

Global Warming is Now Worse than the Worst Predictions

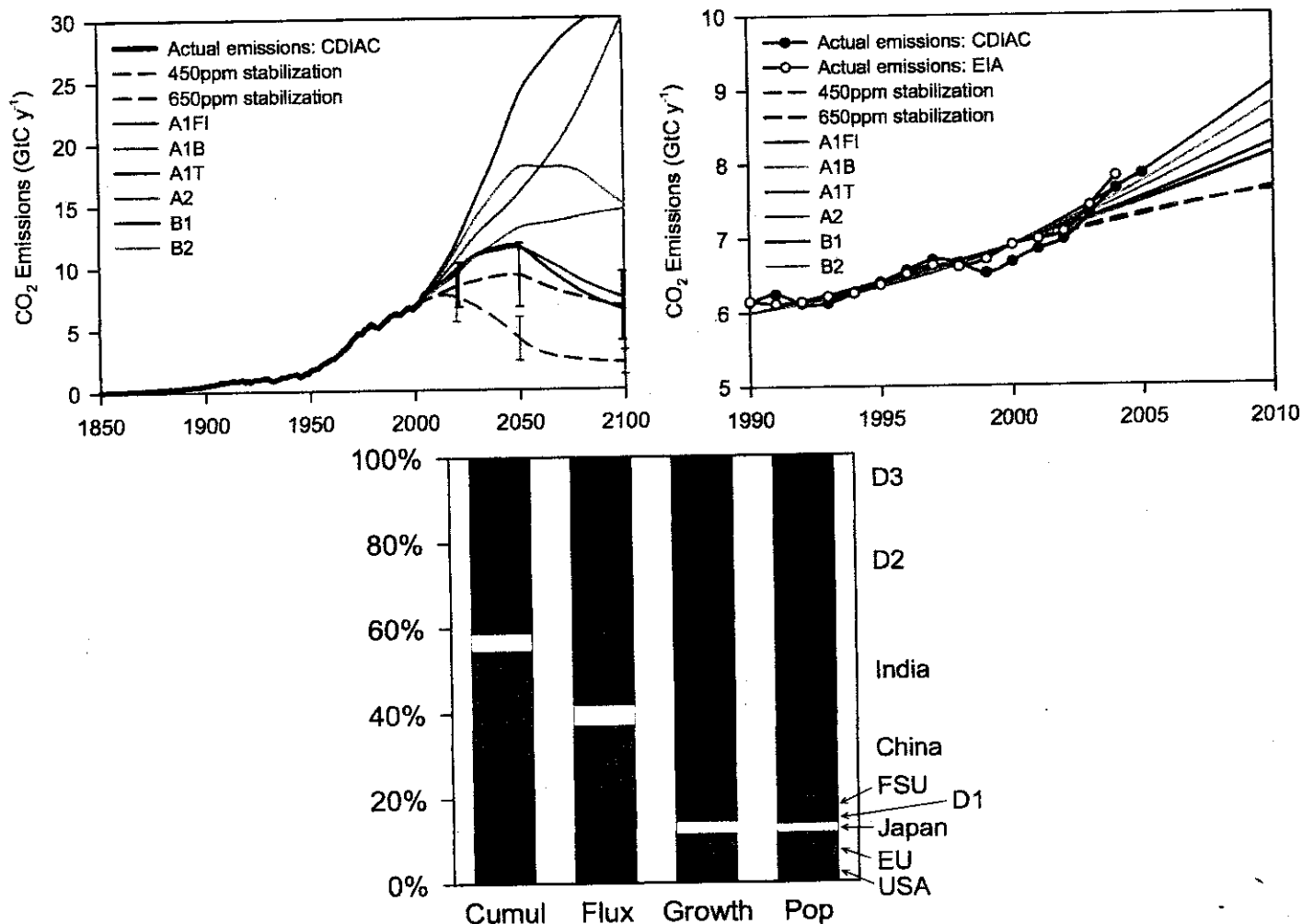
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Recent analysis shows that global CO₂ emissions are **much worse than the worst-case scenario** considered by the U.N. IPCC in its latest reports. Below are figures from an article titled "Global and regional drivers of accelerating CO₂ emissions," Proceedings of the US National Academy of Sciences (PNAS), published online on May 22, 2007, (<http://www.pnas.org/cgi/content/abstract/104/24/10288>).

The left figure below shows the various global warming scenarios considered by the U.N. The top red line is the worst-case, which leads to disastrous climate changes, including huge rises in sea levels over 40 feet and massive crop failures and species extinctions. The right figure presents the latest global data, showing "a sharp acceleration in global emissions occurred in the early 2000s." Indeed, you can see the current observed EIA* data on CO₂ emissions in the white circles are **already above** the red line, meaning the planet will reach catastrophic levels much sooner. The article reports 52% of the emissions growth is from China, as dramatically shown in the large blue section in the third bar in the lower figure. The latest analysis from the Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency (June 19, 2007) shows that China continued its emissions growth in 2005 and 2006, now contributing 64% of the global growth, and surpassing U.S. total emissions.**

So currently humanity is headed for a disaster beyond the most catastrophic predictions. Clearly this is a planetary emergency almost beyond our imagination. Any more burning of fossil fuels is folly.



* The authors of the PNAS paper state: "However, the CDIAC data [in the black dots] are currently undergoing revisions for China. Therefore we use EIA [white dots] as the primary source for emissions data subsequent to 1980."

** Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency (www.mnp.nl/mnc/c-0533-001g-mnc-02-nl.xls.html)

Regional CO2 emissions from global fossil fuel use, 1990-2006

	USA	EU-15	Japan	Other Annex II	Other Annex II o.w. Canada	Russian Federation	Other Annex I-EIT*	China	Other Big DC***	Other Big DC*** o.w. India	Other non-Annex I****	Other non-Annex I o.w. Asian Tigers**	International transport	Total C in Gt
10 ¹² kg = 1 Pg = 1000 megaton														
1990	4.84	3.12	1.06	0.78	0.43	2.03	2.33	2.26	1.68	0.59	2.03	0.64	0.66	20.78
1991	4.81	3.17	1.07	0.78	0.42	1.99	2.21	2.37	1.77	0.63	2.12	0.70	0.67	20.95
1992	4.89	3.10	1.07	0.80	0.44	1.88	2.08	2.50	1.83	0.66	2.23	0.75	0.68	21.07
1993	5.04	3.04	1.07	0.80	0.43	1.82	1.88	2.64	1.88	0.69	2.35	0.83	0.67	21.20
1994	5.11	3.05	1.12	0.82	0.45	1.61	1.70	2.80	1.99	0.72	2.46	0.90	0.69	21.34
1995	5.11	3.09	1.14	0.84	0.46	1.59	1.65	2.98	2.08	0.78	2.62	0.97	0.71	21.81
1996	5.29	3.17	1.15	0.88	0.48	1.56	1.62	3.20	2.19	0.83	2.78	1.06	0.73	22.58
1997	5.44	3.12	1.15	0.91	0.49	1.45	1.56	3.13	2.29	0.88	2.91	1.13	0.76	22.72
1998	5.48	3.16	1.12	0.93	0.50	1.43	1.51	3.11	2.35	0.87	2.92	1.07	0.77	22.78
1999	5.53	3.13	1.17	0.96	0.51	1.47	1.44	2.96	2.41	0.93	3.04	1.15	0.81	22.91
2000	5.70	3.15	1.19	0.98	0.53	1.51	1.44	2.98	2.50	0.97	3.18	1.22	0.83	23.46
2001	5.62	3.22	1.17	0.98	0.52	1.52	1.48	3.18	2.53	0.98	3.25	1.28	0.80	23.73
2002	5.65	3.21	1.21	0.99	0.53	1.50	1.47	3.46	2.61	1.01	3.35	1.31	0.82	24.26
2003	5.71	3.30	1.21	1.02	0.56	1.54	1.55	4.01	2.69	1.04	3.45	1.36	0.84	25.32
2004	5.80	3.32	1.21	1.02	0.55	1.53	1.56	4.73	2.84	1.10	3.65	1.44	0.92	26.58
2005b	5.83	3.32	1.23	1.03	0.56	1.55	1.58	5.23	2.94	1.16	3.83	1.49	0.92	27.45
2006b	5.75	3.33	1.21	1.05	0.57	1.62	1.62	5.68	3.06	1.22	3.95	1.52	0.89	28.16

Brn/Source: IEA, 2006 (1990-2004); BP, 2007 (2004-2006 trend)

Referentcode: MNP/MNC/Jun07/0533

Indicatorcode: 0533_1

Indicatorserie: 2

The italic data in the table are not reflected separately in the figure. These italic data is integrated in the group in the previous column.

* Including other FSU countries and including Turkey.

** Asian tigers are: Indonesia, Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand, South Korea and Taiwan.

*** Other large developing countries are: Brazil, Mexico, South Africa, Saudi Arabia, India and Iran.

b Estimate based on trends in BP energy data for consumption of coal, oil products and natural gas.

Source Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency, June 19, 2007

www.mnp.nl/mnc/c-0533-001g-mnc-02-nl.xls.html