

WHY STUDY SOLAR RADIATION MANAGEMENT? A CASE STUDY IN THE COST OF ACQUIRING NEW EVIDENCE

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Saturday 12 SEPTEMBER

6 pm IST

<https://iiit-ac-in.zoom.us/j/93997563252>

Recently, research into the possibilities of developing Solar Radiation Management (SRM) and other geoengineering technologies has gained new momentum. Just this year, Cambridge University announced the opening of a “Centre for Climate Repair” as part of the university’s Carbon Neutral Futures Initiative. A recent paper published in Nature gives hope that SRM could confer more benefits than previously thought. But opposition to even conducting research into SRM remains strong. I use the case study of SRM to develop a framework for thinking about the benefits and costs of acquiring new evidence and for thinking about the conditions under which new evidence could be harmful.



Eric Winsberg is Professor of Philosophy of Science at the University of South Florida. He is the author of **Science in the Age of Computer Simulation** and **Philosophy and Climate Science**, as well as numerous chapters and articles in the philosophy of physics, climate science, and other topics.

