

# Towards Near real time/operational carbon budgets:

Philippe Ciais, Zhu Liu, Zhu Deng, Brendan Byrne, Stephen Sitch, Ana Bastos, Frédéric Chevallier, Jean Pierre Wigneron, Guido van Der Werf, Niki Gruber and lot of collaborators



We've been steering by looking in the rearview.  
Advances (spurred by COVID) offer decision makers timely feedback to support more agile and adaptive management of carbon emissions and natural sinks.



Bastos *et al.*  
*Carbon Balance and Management* (2022) 17:15  
<https://doi.org/10.1186/s13021-022-00214-w>

Carbon Balance and Management

COMMENT

Open Access

## On the use of Earth Observation to support estimates of national greenhouse gas emissions and sinks for the Global stocktake process: lessons learned from ESA-CCI RECCAP2



Ana Bastos<sup>1\*</sup>, Philippe Ciais<sup>2</sup>, Stephen Sitch<sup>3</sup>, Luiz E. O. C. Aragão<sup>3,4,5</sup>, Frédéric Chevallier<sup>2</sup>, Dominic Fawcett<sup>3</sup>, Thais M. Rosan<sup>3</sup>, Marielle Saunois<sup>2</sup>, Dirk Günther<sup>6</sup>, Lucia Perugini<sup>7</sup>, Colas Robert<sup>8</sup>, Zhu Deng<sup>9</sup>, Julia Pongratz<sup>10,11</sup>, Raphael Ganzenmüller<sup>10</sup>, Richard Fuchs<sup>12</sup>, Karina Winkler<sup>12,13</sup>, Sönke Zaehle<sup>1</sup> and Clément Albergel<sup>14</sup>

# Current status

- Annual analysis of the global CO<sub>2</sub> budget by the Global Carbon Project
  - Annual mean fluxes for year n-1
  - Based on ocean and land models, only annual fossil emissions are given per country
- RECCAP2 chapters
  - Last two decades with process attribution of fluxes
- Global CH<sub>4</sub> budget by GCP
  - Decadal estimates
  - Combination of multiple inversions and bottom-up inventories
  - Last update to 2017, current update to extend to 2020
- Global N<sub>2</sub>O budget by GCP
  - Decadal estimates
  - First publication in 2020
  - Last update to 2018, current update to extend to 2020
- UNFCCC submissions
  - Latency of 1+ years for Annex 1 countries
  - Latency of 10+ years for non Annex 1 countries

## What are the applications of NRT budgets ?

- Quantify the impact of recent climate extremes ( fire, drought )
- Assess very recent changes of emissions & drivers
- Abnormal recent changes in the seasonal CO<sub>2</sub> and CH<sub>4</sub> growth rates
- Better learn about models differences through a living comparison

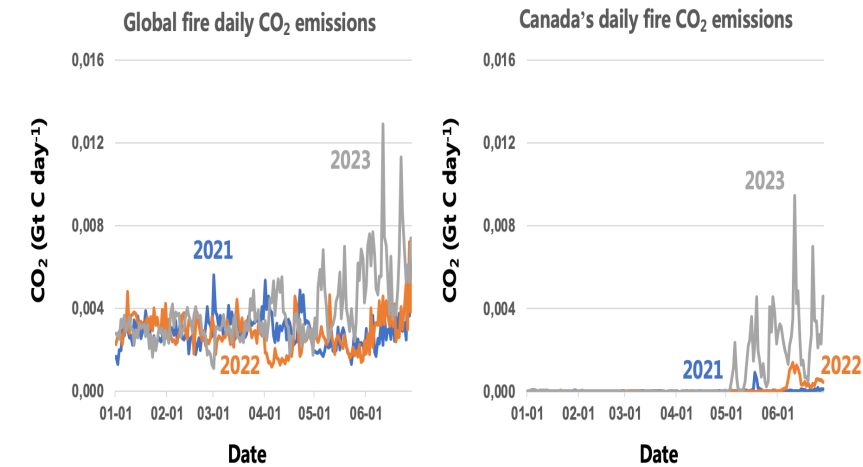
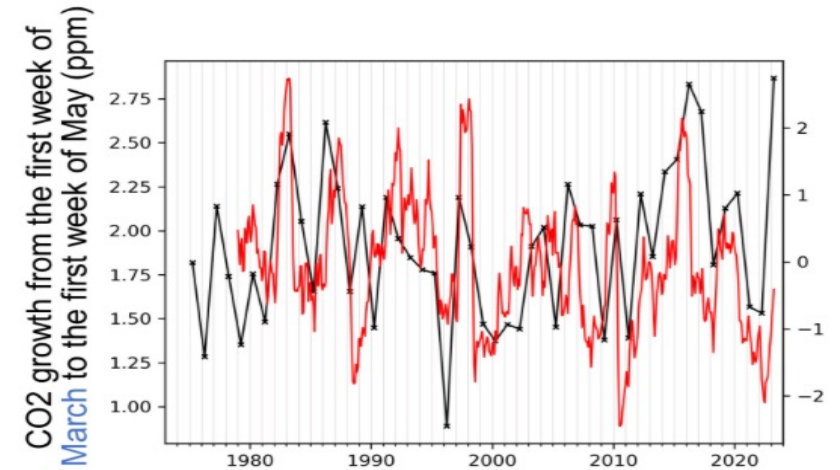
## What should be the minimum latency of 'NRT' ?

- Media ask for numbers in a week
- Quarterly emission budgets valuable with a month lag

## Could NRT budgets be of lower quality than annual budgets ?

- Would a small ensemble of 'volunteer' models differ from GCP?

## Should we use observations or models ?





# Existing capabilities for near real time GHG budgets

- NRT estimates of fossil emissions
  - CH<sub>4</sub> fossil emissions GMW – Kayrros ≈ 40% of fossil emissions **updated each month**
  - CO<sub>2</sub> Carbon Monitor daily national budgets & emissions maps at 10 km **updated each month**
- NRT global inversions of CO<sub>2</sub> and CH<sub>4</sub> fluxes
  - NRT in-situ concentration from NOAA, ICOS, RAMCES networks (subset of global data)
  - Inversions need a spindown of ≈ 4 months
  - Satellite XCO<sub>2</sub> and XCH<sub>4</sub> from OCO2 and GOSAT **updated each year**
  - E.g. Copernicus CAMS results are already available for CO<sub>2</sub> **updated each 4 month**
- NRT land and ocean fluxes
  - Land observations and models **updated each 4 month [ pilot with 3 models ]**
  - Ocean observations and models

# Comparing inversions with UNFCCC inventories

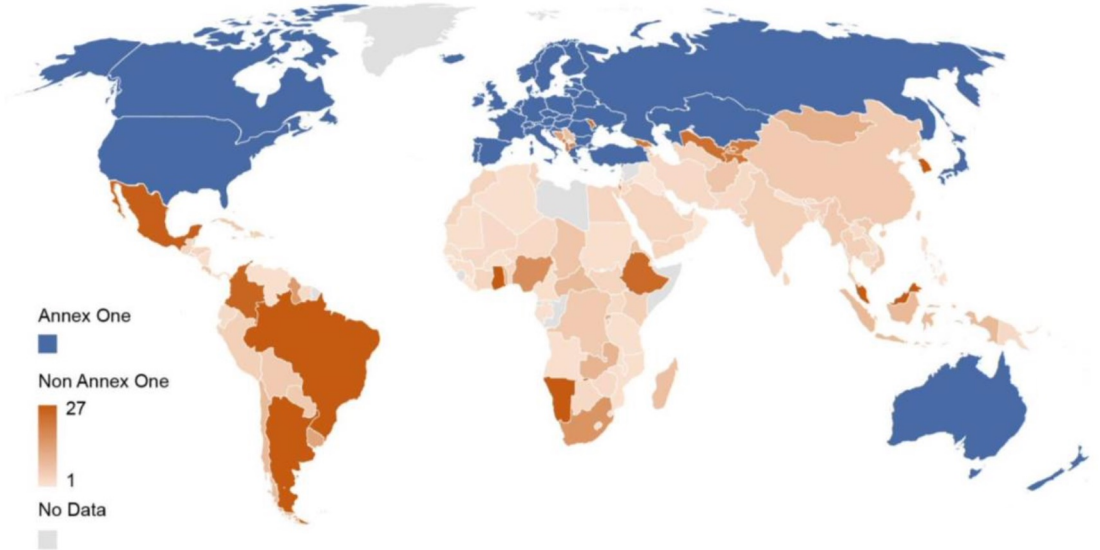
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Preprint. Discussion started: 13 August 2021  
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Earth System  
Science  
Data  
Discussions

## Comparing national greenhouse gas budgets reported in UNFCCC inventories against atmospheric inversions

Zhu Deng<sup>1,\*</sup>, Philippe Ciais<sup>2,\*</sup>, Zitely A. Tzompa-Sosa<sup>2</sup>, Marielle Saunois<sup>2</sup>, Chunjing Qiu<sup>2</sup>, Chang Tan<sup>1</sup>, Taochun Sun<sup>1</sup>, Piyu Ke<sup>1</sup>, Yanan Cui<sup>3</sup>, Katsumasa Tanaka<sup>2,4</sup>, Xin Lin<sup>2</sup>, Rona L. Thompson<sup>5</sup>, Hanqin Tian<sup>6</sup>, Yuanzhi Yao<sup>6</sup>, Yuanyuan Huang<sup>7</sup>, Ronny Lauerwald<sup>8</sup>, Atul K. Jain<sup>9</sup>, Xiaoming Xu<sup>9</sup>, Ana Bastos<sup>10</sup>, Stephen Sitch<sup>11</sup>, Paul I. Palmer<sup>12,13</sup>, Thomas Lauvaux<sup>2</sup>, Alexandre d'Aspremont<sup>14</sup>, Clément Giron<sup>14</sup>, Antoine Benoit<sup>14</sup>, Benjamin Poulter<sup>15</sup>, Jinfeng Chang<sup>16</sup>, Ana Maria Roxana Petrescu<sup>17</sup>, Steven J. Davis<sup>18</sup>, Zhu Liu<sup>1</sup>, Giacomo Grassi<sup>19</sup>, Clément Albergel<sup>20</sup>, and Frédéric Chevallier<sup>2</sup>

New methodologies are developed to use atmospheric inversions results and make them comparable with UNFCCC reports and inventories



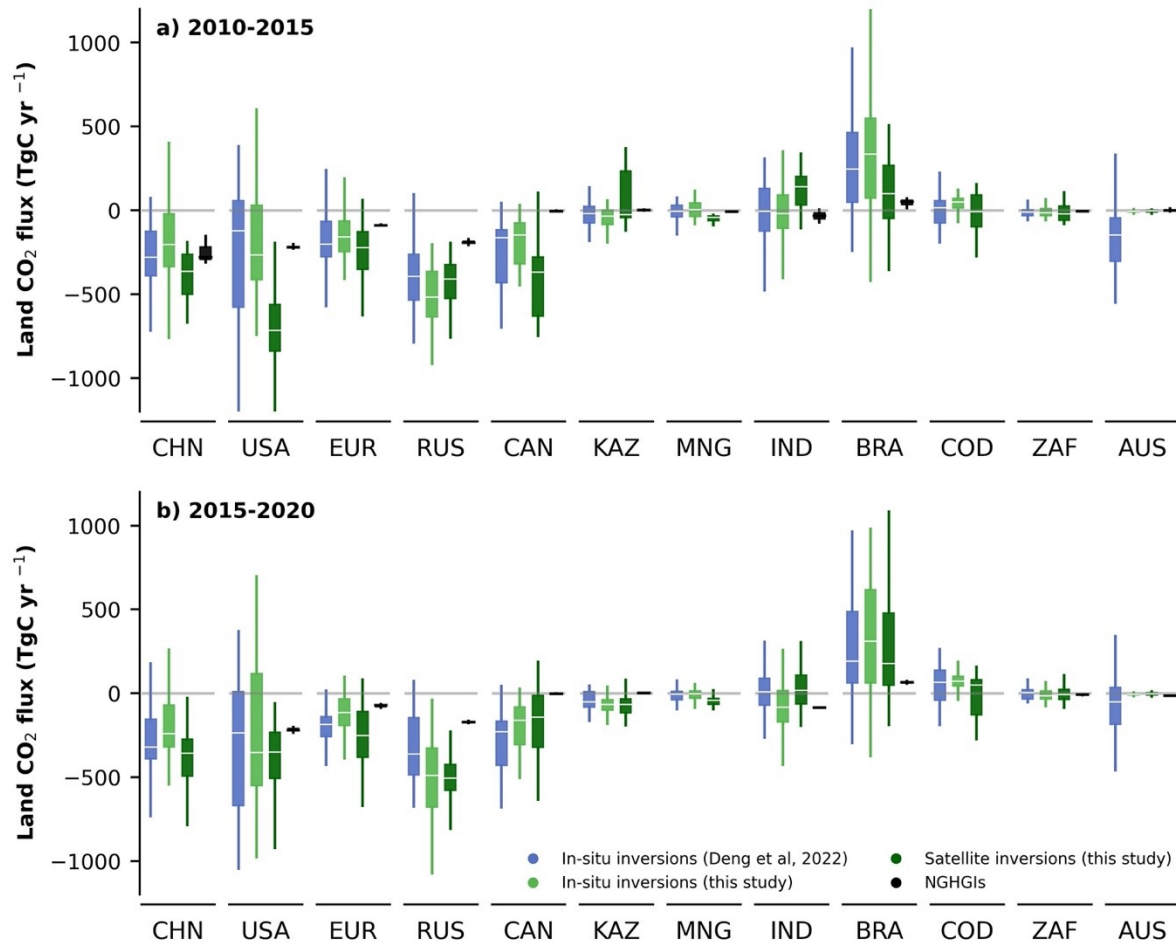
Global (managed land) sink from inventories = 0.3  
Global (managed land) sink from inventories \* = 1.4

Global (managed land) sink from inversions = 1.3  
Global (all land) sink from inversions = 1.4

GtC y-1

\* Updated and gap filled by Grassi et al. 2022

# Comparing inversions with UNFCCC inventories

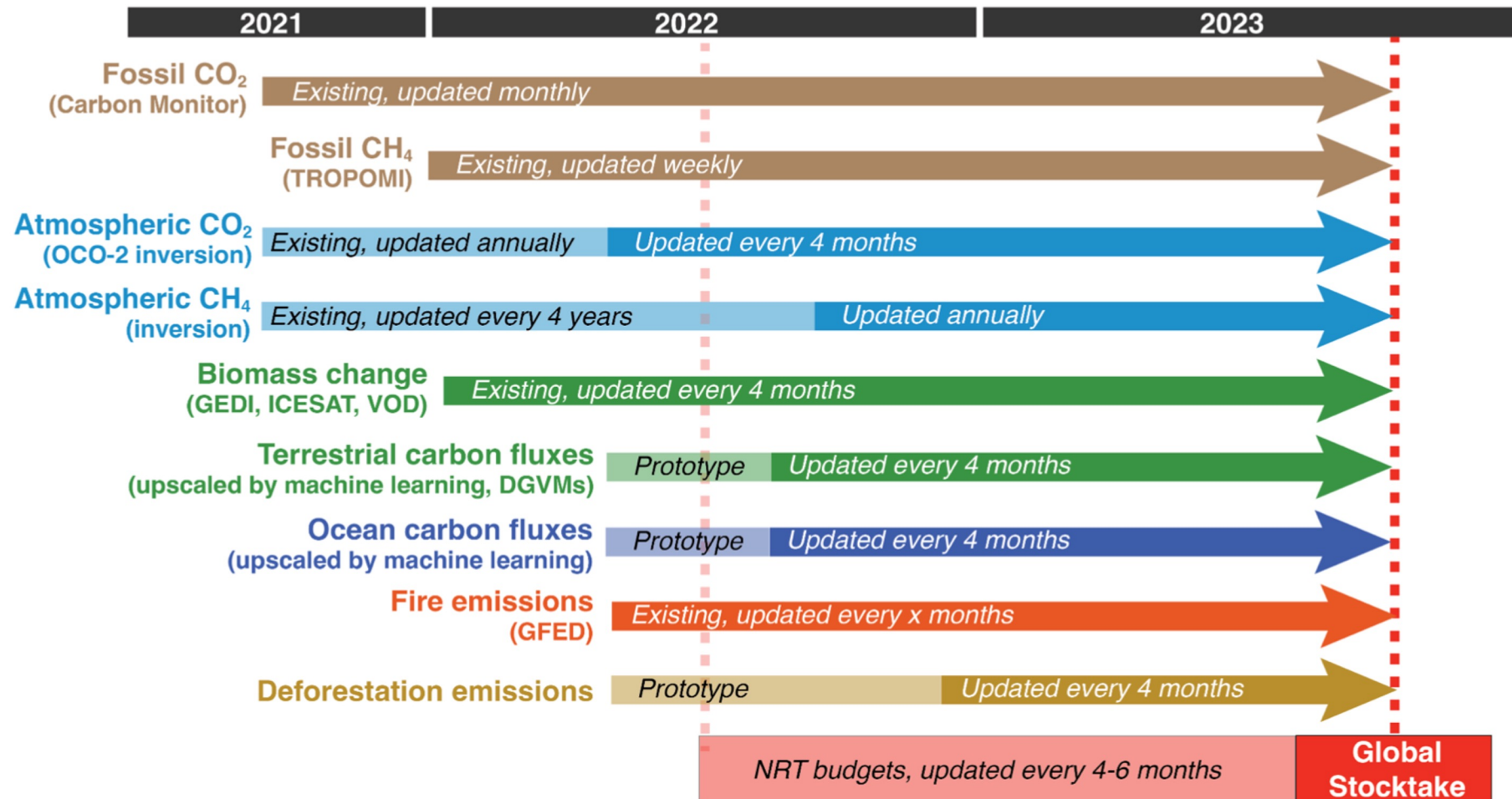


- Data processing pipeline is operational – results until 2022
- Inversion update from OCO2 products is 4 month
- From in-situ data is  $\approx 1$  year

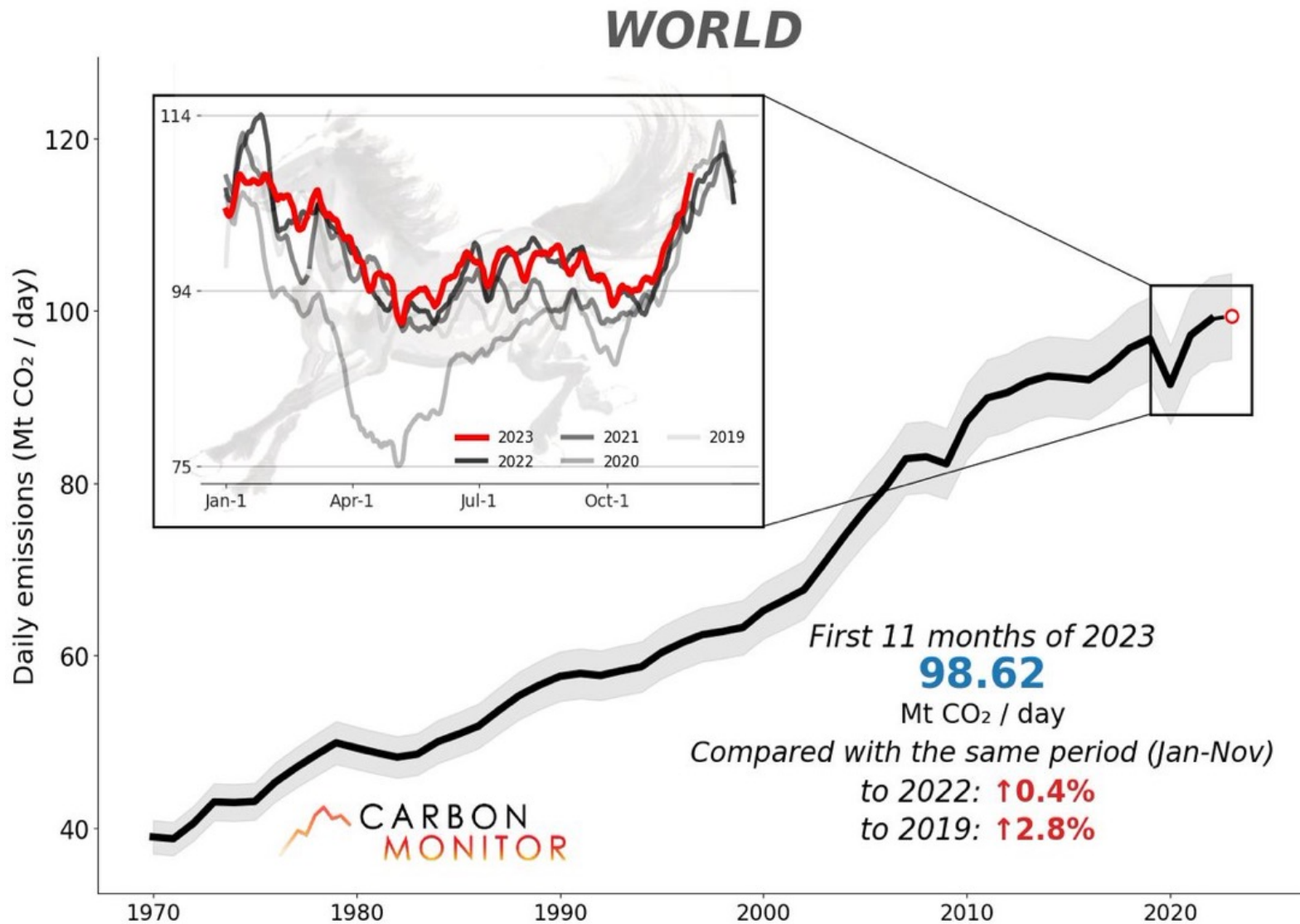
# Available research datastreams allow:

=> **Global & National assessments of emissions and sinks at 4 months intervals**

Ciais et al. Nature, in review



# Carbon Monitor near real time fossil CO<sub>2</sub> emissions until Dec 1st 2023



## Monitoring global carbon emissions in 2021

Zhu Liu<sup>1</sup>, Zhu Deng<sup>1</sup>, Steven J. Davis<sup>2</sup>, Clement Giron<sup>3</sup> and Philippe Ciais<sup>4</sup>

Following record-level declines in 2020, near-real-time data indicate that global CO<sub>2</sub> emissions rebounded by 4.8% in 2021, reaching 34.9 GtCO<sub>2</sub>. These 2021 emissions consumed 8.7% of the remaining carbon budget for limiting anthropogenic warming to 1.5 °C, which if current trajectories continue, might be used up in 9.5 years at 67% likelihood.

## Monitoring global carbon emissions in 2022

Zhu Liu, Zhu Deng, Steve Davis & Philippe Ciais

All data freely available

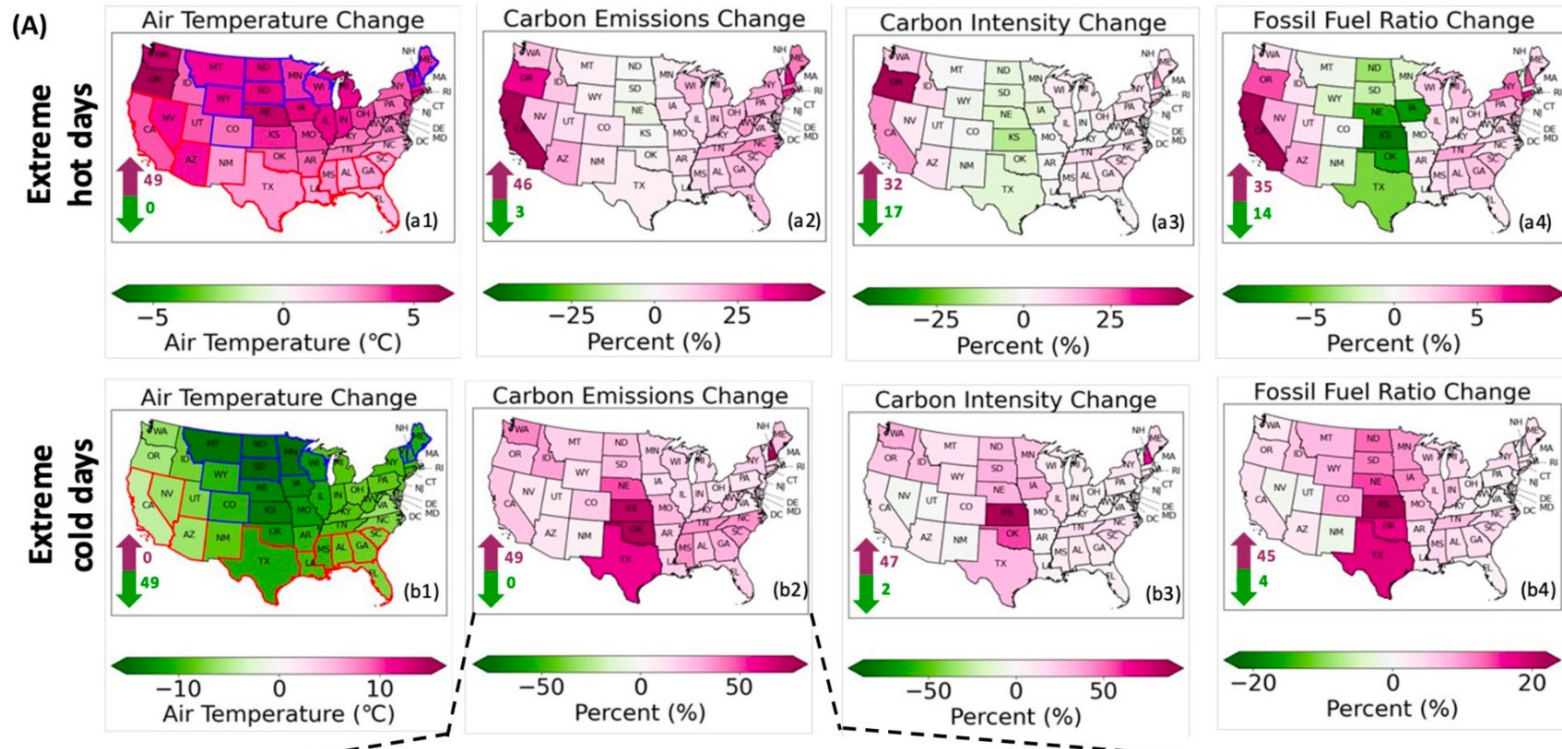
<https://carbonmonitor.org>





# Reliance on fossil fuels increases during extreme temperature events in the continental United States

Wenli Zhao<sup>1,2</sup>, Biqing Zhu<sup>3</sup>, Steven J. Davis<sup>4</sup>, Philippe Ciais<sup>3</sup>, Chaopeng Hong<sup>5</sup>, Zhu Liu<sup>6</sup> & Pierre Gentine<sup>1</sup>





# Near-real time daily carbon emission maps (Carbon Monitor)



Zhu Liu\*, et al., *Nature* 2015

Zhu Liu\*, et al., *Nature Climate Change* 2016

Zhu Liu\*, et al., *Nature Communications* 2020

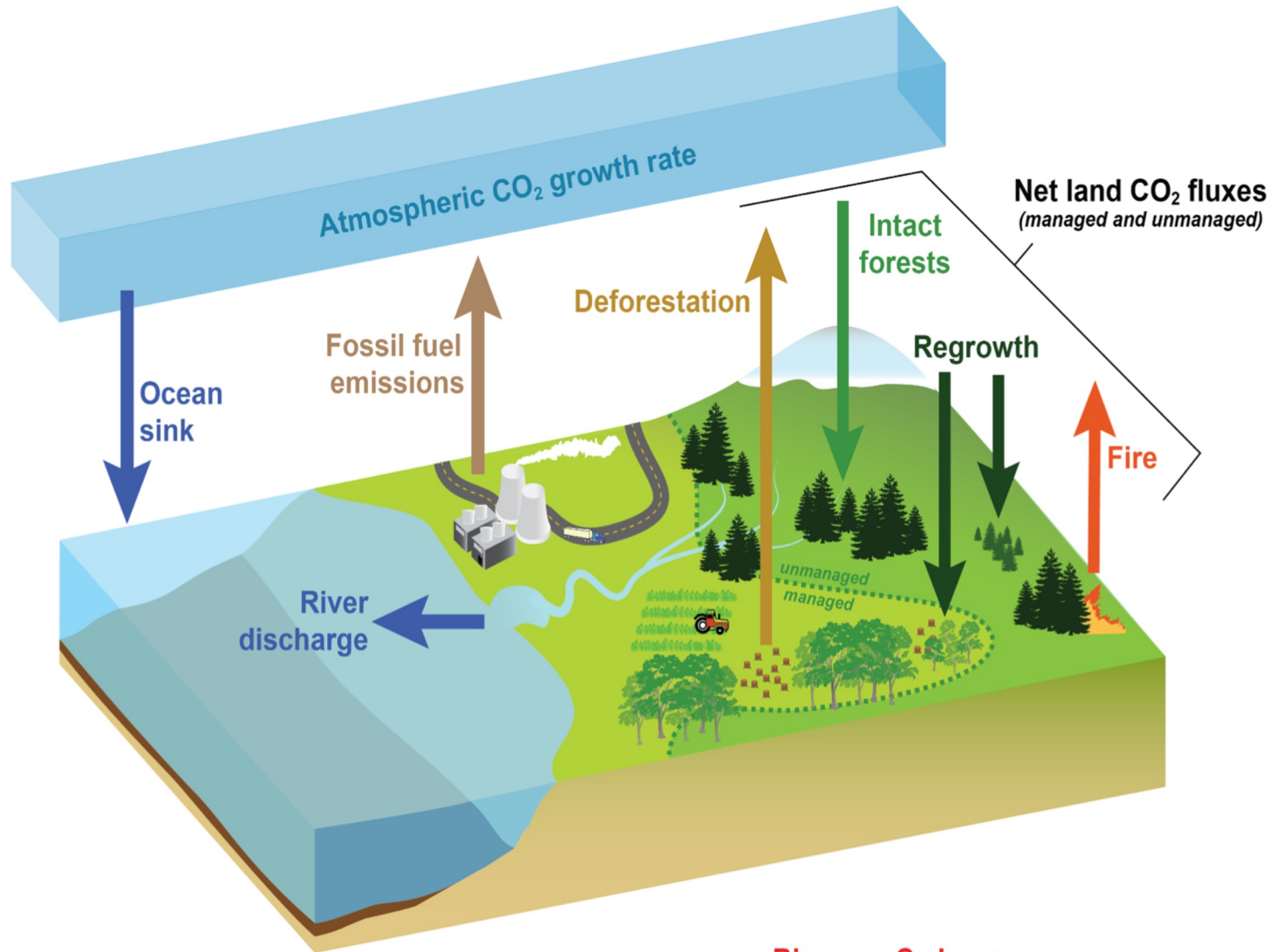
Zhu Liu\*, et al., *Scientific Data* 2020

Xinyu Dou,...Zhu Liu\*, *The Innovation* 2021

Xinyu Dou,...Zhu Liu\*, *Scientific Data* 2022

Biqing Zhu,...Zhu Liu\*, *Scientific Data* 2023

# Near Real time attribution of global / national CO2 budgets

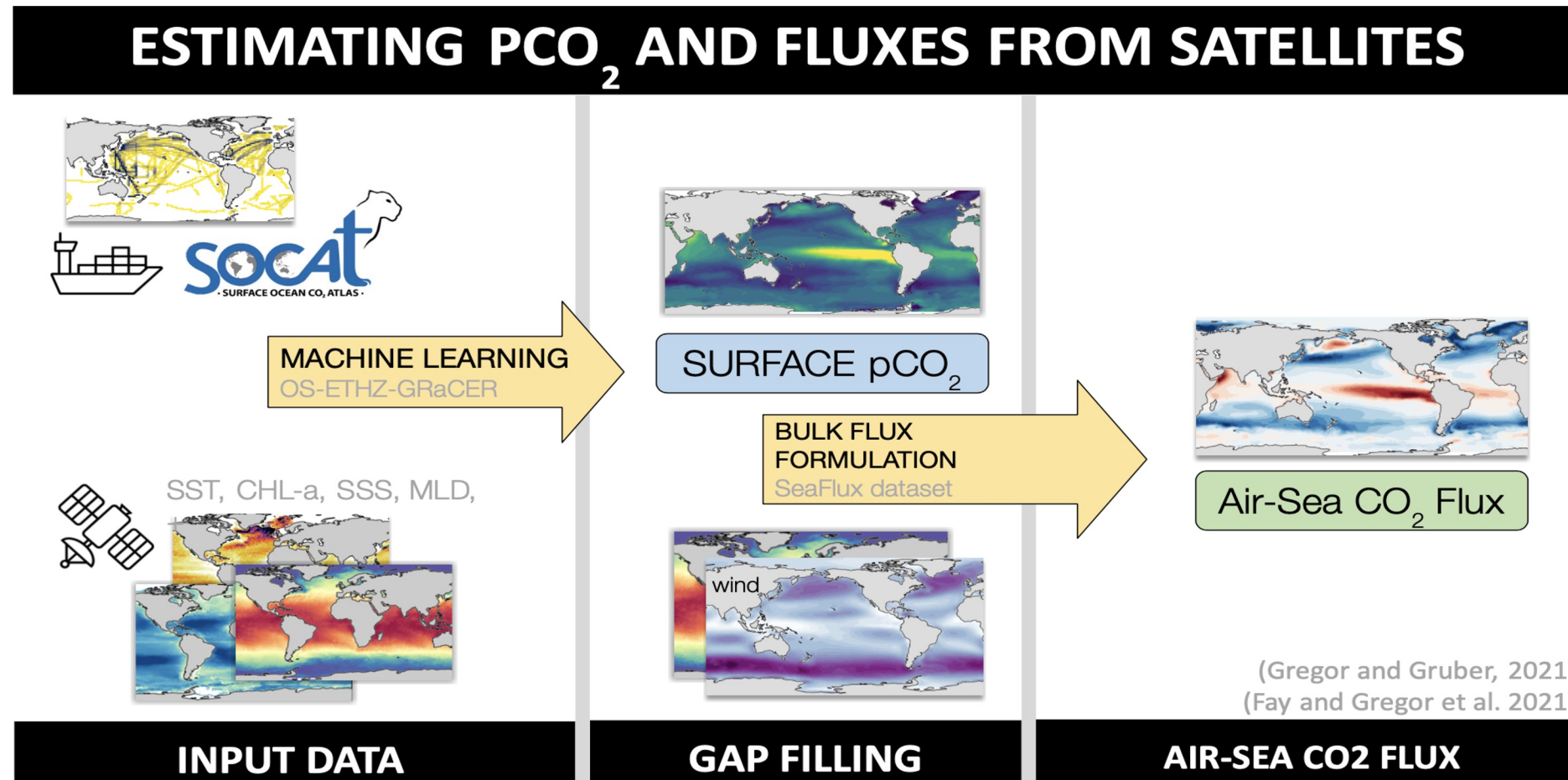


$$\text{Atmospheric inversions} - \text{Biomass C change (satellite data separated into processes)} = \text{Soil C change (mass balance)}$$

1. Inversions  
Land CO<sub>2</sub> flux
- ↓
1. **Correction of lateral fluxes**  
Land carbon stock change
- ↓
1. **NRT biomass C change**
- ↓
1. **Observable biomass C losses in NRT**  
Fire emissions  
Deforestation CO<sub>2</sub> emissions
- ↓
1. **Remaining CO<sub>2</sub> flux**  
Forest growth / regrowth sink  
Soil C storage change

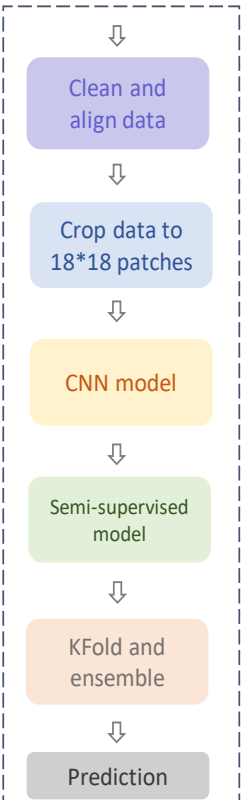
# Better prior for inversions : NRT air-sea CO<sub>2</sub> fluxes

Based on MI, surface in situ pCO<sub>2</sub> and satellite observations of the ocean surface SST, CHI, SSS, MLD

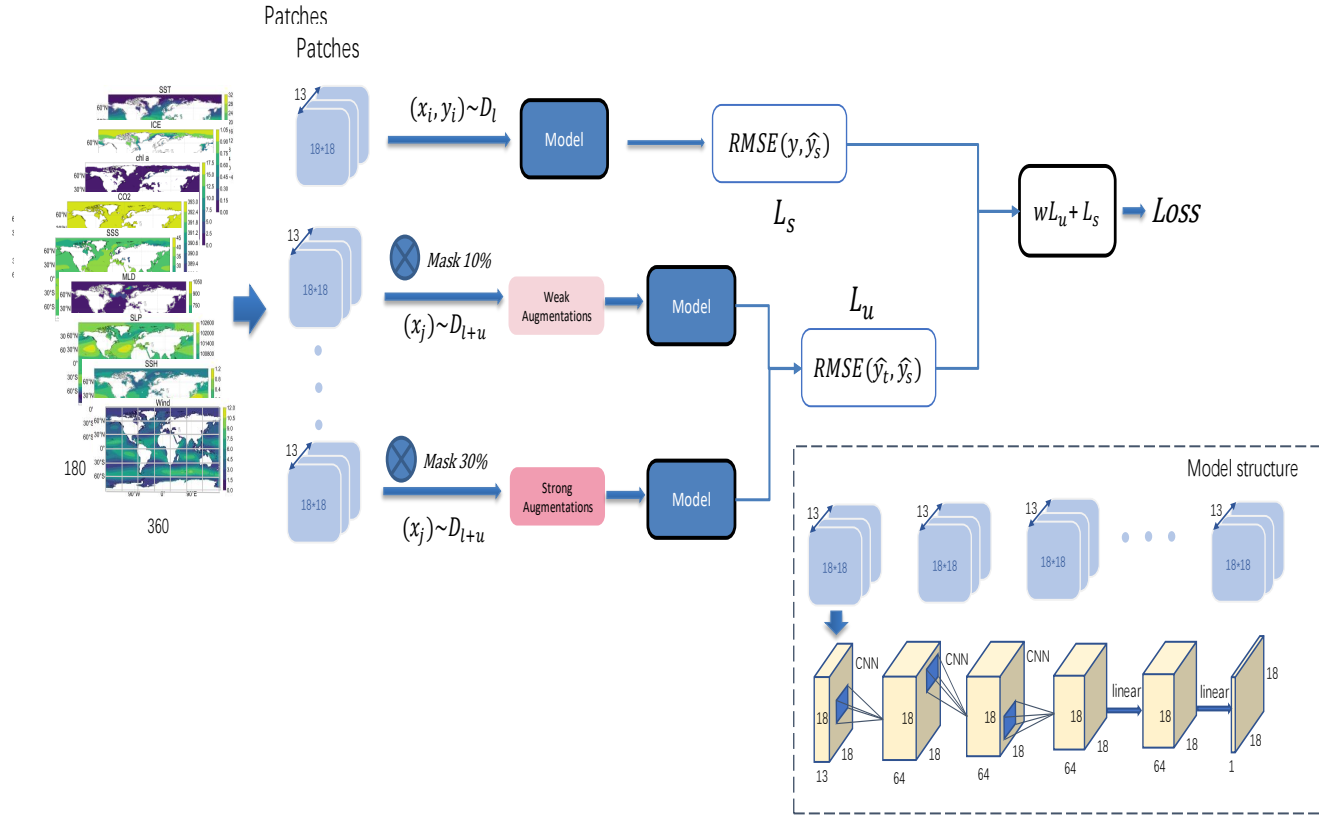
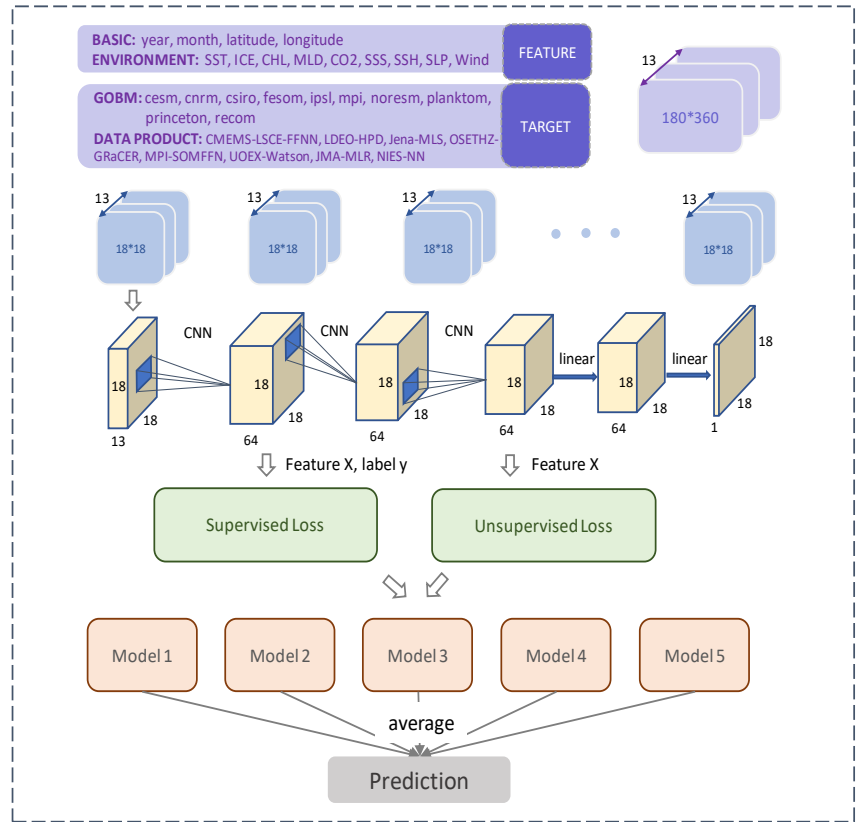


# DL emulators of ocean models ( process based and data driven )

## Methodological steps



## Setup details





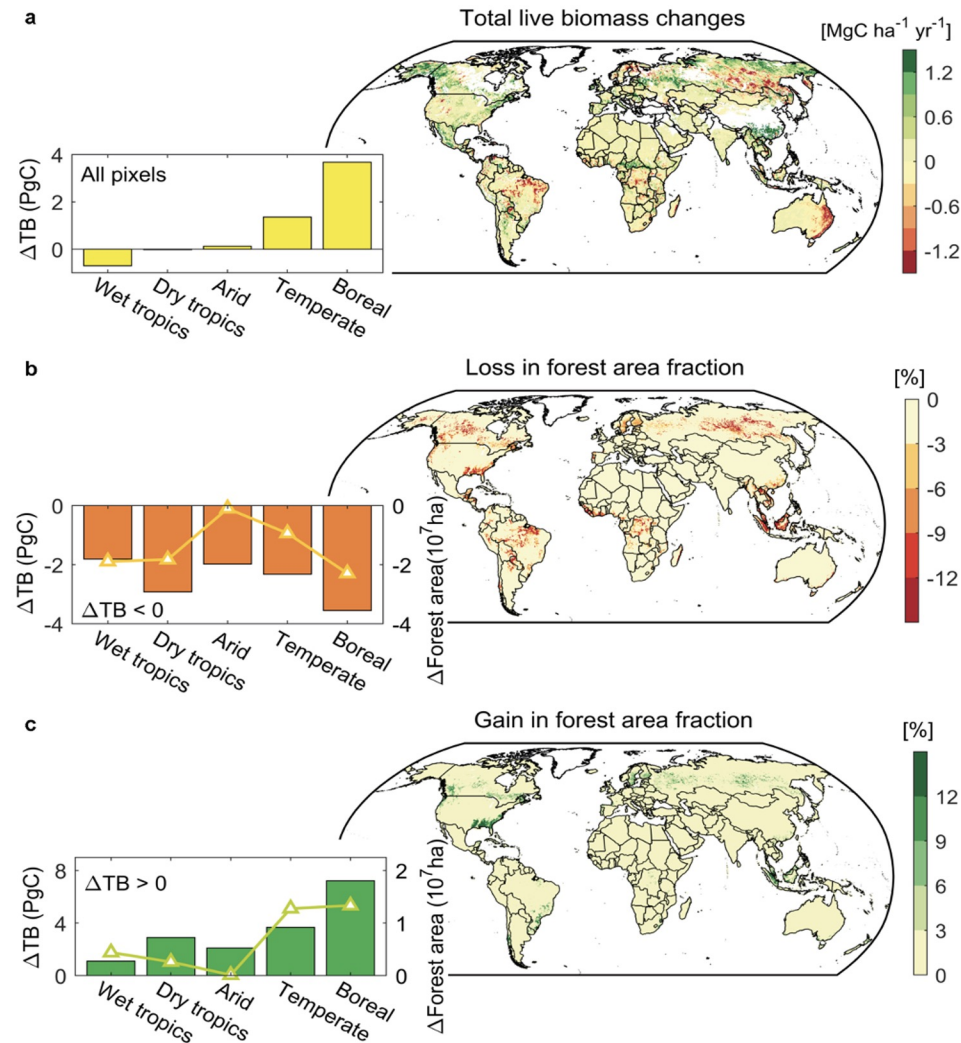






# Global NRT monitoring of biomass C changes with satellites

[www.kayrros.com/biomass-watch/](http://www.kayrros.com/biomass-watch/) SMOS and SMAP satellites



Global coverage  
20 km resolution

Updated each 4  
months

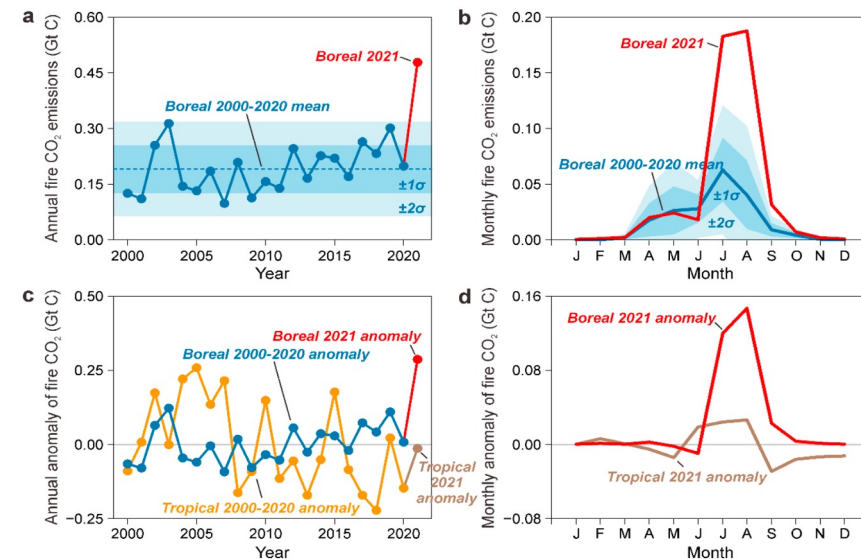
National data  
compared to UN  
inventories

# Observable losses : NRT monitoring of fire C emissions

Global emission of carbon monoxide with the PYVAR SACS assimilation system  
Applied to assess the emission anomaly in 2021 due to boreal and arctic fires

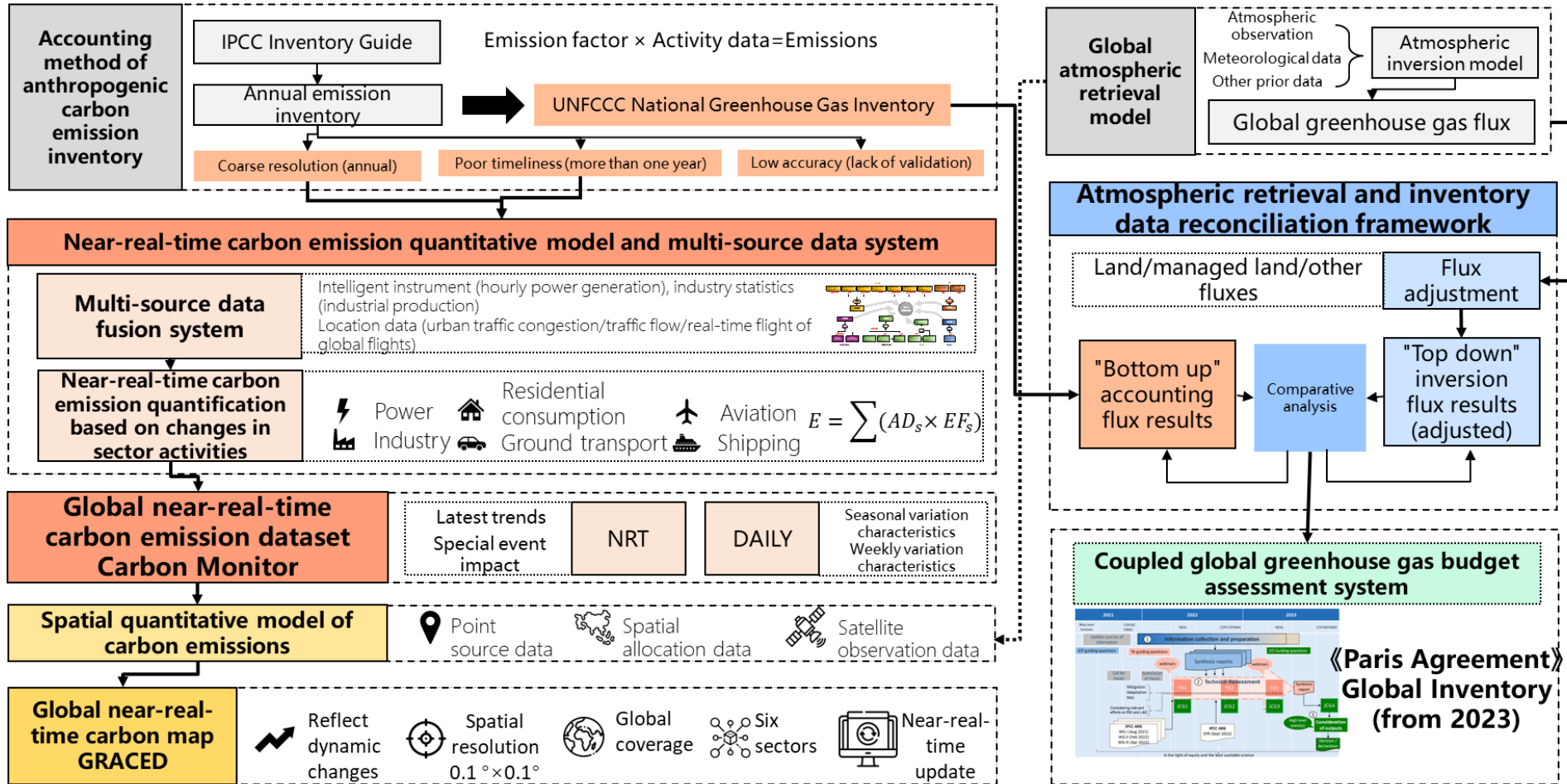


Publication in press in Science, 2023  
Zheng et al.

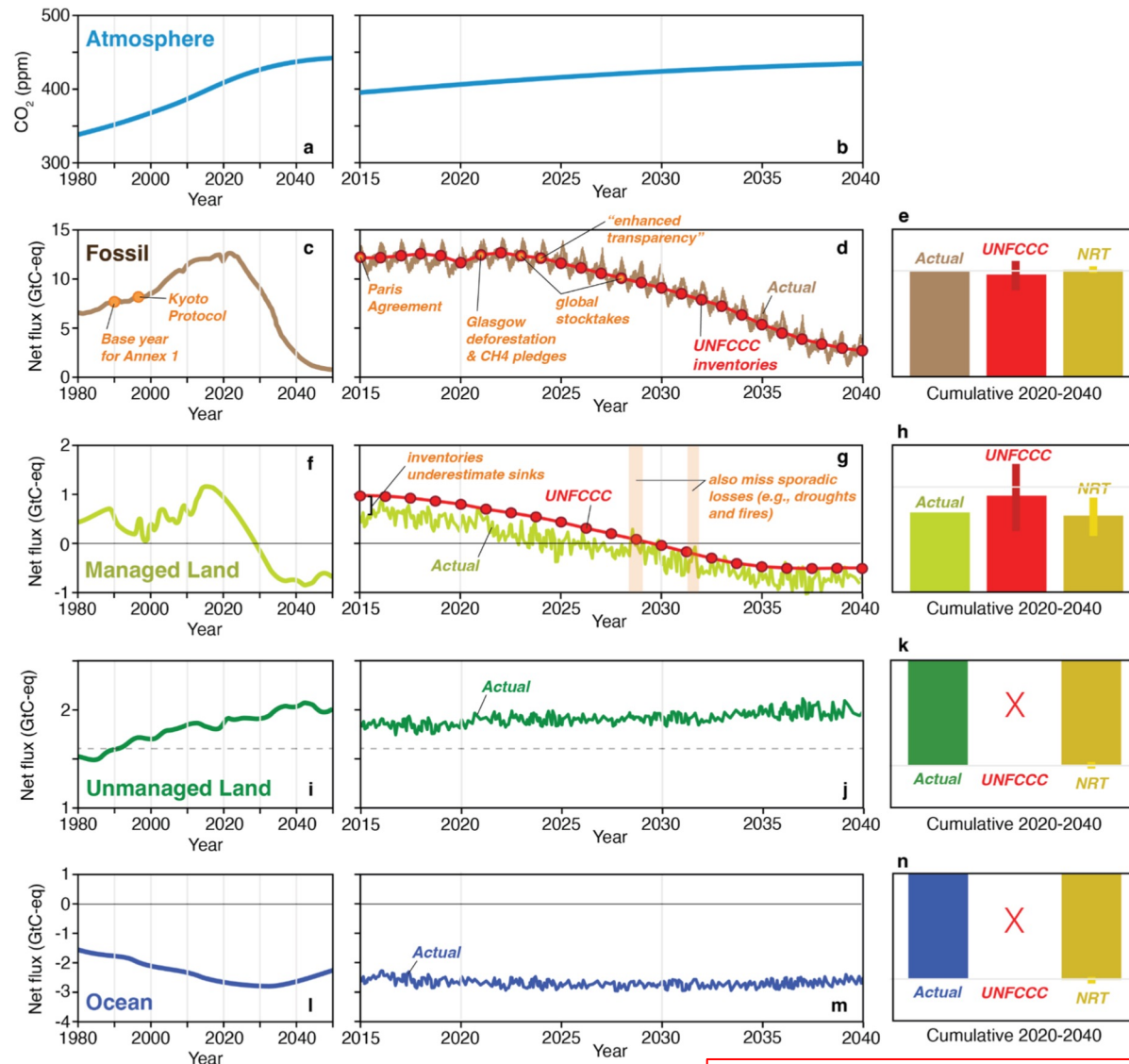


Top  
down

# NRT carbon accounting model



# Conclusion



Near real time global CH<sub>4</sub> and CO<sub>2</sub> budgets are now possible

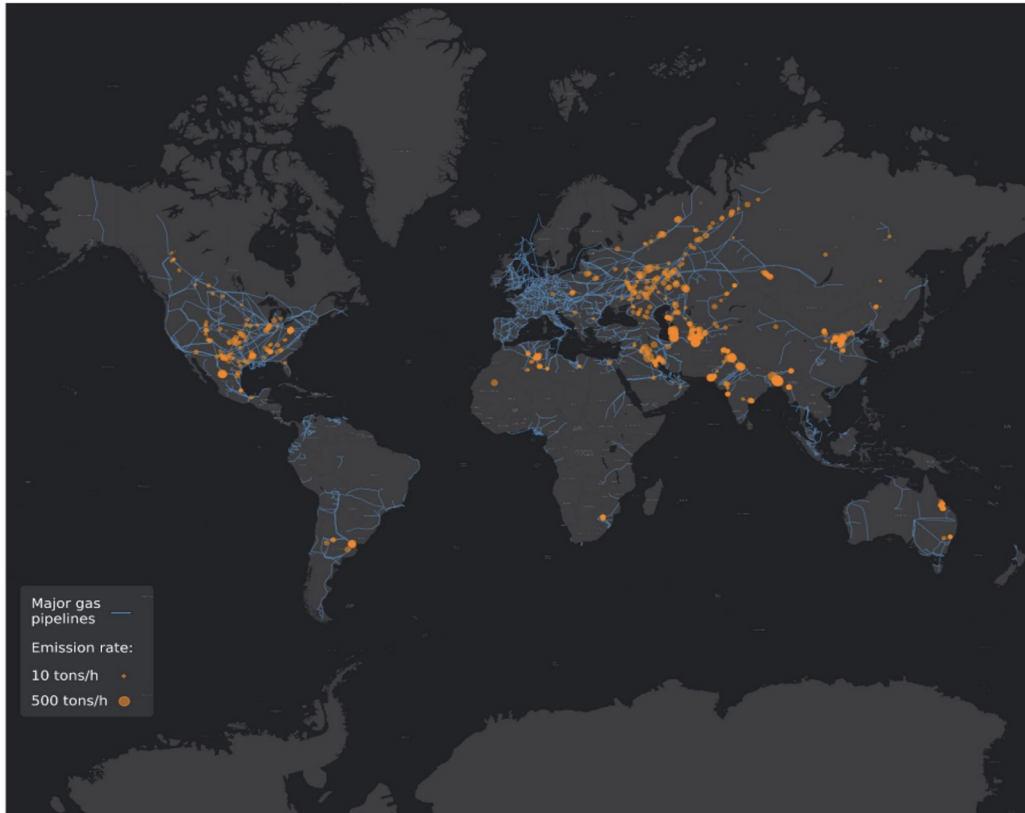
Coverage and separation of managed / unmanaged land

Understand extreme events and evaluate emerging carbon feedbacks

Impacts of extreme weather events and economic shocks on fossil CO<sub>2</sub> and CH<sub>4</sub> emissions



# Sentinel-5P near-real time monitoring of CH<sub>4</sub> emissions for ultra-emitters



## Global coverage

Ultra emitters > 20 tCH<sub>4</sub> per hour with TROPOMI

Represents 5 to 80% of national emissions from inventories

Lower detection of leaks > 5 tCH<sub>4</sub> per hour using PRSMA, Sentinel-2, Gaofeng ...

### RESEARCH

#### GREENHOUSE GASES

## Global assessment of oil and gas methane ultra-emitters

T. Lauvaux<sup>1\*</sup>, C. Giron<sup>2</sup>, M. Mazzolini<sup>2</sup>, A. d'Aspremont<sup>2,3</sup>, R. Duren<sup>4,5</sup>, D. Cusworth<sup>6</sup>, D. Shindell<sup>7,8,9</sup>, P. Ciais<sup>1,10</sup>

Methane emissions from oil and gas (O&G) production and transmission represent a considerable contribution to climate change. These emissions comprise sporadic releases of large amounts of methane during maintenance operations or equipment failures not accounted for in current inventory estimates. We collected and analyzed hundreds of very large releases from atmospheric methane images sampled by the TROPOspheric Monitoring Instrument (TROPOMI) between 2019 and 2020. Ultra-emitters are primarily detected over the largest O&G basins throughout the world. With a total contribution equivalent to 8 to 12% (~8 million metric tons of methane per year) of the global O&G production methane emissions, mitigation of ultra-emitters is largely achievable at low costs and would lead to robust net benefits in billions of US dollars for the six major O&G-producing countries when considering societal costs of methane.



# Near real time estimates of fossil CH<sub>4</sub> regional emissions for major extraction basins ( represents ≈ 35% of fossil CH<sub>4</sub> emissions )

Tropomi + high resolution atm inverse models

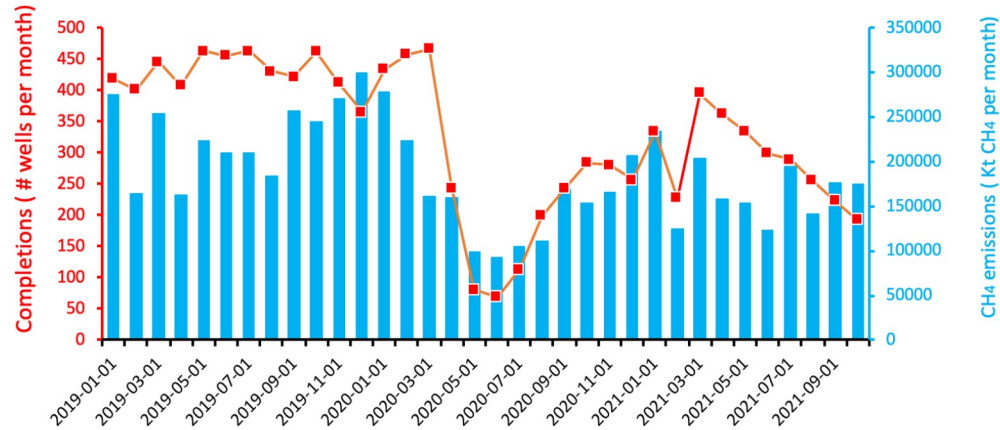
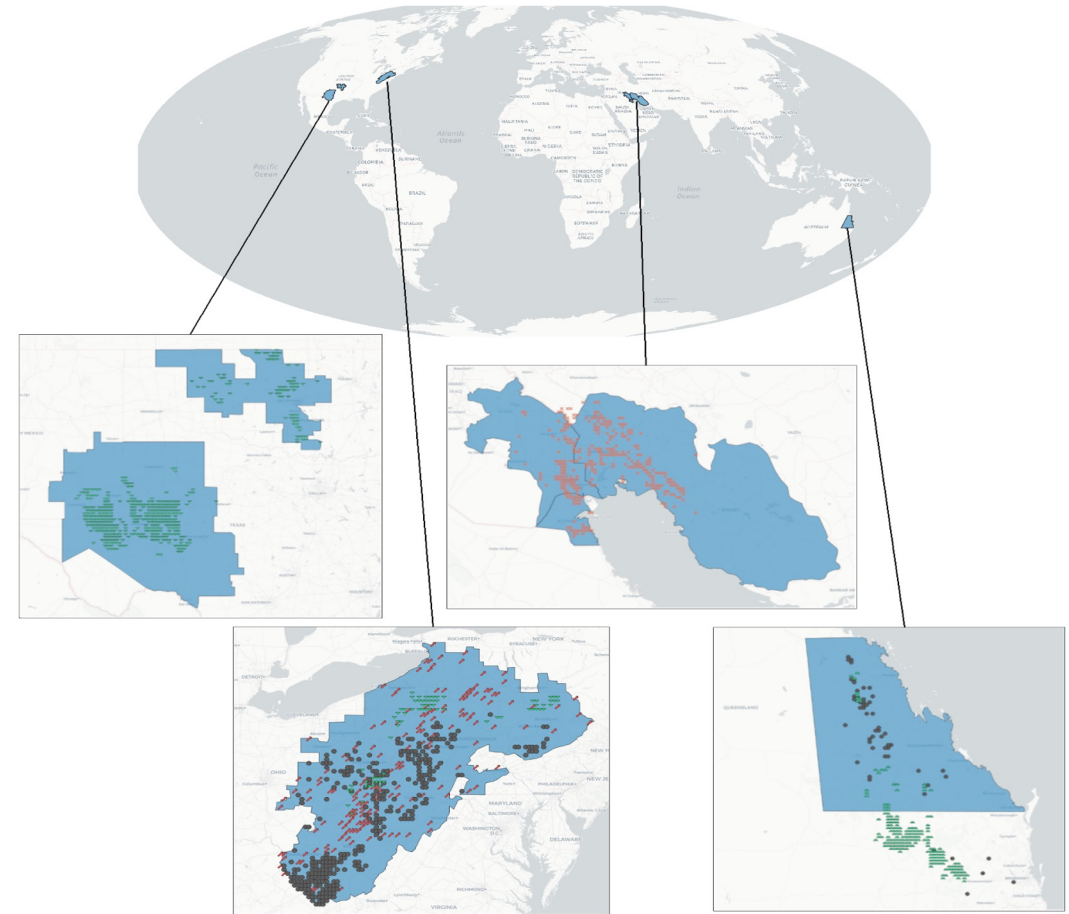


Figure 2. Emissions of CH<sub>4</sub> (blue) from the Permian shale oil and gas basin in the US and well completion rates (red).

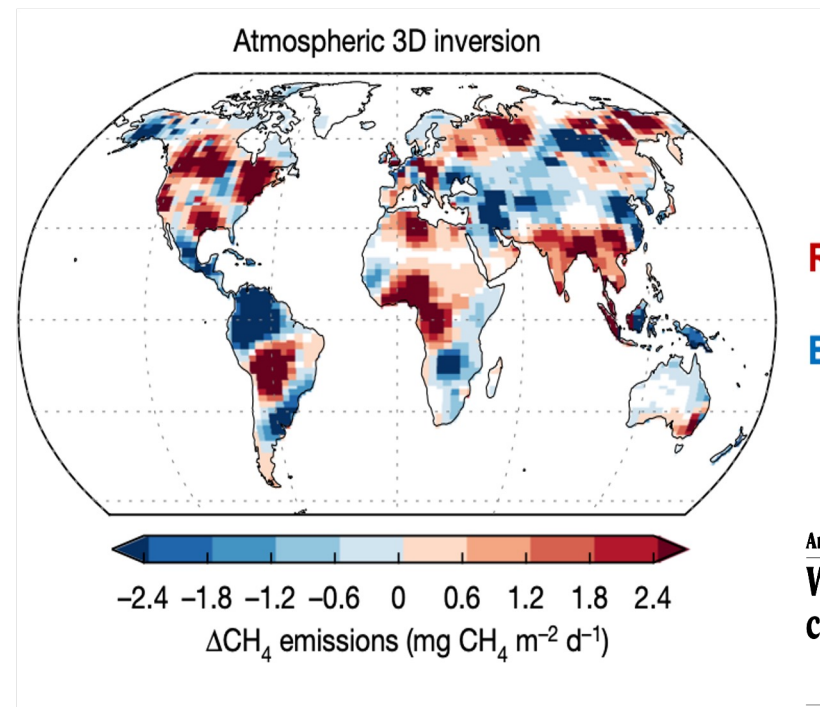
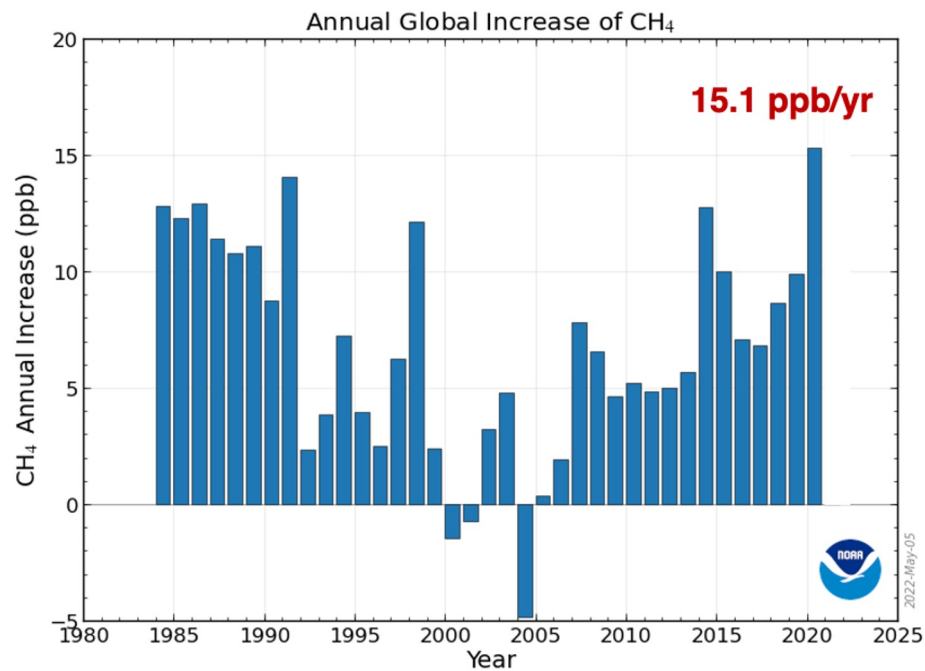
Coverage : seven major oil, gas, coal basins representing 25% of global fossil CH<sub>4</sub> emissions





# Global methane emissions anomaly in 2020 and 2021

Global emissions of methane with the LMDZ INCA PYVAR data assimilation system  
Applied to understand the acceleration of atmospheric methane growth in 2020 and 2021



Article

**Wetland emission and atmospheric sink changes explain methane growth in 2020**

Thank you for your attention

# Transitioning from research to operational (atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> inversions)

- Copernicus leading the way (as demonstrated in previous slides)
- OCO-2 MIP benefits from global participation across countries adds modeling teams from seven countries: Australia, Canada, China, France, Japan, India, USA .
  - a. Not operational, can we move towards annual updates
- Increasing contribution of inverse modelling groups to both OCO MIP and GCP (CAMS, CMS-Flux, CarbonTracker, etc)

From Pep:

During the discussion, I think it is important to also discuss what it all means for the current budget activities:

- What would be the distinctive niche and contributions between current global budget activities and the operational and NRT budgets.
- If distinct, how the products and work can help each other, or are we seeing more of an evolution that ultimate one should replace the other.
- How can a broad GCP support the scientific community to align better with the products that stakeholders need, both policy and science.