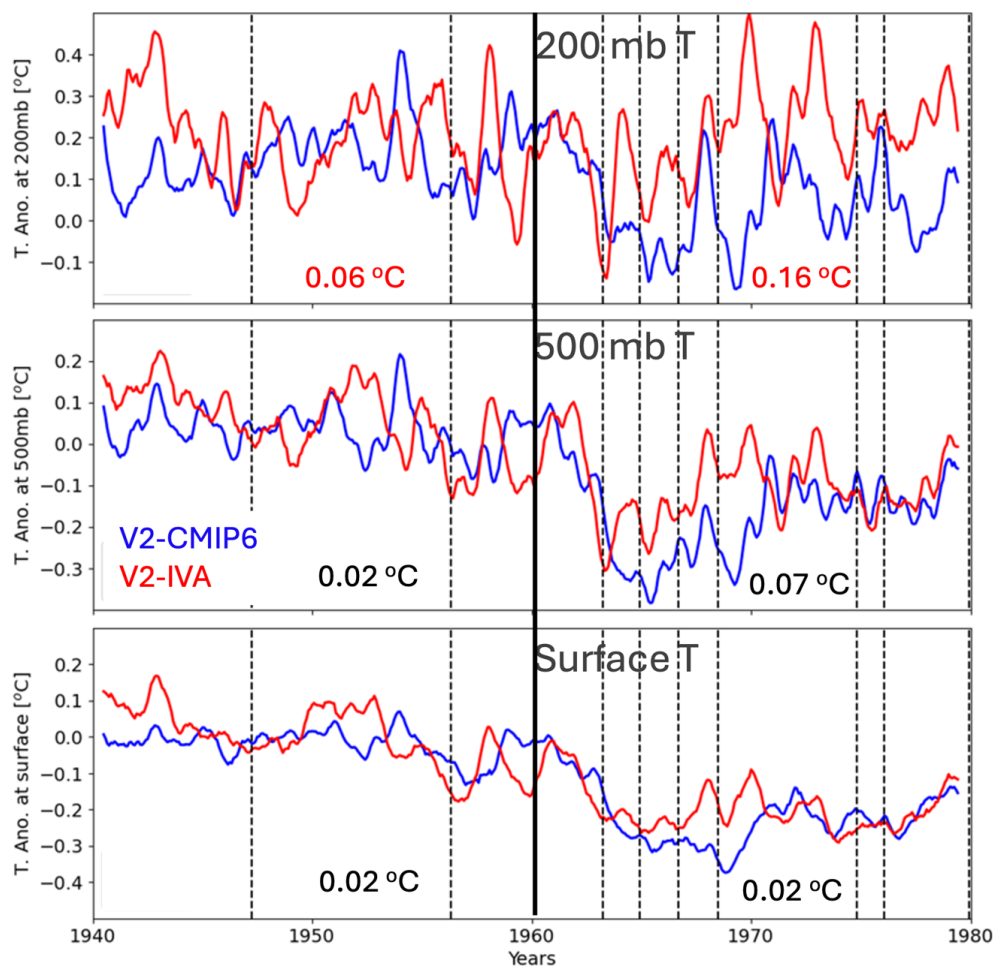
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501 Figure 10 shows simulated surface temperature anomalies compared to observations. From 1940 to 1959, unlike
502 observations, V2-CMIP6 simulates a flat temperature trend, but V2-IVA improves the temperature interannual
503 variability by incorporating two volcanic eruptions (Helka (1947) and Bezymianny (1956)). This improvement is
504 reflected in the correlation coefficients between simulations with observation (see Table S1), which increased from
505 0.15 to 0.38. From 1960 to 1979, V2-CMIP6 simulates a prolonged temperature drop after the Mt. Agung eruption
506 in 1963 compared to observed temperature trends, while the V2-IVA simulation mitigates this temperature drop. In
507 the same period, the correlation coefficients of surface temperature between V2-IVA with observation improves to
508 0.40 compared to the value between V2-CMIP6 with observation. In summary, V2-IVA ensemble with the updated
509 volcanic emission inventory (volcanEESM) has improved the simulated temperature variability compared to V2-
510 CMIP6 ensemble.

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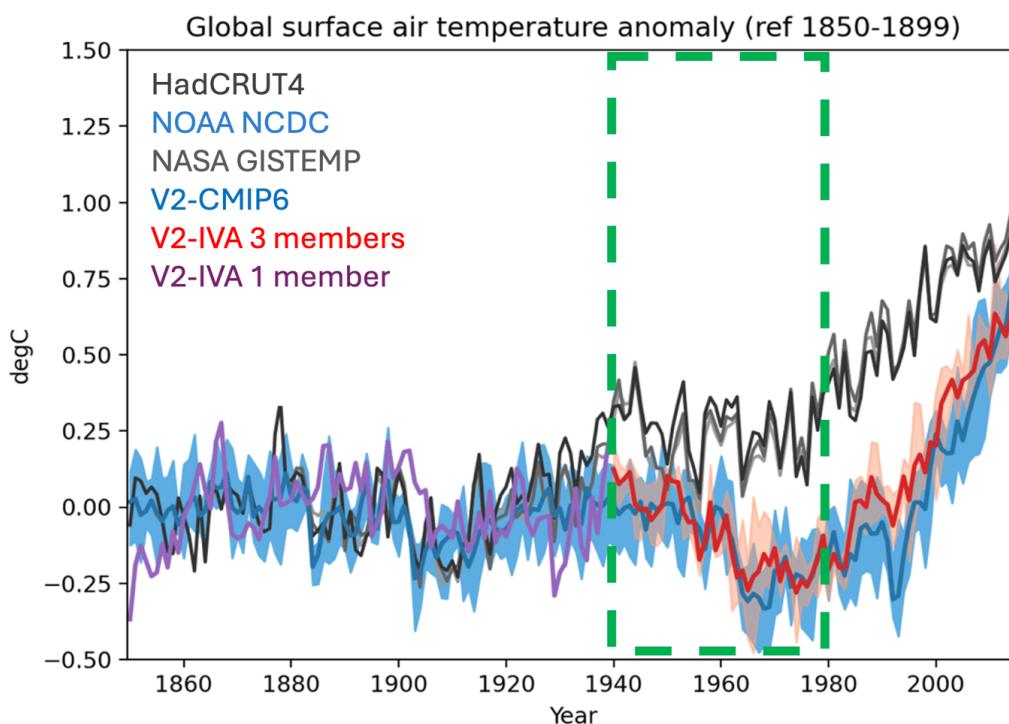
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Figure 8. Time-pressure cross-section of global mean temperature difference (K) between V2-IVA and V2-CMIP6 ensembles. The vertical dashed lines represent volcanic eruptions in volcanEESM (Table 2), while the stars indicate volcanic eruptions in the CMIP6 documentation (Table 1). The solid gray curves represent tropopause simulated by model.



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Figure 9. Time series of temperature anomaly at 200 hPa (*top*), 500 hPa (*middle*), and the surface (*bottom*). The dashed lines represent volcanic eruptions in volcanEESM (Table 2). The mean temperature differences during the 1940-1959 period between V2-IVA and V2-CMIP6 are shown in texts at the left side of all panels, while the differences during the 1960-1979 period are shown at the right side of all panels. The number of temperature difference in red color means it is significant with 95% confidence interval.



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Figure 10. Temperature anomaly trends from 1850 to 2014. Black and gray lines represent observational data, blue line represents V2-CMIP6 ensemble mean, while red line represent V2-IVA ensemble mean during 1940-1980. The purple line represents the single member results of V2-IVA from 1850 to 1940.

3.3 Simulated Decadal Cloud Albedo Forcing Changes

Cloud forcing change serves as a proxy to depict the strength of aerosol-cloud interactions in the model. Table 4 summarizes the averaged difference of cloud radiative forcing anomalies at the top of the model between V2-IVA and V2-CMIP6 during the two periods: 1940-1959 and 1960-1979. Additionally, it includes the averaged anomaly values for V2-IVA and V2-CMIP6 in brackets. For example, during the 1940-1959 period, the net cloud forcing anomalies simulated by the V2-CMIP6 experiment was -0.72 W/m^2 , indicating that the cloud forcing leads to a 0.72 W/m^2 cooling effect compared to its 1850-1899 climatology. This cooling is primarily attributed to increased anthropogenic emissions during this period, leading to enhanced aerosol-cloud interactions and consequently positive cloud fraction anomaly (see Table 4, total cloud fraction), supported by low cloud fraction anomaly increase. With further increases in anthropogenic emissions during the 1960-1979 period, the cloud forcing anomaly has increased to a greater magnitude (more negative), adding another 0.19 W/m^2 to -0.91 W/m^2 . The cloud forcing values are in line with Golaz et al. (2022) and comparable to values from other models during the similar period (Bauer et al., 2020; Flynn and Mauritsen, 2020; Zhang et al., 2021). This contributes to the simulated surface temperature low bias by E3SMv2 (Golaz et al., 2022). Notably, since there are no eruptive volcanic aerosols in V2-CMIP6, volcanic aerosols have no effect on the V2-CMIP6 simulated cloud forcing anomalies through aerosol-cloud interactions.



563 In the V2-IVA experiment, prognostic volcanic aerosols (specifically sulfate in this study) are involved in aerosol-
564 cloud interactions. Additionally, the volcanic aerosols' historical averaged emissions has been incorporated into the
565 PI control simulations. Thus, historical changes of the volcanic emissions affect cloud formation and cloud radiative
566 forcing. During the 1940-1959 period, the volcanEESM inventory recorded two eruptions, Helka (1947) and
567 Bezymianny (1956), emitting a total of 6.2 Tg SO₂ into the atmosphere, equivalent to an average emission of 3.1 Tg
568 per decade. This value is notably smaller than both the historical average (7.0 Tg per decade) and the 1850-1899
569 climatology (6.5 Tg per decade), indicating a reduction in volcanic SO₂ emissions during this period compared to
570 the earlier climatology. This reduction could partially offset the growth in anthropogenic emissions, resulting in a
571 warmer climate compared to the V2-CMIP6 experiment (volcanic quiescent warming effect).

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573 During the 1940-1959 period, V2-IVA has simulated net cloud forcing anomaly were -0.61 W/m², which is 0.11
574 W/m² warmer than that of V2-CMIP6, representing a 15% reduction of cloud cooling compared to V2-CMIP6. This
575 warming is caused by a 0.16 W/m² reduction in shortwave cloud forcing warming. Table 4 provides a breakdown of
576 cloud property changes, revealing that the V2-IVA simulated total cloud fraction anomaly is 52% less than the value
577 simulated by V2-CMIP6. This is mainly due to the much smaller low cloud fraction anomalies in V2-IVA
578 simulation, compared to that in V2-CMIP6 simulation. Consequently, the total grid-mean liquid water path anomaly
579 is 7% less than the value in V2-CMIP6. These changes are statistically significant at the 95% confidence level. As a
580 result, V2-IVA simulated temperature anomaly is warmer than the V2-CMIP6 simulated value, although these
581 differences may not pass the significance testing as various factors can contribute to temperature fluctuations (
582 9).

583
584 In contrast, there were 16.4 Tg SO₂ emissions from volcanic eruptions during the 1960-1979 period, equivalent to
585 8.2 Tg per decade (see Table 2), which exceeded the 1850-1899 climatology of 6.5 Tg per decade. Consequently,
586 the additional emissions resulted in a 28% increase of low cloud fraction anomaly and a 5% increase of liquid water
587 path anomaly, comparing V2-IVA with V2-CMIP6. This leads to a cooling effect on net cloud forcing at -0.08
588 W/m² (see Table 4). This is considered as the volcanic surplus cooling effect. However, it's important to note that
589 these differences hasn't passed significance testing, potentially due to the relatively large number of anthropogenic
590 emissions during the same period, which masks the impact of the volcanic aerosols. Interestingly, despite the -0.08
591 W/m² cooling effect on net cloud forcing, the simulated temperature anomalies in experiment V2-IVA were slightly
592 warmer than those in the V2-CMIP6 experiment (see Figure 9). This warming can be mainly attributed to the
593 alleviated volcanic aerosol direct forcing, which resulted in a warming of 0.13 W/m² under clear-sky conditions. The
594 simulated cloud fraction anomaly values are reasonable and in line with the study that evaluates CMIP6 cloud
595 fraction variations across different climate models (Vignesh et al., 2020).

596
597 In summary, the aerosol-cloud interactions induced by volcanic aerosols fluctuate upon changes in volcanic eruption
598 magnitudes. During the volcanic quiescent periods, such as 1940-1959, interactive volcanic aerosol representation
599 mitigates the cooling effect from cloud radiative forcing by offsetting the increase of the anthropogenic aerosols.
600 Conversely, during the volcanic active periods, the new interactive treatment intensifies the cooling effect by
601 introducing more sulfate into the atmosphere. This finding provides new insight into understanding the surface
602 temperature low bias spreading across climate models (Flynn and Mauritsen, 2020; Zhang et al., 2021).

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617 Table 4. Differences in global mean cloud properties between V2-IVA and V2-CMIP6. The numbers in the brackets
 618 are anomaly resulted from V2-IVA and V2-CMIP6 ensembles, respectively. Red shaded values represent
 619 statistically significant at the 95% confidence level.
 620

	1940-1959	1960-1979
Net Cloud Forcing (W/m ²)	0.11 (-0.61, -0.72)	-0.08 (-0.99, -0.91)
SW Cloud Forcing (W/m ²)	0.16 (-0.50, -0.65)	-0.04 (-0.78, -0.74)
Total Cloud Fraction (% grid mean)	-0.146 (0.137, 0.283)	-0.005 (0.306, 0.311)
Low Cloud Fraction (% grid mean)	0.113 (0.131, 0.244)	0.081 (0.369, 0.289)
Cloud Liquid Water Path (10 ⁻⁵ * kg/m ² , grid mean)	-7 (97, 105)	7 (148, 141)

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3.4 The Effect of Volcanic Aerosols in PI Control

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The PI control simulation is designed to establish the baseline climate for historical transient simulations (Schmidt et al., 2012). In this study, V2-IVA-NPI ensemble experiments are conducted to explore the effect of volcanic aerosols in the PI-control configuration on simulated historical climate (Table 3). The hypothesis is that without including historical averaged volcanic aerosols in the PI control, the additional sulfate aerosol emissions from historical volcanic eruptions would contribute to enhancing aerosol-cloud interactions and cooling of the climate. Additionally, without the inclusion of volcanic aerosols in the PI control, the volcanic quiescent warming and surplus cooling effects cannot be represented. The V2-IVA-NPI experiment replicates the setup of the V2-IVA experiment, but it omits the historical averaged explosive volcanic aerosols in the V2-IVA-NPI's PI control run, which serves as the initial condition for the V2-IVA-NPI's historical run. Although both V2-IVA and V2-IVA-NPI experiments have the identical emissions in the historical run, we anticipate that the anomaly in V2-IVA-NPI, relatives to its 1850-1899 climatology, result in more low clouds, an enhancement of cooling via aerosol-cloud interactions, and a cooler climate compared to its V2-IVA counterpart.

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Table S2 presents a comparison between the V2-IVA and V2-IVA-NPI experiments. During the 1940-1959 period, both V2-IVA and V2-IVA-NPI show an increase in low cloud anomaly compared to their 1850-1899 climatology. Notably, the increase in low cloud fraction in V2-IVA-NPI has been significantly higher than that in V2-IVA. Additionally, the V2-IVA-NPI simulation has simulated a larger liquid water path anomaly, compared to that in V2-IVA. Consequently, the net cloud forcing anomaly in V2-IVA-NPI is 0.10 W/m² cooler than that in V2-IVA, indicating a cooling from aerosol-cloud interactions. Furthermore, the V2-IVA-NPI simulation exhibits a temperature anomaly that is 0.09 K cooler than that in V2-IVA, which is statistically significant. A similar, albeit less pronounced, pattern is observed during the 1960-1979 period, with V2-IVA-NPI simulating a cooler climate compared to that in V2-IVA. In general, the results are qualitatively agree with previous study about the importance of the volcanic aerosols in PI control simulation (Chim et al., 2023; Schmidt et al., 2012).

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These findings highlight the significant role of volcanic aerosols in shaping historical climate simulations and emphasize the importance of their inclusion in climate models' baseline simulations.

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4. Conclusions and Discussion

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This study investigates whether the representation of volcanic eruptions in E3SM could be contributing to its low temperature bias during 1940-1980 and evaluates the impact of volcanic representations on the simulated climate. The standard E3SMv2 model, following the CMIP6 protocol, represents volcanic eruptions by prescribing simplified radiative forcing and neglects the interactions between volcanic aerosols and clouds. Instead, in this study



661 we introduce another representation that treats volcanic eruptions as SO₂ gas emissions and the induced sulfate
662 aerosols in aerosol processes using MAM4 to represent the volcanic aerosol-radiation and aerosol-cloud
663 interactions.

664
665 The experiments consist of a control run, V2-CMIP6 ensemble and two test runs, V2-IVA and V2-IVA-NPI
666 ensembles. The control run utilizes historical transient simulations with five members from 1850 to 2014. The V2-
667 IVA ensemble includes a 100-year spin-up under the same PI control configuration as the control run but using the
668 averaged volcanic emissions from 1850 to 2014 as the background eruptive volcanic emission. After the spin-up,
669 one member is simulated from 1850 to 2014, with two additional members added from 1940 to 2014 to reduce the
670 interannual variability in coupled simulations. The V2-IVA-NPI ensemble is identical to V2-IVA ensemble, but
671 without any background explosive volcanic emissions in its 100-year PI control.
672

673 Our analysis indicates that while the improvement in volcanic aerosol representation does not profoundly alter
674 model outcomes, there are noticeable improvements, albeit at relatively small magnitudes. The V2-IVA ensemble,
675 which utilizes the latest volcanEESM inventory includes previously unaccounted eruptions like Helka (1947) and
676 Bezymianny (1956), alongside an adjusted representation of Mt. Agung's eruption (1963). It exhibits enhancements
677 in the simulated surface temperature temporal variability. Specifically, the surface temperature anomaly correlation
678 coefficient between observation and model simulated results is increased from 0.15 to 0.39 during the 1940-1959
679 period and from 0.32 to 0.40 during the 1960-1979 period. Additionally, the V2-IVA simulated atmosphere is
680 marginally warmer (by 0.02 to 0.15 K) across various pressure levels (from 200 hPa to the surface) compared to the
681 V2-CMIP6 atmosphere (Figure 9).
682

683 Furthermore, our study unveils the mechanisms by which historical volcanic eruptions affect cloud forcing
684 variability. During volcanic quiescent periods, characterized by eruptions below the historical average, a reduction
685 in volcanic emissions partially offsets the increase of anthropogenic emissions, resulting in a volcanic quiescent
686 warming effect. Conversely, during volcanic active periods, excessive volcanic emissions augment anthropogenic
687 emissions with more sulfate aerosols, leading to a volcanic surplus cooling effect. These effects are evident when
688 comparing cloud forcing anomalies between the V2-IVA and V2-CMIP6 simulations during the 1940-1959 and
689 1960-1979 periods (see Table 4). Specifically, during the 1940-1959 period, characterized by volcanic quiescence,
690 the net cloud forcing anomaly in the V2-IVA simulation is 0.10 W/m² warmer than that in the V2-CMIP6
691 simulation. In contrast, during the 1960-1979 period, characterized by volcanic emission amount surplus historical
692 mean, the net cloud forcing anomaly in the V2-IVA simulation is 0.07 W/m² cooler than that in the V2-CMIP6
693 simulation. These changes in cloud forcing are evidently reflected in the low cloud fraction anomaly and liquid
694 water path anomaly comparisons. This finding gives new insight to understanding the surface temperature low bias
695 spread across many climate models (Flynn and Mauritsen, 2020; Golaz et al., 2022; Zhang et al., 2021).
696

697 It is worth noting that this study uses the MAM4 to represent volcanic sulfate aerosols, which needs some
698 improvements to accurately reproduce Mt. Pinatubo (1991) eruption (Mills et al., 2014). This effort will be
699 represented in a following-up paper that documents a new development of adding a stratospheric sulfate mode on
700 top of MAM4 for E3SM version 3 (Ke et al., in preparation). However, the goal of this study is to highlight the
701 improved model performance when the representation of variability in volcanic aerosols is improved: an interactive
702 volcanic aerosol treatment and an updated volcanic emission inventory. Importantly, the volcanic quiescent warming
703 effect introduced by this study potentially plays an important role in the rapid global warming during the 1920-1960
704 period, during which eruptive volcanic emission amount was 2.8 Tg per decade, much lower than the historical
705 average of 7.1 Tg per decade. This warming trend known as early twentieth-century warming in observations but is
706 missed in climate model simulations (Brönnimann, 2009; Hegerl et al., 2018).
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708 Future research is warranted to focus on improving the volcanic aerosols' representation in climate models, such as
709 the size distribution, mixing (with other aerosol components), activation, and ice nucleation processes.
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Code and data availability

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The dataset had been analyzed in this study are available at <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.11246313>, E3SMv2

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source code at <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.11403736> and E3SMv2 run script at

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<https://zenodo.org/records/11403988> The E3SM project, code, simulation configurations, model output and tools to

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work with the output are described on the E3SM website (<https://e3sm.org>, last access: 20 May 2024). Instructions

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on how to get started running E3SM and its components are available on the E3SM website

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(<https://e3sm.org/model/running-e3sm/e3sm-quick-start>, last access: 20 May 2024).

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Competing interests

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At least one of the (co-)authors is a member of the editorial board of Geoscientific Model Development

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Author contribution

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All co-authors designed the experiments and Ziming Ke carried them out V2-IVA and V2-IVA-NPI experiments.

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The V2-CMIP6 results had been provided by Jean-Christophe upon Golaz et al. (2022) study. Ziming Ke performed

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the data analysis and all co-authors provided contributions. Ziming Ke prepared the manuscript with Xiaohong Liu

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provided significant revisions. All co-authors contributed to final manuscript revisions.

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Sensing”.

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program and operated by the Laboratory Computing Resource Center at Argonne National Laboratory.

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The E3SM version 2.0 have been used in this study. The source code can be found at this link

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(<https://github.com/E3SM-Project/E3SM/releases/tag/v2.0.0>. 29 Sep. 2021. Web.

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doi:10.11578/E3SM/dc.20210927.1)

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