

# Effective radiative forcing of anthropogenic aerosols in E3SM v1 and v2

Kai Zhang

Pacific Northwest National Laboratory

## Contributors

**V1 simulation and analysis:** Wentao Zhang, Hui Wan, Philip J. Rasch, Steven J. Ghan, Richard C. Easter, Xiangjun Shi, Yong Wang, Hailong Wang, Po-Lun Ma, Shixuan Zhang, Jian Sun, Susannah Burrows, Manish Shrivastava, Balwinder Singh, Yun Qian, Xiaohong Liu, Jean-Christophe Golaz, Qi Tang, Xue Zheng, Shaocheng Xie, Wuyin Lin, Yan Feng, Minghuai Wang, Jin-Ho Yoon, and Ruby L. Leung

**V2 simulation:** Chris Golaz, Xue Zheng, Ryan Forsyth, and many others

## Motivation

- E3SMv1 has a relatively large effective aerosol forcing ( $\text{ERF}_{\text{aer}}$ ) compared to other CMIP6 models
- We need a comprehensive analysis on
  - Historical changes
  - Causal relationships
  - Forcing decomposition
  - Parameterization sensitivities
- Is V2 better?
- What is the climate response to anthropogenic aerosol effects in the coupled model?

## Key points

- Compared to v1, **TOA  $ERF_{aer}$**  is **significantly reduced in both SW and LW** components in v2. The net change is relatively small ( $\sim 0.3 \text{ Wm}^{-2}$ ). Both the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> indirect  $ERF_{aer}$  magnitudes are reduced significantly.
- **SW and LW surface  $ERF_{aer}$  changes are small**. Reduced indirect  $ERF_{aer}$  is compensated by **stronger direct  $ERF_{aer}$**  (mainly caused by ant. aerosol burden/AOD increase).
- **Aerosol effects** on SW/LW TOA radiative fluxes are **magnified in the coupled runs**.
- **Tuning, (cloud/aerosol) bug fixes, and numerical coupling errors** all have significant impacts on aerosol lifetime, AOD, and  $ERF_{aer}$  simulated in E3SM.
- $ERF_{aer}$  estimates from **nudged runs** with time slice aerosol emissions are overall **consistent with** that derived from **AMIP/RFMIP** simulations.

## V1 simulations

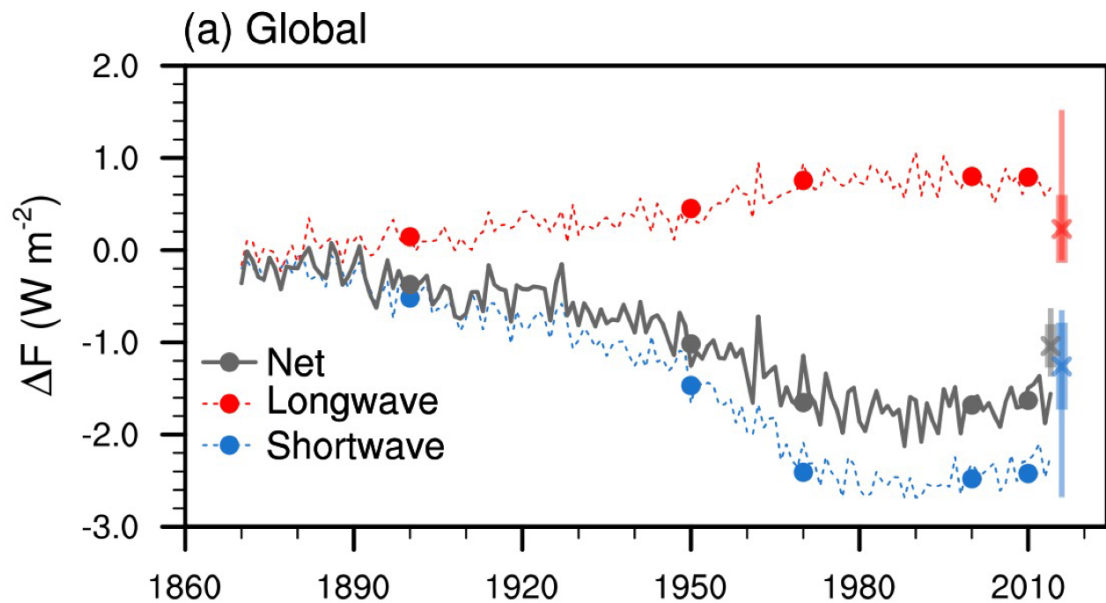
- E3SM atmosphere model version 1 (EAMv1) with MAM4
- Two AMIP (1870-2014) simulations:
  - one with pre-industrial (1850) aerosol emissions
  - one with transient aerosol emissions
- Nudged simulations
  - U and V nudged towards ERA-Interim reanalysis for year 2010
  - 6h relaxation time scale
  - one with pre-industrial (1850)
  - one with aerosol emissions at selected time slices (e.g., present-day 2010)



## V2 simulations

- E3SM atmosphere model version 2 (EAMv2) with MAM4
- hist\_aer (1850-2014):
  - RFMIP with fixed SST (from coupled simulations) with transient aerosol emissions
  - coupled simulations with transient aerosol emissions
- piCtrl:
  - RFMIP (50y) with fixed SST and 1850 forcings (including aerosol emissions)
  - coupled simulations (500y) with 1850 forcings (including aerosol emissions)
- Nudged simulations

## Effective aerosol forcing in E3SMv1



Cross and vertical bars

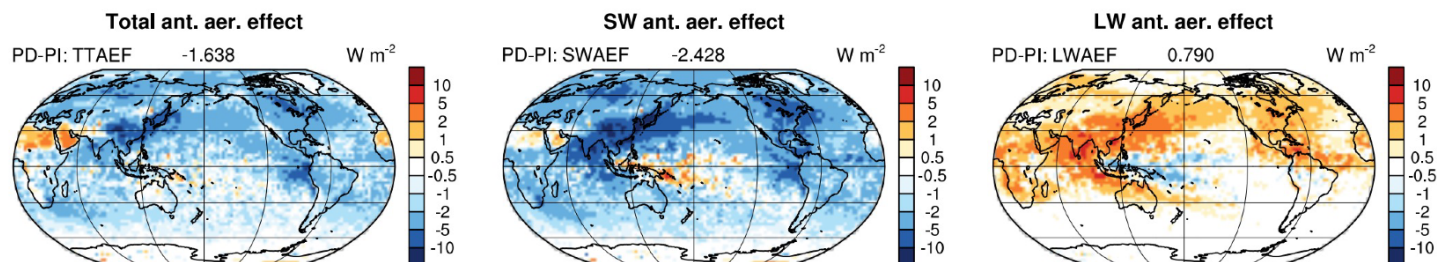
CMIP6 RFMIP model estimates  
from Smith et al. (2020)

**AMIP** simulation results (lines) are averaged from 3 ensemble members  
**Nudged** simulations with specified emissions for a certain year (1900, 1950, 1970, 2000, and 2010) are shown as dots.

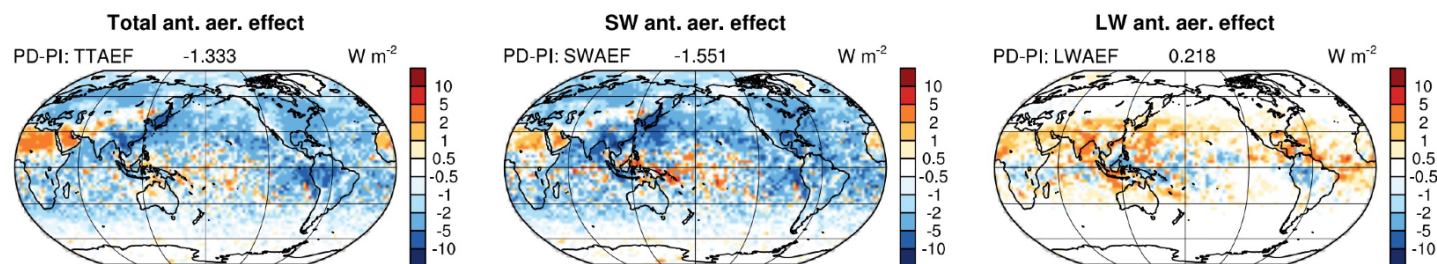
# ERF<sub>aer</sub> at TOA

TOA ERF<sub>aer</sub> is significantly reduced in both SW and LW components in v2.

## V1 nudged (2010aer – 1850aer)



## V2 nudged (2010aer – 1850aer)

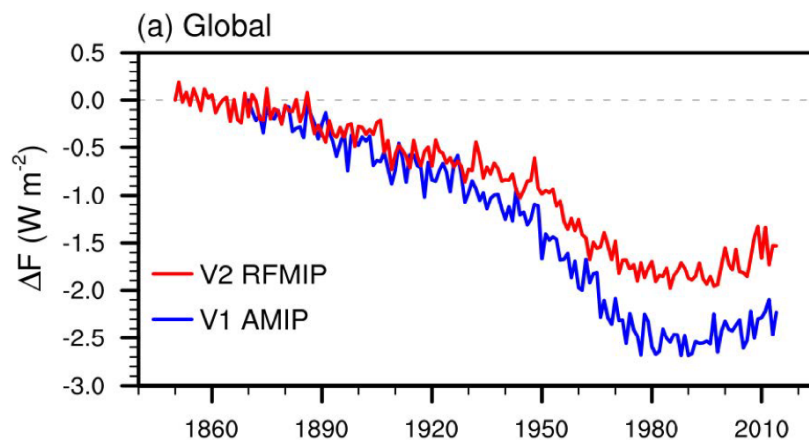


## ERF<sub>aer</sub> at TOA

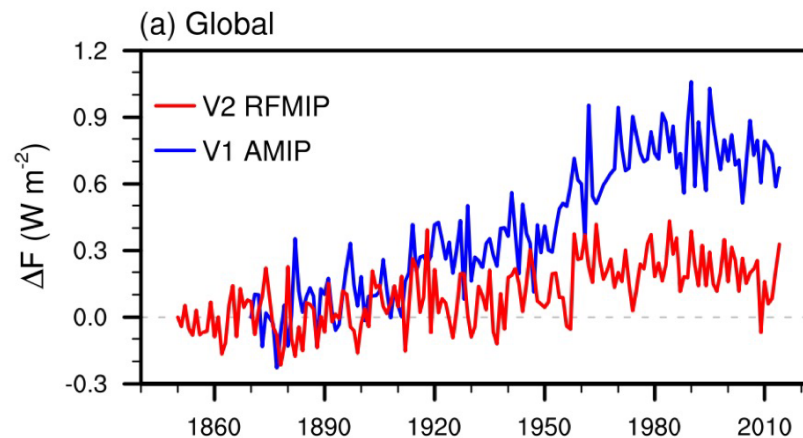
V1 AMIP vs. V2 RFMIP

TOA ERF<sub>aer</sub> is significantly reduced in both SW and LW components in v2.

SW



LW

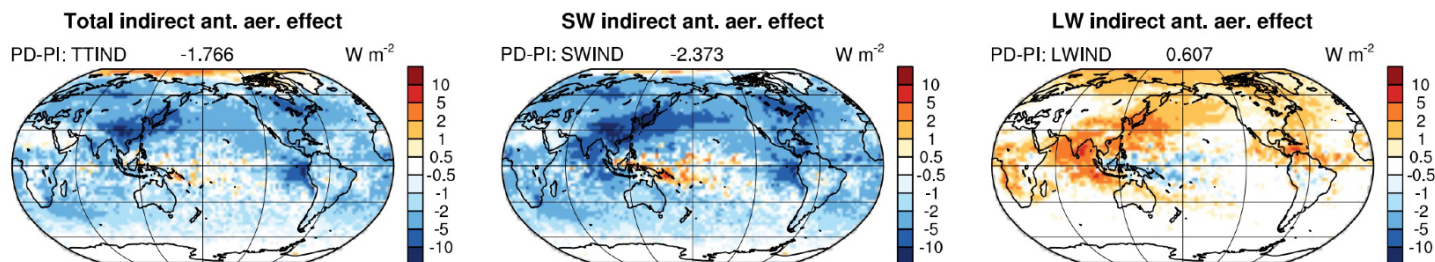




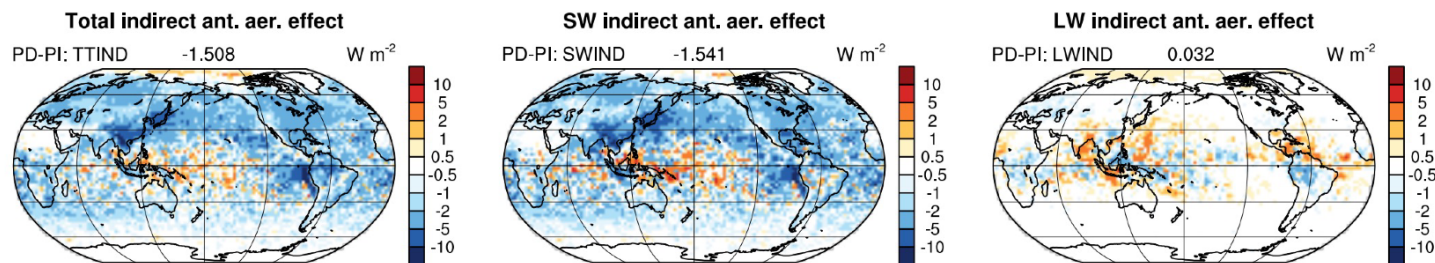
# Indirect $ERF_{aer}$ at TOA (decomposed)

The changes in  $ERF_{aer}$  are mainly caused by reduced indirect aerosol effects.

## V1 nudged (2010aer – 1850aer)



## V2 nudged (2010aer – 1850aer)



### Important model changes that affect $ERF_{aer}$ in v2

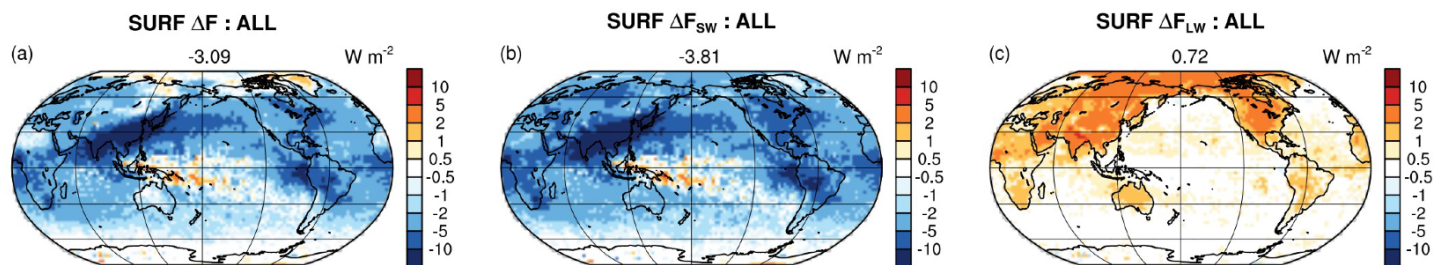
- Tuning (see Ma et al. 2022GMD and Zhang et al. 2022ACPD)
- Minimum CDNC (see slide 14)

# ERF<sub>aer</sub> at surface

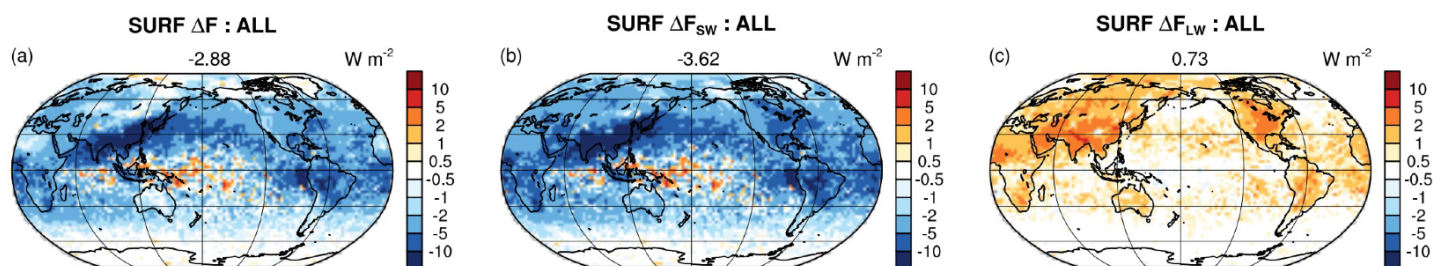
Surface SW/LW ERF<sub>aer</sub> changes are small.

Reduced indirect effect is compensated by stronger direct effect (shown later).

V1 nudged (2010aer – 1850aer)



V2 nudged (2010aer – 1850aer)



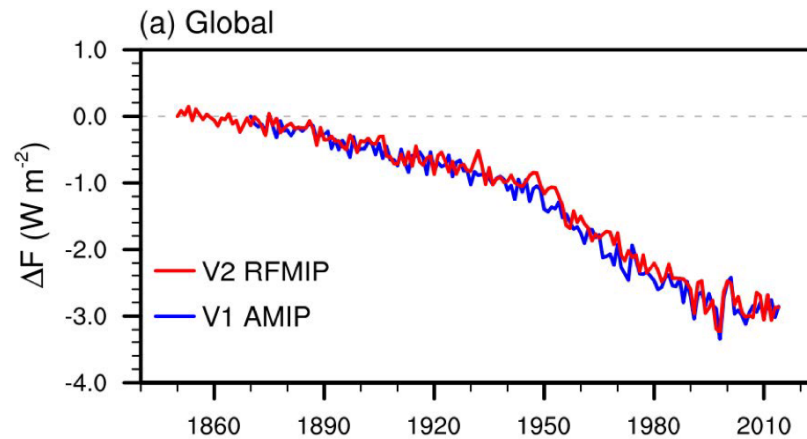
## ERF<sub>aer</sub> at surface

V1 AMIP vs. V2 RFMIP

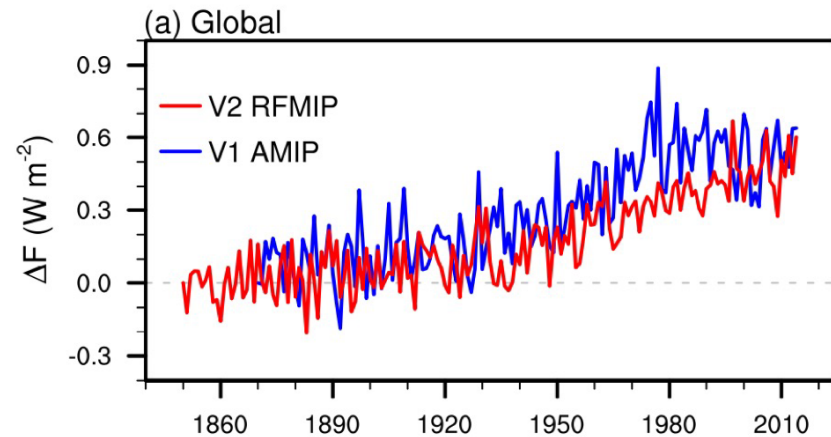
Surface SW/LW ERF<sub>aer</sub> changes are small.

Reduced indirect effect is compensated by stronger direct effect (shown later).

SW



LW





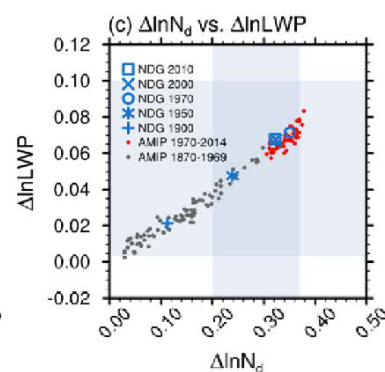
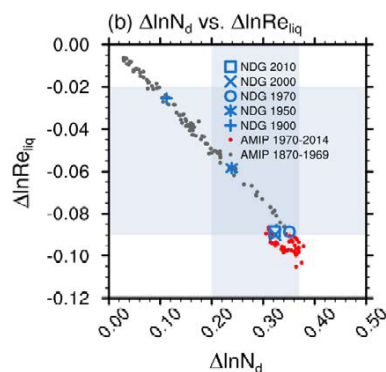
# V2 vs. V1

$$\frac{d \ln \bar{R}}{d \ln \bar{E}} = \left[ \frac{d \ln \bar{C}}{d \ln \bar{N}_d} + \frac{d \ln \bar{R}_c}{d \ln \bar{\tau}} \left( \frac{d \ln \bar{L}}{d \ln \bar{N}_d} - \frac{d \ln \bar{r}_e}{d \ln \bar{N}_d} \right) \right] \frac{d \ln \bar{N}_d}{d \ln \bar{CCN}} \frac{d \ln \bar{CCN}}{d \ln \bar{E}}.$$

E3SMv1

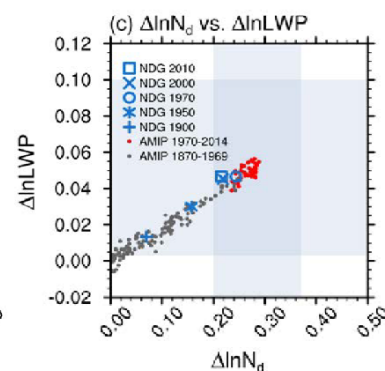
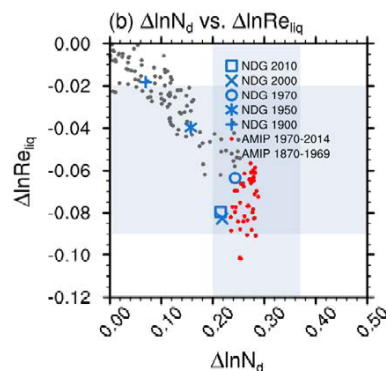
Re vs. Nd (1<sup>st</sup>)

LWP vs. Nd (2<sup>nd</sup>)



Both the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> indirect  $ERF_{aer}$  magnitudes are reduced significantly.

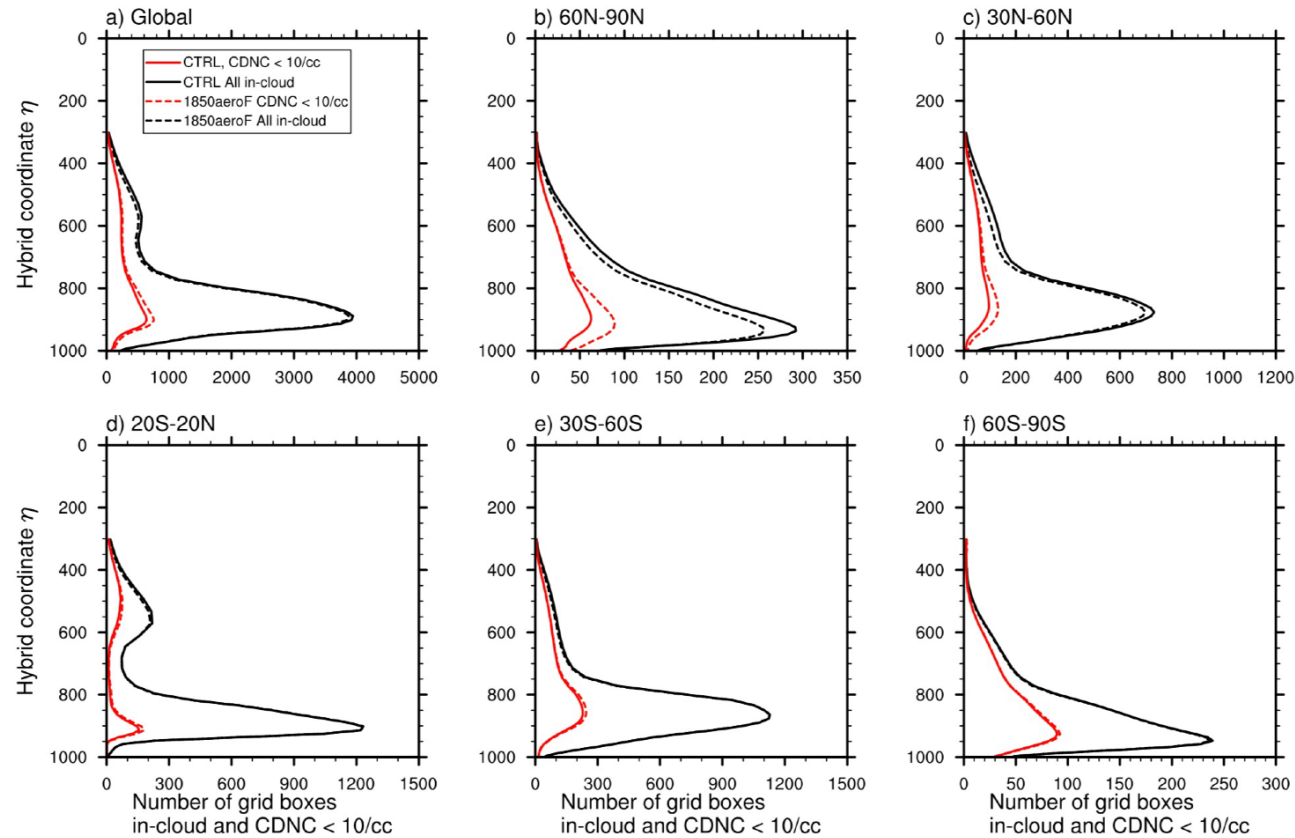
E3SMv2



Important model changes that affect  $ERF_{aer}$  in v2

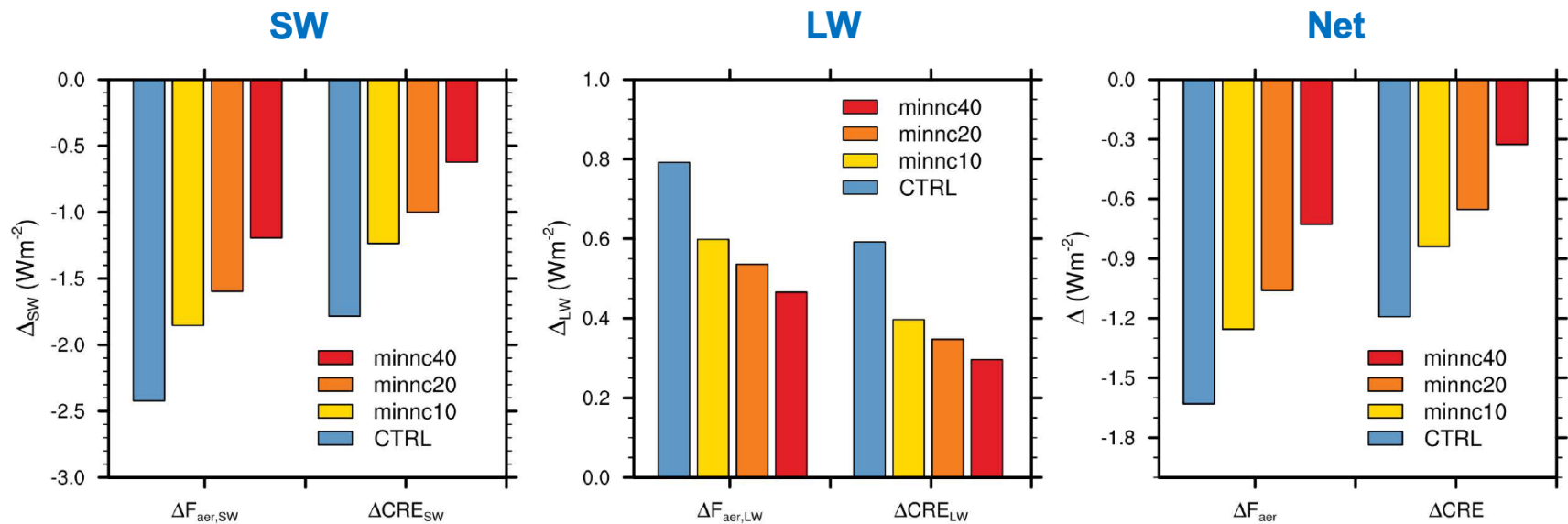
- Tuning (see Ma et al. 2022GMD and Zhang et al. 2022ACPD)
- Minimum CDNC (see slide 14)

# Extremely low CDNC appears frequently in E3SMv1



Based on one-year  
average of high-  
frequency data

## Adding a lower bound for CDNC reduces $ERF_{aer}$

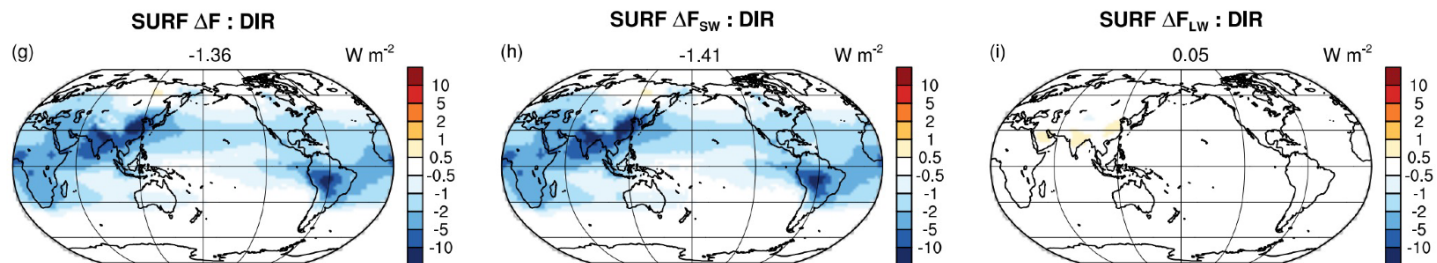


In V2:  $CDNC_{min} = 10 \text{ cm}^{-3}$

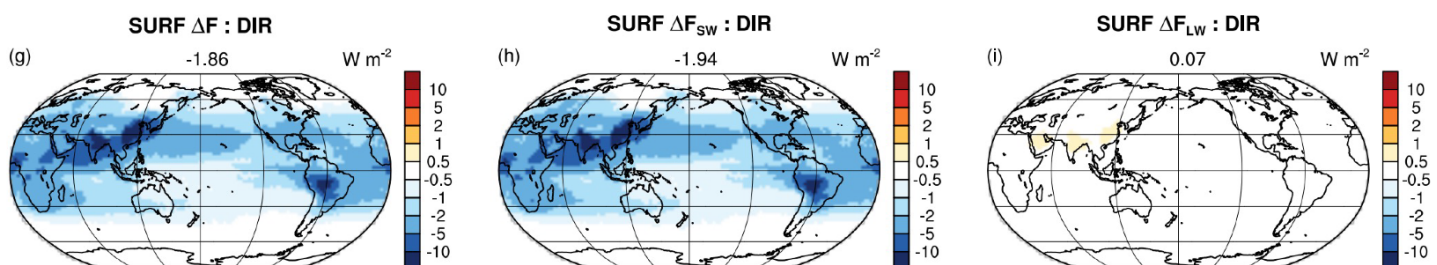
- If this lower bound is removed in V2,  $ERF_{aer}$  is about -1.64 (vs. -1.33 in v2)  $Wm^{-2}$ .
- If  $CDNC_{min}$  is too large, strong perturbation in LWP is observed in some regions.

# Direct aerosol effect at surface (decomposed)

## E3SMv1 nudged (2010aer – 1850aer)

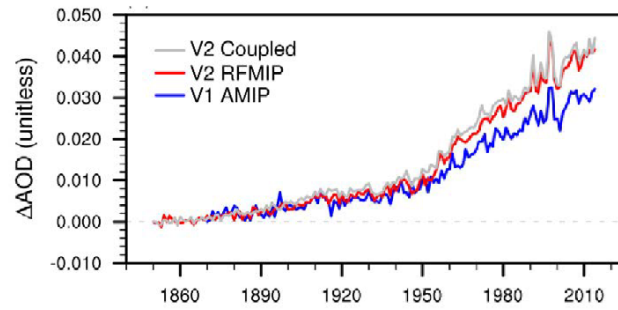


## E3SMv2 nudged (2010aer – 1850aer)

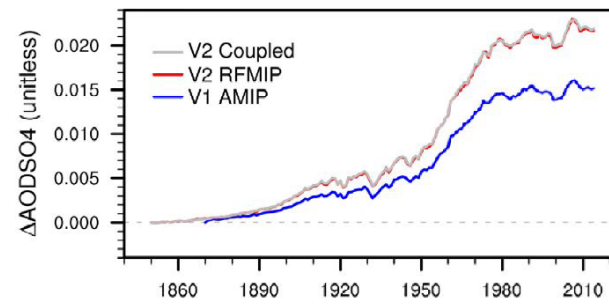


## Larger AOD in v2 simulations

Ant. AOD

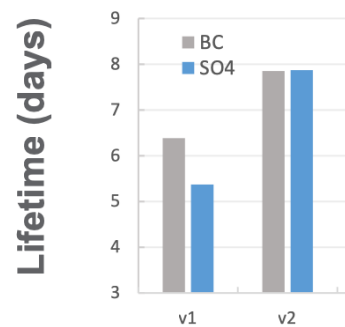
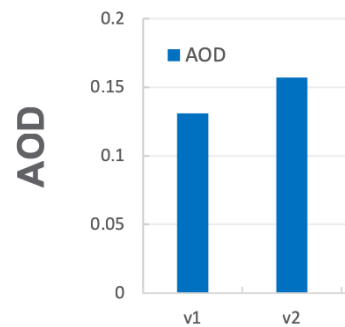


Ant. sulfate AOD



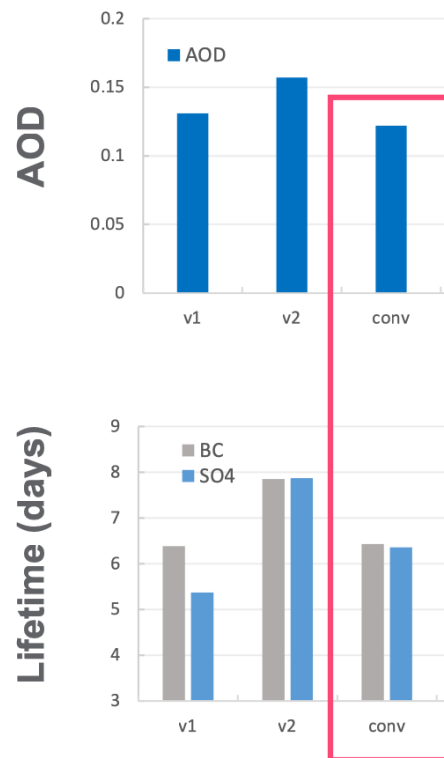
- Results are consistent with analysis done by Mingxuan and Hailong
- Recent simulations show a couple of tuning parameters play an important role

## Why AOD is much larger in v2?





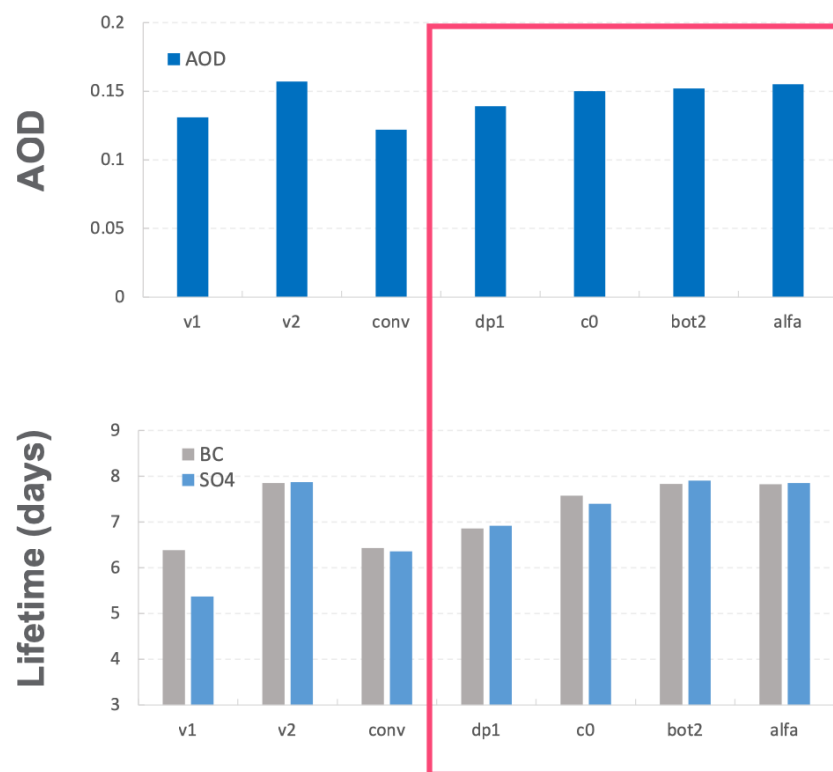
## Why AOD is much larger in v2?



**conv:** tuning parameters for convection  
parameterization reverted to v1



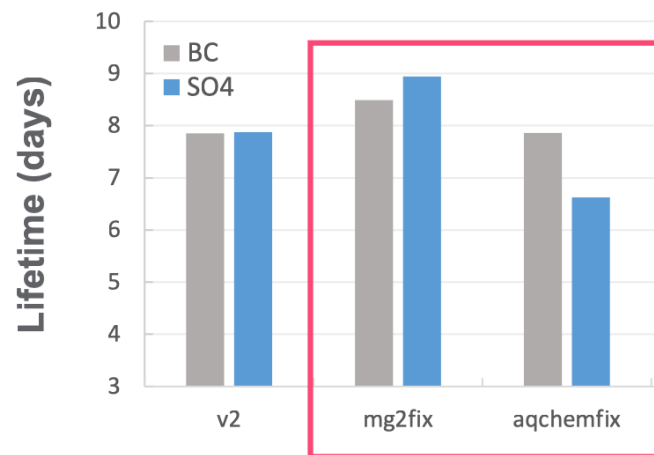
## Why AOD is much larger in v2?



A recent model development study (ICON-HAM) also reported large sensitivity of AOD simulation to convection parameterization tuning.

[Salzmann et al. \(2022JAMES\)](#)

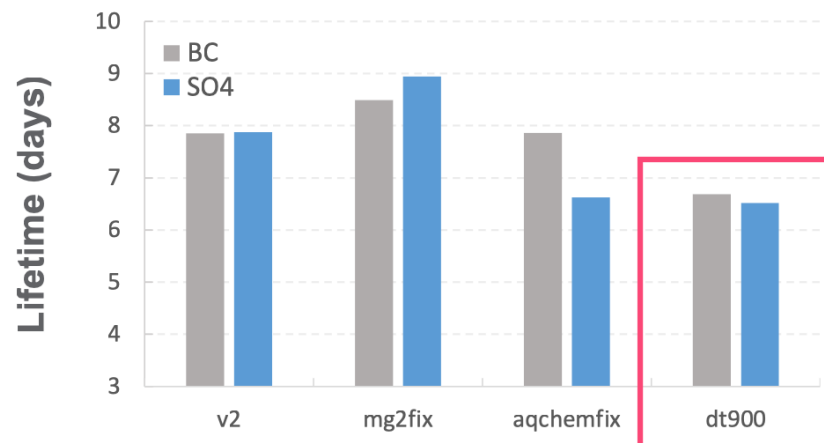
## Sensitivity of aerosol lifetime to other factors



Two important bugs recently identified/fixed in development branch (but still in E3SM master):

- MG2 bugfix (reported by NCAR)
- Aqueous chemistry bug (revealed during NGD P3 development)

## Sensitivity of aerosol lifetime to other factors



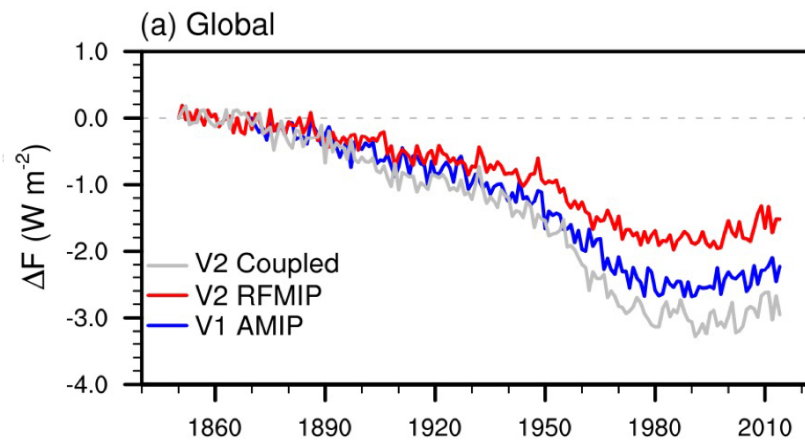
**Physics time step set to 900s  
(1800s by default)**

- Lifetime decreases for all types of aerosols except for dust
- Similar changes seen in V1 (Wan et al., 2021GMD, 2022 in prep).

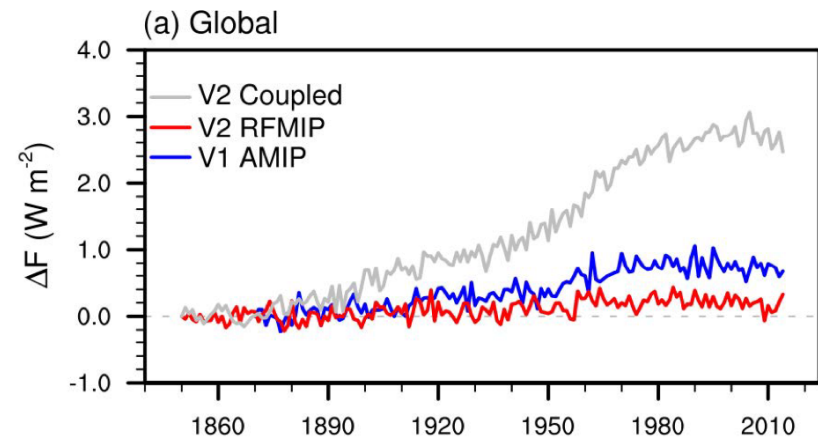
## V2 versus V1 (TOA)

Aerosol effects on SW/LW TOA radiative fluxes are magnified in the coupled runs.

SW



LW



## Ongoing efforts

- Further investigate why  $r_{\text{eff}}$  is so sensitive to changes in Nd in E3SM/MG2.
- Fix/evaluate (important) known bugs
  - Aqueous chemistry bug (revealed during NGD P3 development)
  - MG2 bug related to ice nucleation (reported by NCAR)
  - RH used in aerosol nucleation (revealed by EAGLES computational team)
- Further analysis of the single-forcing coupled simulations
- Integrating various aerosol diagnostics tools for future model development

## Key points

- Compared to v1, **TOA ERFaer** is **significantly reduced in both SW and LW** components in v2. The net change is relatively small ( $\sim 0.3 \text{ Wm}^{-2}$ ). Both the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> indirect ERFaer magnitudes are reduced significantly.
- **SW and LW surface ERFaer are largely unchanged**. Reduced indirect ERFaer is compensated by **stronger direct ERFaer** (mainly caused by ant. aerosol burden/AOD increase).
- **Aerosol effects** on SW/LW TOA radiative fluxes are **magnified in the coupled runs**.
- **Tuning, (cloud/aerosol) bug fixes, and numerical coupling errors** all have significant impacts on aerosol lifetime, AOD, and ERFaer simulated in E3SM.
- ERFaer estimates from **nudged runs** with time slice aerosol emissions are overall **consistent with** that derived from **AMIP/RFMIP** simulations.