Understory CO_2, sensible heat, and latent heat fluxes in a black spruce forest in interior Alaska

*Hiroki Ikawa[1,2], Taro Nakai[3,2], Busey Robert[2], Kim Yongwon[2], Hideki Kobayashi[4], Shin Nagai[4], Masahito Ueyama[5], Kazuyuki Saito[6], Hirohiko Nagano[7,2], Larry Hinzman[2], Rikie Suzuki[4]

1.National Institute for Agro-Environmental Sciences, 2.International Arctic Research Center, 3.Hydrospheric Atmospheric Research Center, Nagoya University, 4.Department of Environmental Geochemical Cycle Research, Japan Agency for Marine-Earth Science and Technology, 5.Graduate School of Life and Environmental Sciences, Osaka Prefecture University, 6.Department of Integrated Climate Change Projection Research, Japan Agency for Marine-Earth Science and Technology, 7.Faculty of Horticulture Chiba University

In this presentation, we would like to introduce our recent publication, Ikawa et al., 2015, Agricultural and Forest Meteorology:
http://audioslides.elsevier.com//ViewerSmall.aspx?source=1&doi=10.1016/j.agrformet.2015.08.247
An open black spruce forest, the most common ecosystem in interior Alaska, is characterized by patchy canopy gaps where the forest understory is exposed. This study measured CO_2, sensible heat, and latent heat fluxes with eddy covariance (EC) in one of those large canopy gaps, and estimated understory fluxes in a black spruce forest in 2011 –2014. Then understory fluxes and ecosystem fluxes were compared. The understory fluxes during the snow-free seasons were determined by two approaches. The first approach determined understory fluxes as the fluxes from the canopy gap, assuming that fluxes under the canopy crown also had the same magnitude as the canopy gap fluxes. The second approach determined the understory fluxes by scaling canopy gap fluxes with a canopy gap fraction, assuming that only canopy gaps, which mostly constitutes the forest floor, contribute to fluxes. The true understory fluxes would be in between these two estimates. Overall, the understory accounted for 53 (39 –66) %, 61 (45 –77) %, 63 (45 –80) %, 73 (56 –90) %, and 79 (59 –98) % of the total net ecosystem productivity (NEP), gross primary productivity (GPP), ecosystem respiration (RE), sensible heat flux (H), and latent heat flux (LE), respectively. The ratio of understory NEP (NEP_U) to the ecosystem NEP (NEP_E) and similarly calculated LE_U/LE_E during the daytime increased with vapor pressure deficit (VPD) at low VPD conditions (~ 2000 Pa) at half-hourly temporal scale. At high VPD conditions, however, NEP_U/NEP_E decreased with VPD, whereas LE_U/LE_E was maintained at the high level even at high VPD conditions. Despite large ranges of the estimates for the understory contributions, we conclude that the understory plays an important role in the carbon and energy balances of the black spruce ecosystem, and their contribution highly depends on the level of VPD.

Keywords: carbon cycle, boreal forest, understory

CH_4 Flux of Asian Terrestrial Ecosystems Based on a Soil Respiration Chamber Network

*Naishen Liang[1], Munemasa Teramoto[1], Jiye Zeng[1], Jin-sheng He[2], C.D. Fletcher[3]

1.Center for Global Environmental Research (CGER), National Institute for Environmental Studies (NIES), 2.Peking University, 3.Forest Research Institute Malaysia

Methane (CH_4) is the second important greenhouse gas (GHG) after carbon dioxide (CO_2), because CH_4 has a relative global warming potential 28-36 times of CO_2 at a 100-yr time horizon. Moreover, atmospheric CH_4 concentration has doubled since 1800 and contributes about 20% to the global radiative forcing. Recently, a process-based coupled biogeochemical model estimated that CH_4 emission from global terrestrial ecosystems was 144.39±12.90 Tg C/yr with an increasing rate of 0.43±0.06 Tg C/yr between 1981 and 2010 (Tian et al. 2015). The dominant sources of CH_4 are nature wetlands and rice fields.
Asian wetlands occupy vast areas from tropical peat swamp forests in Southeast Asia to boreal marsh in Northeast Asia, and as well as alpine meadow on the Tibet Plateau. Furthermore, Monsoon Asia is the largest rice-producing area. The countries of this region together produce 90% of the global output of rice. Thus, Asia plays an important role in the regional exchange of CH_4 between terrestrial ecosystems and the atmosphere. However, currently Monsoon Asia is under various pressures such as land-use and climate changes. Quantifying CH_4 balance is helpful for understanding their response and feedback to the changing world, and simultaneously is critical for setting targets for GHGs (e.g. CO_2, CH_4, N_2O) emission reductions and to identify and promote mitigation strategies. This talk will present CO_2/CH_4 fluxes and their controls of a meadow peatland on Tibet Plateau, a larch forest in central Japan, and a tropical rainforest in the Peninsular Malaysia by using multichannel automated chamber systems.

Keywords: Chamber network, CH4 flux, Larch forest, Tibet Plateau wetland, Tropical rainforest

Estimation of carbon translocation and allocation in Siberian larch saplings at Mongolian forest using ^{13}C pulse-labeling experiment

*Asami Kitayama[1], Atsuko Sugimoto[2], Byambasuren Mijidsuren[3], Batdelger Purevsuren[3]

1.Graduate School of Env. Science, Hokkaido Univ., 2.Faculty of Earth Env. Science, Hokkaido Univ., 3.Mongolian University of Life Science

Tree-ring analysis has been conducted in Mongolian northern forest area to investigate tree response to rapid environmental change in recent years. The results showed that severe drought events induced decrease in Siberian larch tree growth in recent years. However, physiological response of larch trees to environmental change has not yet been well understood in this region. In addition, it is still not clear how tree allocates assimilated carbon in tree body, although it is necessary to interpret tree-ring data.
Thus, we conducted ^{13}C pulse-labeling experiment using larch tree saplings in 2014 summer at KT site (47.7N, 107.6E) to estimate carbon allocation in trees and physiological response to environmental change in this region. Larch tree saplings were labeled by $^{13}CO_2$ in the middle of June and the beginning of August. The labeled trees were sampled for the period from 1 week to 1 year to investigate carbon allocation in tree body.
Most of the ^{13}C assimilated in the middle of June was kept in the needles until just before defoliation, and the carbon allocation to other tree parts (e.g. branches, stem and roots) was small. Assimilated ^{13}C in the beginning of August rapidly translocated from needles to other parts, and the carbon allocation to the roots was large compared to ^{13}C assimilated in June. The result probably indicates carbon accumulation in autumn for growth in the following year. Our results also showed a possibility that ^{13}C fixed in August preferentially allocated from storage pools to needles for growth of new shoots in the following spring compared to ^{13}C assimilated in June.

Keywords: Mongolia, Larch tree, 13C pulse-labeling, Carbon allocation

Effects of elevated CO_2 levels and N fertilization on biomass and C and N contents of rice: Insights from Tsukuba FACE

*Kentaro Hayashi[1], Takeshi Tokida[1], Miwa Arai[1], Hidemitsu Sakai[1], Yasuhiro Usui[2], Hirofumi Nakamura[3], Toshihiro Hasegawa[1]

1.National Institute for Agro-Environmental Sciences, 2.NARO Hokkaido Agricultural Research Center, 3.Taiyo Keiki

Rice is a staple crop in monsoon Asia, and its world production is the second largest next to that of maize. Rice paddies under submergence are an anthropogenic source of methane as a potent greenhouse gas. According to the fifth IPCC assessment report, rice paddies account for approximately 11% of the anthropogenic methane emissions. It is of great concerns how the increasing atmospheric CO_2 levels (eCO_2) affect rice production and rice paddy methane emissions in the near future. In many cases, nitrogen (N) fertilizers are applied to rice paddies, and the N cycle in rice paddy ecosystems is closely interacted with the carbon (C) cycle. To enhance the predictability of rice production and C and N cycles in rice paddy ecosystems in the future, effects of eCO_2 and different N availability on C and N cycles in rice paddy ecosystems and these mechanisms should be unraveled.
A free-air CO_2 enrichment (FACE) experiment in an open field enables to elucidate responses of actual ecosystems to eCO_2. The National Institute for Agro-Environmental Sciences, Japan, had operated a FACE facility (Tsukuba FACE) in Tsukubamirai City, Ibaraki Prefecture since 2010. Single cropping of paddy rice is conducted with the following agricultural practices; submersion in late April; fertilization and puddling in middle May; transplanting of rice seedlings in late May; continuous submergence until the drainage in middle to late August; harvesting in middle to late September; a fallow season with bare soil and rice residues until the next spring; and several tillage events with a mixing depth of approximately 15 cm during the fallow season. Four rectangular bays are used for experiments. A FACE plot is set in each bay, accompanied by an ambient plot. Each FACE plot is equipped with an octagonal ring with a diameter of 17 m for pure CO_2 release. The FACE equipment automatically regulates CO_2 release to achieve the average target CO_2 levels, 200 ppm above the ambient level. Treatments other than CO_2 are N fertilization (0N, no application; SN, 8 g N m^{-2}; HN, 12 g N m^{-2}), temperature (ambient, +2°C for floodwater), and rice cultivars.
Five-year data (2010–2014) of Koshihikari, a staple cultivar in this region, showed that the aboveground biomass of rice was increased by eCO_2 for all the N treatments (0N, +8%; SN, +10%, HN, +11%). The brown rice yield at SN and HN were also increased by eCO_2 (SN, +12%; HN, +11%), whereas that at 0N did not respond to eCO_2. Thus, the harvest index (the ratio of yield to aboveground biomass) of SN and HN were unchanged by eCO_2, but that of 0N was decreased by 5% under eCO_2. This result implies that the CO_2 fertilization effect does not reach to grains under low N availability. The seasonal methane emissions were increased by 5% (SN) under eCO_2. In the presentation, study results on the carbon and nitrogen contents and the allocation of biomass between shoot and root under eCO_2 and different N availability will be shown. It is expected that such the knowledge gives good insights to research on responses of C and N cycles in terrestrial ecosystems to eCO_2.
This study was supported by Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research, Nos. 22248026, 24114711, and 2625206, provided by the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science. Tsukuba FACE was established and maintained by ''Development of technologies for mitigation and adaptation to climate change in Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries'', a project provided by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Japan.

Keywords: FACE, Rice, Rice yield, Biomass, Carbon cycle, Nitrogen cycle

Mapping of year-to-year deforestation area in insular Southeast Asia

*Shin Nagai[1], Rikie Suzuki[1]

1.Department of Environmental Geochemical Cycle Research, Japan Agency for Marine-Earth Science and Technology

Accurate mapping of year-to-year variability of the spatial distribution of deforestation is important to evaluate the biodiversity, ecosystem functions and services in tropical ecosystems under rapid human activities. In Malaysia and Indonesia, deforestation and vegetation plantation establishment by planting oil palm or acacia have continued. Here, we examined the ratio of the number of days of Terra and Aqua MODIS satellite-observed daily green-red vegetation index (GRVI) < 0 to number of days of all GRVI with high quality (mainly without cloud contamination) for each year from 2001 to 2014 in insular Southeast Asia. We found that the area of deforestation and vegetation recovery were detected each year in southern part of Malay Peninsula, lowland area in Sumatra, and Sarawak and Central Kalimantan in Borneo. Our finding suggests that the biodiversity, ecosystem functions and services may be deteriorating in large areas in Malaysia and Indonesia.

Keywords: satellite observation, deforestation, year-to-year variability, insular Southeast Asia

Large scale evaluation of decadal forest biomass changes using repeated airborne LiDAR observations in northern Japan.

Kojiro Hirayama[1], *Kentaro Takagi[1], Nobuko Saigusa[2], Keiji Okada[1], Ryoji Sameshima[1], Hiroyuki Oguma[2]

1.Hokkaido University, 2.National Institute for Environmental Studies

Valid estimation of terrestrial carbon cycle depends strongly on the accurate estimation of changes of global forest carbon stock. To estimate forest biomass changes, its vertical structure is critical information, and airborne light detection and ranging (LiDAR) is expected to be an effective method to measure. We examined the feasibility of estimating forest biomass changes using two airborne LiDAR measurements of forest height acquired 10 yr apart (2004 and 2014) over the Teshio Experimental Forest (225 km^2) of Hokkaido University in northern Japan. Whole the area of the experimental forest was divided into 23,502 cells having 1 ha cell size, and the decadal change of the mean canopy height (ΔMCH) was obtained for each cell using the two digital surface models observed in 2004 and 2014, then the ΔMCH was converted into the biomass changes using a linear relationship obtained from the relationship between MCH and the biomass for the experimental forest (Takagi et al., 2015). Estimated decadal biomass change was validated using the ground observation obtained from long-term forest biomass observation plots and artificially logged-plots during the period.
Decadal net biomass change had large spatial variation ranging from +35 to - 50 MgC ha^{-1}, even after excluding the artificially logged plots during the period. The average was 4.06±6.44 (SD) MgC ha^{-1}, where the photosynthetic biomass increase was 11.7±4.79 MgC ha^{-1} and the tree carbon decrease, caused by coarse woody litter or tree falling, was 8.71±4.08 MgC ha^{-1}. These values were comparable with the results obtained from ground surveys or tower flux observations operated in Hokkaido, northern Japan. The decadal net biomass change was significantly lower at high elevation, north facing slope, large tree height variance, and coniferous forest, and significantly higher at south facing slope, deciduous forest, and secondary forest. The photosynthetic biomass increase was linearly correlated with the decadal average of the MODIS Vegetation Indices, with r^2=0.64 for NDVI and 0.52 for Green ratio, which implies the application of MODIS Vegetation Indices to further large scale estimation of forest biomass change using satellite observation.

Keywords: Airborne LiDAR, Forest, Biomass change

Vertical profile of photosynthetic functions and its seasonal variation in a cool temperate forest

*Katsuto Tsujimoto[1], Argo Kawashima[1], Tomomichi Kato[2], Hiroyuki Muraoka[3], Taku M Saitoh[3], Tomoko Akitsu[4], Kenlo N Nasahara[4]

1.Graduate School of Agriculture, Hokkaido University, 2.Research Faculty of Agriculture, Hokkaido University, 3.River Basin Research Center, Gifu University, 4.Faculty of Life and Environmental Sciences, University of Tsukuba

Vegetation activity is affected by many kinds of environmental stresses. To detect those environmental stresses on land ecosystem' photosynthesis remotely, spatially-widely and instantaneously, remote sensing (RS) technics for chlorophyll fluorescence (ChlF) have been developed recently. However, such RS watches only the top of canopy, and may miss the activity under the canopy where much of biomasses are still existing. This leads to an estimation error on the physiological state of ecosystem. To make sure how much of estimation error may exist, therefore, it is necessary to investigate the vertical profile of photosynthetic stresses.
To reveal the vertical profile on the relationship between the photosynthetic stresses and environments, diurnal courses of light, temperature and fluorometric parameters were measured in an evergreen coniferous forest (*Cryptomeria japonica* and *Chamaecyparis obtusa*; 36°08'N, 137°22'E, 800m a.s.l) and an deciduous forest (*Quercus crispula Blume* and *Betula ermanii*; 36°80'N, 137°82'E, 1420 m a.s.l) in Takayama, Japan in June, August, and October in 2015. The measurements were conducted at three heights on the eddy flux towers at both sites. The photosynthetic active radiation and fluormetry parameters were detected by two fluorometers (FlourPen FP100 and FluorPen FP100-MAX, Photon Systems Instruments, Brno, Czech Republic) five times in a sampling day. In addition, leaf temperature also measured simultaneously by radiative thermometer (Radiation thermometer B, Shinwa).
As a result, quantum yield of the foliage in upper layers (21 m) declined in the midday more than those in middle (18 m) and bottom (13 m) layers for cedar leaves in the coniferous forest. On the other hand, in deciduous forest, there was little differences in diurnal course of quantum yield of birch leaves among three layers. This smaller vertical effect in deciduous forest is probably due to lower photosynthetic capacity of photosynthesis of birch foliage under canopy.

Keywords: Chlorophyll fluorescence, Environmental stress

Phenological changes in leaf optical properties of canopy trees and canopy surface reflectance in a cool-temperature deciduous broadleaf forest

*Hibiki M Noda[1], Kenlo Nishida Nasahara[2], Hiroyuki Muraoka[3]

1.NIES, 2.Univ. Tsukuba, 3.Gifu Univ.

The radiation reflectance from the canopy surface is used in the remote sensing of vegetation structure and biochemical properties, including photosynthetic capacity, water use and photoinhibition. The canopy reflectance is strongly affected by leaf are index (LAI) as well as leaf reflectance and transmittance of radiation in the canopy. Deciduous forest is characterize by the remarkable change in canopy structure such as leaf expansion in spring and leaf fall in autumn. In addition, leaf optical properties (spectral reflectance, absorption and transmittance of radiation) of the deciduous trees also changes according to the leaf growth and senescence because the leaf optical properties characterize leaf biochemical components, such as chlorophylls, carotenes, anthocyanins, nitrogen, cellulose, lignin and water, and anatomical structures.
The forest at Takayama site is a cool-temperate deciduous broadleaf forest on the northwestern slope of Mt. Norikura, in central Japan. The forest canopy is dominated by *Quercus crispula* Blume and *Betula ermanii* Cham. In this forest, we measured the leaf optical properties of these dominant trees during the growing season, from budburst in mid-May to senescence at beginning of November. The measurements were conducted in 2004, 2005, 2006 and 2010. The leaf reflectance in the red (620-670 nm), blue (459-479 nm) and green band (545-565 nm) dropped in the beginning of growing period and increased in senescing period. Near-infrared reflectance (841-876 nm) increased in the growing period. Then these leaf-level phenology was examined with the seasonal change of air temperature, and also up-scaled to canopy-level by a radiative transfer model SAIL to examine the canopy-level spectral reflectance observed at the same site from the leaf and canopy ecophysiological point of view.

Keywords: deciduous forest, phenology, remote sensing

Tracing the de-epoxidation reaction of the xanthophyll cycle in natural beech leaves using hyperspectral reflectance

*Rei Sonobe[1], Quan Wang[1]

1.Shizuoka University

The epoxidation state of the xanthophyll cycle pigments (EPS) is a useful measure of short-term changes in photosynthetic light-use efficiency and it is suggested as the best indicator for evaluating the state of xanthophyll cycles (Gamon et al. 1990). In order to calculate EPS, we have to measure the concentrations of the three xanthophyll cycle pigments (violaxanthin (V), antheraxanthin (A) and zeaxanthin (Z)) using high performance liquid chromatography (HPLC) (Thayer and Bjorkman 1990). However, its application is restricted to leaf scale and it is difficult to expand into large-scale monitoring.
On the other hand, remote sensing is one of the alternative strategies and the hyperspectral index, photochemical reflectance index (PRI) has been applied for evaluating light use efficiency in the previous studies (Filella et al. 2009; Gamon et al. 1992; Gamon et al. 1997; Sha et al. 2014; Stagakis et al. 2014). However, few studies have paid attention to the differences between sunlit and shaded leaves of deciduous plants and the relationship between PRI and photosynthetic light use efficiency is weak for deciduous species (Nichol et al. 2000).
In this study, we explored the ability of PRI to trace EPS based on a series of experiments with only light stress and inhibited treatments. Furthermore, the novel hyperspectral indices, a differential type of index using reflectance derivatives at 677 and 803 nm, was developed.
Results revealed that PRI had low correlations with the EPS of deciduous leaves, especially for sunlit leaves. On the other hand, the newly proposed index was applicable for both. Furthermore, it was applicable for various conditions generated by the inhibitor experiments or the samples obtained from other deciduous species (*Lindera umbellate*, *Clethra barbinervis*, *Viburnum furcatum*, *Eleutherococcus sciadophylloides*, *Quercus crispula* and *Acer japonicum*).

Keywords: EPS, hyperspectral reflectance, xanthophyll cycle

Comparison of the simulated global the canopy scale sun-induced chlorophyll fluorescence and satellite-based SIF measurements

*Hideki Kobayashi[1], Wei Yang[2], Kazuhito Ichii[1]

1.Japan Agency for Marine-Earch Science and Technology, 2.Center for Environmental Remote Sensing, Chiba University

Recent studies show that the terrestrial plant canopy sun-induced chlorophyll fluorescence (SIF) can be observed from satellites and the several SIF products have been produced. The potential application of these new products is being investigated. In this study, we performed a canopy and leaf level radiative transfer simulation to understand how leaf-level SIFs from sunlit and shaded leaves contribute to the canopy scale SIF that is observed by satellites. We also investigated how the sunlit and shaded SIF contributions varied with the observed angles. The results showed the large variations in sunlit and shaded leaf contribution regarding the observation angles. In particular, the SIF observation near the solar disc contains more sunlit leaf SIF information. We also found that the SIF emission after multiple scattering within canopy cannot be negligible.

Keywords: remote sensing, SIF, plant canopuy radiative transfer

Estimating evapotranspiration from seasonal wetlands in north-central Namibia based on satellite data fusion and VI-Ts method

*Hiroki Mizuochi[1], Tetsuya Hiyama[2], Kenlo Nishida Nasahara[3]

1.Graduate School of Life and Environmental Sciences, University of Tsukuba, 2.Institute for Space-Earth Environmental Research (ISEE), Nagoya University, 3.Faculty of Life and Environmental Sciences, University of Tsukuba

Estimation of evaportanspiration (ET) with highly spatio-temporal resolution is essential for various environmental applications such as plant dynamics monitoring, agricultural management, and assessment of human impact on local water environment. In such cases high spatial resolution (several tens to hundreds of meters) is required to describe heterogeneous land use or land cover (LULC) finely. However, existing researches for ET estimation by using land surface models or remote sensing have been mostly provided with insufficient spatial resolution (several tens to hundreds of kilometers). Thus we implemented ET estimation with highly spatio-temporal resolution based on three types of satellite images (AMSR series, MODIS, and Landsat ETM+) over a study site in north-central Namibia, where seasonal wetlands appear in rainy season.Our proposed method calculate ET from two ground source (one is surface water with vegetation, and the other is soil) separately, to appropriately describe the heterogeneous seasonal wetlands. It mainly consists of two phases: 1) satellite data fusion by using “database unmixing” (Mizuochi *et al.*, 2014) to obtain daily 30-m-resolution water maps, and 2) estimation of weekly ET with 30-m-resolution by VI-Ts method with MODIS short-wave radiation and land surface temperature (Ts) products. Although the VI-Ts method has been originally designed for a scatter plot between vegetation index (VI) and Ts to estimate air temperature and theoretical maximum soil temperature, we insteadly applied it between water index (MNDWI) and Ts. This application enabled us to evaluate ET from surface water and soil separately within sub-pixel scale (i.e. less than 30-m-resolution). Specific procedure of this phase is as follows: firstly, we calculated ET from soil based on the VI-Ts method and radiation and heat balance equation. Secondly, we calculated ET from surface water based on complementary relationship and Jarvis conductance model. Finally, we calculated total ET in each pixel as weighted-average of the soil ET and the surface water ET by water fraction (WF) of each pixel.We calculated spatio-temporal ET distribution in three test sites of north-central Namibia (each site has area of 5.3 kmx5.3 km) from 2003 to 2013, and then compared it with both in-situ flux data and MODIS ET product (MOD16), which is retrieved by Penman-Monteith equation. Also, we calculated 1) available energy (Q), 2) evapotranspiration fraction (EF), 3) surface water ET contribution (WC) within total ET, and 4) WF, to investigate the features of ET in seasonal wetlands.The estimated ET is consistent with the in-situ flux data, and the variation of ET from dry- to rainy-season was described well. Comparison among Q, EF, WC and WF revealed that in seasonal wetlands most of Q was used as ET, and most ET came from surface water source. Achieved ET in high spatial resolution could well describe the heterogeneous seasonal wetlands, whose scale is several tens to several hundreds of meters and is not detectable by MOD16. However, comparing with MOD16, our proposed method tends to overestimate ET. This means the necessity of the improvement in algorithm and more careful validation.The provided method enables us to describe ET from highly heterogeneous land surface, and it is applicable to the other regional-scale research over the world. Our next work will focus on the assessment of impact of anthropogenic LULC change on ET of the seasonal wetland, by changing scenarios of parameters in VI-Ts and Jarvis conductance model.

Keywords: database unmixing, VI-Ts method, seasonal wetlands

Optimization of a terrestrial ecosystem model by data assimilation: demonstrating flexibility of the particle filter

*Takeshi Ise[1], Shigeki Ikeda[1]

1.Kyoto University

Although data assimilation is widely used for optimization of simulation models, due to complexity, terrestrial ecosystem models have not become one of main targets of data assimilation. In this study, using the particle filter, a method of data assimilation, we show that a terrestrial ecosystem model with complex structure and abrupt behavior can be optimized. As a case study, leaf onset and offset phenology, abrupt behavior in forest ecophysiology, of deciduous trees in a terrestrial ecosystem model was optimized. Using satellite-based leaf area index, here we show the results of data assimilation where the set of model parameters were optimized.

Keywords: ecosystem modeling, data assimilation, terrestrial ecosystem

Impacts of leaf wetness on forest carbon cycle under air pollution

*Genki Katata[1], Yasutomo Hoshika[2]

1.Japan Atomic Energy Agency, 2.Institute of Sustainable Plant Protection, National Research Council of Italy

Tropospheric ozone impairs forest productivity and causes stomatal sluggishness, i.e., a delay in stomatal responses to fluctuating stimuli, which can change the carbon and water balance of forests. Nevertheless, this effect is not included in the current land surface model. In this study, we examine the effects of ozone-induced stomatal sluggishness on carbon assimilation and transpiration of temperate deciduous forests in the Northern Hemisphere by combining a multi-layer land surface model (SOLVEG) and a global atmospheric chemistry model. SOLVEG considers the processes of changes in the maximum rate of carboxylation (V_{cmax}) and the stomatal conductance (g_s) due to ozone uptake by leaves depending on canopy wetness level. The results demonstrate that ozone-induced stomatal sluggishness decrease water use efficiency, i.e., the ratio of net carbon assimilation to transpiration, of temperate deciduous forests at high ozone concentration areas. However, this effect was small in the regions with long wet spell of forest canopy due to high annual rainfall frequency, indicating that the ozone effect on forests also depends on canopy wetness period. Since wet spell in Asian region is expected to become shorter in future climate scenario, ozone-induced stomatal sluggishness and net carbon assimilation decline enhanced by long dry period under severe air pollution may change water and carbon cycle of forest ecosystems.

Keywords: Forest carbon cycle, Air pollution, Canopy wetness

Current status of data-driven estimation of terrestrial carbon and energy fluxes using eddy-covariance network and remote sensing data

*Kazuhito Ichii[1,2], Masayuki Kondo[1], Masahito Ueyama[3]

1.Japan Agency for Marine-Earth Science and Technology, 2.National Institute for Environmental Studies, Japan, 3.Osaka Prefecture University

The terrestrial biosphere plays important roles in regional and global energy and carbon cycles through biogeochemical and biophysical processes, in turn affecting the trajectory of climate change. Despite the importance of this issue, model intercomparison efforts have revealed large and persistent uncertainties in CO_2 fluxes among terrestrial biosphere models. Reducing uncertainties in terrestrial carbon cycle simulation is a challenging task because of insufficient observed CO_2 fluxes, which serve as references for refining terrestrial biosphere models at regional and global scales. Recently, the network of eddy-covariance observation has increased, and more data have become available to public. These datasets allow data-driven modeling (empirical upscaling) of terrestrial CO_2 and H_2O fluxes, and their application has shown significant progresses. Since data-driven models rely on the statistical relationship between observed fluxes and explanatory variables, the estimated flux is independent from terrestrial ecosystem models. Therefore, the results provide a new data constraint to terrestrial carbon and energy cycle communities.
In this presentation, we introduce an overview and applications of data-driven modelling to terrestrial biogeochemical studies. We used regional and global networks of eddy-covariance observations (e.g. AsiaFlux and FLUXNET) and remote sensing as the forcing of data-driven model, and conducted various applications using them. First, we will show the methodology and algorithms of data-driven model. Second, we will show the applications of the resulting data: i.e., spatio-temporal variability in terrestrial CO_2 flux (Saigusa et al. 2010; Ueyama et al. 2013) and energy balance (Ueyama et al. 2014). Third, we will present evaluation of data-driven models with an assimilation of atmospheric CO_2 from GOSAT Level 4A product (top-down approach) (e.g. Kondo et al. 2015). Fourth, we will demonstrate that regional/global CO_2 and H_2O fluxes upscaled by data-driven models can be used to refine terrestrial ecosystem models (e.g. Ichii et al. 2009).

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Acknowledgement
This study was supported by the Environment Research and Technology Development Funds (2-1401) from the Ministry of the Environment of Japan, the JAXA Global Change Observation Mission (GCOM) project (grant No. 115), and the JSPS KAKENHI (grant No. 25281003).

Keywords: Terrestrial biosphere, Upscaling, Material Cycle

Evaluation of interannual variations in primary productivity by a simple vegetation model

*Kazuyuki ATSUMI[1], Shunji OHTA[1]

1.Grad. Sch. of Hum. Sci., Waseda Univ.

In a terrestrial ecosystem, heterotrophs depend on primary productivity, which is affected by climate change. Various types of process-based models have been developed to estimate primary productivity, resulting in growing understanding about the roles of terrestrial ecosystems in material circulations and energy flows. However, meteorological constraints on phenology that influence seasonal changes in primary productivity are still uncertain. Prognostic leaf growth models are possible to contribute to interpret the mechanisms. We developed a process-based vegetation model driven by simple climate variables to estimate primary productivity. Using this model, we examined the spatiotemporal variability in primary productivity and the timing of leaf onset and fall.

This model consists of four submodules: (1) energy and water balance, (2) water-carbon exchange, (3) allocation of assimilated carbon, and (4) phenology. Photosynthesis and evapotranspiration rates are computed forced by simple meteorological variables (*i.e.* air temperature, solar radiation, precipitation, relative humidity, and wind speed) at a 30-min interval in (1) and (2). The computed primary productivity is then transmitted to (3) and (4) wherein leaf growth is calculated at a one-day interval. Leaf growth is computed based on meteorological resources and allocations of assimilated carbon. The proposed model considers the differences in biophysical and ecophysiological traits among plant functional types.

First, we examined interannual variations in gross primary productivity (GPP) at some flux tower sites. We used meteorological and biochemical data observed at flux towers and those archived in FLUXNET. Second, we evaluated spatiotemporal variability in GPP in Monsoon Asia. Gridded meteorological data from general circulation models (GCMs) were spatially interpolated to the resolution of vegetation distribution data. We examined the influences of the interannual variations in climate on GPP and leaf phenology.

The proposed model captured seasonal changes in the measured GPP per site. The estimates of interannual variations were rather comparable to the measurements. For example, the reduction in GPP due to a cool and wet summer in 2003 at Fujiyoshida was greatly reproduced. Although the model estimated a low GPP at Appi in the same year, the measured value was the greatest in 2000–2006. This discrepancy occurred possibly because the model ignores species-specific traits. However, the model comprehensively reproduced temporal changes in GPP in response to climate variations. The results of the experiment suggest GPP at the peak of leaf growth affects the growth after that and therefore annual GPP.

The total annual GPP in Monsoon Asia varied in response to interannual climate variations. There were some areas, where the interannual variability in GPP was large. This result shows that the GPP in these areas are sensitive to climate variations. In this presentation, we will discuss how climate variability affects the GPP through leaf phenology.

Keywords: interannual variation, simple climate variable, phenology

Integrated modeling of greenhouse gas budget of terrestrial ecosystem

*Akihiko Ito[1,2]

1.National Institute for Environmental Studies, 2.Japan Agency for Marine-Earth Science and Technology

Variation in greenhouse gas budget of terrestrial ecosystem can act as a positive or a negative feedback process to the human-induced climate change. It is necessary to estimate the greenhouse gas budget of terrestrial ecosystems with as high accuracy as possible, for developing an emission scenario, for making a projection with earth system models, for predicting climate change impacts, and for evaluating mitigation options. Global terrestrial models have mainly accounted for atmosphere-ecosystem exchange of CO2, which has the largest contribution to radaitive forcing change. Recently, several models have been developed to simulate terrestrial fluxes of CH4 and N2O. Dynamic Land Ecosystem Model (DLEM) and TRIPLEX-GHG are developed in the United States and Canada, respectively, and in Japan, Vegetation Integtated SImulator for Trace gases (VISIT) has been developed. In terrestrial ecosystems, CH4 and N2O fluxes have a more variety of emission sources and show greater spatial heterogeneity, making it more difficult to simulate them in comparison with CO2 fluxes. Namely, CH4 or N2O can determine the total greenhouse gas budget in several regions. Previous studies have implied that terrestrial ecosystems have absorbed CO2 through time, whereas CH4 and N2O emissions have been increased as a result of human land-use and climate change. Therefore, to evaluate the total effect of terrestrial ecosystems, it is necessary to include the contributions of CH4 and N2O. In fact, the Global Carbon Project began to conduct global syntheses of CH4 and N2O, in addition to CO2. Finally, I make discussions on the current status and problems related to this topic.

Keywords: Greenhouse gas, Climate change, Terrestrial ecosystem

Sap flow measurement for Japanese cedar throughout the year with three techniques and related problem

*Shin'ichi Iida[1], Shin'ichi Takeuchi[2], Takanori Shimizu[1], Koji Tamai[1]

1.Department of Soil and Water Conservation, Forestry and Forest Products Research Institute, 2.Minami Kyushu University

Forests cover about 66% of land area of Japan, and Japanese cedar (*Cryptomeria japonica*) occupies 18% of total forested area. In Kyushu Island, south-western part of Japan, the water balance of Japanese cedar stand has been made clear quantitatively by using eddy-covariance method and sap flow technique (Kumagai et al., 2014; Shimizu et al., 2015). Meanwhile, except these studies, very few measurements of sap flow have been carried out throughout the year, although Japanese cedar is the most representative planted species in the larger part of Japan. Recently, newly developed techniques, that is heat ratio method (HRM, Burgess et al., 2001) and heat field deformation method (HFD, Nadezhdina et al., 2012), have been available in Japan. Considering the background mentioned above, we preliminarily compared these new methods with traditional thermal dissipation method (TDM, Granier, 1985) for a mature Japanese cedar planted at the central part of Japan. (Iida et al., 2015a). In this study, we show the results of measurement with HRM, HFD and TDM throughout the year. And we point out the common problem of three techniques: calculated sap flow becomes smaller when a single sensor is used for relatively long period (i.e., more than 10 months).

We conducted measurements in a mature stand of Japanese cedar, whose age is 63, within Tsukuba Experimental Watershed located in southern part of Mt. Tsukuba, Japan. We picked up a tree of Japanese cedar whose height is 24.9 m and diameter at breast height is 40.4 cm, and installed sensors of TDP, HRM and HFD. We used handmade sensors for TDM (e.g., Iida et al., 2015b) and sensors for HRM and HFD manufactured by ICT international Pty Ltd (type SFM1 and HFD8, respectively). The length of TDM sensor was 20 mm, and the sap flux density was computed as mean value along the sensor length by the calibration equation proposed by Granier (1985). The width of sapwood was 44 mm, and additional TDM sensor was inserted into the sapwood at the depth from 20 to 40 mm. On the other hand, the length of HRM sensor was 35 mm, and the sap flow movement was detected at the depths of 12.5 and 27.5 mm. For HFD, the sensor length was 96 mm, and the depths of sap flow detected were 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80 and 90 mm.

The values of sap flux density by HFD showed high correlation with vapor pressure deficit (VPD). Generally, conifer canopy has large aerodynamic conductance due to the needle leaf, and therefore has high coupling with the ambient air. Thus, the high correlation with VPD is reasonable. Similar trends were confirmed for TDP and HRM. However, the relationships changed with time, and sap flux densities had become gradually smaller since the sensor installation. The clear deterioration was found at 10-months after the installation, in common to TDP, HRM and HFD. This may be induced by wounding or air embolism, which cause disruption in water flow around the sensors (e.g., Moore et al., 2010). Therefore, to obtain the whole-year dataset of sap flow, attentions must be paid for any deteriorations by checking the relationships between sap flow and VPD.

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Keywords: Japanese cedar, vapor pressure deficit, deterioration of detecting sap flow

Model-based analysis of tree-ring growth phenology in *Picea glehnii* forests on Hokkaido Island, Japan

*Dai Koide[1], Akihiko Ito[1]

1.National Institute for Environmental Studies

Recent global change is predicted to broaden uncertainty of ecosystems especially in terrestrial area. To reduce such uncertainties, tree-ring data is recently paid attention. Tree-rings have high potential to examine terrestrial carbon fluxes since tree-rings intrinsically correlate with forest carbon gains and stocks. A long observation time-span (decades to centuries) of tree-rings also increases its potential, extending observation period beyond fundamental flux-tower carbon observation (two or three decades). However, annual tree-rings are not simply in proportion to the annual sum of forest production. Annual tree-rings are made in a short time-span (e.g. two to three months) and such growing season's production is important for tree-rings though such growing season is still not clearly determined in ecosystem models for many tree species. This insufficient tree-ring growth phenology scheme has prohibited ecosystem modelers to use tree-ring data for validation though it has high potential to reveal spatiotemporal carbon stocks. Therefore, this research aims at revealing tree-ring growth phenology in conifer-hardwood mixed forests on Hokkaido Island, Japan.
Seven tree-ring site data of Sakhalin spruce (*Picea glehnii*) on Hokkaido Island were obtained from the International Tree-Ring Data Bank. At each site, mean chronology was calculated in BAI (basal area increment). Long-term climate data were obtained from the ERA20C reanalysis data (1900–2010) with downscaling and bias correction using random forest modeling and Automated Meteorological Data Acquisition System (AMeDAS) data on Hokkaido Island. Eight climatic parameters were used to construct the Vegetation Integrated SImulator for Trace gasses (VISIT) model. Flux data in Teshio flux tower site was used to modify the VISIT model. Net primary production (NPP) in each tree-ring site was predicted using the modified VISIT model and the downscaled ERA20C data. Predicted daily NPP were summed up for various periods (from a month to seven months at two weeks intervals) and in various temporal timings (at two weeks intervals). To analyze the most effective NPP period for BAI explanation, correlations between BAIs and the sum of each NPP period were calculated with random factor of sites and years and the best generalized linear mixed model was selected using the Akaike's information criterion (AIC).
Model selection revealed that a model using the sum of NPP from day of year 43 to 183 was the best model. This period contains tree-ring growing season (June) for *Picea glehnii* and other top models whose AIC differences from the best model were less than two also contained this season, suggesting importance of production in the tree-ring growing season. However, onset of the effective NPP period varied from January to May among these top models.
This research revealed that NPP in the tree-ring growing season is an important factor for tree-ring width variations. Although this analysis aimed at clarifying mean growth phenology among seven sites, differences in growth phenology among sites is expected to be a potential source of wide variance in the timing of onset. Although tree-ring growth phenology is difficult to observe, this research suggests that the growth phenology can be estimated from statistical analysis between tree-ring and NPP, which connects to a next step toward tree-ring-based validation of ecosystem models to reduce terrestrial ecosystem uncertainties.

Keywords: Process-based ecosystem model, VISIT, Phenology, Conifer-hardwood mixed forest, Allocation

Role of understory vegetation on net ecosystem exchange of water and CO_2 at larch forest in eastern Siberia

*Ayumi Kotani[1], Takeshi Ohta[1]

1.Graduate School of Bioagricultural Sciences, Nagoya University

This study investigated evapotranspiration (ET) and CO_2 exchange over larch-dominated forests in the middle part of the Lena basin, eastern Siberia. Forest ecosystem in this region is characterized by low precipitation, a short growing season, and extensive permafrost. Seasonal thawing permafrost supplies soil water, which is prevented to infiltrating by an impermeable frozen layer, and supports forest development. Recently, expanding summer thawing depth and unusually wet soil layer maintained for a few years at larch forest observation sites caused decline of larch trees (Iijima et al, 2014) and would have affected the water and carbon flux of ecosystem scale (Ohta et al., 2014). To investigate vulnerability of the larch dominant forest faced to too wet condition, we analyzed water and CO_2 fluxes observed with eddy covariance methods inside and over the forest from 2004 to 2013.
The study site is the Spasskaya Pad station (62° 15´N, 129° 14´E) on alluvial terrace near Yakutsk. The mean annual air temperature and mean annual precipitation (1986–2004) at this site were −9 ºC and 256 mm, respectively. In tower site, soil water of active layer is high after unusually high precipitation (compared with the previous 20-year average) in two successive summers, and soil layer close to the ground surface was almost saturated around 2007-2009. The dominant species of the upper canopy is larch (Larix cajanderi), while development of birch (Betula platyphyila) and willow (Salix bebbiana) is remarkable during this decade. The understory was covered with dense cowberry (Vaccinium vitis-idaea). Through the wet period, 19 of 212 larch trees on 2500 m^2 area became dieback, and grasses and shrubs with a high water tolerance have invaded this site.
A decadal observation of hydro-meteorological variables shows inter-annual variability including extreme environmental conditions such as unusually wet active layer, which was maintained for a few years. Some mature larch trees locating poor drainage area suffered wet damage, while young birch and willow trees developed and herbs with water tolerance expanded. Compared to the fluxes of the whole ecosystem, those based on the understory layer changed through the study period due to increase biomass and change of inside canopy environments; plentiful light and soil water, and enhanced turbulent mixing. Evapotranspiration from the understory layer increased and contribution to the whole forest flux reached 60%. Although this layer always acts as CO_2 source in seasonal average through the study period, source strength weaken and changed to temporal sink in the early summer (June). On contrast, contribution of the larch layer, in spite of remaining uncertainty in quantity, decreased in both of evapotranspiration and CO_2 uptake. Interactions between larches and understory vegetation would support this forest ecosystem. Decline of larch contribution is made up by understory growing, resulting in relatively stable whole forest exchange rate at least until this wet event.
Acknowledgment:
Observation data used in this study was provided by Y. Iijima (Japan Agency for Marine-Earth Science and Technology) and T. C. Maximov (Institute for Biological Problems of Cryolithzone).
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Keywords: boreal forest, water and carbon cycle, eddy covariance methods

Factors affecting global distribution of soil carbon in observational datasets and Earth system models

*Shoji Hashimoto[1]

1.Forestry and Forest Products Research Institute

Soil is the largest carbon stock in the terrestrial ecosystem. Therefore, understanding soil carbon dynamics is essential to predict future climate change. In the last two decades, several global soil datasets have been developed, and some are under further improvement. These datasets contain the global distributions of soil physiochemical properties, which allow us to calculate the global distribution of the soil organic carbon (SOC) stock, and some datasets provide the SOC stock by default. These datasets are based on globally observed data points, although there are biases in spatial distribution and densities of some data points. Earth system models (ESMs) have been created to understand the current climate and project future climate conditions. These models incorporate the terrestrial carbon cycle including SOC. However, it was reported that ESM results agree moderately at the biome level but that the correlation between the distribution of the SOC stock simulated by the ESMs and that of observational datasets is poor when the two were compared at a fine scale (e.g., 1° scale). In this study, we identified key factors governing global SOC distribution in observational datasets and those simulated by ESMs. We applied a data mining scheme and boosted regression trees to identify influential factors and how these factors are related to the SOC stock (Elith et al., 2008). We revealed similarities and differences between the observational and ESM datasets after comparing their outputs. The results of this study will be useful to understand the nature of observational SOC datasets and ESM outputs to improve the terrestrial carbon dynamics model in ESMs.

Keywords: Soil carbon, Dataset, Earth system model

Estimation of understory carbon budget and environmental factors influencing on the processes in a larch forest on the northern foot of Mount Fuji

*Munemasa Teramoto[1], Naishen Liang[1], Jiye Zeng[1], Reiko Ide[1], Nobuko Saigusa[1]

1.National Institute for Environmental Studies

Forest ecosystem is very important component of terrestrial ecosystems, and elucidating the carbon cycle mechanism in forest ecosystem is vital for understanding global carbon cycle and predicting future carbon budget along with global climate change. There are many studies reported carbon budget of specific forest ecosystem using eddy-covariance method, however, this technique cannot provide detailed information about each process of forest carbon cycle. Especially, information about understory carbon budget include understory vegetation is limited.

To understand the impact of forest understory carbon budget and environmental factors influencing on processes of understory carbon cycle, we set multi-channel automated chamber measurement system in larch forest on northern foot of Mt. Fuji in 2006. The control unit of chamber system mainly consisted of a data logger (CR1000, Campbell Scientific), an infrared gas analyzer (LI820, LI-COR) and an air compressor. We set soil chambers (90 cm ×90 cm ×50 cm) for soil CO_2 flux measurement. Surroundings of the half of those soil chambers were root cut with chainsaw until 25 cm depth for the measurement of heterotrophic respiration (Rh), and the remaining control chambers were used for soil respiration (Rs) measurement. We also set plant chambers (90 cm ×90 cm ×100 cm) which included understory vegetation to measure understory net CO_2 exchange (NUE), understory respiration (Ru) and understory gross primary production (GPP_u).

We got continuous data for 8 years from 2006 to 2013 with chamber measurement method. Comparison with eddy-covariance data showed that annual Ru accounted for 68.6% of annual ecosystem respiration, and annual GPP_u accounted for 16.3% of annual gross primary production of the larch forest. Primary factor for GPP_u was light intensity of forest understory, and positive correlation between annually estimated GPP_u and annual average of understory PPFD (R^2 = 0.64) was confirmed. Remarkable exponential correlations between soil temperature and Rs, Rh and Ru were observed, and total Q_{10} values for Rs, Rh and Ru were 2.49, 2.57 and 2.25, respectively. On the other hand, influence of soil moisture on those soil CO_2 fluxes were minor except summer season when soil moisture was notably decreased due to few rainfall.

Keywords: Understory carbon budget, CO2, Chamber, Soil respiration, Larch forest

Initial results of observations of soil CO_2 and CH_4 fluxes in three ecosystem types of tropical peatland in Sarawak, Malaysia

*Ryuichi Hirata[1], Yosuke Okimoto[2], Takashi Hirano[2], Frankie Kiew[2,3], Lulie Melling[3]

1.National Institute for Environmental Studies, 2.Research Faculty of Agriculture, Hokkaido University, 3.Tropical Peat Research Laboratory Unit

Tropical peatlands in Southeast Asia store large carbon by accumulating peat and they are vulnerable to climate change and human disturbances.
Soil carbon dioxide (CO_2) and methane (CH_4) fluxes observations were started on September 2015 at three ecosystem types of tropical peatland in Sarawak, Malaysia. The sites were one tropical swamp forest with high ground water level and one with low ground water level, and an oil palm plantation on peat. In each site, we installed an automated multi-chamber system. We will present the initial results of the observations.

Keywords: Automated multi-chamber system, peat swamp forest, oil palm

Change of CO_2 flux during an early secondary succession after severe forest disturbance

*Takashi Hirano[1]

1.Research Faculty of Agriculture, Hokkaido University

Forest ecosystems are expected as a major sink of atmospheric carbon dioxide (CO_2), whereas their ability to absorb CO_2 is severely perturbed by disturbances, such as deforestation, fires, windthrow etc. Many studies which adopted the chrono-sequence approach reported that such severe disturbances often changed forest to be a CO_2 source. However, there are few studies that directly measure CO_2 flux for a long term (more than 10 years) above a disturbed forest site during an early stage of secondary succession after severe disturbance.A flux site of a larch plantation in Tomakomai, Hokkaido, Japan was struck by a typhoon in September 2004. Because of wind storm, about 90% of trees fell down. The fallen trees were removed by heavy machinery from the site, through which the soil surface and understory species were also disturbed. After the operations of timber transport, secondary succession progressed naturally in the ex-forest site. We recommenced flux measurement in August 2005. CO_2 flux has been measured by the eddy covariance technique with an open-path CO_2 / H_2O analyzer (LI7500, Licor) during a snow-free period from mid-April to mid-November. Cumulative net ecosystem CO_2 exchange (NEE) during the snow-free period was positive every year until 2015, whereas it showed a negative relationship, which indicates that the CO_2 source strength of the ecosystem decreased. This negative relationship was caused by the increase of gross primary production (GPP) or ecosystem photosynthesis, which corresponded to vegetation recovery through secondary succession.

Keywords: Windthrow, Eddy covariance, Vegertation recovery

Influence of natural and human disturbances on long-term CO_2 exchange over larch forests

*Yoshiyuki Takahashi[1], Nobuko Saigusa[1], Ryuichi Hirata[1], Naishen Liang[1], Reiko Ide[1], Kentaro Takagi[2], Takashi Hirano[3]

1.Center for Global Environmental Research, National Institute for Environmental Studies, 2.The Field Science Center for Northern Biosphere, Hokkaido University, 3.Graduate School of Agriculture, Hokkaido University

Larch forest is an important research object for evaluating ecosystem response against future global warming because it is a representative vegetation type for high latitudinal northeast Eurasia where greater temperature rise due to climate change is anticipated. In Japan, Larch is a common tree type of plantation that has been planted widespread over northeastern Japan especially after World War II. However, many larch forests have been left unmanaged because of the sluggish lumber demand. Quantifying the influence of the forest management on carbon budget in larch forests has significance on the securement of forests as a source of CO2 absorption.
Thus, National Institute for Environmental Studies (NIES) has implemented long-term monitoring program of CO2 exchange over three domestic larch forests in association with Hokkaido University. We established the Fuji Hokuroku Flux Observation Site in the foothills of Mt. Fuji as an alternative base for monitoring, and began observations in January 2006. The site is dominated by larch trees of more than 50 year-old. 30% thinning was conducted at the site in spring of year 2014. Tomakomai Flux Research site was established in 1999 to carry out integrated monitoring on the carbon budget in a mature larch forest. However, the site was devastated by the typhoon in 2004. Flux observation at the site is ongoing after the typhoon disturbance.
We began observations of the effects of canopy opening on a larch forest ecosystem structure in 2001 at a mixed forest in Teshio experimental forest of Hokkaido University. The forest was clear-cut and planted with larch trees in 2003. We monitor and evaluate the changes in carbon budget and forest ecosystem structure. Those three observation sites were affected from different kinds of natural and human disturbance. We will introduce the comparison results of carbon fluxes and related parameters for the sites.

Keywords: CO2, flux, disturbance, larch, monitoring

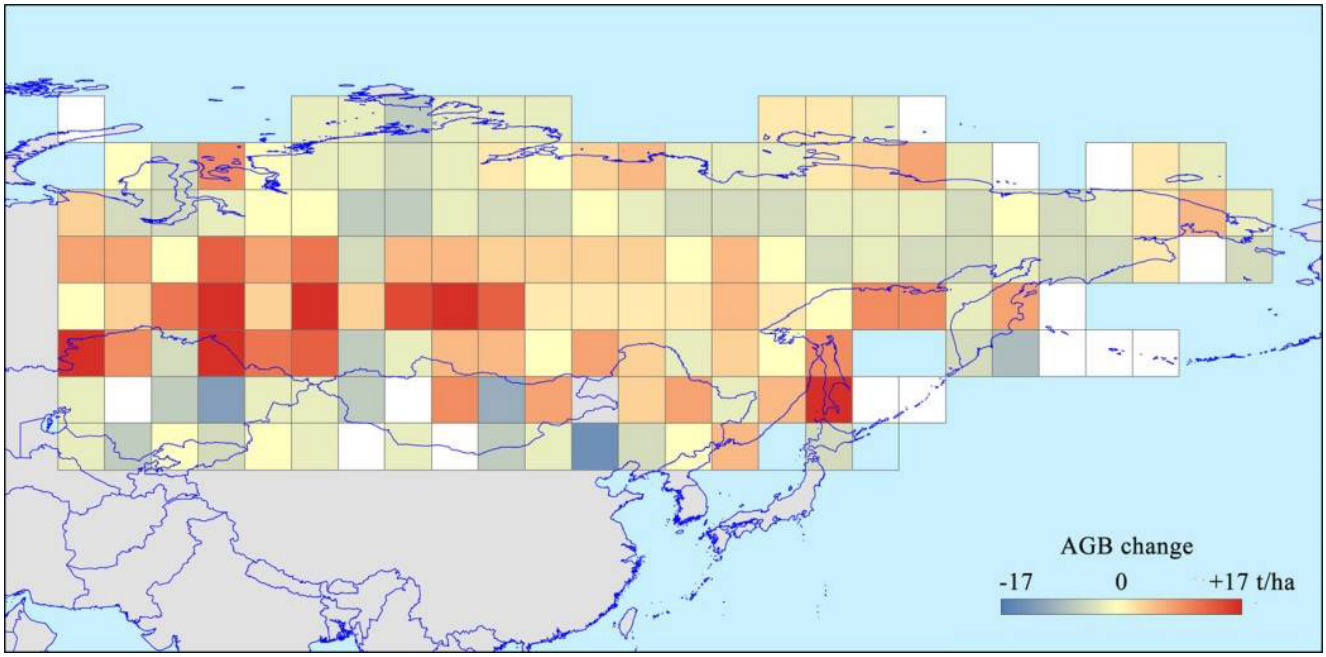
Forest resources change observation using spaceborne LiDAR in Siberian

*Masato Hayashi[1], Kazuhito Ichii[2,1], habura borjigin[1], Nobuko Saigusa[1], Yoshito Sawada[1], Yoshiki Yamagata[1]

1.National Institute for Environmental Studies, 2.Japan Agency for Marine-Earth Science and Technology

High-latitude area in the northern hemisphere, including Siberia, is the region most affected by climate change. A monitoring technology for vegetation change is very important for such region. Satellite remote sensing can provide the most practical mean for the large-scale and continuous observation, and spaceborne LiDAR is particularly expected. This sensor transmits a laser pulse to measure vertical structure near the Earth's surface. ICESat/GLAS was the only spaceborne LiDAR so far, which was operated by NASA from 2003 to 2009. However, there are some future plans of spaceborne LiDAR, such as ICESat-2, GEDI, and MOLI, and they are expected to be used for forest monitoring. This study aims to clarify the potential of spaceborne LiDAR to quantitatively observe forest resources change in Siberia. We collected GLAS data acquired in 40°N-90°N and 60°E-170°W. Then, we excluded some GLAS data as follows: 1) the data in cloud covered area or non-forested area, 2) the data with large noise (SNR of GLAS waveform < 10), and 3) the data in steep sloped area (surface slope > 5°). As a result, we obtained about 3,000,000 points GLAS data suitable for the analysis. Next, we estimated canopy height and aboveground biomass from each of GLAS waveform data. We adopted RH100 (height from signal start to ground peak) for canopy height and an existing model (Neigh et al., 2013) for aboveground biomass. As a result, the average values were 7.4m of canopy height, and 23.0 Mg ha^{-1} of aboveground biomass in the whole study area. Next, we calculated the average of canopy height and aboveground biomass for every 5° longitude and latitude mesh, to understand the spatial distribution of forest resources. The spatial distributions of canopy height and aboveground biomass showed similar pattern, which was high in the south and low in the north in general. And, we separated the estimates data into the two period according to the GLAS observation (2003-2005 and 2005-2007), to understand the yearly change. As a result, canopy height showed a slightly decreasing trend, and aboveground biomass showed alomost no change, however, an increasing trend was seen in the western region (see figure). For the future, we will investigate the cause of this trend. This study showed that spaceborne LiDAR is suitable for monitoring the forest resources change accurately.

Keywords: Forest biomass, Spaceborne LiDAR, ICESat/GLAS, Siberia



Phenological changes for 10 years and the influence on ecosystem productivity in a larch forest at the foot of Mt. Fuji

*Reiko Ide[1], Hiroyuki Oguma[1], Yasuo Hirose[1], Yoshiyuki Takahashi[1], Nobuko Saigusa[1]

1.National Institute for Environmental Studies

Phenological changes such as earlier budding or flowering and later leaf coloring and leaf fall have been reported around the world along with recent global warming. Phenology is an important index for climate change, and is also one of valuable factors to regulate the carbon cycle in terrestrial ecosystems. As the phenological responses to environment vary across species, assessment of long-term phenological trend for each species is required. In this study, we investigated the phenology of a Japanese larch forest by near-surface remote sensing, and analyzed the relationship between the phenology and climate change and also the influence of phenology on the forest ecosystem productivity derived from CO_2 flux observation.
Our study was conducted in a larch plantation at Fuji-hokuroku flux observation site (Fujiyoshida city, Yamanashi). About 87 % of the canopy is dominated by 60-year-old Japanese larch (*Larix kaempferi*) and the maximum LAI of the canopy was 3.2 m^2 m^{-2} in 2012. CO_2 flux and micro meteorological factors have been measured by eddy covariance method for ten years since 2006. For phenological observation, reflectance from the canopy has been continuously observed on the observation tower by using two spectral radiometers (upward and downward) and digital cameras. The vegetation index to detect seasonal changes of the canopy greenness was calculated as Green Ratio: GR=G/(R+G+B). The start and end dates of the growing season were determined from the days when the time series of GR indicated the maximum rate of increase and decrease. Then relationships of the yearly variations of phenology, temperature, net ecosystem exchange (NEE) and gross primary production (GPP) were analyzed.
As results, the mean dates of start and end of growing season were Apr. 23 and Nov. 8, with large amplitudes of 12 and 8 days respectively. Significant earlier or later phenological trend was not found across these ten years from 2006 to 2015. The mean annual growing season length was 198.5±4.1 days. The start and end dates were significantly related to the mean temperature respectively during Mar.-Apr. and during Sep.-Oct. The phenological responses to temperature were −4.5 day/ºC (R^2 = 0.88) in spring and 2.3 day/ºC (R^2 = 0.74) in autumn. In addition, the influences of phenology on GPP and NEE during spring (Apr. and May) and autumn (Oct. and Nov) were indicated. Meanwhile, yearly variations in annual GPP and NEE were more influenced by the decrease of summer productivities due to thinning and typhoon than phenological factors.

Keywords: Phenology, Growing season, Climate change, Carbon cycle, GPP

Sun-induced chlorophyll fluorescence reveals strong representativeness of ecosystem-level photosynthesis in rice paddy field in Mase Japan

*Tomomichi Kato[1], Katsuto Tsujimoto[2], Kenlo Nasahara[3], Tomoko Akitsu[3], Keisuke Ono[4], Akira Miyata[4]

1.Research Faculty of Agriculture, Hokkaido University, 2.Graduate School of Agriculture, Hokkaido University, 3.Faculty of Life and Environmental Sciences, 4.National Institute for Agro-Environmental Sciences

Chlorophyll fluorescence emission from ecosystem induced by sunlight (Sun-Induced Fluorescence: SIF) is now a key factor to accurately estimate the ecosystem-level photosynthesis activity as suggested by satellite studies, and has been recently detected by satellites [Frankenberg et al., 2011; Guanter et al., 2012; Joiner et al., 2013] and measured at field stations [Daumard et al., 2010; Porcar-Castell, 2011]. However, the few example of field-based assessment on the representation ability reduces its value for the availability to better understand the dynamics in CO_2 uptake by land ecosystem.
To elucidate the potential of SIF to estimate ecosystem GPP in typical Asian crop type, the canopy-top SIF was calculated from the spectrum data in Japanese rice paddy field in Mase in central Japan (36°03′N, 140°01′E, 11 m a.s.l.), and compared with eddy-tower measured GPP on half-hourly and daily bases during seven years from 2006 to 2012. The rice (Oriza sativa L.; cultivar Koshihikari) was transplanted in May and harvested in September normally. The SIF was estimated from the spectrums of downward Sun irradiance and upward canopy-reflected irradiance measured at the height of 3m above ground by HemiSpherical Spectro-Radiometer (HSSR), consisting of the spectroradiometer (MS-700, Eko inc., Tokyo, Japan) with the full-width at half maximum (FWHM) of 10 nm and wavelength interval of 3.3 nm. The SIF around 760nm (O2-A band: SIF_{760}) was calculated according to the Fraunhofer Line Depth principle [Maier et al., 2003] with several additional arrangements.
The GPP increased almost linearly as both SIF_{760} and APAR (Absorbed Photosyntethically Active Radiation) increased based on monthly-averaged diurnal courses during the growing season in 2006. The slopes of their regression lines differed much among the months in APAR, but in SIF_{760}. These nearly constant relationships among the months between GPP and SIF_{760} were kept for all the observation years. Daily averaged GPP and SIF_{760} indicated similar seasonality for multiple years although the conventional vegetation indices, NDVI and EVI, showed the smoothed temporal variations but with longer maximum period than GPP showed. Thus, those strong relationships of SIF to GPP confirmed that the SIF is a quite useful proxy of ecosystem-level photosynthesis in the rice paddy field.

Keywords: spectroradiometry, remote sensing, carbon cycle

