Proportion of atmospheric methane to carbon dioxide observed by GOSAT over biomass burning regions in Africa

*Sachiko Hayashida¹, Okiko Ono¹
1.Faculty of Science, Nara Women's University

Multi-species satellite measurements in important biomass burning regions are expected for better understanding the partitioning of reduced gas production (van der Werf, 2010). In this study, we utilized the data of atmospheric concentration of carbon dioxide (CO2) and methane (CH4) observed by Thermal And Near-infrared Sensor for carbon Observation (TANSO)-FTS onboard Greenhouse Gases Observing Satellite (GOSAT) to derive the ratios of the two species over the active biomass burning regions in Africa. Contribution of fire emission from Africa to the global carbon fire emissions is estimated as 52% by van der Werf (2010). It is well recognized that in Northern Hemisphere Africa (NHA), fires occur primarily in the Sahel between November and February. On the other hand, in Southern Hemisphere Africa (SHA), fires are prominent primarily between June and October (e.g., Roberts, et al. 2009). We investigated the proportions of CH4 to CO2 focusing on regions and seasonality and found the proportion of CH4 to CO2 during the burning season over NHA is higher than that in SHA. In addition to CH4 and CO2, we are going to show the results of combined analysis with carbon monoxide (CO) observed by Measurements Of Pollution In The Troposphere (MOPITT), and discuss potential of satellite sensors to characterize biomass burning.

References
van der Werf et al. (2010): ACP, 10, 11707-11735.

Keywords: carbon cycle, biomass burning, GOSAT
Relationships between CO$_2$ flux estimated by inverse analysis and land surface elements in
South America and Africa

*Kazuo Mabuchi$^1$, Hiroshi Takagi$^1$, Shamil Maksyutov$^1$

1.National Institute for Environmental Studies

Inverse analysis estimates the regional flux of greenhouse gases between the earth’s surface and
the atmosphere by using observed atmospheric concentration data that include satellite data. In
particular, this method is effective in estimating the flux in regions where observational flux
data are limited. However, inverse analysis is basically a mathematical optimization method.
Therefore, confirmation of the causal validity of the spatial and temporal changes in the estimated
flux is necessary. One confirmation method is validation of the relationship with physical and
biological observation data (analysis data) of confirmed accuracy. In this study, the features and
validity of changes in the CO$_2$ flux estimated by inverse analysis were verified by interrelation
analysis with changes in precipitation, short-wave radiation, surface temperature, and Normalized
Difference Vegetation Index (NDVI) in regions of South America and Africa where CO$_2$ flux
observation data are limited. Sufficient accuracy of the land surface elements is required for the
analysis results to confirm the CO$_2$ flux estimated by inverse analysis. An examination of the
correlation of anomalies showed consistent relationships among the precipitation, short-wave
radiation, surface temperature, and NDVI data used in this study, which were created independently.
The relationships between change in the estimated CO$_2$ flux and characteristic changes of the land
surface elements in South America and Africa were consistent in each region. This study confirmed
the physical and biological validity of the changes in the CO$_2$ flux estimated by inverse analysis.
During the period of this study, the NDVI anomaly was influential in South America, and the
precipitation (soil wetness) anomaly was an essential factor in Africa for the CO$_2$ flux anomaly.
The short-wave radiation anomaly was also influential in both South America and Africa. These
relationships are detected more clearly in the results of inverse analysis using both ground-based
CO$_2$ concentration data and GOSAT satellite data than in the results using only ground-based CO$_2$
concentration data. This demonstrates the usefulness of GOSAT data in regions with limited
atmospheric CO$_2$ concentration data.

Keywords: inverse simulation analysis, CO$_2$ flux, land surface element
Analysis of methane concentration variation observed by GOSAT in Sichuan Basin, China and its relationship with local sources

*XIUCHUN QIN¹, Masahiro Kawasaki¹, Masafumi Ohashi², Tomoki Nakayama¹, Yutaka Matsumi¹, Liping Lei³, Zhonghua He³, Zhaocheng Zeng⁴

1. Nagoya university Institute for Space-Earth Environmental Research, 2. Kagoshima University, 3. Institute of Remote Sensing and Digital Earth, Chinese Academy of Sciences, 4. The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Atmospheric Methane (CH₄) is one of the most important greenhouse gases, and the greenhouse effect generated by unit molecule of CH₄ is about 23 times higher than that of atmospheric Carbon Dioxide (CO₂). Therefore, it will be more effective to reduce the CH₄ emissions to mitigate the potential global warming than reducing CO₂ emissions. The increase of global atmospheric CH₄ concentration is mainly due to agricultural activities, in which irrigated rice paddy is one of the most important sources. China is the world's largest rice producer, accounting for about 22% of the rice planting area in the world and 37% of the global production. Therefore, studies of China's regional CH₄ emissions and its driving factors are of importance to understand the regional and global carbon cycle and the changing climate. In this study, XCH₄ observations from GOSAT, spanning from January 2010 to December 2013, are analyzed to study the spatio-temporal variation of XCH₄ in China and its relationship with regional surface emissions. In further, we investigate the driving mechanism of XCH₄ spatio-temporal variations, especially for high XCH₄ values shown over Sichuan Basin in south-west China, by combining the emission mechanism of rice planting process, the meteorology data, the surface emission data and the regional atmosphere dynamic transportation.

The results indicate that spatially the Sichuan Basin presents a higher XCH₄ concentration than other regions in China and is 17 ppb higher than the paddy area in the same latitude zone. Seasonally, XCH₄ in Sichuan Basin during rice harvest season is generally higher than that in early cultivation period. However, comparing to paddy area in the same latitude zone, Sichuan Basin shows a relatively higher XCH₄ value during the winter of noncultivation period when the emissions from rice paddies are weak and surface air temperature is low. To further investigate the high XCH₄ concentration during this low-emission period, we use the HYSPLIT model to simulate the atmosphere dynamic transport process, and the result suggests that the typical closed topography of Sichuan Basin, which may lead to CH₄ accumulation and keep it from diffusion, is one possible reason for the high XCH₄ value in winter.

Our result from studying the CH₄ variations in Sichuan Basin, especially the abnormal higher value during winter, and their driving factors demonstrate a certain potential of using GOSAT-XCH₄ for investigating the regional CH₄ changes. This study presents preliminary results of CH₄ in China, and a further investigation of the CH₄ in the basin is still necessary as more satellite observations of CH₄ with improving accuracy are available in the coming future to further study the CH₄ variations and regional emissions.

[1] Xiuchun Qin, Liping Lei, Zhonghua He, Zhao-Cheng Zeng, Masahiro Kawasaki, Masafumi Ohashi, and Yutaka Matsumi, “Preliminary Assessment of Methane Concentration Variation Observed by GOSAT in China”, Advances in Meteorology, 2015, DOI: 10.1155/2015/125059

Keywords: GOSAT, XCH₄, paddy field emission, atmosphere transmission, topography
Development of Carbon cycle analysis system using satellite data and LETKF

*Takashi Maki¹, Takashi Nakamura⁴, Tsuyoshi Thomas Sekiyama¹, Takemasa Miyoshi², Toshiki Iwasaki³

¹.Meteorological Research Institute, ².RIKEN, ³.Graduate School of Science, Tohoku University, ⁴.Japan Meteorological Agency

We have developed satellite data assimilation system using CO2 concentration data obtained from satellite measurements using an ensemble-based four-dimensional data assimilation system (LETKF). An online atmospheric transport model (MJ98-CDTM) is employed in the data assimilation system to optimize surface CO2 fluxes from satellite observations at spatial and temporal resolutions of 6 days and 2.8°, respectively. The features of GOSAT TIR L2 Ver. 1.0 data are their larger data number than that of SWIR L2 (about 10 times) and smaller standard deviation than their former version (TIR L2 Ver. 0.01). We have tested 4 types of satellite bias correction methods (w/o bias correction, monthly mean bias correction, all data bias correction and globally constant bias correction) using independent CO2 concentration analysis (JMA CO2 distribution) in our data assimilation system. Our results showed that estimated CO2 concentration and fluxes are significantly sensitive to bias correction method. This means that we should carefully choose satellite bias correction method. In addition, satellite data bias correction allows modifying surface CO2 flux almost entire earth surface. In the future, our satellite bias correction concept makes it possible to use multiple satellite observation data simultaneously in CO2 data assimilation.

Keywords: Carbon Cycle, Data Assimilation, Satellite Observation
Estimation of global surface fluxes of a greenhouse gas with LETKF data assimilation system

*Ryu Saito¹, Prabir K Patra², Tazu Saeki², Kazuyuki Miyazaki²

1.KOKUSAI KOGYO CO., LTD, 2.JAMSTEC

We present global CO₂ flux estimations using the local ensemble transform Kalman filter (LETKF) system with the GOSAT obtained XCO₂ and the WDCGG compiled CO₂ concentration data. In the previous study [Miyazaki et. al., 2011], a performance of the LETKF system was evaluated using GOSAT column pseudo-data in reference and the other various types of CO₂ concentration data. Here, we use the GOSAT retrievals to estimate the flux with the 4-D data assimilation system.

The data assimilation system used in this study was developed by Miyazaki et al., 2011, on the basis of the LETKF scheme [Miyoshi et al.]. A basic methodology of the LETKF follows the original EnKF [Ott et al., 2004; Hunt et al., 2007]. The covariance localization [Houtekamer and Mitchell, 2001] is used to remove long range spurious correlations. The state vector augmentation method [Anderson, 2001; Aksoy et al., 2006; Tong and Xue, 2008] has been applied to simultaneously estimate the atmospheric CO₂ concentration as model states together with the surface CO₂ flux as uncertain model parameters. The surface fluxes at every model grid points are analyzed with 4-daily assimilation window during 2012 year. The ensemble size is hundreds. The transport model is coupled with the Center for Climate System Research/National Institute for Environmental Studies/Frontier Research Center for Global Change (CCSR/NIES/FRCGC) atmospheric general circulation model (AGCM) version 5.7b [Numaguti et al., 1995]. The model spatial resolutions are horizontally T42 truncation (approximately 2.8 degree) and vertically 32 levels up to 7 hPa. The surface CO₂ concentrations used in this study are obtained with the flask sampling data observed at sites in the surface network, which is archived at the WDCGG, and the XCO₂ concentrations are retrieved from GOSAT soundings using the RemoTeC algorithm [Butz et al., 2009]. These observational data assimilate into the transport model. The LETKF system performance is evaluated by error reduction ratio of the posterior to prior ensemble fluxes.

We show analysis results that are the error reduction ration depending on various types of the observational data and seasonal variability of the optimized fluxes over aggregated land scale.

Acknowledgements. The authors thank the RemoTeC Proxy products retrieved from GOSAT TANSO-FTS SWIR spectra using the RemoTeC algorithm that is being jointly developed at SRON Netherlands Institute for Space Research and the Karlsruhe Institute for Technology (KIT).

Keywords: Carbon cycling, Greenhouse gas, Data assimilation, LETKF
Application of Inversion Technique to Quick Update of Anthropogenic NO\textsubscript{x} emission over East Asia with Satellite Observations and Chemical Transport Model

*Keiya Yumimoto\textsuperscript{1}, Itsushi Uno\textsuperscript{2}, Syuichi Itahashi\textsuperscript{3}, Kazuyuki Miyazaki\textsuperscript{4}  


We developed a quick update system for an emission inventory with an inversion technique, and extended NO\textsubscript{x} emission in Regional Emission inventory in the ASia version 2.1 (REAS 2.1) through 2009–May 2013 with satellite-observed tropospheric NO\textsubscript{2} vertical column densities (VCDs) and a chemical transport model. The observed NO\textsubscript{2} VCDs over the eastern Chinese region exhibited a drastic inter-annual variation over the eastern Chinese region due to the socioeconomic condition. During 2008–2009, the growing of the NO\textsubscript{2} VCD became sluggish because of pollutant controls by the 2008 Beijing Olympic game and the global depression, but revived in 2010 with a growth rate of 37.3%/year. The modeled NO\textsubscript{2} VCD with the updated emission successfully followed the inter-annual variation, and reproduced the observed seasonal cycle in which summer and winter have the seasonal bottom and peak, respectively. We estimated the updated Chinese anthropogenic NO\textsubscript{x} emissions during 2009–2012 to be 25.7, 27.3, 28.2, 28.4 Tg/year; they fell within the range of the various estimates in the literatures. An annual growth rate during 2009–2012 and 2005–2012 was estimated to be 3.5%/year (0.9 Tg/year) and 5.3%/year (1.1 Tg/year), respectively. The system has the capability of updating NO\textsubscript{x} emission in near real-time (NRT) for air quality forecasting. Figure shows annual anthropogenic NO\textsubscript{x} emission from China. Numbers in the panels represent annual Chinese anthropogenic NO\textsubscript{x} emission. Other estimates of Chinese NO\textsubscript{x} emission are also shown by symbols.

Keywords: Inversion, Emission inventory, Chemical transport model, Satellite observation, NO\textsubscript{x} emission
Characteristics of Version 1.0 CO₂ data retrieved from TIR band of GOSAT/TANSO-FTS

*Naoko Saitoh¹, Shuhei Kimoto¹, Ryo Sugimura¹, Ryoichi Imasu², Kei Shiomi³, Akihiko Kuze³, Toshinobu Machida⁴, Yousuke Sawa⁵, Hidekazu Matsueda⁵

¹.Center for Environmental Remote Sensing, Chiba University, ².Atmosphere and Ocean Research Institute, University of Tokyo, ³.Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency, ⁴.National Institute for Environmental Studies, ⁵.Meteorological Research Institute

Greenhouse Gases Observing Satellite (GOSAT) was launched on 23 January 2009, and has continued to make global observations of greenhouse gases, including both nadir and off-nadir measurements, for more than seven years since its launch. Carbon dioxide (CO₂) concentrations in several atmospheric layers can be retrieved from radiance spectra of the thermal infrared (TIR) band of Thermal and Near-infrared Sensor for Carbon Observation Fourier Transform Spectrometer (TANSO-FTS) on board the GOSAT. We have analyzed the latest released version of the TIR Level 2 (L2) CO₂ product (Version 1.0). We compared TANSO-FTS TIR V1.0 CO₂ data and CO₂ data obtained in the Comprehensive Observation Network for TRace gases by AIrLiner (CONTRAIL) project. The comparisons over several airports showed that the TIR V1.0 CO₂ data had a 1-2% negative bias in the middle troposphere; the magnitude of the bias varied seasonally and regionally. The comparisons in the upper troposphere and lower stratosphere (UTLS), where the TIR band of TANSO-FTS is most sensitive to CO₂ concentrations, showed that the averages of the TIR upper atmospheric CO₂ data agreed well with the averages of the data obtained by the CONTRAIL Continuous CO₂ Measuring Experiment (CME) within 0.1% and 0.5% for all of the seasons in the Southern and Northern Hemisphere, respectively. The magnitude of bias in the TIR upper atmospheric CO₂ data did not have a clear longitudinal dependence. The comparison results for flights in northern low and middle latitudes showed that the agreement between TIR and CONTRAIL CO₂ data in the upper troposphere was worse in the spring and summer than in the fall and winter. The negative bias in northern middle latitudes made the maximum of TIR CO₂ concentrations lower than that of CONTRAIL CO₂ concentrations, which leads to underestimate the amplitude of CO₂ seasonal variation. CO₂ growth rate estimated from the TIR UTLS CO₂ data from 2010 to 2012 was slightly lower (-0.6 ppm) than that from the CONTRAIL level flight data during the same period, which increases the differences between TIR and CONTRAIL CO₂ concentrations in UTLS.

Keywords: satellite remote sensing, retrieval algorithm, validation analysis, CO₂
Validation of GOSAT SWIR XCO$_2$ and XCH$_4$ retrieved by PPDF-S method

*Chisa Iwasaki$^1$, Sachiko Hayashida$^2$, Ryoichi Imasu$^1$, Tatsuya Yokota$^3$, Isamu Morino$^3$, Yukio Yoshida$^3$

1. Atmosphere and Ocean Research Institute, The University of Tokyo, 2. Nara Women's University, 3. National Institute for Environmental Studies

We focused on column averaged dry air mole fraction of atmospheric CO$_2$ and CH$_4$ (XCO$_2$ and XCH$_4$, respectively) retrievals from Greenhouse gases Observing Satellite (GOSAT) measurements through the photon path length probability density function (PPDF-S) based retrieval method that simultaneously retrieves target gas abundance and PPDF parameters. This method is used for an effective retrieval algorithm even under high concentration of clouds and aerosols. First, we validated PPDF-S XCO$_2$ and XCH$_4$ retrievals by comparing them with ground-based observations provided by the Total Carbon Column Observing Network (TCCON) from June 2009 to May 2014. For comparison, we also validate retrievals through another algorithm using full physics (FP)-based retrieval method. PPDF-S and FP retrieval methods are different in way to account for light scattering effect. All these XCO$_2$ and XCH$_4$ retrievals are provided by the National Institute for Environmental Studies (NIES). PPDF-S retrievals have positive biases (0.47 $\pm$ 2.11 ppm for XCO$_2$ and 0.76 $\pm$ 15.49 ppb for XCH$_4$), on the other hand, FP retrievals have negative biases (-0.28 $\pm$ 2.34 ppm for XCO$_2$ and -2.16 $\pm$ 13.26 ppb for XCH$_4$). Next, we compare global maps of XCO$_2$ and XCH$_4$ mean value, standard deviation and number of data between PPDF-S and FP retrievals. Over the ocean, PPDF-S method can retrieve large number of data whose standard deviation is larger than FP method. These PPDF-S retrievals over the ocean include data which are eliminated in post-screening process for FP method to exclude data that are strongly affected by clouds and aerosol.

Keywords: GOSAT, retrieval, carbon dioxide, methane
Global carbon budget estimation based on atmospheric oxygen and carbon dioxide observation during recent 15-year period

*Yasunori Tohjima¹, Mukai Hitoshi¹, Toshinobu Machida¹, Shin-ichiro Nakaoka¹

1.National Institute for Environmental Studies

Time series of atmospheric O$_2$/N$_2$ ratio and CO$_2$ mixing ratio of flask samples taken from NIES’s flask sampling network are presented. The network includes ground sites, Hateruma Island (lat 24°03'N, long 123°48'E) and Cape Ochi-ishi (lat 43°10'N, long 145°30'E), and cargo ships regularly sailing in the Pacific region. The air samples collected in Pyrex glass flasks were sent back to our laboratory and the O$_2$/N$_2$ ratio and CO$_2$ mixing ratio were analyzed by using a GC/TCD and NDIR analyzers. Taking into account the global mass balances of atmospheric CO$_2$ and O$_2$, we estimate the global carbon sequestration rates of the ocean and land biosphere for the recent 15-year period. In this carbon budget calculation, we use the secular changes in the atmospheric O$_2$ and CO$_2$ burdens based on our flask observations and the fossil fuel-derived CO$_2$ emissions based on energy statistics. We also adopt the ocean O$_2$ outgassing fluxes (~0.5 PgC/yr), which is estimated from secular changes in the ocean heat content (0-2000m) and an estimated O$_2$-to-heat flux ratio. For example, the oceanic and land biotic carbon sequestration rates for the 15-year period (1999-2014) calculated from the observation at Hateruma Island are 2.4±0.7 Pg-C yr$^{-1}$ and 1.5±0.8 Pg-C yr$^{-1}$, respectively. In the presentation, we also examine the temporal changes in the global carbon budgets and compare our estimations with the other reported carbon budget estimations.

Keywords: global carbon budget, oxygen, carbon dioxide
Achievements and Future Visions: Monitoring Carbon Cycle Change using an Integrated Observation, Modeling and Analysis System

*Nobuko Saigusa\textsuperscript{1}, Toshinobu Machida\textsuperscript{1}, Prabir Patra\textsuperscript{2}, Yosuke Niwa\textsuperscript{3}, Kazuhito Ichii\textsuperscript{2}*

\textsuperscript{1}National Institute for Environmental Studies, \textsuperscript{2}Japan Agency for Marine-Earth Science and Technology, \textsuperscript{3}Meteorological Research Institute

We are developing an integrated carbon observation and analysis system based on satellite, airborne and ground-based observations, and atmospheric and terrestrial carbon cycle models. Aircraft observations of atmospheric greenhouse gases (GHGs) are strengthened based on the "Comprehensive Observation Network for TRace gases by AIRliner (CONTRAIL)" project. Atmospheric transport modeling, inverse modeling, and assimilation methods are being developed and improved for better utilization of observational data from the Asia-Pacific region. Global and regional surface fluxes are estimated by both "top-down" approach using inverse models and "bottom-up" approach using surface flux observation network data (e.g. AsiaFlux) and upscaling with terrestrial ecosystem models.

We will present current progress for better constraints of global, continental, and regional carbon budgets, and detection of carbon cycle change particularly in the Asia-Pacific. We also would like to raise following questions and discuss how to solve them in the next steps.

1) How can the current capabilities of top-down and bottom-up approaches contribute to reduce uncertainties in the estimates of large anthropogenic emissions? (e.g. fuel use, land use changes, and rapid urbanization)

2) What are the key target regions or events in the Asia-Pacific that we need to focus on? (e.g. El Niño-induced droughts, extreme forest fires in Southeast Asia, and peat degradations in tropical and boreal regions)

3) How should the current capabilities of observation, modeling and analysis systems be integrated into an operational system for long-term monitoring of changes in regional, continental, and global GHGs budgets?

4) What are the urgent requirements to realize such system? (e.g. strategies of more intensive observations in targeted area, and a platform for multi-model ensemble)

5) How can we provide scientific knowledge and data timely for evaluating mitigation and adaptation policies?

Keywords: Carbon Cycle, Integrated Observation and Analysis System, Asia-Pacific
Synthesis of top-down and bottom-up estimations of terrestrial CO$_2$ budget in Asia

*Kazuhito Ichii$^{1,2}$, Masayuki Kondo$^1$, Prabir Patra$^1$, Tazu Saeki$^1$, Takashi Maki$^3$, Takashi Nakamura$^4$, Yosuke Niwa$^5$, Masahito Ueyama$^5$, Masato Hayashi$^2$, Habura Borjigin$^2$, Yuji Yanagi$^1$, Nobuko Saigusa$^2$, Asia-MIP Group


In the framework of Environment Research and Technology Development Funds (2-1401) from the Ministry of the Environment of Japan, we initiated synthesis analysis toward better estimations and understandings of terrestrial CO$_2$ budget in Asia. We used multiple different data products such as atmospheric inverse analysis (top-down estimation), terrestrial ecosystem models, remote sensing data, and data-driven models (bottom-up estimation). Our analysis focuses on (1) inter-decadal changes in terrestrial CO$_2$ fluxes at continental scales (Asia and Siberia), (2) testing consistency of terrestrial sink magnitude between top-down and bottom-up estimations in Asia, and (3) detection and analysis of ‘hotspot’ of terrestrial CO$_2$ budget changes in Siberia and tropical Asia. We will show these progresses, and discuss future direction of these studies.

Acknowledgement
This study was supported by the Environment Research and Technology Development Funds (2-1401) from the Ministry of the Environment of Japan, and the JSPS KAKENHI (grant No. 25281003).

Keywords: Terrestrial, Synthesis, Carbon Dioxide
The potential of spaceborne LiDAR for precise forest resources observation

*Masato Hayashi¹, Nobuko Saigusa¹, Yoshiki Yamagata¹

1. National Institute for Environmental Studies

Satellite remote-sensing is suitable for a large scale observation of forests, and spaceborne light detection and ranging (LiDAR) is a novel sensor that can be used for accurate measurement. Spaceborne LiDAR is an active sensor to transmit laser pulses, and it records the changes in return laser energy intensity as a waveform, and the waveform contained information on the vertical structure of forests. The only spaceborne LiDAR so far has been the Ice Cloud and land Elevation Satellite (ICESat)/ Geoscience Laser Altimeter System (GLAS), operated by NASA from 2003 to 2009. Many previous studies have applied GLAS data to forest observation, and they mostly estimated two essential parameters of forest resources: canopy height and aboveground biomass. We also applied ICESat/GLAS spaceborne LiDAR data to three forested areas: Hokkaido Island in Japan (cool-temperate forest), Borneo Island (tropical forest), and Siberia (boreal forest). As a result, we revealed the distribution of canopy height and aboveground biomass in the study areas. Furthermore, we implemented the following: (1) quantitative estimates of canopy height change according to typhoon disturbance in Hokkaido, (2) estimation of yearly forest loss rate in Borneo, and (3) hot spots detection of forest change in Siberia. In this way, spaceborne LiDAR enables us to observe forest resources accurately at each footprint point. However, an analysis combined with the other imagery data should be needed for entirely forest monitoring, and the methodology has been studied in recent years. There are some plans of spaceborne LiDARs launched within a few years, and they will play an important role in global forest resources monitoring in the future.

Keywords: Canopy height, Forest biomass, Spaceborne LiDAR, ICESat/GLAS
Development of a low-cost in-situ methane observation system and results of field observation at a paddy field in India

*Masaya Izuhara*, Takehiro Hidemori¹, Masahiro Kawasaki¹, Tomoki Nakayama¹, Yutaka Matsumi¹, Hiroshi Sasago¹, Yukio Terao², Shohei Nomura², Toshinobu Machida², Wataru Takeuchi³, Minaco Adachi⁴, Ryoichi Imasu⁵, Surendra Kumar Dhaka⁶, Jagmohan Singh⁶, Kenshi Takahashi⁷

¹.Institute for Space-Earth Environmental Research, Nagoya University, 2.National Institute for Environmental Studies, 3.Institute for Industrial Science, the University of Tokyo, 4.Graduate School of Life and Environmental Sciences, University of Tsukuba, 5.Atmosphere and Ocean Research Institute, the University of Tokyo, 6.Rajdhani College, University of Delhi, 7.Research Institute for Sustainable Humanosphere, Kyoto University

Methane (CH₄) is the second most prevalent greenhouse gas next to carbon dioxide (CO₂). The atmospheric concentration of methane tends to increase year by year, and it is important to obtain detail information on the source of methane and seasonal variation of its concentration. Since there are many unclear points about the regional differences and seasonal variations of the methane concentration, further ground-based observations are needed to investigate them in detail. Previous studies suggest that the emissions of methane from farmlands in Southeast and South Asia have significant contribution to the methane concentrations. But, there are many difficulties to conduct observations in such farmlands. At the paddy field in north India where we plan to observe methane, electric power are available for only 2-3 hours a day at night and the duration of power supply is not stable. In addition, the place where we can set the measurement instrument is nothing but a barn in the farmland, and we must manage to prevent bad influences on instruments by rain, dust, bugs, and rats. Thus, it is difficult to use existing commercial instruments, which are typically operated in a clean laboratory. Therefore, we developed a low-cost measurement system of methane to use at rural and remote area. Moreover, we have conducted the methane measurement using the developed system at the paddy field in India.

In this study, we used LaserMethane (ANRITSU Co. Ltd.) to measure the atmospheric concentrations of methane. LaserMethane is the portable instrument with low electricity consumption, which can measure methane concentrations in real time. LaserMethane is an open-path laser spectroscopic instrument which can measure methane selectively by tunable diode laser absorption spectroscopy. We developed a power supply, a data logging, and a remote control equipment for continuous operation of LaserMethane at remote area. We have conducted the methane observation at Sonipat, Haryana in India which is located at north of Delhi since the end of 2014 using the developed system. Along with LaserMethane, we have also obtained methane concentrations from the off-line analyses of ambient air, which have been sampled typically once a week, using gas chromatography. The concentration data of LaserMethane are calibrated by the air sampling data and meteorological data.

In this presentation, we will present the introduction of the developed system and the measurement results which were obtained in 2015 at the paddy field in Sonipat, India. It showed that the concentrations of methane increased in monsoon season and winter. This characteristic enhancement of methane concentrations observed in monsoon season is considered to be due to the large methane emission from paddy field during rice cultivation. In addition, the real-time measurements indicated that the large variation of methane concentrations between day and night often appeared. We will also discuss the sources of the observed seasonal and diurnal variations.

Reference

Keywords: in-situ methane measurement system, field observation in India, rice paddy field
Annual variation of soil respiration in subtropical afforestation forest in Taiwan

*PoNeng Chiang¹, Jui-Chu Yu¹, Yen-Jen Lai¹

¹Experimental Forest, National Taiwan University

Global forests contain 69% of total carbon stored in forest soil and litter. But the carbon storage ability and release rate of warming gases of forest soil also affect global climate change. Soil carbon cycling processes are paid much attention by ecological scientists and policy makers because of the possibility of carbon being stored in soil via land use management. Soil respiration contributed large part of terrestrial carbon flux, but the relationship of soil respiration and climate change was still obscurity. Most of soil respiration researches focus on template and tropical area, little was known that in subtropical area. Afforestation is one of solutions to mitigate CO2 increase and to sequestrate CO2 in tree and soil. Therefore, the objective of this study is to clarify the relationship of tree species and soil respiration distribution in subtropical broad-leaves plantation in southern Taiwan. The research site located on southern Taiwan was sugarcane farm before 2002. The sugarcane was removed and fourteen broadleaved tree species were planted in 2002-2005. Sixteen plots (250m*250m) were set on 1 km2 area, each plot contained 4 subplots (170m2). The forest biomass (i.e. tree height, DBH) understory biomass, litter, and soil C were measured and analyzed at 2011 to 2015. Soil respiration measurement was sampled in each subplot in each month. The soil belongs to Entisol with over 60% of sandstone. The soil pH is 5.5 with low base cations because of high sand percentage. Soil carbon storage showed significantly negative relationship with soil bulk density (p<0.001) in research site. The differences of distribution of live tree C pool among 16 plots were affected by growth characteristic of tree species. Data showed that the accumulation amount of litterfall was highest in December to February and lowest in June. Different tree species planted in 16 plots, resulting in high spatial variation of litterfall amount. It also affected total amount of litterfall temporal variation. Soil respiration was related with season variation in research site. Soil temperature and soil respiration showed highly spatial variation in 16 plots. Soil temperature showed significantly exponential related with soil respiration in research site (p<0.001). Annual soil temperature was decrease with tree age increasing in this 5 years. Annual soil respiration was showed decrease with tree age increasing. However, soil respiration showed significantly negative relationship with total amount of litterfall (p<0.001), suggesting that the tree was still young and did not reach crown closure.

Keywords: Soil respiration, Plantation, Spatial Variation
Spatial and temporal seasonal variation of CO$_2$ efflux from the soil surface in the boreal forests in Central Siberia

*Anastasia Vladimirovna Makhnykina$^{1}$, Anatoly Stanislavovich Prokushkin$^{2}$, Sergey Vladimirovich Verkhovets$^{1}$, Nataly Nikolaevna Koshurnikova$^{1}$

1.Siberian Federal University, 2.V.N. Sukachev Institute of forest of Siberian Branch RAS

In boreal forest ecosystems, soil CO$_2$ flux may account for 40-80% of the total CO$_2$ release in forest ecosystems [4], and it is the main pathway of transferring carbon from terrestrial ecosystems to the atmosphere. The amount of CO$_2$ released to the atmosphere through soil respiration is ten times greater than that resulting from the burning of fossil fuels [3]. Taking into account the considerable amounts of C stored in boreal soils [1] even small changes in soil respiration may cause great fluctuation in atmospheric CO$_2$ concentrations. Therefore, better understanding of soil respiration dynamics in diverse boreal forests is essential for understanding the global carbon balance [2].

The objectives of the present study are: (a) to study the dynamic changes in soil CO$_2$ efflux from the soil surface during frost-free season; (b) to identify the impact of meteorological variables (factors) on soil CO$_2$ efflux. The research was conducted in the boreal forests in Central Siberia (60°N, 90°E), Russia. Sample plots were represented by the lichen pine forest, moss pine forest, mixed forest and a plot with mineral sandy soil without a plant cover. We used the automated soil CO$_2$ flux system based on the infrared gas analyzer –LI-8100 (Li-cor Biogeosciences Inc., USA) for measuring the soil efflux. Soil temperature was measured next to each collar at the time of the CO$_2$ efflux measurement with Soil Temperature Probe Type E (Omega, USA) in three depths –5, 10, 15 cm. Volumetric soil moisture was measured with Theta Probe Model ML2 (Delta T Devices Ltd., UK).

The presence and type of ground cover substantially affects the value of soil respiration fluxes. In 2015, the flow of carbon dioxide from the soil surface averaged 5.4 ±2.3 μmol CO$_2$ m$^{-2}$ s$^{-1}$. The lowest soil respiration for forest areas was observed in the moss pine forest (1.14 μmol CO$_2$ m$^{-2}$ s$^{-1}$). The lichen pine forest had the intermediate values (mean and SD) of soil respiration. A sandy soil plot without a plant cover demonstrated the lowest soil respiration (0.12 μmol CO$_2$ m$^{-2}$ s$^{-1}$). The maximum soil respiration values and seasonal fluctuations were obtained in the mixed forest (29.62 μmol CO$_2$ m$^{-2}$ s$^{-1}$).

The correlation analysis of dependence between soil temperature, soil moisture and soil CO$_2$ efflux showed that an increase of temperature and soil moisture at the beginning of the growing season (June) leads to inhibition of soil respiration processes. At the end of the growing season (September), we recorded a reduction in the impact of two climate factors (soil temperature and moisture) on soil respiration intensity. Nevertheless, the soil temperature appears to be the major driver controlling the soil CO$_2$ efflux during the frost-free season in analyzed Siberian boreal forests.

Literature:

Keywords: soil carbon efflux, boreal forest, Siberian forest, soil respiration, soil temperature, soil moisture