

Thursday Oct 21

Sit with your Group TODAY!!

TODAY'S NEW TOPIC:

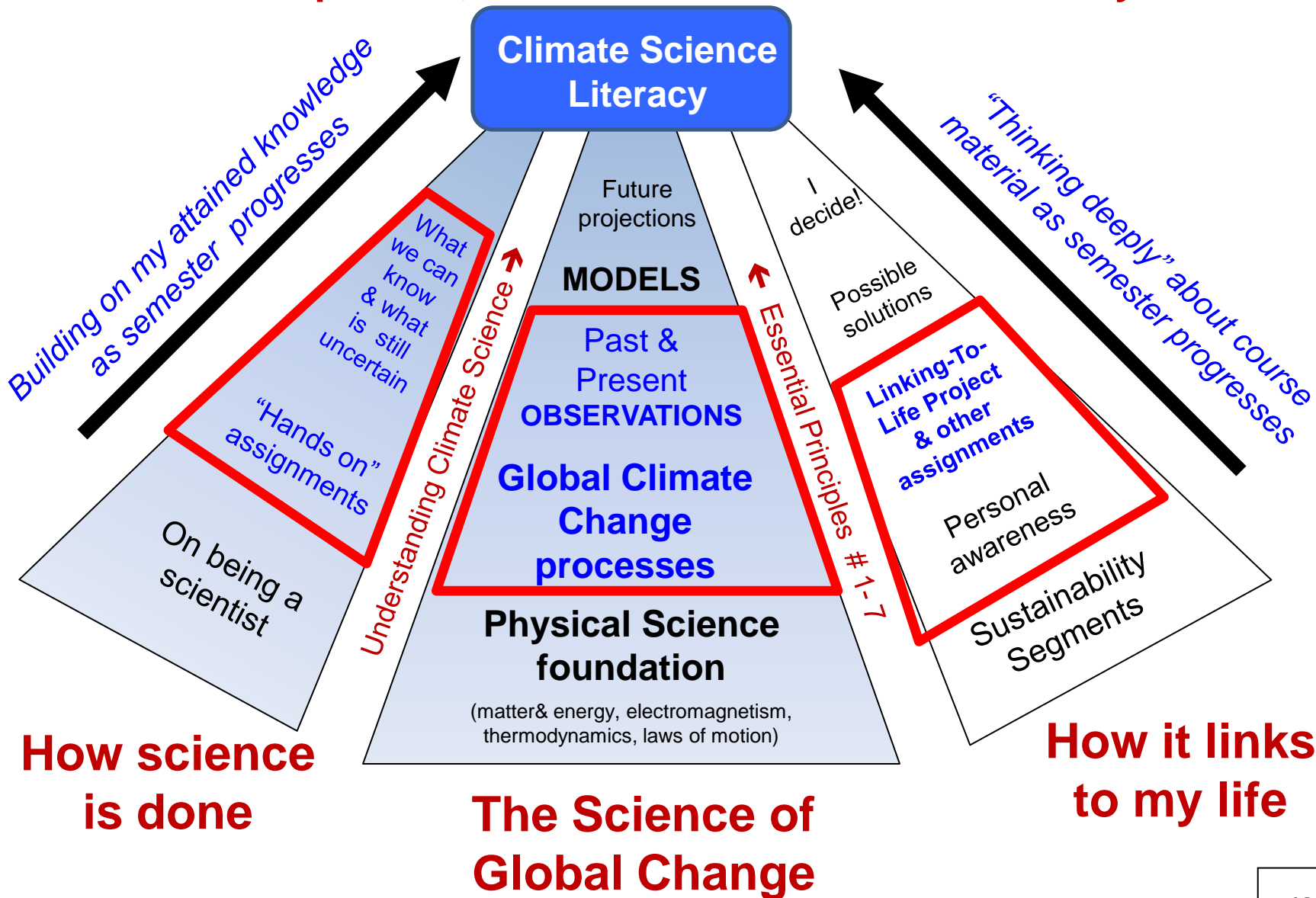
Topic # 9 Systems & Feedbacks

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Due to the D2L outage last night, the RQ-5 cutoff has been extended until TONIGHT at 11:30 pm**
- **New I-2, 1-3, and I-4 Assignments have been posted.
(The answer sheets will be linked tonight)**
- **RQ6 on Natural Climate Processes & Forcing is coming up NEXT Tuesday -- Get started on the reading NOW!**
- **Exam grading is in process – will be returned next week**

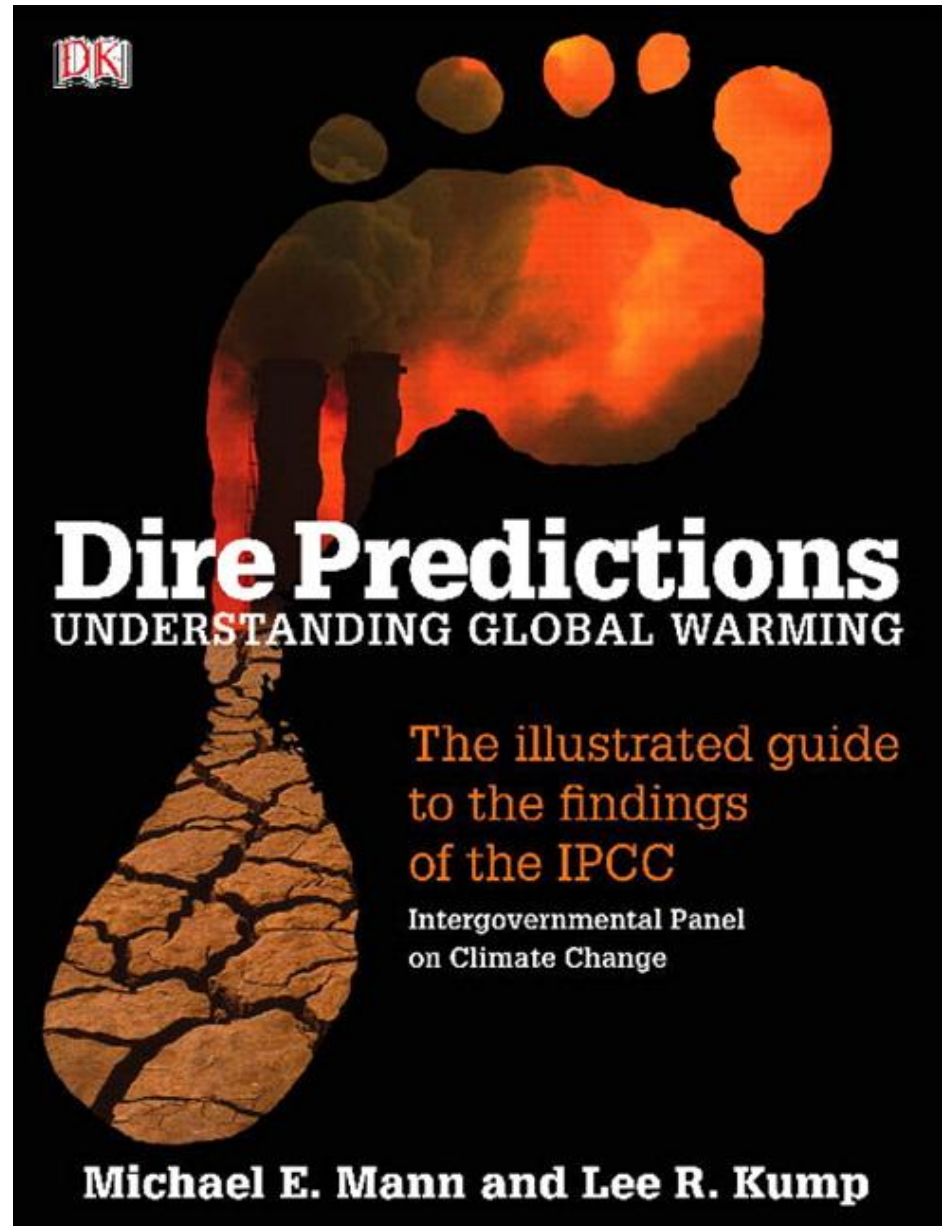


GOAL: Enhanced Understanding Of Global Change Science, How It Operates, & What It Means To Me Personally



Remember to
always review the
WEEKLY D2L
CHECKLIST for
what you should be
doing (Next
week's Checklist is
already posted!)

NOTE: We'll be
reading more in the
Dire Predictions text
in upcoming weeks
– see Checklist for
the specific pages.



TOPIC # 9

Introduction to Models:

UNDERSTANDING SYSTEMS & FEEDBACKS

Class notes pp 57 -61

**“When one tugs at a
single thing in nature, one
finds it attached to the
rest of the world.”**

~ John Muir



Dire Predictions

UNDERSTANDING GLOBAL WARMING

The illustrated guide
to the findings
of the IPCC

Intergovernmental Panel
on Climate Change

Michael E. Mann and Lee R. Kump

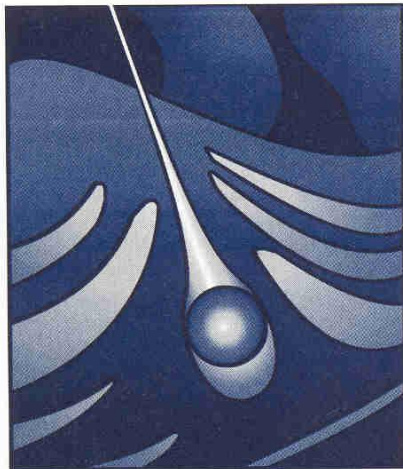
Projections of what
**the FUTURE
CLIMATE** will be like
are based on **GIANT
COMPUTER
MODELS** – results
are given in the
IPCC Report
and summarized in
your **DIRE
PREDICTIONS** text .

(More on these projections
later under Topic # 13)

THIS CHAPTER INTRODUCES YOU TO
“THINKING LIKE”
The IPCC COMPUTER MODELS WORK

C H A P T E R

2



Daisyworld:
An Introduction
to Systems

WHAT IS A SYSTEM?

SYSTEM = a set of interacting
components

COMPONENT (*def*) = An individual part
of a system.

A component may be a reservoir of **matter** or **energy**, or some other aspect of the system, a “system attribute” or a subsystem:

e.g. the **atmosphere**, the **energy in the atmosphere** as measured by temperature, or the **amount of CO₂ in the atmosphere**, etc.

SYSTEM MODEL =

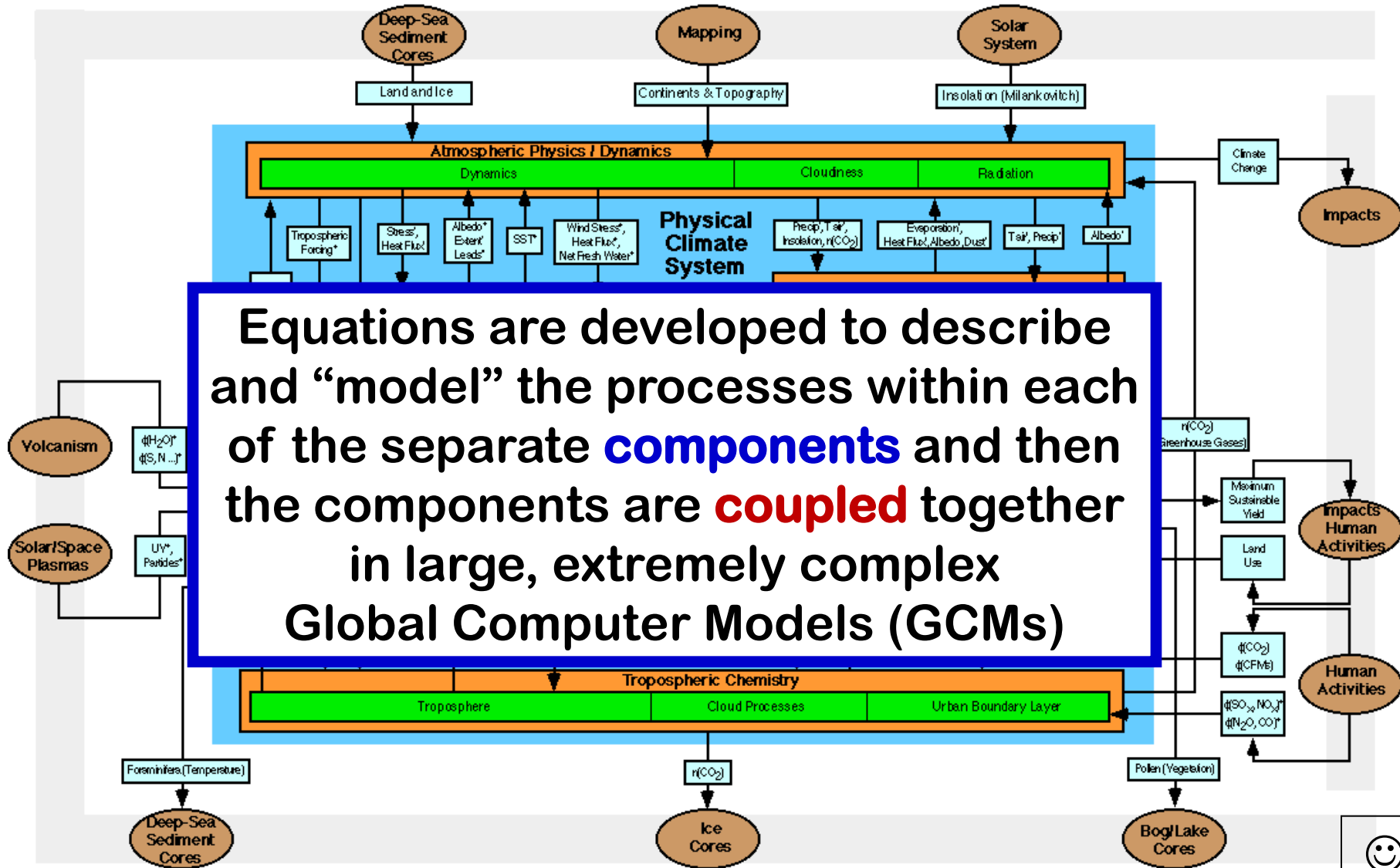
a set of assumptions, rules, data and inferences that **define the interactions AMONG the components of a system** and the significant interactions between the system and the “universe” outside the system

SYSTEM DIAGRAM =

A diagram of a system that uses graphic symbols or icons to represent components in a depiction of how the system works

A complicated “system diagram” of the Earth-Atmosphere System:

CONCEPTUAL MODEL of Earth System process operating on timescales of decades to centuries



* = on timescale of hours to days * = on timescale of months to seasons ϕ = flux n = concentration



Coupling (def):

The links between any two components of a system.

Couplings can be positive (+) or negative (-)

A coupling between an electric blanket temperature component and a body temperature component:



If the electric blanket's temperature **INCREASES . . .**

The person's body temperature will also **INCREASE**

What type of COUPLING IS THIS?

Positive + OR Negative - ???

A coupling between a person's body temperature and an electric blanket's temperature



If the person's body temperature **INCREASES** and she gets too hot . . .

The electric blanket's temperature control will be turned down and the blanket temperature will **DECREASE**

What type of COUPLING IS THIS?

Positive + OR Negative - ????

THE “RULE” – how to tell if the diagram is showing a positive or negative coupling:

Positive couplings have a solid “arrow” with a normal arrowhead pointing in the direction of the coupling:



Negative couplings have an “open circle” arrowhead pointing in the direction of the coupling:



FEEDBACKS

Feedback mechanism *(def):*

a sequence of interactions in which the final interaction influences the original one.

Feedbacks occur in loops →

Feedback Loop (def) =

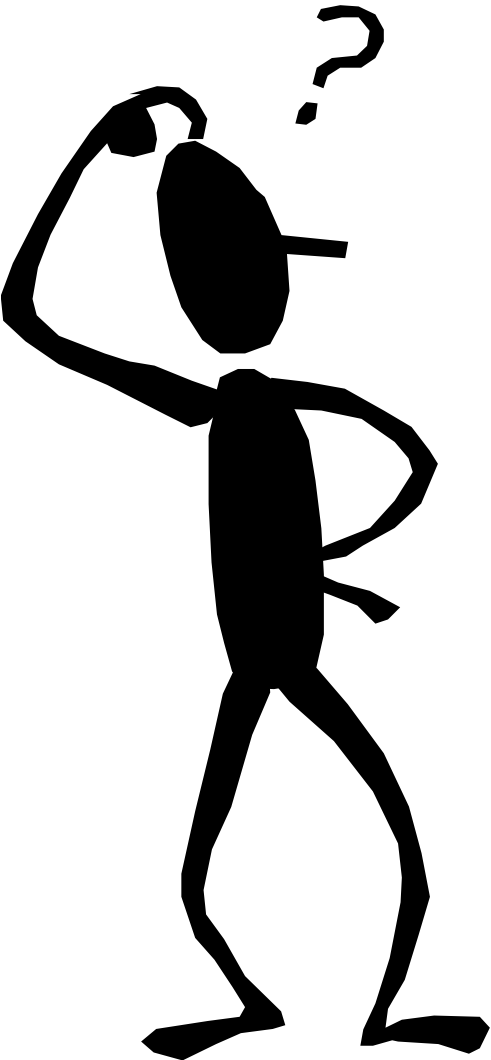
A linkage of two or more system components that forms a ROUND-TRIP flow of information.

Feedback loops can be positive (+) or negative (-).

A *positive feedback* is an interaction that **amplifies** the response of the system in which it is incorporated

(**self-enhancing; amplifying**).

A *negative feedback* is an interaction that **reduces** or **dampens** the response of the system in which it is incorporated (**self-regulating**; diminishes the effect of perturbations)



One way to remember the effect that a **NEGATIVE** feedback loop has is to think of the word "negligible"

i.e., a perturbation or disturbance in a system characterized by a **negative feedback loop** will be able to adjust to the perturbation and ultimately the effect on the system will be negligible



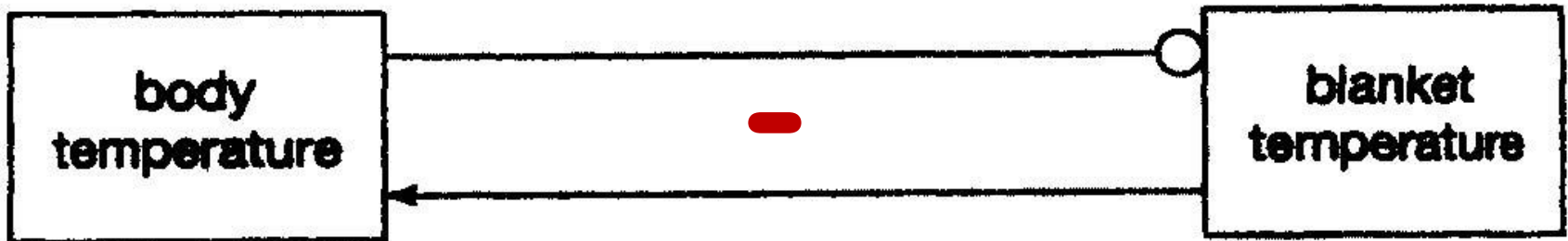
FEEDBACK LOOP

Clicker Q1

What kind of **FEEDBACK LOOP** is it?

1) Positive (+)

2) Negative (-) ???



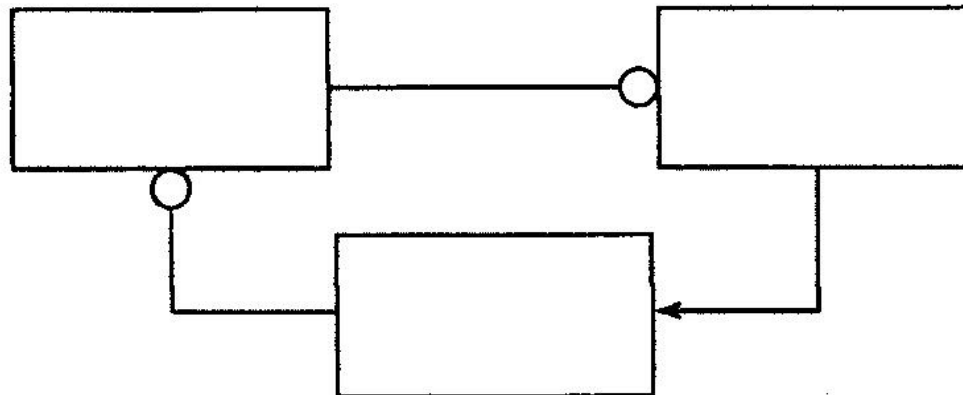
THE “RULE” – how to tell if the diagram is a positive or negative feedback LOOP:

Count the # of number of **NEGATIVE COUPLINGS**:

If there is an **ODD #** of negative Couplings, the loop is **NEGATIVE**:

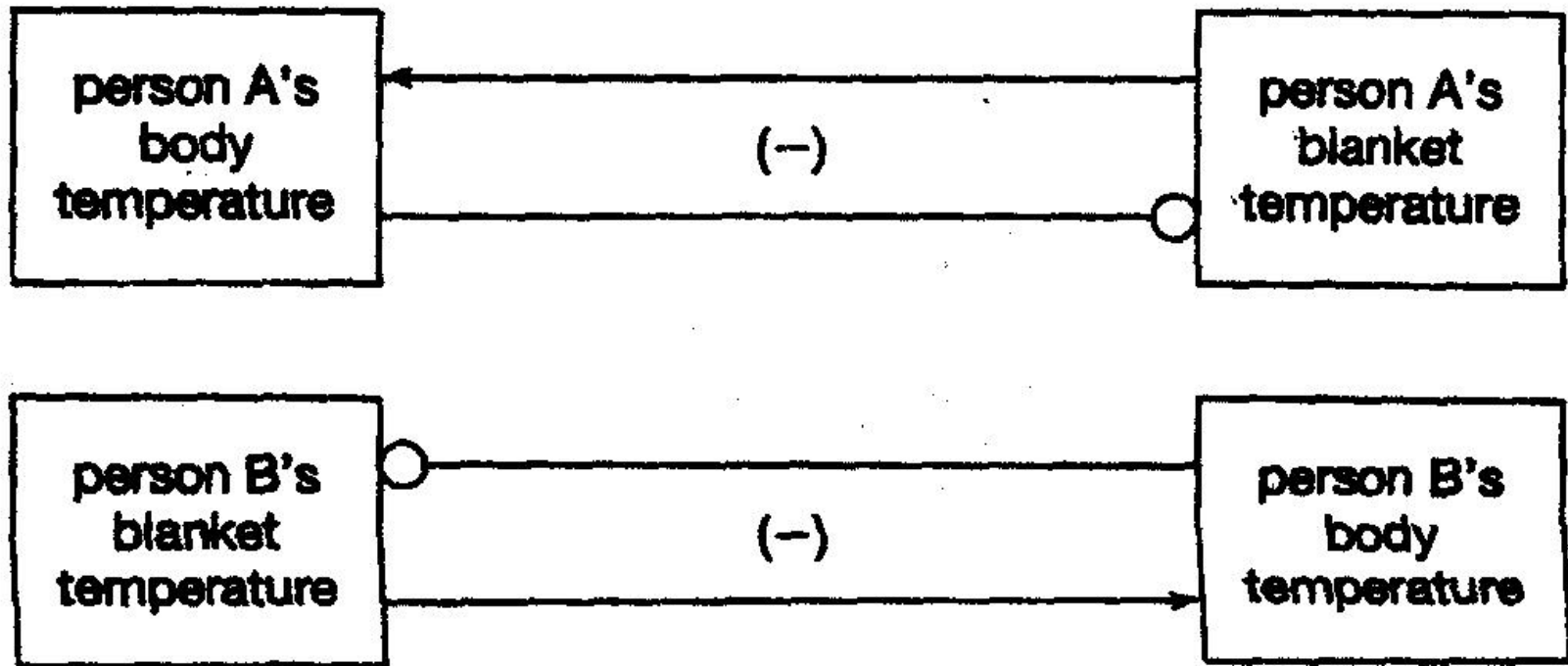


If there is an **EVEN #** of negative couplings, the loop is **POSITIVE**



Everyday life example:

Proper alignment of dual control electric blanket:

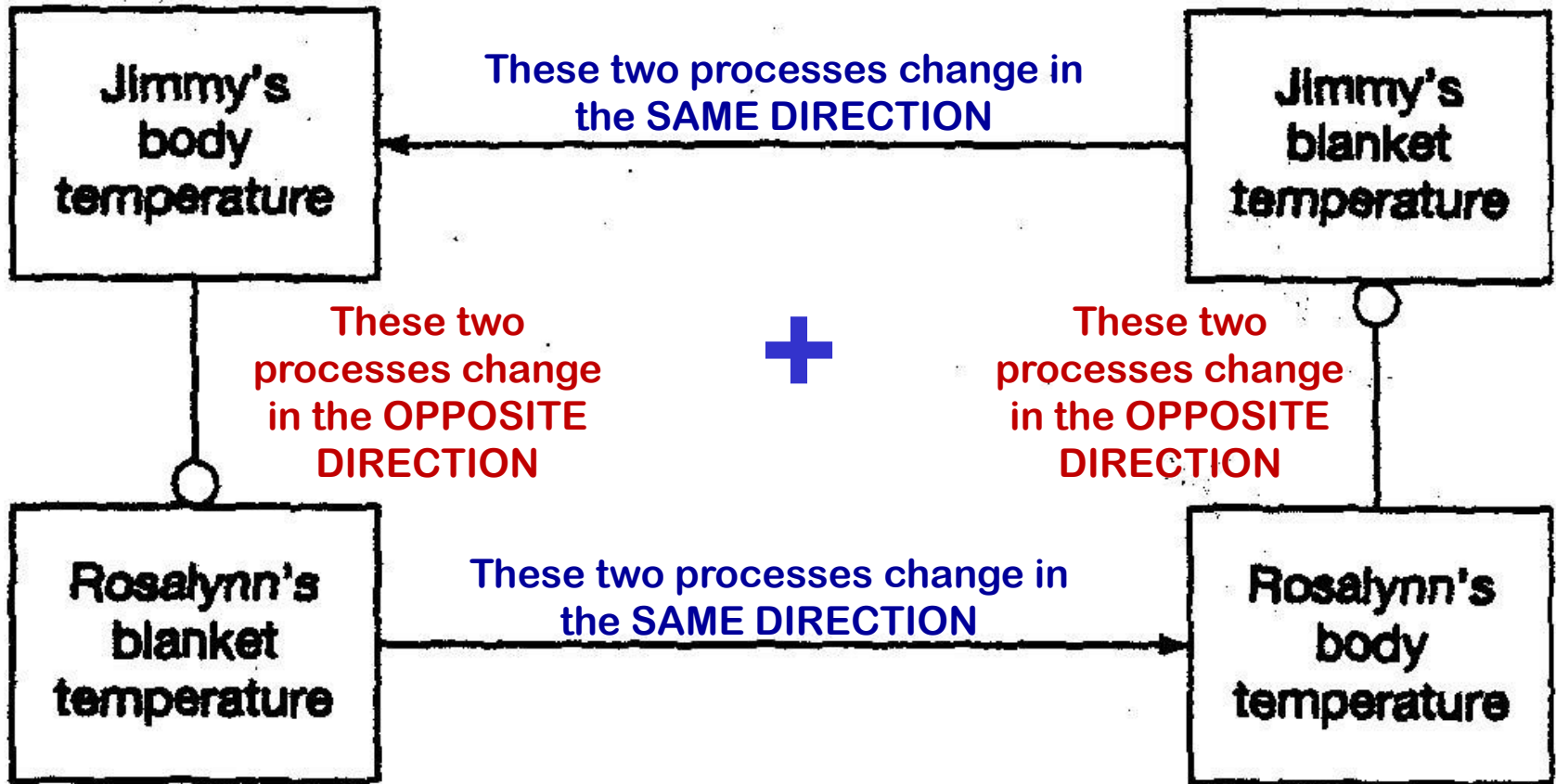


Improper alignment:

Clicker Q2 What kind of **FEEDBACK LOOP** is it?

1) Positive +

2) Negative -



A **POSITIVE FEEDBACK LOOP**
that **amplifies** the effect!

QUICK SUMMARY:

- NEGATIVE feedback loops:

- are **resistant to a range** of disturbances (small changes have a “negligible” effect)
- system can **return to it’s beginning state**
- **STABLE** equilibrium state

+ POSITIVE feedback loops:

- **amplify the effects** of disturbances (small changes can “amplify” the response)
- system can become **UNSTABLE** and be taken to a new, amplified state

LINKING TO GLOBAL CHANGE:



In Global Change science we are concerned about **disturbances** that both **humans and natural factors** can produce in the Earth system:

(e.g. increasing carbon dioxide)

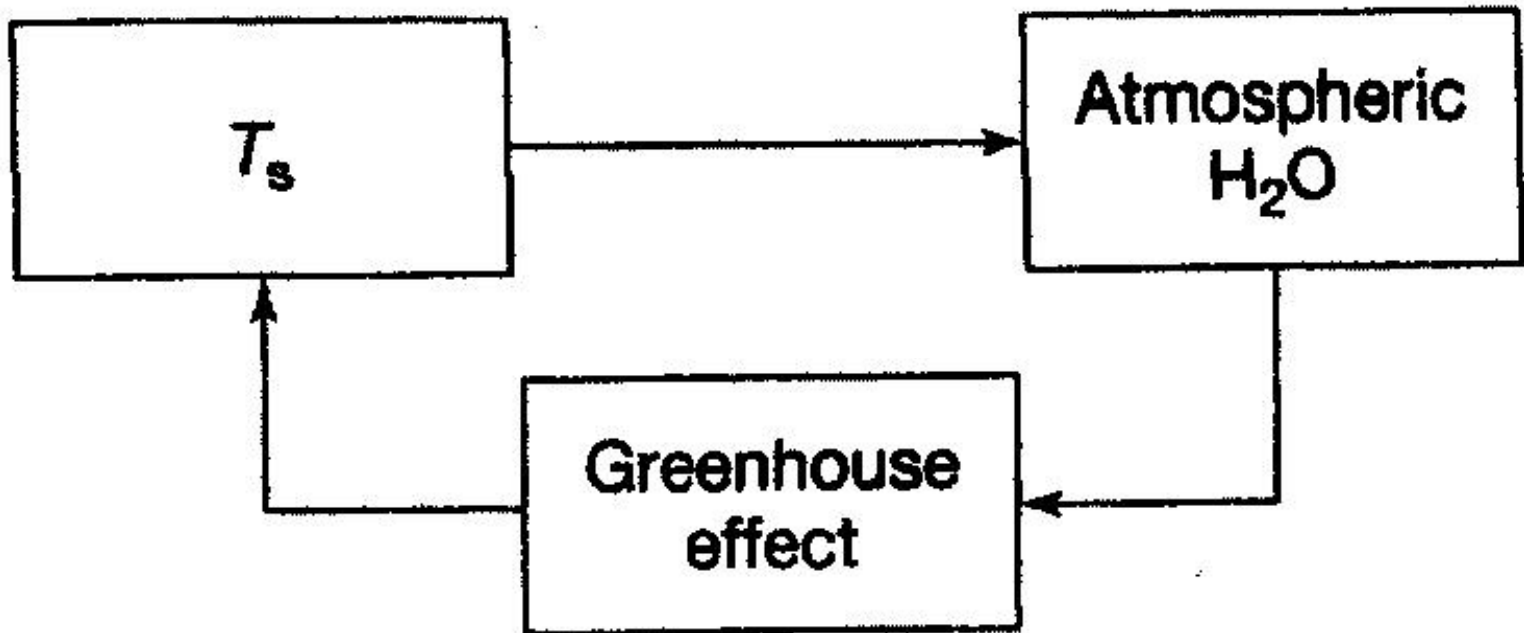
. . . and whether or not the Earth can **adjust** to these and have **a stable equilibrium state**, or be thrown into **an unstable state** due to **positive feedback loops**

WATER VAPOR Feedback in the Earth-Atmosphere

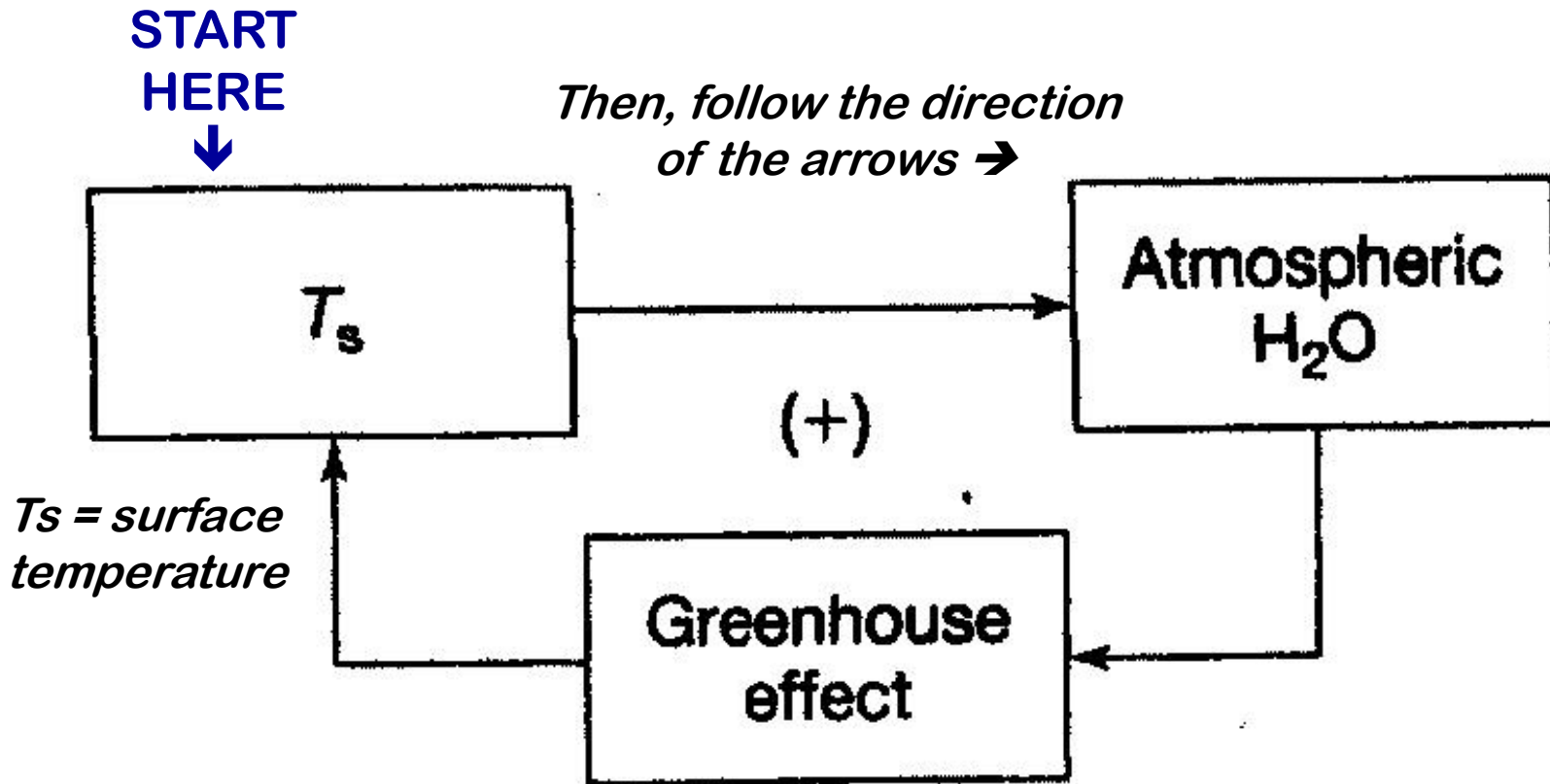
Clicker Q3 What kind of **FEEDBACK LOOP IS THIS?**

1) Positive +

2) Negative -



POSITIVE FEEDBACK LOOP that amplifies the effect!



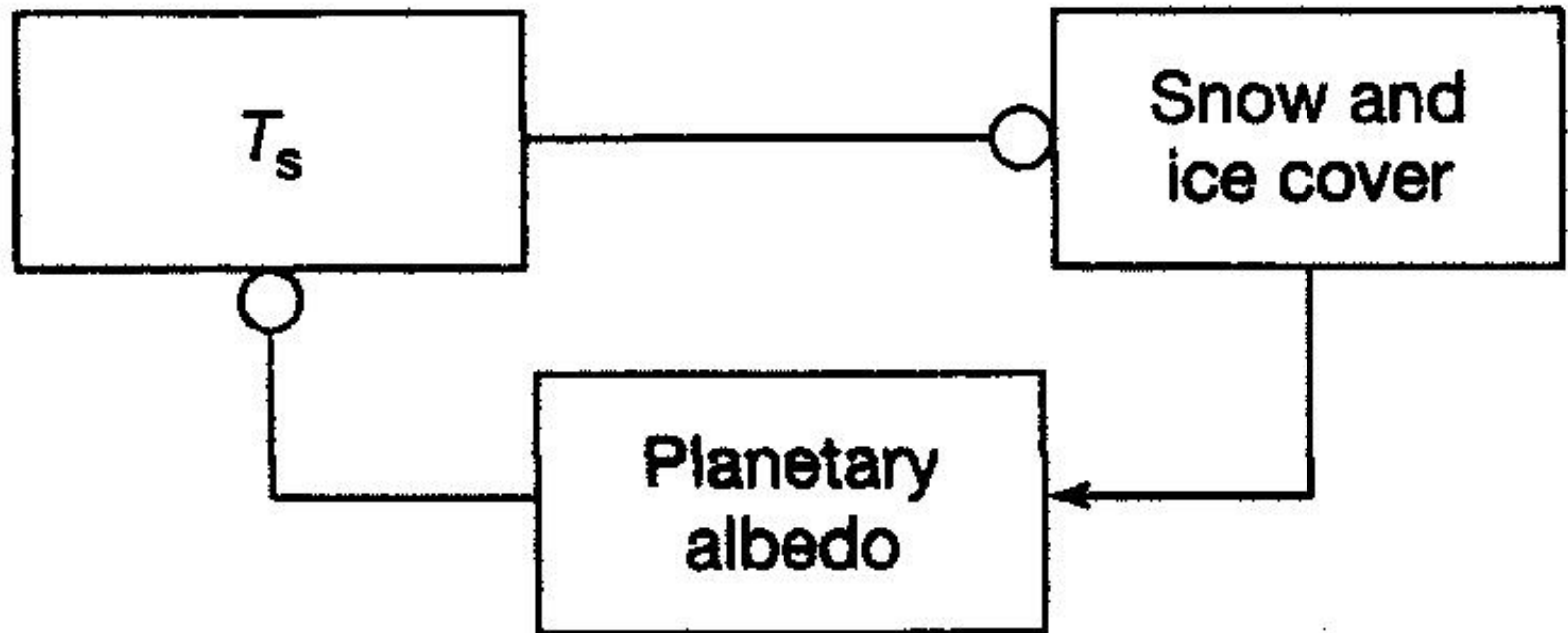
Let's reason it through . . .

SNOW AND ICE ALBEDO Feedback

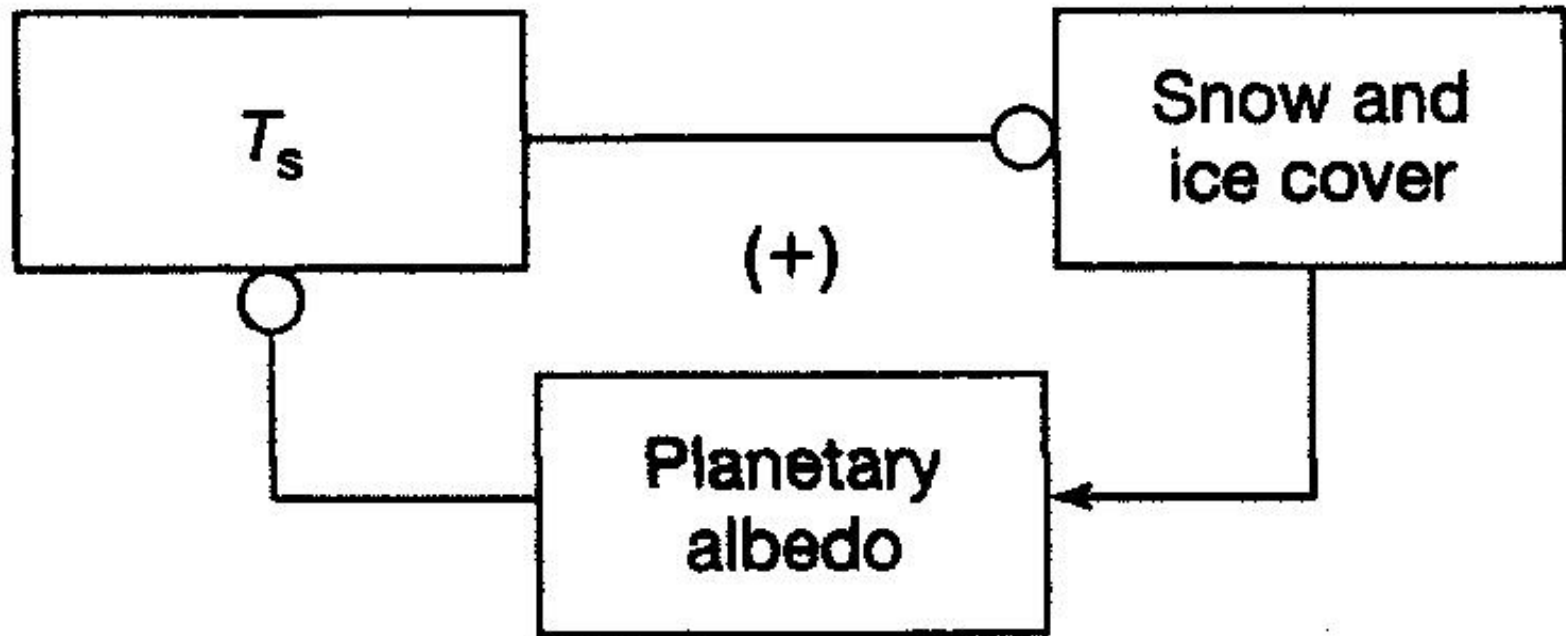
Clicker Q4 What kind of FEEDBACK LOOP IS THIS?

1) Positive +

2) Negative -



ALSO a **POSITIVE**
FEEDBACK LOOP that
amplifies the effect!
but
HOW DOES IT WORK?



ALBEDO REVIEW:

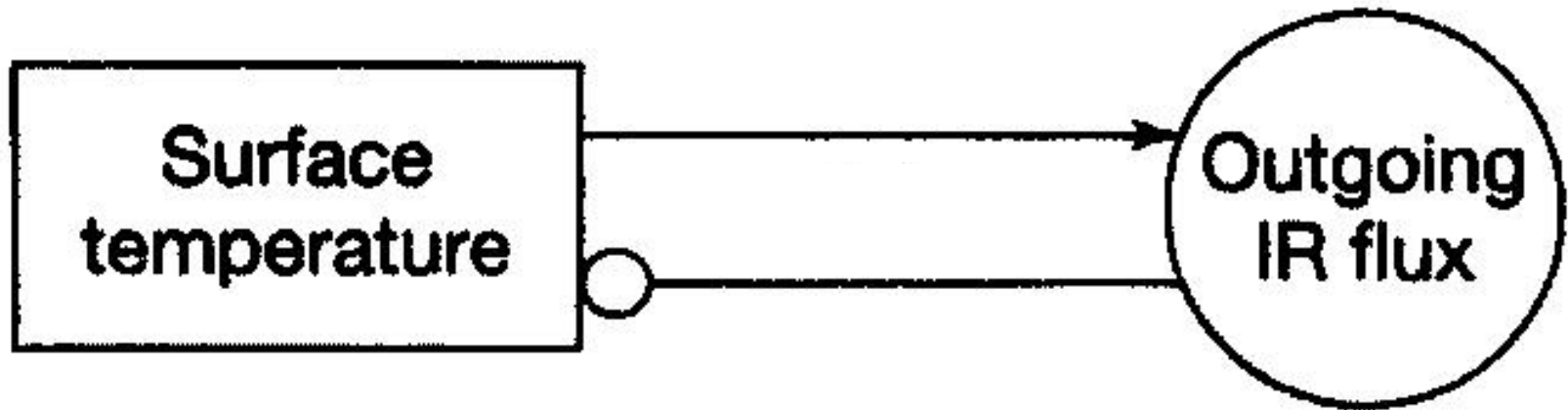
Fresh Snow & Ice = very high albedo (0.80 - 0.85)

OUTGOING INFRARED ENERGY FLUX / TEMPERATURE Feedback

Clicker Q5 What kind of FEEDBACK LOOP IS THIS?

1) Positive +

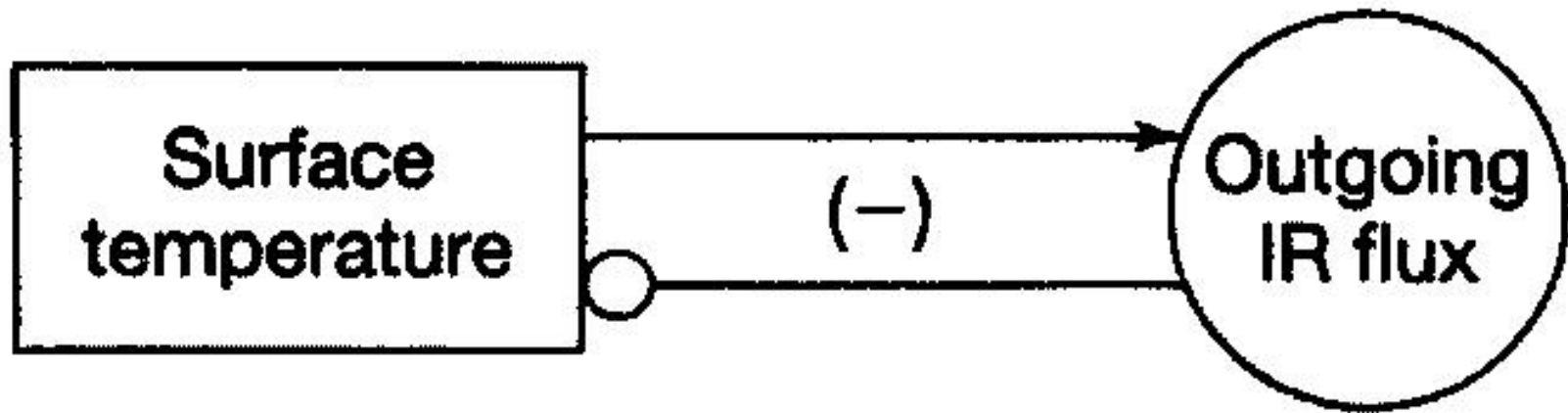
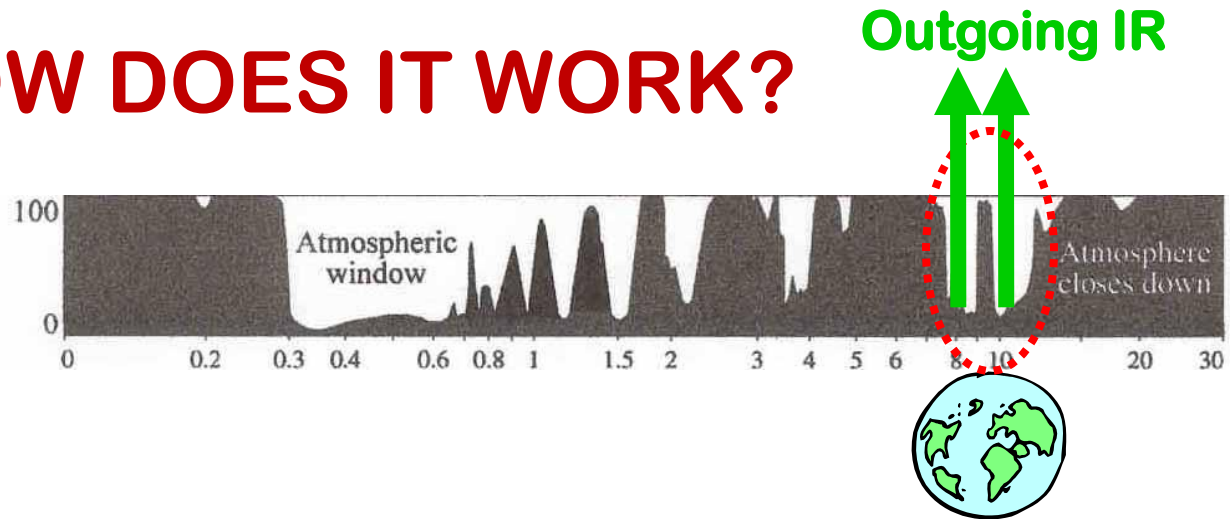
2) Negative -



NEGATIVE FEEDBACK LOOP

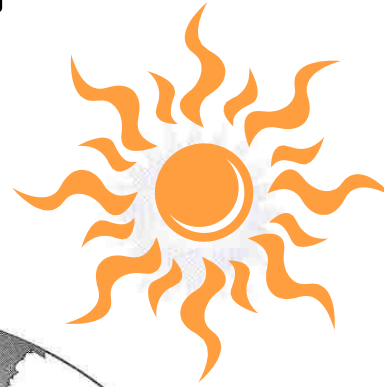
that is self-regulating!

HOW DOES IT WORK?



This is how the **EARTH** cools itself!

We'll talk about the Daisyworld
Climate System later . . .



TO BE CONTINUED

The next segment of:



<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/solar/>

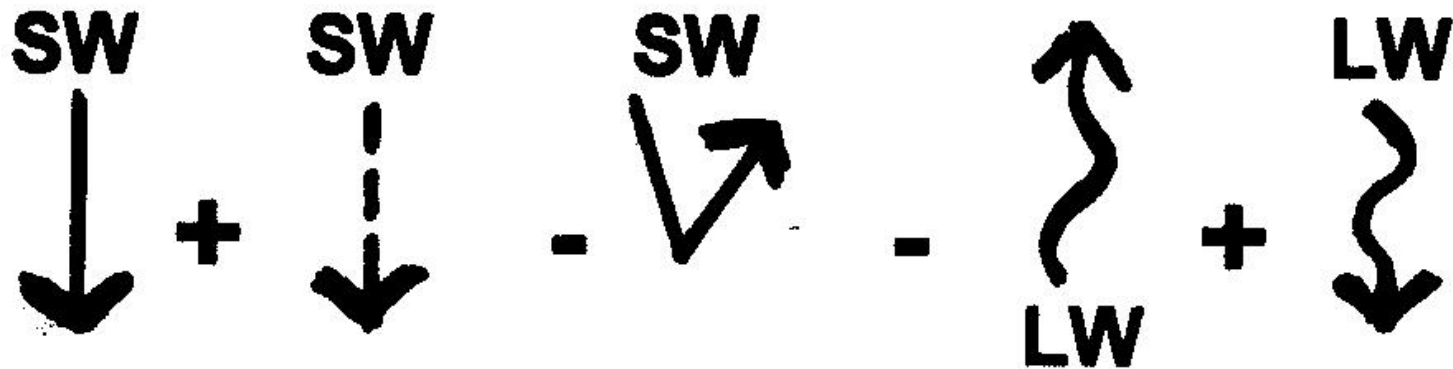
Applications of THE EARTH'S GLOBAL ENERGY BALANCE . . .

To Everyday Life

$$R_{\text{NET}} = \begin{array}{c} \text{SW} \\ \downarrow \end{array} + \begin{array}{c} \text{SW} \\ \vdots \\ \downarrow \end{array} - \begin{array}{c} \text{SW} \\ \nearrow \end{array} - \begin{array}{c} \uparrow \\ \text{LW} \end{array} + \begin{array}{c} \text{LW} \\ \downarrow \end{array} = H + LE + G$$

Flip to p 53

Left Side of Energy Balance Equation:



RADIATION = transfer of energy by *electromagnetic radiation*.

SHORTWAVE (VIS) and LONGWAVE (Infrared IR)

Right Side of Energy Balance Equation:

$$H + LE + G$$

Conduction

Convection

Phase changes:

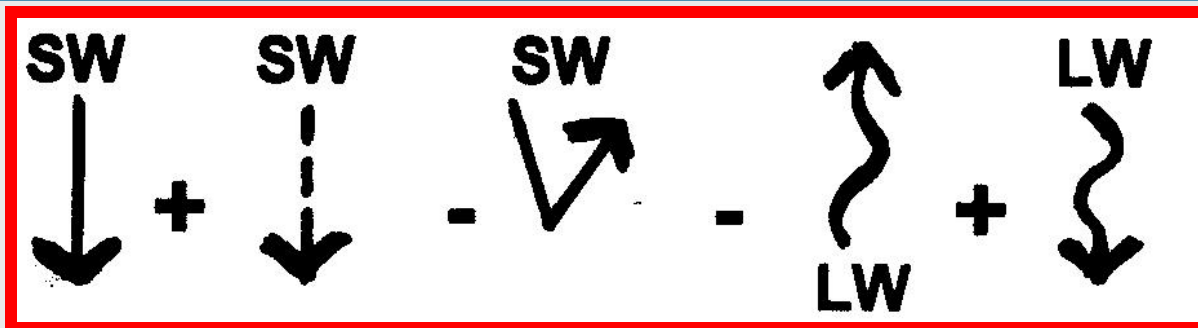
(latent energy \leftrightarrow sensible heat)

G-3 ASSIGNMENT (IN YOUR GROUPS)

Applying the Energy Balance Terms

Your task is to decide which **component** or **components working together** are most directly related to or responsible for the observed phenomenon.

1 – #10 : Left side of equation



11 - #13: Right side of equation

H + LE + G

Practice: blue skies



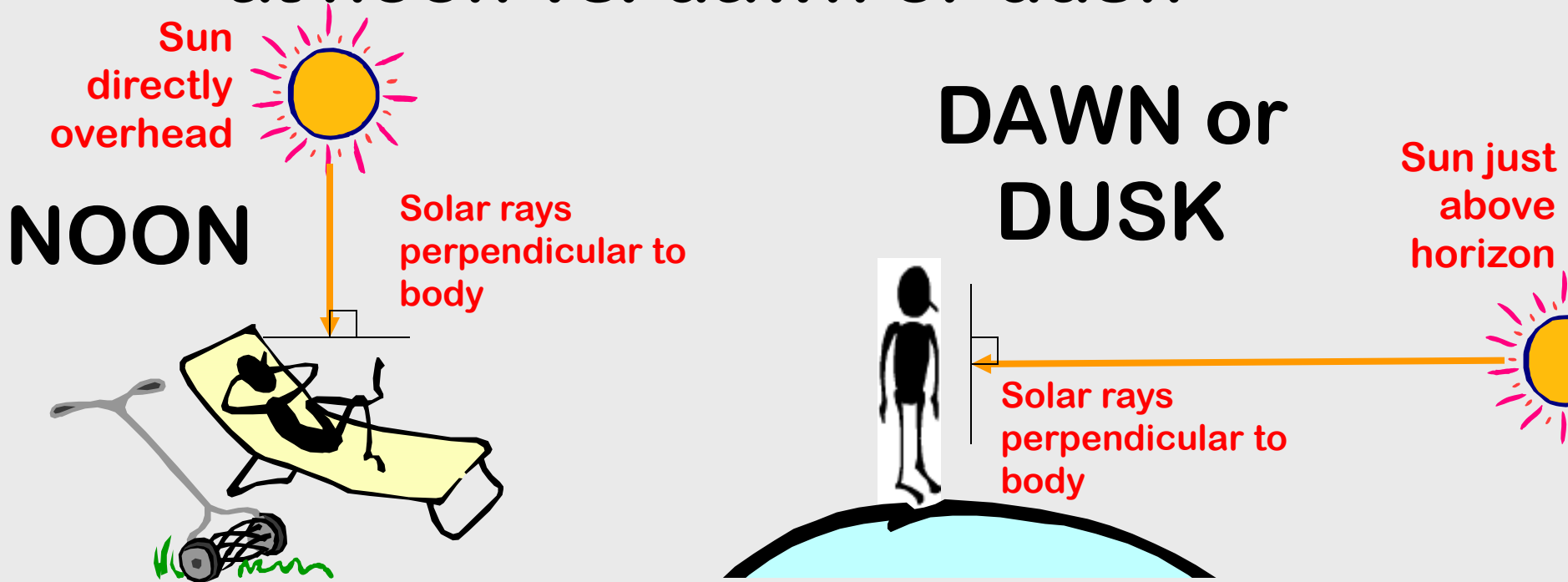
1. Sunglasses while skiing



2. Bright even though cloudy



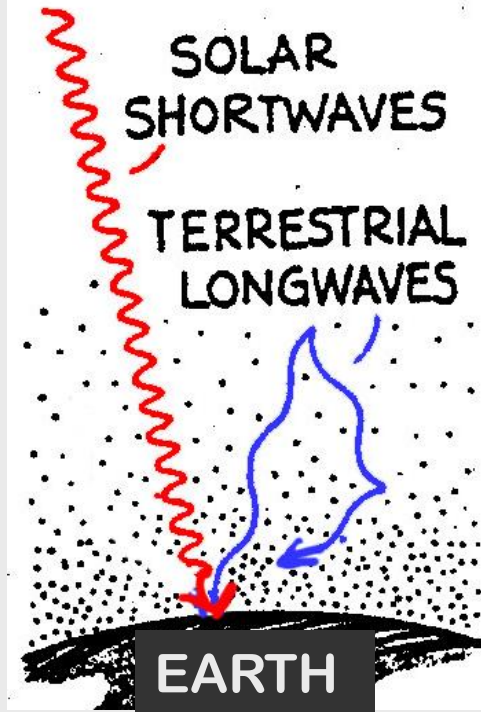
3. More intense solar radiation (tan /skin damage, etc.) at noon vs. dawn or dusk



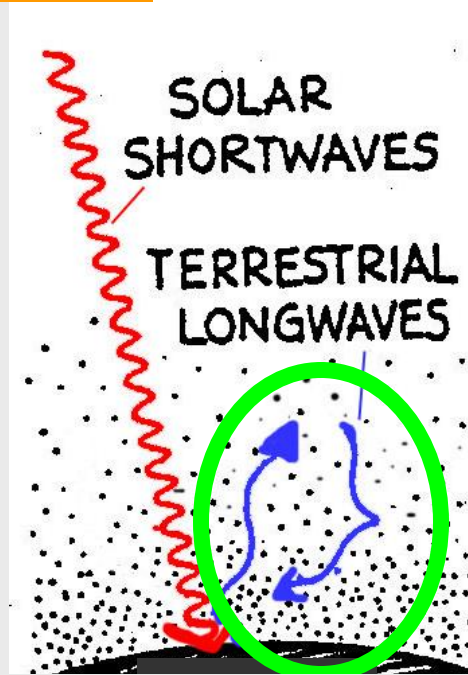
4. The Greenhouse Effect →

To illustrate the GREENHOUSE EFFECT:

SUN

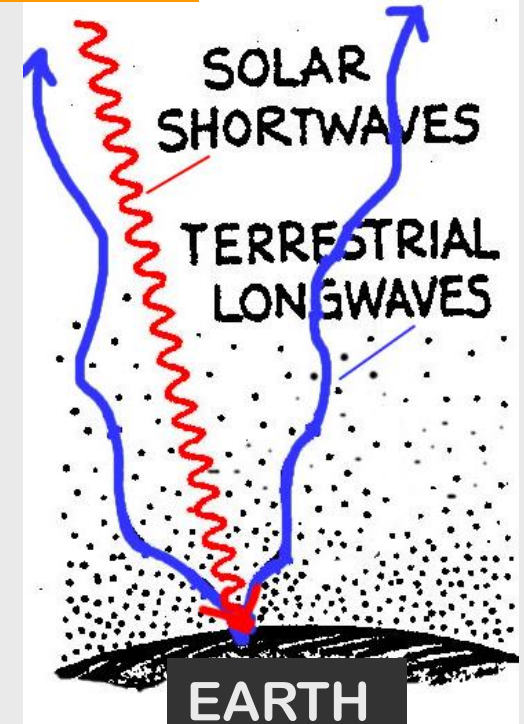


SUN



Greenhouse effect

SUN

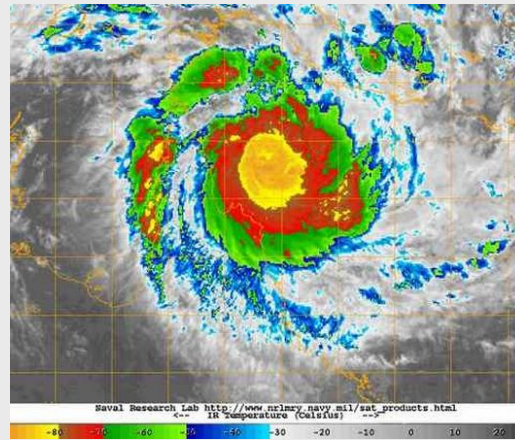


... May need two symbols together to answer some of these!

5. Red sunsets



6. Infrared Imagery



7. Shadow on sunny day



8. Rainbow



9. Black streaks



10. Parking on blacktop on a sunny day



11. Hot air balloon



12. Pigs cooling off in the mud



13. Evaporative coolers work best in the desert



G-3 ASSIGNMENT (10 pts)

Applying the Energy Balance Terms

G-3 WHAT TO DO: . . . Discuss the answers together, but EACH GROUP MEMBER must take the lead in answering 1 or 2 questions (in your own handwriting)

Pass the form around & when you sign in, list the # or #'s you did:

Stella Student (#2, #10, & #12) _____

**Don't forget to SIGN IN
with the #'s you wrote up!**

See you on Thursday!