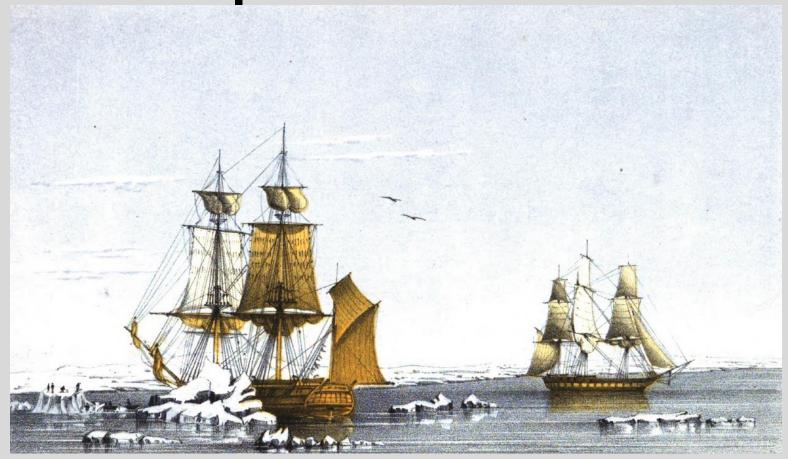
# Experimental Assessment of Screen Bias in an Early Arctic Air Temperature Time Series



Jason Bak // Daniel Hosseinian

#### **Arctic Climate Change**

Characterized by a change of a few degrees (1 – 3 °C)

 Estimated \$9 billion per year of damage from weather extremes caused by climate change

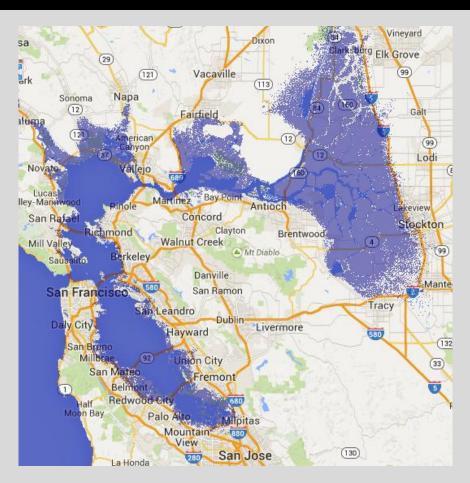
 Arctic is warming twice as quickly as world average Temperature difference from long term average (since 1981)

Red – Warmer

Blue - Cooler

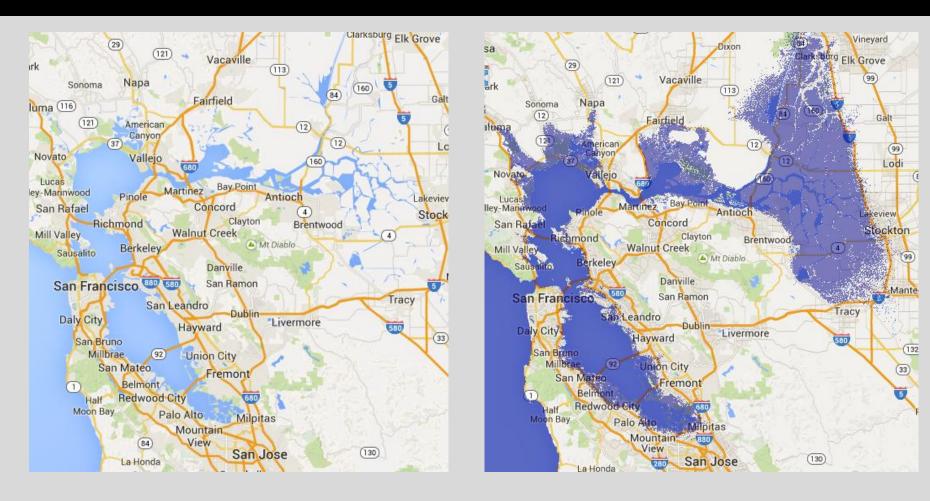
#### **Inundation Dangers**

- Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) projected 18 to 59 cm sea level rise in 21st century
- 8.5 million Americans are in inundation zones (59 cm rise)



Blue areas demonstrate inundation zones in the San Francisco Bay Area, CA with a 1 m sea level rise based on elevation.

#### **Inundation Dangers**



Blue areas demonstrate inundation zones in the San Francisco Bay Area, CA with a 1 m sea level rise based on elevation.

#### Maldives

Paradise almost lost: Maldives seek to buy a new homeland **theguardian** 



#### Her Majesty's Ship (HMS) Plover

- Stationed at Point Barrow, Alaska from 1852 to 1854
- Hourly air temperature measurements
- Thermometer used was encapsulated in a radiation screen (results in bias)



18521854

#### Plover Screen

- Shelters instruments from outside environment
- Bias measurements recorded within
- Information about how air temperature data was collected (metadata)

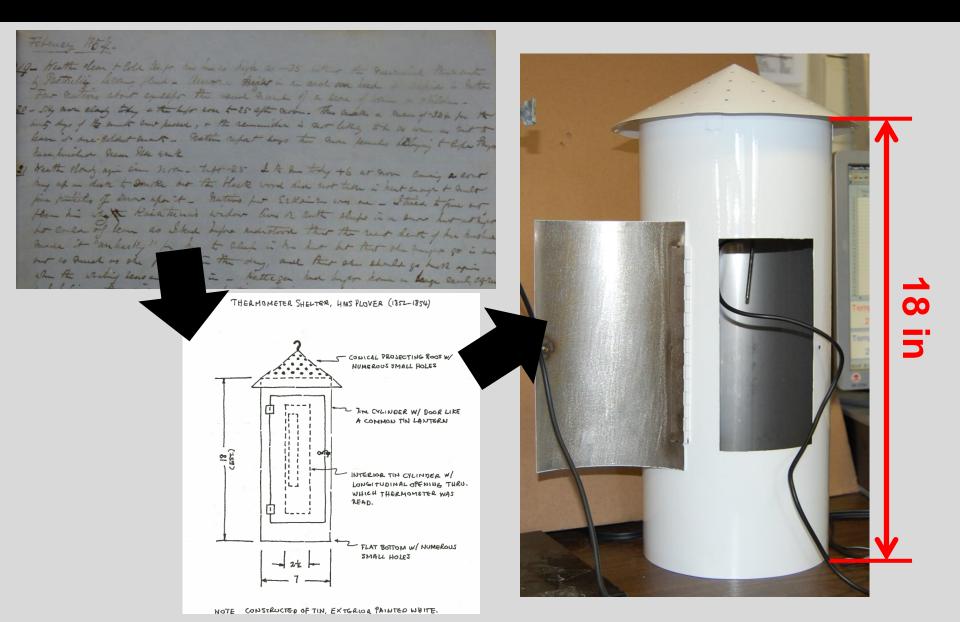


#### Purpose

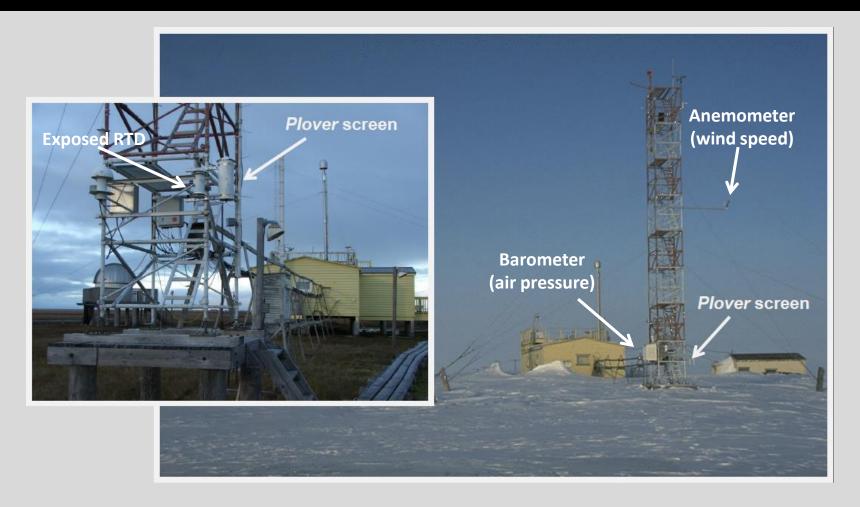
 To determine the screen bias of the Plover screen on temperature readings under certain environmental conditions

 To correct inaccuracies present in the original *Plover* data set

#### Replica Plover screen



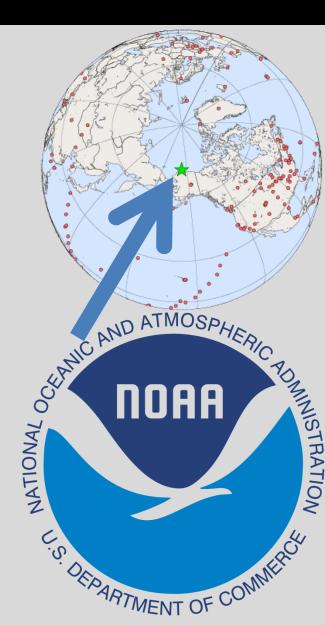
#### **Experimental Setup**



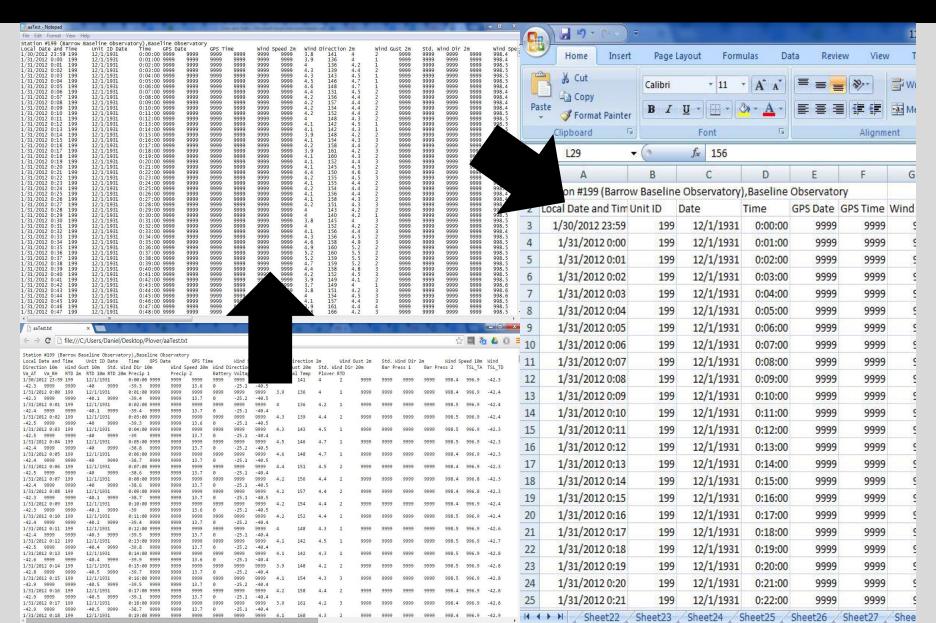
Site of data collection. Replica *Plover* screen RTD and exposed RTD are noted.

#### **Experimental Setup**

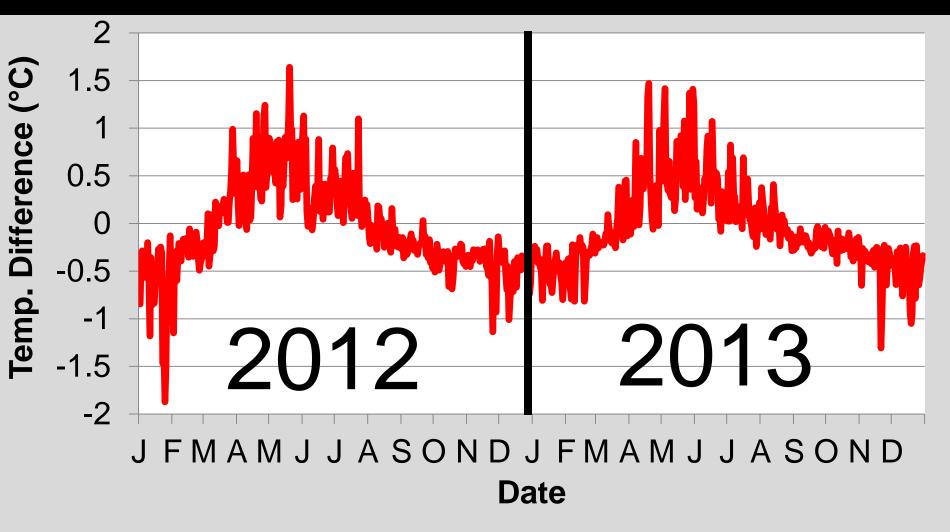
- Data collected at Barrow, Alaska at the NOAA
- Two Resistance Thermocouple Devices (RTDs)
- Replica *Plover* screen sent to the NOAA observatory
  - Houses an RTD alongside an exposed RTD
- Modern day meteorological equipment recorded atmospheric pressure, wind speed at 10 m, and wind direction at 10 m



#### **Automated Data Organization**

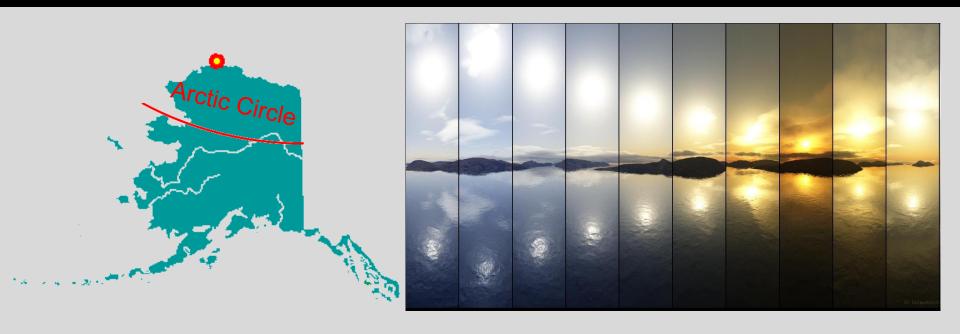


#### Results (Solar Influences)



**Figure 1** Plot of temperature difference (°C) of Plover RTD and RTD 2m for 2 years (2012-2013) by Julian day

#### Seasonal Solar Radiation



- Summer months: screen records higher temperatures
  - More sun exposure
- Winter months, screen records lower temperatures
  - No heating element

#### Results (Solar Influences)

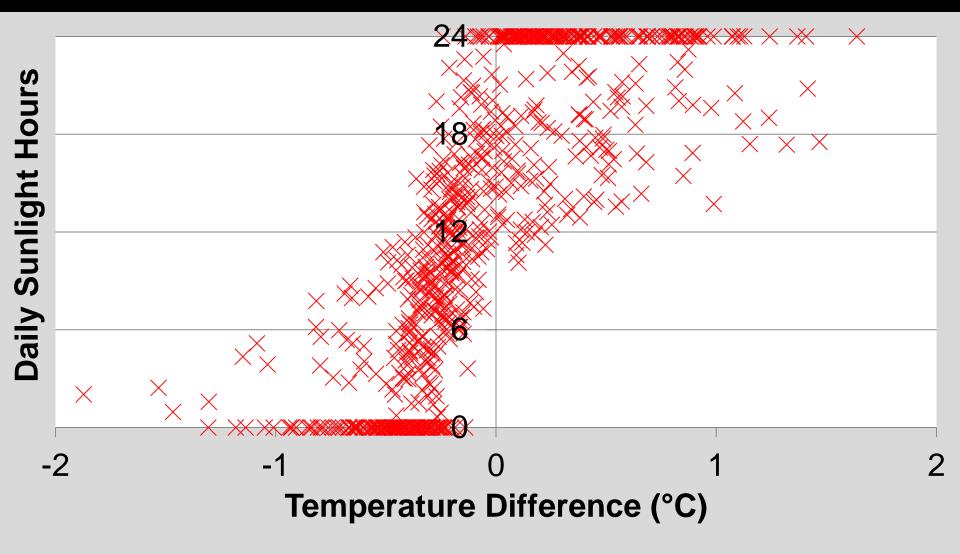


Figure 2 Temperature difference (°C) of Plover RTD and RTD 2m against daily sunlight hours

#### Results (Wind)

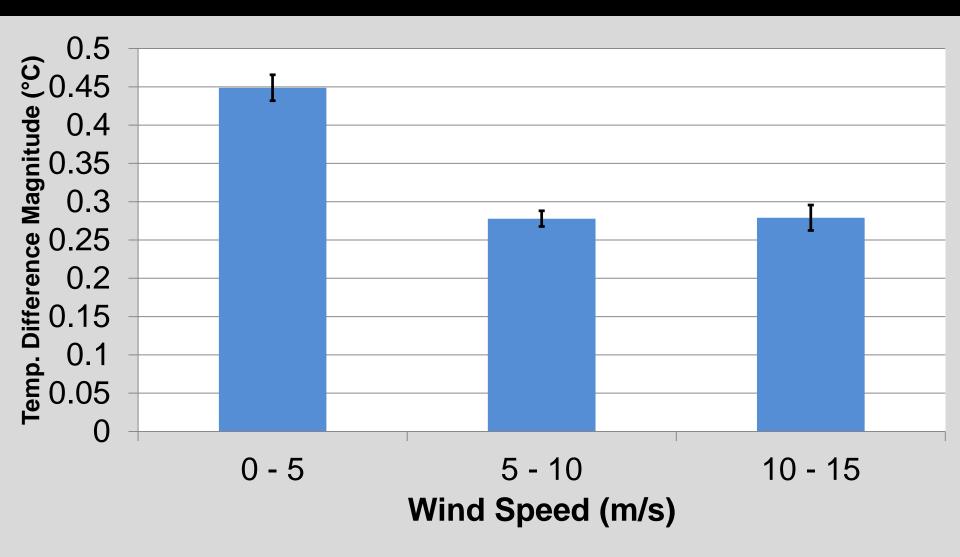


Figure 3 Average temperature difference (°C) at different wind speed intervals; P < 0.05 (Error bars = standard error)

#### Results (Wind)

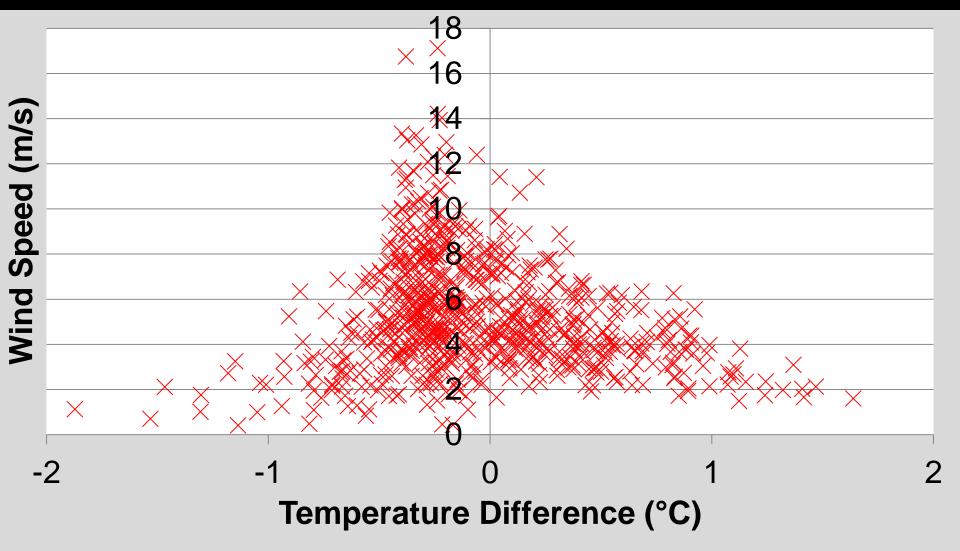
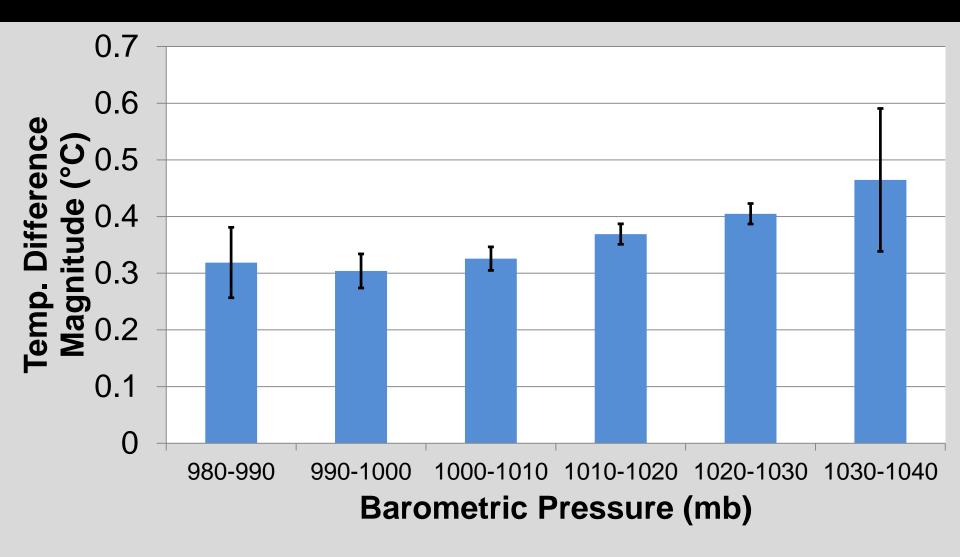


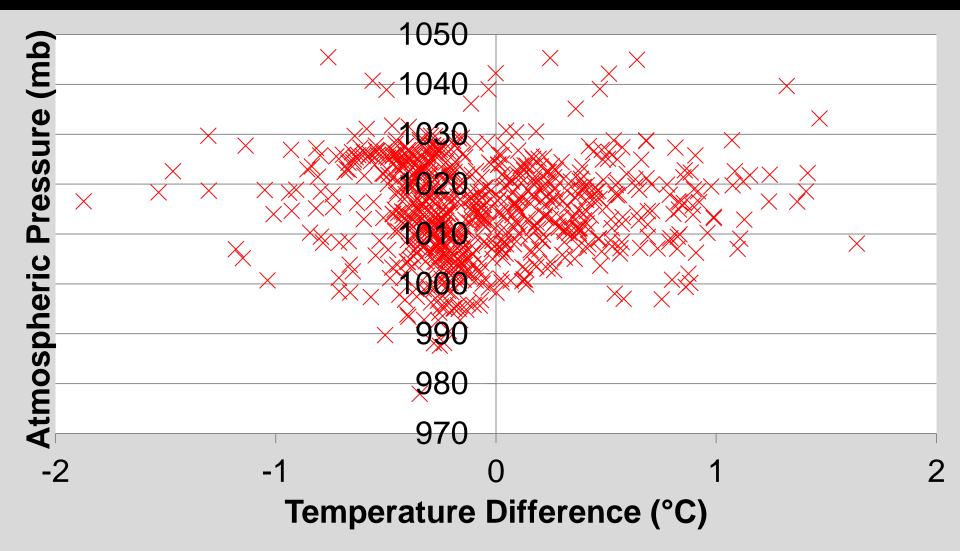
Figure 4 Temperature difference (°C) of Plover RTD and RTD 2m against wind speed (m/s)

#### Results (Barometric Pressure)



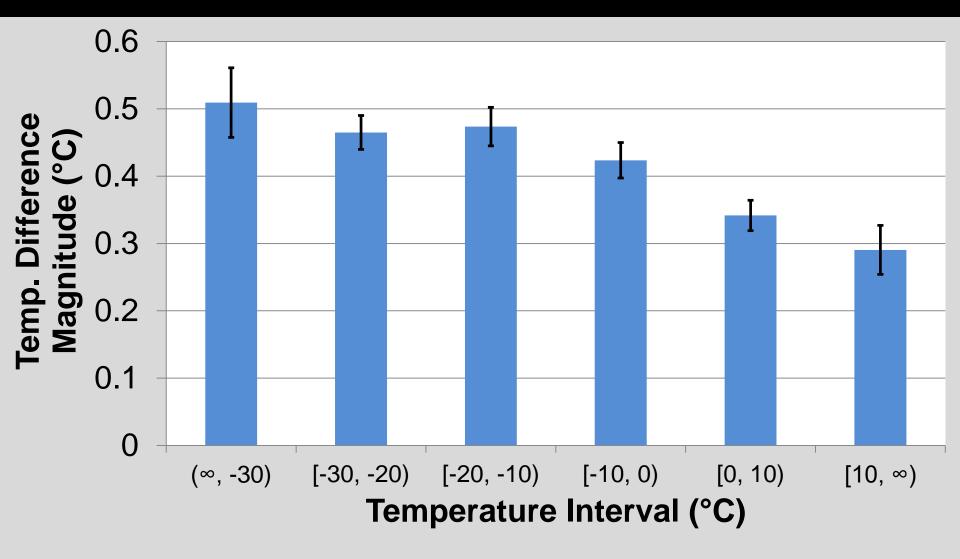
**Figure 5** Average temperature difference (°C) at different air pressure intervals; (Error bars = standard error)

#### Results (Barometric Pressure)



**Figure 6** Temperature difference (°C) of Plover RTD and RTD 2m against atmospheric pressure (mb)

#### Results (Actual Temperature)



**Figure 7** Average temperature difference (°C) of exposed and encased thermometers at different interval

#### Results (Actual Temperature)

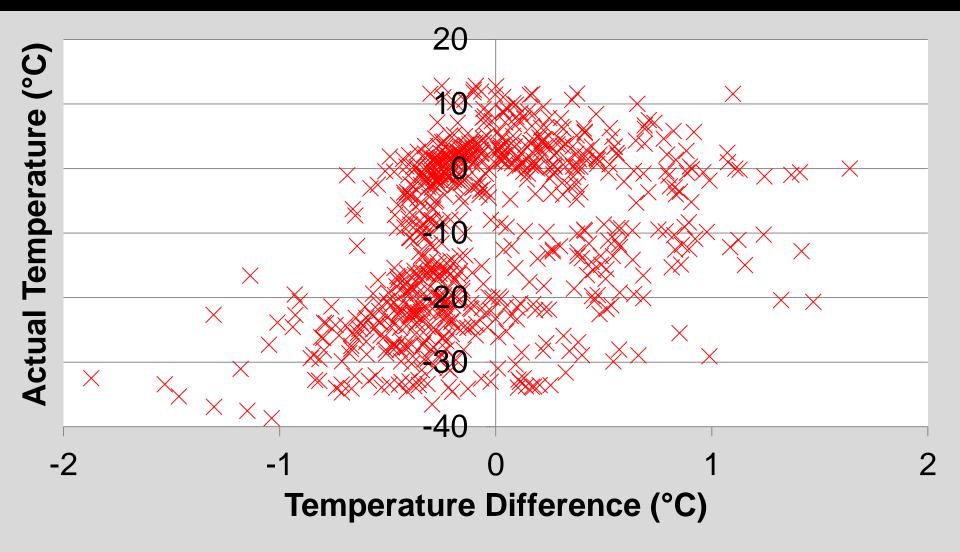


Figure 8 Temperature difference (°C) of Plover RTD and RTD 2m against actual temperature (°C)

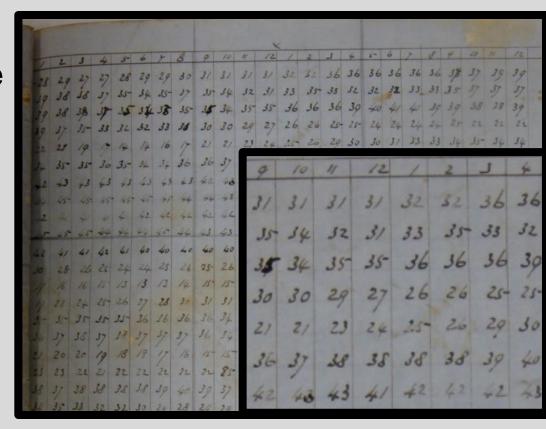
#### Conclusion

#### Screen Bias?

Yes	No
Sun exposure	Different temperatures
Low wind speeds	Different barometric pressures

#### **Implications**

- Conduct rare comparison study between *Plover* data
   (located at Duke Special Collections Library) and modern
   data to seek changing climate patterns in the Arctic
  - Gain better insight to Arctic climate change
    - How fast is it?
    - What actions should we be taking?



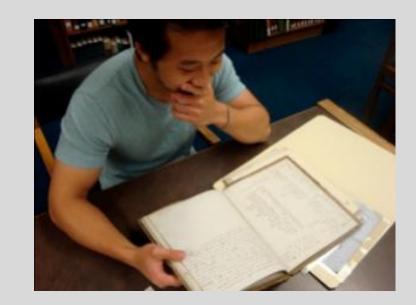
#### **Future Research**

 Develop computer program to effortlessly compare both data sets

Will use correction algorithms designed from

this study

- Program will be applicable for other comparison investigations
  - Still needs
     experimental study
     for each case



Manual transcription at Duke University Special Collections Library

#### Acknowledgments

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Mrs. Kristen Holmes – Computer Science Teacher

#### Selected References

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#### Computer Program

Data posted on NOAA FTP database

Files downloaded and converted to Excel Files

A Java computer program was designed to organize and analyze ~10<sup>6</sup> data points

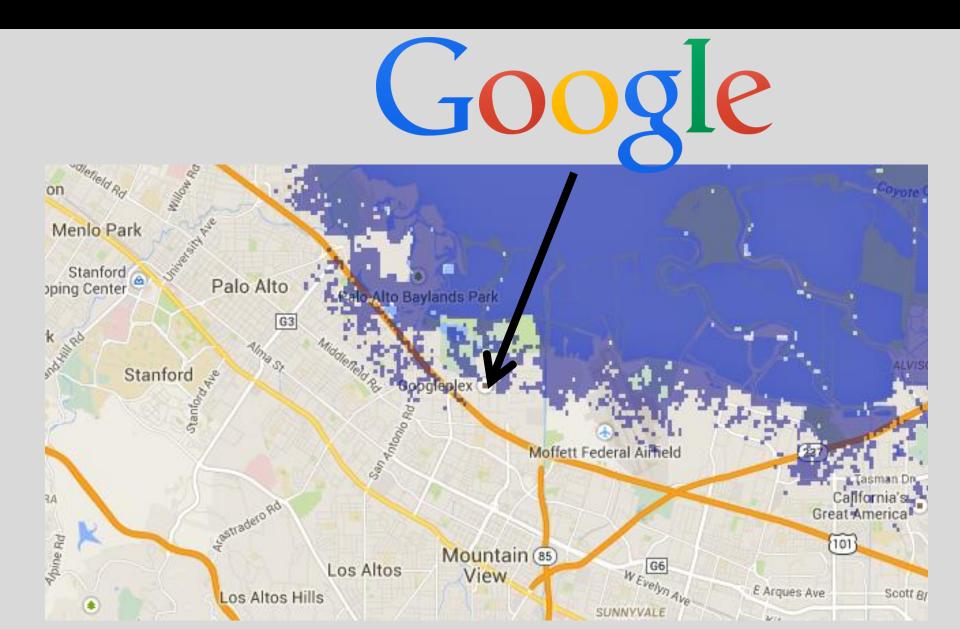
```
//Importation of JXL API is important for reading of Excel files
import java.jo.*:
import jxl.*;
import ixl.read.biff.BiffException;
public class Excel {
    public static void main(String [] args) throws IOException, BiffException{
    int dLim; //Days per month
    //Loop through two years
    for(int y = 12; y \le 13; y++){
      //Loop through twelve months
      for(int m = 1; m <= 12; m++){
        //The following if statements determine the number of days in a month
        if((m == 1) \mid | (m == 3) \mid | (m == 5) \mid | (m == 7) \mid | (m == 8) \mid | (m == 10) \mid |
(m == 12))
          dLim = 31:
        else if((m == 2) \&\& (y \% 4 == 0)){
          dLim = 29:
        else if((m == 2) \&\& (y \% 4 != 0)){
          dLim = 28:
```

```
else{
          dLim = 30:
        //Loop through specified number of days in month
        for(int d = 0; d < dLim; d++){
          //Finds Excel file
          Workbook workbook = Workbook.getWorkbook(new
File("c:\\users\\daniel\\desktop\\Plover\\NOAAX\\" + m + y + ".xls"));
          //Finds sheet (based on format)
          Sheet sheet = workbook.getSheet(d);
          int row = 2; //Starts at row 2
          //Declarations
          double totalPlover = 0;
          double totalTwoM = 0;
          double totalBarPress = 0;
          double totalWind = 0;
          double totalDirection = 0:
          int divisor = 0;
          //Infinite loop until reaches empty cell error
          while(true){
            trv{
              String ploverRTD = sheet.getCell(32, row).getContents(); //Obtain
contents of cell
              double ploverTemp = Double.parseDouble(ploverRTD); //Convert contents
to type double
```

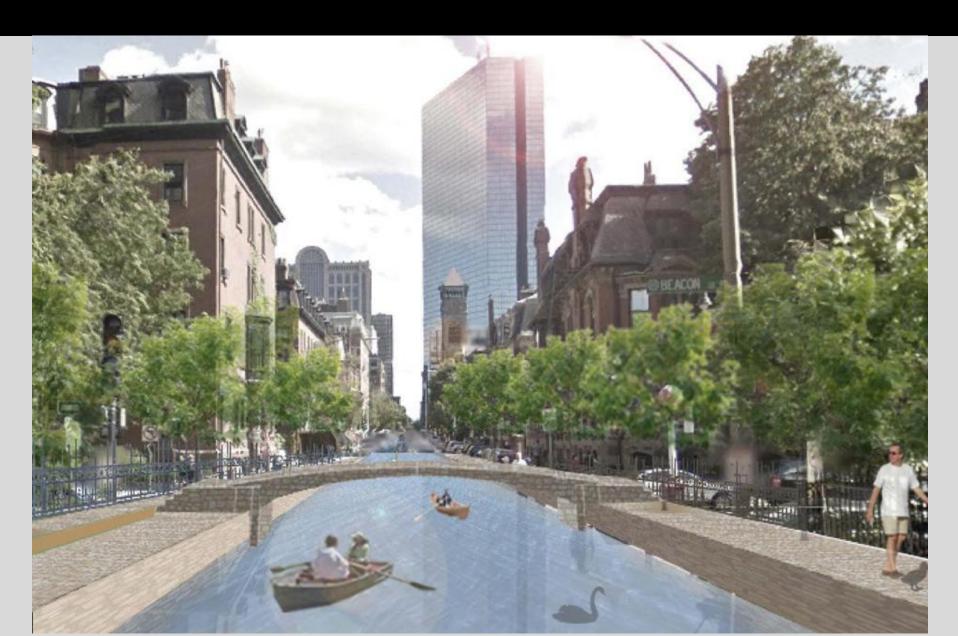
```
totalPlover += ploverTemp;
    String twoM = sheet.getCell(24, row).getContents();
    double twoMTemp = Double.parseDouble(twoM);
    totalTwoM += twoMTemp:
    String barPress = sheet.getCell(18, row).getContents();
    double barPressTemp = Double.parseDouble(barPress);
    totalBarPress += barPressTemp;
    String wind = sheet.getCell(10, row).getContents();
    double windTemp = Double.parseDouble(wind);
    totalWind += windTemp;
    String direction = sheet.getCell(11, row).getContents();
    double directionTemp = Double.parseDouble(direction);
    totalDirection += directionTemp;
    divisor++; //Later to be used to find average
    row++;
  catch (ArrayIndexOutOfBoundsException e){
    break;
  catch (NumberFormatException e){
    break:
  }
//The following find averages
double avgPlover = totalPlover / ((double) divisor);
```

```
double avgTwoM = totalTwoM / ((double) divisor);
    double avgBarPress = totalBarPress / ((double) divisor);
    double avgWind = totalWind / ((double) divisor);
    double avgDirection = totalDirection / ((double) divisor);
    double diff = /*Math.abs(*/avgPlover - avgTwoM/*)*/;
    System.out.println(avgWind);
    workbook.close();
    }
}
```

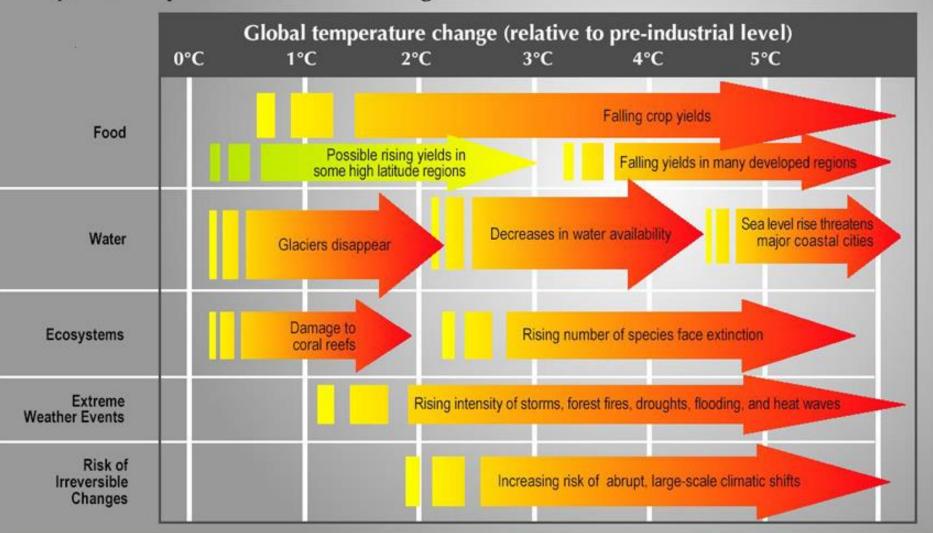
#### Mountain View Inundations



### Canals in Boston?



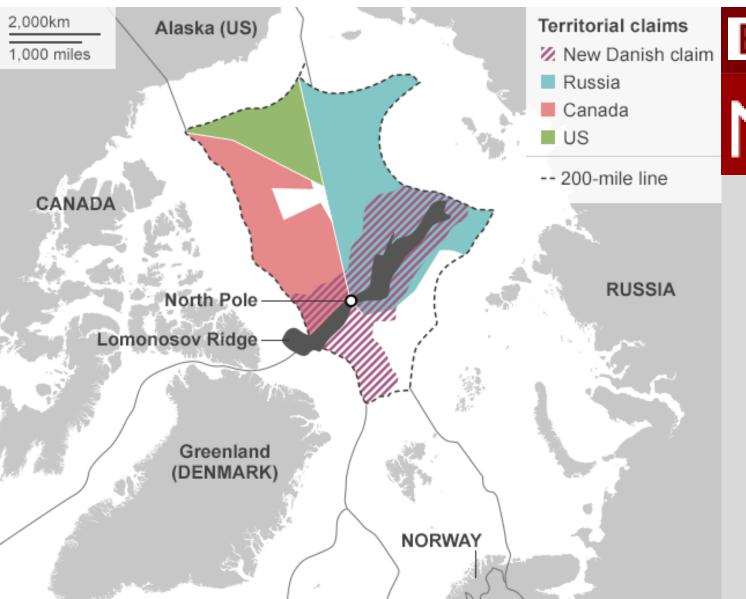
#### **Projected Impacts of Climate Change**



C = Celsius; CO2 = Carbon Dioxide

Source: Adapted from the Stern Review on the Economics of Climate Change.

## Denmark challenges Russia and Canada over North Pole





#### Was Dr. Simpson right?

"The arrangement so made was to protect the instrument from the wind and snow-drift, and from the influence of the sun, while admitting the easy access of air."

- Dr. Simpson

