

Dr. Hongwei Sun

Contact Information

Department of Atmospheric Sciences
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Education

Harvard University,	<i>Doctor of Philosophy (Environmental Science),</i>	05/2023
Tsinghua University,	<i>Master of Science (Atmospheric Science),</i>	05/2018
Sun Yat-Sen University,	<i>Bachelor of Science (Atmospheric Science),</i>	05/2015

Working Experiences

Department of Atmospheric Sciences, University of Hawaii

- 08/2025 till now: *Tenure-track assistant professor*
- 09/2024-07/2025: *Non-compensated faculty*

Department of Atmospheric Sciences, University of Washington

- 08/2023-08/2025: *Postdoc scholar*

Department of the Geophysical Sciences, University of Chicago

- 06/2023-08/2023: *Postdoc scholar*

Research Interests

Small-scale aerosol-cloud interactions, marine cloud brightening.

Large-scale stratospheric dynamics and aerosols, stratospheric aerosol injection.

Coupled multiscale plume-in-grid model development.

Climate intervention and mitigation (renewable energies & environment).

Publications (* denotes students or postdocs supervised by Hongwei Sun)

Hongwei Sun, Peter Blossey, Robert Wood, Ehsan Erfani, Sarah Doherty, Jeyun Chun. 2026. *Climate Warming Could Weaken Aerosol-Cloud Interactions in Subtropical Marine Stratocumulus*. npj Climate and Atmospheric Science.

Hongwei Sun, Stephen Bourguet, Lan Luan, David Keith. 2024. *Stratospheric transport and tropospheric sink of solar geoengineering aerosol: a Lagrangian analysis*. npj Climate and Atmospheric Science.

Hongwei Sun, Stephen Bourguet, Sebastian Eastham, David Keith. 2023. *Optimizing Injection Locations Relaxes Altitude-Lifetime Trade-Off for Stratospheric Aerosol Injection*. Geophysical Research Letters.

Hongwei Sun, Sebastian Eastham, David Keith. 2022. *Developing a Plume-in-Grid model for plume evolution in the stratosphere*. Journal of Advances in Modeling Earth Systems.

Jianbin Huang, Pengkang Lou, **Hongwei Sun**, Yong Luo, Zongci Zhao. 2019. *Numerical experimental study on the potential climatic impacts of large-scale wind farms in China*. Advances in Climate Change Research.

Hongwei Sun, Yong Luo, Zongci Zhao, Rui Chang. 2018. *The impacts of Chinese wind farms on climate*. Journal of Geophysical Research: Atmospheres.

In review:

Hanchang Ko* and **Hongwei Sun**. *Spatial and Temporal Variation of Stratospheric Turbulence Retrieved from High Vertical - Resolution Radiosonde Observations*. [Preprint](#).

In Preparation (* denotes students or postdocs supervised by Hongwei Sun.):

Hongwei Sun, Amy Butler, Qiang Fu. *Stratospheric Dynamical Drivers of Particle Transport: Implications for Stratospheric Aerosol Injection*. In preparation.

Hongwei Sun, Mingyi Wang, Jian Wang. *Using Large-Eddy Simulations to Study How Marine Boundary Layer Clouds Response to Different Types of Aerosols*. In preparation.

Conference Presentations

2026. *Aerosol-Cloud Interactions Weaken in a Warmer Climate*. 106th AMS Annual Meeting. Houston, USA. Oral.

2025. *Developing a Plume-in-Grid Model for Plume Evolution in the Stratosphere*. Virtual Workshop Series on Stratospheric Aerosol Injection (SAI). World Climate Research Program (WCRP). Oral ([Recording](#)).

2024. *A Lagrangian Analysis of Particle Transport in the Stratosphere: How QBO Modulates Stratosphere-to-Troposphere Flux (ST-Flux)?* AGU Fall Conference. Washington DC, USA. Poster.

2024. *How Aerosol-Cloud Interactions Respond to Climate Change in Large Eddy Simulations* Micro2Macro Workshop. Laramie (WY), USA. Poster.

2024. *Quantifying Stratospheric Particle Transport and Exploring Related Physical Drivers: A Lagrangian Analysis*. APARC Reanalysis Intercomparison (A-RIP) Workshop. Boulder, USA. Online oral.

2024. *Response of Aerosol-Cloud Interactions to Global Warming in Large Eddy Simulations*. CFMIP conference. Boston, USA. Poster.

2023. *Analyzing Zonal Asymmetry of Particle Transport in the Stratosphere: Is Injection Longitude Worth Considering for Stratospheric Aerosol Injection?* AGU Fall Conference. San Francisco, USA. Oral.

2022. *Investigating Particle Transport in the Stratosphere Based on Stratospheric Aerosol Injection*. SPARC (Stratosphere-troposphere Processes And their Role in Climate) conference. Colorado, USA. Poster.

2022. *Developing and Coupling a Lagrangian Plume Model into GEOS-Chem Model to Resolve Subgrid Plumes in the Stratosphere*. 10th International GEOS-Chem Conference. Saint Louis, USA. Oral.

2022. *Developing a Plume-in-Grid Model to Simulate Plume Evolution for Stratospheric Aerosol Injection*. Gordon Research Conference: Climate Engineering. Newry, USA. Poster.

2019. *Long-term Behavior of Stratospheric Aerosol Plumes in a Solar Geoengineering Scenario*. AGU Fall Conference. San Francisco, USA. Oral.

2017. *Regional climate model suggests upstream wind farms have weak but significant impacts on wind speed in Beijing during winter*. 4th International Conference Energy & Meteorology. Bari, Italy. Poster.

Invited Talks and Seminars

2025. Seminar at Climate Systems Engineering Initiative. University of Chicago.
2025. *Seminar in Atmospheric Physics and Chemistry*. University of Washington.
2025. [Seminar](#) at Department of Earth System Science. Tsinghua University.
2024. [Seminar](#) at Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences. Chinese University of Hong Kong.
2024. *Atmospheric Sciences Special Seminar*. University of Hawaii.
2023. *Seminar in Atmospheric & Climate Dynamics*. University of Washington.
2023. *Reviewer 2 does Geoengineering podcast*. Available on [Spotify](#) and [Apple](#) Podcasts.
2023. *Solar Climate Intervention Virtual Symposia*. Online ([Recording](#)).
2023. Atmospheric Science & Engineering Laboratory, Washington University in St. Louis.
2023. *TAB Talks* (Tsinghua Alumni in Boston Talks). Online ([Recording](#) in Chinese).
2022. *Graduate Student & Postdoc Seminar*. Harvard University.

Teaching Experience

2026. Instructor: [ATMO 708 General Circulation of the Atmosphere](#). Graduate-level course.
2024. Guest Lecturer: *Exploring Atmospheric and Climate Science*, University of Washington.
2023. Invited speaker for the Roundtable Discussion: *Teaching as an International Scholar* at Harvard Teaching Conference.
2022. *Certificate of Distinction in Teaching*, awarded by Harvard University.
2021. Teaching Fellowship: *Energy within Environmental Constraints*, Harvard University.
2020. Teaching Fellowship: *Introduction to Meteorology and Climate*, Harvard University.
2016. Teaching Fellowship: *Calculus I*, Tsinghua University.

Mentoring Experiences

I serve on the PhD dissertation committee for: Frederike Monte (U Hawaii); Elliott Fosler-Lussier (U Hawaii).

Han-Chang Ko: Postdoc in my group at University of Hawaii.

- Han-Chang works with me on estimating stratospheric turbulence.

Bingqing Zhang: Postdoc co-hired by University of Chicago and University of Hawaii.

- Co-advised by Prof. Mingyi Wang (UChicago) and me.
- Working on developing a multi-scale plume-in-grid model.

Sakura Takahashi: Undergraduate at University of Hawaii at Manoa.

- Co-advised by Prof. Chuang Xu (Math Department, UHawaii) and me
- Senior undergraduate project: combining high-resolution observations and Lagrangian trajectory model to estimate stratospheric turbulence.

Liam Schiffer: Undergraduate at University of Wisconsin, Madison.

- I mentored Liam in the [2024 CICOES undergraduate intern program](#) at University of Washington.
- [Project](#): Using Data-Driven Methods to Estimate Cloud Radiative Effects.

Professional Service

Peer reviewer for: Science Advances; Atmospheric Chemistry and Physics (ACP); Earth's Future; Geophysical Research Letters (GRL); Scientific Reports; Journal of Geophysical Research

(JGR): Atmospheres; Geoscientific Model Development (GMD); Wind Energy.

Reviewer for National Science Foundation (NSF) grant proposals.

Curriculum Committee member (09/2025-now)

- Department of Atmospheric Sciences, University of Hawaii at Manoa.
- Review courses, align program offerings with strategic goals, and gather and analyze student feedback.

AMS session convener ([2026](#))

- *Aerosol-Earth System Interactions from Regional to Global Scale (18th Symposium on Aerosol-Cloud-Climate Interactions).*

AGU session conveners ([2024](#), [2025](#)):

- *Stratospheric Dynamics, Aerosol Processes, and the Interactions with the Troposphere.*
- *Boundary Layer Clouds and Climate Change.*

2024 till now. Secretary for Northwest Regional Chapter, Chinese-American Oceanic and Atmospheric Association (COAA-NWC).

2024. Judge of the National Collegiate Research Conference (2024) at Harvard University.