Decreasing the computational cost of analytic inversions of highresolution satellite observations

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TROPOMI methane observations provide a unique opportunity to improve constraints on emission estimates



The spatial and temporal distribution of methane emissions is uncertain

Total Methane Emissions: 550 Tg/a



Maasakkers et al. (2019)

Significant errors exist in prior emission inventories



Maasakkers et al. (2016)

Observations of methane reflect emissions, atmospheric transport, and atmospheric chemistry



Forward models replicate transport and chemistry to describe the dependence of observations on estimated emissions



Inversions describe the dependence of emissions on observations



A Bayesian inversion accounts for these errors by maximizing the probability of the emissions given the observations



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While the adjoint efficiently computes the derivative, it does not support analytic solution of errors or extensive sensitivity testing



adjoint solutions do not:

find the true minimum of the cost function

provide analytic posterior error

support extensive sensitivity testing

reduce adjoint development costs

¹⁰ Source: Brasseur and Jacob

An analytic solution to the cost function minimum exists when the forward model is linear



Past inversions optimized emissions on a coarse grid, but denser satellite observations support higher resolution inversions

Increasing inversion resolution increases computational cost, which is limited by the number of grid boxes optimized

The Jacobian **K** represents the sensitivity of observations to emissions: $\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{K}\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{c}$ with $\mathbf{K} = \frac{\partial \mathbf{y}}{\partial \mathbf{x}}$

emissions estimate

modeled observations

The computational cost of an analytic Bayesian inversion is limited by the resolution $4^{\circ} \times 5^{\circ} = -16,000$ core-hours

1,000 grid cells, 8 cores, 2 hours per simulation-year

2° x 2.5 ° : ~3,000,000 core-hours
4,000 grid cells, 32 cores, 24 hours per sir

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1° x 1.25 ° : ~86,000,000 core-hours

16,000 grid cells, 32 cores, 7 days per simulation-year

How can analytic inversions:

- i. increase resolution;
- ii. minimize computational cost;
- iii. and maintain information content?

Reduced-Rank Jacobian Construction

I. REDUCED-RANK INVERSIONS (BOUSSEREZ ET AL. 2018)

II. REDUCED-RANK JACOBIANS

Reducing the dimension of the state space from n to p << n can reduce the computational cost of an analytic inversion

There are multiple methods of discretely clustering grid cells to reduce the state space dimension

¹⁹ Wecht et al. (2014)

Bocquet et al. (2011)

Known information about the emission-observation system can be used to find an optimal clustering analytically

Averaging Kernel :
$$\mathbf{A} = \frac{\partial \hat{x}}{\partial x} = f(\mathbf{S}_{\mathbf{A}}, \mathbf{S}_{\mathbf{0}}, \mathbf{K})$$

An eigendecomposition of A Q_{DOF} H_P gives the patterns of information in the emission-observation system

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-0.1

-0.0

-0.1

The inversion can be solved in the directions given by the eigenvectors in a reduced-dimension or reduced-rank space

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The full rank approximation reproduces the full rank solution and converges to the true solution as k \rightarrow n

Full Rank Approximation Posterior Mean Projected Forward Model Posterior Error Variance

The "reduced-rank inversion" maximizes the information content of the posterior solution

Reduced-Rank Jacobian Construction

Reduced-rank inversions decrease computational cost without significant loss of information content in the posterior solution.

Increasing inversion resolution increases computational cost, which is limited by the number of grid boxes optimized

Reduced-Rank Jacobian Construction

Reduced-rank inversions decrease computational cost without significant loss of information content in the posterior solution.

Next steps:

I. Reduce the computational cost of constructing Jacobians for analytic Bayesian inversions.

Reduced-Rank Jacobian Construction

I. REDUCED-RANK INVERSIONS (BOUSSEREZ ET AL. 2018)

II. REDUCED-RANK JACOBIANS

The approximated posterior implicitly uses a reduced-rank Jacobian

The Jacobian **K** represents the sensitivity of observations to emissions: $\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{K}\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{c}$ with $\mathbf{K} = \frac{\partial \mathbf{y}}{\partial \mathbf{x}}$

emissions estimate

modeled observations

Perturbing eigenvectors would require k < n model runs and yield a reduced-rank Jacobian

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Because the eigenvectors include a contribution from the model, constructing the Jacobian is an iterative process

III. Calculate the full dimension Jacobian K_1 [m x n]

The Jacobian can be initialized using a mass-balance approach

The initial estimate produces sufficiently similar eigenpairs

Because the eigenvectors include a contribution from the model, constructing the Jacobian is an iterative process

III. Calculate the full dimension Jacobian K_1 [m x n]

A single iteration significantly improves the estimated Jacobian

A single iteration with 200 perturbations improves the eigenpairs

A single iteration with 400 perturbations improves the eigenpairs

A single iteration with 600 perturbations improves the eigenpairs

Iterating improves the Jacobian estimate

The resulting posterior approximates the true posterior with fewer than half the model runs

The resulting posterior approximates the true posterior best in areas with high information content

Reduced-Rank Jacobian Construction

Reduced-rank Jacobians optimize methane emissions in areas with high information content while significantly decreasing computational cost.

Next steps:

I. Define and justify an optimal iteration scheme, including convergence criteria;

II. Quantify the error associated with the reduced-rank Jacobian and the resulting posterior solutions.