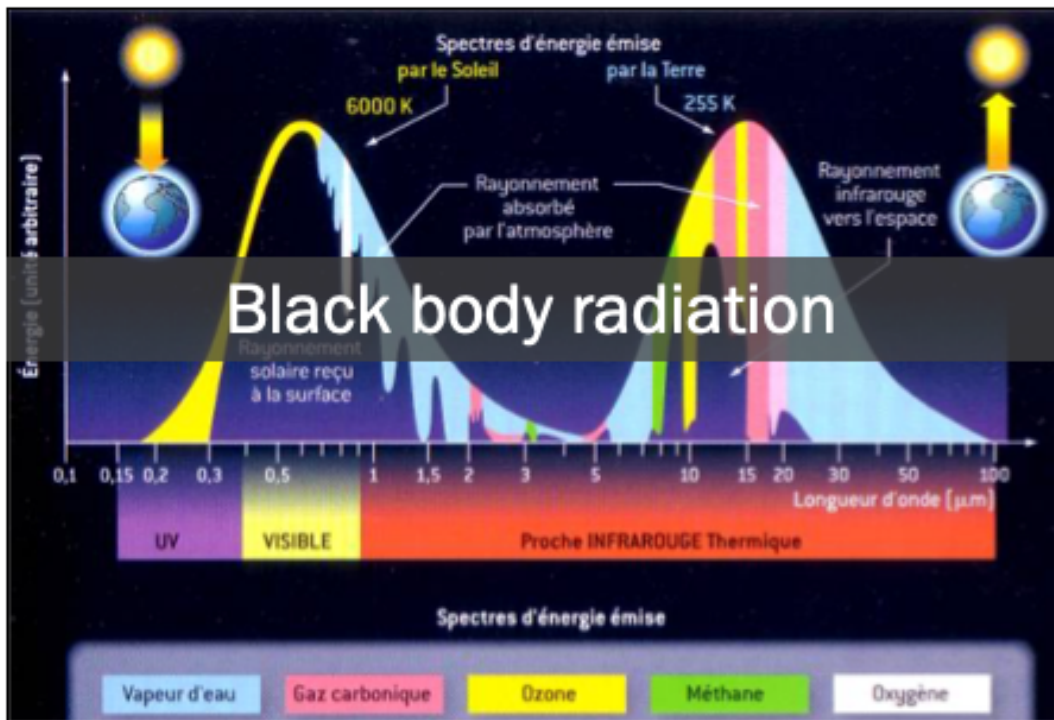


Earth radiative budget

The sun irradiates the Earth with an average flux of 340 W/m^2 in the visible range. Part of this radiation is reflected (albedo of 30%), the other part warms the Earth which then emits infrared radiation.

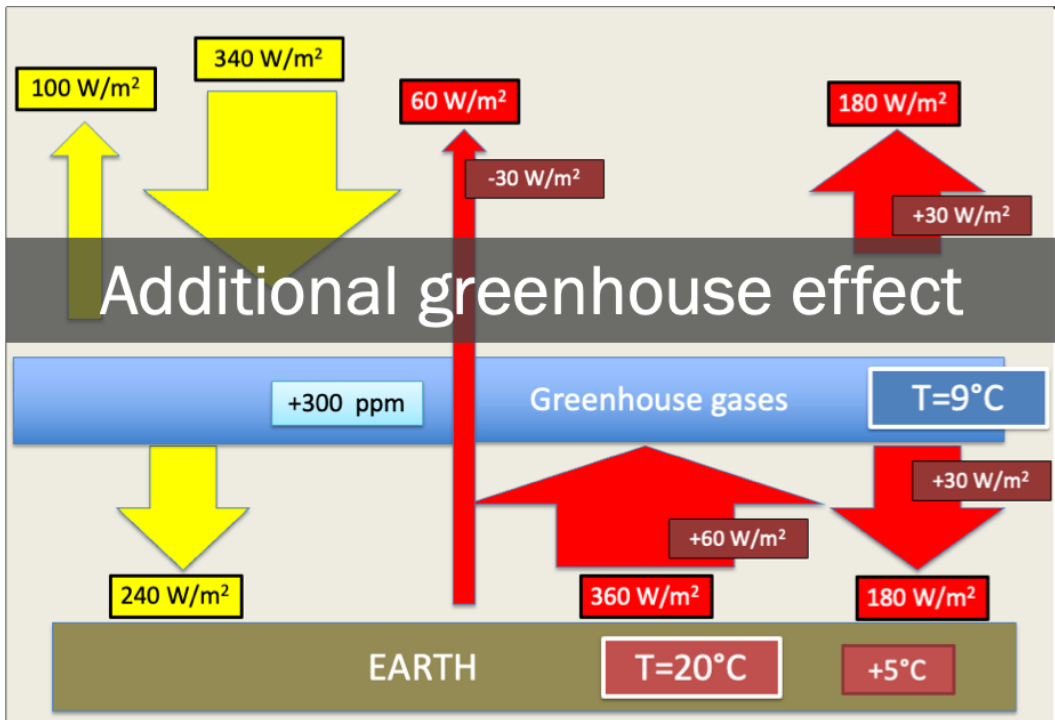
Part of this radiation is absorbed by greenhouse gases and re-emitted towards the ground.



Black body radiation

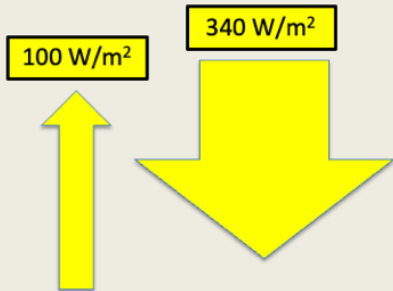
A body emits a spectrum of electromagnetic waves that depends on its temperature.

The Sun ($6000\text{ }^{\circ}\text{K}$) emits in the visible spectrum. The Earth (288°K) emits in the infrared spectrum.



Additional greenhouse effect

If the concentration of greenhouse gases increases, more of the Earth's infrared radiation is re-emitted to the ground. The temperature rises to reach a new equilibrium in the radiation balance between the incident solar flux and the infrared flux sent to space.



Stephan law

$$F = \sigma T^4$$

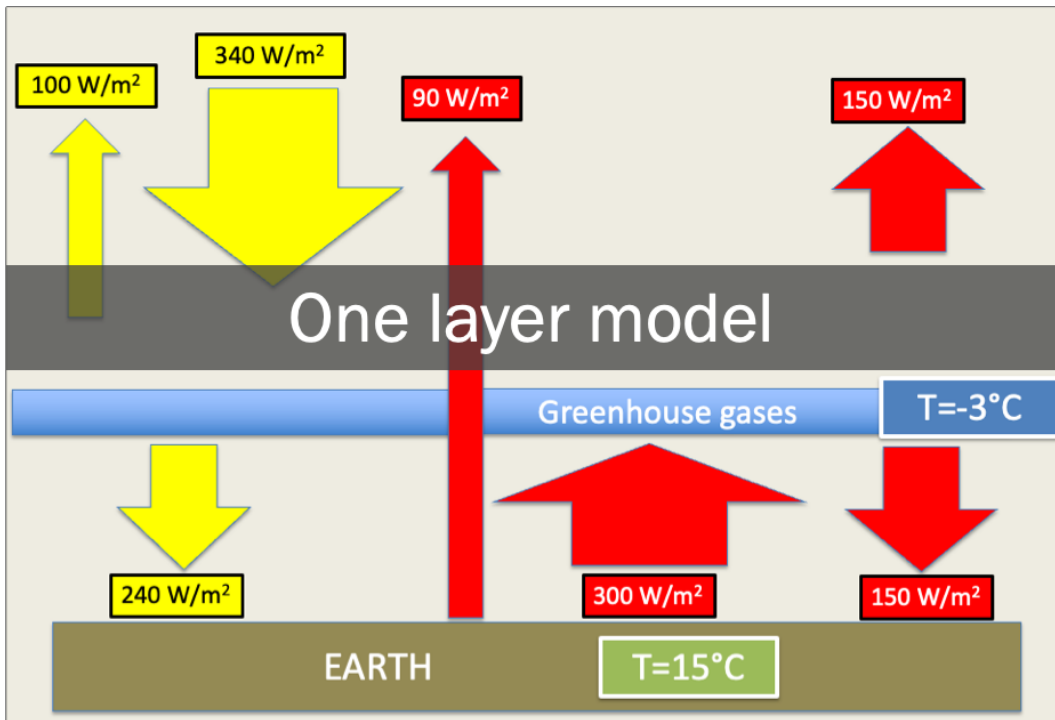
No atmosphere radiative budget



No atmosphere radiative budget

In the absence of an atmosphere, the Earth's temperature would be $T=255^{\circ}\text{K}$ according to Stephan's law for black bodies.

The solar radiation absorbed by the Earth (240 W/m^2) is re-emitted as infrared radiation.



One-layer model

In this simplistic model, much of the Earth's infrared radiation is absorbed by greenhouse gases and then re-emitted in equal amounts to the ground and to space.

The ground temperature is warmer for this balance.

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Climate PBL



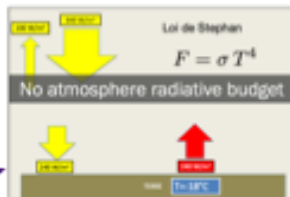
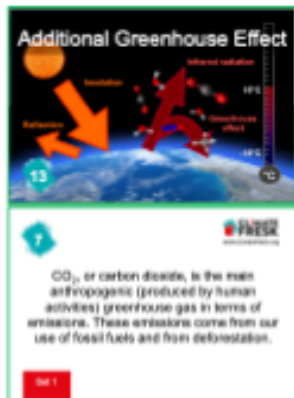
Mini-fresk based on the
concept of serious games:



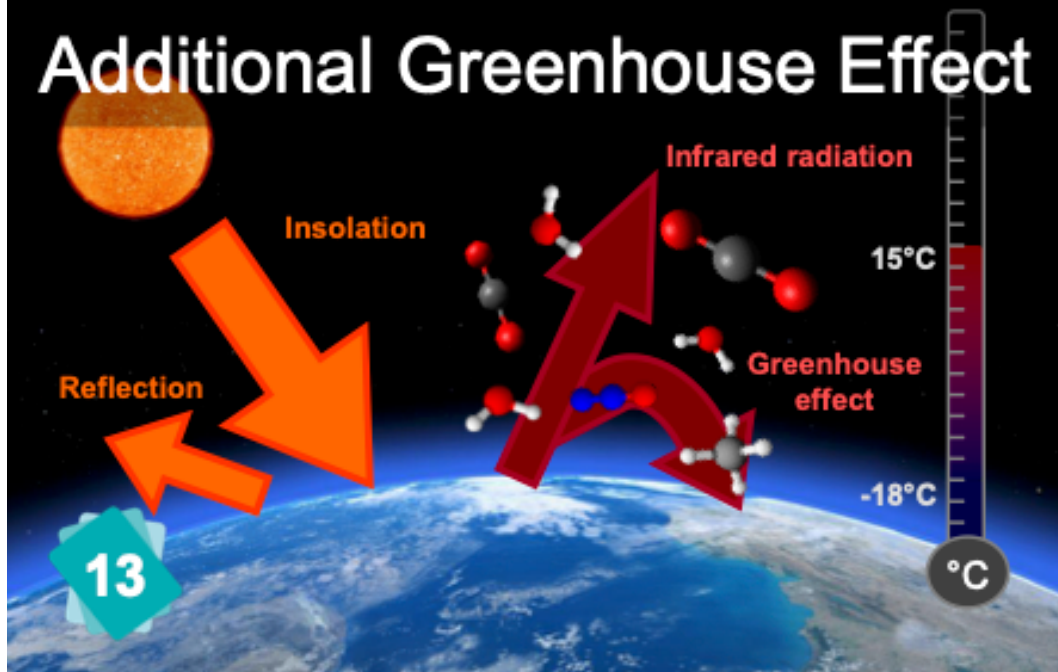
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FRESK**

Additional greenhouse effect

This mini-fresk describes the greenhouse effect and the warming of the Earth due to the increase in greenhouse gases.



Additional Greenhouse Effect



The greenhouse effect is a natural phenomenon
- incidentally, the most common GHG is water vapour. Without the greenhouse effect, the planet would be 33°C colder and life as we know it would not be possible.
But CO₂ and other GHGs related to human activities amplify the greenhouse effect and unbalance the climate.