

The four Bray-and-von Storch surveys of climate scientists done from 1996 to 2013 - description and selected results

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So far, four surveys were designed and conducted among international populations of climate scientists, with the first in 1996 and the last in 2013, for studying their opinions on climate change, on climate models but also about the role of science and scientists in society and for policymaking. While the questions were not strictly identical, many of the questions remained the same, and allow now an assessment to what extent opinions and perceptions among climate scientists have changed over time. In the presentation, some results derived from these surveys are reviewed.

Data from the series of the four surveys indicate a strong increase in agreement concerning issues of manifestation and attribution of climate change while the evaluation of climate models has changed little in the past 20 years.

A number of specific issues were studied using these surveys.

- An early first effort, using only the 1996 data, revealed the post-normal character of climate science. Also, it became clear that contacts to policymakers were very rare, while more scientists had contacts to media.
- The 2007 survey was employed to examine the terminology concerning two key concepts in climate science, namely, *predictions* and *projections*, as used among climate scientists. The survey data suggest that the terminology used by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change is not adopted, or only loosely adopted, by a significant minority of scientists.
- The 2013 survey allowed an assessment whether climate scientists would adhere to Mertonian CUDOs norms: The data suggested that while CUDOs remain the overall guiding moral principles, they are not fully endorsed or present in the conduct of climate scientists.

The data as well as the code books are freely available on Academia.edu.

