

Methane Concentration Over Monsoon Asia Observed from Space: Comparison with Model Simulation

Sachiko Hayashida¹, Akiko Ono¹, **Tomomi Nagase¹**, Yosuke Niwa², Ryoichi Imasu³

1: Faculty of Science, Nara Women's University, Nara, JAPAN 2: Meteorological Research Institute (MRI), JMA, JAPAN

3: Atmospheric and Ocean Research Institute, Tokyo University, Tokyo, JAPAN

Introduction

The concentration of atmospheric methane (CH_4) has more than doubled since pre-industrial times, and its radiative forcing is estimated to be the second largest after carbon dioxide (CO_2). However, despite the importance of atmospheric CH_4 in global warming, the significance of individual sources of CH_4 remains highly uncertain. Monsoon Asia accommodates about 90% of the world's rice fields, and they have a big influence on the global environment. In this study, we analyze model simulation using NICAM-TM-CH₄ and satellite data (SCIAMACHY and TANSO-FTS) to understand CH_4 behaviour over Monsoon Asia.

Datasets

CH₄ concentration

Sensor	Satellite	Reference
SCIAMACHY	ENVISAT	Frankenberg et al.(2011)
Sensor	Satellite	Version
TANSO-FTS	GOSAT	NIES ^{*1} (v.2.20 and v.2.21)

Satellite-derived indices

Database	Satellite	Grid archived	Reference
LSWC ^{*2}	Terra / Aqua	0.5°×0.5°	Takeuchi and Gonzalez.(2009)
NDVI ^{*3}	Terra	1.0°×1.0°	Huete et al.(2002)

Emission inventory

Database	Emission category	Grid archived	Reference
Yan2009	Rice fields	0.5°×0.5°	Yan et al.(2009)
GISS	All categories	1.0°×1.0°	Matthews et al.(1991)

*1: National Institute for Environmental Studies

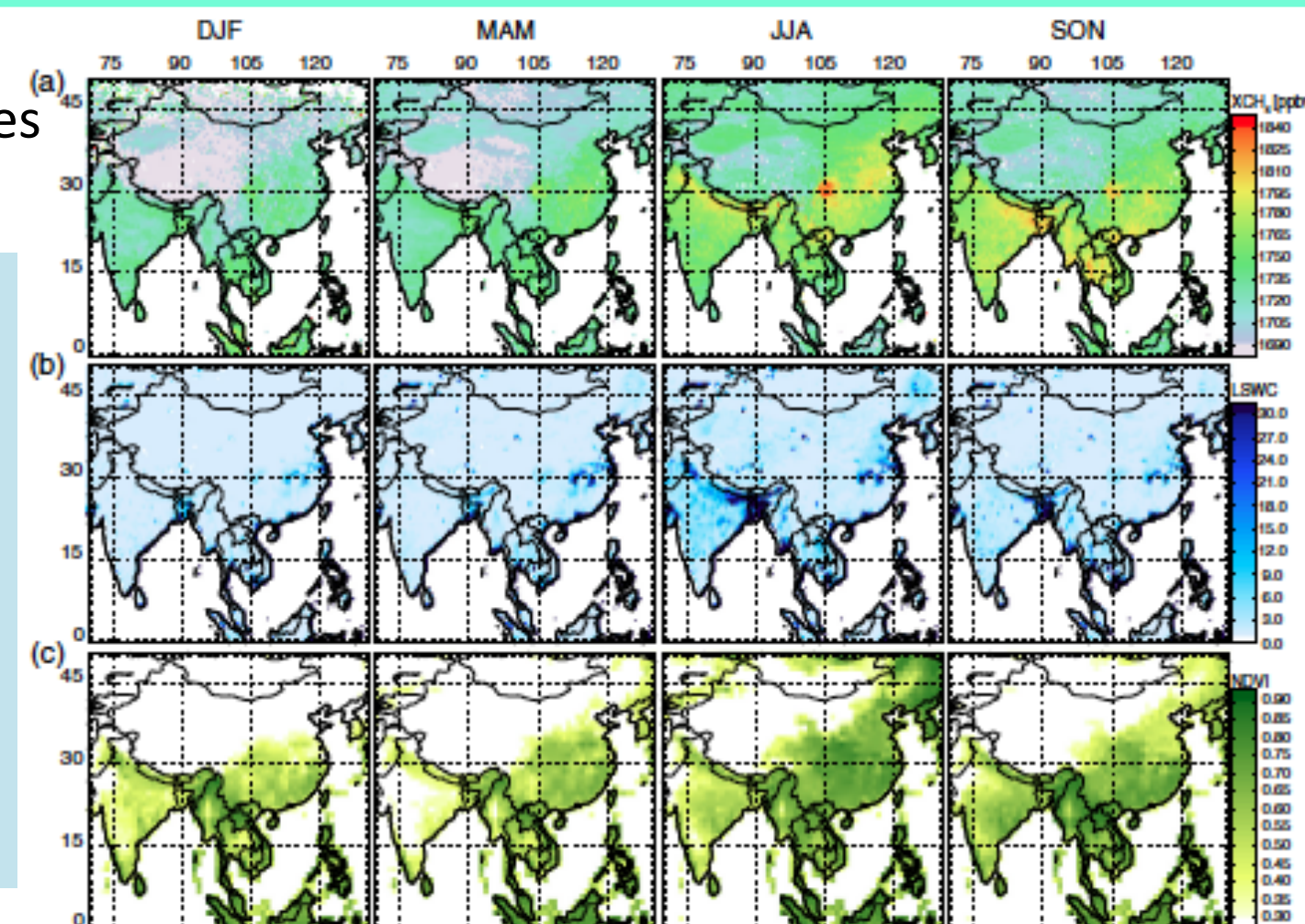
*2: Land-surface water coverage

*3: Normalized difference vegetation index

Fig. 1: Maps of 3-month averaged values of (a)SCIAMACHY, (b)LSWC, (c)NDVI.

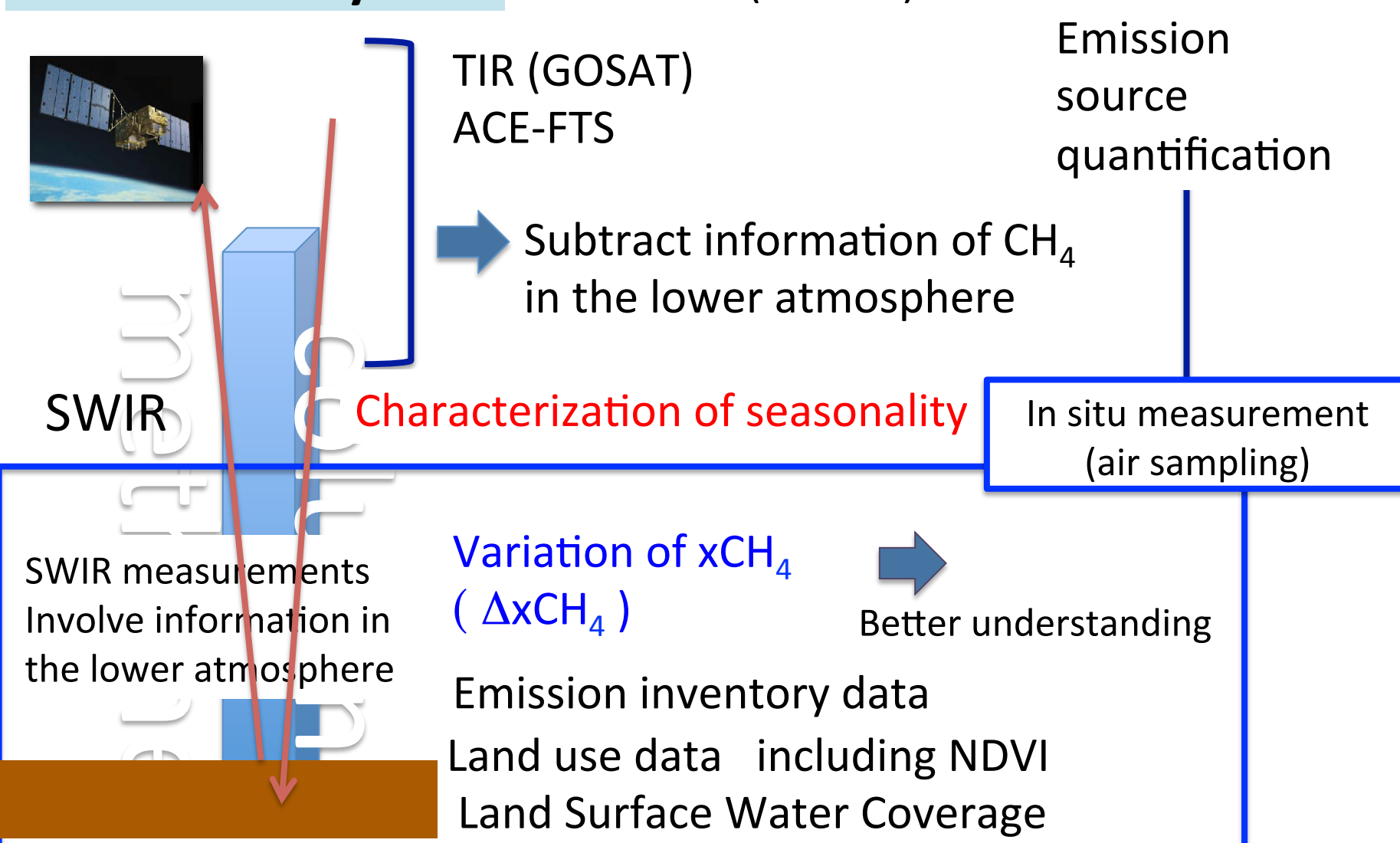
(a)SCIAMACHY, (b)LSWC, (c)NDVI
All data have been averaged for 6 years from 2003 through December 2008. The columns correspond to DJF, MAM, JJA, and SON, respectively.

DJF: from December to February
MAM: from March to May
JJA: from June to August
SON: from September to November



Strategy of this study

High resolution transport model (NICAM)



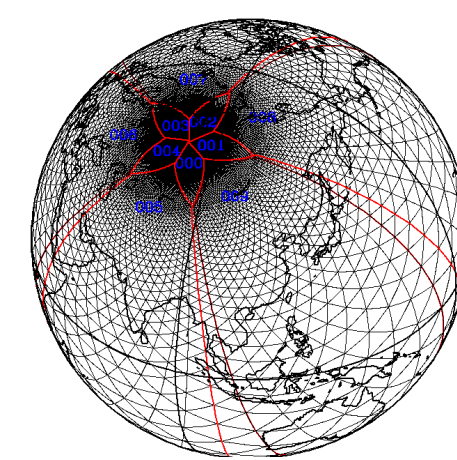
NICAM (Nonhydrostatic ICosahedral Atmospheric Model) - TM (Transport Model) Y. Niwa and R. Imasu

NICAM Model output

Scenarios of NICAM model run
(after Master thesis of Takamizawa, Tokyo Univ, 2012)

Scenario name	Anthro-pogenic	Wetland	Biomass Burning	Rice	others
CTL	EDGAR3.2	GISS	GISS	Yan2009	GISS (termite)/oceanic exchange/mud volcanic emissions

2.5 deg. x 2.5 deg, 40 layers, monthly average
Meteorological condition in 2007 (fixed)



Cluster analysis of the xCH₄ seasonality

In this study, we have observed the characteristics of seasonal variation in Asia by using the cluster analysis.

- (1) ⇒ groupA
(2) ⇒ groupB
(3) ⇒ groupC

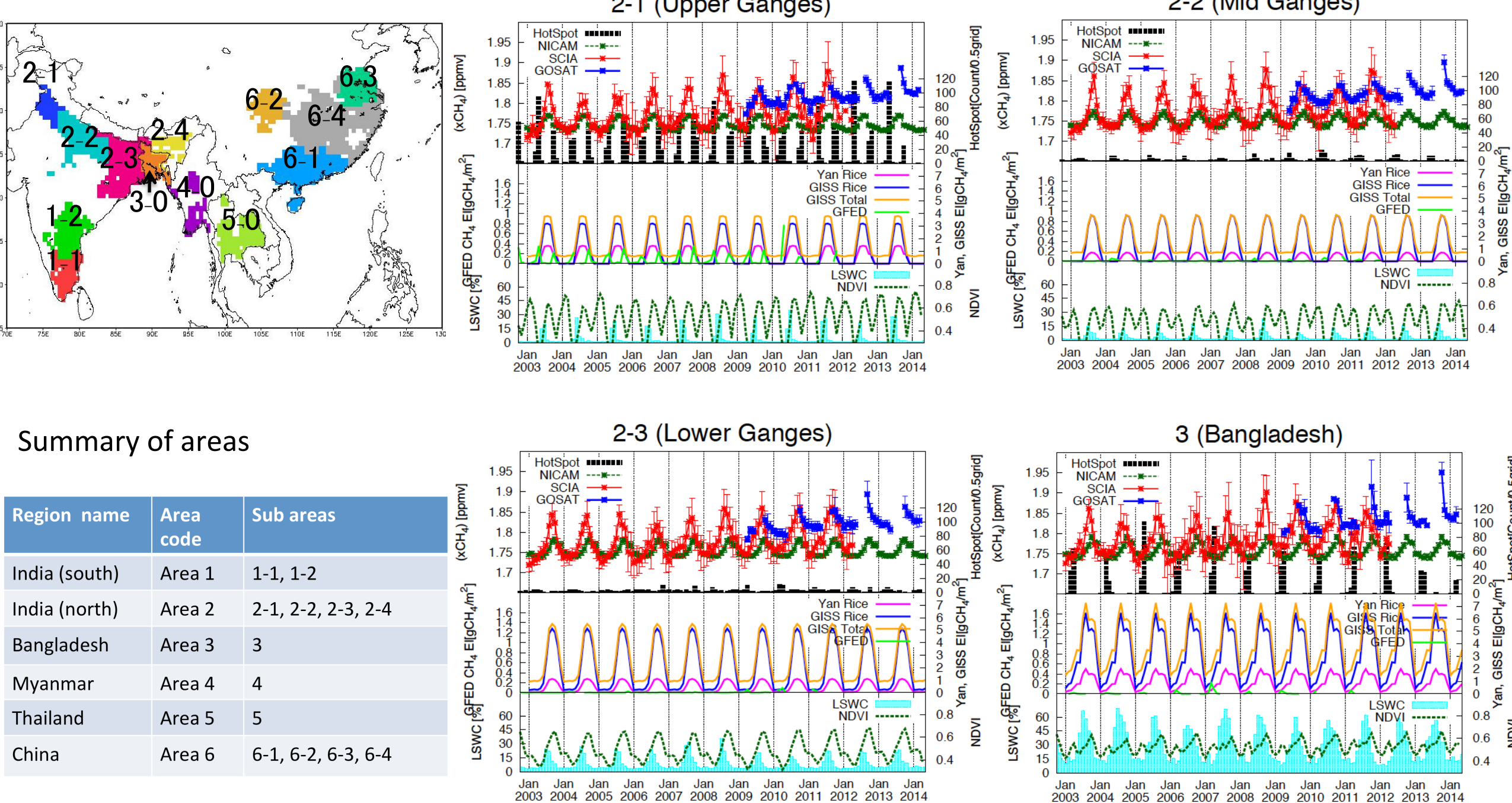
xCH₄ seasonal variation over typical rice paddies

[Hayashida et al., RSE,2013]

We selected some sampling regions where the CH_4 emission values from rice fields are estimated to be higher than $1.5\text{gCH}_4/\text{m}^2$. Those areas were divided into sub-regions to distinguish different seasonality of emissions.

Fig.2: 13 regions to be investigated

Fig. 3: Seasonal variation

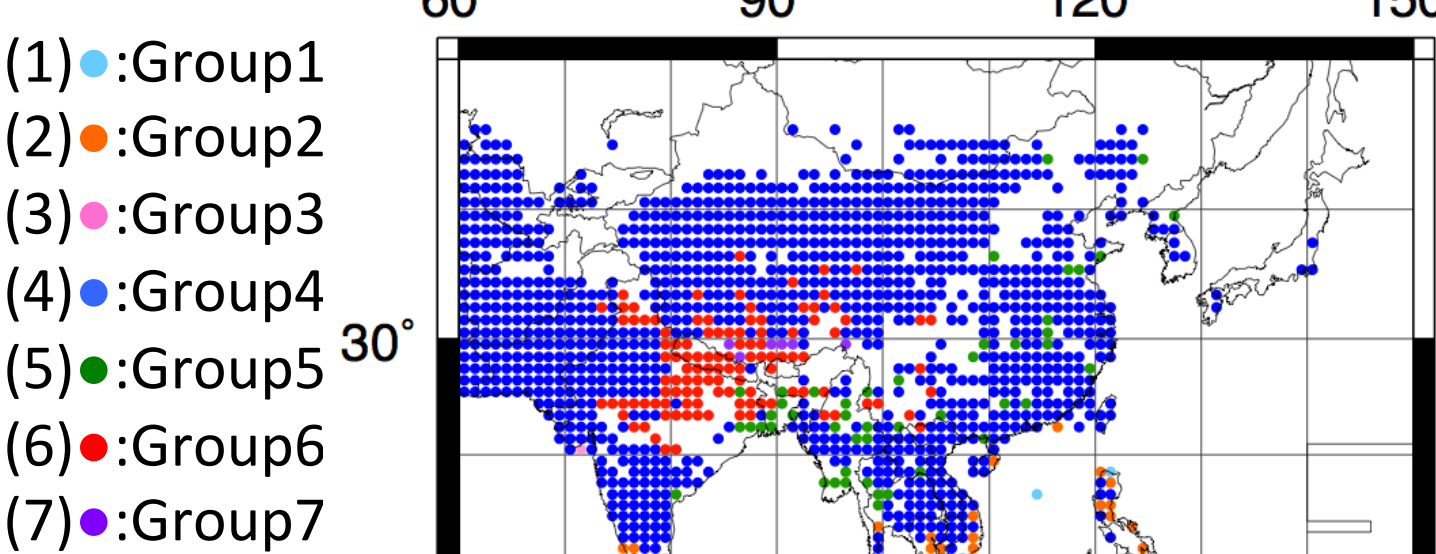


Summary of areas

Region name	Area code	Sub areas
India (south)	Area 1	1-1, 1-2
India (north)	Area 2	2-1, 2-2, 2-3, 2-4
Bangladesh	Area 3	3
Myanmar	Area 4	4
Thailand	Area 5	5
China	Area 6	6-1, 6-2, 6-3, 6-4

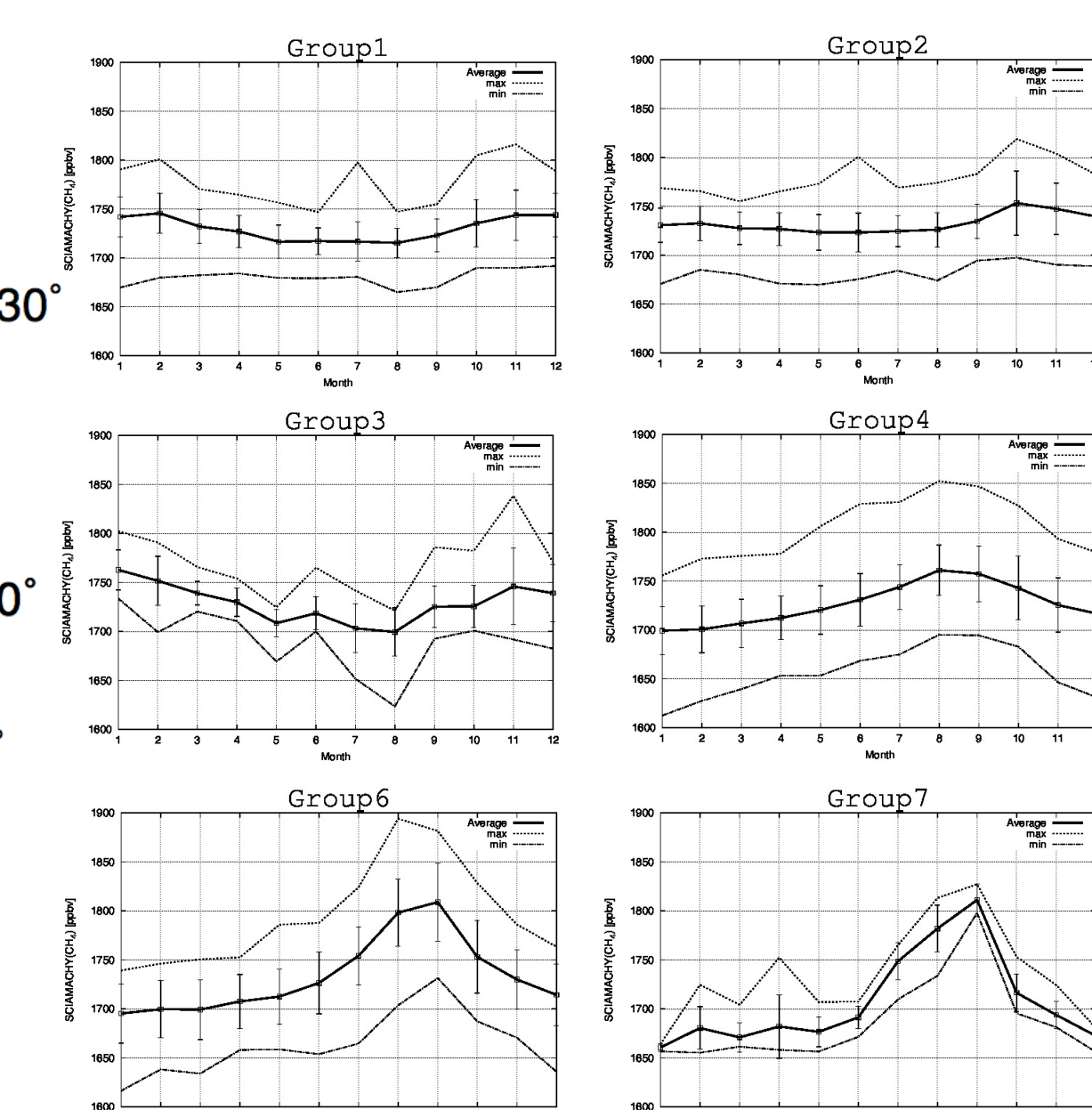
[Seven groups of CH₄ seasonal variation]

Fig. 4: Seven groups by using cluster analysis



Top: maximum
Middle: average
Bottom: minimum
Error bar: the standard deviation
the vertical axis: concentration
the horizontal axis: month

Fig. 5: Seasonal variation of 7 groups



[Group6(include Area2-1,2-2,2-3,2-4)]

Fig. 6: Seasonal variation around 2.0 grid of rice cultivation

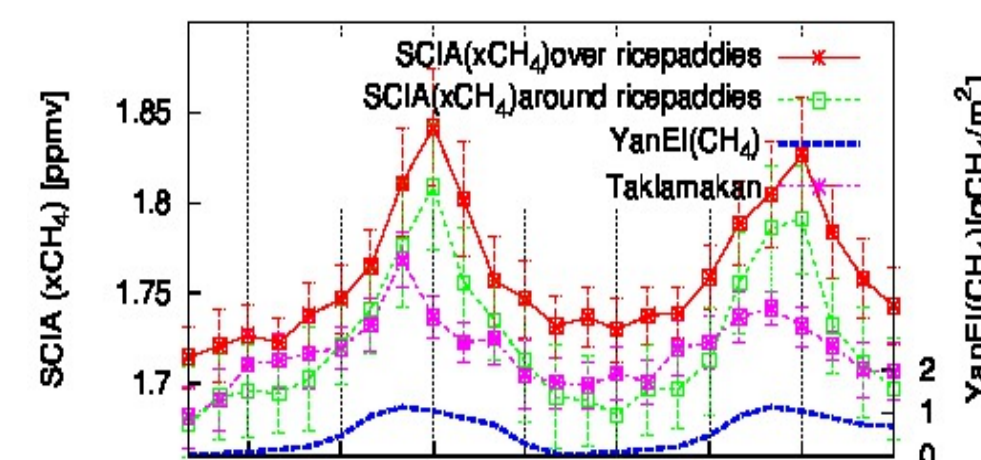
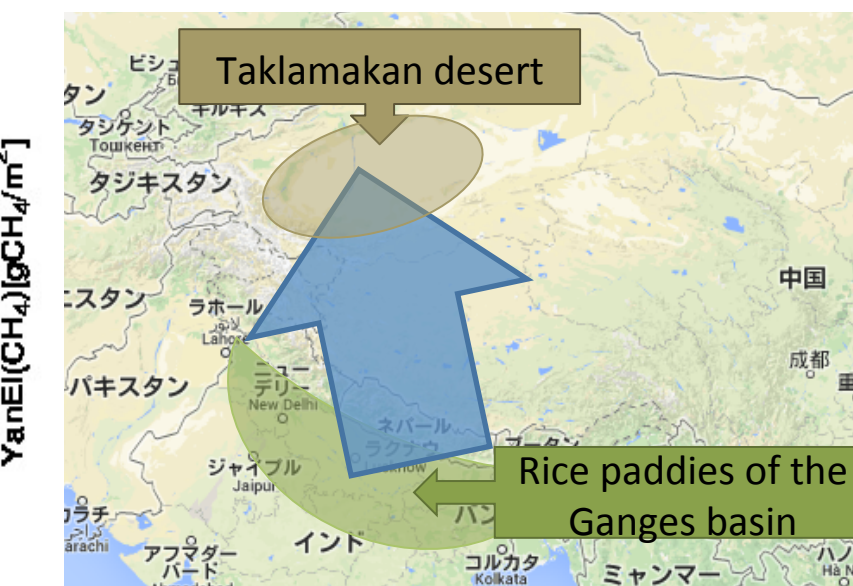


Fig. 7: Map around the Ganges basin



NICAM Simulation Upper Ganges (Area2-1)

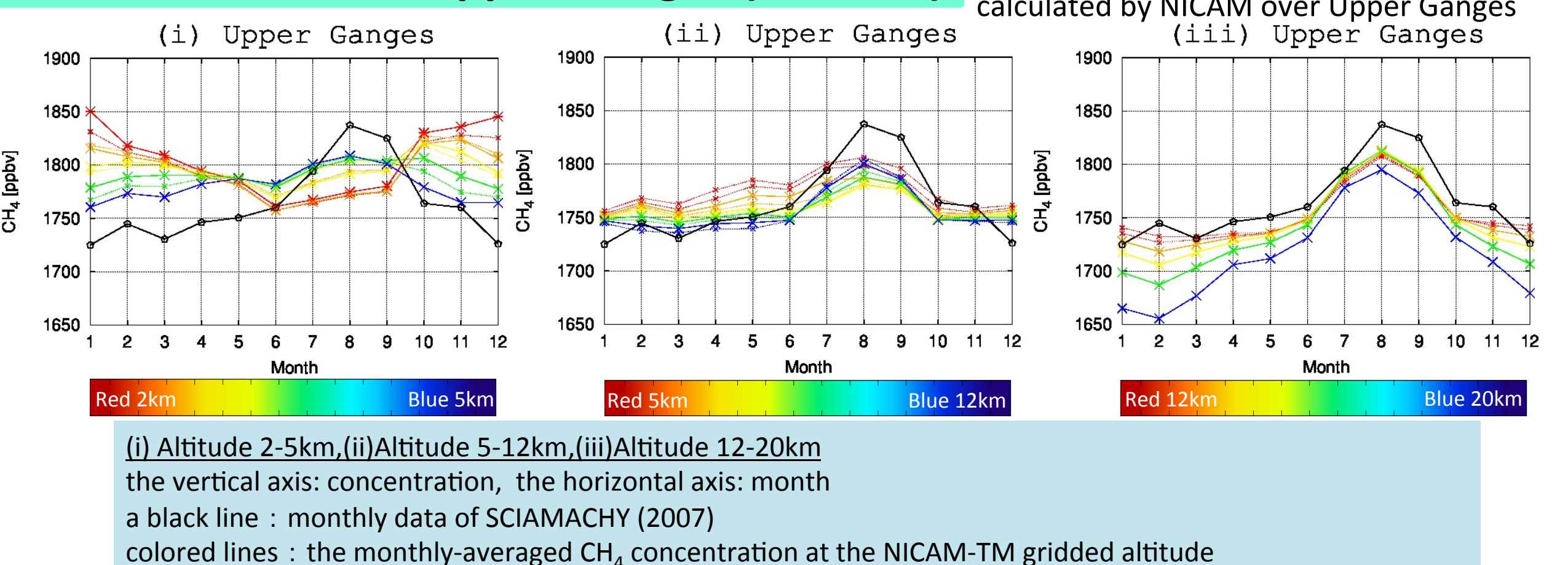
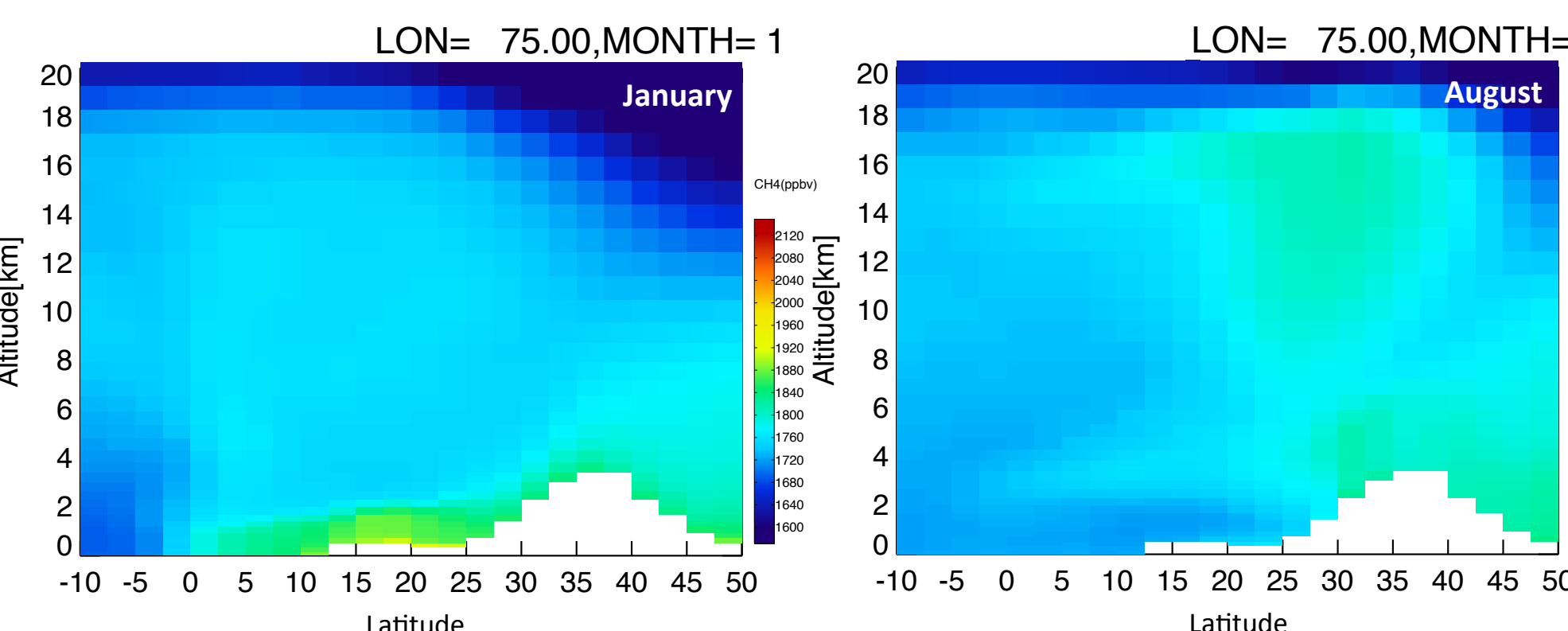


Fig. 8: Seasonal variation of CH_4 concentration calculated by NICAM over Upper Ganges

Fig. 9: Altitude - Latitude cross section



Upwelling motion must have affected on enhancement of xCH₄ in August in the Ganges Basin. GOSAT-TIR and ACE-FTS data are now under investigation

[Acknowledgments]

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Nara Women's University