Current status of GOSAT and GOSAT-2 operation

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GOSAT was launched in 2009 and has been operating successfully for over eleven years. GOSAT products have been updated repeatedly and are now highly functional. The achievements of GOSAT have led to global acknowledgement of the efficacy of monitoring greenhouse gasses from space. The purposes and utility of satellite observation data as a tool for verifying greenhouse gas inventories were clarified for the first time in the 2019 Refinement to the 2006 IPCC Guidelines on National Greenhouse Gas Inventories, which was agreed upon in the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, IPCC, held in Kyoto in May 2019.

GOSAT-2 was launched on October 29th, 2018 as a joint project of MOE (Ministry of the Environment), JAXA (the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency), and NIES (the National Institute of Environmental Studies) to succeed the original GOSAT mission, still in operation well beyond its design life, and to contribute to the environmental administration and the international framework aimed at preventing global warming. In-orbit GOSAT-2 is operating exceptionally well. The initial check of equipment and the initial calibration of the mission data have been completed and Level-1 products have now been released to the public. We are fortunate to being able to operate GOSAT and GOSAT-2 synchronously and have been obtaining valuable data from them.

In this presentation, we will present the status of GOSAT and GOSAT-2 operation.

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