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## Supplementary Materials for

### **ITCZ shift and extratropical teleconnections drive ENSO response to volcanic eruptions**

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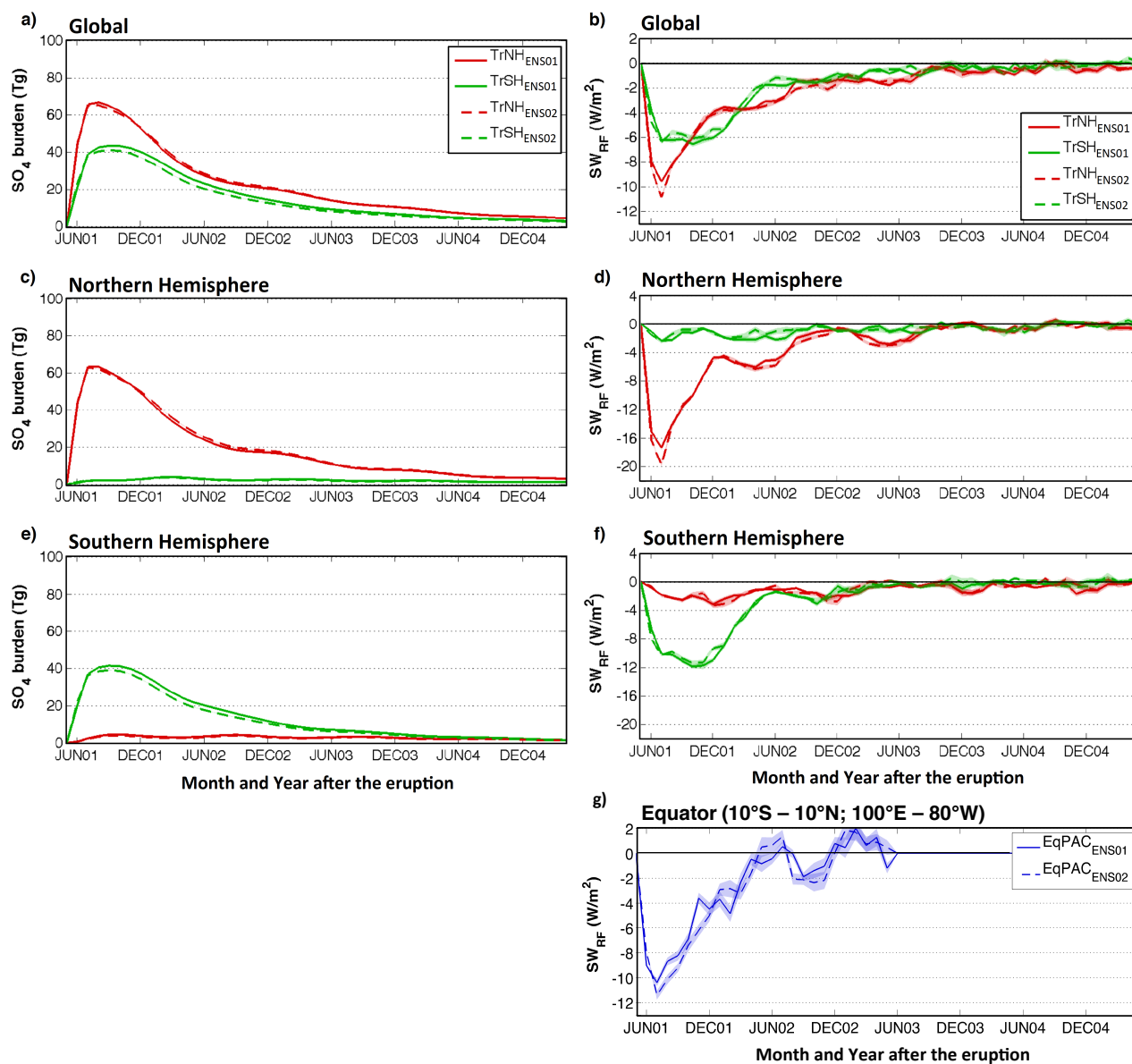
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#### **This PDF file includes:**

Table S1  
Figs. S1 to S10  
References

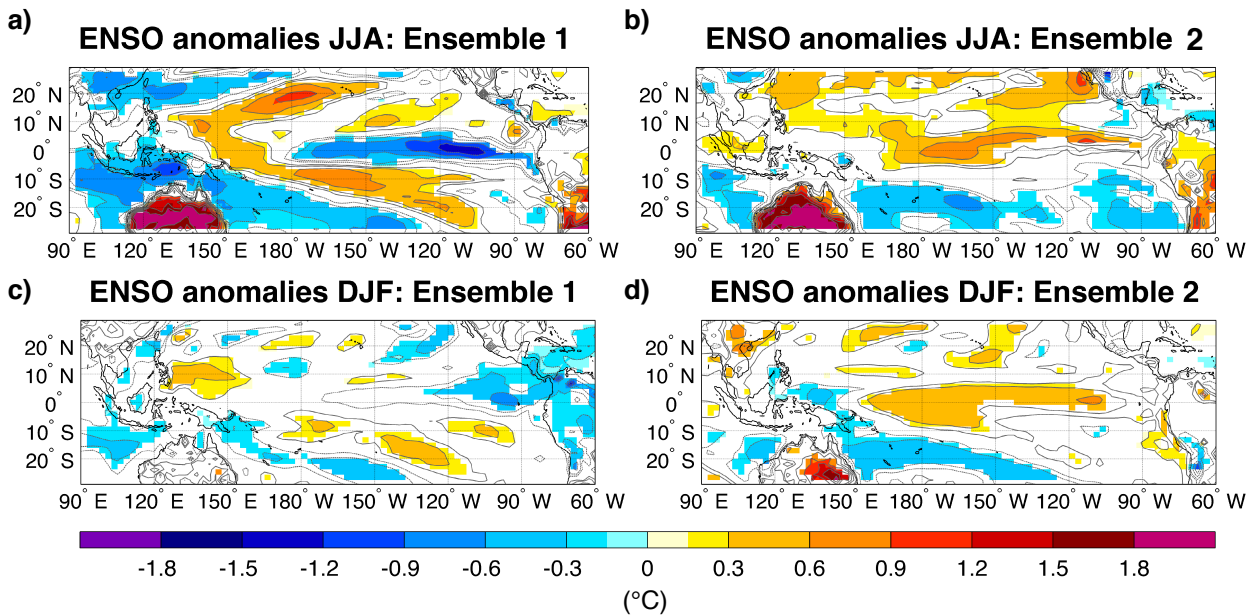
**Table S1. Changes in ITCZ mean position.** Latitudinal change in the ITCZ position in the summer (June to September) following the eruption for TrNH and TrSH ensembles relative to the no-volcano case and for El Niño vs. La Niña conditions. The ITCZ position in the volcano and no-volcano simulations and the El Niño and La Niña cases is shown in brackets.

JJAS	TrNH <sub>ENS01</sub>	TrNH <sub>ENS02</sub>	TrSH <sub>ENS01</sub>	TrSH <sub>ENS02</sub>	NINO-NINA
$\Delta\text{ITCZ}_{\text{GLOB}}$	-1.0°N (6.6° - 7.6°)	-0.9°N (5.7 - 6.6°)	+0.9°N (8.5° - 7.6°)	+0.3°N (6.9° - 6.6°)	-1.4°N (6.6° - 8.0°)
$\Delta\text{ITCZ}_{\text{TAC}}$	-0.5°N (8.5 - 9.0°)	-0.5°N (6.1 - 6.6°)	+0.7°N (9.7 - 9.0°)	+0.5°N (7.1 - 6.6°)	-2.4°N (6.6° - 9.0°)



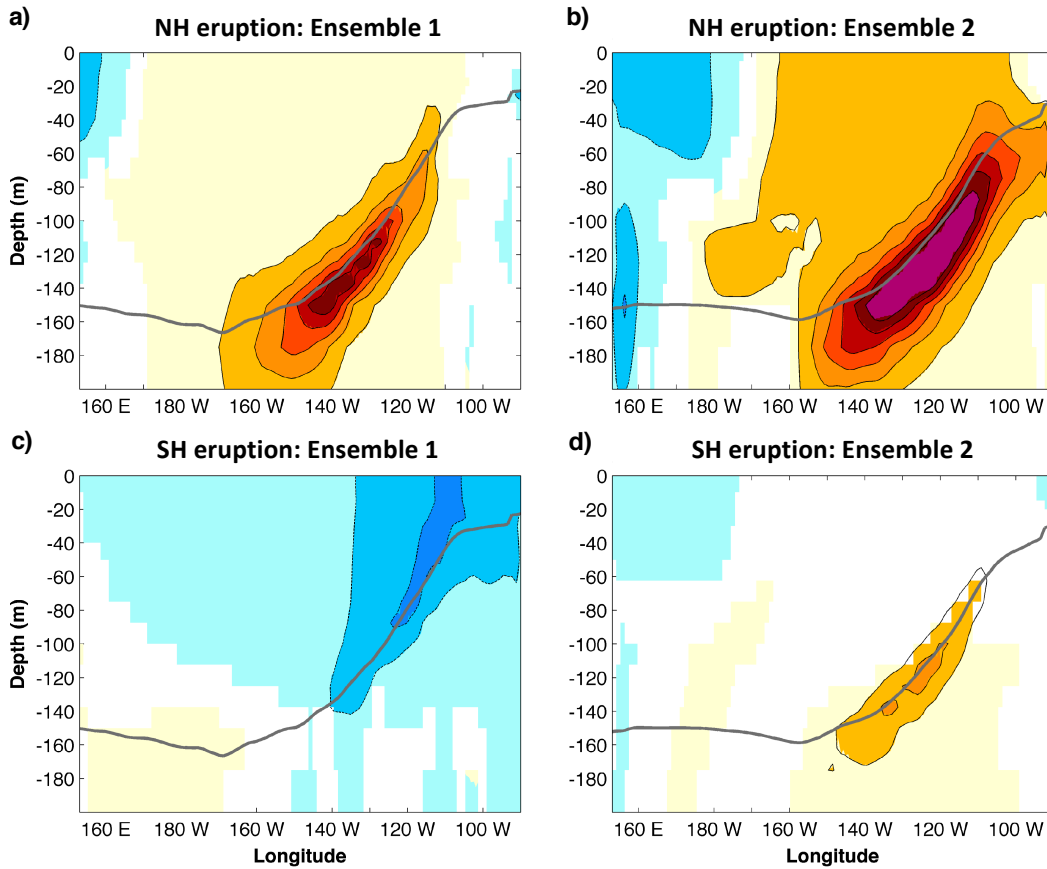
**Figure S1. Sulfate aerosol burden and radiative forcing.** Changes in Global (a, b), Northern Hemisphere (c, d) and Southern Hemisphere (e, f) sulfate aerosol burden (Tg) (left) and shortwave radiative forcing (W/m<sup>2</sup>) at the surface (right) for TrNH and TrSH eruptions relative to no-volcano simulations. Changes in Equatorial Pacific radiative forcing for the EqPAC idealized experiments are shown in g. The shadings display the standard error of mean of each ensemble difference.

## ENSO state relative to the climatology

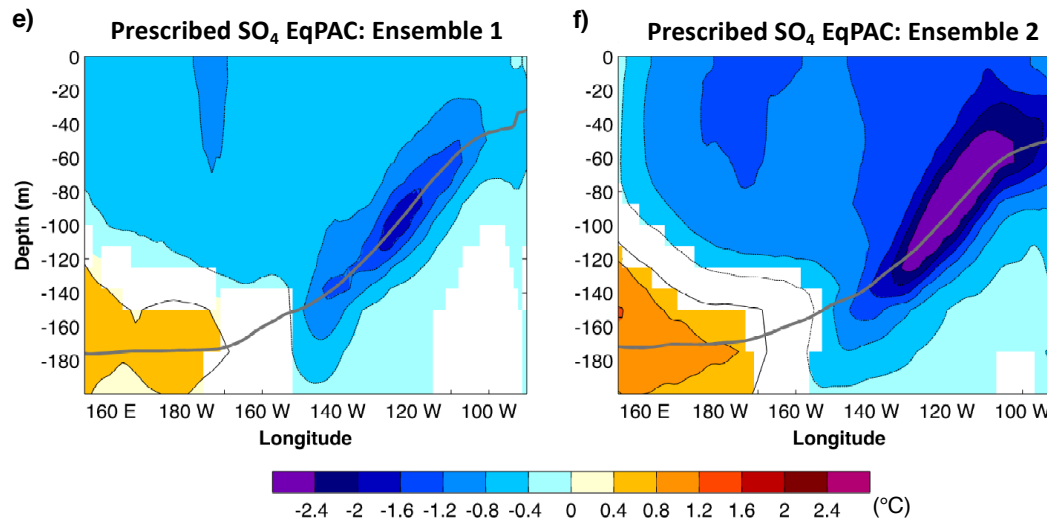


**Figure S2: Changes in no-volcano ensemble surface temperature relative to the climatology.** Changes in surface temperature ( $^{\circ}\text{C}$ , shadings) in the first summer (June to August) (a, b) and winter (December to February) (c, d) following the start of the no-volcano ensembles relative to the reference historical simulation (1911-1964). Only anomalies that are significantly different at the 5% level using a local (grid-point) t test are shaded. The contours follow the colorbar intervals (solid for positive and dashed for negative anomalies; the zero line is omitted).

## Thermocline Anomalies First Summer After the Eruption



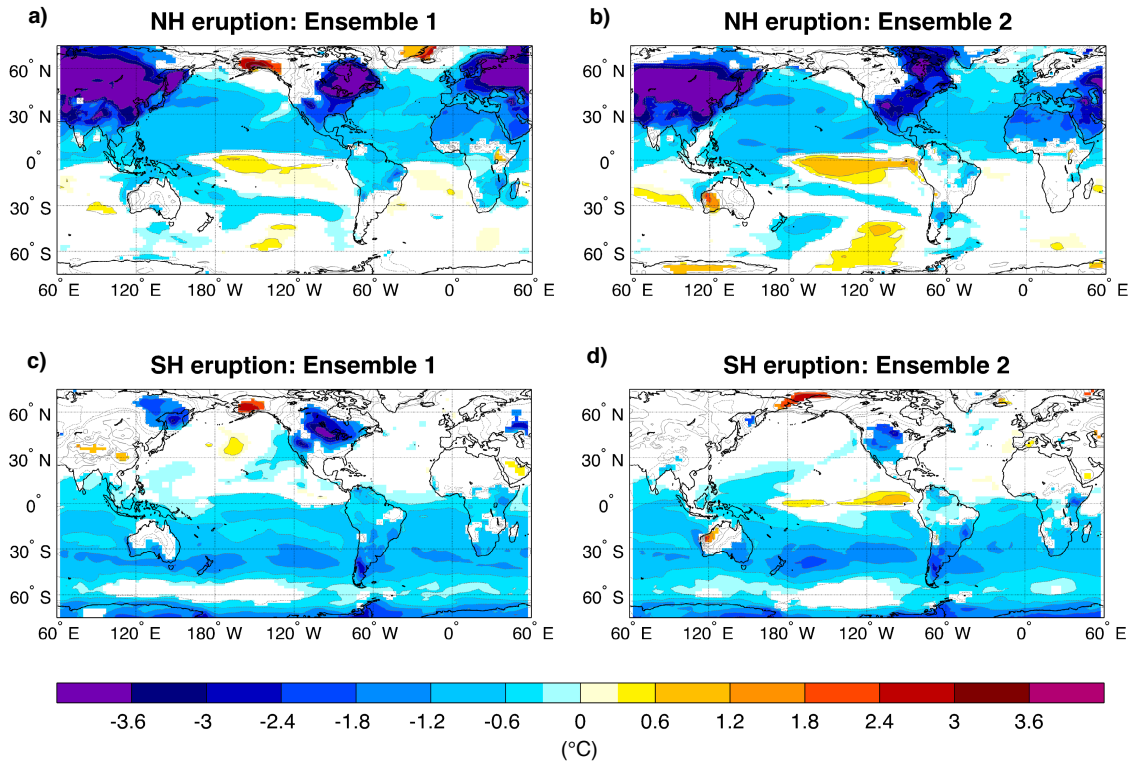
## First Winter After the Eruption



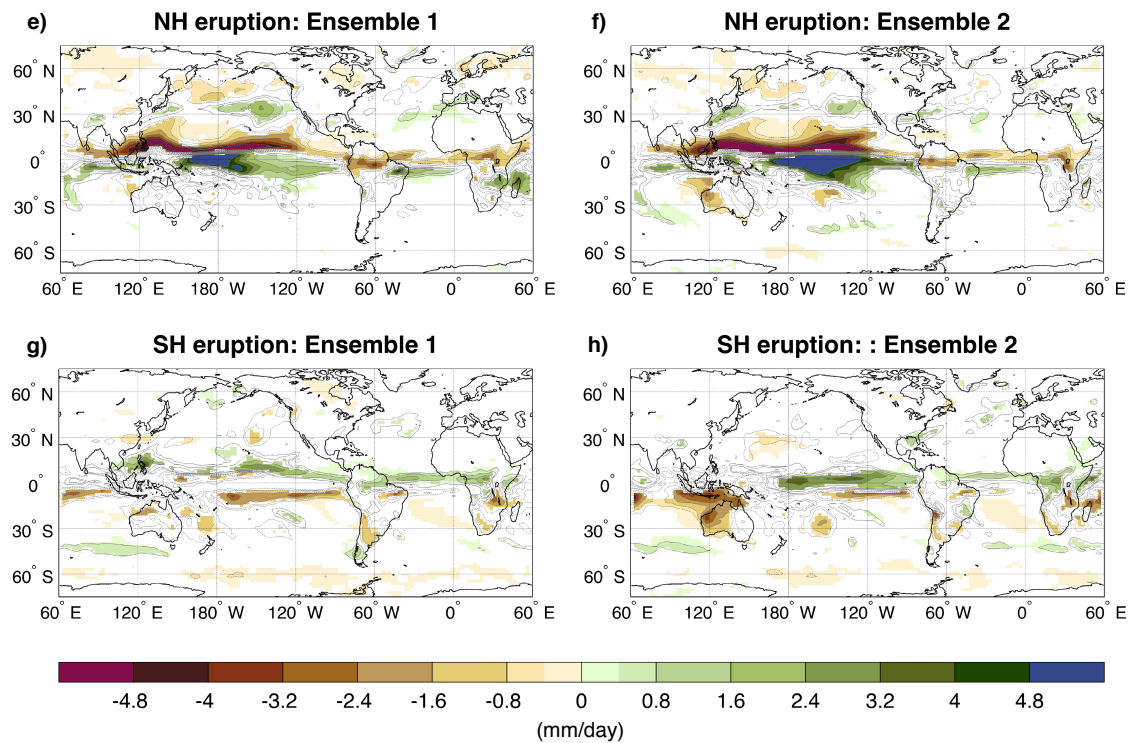
**Figure S3. Thermocline anomalies.** Ocean temperature (°C) anomalies in the Equatorial Pacific (5°S – 5°N) for the first summer (June to September) of the eruption for the TrNH (a, b) TrSH (c, d) experiments and the first winter (December to February) for the EqPAC simulations (e, f) relative to the no-volcano simulations. Only values that are significantly different at the 5% level using a *t* test are shaded. The contours follow the color bar intervals (solid for positive and dashed for negative anomalies; the zero line is omitted). The bold grey line shows the climatological thermocline depth for the no-volcano members (as defined using the 20°C isotherm).



## Surface Temperature Anomalies in the First Winter

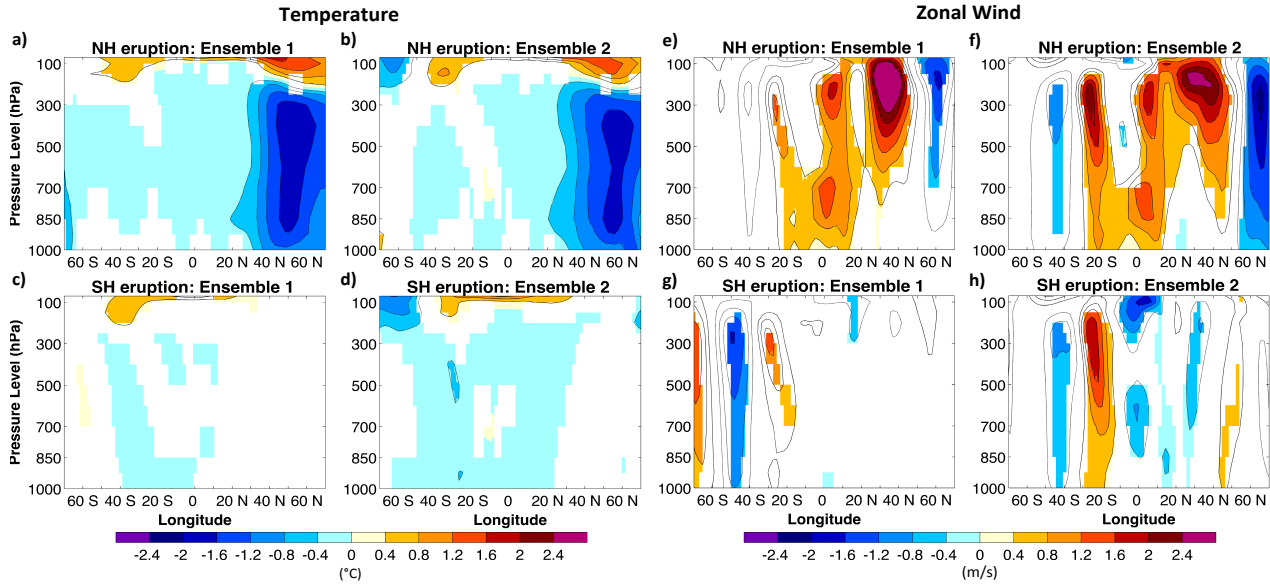


## Precipitation Anomalies in the First Winter



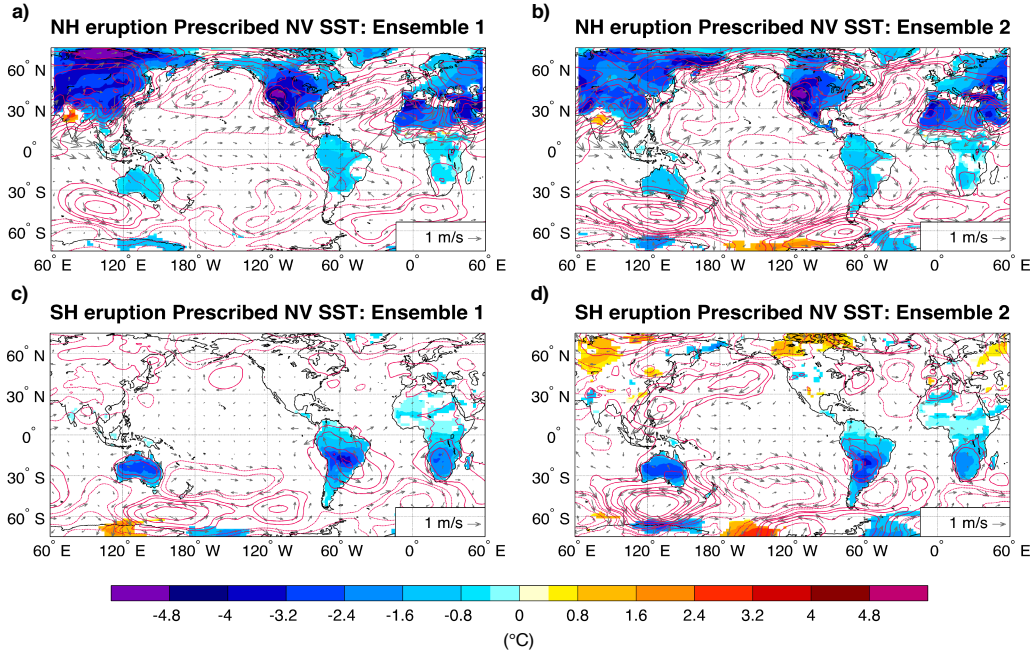
**Figure S4. Changes in winter surface temperature and precipitation.** Surface temperature (a-d) and precipitation (e-h) changes in the winter (December to February) following the TrNH (a, b, e, f) and TrSH (c, d, g, h) eruptions for each ensemble relative to the no-volcano simulations. Only values that are significantly different at the 5% level using a local (grid-point)  $t$  test are shaded. The contours follow the color bar intervals (solid for positive and dashed for negative anomalies; the zero line is omitted).

**Pacific (120°E – 90°W) Zonal Mean Anomalies in the First Summer**  
**Prescribed NV SST**



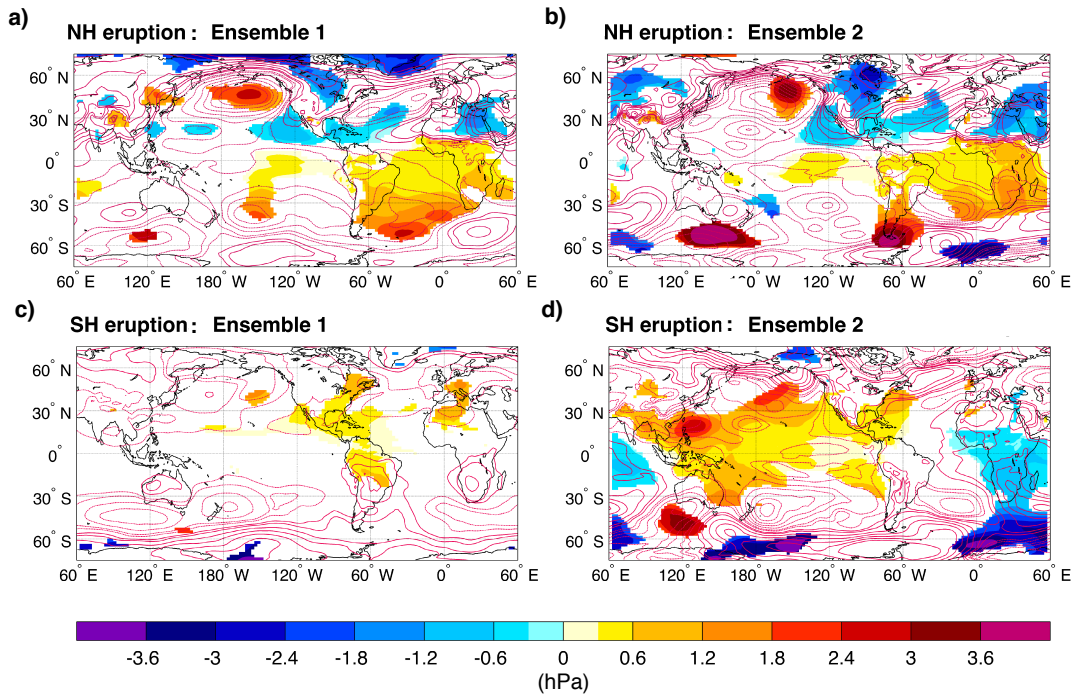
**Figure S5. Pacific zonal-mean temperature and zonal wind anomalies for prescribed no-volcano SST experiments.** Zonal-mean atmospheric temperature (a – d) and zonal wind (f – i) anomalies over the equatorial Pacific region (120°E – 90°W) in the summer (June to September) following the TrNH (a, b; f, g) and TrSH (c, d; h, i) eruptions for each ensemble using prescribed SST from the no-volcano experiments. Only values that are significantly different at the 5% level using a local (grid-point)  $t$  test are shaded. The contours follow the colorbar intervals (solid for positive and dashed for negative anomalies; the zero line is omitted).

**Surface Temperature, Wind & SLP Anomalies in the First Summer**

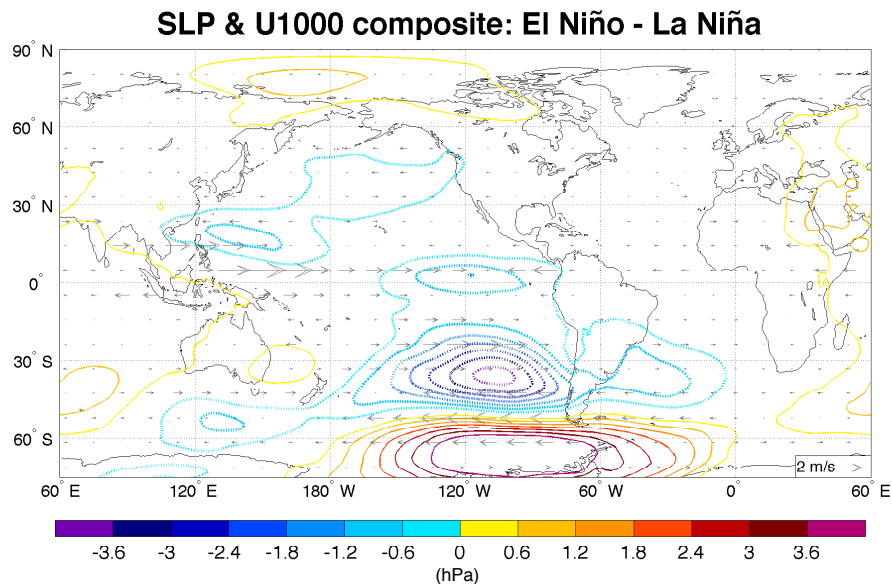


**Figure S6. Changes in surface temperature, wind, sea level pressure for prescribed no-volcano SST experiments.** Changes in surface temperature (°C, shadings), wind (m/s, arrows) and sea level pressure (hPa, contours) in the first summer (June to September) following the TrNH (a, b, e, f) and TrSH (c, d, g, h) eruptions for each ensemble using prescribed SST from the no-volcano experiments. Only temperature and precipitation values that are significantly different at the 5% level using a local (grid-point)  $t$  test are shaded. The contours follow the colorbar intervals (solid for positive and dashed for negative anomalies; the zero line is omitted).

## Sea level pressure changes between anomalies in Fixed and Coupled SST experiments

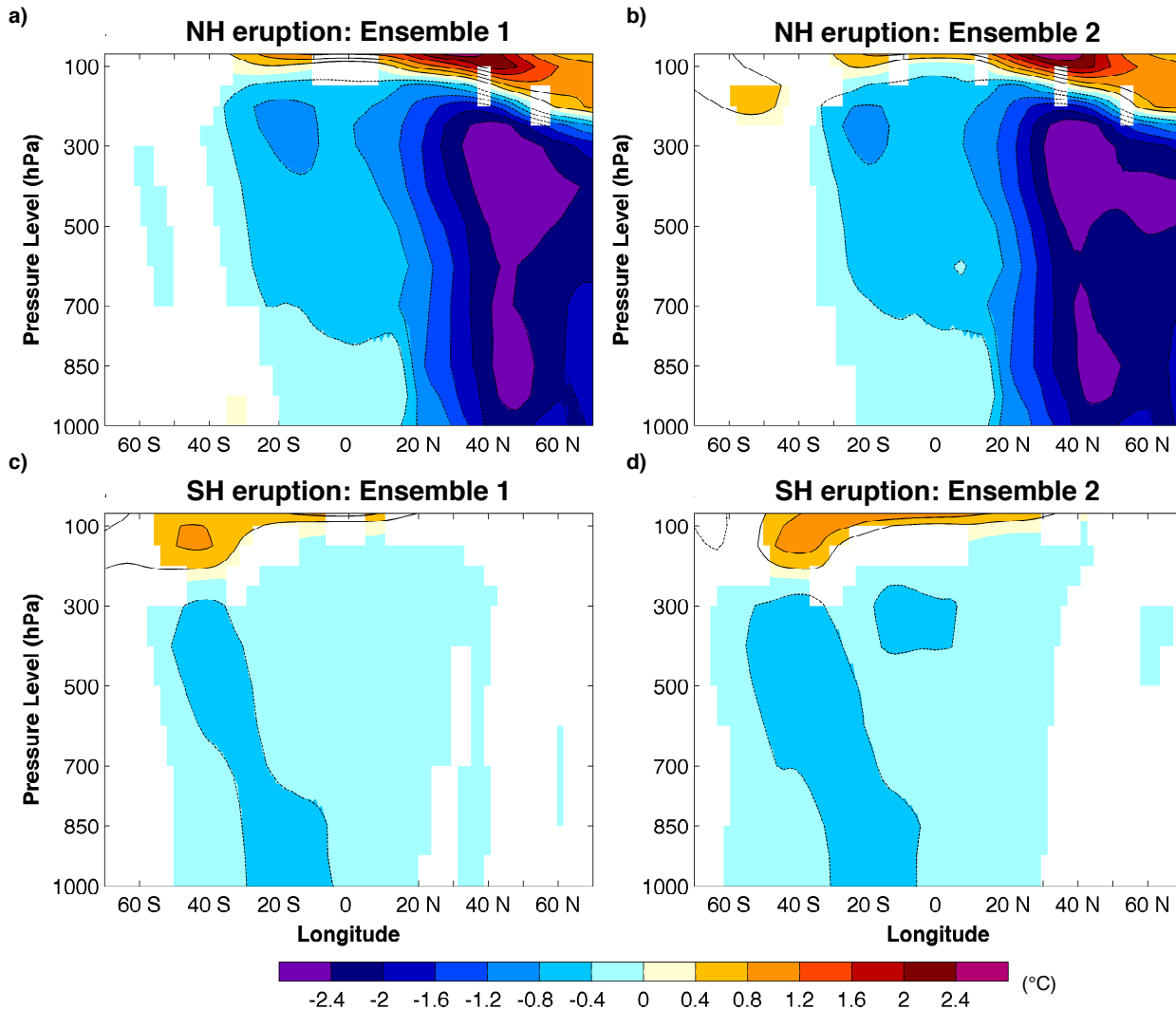


**Figure S7: Changes in sea level pressure anomalies between prescribed and coupled SST experiments.** Changes in sea level pressure (SLP) anomalies (hPa, shadings) between prescribed and coupled SST experiments in the first summer (June to September) following the TrNH (a, b) and TrSH (c, d) eruptions for each ensemble. Only anomalies that are significantly different at the 5% level using a local (grid-point)  $t$  test are shaded. The contours follow the colorbar intervals (solid for positive and dashed for negative anomalies; the zero line is omitted) and represent the coupled SLP anomalies.



**Figure S8. Sea level pressure and wind composite of El Niño minus La Niña.** Difference between El Niño and La Niña composite of sea level pressure (a) and near-surface wind (b) for the summer (June to September – JJAS) preceding the peak of ENSO events in the reference experiments. Only values that are significantly different at the 5% level using a local (grid-point)  $t$  test are shaded. The contours follow the color bar intervals (solid for positive and dashed for negative anomalies; the zero line is omitted).

## Global Zonal Mean Temperature Anomalies in the First Summer



**Figure S9. Global zonal mean temperature anomalies.** Zonal mean atmospheric temperature anomalies over the entire globe in the summer (June to September – JJAS) following the TrNH (a, b) and TrSH (c, d) eruptions for each ensemble. Only values that are significantly different at the 5% level using a local (grid-point)  $t$  test are shaded. The contours follow the color bar intervals (solid for positive and dashed for negative anomalies; the zero line is omitted).

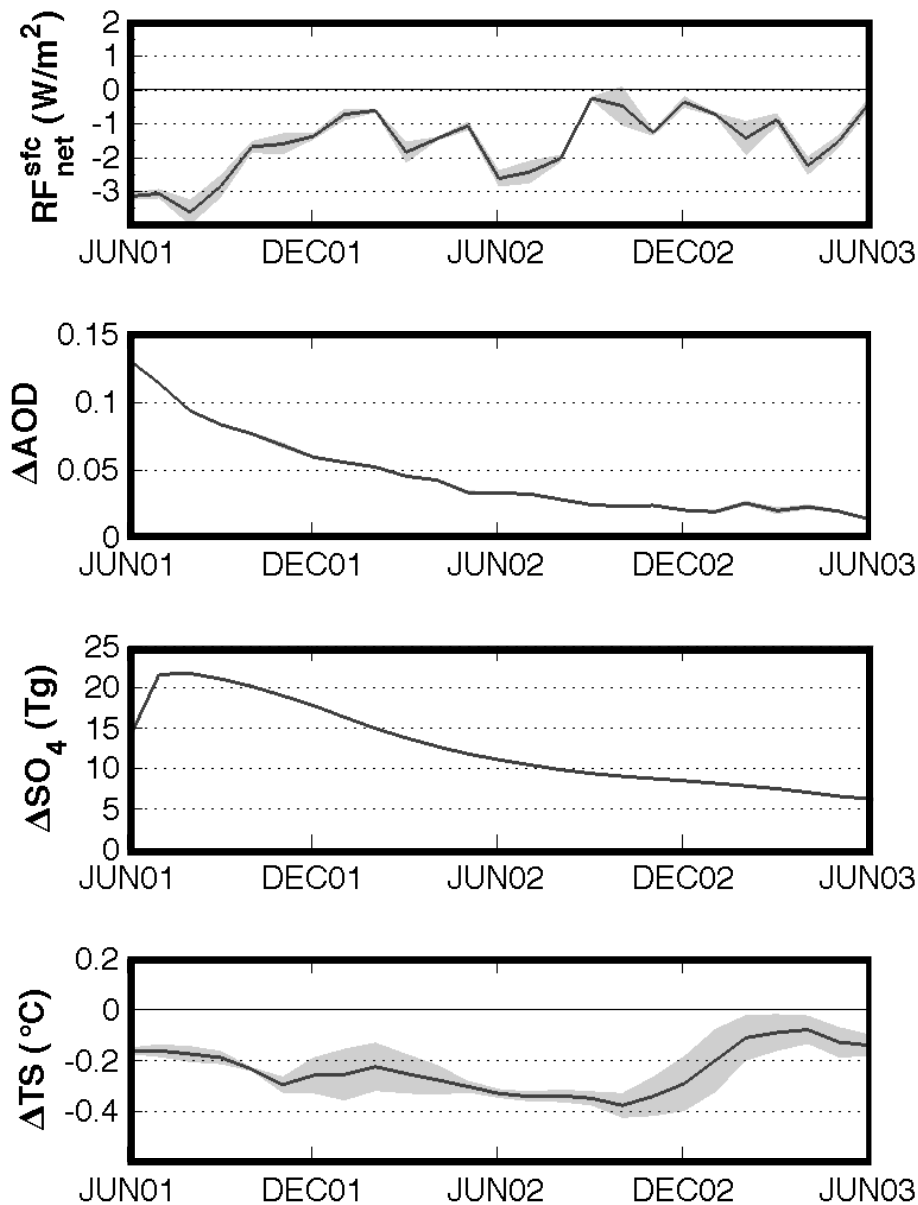
### Model Validation

NorESM1-M does not include a module for the explicit treatment of stratospheric microphysics, therefore  $\text{SO}_2 / \text{SO}_4^{2-}$  interactions in the stratosphere goes through the tropospheric life-cycling scheme. Furthermore, NorESM1-M does not simulate growth by self-coagulation (coagulation of Aitken-mode particles combining to form larger particles). Self-coagulation is an important mechanism after an eruption when a massive amount of sulphate is injected, as described in *Pinto et al. (44)* and *English et al. (45)*. Therefore, in NorESM1-M,  $\text{SO}_2$  injection into the stratosphere leads to the formation of  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  in a much finer mode compared to observed sizes as discussed in *Pausata et al. (43)*. This can lead to significant biases in the climate response to volcanic eruptions due to the increased residence time of the aerosol particles as well as radiative forcing, especially when simulating strong tropical events where the injection height can reach the middle stratosphere up to 40 km asl. To overcome this shortcoming we lowered the injection height from 24 km to 18 km in our simulations and we validate our model against the Pinatubo eruption. When lowering the injection height, the Pinatubo simulation shows a better agreement with observations in terms of volcanic aerosol residence time and global



cooling (Fig. S10).

Specifically, to test the skill of NorESM1-M in simulating large tropical eruptions we run 5 simulations in which we injected 20 Tg of SO<sub>2</sub> at a mean altitude of 18 km mimicking the Pinatubo eruption. We aimed at reproducing a similar SO<sub>4</sub> peak concentration and e-folding time compared to observations. Injecting the SO<sub>2</sub> mostly between 15 and 21 km, the model show a SO<sub>4</sub> peak of ~22 Tg and an e-folding time of ~17 months (Fig. S8). Observational evidence indicates a sulfate aerosol production between 21 and 40 Mt (46) and an e-folding time between 12-14 months (47–48). Our model thus sits in the low-side of the observations for the SO<sub>4</sub> peak and slightly underestimates the SO<sub>4</sub> removal. The simulated global cooling for the Pinatubo eruption is around 0.4 °C, in agreement with observational and model-based estimates of 0.4-0.5°C (49). Therefore, we have adopted the same injection height for the Tambora experiments as for the Pinatubo eruption.



**Figure S10. Global-average anomalies for Pinatubo eruption.** Global-average anomalies of radiative forcing at the surface, aerosol optical depth, sulfate burden and surface temperature following a Pinatubo-like eruption simulated by NorESM1-M. Shading shows the approximate 95% confidence intervals (twice the Standard Error of the Mean) of the change seen in all 5 pairs of experiments performed.

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