The Annual Climatology of the CO₂ Profiles over North America Derived from the NOAA ESRL Aircraft Network

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Using vertical profile data from observations made at 19 aircraft sites over the last 12 years, we have produced an estimate of CO_2 mixing ratios over one climatological year to understand the seasonal variability of CO_2 over continental North America. The climatology provides the information necessary to make a model-independent estimate of surface CO_2 fluxes over continental North America. Using a geostatistical interpolation technique called Kriging, we have mapped the climatologies made at each site over continental North America. These are compared directly with results from the NOAA ESRL CarbonTracker results.

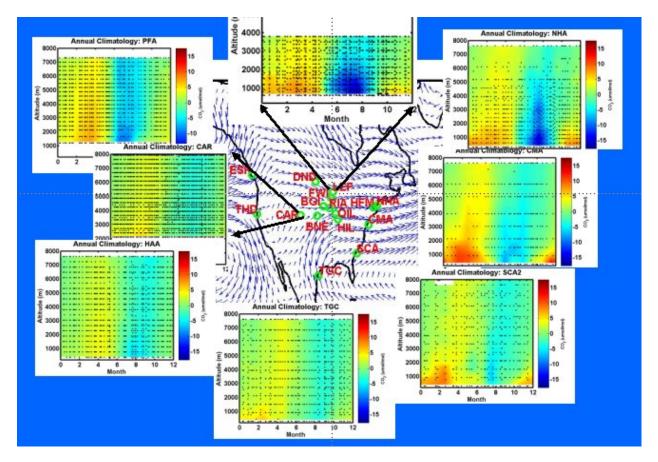


Figure 1. Annual climatology of CO_2 over North America. Underlying map shows surface wind vectors over North America. Overlying graphs shows the annual climatology of CO_2 at 8 NOAA ESRL Carbon Cycle Group Aircraft Project sites. The annual climatology is constructed using all observations of CO_2 mole/mole mixing ratio at each site corrected to the mean annual increase in CO_2 at Mona Loa, Hawaii relative to July 1, 2004.