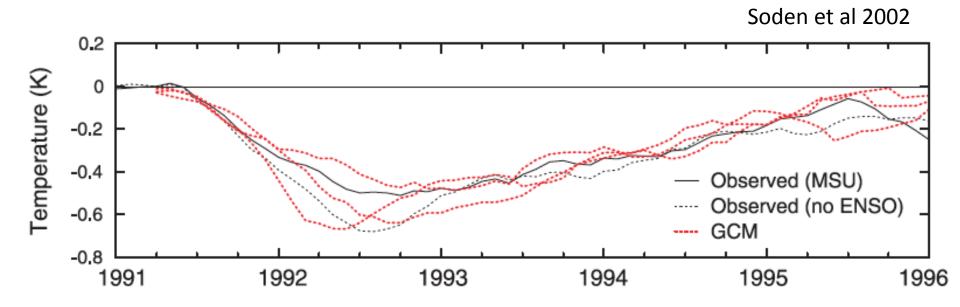
# Tropospheric Volcanic Emissions and Climate

A. Gettelman (NCAR), A. Schmidt (U Leeds),
 J. E. Kristjánsson (U Oslo), J. Haywood, B.
 Johnson (MetOffice), Jeff Stith (NCAR)

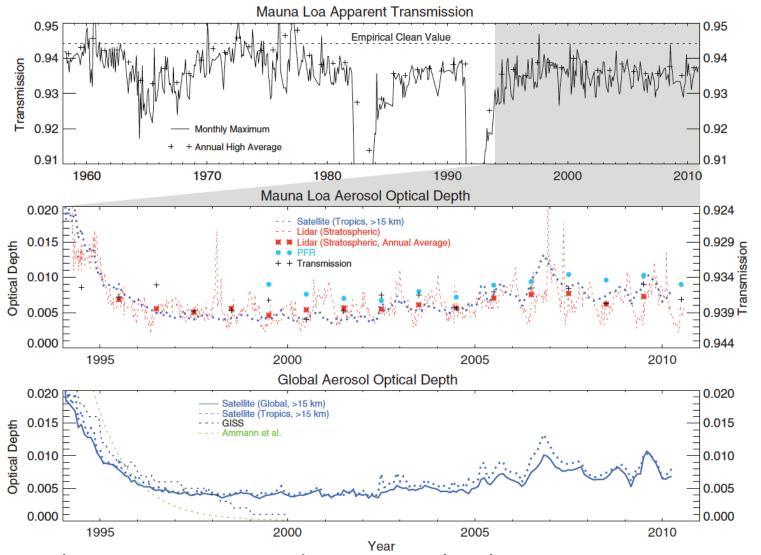
#### **Tropospheric Volcanic Emissions**

• SO<sub>2</sub> in the stratosphere= aerosols & cooling E.g.: Mt. Pinatubo



What about in the troposphere?
 Direct effects small: rapid scavenging

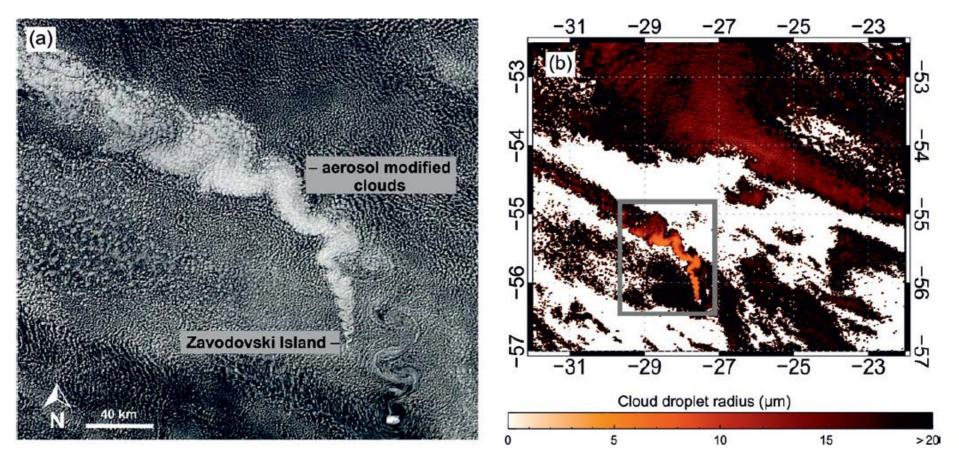
#### **Recent Effects of Small Volcanoes**



Solomon et al 2011, Science: Not just large magnitude volcanoes. But still focused on the stratosphere.

#### S. Ocean Clouds: 'Volcano Tracks'

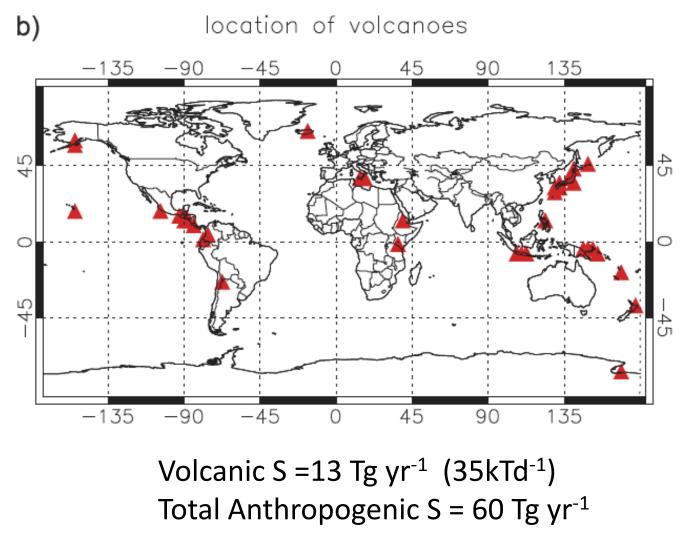
Cloud brightening due to volcanic aerosols (SO<sub>2</sub>  $\rightarrow$  H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>) in the troposphere



S. Sandwich Islands (Between S. America & Antarctica)

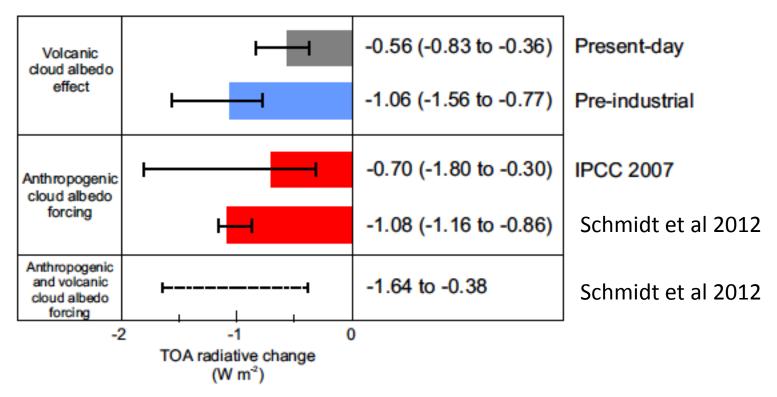
Schmidt et al 2012

#### **Global Impacts**



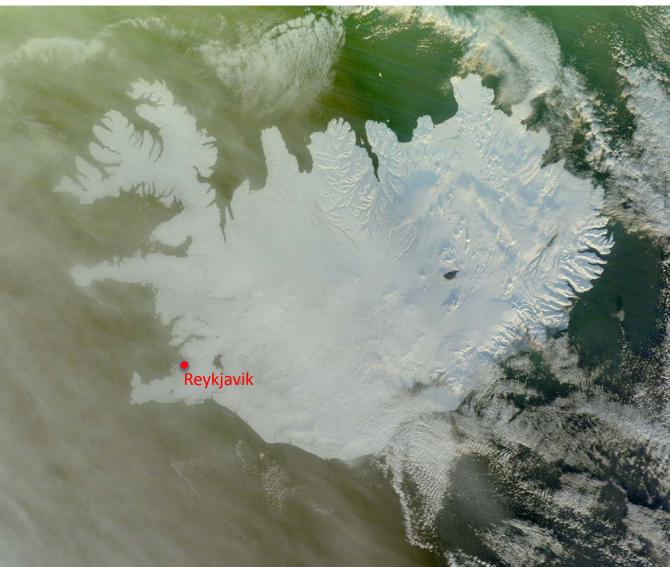
Schmidt et al 2012

## **Radiative Effect**



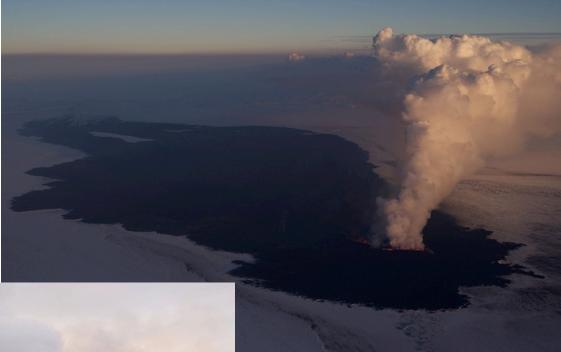
- Detailed Aerosol Model (GLOMAP)
- No cloud microphysics
  - assumed CCN, CDNC, Albedo
- Volcanic impact is half of anthropogenic S impact

#### Bardarbunga Volcano: Holuhraun Eruption 29 Aug 2014–28 Feb 2015



Lava Field January 2015

#### Photos



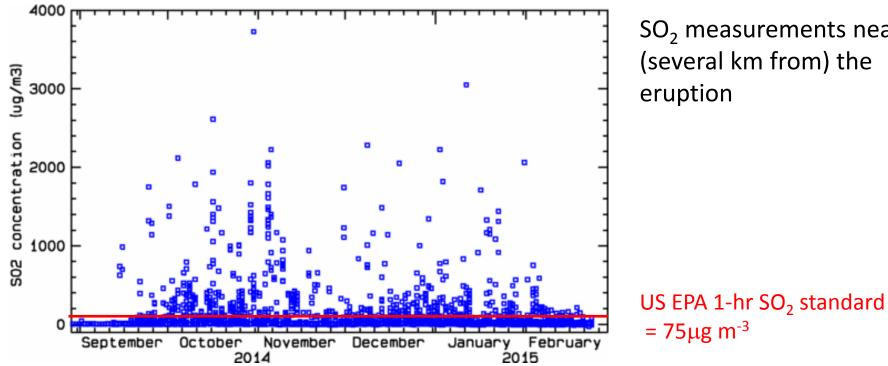
24 Oct



5 Sep

#### Impact

- Unpopulated Region of Iceland
- No Flooding
- No Emissions/Ash into Stratosphere
- But: LOTS of SO<sub>2</sub>



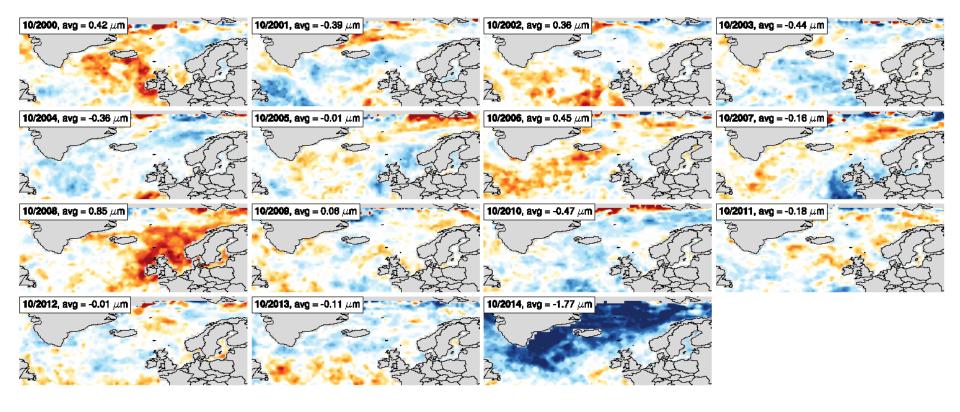
SO<sub>2</sub> measurements near (several km from) the eruption

# How much SO<sub>2</sub>?

- Estimate over 10 Tg in 6 months
- Total Annual Anthropogenic = 60-80 Tg yr<sup>-1</sup>
  - Peak emissions 120KT day<sup>-1</sup> (35KT d<sup>-1</sup> average over 3 months)
  - Estimated daily EU emissions of SO<sub>2</sub>=10KT d<sup>-1</sup>
- Sufficient to create local adverse health impacts
  What does 35KT d<sup>-1</sup> SO<sub>2</sub> do to the N. Atlantic?
- Oxidizes to H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>: forms aerosols
- Results: Increased AOD
  - Indirect Aerosol Cooling on low clouds
- Demonstrate this in Models
  - Idealized: NCAR-CESM
  - Assimilated: MetOffice HadGEM3 v. Observations

#### Holuhraun Impact on Clouds

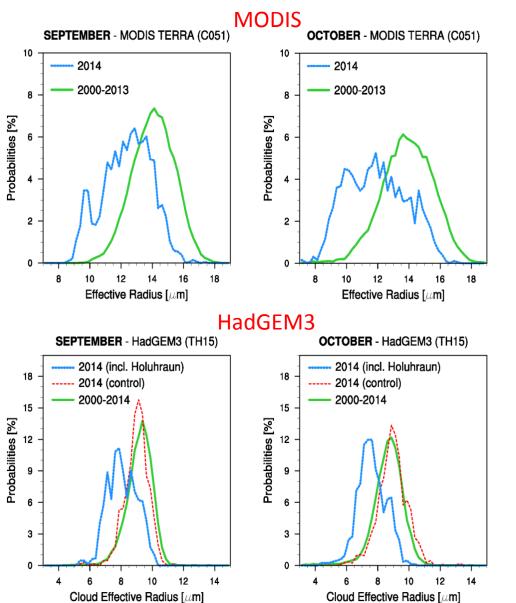
15 Octobers: N. Atlantic MODIS Cloud Effective Radius (r<sub>eff</sub>) anomalies Which of these is not like the others?



Liquid Cloud Effective Radius Anomalies,  $\Delta R_{eff}$  [ $\mu m$ ] -3.5 -1.5 -0.5 0.5 2.5 3.5 -3 -2.5 -2 -1 15 2 3 0 Haywood et al, Pers. Comm. Also see Ben Johnson Poster

#### See Ben Johnson Poster....

#### HadGEM3: Microphysics

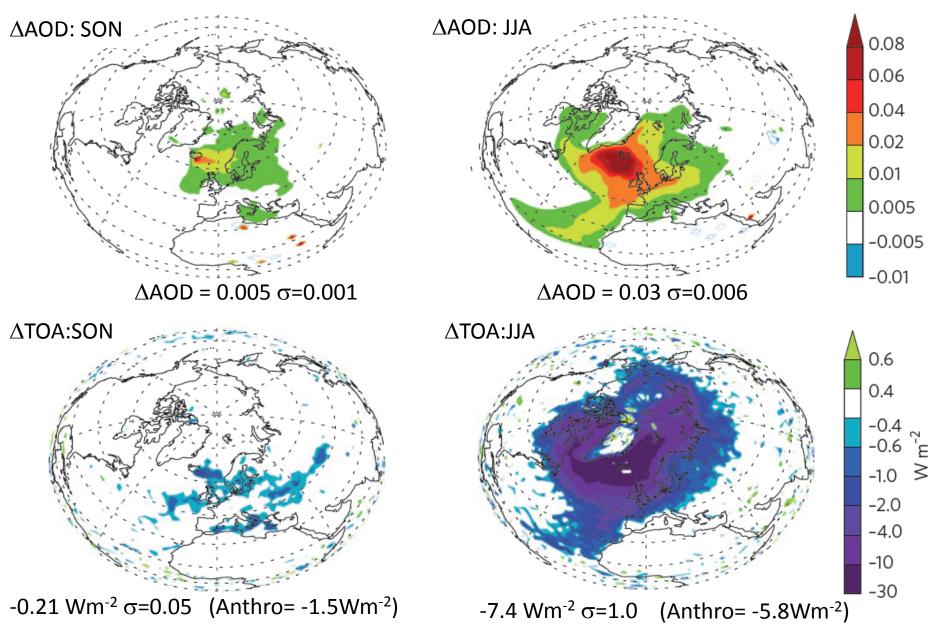


Probability density functions of monthly mean effective radius (r<sub>eff</sub>) in the N. Atlantic region: Get smaller drops only with 2014 Holuhraun emissions. Control matches 2000-2013 average

Significant Change in Cloud Microphysics

#### **CESM-Radiative Effects**

Gettelman et al 2015, Nat. Geosci.



# Summary

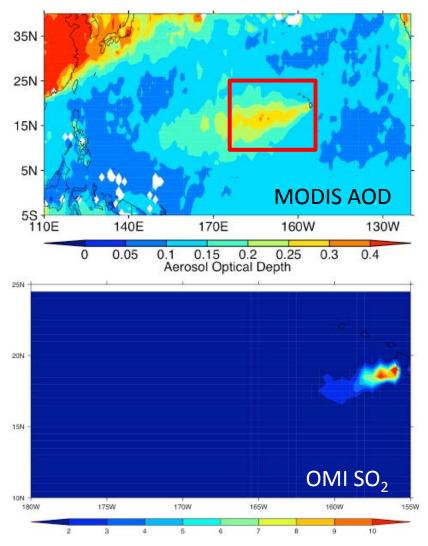
- Effusive volcanic eruptions (in the troposphere) may have significant climate effects
- Significant impact of large Effusive Eruptions
  - Regional, lasts weeks
  - 'Moderate' eruptions = -7 Wm<sup>-2</sup> cooling
  - Stopped before summer, only fall
- Historical Impact: Laki 1783-1784
  - Bigger than this, may have created 'acid fogs' and heat waves in N. Europe (See poster on Laki)
- Laboratory for measuring Aerosol-Cloud Interactions...

## Ideas for Model Experiments

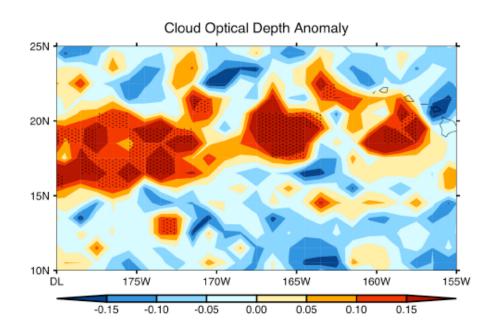
- Kilauea Sampling and Model inter-comparison
- Multi-Model Experiments with Holuhraun emissions

#### Effects of Mt. Kilauea (2008)

JJA 2008



 2008 Kilauea Eruption increased Cloud OD in Pacific



Yuan et al, 2011, ACP, Fig 1

# Kilauea as an SO<sub>2</sub> Laboratory

- Background Kilauea SO<sub>2</sub> emissions ~2-7kT/day =10-20% of European emissions, or =Illinois
  - Isolated emissions (no other major SO<sub>2</sub> source)
- Eruption continuous since 1983
  - Several groups working on MODIS observations
- Preliminary simulations indicate detectable effects in models
- Exploring In-situ & Satellite sampling for model intercomparison
  - Working on a proposal now, experiment 2-3 years out
  - Determine microphysical sensitivities in-situ, model observations. Reduce uncertainty in indirect effects.
- Goal: provide a data set for models
  - Contact me if interested

## Holurahun Model Comparison

- Specify model simulations
  - Weekly emissions from Thordarson & Hartley 2015
  - Assume a fixed emission height & SO<sub>4</sub> fraction
- What do models say for r<sub>eff</sub> v. MODIS?
  - Good for an intercomparison
  - Met Office (Haywood) working on UM paper
  - Follow on with multiple models?

## Conclusions

- Tropospheric volcanic emissions can have regional climate effects
- Large eruptions (e.g.: Iceland) can be significant for regional climate now and in the past
- Recent (Holurahun) and Ongoing (Kilauea) emissions are a natural laboratory for testing Aerosol and Cloud Microphysical effects in models.
  - Good opportunities for inter-comparisons