

International Session (Oral) | Symbol A (Atmospheric, Ocean, and Environmental Sciences) | A-AS Atmospheric Sciences, Meteorology & Atmospheric Environment

[A-AS01_30PM1] Extreme Weather in Cities

Convener: *Masayuki Maki(ERCDP, Kagoshima University), Jun Matsumoto(Deaprtment of Geography, Tokyo Metropolitan University), Yoshinori Shoji(The Second Laboratory of Meteorological Satellite and Observation System Research Department, Meteorological Research Institute), Tsuyoshi Nakatani(National Research Institute for Earth Science and Disaster Prevention), Chair: Masayuki Maki(ERCDP, Kagoshima University)

Wed. Apr 30, 2014 2:15 PM - 3:45 PM 423 (4F)

It is recognized that large cities with a population of several million people are inherently vulnerable to extreme weathers such as torrential rain, lightning, strong wind, giant typhoon, and heat wave. It is argued that the occurrence of extreme weather phenomena tends to increase due to the climatic change. Cooperating with domestic and international academic scientists, the session will focus on the mechanism of extreme weather, its monitoring and prediction methods, effects of urbanization on hazards, and social experiments on resilient cities.

3:00 PM - 3:15 PM

[AAS01-P04_PG] X-band polarimetric radar and C-band conventional radar composite rainfall map with high spatio-temporal resolution

3-min talk in an oral session

*Masayuki MAKI¹, Kohin HIRANO², Shakti P.C.², Daniel SCHERTZER³ (1.Kagoshima University, 2.NIED, 3.Ecole des Ponts ParisTech, U. Paris-Est)

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Radar with shorter wavelength such as the X-band (3-cm) wavelength has several advantages compared to C- and S-band radar. First, X-band wavelength radar has high sensitivity of the specific differential phase of the rain rate. Second, it is possible to achieve finer spatial resolution more economically; for example, X-band wavelength radar can achieve a 1 degree beam width with a 2 m diameter parabolic antenna, while S-band needs a 7 m diameter antenna to achieve the same beam width. Third, due to advantage number two, X-band radar is easier to setup in mountainous areas, and at lower cost compared to S- and C-band wavelength radar. In Japan, success in the detection of torrential rainfall that occurred in Tokyo in 2008 triggered the deployment of 35 operational X-band polarimetric radars in major urban cities by MLIT. This radar network named XRAIN provides rainfall information with high spatio-temporal resolution. In US, the X-band polarimetric radar network is constructed in Dallas Fort Worth, which is a research and innovation network linking academic researchers, local stakeholders, and industry to address water issues as they relate to urban sustainability. In Europe, The project named RAINGAIN is ongoing to improve fine-scale measurement and prediction of rainfall and to enhance urban pluvial flood prediction. Activities include the implementation and use of advanced radar technologies (X Band) in Leuven, London, Paris, and Rotterdam. Although X-band polarimetric radar has the advantages mentioned above and used in hydrological applications, there are essential disadvantages. First, the maximum range is shorter than that of C-band and S-band radar; maximum ranges of 200km or 300km are easily obtained in case of C- and S- band radar, while that of X-band radar is limited to 30km-60km. Second, signal extinction area which is defined as the area where the received signal is below the receiver noise level occurs behind heavy rainfall areas. These disadvantages will be a fatal flaw when extremely heavy

rainfalls occur. Authors have experience that the maximum observation range of X-band radar was shorter than 3km when heavy rainfall passed over the radar site. The present paper aims to develop an algorithm to overcome these disadvantages. The method is based on the C-band and X-band radar composite map which attains the 1 minute time resolution and 250m spatial resolution by the interpolation method. The algorithm is applied to the heavy rainfall case observed on 12-14 July, 2012 in northern Kyusyu, Japan. The algorithm is validated with surface raingauge network: the composite radar rainfall estimation agreed well with raingauge data.