

Contribution of the IUGONET data analysis system to upper atmospheric researches

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Various kinds of atmospheric disturbances and long-term variation as seen in several parameters (temperature, mean wind etc.) in the upper atmosphere (mesosphere, thermosphere and ionosphere) is caused by energy input from solar radiation, momenta and energies from the lower atmosphere (stratosphere and troposphere) via atmospheric waves, and chemical reaction. Such atmospheric phenomena observed by ground-based and satellite instruments are the result of such complicated processes. In order to investigate the mechanisms of the atmospheric disturbances and long-term variations in the upper atmosphere, which may be affected by solar activities and global warming, researchers need to conduct comprehensive analyses with various kinds of long-term observation data that have been continued by means of a global network of MST (Mesosphere-Stratosphere-Troposphere) radars, optical sensors, radiosondes, etc. The IUGONET (Inter-university Upper atmosphere Global Observation NETWORK) project initiated in 2009 aims at the establishment of a cross-reference system for various kinds of ground-based observation data. The IUGONET participants consist of five universities/institutes: the National Institute of Polar Research (NIPR), Tohoku University, Nagoya University, Kyoto University, and Kyushu University. We have developed a metadata database (MDB) of ground-based observations and IUGONET data analysis software (UDAS) in order to provide researchers in a wide range of disciplines with a seamless data environment to link databases spread across the IUGONET institutions. In particular, the MDB and UDAS will be of great help in data acquisition and integrated analyses to understand the dynamics on the mesosphere-lower thermosphere (MLT) throughout the Sun-Earth system. Therefore, the IUGONET MDB and UDAS will greatly contribute to upper atmospheric researches on the basis of integrated analysis of various kinds of long-term observation data covering a wide region from both the poles to the equator. In this talk, we introduce a brief overview of the IUGONET project and an application of the IUGONET products for upper atmospheric researches.

Keywords: Upper atmosphere, Ground-based observation data, IUGONET, metadata search system, IUGONET data analysis tool