

# Global scale *in situ* measurements provide essential linkage: *“Ecosystem Change” linked to Climate, Weather, Air Quality.*

Steven C. Wofsy



Harvard John A. Paulson  
School of Engineering  
and Applied Sciences

- Ecosystem Change.
- Extending and Improving Weather and Air Quality Forecasts.
- Reducing Climate Uncertainty and Informing Societal Response.

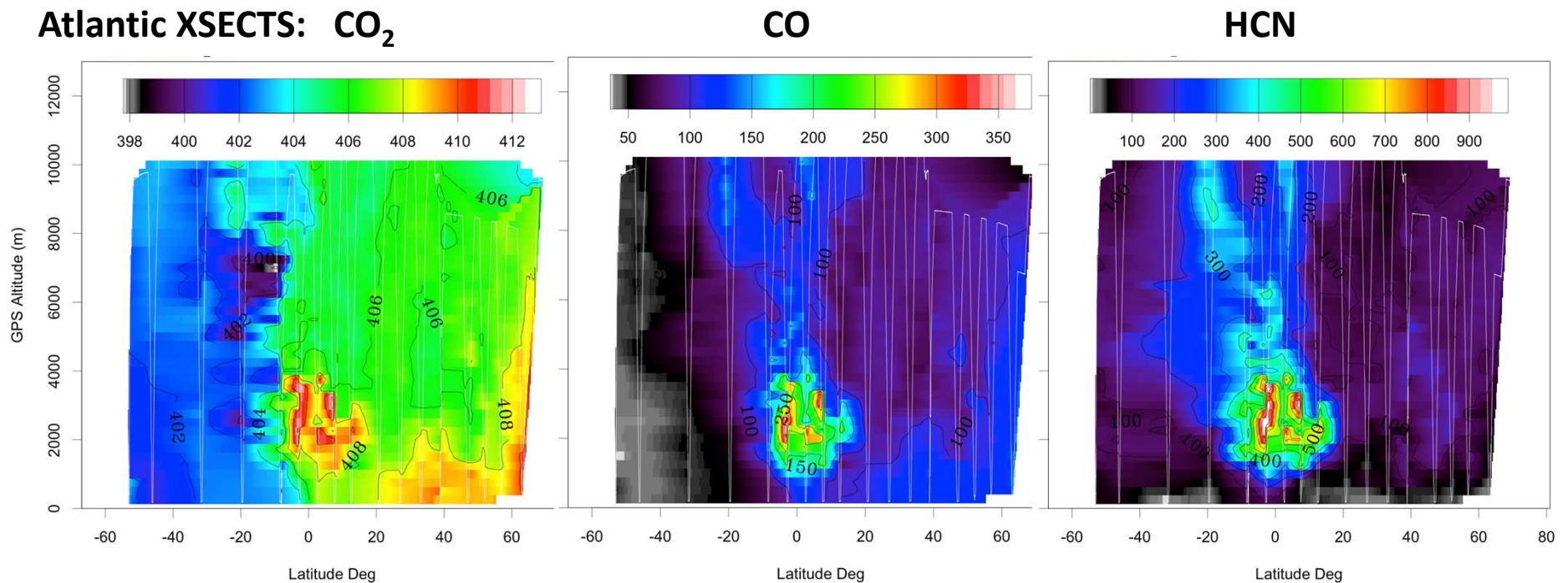
E2a (MI). Quantify the global fluxes of  $\text{CO}_2$  and  $\text{CH}_4$  at spatial scales of 100 – 500 km and monthly temporal resolution with uncertainty of < 25% between land ecosystems and the atmosphere, and between ocean ecosystems and the atmosphere.

## Missing concepts:

- The large anthropogenic fluxes of  $\text{CO}_2$  and  $\text{CH}_4$  must be determined in order to measure the ecosystem fluxes.*
- Emissions (biogenic and anthropogenic) and are inextricably mixed up with pollutants and aerosols.*

## Airborne – *in situ* – remote sensing connections:

- Tell us what is “inside the box” ;
- Diagnose underlying processes ;
- Confront global models with coordinated suites of data to test model transport, identify sources.



**ATom: NASA DC-8: tracking biomass burning  
contributions to CO<sub>2</sub> ecosystem fluxes (Feb 2017)**



## Comparing two global missions:

HIPPO: 88 N – 67 S, Pacific only

7 Major instruments

Carbon cycle, tracers, halocarbons

Total crew: 10;

Science Crew: 5

**GV**



Width  
7.5 / 5.5'

Width  
11'

Payload  
5600 lbs

Payload  
30000  
lbs

ATom: 88 N – 87 S, Pacific, Atlantic, Arctic, S. Ocean  
25 Major instruments

Carbon gases, tracers, halocarbons, reactive gases,  
full aerosol suite ; *freight...*

Total crew: 42; Science Crew: 25

**DC-8**



Antarctic  
^



Range, duration, payload

1 DC-8 = 4.5 Gulfstream -V

Unique worldwide

$\text{CO}_2$ ,  $\text{CH}_4 \Leftrightarrow$  air quality, climate change  
via atmospheric chemistry and aerosol payloads.

Global deep soundings of *in situ* measurements, the only way to deal with:

**Biases:** Wring out biases in global satellite data (land-sea, latitude, hemisphere, season), which lead to unacceptable biases in “global fluxes of  $\text{CO}_2$  and  $\text{CH}_4$  at spatial scales of 100 – 500 km with monthly resolution”. See TCCON, GoSAT, OCO-2 v. 7, 8, 9.

**Vertical distributions:** Find algorithm issues ; what is inside the box.

**Fluxes:** Separate anthropogenic and ecosystem fluxes via chemical suite.

**Climate interactions:** Aerosols,  $\text{CH}_4$  lifetimes, ....

Unbiased ensemble sampling can make these data globally representative.

Long range, heavy lift → Key to enable space observations to answer the most important global questions

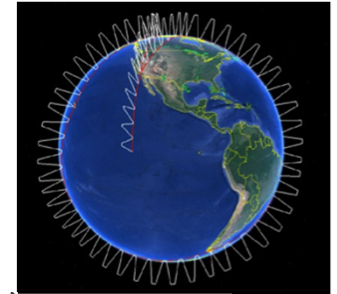




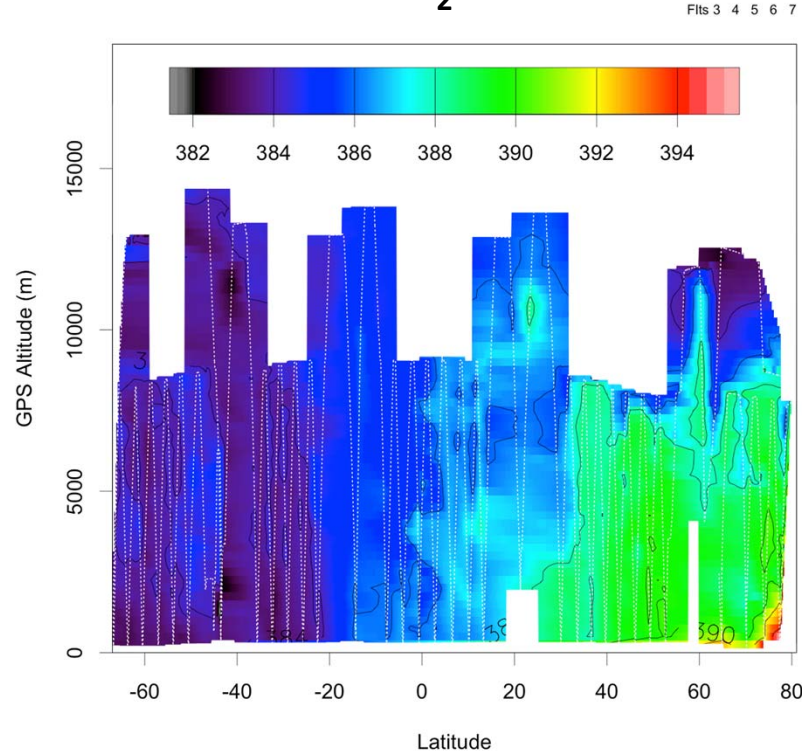


# Airborne – *in situ* – remote sensing connections:

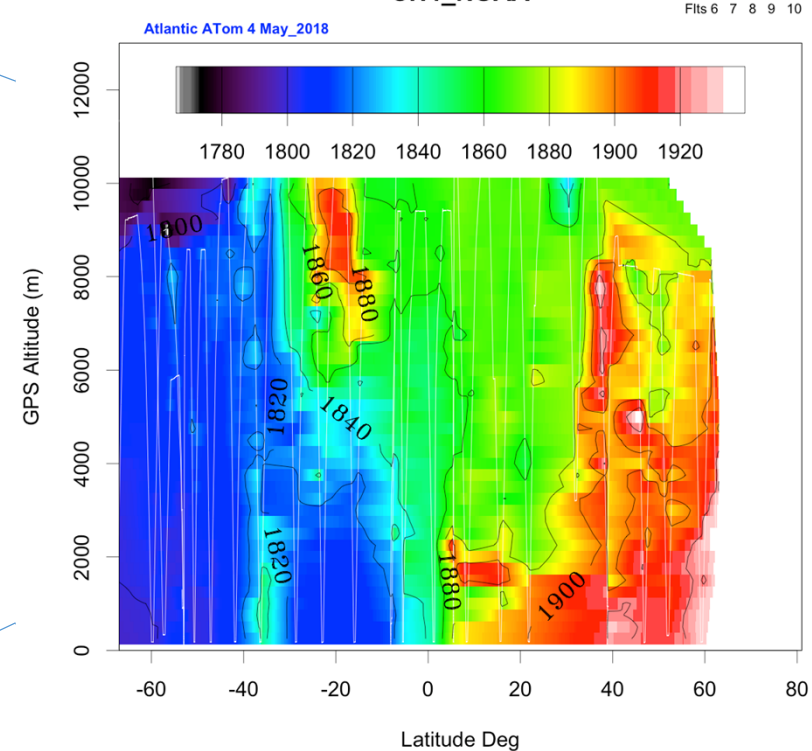
- Tell us what is “inside the box” ;
- Diagnose underlying processes ;
- Confront global models with data.



Pacific XSECT CO<sub>2</sub>



Atlantic XSECT CH<sub>4</sub>\_NOAA



**HIPPO: NSF GV**  
**(2009 – 2011)**



Harvard John A. Paulson  
School of Engineering  
and Applied Sciences

**ATom: NASA DC-8**  
**(2016 – 2018)**