

Supplement to empirical model of global climate: 1. reduced impact of volcanoes upon consideration of ocean circulation

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1 Supplement

Section 2.2 states “As shown in the Supplementary Material, use of SOD from NOAA rather than SOD from GISS in our regression has no bearing on our finding regarding the sensitivity of $\Delta T_{\text{VOLCANO}}$ to the AMO.” This point is illustrated in Fig. S1, identical to Fig. 10 of the main paper except the stratospheric optical depth (SOD) record from NOAA (Amman et al., 2003) is used. The NOAA record of SOD is available only to the end 2008. We have extended this record to the end of 2011 by using the last available measure of SOD, 1.8×10^{-4} , for all months after December 2008, so that the regressions in Fig. S1 cover the same time period as the regressions in Fig. 10. Comparison of the arrows on Fig. S1, which denote maximum SOD after the four major eruptions since 1900 (Santa María, Mount Agung, El Chichón, and Mount Pinatubo marked as SM, A, C, and P), to those on Fig. 10 reveals considerable difference between peak SOD in the NOAA record compared to the GISS record (Sato et al., 1993) after major eruptions. This difference is apparent also in Fig 2.18 of IPCC (2007), as noted in Section 2.2 of the main paper. However, maximum cooling due to Pinatubo (the product of C_1 and SOD) is quite similar for both SOD records, because the regression is most sensitive to the timing of the SOD perturbation, which is nearly identical for the two data sets. The sensitivities of $\Delta T_{\text{VOLCANO}}$ to whether AMO is used in the regression as well as the method used to detrend the AMO are both readily apparent in Fig. S1.

Section 3.2.2 states “in the Supplementary Material, we show simulations for different time series of NAA RF_i , all having NAA $RF_{2005} = -1.0 \text{ W m}^{-2}$, based on values of α_{COOL} and α_{HEAT} at the intersection of the red line and the “High Road”, “Middle Road”, and “Low

1 Road” of Fig. 4.” Figure S2 illustrates this point. Regressions in Fig. S2 are all related to
2 Fig. 6d, a regression of the CRU4 global temperature anomaly found using $AMO_{Had3\ AF}$. In
3 the main paper, we used values of the scaling parameters, α_{COOL} and α_{HEAT} , for $NAA\ RF_{2005} =$
4 $-1.0\ W\ m^{-2}$ along the “Middle Road” of Fig. 4. All regressions shown in Fig. S2 use NAA
5 $RF_{2005} = -1.0\ W\ m^{-2}$ as well as $AMO_{Had3\ AF}$. Panel **a** of Fig. S2 uses values of α_{COOL} and
6 α_{HEAT} along the “Low Road” of Fig. 4; panel **b** is for values of these parameters along the
7 “Middle Road”, and panel **c** is for values along the “High Road”. The tremendous similarity
8 of these regressions supports our contention that the important factor for our analysis is the
9 value of $NAA\ RF_{2005}$, rather than the specific combination of α_{COOL} and α_{HEAT} used to arrive
10 at this value. We have conducted extensive testing of these scaling parameters and the central
11 importance of $NAA\ RF_{2005}$ is robust. As described in the main paper, year 2005 was chosen
12 as the benchmark because of the IPCC (2007) focus on estimating $NAA\ RF$ for this year. Our
13 entire analysis hardly differs if we had used 2011 as the benchmark. Indeed, as stressed in
14 Mascioli et al. (2012), better definition of the uncertainty in net anthropogenic aerosol
15 radiative forcing, for the contemporary atmosphere, is vital for reducing uncertainties inherent
16 in global warming projections.

17 Section 3.2.3 states “in Supplementary Material, we show that our overall conclusions are
18 unaffected if KaplanSST2 is used rather than HadSST3”. This point is illustrated by Fig. S3,
19 identical to Fig. 10 except the SST record from KaplanSST2 has been used for the definition
20 of AMO . A detailed comparison of Fig. S3 with Fig. 10 reveals only extremely slight
21 differences.

22 Section 4.3 states “as shown in the Supplementary Material, the derivative of OHC from
23 Church et al. (2011), an update to the record of Domingues et al. (2008), bears no relation to
24 SOD (hence, the conclusion of Murphy et al. (2009) seems highly dependent on which OHC
25 record is used, and possibly how the data are smoothed)” as well as “also, there is no
26 suggestion that when SOD achieves a local maximum (i.e., peak volcanic perturbation), the
27 AMO is at a local minimum either coincident in time with peak SOD (as suggested by GCM
28 of Booth et al., 2012), ~2 to 3 years after peak SOD (as suggested by GCM of Stenchikov et
29 al., 2009), or ~10 years after peak SOD (as suggested by GCM of Zanchettin et al., 2012) (see
30 Supplementary Material).” Figure S4 shows the GISS time series of SOD (panel **a**), the time
31 derivative of Ocean Heat Content (OHC) data from Church et al. (2011) which equals OHE
32 (e.g., Murphy et al., 2009) (panel **b**), and a scatter plot of these two physical quantities (panel

1 c). For the scatter plot, we relate SOD to the value of OHE six months into the future, to
2 represent the adjustment time of the stratosphere to the RF perturbation induced by the
3 volcano. Enhanced values of SOD associated with the eruptions of Agung, El Chichón, and
4 Pinatubo as well as OHE (6 month delay) are color coded using the same palette as Fig. 8.
5 This is no significant relation between SOD and OHE. The conclusion of no relation between
6 SOD and OHE holds for 0 time shift, a time shift of 1 year, or any other time shift. Certainly
7 there are valleys in OHE that could plausibly be related to SOD, such as the dip around 1968
8 that could be related to Agung. Zanchettin et al. (2012) describe the possibility of a 10 year
9 delay between volcanic perturbation and ocean response. However, the OHE record shown in
10 Fig. S4 exhibits 6 well defined, decadal time scale valleys, between 1950 and 2010. In
11 contrast, the SOD record exhibits only 3 strong peaks during this same period of time.

12 Murphy et al. (2009) describe a visual relation between OHE and SOD, where OHE was
13 found after applying an “8 year linear fit smoothing” to the OHC data of Domingues et al.
14 (2008). We have computed OHE using running means of 3, 5, 7, and 9 years applied to the
15 OHC data of Church et al. (2011) and we still find no significant relation between OHE and
16 SOD. Murphy et al. (2009) do not justify use of “8 year linear fit smoothing” to the OHC
17 record.

18 Measurements of OHC vary over time, either due to noise in the estimate or perhaps the
19 stochastic nature of atmosphere to ocean heat transfer when examined on a yearly basis.
20 Regardless, the data records we have examined show no evidence for volcanic influence on
21 ocean circulation, despite the indication for such an influence from several independent GCM
22 studies (Stenchikov et al., 2009; Booth et al., 2012; Zanchettin et al., 2012).

23 Section 4.3 also states “as shown in Supplementary Material, this plot looks similar for
24 $AMO_{\text{Had3 SST}}$ and $AMD_{\text{Had3 Lin}}$, except the AMO is much closer to neutral after the eruption of
25 Santa María when detrended using SST”. Figures S5 and S6 are identical to Fig. 8 except
26 $AMO_{\text{Had3 SST}}$ (Fig. S5) and $AMO_{\text{Had3 Lin}}$ (Fig. S6) are used rather than $AMO_{\text{Had3 AF}}$. The
27 subscripts SST, LIN, and AF refer to various ways of detrending the AMO, as described in
28 Section 3.2.3. All of the AMO records are based on North Atlantic SSTs (HadSST3) from the
29 Hadley Center (Kennedy et al., 2011a,b), denoted by use of Had3 in the subscript. Together
30 Fig. S5, Fig. S6, and Fig. 8 can be used to make two important points: 1) when SOD was
31 enhanced following the four major eruptions since 1900, as well as 6 months before each
32 eruption, the AMO tended to be more negative than positive regardless of how the AMO is

1 detrended; 2) the value of the AMO index in the early 20th century is most sensitive to how
2 the detrending is conducted. Smaller values of $\Delta T_{\text{VOLCANO}}$ are found using $\text{AMO}_{\text{Had3 Lin}}$ or
3 $\text{AMO}_{\text{Had3 AF}}$, compared to $\text{AMO}_{\text{Had3 SST}}$, due to the sensitivity of the regression coefficients
4 to the value of the AMO after the eruption of Santa Maria in October 1902. As discussed in
5 the main paper, observed cooling during the pre-WWI time period and warming during the
6 WWII time period is modeled better using $\text{AMO}_{\text{Had3 Lin}}$ or $\text{AMO}_{\text{Had3 AF}}$ than $\text{AMO}_{\text{Had3 SST}}$,
7 supporting the possibility these representations of the AMO are valid for the early 20th
8 century.

9 Section 5.1 of the paper states “Nearly all of this perturbation occurs in the tropics: the net
10 radiative effect of Pinatubo poleward of 20° latitude was small in the northern hemisphere and
11 essentially zero in the southern hemisphere (see Supplementary Material).” Figure S7 shows
12 the perturbation to SW, LW, and Net (LW–SW) radiation at the top of the atmosphere
13 measured by ERBE. There is no discernable change in the Net budget, following the eruption
14 of Pinatubo, poleward of 20°S. The SW and LW components each show an effect, but the
15 changes in these components are balanced. As noted in the main paper, the treatment of the
16 stratospheric response of this anomaly (the LW perturbation is due to absorption of thermal
17 radiation within the stratosphere by volcanic aerosols, and re-radiation in all directions) and
18 the downward influence is critical. The perturbations to SW and LW are more distinct in the
19 Northern Hemisphere extra-tropics, but the Net perturbation is hard to distinguish from the
20 noise in the climate system (i.e., without the gray shading or knowledge of when Pinatubo
21 erupted, volcanic influence on the Net budget would be hard to discern).

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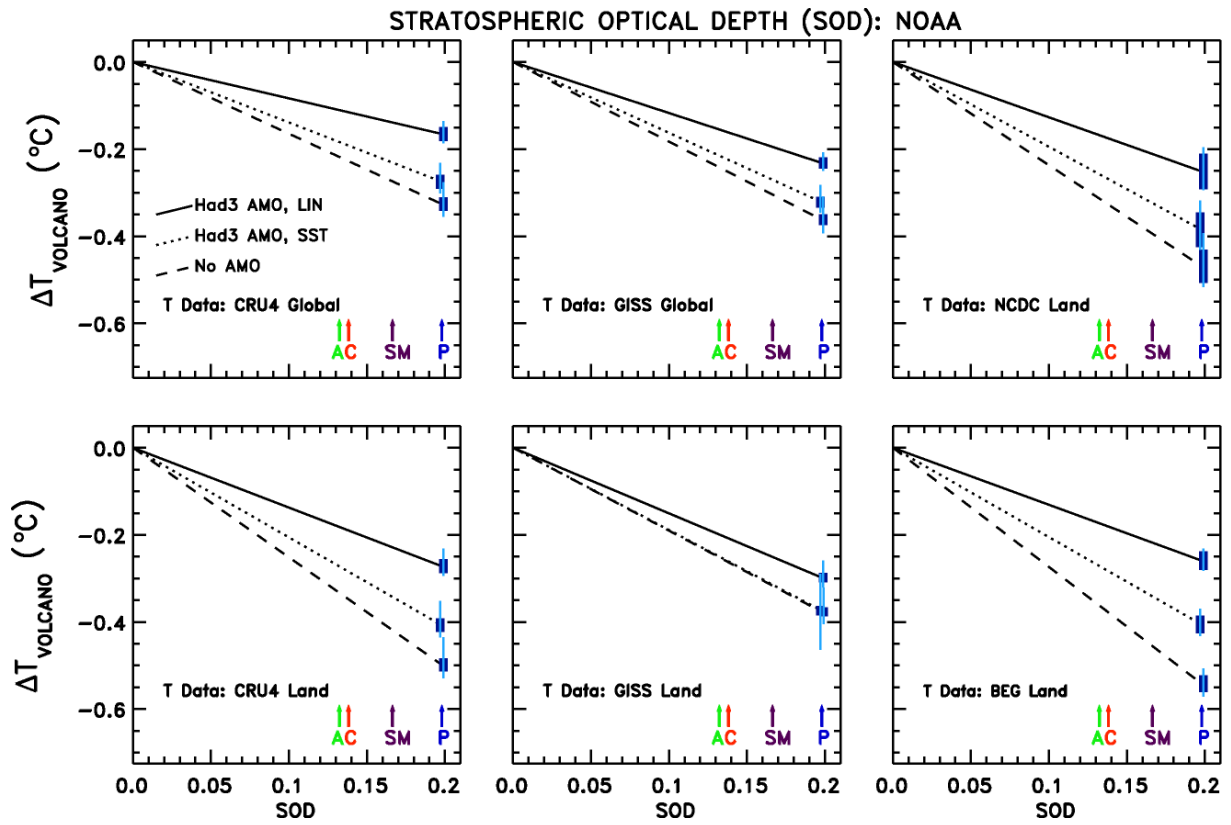
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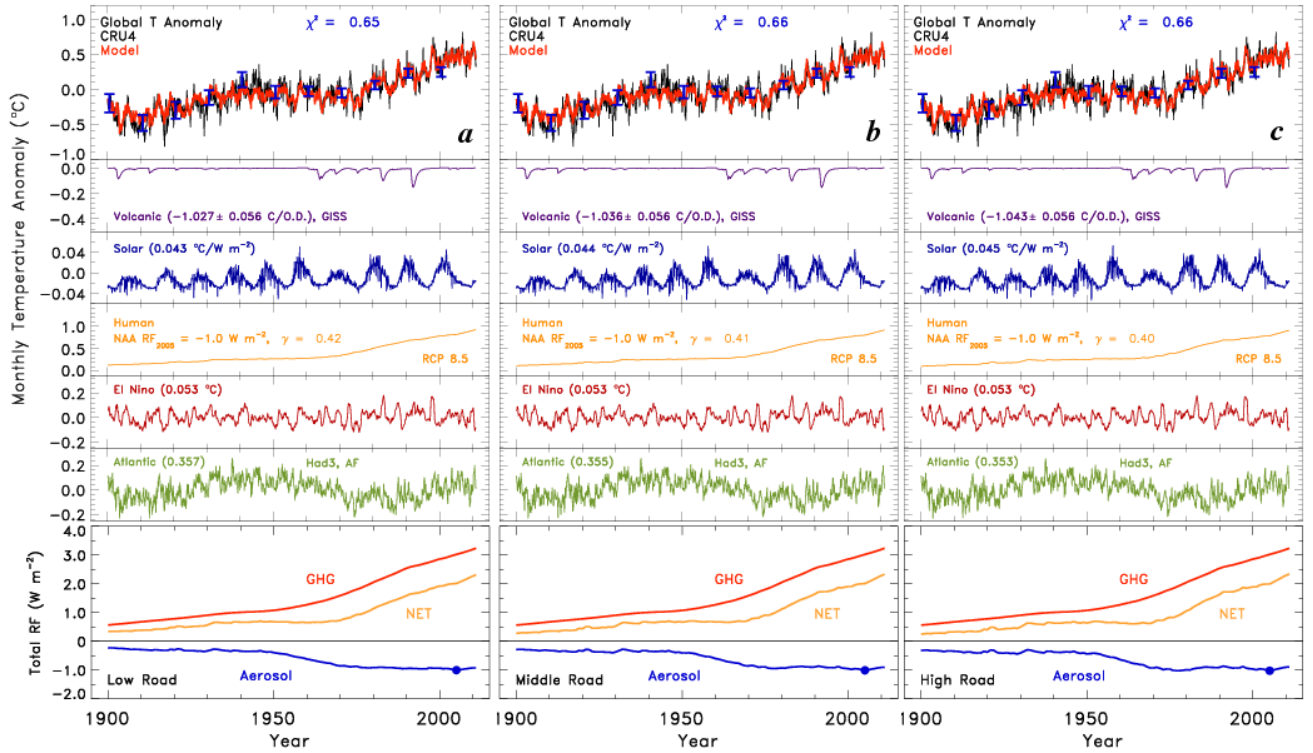
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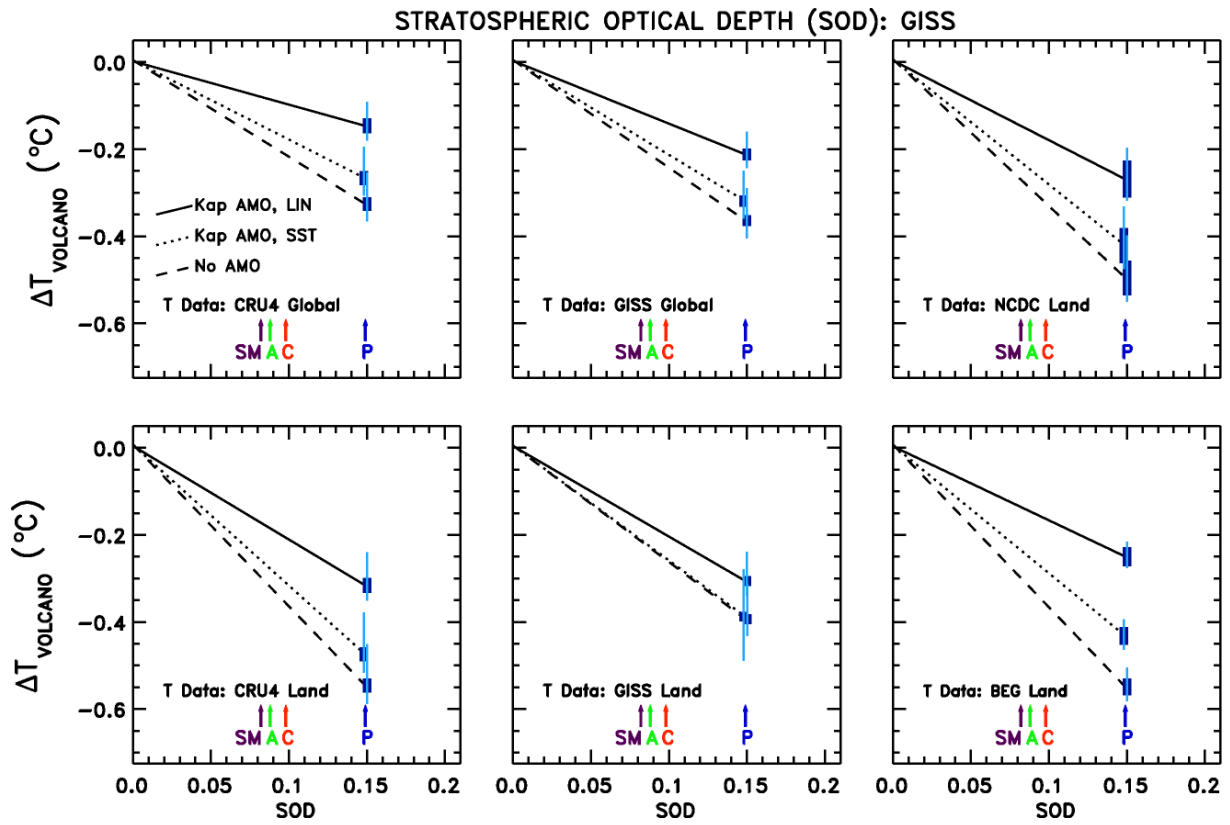
2 **Fig. S1.** Same as Fig. 10 in the main paper, except the NOAA record of SOD from Amman et
 3 al. (2003) is used.

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2 **Fig. S2.** Same as Fig. 6d in the main paper except we have excluded here rungs of the ladder
3 plots showing PDO and IOD (these terms are small) and we have added a panel (lowest rung)
4 showing time series of NAA RF, GHG RF, and the net anthropogenic RF. **(a)** Regression
5 using $\text{NAA RF}_{2005} = -1.0 \text{ W m}^{-2}$ for values of α_{COOL} and α_{HEAT} along the “Low Road” of Fig.
6 4. **(b)** Regression using $\text{NAA RF}_{2005} = -1.0 \text{ W m}^{-2}$ for values of α_{COOL} and α_{HEAT} along the
7 “Middle Road” of Fig. 4 (this regression is identical to that shown in Fig. 6d of the main
8 paper). **(c)** Regression using $\text{NAA RF}_{2005} = -1.0 \text{ W m}^{-2}$ for values of α_{COOL} and α_{HEAT} along
9 the “High Road” of Fig. 4. All regressions use $\text{AMO}_{\text{Had3 AF}}$ (see main text).

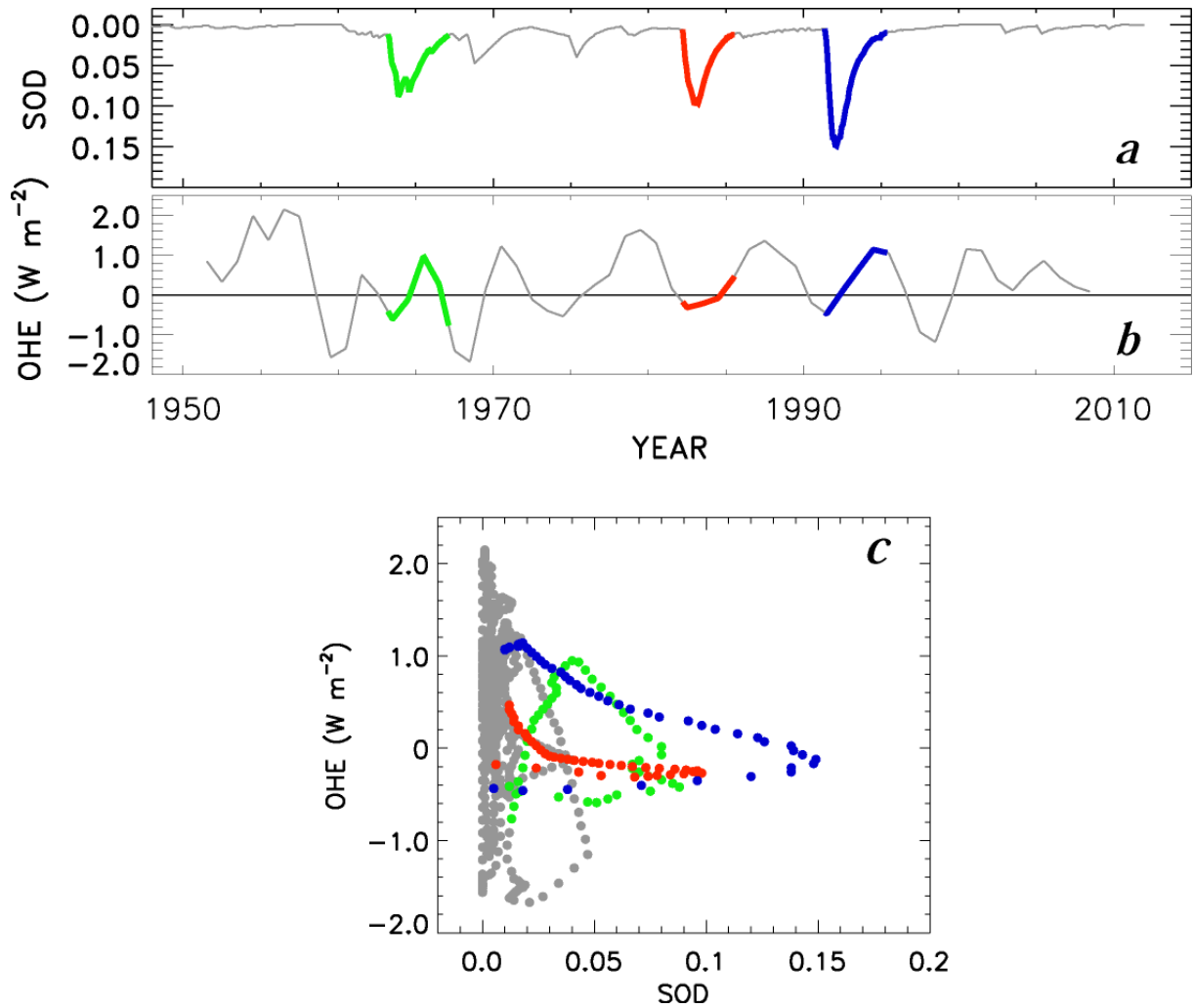
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2 **Fig. S3.** Same as Fig. 10 in the main paper, except the Kaplan Extended SST V2 record from
 3 NOAA (Kaplan et al., 1998; Enfield et al., 2001; see also Appendix B) has replaced HadSST3
 4 for the definition of the AMO.

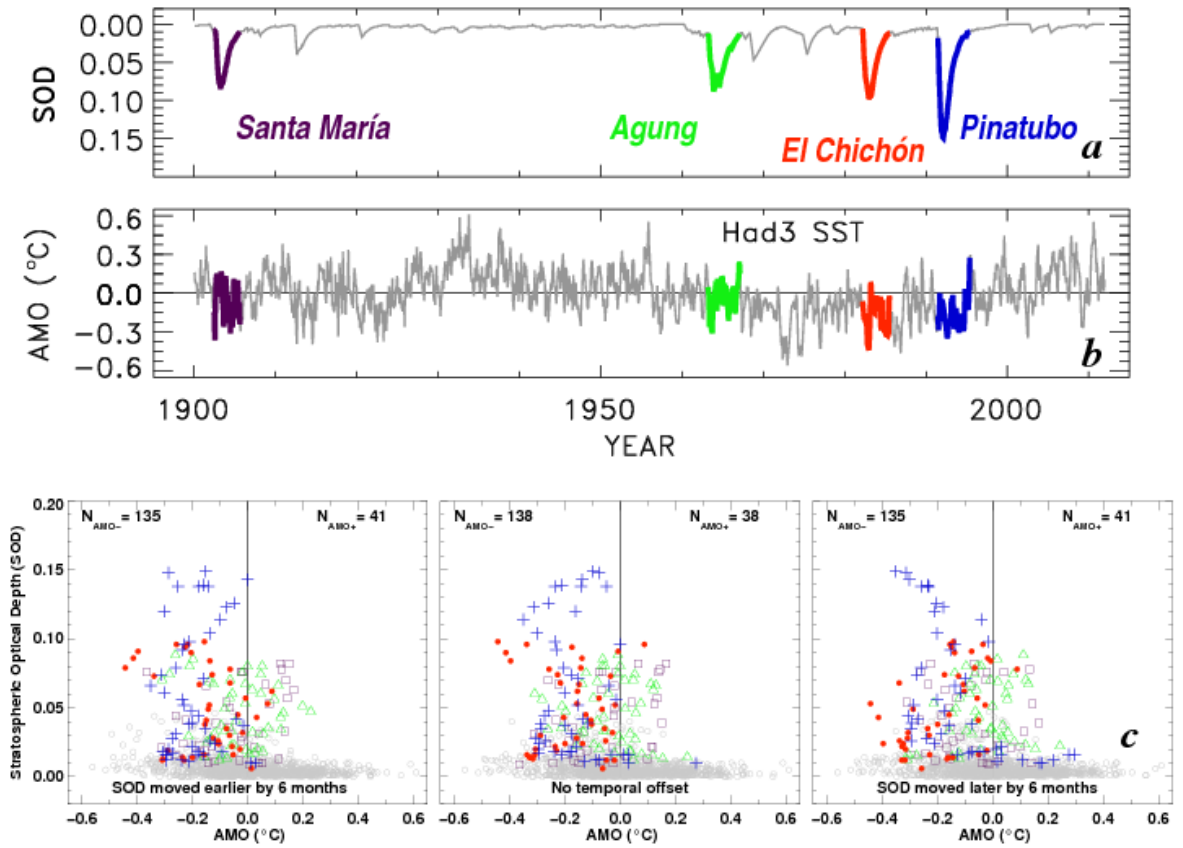
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2 **Fig. S4. (a)** Monthly mean stratospheric optical depth (SOD) from Sato et al. (1993). The
 3 three major volcanoes since 1950, Mount Agung (green), El Chichón (red), and Mount
 4 Pinatubo (blue) are indicated. **(b)** Ocean Heat Export (OHE) found by taking the derivative
 5 with respect to time of the Ocean Heat Content (OHC) record of Church et al. (2011). OHC
 6 is provided in an annual basis.

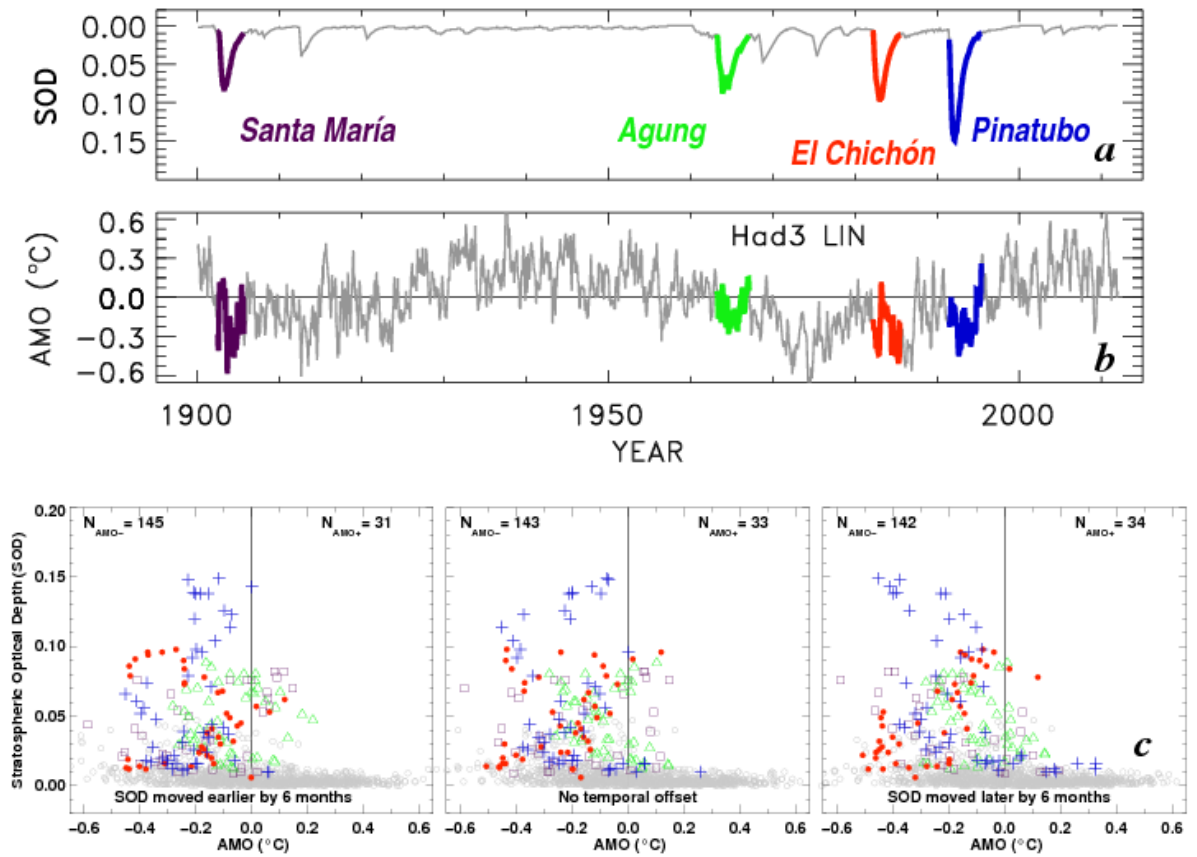
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2 **Fig. S5.** Same as Fig. 8 except $AMO_{Had3\ SST}$ is used, rather than $AMO_{Had3\ AF}$.

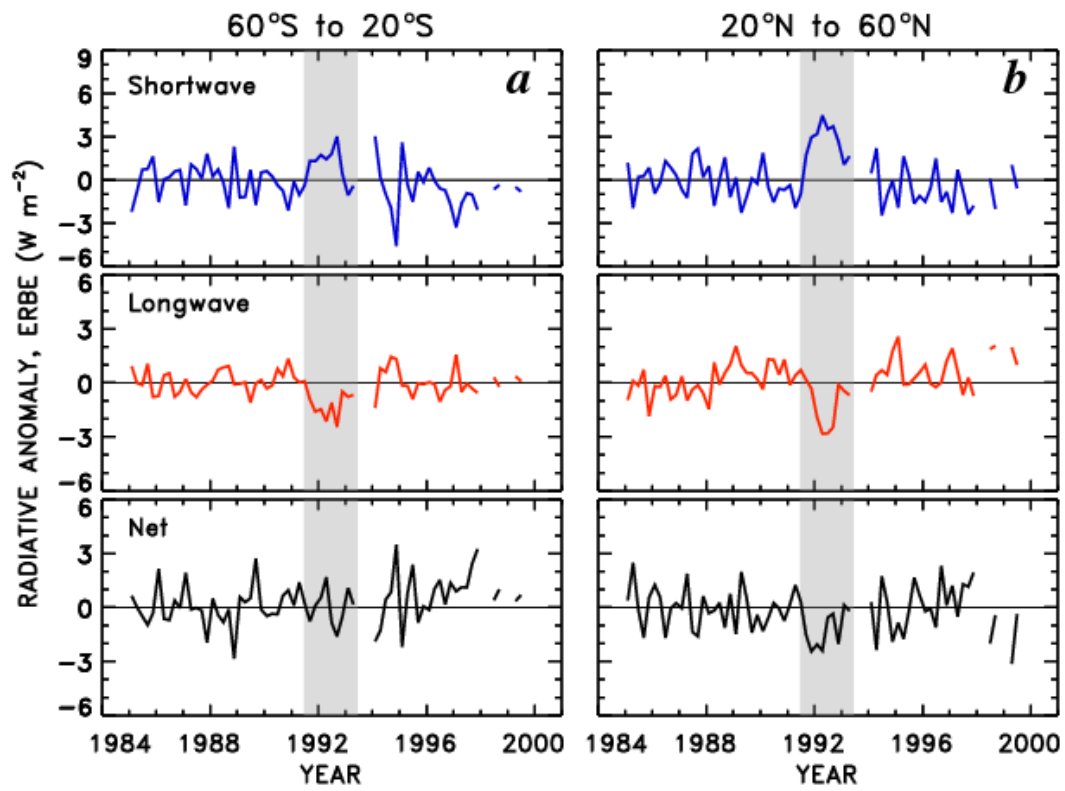
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2 **Fig. S6.** Same as Fig. 8 except $AMO_{Had3\ LIN}$ is used, rather than $AMO_{Had3\ AF}$.

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 2 **Fig. S7.** Same as Fig. 13 except for the 60°S to 20°S and the 20°N to 60°N latitude regions.
 3 Analysis based on raw data provided as 72-day means.
 4