

A Fast Track to Lower Global Temperature

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The energy balance of Earth is determined by incoming Solar radiation and outgoing infrared radiation. Increasing CO₂ closes the door for outgoing radiation somewhat and increases Global Temperature. Now, the focus is on reducing CO₂ input to the point where we can see a decline of the CO₂ content in the atmosphere. But reducing CO₂ content is slow and may take 100 years or so. A tiny reduction of Solar energy flux will also reduce temperature. The effect is immediate. We do not want to block all sun light, only a tiny reduction is wanted. That can be achieved by the penumbra of a small number of screens in orbit around the Earth. From simple geometry the radius of the penumbra is given by

$$R_p = R_{scr} + D_{Esc} * R_{Sun} / D_{SunE}$$

R_p = radius of penumbra, R_{scr} = radius of the screen i orbit, D_{Esc} = distance Earth to Screen (200000 km), R_{Sun} = radius of Sun (700000 km), D_{SunE} = distance Sun to Earth (150E6 km)

For screens of radius smaller than 1 km the radius of the screen is negligible. Small screens given early the same radius of the penumbra. For an orbit at 200 000 km it is

$$R_p = 930 \text{ km}$$

which is not small compared to the Earth's radius. The effect of screens in orbit can thus be expected to be considerable. With about 8 screens in orbit in the ecliptic plane around the Earth, we could expect a direct reduction of Global Temperature of the order 0.1 K. The feedback effect from more ice resulting from the direct temperature reduction would give additional reductions in later years, possibly giving a 0.3 K total reduction.