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Climate science, methods and data



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Senior scientist

Finnish Meteorological Institute

Space Climate School 6 on March 30 - April 3, 2016, Levi, Finland



Content

History of Climate

Physically basics of Climate

About climatological scales in time and space

Downscaling from global to local climate

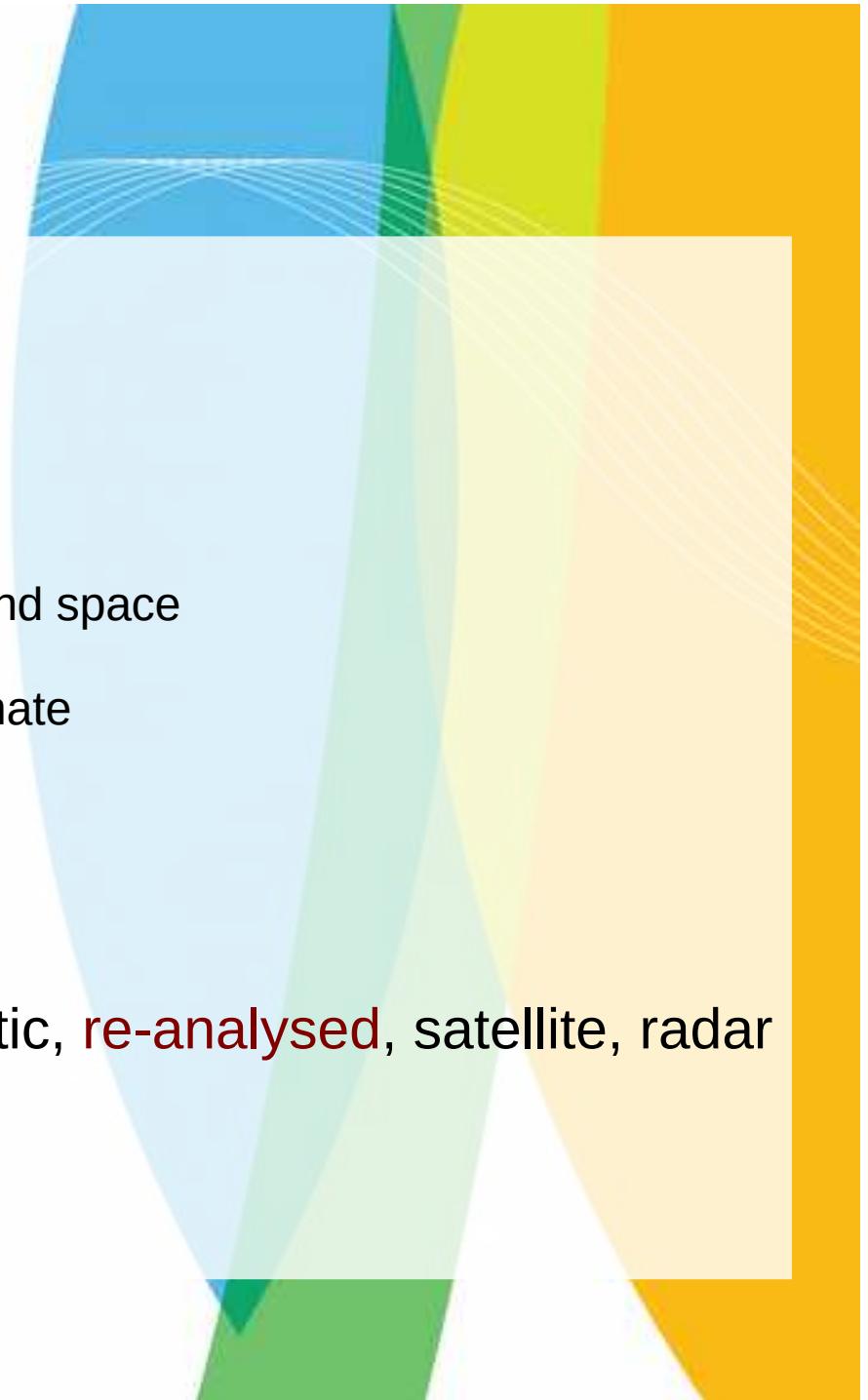
Quantifying the climate

Climate classification

Climate data – historic, synoptic, **re-analysed**, satellite, radar

Climate data sources

Climatological applications



History of Climatology – Development of Instruments

Thermometer

- development in 16th and 17th centuries in Europe
- Galilei (I), Drebbel (NL), Fludd (GB), or Santorio (I)

Hygrometer

- first useful hygrometer Lambert (D), 1755.

Anemometer

- first description of an anemometer given by Alberti (I), 1450

Barometer

- Torricelli (I), 1643, and Berti (I), 1640/1643

Pluviometer

- Greeks, about 500 BCE; about 400 BCE people in India



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Physically basics of Climate - the Sun – Earth system



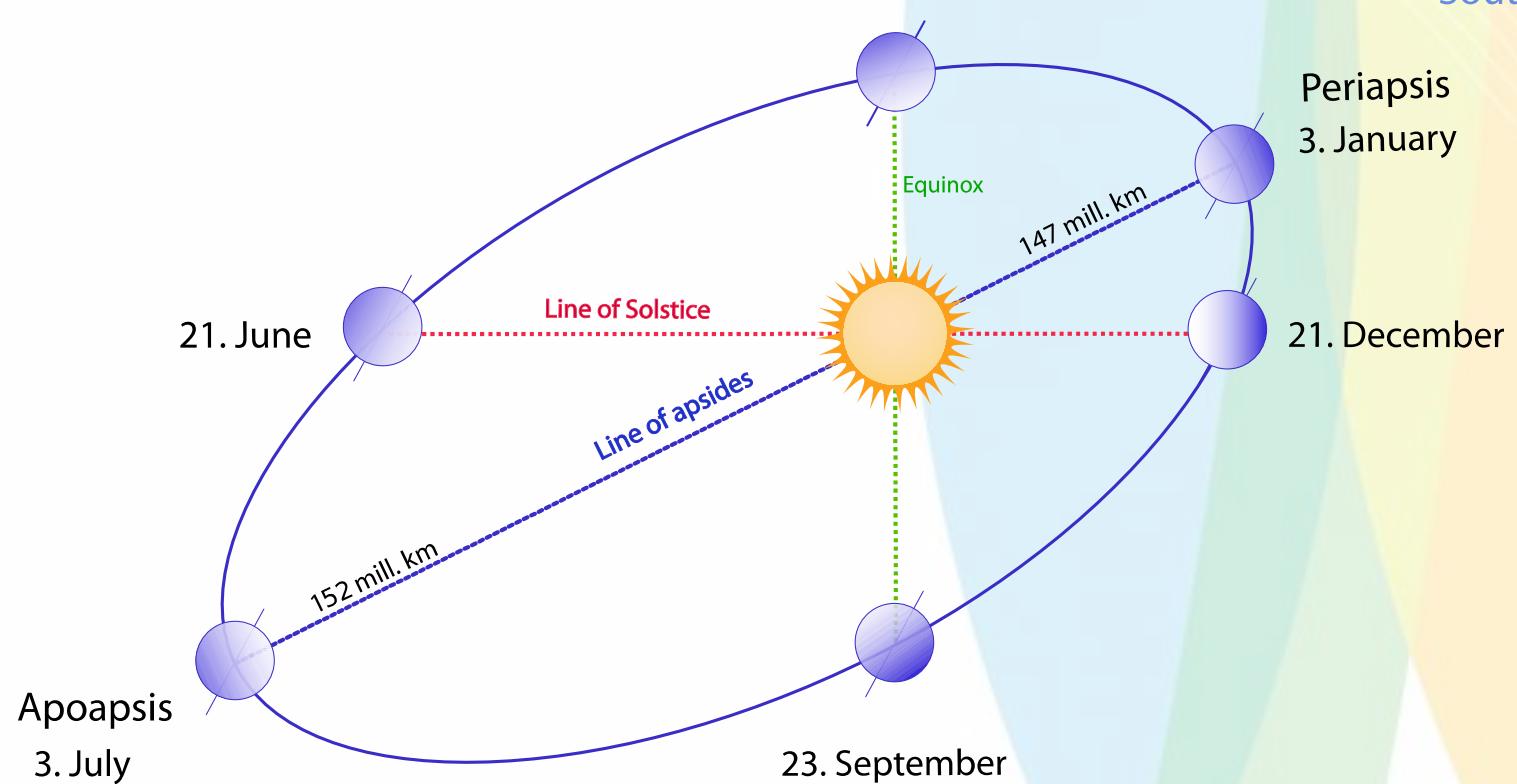


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Lines of Solstice, apsides, Equinox

Northern spring/
Southern fall

Northern winter/
Southern summer



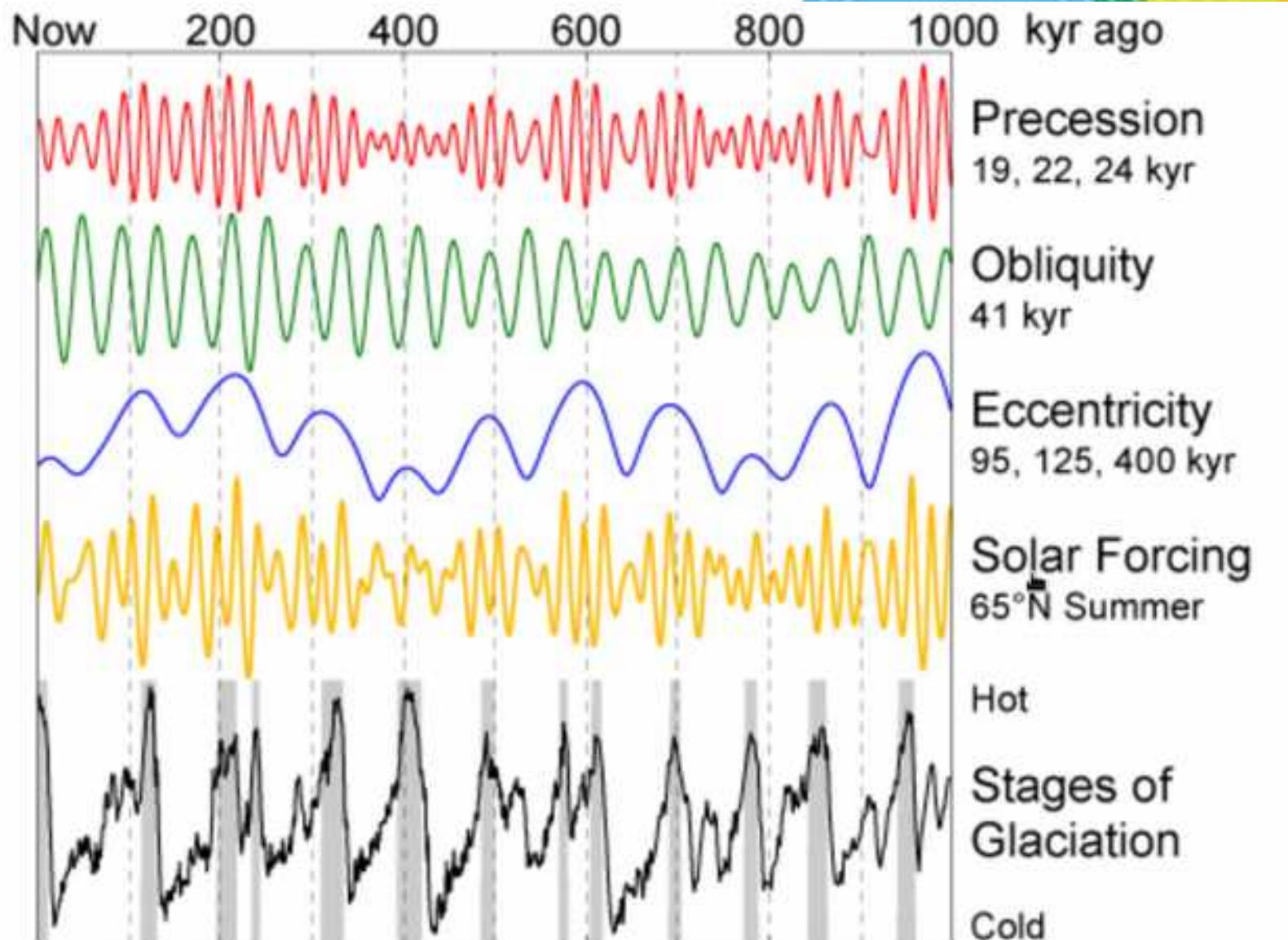
Northern summer/
Southern winter

Northern fall/
Southern spring



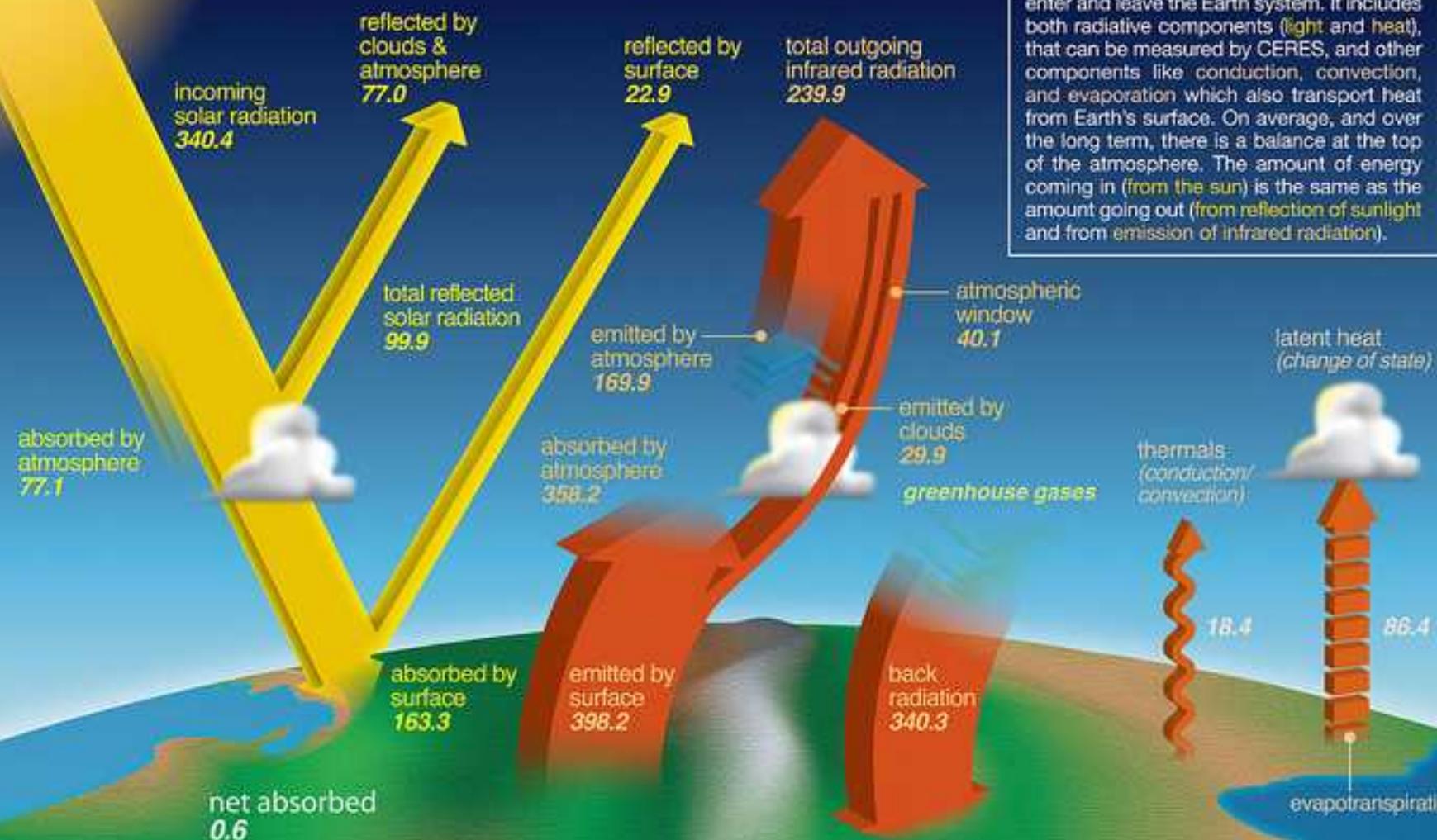
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Milankovitch cycles



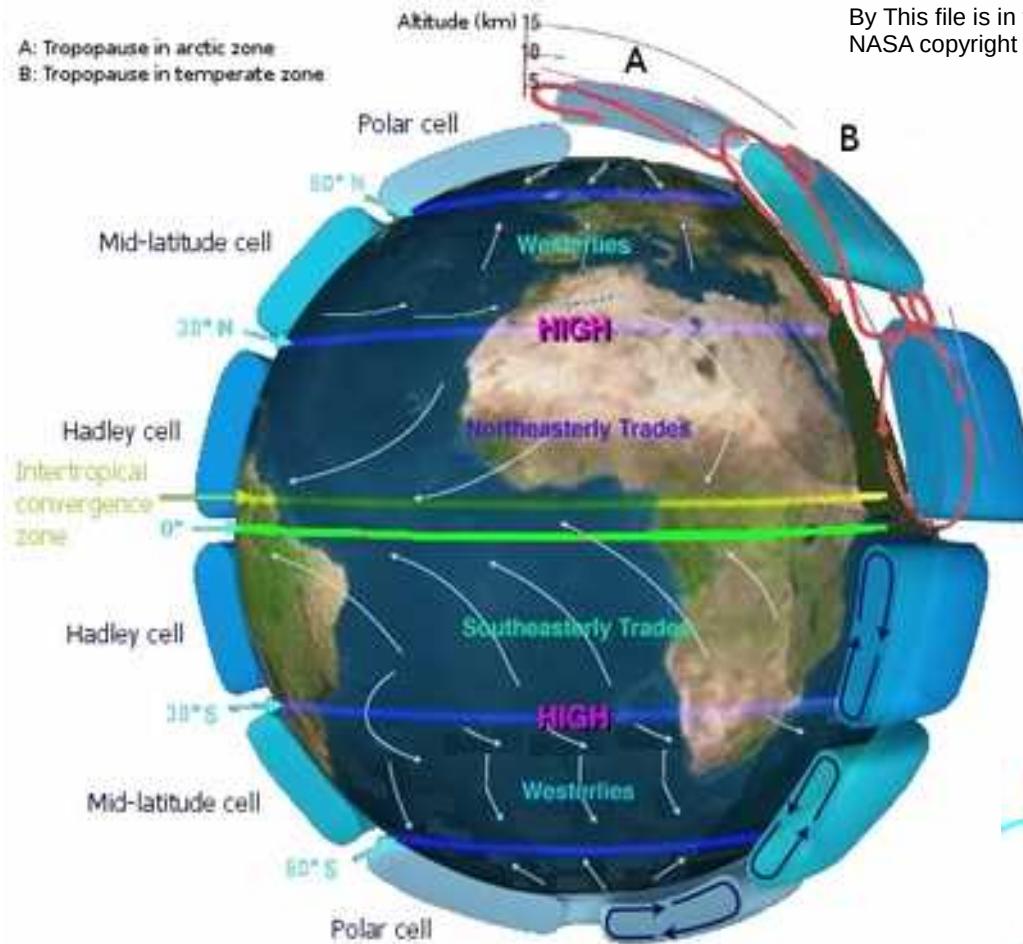


earth's energy budget



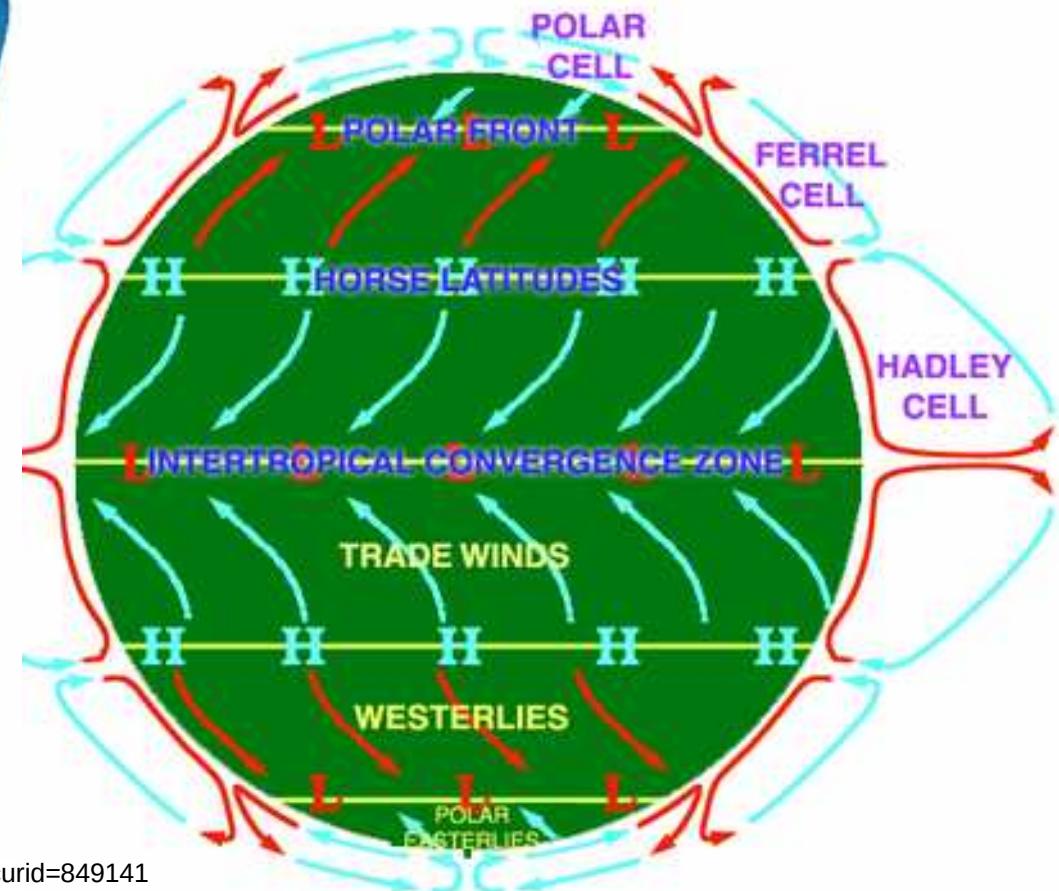
All values are fluxes in W m^{-2}
and are average values based on ten years of data

The Earth's energy budget describes the various kinds and amounts of energy that enter and leave the Earth system. It includes both radiative components (light and heat), that can be measured by CERES, and other components like conduction, convection, and evaporation which also transport heat from Earth's surface. On average, and over the long term, there is a balance at the top of the atmosphere. The amount of energy coming in (from the sun) is the same as the amount going out (from reflection of sunlight and from emission of infrared radiation).

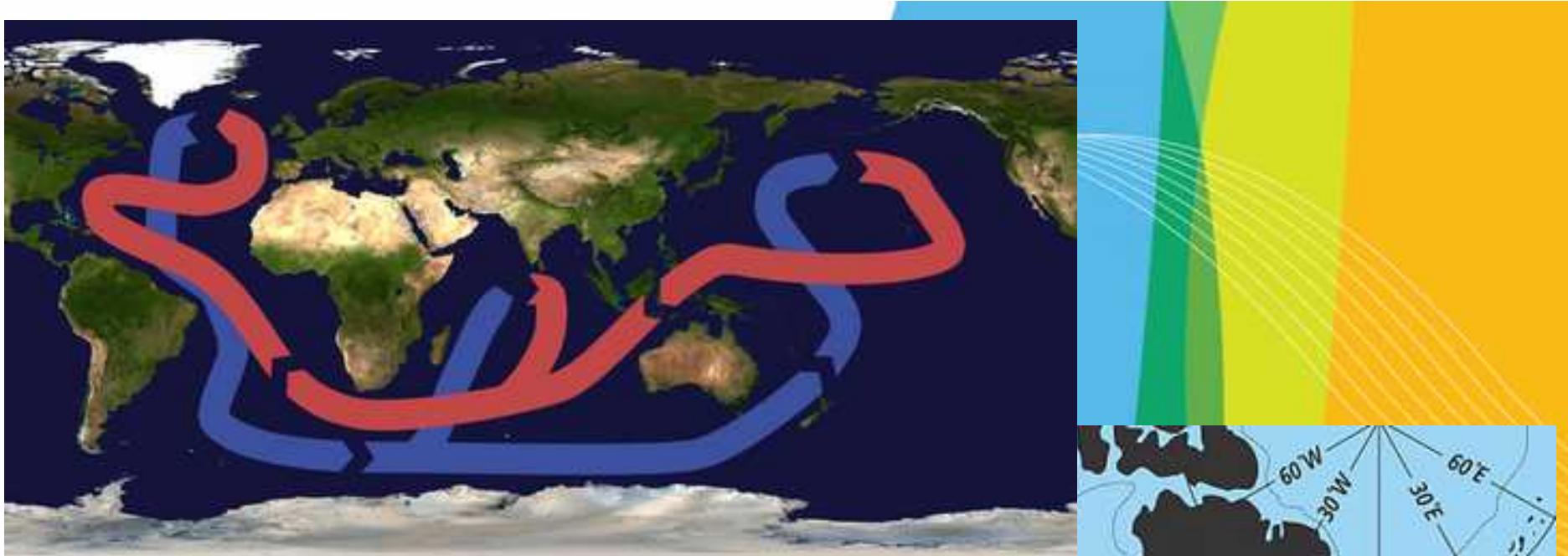


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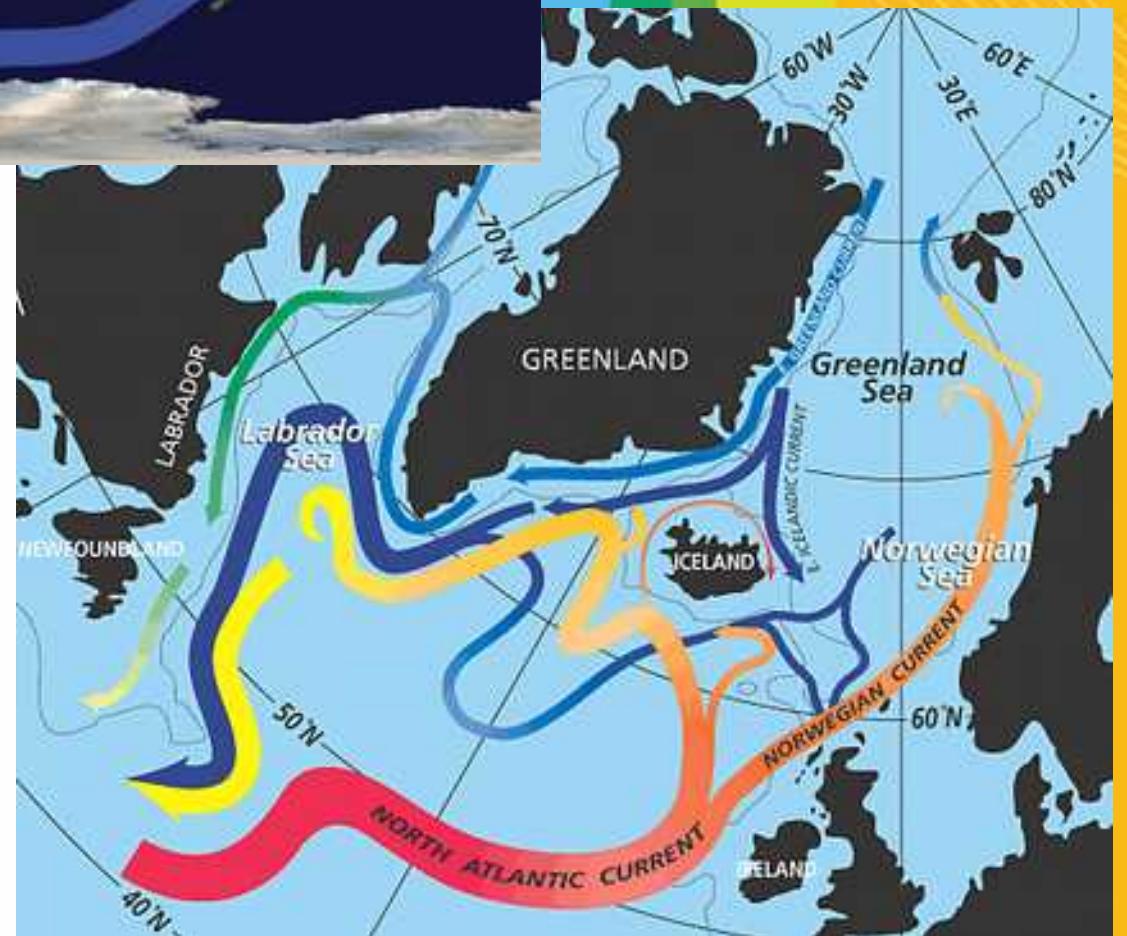
Atmospheric wind circulation



About 150 local wind systems



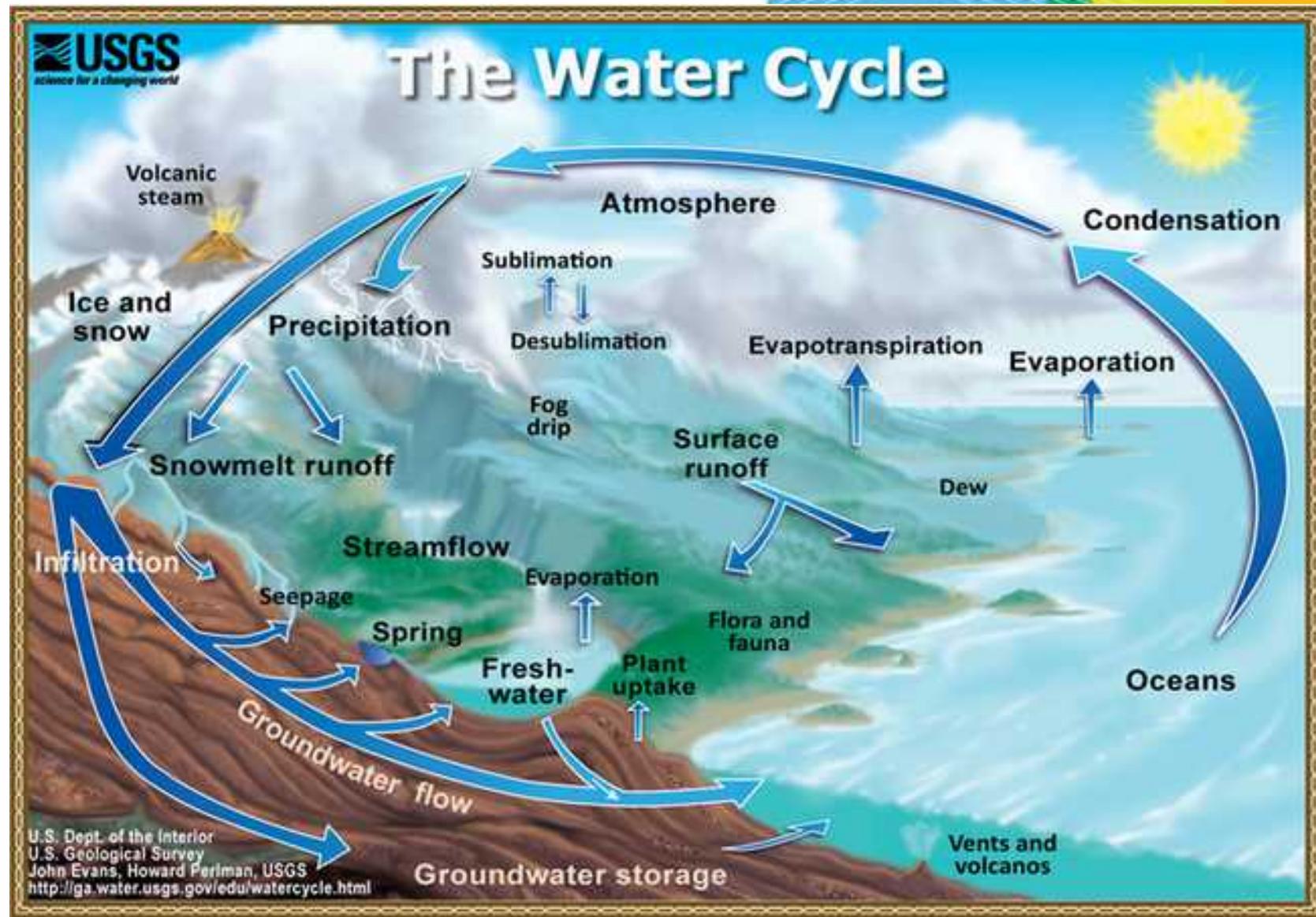
Earth's ocean circulation





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Hydrosphere





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Cryosphere

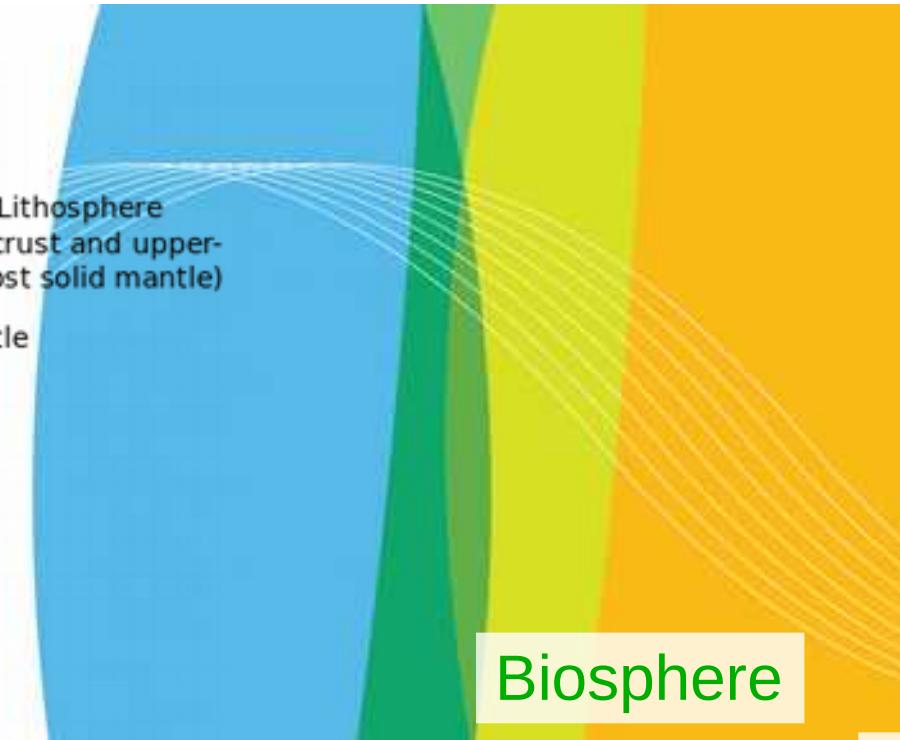
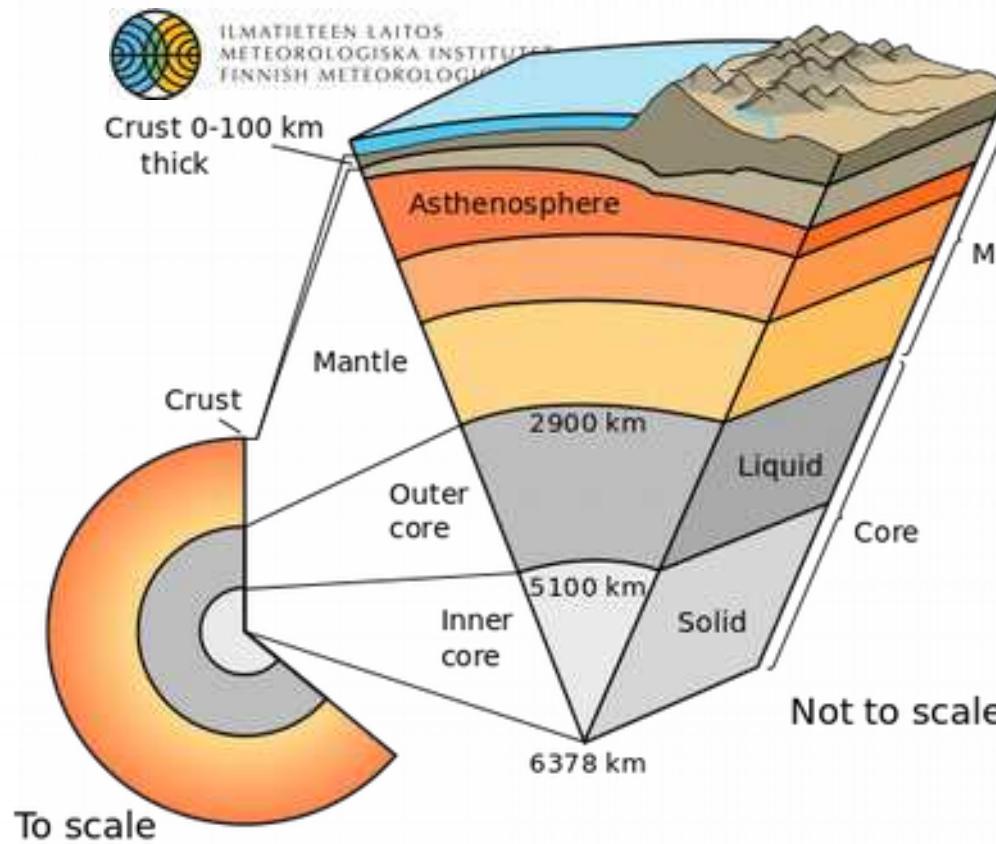


- █ Snow
- █ Sea ice
- █ Ice shelves
- █ Ice sheets
- █ Glaciers and ice caps
- █ Permafrost, continuous
- █ Permafrost, discontinuous
- █ Permafrost, isolated



Lithosphere

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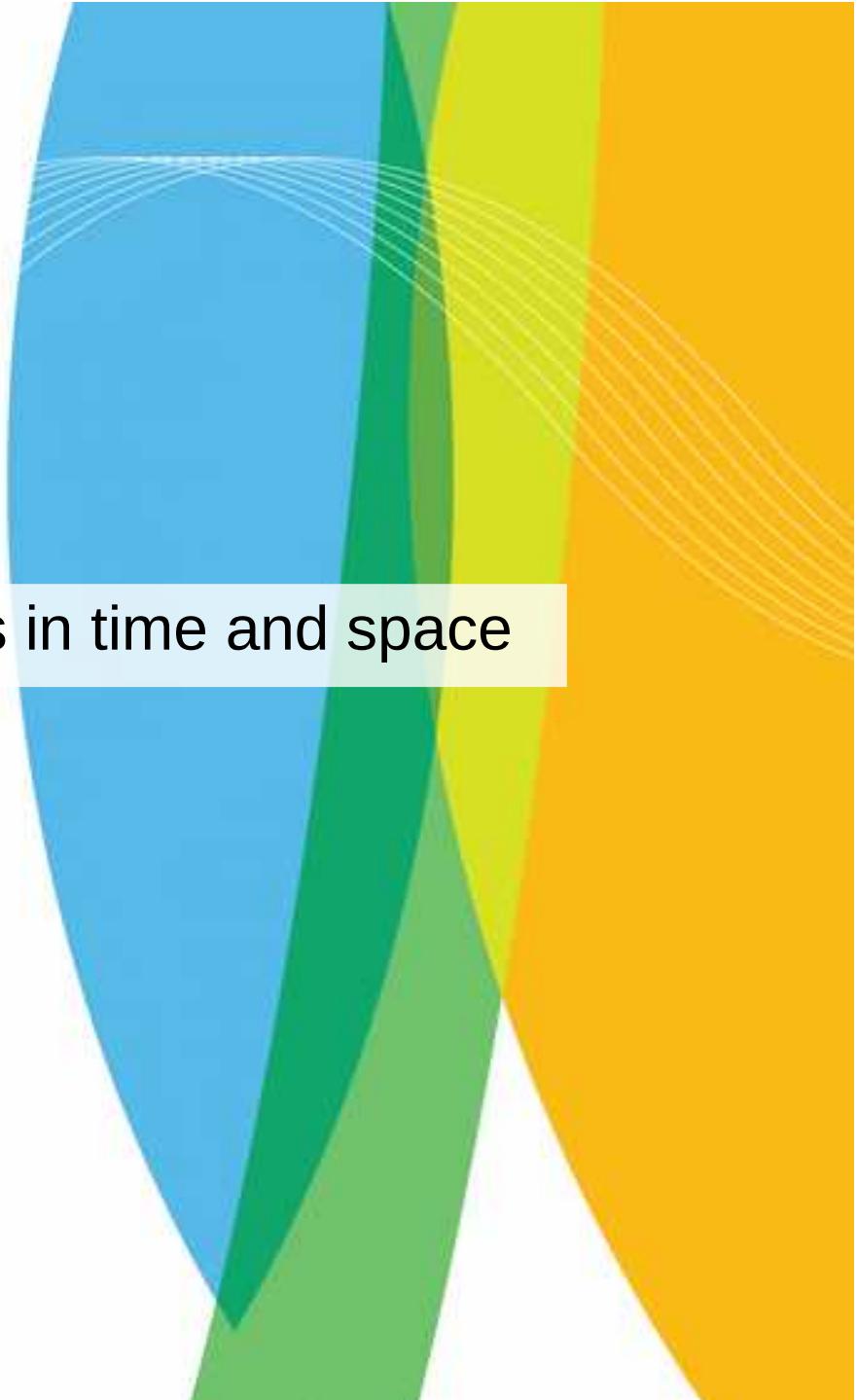


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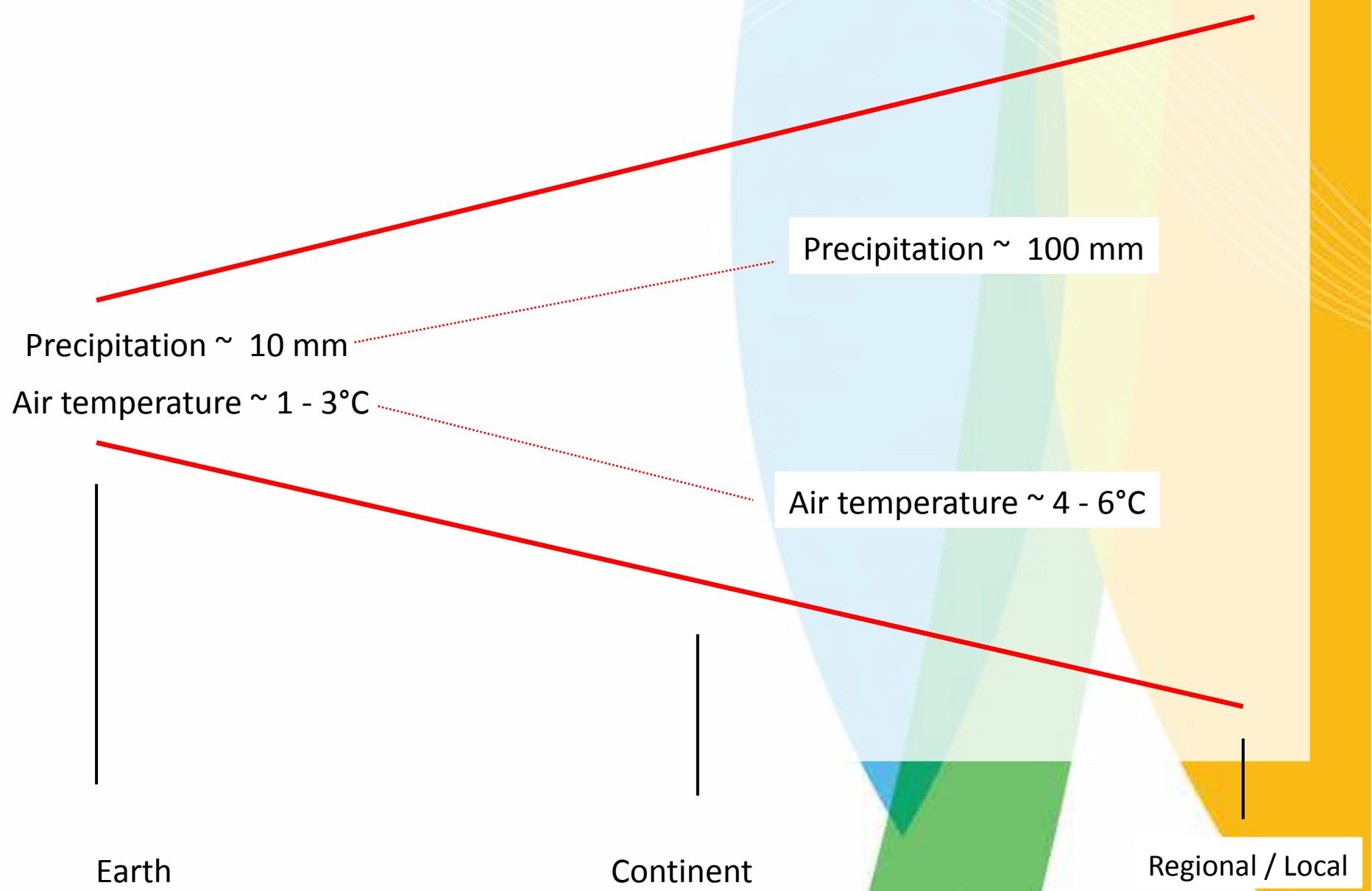
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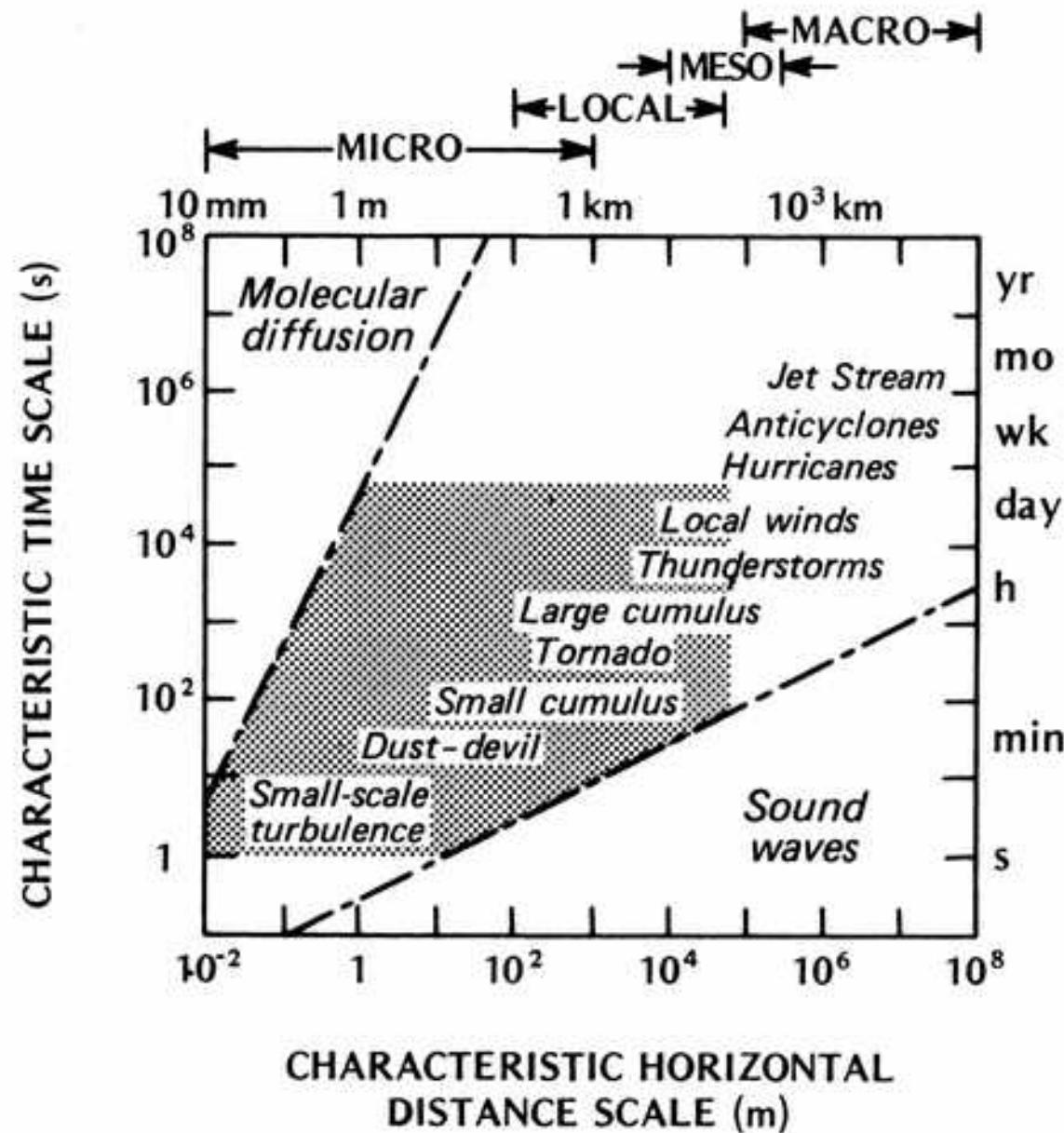
About climatological scales in time and space





About scaling ...





© T.R. Oke, Boundary layer climates, 1987, 4



Climate <-> Weather

Climate is the statistics (usually, mean or variability) of weather,
usually over a 30-year interval.

Standard normal period = 30-year period, defined by WMO, 1931 – 1960, 1961 – 1990,
1991 – 2020, ...

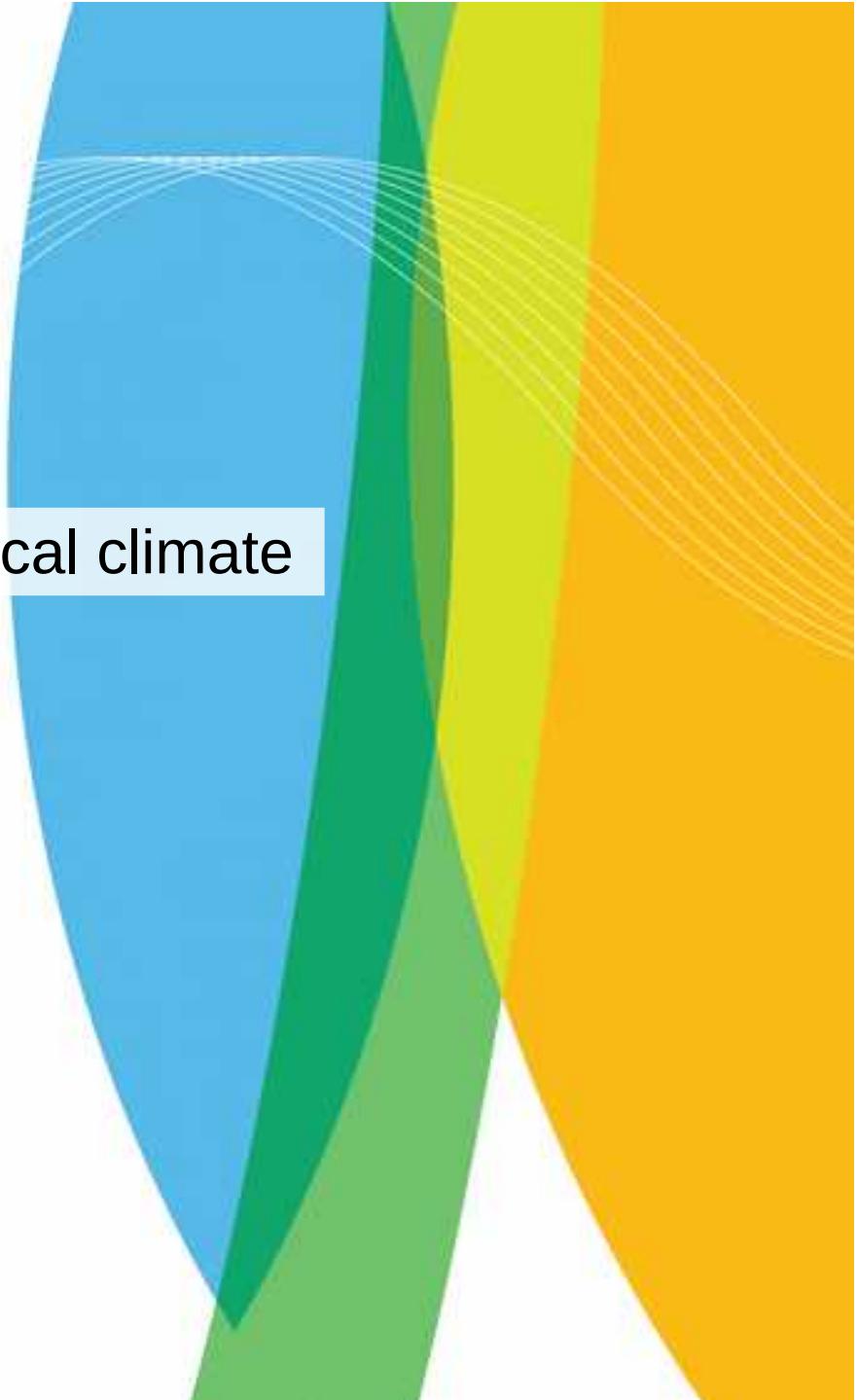
Normal period = 30-period, 1941 – 1970, 1951- 1980, 1961 – 1990, ...





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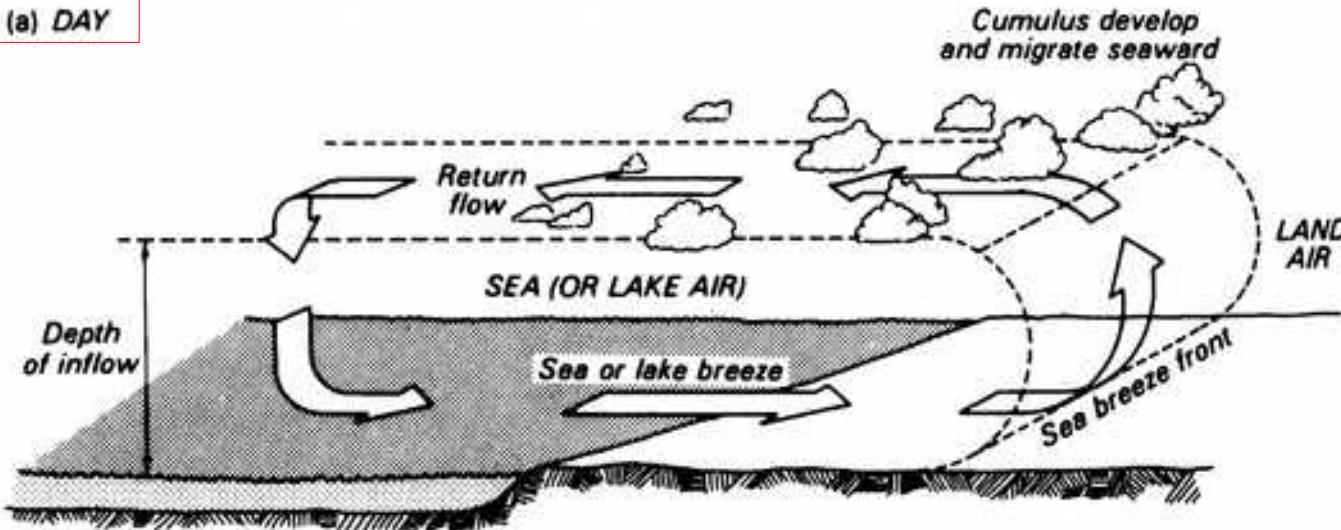
Downscaling from global to local climate





Land and sea breeze

(a) DAY



(b) NIGHT

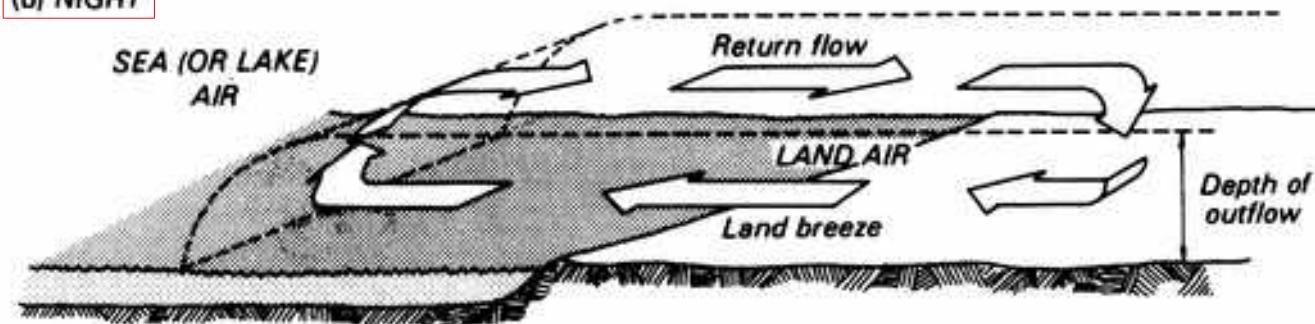
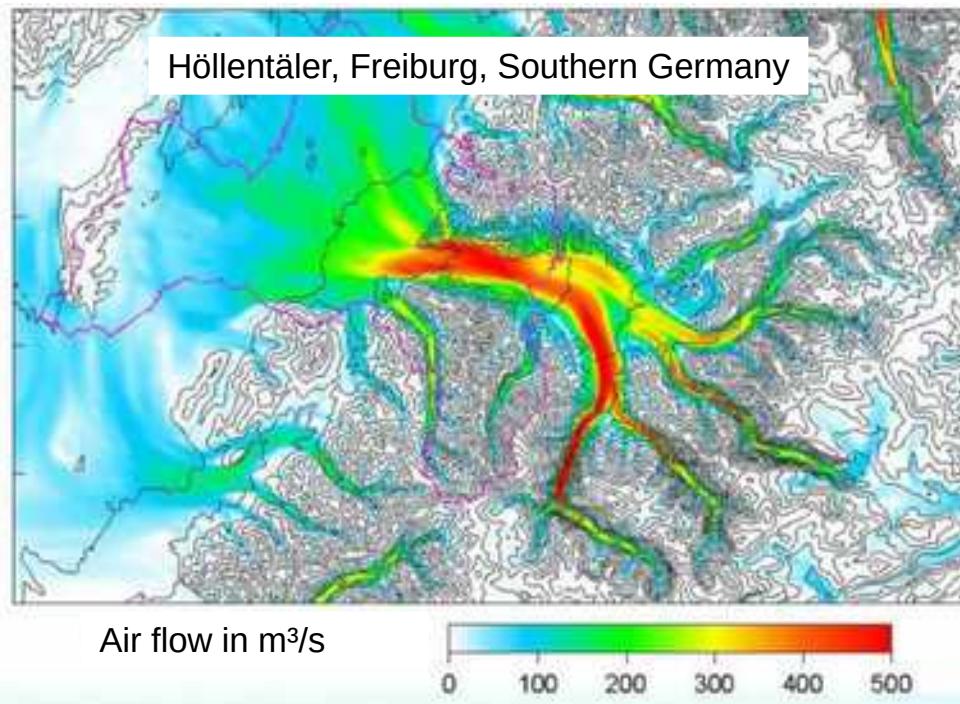
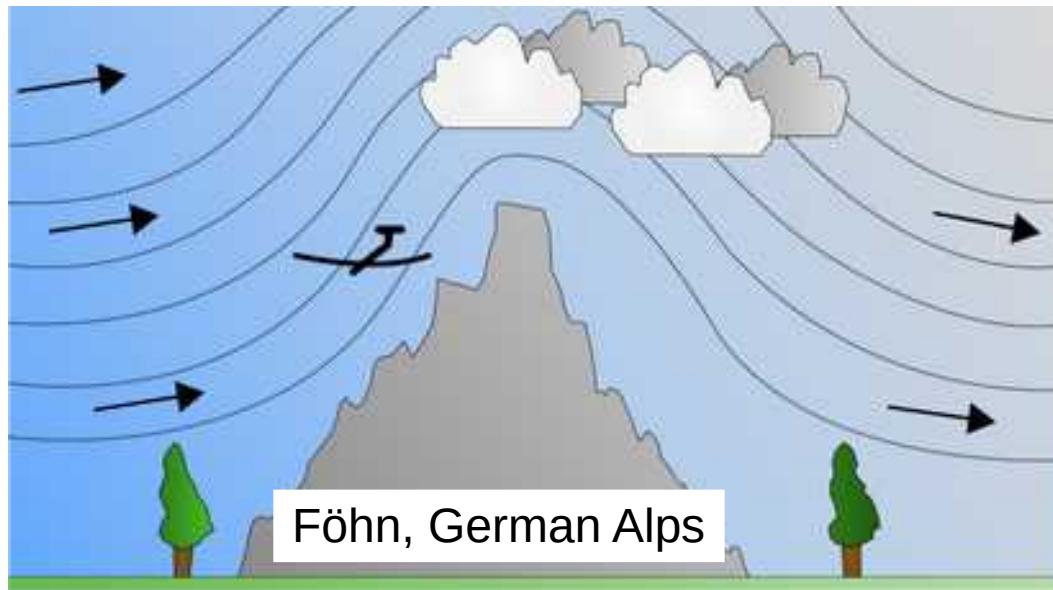


Figure 5.6 Land and sea (lake) breeze circulations across a shoreline (a) by day and (b) at night, during anticyclonic weather.



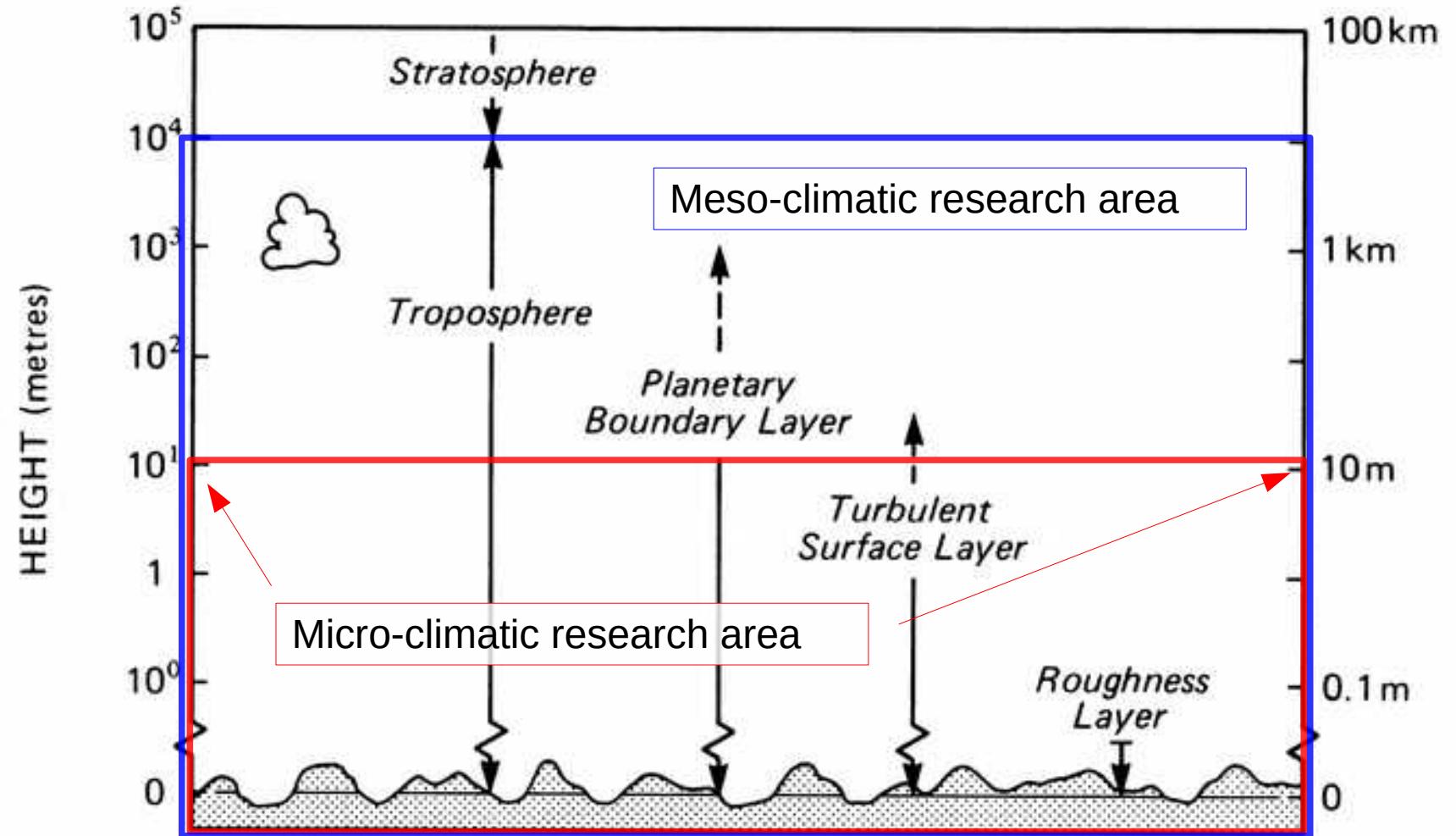


Figure 1.2 The vertical structure of the atmosphere.

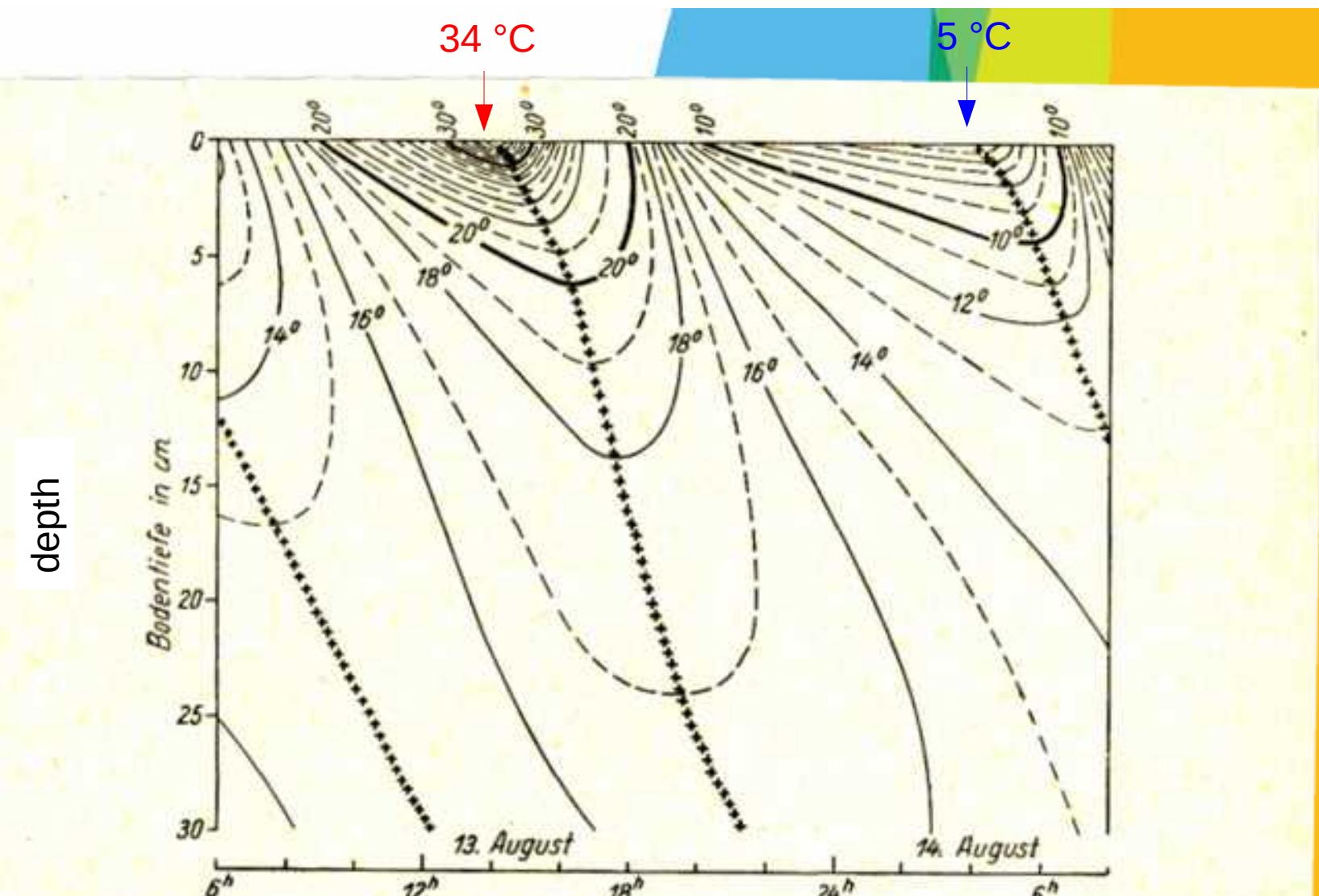


Abb. 20. Eindringen der täglichen Wärmewelle in den Boden an einen ungestörten Sommertag
(nach Beobachtungen von Th. Homén in Finnland)

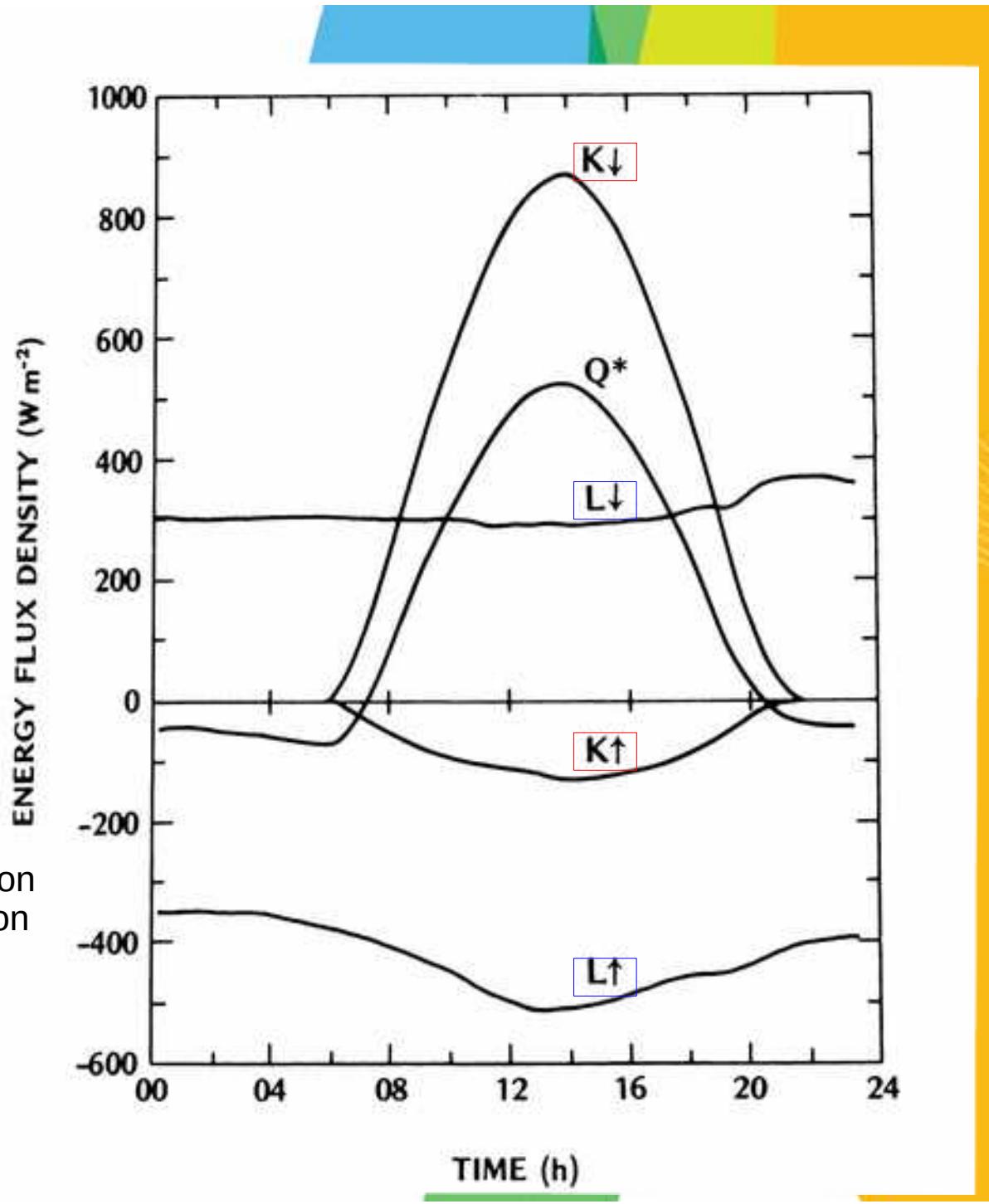
Soil temperature in Karjalohja, Finland, August 1893, Homén



Radiation budget components for 30 July 1971, at Matador, Saskatchewan (50 °N) over 0.2 m stand of native grass.
Cloudless skies in the morning, increasing cloud in the later afternoon and evening
(after Ripley and Redmann, 1976).

$K\downarrow$ = short-wave incoming solar radiation
 $K\uparrow$ = short-wave reflected solar radiation
 $L\downarrow$ = long-wave incoming radiation
 $L\uparrow$ = long-wave outgoing radiation

$$Q^* = K\downarrow - (K\uparrow + L\downarrow + L\uparrow)$$





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Quantifying the climate





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Automatic weather station sites (Finland, left; Germany, right)



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Air temperature



© Thermo-Schneider, www.thermo-schneider.de, 2016



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Climatological parameter based on air temperature observations

Averages: daily, monthly, seasonally, yearly, ...

Extremes: maxima, minima (daily, monthly, yearly, ...)

Number of days with

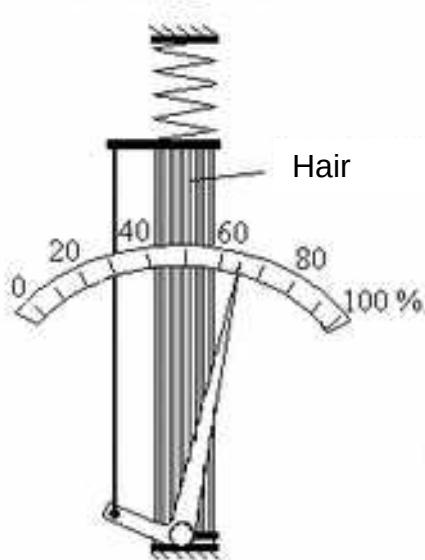
- $T_{min} < -10 \text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$, cold day
- $T_{min} < 0 \text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$, frost day
- $T_{min} > 20 \text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$, tropical night
- $T_{avg} < 0 \text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$, winterday
- $T_{max} < 0 \text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$, ice day
- $T_{max} > 25 \text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$, summerday
- $T_{max} > 30 \text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$, hot day
- $T_{avg} > 5 \text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$, growing season day
- $T_{avg} < 12/15 \text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$, heating day

Return periods

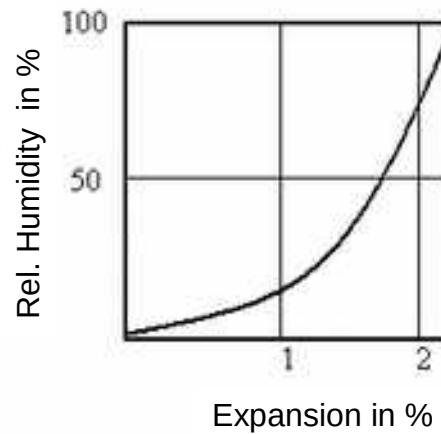
Humidity



Hair hygrometer



Expansion of the hair



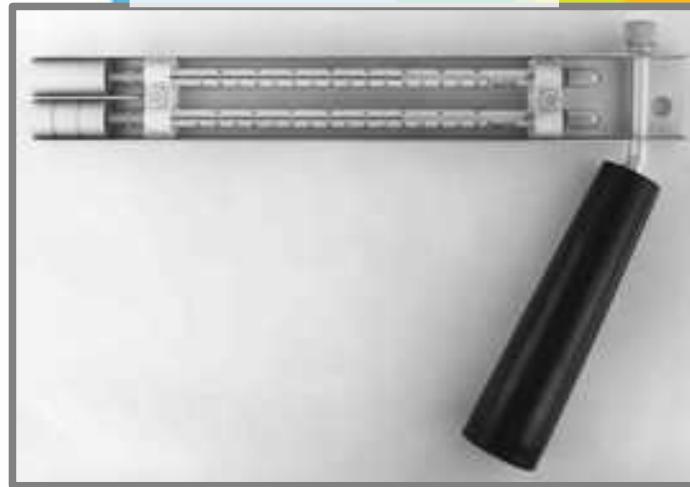
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Temperature and humidity sensor
(rotronic hygroscope DV-2)



© Harke, de.wikipedia.org, 2016

Sling thermometer



© Thermo-Schneider, 2016

Climatological parameter based on humidity observation – absolute, relative humidity



© Finnish Meteorological Institute, 2016

Wind, direction and speed



© DWD, 2016



© Gill instruments, 2016,
<https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=4668794>

Climatological parameter based on wind observation

Averages: daily, monthly, seasonally, yearly, ...

Extremes: maxima, minima (daily, monthly, yearly, ...)

Number of days with wind speed ≥ 8 Beaufort, > 21 m/s

Precipitation – rain and snow

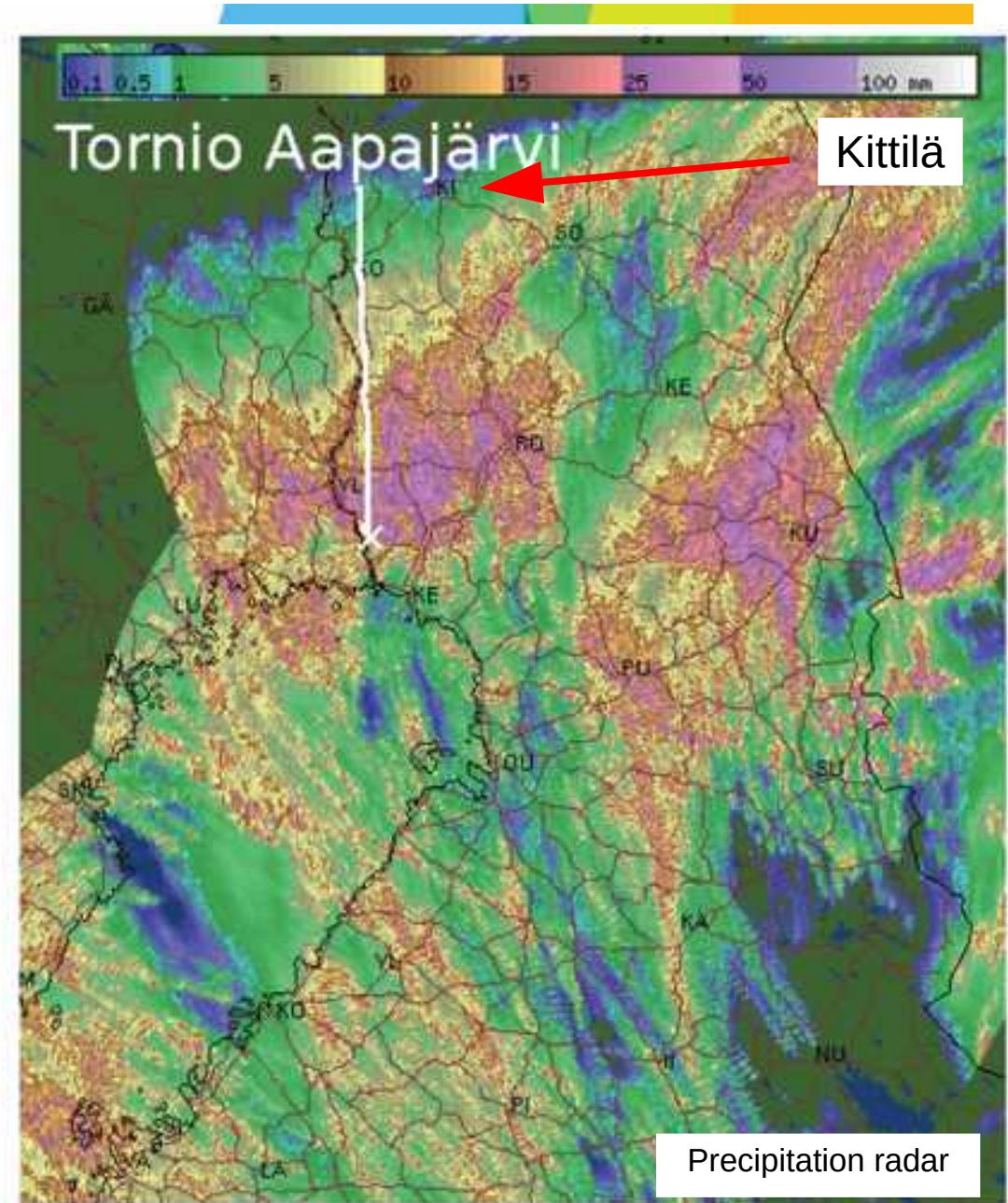


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© wikipedia, 2014

weighing-type precipitation gauge



© Finnish Meteorological Institute, 2011

Heavy rain event in Northern Finland, 24.7.2011,
121.3 mm measured at Tornio Aapajärvi



Climatological parameter based on precipitation observations

Sums: daily, monthly, seasonally, yearly, ...

Extremes: maxima (daily, monthly, yearly, ...)

Number of days with

- $R > 0.0 \text{ mm}$
- $R \geq 1.0 \text{ mm}$
- $R \geq 10.0 \text{ mm}$
- $R \geq 20.0 \text{ mm}$, heavy rain

Thunderstorm

Number of days with precipitation **less** than xx mm, dry spell
more than xx mm

Return periods

Precipitation – rain and snow



Snow stick

© Finnish Meteorological Institute, 2016



Ultra-sonic sensor

© Finnish Meteorological Institute, 2016





Climatological parameter based on snow cover observations

Sums: snow cover monthly, seasonally, yearly, ...

Extremes: maxima snow depth (daily, monthly, yearly, ...)

Number of days with snow cover

Date of first snowfall

Date of first snow cover (depth > 1 cm)

Start of permanent snow cover, end of permanent snow cover (depth > 1 cm)

Date of ground snow free in open and forested areas

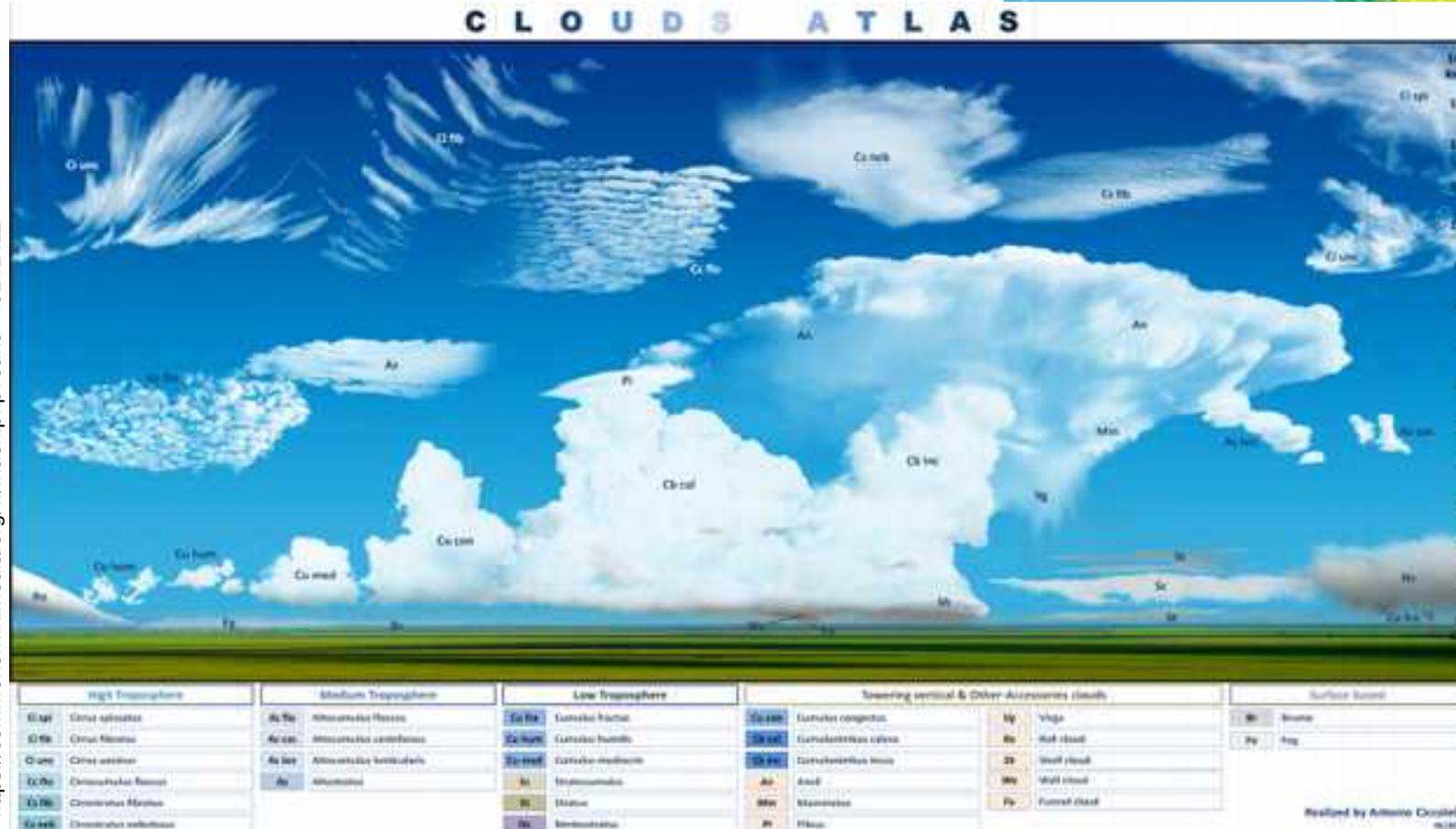
Snow density and water equivalent measurement

Return periods



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Cloudiness and visibility



Ceilometer



© Finnish Meteorological Institute, 2016

Present weather sensor



© Finnish Meteorological Institute, 2016

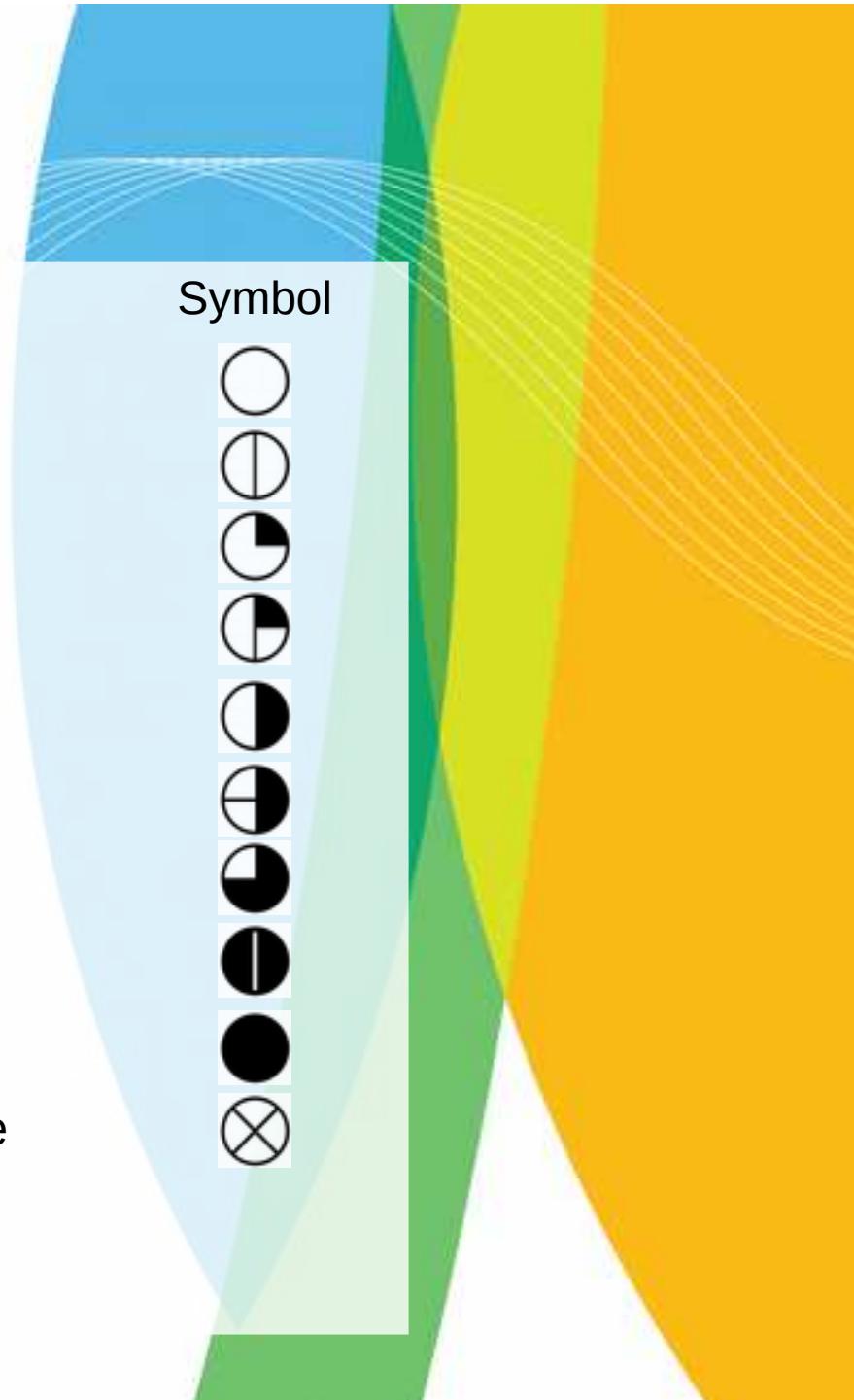


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Cloud cover

0/8	...
1/8	sunny
2/8	partly cloudy
3/8	partly cloudy
4/8	partly cloudy
5/8	partly cloudy
6/8	cloudy
7/8	cloudy
8/8	overcast
9/8	sky not visible

Symbol



Climatological parameter based on cloudiness and visibility observations

Sums: cloud cover daily, monthly, seasonally, yearly, ...

Number of days with clear sky, cloudy sky
fog

Visibility measurements in miles, km, using land marks (lights at night)

Observation of cloud types and cloud heights, aeronomically purpose

Return periods



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Solar short-wave radiation

Terrestrial long-wave radition

....

Radiosonde, T, RH, p, wind

Satellites

....

Air pressure, p

Evapotranspiration



Radiosonde launch

© <http://www.zfx.de/sonde/>

Net radiometer



GEOS – 8, US – weather satellite

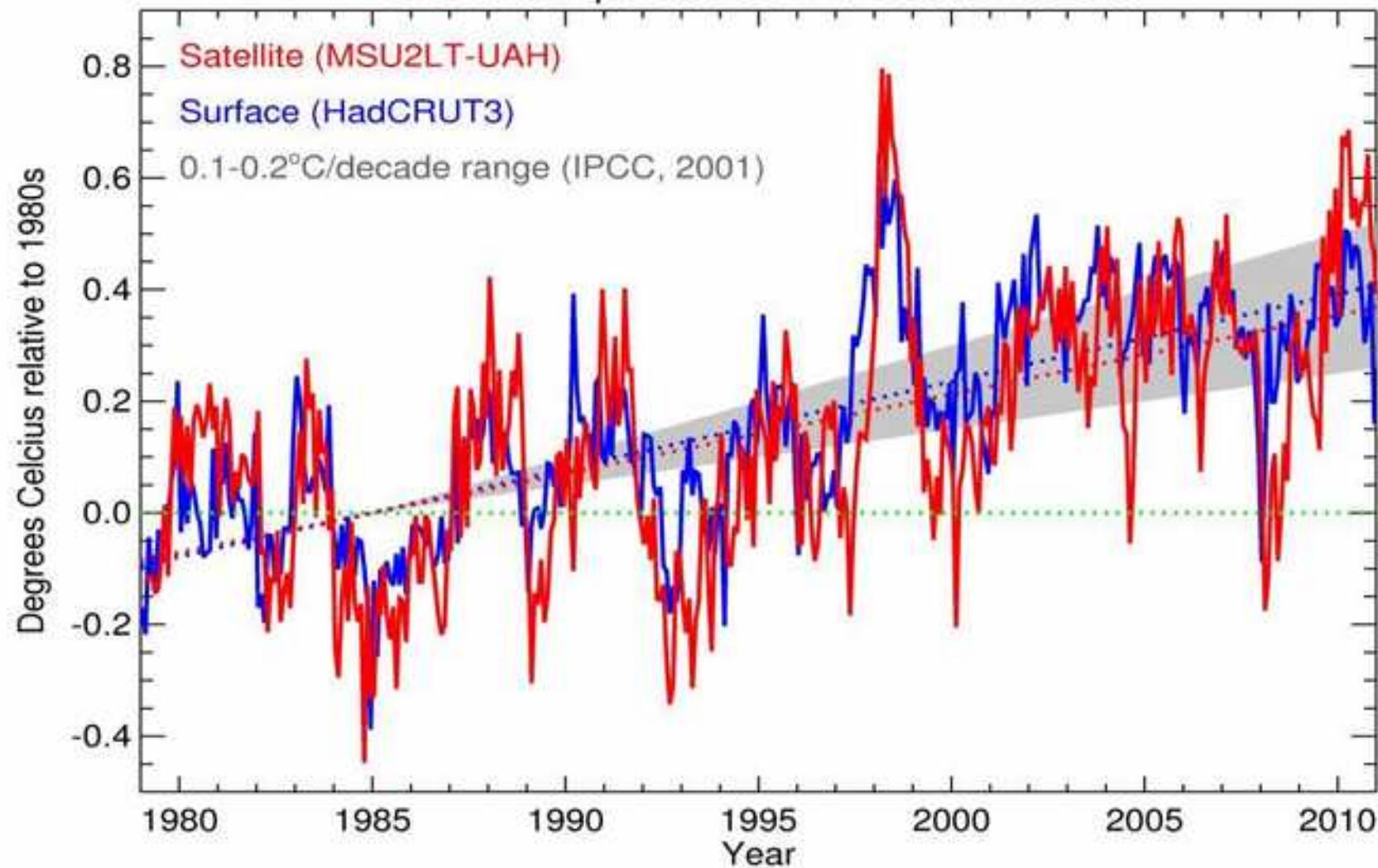
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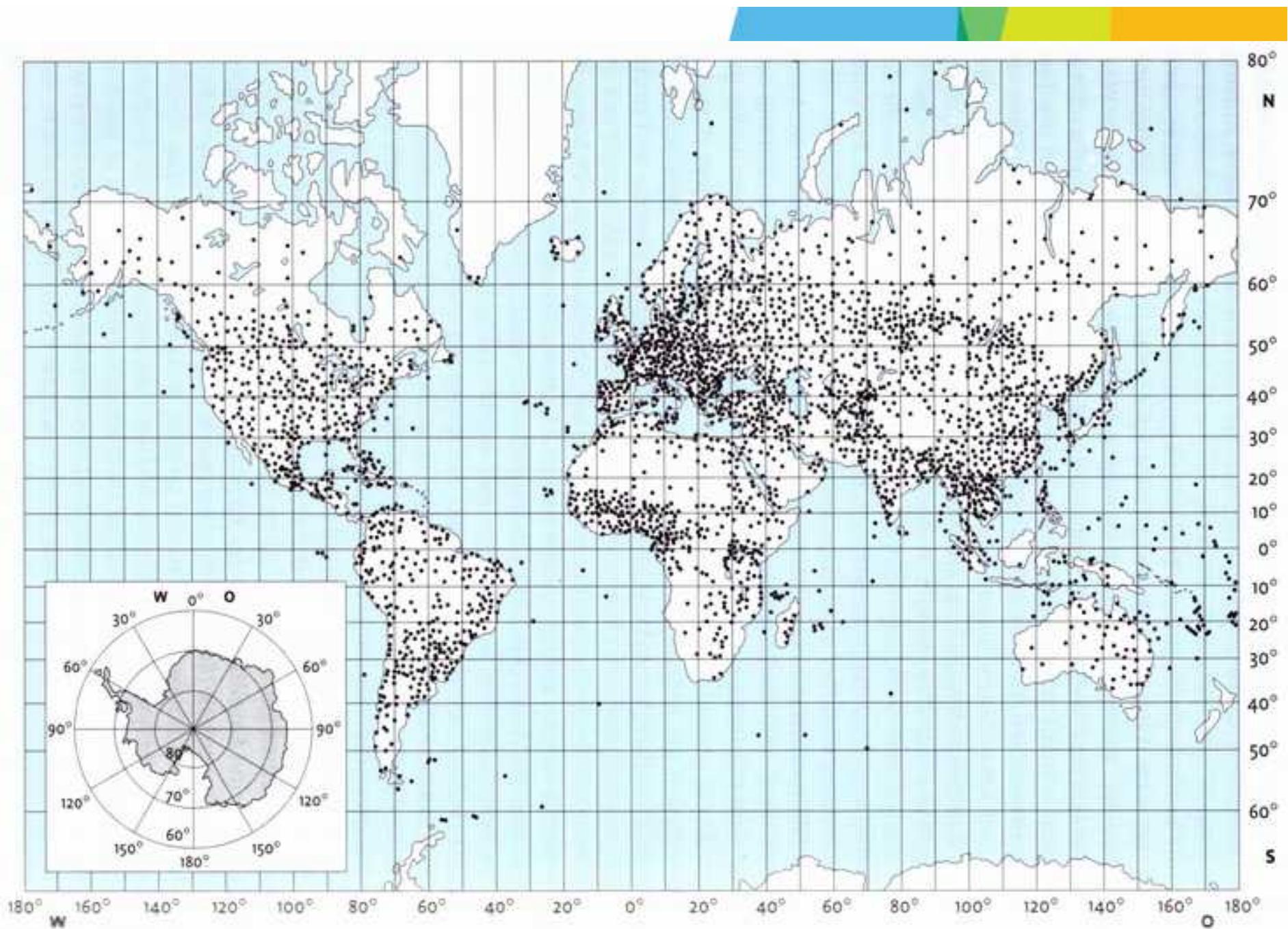
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Global temperatures in the satellite era





Global network of ground weather station, after WMO 1981

In: Schönwiese (2008), Klimatologie, UTB 1793, page 88



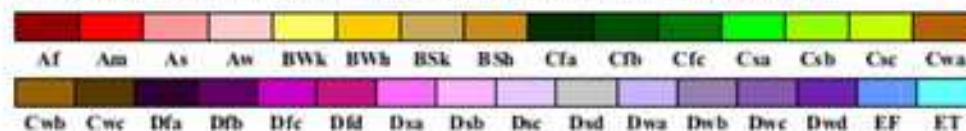
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Climate classification



World Map of Köppen–Geiger Climate Classification

updated with CRU TS 2.1 temperature and VASClimo v1.1 precipitation data **1951 to 2000**



Main climates

- A: equatorial
- B: arid
- C: warm temperate
- D: snow
- E: polar

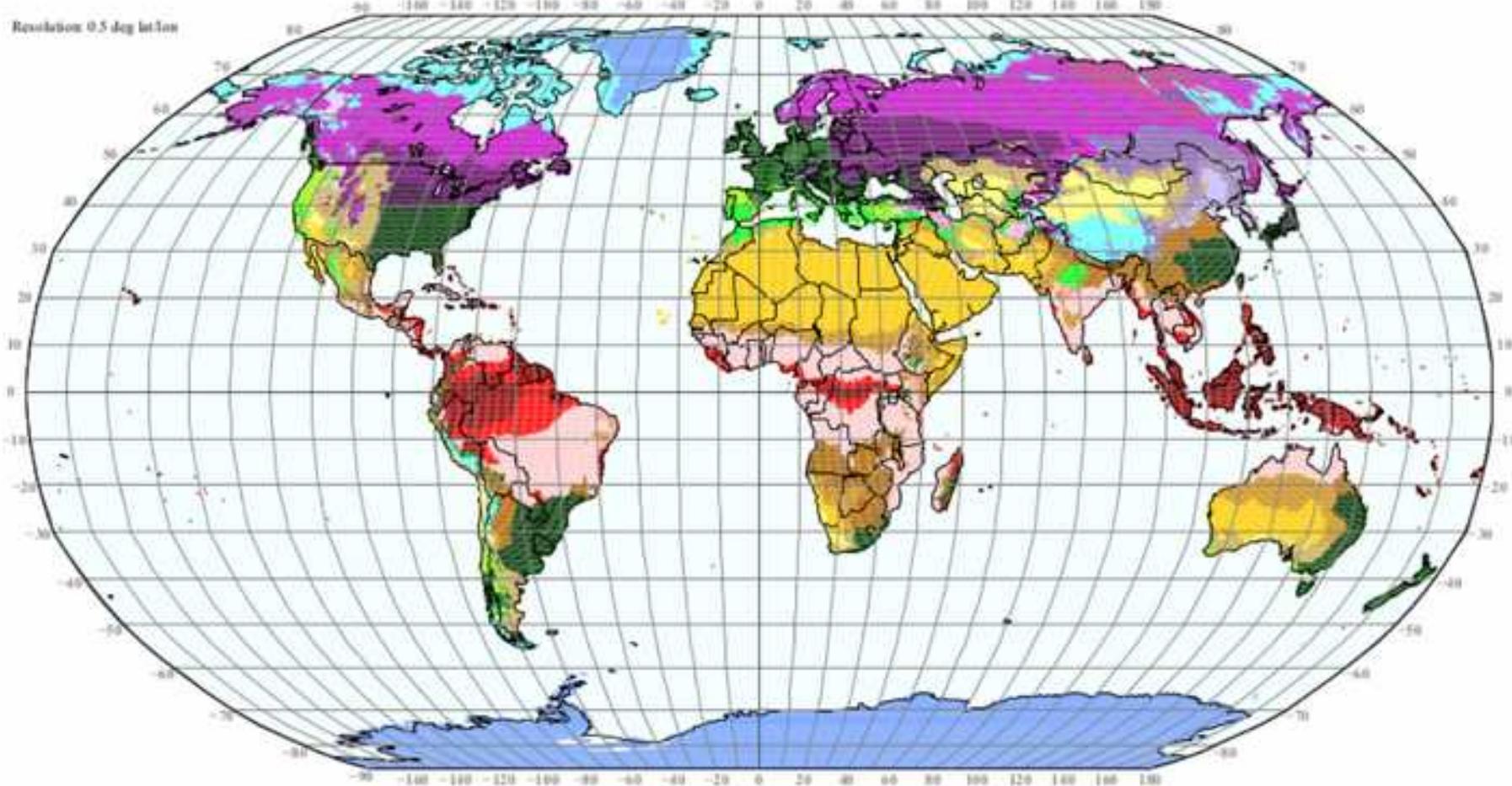
Precipitation

- W: desert
- S: steppe
- f: fully humid
- s: summer dry
- w: winter dry
- m: monsoonal

Temperature

- h: hot arid
- k: cold arid
- a: hot summer
- b: warm summer
- c: cool summer
- d: extremely continental
- F: polar frost
- T: polar tundra

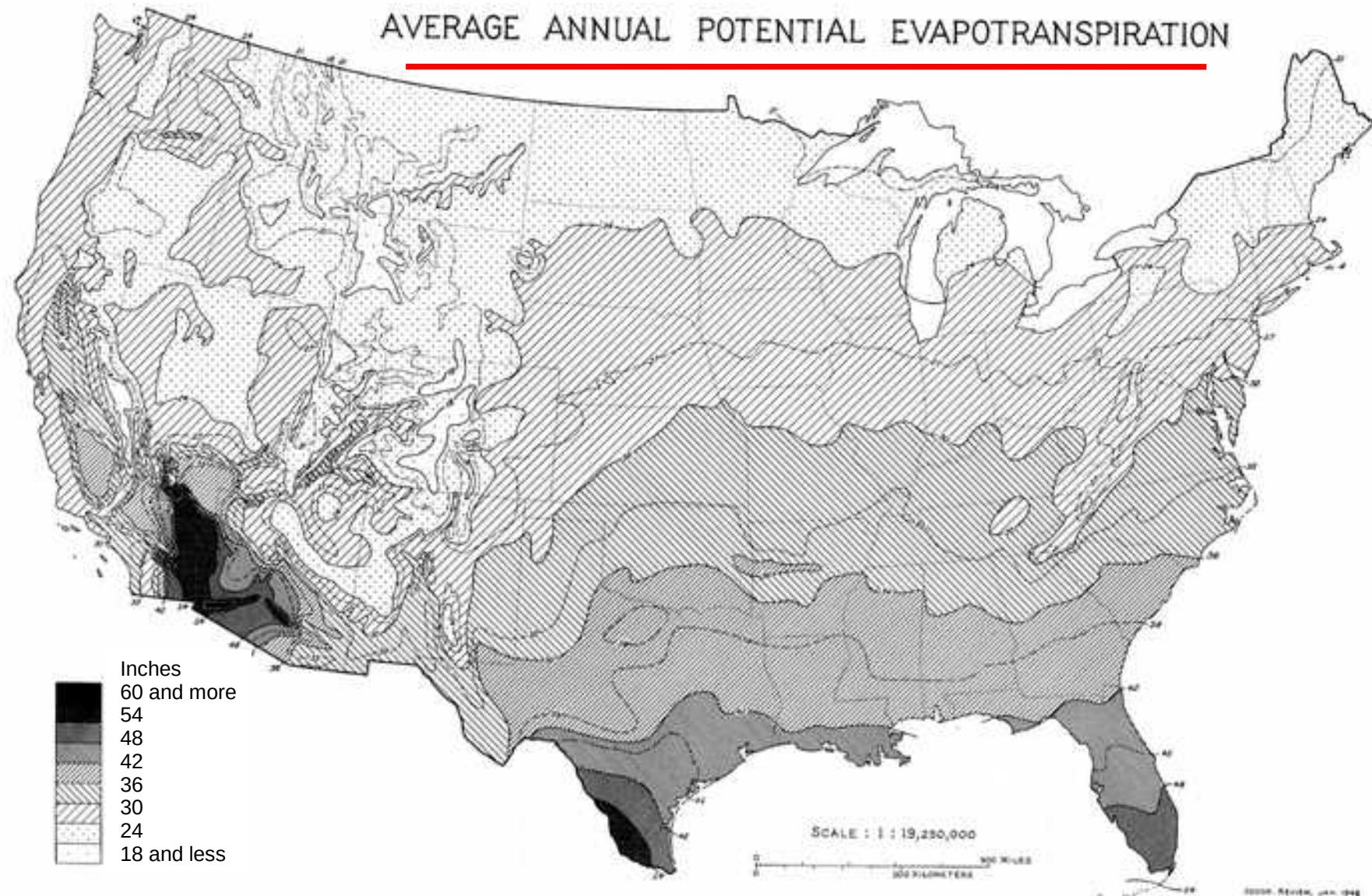
Resolution: 0.5 deg latitude

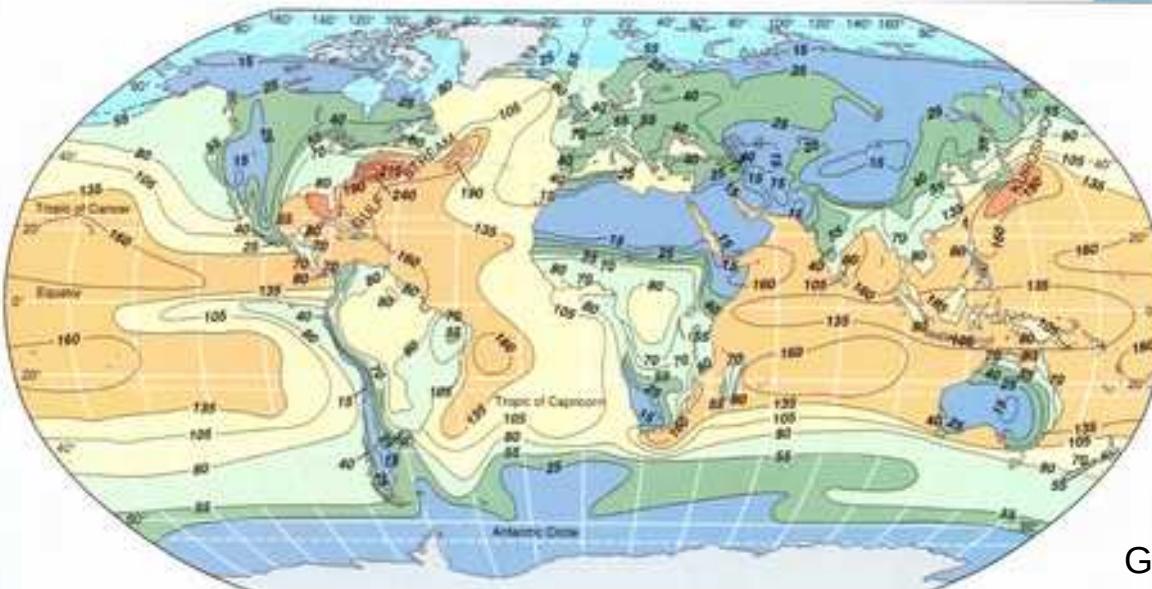


Climate classification



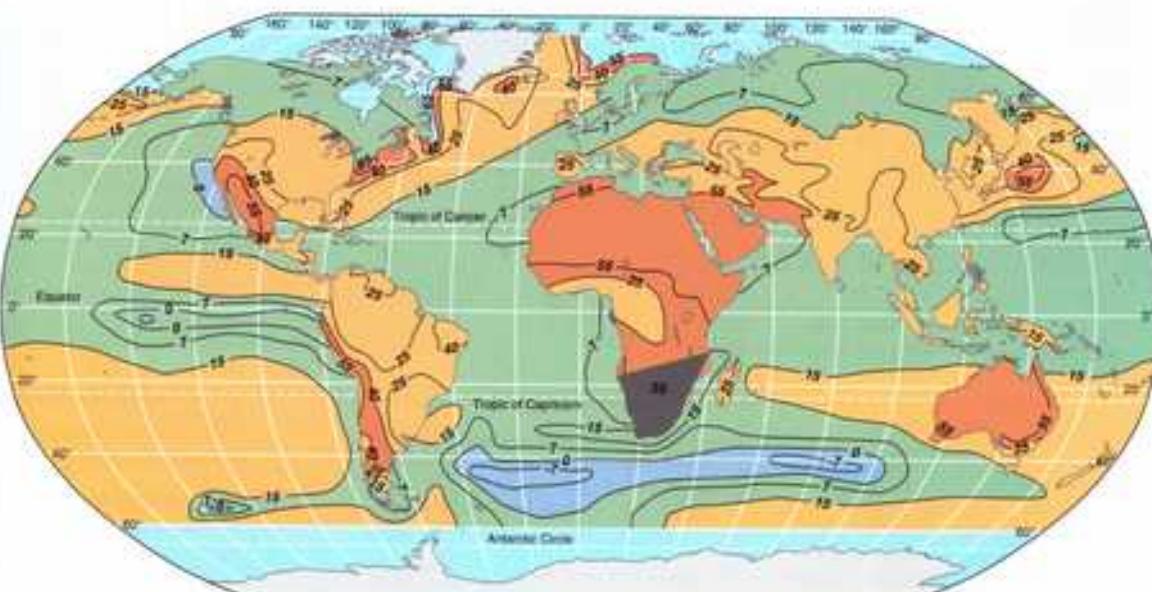
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15 25 55 80 135 180 240
Watts per square meter

0 1,500 3,000 MILES
0 1,500 3,000 KILOMETERS
ROBINSON PROJECTION



-7 0 15 40 65
Watts per square meter

0 1,500 3,000 MILES
0 1,500 3,000 KILOMETERS
ROBINSON PROJECTION

Genetic climate systems

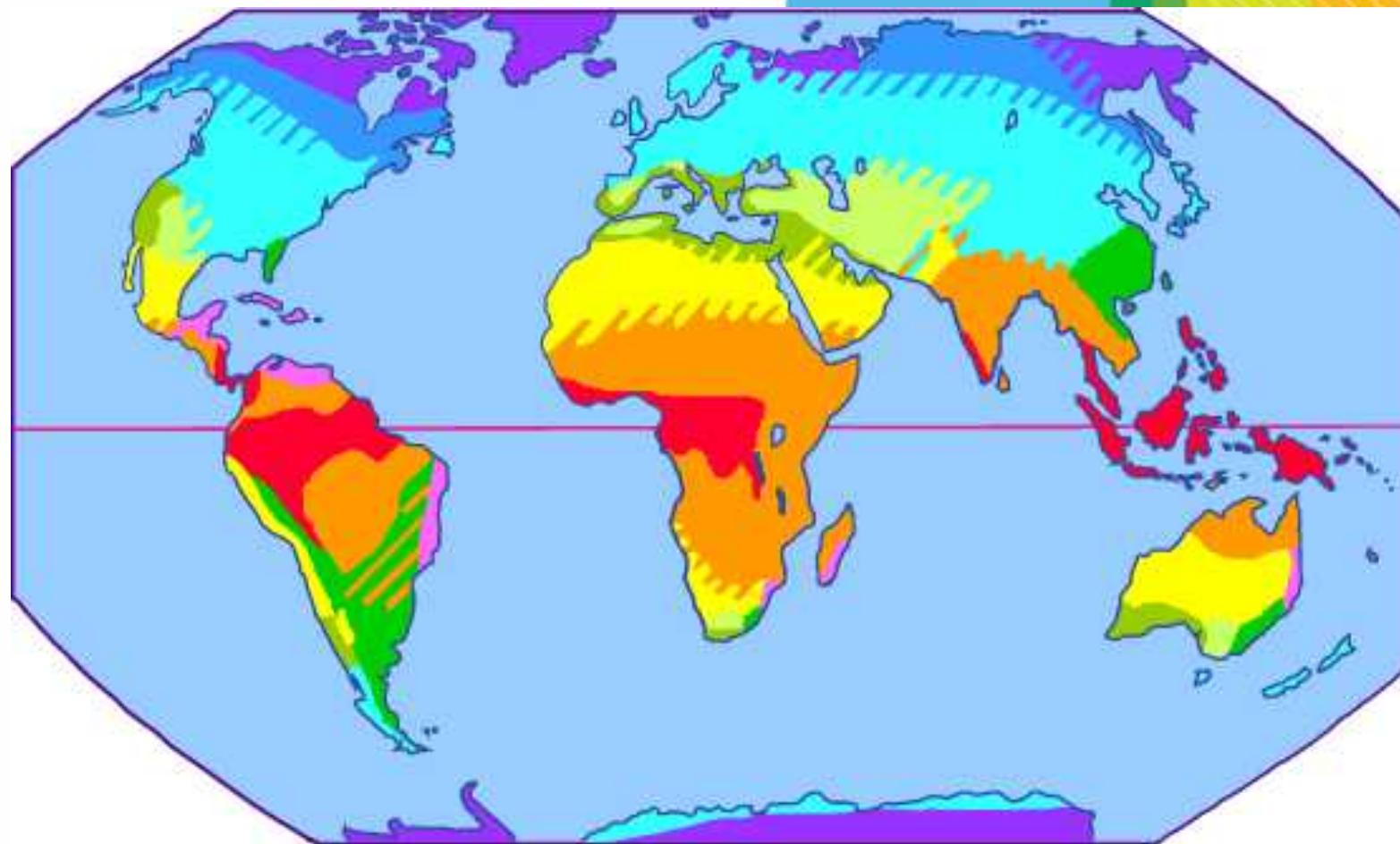
Global heat of evaporation

Global sensible heat (Christopherson R.W., Geosystems, 4e, 1999, Prentice Hall)



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Genetic climate systems



Flohn, 1950

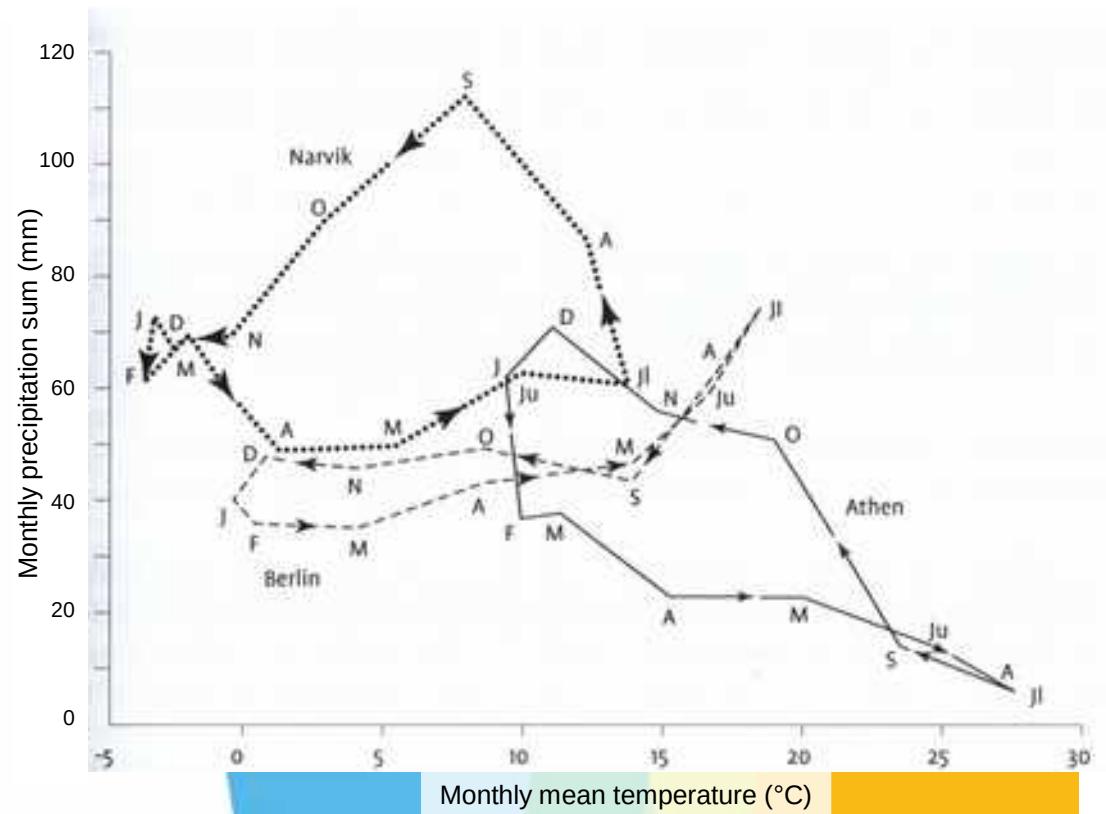
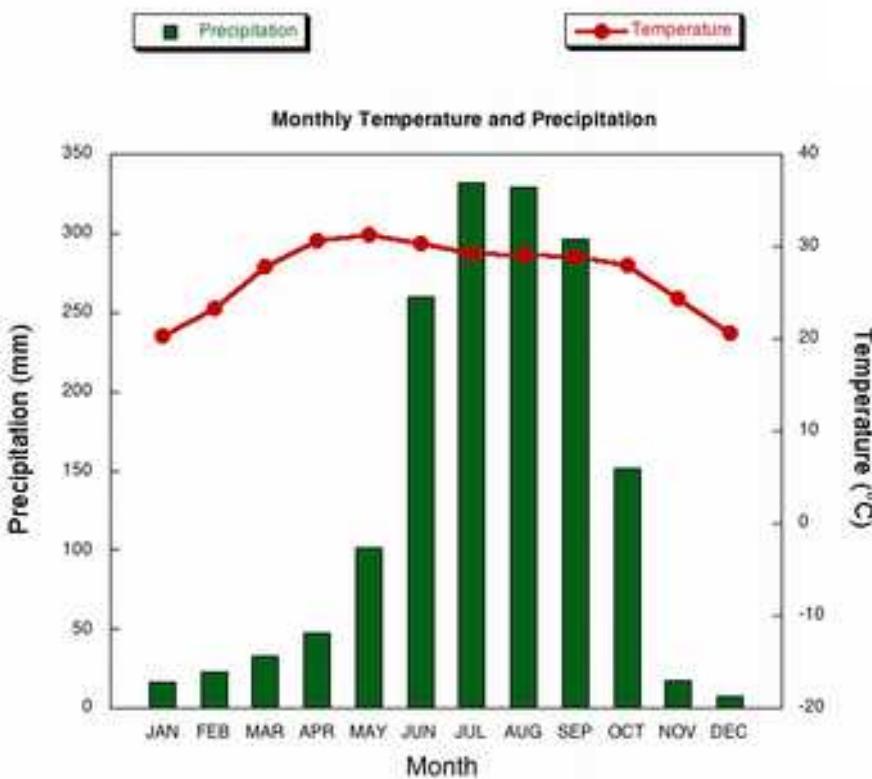
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Climatological synopsis

Climatological diagrams



Index of continentality
maritime/continental climate

W. Gorczynski (1920): $K_G = 1.7 * (A_J / \sin\phi) - 20.4$



Climate data – **historic**, synoptic, re-analysed, satellite, radar

Wind - air temperature - air pressure

Climate data – historic, **synoptic**, re-analysed, satellite, radar

Synoptic weather 'telegram' from every operational weather station in the world

```
IIiii or IIIII YYGGGi 99LLL QLLLL
iihVV Nddff 00fff 1sTTT 2sTTT 3PPPP 4PPPP 5appp 6RRRt 7wwWW
8NCCC 9GGgg
222Dv 0sTTT 1PPHH 2PPHH 3dddd 4PPHH 5PPHH 6IEER 70HHH 8aTTT
333 0.... 1sTTT 2sTTT 3Ejjj 4Esss 5jjjj jjjjj 6RRRt 7RRRR
8Nchh 9SSss
```

Code explanation: <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/SYNOP>

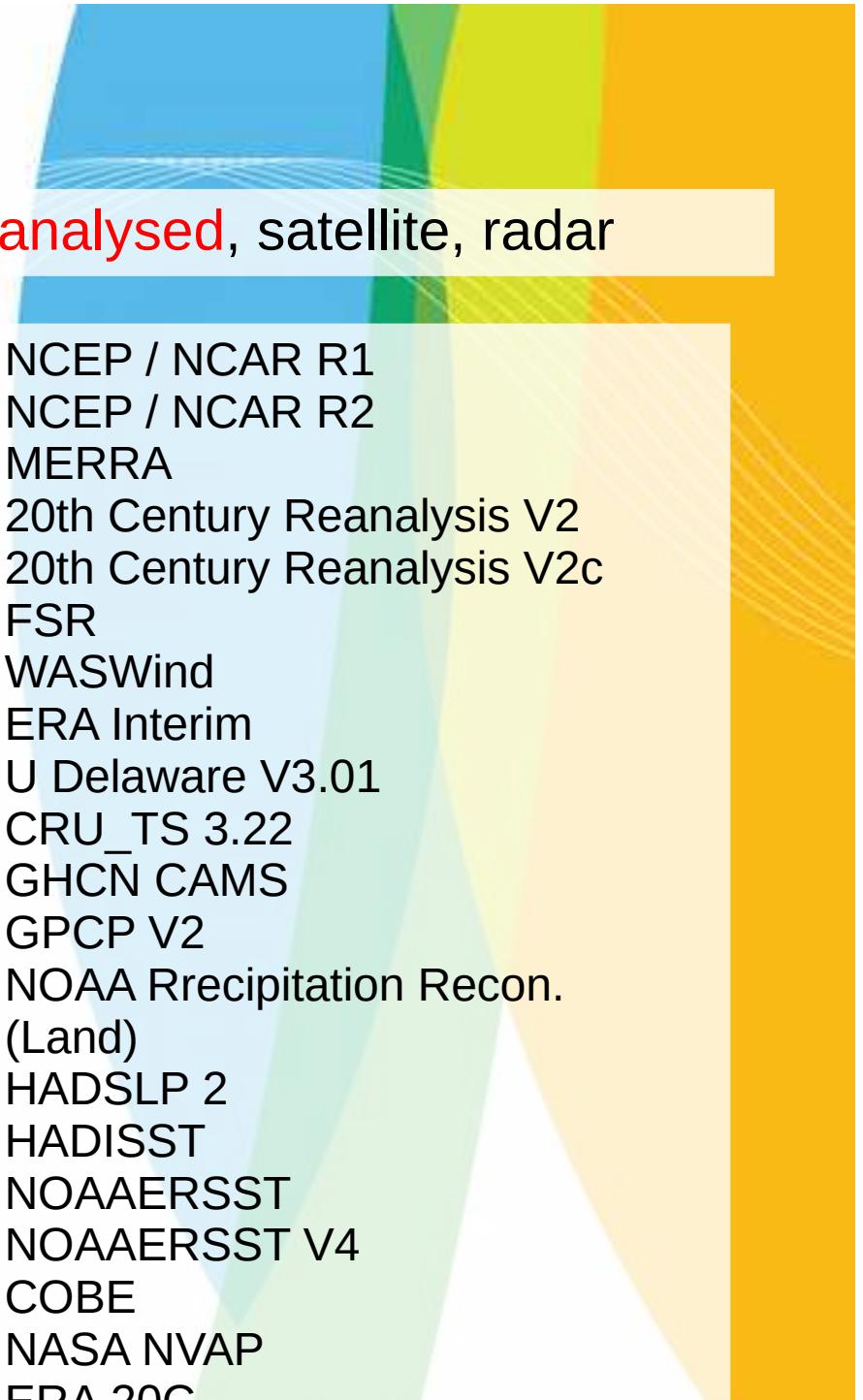
Vary sources also available over the internet.

No history!

Climate data – historic, synoptic, **re-analysed**, satellite, radar

Some sources of re-analysed
climatological data:

Name of the re-analysed data sets



NCEP / NCAR R1
NCEP / NCAR R2
MERRA
20th Century Reanalysis V2
20th Century Reanalysis V2c
FSR
WASWind
ERA Interim
U Delaware V3.01
CRU_TS 3.22
GHCN CAMS
GPCP V2
NOAA Recipitation Recon.
(Land)
HADSPL 2
HADISST
NOAAERSST
NOAAERSST V4
COBE
NASA NVAP
ERA 20C



Climate data – historic, synoptic, re-analysed, satellite, radar

The screenshot shows a web browser window for the ERA Interim, Daily dataset. The URL is apps.ecmwf.int/datasets/data/interim-full-daily/levtype=sfc/. The page title is "ERA Interim, Daily".

The left sidebar contains a navigation menu with the following sections:

- Type of level
 - Model levels
 - Potential temperature
 - Potential vorticity
 - Pressure levels
 - Surface
- ERA Interim Fields
 - Daily
 - Invariant
 - Synoptic Monthly Means
 - Monthly Means of Daily Means
 - Monthly Means of Daily Forecast Accumulations
- About
 - Conditions of use
 - Documentation
- Navigation
 - Public Datasets
 - Job list
- See also...
 - Access Public Datasets
 - General FAQ
 - WebAPI FAQ
 - Accessing forecasts
 - GRIB decoder

The main content area is titled "Select date" and displays a date range selector from 1979-01-01 to 2015-12-31. Below this is a section titled "Select a list of months" which shows a grid of checkboxes for selecting specific months. The grid has two sets of headers: "Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec" and "Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec". The grid contains numerous checkboxes, many of which are checked, indicating selected months.



Climate data – historic, synoptic, **re-analysed**, satellite, radar

ERA Interim, Daily - Iceweasel

Daten Bearbeiten Ansicht Chronik Lesezeichen Extras Hilfe

www.drebs.fi ERA-Interim, Daily app.ecmwf.int/datasets/data/interim-full-daily/levtype=sfc/ ERA-Interim daily

Meistbesucht

Select time
 000000 060000 120000 180000

Select All or Clear

Select step
 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 12

Select All or Clear

Select parameter

2 metre depth temperature
 10 metre U wind component
 10 metre V wind component
 Altitude
 Boundary layer height
 Cloud sky surface photometrically active radiation
 Convective precipitation
 Downward UV radiation at the surface
 Downward turbulent surface stress
 Forecast winds
 Forecast surface roughness
 High cloud cover
 Ice temperature layer 2
 Ice temperature layer 4
 Instantaneous moisture flux
 Instantaneous surface sensible heat flux
 Large-scale precipitation fraction
 Logarithm of surface roughness length for heat
 Maximum temperature at 2 metres since previous post-processing
 Mean wave direction
 Medium cloud cover
 Northward gravity wave surface stress
 Net downward radiatively active radiation at the surface
 Sea surface temperature
 Significant height of combined wind waves and swell
 Skin temperature
 Snow albedo
 Soil moisture
 Soil reservoir content
 Wind speed



Climate data – historic, synoptic, **re-analysed**, satellite, radar

ERA Interim, Daily – Icesheet

Datei Bearbeiten Ansicht Chronik Lesezeichen Extras Hilfe

www.drebs.fi ERA Interim, Daily

apps.ecmwf.int/datasets/data/interim-full-daily/nty/prmslf/ ERA-interim daily

Meistbesucht

Surface net thermal radiation

- Surface pressure
- Surface net solar radiation
- Surface net thermal radiation
- Surface net thermal radiation clear sky
- Surface net thermal radiation cloudy sky
- Total column ice water
- Total column ozone
- Total column water vapour
- Vertical integral of cloud frozen water
- Vertical integral of divergence of cloud frozen water flux
- Vertical integral of divergence of geopotential flux
- Vertical integral of divergence of mass flux
- Vertical integral of divergence of ozone flux
- Vertical integral of divergence of total energy flux
- Vertical integral of eastward cloud liquid water flux
- Vertical integral of eastward heat flux
- Vertical integral of eastward mass flux
- Vertical integral of eastward total energy flux
- Vertical integral of energy conversion
- Vertical integral of mass of atmosphere
- Vertical integral of northward cloud frozen water flux
- Vertical integral of northward geopotential flux
- Vertical integral of northward kinetic energy flux
- Vertical integral of northward mass flux
- Vertical integral of northward total energy flux
- Vertical integral of ozone
- Vertical integral of potential internal energy
- Vertical integral of temperature
- Vertical integral of total energy
- Volumetric soil water layer 1
- Volumetric soil water layer 2

Surface net thermal radiation clear sky

- Surface roughness
- Surface solar radiation downwards
- Total column solar radiation
- Top net solar radiation
- Top net thermal radiation
- Total cloud cover
- Total column cloud water
- Total column water
- Total precipitation
- Vertical integral of cloud liquid water
- Vertical integral of divergence of cloud liquid water flux
- Vertical integral of divergence of kinetic energy flux
- Vertical integral of divergence of moisture flux
- Vertical integral of divergence of thermal energy flux
- Vertical integral of eastward cloud frozen water flux
- Vertical integral of eastward geopotential flux
- Vertical integral of eastward kinetic energy flux
- Vertical integral of eastward ozone flux
- Vertical integral of eastward water vapour flux
- Vertical integral of kinetic energy
- Vertical integral of mass tendency
- Vertical integral of northward cloud liquid water flux
- Vertical integral of northward heat flux
- Vertical integral of northward mass flux
- Vertical integral of northward total energy flux
- Vertical integral of ozone
- Vertical integral of potential internal latent energy
- Vertical integral of thermal energy
- Vertical integral of water vapour
- Volumetric soil water layer 3
- Volumetric soil water layer 4

Select All or Clear

View the MARS request Retrieve GRIB Retrieve NetCDF

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Climate data – historic, synoptic, **re-analysed**, satellite, radar

The screenshot shows two windows of the ECMWF Climate Data Store interface. Both windows have a blue header bar with the ECMWF logo and navigation links: About, Forecasts, Computing, Research, Learning, Navigation, Public Datasets, Job Site, and Home/Chart dashboard/Contact.

Left Window: This window displays the "Additional filtering" page. It shows a form with the following settings:

- Source: Atmospheric model
- Parameter: 2-metre temperature, Mean sea level pressure
- Dataset: interim_daly
- Step: 1
- Horizon: 3
- Type of level: Surface
- Time: 00-00-00, 06-00-00, 12-00-00, 18-00-00
- Date: 1979-01-01/1979-12-31
- Type: Analysis
- Class: ERA-Interim

Below the form, it says "The request will be done using the following attributes:" followed by "Area: Default area selected (Europe)" and "Grid: 0.75x0.75 (mmap)". There is a "Request now" button at the bottom.

Right Window: This window shows the results of the request. It has a "Request abstract" section with the following details:

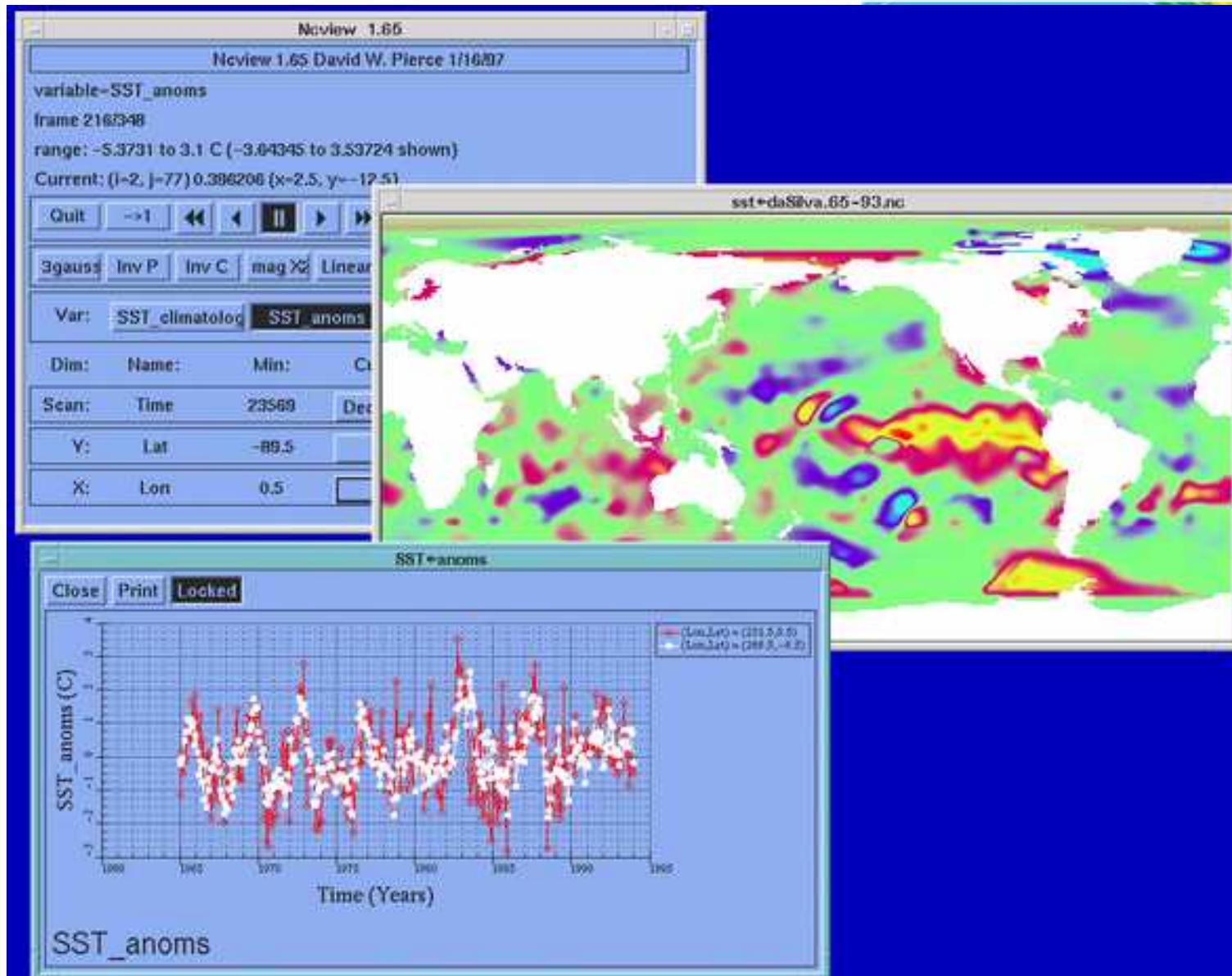
- Atmospheric model: Surface, 1, interim_daly, 0.75x0.75, 2-metre Temperature, Mean sea level pressure, 00 UTC, 06 UTC, 12 UTC, 18 UTC, 1979-01-01...1979-12-31, Analysis, ERA interim
- The status of the request is: **complete**
- A red link labeled "Download (6.44, 3MB)" is present.

Both windows also show a "Most visited" sidebar on the left and a "Navigation" sidebar on the right.



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Using the
Ncview - software

Climate data – historic, synoptic, re-analysed, **satellite**, radar

Satellite Data Access by Dataset <https://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/data-access/satellite-data/satellite-data-access-datasets>

Satellite Data Access by Satellite and Instrument

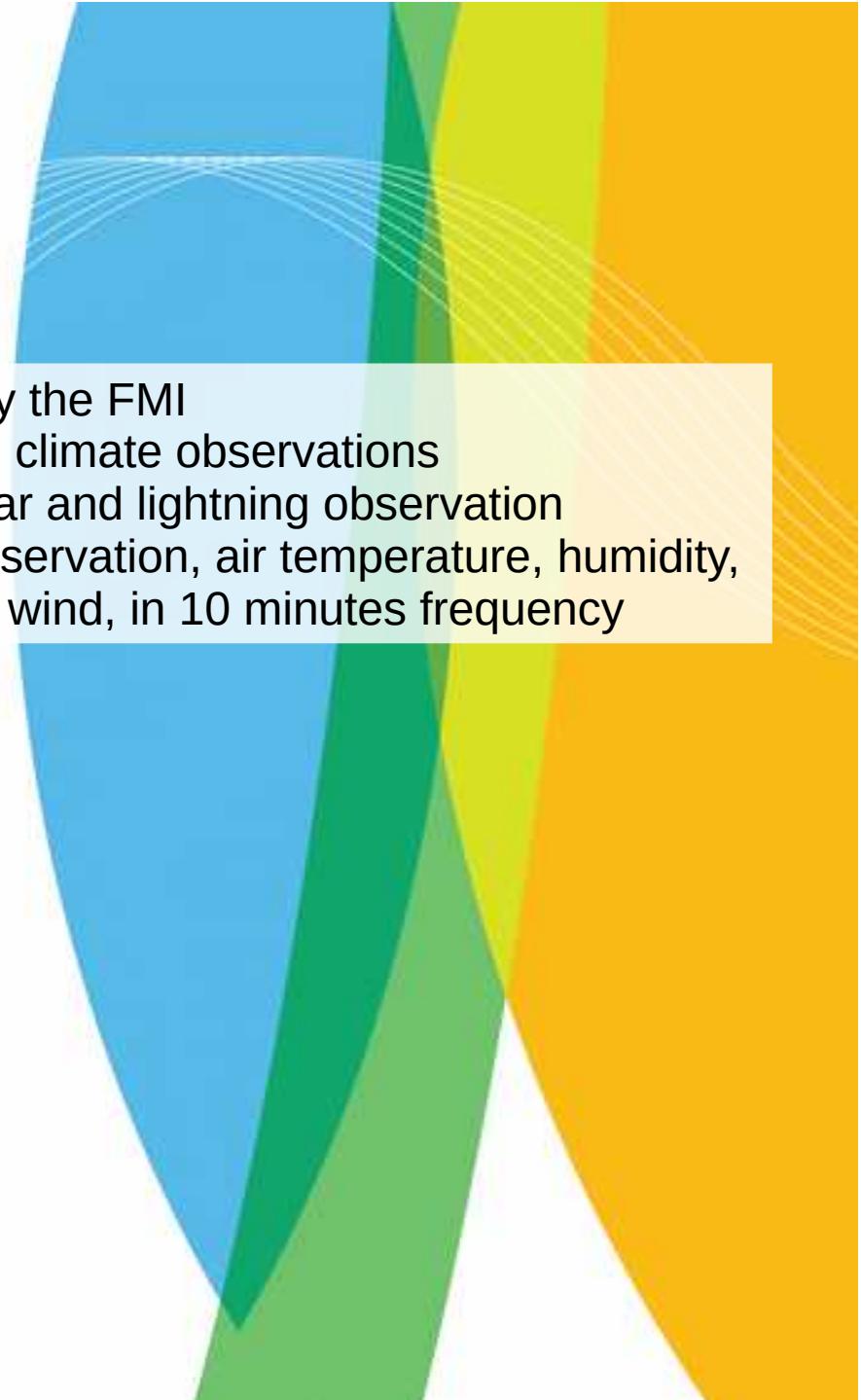
<https://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/data-access/satellite-data/satellite-data-access-sorted-satellite-instrument>

Satellite Imagery <https://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/data-access/satellite-data/satellite-imagery>

Satellite Datasets in Development <https://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/data-access/satellite-data/satellite-datasets-development>

Open climate data sources

Open data by the FMI
Weather and climate observations
Weather radar and lightning observation
Real-time observation, air temperature, humidity,
air pressure, wind, in 10 minutes frequency

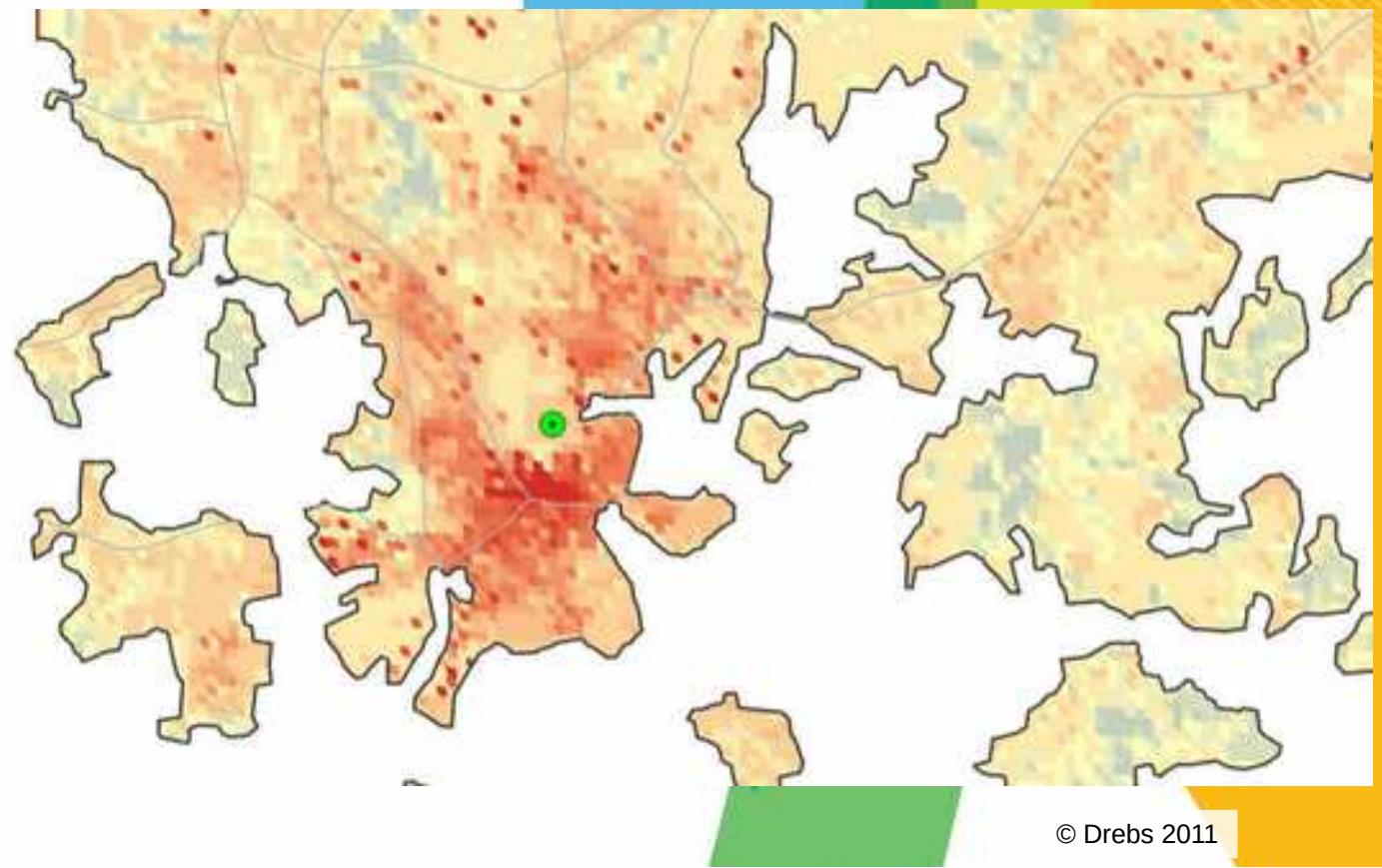
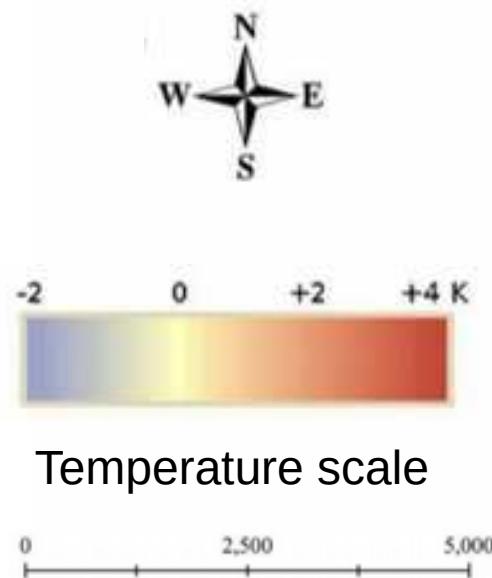




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Climatological applications – Urban Climate

The urban heat island of city centre Helsinki



Climatological applications – Urban / Human Climate



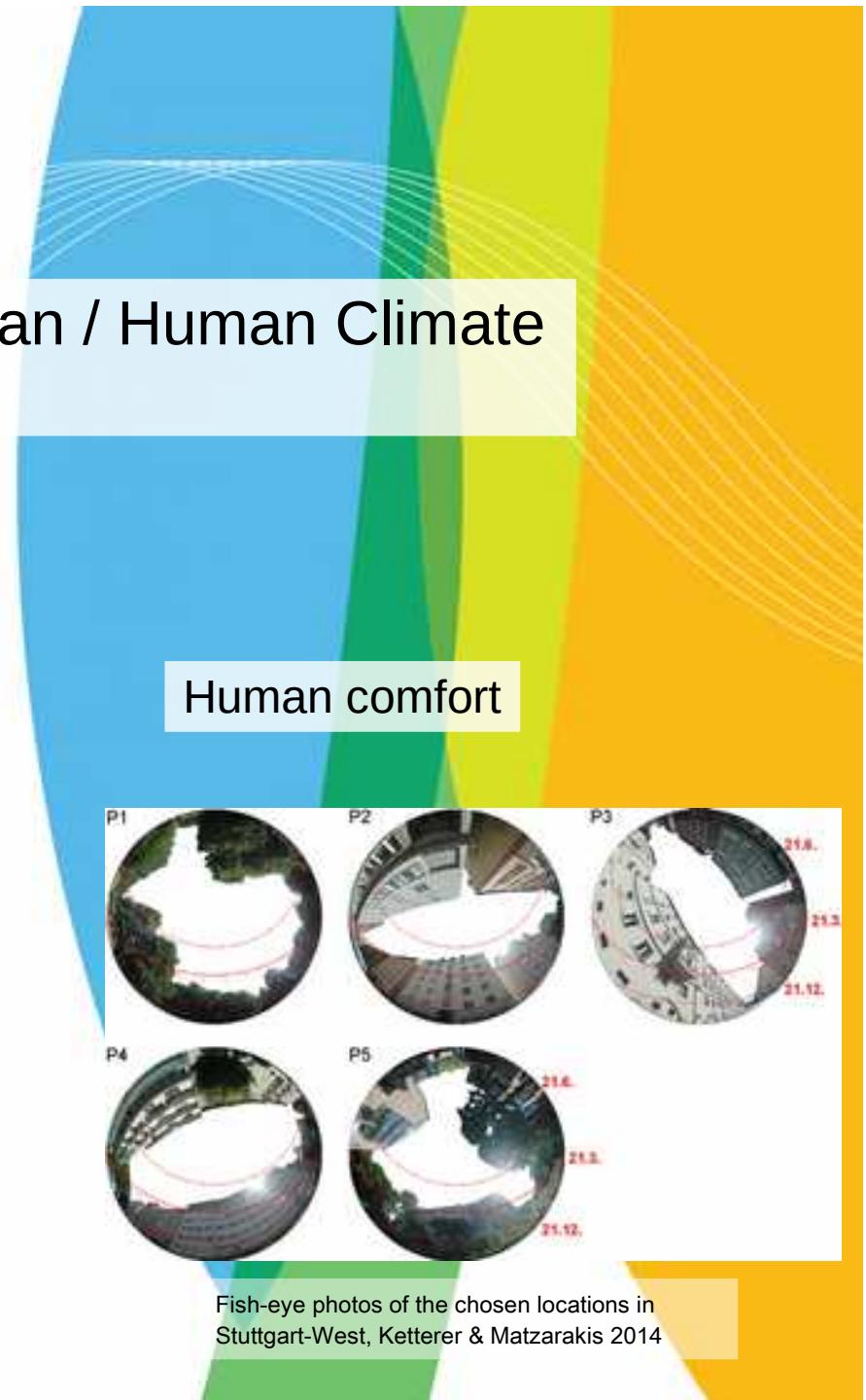
Green wall

Green roof



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© <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=379238>

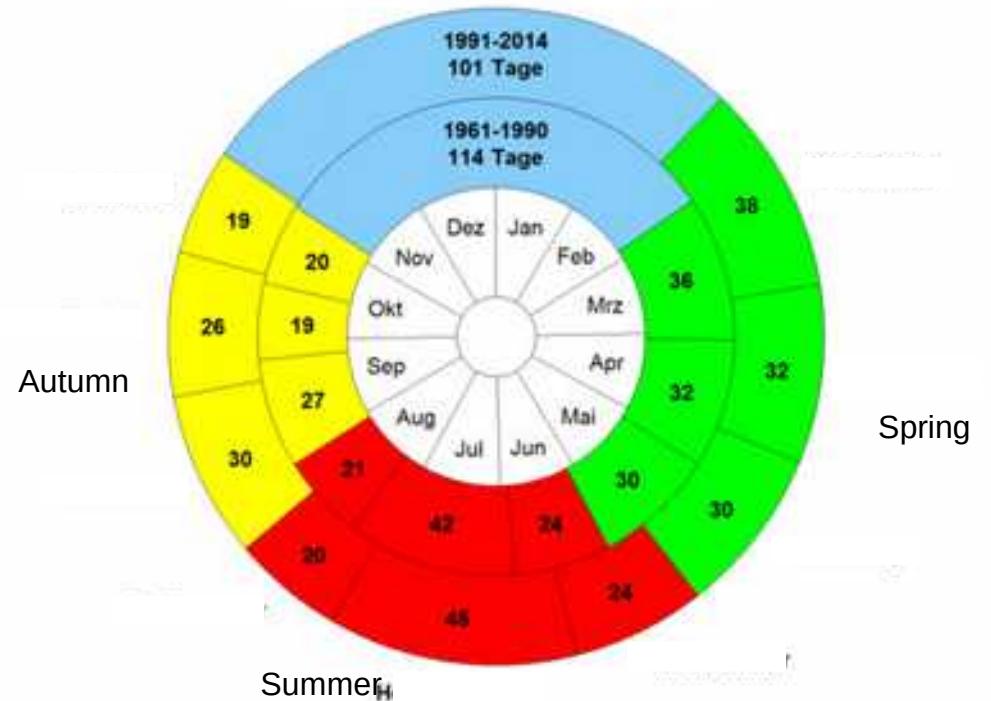
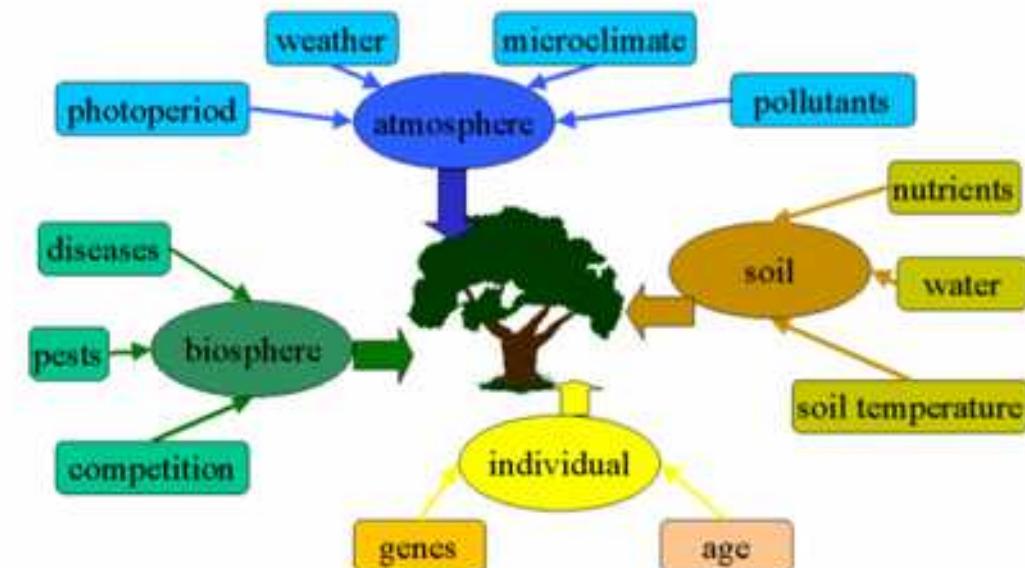




Climatological applications – Phenology



Phenological clock for Rhineland-Palatinate



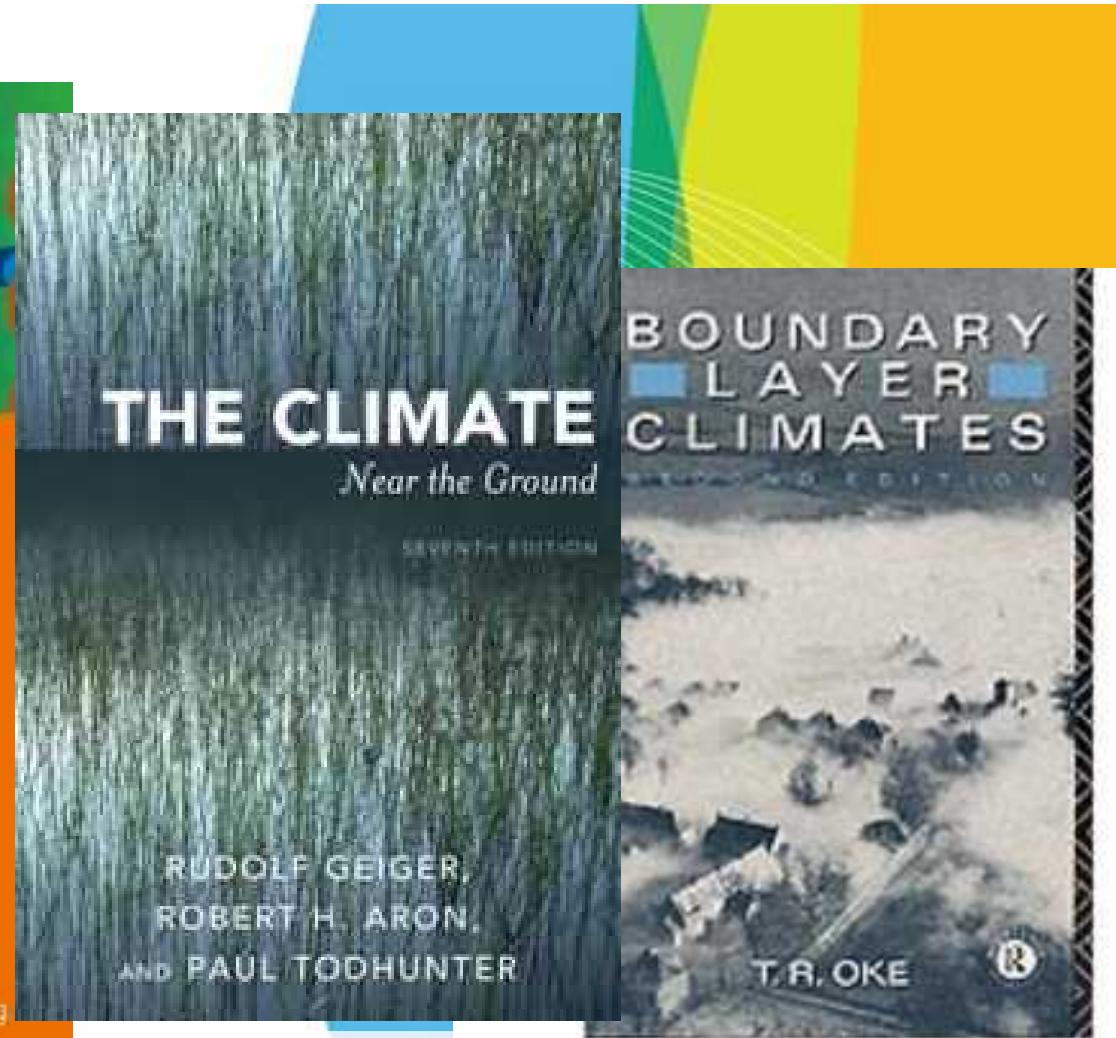
Datenquelle: Deutscher Wetterdienst

-1990,

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2013
660 pages



2009
642 pages

1987
464 pages

Literature

... and all kind of books about general climatology