

ATS/CIRA Colloquium

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(On behalf of the authors of the Global Methane Assessment)

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3 p.m. Thursday, Sep.16

ATS 101

Hosted by Emily Fischer

Why Focus on Methane to Mitigate Climate Change? Background and the Global Methane Assessment

Methane, the simplest hydrocarbon, is a significant focus of current measures to keep the global mean temperature from exceeding 2°C by 2100. Why do we focus on methane, which is after all not the primary greenhouse gas? (It is the second most important greenhouse gas now, next to CO₂, but is a crucial short-lived climate pollutant).

I will discuss some “methane science.” The talk will include some introductory atmospheric chemistry of methane and its impact on health and climate. Then, I will describe the contents of the recent UNEP-CCAC assessment of methane. We can end with a discussion of what you all think about methane and what you can do to reduce its emissions.

Colloquia page: atmos.colostate.edu/colloquia