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Coupling processes in the Solar-Terrestrial System

TSUDA, Toshitaka[1*]

[1]Research Institute for Sustainable Humanosphere (RISH), Kyoto University

Coupling process in the solar-terrestrial system" aims to study the solar energy inputs into the Earth, and the response of Geospace (magnetosphere, ionosphere and middle atmosphere) to the energy input. The solar energy can mainly be divided into two parts - the solar radiation involving infra-red, visible, ultra-violet and X-ray, and solar wind which is a high-speed flow of plasma particles. The solar radiation becomes maximum at the equator; and atmospheric disturbances are actively generated near the Earth's surface. They further excite various types of atmospheric waves which propagate upward carrying energy and momentum. On the other hand, the energy associated with the solar wind converges into the polar regions where disturbances are generated. A part of the energy is transported toward lower latitudes and lower atmospheric regions. We propose to establish large atmospheric radars with active phased array antenna at the equator and the Arctic region. Among the equatorial regions, we focus on the Indonesian region where atmospheric disturbances are most intense. We will establish a comprehensive observatory in Indonesia with the Equatorial MU (EMU) radar as its main facility. Alongside, we will take part in the construction of the state-of-the-art radar, called EISCAT_3D, in northern Scandinavia under international collaborations. We will also develop the global observation network of portable equipment from the equator to both polar regions, and study the flow of the energy and materials in the whole atmosphere.

Keywords: solar-terrestrial system, coupling process, Equatorial MU radar, EISCAT_3D radar, Global network, IUGONET