Introduction to impact assessments in NIES

Kiyoshi Takahashi Climate Risk Assessment Research Section Center for Global Environmental Research National Institute for Environmental Studies (1)Comprehensive assessment of climate change impact for discussing long-term stabilization target



(2) Impact assessment

considering effects of

(3) Impact assessment considering interaction between climate change, other environmental problems, and development target.

Three main research directions of AIM impact study

Specification of AIM/Impact [Policy]

- Objective
 - Comprehensive analysis and assessment of global warming control targets such as stabilization of GHG concentrations, economically efficient emissions paths to realize those targets, and the impacts and risks under the sets of those targets.
- Input
 - Future scenarios of Population, Economic growth, Technology improvement, energy reserve, etc.
 - Assumption on constraints (Limits of GHGs emission/concentration, temperature increase, and SLR), etc.
- Output
 - Time-series of GHGs emission, GHGs concentration, temperature, precipitation, SLR, sector-wise impacts, etc.
- Model components
 - Dynamic optimization model linked with simple climate model for exploring an optimal emission trajectory.
 - Database-type country-wise/sector-wise impact assessment model.
 - Burden sharing model for estimating country-wise GHGs emission reduction necessary for achieving global emission reduction target.
- Reference
 - Hijioka, Y., T. Masui, K. Takahashi, Y. Matsuoka, H. Harasawa (2006): Development of a support tool for greenhouse gas emissions control policy to help mitigate the impact of global warming. *Environmental Economics and Policy Studies*, **7(3)**, 331-346.





Impact assessment module

Database-type country-wise/sector-wise impact assessment model



Extension of impact functions

- Agriculture
 - [Revision] Consideration of some adaptations (Masutomi & Takahashi)
- Health
 - [New] Change in heat stress mortality (Takahashi)
- Water resource
 - [New] Change in Renewable water resource (Hanasaki)
 - [New] Water Severity Index (Hanasaki & Masutomi)
 - [New] Falkenmark Index (Hanasaki & Masutomi)

Climate Change Impact Database for enhancing impact functions

- Scientific literatures of existing impact assessments are collected and archived.
- Relationships between global mean temperature increase (or other climate factors) and degree of impact are extracted from figures/tables in the literatures.
- Database has a user interface to search and show archived data graphically.
- Archived data is used for enhancing impact functions used in AIM/Impact [Policy].

Properties archived in the database



Climate Change Impact Database

for enhancing impact functions

- Selection of spatial scale (Global/ Region/ Country)
- 2 Region / Country
- ③ Spot
- 4 Scenario
- (5) Affected sector
- 6 Sub-affected sector
- 7 Author
- 8 Date of publication
- Unit
- 10 X-axis
- ① Links to references



Applications of AIM/Impact [Policy] in the research projects supported by Ministry of Environment

- Research project on establishing of methodology to evaluate middle to long term environmental policy options toward low carbon society in Japan (S-3; FY2004-2008)
 - For exploring optimal emission reduction trajectory to achieve prescribed long-term targets.
- Comprehensive assessment of climate change impacts to determine the dangerous Level of global warming and to determine the appropriate stabilization target for atmospheric GHG concentration (S-4; FY2005-2009)
 - For synthesizing scientific knowledge on climate change impacts both at global, national and sub-national scales.

Comprehensive Assessment of Climate Change Impacts to Determine the Dangerous Level of Global Warming and to Determine the Appropriate Stabilization Target for Atmospheric GHG Concentration



Change in heat stress mortality per unit area (1990s and 2090s)





Challenge of impact study in S-5

1. Impact assessment with uncertainty range based on probabilistic climate change scenarios \Rightarrow Risk analysis

Example: Probabilistic analysis of runoff change based on multi-model / multi-scenario





2. Comprehensive assessment of global scale impact through original simulation and review of existing knowledge \Rightarrow [Vision of future climate and its risks]

Summary of presentation

- Demand on AIM/Impact[Policy] has been increasing.
 - Expansion of impact functions is an urgent need, and new members of the team is struggling with the task.
 - AIM Climate Change Impact Database is expected to support the expansion on impact functions.
- New large research project on development of comprehensive climate change scenarios will start from the coming April.
 - Global scale impact assessment based on the latest climate model results.
 - How to transfer the research knowledge with large uncertainty to people in general is also studied.