Methane is produced and released from a range of natural and human sources, and is second only to carbon dioxide in its contribution to man-made "global warming". However, a great deal of uncertainty remains about the drivers of current atmospheric methane variability. Measurements of the isotopologues of methane have the potential to provide a wealth of useful information for understanding the methane cycle, because different sources emit methane with different isotopic compositions. This project will re-evaluate stable isotope signatures currently assigned to methane emission sources and sinks and, where necessary, will involve new measurements for recently identified and significant sources of methane. The re-assessed values will then be used in a new "inverse model" framework for the global methane cycle. Sources will be re-evaluated using measurements of the concentration and stable isotope composition of atmospheric methane obtained from a global network of monitoring stations.

Applications should be made through the School of Earth Sciences postgraduate recruitment website: http://www.bristol.ac.uk/earthsciences/courses/postgraduate/methanebudget... [1]. Contact Matt Rigby (matt.rigby@bristol.ac.uk [2]) and Ed Hornibrook (ed.hornibrook@bristol.ac.uk [3]) for more information.

Deadline: 31st January 2013

Further details:
http://www.bristol.ac.uk/earthsciences/courses/postgraduate/methanebudget.html/view [1]

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Source URL: https://www.rmets.org/phd-studentship-university-bristol

Links
[2] mailto:matt.rigby@bristol.ac.uk
[3] mailto:ed.hornibrook@bristol.ac.uk