Unequal socioeconomic exposure to drought extremes induced by stratospheric aerosol geoengineeringinjection Weijie Fu¹, Xu Yue^{1, *}, Chenguang Tian¹, Rongbin Xu², Yuming Guo² ¹ JiangsuState Key Laboratory of Atmospheric Environment MonitoringClimate System Prediction and Pollution Control, Risk Management, Jiangsu Collaborative Innovation Center of Atmospheric Environment and Equipment Technology, School of Environmental Science and Engineering, Nanjing University of Information Science & Technology (NUIST), Nanjing, 210044, China-² Climate, Air Quality Research Unit, School of Public Health and Preventive Medicine, Monash University, Melbourne, Australia. *Correspondence to: Xu Yue, <u>yuexu@nuist.edu.cn</u>

Abstract

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

29

30

31

32

33

34

35

36

37

38

39

40

41

42

43

44

45

As global temperature rises, the severity and frequency of droughts are projected to increase. Stratospheric aerosol geoengineering (SAGinjection (SAI) has been proposed as a potential solution to reduce surface temperatures, but its effectiveness in alleviating drought extremes remains unclear. Here, we assess the global impacts of SAGSAI on drought extremes based on experiments from the Geoengineering Model Intercomparison Project (GeoMIP) and the Geoengineering Large Ensemble Project (GLENS). By 2100, the frequency of extreme droughts is projected to increase by 7.33% under athe high-emission Shared Socioeconomic Pathways 5 (SSP5-8.5) scenario. SAG implementation relative to present day. SAI reduces this increase by 1.99% (in GeoMIP6, and by 1.80% in GLENS), primarily due to its compared with Representative Concentration Pathways 8.5 (RCP8.5). Attribution analyses show that SAI-induced cooling effects.alone reduces extreme drought frequency by 3.42% in GeoMIP6 and 4.28% in GLENS relative to their respective highemission scenarios, outweighing the 2.12% increase driven by SAI-induced precipitation reductions under the same conditions. However, SAG-induced these rainfall deficits lead to substantial inequity inequities in drought responses. Countries exposures. Compared to developed nations, countries with less development experience smaller reductions, or even increases, in economic and population exposure to extreme drought, compared under SAI relative to more developed nations. SSP5-8.5 or RCP8.5. These findings highlightsuggest that the urgent need for improved SAG design to preventcurrent SAI strategies in GeoMIP6 and GLENS may induce the exacerbation risk of elimate injustice. unintentionally worsening regional hydroclimatic disparities.

1 Introduction

46

47

48

49

50

51

52

53

54

55

56

57

58

59

60

61

62

63

64

65

66

67

68

69

70

71

72

73

74

75

76

77

78

Global warming is profoundly shaping the Earth with reduced sea ice (Diffenbaugh et al., 2013), raised sea level (Tebaldi et al., 2021), and increased climatic extremes(Song et al.). (Song et al., 2022). Persistent warming has expanded the land area with decreased precipitation but increased evaporation, enhancing the frequency and severity of global drought events (Dai, 2011b; Trenberth et al., 2014; Samaniego et al., 2018). As one of the most destructive and persistently widespread natural disasters, drought can have significant impacts on human survival, the economy, and societal structures (Dai, 2013; Carrão et al., 2016; Yue et al., 2021). During 1970-2019, droughts were responsible for 34% of disaster-related fatalities (Smith, 2021) and annually erode 12 million hectares of arable land (Diallo, 2008), leading to reduced agricultural yields, increased food prices, and escalated economic instability especially for vulnerable populations (Rusca et al., 2023). Mitigating global warming requires reducing anthropogenic GHG emissions. However, due to the inertia of climate system, global temperature responses lag behind emission reductions. Geoengineering, particularly Solar Radiation Management (SRM), has been proposed as a potential climate change mitigation approach (Ricke et al., 2012). The SRM aims to reflect incoming solar radiation back into space (Irvine et al., 2012), reducing global surface temperatures (Irvine et al., 2019). As one type of SRM, stratospheric aerosol geoengineering (SAG) has gained significant attentions due to its cost-effectiveness and practicality (Irvine et al., 2019; Duffey and Irvine, 2024). As one type of SRM, stratospheric aerosol injection (SAI) has gained significant attentions due to its cost-effectiveness and practicality (Smith and Wagner, 2018; Smith, 2020). This method introduces reflective aerosols into the stratosphere to increase the Earth's albedo (Pope et al., 2012), mimicking the cooling effects observed after volcanic eruptions (Wilson et al., 1993). Earth System Models (ESMs) are vital for analyzing climatic impacts and the potential side effect of SRM before its implementation (Macmartin and Kravitz, 2019). The Geoengineering Model Intercomparison Project (GeoMIP)(Kravitz et al., 2011) The Geoengineering Model Intercomparison Project phase 6 (GeoMIP6) (Kravitz et al., 2011; Visioni et al., 2023) was established to assess climatic responses to geoengineering using multiple ESMs under various forcing scenarios. In contrast, the Geoengineering Large Ensemble (GLENS) project performed multiple experiments

with a single ESM, exploring different injection strategies_(Tilmes et al., 2018). Ensemble of these simulations indicated that SAG could alter global hydrological cycle, reducing rainfall and shifting the intertropical convergence zone(Krishnamohan and Bala, 2022). Regionally, the SAG-induced cooling could offset about 90% of extreme drought risks in Cape Town, South Africa(Odoulami et al., 2020). Such benefits were also confirmed by other regional studies (Abiodun et al., 2021). However, the benefits of SAGSAI could alter global hydrological cycle relative to high emission scenario (Jiang et al., 2024; Rezaei et al., 2025). Notably, the magnitude and spatial pattern of rainfall changes exhibit strong dependence on injection latitudes and altitude (Zhao et al., 2021; Krishnamohan and Bala, 2022). Region-specific analyses suggest that specific SAI deployment strategies may mitigate extreme drought risks under the Shared Socioeconomic Pathways 5 (SSP5-8.5) scenario. For instance, in Cape Town, South Africa, model ensembles indicate a potential 90% reduction in extreme drought risk when applying the GLENS injection protocol (Botai et al., 2017; Odoulami et al., 2020). However, these benefits are highly contingent upon the specific implementation strategy: different SAI designs or distinct greenhouse gas background conditions (e.g., SSP2-4.5) could result in neutral or adverse outcomes (Du et al., 2025). Nevertheless, the benefits of SAI on reducing drought extremes remain unclear on the global scale. In this study, we use ensemble simulations from both GeoMIP6 and GLENS to assess 1) whether how SRM can reduce strategies alter the probability magnitude and spatial distribution of extreme drought events risk under high-emission scenarios, and the climatic mechanisms that govern these changes; and 2) whether the benefits are socioeconomically equal. We how the magnitude of SRM-derived drought exposure reduction varies across countries with different levels of socioeconomic development. For GeoMIP6, we consider two types of SRM including G6solar by reducing solar constant and G6sulfur by SAI. We employ the self-calibrating Palmer Drought Severity Index (scPDSI) to quantify drought levels, due to its ability to depict drought state through dynamically calculated climatic thresholds adapted to regional environment (Wells et al., 2004; Dai, 2011a). We quantify changes in the probability of extreme drought with and without SRM interventions under the same high-warming scenario, which is set to Shared Socioeconomic Pathway 5 scenarios (SSP5-8.5) assuming a for GeoMIP6 and RCP8.5 for GLENS), both of which assume strong warming future with radiative forcing reaching 8.5 W m⁻² by the end of this century. We explore the

79

80

81

82

83

84

85

86

87

88

89

90

91

92

93

94

95

96

97

98

99

100

101

102

103

104

105

106

107

108

109

110

uncertainties associated with different <u>SAGSAI</u> strategies, including the fixed equatorial injection approach adopted <u>byin</u> G6sulfur <u>from GeoMIP(GeoMIP6)</u> and the multi-latitude aerosol placement used in GLENS. We pay special attentions to the possible disparity of <u>extreme</u> drought responses to the <u>SAGSAI</u> among countries with different socioeconomic development.

117

118

119

120

121

122

123

124

125

126

127

128

129

130

131

132

133

134

135

136

137

138

139

140

141

142

143

112

113

114

115

116

2 Method

2.1 Model data

We use outputs from multiple models participating in the G6solar and G6sulfur experiments of GeoMIP6 (Table \$\frac{\text{S1}}{1}\). The G6sulfur experiment involves the linear injection of sulfur dioxide (SO₂) along a within the 10°S-10°N latitude band of 10°S-10°N along the 0° longitude at the height between altitudes of 18 and 20 km from the year 2020. The SO₂ injection rate is adjusted annually or every decade to lower the global mean surface air temperature from the high forcing scenario (SSP5-8.5) to the medium forcing scenario (SSP2-4.5) (Kravitz et al., 2015). This scheme aims to achieve a more uniform global distribution of sulfate aerosols compared to the single-point injections (English et al., 2012). For some models, prescribed sulfate distribution in stratosphere is applied. As a comparison, G6solar experiment directly reduces the solar constant in an idealized manner to achieve the same reduction in radiative forcing from the high to medium scenario (Kravitz et al., 2015). We use historical simulations and future projections under the SSP5-8.5 scenario to assess the mitigating effects of different SRMs. Some models provide multiple realizations for both historical and SSP5-8.5 experiments. We analyze data only from ensemble members that have the same realizations in both the G6sulfur and G6solar experiments. As a result, we select five available climate models participating in the GeoMIP6 experiment (Table \$\frac{\$\text{\$\frac{1}}}{2}\) with qualified outputs to calculate changes in drought state from the present day to the end of the 21st century. All model data with varied spatial resolutions are interpolated to the same grid of 1°×1° to facilitate the calculation of multi-model ensemble mean. Inter-model consistency was evaluated based on the number of models that aligned with the direction of the multi-model ensemble change. Changes in the multi-model ensemble were deemed robust if more than four models exhibited changes with the same sign; otherwise, these changes were considered uncertain.

To evaluate the robustness of our findings, we conducted a comparative analysis with the Geoengineering Large Ensemble Project (GLENS) (Tilmes et al., 2018). Unlike the idealized equatorial injection strategy employed in G6sulfur, GLENS implements a feedback-control algorithm designed to maintain global mean surface temperature, interhemispheric temperature gradients, and equator-to-pole temperature gradients at 2020 levels under a high-emission RCP8.5 scenario (Kravitz et al., 2017). This approach dynamically adjusts injects sulfate aerosol injection rates in differentaerosols at four locations basedalong 180° longitude (15°N, 15°S, 30°N, and 30°S) at latitudinally optimized altitudes. Based on predefined temperature targets(Macmartin et al., 2017)., the sulfate aerosol injection rate is dynamically adjusted at each location. The GLENS dataset consists of a 20-member ensemble generated by the NCAR Community Earth System Model (CESM1), which incorporates the Whole Atmosphere Community Climate Model (WACCM) as its atmospheric component (Table \$22). Our analysis exclusively considered ensemble members with continuous simulations spanning the entire 21st century across both feedback and control experiments (001, 002, and 003). This comparative framework allows us to assess the sensitivity of drought extremes and socioeconomic exposure to different **SAGSAI** deployment strategies.

162163

164

165

166

167

168

169

170

171

172

173

174

175

144

145146

147

148

149

150

151

152

153

154

155

156

157

158159

160

161

2.2 Socioeconomic data and exposure

We use Gross Domestic Product (GDP) data_(Geiger, 2018) with a spatial resolution of 0.25° from 2000 to 2020, along with GDP projections for 2025-2100 under the SSP5-8.5 scenario_(Dellink et al., 2017) . The GDP values are standardized to the 2005 purchasing power parity (PPP) international dollar for comparability_(Geiger, 2018; Wang and Sun, 2022). Population data at 1-km resolution, including urban, rural, and total populations, are sourced from the Socioeconomic Data and Applications Center (SEDAC) for five-year intervals from 2000 to 2020_(Jones and O'neill, 2020) . For future projections, we use population data at ten-year intervals and one-eighth degree resolution in space under the SSP5-8.5 scenario for 2020-2100_(Jones and O'neill, 2016, 2020). The GDP (or population) exposure is calculated as the frequency of extreme drought multiplied by the GDP (or population) values in each grid cell_(Sun et al., 2022).

The Human Development Index (HDI) from the Human Development Report is used to differentiate the economic development of various countries and regions (Undp, 2024). In total, 158 countries with land area larger than 10000 km² (the size of at least one 1°×1° grid) are selected and separated into four HDI groups including low (HDI<0.55), medium (0.55<HDI<0.699), high (0.7<HDI<0.799), and very high (HDI>0.8) levels following the suggested criteria (Undp, 2024). The gridded GDP or population exposure is summed up for each country, and then aggregated into four HDI groups accordingly.

2.3 Drought indices

We use scPDSI as the primary metric to quantify the spatiotemporal variations of drought events. The scPDSI is calculated separately for each model with the corresponding meteorological variables. At each grid, monthly precipitation (P), potential evapotranspiration (PET) and the available water holding capacity (AWC) are used to assess drought severity based on dynamically computed thresholds from historical reference period climates_(Wells et al., 2004). There are two common methods for calculating PET: the Penman-Monteith and Thornthwaite parameterization schemes_(Penman and Keen, 1948; Thornthwaite, 1948; Monteith, 1965). In this study, we use the Penman-Monteith equation, which calculates PET base on surface air temperature (T, °C), net surface radiation (T, MJ day-1 m-2), surface specific humidity (T, kg/kg), two-meter wind speed (T, m/s), and surface air pressure (T, kPa):

197
$$PET_{pm} = \frac{\Delta \cdot Rn + 6.43\gamma(1 + 0, .536U)(e_s - e_a)}{(\Delta + \gamma)\lambda}$$
 (1)

where Δ is the slope of the saturation vapor pressure curve, γ is psychrometric coefficient, λ is latent heat of vaporization, $(e_s - e_a)$ is the saturation vapor pressure deficit, which can be calculated by air temperature, specific humidity, and air pressure at the surface:

$$202 e_s - e_a = 0.6112e^{\left(\frac{17.62T}{(243.12+T)}\right)} - \frac{p \cdot q}{q + 0.622(1-q)}$$
 (2)

Since CMIP6 provides wind speeds at 10 meters above the surface, we convert them to wind speed at 2 meters (Allan et al., 1998):

$$U_2 = \frac{4.87}{\ln(67.8 * z - 5.42)} U_{10} \tag{3}$$

Here z = 10 meters. The calculation of PDSI requires the use of P, PET, and AWC to

207 <u>calculate eight variables related to soil moisture based on the water balance:</u>

208 evapotranspiration (ET), recharge (R), runoff (RO), loss (L), potential

evapotranspiration (PE), potential recharge (PR), potential runoff (PRO), and potential

loss (PL) (Webb et al., 2000). These variables are then used to calculate the Climatically

Appropriate For Existing Conditions' (CAFEC) precipitation (\hat{P}) :

$$\hat{P} = \alpha P E + \beta P R + \gamma P R O - \delta P L \tag{4}$$

Here, α , β , γ and δ are the water-balance coefficients, which are derived from ET, R,

214 RO, and L divided by their potential values, respectively. The difference between P and

215 \hat{P} is defined as moisture departure (d):

$$216 d = P - \hat{P} (5)$$

217 The d is scaled to a moisture anomaly index (Z index) using climatic characteristic (K):

$$Z = dK (6)$$

219 K can be calculated by potential evapotranspiration, recharge, runoff, precipitation, loss

220 <u>and moisture departure:</u>

$$K_{i}' = 1.5 \log_{10} \left(\frac{\frac{PE_{l} + R_{l} + RO_{l}}{\overline{P_{l}} + \overline{L_{l}}} + 2.8}{\overline{D_{l}}} \right) + 0.5$$
 (7)

$$K_{i} = \frac{17.67}{\sum_{j}^{12} \overline{D_{j}} K_{j}'} K_{i}'$$
 (8)

Where \overline{D} is the average monthly moisture departure, 17.67 is an empirical constant.

The PDSI for a given month is calculated using the Z index and empirical parameters:

$$PDSI_{i} = 0.897PDSI_{i-1} + \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)Z_{i} \tag{9}$$

226 The duration factors (0.897 and 1/3) are empirical parameters obtained by Palmer from

previous studies (Alley, 1984). The original drought index, PDSI, is calculated using

228 fixed climatic thresholds that are not comparable across different climatic regions. To

address such limitation, the scPDSI employs dynamic thresholdsclimatic characteristic

230 <u>and duration factors</u> based on the regional environment, offering the advantage of both

spatial and temporal comparability (Wells et al., 2004; Dai, 2011a; Van Der Schrier et

al., 2013). In the calibration of PDSI, monthly K was adjusted using local climate

statistics to ensure that extreme drought events (PDSI \leq -4.0) and wet periods (PDSI)

≥ 4.0) occur at frequencies of approximately 2%. The duration factors were derived

from linear regression analyses of accumulated Z-index values during extreme drought and wet conditions, thereby enhancing sensitivity to regional climate variability.

The standard scPDSI values range from -4 to 4, representing conditions from extremely dry to extremely wet. In this study, an extreme drought month is defined if scPDSI value is lower than -4. The frequency of drought extremes for a given scenario is calculated as the fraction of extreme drought months out of a 240-month period. The absolute changes of such frequency are compared among scenarios and SAI strategies. Additionally, we compute other drought indices for comparisons, including the PDSI, Palmer Modified Drought Index (PMDI), Palmer Hydrological Drought Index (PHDI), and Palmer Z Index (Z-index).

2.4 Mitigation Potential (MP)

We define the MP value to quantify the extent to which SRM could mitigate the increased drought risks induced by climate warming:

$$MP = \frac{P_{SRM} - P_{SSP585}}{P_{SSP585} - P_{hist}} \tag{10}$$

Here, P_{hist} represents the drought probability or the exposure (either GDP or population) to drought extremes (scPDSI < -4) at present day averaged for the period of 1995-2014. P_{SSP585} and P_{SRM} represent the mean drought probability/exposure at 2081-2100 under the SSP5-8.5 and SRM (G6solar or G6sulfur) scenarios, respectively. We calculate the MP values for four different HDI groups of countries by summing the GDP or population exposure within each HDI group. For individual countries, we calculate the MP values based on the GDP or population exposure for that specific country. Our analyses showed that the denominator of Equation (410) is positive for all four HDI groups and for 96% of the 158 countries, indicating that extreme drought exposure is projected to increases in the future under the SSP5-8.5 scenario. A negative MP value indicates that SRM helps mitigate the warming-induced increase of extreme drought exposure, and vice versa. The units of the MP value can be expressed as a percentage (when MP<1) or as a ratio (when MP>1).

2.5 Drought Exposure Disparity (DED)

The DED values are defined to assess the disparity of <u>extreme</u> drought exposure among countries with different HDI:

$$DED = \frac{P_{low \, HDI}}{P_{very \, high \, HDI} + P_{high \, HDI}} \tag{11}$$

Here, $P_{low\ HDI}$ represents the sum of the exposure (GDP or population) to drought extremes (scPDSI < -4) for all low HDI countries. $P_{very\ high\ HDI}$ and $P_{high\ HDI}$ are exposures in very high HDI countries and high HDI countries, respectively. An increase of DED indicates an enhanced inequality for the socioeconomic exposure to drought extremes.

2.6 Numerical experiments

2.6 Calculations and attributions of scPDSI

For each climate model of GeoMIP6, we collect monthly temperature, precipitation, and radiation to calculate historical scPDSI using present-day climatic variables and future scPDSI using meteorology from the SSP5-8.5, G6sulfur, or G6solar scenarios (Table \$33). To identify the main drivers of scPDSI changes, we perform 9 additional sensitivity offline experiments by combining historical meteorological forcings with future projections under the SSP5-8.5, G6sulfur, or G6solar scenarios (Table \$33). In these offline experiments, we replace one variable at a time from the SSP5-8.5 scenario with the corresponding future projections from GeoMIP6 scenarios. The differences in scPDSI between sensitivity experiments and the full sets of future projections (SSP5-8.5 or GeoMIPGeoMIP6) indicate the contributions relative impact of individual climatic forcing on changes in scPDSI. We select 1995-2014 as the historical reference period and 2081-2100 as the future projection period for analyses. Similarly, we conducted offline calculations of scPDSI for the GLENS and RCP8.5 scenarios.

2.7 Model evaluations

Monthly precipitation and temperature from the CRU TS (Climate Research Unit Gridded Time Series) dataset version 4.07 are used to evaluate the model's performance in reproducing present-day climate_(Harris et al., 2020). Both the CRU data and model output are interpolated to 1°×1°. We calculate the correlation coefficient (R, 1 is best), standard deviation ratio (SDEV, 1 is best), and centered root-mean-square error (CRMSE, 0 is best) between the CRU data and model simulations_(Taylor, 2001). For temperature, all models reproduce the observed spatial pattern with R>0.98 and SDEV ranging from 0.95 to 1.08 (Fig-S1a_1a). The CRMSE for most modes models is less

than 2, except for IPSL-CM6A-LR (2.24). For precipitation, R ranges from 0.74 to 0.85, SDEV ranges from 0.82 to 1, and CRMSE ranges from 0.99 to 1.55 (Fig-S1b, 1b). Although the R for simulated precipitation is lower than that for temperature, the CRMSE is generally lower. Overall, the selected models reasonably reproduce the observed meteorology with low biases. While all models accurately capture the changing characteristics of temperature and precipitation, differences in parameterization schemes for radiation, cloud-aerosol interactions, aerosol microphysics, and other factors result in variations in the simulated patterns of meteorological factors (Mauritsen et al., 2019; Visioni et al., 2021). Therefore, we use the multi-model ensemble to minimize biases caused by inter-model variations.

3 Results

3.1 Responses of temperature and precipitation to SRM

By the end of 21st century, global <u>land</u> surface air temperature is projected to increase by 4.265.73°C under the SSP5-8.5 scenario relative to 1995–2014 (Fig.la.2a). Such warming is more significant at the mid-to-high latitudes in Northern Hemisphere (NH). The pronounced temperature rise intensifies hydrological cycle, evidenced by enhanced water vapor content in lower troposphere (Held and Soden, 2006), resulting in an increased global average precipitation of 0.4918 mm/day (Fig.ld.2d). However, a discernible reduction of rainfall is noted in regions including northern South America, southern Africa, Australia, southern North America, and western Europe.

Reduction of the solar constant in G6solar causes a uniformly distributed intense cooling worldwide (Fig-1b), 2b), resulting in a decrease in global average land surface air temperature of approximately -2.61°C and counteracting 46.545.6% of the warming in SSP5-8.5. For G6sulfur, the injection of sulfur aerosols (or SO₂) contributes to a reduction in global average surface temperature of about -1.84°C (Fig-1e), slightly weaker than that of G6solar.2.45°C, offsetting 42.8% of the SSP5-8.5 warming (Fig. 2c). Although both SRMs mitigate less than half of the temperature rise, they offset most of the increase in precipitation attributable to global warming (Fig-1eFigs 2e and 1f)2f) (Niemeier et al., 2013; Ricke et al., 2023). Such responses of precipitation are markedly uneven in space, as reflected by significant heterogeneity in precipitation distribution patterns (Simpson et al., 2019; Zhang et al., 2024). The SRM-induced tropospheric cooling weakens tropical circulation, inhibiting convection and

subsequently reducing precipitation (Ferraro et al., 2014). Notably, the G6sulfur shows most prominent rainfall deficit in central Africa and Indonesia due to the weakening of the monsoon circulation and shifting of the monsoon precipitation distribution (Bonou et al., 2023). This reduction in precipitation is more pronounced in the GLENS simulations (Fig S2d), driven by the stronger cooling (Fig S2b) from the larger sulfur injection (Krishnamohan and Bala, 2022). This reduction in temperature and precipitation is more pronounced in the GLENS simulations (Fig. 3). By the end of this century, the GLENS strategy successfully maintained the temperature at 2020 level, reducing the global average by 5.48°C compared to the RCP8.5 scenario. Due to the different injection magnitude and locations from GeoMIP6, the GLENS injection results in more pronounced precipitation reduction in central Africa, India, and high-latitude regions of the NH (Fig. 3d).

3.2 Responses of drought extremes to SRM

Following the intense warming, frequency of extreme drought events increases by 7.33% globally at 2081-2100 under the SSP5-8.5 scenario compared to the present period (Fig-2a. 4a). Such an enhancement is more pronounced at the mid-to-high latitudes, especially in the southern hemisphere (Southern Hemisphere (SH, e.g., Australia and southern Africa) where precipitation is projected to decrease (Fig-1d. 2d). In contrast, the wet tendencies in some tropical areas (e.g., India and central Africa) and boreal regions outweigh the local warming, resulting in alleviated drought stresses at the low or high latitudes of both hemispheres.

The SRM shows good potentials to decrease extreme drought occurrences. With the implementation of Compared to SSP5-8.5, G6solar, reduces the frequency of extreme drought events is reduced by 2.12% globally at 2081-2100 (Fig-2d. 4d), mitigating 28.9% of the increasedSSP5-8.5-induced drought stress under the SSP5-8.5 scenario (Fig 2a).increment. Regionally, drought extremes are projected to decline uniformly at most latitudes, with stronger amelioration over Europe, Australia, and southern Africa where precipitation increases by G6solar (Fig-1e. 2e). With G6sulfur, a similar reduction of -1.99% (MP=27.1%) is predicted for global drought extremes but with large spatial heterogeneity (Fig-2g. 4g). Most of such reductions are located in the Southern HemisphereSH, especially over Australia and southern Africa. In contrast, the frequency of drought extremes enhances significantly in central Africa, following the

G6sulfur-induced precipitation deficit (Fig—1f. 2f). This region has been enduring prolonged droughts since the 1990s, demonstrating high vulnerability to climate change impacts_(Zhou et al., 2014; Kendon et al., 2019; Palmer et al., 2023). The SAG in GLENS exhibited mitigation efficacy comparable to that of G6sulfur in reducing the frequency of extreme droughts, but it also led to increased drought probability in central Africa, India, and northern Asia (Fig S3).

The SAI in GLENS exhibits stronger MP than G6sulfur in reducing the frequency of extreme droughts. Compared to the present day, the global drought probability increases by 1.92% during 2075-2094 under the RCP8.5 scenario (Fig. 5a). This increment is smaller than the 7.33% projected under SSP5-8.5 (Fig. 4a), because RCP8.5 produces a larger rise in global precipitation (Fig. 3c) than SSP5-8.5 (Fig. 2d). Relative to RCP8.5, SAI in GLENS reduces the global frequency of extreme droughts by 1.8% (Fig. 5b), offsetting nearly all of the drought increase caused by RCP8.5 warming (MP=93.8%). Compared to G6sulfur, GLENS shows enhanced MP over northern Eurasia, South America, and North America. This may be attributed to its multi-latitude injection strategy and the dynamic adjustment of injection amounts at different latitudes to fully offset future warming (Fig. 3). In contrast, significant drought amplification is projected with GLENS in India, northern Asia, and Alaska relative to RCP8.5 (Fig. 5b), a pattern not seen under G6sulfur (Fig. 4g).

3.3 Attribution of extreme drought response to SRM

We performed sensitivity experiments to elucidatequantify the eausescontributions of extreme drought variations. Under the SSP5-8.5 scenario, changes in temperature, precipitation, and radiation to the variations of extreme droughts. By the end of the century, changes in temperature and radiation under the SSP5-8.5 scenario lead to an increased frequency of extreme drought events compared to the historical period (Fig 2b, 4b). Significant warming alone (Fig-1a, 2a) enhances the frequency of extreme droughts globally by 5.43%,% (Fig. 6a), with the most pronounced increases in the midand high-latitudes of the Northern Hemisphere (NH, Fig S4a). By the end of the century, Meanwhile, net radiation increases by 0.255.28 W m⁻²-due to the reduction of anthropogenic aerosols(Hodnebrog et al., 2024), thus intensifying potential evapotranspiration (PET) and worsening drought conditions frequency by 1.05% (Fig S4g. 6g). In contrast, the increase in global precipitation (Fig-1d, 2d) under the SSP5-

8.5 scenario reduces the frequency of drought extremes by 2.12% globally and across most regions, except for southern Africa, Australia, and western Europe (Fig-S4d. 6d). On the global scale, warming is the dominant factor driving changes in drought extremes over 50.17% of land area (excluding ice and desert), surpassing the 47.97% influenced by precipitation (Fig-2e. 4c).

Relative to SSP5-8.5, SRM-induced cooling alone reduces extreme drought frequency by 3.44% in G6solar (Fig. 2e. 4e) and 3.42% in G6sulfur (Fig. 2h. 4h). This mitigation shows a very similar spatial pattern between the two SRMs, with a more pronounced effect at mid-high latitudes in the NH (Fig S4bFigs 6b and S4e6c). Additionally, the reduction of solar radiation due to dimming effects further alleviates global drought extremes by 0.85% for G6solar (Fig. 2e. 6h) and 1.42% for G6sulfur (Fig. 2H. 6i). However, SRM-induced rainfall deficits (Figs 1e2e and 1f2f) increase the frequency of extreme drought by 1.61% for G6solar (Fig. 6e) and 2.12% for G6surfur (Fig. 6f) relative to SSP5-8.5 scenario, with the most significant impacts occurring in central Africa where the reduction in precipitation is at its maximum (Fig S4e and S4f). These changes partly offset the cooling-induced mitigation, resulting in patchy responses of drought extremes in the NH (Fig 2dFigs 4d and 2g4g). Compared to G6solar, the rainfall deficit is larger in G6sulfur, leading to an enhanced frequency of drought extremes in central Africa, the eastern U.S., and eastern Europe. Consequently, changes in precipitation act as the dominant driver of extreme drought over more 48.0% land areas in G6sulfur (Fig-2i). 4i), larger than that of 39.9% in G6solar (Fig-2f). Exceptions are found in southern Africa and Australia, where lower temperatures and higher precipitation collectively reduce extreme drought events. 4f).

Compared with RCP8.5, the SAI-induced cooling in GLENS reduces the frequency of extreme droughts by 4.28% by the end of the century (Fig. 7a). In contrast, the precipitation reduction in GLENS increases global extreme drought frequency by 2.12% (Fig. 7b), with regional hotspots in central Africa, India, North America, and northern Asia, consistent with the spatial pattern of the SAI-induced rainfall deficit (Fig. 3d). These patterns resemble those in G6sulfur (Figs 6c and 6f), except that the cooling-induced drought reduction is larger in GLENS, due to its stronger cooling effect (Fig. 3b vs. Fig. 2c). Overall, SAI-induced cooling plays the dominant role in mitigating the projected increase in extreme drought frequency under a warming climate, although the

level of alleviation may vary across SAI strategies because of differences in injection locations and sulfate amounts.

432433

434

435

436

437

438

439

440

441

442

443

444

445

446

447

448

449

450

451

452

453

454

455

456

457 458

459

460

461

462

430

431

3.4 Global socioeconomic disparity in exposure to drought extremes

To assess the impacts of quantify socioeconomic exposure to drought extremes under future warming and the implementation of SRM on human societal developments cenarios, we analyzed variations of global GDP and population exposure to drought extremes across different scenarios. Compared to present day, there are significant increases of \$72.1 trillion in GDP and 460 million in population exposed to extreme drought every year by the end of century under the SSP5-8.5 scenario (Fig. 3aFigs 8a and 3d8d). High exposure areas are located in eastern North America, western Europe, and eastern China. As an effective mitigation, G6solar can reduce annual GDP exposure by \$18.6 trillion and population exposure by 142 million people to extreme drought (Fig 3bFigs 8b and 3e8e), resulting in the mitigation potential (MP, see Methods) of -25.8% for GDP and -30.9% for population (Fig 3b and 3e). As a comparison, the MP of G6sulfur is lower at -17.9% for GDP and -22.5% for population (Fig 3cFigs 8c and 3f8f). The SAGSAI in GLENS achieves a similar global MP of -19.6% in GDP to that in G6sulfur (Fig. S5b. 9b). However, it results in a 15.9% increase in global population exposure to extreme drought relative to SSP5-8.5, mainly because of the substantial enhancement of drought risks in India, central Africa, and eastern China (Fig S5d. 9d). The spatial heterogeneity of these mitigations resultresults in pronounced disparities among countries withat different Human Development Indices (development levels, as measured by HDI). G6solar reduces GDP exposure to drought extremes by 35.1% in very high HDI countries and by 19.9% in high HDI countries, but only 11.2% in countries with low HDI (Fig. 4a. 10a). This disparity becomes even more pronounced under the G6sulfur scenario, in which the frequency of GDP exposure to drought extremes instead increases by 12.6% relative to SSP5-8.5 for low HDI countries, with the highest risks in South Sudan, Rwanda, and Burundi (Fig. 4e).. 10e). It is important to note that under both SRMs, the exposure of the GDP and population for the low HDI countries varies to a certain extent among models. However, most models project elevated risks, suggesting that these nations may remain highly

vulnerable. Both SRMs result in relatively weaker MP for population exposure

compared to GDP in low and medium HDI countries, with G6sulfur even increasing population exposure by up to 42.9% in low HDI countries. Similar to GDP, the top 5 countries suffering the largest increases in population exposure are located in central Africa (Fig-4f. 10f). As a comparison, the SAGSAI in GLENS shows pronounced risk amplification, with notably elevated risks of drought exposure for medium- and low-HDI countries compared to the SRM approaches in GeoMIP (Fig 4aGeoMIP6 (Figs 10a-b).

We use the index of drought exposure disparity (DED) to indicate the inequity of drought exposure between high- and low-HDI countries. Compared to SSP5-8.5, G6solar increases the DED of GDP by 12.72% and that of population by 30.58%. Under G6sulfur, this disparity is even more pronounced, with DED values increasing by 22.74% for GDP and 36.34% for population, with GLENS experiment increasing 244.37% for GDP and 251.18% for population.

4 Discussion and conclusions

Global warming is projected to enhance future drought risks (Dai, 2013). SRM is hypothesized to partially offset warming, but its regional climatic and societal impacts remain uncertain (Irvine et al., 2019). Our analyses show asymmetric responses in temperature and precipitation to SRM. For example, the SAI in limited effectiveness of SRM in alleviating global drought extremes under a high emission scenario. While the SRM in GeoMIPG6sulfur mitigates only 42.8% of the SSP5-8.5 warming (Fig. 2c) but offsets 88.9% of the rainfall increase under SSP5-8.5 (Fig. 2f), indicating a disproportionate suppression of the water cycle. While cooling directly reduces evaporation, aerosol-induced increase in atmospheric stability indirectly weakens global hydrological cycle, and reduces land precipitation especially over monsoon regions circulation (Tilmes et al., 2013; Krishnamohan and Bala, 2022), such as India and China (Fig 1e). 2e). Consequently, SRM may inadvertently degrade hydroclimate security in vulnerable regions under a high-emission scenario.

Relative to G6solar, precipitation is even more inhibited in G6sulfur especially over central Africa (Fig-1f. 2f), because the absorbing sulfate aerosols induces an anomalous stratospheric heating that further enhances air stability (Simpson et al., 2019; Tilmes et al., 2022). In addition, SAGunder the GLENS scenario, SAI overcompensates for the greenhouse gas-forced expansion of the Hadley Circulation (Cheng et al., 2022) and

offsets the poleward shift of storm tracks in the mid-latitude of NH_(Karami et al., 2020). These changes, along with a more positive phase of the North Atlantic Oscillation induced by SAGSAI (Jones et al., 2022), resulting in increased exposures to drought in Europe and the northeastern U.S. (Fig 3cFigs 4d and 3f4g).

Previous studies have revealed the negative impacts of SAGSAI on hydrological cycles, but they mainly highlighted the benefits of SAGSAI in mitigating temperature and precipitation extremes induced by climate warming (Jones et al., 2017; Irvine et al., 2019). However, variations of drought involve complex relationships between temperature and precipitation, leading to nonlinear responses of drought to the perturbations in these climatic variables. For instance, the sum of the contributions of individual climatic factors is not <u>fully</u> equal to the total changes in drought extremes under the SSP5-8.5 and two SRM scenarios (Fig 2Figs 4 and S4).-6).

Few studies have explored the <u>SAGSAI</u> impacts on global drought using specific drought indices_(Abiodun et al., 2021; Liu et al., 2024), but they tend to focus on the mean state of drought events rather than drought extremes. Our additional analyses showed very limited changes in the mean scPDSI values for both G6solar and G6sulfur relative to the SSP5-8.5 scenario on the global scale (<u>Fig S6a-S6eFigs 11a-11c</u>). The regional reduction (indicating a drier state) of scPDSI by G6sulfur is also smaller in magnitude than the increase (indicating a wetter state) under SSP5-8.5 over central Africa, masking the unbalanced responses as shown for the drought extremes (Fig-<u>2.4</u>).

Africa, masking the unbalanced responses as shown for the drought extremes (Fig. 4). The climatic effects of SAGSAI vary depending on the intensity and deployment strategies. Under the same high-emission scenario, the GeoMIP SAGSAI in GeoMIP6 (G6sulfur) experiment aims to limit global warming to a moderate level, whereas GLENS implements SAGSAI intensively to maintain the temperature at the level of 2020 (Tilmes et al., 2015; Tilmes et al., 2018). Furthermore, these two experiments employ distinct injection methodologies, with the multi-latitude aerosol deployment in GLENS but fixed equatorial injection in GeoMIPG6sulfur. Despite these differences, both GLENS and GeoMIPG6sulfur exhibit similar spatial patterns in their impacts on extreme drought (Fig 2gFigs 4g and S3b). This similarity suggests that the choice of injection strategy does not substantially alter the major conclusions, which highlight the increased spatial heterogeneity in drought responses under the SAG implementation.5b). However, regional differences, particularly in India and northern

China, lead to different levels of extreme drought risk for the global economy and population.

528

529

530

531

532

533

534

535

536

537

538

539

540

541

542

543

544

545

546

547

548

549

550

551

552

553

554

555

556

557

558

559

560

Our findings are subject to some limitations and uncertainties. First, differences in model configurations may affect the predicted impacts of SRM. For instance, the IPSL-CM6A-LR and UKESM1-0-LL models simulate changes in stratospheric chemistry by using actual injected SO₂, whereas CNRM-ESM2-1 and MPI-ESM1.2 employ prescribed distributions of stratospheric aerosol (Tilmes et al., 2015; Niemeier et al., 2020; Visioni et al., 2021). Although each model predicts comparable cooling effects, variations in the **SAGSAI** implementation may lead to discrepancies in precipitation perturbations that are vital for predicting drought responses. Here, we employed a multi-model ensemble to derive climatic changes that are consistent among the majority of models. Second, the application of a single drought index may influence the projection results. For this study, we used scPDSI due to its clear physical meaning, adaptive climatic responses, and specific criteria for drought extremes (Wells et al., 2004). As a comparison, we checked other drought indices such as PDSI, Palmer Modified Drought Index (PMDI), Palmer Hydrological Drought Index (PHDI), and Palmer Z Index (Z-index). Projections using these indices showed similar patterns to scPDSI though with spatially varied magnitude (Fig-S6. 11), suggesting that our main conclusions are not affected by the selection of the drought index. Third, uncertainties in future projections of GDP and population may affect exposure to drought extremes. In this study, we applied the future estimates of GDP and population density from the SSP5-8.5 scenario by the end of the 21st century. As a check, we used present-day economic and population data to predict future changes in drought exposure. Although the specific numbers changed, we found similar spatial variations in drought exposure using either present-day (Fig. S7. 12) or future (Fig. 3. 8) GDP and population data. The main conclusion remains that low HDI countries bear the largest exacerbation in both economic and population exposures to drought extremes due to **SAGSAI** (Fig. S8. 13). Despite these limitations, our multi-model ensemble projection presents a strong impact of **SAGSAI** on global drought extremes and the consequent exposures for economy and population. As an effective intervention for global warming, **SAGSAI** exhibits certain potentials in mitigating drought risks but with large spatial heterogeneity. Particularly, this study emphasizes the heightened vulnerability of low

HDI countries to exacerbated drought exposures due to SAGSAI. Future projections

561 indicate that these regions, already at a socio-economic disadvantage, will face the most 562 severe impacts on both economic development and public health. This spatial disparity 563 underscores the importance of considering equity and regional specificities in SAGSAI 564 policies. As we navigate the complexities of geoengineering, it is imperative to weigh the global benefits against the localized risks, ensuring that strategies do not 565 566 disproportionately burden the most vulnerable regions. 567 Author contributions. X.Y. conceived this research. C.T collected the data. W.F. 568 569 analyzed the data and wrote the draft paper. X.Y., R.X. and Y.G. reviewed and edited 570 the manuscript. 571 572 Financial support. This study was jointly funded by the National Key Research and 573 Development Program of China (2023YFF0805402), and Natural Science Foundation 574 of Jiangsu Province (BK20220031), and Postgraduate Research & Practice Innovation 575 Program of Jiangsu Province (KYCX25 1675). 576 577 **Competing interests.** The authors declare no conflicts of interest relevant to this study. 578 579 Data and code availability. The datasets are downloaded from the Coupled Model 580 Intercomparison Project phase six (CMIP6, https://esgf-node.llnl.gov/search/cmip6/) 581 Geoengineering Large Ensemble Project (GLENS, and 582 https://www.cesm.ucar.edu/community-projects/glens) for simulated meteorology, and 583 Climate Research Unit Gridded Time Series version4.07 (CRU TS4.07, 584 https://crudata.uea.ac.uk/cru/data/hrg/) for observed meteorology. Population data are 585 collected from Socioeconomic Data and Applications Center (SEDAC, 586 https://sedac.ciesin.columbia.edu/). HDI data are from United Nations Development 587 Programme (UNDP, https://hdr.undp.org/). Code for calculating scPDSI can be found at https://climate-indices.readthedocs.io/en/latest/. 588 589 590 Acknowledgements. The authors thank the CMIP6 for providing the GeoMIP6 591 datasets, the NCAR for the GLENS datasets, and the technical support of the National 592 Large Scientific and Technological Infrastructure "Earth System Numerical Simulation Facility" (https://cstr.cn/31134.02.EL, last access: 11 August 2025). 593

594 References

- Abiodun, B. J., Odoulami, R. C., Sawadogo, W., Oloniyo, O. A., Abatan, A. A., New, M.,
- 596 Lennard, C., Izidine, P., Egbebiyi, T. S., and MacMartin, D. G.: Potential impacts of
- 597 stratospheric aerosol injection on drought risk managements over major river basins in
- 598 Africa, Climatic Change, 169, 31, https://doi.org/10.1007/s10584-021-03268-w, 2021.
- Allan, R., Pereira, L., and Smith, M.: Crop evapotranspiration-Guidelines for computing
- crop water requirements-FAO Irrigation and drainage paper 56, 1998.
- Alley, W. M.: The Palmer Drought Severity Index: Limitations and Assumptions, Journal of
- Applied Meteorology and Climatology, 23, 1100-1109, https://doi.org/10.1175/1520-
- 603 0450(1984)023<1100:TPDSIL>2.0.CO;2, 1984.
- Bonou, F., Da-Allada, C. Y., Baloitcha, E., Alamou, E., Biao, E. I., Zandagba, J., Obada, E.,
- Pomalegni, Y., Irvine, P. J., and Tilmes, S.: Stratospheric Sulfate Aerosols Impacts on West
- African Monsoon Precipitation Using GeoMIP Models, Earth's Future, 11, e2023EF003779,
- 607 https://doi.org/10.1029/2023EF003779, 2023.
- Botai, C. M., Botai, J. O., De Wit, J. P., Ncongwane, K. P., and Adeola, A. M.: Drought
- 609 Characteristics over the Western Cape Province, South Africa, 10.3390/w9110876, 2017.
- 610 Carrão, H., Naumann, G., and Barbosa, P.: Mapping global patterns of drought risk: An
- 611 empirical framework based on sub-national estimates of hazard, exposure and
- 612 vulnerability, Global Environmental Change, 39, 108-124,
- 613 https://doi.org/10.1016/j.gloenvcha.2016.04.012, 2016.
- 614 Cheng, W., MacMartin, D. G., Kravitz, B., Visioni, D., Bednarz, E. M., Xu, Y., Luo, Y., Huang,
- 615 L., Hu, Y., Staten, P. W., Hitchcock, P., Moore, J. C., Guo, A., and Deng, X.: Changes in
- 616 Hadley circulation and intertropical convergence zone under strategic stratospheric
- aerosol geoengineering, npj Climate and Atmospheric Science, 5, 32, 10.1038/s41612-
- 618 022-00254-6, 2022.
- Dai, A.: Characteristics and trends in various forms of the Palmer Drought Severity Index
- 620 during 1900–2008, Journal of Geophysical Research, 116,
- 621 https://doi.org/10.1029/2010JD015541, 2011a.
- Dai, A.: Drought under global warming: a review, WIREs Climate Change, 2, 45-65,
- 623 https://doi.org/10.1002/wcc.81, 2011b.
- Dai, A.: Increasing drought under global warming in observations and models, Nature
- 625 Climate Change, 3, 52-58, https://doi.org/10.1038/nclimate1633, 2013.
- Dellink, R., Chateau, J., Lanzi, E., and Magné, B.: Long-term economic growth projections
- in the Shared Socioeconomic Pathways, Global Environmental Change, 42, 200-214,
- 628 https://doi.org/10.1016/j.gloenvcha.2015.06.004, 2017.
- 629 Diallo, H. A.: United Nations convention to Combat desertification (UNCCD), The Future
- of Drylands: International Scientific Conference on Desertification and Drylands Research
- 631 Tunis, Tunisia, 19-21 June 2006, 13-16,
- Diffenbaugh, N. S., Scherer, M., and Ashfaq, M.: Response of snow-dependent hydrologic
- 633 extremes to continued global warming, Nature Climate Change, 3, 379-384,
- 634 10.1038/nclimate1732, 2013.
- Du, H., Tan, M. L., Samat, N., Chen, Z., and Zhang, F.: Integrating a comprehensive index
- and the SWAT+ model to assess drought characteristics and risks under solar radiation
- 637 modification, Ecological Indicators, 178, 113852,
- 638 https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ecolind.2025.113852, 2025.

- Duffey, A. and Irvine, P. J.: Accounting for transience in the baseline climate state changes
- the surface climate response attributed to stratospheric aerosol injection, Environmental
- 641 Research: Climate, 3, 041008, 10.1088/2752-5295/ad9f91, 2024.
- 642 English, J. M., Toon, O. B., and Mills, M. J.: Microphysical simulations of sulfur burdens
- from stratospheric sulfur geoengineering, Atmospheric Chemistry and Physics., 12, 4775-
- 644 4793, 10.5194/acp-12-4775-2012, 2012.
- 645 Ferraro, A. J., Highwood, E. J., and Charlton-Perez, A. J.: Weakened tropical circulation
- and reduced precipitation in response to geoengineering, Environmental Research
- 647 Letters, 9, 014001, 10.1088/1748-9326/9/1/014001, 2014.
- 648 Geiger, T.: Continuous national gross domestic product (GDP) time series for 195
- countries: past observations (1850–2005) harmonized with future projections according
- to the Shared Socio-economic Pathways (2006–2100), Earth System. Science. Data, 10,
- 651 847-856, 10.5194/essd-10-847-2018, 2018.
- Harris, I., Osborn, T. J., Jones, P., and Lister, D.: Version 4 of the CRU TS monthly high-
- resolution gridded multivariate climate dataset, Scientific Data, 7, 109, 10.1038/s41597-
- 654 020-0453-3, 2020.
- 655 Held, I. M. and Soden, B. J.: Robust Responses of the Hydrological Cycle to Global
- Warming, Journal of Climate, 19, 5686-5699, https://doi.org/10.1175/JCLI3990.1, 2006.
- Hodnebrog, Ø., Myhre, G., Jouan, C., Andrews, T., Forster, P. M., Jia, H., Loeb, N. G., Olivié,
- D. J. L., Paynter, D., Quaas, J., Raghuraman, S. P., and Schulz, M.: Recent reductions in
- aerosol emissions have increased Earth's energy imbalance, Communications Earth &
- 660 Environment, 5, 166, 10.1038/s43247-024-01324-8, 2024.
- Irvine, P., Emanuel, K., He, J., Horowitz, L. W., Vecchi, G., and Keith, D.: Halving warming
- 662 with idealized solar geoengineering moderates key climate hazards, Nature Climate
- 663 Change, 9, 295-299, 10.1038/s41558-019-0398-8, 2019.
- 17 Irvine, P. J., Sriver, R. L., and Keller, K.: Tension between reducing sea-level rise and global
- warming through solar-radiation management, Nature Climate Change, 2, 97-100,
- 666 10.1038/nclimate1351, 2012.
- Jiang, J., Xia, Y., Cao, L., Kravitz, B., MacMartin, D. G., Fu, J., and Jiang, G.: Different
- Strategies of Stratospheric Aerosol Injection Would Significantly Affect Climate Extreme
- 669 Mitigation, Earth's Future, 12, e2023EF004364, https://doi.org/10.1029/2023EF004364, https://doi.org/10.1029/2023EF004364,
- 670 2024.
- Jones, A., Haywood, J. M., Scaife, A. A., Boucher, O., Henry, M., Kravitz, B., Lurton, T., Nabat,
- P., Niemeier, U., Séférian, R., Tilmes, S., and Visioni, D.: The impact of stratospheric aerosol
- intervention on the North Atlantic and Quasi-Biennial Oscillations in the Geoengineering
- Model Intercomparison Project (GeoMIP) G6sulfur experiment, Atmospheric Chemistry
- and Physics, 22, 2999-3016, 10.5194/acp-22-2999-2022, 2022.
- Jones, A. C., Haywood, J. M., Dunstone, N., Emanuel, K., Hawcroft, M. K., Hodges, K. I., and
- Jones, A.: Impacts of hemispheric solar geoengineering on tropical cyclone frequency,
- 678 Nature Communications, 8, 1382, 10.1038/s41467-017-01606-0, 2017.
- Jones, B. and O'Neill, B. C.: Spatially Explicit Global Population Scenarios Consistent with
- the Shared Socioeconomic Pathways, Environmental Research Letters, 2016.
- Jones, B. and O'Neill, B. C.: Global One-Eighth Degree Population Base Year and
- 682 Projection Grids Based on the Shared Socioeconomic Pathways, Revision 01, NASA
- Socioeconomic Data and Applications Center (SEDAC) [dataset], 2020.

- Karami, K., Tilmes, S., Muri, H., and Mousavi, S. V.: Storm Track Changes in the Middle East
- and North Africa Under Stratospheric Aerosol Geoengineering, Geophysical Research
- 686 Letters, 47, e2020GL086954, https://doi.org/10.1029/2020GL086954, 2020.
- Kendon, E. J., Stratton, R. A., Tucker, S., Marsham, J. H., Berthou, S., Rowell, D. P., and
- Senior, C. A.: Enhanced future changes in wet and dry extremes over Africa at convection-
- 689 permitting scale, Nature Communications, 10, 1794, 10.1038/s41467-019-09776-9, 2019.
- Kravitz, B., Robock, A., Boucher, O., Schmidt, H., Taylor, K. E., Stenchikov, G., and Schulz,
- 691 M.: The Geoengineering Model Intercomparison Project (GeoMIP), Atmospheric Science
- 692 Letters, 12, 162-167, https://doi.org/10.1002/asl.316, 2011.
- Kravitz, B., MacMartin, D. G., Mills, M. J., Richter, J. H., Tilmes, S., Lamarque, J.-F., Tribbia,
- 694 J. J., and Vitt, F.: First Simulations of Designing Stratospheric Sulfate Aerosol
- 695 Geoengineering to Meet Multiple Simultaneous Climate Objectives, Journal of
- 696 Geophysical Research: Atmospheres, 122, 12,616-612,634,
- 697 https://doi.org/10.1002/2017JD026874, 2017.
- Kravitz, B., Robock, A., Tilmes, S., Boucher, O., English, J. M., Irvine, P. J., Jones, A., Lawrence,
- M. G., MacCracken, M., Muri, H., Moore, J. C., Niemeier, U., Phipps, S. J., Sillmann, J.,
- The Geoengineering Model Intercomparison Storelymo, T., Wang, H., and Watanabe, S.: The Geoengineering Model Intercomparison
- Project Phase 6 (GeoMIP6): simulation design and preliminary results, Geosci. Model Dev.,
- 702 8, 3379-3392, 10.5194/gmd-8-3379-2015, 2015.
- 703 Krishnamohan, K. S. and Bala, G.: Sensitivity of tropical monsoon precipitation to the
- 704 latitude of stratospheric aerosol injections, Climate Dynamics, 59, 151-168,
- 705 10.1007/s00382-021-06121-z, 2022.
- Liu, Z., Lang, X., and Jiang, D.: Stratospheric Aerosol Injection Geoengineering Would
- 707 Mitigate Greenhouse Gas-Induced Drying and Affect Global Drought Patterns, Journal of
- 708 Geophysical Research: Atmospheres, 129, e2023JD039988,
- 709 https://doi.org/10.1029/2023JD039988, 2024.
- 710 MacMartin, D. G. and Kravitz, B.: Mission-driven research for stratospheric aerosol
- geoengineering, Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, 116, 1089-1094,
- 712 10.1073/pnas.1811022116, 2019.
- 713 MacMartin, D. G., Kravitz, B., Tilmes, S., Richter, J. H., Mills, M. J., Lamarque, J.-F., Tribbia,
- J. J., and Vitt, F.: The Climate Response to Stratospheric Aerosol Geoengineering Can Be
- 715 Tailored Using Multiple Injection Locations, Journal of Geophysical Research:
- 716 Atmospheres, 122, 12,574-512,590, https://doi.org/10.1002/2017JD026868, 2017.
- Mauritsen, T., Bader, J., Becker, T., Behrens, J., Bittner, M., Brokopf, R., Brovkin, V., Claussen,
- 718 M., Crueger, T., Esch, M., Fast, I., Fiedler, S., Fläschner, D., Gayler, V., Giorgetta, M., Goll, D.
- 719 S., Haak, H., Hagemann, S., Hedemann, C., Hohenegger, C., Ilyina, T., Jahns, T., Jimenéz-
- de-la-Cuesta, D., Jungclaus, J., Kleinen, T., Kloster, S., Kracher, D., Kinne, S., Kleberg, D.,
- Lasslop, G., Kornblueh, L., Marotzke, J., Matei, D., Meraner, K., Mikolajewicz, U., Modali, K.,
- Möbis, B., Müller, W. A., Nabel, J. E. M. S., Nam, C. C. W., Notz, D., Nyawira, S.-S., Paulsen,
- H., Peters, K., Pincus, R., Pohlmann, H., Pongratz, J., Popp, M., Raddatz, T. J., Rast, S., Redler,
- R., Reick, C. H., Rohrschneider, T., Schemann, V., Schmidt, H., Schnur, R., Schulzweida, U.,
- Six, K. D., Stein, L., Stemmler, I., Stevens, B., von Storch, J.-S., Tian, F., Voigt, A., Vrese, P.,
- Wieners, K.-H., Wilkenskjeld, S., Winkler, A., and Roeckner, E.: Developments in the MPI-
- M Earth System Model version 1.2 (MPI-ESM1.2) and Its Response to Increasing CO2,
- 728 Journal of Advances in Modeling Earth Systems, 11, 998-1038,
- 729 https://doi.org/10.1029/2018MS001400, 2019.

- 730 Monteith, J. L.: Evaporation and environment, Symposia of the Society for Experimental
- 731 Biology, 19, 205-234, 1965.
- Niemeier, U., Richter, J. H., and Tilmes, S.: Differing responses of the quasi-biennial
- oscillation to artificial SO2 injections in two global models, Atmos. Chem. Phys., 20, 8975 -
- 734 8987, 10.5194/acp-20-8975-2020, 2020.
- Niemeier, U., Schmidt, H., Alterskjær, K., and Kristjánsson, J. E.: Solar irradiance reduction
- via climate engineering: Impact of different techniques on the energy balance and the
- hydrological cycle, Journal of Geophysical Research: Atmospheres, 118, 11,905-911,917,
- 738 https://doi.org/10.1002/2013JD020445, 2013.
- Odoulami, R. C., New, M., Wolski, P., Guillemet, G., Pinto, I., Lennard, C., Muri, H., and
- 740 Tilmes, S.: Stratospheric Aerosol Geoengineering could lower future risk of 'Day Zero'
- 741 level droughts in Cape Town, Environmental Research Letters, 15, 124007, 10.1088/1748-
- 742 9326/abbf13, 2020.
- Palmer, P. I., Wainwright, C. M., Dong, B., Maidment, R. I., Wheeler, K. G., Gedney, N.,
- Hickman, J. E., Madani, N., Folwell, S. S., Abdo, G., Allan, R. P., Black, E. C. L., Feng, L.,
- Gudoshava, M., Haines, K., Huntingford, C., Kilavi, M., Lunt, M. F., Shaaban, A., and Turner,
- 746 A. G.: Drivers and impacts of Eastern African rainfall variability, Nature Reviews Earth &
- 747 Environment, 4, 254-270, 10.1038/s43017-023-00397-x, 2023.
- Penman, H. L. and Keen, B. A.: Natural evaporation from open water, bare soil and grass,
- 749 Proceedings of the Royal Society of London. Series A. Mathematical and Physical Sciences,
- 750 193, 120-145, 10.1098/rspa.1948.0037, 1948.
- Pope, F. D., Braesicke, P., Grainger, R. G., Kalberer, M., Watson, I. M., Davidson, P. J., and
- 752 Cox, R. A.: Stratospheric aerosol particles and solar-radiation management, Nature
- 753 Climate Change, 2, 713-719, 10.1038/nclimate1528, 2012.
- Rezaei, A., Moore, J., Tilmes, S., and Karami, K.: Regional and Seasonal Hydrological
- 755 Changes With and Without Stratospheric Aerosol Intervention Under High Greenhouse
- 756 Gas Climates, Journal of Geophysical Research: Atmospheres, 130, e2025JD044163,
- 757 https://doi.org/10.1029/2025JD044163, 2025.
- 758 Ricke, K., Wan, J. S., Saenger, M., and Lutsko, N. J.: Hydrological Consequences of Solar
- 759 Geoengineering, 51, 447-470, https://doi.org/10.1146/annurev-earth-031920-083456,
- 760 2023.
- Ricke, K. L., Rowlands, D. J., Ingram, W. J., Keith, D. W., and Granger Morgan, M.:
- 762 Effectiveness of stratospheric solar-radiation management as a function of climate
- sensitivity, Nature Climate Change, 2, 92-96, 10.1038/nclimate1328, 2012.
- Rusca, M., Savelli, E., Di Baldassarre, G., Biza, A., and Messori, G.: Unprecedented droughts
- are expected to exacerbate urban inequalities in Southern Africa, Nature Climate Change,
- 766 13, 98-105, 10.1038/s41558-022-01546-8, 2023.
- Samaniego, L., Thober, S., Kumar, R., Wanders, N., Rakovec, O., Pan, M., Zink, M., Sheffield,
- J., Wood, E. F., and Marx, A.: Anthropogenic warming exacerbates European soil moisture
- 769 droughts, Nature Climate Change, 8, 421-426, 10.1038/s41558-018-0138-5, 2018.
- Simpson, I. R., Tilmes, S., Richter, J. H., Kravitz, B., MacMartin, D. G., Mills, M. J., Fasullo, J.
- 771 T., and Pendergrass, A. G.: The Regional Hydroclimate Response to Stratospheric Sulfate
- Geoengineering and the Role of Stratospheric Heating, Journal of Geophysical Research:
- 773 Atmospheres, 124, 12587-12616, https://doi.org/10.1029/2019JD031093, 2019.
- 774 Smith, A.: The Atlas of Mortality and Economic Losses from Weather, Climate and Water
- 775 Extremes (1970–2019), 2021.

- 776 Smith, W.: The cost of stratospheric aerosol injection through 2100, Environmental
- 777 Research Letters, 15, 114004, 10.1088/1748-9326/aba7e7, 2020.
- 778 Smith, W. and Wagner, G.: Stratospheric aerosol injection tactics and costs in the first 15
- years of deployment, Environmental Research Letters, 13, 124001, 10.1088/1748-
- 780 9326/aae98d, 2018.
- 781 Song, F., Zhang, G. J., Ramanathan, V., and Leung, L. R.: Trends in surface equivalent
- 782 potential temperature: A more comprehensive metric for global warming and weather
- 783 extremes, Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, 119,
- 784 10.1073/pnas.2117832119, 2022.
- 785 Song, F. A.-O., Zhang, G. A.-O., Ramanathan, V., and Leung, L. A.-O.: Trends in surface
- 786 equivalent potential temperature: A more comprehensive metric for global warming and
- 787 weather extremes. LID 10.1073/pnas.2117832119 [doi] LID e2117832119,
- 788 Sun, F., Wang, T., and Wang, H.: Mapping Global GDP Exposure to Drought, in: Atlas of
- 789 Global Change Risk of Population and Economic Systems, Springer Nature Singapore,
- 790 Singapore, 123-130, 10.1007/978-981-16-6691-9_9, 2022.
- 791 Taylor, K. E.: Summarizing multiple aspects of model performance in a single diagram,
- 792 Journal of Geophysical Research: Atmospheres, 106, 7183-7192,
- 793 https://doi.org/10.1029/2000JD900719, 2001.
- Tebaldi, C., Ranasinghe, R., Vousdoukas, M., Rasmussen, D. J., Vega-Westhoff, B., Kirezci,
- 795 E., Kopp, R. E., Sriver, R., and Mentaschi, L.: Extreme sea levels at different global warming
- 796 levels, Nature Climate Change, 11, 746-751, 10.1038/s41558-021-01127-1, 2021.
- 797 Thornthwaite, C. W.: An Approach toward a Rational Classification of Climate,
- 798 Geographical Review, 38, 55-94, 10.2307/210739, 1948.
- 799 Tilmes, S., Mills, M. J., Niemeier, U., Schmidt, H., Robock, A., Kravitz, B., Lamarque, J. F.,
- 800 Pitari, G., and English, J. M.: A new Geoengineering Model Intercomparison Project
- 801 (GeoMIP) experiment designed for climate and chemistry models, Geosci. Model Dev., 8,
- 802 43-49, 10.5194/gmd-8-43-2015, 2015.
- Tilmes, S., Richter, J. H., Kravitz, B., MacMartin, D. G., Mills, M. J., Simpson, I. R., Glanville,
- A. S., Fasullo, J. T., Phillips, A. S., Lamarque, J.-F., Tribbia, J., Edwards, J., Mickelson, S., and
- 805 Ghosh, S.: CESM1(WACCM) Stratospheric Aerosol Geoengineering Large Ensemble
- Project, Bulletin of the American Meteorological Society, 99, 2361-2371, 10.1175/bams-
- 807 d-17-0267.1, 2018.
- Tilmes, S., Fasullo, J., Lamarque, J.-F., Marsh, D. R., Mills, M., Alterskjær, K., Muri, H.,
- Kristjánsson, J. E., Boucher, O., Schulz, M., Cole, J. N. S., Curry, C. L., Jones, A., Haywood,
- 810 J., Irvine, P. J., Ji, D., Moore, J. C., Karam, D. B., Kravitz, B., Rasch, P. J., Singh, B., Yoon, J.-
- H., Niemeier, U., Schmidt, H., Robock, A., Yang, S., and Watanabe, S.: The hydrological
- 812 impact of geoengineering in the Geoengineering Model Intercomparison Project
- 813 (GeoMIP), Journal of Geophysical Research: Atmospheres, 118, 11,036-011,058,
- 814 https://doi.org/10.1002/jgrd.50868, 2013.
- Tilmes, S., Visioni, D., Jones, A., Haywood, J., Séférian, R., Nabat, P., Boucher, O., Bednarz,
- 816 E. M., and Niemeier, U.: Stratospheric ozone response to sulfate aerosol and solar
- dimming climate interventions based on the G6 Geoengineering Model Intercomparison
- 818 Project (GeoMIP) simulations, Atmos. Chem. Phys., 22, 4557-4579, 10.5194/acp-22-
- 819 4557-2022, 2022.

- Trenberth, K. E., Dai, A., van der Schrier, G., Jones, P. D., Barichivich, J., Briffa, K. R., and
- Sheffield, J.: Global warming and changes in drought, Nature Climate Change, 4, 17-22,
- 822 10.1038/nclimate2067, 2014.
- 823 UNDP: Human Development Report 2023/2024 : breaking the gridlock reimagining
- cooperation in a polarized world, New York, 2024.
- van der Schrier, G., Barichivich, J., Briffa, K. R., and Jones, P. D.: A scPDSI-based global
- 826 data set of dry and wet spells for 1901–2009, Journal of Geophysical Research:
- 827 Atmospheres, 118, 4025-4048, https://doi.org/10.1002/jgrd.50355, 2013.
- Visioni, D., MacMartin, D. G., Kravitz, B., Boucher, O., Jones, A., Lurton, T., Martine, M.,
- Mills, M. J., Nabat, P., Niemeier, U., Séférian, R., and Tilmes, S.: Identifying the sources of
- uncertainty in climate model simulations of solar radiation modification with the G6sulfur
- and G6solar Geoengineering Model Intercomparison Project (GeoMIP) simulations,
- 832 Atmos. Chem. Phys., 21, 10039-10063, 10.5194/acp-21-10039-2021, 2021.
- Visioni, D., Kravitz, B., Robock, A., Tilmes, S., Haywood, J., Boucher, O., Lawrence, M., Irvine,
- P., Niemeier, U., Xia, L., Chiodo, G., Lennard, C., Watanabe, S., Moore, J. C., and Muri, H.:
- 835 Opinion: The scientific and community-building roles of the Geoengineering Model
- 836 Intercomparison Project (GeoMIP) past, present, and future, Atmos. Chem. Phys., 23,
- 837 5149-5176, 10.5194/acp-23-5149-2023, 2023.
- 838 Wang, T. and Sun, F.: Global gridded GDP data set consistent with the shared
- 839 socioeconomic pathways, Scientific Data, 9, 221, 10.1038/s41597-022-01300-x, 2022.
- Webb, R., Rosenzweig, C. E., and Levine, E. R.: Global Soil Texture and Derived Water-
- Holding Capacities (Webb et al.), 10.3334/ORNLDAAC/548, 2000.
- Wells, N., Goddard, S., and Hayes, M. J.: A Self-Calibrating Palmer Drought Severity Index,
- 843 Journal of Climate, 17, 2335-2351, https://doi.org/10.1175/1520-
- 844 0442(2004)017<2335:ASPDSI>2.0.CO;2, 2004.
- Wilson, J. C., Jonsson, H. H., Brock, C. A., Toohey, D. W., Avallone, L. M., Baumgardner, D.,
- Dye, J. E., Poole, L. R., Woods, D. C., DeCoursey, R. J., Osborn, M., Pitts, M. C., Kelly, K. K.,
- 847 Chan, K. R., Ferry, G. V., Loewenstein, M., Podolske, J. R., and Weaver, A.: In Situ
- 848 Observations of Aerosol and Chlorine Monoxide After the 1991 Eruption of Mount
- 849 Pinatubo: Effect of Reactions on Sulfate Aerosol, Science, 261, 1140-1143,
- 850 10.1126/science.261.5125.1140, 1993.
- Yue, X., Tian, C., and Lei, Y.: Relieved drought in China under a low emission pathway to
- 852 1.5°C global warming, International Journal of Climatology, 41, E259-E270,
- 853 https://doi.org/10.1002/joc.6682, 2021.

- 854 Zhang, W., Zhou, T., and Wu, P.: Anthropogenic amplification of precipitation variability
- over the past century, Science, 385, 427-432, 10.1126/science.adp0212, 2024.
- 856 Zhao, M., Cao, L., Bala, G., and Duan, L.: Climate Response to Latitudinal and Altitudinal
- 857 Distribution of Stratospheric Sulfate Aerosols, Journal of Geophysical Research:
- 858 Atmospheres, 126, e2021JD035379, https://doi.org/10.1029/2021JD035379, 2021.
- 259 Zhou, L., Tian, Y., Myneni, R. B., Ciais, P., Saatchi, S., Liu, Y. Y., Piao, S., Chen, H., Vermote,
- 860 E. F., Song, C., and Hwang, T.: Widespread decline of Congo rainforest greenness in the
- 861 past decade, Nature, 509, 86-90, 10.1038/nature13265, 2014.

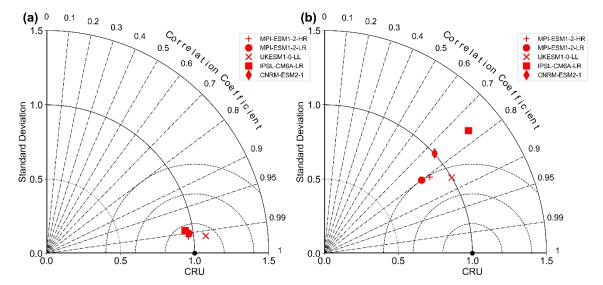


Figure 1. Evaluation of climate models from GeoMIP6. Results shown are the Taylor diagram of annual mean (a) temperature and (b) precipitation for GeoMIP6 models during the period of 1995–2014.

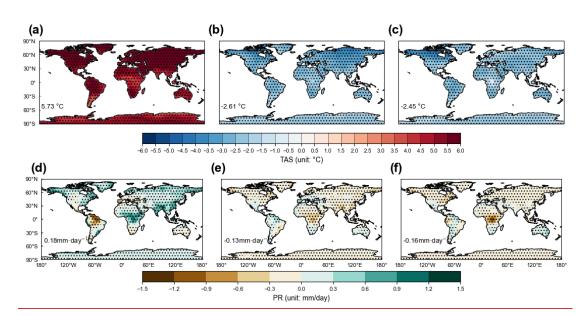


Figure 2. Climatic responses to global warming and SRM in GeoMIP. Results shown are the spatial pattern of annual mean changes in (a, b, c) <u>surface air</u> temperature (TAS) and (d, e, f) precipitation (PR) at 2081-2100 under (a, d) SSP5-8.5 scenario relative to the historical period of 1995-2014, as well as that under (b, e) G6solar and (c, f) G6sulfur scenarios relative to SSP5-8.5 both at 2081-2100. The dotted areas indicate regions where at least four out of five models show changes with the same signs. The global mean value of the difference over global land surface is shown at the lower-left of each panel. Climatic responses to GLENS are presented in Figure S2.

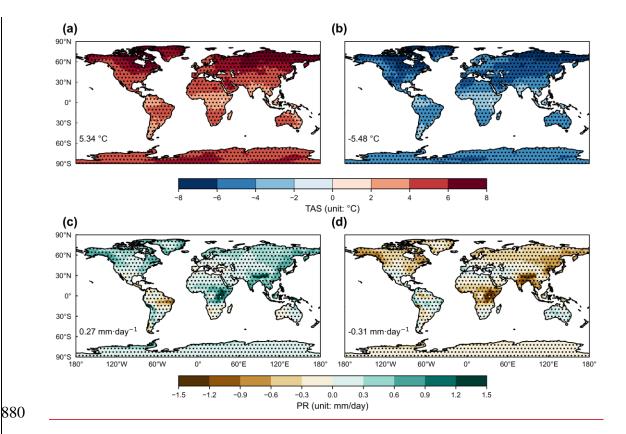


Figure 3. Climatic responses to global warming and SAI in GLENS. Results shown are the spatial pattern of annual mean changes in (a, b) temperature (TAS) and (c, d) precipitation (PR) at 2075-2094 under (a, c) RCP8.5 scenario relative to 2010-2030 baseline, as well as that under (b, d) SAI scenarios relative to RCP8.5 at 2075-2094. The dotted areas indicate regions where at least two out of three members show changes with the same signs. The mean value of the difference over global land surface is shown at the lower left of each panel.

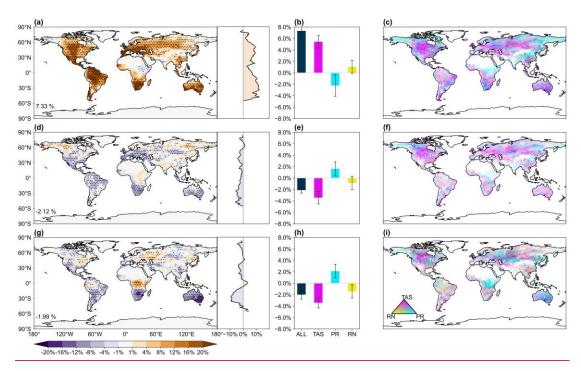


Figure 4. Changes in frequency of drought extremes by global warming and SRM in GeoMIP. Results shown are the changes in frequency of drought extremes (scPDSI < -4) at 2081-2100 under (a) SSP5-8.5 scenario relative to the historical period of 1995-2014, as well as that under (d) G6solar and (g) G6sulfur scenarios relative to SSP5-8.5 both at 2081-2100. The dotted areas indicate regions where at least four out of five models show changes with the same signs. Latitudinal distribution is shown on the right of each panel. Contributions of temperature (TAS), precipitation (PR), and radiation (RN) to changes in drought extremes are also presented, with bars in (b, e, h) representing the mean and errorbars indicating one standard deviation of predictions from five GeoMIP models. Colors in (c, f, i) indicate the dominant drivers of drought extremes.

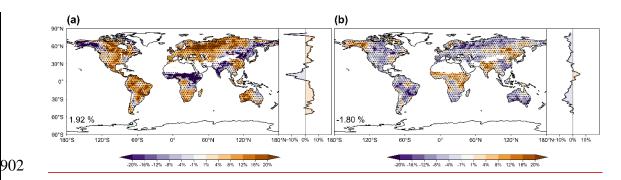


Figure 5. Changes in frequency of drought extremes by global warming and SAI in GLENS. Results shown are the changes in frequency of drought extremes (scPDSI < -4) at 2075-2094 under (a) RCP8.5 scenario relative to 2010-2030 baseline, as well as that under (b) SAI scenarios relative to RCP8.5 at 2075-2094. The dotted areas indicate regions where at least two out of three members show changes with the same signs. Latitudinal distribution is shown on the right of each panel. The global mean value of the difference is shown at the lower left of each panel.

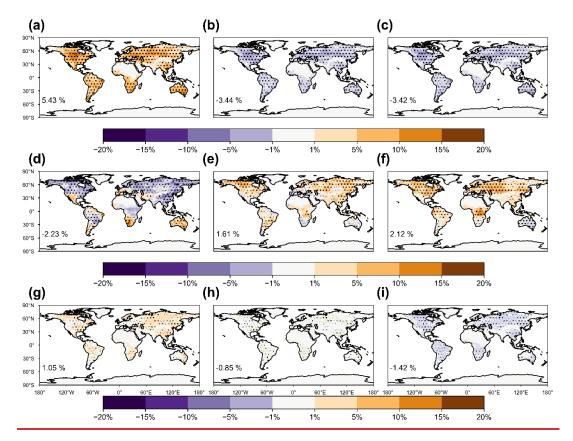


Figure 6. Changes in frequency of drought extremes due to different climatic factors. Results shown are the changes in frequency of drought extremes (scPDSI < -4) at 2081-2100 under SSP5-8.5 scenario relative to the historical period of 1995-2014 attributable to (a) temperature, (d) precipitation, and (g) radiation changes, as well as that under (b, e, h) G6solar and (c, f, i) G6sulfur scenarios relative to SSP5-8.5 both at 2081-2100 attributable to (b, c) temperature, (e, f) precipitation, and (h, i) radiation changes. The dotted areas indicate regions where at least four out of five models show changes with the same signs.

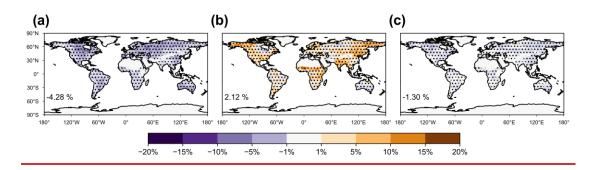


Figure 7. The same as Figure 6 but GLENS is applied. Results shown are the changes in frequency of drought extremes (scPDSI < -4) under SAI scenarios relative to RCP8.5 at 2075-2094 attributable to (a) temperature, (b) precipitation, and (c) radiation changes.



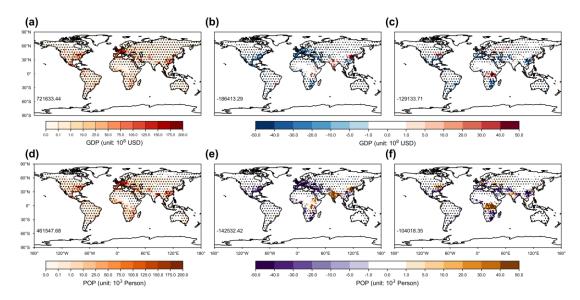


Figure 8. Changes in GDP and population exposure to drought extremes. Results shown are the changes of (a, b, c) GDP and (c, d, f) population (POP) exposure to drought extremes at 2081-2100 (a, d) under SSP5-8.5 scenario relative to the historical period of 1995-2014, as well as that (b, e) under G6solar and (c, f) G6sulfur scenarios relative to SSP5-8.5 both at 2081-2100. The dotted areas indicate regions where at least four out of five models show changes with the same signs. The global sum value of the difference is shown at the lower-left of each panel.

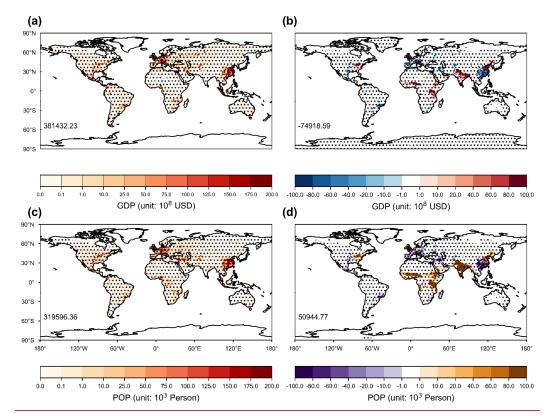


Figure 9. Changes in GDP and population exposure to drought extremes by global warming and SAI in GLENS. Results shown are the changes of (a, b) GDP and (c, d) population (POP) exposure to drought extremes at 2075-2094 (a, c) under RCP8.5 scenario relative to 2010-2030 baseline, as well as that (b, d) under SAI scenarios relative to control both at 2075-2094. The dotted areas indicate regions where at least two out of three models show changes with the same signs. The global mean value of the difference is shown at the lower left of each panel.

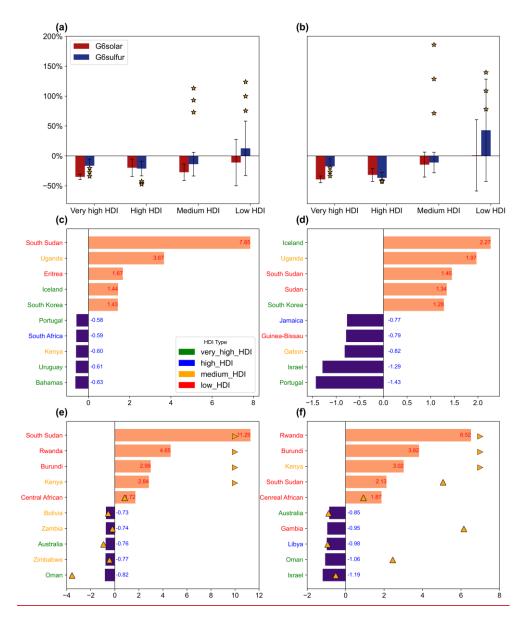


Figure 10. Changes in GDP and population exposure to drought extremes by HDI.

For each of four HDI groups, changes in (a) GDP or (b) population exposure to drought extremes for 2081-2100 in G6solar (blue) and G6sulfur (red) relative to SSP5-8.5 are normalized by the differences under SSP5-8.5 relative to 1995-2014. The bars represent the mean changes from five models with errorbars indicating one standard deviation for inter-model spread. Yellow stars represent results from three members of GLENS. The mitigation potential (MP, see Methods) is also calculated for individual countries, and the top 5 countries with the greatest mitigation (violet) or aggravation (orange) of (c, e) GDP and (d, f) population exposures to drought extremes are shown for (c, d) G6solar and (e, f) G6sulfur, respectively. The MP values (ratios of changes) are denoted for those top countries. Yellow triangles denote GLENS outcomes (right-aligned for values exceeding axis limits).

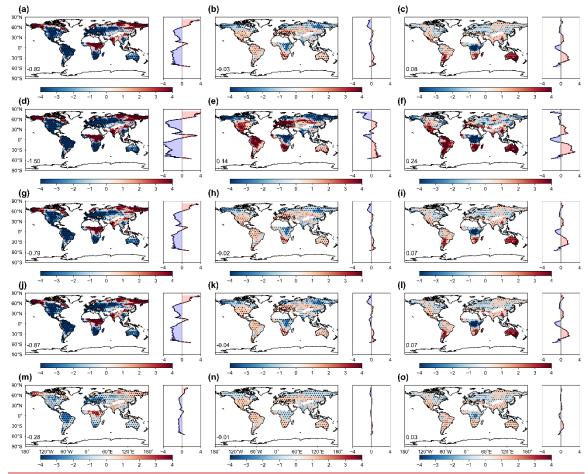


Figure 11. Change of drought status indicated by different indices. Results shown are the changes of drought indices (a, d, g, j, m) at 2081-2100 under SSP5-8.5 scenario relative to the historical period of 1995-2014, as well as that under (b, e, h, k, n) G6solar and (c, f, i, l, o) G6sulfur scenarios relative to SSP5-8.5 both at 2081-2100. Drought indices include (a, b, c) self-calibrating Palmer Drought Severity Index (scPDSI), (d, e, f) PDSI, (g, h, i) Palmer Modified Drought Index (PMDI), (j, k, l) Palmer Hydrological Drought Index (PHDI), and (m, n, o) Palmer Z Index. The latitudinal distribution of the changes is shown on the right side of each panel. The dotted areas indicate regions where at least four out of five models show changes with the same signs.

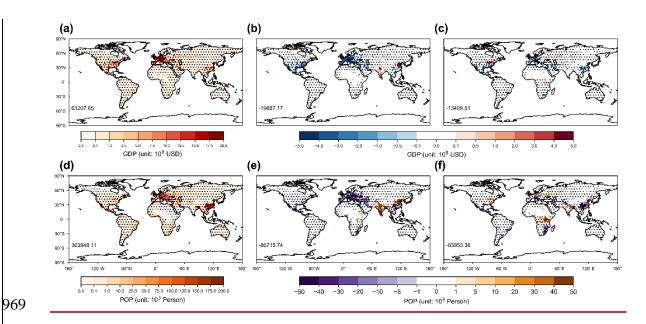


Figure 12. The same as Figure 8 but present-day GDP and population is applied.

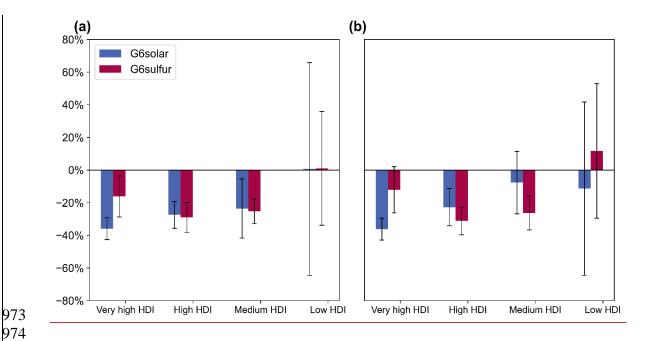


Figure 13. The same as Figure 10 but present-day GDP and population is applied.

Table 1. Summary of the GeoMIP6 models used in drought assessment.

Models	Stratospheric aerosols in G6sulfur	Resolution
CNRM-ESM2-1	Prescribed aerosol distribution	1.4°×1.4°
IPSL-CM6A-LR	Actual SO ₂ injections	2.5°×1.25°
UKESM1-0-LL	Actual SO ₂ injections	1.875°×1.25°
MPI-ESM1-2-HR	Prescribed aerosol distribution	<u>0.9375 °× 0.9375°</u>
MPI-ESM1-2-LR	Prescribed aerosol distribution	$\underline{1.875^{\circ} \times 1.875^{\circ}}$

Table 2. Summary of the GLENS experiment used in drought assessment.

Experiment	Model <u>Time Series</u>		Members
<u>Control</u>	CESM1(WACCM)	2010-2097	3
<u>Control</u>	CESM1(WACCM)	<u>2010-2030</u>	<u>17</u>
<u>Feedback</u>	CESM1(WACCM)	2020-2099	<u>20</u>

Table 3. Summary of scPDSI calculated with varied meteorological forcings.

Name	<u>Temperature</u>	Precipitation	Radiation	Period
<u>HIST</u>	<u>HIST</u>	<u>HIST</u>	<u>HIST</u>	1995-2014
<u>SSP585</u>	<u>SSP585</u>	<u>SSP585</u>	<u>SSP585</u>	<u>2081-2100</u>
<u>G6sulfur</u>	G6sulfur	G6sulfur	G6sulfur	<u>2081-2100</u>
<u>G6solar</u>	<u>G6solar</u>	<u>G6solar</u>	<u>G6solar</u>	<u>2081-2100</u>
$\underline{T_{G6sulfur}P_{S5}R_{S5}}$	G6sulfur	<u>SSP585</u>	<u>SSP585</u>	<u>2081-2100</u>
$\underline{T_{S5}P_{G6sulfur}\ R_{S5}}$	<u>SSP585</u>	G6sulfur	<u>SSP585</u>	<u>2081-2100</u>
$\underline{T_{S5}P_{S5}}\underline{R_{G6sulfur}}$	SSP585	SSP585	G6sulfur	<u>2081-2100</u>
$\underline{T_{G6solar}P_{S5}R_{S5}}$	<u>G6solar</u>	<u>SSP585</u>	<u>SSP585</u>	<u>2081-2100</u>
$\underline{T_{S5}P_{G6solar}\ R_{S5}}$	<u>SSP585</u>	<u>G6solar</u>	<u>SSP585</u>	<u>2081-2100</u>
$\underline{T_{S5}P_{S5}}\underline{R_{G6solar}}$	<u>SSP585</u>	<u>SSP585</u>	<u>G6solar</u>	<u>2081-2100</u>
$\underline{T_{HIST}}\underline{P_{S5}}\;\underline{R_{S5}}$	<u>HIST</u>	<u>SSP585</u>	<u>SSP585</u>	<u>2081-2100</u>
$\underline{T_{S5}P_{HIST}\ R_{S5}}$	<u>SSP585</u>	<u>HIST</u>	SSP585	<u>2081-2100</u>
Ts5Ps5 Rhist	<u>SSP585</u>	<u>SSP585</u>	<u>HIST</u>	<u>2081-2100</u>