

# OBJECTIVES FOR TODAY'S CLASS:

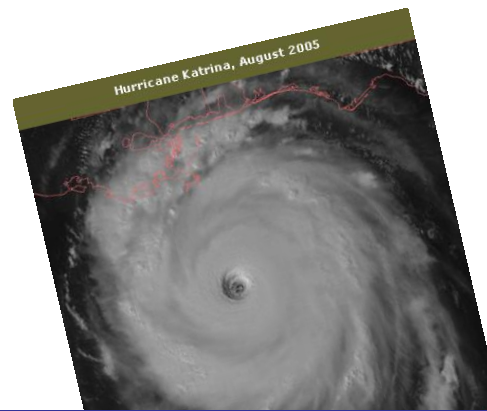
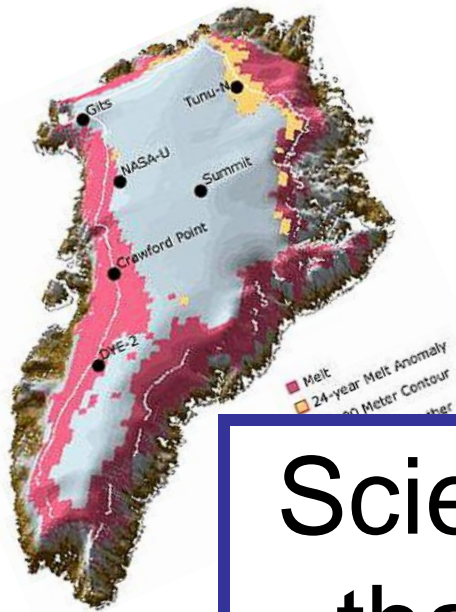
- Address the problems of **QUANTIFYING NATURE** in Global Change
- Learn what the **KEELING CURVE** is, why it is important, & why “350” is an important data point on the curve
- Review **exponential relationships** and the **Powers of 10** (important tools to express change and vast ranges of size, speed, time, etc.)
- Learn **terminology** to describe changes depicted in **TIME SERIES graphs**

*WRAP-UP OF:*

Topic #1  
GLOBAL CHANGE  
OVERVIEW  
&  
Topic #2  
ON SCIENCE & BEING A  
SCIENTIST

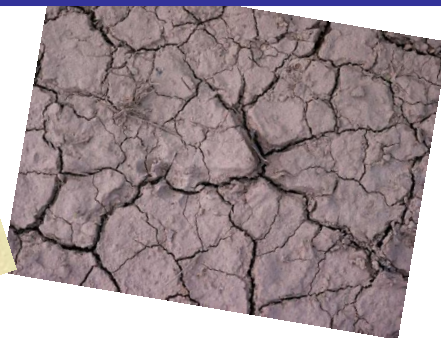
Pick it up for Thursday's  
class →





Science is demonstrating  
that this planet is more  
vulnerable than had  
previously been thought.

~ Richard Benedick



# The Big Picture: Indicators & Issues



**THE BIG PICTURE:  
KEY INDICATORS & CONCLUSIONS BASED  
ON THE CONVERGENCE OF A LARGE BODY  
OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH**

1. **Climate Change is real**: change has happened, change is happening, change will continue to happen in the future
2. The **Earth is warming**
3. **Humans** are causing a significant portion of this recent warming
4. The warming **will continue**
5. Globally the **net result will be bad** for people, plants, and animals
6. There are **legitimate unresolved questions**
7. There are related -- but distinctly different -- **global change processes of great concern**:  
specifically, **ozone depletion & biodiversity loss**

**HOW  
DO WE  
KNOW  
?**

# THE ISSUES

1- **Global Climate Change** = How do we know it's happening and **what is causing it (human vs. natural)**? How will it affect regions, people, plants, animals?  
**Can we do anything about it?**



2- **Sustainability (ecological)** = How do we use our natural resources without depleting their stocks or irrevocably damaging ecosystems and the climate for future generations?

3- **Sustainability (economic)** = How can economic activity progress at a rate that meets (or surpasses) the needs of the planet and its population?

4. **Choices & Solutions (Mitigation & Adaptation)** = Are (2) and (3) above at cross-purposes? What realistically effective actions can individuals and institutions take to address these issues?

We'll also address these issues!

***The most used “denier” arguments about the causes and effects of climate change :***

**Climate's changed before**

**It's the sun**

**It's not bad**

**It's cooling**

**There is no consensus**

**Models are unreliable**

**Temp record is unreliable**

**Animals and plants can adapt**

**It hasn't warmed since 1998**

**And so forth. . . . .**

**We'll talk about what the science says about these!**



From:

<http://www.skepticalscience.com/>

# METHODS USED IN GC SCIENCE

- Experiments
- Observations
- Modeling
- Standard “tools of science”--  
hypotheses, prediction,  
testing, theories

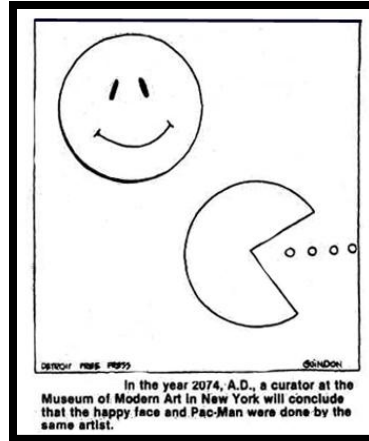
## Any unique to GC??



- **Global Computer / Circulation Modeling: GCMs**
- **Determining Past Changes from “Natural Archives” (e.g. tree rings)**
- **Remote Sensing of the Environment**



# PART A: CARTOONS ABOUT SCIENCE & SCIENTISTS:



## PART B: PHRASES ABOUT SCIENCE FOR MATCHING:

- \_\_\_5\_\_\_ Curiosity & self-discovery tend to motivate scientists  
(*"Ask questions! . . ." Paul Ehrenfest*)
- \_\_\_4\_\_\_ Dedicated & persistent research yields benefits  
(*"No, it's a great life . . ." Steven Weinberg*)
- \_\_\_2\_\_\_ Scientists are attracted by the wonder, awe, & joy found in their research  
(*"The joy of insight . . ." Victor Weisskopf*)
- \_\_\_1\_\_\_ Inspiration emerges from a well-informed mind  
(*"Newton's . . . act of the prepared imagination" John Tyndall*)
- \_\_\_7\_\_\_ Theories cannot be verified, but they can be falsified  
(*"No amount . . . can prove me right . . ." Albert Einstein*)
- \_\_\_3\_\_\_ Self-deception can color an observation  
(*"...art to be learned -- not to see what is not." Maria Mitchell*)
- \_\_\_6\_\_\_ Knowledge is ever-changing (*"law of change ... Nature never stands still ..."* Laurence Gould)

**Topic #3**  
**QUANTIFYING**  
**GLOBAL CHANGE:**

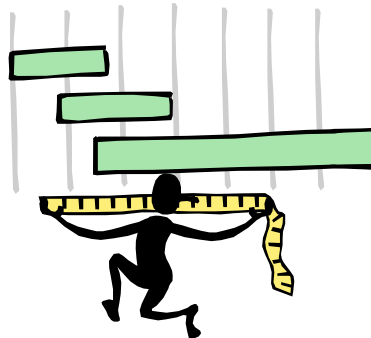
**Scale, Rates of Change,  
Time Series Plots  
& Footprints**

“The one universal ever-operating law throughout  
has been the law of change . . .”

~ Laurence M. Gould

# On QUANTIFYING NATURE

- *Quantify* (def) = to make explicit the logical quantity of; to determine, express, or measure the quantity of



No page # ?



(Listen and/or take notes.  
You can review the slide in  
Class Follow-Up later)

# . . . On Quantifying Nature

**PROBLEM:** Scientists are faced with a major problem when they try to quantify nature:

- Enormous **RANGE** of spatial and temporal **SCALES**.
- Enormous range in the **NUMBERS** of things.
- Nature **CHANGES** in different ways and at different **RATES**.

# . . .On Quantifying Nature

We need a way to:

Express Earth and Global Change processes mathematically

To sort out the causes of global change

*Remember:* GC is not a “LABORATORY SCIENCE”

**YOU & I ARE LIVING THE EXPERIMENT**  
– one unrepeatable experiment!

# . . .On Quantifying Nature

Hence global change scientists use:

mathematical expressions  
equations  
symbols  
models &

**SCIENTIFIC NOTATION:** e.g.,  $6.4 \times 10^{-9}$   
to measure, analyze, and  
“run experiments” on the Earth.

**NOTE:** This is a short Scientific Notation Review on p 14 of CLASS NOTES  
– see also examples in SGC E-text Chapter 2 on Atoms

# POLITICS vs EQUATIONS ?

**“Yes, we have to divide up our time like that,  
between our politics and our equations.**

**But to me our equations are far more important,  
for politics are only a matter of present concern.**

**A mathematical equation stands forever.”**

*~ Albert Einstein*



# MOST USED Climate Myths

*and what the science really says...*



Through  
quantifying  
change over  
time . . . .

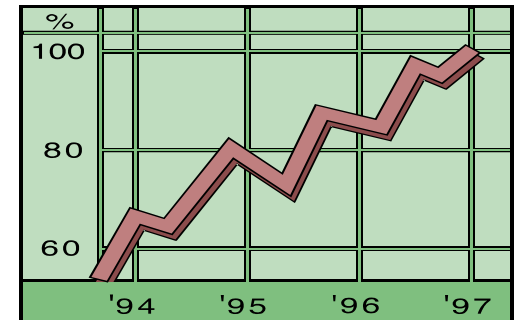
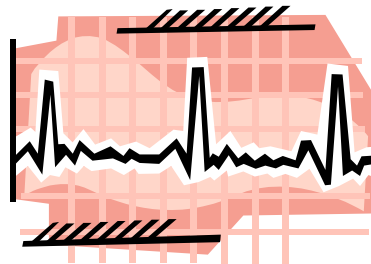
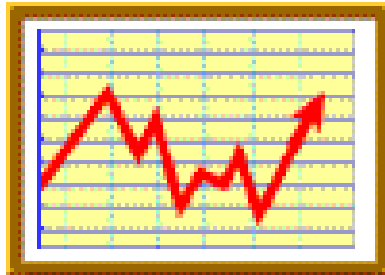
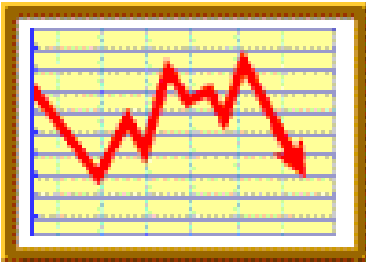
How can claims  
like these be  
evaluated?

. . . in a  
“Time Series”  
plot

# Quantifying Change over TIME:

To quantify global change we examine  
**TIME SERIES CHANGE:**

A **time series** is a plot of value of some variable (x) at each point in time (t):



# Quantifying Change over TIME:

We also need to quantify

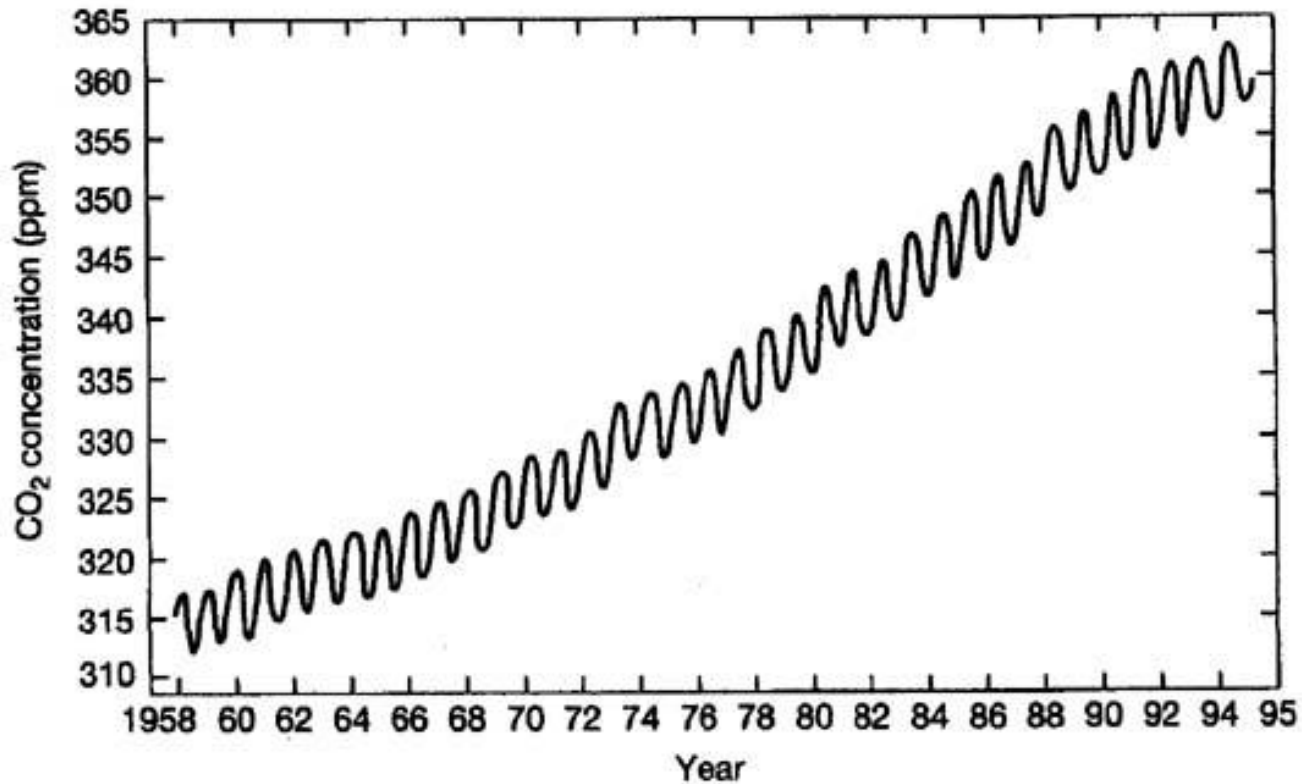
## RATES OF CHANGE:

Change in some variable (x)  
per change in time (t)

$d(x) / d(t)$  where d = “change in,”

x = a variable, t = time

e.g. the “Keeling curve”



“the average rate of increase of CO<sub>2</sub> concentration since 1958 has been 43 ppm / 37 yr (or about 1.2 ppm/yr)”

ppm = parts per million

# WELCOME TO SCRIPPS CO<sub>2</sub>



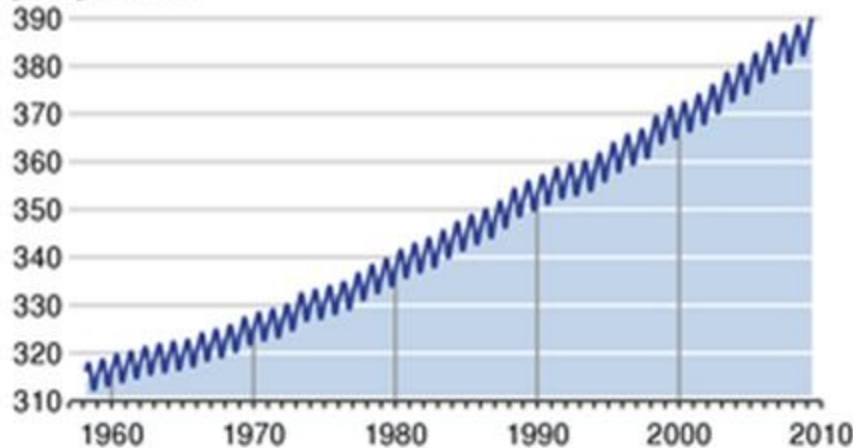
## Welcome to the Home of the Keeling Curve

*This site is dedicated to Dave Keeling, the first person to make high precision continuous measurements of carbon dioxide levels in the atmosphere.*

## CO<sub>2</sub> Concentration at Mauna Loa Observatory, Hawaii

### Monthly Carbon Dioxide Concentration

parts per million



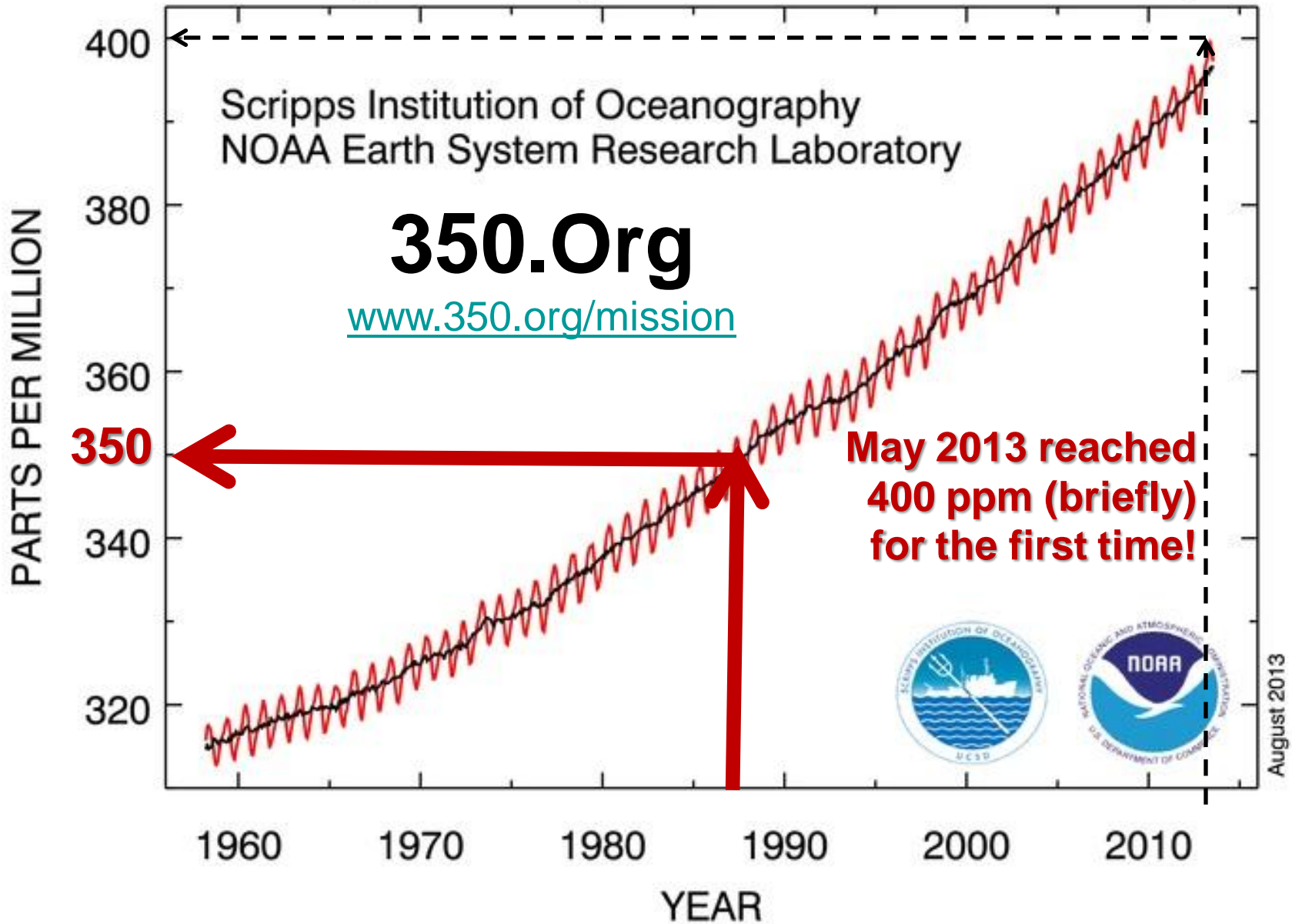
Keeling Curve



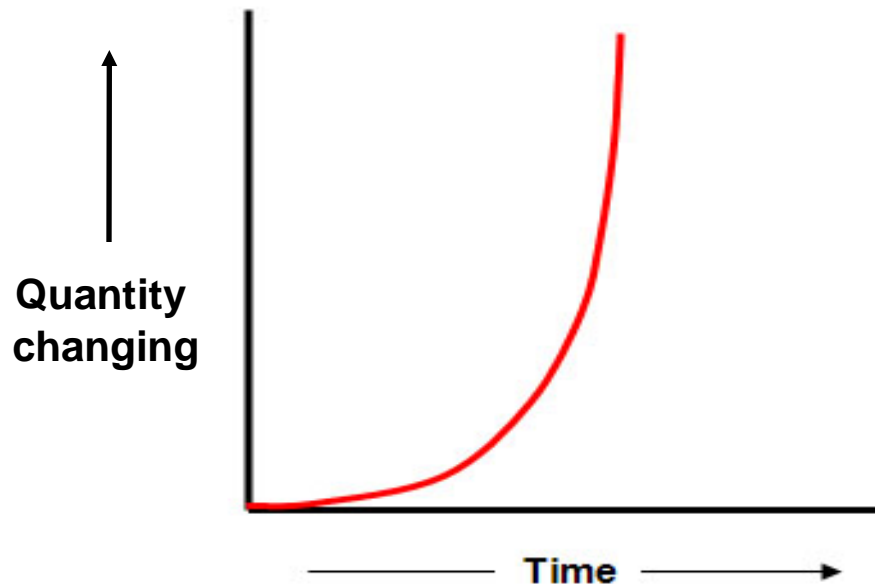
Mauna Loa Observatory

<http://scrippsco2.ucsd.edu/>

# Atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> at Mauna Loa Observatory



**Powers of 10** can be used to  
express exponential  
rates of change



# A Classic Video on The Relative Spatial Scale of Things:

## “POWERS OF 10”

<http://www.powersof10.com/film>



“In 1977, Charles and Ray Eames made a nine-minute film called Powers of Ten that still has the capacity today to expand the way we think and view our world. Over ten million people have since seen the film . . . .”

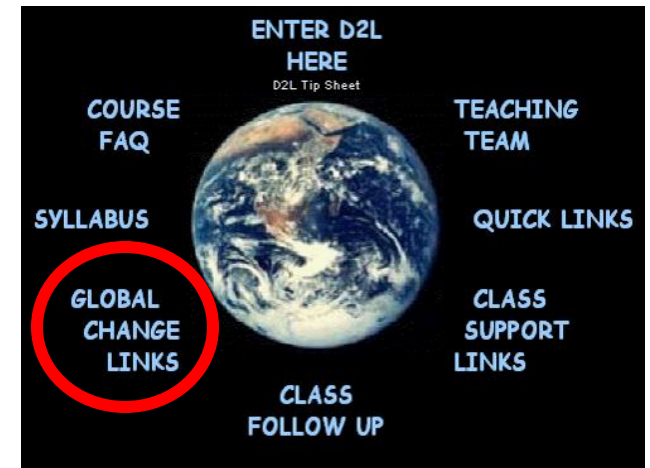
***“Eventually, everything connects.”***

- Charles Eames



# THINKING MORE DEEPLY: ABOUT “POWERS OF 10” via WEBSITES:

[Powers of 10 -- classic video](#)

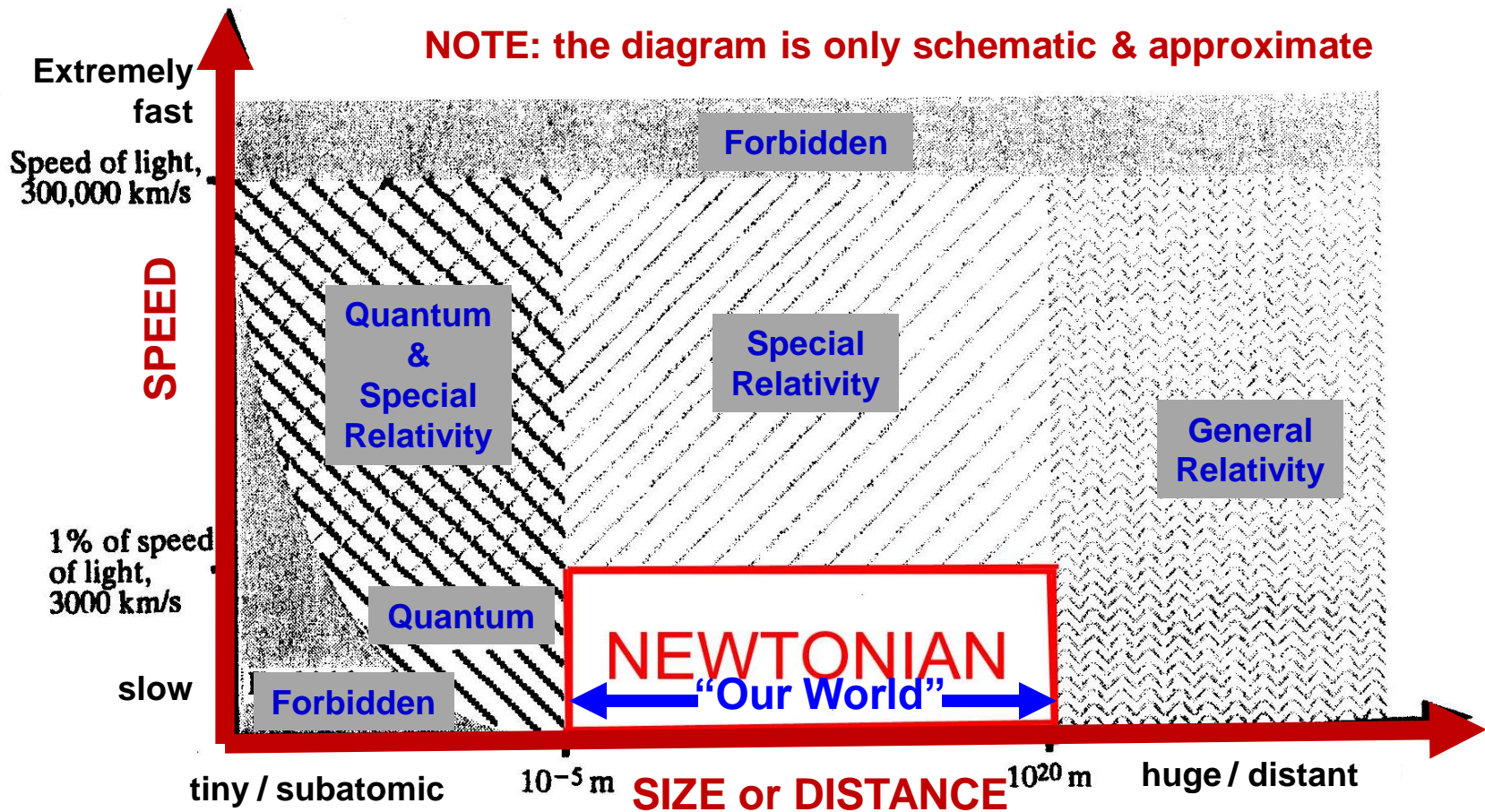


[Powers of 10 website](#) - updated website companion to the classic video by Charles & Ray Eames

[Cosmic View: The Universe in 40 Jumps](#) - online version of classic book by Kees Boeke

[Powers of 10 Interactive Tutorial](#) - an online Java journey -- similar to the video

# The Relative Scale of Things



**Newtonian physics breaks down for very SMALL objects, very LARGE objects, & very FAST objects.**

**Newton's laws of motion also break down for strong gravitational forces, such as those near a neutron star or black hole.**

# IN-CLASS ACTIVITY

**“Think-Pair-Share”**  
**Exercise on:**  
**PLOTTING CHANGE**  
**OVER TIME**

# RECOGNIZING & DESCRIBING DIFFERENT TYPES OF CHANGE AS DEPICTED IN TIME SERIES PLOTS

Here are some terms that will help you describe time changes more precisely in fewer words:

- **Mean** = average (a constant mean stays the same over time and looks like a horizontal line.)
- **Variance** = the range of fluctuations (wiggles) above and below the mean (statistically the variance is the square of the standard deviation about the mean)

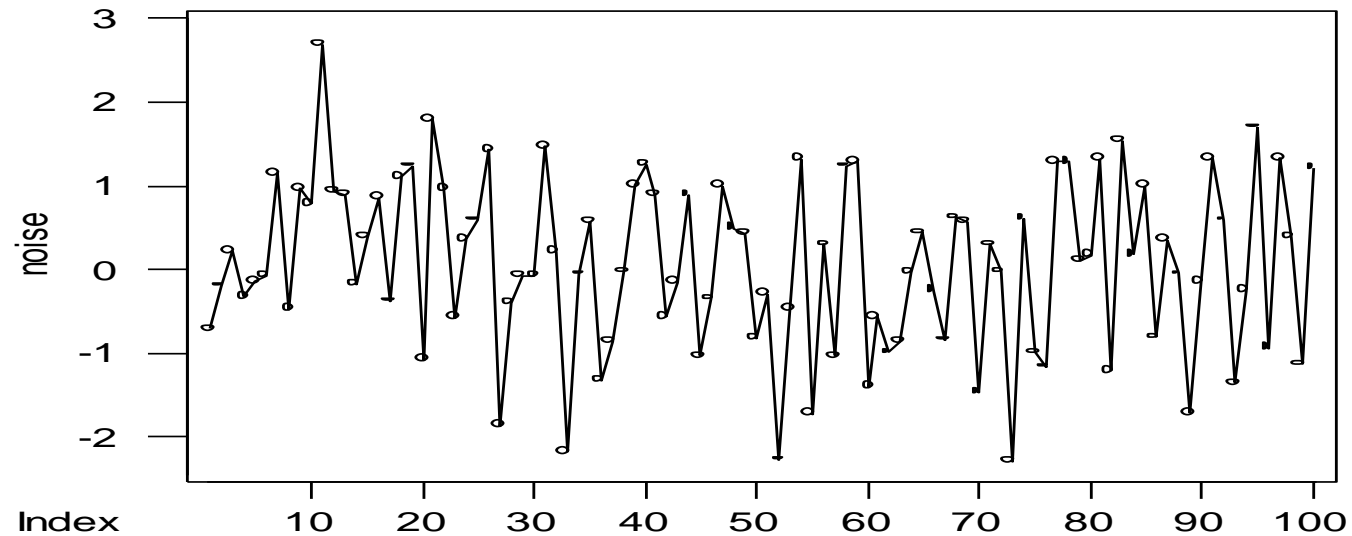
## Terms (cont.)

**Periodic** = perfect oscillations (fluctuations)  
(going up and down regularly or in a perfect wave-like motion)

- **Quasi-periodic** = almost regular oscillations (in nature things are quite often quasi-periodic rather than perfect oscillations)

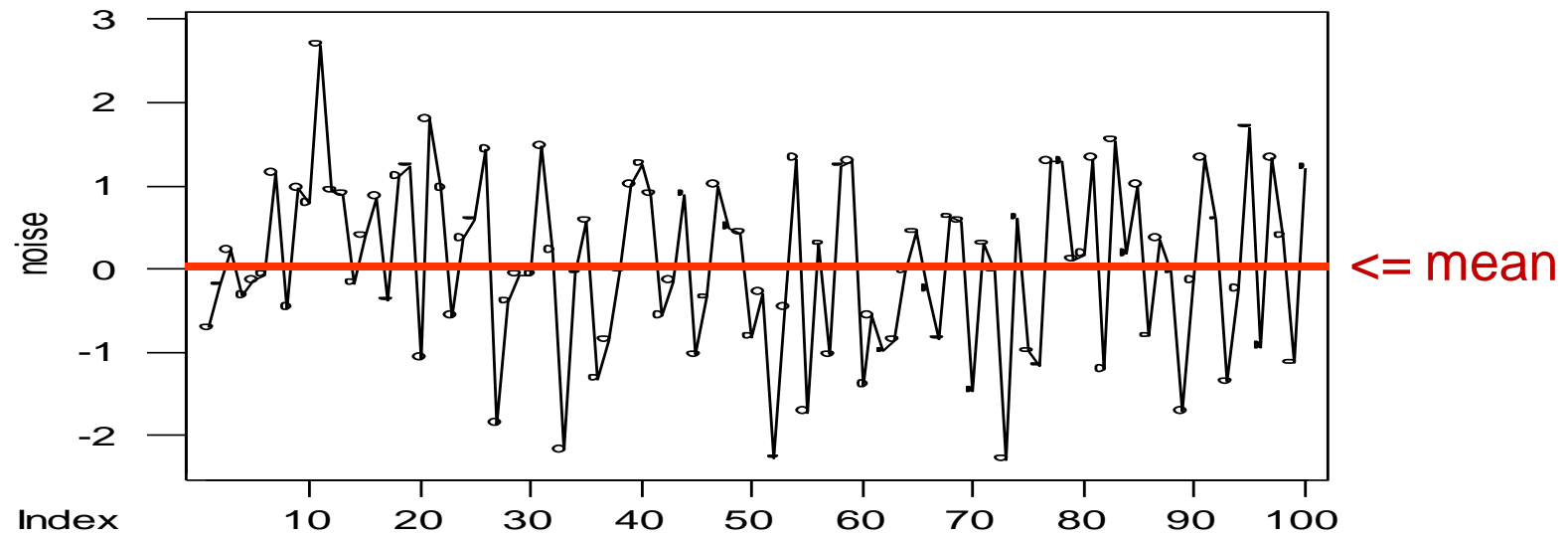
- **Trend** = a line of general direction (increasing or decreasing)

# Time Series Plot 1



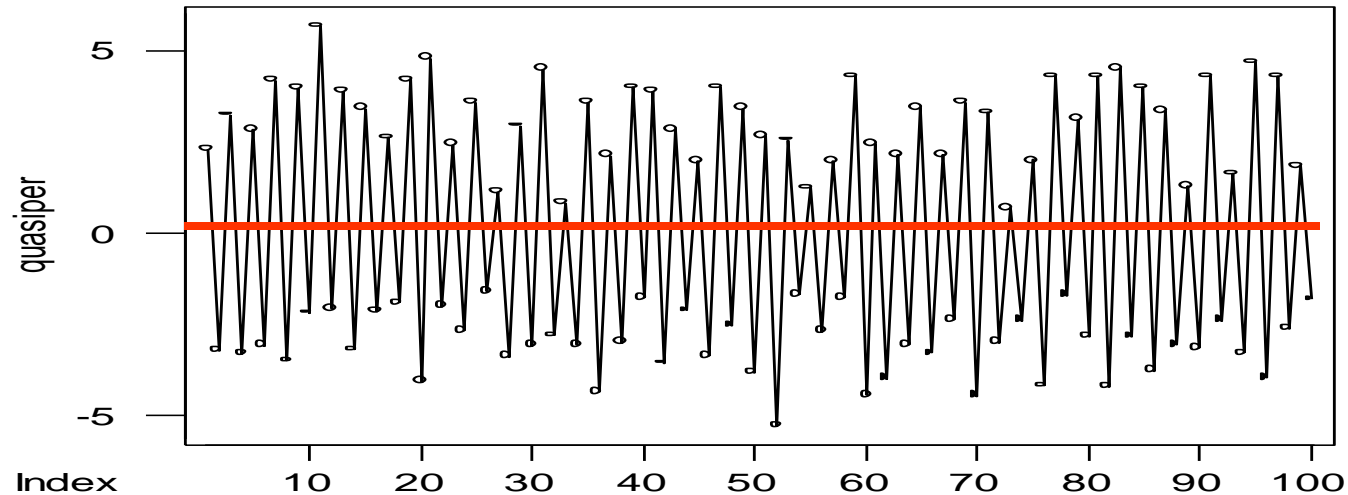
Draw in the **MEAN** line for this time series.

## Time Series Plot 1



**“White Noise” or “Random” plot** -- This plot appears to go up and down without any regular pattern (e.g., randomly); there are about as many points above the time series mean (average) as below; and the range of wiggles (variance) above and below the mean seems to be about the same over time.

## Time Series Plot 2



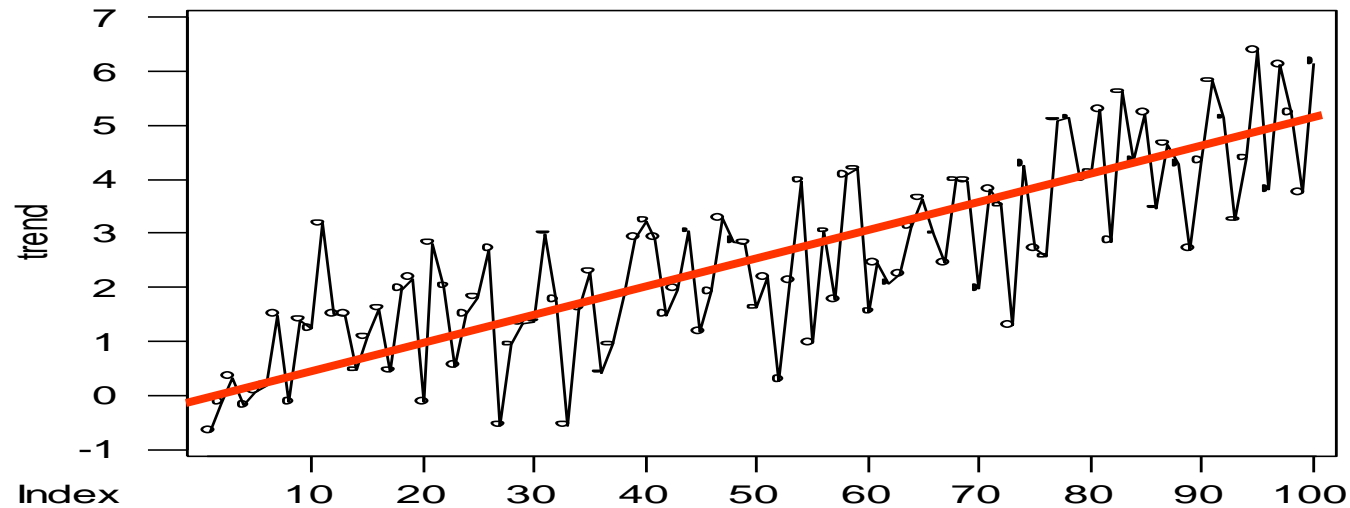
**Regular ups and downs . . . but not perfect . .**

Is the mean constant?

Is the variance constant?



## Time Series Plot 3

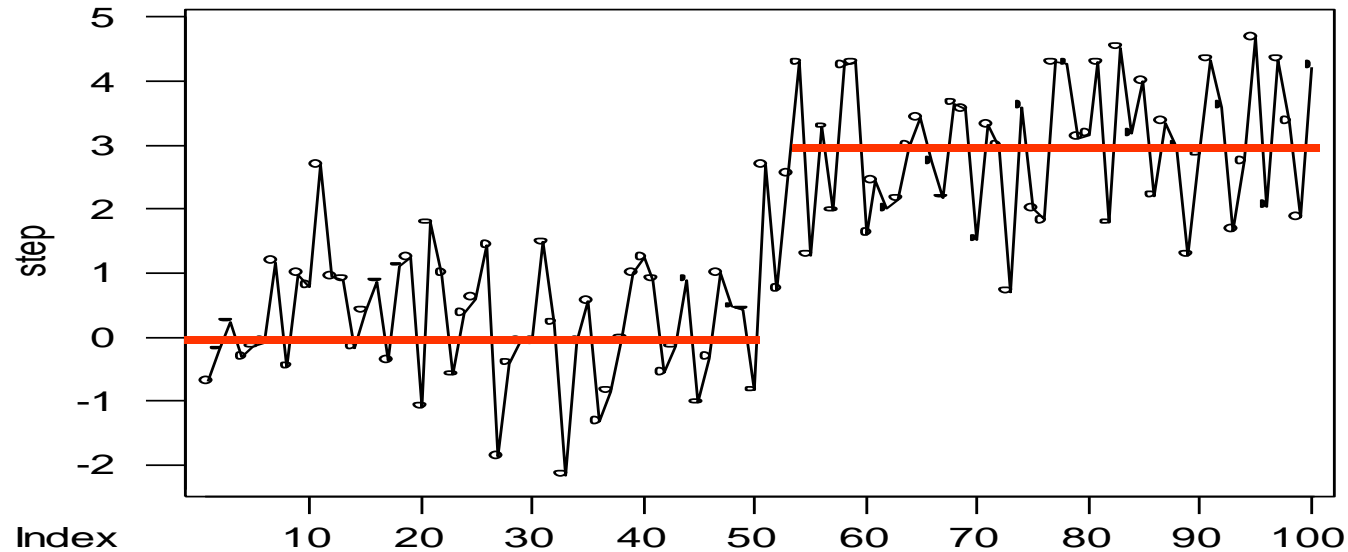


**Hmmm, something is changing here . . .**

**What's happening to the mean?**

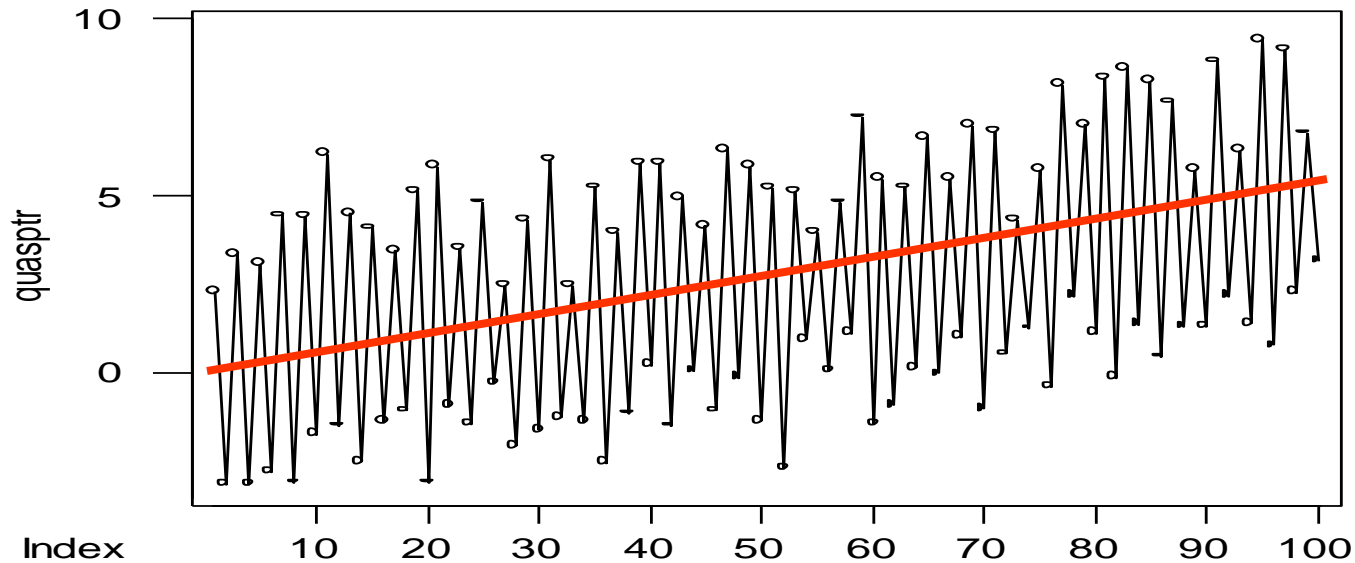
**Is the variance constant?**

## Time Series Plot 4



**Looks a little like a “set of stairs” with an abrupt jump between two series, each with a constant \_\_\_\_\_**

## Time Series Plot 5

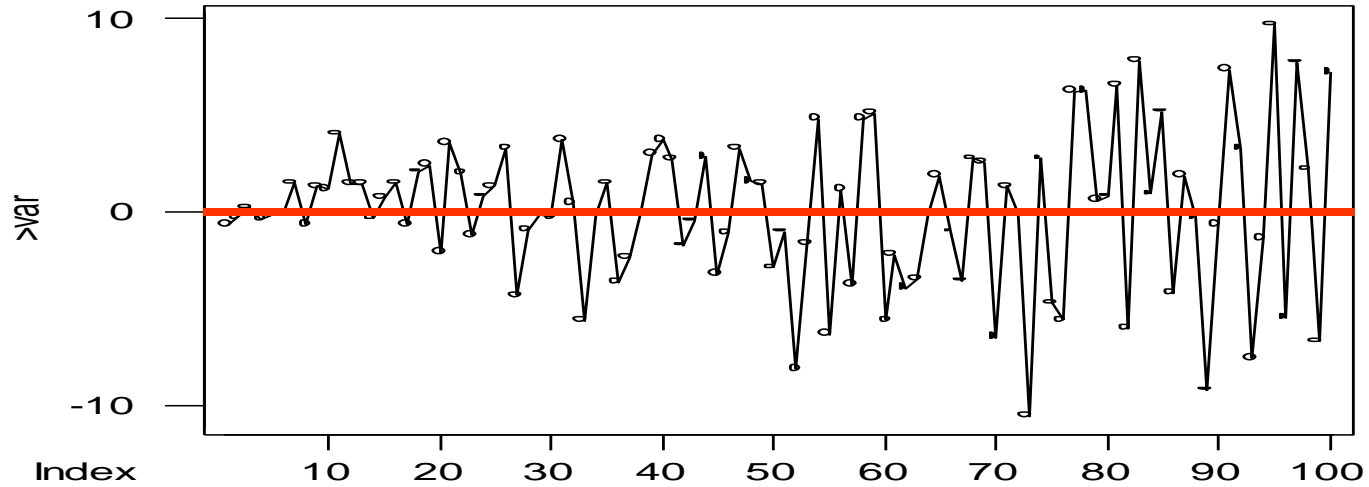


**Looks like Plot #3, but it's different  
– in what way?**

**What's going on with the mean?**

**The variance?**

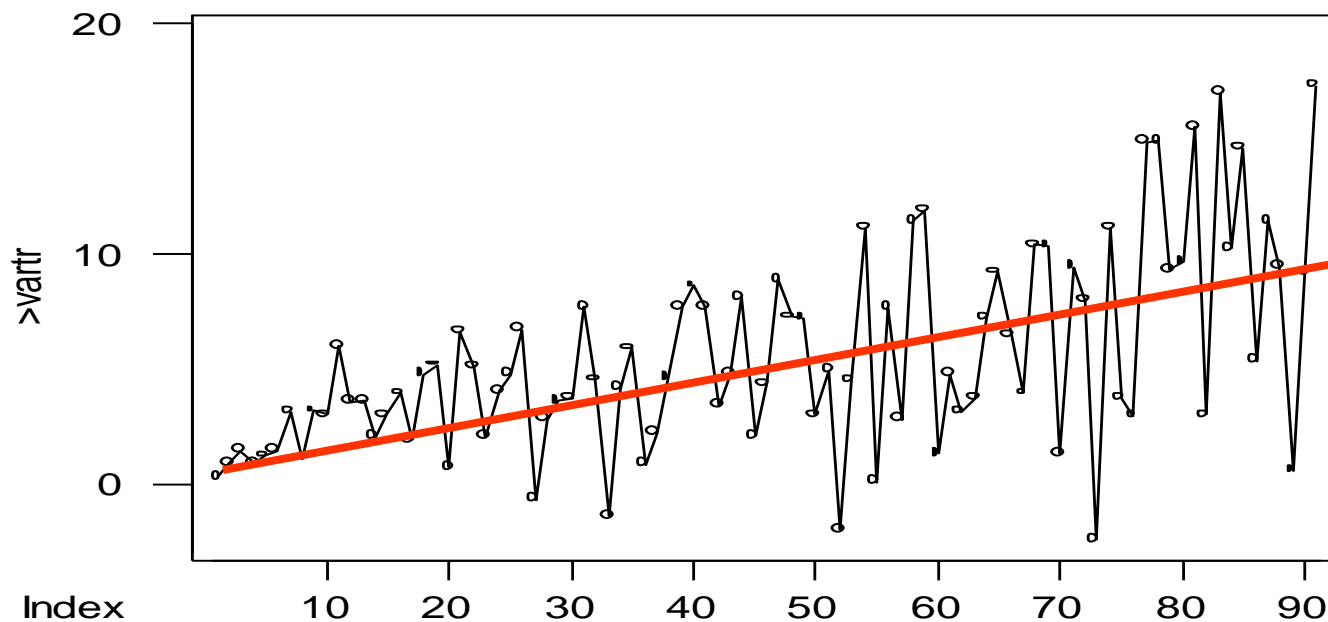
## Time Series Plot 6



**What's going on with the mean?**

**The variance?**

## Time Series Plot 7

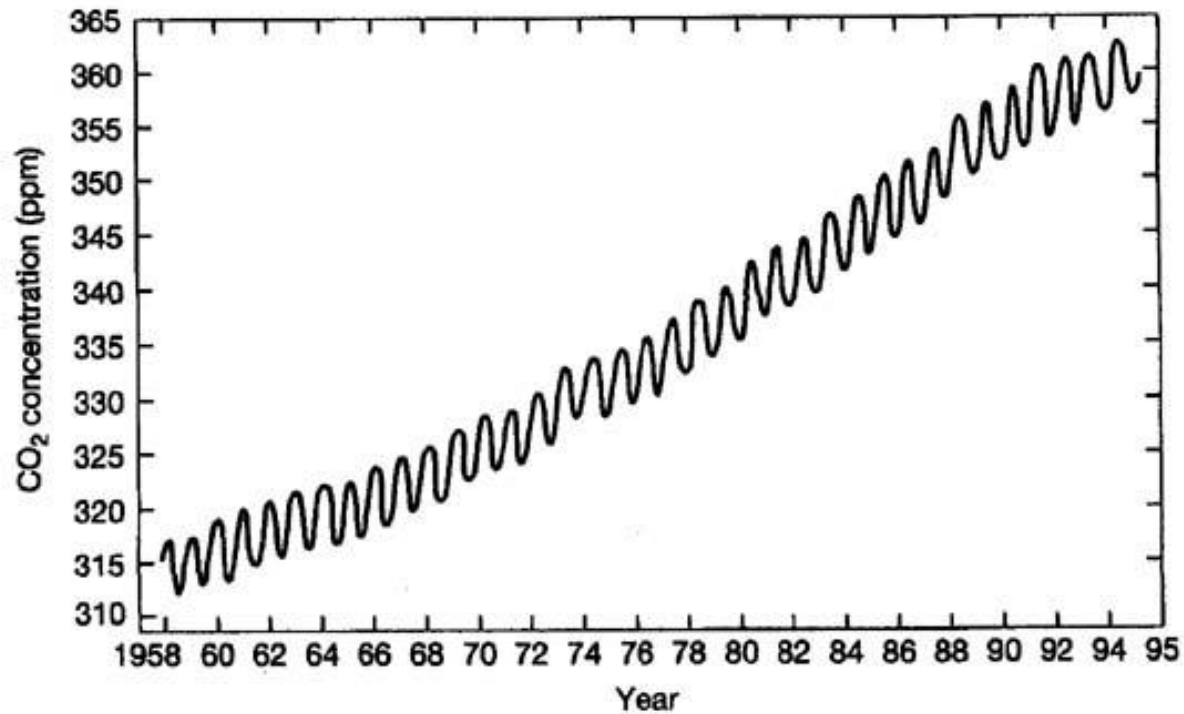


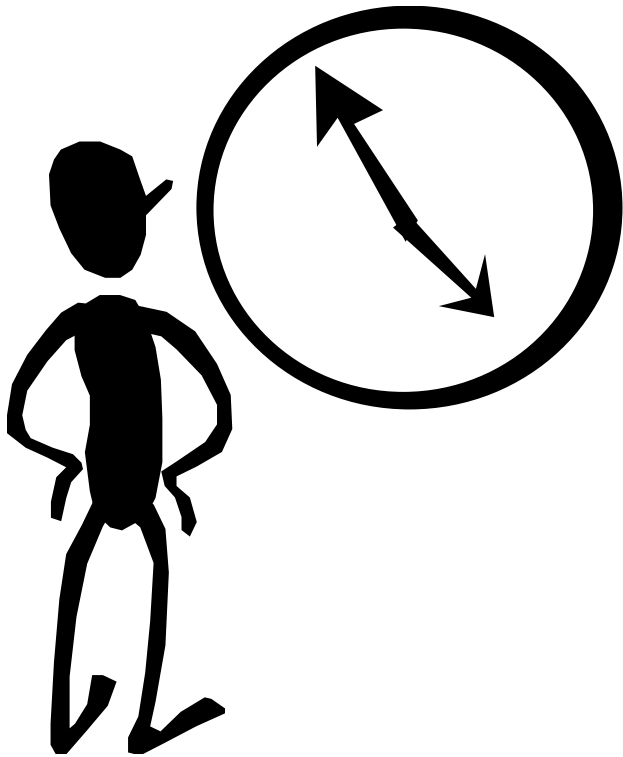
**Is there a trend?**

**What's going on with the mean over time?**

**What's going on with the variance?**

the “Keeling curve” is most like Plot # \_\_\_\_ ?



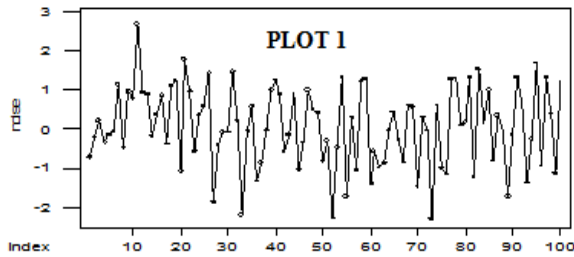


**IT'S TIME TO END  
YOUR DISCUSSION . . .**

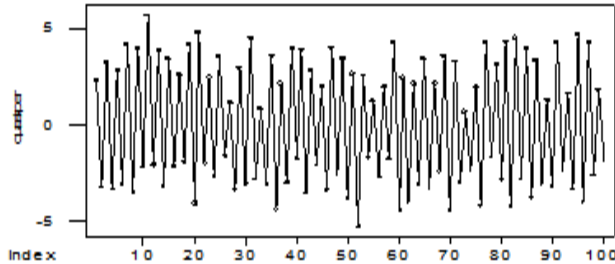
**PLEASE WRAP IT UP  
AND QUIET DOWN.**

# **ANSWERS TO TIME SERIES GRAPHS**



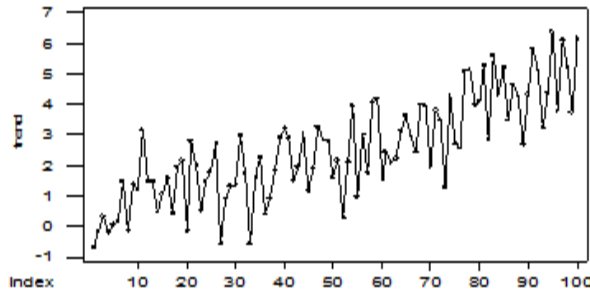


**PLOT #1: “White noise” (random fluctuations) but with constant mean and variance [ answer given for you]**



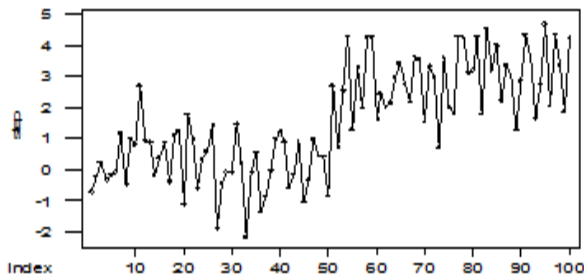
PLOT 2

**PLOT #2: “Quasi-periodic plot” with constant mean and variance.**  
*[Graph goes up and down very regularly (periodically); the mean stays the same, the range of fluctuations above and below the mean stays about the same over time. ]*



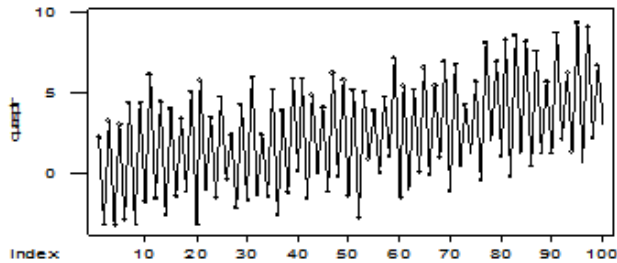
PLOT 3

**PLOT #3: “Trend” plot with the mean increasing over time, but a constant variance.** *[Graph shows trend of increasing values and increasing mean; the range of fluctuations is about the same.]*



PLOT 4

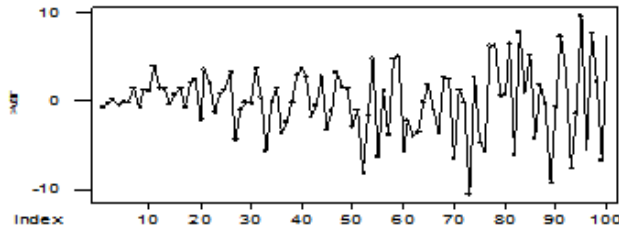
**PLOT #4: “Step Change” plot with an abrupt jump between two series like Plot 1.**  
*[Graph shows a “jump” or abrupt change between two different time series, each having a constant mean and variance]*



PLOT 5

**PLOT #5: “Quasi-periodic with upward trend” plot**

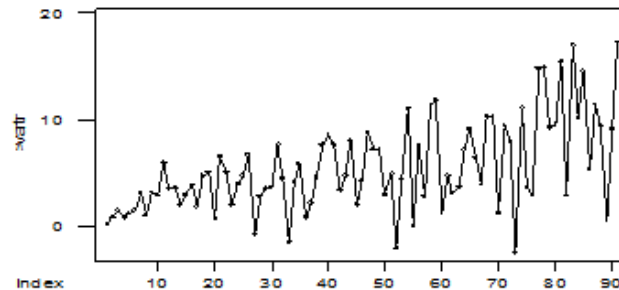
*[Graph shows an increasing trend and increasing mean, but has regular periodic ups and downs above and below the increasing mean. ]*



PLOT 6

**PLOT #6 “Increasing variance but constant mean” plot.**

*[Graph’s mean is constant but the range of fluctuations above and below the mean increases over time.]*

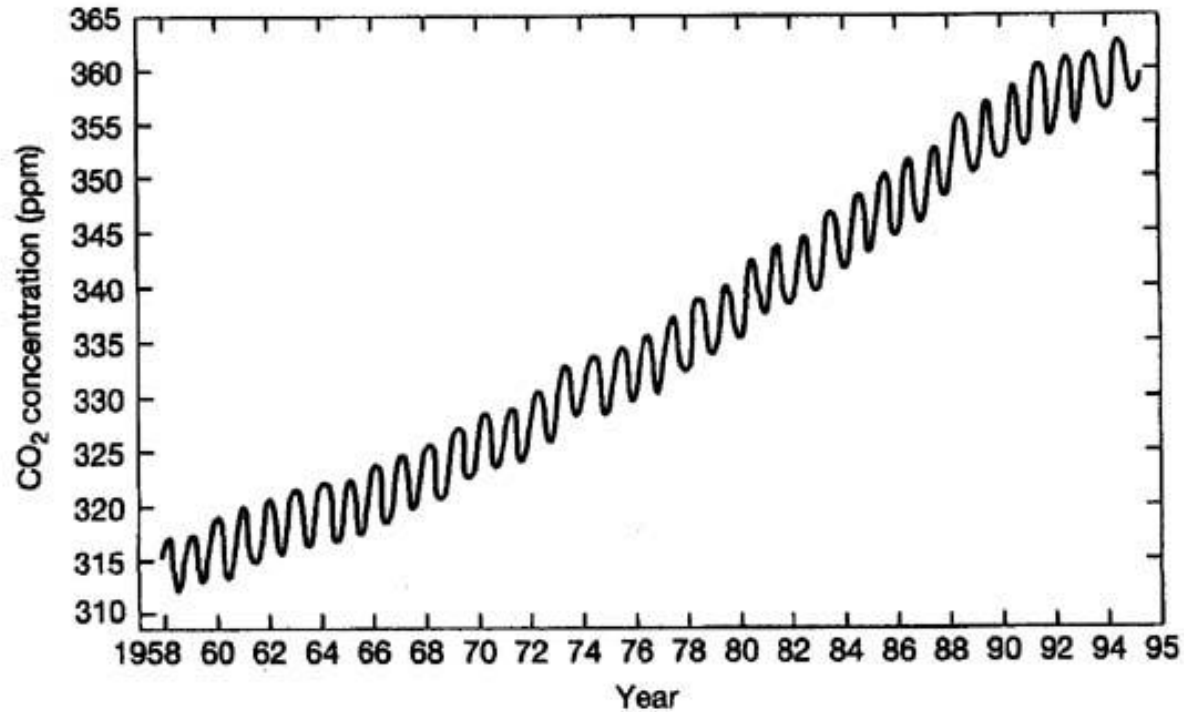


PLOT 7

**PLOT #7 “Trend with increasing mean and increasing variance” plot**

*[Graph had both an increasing mean and an increase in the range of fluctuations above and below the mean over time – the extremes are getting bigger!]*

the “Keeling curve” is most like Plot # 3 (or 5)



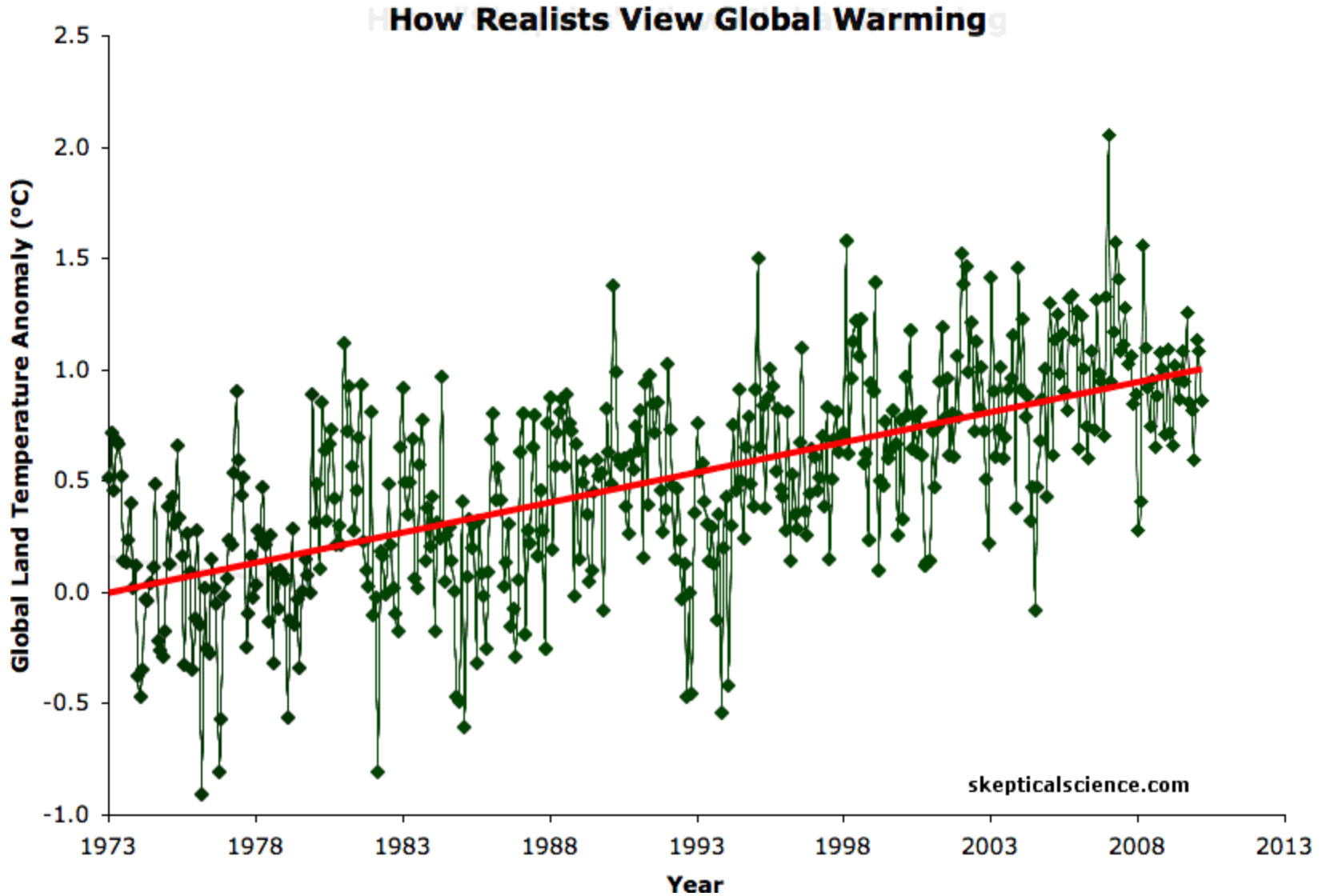
**But what's the difference between  
TRENDS  
and  
UP & DOWN VARIATIONS???**



Trend and variation

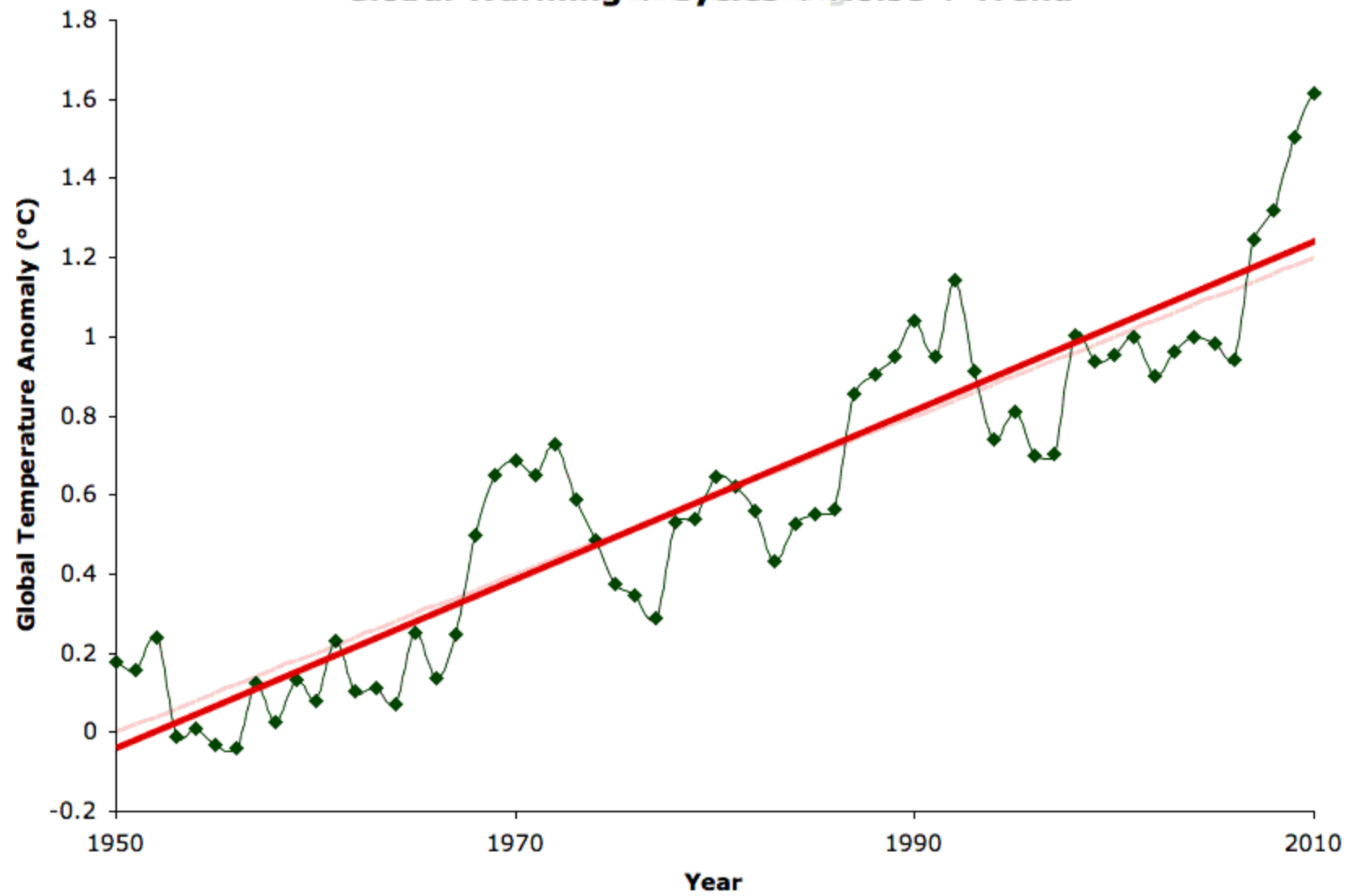
[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e0vj-0imOLw&feature=player\\_embedded](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e0vj-0imOLw&feature=player_embedded)

From SKEPTICALSCIENCE.COM website:



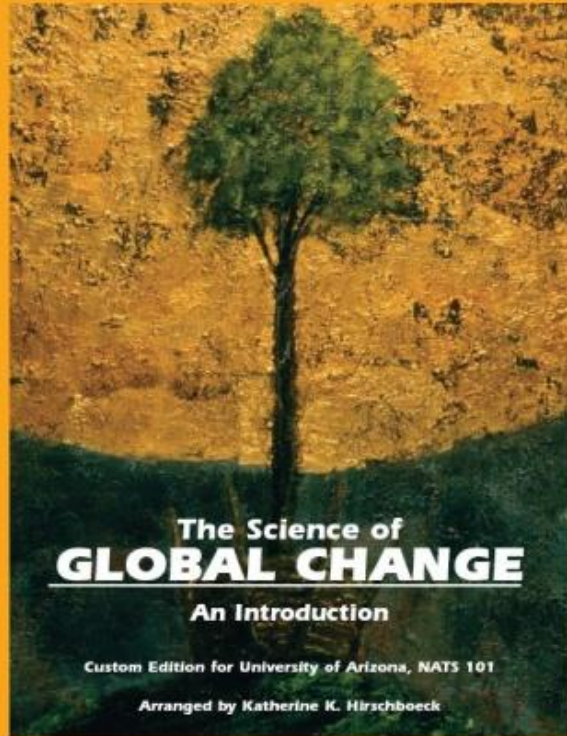
<http://www.skepticalscience.com/going-down-the-up-escalator-part-1.html>

### Global Warming + Cycles + Noise + Trend

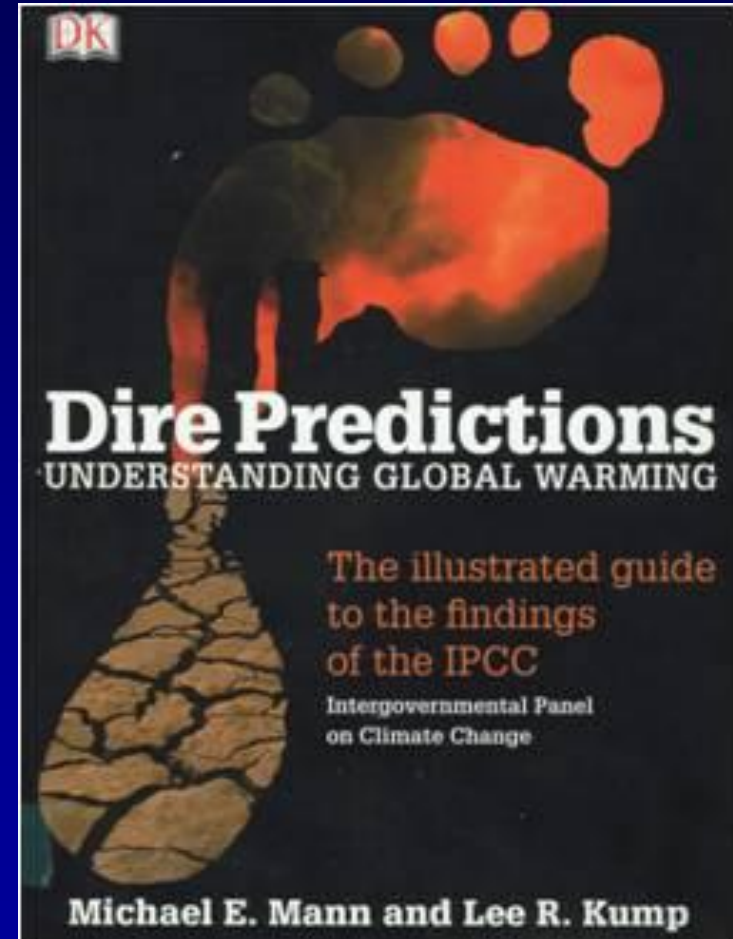


<http://www.skepticalscience.com/going-down-the-up-escalator-part-2.html>

**Cover of your  
other TEXTBOOK:**

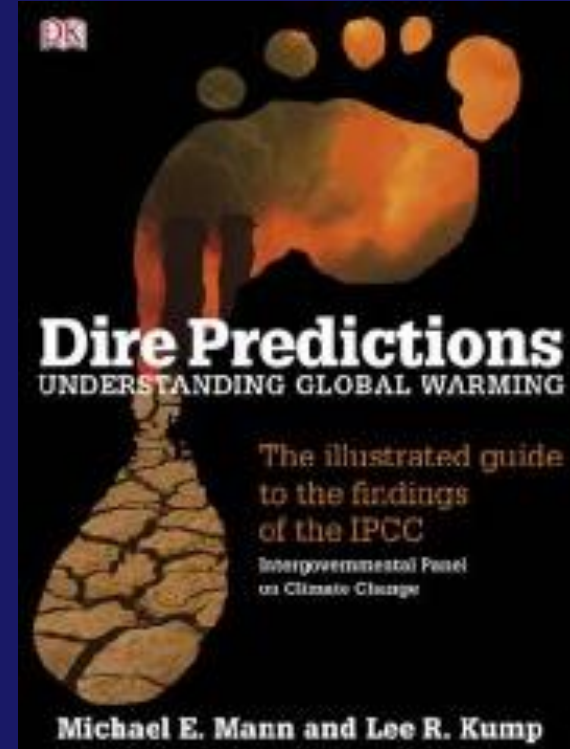


**“Cover” of  
the E-TEXT**





# CALCULATE YOUR FOOTPRINT!



## FIRST HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENT:

For next TUESDAY'S CLASS Sep 10th  
bring in the results the assignment

**Linking-to-Life PART A: YOUR FOOTPRINT**  
(worth 10 pts)

- <http://www.footprintnetwork.org/en/index.php/GFN/page/calculators/>

# A Tool for Quantifying Global Change Impacts: "The Footprint" Concept

*Examples: Ecological Footprint, Carbon Footprint, Water Footprint*

Your Ecological Footprint = A measure of how much area of Earth's biologically productive land and water you require . . .

(a) to produce all the **RESOURCES** you consume , and

(b) to absorb the **WASTE** you generate

. . . . using prevailing technology and resource management practices.

# The Ecological Footprint

## MEASURES

How fast we consume resources and generate waste



Energy



Settlement



Timber & paper



Food & fiber



Seafood

COMPARED TO

how fast nature can absorb our waste and generate new resources



Carbon footprint



Built up Land



Forest

Cropland & pasture

Fisheries

The Ecological Footprint includes:

**AREAS** for producing the resources consumed  
**SPACE** for accommodating buildings, roads needed  
**ECOSYSTEMS** for absorbing the waste emissions,  
( such as carbon dioxide.)

The Ecological Footprint is usually **measured in GLOBAL HECTARES** (or sometimes, **number of "Earth's needed"**).

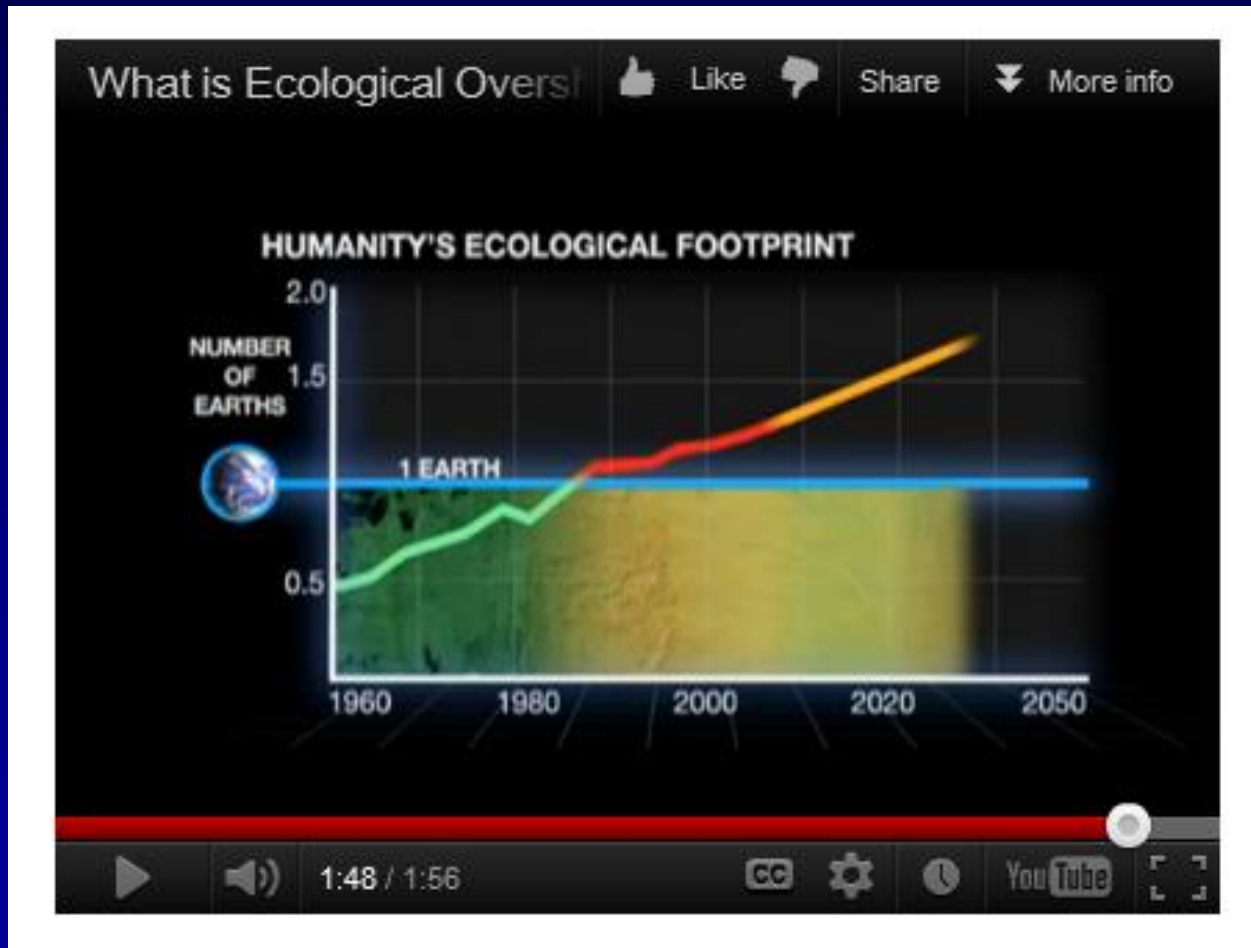
(This is because trade is global and therefore an individual or country's Ecological Footprint includes land or sea from all over the world.)

**The Footprint can be computed for an individual, a particular activity, a group of people, or an entire nation**



. . . was on August 20<sup>th</sup> this year!  
in 2003 it was on Sep 22  
in 1993 it was on Oct 21

[http://www.footprintnetwork.org/en/index.php/GFN/page/video\\_overshoot\\_explained/](http://www.footprintnetwork.org/en/index.php/GFN/page/video_overshoot_explained/)



# ECOLOGICAL FOOTPRINT CALCULATOR

The screenshot shows the website's header with the logo and navigation links. Below the navigation is a banner with two images: a group of women in red dresses and a close-up of water ripples. The main content area features the title 'Footprint Calculator' and a descriptive paragraph. Below this is a 3D-rendered scene of a suburban neighborhood with a house, a store, and a car. A progress bar at the bottom indicates '74% complete'.

**Global Footprint Network**  
Advancing the Science of Sustainability

Contact | Community | Donate | Sitemap | Language

ABOUT US | FOOTPRINT BASICS | FOOTPRINT SCIENCE | PARTNERSHIPS | RESOURCES

## Footprint Calculator

How much land area does it take to support your lifestyle? Take this quiz to find out your Ecological Footprint, discover your biggest areas of resource consumption, and learn what you can do to tread more lightly on the earth.

reset quiz

74% complete

Global Footprint Network  
Advancing the Science of Sustainability

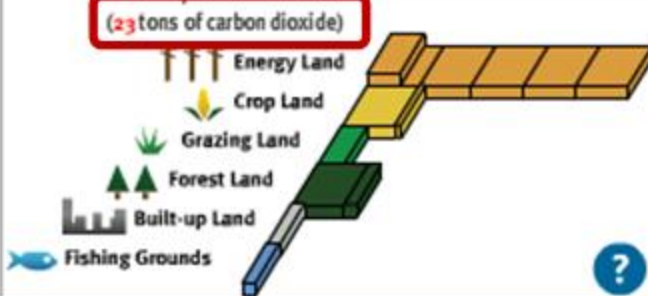
<http://www.footprintnetwork.org/en/index.php/GFN/page/calculators/>

# USA AVERAGE Ecological Footprint (based on 2008 data)

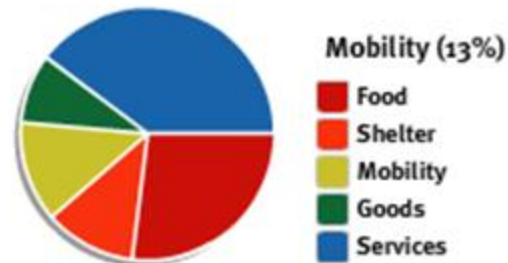
Many activities impact our Footprint. If everyone lived like you, we'd need **5 Planet Earths** to provide enough resources.



To support your lifestyle, it takes **22.1 global acres** of the Earth's productive area.



Here is how your Ecological Footprint breaks down:



Can you reduce your Ecological Footprint?

**edit your footprint**

go back and retake parts of the quiz

**explore scenarios**

explore simple actions to change your Footprint

**continue**

continue without exploring

The Ecological Footprint calculator “represents the amount of land and sea area needed to provide the resources a person needs (food, shelter, etc.), and absorb the wastes they create (including carbon dioxide)”

SOURCE: [http://www.footprintnetwork.org/en/index.php/GFN/page/footprint\\_calculator\\_frequently\\_asked\\_questions/](http://www.footprintnetwork.org/en/index.php/GFN/page/footprint_calculator_frequently_asked_questions/)



# PROJECT PART A

## SIMPLIFIED DIRECTIONS:

1) Compute Footprint

<http://www.footprintnetwork.org/en/index.php/GFN/page/calculators/>

2) Save in a document and date it

3) Write a short summary of what you noticed about what's contributing to YOUR footprint (1 paragraph)

4) Deposit in the D2L Dropbox (will be opened up for submissions on Thursday) & due 1 week from today.

# Recap of what we did today:

- Review and wrap up science concepts from Monday & Wednesday's class
- Address the problems of **QUANTIFYING NATURE** in Global Change
- Learn what the **KEELING CURVE** is, why it is important, & why “350” is an important data point on the curve
- Review **exponential relationships** and the **Powers of 10**: important tools to express change and vast ranges of size, speed, time, etc.
- Learn **terminology** to describe changes depicted in **TIME SERIES graphs**

## REMEMBER FOR THURSDAY:

- (1) Your **first GRADED RQ (RQ-1)** based on the ATOMS Chapter (at the very end of the E-TEXT) **is** is due **THIS THURSDAY Sep 5th** The quiz will be locked at the cutoff time: **30 minutes** before our next class begins.  
Please don't wait until the last minute!
- (2) **CLICKER Debut:** Please register your **CLICKER** or **RESPONSE WARE** Device ID and bring your device to class **on THURSDAY** for use in class! Directions on how to **REGISTER your CLICKER/ ResponseWare** for use in THIS class are **in D2L**
- (3) Registration directions for your **E-text** are posted under **QUICK LINKS** and also in the **D2L Checklist**.

