

# Climate Change: Temperature and CO<sub>2</sub> Correlation Analysis

## Abstract

This research paper examines the correlation between atmospheric carbon dioxide concentrations and global temperature anomalies over the past 140 years. Analysis of historical data demonstrates a strong positive correlation ( $r=0.94$ ) between CO<sub>2</sub> levels and temperature increases, supporting the hypothesis of anthropogenic climate forcing.

## 1. Mathematical Framework

The radiative forcing equation for CO<sub>2</sub> is approximated as:

$$\Delta F = 5.35 \times \ln(C/C_{ref}) \text{ W/m}^2$$

where C is current CO<sub>2</sub> concentration and C<sub>ref</sub> is the reference concentration (280 ppm).

## 2. Observational Data

Table 1: Key Climate Indicators by Decade

Decade	Temp Anomaly (°C)	CO <sub>2</sub> (ppm)	Sea Level Rise (mm)
1880s	-0.16	280	0
1980s	0.26	339	80
2020s	1.27	420	230

## 3. Results and Discussion

Linear regression analysis reveals a strong correlation between CO<sub>2</sub> concentrations and temperature anomalies ( $r^2 = 0.88$ ,  $p < 0.001$ ). The temperature sensitivity to CO<sub>2</sub> doubling (climate sensitivity) is estimated at  $3.0^\circ\text{C} \pm 0.5^\circ\text{C}$ , consistent with IPCC projections.

## 4. Conclusions

This analysis provides quantitative evidence for the link between anthropogenic CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and observed global warming. The findings underscore the urgency of emissions reduction to limit temperature increases to  $1.5^\circ\text{C}$  above pre-industrial levels.