Presented to EEB Seminar, 29 Sept. 2020, 12-13h



A damaged ferry boat sitting in shallow water in Providence, R.I., following the deadly hurricane of 1938 that hit the Northeast. (AP Photo/Boston Public Library, Leslie Jones)

> Baylor Fox-Kemper [15/62] Brown University Earth, Environmental & Planetary Sciences Institute at Brown for Environment & Society

Westminster Street from Eddy to Market Square was under several feet of water after Hurricane Carol paid a destructive visit on August 31, 1954. [Providence Journal files]





from global to universal

We study the physics of the ocean and how the ocean fits into the Earth's climate system, using models that range from the global scale to focused process models that apply universally. We seek mathematically interesting problems with practical uses.

The products we produce are parameterizations, diagnostics, and toy models. That is, after study of complex processes in dedicated and computationally expensive models, we work out simple but accurate approximations and crucial measurements to diagnose. Sometimes the goal is to improve the community models, and sometimes the goal is to aid understanding with a toy model that mimics the complex system.



TROCT MOIT

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) provides regular assessments of the scientific basis of climate change, its impacts and future risks, and options for adaptation and mitigation.

Created in 1988 by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the objective of the IPCC is to provide governments at all levels with scientific information that they can use to develop climate policies.

Me Sa Che IPCC?



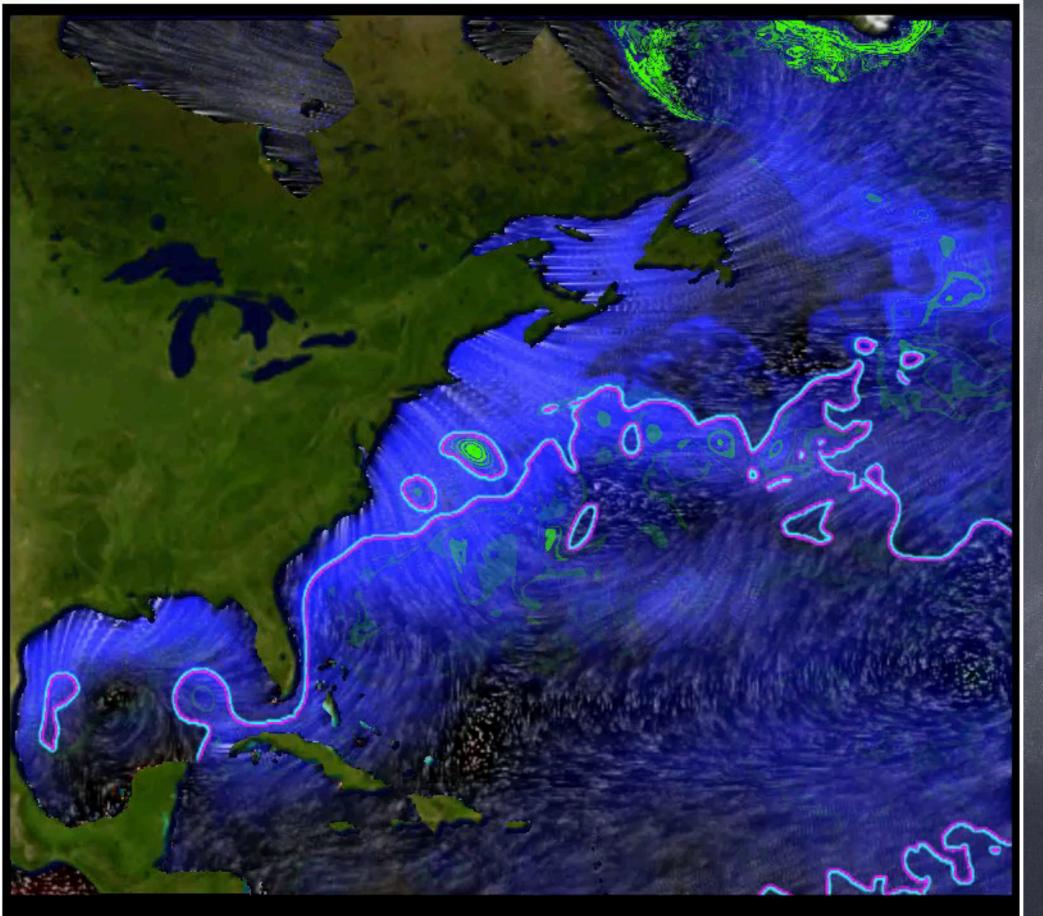
For 3 years, I've been a Coordinating Lead Author of the Working Group I (scientific basis of climate change), Ocean, Cryosphere, & Sea Level Change Chapter of the IPCC Sixth Assessment Report.

IPCC Special Report on The Ocean and Cryosphere in a Changing Climate was released in Sept 23, 2019.

Our report will be released in 2021–2022. Our chapter is being written by 3 CLAs, 14 LAs, 3 REs, >44 CAs, and 5 Chapter Scientists. The AR6 WGI has 232 CLAs & LAs; the whole report has 721.

As a CLA, I'll help write the Policymaker Summary and the Technical Summary, and...

Defend the report during government approval



ECCO Movie: Chris Henze, NASA Ames

tau / qflux / theta200m / kppMLD

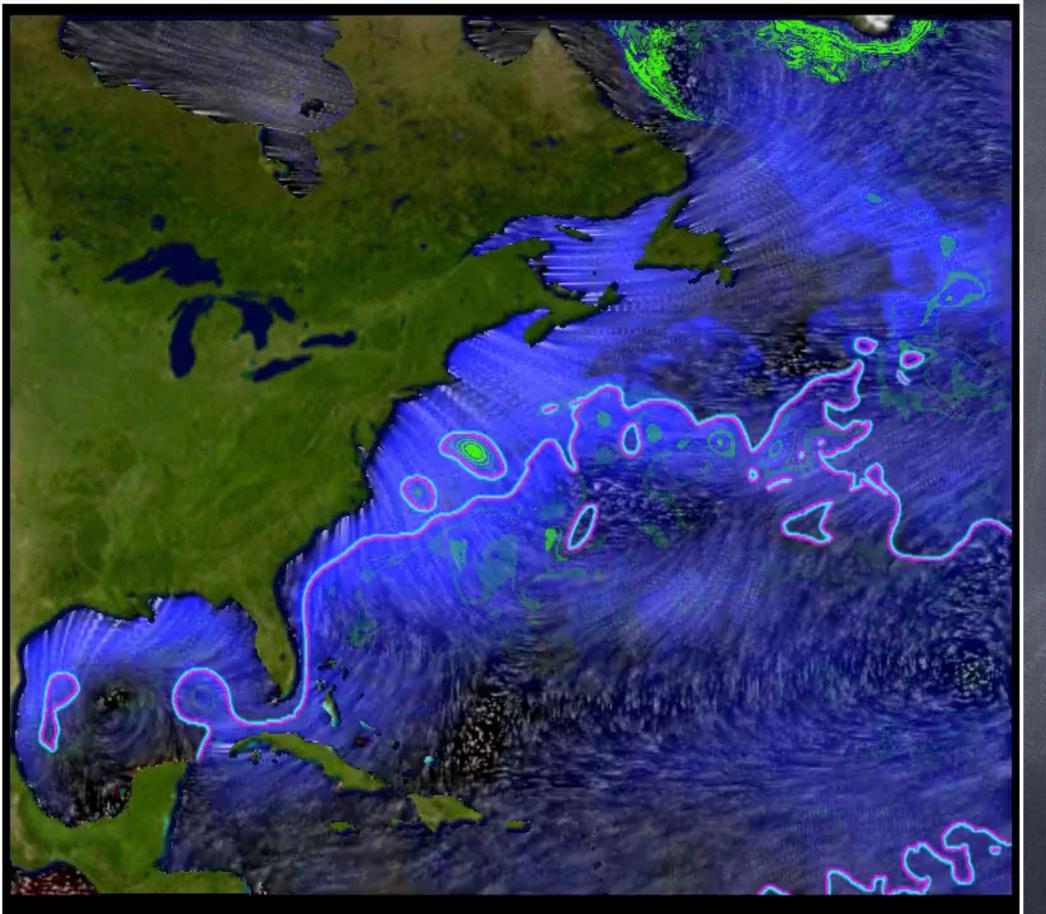
Jan 1 00:30 2001



Weather, Atmosphere Fast

Ocean, Climate Slow

3.4m of ocean water has same heat capacity as the WHOLE atmosphere



ECCO Movie: Chris Henze, NASA Ames

tau / qflux / theta200m / kppMLD

Jan 1 00:30 2001



Weather, Atmosphere Fast

Ocean, Climate Slow

3.4m of ocean water has same heat capacity as the WHOLE atmosphere

What do we know about climate?

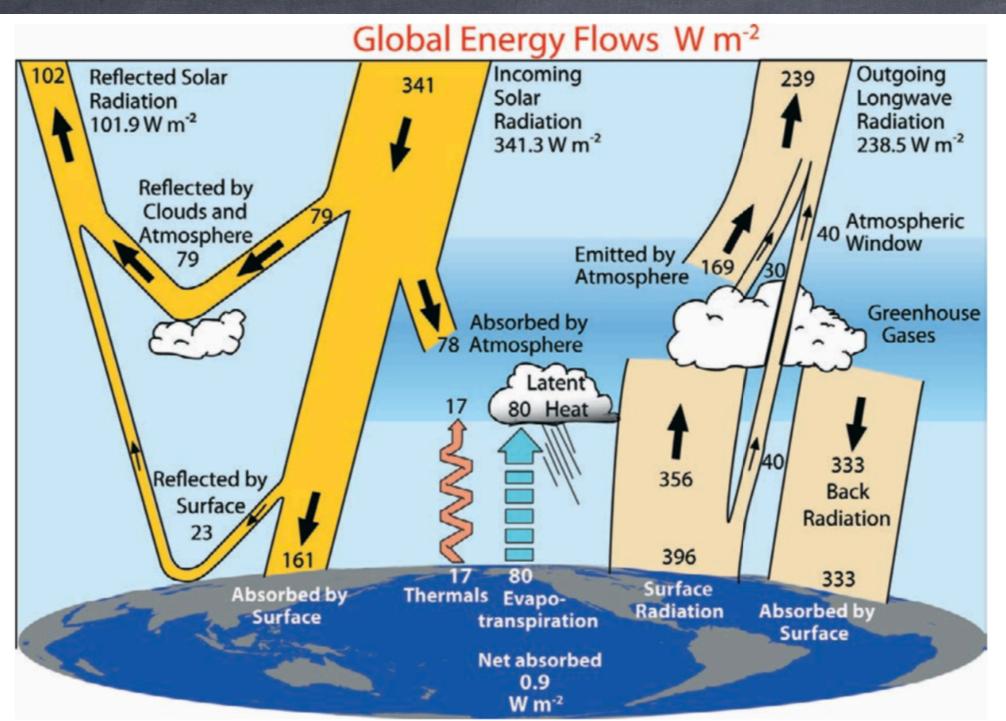


FIG. 1. The global annual mean Earth's energy budget for the Mar 2000 to May 2004 period (W m⁻²). The broad arrows indicate the schematic flow of energy in proportion to their importance.

Trenberth et al., 2009

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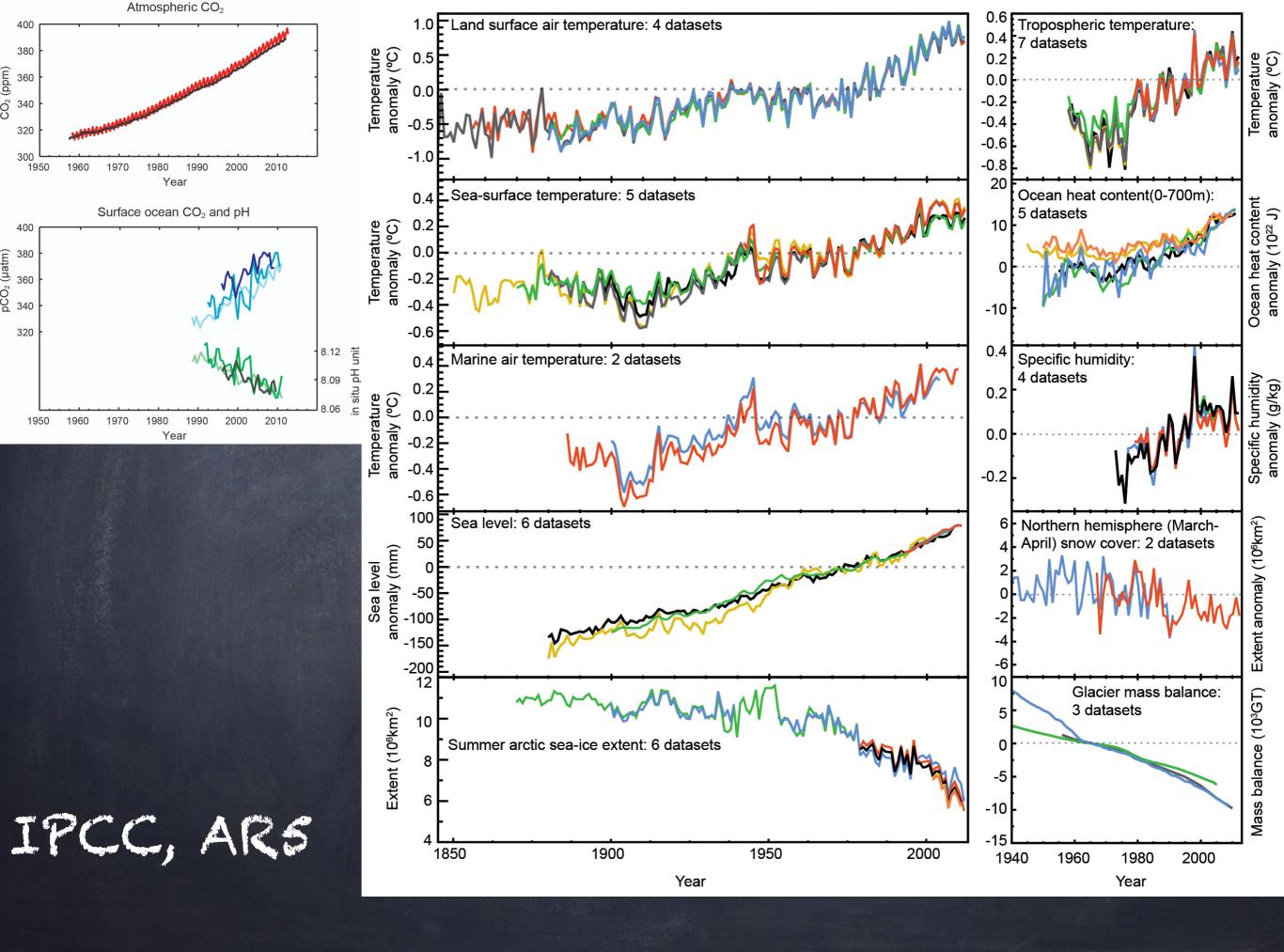
Observations:

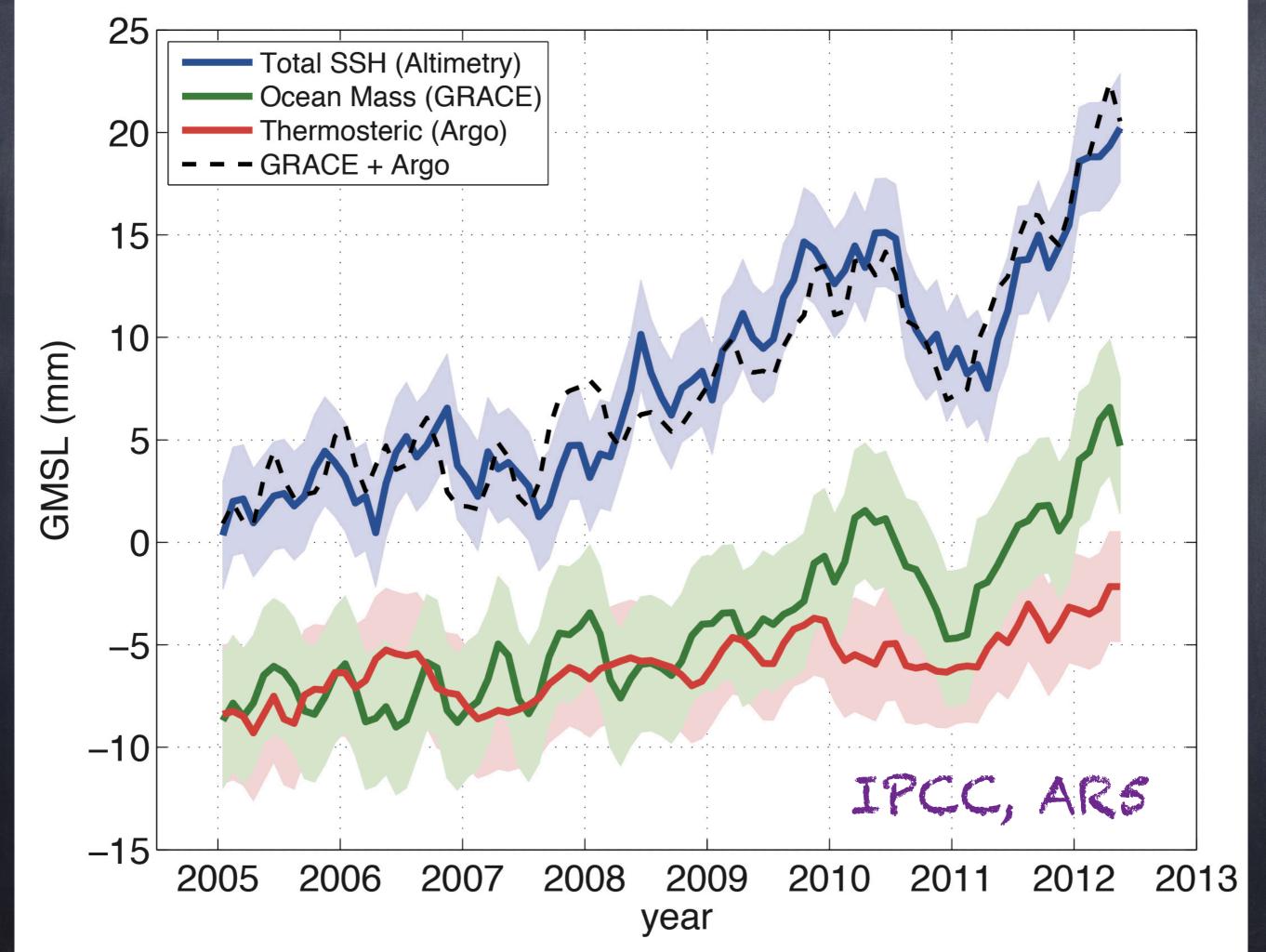
First, what is changing?

How does it relate to forcing?

a And what about sea level?

We'll begin with a few metrics from the IPCC Fifth Assessment Report (ARS, 2013)





APPROVED SPM

IPCC SR Ocean and Cryosphere

Attrbution Tropical Temperate Ocean Tropical South Southern Indian Indian North North South Tropical EBUS¹ Atlantic Pacific Atlantic Pacific Pacific Arctic Ocean Ocean Atlantic Ocean LEGEND Temperature 00 Greenhouse Gases Physical changes Oxygen • . . . **Physical changes** increase Ocean pH 000 000 Sea-ice extent decrease Sea level increase and ٠ 00 decrease Upper water column Systems Coral **Coastal wetlands** -Ecosystems positive Kelp forest • . . negative **Rocky shores** positive and Deep sea ۰. negative Climate Change **Polar benthos** Sea-ice-associated no assessment tems and services **Fisheries** • . . • ... Tourism Attribution Human systems ecosystem serv confidence Habitat services Transportation/shipping high **Cultural services** medium Coastal carbon low . . ٠ . . . -... .. sequestration

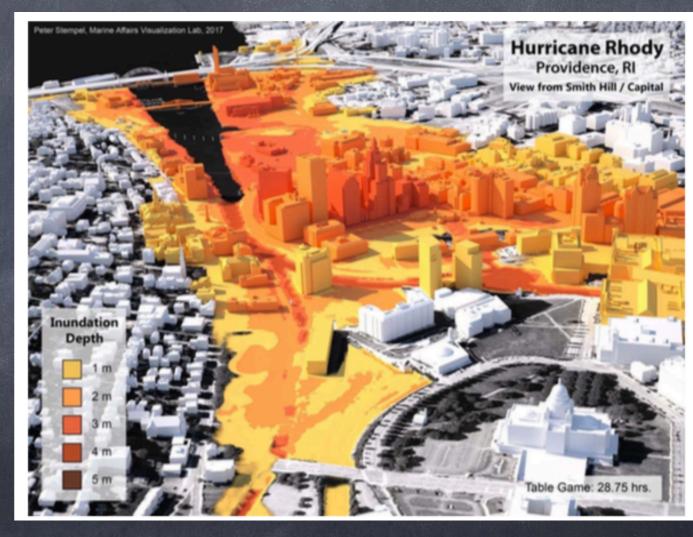
Observed regional impacts from changes in the ocean and the cryosphere

¹ Eastern Boundary Upwelling Systems (Benguela Current, Canary Current, California Current, and Humboldt Current); (Box 5.3)

RI Climale Challenges

o Flooding

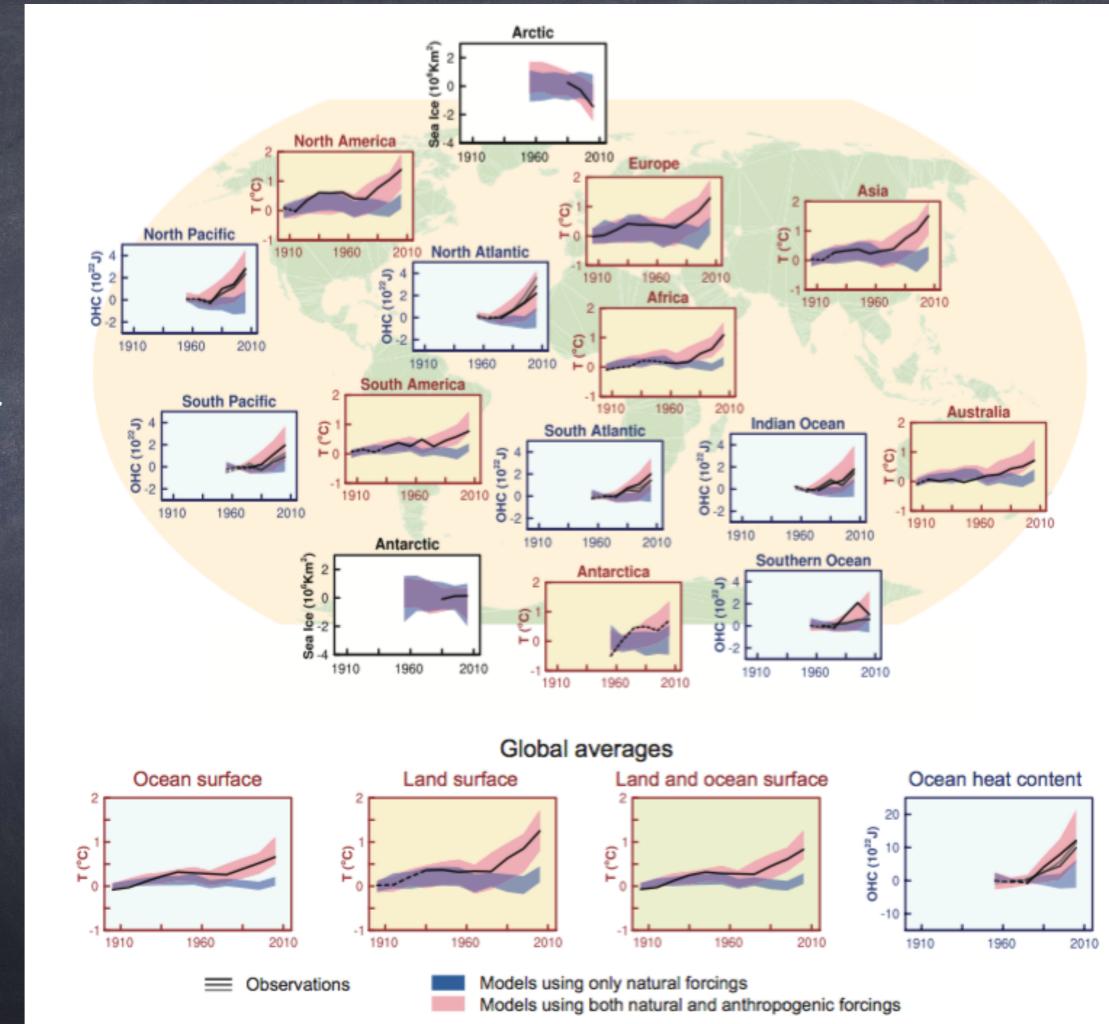
- Fish Kills/Hypoxia/Harmful Algal
 Blooms/Water Quality
- Salt marsh degradation, historical coastal property at risk
- Too warm for lobster, jonah ∉ blue crabs moving in
- Ocean acidification makes shellfish
 vulnerable
- o Hurricanes!
- o Earlier Spring, Later Fall
- o et cetera.



Stempel et al. (2018)

Detection and Attribution

A Temperature Change Story



Models? This them?

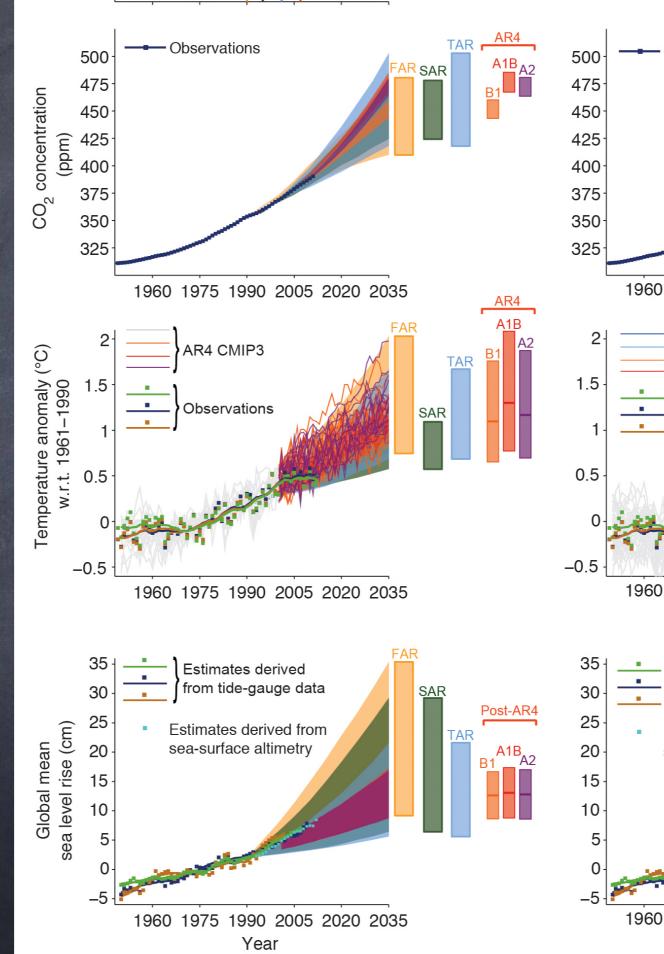
- Causality through models
 - (There is no Planet B, also no control experiment)
- · How good & consistent are they?
- what do future projections look like?
- What goes into models?
- Why can't we just get a bigger computer?



Video: ZEKE HAUSFATHER, Carbon Brief, 2017 www.carbonbrief.org/analysis-how-well-have-climate-models-projected-global-warming

Models & Understanding

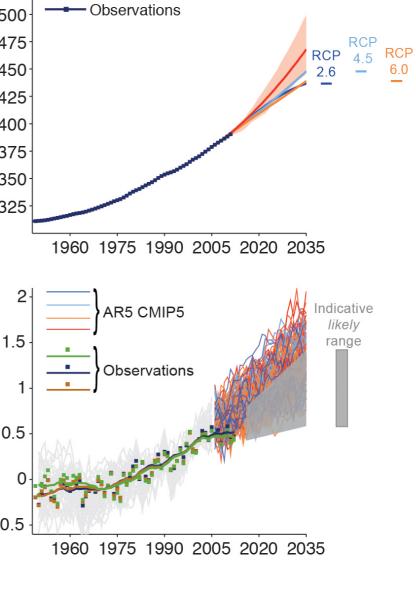
The comparison between the four previous reports highlights the evolution in our understanding of how the climate system responds to changes in both natural and anthropogenic forcing and provides an assessment of how the projections compare with observational estimates.



SARTAR

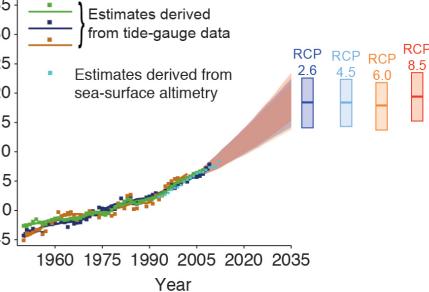
AR4

FAR

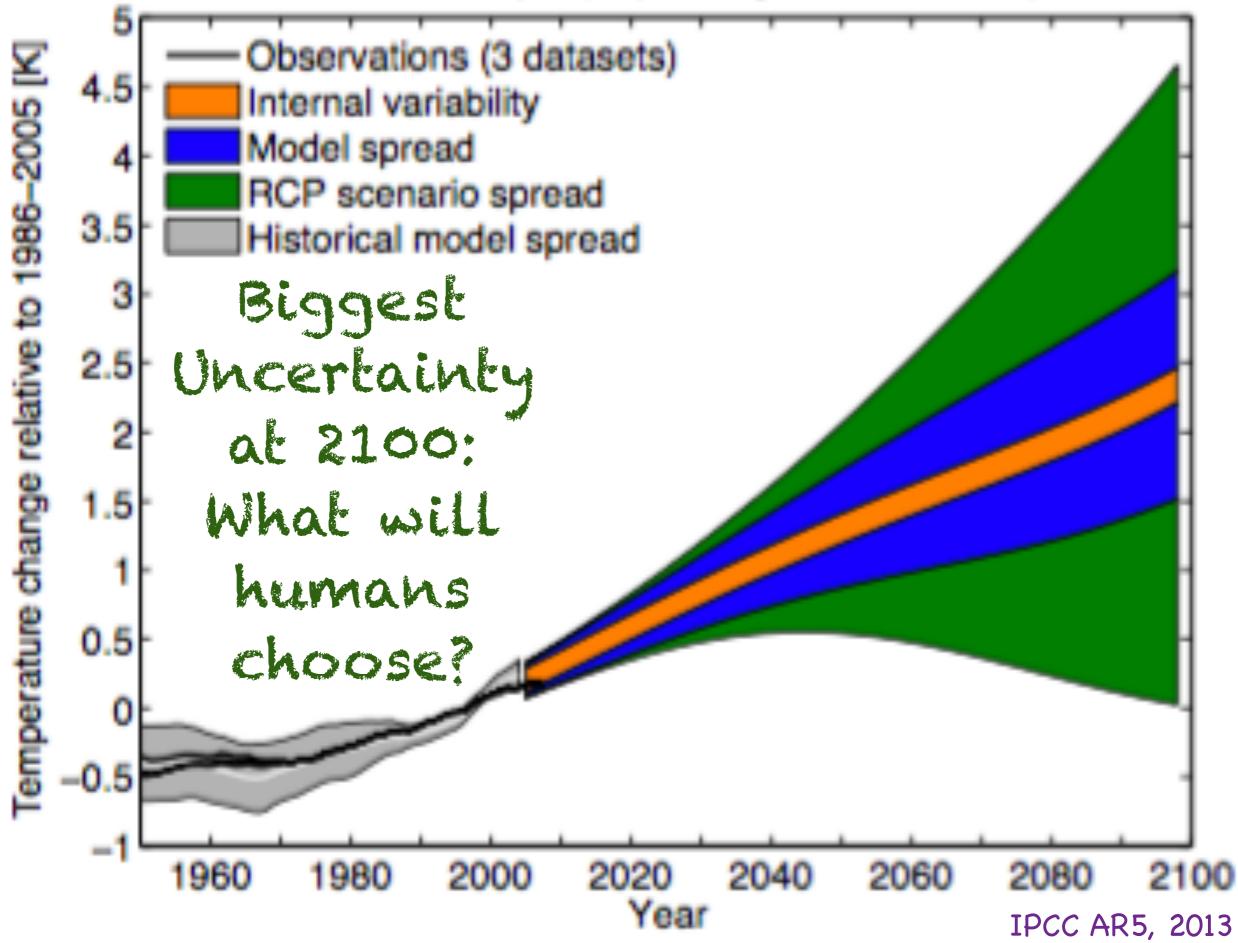


RCP

8.5



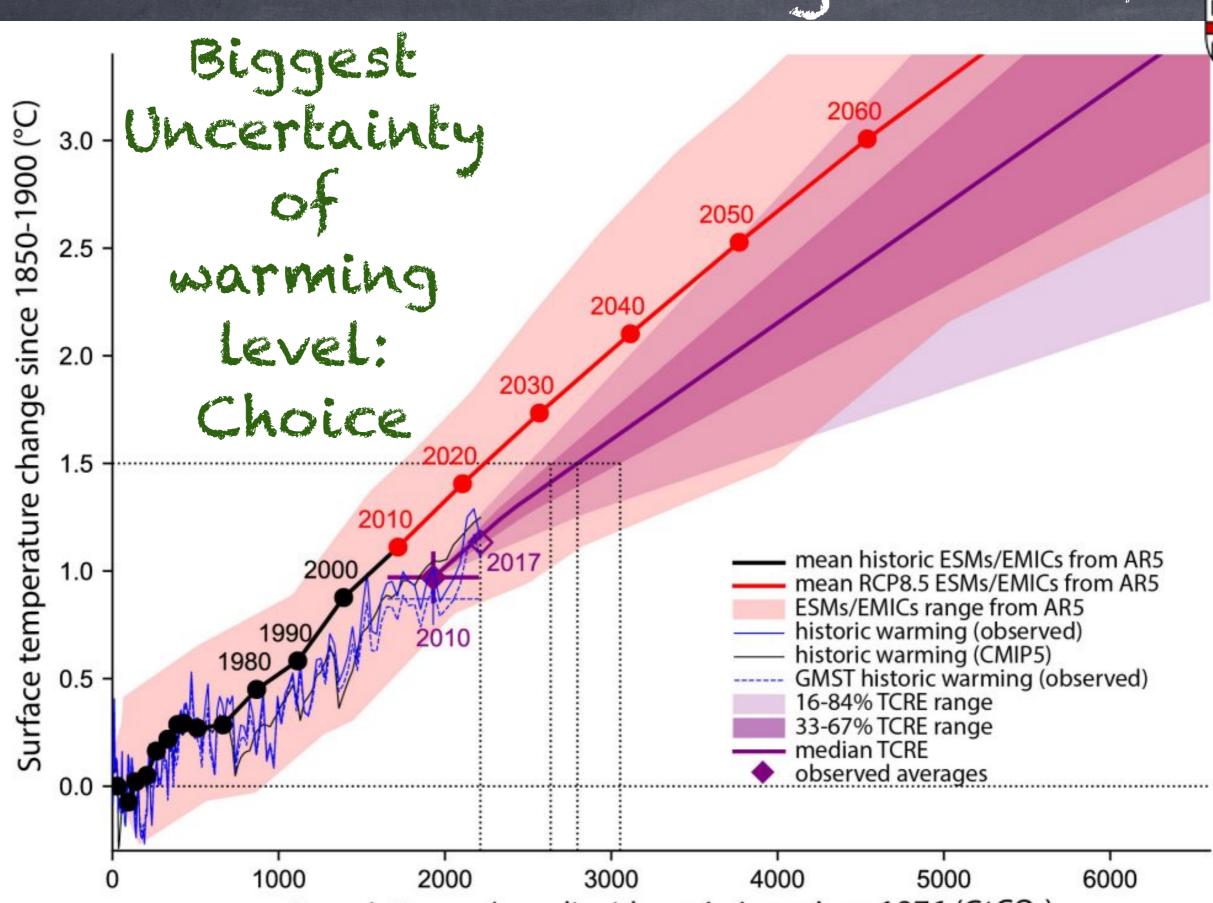
Sources of uncertainty in projected global mean temperature



What sets the magnitude?

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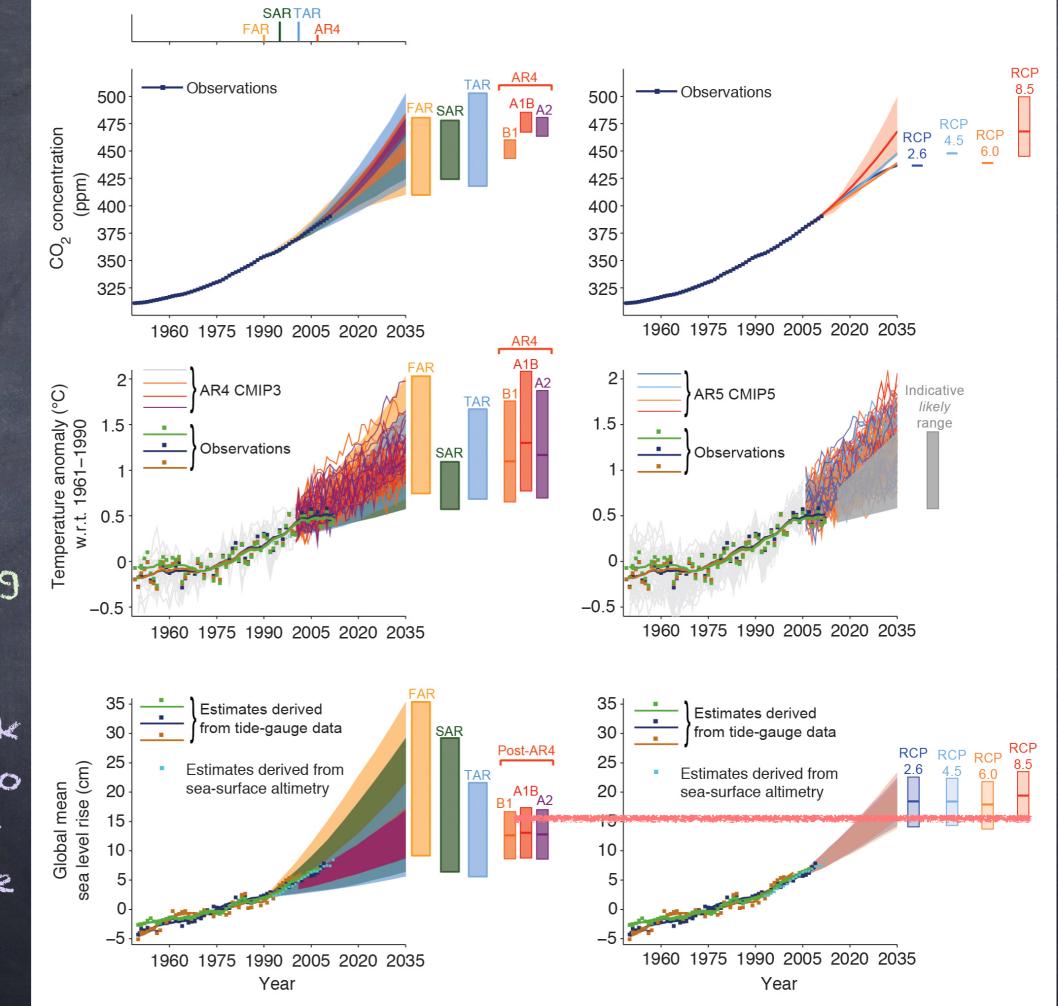
Cumulative carbon dioxide emissions since 1876 (GtCO₂)

Note: Sea Level Rise at 2035 is essentially

independent of scenario

That is, it's already been "cooked in" by past warming and emissions

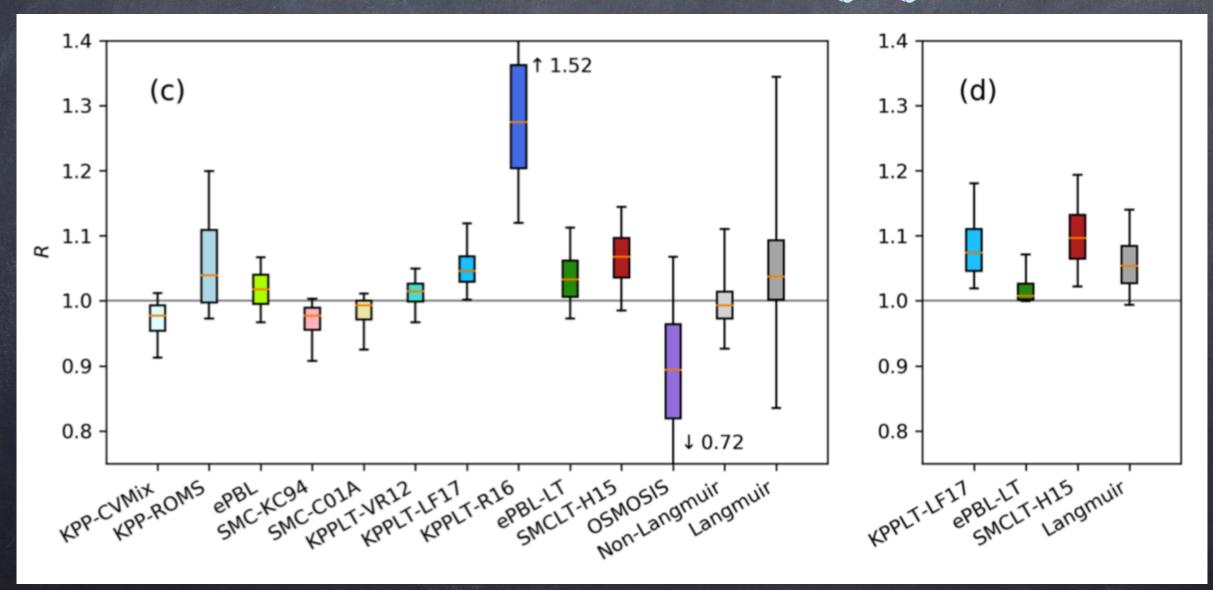
We have to look farther ahead to find when our emissions make a difference in sea level



Models and Processes



To the extent possible, we build climate models from first \P principle understanding of the earth system, not from statistical modeling of past observations. Like the stock market-past performance is not indicative of future results because the climate is changing.



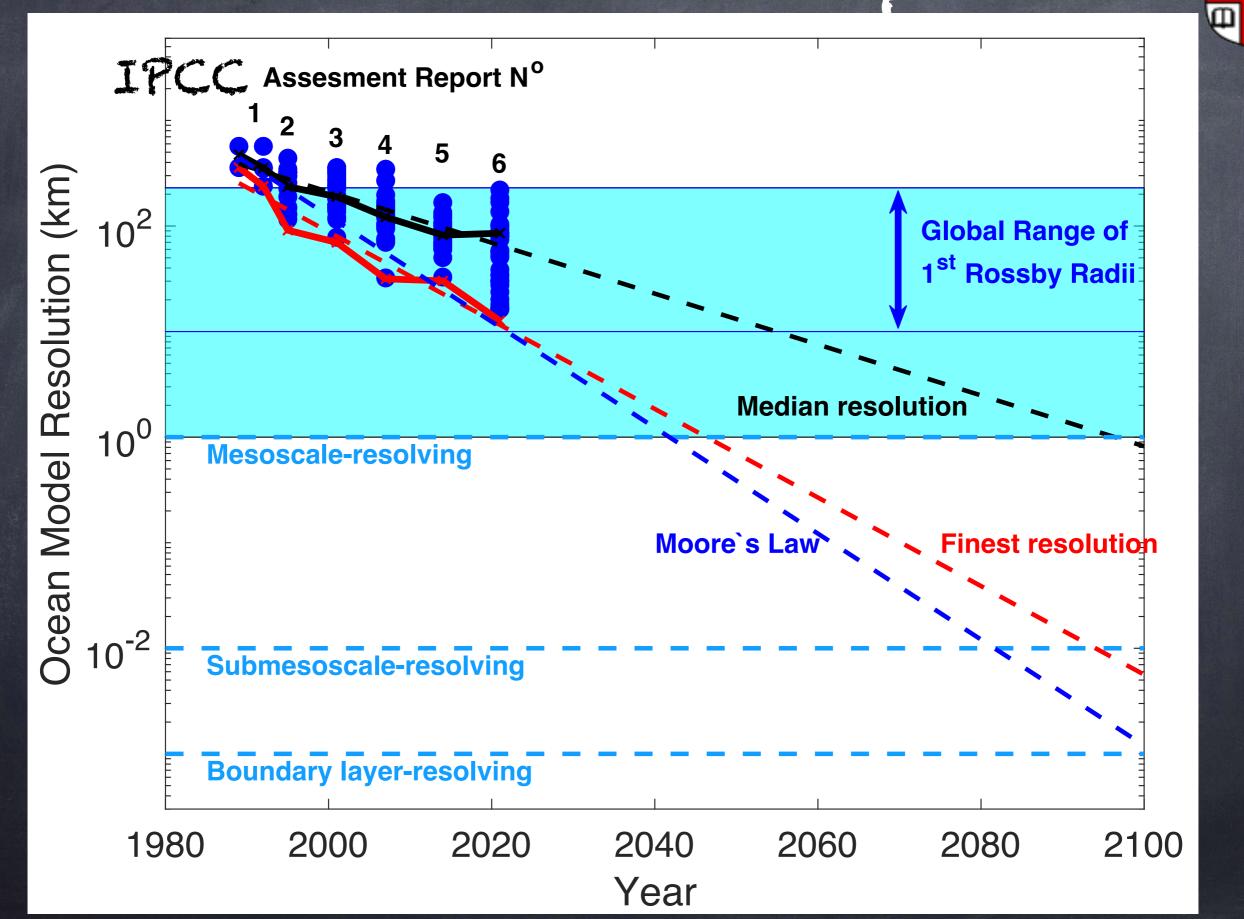
Grasping at straws?

Li et al., 2019

Use a bigger compuler?

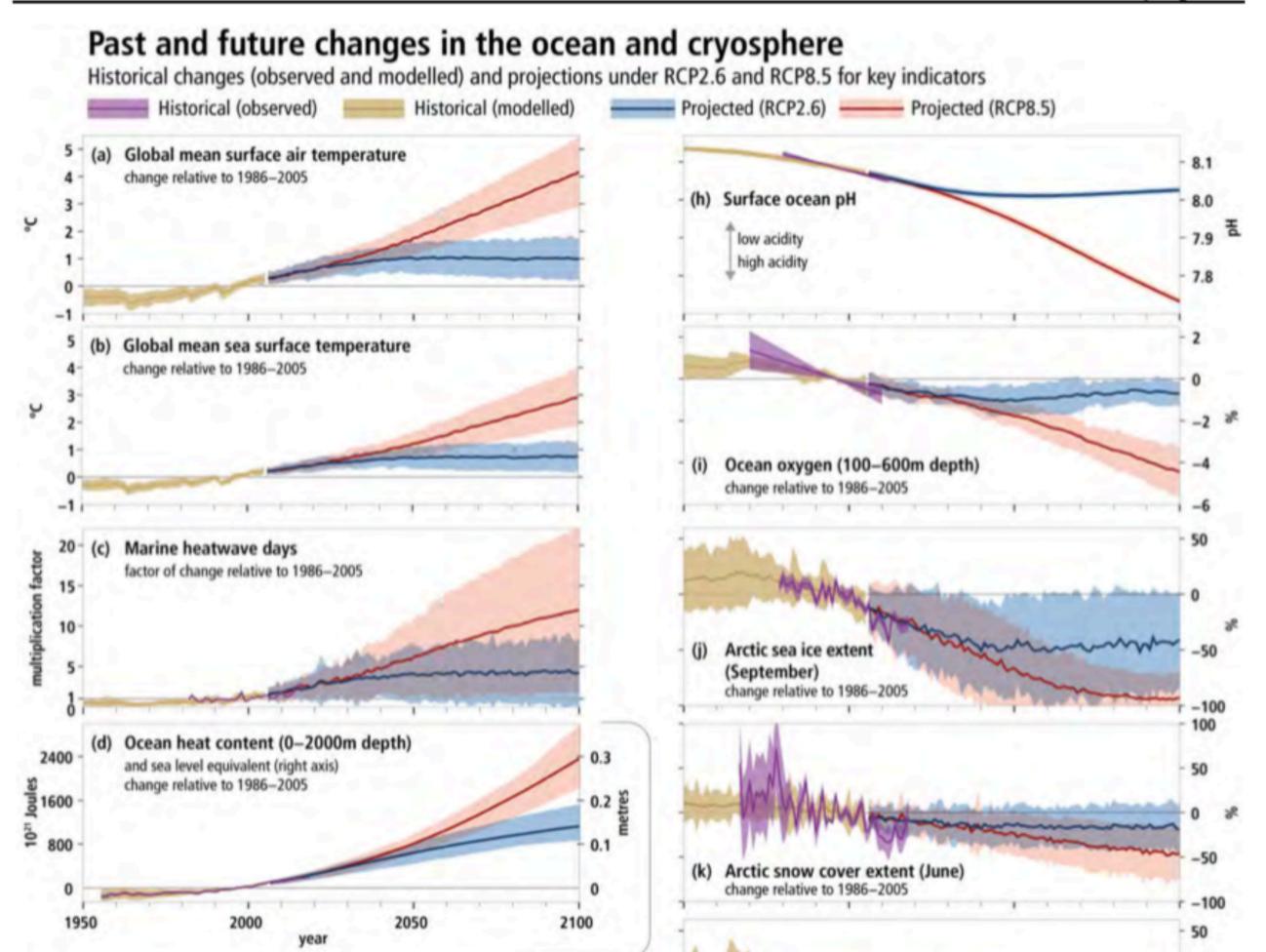
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IPCC SR Ocean and Cryosphere



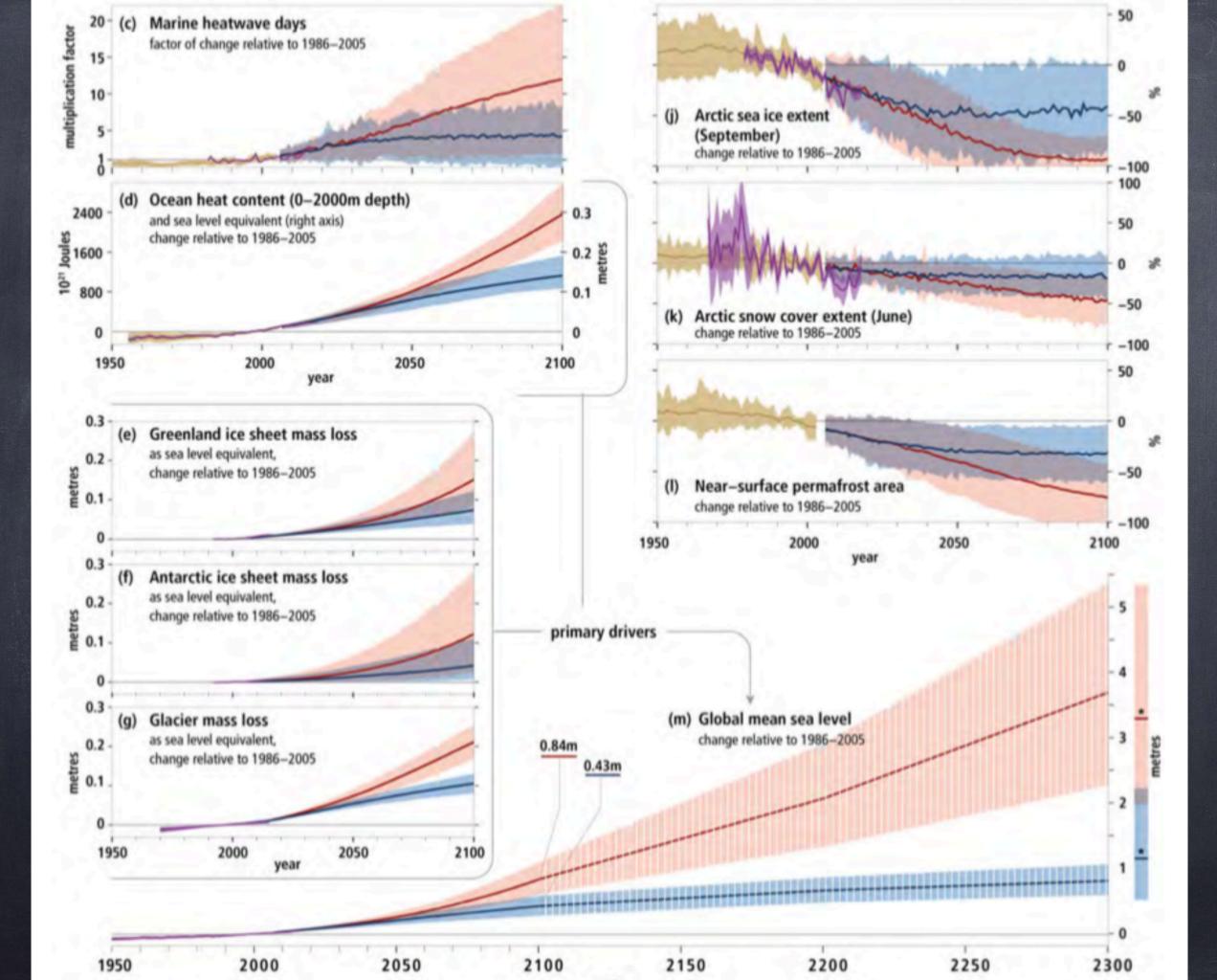


 Table SPM.1: Projected global mean surface temperature change relative to 1850–1900 for two time periods under four

 RCPs¹⁶.

	Near-term: 2031–2050		End-of-century: 2081–2100				
Scenario	Mean (°C)	<i>likely</i> range (°C)	Mean (°C)	<i>likely</i> range (°C)			
RCP2.6	1.6	1.1 to 2.0	1.6	0.9 to 2.4			
RCP4.5	1.7	1.3 to 2.2	2.5	1.7 to 3.3			
RCP6.0	1.6	1.2 to 2.0	2.9	2.0 to 3.8			
RCP8.5	2.0	1.5 to 2.4	4.3	3.2 to 5.4			
{Cross-Chapter Box 1 in Chapter 1}							

	RCP2.6	RCP4.5	RCP8.5	Comments
GMSL 2031-2050	0.17(0.12-0.22)	0.18(0.13-0.23)	0.20(0.15-0.26)	SROCC
GMSL 2046-2065	0.24 (0.17–0.32)	0.26 (0.19–0.34)	0.32 (0.23–0.40)	SROCC
GMSL 2081-2100	0.39 (0.26 –0.53)	0.49 (0.34 –0.64)	0.71 (0.51 –0.92)	SROCC
GMSL in 2100	0.43 (0.29 -0.59)	0.55 (0.39 –0.72)	0.84 (0.61 –1.10)	SROCC
Rate (mm yr ⁻¹)	4(2-6)	7(4–9)	15(10-20)	SROCC

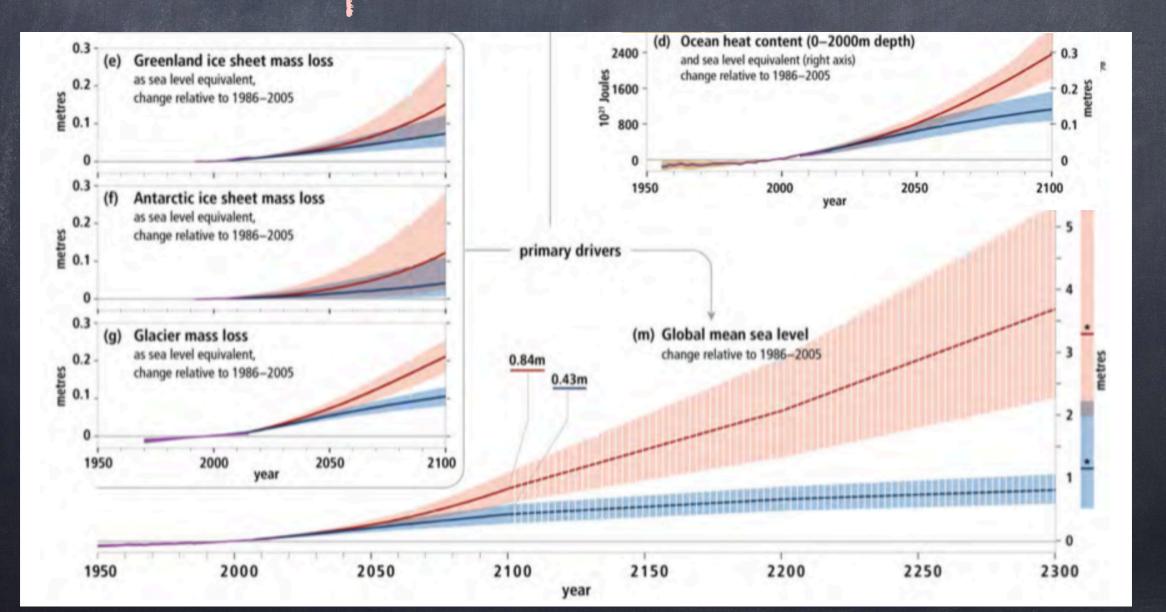
GMSL (m), relative to 1985-2006

Is it the magnitude or the rate of warming that counts?



- Heat Waves? Magnitude
- @ Tipping Points? Magnitude
- @ Sea Level Rise? Magnitude
- Species Extinctions? Rate
- @ Economy? Both Magnitude & Rate
- o Developing World? Both Magnitude & Rate

What sets the rate? Not Only Us: Sea level until 2300 Even when emissions are ceased near 2100, the sea level continues to rise for hundreds of years as the slower ocean & ice sheet responses accumulate.



I fear commitment

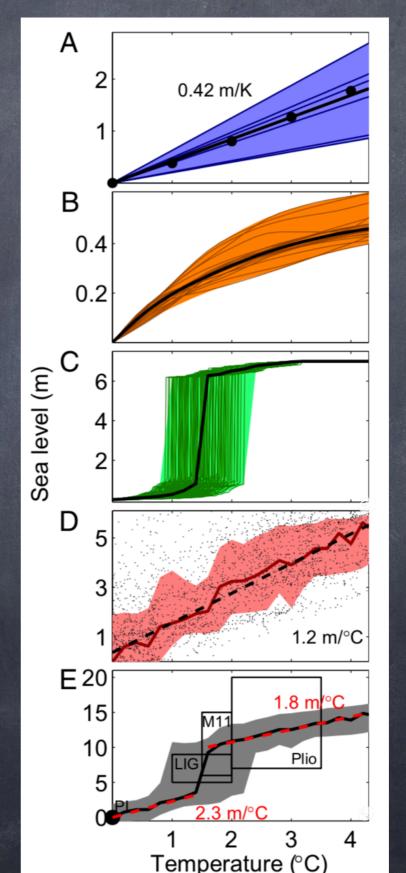


(A) ocean warming,

(B) mountain glaciers and ice caps

(C) Greenland Ice Sheet
(D) Antarctic Ice Sheets
(E) The total sea-level
commitment

paleo-warm periods (PI, preindustrial, Plio, mid-Pliocene, LIG, last interglacial).



Multimillennial commitment

Levermann et al. 2013

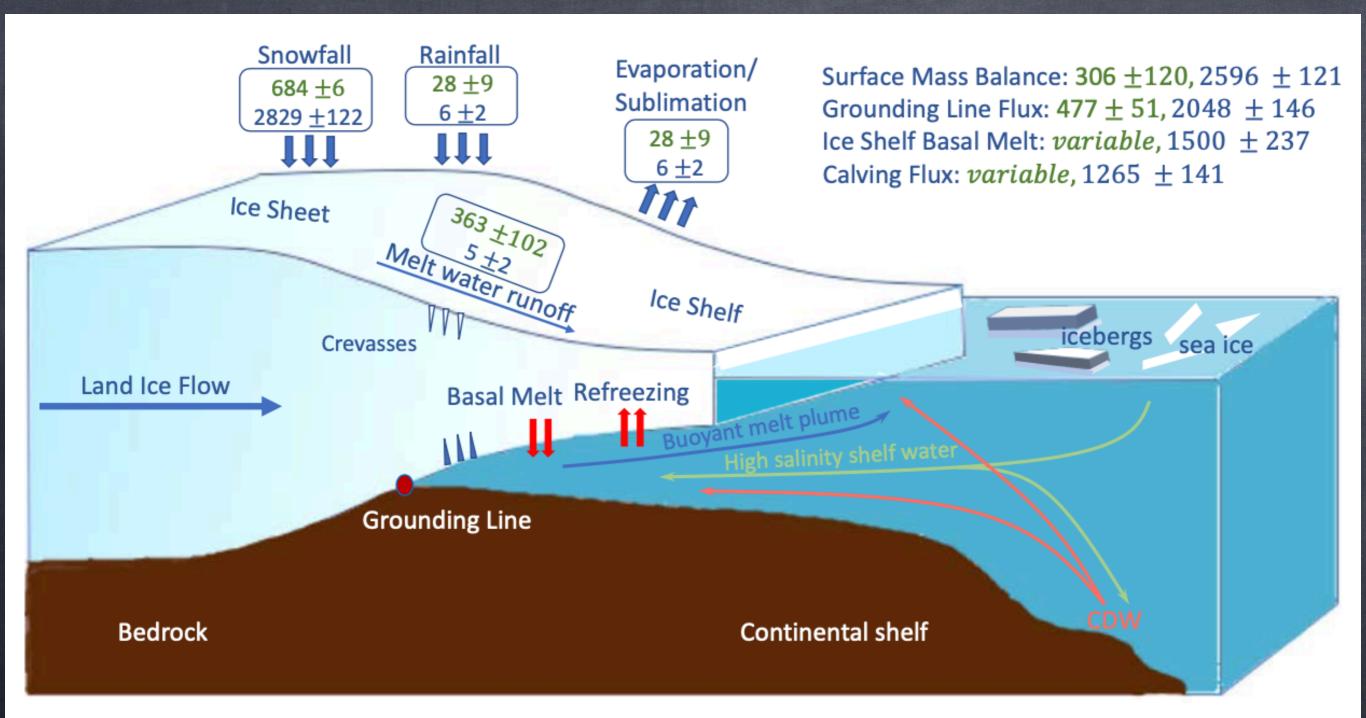


FIGURE 1. Schematic representation of ice sheet mass exchange with the atmosphere and ocean. Typical mass fluxes for the Antarctic (blue) and Greenland (green) Ice Sheets are in Gt yr⁻¹ (360 Gt = 1 mm of sea level). Sub-shelf basal melt and calving flux for Greenland are uncertain and variable, hence excluded. *Sources: van den Broeke et al. (2016), Rignot et al. (2013)*

MISI SE MICI

- In Antarctica, outlet glaciers are vulnerable to marine ice sheet instability if they rest on bedrock that lies below sea level and slopes downward inland (Schoof, 2007), and to marine ice cliff instability if unstable ice cliffs with heights above 90 m are created following the collapse of ice shelves through hydrofracturing (DeConto and Pollard, 2016).
- Changes in oceanic conditions are the main triggers of these processes (Jacobs et al., 2011).

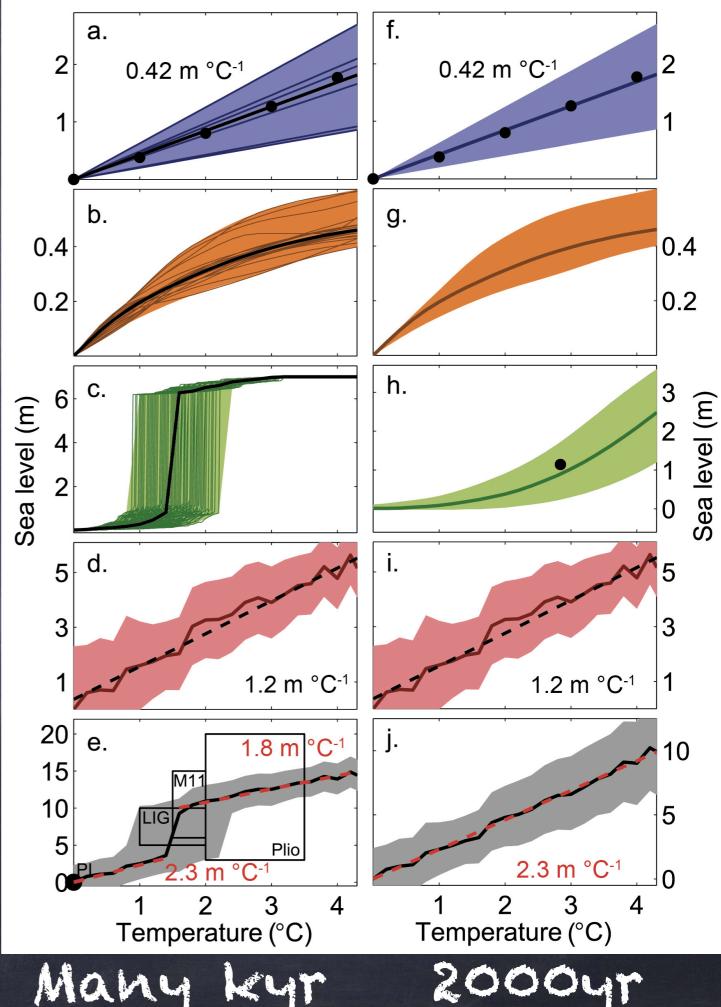
Total Change by degrees warming Oceans

Mountain Glaciers

Greenland

Antarctica

Total





The former site of Okjökull, now known as simply Ok. Rice University

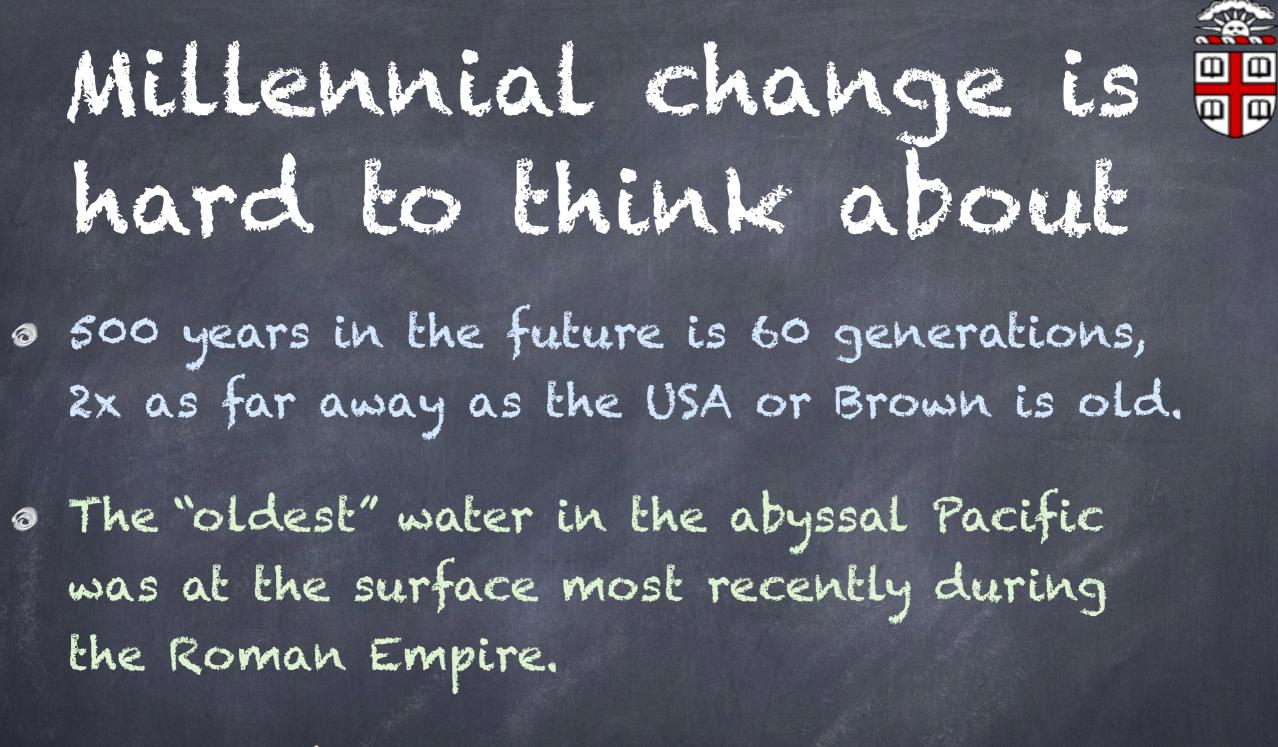
A letter to the future

Ok is the first Icelandic glacier to lose its status as a glacier. In the next 200 years all our glaciers are expected to follow the same path. This monument is to acknowledge that we know what is happening and what needs to be done. Only you will know if we did it.

August 2019

415 ppm CO2

-Andri Snær Magnason



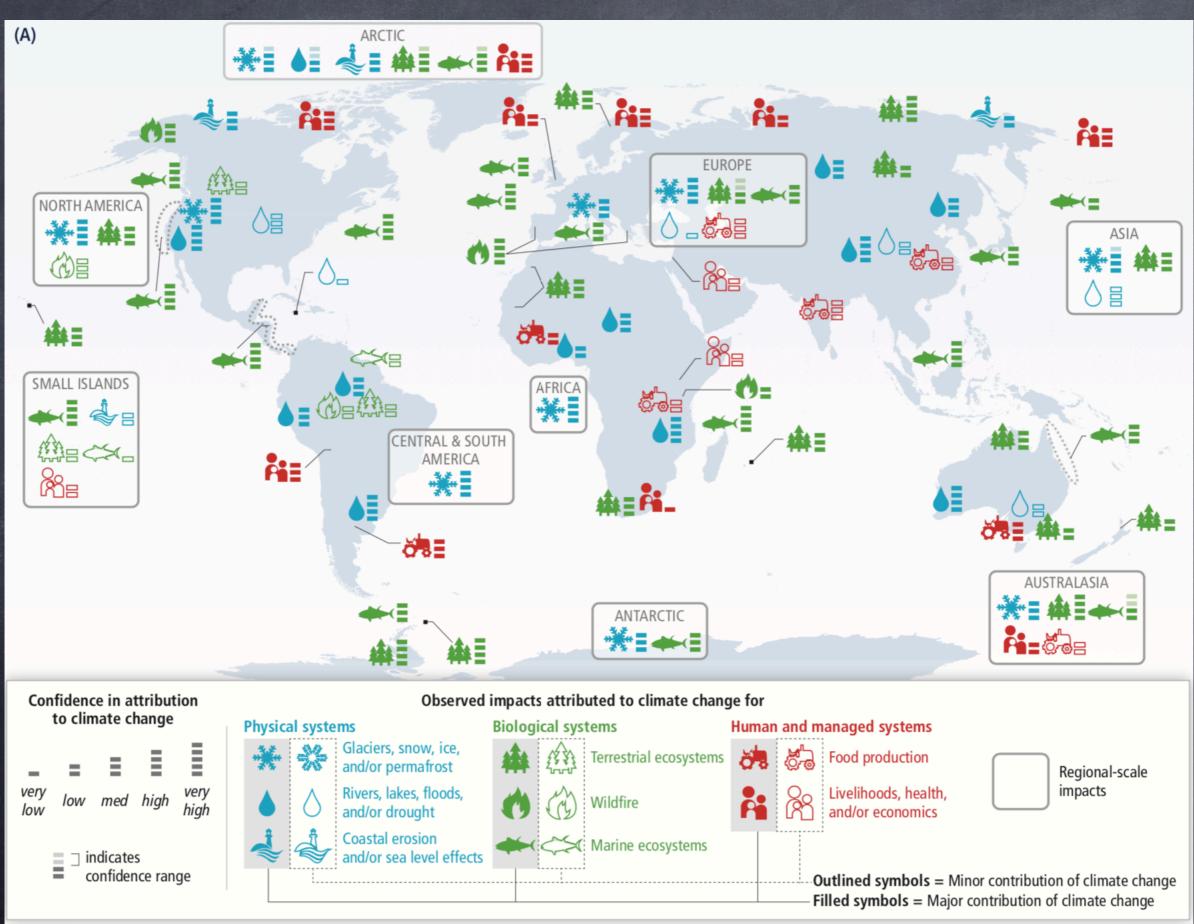
So, what does it mean societally that we expect 1-12m higher sea level someday?

The Moral and Psychological Deluge

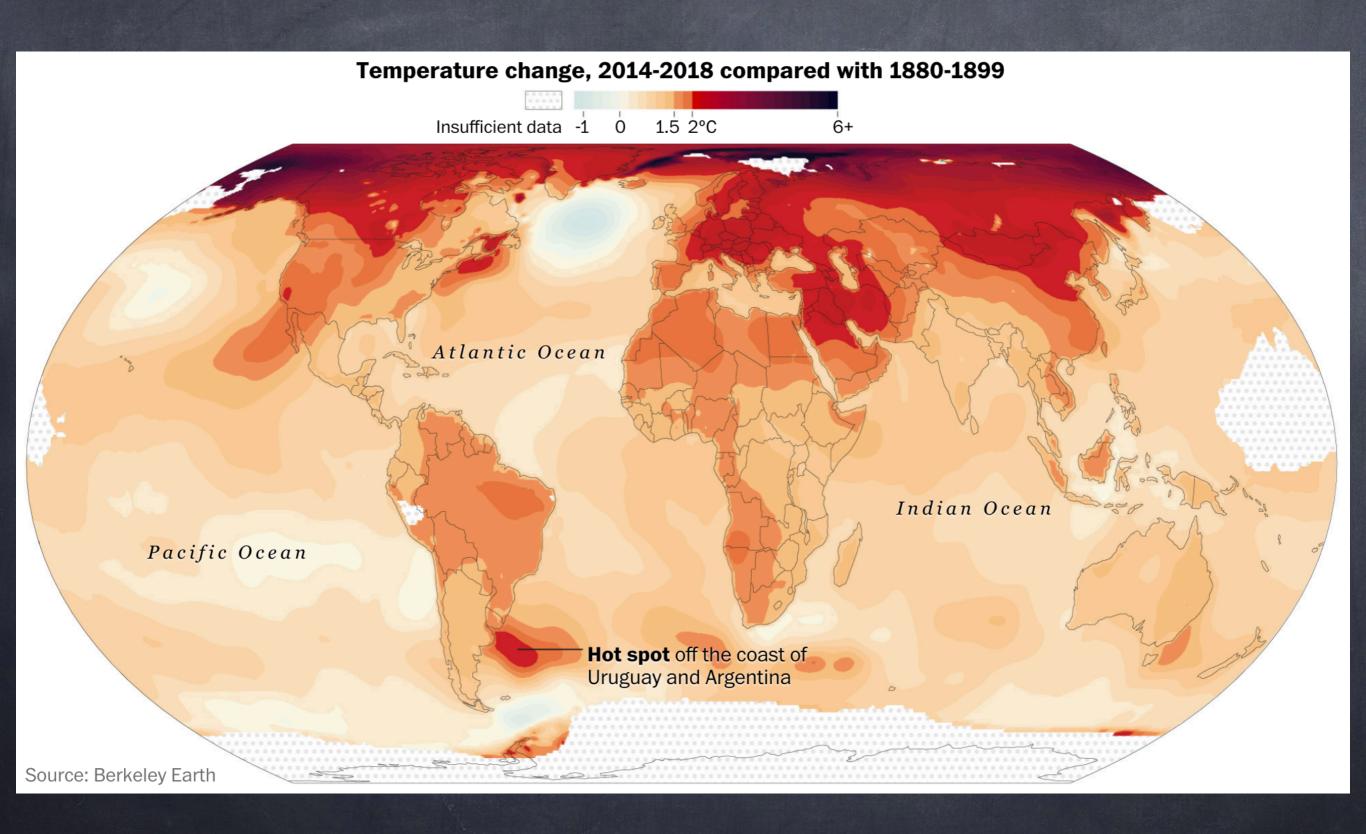
"I'll grant that we've never seen an existential threat to all of humankind before. It's true that the planet itself has never become hostile to our collective existence. But history is Littered with targeted-but no less deadly-existential threats for specific populations."

-Mary Annaise Heglar

who is most at risk?



Who is most at risk?



Visualization: Washington Post

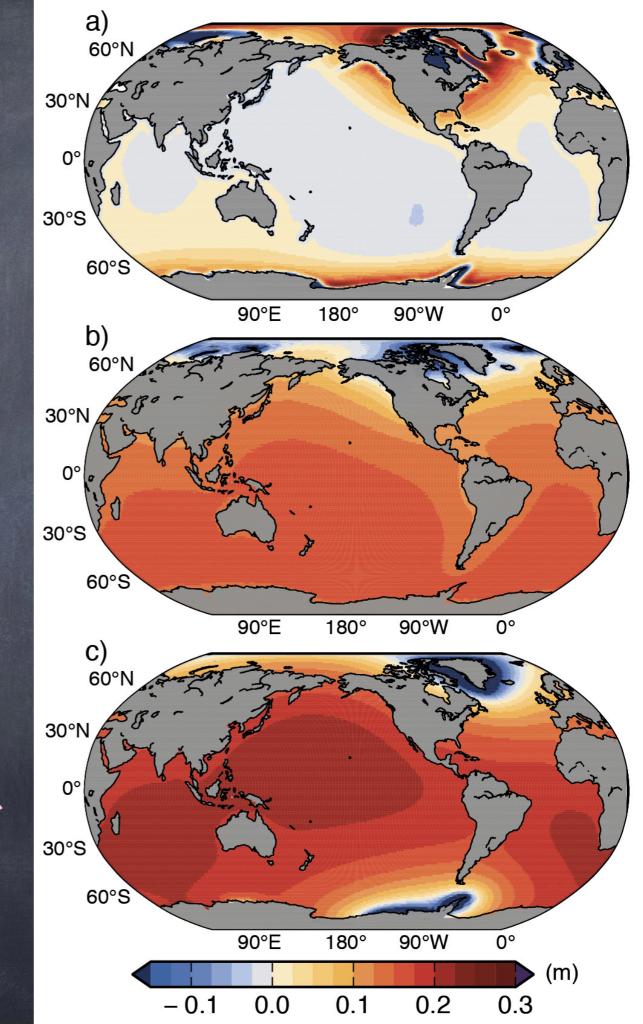
What about Regional Sea Level Rise?

- Global Mean Surface Temperature
 and Global Mean Sea Level don't
 hurt any ecosystems,
- o It is their regional aspect that does.
- What goes into the regional sea level
 rise? (Hint: WAY more complex)

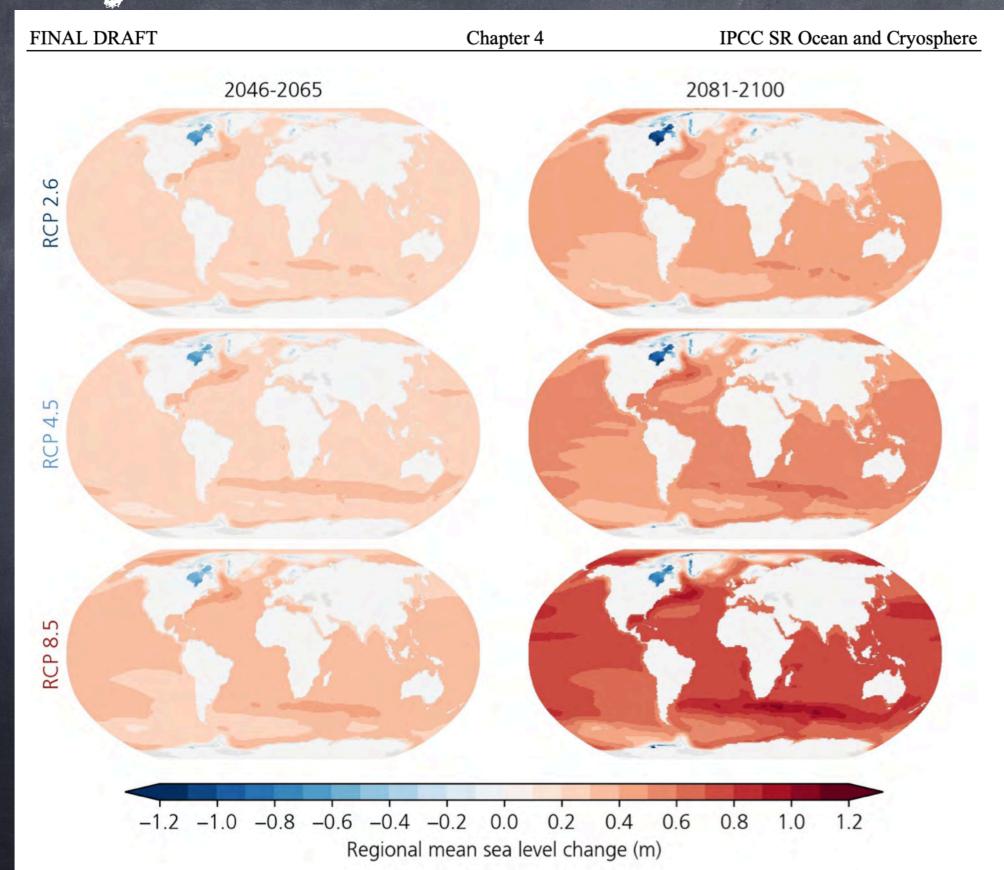
Glacial Isostatic Adjustment Pattern (crust recovering from Last ice age)

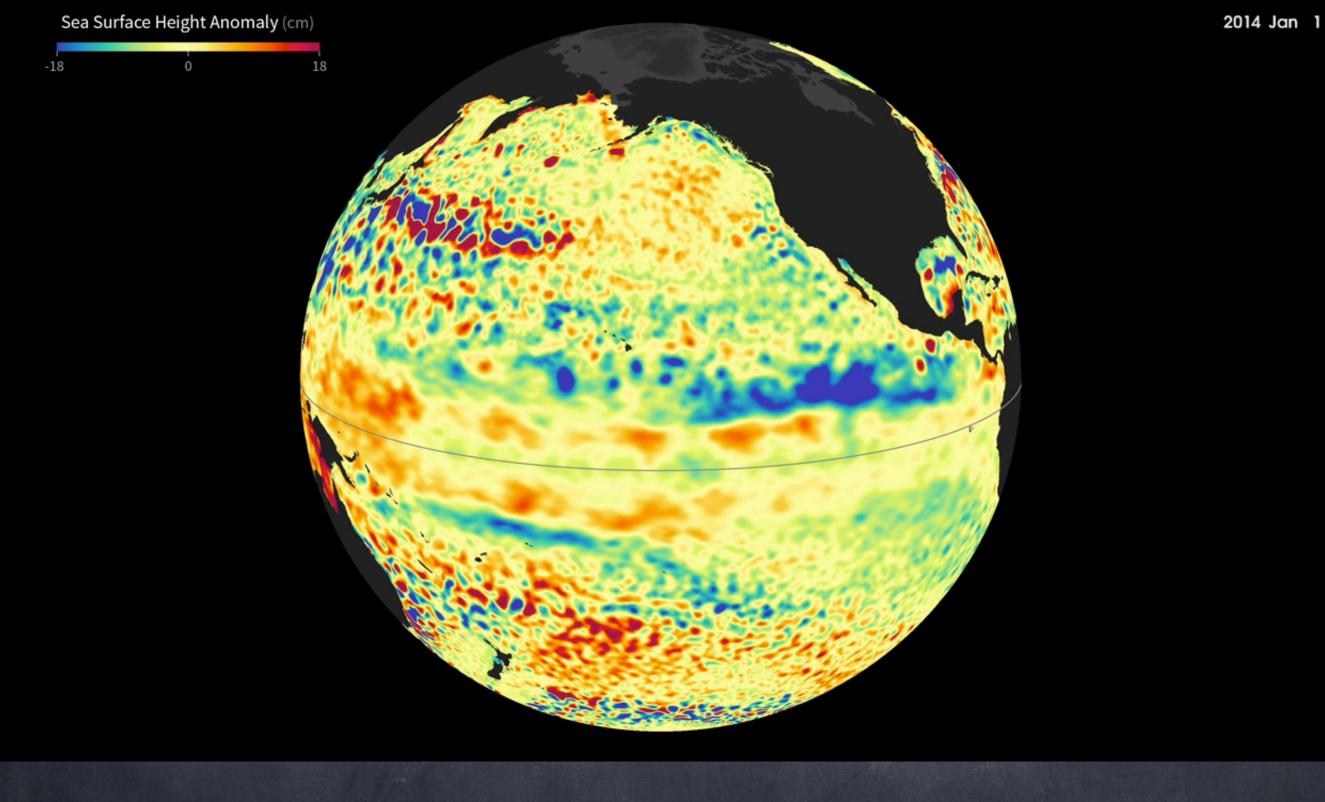
Glacier Mell Pattern

Ice Sheet Melt Pattern



Relative (Regional) Sea Level vs. 1986-2005 by scenario: RCP2.5, 4.5, 8.5





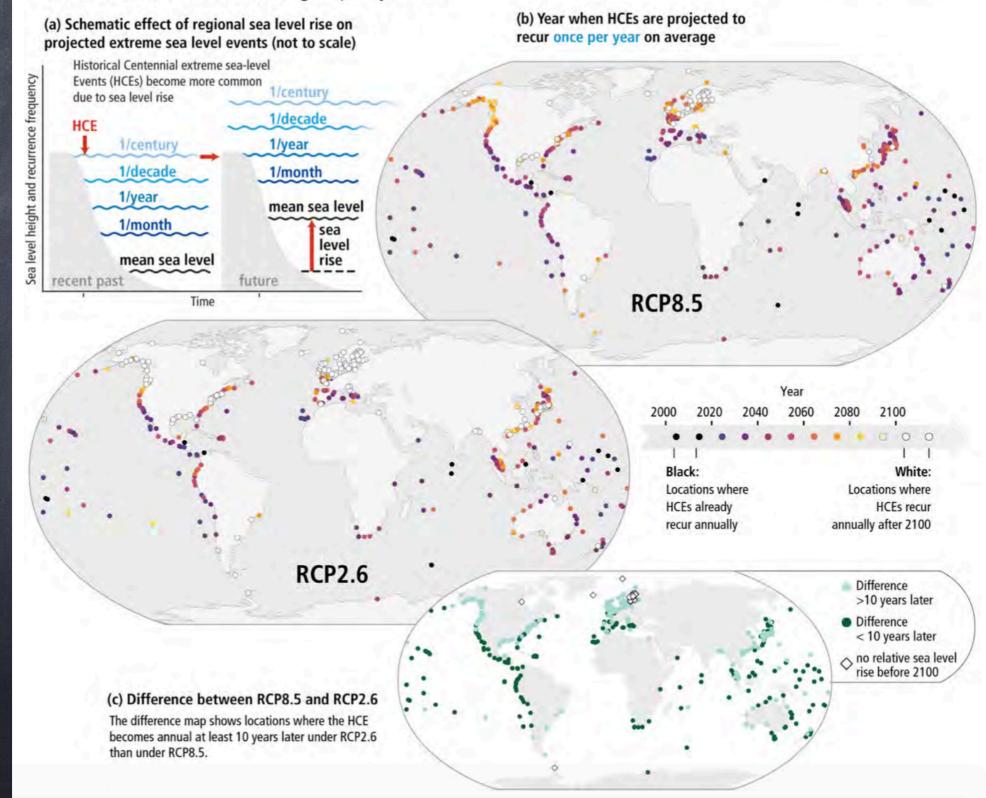
<u>Marit Jentoft-Nilsen</u>: Visualizer **Please give credit for this item to:** NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center

Short URL to share this page: http://svs.gsfc.nasa.gov/30975

APPROVED SPM

Extreme sea level events

Due to projected global mean sea level (GMSL) rise, local sea levels that historically occurred once per century (historical centennial events, HCEs) are projected to become at least annual events at most locations during the 21st century. The height of a HCE varies widely, and depending on the level of exposure can already cause severe impacts. Impacts can continue to increase with rising frequency of HCEs.



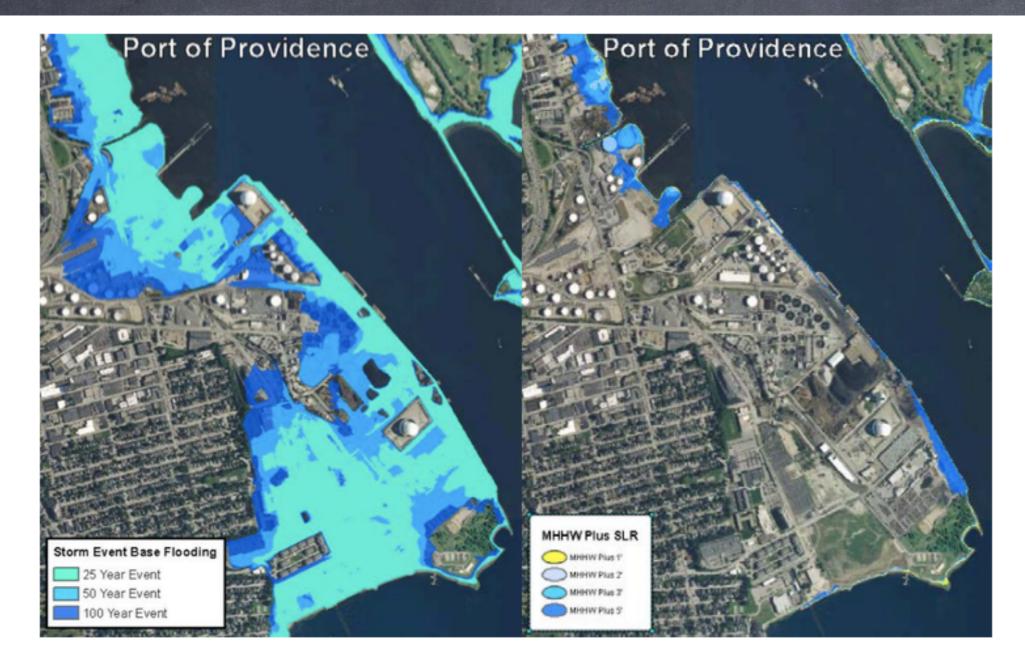


Figure 6

Flooding maps for the Port of Providence for the 25, 50, and 100 yr return period (left) and for 1, 2, 3, and 5 ft of sea level rise, relative to Mean High High Water(right). Spaulding et al, URI/Sea Grant, 2016

Conclusions

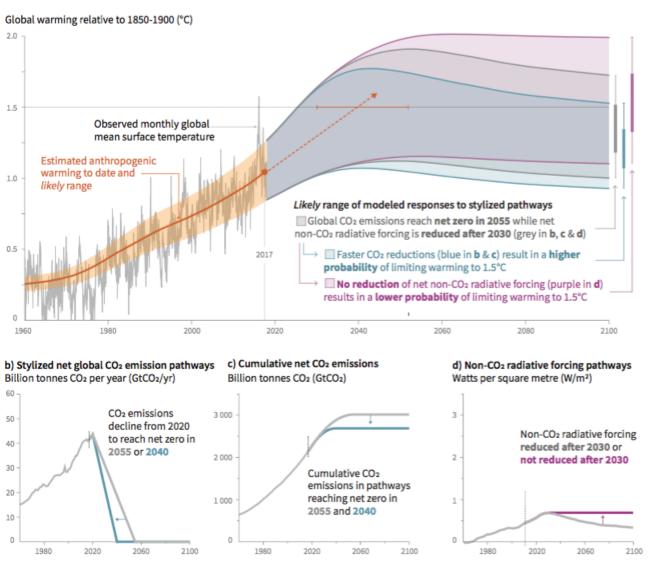
- Sea Level projections involve
 - Oceans, cryosphere, lithosphere & mantle,
 statistics, satellites, tides...
- However, they remain one of the bestunderstood impacts of climate change
- The committed sea level change due to warming to cumulative emissions will come, and it will be a lot.

SK1.5

Cumulative emissions of CO₂ and future non-CO₂ radiative forcing determine the probability of limiting warming to 1.5°C

a) Observed global temperature change and modeled responses to stylized anthropogenic emission and forcing pathways

panel (c).



Faster immediate CO₂ emission reductions Maximum temperature rise is determined by cumulative net CO2 emissions and net non-CO2 limit cumulative CO₂ emissions shown in radiative forcing due to methane, nitrous oxide, aerosols and other anthropogenic forcing agents.

B2. By 2100, global mean sea level rise is projected to be around 0.1 metre lower with global warming of 1.5°C compared to 2°C (medium confidence). Sea level will continue to rise well beyond 2100 (high confidence), and the magnitude and rate of this rise depends on future emission pathways. A slower rate of sea level rise enables greater opportunities for adaptation in the human and ecological systems of small islands, low-lying coastal areas and deltas (medium confidence).

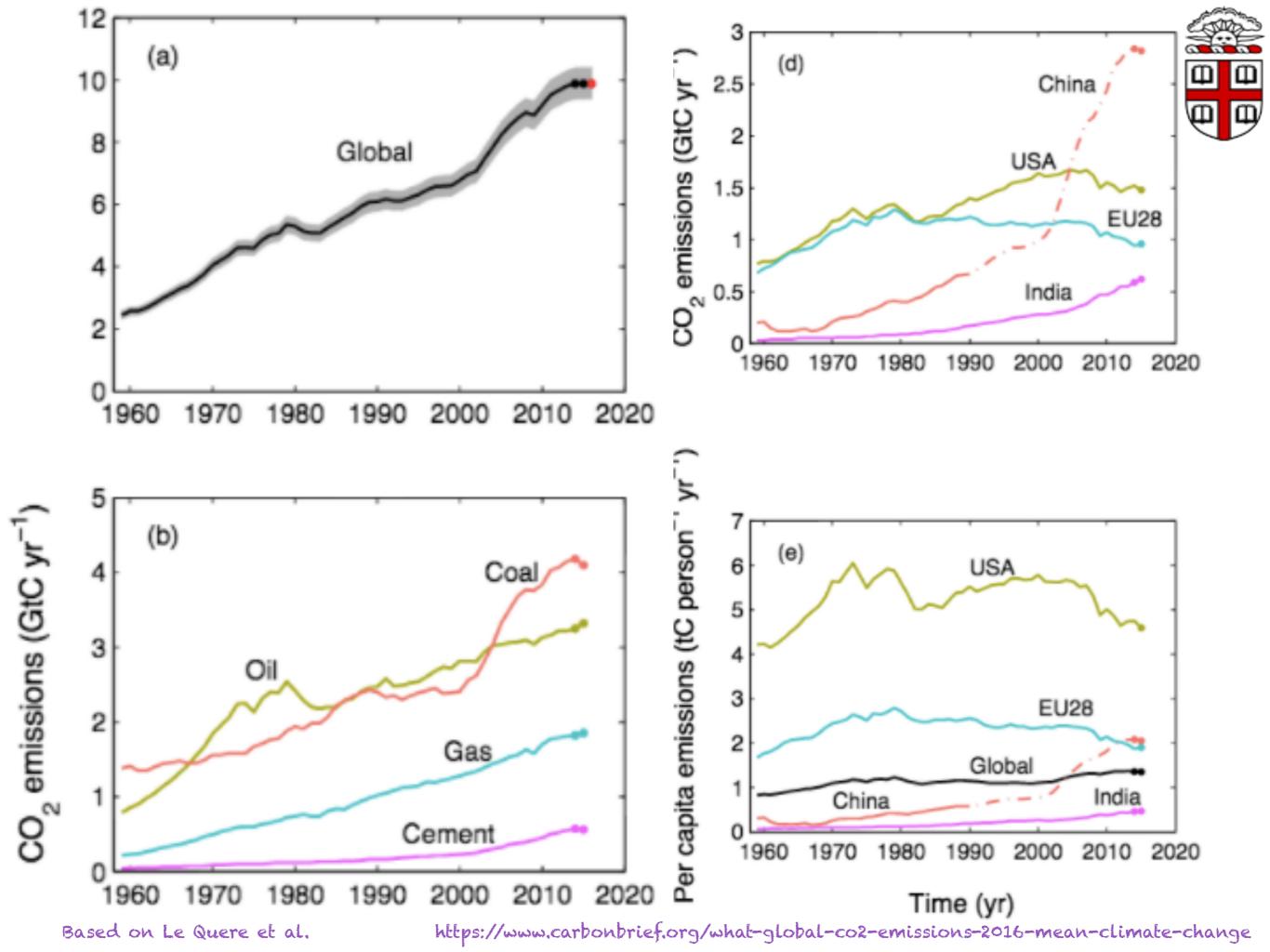
B4. Limiting global warming to 1.5°C compared to 2°C is projected to reduce increases in ocean temperature as well as associated increases in ocean acidity and decreases in ocean oxygen levels (high confidence). Consequently, limiting global warming to 1.5°C is projected to reduce risks to marine biodiversity, fisheries, and ecosystems, and their functions and services to humans, as illustrated by recent changes to Arctic sea ice and warm water coral reef ecosystems (high confidence).

D1. Estimates of the global emissions outcome of current nationally stated mitigation ambitions as submitted under the Paris Agreement would lead to global greenhouse gas emissions in 2030 of 52-58 GtCO2eg yr-1 (medium confidence). Pathways reflecting these ambitions would not limit global warming to 1.5°C, even if supplemented by very challenging increases in the scale and ambition of emissions reductions after 2030 (high confidence). Avoiding overshoot and reliance on future largescale deployment of carbon dioxide removal (CDR) can only be achieved if global CO2 emissions start to decline well before 2030 (high confidence).

Щ

- o Individuals?
- Nations?
- @ Coal?
- @ Corporations?
- @ Me?
- @ You?
- Is Guilt the Right Moral Path?
- @ Is Guilt the Right Rheboric?

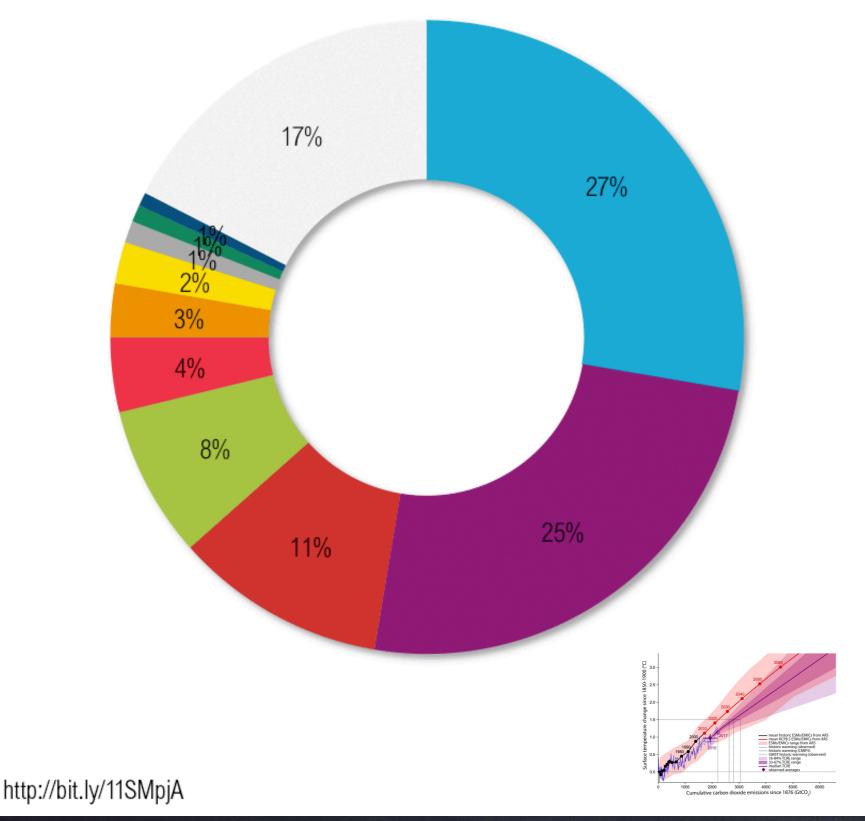
ICOBLANDE P John Shores



Cumulative CO, Emissions 1850–2011 (% of World Total)



Cumulative = magnitude of change



- United States
- European Union (28)
- China
- Russian Federation
- Japan
- India
- Canada
- Mexico
- Brazil
- Indonesia
- Rest of the World



Is Guilt the Right Rheborical Argument?



defiance

doomsaying

The climate apocalypse is coming. To prepare for it, we need to admit that we can't prevent it.

By Jonathan Franzen September 8, 2019

shop.donaldjtrump.com

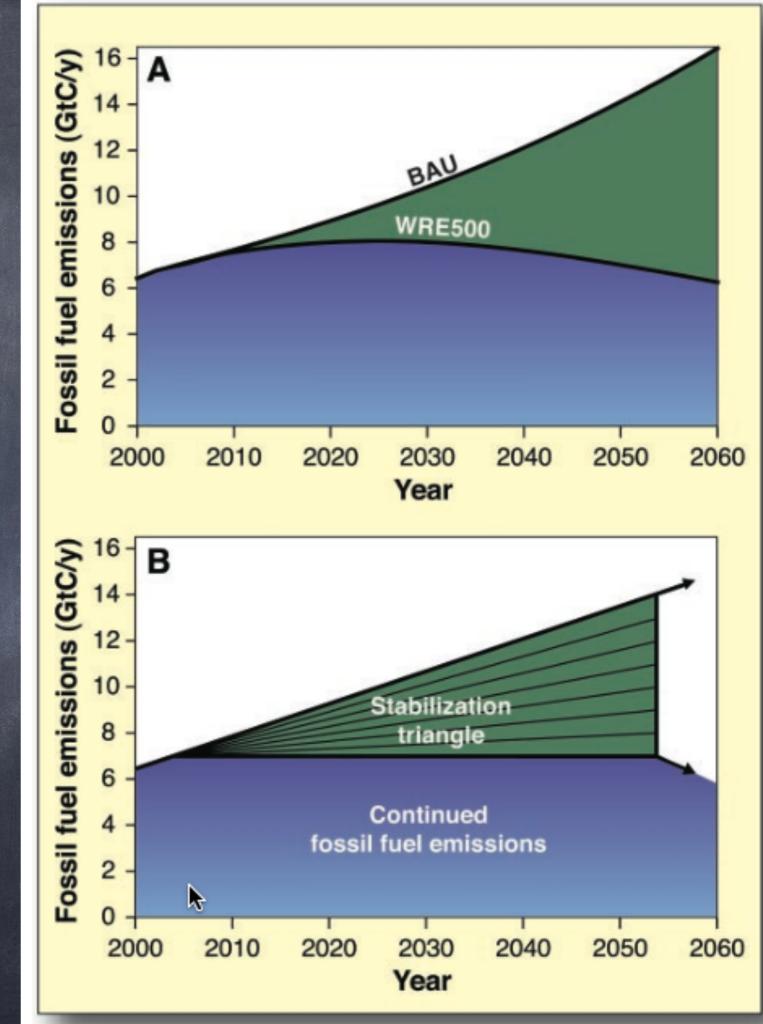
<u>newyorker.com</u>

Good Rhetoric: Climate "Wedges" Pacala & Socolow (2004)Achievable "Bite"-sized actions to reduce emissions

Increase fuel economy for 2 billion cars from 30 to 60 mpg

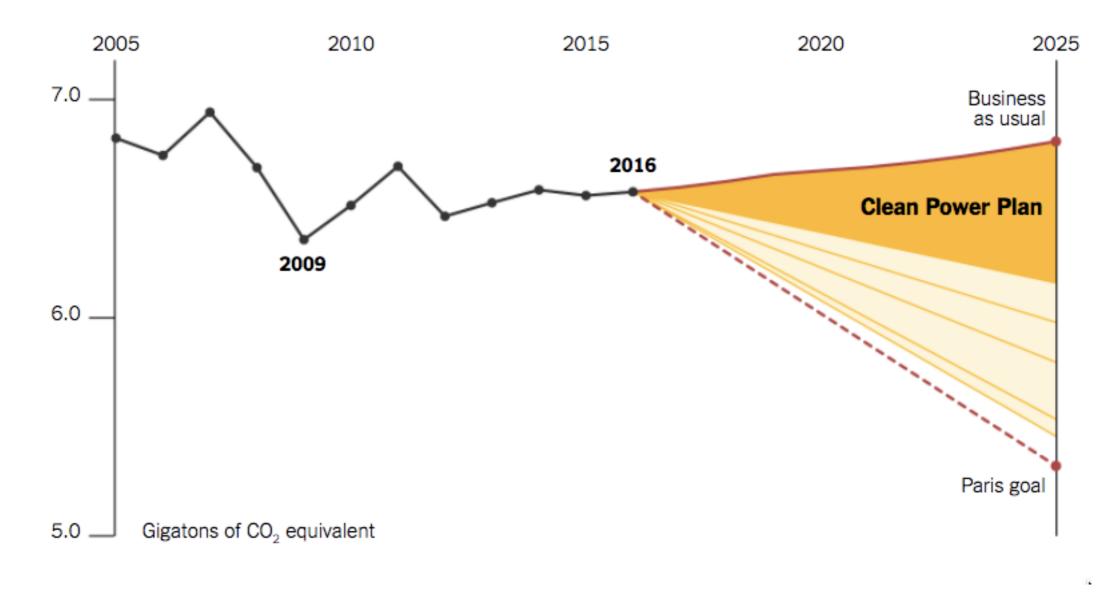
Decrease car travel for 2 billion 30-mpg cars from 10,000 to 5000 miles per year

- Cut carbon emissions by one-fourth in buildings and appliances projected for 2054
- Decrease tropical deforestation to zero instead of 0.5 GtC/year, and establish 300 Mha of new tree plantations (twice the current rate)
- Replace 1400 GW 50%-efficient coal plants with gas plants (four times the current production of gas-based power)

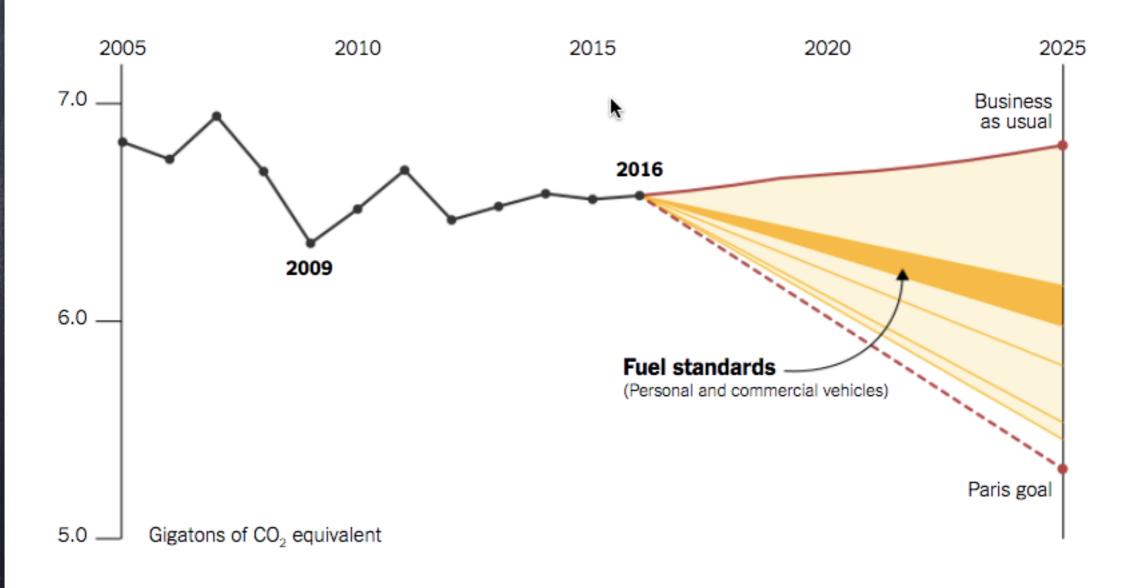


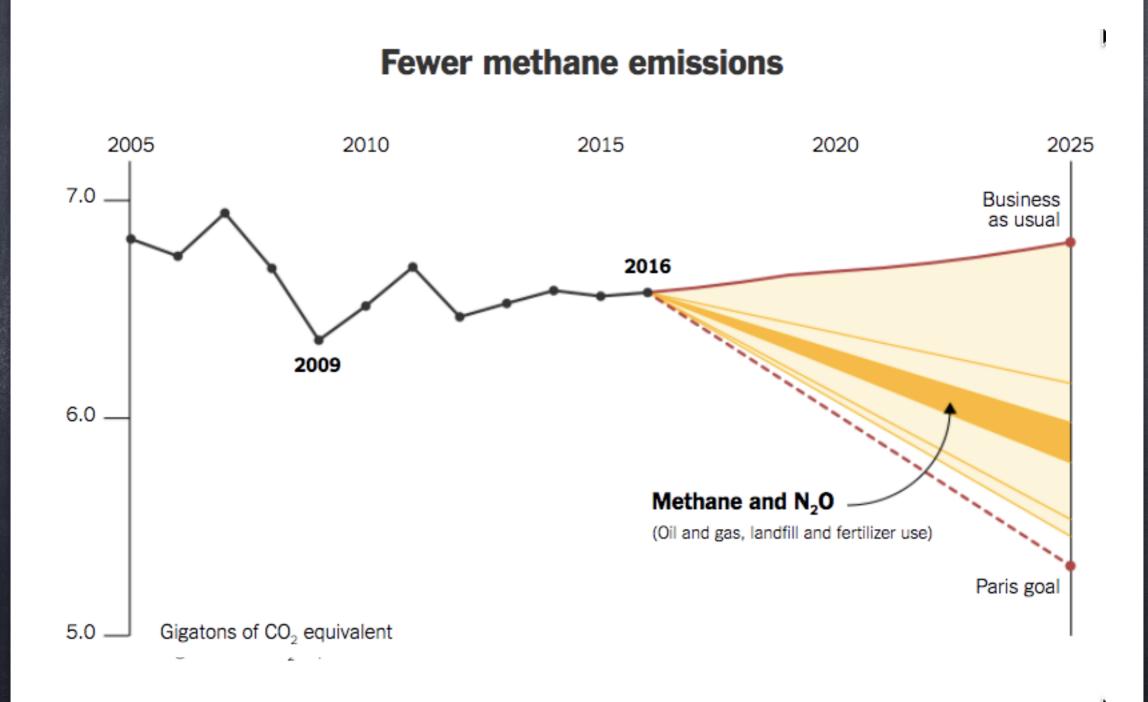
Cleaner power plants

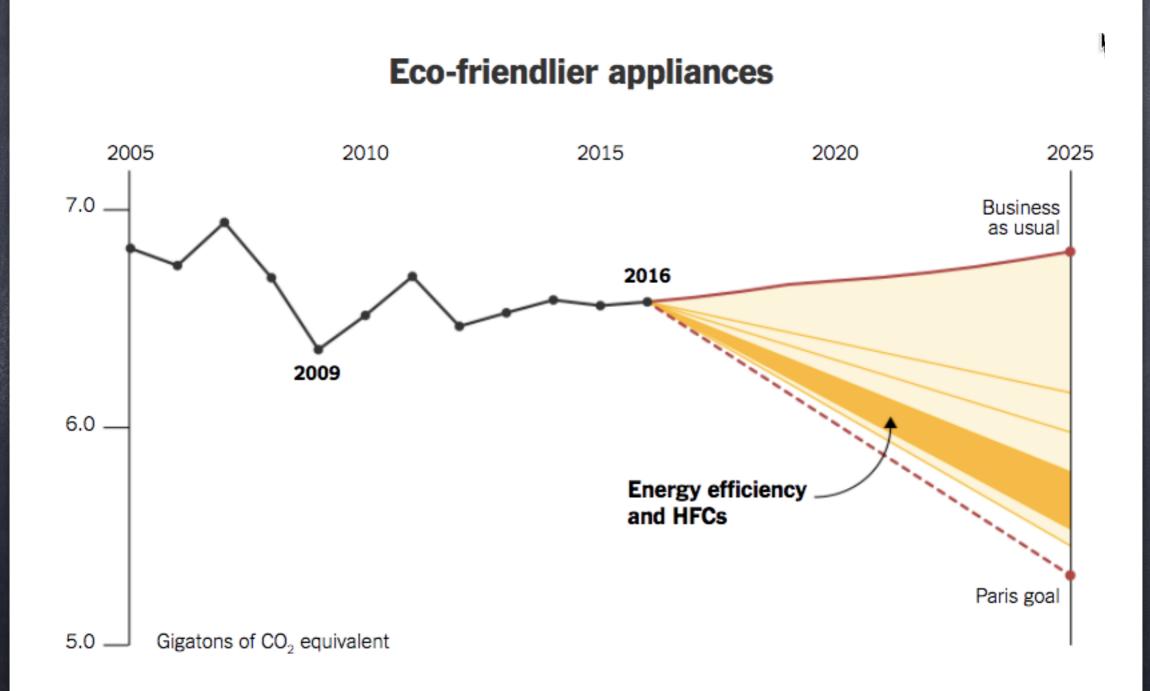
Obama-era policies for reducing greenhouse gas emissions



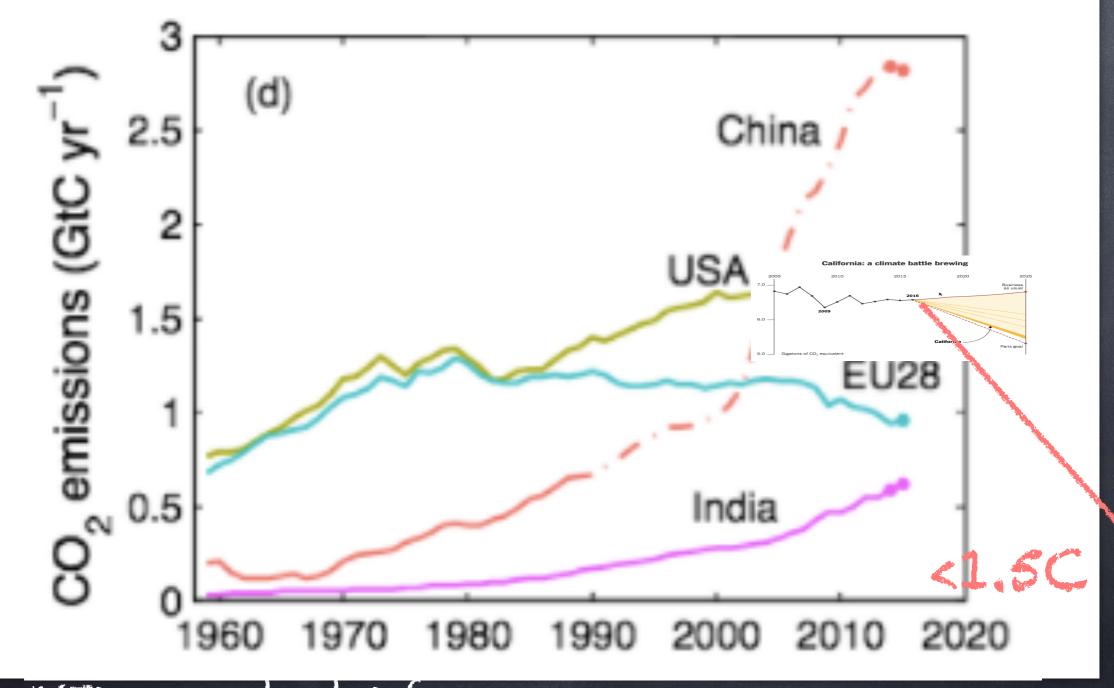
More efficient cars







Obama-Era plans do not lead to net zero emissions in time to stay near 1.5C.



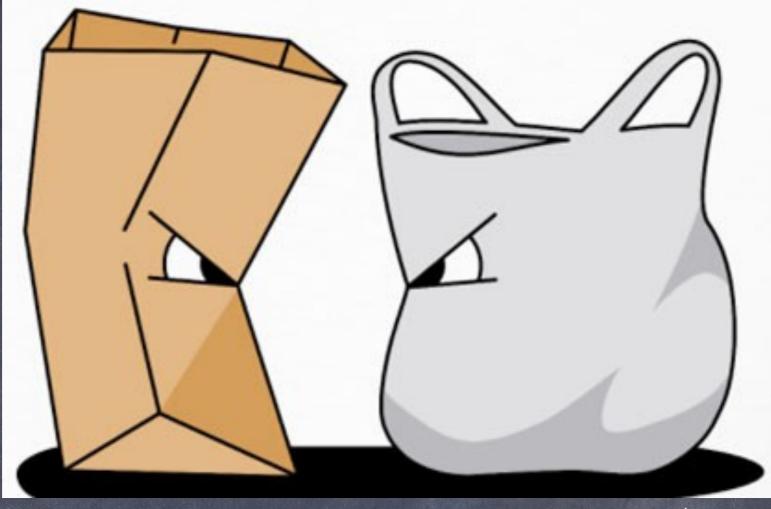
Source: NY Times, carbonbrief.org



Doctor Who:

images: doctorwhotv.co.uk





ecoenclose.com



independentaustralia.net

Kate Shortman and Isabelle Thrope youtube.com

Hypocritical Scientists and Environmentalists?



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EDITORIALS

Al Gore's Climate Ch His Energy-Sucking

Inconvenient Truth: In a recent intervi The electricity bills for his home in Ten

CNN's Jake Tapper asked Gore to resp criticism we hear from conservatives a or Leonardo DiCaprio," Tapper said, "th

#flyingle

#remolework

Is this really part of my job?

AND SDARK A REVOLUTION PETER KALMUS

Climate disinformation and gaslighting is real.





Brulle







Whilehouse

Brown & RI are doing a good job exposing the \$\$ and mechanisms behind it. We can't accept the blame, so we forget, block, or deny which actions cause climate change, but maybe it shouldn't be so hard to keep track



The New York Times

Opinion

OP-ED CONTRIBUTORS

A Conservative Case for Climate Action

By Martin S. Feldstein, Ted Halstead and N. Gregory Mankiw

Feb. 8, 2017

Crecency in ceruncy





K. Frieler et al.: Delaying future sea-level rise by storing water in Antarctica

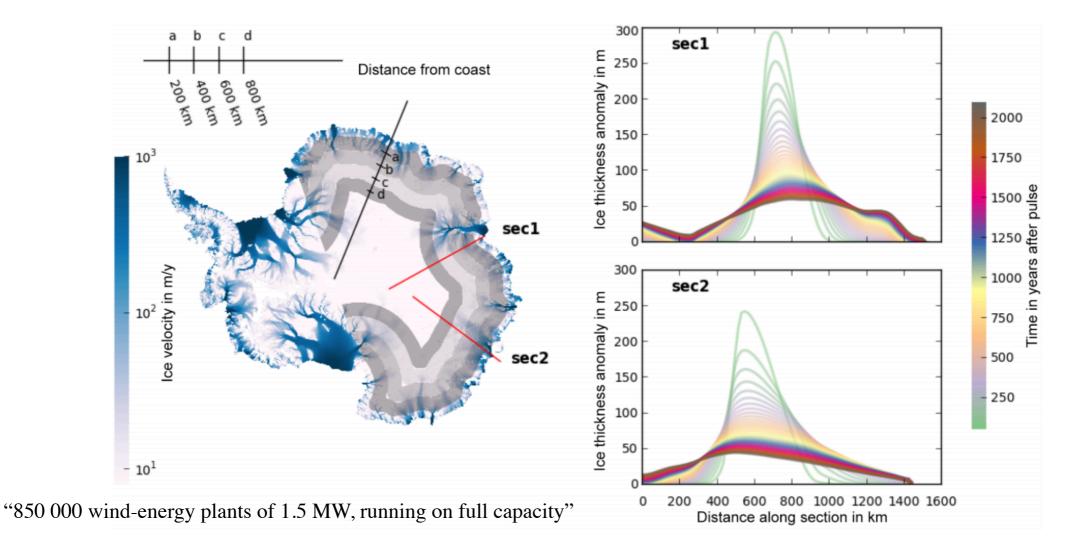


Figure 1. Bands of ice mass addition in East Antarctica and ice thickness relaxation for the 800 km band. Left panel: surface velocities of the ice flow of the Antarctic ice sheet (blue shading). Grey strips indicate where ice mass was added to East Antarctica in order to delay future sea-level rise in the different simulations. The ice was added in strips of 200 km width for 100 years. The right panels show the ice thickness relaxation after the end of the mass addition to the 800 km band in time steps of 50 years for two representative sections (left panel, red lines) as an anomaly to the equilibrium simulation.







ROBERTO GIOVANNINI*

12 Ottobre 2017



1



Venice and MOSE: story of a failure



After scandals and cost overruns, will the floood barrier project be dismanteled? Inspections show that many of the gates have been eroded by sea-life. And the hinges are at risk of cracking



	1	Cason Mor	ntiron			La Grazia
		La Salina				La Giudecca
	3	Santa Cris				Sacca Fisola
	4		an Lorenzo			Sacca San Biagio
	5		Cunicci			Le Trezze
		La Cura				San Giorgio in Alga
	7					Sant'Angelo della Polvere
		Monte del	l'Oro			San Giorgio Maggiore
		Crevan				San Servolo
		Torcello				San Lazzaro degli Armeni
		Isola dei L				Lazzaretto Vecchio
		Mazzorbet	to			San Clemente
		Mazzorbo				Sacca Sessola
		Burano				San Spirito
	15 San Francesco del Deserto					
		Sant'Erasr				Poveglia
		Secca del				Podo
		Lazaretto			49	Ex Poveglia
	19 Madonna del Monte 20 San Giacomo in Paludo				Fisolo	
				51	Ottagono abbandonato	
		Buel del L				Ottagono degli Alberoni
		Carbonera	1			Cason Torson di Sotto
		Tessara				Cason Prime Poste
		Campalto				Cason Millecampi
		San Giulia				Motta di Beverara
		San Secon	ido			Motta Petta di Bo
		Murano				Motta dell'Aseo
		San Miche				Ottagono di San Pietro
		Le Vignole			60	
		La Certosa	1		61	Aleghero
	31	Il Lido			62	Chioggia
		0	2,5	5	km	10
				-	_	

Climate change is true whether or not you believe in it.

Since it is true, we cannot do nothing. We mitigate, adapt, or lose.

and so castles made of sand, fall in the sea eventually

-Jimi Hendrix

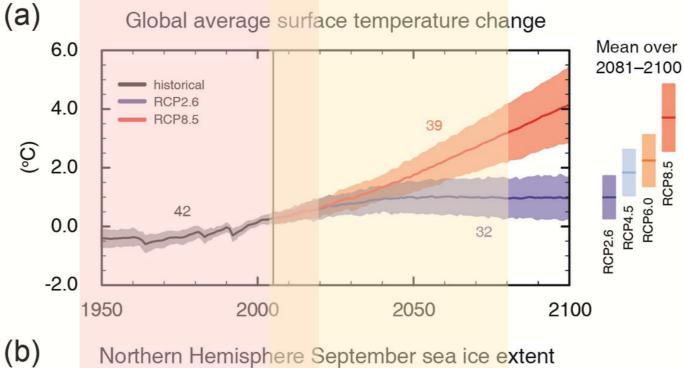




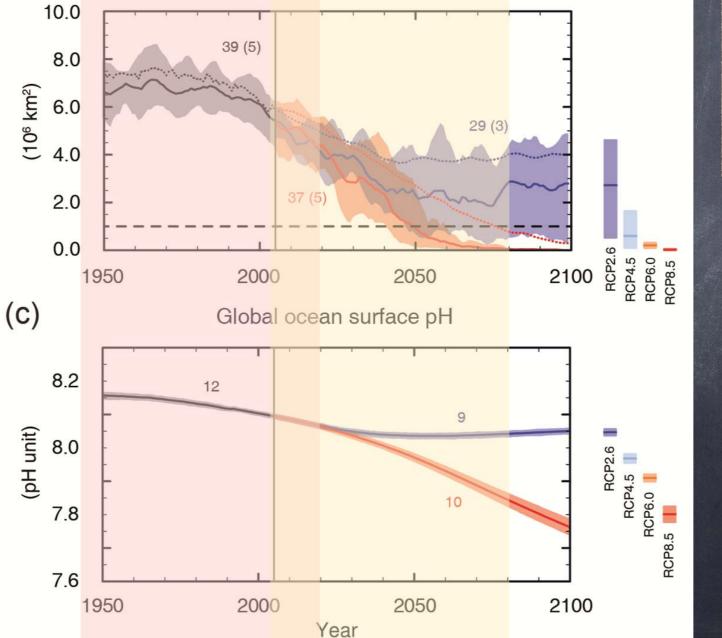


Future Projections









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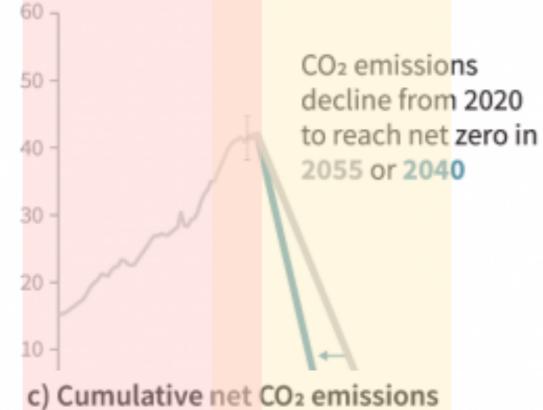
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IPCC AR5 (2013)

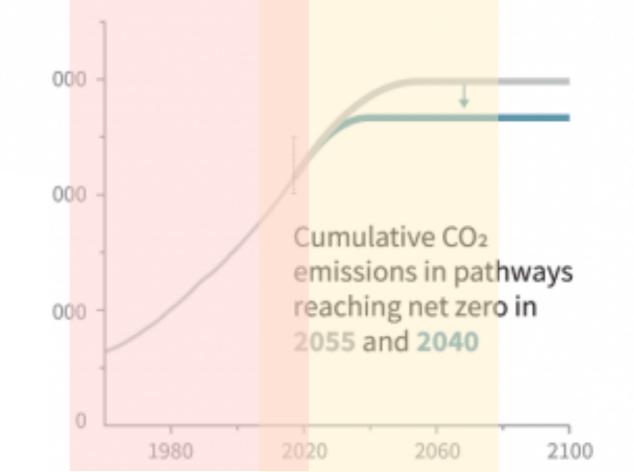
To Stay Below +2C



b) Stylized net global CO₂ emission pathways Billion tonnes CO₂ per year (GtCO₂/yr)



Billion tonnes CO₂ (GtCO₂)



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IPCC SR1.5 (2018)

"This is all wrong, I shouldn't be up here."

"You have stolen my dreams and my childhood with your empty words. [...] We are at the beginning of a mass extinction and all you can talk about is money and fairy tales of endless economic growth."

Noting the arrival of Pres. Trump at the Summit

"For more than 30 years, the science has been crystal clear. How dare you continue to look away?"

-Greta Thunberg

Speaking at the UN Global Climate Action Summit

What can Brown do?

o set a good example:

- o Divest from fossil fuels. Invest in renewables.
- o Sustainability Initiatives
 - o Zero net campus emissions (total: electricity & heating) by 2030
 - o Go beyond zero on campus: carbon offset for academic travel, RI, etc.
- o Brown's direct impact is small, but people will act when we lead

o Hire

- Earth Scientists (e.g., employed in struggling federal & state agencies)
- · Env. Policy, Env. Social Sciences, Env. Engineering

o Study

- Science Basis & Quantify Impacts
- Mitigation & Adaptation Technologies
- · Env. Policy & Social Sciences
 - o motivate change, effective policy not empty gestures
- @ Env. Humanities-Castles Made of Sand, Climate Anxiety, Rise
- - · Health, Family, Community, Coping with Stress & Anger
 - o It's a marathon, not a sprint



Prof. Katharine Hayhoe OKHayhoe · 4h Climate Change:

It's real.

lt's us.

It's serious - and becoming dangerous.

But there are solutions, and there is hope.

The science is clear: the faster we reduce our emissions, the less impacts there will be.

#ClimateStrike