Development of Thermal Infrared Sensor Camera on board LAPAN-A4 for Thunderstorm Cloud Observation

*Purwadi Purwadi^{1,2}, Yukihiro Takahashi¹, Junichi Kurihara¹, M. Arif Saifudin³

1. Department of Cosmosciences, Hokkaido University, Sapporo 0600810, Japan, 2. Agency for Assessment and Application of Technology (BPPT), Jakarta 10340, Indonesia, 3. Indonesian National Institute of Aeronautics and Space (LAPAN), Jawa Barat, 16310, Indonesia

Thunderstorm cloud, which growth vertically, has potential disaster risk like heavy rainfall, hail, micro-burst, and lightning. Cloud top altitude, volume, and growth speeds of thunderstorm cloud could be the parameter to predict its potential hazard. In this session, we will show our methodology to observe thunderstorm cloud using thermal infrared sensors camera which will be installed in the LAPAN-A4. This micro-satellite will be launched in 2020 FSY in the altitude ~ 500 kilometer with sun-synchronous polar orbit and inclination 97°. So, thermal infrared sensor camera will provide a temperature distribution with a resolution of ~ 180 meters and a field of view of ~ 56.3 x 42.2 kilometers. Using this high resolution thermal infrared sensor came as the cloud top altitude can be estimated, assuming a temperature profile of the ambient atmosphere. By making such observation at some time interval, the developing speed of the thunderstorm cloud can be calculated in 3D.

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