

→ EARTH OBSERVATION SUMMER SCHOOL

Earth System Monitoring & Modelling

30 July–10 August 2018 | ESA–ESRIN | Frascati (Rome) Italy

THE EARTH SYSTEM, PAST AND PRESENT

Anny Cazenave, LEGOS-CNES, Toulouse & ISSI, Bern

Solar Energy

Geosphere

Biosphere



Atmosphere

Cryosphere

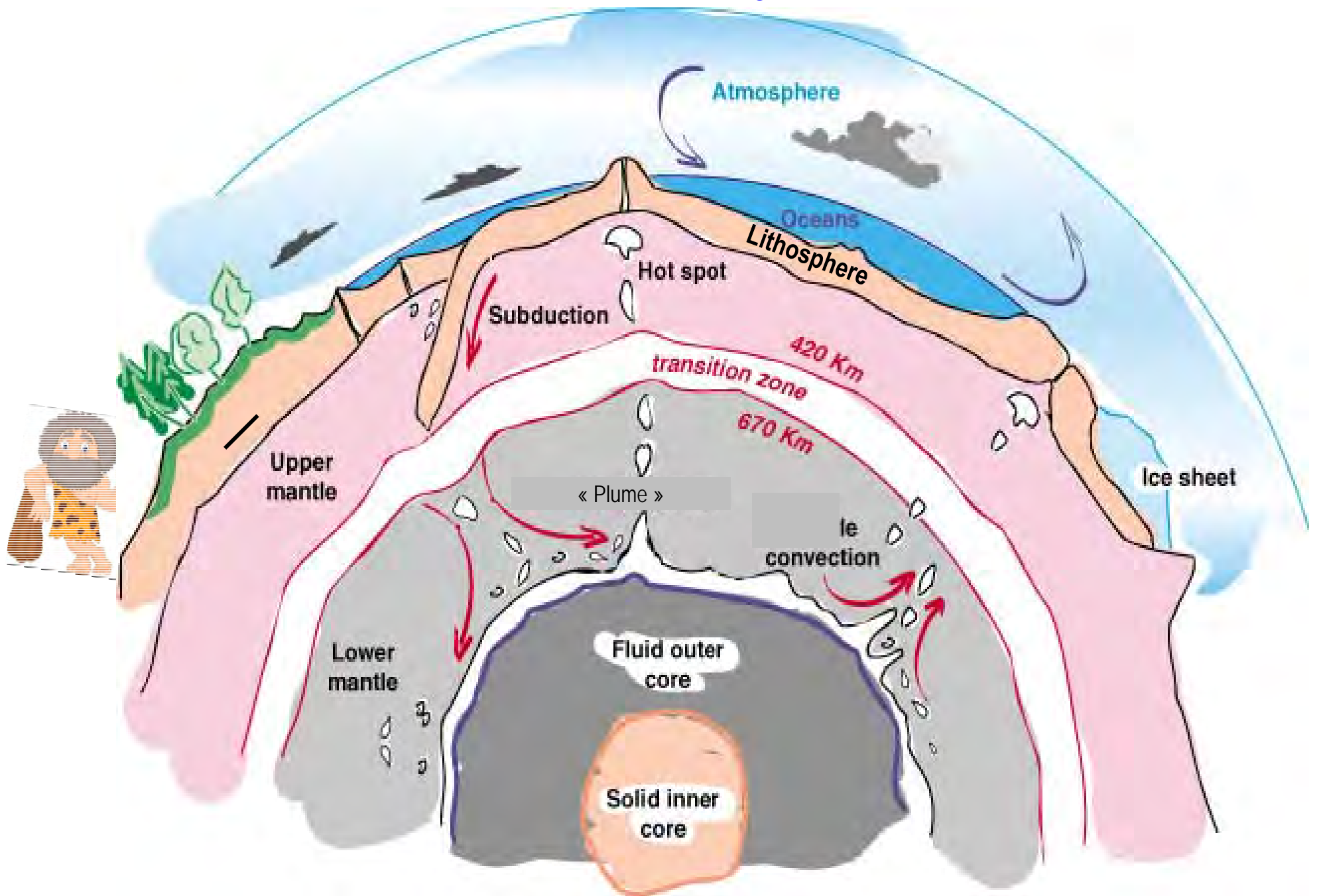
Lithosphere

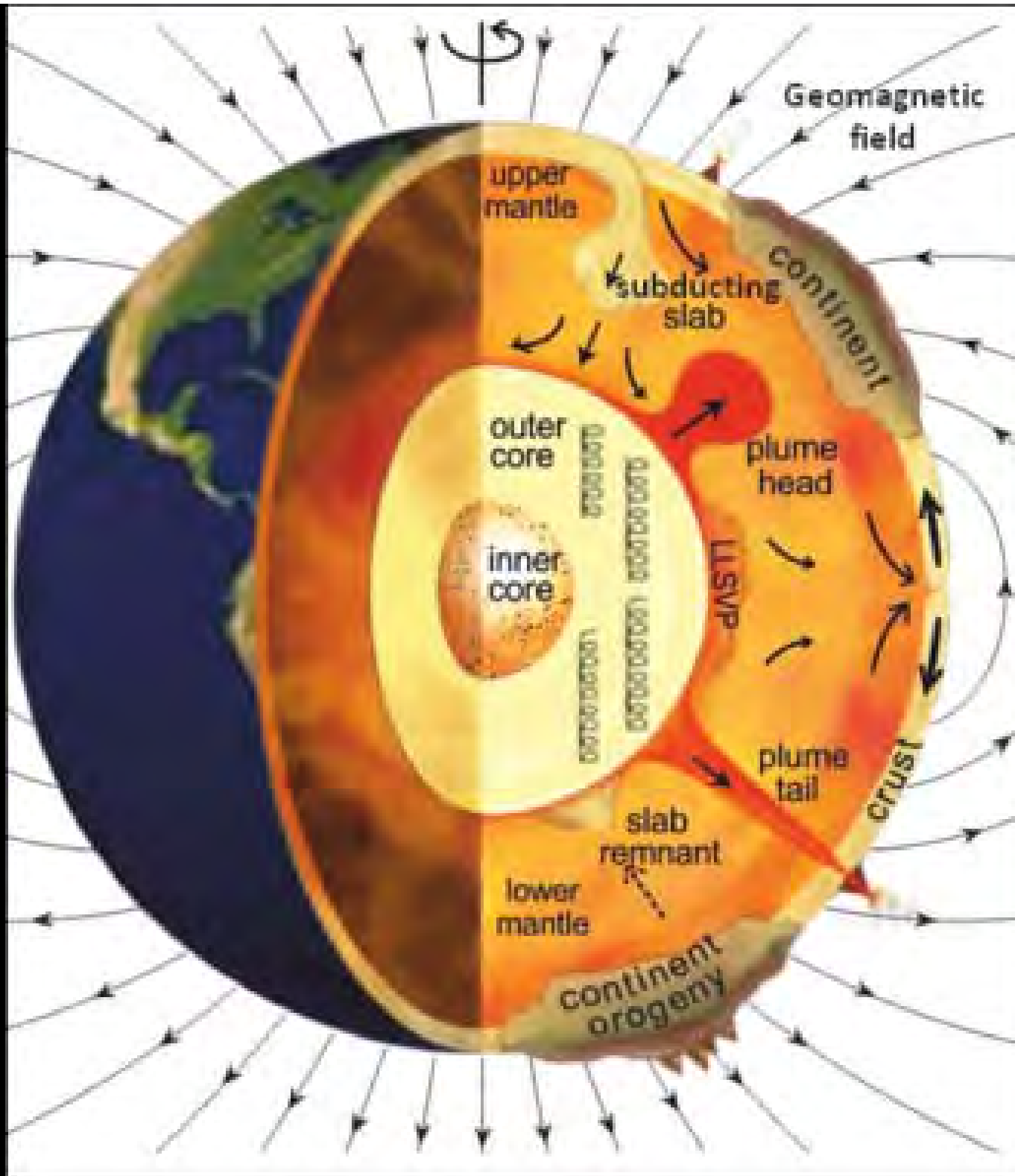
Hydrosphere



Climatic Processes • Hydrologic Cycle • Biogeochemical Cycles

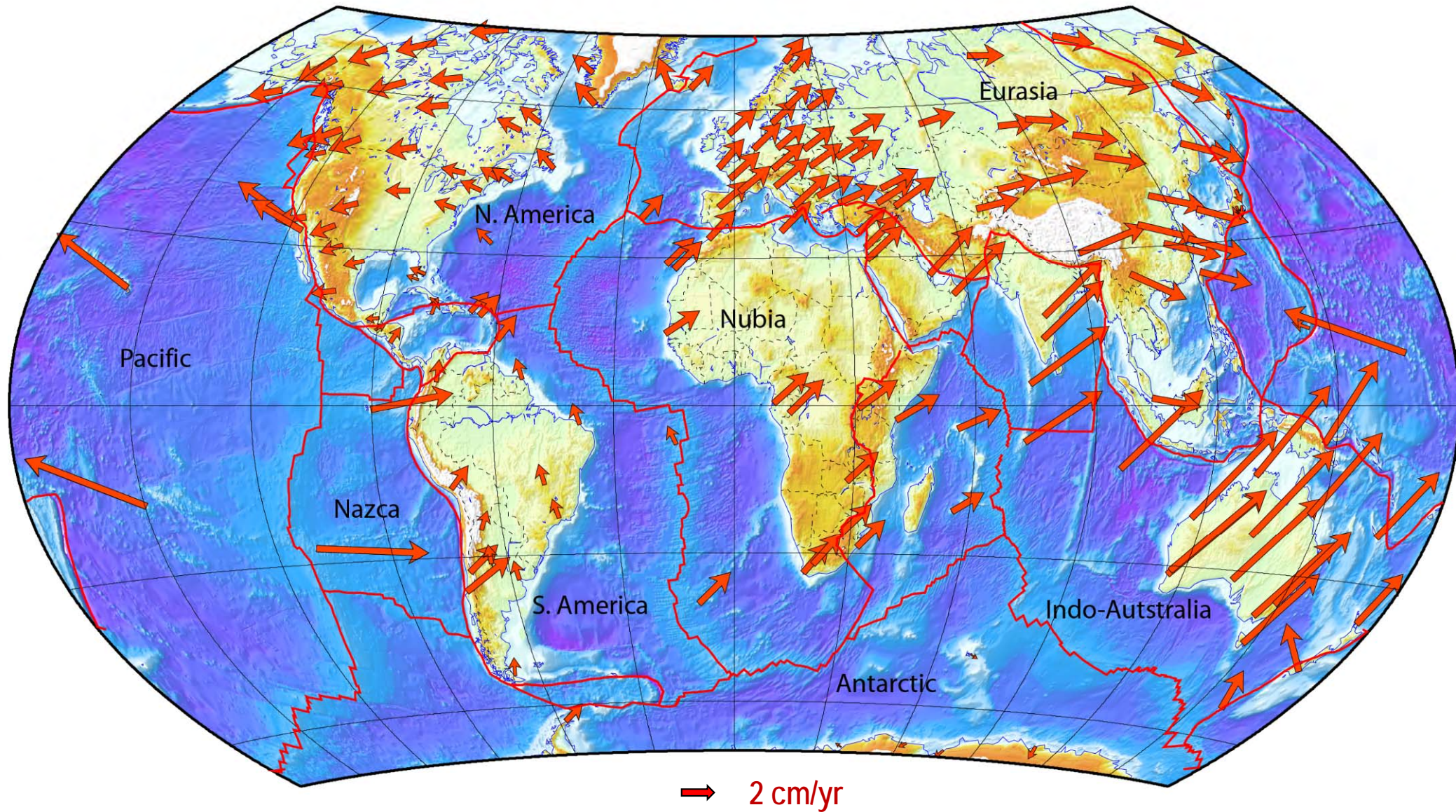
The Earth System



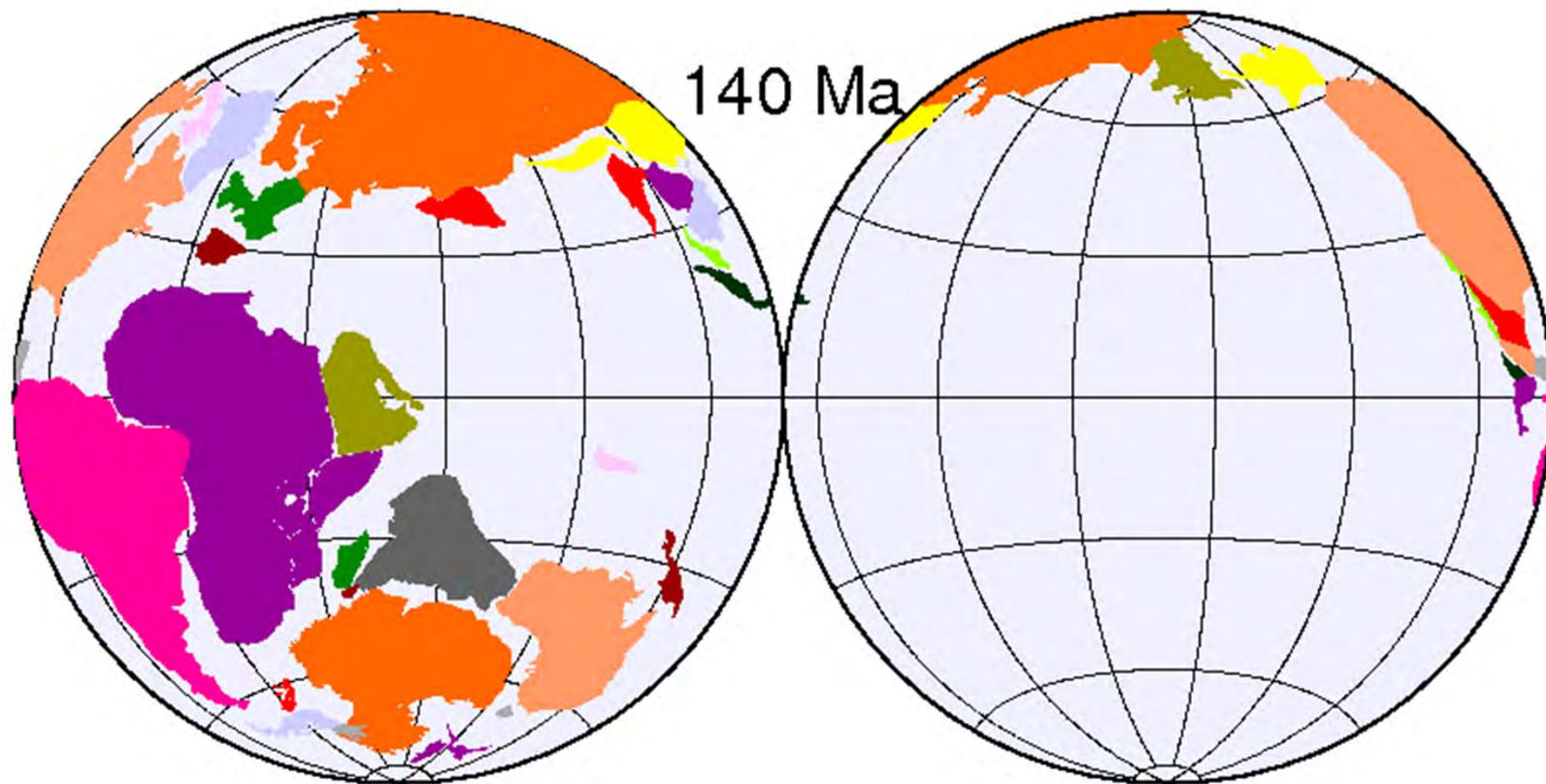


The internal structure of the Earth

Present-day tectonic plate motions



Tectonic plate motions over geological time scales (last 140 million years)



PANGEA

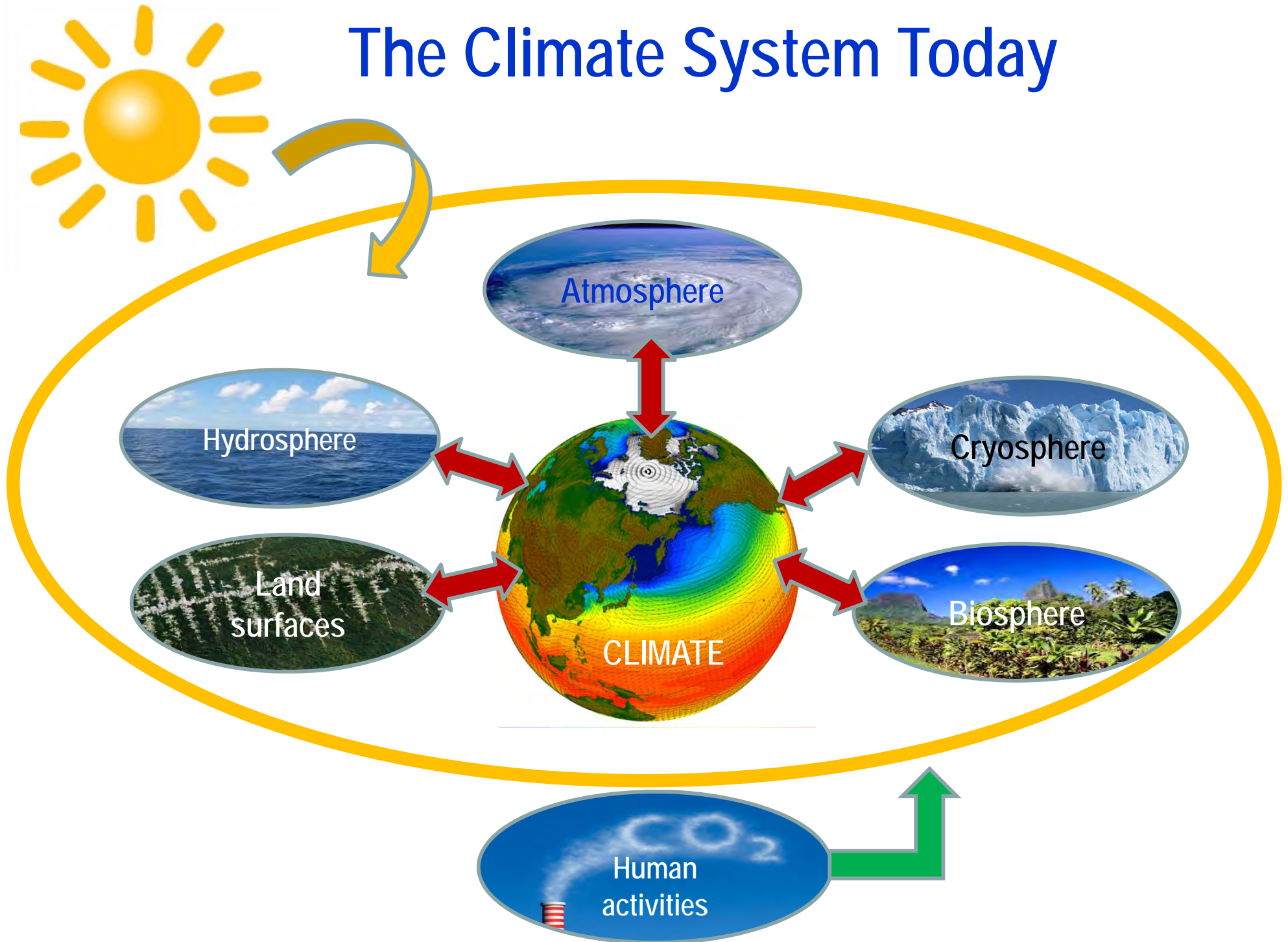
200 million years ago



200 Ma
Late Triassic



The Climate System Today



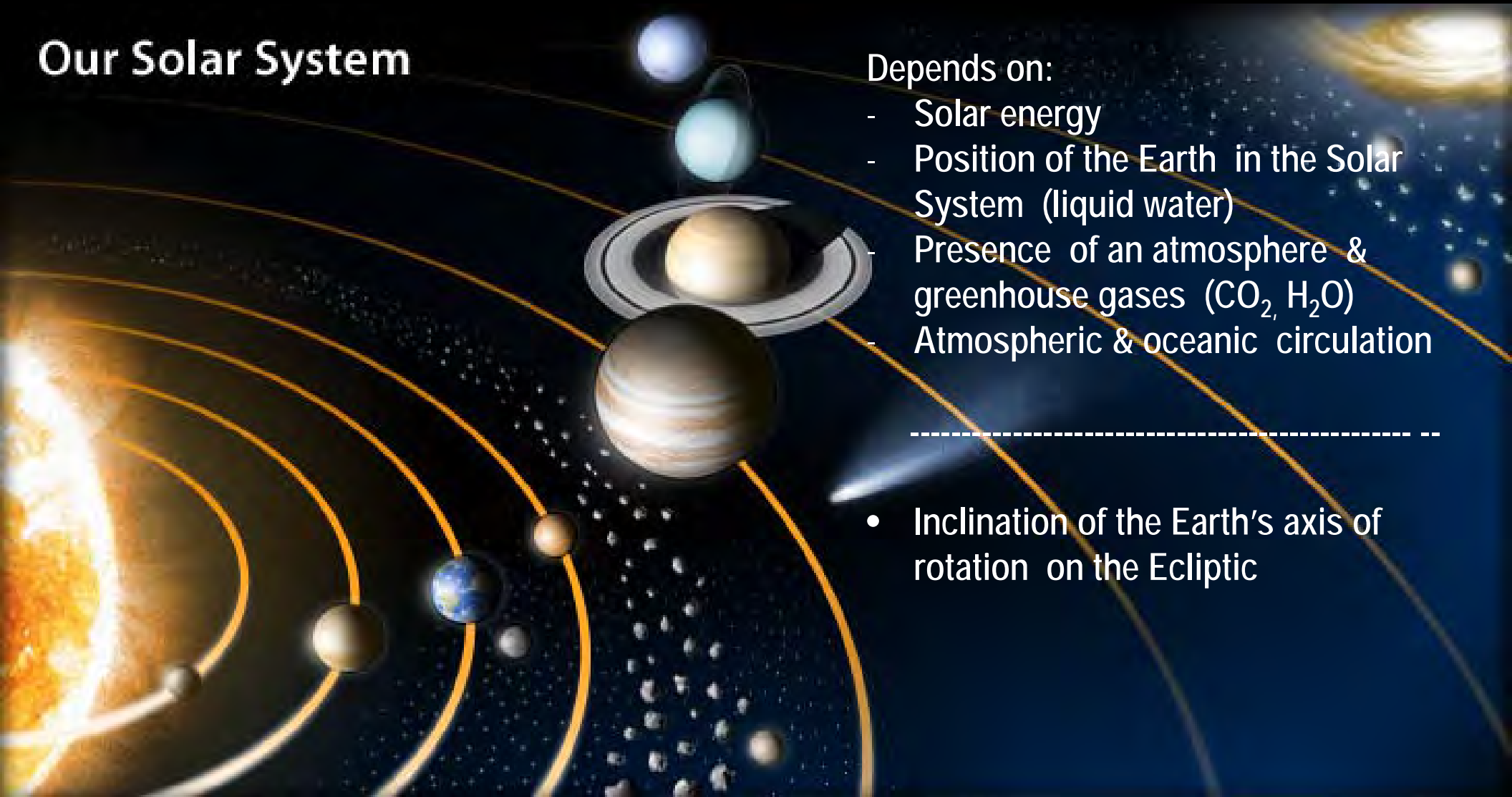
The Earth's climate

Our Solar System

Depends on:

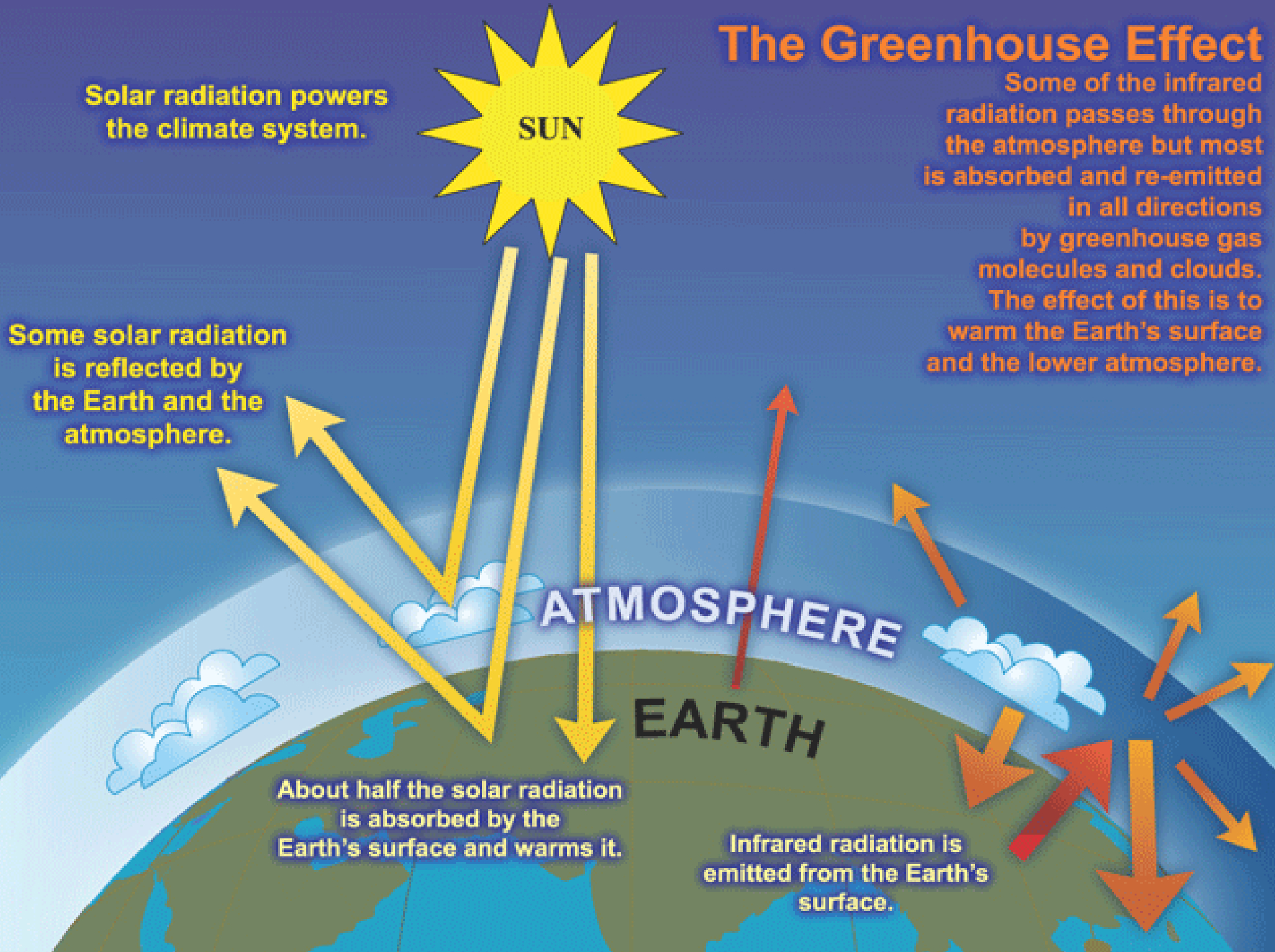
- Solar energy
- Position of the Earth in the Solar System (liquid water)
- Presence of an atmosphere & greenhouse gases (CO_2 , H_2O)
- Atmospheric & oceanic circulation

-
- Inclination of the Earth's axis of rotation on the Ecliptic



The Greenhouse Effect

Some of the infrared radiation passes through the atmosphere but most is absorbed and re-emitted in all directions by greenhouse gas molecules and clouds. The effect of this is to warm the Earth's surface and the lower atmosphere.



Solar radiation powers the climate system.

Some solar radiation is reflected by the Earth and the atmosphere.

About half the solar radiation is absorbed by the Earth's surface and warms it.

Infrared radiation is emitted from the Earth's surface.



Mean Earth temperature : **15°C**

If no 'natural' greenhouse effect (presence of water vapor H_2O + carbon dioxide CO_2)

→ mean Earth's temperature would be **-18°C**

What is climate change?



Examples of natural forcings:

- Slow variation of orbital parameters
→ glacial-interglacial climates
- Internal processes (e.g. volcanism)
→ short to long-term variations of the mean climatic conditions

Climate Change involves :

- **Climate forcing (or *radiative forcing*)**: an energy imbalance imposed on the climate system by different types of forcing factors (e.g., volcanism, human activities); usually reported as a change in energy flux at the top of the atmosphere and expressed in units of watts per square meters (Wm^{-2})
If Radiative Forcing $>0 \rightarrow$ warming; if Radiative Forcing $<0 \rightarrow$ cooling
- **Climate response**: Change in the climate system resulting from a climate forcing
- **Climate feedback** : Amplification or dampening of the climate response to a specific forcing; Caused by changes in the atmosphere, oceans, land or ice bodies

Key words:

- *Volcanism (internal activity of the Earth)*
- *Emission of CO₂*
- *Greenhouse effect*
- *Water cycle*
- *Acid rain*
- *Chemical erosion of silicate rocks*
- *Atmospheric CO₂ uptake*

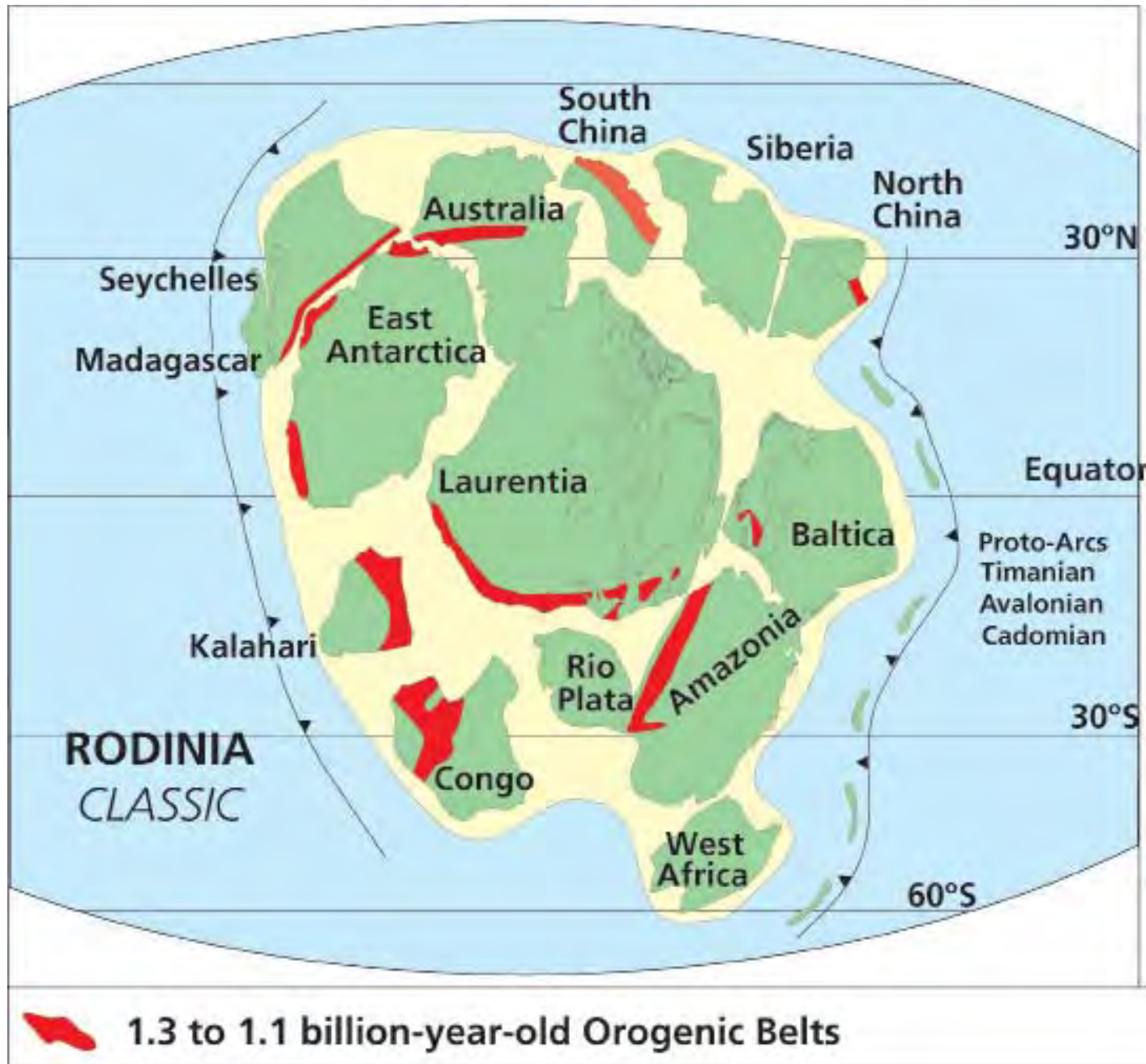
Past climates (geological time scales)

Result from the internal activity of the solid Earth
+ interactions with the ocean/atmosphere system

Driving mechanisms and processes:

- *Mantle convection* → *volcanism* → *CO₂ emission* → T_{earth} ↑
- *Mantle convection* → *continental break-up* → *strong water cycle + rich CO₂ atmosphere (acid rains)* → *chemical erosion of silicate rocks*
→ *CO₂ uptake from the atmosphere* → T_{earth} ↓

1.3 to 0.75 billion years ago → Super Continent Rodinia





SNOW BALL EARTH

Geological evidence of 4 major cold events
between 750 and 550 million years ago

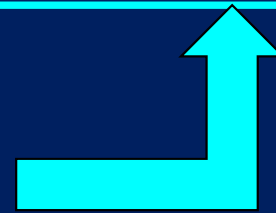
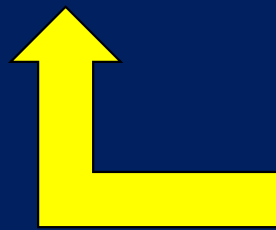
Past climates modulated by the CO_2 cycle
and its greenhouse effect

Sources & Sinks of CO_2

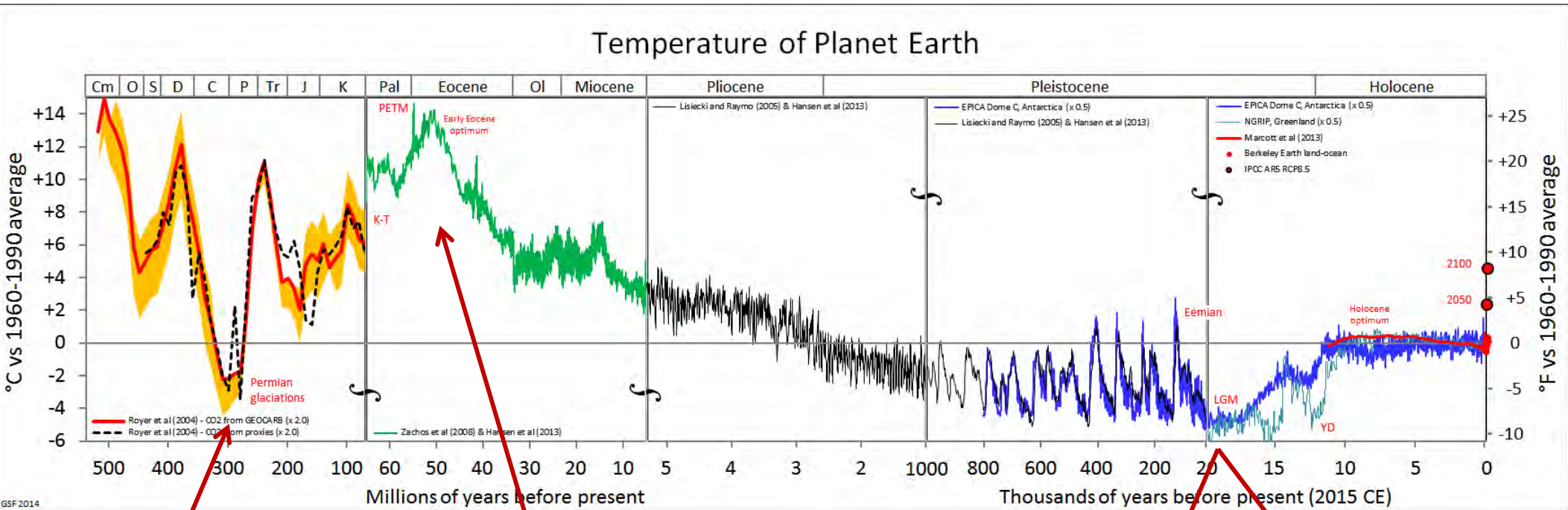
Volcanism
 CO_2 emission

Chemical erosion of silicate rocks
 CO_2 uptake from the atmosphere

Convection + Water cycle



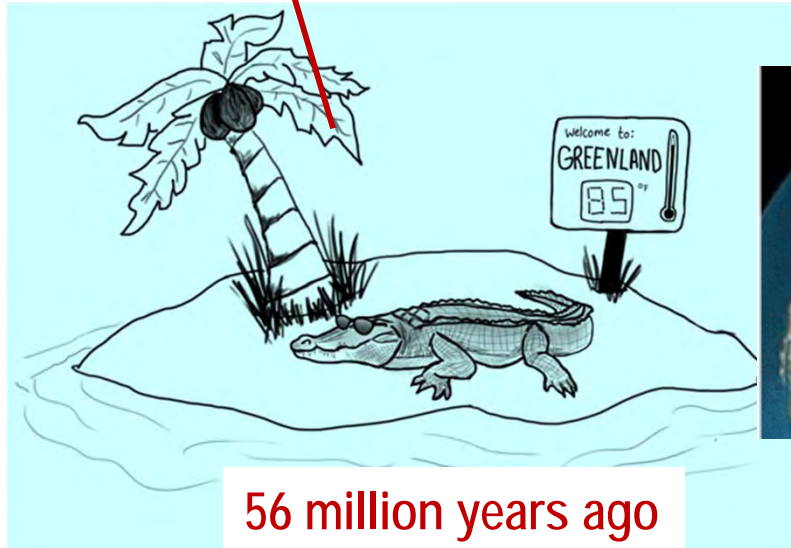
Mean Earth's temperature over the past 500 million years



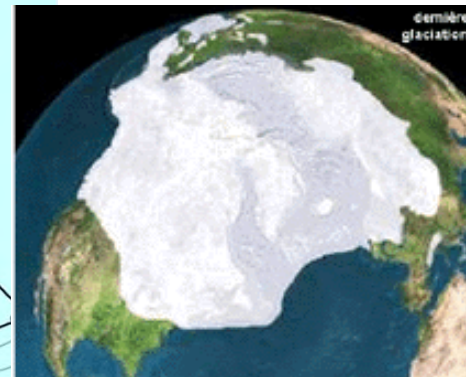
GSF 2014



« Snowball Earth »



56 million years ago



Quaternary glaciations



PRESENT-DAY CLIMATE



Driven by:

Sun & human activities (additional CO₂ greenhouse effect)

+ interactions ocean/atmosphere/ice/biosphere

Key words:

Anthropogenic greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions

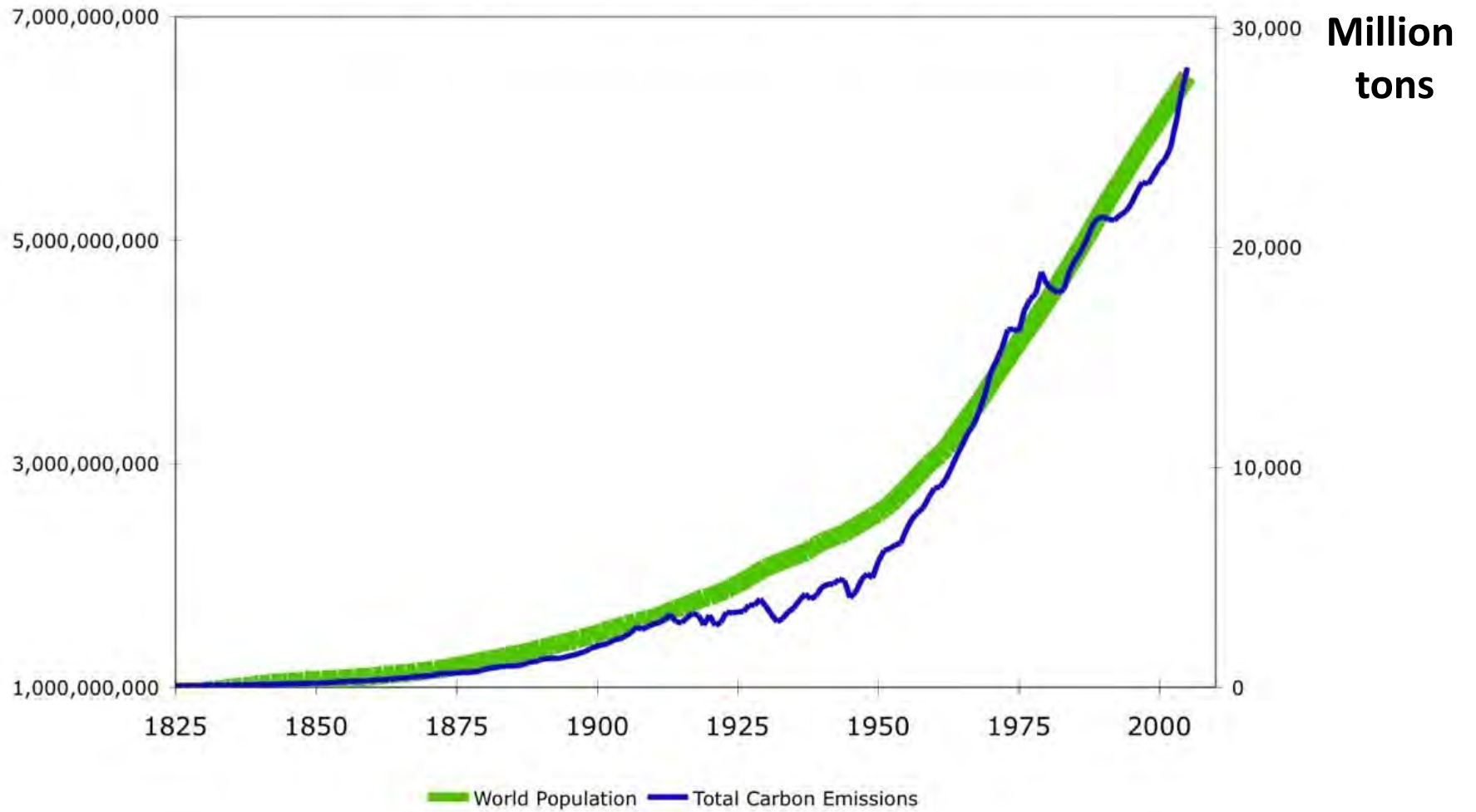
Carbon cycle & CO₂ concentration

Ocean

Water cycle

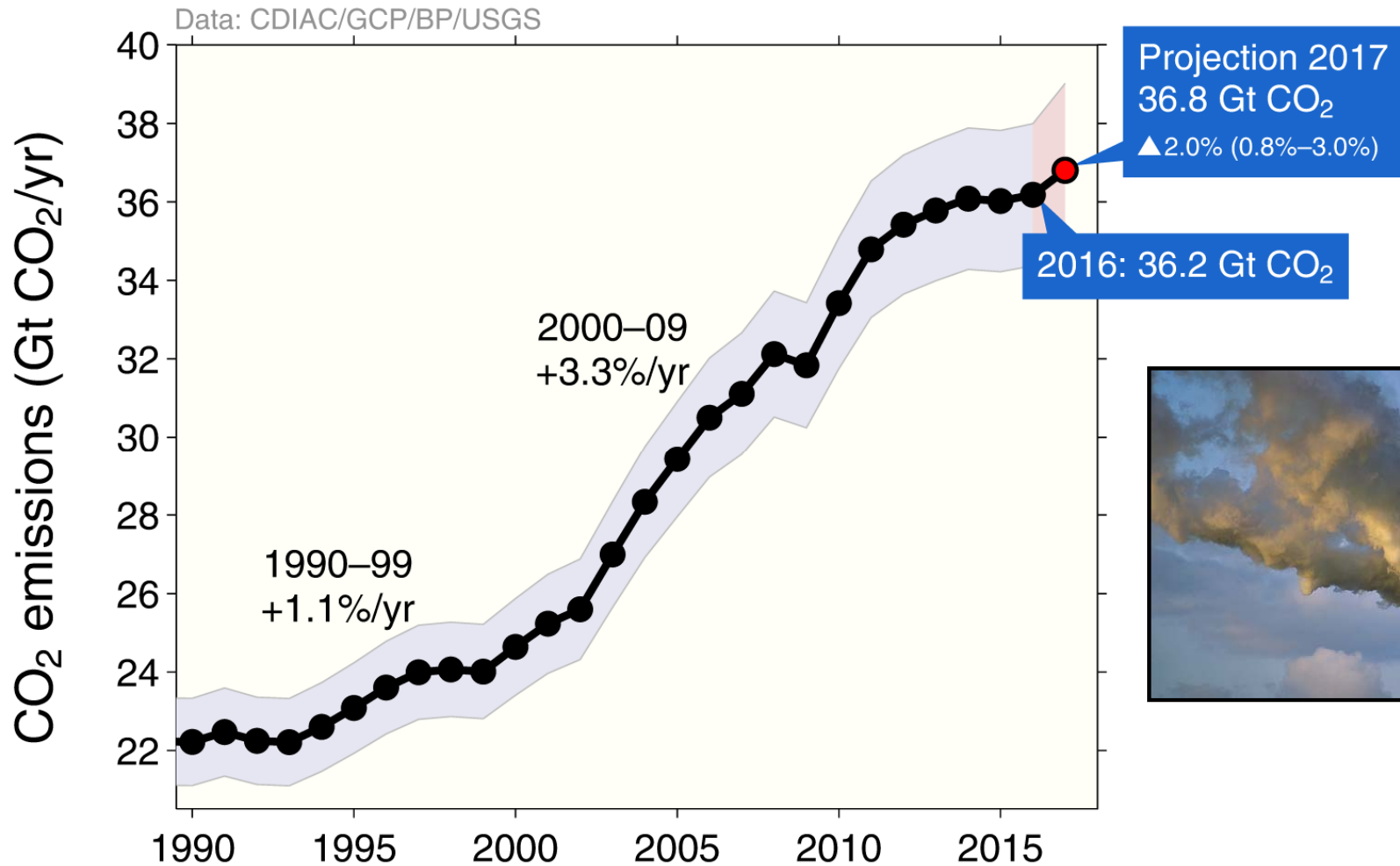


World Population & Total Carbon Emissions

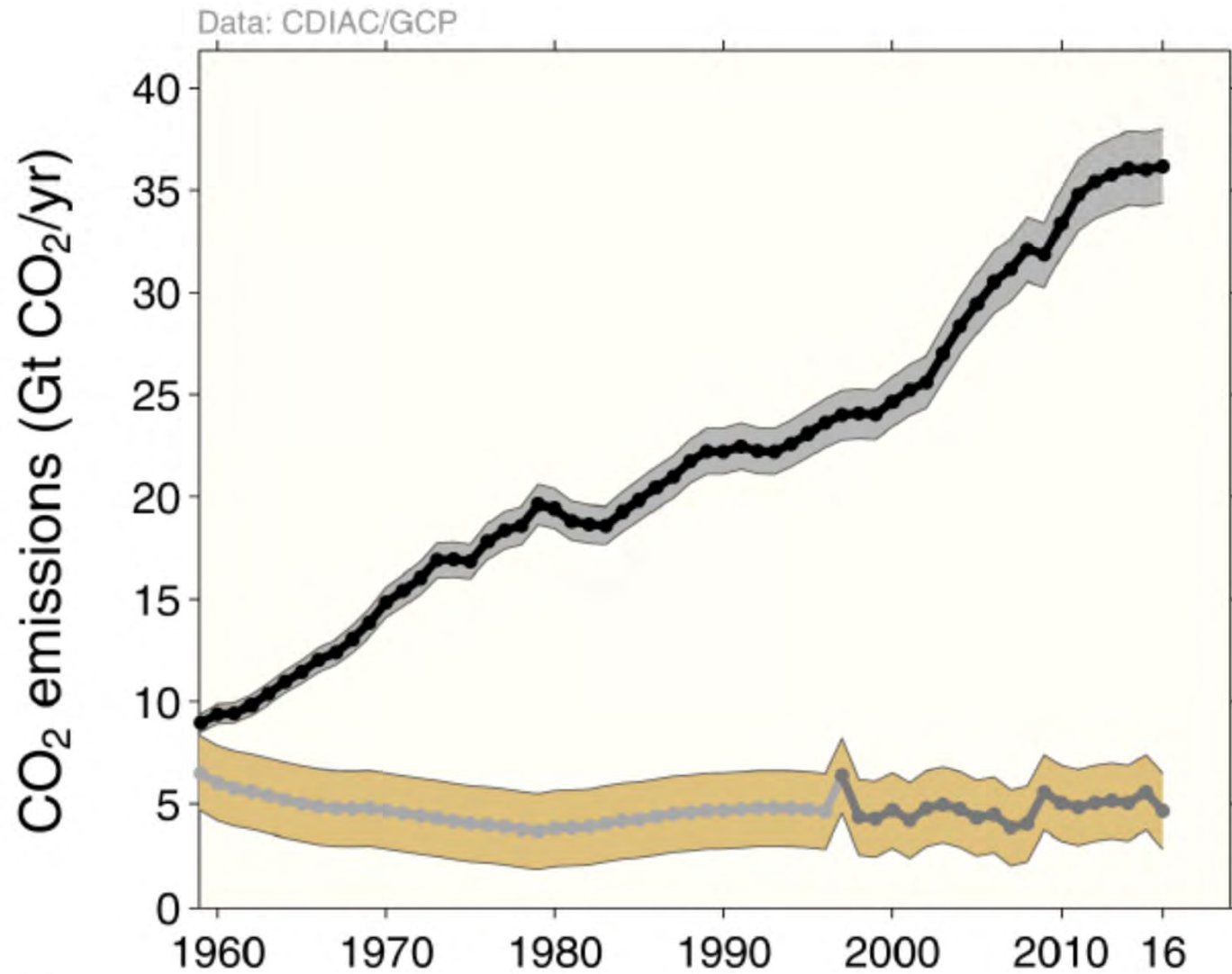


Human-induced greenhouse gas (CO₂) emissions

Total amount emissions since the beginning of the industrial era: 2000 GtCO₂
(fossil fuel combustion: 1300 GtCO₂ ; deforestation: 700 GtCO₂)



Global emissions in 2017 : 36.8 ± 2. GtCO₂
(60% increase wrt 1990)



Fossil fuels
and cement



Land-use
change



Anthropogenic CO₂ emissions (2007-2016)

Sources = Sinks



34.3 GtCO₂/yr
88%



12%
4.9 GtCO₂/yr



Atmosphere

17.3 GtCO₂/yr
47%



Vegetation sink

30%
11.2 GtCO₂/yr



Ocean sink

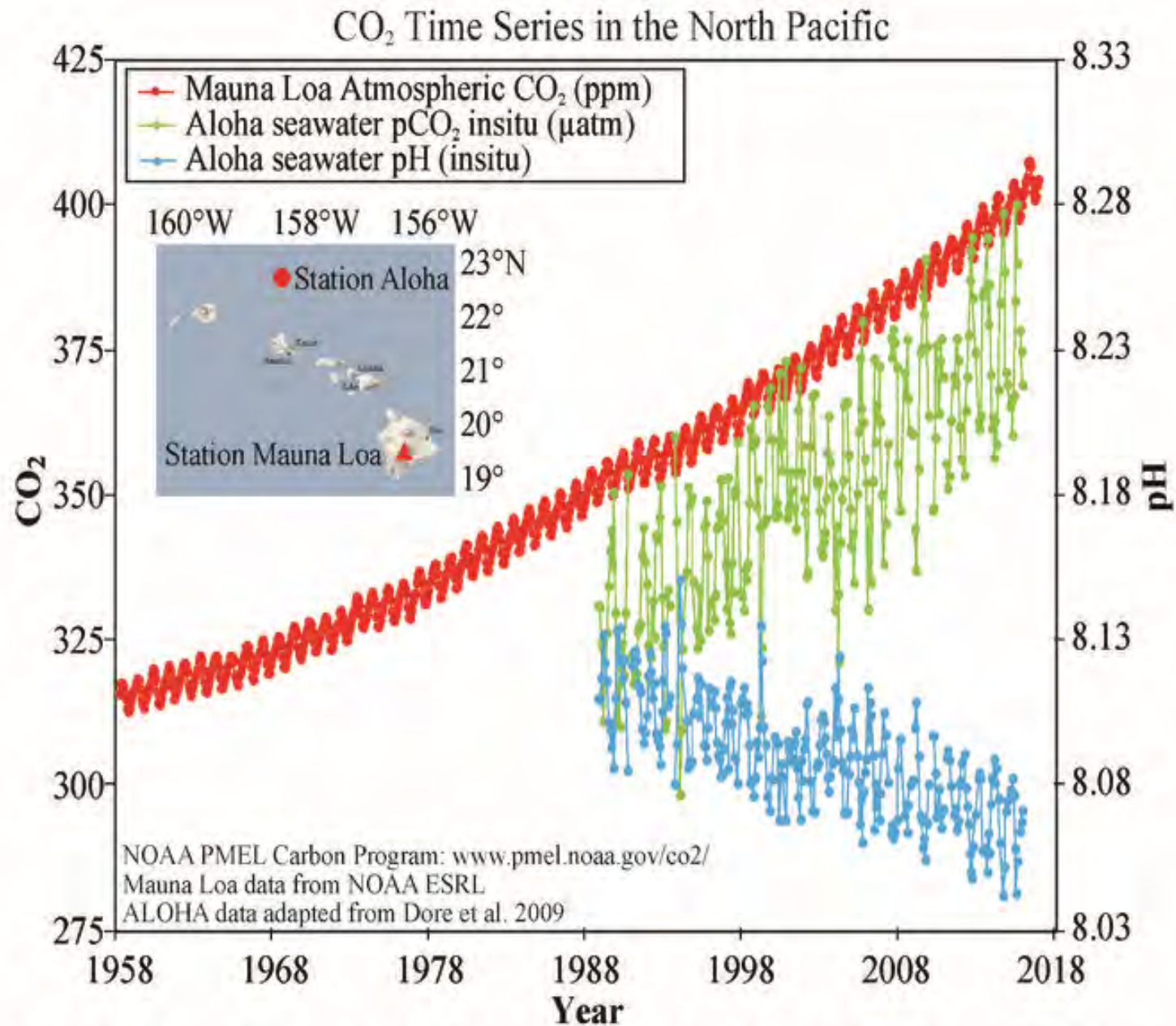
23%
8.7 GtCO₂/yr

Budget Imbalance:

(the difference between estimated sources & sinks)

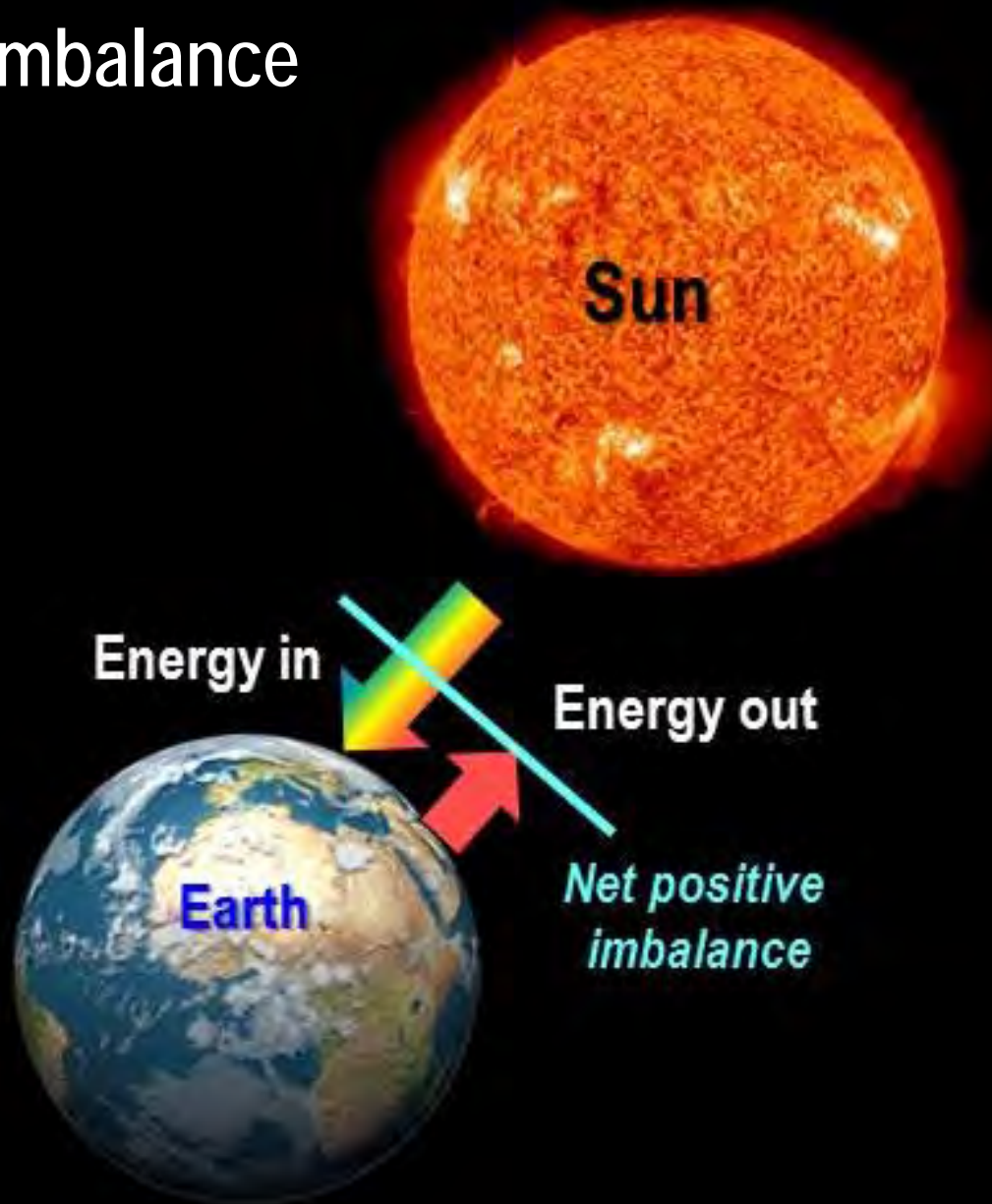
6%
2.1 GtCO₂/yr

Ocean acidification



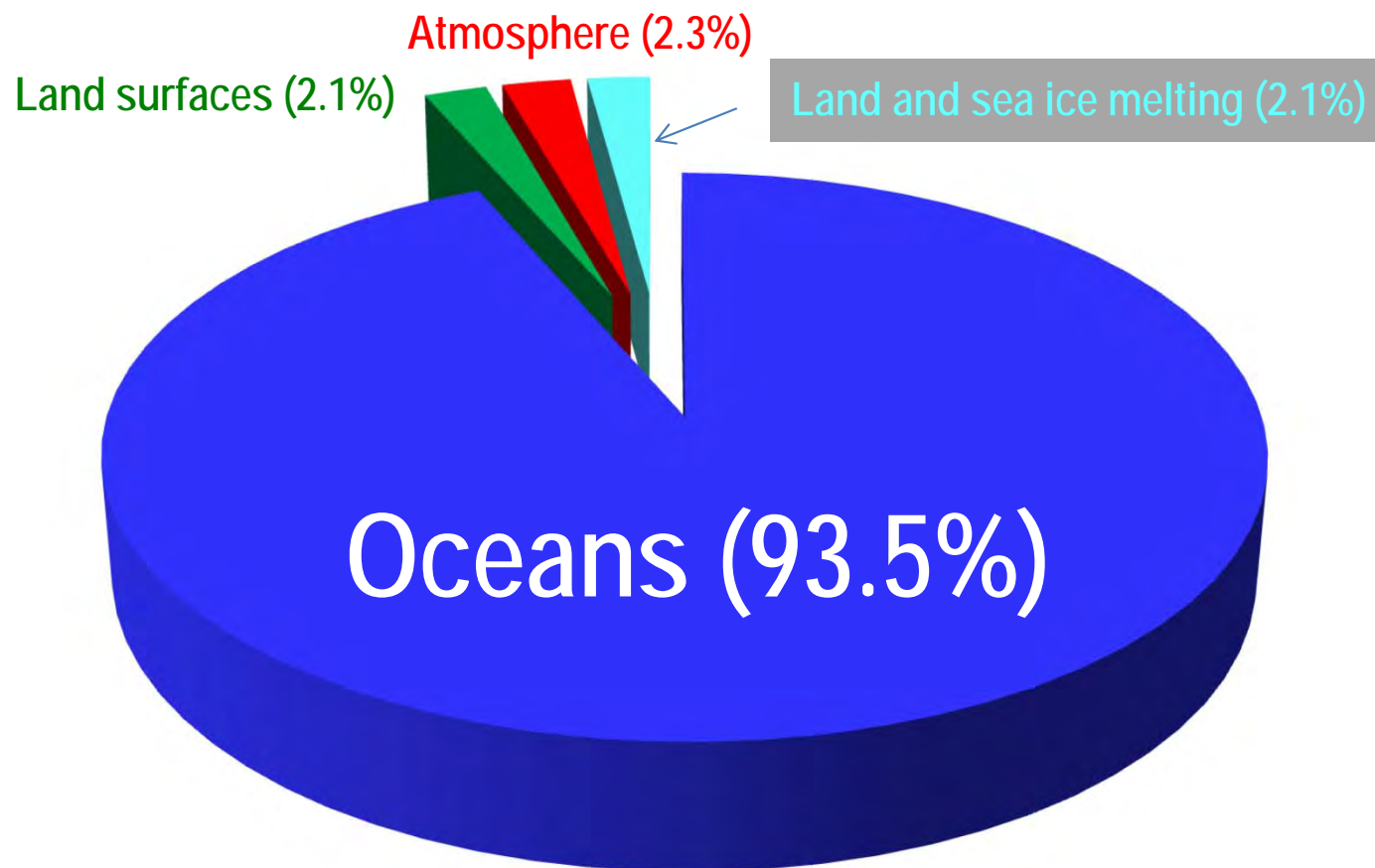
Data: Mauna Loa (http://ftp.cmdl.noaa.gov/products/trends/co2/co2_mm_mlo.txt) ALOHA (http://hahana.soest.hawaii.edu/hot/products/HOT_surface_CO2.txt)
Ref: J.E. Dore et al, 2009. Physical and biogeochemical modulation of ocean acidification in the central North Pacific. *Proc Natl Acad Sci USA* **106**:12235-12240.

Earth's Energy Imbalance



**Today → Energy imbalance
→ 0.5 -1 Wm^{-2}**

Heat excess in the climate system: *Percentage of heat accumulated in the different reservoirs over the last 50 years*



Thermal inertia of the ocean

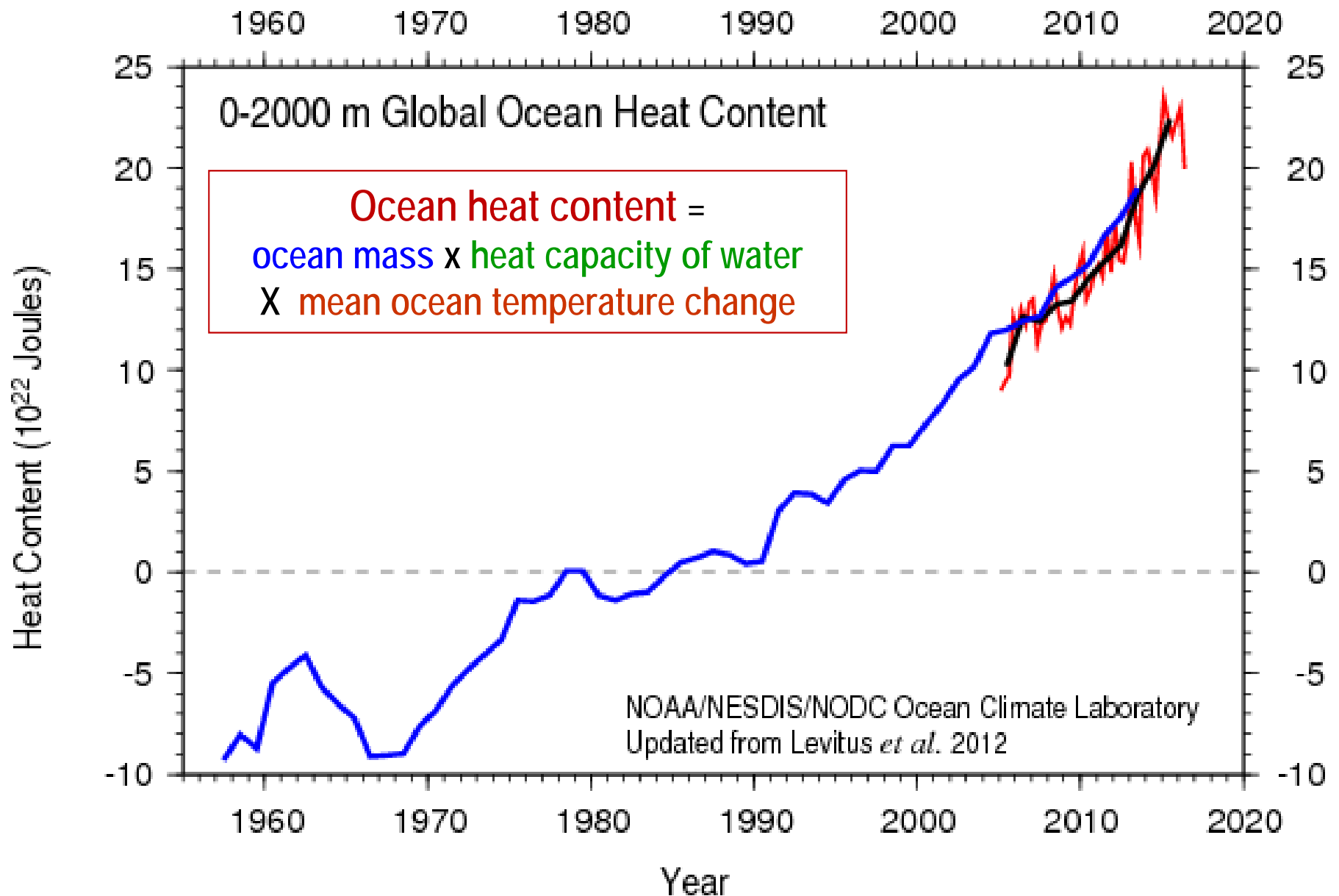
- Ocean mass = 300 times that of the atmosphere
- Heat capacity of water = 4 times that of air
- Heat storage capability = 1200 times higher than that of atmosphere

Ocean and climate

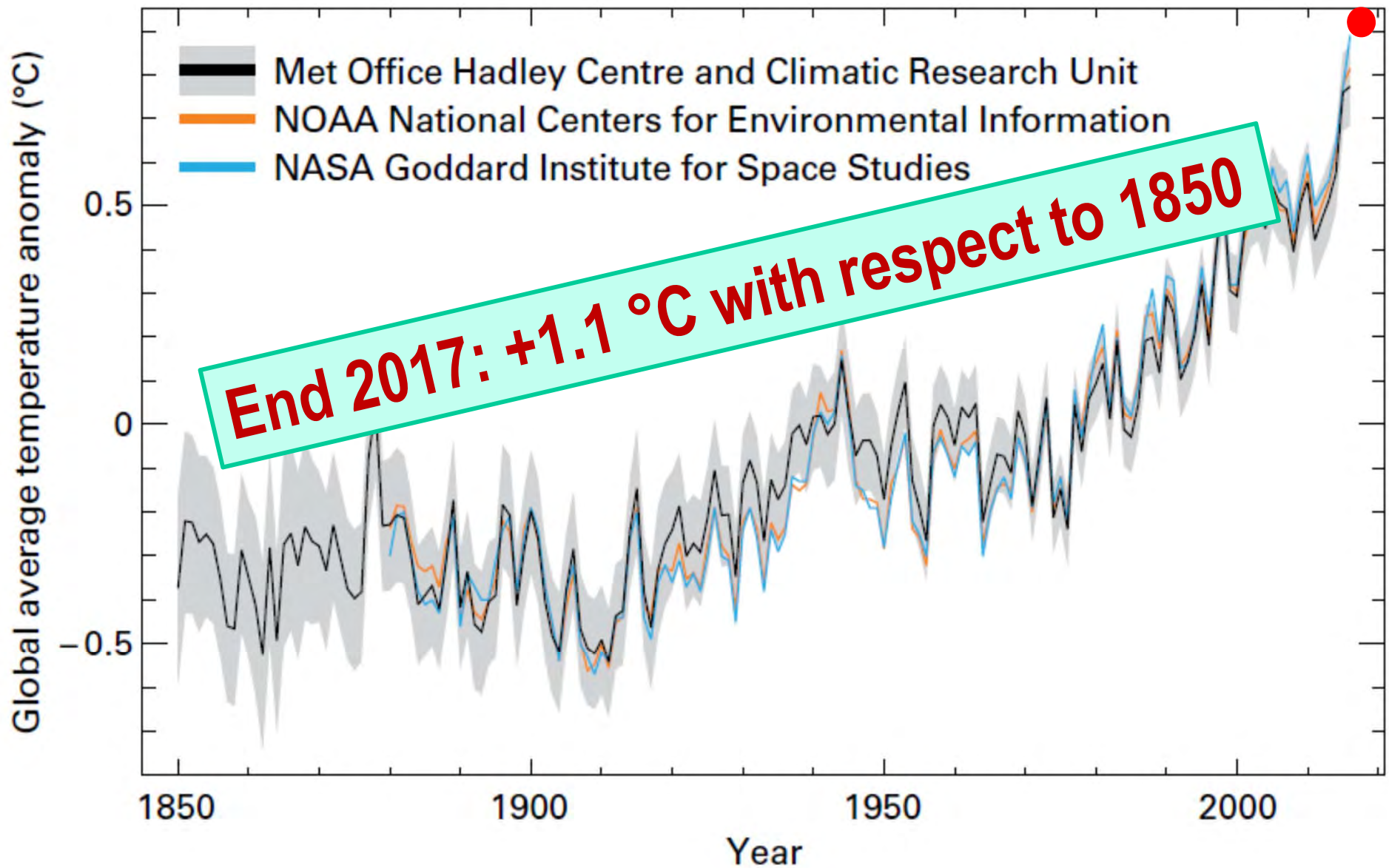
- *Main reservoir of heat in the climate system*
 - *Transports and re distributes heat over time scales much longer than the atmosphere*
- « long-term memory » of the climate system

Heat capacity : quantity of heat needed to raise the temperature of 1g water by 1°K

The ocean heat content is increasing



Evolution of the Earth's mean temperature since 1850

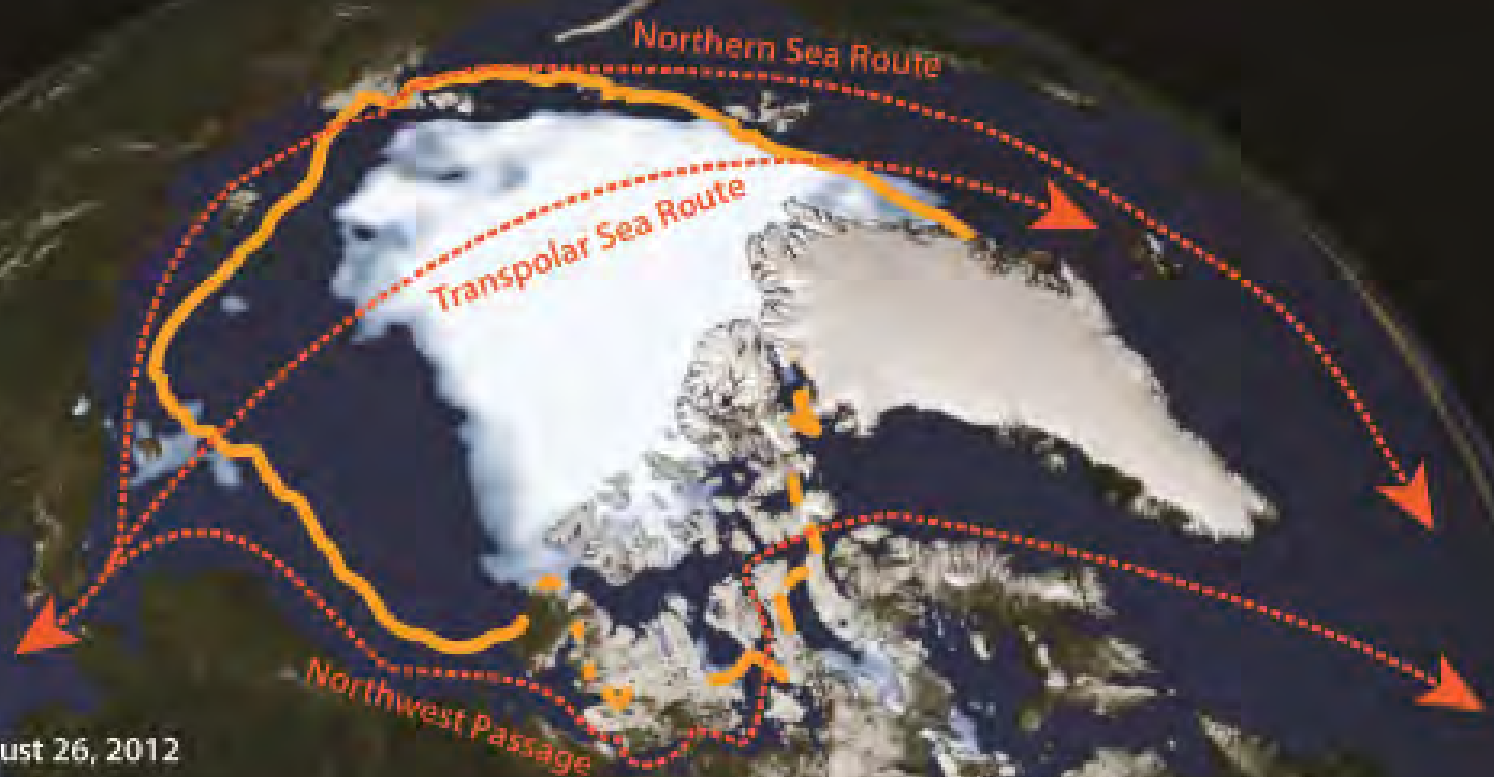


Source: WMO State of Climate 2016

Arctic sea ice decline (extent in August 2012)

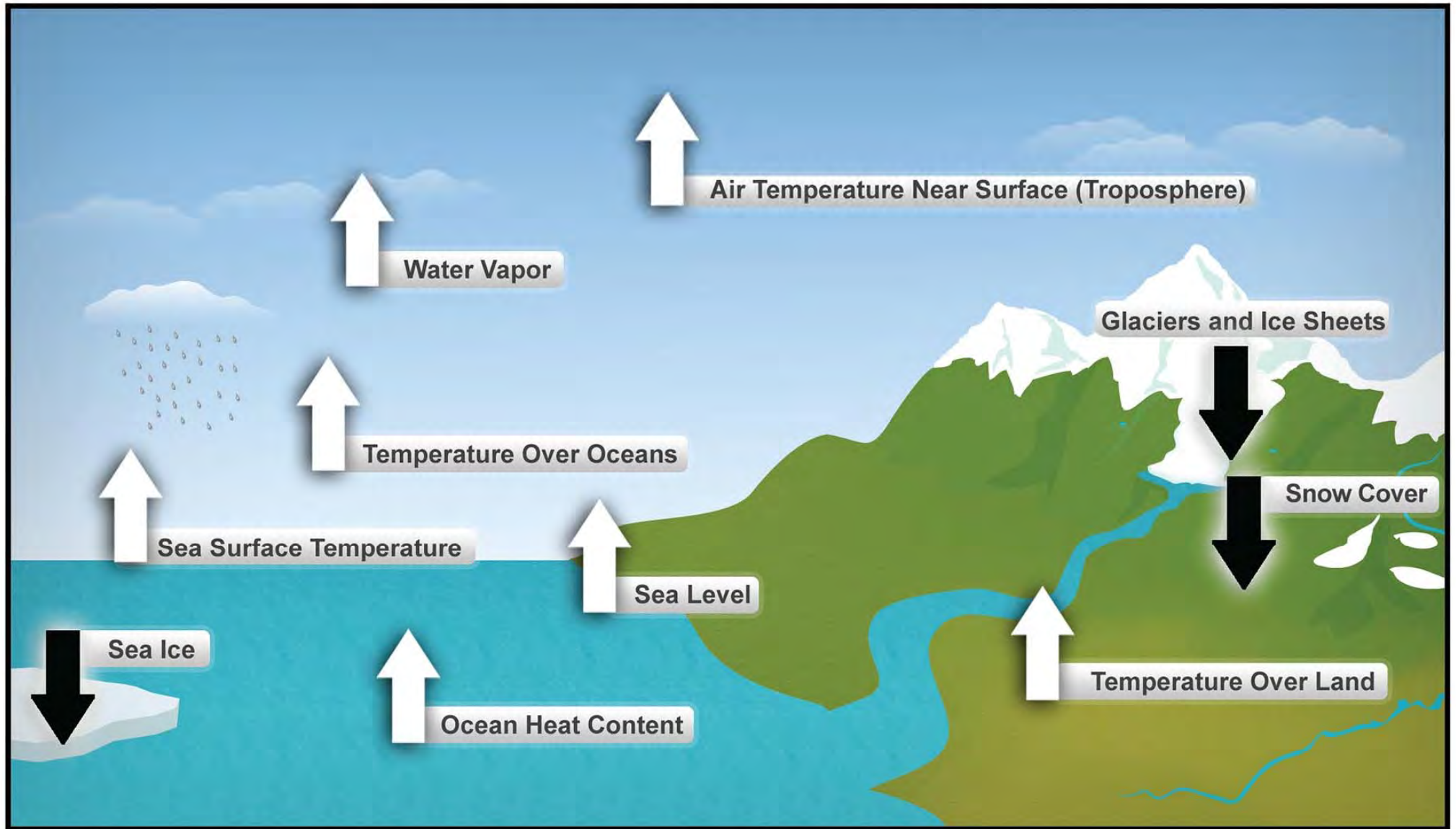


- Average Minimum Sea Ice Extent 1979-2010
- Current and Potential Arctic Shipping Routes



Satellite Data from August 26, 2012

Ten Indicators of a Warming World



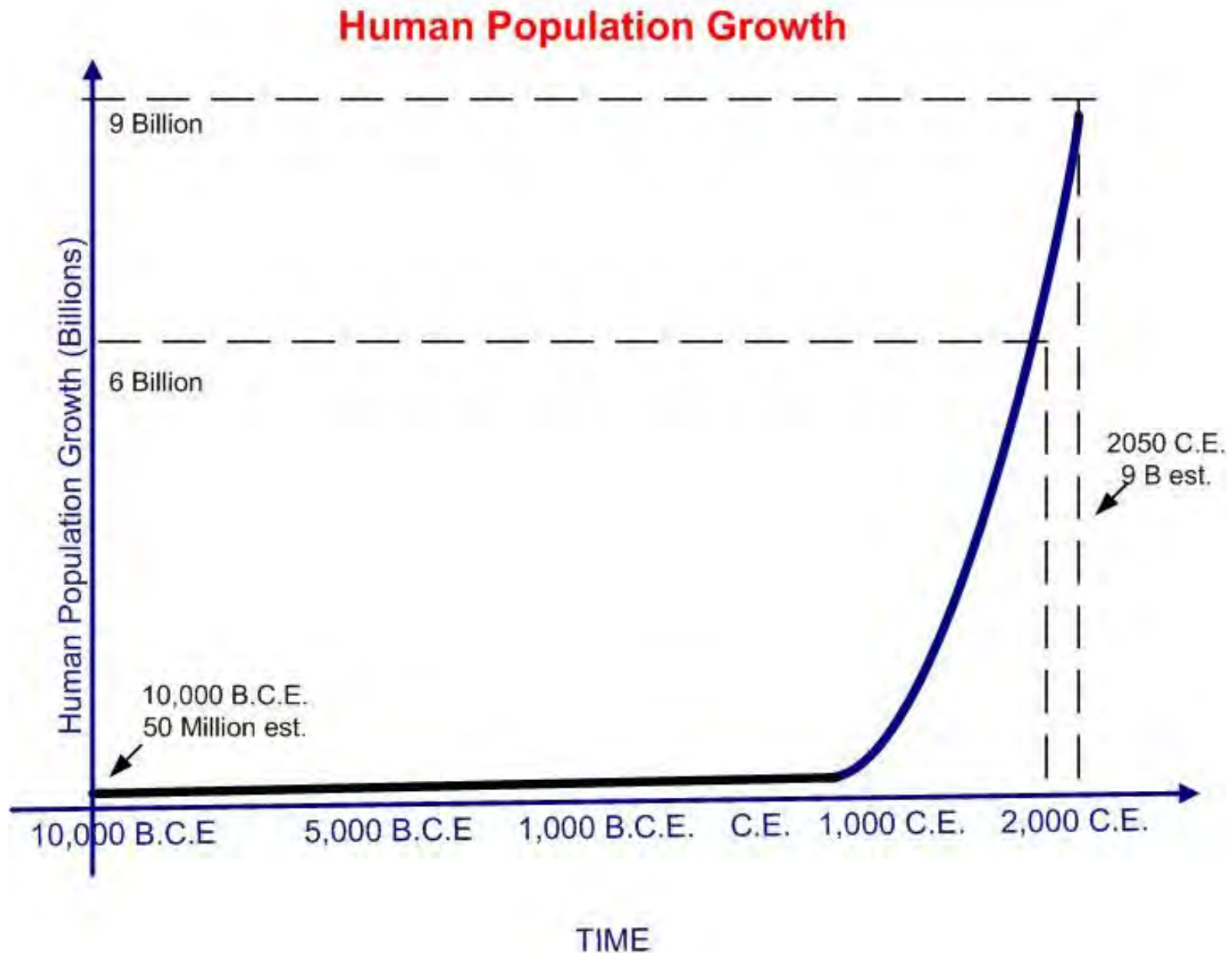
OTHER GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGES DUE TO HUMAN ACTIVITIES



- Deforestation
- Change in land use
- Urbanization
- Modification of coastal areas
- Air and sea pollution
- Decline of biodiversity
- Surexploitation of natural resources (including water)
- Modification of the water cycle
-



Evolution of the world population since 10 000 years



HOW RESPOND?

- Observation →
detection of changes, process understanding
- +
• Modelling →
predictability and projection of future changes

GLOBAL CLIMATE OBSERVING SYSTEM



GCOS

GLOBAL CLIMATE OBSERVING SYSTEM



GCOS was established in 1992 to ensure that the observations and information needed to address climate-related issues are obtained and made available to all potential users



INTERNATIONAL
COUNCIL FOR
SCIENTIFIC DATA
INTERCHANGE



GLOBAL CLIMATE OBSERVING SYSTEM (GCOS)

Implementation plan 2016

4 long-term, overarching targets:

- (a) Closing the carbon budget
- (b) Closing the global water cycle
- (c) Closing the global energy balance
- (d) Explaining changing conditions to the biosphere

ESSENTIAL CLIMATE VARIABLES (ECVs) defined by GCOS

Measurement domain	Essential Climate Variables (ECVs)
Atmospheric	<p>Surface: air temperature, wind speed and direction, water vapour, pressure, precipitation, surface radiation budget</p> <p>Upper-air: temperature, wind speed and direction, water vapour, cloud properties, Earth radiation budget, lightning</p> <p>Composition: carbon dioxide (CO₂), methane (CH₄), other long-lived greenhouse gases, ozone, aerosol, precursors for aerosol and ozone</p>
Oceanic	<p>Physics: temperature: sea surface and subsurface; salinity: sea surface and subsurface; currents, surface currents, sea level, sea state, sea ice, ocean surface stress, ocean surface heat flux</p> <p>Biogeochemistry: inorganic carbon, oxygen, nutrients, transient tracers, nitrous oxide (N₂O), ocean colour</p> <p>Biology/ecosystems: plankton, marine habitat properties</p>
Terrestrial	<p>Hydrology: river discharge, groundwater, lakes, soil moisture</p> <p>Cryosphere: snow, glaciers, Ice sheets and Ice shelves, permafrost</p> <p>Biosphere: albedo, land cover, fraction of absorbed photosynthetically active radiation, leaf area index, above-ground biomass, soil carbon, fire, land surface temperature</p> <p>Human use of natural resources: water use, greenhouse gas fluxes</p>

World Climate Research Programme (WCRP)

*an international programme established in 1980 to coordinate
global climate research*

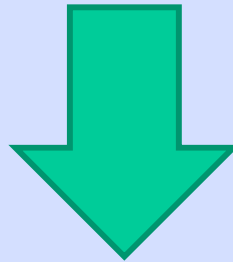
Sponsored by WMO, IOC/UNESCO & ISC

Mission: facilitate the analysis and prediction of Earth system variability and change for use in an increasing range of practical applications of direct relevance, benefit and value to society

2 overarching objectives:

- Determine the predictability of climate
- Determine the effect of human activities on climate

«Grand Challenges » in climate research *defined by the World Climate Research Programme*



1. Clouds, atmospheric circulation and climate sensitivity
2. Melting ice and global consequences
3. Weather and climate extremes
4. Sea level rise and coastal impacts
5. Water for the food baskets of the world
6. Near-term climate prediction
7. Carbon feedbacks in the climate system

WCRP Coupled Model Intercomparison Project (CMIP)

- The objective of the Coupled Model Intercomparison Project (CMIP) is to better understand past, present and future climate changes arising from natural, unforced variability and in response to changes in radiative forcing in **a multi-model** context.
- CMIP provides a standard protocol to study the outputs of coupled atmosphere-ocean general circulation models (AOGCMs) (now Earth System Models/ESMs)
- This includes assessments of model performance during the historical period and quantifications of the causes of the spread in future projections.
- Numerical experiments are also performed to investigate the predictability of the climate system on various time and space scales
- Since 1995, several CMIPs exercises (ongoing → **CMIP6**)

CMIP feeds the IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change) assessments (IPCC AR6 ongoing)

Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)

- Created in 1988 (WMO, UNEP)
- Role: assess the best available scientific, technical and socio-economic information on climate change from around the world
- The assessments are based on information contained in peer-reviewed literature
- 5 assessment reports published; 6th assessment (AR6) in progress



FUTURE EARTH

- An international, interdisciplinary research programme to produce knowledge about the environmental and human aspects of **GLOBALCHANGE** and to find solutions for **sustainable development**
- **Global Research Projects & Knowledge-Action Networks**
 - ❑ Create interdisciplinary science relevant to major global sustainability challenges
 - ❑ Deliver products and services that society needs, in order to meet these challenges
 - ❑ Co-design and co-produce solutions-oriented science, knowledge and innovation for global sustainable development



**COPERNICUS:
A European system for monitoring the Earth**



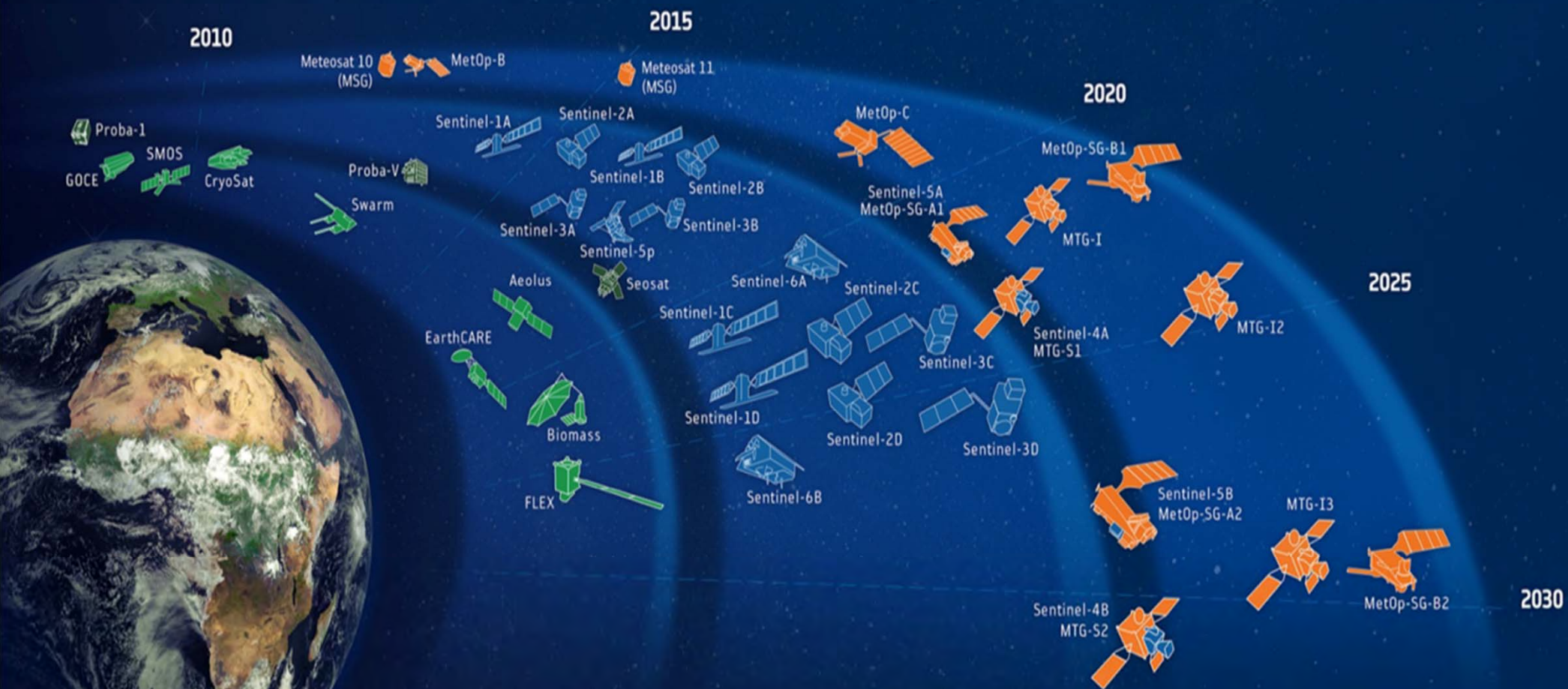
Earth Observation from Space

Space-based observations provide a global perspective that contribute to improved understanding of the Earth system

- → Dynamical interactions between atmosphere, ocean, land, ice and human society
- → Societal applications



ESA-DEVELOPED EARTH OBSERVATION MISSIONS



Science

Copernicus

Meteorology



The Sentinel missions

- **Sentinel-1** provides all-weather, day and night **radar imagery** for **land and ocean services**
- **Sentinel-2** provides **high-resolution optical imagery** for **land services**
- **Sentinel-3** provides **high-accuracy optical, radar and altimetry** data for **marine and land services**
- **Sentinel-4** and **Sentinel-5** will provide data for **atmospheric composition** monitoring from geostationary orbit and polar orbit, respectively
- **Sentinel-5 Precursor** will bridge the gap between Envisat (Sciamachy data in particular) and Sentinel-5
- **Sentinel-6** will provide **radar altimetry** to **measure global sea-surface height**, primarily for **operational oceanography** and for **climate studies**



opernicus



CLIMATE CHANGE



MARINE MONITORING



ATMOSPHERE MONITORING



LAND MONITORING



SECURITY



EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Copernicus Services

CLMS (Copernicus Land Monitoring Service)



CAMS (Copernicus Atmosphere Monitoring Service)



CMENS (Copernicus Marine Environment Monitoring Service)



EMS (Emergency Management Service)
(natural and man-made hazards)



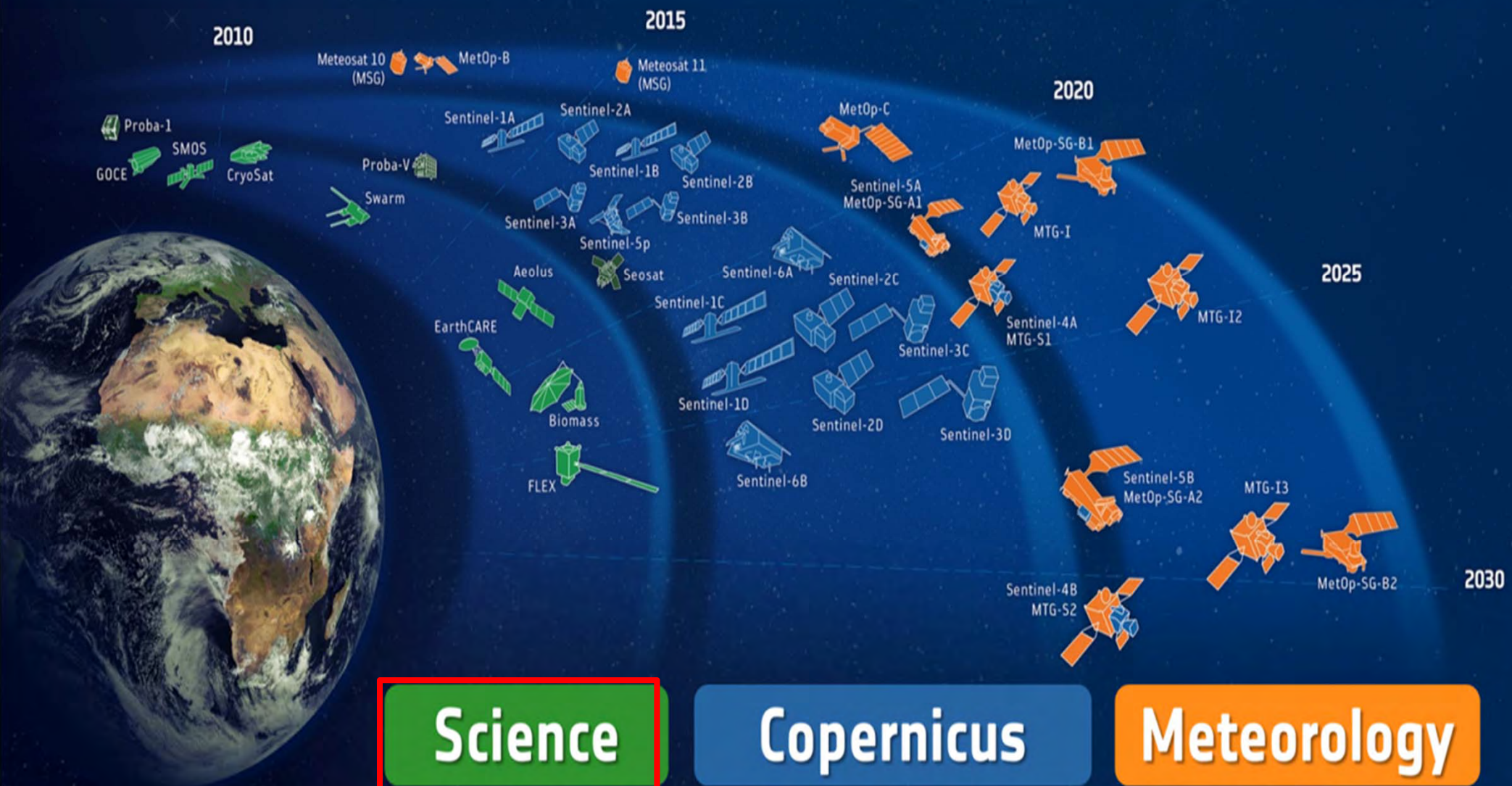
C3S (Copernicus Climate Change Service)



Security.



ESA-DEVELOPED EARTH OBSERVATION MISSIONS



Science

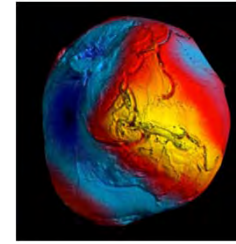
Copernicus

Meteorology

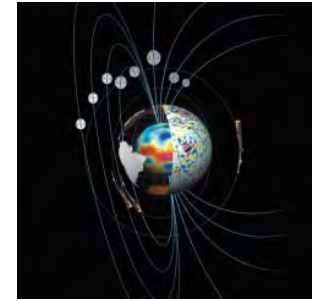


Earth Explorer Missions

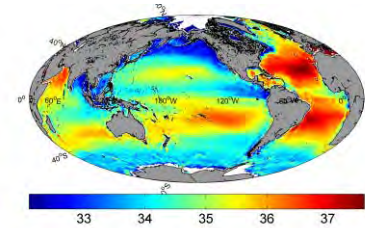
GOCE (2009-2013) → Earth gravity field



SWARM (2013-) → Earth magnetic field



SMOS (2009-) → Soil moisture and ocean salinity

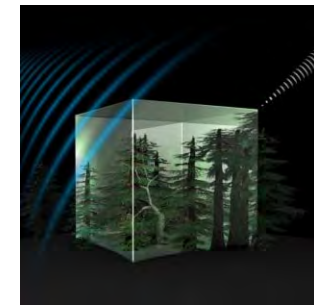


Cryosat (2010-) → Sea & land ice



Aeolus (2018) → Atmospheric winds

BIOMASS (2020) → Forest biomass and carbon



EarthCARE (2021) → Clouds and aerosols

FLEX (2022) → Photosynthetic activity of vegetation



DATA REPROCESSING OF OLD & EXISTING MISSIONS

"Climate Change Initiative" Programme from ESA → Reprocessing of Essential Climate Variables

identified by GCOS to monitor climate change



→ climate change initiative



→ CLIMATE FROM SPACE



data viewer



NASA EARTH OBSERVATORIES

Earth Science Missions

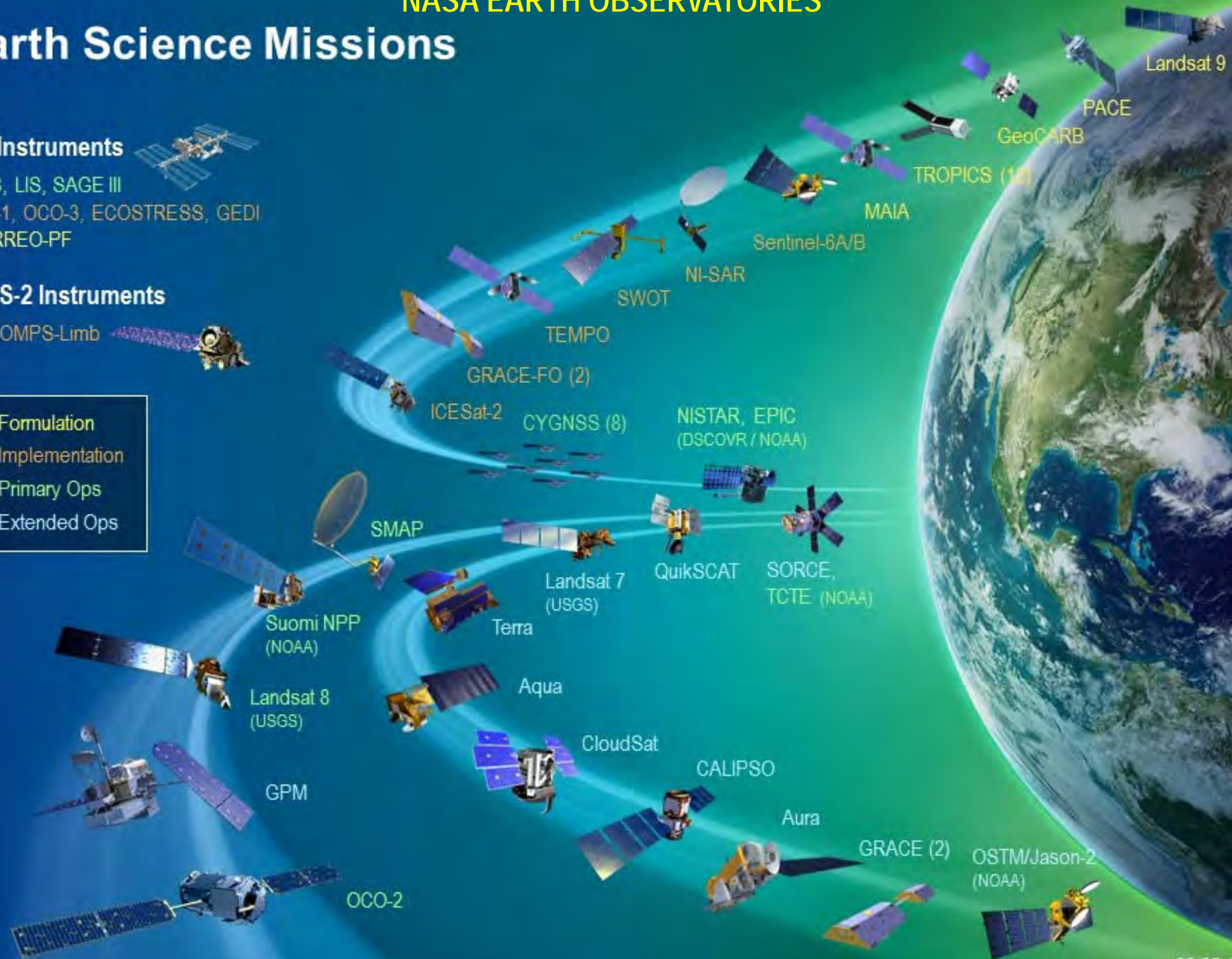
ISS Instruments

CATS, LIS, SAGE III
TSIS-1, OCO-3, ECOSTRESS, GEDI
CLARREO-PF

JPSS-2 Instruments

RBI, OMPS-Limb

- Formulation
- Implementation
- Primary Ops
- Extended Ops



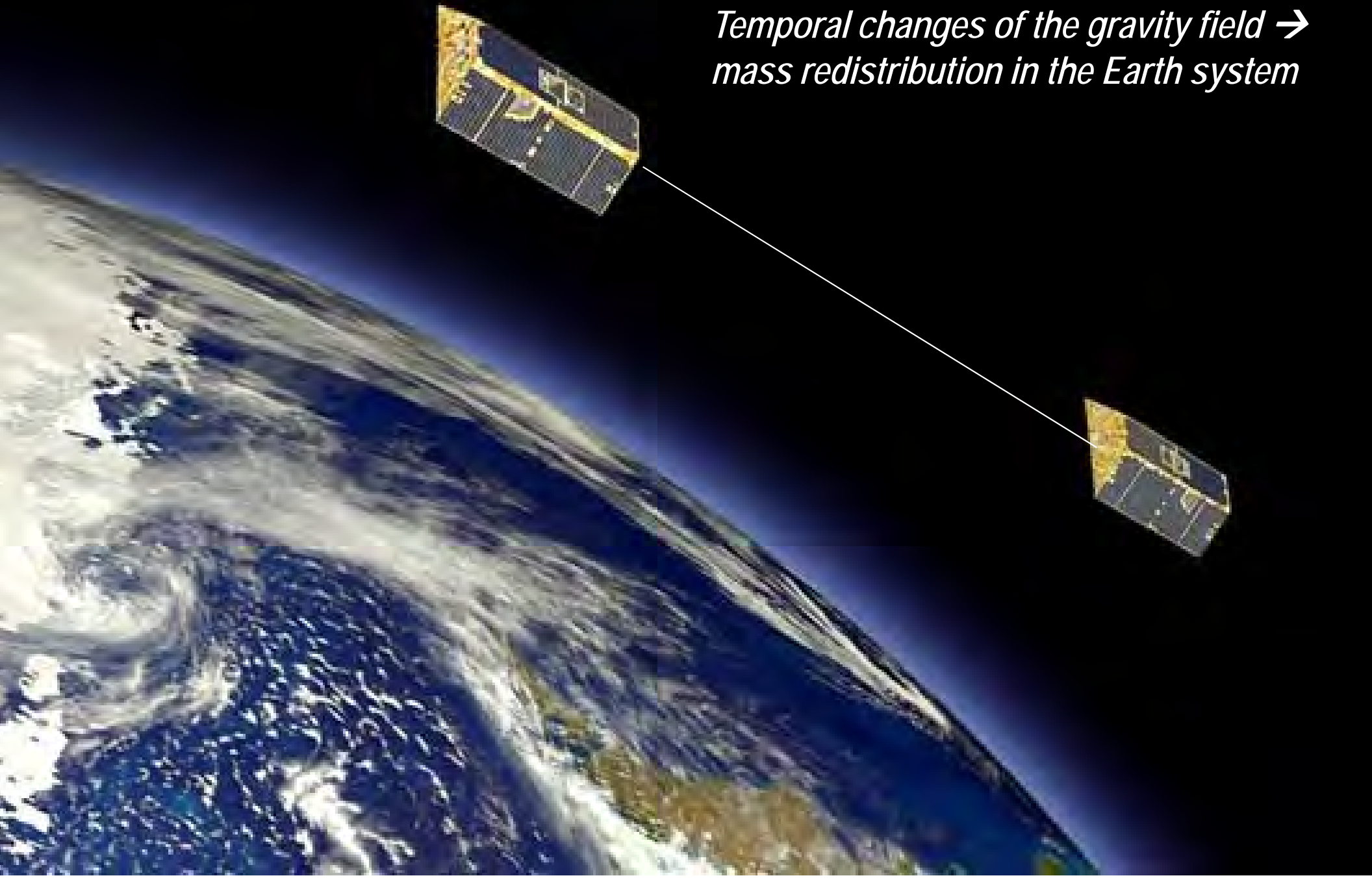
NASA « A-Train »

clouds, aerosols, atmospheric chemistry

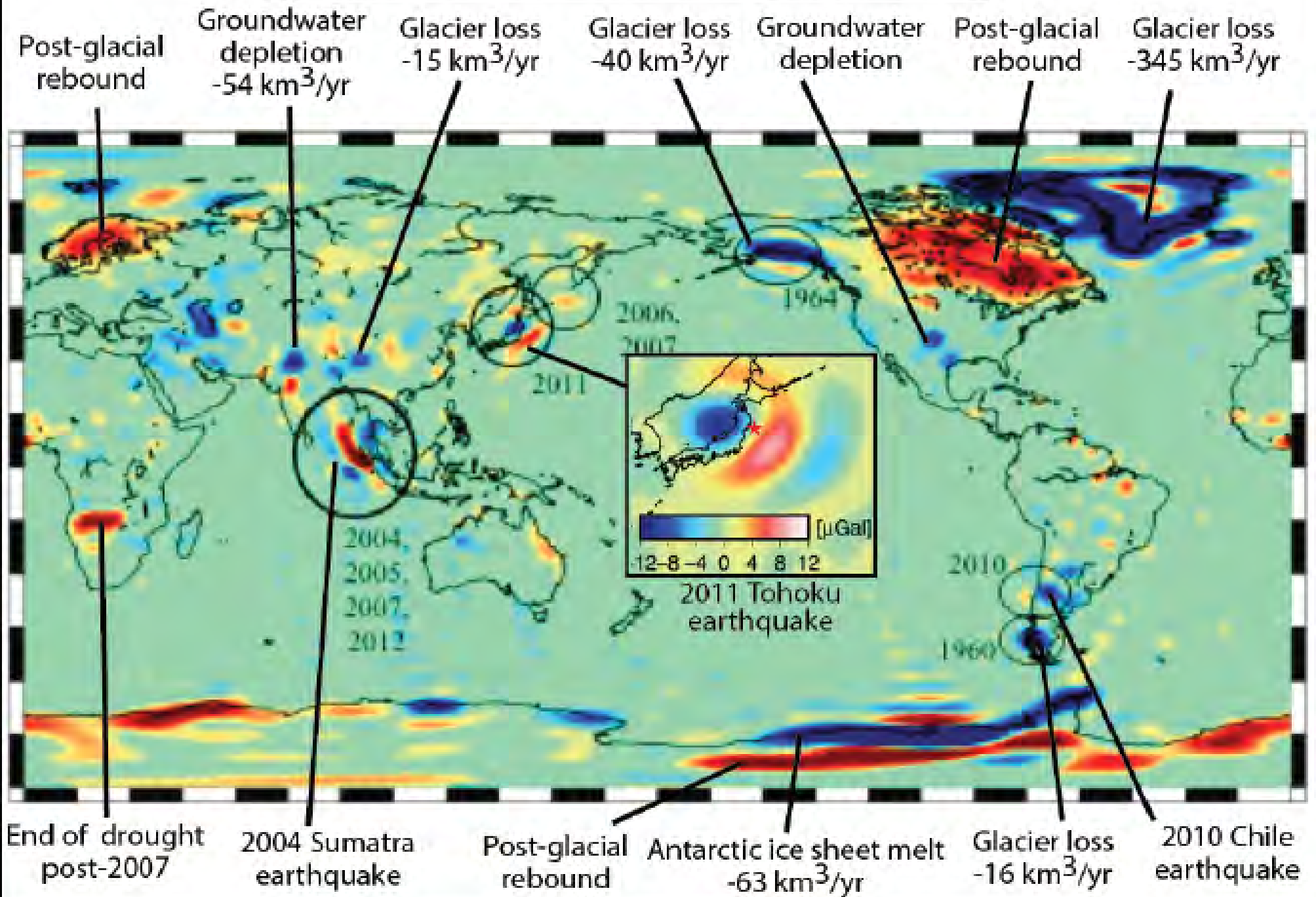


GRACE (2002-2017), GRACE Follow-on (2018-)

*Temporal changes of the gravity field →
mass redistribution in the Earth system*



Linear Trend in GRACE data (2003-2014)



THE 2017-2027 DECADAL SURVEY FOR EARTH SCIENCE AND APPLICATION FROM SPACE

Carried out by the US National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine

Document available online, 700 pages, published 2018

Objectives:

- Assess past decade progress
- Establish a vision strategy for the future decade
- Provide guidance on implementation of the plan by NASA, NOAA & USGS

Specificity

- *Focus on science, applications and observations (rather than on instruments & missions) → prioritized strategic “science targets”*
- *(i.e., sciences objectives related to a common space-based observable)*

MOST IMPORTANT PRIORITIES FOR THE DECADE 2017-2027

1. **Coupling of the Water and Energy Cycles** (How is the water cycle changing? What are the magnitude and frequency of extremes?....)
2. **Ecosystem Changes** (What are the structure, function and biodiversity of Earth's ecosystems? How are they changing in space and time? What are the fluxes of carbon, water, nutrients and energy between ecosystems?)
3. **Weather and Air Quality forecasts** (How improve forecasts of weather and air quality? What processes determine the spatio-temporal structure of air pollutants?)
4. **Reducing Climate Uncertainty and Informing Societal Response** (How can we reduce the uncertainty of the amount of future warming as a function of fossil fuel emissions?)
5. **Sea Level Rise** (How much will sea level rise globally and regionally? What are the role of ice sheets and ocean heat storage? How will local sea level change locally along coastlines?)
6. **Geological Hazards and Disasters** (Can we forecast geological hazards in a socially relevant timeframe? How do they impact society?)

THANKS FOR YOUR ATTENTION










Space
Component

THE SENTINELS

FULL, FREE
AND OPEN

Sentinel Mission and Status

Key Features

	SENTINEL-1: 9-40m resolution, 6 days revisit at equator	<i>S1-A and B in orbit</i>	▶ Polar-orbiting, all-weather, day-and-night radar imaging
	SENTINEL-2: 10-60m resolution, 5 days revisit time	<i>S2-A in Orbit S2-B Launch Q1 2017</i>	▶ Polar-orbiting, multispectral optical, high-res imaging
	SENTINEL-3: 300-1200m resolution, <2 days revisit	<i>S3-A in Orbit S3-B Launch Q4 2017</i>	▶ Optical and altimeter mission monitoring sea and land parameters
	SENTINEL-4: 8km resolution, 60 min revisit time	<i>1st Launch Q4 2022</i>	▶ Payload for atmosphere chemistry monitoring on MTG-S
	SENTINEL-5p: 7-68km resolution, 1 day revisit	<i>Launch in Q2 2017</i>	▶ Mission to reduce data gaps between Envisat, and S-5
	SENTINEL-5: 7.5-50km resolution, 1 day revisit	<i>1st Launch in 2021</i>	▶ Payload for atmosphere chemistry monitoring on MetOp 2 nd Gen
	SENTINEL-6: 10 days revisit time	<i>July 2020</i>	▶ Radar altimeter to measure sea-surface height globally