

## ***Interactive comment on “Extended observations of volcanic SO<sub>2</sub> and sulfate aerosol in the stratosphere” by S. A. Carn et al.***

**S. A. Carn et al.**

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1. We agree with the referee that the VEI is not a useful indicator of SO<sub>2</sub> emissions from volcanic eruptions. However, we do not use the VEI in this manner in the paper. The point we wish to make is that SO<sub>2</sub> emissions from intermediate-scale eruptions have been poorly quantified by previous satellite remote sensing methods (regardless of whether stratospheric injection occurs), and in the absence of a better definition of ‘intermediate-scale eruptions’ we use the VEI as it is widely used in the volcanological community. That said, we also admit that the discussion of the VEI in the paper is misleading and requires amendment (this was also pointed out by referee 1). This section will be clarified in accordance with the comments of both referees.

2. We agree with the reviewer on this point and will remove the mention of geoengineering and the Wigley (2006) reference from the conclusion.

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3. Referee 1 also requested modification of this statement in the abstract. We will reword it according to the comments of both referees.

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Interactive comment on Atmos. Chem. Phys. Discuss., 7, 2857, 2007.

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