CEOP Semi-arid Region Study

A new WESP element in CEOP Phase II

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Why semi-arid region?

- The region, most vulnerable due to dry climate, low vegetation cover and nutrition content and low capacity of the water conservation;
- A transitional zone, most sensitive in response to both human perturbation and climate change.

e.g. significant trend of aridization and increasing dust storms due to both land use and climate variation, with potential impacts on the hydrological cycle, as well as climate.

• A region having less knowledge in land surface process and their modeling.

Global drying trend in last 30 years







Changes of frequency of extreme drought events (1990's –1950'-80's)





Changes of monthly averaged surface temperature (K) in response to dust aerosols (from Wu and Fu,2004)

Bias of Simulated Annual Total Precipitation to Observation (%) (10 years average) (from RMIP for Asia)















Goal of CEOP Semi-arid Study

Contributions to understanding the water and energy cycles of semi-arid regions and their role in climate system by globally integrated analysis of CEOP reference sites data, satellite observations and the model outputs Assist in better prediction of water resources and their management in semi-arid regions where the shortage of water supply is crucial

Research Agenda

- Atmospheric boundary layer physics and dynamics of semi-arid regions;
- Water and energy cycle of air-soilvegetation system in semi-arid regions;
- Development of land surface model of semi-arid region to be coupled in climate models;
- Impacts of dust aerosols on hydrological cycle as well as regional and global climate;

The reference sites may used in CEOP semi-arid study

for example:

- Tongyu, China (44.42N, 122.87E; Elevation: 184 m; annual precipitation: 404 mm);
- Langzhou, China (35.32N, 104.09E; Elevation: 1874.1m; annual precipitation: 381.8 mm over Loess plateau);
- Mongolia (46.28N, 107.30E);
- AZ(Arizona), USA
- Bondville (40.01N, 88.29W), USA;
- Oak Ridge (35.96N, 84.29W), USA;
- Niamey (13.5N, 2.5E); Niger;
- And other sites in North Africa, Australia, Iran and South America

Potential reference sites for Semi-arid CEOP study

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International Cooperation for the Global Coverage



- Surface Fluxes
- Biological component
- Atmospheric aerosols, particularly dust aerosols
- The spectrum of atmospheric radiation.
- land use /cover;
- water resources management, etc.

• Surface fluxes and profiles of near surface layer.

Sensors on towers, automatic stations and other instruments will support the observations of wind speed, temperature, humidity, radiation balance, etc. to obtain their profiles and fluxes of momentum, heat, water vapor,CO2 over representative ecosystems.

Biological component

include: above- and under-ground productivity, vegetation height, fraction of vegetation coverage, LAI, photosynthesis, water vapor potential, soil organic substance, litter decomposition, chemical elements cycling, etc.

- Atmospheric aerosols, particularly dust aerosols
- The spectrum of **atmospheric radiation** and atmospheric optical depth.
- Human activities. Land use and cover changes; water resources management, etc.

Satellite Data Requirements

- Data from new generation sensors, such as MODIS onboard NASA's Terra platform and VEGETATION onboard SPOT.
- Other sources of operational stationary and polar-orbit satellites would also be explored.

Model_Output_Requirements

The global model outputs will be used to drive the regional environmental system model to understand the physical, chemical and biological processes interactions in the semi-arid regions,

including: dust aerosol generation and transfer; the climate effects of dust aerosols and land use changes due to human activities, etc.

Some Preliminary Results

- Analysis of data from Tongyu station, including:diurnal,seasonal variation of fluxes, near surface layer profiles,etc.
- Analysis of data from several reference sites of North America;
- Validation of land surface models by using data from Tongyu stations.

MODEL- CEOP DATA INTERCOMPARISON

CEOP Reference site: Tongyu





Overherding-protectionrecovery



Meteorological data



Meteorological conditions of degraded grassland in Tongyu reference site in 2003: (a) air temperature, (b) relative humidity, (c) precipitation and (d) wind velocity, * data from 21 April to 11 May are missing.



Hourly change of latent heat flux (LE), sensible heat flux (H) and CO₂ flux modeled using SiB2 against direct measurements degraded grassland.



Scatter plots of latent heat flux (LE), sensible heat flux (H), and CO₂ flux modeled using SiB2 against direct measurements in degraded grassland.

Hourly modeling during the growing period: cropland



Hourly change of latent heat flux (LE), Sensible heat flux (H) and CO₂ flux modeled using SiB2 against direct measurements at cropland.



Scatter plots of latent heat flux (LE), sensible heat flux (H), and CO₂ flux modeled using SiB2 against direct measurements in cropland.

Modeling of Mean Diurnal variation: grassland



Mean diurnal variation: grassland

Modeling of Mean Diurnal variation : cropland



Modeling of Mean Diurnal variation : cropland (averaged from DOY 200 to DOY 210)



Annual variation of simulated(IBIS)and observed latent heat flux at Tongyu Reference Site in 2003: (a) degraded grassland and (b) cropland.



Annual variation of simulated (IBIS) and observed sensible heat flux at Tongyu Reference Site in 2003: (a) degraded grassland and (b) cropland.



Annual variation of simulated (IBIS) and observed CO₂ flux at Tongyu Reference Site in 2003: (a) degraded grassland and (b) cropland.



Comparison of mean daily mean latent heat flux (LE), and Sensible heat flux (H) and CO₂ flux modeled using SiB2 and IBIS against direct measurements at degraded grassland.

Modeling of daily mean surface fluxes: cropland



Comparison of mean daily mean latent heat flux (LE), sensible heat flux (H) and CO₂ flux modeled using SiB2 and IBIS against direct measurements at cropland.

On-going works

•To set up a new CEOP reference site over Loess Plateau of Northwest China

- * To subtract information from satellite:
 - Land cover and land use changes;
 - Dust transferring track and dust aerosol distribution
- * To develop additional components to be coupled with climate model:
 - a new Eco-hydrological module;
 - Chemical/aerosols module;
 - Land use module.

A new CEOP Reference site over Loess Plateau





Science Plan for phase II

2006-2007:

- 1. Analysis of phase I data from reference sites and comparisons among different sites of semi-arid regions and different ecosystems;
- 2. Validation of land surface models by using CEOP reference sites data of phase I;
- 3. Analysis of satellite data of phase I in related to activities 1 and 2;
- 4. Apply existed RCMs for semi-arid region simulation and find out the problems.

Science Plan for phase II

2008-2010

- Analysis of phase II data of reference sites in semi-arid regions with coordinated satellite observations;
- Validation of land surface models and RCMs against the data of phase II;
- Development of land surface model for semiarid region, with particularly a new scheme of hydrological process;
- Researches of impacts of dust aerosols on radiation, cloud micro-physics and hydrological process as well as the regional climate.

Planning activities for 2006-2007

- Formation of CEOP-semi-arid study working group;
- Initiate an Asia-North America semi-arid Inter-comparison study project;
- A workshop of Land Surface-Atmosphere Interaction in semi-arid regions.

Proposed members of working group of CEOP semi-arid study

- Congbin FU, Institute of Atmospheric Physics, CAS/China (Chair)
- Dave **Billesbach**, University of Nebraska, USA
- David R. Cook, Argonne National Laboratory, USA
- Davaa Gombo, Institute of Meteorology and Hydrology, Mongolia
- Jianping Huang, Lanzhou University, China
- Pavel Kabat, Wageningeu University, Netherlands
- Joon Kim, Yonsei University, Korea,
- Toshio Koike, University of Tokyo, Japan
- Huizhi Liu, LAPC, CAS/China
- Tilden Meyers, NOAA/ARL, USA
- Russell **Scott**, USDA-ARS Southwest Watershed Research Center
- Jie **Song**, Northern Illinois University, USA
- Additional members from Africa, South America, Australia etc. TBD