



Standardizing Spatial Intelligence for Gridded Methane Inventories: DGGS Meets EmissionML

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Inadequate Spatial Grids Limit Action

We need gridded GHG inventories:

- Provide a prior estimate for inverse atmospheric analyses
- Provide baseline emission data to simulate large, short-term emission events

Gridded GHG inventories often use **latitude-longitude grids** (graticule), where cell size and shape vary with latitude. This leads to several problems:

- Inflate emission densities in high-latitude regions
- Complicate direct inter-cell comparisons and integration
- Distort visualization and interpretation

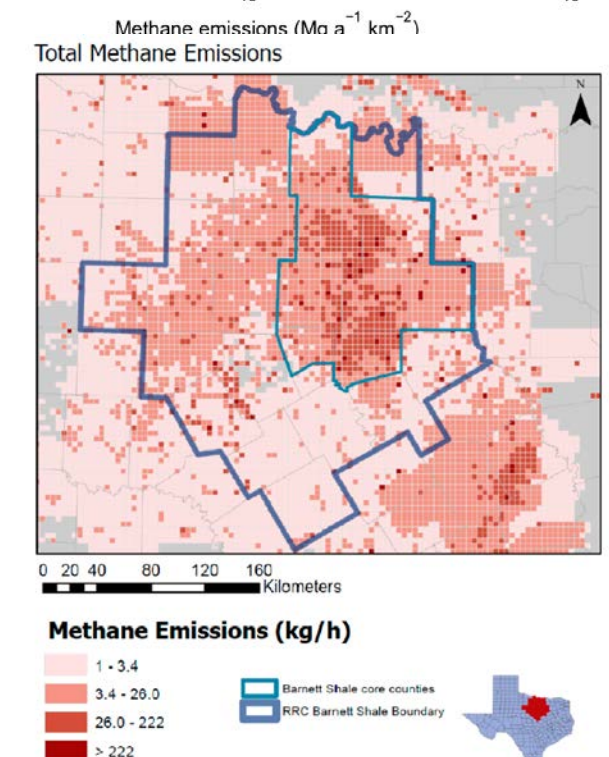
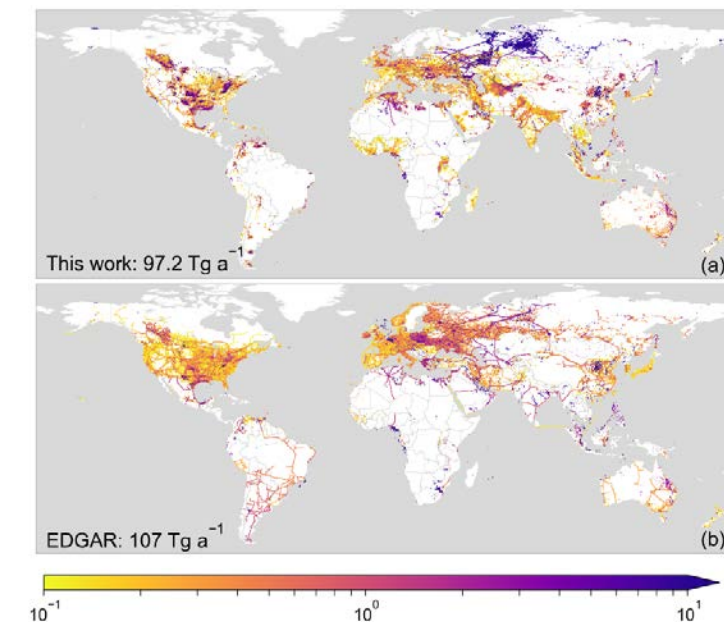
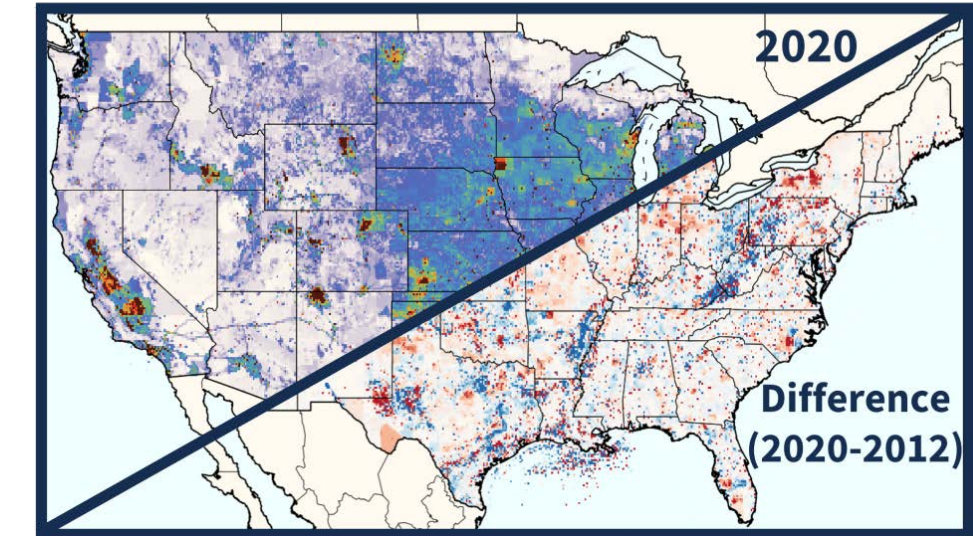


Other issues:

- Definition of spatial scales is not clear (site/facility/urban/etc.)
- Data from multiple satellites/sensors/sources needs to be integrated

- ❖ Scarpelli et al. 2020
- ❖ EDGAR 2023
- ❖ Maasakkers et al. 2023
- ❖ Crippa et al. 2024

Gridded U.S. Methane Emissions



A Global, Uniform Spatial Framework for GHG Data

- ❑ What if emissions from every facility, basin, region, or country could be georeferenced to a **single, equal-area, and hierarchical space-time grid**?
- ❑ Think of it not just as a grid, but as a **spatially intelligent container for all related data**?

DGGS

- Grid ID
- Resolution

Facility

- Facility type
- Facility age
- Facility operator

Equipment

- Equipment type
- Emission rate
- Pipe material

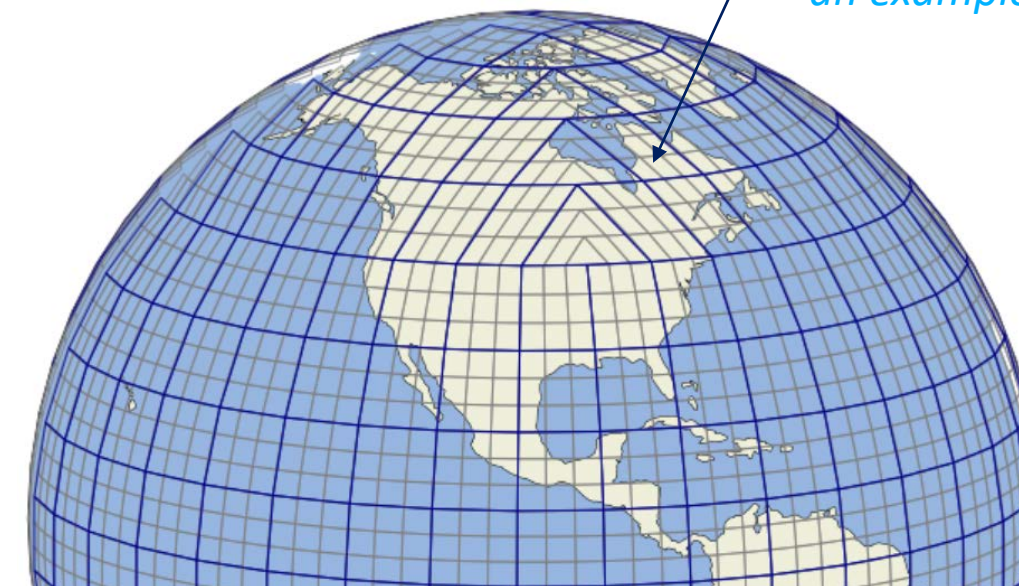
Operational history

- Maintenance record
- Blowdown event

Environmental conditions

- Wind speed
- Atmospheric pressure

an example of O&G..



- ❖ Omara et al. 2024
- ❖ Raichev et al. 2020

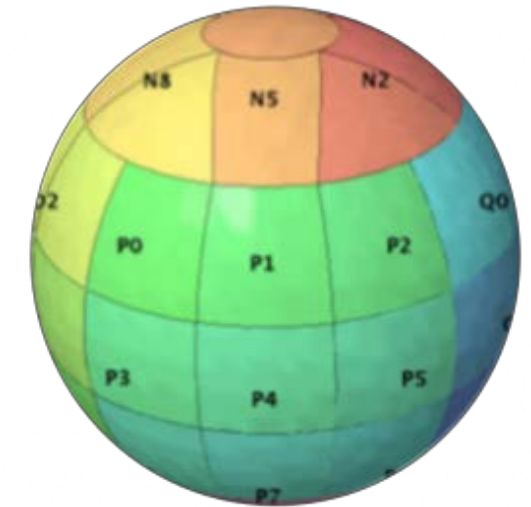
Spatially Explicit Methane Emissions from Alberta Upstream Oil and Gas Operations with Equal-Area Grid Systems

What we adopt: rHEALPix (rearranged Hierarchical Equal Area isoLatitude Pixelization) DGGs

What we did: An initiative study on Alberta upstream O&G emissions

Data we used: 2020-2023 **Petrinex** Conventional Volumetric Data (Fuel, Flare, Vent)

What we achieved: True emission intensity comparisons across space and time; Consistent aggregation at any scale; Precise hotspot tracking and trend monitoring over time; Informed monitoring design, including optimized aerial survey and satellite observation planning



Label, Locate, and Link Emission Sources with DGGs and EmissionML

DGGS + EmissionML:

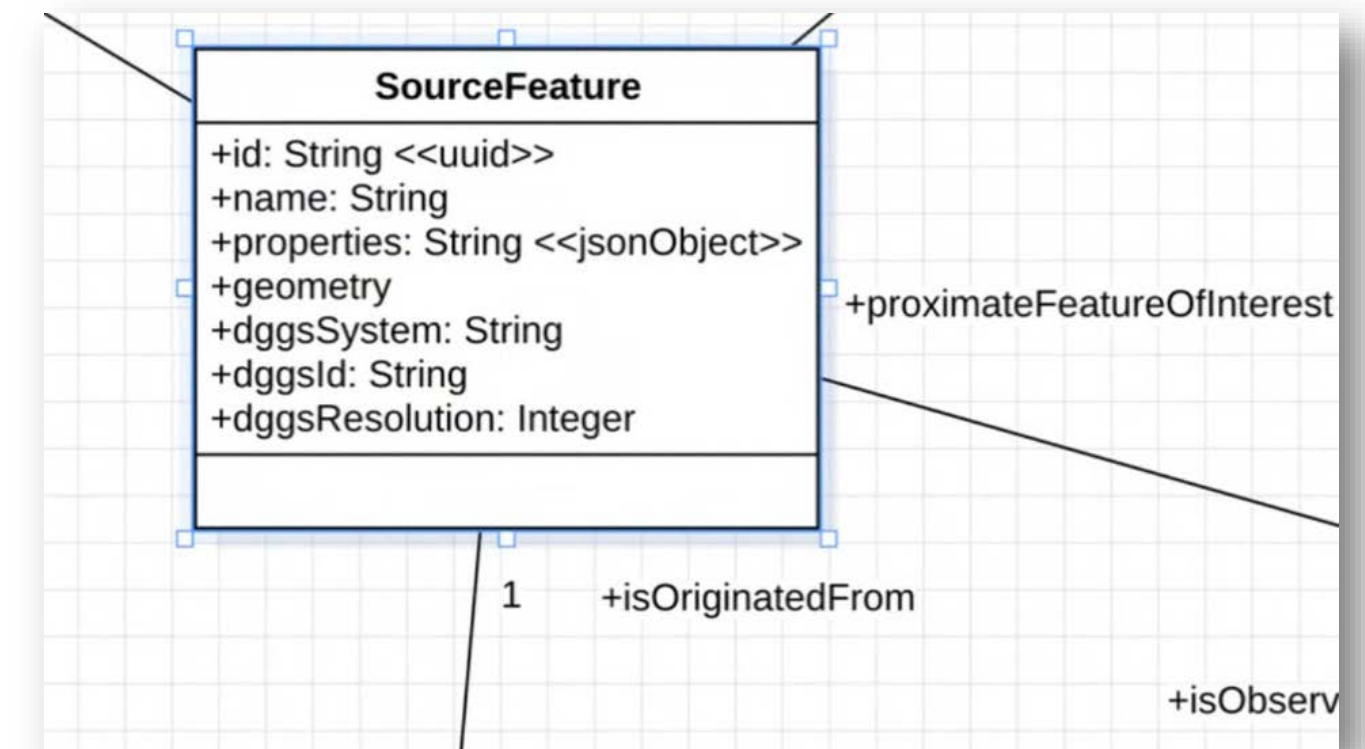
- Use the *SourceFeature* class to encode emission source locations using attributes *dggsSystem*, *dggsId*, and *dggsResolution*.
- Enable **unique spatial labelling** of emission sources in an equal-area, hierarchical, and global reference frame.

Why this matters:

- Avoid geolocation ambiguity in graticule or other arbitrary grids.
- Improve **data interoperability** for integrating satellite observations, ground-based measurements, and bottom-up inventories.
- Thanks to the existing **OGC DGGS API**, spatial operations are already standardized.

Future applications:

- Use DGGS-labelled SourceFeature records to simplify **hotspot tracking**.
- Run **temporal emission trends** per cell with uniform spatial granularity.
- Attach emission events to specific DGGS cells for **easy spatial querying** and **change detection**.





THANK YOU



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