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Polar Science
Volume 20, June 2019, Pages 63-74

Isoprene hotspots at the Western Coast of Antarctic Peninsula during MASEC'16 (Article)

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Abstract

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Isoprene (C₅H₈) plays an important role in the formation of surface ozone (O₃) and the secondary organic aerosol (SOA) which contributed to the climate change. This study aims to determine hourly distribution of tropospheric isoprene over the Western Coast of Antarctic Peninsula (WCAP) during the Malaysian Antarctic Scientific Expedition Cruise 2016 (MASEC'16). In-situ measurements of isoprene were taken using a custom-built gas chromatography with photoionization detector, known as iDirac. Biological parameters such as chlorophyll a (chl-a) and particulate organic carbon (POC) were compared to the in-situ isoprene measurements. Significant positive correlation was observed between isoprene and POC concentrations ($r_2 = 0.67$, $p < 0.001$), but not between isoprene and chl-a. The hotspots of isoprene over maritime Antarctic were then investigated using NAME dispersion model reanalysis. Measurements showed that isoprene mixing ratio were the highest over region of King George Island, Deception Island and Booth Island with values of ~5.0, ~0.9 and ~5.2 ppb, respectively. Backward trajectory analysis showed that air masses may have lifted the isoprene emitted by marine algae. We believe our findings provide valuable data set of isoprene estimation over the under sampled WCAP. © 2018 Elsevier B.V. and NIPR

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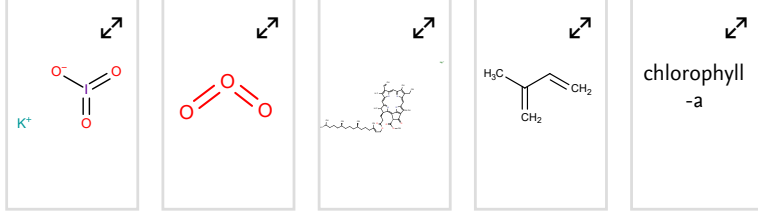
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Funding details

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Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine		
Ministry of Science, Technology and Space		
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Kementerian Sains, Teknologi dan Inovasi	ZF-2015-001	

Funding text

We would like to thank the Sultan Mizan Antarctic Research Foundation (YPASM) for the research grant registered as ZF-2015-001 as part of the Malaysian Antarctic Research Programme (MARP) and Sciencefund 06-01-02-SF1274 under Malaysian Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation (MOSTI) and Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia for the grant GUP-2014-041 , for giving the opportunity and financial support to the Research Centre for Tropical Climate Change System (IKLIM, UKM) to participate in this scientific cruise. Secondly, we would like to thank MASEC'16 scientists on board the RV Australis, the vessel crew and Envirotech Sdn. Bhd, who helped immensely with the expedition activities. We also like to thank Dr. Michelle Cain from Oxford Martin School University of Oxford and Cranfield University, United Kingdom for the analysis of NAME model and Dr Rose Norman from the United Kingdom for her assistance in proofreading this article. TN Rosenstiel would like to acknowledge support from the N... [View all](#)