

Impacts of Closure Periods on BU CO₂ and CH₄ Emissions and Local Concentrations

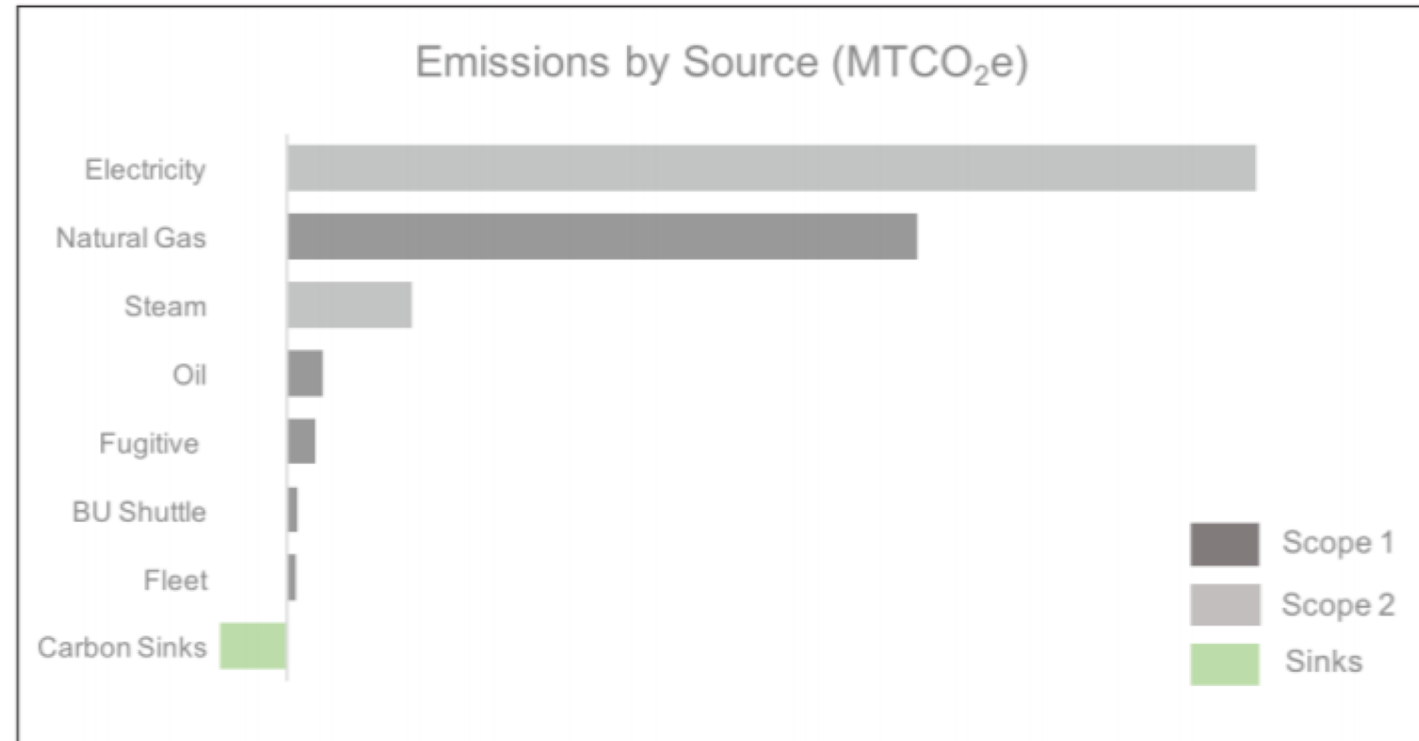


Lexia Cicone & Lucy Hutyra
Dept. Earth & Environment

BU emissions sources and causes

- **Problem:** emissions of greenhouse gases and other pollutants are causing climate change and creating adverse health effects
- **Goal:** establish ways to decrease emissions by determining their sources and how our behaviors affect these sources

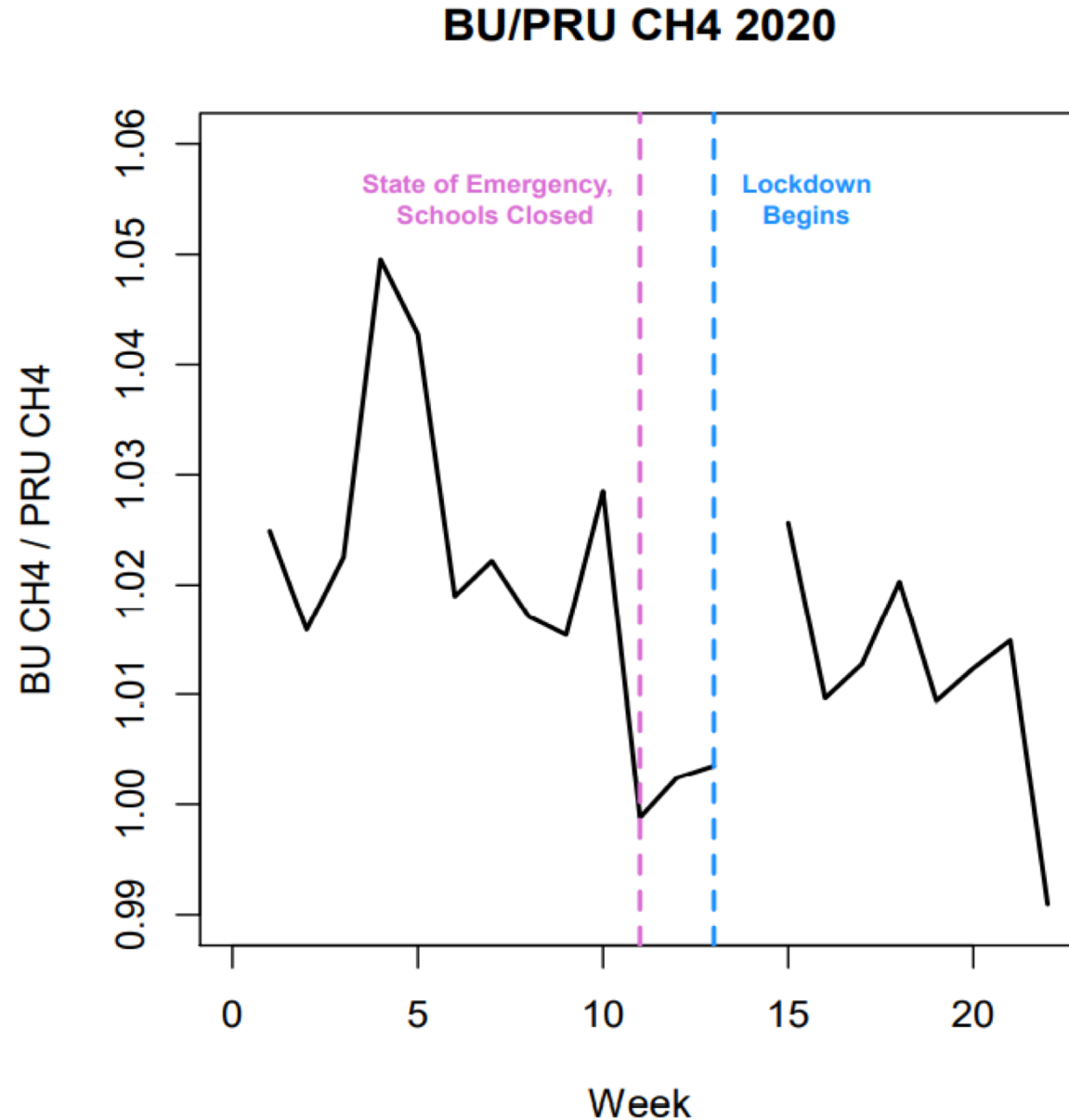
■ **FIGURE 5: CURRENT BU EMISSIONS BY SOURCE**



Boston University's Climate Action Plan

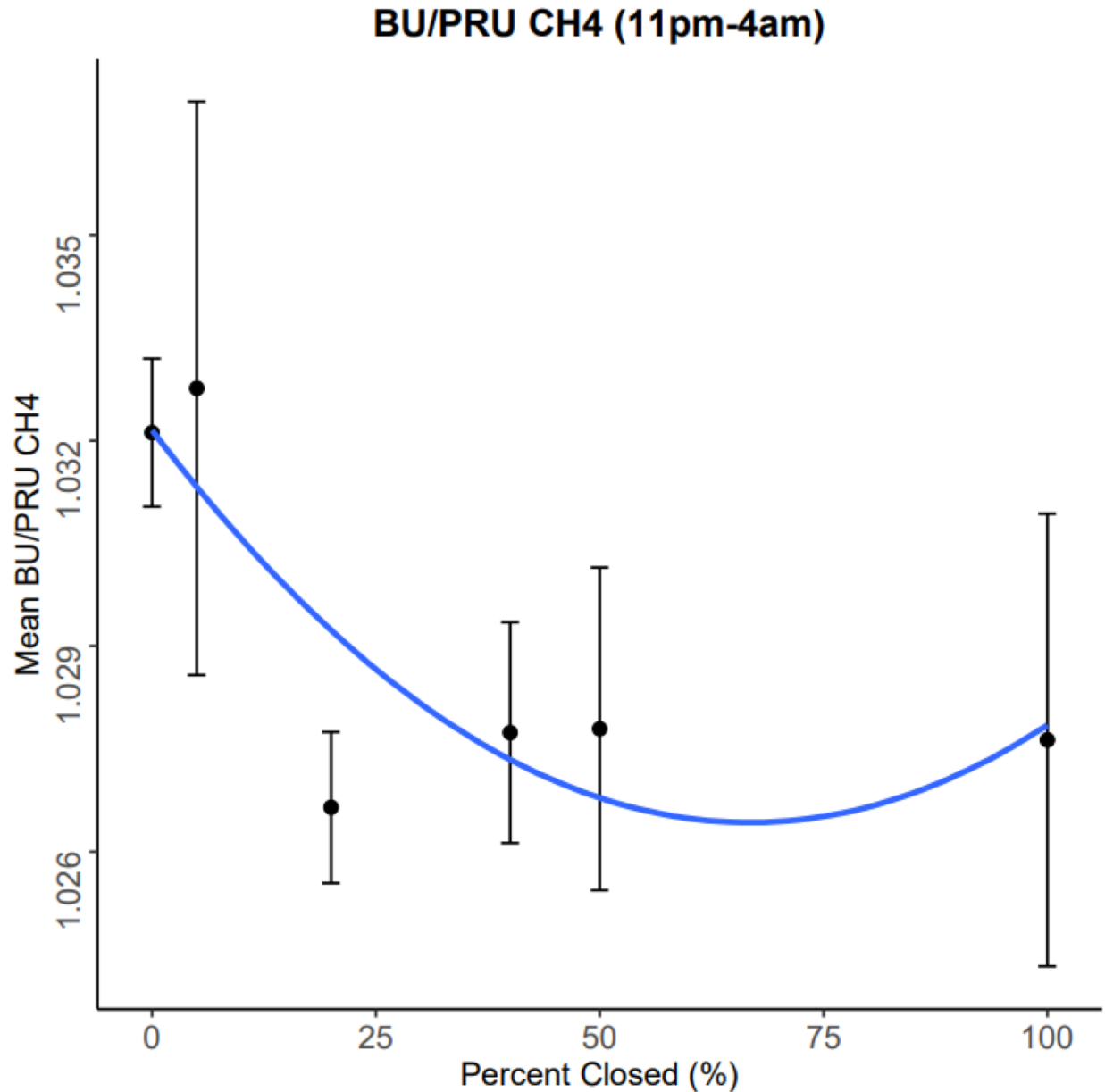
CH₄ concentrations and COVID

- Looked at the ratio of methane concentrations at Boston University and the Prudential building
- There is a decrease in CH₄ concentrations that occurs at the time of the COVID lockdown



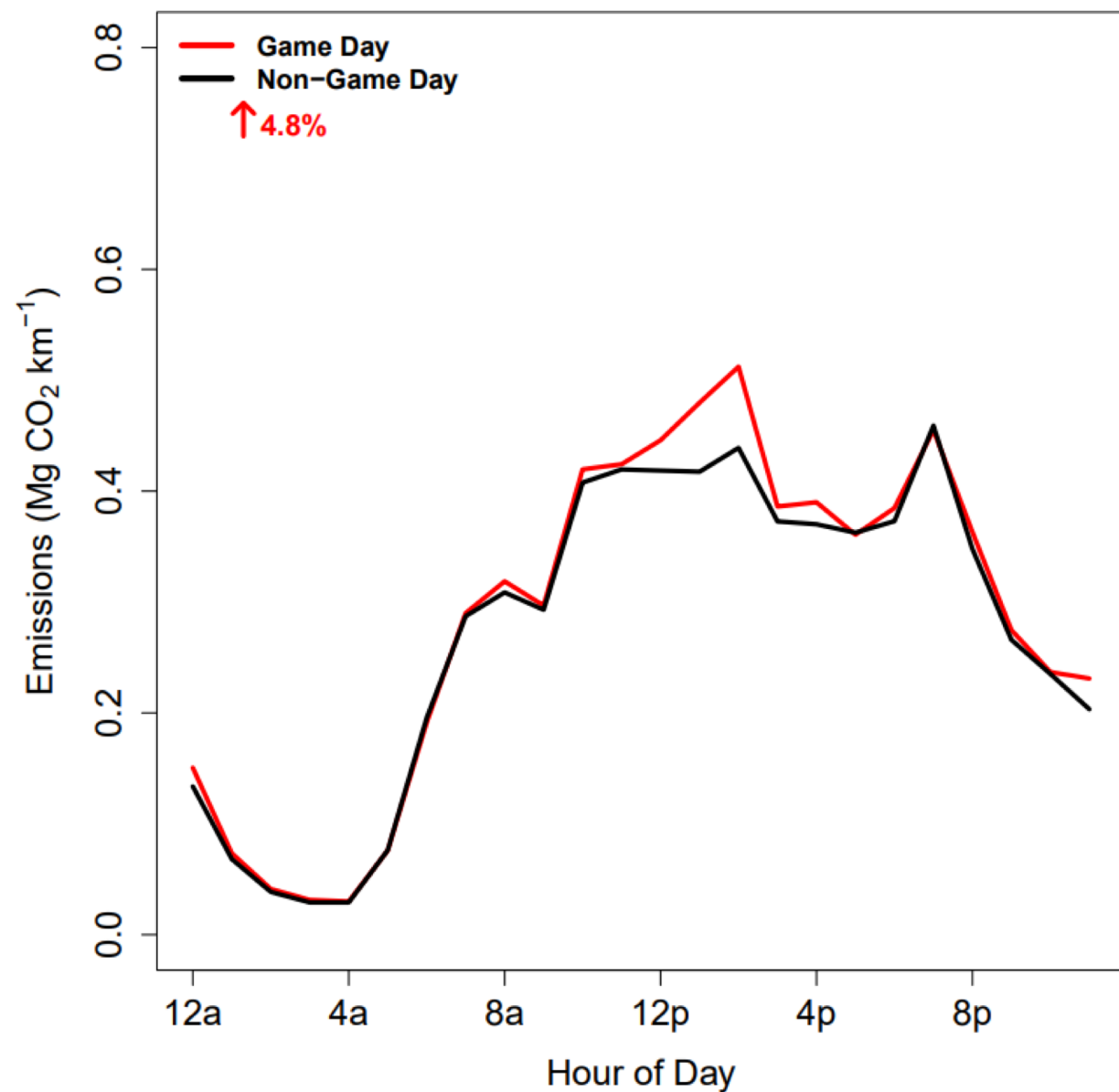
CH₄ concentrations and BU closure periods

- Looked at the effects of closure periods at BU on local methane concentrations
- There is a decrease in methane concentrations when BU closes

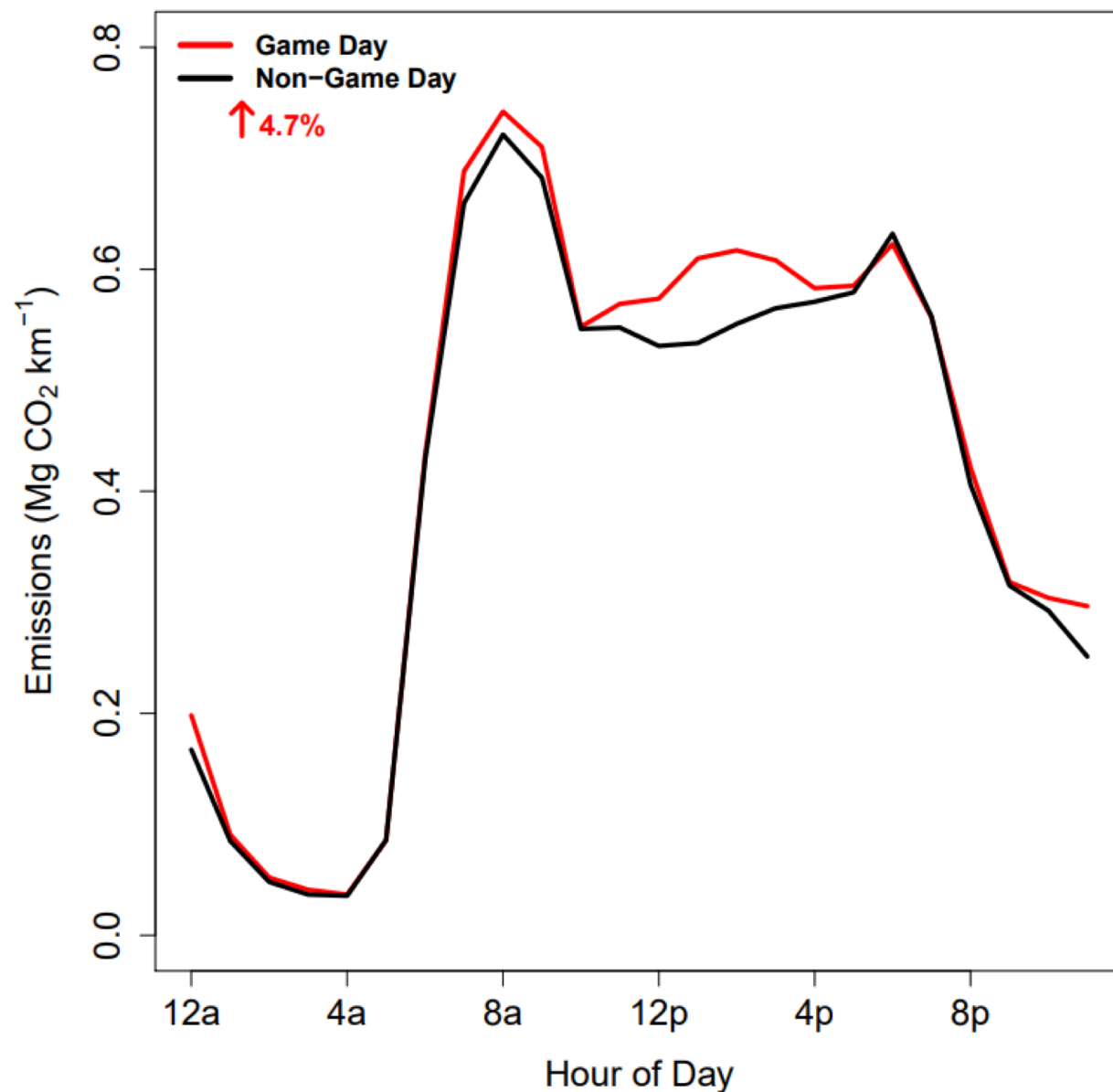


CO₂ emissions and Red Sox games

Comm. Ave: BU Bridge to Kenmore



Kenmore Square: Inbound from Beacon St.



Lessons and next steps

- The Boston University climate action plan has a goal to reach net zero direct greenhouse gas emissions by 2040
- Through further analysis of CO₂ and CH₄ concentrations and emissions, closure data, and events data, we hope to uncover opportunities for future emissions reductions



RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CLIMATE ACTION TASK FORCE FOR BOSTON UNIVERSITY'S CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

SYNTHESIS AND OVERVIEW
December 2017