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Estimating Global Co Emission Constraints And Energy

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MAURICIO CONWAY

Characterizing and Responding to Uncertainty in Climate Change Springer Science & Business Media
Understanding, quantifying, and tracking atmospheric methane and emissions is essential for addressing concerns and informing decisions that affect the climate, economy, and human health and safety. Atmospheric methane is a potent greenhouse gas (GHG) that contributes to global warming. While carbon dioxide is by far the dominant cause of the rise in global average temperatures, methane also plays a significant role because it absorbs more energy per unit mass than carbon dioxide does, giving it a disproportionately large effect on global radiative forcing. In addition to contributing to climate change, methane also affects human health as a precursor to ozone pollution in the lower atmosphere. Improving Characterization of Anthropogenic Methane Emissions in the United States summarizes the current state of understanding of methane emissions sources and the measurement approaches and evaluates opportunities for methodological and inventory development improvements. This report will inform future research agendas of various U.S. agencies, including NOAA, the EPA, the DOE, NASA, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), and the National Science Foundation (NSF).

Policy Options for Stabilizing Global Climate Cambridge University Press

International concern for the continued growth of greenhouse gas emissions, and the potentially damaging consequences of resultant global climate change, led to the signing of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change by 155 nations at the Earth Summit in June 1992. The Convention came into force on 21 March 1994, three months after receiving its 50th ratification. All Parties to the Convention are required to compile, periodically update, and publish national inventories of anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions and sinks using comparable methodologies. In support of this process, the US Country Studies Program (US CSP) is providing financial and technical assistance to 56 developing and transition countries for conducting national inventories. This book presents the results of preliminary national inventories prepared by countries participating in the US CSP that are ready to share their interim findings. In some cases, inventories were prepared with support from other organizations. Preliminary inventories of twenty countries in Africa, Asia, Central and Eastern Europe and the Newly Independent States, and Latin America are presented, as well as regional and global syntheses of the national results. The regional and global syntheses also discuss results of eleven other preliminary national inventories that have been published elsewhere with the assistance of other programs. Results are discussed in the context of national and regional socioeconomic characteristics, and the regional and global syntheses compare national inventory estimates to other published estimates that are based largely on international databases. Papers also discuss inventory development issues, such as data collection and emission factor determination, and problems associated with applying the IPCC inventory methodologies. The preliminary inventory results reported here represent significant progress towards meeting country commitments under the Framework Convention, and provide useful information for refining international greenhouse gas emission databases and improving inventory methodologies. As the first book to compile national greenhouse gas emission estimates prepared by national experts in developing countries and countries with economies in transition, this will be an invaluable resource to scientists, policymakers, and development specialists in national, regional and global anthropogenic sources and sinks of greenhouse gases.

Inventory of U.S. Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Sinks National Academies Press

Global Biomass Burning provides a convenient and current reference on such topics as the remote sensing of biomass burning from space, the geographical distribution of burning; the combustion products of burning in tropical, temperate, and boreal ecosystems; burning as a global source of atmospheric gases and particulates; the impact of biomass burning gases and particulates on global climate; and the role of biomass burning on biodiversity and past global extinctions."--Pub. desc.

Soil Emission of Nitrous Oxide and its Mitigation CRC Press

This book grows out of a 2001 workshop on "Emission of Chemical Species and Aerosols into the Atmosphere." The contents deal with inventories of emissions related to anthropogenic emissions or biomass burning; emissions from vegetation and soils; emissions of mineral and sea-salt aerosols; and emissions of sulphur compounds from the oceans. Concluding chapters show how atmospheric observations have been used to improve our knowledge of emissions.

Green Energy and Technology United Nations

Atmospheric Chemistry has been a rapidly growing field with a recent focus on the major aspects of global environmental change, including stratospheric ozone depletion, UV-B change, and global warming. This book describes recent developments in our understanding of the global aspects of the chemistry in the main parts of the atmosphere, troposphere, and stratosphere, as obtained from field observations, laboratory investigations, and modeling studies. Although this chemistry is largely driven by reactions between gas phase species, recent progress made in the understanding of chemical reactions occurring in clouds and on the surface of aerosols is also reported.

Advances in Environmental Science and Engineering The Stationery Office

The UN Environment Emissions Gap Report assesses the latest scientific studies on current and estimated future greenhouse gas emissions and compares these with the emission levels permissible for the world to progress on a least-cost pathway to achieve the goals of the Paris Agreement. This difference between [where we are likely to be and where we need to be] is known as the [emissions gap]. The report explores some of the most important options available for countries to bridge the gap.

Effects of Changes in Stratospheric Ozone and Global Climate Springer Science & Business Media

These results from the National Research Programme on Climate Change of the Netherlands offer a synthesis of present knowledge in the fields of: source and sinks of greenhouse gases and aerosols; land-atmosphere interactions; the global energy balance; and radiative forcing and climate variability.

Negative Emissions Technologies and Reliable Sequestration MIT Press

The development and analysis of climate policy proposals intertwine with the structure of knowledge and the possibility for changing it. Key questions concern the long-term interaction between policy, technology, infrastructure, and the earth system, but each of these components is deeply uncertain. This dissertation advances the description of knowledge about the climate system, the assessment of economic responses to climatic possibilities, and the development of policy that positions society to achieve long-term climate goals. It offers new paths to describing understanding of complex

systems and to modeling optimal management under structural uncertainty. The first chapter formalizes uncertainty about equilibrium climate change. Its hierarchical Bayes framework allows climate models to be incomplete and to share biases, and it shows how prior beliefs about models' completeness and independence interact with models' estimates of feedback strength to determine distributions for temperature change. When models might share biases, the results of additional models might tell us more about models' common structure than about the real-world processes they aim to represent. The most valuable information would then come not from related models but from alternate estimates that should carry a different set of unobservable biases. The possibility that models are wrong in common ways limits the degree to which models' estimates can narrow the probability distribution for feedback strength, which also limits our ability to rule out extreme climatic outcomes. The second chapter empirically estimates a feedback that is especially difficult to model. Climate-carbon feedbacks (or carbon cycle feedbacks) describe the effect of temperature on carbon dioxide (CO₂). If they are positive, then not only does anthropogenic CO₂ cause warming via the greenhouse effect and earth system feedbacks, but this warming itself increases CO₂ and so causes further warming. Previous empirical work estimated a stronger feedback than did coupled climate-carbon cycle models. However, those empirical estimates were probably biased upwards while coupled models' estimates were primarily driven by a few ill-constrained parameters. This chapter attempts to obtain an unbiased estimate of climate-carbon feedback strength by using variations in summer radiation in the Arctic (i.e., variations in orbital forcing) to identify the effect of temperature on CO₂ in 800 ky ice core records. It finds a range for climate-carbon feedbacks that is closer to coupled models' estimates than to previous empirical work. Since climate-carbon feedbacks are probably positive, temperature change projections tend to underestimate an emission path's consequences if they do not allow the carbon cycle to respond to changing temperatures. The next three chapters assess economic responses to climate change in a policy-optimizing integrated assessment model, in games with long-lived investments into abatement capital, and in a cost-effectiveness model with multiple policy options stretching over long time horizons. The first of these chapters extends a well-known integrated assessment model to include the possibility of abrupt shifts in the climate system. It also changes the model's structure to make the decision-maker aware of uncertainty and of the possibility for learning over time, and it generalizes the welfare evaluation to reflect that uncertainty about temperature change is qualitatively unlike uncertainty about climate thresholds. It finds that tipping points can increase the near-term social cost of carbon by more than 50% when they raise climate sensitivity or make damages more convex. They have less of an effect when they increase the atmospheric lifetime of CO₂ or the quantity of non-CO₂ greenhouse gases. Allowing the policymaker to be differentially averse to consumption fluctuations over time and over risk increases the near-term social cost of carbon by 150%, with tipping point possibilities then increasing it by another 50%. The possibility of tipping points is more important for the social cost of carbon than is the ambiguity attitude the decision-maker uses in evaluating them. The second of these climate economics chapters models the optimal emission tax when firms can adopt low-pollution technology that reduces abatement cost. The regulator anticipates this adoption but must set the tax before firms invest. In many cases, a linear emission tax cannot obtain both socially optimal investment and socially optimal emissions because the regulator either will set it inefficiently high to stimulate investment or will set it at an ex post optimal level that obtains inefficiently low investment. The difficulty is that an emission tax fixes both the incentive to invest and the incentive to abate, but these two goals rarely align perfectly when investment is lumpy. In contrast, tradable permits policies do not suffer this tension because the permit price responds automatically to realized investment. A numerical model then considers the ability of the regulator to select not only the level but also the duration of the tax. It shows that outcomes are still often socially inefficient. Further, the regulator will occasionally use a longer tax to obtain investment when firms expect their investments to lower the tax in the next period, but the cost of not being able to adjust the next period's tax limits the parameter space in which the longer tax is employed. The fifth chapter constructs cost-effective dynamic policy portfolios of abatement, research and development (R & D), and negative emission technology deployment in order to achieve 21st century climate targets. It includes two types of stochastic technological change in a stylized numerical model and allows each type of technology to respond both to public R & D and to abatement policies. It compares worlds where negative emission technologies are and are not available, and it compares a world where the century's cumulative net emissions are constrained with a world in which threshold possibilities lead policy to constrain cumulative net emissions in each year during the century. It finds that R & D options are valuable and exercised but do not substitute for near-term abatement. The type of R & D undertaken depends on long-term emission goals because those determine the magnitude of future abatement. When the cumulative emission constraint is stringent, negative emission technologies substitute for near-term abatement and affect the type of R & D undertaken, but if threshold considerations eliminate the freedom to temporarily overshoot emission targets, negative emission technologies become less valuable. The availability of negative emission technologies provides a valuable option to partially undo previous emissions, but abatement also gains option value from increasing future flexibility to forgo reliance on negative emission technologies if the technology or climate prove problematic in the interim. The concluding chapter directly connects uncertainty about climate change to uncertainty about the cost of achieving CO₂ targets. It shows how beliefs about technology, temperature, and damages interact to affect the cost-effectiveness of climate targets. It finds that the speed with which damages increase at higher temperatures is the most important of these factors. Both 450 parts per million (ppm) and 550 ppm CO₂ targets provide net benefits for quadratic damage functions that reduce annual output by less than the 1-2% estimated for 2.5°C of warming. Cubic damage functions support both CO₂ targets even if 2.5°C of warming only reduces output by 0.2% or less. More convex damage functions also reduce the importance of abatement cost uncertainty, significantly increase the range of damage functions that support these targets and decrease the importance of abatement cost uncertainty. In addition, because extreme feedback outcomes have little effect over the next decades, a thinner-tailed temperature distribution (resulting from optimistic prior beliefs about climate models' independence and biases) supports CO₂ targets under slightly less severe damages than does the thicker-tailed distribution (resulting from skepticism about climate models' independence and biases). Emission reductions hedge against greater societal sensitivity to temperature increases while exposing society to the upside of positive technology surprises. The epistemology of complex systems in an out-of-sample world is a key motif. This dissertation advances knowledge of climate change and understanding of policy design in

settings with limited ability to predict future changes or responses. Further work should seek a more unified framework for describing and acting on knowledge of evolving complex systems.

Image: An Integrated Model to Assess the Greenhouse Effect National Academies Press
In this dissertation, I present three essays that consider the environmental consequences of technological change, from an international perspective. The first two chapters use firm-level production data to estimate the response of CO₂ emission intensity to changes in competition in foreign markets. The first chapter estimates this response with respect to foreign demand shocks, i.e., a positive shock to exports. The second chapter exploits a specific liberalization episode to estimate the impact with respect to foreign competition shocks, i.e., a negative shock to exports. Both papers are co-authored with Helene Ollivier. The final chapter analyzes the decision to adopt genetically engineered seeds in different countries around the world, and the attendant impacts on supply and land-use. This last chapter is co-authored with David Zilberman and Steven Sexton and was previously published in *Environment and Development Economics*. The first chapter investigates the impact of exporting on the CO₂ emission intensity of manufacturing firms in India. Recent papers have argued that export market access encourages firms to upgrade technology, which lowers the emission intensity of production; however, data limitations confound previous attempts to separately identify productivity impacts from simultaneous changes in prices and product-mix. We present a model of how these alternative channels could also explain the results documented in the literature. Then, using a highly detailed production dataset of large Indian manufacturing firms that contains information on physical units of inputs and outputs by product, we are able to decompose the overall firm impact into three components -- prices, product-mix, and technology. Export impacts at the firm level are identified from import demand shocks of foreign trading partners. We find that prices systematically bias down estimates of emission intensity in value, that firms adjust emission intensity in quantity through changing output shares across products, but that firms do not lower emission intensity within products over time (technology). The results imply that the productivity benefits from market integration alone are not enough to induce clean technology adoption. The second chapter investigates the "third-party" impact of trade liberalization on the environmental performance of firms in countries that lose market share as a result of the liberalization. If competition matters for exporting (as previous research indicates), and exporting matters for emission intensity, then emission intensity reductions in liberalized markets may be offset by emission intensity increases in countries peripheral to the liberalization. To test for this indirect effect, we exploit quasi-natural variation arising from the elimination of quota constraints on textile and apparel exports to the US between 1994 and 2007. Using a detailed panel of production and emission data at the firm-product level, we find that Indian exporters in Prowess lost on average 14% export sales as a result of liberalized trade between the US and India's competitors. This loss of export sales was accompanied by an increase in CO₂ intensity of 9%. The results do not appear to be due to fuel-switching, but there is suggestive evidence that capital investments and switching to higher emission intensity varieties may have played a role. Overall, the results support the importance of international competition for production and pollution decisions of firms around the world. The final chapter uses aggregate data to estimate supply, price, land-use, and greenhouse gas impacts of genetically engineered (GE) seed adoption due both to increased yield per hectare (intensive margin) and increased planted area (extensive margin). An adoption model with profitability and risk considerations distinguishes between the two margins, where the intensive margin results from direct "gene" impacts and higher complementary input use, and the extensive margin reflects the growing range of lands that become profitable with the GE technology. We identify yield increases from cross-country time series variation in GE adoption share within the main GE crops- cotton, corn, and soybeans. We find that GE increased yields 34% for cotton, 12% for corn and 3% for soybeans. We then estimate quantity of extensive margin lands from year-to-year changes in traditional and GE planted area. If all production on the extensive margin is attributed to GE technology, the supply effect of GE increases from 5% to 12% for corn, 15% to 20% for cotton, and 2% to 40% for soybeans, generating significant downward pressure on prices. Finally, we compute "saved" lands and greenhouse gases as the difference between observed hectareage per crop and counterfactual hectareage needed to generate the same output without the yield boost from GE. We find that all together, GE saved 13 million hectares of land from conversion to agriculture in 2010, and averted emissions are equivalent to roughly 1/8 the annual emissions from automobiles in the US.

Mercury in the Environment United Nations

Nitrous oxide gas is a long-lived relatively active greenhouse gas (GHG) with an atmospheric lifetime of approximately 120 years, and heat trapping effects about 310 times more powerful than carbon dioxide per molecule basis. It contributes about 6% of observed global warming. Nitrous oxide is not only a potent GHG, but it also plays a significant role in the depletion of stratospheric ozone. This book describes the anthropogenic sources of N₂O with major emphasis on agricultural activities. It summarizes an overview of global cycling of N and the role of nitrous oxide on global warming and ozone depletion, and then focus on major source, soil borne nitrous oxide emissions. The spatial-temporal variation of soil nitrous oxide fluxes and underlying biogeochemical processes are described, as well as approaches to quantify fluxes of N₂O from soils. Mitigation strategies to reduce the emissions, especially from agricultural soils, and fertilizer nitrogen sources are described in detail in the latter part of the book.

Essays on Technology and the Environment from an International Perspective Verifying Greenhouse Gas Emissions

For at least a decade the science of climate change has warned us of the dire need for action - particularly by corporations who are the main engines of economic production and consumption. Yet managerial and corporate understanding of climate change and related energy issues remains fragmented and present actions lack the urgency this critical problem deserves. There is a whole new economy - the low-carbon economy - looming on the horizon. But our consumption and production patterns remain in a carbon-locked position. What we are risking is a global carbon crisis and a case of history repeating. Humankind's failure to adequately recognise the onset of and address the effects of the global financial crisis mirrors our similar failures with the carbon crisis. There are many parallels: both are and were predictable and both will have direct implications on humanity on a sweeping, indiscriminate and severe scale. The difference is that we cannot reverse the effects of climate change and fossil fuel scarcity as easily as we can repair the global financial system. It is of paramount importance that we wake up to the risks and begin tackling the issues early enough. To successfully address the risks, business needs to be aware of the consequences that a changing climate and finite carbon resources will have on their business performance. The element carbon - both as a resource and as an emission - is both an economic threat as well as an opportunity for companies. It is a threat for carbon-intense production systems that will need to be changed to avoid further harmful climatic change, and take into account the limited availability of carbon-based fuels. At the same time, new opportunities will emerge for companies who can creatively design and produce goods and services that fit the new emerging carbon-constrained business environment. Many sectors of the economy - for example, renewable energy, energy and resources conservation, waste reduction and management, carbon finance markets - will expand rapidly, as other carbon- and resource-intensive sectors decline. The Global Carbon Crisis succinctly

translates important insights from the natural sciences, economics and equity discussions, for the business reader. It reviews important aspects of these discussions and clarifies misunderstandings with respect to climate change and fossil fuel availability and their implications for business. The book provides simple, direct, pragmatic and effective solutions that policy-makers and corporate managers can implement. The aim is to provoke action - thoughtful action - towards developing a low-carbon future for companies on three levels. At the macro level, the authors discuss the importance of tough industrial policies for climate change and propose the idea of an international carbon-equal fund. At the meso level, they elaborate on the role of inter-firm collaborations for establishing low-carbon industries and production systems. At the micro level, they illustrate the virtue of proactive carbon strategies and suggest a corporate carbon management framework. Getting the message of the carbon crisis across to a business audience has proved challenging. This book successfully makes the case that they are intricately connected to one another and practising managers and business students will benefit from viewing the carbon crisis in parallel to the financial meltdown. The book will be essential reading for all businesses grappling with carbon-related issues and for many in academia, including those in management, strategy, finance, corporate social responsibility and sustainable development, globalisation and innovation studies. Springer

This book provides a snapshot on economic thinking about global change and provides a starting point for researchers for evaluating the economics of global change in the context of agriculture, forestry, and resource issues. It attempts to rectify the scarcity of economic analysis in global change.

Buying Greenhouse Insurance CRC Press

This comprehensive volume is the first to consider biomass burning as a global phenomenon and to assess its impact on the atmosphere, on climate, and on the biosphere itself.

Verifying Greenhouse Gas Emissions Springer Science & Business Media

This book provides profiles of over 50 countries with 54 development indicators about people, environment, economy, technology, infrastructure, trade and finance, all in one handy, pocket-sized volume. A must have for anyone interested in today's development challenges in sub-Saharan Africa. *The Emissions Gap Report* MIT Press

The GHG Protocol Corporate Accounting and Reporting Standard helps companies and other organizations to identify, calculate, and report GHG emissions. It is designed to set the standard for accurate, complete, consistent, relevant and transparent accounting and reporting of GHG emissions.

The Climate System National Academies Press

, *Buying Greenhouse Insurance* outlines a way to think about greenhouse-effect decisions under uncertainty. It describes an insightful model for determining the economic costs of limiting carbon dioxide emissions produced by burning fossil fuels and provides a solid analytical base for rethinking public policy on the far-reaching issue of global warming. In recent years a growing concern that the increasing accumulation of greenhouse gases will lead to undesirable changes in global climate has resulted in a number of proposals, both in the United States and internationally, to set physical targets for reducing greenhouse gas emissions. But what will these proposals cost? Based on the authors' earlier ground-breaking work, *Buying Greenhouse Insurance* outlines a way to think about greenhouse-effect decisions under uncertainty. It describes an insightful model for determining the economic costs of limiting carbon dioxide emissions produced by burning fossil fuels and provides a solid analytical base for rethinking public policy on the far-reaching issue of global warming. Manne and Richels present region-by-region estimates of the costs that would underlie an international agreement. Using a computer model known as Global 2100, they analyze the economic impacts of limiting CO₂ emissions under alternative supply and conservation scenarios. The results clearly indicate that a reduction in emissions is not the sole policy response to potential climate change. Following a summary of the greenhouse effect, its likely causes, and possible consequences, Manne and Richels take up issues that concern the public at large. They provide an overview of Global 2100, look at how the U.S. energy sector is likely to evolve under business-as-usual conditions and under carbon constraints, and describe the concept of "greenhouse insurance." They consider possible global agreements, including an estimate of benefits that might result from trading in an international market in emission rights. They conclude with a technical description directed toward modeling specialists.

Carbon Dioxide Capture and Storage National Academies Press

The world's nations are moving toward agreements that will bind us together in an effort to limit future greenhouse gas emissions. With such agreements will come the need for all nations to make accurate estimates of greenhouse gas emissions and to monitor changes over time. In this context, the present book focuses on the greenhouse gases that result from human activities, have long lifetimes in the atmosphere and thus will change global climate for decades to millennia or more, and are currently included in international agreements. The book devotes considerably more space to CO₂ than to the other gases because CO₂ is the largest single contributor to global climate change and is thus the focus of many mitigation efforts. Only data in the public domain were considered because public access and transparency are necessary to build trust in a climate treaty. The book concludes that each country could estimate fossil-fuel CO₂ emissions accurately enough to support monitoring of a climate treaty. However, current methods are not sufficiently accurate to check these self-reported estimates against independent data or to estimate other greenhouse gas emissions. Strategic investments would, within 5 years, improve reporting of emissions by countries and yield a useful capability for independent verification of greenhouse gas emissions reported by countries.

Countdown to Kyoto, Parts I-III Springer Science & Business Media

Rice production is affected by changing climate conditions and has the dual role of contributing to global warming through emissions of the greenhouse gas methane. Climate change has been recognized as a major threat to the global environment. Because of insufficient field data, rice-growing countries face a problem when trying to comply with the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change stipulations to compile a national inventory of emissions and to explore mitigation options. Given the expected doubling in rice production in Asia, the need to evaluate the interaction between climate change and rice production is critical to forming a sound basis for future directions of technology developments by policy makers, agriculturists, environmentalists, rice producers, and rice consumers. The present book comprises two sections. The first part documents a comprehensive overview of the results achieved from an interregional research effort to quantify methane emission from major rice ecosystems and to identify efficient mitigation options. This research report broadens understanding of the contribution of rice cultivation to methane emissions and clarifies that emissions are relatively low, except in specific rice ecosystems, and that these high emissions could be ameliorated without sacrificing yield. The second section shows results from other projects that investigated the role of rice cultivators in field and laboratory approaches. The findings represent inputs for future modeling approaches in the role of rice cultivators. The expanded database generated by other projects is reflected in modeling efforts.

The Emissions Gap Report 2016 United Nations

Cepal Review is the leading journal for the study of economic and social development issues in Latin America and the Caribbean. Edited by the Economic Commission for Latin America, each issue focuses on economic trends, industrialization, income distribution, technological development and monetary systems, as well as the implementation of reforms and transfer of technology. Written in English and Spanish (Revista De La Cepal), each tri-annual issue brings you approximately 12 studies and essays undertaken by authoritative experts or gathered from conference proceedings.

Economic Issues In Global Climate Change Springer Science & Business Media

The Earth that sustains us today was born out of a few remarkable, near-catastrophic revolutions, started by biological innovations and marked by global environmental consequences. The

revolutions have certain features in common, such as an increase in complexity, energy utilization, and information processing by life. This book describes these revolutions, showing the fundamental interdependence of the evolution of life and its non-living environment. We would not exist unless these upheavals had led eventually to 'successful' outcomes - meaning that after each one, at length, a new stable world emerged. The current planet-reshaping activities of our species may be the start of another great Earth system revolution, but there is no guarantee that this one will be successful. The book explains what a successful transition through it might look like, if we are wise enough to steer such a course. This book places humanity in context as part of the Earth system, using a new scientific synthesis to illustrate our debt to the deep past and our potential for the future.