ACC32-01 Room:102A Time:May 24 09:00-09:15

Ice loss in small glacier systems of the Arctic Islands (Iceland, Svalbard, the East Arctic Islands) revealed by GRACE

MATSUO, Koji[1*], HEKI, Kosuke[1]

[1]Dept. Natural His. Sci., Hokkaido Univ.

The islands in Arctic region (Arctic Islands) are covered by water ice (i.e. ice sheet, glacier, and ice cap) over 80 % of their land area and form the largest store of water ice in Northern Hemisphere. Arctic Islands consist of Greenland, the Canadian Arctic Archipelago, Iceland, the West Arctic Islands (Svalbard) and the East Arctic Islands (Novaya Zemlya, Severnaya Zemlya, and Franz Joseph Land). The total of ice covered area in Arctic region is about ~2,000,000 km^2, and most of them are composed of ice sheet in Greenland (~ 1,750,000 km^2). As for glaciers and ice caps, about half (~ 150,000 km^2) is located on the Canadian Arctic Archipelago, another quarter is found around the Greenland region (~ 76,000 km^2), and the other quarter is on Iceland, and the West, East Arctic Islands (~ 100,000 km^2).

In recent years, rapid shrinking of continental ice sheets and mountain glaciers due to global warming has been reported in many parts of the world. A system of twin satellites Gravity Recovery and Climate Experiment (GRACE), launched in 2002 to measure time-variable gravity field, detected such large-scale mass changes as slight changes in the satellite-to-satellite range, and enabled direct and quantitative measurements of them. GRACE observation in the last decade revealed ice loss rates of 190 +/- 77 Gt/yr in Antarctica (e.g. Chen et al., 2009), 115 +/- 20 Gt/yr in Alaska (e.g. Tamisiea et al., 2005), 47 +/- 13 Gt/yr in Asian High Mountain Ranges (Matsuo and Heki, 2010), and 28 +/- 11 Gt/yr in Patagonia (Chen et al., 2007). As for the Arctic Islands, ice loss rates of 252 +/- 28 Gt/yr in Greenland (e.g. Schrama and Wouters, 2011), 62 +/- 10 Gt/yr in the Canadian Arctic Archipelago (Gardner et al., 2011), and 9 +/- 4 Gt/yr in Svalbard (Memin et al., 2011) have been reported until now. However, those in the other islands, such as Iceland and the East Arctic Islands, still remain uninvestigated.

In this study, we focus on the Arctic glaciers where their ice loss rates have not been reported yet, i.e. Iceland and the East Arctic Islands, and try to estimate current ice loss rates there using GRACE time-variable gravity data during 2003-2011. Here, we followed the method proposed by Matsuo and Heki (2010) as the estimation method of mass loss rate from GRACE data. And we used the Glacial Isostatic Adjustment (GIA) model presented by Paulson et al. (2007) in order to remove their contribution. Finally, we got 10.9 +/- 0.7 Gt/yr for Iceland and 10.6 +/- 3.1 Gt/yr for the East Arctic Islands (6.9 +/- 1.5 Gt/yr for Novaya Zemlya, 2.6 +/- 0.9 Gt/yr for Severnaya Zemlya, 1.1 +/- 0.7 Gt/yr for Franz Joseph Land) as current ice loss rates, which are substantially faster rates in comparison to those estimated by field observations during 1961-2001 of 2.5 +/- 8.7 Gt/yr for Iceland and 0.8 +/- 4.1 Gt/yr for the East Arctic Islands (Dyurgerov and Meier, 2005). This suggests that the global tendency of accelerating ice loss also can be seen for these Arctic glaciers.

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Keywords: Glacial melting, Space geodesy, GRACE, The Arctic, Global warming, Sea level rise

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ACC32-02 Room:102A Time:May 24 09:15-09:30

Diversity of Glacier Surface Velocity in the West Kunlun Shan, NW Tibet, Detected by Synthetic Aperture Radar

YASUDA, Takatoshi[1*], FURUYA, Masato[2]

[1]Graduate School of Science, Hokkaido University, [2]Department of Natural History Sciences, Hokkaido University

Many mountain glaciers are developed in West Kunlun Shan (WKS) located in NW Tibetan plateau. Annual temperature and precipitation in WKS is 13.4 degree C and ˜460mm, respectively (Zheng et al., 1988). Precipitation mainly occurs in warm season (May-Sept) (Kang and Xie, 1989). Glacier type in WKS are polar or poly-thermal glacier (Thompson et al.,1992), and clean type glacier. These previous studies, no/less short term velocity changes were expected at WKS. In this study, we detected surface velocity fields of a number of valley glaciers in West Kunlun Shan, using pixel-offset technique based on Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR) data. We assumed that glaciers flow parallel to surface topography and converted results to surface velocity field. From our results, we elucidated diversity of glacier surface velocity in WKS. For example, we detected seasonal variation on Duofeng glacier, north-slope of WKS. Surface velocity during June-July was up to ˜170% above winter background values. Surface velocity increased in warm season, so melt water probably caused seasonal variation in WKS. N2 and West Kunlun glacier was accelerated and advanced. Zhonfeng glacier, south-slope of WKS, was clearly decelerated and velocity distribution changed. Surface velocity abruptly decreased in the middle of a stream and no/less flowed in lower part (stagnant flow). These results coincided with glacier surge. Glacier surge caused acceleration / deceleration of surface velocity and advancing of terminus. According to result of Zhonfeng glacier, stagnant flow probably reflected quiescent period of glacier surge (Murray et al, 2003). Consequently, there were possibilities that precipitation and melt-water in warm season and glacier surge caused diversity of surface velocity of mountain glacier in WKS.

Keywords: SAR, mountain glacier, surface vlosity, West Kunlun Shan, glacier surge, seasonal variation

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(May 20-25 2012 at Makuhari, Chiba, Japan)

ACC32-03 Room:102A Time:May 24 09:30-09:45

Flow velocity measurement of Hubbard Glacier, Alaska, by L-band Synthetic Aperture Radar, ALOS/PALSAR

ABE, Takahiro[1*], FURUYA, Masato[1]

[1]Dept. Natural History Sci., Hokkaido Univ.

Hubbard Glacier is the largest tidewater glacier in North America, whose length is about 120km from the flanks of Mt. Logan (5989m) in Yukon, Canada. It terminates in Disenchantment Bay and Russell Fiord in Alaska. The terminus has been previously observed due to its complicated and seasonal fluctuations (e.g., Ritchie et al., 2008). However, it remains unknown how the middle and upper parts will behave in terms of both their spatial and temporal characteristic. That is why we focus on the middle stream part and investigate the flow velocity.

We use ALOS/PALSAR data, which was launched by JAXA in 2006. SAR stands for Synthetic Aperture Radar, and it enables us to detect surface deformation with high spatial resolution regardless of sunlight and weather. In order to detect the glacier flow velocity, we performed pixel offset (feature tracking) technique applying to the SAR intensity images. Moreover, we estimate the 3-D flow field by using ASTER GDEM Ver.2. Because there are 14 SAR images around the Hubbard Glacier, we could derive the flow velocity maps at 7 epochs so that we could examine the spatial and temporal changes in the flow velocity field.

Two major findings at the time of this writing are as follows. First, the maximum velocity is about 1.3m/day. Secondly, the velocity in winter is 80% faster than that in summer. We have currently no idea how to explain the second observation result. But, if it is true, this result is consistent with the terminus changes (advance in winter and retreat in summer) in Ritchie et al (2008).

We are also going to show some results of other glaciers in Yukon.

Japan Geoscience Union Meeting 2012
(May 20-25 2012 at Makuhari, Chiba, Japan)

ACC32-04 Room:102A Time:May 24 09:45-10:00

Space and Time Variations of Glacier Flow Velocities in Patagonia Icefield, Inferred from ALOS/PALSAR and Envisat/ASAR

MUTO, Minami[1*], Masato Furuya[1]

[1]Dept. Natural History Sci., hokkaido Univ.

Recent studies of the Greenland and Antarctic ice sheets show that the ice sheets are thinning but accelerating, and contribute increasingly to global sea level rise. Meanwhile in the Patagonia Icefields, which are the world's largest temperate ice masses, flow velocity fields remain largely unknown because of the difficulty of field-based studies. There are a lot of glaciers, and most of these are reported to have been retreating recently. In order to estimate the effects of variation in glaciers and ice sheets on global sea level, it is important to understand the glacier flow in the Patagonia Icefields. In this study, we estimate flow velocity fields of glaciers in Patagonia, using Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR), one of the all-weather microwave remote sensing techniques.

In this study, we detected glacier flow at some glaciers in the Southern Patagonia Icefield (SPI), including Perito Moreno glacier, using Pixel offset (Feature tracking) technique based on ALOS/PALSAR (2006˜2011) and Envisat/ASAR (2002˜) data. Then, we estimated flow velocities, assuming that the glaciers flow parallel to surface topography based on SRTM4 digital elevation model (DEM).

In addition, we estimated 3-D displacements of Perito Morerno glacier in another way without terrain information, using two SAR data acquired from ascending and descending orbits. We compared these results to the results of the above method.

The results show flow velocity fields at some glaciers in SPI from 2002 to 2011.

In Perito Moreno glacier, the inferred flow velocity reached a maximum of 3 m/day. This result is mostly consistent with previous studies. There are few temporal changes in the velocity fields between 2003 and 2011. In addition, we compared the results by two methods and found apparent differences in the vertical components of the flow velocities.

PioXI glacier shows rapid acceleration near the terminus in 2003 and 2005. This cannot be explained only by the seasonal variation, and is different from those at other glaciers.

We are also going to show our measurement results at Upsala glacier, Occidental glacier, and so on.

Keywords: ALOS, PALSAR, feature tracking, Patagonia, glacier flow

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(May 20-25 2012 at Makuhari, Chiba, Japan)

ACC32-05 Room:102A Time:May 24 10:00-10:15

CHARACTERISTICS OF INHOMOGENEOUS GLACIER AREA CHANGE IN BOLIVIAN ANDES

LIU, Tong[1*], Tsuyoshi KINOUCHI[1], Fabiola LEDEZMA[1]

[1]Tokyo Institute of Technology

The changing sizes of glaciers in the Bolivian Andes between 1987 and 2010 were determined using cloud-free Landsat Thematic Mapper (TM) images. A method of extracting glaciers was developed that uses the ratio of bands L4 and L5 computed from at-sensor radiance. A 30-m digital elevation model (DEM) derived from ASTER data helped to group the glaciers according to their catchments and slope orientations. Advanced Land Observing Satellite (ALOS) AVNIR-2 data were used to validate the method and identify glacier boundaries.

Glaciers in Bolivian Andes such as Condoriri, Tuni, and Huayna Potosi tended to be more affected by slope orientation, with their greatest area loss on wet-facing slopes. This phenomenon may be partly explained by analyzing meteorological conditions. Assuming that glacier melt occurred when the air temperature over glacier surfaces and incoming shortwave radiation values were both positive, this happened between 09:30 and 18:30 during dry season, whereas between 07:30 and 20:30 in the wet season. In both seasons, the time spans were shorter before noon and longer after noon. As a result, west-facing slopes received solar radiation for a longer span of time each day, which may partly explain why glacier shrank faster on west-facing slopes. Furthermore, incoming longwave radiation reached its peak value in afternoons, which may also have enhanced glacier melt by providing more energy. In addition, hill shade also showed strong influence on glacier melting.

Keywords: Glacier retreat, Slope orientation, Landsat, ALOS, Band ratio

ACC32-06 Room:102A Time:May 24 10:15-10:30

Radar characterization of the basal interface across the grounding zone of an ice-rise promontory in East Antarctica

MATSUOKA, Kenichi[1*], Frank Pattyn[2], Denis Callens[2], Howard Conway[3]

[1]Norwegian Polar Institute, [2]Universite Libre de Bruxelles, [3]University of Washington

Radar power returned from the basal interface along a 42 km long profile over an ice-rise promontory and the adjacent Roi Baudouin ice shelf, Dronning Maud Land, East Antarctica, is analyzed to infer spatial variations in basal reflectivity and hence the basal environment. Extracting basal reflectivity from basal returned power requires an englacial attenuation model. We estimate attenuation in two ways: (1) using a temperature-dependent model with input from thermomechanical ice-flow models; and (2) using a radar method that linearly approximates the geometrically corrected returned power with ice thickness. The two methods give different results. We argue that attenuation calculated using a modeled temperature profile is more robust than the widely used radar method, especially in locations where depth-averaged attenuation varies spatially or where the patterns of basal reflectivity correlate with the patterns of the ice thickness.

Keywords: Antarctica, ice sheet, ice shelf, radar

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(May 20-25 2012 at Makuhari, Chiba, Japan)

ACC32-07 Room:102A Time:May 24 10:45-11:00

Glacial lake formation and its impact on dynamic thinning of glaciers in the Bhutan Himalaya

TSUTAKI, Shun[1*], FUJITA, Koji[1], YAMAGUCHI, Satoru[2], SAKAI, Akiko[1], NUIMURA, Takayuki[1], KOMORI, Jiro[1], TAKENAKA, Shuhei[3], TSHERING, Phuntsho[4]

[1]Graduate School of Environmental Studies, Nagoya University, [2]Snow and Ice Research Center, National Research Institute for Earth Science and Disaster Prevention, [3]Earth System Science Co.,Ltd., [4]Department of Geology and Mines, Ministry of Economic Affairs, Kingdom of Bhutan

A number of supraglacial lakes formed on the termini of debris-covered glaciers in the Bhutan Himalaya as a result of glacier retreat due to climate change. The terminal part of the lake-terminating glaciers flow faster than that of the land-terminating glaciers because the basal ice motion is enhanced by high subglacial water pressure generated by lake water. Increased ice flux caused by the accelerated glacier flow could be dissipated through the calving process which reduced the glacier thickness. It is important to understand the interaction between lake formation and glacier dynamics. Although glacier flow velocity has been measured by remote-sensing analysis in several regions of the Himalayas, glacier thinning rates have been observed by neither in-situ nor remote-sensing approaches. We investigate the influence of the presence/absence of glacial lakes on glacier dynamics and changes in surface elevation.

We study two debris-covered glaciers in the Lunana region, the Bhutan Himalaya. Thorthormi Glacier is a land-terminating glacier with some supraglacial lakes while Lugge Glacier is a lake-terminating glaciers. We surveyed the surface elevation of debris-covered areas of the two glaciers in 2004 and 2011 by a differential GPS. Change in surface elevation of the lake-terminating Lugge Glacier (-5.7– -2.5 m a^{-1}) was much more negative than that of the land-terminating Thorthormi Glacier (-3.3–0.7 m a^{-1}). Surface flow speed of the Thorthormi Glacier measured during 2002–2004 was faster in the upper reaches (90 m a^{-1}) and reduced toward the downstream (40 m a^{-1}). In contrast, the surface flow speed at the Lugge Glacier measured in the same periods was 40–55 m a^{-1} and the greatest at the lower most part.

Observed spatial distribution of surface flow velocity at both glaciers were evaluated by a two-dimensional numerical flow model. Calculated emergence velocities are 1.9–18.8 m a^{-1} at the Thorthormi Glacier while -12.0–2.7 m a^{-1} at the Lugge Glacier. This result suggests that decreasing in flow velocity towards the terminus in the Thorthormi Glacier causes compressive flow. It suggests that the compressive flow of the Thorthormi Glacier counterbalanced surface melting, resulting in inhibition of the surface lowering. In contrast, the extensional flow of the Lugge Glacier accelerated the surface lowering. Speed up of glacier terminus induced extensional flow regime causes the thinning of ice and increase in basal motion, which will lead to further flow acceleration. Such positive feedbacks have been found over the ice streams in the polar ice sheets. In this study we showed the observational evidences, in which the similar feedbacks make contrast the terminus behaviours of glaciers in the Bhutan Himalaya. If the supraglacial lake on Thorthormi Glacier expanded, the surface lowering may be accelerated in the future.

Keywords: Glacier, Glacier lake, Glacier flow

ACC32-08 Room:102A Time:May 24 11:00-11:15

Elevation changes in Lirung Glacier by field surveys 1996-2008 in Langtang valley, Nepal Himalaya.

NUIMURA, Takayuki[1*], FUJITA, Koji[1], OKAMOTO, Sachiko[1], TAKENAKA, Shuhei[2], HOSHINA, Yu[1], NAGAI, Hiroto[1]

[1]Nagoya University, [2]Earth System Science Co.,LTD.

Larger parts of glacier surface in the Himalayas are covered with debris. Changes in elevation are essential for monitoring fluctuations in debris-covered glaciers because the supraglacial debris mantle makes it difficult to detect changes in area. Therefore, an approach using remotely sensed (RS) digital elevation models (DEMs) is feasible solutions to evaluate how fast Himalayan glaciers are changing in volume. Because the RS-DEMs generally include various errors, validation and calibration using field measurements data are necessary for accurate estimation of elevation. However, few ground-based observational studies have been available because of remoteness and high altitude in the regions.

We calculate changes in elevation of the glacier surface using field geodetically measurement (theodolite with laser distance finder) in 1996, 1999, and differential GPS (DGPS) measurements in 2008 at Lirung Glacier in Langtang Himal, Nepal Himalaya. Individual surveys were co-registered by referring to benchmarks installed on bedrock around the glacier in 1996. Those points data were converted to 30-m-grid DEMs for calculating changes in elevation. We also calculated changes in elevation of the glacier surface using multi-temporal RS-DEMs calibrated with DGPS data in 2008. The calibration is co-registration of each RS-DEM against DGPS derived DEM in 2008 by minimizing the root mean square error over glacier-free terrain, where no elevation change is expected. RS-DEMs used in this study are topographical map derived DEM in 1992, SRTM DEM in 2000, and ASTER DEMs between 2001 and 2004. Temporal changes in elevation is calculated by generating a weighted least square linear regression model. We will show the result in presentation.

Keywords: glacier, Himalaya, GPS, remote sensing, DEM, Langtang

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(May 20-25 2012 at Makuhari, Chiba, Japan)

ACC32-09 Room:102A Time:May 24 11:15-11:30

A variation in chlorophyll concentration during the thaw period in the snowpack of Tohkamachi City, Niigata-Prefecture

ONUMA, Yukihiko[1*], TAKEUCHI, Nozomu[2], TAKEUCHI, Yukari[3], YAMAGUCHI, Satoru[4], Kazuhide Sato[5]

[1]Graduate student, Graduate School of Science, Chiba Univ., [2]Chiba Univ., [3]Tohkamachi Experimental Station, FFPRI, [4]Snow and Ice Research Center, NIED, [5]Nagaoka National College of Technology

It is known that snow algae breed on the surface of the snowpack in thawing season. Breeding of snow algae colors the surface of the snowpack with red and causes the phenomenon of red snow. Snow algae are the special organism which was adapted to cold environment. But, about detailed ecology, such as conditions of breeding, it does not understand in many cases. Although especially acidification of the snowfall in Japanese each place in recent years, come flying of yellow sand, and change of the snowfall by global warming are considered to have influence also on the ecology of snow algae, it is not known at all about those details. Snow algae in snowpack can be evaluated quantitatively by analysis of chlorophyll concentration. Then, in this study, I analyze the chlorophyll concentration on the surface of snowpack in the period of winter to spring, and aim at clarifying the seasonal variation and clarifying the environmental factor of the change. Comparison with the chlorophyll concentration and the snow cover model.

The target samples are snowpack of the Tohkamachi Experimental Station, FFPRI in this research. The samples extracted every about two weeks were analyzed until the snowpack was disappeared in the period from January to April in each year in 2009 to 2011. The analysis items of the samples are EC, pH, and chlorophyll concentration.

As a result of analysis, there is almost no change of the chlorophyll concentration on the snowpack in the period from January to March in 2011 below at 3.29microg /L, and it increased to 20microg /L from 5microg /L rapidly from the end of March. As a result of comparing with the meteorological data which the Tohkamachi Experimental Station, FFPRI observed, it became clear that the thawing season in Tohkamachi in 2011 began in the end of March. It is related to the increase in the amount of thaw and chlorophyll concentration, and it is thought that water content of snow has influenced.

When compared with change of chlorophyll concentration on the snowpack surface in 2009 and 2010, it became clear similarly that chlorophyll concentration increased to 25microg /L from 5microg /L in the end of March also 2010. As a result of correlation with the analysis results from 2009 to 2011, and EC, pH, the water content, the density, the temperature, and depth of each snowpack in 2009 to 2010, correlation was accepted by the amount of chlorophyll, the water content, the density, the temperature, and depth of snowpack in 2011. But, there was a parameter without correlation for other years. From this result, the factor which chlorophyll concentration increases may exist besides the water content of snowpack. In addition to the parameter which correlation above, there is a possibility that solar radiation and nutrient salt have affected chlorophyll concentration.

Keywords: snow algae, chlorophyll, the thawing season, the snow cover model

ACC32-10 Room:102A Time:May 24 11:30-11:45

Free Translation of Ice Ih Induced by Field Gradient Force

UYEDA, Chiaki[1]*

[1]Graduate School of Science Osaka University

Magnetically induced translation was newly observed for crystals of mm-sized ice (Ih) in micro-gravity condition produced by a chamber-type drop shaft. Here the crystals were released in an area of monotonously decreasing static-field filled with N2 gas medium (P=10E5 Pa). It was deduced from a Newton equation that terminal velocity of the translating ice outside the field was independent to mass m of crystal; in a given field distribution, the velocity is uniquely determined by intrinsic diamagnetic susceptibility (per unit mass) of the material. Value of susceptibility obtained from observed terminal velocity agreed fairly well with the published value of ice Ih; 8x10-7emu/g. Relationship between susceptibility and m value of crystal was experimentally examined in a range of m = 30-5 mg. No sign of m dependence was seen for the measured susceptibilities above the extent of experimental error. The above two results indicated that the observed translation of ice followed the assumed Newton equation. The experimental setup developed in this work will become the basis to observed magnetic ejection of other volatile solids that are the major solid components in the outer solar system; namely, carbon-dioxide, ammonia, or methane. The above translation observed in micro-gravity can be applied to detect susceptibility of a single small particle, because the method is not affected by interferences of the sample holder used in conventional methods; the new method is also free of mass measurement. Provided that sample motion is observable, susceptibility is obtained for a small sample irrespective of its size [2]. Based on the obtained efficiency of measuring susceptibility, possibility of constructing a compact apparatus of material identification is discussed, which can analyze the volatile dust particles in a simple manner during a mission orientated toward the outer solar-system.

The above translation was previously observed for popular diamagnetic materials such as calcite, corundum, forsterite, graphite and alpha-quartz[1]. Magnetic orientation of magnetically stable axis with respect to field direction was reported as well for the above crystals including ice; the rotation was caused by diamagnetic anisotropy. Possibility of magnetically-induced dynamical motions, namely translation & rotation, has been recognized only on materials that possess spontaneous moments or strong paramagnetic moments. A chamber type drop shaft was developted to study the procedure of releasing the ice sample in our home laboratory. The compact drop shaft was recently adopted in an educational program performed at a senior high school; there, a two fold capsule system was introduced to improve the level of micro-gravity[2].

[1] C.Uyeda et al, J.Phys.Soc.Jpn. 79 (2010) 064709
[2]Kasugaoka Senior High School (Osaka-Pref.) JpGU meeting 2011 & 2012. Union session, Poster presentations by senior high school students.

Keywords: chamber type micro-gravity system, ice Ih, magnetic ejection, diamagnetic susceptibility, magnetic orientation, material identification

ACC32-P01 Room:Convention Hall Time:May 24 13:30-14:30

Antarctic ice sheet surface temperature change derived from MODIS and AWS

SHIMADA, Rigen[1*], KITAYAMA Tomoaki[2], NISHIO Fumihiko[3]

[1]Graduate School of Science, Chiba University, [2]Jaoan Agency for Marine-Earth Science and Technology, [3]Center for Environmental Remote Sensing, Chiba University

Antarctic ice sheet holds approximately 70% of the fresh water on earth. If it melts, sea level will rise about 57m. So, it is important to know the dynamics.

Temperature rise in the entire Antarctic ice sheet in the past 50 years have been reported from studies using ice sheet surface temperature derived from satellites and atmospheric surface temperature observed by meteorological observation.

These two types of temperature are different from the view of radiation balance, however, often used on same time and confused in these studies. In addition, their difference is not considered.

In this study, we show the difference and structure of Antarctic ice sheet near surface temperature from same point and same time comparison of ice sheet surface temperature derived from MODIS Daily Land Surface Temperature Product (MODIS LST Product) and Atmospheric surface temperature observed by AWS. And we also show the Antarctic ice sheet near surface temperature change in recent years considering its features.

MODIS LST Product estimates land surface temperature based on split window method using thermal infrared bands. Spatial resolution is 1km and its automatic geometric correction accuracy has improved.

Automatic Weather Station set on the whole region of Antarctica by AMRC, Wisconsin University, and so on. And it is observing Atmospheric surface temperature, pressure, wind speed and wind direction per 10 minutes of 3 meters height. In this analysis, we use 90 points Atmospheric surface temperature since 2002 to 2010.

As a result, ice sheet surface temperature is lower than Atmospheric surface temperature. This difference shows inverse temperature structure from ordinary one in troposphere and it changes seasonally. Especially, the difference is large in summer night and winter.

It is considered that the difference is caused by surface inversion layer occurred to balance of solar radiation and radiative cooling. Because, MODIS LST Product is ice sheet surface temperature, however, AWS is Atmospheric surface temperature of three meters height. So, their difference of observation height causes temperature difference.

The difference is classified to latitude. Low latitude area, temperature difference is same as the features on whole region. On the other hand high latitude area, temperature difference almost doesn't change during a day.

It is considered that this difference is caused by change of solar radiation quantity with change of solar height.

From the results obtained in the entire Antarctic ice sheet surface temperature changes from 2002 to 2010 from MODIS, temperature rate of change shows a downward trend in whole region. Rate of change of temperature is determined at each pixel of the image while the entire Antarctic tends to decrease in a wide region, the surface temperature tends to be elevated in most of the coastal area of East Antarctica, coastal area of the Antarctic Peninsula and slope area.

Possible upward trend in the slope of the temperature, which can be attributed to the influence of thermal belt has increased. That tends to shrink from the temperature difference indicated by the comparison of MODIS and AWS in slope area, considered as ground inversion layer has weakened in recent years is the driving force of the katabatic wind, thermal belt slope becomes relatively temperate belt that steal the sensible heat transport and effect of cold is reduced in recent years are likely to appearance will be considered, and that caused the global warming in the slope.

Keywords: Antarctic ice sheet, Surface temperature, Surface inversion

Japan Geoscience Union Meeting 2012
(May 20-25 2012 at Makuhari, Chiba, Japan)

ACC32-P02 Room:Convention Hall Time:May 24 13:30-14:30

Spatial and temporal variability of snow accumulation rate and snow chemistry at East Antarctic ice sheet

MOTOYAMA, Hideaki[1*], Kazue Suzuki[3], Antarctic SMB monitoring group[1]

[1]National Institute of Polar Research, [2]The Graduate University for Advanced Studies, [3]Institute of Statistical Mathemati

Snow stakes along the traverse routes have been observed for long term monitoring program 'the variation of ice sheet surface mass balance' from the 1960's by the Japanese Antarctic Research Expedition in Shirase glacier drainage basin, East Antarctica. During the traverse route between coastal S16 point (69 02'S, 40 03'E, 580m a.s.l.) to inland Dome Fuji (77 22'S, 39 42'E, 3,810m a.s.l.), the snow stake observations every 2 km have been carried out from 1993. Latest stake heights were measured in January 2011 and February 2011. Yearly net snow accumulations from S16 to Dome Fuji were calculated. Heavy snow events were shown in 1998, 2004, 2005, 2008-2009 and 2010. Otherwise, in 1994, 1996, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002 and 2006, light snow events were observed. They were different in way accumulating spatial pattern depending on places. The yearly accumulation rates were compared with seasonal change of AAO-index (SAM). As a result, yearly accumulation rate and AAO-index showed the positive correlation.

We would indicate the spatial distributions of air parcel origins. So we calculate air transport by using the NITRAM trajectory model (Tomikawa and Sato, 2005) and ERA-Interim meteorological data set in 1990-2009. The time duration is 5 days and we suppose the origin of air parcel is the point of trajectory at 5 days ago. The starting points are distributed on 1 deg. x 1 deg. grids over Antarctica and its altitude is 1,300m above the surface. We indicate the spatial distributions of air parcel origins to Antarctica. If there were high ratios of sea origin atmosphere in the inland, there was much snow. It is indicated that the humid air from the sea is the main origin of snowfall. But such relations were not seen on the coast.

We try to understand the cause of heavy snow and light snow event with snow chemistry.

Keywords: Antarctic ice sheet, snow accumulation rate, snow chemistry, spatial and temporal variability

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(May 20-25 2012 at Makuhari, Chiba, Japan)

ACC32-P03 Room:Convention Hall Time:May 24 13:30-14:30

Characteristic Seismic Waves Associated with Cryosphere Dynamics in Eastern Dronning Maud Land, East Antarctica

KANAO, Masaki[1*], YAMADA, Akira[2], YAMASHITA, Mikiya[3]

[1]National Institute of Polar Research, [2]Geodynamics Research Center, Ehime University, [3]JAMSTEC

Several kinds of natural source signals are recorded by seismic exploration stations on the continental ice-sheet in Eastern Dronning Maud Land, East Antarctica, during 2002 austral summer. They include not only tectonic earthquakes, but also ice related phenomena possibly involving recent global climate change. The recorded signals are classified into (1) teleseismic events, (2) local ice-quakes and (3) unidentified events (X-phases). The teleseismic waves show the high signal-to-noise ratio in spite of the small magnitude of the event: this indicates that it is highly feasible to study not only the local shallow structure but also the deep structure of the earth by using teleseismic events. Frequency spectra of the all waveforms represent discordances along the observation seismic profile. The abrupt change of topography in the valley along the seismic profile might cause both the anomalous frequency content and travel-times. Finally, an origin of the X-phases is speculated as the intra-plate earthquakes or possibly large ice-quakes (glacial earthquakes) around Antarctica, involving global warming appeared in polar region.

The characteristic seismic waveforms from various natural sources (teleseismic, local ice-quakes and unknown X-phases) are obtained by the SEAL-2002 exploration in Eastern Dronning Maud Land, East Antarctica. Interesting features of the seismic wave propagation around Antarctica are significantly demonstrated. Anomalous behavior of the waves characterized by the focusing/defocusing effects is possibly caused by a valley structure beneath the stations located at the middle of the seismic profile. Several characteristics were identified by detailed spectra analyses. A difference of the response generated from the valley structure might exist for different kinds of incident waves: i.e. P-wave incidence on the valley results in a frequency gap while on the other hand, S-wave incidence produces both the gap and the peak with a sufficient delay of the arrival-time. Although the origin of X-phases is not accurately identified, the most plausible candidates are an intra-plate earthquake or a large ice-quake (glacial earthquake) in the Antarctic. Maybe the pre-cursor vibration of the break-off process at the Larsen B Ice Shelf could be the most plausible candidate to cause the X-phases.

Keywords: Cryosphere dynamics, seismic waves, Antarctica, ice-sheet, Larsen-B, X-phases

Japan Geoscience Union Meeting 2012
(May 20-25 2012 at Makuhari, Chiba, Japan)

ACC32-P04 Room:Convention Hall Time:May 24 13:30-14:30

Study on mass balance at debris-covered Khumbu Glacier in the Nepal Himalaya

SAKAI, Akiko[1*], NUIMURA, Takayuki[1], FUJITA, Koji[1]

[1]Graduate School of Environmental Studies, Nagoya University

A lot of large glaciers are covered with thick debris at the lower part in the Nepal Himalaya. Furthermore, ice cliffs and ponds, which absorb heat for melt much larger than debris-covered ice, are distributed at the surface. And those often form and vanish. Those effect make it difficult to estimate mass balance of debris-covered glaciers. Nakawo and Young (198*) has established mass balance model of debris-covered glacier using thermal resistance. But, only few studies on comparison between the calculation using model and verification data has conducted so far.

We calculated mass balance at the Khumbu Glacier using Thermal Resistance model. Thermal Resistance has derived from the ASTER satellite image data and Meteorological data at Pyramid has used.

Mass balance profile deduced from the residual value between surface lowering and emergence velocity.

Those mass balance profile have compared and analysed. Results will be shown in the presentation.

Keywords: debris-covered glacier, thermal resistance, emergence velocity, mass balance

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Snow algal communities on Urumqi Glacier No.1 in Tienshan mountains, China

TANAKA, Sota[1*], TAKEUCHI, Nozomu[1], Li Zhongqin[2]

[1]Chiba University, [2]Chinese Academy of Science

Snow algae are algae which was adapted for cold environment, and is photosynthesizing and breeding on the glacier surface.

It is known that especially the glacier covered with the granules called the Cryoconite which made by cyanobacteria will dissolve by one the speed of 3 times of this.

Moreover, snow algae are used also for ice core research, and it can be said that it is important for earth science to get to know their ecology.

However, quantitive analysis of the snow algae is still restricted.

The glacier treated by this research is Wulumuqi No.1 glacier located in China Tien Shan.

Various researches including observation of mass income and outgo have accomplished here for many years, and acquisition of information other than snow algae is easy.

By the analysis of the sample in the 2007 fiscal year conducted before, and comparison of an analysis result with other glaciers in the world, it was showed that although cyanobacteria are dominance but small numbers of greenalgae also be there, and it was suggested that this formation factor is an arid region of the circumference of a glacier.

This feature differs from all of the glacier of other Asian areas where analysis of the snow algae was conducted similarly.

This time, the newly extracted sample in the 2011 fiscal year was analyzed, and the feature of the snow algal community of Wulumuqi No.1 glacier and the further understanding of the formation factor were tried.

As aresult, same feature as the above was seen also in 2011. This may be the general feature in Wulumuqi No.1 glacier in recent years. Furthrmore, there are the other features common to that in 2007 and 2011. Many kind of cyanobacterium are observed rather than greenalgae. The total biomass being large at ice area and falling in a snow area. Cyanobacterium are dominance in ice area, and greenalgae are dominance in snow area.

On the other hand, some change was also seen.

It is that the biomass increased on the whole, and that the altitude over which many Oscillatoriaceae cyanobacterium 2 are distributed was changing from the glacier lower stream to the middle class, etc.

As one of the factors which change of such a feature generated, change of the chemical component concentration on the surface of a glacier can be considered.

In addition, analysis of the sample in the 2006 fiscal year is also advancing as further candidate for comparison now.

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Three years mass balance and its longterm fluctuation of Potanin glacier, Mongolian Aitai

KONYA, Keiko[1*], Kadota Tsutomu[1], Davaa GOmbo[2], Purvedagva Karzan[2], Yabuki Hironori[2], Ohata Tetsuo[1]

[1]JAMSTEC, [2]Institute of Meteorology and Hydrology

In order to understand global climate change, it is necessary to extend the observation network of the mass balance of as many as glaciers in the world. It has been reported that Potanin glacier in western Mongolia is shrinking. However, mass balance research is not sufficiently done. Potanin glacier (49 09 N, 87 55 E) in Mongolian Altai is 10.44 km in length, 2 km in width and ranges from 4373 to 2900 m a.s.l. and the area was 24.34 km2 in 2003. Precipitation is remarkably large and summer (JJA) mean temperature is positive. Stakes measurements and pi works have been done with 14 stakes in 2005, 2008 and 2990 mass balance year. Pollen of Betulaceae, Pinus and Artemisia are detected in the pits and are used as seasonal indicators.

Mass balance of Potanin glacier in the mass balance year of 2008 was extremely negative and of 2009 was less negative. Mass balance of Potanin glacier showed more negative mass balance Compared to Maliy Aktru glacier in Russian Altai. Although both showed decreasing tendency, the difference is due to topography and climate of the regions. It is probable that precipitation as snow or rain had an influence on mass balance. Mass balance of glaciers in Altai may continue decreasing in future.

Keywords: glacier, Altai, mass balance, Mongolia, glacier fluctuation, glacier meteorology

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Reconstruction of depositional environment at upstream of Potanin Glacier, Mongolian Altai using pollen analysis

NAKAZAWA, Fumio[1*], KONYA Keiko[2], KADOTA Tsutomu[2], OHATA Tetsuo[2]

[1]National Institute of Polar Research, [2]Japan Agency for Marine-Earth science and technology

This study analyzed pollen in snow pits dug in September of 2008 and 2009 at upstream of Potanin glacier in Mongolian Altai to investigate the environment of recent snow deposits. The snow pit observations in both years were carried out at site 0 and 4 of 3752 m and 3890 m above sea level, respectively. In the 2008 observation, the pollen analysis revealed that the pit at site 0 included the deposition from summer of 2007 to autumn of 2008, while that at site 4 included the deposition between the autumns of 2007 to 2008. On the other hand, the pollen analysis in the 2009 observation showed the snow pit at site 0 contained the deposition between the autumns of 2007 to 2009, while the pit of site 4 covered the deposition from the winter of 2008/2009. In the layers of 2007 and 2008, concentration peaks of pollen taxon that scattered from spring to summer seasons were found at the same depths. This indicated that the summer melt reached the spring layer being previous season. Accordingly, pollen grains in the melted layer concentrated at the summer melt surface, causing pollen peaks. In contrast, each concentration peak of pollen taxon that scatters in different seasons appeared at the different depth of the 2009 layer. This suggested the degree of melting was weaker than that in 2007 and 2008. The interpretation was supported by summer temperature data (June?August) in this region. The anomalies of monthly air temperatures in summer during 1990 and 2009 remained negative in 2009, while they remained positive in 2007 and 2008. Annual depositions were estimated by *Artemisia* pollen concentration peak that was used as a marker of autumn season in this study. The annual snow depositions at site 0 were 1.18 m (0.61 m water equivalent) and 1.69 m (0.69 m water equivalent) for the autumns of 2007 to 2008 and the autumns of 2008 to 2009, respectively. Also, the respective snow depositions for the same periods at site 4 were 2.44 m (1.04 m water equivalent) and more than 3.34 m (1.38 m water equivalent).

Keywords: glacier, pollen analysis, Altai, Mongol, snow deposition, Potanin glacier

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Quest of the first Japanese glacier in Mts. Tateyama and Mt. Tsurugi, the northern Japanese Alps

FUKUI, Kotaro[1*], Hajime IIDA[1]

[1]Tateyama Caldera Sabo Museum

In order to find the first Japanese glacier, we have researched surface flow velocity and ice thickness of the Gozenzawa perennial snow patch in Mts. Tateyama (3015 m asl), the Sannomado and the Komado perennial snow patches in Mt. Tsurugi (2999 m asl) in the northern Japanese Alps, central Japan since 2009.

The Sannomado and the Komado perennial snow patches have large ice masses (>30 m in thickness). We measured that the both ice masses had flowed over 30 cm month^{-1} in the autumn of 2011. Thus, we regard the both snow patches as active glaciers.

The Gozenzawa perennial snow patch has also a large ice mass (27 m in thickness). We identified that the ice mass had slightly flowed (less than 10 cm month^{-1}) in the autumns of 2010 and 2011. Thus, we also regard the snow patch as active glacier.

Keywords: glacier, perennial snow patch, Mts. Tateyama, Mt. Tsurugi, glacier flow

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Snow Particle Speed in Blowing Snow obtained with SPC 2

YOKOYAMA, Chika[1*], Yoichi Ito[1], NISHIMURA, Kouichi[1]

[1]Graduate School of Environmental Studies, Nagoya university

The transport of snow by the wind has major implications in engineering and geophysical fields. On roads, drifting snow causes snowdrifts and reduced visibility. In mountainous regions, non-uniform distribution of snow due to blowing snow, such as locally increased snow drift and snow cornices on the leeward of slopes, leads to avalanche release. Redistribution of snow by the wind is also important for hydrological processes and mass balance, especially in Arctic and Antarctic regions.

In the last decade, large progress has been made in modelling blowing snow. However, interaction between snow particles and air, that is one of the key processes in the model, is still poorly understood. In this study we tried to obtain the snow particle speeds in the blowing snow directly with the Snow Particle Counter (SPC). The SPC is able to sense particle diameter as well as particle number and, in general, is used to measure the change in the mass flux with time, such as every second. However, the high frequency recordings of the signal from the transducer make possible to deduce the particle speed one by one. Analysis was carried out using the data measured not only in the cold wind tunnel but also at the Col du Lac Blanc, French Alps and Mizuho Station, Antarctica.

Then, obtained particle speed distribution was discussed with wind speed profiles, hardness of the snow surface and so on. Further, comparison was made with the Lagrangian stochastic model, which accounts for the turbulence effects on the suspension of snow grains and also includes aerodynamic entrainment, the grain-bed collision process, wind modification by grains, and a distribution of grain sizes.

Keywords: blowing snow, SPC

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A report on the yukigata watching held by the International Yukigata Society

NOHGUCHI, Yasuaki[1*]

[1]National Research Institute for Earth Science and Disaster Prevention

When a seasonal snow cover disappears on a plain and a snow line of seasonal snow cover retreats on a mountain in spring, a complex pattern of white domains covered with remaining snow and dark domains of the ground surface appears on a mountain-side. Some of the white domains of remaining snow and the dark domains of ground surface are likened to men, animals, tools, etc., and are called yukigata in Japanese, which means snow and form. This paper is the A report on the yukigata watching held by the International Yukigata Society

Keywords: yukigata, International Yukigata Society, yukigata watchin

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Snowpack estimations in the starting zone of large-scale snow avalanches using the SNOWPACK model

TAKEUCHI, Yukari[1*], HIRASHIMA, Hiroyuki[2]

[1]Tohkamachi Experimental Station, Forestry and Forest Products Research Institute, [2]Snow and Ice Research Center, National Institute for Earth Science and Disaster Prevention

The Makunosawa valley in Myoko is ideally suited to study how meteorological elements influence avalanche activity, because snow avalanches have often occurred there. Since 2000, five large-scale snow avalanches with a running distance exceeded 2000 m have been observed and some characteristics on avalanches in this valley have been obtained from the 12 winter seasons up to 2011. However the characteristics of snowpack in the starting zone of the large-scale avalanches have not been obtained, because it is too difficult to approach there and snow pit observation have not been carried out in the starting zone. We simulated the snow profile and stability index of the snowpack in the starting zone using the SNOWPACK model. Meteorological data (air temperature, relative humidity, precipitation, global radiation, atmospheric radiation and wind speed) was used as input data for the simulation. Air temperature was corrected for the starting zone altitude (1700 m a.s.l.) considering a lapse rate of 6.5 x 10^{-3} ^{o}C m^{-1}. The slope angle (40 degrees) and the direction were inputted as same as those in the starting zone. In the results, similar characteristics were found in the snowpack before the three dry-snow avalanches occurred in February. That is to say, faceted grains were formed near the snow surface due to large temperature gradient during nighttime and much snow was deposited on the faceted snow layer in succession. The avalanches were considered to have been released because of the faceted snow layer with small shear strength and rapid loading from snowfall. On the other hand, the faceted snow layer was not found before one avalanche occurred in January and the sliding surface of the avalanche was presumed to be new snow. The only wet-snow avalanche was considered to be released because the decrease in the shear strength due to infiltration of meltwater and increase in the liquid-water content in the boundary of two layers with different grain sizes.

Keywords: SNOWPACK model, snow avalanche