

Trace Compositions of the Atmosphere

from global climate change to regional air pollution

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A blanket of air surrounding Earth

Wind, rain, cloud, lightning, hurricane

Climate, Air quality

Composition of the air

TABLE 10-1. Average composition of dry air (Seinfeld and Pandis 2016).

Gas	Parts per million by volume (ppmv)
N ₂	781 000
O ₂	209 000
Ar	9340
CO ₂ ^a	406
Ne	18
He	5.2
CH ₄ ^b	1.85
H ₂	0.58
N ₂ O ^c	0.33
CO	0.1
O ₃ (troposphere)	0.01–0.10
O ₃ (stratosphere)	0.5–10.0
Non-methane hydrocarbons	0.005–0.02
Halocarbons	0.001
Nitrogen oxides (NO _y)	0.000 01–0.2



Henry Cavendish
1731–1810

^a Dlugokencky and Tans (2018).

^b Dlugokencky (2018).

^c NOAA (2018).

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Chemically and radiatively interesting trace compositions

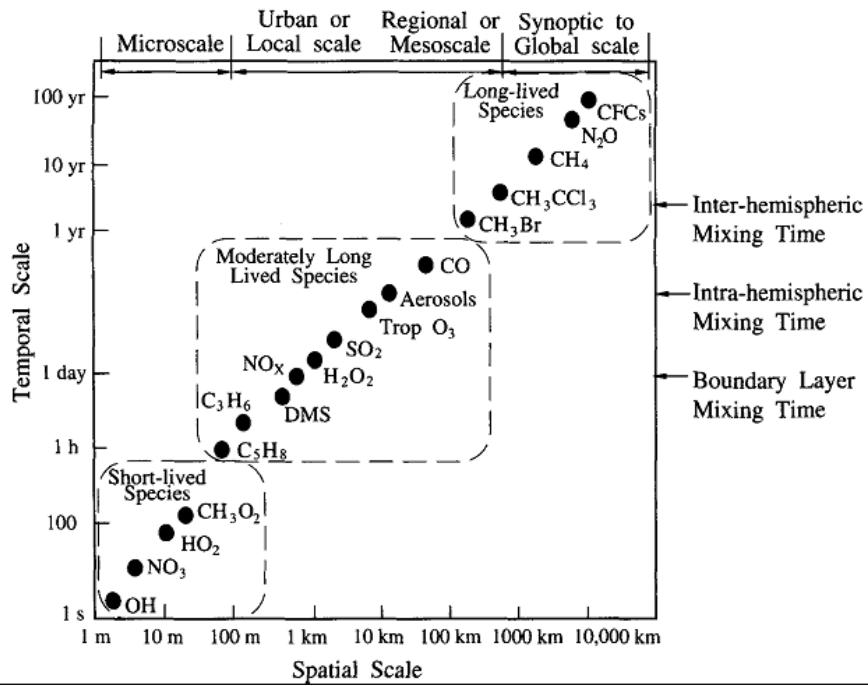
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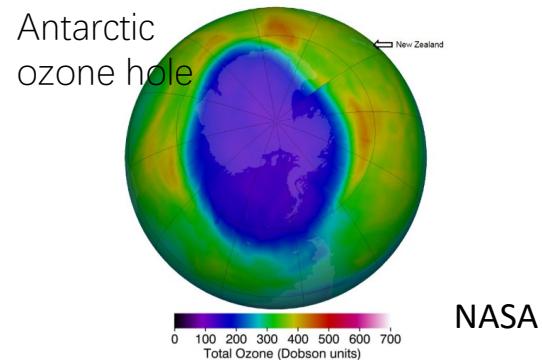
Understand their spatial & temporal distributions

Spatial & temporal scales of trace gases

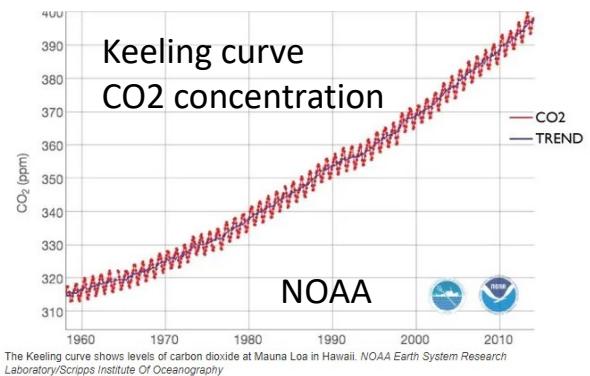


Seinfeld and Pandis, 2016

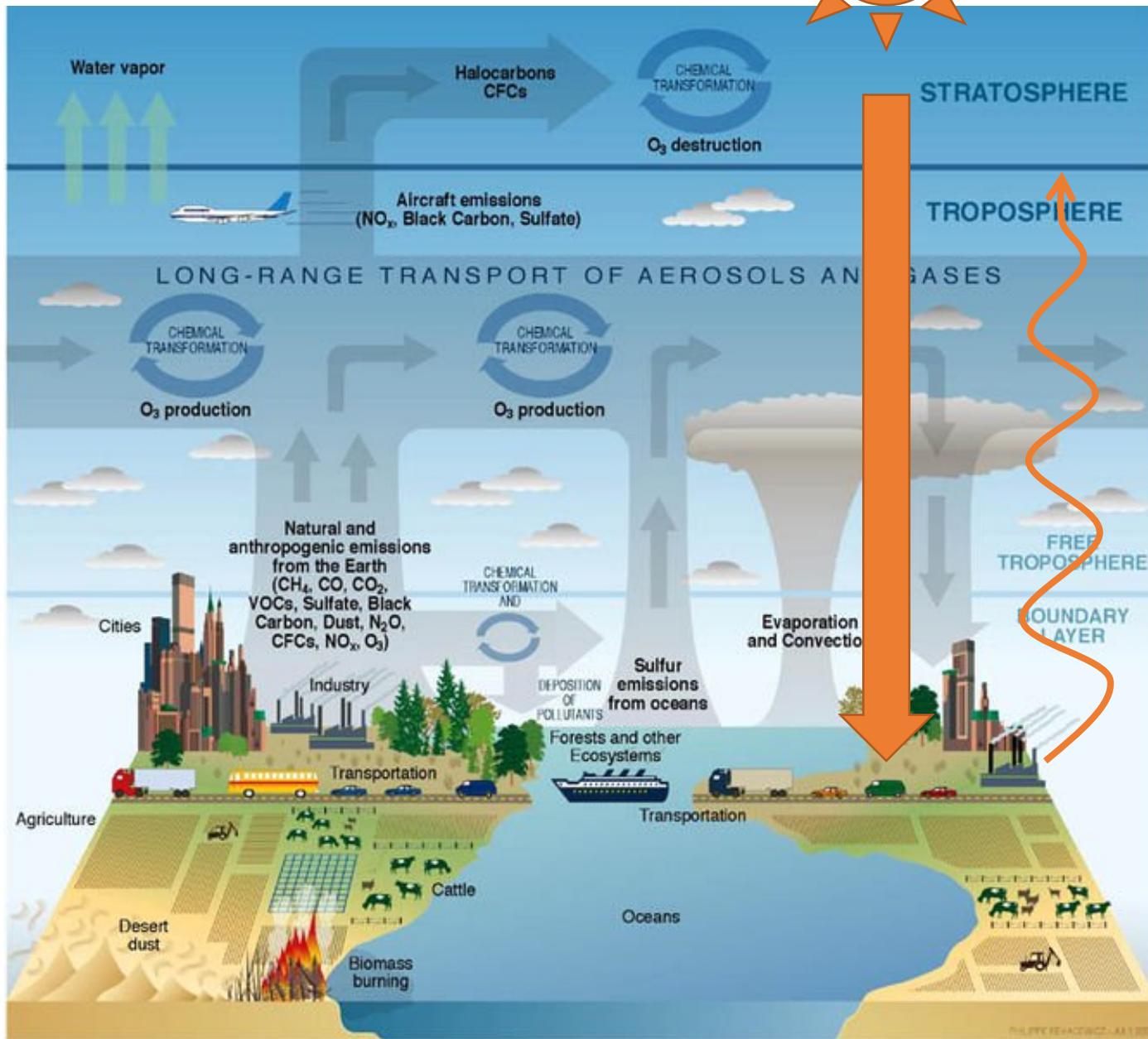
Spatial distribution



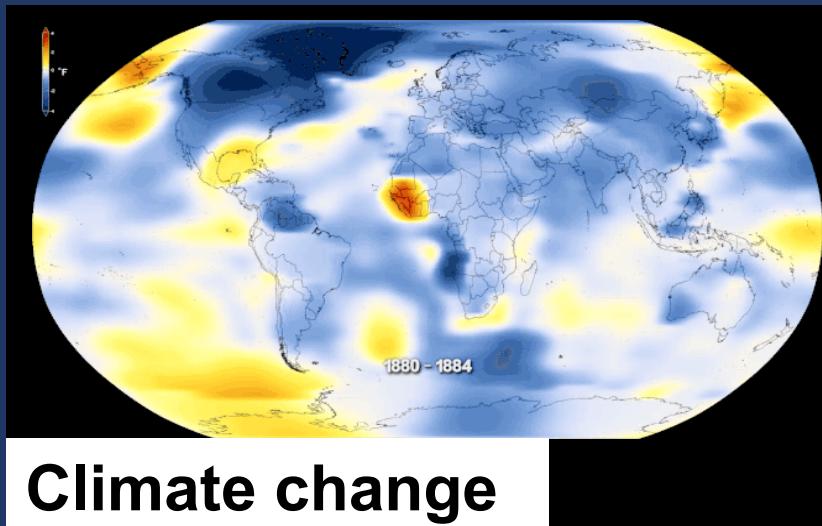
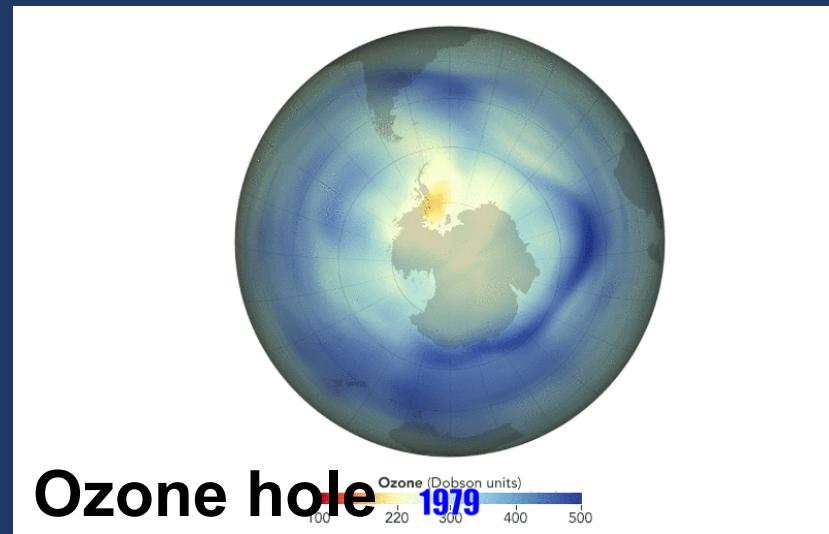
Temporal changes



Transdisciplinary



Problem driven



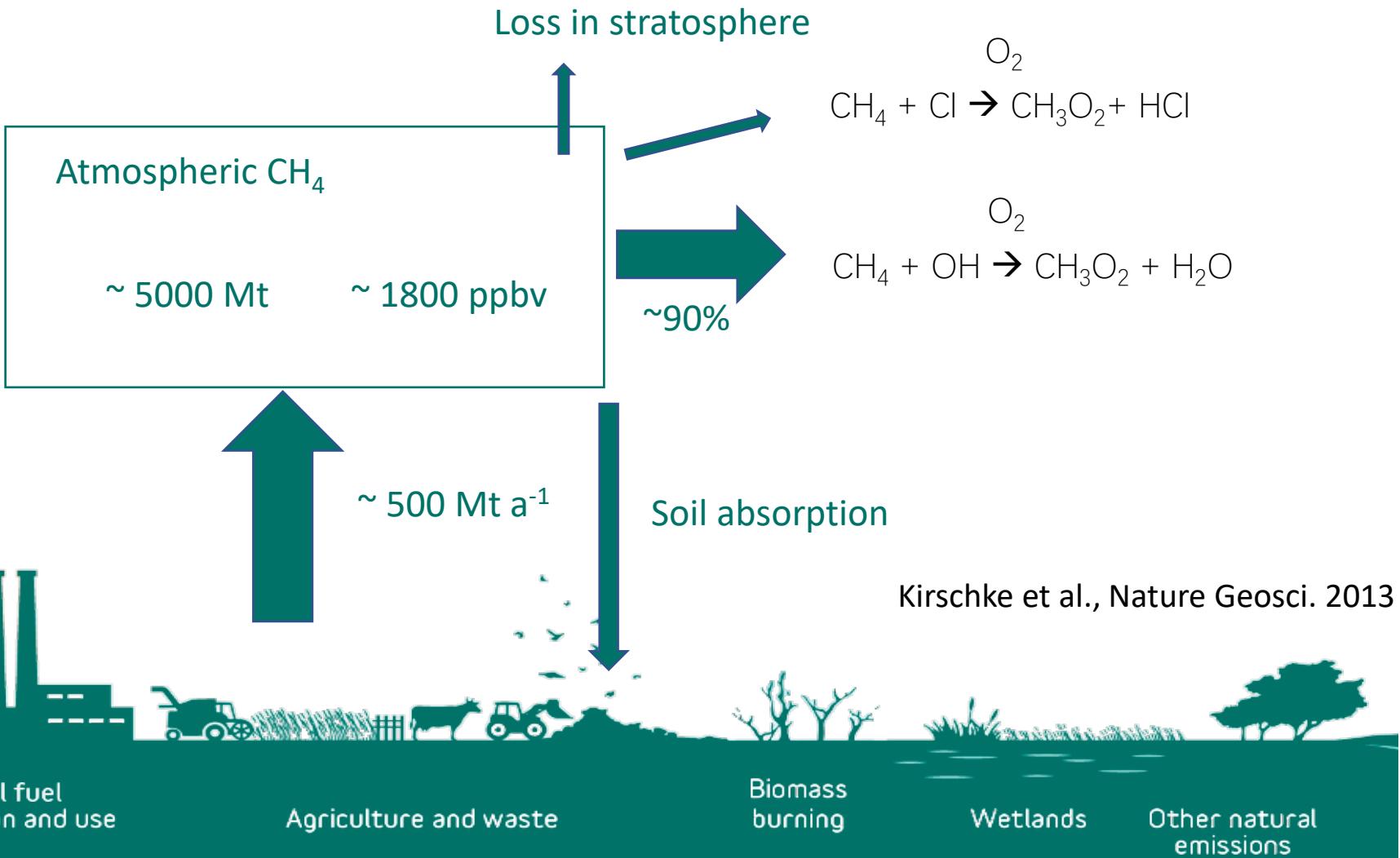


Greenhouse Gas: Methane



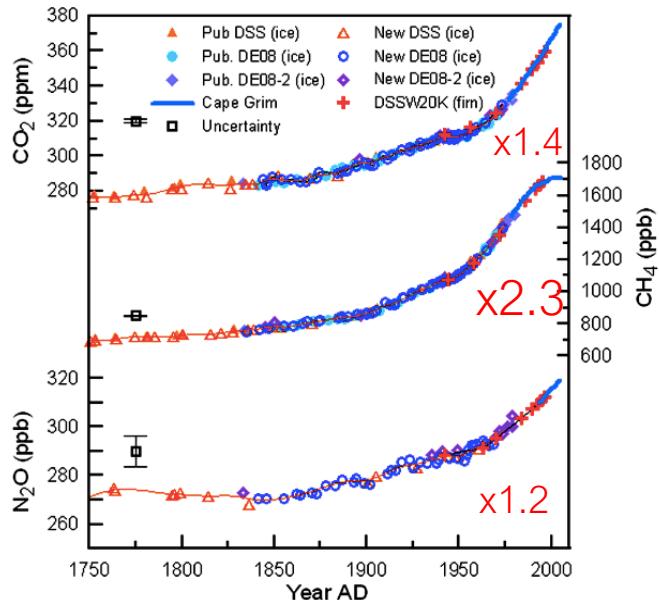
**Regional air pollution
(surface O₃, PM_{2.5})**

Greenhouse gas – Methane (CH_4)



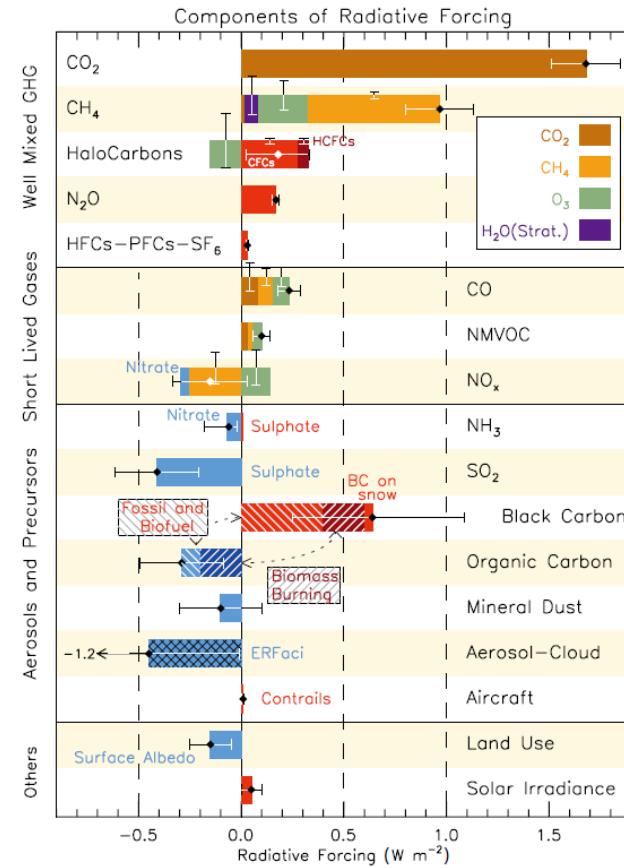
Potent greenhouse gas - Methane

Ice core record



MacFarling Meure et al., 2006

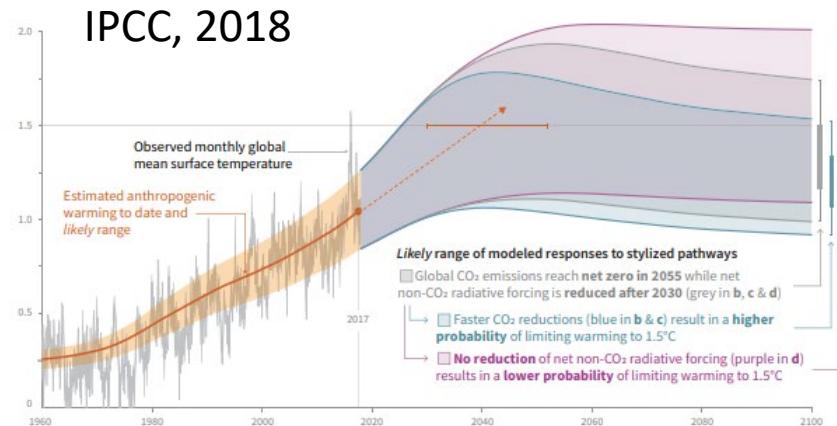
Climate effects since industrialization



IPCC assessment report 5, 2013

Why it is important to study methane?

Necessary supplement to controlling CO₂ to meet climate goal



Relative low-hanging fruit

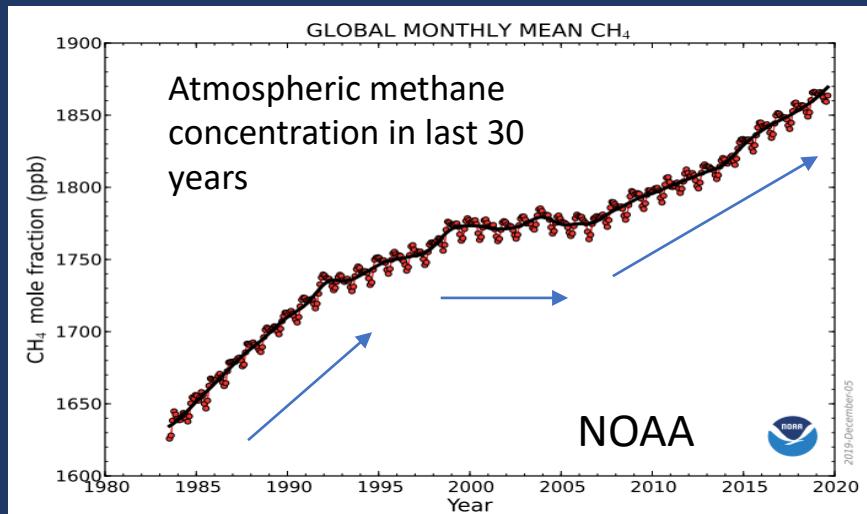
- oil/gas industry makes money
- existing legal structure



International Energy Agency

Knowledge gap

1. Understanding global methane budget and its changes



↑ wetland/rice emissions (¹³CH₄)

Schaefer et al., 2016, Science

Nisbet et al., 2016, Global Biogeochem. Cycles

↑ oil/gas emissions (ethane)

Rice et al., 2016, PNAS

Hausmann et al., 2016, Atmos. Chem. Phys.

No significant trend in the U.S.

Lan et al., 2019, Geophys. Res. Lett

↓ fire emissions (¹³CH₄ + CO)

Worden et al., 2017, Nature Communications

↓ decreasing sink by OH (CH₃CCl₃)

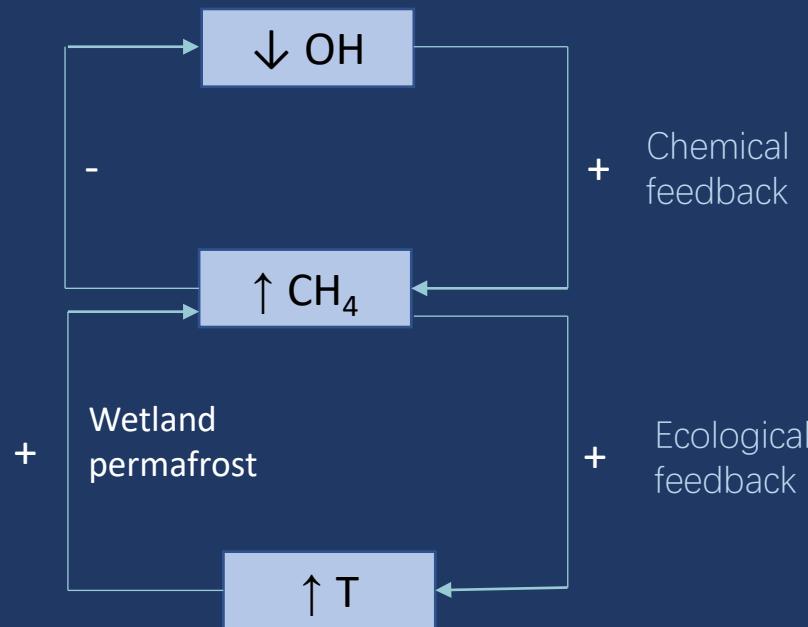
Rigby et al., 2017, PNAS

Turner et al., 2017, PNAS

Knowledge gap

1. Understanding global methane budget and its changes

Potential positive climate feedback involving CH_4



Knowledge gap

2. Information for actions



Paris agreement

National determined contributions (NDCs)

Important to have a monitoring platform to track, validate the implementation of NDCs

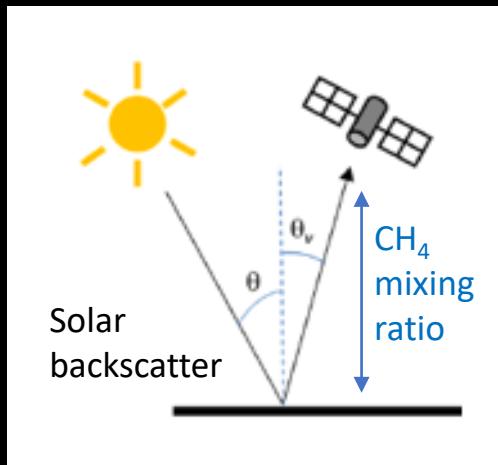


Identify hotspots at facility level

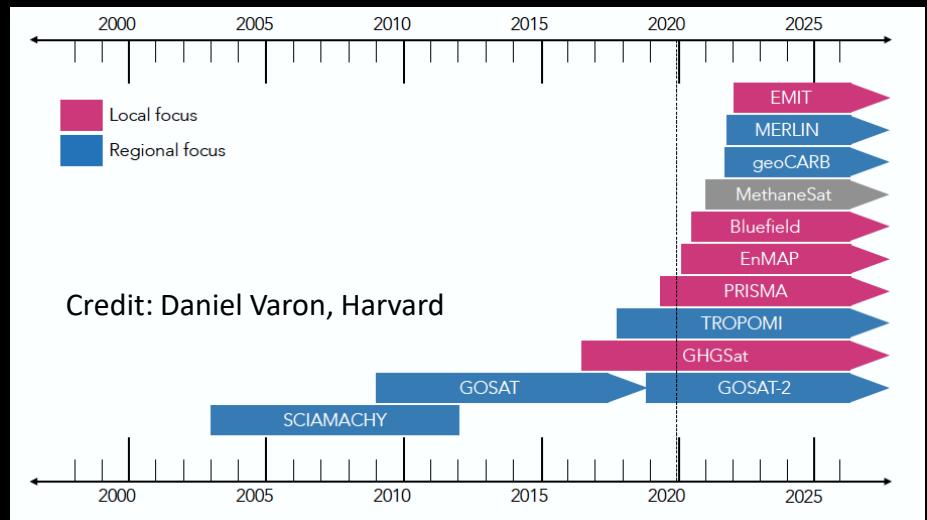
Detection & monitoring system that informs the operators where to look



Satellite-based observations: solution?

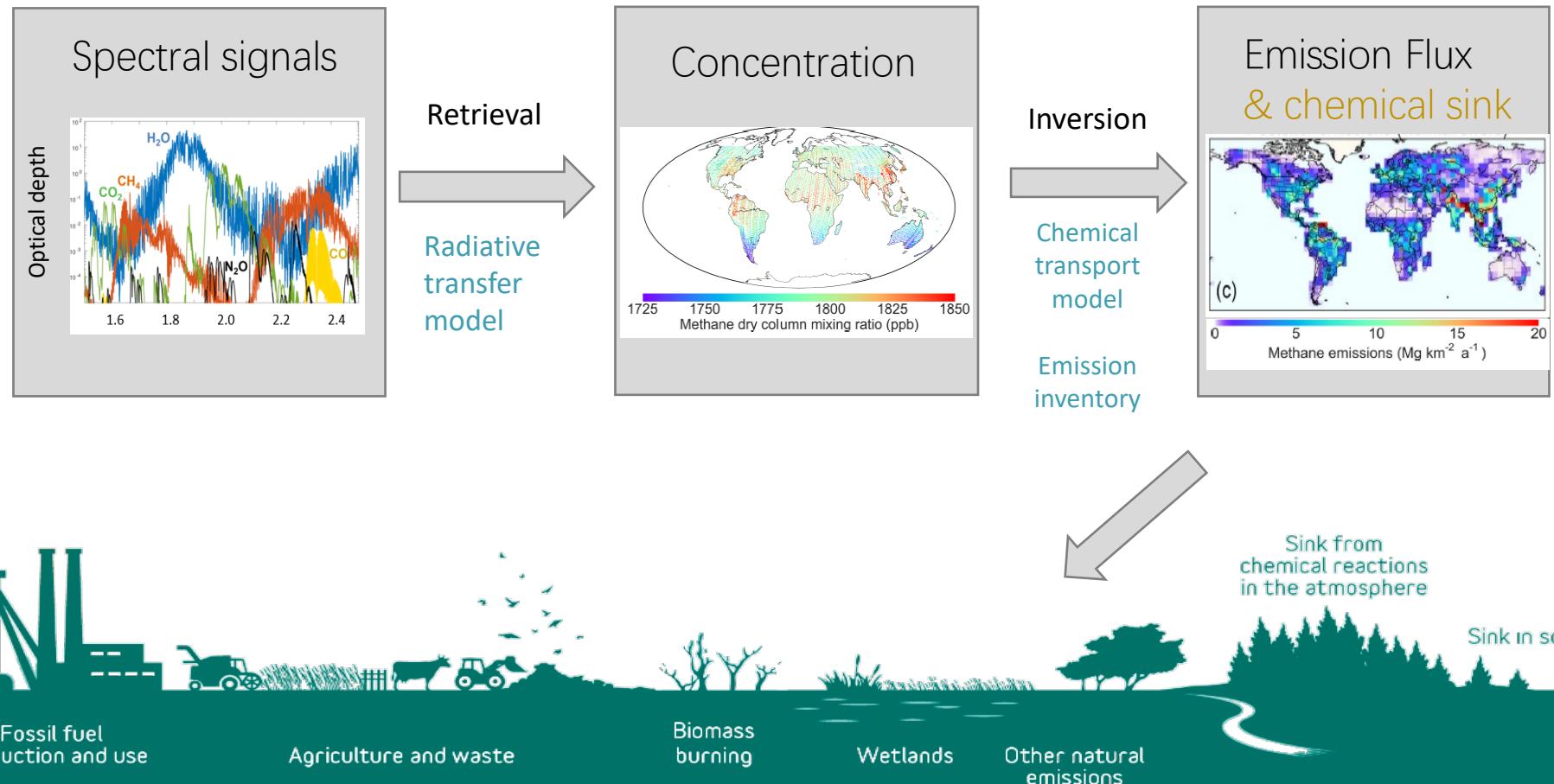


Existing and planned satellite for CH₄ measurements



Jacob et al., 2016

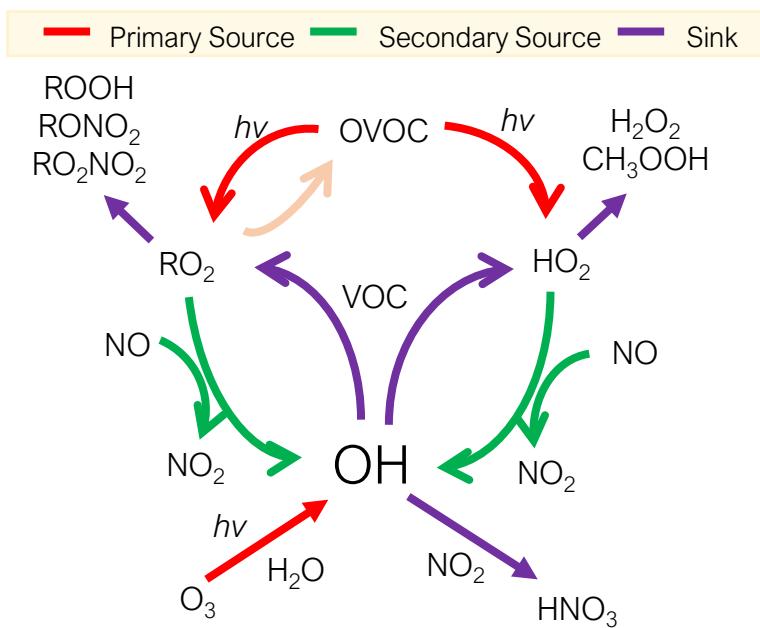
Monitor methane emissions from space



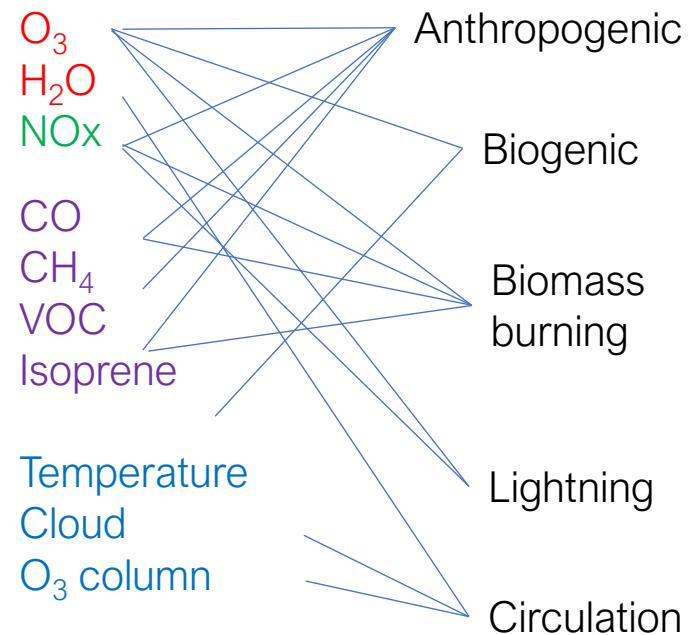
Turner et al., 2015; Zhang et al., 2018; Maasakkers et al., 2019; Zhang et al., in prep; Lu et al., in prep

Hydroxyl radical (OH): most important oxidant in the air

Central role of OH in $\text{O}_3\text{-NO}_x\text{-VOC}$ photochemistry



Chemicals and factors controlling global OH concentration



Monitor hydroxyl radical concentration from space ?

Surface measurements

Sparse measurements & lack of source information

→ Methylchloroform (CH_3CCl_3)

Prinn et al., Science, 2001
Montzka et al., Science, 2011

Hydrofluorocarbons

Liang et al., JGR, 2017

^{14}CO

Manning et al., 2005, Nature
Murray et al., 2019, IGC9

Satellite measurements

Insensitive to global temporal changes

CO

Gaubert et al., GRL, 2017

HCHO over remote ocean

Wolfe et al. PNAS, 2019

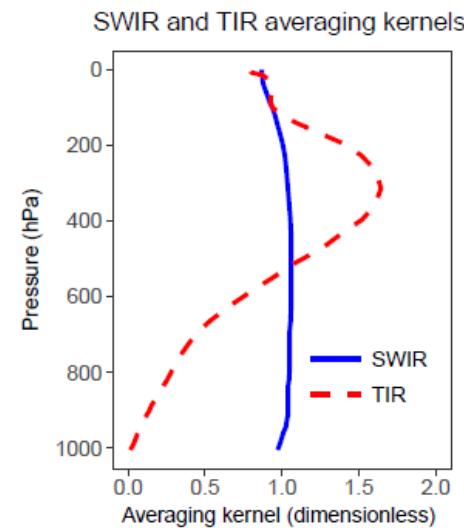
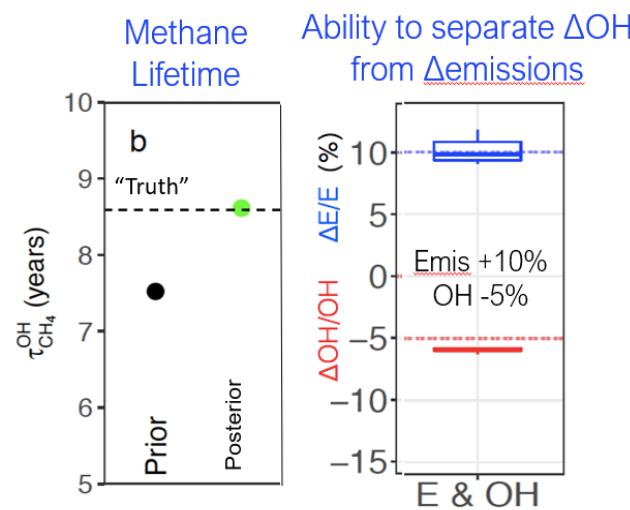
→ CH_4

Zhang et al. ACP, 2018

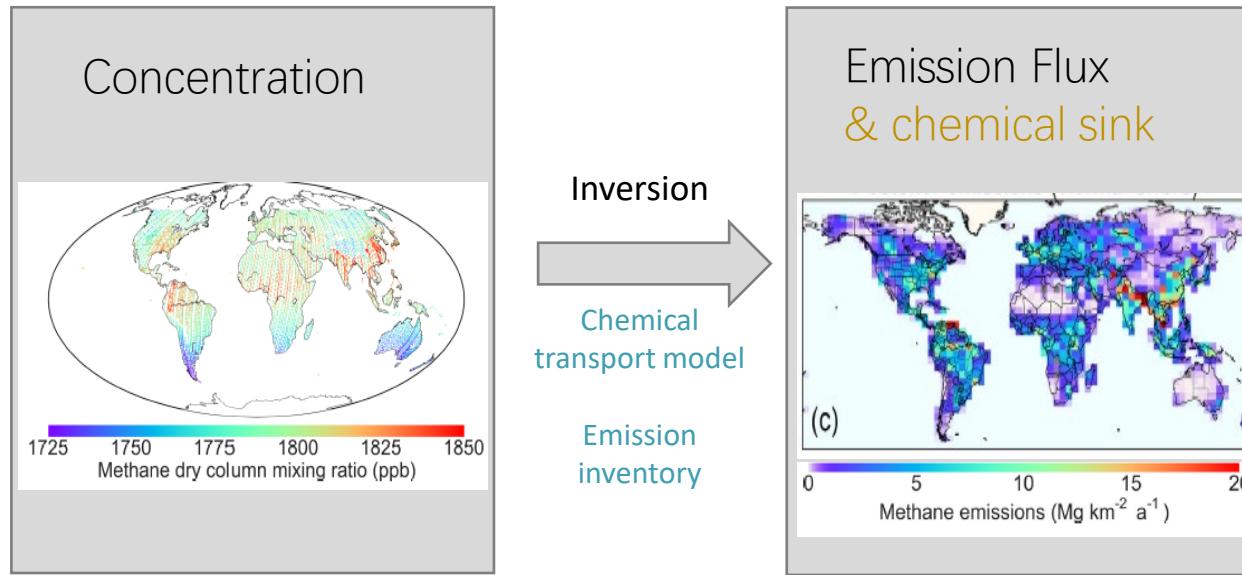
Monitor hydroxyl radical concentration from space

Global OH concentration can be inferred from satellite methane observations

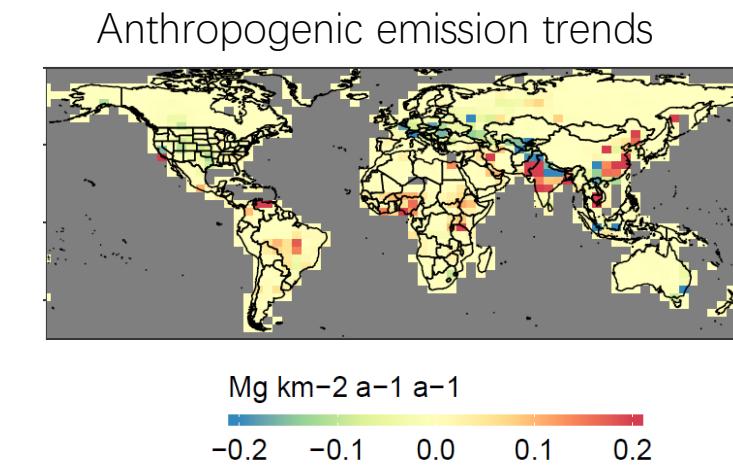
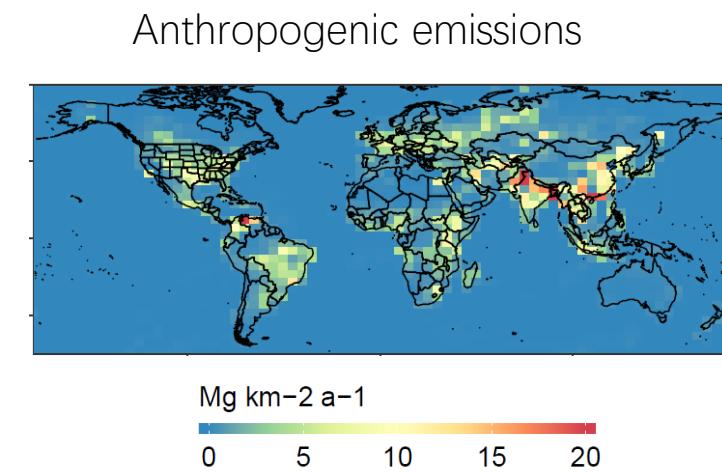
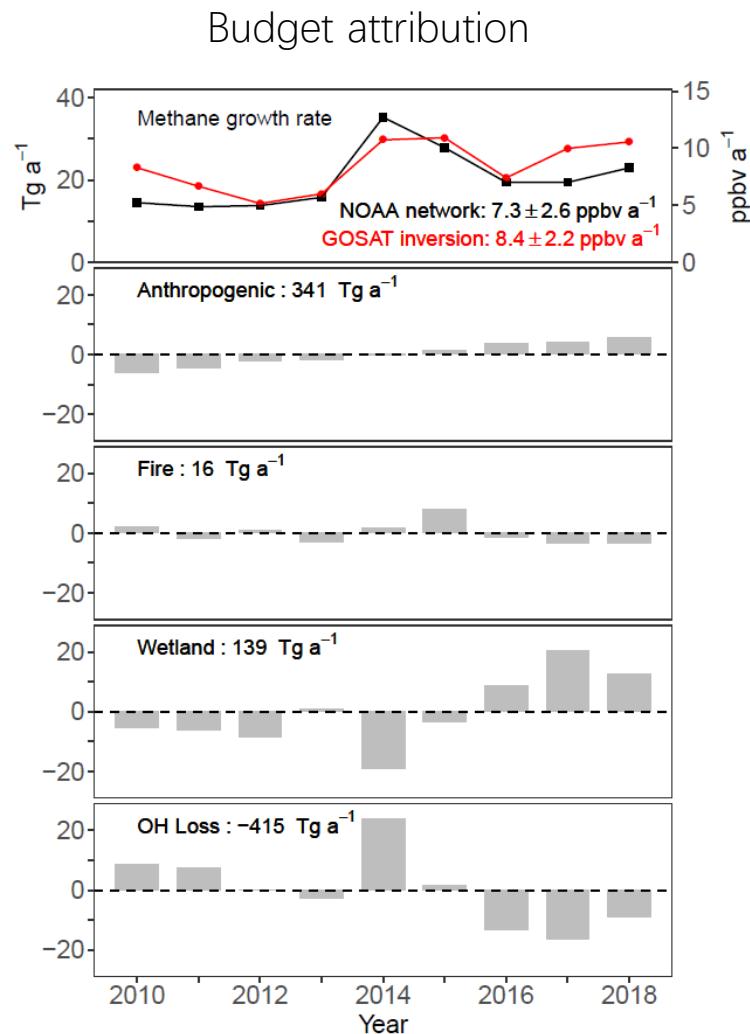
Two-band methane observations enhance the detectability



Monitor methane emissions from space

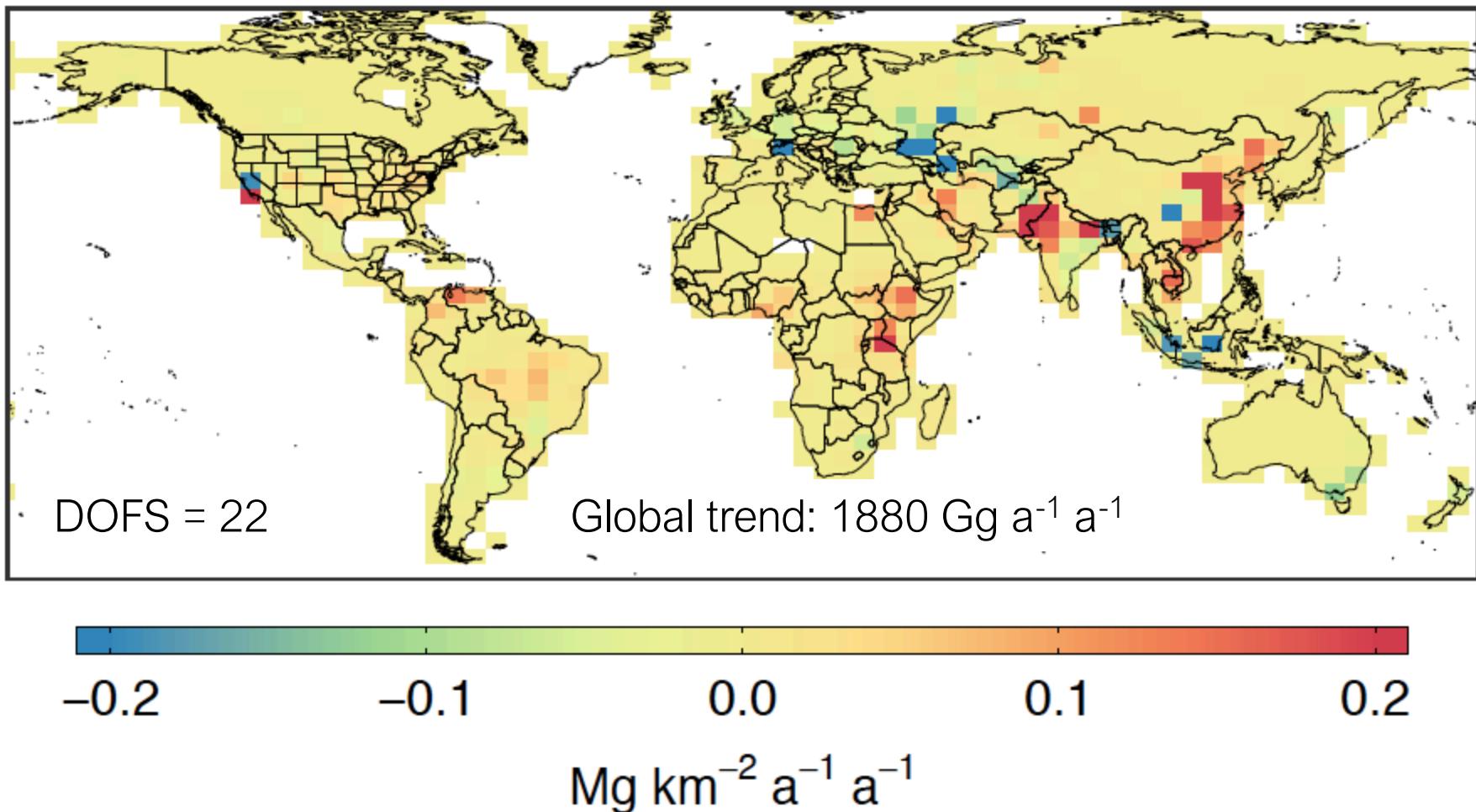


Global methane budget analysis



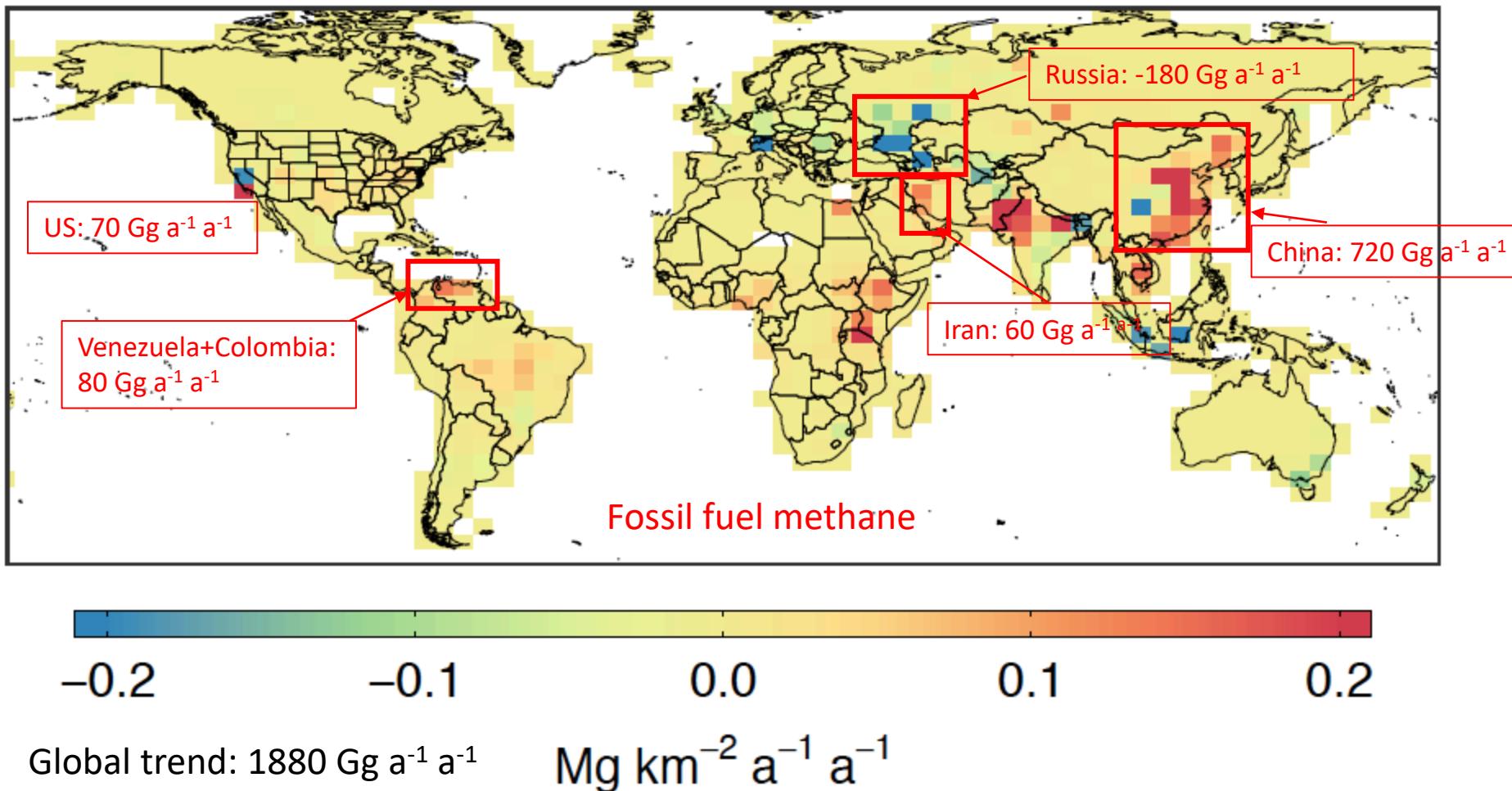
Changes in anthropogenic methane emissions

Linear trends of anthropogenic emissions during 2010-2016



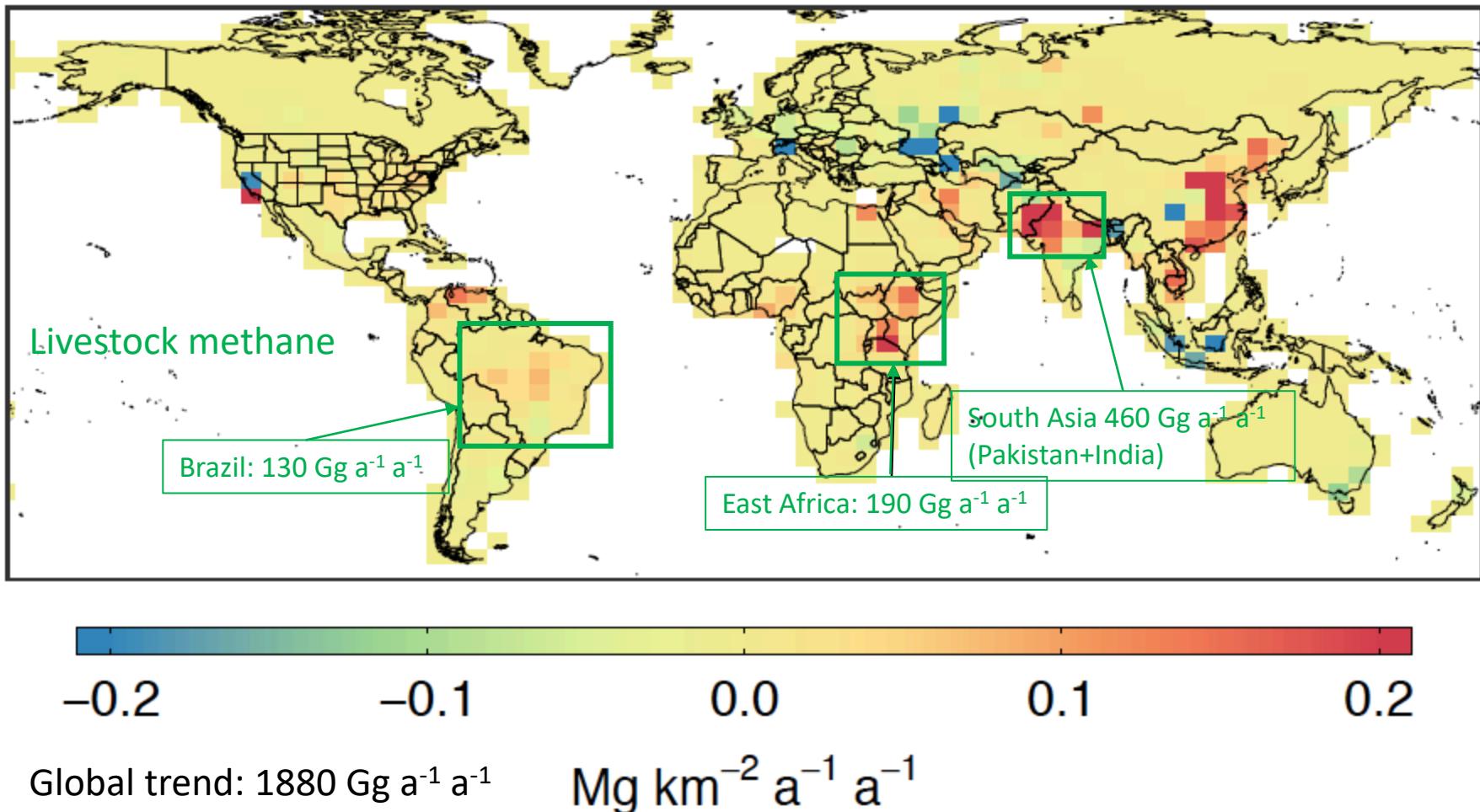
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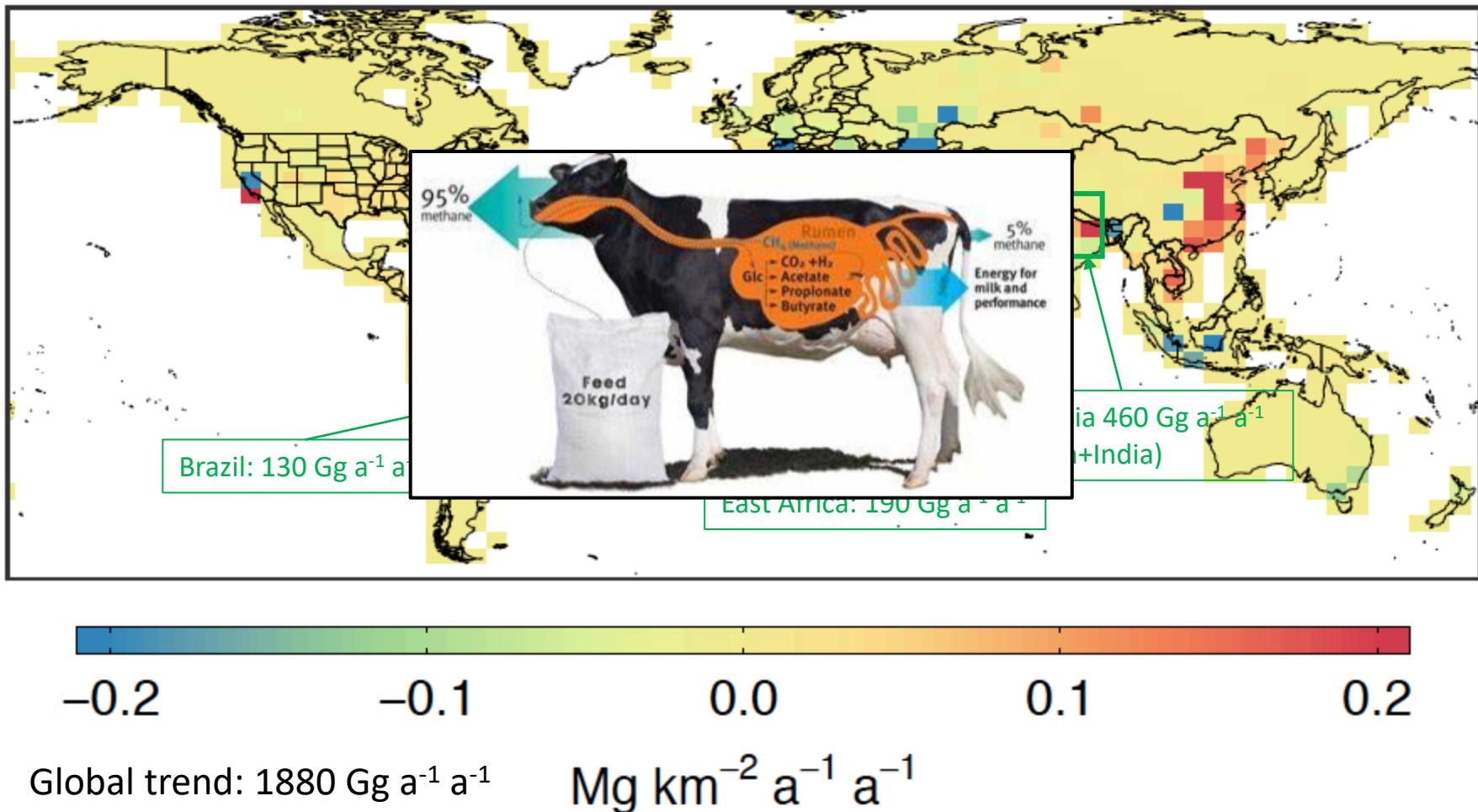
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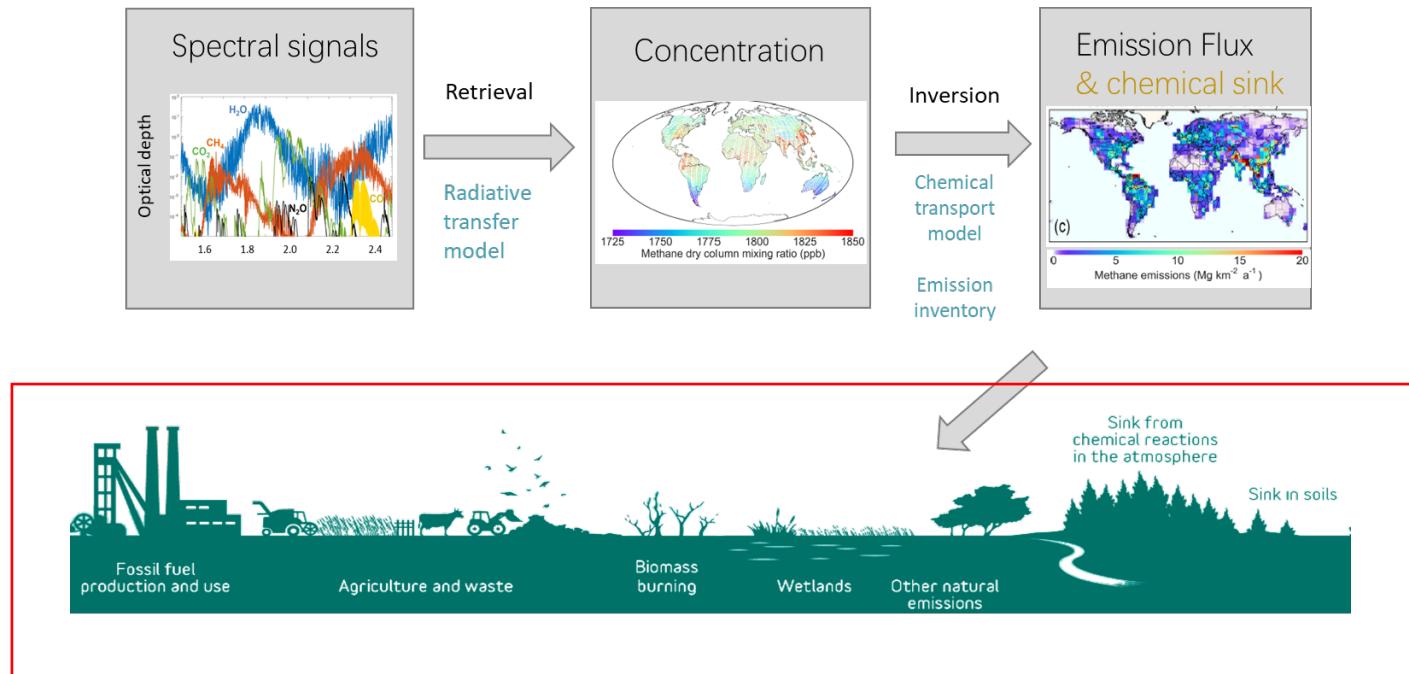
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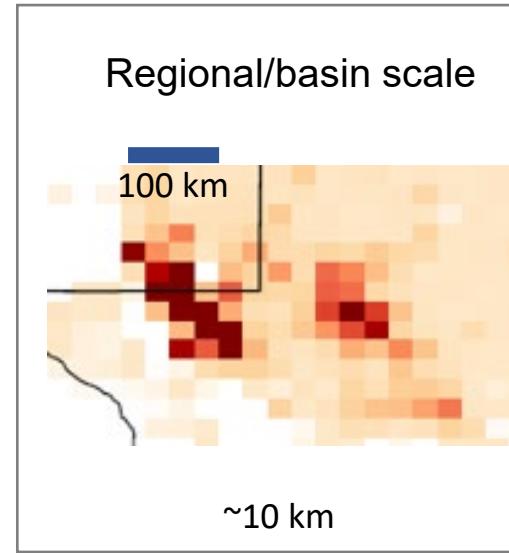
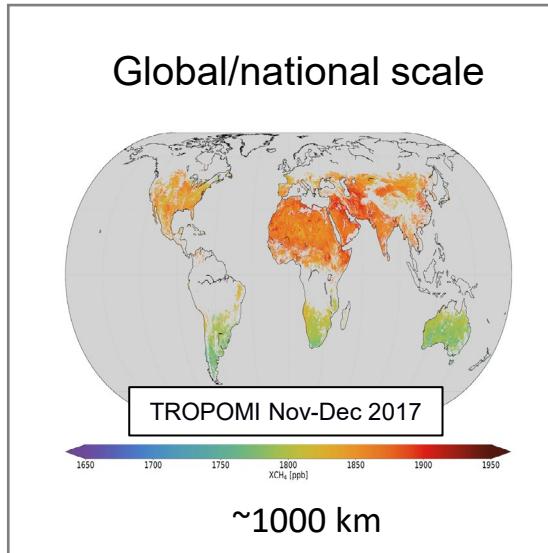
What next?

Use the constraints provided by satellite observations to improve our understanding of each budget terms

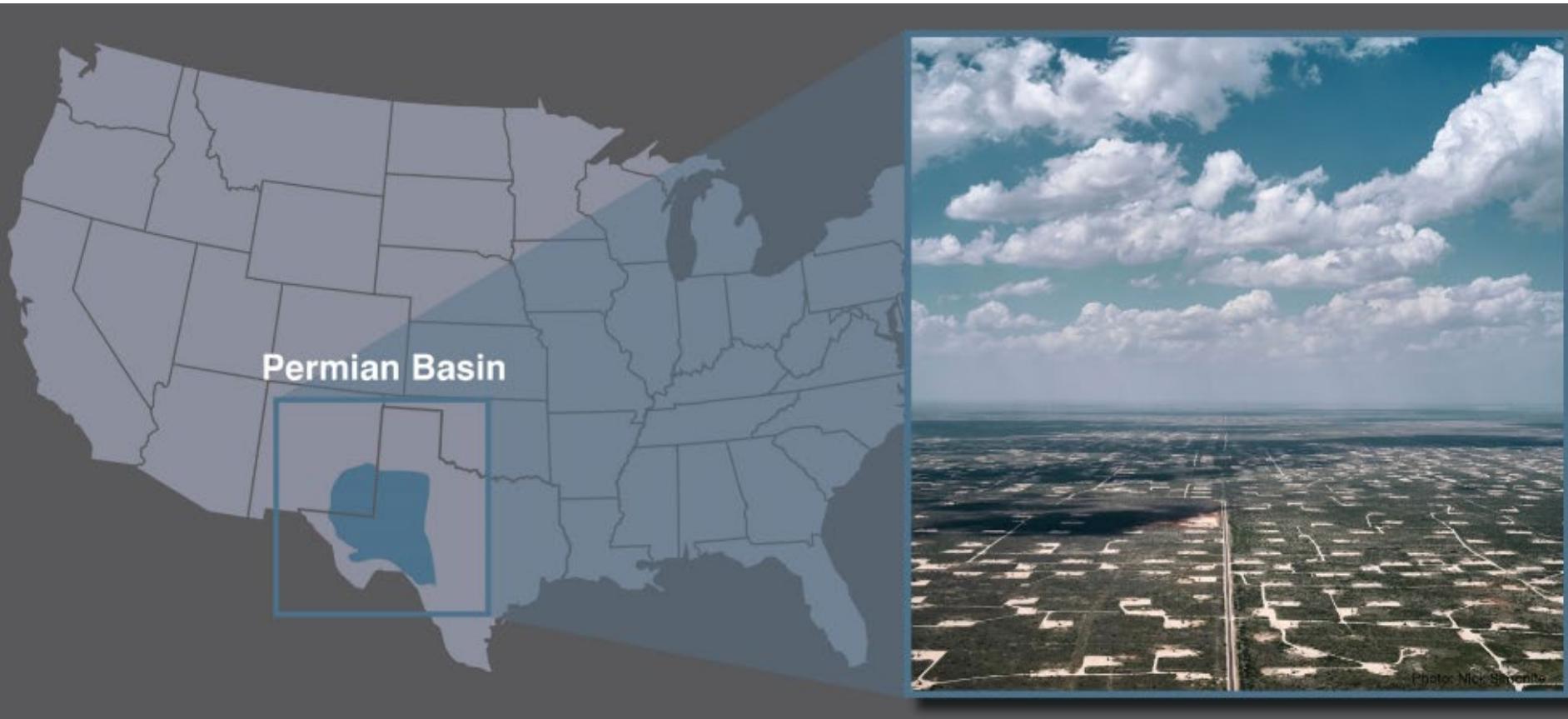


Information for actions

- Efficiently assimilate huge amount of satellite data
- Provide information relevant to government and operators



Permian basin

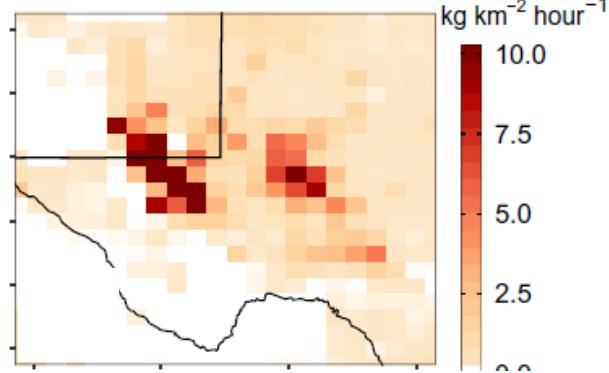


$5.5 \times 10^5 \text{ m}^3 \text{ a}^{-1}$ crude oil
 $3.2 \times 10^8 \text{ m}^3 \text{ a}^{-1}$ natural gas

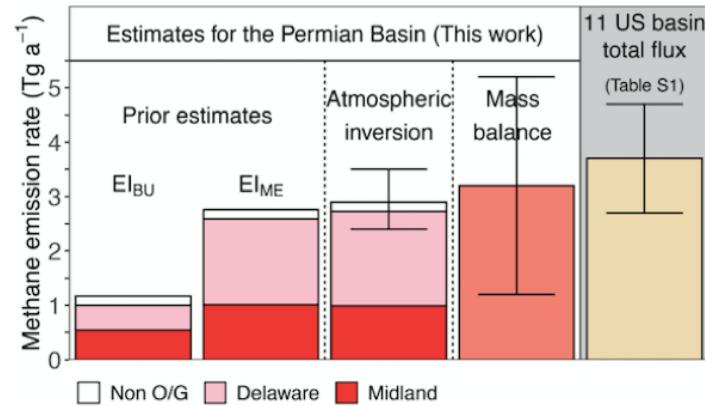
150,000 oil/gas wells

Largest methane emitting oil/gas basin in U.S.

Spatial distributions

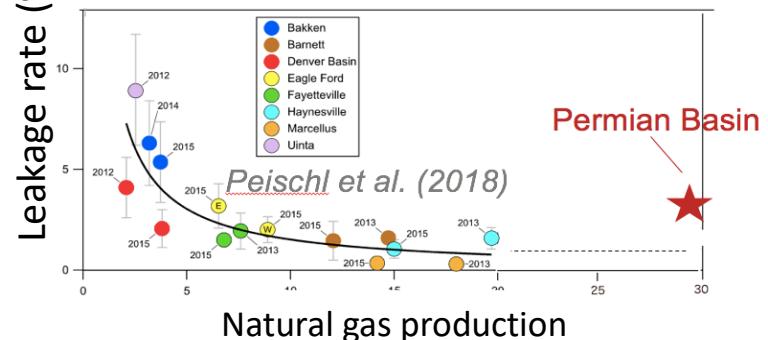


Comparable to 11 basins combined

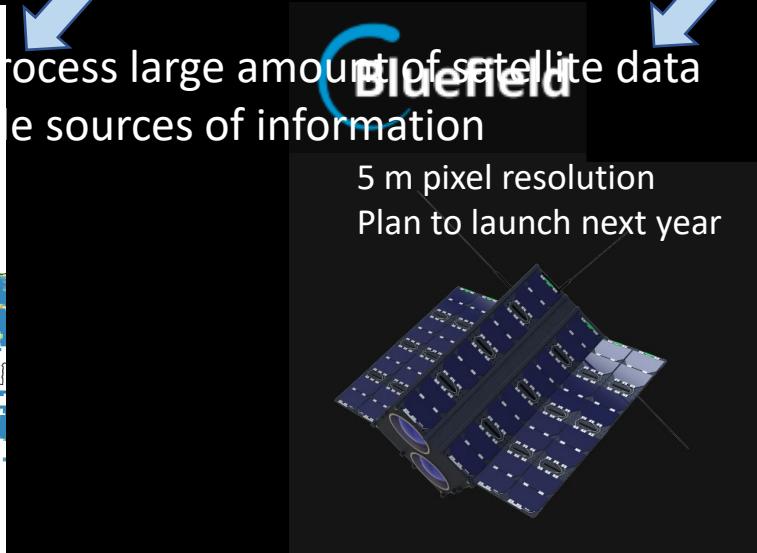
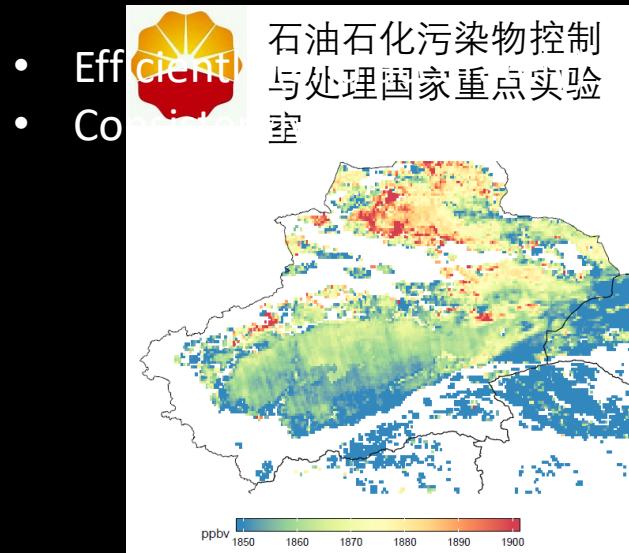
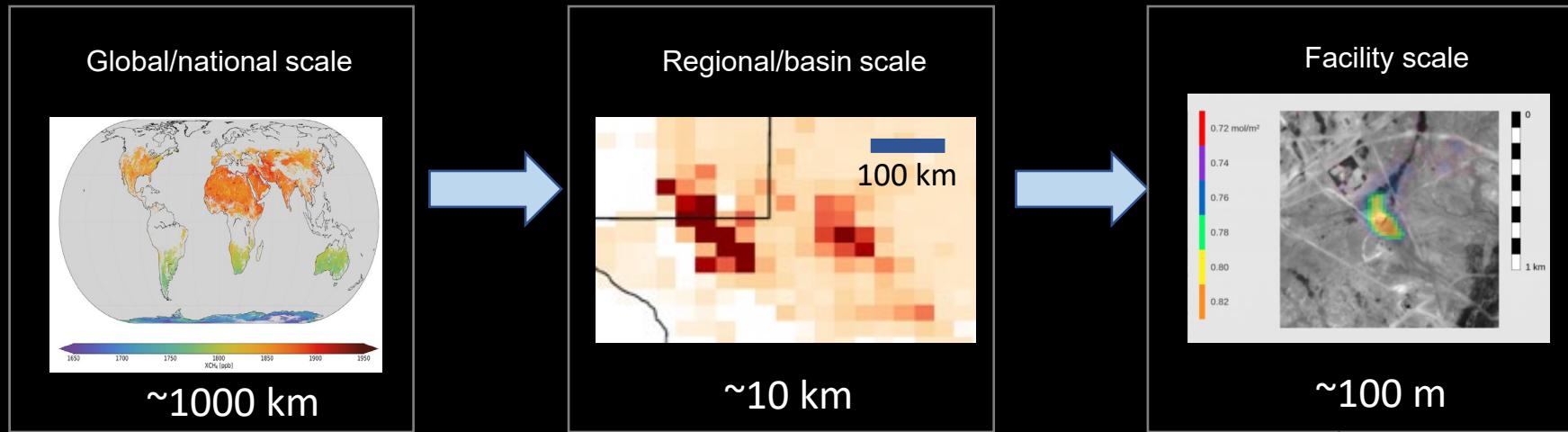


High leakage rate indicates lag in natural gas infrastructure

Leakage rate vs gas production



Next: Actionable environmental monitoring data



Summary: greenhouse gas methane

Analysis of satellite observations of CH₄ are set to provide

- Valuable constraints to understand the global balance of methane concentration
- Useful information to inform actions to fight climate change



Greenhouse Gas: Methane



**Regional air pollution
(surface O₃, PM_{2.5})**

Air pollution

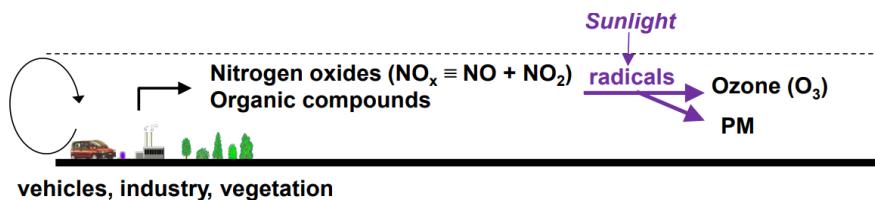
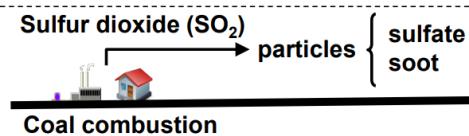
London fog (PM2.5)

"Killer fog" of December 1952 caused 10,000 deaths in 4 days



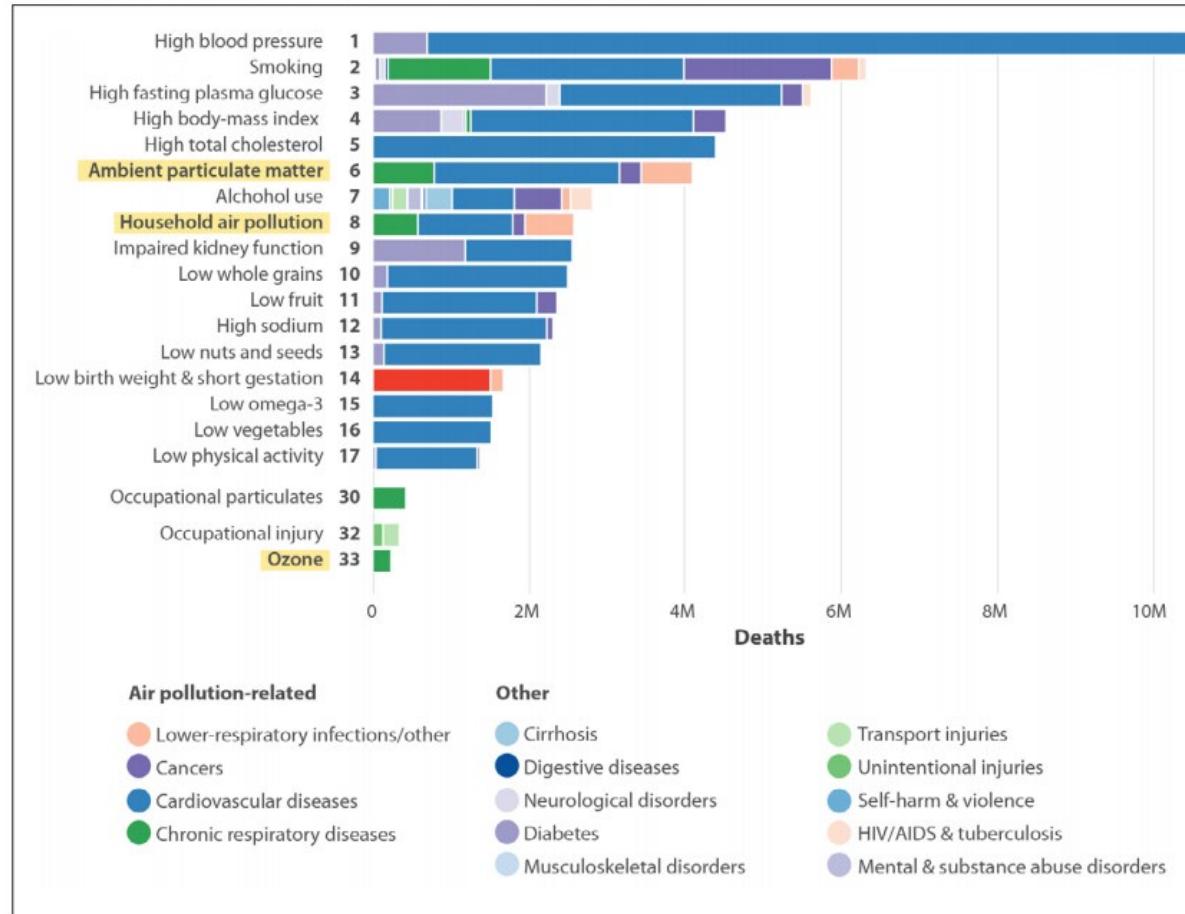
Los Angeles smog (ozone)

~ 1970's



Air pollution

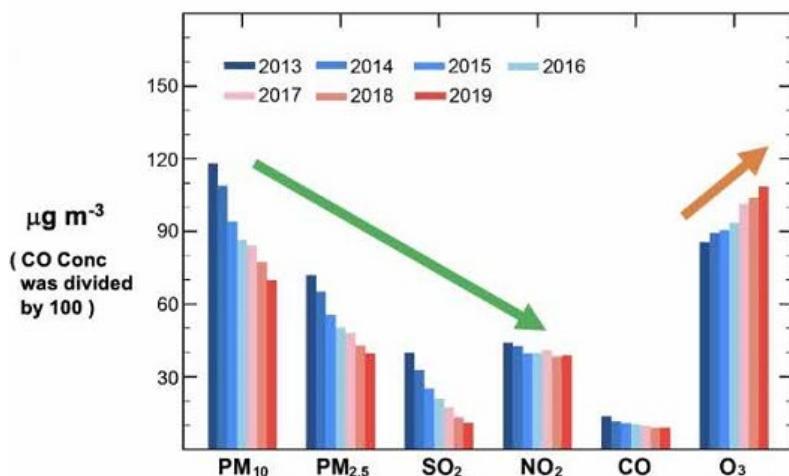
Figure 1. Global ranking of risk factors by total number of deaths from all causes for all ages and both sexes in 2016.



Explore the rankings further at the [IHME/GBD Compare site](#).

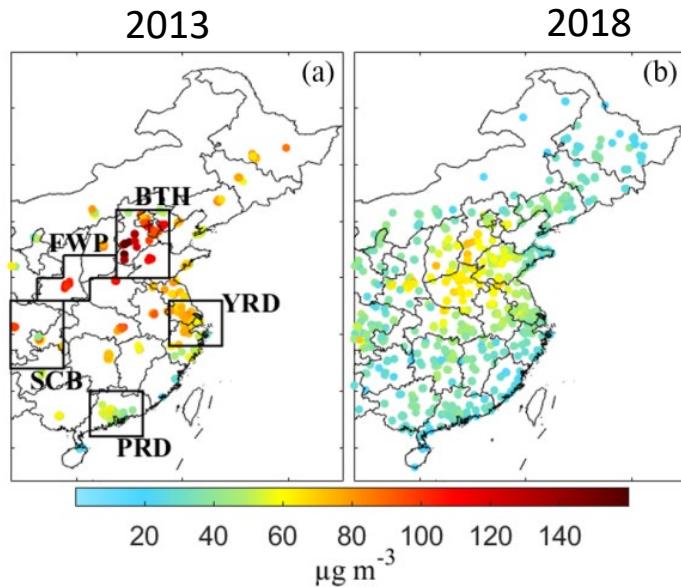
Regional air pollution in China

Averaged concentrations of air pollutants at 74 urban sites



Hong Liao, NUIST

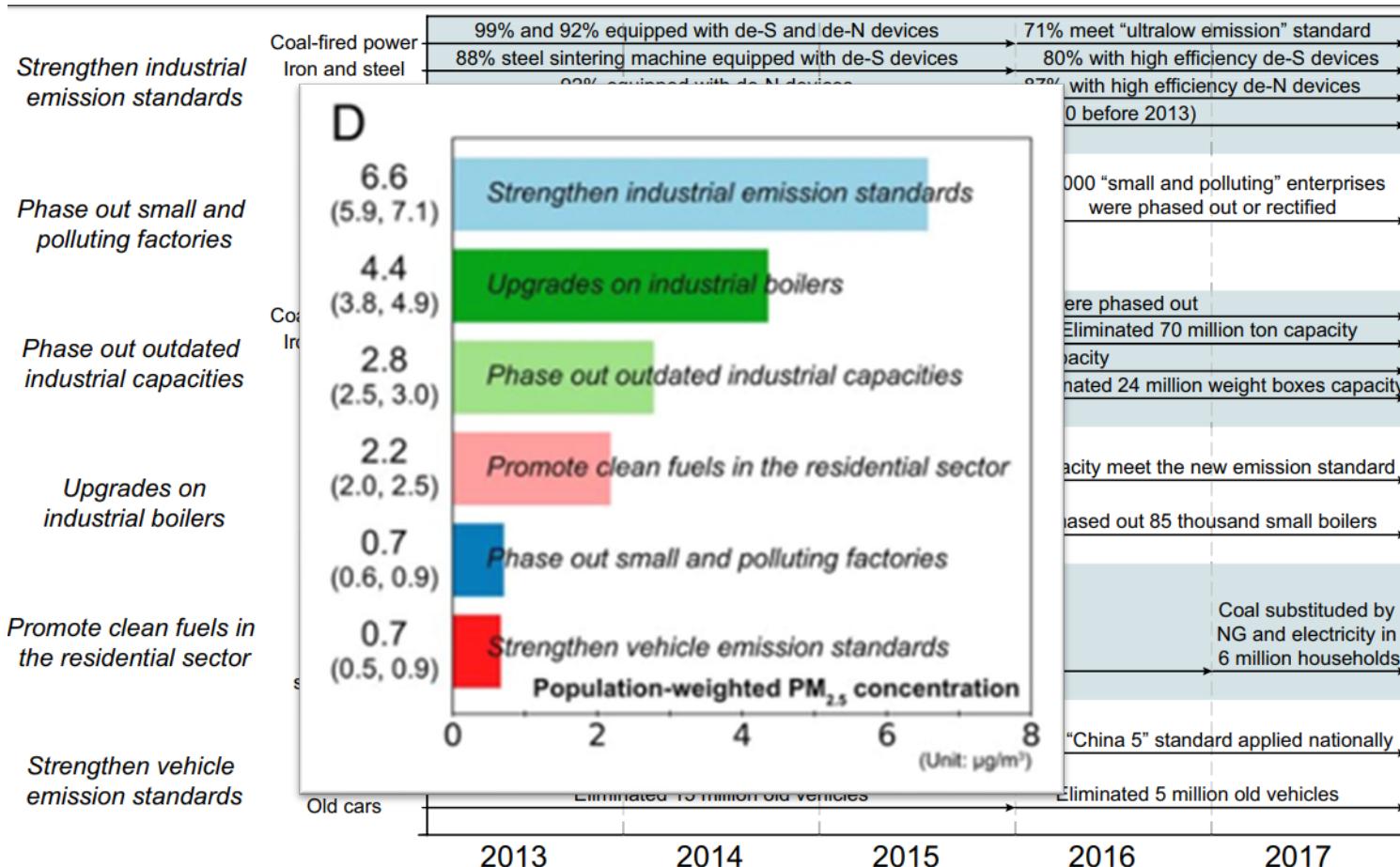
Annual mean $\text{PM}_{2.5}$



Zhai et al., Atmos. Chem. Phys. 2019

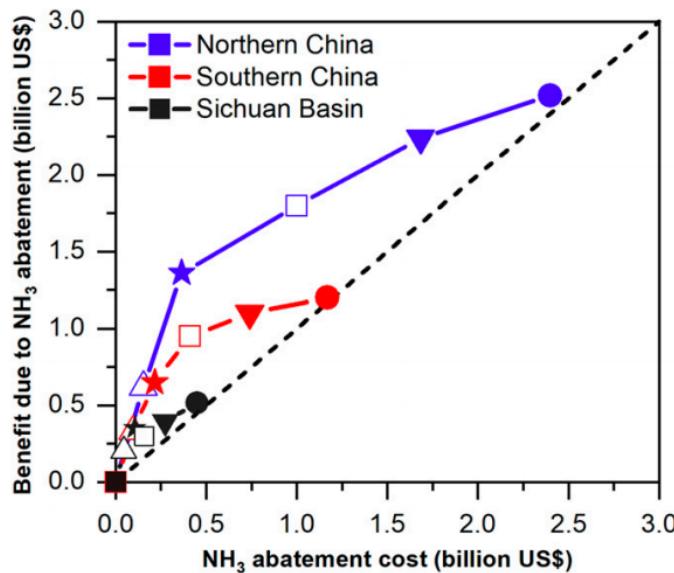
- What are effective measures that led to the reduction in pollution?
- What should we do to further reduce $\text{PM}_{2.5}$?
- Why ozone is increasing?

Measures taken since 2013



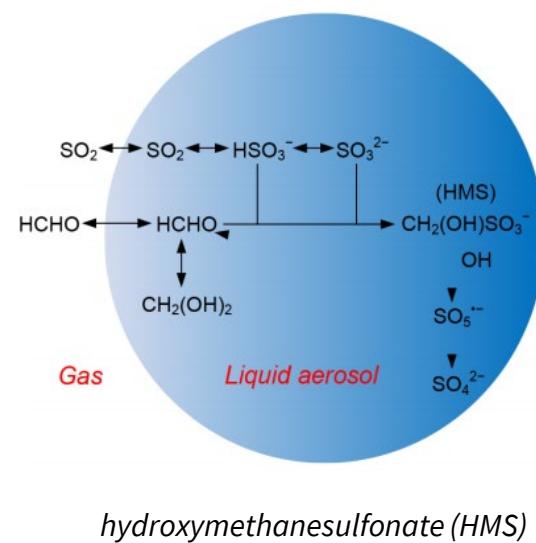
What is the pathway forward for PM2.5

Control ammonia emissions to further reduce PM2.5



Liu et al., PNAS, 2019
Zheng et al., Geophys. Res. Lett., 2019

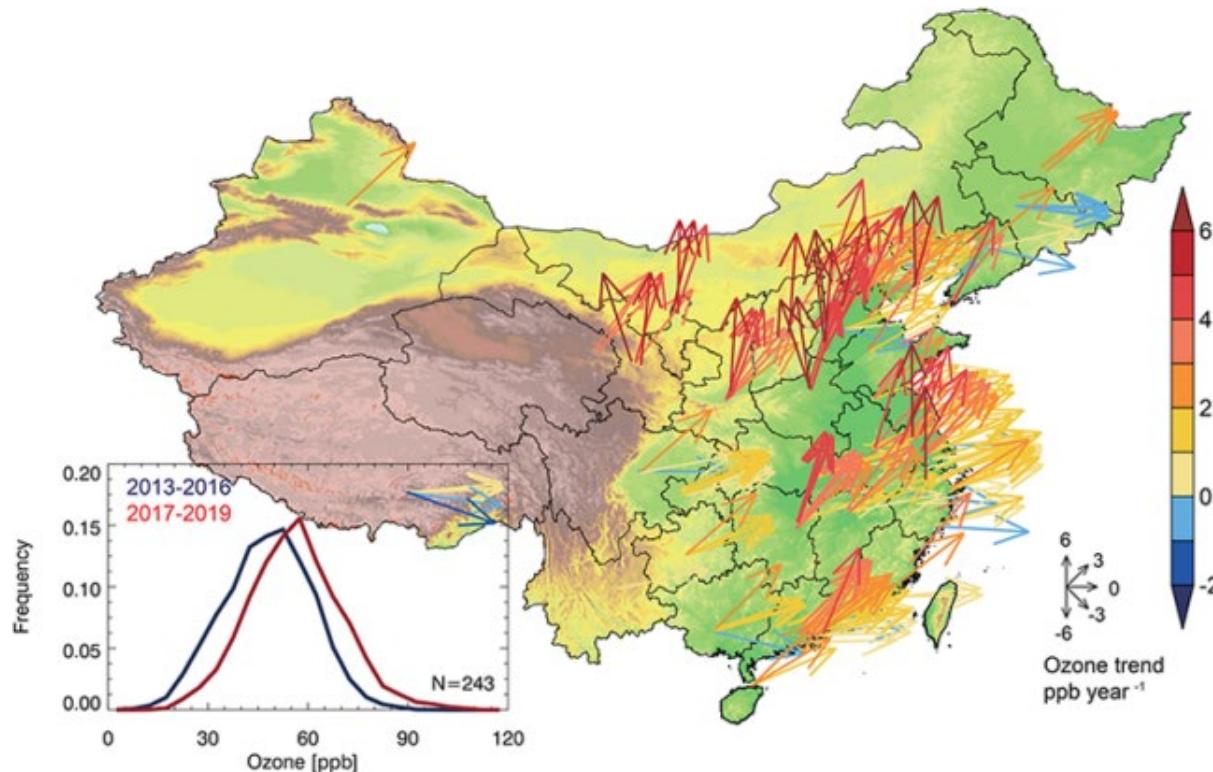
Novel mechanisms for secondary particle formation



Song et al., Atmos. Chem. Phys., 2019
Moch et al., Geophys. Res. Lett., 2019
Ma et al., Atmos. Chem. Phys., 2020

Ozone getting worse. Why?

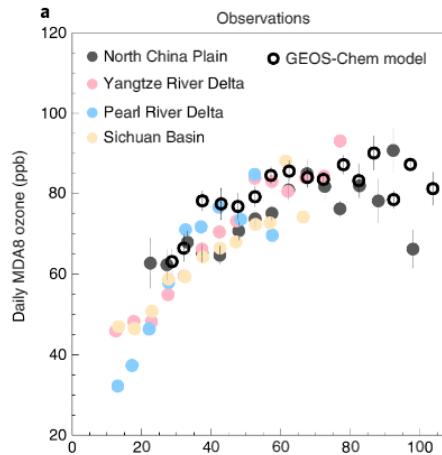
2013-2019 April-September surface MDA8 ozone trend over China



Lu et al., 2020

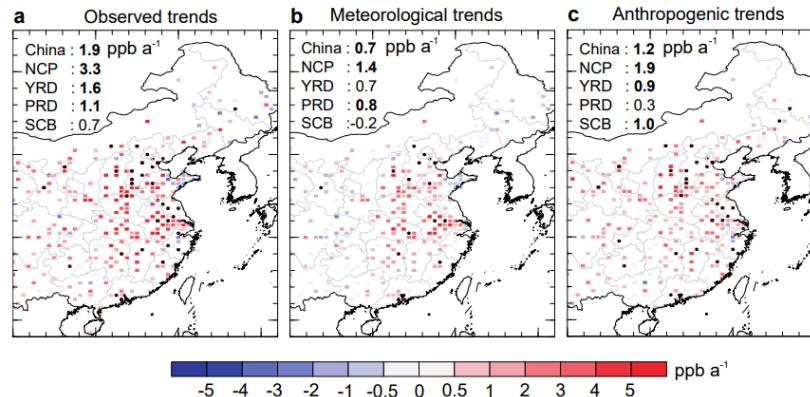
Ozone getting worse. Why?

Interaction
between pollutants



PM_{2.5} suppresses
radicals in the air

Interaction with
meteorology



Li et al., PNAS, 2019

Li et al., Nature Geosci., 2019

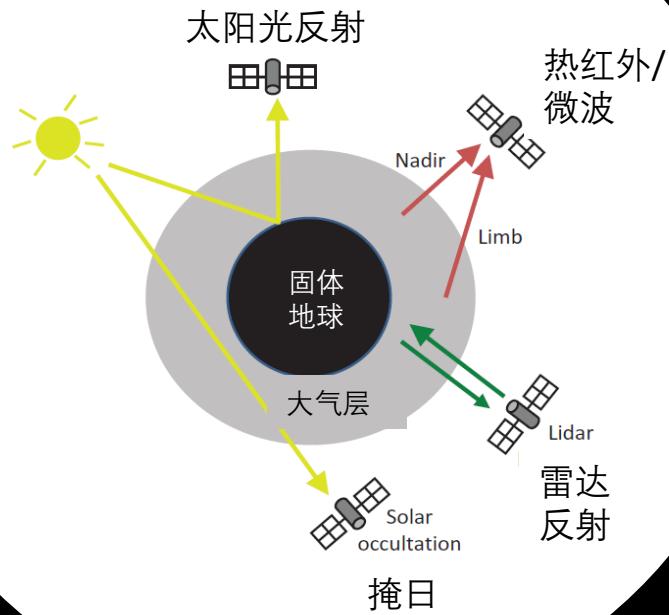
Li et al., Atmos. Chem. Phys., 2020

Summary: regional air pollution

- Air quality in China has improved significantly in last 5 years, as results of strict control measures
- Ozone concentrations have been increasing, likely because interactions with other pollutants and meteorology
- NH₃ control has been proposed to reduce PM2.5 in next 5 years
- Scientific studies help elucidate pathways to further improvement

卫星环境监测的独特优势

不同类型的卫星观测



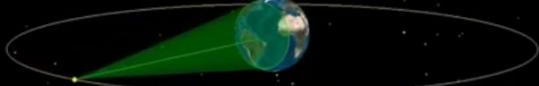
覆盖范围广

极轨轨道 500-1000 km 高度

Polar
Altitude - 760 km



地球同步轨道 36,000 km 高度

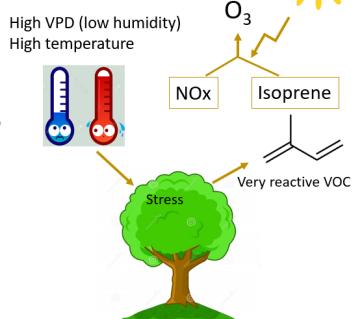


Coupling: pollution and climate

气候变化

空气污染

大气化学



Zhang and Wang, 2017

Zhang et al., 2018

