

Design for This Century

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Response

The whole weather analysis reminds me of the Butterfly Effects, where a small incident could lead to dramatic consequences in other areas or perspectives. Weather as a branch of science, depends hugely on the data analysis and supercomputing. The physical, chemical calculations required in the global scales lead to extreme difficulties when we try to study this field of science, empirical science to be precise. It took almost a whole generation for physicists to establish the fundamentals of quantum physics, since classic physics didn't work when we are dealing problems in the microscopic scale. I'm optimistic about the fact that this generation of scientists will provide something valuable in the fluid physics and large scale weather prediction models. As for now, as Mckenzie Wark pointed out in his essay, we have to truly understand the system before we construct any solutions. I do think the scale of technology is the factor in understanding the weather/climate problems. The cellphone we have right now in our pocket has more computing power than the chunky computers NASA used to land on the moon. Therefore, for the next decades, the use of supercomputers and cloud computing will drastically increase our ability to understand complex problems such as weather. The growth of technology is in exponential form in our world and there is no hints to slow down as far as now, so the arsenal of the next generation of scientists will be much powerful than what we have now!