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Inter-university Upper atmosphere Global Observation NETwork (IUGONET) project

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The Inter-university Upper atmosphere Global Observation NETwork (IUGONET) project (2009-2014) is an inter-university program by the National Institute of Polar Research (NIPR), Tohoku University, Nagoya University, Kyoto University, and Kyushu University to build a database of metadata (that is, data of data, such as observation period, type of instrument, location of data, and so on) for ground-based observations of the upper atmosphere since the IGY in 1950s. The IUGONET metadata database archiving such information of a variety of observations by radars, magnetometers, optical sensors, helioscopes, etc. in different locations all over the world and in various altitude layers from the troposphere up to the heliosphere will be of great help to researchers in efficiently finding and obtaining observational data they need. This should also facilitate synthetic analysis of multi-disciplinary data, which will lead to new types of research in the upper atmosphere. The IUGONET project is currently in the third year, and the development team is working on (1) creating metadata of archived observation data at each institution, (2) building the IUGONET metadata database system on the basis of a repository software, named DSpace, and (3) producing an integrated data analysis tool for our observational data with the TDAS (THEMIS Data Analysis Software) IDL libraries. Recently we have started a test location of the metadata database as well as a beta release of the developed data analysis tool for the community. We call for the comments on both of them from the researchers and thereby continue to improve toward the final release at the end of this year. The progress reports and future plan of the project will be presented.

Keywords: Upper Atmosphere, metadata, IUGONET