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Global and Regional Methane Budgets Derived from GOSAT Retrievals and Ground- based Observations Using CTE-CH₄ Atmospheric Inverse Model

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Atmospheric CH₄

- Atmospheric CH₄ has increased since preindustrial times
- GR slowed down in 1999-2006
- Started to increase with significant rate in 2007, and even at higher rate since 2014.

PHILOSOPHICAL
TRANSACTIONS
— OF —
THE ROYAL
SOCIETY

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REVIEW

Global atmospheric methane: budget, changes and dangers

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A factor of 2.5

LETTER

Upward revision of global fossil fuel methane emissions based on isotope database

Sofia Schwietke¹, Owen A. Sherwood², Lori M. P. Bruhwiler³, John B. Miller⁴, Giuseppe Di Giuseppe⁵, Edward J. Dlugokensky¹,
Sylvia England-Michel⁶, Victoria A. Arling⁷, Bruce H. Vaughn⁸, James W. C. White⁹ & Peter T. Tans¹⁰

Global Biogeochemical Cycles

RESEARCH ARTICLE

Very Strong Atmospheric Methane Growth in the 4 Years 2014–2017: Implications for the Paris Agreement
E. G. Nisbet¹, M. R. Manning², E. J. Dlugokensky³, R. E. Fisher⁴, D. Lowry⁵,
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• Supporting Information S1

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Abstract

2016/7/23

Short version

Abstract

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Abstract

A multi-year methane inversion using SCIAMACHY, accounting for systematic errors using TCCON measurements

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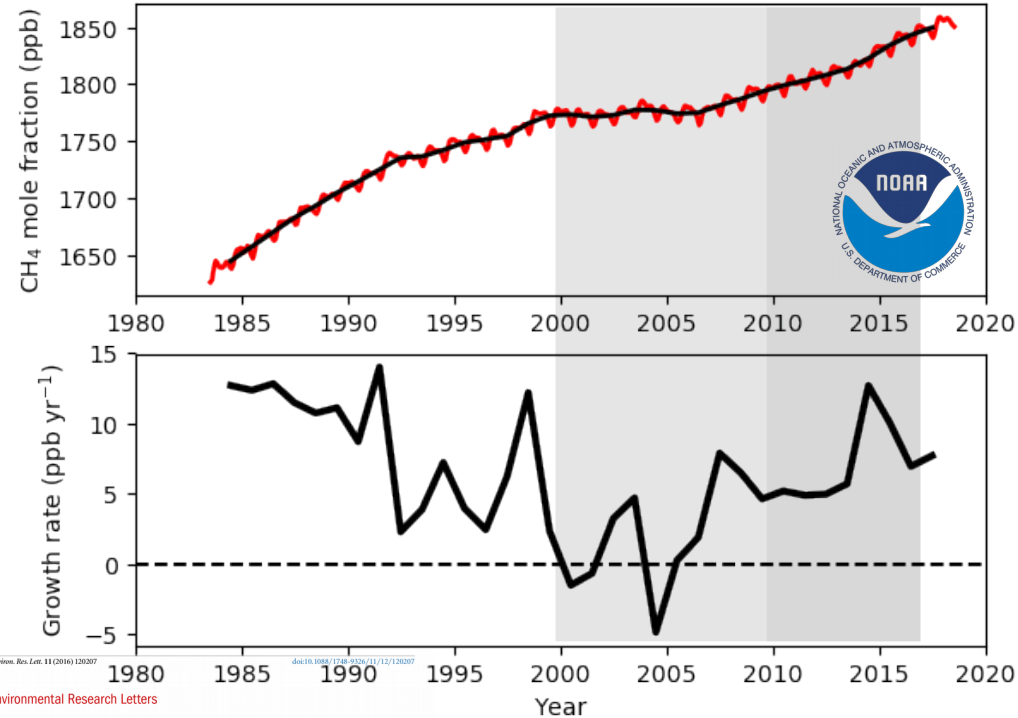
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EDITORIAL

The growing role of methane in anthropogenic climate change

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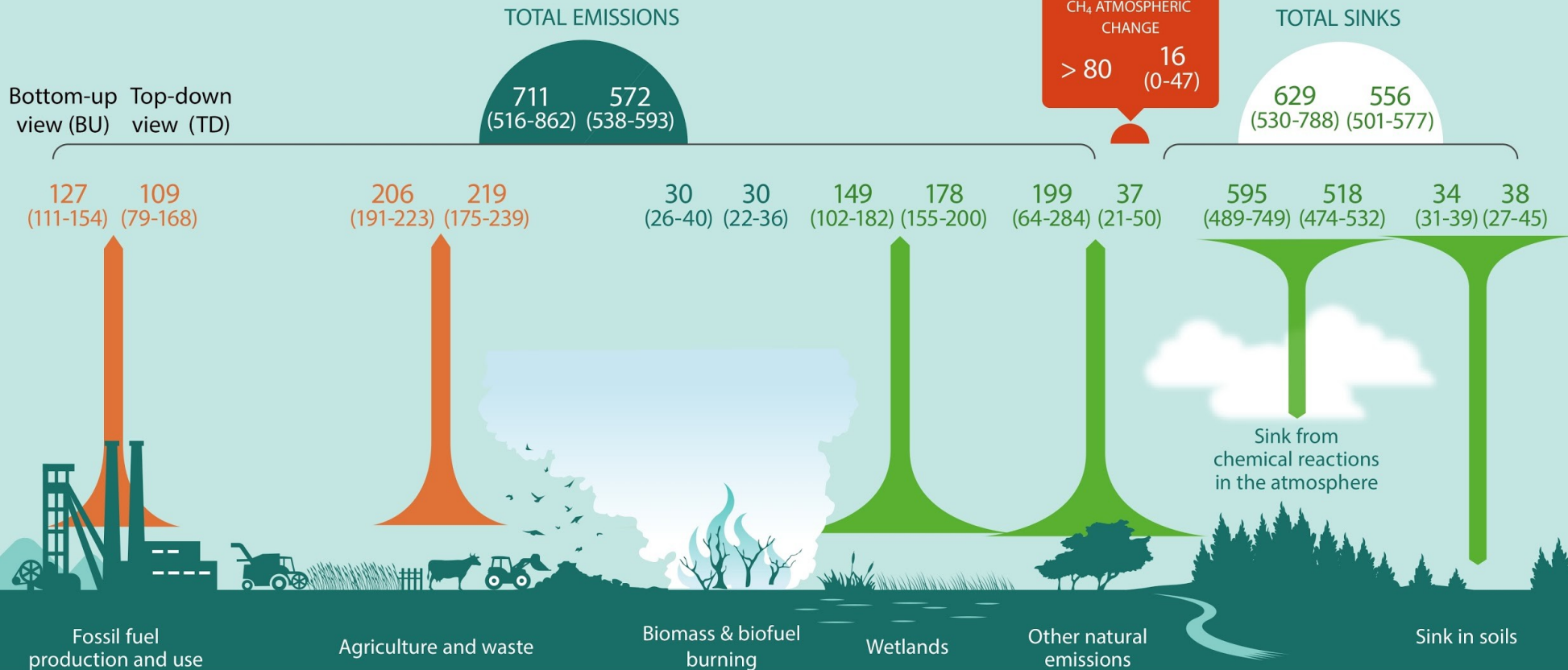
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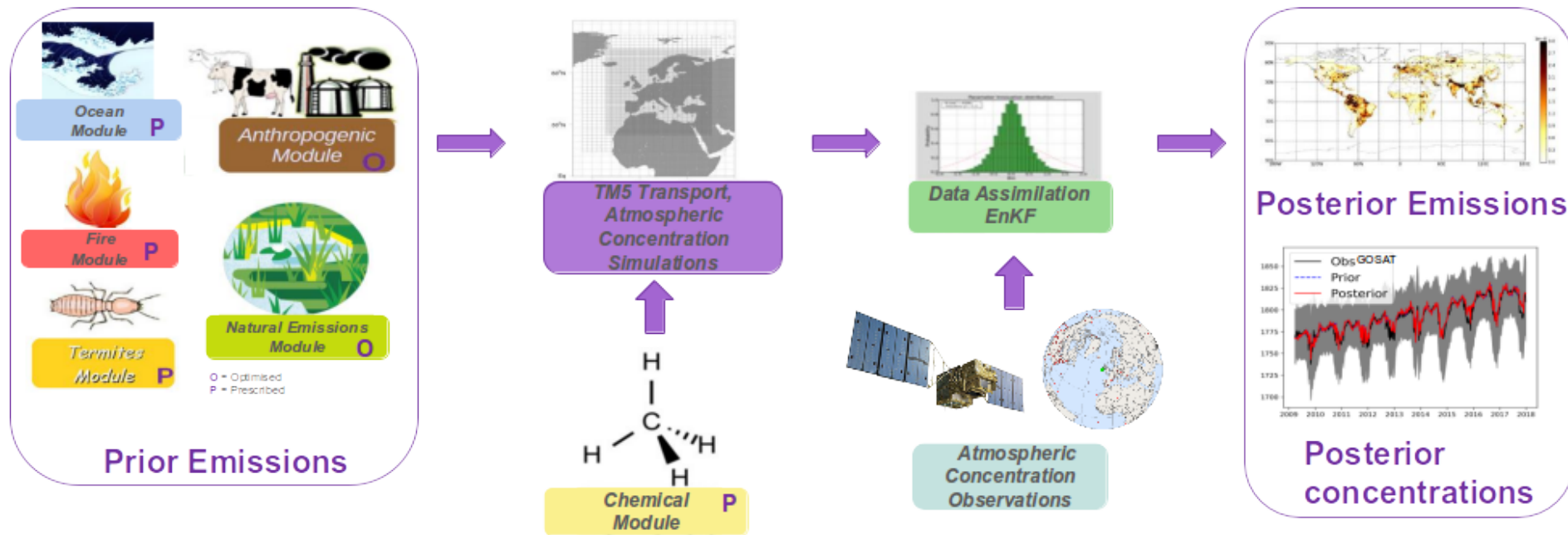
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GLOBAL METHANE BUDGET 2008-2017



CTE-CH₄ model

CarbonTracker Europe-CH₄



Cost function: $J = (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}^b)^T \mathbf{P}^{-1} (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}^b) + (\mathbf{y} - H(\mathbf{x}))^T \mathbf{R}^{-1} (\mathbf{y} - H(\mathbf{x}))$

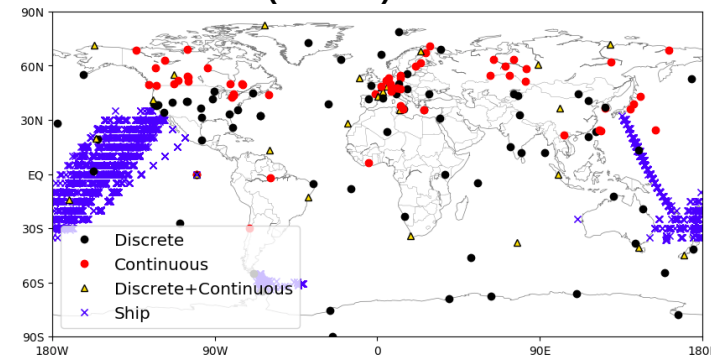
$$\mathbf{E} = G(\mathbf{x}) \mathbf{E}^b$$

$\mathbf{E} = \text{CH}_4$ emissions

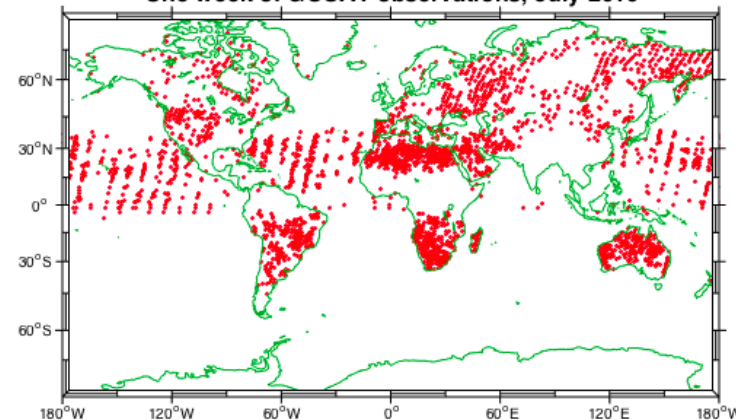
Satellites bring advantages

- Ground-based observations are high precision and can be high frequency
 - Location is limited in some regions, especially around the Tropics.
- Satellite data has better global coverage
 - Some limitation over high latitudes and cloud/aerosol filtering

Ground-based (surface) observation network



One week of GOSAT observations, July 2010



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Atmospheric
Chemistry
and Physics
EGU

Satellite observations of atmospheric methane and their value for quantifying methane emissions

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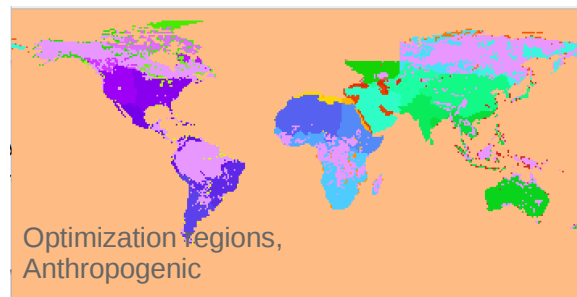
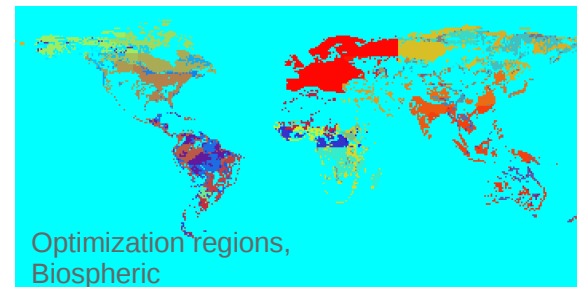
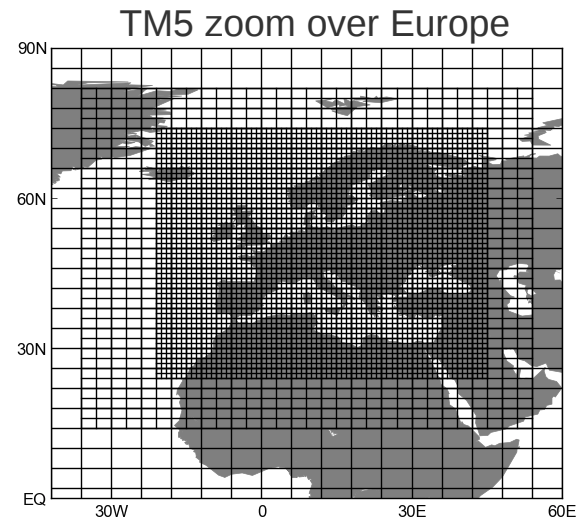
Inversion setup

Prior fluxes

- **Anthropogenic** (annual): EDGAR v4.3.2 + 2018
- **Biospheric** (climatology): average over previous GCP-CH₄ bottom-up estimates (Saunois et al., 2016)
- Others: GFED v4.2 (fire), termites & other microbial source, geological sources, ocean

Resolution

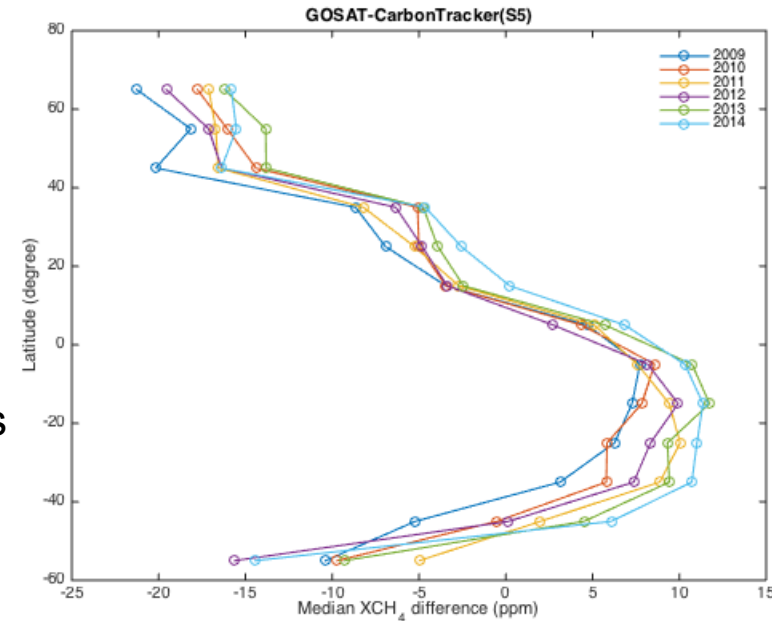
- TM5: 1°x1° over Europe, 6°x4° global, constrained by 3-hourly ECMWF ERA-Interim meteorology
- Flux optimization: 1°x1° over Europe, region-wise elsewhere, weekly



Inversion setup

- Surface observations
 - station and ship, weekly and continuous
 - Data with little influence from local sources
 - Daily means from 12-16 local time (except for mountain sites) is taken for continuous data
 - Obs. Unc.: differ by sites, approx. 5-50 ppb
- GOSAT (NIES v2.72)
 - Latitudinal gradient differences from surface inversion is removed
 - Obs. Unc.: differ by each retrievals, approx. 20-100 ppb

*Obs. Unc. Contains measurement (retrieval) errors and transport model uncertainty



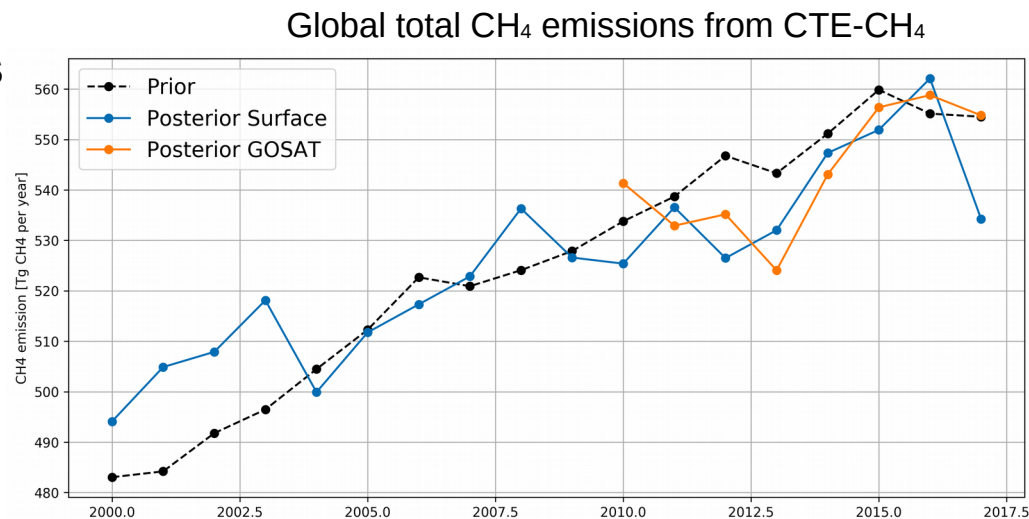
Inversion setup

- Simulation done for 2000-2017 (part of Global Carbon Project (GCP), Saunois et al., 2019 in preparation) *only 2009/07→ for GOSAT
- GOSAT inversion: only GOSAT data assimilated (i.e. no surface data)

Results

Comparisons between surface and GOSAT inversion

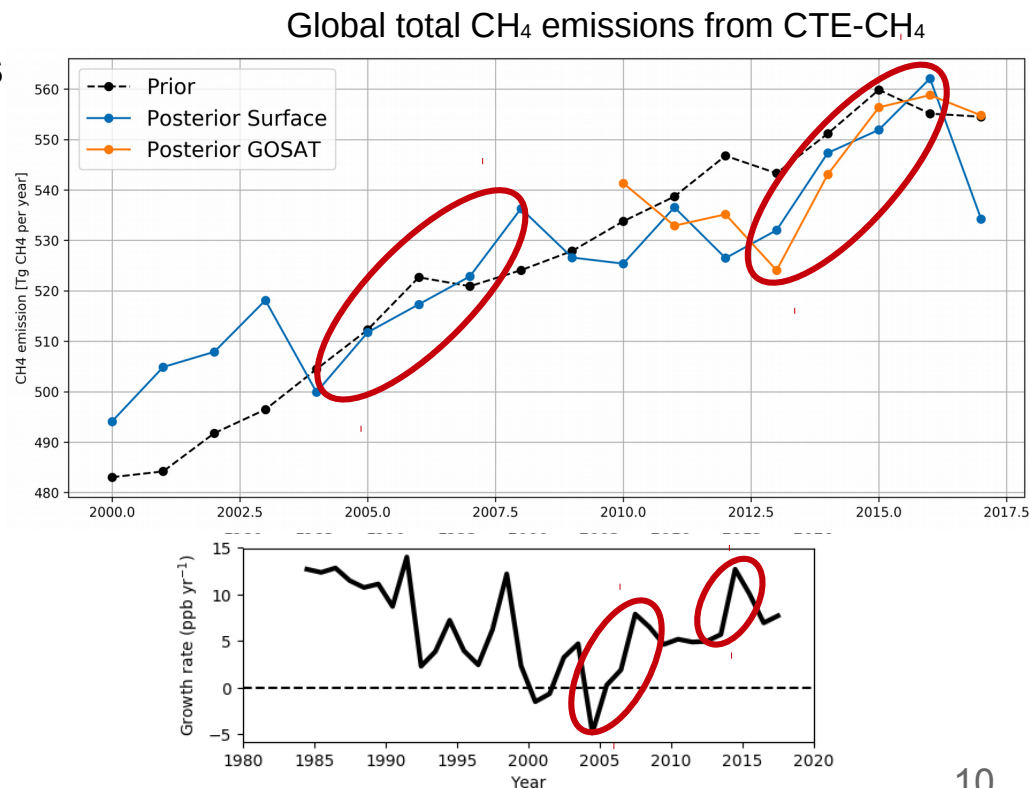
- Average global total annual CH₄ emissions
 - 2010-2017: 544 Tg CH₄/yr [GOSAT]
 - 2010-2017: 539 Tg CH₄/yr [SURF]
- Similar results from both inversions



Results

Comparisons between surface and GOSAT inversion

- Average global total annual CH₄ emissions
 - 2010-2017: 544 Tg CH₄/yr [GOSAT]
 - 2010-2017: 539 Tg CH₄/yr [SURF]
- Similar results from both inversions
- Strong increase in CH₄ emissions during 2004-2007, 2013-2016

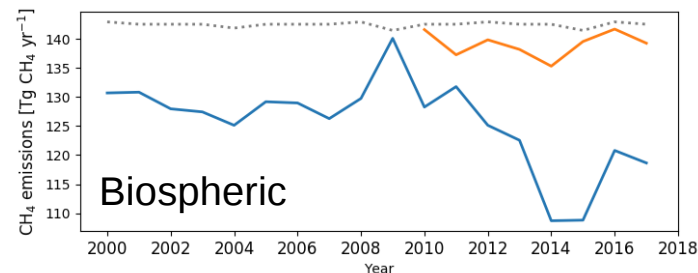
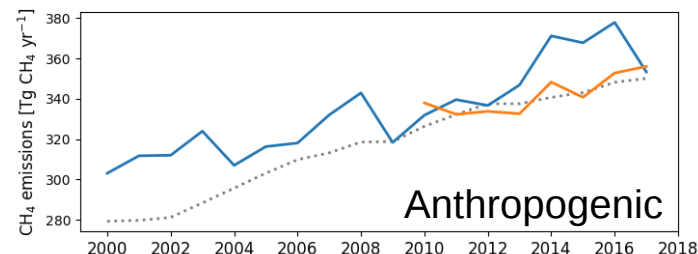
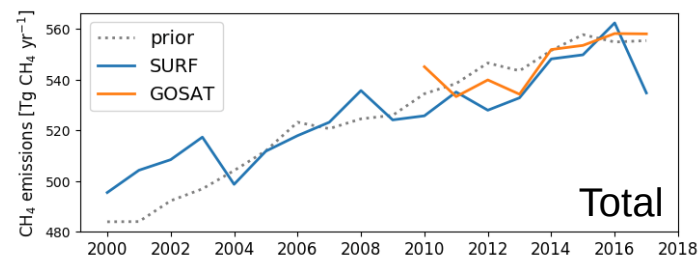


Results

Comparison between surface and GOSAT inversion

- Most of the increases in 2004-2007 and 2013-2016 are found in anthropogenic sources
- 2013-2016 increase is also found in biospheric sources
-

Global total CH₄ emissions from CTE-CH₄

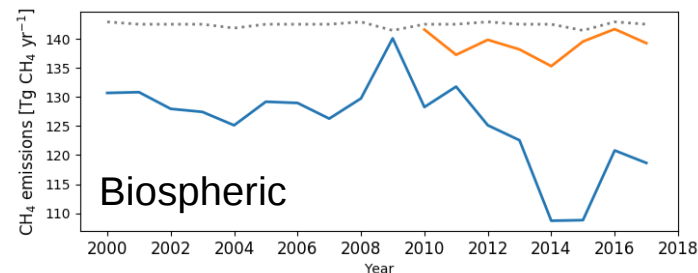
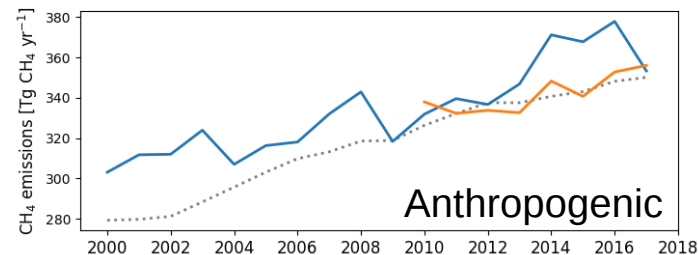
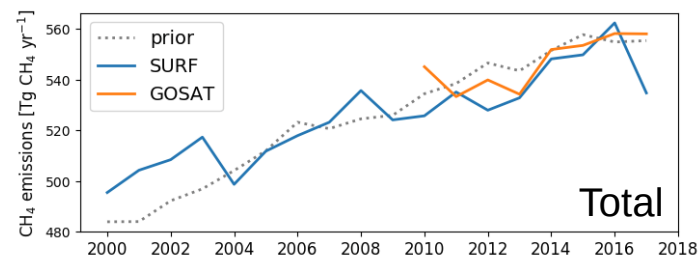


Results

Comparison between surface and GOSAT inversion

- Most of the increases in 2004-2007 and 2013-2016 are found in anthropogenic sources
- 2013-2016 increase is also found in biospheric sources
- Source distribution is quite different between the inversions
 - Strong increase in anthropogenic emissions and opposite trend in biospheric emissions for 2010-2014 (surface inversion)
 - Some decrease in biospheric emissions for 2010-2014 in GOSAT inversion, but not as strong as the surface inversion

Global total CH₄ emissions from CTE-CH₄

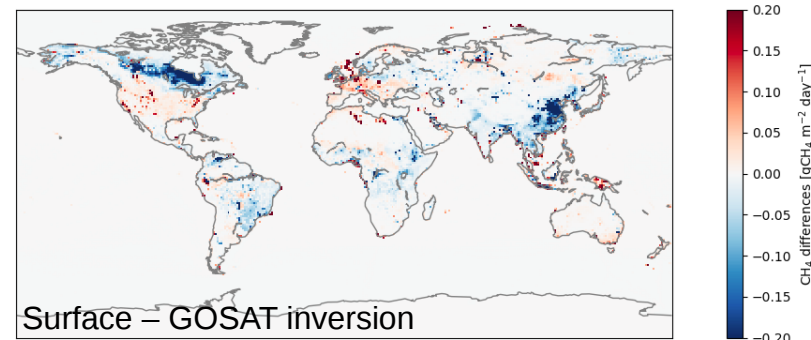
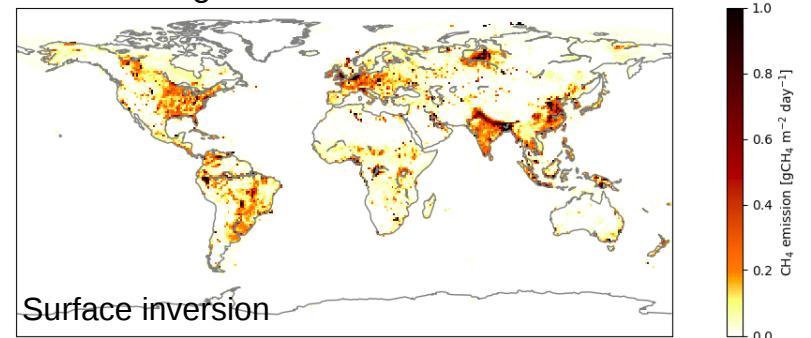


Results

Comparison between surface and GOSAT inversion

- Source distribution is quite different between the inversions
 - GOSAT brings larger emissions over north east Canada, China and central Africa
 - GOSAT brings smaller emissions over USA, Europe and Tropical Asia and central Russia

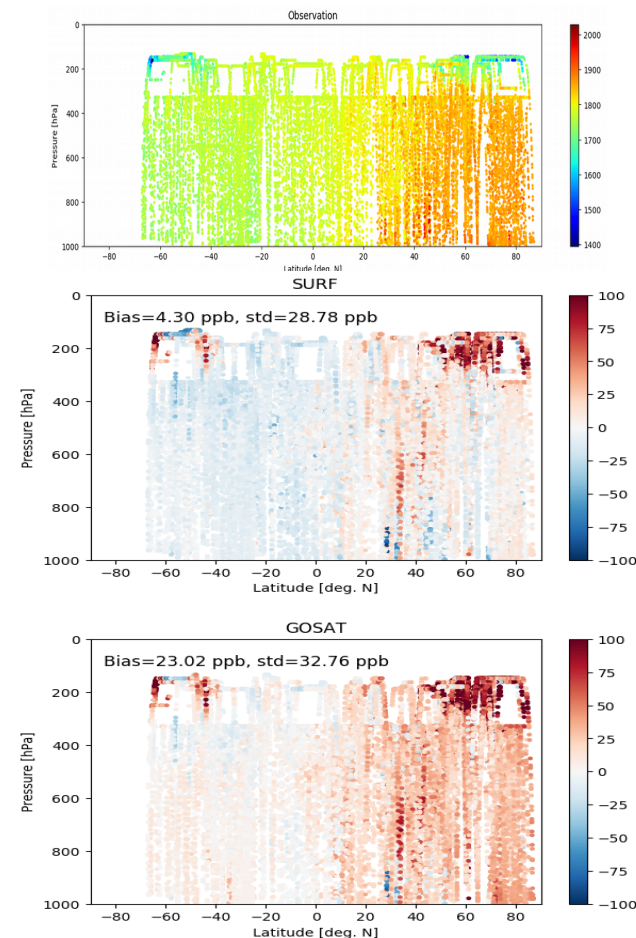
Average annual total CH₄ emissions



Evaluation

Comparison with inversion-independent data

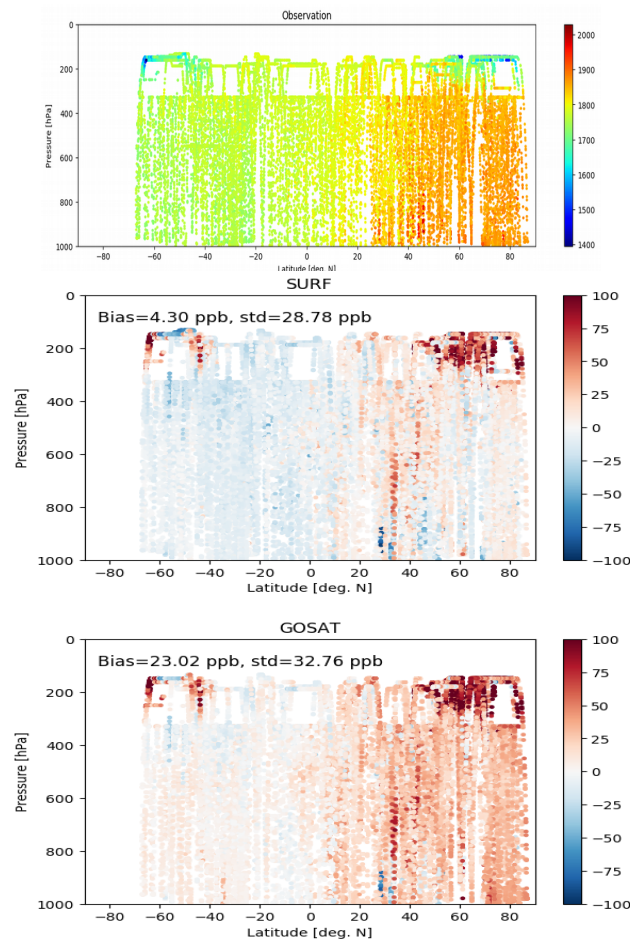
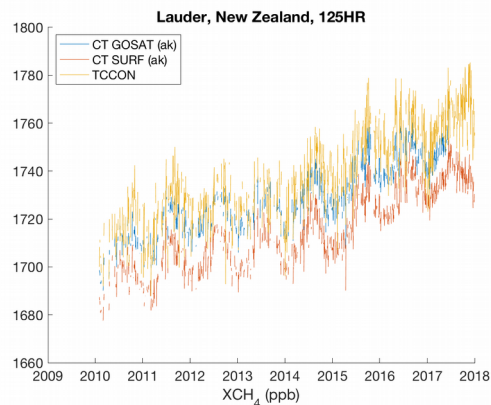
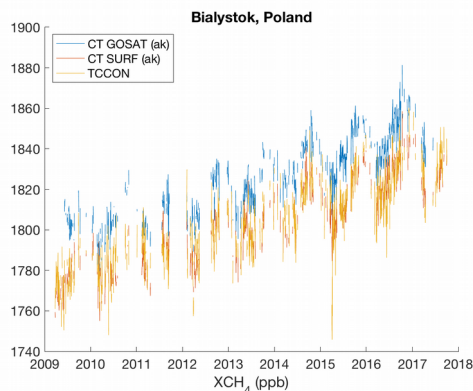
- HIPPO aircraft atmospheric CH₄ data
 - Overestimation in GOSAT inversion especially for the NH.



Evaluation

Comparison with inversion-independent data

- HIPPO aircraft atmospheric CH₄ data
 - Overestimation in GOSAT inversion especially for the NH.
- TCCON XCH₄
 - Overestimation of GOSAT inversion in the NH
 - GOSAT inversion gives better agreement in the SH



Summary

- We carried out CTE-CH₄ atmospheric inverse model using ground-based observations (2000/01-2017/12) and GOSAT retrievals (2009/07-2017/12) for estimation of global CH₄ fluxes.
- Posterior CH₄ fluxes from both inversions show increase in CH₄ emissions associated with increases in atmospheric CH₄ GR (around 2007 and 2014).
- The increase in CH₄ emission estimates may be mostly due to anthropogenic sources for 2007→, while we cannot neglect an increase in biospheric emissions for 2014→
- Agreement with independent atmospheric CH₄ observations suggested:
 - Better estimates for the NH in the surface inversion
 - Better estimates for the SH in the GOSAT inversion
 - GOSAT inversion produces slightly better seasonal cycle over the Tropics

