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Modulation of fossil fuel production by global temperature variations

Bert W. Rust

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Abstract

An analysis of the fossil fuel production record since 1860 shows that the exponential growth in production is modulated in the inverse sense by variations in global average temperature. Taking this modulation into account shows that the underlying rate of increase is about 25% less than the widely quoted 4.3% annual rate. This modulation may also produce a partially ameliorating feedback if the often predicted carbon dioxide greenhouse effect actually materializes.

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