Mr Avery, a senior research fellow at the Hudson Institute, an independent US thinktank thinks global warming is not the fault of mankind. Not all of these researchers who doubt manmade climate change would describe themselves as global warming sceptics but the evidence in their studies is there for all to see. Global warming is an entirely natural phenomenon and its effects can even be beneficial, according to two leading researchers.

Recent climate change is not caused by manmade pollution, but is instead part of a 1,500year cycle of warming and cooling that has happened for the last million years. He also thinks that temperature increase is actually a good thing as in the past sudden cool periods have killed twice as many people as warm spells. Two thousand years of published human histories say that the warm periods were good for people.

He say there is evidence that wildlife is flourishing in the current warming cycle with corals, trees, birds, mammals and butterflies adapting well. In addition, sea-levels are not rising dramatically and storms and droughts have actually been less severe and frequent.

He claim that the change is not man-made because the most recent period of global warming took place between 1850 and 1940 when there were far less CO2 emissions than today and the most recent period of the recent global warming is due to natural fluctuations and not to human activities.

Argument 1: CO2 is not coming from human activities.CO2 has natural sources: volcanoes for example. All animals exhale it. How can human activities be affecting the concentration of CO2 on a global scale?

No one really knows why the climate varies. The global climate has fluctuated considerably over the Earth’s history, either for unknown reasons or because of “internal variability” in the climate system. We do not know enough about the climate system

to attribute the present global warming to any specific cause.

Argument 4: Recent predictions of a new ice age disprove global warming.In the 1970s climate scientists were saying an ice age was imminent. Now they say the Earth is warming. They don’t know what they are talking about.

Argument 5: Scientists cannot “prove” current warming is not natural Climate scientists can not prove that the current warming is not due to natural processes and therefore can not claim with certainty that the warming is due to human interference.

IPCC thinks global warming is the fault of mankind. Human influence on the climate system is clear, and recent anthropogenic emissions of green-house gases are the highest in history. Warming of the climate system is unequivocal, and since the 1950s, many of the observed changes are unprecedented over decades to millennia. It is reasonable. Building on two previous studies, a landmark 2013 peer-reviewed study evaluated 10,306 scientists to confirm that over 97 percent climate scientists agree, and over 97 percent of scientific articles find that global warming is real and largely caused by humans.

A 2016 peer-reviewed paper examined existing studies on consensus in climate research, and concluded that the 97 percent estimate is robust.This level of consensus is equivalent to the level of agreement among scientists that smoking causes cancer – a statement that very few people, if any, contest today.

Here Carbon Brief examines how each of the major factors affecting the Earth’s climate would influence temperatures in isolation – and how their combined effects almost perfectly predict long-term changes in the global temperature.

Since 1850, almost all the long-term warming can be explained by greenhouse gas emissions and other human activities.

If greenhouse gas emissions alone were warming the planet, we would expect to see about a third more warming than has actually occurred. They are offset by cooling from human-produced atmospheric aerosols.

Aerosols are projected to decline significantly by 2100, bringing total warming from all factors closer to warming from greenhouse gases alone.

Natural variability in the Earth’s climate is unlikely to play a major role in long-term warming. The evidence is overwhelming. Record-breaking temperatures, humidity, and sea level rise, along with many other indicators, show that the Earth is warming fast, and that all the heat-trapping emissions we release into the atmosphere from burning fossil fuels is changing our climate. Scientists worldwide agree that global warming is happening, and that human activity causes it. The Facts Natural processes emit large quantities of CO2 into the atmosphere, but they also remove it—at nearly identical rates. This balance maintained the concentration of CO2 at a stable level for thousands of years prior to the Industrial Revolution. In the case of global warming, the question is: What is causing the increase in CO2 concentrations? The answer turns out to be incontrovertible. The isotopic composition of carbon in atmospheric CO2 provides a unique “fingerprint” that tells scientists that the lion’s share of the additional CO2 accumulating in the atmosphere is from the burning of fossil fuels.