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The enclosed paper, 'CDR modeled in MAGICC to return to preindustrial temperatures by 2100' is a non-peer reviewed preprint and submitted to EarthArXiv. It has not been previously submitted to any journal. All data is available at https://github.com/hsbay/CDRMEx, with the Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International open source license. Referenced software is licensed by their respective licenses and listed as such.

# CDR modeled in MAGICC to return to preindustrial temperatures by 2100.

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## Abstract

Experimental test of the theory proposed in an Alternative Method to Determine a Carbon Dioxide Removal Target. The multistep experiment explores halting anthropogenic emissions from greenhouse gases and removing all historic cumulative anthropogenic carbon dioxide emissions in less than a hundred years to match the preindustrial temperature. The multi-step experiment was conducted on MAGICC 6.8, a reduced complexity model or model emulator, managed by pymagicc. The experiment compares the new experimental pathway 300x2050, marker SSP1 2.6, and SSP1 1.9 within the context of development under a green growth paradigm and explores large-scale linear carbon dioxide removal over the 80-year time frame. The multi-step experiment calibrated the experimental pathway to include recent historic emissions through 2020, and was subsequently tuned to model the recent average global temperatures and CO<sub>2</sub> concentration through 2020. Contrary to the prior proposed theory all anthropogenic emissions (from both fossil fuels and land-use change) needed to be removed to realize the final temperature of nearly 0°C. The experimental pathway evolved temperature to 0.07°C relative to the 1720-1800 mean and 0.14°C to the 1850-1900 mean and realized a final CO<sub>2</sub> concentration of 278.82 ppm by 2550. The evolved climate at 2550 was achieved by phasing out all greenhouse gases, excluding ammonia, and removing all cumulative anthropogenic carbon dioxide ending in 2100.

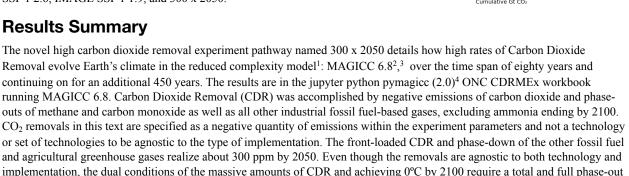
## Introduction

This letter explores climate modeling in MAGICC<sup>1,2,3</sup> and outlines how to generate temperatures that roughly match preindustrial at 2100 through scaled Carbon Dioxide Removal. Although the large-scaled CDR experimental pathway of 300 x 2050 is highly implausible with the current technology, the state of the clean energy industry, and knowhow, the modeling provides a likely lowest emissions bound and scaled CDR pathway generating temperatures far lower than the marker pathway of Shared Socioeconomic Pathway (SSP) 1 1.95,6,7,8 within the SSP 1 storyline of 'development under a green-growth paradigm'6. In order to constrain the total amount of carbon needed to be removed from the climate-carbon cycle, the pathway quickly reaches net zero in the middle 2020s, followed by scaled fossil fuel free CDR.

Figure 1: Carbon Budget showing CDR from 1850-2100 for IMAGE SSP 1 2.6, IMAGE SSP 1 1.9, and 300 x 2050.

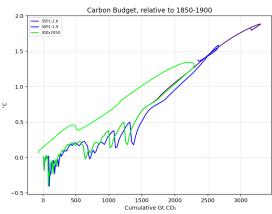
# **Results Summary**

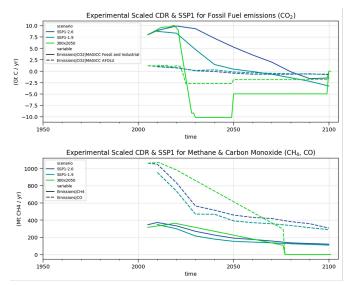
of fossil fuels over the century.



The 300 x 2050 pathway removed roughly 237.85 GtC or 871.48 GtCO<sub>2</sub> for fossil fuel emissions by 2050, and 71.44 GtC or 261.76 GtCO<sub>2</sub> of Land-use change emissions by 2050. The pathway then continues on to remove all anthropogenic fossil fuel emissions totaling 481.90 GtC or 1765.7 GtCO<sub>2</sub> by 2100. It also removes all anthropogenic land-use change emissions totaling 162.16 GtC or 594.16 GtCO<sub>2</sub> by 2100.

As shown in Figure 2, the descent from peak emissions in the early 2020s is swiftly followed by net zero in the mid-2020s (shown when the 300 x 2050 pathway crosses zero yearly emissions by late 2023), then steeper cuts of negative emissions are increased until 2030, when the yearly rate of negative emissions of Fossil Fuel emission added to AFOLU reach a total of 47





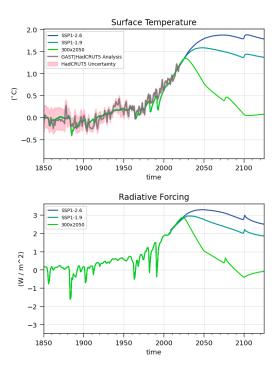


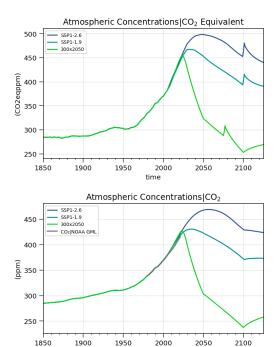
Figure 3

(a-d): Surface Temperature, Radiative Forcing,  $CO_{2-eq}$ , and  $CO_2$  for the experimental 300 x 2050, SSP1 2.6 and SSP1 1.9 over the time 1850-2125, also shown in gray are the observational proxies of HadCRUT5 Analysis<sup>10</sup> and the Keeling Curve Global Annual Mean, NOAA GML.<sup>11</sup>

 $GtCO_2$  yr<sup>-1</sup> by 2030 continuing on until 2050, then lowered to total to 25.03  $GtCO_2$  yr<sup>-1</sup> until 2100.

These types of removals, when run in the calibrated model, resulted in the following declines in global temperature, radiative forcing,  $CO_{2-eq}$  concentration, and  $CO_2$  concentration. Listed for comparison are the marker SSPs for the SSP 1 storyline of high development of green-growth: IMAGE SSP1 2.6<sup>5,6</sup> and IMAGE SSP 1 1.9<sup>5,6,7,8</sup>; SSP data from the IIASA Explorer<sup>8</sup>.

Figure 2. Pathways SSP1  $2.6^{5,6}$ , SSP1  $1.9^{5,6,7,8}$ , and 300 x 2050 show emissions and emissions reductions starting in 2010 through 2125. Historical emissions through 2020 are included in the pathway 300 x 2050.



time 2020-01-01 2100-01-01 2550-01-01

	scenario	unit	variable						
		ppm	Atmospheric Concentrations CO2	419.1408	429.7285	374.5315			
,	SSP1-2.6	W / m^2	Radiative Forcing	2.7057	2.8538	1.4417			
s		к	Surface Temperature	1.1880	1.8101	1.2480			
		ppm	Atmospheric Concentrations CO2	415.8408	371.8397	344.8451			
	SSP1-1.9	W / m^2	Radiative Forcing	2.6656	2.0874	1.0784			
		к	Surface Temperature	1.1856	1.3773	0.9568			
		ppm	Atmospheric Concentrations CO2	421.3218	237.3759	278.8180			
	300x2050	W / m^2	Radiative Forcing	2.7738	-0.4094	0.0068			
		к	Surface Temperature	1.2158	0.0692	0.0674			

time

Table 1: CO<sub>2</sub> concentration, Radiative Forcing, and Temperature.

# Methods

### **Experiment settings**

The experiment was set up by calibrating and tuning MAGICC to better match present near-term temperature, concentration, and emissions data. The recent current anthropogenic carbon dioxide emissions data through 2020 from the Global Carbon Budget  $(2021)^9$  was used to calibrate and extend the carbon dioxide emissions data from 2009 to 2020 (estimated) and coupled to the removal pathway allowing for a closer near-term fit for peak CO<sub>2</sub> concentration and temperature. To emulate CMIP and present-day temperature evolution in MAGICC, the HadCRUT5  $(2020)^{10}$  temperature data analysis was used to line-fit the average of the last five years. The carbon dioxide concentration from the Keeling Curve Global Annual Mean<sup>11</sup> was used to roughly line fit 2015 and 2020 and establish error, which under the tuned model yielding +8 ppm above the CO<sub>2</sub> concentration for 2020. These tunings were applied as MAGICC 6.8 was last harmonized with 2010 data.

### **Tuned Settings**

The following settings were changed: climate sensitivity, ratio to land-ocean, heat exchange and amplification, north to south heat exchange,  $CO_2$  fertilization and year start, land sink pools and fluxes, and soil feedback factors to allow the model to better line fit the HadCRUT5<sup>10</sup> temperature analysis, GCB 2021<sup>9</sup> emissions data, and Keeling Curve Global Annual Mean<sup>11</sup>. Given the tunings to the land sink pools and fluxes, to simplify curve fitting and minimize overfitting only the soil feedback was needed and the other land sink feedbacks were disabled.

 $N_2O$  data caused a noticeable spike after severely decreasing emissions; MAGICC 6.8, which was finalized in 2012, does seem to artificially hold this value high for a few years after a large emissions reduction resulting in the artifact around the year 2079 for the 300 x 2050 pathway or in 2100 for the standard scenarios visible in the  $N_2O$ ,  $CO_{2-eq}$  and Surface Temperature graphs. In order to smooth the declining curves for 300 x 2050, all GHGs were declined to phase out by 2079, except ammonia and the negative carbon dioxide (both fossil fuel and land-use change) emissions. It is left to further study under models not subject to this same  $N_2O$  artifact if GHG phase-outs can happen closer to 2050 and would that lower the total number of removal necessary to reach 0°C.

See the Supplemental Data section of the Supplementary Information for a listing of all tuned MAGICC configuration settings.

### Preindustrial Baseline, 1720-1800

A baseline of 1720-1800 was chosen per *Estimating Changes in Global Temperature since the Preindustrial Period, 2017*<sup>21</sup> as mentioned in *Trajectories of the Earth System in the Anthropocene, 2018*<sup>27</sup> which resulted in temperatures 0.073°C warmer than the 1850-1900 baseline.

		mean of 1720-1800	mean of 1850-1900	mean of 1861-1900	mean of 1880-1900	mean of 1951-1980	mean of 1961-1990
unit	variable						
ppm	Atmospheric Concentrations CO2	2.7862e+02	289.8765	291.0738	293.9143	322.3647	333.5193
к	Surface Temperature	-3.0411e-18	-0.0730	-0.0805	-0.1440	0.1753	0.2177

Table 2: CO<sub>2</sub> concentration and temperature means for common various year spans.

The earlier baseline choice also avoids hysteresis seen if the model time series starts after 1765. A post-1765 start never reached a temperature of about 0°C by 2500. Additional details are in the Supplemental Data section.

## Discussion

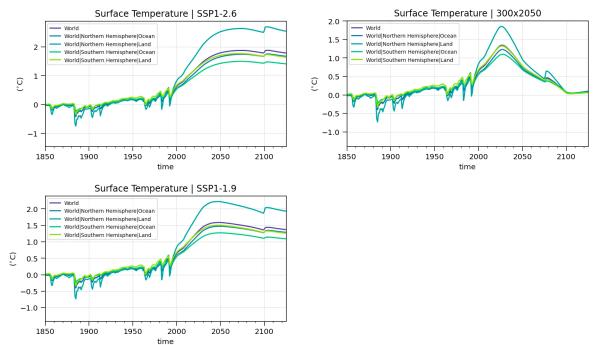
### Model Temperature Calibration

When calibrating the Northern and Southern regions for the HadCRUT5 analysis, the model evolved the four basic partitions: Northern and Southern Hemisphere Land and Ocean regions. The model was calibrated to achieve a delta of  $\pm 0.0009^{\circ}$ C for the world and a little over  $\pm 0.18^{\circ}$ C for the northern hemisphere and the southern hemisphere. See Supplement Data Table 3 for temperature data in tabular form. The calibration to recent temperature forcing and emissions as of 2020 changed the amplitude of the temperature graphs over an untuned configuration. The calibration exercise additionally line fit global CO<sub>2</sub> concentration for 2020 in an attempt to reach 412.44 ppm and match CO<sub>2</sub> concentration per Dlugokencky, et al. (2021)<sup>11</sup>. The experimental pathway 300 x 2050 for 2000-2020 reflects a closer match to the temperature and CO<sub>2</sub> evolution for near future dates, i.e., the 300 x 2050 pathway, 2021 was predicted to reach 1.25°C and a CO<sub>2</sub> concentration of 423.97±8 ppm. This is visually noticeable (see figure 2) by the divergence of 300 x 2050 from the harmonized SSP1 2.6 and SSP1 1.9 starting about 2015. For an accounting of real-life emissions and temperature modeling, calibrating to the latest emissions, recent historical temperature, and  $CO_2$  concentration data is highly recommended.

#### **Calibration and Regionality**

By combining the HadCRUT5 calibration for the world, the regions split between hemispheres and the CRUTEM5 land dataset<sup>12</sup> MAGICC predicts a temperature evolution lower than the mean of 2015-2020 in CRUTEM5 by +0.15°C. The northern hemisphere, with the most developed land, experiences the majority of the warming well beyond the other regions; next is the southern hemisphere land, followed by the northern hemisphere ocean, and finally, the southern hemisphere ocean. This ordering is common to all graphed pathways. The regional splitting of these temperature projections has only been compared but not tuned to the CRUTEM5 2021 dataset and not to other ESM data. The northern hemisphere mean temperature for 2015-2020 relative to 1850-1900 for the 300 x 2050 pathway in MAGICC were 1.64°C and 0.14°C less than the CRUTEM5 2021 dataset mean (1.78°C) over the same duration. The southern hemisphere mean temperature for 2015-2020 relative to 1850-1900 for 300 x 2050 pathway in MAGICC was 1.21°C and 0.15°C less than the CRUTEM5 2021 dataset mean for 2015-2020 relative to 1857-1900 (1.361°C).

Figure 4 (a-c): Surface Temperature for SSP 1 2.6, SSP 1 1.9, and 300 x 2050, listing the northern, southern, land, and ocean regions, including the world region.



Given the effect of heat exchange and temperature splitting in each region, and even though temperature evolution for the 300 x 2050 pathway is estimated with high uncertainty and given how long it takes to recover with a high rate of removal, it follows that these next two decades are critical to lowering global temperatures.

### Equilibrium Climate Sensitivity, Transient Climate Response, and Transient Response to

### Cumulative CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions

```
MAGICC ECS setting: 3.257K, MAGICC ΔQ2xCO2 setting: 3.71K
Calculating ECS from abrupt-2xCO2.
Calculating TCR & TCRE from 1pctCO2.
TCR is 2.0882, ECS is 3.2376 kelvin and TCRE is 2.420048 K / 1000 GtC
Calculating ECS from abrupt-0p5xCO2.
Calculating TCR & TCRE from 1pctCO2-cdr.
TCR is 2.0882, ECS is 3.2555 kelvin and TCRE is 2.420048 K / 1000 GtC
```

Figure 5: MAGICC output listing ECS, TCR, TCRE results, and CMIP6 experiments.

The Equilibrium Climate Sensitivity (ECS) is defined as a doubling or halving of CO<sub>2</sub> concentration over the time it takes for the global temperature to equilibrate. The MAGICC setting for core climate sensitivity ( $\Delta T_{2x}$ ) was raised from the MAGICC 6.801<sup>2,3</sup> initial defaults of 3K to 3.257K and evolved ECS to 3.24+0.02K over 2500 years, in relation to the heat exchange tunings to allow for a closer proximal distribution to the hemisphere land regions when considering the CRUTEM5 2021 data and

HadCRUT5 2020 data analysis. The effect of tuning to the present-day temperature mean also lowered both the Transient Response to Cumulative CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions (TCRE) to 2.4K and the Transient Climate Response (TCR) to 2.1K. Despite present-day calibration temperature mean trending initially hotter than lower scenarios, SSP 1 2.6 and SSP 1 1.9, ECS didn't trend significantly hotter. This effect is likely given the shorter duration of increased emissions from the least emitting pathway of 300 x 2050. See Section 3.1 of *Introduction of variable climate sensitivities* in *Emulating coupled atmosphere-ocean and carbon cycle models with a simpler model, MAGICC6 – Part 1: Model description and calibration, 2011*<sup>2</sup> for a more in-depth discussion as it pertains to the model emulator MAGICC 6.8x.

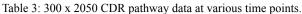
#### MAGICC 6.8 Negative Emissions Calibration

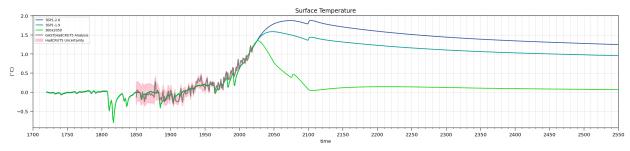
The negative emissions calibration of MAGICC 6.801 was performed by adapting the supplied pymagicc code to utilize the CMIP6 abrupt- $0p5xCO2^{12}$  and 1pctCO2-cdr tests. Once integrated as an adjunct to the pymagicc framework, the experiment generates ECS, TCR, and TCRE by evaluating the standard increasing abrupt doubling of emissions (CMIP abrupt-2xCO2) and the 1% continual increase in CO<sub>2</sub> concentrations (CMIP 1pctCO2) compared to CMIP6 1/2 abrupt drop in CO<sub>2</sub> concentration and negative 1% CDR tests. Calibration is valid if the absolute value of the paired tests and subsequent TCR, TCRE, and ECS are found to be equal. The absolute value of the pairs of the TCR and TCRE were equal, and ECS resulted in a slight difference of about 0.0194°C and is still an acceptable demonstration of negative emissions given the tests equilibrate over 2500 years.

When removing all anthropogenic emissions from both fossil fuel emissions and land-use change with the 300 x 2050 pathway, the model was able to achieve 0.07°C over the mean temperature for 1720-1800 or 0.14°C over the mean temperature for 1850-1900. The inclusion of cumulative land-use change for removal was unexpected and unanticipated in the author's previous theory paper. See Supplemental Figures I-K for the tuned MAGICC 6.8 model output running abrupt-0p5xCO2 and comparison to several abrupt-0p5xCO2 CMIP6 data series <sup>13,14,15,16,17,18,19,20,21</sup>.

Ocean outgassing is inferred as all fossil fuel emissions had to be removed instead of only the emissions that currently reside in the atmosphere. A removal to roughly realize 302.83 ppm of CO<sub>2</sub> by 2050 (237.85 GtC modeled, compared to (415 ppm - 302.83 ppm) \* 2.124 (GtC/ppm) = 238.27 GtC), needed additional removal of 244 GtC to counterbalance the effect of the ocean reestablishing  $pCO_2$  equilibrium (resulted in outgassing), all of which was completed by 2100. The continued removal allowed both temperature and CO<sub>2</sub> to slowly recover and finally converge to match pre-industrial. CO<sub>2</sub> concentration does drop well below 237 ppm; however, CO<sub>2eq</sub> only drops below 252.99 ppm, while the global temperature mean never goes lower than 0.04°C. Ocean upwelling is predicted to return to baseline by 2100 in the 300 x 2050 pathway; see supplemental figure h. The ocean heat exchange, drop in concentration from emissions forcings, N<sub>2</sub>O artifact and GHGs phaseouts introduce enough varying factors to complicate modeling on a reduced complexity model software to merit a more comprehensive understanding of the present-day emissions and temperatures and future evolution of the experiments to be modeled in a full ESM ensemble.

	time	1750-01-01 00:00:00	1817-01-01 00:00:00	1850-01-01 00:00:00	2023-01-01 00:00:00	2050-01-01 00:00:00	2082-01-01 00:00:00	2100-01-01 00:00:00	2550-01-01 00:00:00	2081-2100 mean	2081-2100 1850mn
unit	variable										
ppm	Atmospheric Concentrations CO2	277.0147	284.1080	284.8000	427.3552	302.8265	262.7444	2.3738e+02	2.7882e+02	250.2084	NaN
W/m^2	Radiative Forcing	0.0052	-0.8239	0.1591	2.8734	1.0329	0.3283	-4.0938e-01	6.7958e-03	-0.0567	NaN
к	Surface Temperature	-0.0022	-0.7863	0.0022	1.2993	0.7769	0.4223	6.9181e-02	6.7370e-02	0.2506	0.3235
Gt C / yr	Emissions CO2 MAGICC Fossil and Industrial	0.0000	0.0141	0.0544	3.4667	-4.9806	-4.9806	0.0000e+00	0.0000e+00	-4.7185	NaN
	Emissions CO2 MAGICC AFOLU	0.0000	0.2463	0.4026	0.0000	-1.8515	-1.8515	0.0000e+00	0.0000e+00	-1.7541	NaN
CO2eqppm	Atmospheric Concentrations CO2 Equivalent	277.0147	283.5586	284.7459	453.5959	323.0444	290.8009	2.5299e+02	2.7336e+02	270.6647	NaN
Cumulative Gt C	Emissions CO2 MAGICC Fossil and Industrial Cumulative	0.0000	0.3536	1.2754	481.8968	244.0495	84.6703	9.4418e-05	9.4418e-05	40.1070	NaN
	Emissions CO2 MAGICC AFOLU Cumulative	0.0000	6.5263	17.3104	162.1623	90.7213	31.4733	-2.1904e-03	-2.1904e-03	14.9073	NaN





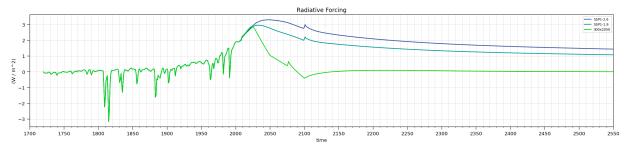


Figure 6 (a-b): Full graphs for Surface Temperature of 300 x 2050 and Radiative Forcing to show 300 x 2050 convergence of about 0.07°C and Radiative Forcing 0.

#### Accounting of Land Use Change Emissions

With the inclusion of the Global Carbon Budget 2020 emissions data, the land-use change emissions forcings diverged from SSP 1 1.9 prior to 2020, as shown in figure 7, d. The divergence was unexpected as all emissions data ought to be harmonized by the model to 2005. To work around this modeling behavior, extensive tunings to the heat, hemispheres and soil feedback were applied in addition to removing 42.4 GtC of AFOLU (Land-use change carbon) to match the MAGICC evolved emissions data. The soil carbon feedback was enabled and tuned to allow for positive growth in  $CO_2$  concentration to allow for minimal non-linear evolution to concentration and temperature in the near term mid-2020s, 2100, and through 2550. The combined effect of tunings and workaround additionally increased the Northern/Southern temperature spread.

Given the mixed effects on the land sinks in the ESM results in *Is there warming in the pipeline? A multi-model analysis of the Zero Emissions Commitment from CO<sub>2</sub>, 2020<sup>25</sup>, but yet slight decreases with the UVIC ESM in <i>Asymmetry in the climate-carbon cycle response to positive and negative CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, 2021<sup>24</sup>* a very slight rise (0.0674°C) above 0°C relative to 1720-1800 was chosen for the post 2100 temperature calibration. This temperature target remained slight to properly model negative emissions.

The author was unable to find guidance on increasing the land sink or a MAGICC 6.8 setting to allow more below-ground mineralization of anthropogenic land-use change  $CO_2$  in order to remove it from the climate-carbon cycle by removals to the ocean or atmosphere sinks. The author doesn't know if there should be a portion of the cumulative land-use emissions that should have turned over into durable storage of  $CO_2$  in a mineralized form. It was suspected and thus written as such in the theory paper<sup>29</sup> that land-use change emissions shouldn't need to be removed as they are fully in balance, as it were, with the cumulative increases to the land sink since preindustrial. In lack of evidence, this seems in error. However, natural conversion to more permanent storage is a topic open for further investigation.

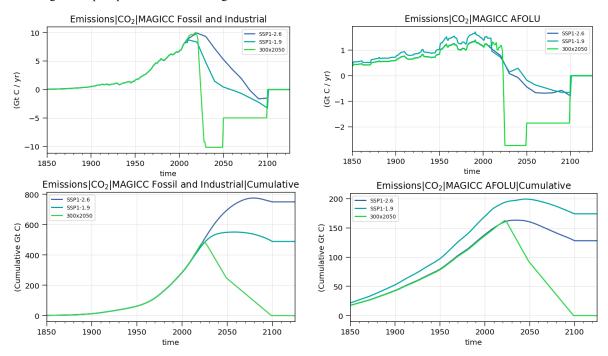


Figure 7 (a-d): Anthropogenic and Land-Use Change Emissions and cumulative emissions data, and CDR decreasing in green.

#### Negative Emissions Calibration and Negative Emissions Asymmetry

The 300 x 2050 pathway experiment has a total removal of 644.99+42.2 GtC in negative emissions to match the cumulative total of anthropogenic emissions. If more land-use change emissions were more permanently contained within the land sink whereby

the quantity of negative emissions needed was reduced to about 500GtC, then the removal is within the model ensemble variability of AOGCM model and natural sink uptake studies <sup>24,25,26</sup>. If all anthropogenic negative emissions since preindustrial 644.99+42.2 GtC or totaling 2520.4 GtCO<sub>2</sub> are needed to reach closer to 0°C over preindustrial, then it's likely that a small quantity more than what was emitted since preindustrial be added to this experiment's modeled removal of all of anthropogenic. The magnitude over 500GtC to determine the magnitude of CDR necessary to match pre-industrial temperatures to be completed by 2100 is open for in-depth investigation.

### Experimental Temperature Evolution over Model Time Bounds

If negative emissions have a nearly symmetrical climate-carbon cycle response <sup>24</sup>, extending the experiment 300 x 2050 out to the model limits will evolve an eventual convergence to about 0.07°C. The shading indicates the experiment run with a lower ECS of 2.1°C and a higher ECS of 4.4°C and includes the medium uncertainty region splitting. Given the vast quantity of emissions needed to be removed under such a short time period, it radically limits the amount of near-term emissions allowable and likely is only achievable should we limit emissions to stay well within the carbon budget. A continued dependency on fossil fuels is unable to yield phase-outs in emissions or the deep removals necessary to achieve the scale and scope to match the pre-industrial temperature.

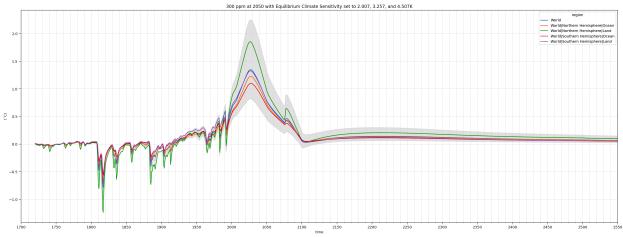


Figure 8: 300 x 2050 pathway with various Equilibrium Climate Sensitivities: 2.01K, 3.3K, and 4.4K from 1720 to 2550 relative to the mean of 1720-1800.

## Conclusion

This text outlines starting points for future investigation on pathways that closely match pre-industrial over existing literature. Having a team explore the experiment's thesis yet with increases to 1.6x (to 1.75x) preindustrial concentration<sup>24</sup> driven by forcings from emissions, and removing upwards of 600GtC or 2198.4GtCO<sub>2</sub> (to about 775GtC), run with current temperature forcings, and run on a comprehensive model ensemble would best provide more accurate reflections of temperature, holding below  $1.5^{\circ}$ C, and additional data such as the sea-level rise and AMOC, ENSO, jet-stream turnover<sup>27</sup> and evolution over time.

The possibility of being able to eventually match the pre-industrial climate should help to inform the debate to radically accelerate front-loaded, near-term phase-out of anthropogenic emissions sources and scale zero-carbon intensity carbon removals in order to develop a more equal future world.

### **Data Availability**

The experimental setup and data are fully open source, https://github.com/hsbay/CDRMEx, see Supplementary Information for additional details.

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### **Competing Interests**

None.

### **Acknowledgments**

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