

LETTER

Role of sulphuric acid aerosols and solar rays in atmospheric

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Atmospheric aerosols exert an important influence on climate through their effects on stratiform cloud albedo and the invigoration of convective storms¹. Model calculations indicate that almost half of the global cloud condensation nuclei in the atmospheric boundary layer may originate from the aerosols from trace condensable vapours⁴, although the sensitivity of the number of cloud condensation nuclei to changes in the vapour concentration rate may be small^{5,6}. Despite extensive research, questions remain about the nucleation rate of sulphuric acid particles and the mechanisms responsible, including

