

Comparative analysis of CH₄ measured by MODIS and SCIAMACHY from west Siberian lowland

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In this study, our approach was based on MODIS and AMSR-E satellite database, through NDVI and LST (Land Surface Temperature) biophysical inference model to estimate the methane emission in Siberian lowland and to do comparative analysis with SCIAMACHY measurement data. The wetland coverage was represented by 7 types of land cover from MERIS, ENVISAT data. The biophysical inference models have three equations (CH₄_lst, CH₄_ndvi and CH₄_Ndl), which were calculated from regression analysis based on different vegetation and land surface temperature condition. We found that from 2003 to 2010 more than 12% of year growth rate of methane emission measured by SCIAMACHY. The models estimation of the year growth rate of CH₄_lst, CH₄_ndvi and CH₄_Ndl from 2003 to 2012 were 0.24%, 4.74% and 0.36% respectively. Our findings show the CH₄ emission increase significantly in time series with seasonal increases in temperature.

Background

Methane is a particularly effective greenhouse gas and its emission sources comprise anthropogenic activity, fossil fuel combustion, rice agriculture, livestock, landfill and some biomass burning and natural sources such as wetlands, termites and the ocean (IPCC. 2007). The concentration of atmospheric CH₄ has more than doubled since pre-industrial times, and its radiative forcing is estimated to be the second largest after CO₂ (Forster et al. 2007). Global warming is predicted to be most pronounced at high latitudes (Wagner, 2009), and thawing of permafrost could release large quantities of greenhouse gases into the atmosphere, thus further increasing global warming and transforming the Arctic tundra ecosystems from a carbon sink to a carbon source (Oechel et al. 1993).

Objective

- To estimate methane emission through NDVI and Land Surface Temperature (LST) biophysical inference model by MODIS.
- To do comparative analysis with SCIAMACHY measurement data.

Results and Discussion

CH₄ Emission Estimation

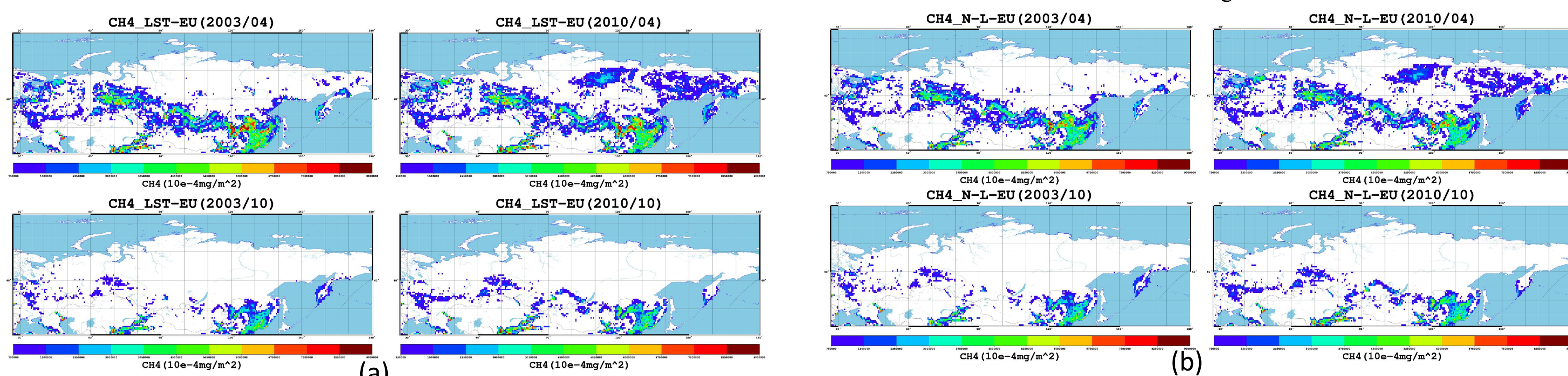
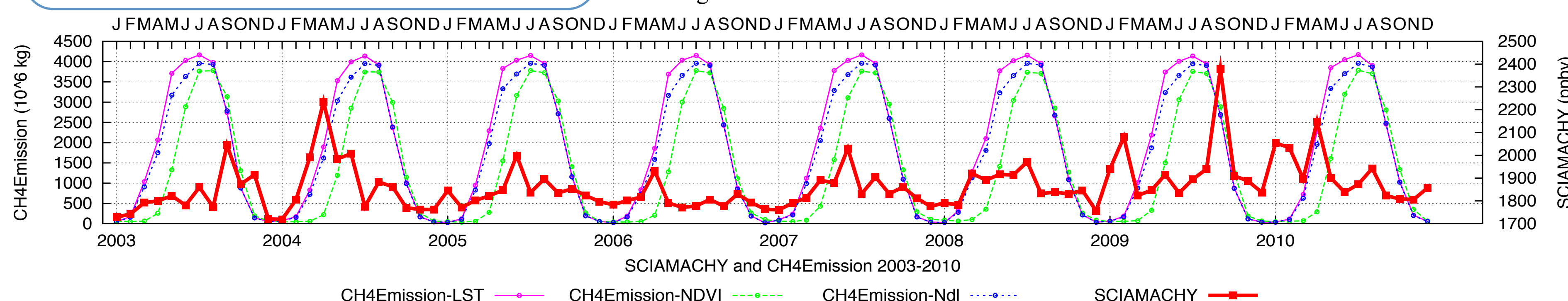


Fig.1 Map of monthly CH₄ emission of April and October in 2003 and 2010. Map (a) and (b) are derived from equation (1) and (3) respectively. Left and right rows are the emission maps of April and October in 2003 and 2010 separately.

- Fig.1 (a) and (b) clearly indicates the CH₄ emitting area in April was larger in 2010 (right row) than in 2003 (left row). During summer growing season continuous CH₄ emissions has been extended till temperature goes minus. Whereas, CH₄ emission didn't stop immediately when winter comes.

Comparison analysis with SCIAMACHY

Fig.3 CH₄ estimations and SCIAMACHY measurement curves.

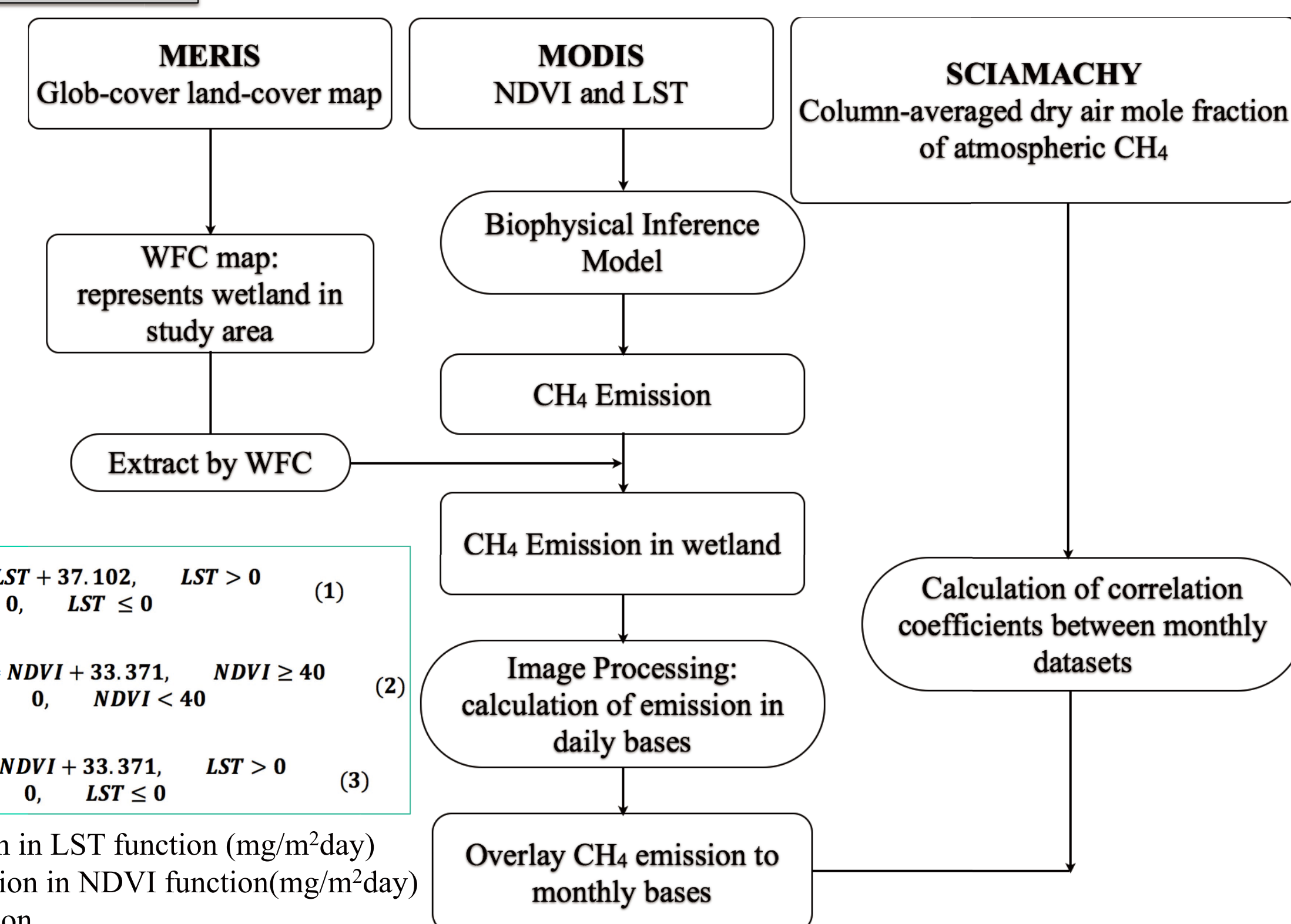


- Fig. 3 expresses the seasonal characteristics of CH₄ emission and SCIAMACHY concentration data. From 2003 to 2010 more than 12% of year growth rate of methane emission was measured by SCIAMACHY and the models estimation of the year growth rate of CH₄_lst, CH₄_ndvi and CH₄_Ndl from 2003 to 2012 were 0.24%, 4.74% and 0.36% respectively. There is good agreement among three definitions and SCIAMACHY. The CH₄_lst (pink) and CH₄_Ndl (blue) have quite similar character, but CH₄_ndvi has a delay phenomenon than the others, but the offset time fitted very well. It because vegetation growing usually starts when temperature risen to specified value, but emission will stop when ground frozen up. It means CH₄ emission is also affected by vegetation. For SCIAMACHY data, in 2003 and 2009 the peak value happened in September and at the same time lower temperature will happen in October.
- Fig. 4 represents mean annual temperature September and October from 2003 to 2010 to prove this phenomenon. There is a big difference in 2003 and 2009, indicate higher temperature induce higher emissions.

Conclusion remarks

- The estimation results have good correlation with SCIAMACHY measurement data, although they are not in the same scale measurement, at least show the proximity trends and seasonal changes.
- The wider range of SCIAMACHY than estimation curves probably because of estimation error, land-cover type and human activity source such as fossil fuel and so on.
- The amount of emission is quite depending on temperature. The estimation still under calibration by other referenced publications, these examinations will lead positive effects in near future.

Methodology



$$FCH4_{lst} = \begin{cases} 0.4181 * LST + 37.102, & LST > 0 \\ 0, & LST \leq 0 \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

$$FCH4_{ndvi} = \begin{cases} 0.1505 * NDVI + 33.371, & NDVI \geq 40 \\ 0, & NDVI < 40 \end{cases} \quad (2)$$

$$FCH4_{Ndl} = \begin{cases} 0.1505 * NDVI + 33.371, & LST > 0 \\ 0, & LST \leq 0 \end{cases} \quad (3)$$

Where $FCH4_{lst}$ = CH₄ emission in LST function (mg/m²/day)
 $FCH4_{ndvi}$ = CH₄ emission in NDVI function (mg/m²/day)
 $FCH4_{Ndl}$ = CH₄ emission, combine LST and NDVI function (mg/m²/day)
 NDVI = original NDVI * 100

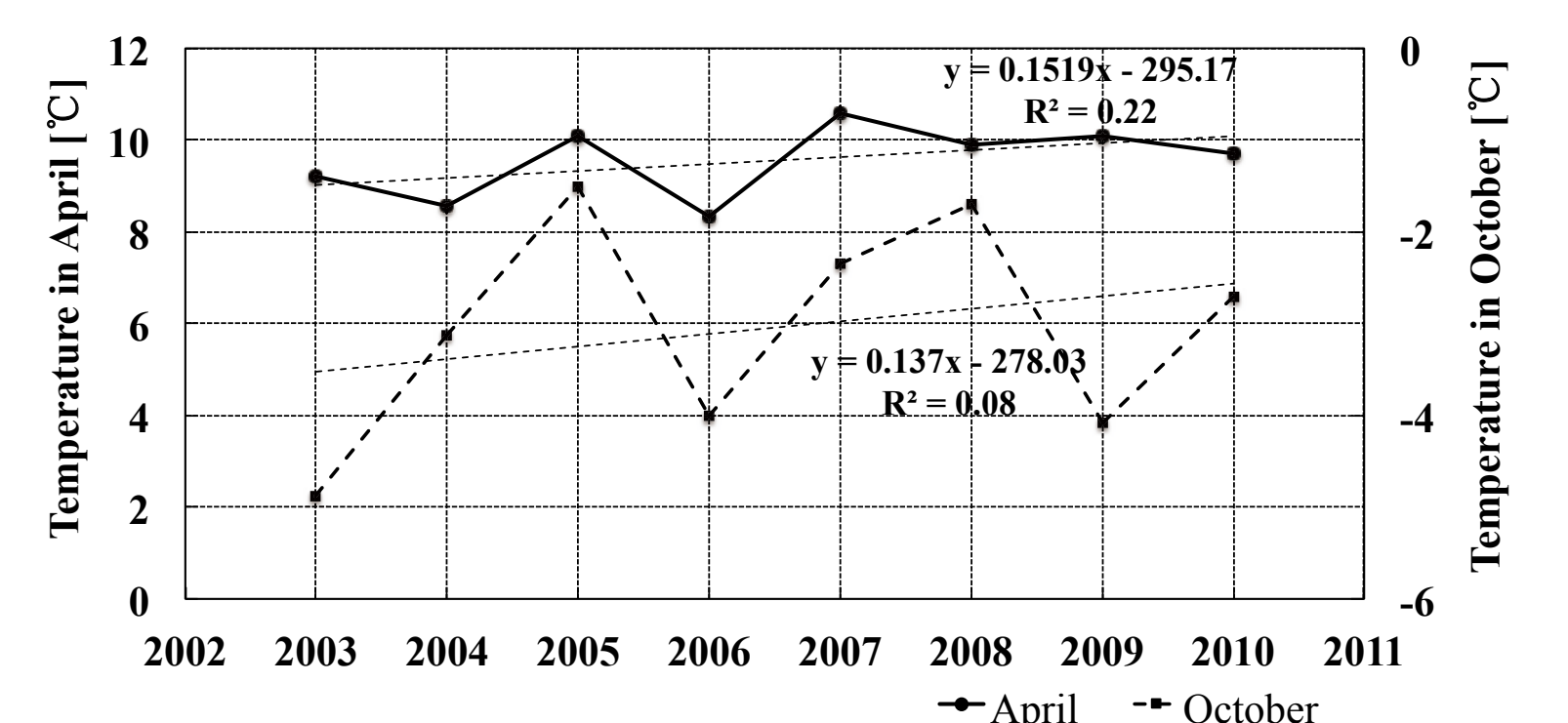


Fig.2 Mean temperature changing dynamics of April and October in 2003 and 2010.

- Fig.2 is a curve of averaged temperature of April and October from 2003 to 2010. There are obvious rising trends, imply the temperature has increased in the same month of year. It is a probably reason that why CH₄ emission spring earlier and fallen time was delayed. It is also means LST is an important index, which impact CH₄ emission.

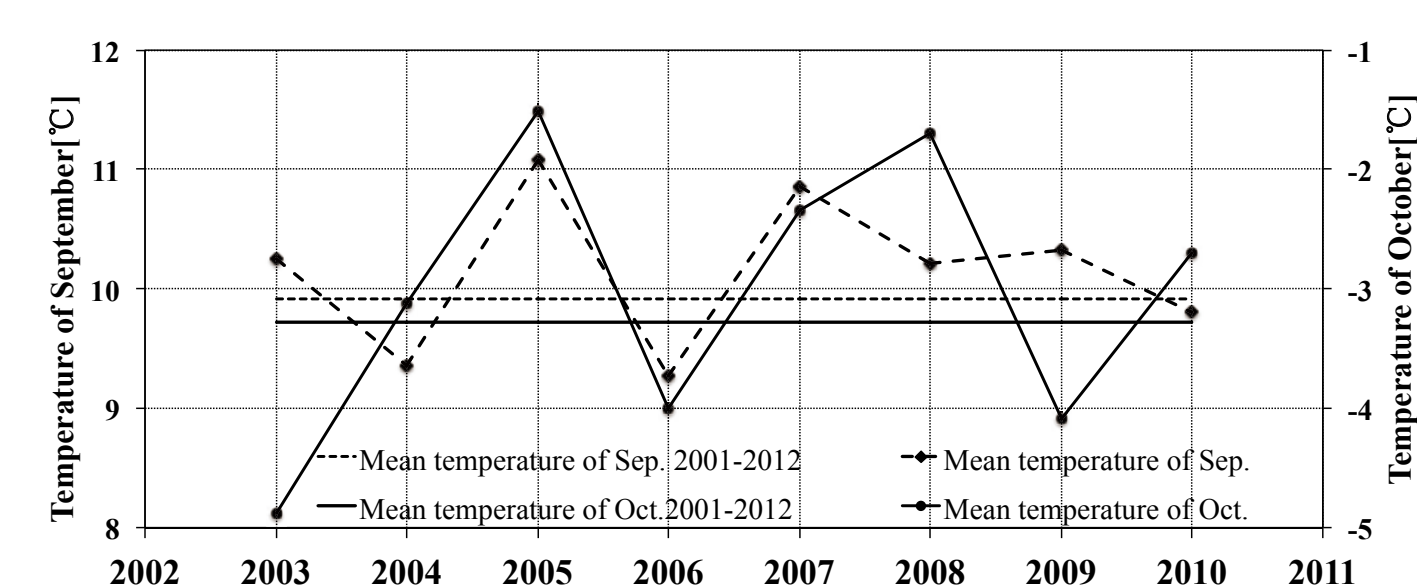


Fig.4 Mean annual temperature of September and October from 2003 to 2010.

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