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| *Source and Background* | This data set contains selected monthly mean CO2 concentrations at the Mauna Loa Observatory from 1974 to 1987. The CO2 concentrations were measured by the continuous infrared analyser of the Geophysical Monitoring for Climatic Change division of NOAA's Air Resources Laboratory. The selection has been for an approximation of 'background conditions'. See Thoning et al., "Atmospheric Carbon Dioxide at Mauna Loa Observatory: II Analysis of the NOAA/GMCC Data 1974-1985", *Journal of Geophysical Research* (submitted) for details.  This dataset was received from Jim Elkins of NOAA in 1988. |
| *Data* | Each line contains the CO2 concentration (mixing ratio in dry air, expressed in the WMO X85 mole fraction scale, maintained by the Scripps Institution of Oceanography). In addition, it contains the year, month, and a numeric value for the combined month and year. This combined date is useful for plotting purposes. The reader can download the data as a [text file](https://www.itl.nist.gov/div898/handbook/datasets/MLCO2MON.DAT).  CO2 Year&Month Year Month  --------------------------------------------------  333.13 1974.38 1974 5  332.09 1974.46 1974 6  331.10 1974.54 1974 7  329.14 1974.63 1974 8  327.36 1974.71 1974 9  327.29 1974.79 1974 10  328.23 1974.88 1974 11  329.55 1974.96 1974 12    330.62 1975.04 1975 1  331.40 1975.13 1975 2  331.87 1975.21 1975 3  333.18 1975.29 1975 4  333.92 1975.38 1975 5  333.43 1975.46 1975 6  331.85 1975.54 1975 7  330.01 1975.63 1975 8  328.51 1975.71 1975 9  328.41 1975.79 1975 10  329.25 1975.88 1975 11  330.97 1975.96 1975 12    331.60 1976.04 1976 1  332.60 1976.13 1976 2  333.57 1976.21 1976 3  334.72 1976.29 1976 4  334.68 1976.38 1976 5  334.17 1976.46 1976 6  332.96 1976.54 1976 7  330.80 1976.63 1976 8  328.98 1976.71 1976 9  328.57 1976.79 1976 10  330.20 1976.88 1976 11  331.58 1976.96 1976 12    332.67 1977.04 1977 1  333.17 1977.13 1977 2  334.86 1977.21 1977 3  336.07 1977.29 1977 4  336.82 1977.38 1977 5  336.12 1977.46 1977 6  334.81 1977.54 1977 7  332.56 1977.63 1977 8  331.30 1977.71 1977 9  331.22 1977.79 1977 10  332.37 1977.88 1977 11  333.49 1977.96 1977 12    334.71 1978.04 1978 1  335.23 1978.13 1978 2  336.54 1978.21 1978 3  337.79 1978.29 1978 4  337.95 1978.38 1978 5  338.00 1978.46 1978 6  336.37 1978.54 1978 7  334.47 1978.63 1978 8  332.46 1978.71 1978 9  332.29 1978.79 1978 10  333.76 1978.88 1978 11  334.80 1978.96 1978 12    336.00 1979.04 1979 1  336.63 1979.13 1979 2  337.93 1979.21 1979 3  338.95 1979.29 1979 4  339.05 1979.38 1979 5  339.27 1979.46 1979 6  337.64 1979.54 1979 7  335.68 1979.63 1979 8  333.77 1979.71 1979 9  334.09 1979.79 1979 10  335.29 1979.88 1979 11  336.76 1979.96 1979 12    337.77 1980.04 1980 1  338.26 1980.13 1980 2  340.10 1980.21 1980 3  340.88 1980.29 1980 4  341.47 1980.38 1980 5  341.31 1980.46 1980 6  339.41 1980.54 1980 7  337.74 1980.63 1980 8  336.07 1980.71 1980 9  336.07 1980.79 1980 10  337.22 1980.88 1980 11  338.38 1980.96 1980 12    339.32 1981.04 1981 1  340.41 1981.13 1981 2  341.69 1981.21 1981 3  342.51 1981.29 1981 4  343.02 1981.38 1981 5  342.54 1981.46 1981 6  340.88 1981.54 1981 7  338.75 1981.63 1981 8  337.05 1981.71 1981 9  337.13 1981.79 1981 10  338.45 1981.88 1981 11  339.85 1981.96 1981 12    340.90 1982.04 1982 1  341.70 1982.13 1982 2  342.70 1982.21 1982 3  343.65 1982.29 1982 4  344.28 1982.38 1982 5  343.42 1982.46 1982 6  342.02 1982.54 1982 7  339.97 1982.63 1982 8  337.84 1982.71 1982 9  338.00 1982.79 1982 10  339.20 1982.88 1982 11  340.63 1982.96 1982 12    341.41 1983.04 1983 1  342.68 1983.13 1983 2  343.04 1983.21 1983 3  345.27 1983.29 1983 4  345.92 1983.38 1983 5  345.40 1983.46 1983 6  344.16 1983.54 1983 7  342.11 1983.63 1983 8  340.11 1983.71 1983 9  340.15 1983.79 1983 10  341.38 1983.88 1983 11  343.02 1983.96 1983 12    343.87 1984.04 1984 1  344.59 1984.13 1984 2  345.11 1984.21 1984 3  347.07 1984.29 1984 4  347.38 1984.38 1984 5  346.78 1984.46 1984 6  344.96 1984.54 1984 7  342.71 1984.63 1984 8  340.86 1984.71 1984 9  341.13 1984.79 1984 10  342.84 1984.88 1984 11  344.32 1984.96 1984 12    344.88 1985.04 1985 1  345.62 1985.13 1985 2  347.23 1985.21 1985 3  347.62 1985.29 1985 4  348.53 1985.38 1985 5  347.87 1985.46 1985 6  346.00 1985.54 1985 7  343.86 1985.63 1985 8  342.55 1985.71 1985 9  342.57 1985.79 1985 10  344.11 1985.88 1985 11  345.49 1985.96 1985 12    346.04 1986.04 1986 1  346.70 1986.13 1986 2  347.38 1986.21 1986 3  349.38 1986.29 1986 4  349.93 1986.38 1986 5  349.26 1986.46 1986 6  347.44 1986.54 1986 7  345.55 1986.63 1986 8  344.21 1986.71 1986 9  343.67 1986.79 1986 10  345.09 1986.88 1986 11  346.27 1986.96 1986 12    347.33 1987.04 1987 1  347.82 1987.13 1987 2  349.29 1987.21 1987 3  350.91 1987.29 1987 4  351.71 1987.38 1987 5  350.94 1987.46 1987 6  349.10 1987.54 1987 7  346.77 1987.63 1987 8  345.73 1987.71 1987 9 |