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Lecture STS 3 - The climate impact of aviation and its mitigation

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Aviation contributes to climate change by changing the composition of the atmosphere. Current aircraft engines emit carbon dioxide (CO₂), a greenhouse gas, and also emit several non-CO₂ compounds that impact climate. The perturbation of atmospheric chemistry by aviation emissions of nitrogen oxides and the formation of contrails are two examples of non-CO₂ effects, which are currently much discussed among the aviation industry and European policymaking. This lecture will present the physical and chemical mechanisms by which aviation impacts climate, and review proposed solutions to reduce those impacts.

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