Monitoring of atmospheric methane from GOSAT over Monsoon Asia

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GOSAT measures Methane

- GOSAT, Greenhouse gases Observing SATellite "IBUKI," was launched on 23 Jan. 2009.
- TANSO-FTS accumulated 5-yr record
- The first/only satellite dedicated to greenhouse-gasmonitoring.
- Target: CO₂, CH₄ IFOV: 10.5km in diameter, 3-day recurrent orbit with 3(or 5) point mode





Methane (CH₄): Radiative forcing is the second largest after CO₂



Anthropogenic

Natural

What are Short-Lived Climate Pollutants?

CAC



Methane (CH₄)

Methane emissions caused by human activities are one of the most significant drivers of climate change. Methane is also the main precursor of tropospheric ozone, a powerful greenhouse gas and air pollutant.



Major anthropogenic SOURCES (60% of methane emissions come from human activities)

310 Mt Global CH, anthropogenic emissions in 2005



LIFETIME IN ATMOSPHERE 12 years



CH₄ is a powerful GHG contributing to global warming

IMPACTS

Globally, increased methane emissions are responsible for half of the observed rise in O, levels



While methane does not cause direct harm to human health or crop production, its role as precursor gas contributes greatly to the health and agricultural impacts of O₃



The current observational network: insufficient coverage



WDCGG http://ds.data.jma.go.jp/gmd/wdcgg/

Atmospheric methane measurements at ground-based Network have revealed "background level" but NOT source regions -> Now satellite observation is available

FIRST CH₄ global map (SCIAMACHY/ENVISAT)



Figure 5. Two-year average of methane VMR as retrieved by SCIAMACHY with less strict cloud filter (effective cloud top height less than 2.5 km) and gridded on 1° longitude times 1° latitude.



GOSAT contributed to derive CH₄ global emission fluxes by using an inverse model



Inverse analysis by NIES model with the GOSAT NIES product

from press release by NIES, March, 2014

Monsoon Asia is a big source of CH4



H.-S. Kim and S. Maksyutov (NIES)

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Difference between INV L2 and INV.GB Is large: negative in India, positive in China



H.-S. Kim and S. Maksyutov (NIES)

Challenge to approach to better understanding of CH4 emission from Asia using GOSAT

 The geographical distribution of high CH4 values obtained from SCIAMACHY corresponds to strong emissions from regions where rice is cultivated, as indicated in the inventory maps.



Hayashida et al., Remote Sensing of Environment (2013)

Typical rice paddies Hayashida et al., RSE, 2013

Selected: where the CH_4 emission values from rice fields are estimated to be higher than 1.5g CH_4/m^2 .

Divided into sub-regions to distinguish different seasonality of emissions.



13 regions to be investigated

Region name	Area code	Sub areas
India (south)	Area 1	1-1, 1-2
India (north)	Area 2	2-1, 2-2, 2-3, 2-4
Bangladesh	Area 3	3
Myanmar	Area 4	4
Thailand	Area 5	5
China	Area 6	6-1, 6-2, 6-3, 6-4

2-3 (Lower Ganges)



GOSAT contribution to global estimate of CH₄ emission

- GOSAT contributed to estimate global CH₄ emission fluxes by applying an inverse model.
- GOSAT can detect regional characteristics of seasonality over rice paddies.

However, still a big uncertainty in CH₄ emission estimate is left. e.g. Discrepancy between bottom-up and Inverse analysis is still unresolved

insufficiency of GOSAT :

*SWIR: Column average measurements

*Sparse measurements: IFOV of "10 km in diameter" does not mean spatial resolution of 10 km.

Strategy to overcome : GOSAT insufficiency -1



Air sampling in North India

Different altitude



Sonepat, Haryana (29.0N, 77.2E), Sep. 2014 – supported by Delhi Univ. and Tokyo Univ.





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3 points mode with 3-day recurrent orbit





GOSAT-2 will be operated with 5 or more pointing mode

The orbit of GOSAT-2 : 6-day recurrent orbit.

More measurement points!





Next Step : Monitoring System toward Low Carbon Society







Methane Emissions from AFOLU for each RC5 region



Increasing population in Asia Rice is primary food for Asian peoople

What is "inverse analysis"



Inverse analysis

Bottom-up Summing up the emissions from various categories based on statistics

