

# CLDERA: Developing a Novel Foundational Approach for Attributing Localized Source Forcings in the Climate

**Principal Investigators:** Diana Bull, Kara Peterson

**Thrust Leads:** Irina Tezaur, Lyndsay Shand, Laura Swiler

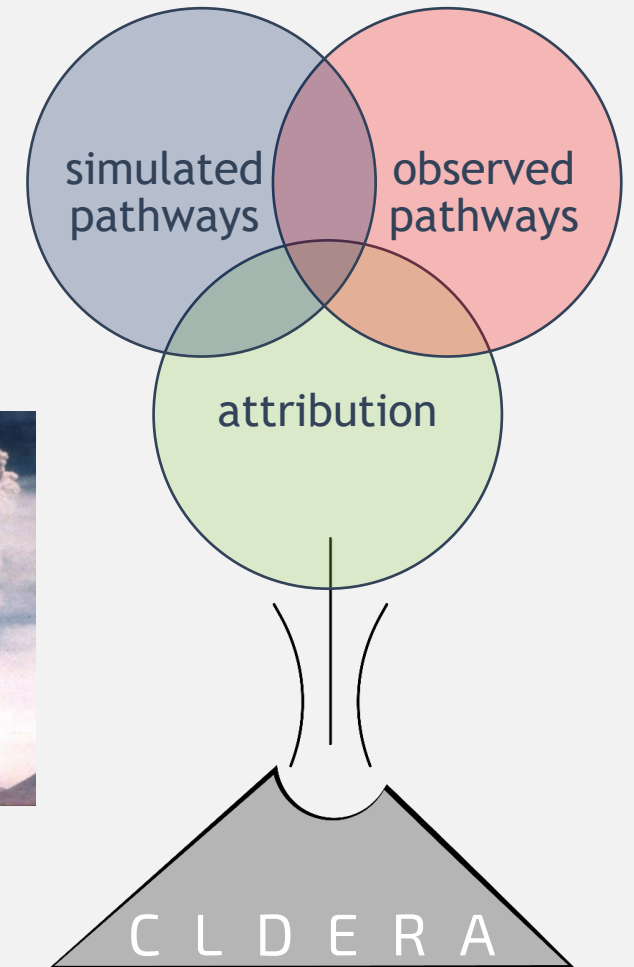
Sandia National Laboratories

22<sup>nd</sup> IACM Computational Fluids Conference (CFC) 2023

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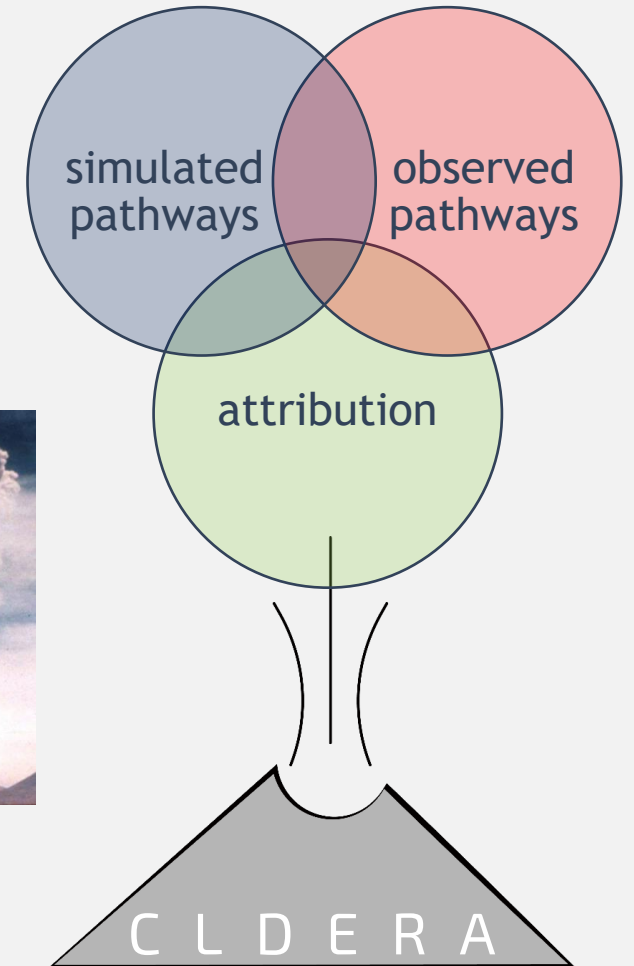
# Outline

- Background
  - Motivation
  - The CLDERA Project
  - Driving Exemplar: Mt. Pinatubo & Stratospheric Aerosol Injection (SAI)
- CLDERA Research Composition
  - Simulations
  - Simulated Pathways Thrust
  - Observed Pathways Thrust
  - Attribution Thrust
- Verification & Validation
- Summary



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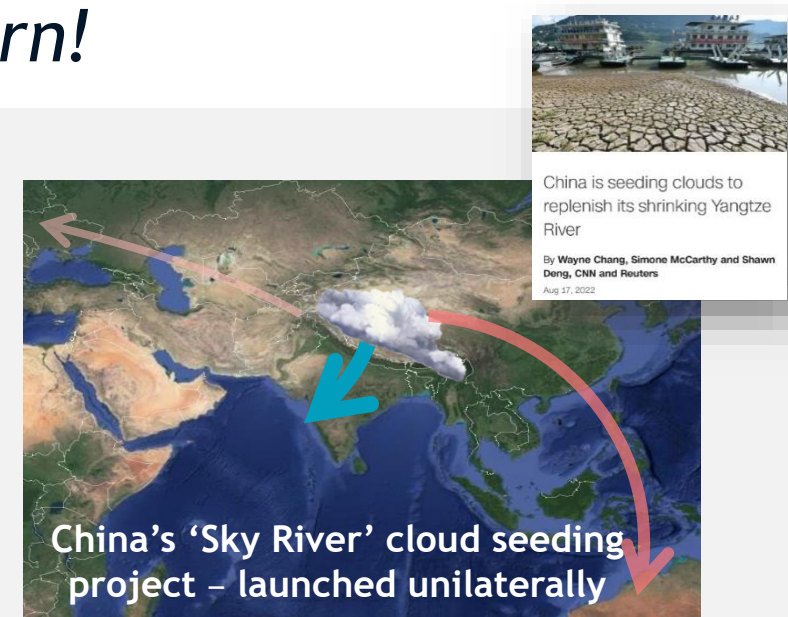
# Motivation

## *Climate Change is a Growing Global Security Concern!*

- Governments are interested in **climate risk assessments** toward informing **decision making** (policies, treaties, security posture, etc.)  
⇒ requires identifying **impacts** from climate change **sources**:
  - Anthropogenic climate change (natural or human-caused)
  - Climate interventions (a.k.a., geoengineering\*)

Currently, **confident scientific attribution** of a source (e.g., Sky River) to a physical impact (e.g., regional drought over Southeast Asia) is at **best onerous** and at **worst impossible!**

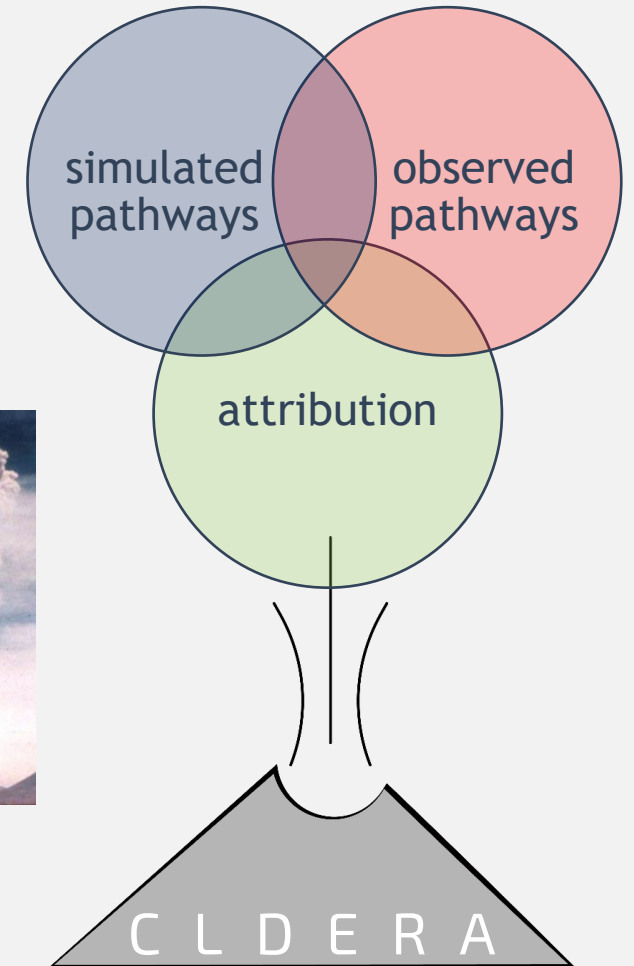
- **Challenges in tackling climate attribution problem:**
  - High **internal variability** in the Earth system
  - **Complex coupling** of processes in Earth System Models (ESMs), which obscures the connective relationships between sources and impacts
  - **Limited ESM ensembles**
  - Historically limited **observational data**
  - **Multiple sources** contributing to an impact



\* Deliberate manipulation of the Earth system to try to counteract effects of climate change.

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# The CLDERA Grand Challenge LDRD Project

## *A Novel Foundational Approach to Understanding the Causation of Impacts*



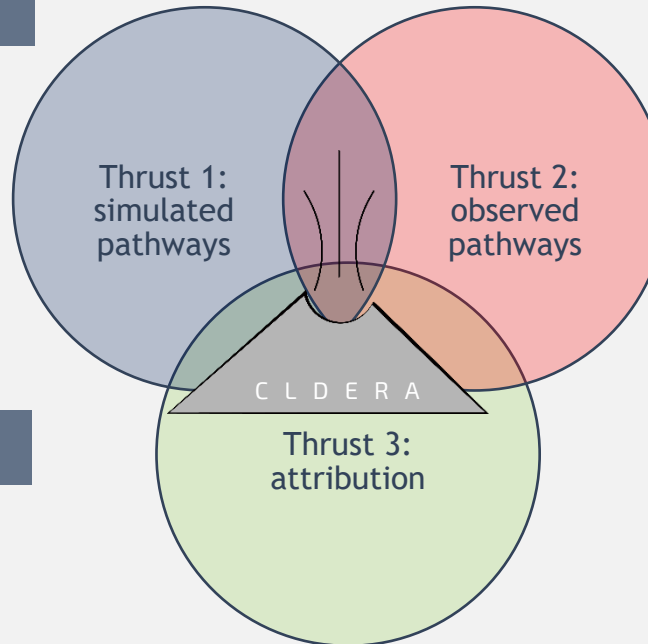
**CLDERA:** CLimate impact – Determining Etiology thRough pAthways

### Need

Determine how a **geographically** and **temporally localized source** drives the climate system to respond with particular **impacts** to enable **downstream impact attribution**.

### Technical Approach

- Build upon **key strengths of Sandia** (modeling & simulation, detection & attribution, data science)
- Develop novel methods and tools in **three cross-validating thrusts**
- Use the 1991 eruption of **Mt. Pinatubo** as exemplar



**Duration:** FY22-FY24  
**Budget:** \$5M-\$6M/year  
**Staffing:** ~45 Sandians,  
4 Academic Partners

### Hypothesis

Tracing **pathways** between **source** and **impacts** will **increase certainty** of **attribution** and deepen understanding of dependent causal-like relationships.

*Pathways represent the **spatio-temporally evolving chain of physical processes** that connects a source to impacts.*

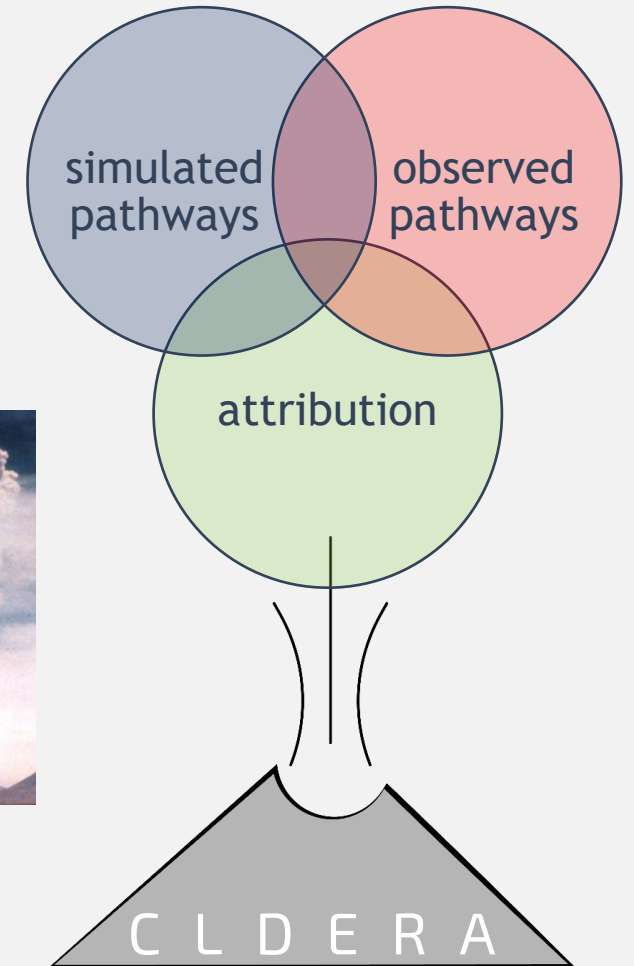
### Outcome

**Advance climate attribution science** by identifying impacts from localized sources.



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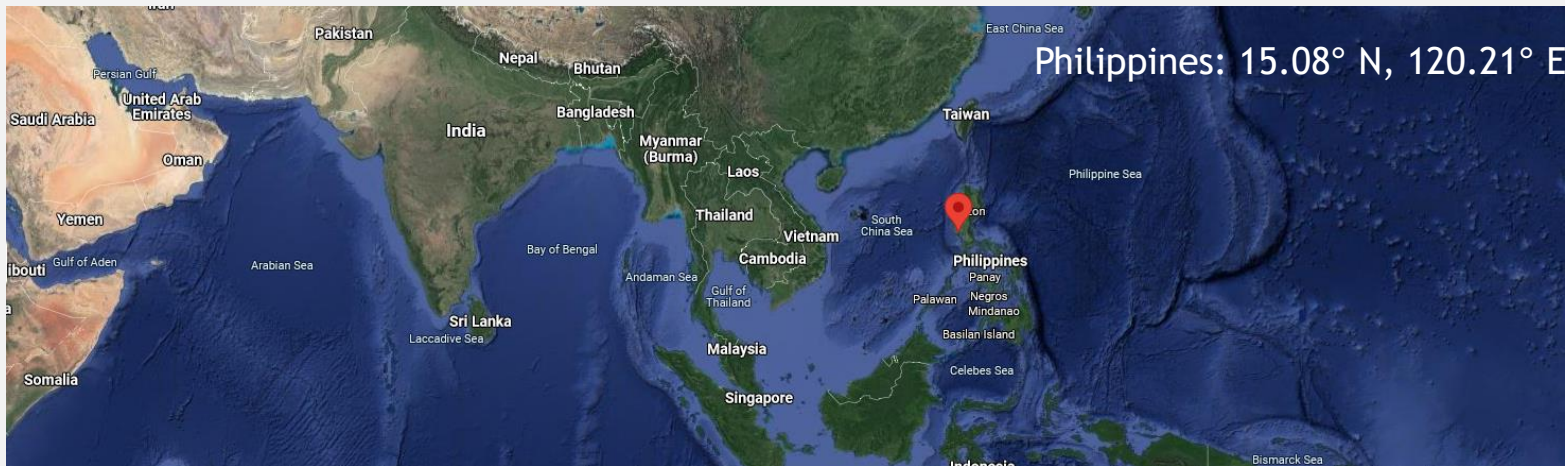




# Mt. Pinatubo Eruption

## *Stratospheric Aerosol Injection (SAI)*

CLDERA R&D is be driven using an exemplar of **Stratospheric Aerosol Injection (SAI)**: the 1991 eruption of Mt. Pinatubo.



- June 15, 1991: largest eruption of the satellite era
  - Released  $\sim 18\text{-}19$  Tg  $\text{SO}_2$  gas ( $1 \text{ Tg} = 1 \text{ Mt} = 10^{12} \text{ g}$ )
  - “Fast” reactions and ice/ash fallout reduced the “climatically-relevant”  $\text{SO}_2$  injection to 10 Tg  $\text{SO}_2$  gas.
- $\text{SO}_2$  gas released by Mt. Pinatubo converted to  $\text{SO}_4$ ,  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$ ,  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  and aerosols via oxidation, nucleation and chemical reactions



Mt. Pinatubo before eruption



Large Eruption (June 12, 1991)



Main Eruption (June 15, 1991)



# Mt. Pinatubo Eruption

## Stratospheric Aerosol Injection (SAI)

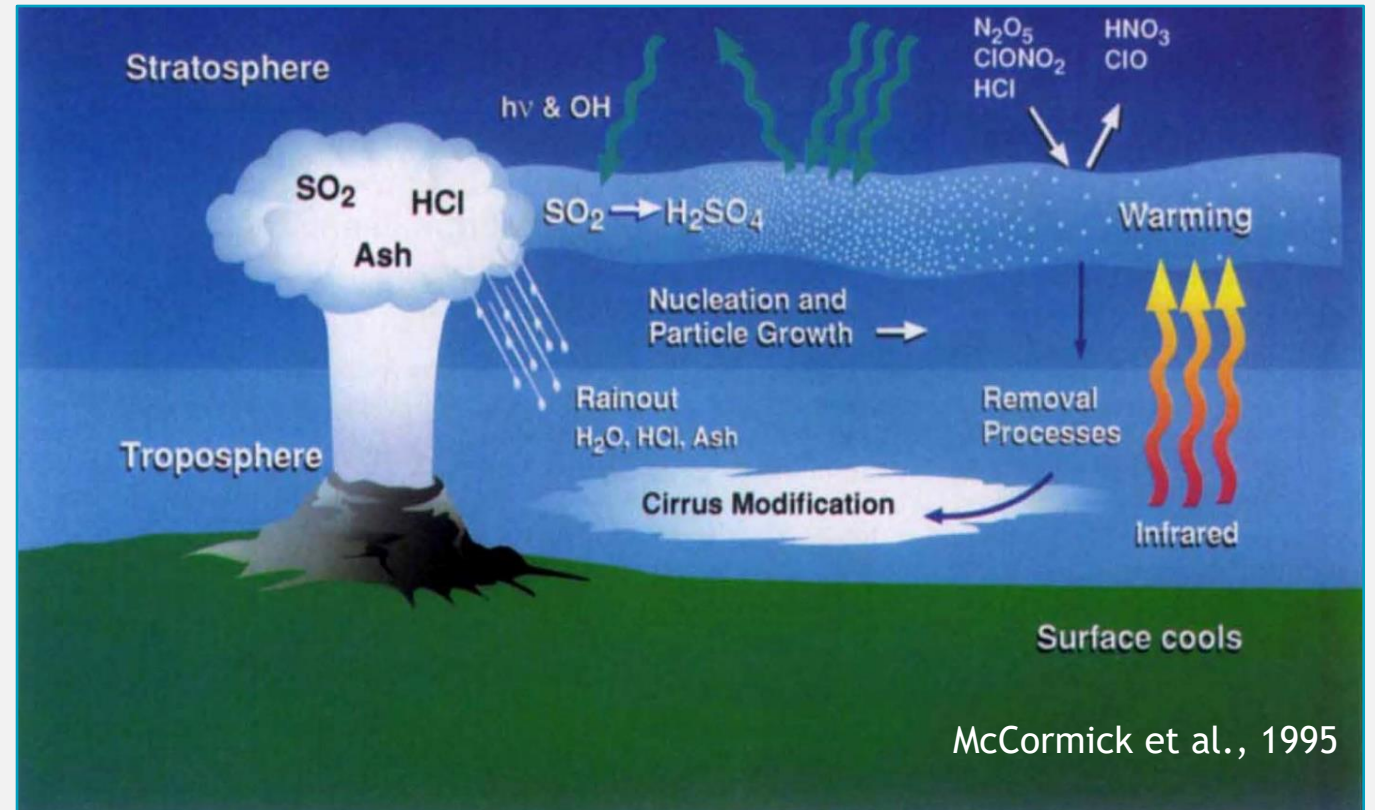
### Effects of sulfate aerosols:

- Scatter incoming solar (long-wave) radiation: increases planetary albedo, cools the climate system (less energy in)
- Absorb infrared (short-wave) radiation emitted at surface: heats the stratosphere

### Net results:

- 0.4-0.6°C global cooling at Earth's surface that lasted through 1993.
- Warming of the stratosphere up to ~3°C.

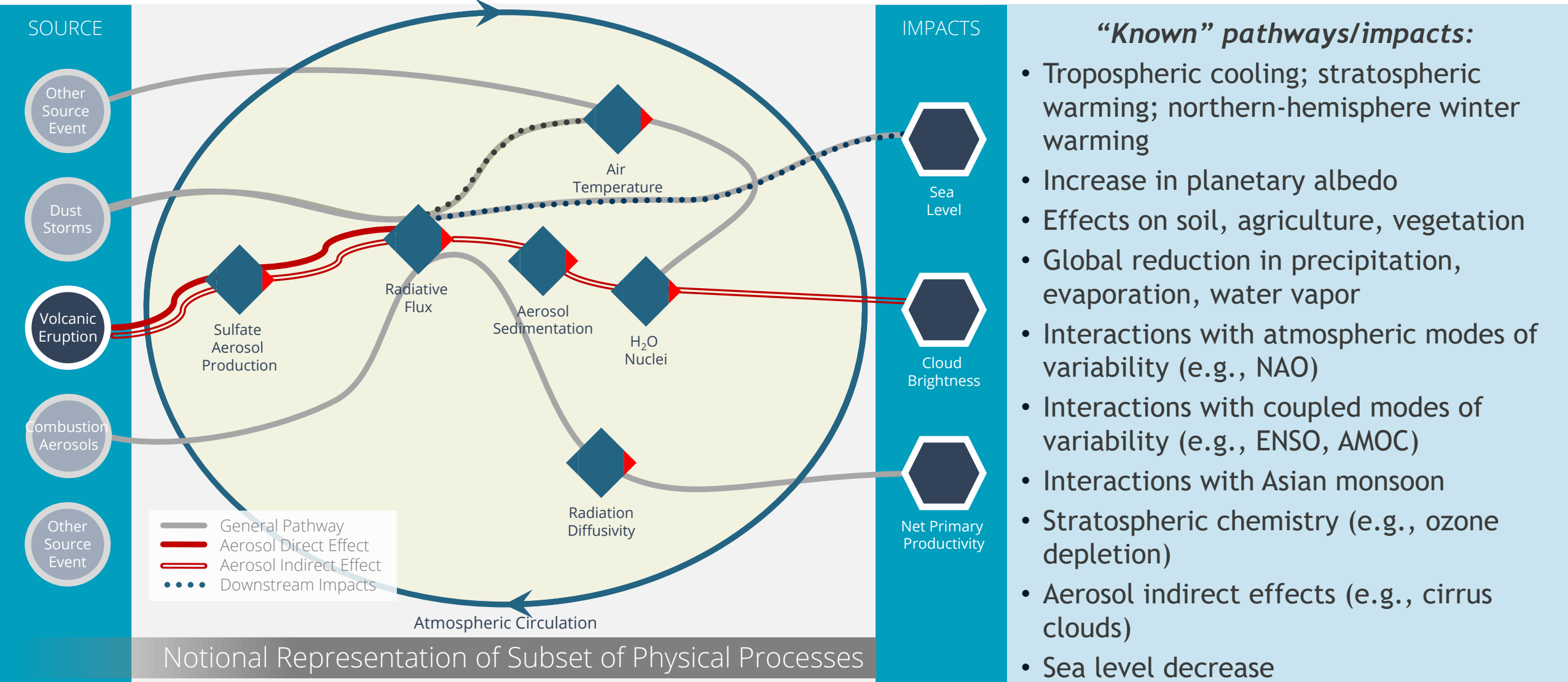
### Schematic of Immediate Effects post SAI



*Important nodes in pathway: SAI → secondary aerosols (sulfate) → radiation effects → temperature*

# Mt. Pinatubo Eruption

## *Impact Space & Notional Representation of Pathways*

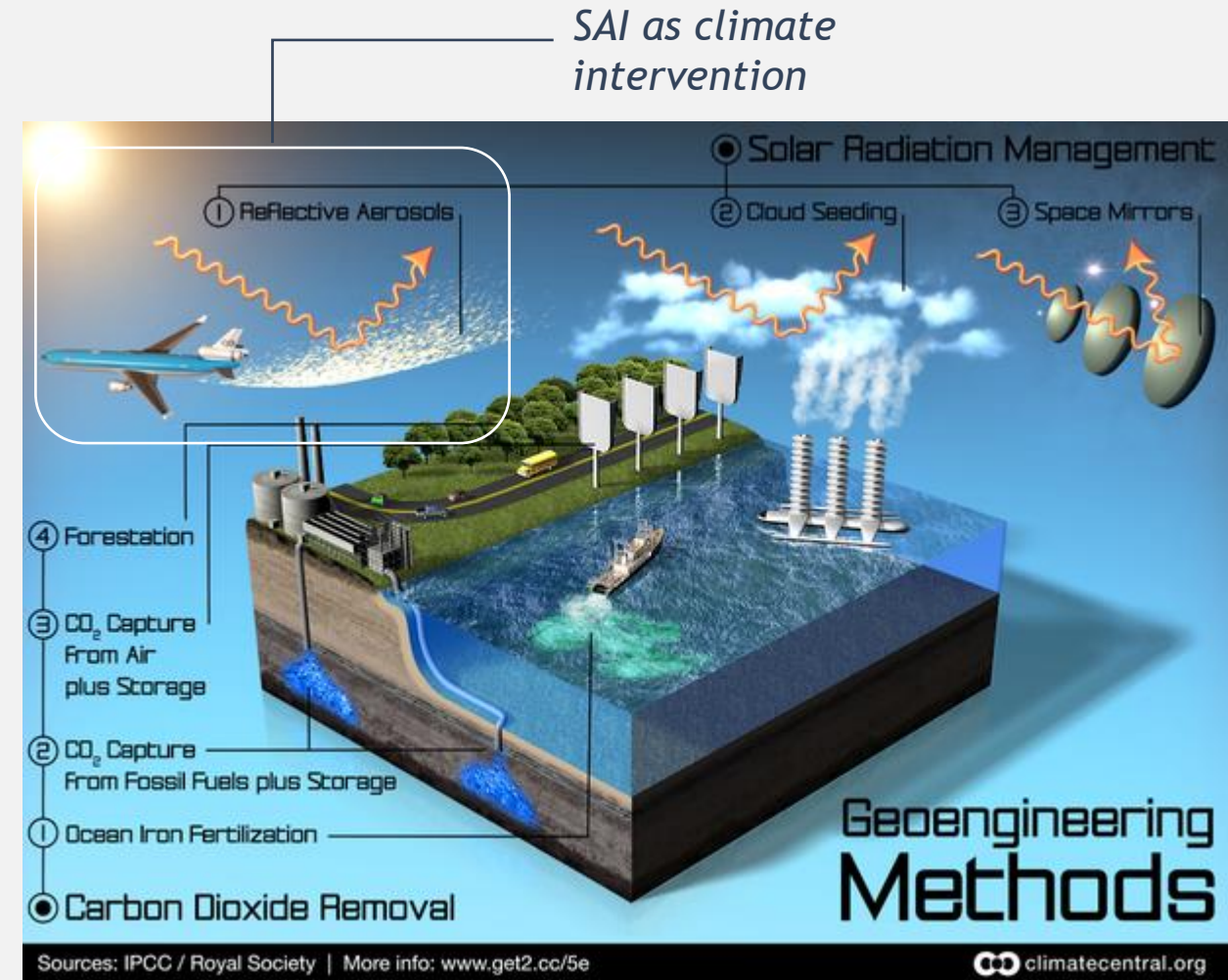


# Mt. Pinatubo Eruption

## Stratospheric Aerosol Injection (SAI)

### Exemplar Strengths:

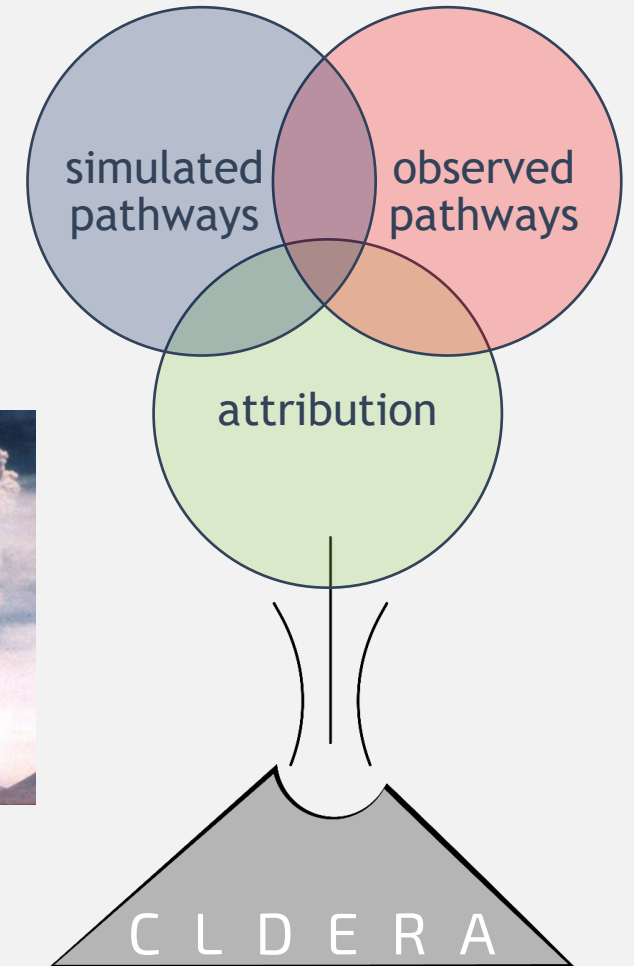
- The source is **external** to climate feedbacks
- Its impacts are **large enough** to rise above internal variability of climate system
- It provides ample **observational data** demonstrating the event's direct and indirect effects for **validation** of pathways
- It possesses a **climate intervention** analog (1 Tg SO<sub>2</sub>/yr may produce ~0.1°C cooling)





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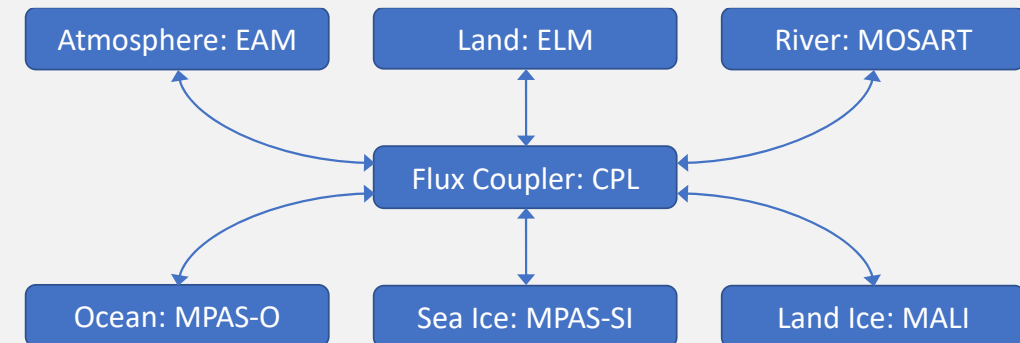


# Energy Exascale Earth System Model (E3SM)\* *For Simulating Mt. Pinatubo & SAI*



*Simulation Lead:*  
Kara Peterson

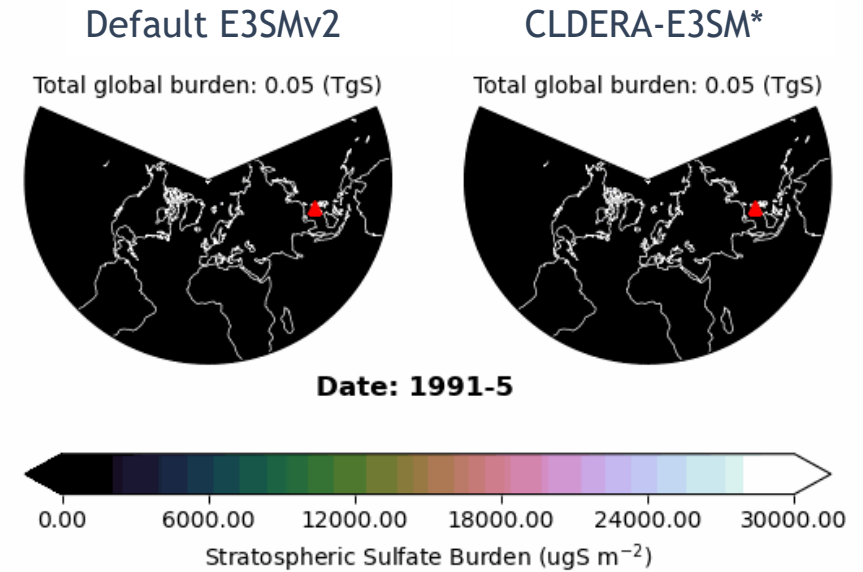
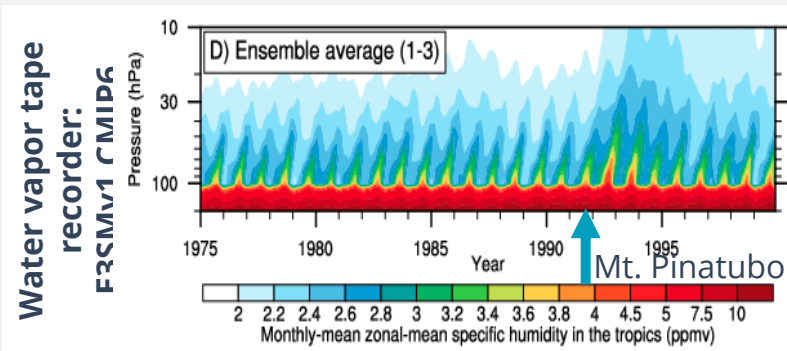
- **E3SM:** U.S. DOE-funded Earth system model
- Collaboration among **8 national labs** and **12 academic institutions**
- Designed to run on DOE's **advanced computing platforms** and address **energy-relevant science questions**
- CLDERA uses E3SM version 2 (v2), obtained in late 2021 through **collaboration agreement** with the E3SM project
- **Capabilities** to model Mt. Pinatubo eruption and impacts
  - **Resolves stratosphere:** 72 vertical levels with 0.1 hPa (64 km) model top
  - Includes **key process models** for clouds, ozone and aerosols [Golaz et al., 2019]
- **Key limitation before CLDERA:** no prognostic volcanic aerosols in E3SM (radiative forcing due to aerosols from volcanic eruptions was prescribed)



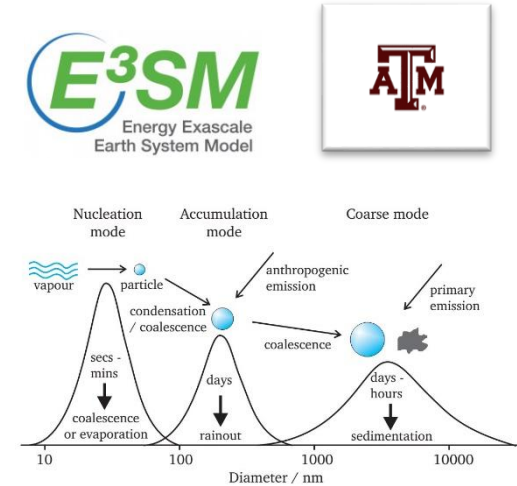
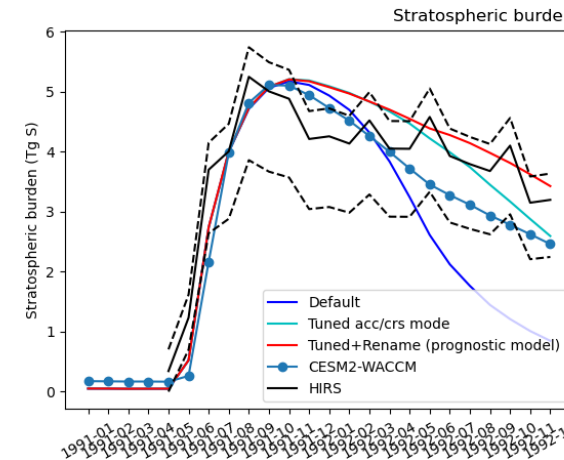
\* [www.e3sm.org](http://www.e3sm.org), <https://github.com/E3SM-Project/E3SM>

# Simulating Mt. Pinatubo in E3SM

- Implemented **prognostic volcanic aerosols** in E3SMv2 MAM4 aerosol model
  - **Changed aerosol coarse and accumulation mode properties** to match stratospheric size distributions
  - **Validated** against High resolution Infrared Radiation Sounder (HIRS) data and CESM2/WACCM
- Evaluated E3SM simulation capabilities**
  - Assessed **Quasi-Biennial Oscillation (QBO)**: QBO in E3SMv2 has slightly short period
  - Evaluated E3SM's **Brewer-Dobson circulation** via Age-of-Air tracers and water vapor tape recorder: E3SMv2 underestimates upward transport of water



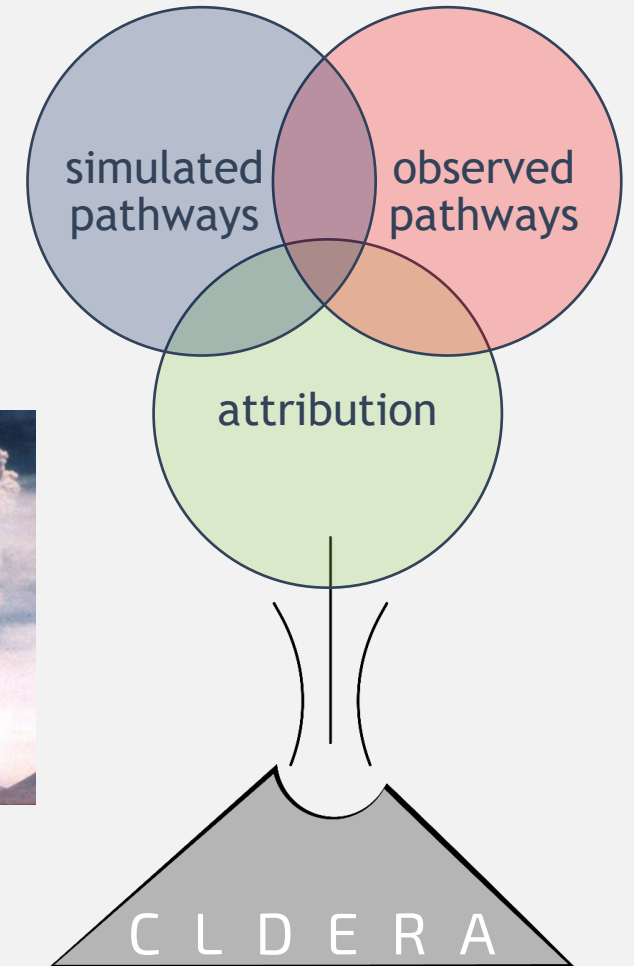
\* <https://github.com/sandialabs/CLDERA-E3SM>





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# Simulated Pathways Thrust

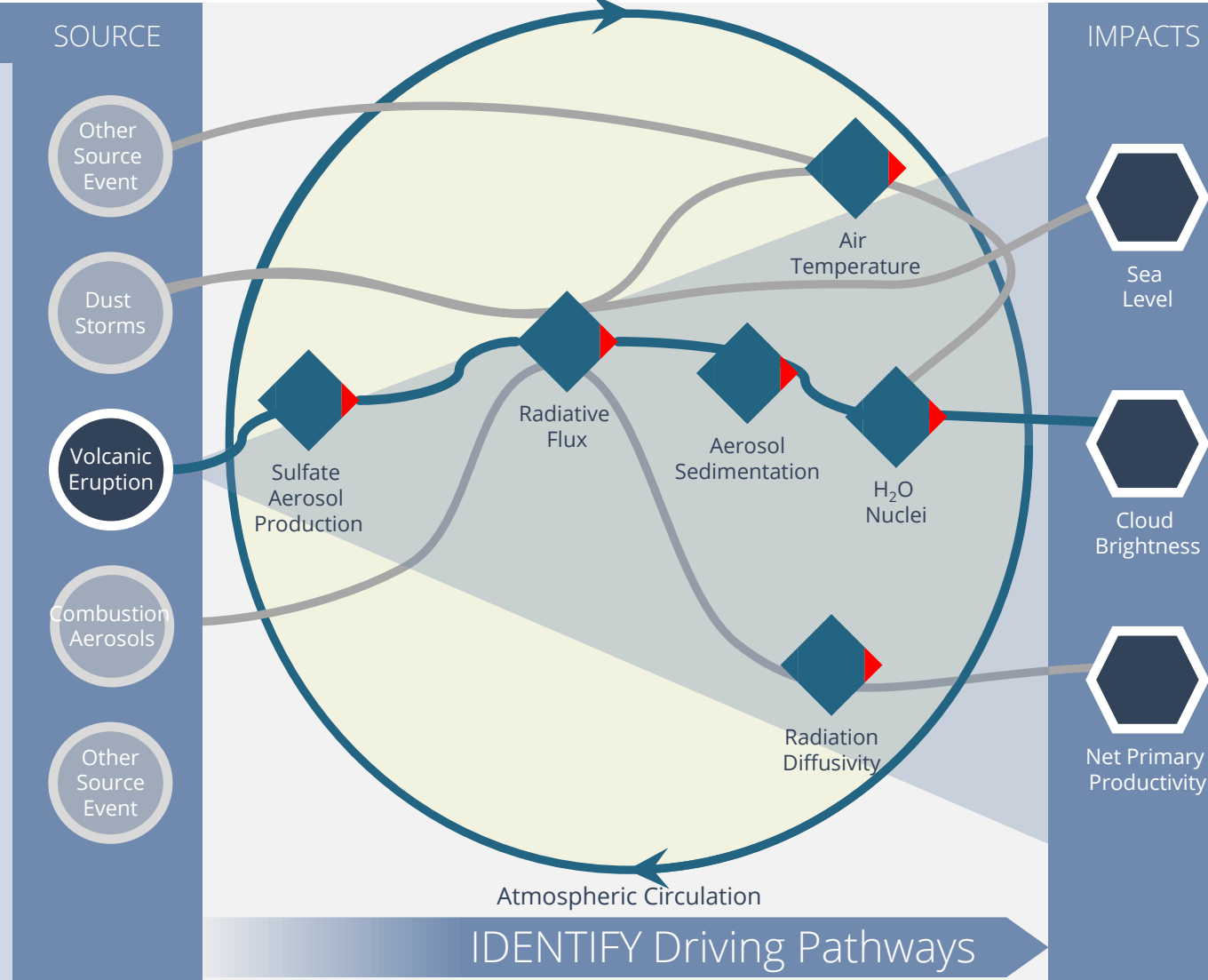
## *Finding Impacts from a Source*



**Thrust Lead:**  
Irina Tezaur

### Research Composition:

- 1. Statistical Approaches:** use and extend Random Forest Regression and sensitivity analysis to identify and rank physical pathways while establishing susceptibility to initial conditions and E3SM representations
- 2. Computational Monitoring:** instrument E3SM with tracers and profiling capabilities to enable pathway detection.
- 3. Signature-based Clustering:** find and track non-stationary variable clusters for use as features in pathways identification



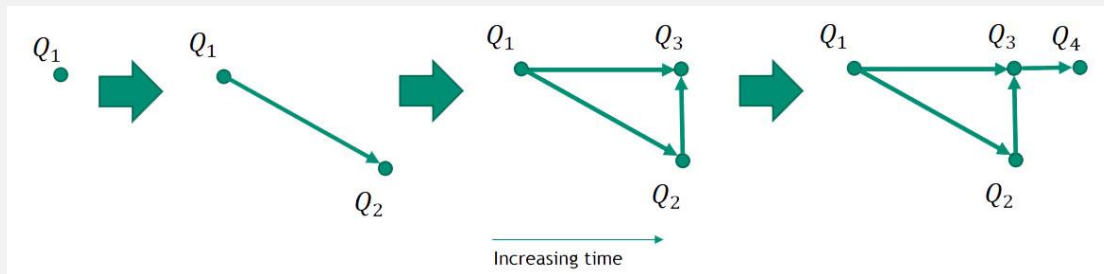
# Simulated Pathways Thrust

## *What is a Simulated Pathway?*

**Heuristic definition:** a *pathway* is the chain of physical processes from a source to impacts and their evolution in space and time.

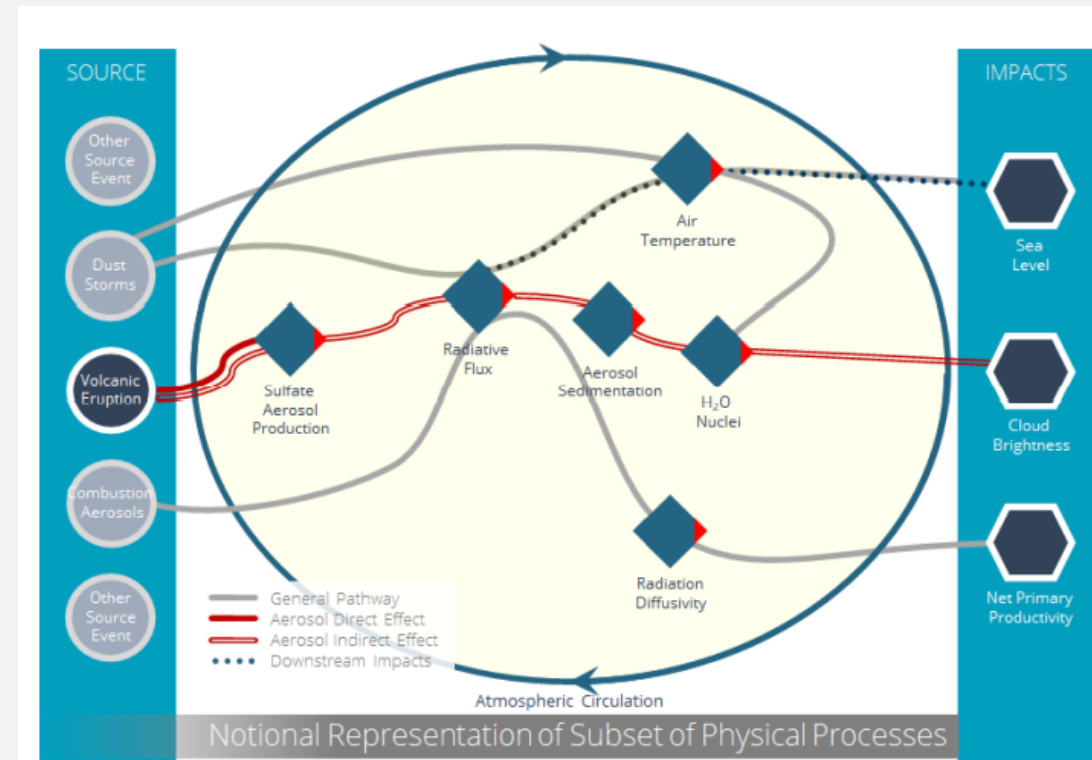
- *Example:* Mt. Pinatubo eruption → sulfate aerosol production → sedimentation → transport of aerosols into the troposphere → modification of cloud optical properties → increased cloud brightness/decreased rainfall.

**Mathematical definition:** a *pathway* is a time-dependent directed acyclic graph (DAG) representing the dynamics of a physical system.



$Q_i$  = impacts = “nodes” on pathway graph

Edge from  $Q_i$  to  $Q_j \Rightarrow Q_j$  is impacted by  $Q_i$  at time  $t$

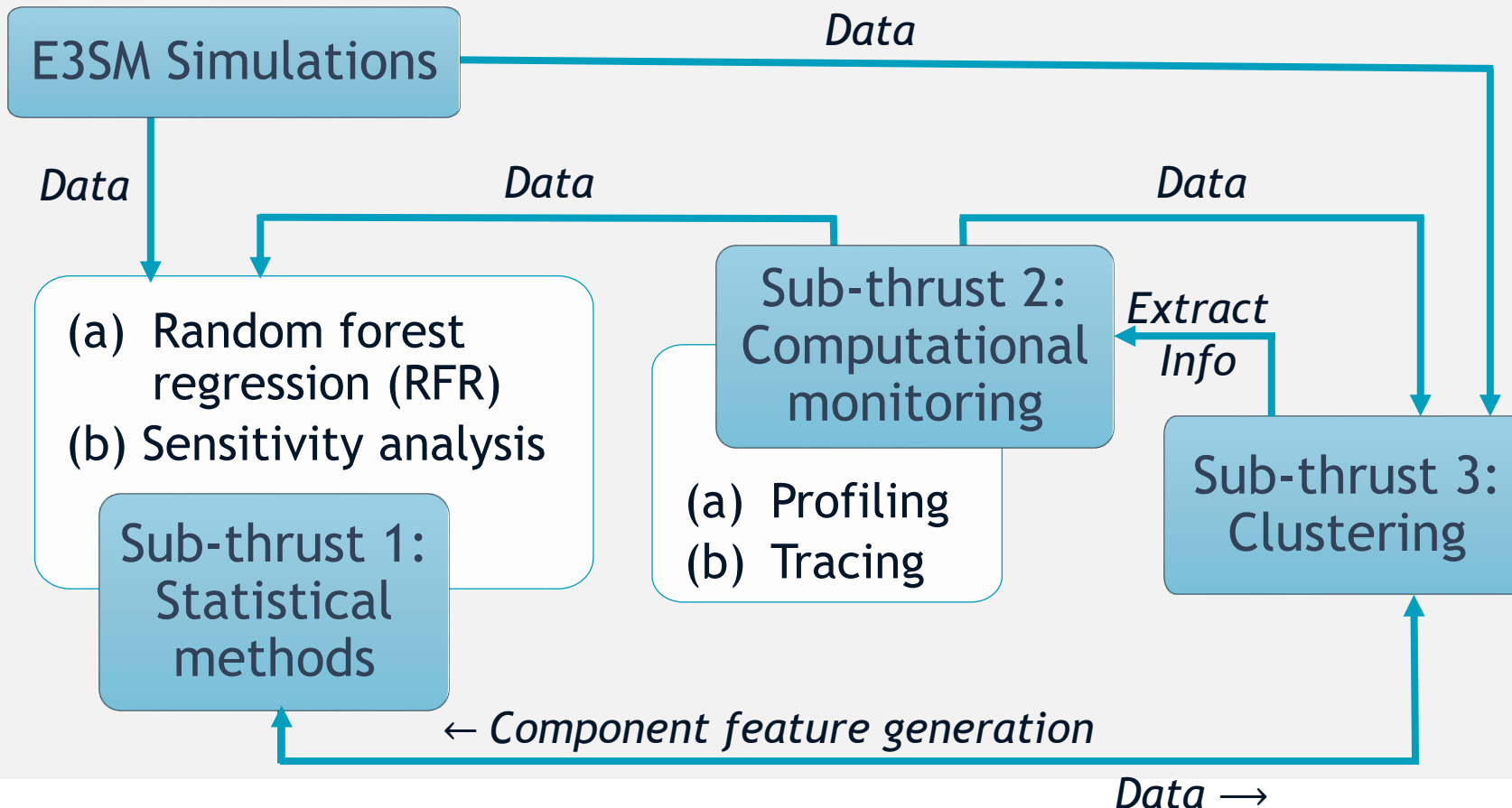




# Simulated Pathways Thrust

## Sub-thrusts

Development of the proposed framework for identifying & ranking pathways will be pursued using **three complementary research sub-thrusts** that **fuse** Sandia's strengths in **data analytics**, **computational modeling** and **E3SM/climate science**.



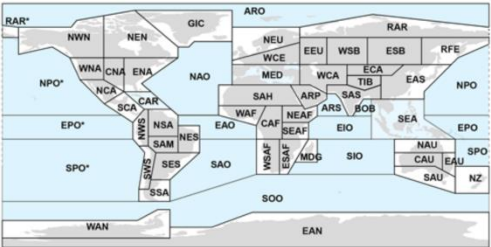
- Simulated pathways thrust will generate **simulation data** for CLDERA.
- Methods developed in one sub-thrust will **feed into** the others.
- Multiple sub-thrusts **minimize risk**.
- Identifying same pathway with different methods will provide **confidence**.

# Simulated Pathways Thrust

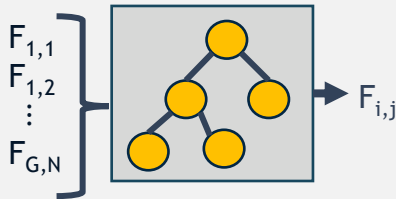
## Statistical Methods

**Random forest regression (RFR):** use feature importances from Random Forests (RFs) to identify weighted pathways from one variable to another and determine **pathways strengths**

Spatially-partitioned time series data/features



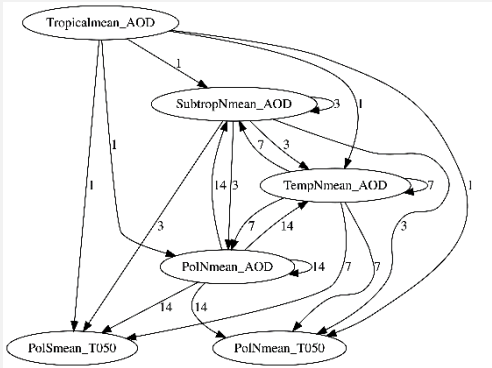
Train RF Regressors



Calculate Pairwise Feature Importances

	$F_{1,1}$	...	$F_{G,N}$
$F_{1,1}$	0.1	...	0.5
$\vdots$	...	...	...
$F_{G,N}$	0.99	...	0.1

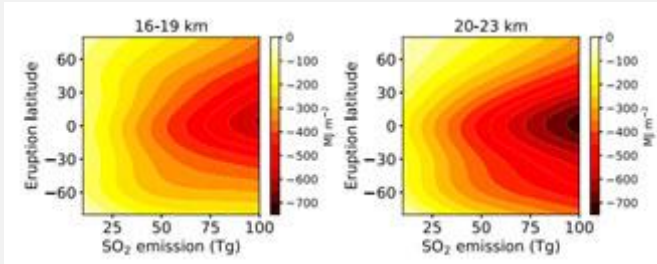
Convert to Pathway Graph



Team: M. Peterson, M. Brown, J. Nichol, W. Davis, I. Tezaur

**Sensitivity analyses (SA):** vary eruption elements, e.g., mass, time, height, location

- **Generate data** for RFR, Signature-based Clustering and Attribution thrust
- Provide **insight** into how Mt. Pinatubo could have been
- Determine **robustness of pathways** to changes in SAI-related inputs
- Answer “**how low can you go?**” question in terms of attribution



Sensitivity study perturbing various characteristics of Pinatubo-like volcanic eruption [Marshall et al. 2019]

Team: I. Tezaur, K. Peterson, H. Brown, B. Wagman

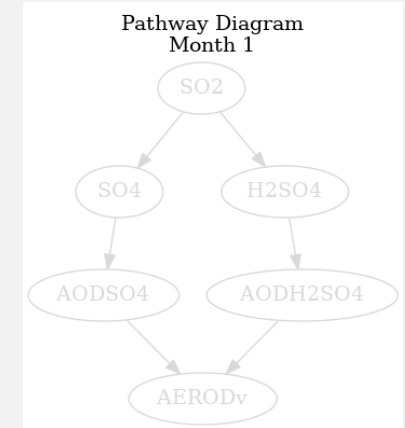
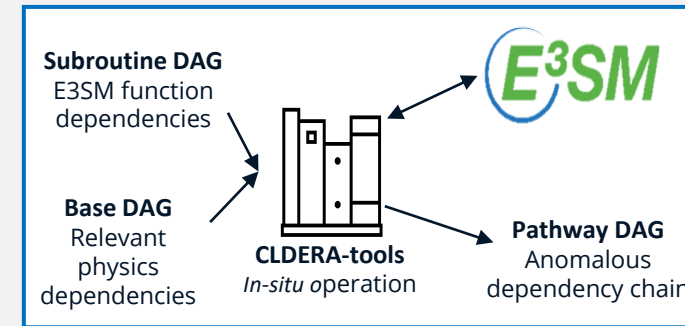
# Simulated Pathways Thrust Computational Monitoring

See talk by E. Wenzel for more on analyses using Lagrangian Coherent Structures

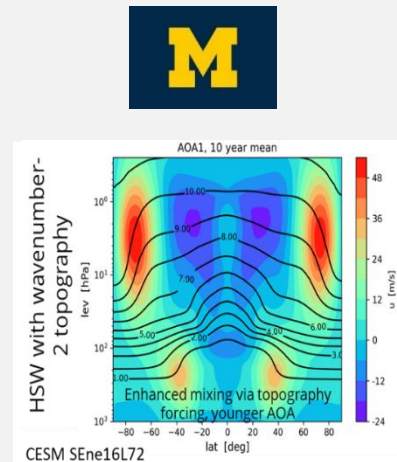
**Profiling:** finding pathways *in-situ* while running E3SM

- Instrument E3SM and develop DAGs of process interactions executed *in situ* within code
- CLDERA-tools performs statistical analysis by comparing QOIs inside code with baseline and tracking propagation of “anomalies” in real time.

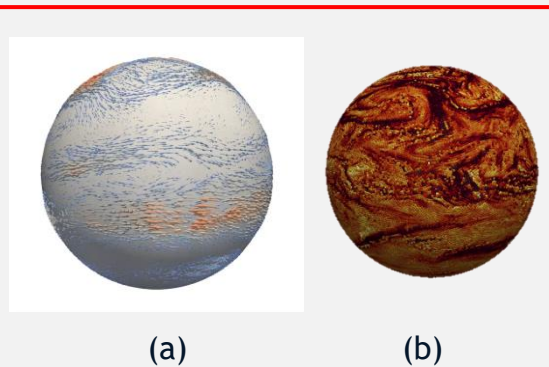
Small overhead (<1% for idealized HSW++ E3SM test)!



Team: A. Steyer, J. Watkins, L. Bertagna, G. Harper, I. Tezaur



Age-of-Air clock tracer from HSW idealized-climate test



(a) LCS traced out by velocity field in E3SM simulation. (b) Finite Time Lyapunov Exponent (FTLE) for E3SM simulation.

**Tracers:** add tracers to E3SM, use them to evaluate E3SM & explore ways to repurpose them to identify source-impact pathways

- Passive tracers:** evaluate climatological dynamics (e.g., “Age-of-Air”, Brewer-Dobson circulation) and changes to those dynamics
  - **Lagrangian coherent structures (LCS):** surfaces of trajectories that exponentially attract/repel tracers, anomalies in which may represent elements in pathway
- Active (source-tagged) tracers:** enable partitioning of impacts due to different aerosol sources, towards tracking of relative contributions along nodes in a pathway

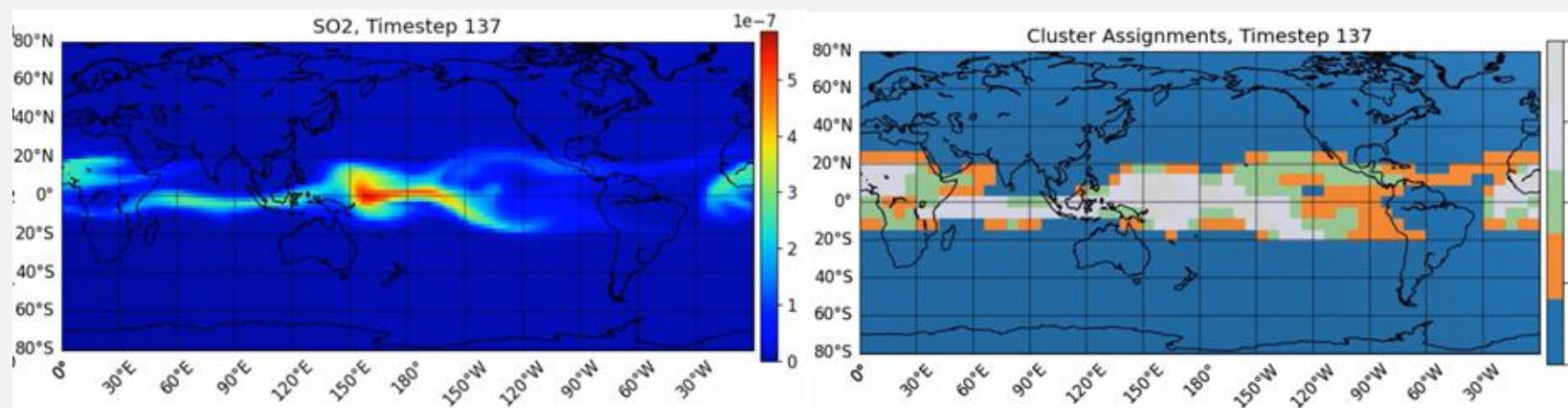
Team: B. Hillman, E. Wenzel, B. Wagman, C. Jablonowski [U Michigan], J. Hollowed [U. Michigan], I. Tezaur



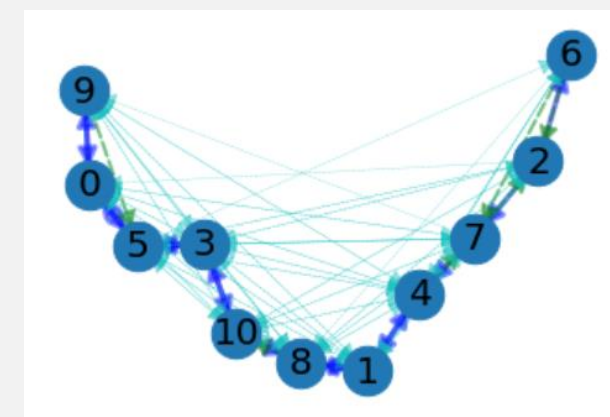
# Simulated Pathways Thrust

## *Signature-based Clustering*

- **Goal:** find & track non-stationary variable clusters for use as features in pathway identification
- **Approach:** combine existing anomaly (event) detection algorithms [Davis et al. 2021] with clustering to enable **spatio-temporal anomaly progression**, defining pathways
  - Use **signatures** (compressed representation of data) for clustering
  - Use **clusters** to inform pathway analyses



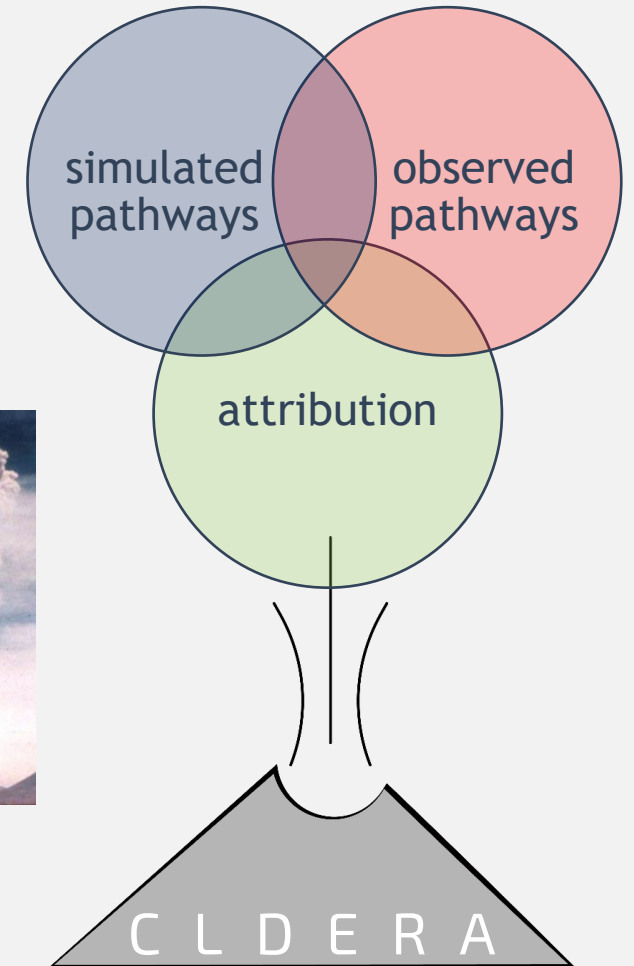
Space-time varying cluster identification in response to Mt. Pinatubo source



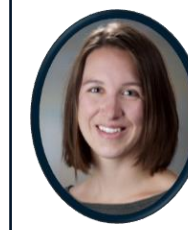
Force-directed graph of cluster transition probabilities over Mt. Pinatubo simulation

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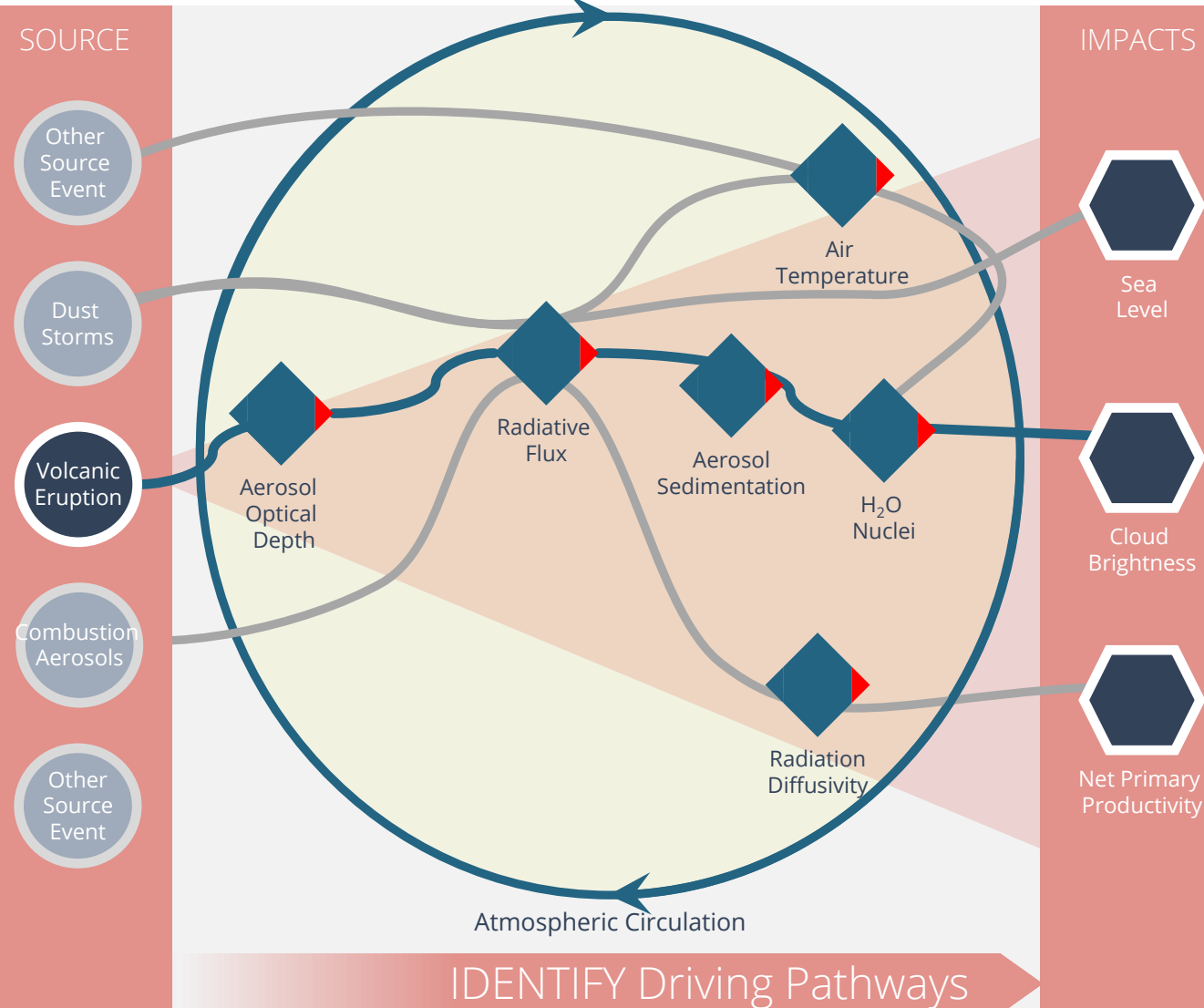
# Observed Pathways Thrust *Finding Impacts from a Source*



**Thrust Lead:**  
Lyndsay Shand

## Research Composition:

- 1. Data Fusion:** strategically source and fuse relevant data of varying resolutions and fidelities to create a “near-global” picture of the relevant processes
- 2. Changepoint Detection:** identify the underlying fundamental shifts in climate processes
- 3. Dynamic space-time models:** adapt Bayesian hierarchical approaches to incorporate multiple nodes and establish correlations between nodes
- 4. Explainable Echo State Networks (ESNs):** develop explainable and interpretable methods to quantify relationships between pathway nodes as modeled by recurrent neural networks



# Observed Pathways Thrust

## *What is an Observed Pathway?*

**Definition:** *observed pathways* are interpreted as **relationships** (or *correlations*) between **dependent climate processes** (*pathway nodes*).

**Objective:** rather than finding pathways that have not been postulated, **validate proposed pathways** and **quantify changes** in the **relationship** between pathway nodes.

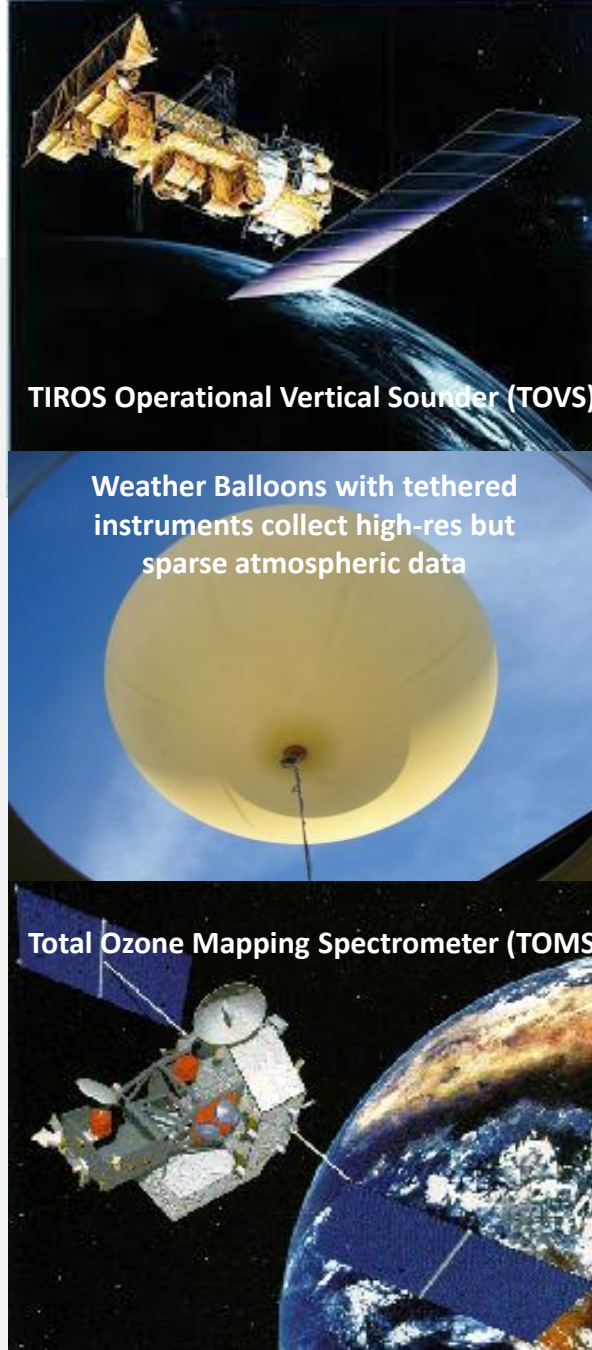
**Approach:** develop **statistical methods** that can account for the **dynamic evolution** of aerosols over space and time, **multiple complementary sources of data** and **uncertainty**.

SO<sub>2</sub>

H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>

Net Radiative  
Flux

Temperature  
Changes





# Observed Pathways Thrust

## Available Satellite Data for Mt. Pinatubo

+ *Reanalysis data, e.g., ERA-5, MERRA*  
*(observations filled in with model run data)*

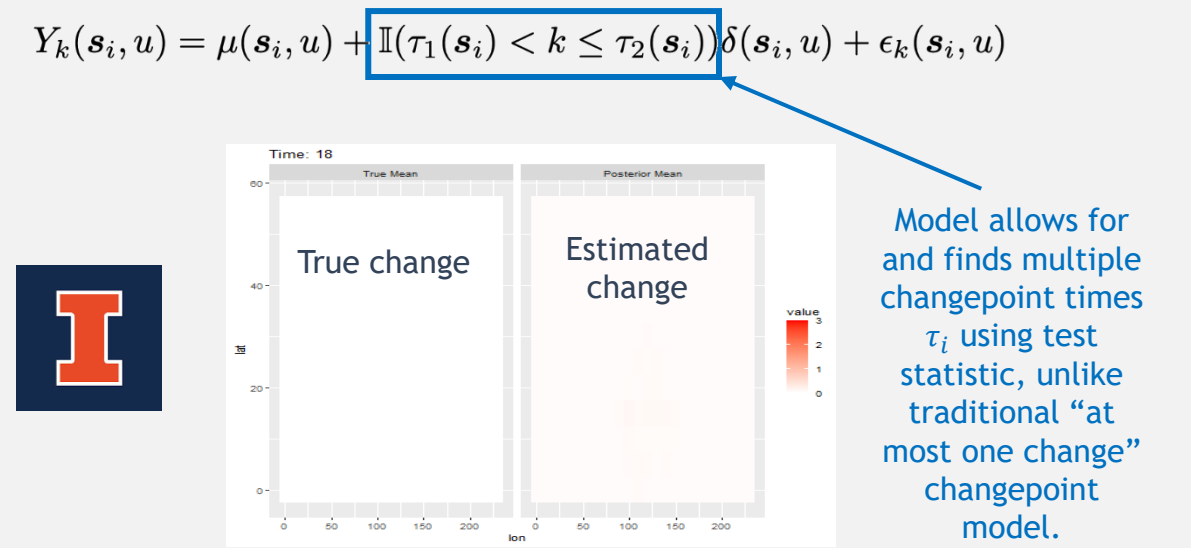
Instrument	Satellite	Measurements	Satellite Orbit	Data Collected
Total Ozone Mapping Spectrometer (TOMS)	Nimbus-7	UV albedo (nadir)	Polar, sun-synchronous	SO <sub>2</sub> mass and ozone [Bluth et al. 1992; McPeters et al. 1992]
Solar Backscatter Ultraviolet Spectral Radiometer (SBUV)	NOAA-11	UV albedo (nadir)	Polar, sun-synchronous	SO <sub>2</sub> mass and ozone [McPeters et al.1992]
NOAA Advanced Very High Resolution Radiometer (AVHRR)	NOAA-10, -11, -12	4 Vis-IR channels (nadir)	Polar, sun-synchronous	Aerosol optical depth [Stowe et al. 1992; Long and Stowe 1994], plume height [Lynch and Stephens 1996], cloud cover [Stowe et al. 1999]
High Resolution Radiation Sounder (HIRS)	NOAA 6-17	19 IR channels (nadir)	Polar, sun-synchronous	SO <sub>2</sub> mass and cloud-top height [Miles et al. 2017]
Stratospheric Aerosol and Gas Experiment (SAGE II)	Earth Radiation Budget Satellite (ERBS)	5 channels, Vis—IR (limb scanning)	Polar	Aerosol optical depth/extinction, aerosol max heights, Ozone [McCormick and Veiga 1992]
Microwave Sounding Unit (MSU)	NOAA-10,-11,-12	4 MW channels (nadir)	Polar, sun-synchronous	Surface-Upper Stratospheric temperature anomalies [Spencer et al. 1990; Dutton and Christy 1992]
Improved Stratospheric and Mesospheric Sounder (ISAMS)	Upper Atmosphere Research Satellite (UARS)	8 IR channels (limb scanning)	Near-Polar	Aerosol extinction, mass, and height [Lamberte et al. 1993]
Microwave Limb Sounder (MLS)	UARS	4 MW channels (limb scanning)	Near-Polar	SO <sub>2</sub> mass and temperature profiles [Read et al. 1993]

# Observed Pathways Thrust

## Changepoint Detection

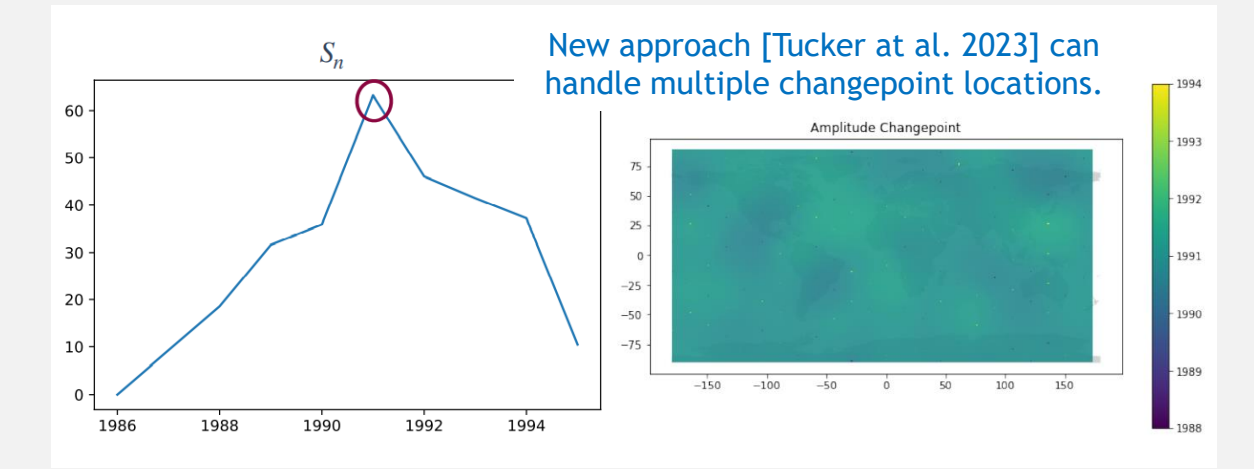
**Goal:** inform pathways by finding significant changes/shifts in climate processes, towards accounting for them in statistical models

- Space-time Changepoint Detection:** establish dependence between local climate shifts & distance from source using “epidemic” changepoint model



Model can reconstruct spatial pattern and magnitude of changepoints in synthetic dataset with known changepoints

- Elastic Functional Changepoint Detection:** identify climate shift using functional time series methodologies, elastic distance & diffeomorphisms, to account for phase variability



Phase shift (left) and amplitude (right) changepoints identified in ERA-5 Reanalysis Data (1986-1995). Phase shift changepoint and majority of amplitude changepoints are in 1991.

# Observed Pathways Thrust

## *Dynamic Space-Time Models*

**Goal:** adopt space-time dynamic models to detect pathway changes following the Mt. Pinatubo eruption.

**Approach:** develop a multivariate evolution-based *space-time dynamic model* for variables on a pathway

$n$  locations,  $k$  bases,  $n_t$  time points

$$\mathbf{Y}_t = \mathbf{U}_t + \boldsymbol{\epsilon}_t, \quad \boldsymbol{\epsilon}_t \sim N(0, \sigma_t^2 \mathbf{I}_n)$$

$$\mathbf{U}_t = \boldsymbol{\Phi} \boldsymbol{\alpha}_t$$

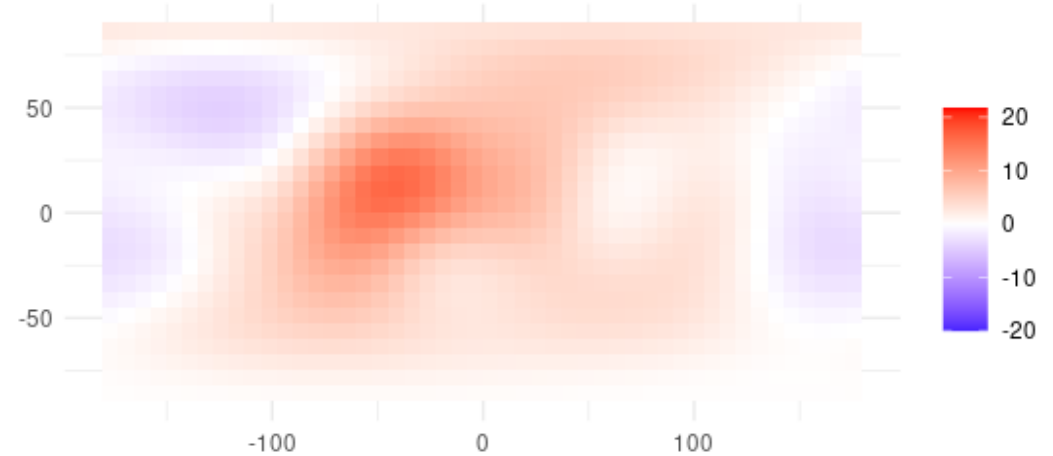
$$\boldsymbol{\alpha}_t = \mathbf{A} \boldsymbol{\alpha}_{t-1} + \boldsymbol{\nu}_t, \quad \boldsymbol{\nu}_t \sim N(0, \tau^2 \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_\alpha)$$

$$\mathbf{A} = \text{diag}(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_k)$$

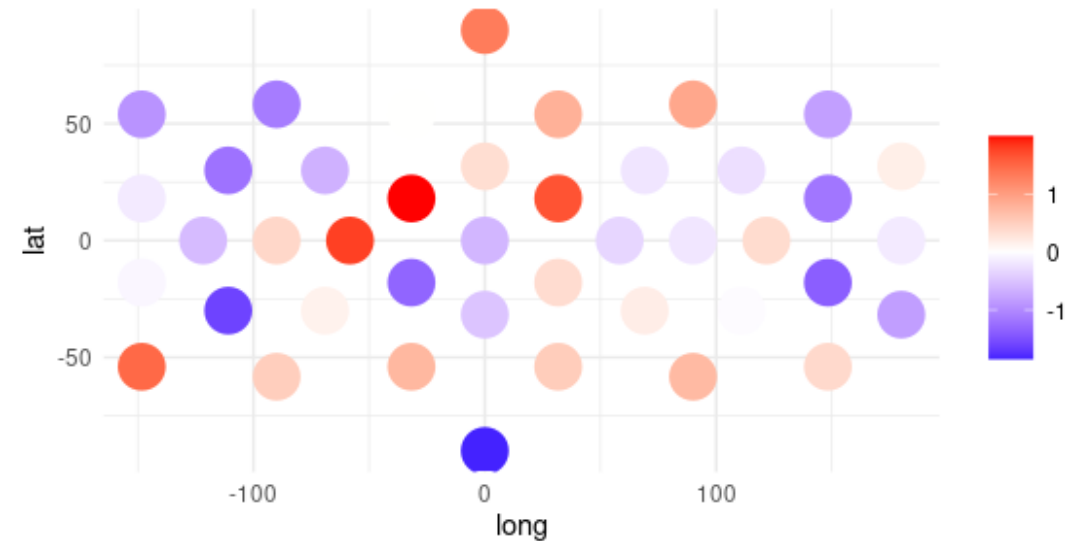
*Linear temporal  
dynamics model with  
multivariate  
inputs/outputs.*

- Estimate  $\mathbf{U}_t$  with **Multiresolution Basis Functions** [Nychka et al. 2017] to represent the complex spatial patterns
- **Kalman filtering** used to sample from posteriors of time-varying basis functions
- Basis function coefficients are **space- and time-varying**, borrowing information from space-time neighbors
- $\mathbf{A}$  matrix represents **correlation** between basis coefficients and captures dependence across variables

U: Spatial Random Effect



alpha: Basis Coefficients



# Observed Pathways Thrust

## Explainable Echo State Networks (ESNs)

**Goal:** characterize (quantify) relationships between pathway variables in observed data using machine learning

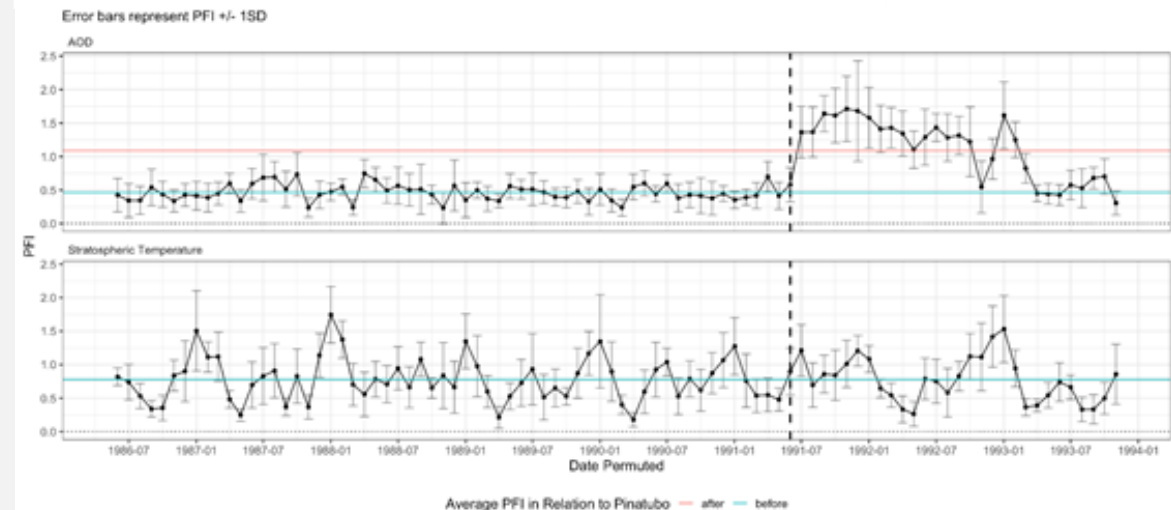
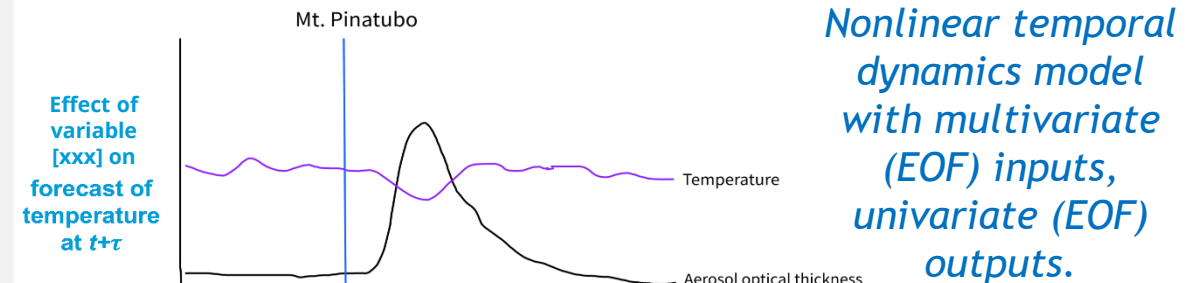
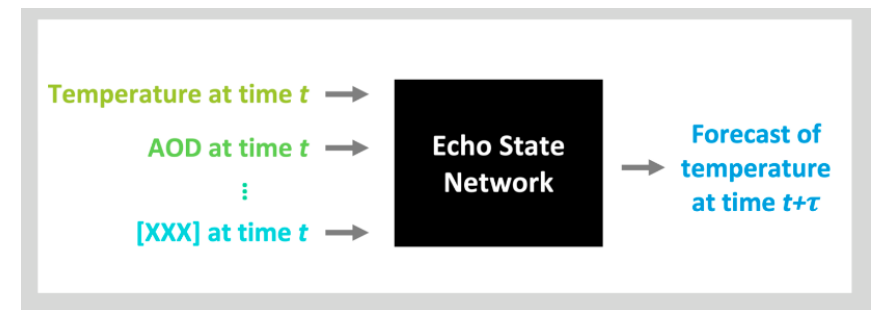
### “Black-Box” Echo-State Networks (ESNs)

- Use reservoir computing to efficiently estimate recurrent neural networks (RNNs), which can capture short-term/long-term spatio-temporal dependence
- All params learned from data, very fast since few params

Data stage	$Z_t \approx \Phi \alpha_t + \delta_t(s), \delta_t(s) = \text{spatio-temporal residual}$	} RNN
Output stage	$\alpha_t = V_1 h_t + V_2 h_t^2 + \eta_t, \eta_t \sim N(0, \sigma_\eta^2 I)$	
Hidden stage	$h_t = g_h \left( \frac{v}{ \lambda_W } W h_{t-1} + U \tilde{x}_t \right)$	

### Zero Feature Importance (ZFI) – *new approach!*

- Determines which variables at which times are important for forecasting.
- Based on permutation feature importance (PFI)
- Increases explainability of ESNs

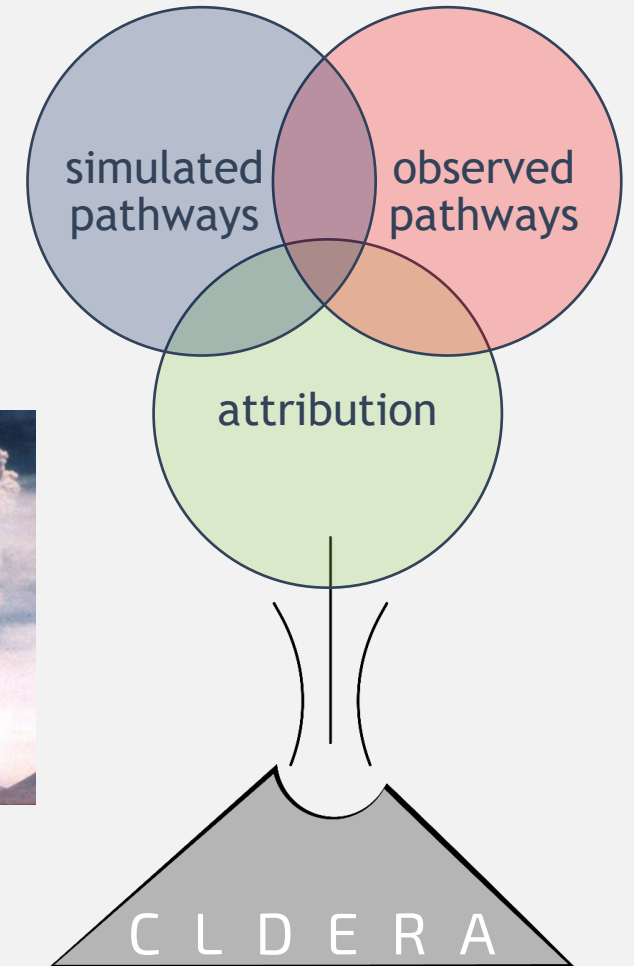


ZFI of lagged AOD and lagged temperature: importance of AOD increases dramatically after Pinatubo eruption while importance of temperature corresponds to seasons.



# Outline

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- **CLDERA Research Composition**
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  - Simulated Pathways Thrust
  - Observed Pathways Thrust
  - **Attribution Thrust**
- Verification & Validation
- Summary



# Attribution

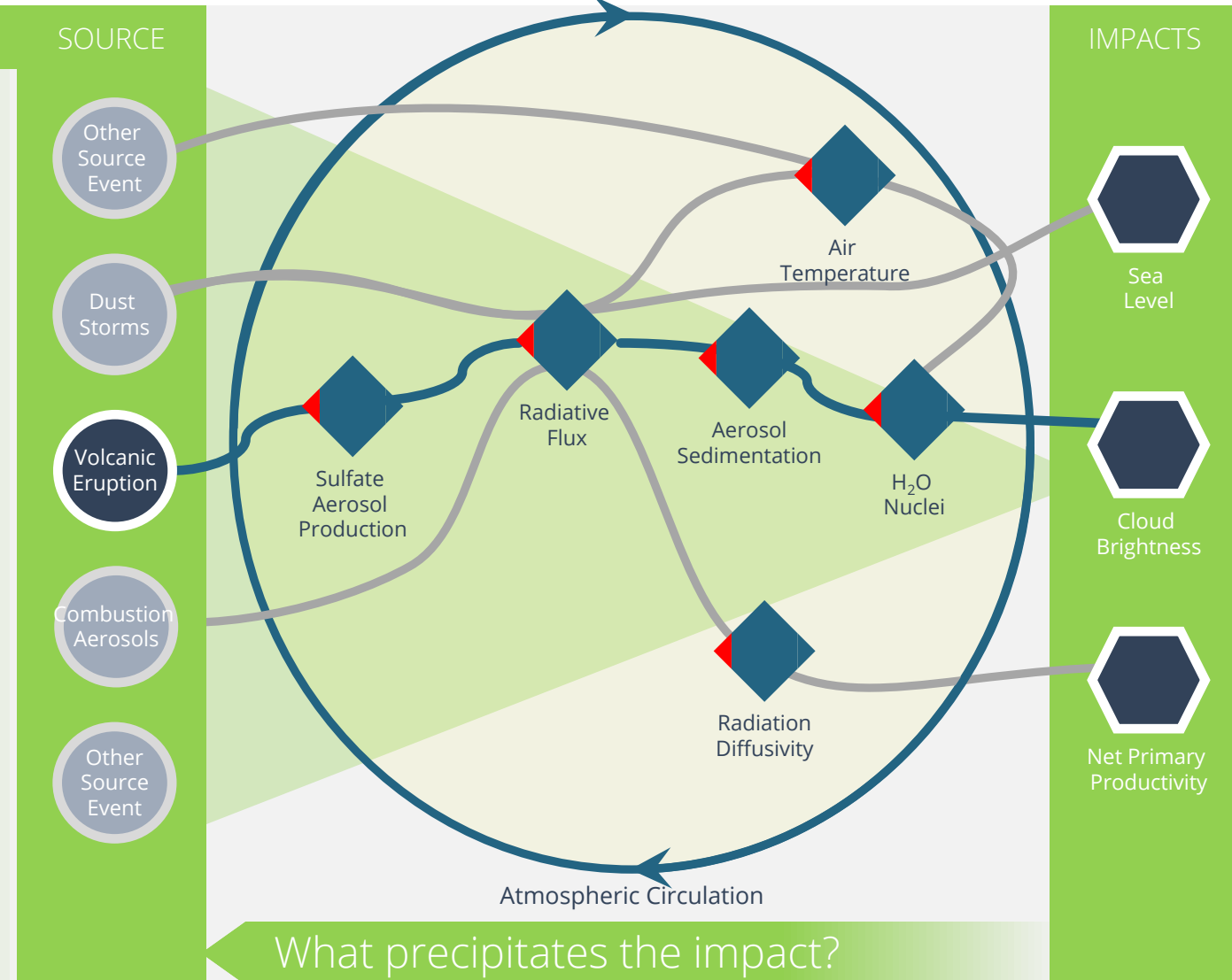
## *Finding Predominant Source Driving Impact*



**Thrust Lead:**  
Laura Swiler

### Research Composition

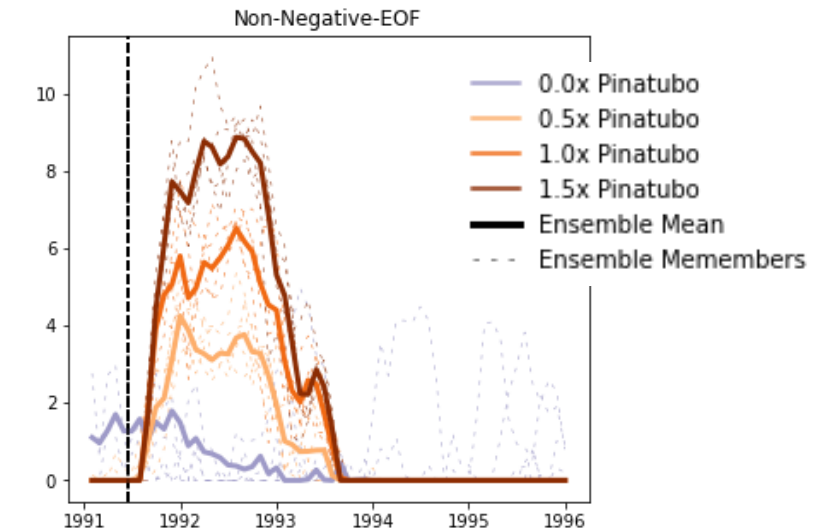
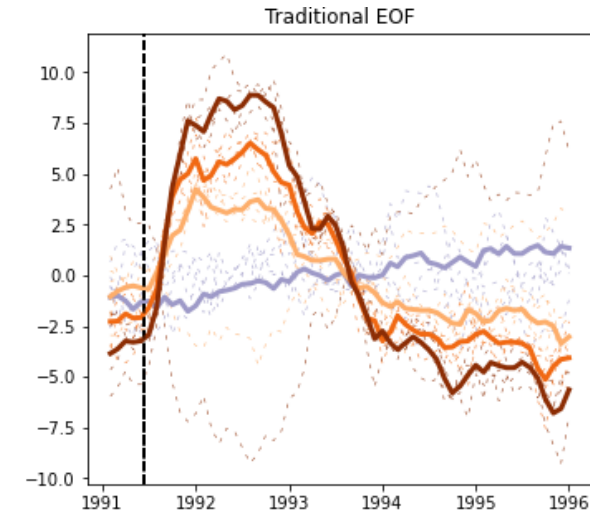
- Enhanced Fingerprinting:** use pathway information to expand multi-variate analyses, sharpening the signal-to-noise ratios and enabling significant correlations between source-impact
- Causal Modeling:** identify causal relationships and dominant pathways by developing causal networks through iterative independence tests and the resulting directed acyclic graphs
- Inverse Optimization:** develop deep operator neural networks (DONNs) to model parts of E3SM to enable PDE-constrained optimization without intrusion into the E3SM code directly; pathways will act as penalty terms or constraints



# Attribution

## Enhanced Fingerprinting

- “Fingerprint” = a spatial and/or temporal pattern that highlights an impact
  - Commonly the first principal component or empirical orthogonal function (EOF) from an SVD of a data matrix
- **Detection** involves identifying if the signal projected back onto the EOF goes out of  $2\sigma$  limits.
- **Attribution** involves examining the magnitude of the fingerprint in a regression formulation and checking its significance (signal-to-noise ratio).
- **Enhanced Fingerprinting Approach:**
  - Investigate **advanced PCA** (tensor-based, non-negative, Joint & Individual Fingerprints or JIF, etc.)
  - Employ **multiple variables** along a **pathway** to sharpen signal-to-noise ratios & enable downstream attribution
  - Use pathway info to refine fingerprints for use within a **short-term SAI event** with a more **regional impact**

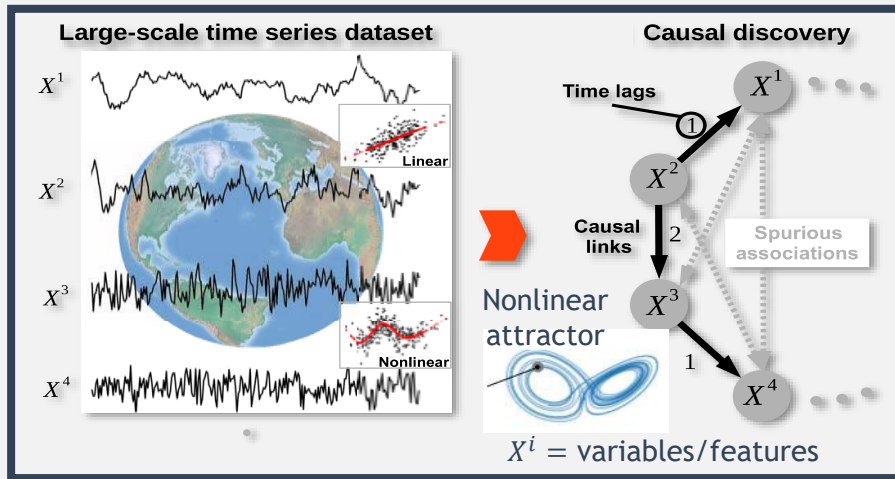


Fingerprints from varying volcanic forcings:  
non-negative PCA strengthens Pinatubo  
effect on temperature [Weyland et al 2023  
(in prep)].

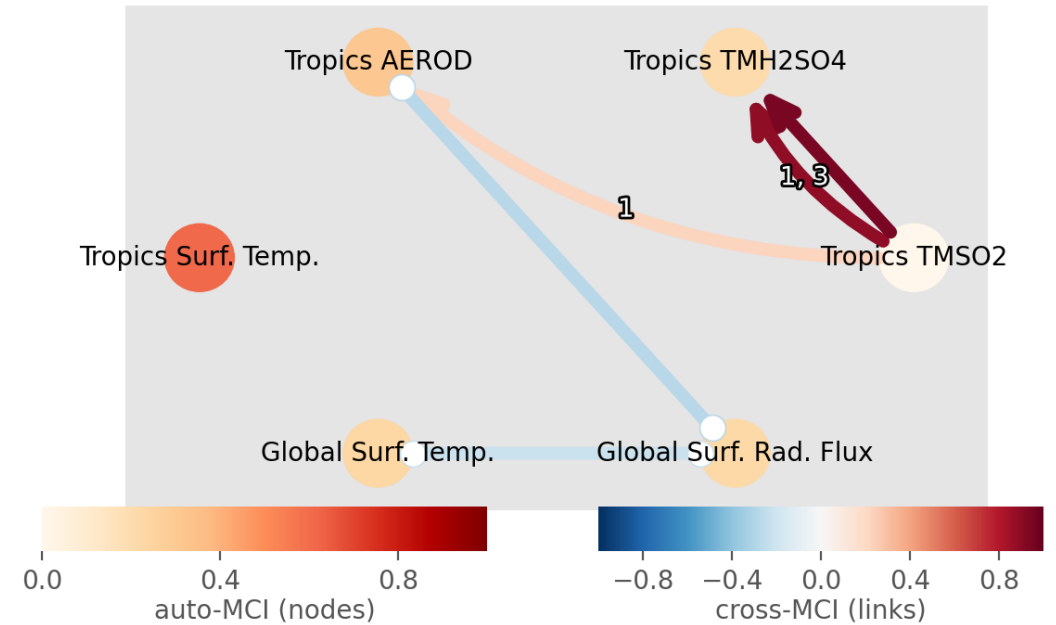
# Attribution

## *Causal Modeling*

- **Goal:** establish relationships between a set of variables to discover or confirm a causal relationship
- **Causal Network Learning Approach:**
  - Fit a **graphical model** of covariates by iterative **conditional independence tests**.
  - **PCMRI algorithm:** Peter Clark Momentary Conditional Independence [Runge, 2019]
  - Allows for and detects **contemporaneous dependencies**, removes spurious associations



# Preliminary Causal Network Results on Mt. Pinatubo Simulation Data with Prognostic Aerosols



- Tropical  $\text{SO}_2$  causes Tropical  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  (over a 1 and 3 month lag)
- Tropical  $\text{SO}_2$  causes a change in aerosol optical depth (AEROD)
- Tropical AEROD shows a negative contemporaneous dependence with global surface radiation flux.



# Attribution Inverse Optimization

See next talk by M. Gulian for  
more details on inverse  
optimization using DONNs.

**Goal:** identify magnitude, height and location of the source is a large-scale, PDE constrained inverse problem

Find source parameters  $\theta$  that minimize the difference between simulated and observed aerosol concentration  
s.t. atmosphere PDEs as constraints:

$$\min_{\theta} J(\theta) = \sum_{i=1}^n \int_{\Omega} [c_{\text{obs}}(x, t_i) - c_{\text{sim}}(x, t_i, \theta)]^2 dx$$

$$\text{s.t.} \quad \begin{aligned} \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} &= -\nabla \cdot (\rho \mathbf{v}) \\ \frac{\partial \mathbf{v}}{\partial t} &= -\frac{1}{\rho} \nabla p - \mathbf{g} + \mathbf{F} - 2\mathbf{Cv} \\ &\vdots \end{aligned}$$

Approximated  
by DONNs



## Approach:

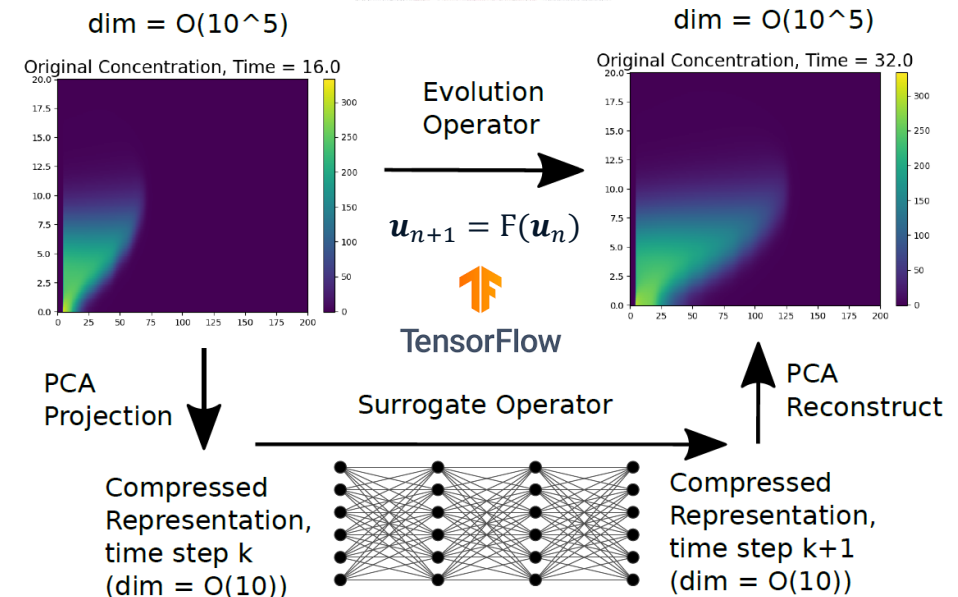
- Develop **deep operator neural networks (DONNs)** to enable PDE-constrained optimization
- **Bayesian approach** to deal with ill-posedness & incorporate UQ
- Add **pathway information** as penalty terms in the objective and/or additional constraints

## Gaussian Plume+: Advection-Diffusion-Reaction with Gaussian Plume Source

(test case for initial prototyping)

$$\min_{\theta} J(\theta) = \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^m [c_{\text{obs}}(x_j, t_i) - c_{\text{sim}}(x_j, t_i, \theta)]^2 + R(\theta)$$

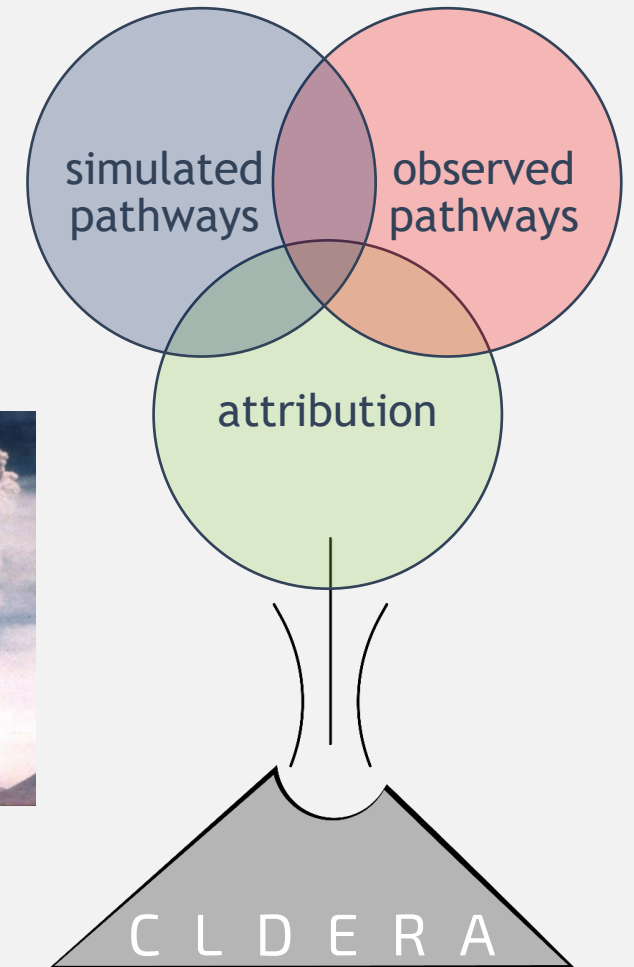
$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial c}{\partial t} - \kappa \nabla^2 c + \mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla c - S e_y \cdot \nabla c &= R(c) + f && \text{on } \Omega \times [0, T] \\ \nabla c \cdot \mathbf{n} &= 0 && \text{on } \partial\Omega \times [0, T] \\ c &= 0 && \text{on } \Omega \times \{0\} \end{aligned}$$



[Hart et al. 2023]

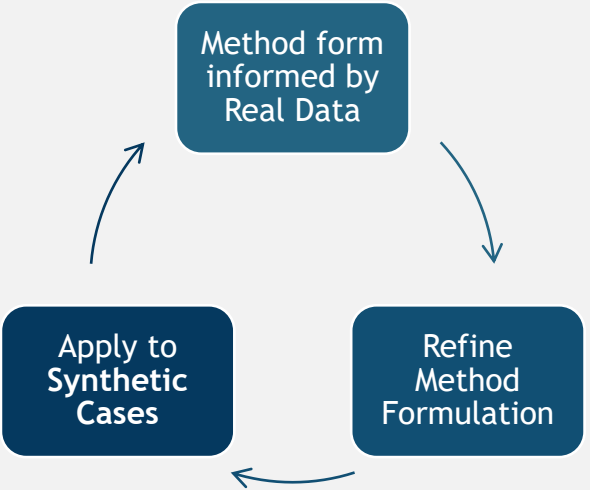
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# Tiered Verification Approach

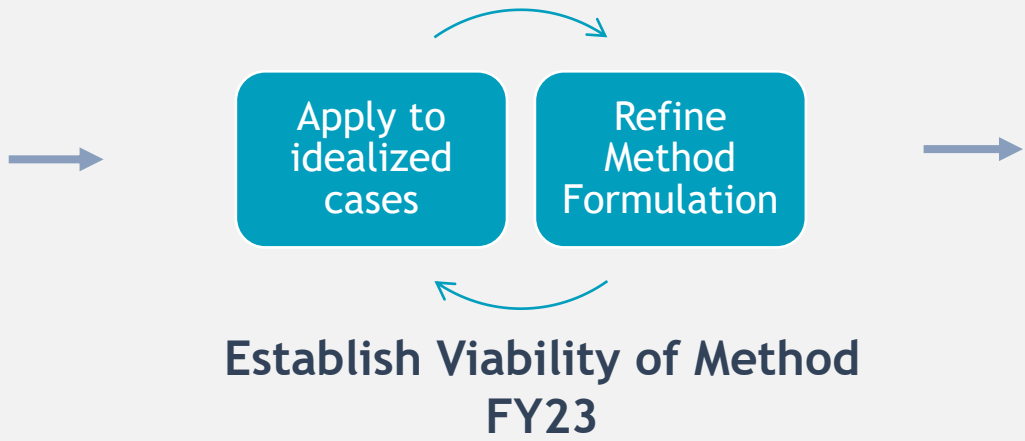
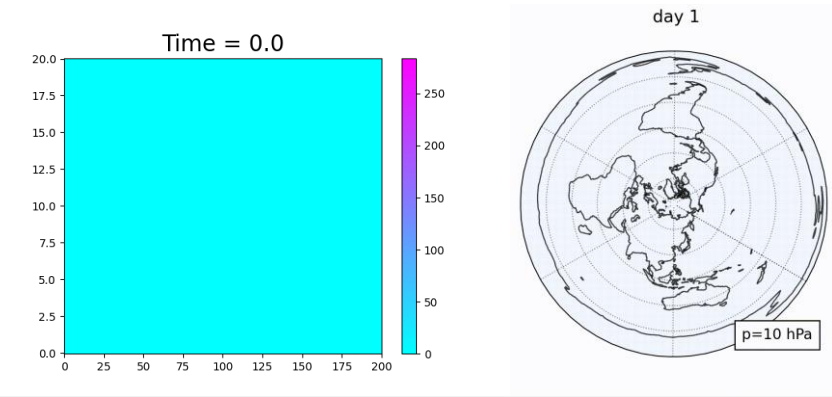
## Test Sensitivity of Method FY22



Synthetic ✓

Coupled ODEs devoid of governing physics that enable exploration of tool/method sensitivities

$$Y_{1,t} = 0.5Y_{1,t-1} + 2I[t > 250] + \epsilon_{Y_{1,t}}$$
$$Y_{2,t} = 0.2Y_{1,t-1} + 0.6Y_{2,t-1} + \epsilon_{Y_{2,t}}$$



Idealized ✓

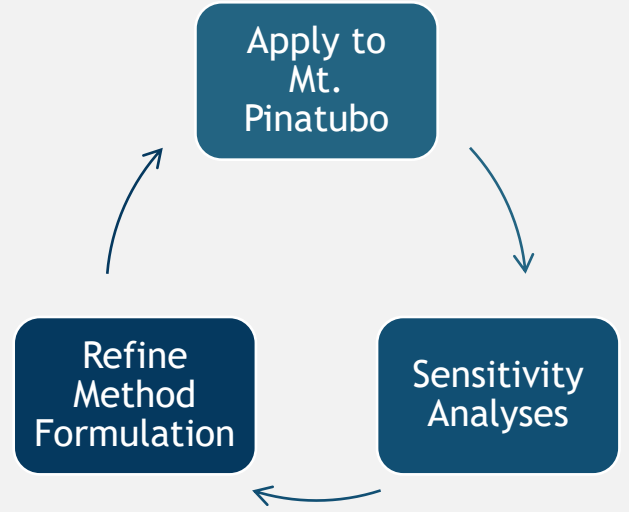
Gaussian Plume+

Basic physics (advection-diffusion-reaction), reduced dimensionality, reduced coupling

HSW++

Realistic Earth circulation, idealized forcings/topography/chemistry, controllable relationships

## Prove Usefulness of Method FY23/FY24

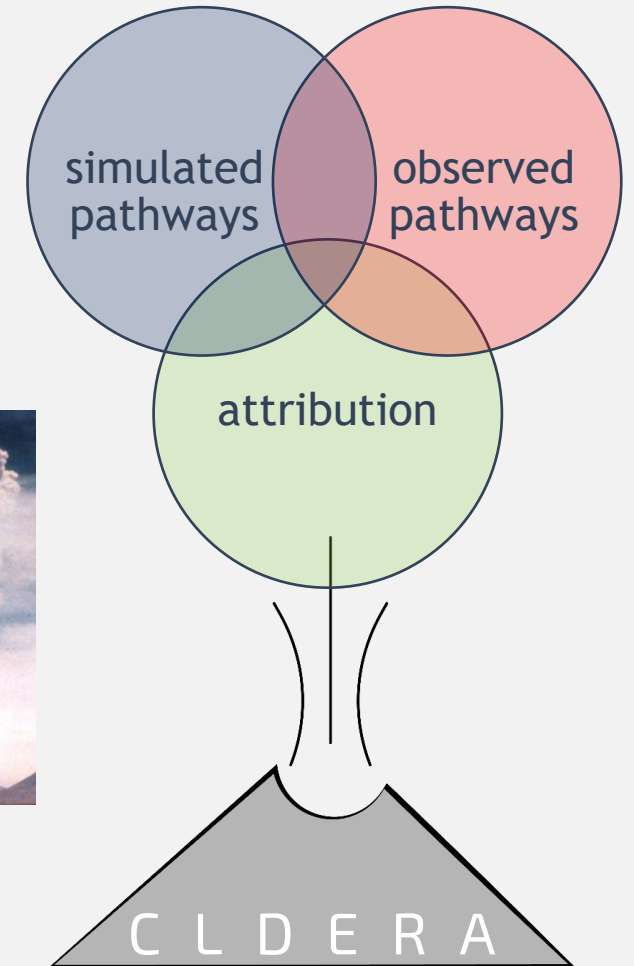


Pinatubo Pathways (WIP)

Full complexity of Earth's climate – verify method solution against known pathways

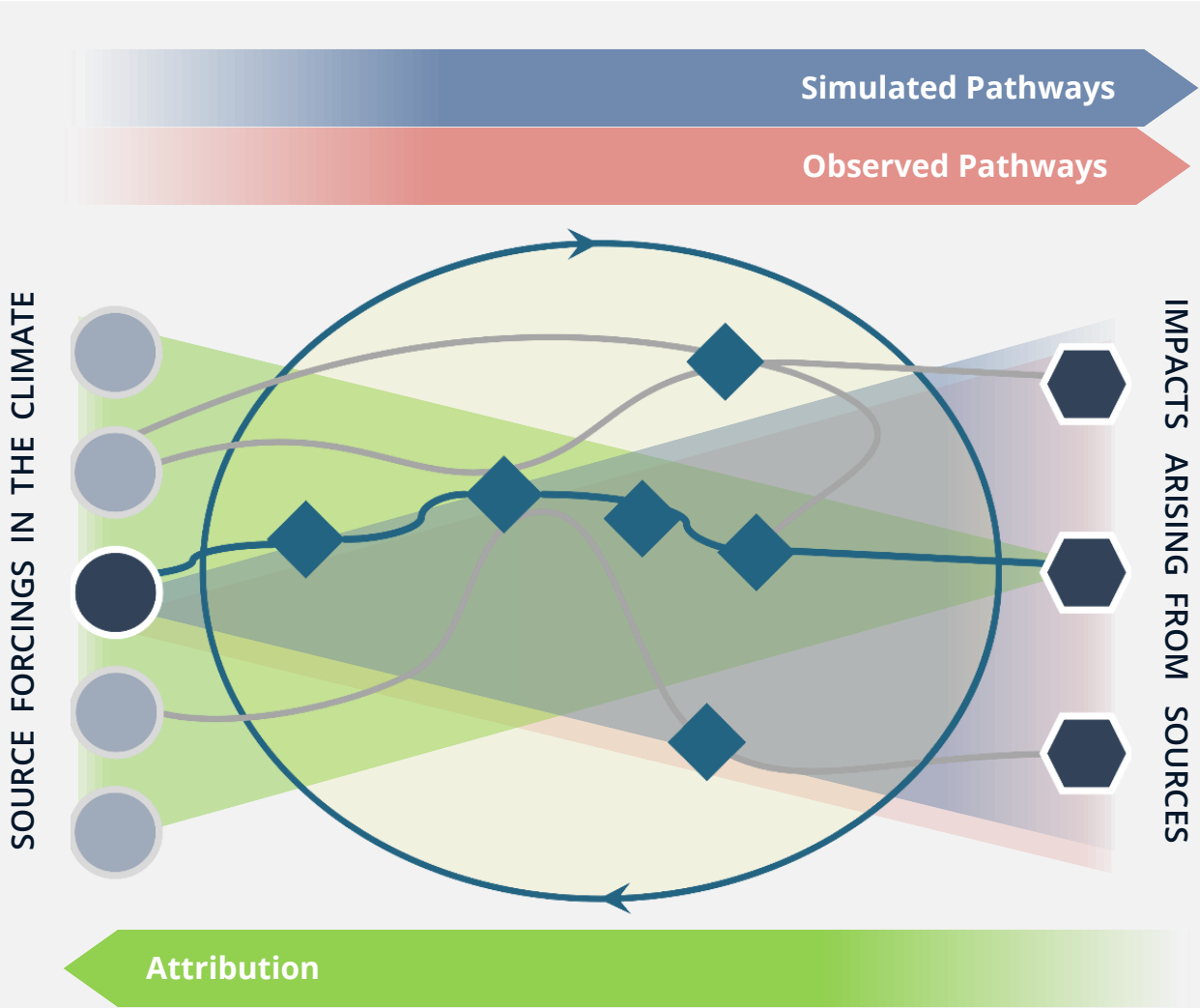
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# Summary of CLDERA

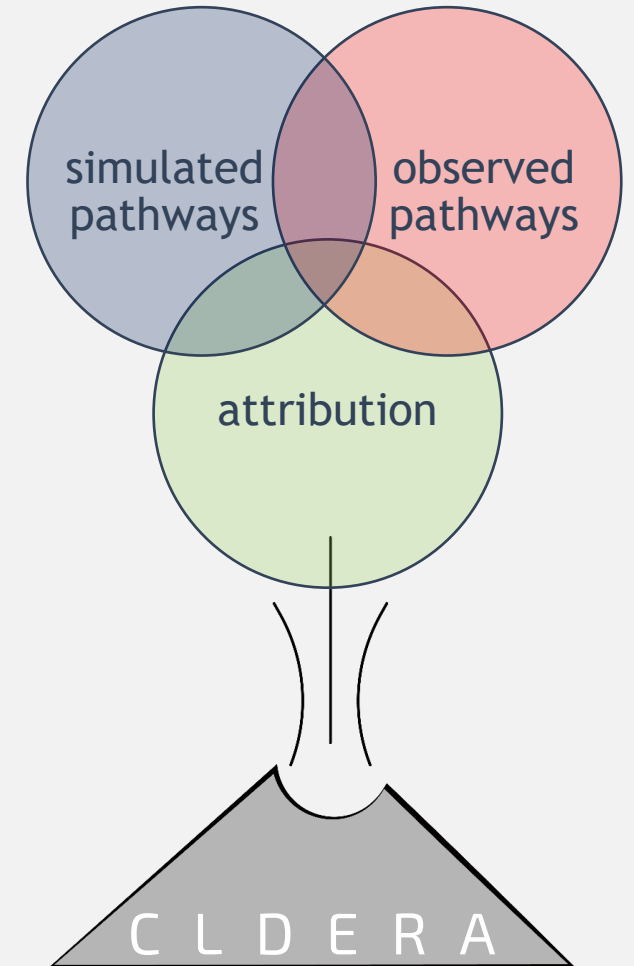


## OUTCOMES

- Tools to discover and represent pathways, and analyses to establish pathway robustness to changing conditions.**  
Cross-validation using simulated and observed pathways will inform areas for model improvement and new measurements.
- Contributory ranking of sources to specific impacts using pathways.**  
Capability enables robust risk analysis and offers the potential to guide future climate actions.
- Attribution of source characteristics using inverse optimization methods.**  
Will provide credible methodology to deter unilateral implementation of climate interventions.
- Beginning-to-end attribution in the climate system**  
*Tracing evolving chains of physical processes to enable attribution of climate impacts from a localized source.*

# Outline

- Motivation
- The CLDERA Grand Challenge LDRD Project
- Mt. Pinatubo & Stratospheric Aerosol Injection (SAI)
- Energy Exascale Earth System Model (E3SM) & Simulating Mt. Pinatubo in E3SM
- The Three CLDERA Thrusts
  - Simulated Pathways Thrust
  - Observed Pathways Thrust
  - Attribution Thrust
- Verification & Validation
- **Summary**



# CLDERA Team

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A. Hu (TAMU)

K. Goode  
R. Garrett  
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G. Huerta  
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K. McClernon  
D. Ries  
D. Tucker  
A. McCombs  
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S. Jun (UIUC)

M. Gulian  
M. Brown  
J. Hart  
I. Manickam  
K. Maupin  
M. Smith  
B. Wagman  
C. Wentland  
M. Weylandt  
K. Tsigaridis (Columbia U)

## CLDERA Leadership Team

**CLDERA PI:** D. Bull  
**CLDERA Deputy PI:** K. Peterson  
**Simulated Pathways Lead:** I. Tezaur  
**Observed Pathways Lead:** L. Shand  
**Attribution Lead:** L. Swiler



*Thank you for your attention!*



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# Start of Backup Slides

# Current State-of-the-Art

## *In Establishing Connective Relationships in Earth's Climate*

### Confounding characteristics of the climate attribution\* problem:

- High internal variability in the Earth system
- Limited ESM ensembles
- Historically limited observational data
- Multiple sources contributing to an impact

### Techniques currently applied to climate attribution:

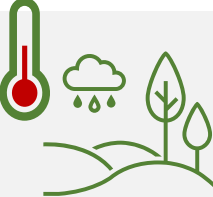


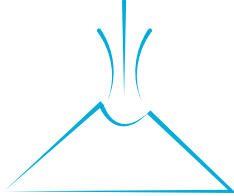
- Fingerprinting (e.g., Hasselmann, 1997; Hegerl & North, 1997; Marvel et al., 2020)
- Structural Causal Modeling (e.g., Runge et al., 2019; Nowack et al., 2020)
- Emergent Constraints (e.g., Hall et al., 2019; Williamson et al., 2021)



“Connective relationships are often **unbounded** from **etiological** relationships allowing **physically meaningless** source-impact correlations.” [Caldwell et al., 2014]

Under CLDERA, we are moving beyond a correlative approach – establishing connective relationships.

# Attribution in Climate

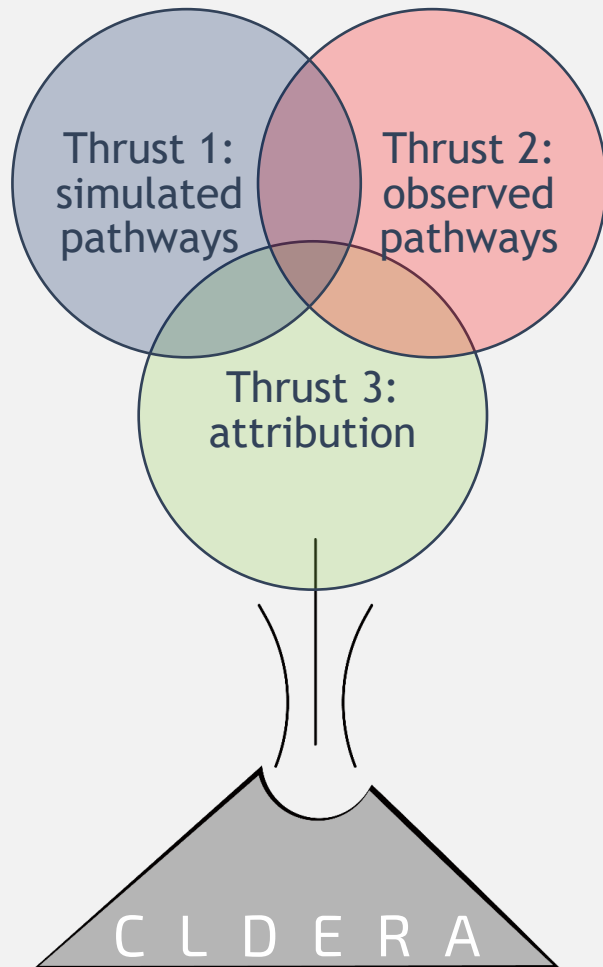
				
What is the question?	How do rising concentrations of GHGs in the atmosphere affect climate state variables?	What are the relative contributions of different sectors, activities, and entities to concentrations of GHGs in the atmosphere?	How do changes in the global climate system affect the relative frequency and severity of extreme events?	What are the downstream impacts from large, spatio-temporally localized sources within the climate?
What is the source?	Long-term, slowly accumulating GHG emissions	Sector-specific emissions	Changes to global climate system	Geographically and temporally localized source forcings in the climate
Examples	WG1 and WG2 IPCC reports	Cement industry, transportation	Likelihood of Hurricane Katrina	Volcanic eruptions, wildfires
Is the attribution direct/quantitative?	WG1- yes (temp/precip/...) WG2 - normally no, notional linkage	yes	no, notional connection	yes, linked through multiple process-nodes

The goal of CLDERA is to develop new tools to enable *downstream impact attribution* from geographically and temporally localized source forcings in the climate.



# The CLDERA Grand Challenge LDRD Project

## *A Novel Foundational Approach to Understanding the Causation of Impacts*

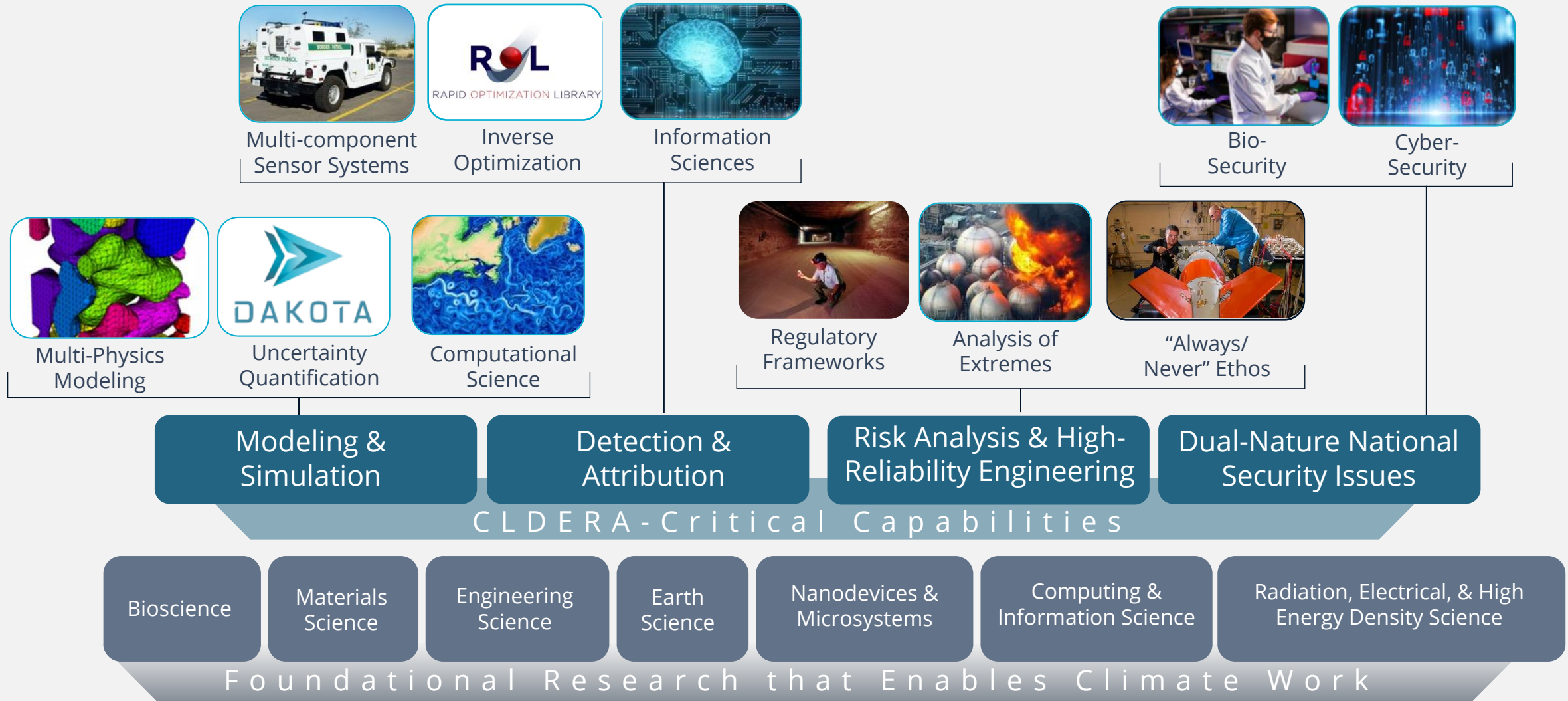


### Motivating Research Questions:

- *Can pathways be discovered* within simulation and observation datasets that reveal the connective relationships between source and impacts?
- *Can pathways* inform contributory **ranking** of sources to an impact?
- *Can pathways* cull the included space while preserving complex climate features to more confidently **enable attribution**?

**Hypothesis:** tracing pathways between sources and impacts will increase **certainty of attribution**.

# Connection to Sandia Capabilities & Other Applications



# Exemplar: June 1991 Mt. Pinatubo Eruption

## Stratospheric Aerosol Injection (SAI) Exemplar

### Why this exemplar?

Largest eruption of the satellite era, releasing ~18-19 Tg SO<sub>2</sub> gas

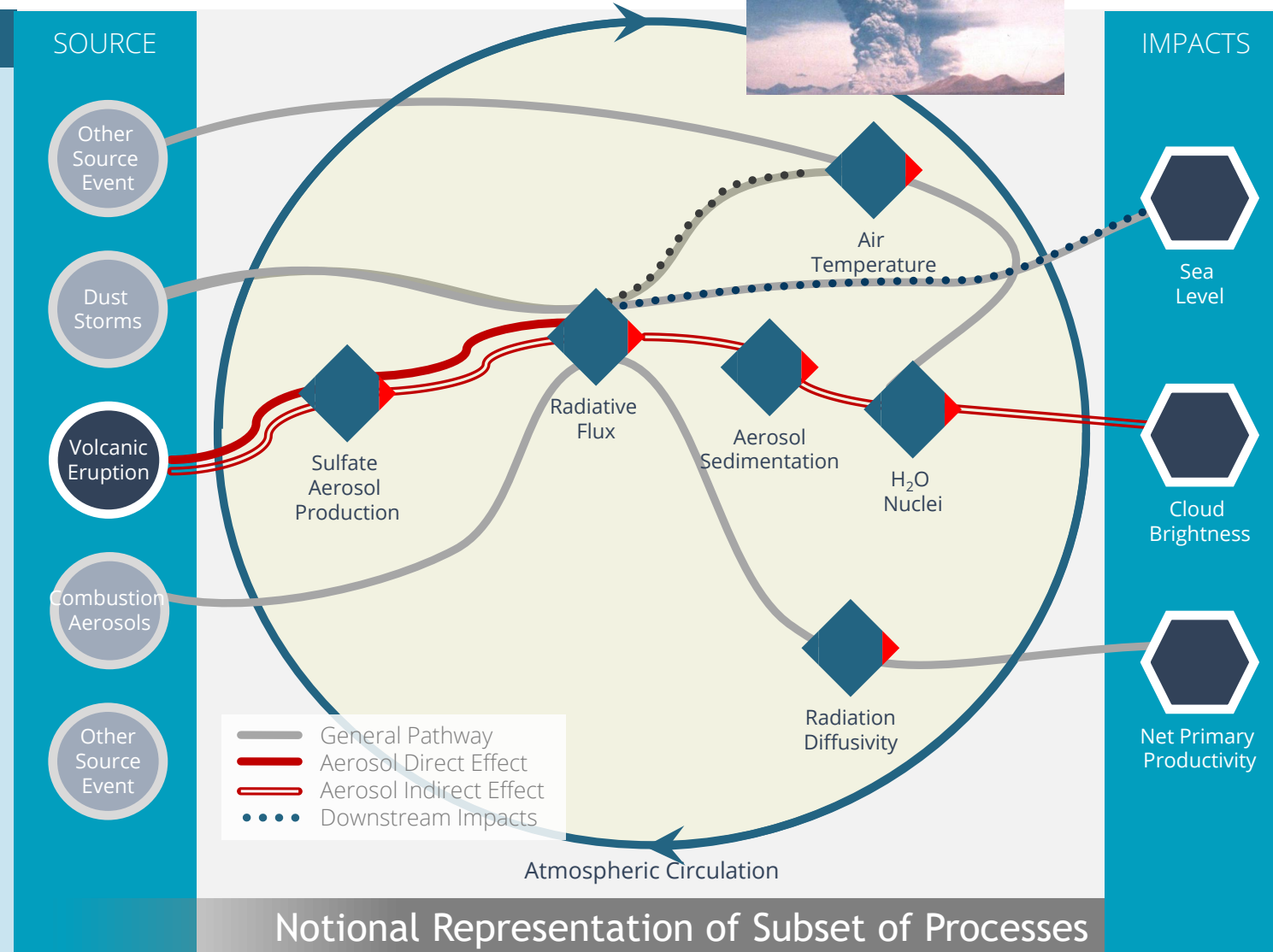
- Impacts large enough to rise above **internal variability** of climate system
- Led to 0.4-0.6 °C global cooling → 1993.

The source is an analog for a climate intervention technique

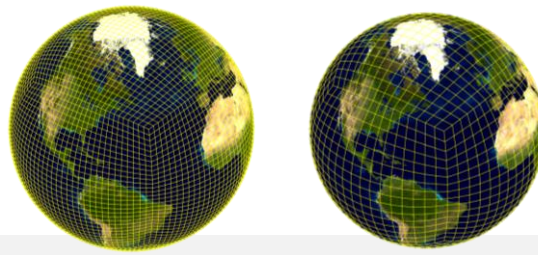
- 1 Tg SO<sub>2</sub> per yr may produce on the order of 0.1 °C cooling [Kravitz et al., 2017]

The source forcing is **external** to the feedbacks within the Earth's climate

It provides **ample observational data** and, because the impacts and pathways are relatively well characterized it **offers validation** of our analysis techniques within the approach



# Simulation Plan



Simulation Set	Number of runs per year 1-deg resolution			Number of runs per year 7.5-deg resolution			Total processor hours
	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY22	FY23	FY24	
Mt. Pinatubo with prognostic aerosols	40	30	20				5M
Mt. Pinatubo with double radiation call	40	30					4M
Control simulation with prognostic aerosols and no Mt. Pinatubo	40	30	20				5M
Control simulation prescribed 1990, no aerosol forcing	20	30					3M
Control simulation with fields nudged towards Mt. Pinatubo aerosol forcing		20	30				3M
Mt. Pinatubo with branching (initiate new simulations periodically from original no aerosol forcing)		20	30				3M
Sensitivity study on Mt. Pinatubo eruption characteristics (magnitude, height, location, & timing of injected material)	40	50	30	300	150		7M
Sensitivity study on select E3SM aerosol (MAM4) and cloud microphysics (MG2) parameters		50	50		150	300	6M
<b>Total processor hours</b>	<b>10M</b>	<b>14M</b>	<b>10M</b>	<b>144K</b>	<b>144K</b>	<b>144K</b>	<b>34M</b>

- Simulations will be performed for ~5 simulated years.
- Runs are being performed on NERSC (Cori, Perlmutter) and Sandia HPC (Skybridge, Boca)
- 1° resolution E3SM can achieve:
  - 18 SYPD per 58 AMD CPU nodes on Perlmutter at NERSC
- May supplement 1° resolution with cheaper 7.5° resolution runs

*Planned simulations expected to require ~O(10<sup>7</sup>) CPU-hours!*

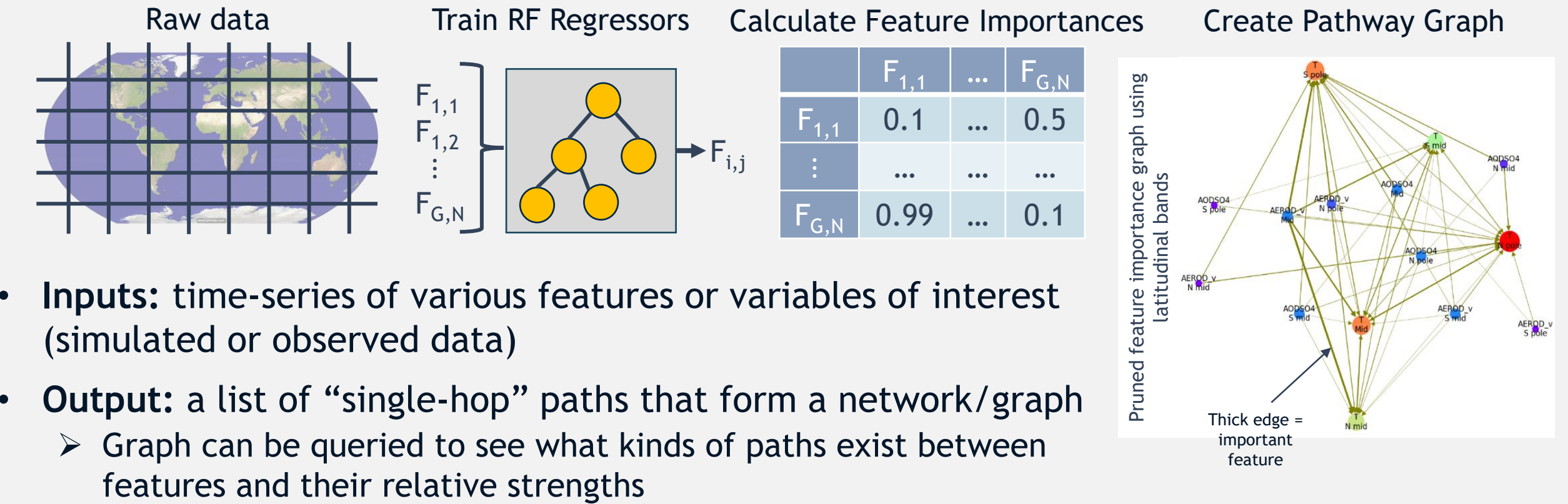


# Simulated Pathways Thrust

## Statistical Methods

### (a) Random forest regression (RFR):

- **Goal:** use feature importances from Random Forests (RFs) to **identify weighted pathways** from one variable to another

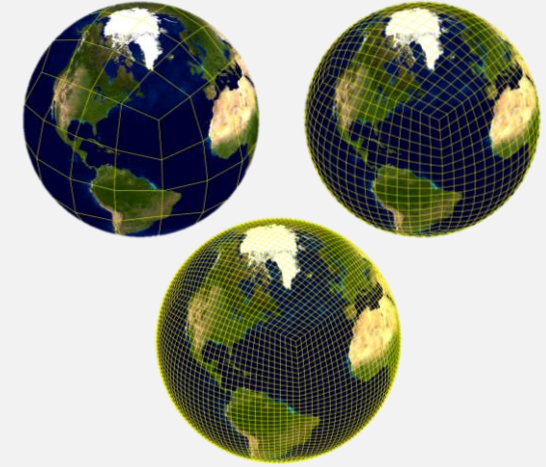


# Simulated Pathways Thrust

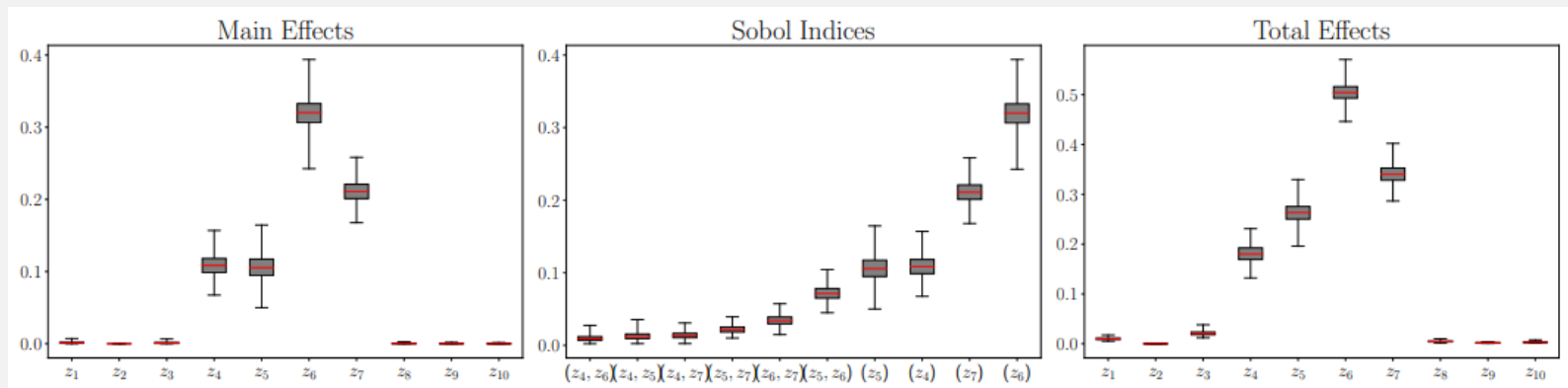
## Statistical Methods

### (b) Sensitivity analyses (SA)

- Generate data for RFR, anomaly detection and Attribution thrust
- Determine **robustness of pathways** to changes in SAI-/model-related inputs
- **Two kinds of sensitivity studies using different resolutions of E3SM:**
  - (i) Vary **eruption elements**, e.g., mass, time, height, location (how Mt. Pinatubo could have been – “how low can you go?”)
  - (ii) Vary **MAM4 aerosol and MG2 cloud microphysics model parameters**



Above: ultra-low (ULR), medium-low (MLR) and standard 1° resolution E3SM grids

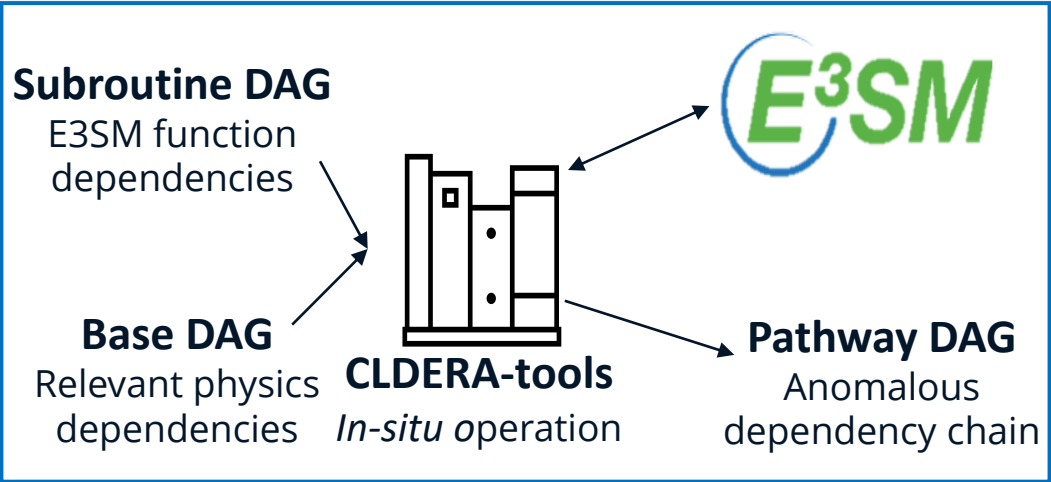


Right: global sensitivity analysis (GSA) results for surface temperature QOI using ULR E3SMv1 [Tezaur et al., 2022]

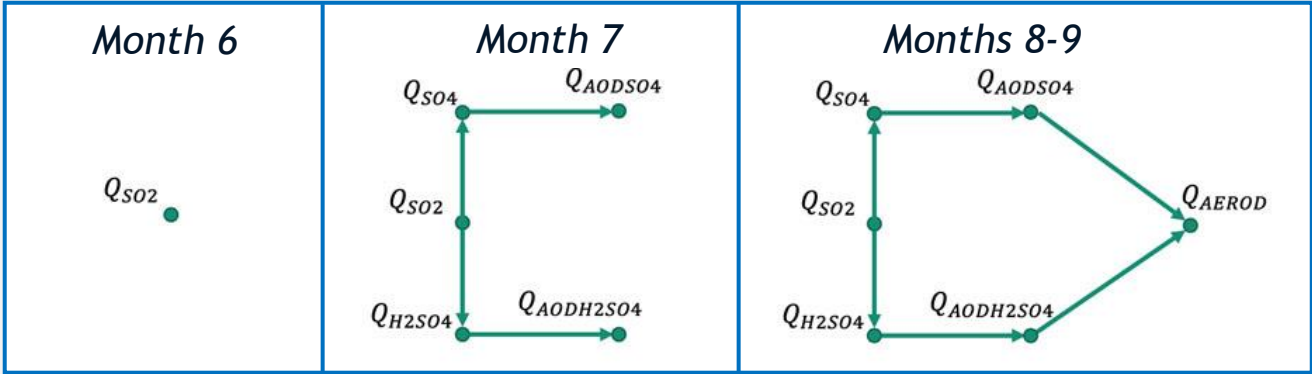
# Simulated Pathways Thrust

## Computational Monitoring

- (a) Profiling:** finding pathways *in-situ* while running E3SM
- **Goal:** instrument E3SM and develop Directed Acyclic Graphs (DAGs) of process interactions executed within code
  - Control runs (e.g., no Mt. Pinatubo eruption run) generate baseline.
  - CLDERA-tools performs statistical analysis by comparing QOIs inside code with baseline and tracking propagation of “anomalies” in real time.

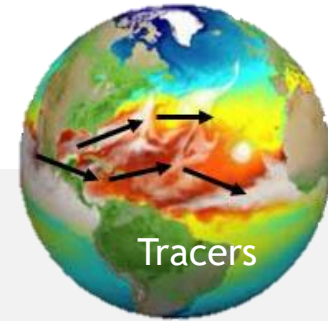


**Inputs:** baseline, “base DAG” (tells E3SM what to track)  
**Outputs:** Time-evolving pathway DAG



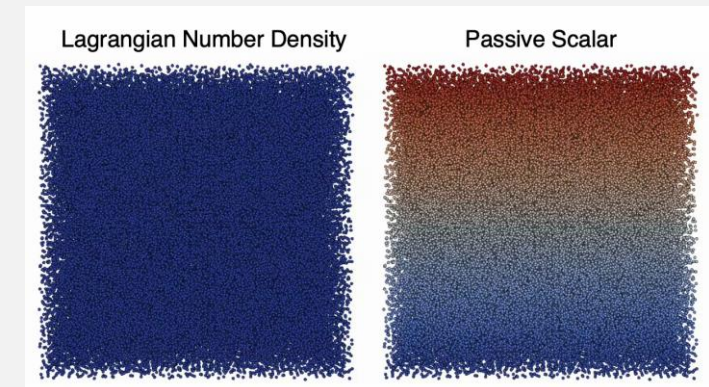
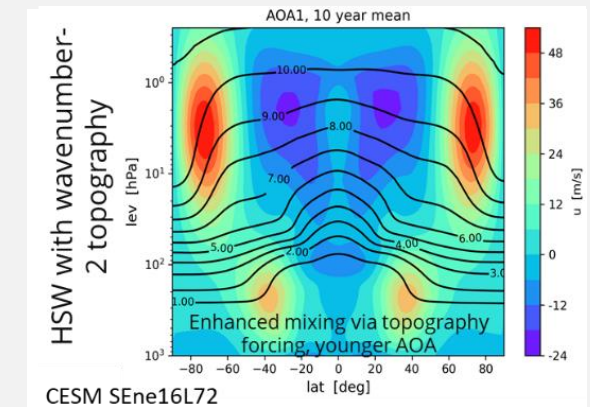
# Simulated Pathways Thrust

## *Computational Monitoring*



**(b) Tracing:** add tracers to E3SM, use them to **evaluate E3SM** and explore ways to repurpose them to **identify source-impact pathways**

- **Passive tracers:** do not feedback to the atmosphere, but can track source evolution
  - **Evaluate climatological dynamics** (like “Age of Air”) and changes to those dynamics.
  - **Infer pathways/pathway changes** by detecting tracer flow patterns/evolution using **Lagrangian Coherent Structures (LCS)**: surface trajectories which exponentially attract or repel tracers.
- **Active (“tagged”) tracers:** feedback into atmosphere through physics processes
  - Enable tracking of **relative contributions** along nodes in pathway.

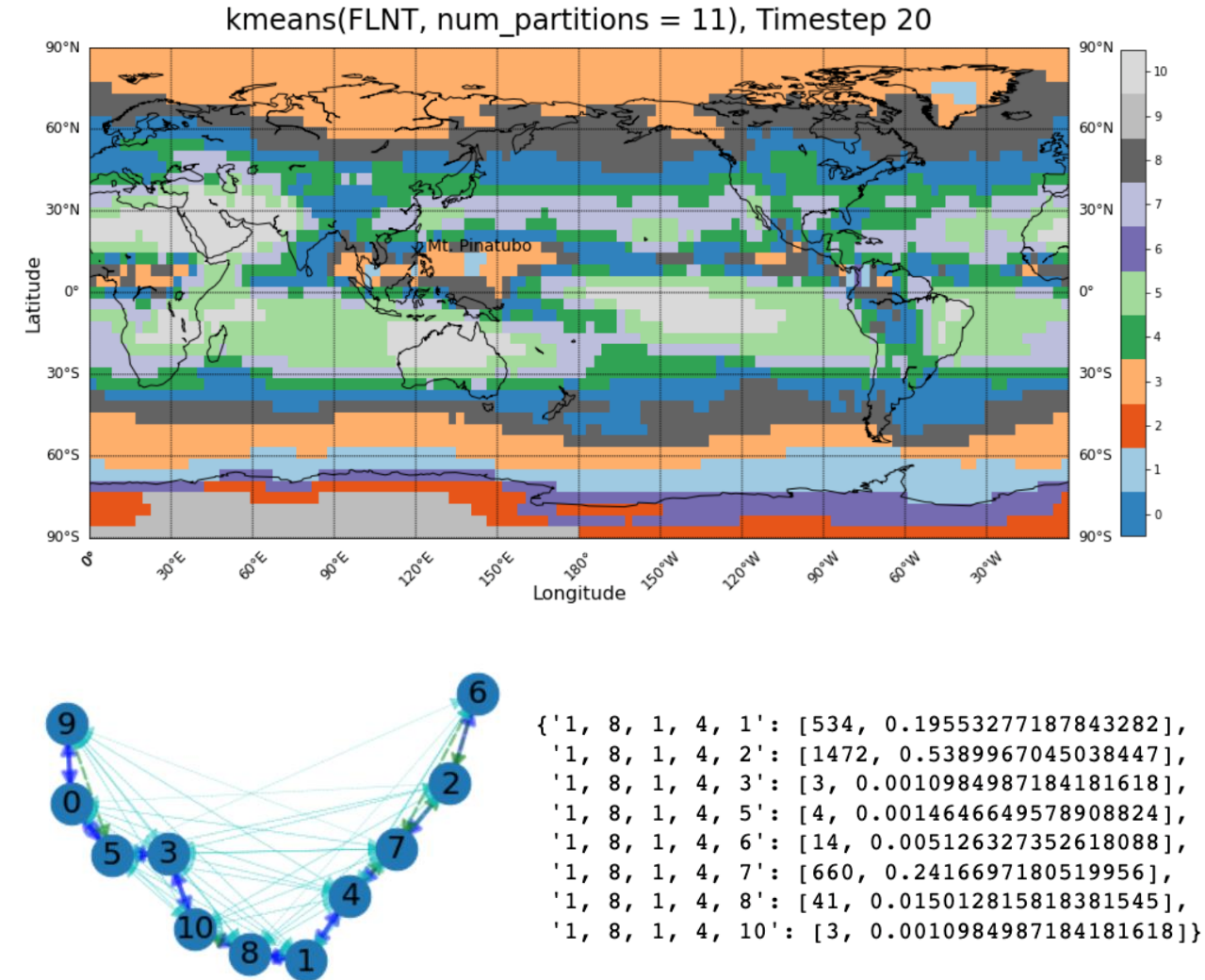




# Simulated Pathways Thrust

## *Anomaly Detection\**

- **Goal:** produce clusterings over climate simulations that can serve as foundations of pathway discovery
- **Approach:** combine existing anomaly (event) detection algorithms [Davis et al., 2021] with clustering to enable spatio-temporal anomaly progression, defining pathways
- **Leverages** “In-Situ Machine Learning for Intelligent Data Capture on Exascale Platforms” (ISML) project (PI: W. Davis)
- Compressed ISML **signatures** used for clustering
- Clusters used to **inform pathway analysis**



# Observed Pathways Thrust

## *What is an Observed Pathway?*

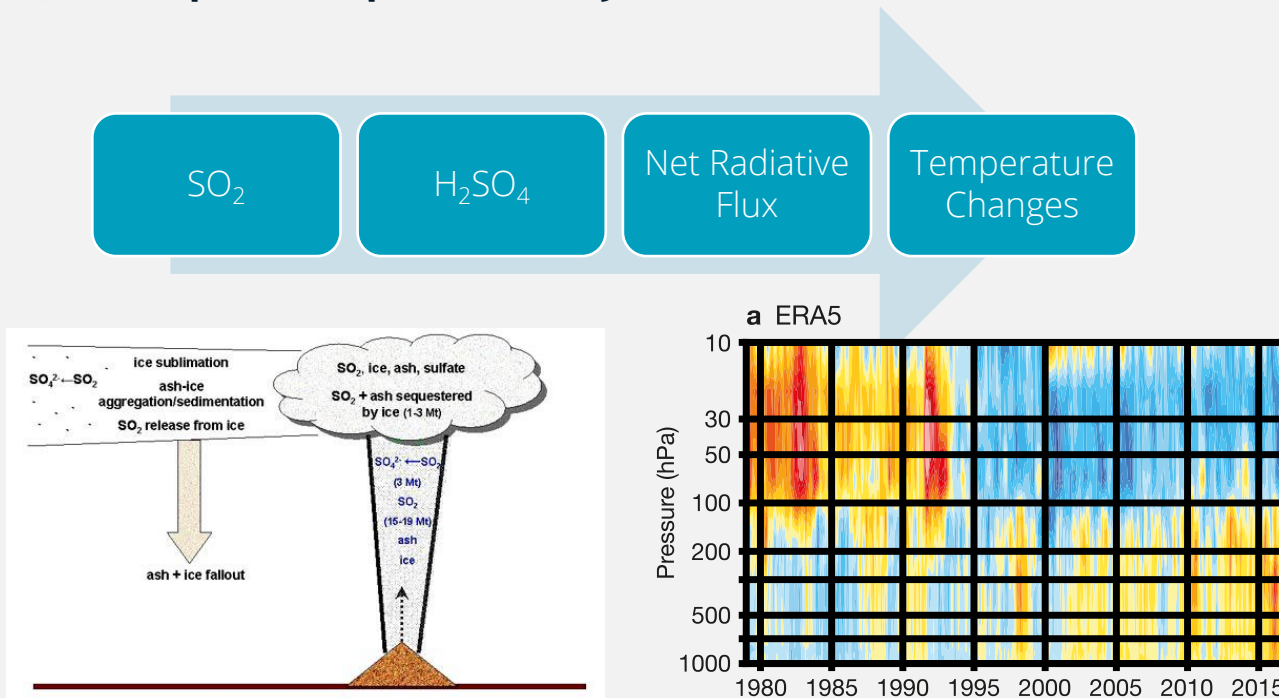
**Definition:** *observed pathways* are interpreted as **relationships** (or correlations) between **dependent climate processes** (*pathway nodes*).

**Objective:** rather than finding pathways that have not been postulated, **validate proposed pathways** and **quantify changes** in the **relationship between pathway nodes**.

**Approach:** develop **statistical methods** that can account for the **dynamic evolution** of aerosols over space and time, **multiple complementary sources of data** and **uncertainty**.

### Driving Science Questions:

- What are the spatio-temporal signatures of the temp. change due to Mt. Pinatubo?
- For how long after can we link sulfates created by Mt Pinatubo to climate effects? When does signal become too noisy or convoluted?
- When and where do we first see changes due to the event? How precise can we get with uncertainties?



# Observed Pathways Thrust

## *Available Satellite Data for Mt. Pinatubo*

Instrument	Satellite	Measurements	Satellite Orbit	Data Collected
Total Ozone Mapping Spectrometer (TOMS)	Nimbus-7	UV albedo (nadir)	Polar, sun-synchronous	SO <sub>2</sub> mass and ozone (Bluth et al., 1992; McPeters et al., 1992)
Solar Backscatter Ultraviolet Spectral Radiometer (SBUV)	NOAA-11	UV albedo (nadir)	Polar, sun-synchronous	SO <sub>2</sub> mass and ozone (McPeters et al., 1992)
NOAA Advanced Very High Resolution Radiometer (AVHRR)	NOAA-10, -11, -12	4 Vis-IR channels (nadir)	Polar, sun-synchronous	Aerosol optical depth (Stowe et al., 1992; Long and Stowe, 1994), plume height (Lynch and Stephens, 1996), cloud cover (Stowe et al., 1999)
High Resolution Radiation Sounder (HIRS)	NOAA 6-17	19 IR channels (nadir)	Polar, sun-synchronous	SO <sub>2</sub> mass and cloud-top height (Miles et al., 2017)
Stratospheric Aerosol and Gas Experiment (SAGE II)	Earth Radiation Budget Satellite (ERBS)	5 channels, Vis–IR (limb scanning)	Polar	Aerosol optical depth/extinction, aerosol max heights, Ozone (McCormick and Veiga, 1992)
Microwave Sounding Unit (MSU)	NOAA-10,-11,-12	4 MW channels (nadir)	Polar, sun-synchronous	Surface-Upper Stratospheric temperature anomalies (Spencer et al., 1990; Dutton and Christy, 1992)
Improved Stratospheric and Mesospheric Sounder (ISAMS)	Upper Atmosphere Research Satellite (UARS)	8 IR channels (limb scanning)	Near-Polar	Aerosol extinction, mass, and height (Lamberte et al., 1993)
Microwave Limb Sounder (MLS)	UARS	4 MW channels (limb scanning)	Near-Polar	SO <sub>2</sub> mass and temperature profiles (Read et al., 1993)

# Observed Pathways Thrust

## *Available Reanalysis Data for Mt. Pinatubo*

### What is reanalysis data?

- Blend of **observations** with past short-range weather/climate **forecasts** rerun with modern weather/climate forecasting models.
- Generated using **data assimilation** techniques.
- Provides the **most complete picture** of past weather and climate.

### Available reanalysis data for Mt. Pinatubo eruption:

- **ERA-5 reanalysis**
  - 1979-present
  - Observations from various satellites, radiosonde data and surface observations
  - Model input is from ECMWF (European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts) forecast model, which takes into account forcing from total solar irradiance, GHGs, ozone and some aerosols.
- **MERRA-2 reanalysis**
  - 1979-present
  - Uses similar observations to ERA-5
  - Model input is from NASA Goddard Earth Observing System (GEOS) model



<https://climate.copernicus.eu/climate-reanalysis>



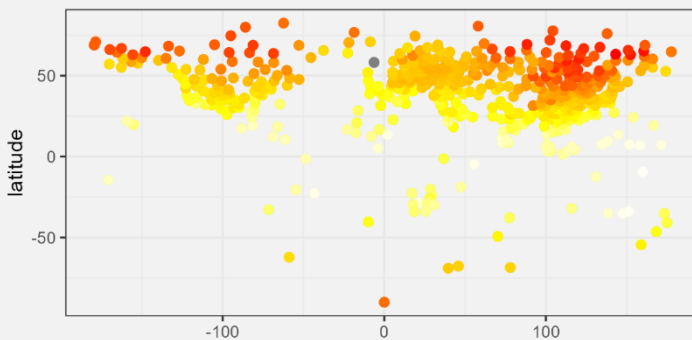


# Observed Pathways Thrust

## *Data Fusion*

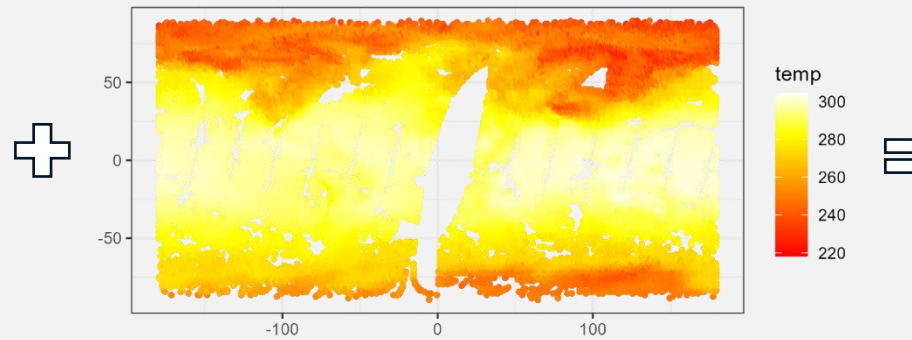
- **Challenge:** observational data sets are incongruent, coming from different instruments and possessing different scales and different spatial and temporal ranges
- **Goal:** fuse observational datasets to obtain near-real time measurements and produce a spatio-temporally complete observational dataset with UQ
  - ⇒ simple Kriging does not propagate uncertainty from different sources
    - **Lattice Kriging:** nonparametric approach with multi-resolution basis function representations and Gaussian error structure [Nychka et al. 2017]
    - **Spatial Random Effects Model** [Nguyen et al. 2012, 2013, 2017, 2018]
    - **Bayesian Hierarchical Framework using Integrated Nested Laplacian Approximation (INLA)** [Campos et al. 2023]

IGRA Surface Temp 1990-01-01 morning



Observational data

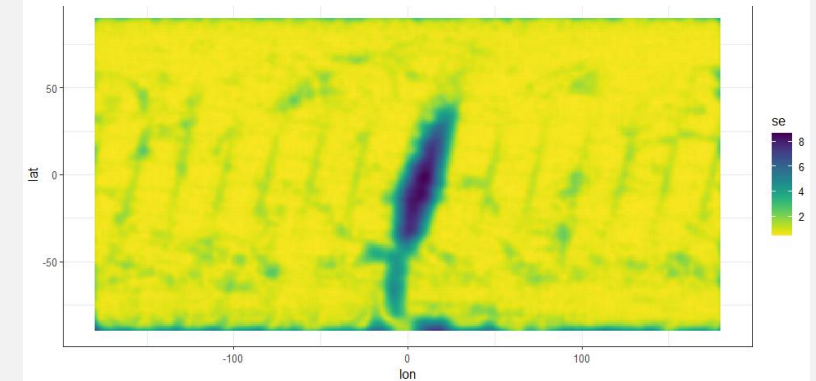
TOVS Surface Temps 1990-01-01 morning



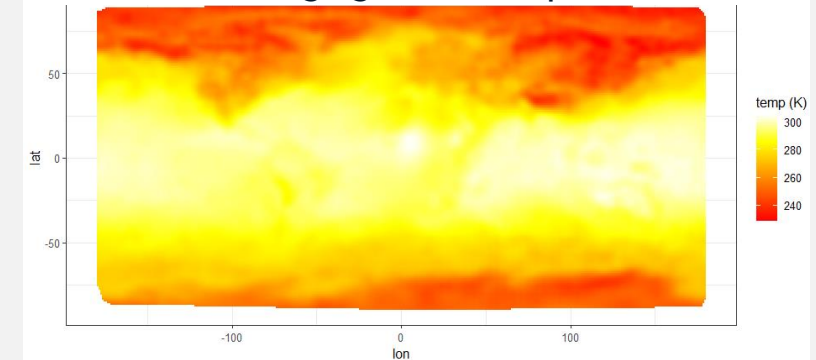
Observational data



Lattice Kriging Standard Error



Lattice Kriging Mean Temperature



Fused data



# Synthetic Test Case Formulation

## Two Variable Changepoint Exemplar

- **Tiered Datasets, four formulations across**

- Temporal trends
- Temporal trends on spatial grid
- Temporal trend on linearly-trended spatial grid

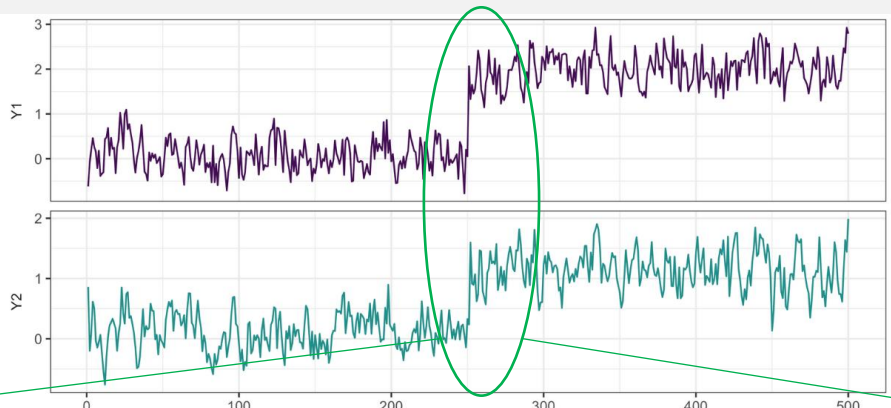
- **Characteristics**

- Distinct numbers of couplings with both linear and nonlinear relationships
- Distinct lags
- Quasi-periodicity
- Noise degree
- Change in mean value

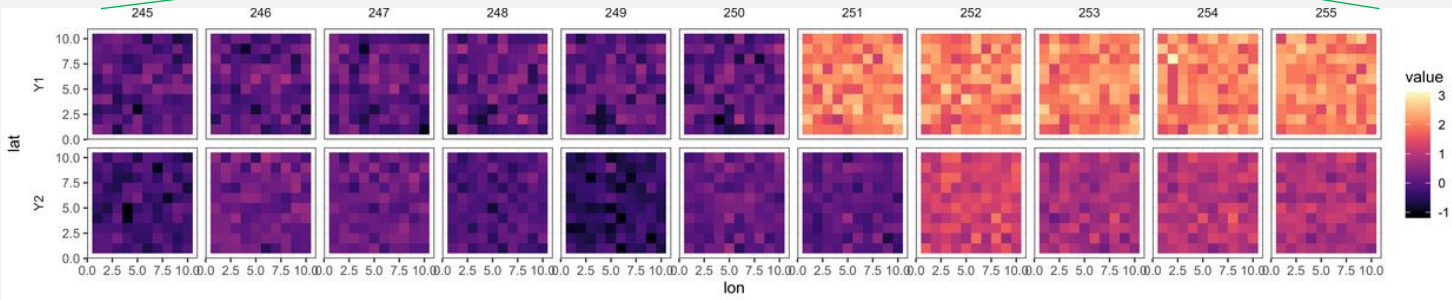
$$Y_{1,t} = 0.5Y_{1,t-1} + 2I[t > 250] + \epsilon_{Y_{1,t}}$$
$$Y_{2,t} = 0.2Y_{1,t-1} + 0.6Y_{2,t-1} + \epsilon_{Y_{2,t}}$$

$$\epsilon_{Y_{1,t}} \sim N(0, 0.1)$$
$$\epsilon_{Y_{2,t}} \sim N(0, 1)$$

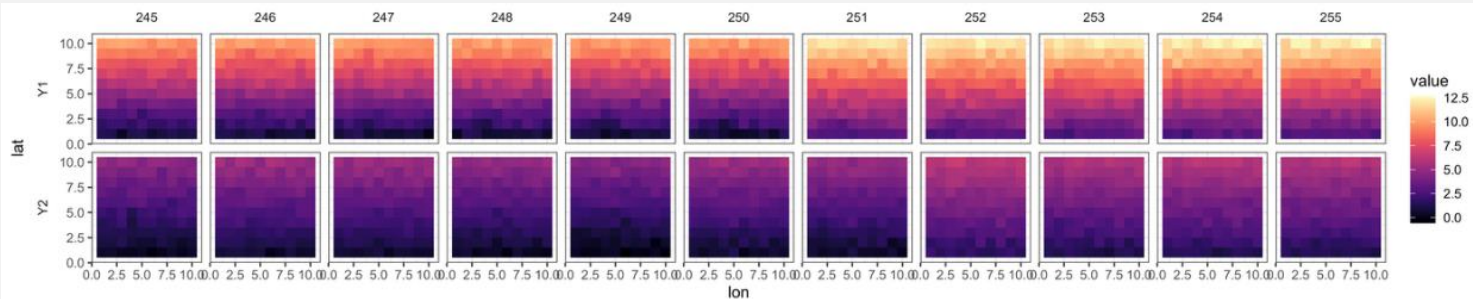
Temporal Trend



Temporal Trend in Space



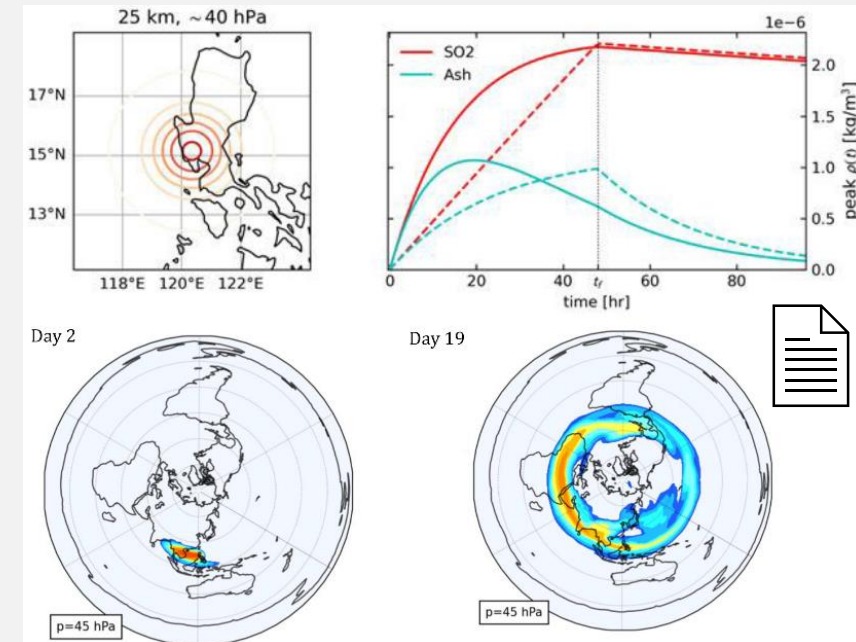
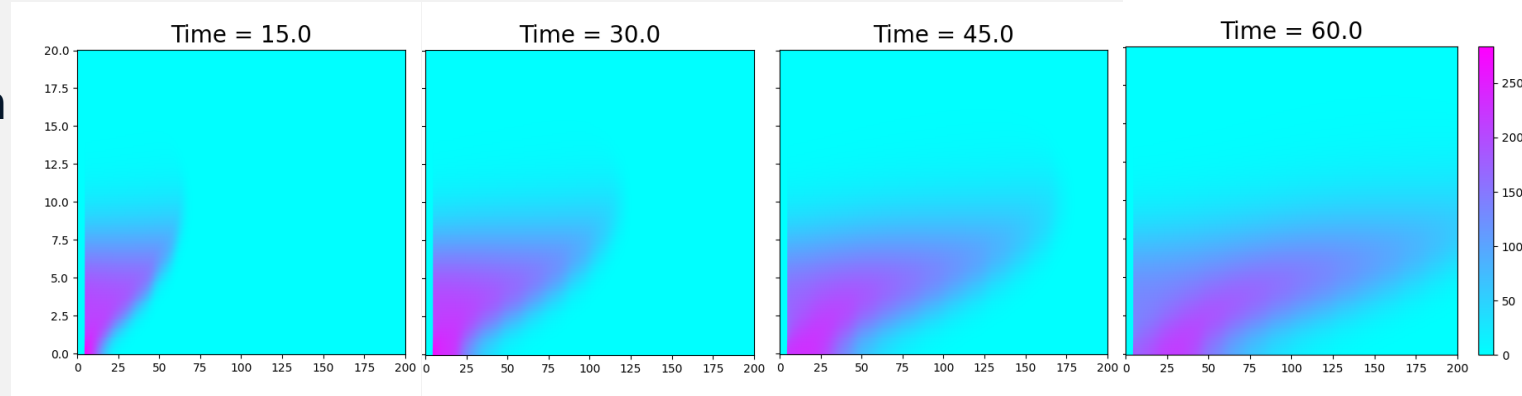
Spatio-Temporal Trend  
Linearly-trended Spatial Grid



# Idealized Test Case Formulations

## Gaussian Plume Plus Held-Suarez Williamson ++

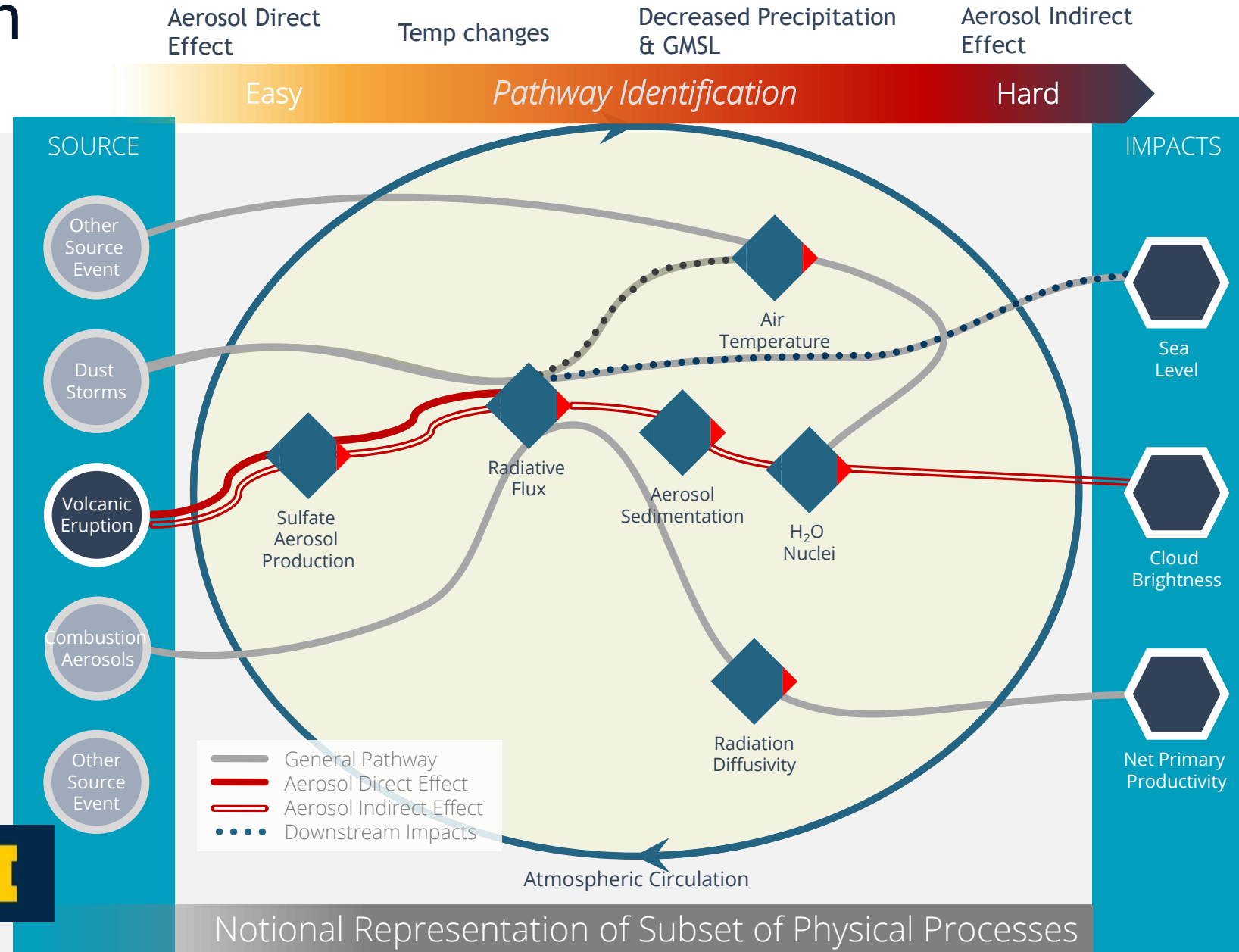
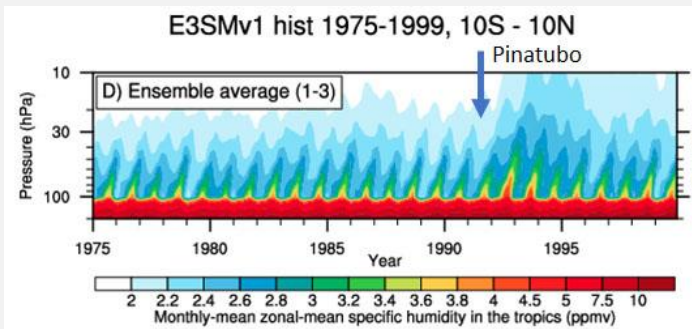
- PDE solution: based on transient convection-diffusion-reaction PDE in 2D.
- **Input:** variable winds, reaction functions for chemistry, realistic lifetimes, and variable source magnitudes/durations
- Create realistic circulation with E3SM's dynamic solver using idealizations for process physics/forcings
  - Radiation: Newtonian temperature relaxation towards  $T_{eq}$
  - Planetary boundary layer: Rayleigh friction & optional topography
- Mimic Mt. Pinatubo eruption via a prescribed, time-limited injection of an  $\text{SO}_2$  and ash Gaussian plume
- Develop series of correlated tracers for 'toy' chemistry, develop temperature/radiation feedbacks in plume, ...



# Mt. Pinatubo Validation

An identified **pathway** will be considered “correct” if it contains as “nodes” most of the known **aerosol direct, indirect and downstream effects** from Mt. Pinatubo eruption

- Validation requires **assessments** of SAI-related processes in E3SM
  - Conservation checks
  - STE processes in E3SM (figure below)
  - E3SM’s climatic response to Pinatubo
  - Compare E3SM’s circulation to reanalysis products (ERA-5)
  - Idealized tracer transport experiments



Above: enhanced H<sub>2</sub>O vapor in 1992-93 (“tropical tape recorder”, CMIP6 E3SMv1 coupled historical simulations)