

A Global Perspective on Climate Change and Water

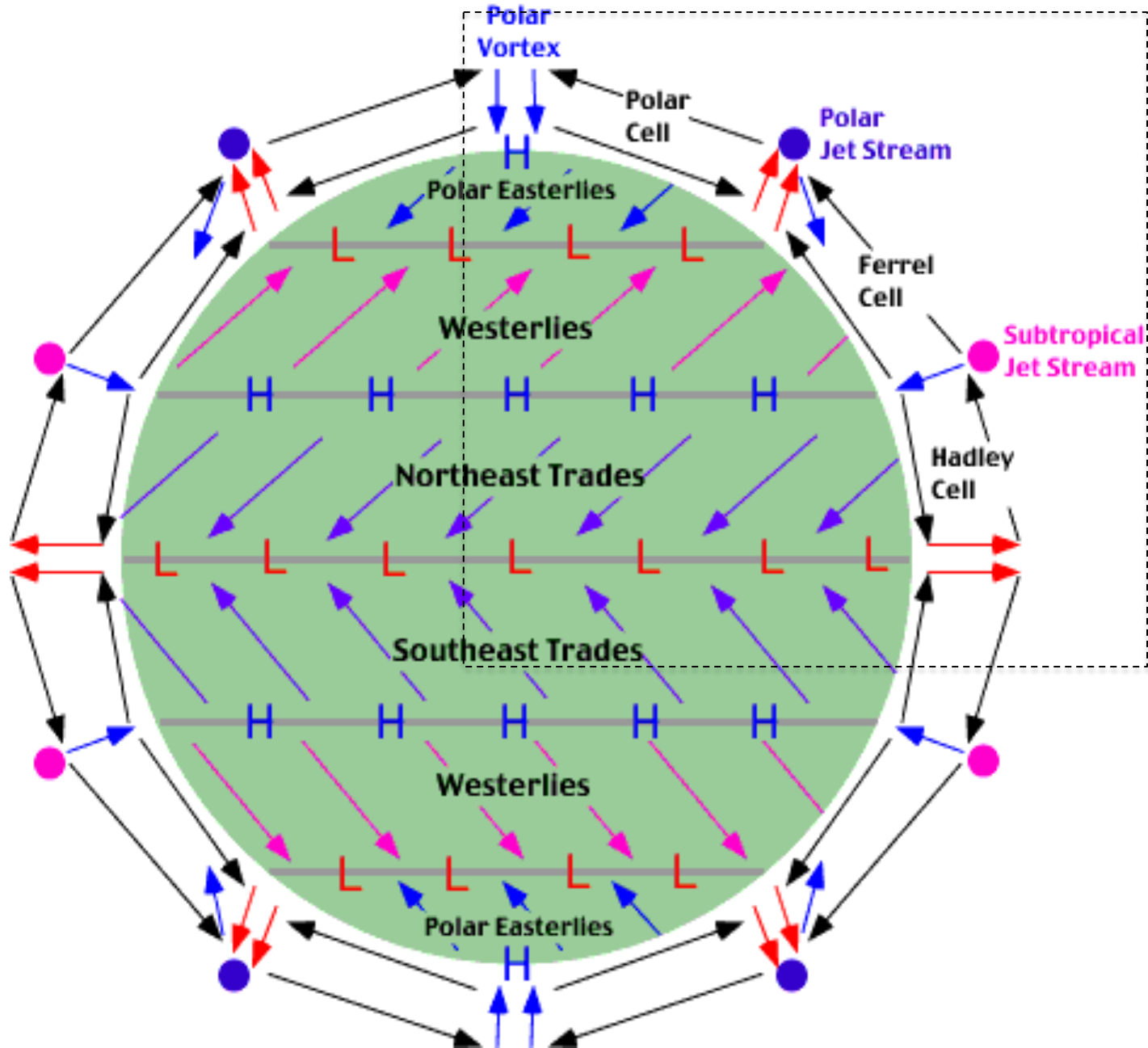
Norman L. Miller
Department of Geography
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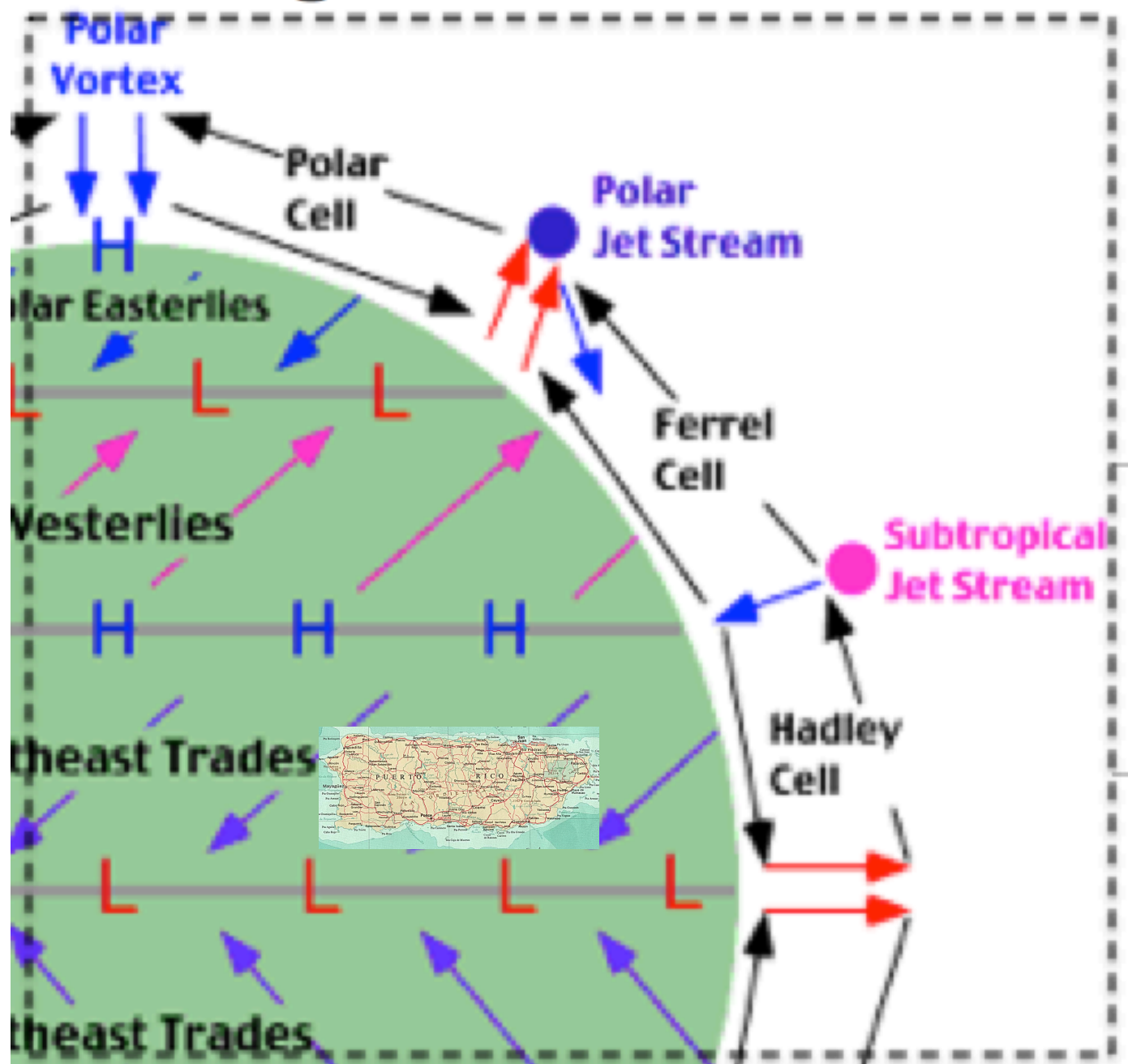
Conference on Drought and Climate Change
San Juan, Puerto Rico
23-24 April 2015

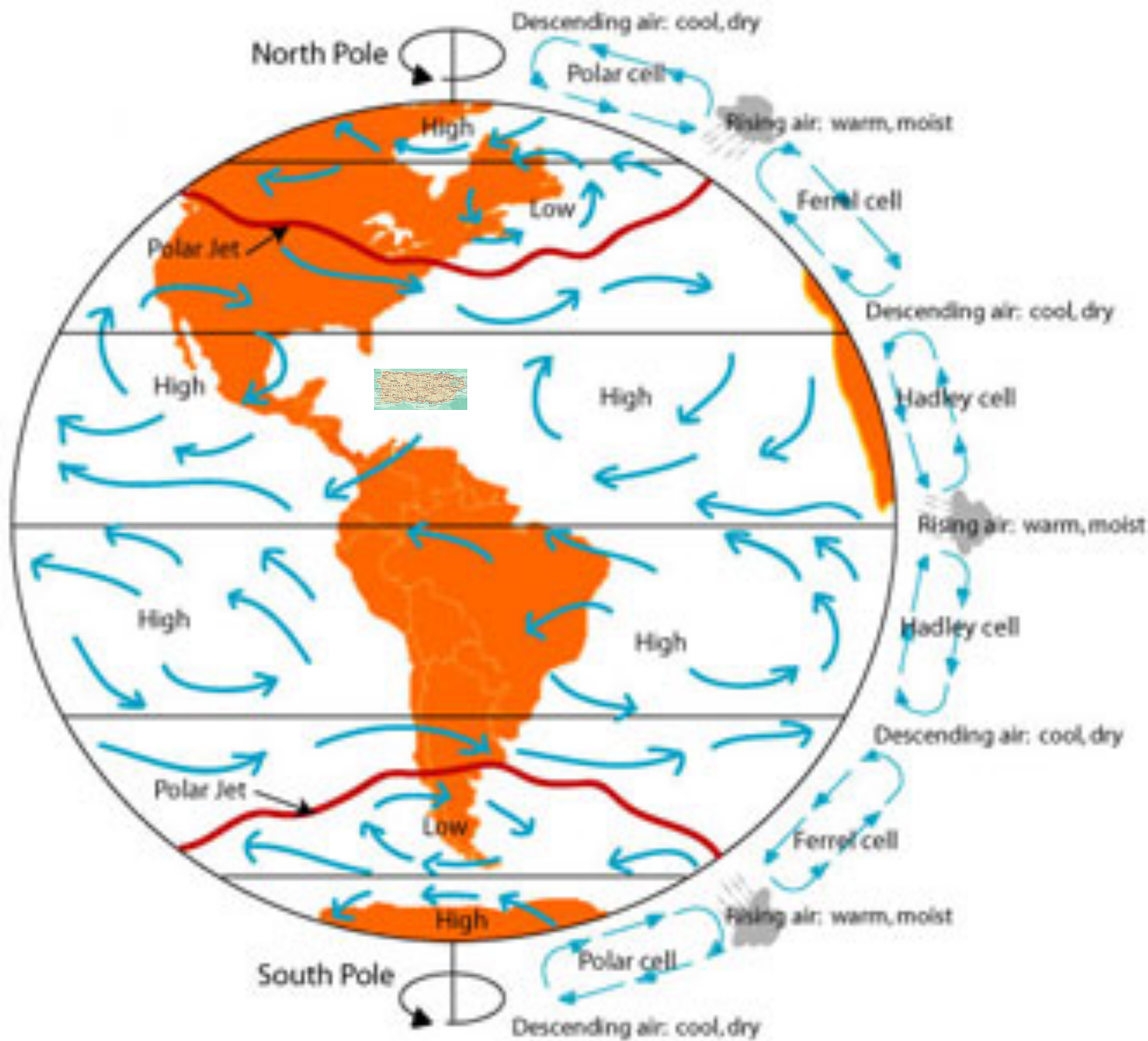
OUTLINE

- **Weather and Climate**
 - Global Circulation Patterns
 - Climate in the Caribbean
 - Observed Climate Change
- **Drought**
 - Meteorological, Hydrological and Agricultural Drought
 - Drought Intensification
- **Climate Model Projections**
 - Representative Concentration Pathways
 - Projected Temperature, Evaporation and Precipitation
 - Sea Level Rise, Hurricanes, Storm Surge
 - Summary of Impacts

A Simple Schematic of Large-Scale Circulation







Preliminary CAM5 hi-resolution simulations (0.25°, prescribed aerosols)

Michael Wehner, Prabhat, Chris Algieri, Fuyu Li, Bill Collins
Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory

Kevin Reed, University of Michigan

Andrew Gettelman, Julio Bacmeister, Richard Neale
National Center for Atmospheric Research

June 1, 2011



Observed Changes in the Climate System

Human influence on the climate system is clear, and recent anthropogenic emissions of greenhouse gases are the highest in history.

Recent climate changes have had widespread impacts on human and natural systems.

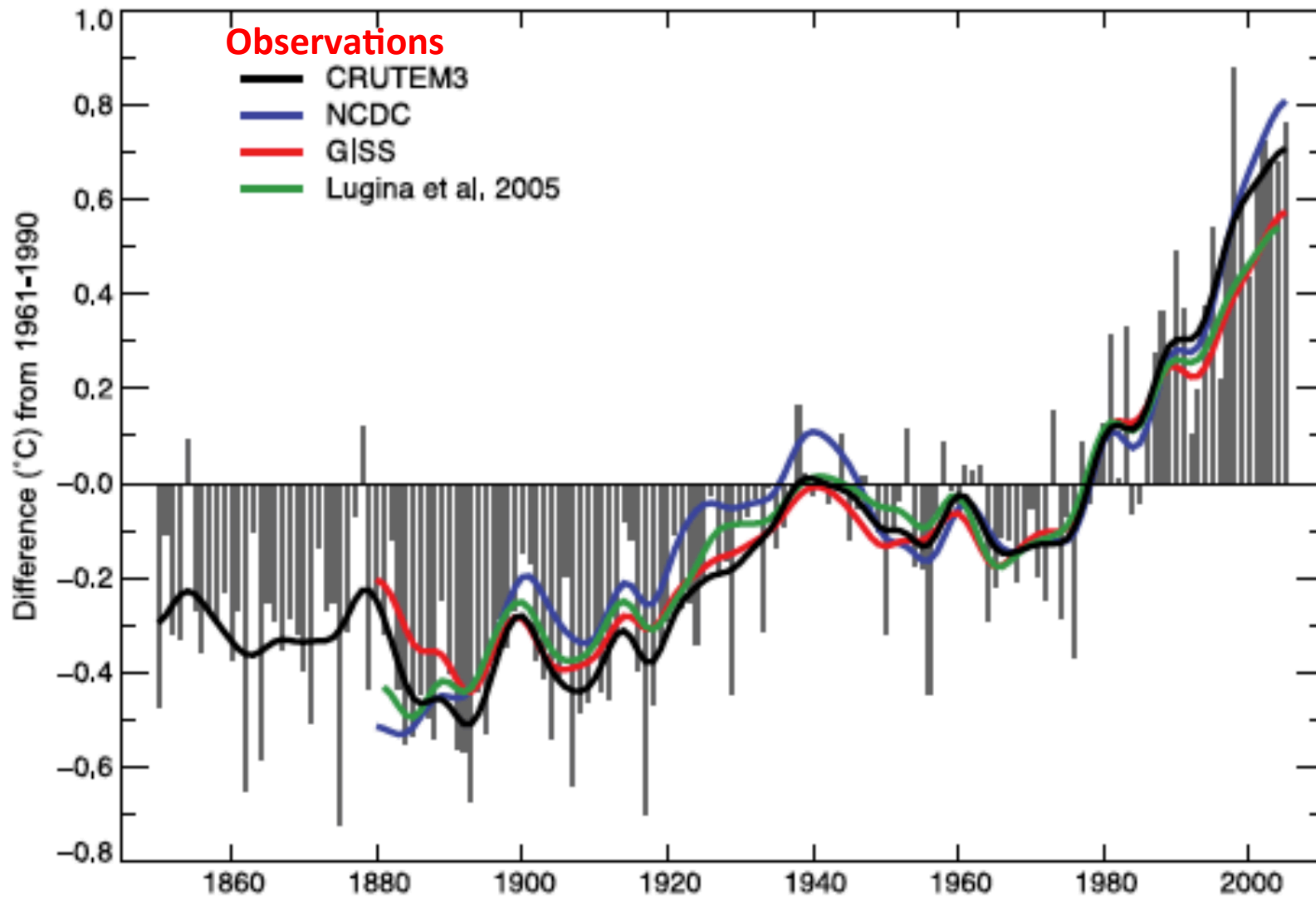
Climate Change

Warming of the climate system is unequivocal, and since the 1950s, many of the observed changes are unprecedented over decades to millennia.

The last three decades has been successively warmer at the Earth's surface than any preceding decade since 1850 In the Northern Hemisphere, 1983–2012 was *likely* the warmest 30-year period of the last 1400 years.

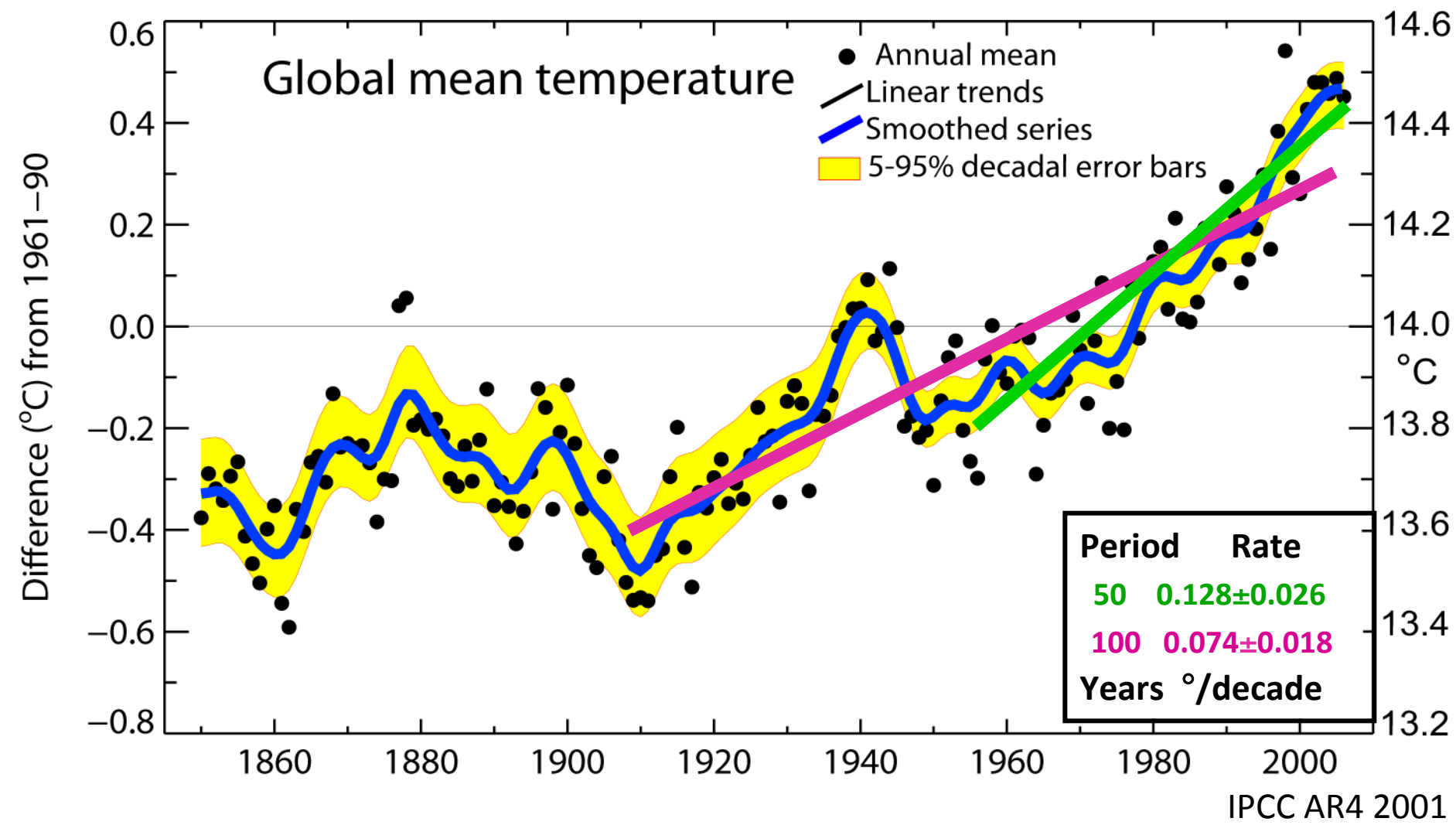
The atmosphere and ocean have warmed, the amounts of snow and ice have diminished, and sea level has risen.

Global averaged land and ocean surface temperature show a warming of 0.85°C over the period 1880 to 2012



Global mean temperatures are rising faster with time

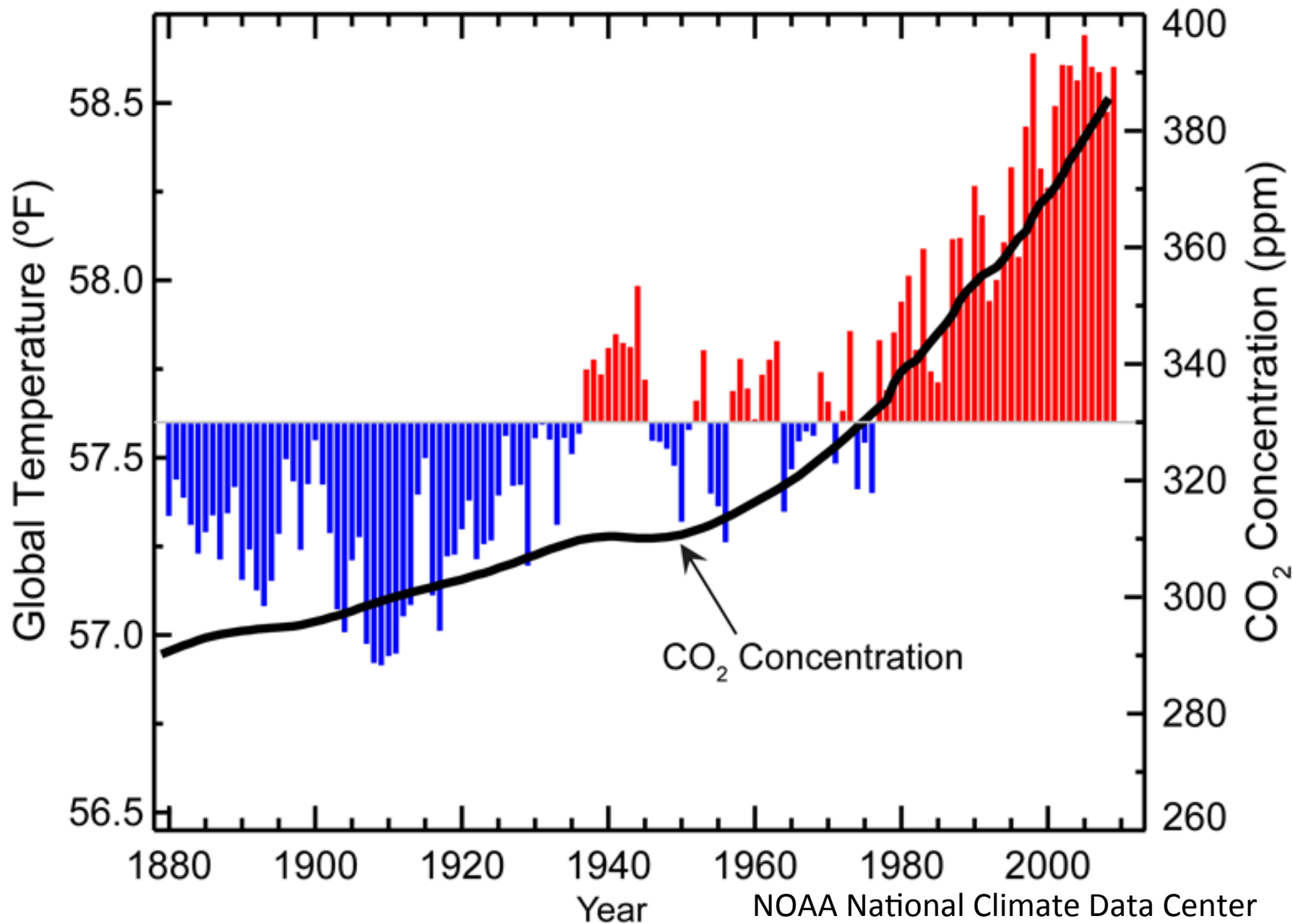
“The balance of evidence suggests a discernable human influence on global climate” Ben Santer, IPCC 1995



The IPCC Fifth Assessment Report

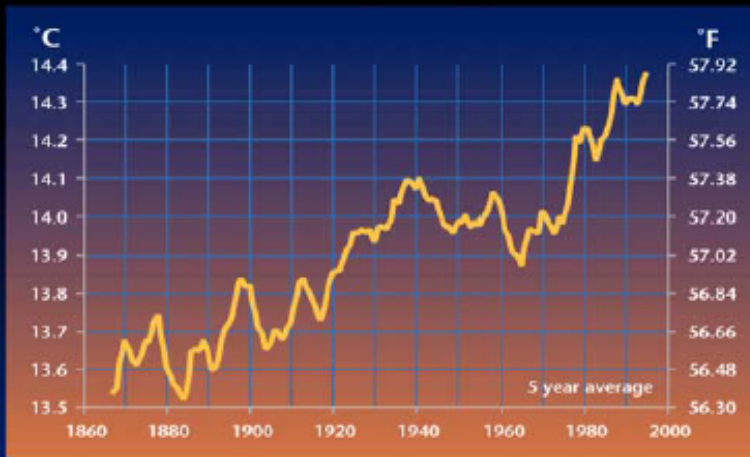
95% Certainty (extremely Likely) global warming is due to fossil fuel emissions (increased Carbon Dioxide) released by powerplants, cars, etc.

Global Temperature and Carbon Dioxide

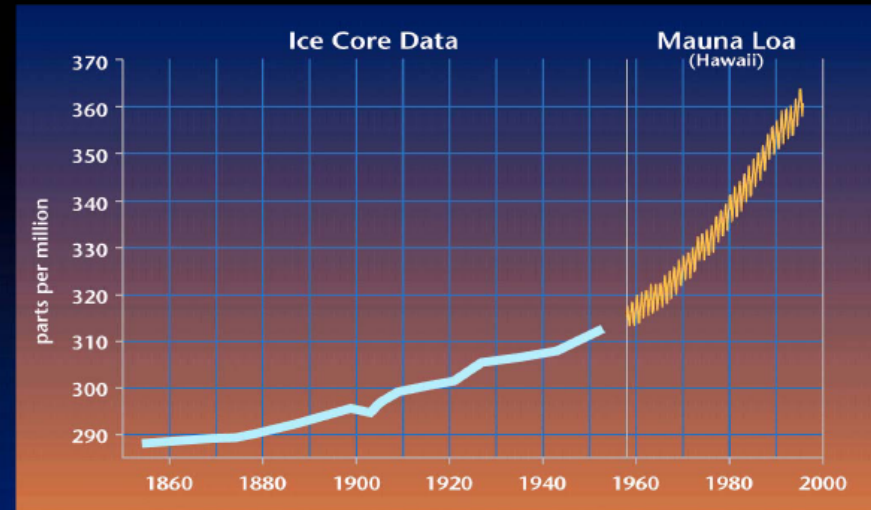


Temperature and CO₂ Increases are Proportional

Global Average Temperature



Carbon Dioxide Concentrations

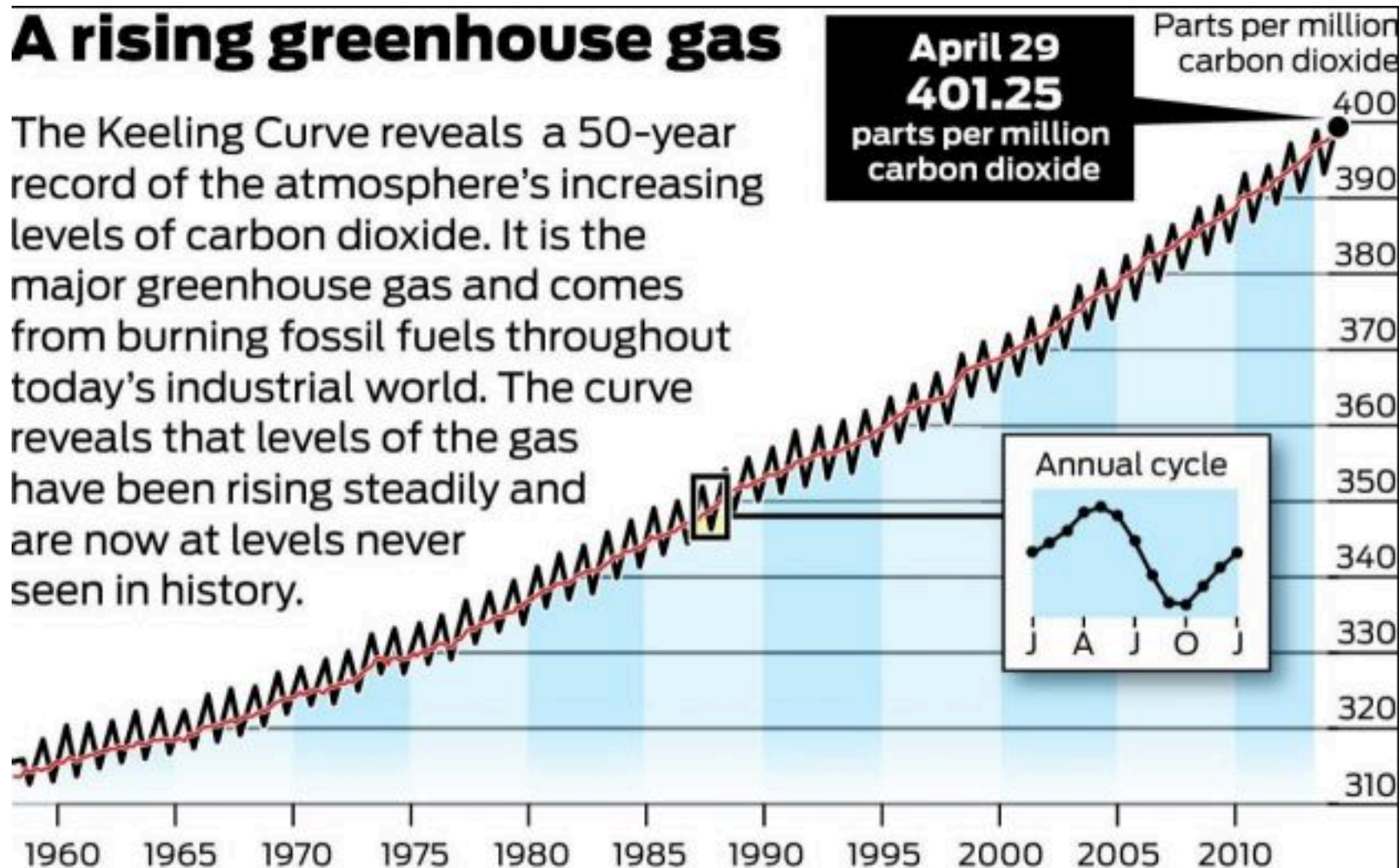


Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, 2001

April 2013: CO2 exceeds 400PPM

A rising greenhouse gas

The Keeling Curve reveals a 50-year record of the atmosphere's increasing levels of carbon dioxide. It is the major greenhouse gas and comes from burning fossil fuels throughout today's industrial world. The curve reveals that levels of the gas have been rising steadily and are now at levels never seen in history.



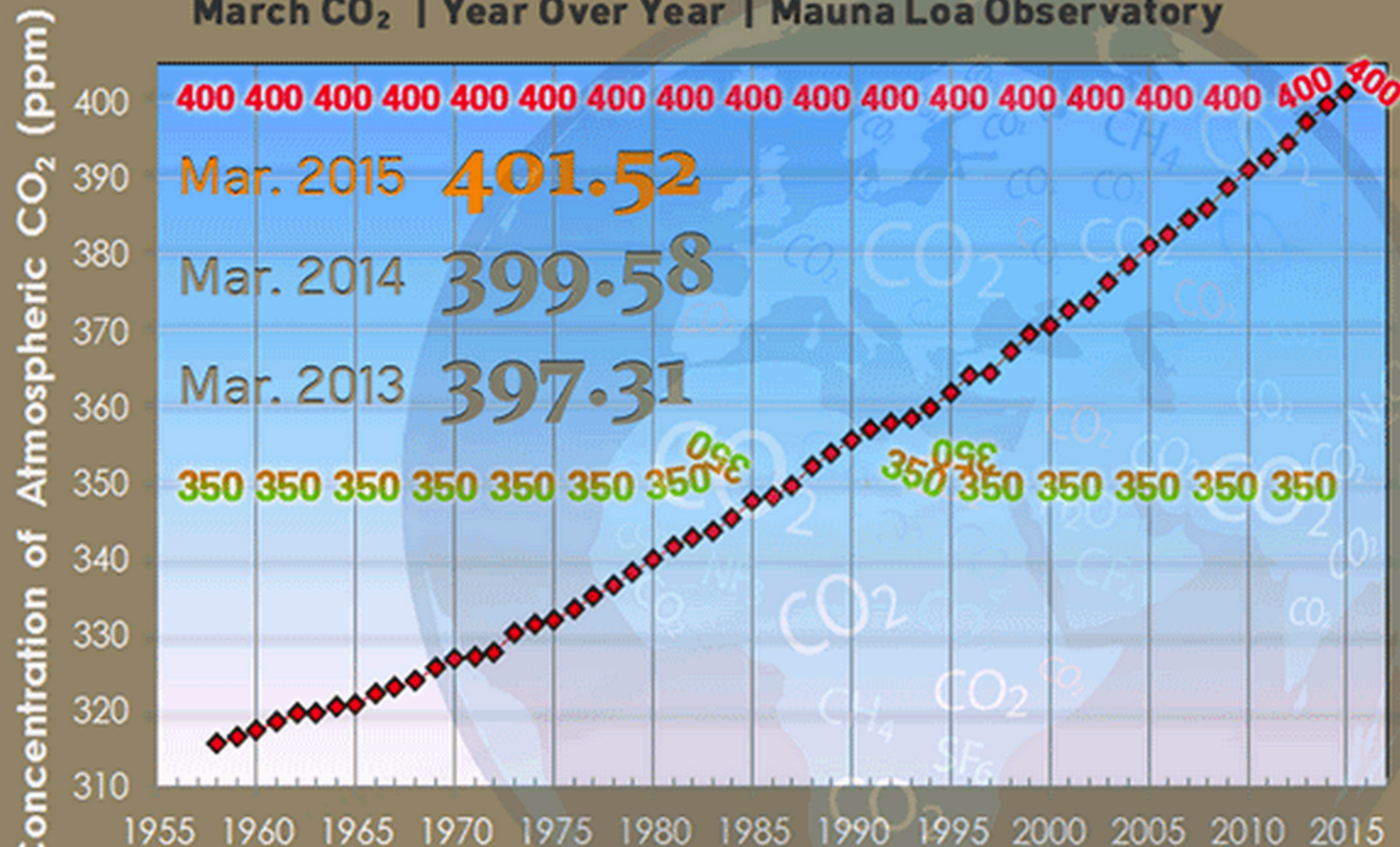
Source: Scripps Institution of Oceanography

John Blanchard / The Chronicle

March 1958 to March 2015

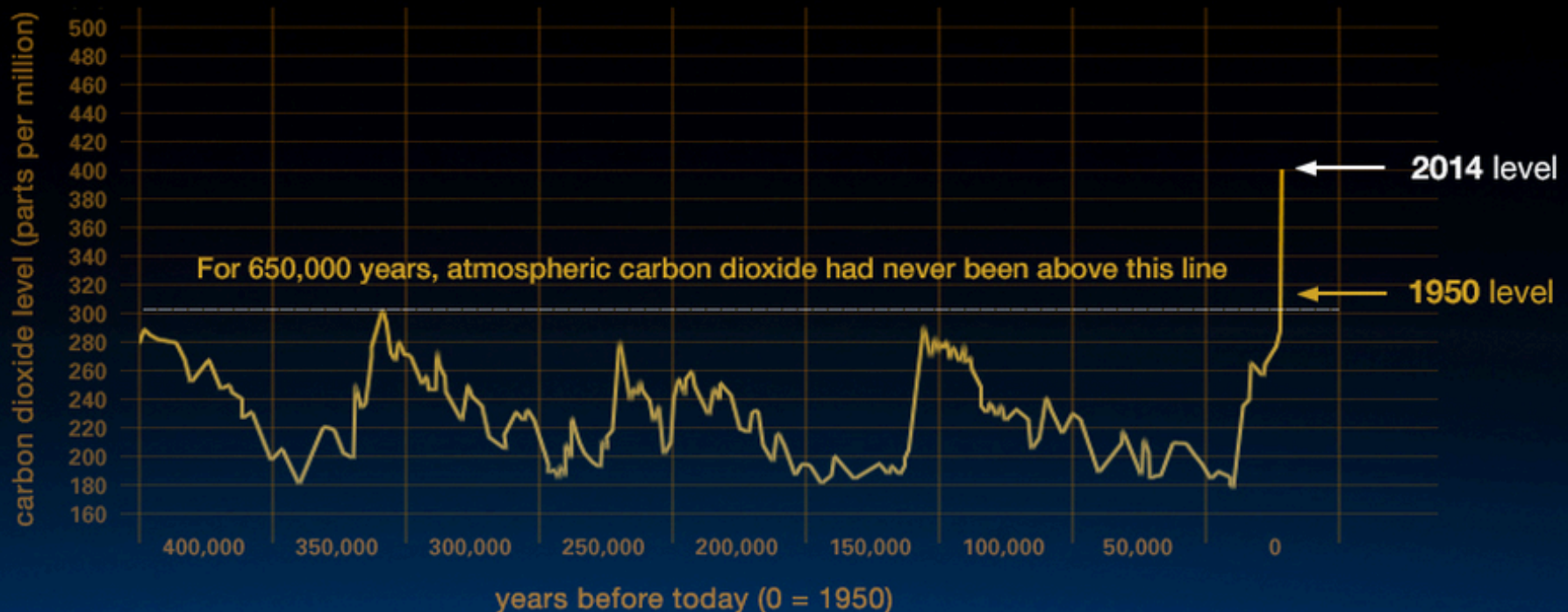
Atmospheric CO₂

March CO₂ | Year Over Year | Mauna Loa Observatory

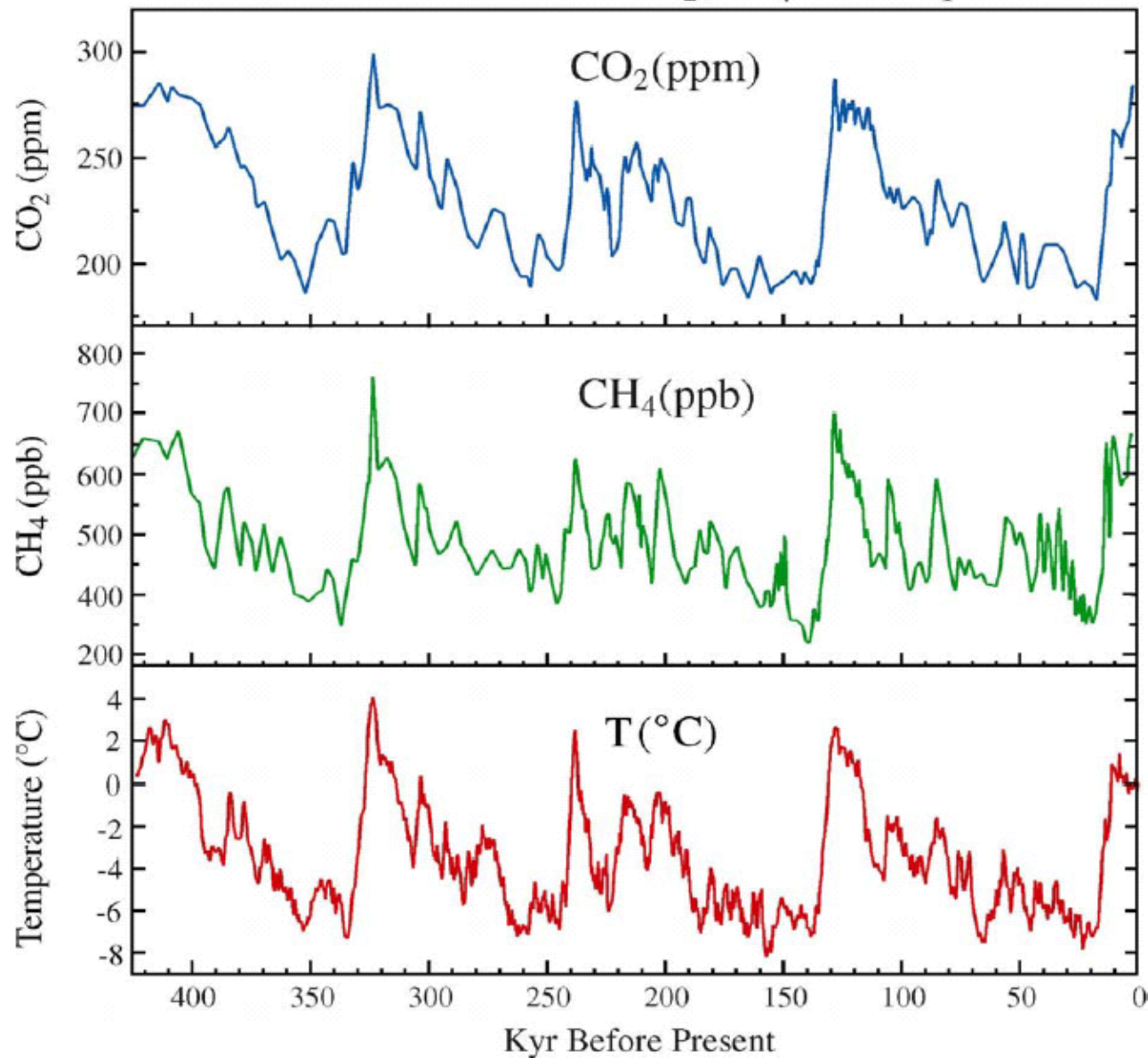


CO₂ Now era

Atmospheric carbon dioxide is at its highest level in human history

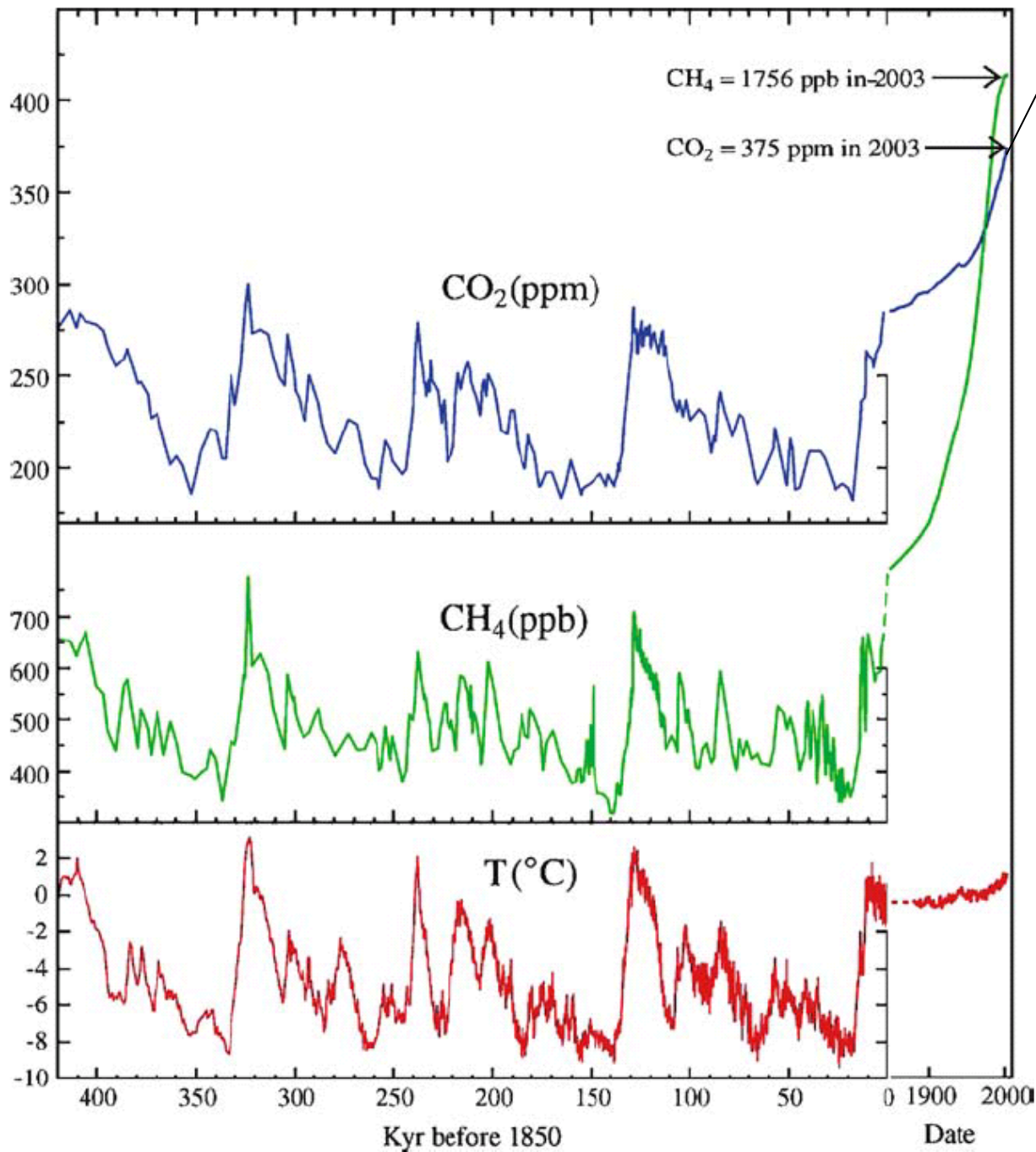


Antarctic Time Series for CO₂, CH₄ and Temperature



CO₂, CH₄ and temperature records from Antarctic ice core data

Source: Vimeux, F., K.M. Cuffey, and Jouzel, J., 2002, "New insights into Southern Hemisphere temperature changes from Vostok ice cores using deuterium excess correction", *Earth and Planetary Science Letters*, **203**, 829-843.



> 400ppm May 2013,
March 2015

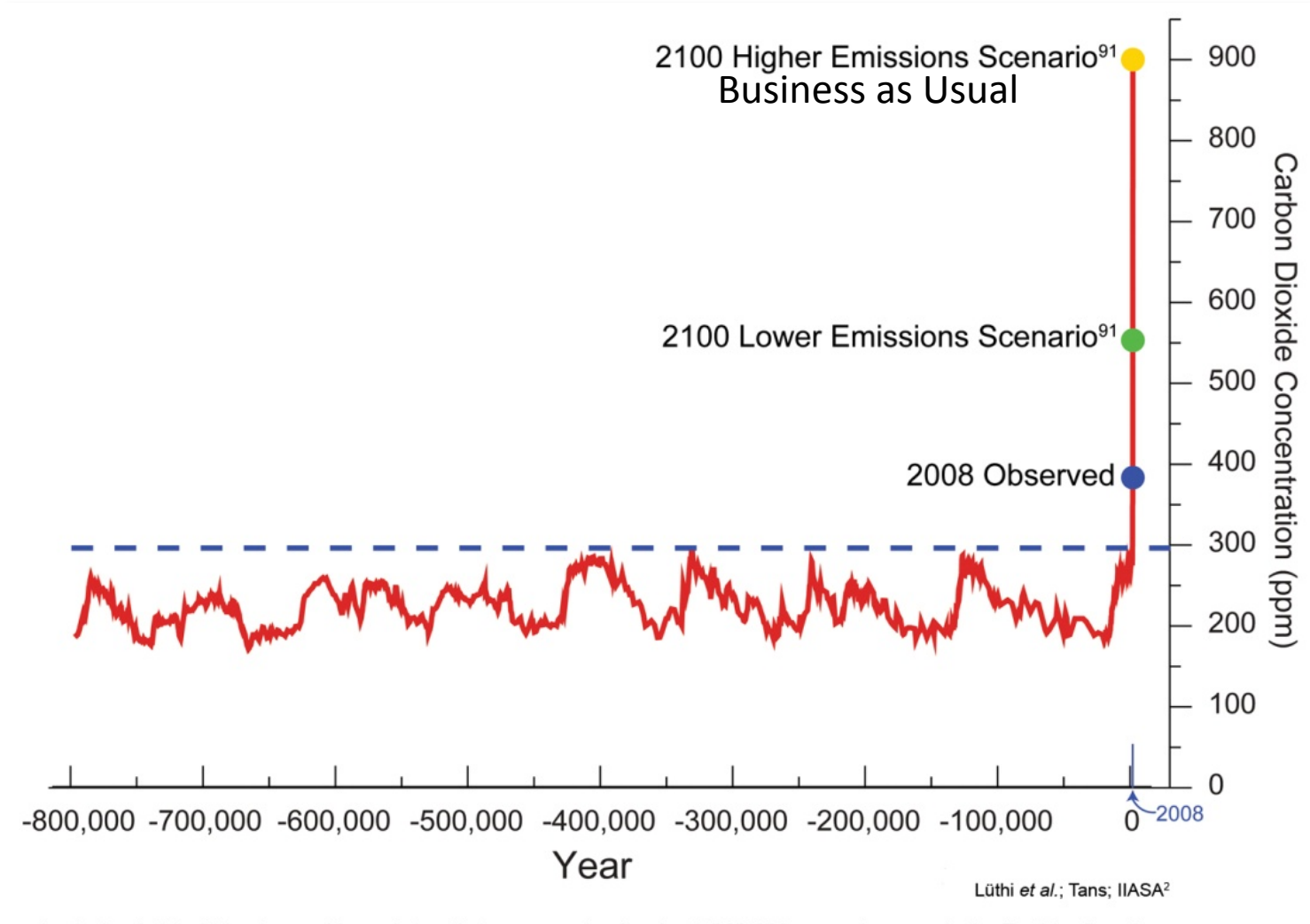
The Last
500,000
years

and

the last 200
years

J. Hansen

Current levels of atmospheric CO₂ have not occurred for at least the last 800,000 years



Are Changes in Solar Radiation Causing Warming

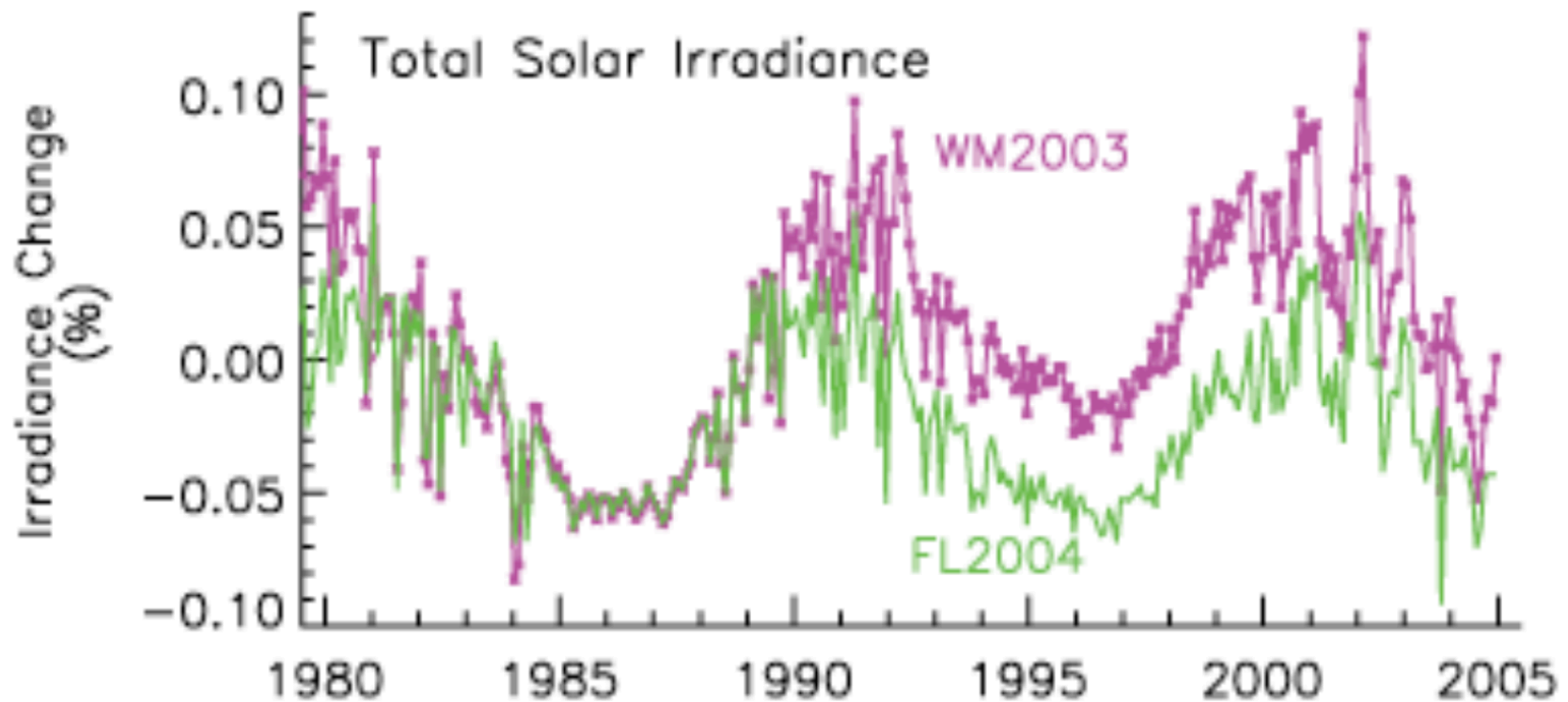
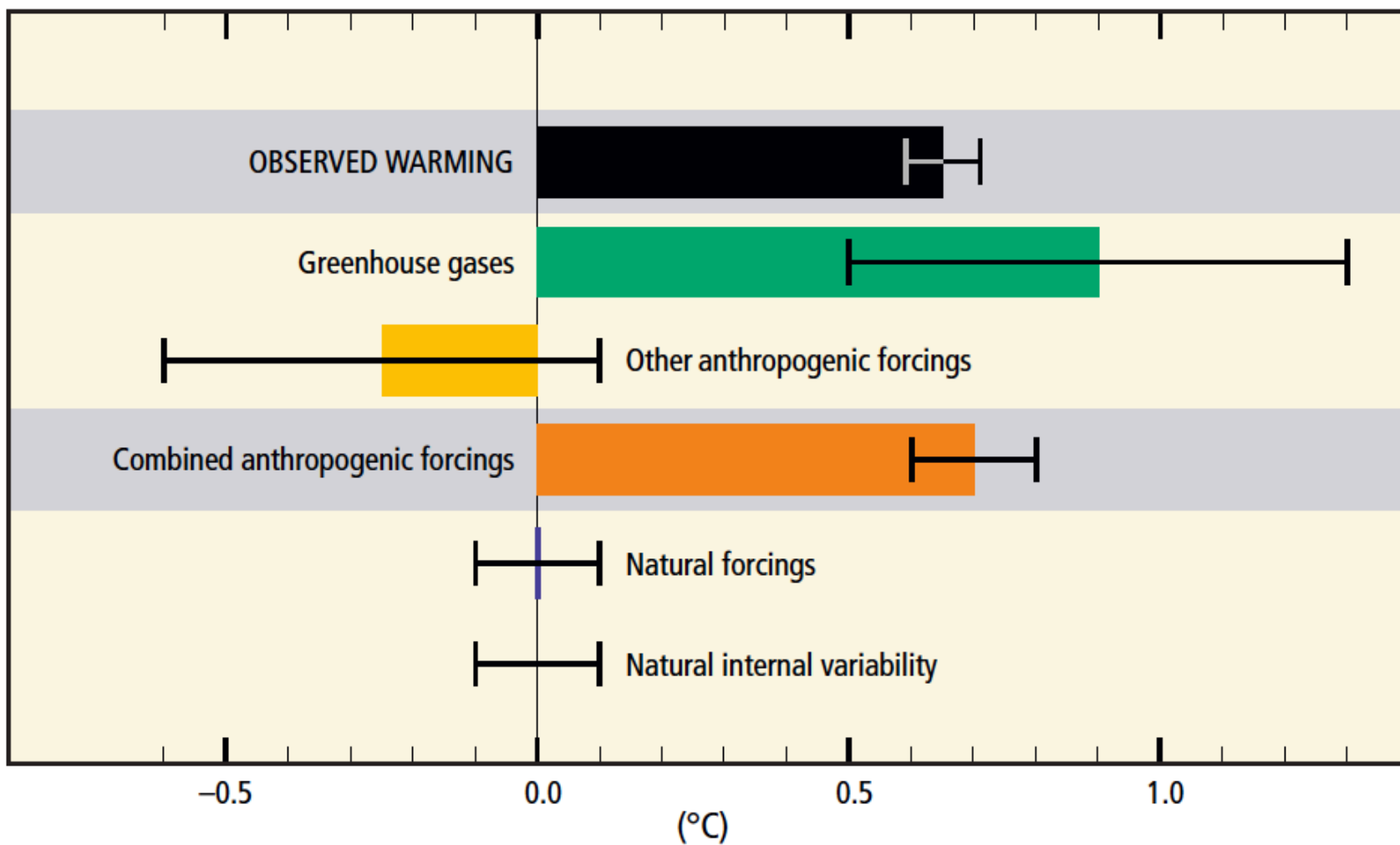
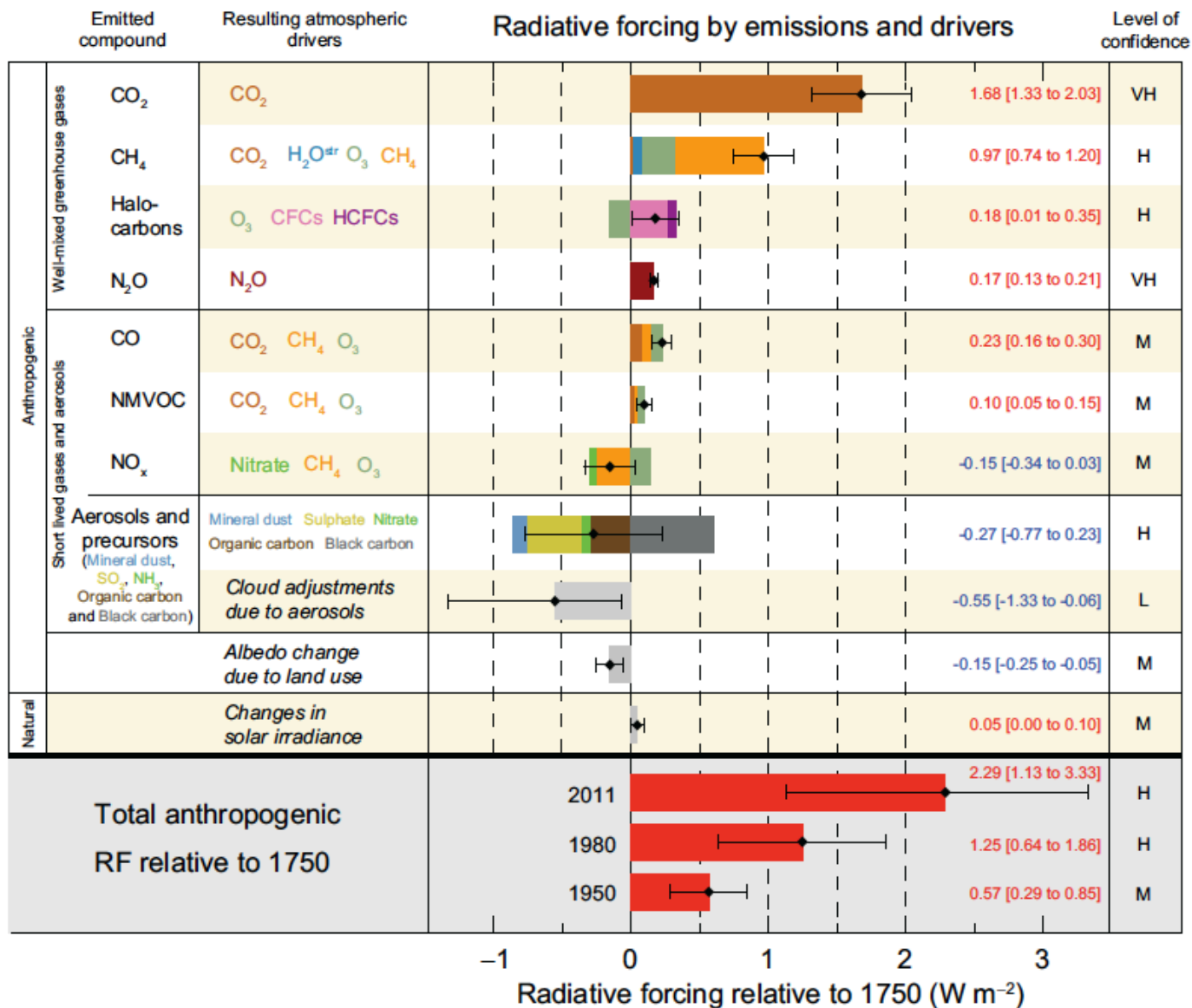


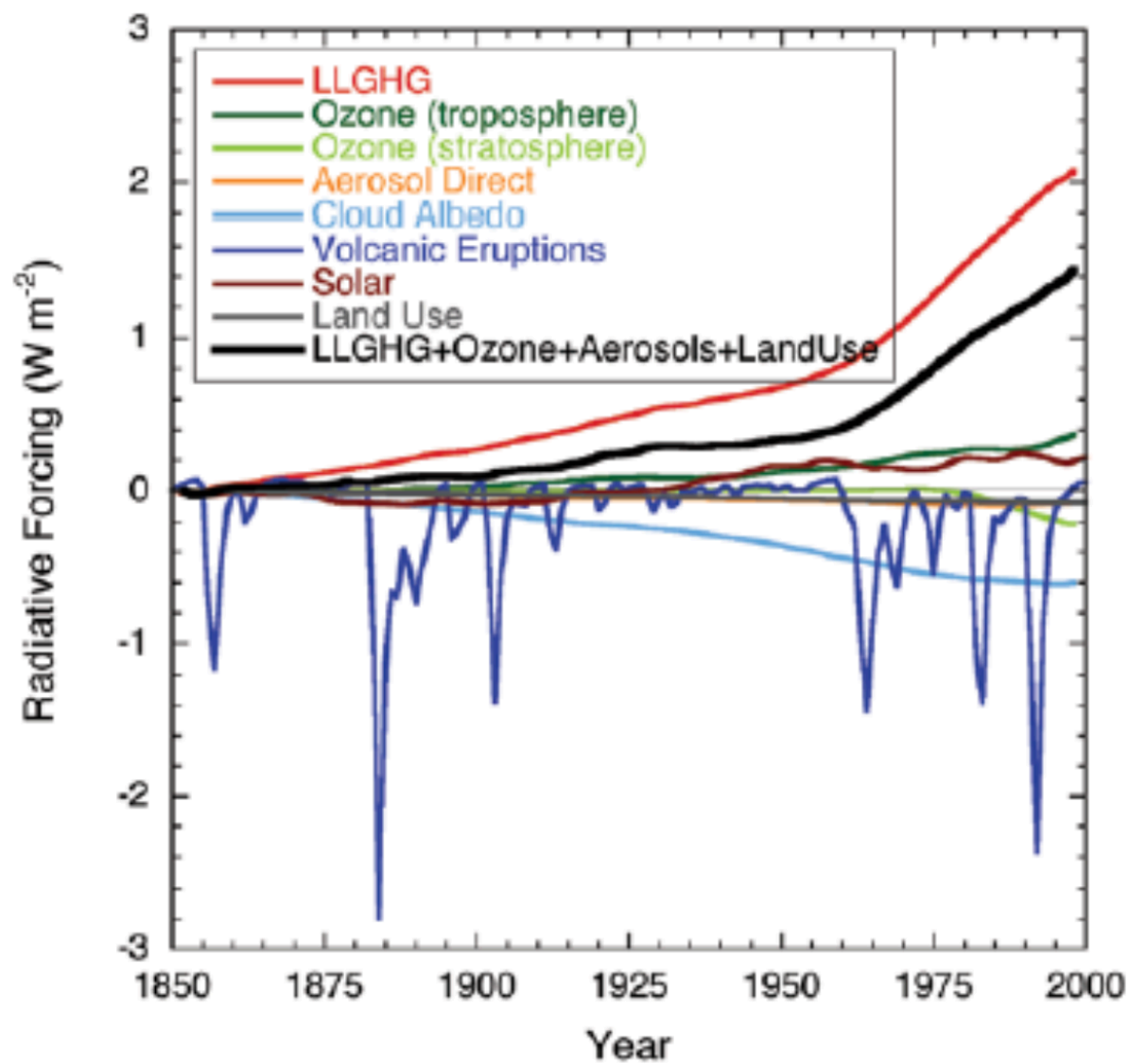
Figure 2.16. *Percentage change in monthly values of the total solar irradiance composites of Willson and Mordvinov (2003; WM2003, violet symbols and line) and Fröhlich and Lean (2004; FL2004, green solid line).*

Contributions to observed surface temperature change over the period 1951–2010



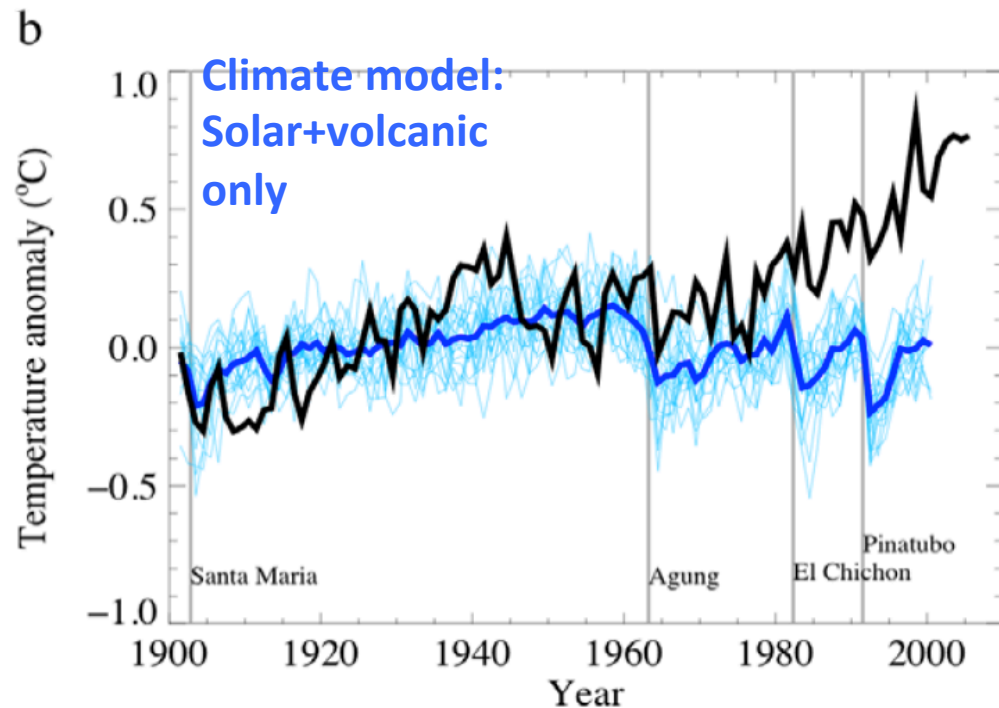
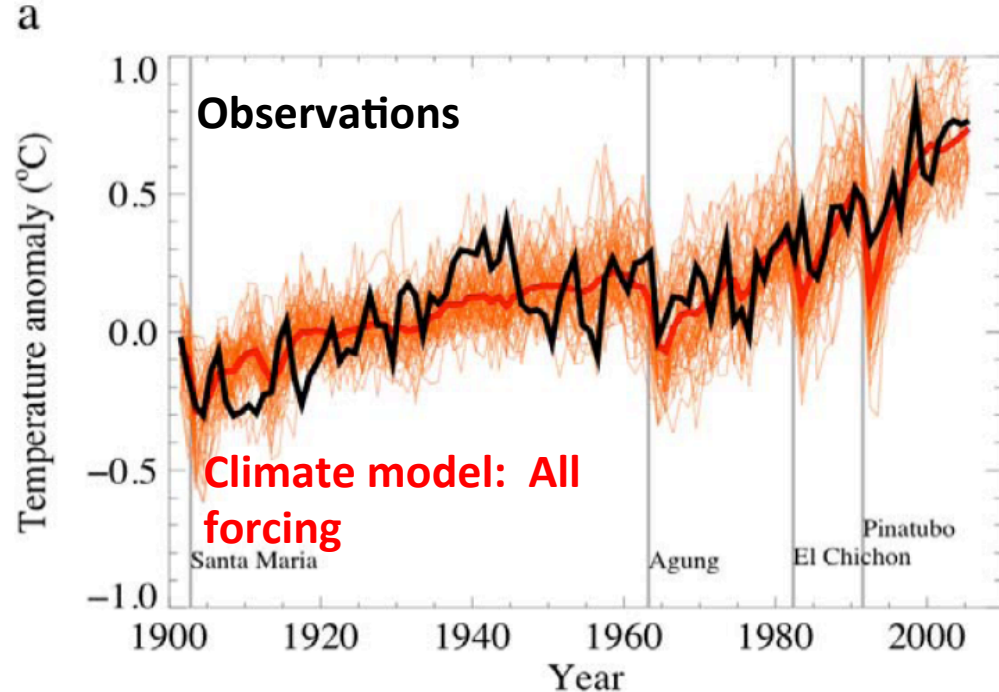


Radiative Forcing

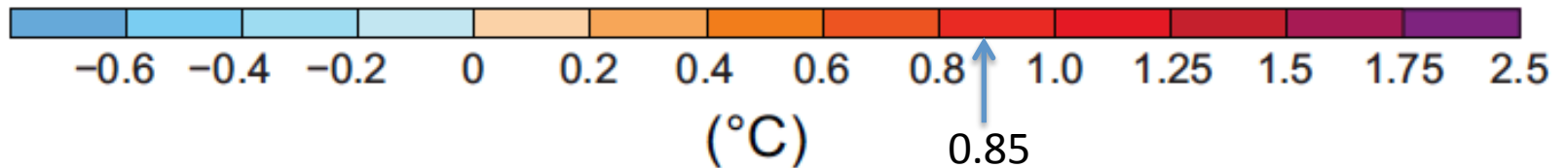
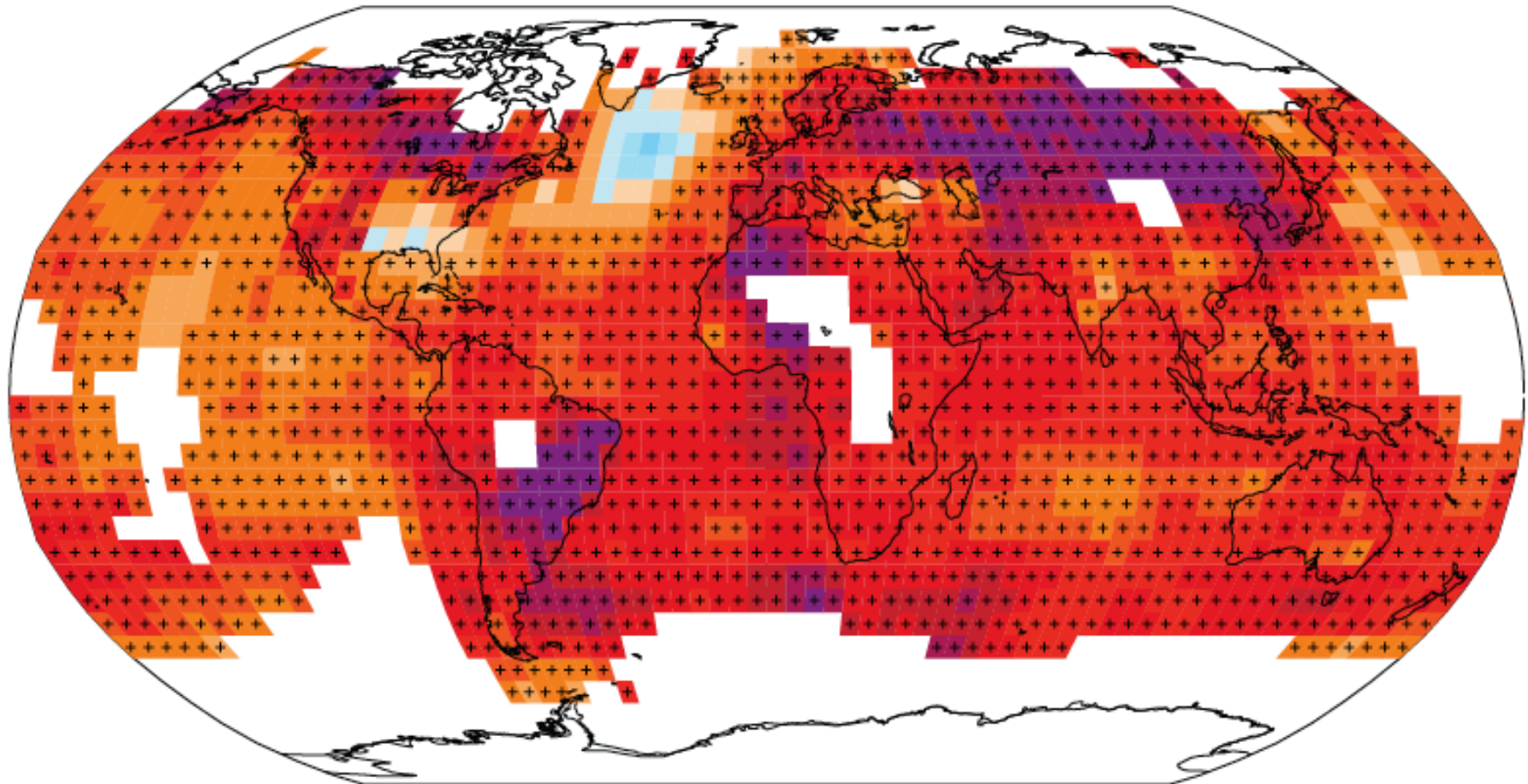


Attribution

- are observed changes consistent with
 - ☑ expected responses to forcings
 - ☒ inconsistent with alternative explanations



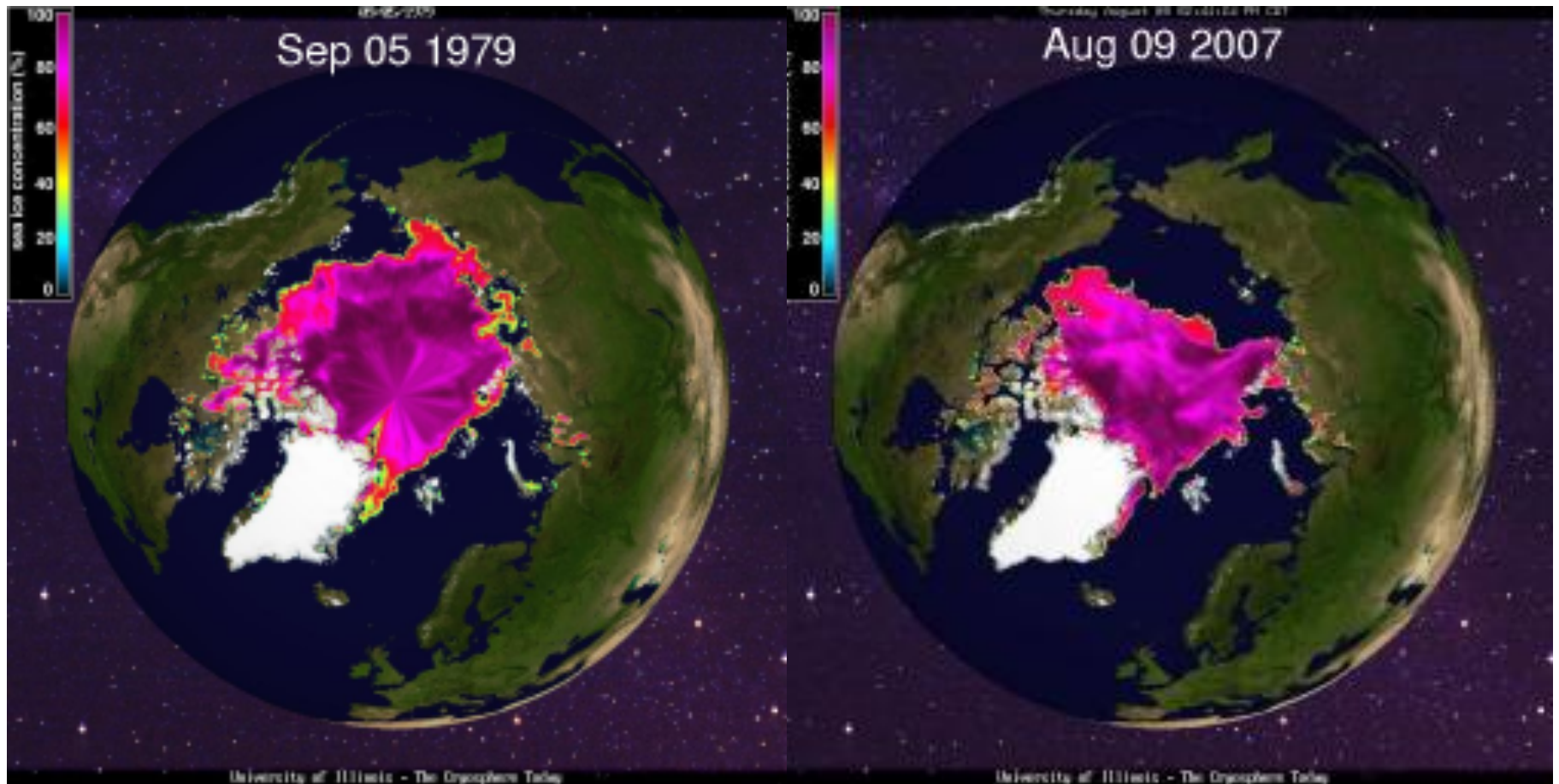
Observed change in surface temperature 1901–2012



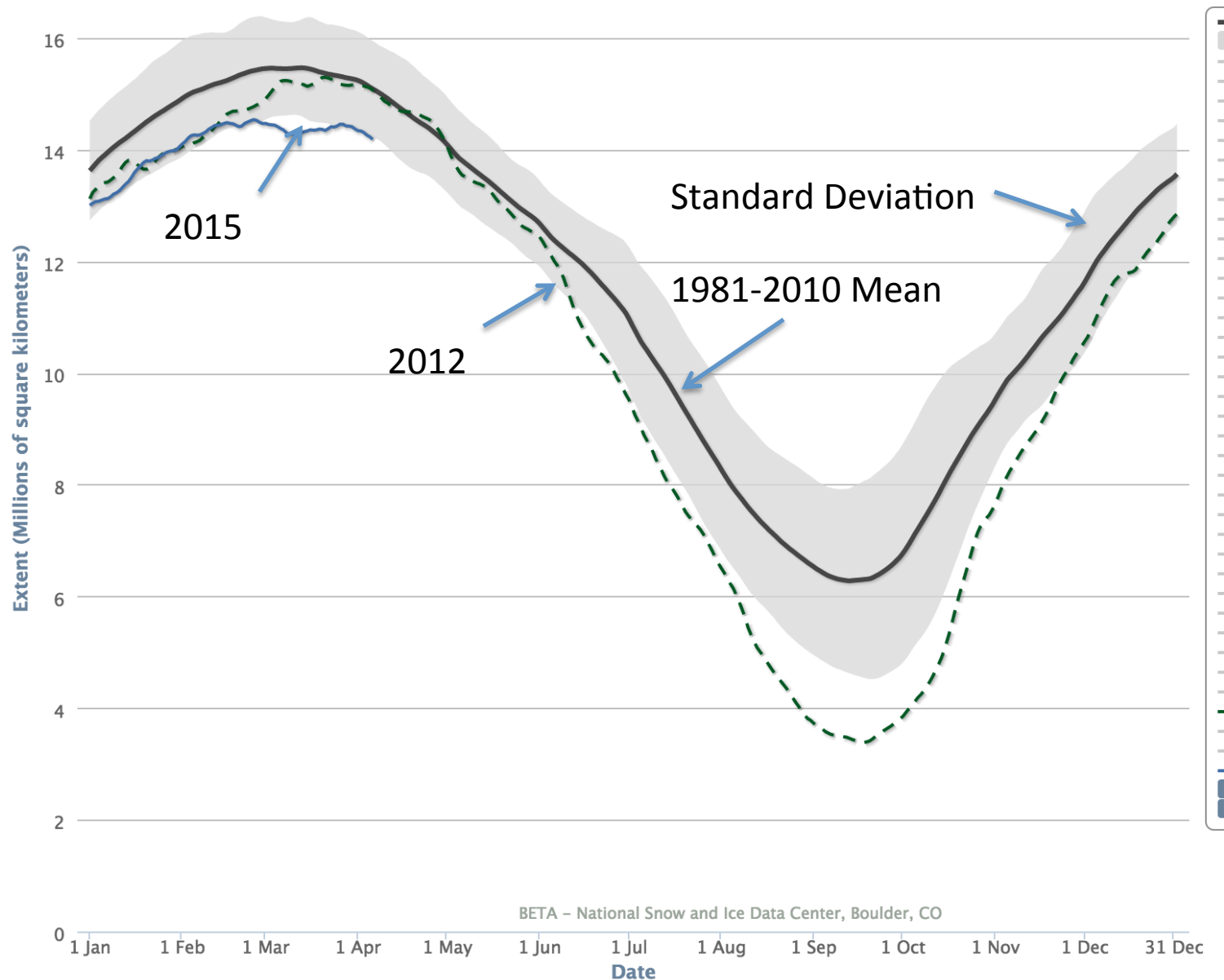
Global Mean

Arctic Sea Ice Reduction

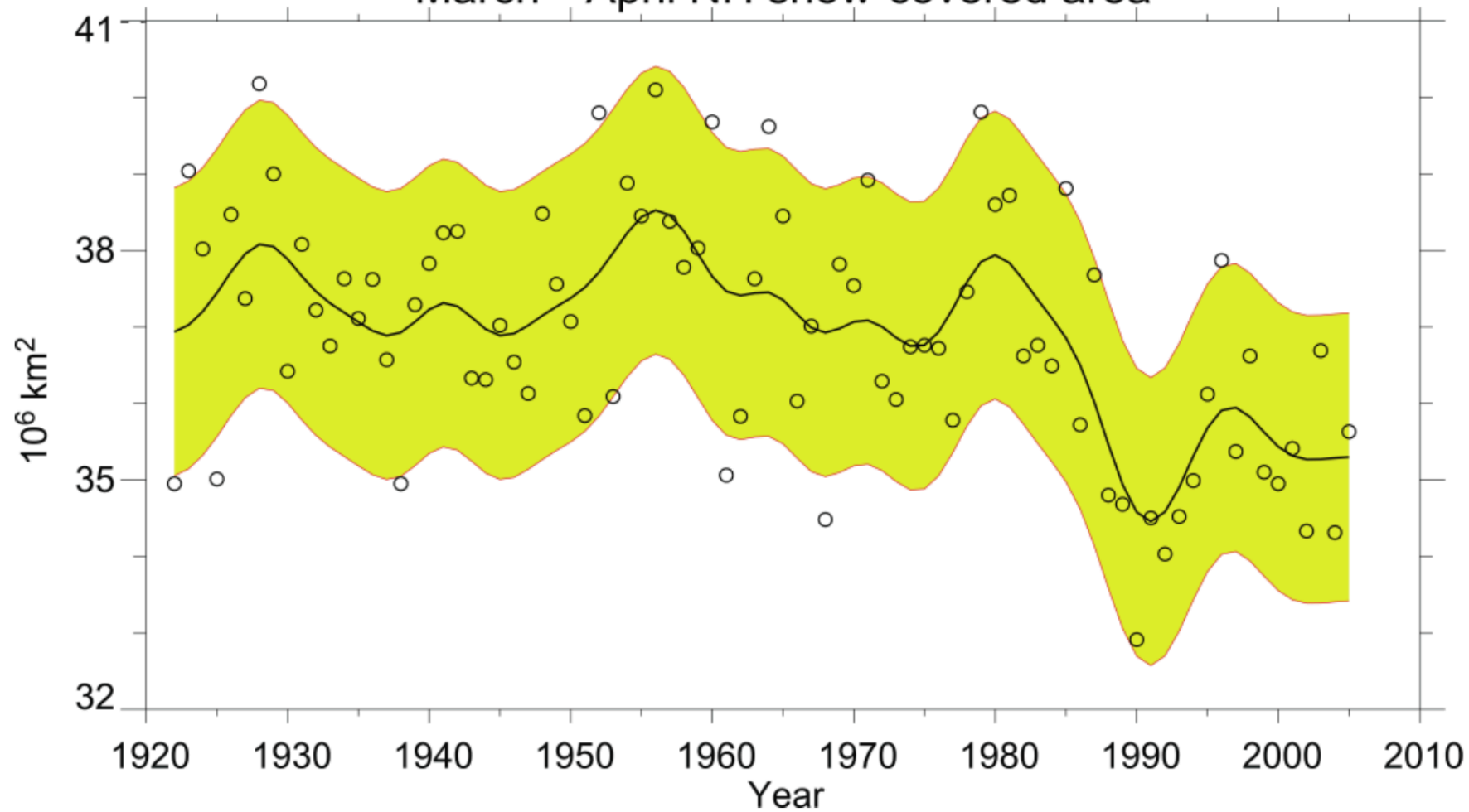
This will Impact California!



Minimum extent decreased by 40% between 1979 and 2012

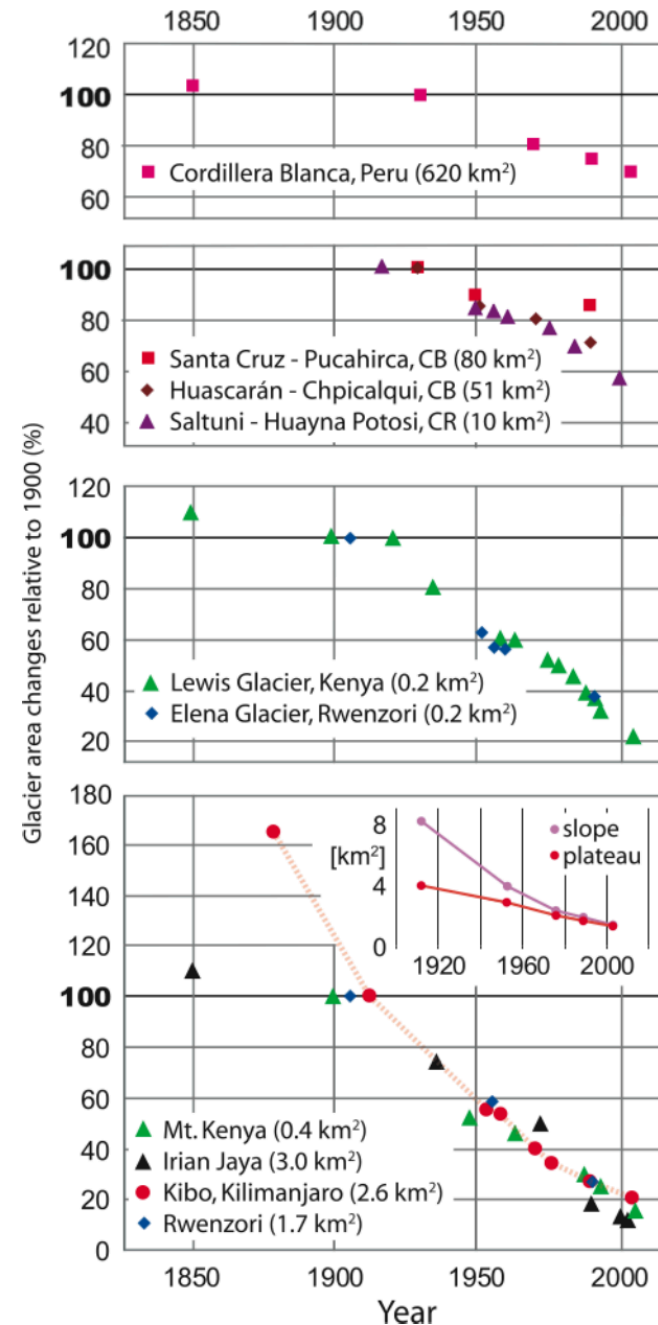


March - April NH snow-covered area



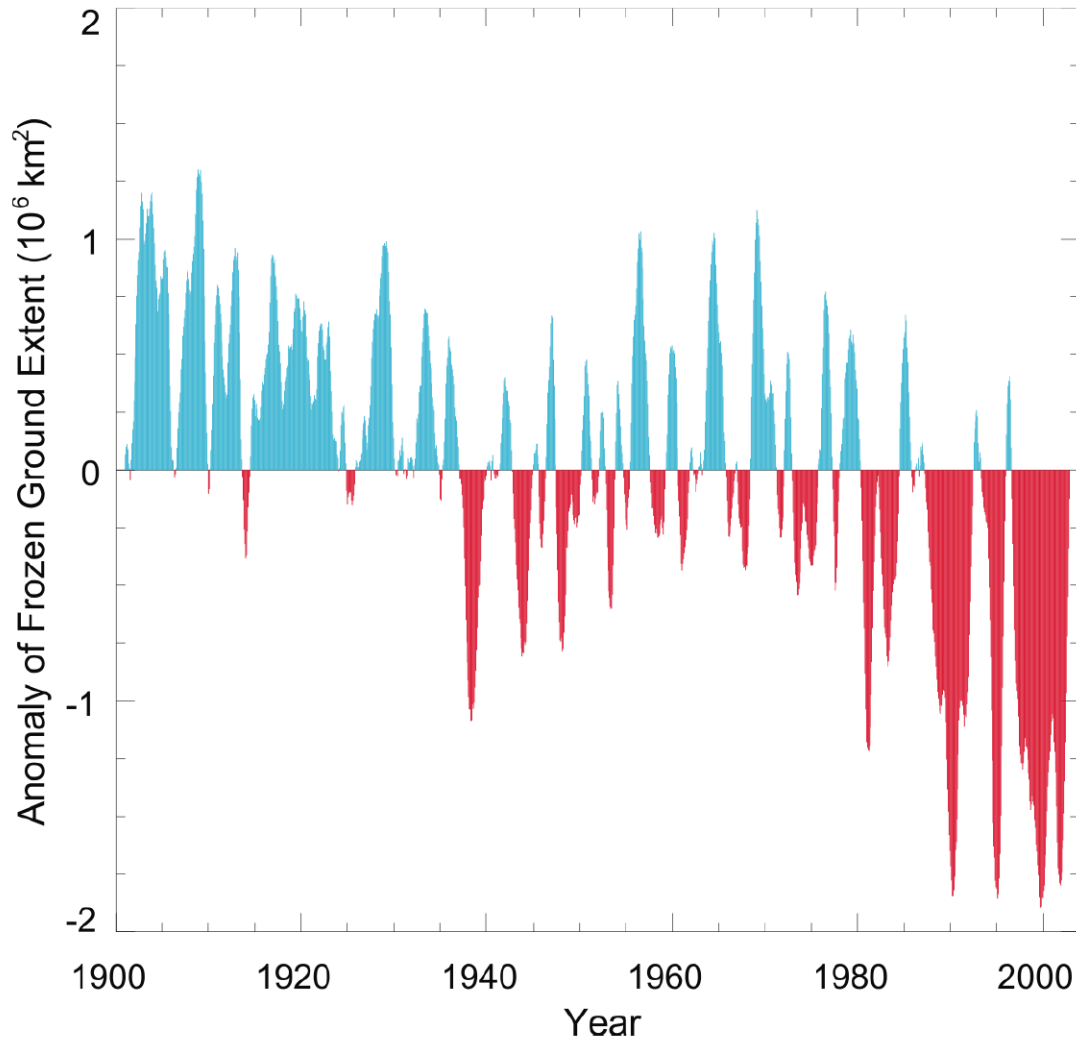
Tropical Glaciers are Shrinking

Changes in the surface area of tropical glaciers relative to their extent around 1900, grouped according to different glacier sizes.

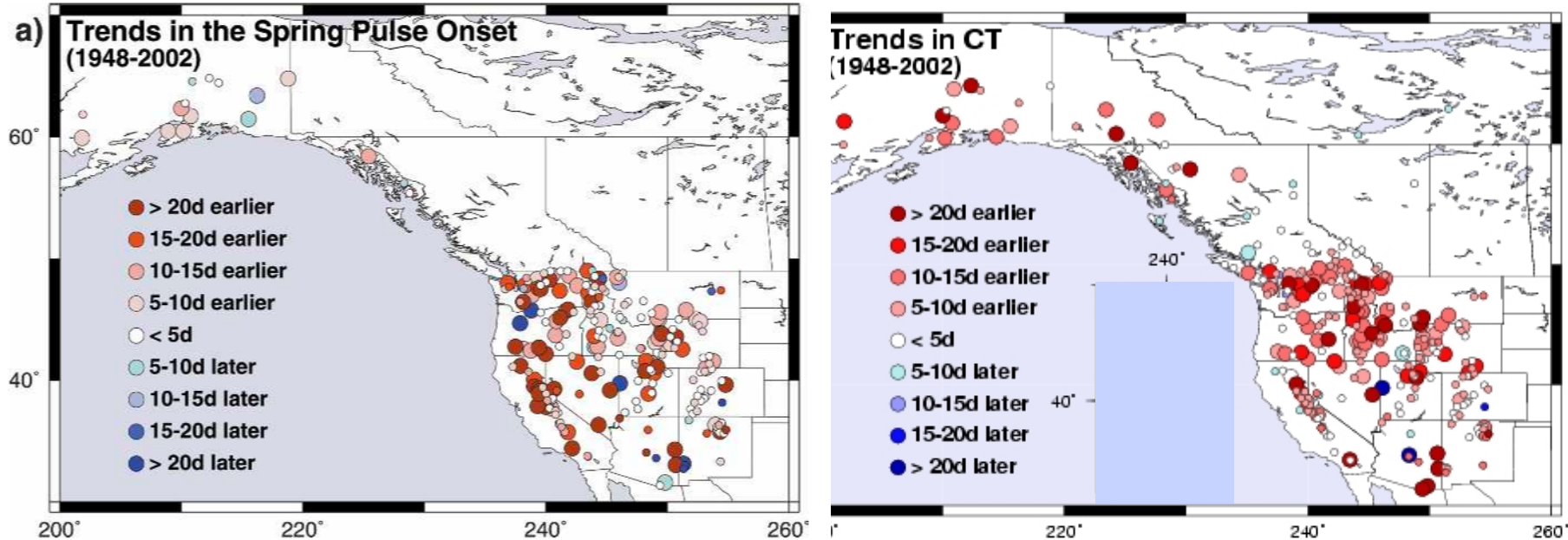


Frozen Ground Area is Decreasing

Historical variations in the monthly areal extent (10^6 km^2) of seasonally frozen ground (including the active layer over permafrost) for the period from 1901 through 2002 in the NH. The positive anomaly (blue) represents above-average monthly extent, while the negative anomaly (red) represents below-average extent.



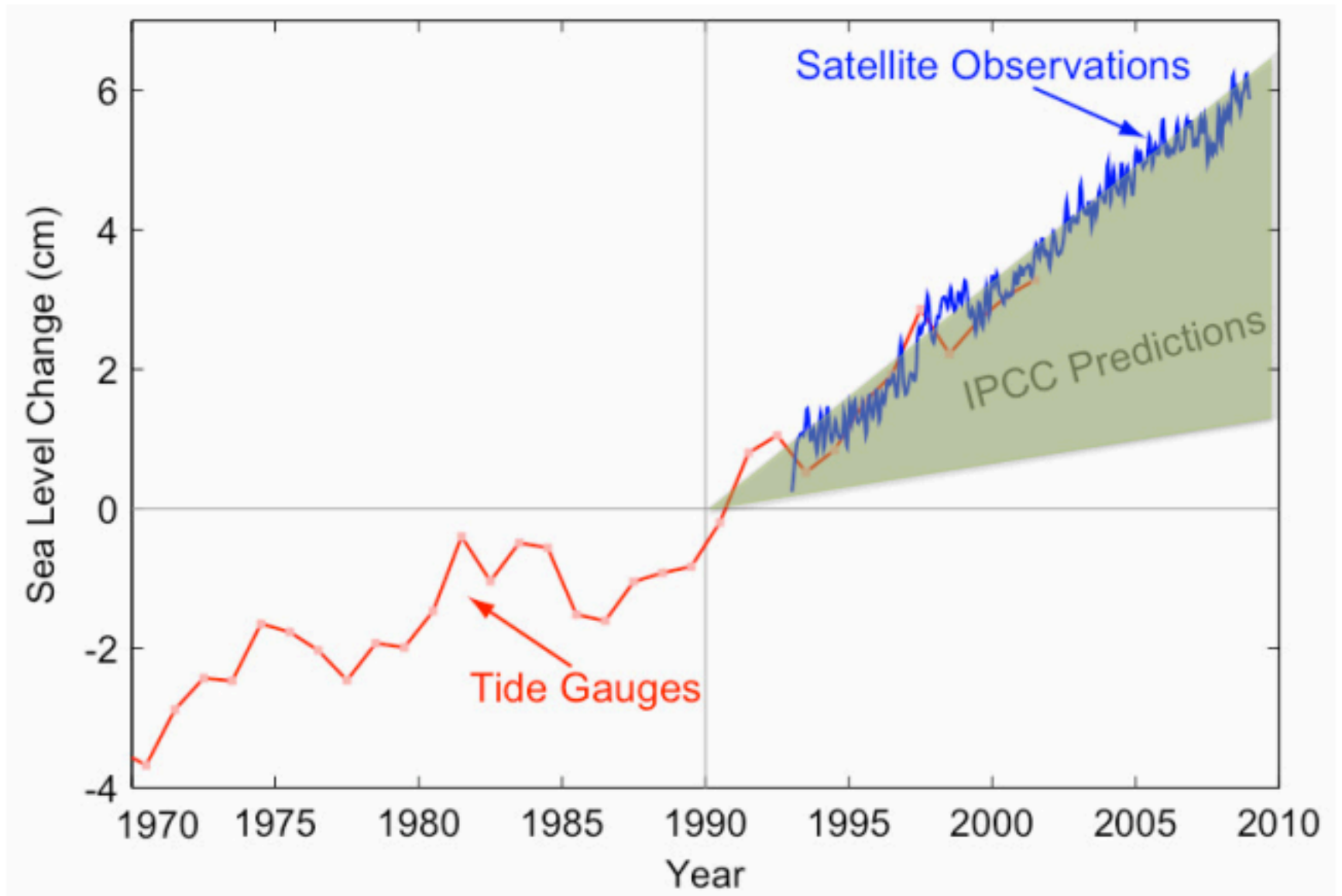
Observed 20th Century Hydrologic Timing: Western US



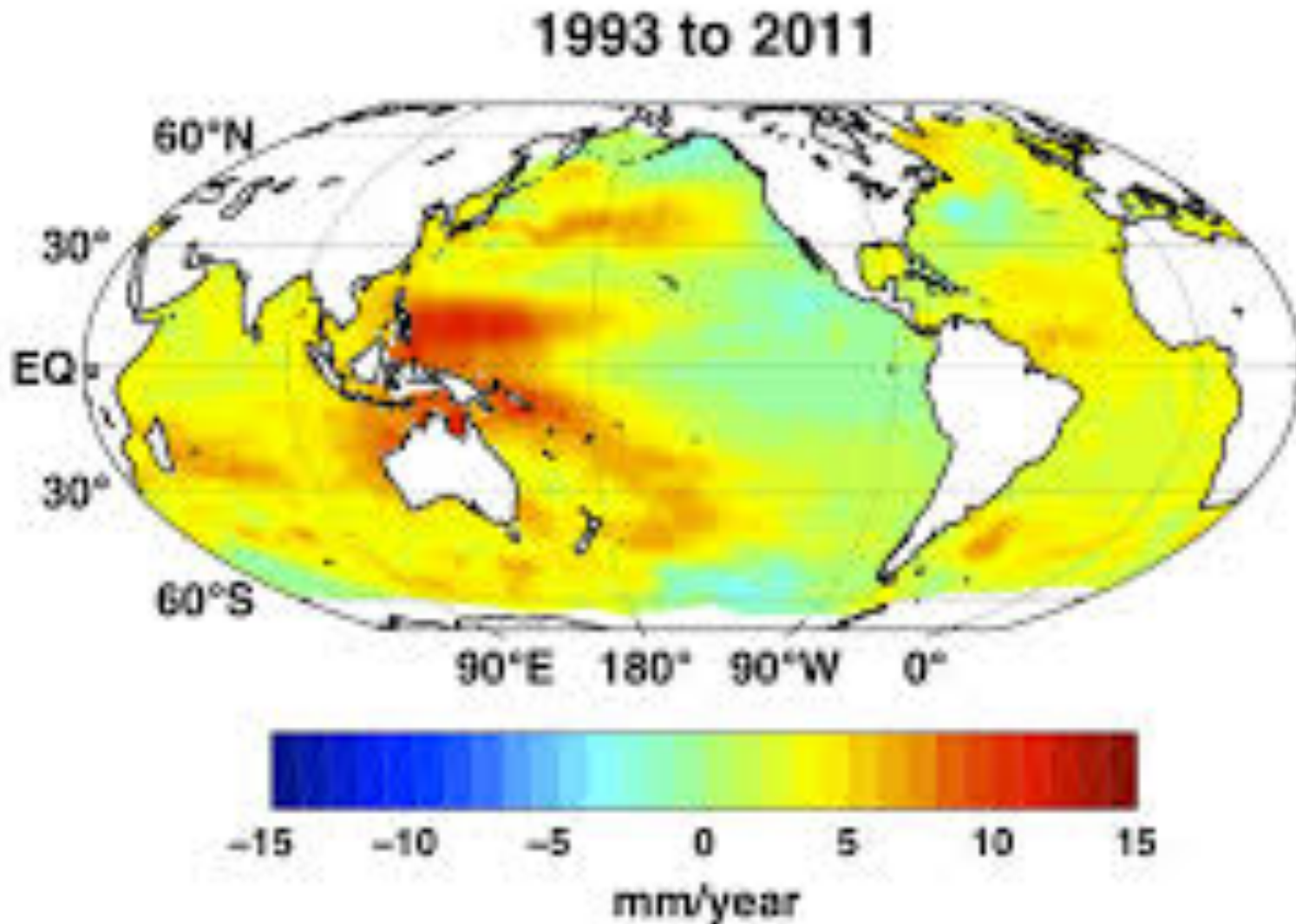
Stewart et al. 2005

- Trends in stream flow timing shifted 1-3 weeks earlier over the past ~50 years.
- Timing shift dominated by changes in snowmelt-derived streamflow, partially attributed to warming.

Global Mean Sea Level Rise

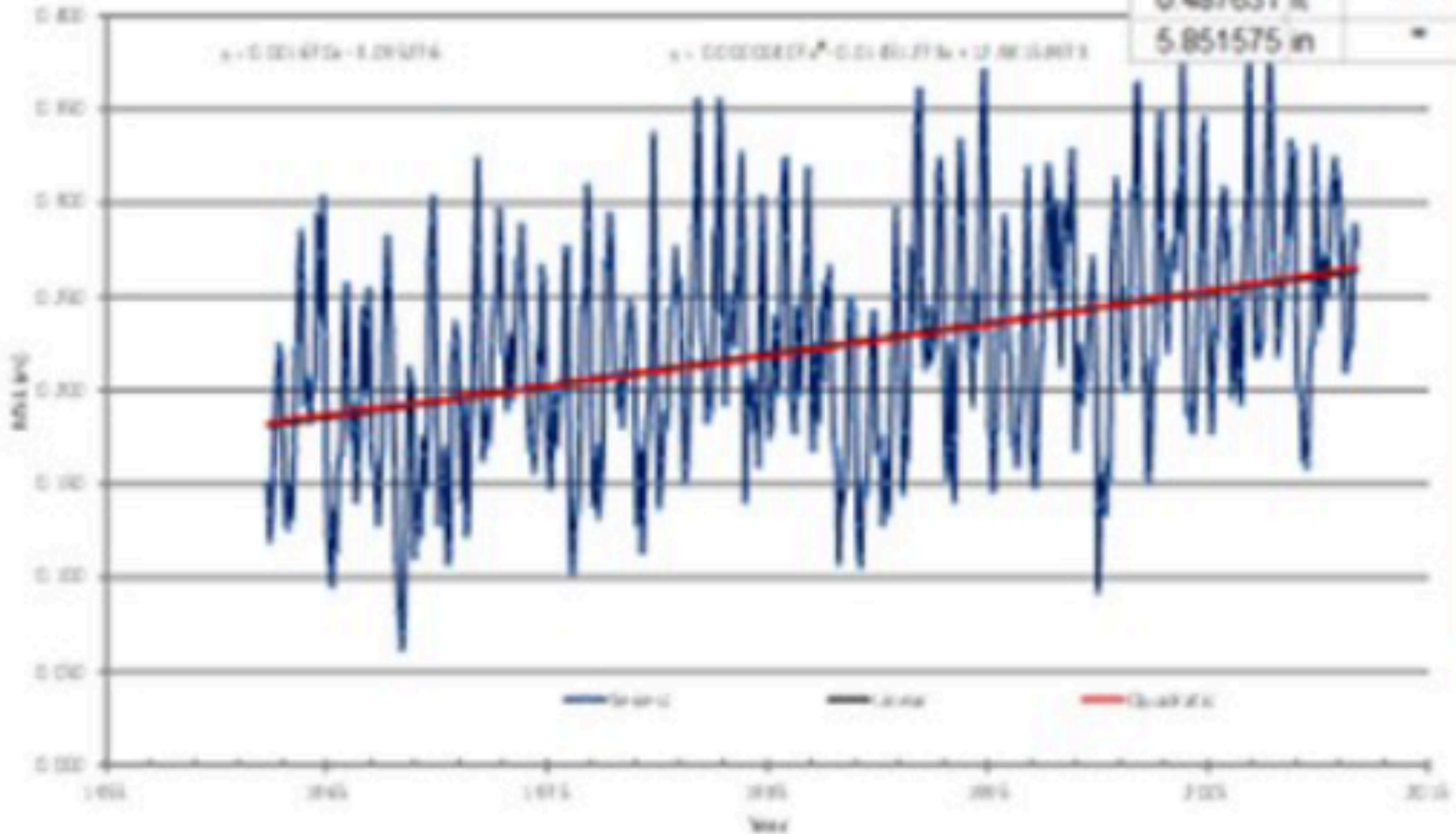


Change in Local Sea Level Rise



San Juan Sea Level Rise is Increasing

San Juan Monthly Mean Sea Level 1962-2011

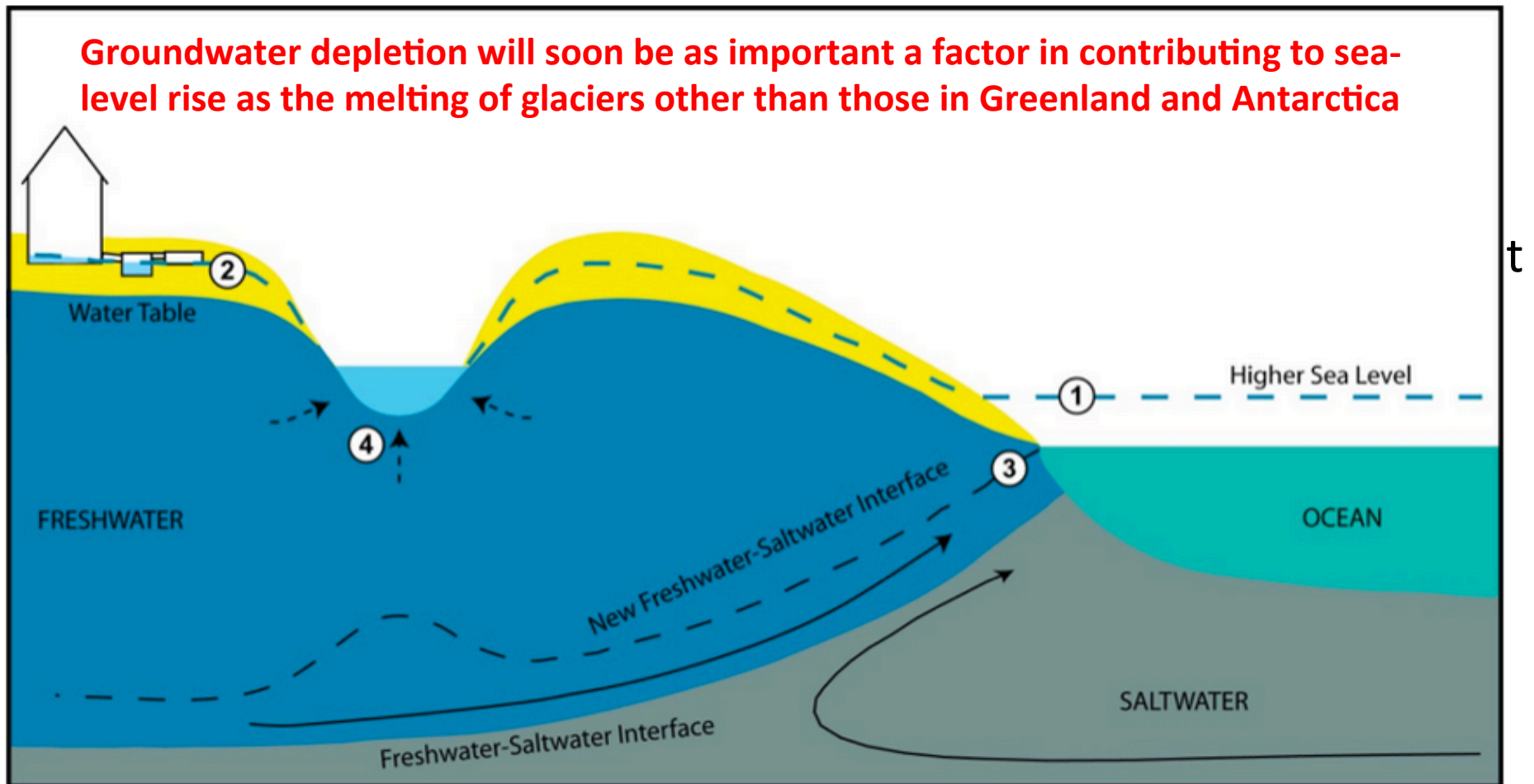


0.263094 m	2011
0.411724 m	2100
0.148630 m	Increase
14.863000 cm	"
0.487631 ft	"
5.851575 in	"

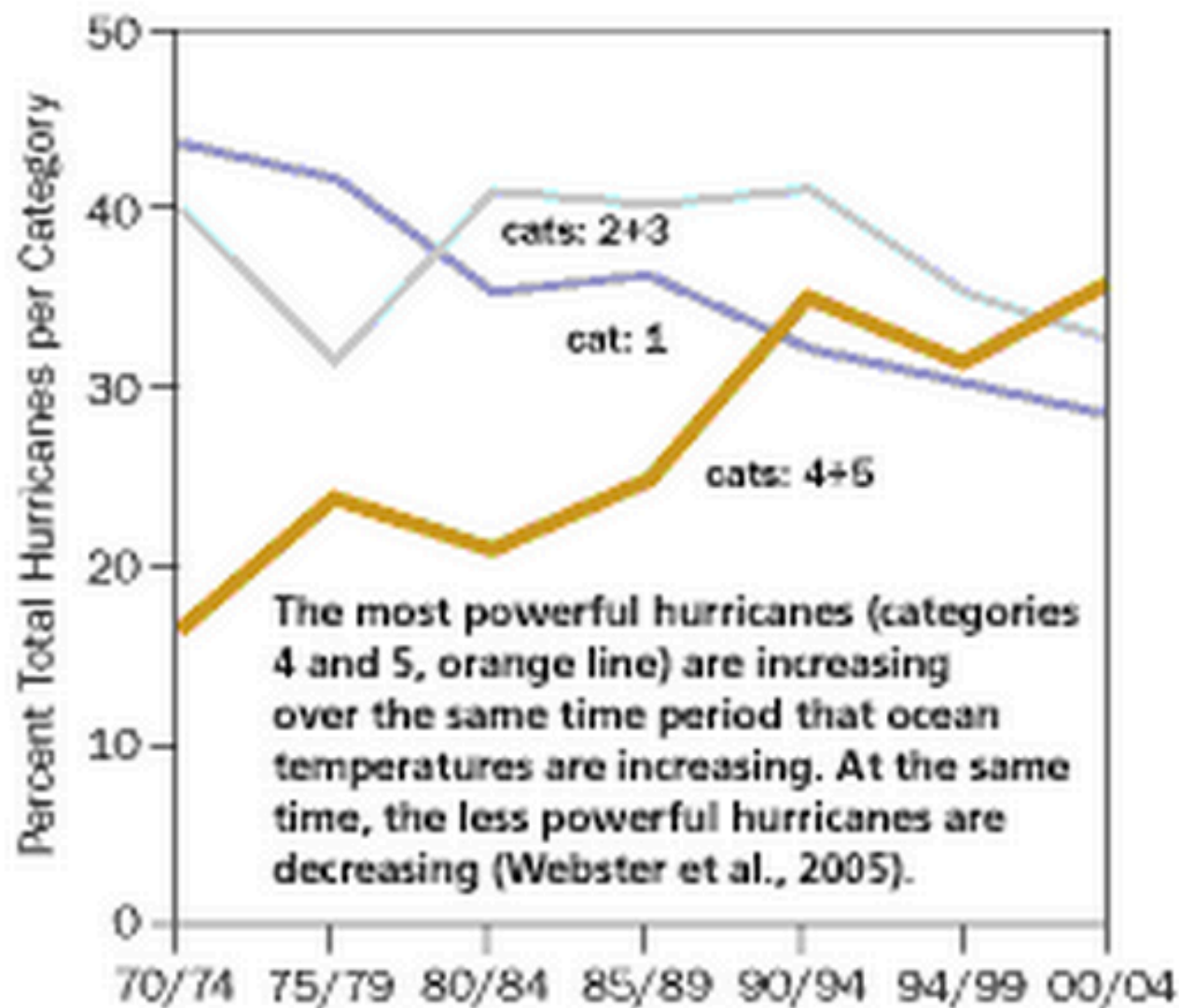
Sea Level Rise and Salt Water Intrusion

Sea Level Rise raises the water table and salt water intrudes coastal regions.

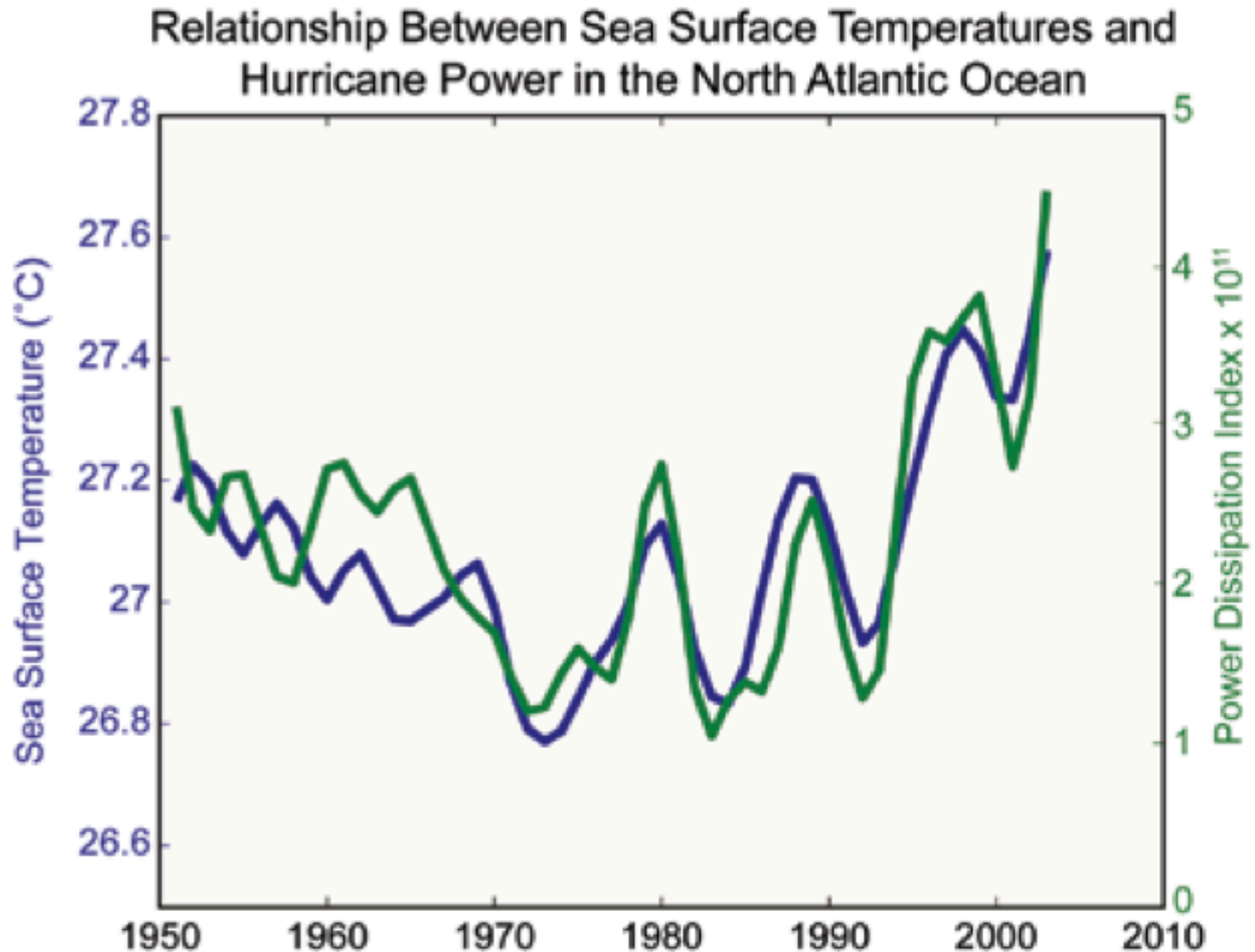
Groundwater depletion will soon be as important a factor in contributing to sea-level rise as the melting of glaciers other than those in Greenland and Antarctica



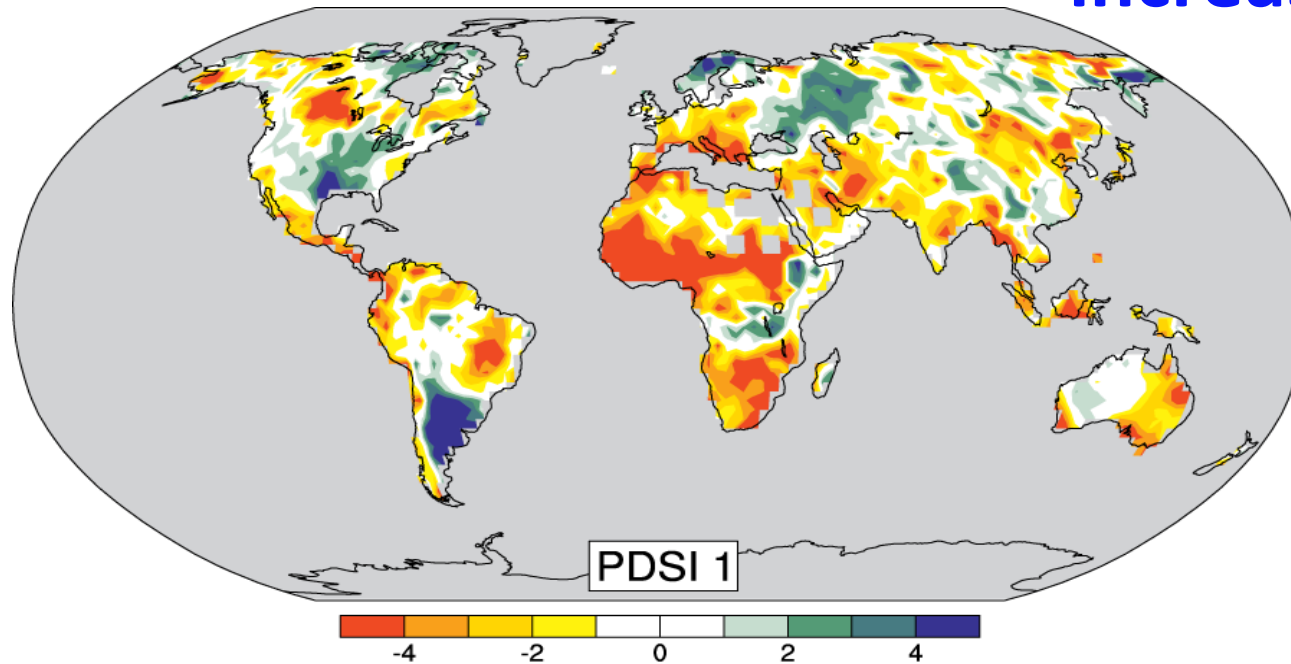
Higher Percent of Category 4 & 5 Hurricanes Worldwide



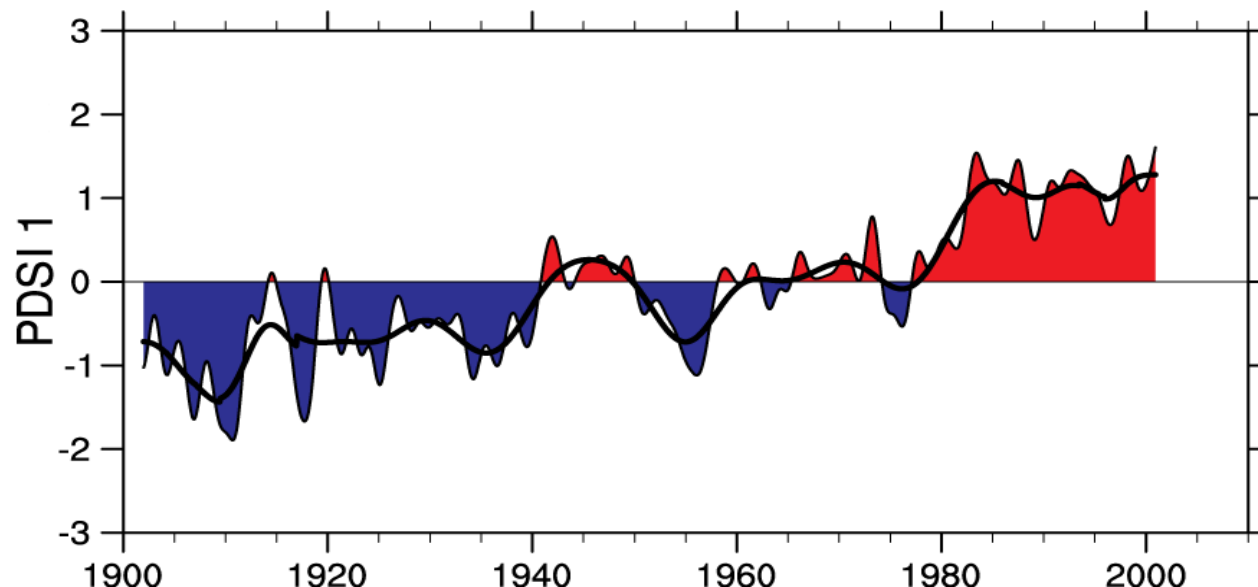
As Oceans Warm, Hurricane Intensity Increases



Drought is increasing most places, increased Evaporation



The most important spatial pattern (top) of the monthly Palmer Drought Severity Index (PDSI) for 1900 to 2002.



The time series accounts for most of the trend in PDSI.

Definition of Drought

Meteorological, Hydrological, Agricultural, Socioeconomic

- **Meteorological Drought** - the degree of net precipitation dryness compared to the average amount and duration of the dry period.
- **Hydrological Drought** - periods of precipitation shortfall on surface or subsurface water supply, rather than with precipitation shortfalls directly.
- **Agricultural Drought** - meteorological and hydrological drought impacts on agriculture (precipitation shortages, soil water deficits, and reduced groundwater or reservoir levels).
- **Socioeconomic Drought** - the supply and demand of an economic good with elements of meteorological, hydrological, and agricultural drought (e.g. crop impacts).

Drought and Population Collapse in Mexico

Chinese Dynasties change during every major drought.

Anasazi Pueblo Collapse

Water Wars in the Mid-East

Mass migration in Sahel

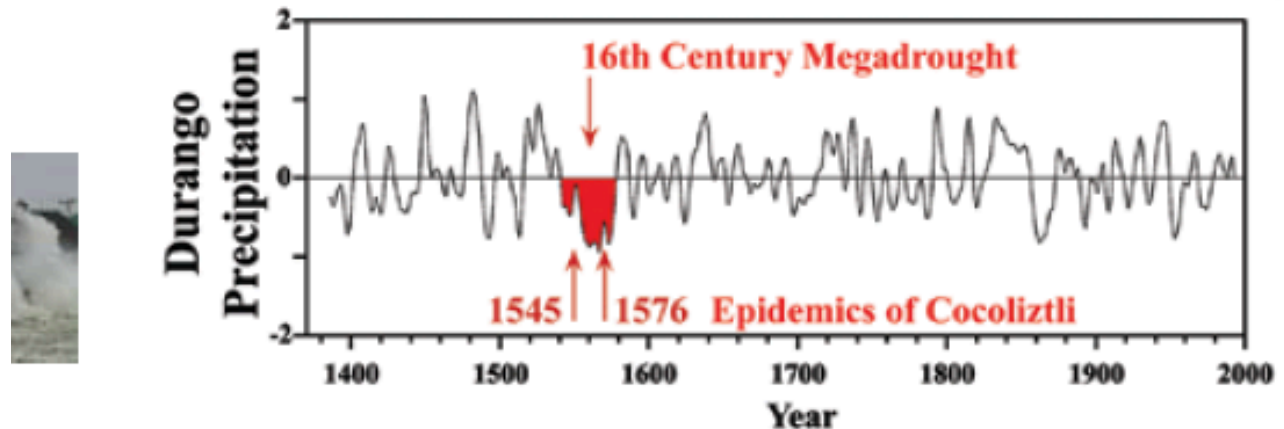
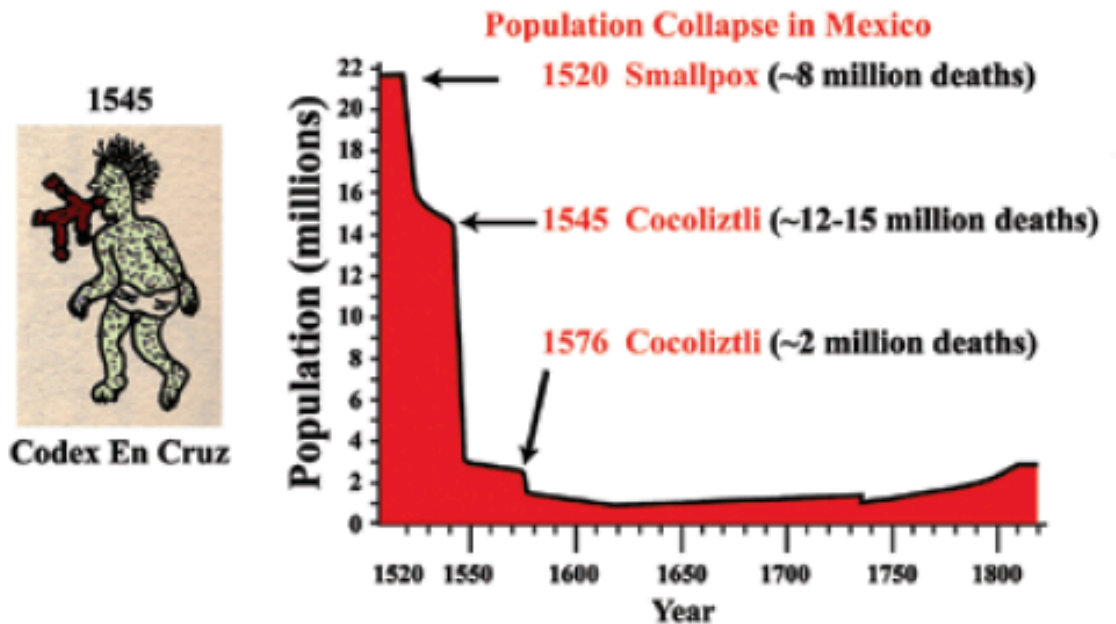
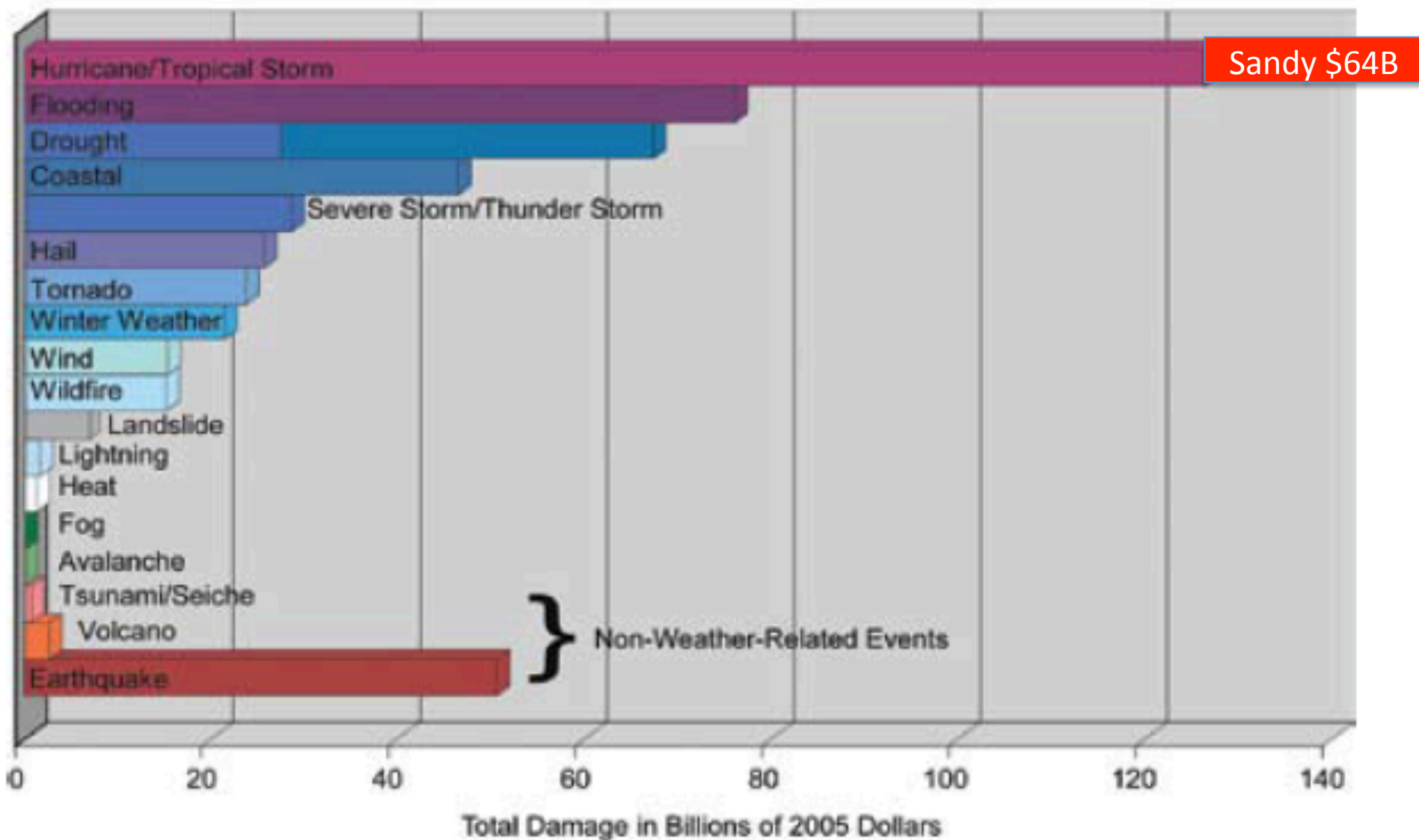
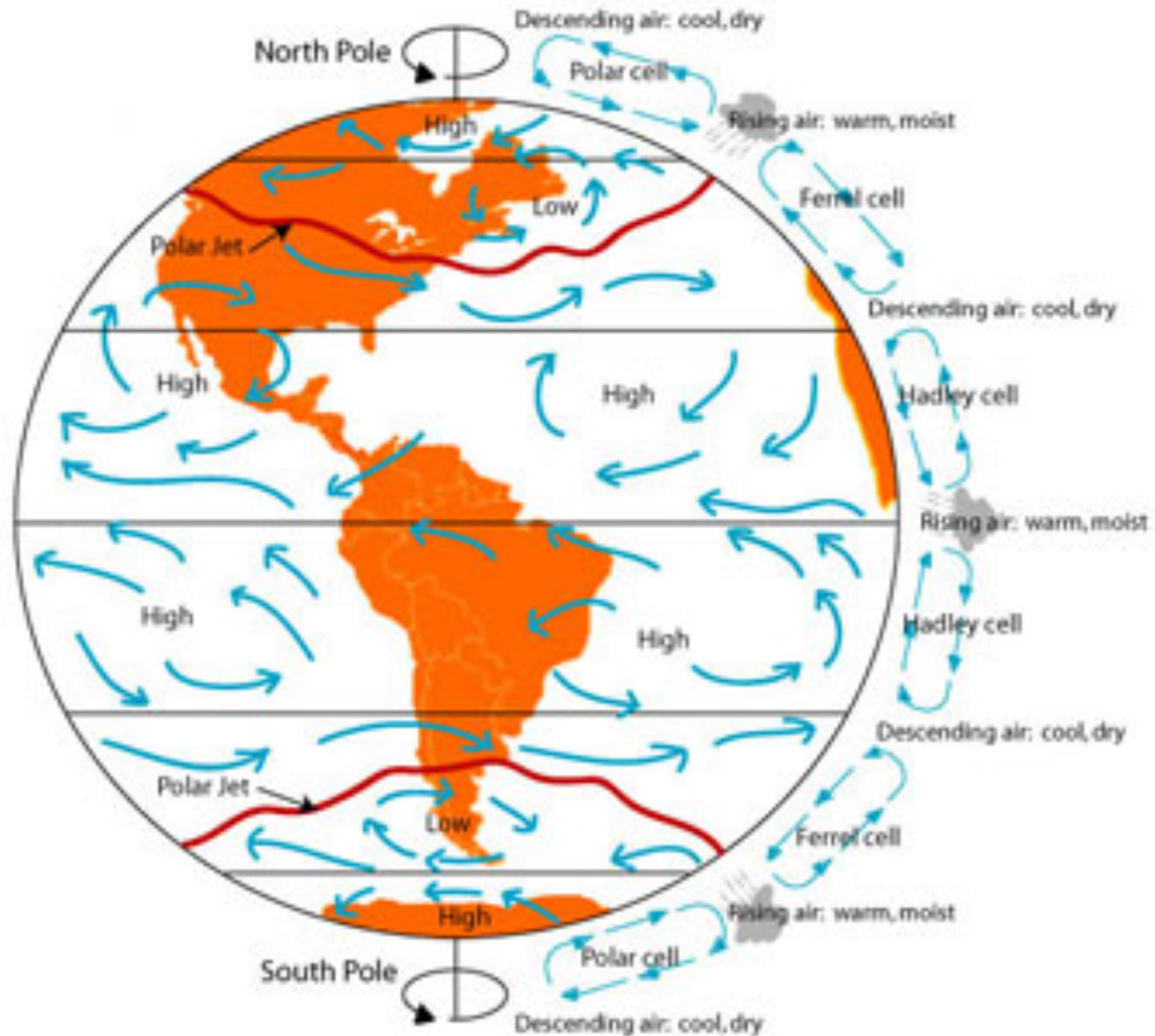


Figure 1.7 Megadrought and megadeath in 16th century Mexico. Four hundred years ago, the Mexican socioeconomic and natural systems were so sensitive to extremes that a megadrought in Mexico led to massive population declines (Acuna-Soto et al., 2002). The 1545 Codex En Cruz depicts the effects of the cocoliztli epidemic, which has symptoms similar to rodent-borne hantavirus hemorrhagic fever.

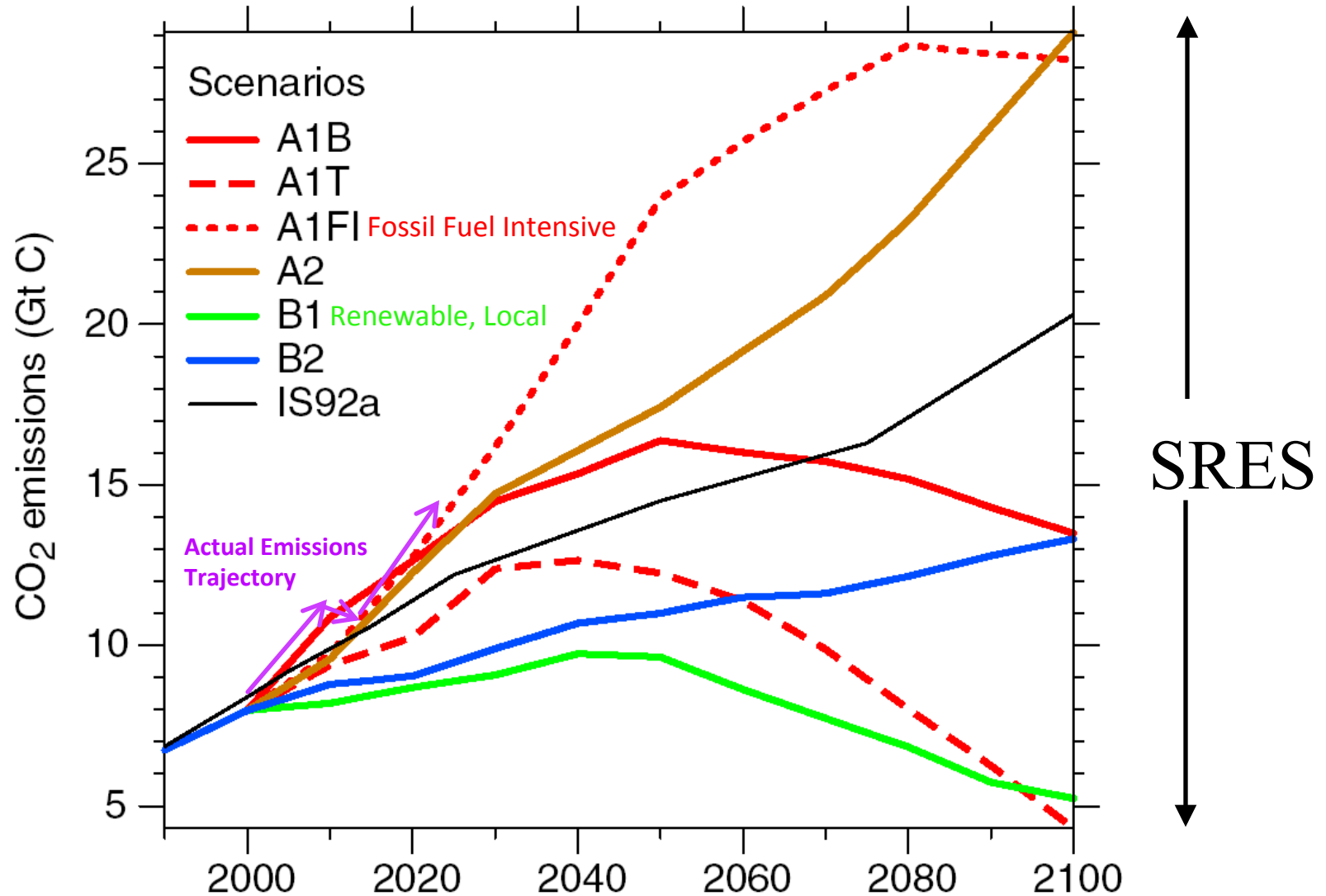
U.S. Natural Disaster Costs from 1960 to 2005



Climate Change

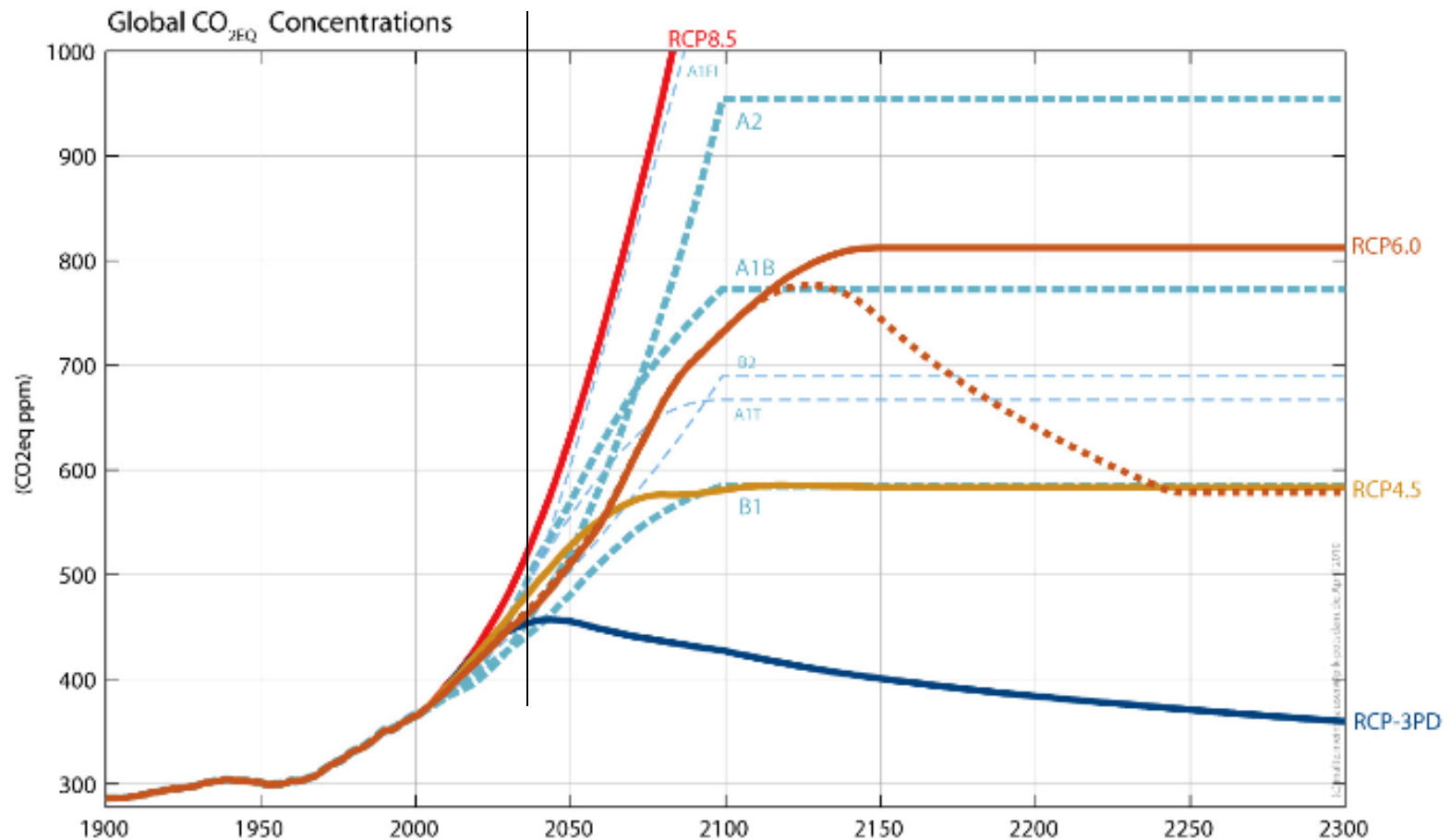


Intergovernmental Panel for Climate Change Special Report on Emissions Scenarios



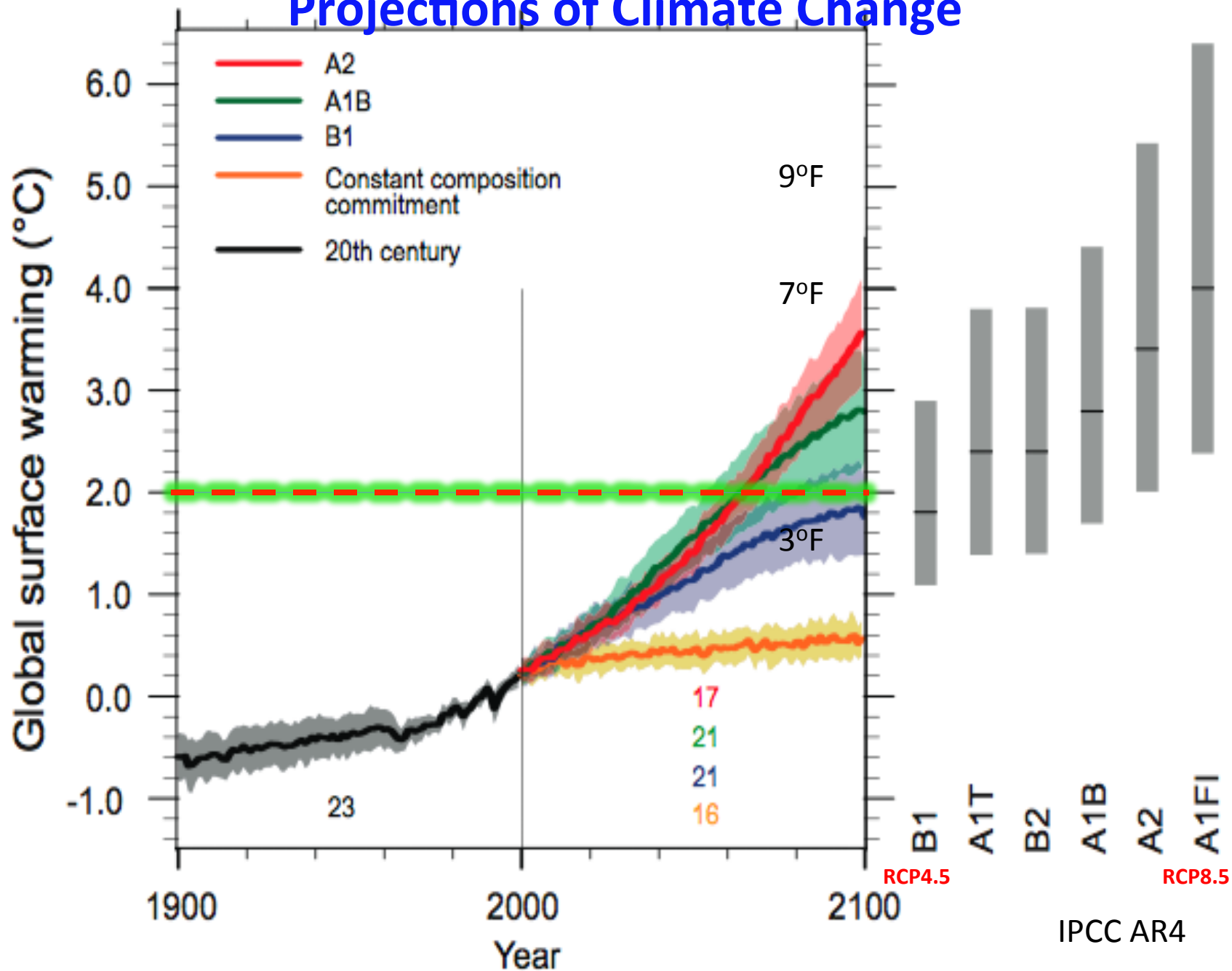
Representative Concentration Pathways replace SRES

CO₂-eq Concentrations for the RCPs



From Malte Meinshausen

Projections of Climate Change



Projections of Climate Change

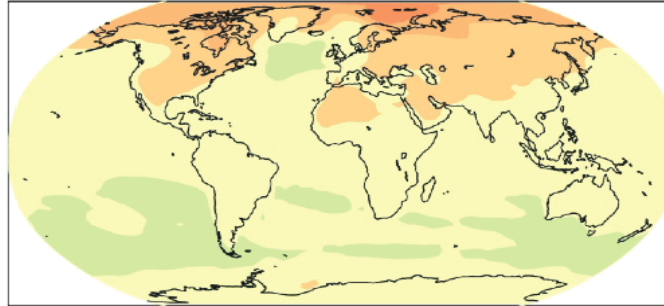
greatest over land &
at most high
Northern latitudes

and

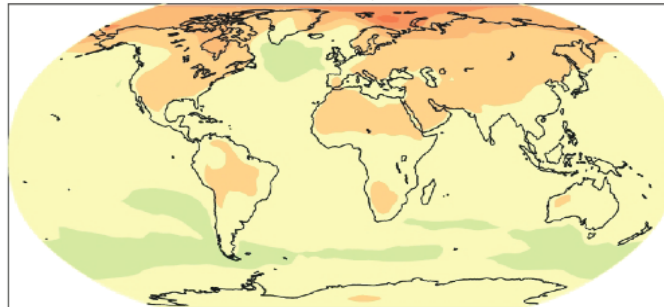
least over the
Southern Ocean
& parts of the
North Atlantic

2020-2029

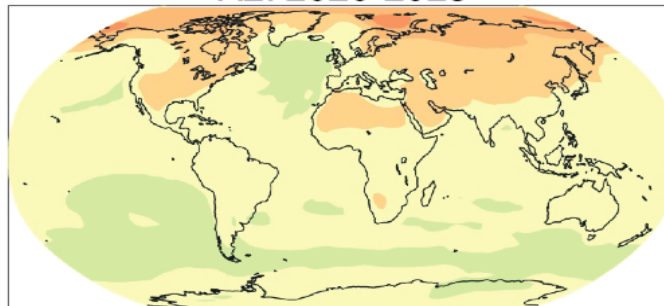
BT: 2020-2029



A1B: 2020-2029

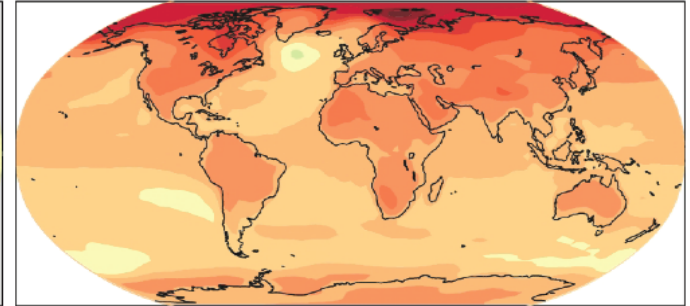


A2: 2020-2029

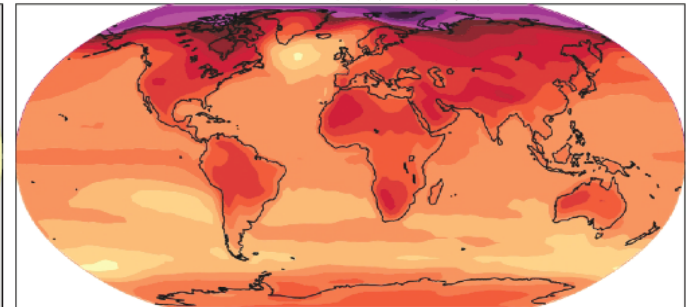


2090-2099

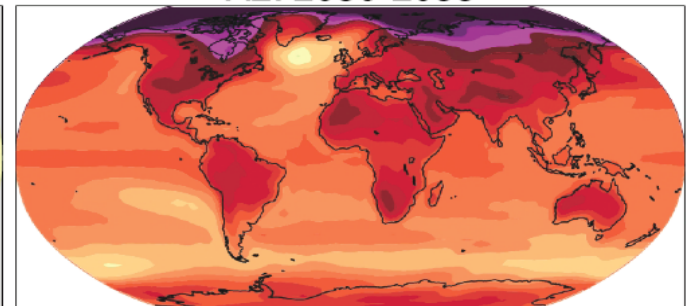
BT: 2090-2099



A1B: 2090-2099



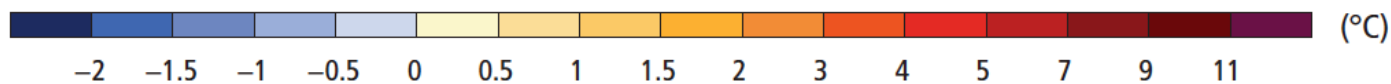
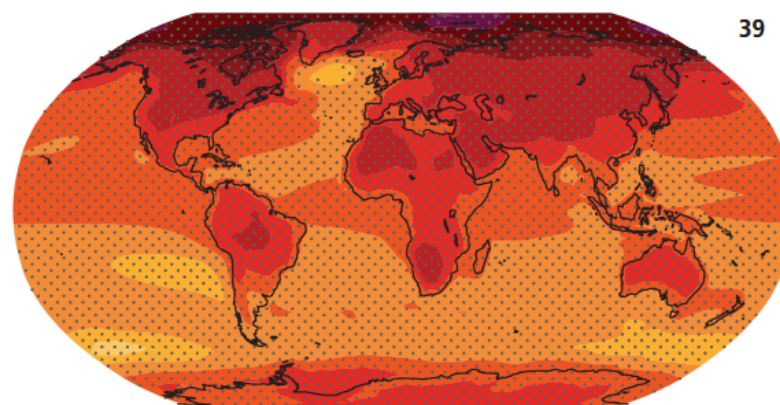
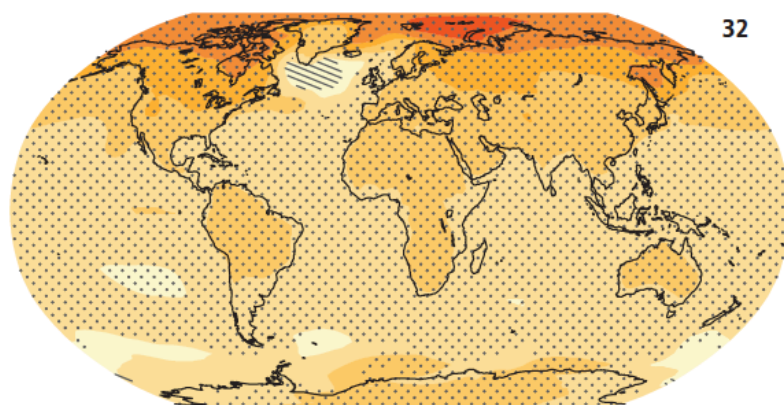
A2: 2090-2099



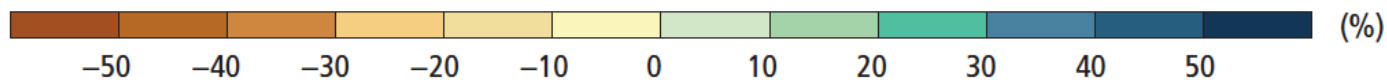
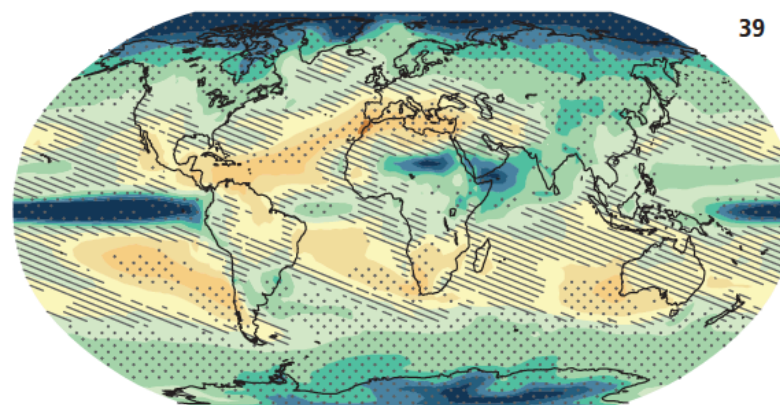
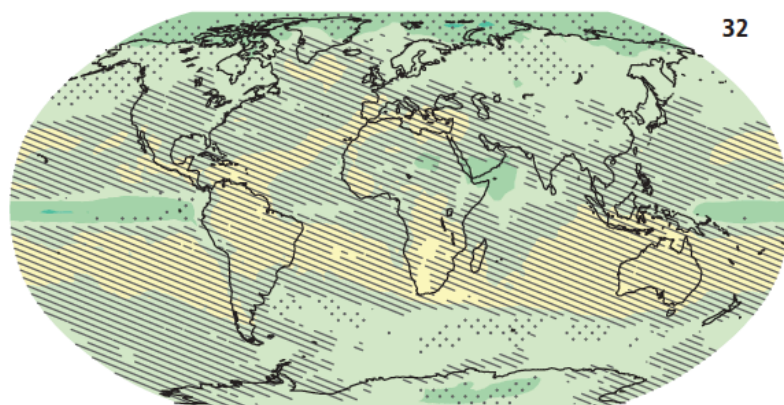
RCP2.6

RCP8.5

(a) Change in average surface temperature (1986–2005 to 2081–2100)

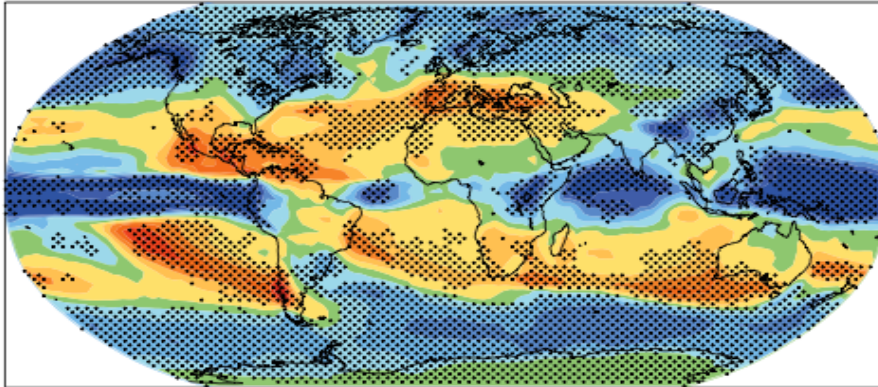


(b) Change in average precipitation (1986–2005 to 2081–2100)

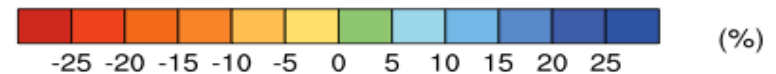
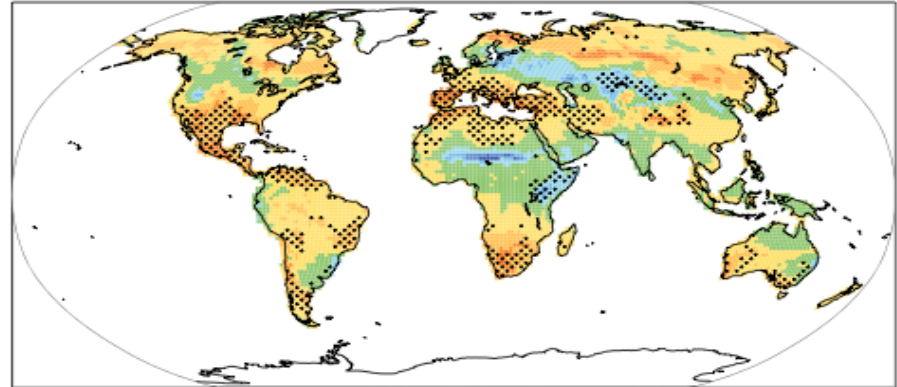


As Warming Continues the Sub-Tropics and Mid-Latitudes Dry and Evaporation Increases Everywhere Stippled Regions are where 80% of IPCC Models Agree

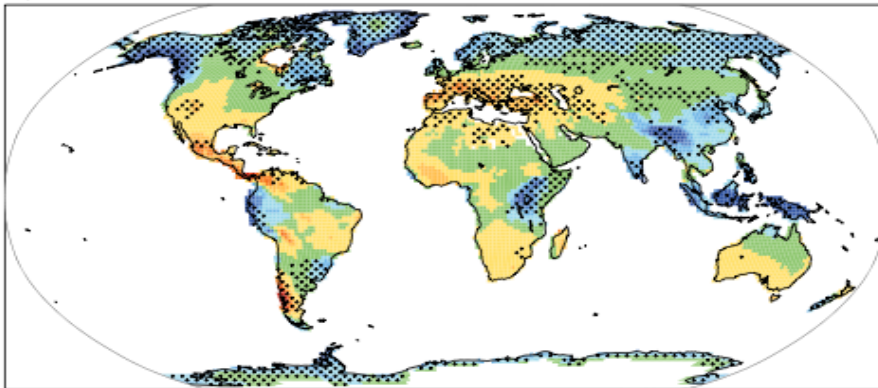
a) Precipitation



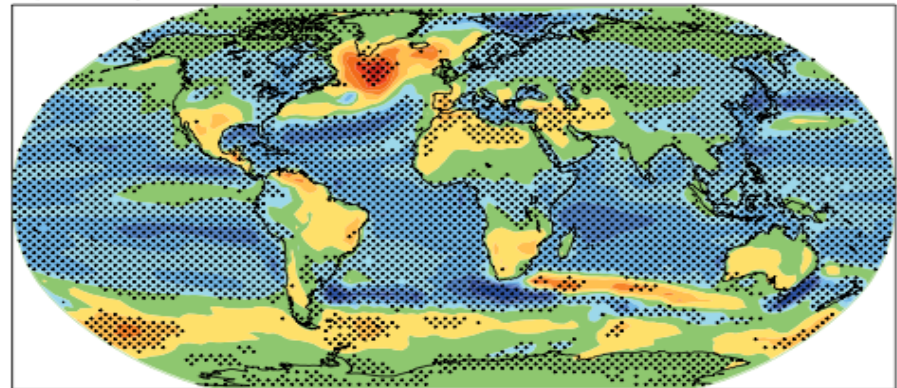
b) Soil moisture



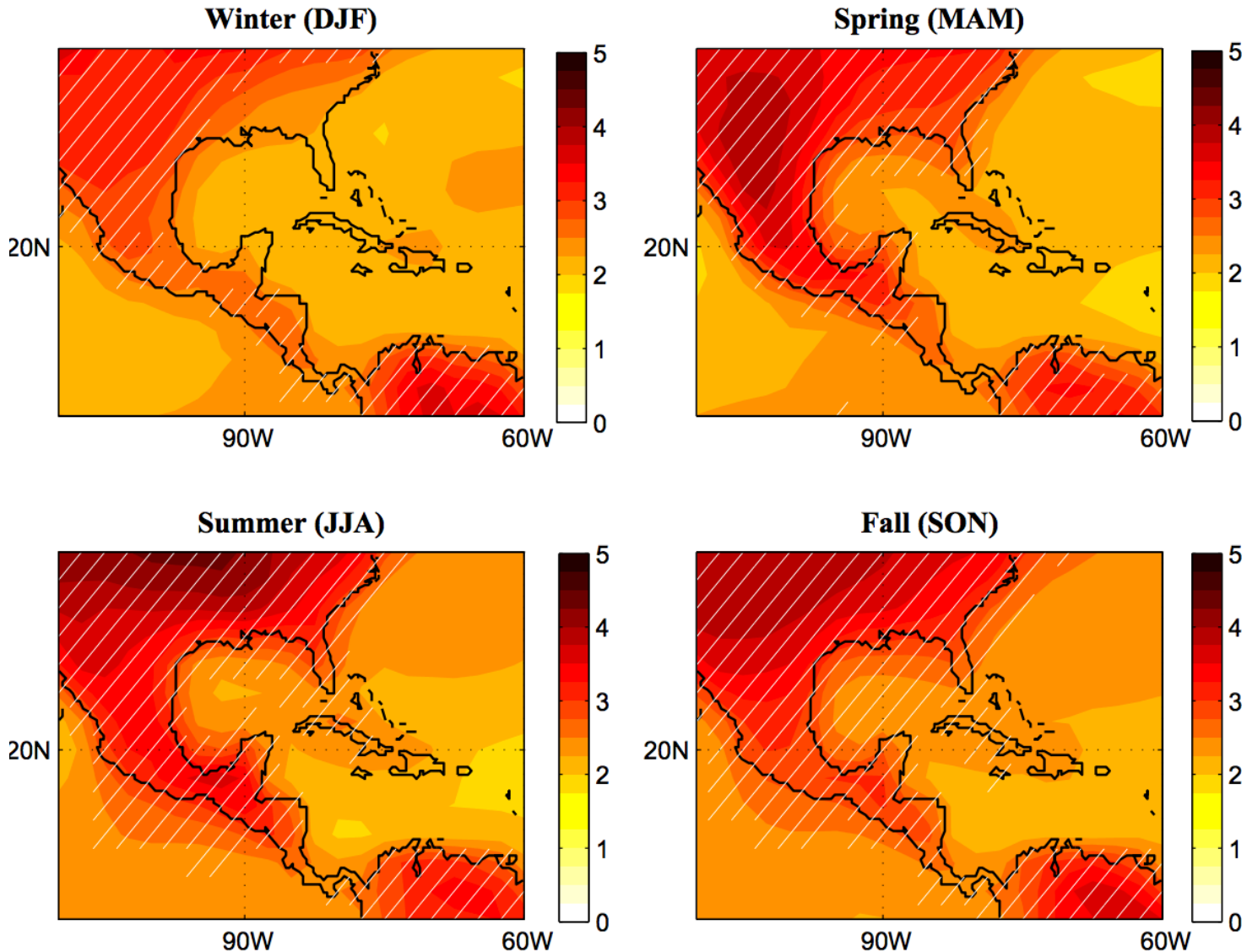
c) Runoff



d) Evaporation

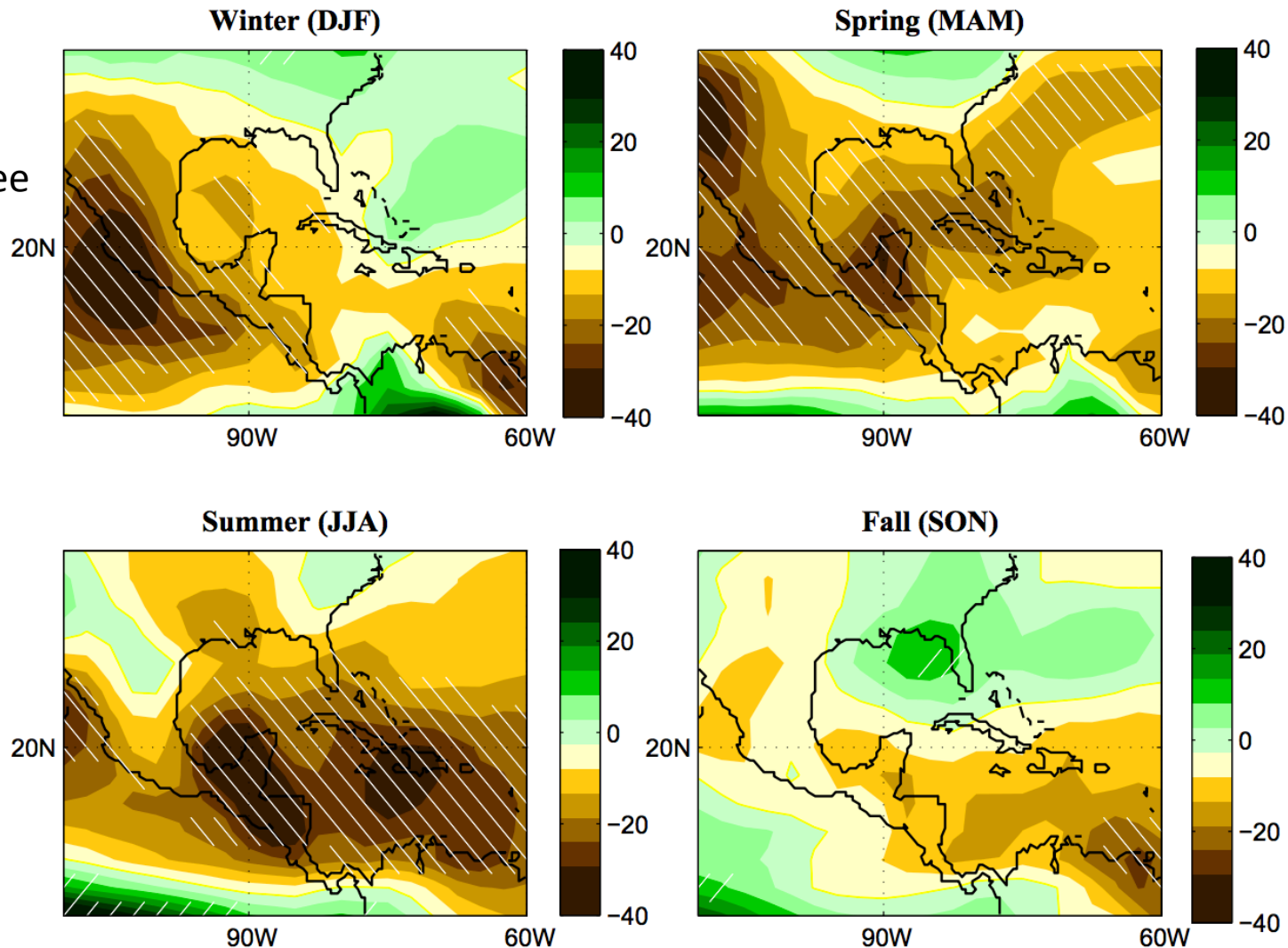


Nine-Model Mean Temperature Change A1B (2075-2099) minus 20C (1975-1999) Puerto Rico ~ 2.5°C Increase



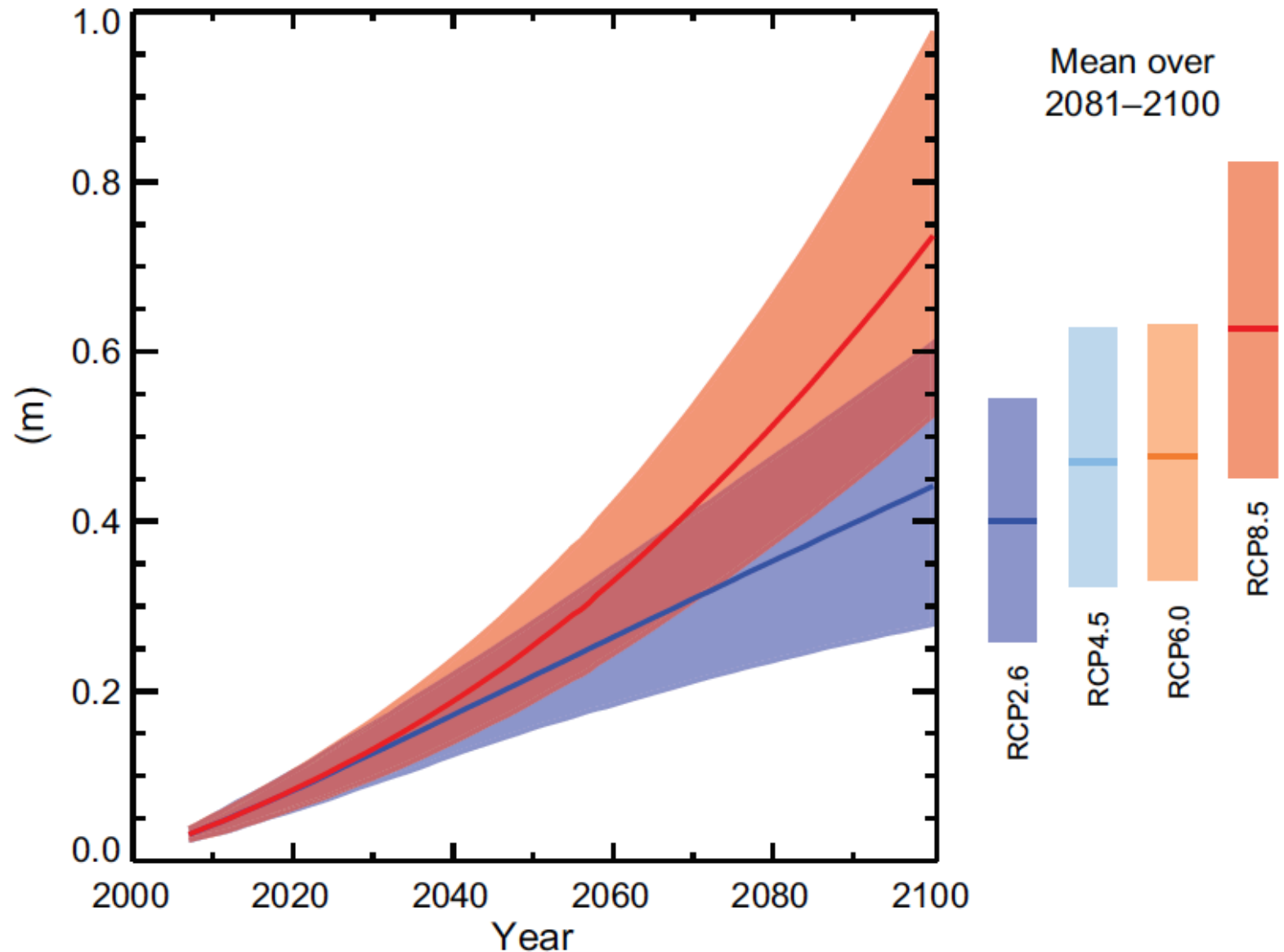
Nine-Model Mean Temperature Change A1B (2075-2099) minus 20C (1975-1999) Puerto Rico ~ 10-15% decrease

Hatching:
75% of
models agree



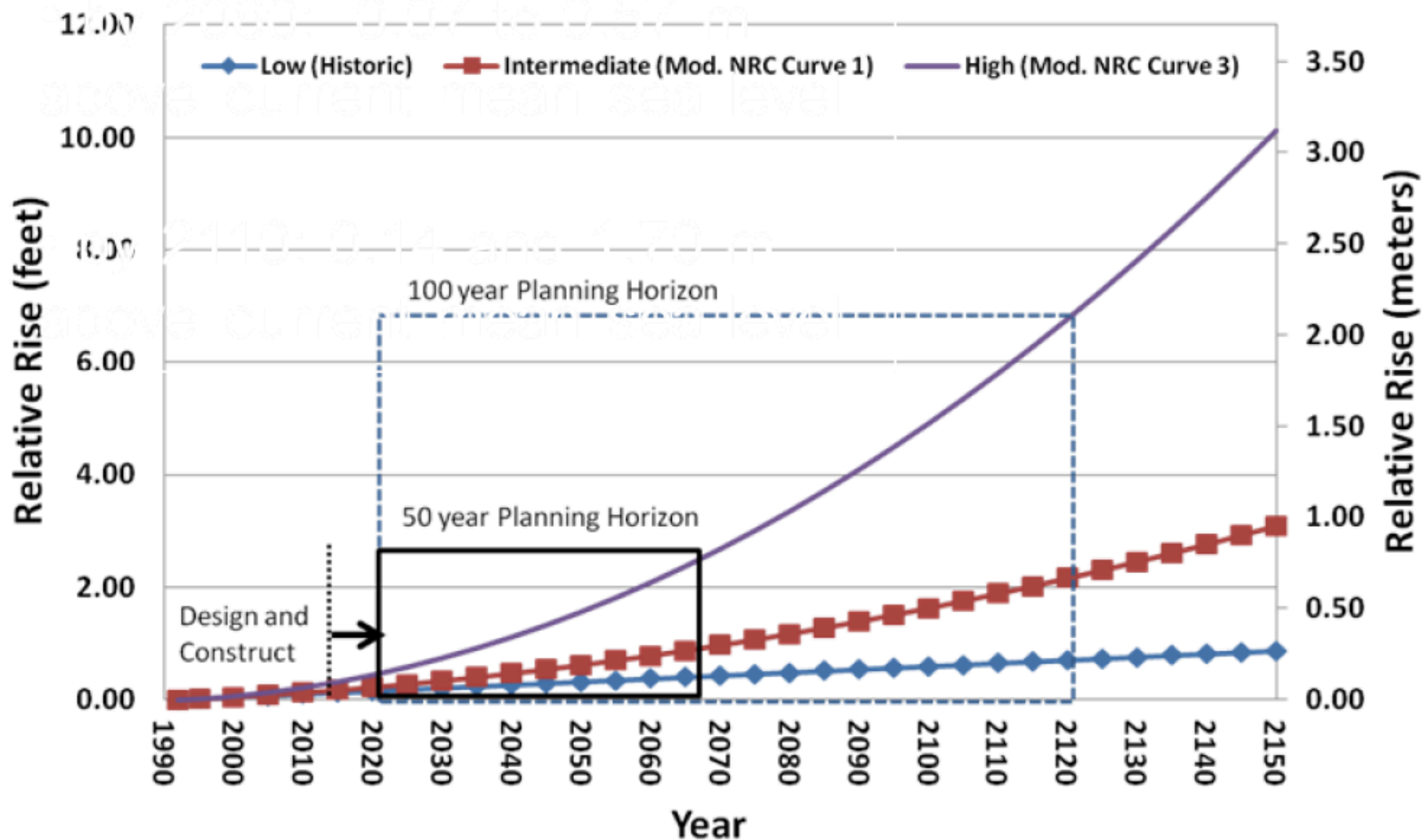
Global Mean Sea Level Rise

(Greenland and Antarctic Calving are not considered)

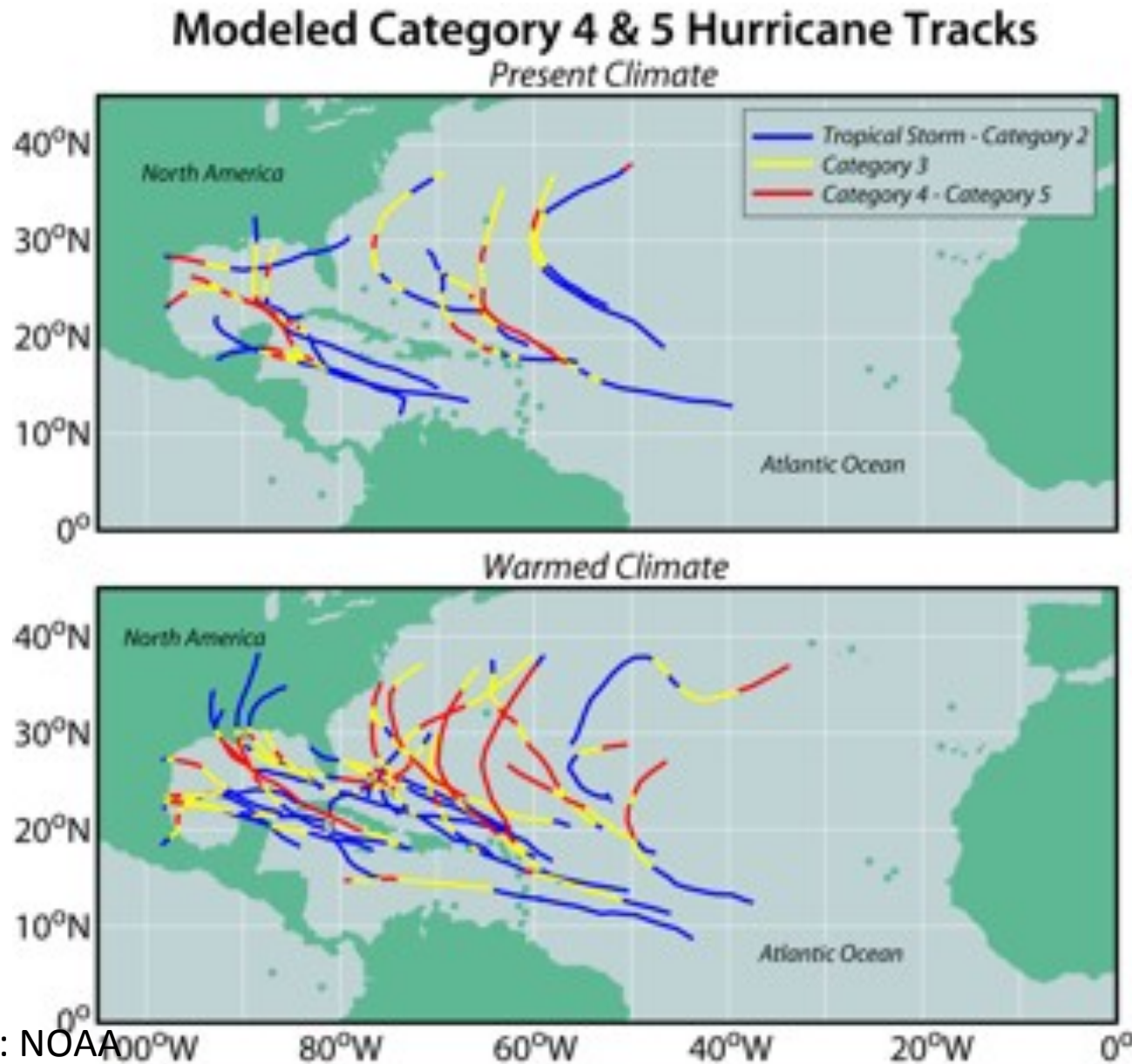


U.S. Army Corps of Engineers EC 1165-2-212

Relative Sea Level Rise Scenarios for San Juan, PR

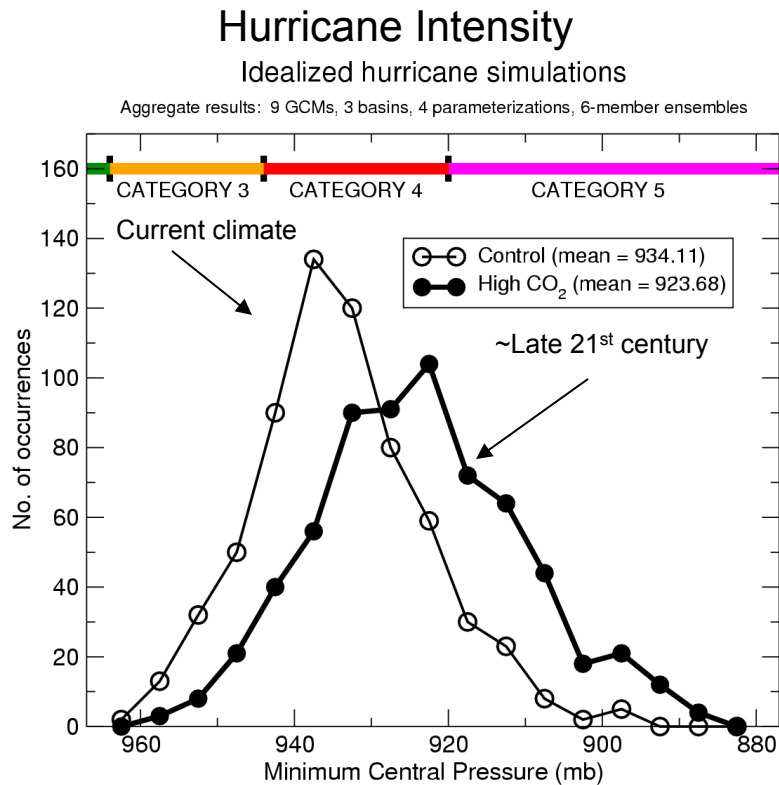


There will be more Intense Hurricanes

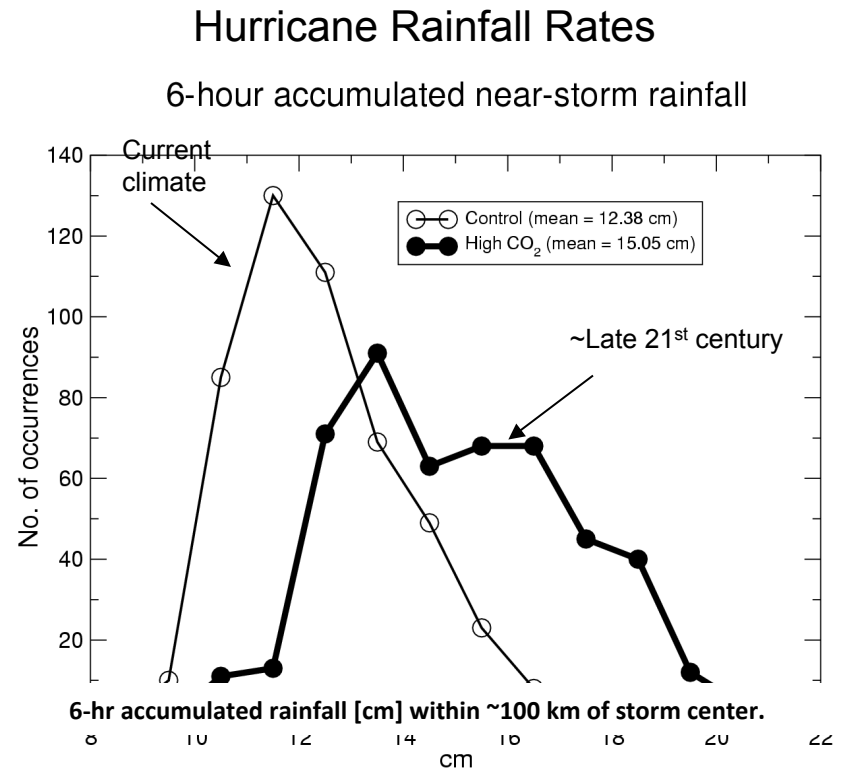


Source: NOAA

Hurricane models project increasing hurricane intensities and rainfall rates with climate warming... ...but the occurrence of hurricanes may decrease.



Sensitivity: ~4% increase in wind speed
per °C SST increase



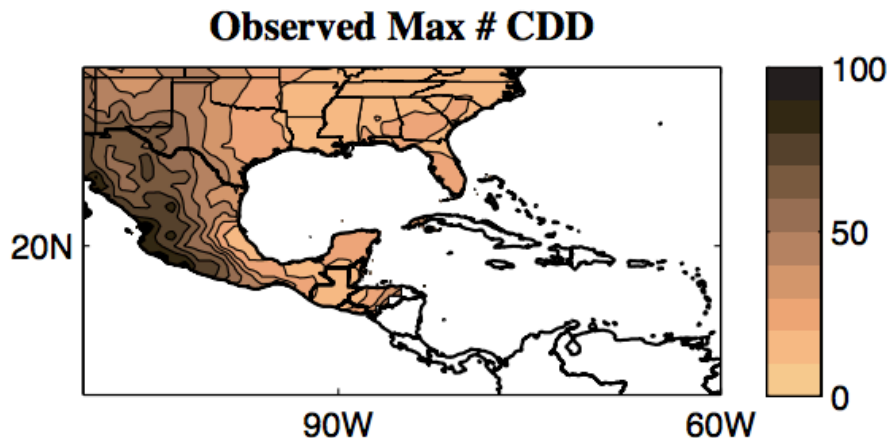
Sensitivity: ~12% increase in near-storm
rainfall per °C SST increase

Sources: Knutson and Tuleya, *J. Climate*, 2004 (left); Knutson and Tuleya (2008) Cambridge Univ Press (right).

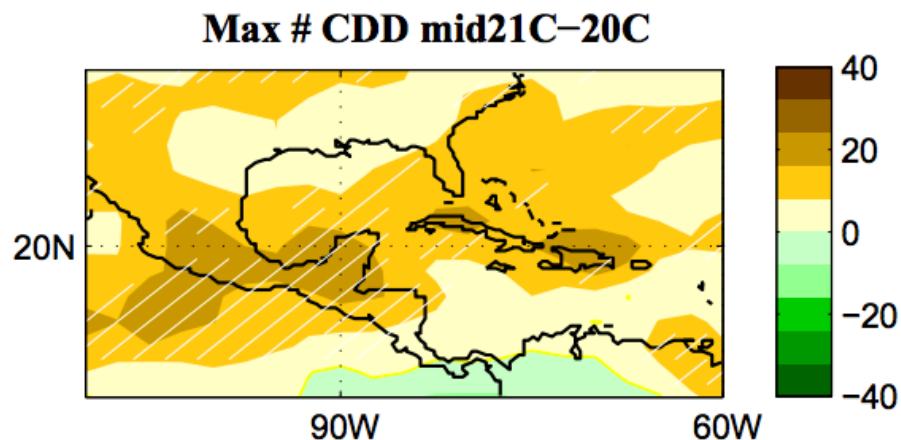
See also Bengtsson et al. (*Tellus* 2007) and Oouchi et (*J. Meteor. Soc. Japan*, 2006); Walsh et al. (2004) Stowasser et al. (2007).

More Dry Days

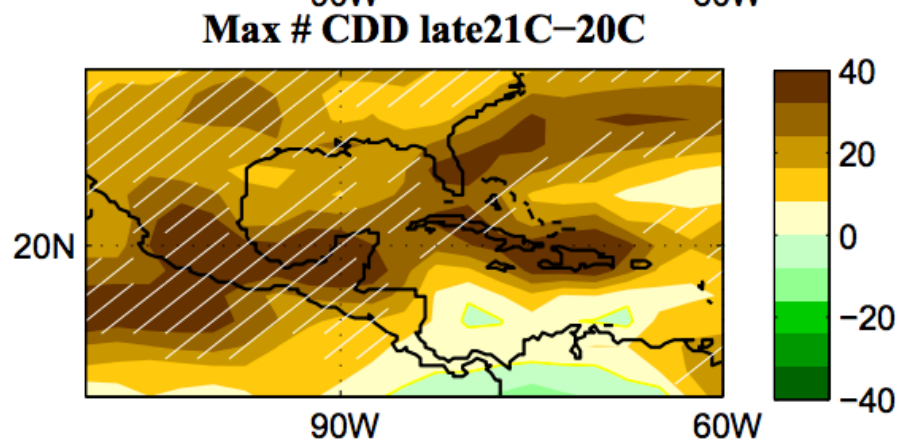
Observed number of dry days
1961-1990



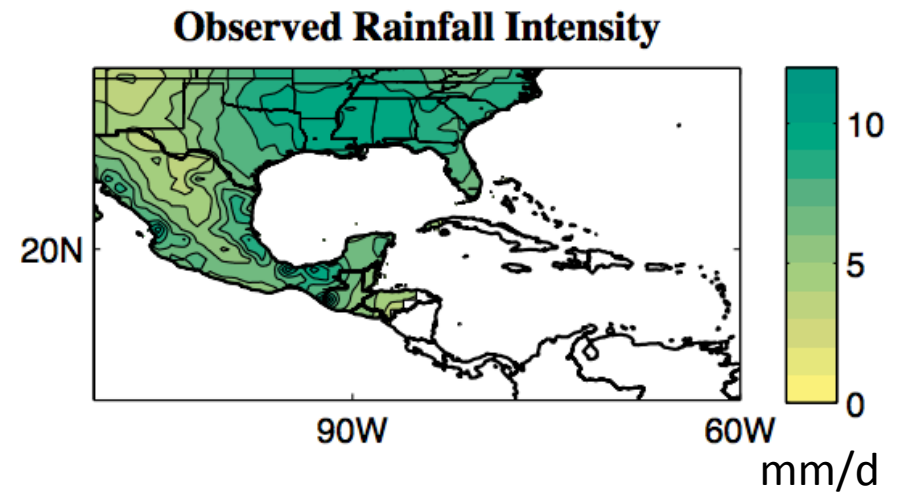
9-model mean projected dry days
2020-2049. ~20 day increase



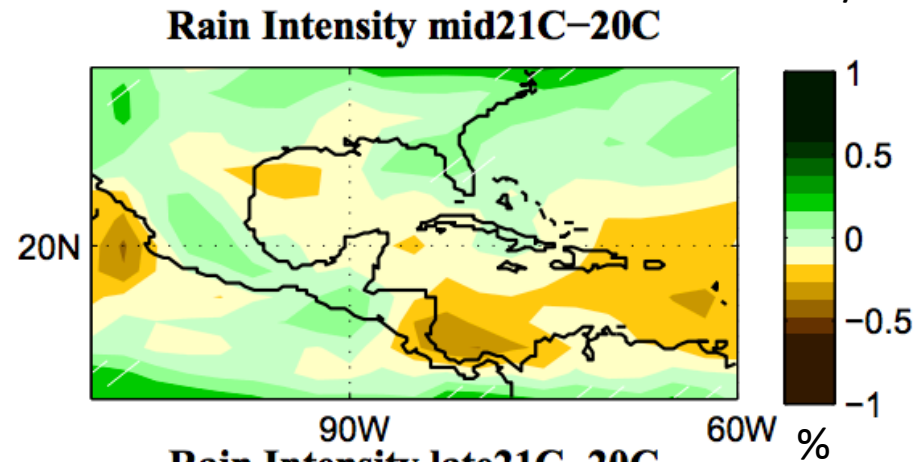
9-model mean projected dry days
2070-2099. ~30 day increase



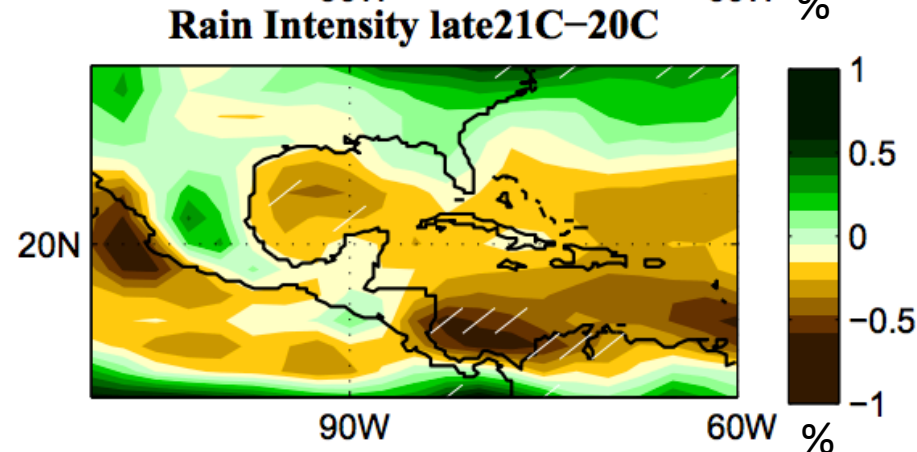
Observed and Model-Projected Rain Intensity



9-model mean projected dry days
2020-2049. PR decrease ~15%

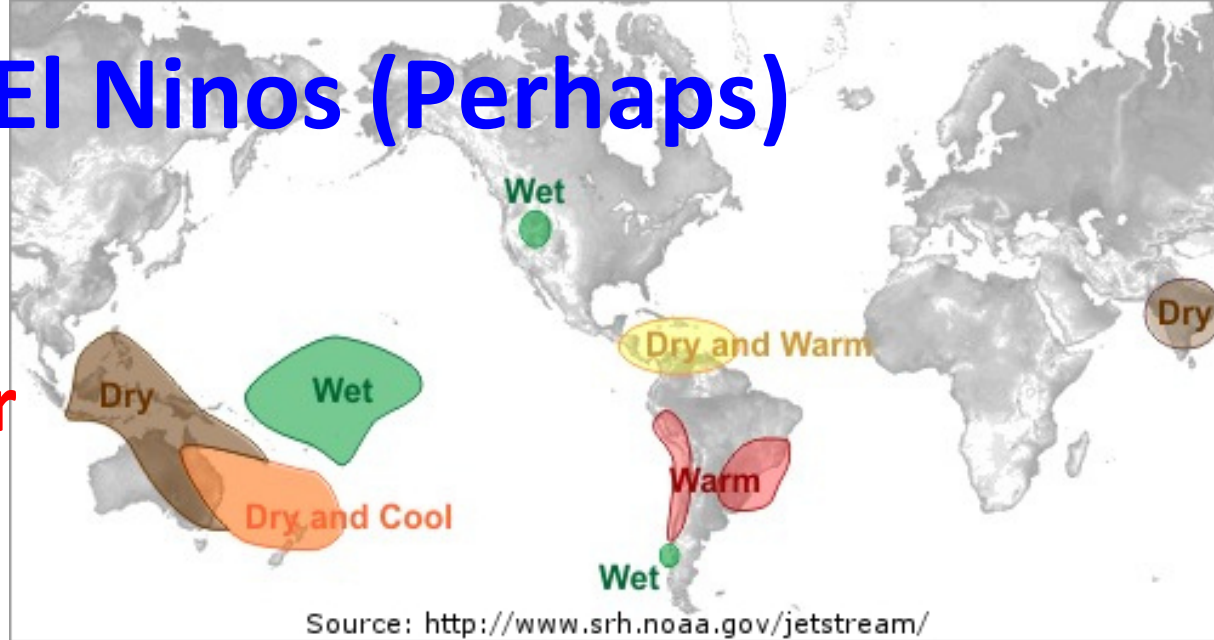


9-model mean projected dry days
2070-2099. PR decrease ~30%

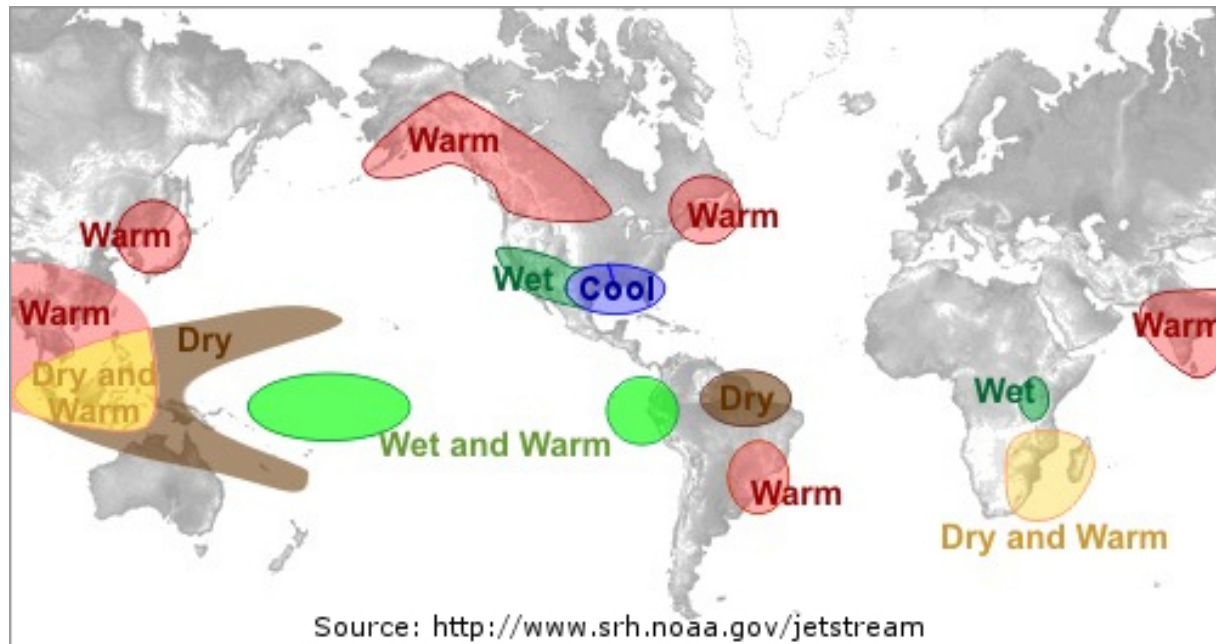


More El Ninos (Perhaps)

Summer



Winter



Projected Impacts of Climate Change

2000 2020

Global temperature change (relative to pre-industrial)

0°C

1°C

2°C

3°C

4°C

5°C

Food

Falling crop yields in many areas, particularly developing regions

Possible rising yields in some high latitude regions

Falling yields in many developed regions

Water

Small mountain glaciers disappear – water supplies threatened in several areas

Significant decreases in water availability in many areas, including Mediterranean and Southern Africa

Sea level rise threatens major cities

Ecosystems

Extensive Damage to Coral Reefs

Rising number of species face extinction

Extreme Weather Events

Rising intensity of storms, forest fires, droughts, flooding and heat waves

Risk of Abrupt and Major Irreversible Changes

Increasing risk of dangerous feedbacks and abrupt, large-scale shifts in the climate system