Measurement of atmospheric carbon dioxide using unmanned aerial vehicle for profiling vertical distribution over Akita.

Presenting Author:
Makoto Inoue, Akita Prefectural University, Japan, makoto@akita-pu.ac.jp

Co-Authors:
Yumi Haga, Akita Prefectural University, Japan
Takeshi Nagayoshi, Akita Prefectural University, Japan
Hirokazu Madokoro, Akita Prefectural University, Japan
Fumiaki Takakai, Akita Prefectural University, Japan
Osamu Kiguchi, Akita Prefectural University, Japan
Isamu Morino, National Institute for Environmental Studies, Japan

Abstract:

Atmospheric carbon dioxide (CO$_2$) is one of extremely important anthropogenic greenhouse gases, and which have effect on global warming and future climate change. This study presents a novel CO$_2$ measurement platform that is accommodated on an unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV). In situ measurements using an onboard non-dispersive infrared (NDIR) gas analyzer were conducted from the ground surface to a 500 m altitude over Akita. Before the UAV flight, CO$_2$ standard gas injections were made for the calibration of CO$_2$ concentration during flight examinations. Although UAVs have altitude limitations in the troposphere, our platform is useful for obtaining CO$_2$ vertical profiles under boundary layer easily and inexpensively. In the presentation, we will reveal measurement results obtained in 2017 and 2018.