



Exploitation of **R**esearch results **I**n **S**chool practice

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Weather – a game between pressure and temperature



Instytut Geofizyki
Polskiej Akademii Nauk



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<http://www.icarito.cl>

Our planet is the third planet from the Sun and fifth as size in our solar system. It's the only planet in our solar system that lives are known to exist.

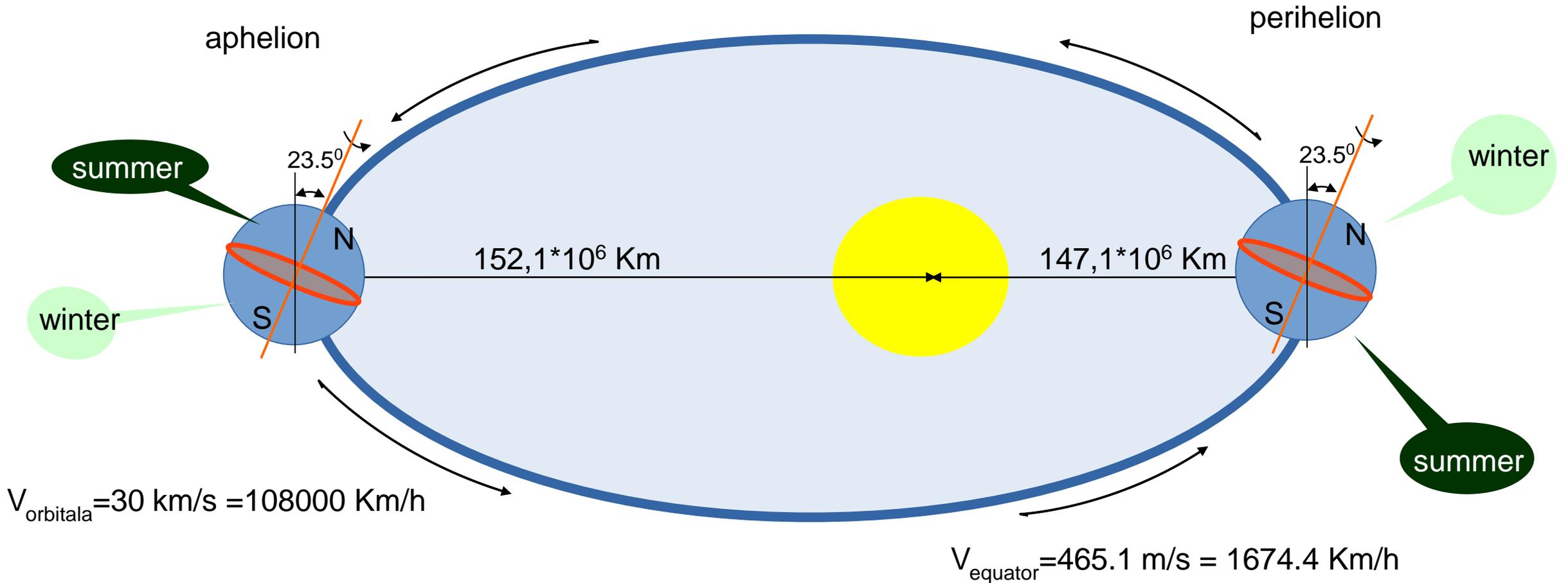
2/3 of the our planet surface is covered by oceans. Due to the huge mass and the specific heat, the oceans represents the enormous reservoirs of stored energy . They are acting as planetary thermal regulators.

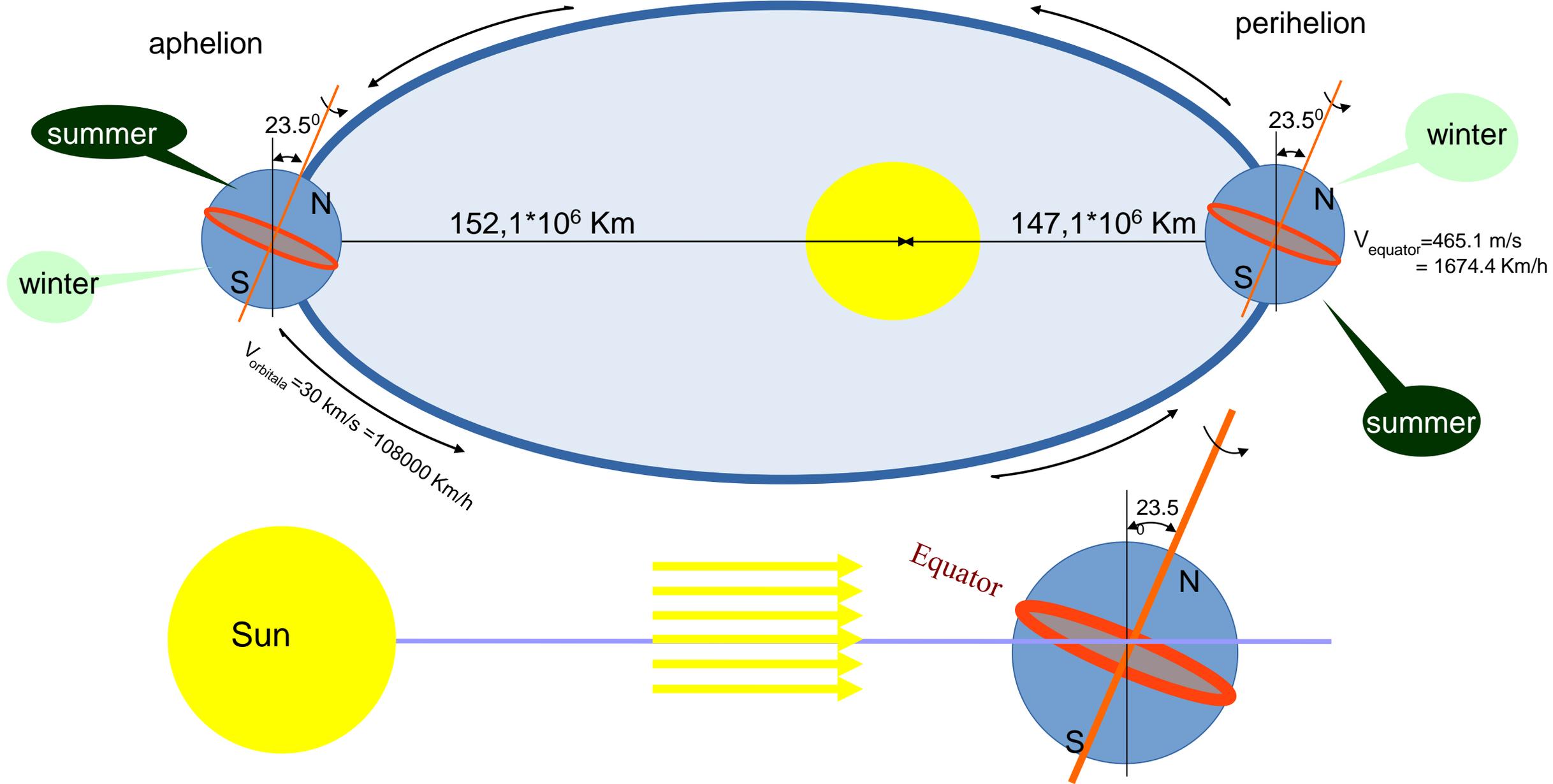
The planet is surrounded by a layer of gas that forms **the atmosphere.**

More then 90% of the atmospheric mass is found in the first 30 Km, while horizontally the dimension of the atmosphere is about 20000 Km, the distance between the Earth poles.

The atmospheric physics is the science that studies the structure, the thermodynamics and the atmospheric dynamics as basis for the meteorology and climatology .

During one year, the Earth receive only the second billionth of the solar energy, which mean 1.37×10^{24} cal. Considering some calculation, the solar energy received by the Erath in one and half day is equivalent with the energy produced by all power station in the world during one year.





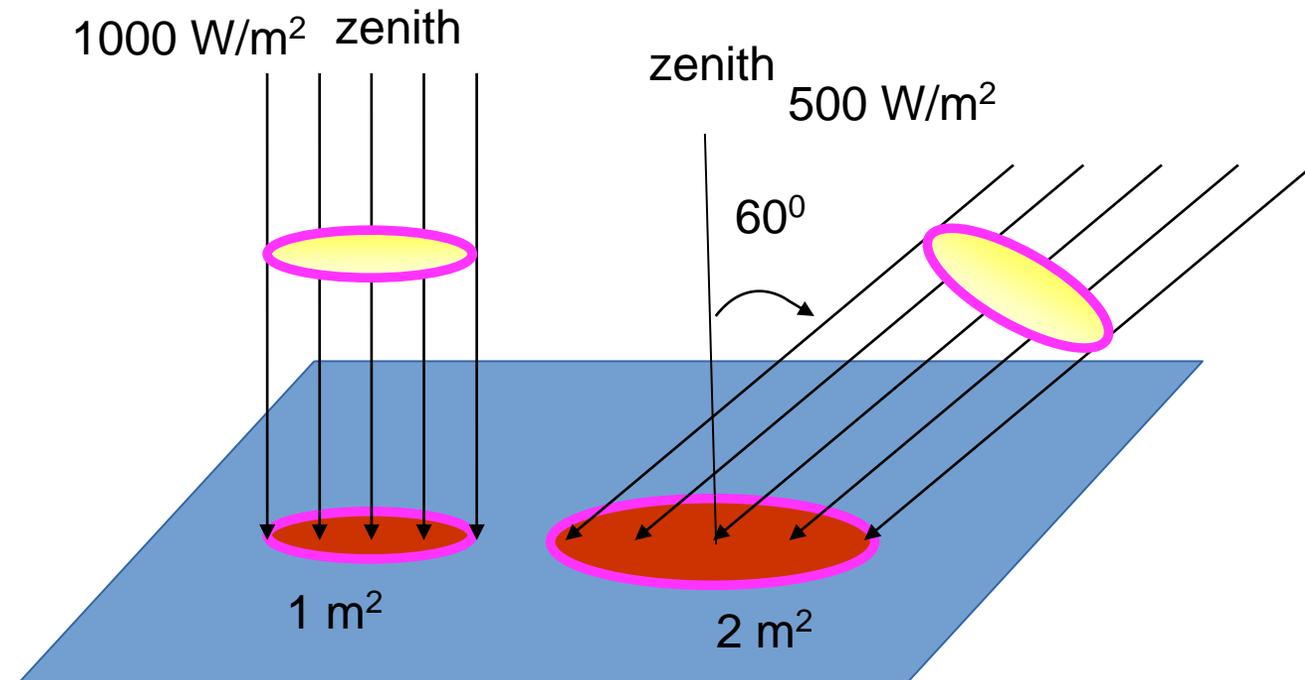
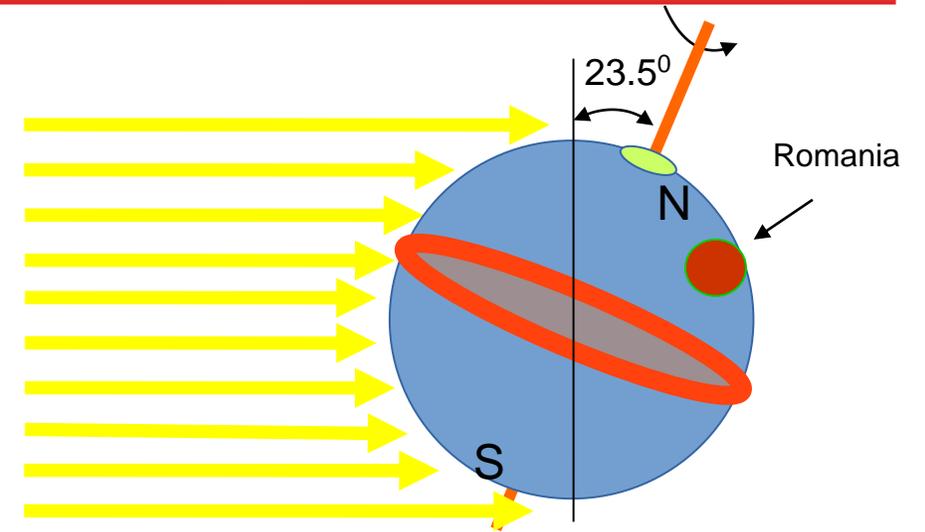
The solar energy distribution between the Earth surface and the higher limit of atmosphere is different. The intensity and the spectral composition change is due to the zenith distance and due to the absorption and diffusion processes produced by the molecules which are part of the atmospheric gas but also due to the water vapors, hydrometeors and aerosols.

The effect that radiation has on Earth is also reflected in the temperature we recorded in every point on the surface of the planet.

Day / night temperature variation.

Temperature variation in seasons.

Temperature variation in the two hemispheres.



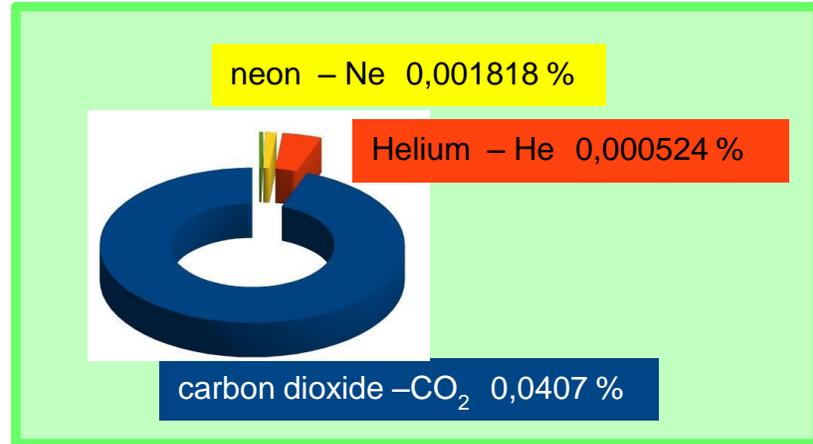
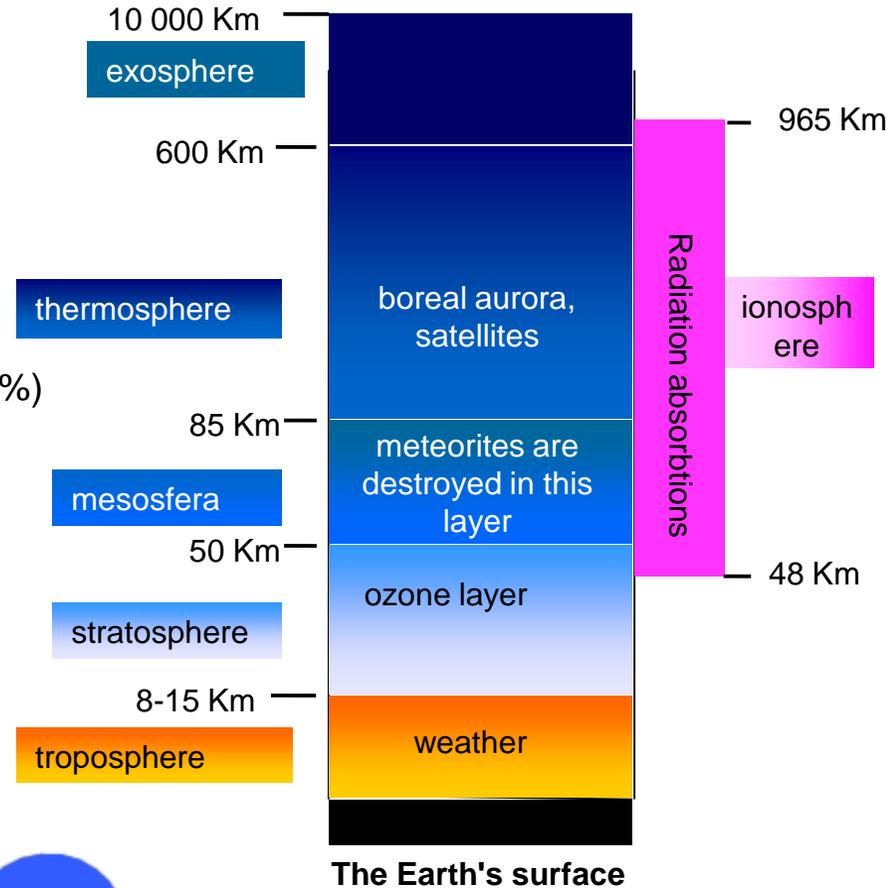
Structure and composition of the atmosphere

The atmosphere: gases, water vapors, aerosol.

Atmospheric aerosol= is a polydisperse system which contains liquid and suspended particles in air.

Green house effect gases

Gas	Chemical formula	Contribution (%)
Water vapors and clouds	H ₂ O	36-72%
Carbon dioxide	CO ₂	9-26%
Methane	CH ₄	4-9%
Ozone	O ₃	3-7%

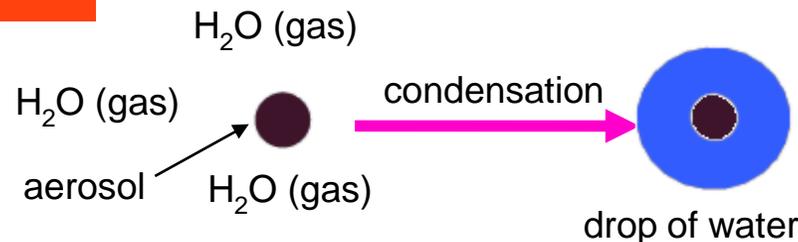


other elements
0,04338 %

nitrogen – N₂ 78,048 %

argon – Ar 0,934 %

oxygen – O₂ 20,946 %



The atmosphere mass is approximately 5.16×10^{15} t and represents less than one millionth of the earth's mass which is considered to be 5.98×10^{21} t.

The most part of the atmosphere is found in a relatively narrow layer close to the Earth. Approximately 50% of the atmosphere mass is in the first 5 Km, 75% in the first 10 Km and 99% up to height of 16 Km.

Comparing the atmosphere at sea level with the upper side of 600 Km

@ sea level

$1 \text{ cm}^3 = 2 \times 10^{19}$ atoms and molecules

the distance between two collisions : 7×10^{-6} cm

on average: 7×10^{19} collisions / second

@ 600 Km altitude

$1 \text{ cm}^3 = 2 \times 10^7$ atoms and molecules

the distance between two collisions : 10 Km

on average : 1 collisions / second

The main parameters which characterize the atmospheric air particles.

In each point the physical state of the atmosphere is characterized by the pressure, temperature and density.

The variation of this parameters with altitude can be seen for the standard atmosphere in the figure. The pressure decrease exponentially with altitude.

Atmospheric pressure = the force exerted on a surface by the

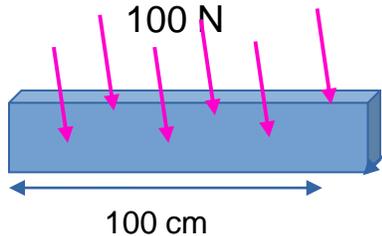
weight of the air above that surface $Pressure (P) = \frac{Force}{Surface} = \frac{N}{m^2} = Pa$

What is the air weight?

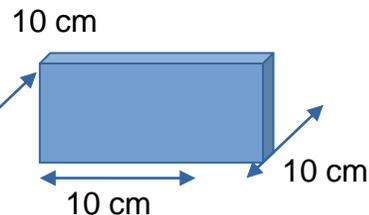
- it is known that an air column with a 1 cm² section measured from the sea to the upper part of the atmosphere weighs: m = 1,03 Kg

- the air density at sea level and T = 15°C is $\rho = 1.2754 \frac{Kg}{m^3}$

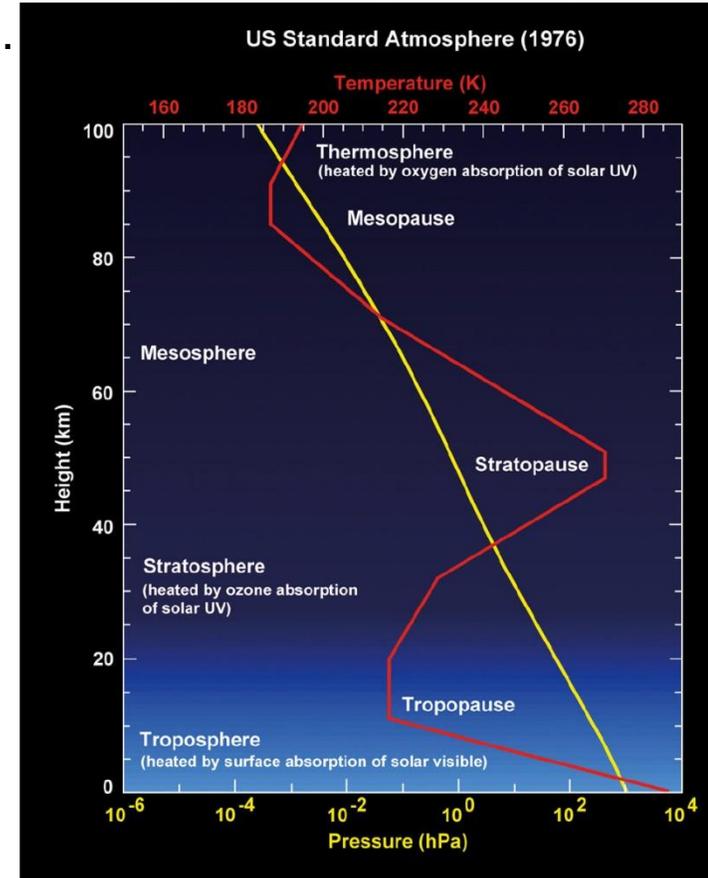
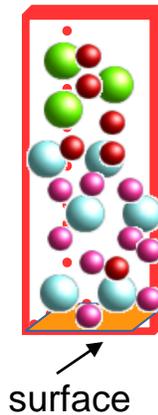
Same force; Weight
100 N



Different surface;



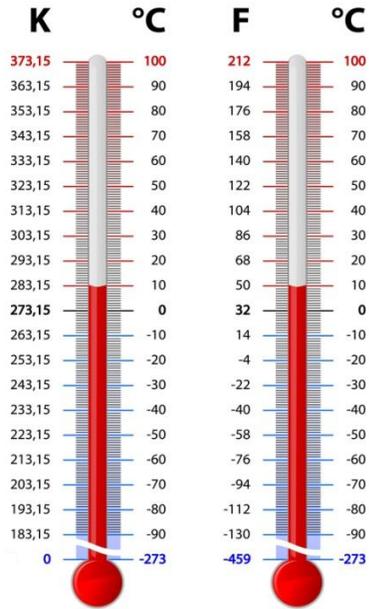
- Different pressure



<https://earth.esa.int/web/guest/missions/esa-operational-eo-missions/envisat/instruments/sciamachy-handbook/wiki/-/wiki/SCIAMACHY%20Handbook/The+Atmospheric+Layers>

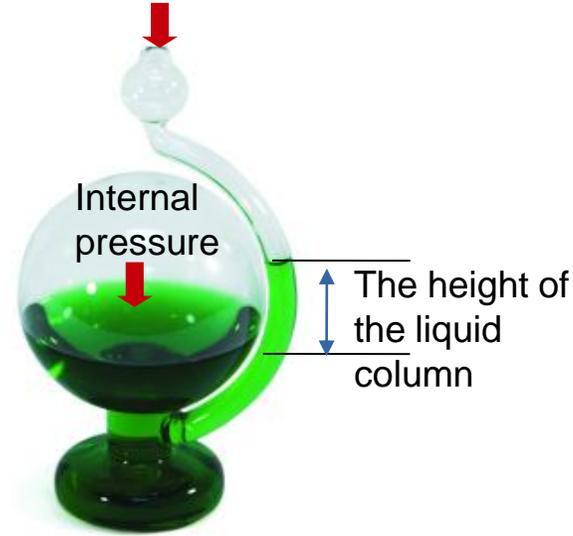
Typical temperature (red line) and pressure (yellow line) profiles for mid-latitudes

Thermometer temperature



livescience.com

Barometer atmospheric pressure



The barometric tube used for measuring atmospheric pressure

The pressure is expressed in different units of measure :

- 1) Pascal [Pa] ; 1 Pa = 1 N/m²
- 2) Atmospher[atm] ; 1 atm = 10⁵ Pa
- 3) Torr [torr] ; 1 torr =133,3224 Pa
- 4) pounds-force per square inch [psi] ;
1 psi = 6,8948 * 10³ Pa
- 5) millimeter mercury column [mmHg];
1 mmHg = 133,322 Pa

$$\rho_{Hg} = 13595 \frac{Kg}{m^3} ; g=9,80665 \text{ ms}^{-2} \text{ at sea level and latitude of } 45^{\circ}$$

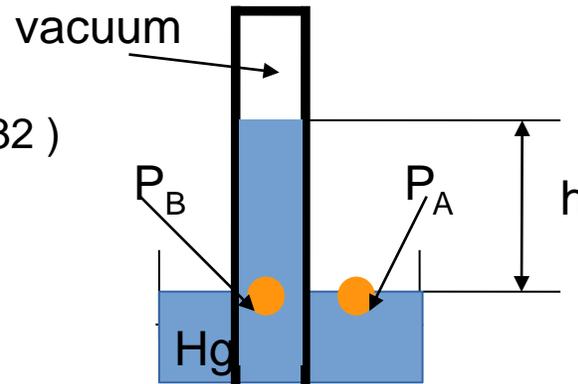
the atmospheric pressure - P_A - is equal to the pressure exerted by the mercury column in the barometric tube - P_B

$$P_B = \frac{F}{S} = \frac{m \cdot g}{S} = \frac{\rho_{Hg} Sh \cdot g}{S} = \rho_{Hg} hg$$

$P_A = P_B = 1.012 \times 10^5 \text{ Kg m}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-2}$ under normal pressure and temperature conditions

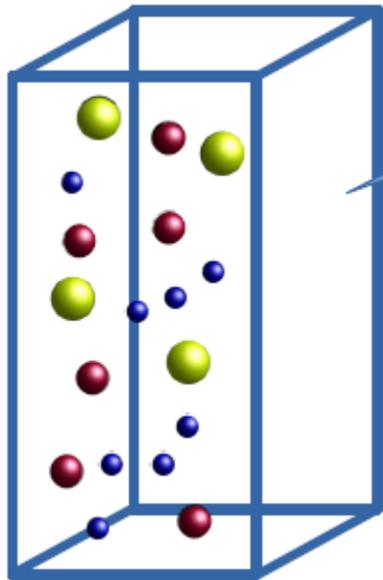
The temperature is expressed in different units of measurement:

- Celsius [°C] [°C] = 5/9 * ([°F] -32)
- Fahrenheit [°F] [°C] = [K]+273
- Kelvin [K]



Barometric law

(P, T, ρ)



ideal gas

If we considering the air to be an ideal gas we have the thermal equation of state

$$PV = \nu RT \text{ or } P = n k_B T \text{ or } PV = mRT/M$$

P- pressure, V- volum, ν - amount of substance (number of moles) , M- molar mass

R – universal gas constant $R = 8314 \text{ J/mol K}$

T – temperature

n – concentration = nr of molecules/V

k_B - Boltzmann's constant $k_B = R/N_A = 1.38 \cdot 10^{-23} \text{ J/K}$ cu N_A - Avogadro no. $N_A = 6.0221 \cdot 10^{23} \text{ mol}^{-1}$

Obs: Molar mass = mass of a molecule

The main components of dry air below 25 km

Component [chemical element]	Percentage of volume [%]	Molar mass [g/mol]
nitrogen(N_2)	78.08	28.013
Oxygen (O_2)	20.95	31.998
Argon (Ar)	0.93	39.948
Carbon dioxide (CO_2)	0.03	43.999

What is the weather?

The physical state of the atmosphere is constantly changing and in a certain place, at a given moment or for a certain period of time, it is characterized by a complex of processes and meteorological phenomena, the development of which is determined by the interaction under the influence of a variety of different factors.

The weather represents the instantaneous atmospheric states and daily evolution of the pressure and temperature.

The very complex mode in which the meteorological parameters vary determines the great variability of the weather aspects.

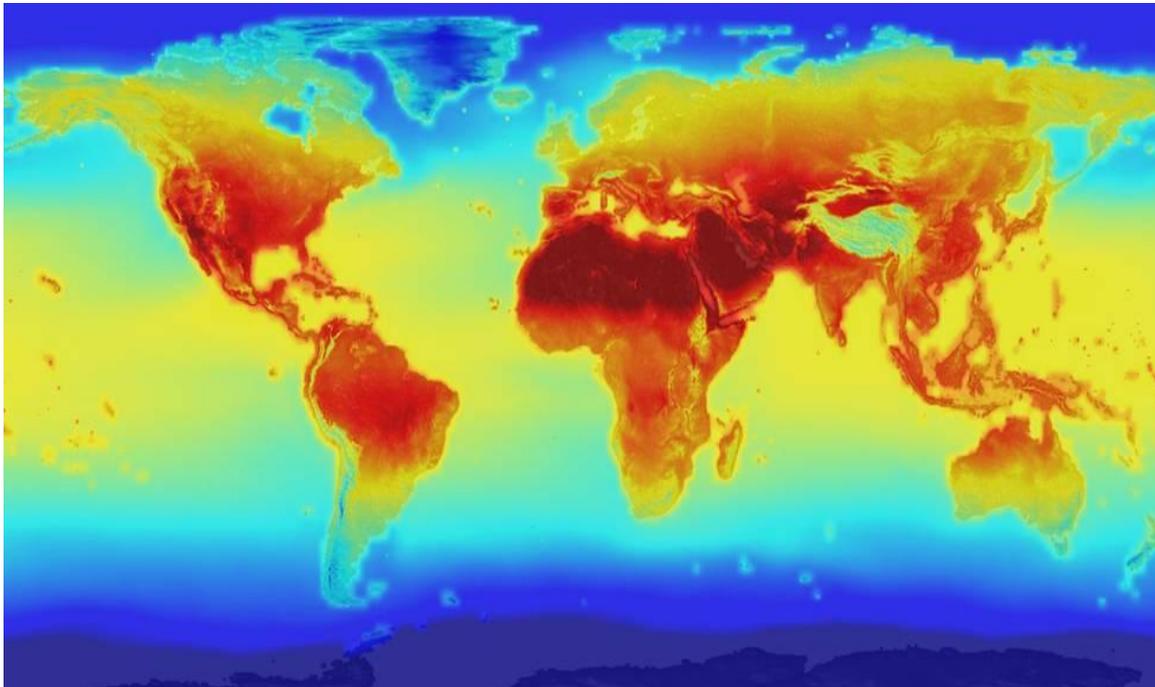
Example of the elements which define the weather: air temperature, air pressure



What is the climate?

Climate is the multi-annual average state of a geographic region that originates from interactions between radiation, physico-geographic, and dynamic factors under the ever-increasing influence of human activity.

The climate problems are distinguished from meteorological ones by neglecting the daily fluctuations of the atmosphere and incorporating into the climate study the various statistical deviations obtained by mediating assemblies or instantaneous sequences.



<https://www.nasa.gov/press-release/nasa-releases-detailed-global-climate-change-projections>

Climate change over the 30-year standard period defines **climatic variability**.

Temperature and precipitation are key elements in climate characterization.

Information on spatial and temporal variability, the detection of changes in the evolution of climate elements and the identification of the causes that have caused these changes are of particular interest both from a scientific and practical point of view.

Between 1916 and 2016 = the global sea level increased by 17 cm

In 2016 - global average temperature was : $T=0.99\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$

Hot air is low in density



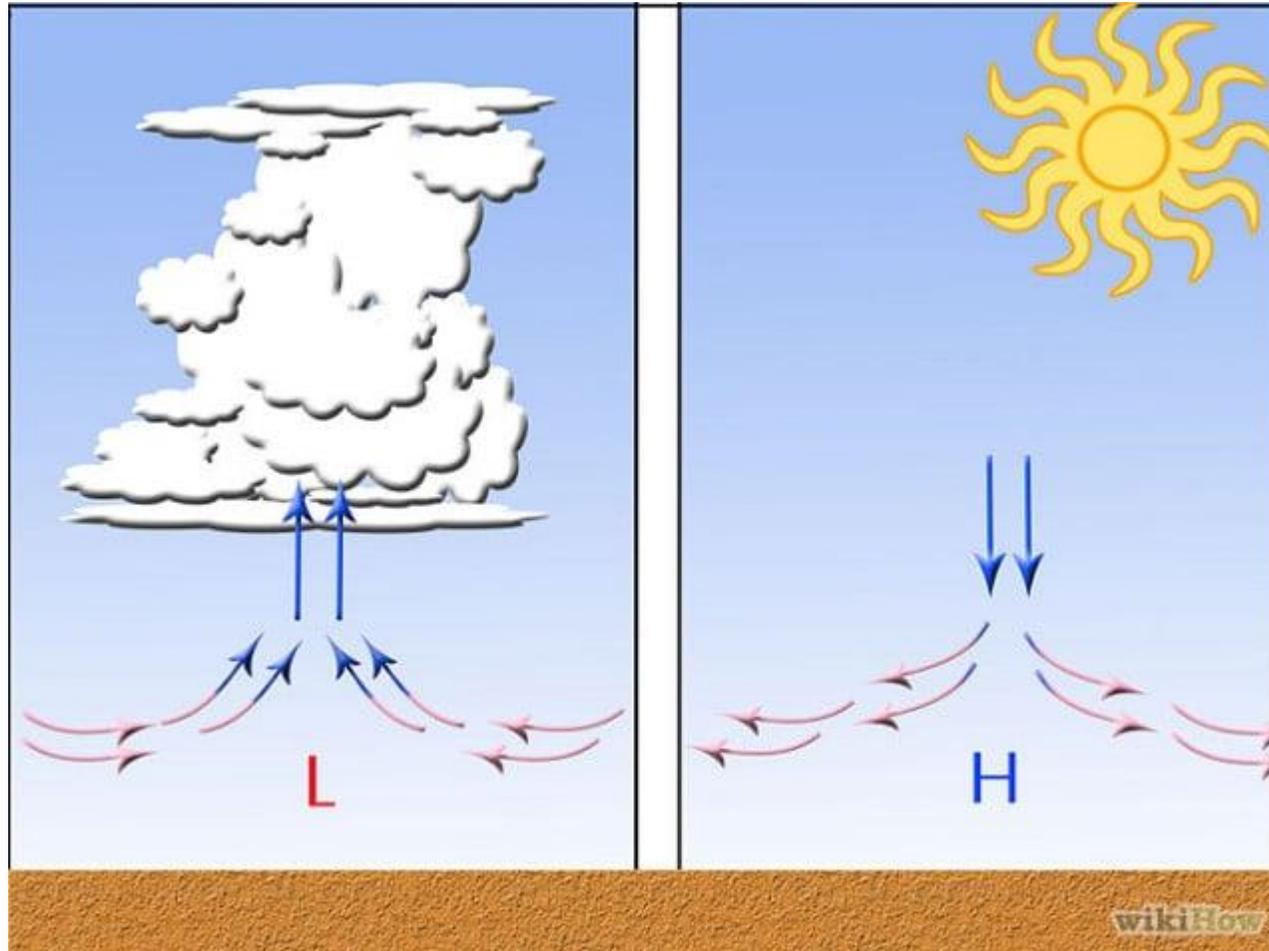
will rise



decreases the force it presses



low pressure



Cold air has high density



will come down



increases the force it presses

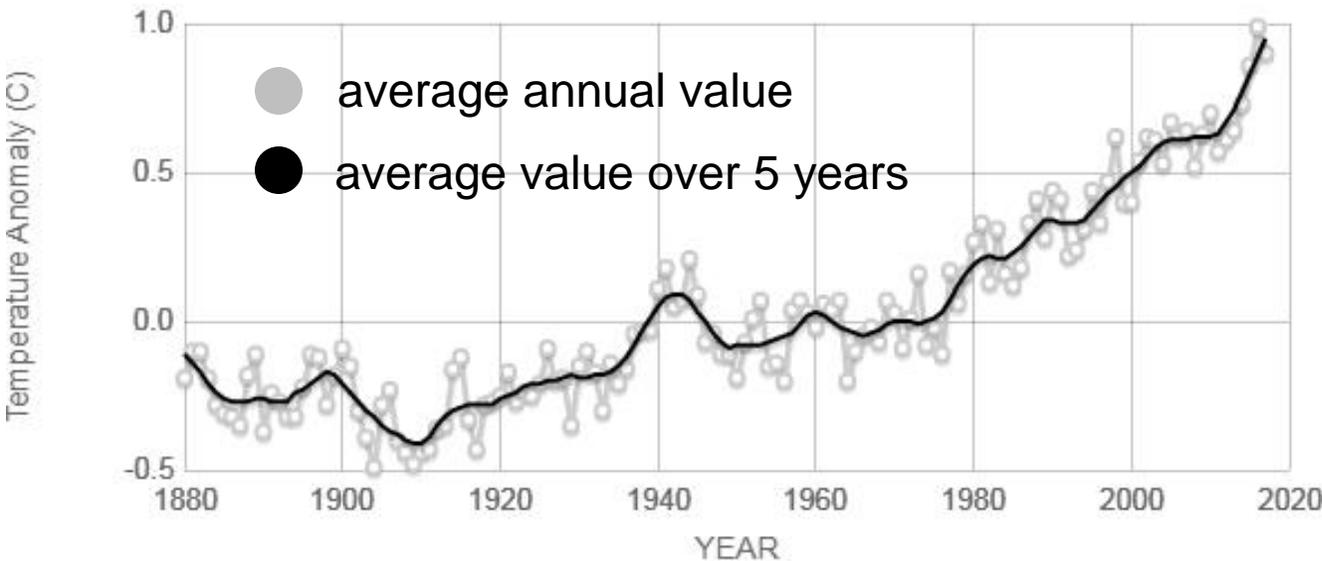


high pressure

Pressure drops:
Temperature rises
Humidity increases
Clouds are forming and the storm approaches

Pressure increases:
The temperature drops
Humidity decreases
It will be cold with clear sky

Global Temperature



Climate studies have shown that the average air temperature in the northern hemisphere increased significantly (0.6 ° C according to IPCC, 1997) in the last century, warming being more pronounced in two periods: 1920-1940 and 1970-1980 respectively. The warming of the first period was significant, especially around 1920, at medium and high latitudes (more pronounced in the North Atlantic and in Europe) and especially in the winter season, being interpreted as a feature of "warming due to the effect of the greenhouse "(Fu and others, 1999)

Source: climate.nasa.gov

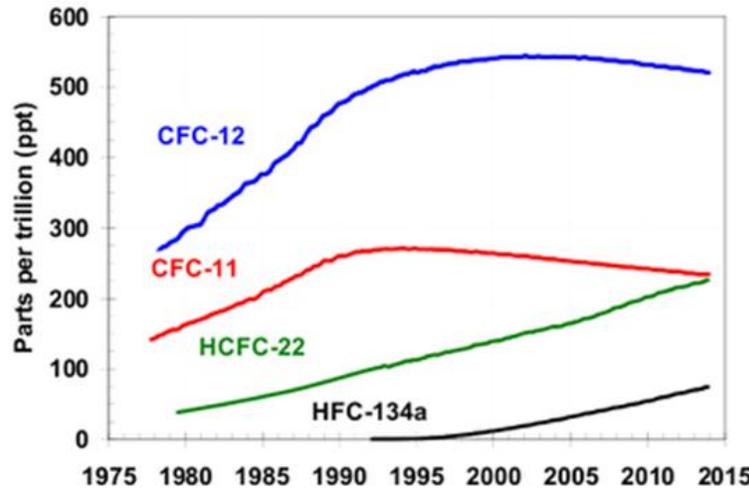
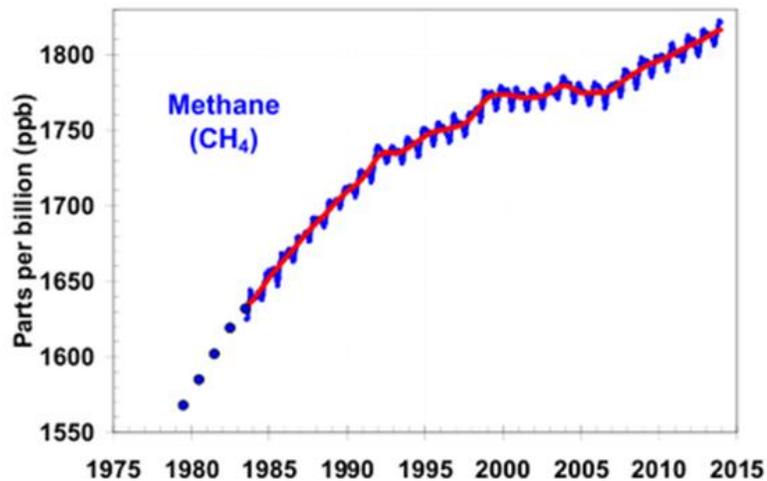
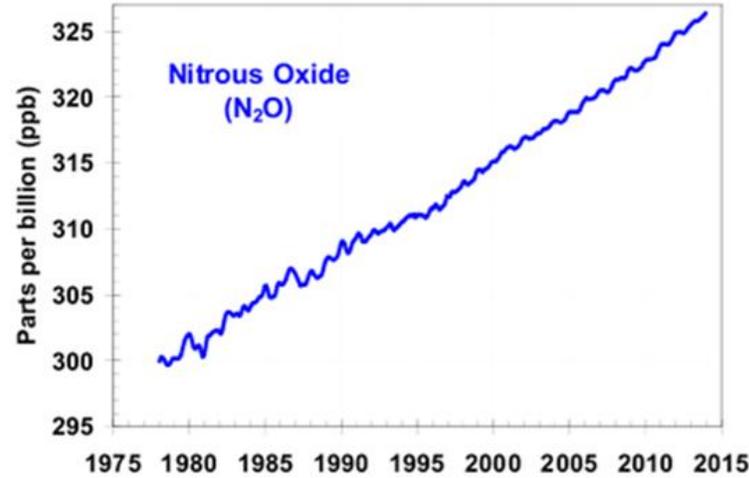
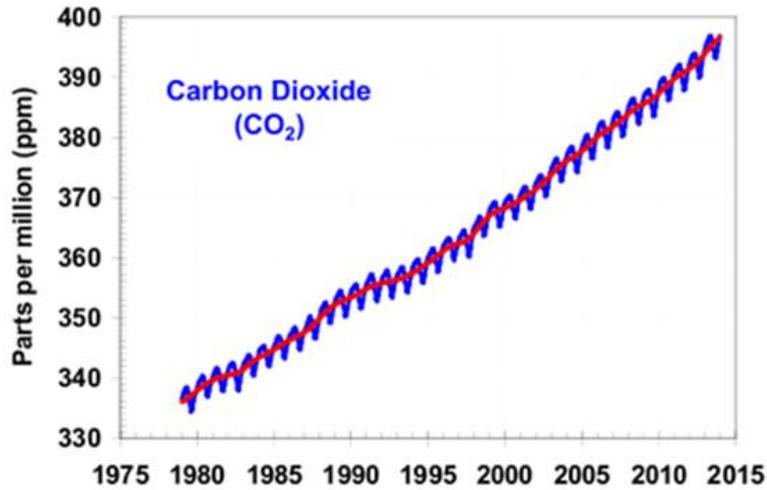
This graph illustrates the change in global surface temperature relative to 1951-1980 average temperatures. Seventeen of the 18 warmest years in the 136-year record all have occurred since 2001, with the exception of 1998. The year 2016 ranks as the warmest on record. (Source: [NASA/GISS](https://climate.nasa.gov)).

Examples of climate change :

<https://climate.nasa.gov/images-of-change?id=599#599-antarcticas-pine-island-glacier-calves-iceberg>

Earth's weather and climate are determined by the amount of radiation received from the Sun and the way it is distributed.

The NOAA Annual Greenhouse Gas Index (AGGI)



The NOAA (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration) is an American scientific agency within the United States Department of Commerce) AGGI measures the commitment society has already made to living in a changing climate. It is based on the highest quality atmospheric observations from sites around the world. Its uncertainty is very low

Increasing greenhouse gas concentrations causes the global temperature to rise and consequently the increase in the frequency of extreme climatic events, a sign of sudden climate change.