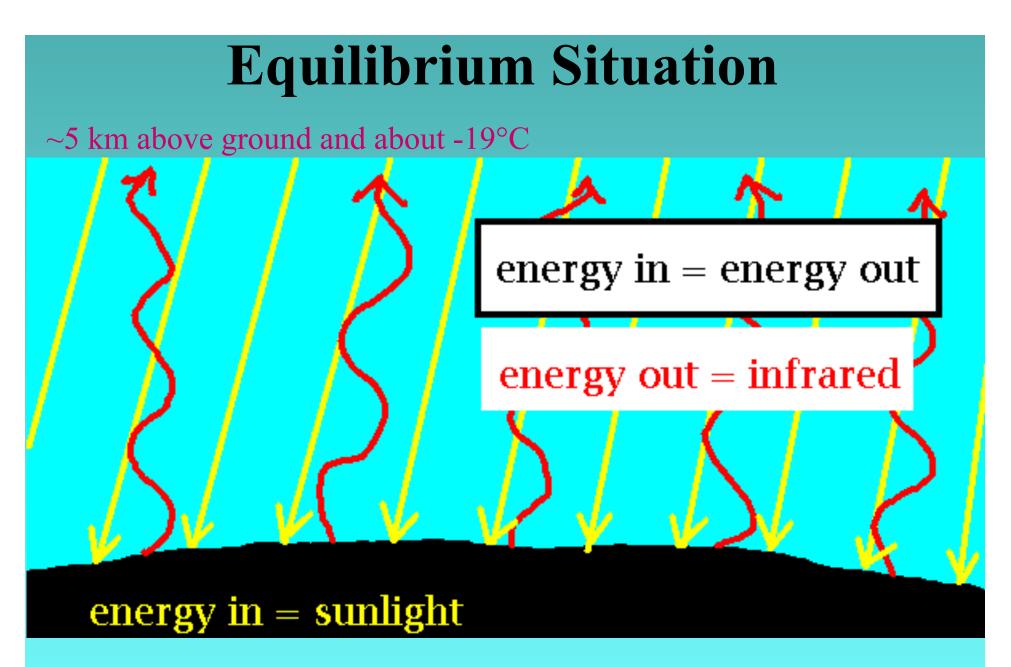
Climate Change: Basic Physics and Trends and Projections of Concentrations of Greenhouse Gases and Ambient Temperature

Mark Goldberg



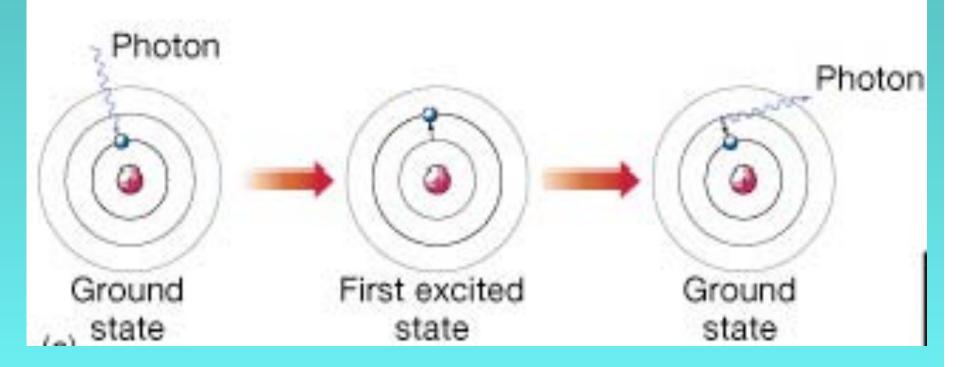
http://zebu.uoregon.edu/~soper/Earth/earthtemp.html

Infrared Radiation



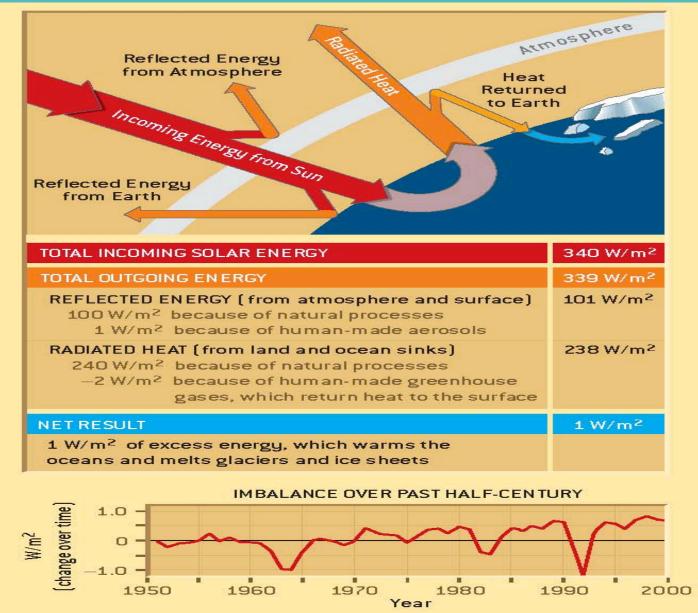


Absorption and remission of photons



The emitted photon can go in any direction

Energy Imbalance (J Hansen)

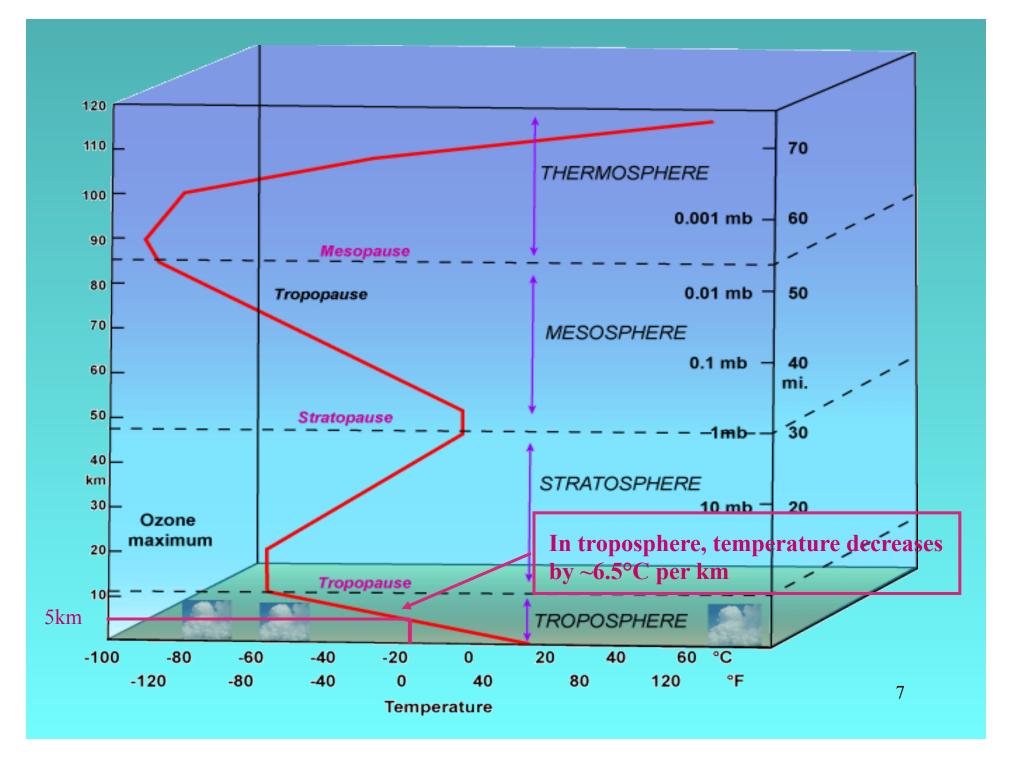


5

Greenhouse Effect: Essential Concepts

- Infrared radiation emitted to space originates from an altitude of ~5 km and it has a temperature of about -19°C
- The Earth's surface is at a much higher temperature of, on average, +14°C

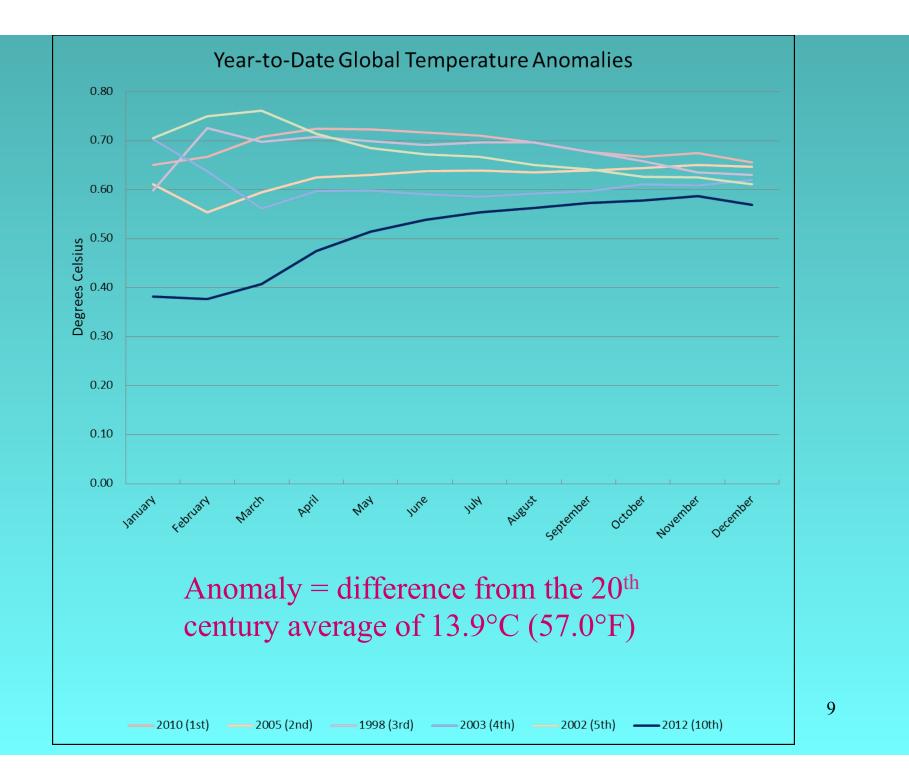
 $-T_{surface}$ = -19°C + 5km x 6.5°C/km=14°C



2012: Land and ocean average global temperature

- Average global temperature in 2012: 14.47°C
- 10th warmest year since records began in 1880

- 20th century average of 13.9°C (57.0°F)



Selected Important Greenhouse Gases

Gas	Preindustrial concentration	Current concen- tration	Increase since 1750	Atmosph- eric lifetime (years)	Green- house Warming Potential
CO ₂	280 ppm	393.8 ppm	113.8	100	1
Methane	700 ppb	1,874 ppb	1,174	12	25
Nitrous oxide (N ₂ O)	270 ppb	324 ppb	54	114	298
CFC-12	0	531 ppt	531	100	10,900 10

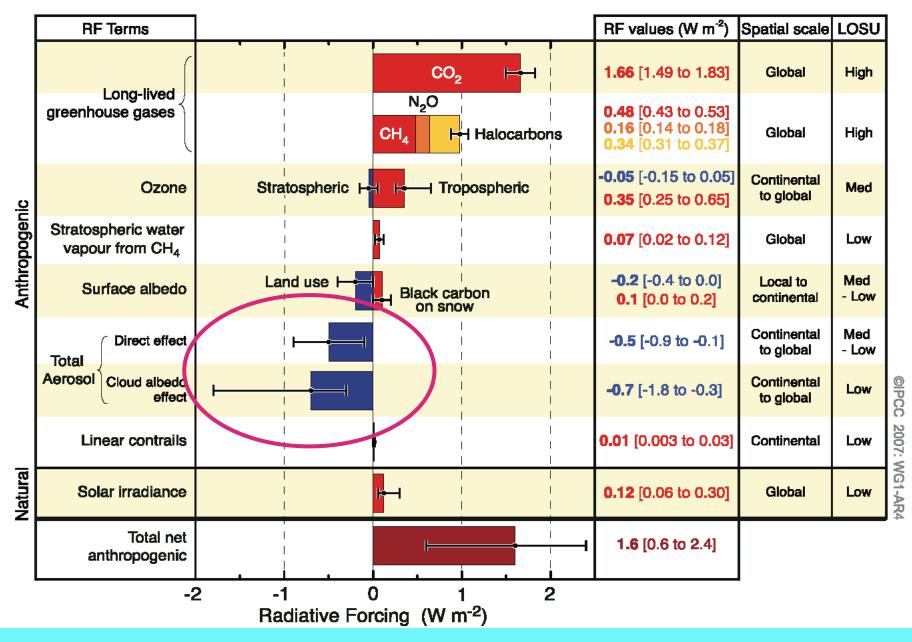
Definition: Radiative Forcing

- The difference between the incoming radiation energy and the outgoing radiation energy in a given climate system
- "A measure of the influence that a factor has in altering the balance of incoming and outgoing energy in the Earth-atmosphere system" (IPCC WG1, 2007) 11

Radiative Forcing

- A positive forcing (more incoming energy) tends to warm
- A negative forcing (more outgoing energy) tends to cool
- Examples of positive forcing:
 - increases in incident solar radiation
 - increases in green house gases

RADIATIVE FORCING COMPONENTS



IPCC-Climate sensitivity: ~ 0.75 ± 0.25 °C per watt per square meter. ¹³

Other Factors that Can Contribute to Global Warming

Changes in Solar Flux

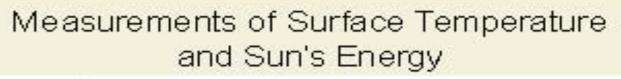
- 11 year solar cycle
- Milankovitch cycles
 - See Wikipedia and the Weather Makers

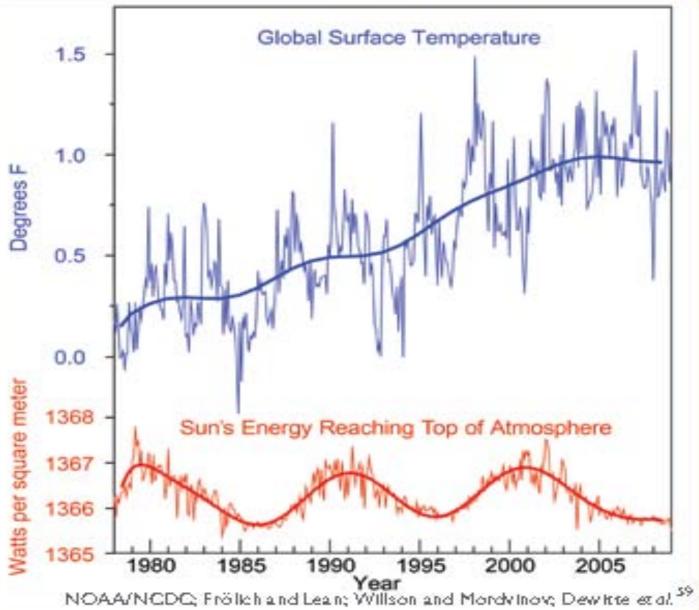
Milankovitch Cycles

- Milankovitch cycles are the collective effect of changes in the Earth's movements upon its climate, named after Milutin Milanković
- These variations in the earth's orbit have a profound effect on climate, but over very long periods of time

Short-term Solar Sunspot Activity

- Average duration of sunspot cycle is 11.1 years (range: 9-14 years)
- 28 year cycle in which there are minima and maxima in solar irradiance

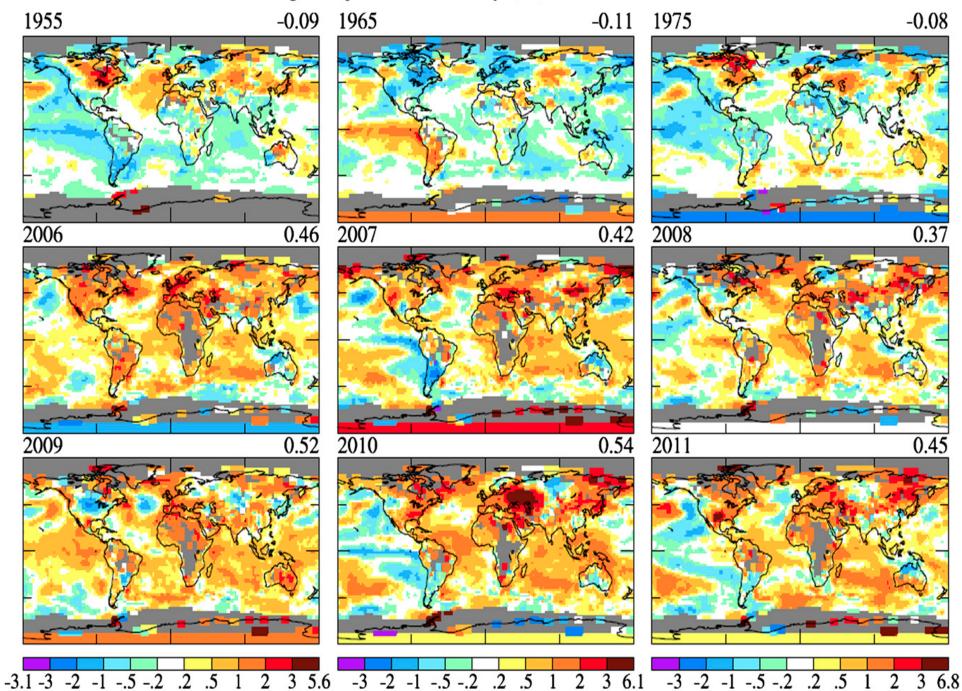




Observations of Climate Change: Evidence for Anthropocentric Effect on Climate Can we say that current weather is due to global warming, or is it just a statistical fluke?

From: Hansen et al. "Perception of Climate Change" PNAS September 11, 2012, vol. 109 (37), p 14727ff

Jun-Jul-Aug Temperature Anomaly (°C): Base Period = 1951-1980



.5 2 .2 1

Changes in Climate this Century

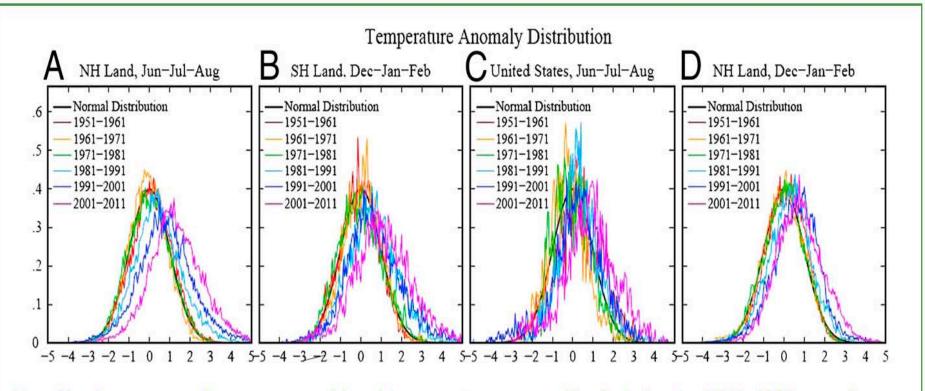
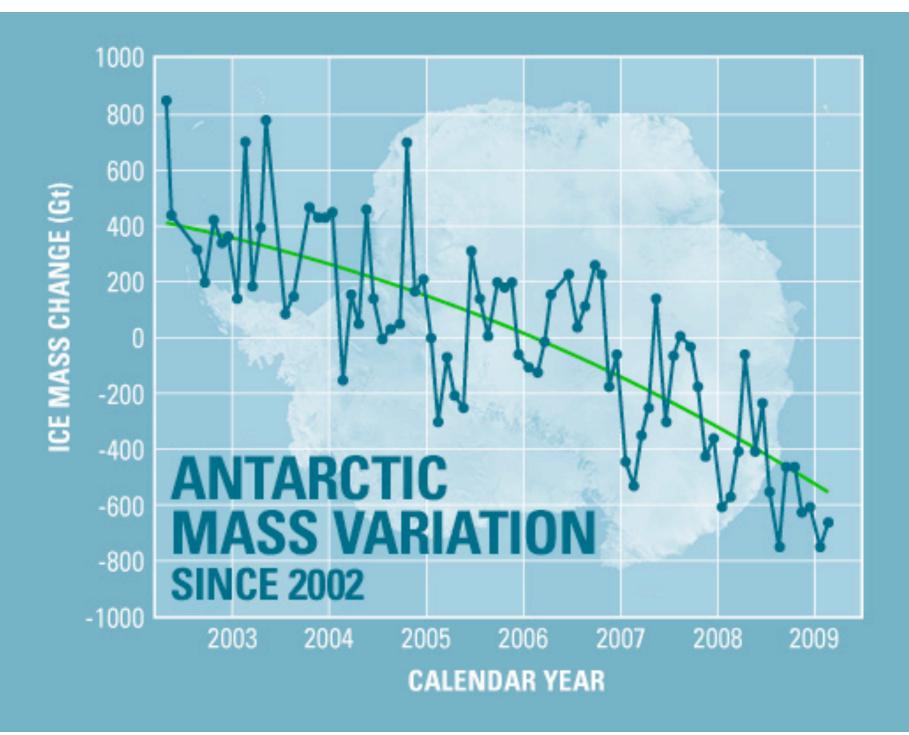
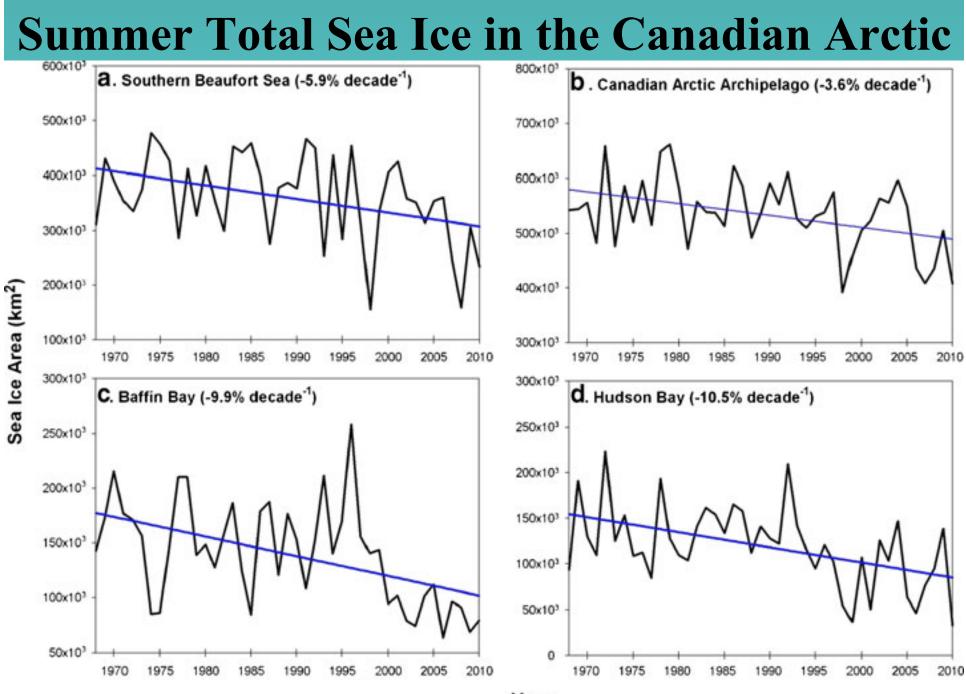


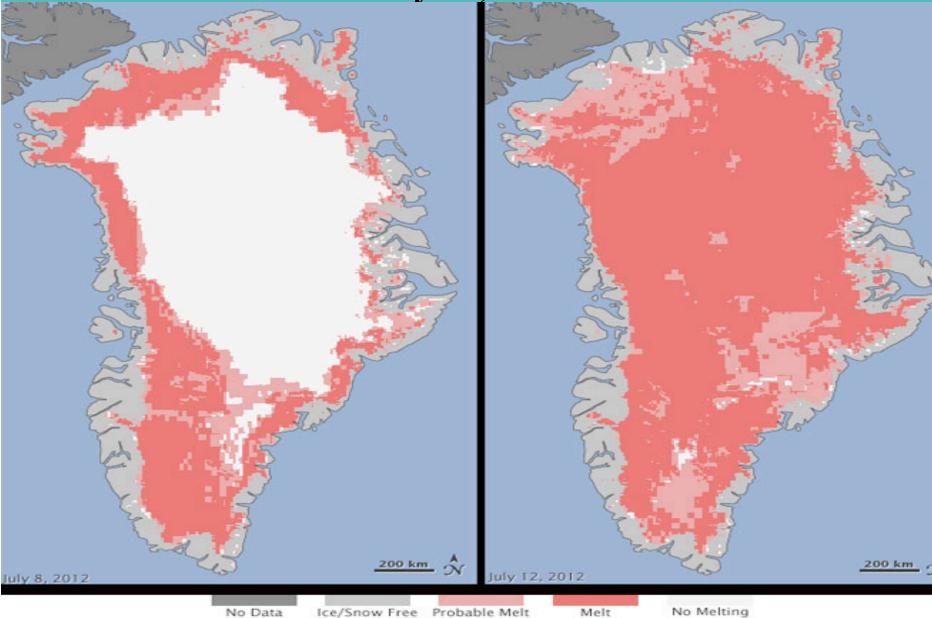
Fig. P1. Frequency of occurrence of local temperature anomalies (relative to 1951–1980 mean) divided by local standard deviation obtained by counting gridboxes with anomalies in each 0.05 interval of the standard deviation (*x* axis). Area under each curve is unity.



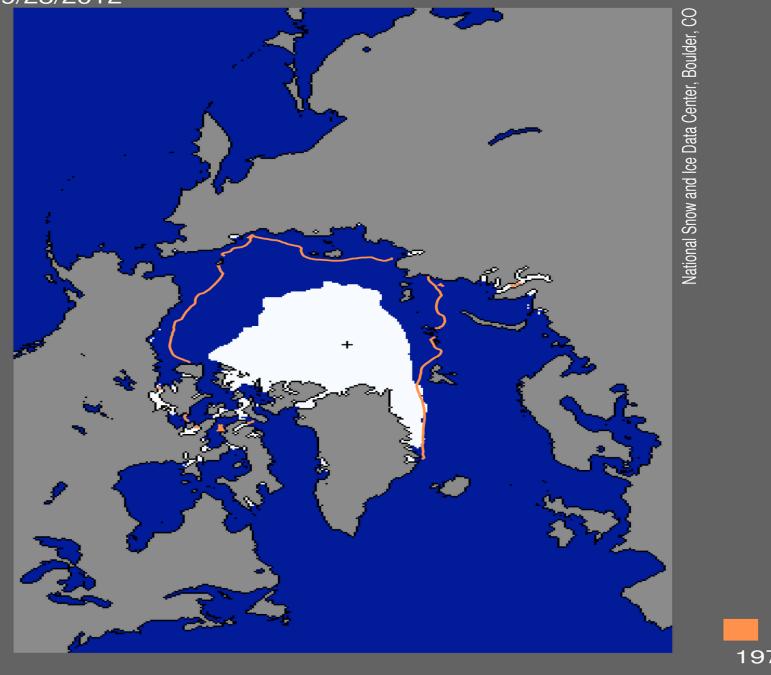


Year

Ice melt Greenland from Satellites: L: July 8; R: July 12, 2012



Sea Ice Extent 09/28/2012



median 1979–2000







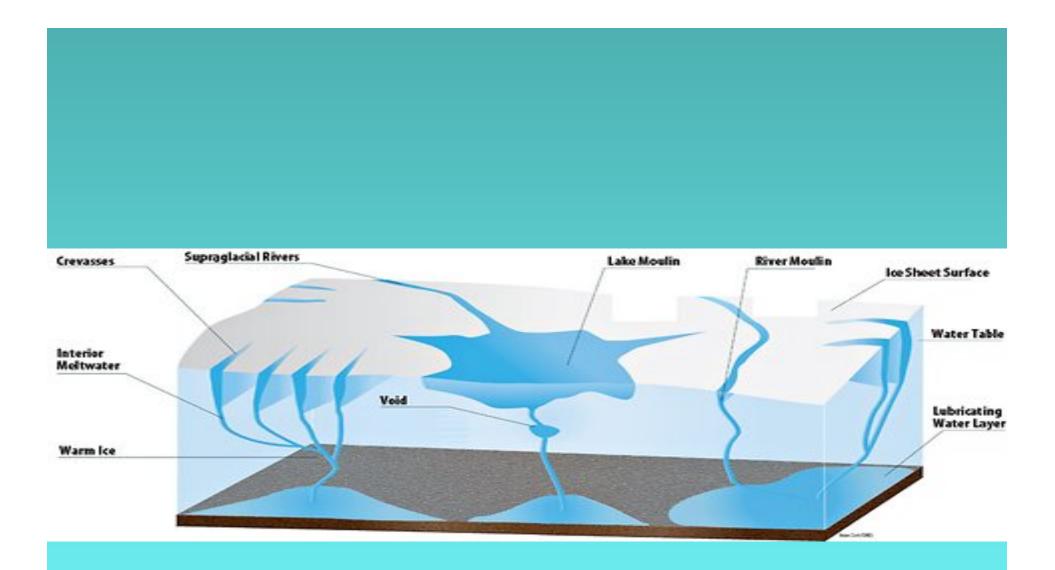


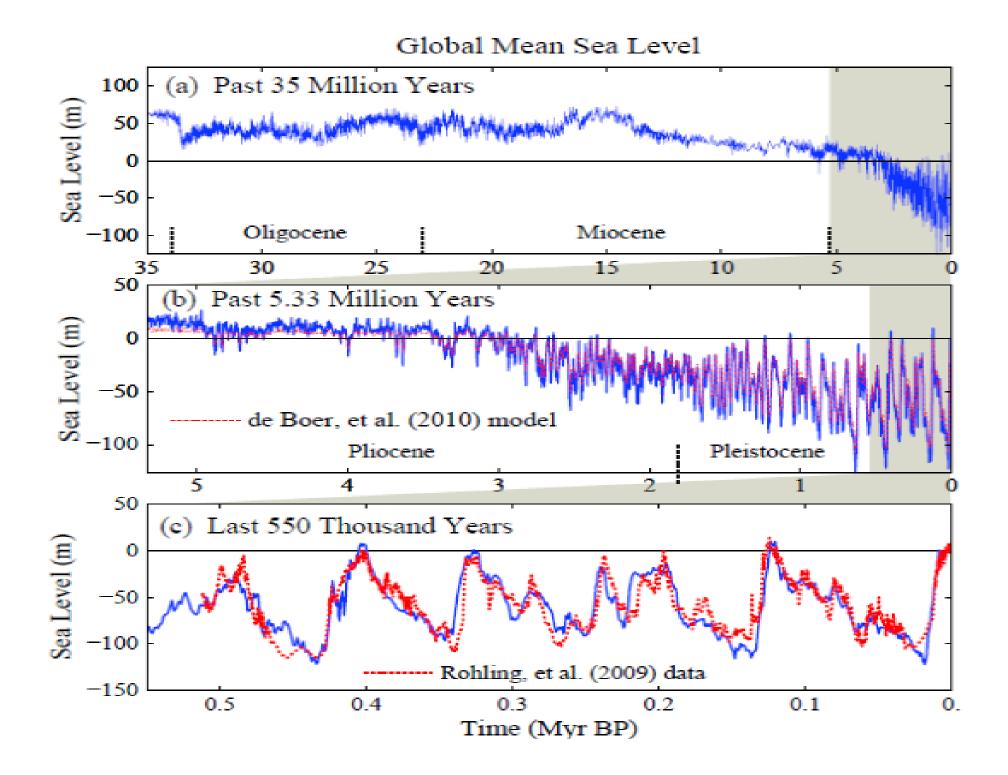


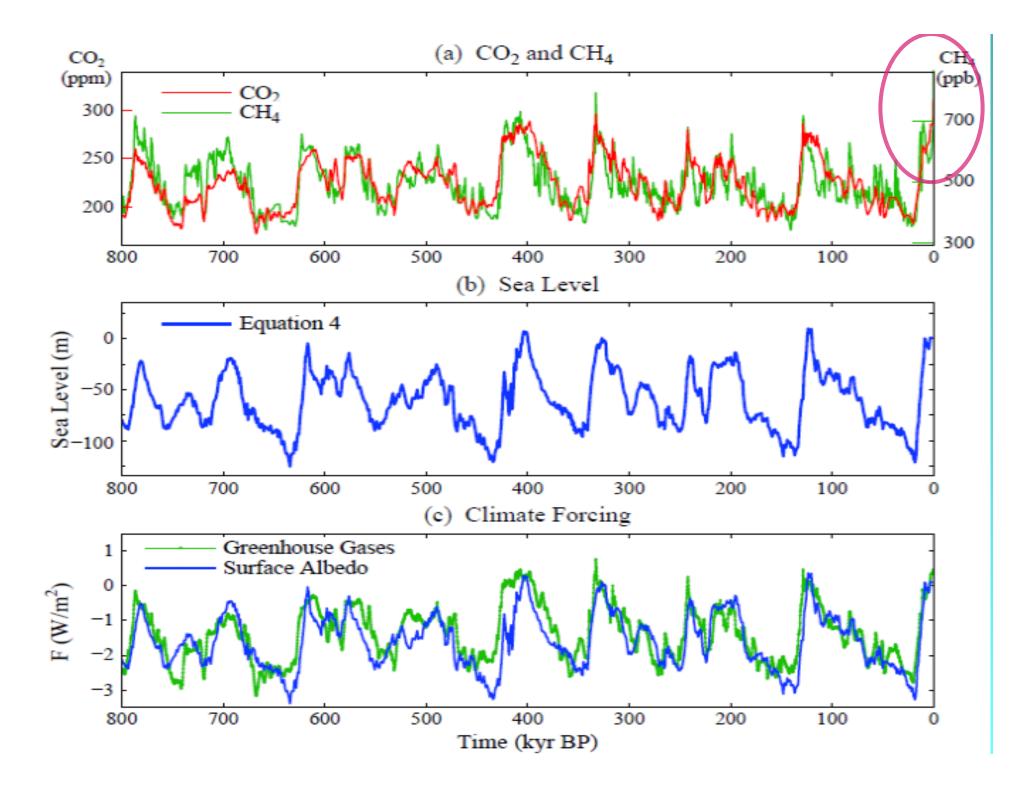


Petermann Glacier: Giant Calving Event (120 km²) July 30, 2012





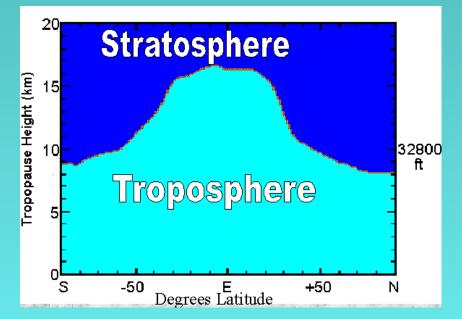




Why is the Arctic highly affected by global warming

- Ice-albedo feedback: initial warming causes snow and ice to melt → exposes darker surfaces that absorb more sunlight→warms the atmosphere
- Less water vapour: less energy used in evaporation → more energy absorbed by the atmosphere

 Cold air reduces convection: shallower layer of air that gets heated as compared to non-Arctic areas



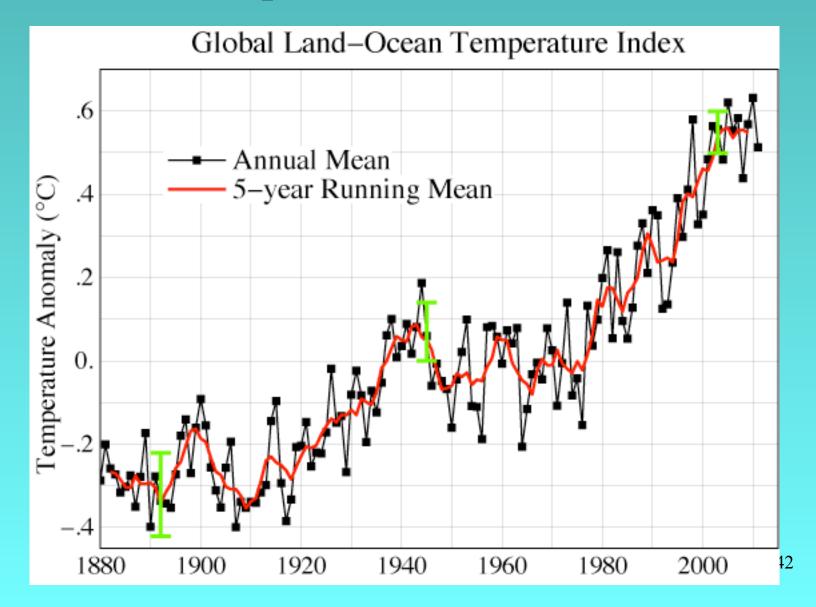
 Reduction in sea-ice: more energy being transferred from the warm ocean to the atmosphere Transfer of heat from warmer areas: changes in patterns of atmospheric and oceanic circulation → more heat transferred to the Arctic

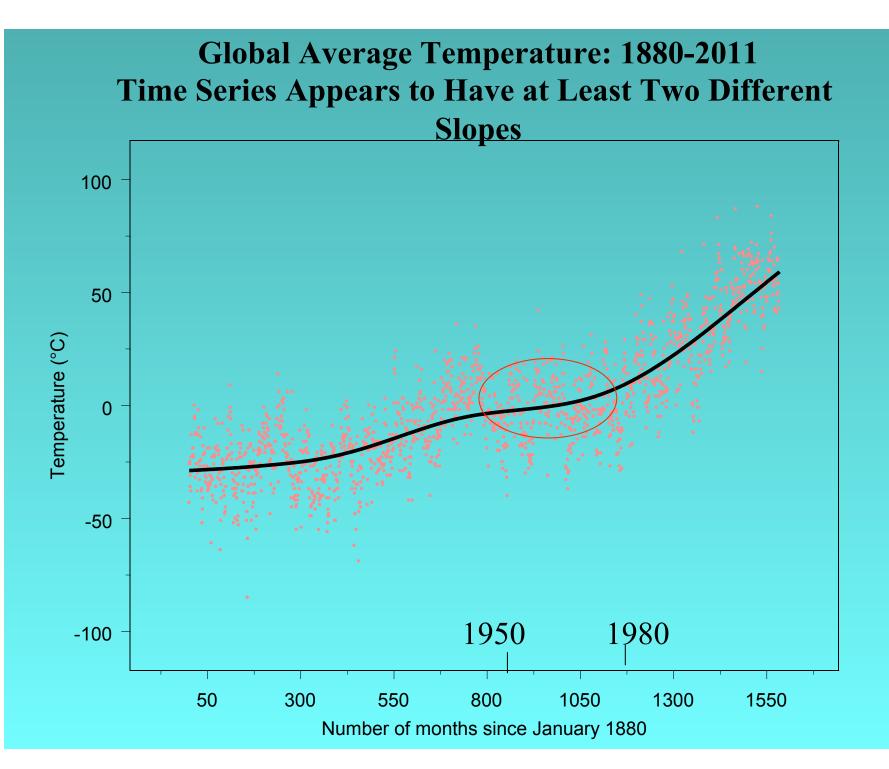
Global Warming Projections

- Projections can be based on:
 - Extrapolations of existing observations
 - Complex General Circulation Models in which parameters are varied
 - Use of paleoclimatic data in conjunction with mathematical models

Projections Based on Time Trends

Recent Trends and Surface Distribution of Temperature Until 2011





Trend in Increase in Global Mean Temperature

- Chief assumption: patterns in the past will be the same in the future
- Assumes that the increase in temperature is the same throughout time (i.e., a linear response function) throughout the period of observation and into the future
- Use of all of the data is an underestimate as it neglects the steeper slope in the latter part of the 20th century

Simple Linear Regression Analysis of Global Mean Temperature by Time

2012 global temp was 14.5°C

Data used	Slope (SE)	Projected temp. in 2100	95% confidence interval
1880-2011	0.005919⁰Cyr ⁻¹ (0.000109)	14.91°C	14.87-14.94°C
1950-2011	0.011267°Cyr ⁻¹ (0.000321)	15.52°C	15.45-15.60°C
	Ratio of slopes for the 2 models: 1.90		

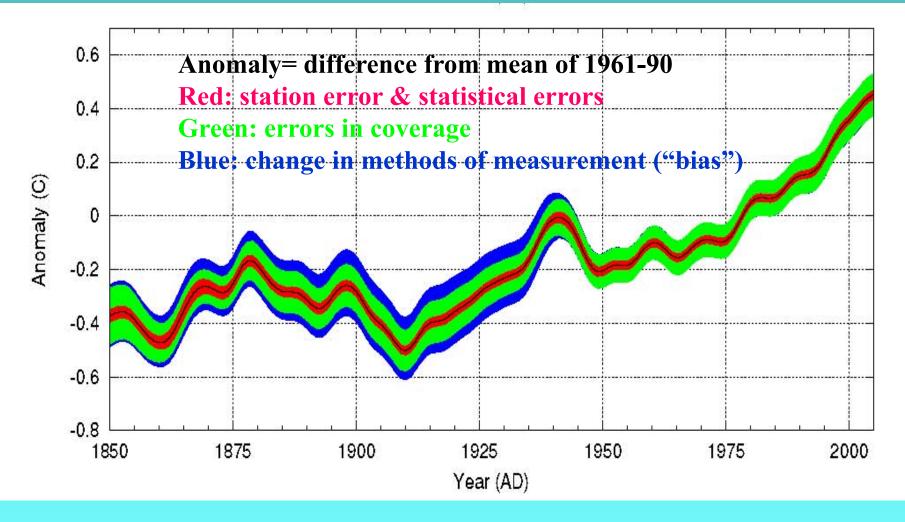
Can the Increase in Temperature Observed Since 1880 be Due to Errors in Measurement?

Uncertainties in Estimates of the Mean Global Temperature

- Station Error: uncertainty of the accuracy of measurements at each station
- **Sampling Error**: uncertainty in a "gridbox mean" caused by estimating the mean from a small number of point values
- Coverage Error: not all parts of the globe are measured
- **Bias Error:** uncertainty in large-scale temperatures caused by systematic changes in measurement methods

Uncertainty estimates in regional and global observed temperature changes: a new dataset from 1850. P. Brohan, J. J. Kennedy, I. Harris, S. F. B. Tett & P. D. Jones (CDROM\Readings\Climate Change\Trends in Temperature \HadCRUT3 accepted.pdf)

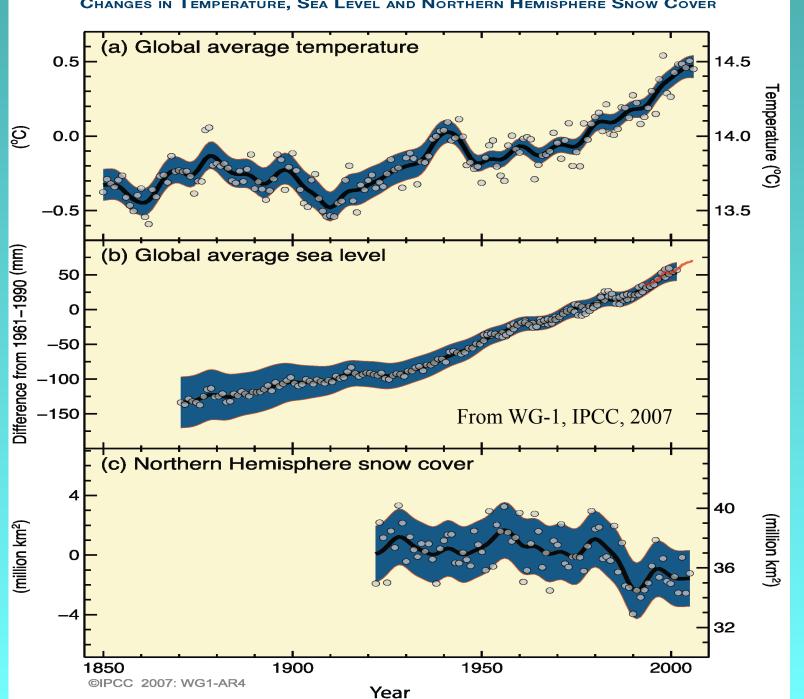
Global Temperature Change and Uncertainties in Measurement and Statistical Variability



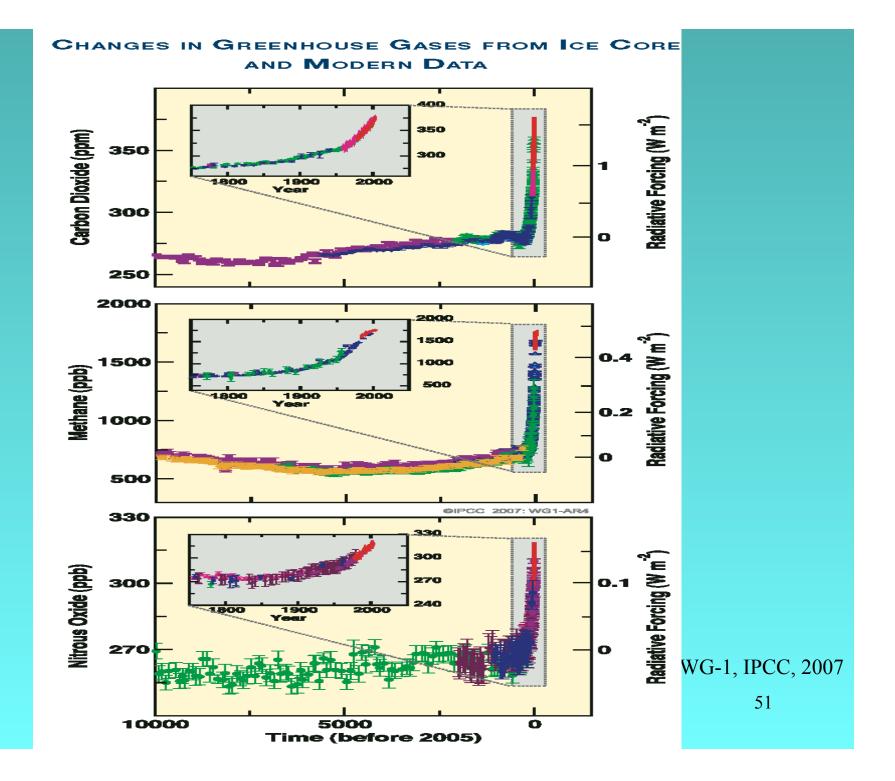
Uncertainty estimates in regional and global observed temperature changes: a new dataset from 1850. P. Brohan, J. J. Kennedy, I. Harris, S. F. B. Tett & P. D. Jones

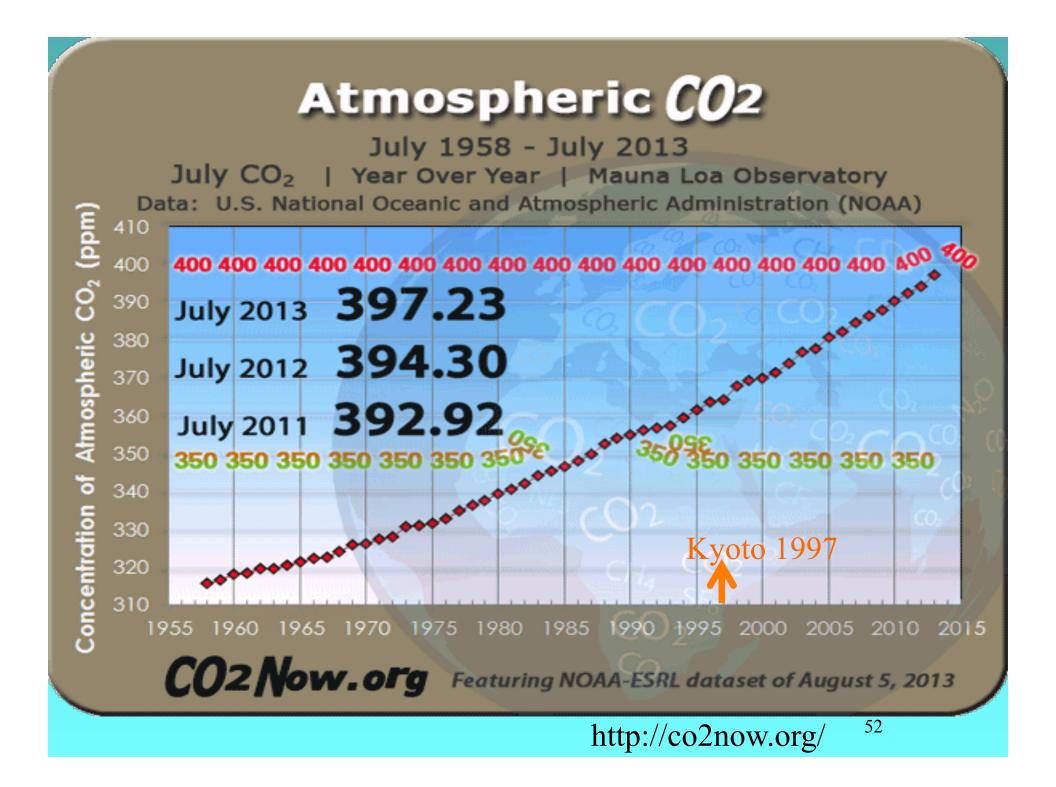
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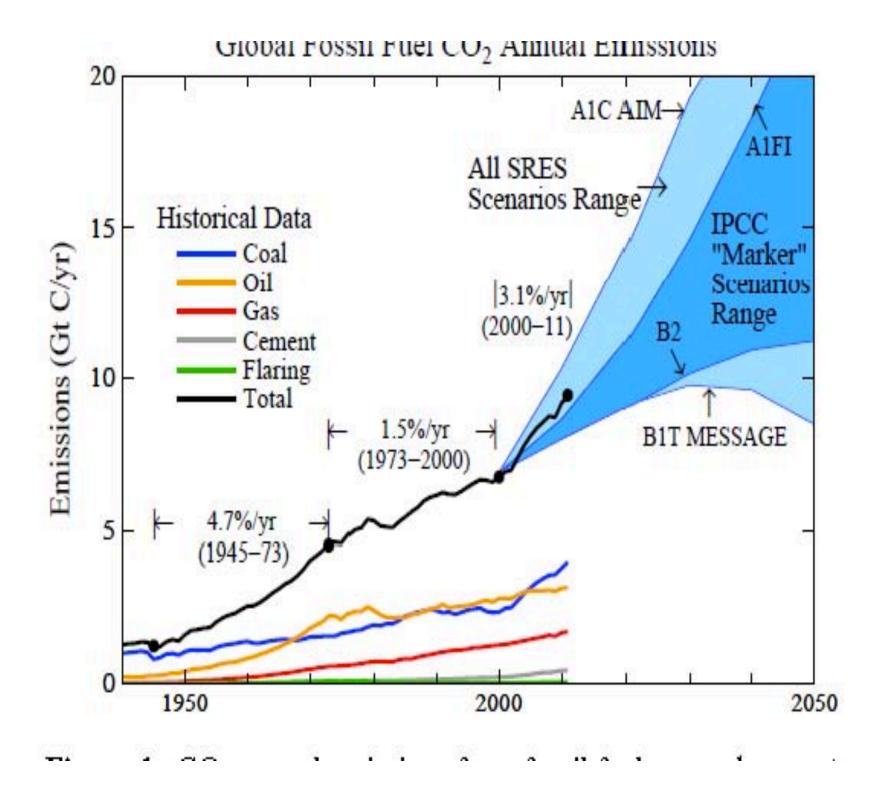
Trends in Ambient Concentrations of Greenhouse Gases











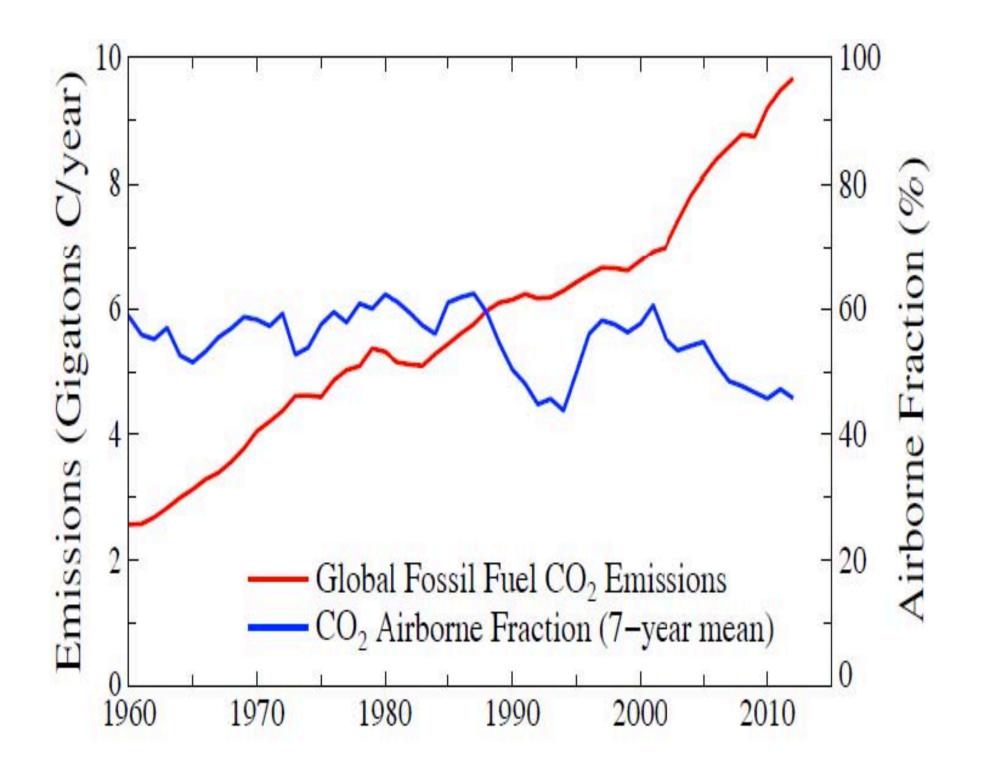
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CO_2

- Concentrations of CO₂ have increased from a pre-industrial value of about 280 ppm to 397 ppm in 2013 (July)
- Concentration of CO₂ exceeds by far the natural range over the last 650,000 years (180 to 300 ppm) (from ice cores)
- Annual growth rate 1995–2005 average: 1.9
 ppm per year
 - Higher than the rate of increase since 1960–2005 (average: 1.4 ppm per year)

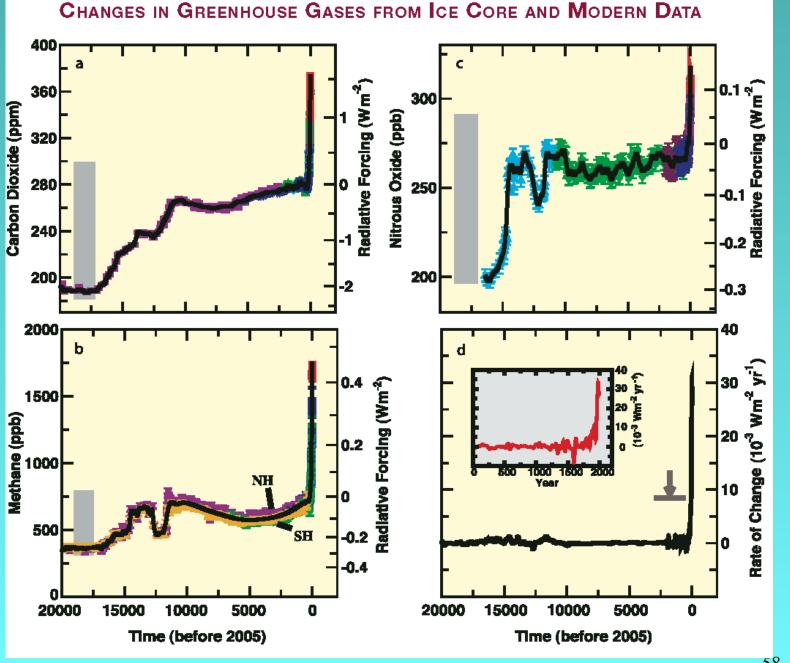
Projections of CO₂ from Trends

- Assuming business as usual:
 - year 2050: 443.78 with 95%Confidence
 Interval (440.72, 446.85)
 - year 2100: 517.33 with 95%CI (512.00, 522.65)

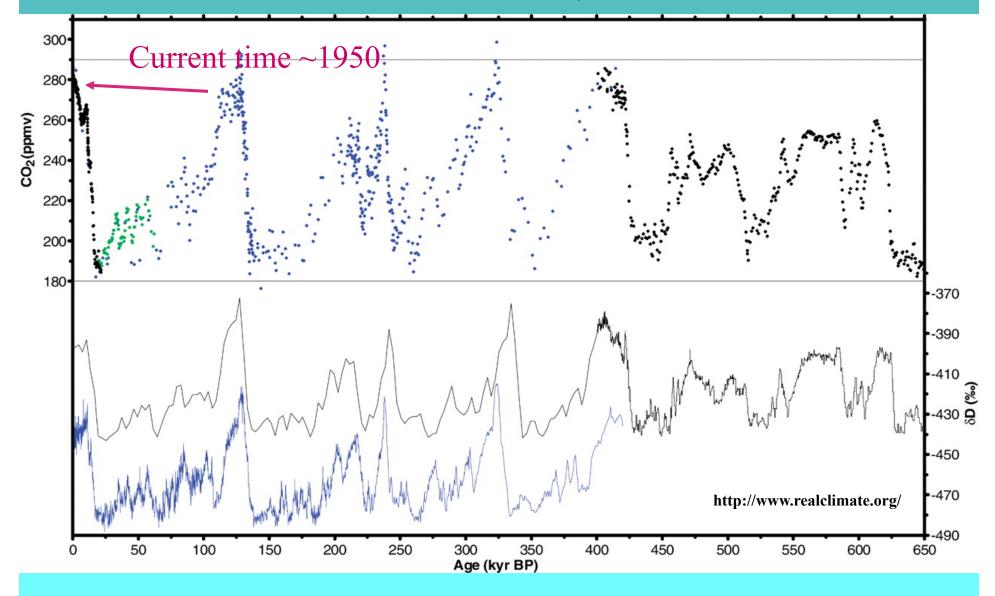


Other Pollutants

 NO, N₂O, CO are increasing → increases in tropospheric ozone, a greenhouse gas, by 40% since preindustrial times



Antarctica Ice Core Data for CO₂ over the Last 650,000 Years



Historical Trends in Emissions of Greenhouse Gases

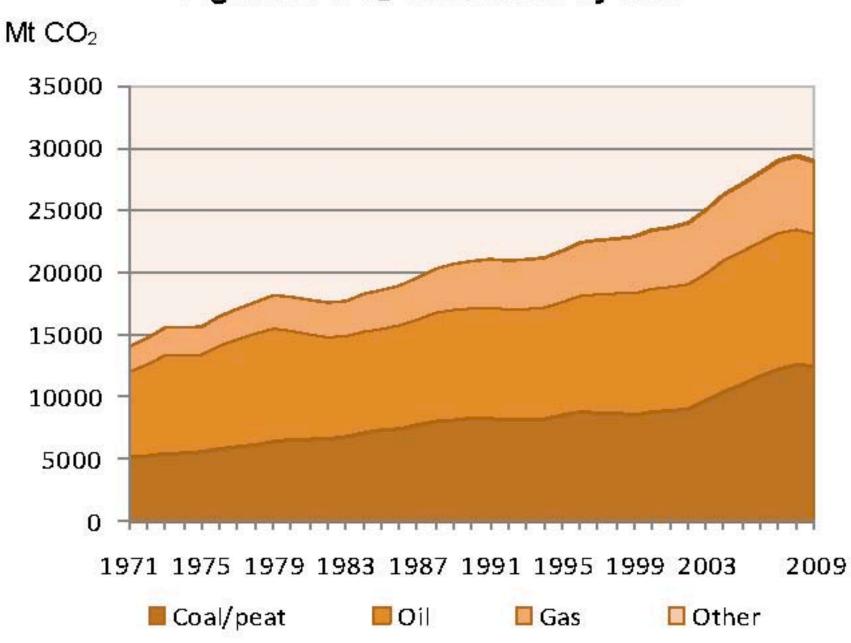
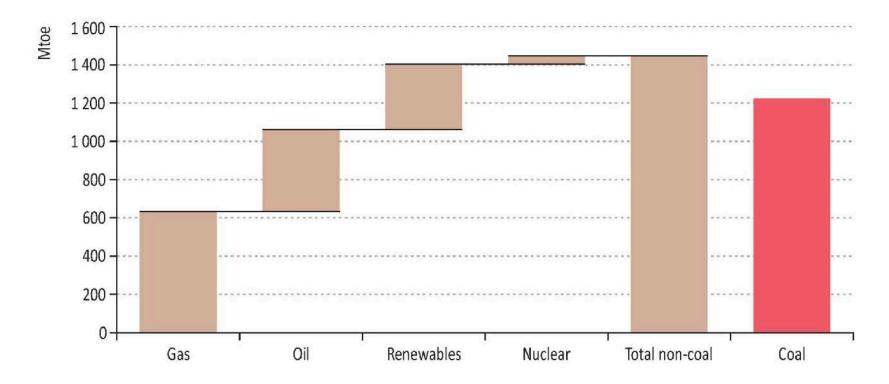


Figure 2. CO₂ emissions by fuel

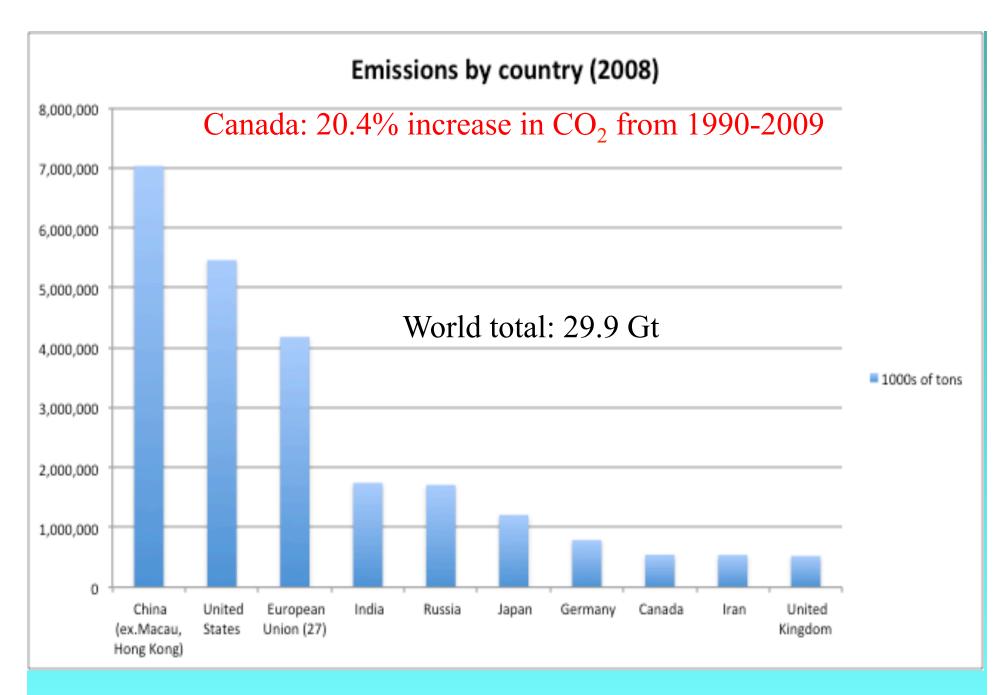
Coal won the energy race in the first decade of the 21st century

WORLD 2 ENERGY 1 OUTLOOK 1

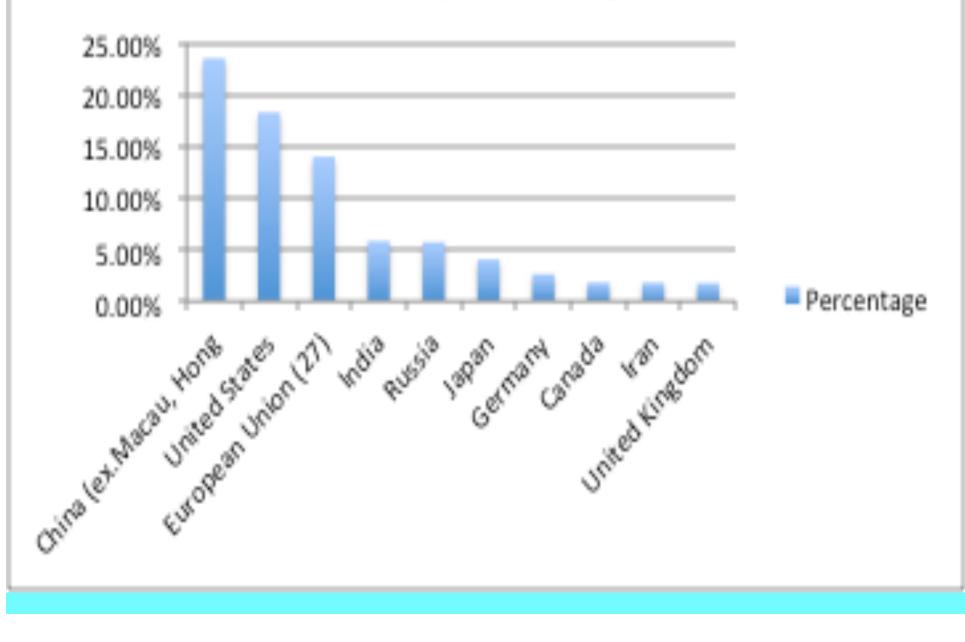
Figure 10.1: Incremental world primary energy demand by fuel, 2000-2010



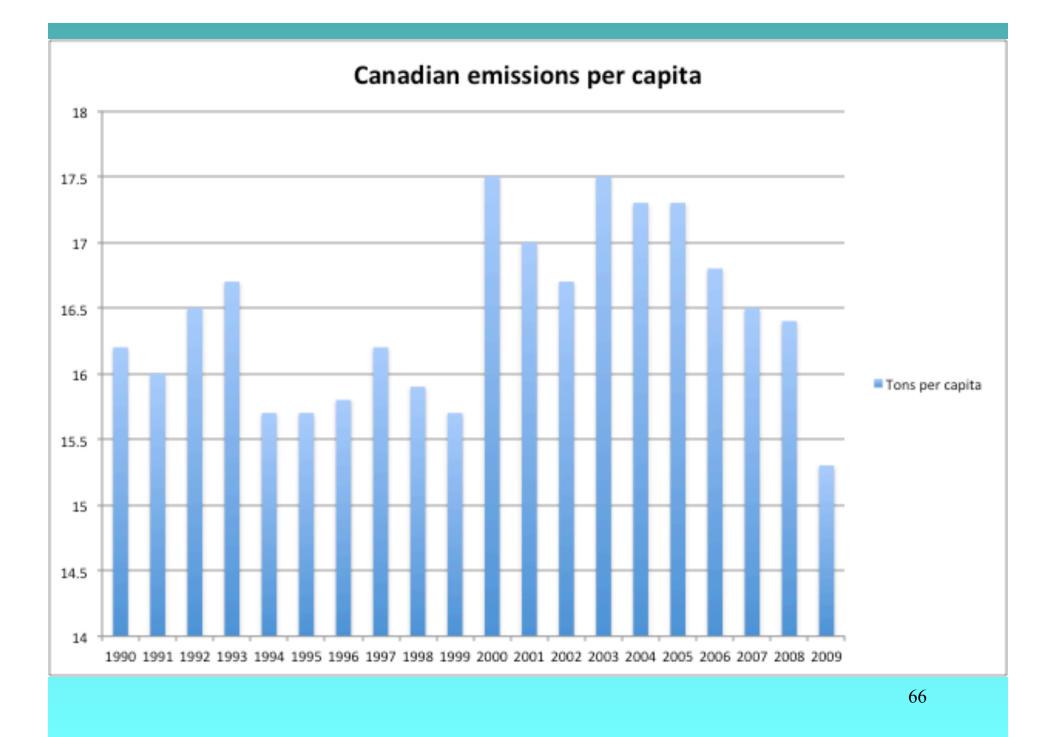
Coal accounted for nearly half of the increase in global energy use over the past decade, with the bulk of the growth coming from the power sector in emerging economies



Emissions by country (2008)



CO₂ Emissions in Canada



Alberta Tar Sands



Tailings Ponds



Tailings Pond above Athabasca River



Tar Sands

- GHG emissions in 2007~ 39.3-41.4 million tones of CO₂ equivalent (~9% of total Canadian emissions)
- By 2011, annual greenhouse gas emissions from the tar sands plants alone will be over 80 million tones of CO₂ equivalent

~50% of all emissions from transportation sources

http://www.greenpeace.org/canada/en/recent/tarsandsfaq

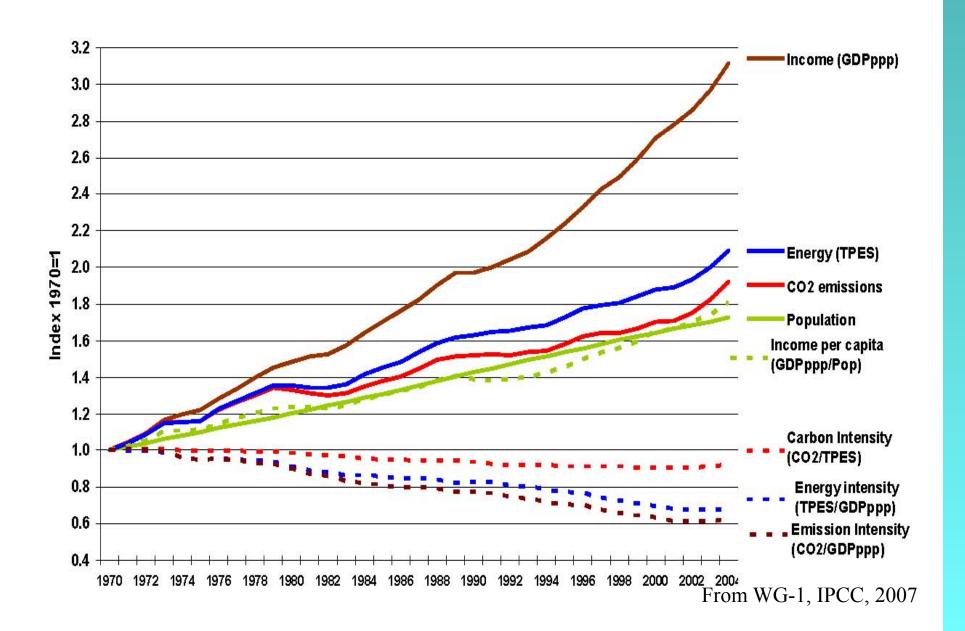
Tar Sands

- 1 barrel of Tars Sand oil emits 3-5X greenhouse gases than producing a barrel of conventional oil
- By 2020 the Tar Sands will release twice as many greenhouse gases as are currently produced by all the cars and trucks in Canada

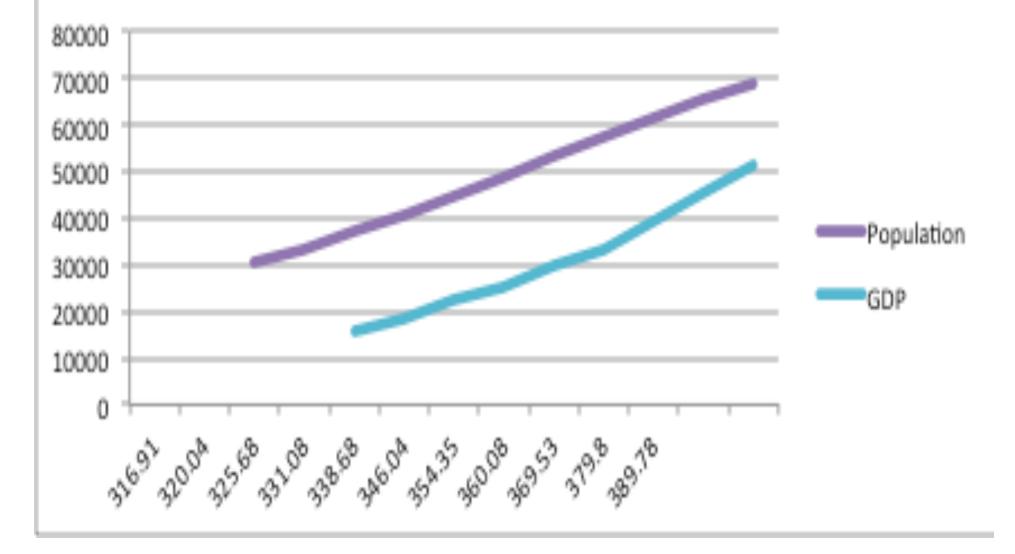
Climate Change Due to the Human Economy: Ehrlich and Holdren's IPAT(E) Paradigm

- Environmental Impact is a function of:
 - Population
 - <u>A</u>ffluence
 - -<u>T</u>echnology
 - Ethics
 - Other drivers can also affect impact

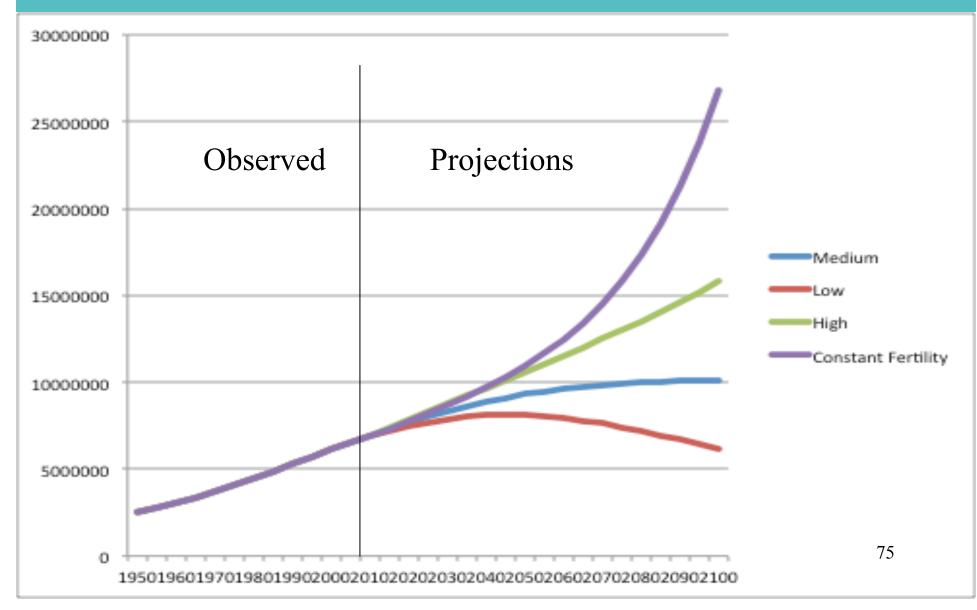
Drivers of Emissions of CO₂



World Population and GDP as a Function of CO2: 1960-2010



UN World Population Estimates (2010), by Type of Projection Model



Projections: Modelling the Future

General Circulation Models (GCM) Coupled to Future Scenarios of Emissions

Some Facts

- Global annual, average temperature
 - Pre-industrial ~13°C
 - 1961-1990, average ~ 14.0°C (57.2°F)
 - 2012: ∼14.47°C
- Average annual CO₂
 - Pre-industrial: ~280 ppm
 - **2009:** 387.37
 - **2010:** 389.85
 - 2011: 391.63
 - **2012:** 393.82
 - Total GHG: >455 ppmCO₂-eq

Modelling the Future: General Circulation Models (GCMs) (http://

www.cru.uea.ac.uk/cru/info/modelcc/)

- Represent the main components of the climate system in three dimensions
- Design and structure limited mostly by scientific understanding of the climate system
- Physical processes and feedbacks are simulated differently in GCMs

GCMs

- Global temperature change in response to a doubling of the atmospheric concentration of CO₂ varies from 1.5° 4.5° C
- Initial conditions can change results
- Differences in regional estimates of climate change produced by different models (even for the same mean global warming)

GCMs

- There is no single "best" GCM nor estimate from the GCMs
- However, if one views the ensemble of plausible models/emission scenarios as coming from a real underlying distribution of possible futures, then:
 - All models are equally probable
 - The mean across all models is the "best" estimator
 - The variability of the estimates provides a plausible range of possibilities

Climate Change Scenarios

• Explores:

- how human activities may change the composition of the atmosphere
- how this may affect global climate
- how the resulting climate changes may impact upon the environment and human activities
- Not predictions or forecasts of future climate, but internally-consistent pictures of possible future climates, each dependent on a set of prior assumptions

IPCC Special Report on Emission Scenarios

- Identifies 40 scenarios which follow four different 'storylines' and with increases in radiative forcing ranging between 0.4% and 1.2% per year
- Each scenario is considered equally probable
 - Forcing: "a measure of the influence that a factor has in altering the balance of incoming and outgoing energy in the Earth-atmosphere system" (IPCC WG1, 2007)

SRES Storylines

- A1 (pessimistic)
 - Rapid economic growth
 - Population peaks ~2050
 - Regions of the world converge to same level of affluence
 - A1F1: fossil fuel intensive (close to business as usual)
 - A1T: non-fossil fuel intensive
 - A1B: balance across energy sources

SRES Storylines

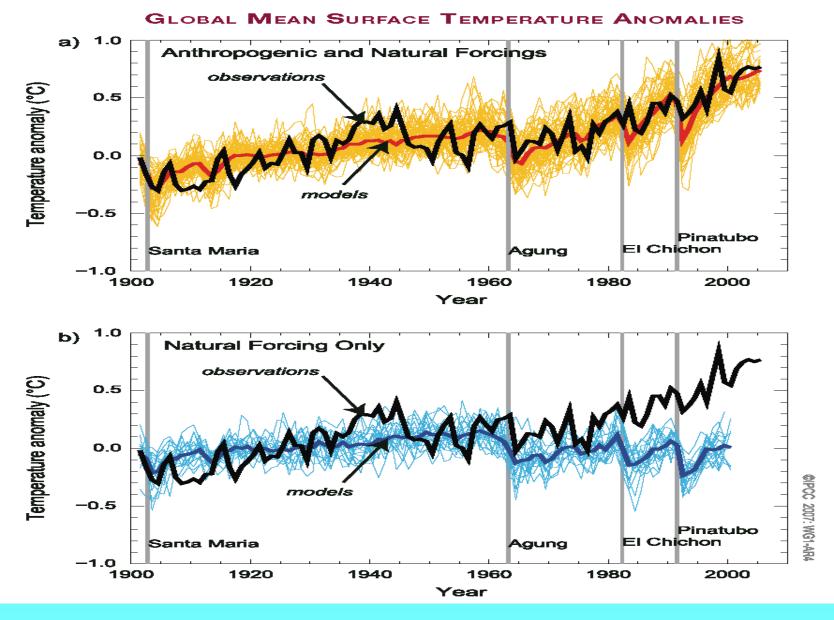
- B1 (optimistic)
 - Same as A1 in terms of population, convergence to same level of affluence
 - Moves toward a service/information economy
 - Reductions in material intensity
 - Clean technologies
 - No additional incentives to change climate

Validation of GCMs

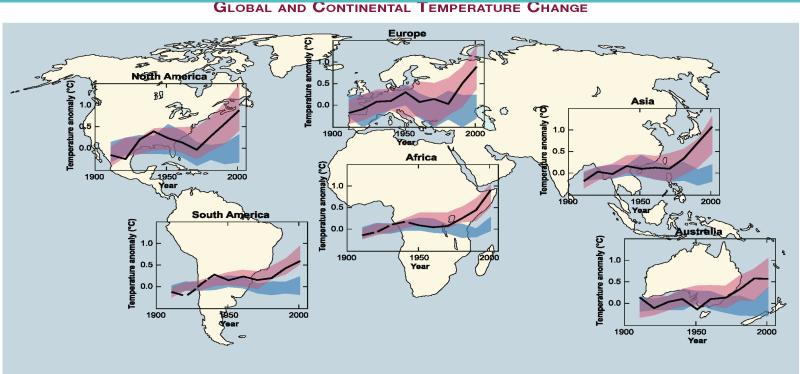
Short-term Validation

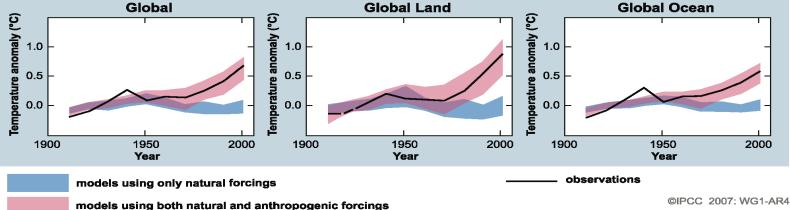
- IPCC-1990 projected global average temperature increase: 0.15°C-0.3°C per decade for 1990 to 2005
- Observed increase of 0.2°C per decade

Validation of Models: Is global warming due to human activities?



Global and Continental Change in Temperature from the Average of 1901-1950





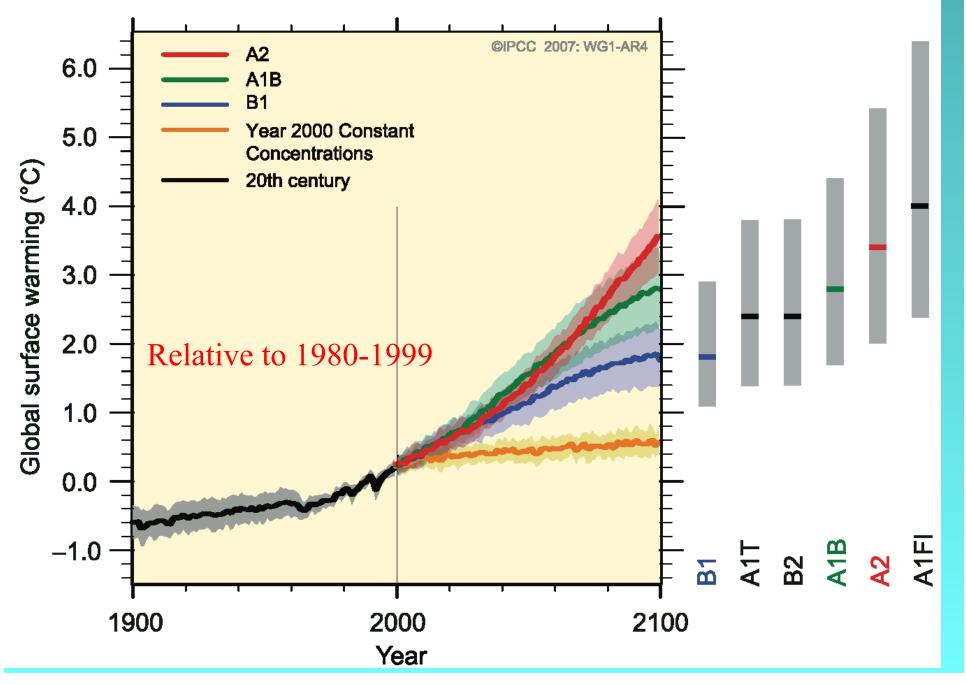
Projections into the Future

Short-term Projections

- For the next two decades, expect a warming of about 0.2°C per decade
- Even if concentrations of all greenhouse gases and aerosols are at 2000 levels, a further warming of about 0.1°C per decade would occur

IPCC: Special Report on Emission Scenarios (SRES)

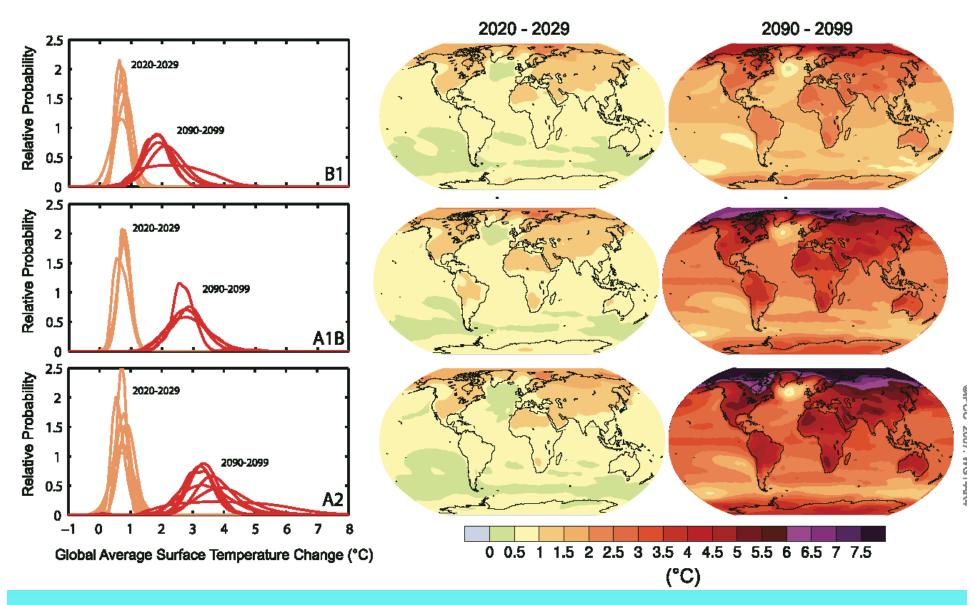
 None of the scenarios assume that any policies are in place to battle global warming



MULTI-MODEL AVERAGES AND ASSESSED RANGES FOR SURFACE WARMING

 Table SPM.3. Projected global average surface warming and sea level rise at the end of the 21st century. {10.5, 10.6, Table 10.7}

	Temperature Change (°C at 2090-2099 relative to 1980-1999)ª		Sea Level Rise (m at 2090-2099 relative to 1980-1999)
Case	Best estimate	<i>Likel</i> y range	Model-based range excluding future rapid dynamical changes in ice flow
Constant Year 2000 concentrations ^b	0.6	0.3 – 0.9	NA
B1 scenario	1.8	1.1 – 2.9	0.18 – 0.38
A1T scenario	2.4	1.4 – 3.8	0.20 - 0.45
B2 scenario	2.4	1.4 – 3.8	0.20 - 0.43
A1B scenario	2.8	1.7 – 4.4	0.21 – 0.48
A2 scenario	3.4	2.0 - 5.4	0.23 – 0.51
A1FI scenario	4.0	2.4 - 6.4	0.26 – 0.59



Global baseline (1980-99) temperature is ~14°C 2012 global temp is 14.5°C

March 8, 2014

Stabilization Targets (above pre-industrial of 13°C)

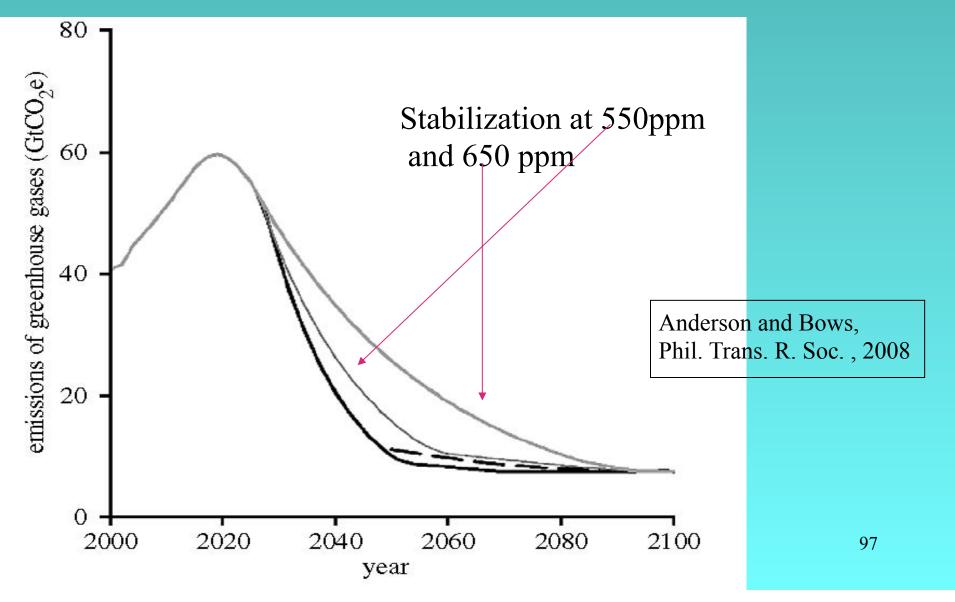
	Equilibrium	Temperature Increase (°C)		
	CO ₂ –eq (ppm)	Best Estimate	Very Likely Above	<i>Likely</i> in the Range
	350	1.0	0.5	0.6–1.4
	450	2.1	1.0	1.4–3.1
	550	2.9	1.5	1.9–4.4
	650	3.6	1.8	2.4–5.5
	750	4.3	2.1	2.8–6.4
	1000	5.5	2.8	3.7–8.3
	1200	6.3	3.1	4.2-9.4
March 8, 2014		Pre-industrial $\sim 13^{\circ}$ CCurrent $\sim 14.4^{\circ}$ CPre-industrial: 280ppm2005 CO2: 384 ppmTotal GHG: 455 ppmCO2-eq		

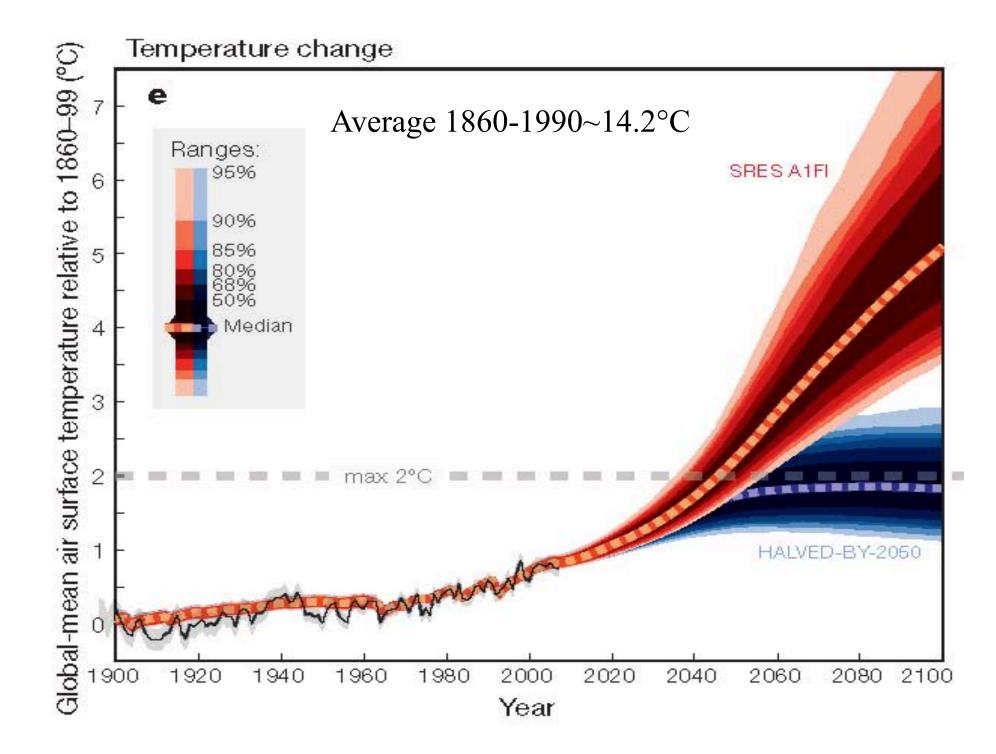
Comparison of Models

Projection Model	Temperature °C in 2100 (~ppm CO ₂)	Plausible Range (°C)
Regression of historical trends	15.5 (547)	15.5 – 15.6
A1F1 scenario	18.0 (1550)	16.0 – 20.4
A2 scenario	17.4 (1250)	16.0 – 19.4
Stabilization at:		
350 ppm	14.0	13.6-14.4
450 ppm	15.1	14.4-16.1
550 ppm	15.9	14.9-17.4
650 ppm	16.6	15.4-18.5

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Possible CO₂ Emission Pathways that Account for Lack of Progress in Current Trends

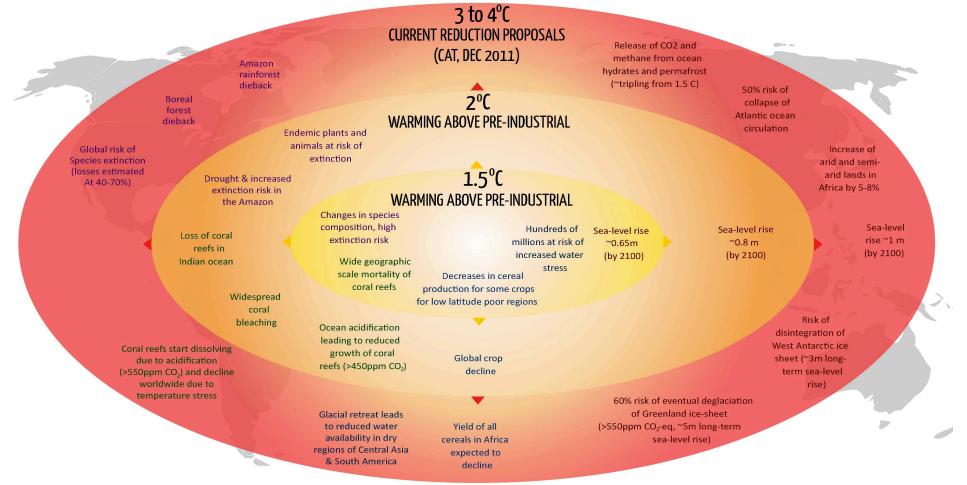




A SNAPSHOT OF A WARMING WORLD

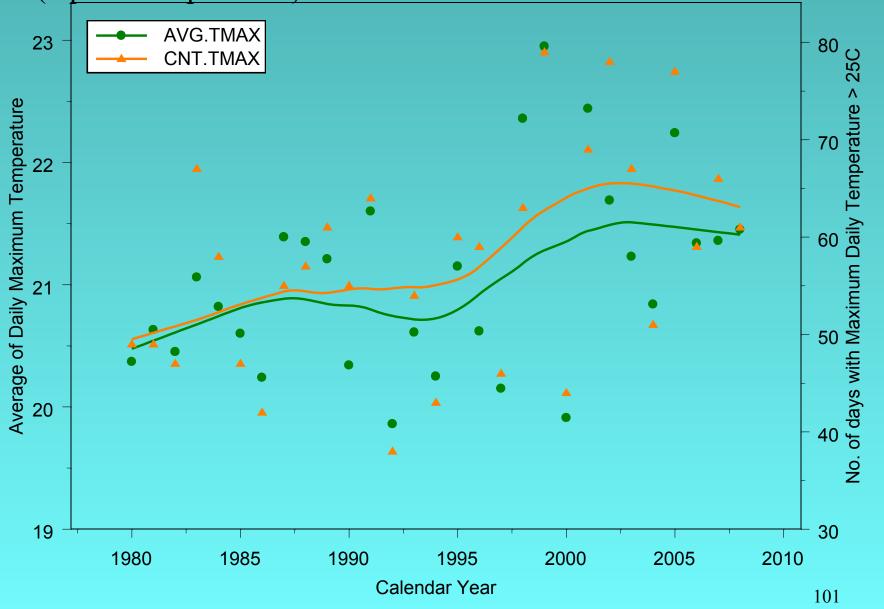
As the agreements in Durban do not propose additional action before 2020 the risk of exceeding 2°C remains very high. Action to implement the Durban Agreements will need to be quick to increase emission mitigation, for having a chance of deviating projected warming from the current pathway leading to 3.5°C by 2100. A limit of 1.5°C will already lead to considerable impacts, and more with 2°C. But with temperature increases heading towards 3.5°C, the impacts reach a distinctly higher level of risk. The impact examples in this figure are illustrative and not comprehensive.

Current mean temp: 14.4°C Pre-industrial: 13°C



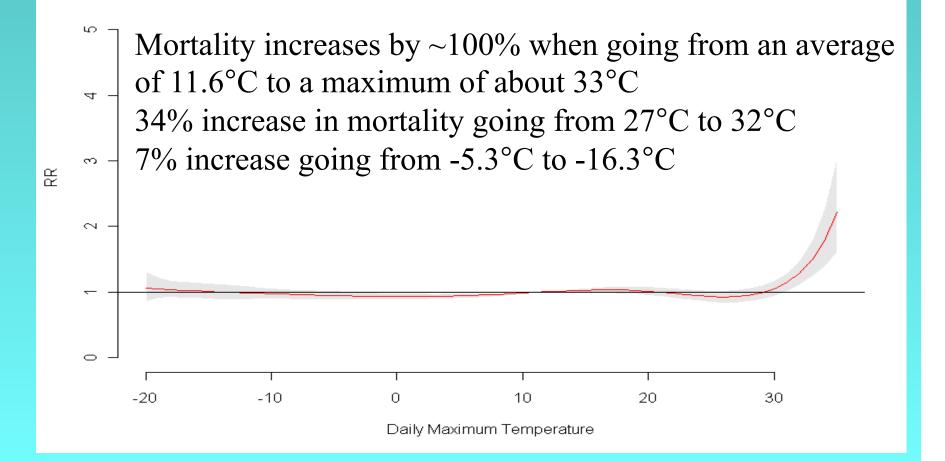
Consequences of Global Warming

Montreal: Recent Trends in Daily Maximum Temperature (April to September)

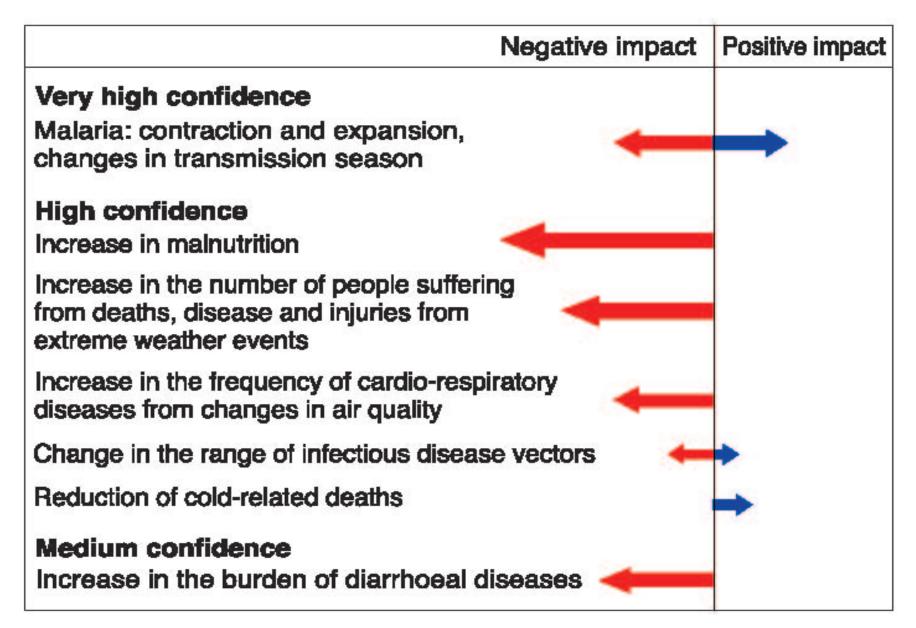


The Effect of Temperature on Nonaccidental Daily Mortality, Montreal, 1984-2007

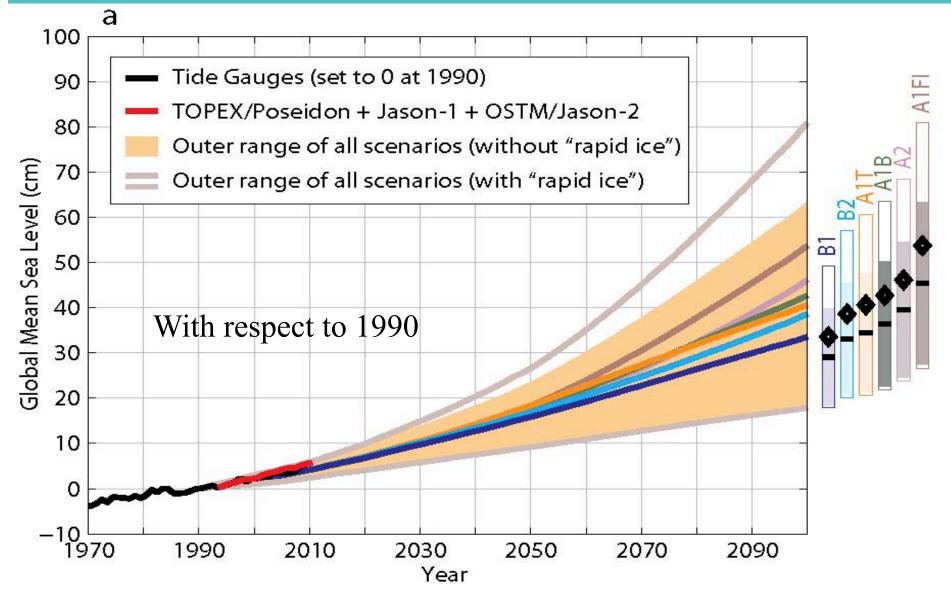
Time trend = 7 d.f.; 3 equally spaced knots (6 d.f. total)



Health Impacts



Estimates of Sea Level Increases that do not Incorporate Non-linear Effects



Key Assumptions

- Reasonable models for expansion of volume (thermosteric)
- Coupled to GCMs and SRES scenarios

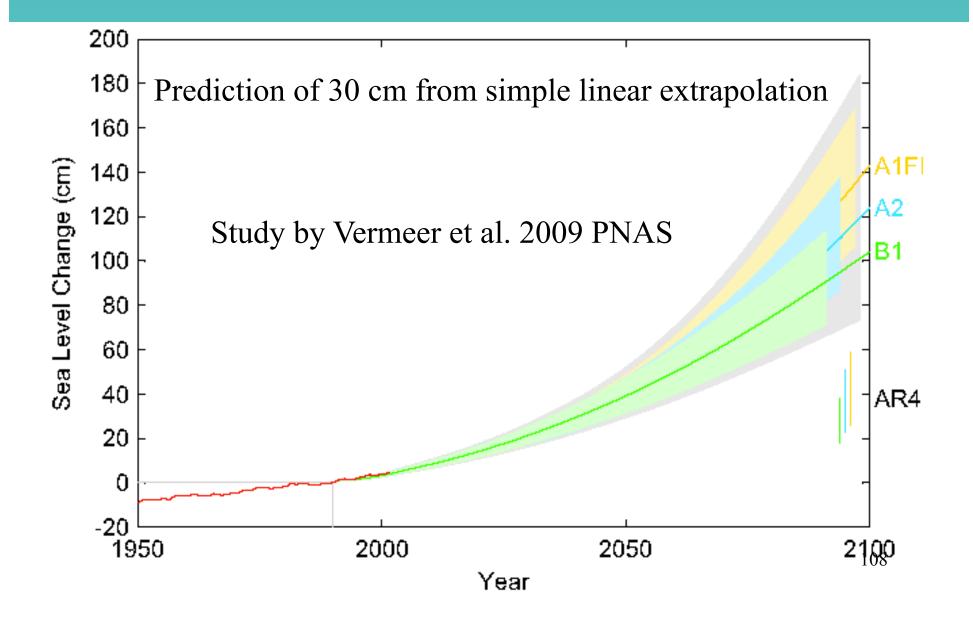
Did not Estimate Non-Linear Effects

 "Further mass loss from the ice sheets could occur if they discharged more ice into the ocean as icebergs. Indeed, recent observations have identified an acceleration of the outlet glaciers in some regions of both the Greenland and Antarctic ice sheets...
 However, there is incomplete understanding of the reasons for these changes, which depend on processes not simulated in the ice sheet models available for the AR4."

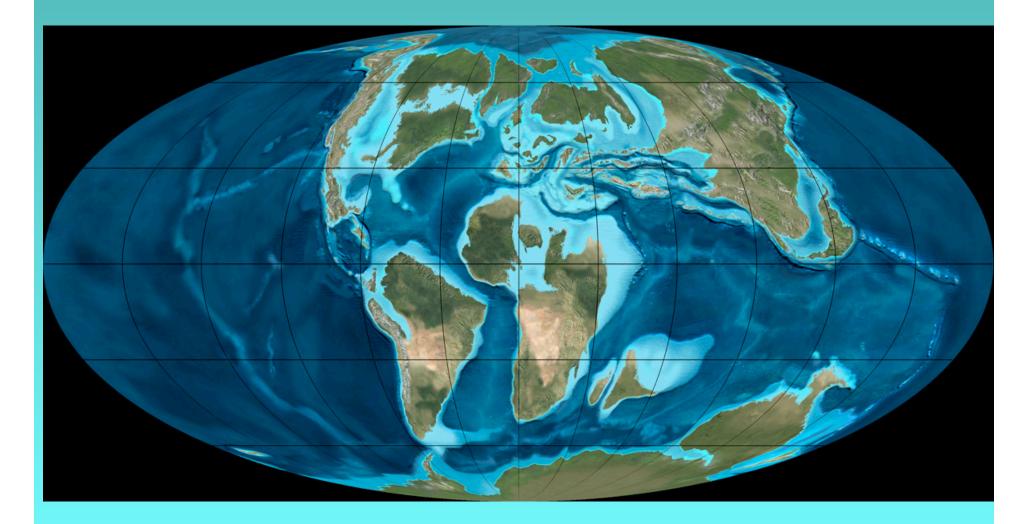
Did not Estimate Non-Linear Effects

 "Perhaps the major challenge is the response of the ice sheets, particularly those parts grounded below sea level."

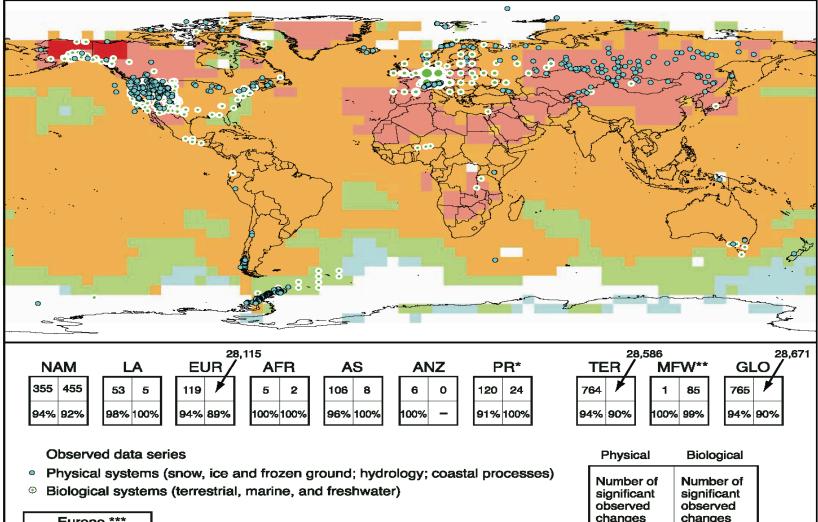
Projected Sea Level Increases



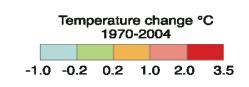
Late Cretaceous Period (145-65 million years ago): No Ice Caps



Potential Impacts: Ecosystems



Europe ***		
•	1-30	
0	31-100	
0	101-800	
0	801-1,200	
0	1,201 -7,500	



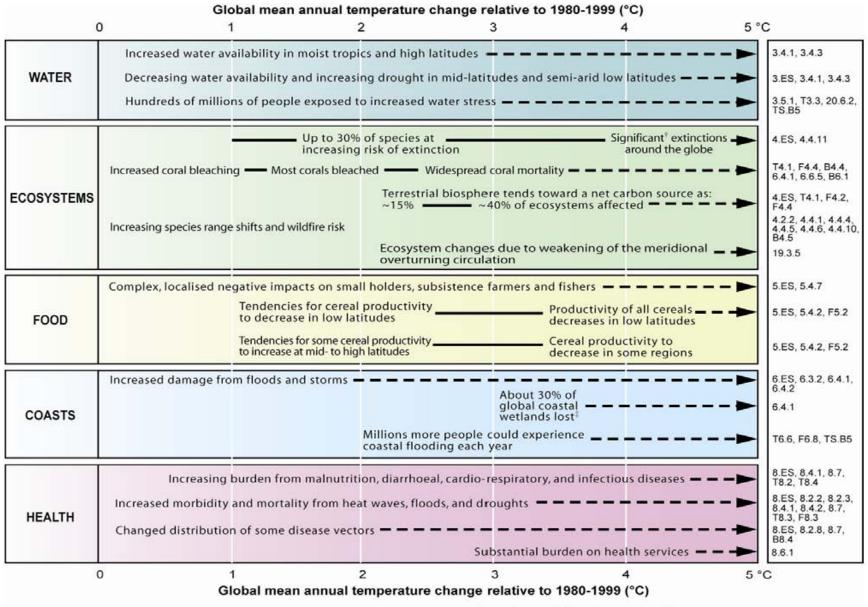
Number of	Number of
significant	significant
observed	observed
changes	changes
Percentage	Percentage
of significant	of significant
changes	changes
consistent	consistent
with warming	with warming

* Polar regions include also observed changes in marine and freshwater biological systems.

** Marine and freshwater includes observed changes at sites and large areas in oceans, small islands and continents. Locations of large-area marine changes are not shown on the map.

*** Circles in Europe represent 1 to 7,500 data series.

Key Impacts of Increasing Global Average Temperature Change



[†] Significant is defined here as more than 40%.

[‡] Based on average rate of sea level rise of 4.2 mm/year from 2000 to 2080.

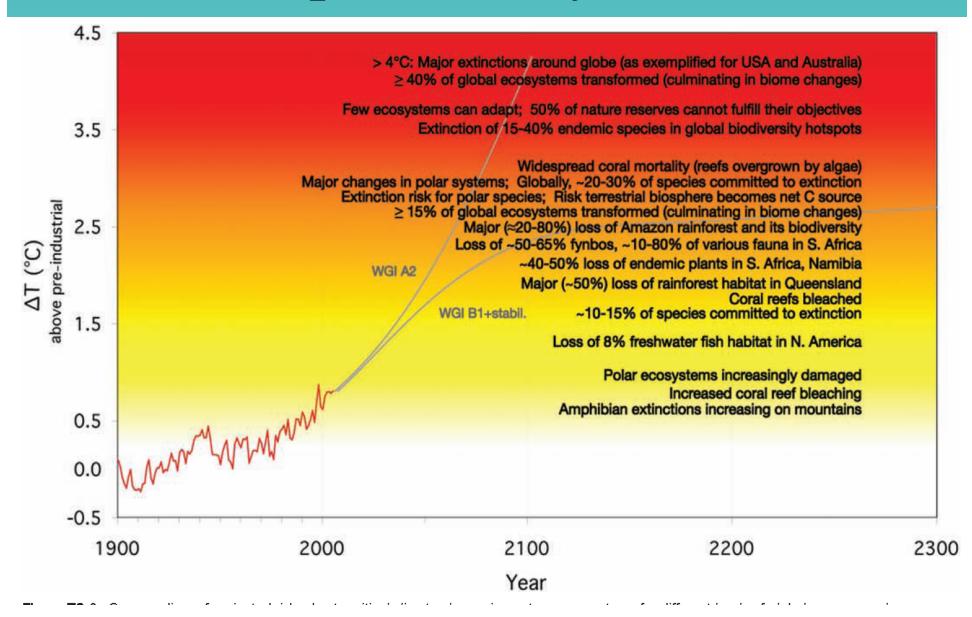
Example: Pollen

- Production of pollen sensitive to temperature, duration of sunshine and ambient CO₂
- Climate change → earlier start to the pollen season, an increase in the number of growing days, and greater pollen production
- Possible health effects: allergies, asthma

Impact: Water Shortages

- No. of people living in stressed water basins to increase from 1.4-1.6 billion to 4.3-6.9 billion in 2050
- Semi-arid and arid regions will be affected by global warming

Impact: Ecosystems



Vulnerability of Coastal Deltas



Extreme: >1 million High: 1 million to 50,000 Medium: 50,000 to 5,000

Policy-Relevant Messages from WG-II

- Coasts highly vulnerable from climate and sea level
 - Rise in sea level by 0.2-0.6m by 2100
 - Increase in ocean temperatures by 1-3°C
 - More intense tropical and extra-tropical cyclones
 - Larger extreme wave surges
 - Altered precipitation/runoff
 - Ocean acidification
 - Exacerbations by human-induced pressures
 - Adaptation more difficult in developing countries
 - Costs of inaction much higher than adaptation

Additional Slides

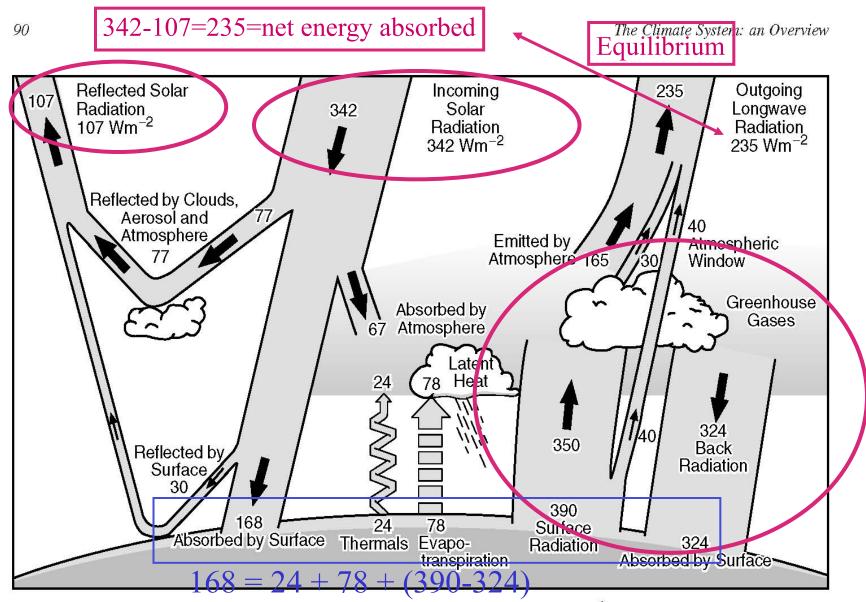


Figure 1.2: The Earth's annual and global mean energy balance. Of the incoming solar radiation, 49% (168 Wm^{-2}) is absorbed by the surface. That heat is returned to the atmosphere as sensible heat, as evapotranspiration (latent heat) and as thermal infrared radiation. Most of this radiation is absorbed by the atmosphere, which in turn emits radiation both up and down. The radiation lost to space comes from cloud tops and atmospheric regions much colder than the surface. This causes a greenhouse effect. Source: Kiehl and Trenberth, 1997: Earth's Annual Global Mean Energy Budget, *Bull. Am. Met. Soc.* 78, 197-208.