



Cryosphere, Climate, and Climate Change

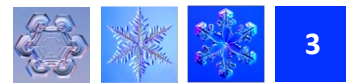




- Definitions (climate, climate change)
- State of the climate: past, present and future
- State of the cryosphere: past, present and future
- Snow cover – climate interaction, snow in a future climate

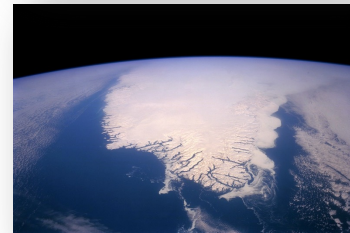


Consequences of climate change – more than melting ice... !



Components:

- Snow (seasonal and perennial)
- Glaciers (alpine and polar), incl. ice caps
- Ice sheets (Greenland, Antarctica)
- Sea ice (Arctic, and Southern Ocean)
- Ice shelves and icebergs
- Permafrost (frozen ground)
- Lake and river ice



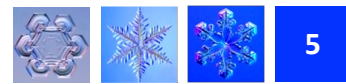


Climate:

“Climate in a narrow sense is usually defined as the average weather, or more rigorously, **as the statistical description in terms of the mean and variability** of relevant quantities **over a [sufficiently long] period** ranging from months to thousands or millions of years. [...] Climate in a wider sense is the state, including a statistical description, of the climate system. [...]”

IPCC (2012) Glossary of terms

Note: climate is not weather.



Climate change:

“A **change in the state of the climate** that can be **identified** (e.g., by using statistical tests) by changes in **the mean and/or the variability** of its properties and that persists for **an extended period**, typically decades or longer. Climate change may be due to **natural** internal processes or external forcings, or to persistent **anthropogenic** changes in the composition of the atmosphere or in land use.”

IPCC (2012) Glossary of terms

RCP: Representative Concentration Pathways (used in earlier IPCC, AR)

SSP: Shared Socioeconomic Pathways (used in IPCC AR6, after 2023)

RCPs are greenhouse gas concentration trajectories, whereas

SSPs are socioeconomic narratives that describe how societies might develop.



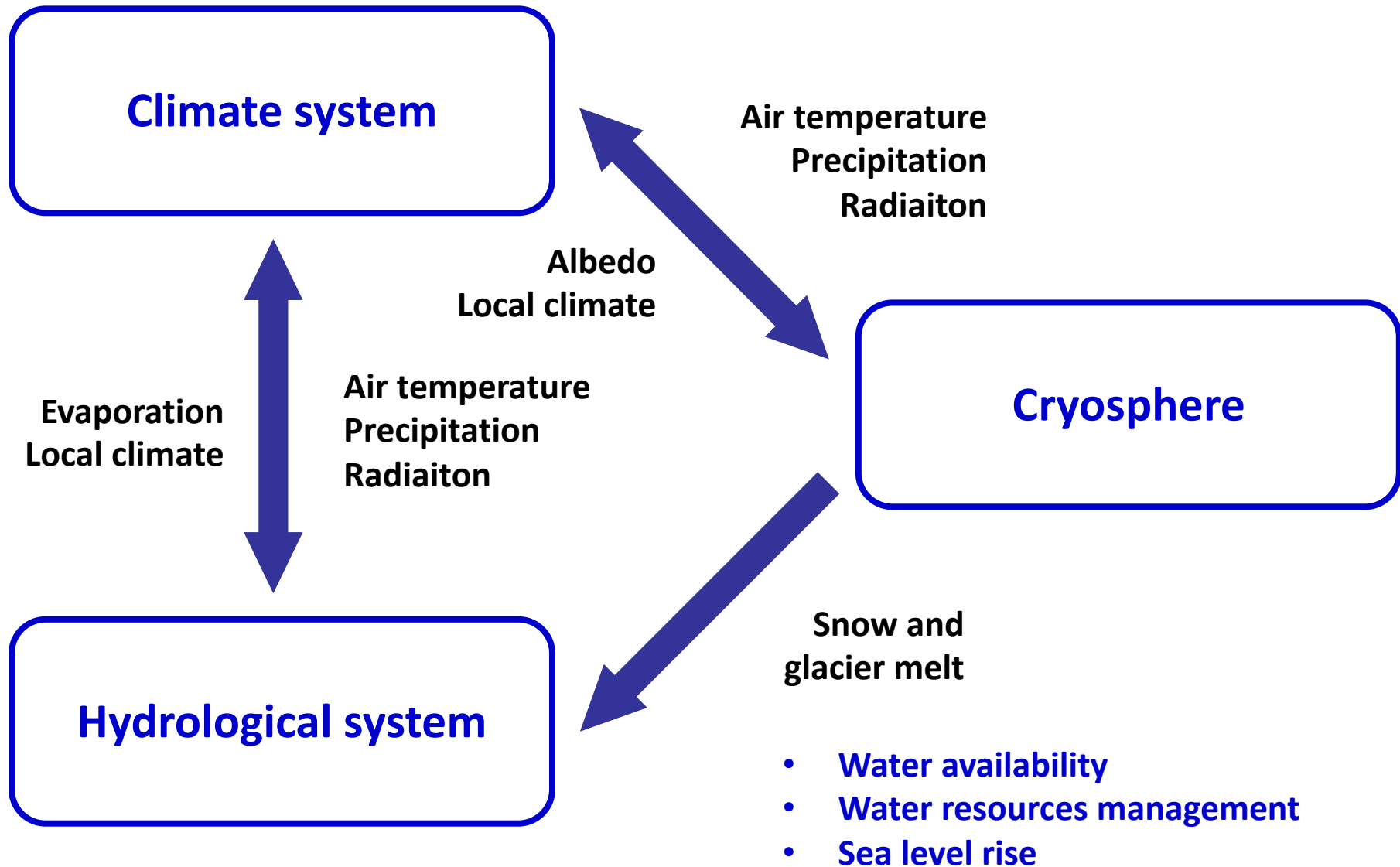
Forcing:

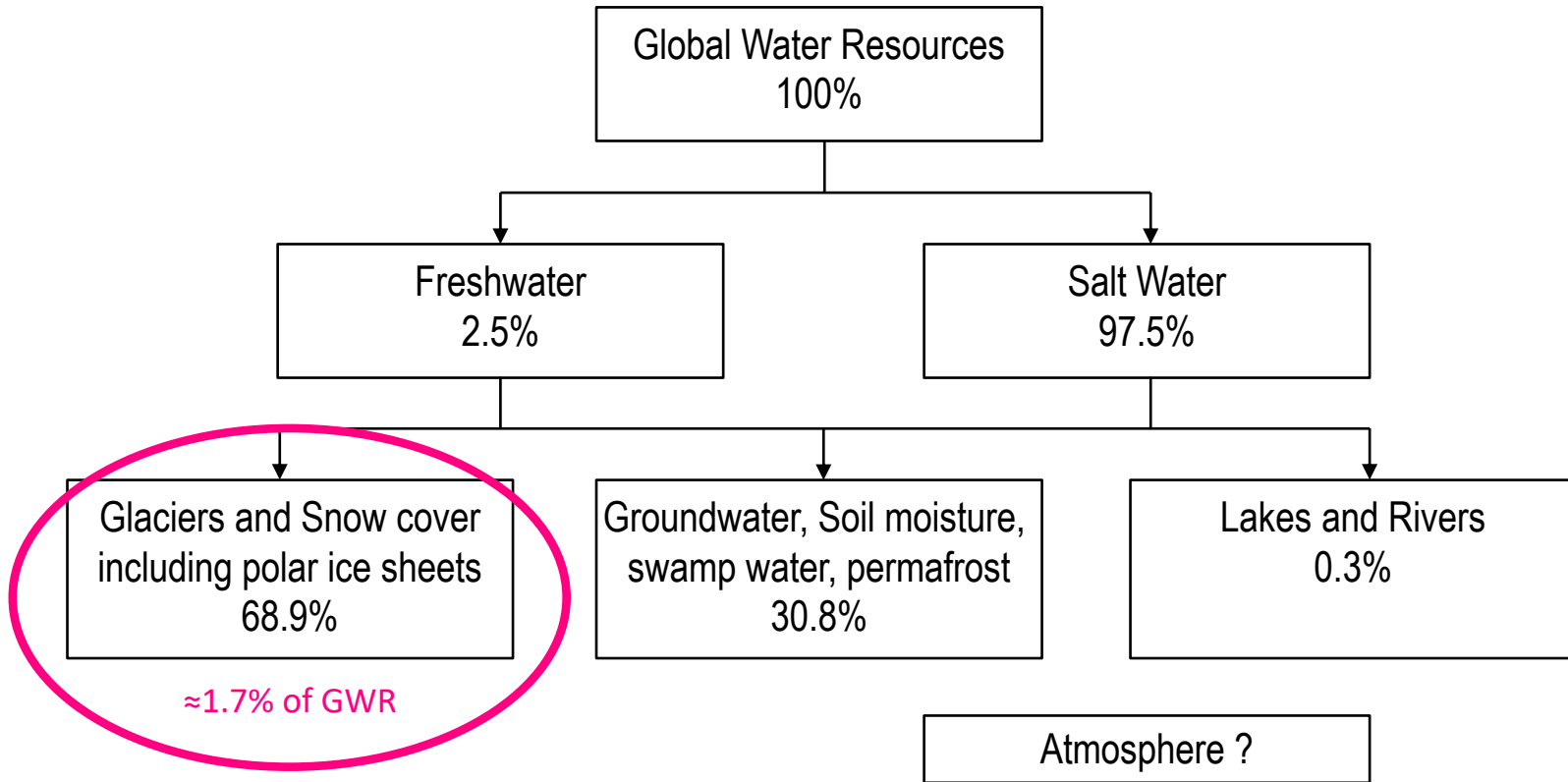
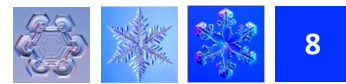
“A **physical influence** (or set of influences) acting (e.g.) on the earth climate system, on a variable, or on the energy balance”.

(Example: Variation in solar radiation over time is an **external** forcing; increase of atmospheric water vapor is an **internal** forcing.)

Feedback:

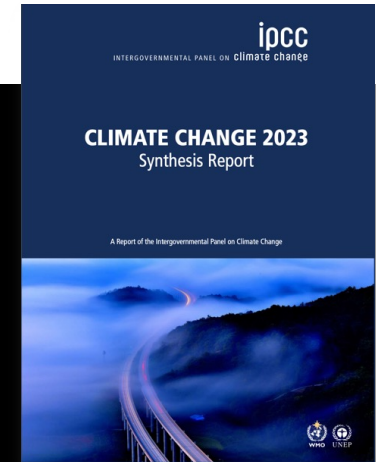
“**Response** to a forcing causes positive or negative change of a physical quantity to either **amplify or mitigate** a forcing (Example: Albedo-temperature feedback)”.





State of knowledge: IPCC Sixth Assessment Reports (AR6)

The State of Knowledge about Climate Change

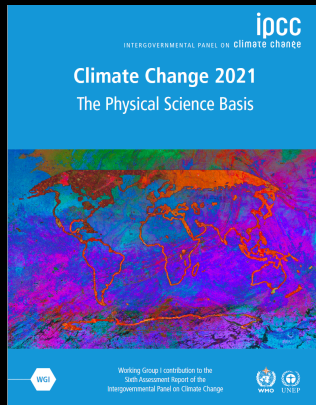


WGI

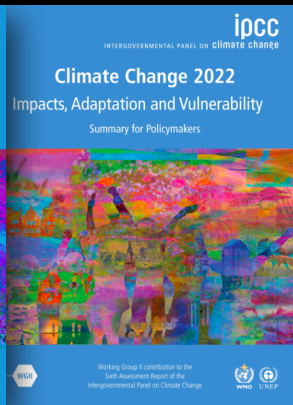
WGII

WGIII

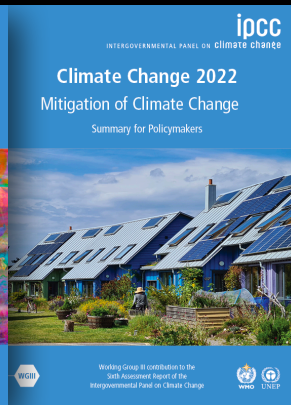
Special Report



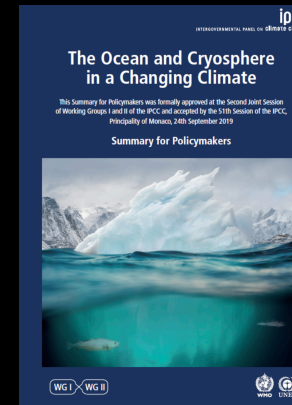
AR6 Climate Change 2021: The Physical Science Basis



Climate Change 2022: Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability



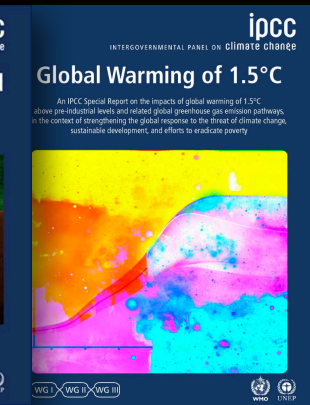
Climate Change 2022: Mitigation of Climate Change



Ocean and Cryosphere in a Changing Climate



Climate Change and Land



Global Warming of 1.5°C

“The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change is the United Nations body for assessing the science related to climate change.”

Sixth Assessment Report | Synthesis Report





Why do scientists (and all of us) care about climate (change)?

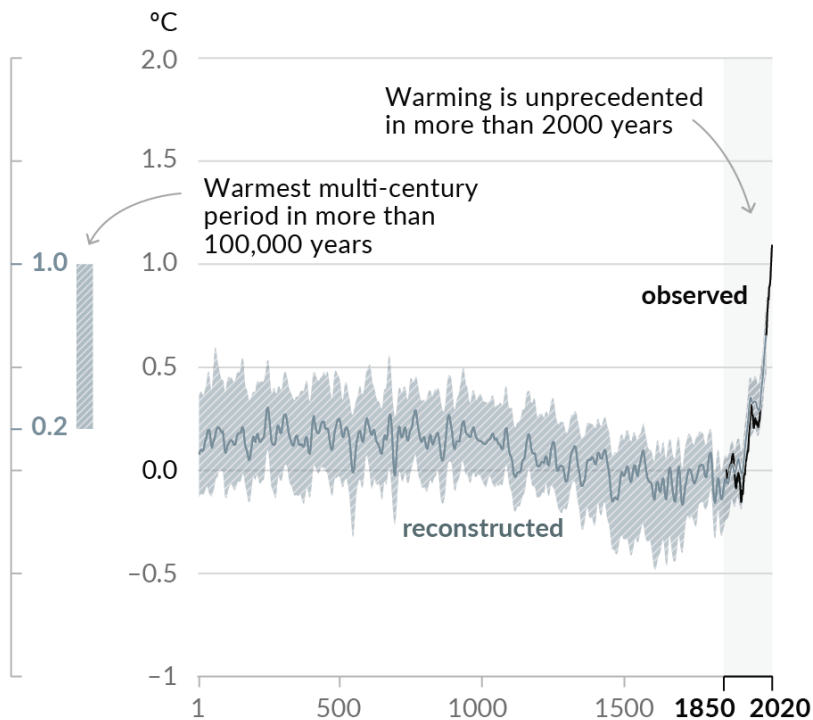
Understanding the climate system and all its interactions is key to being able to reliably **simulate** and **forecast** changes and to propose solutions **avoiding, reducing, and mitigating** climate change.



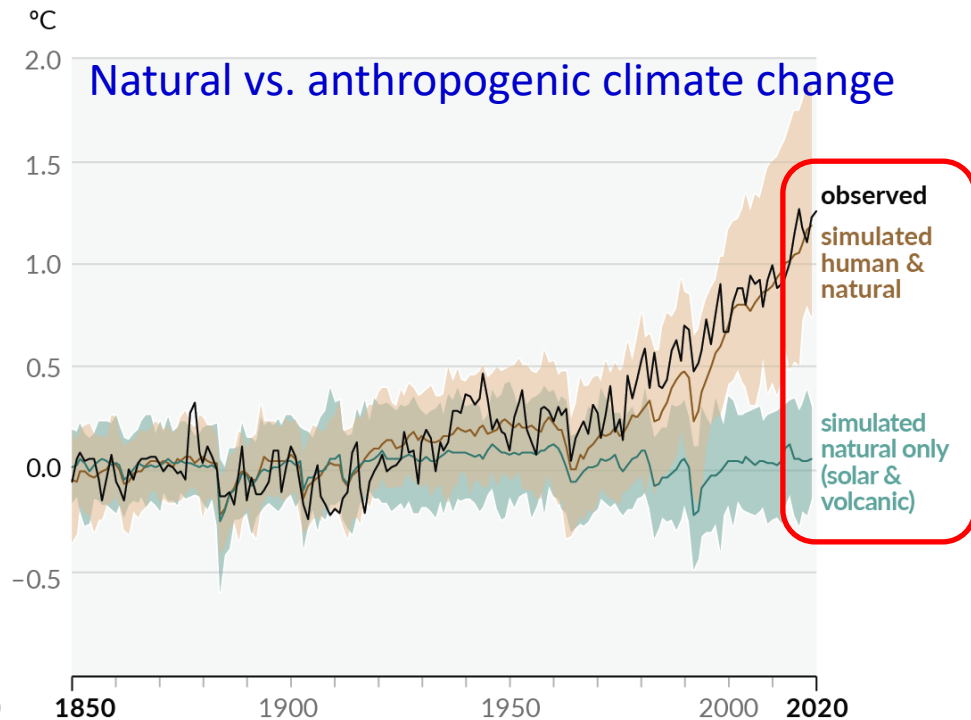
Human influence has warmed the climate at a rate that is unprecedented in at least the last 2000 years

Changes in global surface temperature relative to 1850–1900

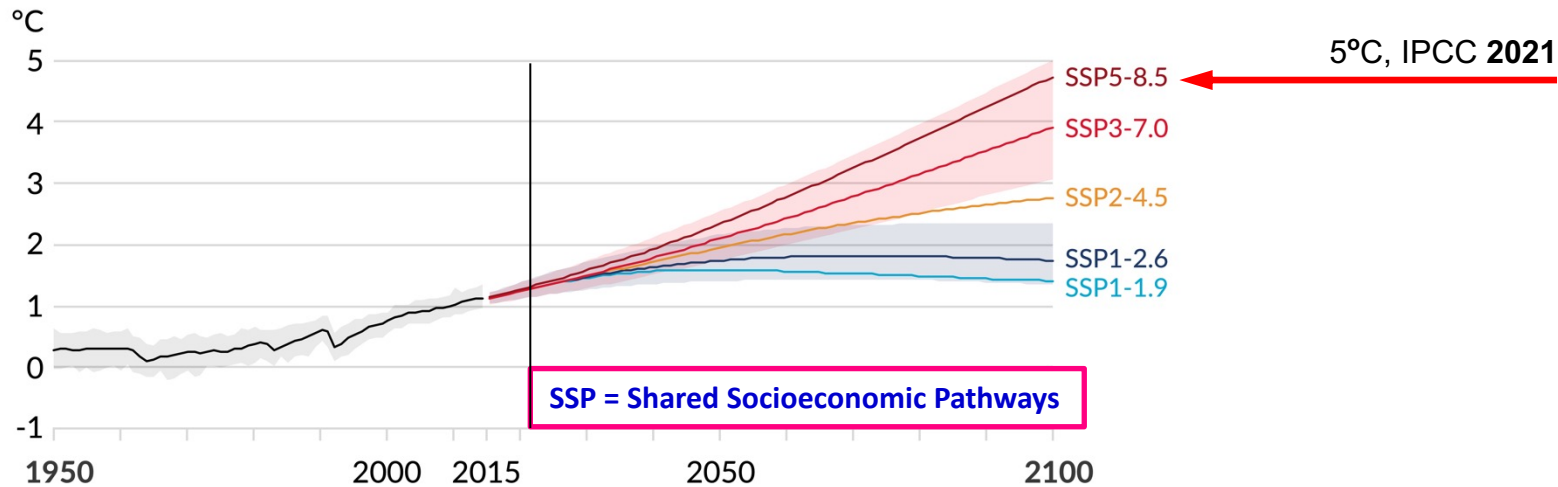
(a) Change in global surface temperature (decadal average) as **reconstructed** (1–2000) and **observed** (1850–2020)



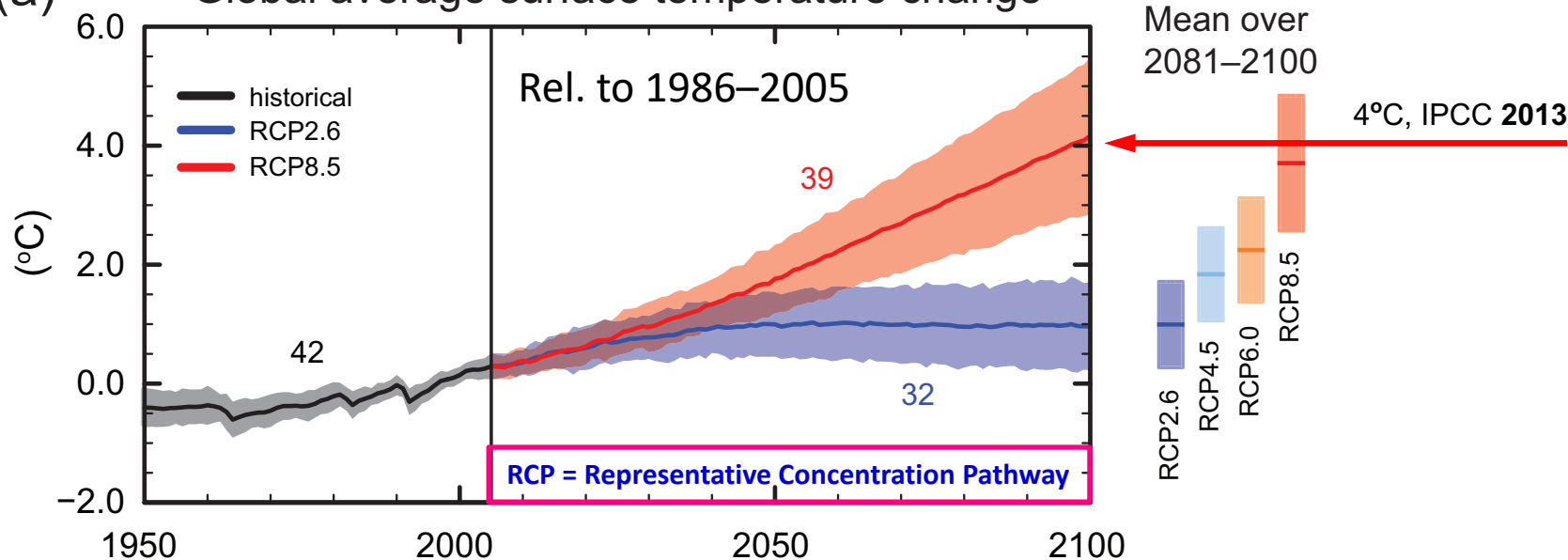
(b) Change in global surface temperature (annual average) as **observed** and simulated using **human & natural** and **only natural** factors (both 1850–2020)



a) Global surface temperature change relative to 1850-1900



(a) Global average surface temperature change

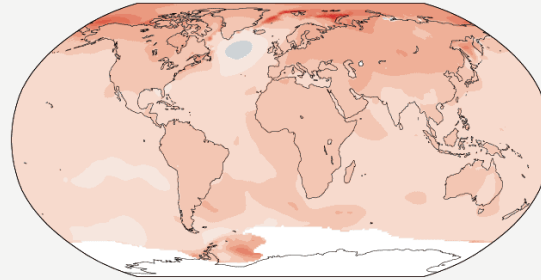




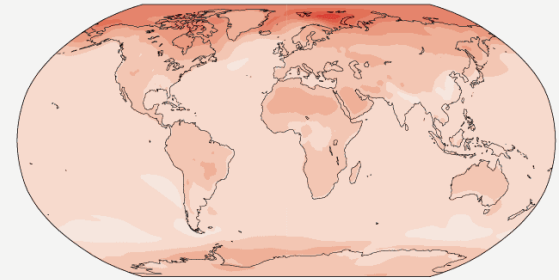
(a) Annual mean temperature change (°C) at 1°C global warming

Warming at 1°C affects all continents and is generally larger over land than over the oceans in both observations and models. Across most regions, observed and simulated patterns are consistent.

Observed change per 1°C global warming



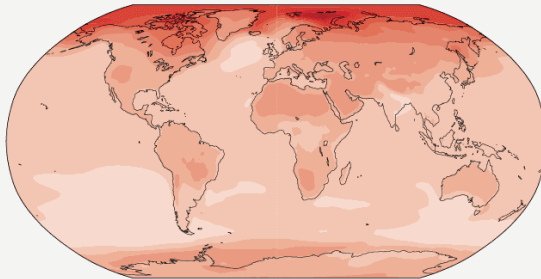
Simulated change at 1°C global warming



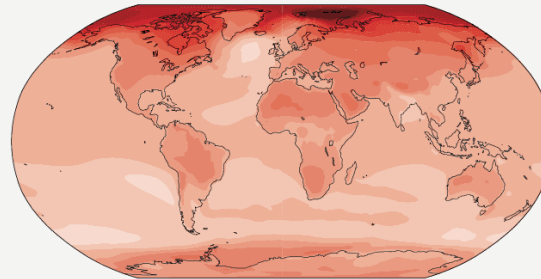
(b) Annual mean temperature change (°C) relative to 1850–1900

Across warming levels, land areas warm more than ocean areas, and the Arctic and Antarctica warm more than the tropics.

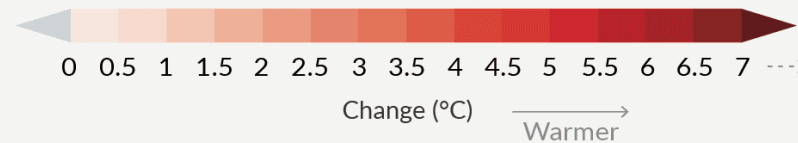
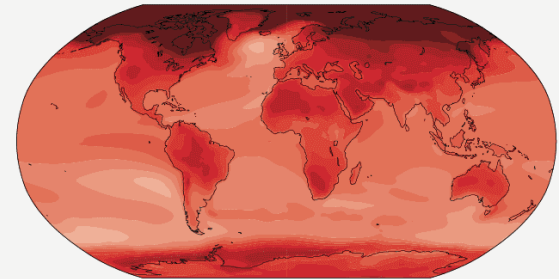
Simulated change at 1.5°C global warming



Simulated change at 2°C global warming

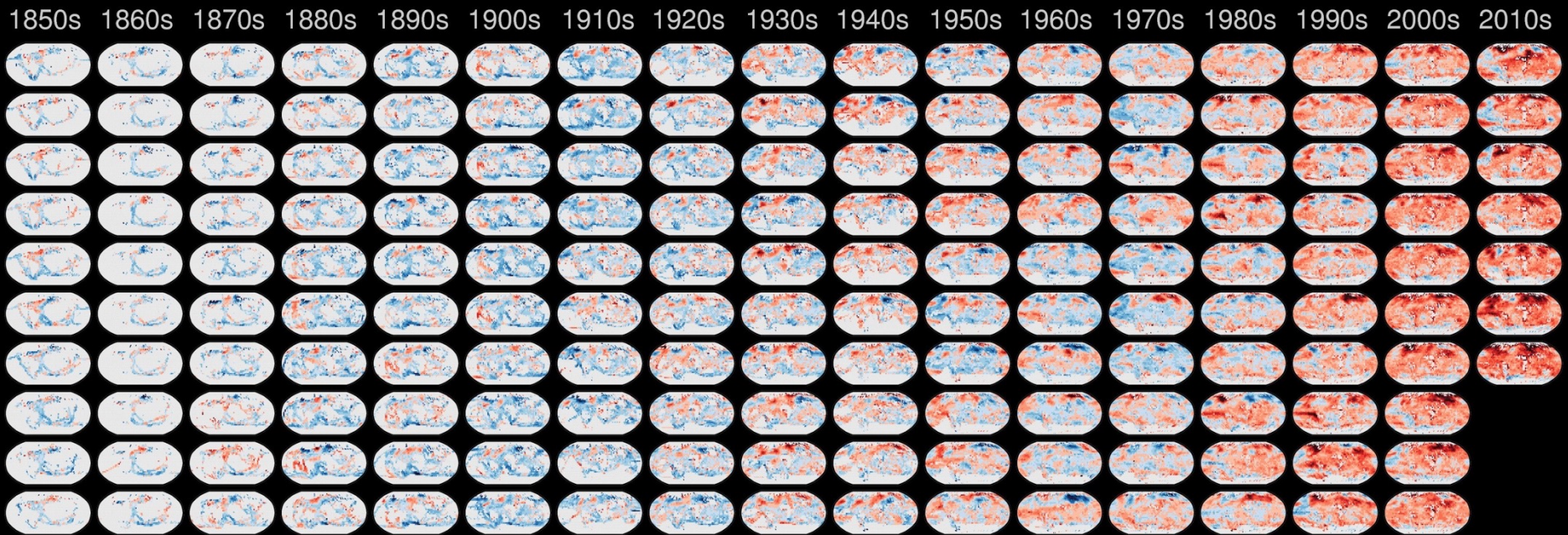


Simulated change at 4°C global warming

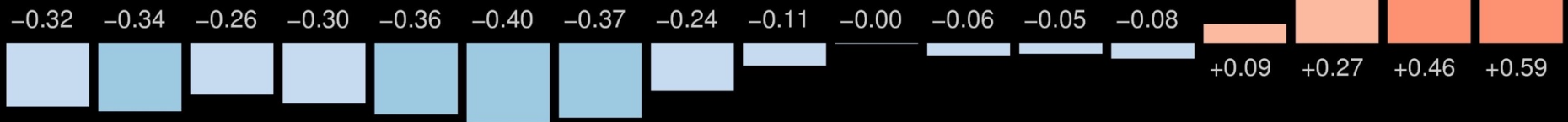


→ Note: **polar amplification!**

Mapping global temperature changes



Global average temperature change ($^{\circ}\text{C}$)

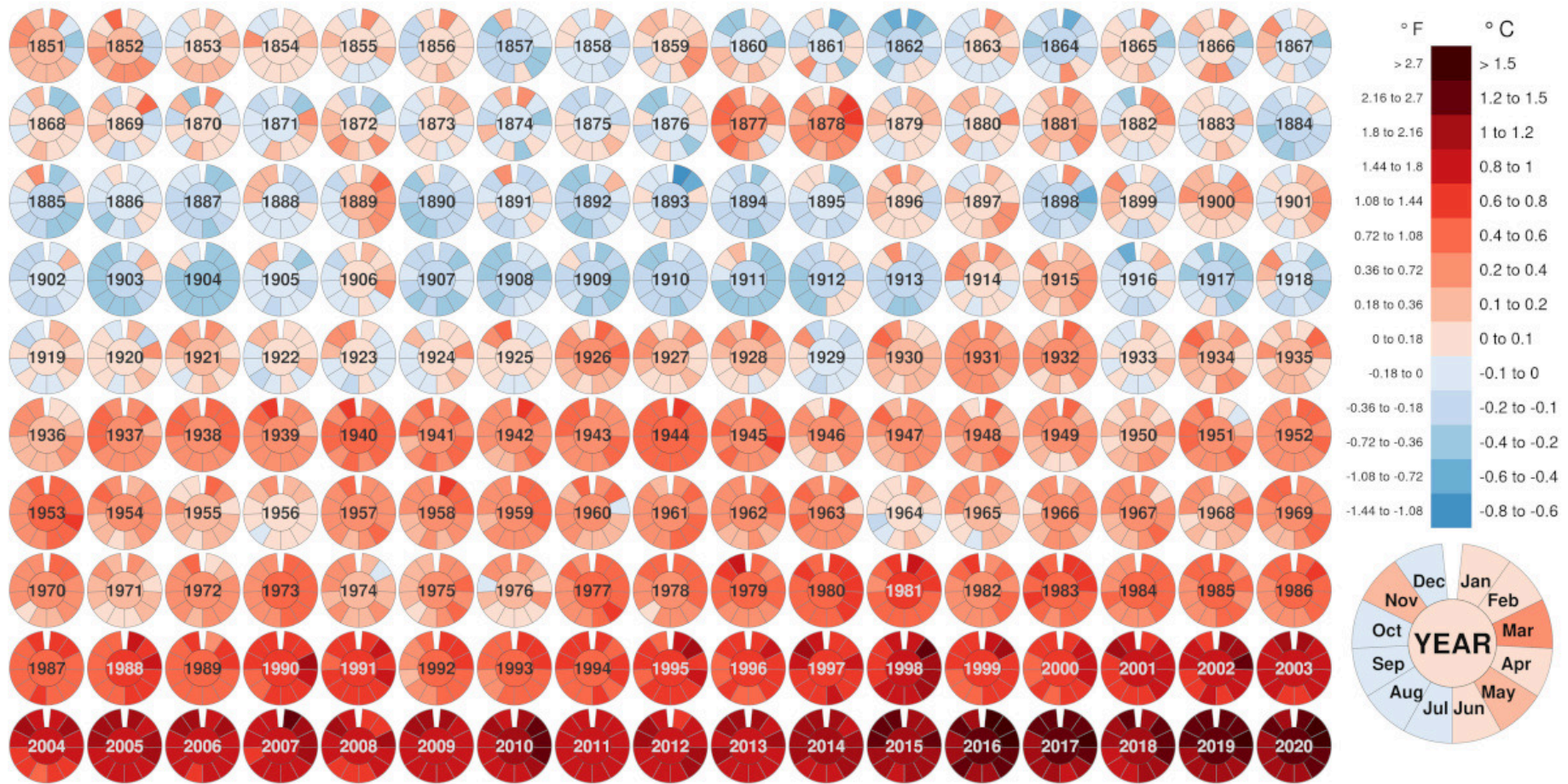


Data: HadCRUT4.5
@ed_hawkins

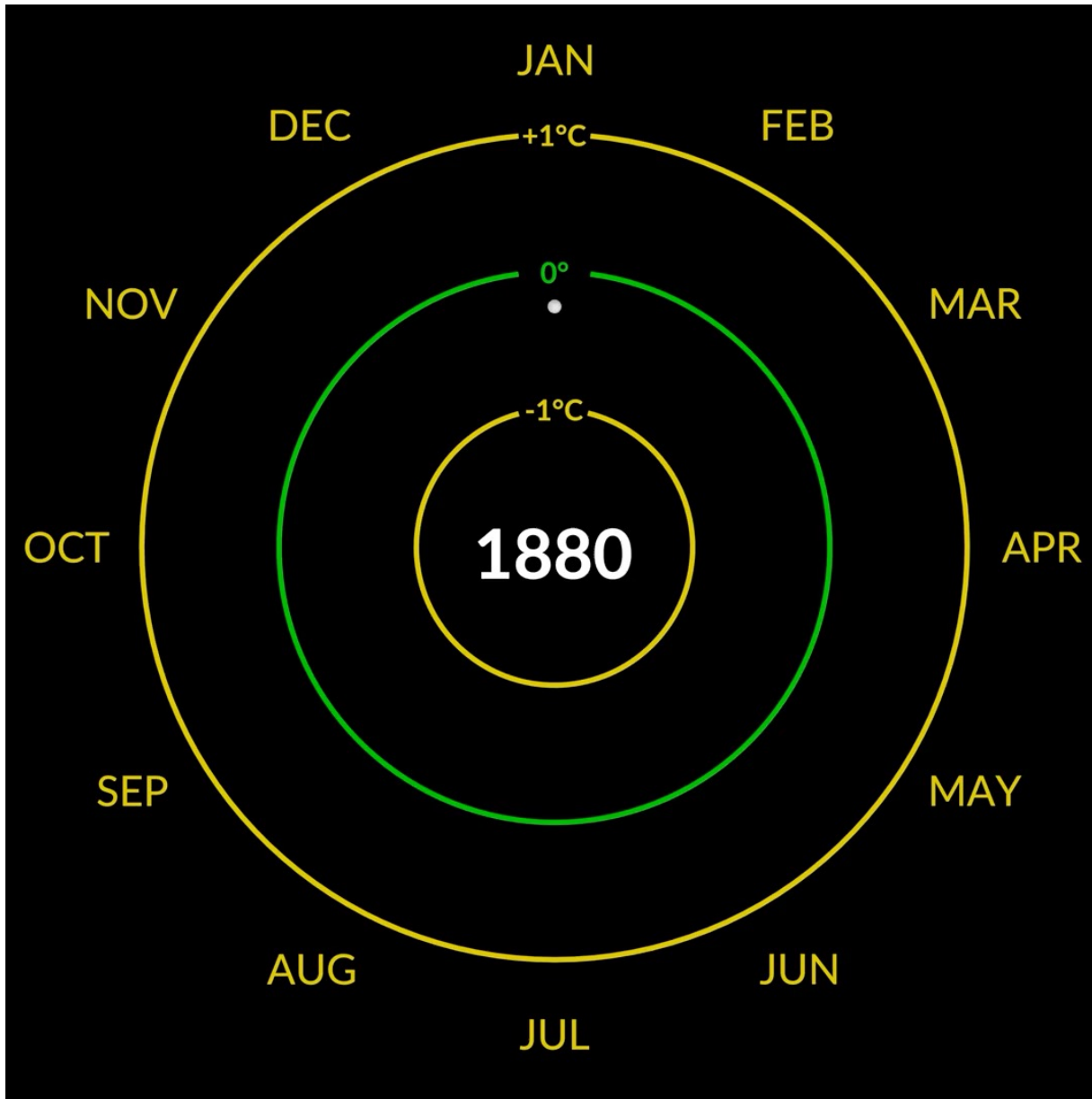
Global surface air temperature evolution, seasonal

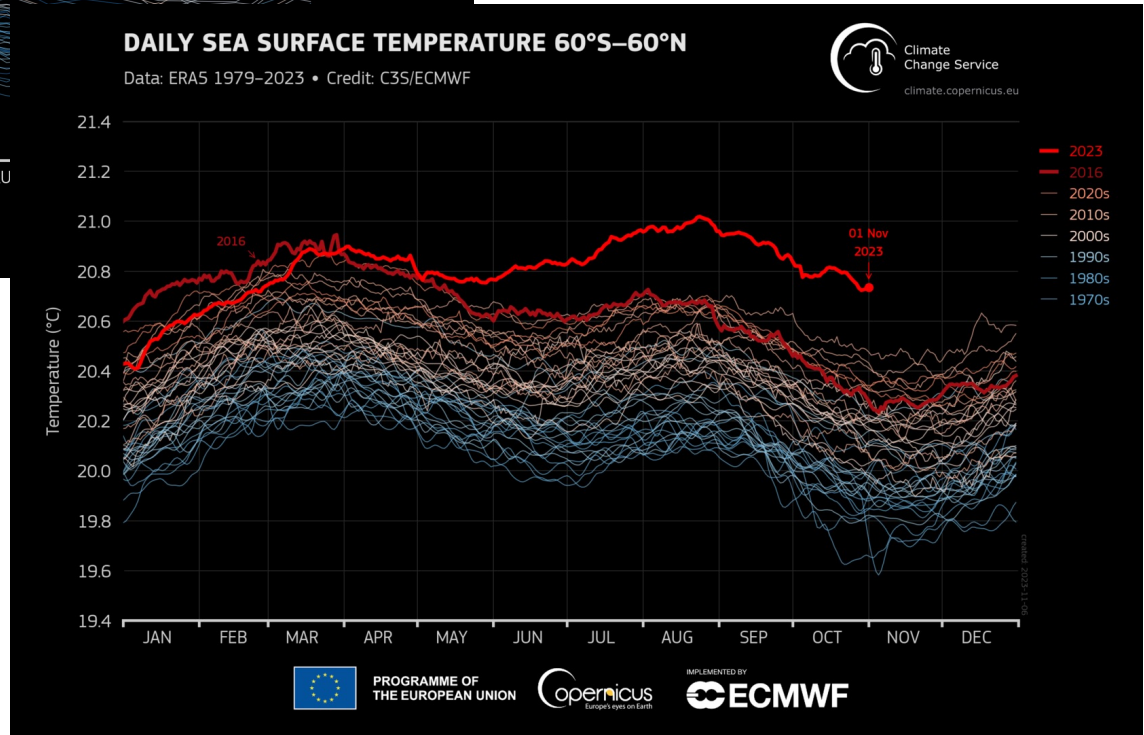
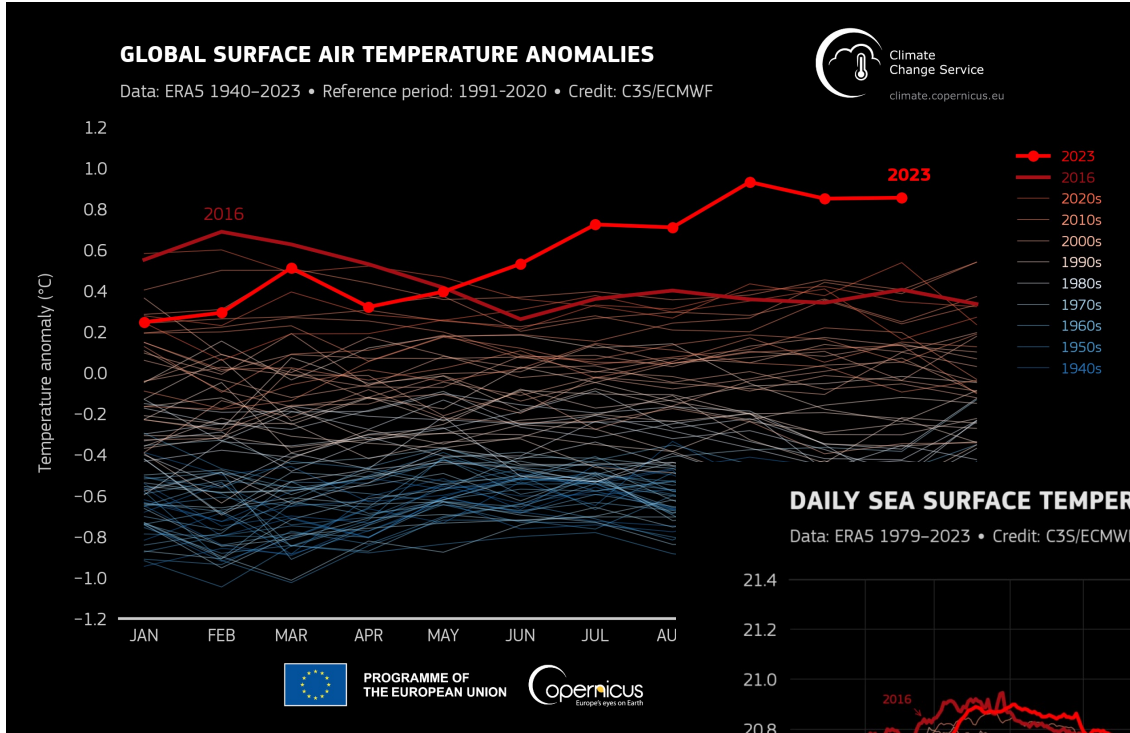


Monthly global mean temperature 1851 to 2020 (compared to 1850-1900 averages)



Data: HadCRUT5 - Created by: @neilrkaye

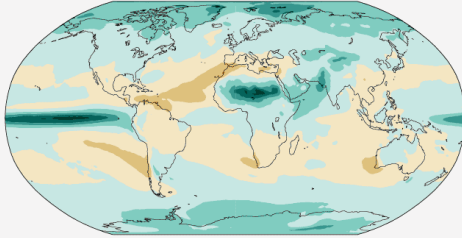




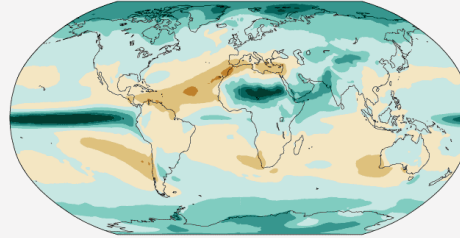
(c) Annual mean precipitation change (%) relative to 1850–1900

Precipitation is projected to increase over high latitudes, the equatorial Pacific and parts of the monsoon regions, but decrease over parts of the subtropics and in limited areas of the tropics.

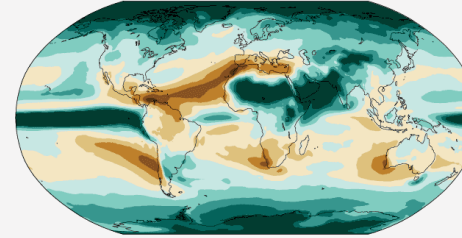
Simulated change at 1.5°C global warming



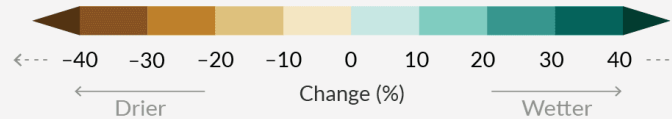
Simulated change at 2°C global warming



Simulated change at 4°C global warming



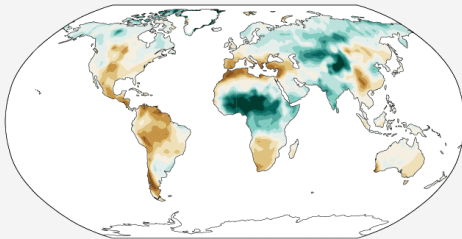
Relatively small absolute changes may appear as large % changes in regions with dry baseline conditions



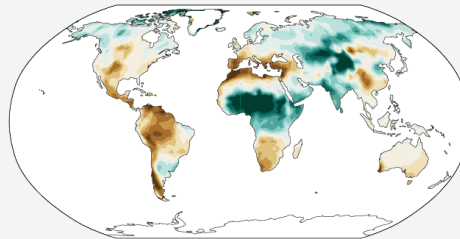
(d) Annual mean total column soil moisture change (standard deviation)

Across warming levels, changes in soil moisture largely follow changes in precipitation but also show some differences due to the influence of evapotranspiration.

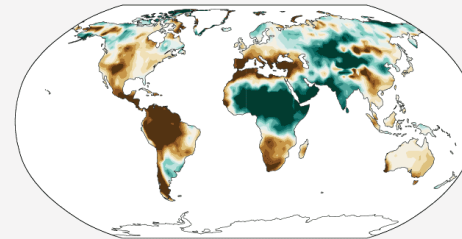
Simulated change at 1.5°C global warming



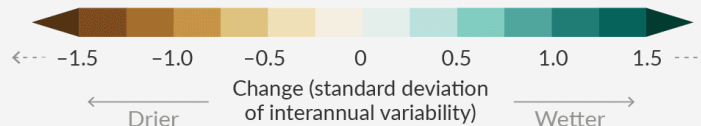
Simulated change at 2°C global warming



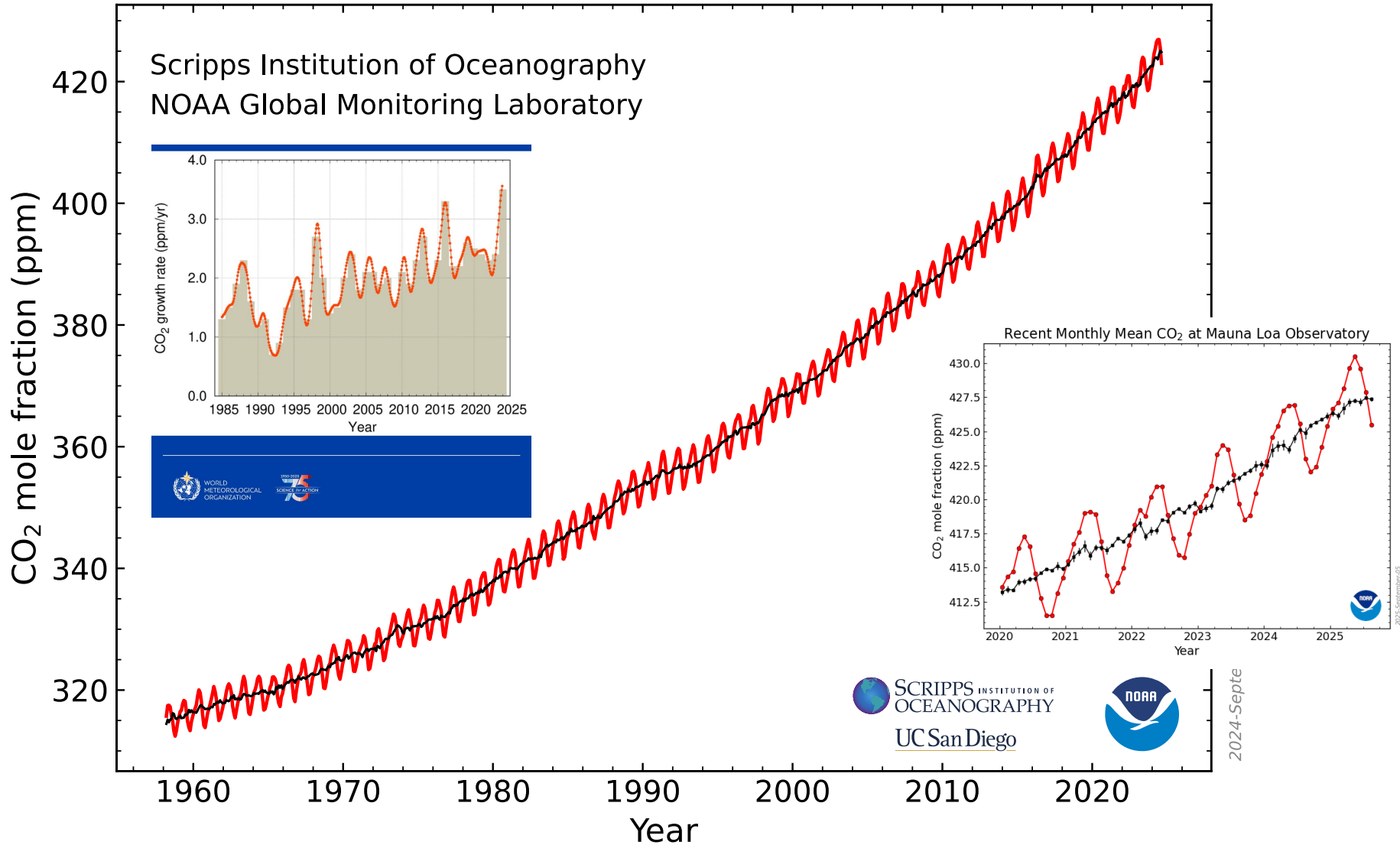
Simulated change at 4°C global warming



Relatively small absolute changes may appear large when expressed in units of standard deviation in dry regions with little interannual variability in baseline conditions



Atmospheric CO₂ at Mauna Loa Observatory

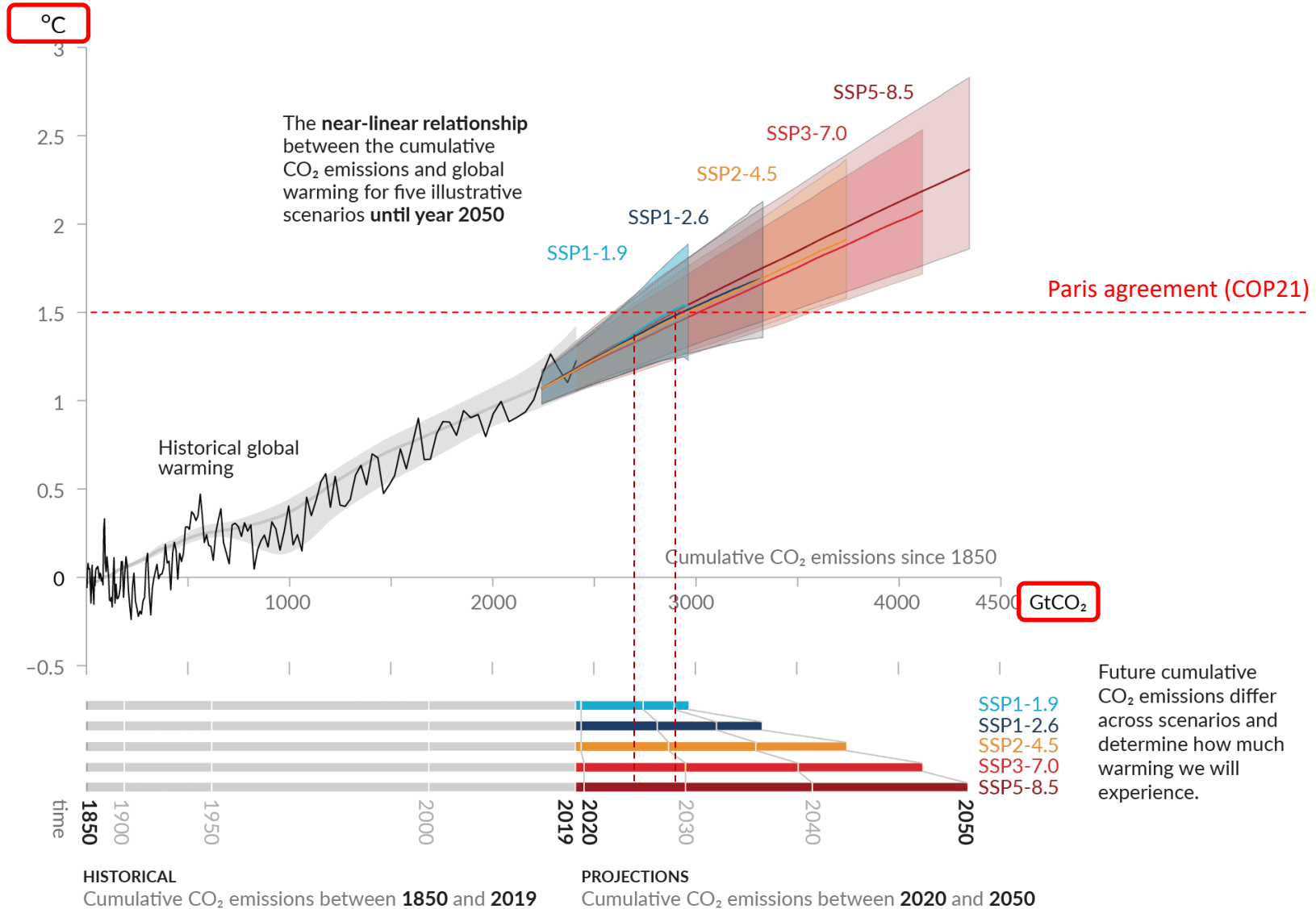


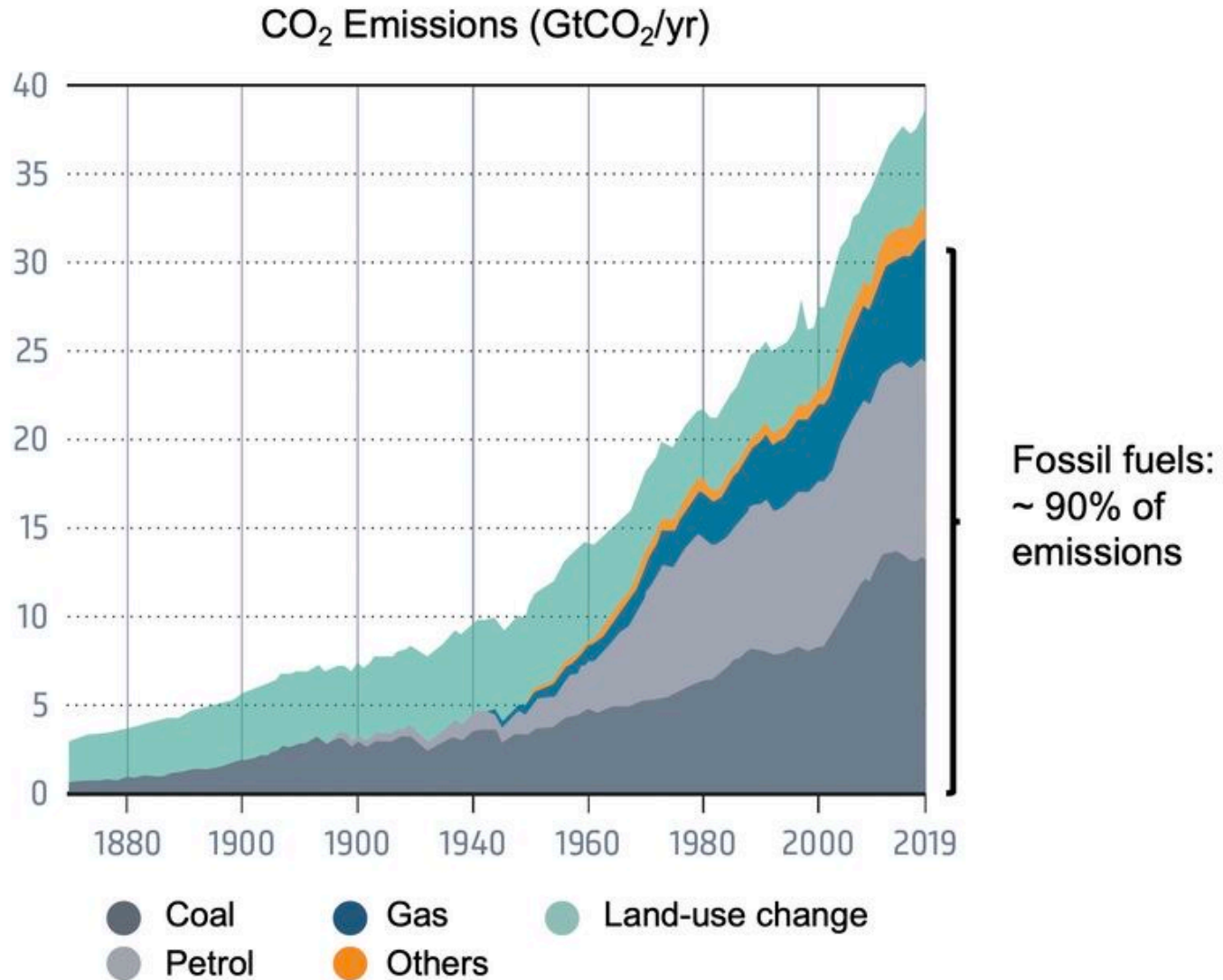


Future temperature evolution and CO₂ emissions



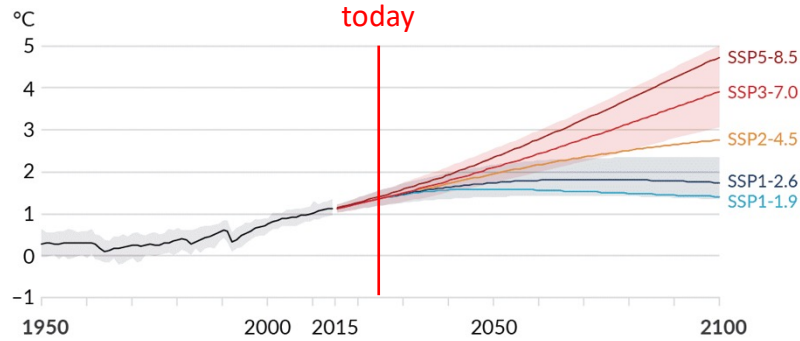
Global surface temperature increase since 1850–1900 (°C) as a function of cumulative CO₂ emissions (GtCO₂)



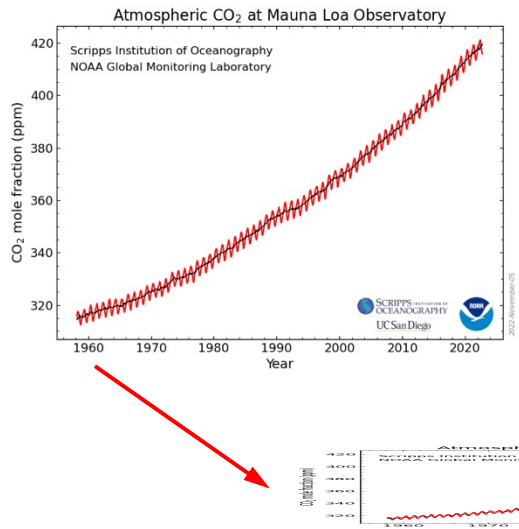
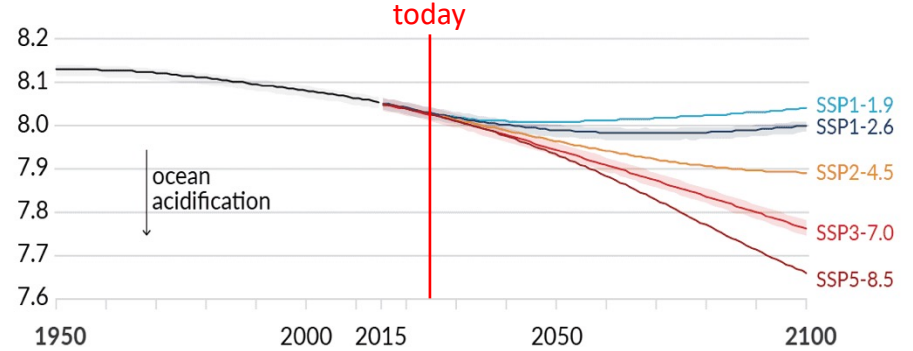


(Based on IPCC AR6, Fig. 5.5 & SCNAT: <https://naturalsciences.ch/trendwende>)

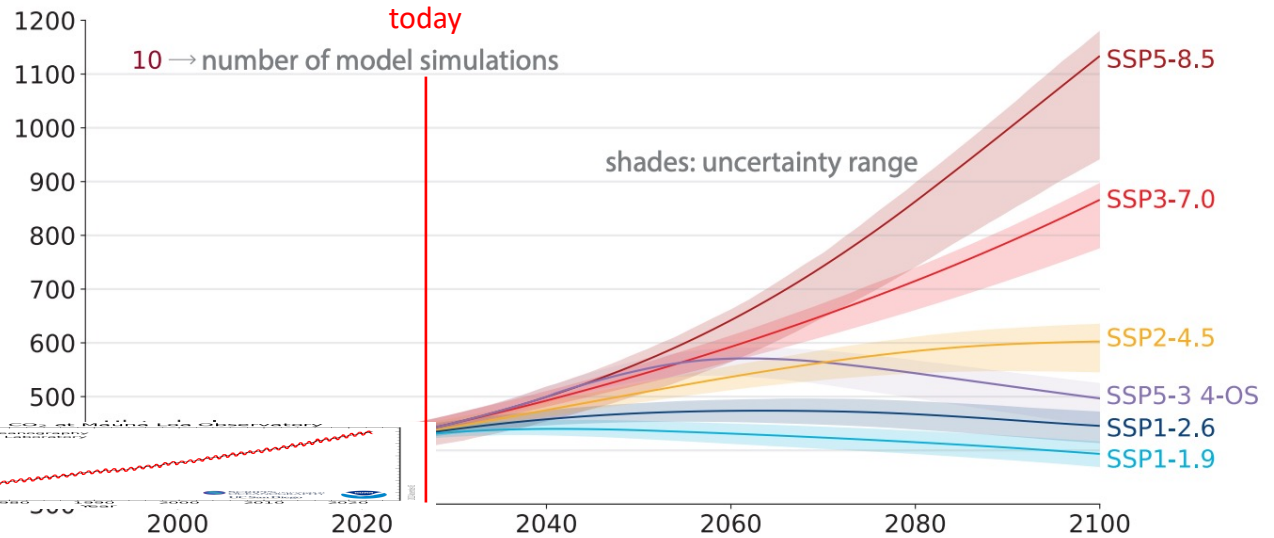
(a) Global surface temperature change relative to 1850–1900



(c) Global ocean surface pH (a measure of acidity)



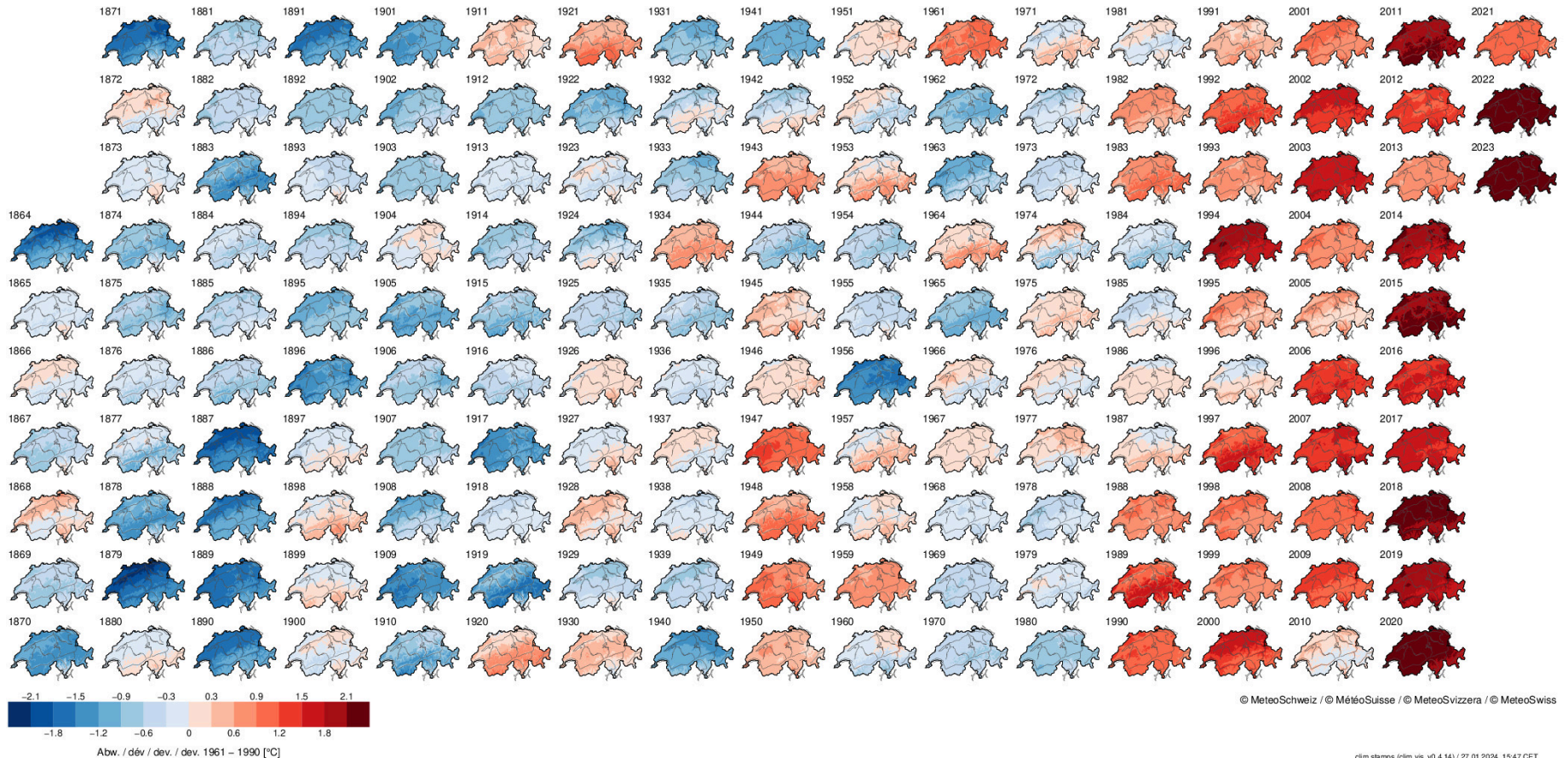
(e) CO₂ concentration (ppm)



Historic air temperature evolution in CH



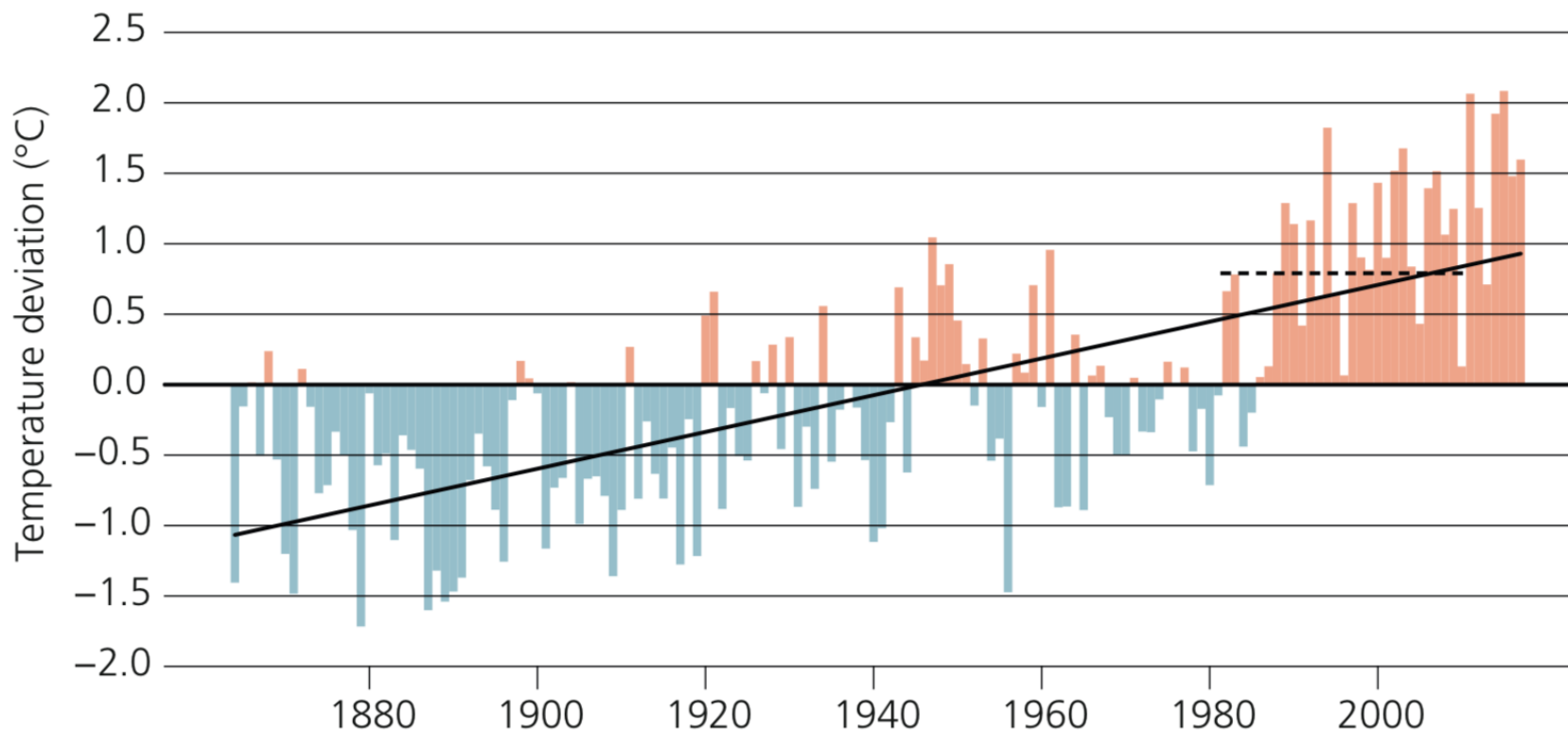
Annual air temperature anomaly compared to the period 1961-1990



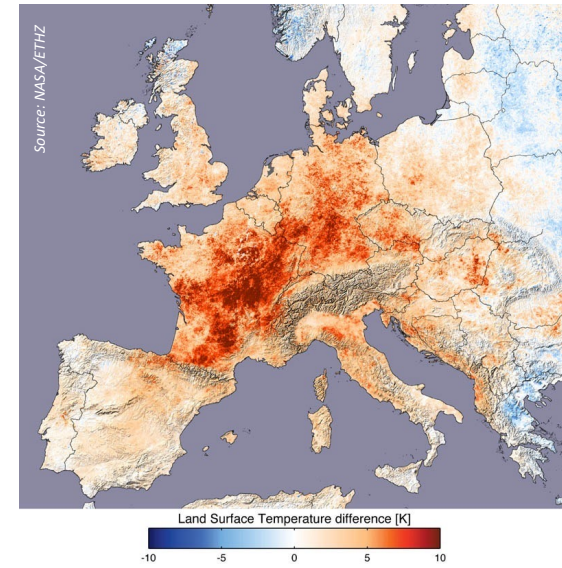
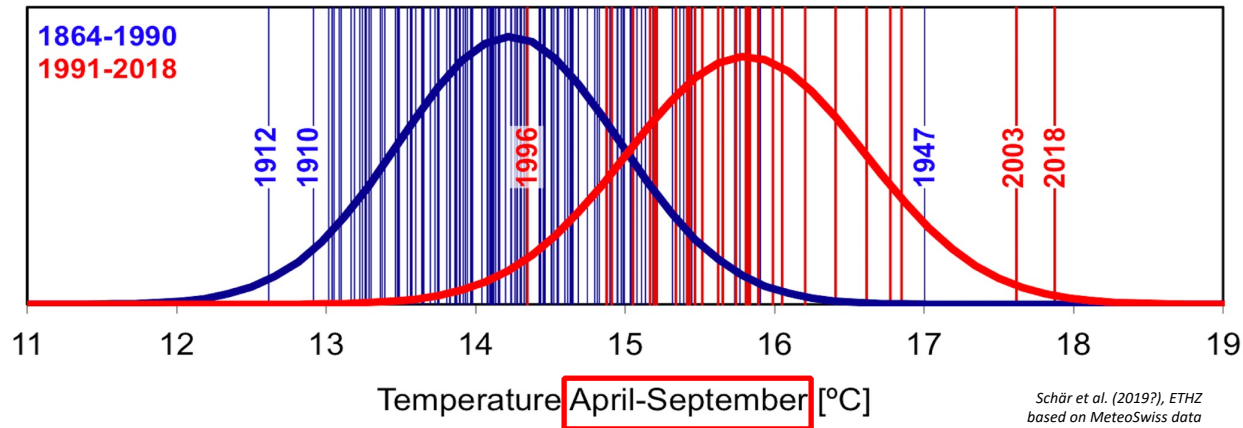
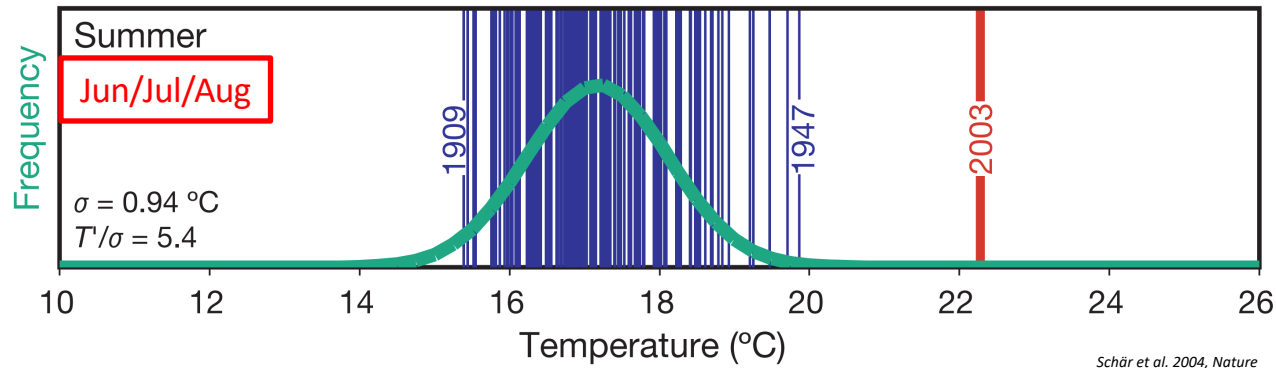
Annual mean temperature 1864–2017

Deviation of average Swiss annual temperatures from the mean in the period from 1961 to 1990

- Years above 1961–1990 average
- Years below 1961–1990 average
- Linear trend 1864–2017
- Average 1981–2010



Summer temperature Europe (2003 heat wave)



VOLUME 37

JOURNAL OF CLIMATE

1 FEBRUARY 2024

The Extraordinary March 2022 East Antarctica “Heat” Wave. Part I: Observations and Meteorological Drivers

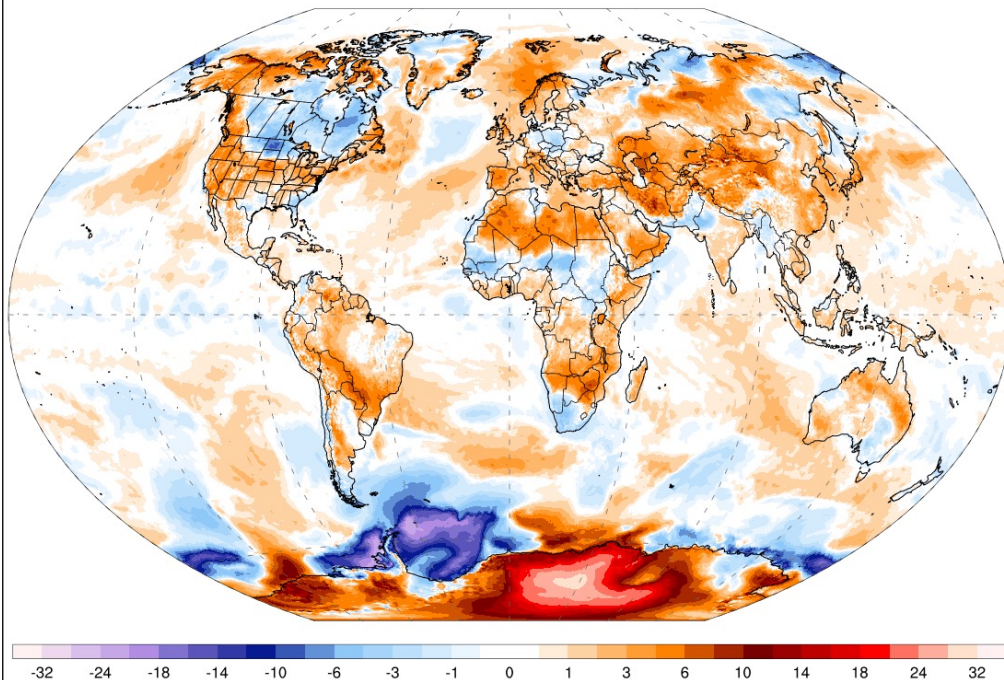
Geophysical Research Letters

Research Letter | [Open Access](#) | 

The Largest Ever Recorded Heatwave—Characteristics and Attribution of the Antarctic Heatwave of March 2022

GFS 2m T Anomaly (°C) [CFSR 1979-2000 baseline]
1-day Avg | Mon, Aug 05, 2024

ClimateReanalyzer.org
Climate Change Institute | University of Maine



ENVIRONMENT

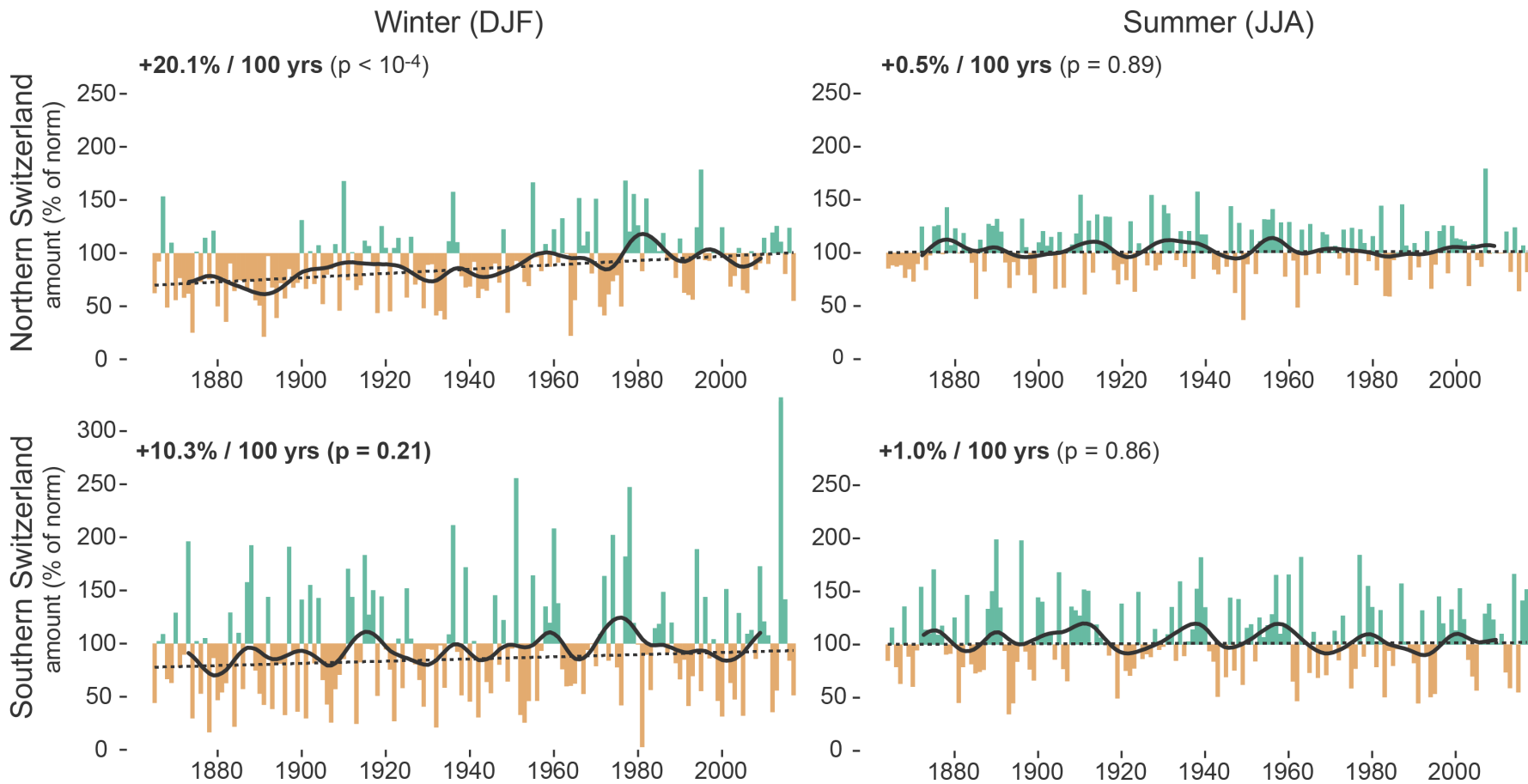
Antarctic temperatures soar **ca. 28 C above** 50 degrees above norm in long-lasting heat wave

This historic warm spell in East Antarctica is an ominous example of the temperature spikes this polar climate could experience more of in a warming world.

 5 min



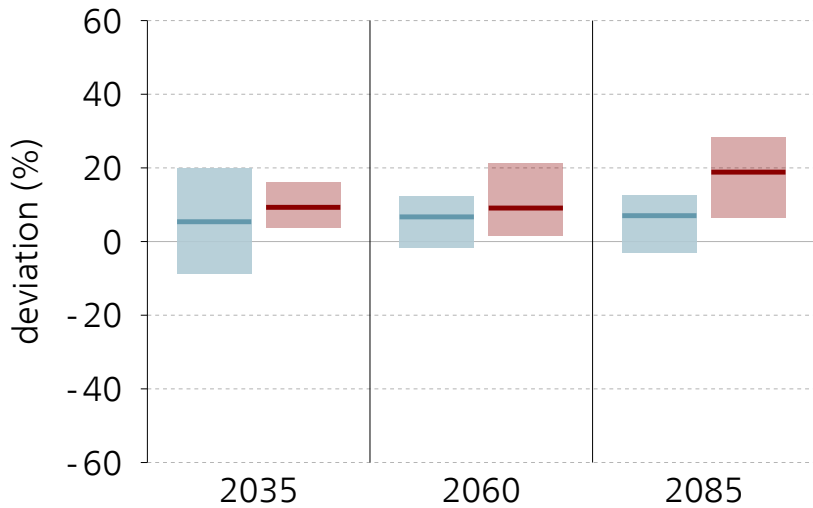
mean precipitation



Precipitation

deviation from the normal period 1981-2010

winter

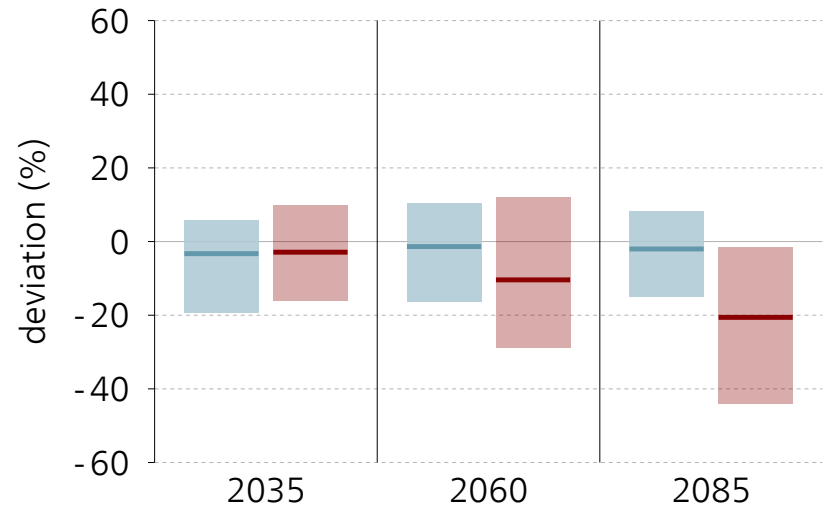


© climate scenarios CH2018

Precipitation

deviation from the normal period 1981-2010

summer



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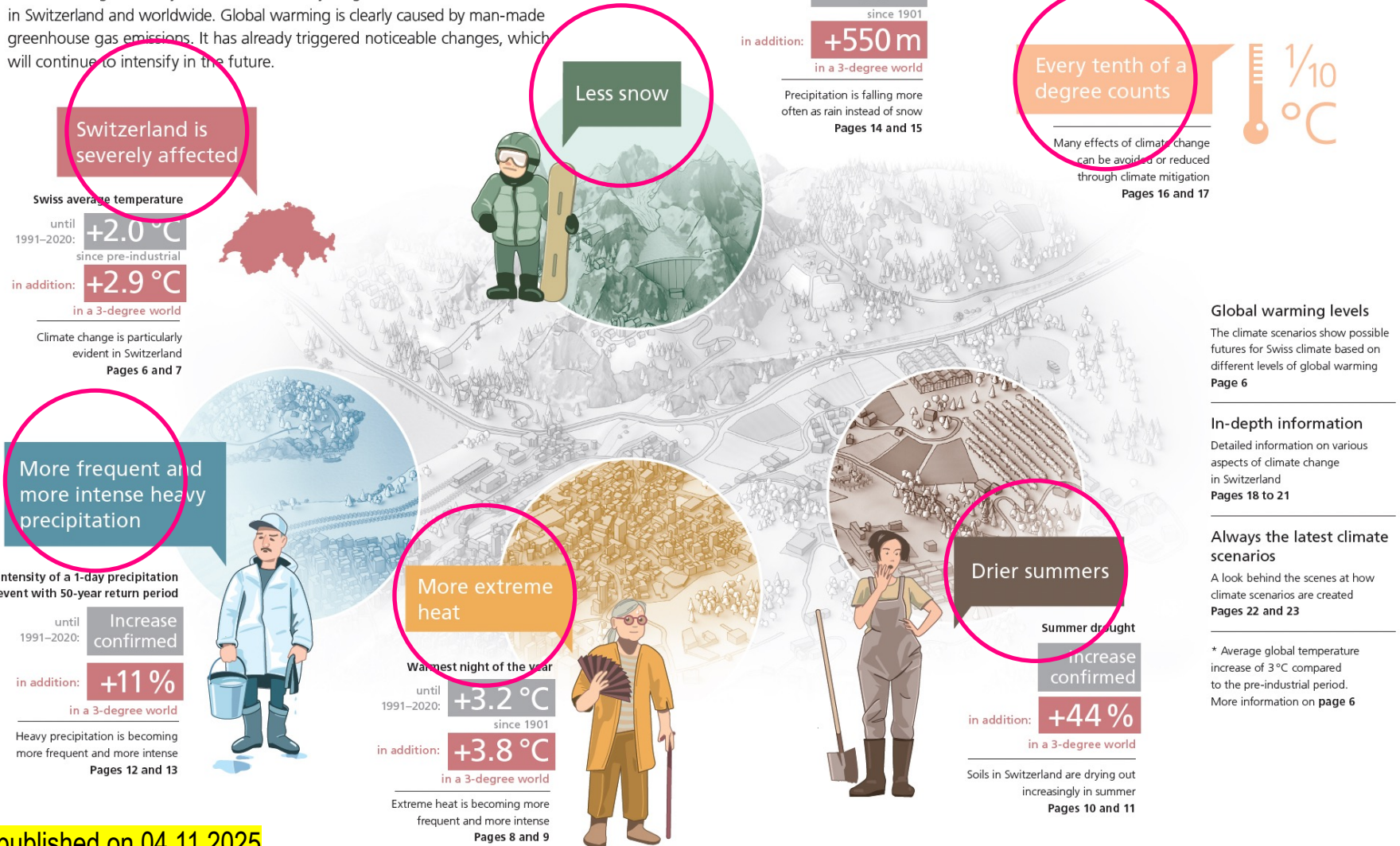
What do you expect for changes in the phase of precipitation?



Key messages of Climate CH2025 at a glance

Climate change is reality. This is confirmed by long-term climate observations in Switzerland and worldwide. Global warming is clearly caused by man-made greenhouse gas emissions. It has already triggered noticeable changes, which will continue to intensify in the future.

The overview shows the observed development up to 1991–2020 (above, in grey) and the expected development from 1991–2020 to a 3-degree world* (below, in red). The numbers are Swiss averages. Under the measures currently planned to reduce emissions, the world is heading for an increase of around 3°C by the end of the century.



MeteoSwiss

Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Swiss Confederation
Federal Department of Home Affairs FOHA
Federal Office of Meteorology and Climatology MeteoSwiss

Climate CH2025

Switzerland's Future Climate



ETH zürich

CSM
Center for Climate Systems Modeling

Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra


National Centre for Climate Services NCCS

Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

National Centre for Climate Services NCCS
Federal Office for the Environment FOEN

Hydro-CH2018 Hydrological Scenarios

Swiss Water Bodies in a Changing Climate



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Swiss Confederation
Federal Office for the Environment FOEN

2021 | Environmental studies

Hydrology

Effects of climate change on Swiss water bodies

Hydrology, water ecology and water management



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Federal Office for the Environment FOEN

MOSAIC: Largest polar expedition in history ! September 2019 – October 2020



MOSAIC <https://mosaic-expedition.org/>

Embark on the largest polar expedition in history: in September 2019, the German research icebreaker Polarstern has set sail from Tromsø, Norway, to spend a year drifting through the Arctic Ocean - trapped in ice. The goal of the MOSAIC expedition is to take the closest look ever at the Arctic as the epicenter of global warming and to gain fundamental insights that are key to better understand global climate change. Hundreds of researchers from 20 countries are involved in this exceptional endeavour. Following in the footsteps of Fridtjof Nansen's ground-breaking expedition with his wooden sailing ship Fram in 1893-1896, the MOSAIC expedition will bring a modern research icebreaker close to the north pole for a full year including for the first time in polar winter. The data gathered will be used by scientists around the globe to take climate research to a completely new level. Led by atmospheric scientist Markus Rex, and co-led by Klaus Dethloff and Matthew Shupe, MOSAIC is spearheaded by Alfred Wegener Institute, Helmholtz Centre for Polar and Marine Research (AWI).

[See expedition](#) [See science](#)

Greenland

Canada

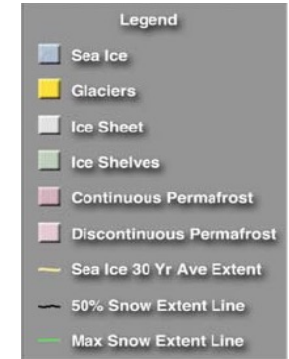
80°N

Dec-2019

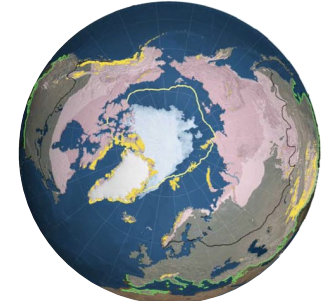
Feb-2020

Apr-2020

POLARSTERN



Arctic



Mountains



Antarctic







- Forms (and melts) **on the ocean** surface
- Can be of **seasonal** or **multi-year** duration
- Forms when the ocean is at its **freezing temperature** (ca. -1.8° C) – Why?
- Most of the ocean water **salt** gets rejected during freezing
- Gets advected by winds (drag) and ocean **currents**
- Does **not** contribute to sea level rise – Why?
- Significantly changes the surface **albedo** and surface energy balance

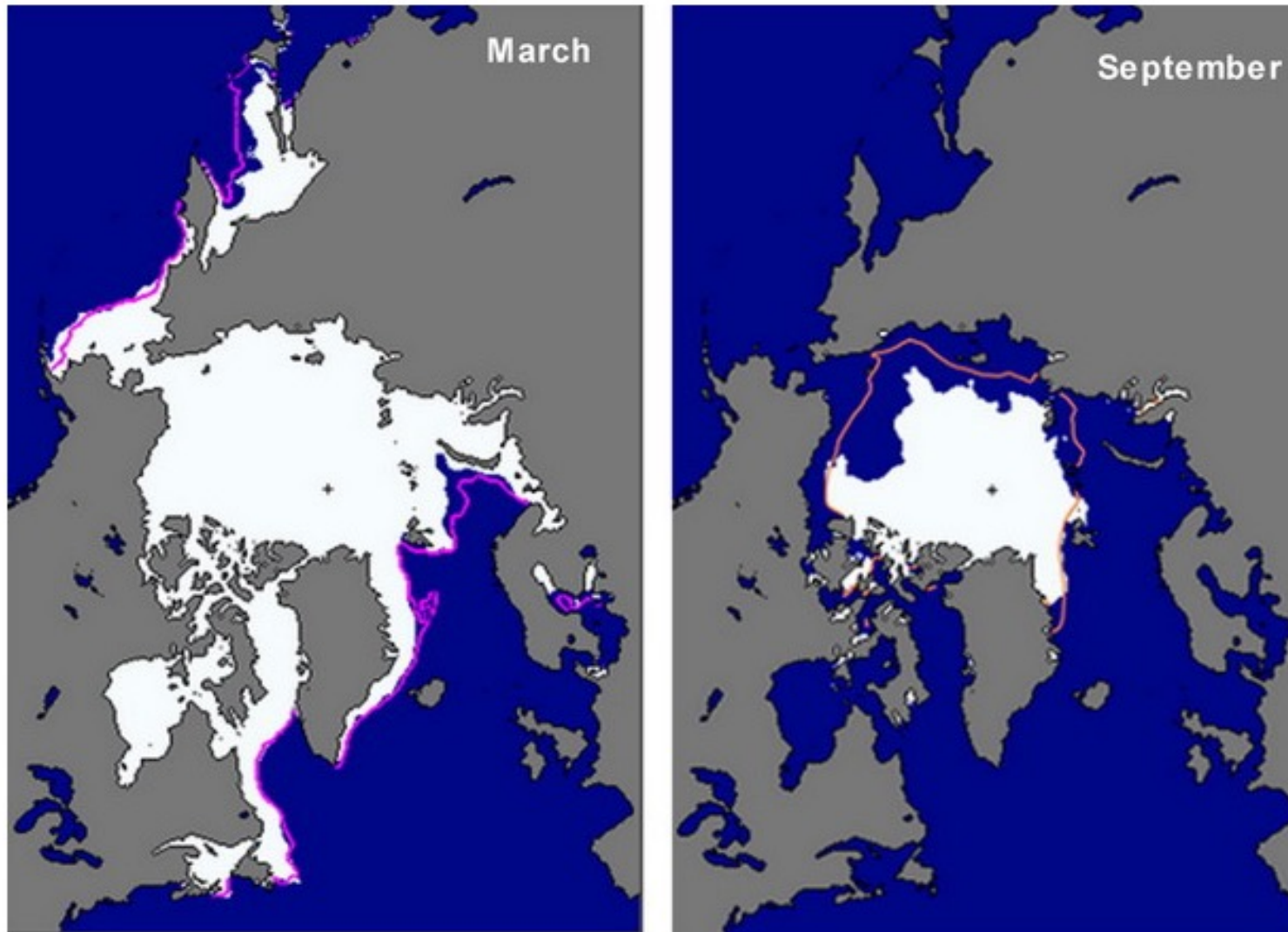
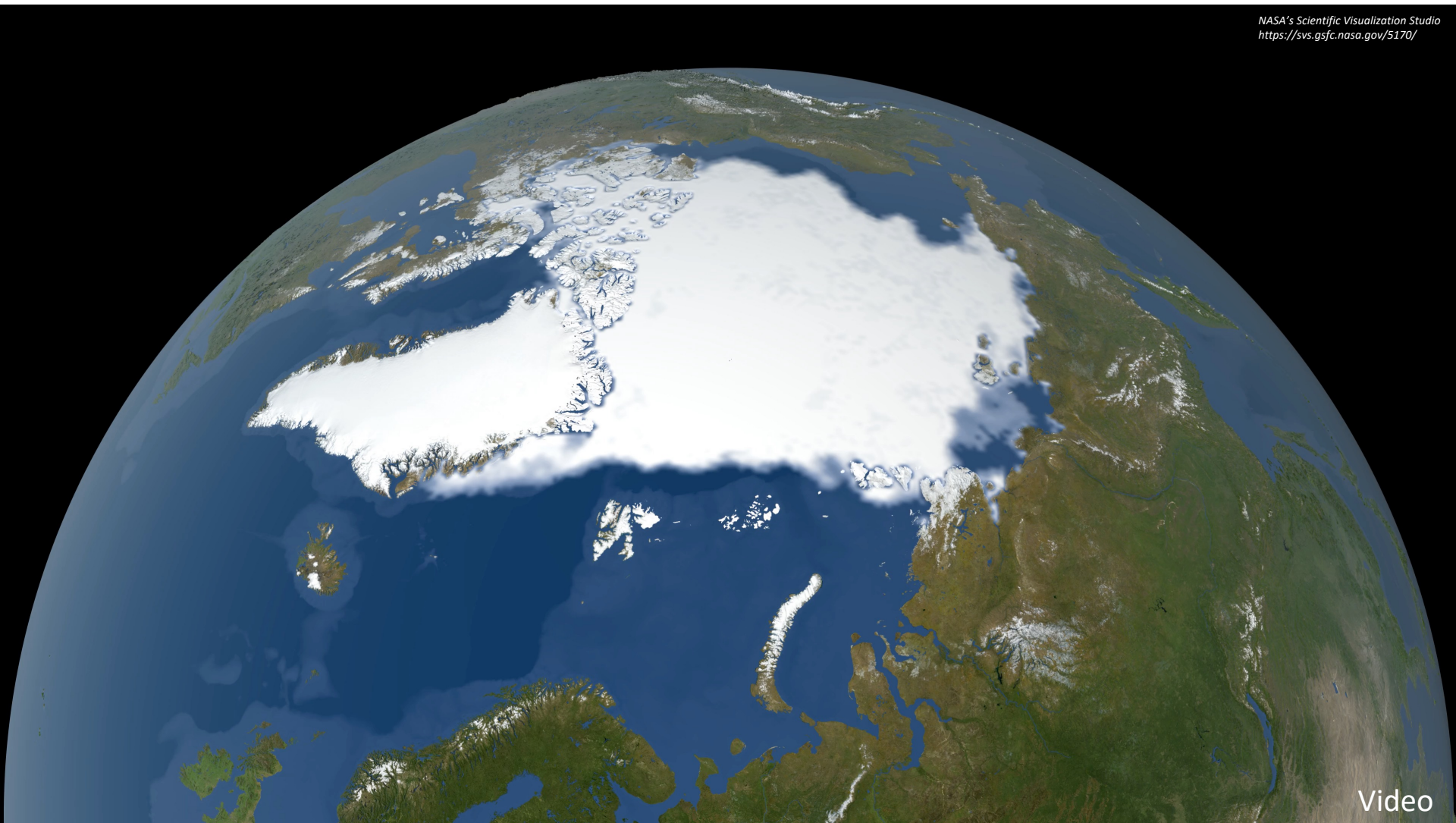
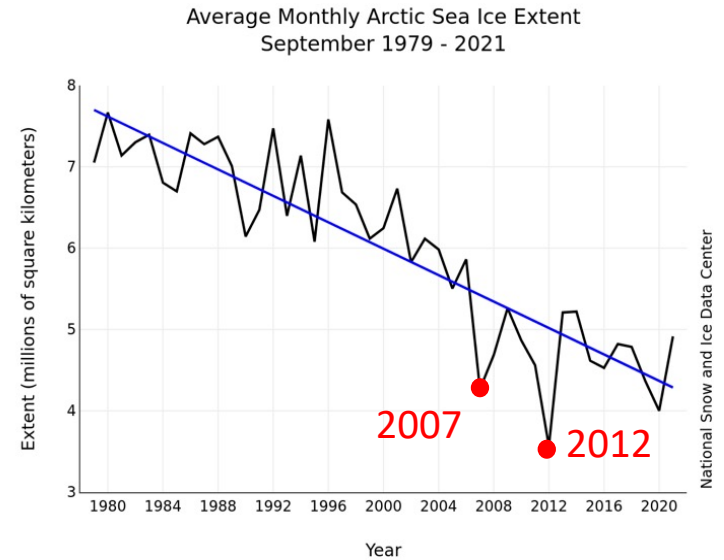
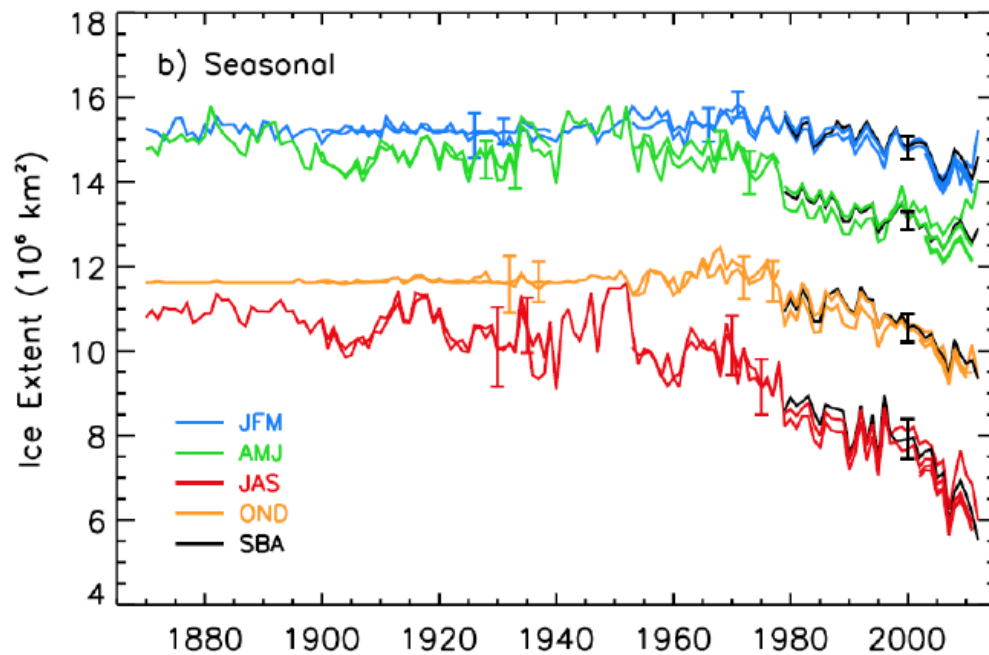
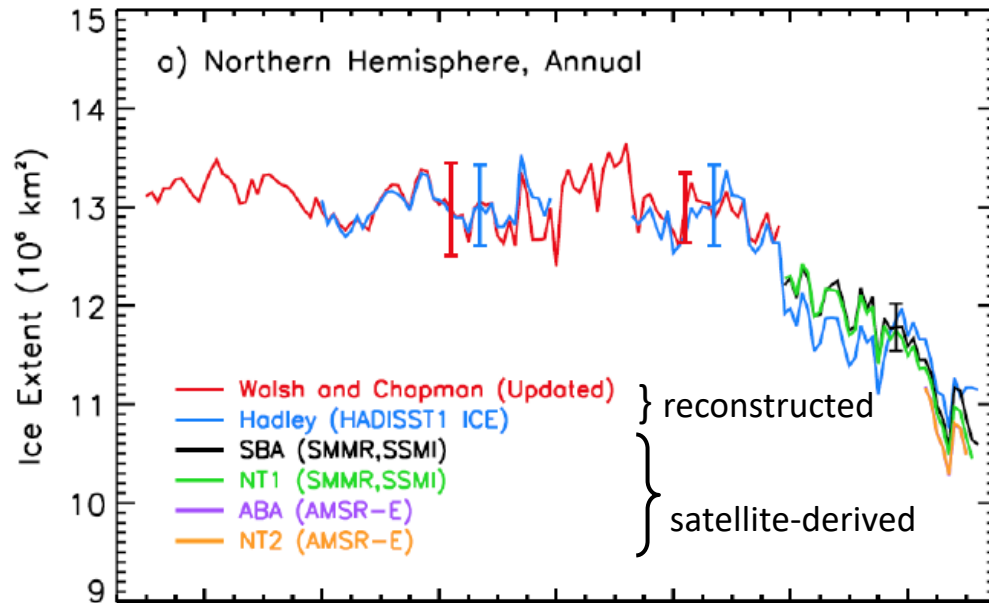


Figure S1. Sea ice extent in March 2009 (left) and September 2009 (right), illustrating the respective winter maximum and summer minimum extents. The magenta line indicates the median maximum and minimum extent of the ice cover, for the period 1979–2000. [Figures from the National Snow and Ice Data Center Sea Ice Index: nsidc.org/data/seaice_index.]



Sea ice: Arctic sea ice extent



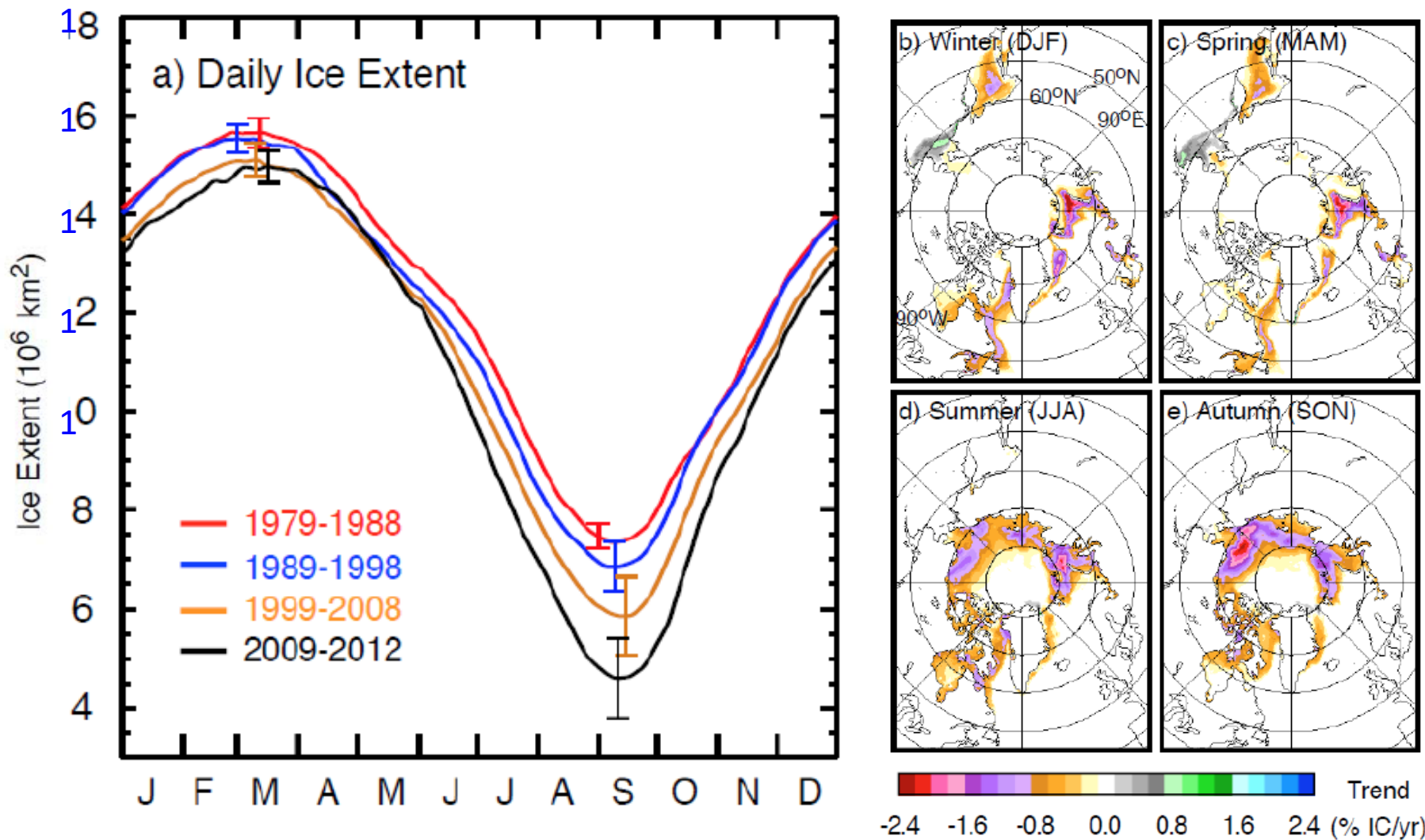
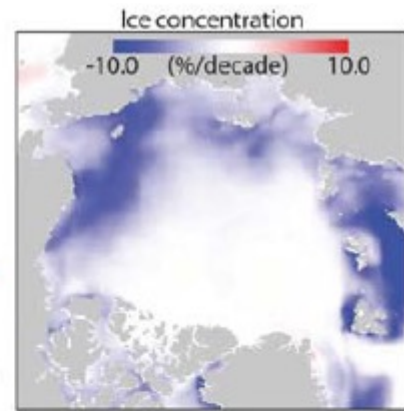
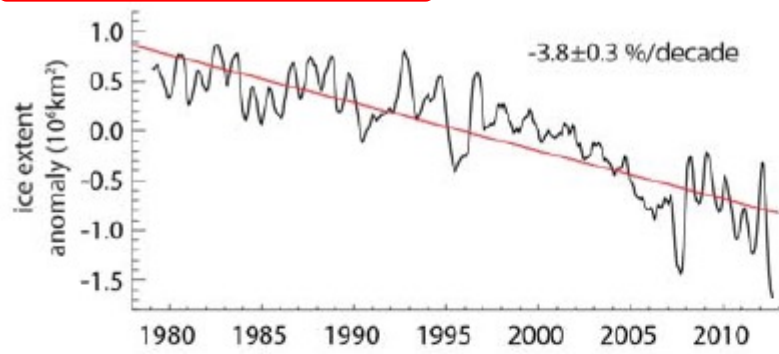
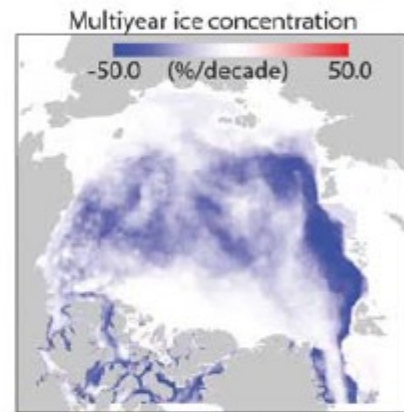
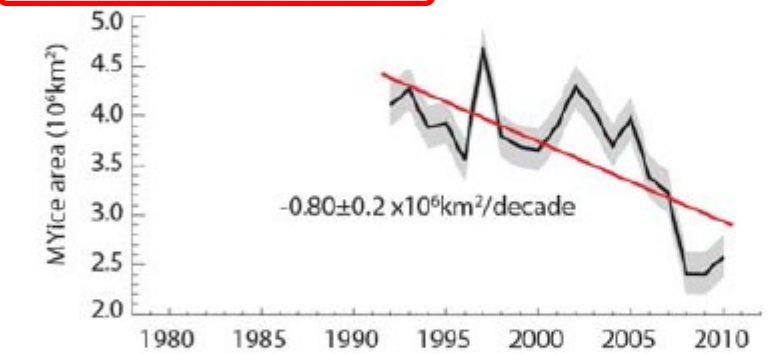


Figure 4.2: (a) Plots of decadal averages of daily sea ice extent in the Arctic (1979 to 1988 in red, 1989 to 1998 in blue, 1999 to 2008 in gold) and a four-year average daily ice extent from 2009 to 2012 in black. Maps ice concentration trends (1979–2012) in (b) winter, (c) spring, (d) summer and (e) autumn (updated from Comiso, 2010).

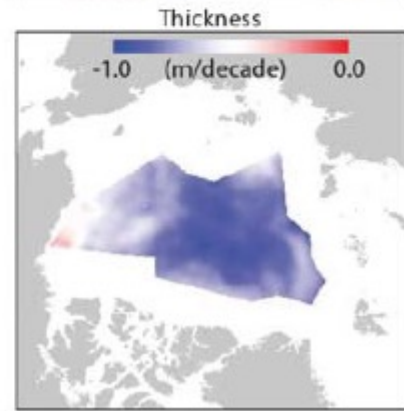
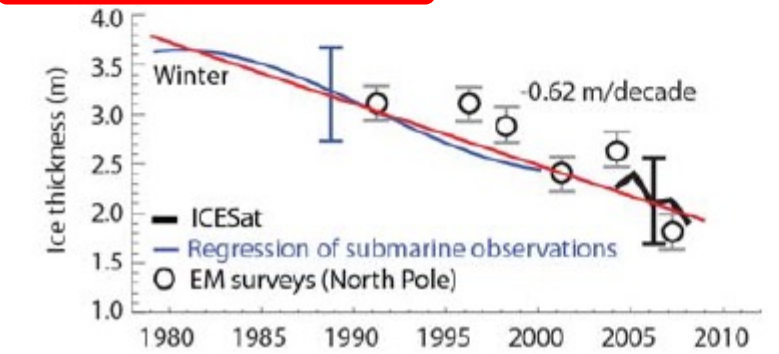
a) Annual ice extent



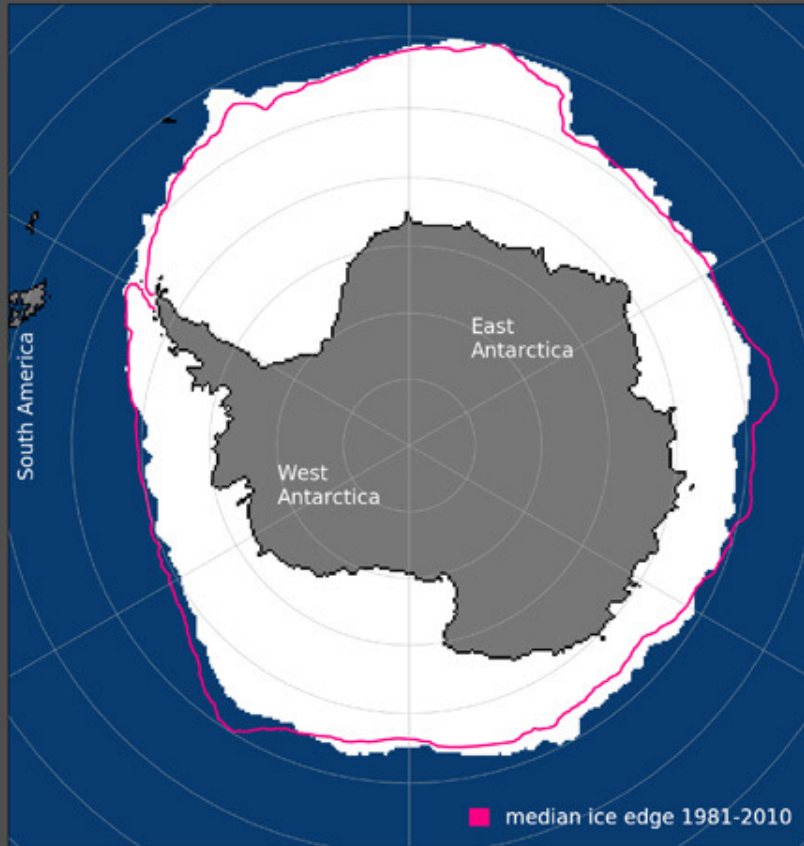
b) Multiyear ice coverage (Jan-1)



c) Ice thickness



Sea Ice Extent, Sep 2020



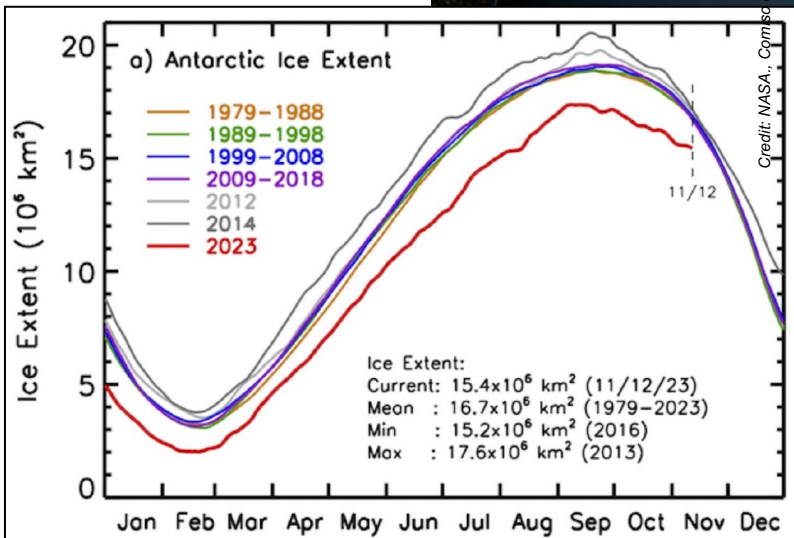
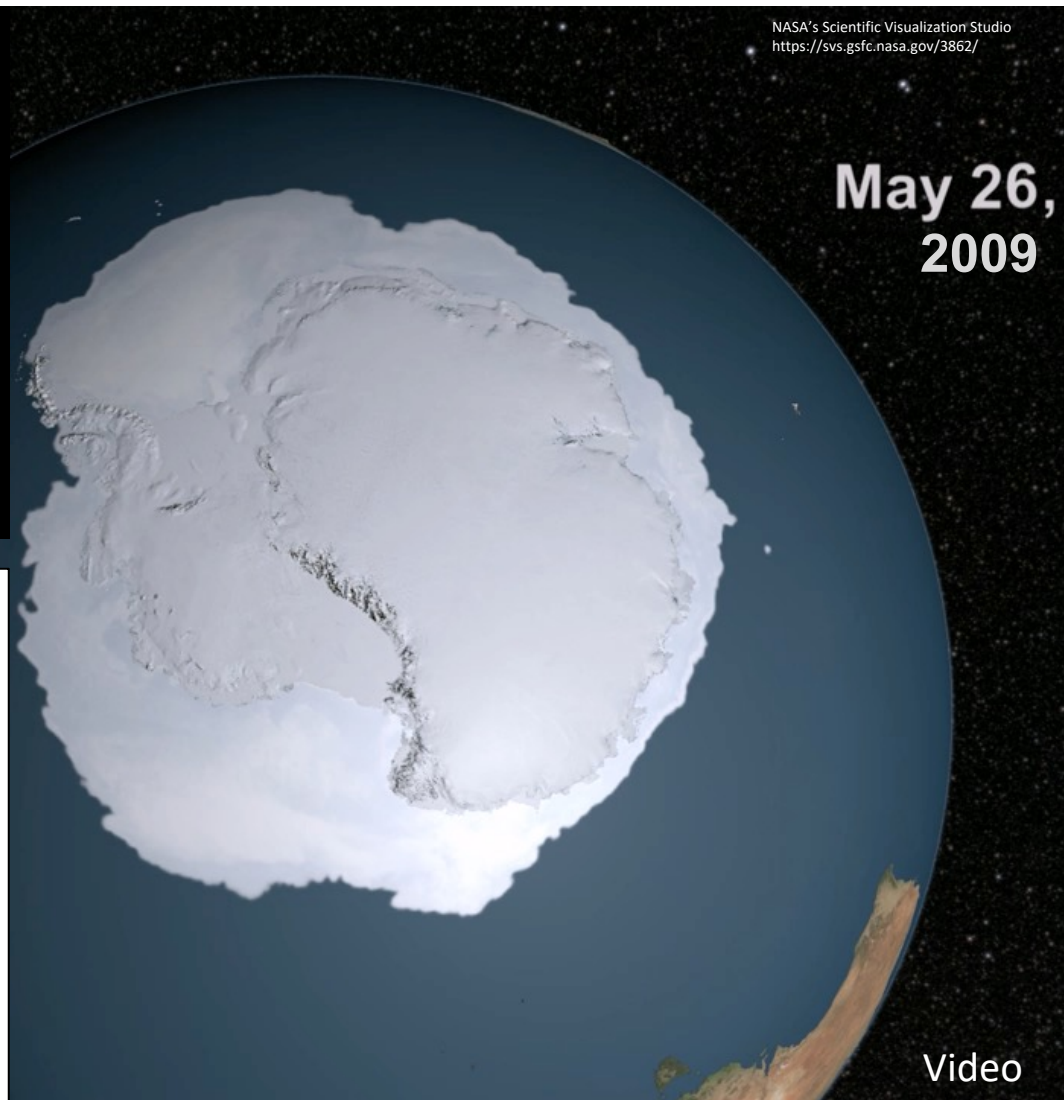
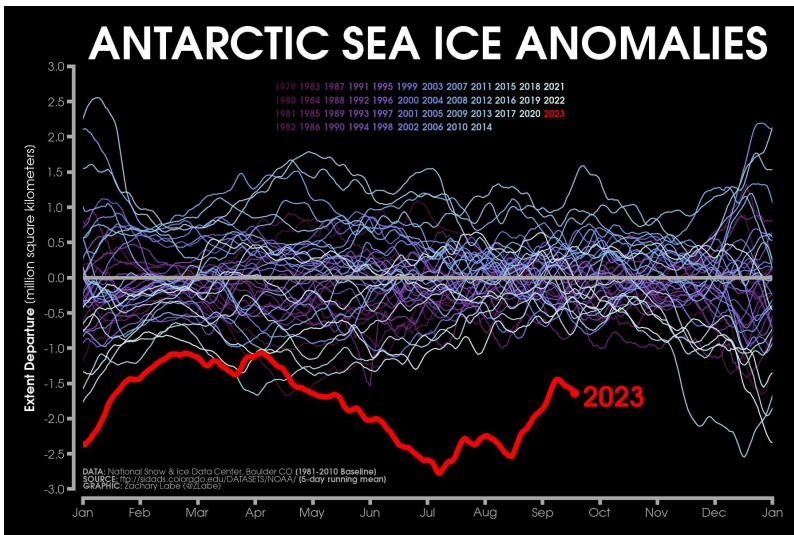
Total extent = 18.8 million sq km

Sea Ice Extent, Feb 2021



Total extent = 2.8 million sq km

Maps of Antarctic sea ice extent at the most recent winter maximum on 28 September 2020 (left) and summer minimum on 21 February 2021 (right). The pink lines show the 1981-2010 average extent for that month. Credit: NSIDC.



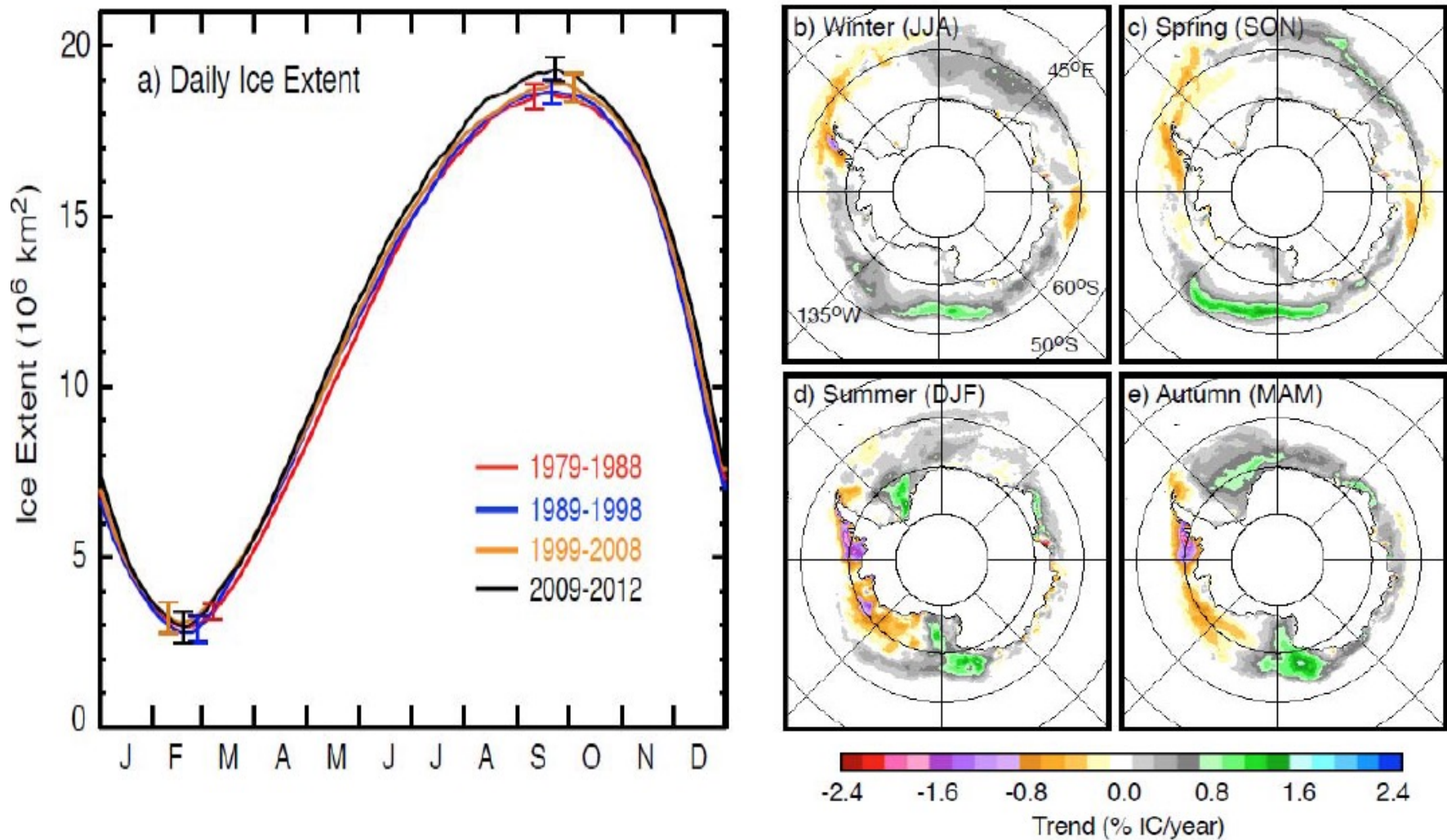
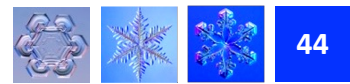
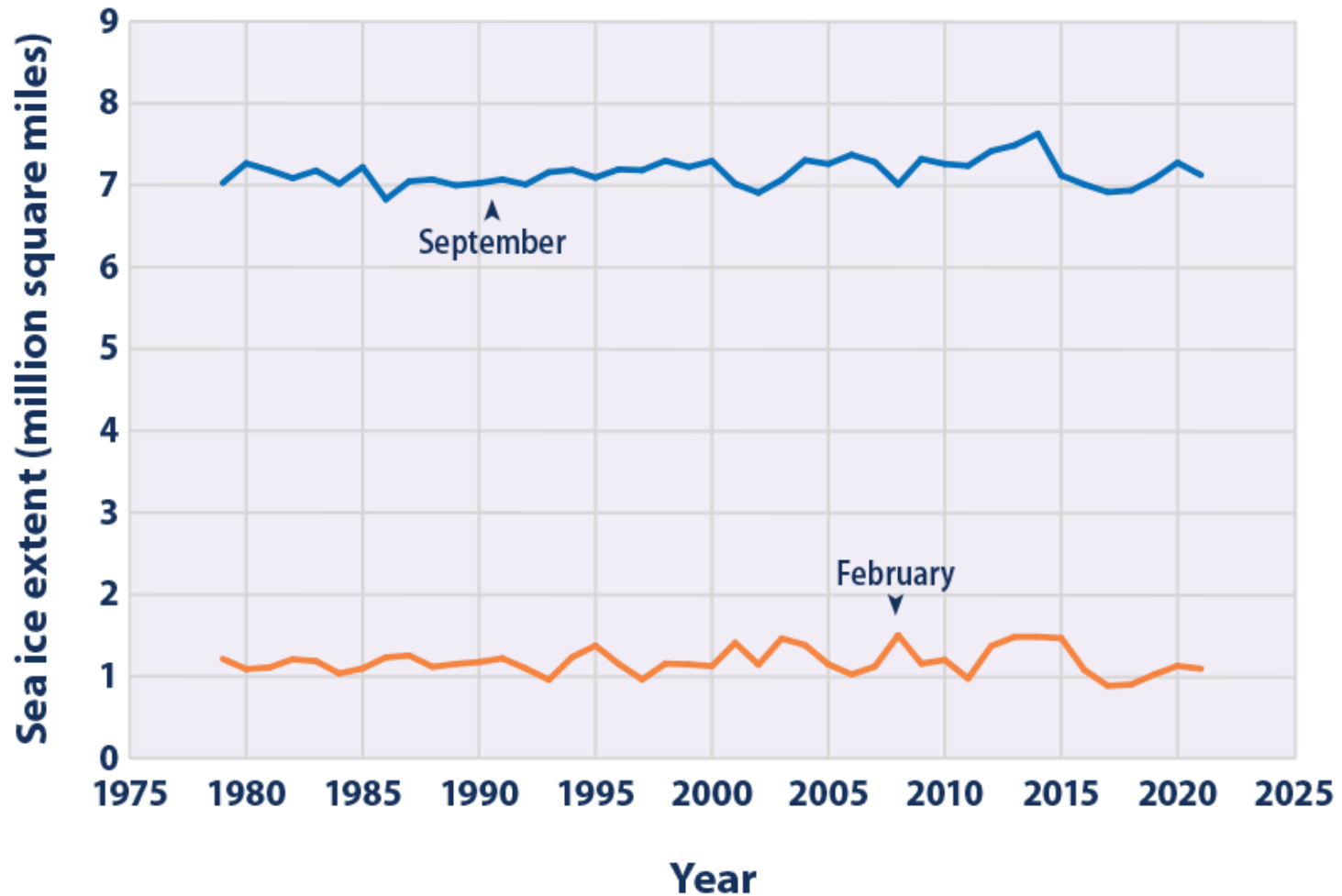


Figure 4.7: (a) Plots of decadal averages of daily sea ice extent in the Antarctic (1979 to 1988 in red, 1989 to 1998 in blue, 1999 to 2008 in gold) and a four-year average daily ice extent from 2009 to 2012 in black. Maps of ice concentration trends (1979–2012) in (b) winter, (c) spring, (d) summer and (e) autumn (updated from Comiso, 2010).



February and September Monthly Average Antarctic Sea Ice Extent, 1979–2021



Data source: NSIDC (National Snow and Ice Data Center). 2022. Sea ice data and image archive. Accessed January 2022. https://nsidc.org/data/seoice_index/archives.

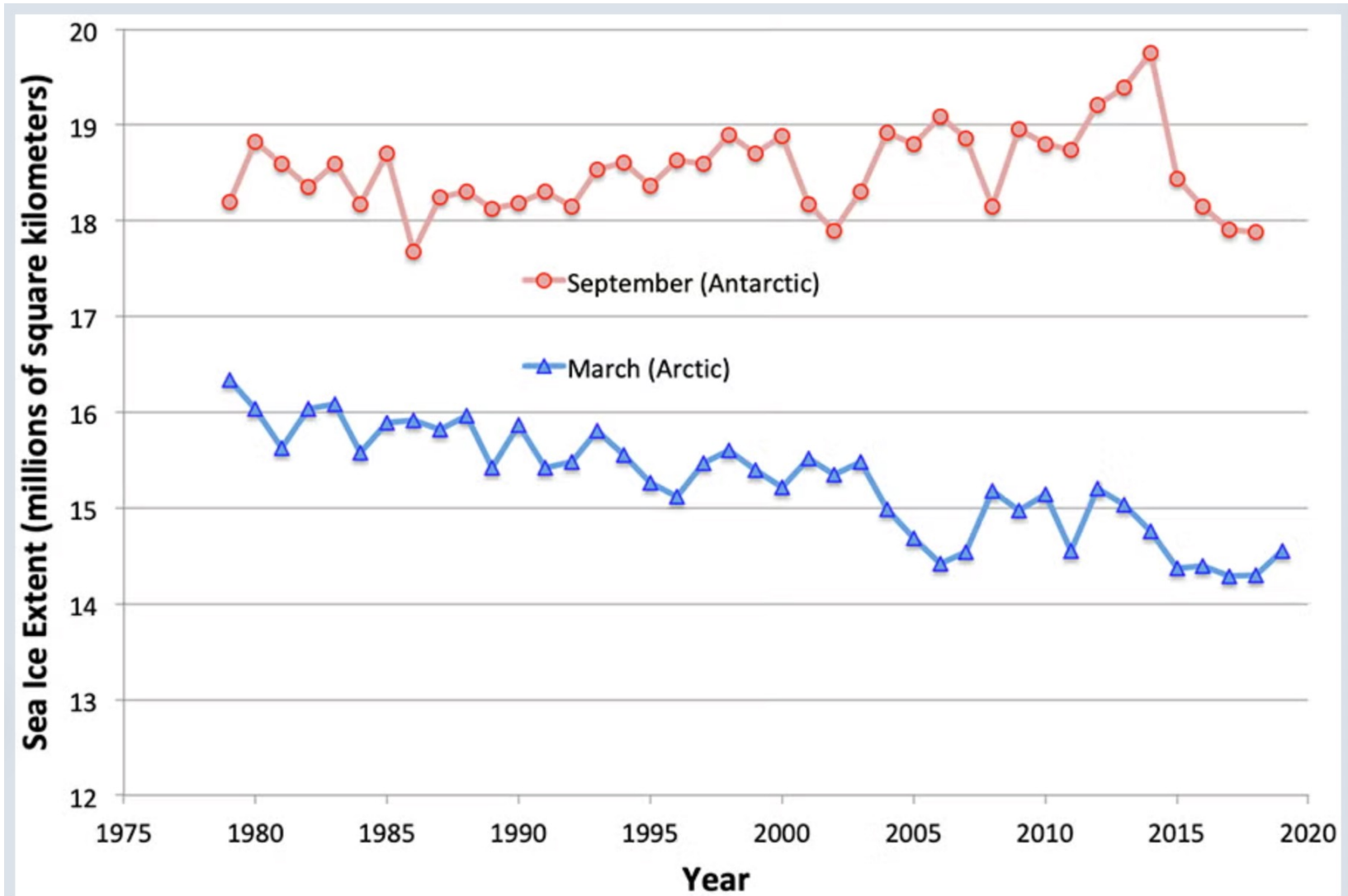


Figure 5: Annual Maximum Sea Ice Extent (all years)

Data: NSIDC

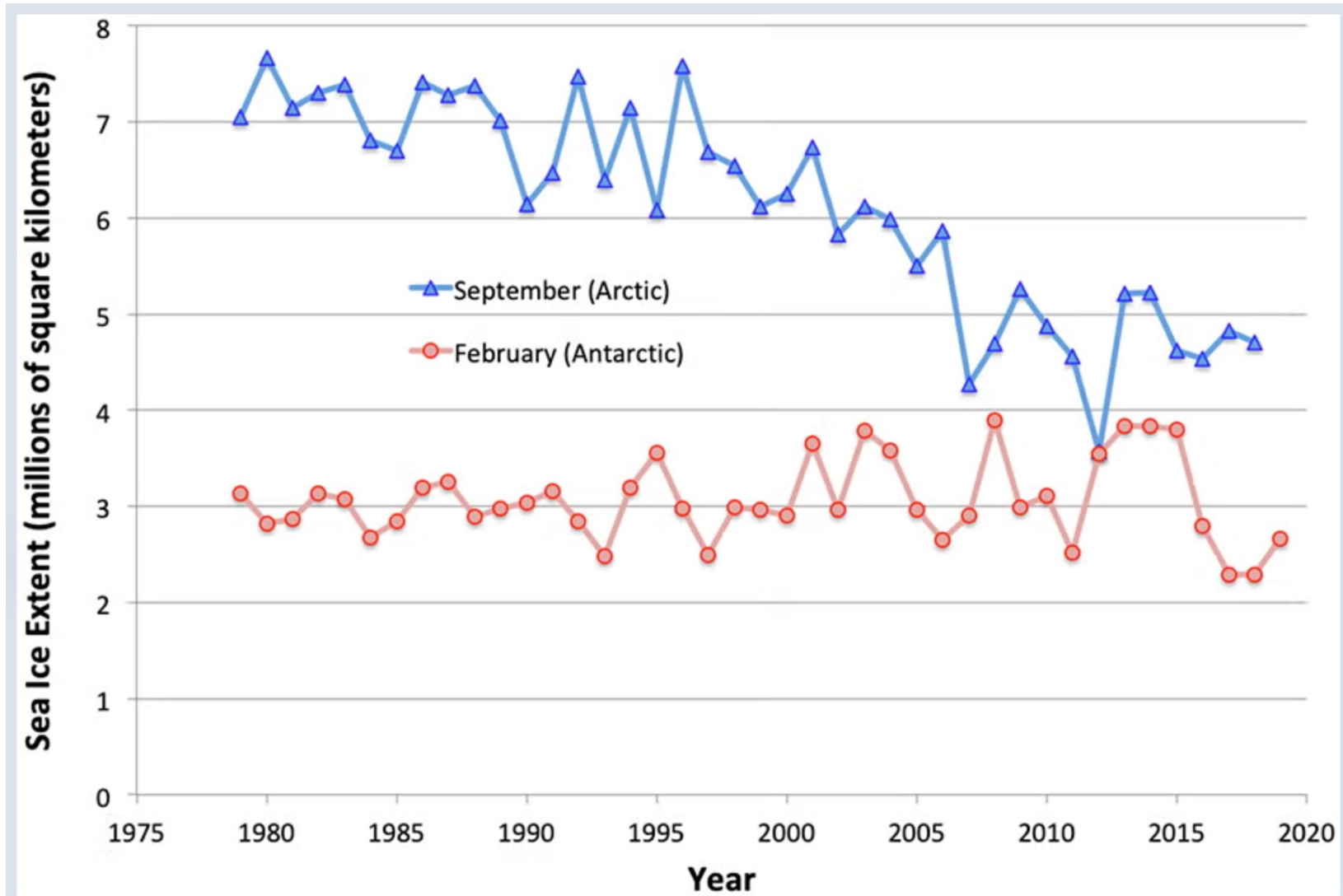
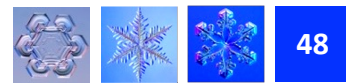


Figure 6: Annual Minimum Sea Ice Extent (all years)

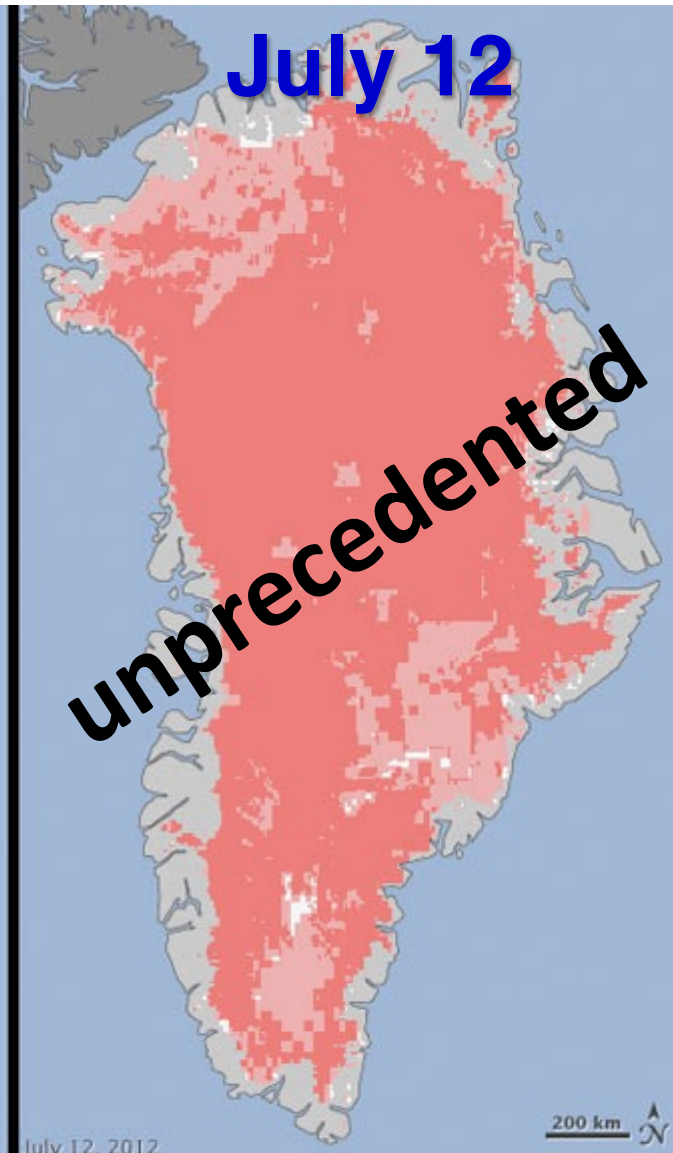
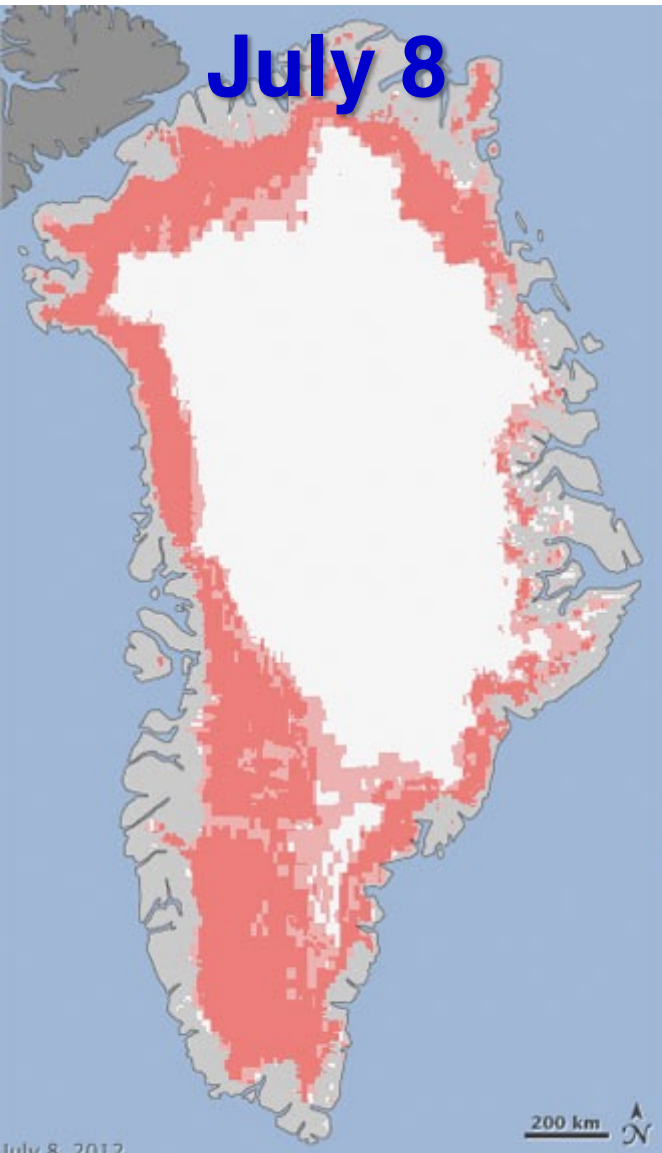
Data: NSIDC



Greenland Ice Sheet with melt water stream



- Continental scale of **thousands** of km horizontal extent
- Up to **3km** (Greenland) and **4km** (Antarctica) vertical extent
- Ice **flowing** from the center to the edges where it melts or breaks off
- **Oldest ice**: 800'000 yrs (EPICA), up to 4M yrs recently estimated
- Forming **ice sheets** which release **icebergs**
- Essential component for **stabilizing** global climate
- Largest global **freshwater** reservoirs



No Data Ice/Snow Free Probable Melt Melt No Melting



Glacier Watching Day 17

Video

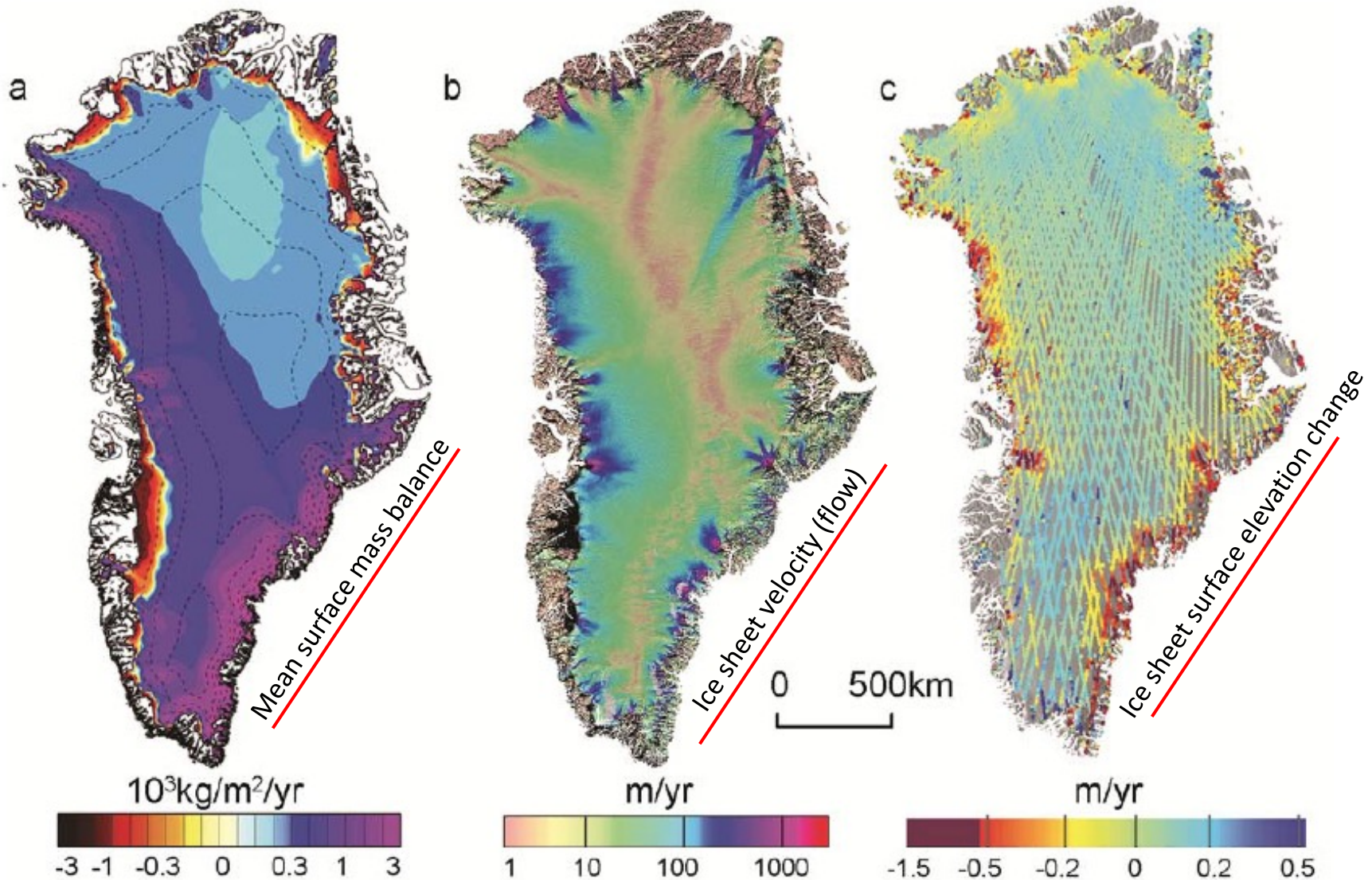
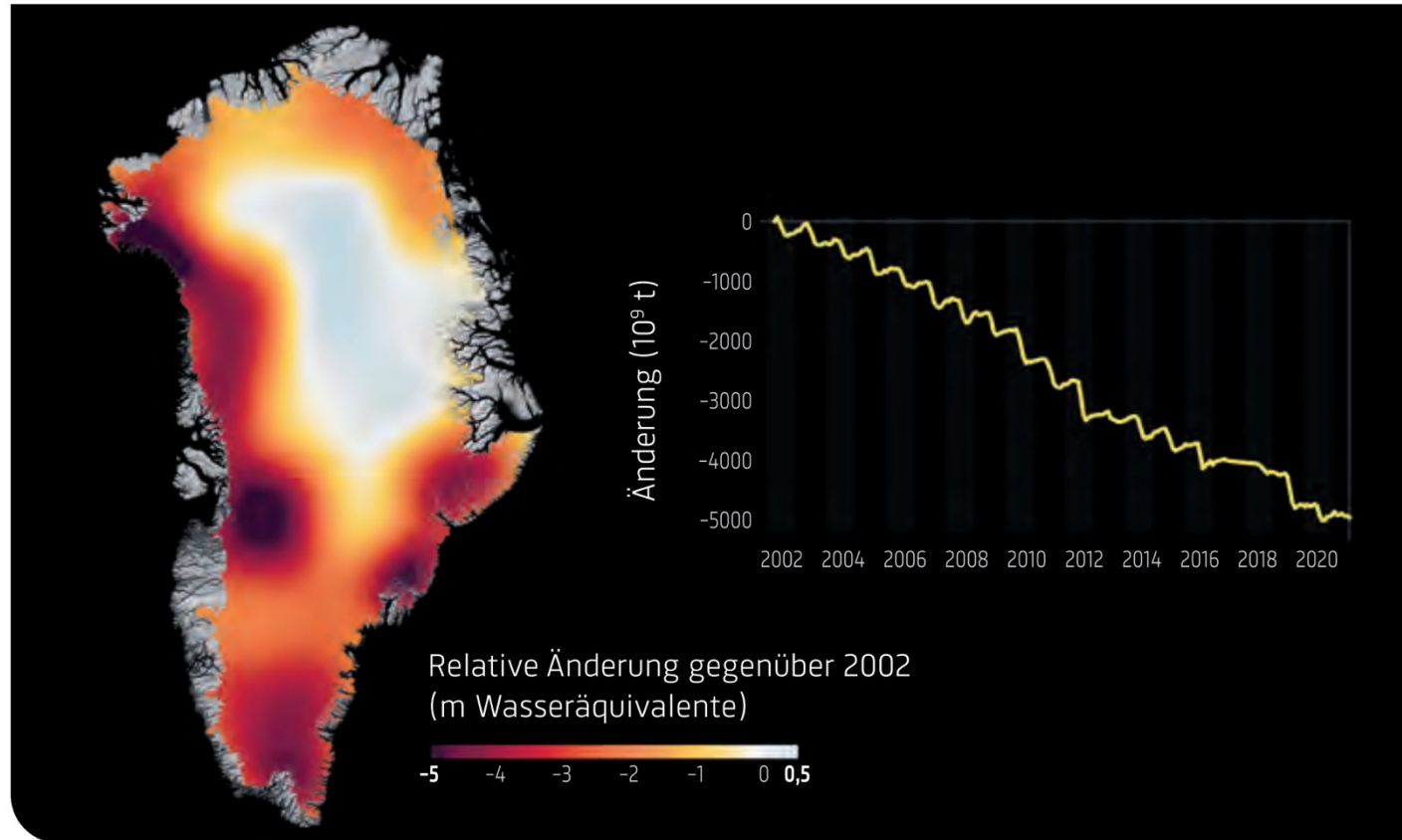
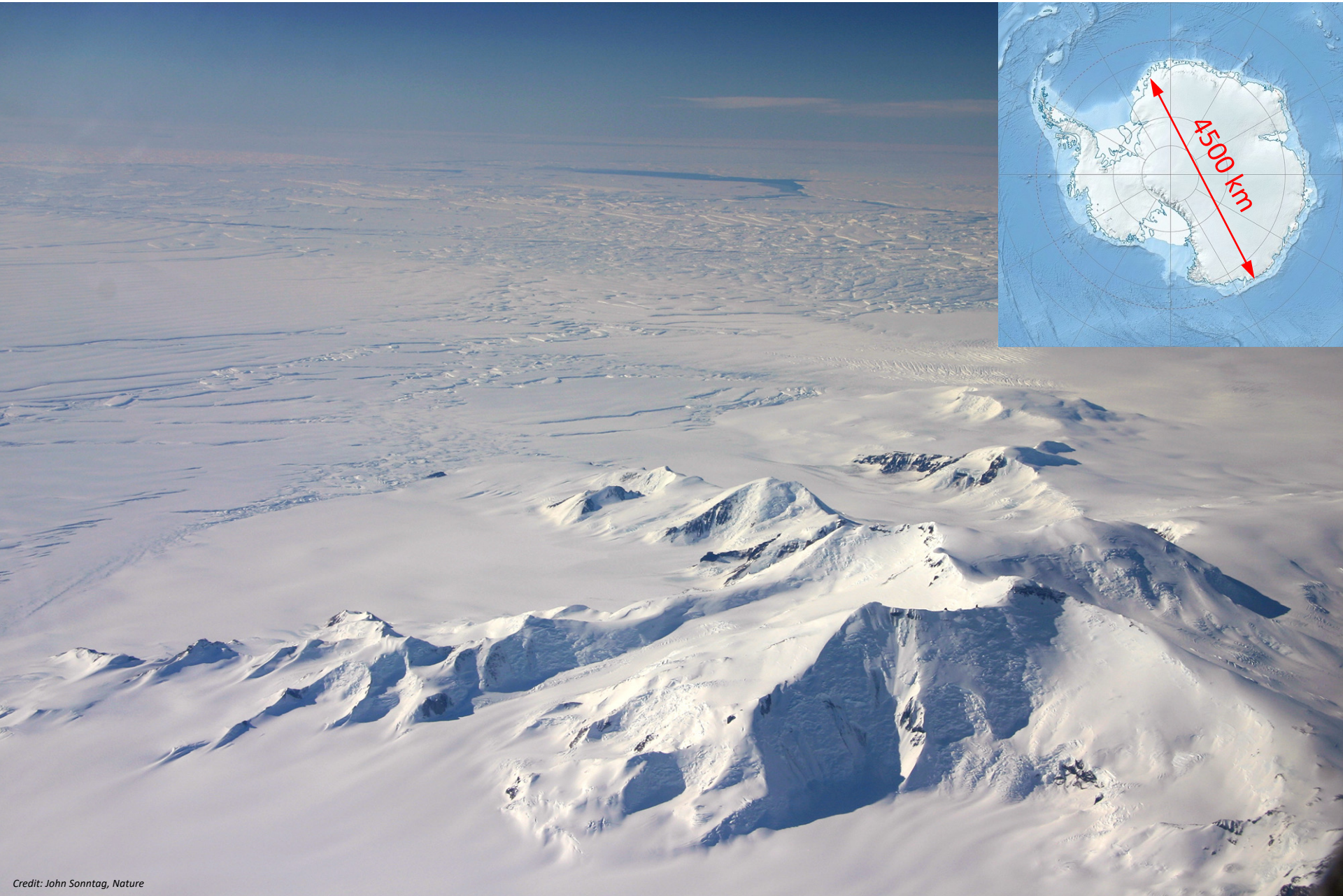
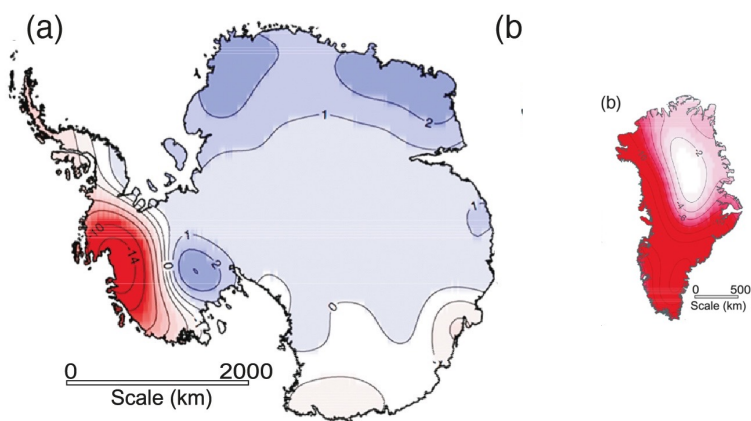
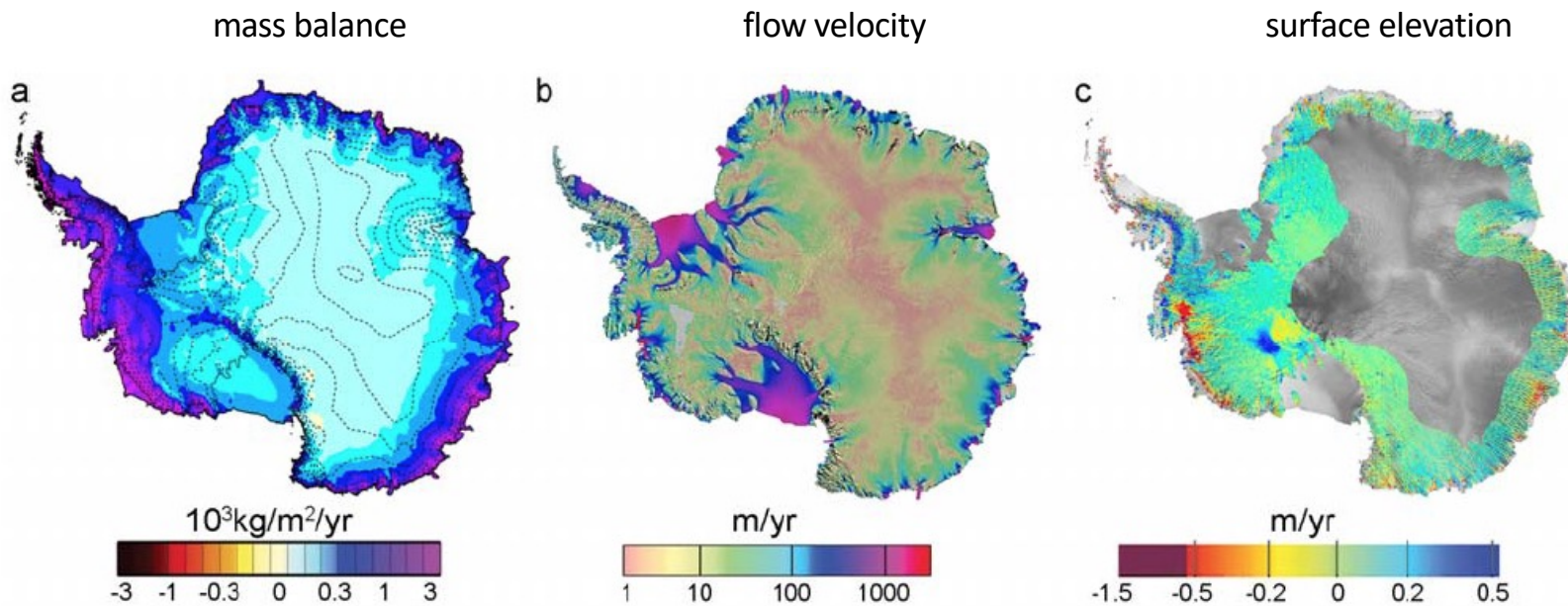


Figure 4.13: Key variable related to the determination of the Greenland ice sheet mass changes. (a) mean surface mass balance for 1989–2004 from regional atmospheric climate modelling (Ettema et al., 2009); (b) ice sheet velocity for 2007–2009 determined from satellite data, showing fastest flow in red, fast flow in blue, and slower flow in green and yellow (Rignot and Mouginot, 2012); (c) changes in ice sheet surface elevation for 2003–2008 determined from ICESat altimetry, with elevation decrease in red to increase in blue (Pritchard et al., 2009). (d-e) Temporal evolution of ice loss

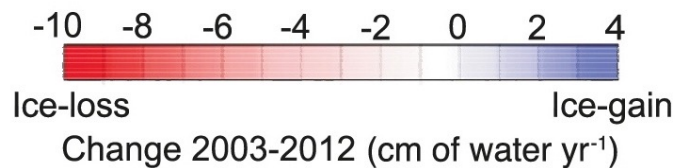


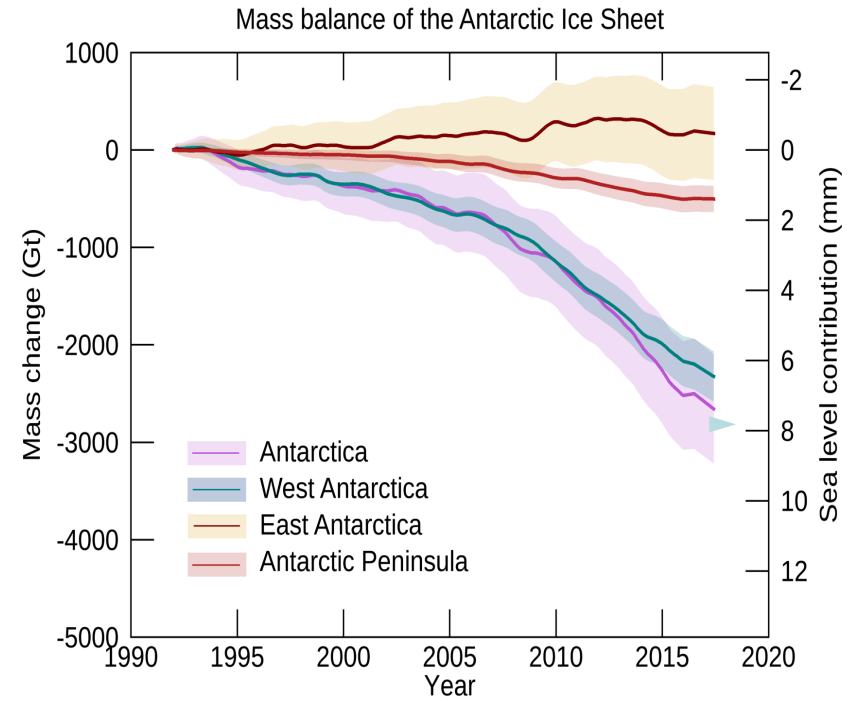
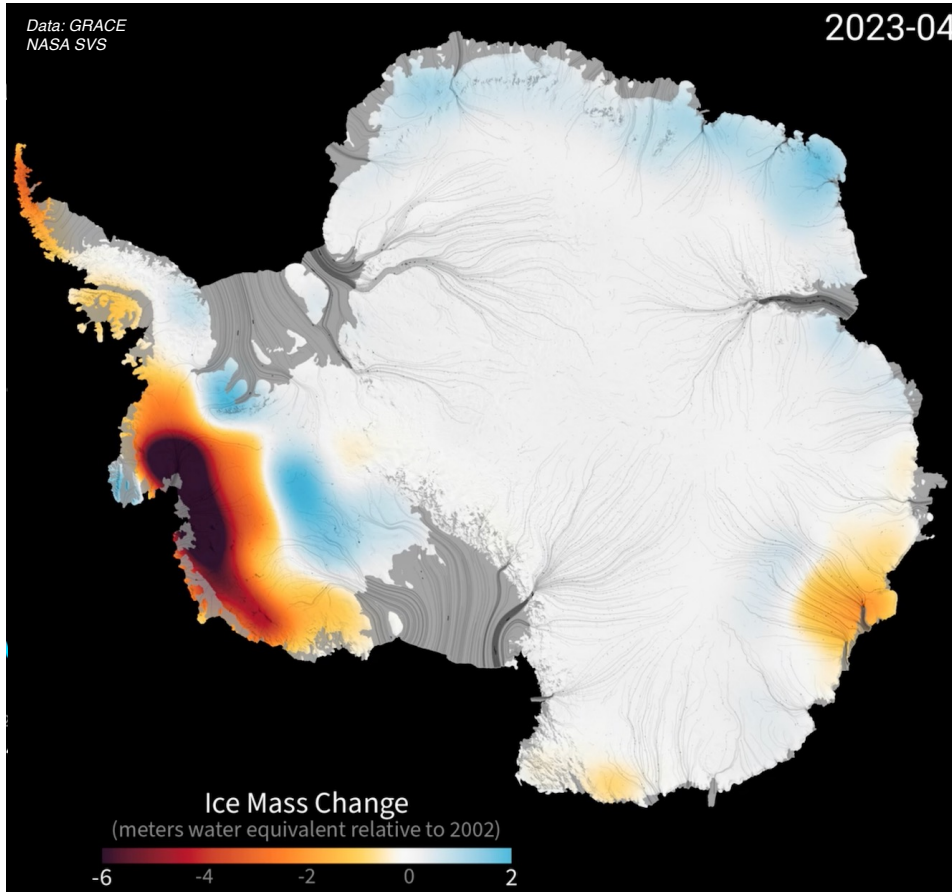
Ice sheets: Antarctica



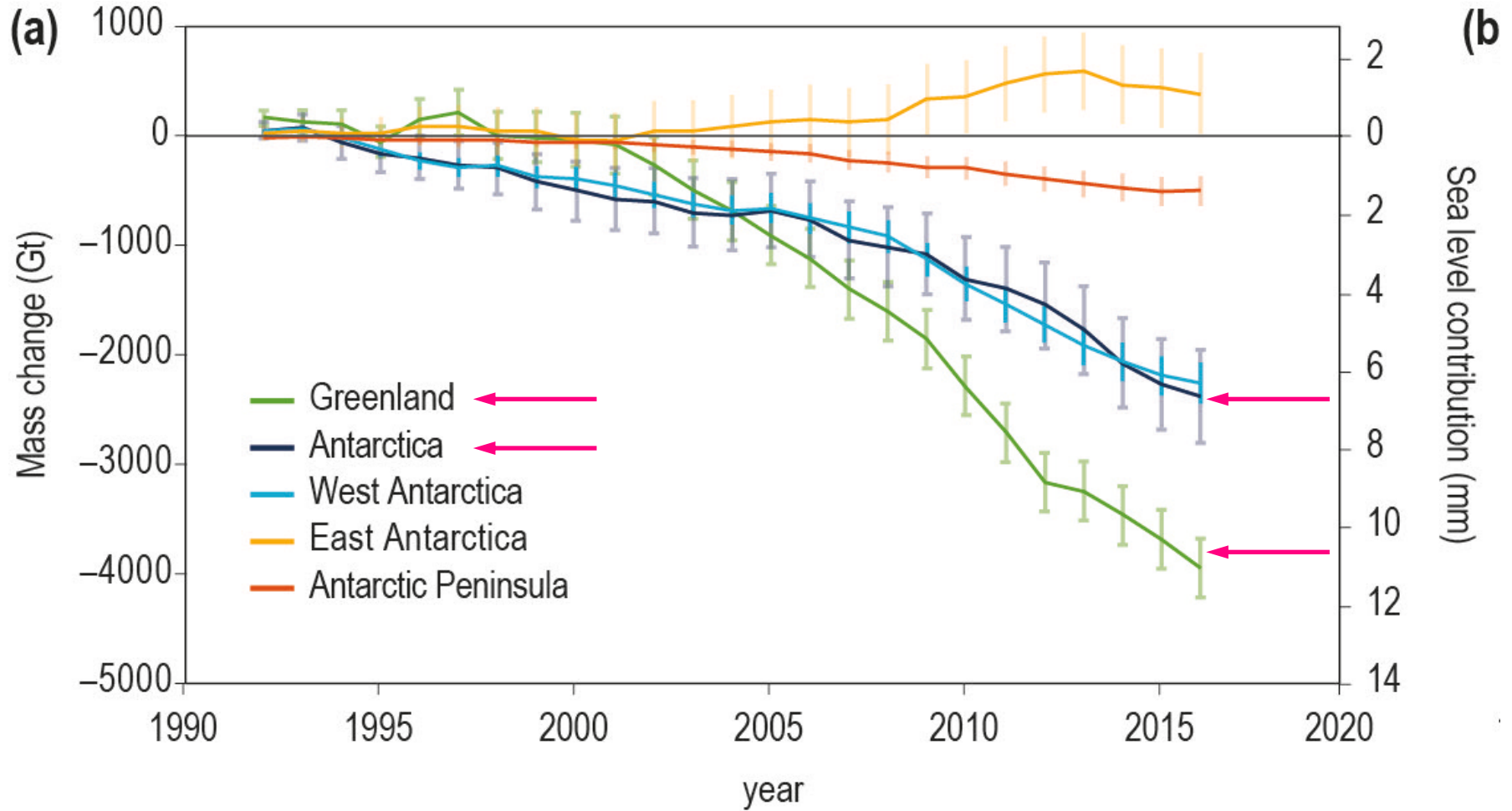


Antarctica and Greenland at scale





Total cumulative Antarctic ice sheet mass.
Change relative to 1992.
Data source: IMBIE Shepherd et al., (2020)
Credit: IMBIE/ESA/NASA.





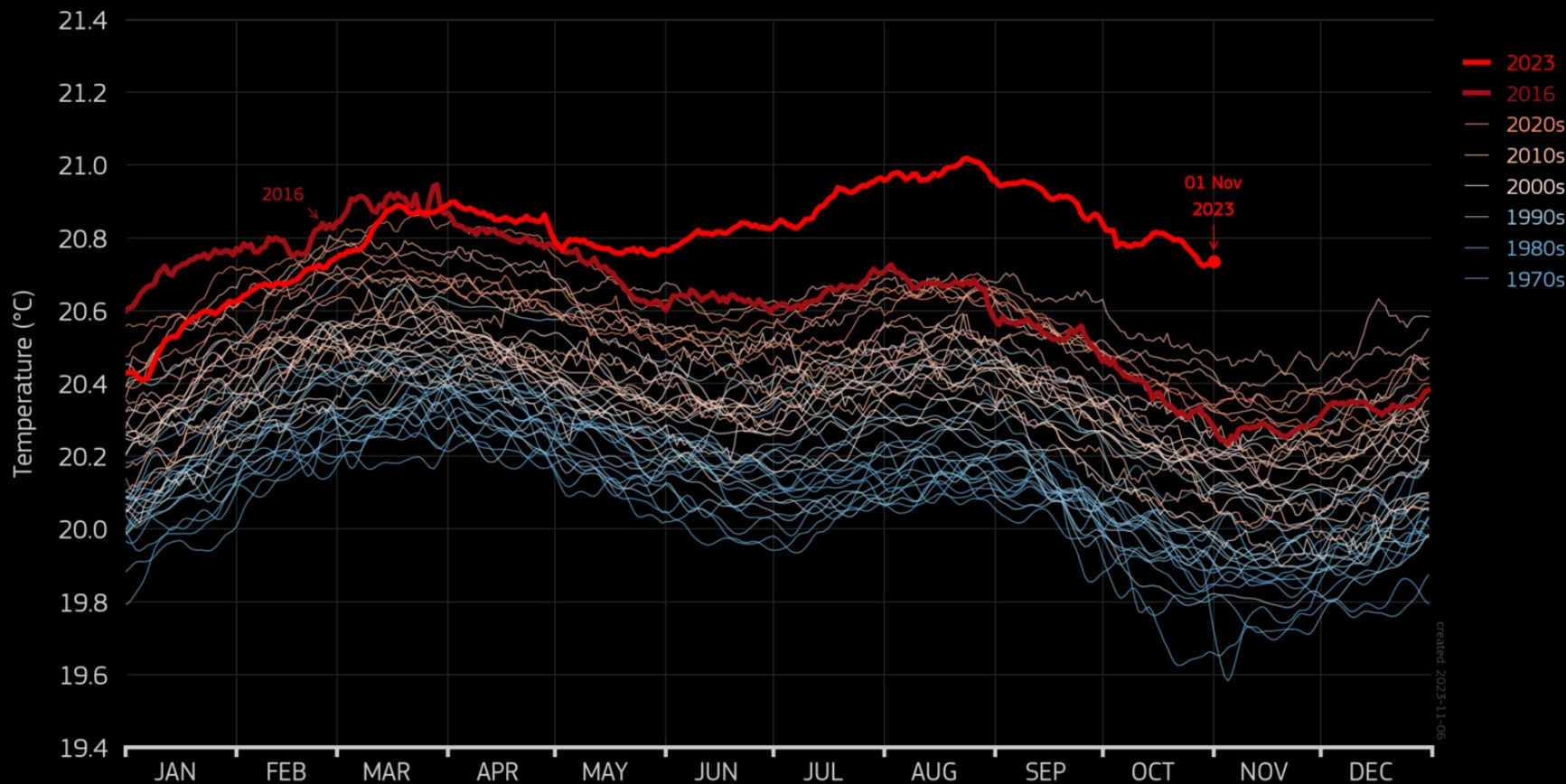
DAILY SEA SURFACE TEMPERATURE 60°S–60°N

Data: ERA5 1979–2023 • Credit: C3S/ECMWF



Climate
Change Service

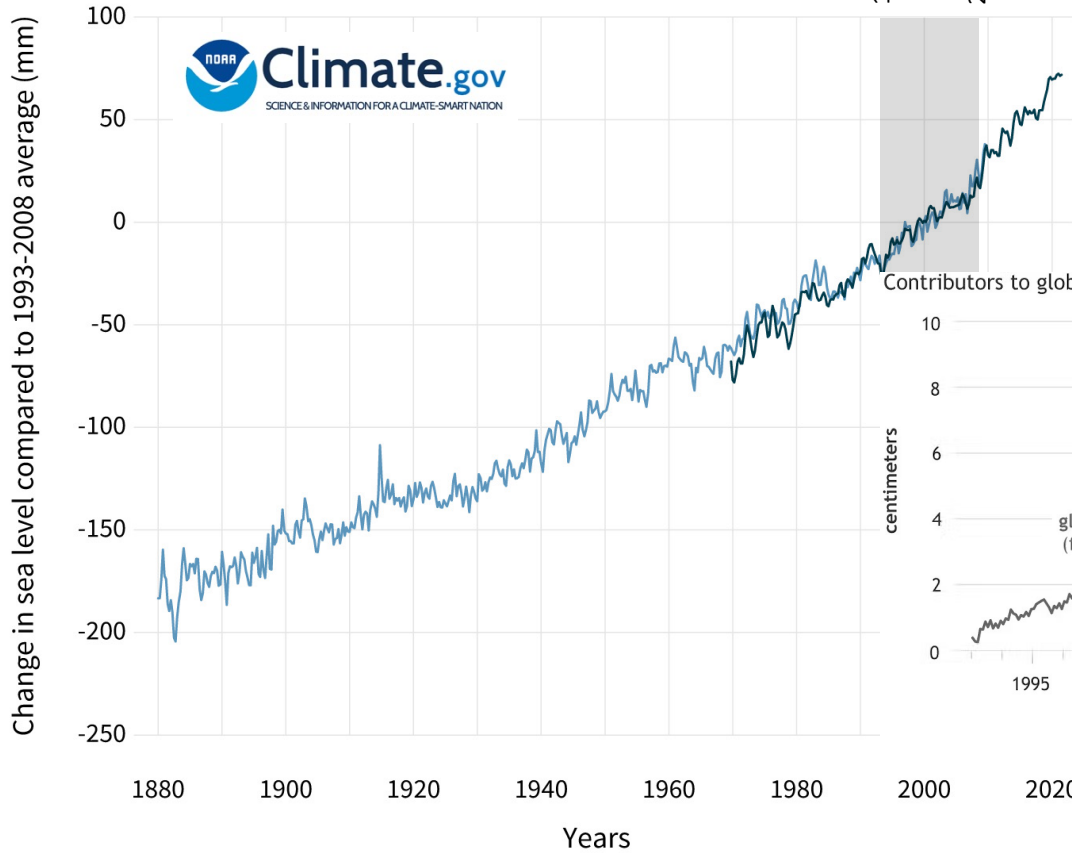
climate.copernicus.eu



PROGRAMME OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION

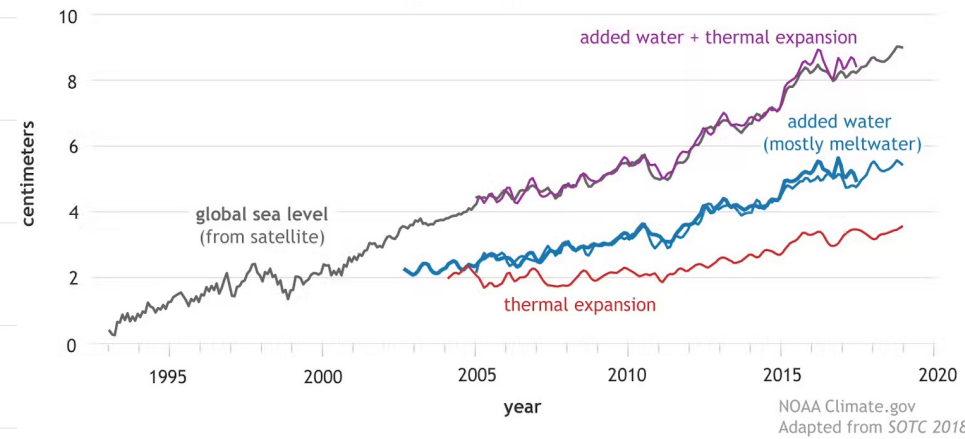


GLOBAL SEA LEVEL SINCE 1880



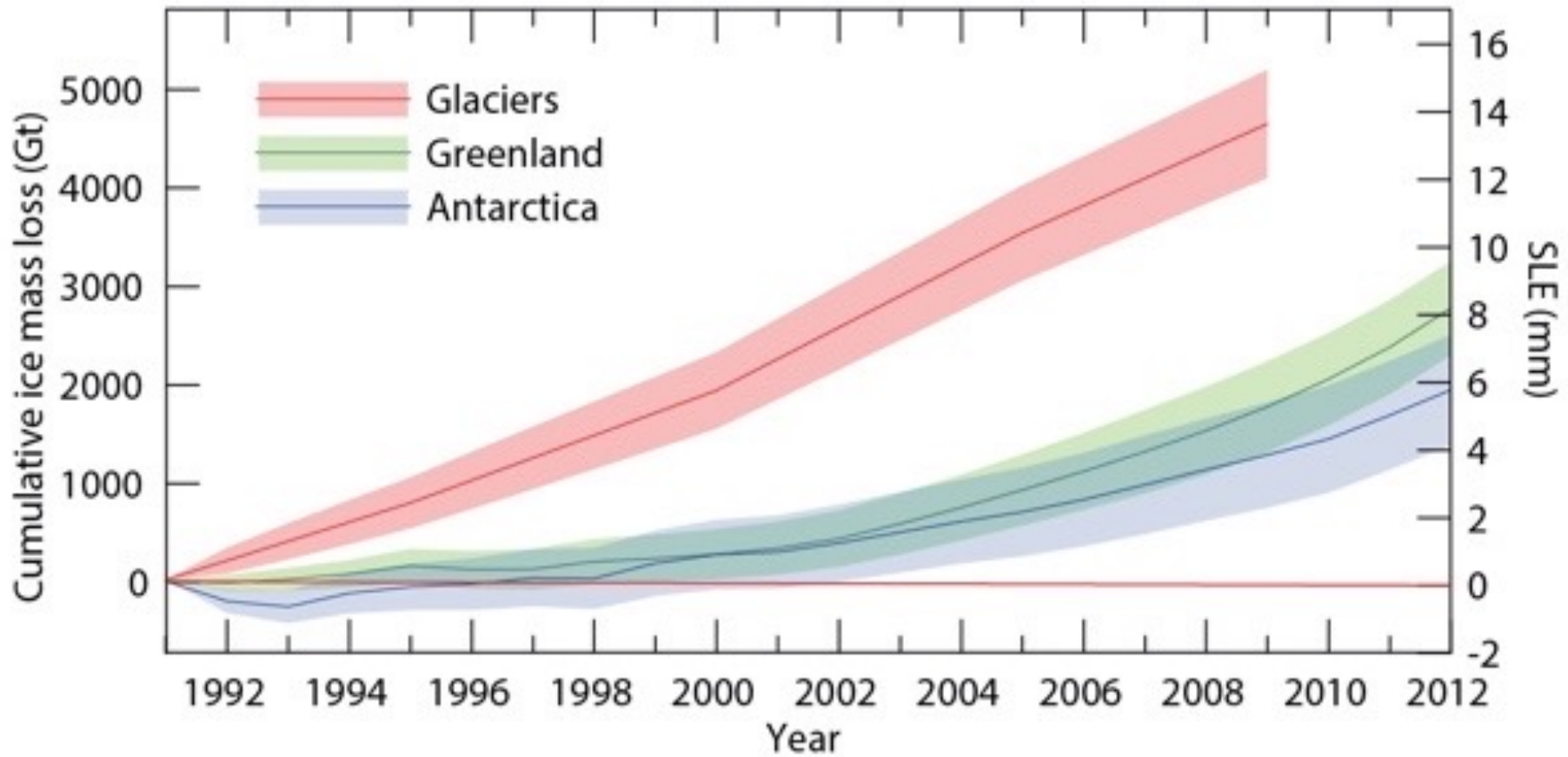
Seasonal (3-month) sea level estimates from [Church and White \(2011\)](#) (light blue line) and University of Hawaii [Fast Delivery](#) sea level data (dark blue). The values are shown as change in sea level in millimeters compared to the 1993-2008 average. NOAA Climate.gov image based on analysis and data from Philip Thompson, University of Hawaii Sea Level Center.

Contributors to global sea level rise (1993-2018)

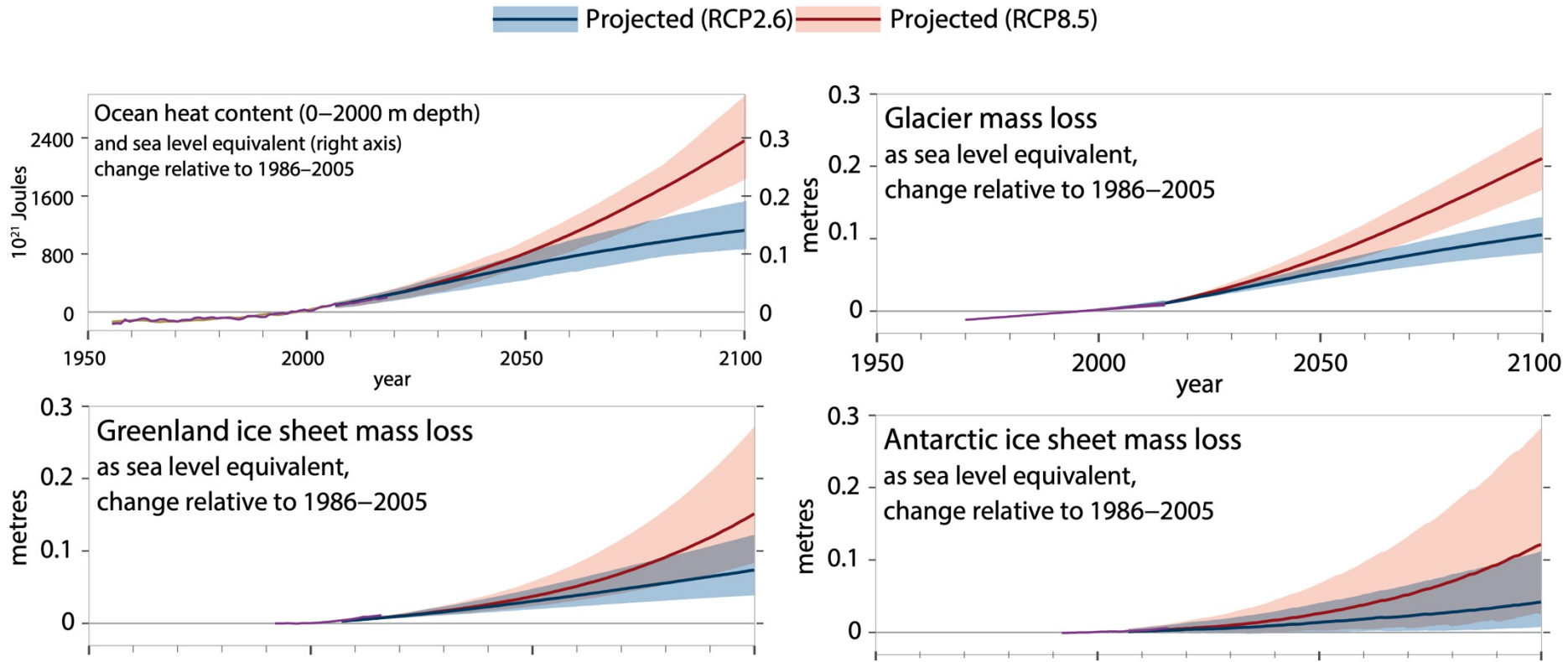


Also note:
Thermal expansion

Cumulative ice mass loss and corresponding uncertainty range
SLE = sea level equivalent



Future change cryosphere and sea level







- Alpine glaciers have a temperature at the pressure melting point (**temperate**)
- Polar glaciers are “**cold**” ($< 0^{\circ}$ C) or “**poly-thermal**”
- Gravity driven ice flow, **visco-plastic** flow regime
- Basal **gliding** on loose or frozen sediment or on solid bedrock
- Feature a neutral **mass balance** when in equilibrium with present climate
- Reliable **freshwater** water reservoir (as long as they resist climate change)
- Flow **velocity** typically 10 to 500 m yr⁻¹

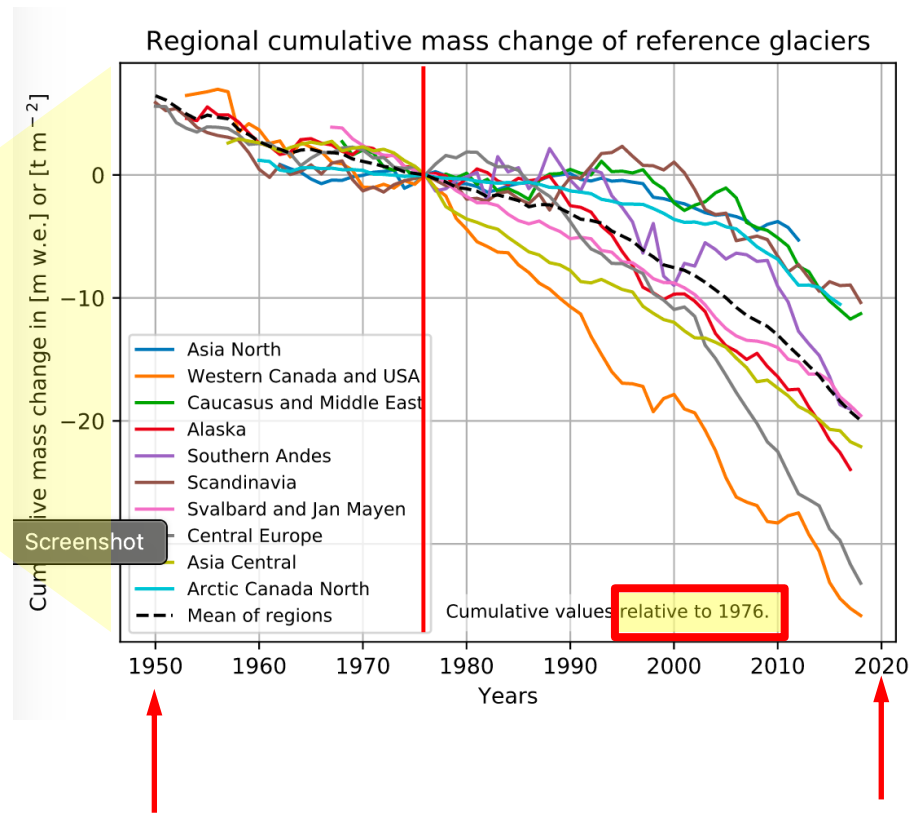
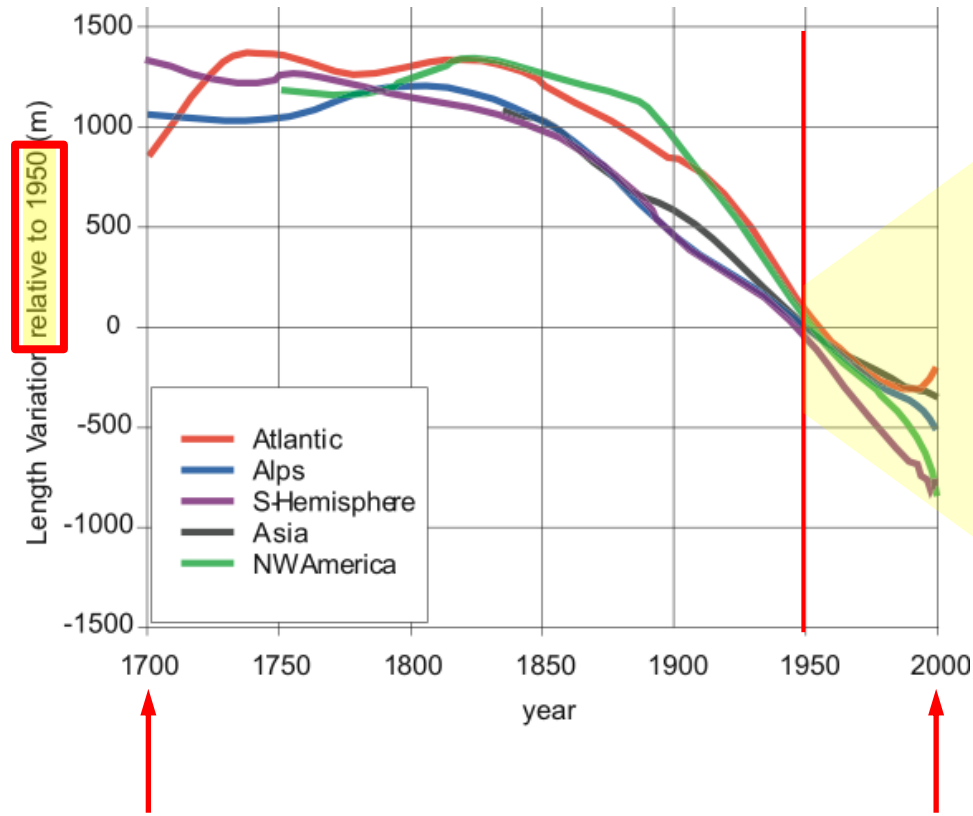


Exit Glacier, Kenai Peninsula, AK

Credit: Kenai Fjords NPS

Video

Glaciers: Regional changes in glacier length



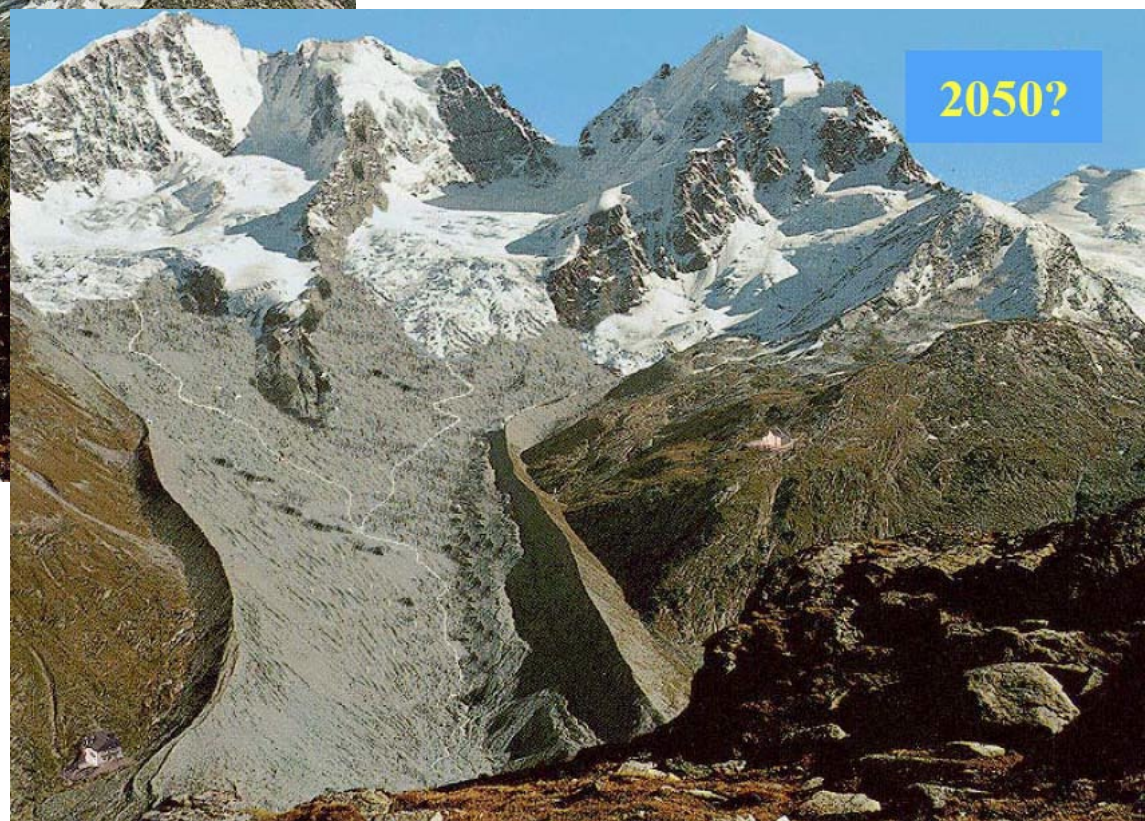
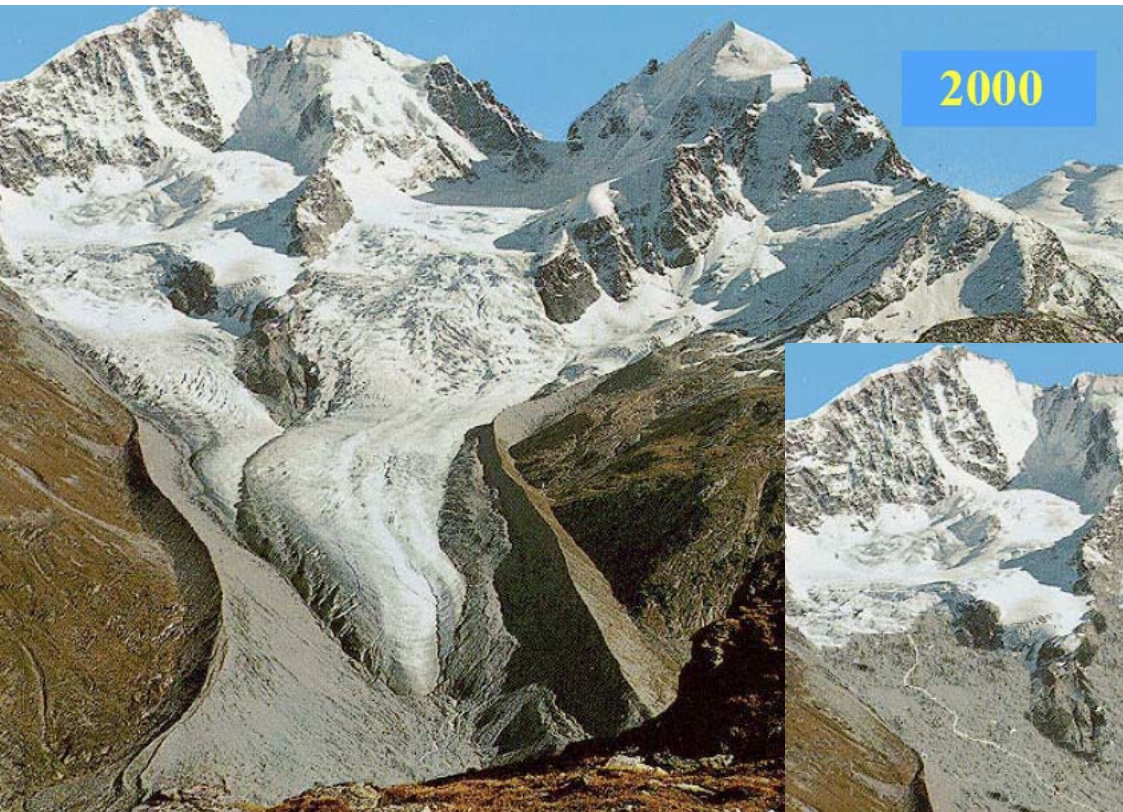
(from IPCC AR4, 2007; Chapter 4; based on Oerlemans, 2005)

(from WGMS)

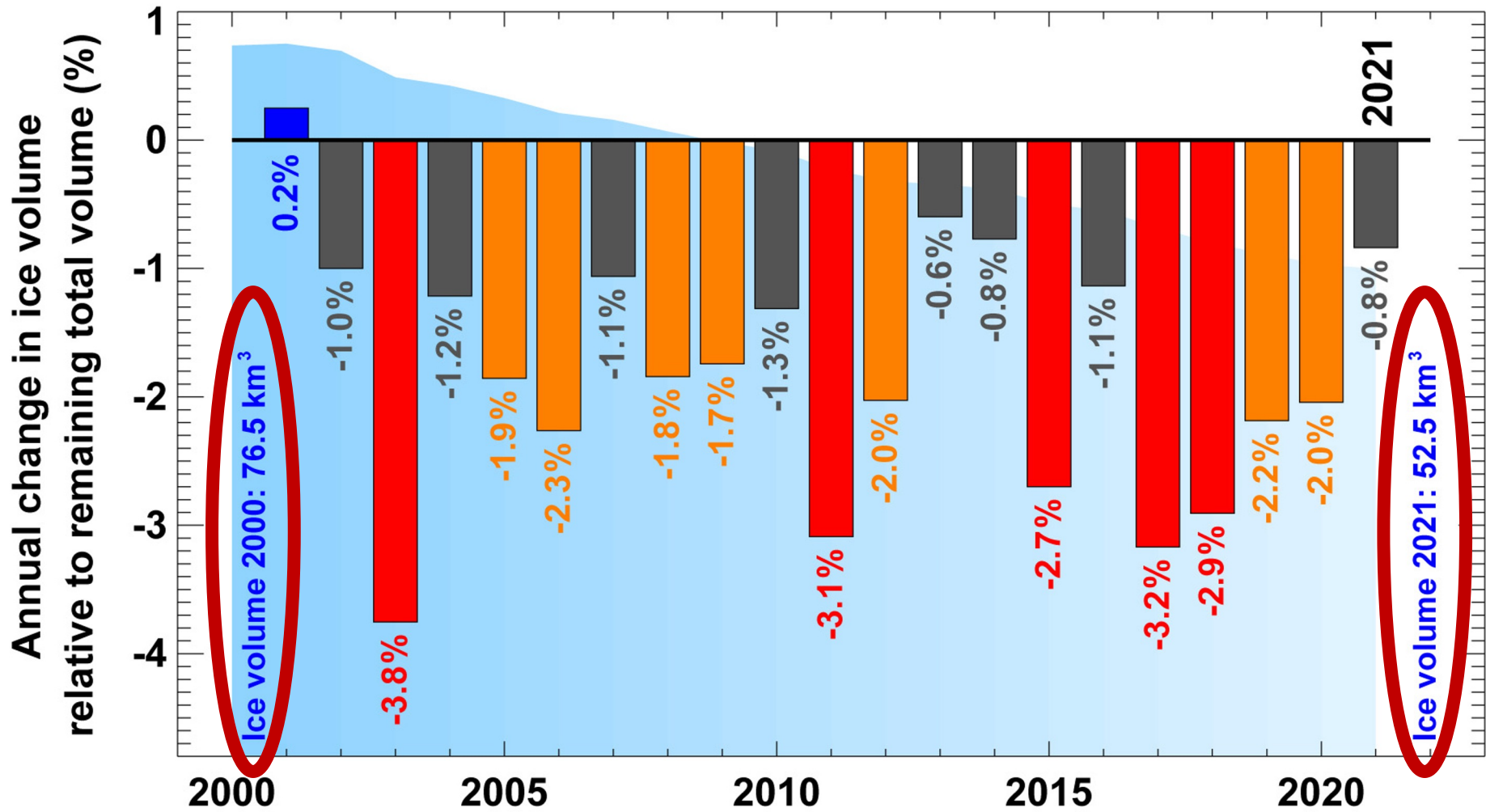
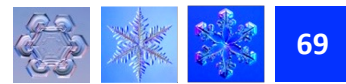


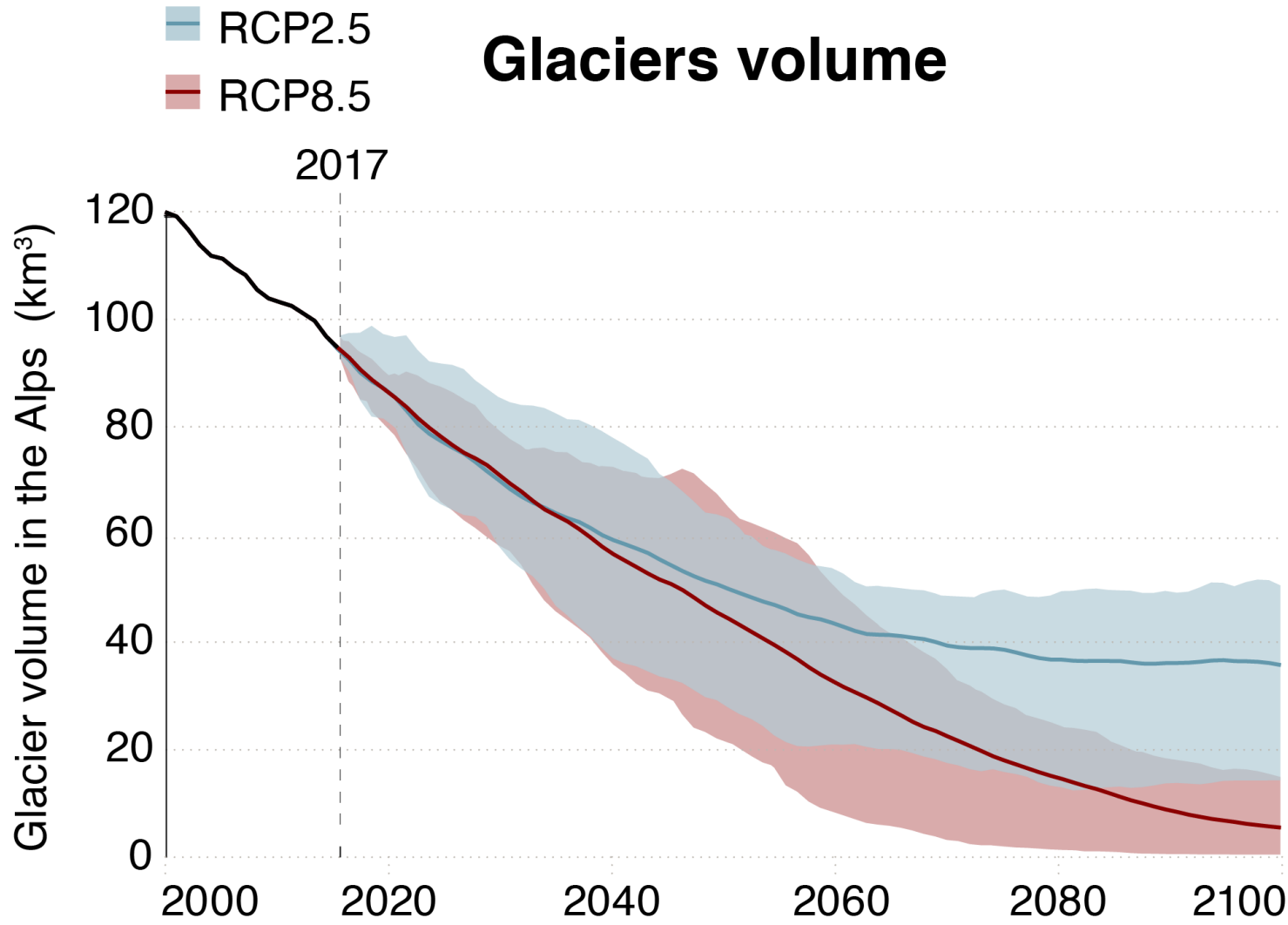
Glaciers: Aletsch glacier (VS)

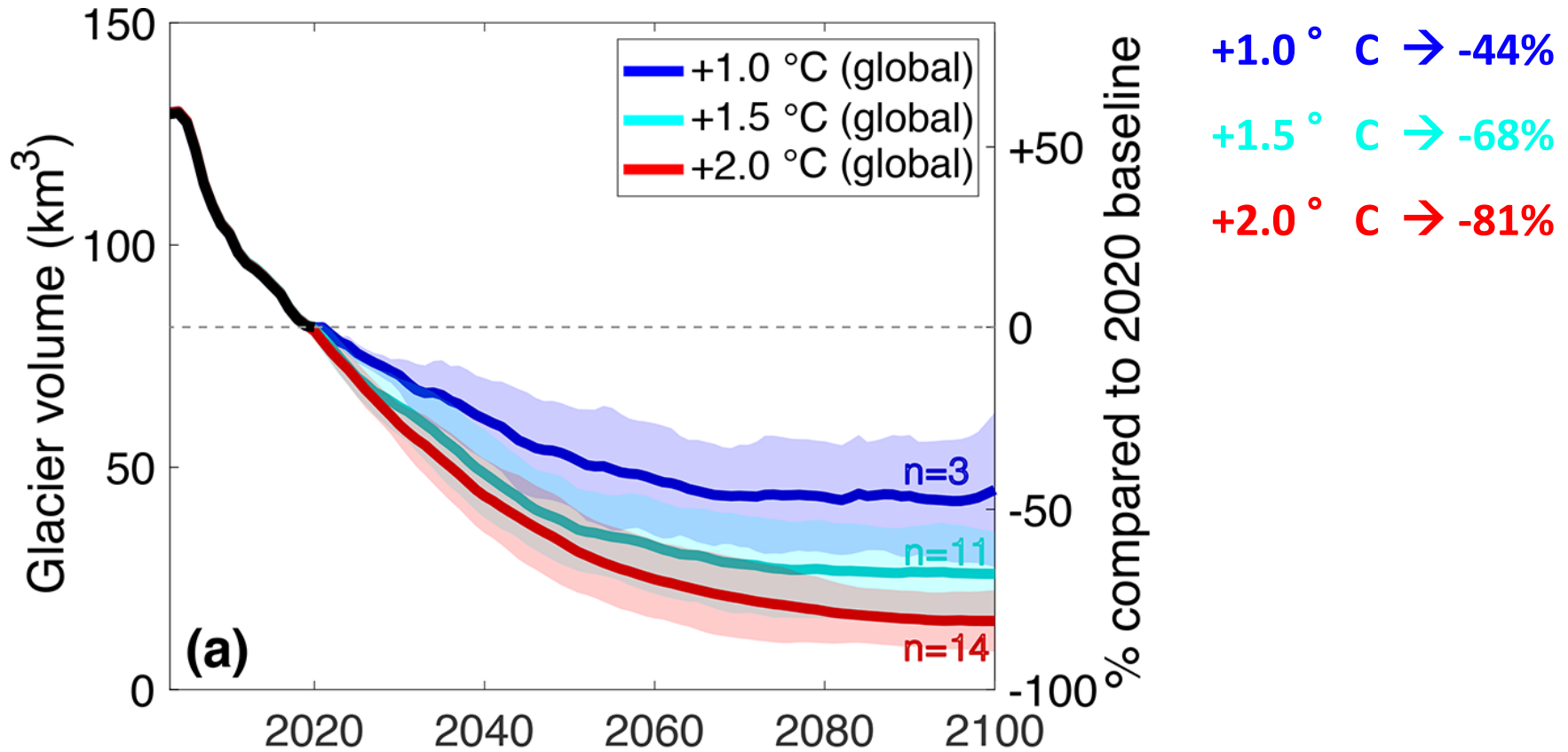




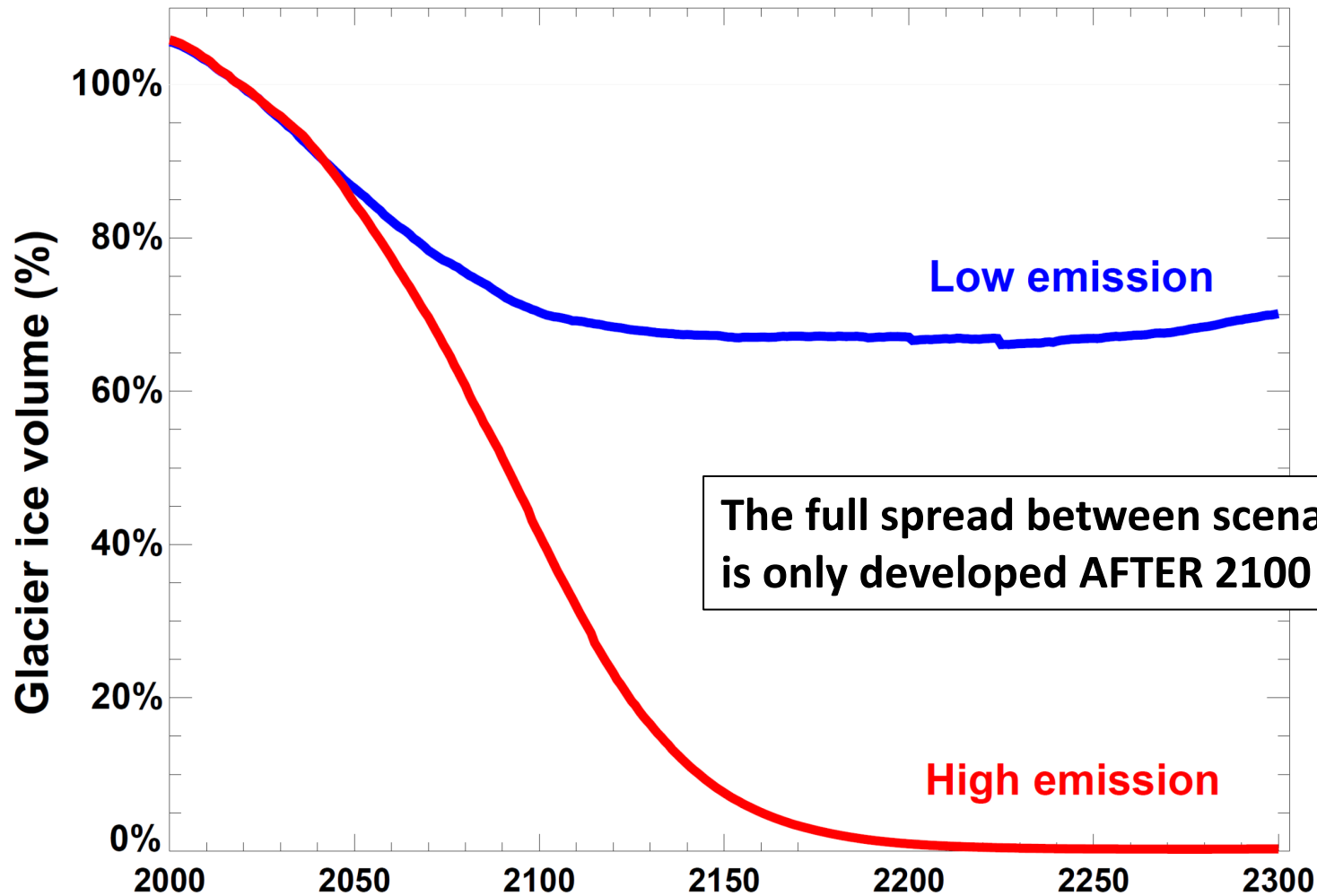
Alpine glaciers: past changes in ice volume



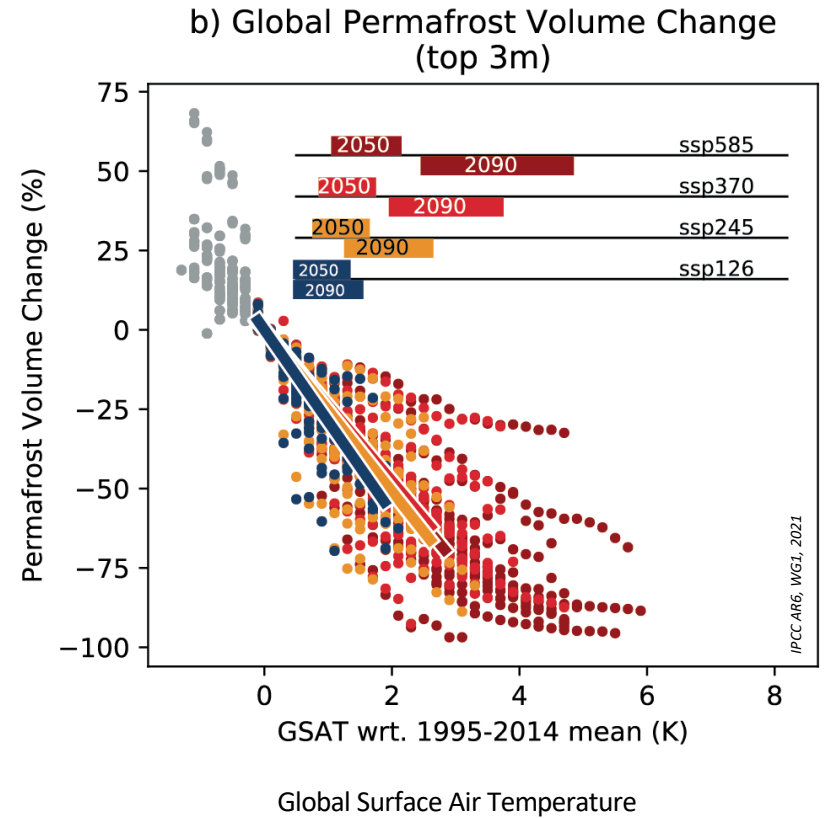
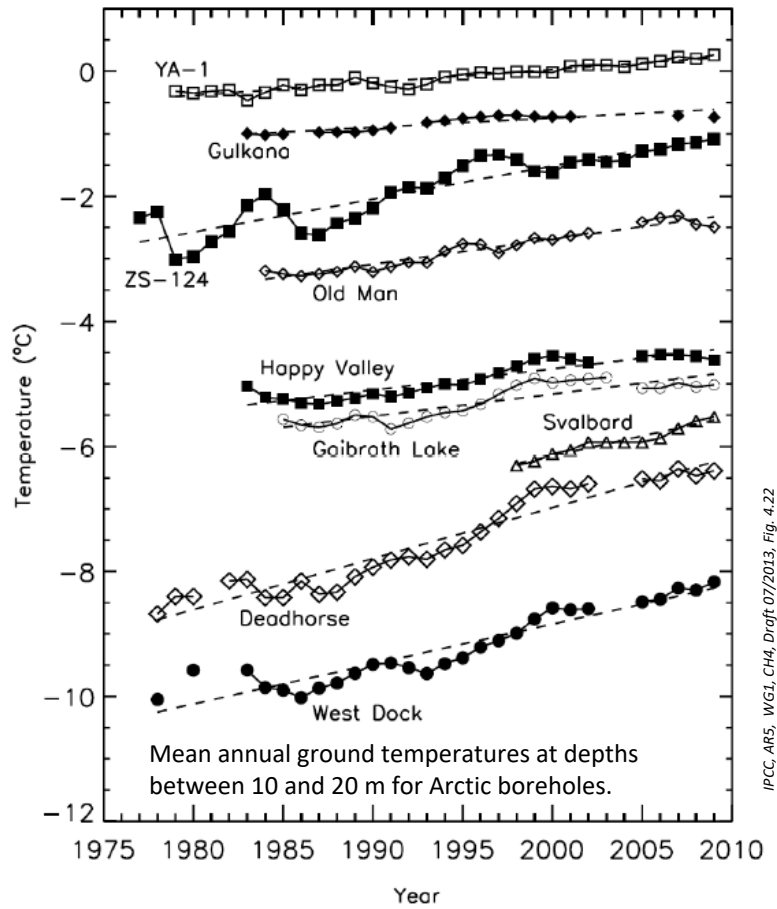




Compagno et al. (2021)





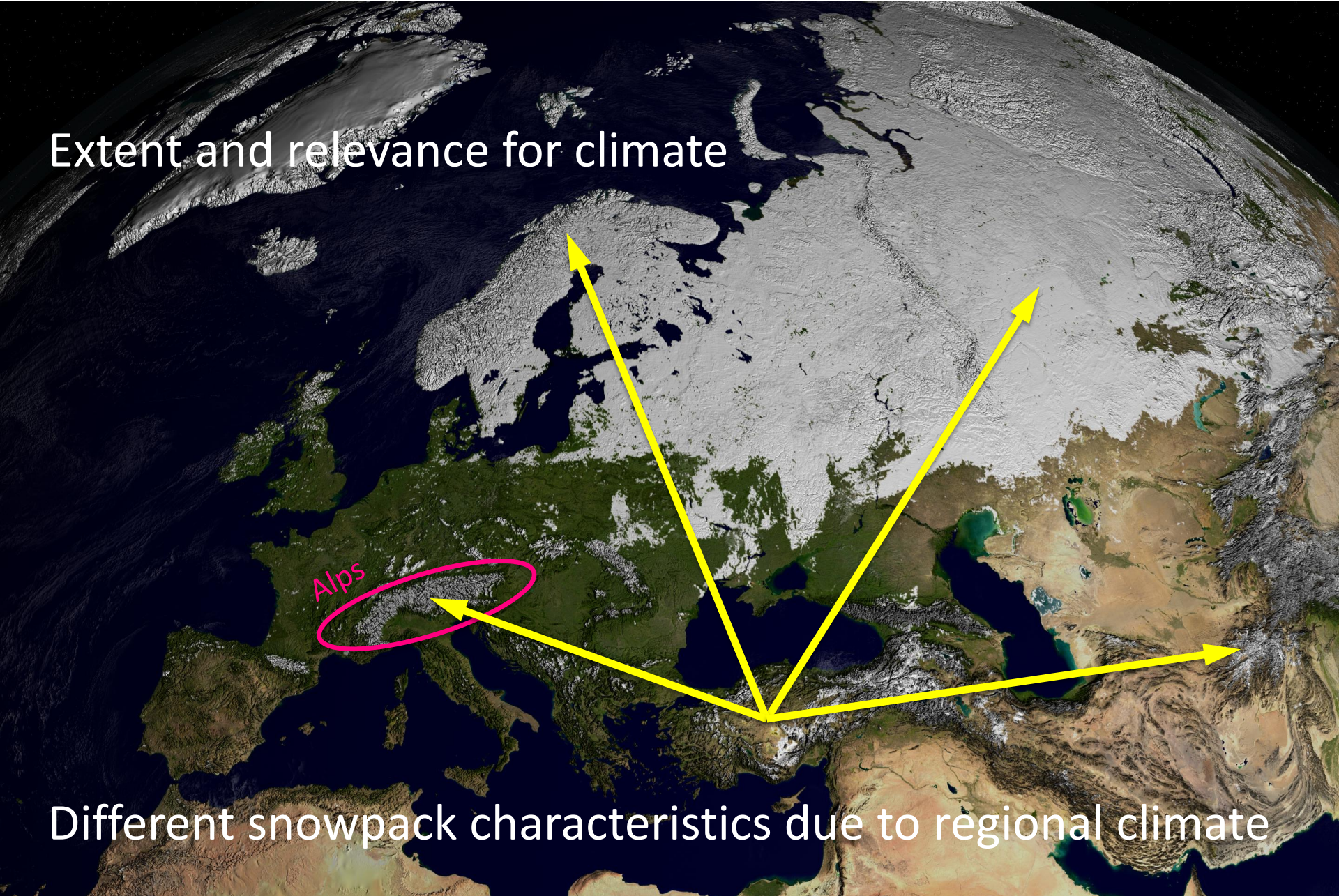




Extent and relevance for climate

Alps

Different snowpack characteristics due to regional climate





- Seasonal (ephemeral) and permanent (perennial) snow cover
- Different characteristics due to regional climate
- Highly **transformative** medium, varies in space and time
- Highly **reflective** for solar radiation (visible light, VIS) – high albedo
- But, due to transmission and absorption, snow is still a radiative sink for VIS
- High **emissivity** and low reflectivity for infrared radiation (IR)
- Efficient thermal **insulator** → large vertical temperature gradients
- Reduces aerodynamic **roughness** of the landscape and thus atmospheric turbulence and mixing

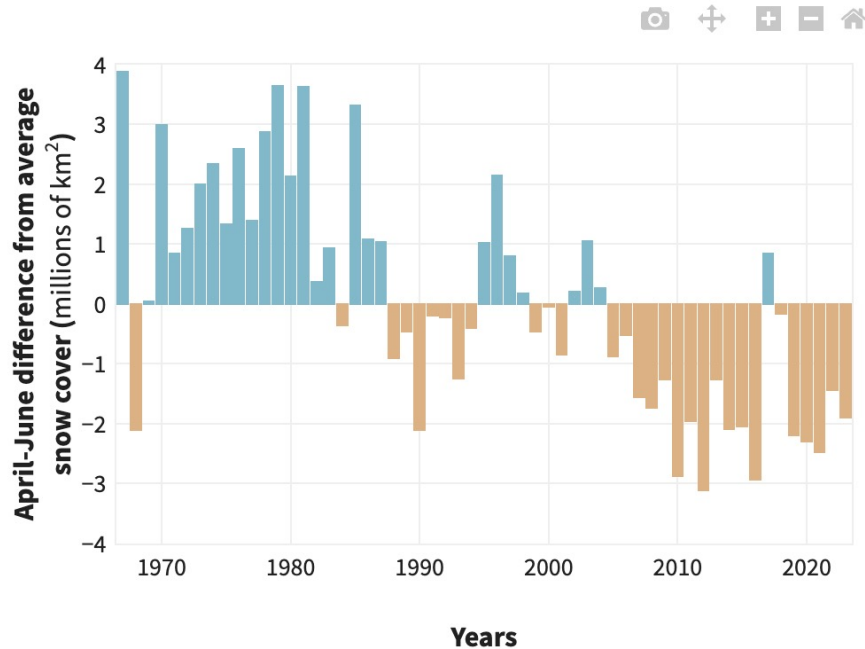
Snow significantly changes the surface energy budget from local to global scale.



- **Less snow** at low elevations (below 1800 m)
For every 1°C increase in temperature, there will be a ~150 m rise in snow line (more on south-facing slopes, less on north-facing slopes)
- **Shorter** snow cover duration (especially below 2000 m)
- Later winter and earlier spring (fewer freezing days)
- Higher frequency of **rain-on-snow** events
- Possible increase in snowfall at high elevations (local effect)
- **Water availability** will be adversely impacted

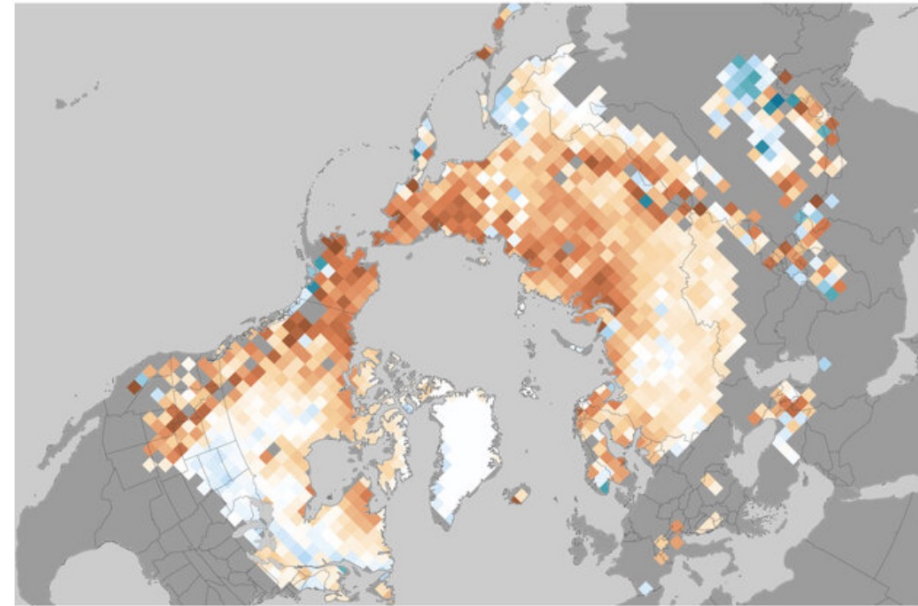
SPRING SNOW COVER

EXTENT



Area of snow-covered ground in the Northern Hemisphere each April-June compared to the 1981-2010 average. The area covered by snow in late spring has been below average throughout most of the past two decades. Data from Rutgers Snow Lab.

SNOW COVER TRENDS (1972-2022) DURATION



April-June
1972-2022

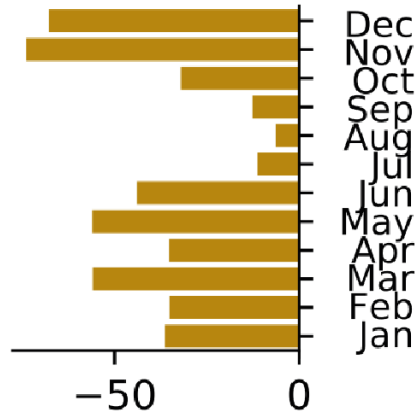
Change in snow covered days (days/decade)



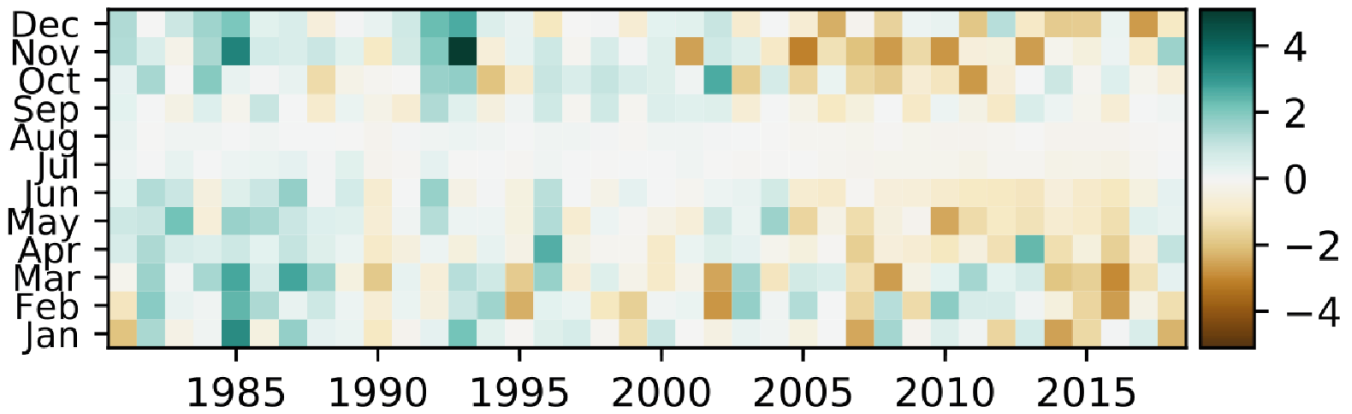
NOAA Climate.gov
Data: Rutgers GSL

Change in the number of snow-covered days per decade in late spring (April-June) across the Northern Hemisphere. At most locations, late spring snow days are declining (brown). Data from Rutgers Snow Lab.

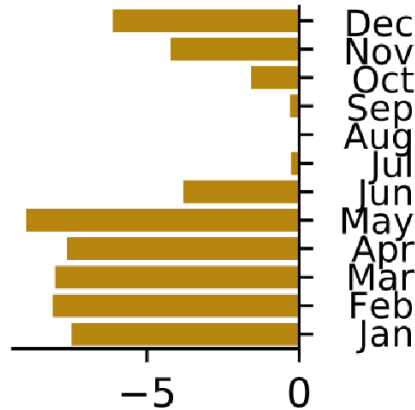
a) NH Snow Cover
Trend ($10^3 \text{ km}^2 \text{ yr}^{-1}$)



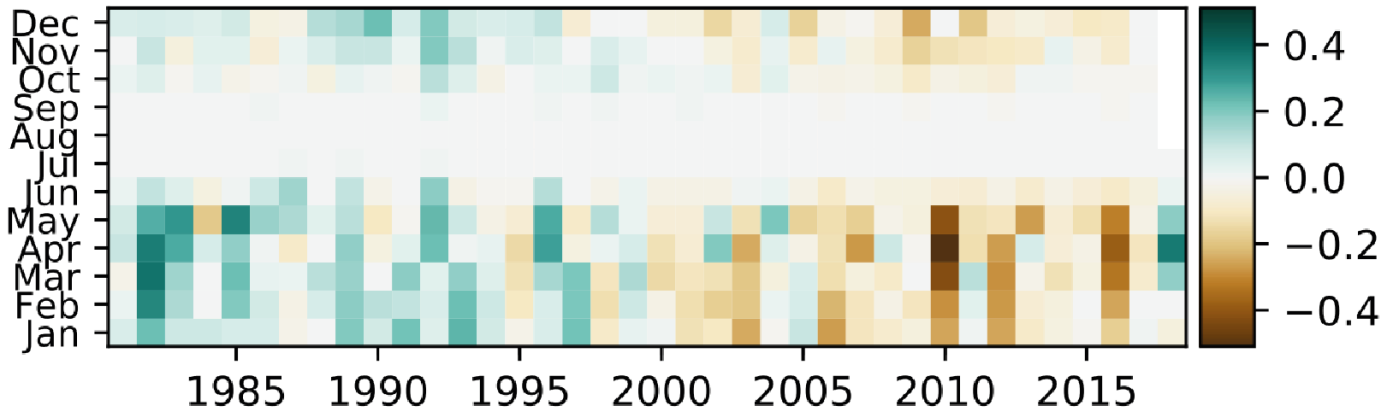
b) NH Snow Cover
Anomaly (10^6 km^2)



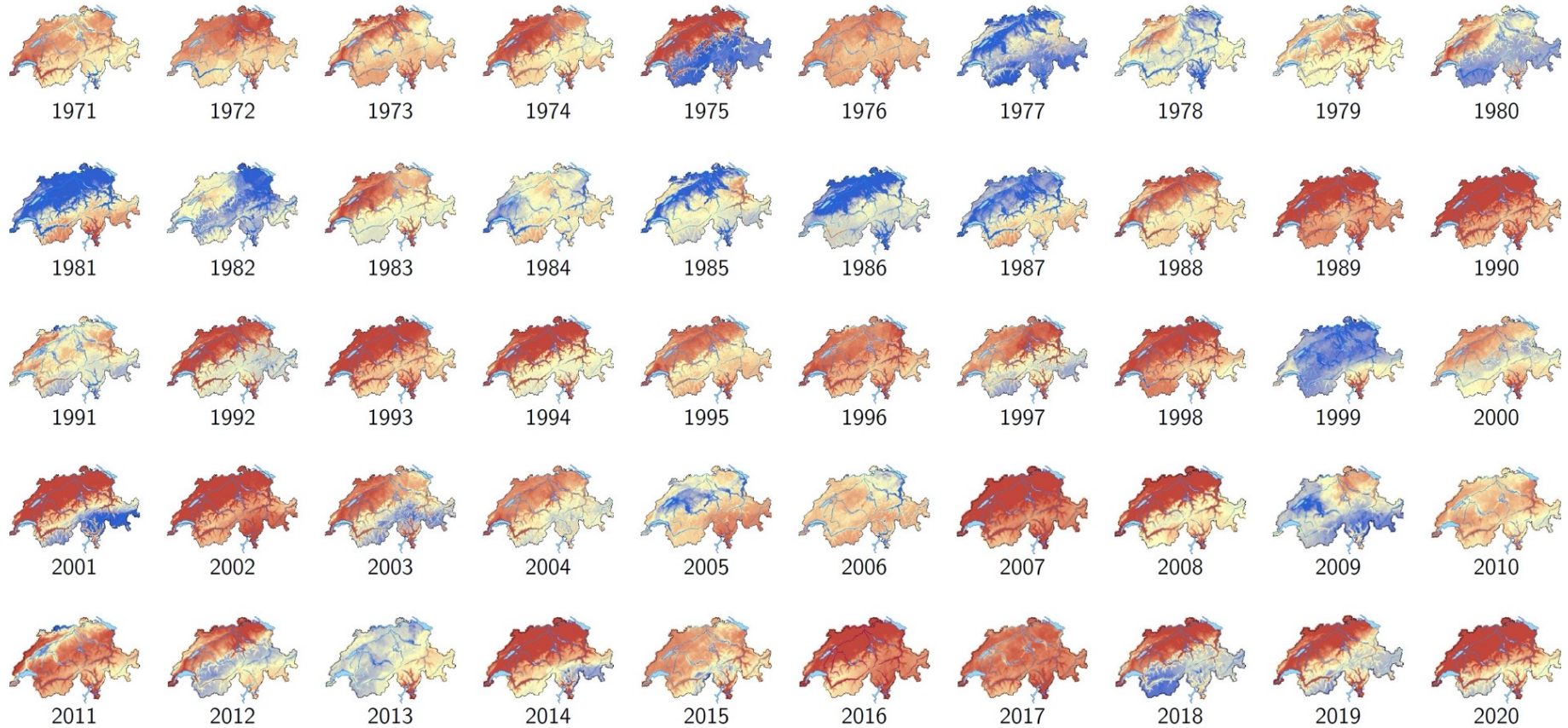
c) NH Snow Mass
Trend (Gt yr^{-1})



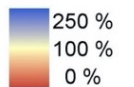
d) NH Snow Mass
Anomaly (10^3 Gt)



Snow cover: inter-annual variability – Switzerland

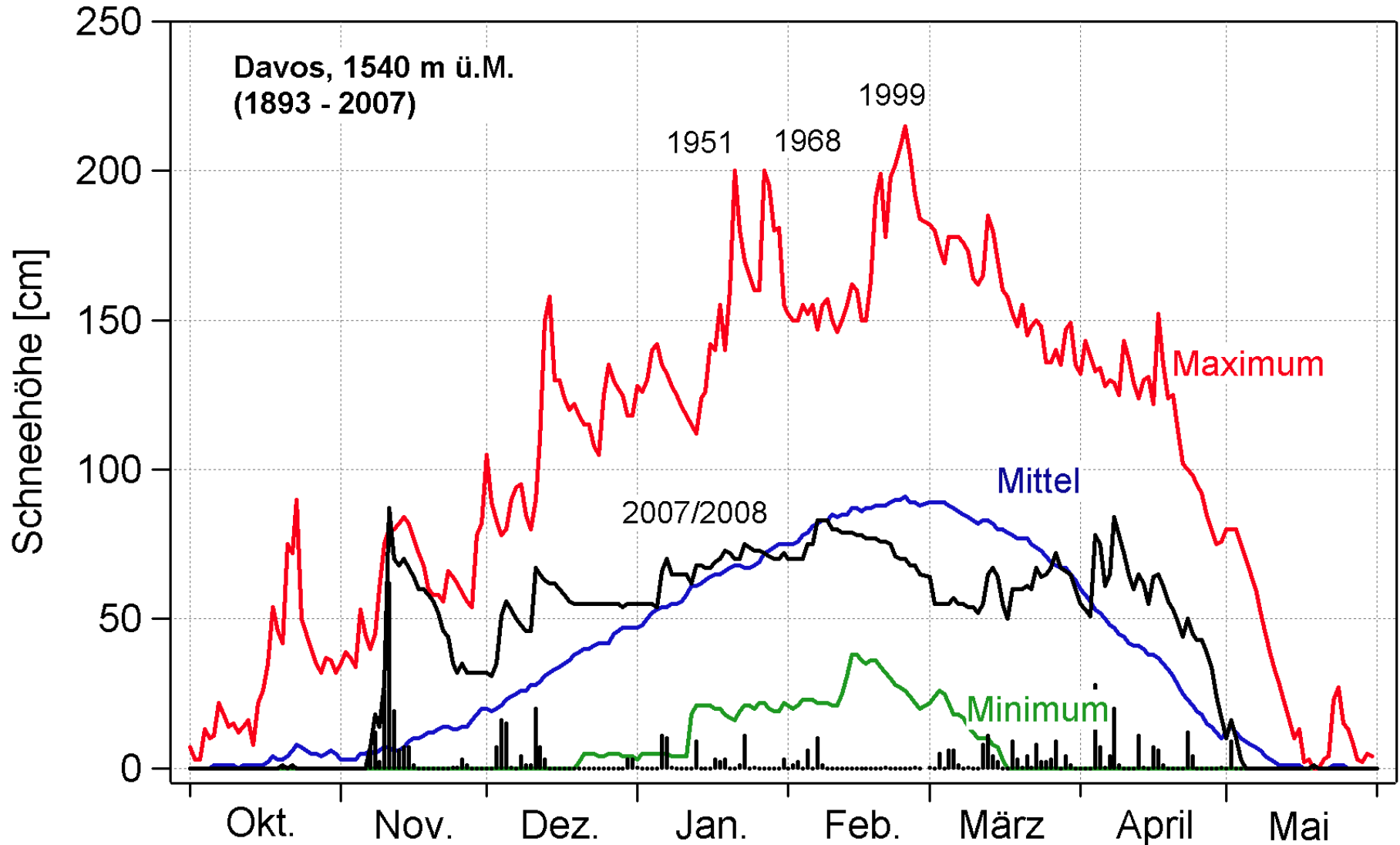


Schneehöhe



Relative departures [%] of annual mean (Nov-Apr) snow depth, compared to long-term 1971-2000 mean. SLF, C. Marty

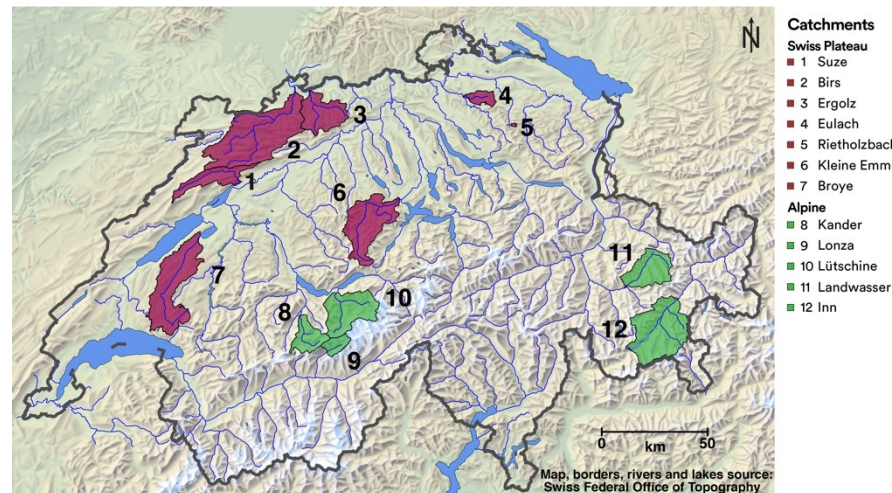
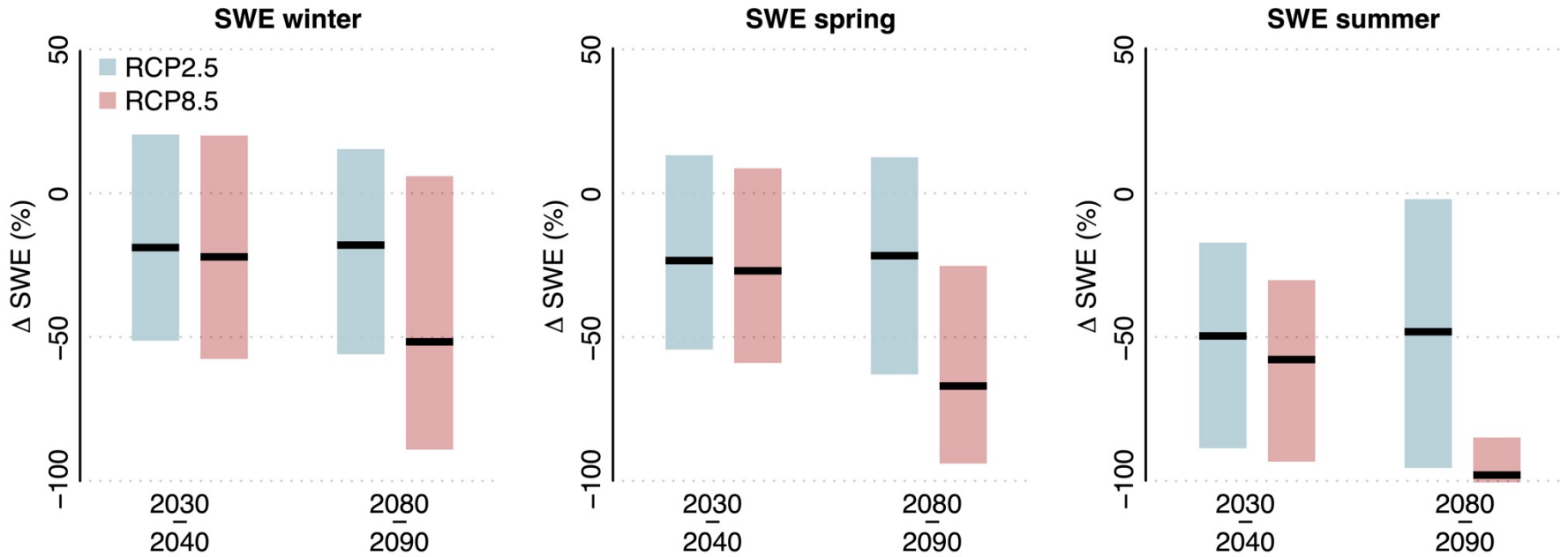
Example: Snow depth in Davos

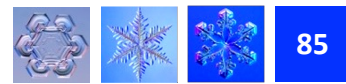


Snow cover: inter-annual variability



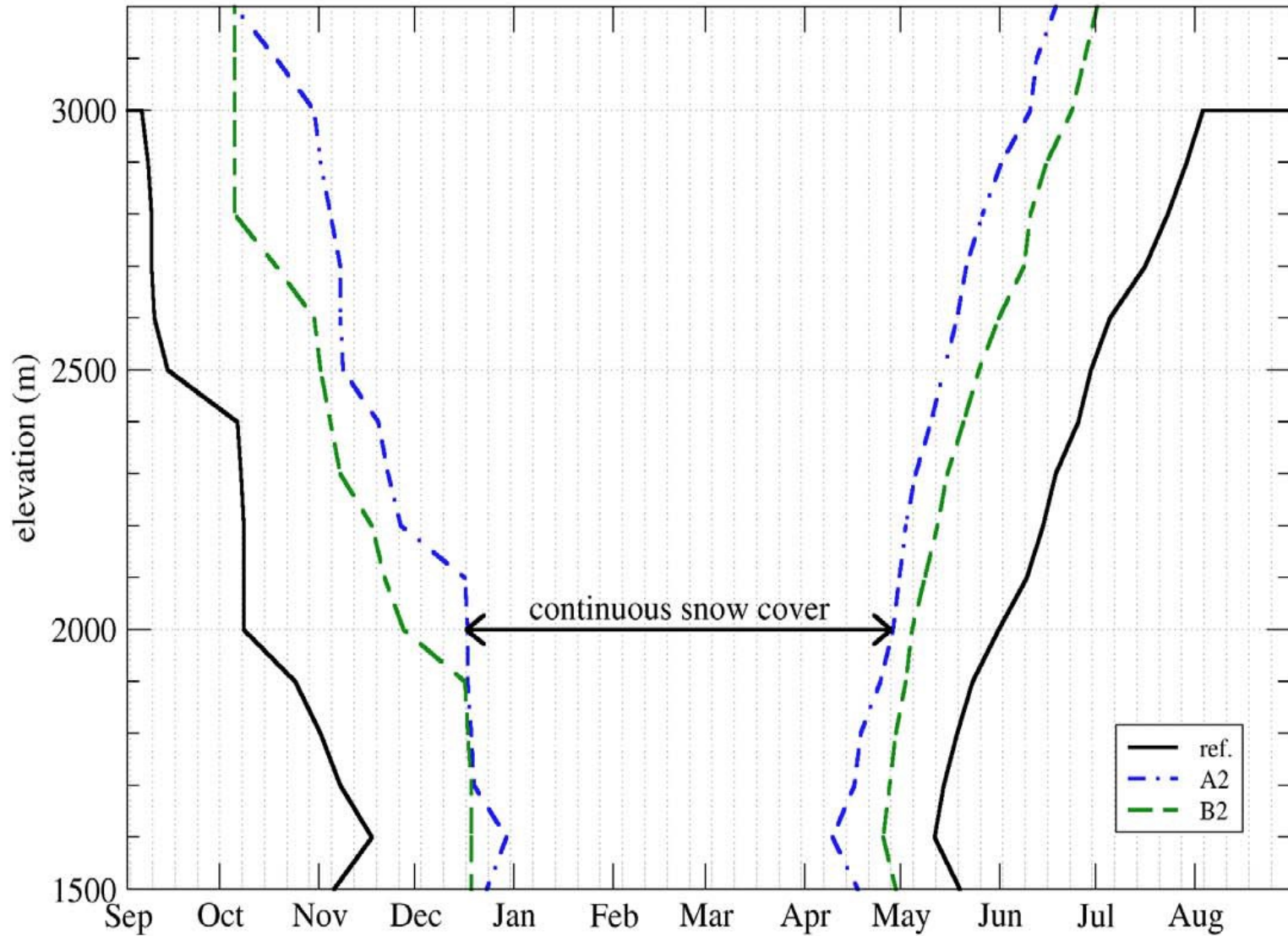
Alpine catchments



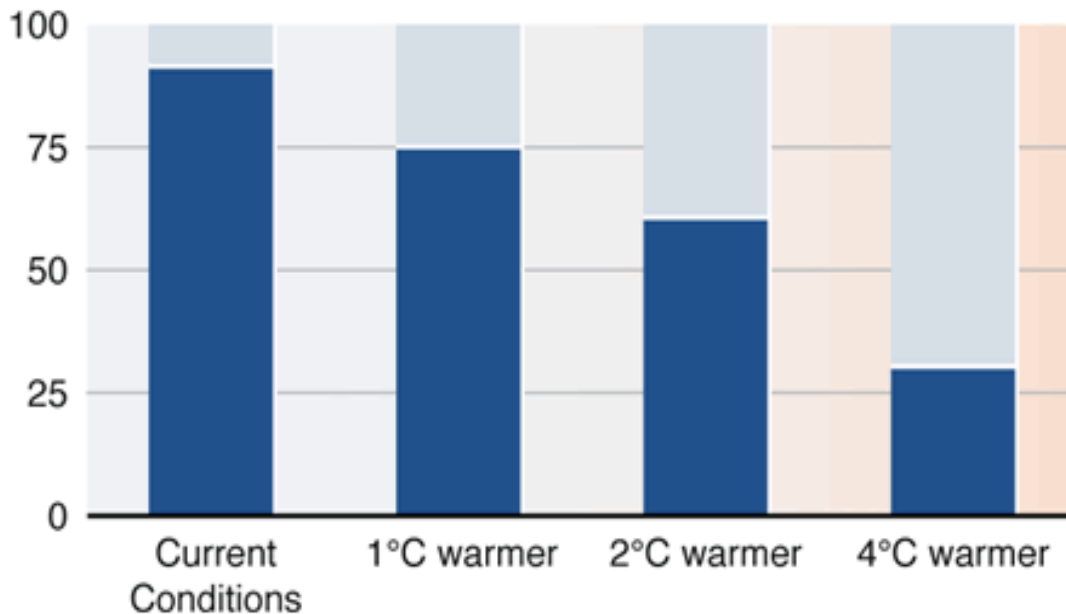


- **Less snow** at low elevations (below 1800 m)
Every 1°C increase in air temperature, entails a ~150 m rise in **snow line** (more on south-facing slopes, less on north-facing slopes)
- Shorter snow cover **duration** (especially below 2000 m)
- **Later** winter and **earlier** spring (fewer freezing days, < 0°C)
- Higher frequency of **rain-on-snow** events → floods
- Change in precipitation **phase** (shift from snow to rainfall)
- Possible **increase** in snowfall at high elevations
- Water and energy availability will be adversely impacted
- Increasing uncertainties due to non-linear system changes

Snow cover duration in the Dischma catchment



Reliability of snow conditions in ski resorts in the European Alps



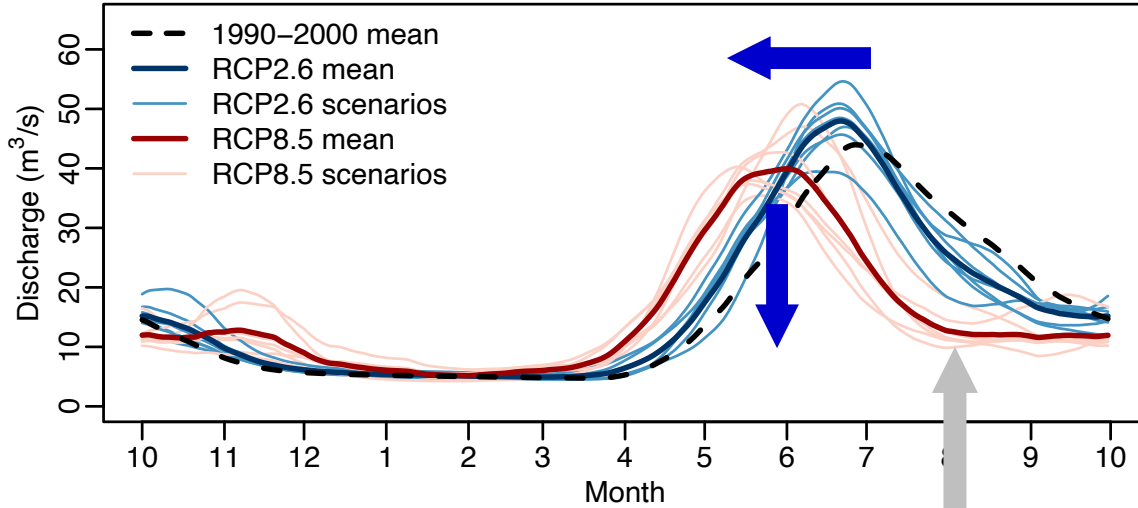
Dark blue is percentage of resorts with reliable snow conditions

Each degree warmer in the winter means poor snow conditions for more ski resorts.

Many low elevation ski resorts will be forced to shut down.

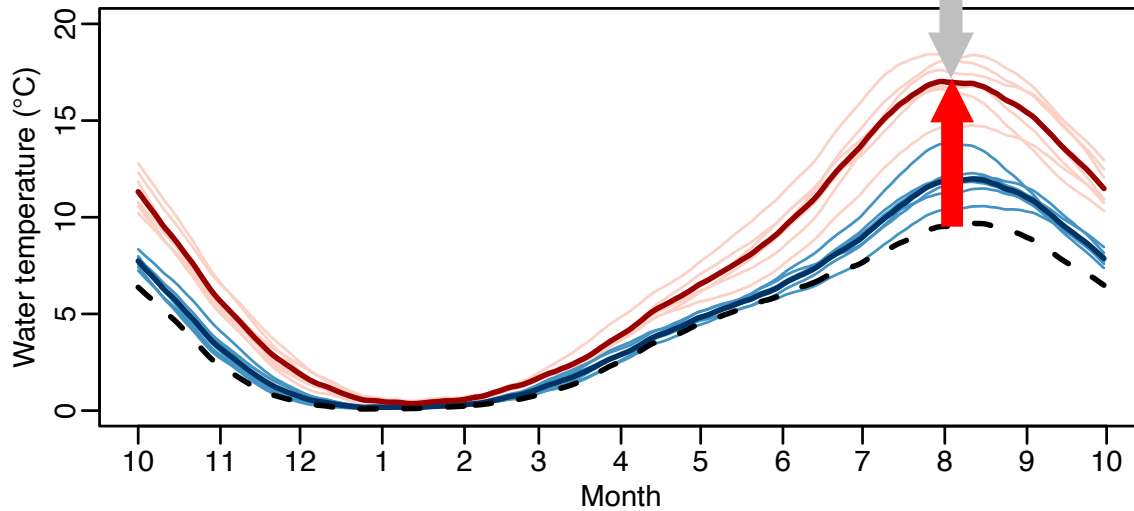
Inn

2080–2090

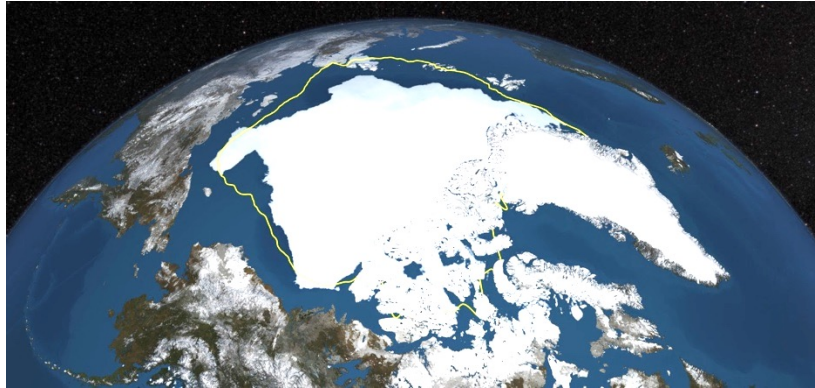


Peak flows occur earlier, low flows are projected to be lower

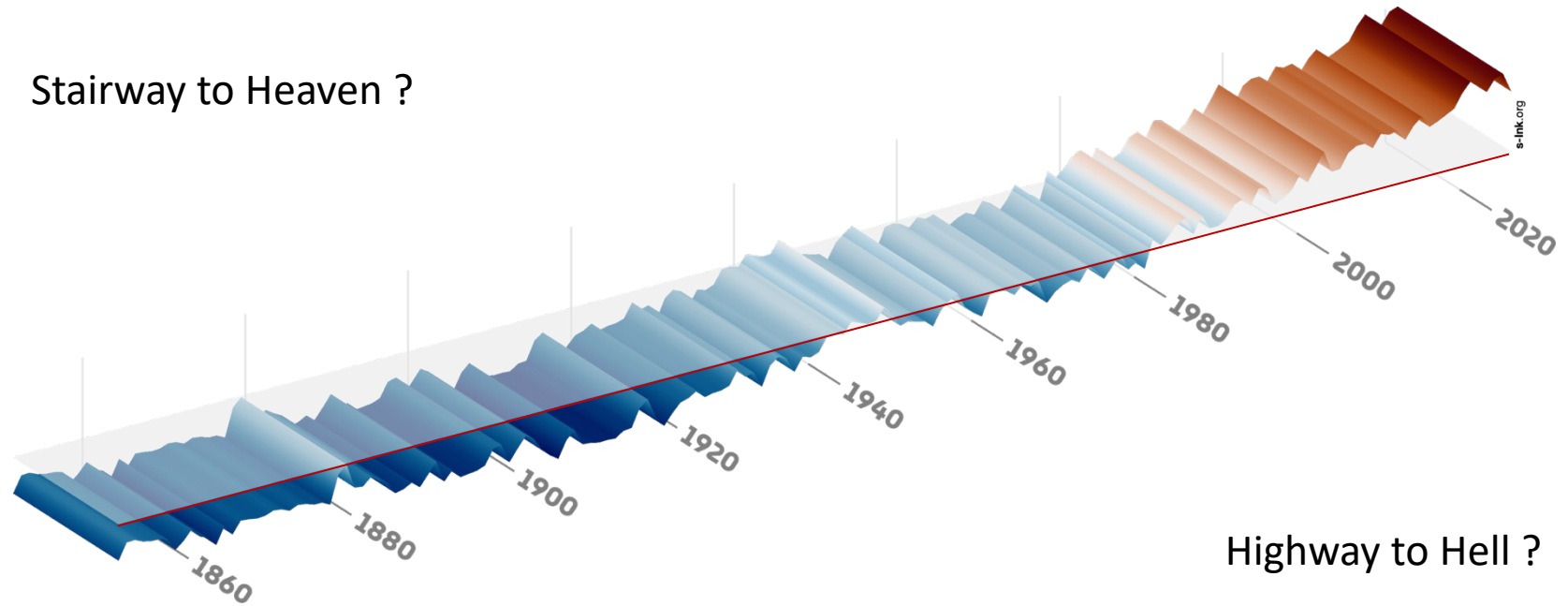
2080–2090



Shift in summer amplitude, temperature peak coincides with low discharge



Stairway to Heaven ?



Highway to Hell ?

UN Climate Change Conferences



Science – Politics – Economy – Justice...



UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)
UN Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP)



COP 2
1996
Geneva

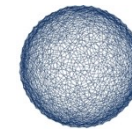


COP 4
Buenos Aires, 1998

CoP5
United Nations
Climate Change Conference
Bonn, Germany
Oct 25 - Nov 5, 1999



COP 9
Climate Change
Convention
Milano 2003



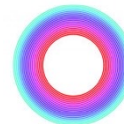
COP15
COPENHAGEN
UN CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE 2009



COP17/CMP7
UNITED NATIONS
CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE 2011
DURBAN, SOUTH AFRICA

DOHA 2012
UN CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE
COP18·CMP8

KONFERENCJA NARODÓW
ZJEDNOCZONYCH
W SPRAWIE ZMIAN KLIMATU
COP19/CMP9
WARSZAWA 2013



LIMA COP20|CMP10
UN CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE 2014



PARIS2015
UN CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE
COP21·CMP11



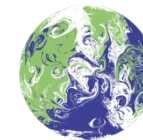
COP23
FIJI
UN CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE
BONN 2017



COP24·KATOWICE 2018
UNITED NATIONS CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE



COP25
CHILE
MADRID 2019
UN CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE



UN CLIMATE
CHANGE
CONFERENCE
UK 2021
IN PARTNERSHIP WITH ITALY



COP27
SHARM EL-SHEIKH
EGYPT 2022



COP30
BRASIL
AMAZONIA
BELÉM 2025

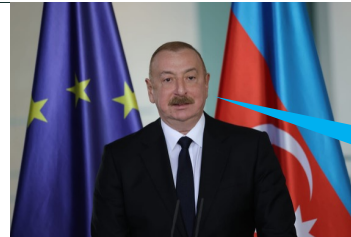
COP28: about 100'000 “climate savers” attended.

After 28 COPs and almost 30 years, delegates have realized, that there is a *“relation between global warming and fossil fuel burning”*. 🧐

The COP28 final declaration suggests a *“transitioning away from fossil fuels”*.
No deadlines are mentioned. 🙌



Not shown in the COP28 logo:



The host country president told at COP29 that oil and gas are ...

“a gift of God”

(BBC, 12.11.2024)





5 climate sceptics
hand-picked by the DOE



A Critical Review of Impacts of Greenhouse
Gas Emissions on the U.S. Climate

Climate Working Group
United States Department of Energy
July 23, 2025

It seems that the U.S. climate
ends at the Canadian border and
at the wall to Mexico

[Reference 1](#)

nature

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NEWS | 07 August 2025

Outrage over Trump team's climate report spurs researchers to fight back

The authors welcome 'serious' scientific rebuttals to report that some say misrepresents decades of climate science.

By Jeff Tollefson

Nature | Vol 644 | 21 August 2025 | 591

US energy secretary Chris Wright recruited the report's five authors, who question the scientific consensus on climate change. Credit: Kent Nishimura/Bloomberg via Getty

[Reference 2](#)



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The Practice and Assessment of Science: Five Foundational Flaws in the Department of Energy's 2025 Climate Report

A Statement of the American Meteorological Society

(Adopted by the Executive Committee of the AMS Council on 27 August 2025)

Here we identify five foundational flaws in the Department of Energy's (DoE's) 2025 Climate Synthesis report¹. Each of these flaws, alone, places the report at odds with scientific principles and practices. For the report to accurately characterize scientific understanding and to be useful as a basis for informed policy and decision making, the DoE must first rectify all five flaws and then conduct a comprehensive assessment of scientific evidence. Were DoE to do so, the result will almost certainly be conclusions that are broadly consistent with previous comprehensive scientific assessments of climate change, such as those from the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (NAEM); American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS); Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), American Meteorological Society (AMS), and a wide-range of other scientific organizations.

The Department of Energy's recent attempt to synthesize climate science has five foundational flaws as a scientific effort:

- 1) **Lack of breadth across scientific fields.** The science of climate change spans dozens of fields and sub-fields within the physical, natural, and social sciences relating to the Earth and environment. These include (but are not limited to): atmospheric physics; atmospheric chemistry; oceanography (physical, chemical, and biological); cryology; glaciology; biology; physiology; biogeography;

¹ This document emphasizes overarching flaws with the process used in the development of the DoE report. Point-by-point rebuttals of specific evidence and conclusions also have value but are beyond the scope of this document (and are available from and being prepared by other climate scientists).

[Reference 3](#)

Factcheck: Trump's climate report includes more than 100 false or misleading claims

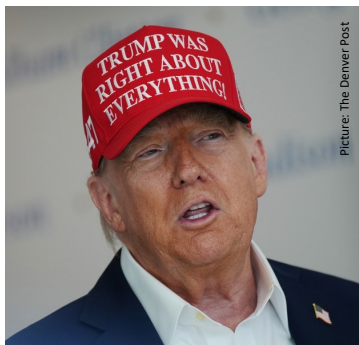


By

Ayesha Tandon,
Leo Hickman,
Celilia Keating,
Robert McSweeney

Design by Tom Prater

14 August 2025



<https://www.carbonbrief.org/>



Wishing you a pleasant and relaxing break
and a successful exam session and spring semester

Hendrik, Michi, Grégoire, Liza, Sam, Lola, Francesca