





*Veritatem inquirenti, semel in vita de omnibus,  
quantum fieri potest, esse dubitandu:*

*In order to seek truth, it is necessary once in the course of our life, to  
doubt, as far as possible, of all things.*

- Descartes, Rene, *Principles of Philosophy*

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# Chapter 1

## Introduction



*“In the beginning the Universe was created. This has made a lot of people very angry and been widely regarded as a bad move”*

- Douglas Adams, *The Restaurant at the End of the Universe*



## A Preface on Humanity and the Climate

*The development of humanity is not unlike the chirography of an Aristotelian tragedy. It starts with a simple/primitive species cradling a noble cause - to improve their chances of survival. Here the protagonist (humankind) develops a fatal flaw: an insecurity and latent distruction of their home due to a sudden rise to power. Having acknowleged this flaw, we now strive to imporve our understanding of the universe, correct past mistakes and stem the tide of inevitable change.*

*With tragedy being an imitation not of humanity, but of action and life, happiness and misery, it is only expected that such a comparison to our current affairs should stir feelings of catharsis when exploring our need for research and scientific advancement. It is with that I begin this thesis with the begining of the planet, its atmosphere and consequently the beginning of humankind.*

### 1.1 Whence

This section describes the intial formation of an atmosphere, how this led to life, and ultimately the human race.

#### 1.1.1 Formation of the Atmosphere

4.5 billion years ago the earth was part of a disk of dust and gas orbiting our sun. As these gasses move about, resonant drag instability led to the clumping of dust particles, Hopkins and Squire [2018]; Woo [2018]. As these ‘clumps’ become denser, other forces come in to play, further increasing the size - eventually forming the hot mix of gas and solid which became the Earth.

As it cooled, this Earth becan to accumelate an atmosphere of primordial gasses from the vollatile componenets of the gas cloud. These gasess were then supplemented through outgassing (volcanic eruptions). At this point in time oxygen was not only absent in the atmopshere, but also had many siks within the Earths anoxidised crust. It was not until oxygenic photosynthesis (Peretó [2011]) that the concentrations of oxygen in the atmosphere started to increase. Eventually the development of multicellular cyanobacteria<sup>1</sup> resulted in biologically induced oxygen accumelating in the atmosphere, University of Zurich [2013]. This led to the most significant climate event in the planets history: the Great Oxigenation Event (2.5 billion years ago), Planavsky et al. [2014]. This increase of oxygen allowed oragnisms to become larger and more active, eventually resulting in the human race.

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<sup>1</sup>The phylum of phtosynthetic prokaryotic (cells not containing a distinct nucleus) bacteria - e.g. blue-green algae

### 1.1.2 Rise of the Homo Spiens ('Wise Man')

About x million years ago there were many varieties of the homo genus. With the development of the human brain, energy transfer changed. A larger brain required more fuel, and therefore with the development of cooking<sup>2</sup> humans were able to increase their...

This led to the first know source of indoor air pollution.

With the this increased capability, a language capable of communicating information, allowing for the ability to not only hunt larger prey but also. Ability to metaphorical, allowed fruther knwoplege transfer , cvave paings and metaphoirical for people over 150 ....

REFERENCES TO OTHER CHAPTERS... - vis - accounting via metaphors - and an interest in science, and atmosphere

## 1.2 Motivation

Air pollution and climate have always been a concern for the human race. Concerns about lead in the air can be documented back as far as 6000 years ago [se ref, ], in ancient Rome [1145] and in 1285 where after a visit from Queen of England to a coal burning to Nottingham, the first air pollution act was deployed [1147]. Modern day

air pollution = animals

air qulaity pollicy kingxx

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<sup>2</sup>The first known case of indoor air pollution

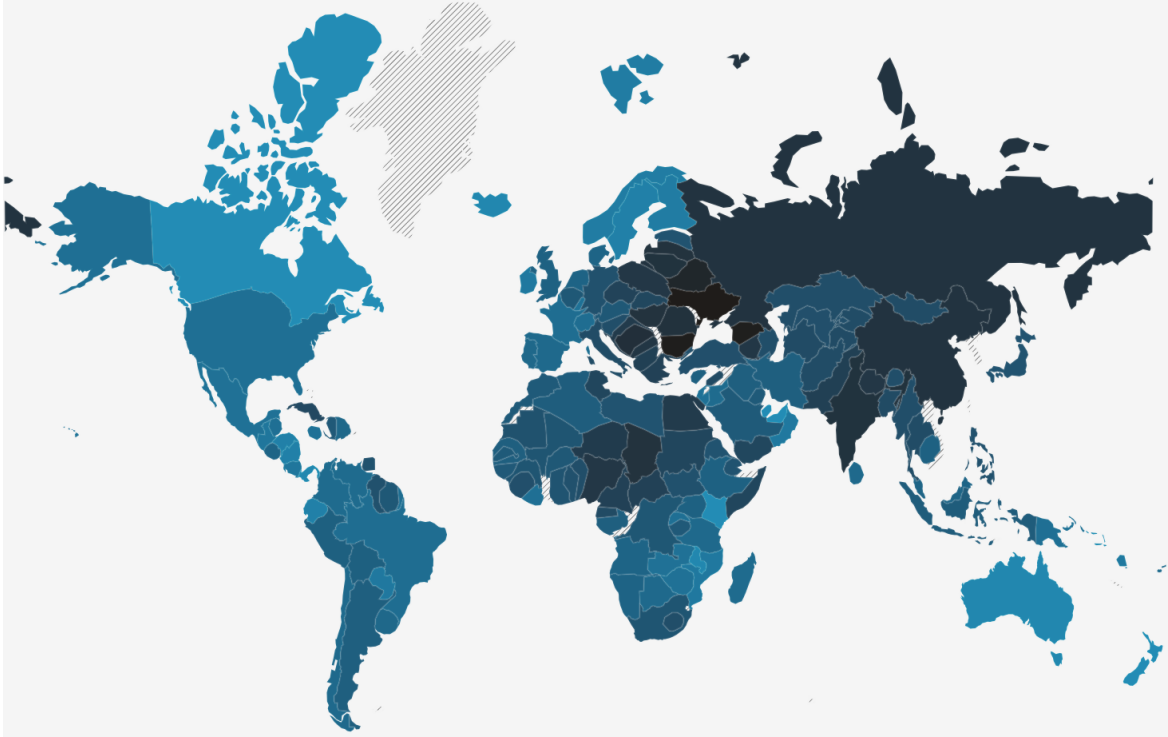


Figure 1.1: Deaths attributed to air pollution REF WHO 16

### 1.3 Ozone and its role

Ozone has two roles within the atmosphere. High up in the stratosphere it serves as a barrier to dangerous ultraviolet radiation. The importance of this was discovered in (HOLE PAPER) where the release of ChloroFlouroCarbons from deodorants produced ...

However within the troposphere (<15k?) the production and loss of ozone has a direct impact on human life. Polluted environments, such as industrial London, SMOG, Clean air act.

### 1.4 The NO<sub>x</sub> cycle

Nitrogen Oxides (NO<sub>x</sub>) come predominantly from motor vehicles and power stations and can cause respiratory problems in children and asthmatics [se1261]. They also play an important role in the formation and destruction of ozone.

### 1.5 Changing Climate

The main removal

### 1.5.1 HO<sub>x</sub> Cycle

VOC

## 1.6 Modelling the Earth

In the previous section the air quality and its detrimental effects on human health was seen to influence policy for cities and industry. Kyoto, Islands suing powerstations.

For a policy to be passed there needs to not only evidence of the problem, but a strong suggestion that any proposed changes will have the desired effect. As it is not possible to perform experiments on complex, and often unknown, chemistry at every location on the planet, we are forced to rely on the numerical simulation of the Earth System, and the constituent parts within it.

### 1.6.1 Earth System Models (ESM)

ESMs are models capable of predict past or future interactions of the planetary system. They represent our foremost understanding of the complex interplay between land-surface (geosphere), ocean (hydrosphere), ice (cryosphere) and the air (atmosphere), and act as a surrogate to manual experimentation - which is just not possible on the global scale.

ESMs can also be split into their individual parts. One example of this is the Chemistry section of the Goddard Earth Observing System (an integrated ESM and data assimilation model hosted by NASAs Goddard space flight centre [CITE]) - GEOS Chem. GEOS-Chem is a global 3D model of atmospheric chemistry which is driven by the meteorology provided by NASA [CITE]. Here the earth is split up into cubic sphere cells longitudinally and latitudinally, as well as vertically FIG CELLS<sup>3</sup>. Each one of these cells performs several perturbations of the chemistry within them, before any long-lived species are transported, and the process is repeated. If extracted separately a single one of these cells may be used to explore the sensitivity of different species for a range of input conditions. This is the basis of the atmospheric box model.

### 1.6.2 The zero-degree box model.

A box model

mechanism,

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<sup>3</sup>This image is not from GEOS-Chem.

integrator,

etc.

### 1.6.2.1 Chemical Mechanisms

The atmosphere consists of thousands of species, with tens of thousands of reactions between them.

These models represent real world reactions

In modelling these we can describe their rate of production and loss with respect to the species they react with.

### 1.6.3 The model development cycle

Scientific understanding is the product of many cycles of trial and error, Figure 1.2. In atmospheric chemistry we start with a hypothesis or a question, e.g. will changing X have a negative response on Y. We then construct a theoretical model to represent the chemistry within. This chemistry is updated to reflect the rates and reactions that have been recorded in laboratory/chamber experiments. This cycle is then repeated until the model and real-world observations produce a comparable result.

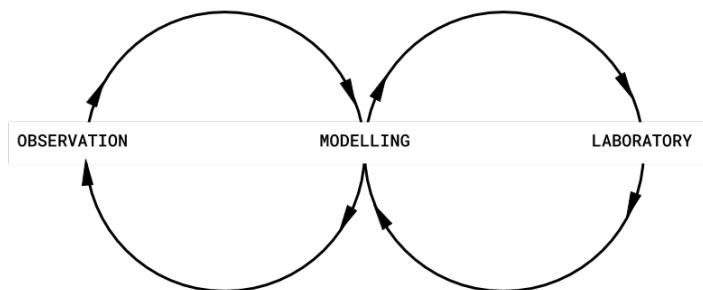


Figure 1.2: **The scientific development cycle.** This shows the iterative nature between modelling, observation and laboratory experimentation

ESM

A series of box models.

### 1.6.4 The Dynamically Simple Model of Atmospheric Chemical Complexity

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