

Department of Physics Colloquium:

SOLAR VARIATIONS AND CLIMATE CHANGE

— PAST AND PRESENT

Dr. Eigil Friis-Christensen, Danish National Space Center



Thursday September 27

Store fysiske auditorium, 14:30

Coffee, tea & biscuits from 14:00

The Earth's climate is changing, as has always been the case. This is well documented in both the geological and the historical records. Even during the last 150 years, where systematic climate measurements have been made, we have seen clear climate changes. In particular, during the last 50 years the temperature of the Earth has increased dramatically, indicating that a human induced contribution to climate variations may now be significant.

For the latter reason, climate change is no longer regarded just a scientific issue and the public discussion on climate is now so much focused on the effect of the increasing atmospheric content of CO₂ that natural climate variations, which have been so prominent in the past, are no longer appreciated.

Never the less, and contrary to the public view, current results regarding the effect of solar variations on the Earth's climate indicate that climate models are still unable to fully simulate the complexity of the Earth climate.

