

**Aerosol Effects on Climate & Human Health**  
**Urgent Research Needs**  
**James Hansen\***  
 17 October 2018  
**AGU-CAS Meeting on Atmospheric PM<sub>2.5</sub>**  
 \*Director, Climate Science, Awareness & Solutions, Columbia University Earth Institute

Slide 1

I want to thank my friend Junji Cao for twisting my arm to give this talk. I objected, because what little research I have done on aerosols was decades ago. A lot of good aerosol research has been done in the meantime, but I would not dare to attempt to review it.

What I will say about the overall status of knowledge will be broad brush and perhaps unfair, but it is of my nature to be blunt.

**Aerosol Effects (Outline)**

- 1. Human Health Effects (3 slides only!)**
- 2. Aerosol Climate Forcing (introduction)**
- 3. Climate Story (aerosol context)**
- 4. Climate Amelioration (aerosol role)**
- 5. Global Aerosol Measurements (!)**


Slide 2

I will be brief about aerosol health effects, despite their great importance.

I will expand from the aerosol discussion into the larger climate change matter, because it is the climate story that will make aerosols very important in the future.

**Evidence on the impact of sustained exposure to air pollution on life expectancy from China's Huai River policy\***  
 Yuyu Chen, Avraham Eberstein, Michael Greenstone and Hongbin Li

Principal finding: particulate air pollution caused by provision of free coal to 500 million residents in North China [north of Huai River] for winter heating for several decades reduced life expectancy of people in North China by 5.5 years.



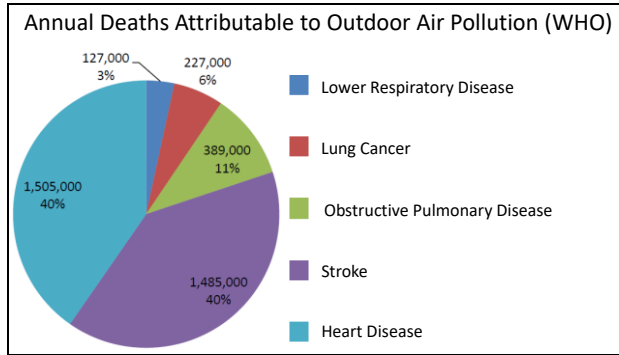
\*Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA, 110, 6 August 2013  
 People north of line received free home-heating coal.

Slide 3

Energy use is a source of both human health effects and climate change.

China did an inadvertent experiment on health effects by providing free coal for winter heating to people in North China for several decades.

It reduced their life expectancy by five and a half years.



Slide 4

I organized a workshop on Air Pollution as a Climate Forcing in Hawaii almost two decades ago. At that workshop I began to realize how conservative scientists are. Overall, the health professionals were somewhat reticent to describe air pollution as a major health threat. Kirk Smith was an exception, as he emphasized how harmful indoor air pollution was, especially to women and children.

Now we have authoritative studies by the World Health Organization. Globally, outdoor air pollution, mainly from fossil fuel burning, is killing more than three and a half million people per year. That's 10,000 people per day. Indoor air pollution, from burning of coal, wood and other biofuels, kills an additional 3.7 million people per year.

Aerosols that people breathe in are so tiny that they enter the blood stream, causing cardiac problems as well as respiratory problems. Because the fuels are used for cooking, women and children are especially affected. Many of the deaths from air pollution are prolonged and painful, to the victim and the family.

**Crucial Requirement**

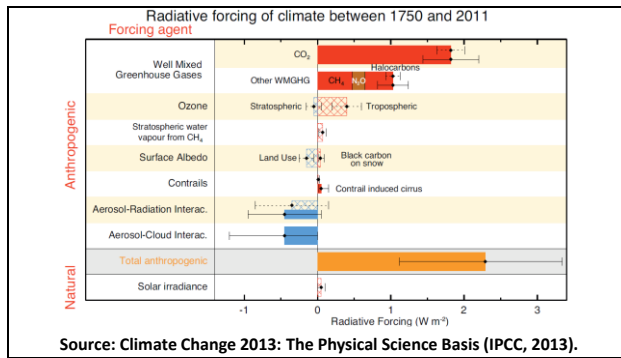
**Abundant Clean Carbon-Free Energy**

**This can happen on the required scale, that is fossil fuels will be replaced, only if the entire energy system is economic relative to coal and gas**

Slide 5

The crucial requirement to solve both health and climate problems is abundant clean carbon-free energy.

However, in most countries fossil fuels will not be replaced by an alternative unless the entire energy system is economic relative to coal and gas, including costs of additional transmission lines and energy storage, if those are necessary.

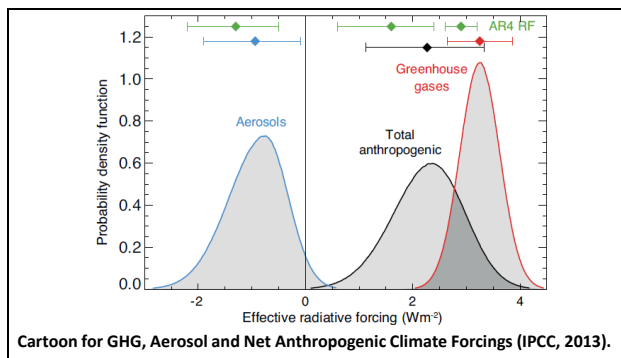


Slide 6

This is a familiar climate forcing bar chart. Red bars are positive forcing, the warming by greenhouse gases (GHGs). GHGs act like a blanket on the planet, absorbing heat radiation.

Blue bars are the negative forcing by aerosols that reflect sunlight, and the indirect effect of aerosols by increasing cloud cover or cloud brightness.

We do not actually have measurements of these negative aerosol forcings. I don't mean to be cynical, but as a matter of fact the magnitude of the blue forcing, to large degree, is based on the value needed by climate models to yield observed global warming of about 1C for a climate sensitivity of 3C for doubled CO<sub>2</sub>.



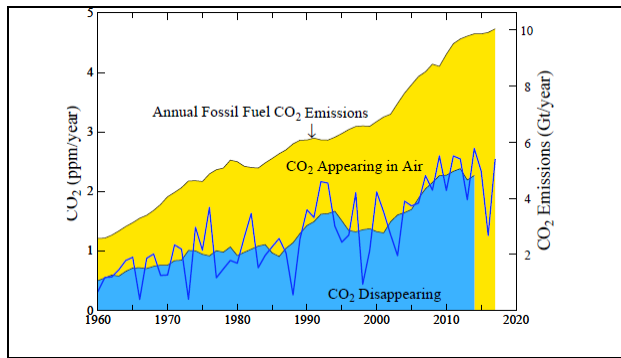
Slide 7

In other words, we know the greenhouse gas climate forcing accurately -- it is more than 3 Watts per square meter. We also know that the net climate forcing is probably about 2 Watts, based on observed global warming and our best understanding of climate sensitivity.

Voila. The aerosol forcing must be of the order of minus 1 Watt per square meter.

However, a scientific approach, and future aerosol and climate issues, demand that we actually measure the aerosol climate forcing. I proposed an aerosol monitoring program three decades ago, with the help of several colleagues. Aerosols have a short lifetime and thus an inhomogeneous spatial distribution, so global satellite measurements are required, as I will describe more a little later.

The strategy is analogous to Keeling's CO<sub>2</sub> measurement – precise continuous long-term data. 'Long-term' demands that the measurement system be inexpensive. As the data record gets longer, the data become more and more valuable. The science that can be extracted from the data increases as the record becomes longer.

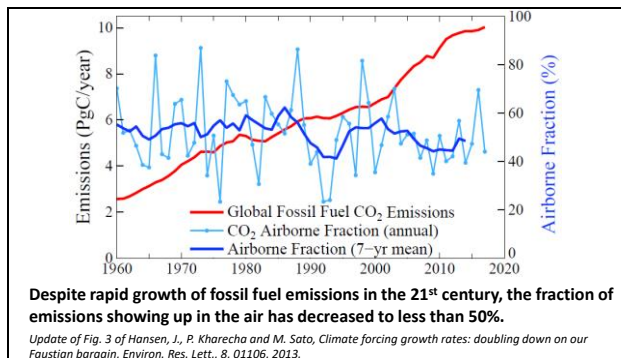


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There are many reasons that we need precise global monitoring of aerosol amount and aerosol properties. Let me provide a few examples.

When I was in high school, Keeling began to measure CO2 so accurately that we could calculate the annual change in atmospheric CO2 amount. The annual increase fluctuated from year to year, but averaged over several years the annual CO2 increase, the yellow area in this figure, was growing steadily.

However, the growth of CO2 in the air was much less than the amount of CO2 injected into the air by fossil fuel burning. Much of the emitted CO2 was disappearing somewhere, into the soil, the biosphere, and the ocean. After year 2000 the amount disappearing each year increased enormously. Today about 5 gigatons of carbon (GtC) is disappearing into these carbon sinks each year.



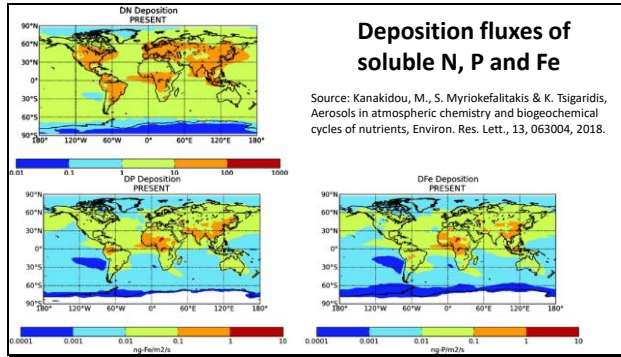
Slide 9

Thanks to Keeling's measurements, we began to have two accurate numbers characterizing the carbon cycle; and we could calculate their ratio, the fraction of the CO2 emissions that was showing up as an increase of atmospheric CO2, that is, the airborne CO2 fraction.

When I was a young scientist, the airborne fraction was about 60 percent. We were told to expect this airborne fraction to increase, because the sinks for CO2 would begin to saturate. However, in contrast, the airborne fraction actually decreased. It was about 60 percent in the first three decades after Keeling began to measure CO2 in 1958, but it decreased to about 50 percent in the next three decades.

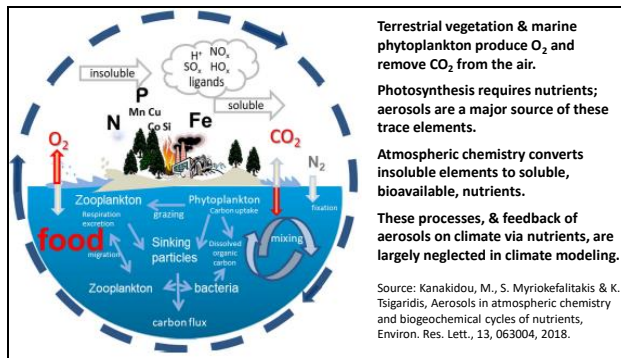
Moreover, it was believed that there was an additional net source of CO2 from deforestation and from increasing forest fires.

In our 2013 paper we suggested that human-made aerosols, as well as increasing CO2, were fertilizing the biosphere, and thus aerosols may be part of the reason for the small and declining value of the airborne fraction.



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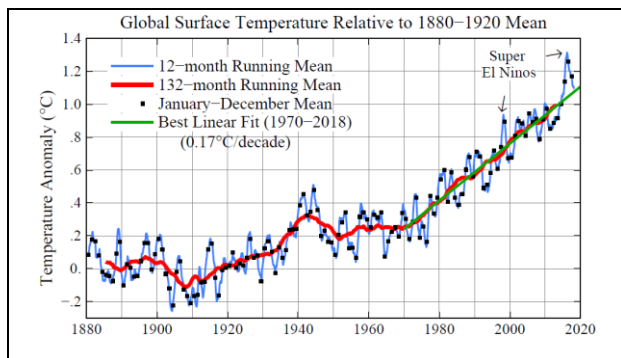
That is just one reason that we need to measure aerosols accurately. Global models are very helpful for estimating the deposition on the surface of nutrients such as nitrogen, phosphorous and iron. However the models should be grounded in global aerosol observations including accurate information on how the aerosol amount, geographical distribution, and physical properties are changing as a function of time.



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The processes involved in drawdown of CO<sub>2</sub> from the atmosphere are complex. Global models are being developed to study these processes. Reliable conclusions from these models require a good aerosol climatology and accurate knowledge of how the aerosol climatology is changing.

This time-dependent aerosol climatology should include composition specific information on the aerosols with spatial resolution on a regional scale and at least seasonal temporal resolution. I will discuss the required satellite observations after giving another example of why aerosol measurements are needed.

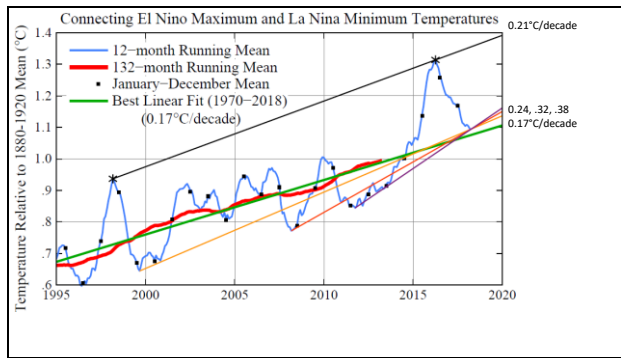


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So let's turn to climate change. The world is getting warmer, more than 1°C since 1880-1920. That base period provides the best estimate of pre-industrial temperature, because that period was warmed a bit by early human-made GHGs, but it was cooled a comparable amount by unusually large volcanic activity.

This temperature record is scientific data that has stood the test of time. This is the GISS temperature analysis that I started back in the 1970s. So this is real global warming. It exceeds the level of natural variability. Global warming is not a hoax created by the Chinese government to destroy America.

The warming rate during the past 50 years, 0.17°C per decade, seems to be almost linear. However, if we look more closely we can see that the rate of global warming is accelerating.



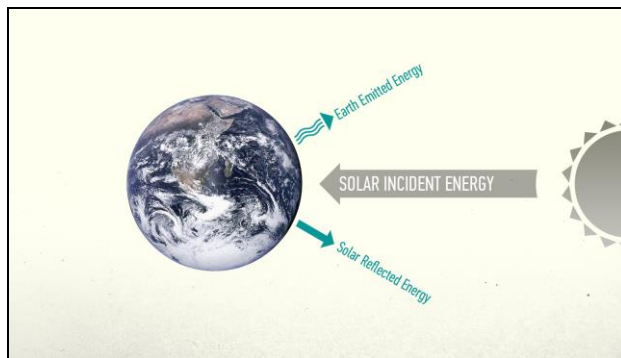
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Jeremy Grantham pointed out that if we connect the global temperature peaks of the last two Super El Ninos we find a warming rate higher than the 50-year trend.

We can get a more recent evaluation by using La Nina minima. La Nina minima provide a more stable measure of the global warming than El Ninos, which vary greatly in their strength. We know that the 12-month running mean of global temperature in September 2018 should be the minimum for the most recent La Nina cycle, because the tropical Pacific Ocean is now moving into at least a weak El Nino.

We see in this figure that global warming is accelerating markedly. The most recent two La Nina minima imply a warming rate twice the 50-year rate!

Why is the warming rate accelerating? We need to know. Part of the reason may be that the growth of human-made aerosols, which partially offset warming by greenhouse gases, has slowed. It is not so much the change of aerosols over places such as China, which are known from ground-based observations, but rather small changes over the broad Pacific Ocean. Evaluation of this matter demands precise global measurements of aerosol physical properties.

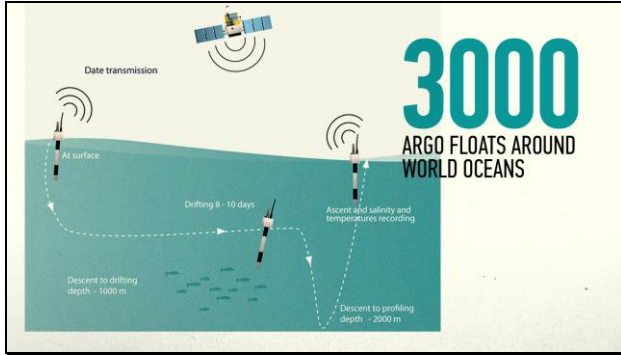


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Earth's energy imbalance, which drives climate change, is another key quantity to monitor. Adding CO<sub>2</sub> to the air is like throwing another blanket on the bed.

It reduces Earth's heat radiation to space, so there is an energy imbalance, more energy is coming in than going out – until Earth warms up enough to again radiate to space as much energy as it absorbs from the sun.

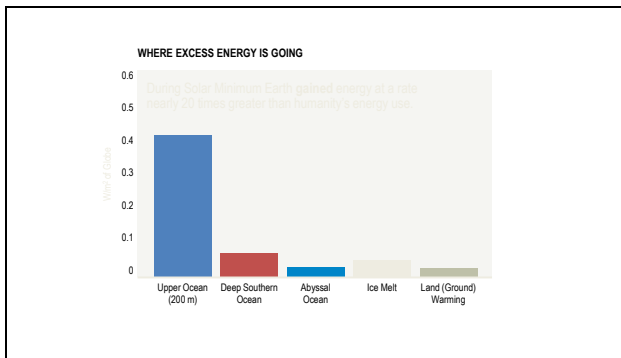
As long as more energy is coming in than going out, more global warming is in the pipeline ... it will occur even without any more greenhouse gases.



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We can now measure Earth's energy imbalance by measuring the heat content in Earth's heat reservoirs.

The biggest reservoir, the ocean, was the least well measured until more than 3000 Argo floats were distributed around the world's oceans.

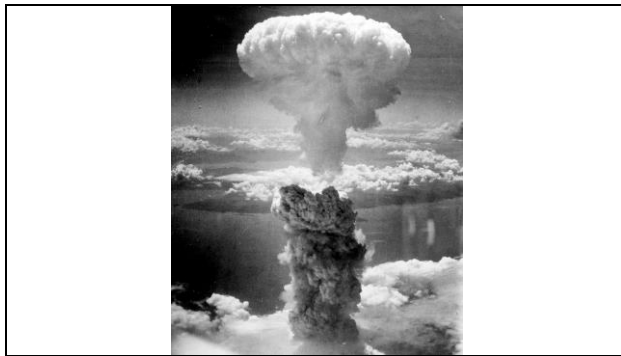


Slide 16

These floats reveal that the upper ocean is gaining heat at a substantial rate, and the deep ocean at a smaller rate.

Energy is also going into net melting of ice all around the planet. And the continents, to depths of tens of meters, are getting warmer.

The total energy imbalance is now about three-quarters of a watt per square meter.

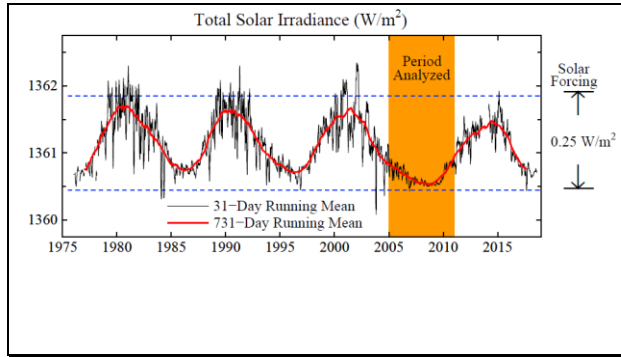


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That's about 20 times greater than the rate of energy use by all of humanity.

It's equivalent to exploding about 500,000 Hiroshima atomic bombs per day 365 days per year. That's how much extra energy Earth is gaining each day.

This imbalance means there is more warming in the pipeline, without additional CO<sub>2</sub>. It also means, if we want to stabilize today's climate we must reduce CO<sub>2</sub> from 410 ppm (parts per million) to at most 350 ppm. That's the change needed to restore energy balance.

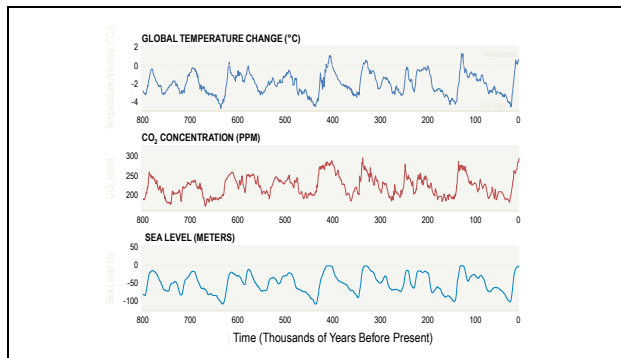


Climate change deniers argue that the sun is the main cause of climate change.

But the measured energy imbalance occurred during the deepest solar minimum in the record, when solar energy reaching Earth was least. Yet more energy was coming in than going out.

So the effect of the Sun's variability is overwhelmed by the increasing greenhouse effect due to fossil fuel burning.

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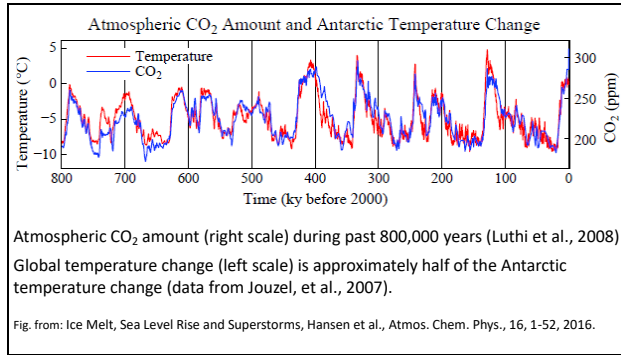
Earth's history contains remarkable information on climate change. Global temperature, atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub>, and sea level over 800,000 years can be derived from ocean cores and Antarctic ice cores – from ocean sediments and from snowflakes that piled up year-after-year forming a 3-kilometer thick ice sheet. Sea level is a measure of ice sheet size – when the ice sheets melt, sea level rises.

Climate change on such long time scale is instigated by oscillations of Earth's orbit and the tilt of Earth's spin axis, which alter the seasonal and geographical distribution of sunlight on Earth. These orbital forcings are weak and slow, changing on time scales from 20,000 to 100,000 years.

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Climate changes on these long time scales are very large. The large magnitude is due almost entirely to two powerful amplifying feedbacks: ice sheets and CO<sub>2</sub>. As Earth warms, ice melts and exposes darker ground that absorbs more sunlight. As the ocean warms it releases CO<sub>2</sub> – somewhat like a warm Pepsi.



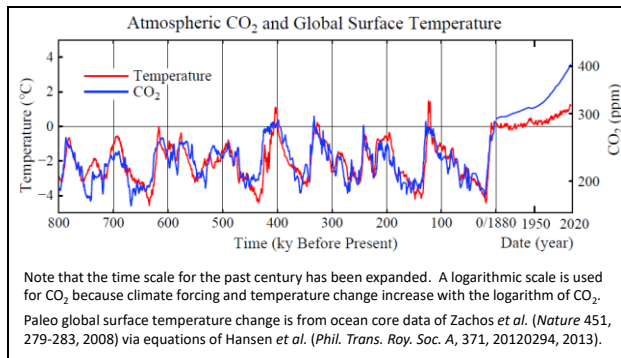


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CO<sub>2</sub> is the control knob on global temperature, as confirmed by this remarkable comparison of atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> and Antarctic temperature

The same powerful amplifying feedbacks must occur today. Physics does not change. As Earth warms, ice sheets will melt. CO<sub>2</sub>, and its companions methane and nitrous oxide, will be released by the warming ocean, melting tundra, and wetlands.

We can't say exactly how fast these amplifying feedbacks will occur, but they will occur.



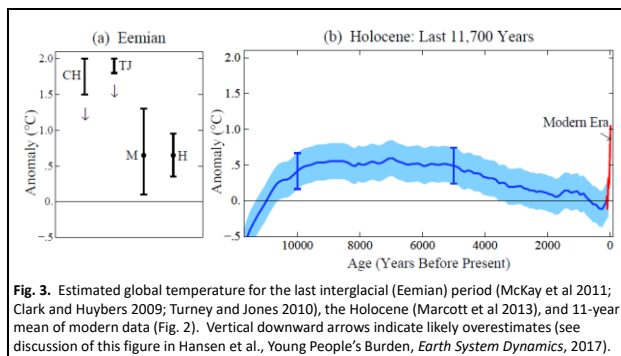
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Let's tack modern data onto the paleo record. CO<sub>2</sub> is shooting off scale. Temperature is also rising, but it has not caught up to the CO<sub>2</sub>. That takes time. Why?

First, the ocean has great thermal inertia. It takes 100 years for the ocean surface temperature to reach two-thirds of its quasi-equilibrium response.

Second, there are the slow feedbacks that drive the temperature further, beyond the quasi-equilibrium response.

Ice sheets do not melt overnight. The paleoclimate record shows sea level lagging temperature by a few centuries. Does that mean that coastal cities are safe for several centuries? No, because human-caused change in greenhouse gases is much faster than any change in Earth's history.



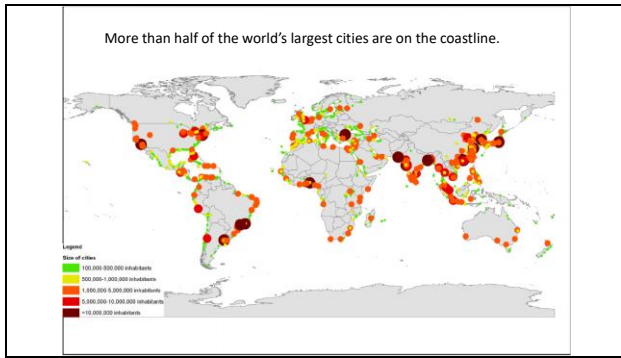
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Global temperature has already reached the Eemian level. Consequences of staying at this temperature level likely would include eventual sea level rise of several meters, thus loss of functionality of today's coastal cities.

How long can we leave global temperature in the dangerous zone and still avoid disastrous sea level rise? The best measure of the response time of the ice sheets, and thus sea level change, has been obtained by Eelco Rohling's group (Grant et al.), who find that sea level change lags temperature change in the paleoclimate record by 1-4 centuries. However, paleoclimate forcings were weak and changed much more slowly than today's human-driven changes.

We present evidence in the paper Ice Melt, Sea Level Rise & Superstorms that multi-meter sea level rise is

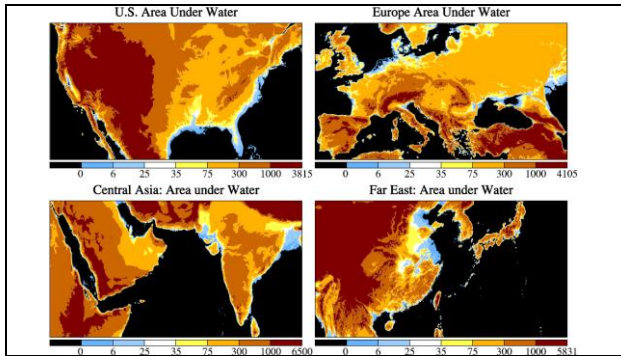
likely on a time scale of 50-150 years, if business-as-usual fossil fuel emissions continue.



Cities become dysfunctional long before they are totally under water.

These are all of the world's largest cities. More than half are on coastlines.

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Florida, the Netherlands and Bangladesh would be under water – also a good part of China.

Sea level rise does not need to reach several meters before the economic impact becomes intolerable and the world likely becomes ungovernable.

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## Threat of Mass Exterminations

### Multiple Human-Made Stresses

Overharvesting, Land use changes, Nitrogen fertilization, Introducing exotic species, etc.

in Combination with

### Rapid Shifting of Climate Zones

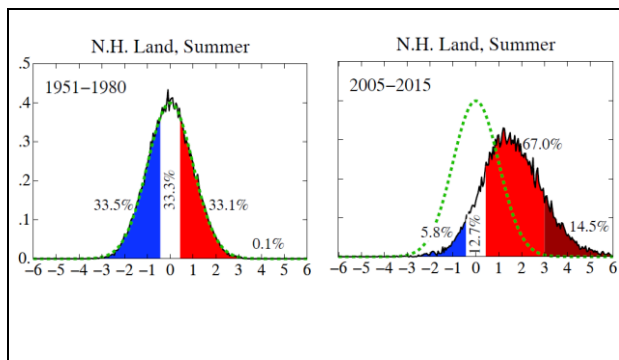
IPCC (2007) estimates that business-as-usual greenhouse gas emission will commit to extinction ¼ to ½ of all species.

The second irreversible impact of rapid large climate change would be on other species.

We cause stress on other species in many ways as we take over the planet.

We could commit to extinction a quarter to half of all species from the combined effect of these stresses and rapidly shifting climatic zones, according to estimates of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.

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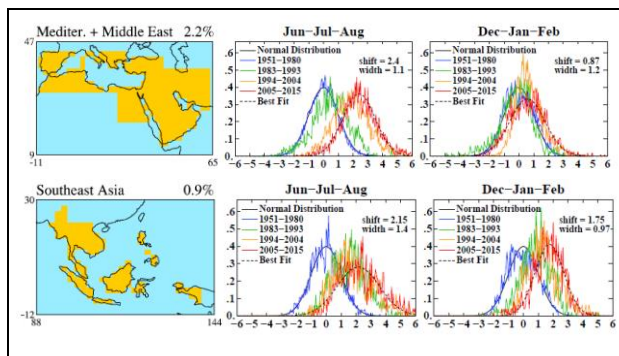


Older people notice that climate is changing, especially in summer.

Year-to-year variability of seasonal temperature in the 20<sup>th</sup> century formed a nice bell curve about the average, but now that bell curve has shifted.

What was an unusual extreme hot season last century is now much more likely to occur.

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In the subtropics such as the Mediterranean and Middle East and Southwest United States, every summer is now hotter than average climate 50 years ago. That's almost true in Southeast Asia.

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**Impacts of Shifting Bell Curves**

- 1. Increase of Regional Climate Extremes**
  - Dry regions: Greater heat, drought, fire
  - Wet regions/times: Greater rain, floods, storms
- 2. Summer Outdoor Livability Declines**
  - More than half non-household labor is outdoors
  - Measurable impact on national economies
- 3. Conflicts, Violence Increase (Hsiang et al., 2013)**
  - Interpersonal: +4%/standard deviation
  - Groups, Nations: +14 %/standard deviation

Increased heat causes dry regions to have more drought and wildfires, and a longer fire season.

But warm air holds more water, so wet regions and rainy seasons can have more extreme rain and floods.

Low latitudes are becoming less livable outdoors in the warm season, and more than half of the jobs are outdoors in agriculture or construction.

Higher temperatures also lead to a measurable increase of violence.

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**Climate Situation**

**Global Crisis, but not Recognized**

**Thermal Inertia → Warming in Pipeline**  
+  
**Amplifying Feedbacks → Losing Control**

Yet the urgency of the climate crisis is not recognized by most of the public.

Because of the ocean's thermal inertia, much of the warming is still 'in the pipeline'.

Further, the existing and growing warming will drive slow feedbacks, such as melting of permafrost and ice sheets.

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**Potential Injustices**

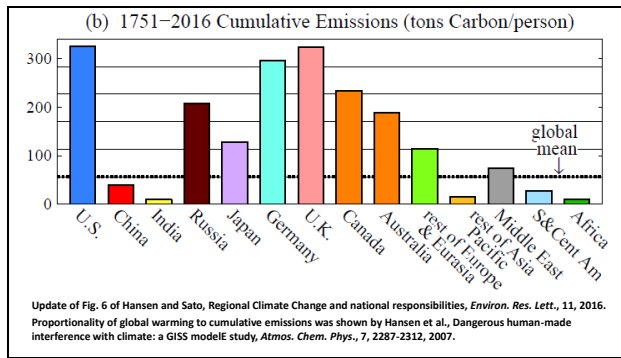
- 1. Today's Adults to Young People**
  - Because of continuing fossil fuel emissions
  - Climate Close to Being Out of Control
- 2. North to South**
  - North burned most of carbon budget
  - Climate impacts largest at low latitudes
- 3. Humans to Other Species**
  - Climate change & other stresses
  - Potential 25-50% extinctions

So, if the world does not reduce fossil fuel emissions, it will be an injustice to young people, because we will hand them a situation out of their control.

It also would be an injustice of the industrial North, which is burning the allowable carbon budget for the entire world.

And an injustice of humans to all other species.

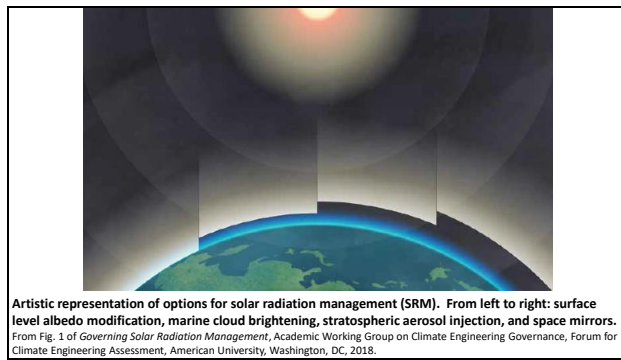
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It's important to recognize national responsibilities for climate change, which is proportional to cumulative emissions. The U.S., the UK and Germany are much more responsible for climate change than developing countries. In other words, developed countries burned more than their fair share of the global carbon budget that is permitted if we are to stabilize climate and avert disasters.

This is an added reason for developed nations to assist in reducing emissions in developing countries, in addition to the fact that we are all sailing in the same boat.

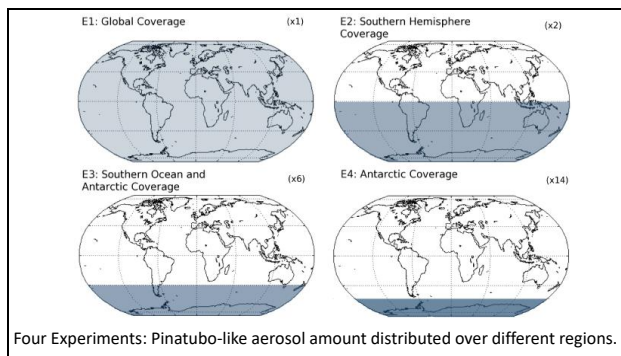
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Continued failure to rapidly reduce fossil fuel emissions will raise the issue of whether actions can be taken to restore Earth's energy balance rapidly, in a way that avoids or at least minimizes the most deleterious climate impacts. Extraction of CO<sub>2</sub> from the air will be a slow process, requiring decades for substantial removal.

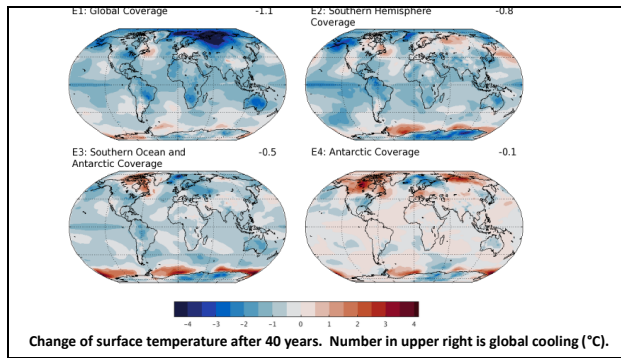
In contrast, actions to reduce solar heating of Earth could be implemented quickly. Common sense dictates research be carried out in solar radiation management, even while redoubling efforts to phase out fossil fuel emissions.

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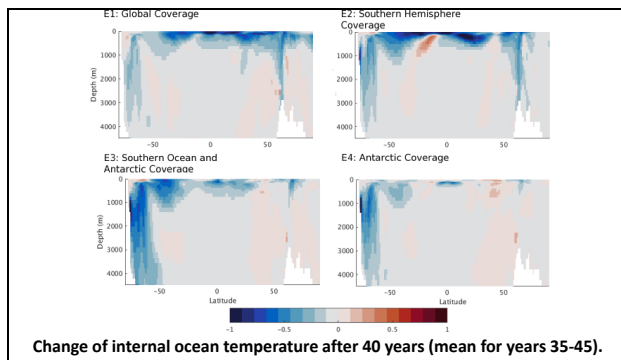
Craig Rye of my group (CSAS) has initiated four climate model simulations in which a Pinatubo aerosol amount is distributed uniformly over a fixed area, as illustrated here.

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The global surface temperature change after 40 years with fixed aerosol amount is largest, minus 1.1°C, for the case with aerosols uniformly covering the globe.

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The most important cooling may be that in the ocean, specifically the cooling along the coast of Antarctica at depths of a kilometer or so, where ice shelves are melting most rapidly.

This temperature change pattern is similar, and opposite in sign, to the calculated and observed ocean warming described in our Ice Melt, Sea Level Rise & Superstorms paper, which is caused by increasing CO2 and increasing fresh water injection. Such cooling may have the potential to slow or even stop sea level rise.

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Journal of Quantitative Spectroscopy & Radiative Transfer 88 (2004) 149–161

### Monitoring of aerosol forcing of climate from space: analysis of measurement requirements

Michael I. Mishchenko<sup>a,\*</sup>, Brian Cairns<sup>a,b</sup>, James E. Hansen<sup>a</sup>, Larry D. Travis<sup>a</sup>, Richard Burg<sup>c</sup>, Yoram J. Kaufman<sup>d</sup>, J. Vanderlei Martins<sup>d</sup>, Eric P. Shettle<sup>e</sup>

Discusses monitoring of global distribution of natural and anthropogenic aerosols (black carbon, sulfates, mineral aerosols, etc.) and clouds with specificity, accuracy and coverage sufficient for reliable quantification of the direct and indirect aerosol effects on climate, the anthropogenic component of these effects, and the long-term change of these effects caused by natural and anthropogenic factors.

Three decades ago my colleagues and I proposed an inexpensive small satellite mission\* to measure crucial missing climate data needed to understand long-term climate change. The focus was on aerosol time-dependent climatology essential to complement greenhouse gas measurements.

Based on fundamental theory and experience, the one instrument capable of the required aerosol measurements is a high precision (0.1% accuracy) polarimeter with spectral bands from the near-ultraviolet into the near-infrared and with multi-angle views obtained by along-track scanning from a high inclination orbit.

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NASA declined the small satellite (“Climsat”) proposal, which was viewed as a threat to the multi-billion dollar Earth Observing System. President Bush’ Science Adviser induced NASA to build a high precision polarimeter (APS), but it was lost in a launch failure and no replacement was built.

\*Hansen, J., W. Rossow and I. Fung: The missing data on global climate change, Issues Sci. Tech., 7, 62-69, 1990.

**Question put to Aerosol Experts:**  
**Do we have a good aerosol climatology?**

**Aerosol Experts: "No."**

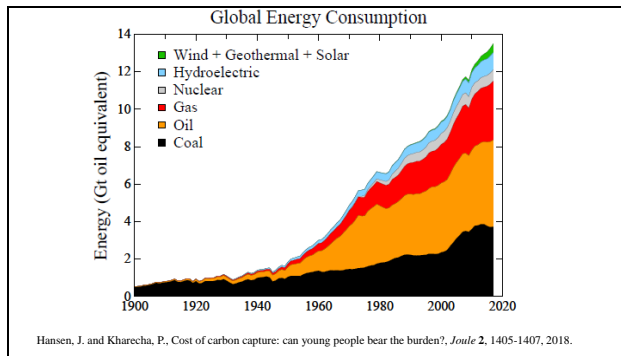
**I am shocked, shocked\*... (by their response)**

**Captain Renault, Casablanca (1942): "I am shocked, shocked, to find that gambling is going on here."**

As a result, we have no adequate quantitative time-dependent global aerosol climatology today.

Of course, just as Captain Renault, we are not actually shocked by the absence of an ongoing time-dependent aerosol climatology. Just one consequence is the impossibility of reliably assessing the cause of the current acceleration of global warming.

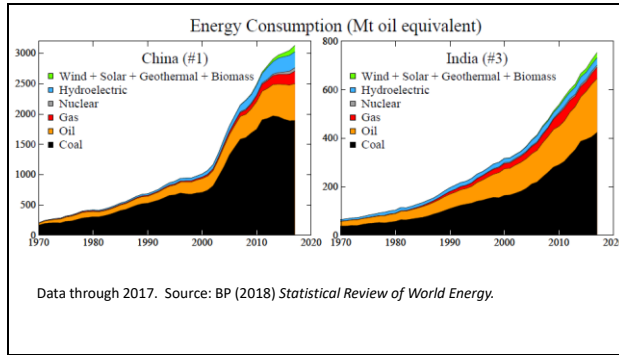
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Let's return to the global energy situation. Energy use continues to grow. People want to raise living standards. People want to travel, and they will. They need air conditioning. The world needs energy.

Governments give large subsidies to renewable energies. They pretend this will cause fossil fuel use to decline. Courage to use the true scientific method is lacking.

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India will soon pass China in population, and India will pass the U.S. in carbon emissions, becoming second to China.

Renewable energy, the green area, provides only a tiny portion of the energy. It cannot stop growth of fossil fuels, let alone cause their phase-out.

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**Scientific Method**

**Study All Available Data on the Matter**

**Be Very Skeptical of Your Interpretation**

**Reassess from Scratch with any New Data**

The core of the scientific method is simple – in principle.

You must use all the data, be very skeptical of your interpretation, and honestly reassess from scratch when new data become available.

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**Scientific Method**

**Study All Available Data on the Matter**

**Be Very Skeptical of Your Interpretation**

**Reassess from Scratch with any New Data**

**Your Preference, Your Ideology Must Not Affect Your Assessment**

Your preference, your ideology, must not affect your assessment.

So it is difficult.

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## Solution

- 1. Fossil Fuel Price Must Include Costs to Society**
  - Human Health & Climate Change Costs
  - Practical Solution: Rising Carbon Fee

Now let's consider the solution to the health and climate problems. The essential requirement is a rising carbon fee, to make the price of fossil fuels honest, by including their human health and climate change costs.

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## Solution

- 1. Fossil Fuel Price Must Include Costs to Society**
  - Human Health & Climate Change Costs
  - Practical Solution: Rising Carbon Fee
- 2. Some Regulations Still Required**
  - Refrigerator Efficiency, for example
  - No Power Use by Idle Electronic Products
- 3. Technology Development Needed**
  - Rising Carbon Fee Will Spur Tech Development
  - but Government must Facilitate Long-Lead RDD&D

Some regulations will still be required.

And governments must support research, development, demonstration and deployment of carbon-free power, because it is essential to have 100 percent carbon-free electricity.

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## Agreement Needed: China, U.S. (India)

### Rising Internal Carbon Fees

- Spurs life style changes & Innovation
- Stimulates economies

### Border Duty on Products from Nations w/o Fee

- WTO rules allow equivalent duty
- Strong incentive for others to join

### Technology Cooperation Required

- Includes advanced generation nuclear power

I doubt that the climate problem will be solved by 190 nations sitting around a table. What is required, I believe, is the United States and China to agree on the need for a carbon fee. They could readily impose it on a near-global basis.

However, this will not happen in the absence of technological advances that allow practical economical movement to carbon-free electricity in countries such as China and India. For that to happen rapidly requires concerted, high-priority technology cooperation.

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The notion that humanity can escape to Mars is nonsense. Either we learn to work together preserving our remarkable home planet, or we sink together.

 **Our Children's Trust**

**FEDERAL LAWSUIT:**

- U.S. District Court, District of Oregon:  
Trial Begins October 29, 2018
- Plaintiffs: 21 U.S. Youth & Future Generations
- Defendants: U.S. President & Federal Agencies
- Constitutional Basis: Due Process, Equal Protection, and Public Trust Doctrine
- Seeking: Science-based National Climate Recovery Plan



**Sophie Kivlehan, 17  
Allentown, PA**

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China and India are not the only big emitters. There is also the United States, which has withdrawn from the Paris Agreement and says that climate change is a hoax.

Nevertheless, there is a basis for optimism. The United States is still a nation of laws. Twenty-one young people, including my oldest grandchild, and I have filed a lawsuit against the federal government demanding a national plan to phase down emissions rapidly.

I expect that we will win this case even with a conservative Supreme Court, because our case is based on the most fundamental Constitutional principles: young people are being deprived of life, liberty and property without due process of law; they are not receiving equal protection of the law. It is analogous to the case of civil rights in the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

**CitizensClimateLobby.org**

Citizens Climate Lobby is a volunteer nonprofit organization advocating for [Carbon Fee and Dividend](#), which would place a steadily-rising fee on the carbon dioxide content of fuels and distribute all the revenue to households as equal payments.

CCL now has more than 400 chapters with more than 90,000 members in 30 countries and is growing rapidly.

**Please visit [CitizensClimateLobby.org](#) and consider joining!**

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But the courts cannot write laws, so it is important to also influence the legislative branch.

Good progress is being made in the U.S. by a rapidly growing organization, CitizensClimateLobby, which has Carbon Fee & Dividend as its objective.

CCL uses the democratic process. They visit Washington, speak to Congress people and their staffers about fee-and-dividend, and write op-eds and letters-to-the-editor. Joining this organization is probably the single most important thing a citizen can do to address climate change.

Note that Carbon Fee & Dividend is progressive, because wealthy people have large carbon footprints, so it helps address worldwide growing wealth disparity.

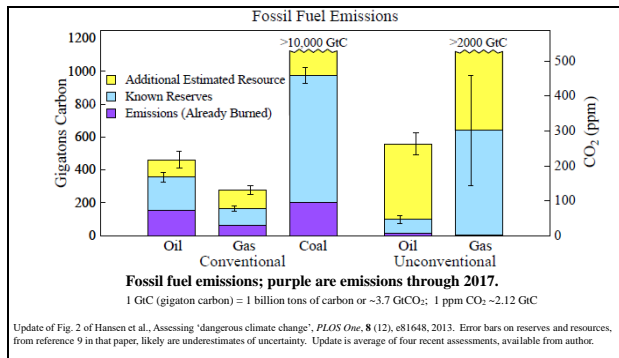
Discussion Available at:

[www.Columbia.edu/~jeh1](http://www.Columbia.edu/~jeh1)

The following backup charts were not used:

Further discussion of these topics is available on my web site, where you can also sign up for future Communications.

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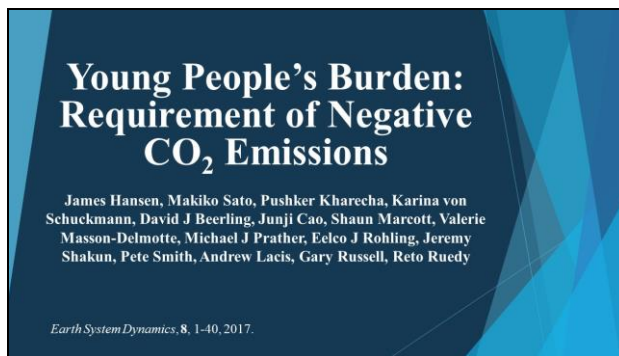


Governments continue to seek fossil fuels, and there are plenty to find.

We have burned only the purple portion so far.

The science is crystal clear: we must leave most of the remaining carbon in the ground.

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We must also extract some CO<sub>2</sub> from the air, which is possible via improved agricultural and forestry practices.

However, we must leave young people a feasible task and tools to address it.

In *Young People's Burden* we describe quantitatively the situation that young people face.

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**"Young People, do not underestimate your potential, aided by the Scientific Method, to change the World's Course."**

From *Sophie's Planet* (coming soon)

Young people must take up the fight and they must demand their rights.

But to succeed, they must understand the matter and use the scientific method.

We old scientists did not change the world's course. I am writing *Sophie's Planet* to explain what I learned, which I hope is helpful.

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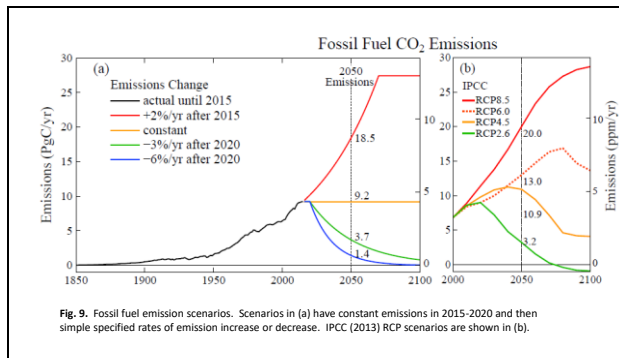


Fig. 9. Fossil fuel emission scenarios. Scenarios in (a) have constant emissions in 2015-2020 and then simple specified rates of emission increase or decrease. IPCC (2013) RCP scenarios are shown in (b).

Figure 9 in *Young People's Burden* defines alternative scenarios for future fossil fuel emissions.

The scenarios with fossil fuel emissions phased down have reductions beginning in 2021, the year after the next Presidential election in the United States.

Three of our scenarios are similar in effect to IPCC scenarios, but our emission changes are in a simple percent change per year.

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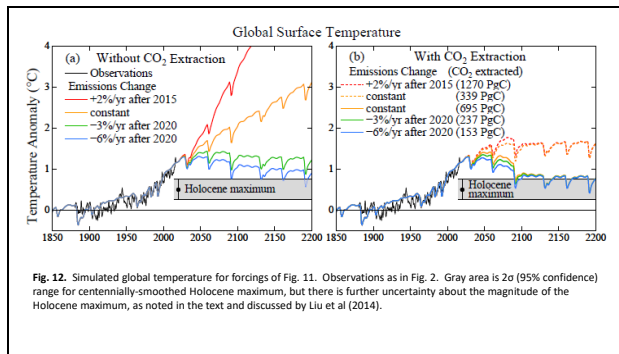


Fig. 12. Simulated global temperature for forcings of Fig. 11. Observations as in Fig. 2. Gray area is 2σ (95% confidence) range for centennially-smoothed Holocene maximum, but there is further uncertainty about the magnitude of the Holocene maximum, as noted in the text and discussed by Liu et al (2014).

Simulated global temperature for the four fossil fuel emission scenarios in Fig. 9 of *Young People's Burden*.

The figure on the right includes extraction of CO<sub>2</sub> from the air of the indicated amounts.

Part of the CO<sub>2</sub> extraction could be via increased storage in the soil and biosphere, but it is believed that the maximum potential storage in the soil and biosphere is no more than 100-150 PgC. 1 PgC = 1 pica gram carbon = 1 giga ton carbon.

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## Carbon Fee & Dividend

**Fee: Collected at Domestic Mine/Port of Entry**  
Covers all Oil, Gas, Coal → No Leakage

**Dividend: Equal Shares to All Legal Residents**  
Effect is “progressive”; Low-income people gain

**Merits:**  
Transparent; Public can understand & support it  
Market-based; Stimulates Innovation

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It is easy to implement an across-the-board carbon fee, collecting it at the first sale at domestic mines and ports-of-entry.

If 100 percent of this collected fee is distributed equally to all legal residents, we obtain a simple, transparent, market-based approach that spurs innovation.

With the present distribution of energy use, 70 percent of the public will make money, but if they want to stay on the positive side of the ledger they need to pay attention to the price of things on the shelf – products that employ a lot of fossil fuel in their production will become more expensive.

Most rich people have a large carbon footprint, from large houses and flying around the world, so they will lose money, but they can afford it.

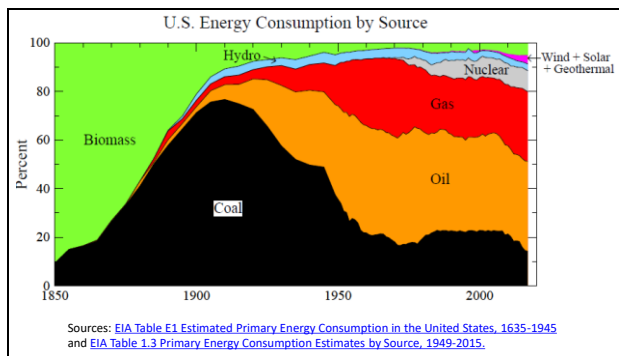
## Carbon Fee & Dividend Addresses

- 1. Economy: Stimulates It**
  - Puts Money in Public's Hands
  - Provides Certainty to Businesses and Entrepreneurs
- 2. Energy: Solves Fossil Fuel Addiction**
  - Stimulates Innovation – Fastest Route to Clean Energy
  - Complements Efficiency Regulations & Energy RD&D
- 3. Climate: Viable International Approach**
  - Border Duties on Products from Nations w/o Carbon Fee
  - Rebate Industry on Exports to Nations w/o Carbon Fee

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Fee & Dividend spurs the economy, creating jobs, increasing GNP and increasing government revenue.

Fee & Dividend is the one effective international approach. When the U.S. and/or China adopt a carbon fee, they will also impose border duties on products from countries that do not have an equivalent carbon fee. That will be an incentive for other countries to adopt a carbon fee, so they can collect the money themselves.



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Energy history of the United States is educational. Wood was the first energy source, but coal, with greater energy density, powered the industrial revolution, until the more convenient liquid and gas fossil fuels were discovered.

Because fossil fuels are a finite resource, and a big pollution problem, it was hoped that peaceful use of nuclear power would be a major long-term energy source. There is enough nuclear fuel in the ocean to last forever, for billions of years, so it would be possible to stop mining of uranium.

Nuclear power could reduce CO2 emissions, as well as air and water pollution. However, development of nuclear power practically stopped in the 1970s.

## Biological Effect of Low Level Atomic Radiation

### 1. Threshold Criterion

- Doses comparable/less than natural radiation O.K.
- This was the Recommended Criterion until 1956

### 2. Radiation Hormesis: Positive Biologic Response

- Low radiation levels beneficial: stimulate activation of repair mechanisms that protect against disease

### 3. Linear-No-Threshold (LNT) Criterion

- Even the tiniest radiation presumed to be harmful
- NAS BEAR Committee recommended LNT in 1956

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What happened? The root problem for nuclear power is concern about health effects of atomic radiation.

Until 1956 it was assumed that there was a threshold for harm, consistent with the idea that radiation is probably not dangerous if it is less than the amount that we get from cosmic rays and radioactive elements in the soil.

Some scientists even argue for radiation hormesis, the idea that low levels of radiation are beneficial.

However, in 1956 the National Academy of Sciences BEAR Committee, Biological Effects of Atomic Radiation, declared that the tiniest amount of radiation is harmful.

## Biological Effect of Low Level Atomic Radiation

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Proponents of nuclear power continue to argue that the BEAR Committee was wrong, that LNT is not correct and was ideologically driven.

I doubt that this battle will be fruitful. Small radiation effects are difficult to prove and depend on the circumstances. In such case, health professionals are likely to prefer the strictest criterion, which is LNT.

However, young people have a good basis to be very unhappy with us old people for not being scientific, for not being objective.

We owe it to young people to provide an honest comparison of the health and environmental effects of nuclear power, health and environmental effects of fossil fuels, and health and environmental effects of renewable energies. We have science academies capable of such evaluations, which should be presented side-by-side.

## Public Concern About Radiation

### Atmospheric Tests of Nuclear Bombs

Concern about radioactive fallout from nuclear weapons testing helped spur the Limited Test Ban Treaty in 1963.

### China Syndrome + Three-Mile-Island Accident

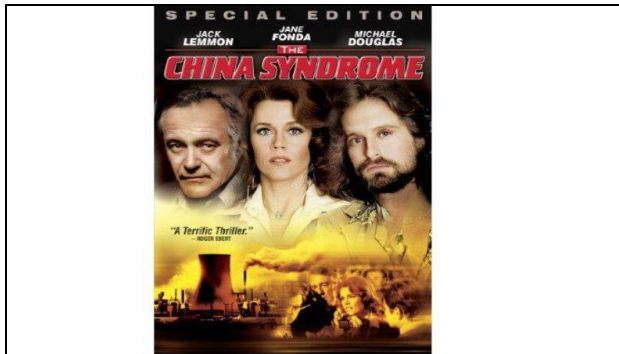
Popular film about the danger of a nuclear core meltdown.

Actual accident exposed Pennsylvania residents to radiation

Linus Pauling used the idea that even the tiniest radiation is harmful to help achieve a ban on atmospheric testing of nuclear weapons by the U.S. and USSR. This incidentally had an effect on public perception of nuclear power.

Public attitudes were also affected by the 1979 disaster thriller film, *The China Syndrome*, about the danger of a nuclear meltdown.

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This film almost coincided with an actual accident and partial core meltdown at the Three-Mile-Island power plant in Pennsylvania.

Enthusiasm for nuclear power in the U.S. dissipated, even though it was determined later that the radiation released did not harm Pennsylvania residents.

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**200,000 People at Anti-Nuclear Concert  
In New York City in 1979**

This is from a concert held that year in New York.

Did you hear the line in the song “give me the warm glow of a wood fire”? Remember that 10,000 people per day are dying from indoor air pollution.

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**“We are eliminating programs that are no longer needed, such as nuclear power research and development.”**

*President William Clinton,  
1993 State of the Union address*

Argonne National Laboratory was ready to construct a commercial-scale reactor that:

- (1) Burns >90% of nuclear fuel, compared with ~1% in existing reactors,
- (2) Can utilize nuclear waste, depleted uranium and excess weapons material as fuel,
- (3) Leaves less waste, which can be disposed of safely,
- (4) Can shut down automatically in the event of an anomaly (e.g., earthquake),
- (5) Does not require power to cool reactor in case of shut down,
- (6) Does not require uranium mining for centuries; indeed, it has been shown that fuel can be sieved from the ocean – the supply will last billions of years.

Young people have reason to question the wisdom of us old people.

President Clinton, 25 years ago, terminated R&D on nuclear power, just when the Department of Energy was ready to build an advanced generation nuclear reactor with major improvements over today’s reactors, which are 50 year old technology.

Nuclear power in the U.S. has an outstanding safety record, but next generation nuclear power can be even much safer and produce less nuclear waste. We would not force solar energy or windmills to use 50-year-old technology.

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**Another Potential Technology**

**Thorium-Powered Molten Salt Reactor**

**Operates near Atmospheric Pressure**

**Factory or Shipyard Construction**

**Inexhaustible Fuel Supply**

**Reduced Waste, Shorter Half-Life**

**Passively Safe Operation**

**Not Well-Suited for Weapons Material**

I am not advocating any specific technology. My opinion is that, because of prior government failure to support R&D, the best chance for advanced technology to contribute to rapid phasedown of CO2 emissions, in the near-term, is probably via modular light-water reactors.

However, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and the Department of Energy need to facilitate progress with modern technology, which they are not doing well. Canada has a more responsive regulatory commission. Yet, from an engineering perspective, the best nuclear innovation potential still seems to be in the U.S.

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Grandsons Connor and Jake – Connor reading Indiana Jones book.

Let me give the last word on this topic to my oldest grandson, here at about age seven reading an Indiana Jones book about an urgent problem.

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**Connor's Thoughts**

If we keep doing what we are doing now then the environment will be ruined when the people who are kids now are grownups.

And **unless we can figure out how to make a time machine that actually works**, there will be no way to go back in time to fix it.

It's not fair that the grownups now are ruining the atmosphere for the grownup in the future.

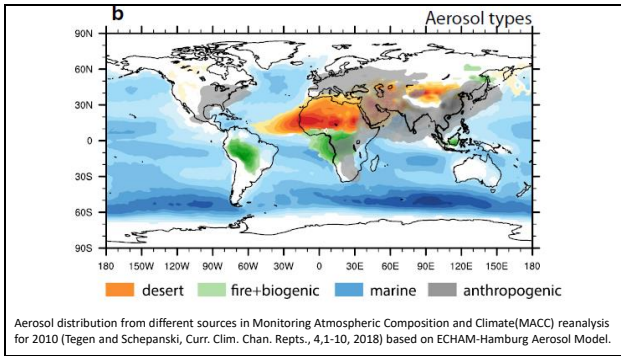
Grownups now are scared of nuclear power but they should be scared of what will happen if they keep doing what they're doing now because we know the ways to use nuclear power safe and **we know that using fossil fuels is not safe. It is very dangerous.**

A few years later Connor correctly identified two basic conclusions about the energy/climate matter.

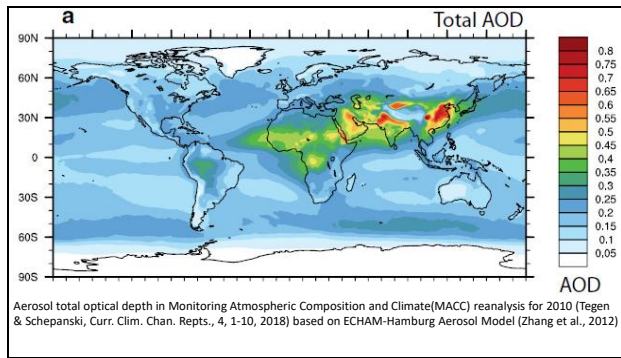
First, if grownups keep doing what they're doing, and kids can't figure out a time machine that actually works, kids are screwed.

Second, some grownups are scared of nuclear power – but what about fossil fuels? We know that using fossil fuels is not safe. It is very dangerous!

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JOURNAL OF ADVANCES IN MODELING EARTH SYSTEMS, VOL. 5, 704-740, doi:10.1002/jame.20035, 2013

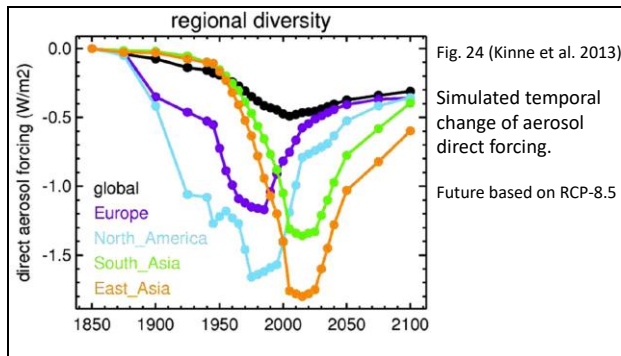
**MAC-v1: A new global aerosol climatology for climate studies**

Stefan Kinne,<sup>1</sup> Declan O'Donnel,<sup>2</sup> Philip Stier,<sup>3</sup> Silvia Kloster,<sup>1</sup> Kai Zhang,<sup>1,4</sup> Hauke Schmidt, Sebastian Rast,<sup>1</sup> Marco Giorgetta,<sup>1</sup> Tom F. Eck,<sup>5,6</sup> and Bjorn Stevens<sup>1</sup>

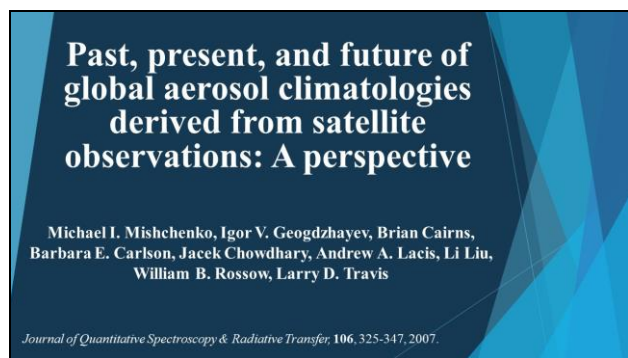
Received 21 August 2012; revised 6 June 2013; accepted 10 June 2013; published 4 October 2013.

[1] The Max-Planck-Institute Aerosol Climatology version 1 (MAC-v1) is introduced. It describes the optical properties of tropospheric aerosols on monthly timescales and with global coverage at a spatial resolution of 1° in latitude and longitude. By providing aerosol radiative properties for any wavelength of the solar (or shortwave) and of the terrestrial (or longwave) radiation spectrum, as needed in radiative transfer applications, this MAC-v1 data set lends itself to simplified and computationally efficient representations of tropospheric aerosol in climate studies. Estimates of aerosol radiative properties are provided for both total and anthropogenic aerosol in annual time steps from preindustrial times (i.e., starting with year 1860) well into the future (until the year 2100). Central to the

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### Directional Polarization Camera (DPC) on GaoFen-5

• **Main Task/Function:**  
Obtain multi-angles, multispectral and polarization information of atmosphere. Through combine them with atmosphere retrieval model base on polarization, DPC could provide the production of global atmospheric aerosol and cloud as well as the atmospheric correction parameters for other loads on GF-5 Satellite.

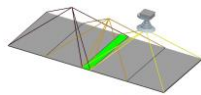
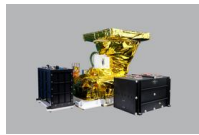
- **Type:**
  - Sun-synchronous
  - Inclination: ~98°
  - Altitude: ~705 km
  - Ascending node: 13:30
- **Platform specifics:**
  - Pointing accuracy:  $\leq 0.1^\circ$
  - Total mass of scientific payload: ~60.5 kg
  - Power for payload: ~51 W
  - Design life: >8 years



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### Directional Polarization Camera (DPC) on GF-5

- **DPC:**
  - FOV:  $\pm 50^\circ$
  - Spatial resolution: 3.3km
  - Multi-angle: 9
  - Detector:  $512 \times 512$
  - Period of image: 485ms
  - alignmentSpectral band: 443nm, 490nm(P), 565nm, 670nm(P), 763nm, 765nm, 865nm(P), 910nm
  - $0^\circ$  ,  $60^\circ$  ,  $120^\circ$
  - Observable Stokes parameters: I, Q, U
  - Photometric accuracy: 5%
  - Polarimetric accuracy: 0.02
  - No on-board calibration



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ICSO 2014 Tenerife, Canary Islands, Spain  
International Conference on Space Optics 7 - 10 October 2014

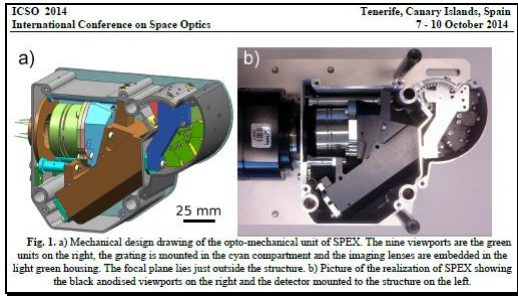
#### SPEX: A HIGHLY ACCURATE SPECTROPOLARIMETER FOR ATMOSPHERIC AEROSOL CHARACTERIZATION

J. H. H. Rietjens<sup>1</sup>, J. M. Smit<sup>1</sup>, A. di Noia<sup>1</sup>, O.P. Hasekamp<sup>1</sup>, G. van Harten<sup>2</sup>, F. Smit<sup>2</sup>, and C. U. Keller<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>SRON Netherlands Institute for Space Research, the Netherlands; <sup>2</sup>Leiden Observatory, Leiden University, the

The SPEX prototype instrument is a spectropolarimeter that is designed for a generic space mission with the goal of demonstrating the performance of a relatively new concept for spectropolarimetry and its implementation into a compact, robust instrument [8]. This concept is spectral polarization modulation, which has the key characteristic that the degree and angle of linear polarization are encoded in a modulation of the radiance spectrum [9]. This is achieved by placing a set of dedicated optical crystals, an achromatic quarter-wave retarder (QWR), an a-thermal multiple order retarder (MOR) and a polarizing beam splitter, in front of the telescope. The QWR and MOR ensure that incident linearly polarized light is modulated in the spectral domain. The polarizing beam splitter transforms the spectral polarization modulation into two spectrally modulated intensities  $S_+(\lambda)$  and  $S_-(\lambda)$ , such that amplitude and phase of the modulation are proportional to the degree and angle ( $\phi$ ) of linear polarization respectively, according to

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