

# Haze and El Niño in Indonesia



Hiroshi Hayasaka

Fire Science Division  
NPO Hokkaido Institute of Hydro-climate  
Sapporo, JAPAN

Thanks to NIES' support.

International Workshop on Land Use/Cover  
Changes and Air Pollution in Asia, Bogor,  
Indonesia, 2015.8.4-7

# Haze and El Niño in Indonesia

Haze caused by burning peat forests in Indonesia kills an average of 110,000 people per year and up to 300,000 during el Niño events, while releasing hundreds of millions of tons of greenhouse gases into the atmosphere, warns a new report from Greenpeace.

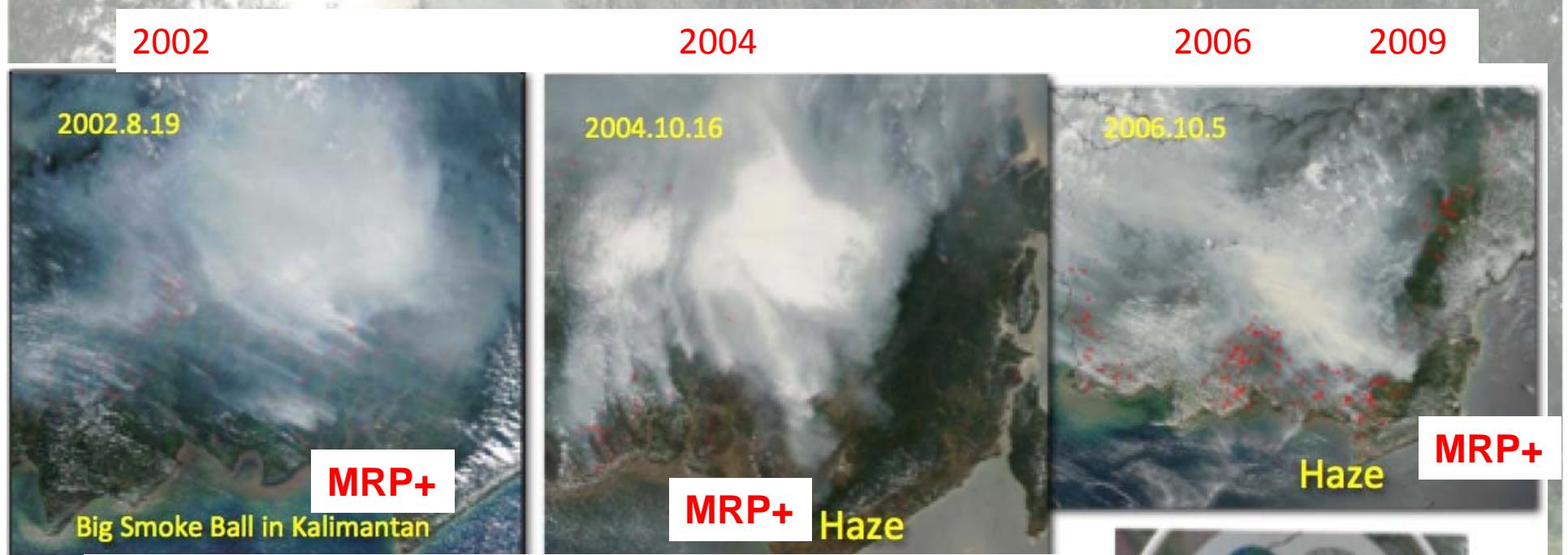
In Riau's case, there is a lot of carbon that could be lost into the atmosphere: by one estimate, its peat soils store nearly 60 billion tons of carbon, or 40 percent of the total stored across Indonesia's peatlands. That represents more than a year of current global greenhouse gas emissions.

28th May 2014 / Rhett A. Butler

<http://news.mongabay.com/2014/05/indonesias-haze-from-forest-fires-kills-110000-people-per-year/>

To protect peatlands in Indonesia, it is important to understand severe peat fire weather conditions.

# Recent Large Scale Wildland Fires in Kalimantan, Indonesia



Repeated severe fires every two years



Air Pollution in Palangkaraya

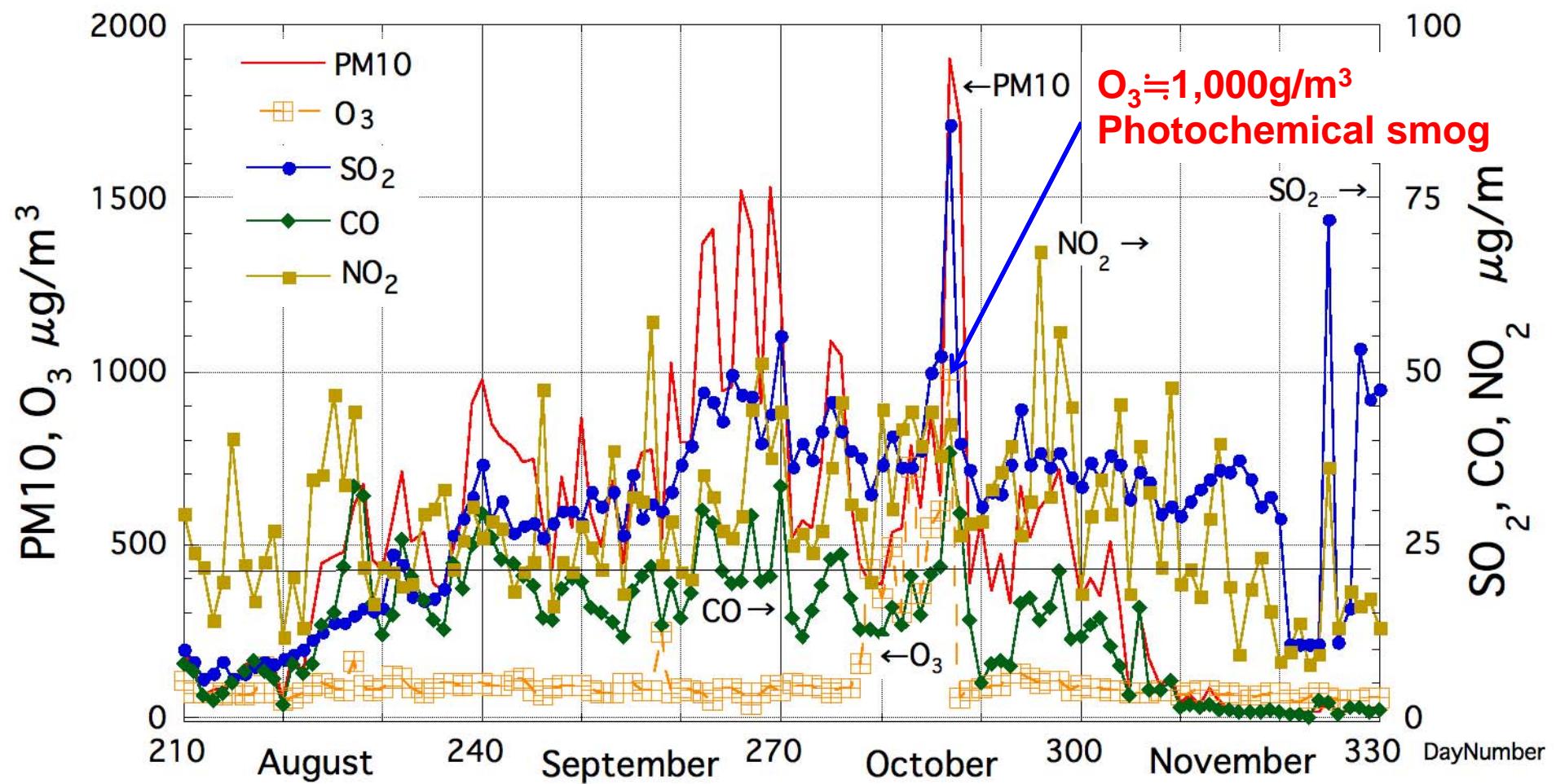
## Basic Knowledge



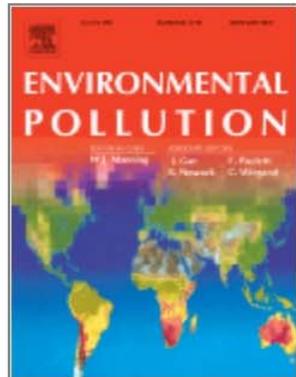
Dangerous condition in highway due to dense smoke (low visibility).



2002



PM10, SO<sub>2</sub>, CO, O<sub>3</sub>, and NO<sub>2</sub> in 2002



## Peat-fire-related air pollution in Central Kalimantan, Indonesia

Hayasaka, H.; Noguchi, I.; Putra, E.I.; Yulianti, N.; Vadrevu, K.

Views

Environmental Pollution, Volume(s) 195, 30-Jul-2014, Pages 257-266

Share your article



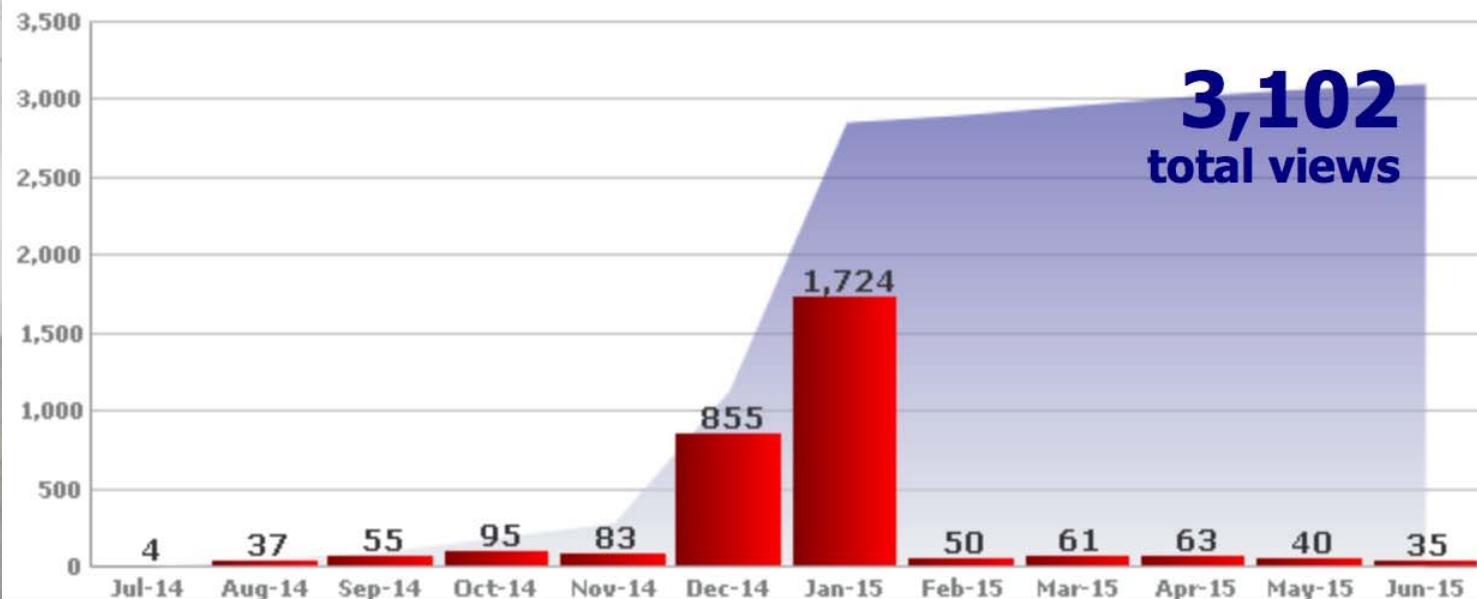
Tips and Tricks to let the world know about your research

Download this dashboard



[View Article](#)

### Trend and cumulative views



1 2

### Top countries

Malaysia  
Indonesia  
Japan  
China  
Thailand

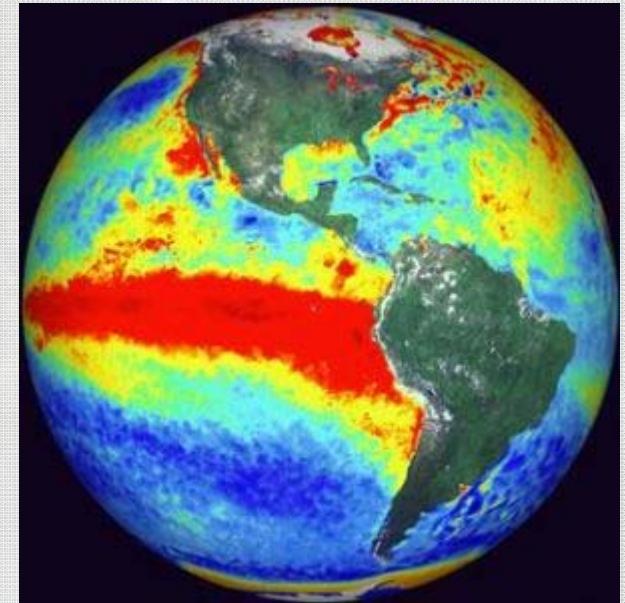
### Corporate

Public ...  
100%

# El Niño Southern Oscillation (ENSO)

Reasons are still not clear.

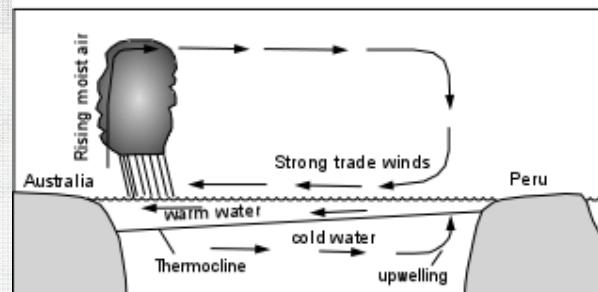
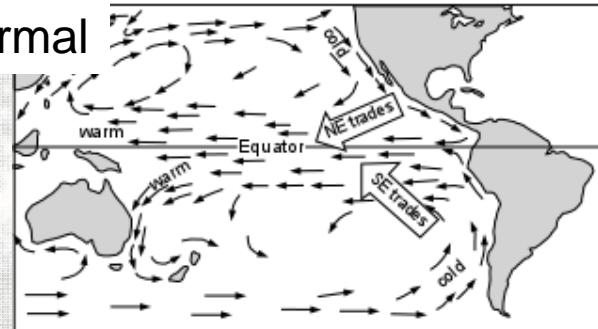
- It is a quasi-periodic climate pattern that occurs across the tropical Pacific Ocean almost every 6 years. (Range is 3-8 years)
- “Oscillation” refers to the variations in the temperature of the tropical eastern Pacific Ocean (the phenomenon of warming and cooling are “**El Niño**” and “La Niña”) and in air pressure in the tropical Western Pacific.
- “**El Niño**” term is used because the effects of the warming are noticed usually around Christmas in South America (“El Niño” means “the little boy”, referring to Jesus Christ birth).



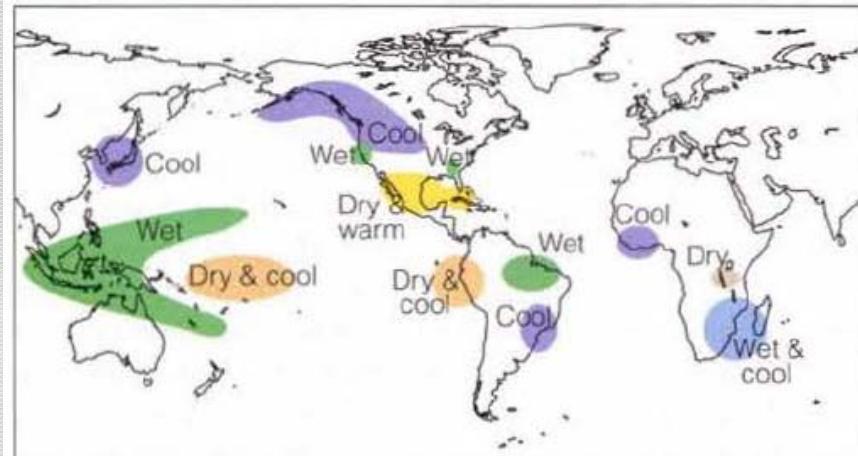
# Global Impacts of El Niño

Normal Oceanic & Atmospheric Circulation

Normal



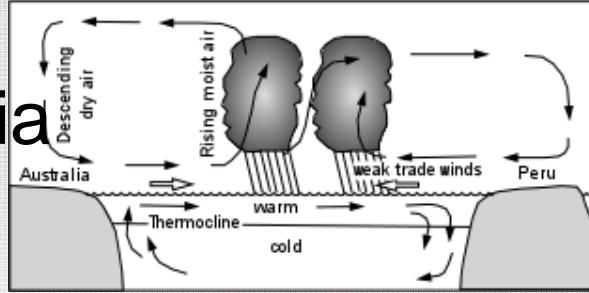
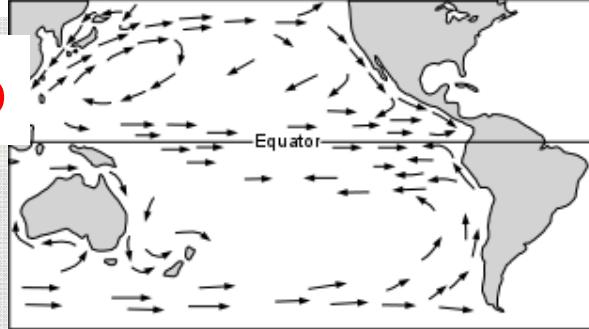
Normal conditions



c

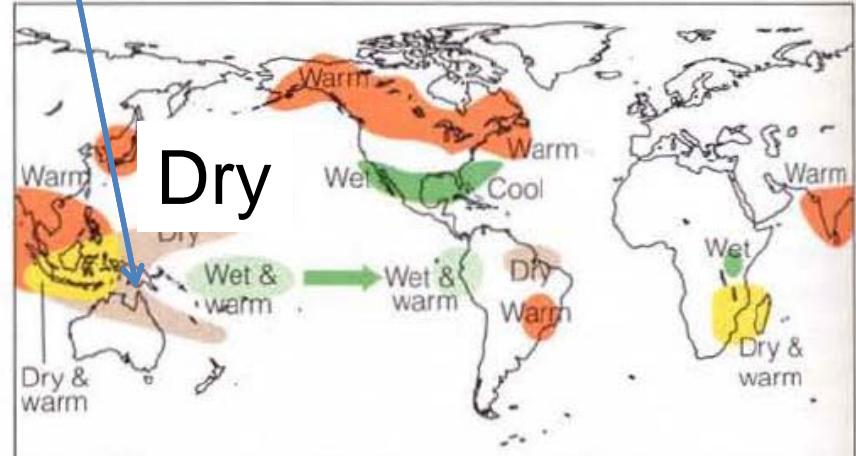
El Niño Oceanic & Atmospheric Circulation

El Niño



Indonesia

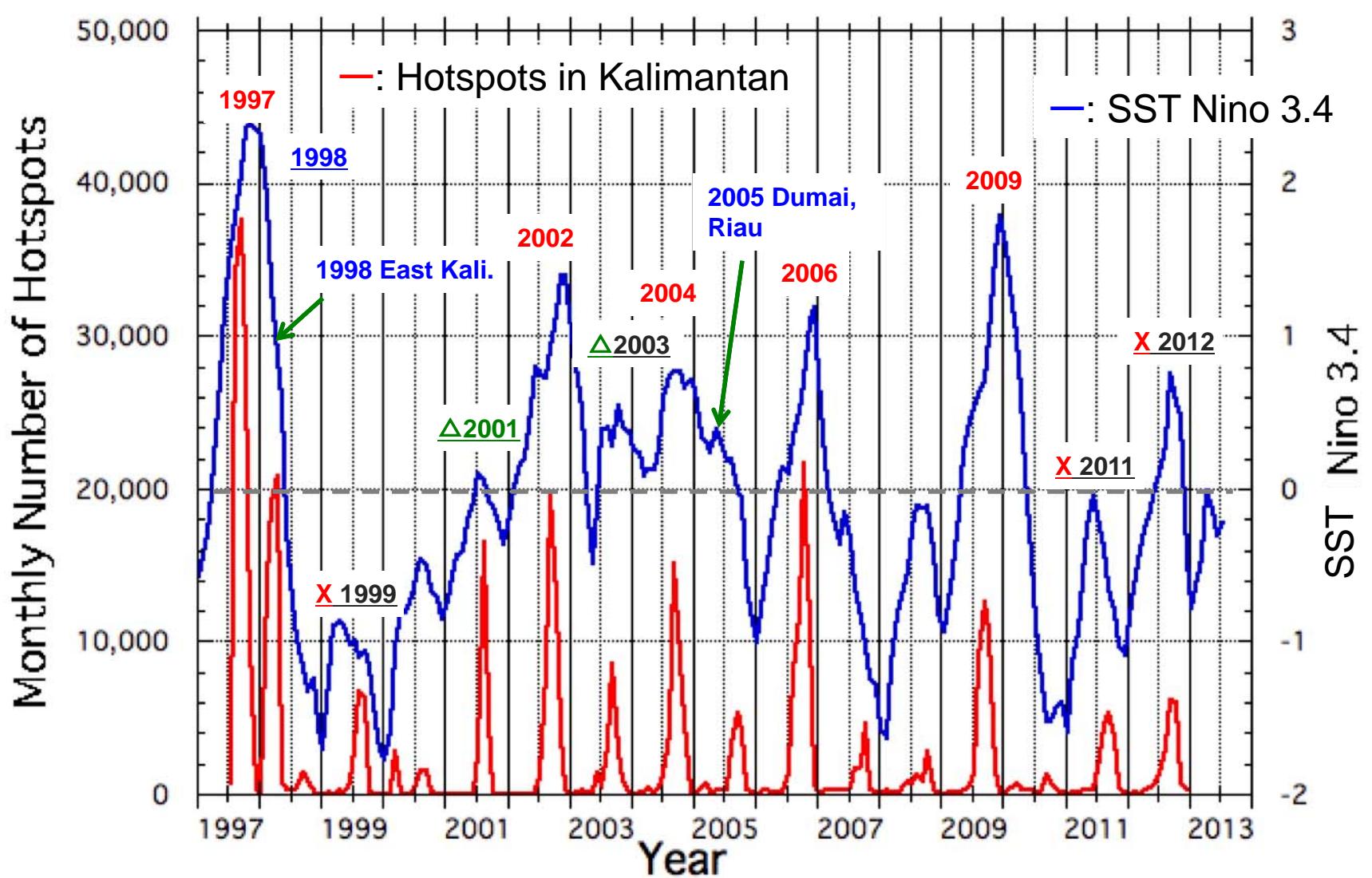
El Niño conditions



d

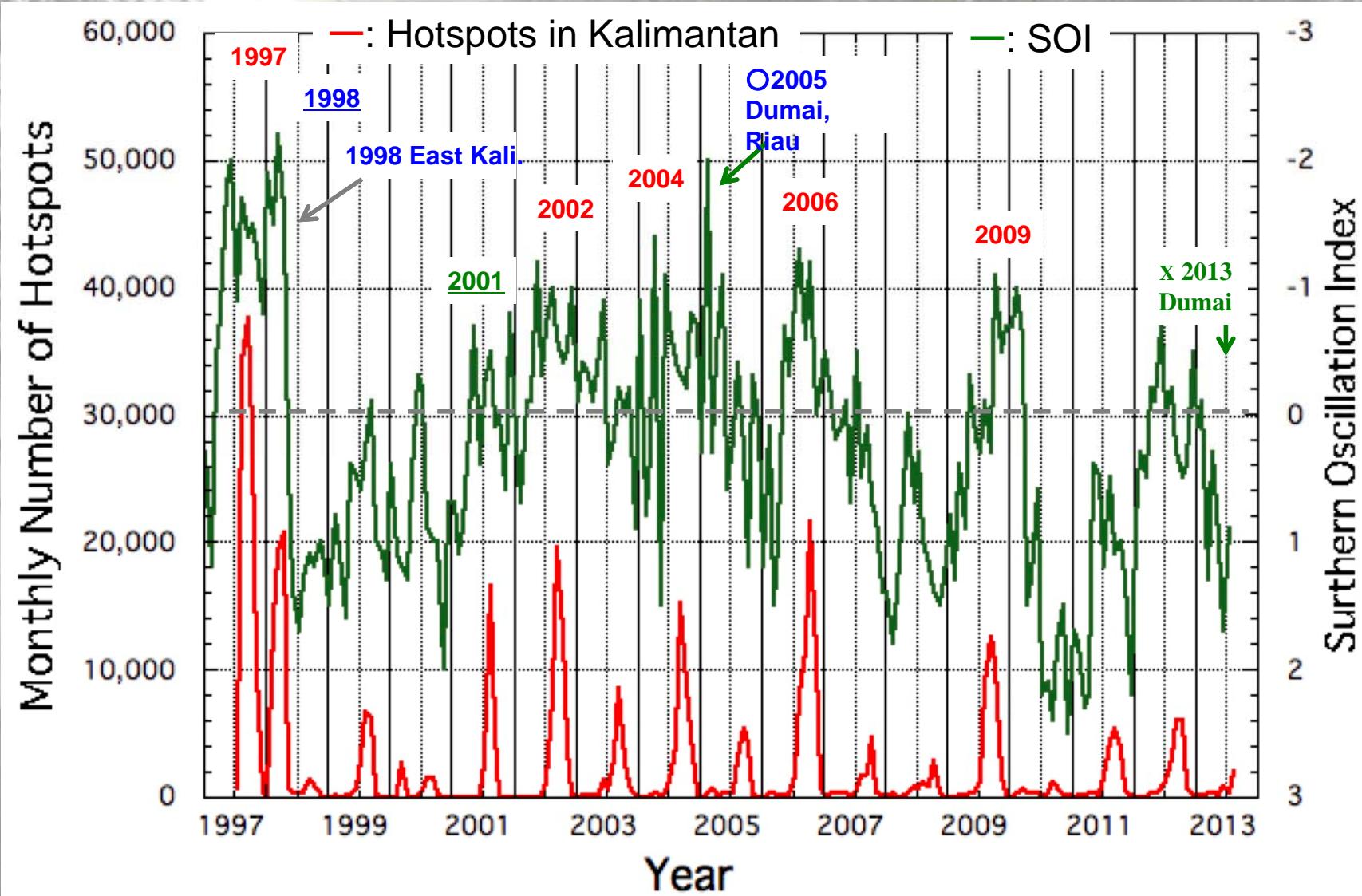
# Fire Occurrence and El Nino

## (SST Anomalies : Nino 3.4)



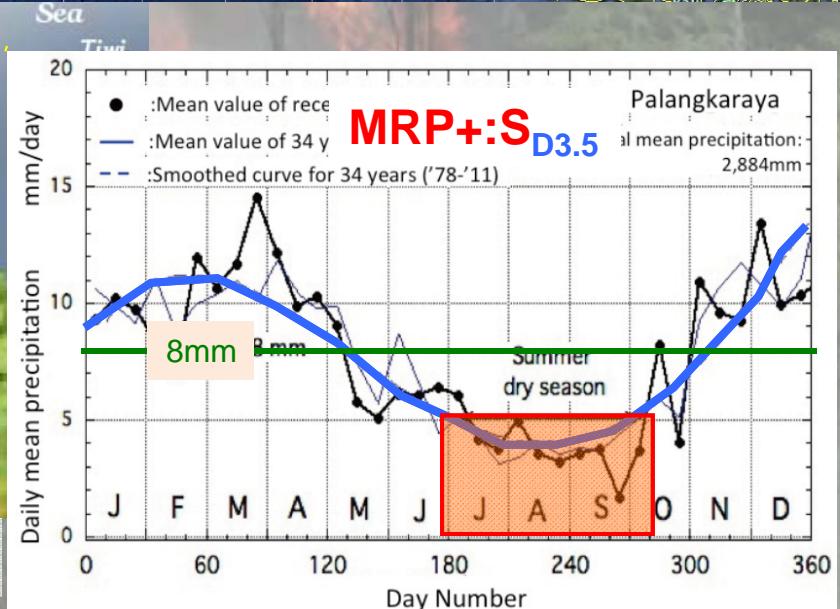
# Fire Occurrence and SOI

SOI (Southern Oscillation Index: Sea Level Pressure )

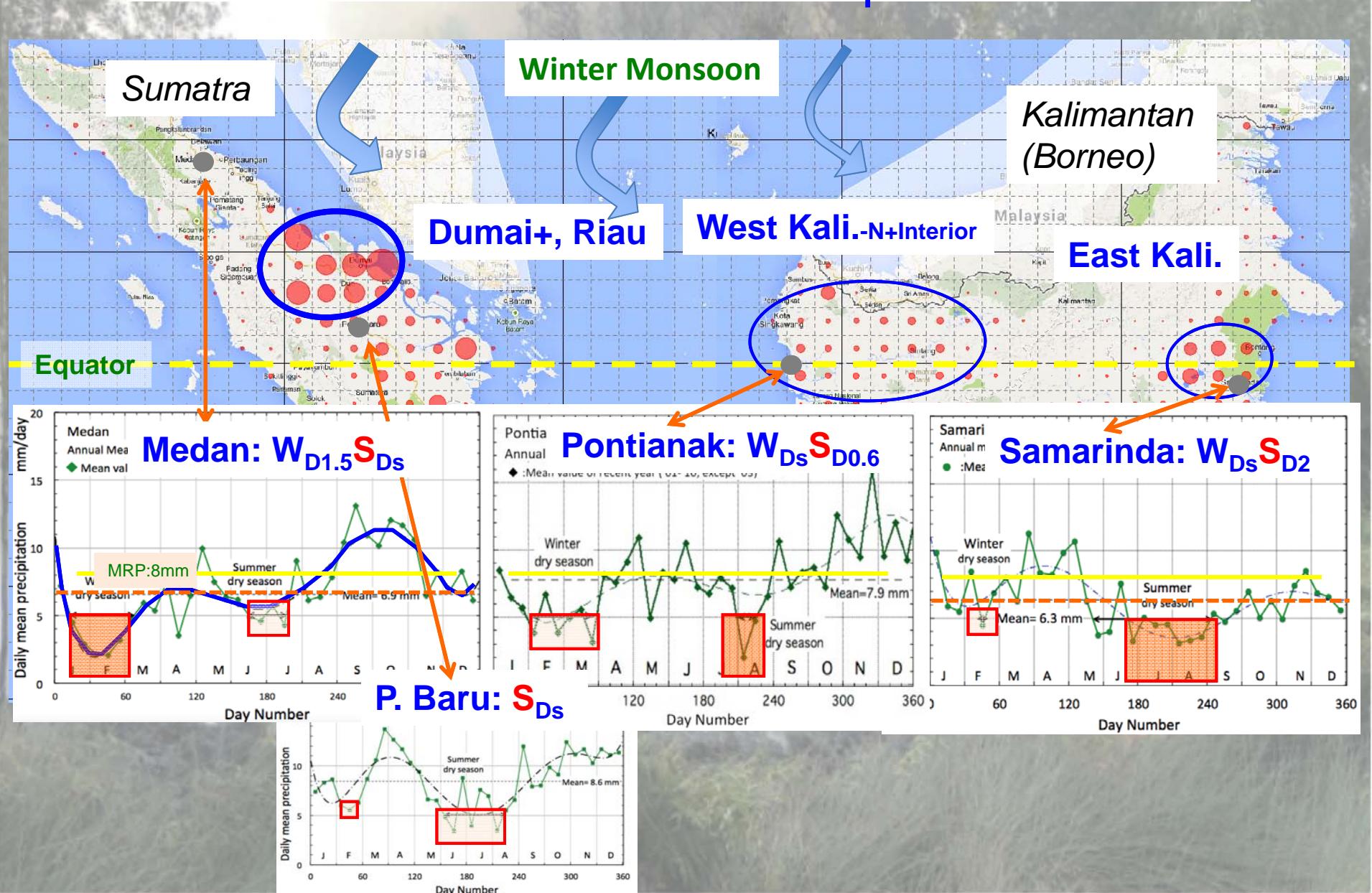


# Monsoon, ITCZ, Precipitation Pattern

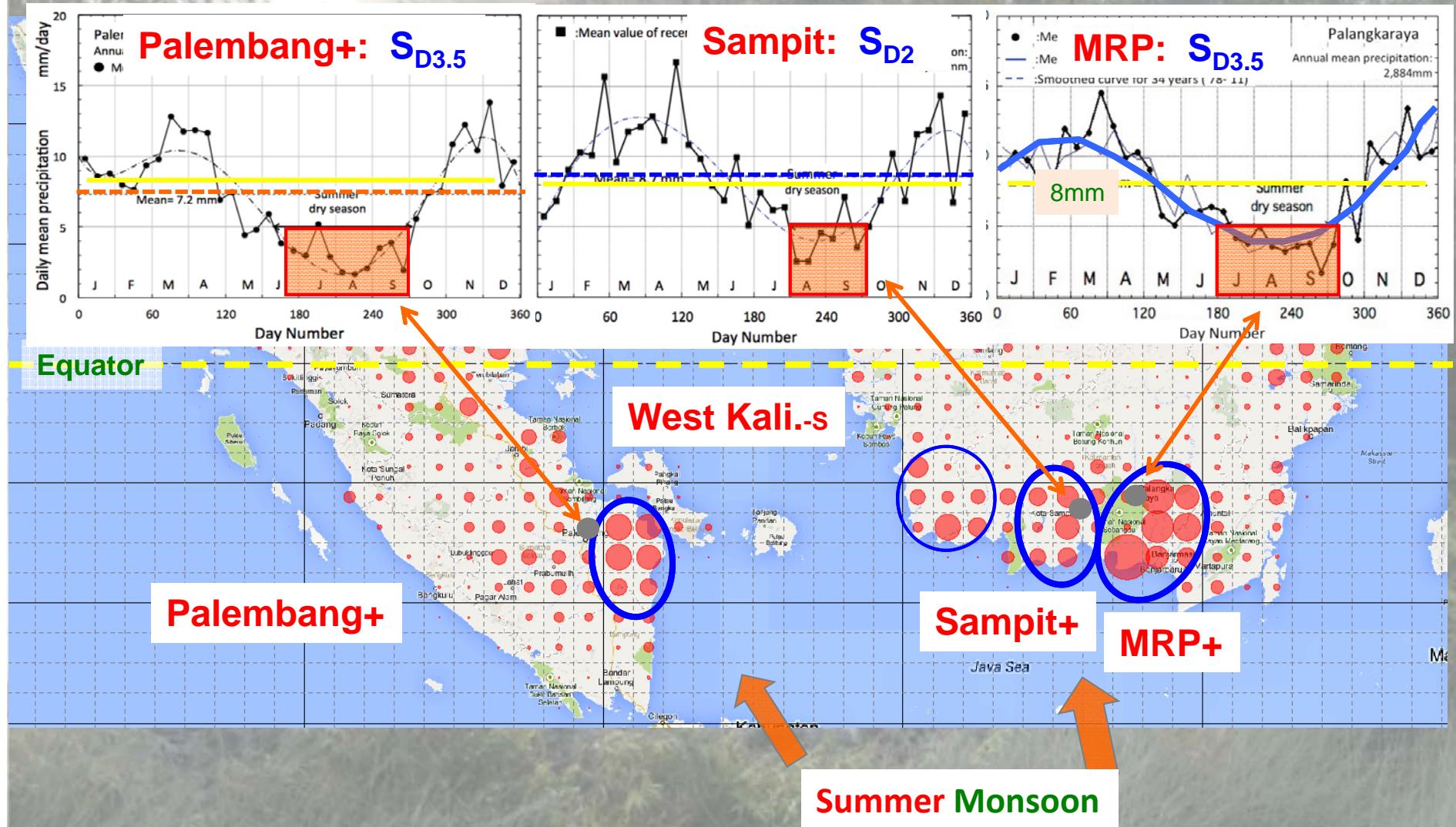
**S<sub>D1</sub>W<sub>D2</sub>** (S: Summer fire, W: Winter fire, D: Dry season, 1,2: Month)



# Winter Fire Areas in the Northern Hemisphere

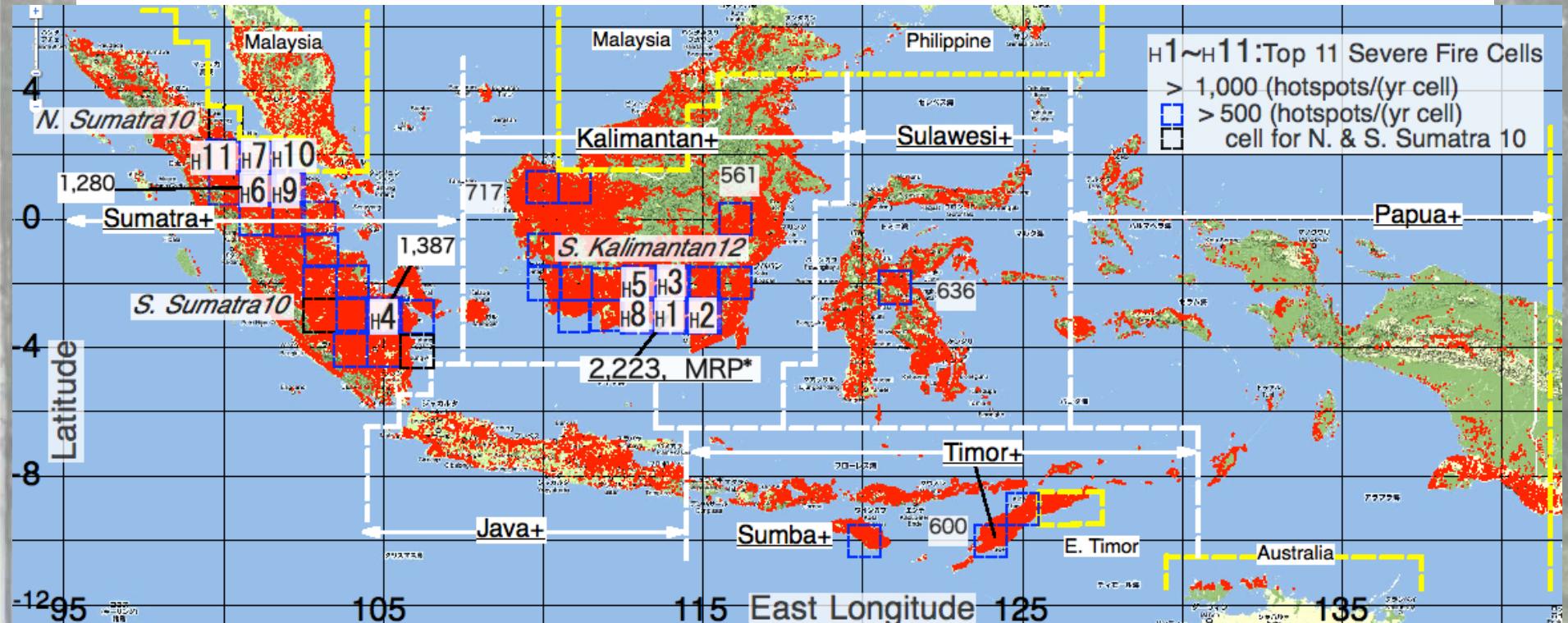


# Summer Fire Areas in the Southern Hemisphere



Result : Hotspot Distribution (1 x 1 Deg. Grid)

# High Hotspot Areas in Indonesia Recent Ten Years (2002-2011)



## 6 regions:

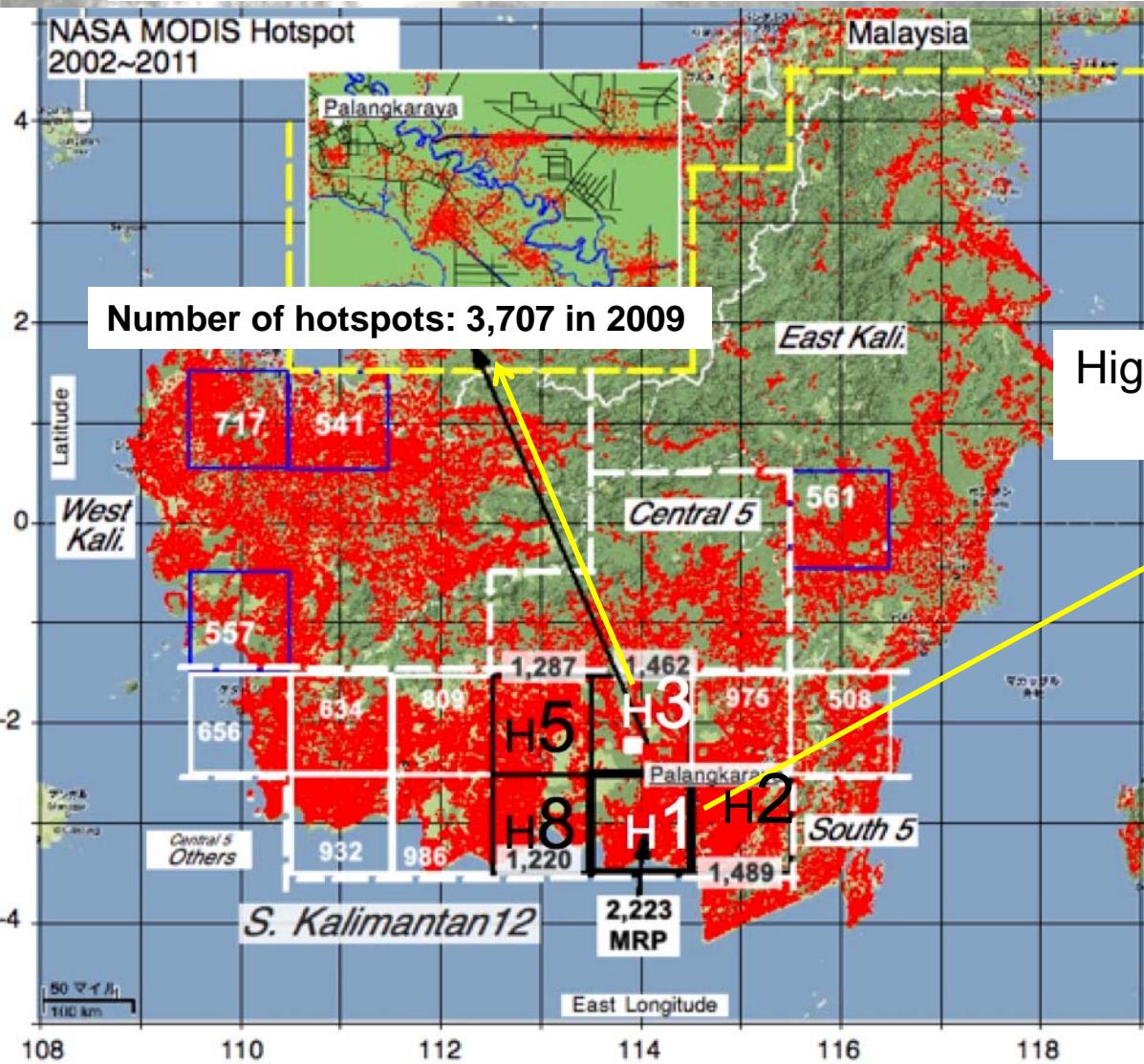
Sumatra+, Kalimantan+  
Java+, Sumba+ & Timor+  
Sulawesi+, Papua+



Highest number of hotspots: 2,223/yr.  
Hotspot density: 0.182 fires/(km<sup>2</sup>·yr.)  
Grid center: S -3, E 114

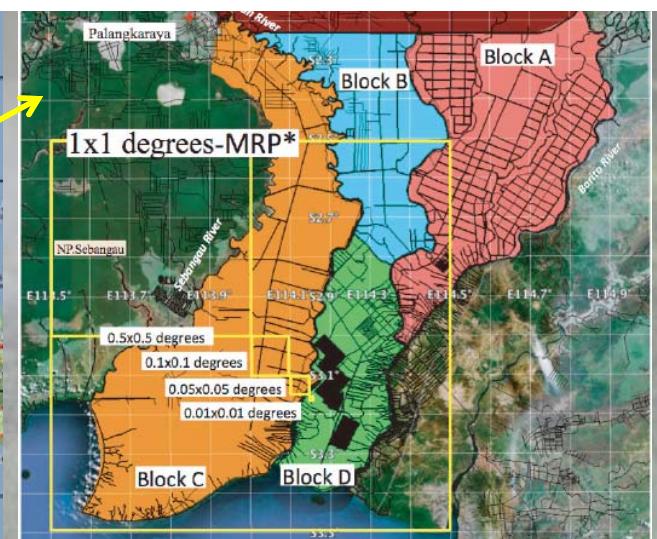
Result : Hotspot Distribution in Kalimantan (1 x 1 Deg. Grid)

# Hotspot Distribution and 5 Highest Hotspot Areas in Kalimantan



## 5 regions:

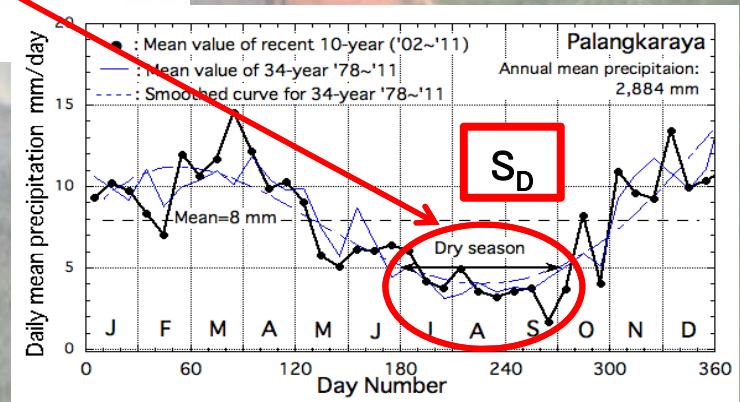
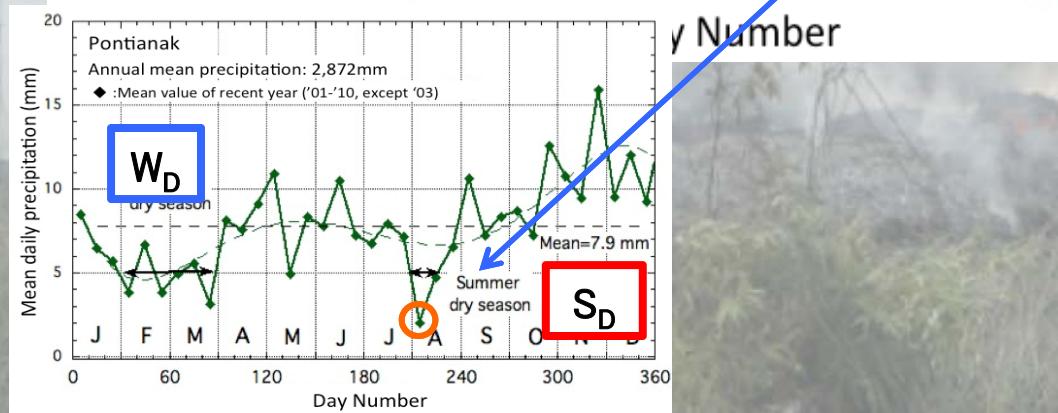
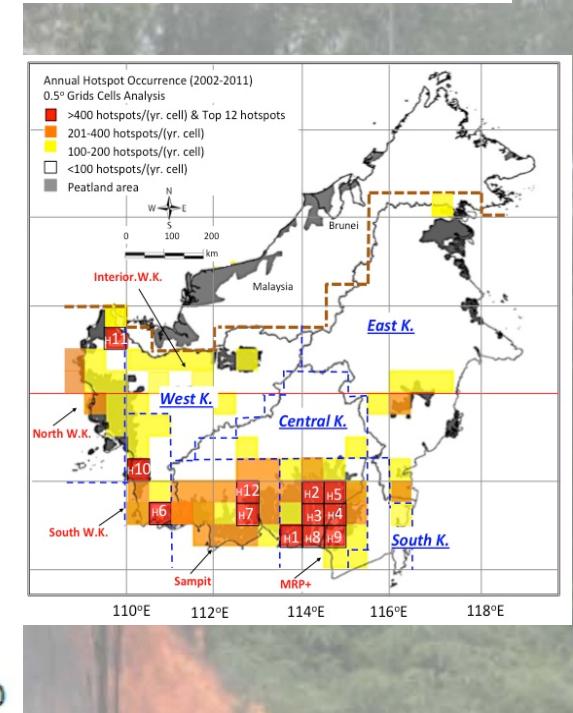
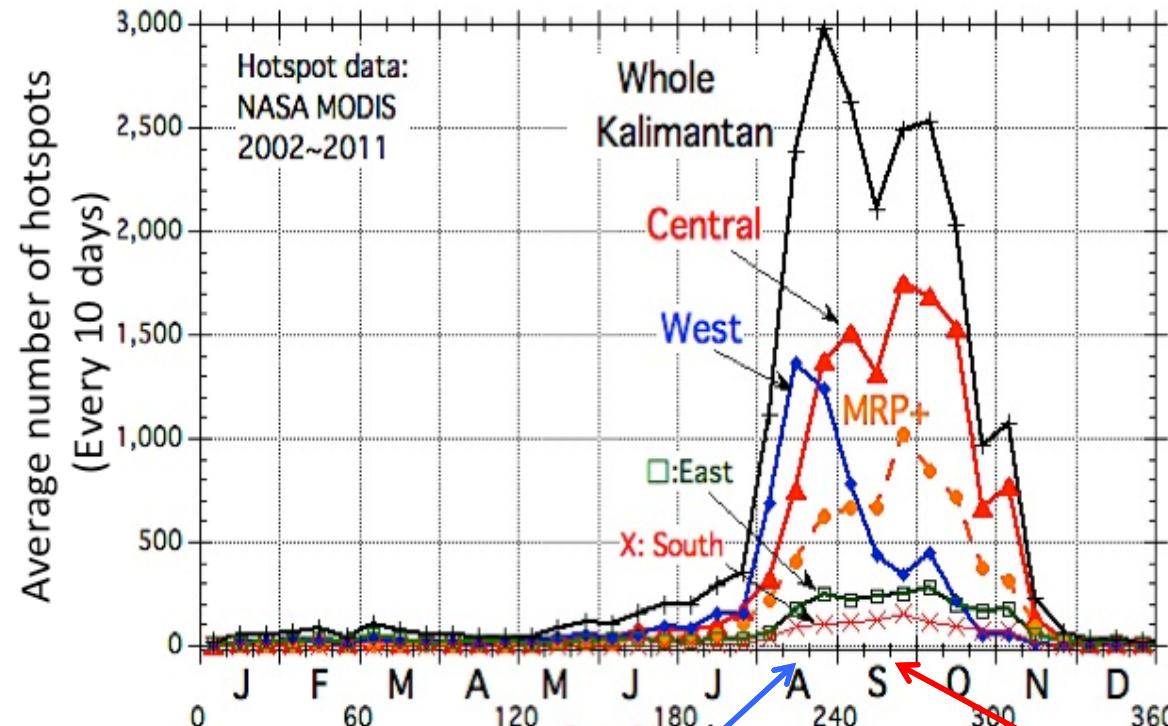
S. Kalimantan12  
West & East Kali.  
Central 5  
South 5



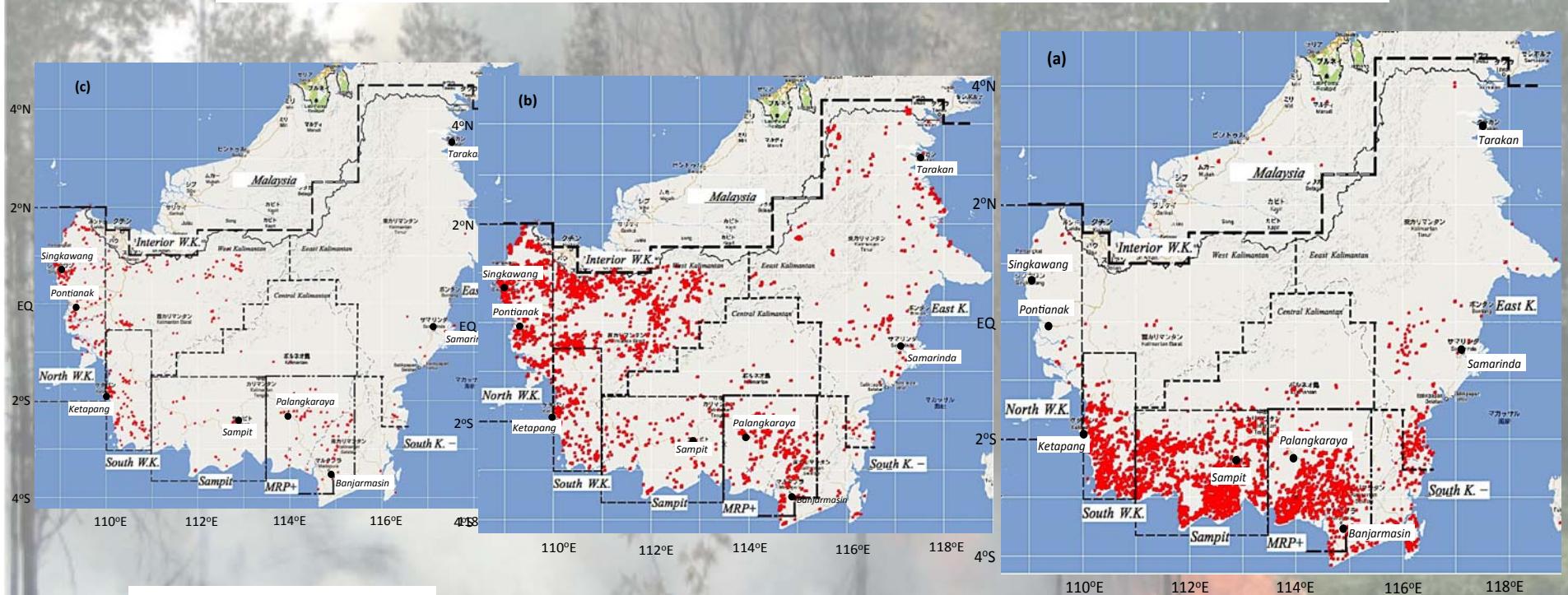
H1: Highest Hotspot Density Area

Result : Fire Season in Kalimantan (0.5 x 0.5 Deg. Grid, 10-day Analysis)

# Average Seasonal (Every-10 day) Fire Occurrence in Kalimantan



# Fire Starts from North W.K.



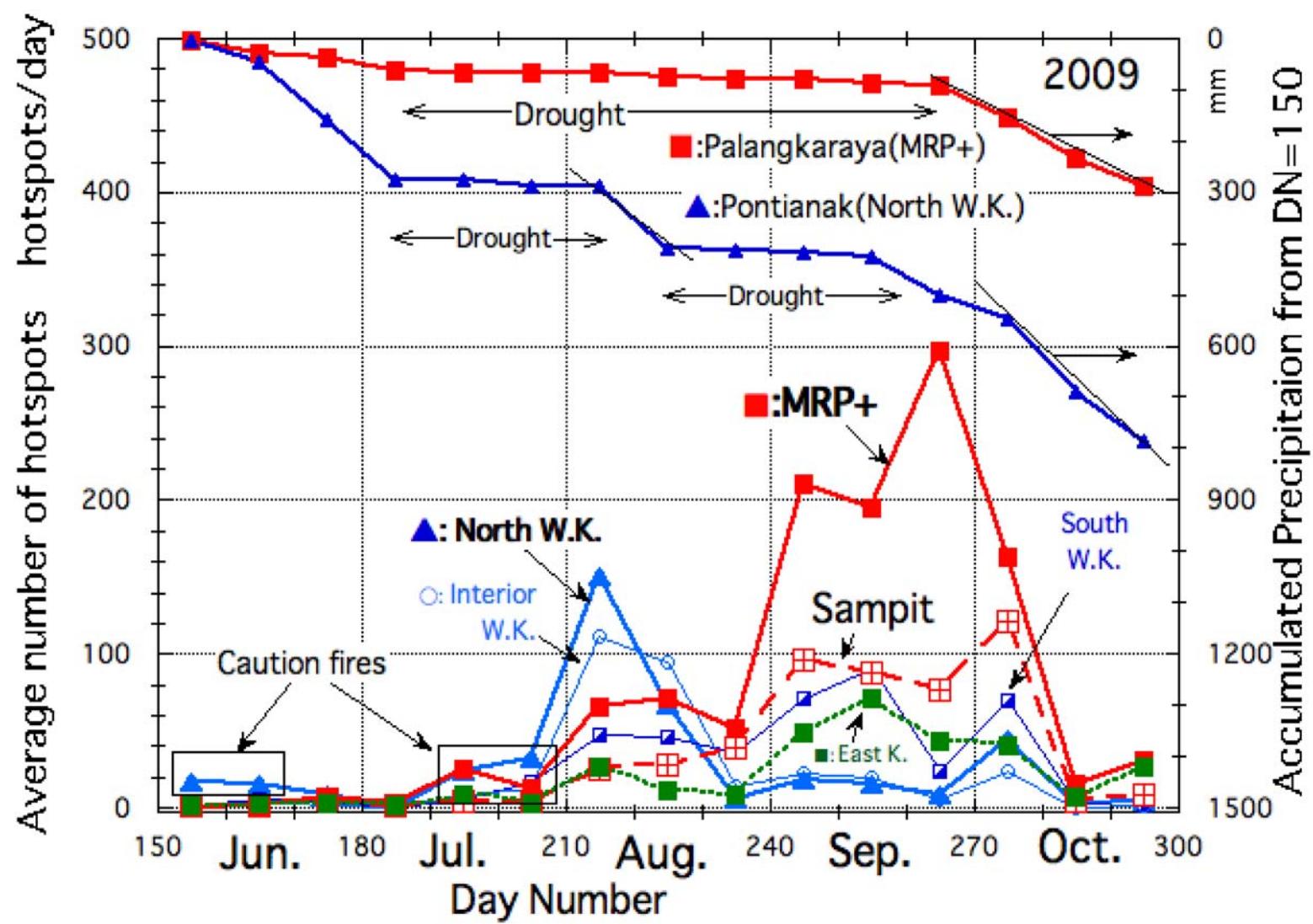
Pre-dry season  
(warning) fire  
distribution  
in late July  
(2009)

West Kalimantan  
fire distribution  
in early August  
(2009)

Severe fire distribution  
in mid October (2006)

**Kalimantan fire belt** located in the  
southern coastal peatlands from West to  
Central Kalimantan

# 2009 Seasonal (Every-10 day) Fire Occurrence in Kalimantan



# Effective Firebreak– Ditch & Clear-Cut Saved Dr. Aswin's Camp



Fire line with a deep ditch

## 2009 Severe Surface Fires

Strong surface fire occurred due to Pyrophyte vegetation?

Purun, Hawuk, Karakai, Gakugan, Tsumi, Fern and etc.



Deep ditch was proven effective for fire.

Deep and wide!



# Conclusions

MODIS hotspot data of recent years showed recent most fire prone areas in Indonesia and their relation with weather conditions (dry seasons).

1. Two areas in both Kalimantan and Sumatra.
2. They were: MRP and Sampit area in Central Kalimantan, Dumai, Riau area in N. Sumatra, and Palembang area in S. Sumatra
3. Worst place was MRP area due to dried peat made during its longer summer dry season ( $S_{D3}$ ).
4. SOI is useful index to forecast sever dry season under El Nino conditions.
5. Precaution or warning fires in West Kalimantan should be used smartly to reduce fires or haze in MRP area of Central Kalimantan.