Observation-based evaluation of East Asian black carbon emission inventories and its implications for the CMIP6 climate model simulations



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Climate impacts of black carbon on global and Arctic climate



- Black carbon -- emitted from fossil/biofuel combustions and wildfires
- BC absorbs solar radiation and contributes to global warming (Short Lived Climate Forcers; SLCF)
- Climate impacts are rigorously assessed in IPCC AR6 and AMAP Assessment

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BC emissions from Asia



- East Asia contributes to ~30% of global anthropogenic emissions
- Regional emissions in Asia rapidly changed in recent decades
- Accurate estimates of BC emissions from East Asia are essential to assess its impacts on climate

Uncertainties in BC emissions in bottom-up inventories



Sector breakdown in China (2015)



• Major sectors: Residential or industry

Large uncertainties in bottom-up inventories

BC emissions from China

- Amount: 1–2 Tg/yr
- Trend: Increase or decrease?

Evaluations using atmospheric observations and models!

Estimation of BC emissions from China

BC observations (MAAP)

- Fukue Island (Kanaya et al., 2016, 2020, 2021)
- Noto (Taketani et al., 2016; Choi et al., 2020)





- Decreasing trend over the last decade
- Long-term records are used to analyze emission trends from China

Estimation of BC emissions from China



- Estimation of BC emissions from Model/Obs. ratio (GEOS-Chem)
- Extract data with dominant contribution from China
- Exclude data with influence of wet deposition

Reduction in BC emissions from China





- Rapid reduction in BC emissions from China
- CEDS for CMIP6 was found to overestimate and was revised to v2021-04-21 with lower values and decreasing trend
- ECLIPSEv6b for AMAP Assessment is close to our model/observation-based estimation among recent bottom-up inventories
- GEOS-Chem based estimation is consistent with Kanaya et al. (2020) (WRF/CMAQ based)

Reduction in BC emissions from China





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Evaluation of BC simulations in CMIP6

- BC Observations (MAAP)
 - Fukue (2009-: Kanaya et al., 2016, 2020, 2021)
 - Noto (2011-: Taketani et al., 2016; Choi et al., 2020)
- CMIP6 simulations (Ocean-Atmosphere coupled) : 12 models
 - Historical simulations : CEDS (anthropogenic emissions)
 - Scenario simulations : SSP126, SSP370
- GEOS-Chem v13.1.2 (Chemistry-transport model)
 - Reanalysis meteorological data : MERRA-2
 - CEDS(CMIP6), SSP126, SSP370, ECLISPEv6b (AMAP)

Analyze levels and trends with observations for 2009–2020

Historical Simulations vs Observations



- CMIP6 multi-model mean overestimates observations
- GEOS-Chem with ECLIPSEv6b reproduces observations
- China's BC emissions (2014) : CEDS=2.6 Tg/yr, ECLIPSEv6b=1.2 Tg/yr

Trends of BC in East Asia

Multi-model mean and 1 σ range



- CMIP6 historical and scenario simulations show higher concentrations than observations
- Decreasing trend in observations
- CMIP6 historical simulations show no decrease

Trends of BC in East Asia

Multi-model mean and 1σ range



- SSP126 simulations show decreasing trend close to observations (but higher concentration level)
- GEOS-Chem with ECLIPSEv6b shows decreasing trend at concentration level close to observations

Implications: BC Direct Radiative Effects, 2014



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Summary

- We analyzed **BC emission trends** in East Asia using **atmospheric observations and model**
- Rapid reduction in China's BC emissions was identified
- We evaluated BC simulations in CMIP6 with long-term observations in East Asia during 2009–2020
- CMIP6 model simulations are not able to capture observed concentration levels and recent decreasing trends of BC in East Asia
- Evaluation of inventories using **atmospheric observations and models** is important not only for **historical simulations** but also for **future projections**