

Observation of optical and chemical properties of aerosols at a forest site in Kii Peninsula during summer of 2014

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Aerosols scatter and absorb solar radiation and influence to the radiation balance in the atmosphere. Forests are a significant source of both primary biological aerosol particles (PBAPs) and biogenic secondary organic aerosols (BSOAs). In addition, polluted air masses including sulfate and black carbon (BC) particles may also be long range transported to forest areas in Japan. If the BC particles were coated with inorganic and/or organic materials during the long-range transport, the light absorption of BC could be enhanced due to the lensing effect. However, relations of aerosol optical properties including lensing effect with chemical properties of aerosols in Asian forest area have not been well understood. In this work, optical and chemical properties of aerosols were simultaneously measured in a forest site in Japan.

The observations were conducted from 17 July to 3 September 2014 at the Wakayama Forest Research Station, Kyoto University, Japan (34.06N, 135.52E, around 535 m above sea level), which is located in the central part of Kii Peninsula. Ambient particles were sampled from an inlet placed at 6.4 m above ground level. Absorption and scattering coefficients of PM₁ particles were measured using two photoacoustic spectrometers (PASS-3 at $\lambda = 405, 532, 781$ nm and PAX at $\lambda = 375$ nm, DMT) after passing aerosols through a heater controlled at 300 °C or a bypass line by switching ball valves every 10 min. By comparing absorption coefficients at 781 nm with and without heating, increase in BC light absorption due to coating can be estimated. Mass concentrations of non-refractory materials were measured using an aerosol mass spectrometer (AMS, Aerodyne Research). Mass concentrations of elemental carbon (EC) and organic carbon (OC) were also measured by thermo-optical technique using a semi-continuous EC/OC analyzer (Sunset Lab.). Size distributions of particles were measured using a scanning mobility particle sizer (SMPS, TSI) and optical particle counters (OPCs, RION and TSI). Aerosol particles were also collected using an impactor for morphological analysis using a transmission electron microscope (TEM). Optical thickness (AOT) and extinction Angstrom exponent of aerosols were also measured using a Skyradiometer (Prede). In the presentation, relation between the obtained optical properties with chemical and physical properties of aerosols will be discussed.

Keywords: Aerosol optical property, Ambient measurement, Forest site, Biogenic SOA, Lensing effect, Photoacoustic spectroscopy