

A Case for Anthropogenic GW

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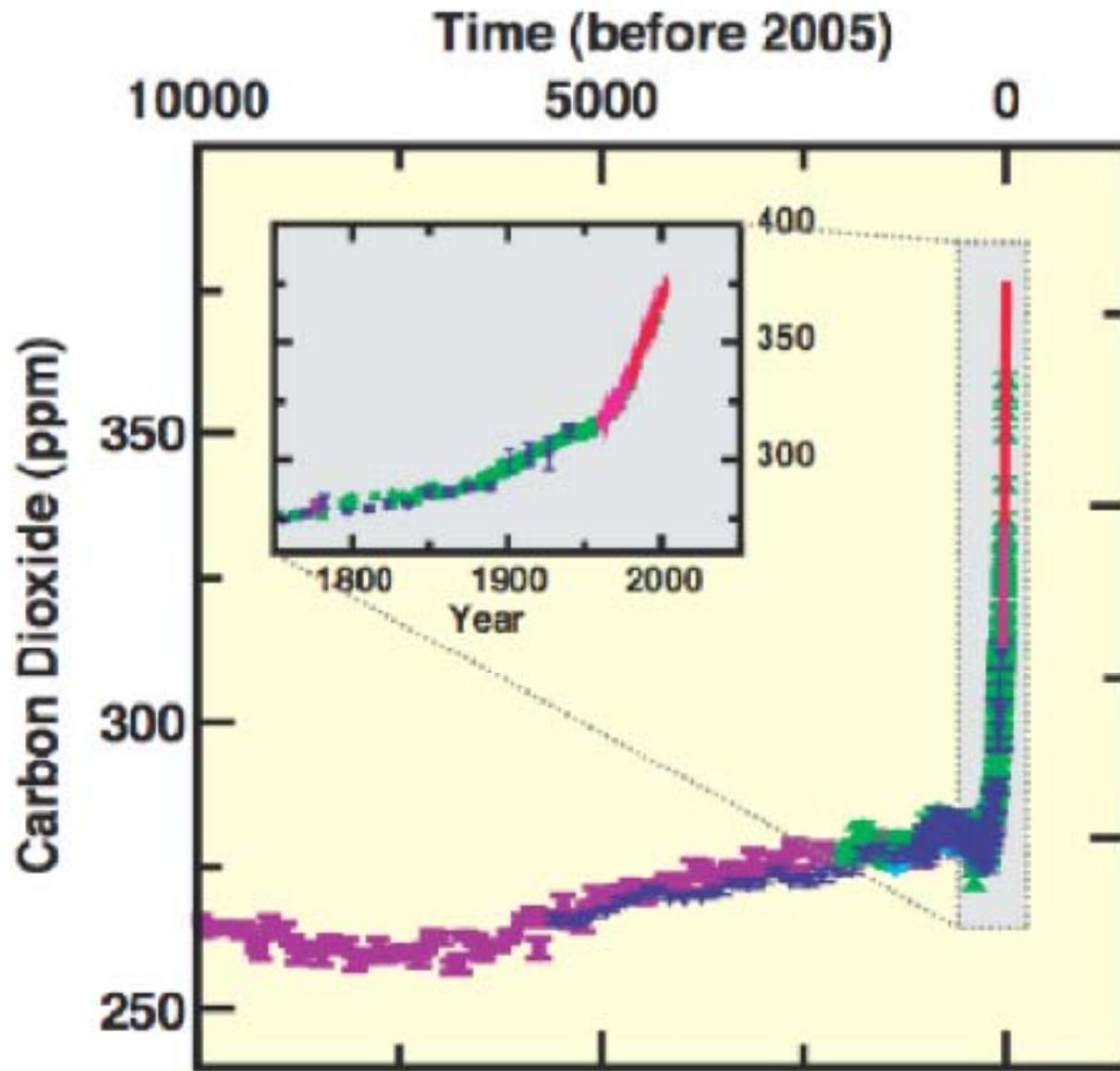
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Pillars of Anthropogenic GW

- CO_2 has gone up exponentially
- Temperature has gone up linearly
- Restoring balance means warming
- The Feedback World



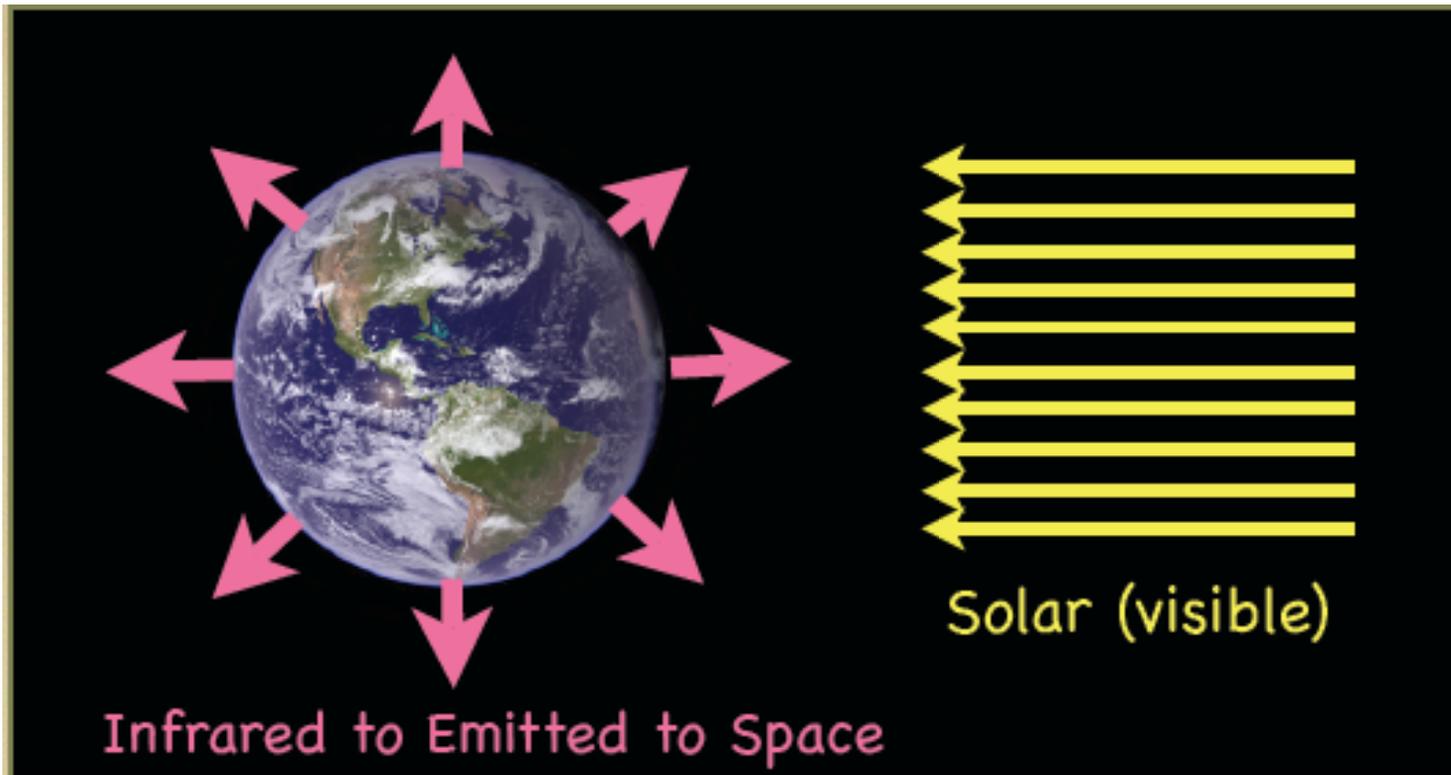
the last 10,000 years

equilibrium is reached when
this balance is achieved

Rate of Energy Absorbed
(from the sun)

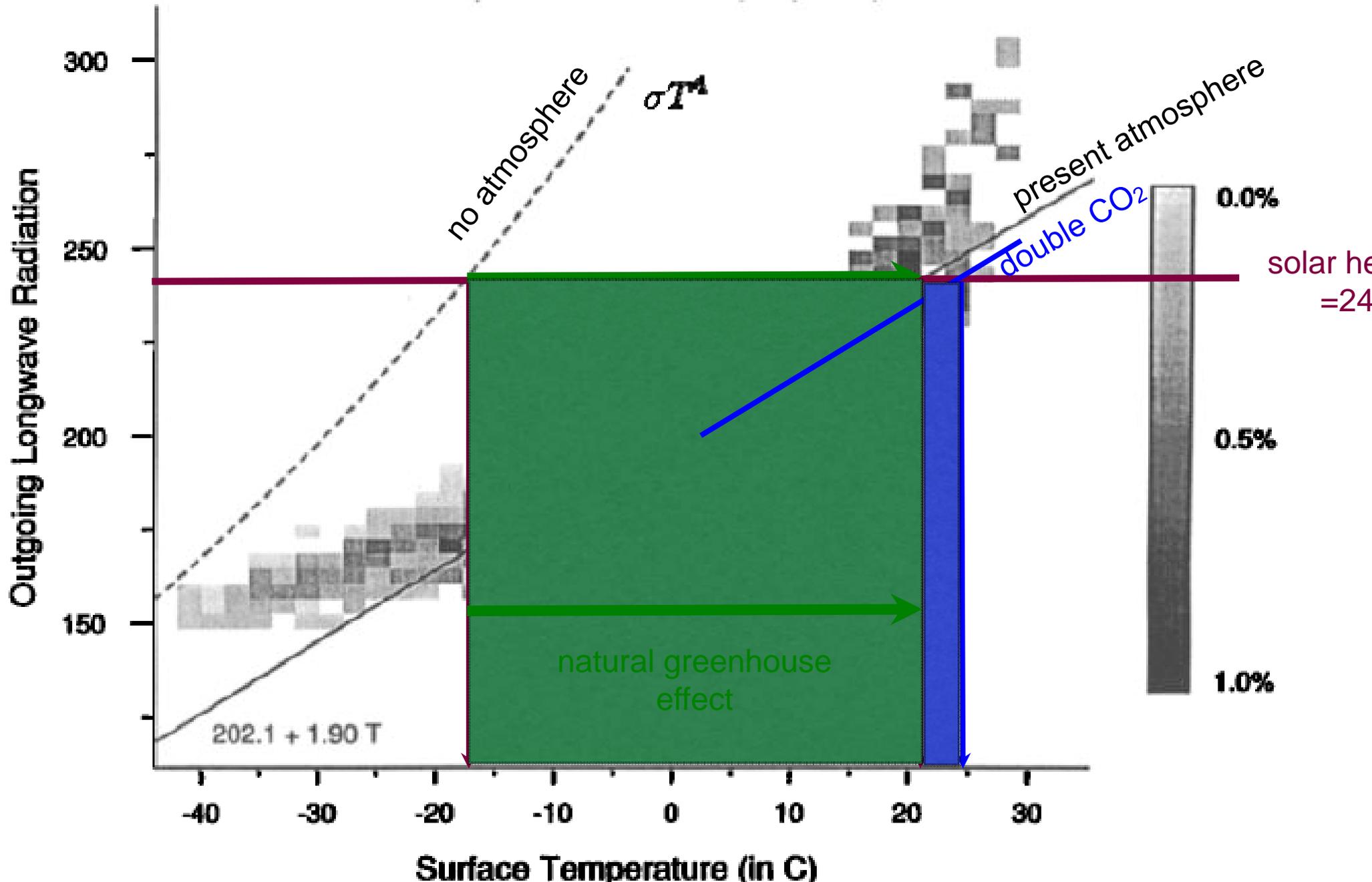
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Rate of Energy Emitted to Space
(warmer bodies emit more)



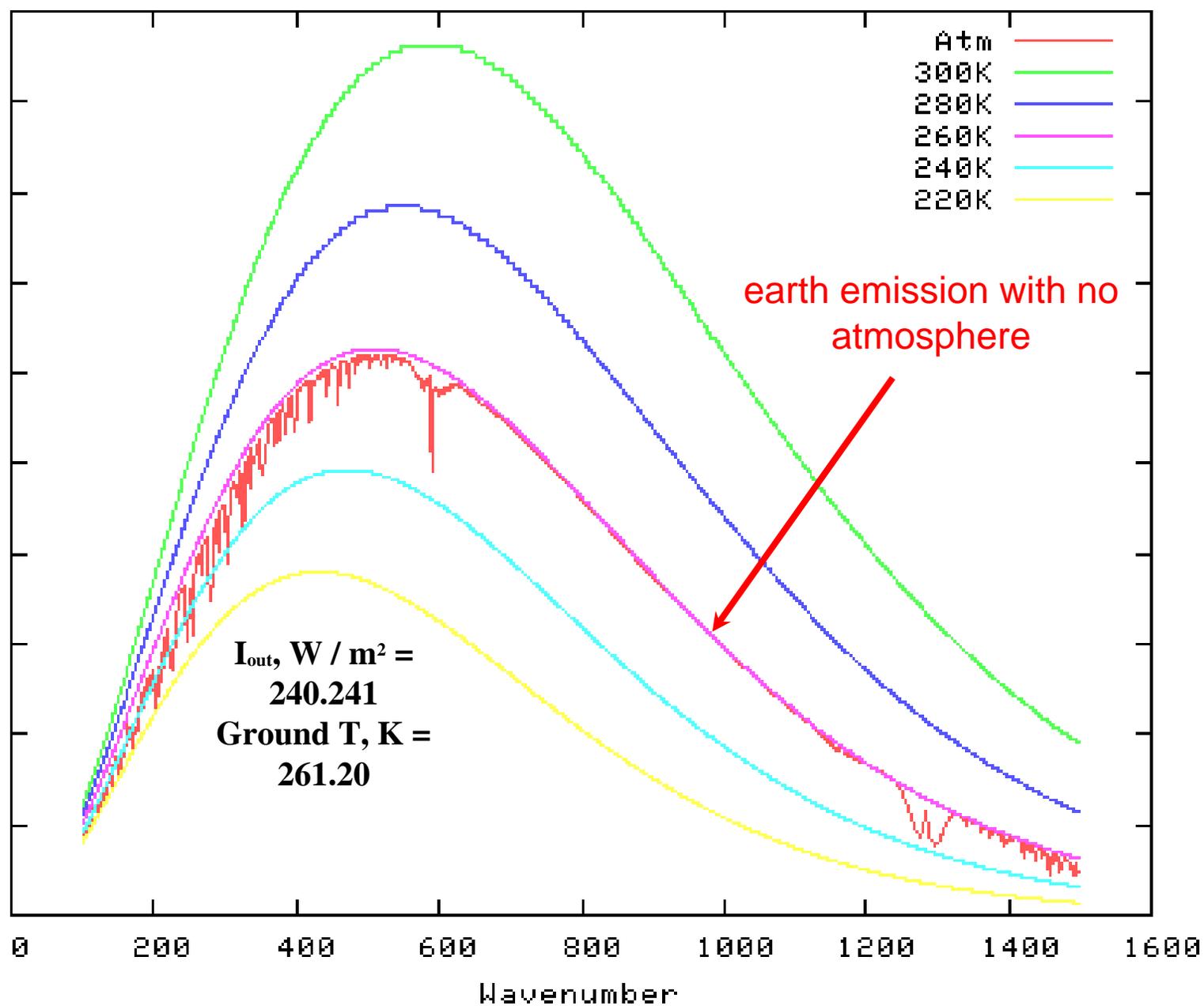
$$R = \sigma T^4$$

Scatter plot for OLR vs T (10 years)



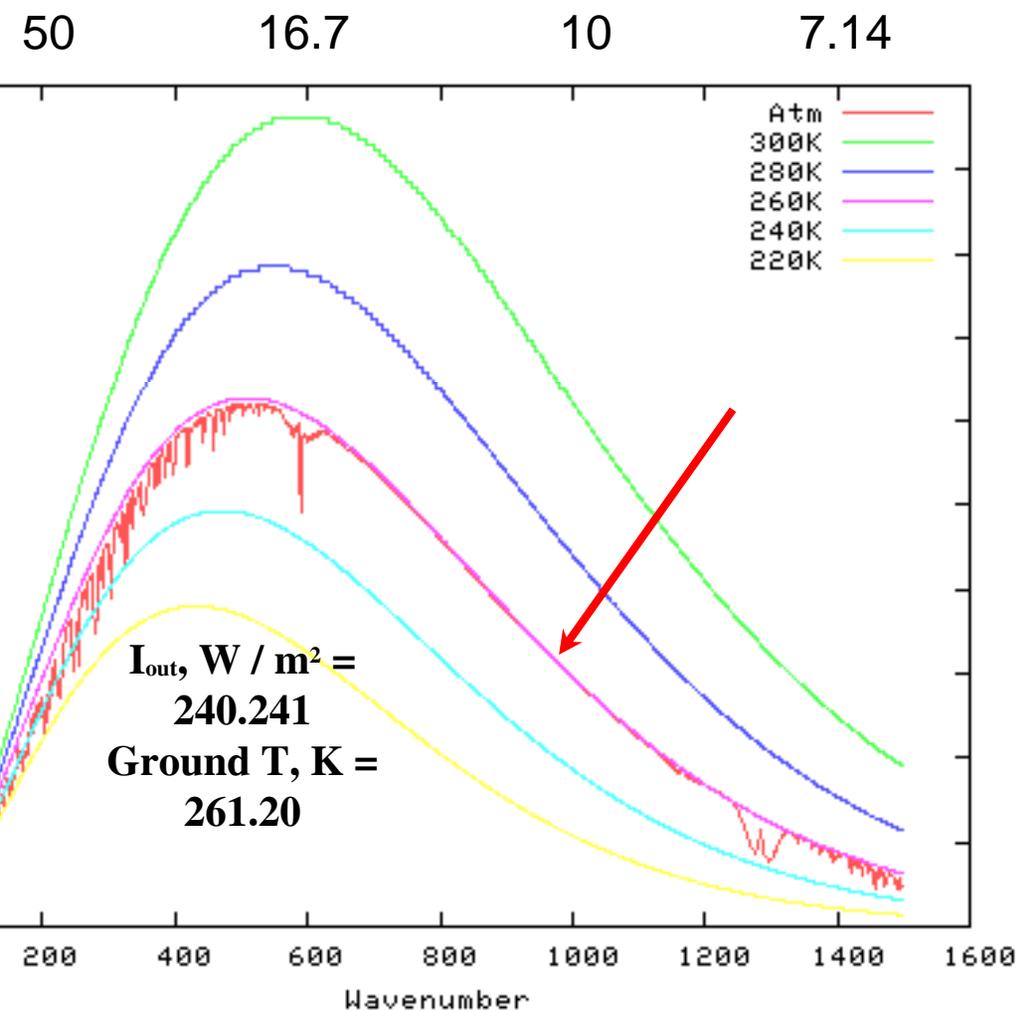


50 16.7 10 7.14 microns

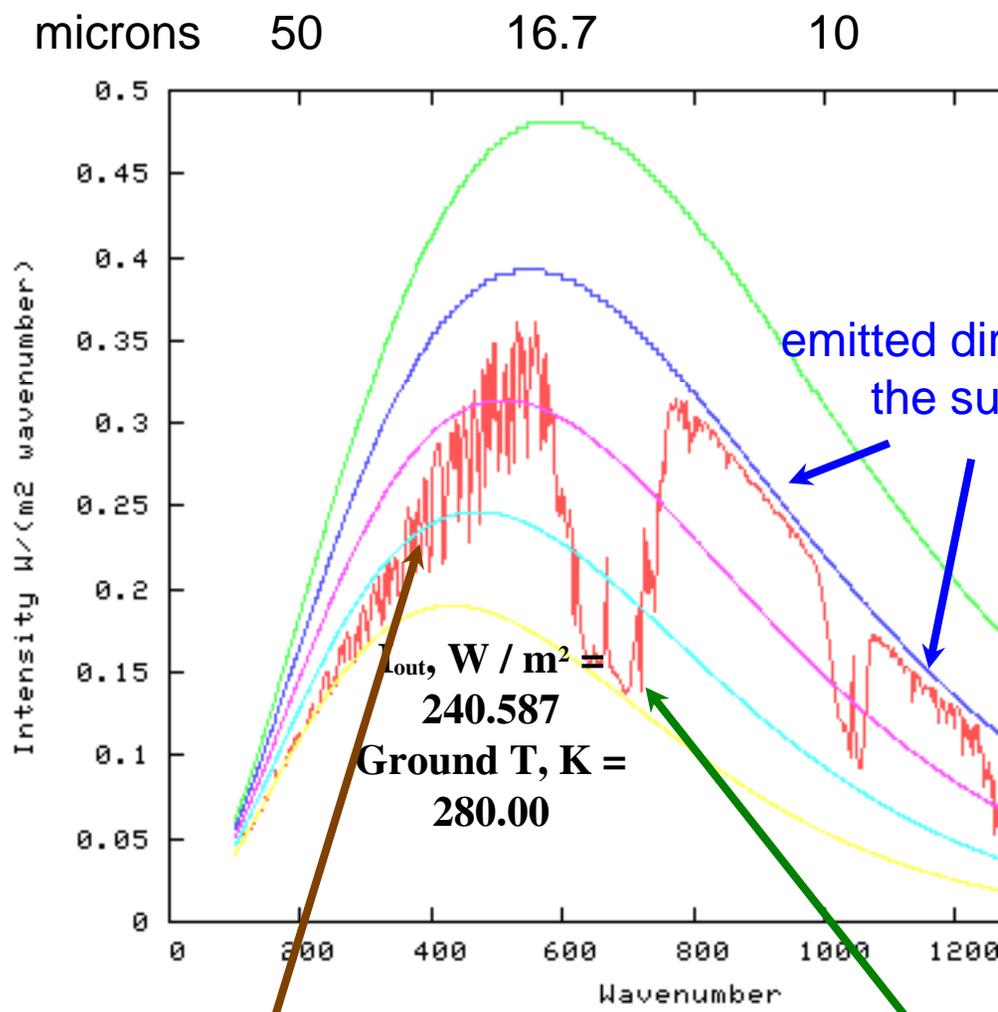


$$\text{wavenumber} = \frac{1}{\text{cm}} = \frac{1}{\text{cm}} (\text{cm})^{-1}$$

earth emission with no atmosphere;
ground temperature adjusted to balance
the radiation



earth emission with today's atmosphere
ground temperature adjusted to balance
the radiation

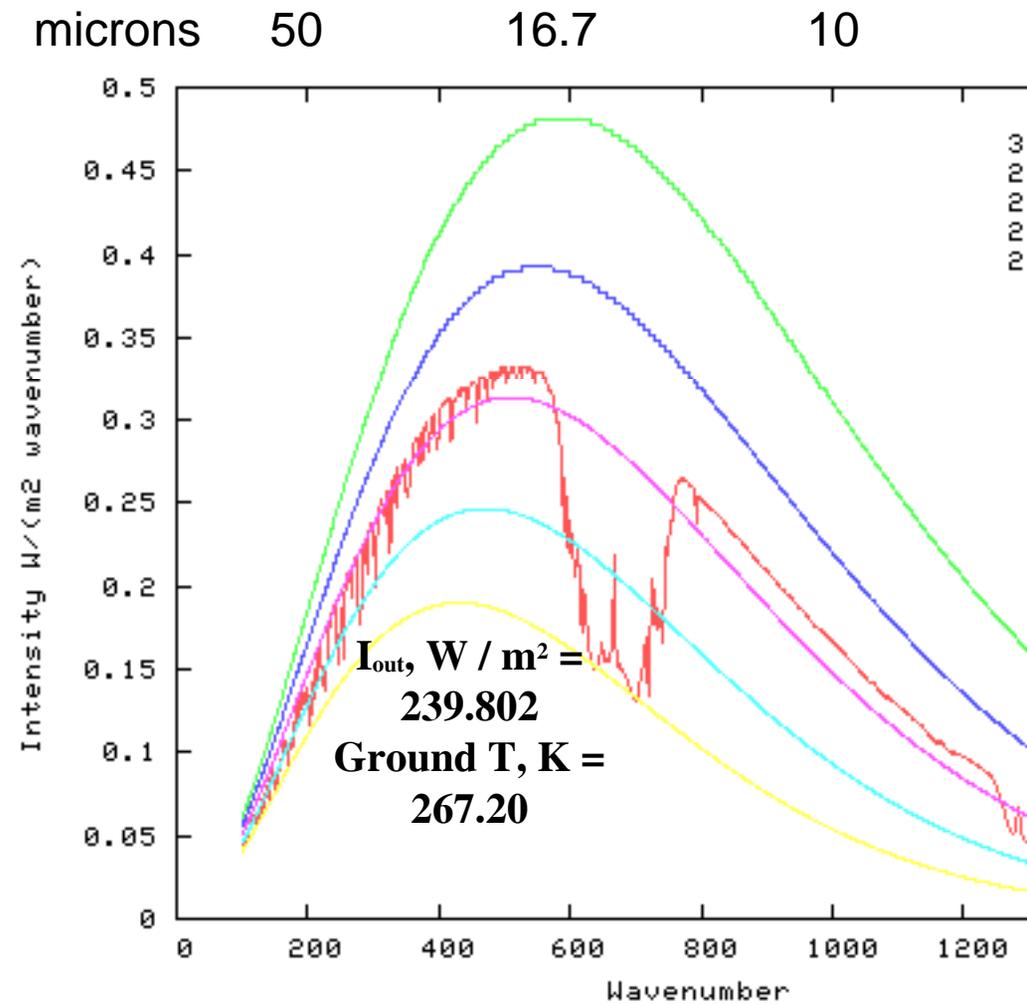
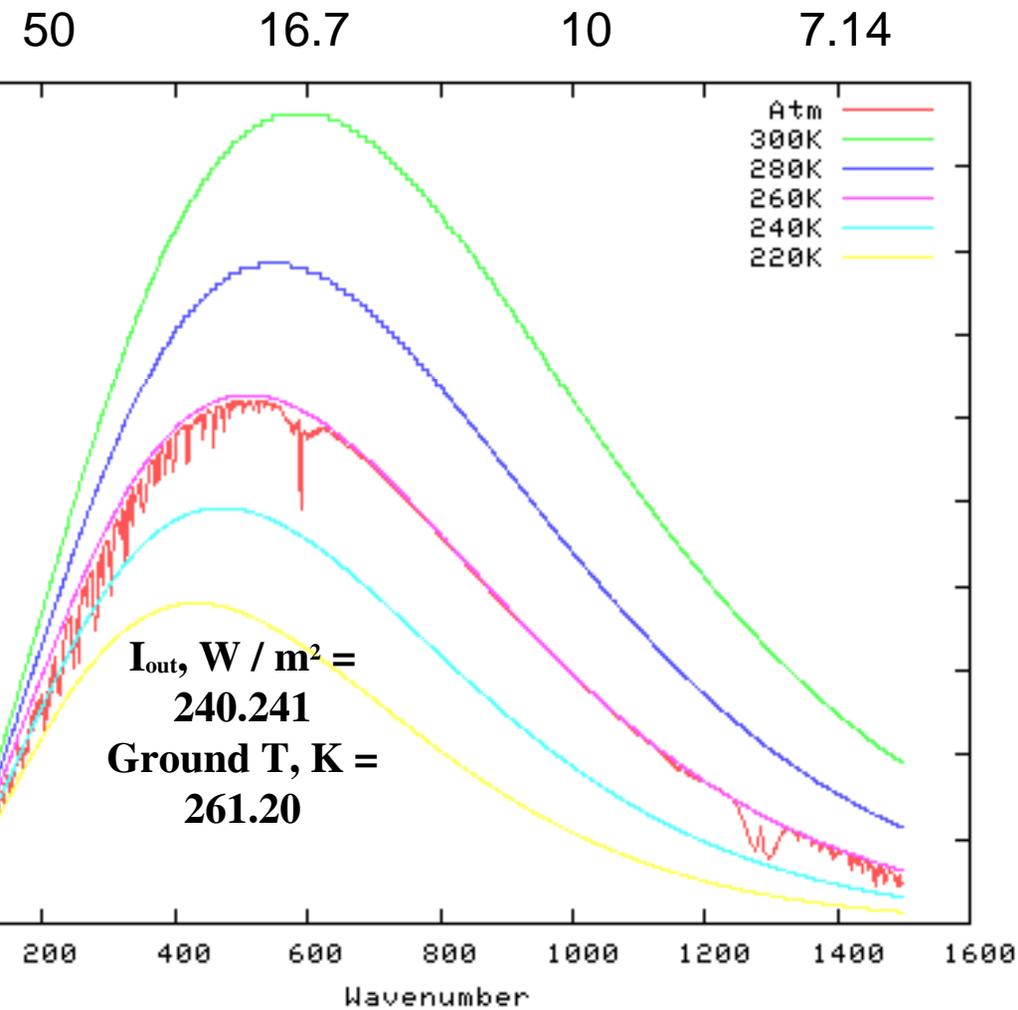


emitted high in the atmosphere from

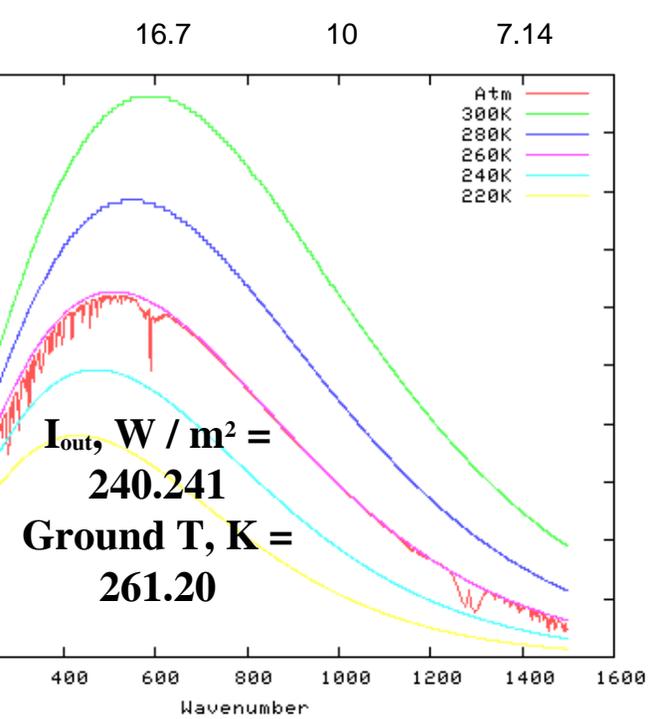
emitted atmosphere carb

earth emission with carbon dioxide, but
no water vapor, but adjusted to
equilibrium surface temperature

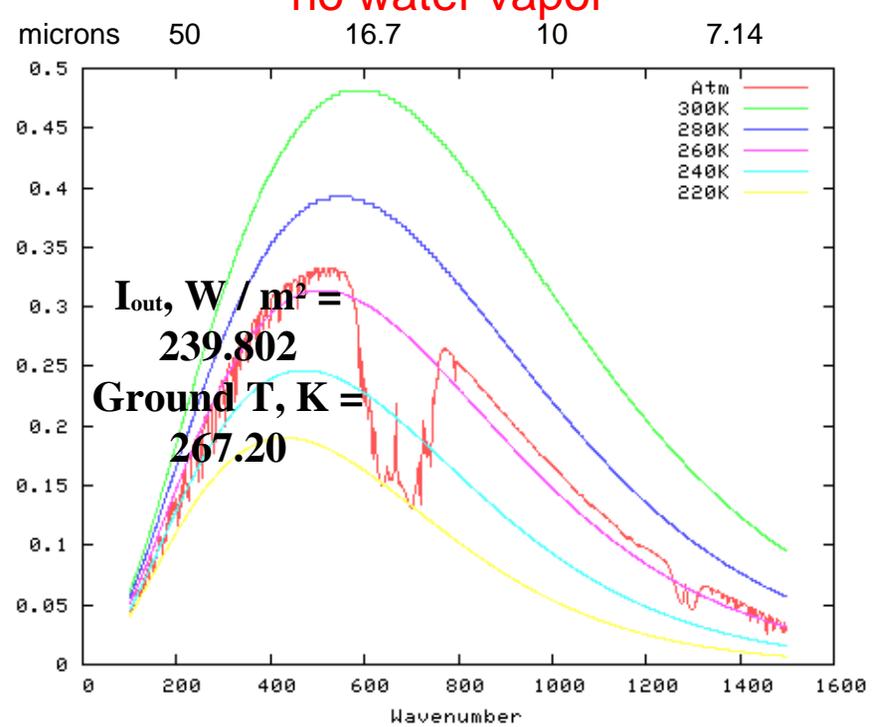
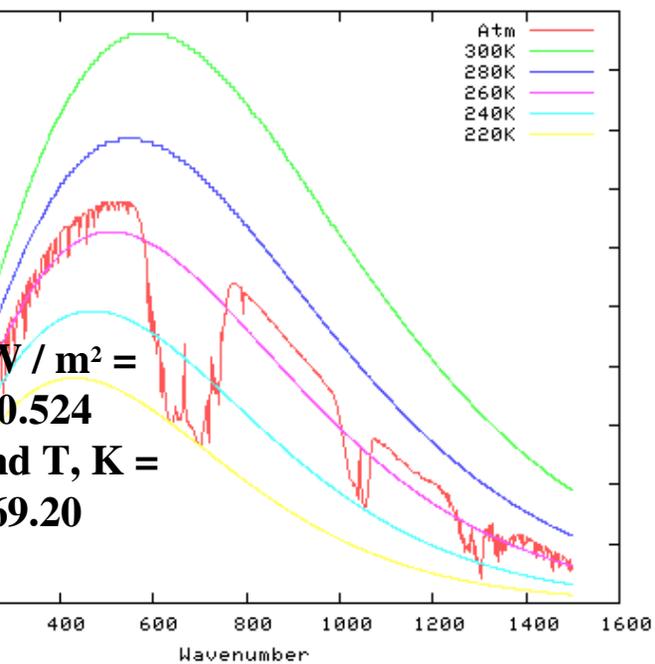
earth emission with no atmosphere



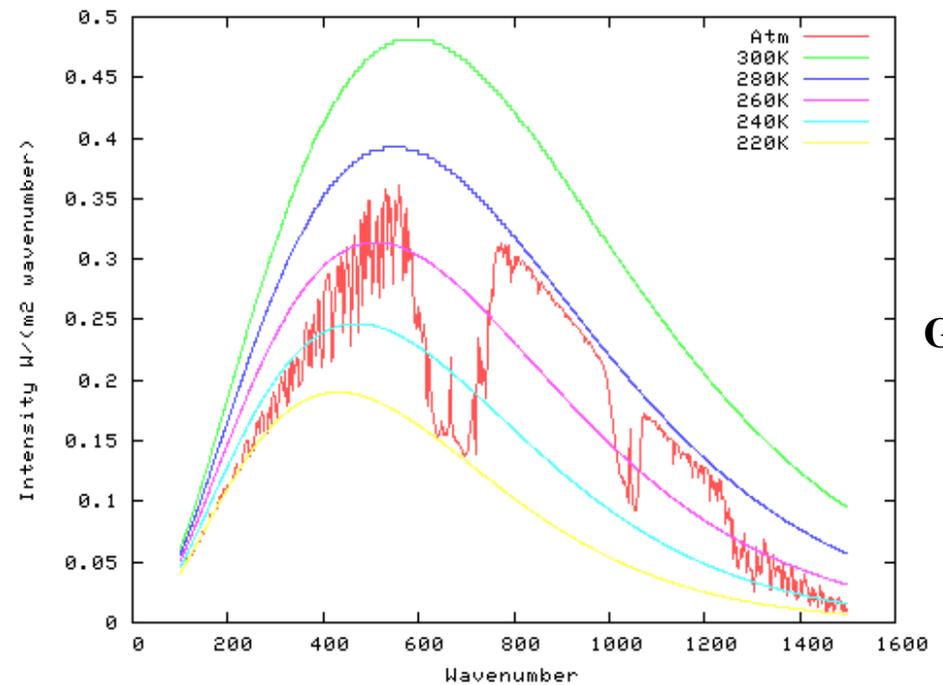
The Earth is warmed about 6 degrees



add methane, ozone to the
carbon dioxide



finally, add the water vapor

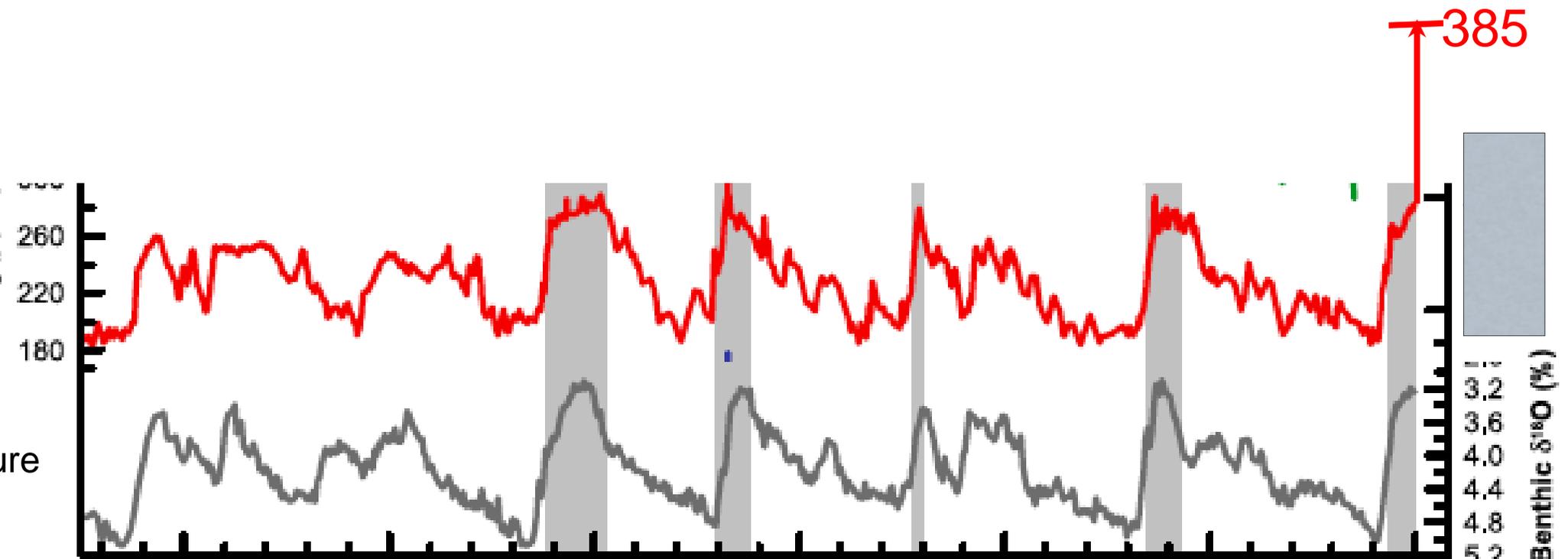


$I_{out}, W / m^2 = 239.9$
Ground T, K = 279.20

I didn't show it here, but the upshot of doubling CO_2 holding everything else constant leads to a warming of about 1deg C

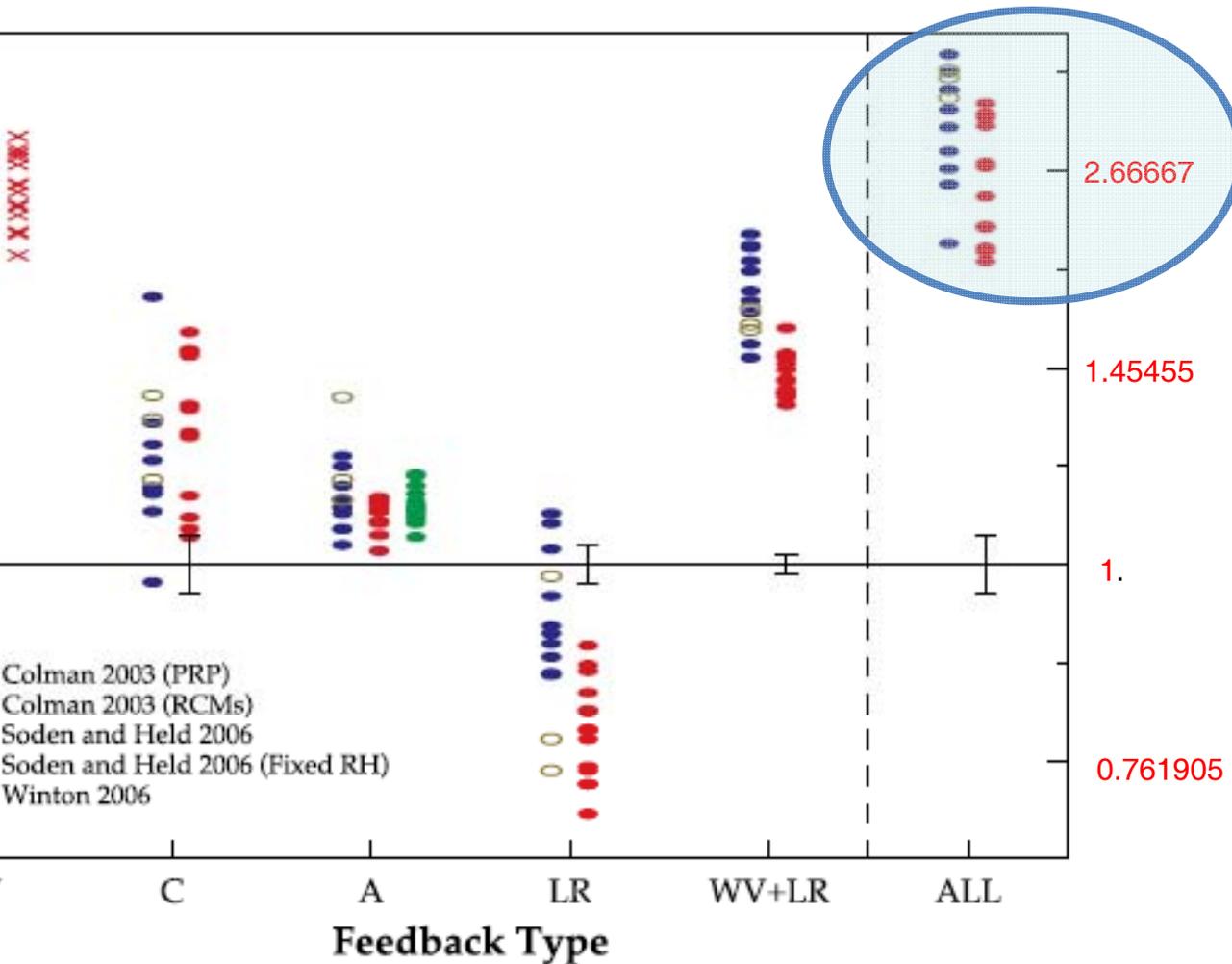
main ones are:

- water vapor (fast, doubles response)
 - warm the planet a bit and it humidifies
- ice (slow, less than water vapor)
- clouds (fast, probably positive)
- carbon cycle (positive, slow, but scary)



Feedback Calculus

comparing feedback
amplifiers for GCM



amplification
factor

Comparison of GCM climate feedback parameters for water vapour surface albedo (A), lapse rate (LR) and the combined water vapour (WV + LR) in units of $W m^{-2} °C^{-1}$. 'ALL' represents the sum of all results are taken from Colman (2003a; blue, black), Soden and Held (2006; red, green). Closed blue and open black symbols from Winton (2006a; green). Closed blue and open black symbols from Soden and Held (2006) represent calculations determined using the partial radiative convective method (PRP) and the radiative-convective method (RCM) approaches respectively. Crosses represent the water vapour feedback computed for each model using the partial radiative convective method (PRP) and the radiative-convective method (RCM) approaches respectively. Vertical bars represent uncertainty in the calculation of the feedbacks from Soden and Held (2006) assuming no change in relative humidity.

AR4 WW1 Chapter

Simple climate models with ice feedback are not sensitive enough to grow large ice caps with orbital element changes alone.

Adding the CO_2 and having a sensitivity of about $2^\circ\text{C}/\text{doubling CO}_2$ is just about big enough to do it.

Conclusion: we need both the reduced CO_2 and the positive feedbacks to get Milankovitch-timed big ice sheets.

ice sheets
&
vegetation

-3.5 ± 1

greenhouse
gases
CO₂
CH₄
N₂O

-2.6 ± 0.5

aerosols

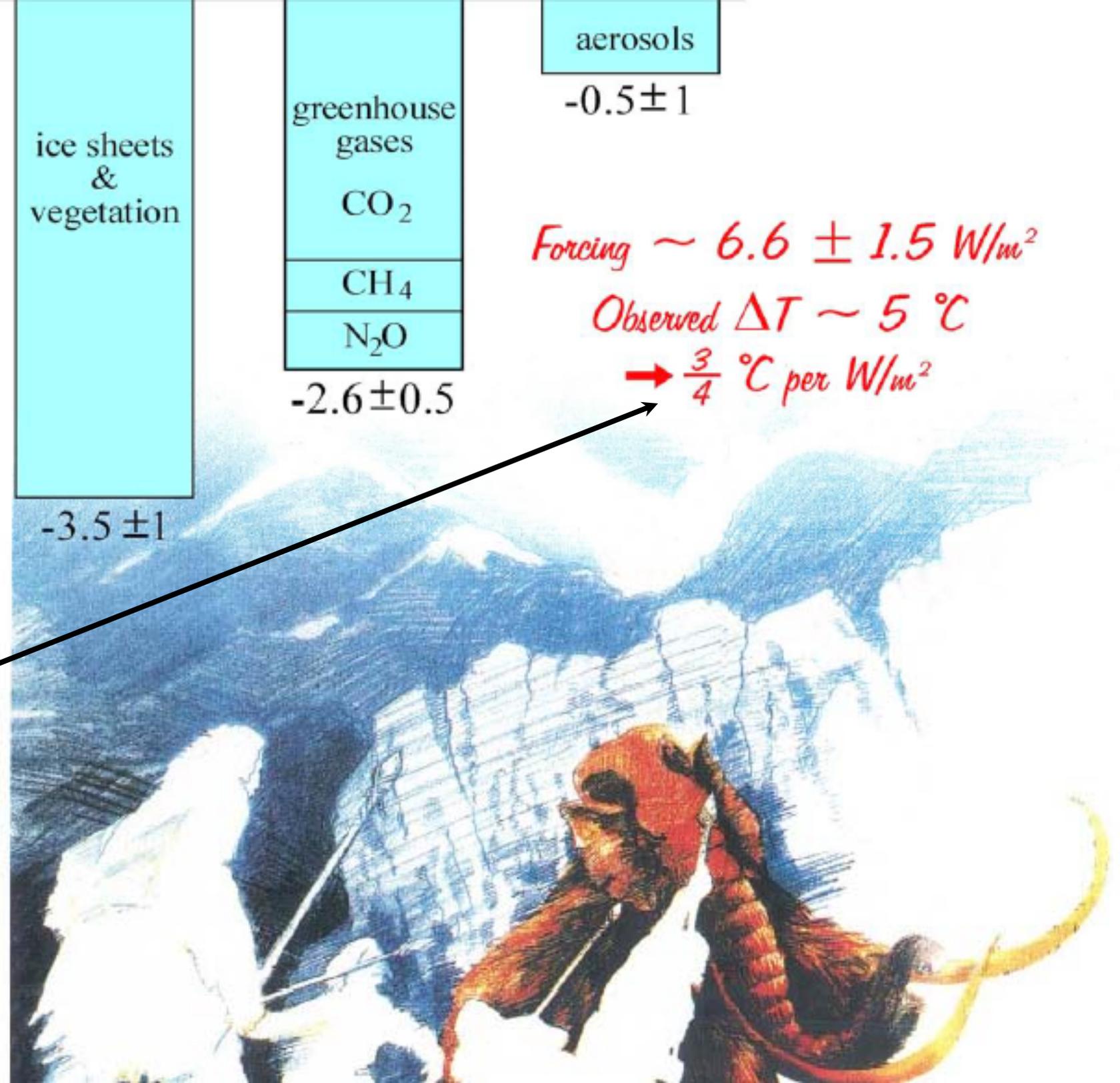
-0.5 ± 1

Forcing ~ 6.6 ± 1.5 W/m²

Observed ΔT ~ 5 °C

→ 3/4 °C per W/m²

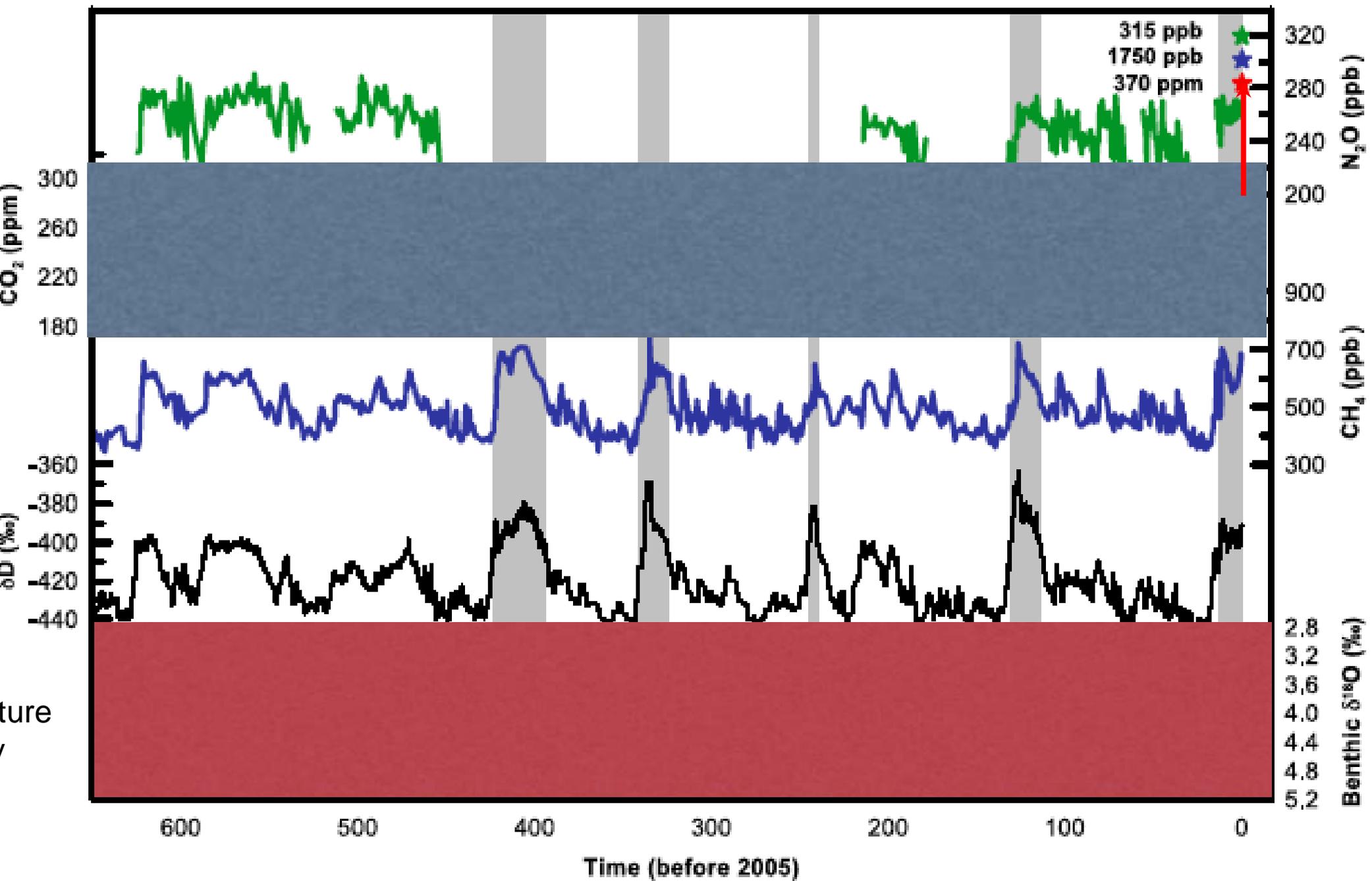
translates
at 3 deg
doubling
CO₂



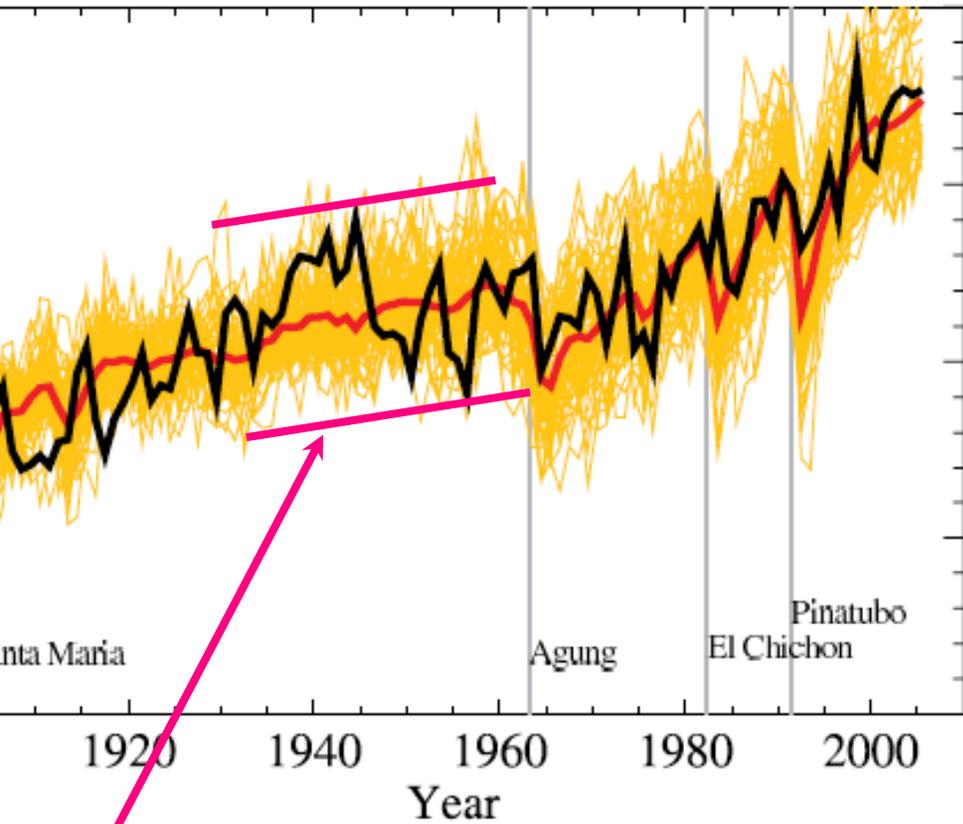
There have been many glaciations and very warm periods on geologic time scales.

Recent studies show that CO₂ reductions correlate with glaciations.

Extreme warm periods may have not needed more than 100ppm of CO₂.



simulations with anthro forcings



simulations without anthro forc

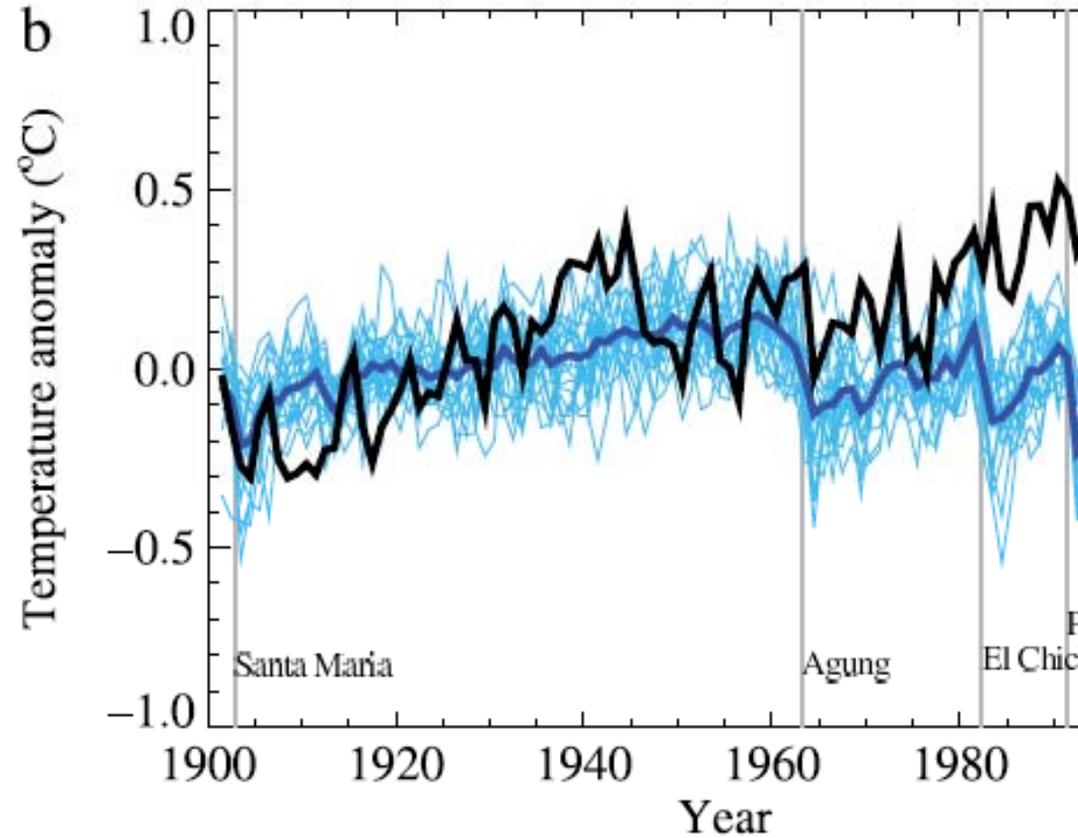


Fig. 9.5 WG1, AR4

envelope of natural variability
in the models.