

Dr. Ye Tao received a doctorate from the Department of Chemistry at MIT in 2015. He also completed the research requirements for a doctorate in Physics at ETH Zurich. To accelerate a move to Cambridge, MA, where he had been invited to lead a research lab at the Rowland Institute at Harvard, he forfeited the opportunity to defend a second doctoral dissertation.

His lab got to work in 2016, but Dr. Tao's professional trajectory unexpectedly swiveled to a new direction. After grasping the ultimate outcome of excess carbon accumulating in Earth's atmosphere, he founded MEER (Mirrors for Earth's Energy Rebalancing) to design, develop, and deploy, surface-based nontoxic reflectors. Bouncing solar radiation back into space to bypass the greenhouse effect of carbon emissions is his strategy for helping humanity to survive in a world that is overheating.

In 2021, he left the Institute to devote himself to a singular task: the pursuit of bold and creative engineering solutions, with just applications, to perfect available options for ensuring that our biosphere—the delicate living membrane enveloping the “pale blue dot” of Earth—remains host to a boisterous parade of life.

Dr. Tao expresses his love for life through awe. Always observing, he ponders over and marvels at our wonderful world: at the balance and beauty, the patterns and complexity, the fragility and resilience, of Earth's energy flows and her ecosystems.