



A Gridded Version of the EPA Greenhouse Gas Inventory

With: D.J. Jacob¹, M.P. Sulprizio¹, A.J. Turner¹, M. Weitz², T. Wirth², C. Hight²,
M. DeFigueiredo², M. Desai², R. Schmeltz², L. Hockstad², A.A. Bloom³,
K. Bowman³, S. Jeong⁴, and M. Fischer⁴

J.D. Maasackers

(1) Harvard University

(2) U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Climate Change Division

(3) Jet Propulsion Laboratory/California Institute of Technology

(4) Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory

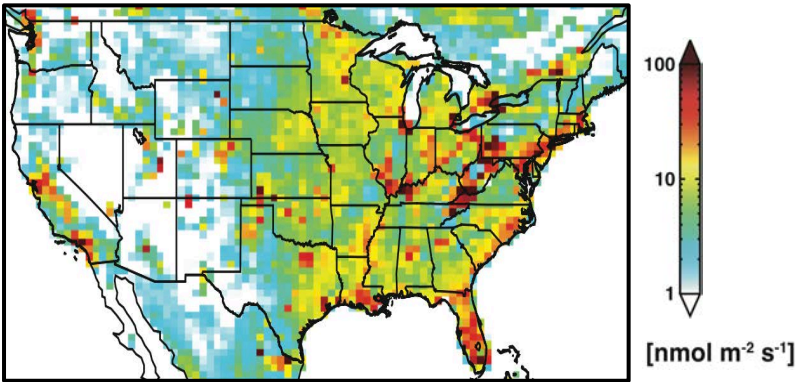
2012 US EPA anthropogenic methane emissions



Available only as national totals

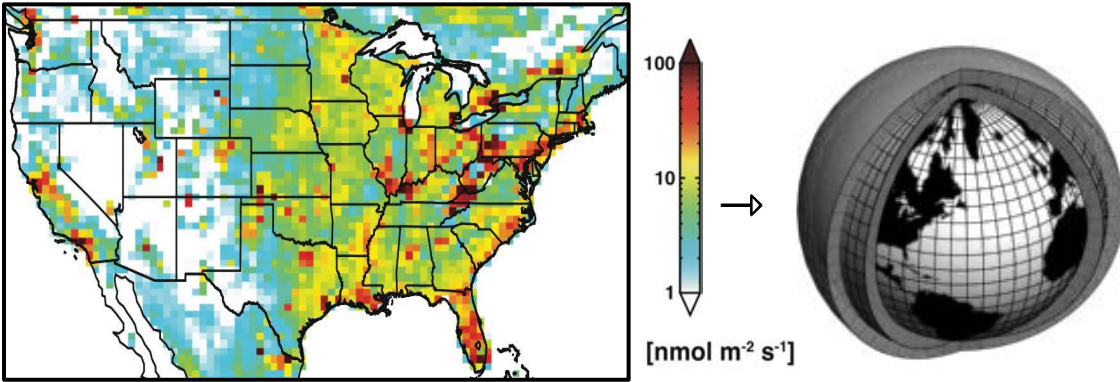
We can estimate emissions based on concentrations

Process based emissions



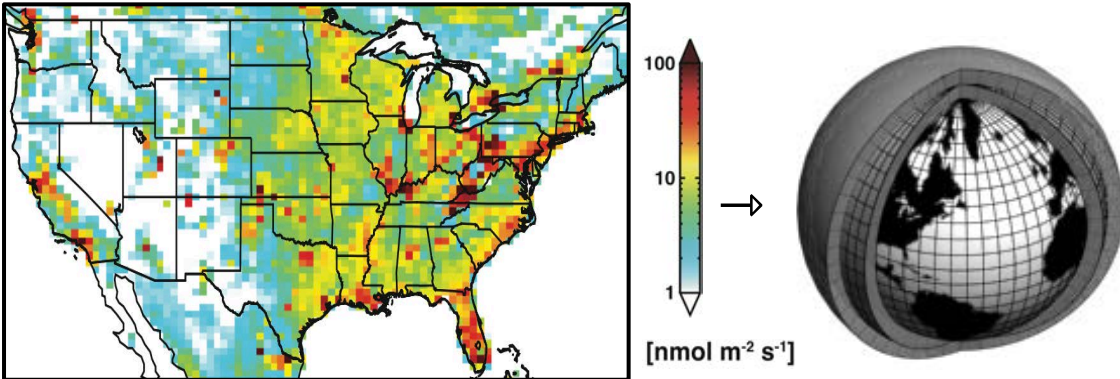
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Process based emissions

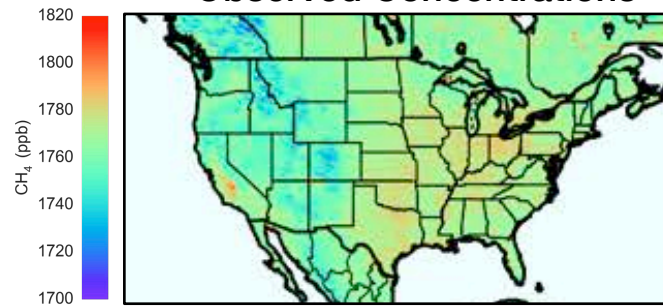


We can estimate emissions based on concentrations

Process based emissions

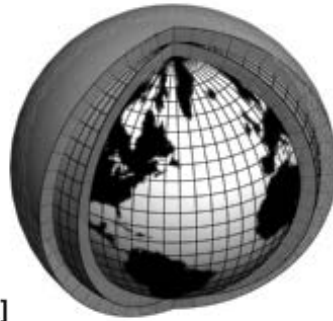
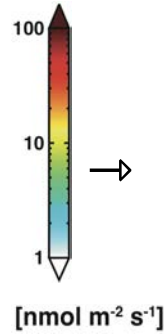
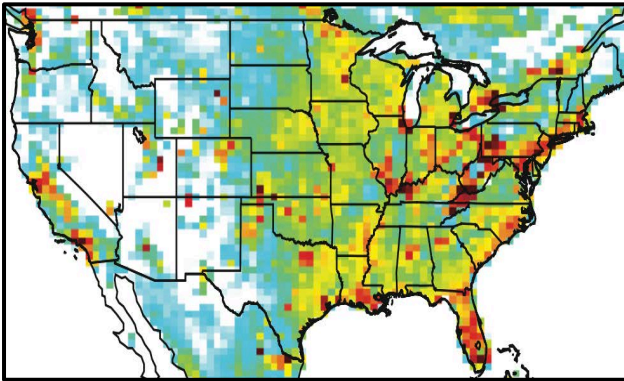


Observed Concentrations

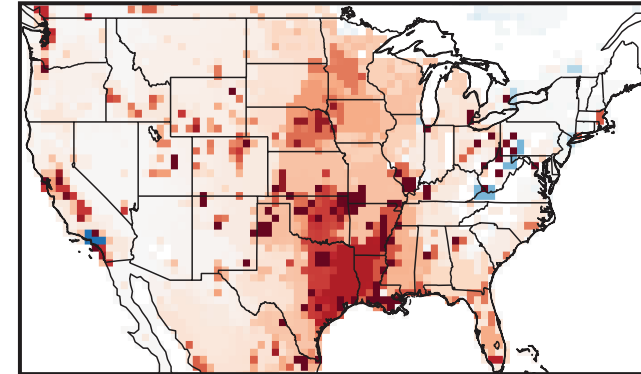


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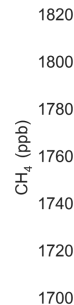
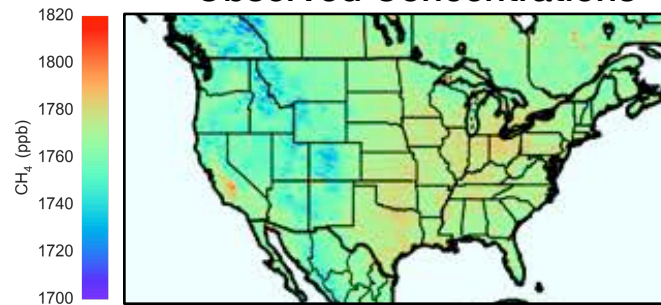
Process based emissions



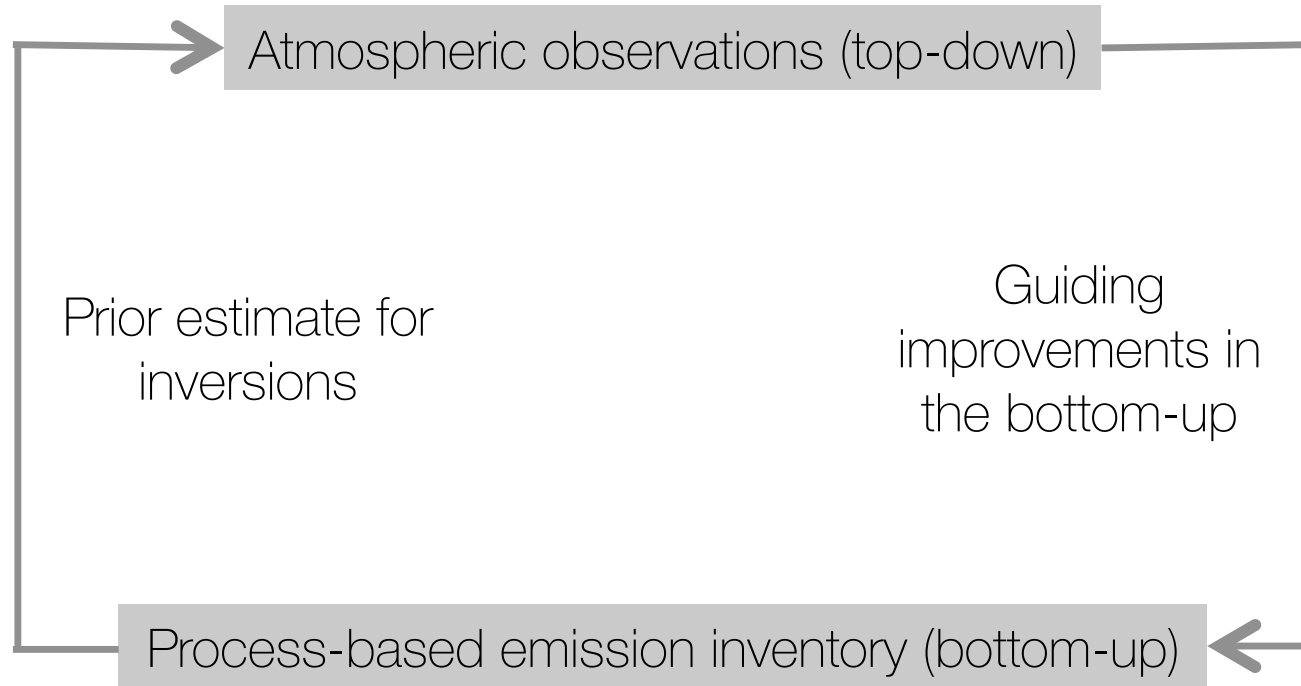
Emission scaling factors



Observed Concentrations



The ultimate goal of inverse analyses is to improve bottom-up inventories



An evaluable gridded EPA inventory for 2012

Region-specific EPA emission factors

Spatial allocation on $0.1^\circ \times 0.1^\circ$ grid using national & high resolution datasets with facility-level information from the Greenhouse Gas Reporting Program

22 layers of data for emissions from different processes

Monthly time resolution

Scale-dependent error characterization

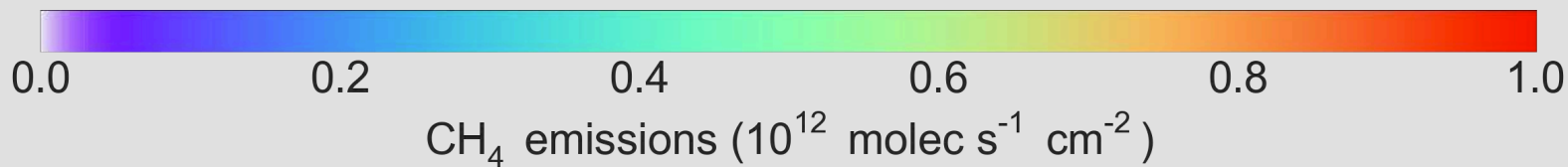
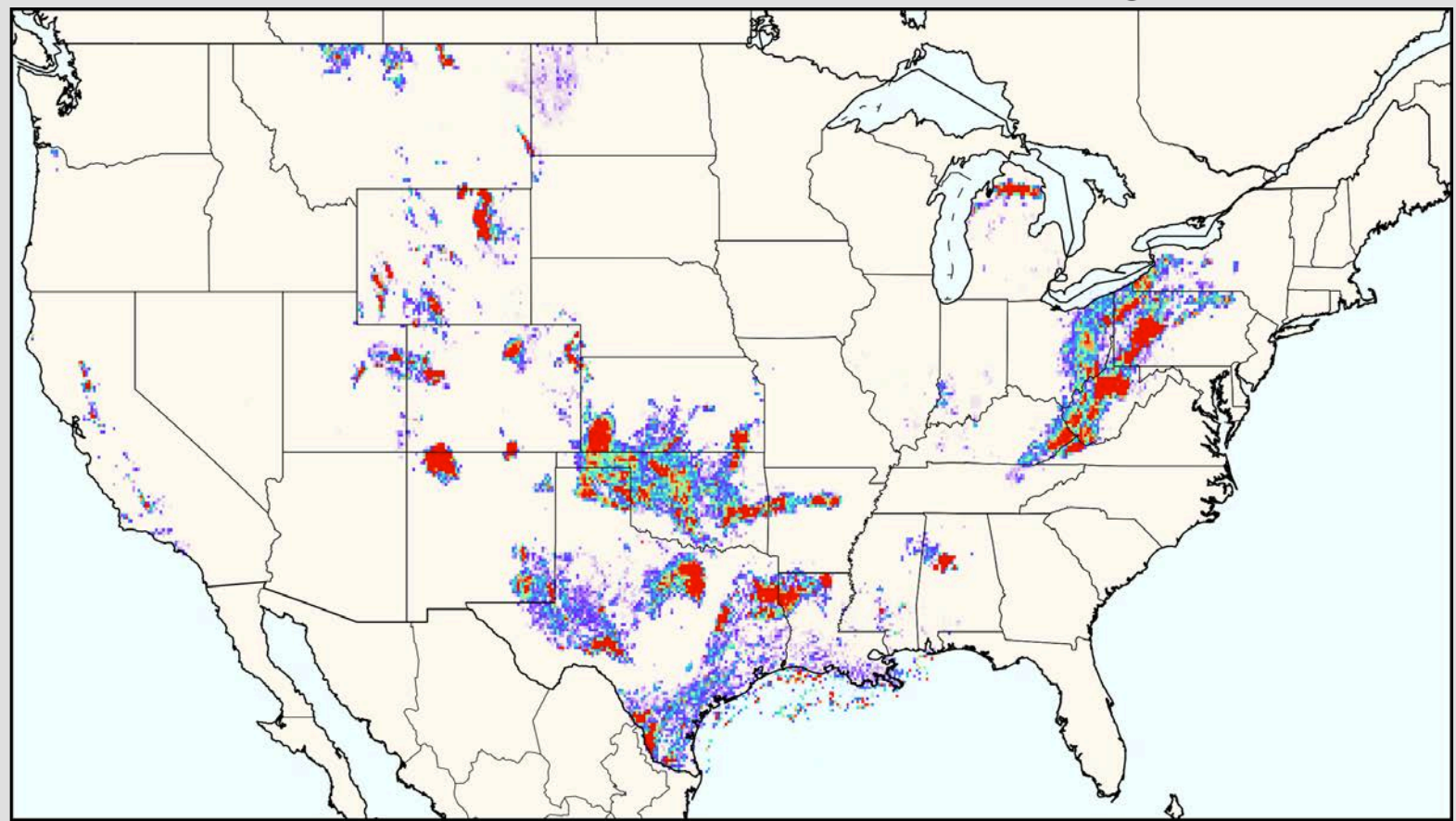
An aerial photograph of a large industrial natural gas processing plant situated in a dry, hilly desert landscape. The plant features numerous tall distillation columns, storage tanks, and a complex network of pipes. Several large white cylindrical storage tanks are visible on a small hill to the right of the main processing area. The surrounding terrain is arid with sparse vegetation and some utility infrastructure like power lines.

4.4 Tg Production
0.9 Tg Processing
1.1 Tg Transmission
0.5 Tg Distribution

Allocating Natural Gas Emissions

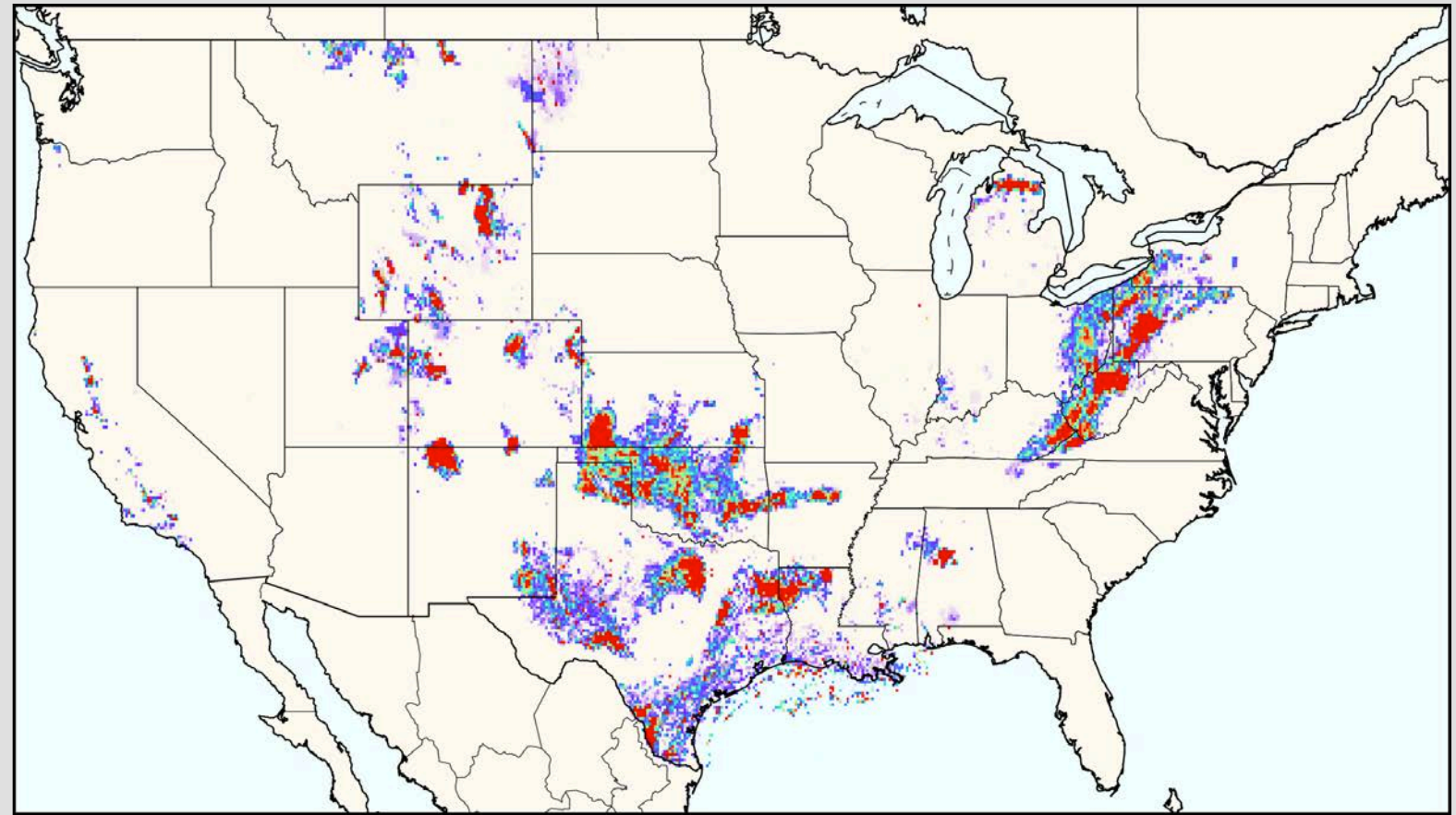
The allocation accounts or nonconventional wells and well completions

Emissions from Natural Gas Production - 4.4 Tg



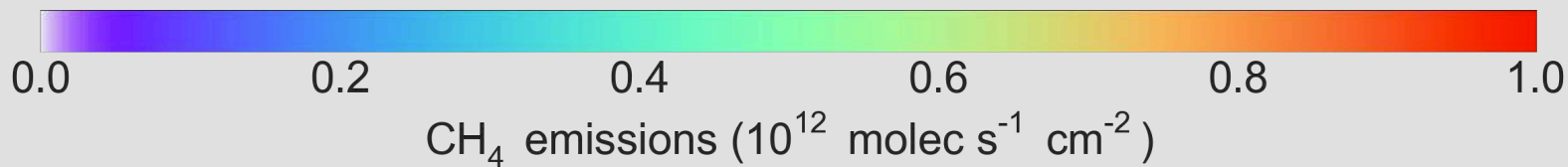
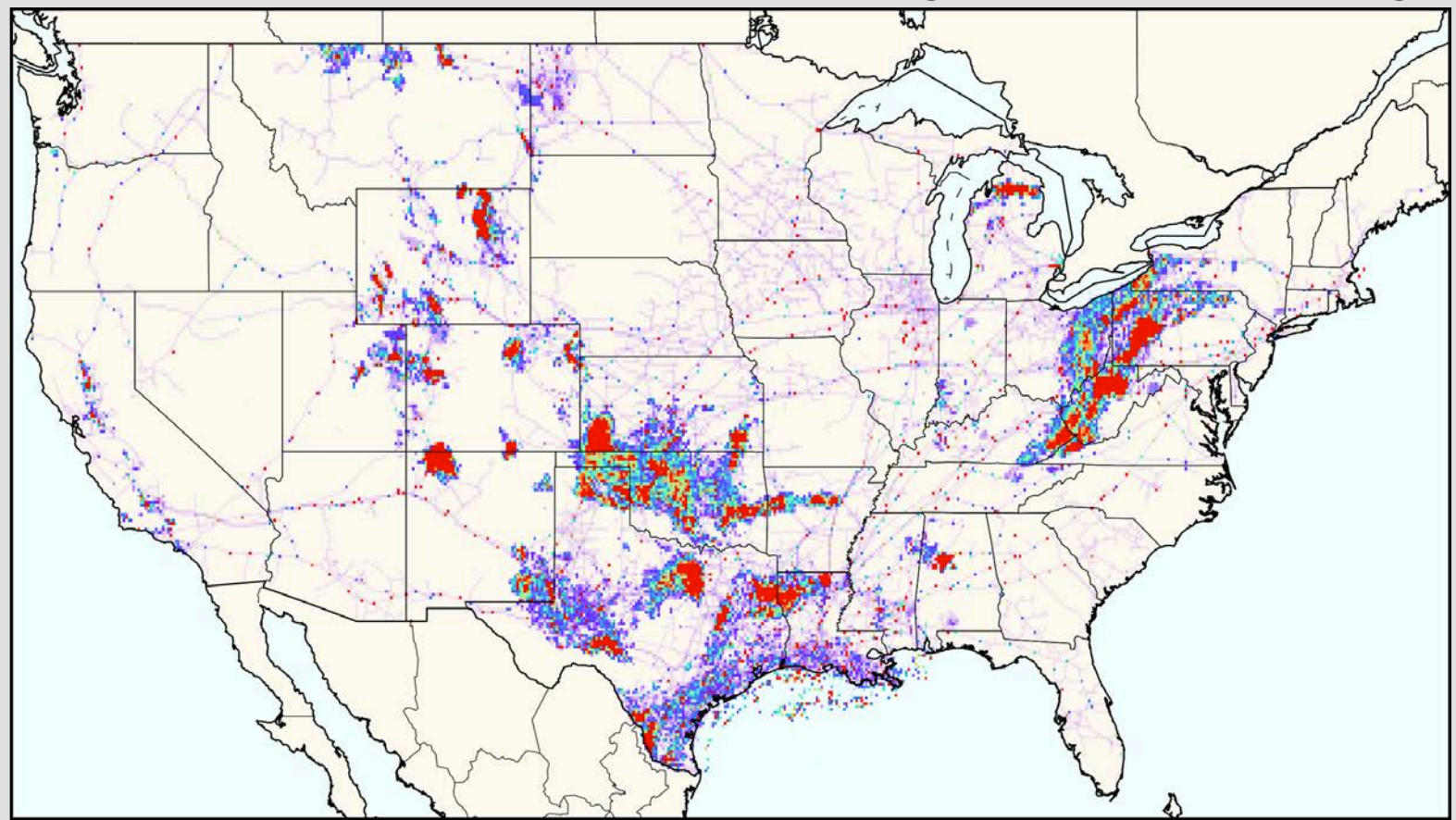
Processing emissions are only allocated to processing plants

Emissions from Natural Gas Production and Processing - 5.2 Tg



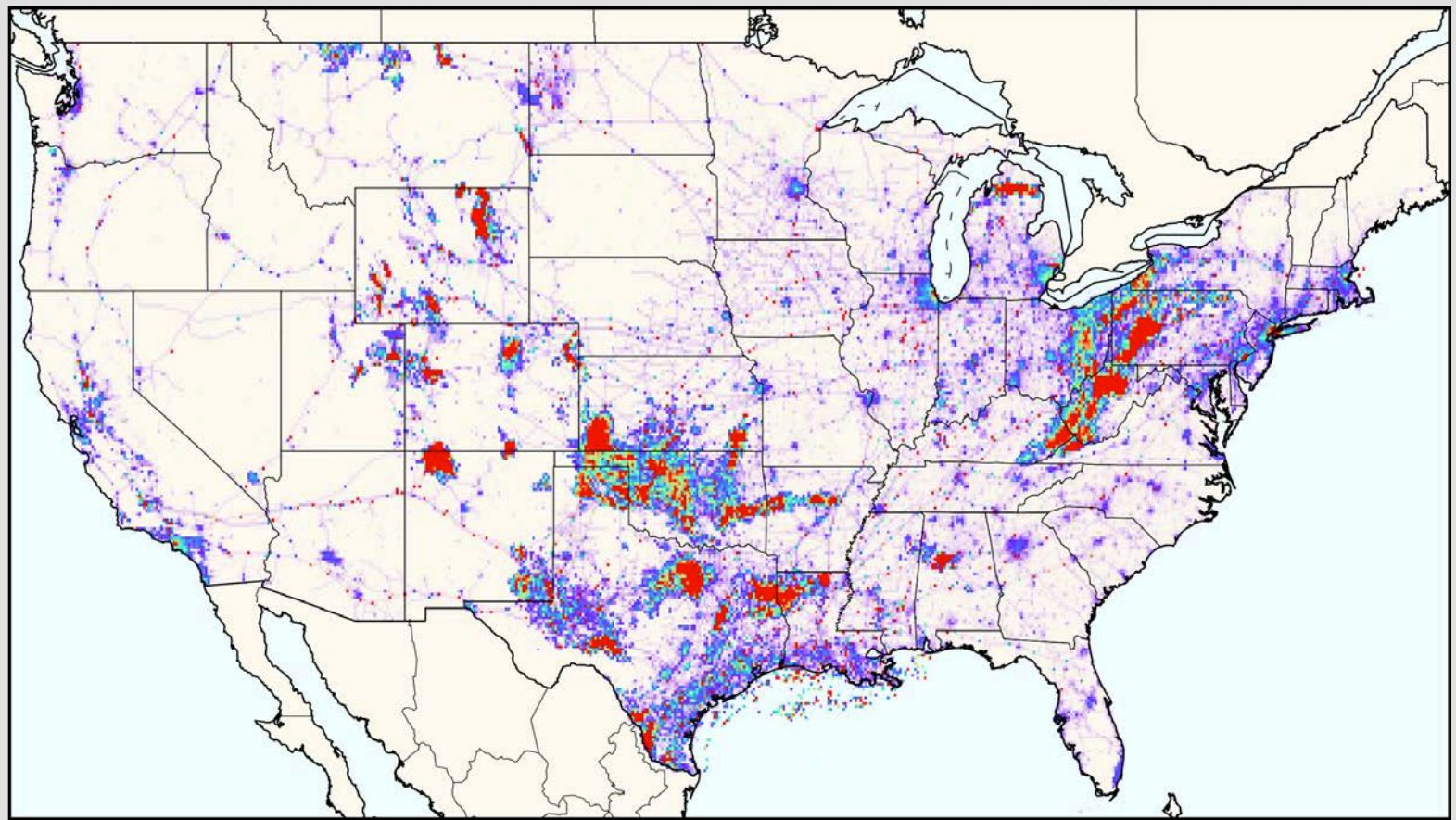
Transmission emissions are related to a large set of activity data

Emissions from Natural Gas Production, Processing, and Transmission - 6.4 Tg



Distribution emissions take into account local differences in infrastructure

Emissions from Natural Gas Systems - 6.8 Tg

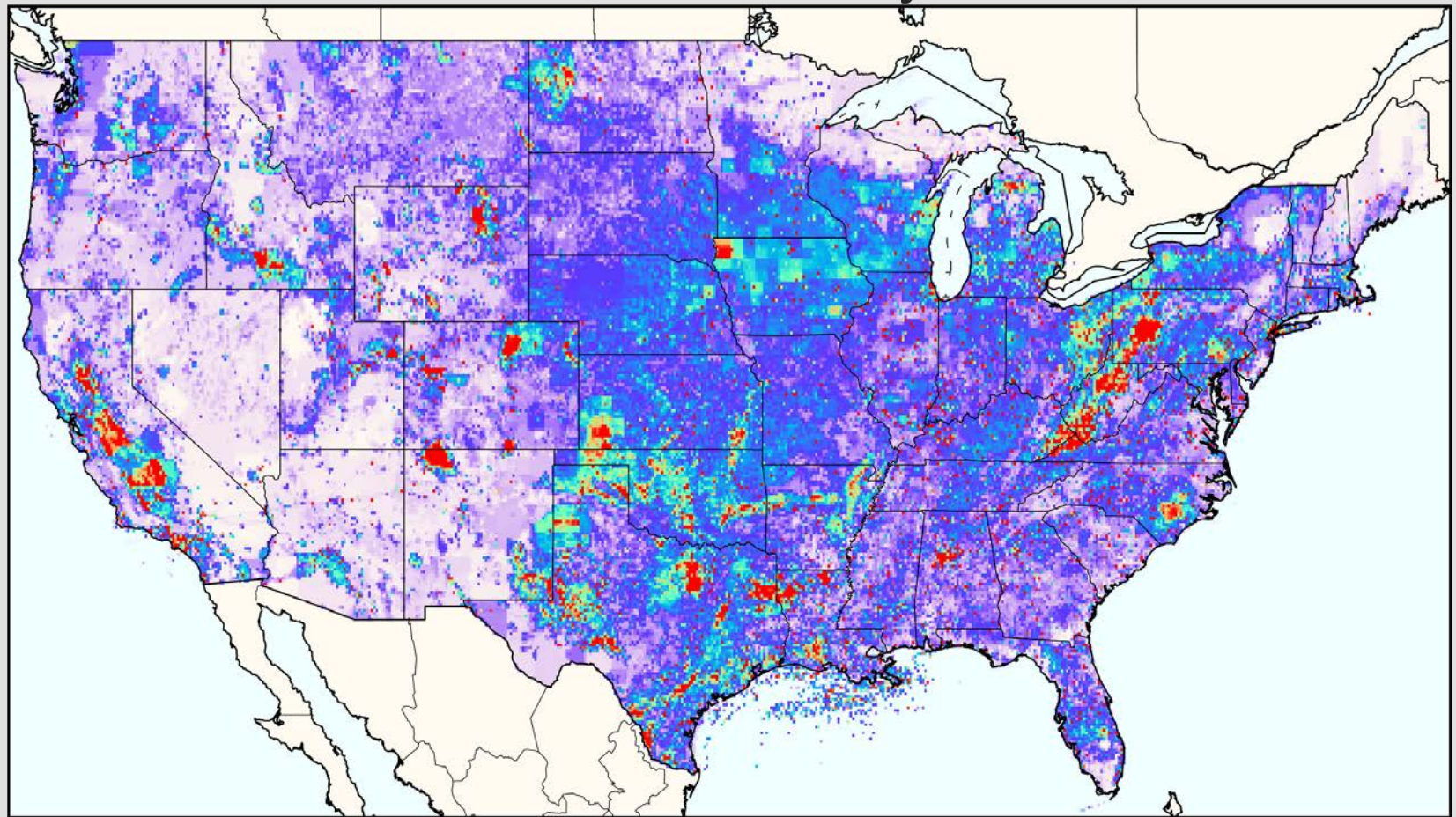


0.0 0.2 0.4 0.6 0.8 1.0
 CH_4 emissions ($10^{12} \text{ molec s}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-2}$)



Total emissions

Gridded EPA anthropogenic methane emissions for 2012



0

4

8

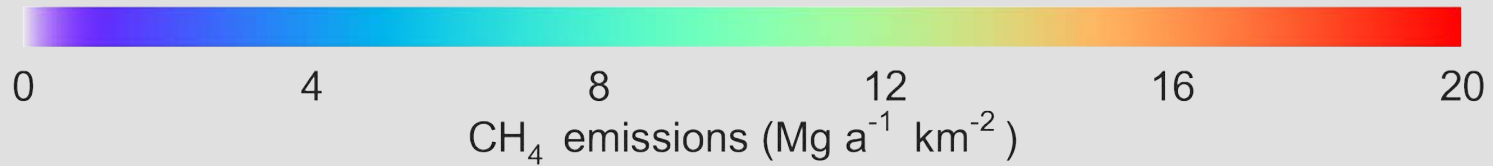
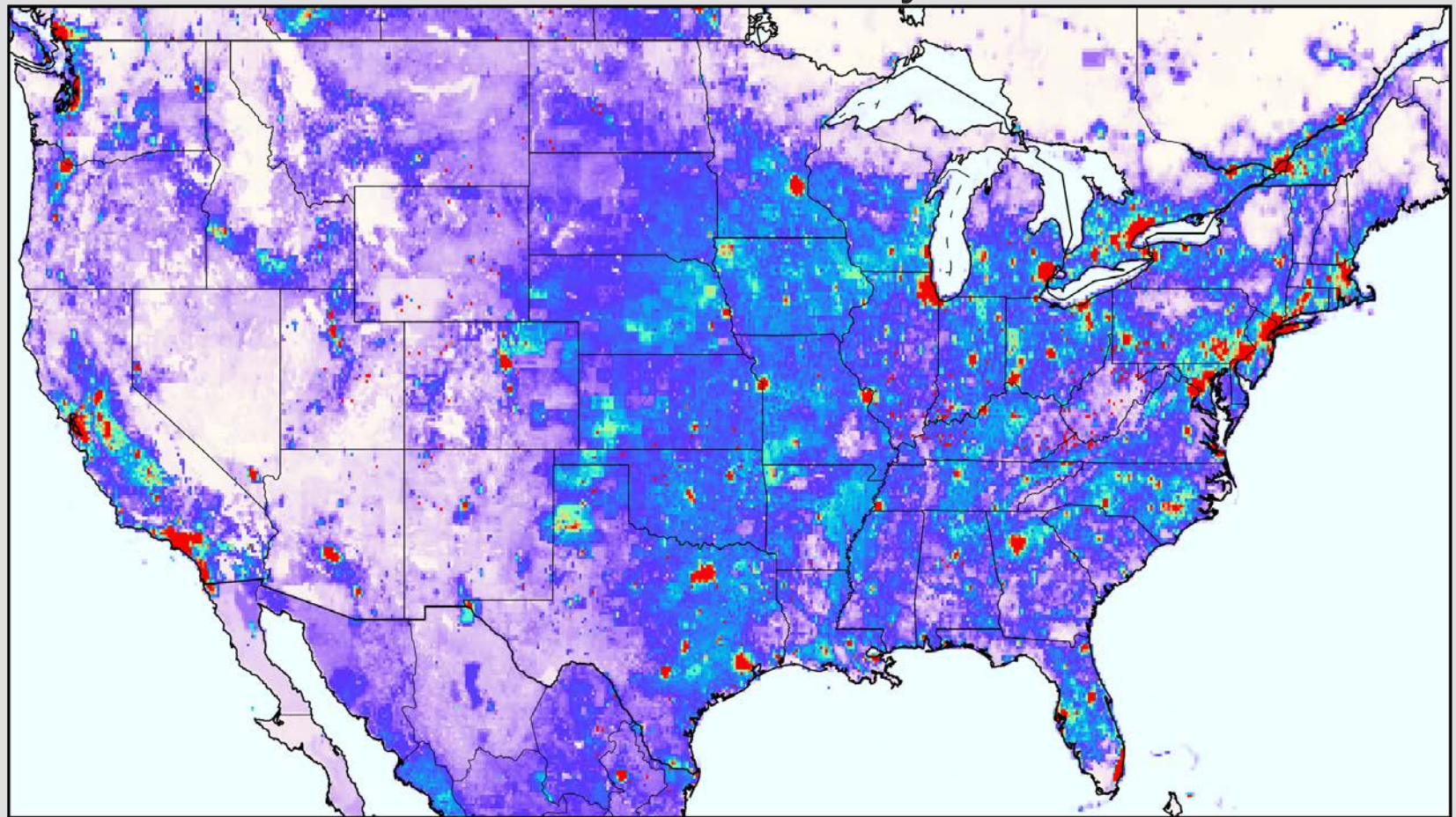
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16

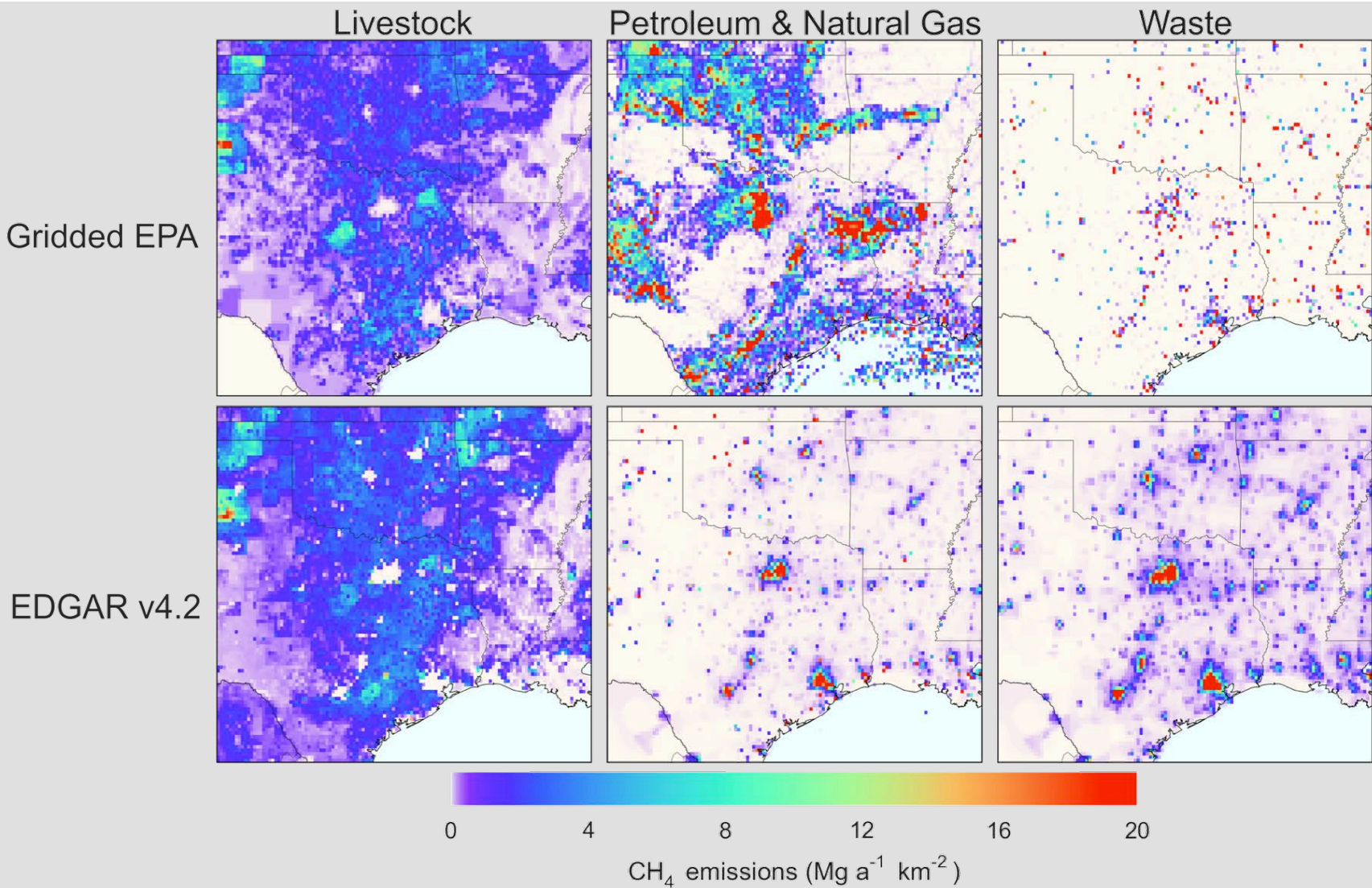
20

CH₄ emissions (Mg a⁻¹ km⁻²)

EDGAR v4.2 anthropogenic methane emissions for 2008

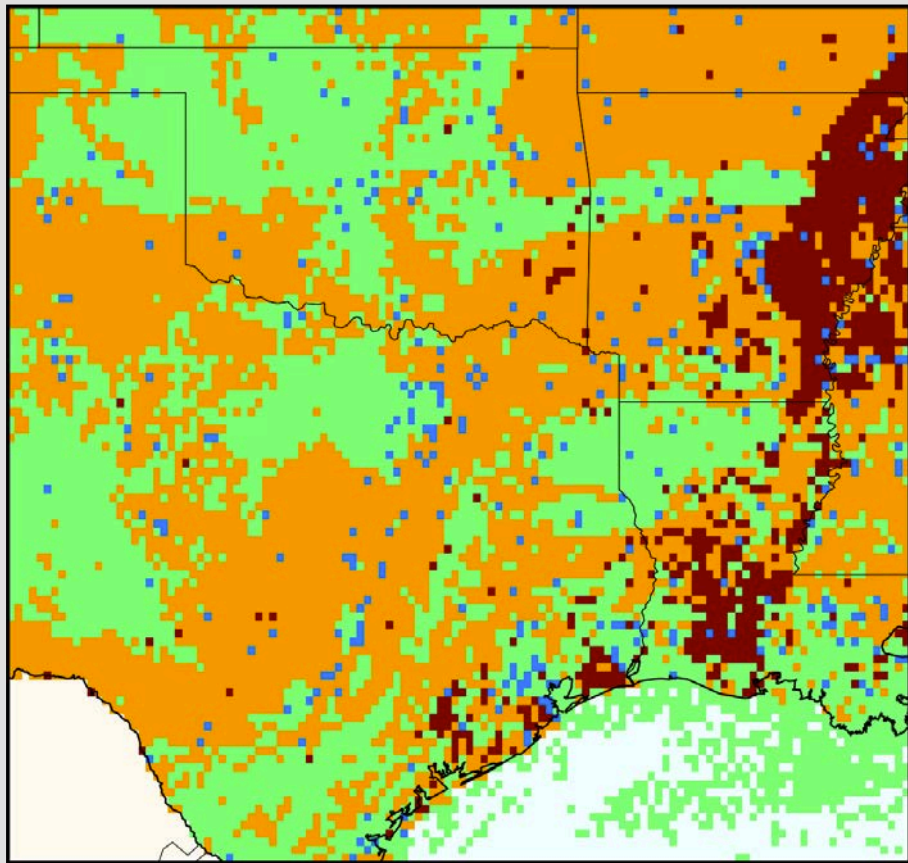


Differences in spatial allocation will impact inversion results



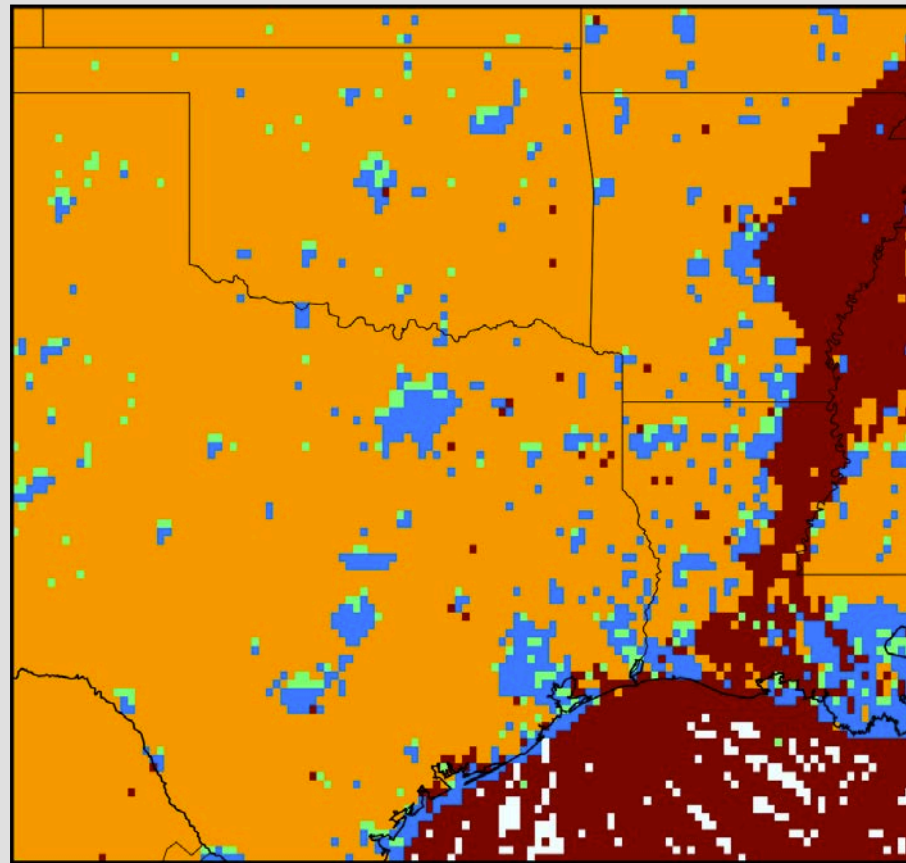
Differences in spatial allocation will impact inversion results

EPA - Dominating Emission Source



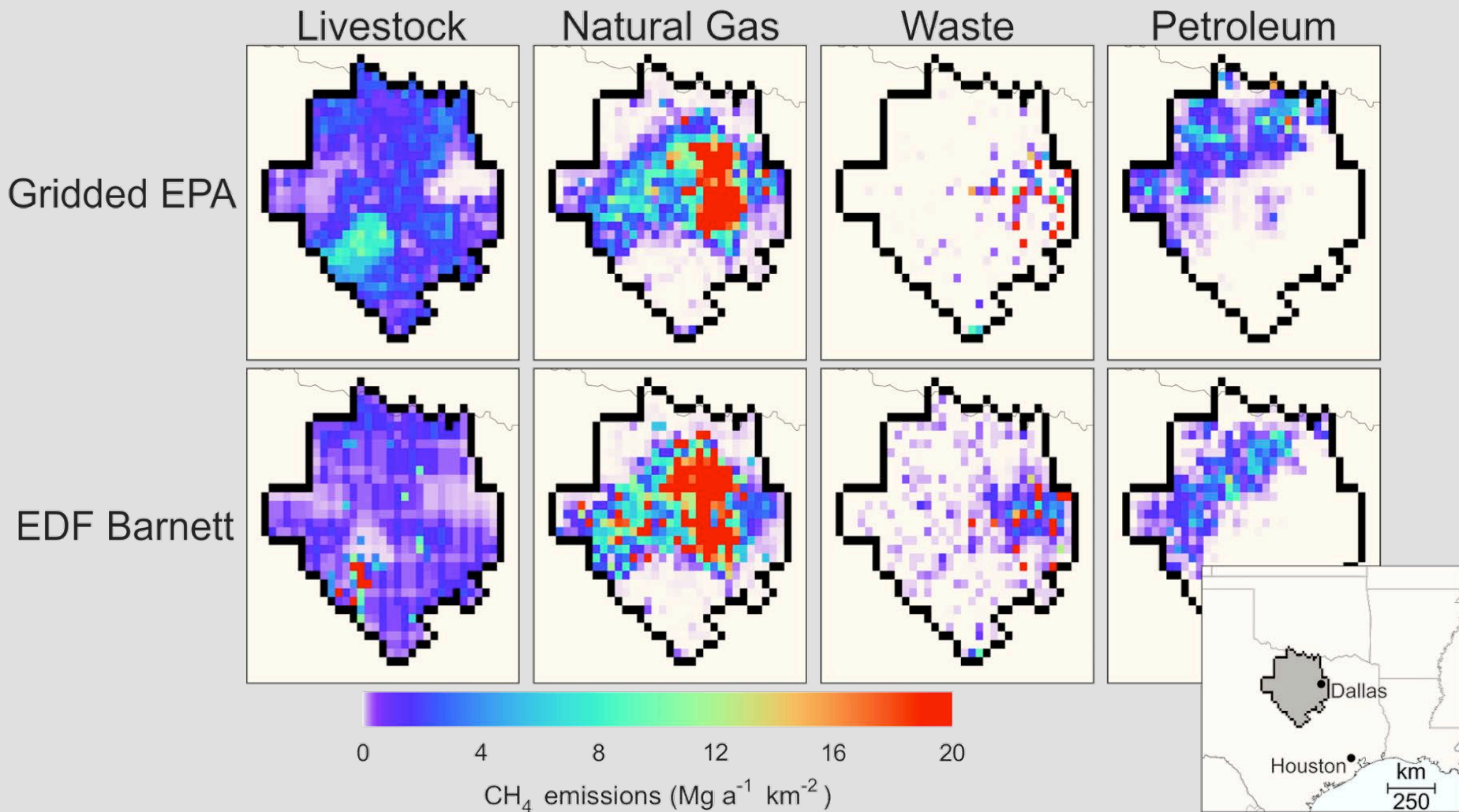
Waste
Oil and Gas

EDGAR - Dominating Emission Source

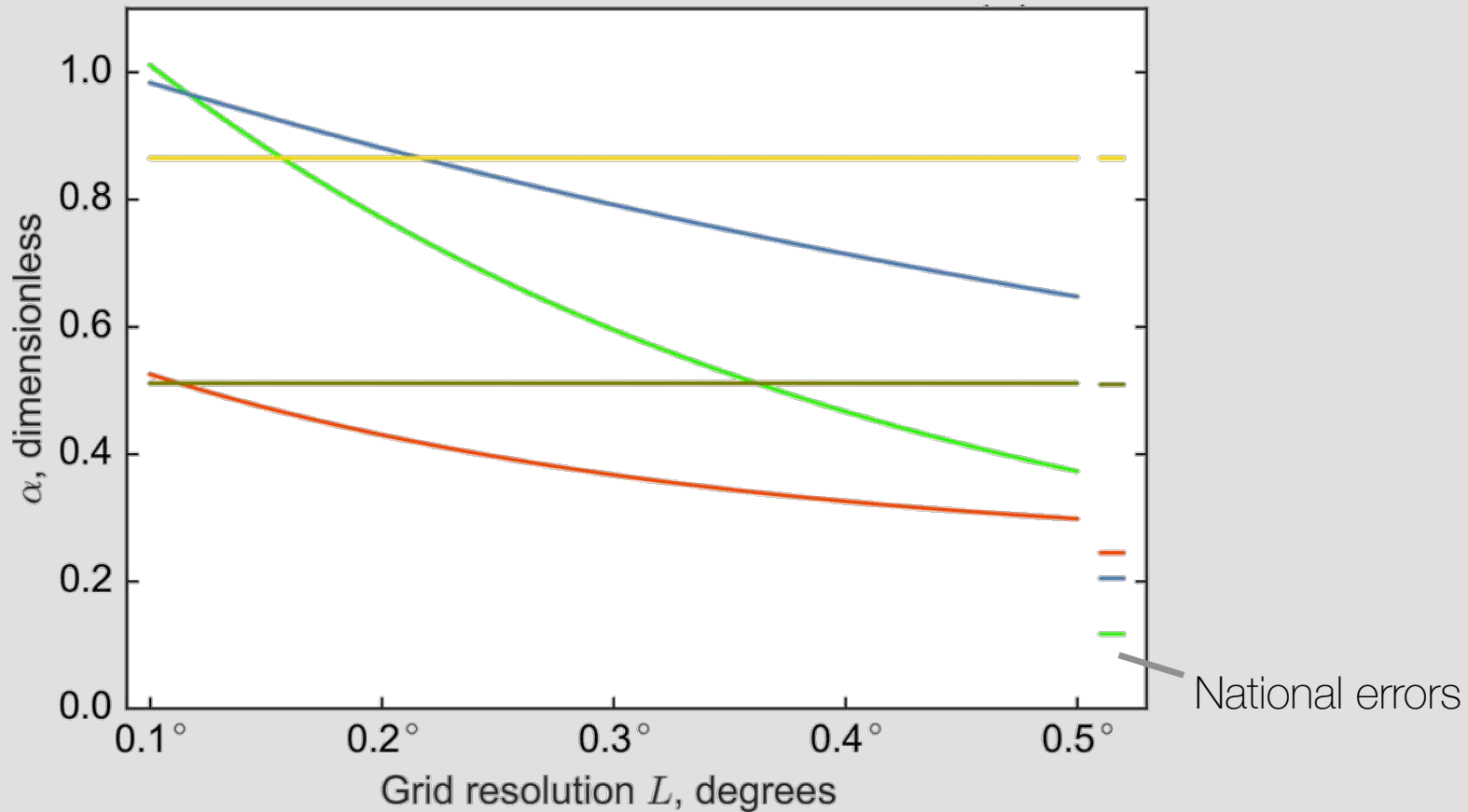


Livestock
Other

We can use the detailed local EDF Barnett Shale inventory to estimate our errors



Estimated errors vary as a function of resolution



— Livestock — Natural Gas — Landfills
— Wastewater — Petroleum



Article

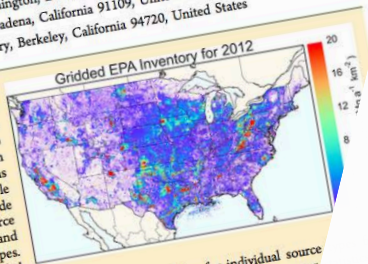
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Gridded National Inventory of U.S. Methane Emissions

Joannes D. Maasackers,^{*,†} Daniel J. Jacob,[†] Melissa P. Sulprizio,[†] Alexander J. Turner,[†] Melissa Weitz,[‡] Tom Wirth,[‡] Cate Hight,[‡] Mark DeFigueiredo,[‡] Mausami Desai,[‡] Rachel Schmelz,[‡] Leif Hockstad,[‡] Anthony A. Bloom,[‡] Kevin W. Bowman,[‡] Seongeun Jeong,[§] and Marc L. Fischer[§]

[†]School of Engineering and Applied Sciences, Harvard University, Pierce Hall, 29 Oxford Street, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02138, United States
[‡]Climate Change Division, Environmental Protection Agency, Washington, District of Columbia 20460, United States
[§]Jet Propulsion Laboratory, California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, California 91109, United States
[¶]Energy Technologies Area, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, Berkeley, California 94720, United States

ABSTRACT: We present a gridded inventory of US anthropogenic methane emissions with $0.1^\circ \times 0.1^\circ$ spatial resolution, monthly temporal resolution, and detailed scale-dependent error characterization. The inventory is designed to be consistent with the 2016 US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Inventory of US Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Sinks (GHGI) for 2012. The EPA inventory is available only as national totals for different source types. We use a wide range of databases at the state, county, local, and point source level to disaggregate the inventory and allocate the spatial and temporal distribution of emissions for individual source types. Results show large differences with the EDGAR v4.2 global gridded inventory commonly used as a prior estimate in inversions of atmospheric methane observations. We derive grid-dependent error statistics for individual source types and compare with the Environmental Defense Fund (EDF) regional inventory for Northeast Texas. These error inversions of atmospheric methane observations. Our gridded, time-resolved inventory provides an improved basis for inversion of atmospheric methane observations to estimate US methane emissions and interpret the results in terms of the underlying processes.



INTRODUCTION

Under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), individual countries must report their national anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions calculated using comparable methods.¹ The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)² provides three different methods for calculating emissions. All are bottom-up approaches in which emissions from individual source types are generally calculated as the product of activity data and emission factors. Increasing tiers are more detailed and require more country-specific data. In the United States, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) produces an annual Inventory of US Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Sinks (GHGI)³ for

inversions of atmospheric methane observations to estimate US methane emissions and interpret the results in terms of the underlying processes.

Table 1 gives the GHGI estimate updated in 2016³ and includes different source types. Total US anthropogenic methane emissions are $23 \pm 5 \text{ Tg A}^{-1}$, including major contributors such as enteric fermentation (23% (9%), manure management (8% equivalently oil) systems (8%)) and other sources. However, no other source of methane is thought to contribute significantly to the total. Anthropogenic methane emissions are $23 \pm 5 \text{ Tg A}^{-1}$ in the continental United States, with a consistent updated information for the rest of the United States.

Greenhouse Gas Emissions

- Climate Change Home
- Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- Overview of Greenhouse Gases
- Sources of Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- Global Emissions
- National Emissions
- Facility-Level Emissions
- Carbon Footprint Calculator
- GHG Equivalencies Calculator

Gridded 2012 Methane Emissions

A team at Harvard University along with EPA and other coauthors developed a gridded inventory of U.S. anthropogenic methane emissions with $0.1^\circ \times 0.1^\circ$ spatial resolution, monthly temporal resolution, and detailed scale-dependent error characterization. The inventory is designed to be consistent with the 2016 U.S. EPA [Inventory of U.S. Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Sinks](#) estimates for the year 2012, which presents national totals for different source types. The gridded inventory was developed using a wide range of databases at the state, county, local, and point source level to allocate the spatial and temporal distribution of emissions for individual source types.

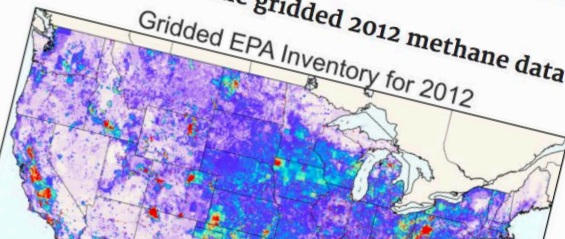
This data can be used by researchers to better compare the national-level inventory with measurement results that may be at other scales. Users of this gridded inventory are asked to cite the original reference (Maasackers et al., 2016) in their publications. Error estimates are given in that reference.

- [Paper: Maasackers et al. 2016, A Gridded National Inventory of U.S. Methane Emissions](#)
- [Maps based on the gridded 2012 methane data](#)
- [Data](#)

Paper: Maasackers et. al. 2016, A Gridded National Inventory of U.S. Methane Emissions

[Read the paper](#) [EXIT](#)

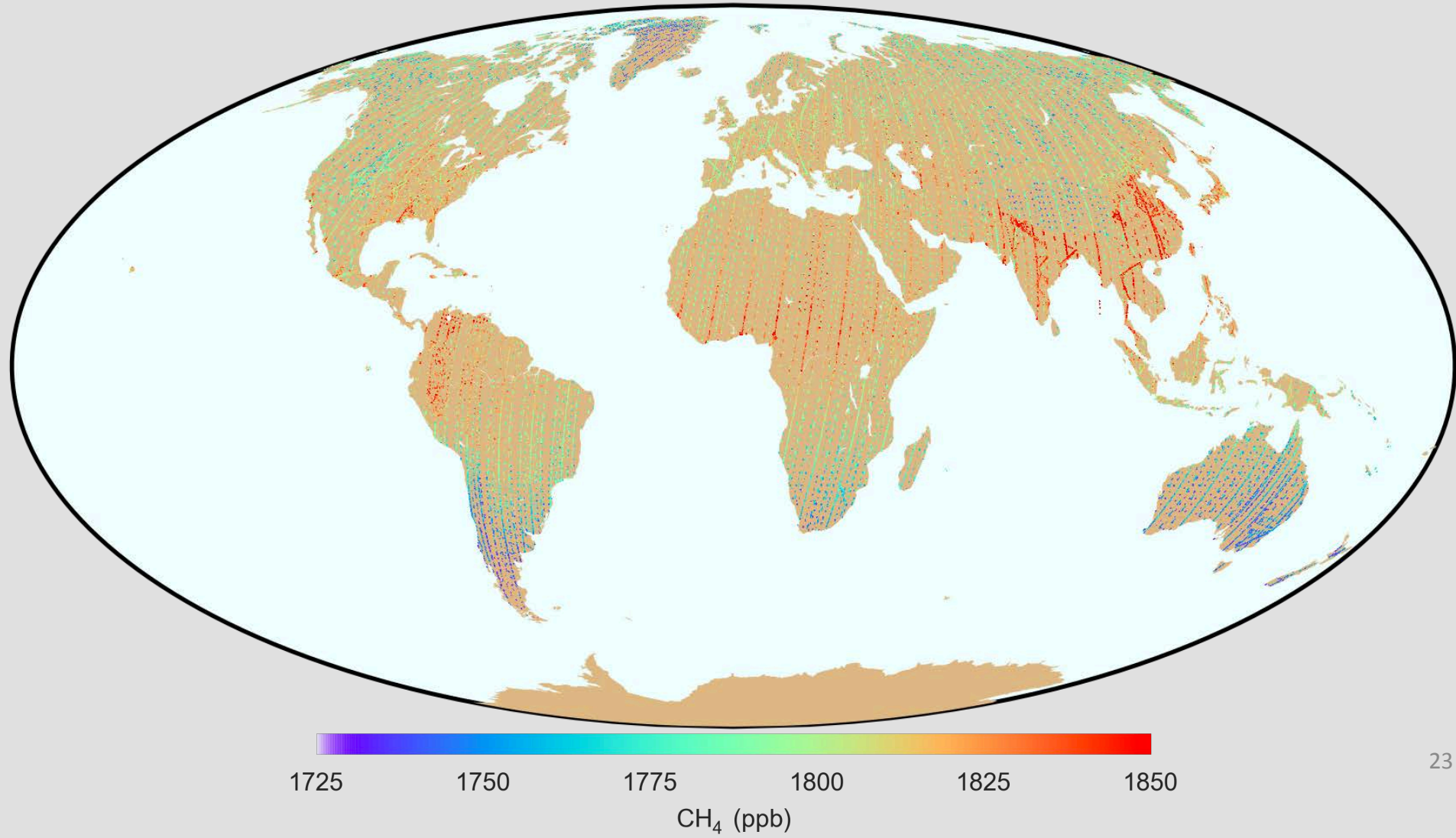
Maps based on the gridded 2012 methane data





Atmospheric inversions

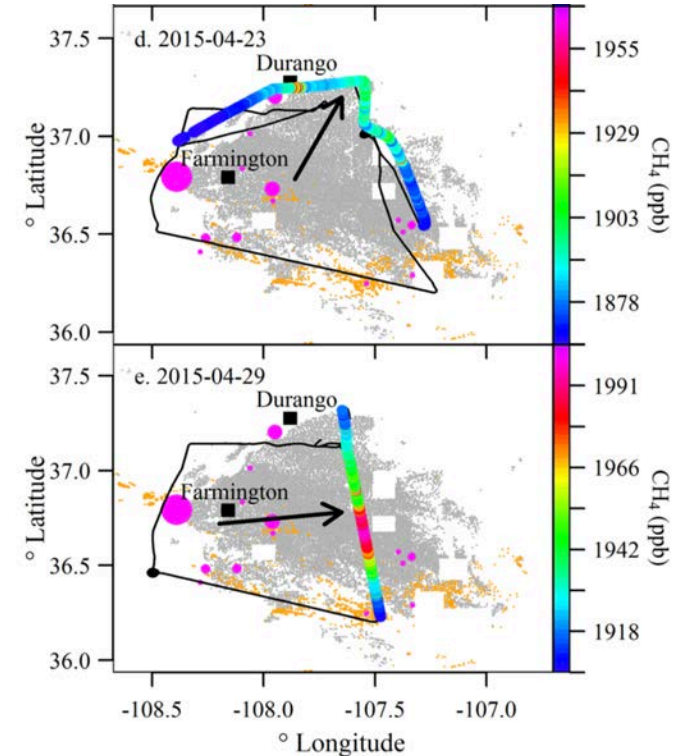
We are finalizing an inversion using GOSAT Methane for 2009 - 2015



Smith et al. find consistency over Four Corners

Emissions estimated from aircraft mass balance at Four Corners are now consistent with Gridded EPA inventory.

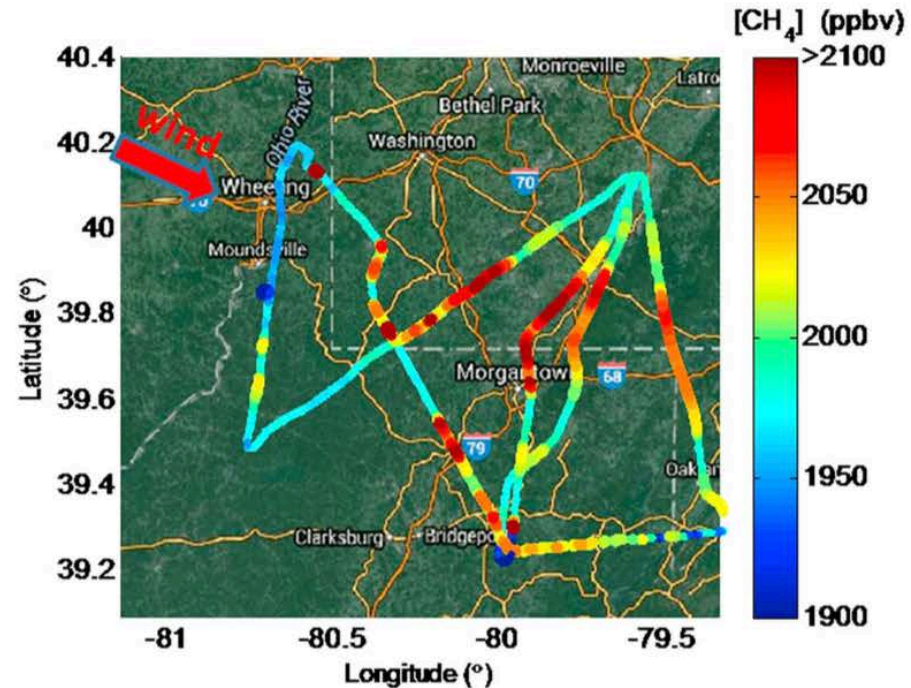
No significant decadal change, emissions do not seem to scale with natural gas produced.



Ren et al. find higher oil & gas emissions in the Marcellus

Emissions estimated from aircraft mass balance point at a larger source from oil & gas operations (Comparing 2015 with 2012).

Low ethane emissions may point at a larger coalbed methane.



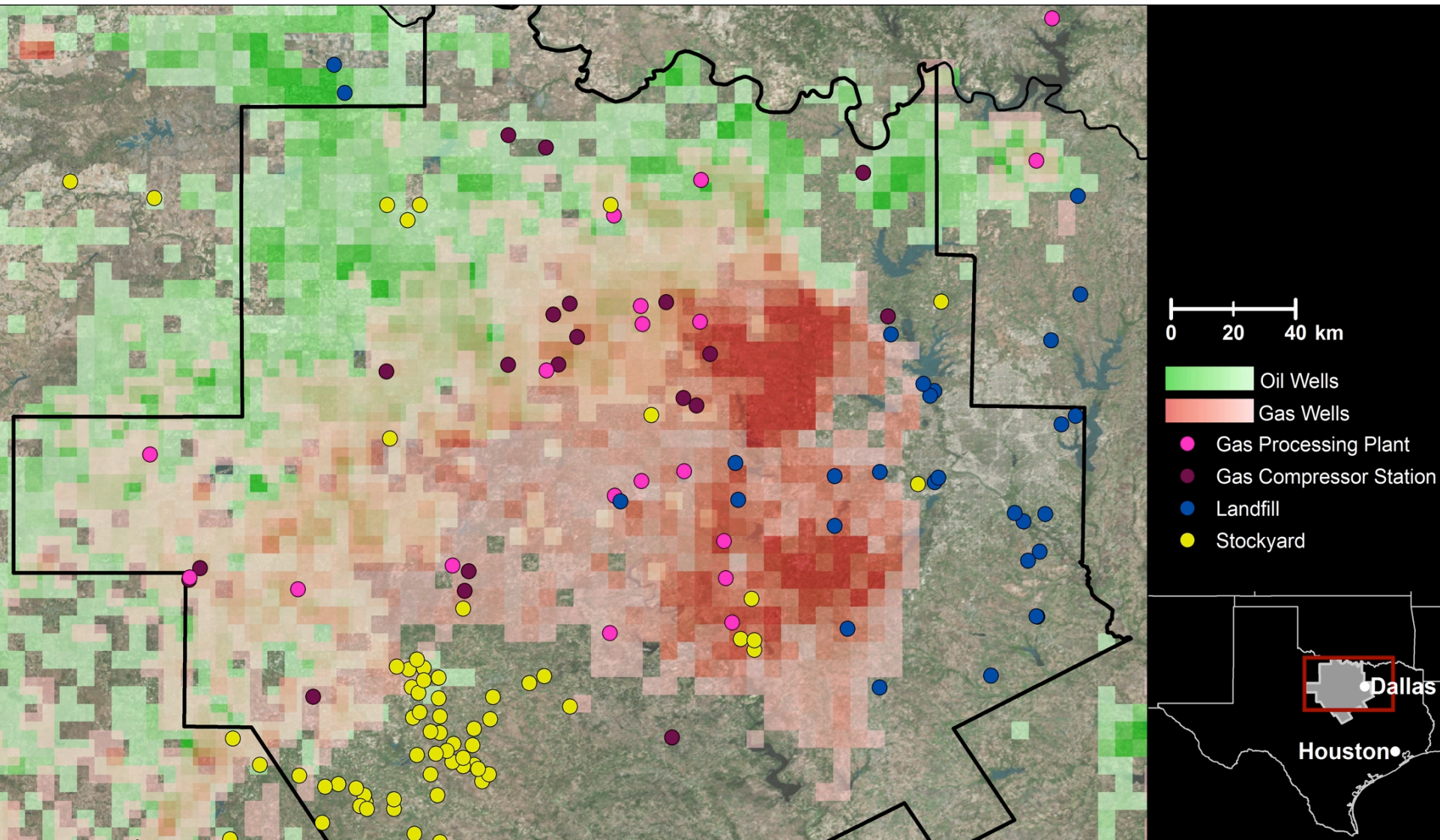
Some other studies

Barkley et al. (2017) use some emissions fields to allow comparison of aircraft data with their local inventory.

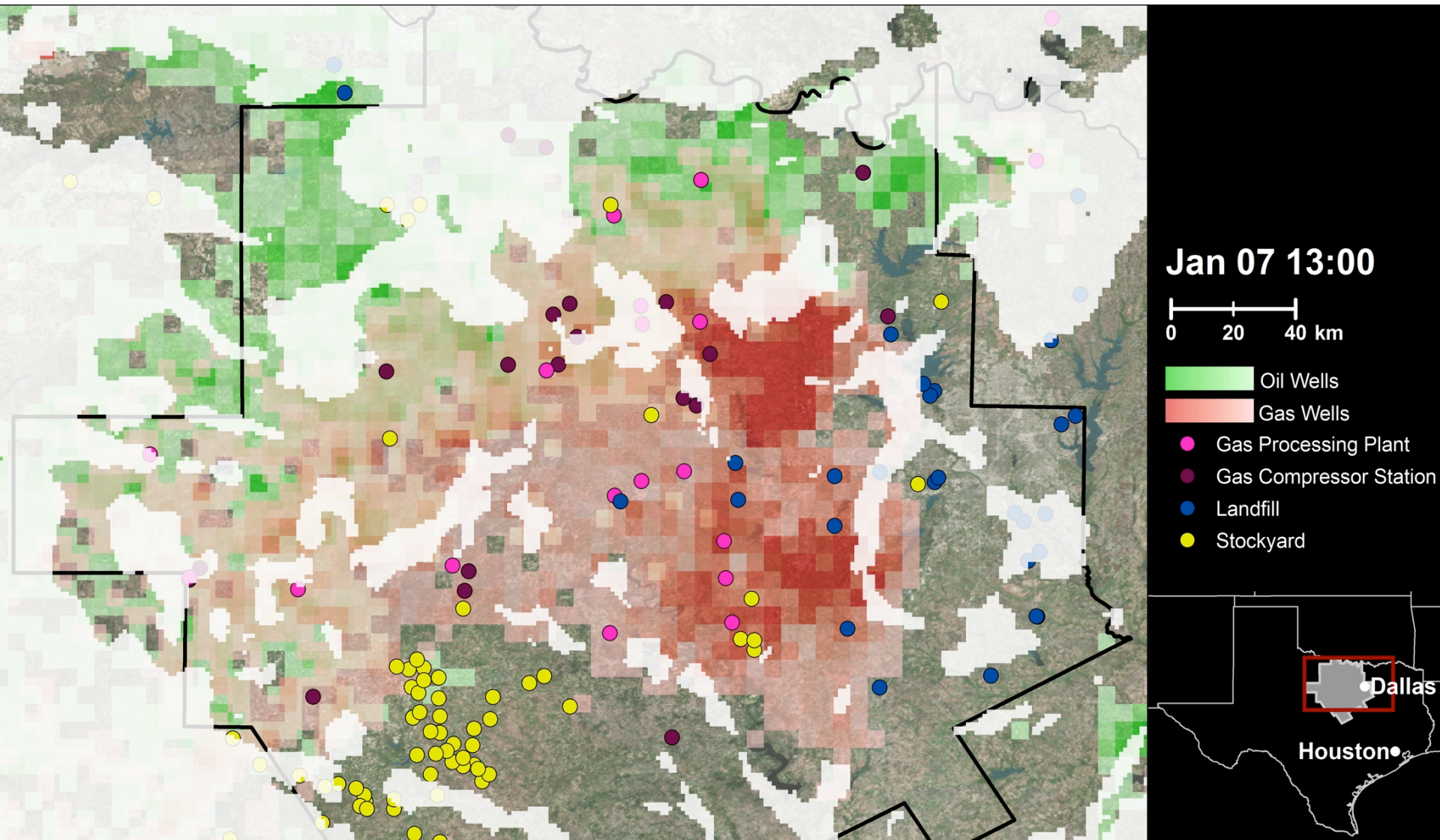
Cui et al. (2017) found consistency with aircraft estimates for the San Joaquin Valley.

Jeong et al. (2017) used the landfill estimate as an independent check on their study of California emissions.

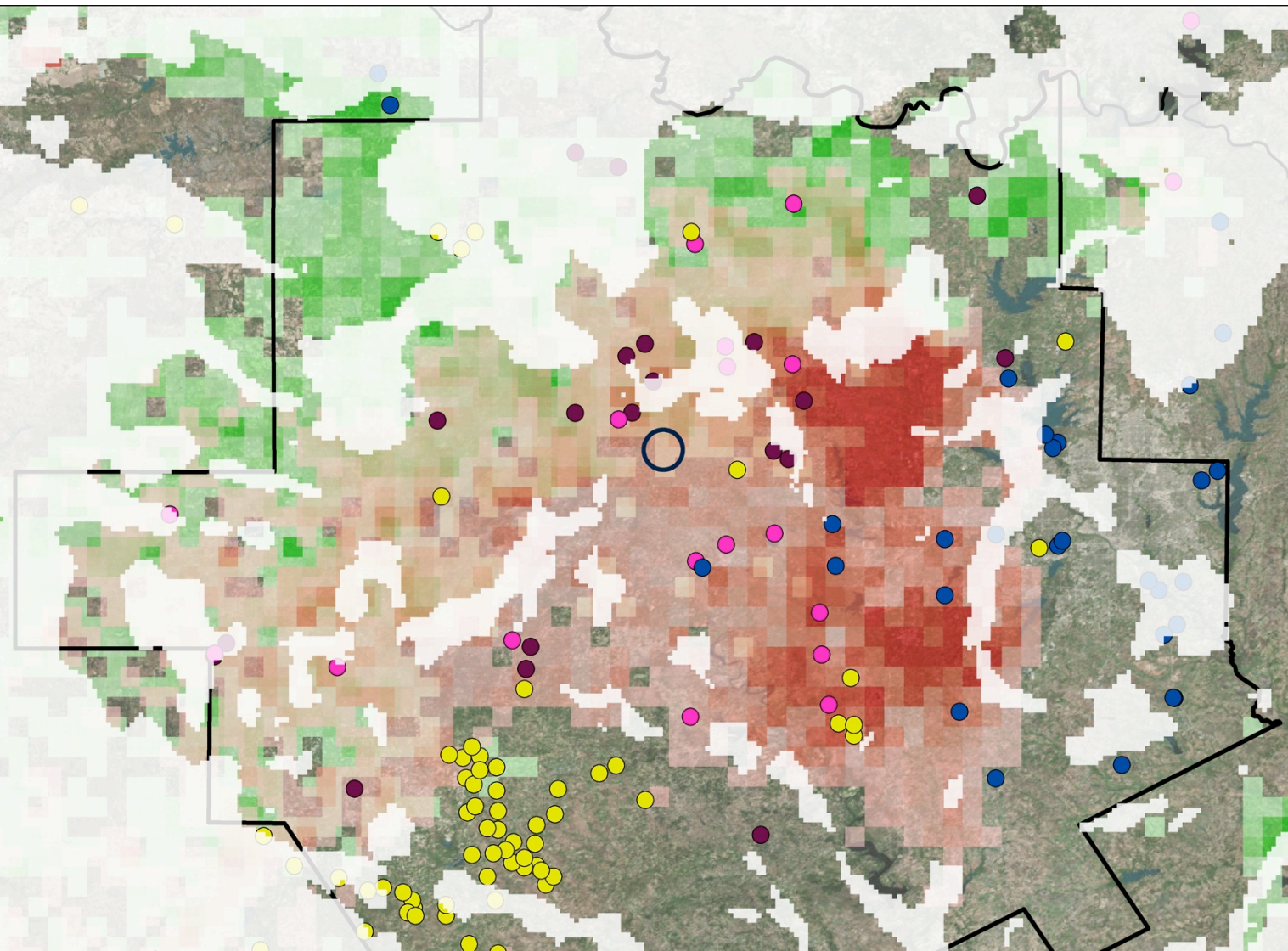
The future for satellite inversions is bright



The future for satellite inversions is bright



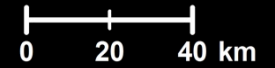
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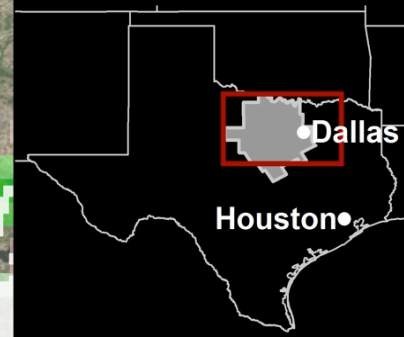
GOSAT



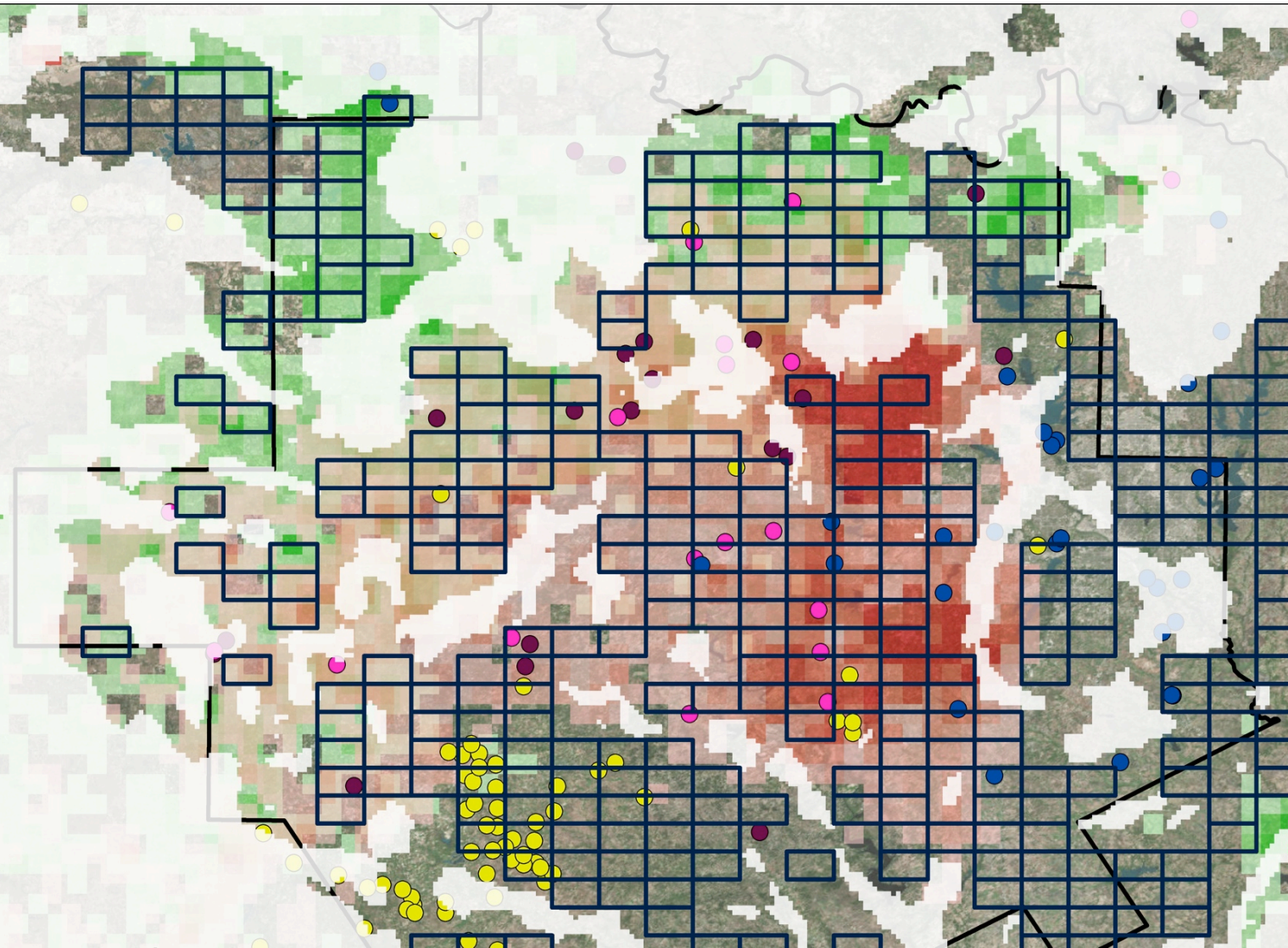
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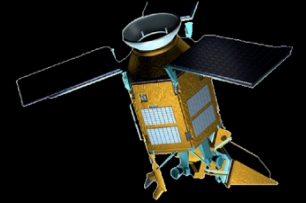
-  Oil Wells
-  Gas Wells
-  Gas Processing Plant
-  Gas Compressor Station
-  Landfill
-  Stockyard



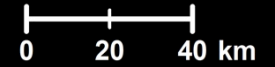
The future for satellite inversions is bright



TROPOMI





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



 Oil Wells

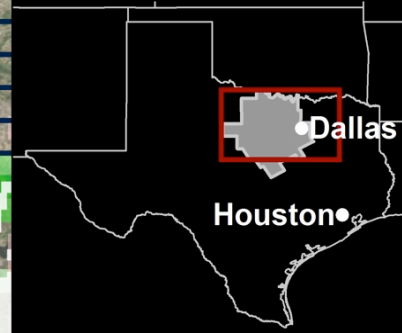
 Gas Wells

 Gas Processing Plant

 Gas Compressor Station

 Landfill

 Stockyard





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