Understanding Atmospheric Composition : Chalenges, Importance & Progress

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"Atmospheric Composition: Sources and Sinks"



How do human-controlled emissions compare with natural emissions? Are emission controls effective? What is the impact of climate change on natural emissions?

APPROACHES TO SOURCE ESTIMATION

- Experimental (direct)
- Experimental (less direct)





Emission modelling



 Estimations based on atmospheric composition measurements (& models)







Direct measurement of emissions of volatile organic compounds by trees

PTR-MS branch cuvettes

Chemical Ionisation Mass Spectrometry (CIMS)

Amelynck et al., 2005, 2013; Dhooghe et al., 2008, 2009, 2010; Schoon et al., 2008; Demarcke et al., 2010

H₂O Inlet Sample Inlet

Ion Source | PTR Drift Tube

Quadrupole-MS

WHY CARE ABOUT BIOGENIC VOLATILE ORGANIC COMPOUNDS (BVOC) ?



How do hydrocarbon emissions depend on temperature and light?



From the growth room to a real forest (Aelmoeseneie near Ghent)



Measuring the emissions from the entire forest canopy





What really drives the emissions?

Emissions relate to Gross Primary Productivity (GPP)



The fluxes are higher under cloudy conditions compared to clear-sky at equivalent temperature and light conditions

Due to better penetration of diffuse light in the canopy

(Laffineur et al., 2013)



The case of methano



water film on vegetation acting as a reservoir of methanol in noist conditions (Laffineur et al., 2012)

Flux measurements in various landscapes



maize field, Lonzée 2012



Grasslands, Dorinne, 2014

To be continued...

Biogenic emission modelling



Simulating atmospheric composition the IMAGES model



total OA (ug m⁻³

Müller and Brasseur, 1995, 1999; Pham et al., 1995; Granier et al., 1998, 2000; IPCC Reports, 1999, 2000; Stevenson et al., 2006; Dentener et al., 2006; Shindell et al., 2006; etc.

Impact of biogenic hydrocarbons on the oxidizing capacity of the atmosphere

Revisiting the chemistry of isoprene





Impact of new chemistry on OH (%)

Modelling organic aerosol formation

BOREAM model =

detailed gas-phase oxidation mechanism for pinenes



condensation evaporation

Aerosol formation module

based on state-of-the-art estimation of vapour pressures and activity coefficients

Compernolle et al., 2009, 2010, 2011



Impact of biogenic hydrocarbons on organic aerosol formation



Simplified module for use in global mode





Ceulemans et al., 2012; Tsigaridis et al., 2014





Radiative Forcing Components



need global scale measurements of atmospheric composition +

long-term & accurate !

Ground-based measurements using infrared sensors

High resolution measurement of absorption spectrum of solar light in the infrared















La Réunion



Uccle

Future : Porto Velho, Brazil

TCCON observations at Reunion Isl. 400 398 [mdd] 396 394 393 xco, 390 388 386 1.82 [1.8 bd HOX 1.7 HOX 1.7 1.80 1.78 1.761.72 120 110 XCO [bbb] (100 90 80 70 60 50 40 Jan 2012 Apr 2012 Jul 2012 Oct 2012 Apr 2013 jul 2013 Oct 2013 Oct 2011 Jan 2013 Jan 2014 Apr 2014



Dust seen by IASI on METOP





Brightness temperature measured by IASI

> The higher the dust layer, the stronger the impact on brightness temperature



Desert dust seen by IASI





Methane seen by TANSO-FTS on GOSAT

retrieval using ASIMUT-ALVL

validation with TCCON measurements









Long-term evolution of atmospheric composition



Vigouroux et al., ACPD, 2014



Hendrick et al., ACP, 2012

CO at Jungfraujoch

column,

3.6-7.2 km

NDIR FTIR



time (yy)



time (yy)

CO vmr (ppt



FTIR - NDIR difference : a marker for the evolution of Asian CO emissions?

100∟ 97

Y. Tohjima et al.: ACP 14, 2014



Biomass burning emission factors derived from FTIR measurements



Doéan Indien

Afrique

Africa

Improved emissions based on satellite observations "Inverse modelling" : Example with formaldehyde (HCHO)



The continental source of glyoxal constrained by satellite



Methanol emissions constrained by satellite



Observed vs. modelled NO₂ over heavily polluted areas



Formic acid : quantifying the missing source



Large source over boreal forests likely reflects oxidation of BVOC from conifers

Stavrakou et al., Nature Geosci., 2012



Comparison with independent observations (e.g. FTIR) confirm the magnitude of the additional source

Calculated contribution of HCOOH to the total concentration of [H⁺]

%

90

80

70 60

50

40

30

20

15

10 5

2

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THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTEN