

Energy and Climate Change

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The term “climate change” has often been equated with the change in climate brought about by human activities. In this talk, we will first examine whether or how climate has changed during the last 400,000 years, as compared with the variations in climate in recent years. Such an examination provides us with a different perspective of what climate change means. The study of climate change is of course related to our energy use, and so we will investigate the issue of energy from both the demand and supply sides. Given the imbalance between supply and demand, and the burning of fossil fuels contributing to global warming, the possible mitigation measures are then discussed. If climate change is to come regardless of such mitigation measures, the methods that can be used to estimate the effects of climate change on a particular location are also introduced.