

EGU21-16428

<https://doi.org/10.5194/egusphere-egu21-16428>

EGU General Assembly 2021

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A portable dual-channel laser heterodyne radiometer for simultaneous remote measurements of CH₄ and CO₂ in the atmospheric column

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Laser heterodyne spectroscopic measurement technique^[1] has been proved to be a powerful and effective remote sensing tool for measurements of greenhouse gases in the atmospheric column^[2-6]. In the present work, we report the development of a portable all-fiber coupled dual-channel laser heterodyne radiometer (LHR) and its field deployment. Two DFB lasers operating at 1650.9 nm and 1603.6 nm are used for the remote measurements of column CH₄ and CO₂, respectively. A fiber optic switch is used to modulate and split the collected sunlight into two channels for simultaneous measurements of both target greenhouse gases. Custom-made preamplifiers combined with digital lock-in amplifiers are used to extract the laser heterodyne signals. The spectral resolution of the instrument is about 0.00442 cm⁻¹, and the signal-to-noise ratio of the measured spectrum of about 250 is achieved with 0.8 s average time per sampling datum. The developed LHR instrument was successfully deployed to a field atmospheric observation experiment (in Dachaidan district, Qinghai province, China).

The experimental detail including the LHR instrument integration, dual-channel measurement results of column CH₄ and CO₂ and preliminary data inversion results will be presented and discussed.

Acknowledgments. The project was supported by the national key R&D program of China (2017YFC0209705). The authors thank the financial supports from the CPER CLIMIBIO program, the Labex CaPPA project (ANR-10-LABX005).

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