

Accounting and Spaceborne methodologies for closing the global methane (CH₄) budget

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Global Methane Forum, 2018 Toronto, Canada





Acknowledgements : The Global Methane Budget: Contributors: 81 people | 53 organisations | 15 countries

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YEAR













Methane emission sources





Methane removal



Turner et al. 2017 Rigby et al. 2017

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Complex spatial and temporal variation in CH₄



- Industrial sources (EDGARv4.2)
- Agriculture/waste sources (EDGARv4.2)

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- Biomass burning (GFED4)
- Wetlands (LPJ)
- Minor (termites, soil OH sink, wild animals, geologic)

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Closing the global CH₄ budget 1. Accounting approaches (The Global Methane Budget)



1. Remote sensing approaches



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Accounting: Bottom-up and Top-down

		Bottom-up budget	←					
Atmospheric observations	Emission inventories	Biogeochemistry models & data- driven methods	Methane sinks	Inverse models				
Ground-based data from observation networks (AGAGE, CSIRO, NOAA, UCI, LSCE, others). Satellite data (SCIAMACHY, GOSAT)	Agriculture and waste related emissions, fossil fuel emissions (EDGARv4.2, USEPA, GAINS, faO).Fire emissions (GFED3 & 4s, FINN, GFAS, FAO).Biofuel estimates	<text><text><text></text></text></text>	From Kirschke et al., (2013) Longterm trends and decadal variability of the OH sink. ACCMIP CTMS intercomparison. Soil uptake & chlorine sink taken from the literature Image: Im	Suite of eight atmospheric inversion models (TM5-4DVAR (JRC & SRON), LMDZ- MIOP, PYVAR- LMDz, C-Tracker- CH ₄ , GELCA, ACTM, TM3, NIESTM). Ensemble of 30 inversions (diff. obs & setup)				





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- Largest emissions in Tropical South America, South-East Asia and China (50% of global emissions)
- Dominance of wetland emissions in the tropics and boreal regions
- Dominance of agriculture & waste in India and China
- Balance between agriculture & waste and fossil fuels at midlatitudes



Uncertain magnitude of wetland emissions in boreal regions between TD and BU

 Chinese emissions lower in TD than in BU, African emissions larger in TD than in BU
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Changes in CH₄ emissions 2002-2006 and 2007-2012



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Summary: Changes in CH_4 emissions (2002-2006 v 2007-2012)



Saunois et al. 2016

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fethane TANSO/GOSAT/UoL-PR(OCPR)

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Greenhouse Gas Remote Sensing principles

GHGSat, CarbonSat, geostationary

Solar backscatter (SWIR)

- CH₄ absorbs radiation in SWIR and TIR
 - SWIR: 1.65 (proxy method) or 2.3
 - TIR: 8.0 μm
- Requires source of light (active/passive)
- Measure column concentration, XCH₄
 - Averaging kernel (or combine SWIR/TIR) to get surface

concentrations

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Lidar (SWIR)

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 $B(\lambda, T_i)d\tau$

 $B(\lambda, T_{a})$

Thermal emission (TIR)

	No		1800 1850 1800 1800 1800 1800 1800 1800	GLOBAL MONTHLY MEAN CH.						Methane TANSO,	GOSAT/UoL-PR	I(OCPR)		VAS	A	G	SPACE	d FLIGH	A	
CH4 Mission	Agency	Cov. (days)	Spatial Res. (km ²)	Swath (km)	Err.	0 2	0 0 3 4	0 5	0	1710 0 0 7 8	CH ₄ (spb) 1760 0 9	1810 1 0	1 1 1 2	1 3	1 4	1 5	1 6	1 7	1 8	1 + 9
Solar backscatter (1.65	5 nm or 2.3 n	m)																		
SCIAMACHY	ESA	6	30x60	960	1.5%															
GOSAT TANSO-FTS	JAXA	3	10x10	520	0.7%															
Sentinel-5P Tropomi	ESA	1	7x7	2600	0.6%															
GOSAT-2 (3)	JAXA	3	10x10	632	0.4%															
MetOp Sentinel 5	ESA		7x7	2600																
CarbonSAT	ESA	5-10	2x2		0.4%															
Thermal emissions (8.0	0 nm)																			
IASI	CNES	0.5	12x12	100	1.2%															
AIRS	NASA	0.5	45x45		1.5%															
TES	NASA		5x8		1.0%															
CrIS	NOAA		14x14		1.5%															
IASI-NG	CNES	0.5	12x12																	
Active (lidar)																				
MERLIN	DLR- CNES			100	1- 2%															
Geostationary / CUBE	SAT / ISS (1.6	5 nm or 2.3	nm)																	
geoCARB	NASA	2 hours	3x3 +		1%															
ghgSAT	Private	targets	0.05x		1- 5%															
Bluefield (COOL)	Private	targets	0.02x	38																
methaneSAT	Private			Clabel	lathar			04.0-												
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Global average XCH₄ (ppb)

 Radiative transfer models ('full physics') or CO₂ proxy method used to convert from surface reflectance to column CH₄ concentration



Jacob et al. 2016

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Point-source detection and trends in XCH₄









From XCH₄ to emission detection

- Methane emissions are estimated by i) atmospheric inversions, ii) or by combining CH₄ enhancement with meteorological data
- Detection threshold varies by resolution, overpass frequency, and accuracy
 - SCIAMACHY -> 68 t h⁻¹
 - GOSAT/TROPOMI -> 4 to 7 t h^{-1}
 - Cubesat/geo -> 0.5 to 4 t h^{-1}

Source	Amount (t CH ₄ hr ⁻¹)					
Oil/Gas	20 to +50					
Livestock	~1.5					
Rice	<< 1 (km²)					
Wetland	<< 1 (km²)					

Methane emission v10-S1NOAA







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Summary

- Methane concentrations are 150% above preindustrial, and rising at ~25 Tg CH₄ yr⁻¹
- Difference between BU and TD is too large to reliably attribute and track changes (new GCP budget)
- Remote sensing observations can pinpoint superemitters and reduce major component of uncertainty
- Combining with airborne and ground measurements (balloons, drones)
- Biogenic fluxes remain a key piece of the CH₄ puzzle

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