



Global Methane Retrievals from IASI and combination with S5P

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Science and Technology Facilities Council RAL Space



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IASI is the thermal infra-red (TIR) spectrometer on MetOp, observing at relatively high spatial resolution (12km), day and night, globally over land and ocean.

 The RAL methane scheme, developed via UK national funding (NCEO) + Eumetsat studies, uses optimal estimation to retrieve height resolved information from IASI measurements in the 7.9µm band with typically ~2 degrees of freedom for signal and sensitivity extending into the lower troposphere (Siddans et al 2017).

Background

- Independent validation: Dils et al, https://amt.copernicus.org/preprints/amt-2023-237/
- Recently developments via ESA Methane+ project (led by SRON) include
 - Detailed validation and intercomparison with model ground-based, airborne and S5P data
 - Use of the data in inverse modelling (by TNO and DLR)
 - Development of joint TIR+SWIR product, combining information of IASI and S5P to gain profile information within the troposphere
- New ESA Smart-CH4 project to re-evaluate + improve spectroscopic data + further use via inverse modelling



Development and Validation via ESA Methane+ Project



- Metop B processed for first time, focussing on overlap with S5p (April 2018 onwards) Metop-B dataset from January 2018 to March 2021
- Dataset was validated by comparison to CAMS, ATOM, AirCore, TCCON, S5P:
- Various improvements implemented:

3

- Relaxed prior constraint (improves trends previously affected by prior constraint)
- Improvements to input temperature retrievals; better cloud, aerosol and surface modelling.
 - Uses separate RAL Infra-red Microwave Sounder (IMS) retrievals see presentation 3.2.4 by L.Ventress.
- Improvements to assumed nitrous oxide profiles (based on latest ACE-FTS and CAMS data)
- Update to latest Hitran spectroscopy, including line mixing (via LBLRTM)
- Remaining spectroscopic errors corrected via
 - Residual spectral patterns included in the retrieval itself.
 - Post-hoc empirical correction at very low water vapour amount
- Metop A re-processed with improved scheme using Eumetsat reprocessed L1

https://methaneplus.eu/



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RAL IASI V2 vs V3 Data (improvement via Methane+)

Current version 2.0 (in CEDA archive)

https://dx.doi.org/10.5285/4bbcb1722f2842c1b0a5ebc19160a863



1.75



1.75

IASI V2 vs

1.85

TCCON

1.80

TCCON x AK xCH4 / ppmv

New version 3.0 after Methane+

Soon to be archived for public access...

IASI – CAMS GHG inversions June-July-Aug 2018-2019





Zonal mean total column average methane timeseries 2007-2024





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Detrended de-seasonalised anomaly of total column average methane 2007-2024







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2022/09/28

Real-time methane data on the RAL RSG visualisation tool: http://rsg.rl.ac.uk/vistool

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Nord stream 2 Plume 2 days after main release



Real-time methane data on the RAL RSG visualisation tool: http://rsg.rl.ac.uk/vistool https://doi.org/10.5194/egusphere-2023-1652 Preprint. Discussion started: 23 November 2023 © Author(s) 2023. CC BY 4.0 License.

Quantifying large methane emissions from the Nord Stream pipeline gas leak of September 2022 using IASI satellite observations and inverse modelling



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Total mass of CH4 emitted during the first two days: 215 - 390 Gg. Results feeding into UNEP-IMEO Sythesis Paper







Combined IASI and S5P Retrievals

- "L2-L2" combination approach developed to combine S5P total column measurements (Operational V2, Lorente et al 2022) with IASI retrieved sub-columns
- Approach uses optimal estimation, treating the individual retrievals as "measurements", accounting for respective averaging kernels and using a common simple prior constraint:
- Latitude and month dependent bias correction (based on comparisons to CAMS flux inversion) is applied to both IASI and S5P before the combination is carried out.
- Approach leads to total column from combined scheme be closely constrained to match SWIR total column and upper layer tend to follow the TIR; *Lower tropospheric layers take information from both.*







National Centre for Earth Observation

Seasonal averages for June-July-August 2018+2019

Joint retrieval assigns positive anomalies in S5P (presumably related to emissions), which are not seen by IASI into 0-6km layer.



Summary / Further work



- New (V3) RAL IASI dataset has been produced & validated cf ground based and airborne data, extensively compared with S5P and CAMS GHG surface-only flux inversion v19r1 and test data assimilated in TM5 flux inversion (ESA Methane+; UK NCEO/EOCIS)
- Data from 2007-present will soon be archived for public access on CEDA, superseding the existing V2 data.
- Data also produced in near-real time and can be visualised online via http://rsg.rl.ac.uk/vistool
 - → The only satellite observation and mass estimate of the main Nordstream plume (C.Wilson et al, in preparation, ACP; S.Harris et al, UNEP Nordstream Synthesis Report, in review, Nature)
- Results still limited by spectroscopy / detailed radiative transfer issues
 - \rightarrow Strongest features in methane n₄ band ~1300cm-1 to add profile information but yet to be fitted accurately.
 - → Spectroscopy + line-by-line calculations to be revisited (with Spascia) in ESA SMART-CH4 project. (Builds on findings of previous ESA TIR spectroscopy study and recent updates to radiative transfer codes.)
- Lower (<6km) and upper (>6km) troposphere layers resolved well by IASI-S5P combination; variability in near surface (0-2km) appears high compared to CAMS.
 - → More *profile* validation data needed to adequately validate satellite height-resolved retrievals.
- IASI+S5P retrievals also limited by co-location (due to different orbits).
 - → Metop 2nd Generation to provide co-located SWIR (S5) and TIR (IASI-NG) with greater potential

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Detailed comparisons over regions: Asia (Sept-Oct-Nov 2018-19)

Bias cf CAMS reduced + spatial features more similar to CAMS Real difference over Bangladesh

S5P sees more (near surface) emission in Indo-Gangetic plain



M+V2BC combined retrievals: 0-2km sub-column (SON)





Seasonal averages for September-October-November 2018+2019

Enhancement associated with emissions from Sudd wetlands assigned entirely to 0-6km layer.