# **Biological Homeostasis**

What's it all about?

Steve George

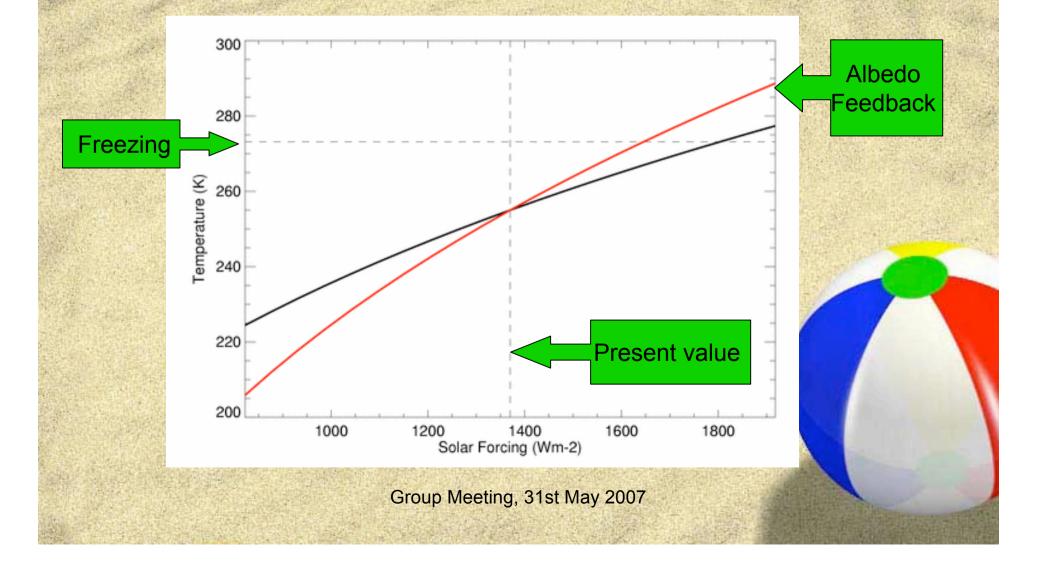
### First: Some Simple Modelling

Energy Balance Model...

 $(1-\alpha)S/4 = \sigma T_{\rho}^4$ 

...albedo ( $\alpha$ ), solar constant (S), Stefan-Boltzmann constant ( $\sigma$ ), effective temperature (T<sub>e</sub>).

### Balmy Temperatures...



### Earth's Greenhouse Increment

- Actual surface temperature ~ 287K
- Increment of 33K due to greenhouse gases
- Equation adjusted to take into account infrared transmissivity (ε)

$$(1-\alpha)S/4 = \varepsilon\tau\sigma T^4$$

## Daisy World: 1

- Simple, energy-balance world
- But, it has life!
- Daisy growth:

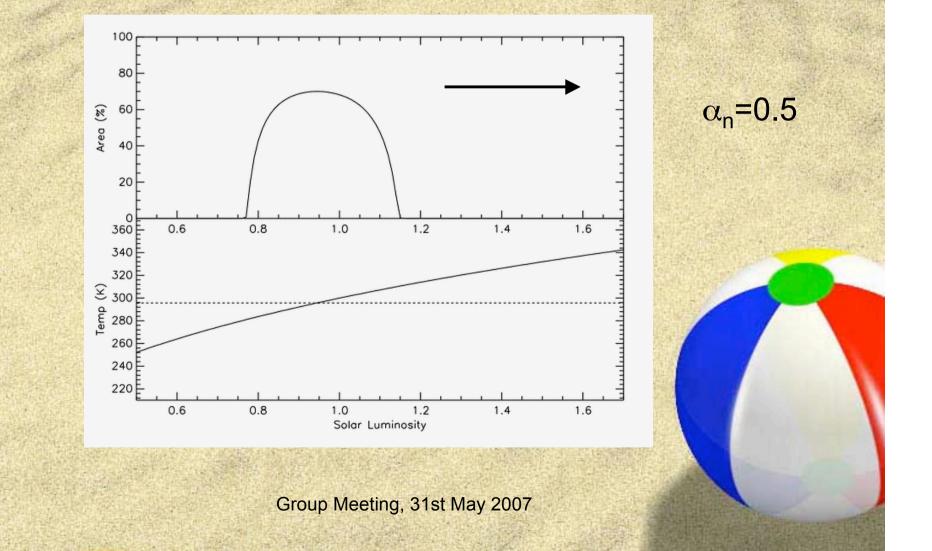
$$\frac{da}{dt} = a(x\beta - \lambda)$$

$$\beta = 1 - 0.003265(T_o - T)$$

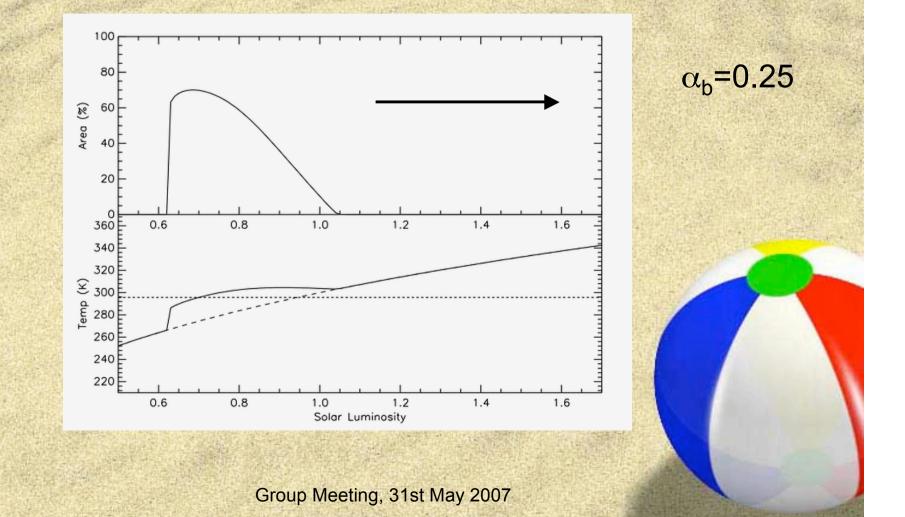
### Daisy World: 2

- Albedo:  $\alpha_{b} < \alpha_{g} < \alpha_{w}$
- Local temps: T<sub>b</sub>>T<sub>g</sub>>T<sub>w</sub>
- Planetary temp (T<sub>e</sub>) a function of daisy areal coverage and local temps.

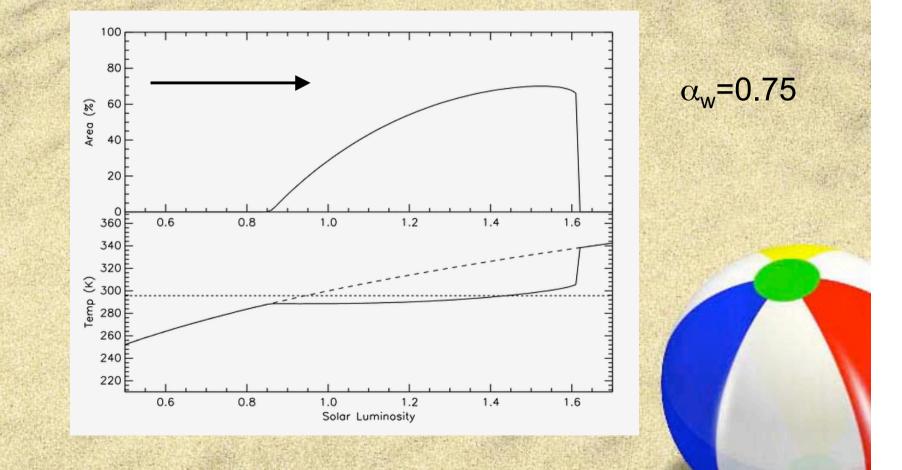
#### Neutral Daisy: Increasing Luminosity



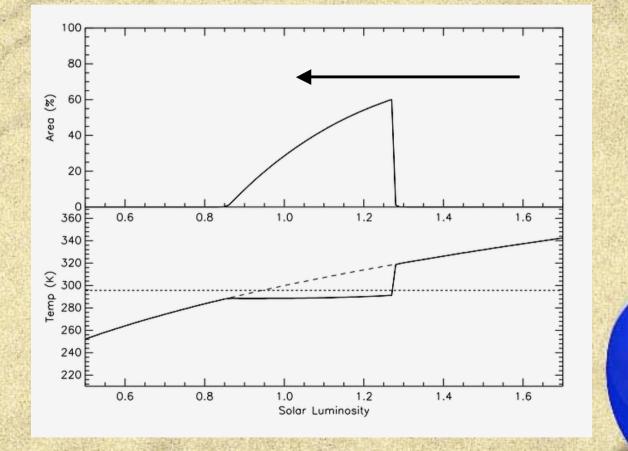
#### **Black Daisy: Increasing Luminosity**



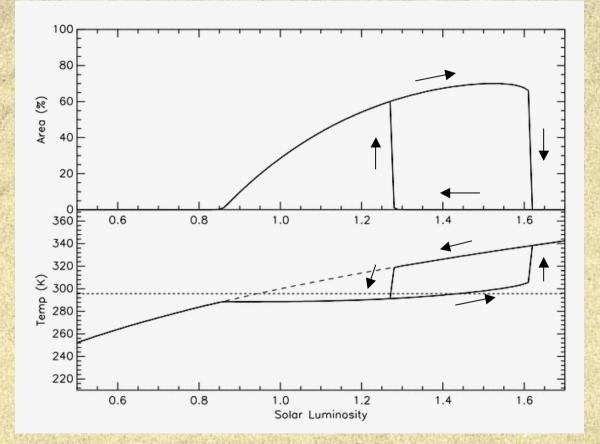
#### White Daisy: Increasing Luminosity



### White Daisy: Decreasing Luminosity

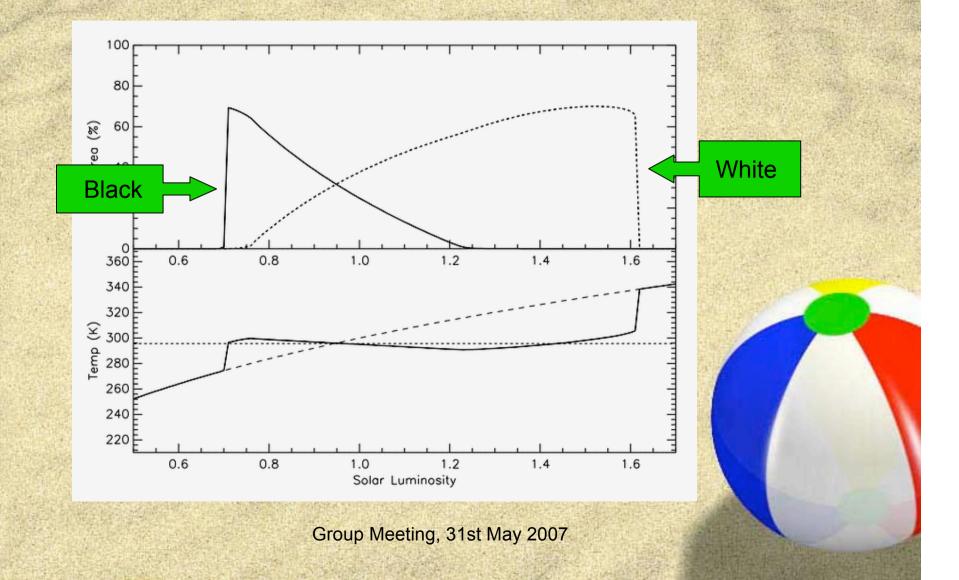


White Daisy: Hysteresis!!!!!!!!



#### **Climate Tipping Point?**

#### **Mixed Daisy: Competition**



### **Discussion!!**

Is the theory of homeostatis relevant to the Earth's climatic system?