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Impact of stratospheric resolution on seasonal forecast skill for Europe

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We assess the impact of stratospheric resolution on forecast skill in the Hadley Centre's atmospheric circulation model. The standard version of the model without stratospheric resolution has 38 vertical levels (L38), while the extended version with stratospheric resolution has 60 levels (L60). We conducted 5-month ensemble hindcasts for a suite of 15 winters within the last 45 years to investigate the atmospheric response of each model to volcanic aerosols, the El Nino Southern Oscillation, stratospheric warming events, and the North Atlantic Oscillation.