

Claude Monet – Flood (1896)



Hokusai Katsushika – Big wave (1829-1832)

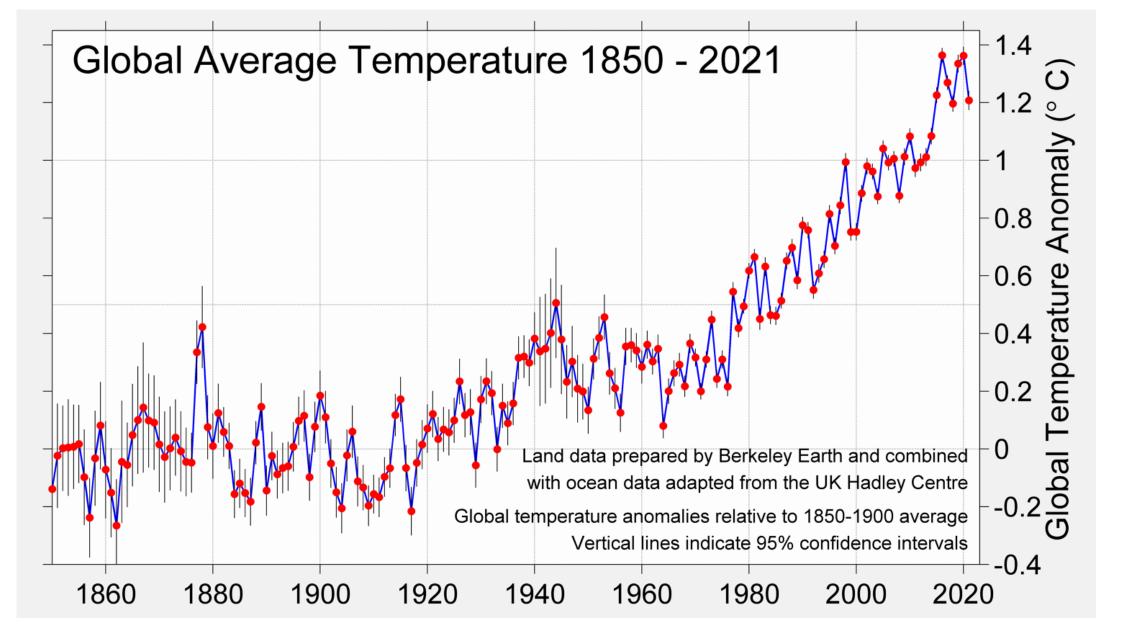
### Climate change policies: decarbonisation from Australian, Polish and global perspectives

Jan Kozłowski

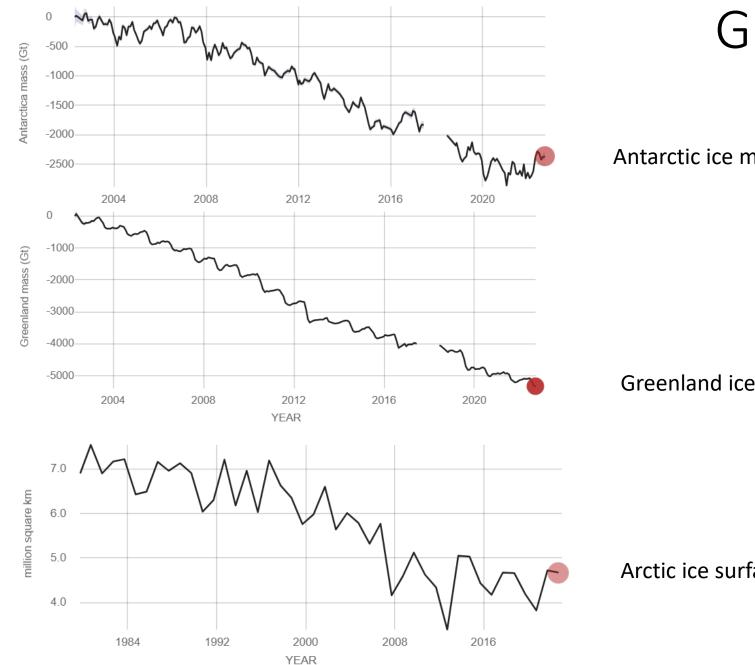
Institute of Environmental Sciences, Jagiellonian University

Kraków, Poland





Current growth is 1,3°C, the safe level according to the IPCC is 1.5°C, below 2°C means a moderate disaster.



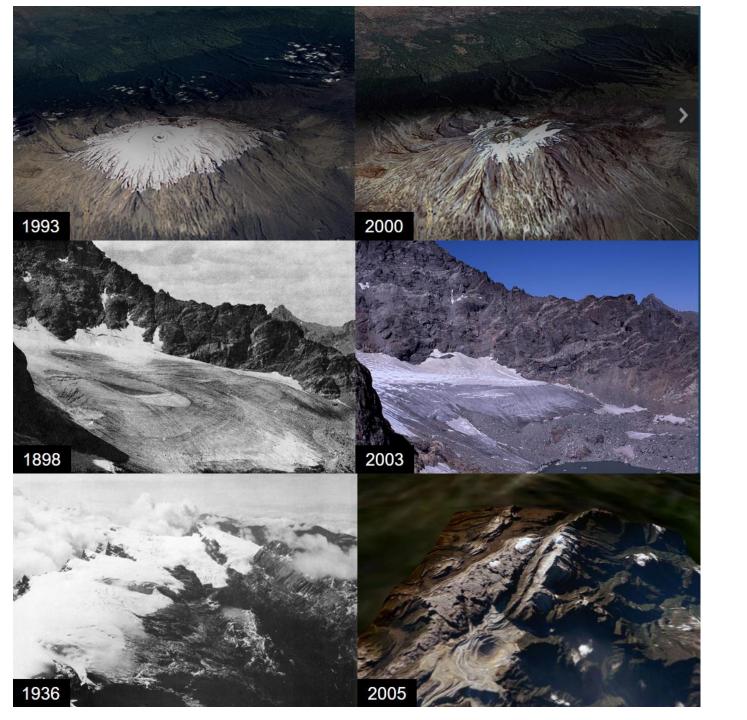
### Glaciers are melting

Antarctic ice mass loss

Greenland ice mass loss

Arctic ice surface minimum

https://climate.nasa.gov/vital-signs/



### Glaciers are melting

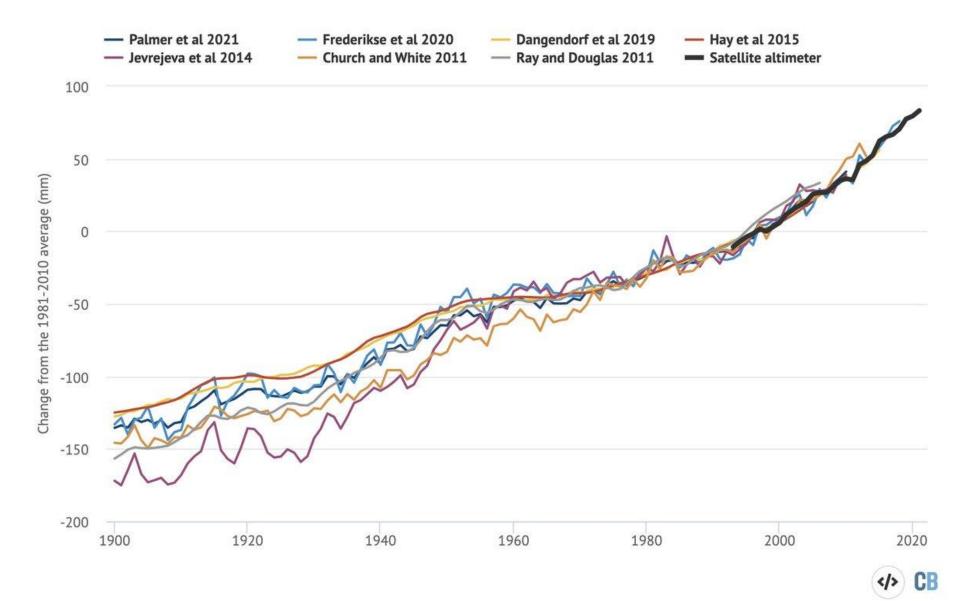
Africa Kilimandjaro

North America Rocky Mountains Arapho Glacier

Indonesia Sudirman Range Puncak Jaya

https://climate.nasa.gov/vital-signs/

### Average sea level is rising



https://berkeleyearth.org/

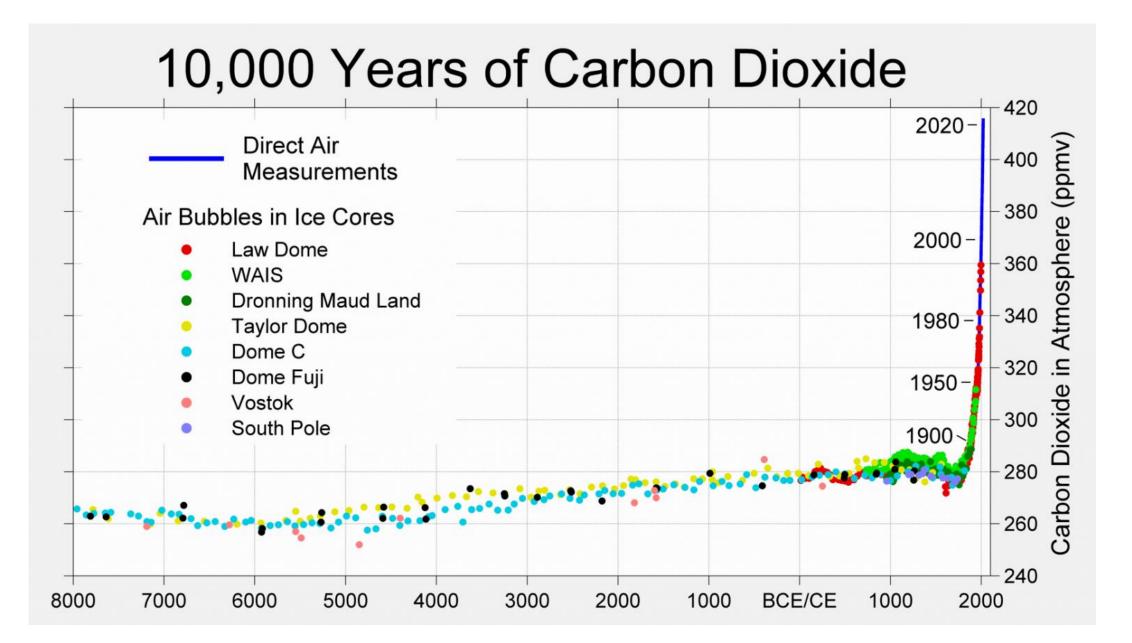
### A looming catastrophe

- Sea level rise
- More frequent and more severe hurricanes
- Long periods of drought
- Less mild rains, more violent ones
  - Floods
  - Landslides
- Periods of extremely high temperatures
- Shifts in precipitation zones
- Densely populated areas no longer suitable for life
- As a result, climatic migrations intensify, often preceded by famines and wars.

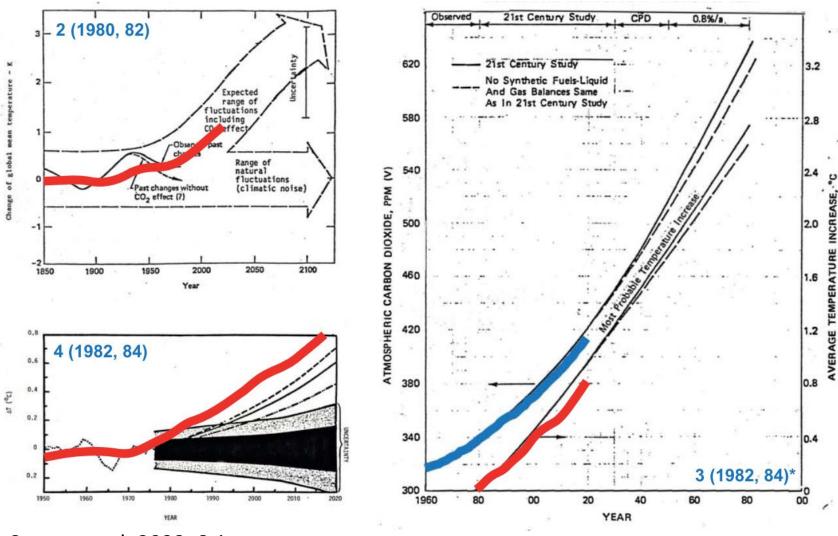


### Earth's temperature is rising

- The conclusion is certain
  - Denialists are now in minority.
- Human activity is the cause
  - Conclusion certain, although there are denialists.
- Is the cause greenhouse gas emissions due to human activity?
  - Conclusion certain, although there are denialists.
- How do greenhouse gases (CO<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>4</sub>, N<sub>2</sub>O) work?
  - Denialists nothing to worry about, as water vapor is the worst.

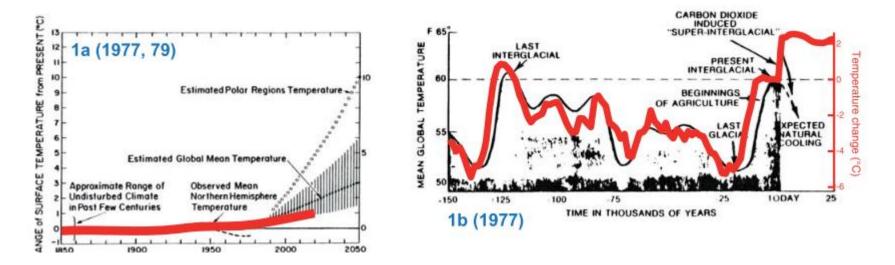


#### Exxon/ExxonMobil knew



Supran et al. 2023, Science

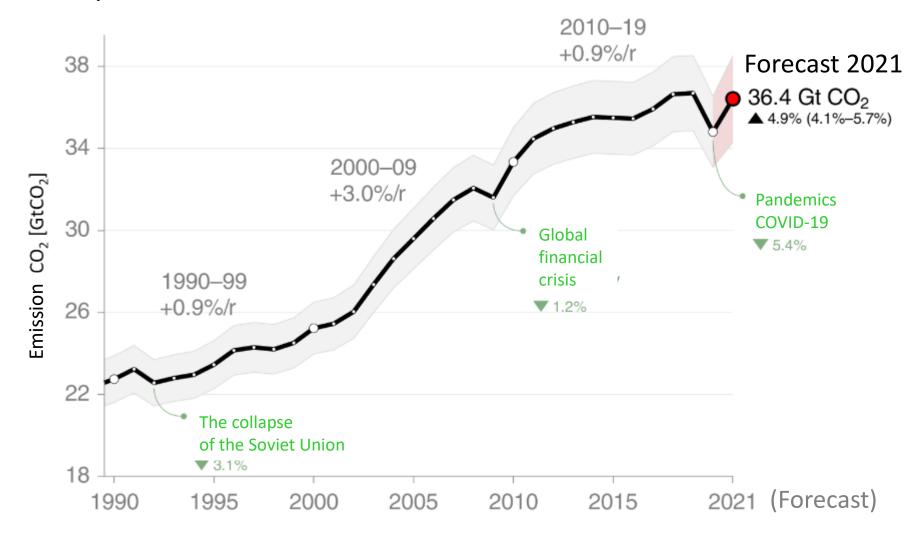
### Exxon/ExxonMobil knew



"We find that most of their projections accurately forecast warming that is consistent with subsequent observations. Exxon and ExxonMobil Corp also correctly rejected the prospect of a coming ice age, accurately predicted when human-caused global warming would first be detected, and reasonably estimated the "carbon budget" for holding warming below 2°C. On each of these points, however, the company's public statements about climate science contradicted its own scientific data."

#### Supran et al. 2023, Science

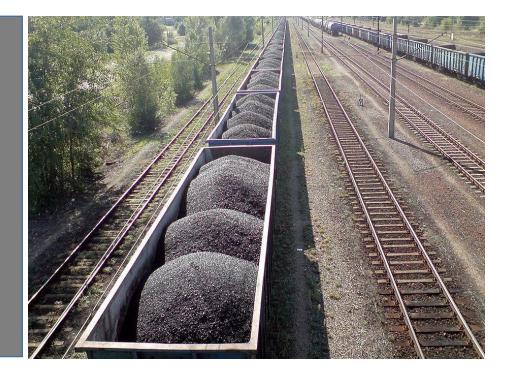
### Global CO2 emissions from fossil fuel combustion and cement production



https://naukaoklimacie.pl/aktualnosci/global-carbon-budget-2021-przeglad-swiatowych-emisji-co2/

### Annual CO<sub>2</sub> emissions into the atmosphere

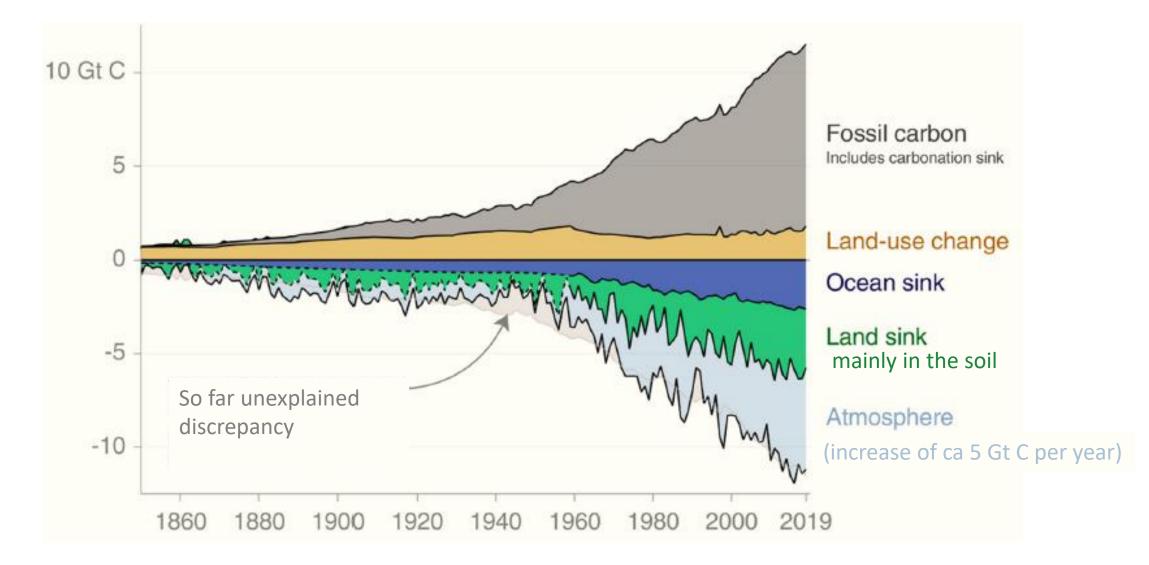
emissions 11,7 Gt C/year 36,4 Gt CO<sub>2</sub>/year (2021 year)



If coal from annual emissions were loaded onto coal cars, the train would circle the equator 45 times!



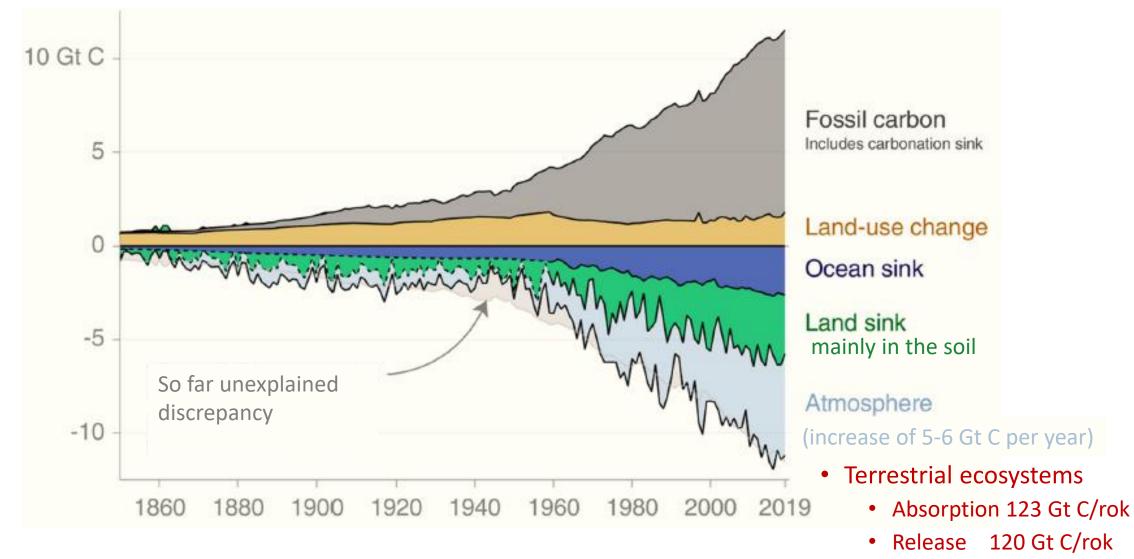
#### Balance of carbon sources and sinks



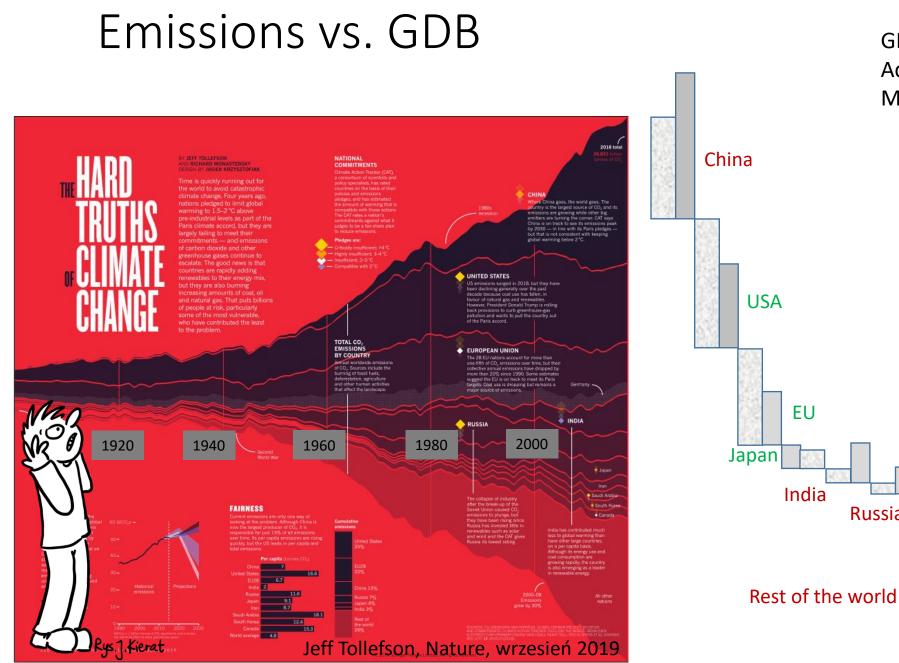
A Research Strategy for Ocean-based Carbon Dioxide Removal and Sequestration (2021), The National Academies Press, USA

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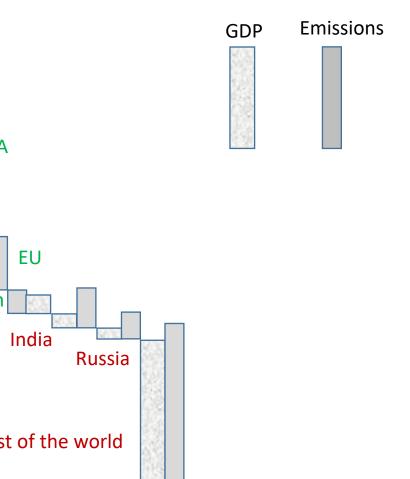
### Volcanoesaverage 0.1 Gt C/year



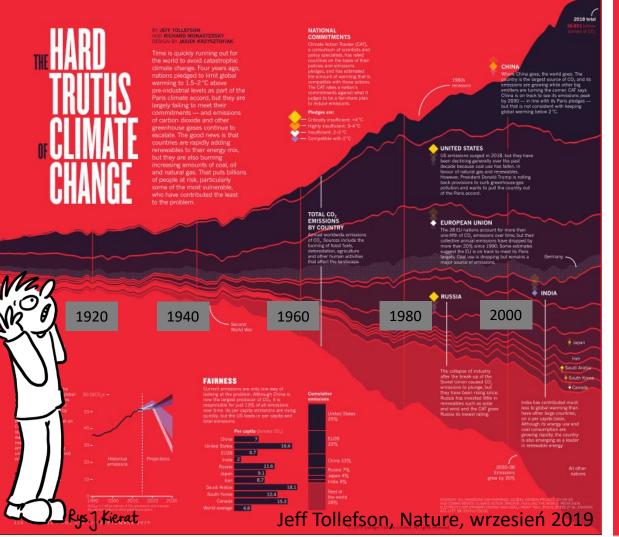
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GDP 2021, According to the International Monetary Fund

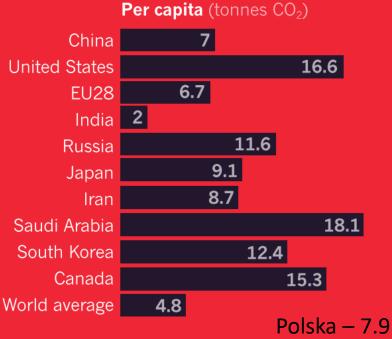


#### Emissions per capita and cumulative emissions



#### FAIRNESS

Current emissions are only one way of looking at the problem. Although China is now the largest producer of  $CO_2$ , it is responsible for just 13% of all emissions over time. Its per capita emissions are rising quickly, but the US leads in per capita and total emissions.



#### Cumulative emissions



### Geotechnical methods of temperature reduction

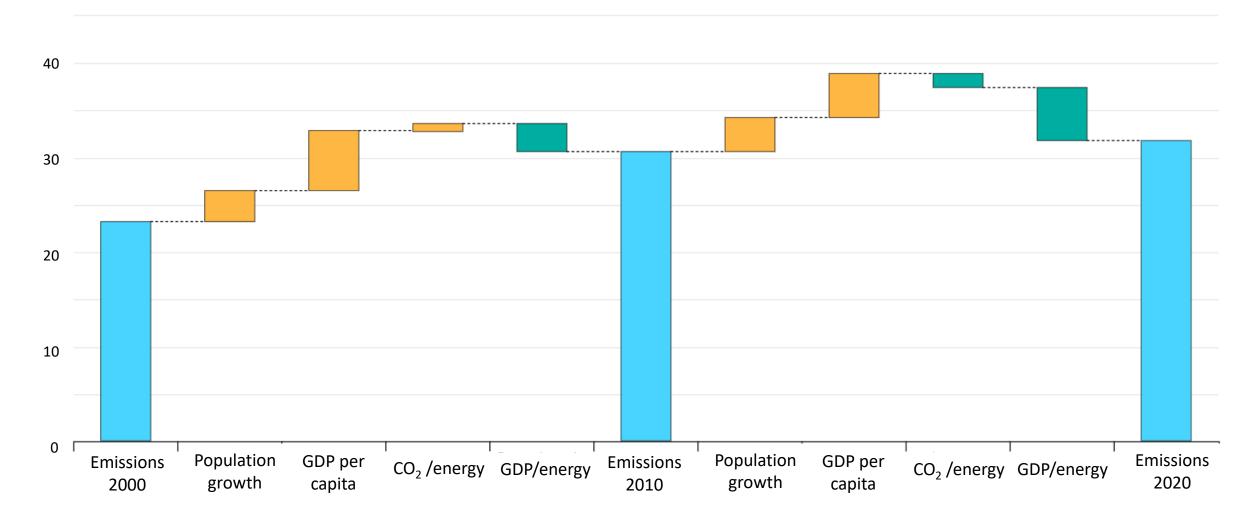
- Methods
  - Placing reflective films in the upper layers of the atmosphere
  - SO<sub>2</sub> atomization in the atmosphere
  - Iron fertilization of the oceans
  - Etc.

### Geotechnical methods of temperature reduction

- Methods
  - Placing reflective films in the upper layers of the atmosphere
  - SO<sub>2</sub> atomization in the atmosphere
  - Iron fertilization of the oceansEtc.
- This must be very strongly opposed!!!
- Only decarbonization of the economy and safe decarbonization of the atmosphere!!!

### Why is it so difficult to reduce emissions?

Gt CO<sub>2</sub>



19

## Is it economically feasible to decarbonize the economy by 2050?

- Estimated cost: \$100 trillion (according to International Energy Agency)
  - Roughly equivalent to the world's GDP;
  - When spread out over the years, only (or as much as?) 3.57% of the world's GDP;
  - The problem is not money
    - The need for a major overhaul of the world's finances;
    - The need for reliable and honest monitoring;
    - The need for mechanisms to force decarbonization throughout the world;
    - The need for massive support for countries with low GDP.



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    - The need for mechanisms to force decarbonization throughout the world;
    - The need for massive support for countries with low GDP;
- The European Union is leading, but the United States has entered the race (US Inflation Reduction Act);
- China is doing a lot;
- Will Australia and Poland enter the race?

### Australia is likely to join the race, Poland - it depends



Making Australia's zero-carbon future



- Australia
  - 21 May elections, majority by Labor Party
  - Anthony Albanese's government should be supported by Greens for changes in climate policy
  - Ross Garnaut ideas are paving the way
- Poland
  - Elections in October
  - Change of the government necessary for change in policy
  - Such plan as Garnaut's should be established for Poland.

## Similarities and differences between Australia and Poland

391 mln t CO2/year

2019

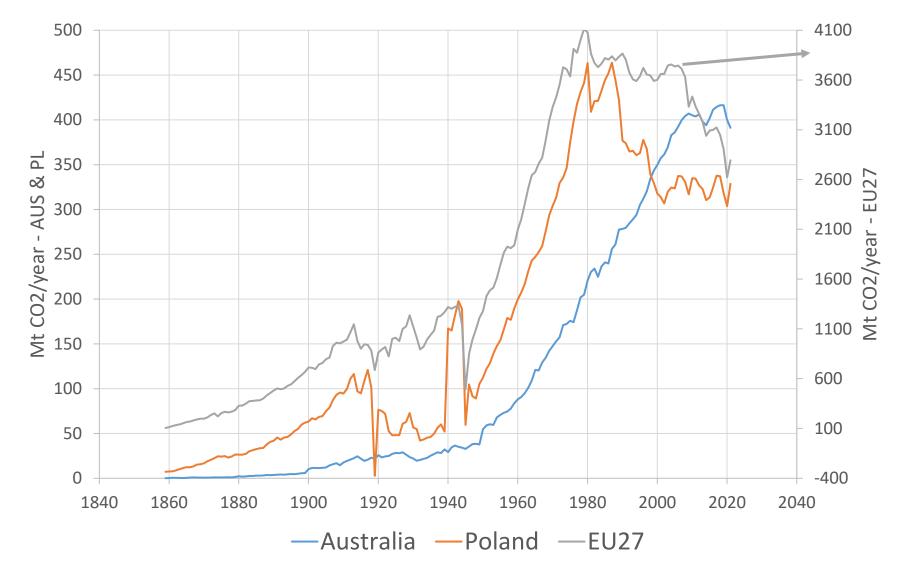
#### Australia

- Population 25.9 mln
- Area 7,617,930 km<sup>2</sup>
- GDP(UN data 2022) USD 1,734 bln
- Emissions (2021)
- Emissions per capita 15.09 t CO<sub>2</sub>/year
- Max emissions year
- Max emissions amount 416 Mt
- Cumulative emissions 19.0 Gt CO2

#### Poland

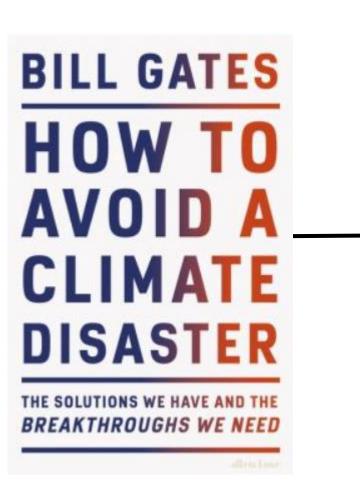
- Population
- Area
- GDP(UN data 2022)
- Emissions (2021)
- Emissions per capita
- Max emissions year
- Max emissions amount
- Cumulative emissions
- 37.6 mln 322,575 km² USD 716 bln 328 mln t CO2/year 8.58 tCO<sub>2</sub>/year 1980
  - 463
  - 28.2 Gt CO2

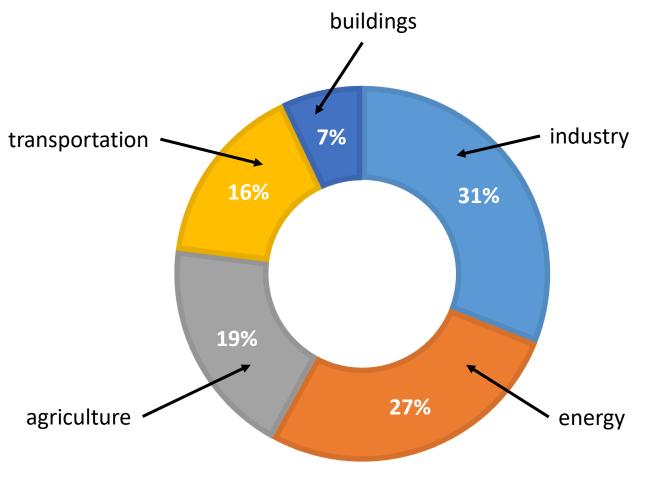
### CO<sub>2</sub> emission dynamics in Australia, Poland and the EU27



https://github.com/owid/co2-data

### Emissions of various sectors





### Energy transformation

- The most urgent task saving energy
  - Still huge potential
- What sources of electricity should remain?
  - Renewable Energy Sources
    - Distributed photovoltaics and photovoltaic farms
    - Wind turbins on land and at sea
    - Biogas
    - Burning or better pyrolysis of biomass
    - Other techniques still immature?
  - Nuclear energy
    - Revitalization of existing nuclear power plants
    - Construction of new large power plants
    - SMRs (small modular reactors)?
- Capture and storage of CO<sub>2</sub> in thermal plants.





### Energy transition - problems

- Most serious problems:
  - Grid reconstruction cost comparable to installation of new sources
  - Energy storage
    - Pumped storage power plants
    - Compressed air
    - Minutes megacapacitors
    - Hours batteries
      - Currently, lithium-ion
      - Target flow batteries (days?)
    - Days, weeks, months
      - Hydrogen ultimately "green" hydrogen
  - The need to maintain reserve energy sources
    - Transitional role of natural gas gradually being replaced by green hydrogen



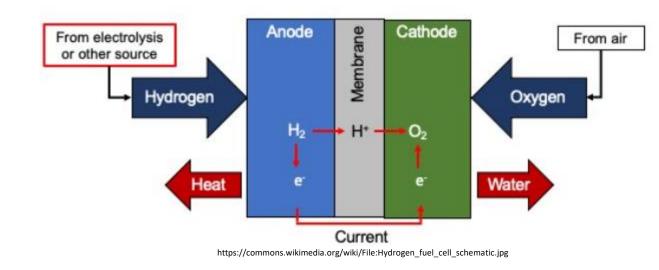


### Decarbonization of transportation

- Drives of the future
  - Battery electric drive:
    - Passenger cars
    - Vans
    - City Buses,
    - Coaches?
    - Trucks?
  - Fuel cell electric drive (hydrogen):
    - Long-distance trucks
    - Long-distance buses
    - City buses
    - Trains on non-electrified lines
    - Marine transportation?
    - Planes?
  - Other solutions?

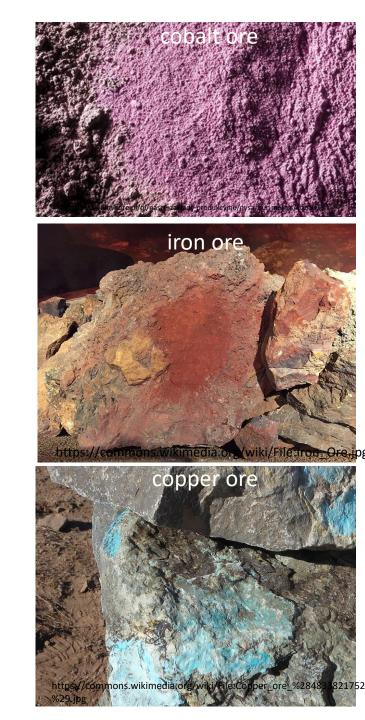


https://www.farmprogress.com/farm-operations/electric-vehicles-pose-hurdles-in-rural-america



### Decarbonization of industry

- Usually lack of mature technologies
- Large role of hydrogen as an energy carrier and reducing agent
  - especially in the production of metals from ores;
- It is impossible to completely eliminate emissions (under known technologies), among other things in:
  - the cement industry
  - the production of nitrogen fertilizers
- Capture and storage of CO<sub>2</sub>
  - is one of possible solutions.



### Decarbonization of heating and cooling

- Heating and cooling in dispersed buildings
  - Heat pumps
  - Electric heating?
  - Hydrogen heating?
- System heating
  - Waste heat from small nuclear reactors (SMRs)?
  - Gas-fired combined heat and power plants with CO<sub>2</sub> capture
  - Biomass combined heat and power plants
  - Large scale heat pumps
  - Hydrogen combined heat and power plants in the distant future.







# Reducing emissions of other gases, mainly methane

- From the extraction and processing of fossil fuels
- From landfills
- From the fields, primarily rice
- Of breeding
  - Limitation of ruminant farming
  - Prevention of methane formation and capture of methane from mass cultures

## It is necessary to take a certain amount of $CO_2$ out of circulation.

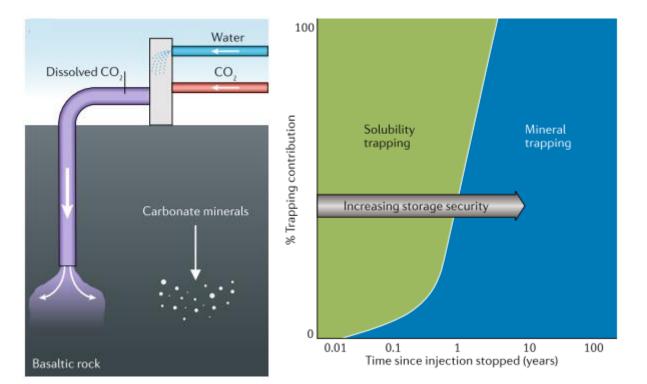
- 10-20% of emissions cannot be eliminated;
- Much of the emissions will be eliminated too late to halt the temperature rise by no more than 1.5° C by 2050;
- CO<sub>2</sub> capture :
  - From the combustion or, better, pyrolysis or fermentation of biomass
    - Waste biocarbon can be added to soil
  - From the atmosphere

# Removal of $CO_2$ from the atmosphere - binding by minerals

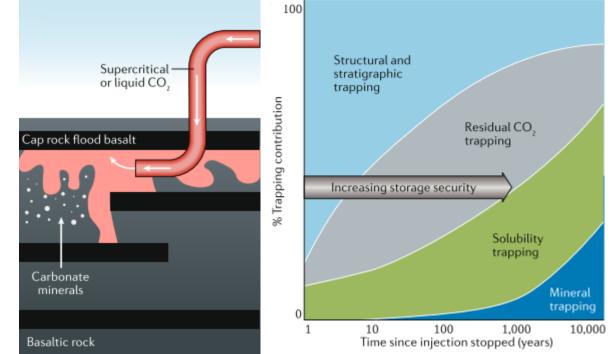
- Rocks that bind CO<sub>2</sub> well
  - Peridotite huge heaps at diamond mines
  - Kimberlit
  - Basalt
  - Etc.
- Adding crushed rocks to the soil
- Adding rock spray to the oceans (would additionally reduce acidification)

### CO<sub>2</sub> storage in rocks on land and in oceans

Injection of water saturated with carbon dioxide

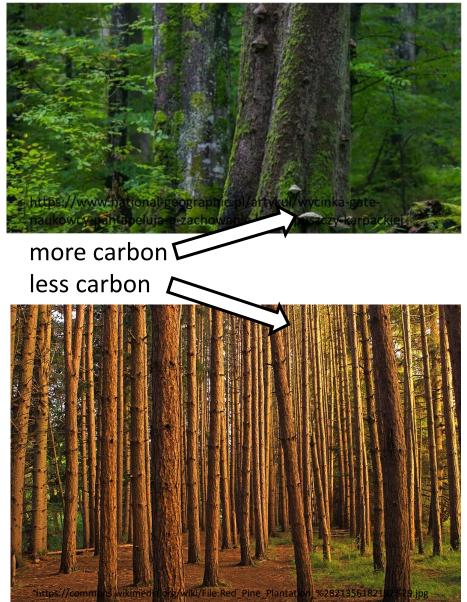


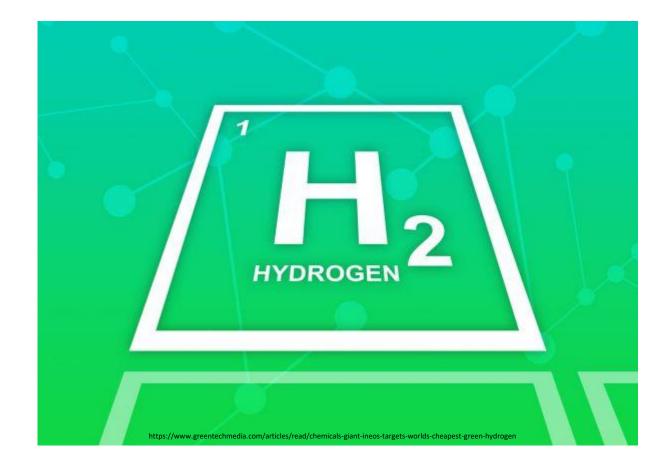
Carbon dioxide injection



## Removal of CO<sub>2</sub> from the atmosphere by natural forces

- Emissions are about 10% of natural carbon turnover in terrestrial ecosystems
  - If reduced to 1-2%, natural forces can absorb them
- It is possible to increase the CO<sub>2</sub> absorption potential of forests by:
  - Increasing the area of forests
  - Giving back to nature some of the forests
    - Plantations for wood production
  - Changes in forestry and agricultural practices

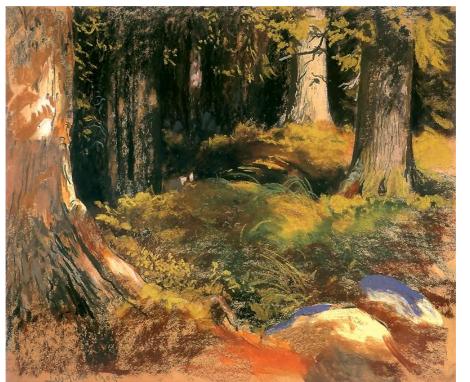




### Decarbonization of economy. Can we make it?

YES!

development over the next 100 years



Leon Wyczółowski - Forest in Zakopane in the sunshine

NO! climate catastrophe



Michal Mroczka - Landscape after the battle