



**New GeoMIP
experiment for
climate and
chemistry models**

S. Tilmes et al.

A new Geoengineering Model Intercomparison Project (GeoMIP) experiment designed for climate and chemistry models

S. Tilmes¹, M. J. Mills¹, U. Niemeier², H. Schmidt², A. Robock³, B. Kravitz⁴,
J.-F. Lamarque¹, G. Pitari⁵, and J. M. English⁶

¹National Center for Atmospheric Research, Boulder, Colorado, USA

²Max Planck Institute for Meteorology, Hamburg, Germany

³Department of Environmental Sciences, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ, USA

⁴Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, Richland, WA, USA

⁵Department of Physical and Chemical Sciences, Università L'Aquila, 67010 Coppito,
L'Aquila, Italy

⁶University of Colorado at Boulder, Boulder, CO, USA

Received: 12 July 2014 – Accepted: 31 July 2014 – Published: 12 August 2014

Correspondence to: S. Tilmes (tilmes@ucar.edu)

Published by Copernicus Publications on behalf of the European Geosciences Union.

Title Page

Abstract Introduction

Conclusions References

Tables Figures

◀ ▶

◀ ▶

Back Close

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion



Abstract

A new Geoengineering Model Intercomparison Project (GeoMIP) experiment “G4 specified stratospheric aerosols” (short name: G4SSA) is proposed to investigate the impact of stratospheric aerosol geoengineering on atmospheric composition, climate, and the environment. In contrast to the earlier G4 GeoMIP experiment, which requires an emission of sulphur dioxide (SO₂) into the model, a prescribed aerosol forcing file is provided to the community, to be consistently applied to future model experiments between 2020 and 2100. This stratospheric aerosol distribution, with a total burden of about 2 Tg S has been derived using the ECHAM5-HAM microphysical model, based on a continuous annual tropical emission of 8 Tg SO₂ year⁻¹. A ramp-up of geoengineering in 2020 and a ramp-down in 2070 over a period of two years are included in the distribution, while a background aerosol burden should be used for the last 3 decades of the experiment. The performance of this experiment using climate and chemistry models in a multi-model comparison framework will allow us to better understand the significance of the impact of geoengineering and the abrupt termination after 50 years on climate and composition of the atmosphere in a changing environment. The zonal and monthly mean stratospheric aerosol input dataset is available at <https://www2.acd.ucar.edu/gcm/geomip-g4-specified-stratospheric-aerosol-data-set>.

1 Introduction

The Geoengineering Model Intercomparison Project (GeoMIP) has been successful in investigating the impact of large scale geoengineering on various climate parameters, including global and regional temperature and precipitation, the energy budget, sea-ice, climate extremes, and crop production (e.g., Kravitz et al., 2013a, b; Special Section on GeoMIP, 2014). GeoMIP includes four model experiments designed to calculate the response of the climate system to large-scale solar radiation management (SRM) techniques, while offsetting anthropogenic greenhouse warming (Kravitz et al., 2011).

GMDD

7, 5447–5464, 2014

New GeoMIP experiment for climate and chemistry models

S. Tilmes et al.

Title Page

Abstract

Introduction

Conclusions

References

Tables

Figures



Back

Close

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion



New GeoMIP experiment for climate and chemistry models

S. Tilmes et al.

Title Page

Abstract

Introduction

Conclusions

References

Tables

Figures

◀

▶

◀

▶

Back

Close

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion



The G1 experiment involves reduction of incoming solar radiation to counteract a radiative forcing of four times the amount of carbon dioxide (CO_2) relative to pre-industrial control conditions. The G2 experiment involves the same solar dimming technique to offset a gradual increase in CO_2 from pre-industrial levels. Calculations indicate that relative to pre-industrial conditions, solar dimming of this scale would result in a slow-down of the hydrological cycle (Tilmes et al., 2013), a reduced, but continued warming of the high latitudes (Schmidt et al., 2012; Kravitz et al., 2013a), a reduction in sea-ice (Moore et al., 2014), and a reduction of agricultural production (Xia et al., 2014). Further, SRM reduces extreme temperature and precipitation changes in comparison to a non-geoengineering scenario with four times CO_2 (Curry et al., 2014).

The other two GeoMIP experiments, G3 and G4, require the enhancement of stratospheric sulphate aerosols due to the continuous emission of sulphur dioxide (SO_2) into the tropical lower stratosphere for the period 2020 and 2070, using the Representation Concentration Pathway 4.5 (RCP4.5) Coupled Model Intercomparison Project Phase 5 (CMIP5) future projection (Taylor et al., 2012). G4 requires the emission of 5 Tg of SO_2 each year on the Equator, while G3 requires counteracting the anthropogenic radiative forcing of the RCP4.5 future projection between 2020 and 2070 by increasing the emission rate of SO_2 accordingly (Kravitz et al., 2011). The impact of sulphate aerosols could be different from solar dimming experiments. Both would decrease the shortwave incoming radiation. However, stratospheric aerosols heat the stratosphere, which changes the dynamics of the atmosphere and the radiative response. In particular, a stronger slow-down of the hydrological cycle was found for the aerosol-based methods as compared to the solar constant reduction (Ferraro et al., 2014; Niemeier et al., 2013). A recent study by Aquila et al. (2014) identifies significant changes in the Quasi-Biennial Oscillation (QBO), with a prolongation of the QBO westerly phase at 50 hPa, if geoengineering with stratospheric aerosols were to be applied. Further, enhanced aerosols change stratospheric chemistry and therefore ozone (e.g., Tilmes et al., 2009).

**New GeoMIP
experiment for
climate and
chemistry models**

S. Tilmes et al.

[Title Page](#)[Abstract](#)[Introduction](#)[Conclusions](#)[References](#)[Tables](#)[Figures](#)[◀](#)[▶](#)[◀](#)[▶](#)[Back](#)[Close](#)[Full Screen / Esc](#)[Printer-friendly Version](#)[Interactive Discussion](#)

So far, only a limited number of models have performed the G3 and G4 GeoMIP experiments. The G3 experiment has turned out to be especially difficult to perform, since it is not straightforward to determine the changing rate of SO₂ emissions required to counteract the anthropogenic radiative forcing in the future scenario. Furthermore, not many models have the ability to perform prognostic aerosol experiments including detailed aerosol microphysics. As shown by Heckendorn et al. (2009); Niemeier et al. (2010), and English et al. (2012), aerosol mass and properties significantly change with increasing emission rates, which has to be taken into account. Since GeoMIP was designed to build on CMIP5, most of the models did not include interactive chemistry and hence some potentially important coupling effects are missing. The models that performed G3 and G4 experiments derived very different stratospheric aerosol distributions, due to different assumptions of aerosol properties and differences in stratospheric transport and heating rates of the models (Berdahl et al., 2014; Pitari et al., 2014). Some models maintain a large burden of mass in the tropics while others produce a maximum in higher latitudes. Those differences result in very different lifetimes of stratospheric aerosols and therefore differences in the required emission rate for the different models. The change in net tropopause radiative forcing of available experiments ranges between -0.74 and -1.54 W m^{-2} (Pitari et al., 2014), which limits the identification of robust climate impacts of geoengineering. Furthermore, the lack of comprehensive tropospheric and stratospheric chemistry in most models neglects the chemistry radiation coupling (mostly via ozone), which can be important to climate impacts.

Investigating differences in aerosol distribution due to sulphur injection as simulated by different models may be important for studies examining the rate and spatial pattern of emissions, and subsequent distribution by interaction with model dynamics. We propose a new GeoMIP experiment that uses a uniformly prescribed stratospheric aerosol distribution to address the dependence of the different parameterizations in fully-coupled chemistry and climate models and the impact of future climate change.

Other applications of the stratospheric aerosol distribution may include comparisons to distributions of interactive microphysical models, which include different feedbacks.

2 Experimental design

The design of the new GeoMIP experiment G4SSA (specified stratospheric aerosols) is similar to the GeoMIP G4 experiment (Kravitz et al., 2011), but defines a fixed prescribed stratospheric aerosol distribution between years 2020 and 2070, instead of requiring the emission of SO₂. The baseline simulation uses the RCP6.0 CMIP5 future projection (Taylor et al., 2012), as discussed below, (Fig. 1, top panel). A different baseline scenario could be considered as well, for instance RCP4.5, which is used for the original GeoMIP G3 and G4 experiments and describes a very similar forcing in comparison to the RCP6.0 between 2020 and 2070, see Fig. 1, top).

The stratospheric sulphur burden of about 2 TgS in form of sulphate was derived from the emission of 8 Tg SO₂ year⁻¹ for 2 years until a steady-state distribution was reached (Fig. 1, bottom panel). The burden has a larger radiative forcing than the original GeoMIP G4 experiment and will therefore lead to more robust deviations of climate variables from a baseline experiment than using a smaller emission case. A larger forcing has also a more pronounced impact on stratospheric dynamics, in particular the QBO (Aquila et al., 2014). The derived stratospheric sulphur burden of about 2 TgS counteracts the total anthropogenic radiative forcing of about -1.1 W m⁻² based on earlier model studies using ECHAM6 (Niemeier et al., 2013) and about -1.5 W m⁻², based on the Community Earth System Model (CESM) (not shown), but may further vary between different models.

Microphysical model studies have shown that the most efficient reduction of the radiative forcing occurs for small emission rates into background conditions (Heckendorn et al., 2009; Niemeier et al., 2010; English et al., 2012). Larger burden of aerosols reduces the efficiency of additional aerosols to increase the planetary albedo. This is because large burdens of aerosol particles coagulate faster to form larger particles,

GMDD

7, 5447–5464, 2014

New GeoMIP experiment for climate and chemistry models

S. Tilmes et al.

Title Page

Abstract

Introduction

Conclusions

References

Tables

Figures

⏪

⏩

◀

▶

Back

Close

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion



et al., 2009; English et al., 2012), impacts on the QBO (Aquila et al., 2014), and changes of the Hadley circulation (Niemeier et al., 2013).

Increased SAD due to the enhanced aerosol burden results in increased heterogeneous reactions. In high latitudes, this would result in significantly more ozone depletion. In middle and low latitudes, column ozone changes strongly depending on the stratospheric halogen burden, which should decrease through the 21st Century due to international agreements limiting ozone-depleting substances. Pitari et al. (2014) compared four models and found that geoengineering would deplete global stratospheric ozone until the middle of this century, after which it would increase. Tilmes et al. (2012) discussed the importance of very short-lived halogen components included in the models for quantifying the effects of geoengineering on ozone and erythemal UV. Tropospheric chemistry may be further impacted by the change stratospheric aerosol burden. The change in ozone column as well as the scatter of aerosols changes the amount of UV reaching the troposphere, which likely impacts the tropospheric chemical composition and the lifetimes of major gases.

Sulphate aerosols affect stratospheric dynamics (Robock, 2000). These impacts are only felt for one or two years following a large tropical volcanic eruption, depending on the latitudinal distribution of the aerosols and the phase of the QBO (Trepte and Hitchman, 1992). The radiative heating of stratospheric aerosols impacts the Brewer–Dobson circulation (BDC), the vertical velocity in the tropics, and with it the chemical distribution of the stratosphere (Heckendorn et al., 2009; Tilmes et al., 2009). Stratospheric circulation changes may further impact Upper Troposphere Lower Stratosphere exchange processes. Potential changes in the QBO may have additional significant impacts on stratospheric dynamics with impacts on climate (Aquila et al., 2014). Changes in column ozone, especially in high latitudes, also impact tropospheric circulation and the Southern Annual Mode (e.g., Thompson et al., 2011). The quantification of those changes as a result of geoengineering and their impact on surface climate, agriculture and other impacts, can be investigated by performing the proposed experiment within a coordinated multi-model comparison study.

New GeoMIP experiment for climate and chemistry models

S. Tilmes et al.

Title Page

Abstract

Introduction

Conclusions

References

Tables

Figures



Back

Close

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion



Other important effects cannot be investigated in the proposed experiment, since the stratospheric aerosol distribution is prescribed. This includes interactions between the aerosol composition, the dynamics, and transport of stratospheric aerosols into the troposphere, which may influence cloud properties and with this precipitation, but also tropospheric heterogeneous reactions.

4 Summary and conclusions

A new GeoMIP experiment “G4 specified stratospheric aerosols” (G4SSA) is proposed, using a prescribed stratospheric aerosol distribution to estimate the impact of a 2 Tg S aerosol burden between 2020 and 2070 in climate and chemistry models. This burden is the result of a continuous tropical emission of 8 Tg SO₂ year⁻¹ based on microphysical model calculations. Differences in the chemical, dynamical, and climate response between the baseline simulation and the geoengineering simulation can be investigated between the years 2030–2069, after the adjustment of the atmosphere and the upper ocean. The impact of an abrupt termination of geoengineering can be investigated in the years between 2070 and 2100.

The following scientific questions may be addressed with the proposed geoengineering experiment, especially if performed in a multi-model framework like CCMI: What are the impacts of geoengineered stratospheric aerosols and the termination of geoengineering on composition and climate in a changing future environment on

- Stratospheric chemistry, in particular ozone and its impact on UV?
- Tropospheric ozone, methane lifetime?
- Stratospheric dynamics, including stratospheric heating rates, BDC, and QBO?
- Tropospheric dynamics and temperatures?
- Climate, surface temperatures and precipitation?

New GeoMIP experiment for climate and chemistry models

S. Tilmes et al.

Title Page

Abstract

Introduction

Conclusions

References

Tables

Figures

⏪

⏩

◀

▶

Back

Close

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion



– Environmental impacts and agriculture?

The proposed GeoMIP experiment is not intended to suggest a realistic geoengineering scenario, but is aimed at identifying potential changes to the climate system as a result of a long-term stratospheric aerosol forcing and an abrupt removal of this forcing. The use of a different microphysical model for deriving the prescribed aerosol burden, or different assumptions of aerosol properties and emission strategies may result in very different aerosol distributions (Pitari et al., 2014; Niemeier et al., 2010; English et al., 2012). For instance, the injection in a latitude band of 10 or 20 degrees around the equator instead of right at the equator would result in a larger spread of aerosols into mid-latitudes (English et al., 2012; Pierce et al., 2010). However, the ECHAM5-HAM model tends to overestimate the transport into high latitudes and therefore may shift the aerosols too far towards the poles. Comprehensive microphysical simulations that include interactions between chemistry, clouds, dynamics and radiation are not available to date. Furthermore, geoengineering observations are not available to evaluate the models and observations after volcanic eruptions, like Mt Pinatubo, only cover size distributions up to 0.6–0.7 microns. More work is needed to evaluate different microphysical models and differences of different emission schemes. Nevertheless, a multi-model comparison of chemistry-climate models using the same prescribed aerosol distribution would be of great relevance for the estimation of the effectiveness and risk of proposed climate engineering approaches.

Acknowledgements. We thank Andrew Conley for helpful comments to the manuscript. Ben Kravitz is supported by the Fund for Innovative Climate and Energy Research (FICER). The Pacific Northwest National Laboratory is operated for the US Department of Energy by Battelle Memorial Institute under contract DE-AC05-76RLO 1830. Alan Robock is supported by NSF grants GEO-1240507 and AGS-1157525. Ulrike Niemeier is supported by the German Science foundations project SPP 1689 (Ceibral). Jason English is supported by NASA grant NNX09AK71G. The simulations were performed on the computers of the German Climate Computing Center (DKRZ). The CESM project is supported by the National Science Foundation and the Office of Science (BER) of the US Department of Energy. The National Center for Atmospheric Research is funded by the National Science Foundation.

New GeoMIP experiment for climate and chemistry models

S. Tilmes et al.

Title Page

Abstract Introduction

Conclusions References

Tables Figures

◀ ▶

◀ ▶

Back Close

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion



References

- Aquila, V., Garfinkel, C. I., Newman, P., Oman, L., and Waugh, D.: Modifications of the quasi-biennial oscillation by a geoengineering perturbation of the stratospheric aerosol layer, *Geophys. Res. Lett.*, 41, 1738–1744, doi:10.1002/2013GL058818, 2014. 5449, 5455
- 5 Berdahl, M., Robock, A., Ji, D., Moore, J. C., Jones, A., Kravitz, B., and Watanabe, S.: Arctic cryosphere response in the Geoengineering Model Intercomparison Project G3 and G4 scenarios, *J. Geophys. Res.-Atmos.*, 119, 1308–1321, doi:10.1002/2013JD020627, 2014. 5450
- Curry, C. L., Sillmann, J., Bronaugh, D., Alterskjaer, K., Cole, J. N. S., Ji, D., Kravitz, B., Kristjánsson, J. E., Moore, J. C., Muri, H., Niemeier, U., Robock, A., Tilmes, S., and Yang, S.: A multimodel examination of climate extremes in an idealized geoengineering experiment, *J. Geophys. Res.-Atmos.*, 119, 3900–3923, doi:10.1002/2013JD020648, 2014. 5449
- 10 English, J. M., Toon, O. B., and Mills, M. J.: Microphysical simulations of sulfur burdens from stratospheric sulfur geoengineering, *Atmos. Chem. Phys.*, 12, 4775–4793, doi:10.5194/acp-12-4775-2012, 2012. 5450, 5451, 5455, 5457
- Eyring, V., Lamarque, J.-F., and Hess, P.: Overview of IGAC/SPARC Chemistry-Climate Model Initiative (CCMI) Community Simulations in Support of Upcoming Ozone and Climate Assessments, *Tech. rep.*, 2013. 5453, 5454, 5464
- Ferraro, A. J., Highwood, E. J., and Charlton-Perez, A. J.: Weakened tropical circulation and reduced precipitation in response to geoengineering, *Environ. Res. Lett.*, 9, 014001, doi:10.1088/1748-9326/9/1/014001, 2014. 5449
- 20 Heckendorn, P., Weisenstein, D., Fueglistaler, S., Luo, B. P., Rozanov, E., Schraner, M., Thomason, L. W., and Peter, T.: The impact of geoengineering aerosols on stratospheric temperature and ozone, *Environ. Res. Lett.*, 4, 045108, doi:10.1088/1748-9326/4/4/045108, 2009. 5450, 5451, 5452, 5454, 5455
- Heckendorn, P., Weisenstein, D., Fueglistaler, S., Luo, B. P., Rozanov, E., Schraner, M., Thomason, L. W., and Peter, T.: The impact of geoengineering aerosols on stratospheric temperature and ozone, *Environ. Res. Lett.*, 4, 045108, doi:10.1088/1748-9326/4/4/045108, 2009. 5450, 5451, 5452, 5454, 5455
- 25 Kokkola, H., Hommel, R., Kazil, J., Niemeier, U., Partanen, A.-I., Feichter, J., and Timmreck, C.: Aerosol microphysics modules in the framework of the ECHAM5 climate model – intercomparison under stratospheric conditions, *Geosci. Model Dev.*, 2, 97–112, doi:10.5194/gmd-2-97-2009, 2009. 5452
- Kravitz, B., Robock, A., Boucher, O., Schmidt, H., Taylor, K. E., Stenchikov, G., and Schulz, M.: The Geoengineering Model Intercomparison Project (GeoMIP), *Atmos. Sci. Lett.*, 12, 162–167, doi:10.1002/asl.316, 2011. 5448, 5451
- 30

New GeoMIP experiment for climate and chemistry models

S. Tilmes et al.

Title Page

Abstract

Introduction

Conclusions

References

Tables

Figures



Back

Close

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion



- ing: Results from the Geoengineering Model Intercomparison Project (GeoMIP), *J. Geophys. Res.-Atmos.*, 119, 2629–2653, doi:10.1002/2013JD020566, 2014. 5450, 5454, 5455, 5457
- Robock, A.: Volcanic eruptions and climate, *Rev. Geophys.*, 38, 191–219, doi:10.1029/1998RG000054, 2000. 5455
- 5 Roeckner, E., Bäuml, G., Bonaventura, L., Brokopf, R., Esch, M., Giorgetta, M., Hagemann, S., Kirchner, I., Kornblueh, L., Manzini, E., Rhodin, A., Schlese, U., Schulzweida, U., and Tompkins, A.: The atmospheric general circulation model ECHAM5 – Part I, *Tech. Rep. 349*, 2003. 5452
- Sato, M., Hansen, J. E., McCormick, M. P., and Pollack, J. B.: Stratospheric aerosol optical depths, 1850–1990, *J. Geophys. Res.*, 98, 22987, doi:10.1029/93JD02553, 1993. 5453
- 10 Schmidt, H., Alterskjær, K., Bou Karam, D., Boucher, O., Jones, A., Kristjánsson, J. E., Niemeier, U., Schulz, M., Aaheim, A., Benduhn, F., Lawrence, M., and Timmreck, C.: Solar irradiance reduction to counteract radiative forcing from a quadrupling of CO₂: climate responses simulated by four earth system models, *Earth Syst. Dynam.*, 3, 63–78, doi:10.5194/esd-3-63-2012, 2012. 5449
- Special Section on GeoMIP, *J. Geophys. Res.*, available at: [http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/10.1002/\(ISSN\)2169-8996/specialsection/GEOMIP1](http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/10.1002/(ISSN)2169-8996/specialsection/GEOMIP1) (last access: 12 December 2014), 2014. 5448
- 15 Stier, P., Feichter, J., Kinne, S., Kloster, S., Vignati, E., Wilson, J., Ganzeveld, L., Tegen, I., Werner, M., Balkanski, Y., Schulz, M., Boucher, O., Minikin, A., and Petzold, A.: The aerosol-climate model ECHAM5-HAM, *Atmos. Chem. Phys.*, 5, 1125–1156, doi:10.5194/acp-5-1125-2005, 2005. 5452
- 20 Taylor, K. E., Stouffer, R. J., and Meehl, G. A.: An overview of CMIP5 and the experiment design, *B. Am. Meteorol. Soc.*, 93, 485–498, doi:10.1175/BAMS-D-11-00094.1, 2012. 5449, 5451
- 25 Thompson, D. W. J., Solomon, S., Kushner, P. J., England, M. H., Grise, K. M., and Karoly, D. J.: Signatures of the Antarctic ozone hole in Southern Hemisphere surface climate change, *Nat. Geosci.*, 4, 741–749, doi:10.1038/ngeo1296, 2011. 5455
- Tilmes, S., Garcia, R. R., Kinnison, D. E., Gettelman, A., and Rasch, P. J.: Impact of geo-engineered aerosols on the troposphere and stratosphere, *J. Geophys. Res.*, 114, D12305, doi:10.1029/2008JD011420, 2009. 5449, 5454, 5455
- 30 Tilmes, S., Kinnison, D. E., Garcia, R. R., Salawitch, R., Canty, T., Lee-Taylor, J., Madronich, S., and Chance, K.: Impact of very short-lived halogens on stratospheric ozone abundance

New GeoMIP experiment for climate and chemistry models

S. Tilmes et al.

Title Page

Abstract

Introduction

Conclusions

References

Tables

Figures

⏪

⏩

◀

▶

Back

Close

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion

and UV radiation in a geo-engineered atmosphere, *Atmos. Chem. Phys.*, 12, 10945–10955, doi:10.5194/acp-12-10945-2012, 2012. 5454, 5455

Tilmes, S., Fasullo, J., Lamarque, J.-F., Marsh, D. R., Mills, M., Alterskjaer, K., Muri, H., Kristjánsson, J. E., Boucher, O., Schulz, M., Cole, J. N. S., Curry, C. L., Jones, A., Haywood, 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 impact of geoengineering in the Geoengineering Model Intercomparison Project (GeoMIP), *J. Geophys. Res.-Atmos.*, 118, 11036–11058, doi:10.1002/jgrd.50868, 2013. 5449

Toohey, M., Krüger, K., Niemeier, U., and Timmreck, C.: The influence of eruption season on the global aerosol evolution and radiative impact of tropical volcanic eruptions, *Atmos. Chem. Phys.*, 11, 12351–12367, doi:10.5194/acp-11-12351-2011, 2011. 5452, 5453

Trepte, C. R. and Hitchman, M. H.: Tropical stratospheric circulation deduced from satellite aerosol data, *Nature*, 355, 626–628, doi:10.1038/355626a0, 1992. 5455

Vignati, E.: M7: an efficient size-resolved aerosol microphysics module for large-scale aerosol transport models, *J. Geophys. Res.*, 109, D22202, doi:10.1029/2003JD004485, 2004. 5452

Xia, L., Robock, A., Cole, J., Curry, C. L., Ji, D., Jones, A., Kravitz, B., Moore, J. C., Muri, H., Niemeier, U., Singh, B., Tilmes, S., Watanabe, S., and Yoon, J.-H.: Solar radiation management impacts on agriculture in China: a case study in the Geoengineering Model Intercomparison Project (GeoMIP), *J. Geophys. Res.-Atmos.*, online first, doi:10.1002/2013JD020630, 2014. 5449

New GeoMIP experiment for climate and chemistry models

S. Tilmes et al.

Title Page

Abstract

Introduction

Conclusions

References

Tables

Figures

◀

▶

◀

▶

Back

Close

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion



Table 1. Global average radiative forcing from a stratospheric sulphate aerosol cloud needed to counteract the anthropogenic radiative forcing from the RCP8.5 scenario (Niemeier et al., 2013). The third column shows the stratospheric aerosol emission rate per year required to produce this radiative forcing, in Tg SO₂ year⁻¹, although the aerosols are sulphuric acid droplets. The rapidly increasing burden to counteract radiative forcing illustrates the disproportionate increase in sulphur emissions of greater than 2 W m⁻² due to effects of aerosol growth and removal processes and therefore demonstrates the limitations of stratospheric aerosol geo-engineering. The uncertainty of these values drastically increases with increasing emission values larger 10 Tg SO₂ year⁻¹.

Year	W m ⁻²	Tg SO ₂ year ⁻¹
2020.0	0.00	0.
2023.9	0.21	1.
2026.2	0.35	2.
2030.9	0.63	4.
2034.4	0.86	6.
2037.5	1.09	8.
2041.4	1.36	10.
2044.6	1.535	12.
2048.5	1.84	16.
2054.0	2.33	20.
2070.0	3.60	40.
2086.2	4.69	60.
2099.0	5.53	80.

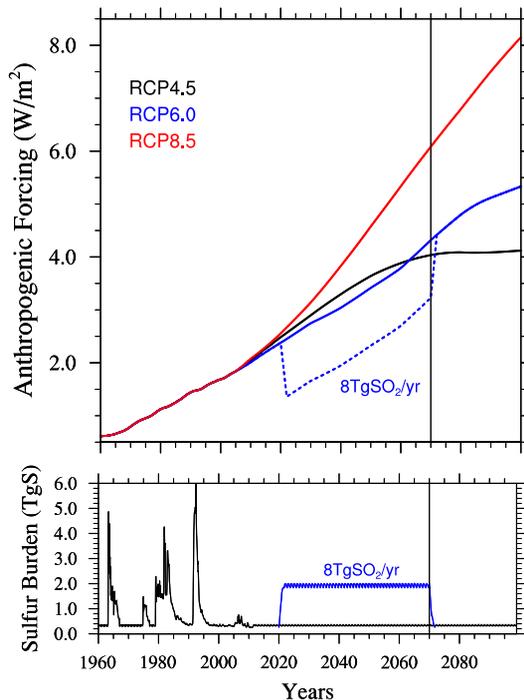


Figure 1. Top panel: Total anthropogenic radiative forcing of the CMIP5 model experiments RCP4.5 (black), RCP6.0 (blue), and RCP8.5 (red) (Meinshausen et al., 2011). The dashed line indicates the radiative forcing of the GeoMIP experiment for CCMI, using a prescribed aerosol distribution assuming an emission of $8 \text{ Tg SO}_2 \text{ year}^{-1}$. The amount of radiative forcing reduction due to the enhanced aerosol burden is estimated based on the ECHAM5-HAM model (see text). Bottom panel: Sulphur burden in Tg S (in form of H_2SO_4) per year, based in the CCMI prescribed aerosol data set (black) and the new GeoMIP experiment data set (blue), based on 8 Tg SO_2 emission per year case.

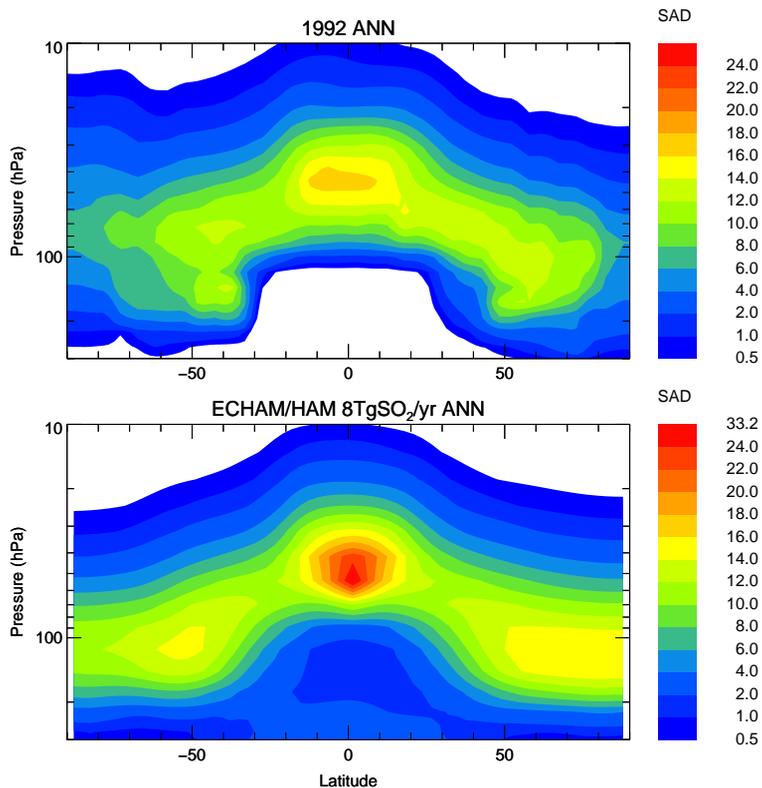


Figure 2. Top panel: 1992 annual average surface area density (SAD) distribution in $\mu\text{m}^2 \text{cm}^{-3}$ derived using the CCMI stratospheric aerosol data set (Eyring et al., 2013), following the 1991 Mt. Pinatubo volcanic eruption. Bottom panel: steady-state prescribed aerosol distribution of the proposed GeoMIP experiment, based on a $8 \text{ Tg SO}_2 \text{ year}^{-1}$ emission scenario using the ECHAM5-HAM model (Niemeier et al., 2013).