



Oil & Gas

Measuring & Minimizing Mineral Methane Emissions and Reducing Black Carbon through Flaring (Mineral Methane Initiative)

Objective: To promote significant reductions in methane and black carbon emissions from the oil and gas sector:

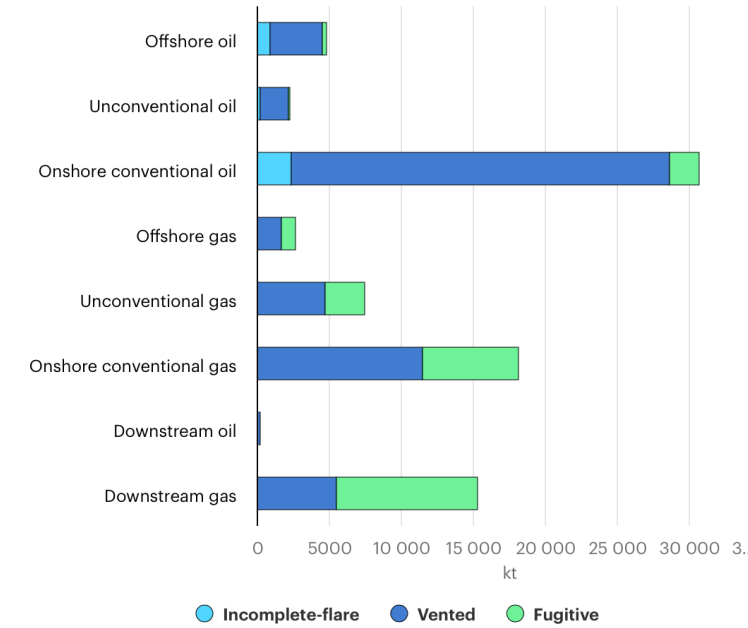
- 45% emissions reductions in methane emissions over estimated 2015 levels by 2025^[1]
- 60-75% reductions by 2030^[2]

Partners:

European Commission (Lead), Netherlands (Lead), Environmental Defense Fund (EDF), Nigeria, UN Environment, Argentina, Center for Clean Air Policy (CCAP), Clean Air Task Force, Colombia, Canada, Mexico, Norway, United Kingdom, United States of America



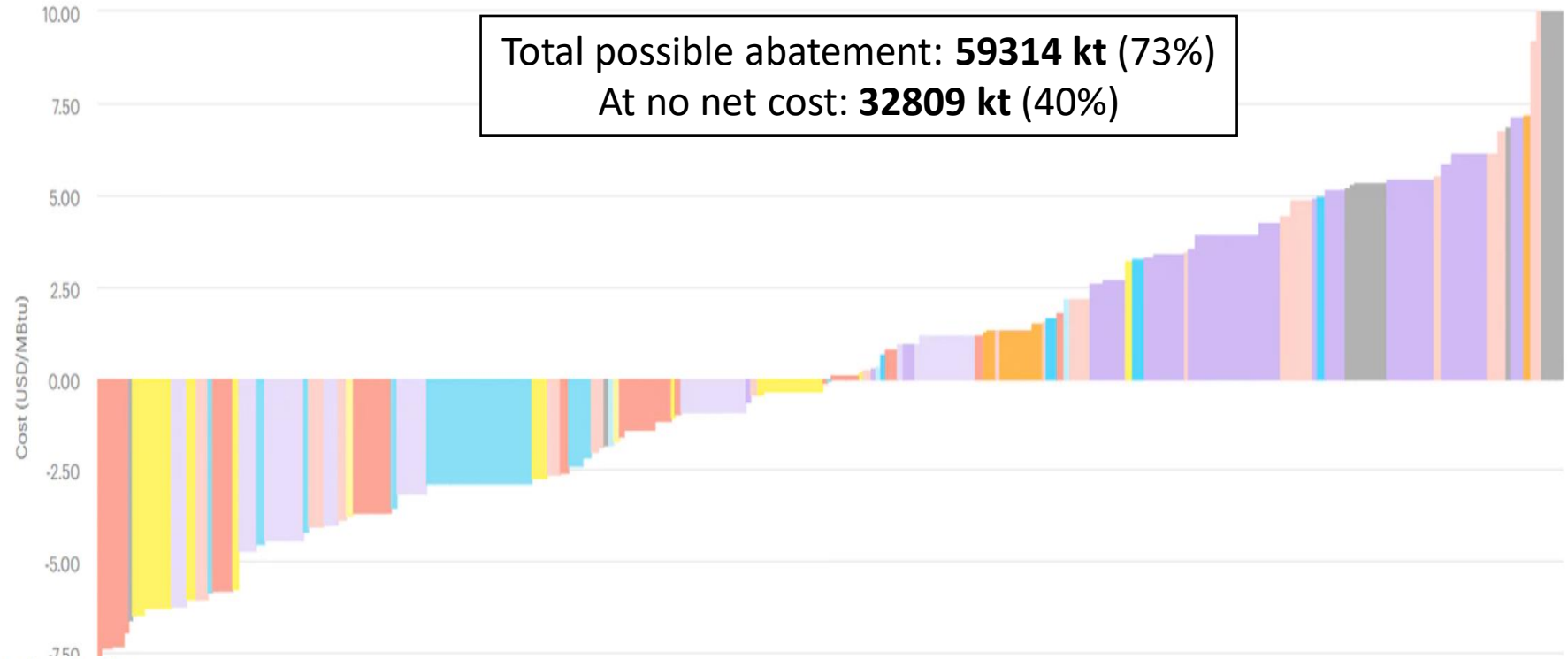
World emissions sources, IEA estimate



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[Download the data](#) [Terms and conditions](#)

Marginal abatement cost curve for oil- and gas-related methane emissions by mitigation measure, 2019



Total possible abatement: **59314 kt (73%)**
At no net cost: **32809 kt (40%)**

Abatement technologies

- Replace existing devices
- Install new devices
- Leak detection & repair
- Other

- Early replacement of devices
- Replace pumps
- Replace compressor seal or rod
- Replace with instrument air systems
- Replace with electric motor
- Vapour recovery units
- Blowdown capture
- Install flares
- Install plunger
- Upstream LDAR
- Downstream LDAR
- Other

<https://www.iea.org/reports/methane-tracker-2020/interactive-country-and-regional-estimates#abstract>



1. Global Alliance to Significantly Reduce Methane Emissions in the Oil and Gas Sector by 2030

Started in 2019

Partners: Clean Air Task Force, Environmental Defense Fund (EDF), UN Environment

2. Oil & Gas Methane Partnership

Started in 2015

Partners: EDF, European Commission (EC), UN Environment

3. Oil and Gas Peer-to-Peer Regulatory Support

Started 2017, Partners:

Partners: Argentina, Center for Clean Air Policy (CCAP), Clean Air Task Force, Colombia, Nigeria

4. Technology Demonstration: Cost-effective Flaring Mitigation Opportunities

Started 2015

Partners: Canada, Colombia, GLOBE Foundation, International Cryosphere Climate Initiative (ICCI), Mexico, Nigeria, Norway, Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI)

Actors: Carbon Limits, Carleton University, Clearstone Engineering, GHGSat, Pembina Institute, Petroleum Technology Alliance Canada (PTAC)

5. Oil and Gas Methane Science Studies

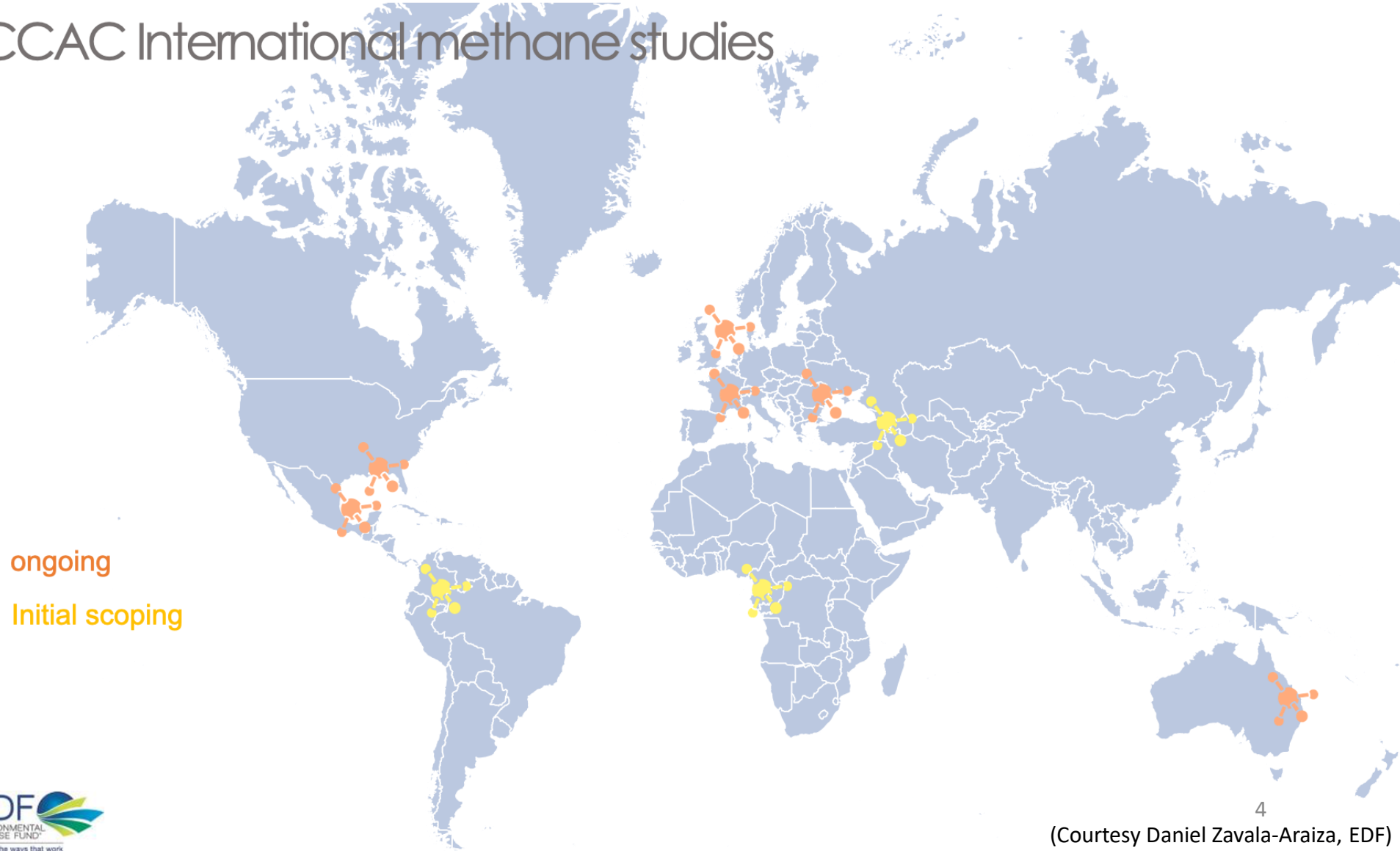
Started 2017, **Partners:** EDF, EC and OGCI

Objective: *To address a critical lack of global methane measurement data in the oil and gas sector to help prioritise company actions and government policies for addressing this important SLCP emissions source.*

Contact: Christopher Konek

CCAC International methane studies

- Partners work together on scientific studies to quantify methane emissions
- Collected data will help companies and governments prioritize mitigation actions and policies to reduce methane emissions.



Assessment of methane emissions from the U.S. oil and gas supply chain

Ramón A. Alvarez, Daniel Zavala-Araiza, David R. Lyon, David T. Allen, Zachary R. Barkley, Adam R. Brandt, Kenneth J. Davis, Scott C. Herndon, Daniel J. Jacob, Anna Karion, Eric A. Kort, Brian K. Lamb, Thomas Lauvaux, Joannes D. Maasackers, Anthony J. Marchese, Mark Omara, Stephen W. Pacala, Jeff Peischl, Allen L. Robinson, Paul B. Shepson, Colm Sweeney, Amy Townsend-Small, Steven C. Wofsy, Steven P. Hamburg. *Science* 361, 186–188 (2018) 13 July 2018

Table 1. Summary of this work's bottom-up estimates of CH₄ emissions from the U.S. oil and natural gas (O/NG) supply chain (95% confidence interval) and comparison to the EPA Greenhouse Gas Inventory (GHGI).

Industry segment	2015 CH ₄ emissions (Tg/year)	
	This work (bottom-up)	EPA GHGI (17)
Production	7.6 (+1.9/-1.6)	3.5
Gathering	2.6 (+0.59/-0.18)	2.3
Processing	0.72 (+0.20/-0.071)	0.44
Transmission and storage	1.8 (+0.35/-0.22)	1.4
Local distribution*	0.44 (+0.51/-0.22)	0.44
Oil refining and transportation*	0.034 (+0.050/-0.008)	0.034
U.S. O/NG total	13 (+2.1/-1.7)	8.1 (+2.1/-1.4) [†]

*This work's emission estimates for these sources are taken directly from the GHGI. The local distribution estimate is expected to be a lower bound on actual emissions and does not include losses downstream of customer meters due to leaks or incomplete combustion (materials and methods, section S15).
[†]The GHGI only reports industry-wide uncertainties.

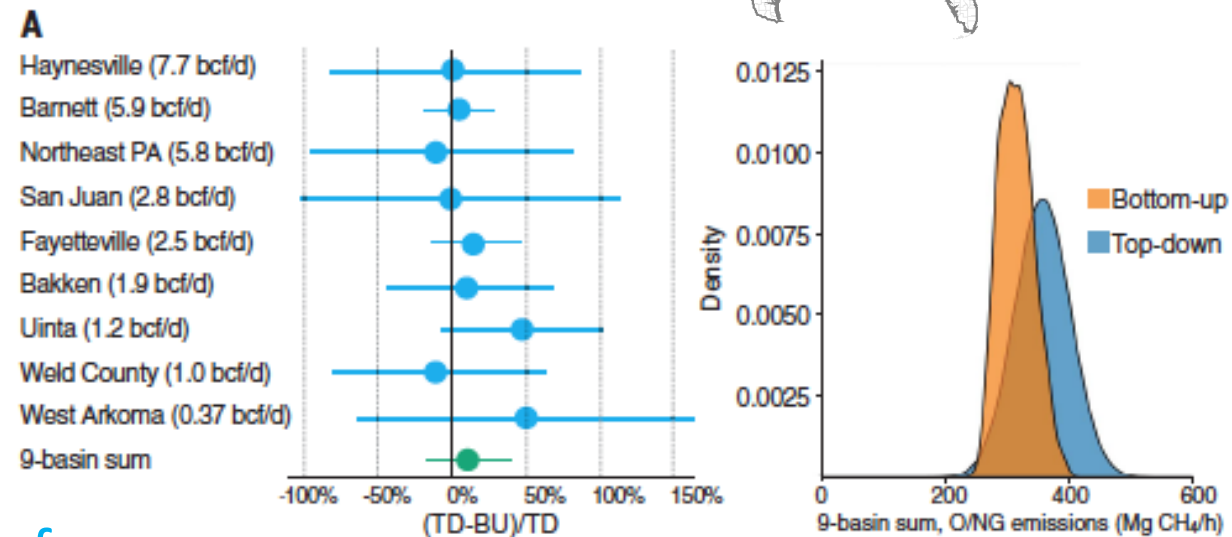
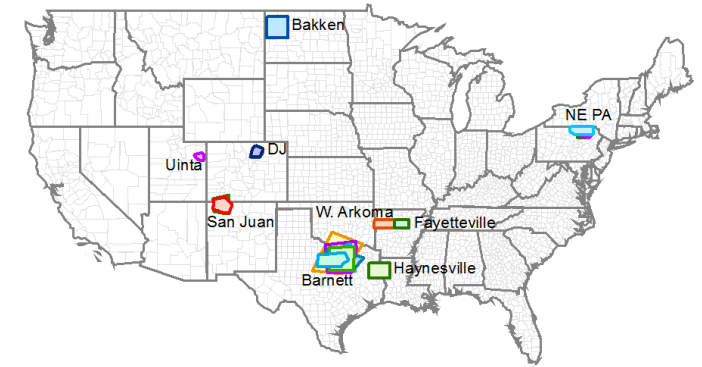


Fig. 1. Comparison of this work's bottom-up (BU) estimates of methane emissions from oil and natural gas (O/NG) sources to top-down (TD) estimates in nine U.S. O/NG production areas. (A) Relative differences of the TD and BU mean emissions, normalized by the TD value, rank ordered by natural gas production in billion cubic feet per day (bcf/d, where 1 bcf = 2.8 × 10⁷ m³). Error bars represent 95% confidence intervals. (B) Distributions of the nine-basin sum of TD and BU mean estimates (blue and orange probability density, respectively). Neither the ensemble of TD-BU pairs (A) nor the nine-basin sum of means (B) are statistically different [*p* = 0.13 by a randomization test, and mean difference of 11% (95% confidence interval of -17 to 41%)].

- Supply-chain emissions of 13 Tg per year, 2.3% of gross gas production, scaled-up to US-wide
- Methane emissions are 60% higher than US-EPA estimates

Airborne Assessment of Methane Emissions from Offshore Platforms in the U.S. Gulf of Mexico
 Alan M. Gorchov Negrón,* Eric A. Kort,* Stephen A. Conley, and Mackenzie L. Smith
 Environ. Sci. Technol. 2020, 54, 5112–5120. <https://dx.doi.org/10.1021/acs.est.0c00179>

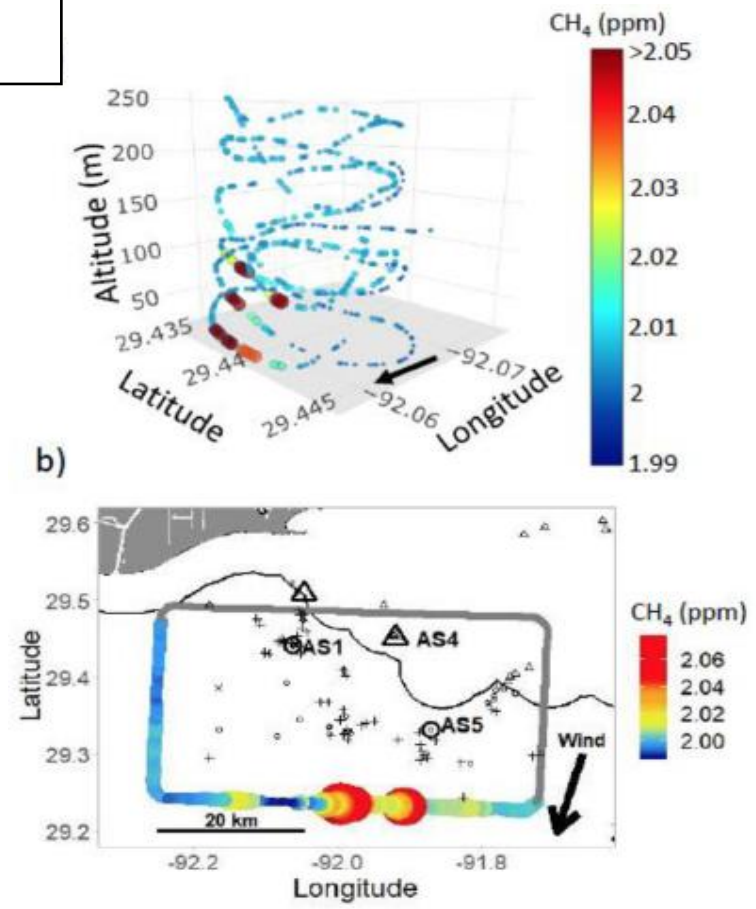
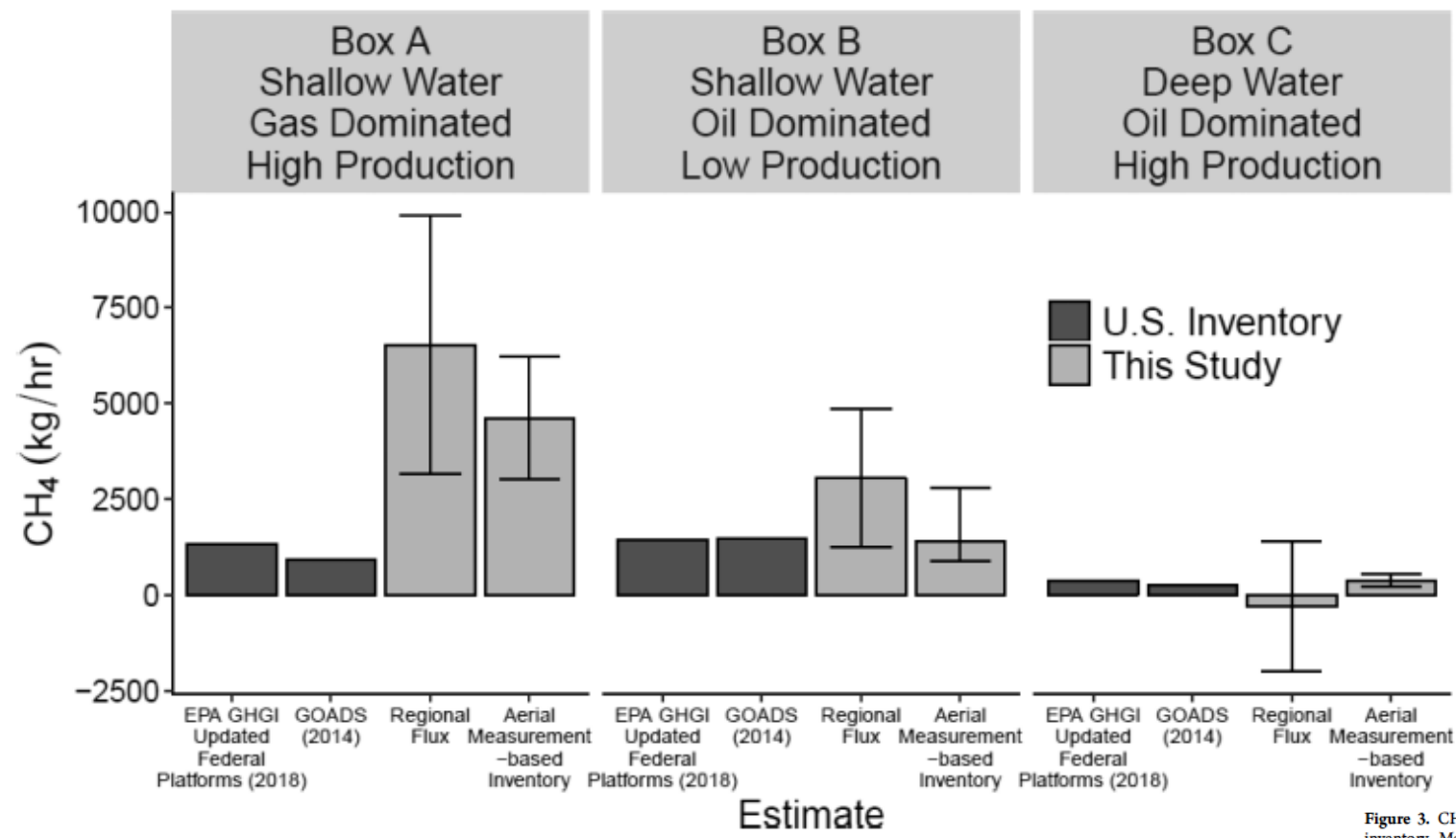


Figure 3. CH₄ emissions reported for Box A, Box B, and Box C by existing inventories, the regional flux, and the aerial measurement-based inventory. Mean and 95% confidence intervals (error bars) are shown.

- Offshore platforms are emitting twice as much methane than previously estimated
- Methane emissions (0.5 Tg per year) correspond to a loss ~ 2.9% of produced gas.

Methane Emissions from Offshore Oil and Gas Platforms in the Gulf of Mexico

Tara I. Yacovitch,* Conner Daube, and Scott C. Herndon

Environmental Science & Technology **2020** 54 (6), 3530-3538

<https://dx.doi.org/10.1021/acs.est.9b07148>

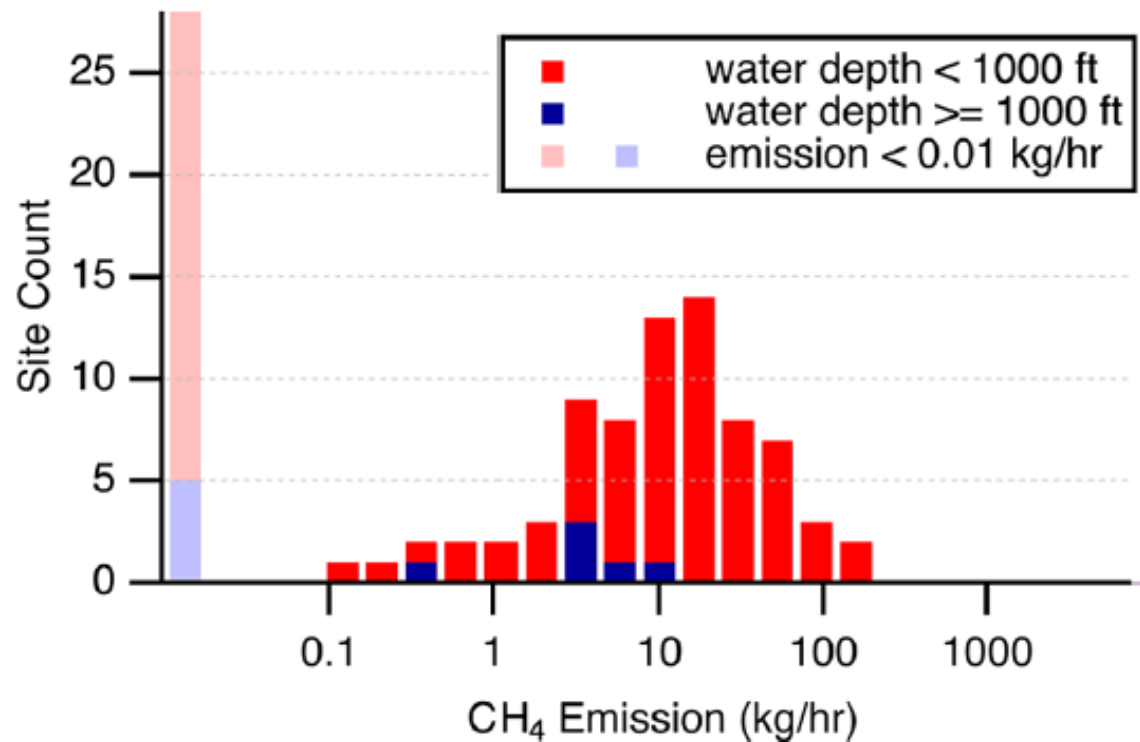


Figure 3. Estimated methane emission rates in kg/h for offshore sites.

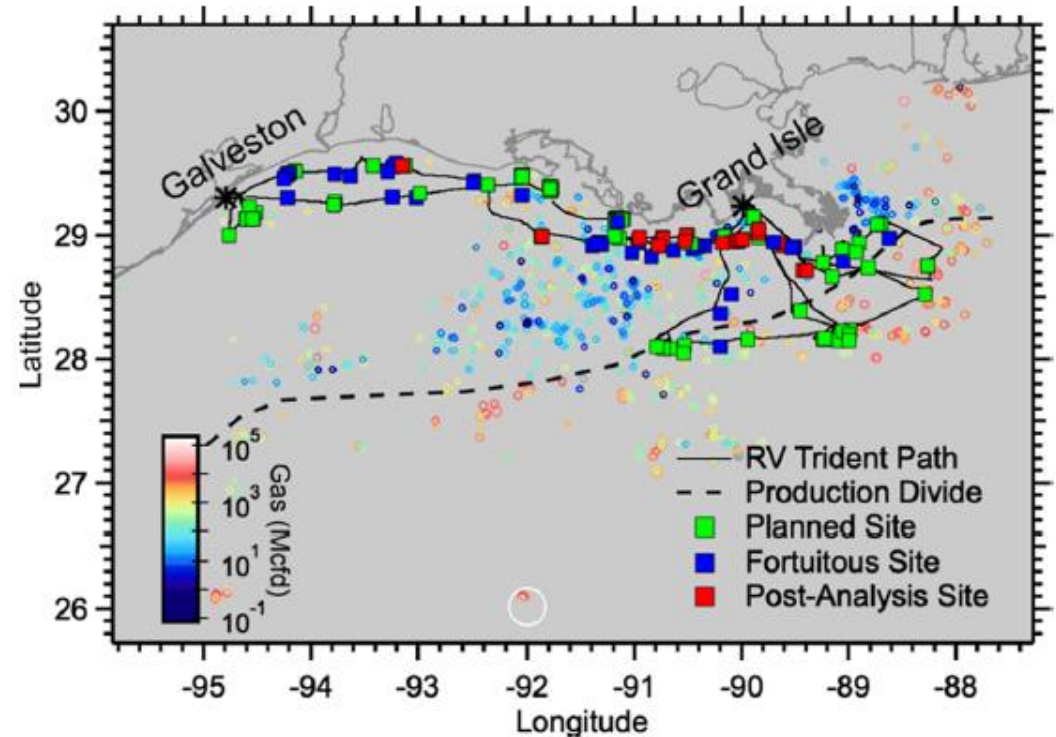


Figure 1. Vessel path (solid black line) over the course of the campaign, showing measured sites (squares) colored by site choice type. Offshore well daily gas production (circles) for the period June–February 2017²³ is plotted in thousand cubic feet per day (Mcfd). A dividing line between lower and higher production magnitudes is shown (dashed line). The shoreline map was obtained from NOAA.²⁵

- Shallow-water platforms much larger sources than deep-water facilities
- High emitters: Top 2 located in shallow water account for 20% of emissions, with rates up to 190 kg/hr

Thank you for your attention

Graciela B. Raga

CCAC - Science Advisory Panel

CCAC -Methane Science Studies - Science Advisory Committee

