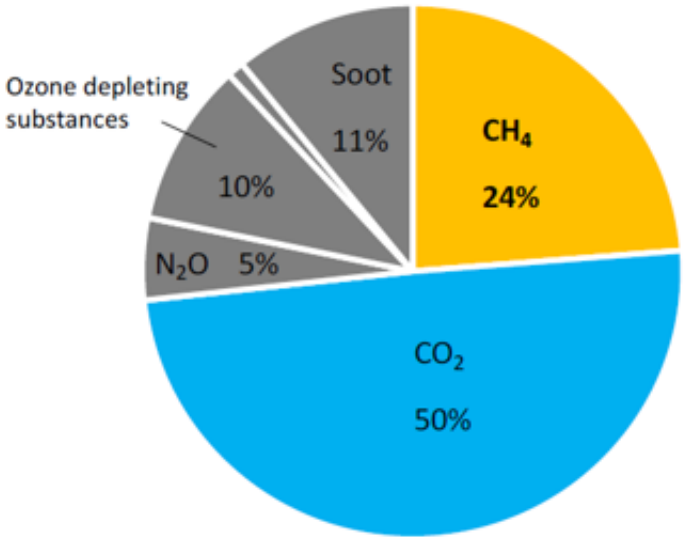
Reducing methane emissions in the energy sector

An EU Strategic Plan for methane

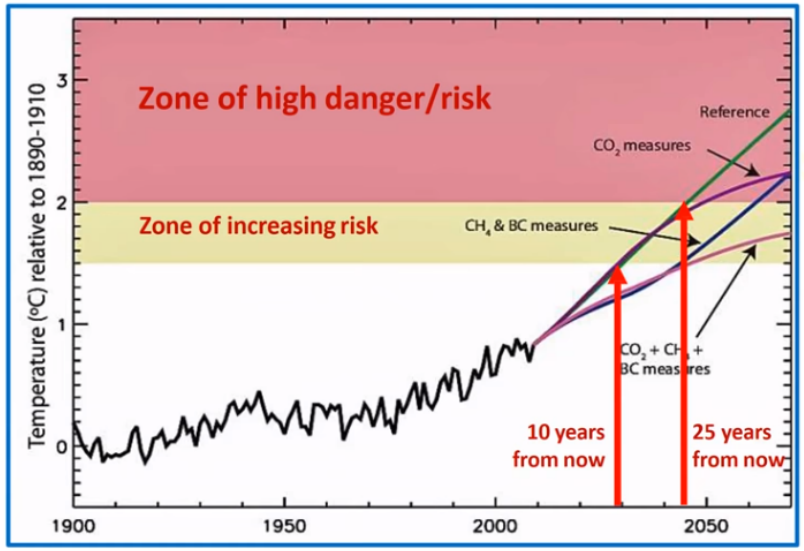
We cannot reach COP21 target with CO2 reductions alone

- Threefold increase of methane in the atmosphere since pre-industrial levels
- Methane: main component of natural gas; 87x more potent than CO2 (on a 20 year timescale)

Methane is responsible for a quarter of todays' warming

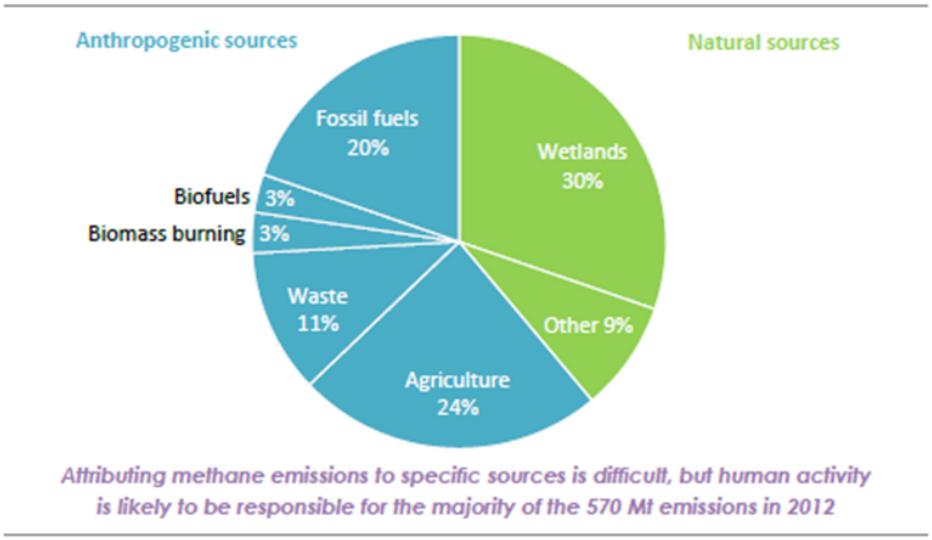


Adapted from IPCC AR5, Tabelle 8.SM.6



Shindell et al. 2012, *Science*

Globally, a third of manmade methane emissions comes from energy

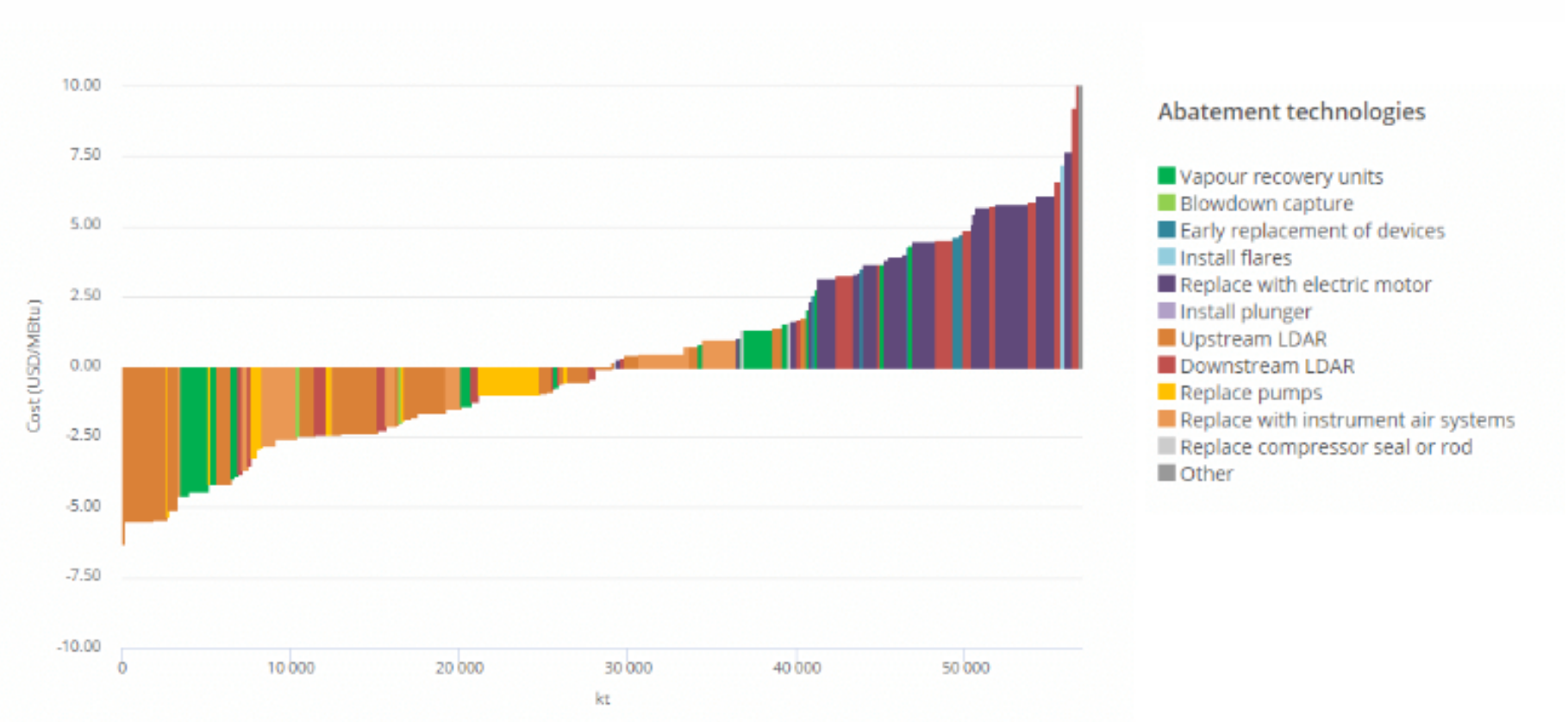


Source: Saunois et al. (2016).

- **From oil, gas and coal operations**
- **Credibility of gas as a transition fuel:**
  - At 3% leakage rate climate impact of gas is worse than that of coal

Source: IEA

… while 45% of methane emissions can be avoided at no net cost



… so, energy is an attractive sector to reduce emissions

Holistic approach

- Oil, gas, coal sectors
- Venting, fugitives and flaring

Improving measurement is key

- Inventories inherently underestimate emissions: no accidents or superemitters included
- Improve measurement, quantification and reporting (move to tier 3)
- Build on Copernicus (and other satellite data) for detection and verification

Focus on superemitters, identify hotspots

- 50% of emissions come from 5% of sources

Global issue – global response

- Energy diplomacy
- Cooperation under the UN CCAC*
  - Ambitious and transparent reporting (OGMP*)
  - Methane science studies
- Global Gas Flaring Reduction partnership (GGFR)

*CCAC: Climate and Clean Air Coalition; OGMP: Oil and Gas Methane Partnership


Thank you for your attention!