

# 2013 Math Awareness Talk

Dr. Richard L. Smith

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Date: April 9, 2013

Time: 4:00-5:00pm

Where: Salisbury Labs 115

## Influence of Climate Change on Extreme Weather Events

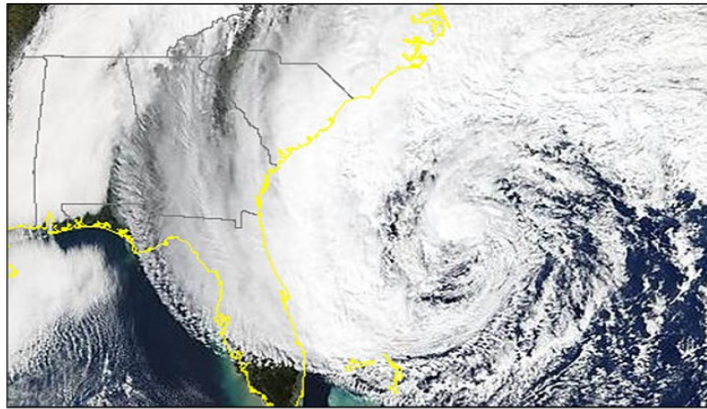
The past decade has seen a number of extreme weather events - the European heatwave of 2003, which is widely estimated to have caused as many as 30,000 excess deaths, was followed by Hurricane Katrina in 2005, and more recently, the Russian heatwave of 2010, the Pakistani floods also in the summer of 2010, the combined heatwave and drought of 2011 that had severe effects on Texas and Oklahoma, and most recently, Superstorm Sandy last September.

But are such extreme weather events really becoming more frequent?

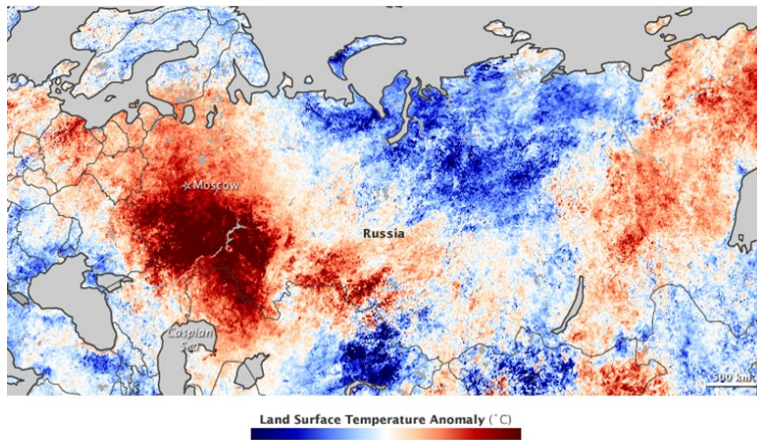
And, if so, does this have anything to do with global warming?

In this talk, I shall discuss statistical methods for estimating “FAR” (Fraction of Attributable Risk), which may tell us how large a role human factors play in such weather events. We will also discuss the above-mentioned weather events as examples, as well as the likelihood of extreme weather in our near future.

**Free Pizza and Soda!**



Superstorm Sandy on October 27 2012 (Scott Sistek)



### Russian Heatwave 2010

