



Supplement of

Toward resolving the budget discrepancy of ozone-depleting carbon tetrachloride (CCl₄): an analysis of top-down emissions from China

Sunyoung Park et al.

Correspondence to: Sunyoung Park (sparky@knu.ac.kr)

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Gosan station

Gosan station (GSN, 33.25°N, 126.19°E, Jeju Island, Korea) is located on the boundary between the Pacific Ocean and the Asian continent (Fig. S1), which experiences a warm wet East Asian Summer Monsoon, a cold dry winter, and distinct seasonal wind patterns (strong northern winds in winter and a southern influence during summer). These wind patterns are favorable for monitoring air masses passing through East Asia, particularly through China and Korea. Clean background conditions are observed when a clean stream of air flows in directly from northern Siberia in winter and during transport of southerly oceanic winds in summer (Fig. S2).



Fig. S1. Gosan AGAGE (Advanced Global Atmospheric Gases Experiment) station is located on a 72-m cliff (air intake elevation: 89 m above sea level) on the remote south-western tip of Jeju Island, 100 km south of the Korean peninsula, allowing for monitoring of longrange air mass transport from the surrounding region.

Trajectory residence time

Residence time trajectory analyses are used extensively to identify source locations and preferred transport pathways of atmospheric trace elements and particulate species (Ashbaugh et al., 1985). Residence times are calculated by the following equation,

$$\tau_{abk} = \sum_{k=1}^{n} \sum_{h=1}^{l} (S_{abkh} / v_{kh})$$

where τ_{abk} is the total residence time for all trajectories over grid cell *a*, *b*; S_{abkh} is the length of that portion of the h^{th} segment of the k^{th} trajectory over the grid cell *a*, *b*; and v_{kn} is the average speed of the air parcel as it travels along the h^{th} segment of the k^{th} trajectory.

The residence time analysis shown in Fig. 2S suggests that the major air masses arriving at Gosan station (GSN) vary seasonally, with predominantly northwesterly and northeasterly continental outflows from fall through spring, and flows of clean air directly from the Pacific in summer and from northern Siberia in winter.



Fig. S2. Residence time analysis for 2008–2015 using 6-day back-trajectories arriving at Gosan station. Seasonal residence time distributions show a distinctive seasonally-varying wind pattern.



Fig. S3. Distribution of averaged residence times of air masses arriving at Gosan for the years 2008–2015. Residence times of over 24 h occurred over both northeastern continental regions and the central southern part of China. The asterisk denotes Gosan measurement station.



Fig. S4. 8-year observation records for CCl₄ analyzed in this study shown as red points (also shown in Fig. 1). For comparison, corresponding observations taken at the Mace Head station (53°N, 10°W) in Ireland are represented using blue points. Note that the "background" concentrations from GSN agree well with the baseline values at Mace Head station, a background station in the Northern Hemisphere, and are declining at a similar rate to its global trend.

Trajectory Statistics

To identify potential CCl_4 source regions, we applied statistical analysis coupled with back trajectories to the time series of observed enhancements in CCl_4 concentrations from 2008 to 2015. The trajectory statistics method has often been applied to estimate the potential source areas of air pollutants (Reimann et al. 2004), and the underlying assumption of this method is that elevated concentrations at an observation site are proportionally related to both the average concentrations in a specific grid cell over which the observed air mass has passed and the residence time of the air mass over that grid cell. Thus, the method simply computes a residence-time-weighted mean concentration for each grid cell by superimposing the back-trajectory domain on the grid matrix. The formula is given by,

$$\overline{C}_{ab} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n} (\tau_{abi}C_i)}{\sum_{i=1}^{n} \tau_{abi}}$$
S(2)

where C_i is the enhanced concentration of CCl₄ at a given i^{th} time; τ_{abi} is the residence time of the trajectory arriving at Gosan at the i^{th} time spent over grid cell *a*, *b* (in 0.5° x 0.5°) within the atmospheric boundary layer; and \overline{C}_{ab} represents the relative strength of the cell *a*, *b* as a potential source region of CCl₄. Back trajectories were calculated using the Hybrid Single Particle Lagrangian Integrated Trajectory (HYSPLIT) model of the NOAA Air Resources Laboratory (ARL) using meteorological information from the Global Data Assimilation System (GDAS) model with $1^{\circ} \times 1^{\circ}$ grid cell. The HYSPLIT model was run using 6-day backward trajectories at 500-m altitude above the measurement site. The residence times were calculated using the method of Poirot and Wishinski (1986). To eliminate low confidence level areas, a point filter was applied that removed grid cells over which less than 12 trajectories had passed (Reimann et al. 2004).

This trajectory statistics method can also be applied to illustrate the potential location of each source factor determined from the Positive Matrix Factorization (PMF) analysis. The formula is identical to Eq. S(2) in all respects, except that it uses the normalized strength of each source factor. The enhanced concentrations from the j^{th} source contribute to the observation at the k^{th} time (which is denoted as " f_{jk} " of Eq. (1) in main text). Since the f_{jk} values from all eight sources cover a very wide range of concentrations, the f_{jk} values can be normalized against their time average for the j^{th} source, with the aim of not biasing the statistical significance of one source against the others. Therefore, the normalized time series of f_{jk} values were defined as

$$mjk = fjk / (\sum_{k=1}^{n} fjk) / n$$
S(3)

Eq. S(2) was modified to the following,

$$\overline{m}_{abj} = \frac{\sum_{k=1}^{n} (\tau_{abk} m_{jk})}{\sum_{k=1}^{n} \tau_{abk}}$$

where M_{jk} is the normalized strength of the j^{th} source at a given k^{th} time; τ_{abk} is the residence time of the trajectory arriving at Gosan at the k^{th} time spent over the grid cell a, b (in 0.5° x 0.5°) within the atmospheric boundary layer; and m_{abj} represents the relative strength of the cell a, b as a potential source region of the j^{th} source.



Fig. S5(a). Trajectory attribution: four country domains defined to separate country-specific pollution signals from original observations. The Chinese domain is defined as being within a regional grid of 100–124°E and 21–45°N.



Fig. S5(b). CCl₄ pollution events in 2008–2015 classified according to origin. Air masses from China are shown in red, and purple dots represent blended air masses affected both by China and other countries. Together, these two groups explain approximately 75% of

observed pollution data during 2008–2015. The remaining 25% are shown as gray dots.



Fig. S6. Observed relationships of CCl₄ vs. 26 halocarbons for air masses originating from China. The colors by shade indicate statistical significance. The CCl₄: HCFC-22 ratio (0.13 ppt/ppt) has one of the most significant correlation coefficients ($R^2 = 0.79$, p < 0.01) of the calculated 25-member correlation matrix.



Fig. S7. Annual HCFC-22 emissions in China for 2008–2015 derived from atmospheric measurements data from Gosan station using an inverse technique based on a Lagrangian transport model analysis. Red error bars denote estimation uncertainty of 30%; dashed and solid gray lines represent the average and its 30% uncertainty ranges, respectively, for HCFC-22 emissions during 2008–2015. Estimates are very consistent overall with previous top-down studies and a bottom-up estimate.



Fig. S8. Annual slopes of empirical correlations between observed enhancements of CCl₄ vs. HCFC-22 (Δ CCl₄ vs. Δ HCFC-22). It is important to note that CCl₄ production and consumption of its dispersive applications in developing countries were phased out in 2010. The slopes and uncertainties were calculated using a Williamson-York linear least-squares fitting method.



Fig. S9. Potential source region distributions of the three emission sources accounting for $89 \pm 5\%$ of CCl₄ enhancements observed at Gosan. The areas in and around Guangzhou of Guangdong, Wuhan of Hubei, Zhengzhou of Henan, and Xian of Shaanxi province are identified as the dominant contributors. The six blue dots indicate locations of main factories producing HFCs, HCFC-22, and fluorocarbons; these are provided in http://eng.chinaiol.com/.

Positive Matrix Factorization Model Calculation

PMF optimization uses a weighted least squares regression to obtain a best fit to the measured enhancements in the concentration data. The main constraints that need to be resolved during the analysis are "source factors", and thus this method is often called factor analysis. The mathematical expression of the model is given by Eq. (1),

$$x_{ik} = \sum_{j=1}^{p} g_{ij} f_{jk} + e_{ik} (i = 1, 2, ..., m; j = 1, 2, ..., p; k = 1, 2, ..., n)$$
(1)

where x_{ik} represents enhanced concentrations in the time series of the "*i*" halogenated compound at the k^{th} sampling time; g_{ij} is the concentration fraction of the *i*th compound from the *j*th source; f_{jk} is the enhanced concentration from the *j*th source contributing to the observation at the k^{th} time, which is given in ppt; e_{ik} is the model residual for *i*th compound concentration measured in the k^{th} sampling time; and *p* is the total number of independent sources (i.e., the number of factors) (Paatero and Tapper, 1994). The optimal number of factors (*p*) should be determined by using a function Q, defined in Eq. S(5) below,

$$Q = \sum_{i=1}^{m} \sum_{k=1}^{n} \left(\frac{e_{ik}}{u_{ik} h_{ik}}\right)^2$$
S(5)

where u_{ik} are the uncertainties corresponding to each measurement data point. Following the guideline provided by Polissar et al. (1998) for PMF model input uncertainties, we considered the instrumental measurement uncertainty, monthly standard deviation (1 σ) of background concentrations, and 1/3 of the detection limit value as the overall uncertainty assigned to each data point. The PMF model input uncertainties (in ppt) were constructed as follows,

$$u_{ik} = \sqrt{\mu_{ik}^2 + \sigma_{ik}^2} + d_{ik}/3$$
S(6)

where μ_{ik} is measurement uncertainty; σ_{ik} is the monthly standard deviation of the background; and d_{ik} is the analytical detection limit. The average values of these individual input error terms are listed for all species in Table S1. In Eq. S(5), $h_{ik} = 1$ if $|e_{ik}/u_{ik}| < \alpha$, and otherwise h_{ik} is defined as $|e_{ik}/u_{ik}|/\alpha$. The α is the outlier threshold distance parameter. Appropriate down weighting of outliers in PMF datasets has been conducted in many studies (Polissar et al., 1998; Lee et al., 1999; Lee et al., 2002) using this parameter, to reduce the influence of outliers and extreme values. We constrained the PMF analysis with $\alpha = 4$, which is most commonly used; therefore, when the scaled residual exceeded four times that of the standard deviation, the uncertainty, u_{ik} , was increased to down-weight that concentration.

The model runs with randomly selected initial values for f and g at a given number of factors (p) (varied from 5 to 10 factors) to obtain a minimum Q value in less than 20 iterations (Lee et al., 1999). As the number of factors increases, the corresponding minimum Q values decreases, with a level-off in this case near 7 factors. We carefully examined the solutions with 7, 8, and 9 factors and determined an optimal value based on both goodness of fit to the data and prior knowledge about halogenated compound emissions. The model's goodness-of-fit was estimated from a correlation plot between the measured and model-predicted concentrations. Most of the

compounds (16 out of 18 species) showed good correlations ($\mathbb{R}^2 > 0.6$, see Table S2) for the eight-factor solution. Another way to assess a PMF fit is to examine the distribution of scaled residuals (e_{ik}/u_{ik}). We found the most species except COS lie within ±4, which is considered a typical limit. The seven-factor model cannot separate the foam-blowing-agent factor from the semiconductor/electronics sector factor, which are both well-known sources of halogenated compounds. For the nine-factor analysis, the sources for CH₂Cl₂ and CHCl₃ were split. Therefore, we concluded that an eight–source model provides the most relevant and meaningful interpretation for the enhanced CCl₄ concentrations observed at Gosan.

PMF input uncertainties

The uncertainties (in ppt) imposed on individual concentrations are typically determined in the PMF community as follows,

$$u_{ik} = \sqrt{\mu_{ik}^2 + \sigma_{ik}^2} + d_{ik}/3$$
 S(7)

where μ_{ik} is the measurement uncertainty; σ_{ik} is the monthly standard deviation (1 σ) of the background; and d_{ik} is the analytical detection limit. The average values of these individual input error terms for all species are listed in Table S1.

Compounds	Analytical precision (ppt)	Background uncertainty	Detection limit	
	precision (ppt)	(ppt)	(ppt)	
CFC-11	0.44	1.40	0.72	
CFC-12	0.61	0.82	1.33	
HCFC-22	0.54	1.70	1.47	
HCFC-141b	0.10	0.70	0.22	
HCFC-142b	0.07	0.55	0.12	
HFC-23	0.13	0.26	0.26	
HFC-134a	0.18	1.10	0.47	
HFC-152a	0.08	0.53	0.15	
HFC-32	0.13	0.29	0.28	
HFC-125	0.05	0.20	0.11	
HFC-143a	0.09	0.22	0.19	
CF_4	0.09	0.19	0.20	
C_2F_6	0.03	0.04	0.06	
C_3F_8	0.01	0.02	0.03	
SF_6	0.03	0.08	0.07	
CH ₃ Cl	1.09	11.00	2.36	
CH_2Cl_2	1.55	7.20	3.36	
CHCl ₃	0.17	1.40	0.74	

Table S1. Three individual input error terms and their average values for all species.

CH ₃ Br	0.05	0.38	0.11
CCl_4	0.80	1.09	1.76
COS	2.92	14.00	6.36
PCE	0.02	0.42	0.04

Goodness of PMF model fit

The goodness of fit of the PMF model can be assessed by comparing the predicted compound concentrations with the original measurements. We found R-squared of larger than 0.6 for most of the halogenated compounds, as shown in Table S2.

CFCs and HCFC _s		HFC _s		PFC _s and SF ₆		Others					
Compounds	R ²	p valve	Compounds	R^2	p valve	Compo	ounds R ²	<i>p</i> valve	Compound	s R ²	p valve
CFC-11	0.58	< 0.01	HFC-23	0.70	< 0.01	CF ₄	0.67	< 0.01	CCl ₄	0.76	< 0.01
HCFC-22	0.78	< 0.01	HFC-134a	0.68	< 0.01	C_2F_6	0.55	< 0.01	CHCl ₃	0.77	< 0.01
HCFC-141b	0.74	< 0.01	HFC-143a	0.27	< 0.01	SF ₆	0.81	< 0.01	CH_2Cl_2	0.95	< 0.01
HCFC-142b	0.75	< 0.01	HFC-32	0.88	< 0.01				CH ₃ Cl	0.99	< 0.01
			HFC-125	0.86	< 0.01				C_2Cl_4	0.99	< 0.01
									COS	0.99	<0.01

Table S2. Goodness-of-fit statistics for plot of observed concentrations versus PMF model estimates at number of factors (p) = 8.

Description of PMF source factors

The factor (D) is characterized by high percentages of CF_4 (50 ± 9%) and COS (94 ± 24%). COS is mostly emitted from coal and biomass burning, and from various industrial processes including primary aluminum production (Blake et al., 2004). The aluminum production industry, particularly in China, is a well-known emission source of PFCs (Mühle et al., 2010). Although approximately 9 ± 4% of CCl₄ enhancements are attributed to this factor, there are no known processes that could release CCl₄ from this source.

The source factor (E) is characterized by high percentages of HFCs ($89 \pm 1\%$ of HFC-125, $78 \pm 1.3\%$ of HFC-32, $52 \pm 1.4\%$ of HFC-143a, and $43 \pm 5\%$ of HFC-134a). These compounds are used in air conditioning and refrigeration applications and are predominantly produced in China (Fang et al., 2016). Their azeotropic blends, such as R-410A (50% HFC-32, 50% HFC-125 by weight), R404A (52% HFC-143a, 44% HFC-125 and 4% HFC-134a), R-407C (23% HFC-32, 52% HFC-134a, 25% HFC-125) and R-507A (50% HFC-125 and 50% HFC-143a), are also increasingly used in China (Fang et al., 2016). The small percentages of contributions from these fourth and fifth sources to CCl₄ enhancements are not statistically significant when considering the uncertainty range, but they may suggest that CCl₄ is emitted to some extent by coal fired power plants located close to primary aluminum smelters and to production facilities for airconditioning systems and refrigerant units. It is notable that the sixth, seventh, and eighth factors do not contribute to observed CCl₄ enhancements.

The factor (F) shown in Fig. 4 in the main text, which is interpreted as arising from refrigerant consumption, explains approximately $80 \pm 2\%$ of the HCFC-22 and $32 \pm 4\%$ of observed HFC-134a enhancements. HCFC-22 and HFC-134a are the most abundant species in the HCFC and

HFC families, respectively, and show their increasing use in refrigeration units and air conditioning systems as CFCs replacements (Montzka et al., 2011).

Many species contribute significantly to factor (G); in particular, $88 \pm 20\%$ of SF₆, $41 \pm 3\%$ of C₂F₆, and $40 \pm 13\%$ of CF₄. SF₆ is widely used in the high-voltage electrical equipment sector as a gaseous dielectric medium and is also used as an etching/cleaning agent in the semiconductor/electronics sector (Forster et al., 2007). There has been a recent increase in the use of PFCs (CF₄ and C₂F₆ foremost among them) for plasma etching and chamber cleaning in semiconductor/electronics manufacturing processes (Mühle et al., 2010). These large contributions of SF₆ and PFCs suggest that this source factor is related to processes in the semiconductor/electronics industry.

The last factor (H) shown in Fig. 4 is composed of $92 \pm 4\%$ HCFC-142b, the most widely used CFC replacement in foam blowing agents for extruded polystyrene boards (Derwent et al., 2007). The foam blowing factor also explains $23 \pm 2\%$ of CFC-11, indicating that this CFC is still emitted from remaining bank use or old building materials.

Chlorination reactions for CCl₄ production and use

<u>CH₃Cl/CCl₄ plants</u> (Sherry et al., 2018) CH₃OH+HCl→**CH₃Cl**+H₂O CH₃Cl+Cl₂→**CH₂Cl₂+HCl** CH₂Cl₂+Cl₂→**CHCl₃+HCl** CHCl₃+Cl₂→**CCl₄+HCl**

<u>Feedstock for production of chloromethanes and PCE</u> CCl₄+H₂→CHCl₃+HCl (e.g., Zang and Beard, 1998) 3CCl₄+CH₄→4CHCl₃ (e.g., Bae et al., 2007) 2CCl₄+2H₂→C₂Cl₄+4HCl (Sherry et al., 2018) CCl₄+4Cl₂+CH₄→C₂Cl₄+4HCl 2CCl₄+H₂→C₂Cl₆+2HCl CCl₄+HF→CCl₃F[CFC-11] + HCl

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