

HANDOUT on MARYLAND CLIMATE CHANGE Discussion

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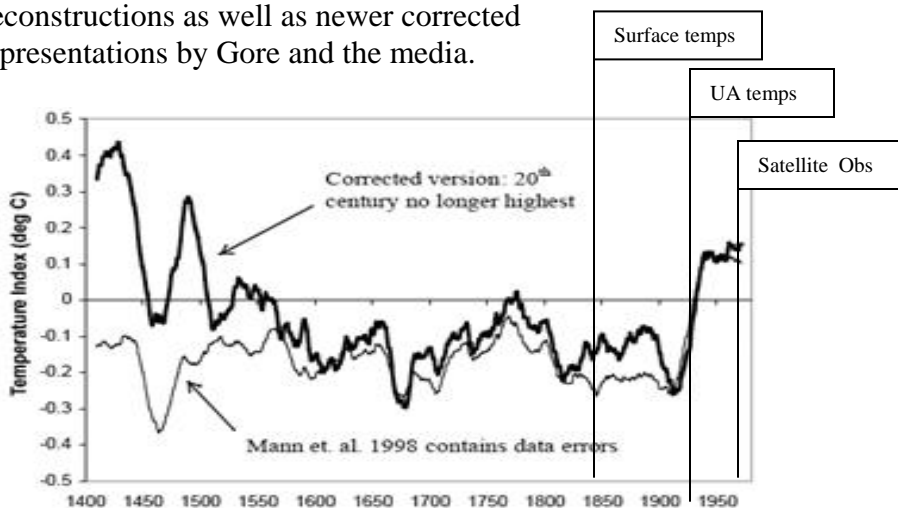
1. Sources for refuting the alleged “consensus” that “all reputable scientists believe that global warming is due to man’s CO₂ emissions”:

http://epw.senate.gov/public/index.cfm?FuseAction=Minority.Blogs&ContentRecord_id=F80A6386-802A-23AD-40C8-3C63DC2D02CB and

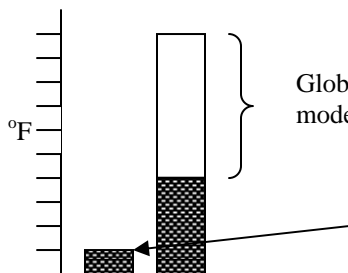
<http://www.heartland.org/NewYork08/ConferenceProgram.pdf>

2. Recent global temperature record (measured direct only back to 1850; surrogates used prior to that date by UK Met Office); note the IPCC “hockey stick” reconstruction radically differed from previous reconstructions as well as newer corrected reconstructions but is still used in presentations by Gore and the media.

Fig. 2. The Mann et al. (1998) proxy (mostly tree ring) reconstruction of global temperature over the last 1,000 years is believed to have erroneously minimized the warmth of the Medieval Warm Period (MWP).



You can't define the anthropogenic component of GW unless you can first define the natural background component. But the natural background component is not understood in any detail for modeling because of the short-term nature of the measurements. Yet significant natural climate change has occurred—due to what processes??

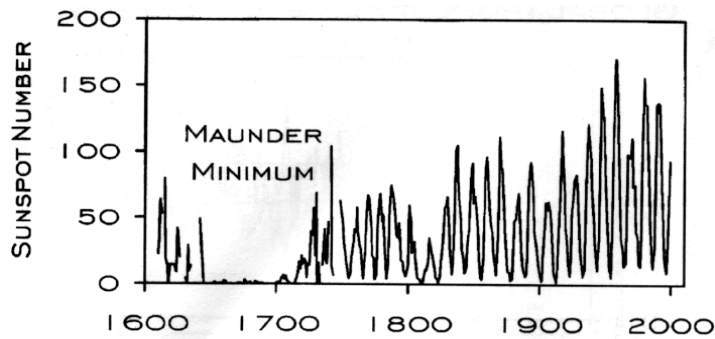


Global temp increase estimates of climate models due primarily to H₂O effects = 4-10°F

Global temp increase due to doubling of CO₂ = 1°F

H₂O effects via precipitation systems and clouds least understood and dependent upon satellite-measurements that began only in recent decades and years!

How climate models “amplify” the greenhouse effect of CO₂ assuming that H₂O processes like evaporation, condensation, clouds, and precipitation have a net effect that is positive. Yet these processes probably have a net effect that is negative due to constant removal of H₂O and generation of low-level cloudiness (processes not understood in enough detail to model realistically).



Then there's apparent extra-terrestrial effects that are mysterious. Sunspots appear to be related to climate change yet the total radiance from the sun is relatively constant.

3. Political Dynamics:

- GW is a global problem, not a local one.
- Very attractive to Marxist “top-down” solutions.
- Great pressure on politicians to “do something” with short-term “window-dressing”.
- Economic momentum in research funding and environmentalist group donations favors alarmist scenario.
- Maryland’s coast vulnerability to rising sea level offers a great tool for fear-generation.

4. Counter-Strategy Ideas:

- Protect and publicize the scientific debate. “Best book length treatment of GW science that is available to the literate citizen” according to Dr. Lindzen of MIT: Climate Confusion by Dr. Roy Spencer. Include debate on sea-level rise.
- Press for accurate cost/benefit disclosure. See following decision –tree.
- Publicize the ethical problems with GW policies. See what some evangelical scientists and ethicists are doing to expose careless overlooking of damaging effects radical GW policies will have on the poor: <http://www.cornwallalliance.org/articles/read/call-to-truth>.
- Strengthen adherence to constitutional authority over globalism. “Norming” is the idea that the US should base its decisions on some kind of international consensus, rather than making its decisions as a constitutional democracy. Seen repeatedly in UN debates.

GW POLICY DECISION TREE

Ascertaining realistic uncertainties in % GW due to manmade CO₂ emissions → response strategy choice between Prevention Strategy and Adaptive Strategy.

<p>Prevention Strategy: Global, focus exclusively on CO₂; top-down regulatory, bureaucratic-empowerment; “stick” vs “carrot”. Ignores economic principles in favor of central planning.</p>	<p>Adaptive Strategy: Local, diversified incentives for decreasing vulnerability to all natural catastrophes; “carrot” vs. “stick”; respects economic principles that reward productive outcomes.</p>
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Consequences of each:

Future Climate Discovery	Prevention Strategy	Adaptive Strategy
I-High % GW due to man	Might be political winner IF following stages worked out	Might be political loser IF following stages would have worked out
I-Low % GW due to man	No benefit of great political and economic capital	Political and economic capital saved for other benefits
II-High % GW due to man and is <i>catastrophic</i>	Might be political and economic winner IF following stage worked out	Might be political and economic loser IF following stages would have worked out
II-High % GW due to man but GW <i>benign</i>	Only a minor benefit of great political and economic capital	Political and economic capital saved for other benefits
III-High % GW due to man, catastrophic, and CO ₂ reduction attainable	Great benefit of great political and economic capital	Political loser with only minor economic benefits (some enhanced survivability)
III-High % GW due to man, catastrophic, but CO ₂ reduction unattainable	No benefit of great political and economic capital with no alternate survivability	Political and economic capital saved for alternative survivability

Prevention strategy provides justifiable cost/benefit ratio in only one of four possible outcomes. Adaptive strategy provides justifiable cost/benefit ratio in three of four possible outcomes.