

README

Coastal wetland GHG model (CWGM) overview

The coastal wetland GHG model (CWGM) is a power-law based empirical model developed by using data from Waquoit Bay and Great Pond estuaries, MA, representing biogeochemical and ecological gradients. The model predicts fluxes of CO₂ ($NEE_{CO_2,uptake}$, units: $\mu\text{mol}/\text{m}^2/\text{s}$), nighttime emission fluxes of CO₂ ($NEE_{CO_2,emission}$, units: $\mu\text{mol}/\text{m}^2/\text{s}$), CH₄ ($NEE_{CH_4,emission}$, units: $\text{nmol}/\text{m}^2/\text{s}$) from photosynthetically active radiation (PAR, units: $\mu\text{mol}/\text{m}^2/\text{s}$), soil porewater salinity (SS, units: parts per thousand, ppt). A robust multivariate data analytics framework was used to identify environmental drivers of fluxes as model inputs. The model is simple, handy and user-friendly, and only requires a few inputs to predict the GHG fluxes.

Model Assumptions and Domain

- Coastal salt marshes are productive mainly during the extended growing season (e.g., May to October), which is the preferable period of productivity in the model.
- The model is directly applicable to the tidal salt marshes in Cape Cod, Massachusetts. However, the model can be applied to other coastal wetlands in New England and beyond given comparable environmental regimes.
- The net atmospheric carbon removal (NACR) represents the carbon removed from atmosphere by tidal wetlands. NACR is related to net carbon (CO₂) uptake and net carbon (CO₂ and CH₄) emissions in the salt marshes. NACR is related to the Net Ecosystem Carbon Balance (NECB) of a wetland as follows: $NECB = NACR - \text{net lateral flux}$.

UserGuide

- To run the model, first enable "macros" in your Excel file. If your version of the Excel software does not enable "macros" when you open this file. Then save this Excel file as an "Excel Macro-Enabled Workbook".
- The model requires at least a single set of data as inputs for the following environmental variables: photosynthetically active radiation (PAR), soil porewater salinity (SS) in Column B, C, and D, respectively, in the "Coastal Wetland GHG Model" spreadsheet.
- Daily averaged observations of the environmental variables are ideal; however, representative instantaneous observations are also acceptable. It is recommended to input approximately three sets of observations to represent the beginning (e.g., May), middle, and end of the productive period in a year. As a rule of thumb, inclusion of more daily averaged observations of the environmental variables will improve the estimate of the fluxes and NACR over a user-defined period. The 'Example' spreadsheet demonstrates representative environmental variables for all available days during May-October, 2013.
- Input the desired number of days in Column F ("Enter the number of days for which you want to estimate predicted GHG fluxes will be upscaled over the user-defined number of days to estimate NACR. We use 100 days (May to October) for upscaling as a default).
- To quantify the CH₄ emission fluxes and NACR based on IPCC recommended 20 year and 100 year CO₂ equivalent global warming potentials (GWPs) of 86 or 34 (recommended) from the dropdown menu in Column G ("Enter CO₂ equivalent global warming potential (GWP) from the dropdown menu to estimate the CH₄ emission and NACR without considering any GWPs).
- Click the RUN button to get the model predictions and outputs.
- Since this is a power-law based model, you should not give zero or negative values as inputs. A message box will appear if you enter zero or negative values as inputs. Click OK in the message box to continue.
- The negative sign of predicted GHG fluxes and NACR indicates uptake (atmosphere to soil) and the positive sign indicates emission (soil to atmosphere).
- Instantaneous daytime uptake fluxes of CO₂, nighttime emission (respiration) fluxes of CO₂, and any time

3, respectively, as given below. The predicted CO₂ fluxes are upscaled over a user-defined period by as for each diurnal cycle (see Eqs. 4-5 below). The CH₄ fluxes are upscaled for 24- hour cycle over the use NACR over the user-defined period in units of gram carbon per square meter marsh area (gC/m²).

- A user can choose to use the model for a single or multiple wetland(s) at a time. The model will provide GHG fluxes and NACR if a user provides inputs from multiple wetlands.

$$[NEE]_{(CO2,uptake)} = -[10]^{(-3.99)} [PAR]^{0.6}$$

$$[NEE]_{(CO2,emission)} = [10]^{(0.6)}$$

$$[NEE]_{(CH4,emission)} = [10]^{(-2.61)}$$

$$[Daytime\ upscaled\ net\ uptake\ fluxes\ of\ CO_2]_{(2,)} [NEE]_{(CO2,uptake,upscaled)} = (\sum_{i=1}^n [NEE]_{(CO2,uptake)} \cdot [M] \cdot [GWP]) / [N]$$

$$[Nighttime\ upscaled\ net\ emission\ fluxes\ of\ CO_2]_{(2,)} [NEE]_{(CO2,emission,upscaled)} = (\sum_{i=1}^n [NEE]_{(CO2,emission)} \cdot [M] \cdot [GWP]) / [N]$$

$$[Anytime\ upscaled\ net\ emission\ fluxes\ of\ CH_4]_{(4,)} [NEE]_{(CH4,emission,upscaled)} = (\sum_{i=1}^n [NEE]_{(CH4,emission)} \cdot [M] \cdot [GWP]) / [N]$$

$$NACR = [NEE]_{(CO2,uptake,upscaled)} - [NEE]_{(CO2,emission,upscaled)} - [NEE]_{(CH4,emission,upscaled)}$$

where, $NEE_{CO_2,uptake}$, $NEE_{CO_2,emission}$, and PAR are in $\mu\text{mole}/\text{m}^2/\text{s}$; $NEE_{CH_4,emission}$ is in $\text{nmole}/\text{m}^2/\text{s}$ (ppt). $NEE_{CO_2,uptake,upscaled}$, $NEE_{CO_2,emission,upscaled}$, $NEE_{CH_4,emission,upscaled}$, and NACR are in gC/m^2 . n = number of observational input data (e.g., in the 'Example' spreadsheet, $n = 25$).

N = User-defined number of days (Column F; 183 is used as a default)

M = 12 g (molecular weight of carbon),

GWP = CO₂ equivalent global warming potential for CH₄ (Column H; 34 is used as a default).

CH₄ GWP options

1	If GWP is not considered
34	If 100 years GWP is considered (recommended)
86	If 20 years GWP is considered

Model Output

The Excel spreadsheet model will produce the following outputs:

- Predicted CO₂ (units: $\mu\text{mol}/\text{m}^2/\text{s}$) and CH₄ (units: $\text{nmol}/\text{m}^2/\text{s}$) fluxes.
- Upscaled CO₂ and CH₄ fluxes over the user-defined growing period (i.e., up-scaled values) in units of gC/m^2 .
- Net atmospheric carbon removal (NACR) over the user-defined period in units of gC/m^2 .

Reference

Abdul-Aziz, O.I., Ishtiaq, K.S., Tang, J., Moseman-Valtierra, S., Kroeger, K. D., Gonnee, M.E., Mora, J., et al. "Greenhouse gas (GHG) fluxes in coastal salt marshes: Data analytics, modeling, and predictions." *Under review*

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For any query about the model, methodology and excel spreadsheet, please contact with the following persons:

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for four different wetlands in
 the model predicts daytime net uptake
 ($\text{g}/\text{m}^2/\text{s}$), and net emission fluxes of
 soil temperature (ST, units: $^{\circ}\text{C}$), and
 is utilized to select the dominant
 requires a single set of input variables

However, users can decide their

model can be extended for tidal wetlands in

wetlands. NACR is the difference between
 to the net ecosystem carbon balance

It has "macros" enabled already, you should be asked to
 look".

Photosynthetically active radiation (PAR), soil temperature
 Model" spreadsheet.

Observations can also be used. Further, a user is
 middle (e.g., August), and end (e.g., October) of the
 environmental variables leads to a more representative
 model predictions by using daily averaged inputs of

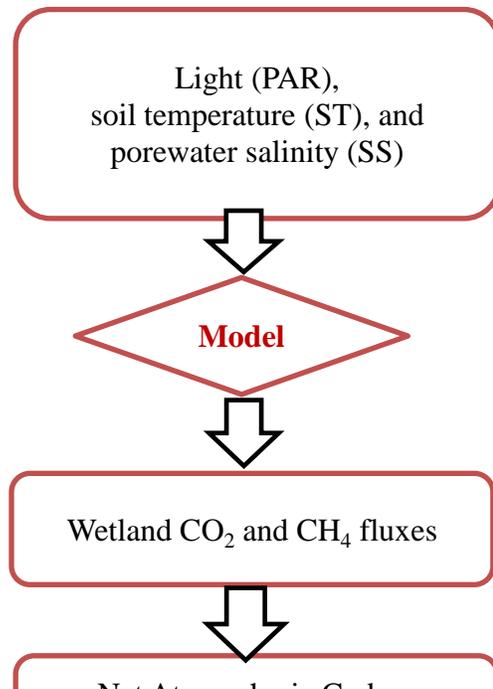
(the net atmospheric carbon removal") from which
 used 183 days (number of productive days from May to

CO_2 equivalent global warming potential (GWP), use either
 global warming potential for CH_4). However, an user can select 1.0

An error box will appear indicating an error if zero or negative

A positive sign indicates emissions.

The emission fluxes of CH_4 are predicted using Eq.1, 2, and



Net Atmospheric Carbon
Removal (NACR)

suming 12 hours of daytime and 12 hours of nighttime
r-defined period (Eq. 6). Then, Eq. 7 is used to calculate

an ensemble average regional-scale predictions of the

(1)

(2)

(3)

$$\sum_{i=1}^n [NEE]_{(CO2,uptake,i)} \quad (4)$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^n [NEE]_{(CO2,emission,i)} \quad (5)$$

$$(\sum_{i=1}^n [NEE]_{(CH4,emission,i)}) / n \times N \quad (6)$$

(7)

²/s; ST is in °C; and SS is in parts per thousand

gC/m²

nd Morkeski, K. (2017). "Environmental controls and emergent scaling of
ew.



sons:

