# CLINATE OF CRIVEROUS

The grave error of physics that created a climate 'emergency'

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## Meet the Argonauts



This brief is a **plain man's guide** to a learned paper in climatological physics by **The Argonauts,** a selffunded global team of eminent climatologists and control theorists, who have spent years studying climate sensitivity – how much (or how little) global warming we may cause.

The Argonauts discovered a grave error of physics that led climate scientists to predict three times too much global warming.

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Dr Tom Sheahen is a physicist and alumnus of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

**William Rostron** is an award-winning control engineer who designed and programmed the world-leading integrated control system at the Oconee Nuclear Facility, Seneca, South Carolina.

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# CLIMATE OF ERROR

# The grave error of physics that created a climate 'emergency'

It was all a big mistake. Concern about dangerous global warming arose from a grave error of physics dating back to 1984. No one had noticed until now because **climate scientists had borrowed feedback mathematics** from control theory, another branch of physics, without understanding it. The control theorists whose science climatologists had borrowed had not realized how it had been misused.

An international team of eminent climatologists and control theorists, gathered by Christopher Monckton of Brenchley, spent years hunting the error. Their 70-page scientific paper calculates that, after correcting the error, **manmade global warming will be only one-third of what climate scientists had predicted.** 

There will be too little global warming to harm us. Small, slow warming will be a good thing overall. **There is no climate emergency. There never was.** The trillions wasted on destroying jobs and industries can now be spent on the world's many real environmental problems. Global warming is not among them.

As a result of the error, climate scientists had thought that, though only about 1 C<sup> $\circ$ </sup> – a quarter of the global warming they were predicting from doubling the CO<sub>2</sub> in the air – came directly from the added CO<sub>2</sub>, that 1 C<sup> $\circ$ </sup> of direct warming would trigger another 3 C<sup> $\circ$ </sup> of extra warming, called feedback response, mostly from more water vapour – a greenhouse gas – carried in the air the CO<sub>2</sub> had warmed.



They had thought the natural greenhouse effect – the difference between the emission temperature at the surface without airborne greenhouse gases and the surface temperature in 1850, at the start of the industrial era – was 32 C°. Of this, they had thought 8 C° was direct warming driven by the preindustrial greenhouse gases, to which the remaining 24  $C^{\circ}$ was feedback response (Fig. 1a).

Fig. 1 (a) Erroneous and (b) corrected makeup of the natural greenhouse effect.

They had made two mistakes, one small, one very large. Their small mistake: they had forgetten that without greenhouse gases in the air there would be no clouds to reflect solar radiation harmlessly back to space, like a mirror. The true emission temperature – the temperature that would prevail at the surface if there were no greenhouse gases in the air at the outset – would be about 12 C° larger than they had calculated. Thus, the true natural greenhouse effect was not 32 C° but 12 C° smaller, at just 20 C°.

**Their very large mistake: they forgot the Sun was shining.** For very nearly all of the preindustrial feedback response until 1850 – the extra warming all of which they thought had been triggered by noncondensing greenhouse gases (gases other than water vapour) – was actually triggered not by those gases but by the Sun's warmth. In effect, they added that solar feedback response to, and miscounted it as part of, the preindustrial greenhouse-gas feedback response, which they overstated by 3200%.

The Argonauts calculate that, of the true 19.9 C° natural greenhouse effect (Fig. 1b), 13.1 C° was feedback response to the emission temperature driven by the Sun's warmth (solar feedback response). Only 0.7 C° was preindustrial feedback response to the 6.1 C° direct warming by greenhouse gases. **Climate scientists' 24 C° feedback response was 33 times too large.** That was how they came to overstate the feedback responses not only to direct preindustrial greenhouse warming but also, in turn, to direct industrial-era warming driven largely by our own greenhouse-gas emissions from 1850-2020.

The effect of climate scientists' overstatement was severe. The Argonauts find that, due to the error, **currently-predicted manmade global warming is about 3 times too large.** Correction ends the crisis.

# Climate scientists predicted far more global warming than has occurred

Since climate scientists' predictions have proven greatly overstated compared with real-world, measured medium-term warming, the Argonauts decided to find out what climate scientists were getting wrong.

In science, any theory – however beautiful or profitable – is false and must be amended or even replaced if real-world data contradict it. The large discrepancy between predicted and real-world warming in recent decades indeed showed there must be something very wrong with the official theory.



to just 1.15 C° per Fig. 2 Midrange projected vs. observed manmade warming rates, 1990-2020. century (Fig. 2). IPCC's predicted medium-term manmade warming has turned out to be three times too large. That huge credibility gap between prediction and real-world change coheres with the Argonauts' calculations.



Climate models had also not predicted the near-19-year pause in warming from 1997-2015 (Fig. 3). Towards the end of that period, when one-third of our climate influence had arisen but had caused no warming, IPCC substituted its "expert judgment" for models' predictions and sharply cut its medium-term predictions.

IPCC (1990, p. *xxiv*) had

midrange medium-term

equivalent to  $3.4 \degree$  per

century. However, from

warming was equivalent

1990-2020 measured manmade global

confidently predicted

manmade warming

Fig. 3 No warming for 18 years 8 months from July 1997 to January 2016 (UAH).

Inconsistently, IPCC did not also reduce its long-term headline global-warming prediction, which, despite billions spent on climate research, remains at 1.5-4.5 C° per CO<sub>2</sub> doubling. That prediction has remained unchanged since the Charney report (1979), more than 40 years ago. It was and is excessive.

As the Nobel-prizewinning physicist Richard Feynman used to say, "If it disagrees with experiment, it's wrong. In that simple statement is the key to science." Predictions of global warming disagree with observed and measured real-world temperature change. Correcting the error resolves that discrepancy.

# How the error arose: climate scientists forgot the Sun was shining

The history of how the error arose is interesting. In the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, Arrhenius (1906) and Callendar (1938) had predicted that final warming by doubled CO<sub>2</sub> in the air would be about 1.5 C°. Even though feedback theory was then in its infancy, their estimates were more or less correct.

One of the earliest papers that laid the mathematical foundation of feedback theory was Black (1934). One morning in 1927, Harold S. Black was on the Lackawanna Ferry from Hoboken, New Jersey, on his way to work at Bell Labs in Manhattan, where he was developing methods to reduce noise on longdistance telephone lines. The equations for feedback in dynamical systems came to him, and he jotted them down on that day's newspaper, which is on display at the Bell Labs museum to this day.

Black's feedback amplifier circuit (Fig. 4) shows not only the  $\mu$  amplifier (in climate, direct warming by greenhouse gases) and the  $\beta$  feedback block but also the input signal e (the emission temperature driven by the Sun's warmth in the absence of greenhouse gases). Black's paper calls *e* the "signal input voltage".

Climate scientists had not realized one cannot have an amplifier without an input signal to amplify.



The  $\mu$  gain block in Black's block diagram (Fig. 4), amplifies the input signal *e*, just as direct greenhouse-gas warming amplifies emission temperature. The  $\boldsymbol{\beta}$  feedback block generates a feedback response not only to the  $\mu$  gain block (direct greenhouse-gas warming) but also to the input signal *e* (emission temperature). Just follow the arrows.

**Fig. 4** Feedback amplifier block diagram (Black 1934), showing the input signal *e*, the no-greenhouse-gas emission temperature climate scientists overlooked.

Overlooking the large solar feedback response effectively adds it to, and miscounts it as part of, the actually minuscule preindustrial feedback response to direct warming by noncondensing greenhouse gases (such as CO<sub>2</sub>, methane, nitrous oxide and ozone, for changes in the concentration of the principal condensing greenhouse gas, water vapour, are treated as feedback). **That misallocation bloats the feedback response to greenhouse warming** and leads climate scientists to overstate global warming.



Climate scientists forgot that the Sun is shining and drives its own substantial feedback response.

In 1945, Harold Black's colleague at Bell Labs, Hendrik Wade Bode, wrote the standard textbook on feedback amplifier design. It proved so popular that it was published annually for 30 years.

The feedback amplifier block diagram (Fig. 5) is functionally identical to Black's. Here,  $E_0$  is the input signal, whose large feedback response climate scientists had mistakenly added to the feedback response to direct warming by greenhouse gases.

Fig. 5 Feedback amplifier block diagram (Bode, 1945), showing the input signal  $E_0$  (in climate, emission temperature) that climate scientists had overlooked, thus inadvertently adding the solar feedback response to the feedback response to direct warming by preindustrial noncondensing greenhouse gases.

Unfortunately, it was at the very moment when digitization had diminished feedback theory's importance that climatologists cited Bode's book, but without understanding it. For instance, Hansen (1984) wrote:

"We use procedures and terminology of feedback studies in electronics (Bode, 1945) to help analyse the contributions of different feedback processes. We define the system gain as the ratio of the net feedback portion of the temperature *change* to the total temperature *change*."

Here, Hansen erroneously describes the feedback fraction (the fraction of final or equilibrium temperature or warming represented by feedback response) as the "system gain". The system gain factor is actually the quantity by which the direct temperature or warming before feedback is multiplied to give the final or equilibrium temperature or warming after feedback has acted and the climate has resettled to equilibrium.

Hansen's more serious error, however, is not one of mere nomenclature. **He fails to mention, still less to account for, the solar feedback response.** Therefore, he imagines that the direct warming of little more than 1 C° from doubled CO<sub>2</sub> in the air will become an eventual or equilibrium warming of approximately **4** C°, just as Lacis et al., Hansen's colleagues at the NASA Goddard Institute for Space Studies, would do in 2010 and 2013, and just as present-day models do (e.g., Zelinka et al., 2020, Sherwood et al., 2020).



Schlesinger (1988) compounded Hansen's error and cemented it **in place.** His feedback block diagram (Fig. 6) shows gain and feedback blocks, but, like Hansen, he made no allowance for emission temperature or its large feedback response, which he effectively miscounted as part of the feedback response to direct warming by the preindustrial noncondensing greenhouse gases.

**Fig. 6** Defective feedback block diagram (Schlesinger 1988). The input signal, emission temperature, is absent. Schlesinger thus implies that the large solar feedback response to it is part of the actually minuscule feedback response to preindustrial direct warming by noncondensing greenhouse gases.

Thus, Schlesinger imagined that the feedback fraction – the fraction of final or equilibrium warming represented by feedback response – would be as much as 71%, similar to the 75% in Lacis et al. (2010).

In 1988, Hansen testified before the U.S. Senate and predicted very rapid global warming. However, **his predictions were rooted in his error.** That year the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) was brought into being. In 1990, again based on the error, its *First Assessment Report* predicted **thrice as much medium-term global warming** as has occurred in the 30 years since then (Fig. 2).

Its Fifth and most recent Assessment Report (IPCC 2013, p. 1450) defined climate feedback thus -

"Climate feedback: An interaction in which a *perturbation* in one climate quantity causes a change in a second, and the change in the second quantity ultimately leads to an additional change in the first. A negative feedback is one in which the initial *perturbation* is weakened by the changes it causes; a positive feedback is one in which the initial *perturbation* is enhanced ... the climate quantity that is *perturbed* is the global mean surface temperature, which in turn causes changes in the global radiation budget. ... the initial *perturbation* can ... be externally forced or arise as part of internal variability."

IPCC's definition does not reflect the fact, by then well established in control theory, that the input signal – in climate, emission temperature – itself engenders a large solar feedback response.

IPCC has an error-reporting protocol, which its member-states obliged it to adopt after it had published a series of embarrassing errors. Under that protocol, the present error was reported to IPCC. However, **IPCC** refused even to acknowledge receipt of the error report, though it was twice sent to several IPCC officials and to the secretariat. Now that the error has come to light, **IPCC** is no longer needed.

#### Consequences of the error



temperature is omitted (Figs. 6-7), the large solar feedback response to it is wrongly added to, and accordingly miscounted as part of, the actually minuscule preindustrial feedback response to direct warming by greenhouse gases.

The most direct consequence of the error is that if emission

**Fig. 7** Climate scientists imagine that 8 C° direct warming by preindustrial noncondensing greenhouse gases drove a 24 C° feedback response. Their system-gain factor is thus 32 / 8, or 4: in other words, they multiply any direct manmade warming by about 4 to get final warming. Since the direct warming in response to doubled CO<sub>2</sub> in the air is approximately 1 C°, today's models predict about 4 C° eventual warming after accounting for feedback response.

The team corrected this error and calculated that one should multiply the 6.1 C° direct warming from the preindustrial noncondensing greenhouse gases not by a system-gain factor of 32 / 8, or 4, as climate scientists do. Instead, one should multiply it by a system gain factor of 6.8 / 6.1, or just 1.11. Since warming accelerates a little as surface temperature increases, that 1.11 becomes about 1.19 today.



Therefore, the 1.06 C° direct global warming in response to doubled CO<sub>2</sub> in the air becomes final warming of just 1.19 x 1.06, or **1.25 C°**.

Global warming will thus be less than a third of the 4 C° that climate scientists had imagined.

Fig. 8 compares corrected warming with current predictions.

Fig. 8 Corrected final warming compared with climatologists' predictions.

Figs. 1 and 8 can be combined to give Fig. 9, which shows the significant coherence between (a) climate scientists' **threefold** over-prediction in 1990 of medium-term manmade global warming to 2020, compared with real-world warming; and (b) climate scientists' **threefold** recent overstatements of long-term, final warming from doubled  $CO_2$ , compared with the corrected 1.25 C°.

It will also be seen later that these **threefold** overstatements of predicted medium-term and long-term global warming cohere with the **threefold** overstatement of predicted medium-term warming of the tropical mid-troposphere over recent decades (Fig. 19).

The 1.25  $C^{\circ}$  final warming derived by the Argonauts after correcting climate scientists' error of physics is consistent with the rate of observed warming from 1850-2020, but climate scientists' entire range of predictions of final warming is inconsistent with the rate of observed warming.



**Fig. 9** Climatologists have over-predicted (a) medium-term global warming since 1990 and (b) long-term, final global warming (i.e., equilibrium climate sensitivity, or ECS), compared with observationally-based values. **Medium-term and long-term warming predictions cohere in overstating warming threefold.** 

Pages 8-9, which are a little technical, show how the Argonauts developed five tests to evaluate predictions of global warming. First, they used the tests to check their own calculation that after correcting climate scientists' error there would be 1.25 C° final warming by doubled CO<sub>2</sub> (known as equilibrium climate sensitivity, or ECS), with a range of 1.05 to 1.50 C°. Next, they checked climate scientists' entire range of predicted ECS from 2.0 to 5.7 C°, using values in this predicted range as inputs to an algorithm to discover whether and to what extent each prediction led to a contradiction.

### The five tests that prove climate scientists' predictions are excessive

Lewis & Curry (2015) showed that without a giant climate model one could calculate final warming by doubled CO<sub>2</sub> from the observed global warming of the industrial era, the officially-estimated changes caused by our emissions of greenhouse gases and Earth's measured radiative imbalance. They concluded that **final warming would be about 1.5** C°, just as Arrhenius and Callendar had done a century back.

Notwithstanding similarly small warming calculated in Lewis & Curry and many other papers (e.g., Lindzen & Choi 2011; Aldrin et al. 2012; Otto et al. 2013; Akasofu 2013; Spencer & Braswell 2014; Skeie et al. 2014; Soon et al. 2015; Bates 2016), climate scientists did not reduce their predictions of about 4 C° final warming in response to doubled CO<sub>2</sub> in the air to match the reduction that the slow realworld warming had forced them to make in their medium-term predictions of manmade global warming.

Therefore, the Argonauts developed **five mathematical tests** to establish whether any value of final warming by doubled CO<sub>2</sub> from climate scientists' range of predictions from 2  $C^{\circ}$  to 5.7  $C^{\circ}$  was possible.



Fig. 10 The latest official predictions of final warming (Sherwood et al. 2020), compared with corrected warming found by Monckton of Brenchley et al. 2020.

Test 1 was based on the team's calculations showing that after correction of climate scientists' error the true range of final warming by doubled  $CO_2$  is 1.05 to 1.5 C°, with a midrange estimate of 1.25 C°.

Even climate scientists' least prediction, 2 C°, fail this test (Fig. 10).

All their greater predictions fail Test 1 still more severely.



**Tests 2-5** are based on unit feedback responses (UFR), i.e., feedback responses per 1 C° of direct warming.

**UFRs** in response to direct greenhouse-gas warming will grow as the surface warms.

The UFR from 2020 onward should exceed the UFR from 1850-2020, which, in turn, should exceed the preindustrial UFR.

However, even UFRs based on climatologists' 2 C° least prediction of final warming (ECS) by doubled CO<sub>2</sub> fail this test (see the dip in the orange line in Fig. 11).

All predictions above **2** C<sup>o</sup> fail Test 2 still more severely.

Fig. 11 Unit feedback responses  $U_0 \leq U_1 \leq U_2$  (feedback responses per 1 C° of direct greenhouse warming) should increase with warming. They do just that assuming 1.25  $C^{\circ}$  final warming by doubled  $CO_2$  (equilibrium climate sensitivity, or ECS: the green line). However, based on predicted ECS  $\geq 2 \mathbb{C}^{\circ}$  in current climate models, the series impossibly goes down-up, instead of up-up.

Test 3 works out how much global warming should have happened between 1850 and 2020, if a given prediction of final warming by doubled  $CO_2$  (ECS) was true. From 1850-2020 there was 0.9 C° measured global warming, However, even the predicted 2  $C^{\circ}$  low-end final warming by doubled CO<sub>2</sub> (ECS) implies **1.4** C° warming from 1850-2020, more than half as much again as the 0.9 C° warming over the period.

8

Test 2 assumes the



**Fig. 12** All current predictions of final warming (ECS) of **2**  $\mathbb{C}^{\circ}$  or more by doubled  $\mathbb{CO}_2$  imply warming from 1850-2020 far above the observed **0.9**  $\mathbb{C}^{\circ}$ .



Fig. 13 The increase in the base UFR ratio X (the preindustrial UFR divided by the emission-temperature UFR) implied by predicted final warming  $\Delta E_2$  by doubled CO<sub>2</sub>, where emission temperature is (a) 267.6 K and (b) 255.3 K.



**Test 3:** At the **3.7** C° midrange ECS, from 1850-2020 there should have been not **0.9** C° but **2.5** C° warming.

The high-end **5.7**  $\mathbb{C}^{\circ}$  final warming would imply **3.6**  $\mathbb{C}^{\circ}$  warming from 1850-2020: four times the real-world **0.9**  $\mathbb{C}^{\circ}$  (Fig. 12).

#### Thus, all of climate scientists' predictions fail Test 3.

**Test 4** derives the preindustrial **UFR** and the **UFR** triggered by emission temperature, from an ECS prediction and takes their ratio *X*.

Even climate scientists' **2** C° least prediction implies a preindustrial UFR ten times the emission-temperature UFR. At 1.25 C° ECS, it is just 2.4 times.

The excess grows rapidly with greater predictions (Fig. 13).

**Test 5** derives the doubled-CO<sub>2</sub> and 1850-2020 **UFRs** from a given ECS prediction and takes their ratio  $X_2$ .

Here, too, even at  $2 \text{ C}^{\circ}$  predicted ECS, doubled-CO<sub>2</sub>UFR is 5 times the 1850-2020 UFR.

At 3.7 C° predicted midrange ECS, doubled- $CO_2$  UFR is 14 times the 1850-2020 UFR.

At **5.7** C° predicted top-end ECS, doubled-CO<sub>2</sub> UFR is **24 times** the 1850-2020 UFR.

Values of  $X_2$  much above 1 are impossible.

Climate scientists' entire range of ECS predictions fails Test 5.



Accordingly, the entire range of current global-warming predictions fails all five tests; and, as Figs. 10-14 show, the larger the prediction the greater the failure. By contrast, the 1.25 C° final warming by doubled CO<sub>2</sub> that the team calculated, and which serves as the basis for test 1, complies with tests 2-5.

#### How the climate models overstated growth in upper-atmosphere water vapour

Once the Argonauts had corrected climate scientists' error of physics and had established by theoretical means, using the five tests, that **climate models are predicting three times too much global warming**, they looked for a physical discrepancy between how models predict that a relevant aspect of the climate will behave and its measured, real-world behaviour.

Since **climate models overstate preindustrial feedback response by 3200%**, the Argonauts began to study how models represent water vapour feedback, which climate scientists regard as far and away the most important feedback process in the climate, triggering all or nearly all net feedback response.

Sure enough, a notable discrepancy between models' predictions and observed reality was found. Climate models predict that the tropical mid-troposphere, six miles up, should be warming at more than twice the surface rate. However, in reality there is no hot spot. The tropical upper air is warming only a little faster than the surface. All the models were wrong. Wherever the real-world data show the models are wrong, the data are to be preferred. There was a large error lurking somewhere.











Fig. 15a (IPCC (2007, fig. 9.1c) predicts this tropical mid-troposphere hot spot, but there is no hot spot in, the real-world vertical profile of temperature up to 15 miles high, measured by millions of balloon sensors (Fig. 15b: Lanzante et al. 2006)

The hot spot is predicted in many major climate models (Fig. 16) Without it, the water vapour feedback cannot be as substantial as the models predict. Why, then is the predicted hot spot absent?

IPCC (2007, fig. 9.1: here Fig. 17) assumed the hot spot was the fingerprint of manmade warming.

Natural influences from the Sun, volcanoes and manmade ozone  $(O_3)$  and aerosols appeared not to cause the hot spot, but manmade greenhouse-gas warming did.

But **IPCC had erred.** Climate scientists now say the hot spot would be a sign of global warming however caused.

Yet the hot spot remains absent. IPCC (2007, fig 10.7: here Fig. 18) predicted that the hot spot would emerge over time with global warming. **But IPCC had erred again.** 





Though IPCC predicted rapid warming in the tropical upper air, from 1981-2016 **models overstated it threefold** against real-world data (Christy 2019: here Fig. 19).

Models have been programmed to assume water vapour, like CO<sub>2</sub>, methane, nitrous oxide and ozone, would be well mixed throughout the atmosphere. **They err.** 

The models predict water vapour will increase at all altitudes. **They err.** In the mid-troposphere, specific humidity has been falling for 70 years (NASA ESRL 1948-2020: here Fig. 20).

No hot spot means small water vapour feedback and very little warming, confirming the team's analysis and showing that it is coherent with real-world observation.

**Fig. 20** Specific humidity is declining in the mid-troposphere (Kalnay et al. 1996) **real-**

### Conclusion: The moral imperative is access to affordable electricity for all

After correcting the grave error of physics inadvertently perpetrated by climate scientists, global warming on all timescales will be **about one-third** of what climate scientists predict, coherent with observed warming that turns out to be **one-third** of what they had predicted 30 years ago, and coherent with the decline in water vapor in the tropical mid-troposphere and thus the absence of the predicted hot spot.

Due to the error, **many banks no longer lend to developing countries for coal-fired power:** from 2010 the World Bank; from 2015 Credit Agricole, Citibank, ANZ and Goldman Sachs; from 2016 JP Morgan, Deutsche Bank, PNC, Credit Suisse, ABN Amro, Standard Chartered, US Bancorp, Commerzbank and Barclays; from 2017 DZ Bank and NAB; from 2018 DBS; from 2019 even the African Development Bank.

Yet the World Health Organization says unpowered homes kill 4 million a year inhaling smoke from cooking fires and 500,000 women a year in childbirth – just two of the numerous causes of premature death from access to electricity, which the International Energy Agency defines as no more than the capacity to use one 60-Watt light-bulb for 4 hours daily. **One billion people still lack access to electrical power – a development priority that can now be safely affordably met by coal-fired generation.** 

Unjustifiable fear of large, rapid, dangerous global warming has led to the unwarrantable transfer of environmental-improvement funding away from affordable and practicable solutions – such as universal coal-fired and gas-fired electrification that is now possible again – to the many genuine environmental problems arising from population growth and consequent poverty and squalor in developing countries.

Following correction of the error of physics that has been outlined here, indoctrination of children about the supposed threat of global warming can now cease. Many have had their childhoods ruined by fears that the present result proves to be baseless. Some have even killed themselves in needless despair.

There are many real environmental problems, but the slow, gentle, net-beneficial warming to be expected after correction of climate scientists' long-standing and costly error of physics is not among them. The panoply of climate rules, restrictions, taxes, imposts, conferences, speeches and treaties is unnecessary. Manmade global warming did not, does not and will not cause a "climate emergency". It's all over.

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