

Radiative Forcing

AOSC / CHEM 433 & AOSC 633

Ross Salawitch & Walt Tribett

Goals:

- Understanding interaction between gases and IR radiation
- Radiative forcing of greenhouse gases
- Radiative forcing of aerosols

Lecture 7

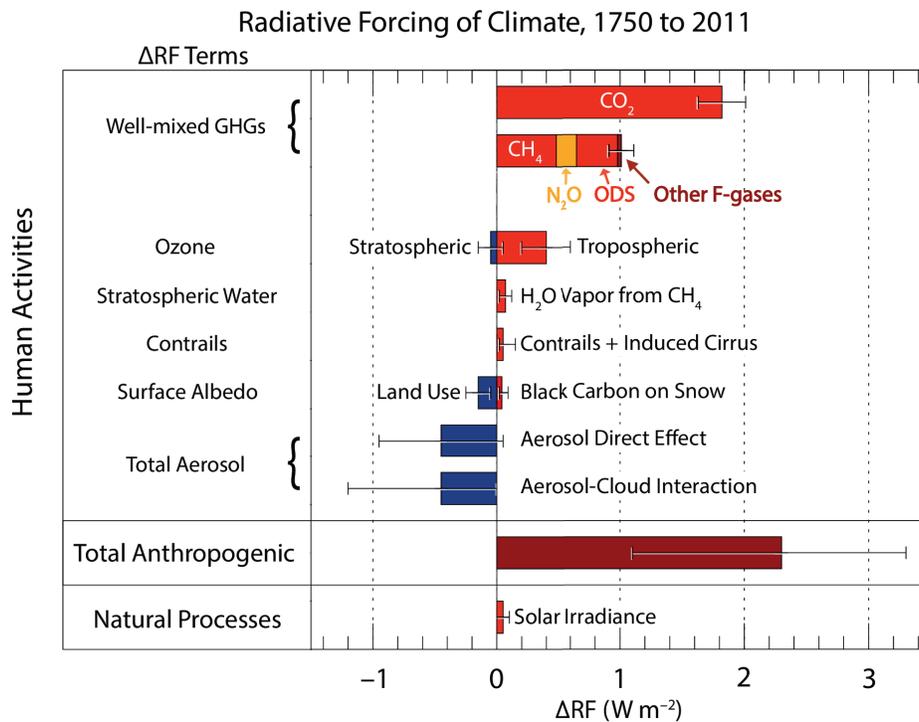
20 February 2019

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1

Δ RF of Climate



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2

Announcements

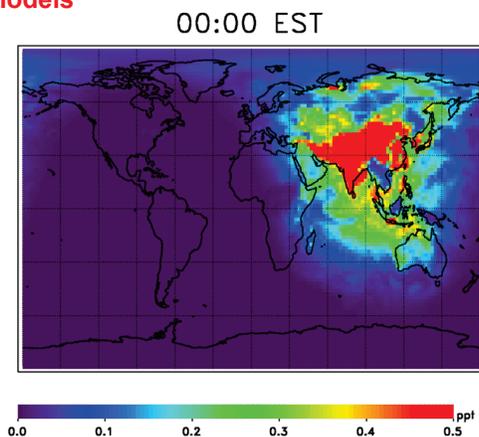
- Will hold problem set reviews during various evenings
 - Problem Set #1: Monday, 25 Feb or Tues 26 Feb
 - 5 pm? 6 pm? 7 pm?
 - We will hand out solutions at the review; no credit for P Set #1 after review
- Problem Set #2 due Thurs, 28 Feb; will be posted this evening
 - Will review on Mon, 4 Mar (day before exam)
 - No late penalty for P Set #2 but must be turned in prior to start of review to receive credit
 - If turned in by 28 Feb, or soon thereafter, will return graded P Set at review
- First exam is Tues, 5 Mar, in class:
 - Closed book, no calculator or e-device
 - Will focus on concepts rather than calculations
 - New exams every year; will review prior exam in class on 28 Feb to help you prepare

3

CH₄ is lost by reaction with OH

OH is present at the sub parts per trillion (1 part in 10¹²) level and highly reactive: major challenge to measure

We can calculate OH in global models



$$\text{Lifetime of CH}_4 = \frac{\text{Abundance}}{\text{Loss}} = \frac{[\text{CH}_4]}{k[\text{OH}][\text{CH}_4]} = \frac{1}{k[\text{OH}]}$$

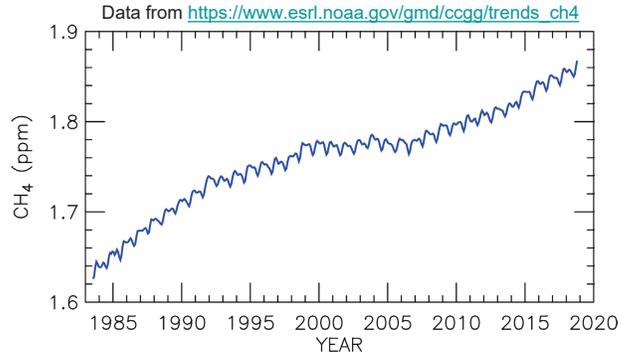
Commonly T = 272 K and $[\text{OH}] = 1 \times 10^6 \text{ molec cm}^{-3}$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Lifetime of CH}_4 &= \frac{1}{k[\text{OH}]} = \frac{1}{3.59 \times 10^{-15} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ sec}^{-1} \times 1 \times 10^6 \text{ molec cm}^{-3}} \\ &= 2.79 \times 10^8 \text{ sec} = 8.8 \text{ yr} \end{aligned}$$

4

CH₄ is lost by reaction with OH

CH₄ is present at the parts per million (1 part in 10⁶) level and stable, therefore, much more straightforward to measure



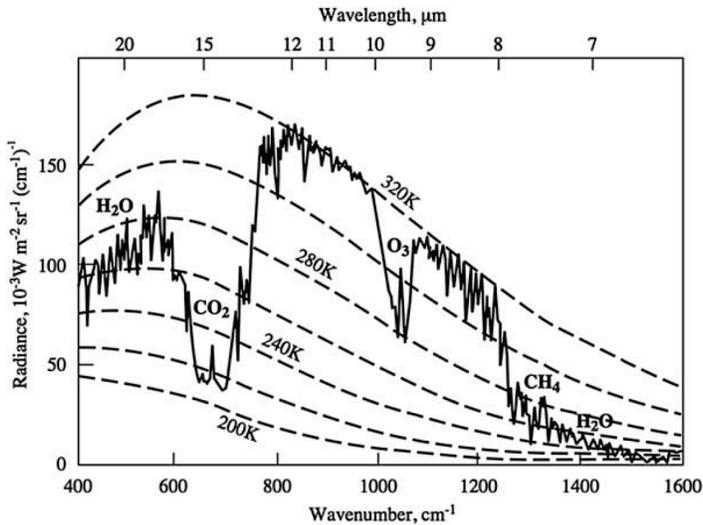
<https://www.esrl.noaa.gov/gmd/hats/flask/camp.html>

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Overview



Hanel *et al.*, JGR, 1972:

<https://agupubs.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/abs/10.1029/JC077i015p02629>

Viewed from space and averaged over space and time, Earth emits ~238 W/m² of thermal radiation between wavelengths of 5 and 50 μm.

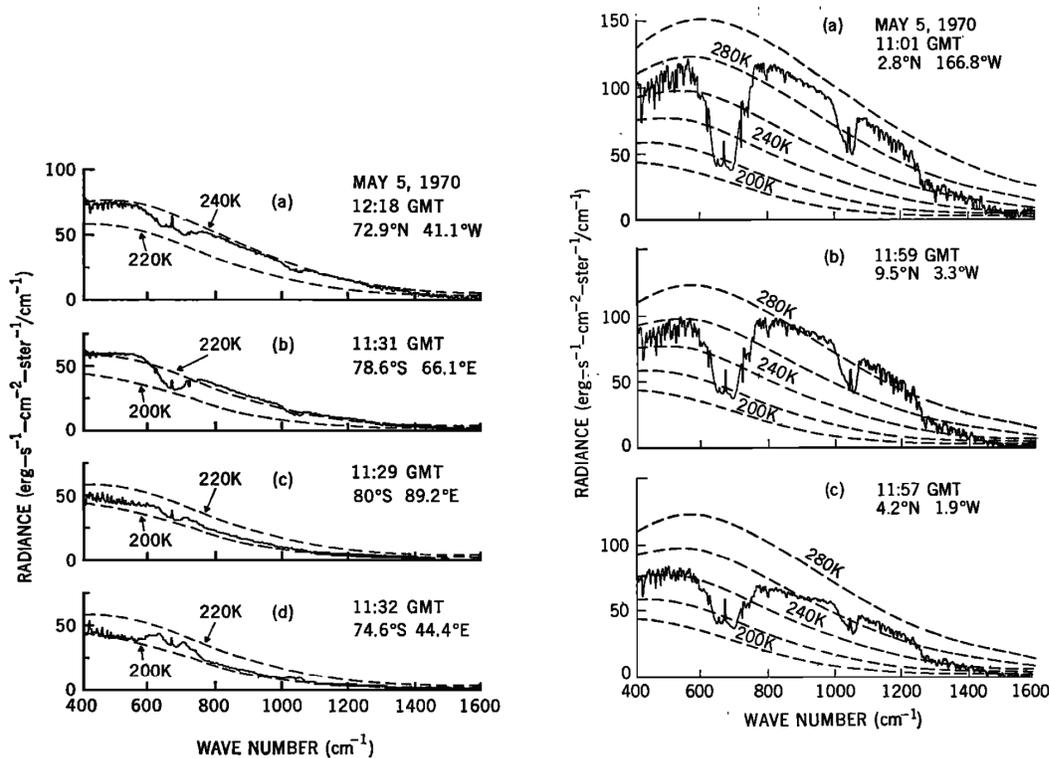
The terrestrial emission spectrum matches that of a combination of blackbody spectra of temperatures between 220 and 320K.

The four most important gases that absorb terrestrial radiation (H₂O, CO₂, CH₄, O₃) are noted.

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Hanel et al., JGR, 1972: <https://agupubs.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/abs/10.1029/JC077i015p02629>

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Overview

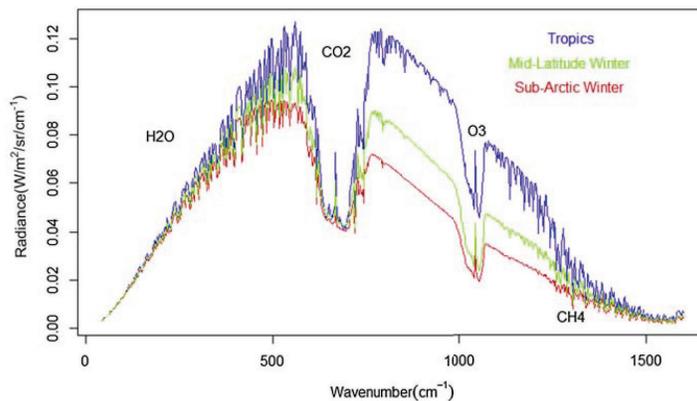


FIGURE 3.4.5 Overview of the earth's outgoing infrared radiation as a function of wave number (the inverse of wavelength) and latitude.⁴³ Radiances for this figure were calculated using Modtran and a web interface developed by David Archer available here: <http://climatemodels.uchicago.edu/modtran/>.

Kirk-Davidoff, Chapter 3.4, *Green Chemistry: An Inclusive Approach*, 2018

- GHGs prevent outgoing energy emitted from the surface from being released back into space, thereby trapping this energy and releasing it in the form of heat.
- Averaged over space and time, the Earth radiates to space an amount of energy consistent with that of a black body at 255 K.
- Some spectral regions are nearly filled (i.e., 667 cm⁻¹) whereas many others exhibit negligible attenuation of outgoing radiation.
- A newly discovered “miracle compound” with a long atmospheric lifetime will be much more damaging to Earth's climate system if it absorbs in a region that is _____, rather than a region that is _____.

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Global Warming Potential

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Table 3.2		Examples of Greenhouse Gases			
Name and Chemical Formula	Preindustrial Concentration (1750)	Concentration in 2008	Atmospheric Lifetime (years)	Anthropogenic Sources	Global Warming Potential
carbon dioxide CO ₂	270 ppm	388 ppm	50-200*	Fossil fuel combustion, deforestation, cement production	1
methane CH ₄	700 ppb	1760 ppb	12	Rice paddies, waste dumps, livestock	21
nitrous oxide N ₂ O	275 ppb	322 ppb	120	Fertilizers, industrial production, combustion	310
CFC-12 CCl ₂ F ₂	0	0.56 ppb	102	Liquid coolants, foams	8100

*A single value for the atmospheric lifetime of CO₂ is not possible. Removal mechanisms take place at different rates. The range given is an estimate based on several removal mechanisms.

Chapter 3, Chemistry in Context

100 year time horizon

Some GHGs are much more effective than others, in terms of GWP (i.e., perturbation of RF per mass)

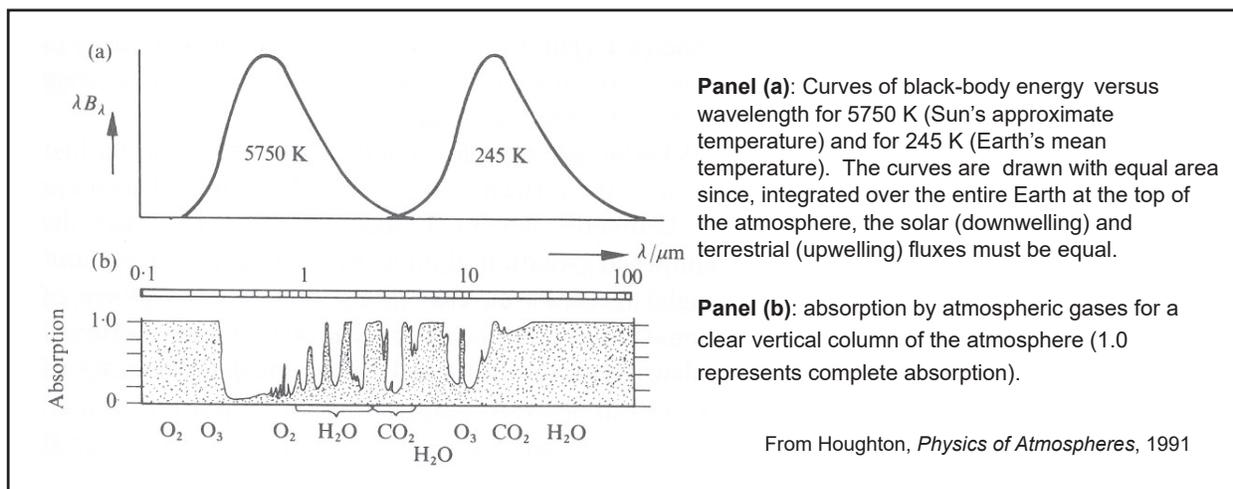
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Atmospheric Radiation

- Solar irradiance (downwelling) at top of atmosphere occurs at wavelengths between ~200 and 2000 nm (~5750 K “black body” temperature)
- Thermal irradiance (upwelling) at top of the atmosphere occurs at wavelengths between ~5 and 50 μm (~245 K “black body” temperature)



- Absorption and photodissociation in the UV occurs due to changes in the electronic state (orbital configuration of electrons) of molecules
- Absorption and re-emission in the IR occurs due to changes in vibrational and rotational states of molecules with electric dipole moments

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Radiation & Molecules

Radiation can induce photo-dissociation (March 12 lecture), vibration, and rotation of molecules.

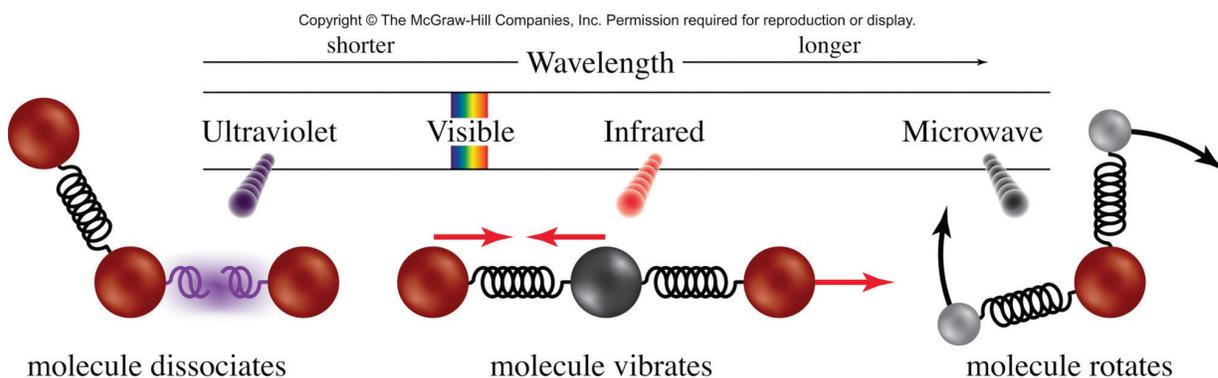


Fig 3.19, Chemistry in Context

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Radiation & Molecules

Radiation can induce photo-dissociation (March 12 lecture), **vibration**, and rotation of molecules.

Thermal IR radiation is not energetic enough to break molecular bonds (i.e., photo-dissociate). Upon absorption, thermal IR will increase the vibrational energy of a molecule

CO₂ (linear molecule) has 4 vibrational modes (see below): for molecules vibrational frequencies are quantized. That is, only certain energies for the system are allowed. Most importantly, only photons with certain wavelengths (energies) will excite molecular vibrations.

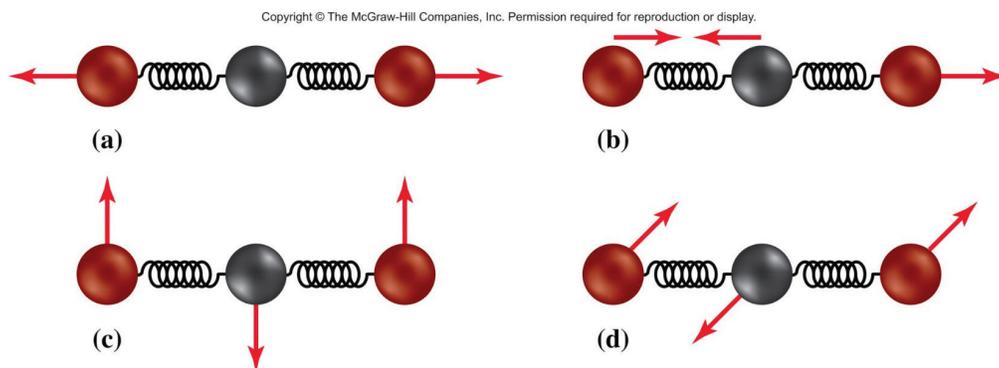


Fig 3.16, Chemistry in Context

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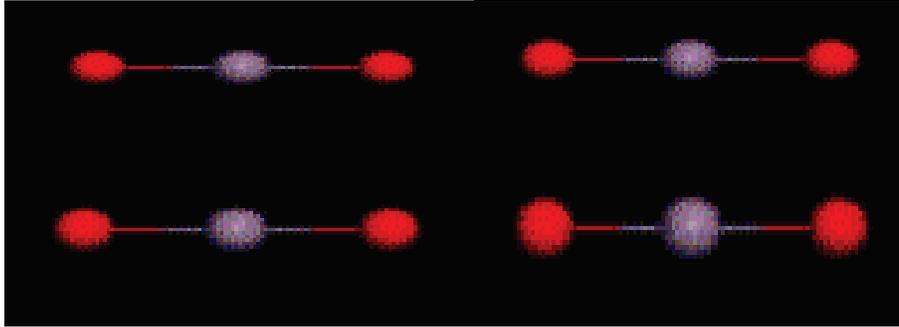
12

Radiation & Molecules

Radiation can induce photo-dissociation (March 12 lecture), **vibration**, and rotation of molecules.

Thermal IR radiation is not energetic enough to break molecular bonds (i.e., photo-dissociate). Upon absorption, thermal IR will increase the vibrational energy of a molecule

CO₂ (linear molecule) has 4 vibrational modes (see below): for molecules vibrational frequencies are quantized. That is, only certain energies for the system are allowed. Most importantly, only photons with certain wavelengths (energies) will excite molecular vibrations.



http://science.widener.edu/svb/ftir/ir_co2.html

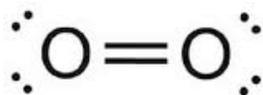
Excitation of Molecules

A greenhouse gas must have either

- naturally occurring **dipole moment**
- exhibit a **dipole moment** during vibration

Dipole moment \Rightarrow product of magnitude of charges & distance of separation between charges:
i.e., a molecule is said to have a dipole moment if it has a non-zero spatial distribution of charge

No dipole moment, either naturally or during vibration:



Excitation of Molecules

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CO₂ has no natural dipole moment

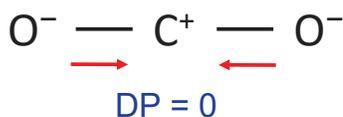


Fig 3.14, Chemistry in Context

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Excitation of Molecules

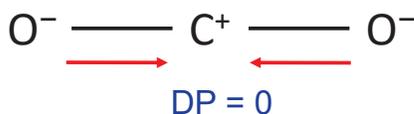
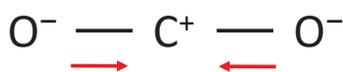
A greenhouse gas must have either

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Dipole moment \Rightarrow product of magnitude of charges & distance of separation between charges:
i.e., a molecule is said to have a dipole moment if it has a non-zero spatial distribution of charge

Symmetric Stretch: no dipole moment

Symmetric stretch



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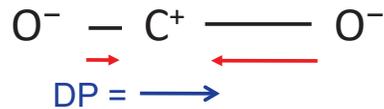
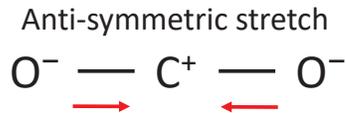
Excitation of Molecules

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Dipole moment \Rightarrow product of magnitude of charges & distance of separation between charges:
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Anti-symmetric Stretch: dipole moment

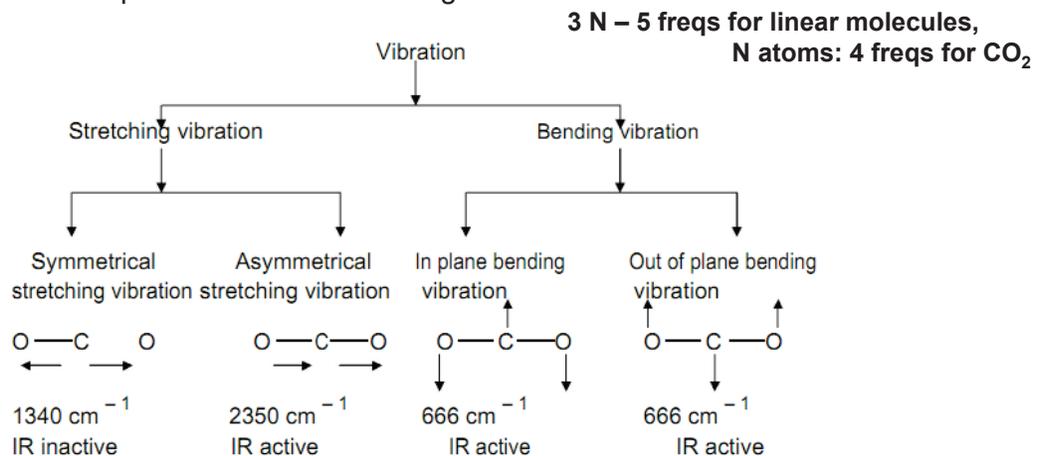


Excitation of Molecules

A greenhouse gas must have either

- naturally occurring **dipole moment**
- exhibit a **dipole moment** during vibration

Dipole moment \Rightarrow product of magnitude of charges & distance of separation between charges:
i.e., a molecule is said to have a dipole moment if it has a non-zero spatial distribution of charge



Excitation of Molecules

$$\text{Wavenumber} = 1 / \text{Wavelength}$$

$$1 / 2350 \text{ cm}^{-1} = 4.25 \times 10^{-4} \text{ cm} = 4.25 \times 10^{-6} \text{ m} = 4.25 \text{ } \mu\text{m}$$

$$1 / 666 \text{ cm}^{-1} = 1.50 \times 10^{-3} \text{ cm} = 15.0 \times 10^{-6} \text{ m} = 15.0 \text{ } \mu\text{m}$$

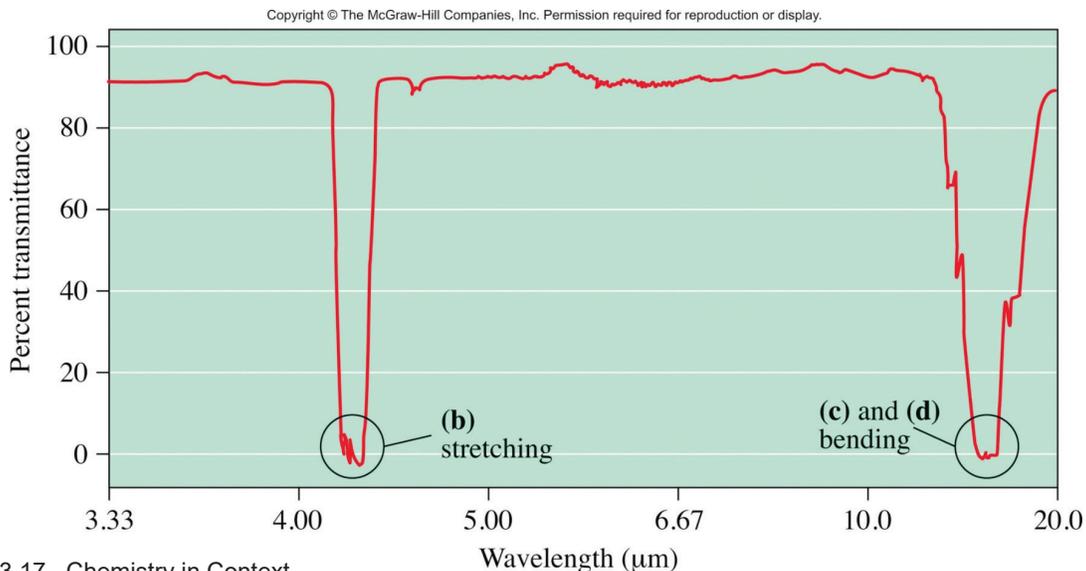


Fig 3.17, Chemistry in Context

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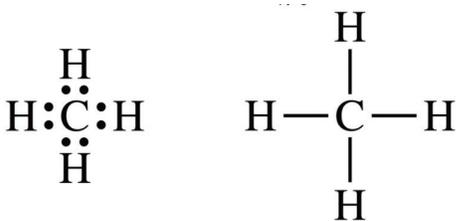
Excitation of Molecules

A greenhouse gas must have either

- naturally occurring **dipole moment**
- exhibit a **dipole moment** during vibration

Dipole moment \Rightarrow product of magnitude of charges & distance of separation between charges:
i.e., a molecule is said to have a dipole moment if it has a non-zero spatial distribution of charge

CH₄ also has no natural dipole moment: charge is uniformly distributed



Figs 3.10 & 3.11, Chemistry in Context



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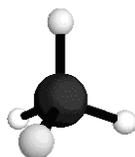
Excitation of Molecules

A greenhouse gas must have either

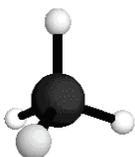
- naturally occurring **dipole moment**
- exhibit a **dipole moment** during vibration

Dipole moment \Rightarrow product of magnitude of charges & distance of separation between charges:
i.e., a molecule is said to have a dipole moment if it has a non-zero spatial distribution of charge

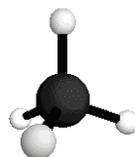
CH₄ has 4 unique vibrational modes, 2 of which interact with the IR field



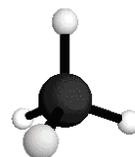
#1
3.3 μm



#2
6.3 μm



#3
3.2 μm



#4
7.6 μm

http://www2.ess.ucla.edu/~schauble/MoleculeHTML/CH4_html/CH4_page.html

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Excitation of Molecules

A greenhouse gas must have either

- naturally occurring **dipole moment**
- exhibit a **dipole moment** during vibration

Dipole moment \Rightarrow product of magnitude of charges & distance of separation between charges:
i.e., a molecule is said to have a dipole moment if it has a non-zero spatial distribution of charge

H₂O has a natural dipole moment (bent molecule) and absorbs in three spectral regions:



2.5 μm
Asymmetric
Stretch



2.6 μm
Symmetric
Stretch



6.1 μm
Bending
Mode

http://www2.ess.ucla.edu/~schauble/MoleculeHTML/H2O_html/H2O_page.html

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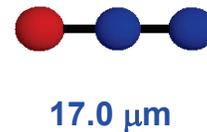
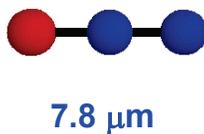
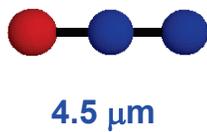
Excitation of Molecules

A greenhouse gas must have either

- naturally occurring **dipole moment**
- exhibit a **dipole moment** during vibration

Dipole moment \Rightarrow product of magnitude of charges & distance of separation between charges:
i.e., a molecule is said to have a dipole moment if it has a non-zero spatial distribution of charge

N₂O also has a natural dipole moment (since it is an asymmetric molecule) and also absorbs in three spectral regions:



http://www2.ess.ucla.edu/~schauble/MoleculeHTML/N2O_html/N2O_page.html

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Absorption vs. Wavelength

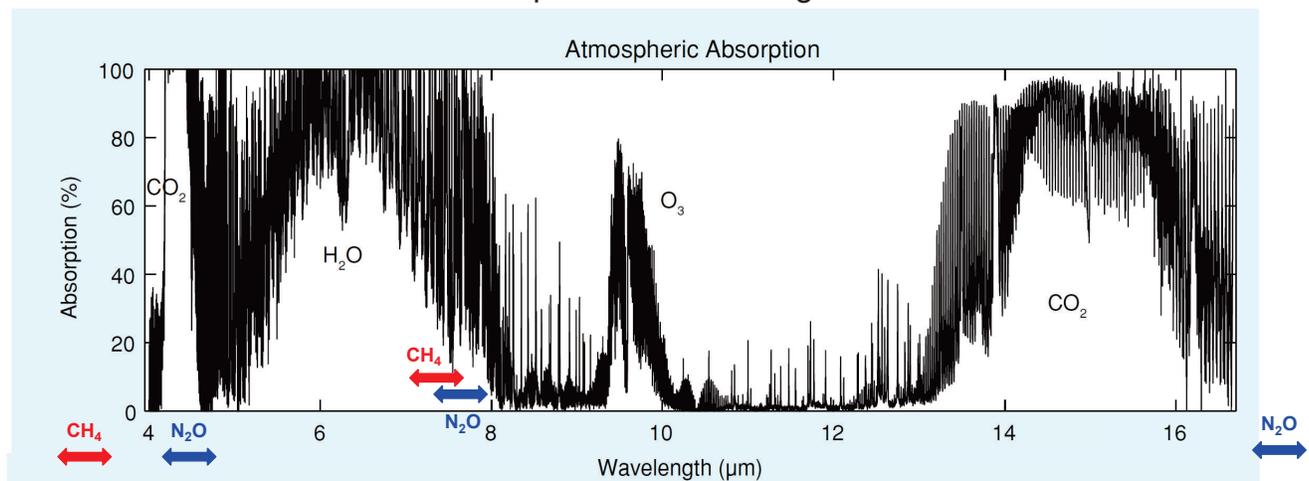


Fig 2.6, IPCC SROC (Special Report on Ozone layer and Climate), 2005

<https://www.ipcc.ch/site/assets/uploads/2018/03/sroc02-1.pdf>

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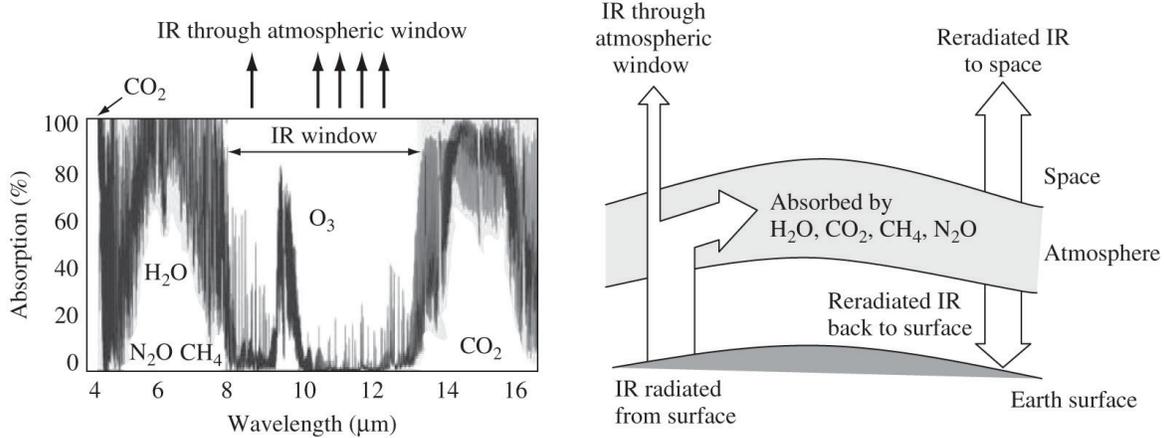
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The Greenhouse Effect

Molecules of that absorb specific wavelengths of IR energy experience different fates:

- Some hold that extra energy for a brief time, then re-emit it in all directions as heat.
- Others collide with atmospheric molecules such as N₂ and O₂ and transfer the absorbed energy to those molecules, as heat

Both processes “trap” radiation emitted by the Earth; this trapping of energy heats the lower atmosphere and surface



Masters, Intro. to Environmental Engineering and Science, 3d ed.

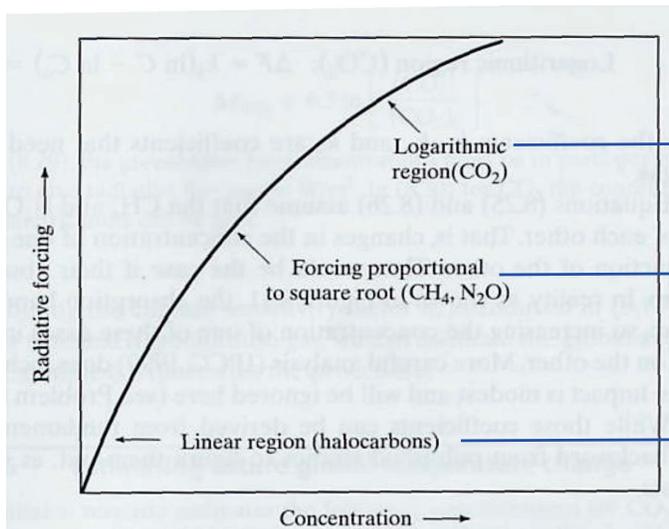
See Chapter 3.4 by Dan Kirk-Davidoff,
in *Green Chemistry: An Inclusive Approach*, 2018
in Additional Readings for a simple, differential equation description of the GHG effect
based on a so-called two layer model.

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How does RF change with concentration?



Wigley (1987)

$$\Delta RF = \alpha \ln \left(\frac{C}{C_0} \right)$$

$$\Delta RF = \alpha \left(\sqrt{C} - \sqrt{C_0} \right)$$

$$\Delta RF = \alpha (C - C_0)$$

Masters, Introduction to Environmental Engineering and Science, 1998

Effectiveness of a GHG depends on “saturation” of absorption band.

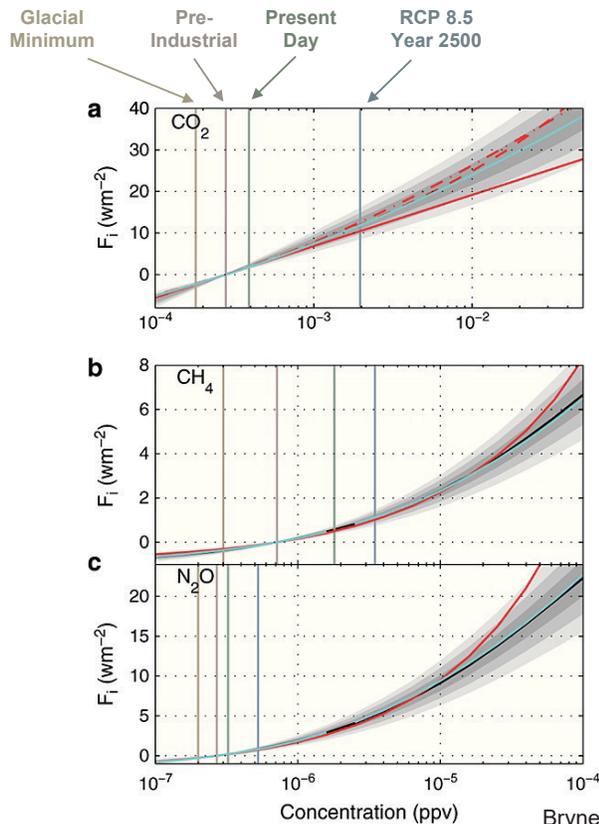
Highly saturated (most of the outgoing radiation is already absorbed) bands are less sensitive to increases in GHG concentration than partially or non saturated bands.

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How does RF change with concentration?



- Black line is calculated RF using the Spectral Mapping for Atmospheric Radiative Transfer (SMART) radiative transfer code
- Light and dark grey show 1σ & 2σ uncertainties
- Cyan line is “fit” to the results
- Red lines are older fits from various IPCC and WMO/UNEP Ozone Depletion Reports

Bryne and Goldblatt, JGR, 2013

<https://agupubs.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1002/2013GL058456>

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How does RF change with concentration?

Table 8.SM.1 | Supplementary for Table 8.3: RF formulae for CO₂, CH₄ and N₂O.

Gas	RF (in W m ⁻²)	Constant α
CO ₂	$\Delta F = \alpha \ln(C / C_0)$	5.35
CH ₄	$\Delta F = \alpha (\sqrt{M} - \sqrt{M_0}) - (f(M, N_0) - f(M_0, N_0))$	0.036
N ₂ O	$\Delta F = \alpha (\sqrt{N} - \sqrt{N_0}) - (f(M_0, N) - f(M_0, N_0))$	0.12

Notes:

$$f(M, N) = 0.47 \ln [1 + 2.01 \times 10^{-5} (MN)^{0.75} + 5.31 \times 10^{-15} M (MN)^{1.52}]$$

C is CO₂ in ppm.

M is CH₄ in ppb.

N is N₂O in ppb.

The subscript 0 denotes the unperturbed molar fraction for the species being evaluated. However, note that for the CH₄ forcing N₀ should refer to present-day N₂O, and for the N₂O forcing M₀ should refer to present-day CH₄.

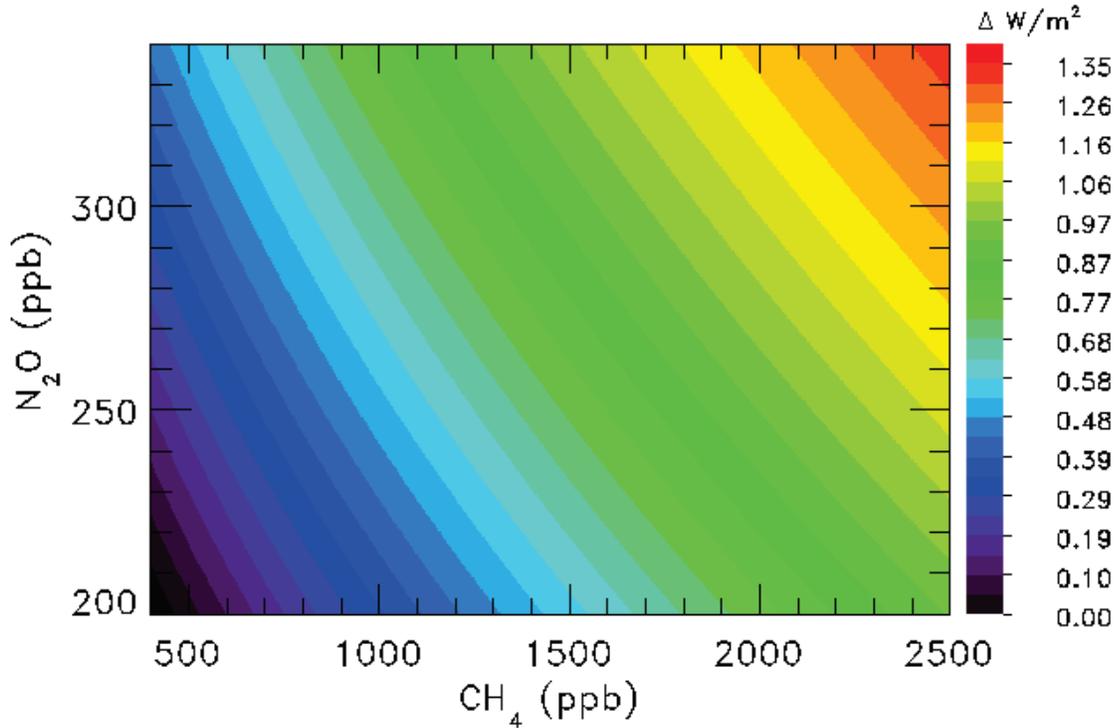
IPCC Fifth Assessment Report, 2013

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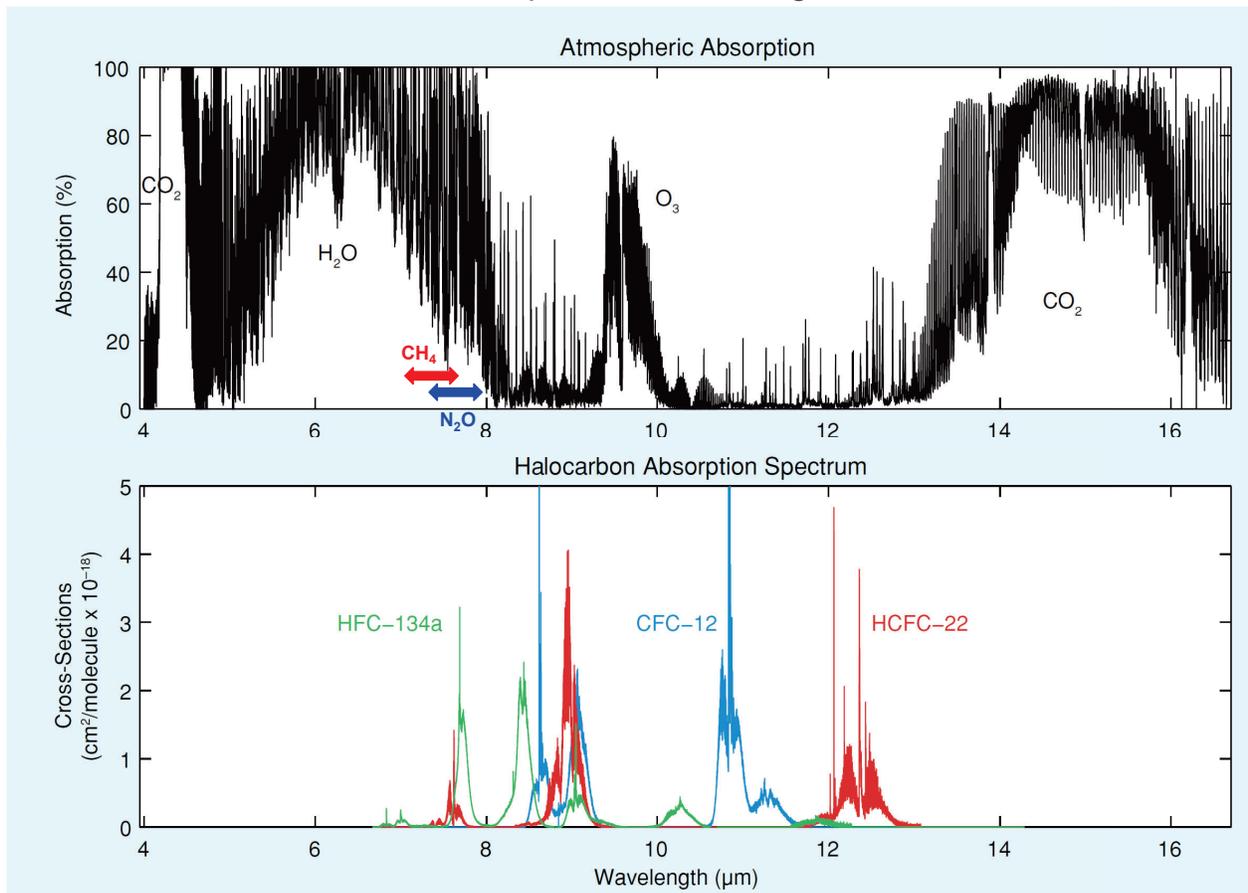
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Graphical representation of surface radiative forcing due to CH₄ and N₂O



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Absorption vs. Wavelength



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How does RF change with concentration?

Table 6.2: Simplified expressions for calculation of radiative forcing due to CO₂, CH₄, N₂O, and halocarbons. The first row for CO₂ lists an expression with a form similar to IPCC (1990) but with newer values of the constants. The second row for CO₂ is a more complete and updated expression similar in form to that of Shi (1992). The third row expression for CO₂ is from WMO (1999), based in turn on Hansen et al. (1988).

Trace gas	Simplified expression Radiative forcing, ΔF (Wm ⁻²)	Constants
CO ₂	$\Delta F = \alpha \ln(C/C_0)$	$\alpha = 5.35$
CH ₄	$\Delta F = \alpha(\sqrt[3]{M} - \sqrt[3]{M_0}) - (f(M, N_0) - f(M_0, N_0))$	$\alpha = 0.036$
N ₂ O	$\Delta F = \alpha(\sqrt[3]{N} - \sqrt[3]{N_0}) - (f(M_0, N) - f(M_0, N_0))$	$\alpha = 0.12$
CFC-11a	$\Delta F = \alpha(X - X_0)$	$\alpha = 0.25$
CFC-12	$\Delta F = \alpha(X - X_0)$	$\alpha = 0.32$

$$f(M, N) = 0.47 \ln[1 + 2.01 \times 10^{-5} (MN)^{0.75} + 5.31 \times 10^{-15} (MN)^{1.52}]$$

C is CO₂ in ppm

M is CH₄ in ppb

N is N₂O in ppb

X is CFC in ppb

The constant in the simplified expression for CO₂ for the first row is based on radiative transfer calculations with three-dimensional climatological meteorological input data (Myhre et al., 1998b). For the second and third rows, constants are derived with radiative transfer calculations using one-dimensional global average meteorological input data from Shi (1992) and Hansen et al. (1988), respectively.

The subscript 0 denotes the unperturbed concentration.

^a The same expression is used for all CFCs and CFC replacements, but with different values for α (i.e., the radiative efficiencies in Table 6.7).

IPCC Third Assessment Report, 2001

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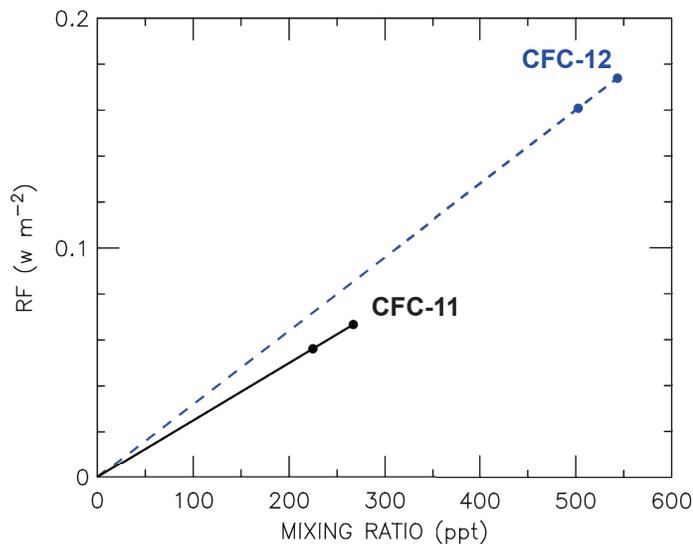
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Change in RF: CFCs

$$RF^{\text{CFC-12}} = 0.32 \text{ Wm}^{-2} \text{ ppb}^{-1} (C - C_0)$$

$$RF^{\text{CFC-11}} = 0.25 \text{ Wm}^{-2} \text{ ppb}^{-1} (C - C_0)$$



$$\text{In 2011, } RF^{\text{CFC-12}} + RF^{\text{CFC-11}} =$$

$$0.17 \text{ W m}^{-2} + 0.06 \text{ W m}^{-2} = 0.23 \text{ W m}^{-2}$$

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RF Due to Tropospheric Aerosols: Direct Effect

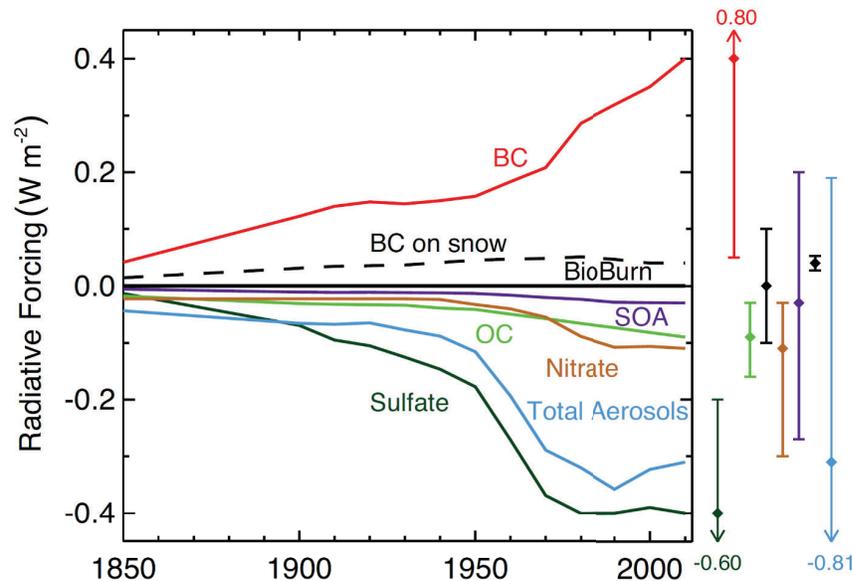


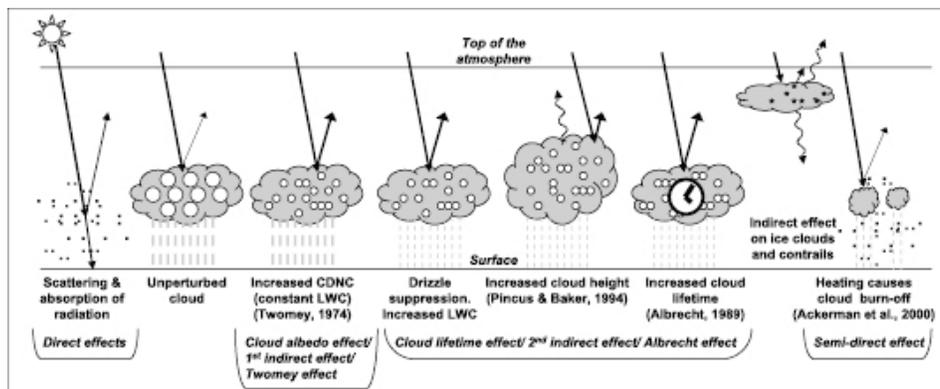
Figure 8.8 | Time evolution of RF due to aerosol–radiation interaction and BC on snow and ice.

Fig 8.8, IPCC 2013: Only Direct RF of aerosols cloud considered here

RF Due to Tropospheric Aerosols: Indirect Effect

Indirect Effects of Aerosols on Clouds

Anthropogenic aerosols lead to more cloud condensation nuclei (CCN)
Resulting cloud particles consist of smaller droplets, promoted by more sites (CCN) for cloud nucleation
The cloud that is formed is therefore brighter (reflects more sunlight) **and** has less efficient precipitation, i.e. is longer lived) ⇒

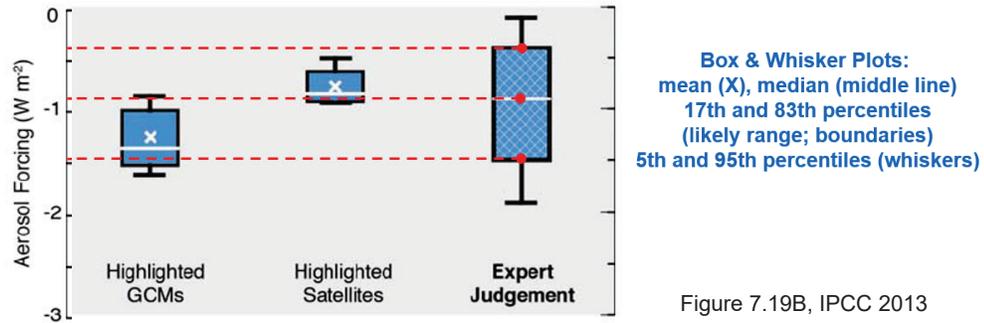


Large uncertainty in aerosol RF

Fig 2-10, IPCC 2007

- scatter and absorb radiation (**direct radiative forcing**)
- affect cloud formation (**indirect radiative forcing**)

Tropospheric Aerosol RF



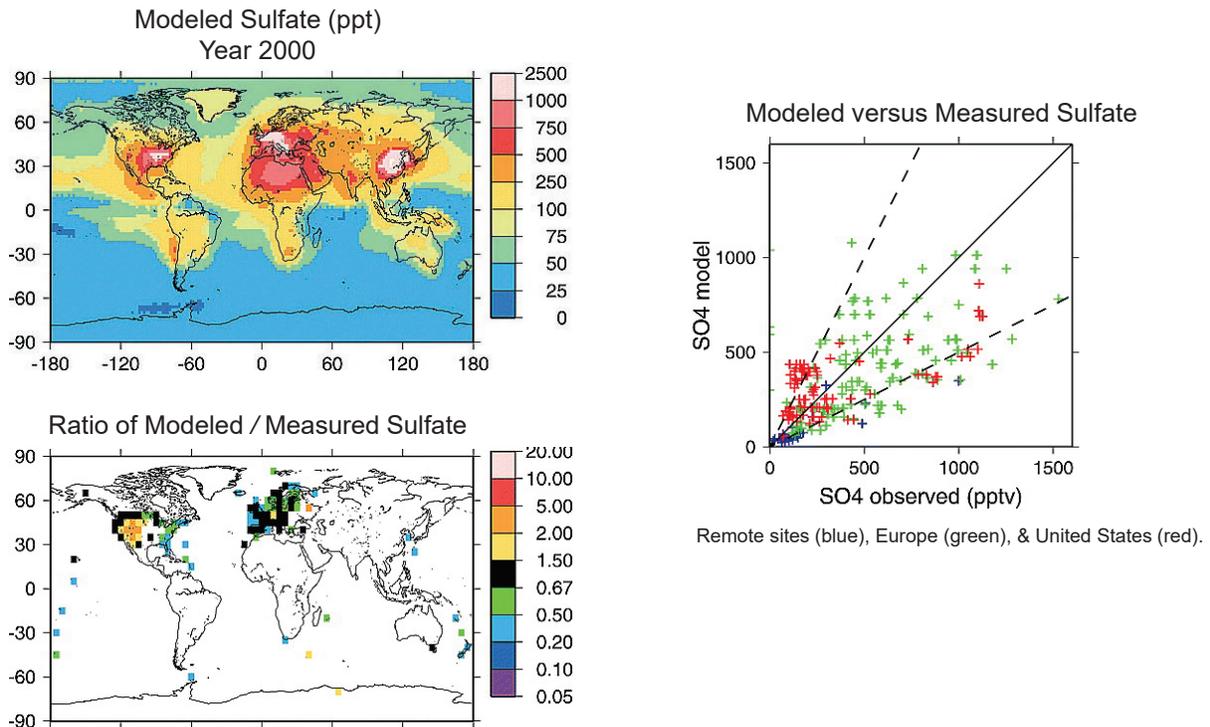
$\Delta RF_{2011} \text{ GHGs} \approx 3.2 \text{ W m}^{-2} \Rightarrow$ climate change is complex but this quantity is **well known**

$\Delta RF_{2011} \text{ Aerosols}$: best estimate is -0.9 W m^{-2} , probably between -0.4 W m^{-2} and -1.5 W m^{-2} ;
 could be between -0.1 W m^{-2} and -1.9 W m^{-2}

Large uncertainty in aerosol RF

- scatter and absorb radiation (**direct radiative forcing**)
- affect cloud formation (**indirect radiative forcing**)

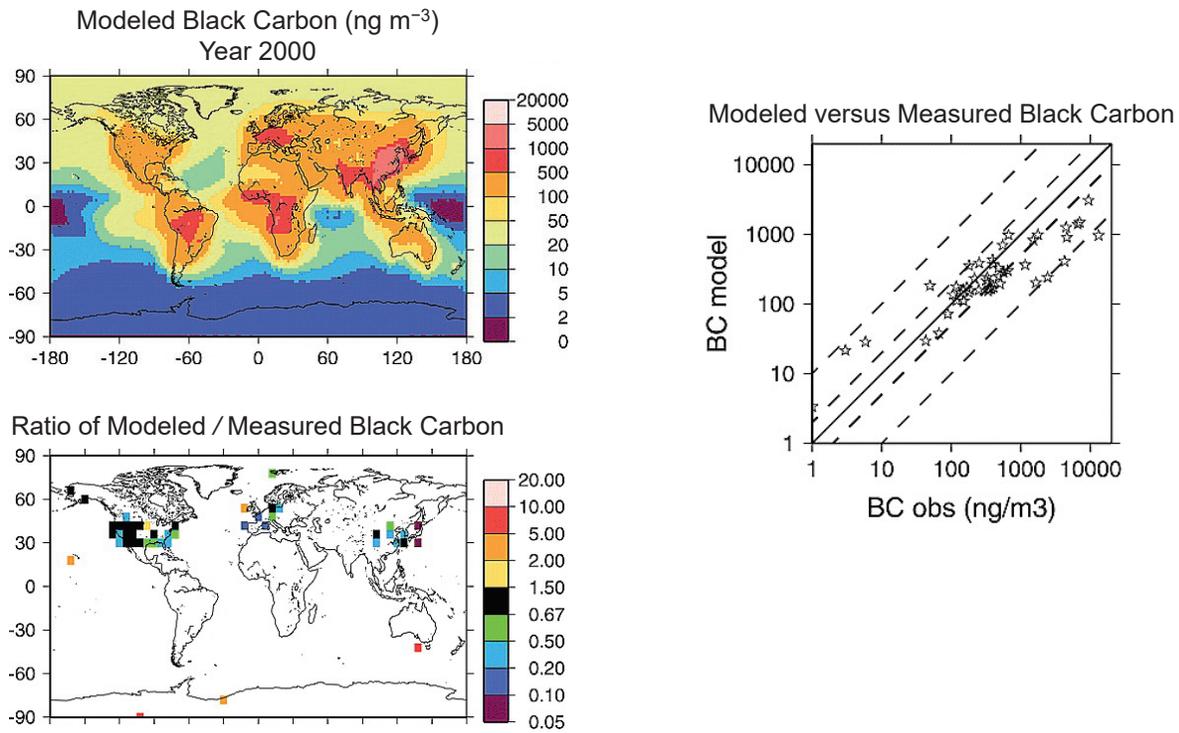
Tropospheric Sulfate Aerosols



Koch *et al.*, *JGR*, 2007

<https://agupubs.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1029/2005JD007024>

Tropospheric Sulfate Aerosols



Koch et al., *JGR*, 2007

<https://agupubs.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1029/2005JD007024>

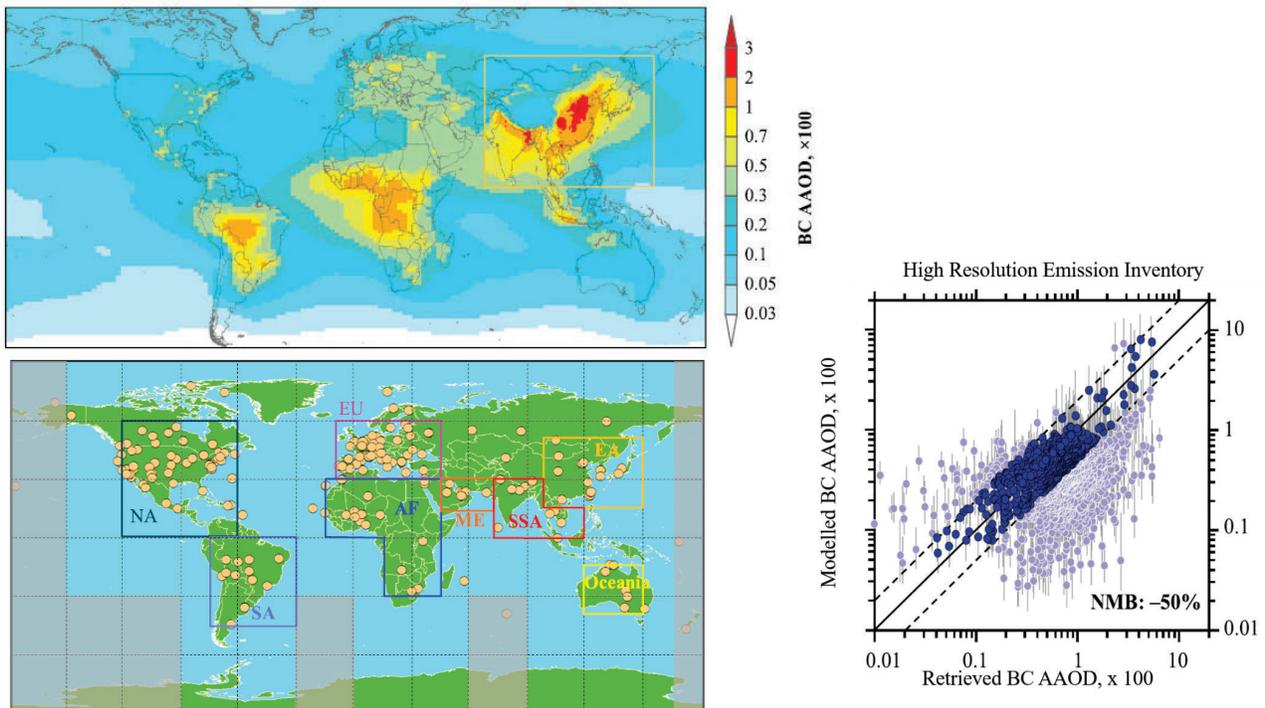
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Black Carbon Aerosols

Simulated Black Carbon Aerosol Absorption Optical Depth (AAOD) at 900 nm for year 2007



Wang et al., *JGR*, 2016

<https://agupubs.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1002/2015JD024326>

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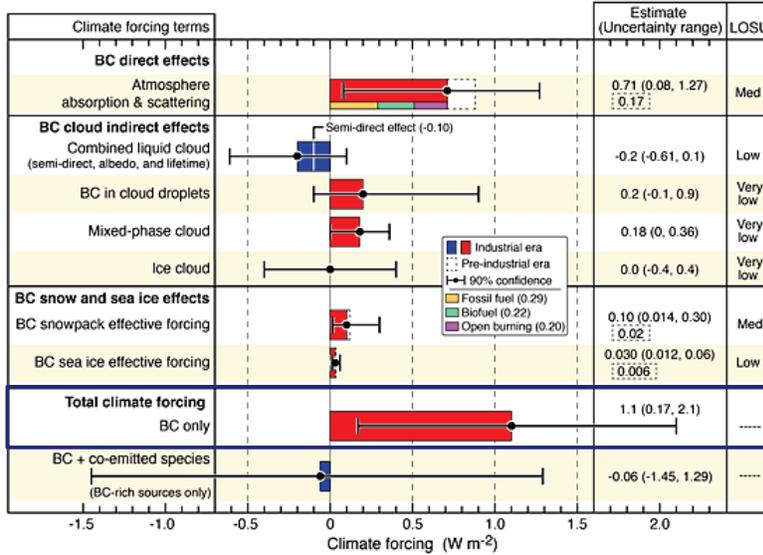
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Black Carbon Aerosols

Bond *et al.*, Bounding the role of black carbon in the climate system: A scientific assessment, *JGR*, 2013

Global climate forcing of black carbon and co-emitted species in the industrial era (1750 - 2005)



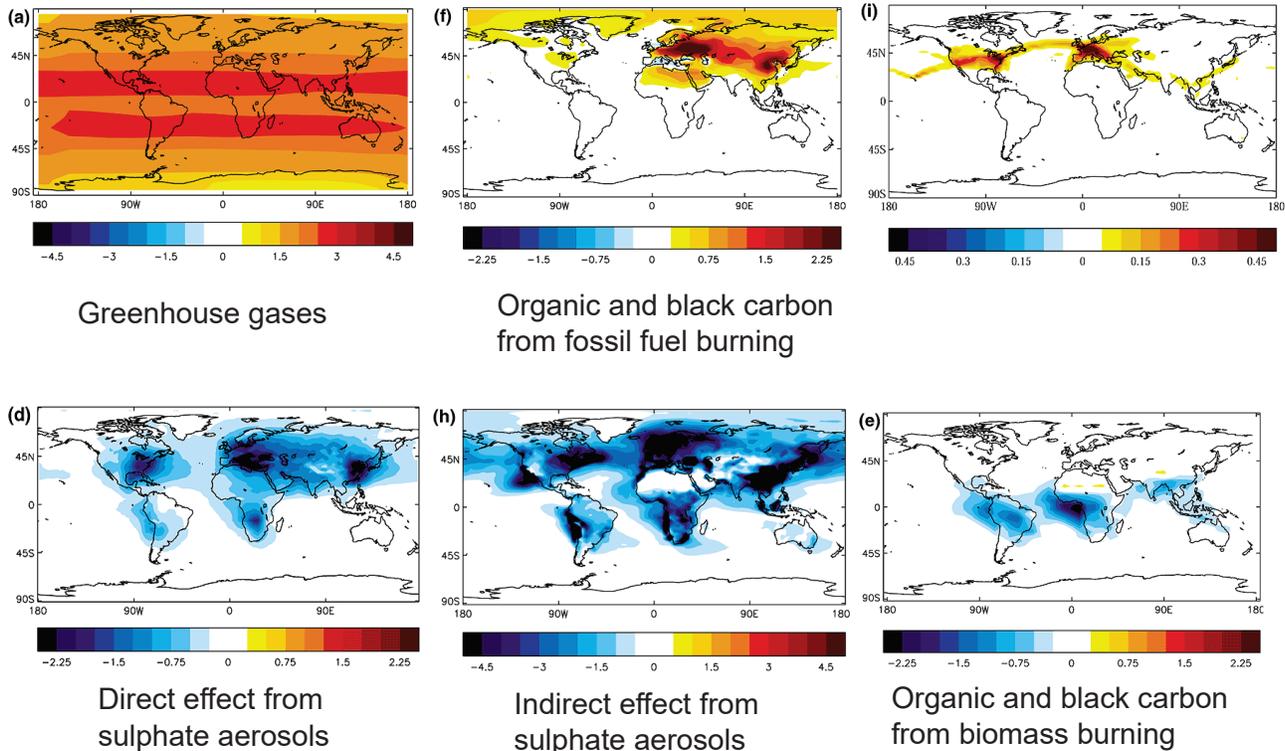
	Total Climate Forcing, Black Carbon Aerosols ($W m^{-2}$)			
Report	IPCC (1995)	IPCC (2001)	IPCC (2007)	IPCC (2013)
$\Delta RF, BC$	0.1 (0.03 to 0.3)	0.2 (0.1 to 0.4)	0.2 (0.05 to 0.35)	0.4 (0.05 to 0.80)

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Global View

All forcings (1750-2000) are in Wm^{-2}



<https://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar3/wg1/chapter-6-radiative-forcing-of-climate-change/>

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Combining RF GHGs & Aerosols

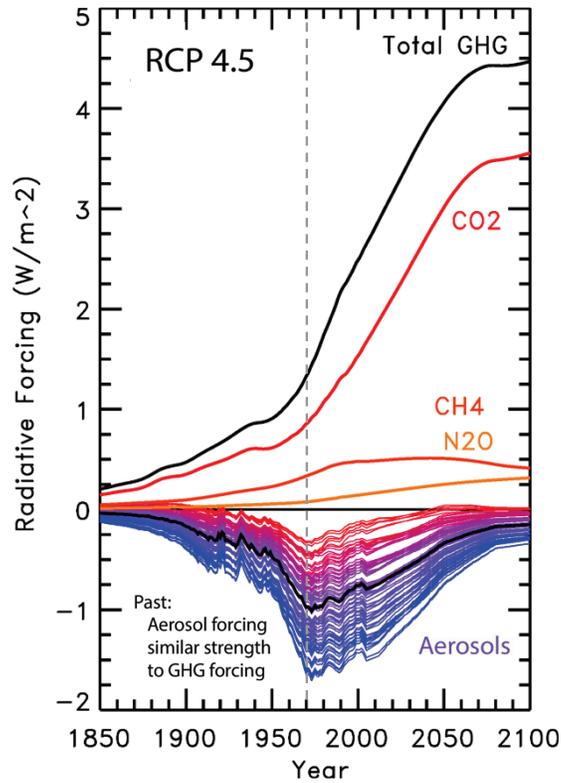


Fig 1.10, *Paris, Beacon of Hope*

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Combining RF GHGs & Aerosols

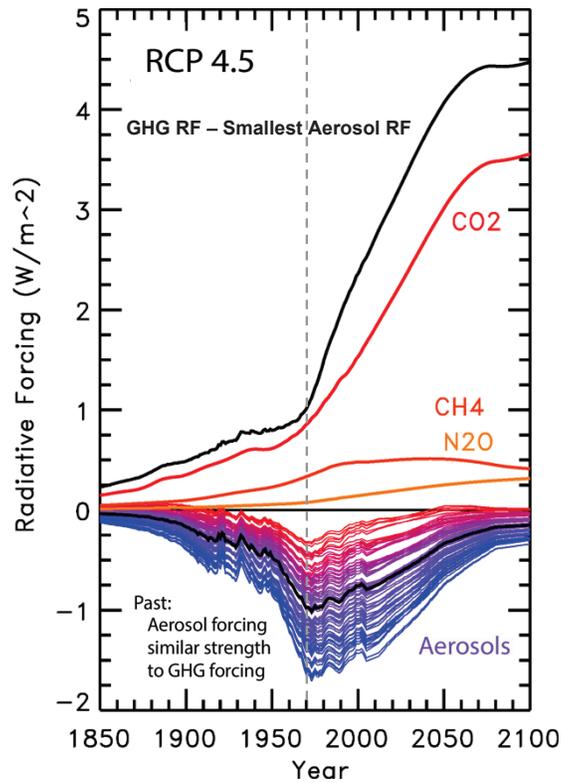


Fig 1.10, *Paris, Beacon of Hope*

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Combining RF GHGs & Aerosols

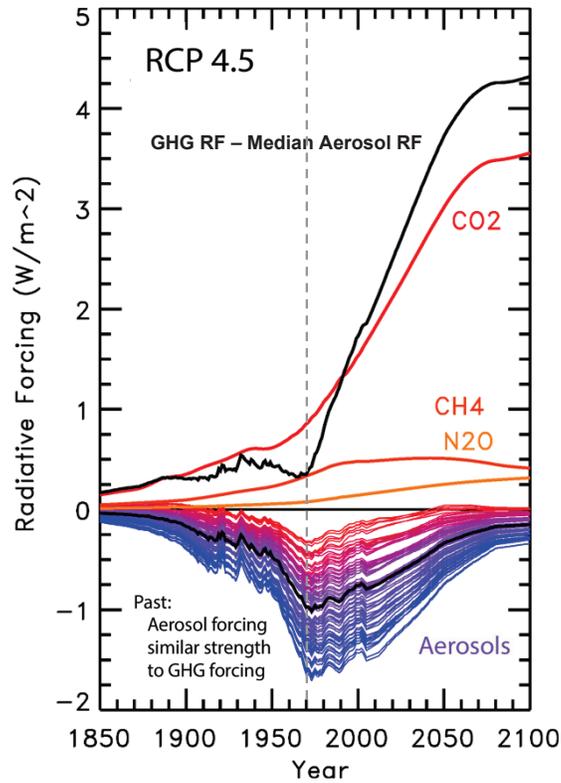


Fig 1.10, Paris, Beacon of Hope

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Combining RF GHGs & Aerosols

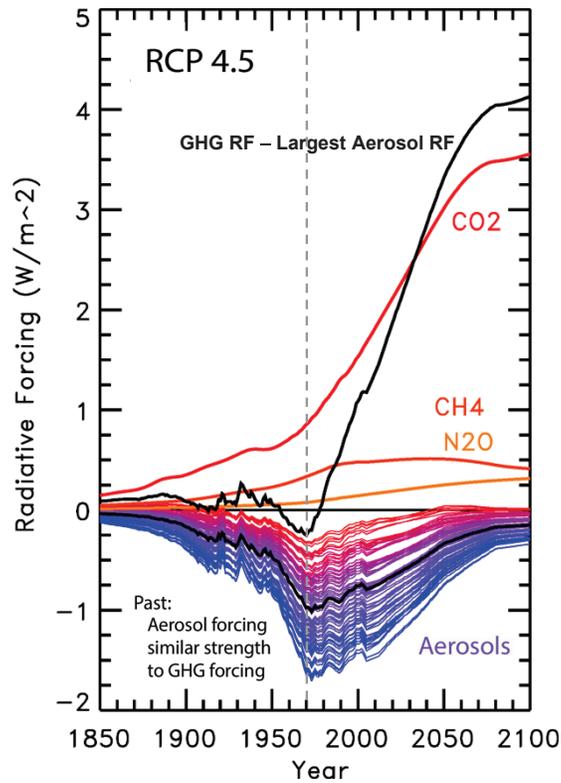
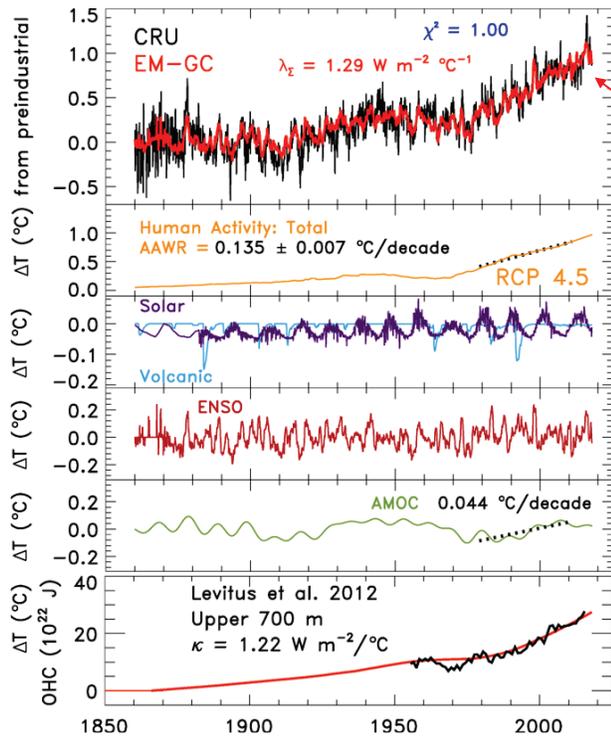


Fig 1.10, Paris, Beacon of Hope

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Empirical Model of Global Climate (EM-GC)



$$\Delta T_{MDL i} = (1 + \gamma) \left(\frac{GHG RF_i + LUC RF_i + Aerosol RF_i}{\lambda_p} \right) + C_0 + C_1 \times SOD_{i-6} + C_2 \times TSI_{i-1} + C_3 \times ENSO_{i-2} + C_4 \times AMOC_i - \left(\frac{Q_{OCEAN i}}{\lambda_p} \right)$$

where:

i denotes month

$\lambda_p = 3.2 \text{ W m}^{-2} \text{ °C}^{-1}$

$1 + \gamma = \{1 - \lambda_\Sigma / \lambda_p\}^{-1}$

GHG RF = RF due to all anthropogenic GHGs

LUC RF = RF due to Land Use Change

Aerosol RF = RF due to Tropospheric Aerosols

SOD = Stratospheric Optical Depth

TSI = Total Solar Irradiance

ENSO = El Niño Southern Oscillation

AMOC = Atlantic Meridional Overturning Circulation

Q_{OCEAN} = Ocean heat export =

$$\kappa(1 + \gamma) \{ \Delta T_{MDL i} - \Delta T_{OCEAN SURFACE i} \}$$

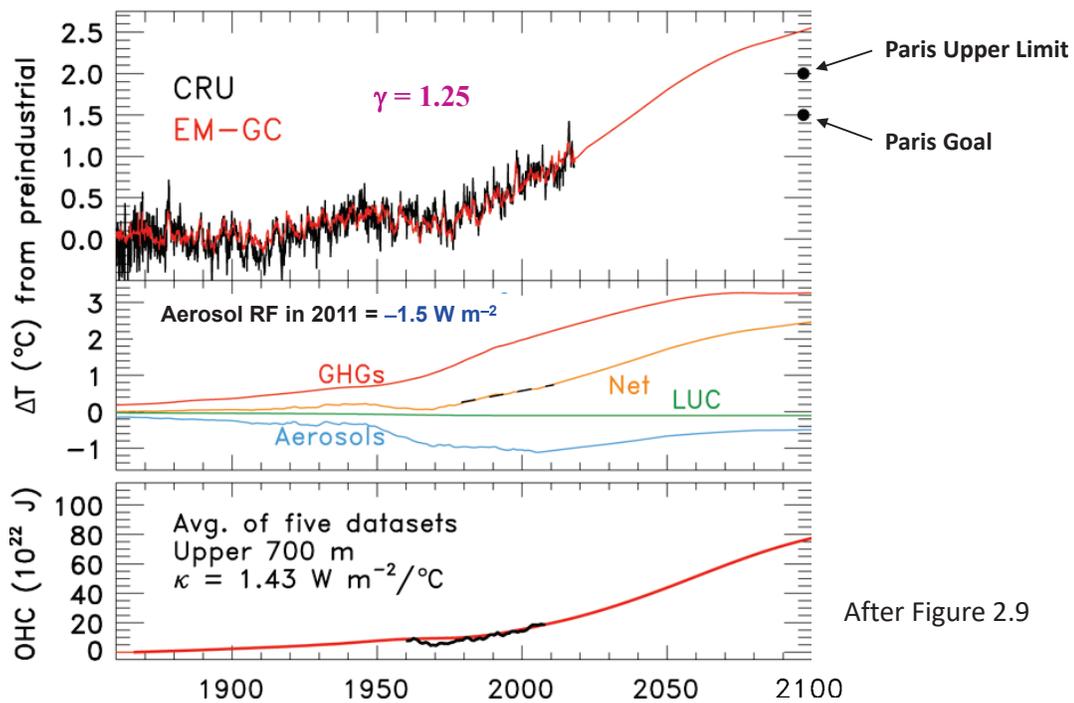
Canty *et al.*, *ACP*, 2013 <https://www.atmos-chem-phys.net/13/3997/2013/acp-13-3997-2013.html>
updated by Austin Hope & Laura McBride

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EM-GC Forecast for RCP 4.5 GHG scenario



After Figure 2.9

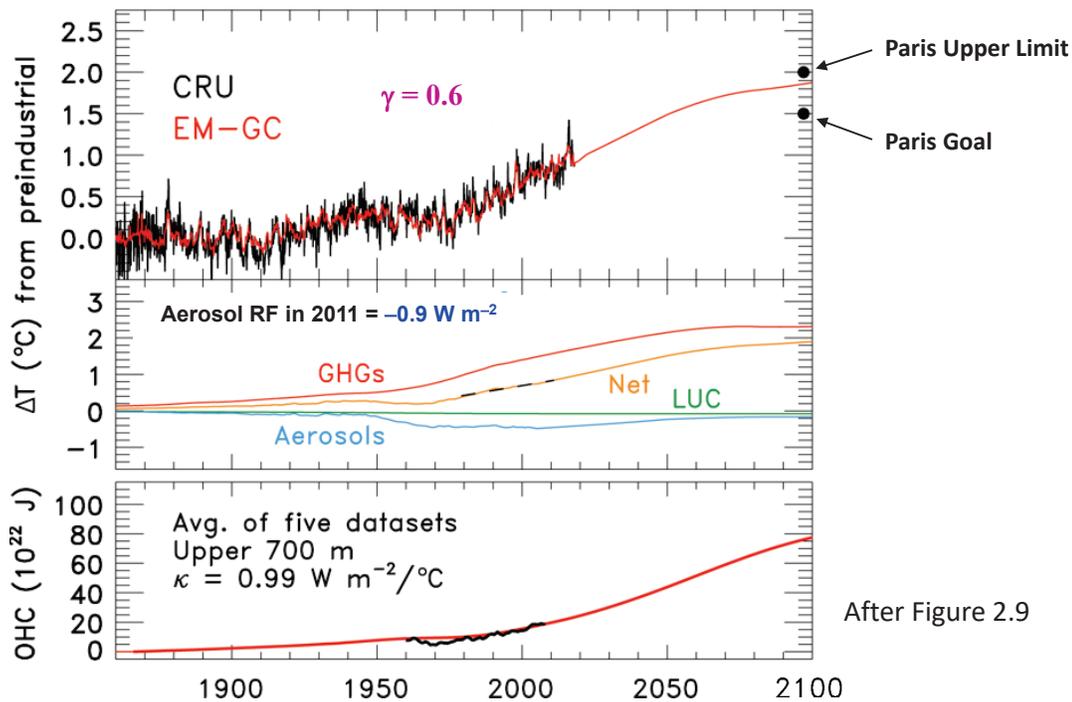
We assume that whatever value of climate feedback is inferred from the climate record will persist into the future. For Aerosol RF in 2011 of -1.5 W m^{-2} & assuming best estimate for H_2O and Lapse Rate feedback is correct, this simulation implies sum of other feedbacks (clouds, surface albedo) must be **strongly positive**.

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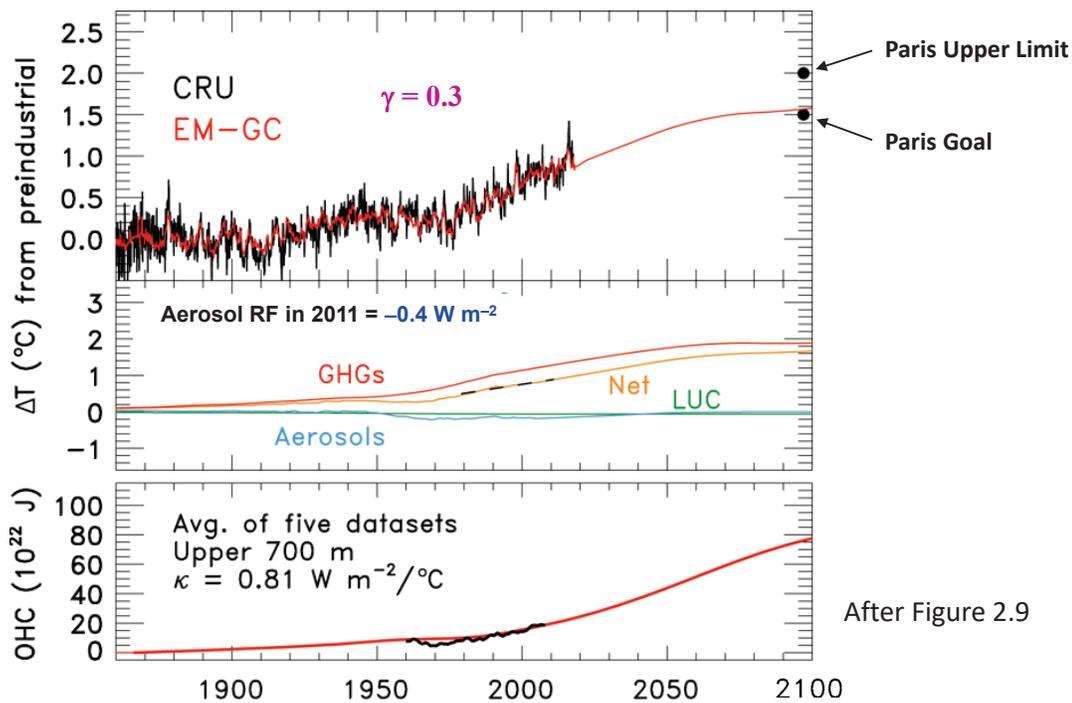
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EM-GC Forecast for RCP 4.5 GHG scenario



We assume that whatever value of climate feedback is inferred from the climate record will persist into the future. For Aerosol RF in 2011 of -0.9 W m^{-2} & assuming best estimate for H_2O and Lapse Rate feedback is correct, this simulation implies sum of other feedbacks (clouds, surface albedo) must be **slightly positive**.

EM-GC Forecast for RCP 4.5 GHG scenario



We assume that whatever value of climate feedback is inferred from the climate record will persist into the future. For Aerosol RF in 2011 of -0.4 W m^{-2} & assuming best estimate for H_2O and Lapse Rate feedback is correct, this simulation implies sum of other feedbacks (clouds, surface albedo) must be **negative**.