

# THE BLANKET EFFECT

GLOBAL WEATHER MODIFICATION INFORMATION

11/20/2007

## Worldwide Opinion Differs

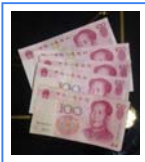
(note: Although the person featured in the following article is now *deceased*, below are excerpts from a 2003 [Business Week Online Archives PDF](#))



## Rainmaking Has Its True Believers -- And Skeptics

### Science and Technology Section

10/24/2003



China has 35,000 people engaged in weather management, and it spends \$40 million a year on alleviating droughts or stemming hail that would damage crops. (*Google translated website: Chinese Academy of Meteorological Sciences*)

Russian officials claim to order up clear skies for Moscow's May Day parade. It's done by saturating clouds with dry ice, producing so many tiny droplets that drops can't grow big enough to fall as rain -- at least for a while. (*Russian Federation Meteorological site*)



In the U.S., though, there is no clear consensus on how well such techniques work, or if they work at all. In the 1970s the U.S. plowed \$20 million a year into cloud-seeding research, but almost all federal funding has since dried up.

Nevertheless, dozens of state, local, and private operations continue in 10 states, including California (*PDF of California precipitation enhancement projects*), [Idaho](#), [Nevada](#), and [Utah](#). Vail Mountain in [Colorado](#) and many other ski resorts pay for cloud seeding, and Vail estimates that teasing more precipitation from clouds boosts its snowpack by 15%.

While modern rainmakers and their clients believe the technology works, convincing the skeptics will be difficult.

For the statistical proof that science normally requires, the data on weather-modification efforts might need to span 60 years or



### INTRODUCTION

*The Blanket Effect* weblog is dedicated to locating relevant information related to worldwide weather modification programs and the associated research papers. We strive to make it as understandable as possible and to provide links for those who want to learn more.

### WEATHER MAP LINKS

[Intellicast Radar](#)  
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### LABELS

[15th Weather Modification Conference \(4\)](#)  
[16th Weather Modification Conference \(5\)](#)  
[9th WMO Scientific Conference \(2\)](#)  
[A-Train \(1\)](#)  
[Abrupt Climate Change \(1\)](#)  
[Abrupt Climate Change/National Security \(3\)](#)  
[Agenda 21 \(2\)](#)  
[AGRIMET \(1\)](#)

more -- at least two of earth's 30-year weather cycles. Only a few of the cloud-seeding programs, including one in [Saudi Arabia](#) and one in Wyoming, are now collecting rigorous data.

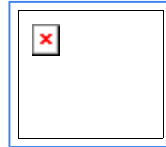


Perhaps the most controversial technology comes from Russia and Mexico ([translated ELAT site](#)).

In 1996, Russian space and weather control scientists hooked up with Gianfranco Bisiacchi, then head of Mexico's space efforts, and founded Electrificación Local de la Atmosfera Terrestre (ELAT)

Nominal results from the three ground stations set up by ELAT in 1998 were so impressive -- rainfall was reported to increase by as much as 30% -- that Mexican state governments were soon clamoring for more facilities. There are now 13, with additional ones being installed in Baja California and the state of Puebla.

ELAT claims credit for ending the severe drought in northern Mexico. Since 2000, says Bisiacchi, the amount of annual rain in the region has been "30% to 35% greater than what it was during the 1990s. In fact, the lakes of the region that were dry are now full."



When operations in the northern states of Sonora and Chihuahua started in 2004, he adds, most lakes were around 8% full. "We've now gone to levels of 85% to 90% -- in just one year."



ELAT says its technology is more efficient than regular cloud-seeding methods. "Milking" clouds is usually done by sprinkling them with particles of silver iodide. The particles provide a site where the clouds' ice crystals accumulate in clumps too heavy to stay aloft.

Bisiacchi and his team take a different tack: They generate charged ions on the ground and point them skyward. That, they claim, fosters clumping on both airborne dust particles and ice crystals touched by a charged ion.

POSTED BY A. DE ROCHE AT 12:24 PM  
LABELS: CHINA, MEXICO, RUSSIA

## The Concept of Ionization

*(note: Below are excerpts from a research paper co-written by the CEO of ELAT Technologies)*

[Air Force Weather Agency](#) (2)

[ALBEDO ENHANCEMENT](#) (2)

[ALBEDO ENHANCEMENT/CRUTZEN](#) (9)

[ALBEDO ENHANCEMENT/Latham](#) (2)

[Alberta](#) (1)

[Algeria](#) (1)

[Alumina toxicity](#) (1)

[Aqua](#) (1)

[ARCO](#) (1)

[Argentina](#) (1)

[ARM](#) (1)

[Australian Snowy Mountain Project](#) (5)

[AWIPS](#) (2)

[bacteria seeding](#) (1)

[barium](#) (8)

[barium effects](#) (2)

[Bernard Eastlund](#) (5)

[Beryulev](#) (1)

[Brazil](#) (1)

[Bulgaria](#) (1)

[Bureau of Reclamation](#) (1)

[Burkina Fasa](#) (1)

[Calcium Chloride](#) (1)

[California](#) (2)

[CALIPSO](#) (5)

[Cambodia](#) (1)

[Canada](#) (3)

[carbon dust](#) (2)

[CCC2006](#) (1)

[CCC2006/Latham](#) (1)

[CCN particles](#) (1)

[CENSARE Cloud Seeding Manual](#) (3)

[Central Aerological Observatory](#) (1)

[Cesium](#) (1)

[Chernobyl](#) (2)

[China](#) (15)

[China/HuZhijin](#) (3)

[CIPPA](#) (1)

[CLIMAGRI](#). (1)

**ARTIFICIAL ATMOSPHERIC IONIZATION:**

A Potential Window for Weather Modification ([PDF](#))

Phillip Kauffman

Arquimedes Ruiz-Columbié

**Introduction:** Cosmic Rays and Cloud Processes

In 1997 Svensmark and Friis-Christensen reported a correlation between cosmic rays and cloud cover. They found that the observed variation of 3 – 4% of the global cloud cover during the recent solar cycle is strongly correlated with cosmic ray flux.

This was hailed by some as the key to the mystery of how the sun affected climate and produced climactic changes. It was also a confirmation of the long standing suspicion that cosmic rays were linked to global cloudiness.

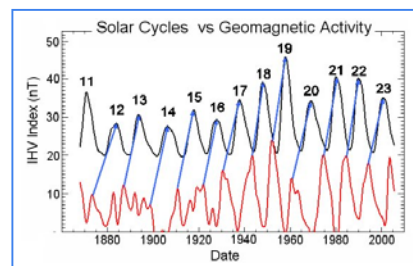
Numerous articles followed studying the catalytic effects of ions from cosmic rays on micro-physical cloud processes and cloud cover.

Of particular interest is the observation from recent satellite data, that cosmic ray-cloud correlation is much more intense in low level clouds than in high level ones.

More cosmic rays correlate to more low level clouds (altitudes of less than 3 km) and lower temperatures.

Low clouds exert a large net cooling effect on the climate. Therefore, greater cosmic ray intensity translates to more cloud cover and cooler temperatures.

The link between global low cloud amounts and cosmic ray intensity has been published in the U.S. by Marsden and Lingenfelter who say: "The observed correlation between global low cloud amount and the



Climate Engineering (1)  
 climate mitigation (1)  
 CLIMATE STATISTICS (2)  
 cloaking (1)  
 cloud seeding (4)  
 cloud seeding process (2)  
 Cloudsat (4)  
 CMA (1)  
 CNES (1)  
 Colorado (1)  
 contrails (3)  
 Critical Issues In WM Research (1)  
 Croatia (1)  
 Dr. Vincent J. Schaefer (2)  
 dry ice (1)  
 DTIC (7)  
 dust storms (1)  
 EISCAT (1)  
 ELAT (2)  
 ESSP (1)  
 Etheric Rain Engineering (2)  
 Europe Ionospheric Stations (1)  
 Finland (1)  
 flooding (1)  
 Florida (2)  
 France (1)  
 GEO-4 Report (2)  
 geo-engineering/KEITH (3)  
 geoengineering (8)  
 GEOSS (1)  
 GEWEX (1)  
 GLAS (1)  
 Global Dimming (1)  
 Global Telecommunication System (1)  
 global warming (1)  
 gravity waves (1)  
 Great Ocean Conveyor Belt (1)  
 Greenland (1)  
 Gregory Benford (1)  
 ground based seeding generators (1)  
 gulf stream collapse (2)

flux of high energy cosmic rays supports the idea that ionization plays a crucial role in tropospheric cloud formation". *(above image from "Scientists Predict Big Solar Cycle"/NASA)*

Cosmic ray flux variability is not limited to a solar cycle. Although the energy input from cosmic rays is tiny, as the dominant source of ionizing particle radiation, they have a profound effect on many atmospheric processes.

From those observations, it has been established that cosmic ray intensity declined about 15% during the 20th century, roughly about the same variation as the last solar cycle.

### **Hypothesis: General Statement and Conceptual Model**

Ions produced by direct current generators by corona effect will add to and enhance the catalyzing effects that cosmic ray ions are now known to produce in, among other things, lowering nucleation barriers, stimulating charged particle growth and stability and increasing the scavenging rate in clouds.

The injection of a large number of DC corona effect ions will induce changes in cloud microphysics and cloud cover and, consequently modifications in weather conditions.

POSTED BY A. DE ROCHE AT 10:11 AM

LABELS: ELAT, IONOSPHERIC WEATHER MODIFICATION

Nov 26, 2007

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Nov 15, 2007

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[HAARP](#) (14)  
[Hawaii](#) (2)  
[Helsinki Testbed](#) (1)  
[Hurricane Modification](#) (3)  
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[ice forming nuclei](#) (3)  
[ICESat](#) (1)  
[Idaho](#) (1)  
[Illinois](#) (1)  
[inadvertant weather modification](#) (1)  
[India](#) (2)  
[Indian Institute of Technology Kampur](#) (1)  
[Indonesia](#) (1)  
[International Civil Aviation Organization](#) (1)  
[International Rainwater Harvesting Alliance](#) (1)  
[International Technical Sharing](#) (1)  
[ionospheric heating](#) (10)  
[Ionospheric Research](#) (5)  
[Ionospheric Weather Modification](#) (5)  
[IPCC](#) (2)  
[IPCC 2007](#) (2)  
[Iran](#) (2)  
[Iraq](#) (1)  
[Israel](#) (1)  
[Italian Rain Enhancement Project](#) (2)  
[Italy](#) (4)  
[Kansas](#) (1)  
[Ken Caldeira](#) (5)  
[Law Issues](#) (2)  
[Libya](#) (1)  
[lidar](#) (3)  
[liquid carbon dioxide](#) (1)  
[Lowell Wood](#) (5)  
[Macedonia](#) (1)  
[Malaysia](#) (5)  
[Manila](#) (1)  
[Mexico](#) (4)

[microwave heating](#) (1)  
[microwaves](#) (1)  
[Morocco](#) (2)  
[MPLNET](#) (1)  
[NAEFS](#) (1)  
[NASA](#) (1)  
[National Research Council](#) (1)  
[National Science Foundation](#) (1)  
[National Security: Global Change](#) (1)  
[natural weather inducing phenomena](#) (1)  
[Nevada](#) (1)  
[NEXRAD](#) (1)  
[NexSat Images](#) (2)  
[NOAA](#) (5)  
[North American Weather Consultants](#) (1)  
[North Dakota](#) (2)  
[NWS](#) (1)  
[Obasi Statement](#) (3)  
[ocean albedo enhancement](#) (1)  
[Office of the Federal Coordinator for Meteorology](#) (1)  
[Oklahoma](#) (1)  
[Oman](#) (1)  
[ozone](#) (1)  
[ozone depletion and Weather Modification](#) (5)  
[ozone hole](#) (4)  
[PARASOL](#) (2)  
[Paul Crutzen](#) (1)  
[PEP](#) (1)  
[Peru](#) (1)  
[Philippines](#) (2)  
[Plasma Generator](#) (1)  
[Plasma Studies](#) (2)  
[precipitation enhancement](#) (1)  
[Puerto Rico](#) (1)  
[Qatar](#) (1)  
[RAP ACR 2003](#) (1)  
[Raytheon](#) (1)  
[Roland List](#) (1)  
[ROSHYDROMET](#) (4)

[Russia](#) (5)  
[Russia Ionospheric Stations](#) (1)  
[Russia/BERYULEV](#) (3)  
[Salter](#) (1)  
[Saudi Arabia](#) (3)  
[Secretary of Commerce](#) (1)  
[Senate Bill S.517](#) (1)  
[Silver Iodide](#) (10)  
[silver toxicity studies](#) (3)  
[Singapore](#) (2)  
[Slovenia](#) (1)  
[SOARS](#) (1)  
[South Africa](#) (2)  
[South Korea](#) (2)  
[Spain](#) (1)  
[SPECTRA](#) (1)  
[SPERP](#) (2)  
[STC](#) (1)  
[stratospheric cooling](#) (1)  
[Super Computer Climate Modeling](#)  
(2)  
[Super Computers](#) (3)  
[SuperDARN](#) (1)  
[Swedish Institute of Space Physics](#)  
(1)  
[Syria](#) (2)  
[Tanzania](#) (1)  
[TECNAGRO](#) (1)  
[Teller Dr. Edward](#) (5)  
[Texas](#) (5)  
[Thailand](#) (5)  
[The Atmospheric Science Program](#)  
(1)  
[tornado suppression system](#) (1)  
[U.S. and Canada WM treaty](#) (1)  
[U.S. Department of Commerce](#) (2)  
[U.S. drought facts](#) (1)  
[UN Framework Convention](#) (1)  
[United Arab Emirates](#) (3)  
[USWRP](#) (1)  
[Utah](#) (3)  
[Uzbekistan](#) (2)  
[Weather as a Force Multiplier 2025](#)

- (3)
  - [weather modification](#) (2)
  - [Weather Modification Association](#) (5)
  - [Weather Modification Inc.](#) (4)
  - [Weather Modification Patents](#) (1)
  - [Weather Modification Programme/UN](#) (1)
  - [weather observation systems](#) (4)
  - [Whitetop Experiment](#) (1)
  - [WMA](#) (1)
  - [WMO](#) (7)
  - [WMO. Obasi Statement](#) (1)
  - [World Area Forecast System](#) (1)
  - [World Meteorological Organization](#) (2)
  - [Wyoming](#) (4)
  - [Yugoslavia](#) (1)
- 

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- ▼ [2008](#) (79)
    - ▼ [June](#) (4)
      - ▼ [Jun 12](#) (1)
        - [HAARP On a Budget](#)
      - ▶ [Jun 10](#) (1)
      - ▶ [Jun 03](#) (1)
      - ▶ [Jun 02](#) (1)
    - ▶ [May](#) (1)
    - ▶ [April](#) (5)
    - ▶ [March](#) (12)
    - ▶ [February](#) (37)
    - ▶ [January](#) (20)
  - ▶ [2007](#) (108)
  - ▶ [2006](#) (54)
- 

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Pages	29.306
Pag. toda	72