

Phytoplankton response under SAI differs due to upgrading MARBL configuration from 3p1z to 4p2z

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Outline

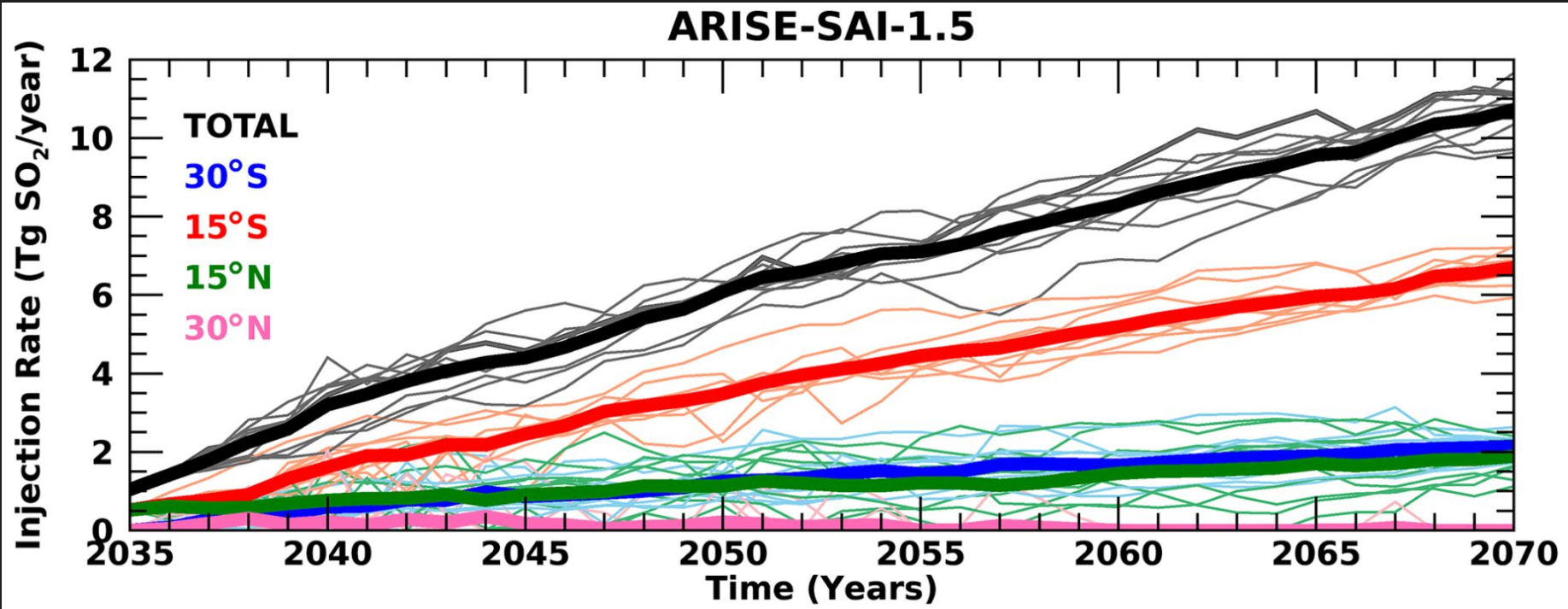
1. introduce arise-sai project
2. introduce 4p2z configuration with explicit calcifiers
3. basic chemical changes in the ocean under ssp2-4.5 then under sai-1.5
4. how does phytoplankton respond to warming and acidification?
5. how do calcifiers respond and why?
6. why is natural variability of calcification so different?

Assessing Responses and Impacts of Solar Intervention on the Earth system with Stratospheric Aerosol Injection (ARISE-SAI; Richter et al., [2022](#))

What is ARISE-SAI?

- 10 ensembles using CESM2(WACCM6-POP2-MARBL3p1z) where sulfate aerosols are injected into the stratosphere to maintain global surface temperatures at 1.5°C above the pre-industrial mean, while CO₂ emissions follow SSP2-4.5
- A controller algorithm is used to determine the latitude at which to inject the aerosols so global surface temperatures remain constant while the pole-to-equator temperature gradient does not change.
- because it used a 3p1z configuration of MARBL there was NO explicit calcifying phytoplankton!

Assessing Responses and Impacts of Solar Intervention on the Earth system with Stratospheric Aerosol Injection (ARISE-SAI; Richter et al., [2022](#))

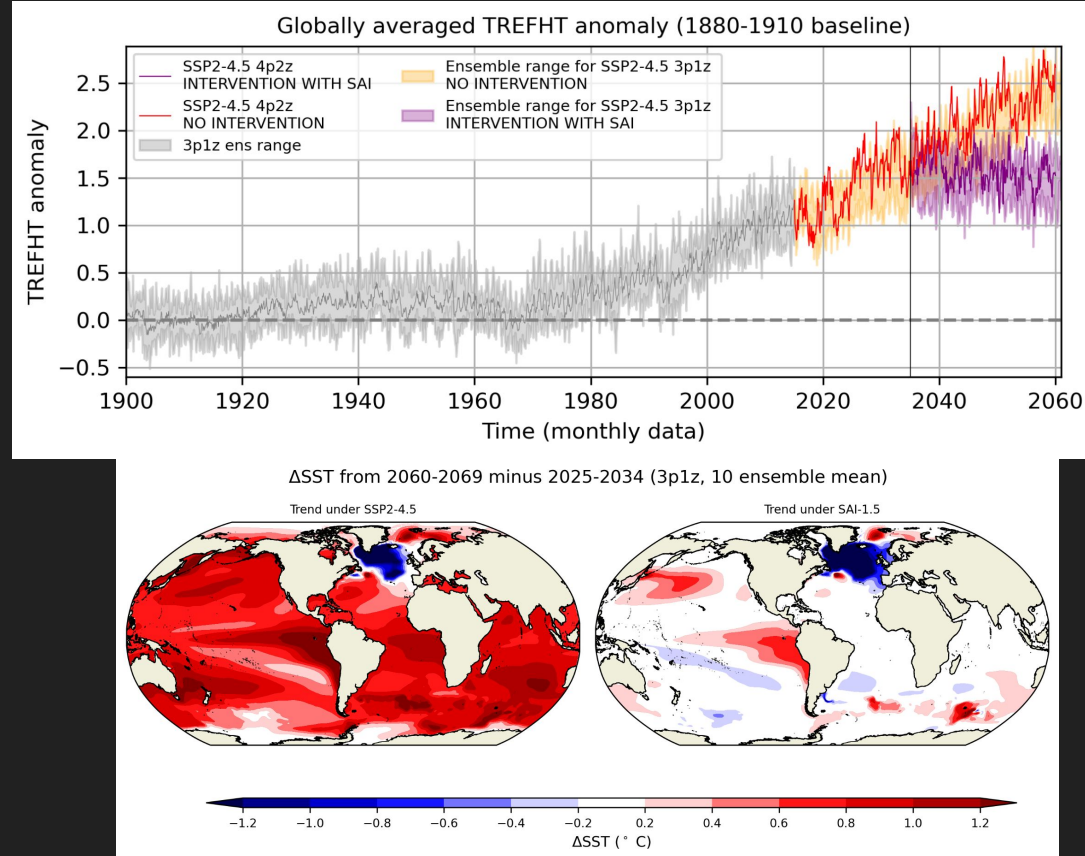


Introducing ARISE-SAI-4p2z

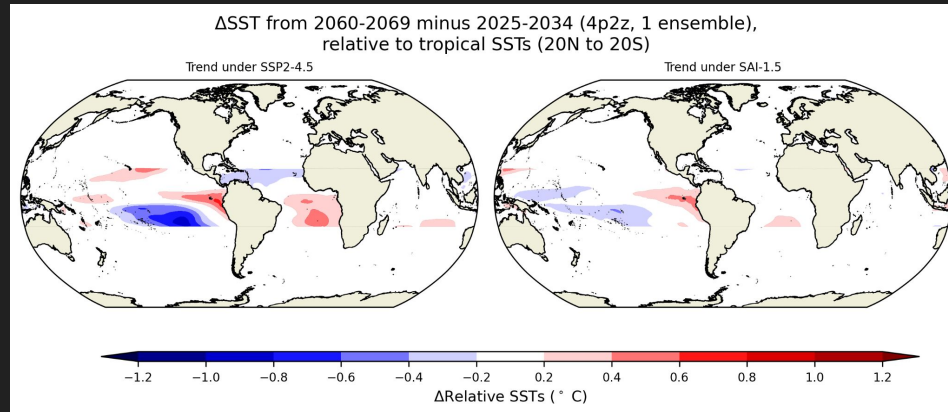
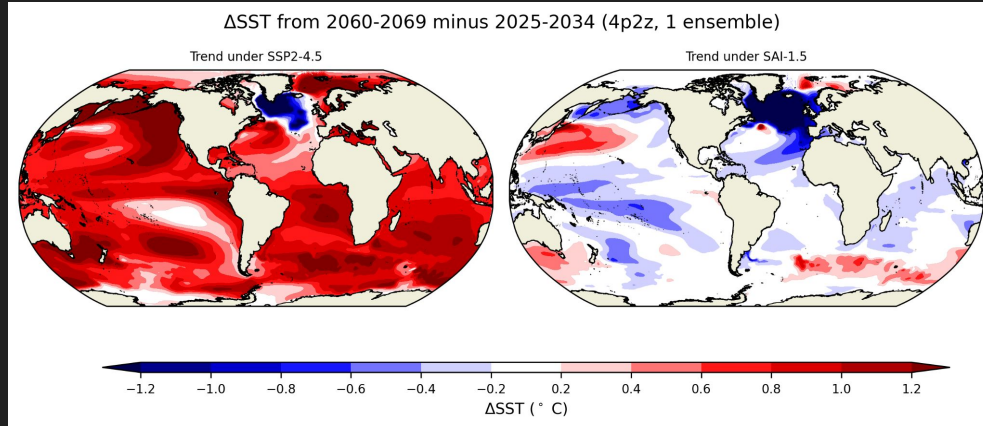
- We ran a single simulation of ARISE-SAI with an updated MARBL-4p2z configuration.
 - Includes EXPLICIT representation of coccolithophores that:
 - uptake carbon
 - produce calcium carbonate
 - have varying shell thickness as a function of aqueous CO_2 concentration
 - Simulation begins in 2015
 - SAI begins during 2035, when global mean surface temperatures rise to 1.5°C above the pre-industrial mean.
 - Simulation ends in 2070.
- 3p1z** = small phytoplankton, diatoms, diazotrophs, zooplankton
4p2z = 3p1z + coccolithophores, zooplankton divided into two different size classes

Physical climate state under SAI

- SAI reduces global surface temperatures while maintaining the ITCZ position.
- Despite best efforts to avoid unintended consequences, there are still regional temperature variations
- El Nino-like warming remains under SAI, AMOC related cooling unchanged.

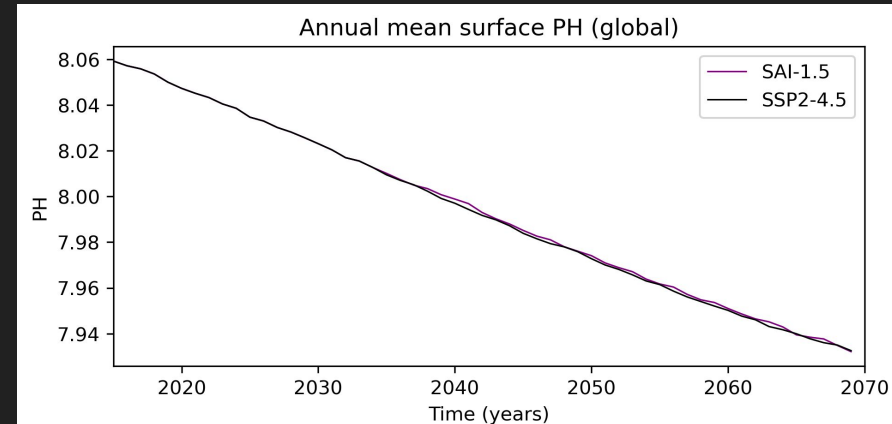
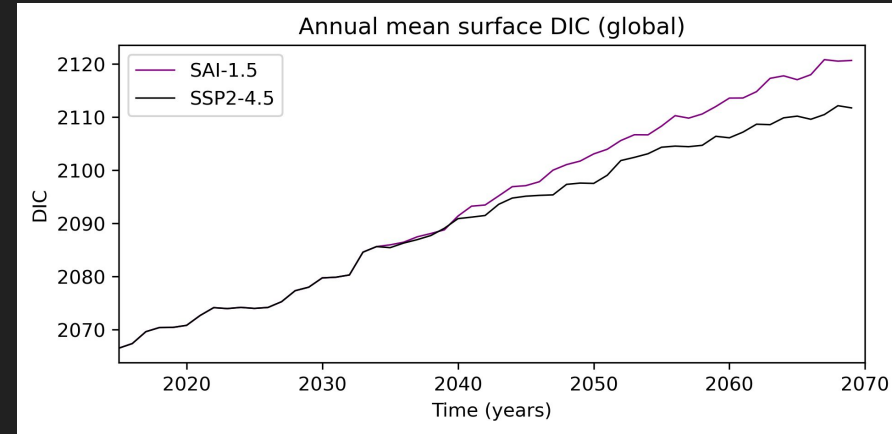


Physical climate state in SAI (4p2z)



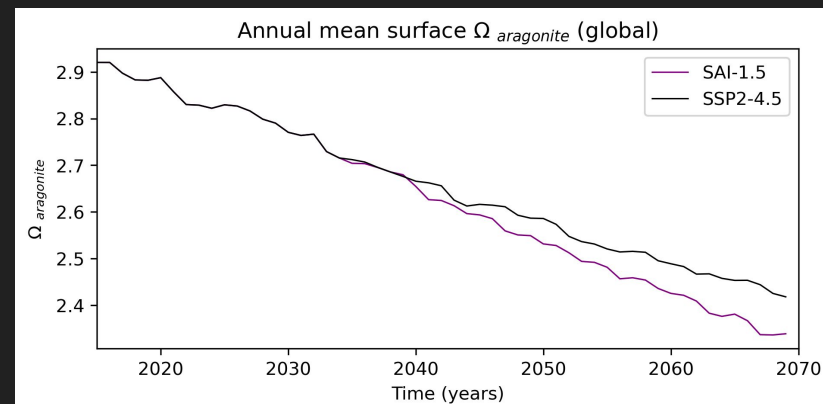
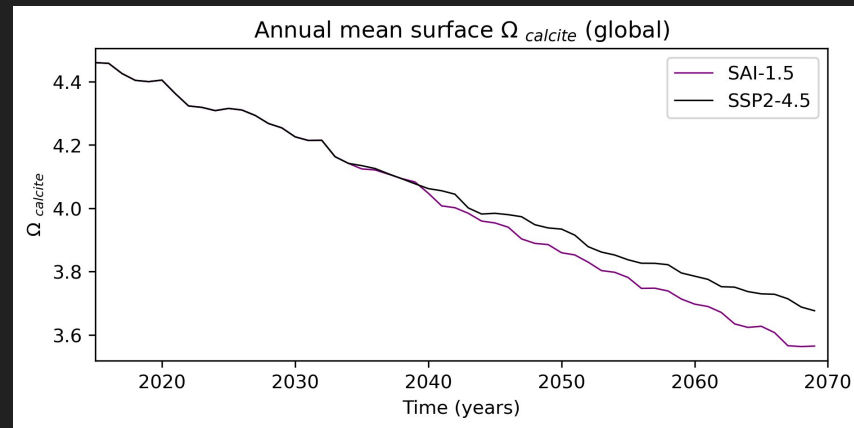
Chemical changes under SAI (4p2z)

- Surface DIC increases at a faster rate under SAI compared to SSP2-4.5 because of greater uptake under colder temperatures.
- pH shows little difference between SSP2-4.5 and SAI despite carbon uptake.



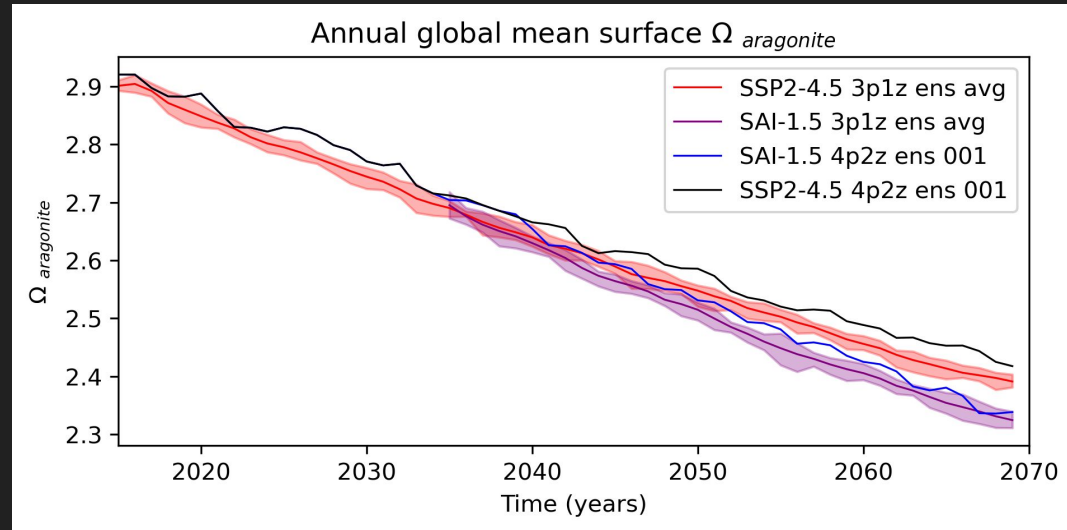
Chemical changes under SAI (4p2z)

- $\Omega_{\text{aragonite}}$ and Ω_{calcite} decline under SSP2-4.5 and SAI.
- SAI exacerbates decline, making it harder for corals and coccolithophores to make shells.



Differences between 3p1z and 4p2z?

- Inclusion of an explicit calcifier can affect global patterns of alkalinity (Krumhardt et al., [2020](#))
- 4p2z and 3p1z have different base states for variables such as $\Omega_{\text{aragonite}}$, important for corals.

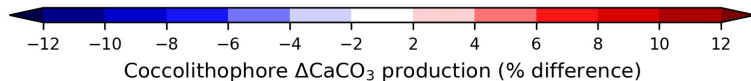
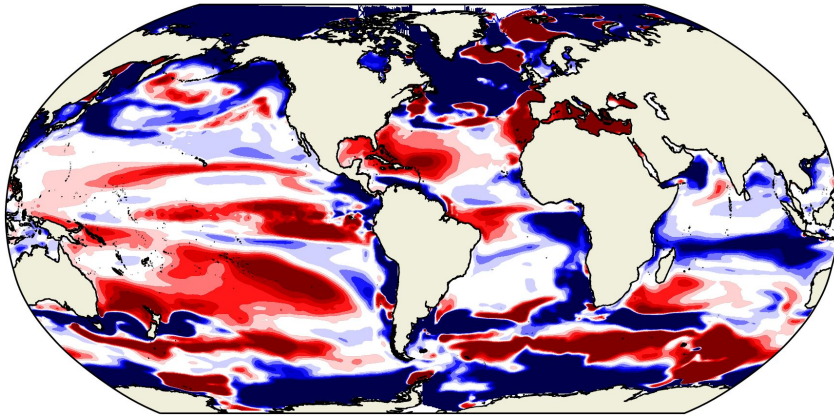


Effect of SAI on calcification in 3p1z and 4p2z

- A lot of similarities, but notable differences.

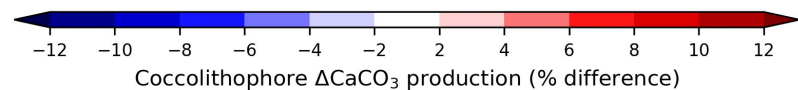
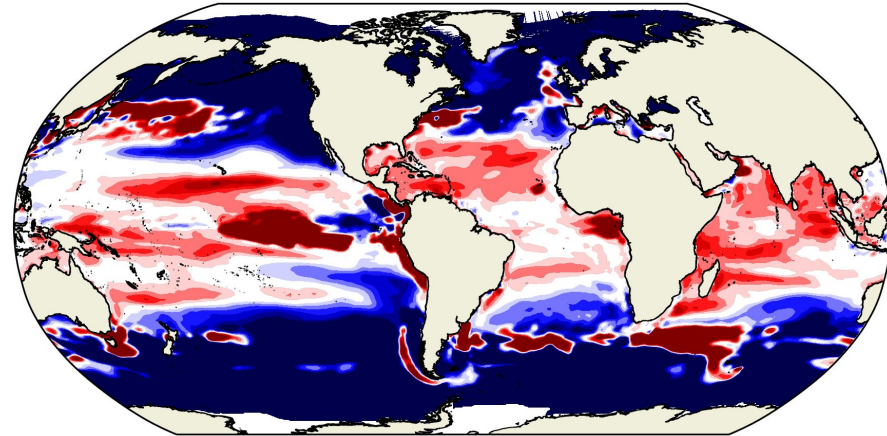
Quantifying effect of SAI on coccolithophore ΔCaCO_3 production from 2060-2069 to 2025-2034 (3p1z, ensemble mean)

SAI-1.5 minus SSP2-4.5



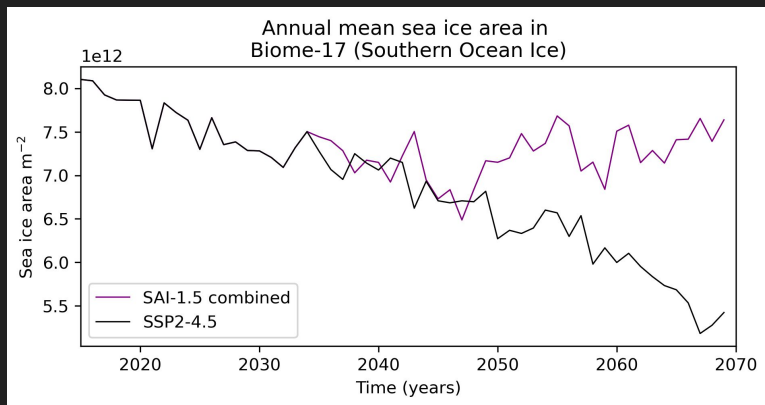
Quantifying effect of SAI on coccolithophore ΔCaCO_3 production from 2060-2069 to 2025-2034 (4p2z, ens 001)

SAI-1.5 minus SSP2-4.5

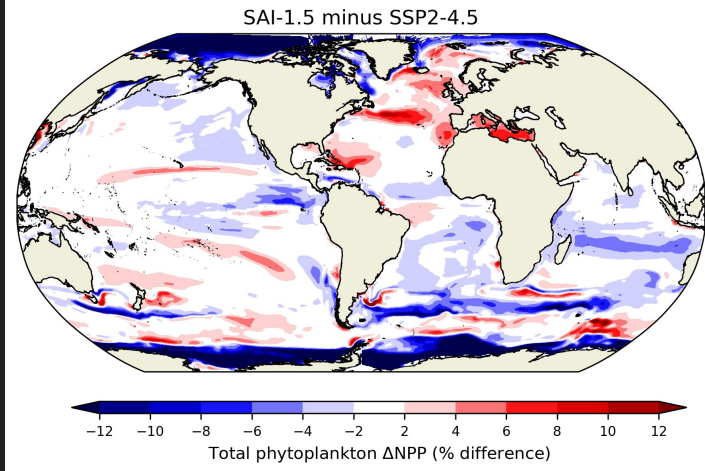


Phytoplankton response to SAI (3p1z)

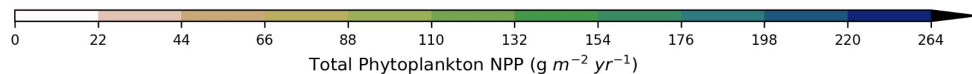
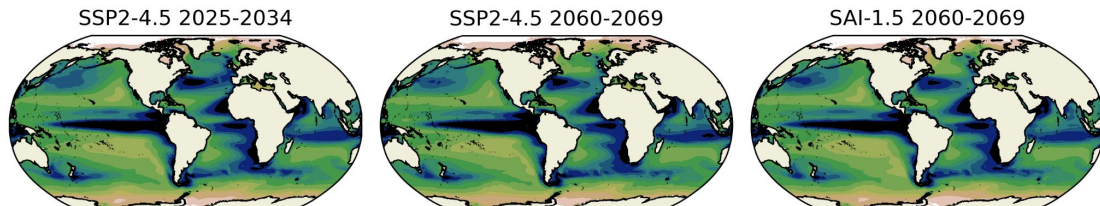
- Sea ice rebound under SAI removes gains in productivity at high latitudes



Quantifying effect of SAI on total phytoplankton ΔNPP from 2060-2069 to 2025-2034 (3p1z, ensemble mean)



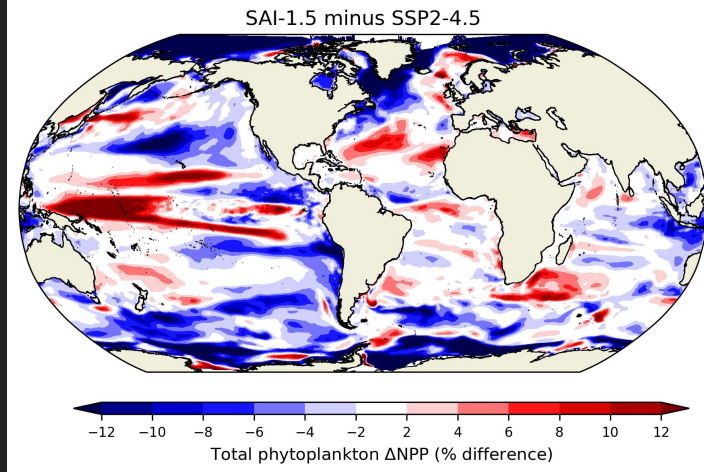
Vertically integrated total phytoplankton productivity



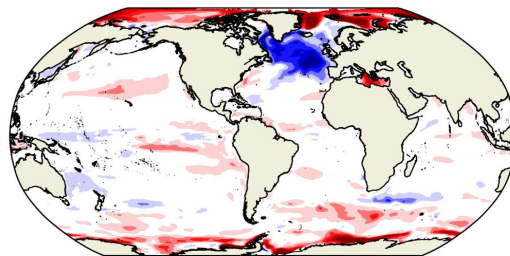
Phytoplankton response to SAI (4p2z)

- Very similar patterns compared to 3p1z except for the Sargasso Sea decline.
- Decline in productivity under areas with sea ice rebound is obvious, despite only one ensemble member.

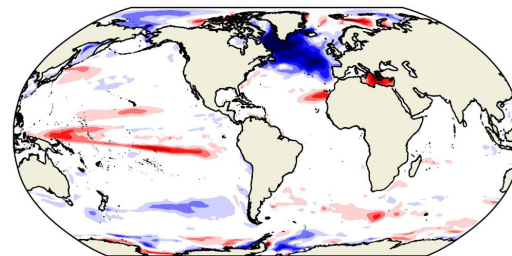
Quantifying effect of SAI on total phytoplankton Δ NPP from 2060-2069 to 2025-2034 (4p2z, ens 001)



Total phytoplankton Δ NPP from 2060-2069 minus 2025-2034 (4p2z, ens 001)
Difference under SSP2-4.5



Difference under SAI-1.5

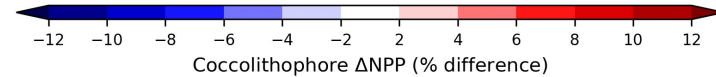
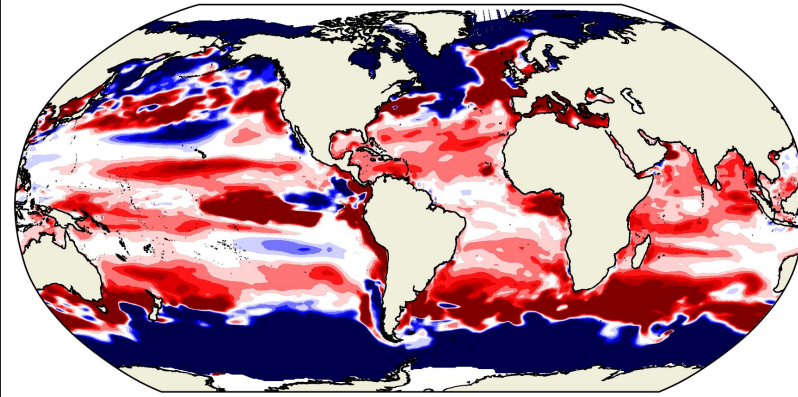


Coccolithophore response to SAI

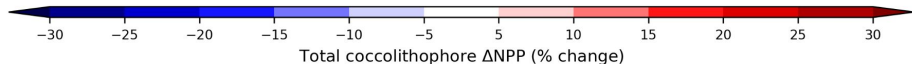
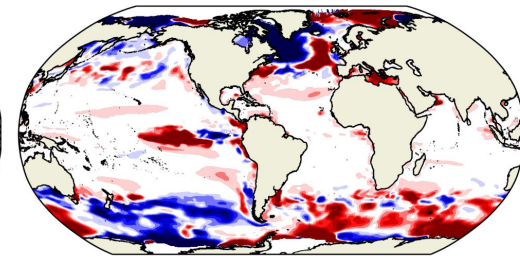
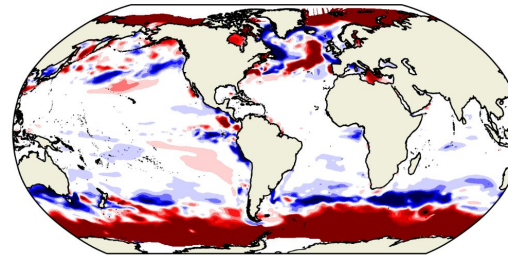
- No significant trends in global productivity.
- High regional variability.

Quantifying effect of SAI on coccolithophore Δ NPP from 2060-2069 to 2025-2034 (4p2z, ens 001)

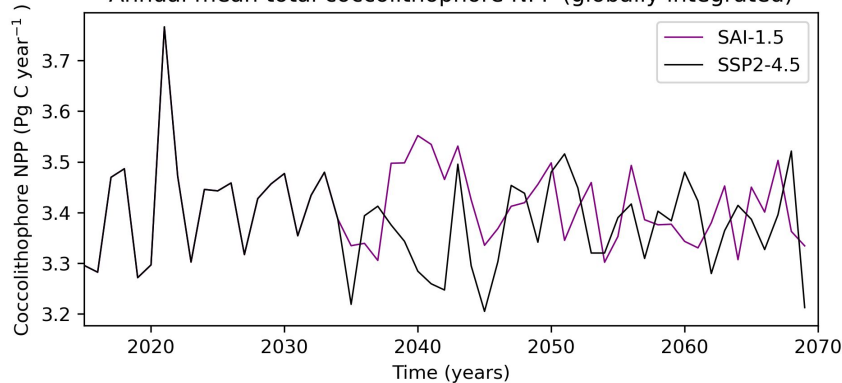
SAI-1.5 minus SSP2-4.5



Total coccolithophore Δ NPP from 2060-2069 minus 2025-2034 (4p2z, ens 001)
Difference under SSP2-4.5

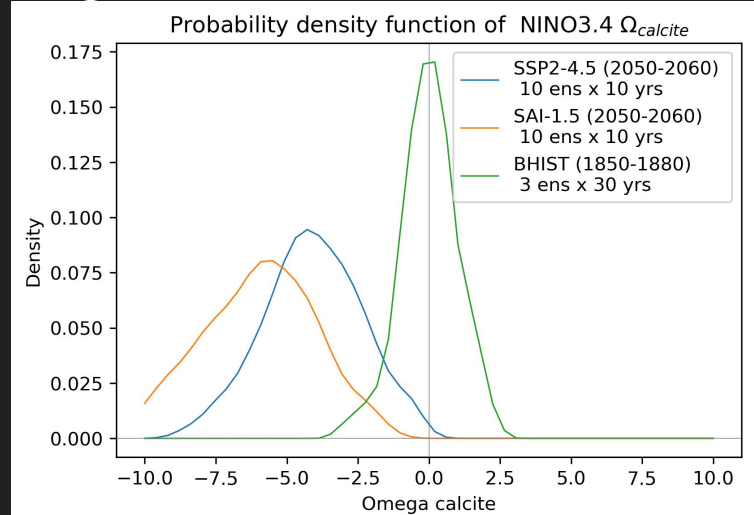
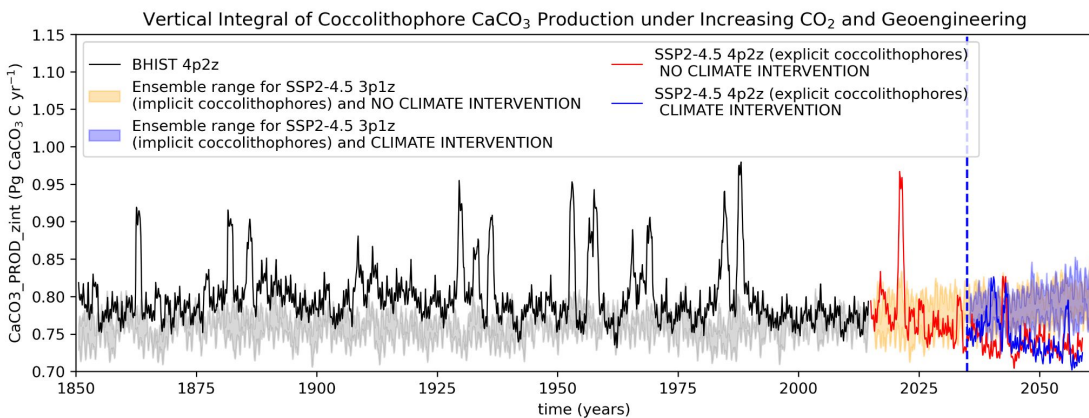


Annual mean total coccolithophore NPP (globally integrated)

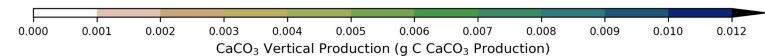
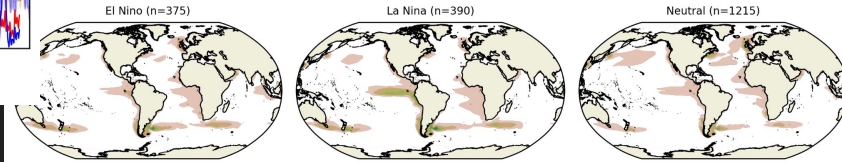


Calcification signal linked to ENSO region

- Strong signal in Nino3.4 region Ω_{calcite} , suggesting ENSO can drive global calcification.

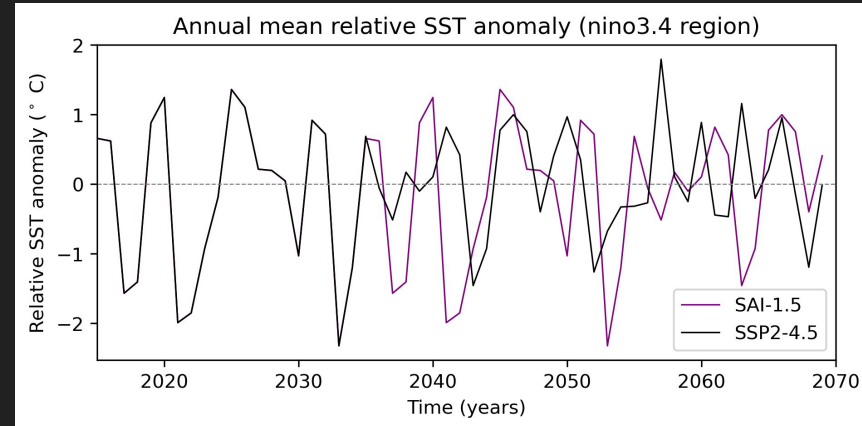
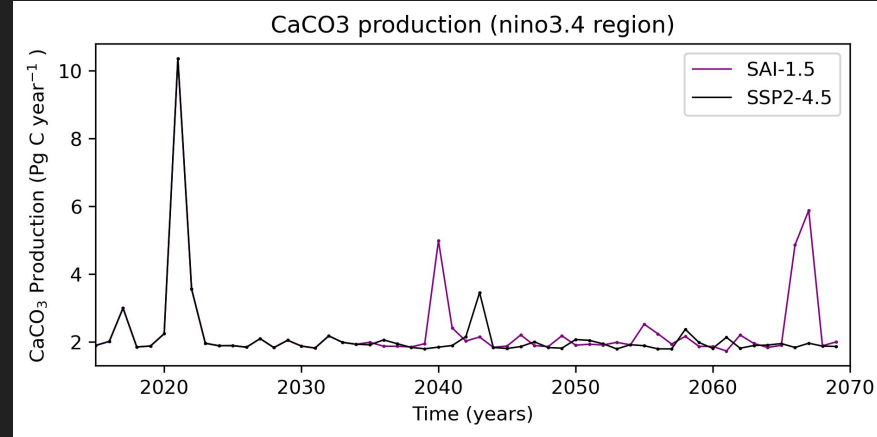


$\text{CaCO}_3_PROD_zint$ under different ENSO states



El Niño effect on coccolithophores

- High amplitude La Niña-El Niño-La Niña swings cause high CaCO_3 anomalies that dominate global interannual CaCO_3 variability.



Summary & Conclusions

- SAI can reach simultaneous temperature targets but spatial variability is still present.
- SAI-driven cooling enhances uptake of atmospheric carbon and thins shells of coccolithophores relative to SSP2-4.5.
- Calcification declines overall, productivity remains similar, but very large regional variability in phytoplankton response.

