#### **Tuesday Oct 28** SIT ANYWHERE TODAY

# **Topic #10 How Climate Works**

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

- RQ-6 was due TODAY (30 min before class) Missed the deadline ? FAQ #22
- I-2 LESSON 2 on "Mother Nature's Influence" due in the dropbox before midnight on <u>Thur Oct 30h</u>
- EXAMS will be returned at the end of class today!
- TEST #3 is a WEEK FROM TODAY! (Tues Nov 4<sup>th</sup>) The Top 10 will be posted on Thursday.

# WRAP UP OF TOPICS : # 8 Energy Balance Intro and #9 Feedbacks

# THE G-3 ANSWERS







**5.** (dust, thicker atmosphere scatters longer red/orange wavelengths)







7. Sweet and the second second

8. All wavelengths of visible part of spectrum are scattered & transmitted in a colored spectrum by raindrops

**9.** Attempt to increase absorption &

SW

reduce



SW 10. More 👃 is absorbed, leads to more which can then warm up car





# The RIGHT Side of the Equation: = H + LE + G

**13.** Hot air (less dense than surrounding cool air) rises in a convection current & lifts balloon





14. Wet mud evaporates from pig & cools him: LE also heat from pig's body is conducted into soil: G

15. June is hot & dry in Tucson. Dry, hot air can "hold" more water vapor, so water in cooler pads is evaporated easily. Hence more energy goes into LE instead of H This cools the house!



# TEAM & GROUP CHALLENGE QUESTION REVIEW:



# One way of representing this feedback loop :



#### You can start anywhere in FEEDBACK LOOP reasoning ....

albedo

START HERE

# Extent of ice cover

SW radiation absorbed

# Amount of melting

Ocean temperature



#### Sometimes a PERTURBATION or FORCING MECHANISM can START UP A FEEDBACK LOOP:





Do you see anything that could start up or "force" a change?





# Extent of ice cover

# SW radiation absorbed

# Amount of melting

# Ocean temperature







http://www.skepticalscience.com/feb-2013-sea-ice-spiral.html



http://www.skepticalscience.com/2014-arctic-seaice-extent-6th-lowest-in-millennia.html



← September <u>Arctic sea ice extent</u> <u>data</u> since 1980 from the National Snow and Ice Data Center (blue diamonds). "Recovery" years, meaning years when the sea ice extent is greater than the previous year, are highlighted in red.

# TEAM & GROUP CHALLENGE STANDINGS:





# Topic # 10 HOW CLIMATE WORKS

A "Primer" on How the Energy Balance Drives Atmospheric & Oceanic Circulation, Natural Climatic Processes



#### How do we get energy from this . . .



#### ... to drive this ?

### .... or this ?



http://www.vets.ucar.edu/vg/T341/index.shtml

### ...and end up with Global Climatic Regions:



#### ....and CHANGES in these regions!

# It all happens because of changes in the ENERGY BALANCE!



#### **"RADIATION" - ENERGY BALANCE:** The

SW

Start out here, with energy from the SUN radiated to Earth and so forth . . .

The R NET is then able to be used in thermal energy "heat transfer" processes which manifest themselves as weather & climate!

SW

**"Radiation Balance" part** SW R NET LW "Energy Balance" part R NET

**Thermal Energy Review** 

Heat (def) = the thermal energy that is <u>transferred</u> from one body to another because of a temperature difference. Conduction, Convection ...

... and PHASE CHANGES!

- Sensible Heat transfer (H)
- Latent Heat transfer (LE)

plus (after transfer) thermal energy can be **STORED (G)** 

# H + LE + G

Review

#### **ENERGY IN THE EARTH-ATMOSPHERE SYSTEM**



# The Earth [as viewed from space]...

has the organized, self-contained look of a live creature, full of information, marvelously skilled in handling the SUN.

- Lewis Thomas



**LINKING THE ENERGY BALANCE TO ATMOSPHERIC CIRCULATION:** We'll start with the SUN: **SOLAR INSOLATION IN – SOL-ATION** = the amount of incoming solar radiation received by a horizontal surface (e.g. at the top of the atmosphere, at the tropopause, at the Earth's surface, etc.)

# To drive the circulation, the initial source of energy is from the Sun:



#### **4 Things to Know about Earth-Sun Relationships:**

Earth orbits Sun
Orbit not a perfect circle
Orbit traces "a plane"
Earth's axis tilts



You can take notes on p 62

### The "4 Things to Know" about Earth-Sun Relationships:



1) Earth orbits Sun in one year

2) Orbit is not a perfect circle = an ellipse

3) Earth's orbit around Sun can be "traced" on a plane ("Plane of the Ecliptic" – plane passes thru the center of Sun & Earth)

4) Earth's axis tilts 23.5 ° from  $a \perp$  to the "Plane of The Ecliptic"

These 4 Earth-Sun <u>"orbital" properties</u> lead to <u>2 key factors</u> that determine the <u>AMOUNT</u> OF SOLAR INSOLATION at any spot on Earth as the seasons progress:

# (1) <u>INTENSITY</u> of sun's rays Depends on <u>AXIS TILT</u> and how Earth's <u>SURFACE RECEIVES</u> Sun's rays

[Most intense = perpendicular rays  $\perp$ ]

# (2) <u>DURATION</u> of insolation (day length) Depends on LATITUDE & SEASON

Box on p 63

→ Intensity & Duration vary with LATITUDE & TIME OF YEAR

# **INTENSITY + DURATION**

**INTENSITY** of sun's rays: depends on axis tilt and how earth intercepts sun's rays

Sun's rays - **DURATION** of daily insolation (day length): depends on where circle of illumination intersects latitude band



### **QUICKIE LATITUDE REVIEW:**



# EARTH-SUN RELATIONSHIPS & The SEASONS:

#### **VIEW THE ANIMATION:**

http://mesoscale.agron.iastate.edu/agron206/animations/01\_EarthSun.html



# JUNE SOLSTICE



### JUNE SOLSTICE



p 63

# JUNE SOLSTICE



p 63

### **MARCH EQUINOX**



p 63

# **SEPTEMBER EQUINOX** different seasonal position in orbit ...



... but same latitudinal insolation as March Equinox

# MARCH & SEPTEMBER EQUINOXES


# **DECEMBER SOLSTICE**



# **DECEMBER SOLSTICE**



#### http://mesoscale.agron.iastate.edu/agron206/animations/01\_EarthSun.html





#### Earth's Axis Tilt & Elliptical Orbit 🗲

#### Contrast in Northern vs. Southern Hemisphere:





### NATURAL CLIMATIC FORCING: Milankovitch Cycles: (Lesson 2 tutorial)

### **1. OBLIQUITY OF EARTH'S AXIS**

Axis "tilts" 23.5 degrees from plane of ecliptic; causes the seasons; tilt angle varies over time



### 2. ECCENTRICITY OF ORBIT

Earth's orbit around sun is not symmetrical; varies from elliptical => circular shape over time





Clicker Q1 – Which diagrams represent <u>SUMMER</u> in the Southern Hemisphere?

A Present B Present

A & B
C & D
B & C
A & D



Clicker Q1 – Which diagrams represent <u>SUMMER</u> in the Southern Hemisphere?



A & B
C & D
B & C
A & D



Clicker Q2 – Which diagram represents the time when the Northern Hemisphere receives the <u>GREATEST</u> amount of insolation?







Clicker Q2 – Which diagram represents the time when the Northern Hemisphere receives the <u>GREATEST</u> amount of insolation?



# THE RADIATION BALANCE



# & THE GENERAL CIRCULATION OF THE ATMOSPHERE



## HOW IT ALL FITS TOGETHER:



Over the course of a year . . .

The amount of INCOMING SW (Insolation) absorbed by EARTH varies by LATITUDE

(MORE comes in near the Equator, less near the Poles)

→ LOW LATITUDES absorb <u>MORE</u> energy than HIGH LATITUDES The amount of outgoing **TERRESTRIAL LW / IR** varies by latitude too --

MORE LW / IR is emitted at warmer LOW LATITUDES, LESS in cooler HIGH LATITUDES HOWEVER

Box on p 65

The EQUATOR-POLE DIFFERENCES of what goes <u>OUT</u> from the EARTH



are <u>less</u> than the

# EQUATOR-POLE DIFFERENCES of what comes <u>IN</u> from the SUN









POLE

# EQUATOR

POLE

Now lets look at a Pole to Pole Transect





Data: NCEP/NCAR Reanalysis Project, 1959-1997 Climatologies Animation: Department of Geography, University of Oregon, March 2000

http://geography.uoregon.edu/envchange/clim\_animations/

# **Surface Air Temperature**

Dec



Data: NCEP/NCAR Reanalysis Project, 1959-1997 Climatologies Animation: Department of Geography, University of Oregon, March 2000

**HOW DOES THE** Polar high **ATMOSPHERE** Polar easterlies **BALANCE OUT THE** Subpolar low 60° **SURPLUS & DEFICIT** Westerlies **OF ENERGY**?? JDES 30° COO trades Energy Transfer via 0 Convection Cells Southeast trades 30° COOLE **TUDES** Westerlies 60° Subpolar low Polar easterlies Polar high

#### Figure from SGC E-text Chapter 4



COLD POLAR HOT TROPICS REGIONS

COLD POLAR REGIONS

# 



#### 

COLD POLAR REGIONS

From SGC Chapter 4

Polar high Polar easterlies 60° BUT -Hadley cell circulation does not reach high latitudes!	
30° COOLER MIDDLE LATITUDES	
JIII Northeast trades JIII	
WARM TROPICAL LATITUDES	C
Southeast trades	ti ti
30° COOLER MIDDLE LATITUDES	f
Westerlies	la
60° Subpolar low Hadley cell Polar easterlies circulation	e S
Polar high high latitudes!	a a

#### **ENERGY TRANSFER BY CONVECTION**

Hadley Cells transport warm air poleward as <u>SENSIBLE HEAT</u>

HADLEY CELLS = key drivers! **Convection cell** ransfer of hermal energy rom low atitude area of nergy **URPLUS** to igher latitude rea of energy DEFICIT p67

# Another way energy gets transported from the hot surplus areas to the cold deficit areas:



# Demo of a simple "dishpan" model of atmospheric circulation p 66

# A DEMONSTRATION OF THE DISHPAN



http://www.windows2universe.org/earth/Atmosph ere/global\_circulation\_lsop\_video.html

#### UPPER LEVEL "ROSSBY WAVE" CIRCUMPOLAR WINDS !



### "Wave" transport of Energy as SENSIBLE HEAT (in lobes of warm air)! p 66

# WHAT'S HAPPENING TODAY?



http://earth.nullschool.net/#current/wind/

#### The "GENERAL CIRCULATION OF THE ATMOSPHERE"



ENERGY is transported from areas of surplus to deficit via Warm Air transport : H (sensible heat)



# & LE (Latent Energy) transport



# WHAT ABOUT OCEAN CIRCULATION?

### Large OCEAN GYRES are driven by Trade Winds & Westerly Winds in Oceanic Subtropical High Pressure Cells



# Leads to SURFACE ocean currents

# ENERGY TRANSFER IN THE OCEAN



Energy stored in the OCEAN (as G), can later be transported via ocean currents as H !



### WARM & COLD SURFACE OCEAN CURRENTS:



Warm Currents



# Both ATMOSPHERE & OCEAN play important roles in BALANCING OUT ENERGY SURPLUS & DEFICIT AREAS:





----- Absorbed solar energy ----- Emitted infrared energy (at top of atmosphere)

## INTRODUCING...

# OUR NEW FILM!!!



# **EXAM COMMENTS**




## Mode: 81.5 % Median: 77.8 % Standard Deviation: 15.6 %



# of students who missed Q's #1 = #25 on the first try

## GET YOUR EXAMS – ORGANIZED BY GROUPS

## **SEE YOU THURSDAY**

When I'll give you a Midterm Recovery Point Opportunity!