

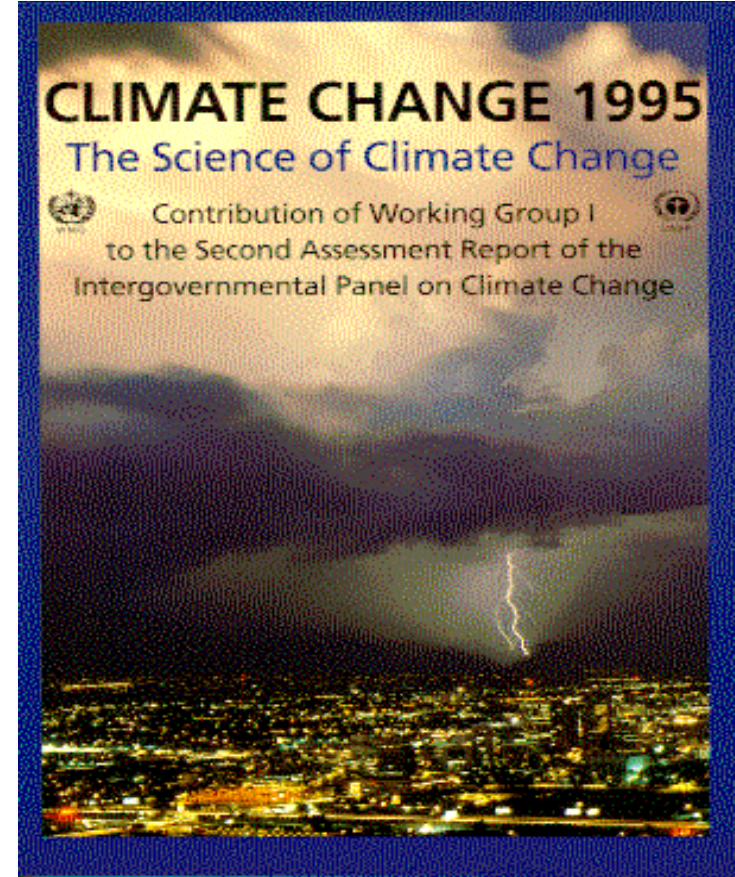
Lessons from Madrid for next climate talks

Objective

- To summarize some of the scientific “lessons learned” in the 20 years since publication of the Second Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)
- Focus is on advances in the area of climate change detection and attribution (“D&A”)

Impact

- The 1995 Second Assessment Report reached the historic finding that: “The balance of evidence suggests a discernible human influence on global climate”
- DOE-funded ‘climate fingerprint’ research made a significant contribution to this finding
- After publication of the 1995 IPCC report, the “discernible human influence” conclusion was subject to criticism
- This criticism was addressed in many subsequent fingerprint studies
- The “discernible human influence” has consistently been affirmed – and confirmed – by subsequent fingerprint research, and by post-1995 IPCC, NAS, and CCSP assessments



Cover of the Second Assessment Report (for Working Group I) of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.

Reference: B. D. Santer (2015): Lessons from Madrid for next climate talks. *Nature*, 527, 165.