Overview of recent climate over South Korea

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2015 Summer Climate



2015 Changma Characteristics



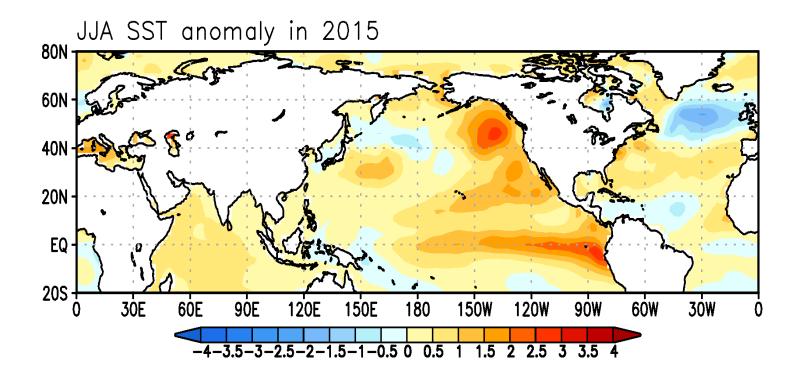
Cold Surge in Dec 2014



Its Potential Factors



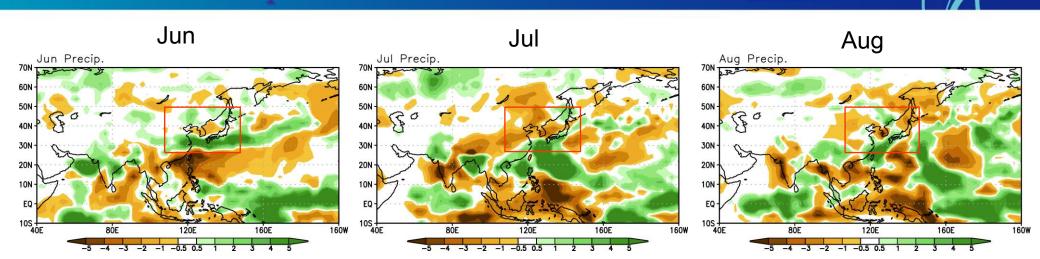
JJA SST anomalies in 2015



- → ElNino ~ positive SST anomalies in the central-equatorial Pacific
- Warmer SST anomalies in the entire Indian Ocean
- Tripolar SST anomalies in the North Atlantic Ocean ~ +NAO



J-J-A Precipitation in 2015

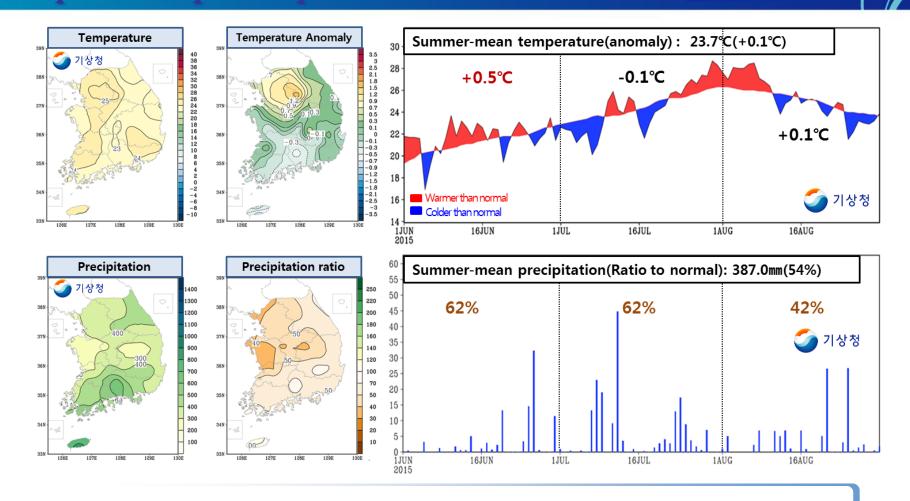


In the EA,

- Jun: tripolar rainfall pattern, strong Mei-yu band
- Jul: dipole rainfall pattern with dry area over the northern China/Korea and wet area over the western North Pacific
- Aug: dry rainfall centered on Korea peninsula



Temp. and precip. over South Korea



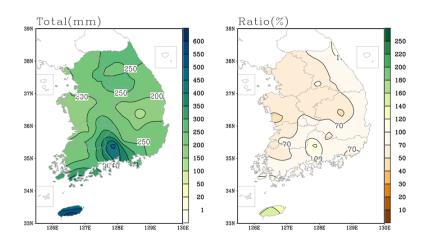
- Large intra-seasonal variability of temperature during summer
- Severe heat wave and tropical night during late June ~ early August



Below normal rainfall during all three months of summer

2015 Changma Characteristics





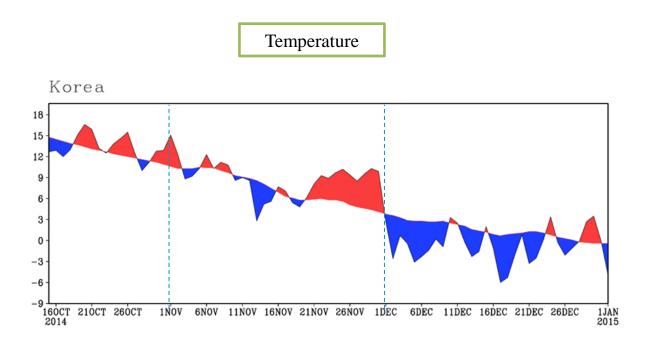
- Thangma onset and retreat dates are similar to normal.
- Precipitation during Changma period is below normal.

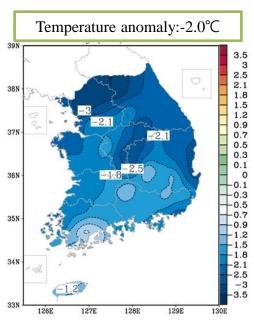
< Precipitation(mm) and its ratio to normal(%)
during Changma period(6.24~7.29) >

< Rainy days and precipitation for Changma period in 2015, 2014, normal year >

	2015		2014		Normal (1981-2010)	
	Rainy days	Precipitation(Rainy days	Precipitation(mm)	Rainy days	Precipitation(
Central	18.5	220.9	12.9	145.4	17.2	366.4
Southern	16.7	254.1	15.7	145.9	17.1	348.6
Jeju	13.5	518.8	21.0	441.5	18.3	398.6
' 상 korea	17.5	240.1	14.8	158.2	17.1	356.1

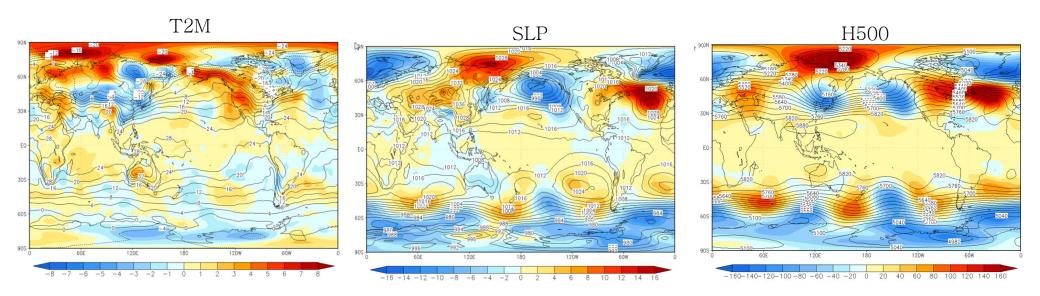
Temperature over South Korea in Dec 2014

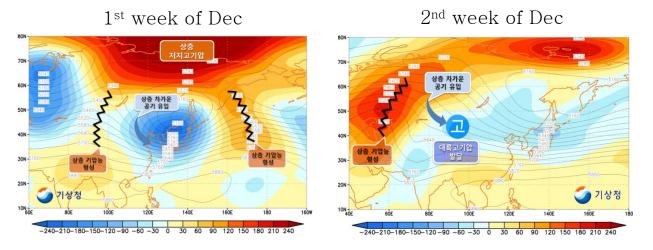






Circulation in Dec 2014

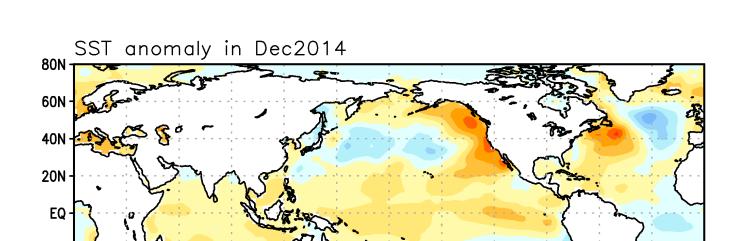






< Geopotential height anomalies at 500hPa in (left) Dec 1~7 and (right) Dec 8~16 >

Potential factor (1) - SST



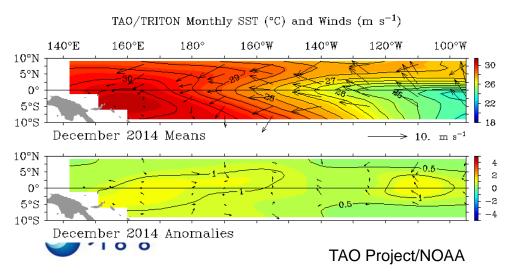
180

-3.5-3-2.5-2-1.5-1-0.5 0 0.5 1 1.5 2 2.5 3 3.5

150W

120W

90W



30E

6ÔE

90E

120E

150E

205

No SST gradient between tropical western and central-eastern Pacific

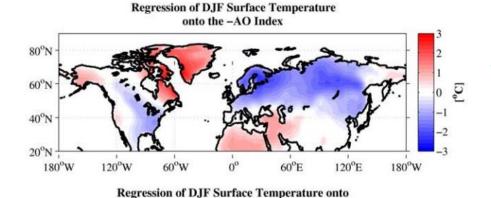
60W

30W

- Very weak westerly wind burst over the tropical western Pacific
- No air-sea coupling between atmosphere and ocean

Potential factor (2) - Snow cover





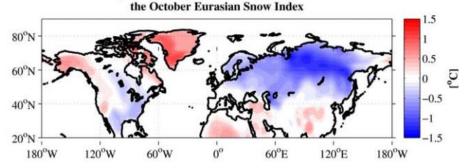


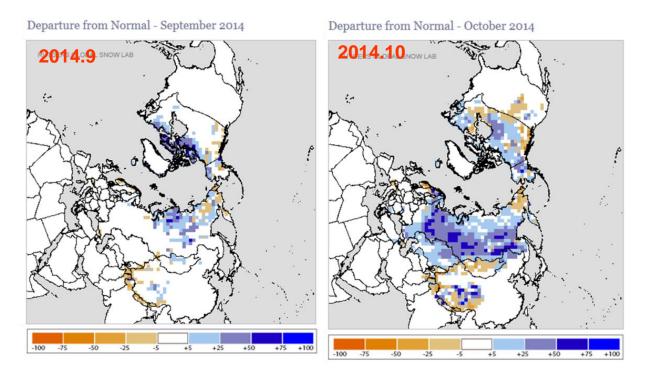
Fig. 1 a) Regression of DJF land surface temperatures from NCEP/NCAR reanalysis onto the standardized inverted DJF AO index (top). b) As in a) but for regression onto the standardized October Eurasian snow cover index (bottom). Units are in °C.

- Eurasian October snow cover anomalies correlated with DJF-mean surface temperature anomalies
 - ~ AO pattern of variability
- October is the month snow cover makes its greatest advance, mostly across Siberia.
- Above normal of snow cover
 - → a strengthened Siberian high and colder surface temperature across Northern Eurasia in the fall
 - → a positive wave activity flux anomaly in the late fall and early winter → stratospheric warming and tropospheric negative AO in January



Snow cover in Fall 2014



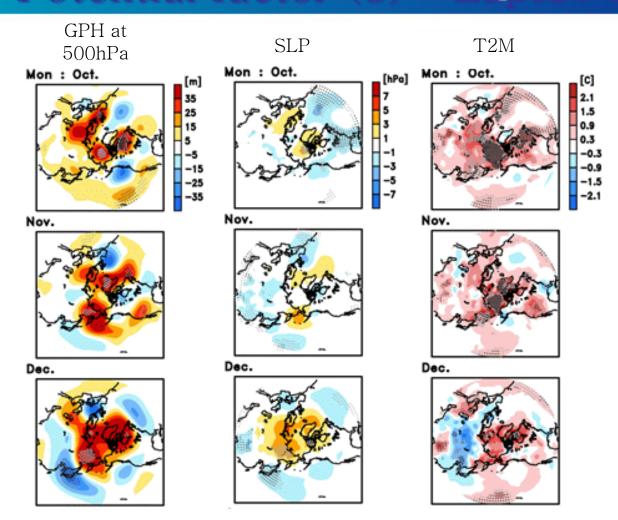


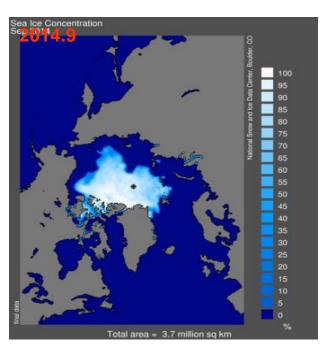
From Rutgers University-Global Snow Lab

- Snow arrived early over the NH continents in Fall 2014.
- NH rankings were 3rd most extensive in September and October since 1967.
- Eurasia ranking 2nd greatest in October



Potential factor (3) - Laptev Sea Ice





The composite maps of 500hPa-geopotential height, SLP, and T2M anomalies When normalized time series of Sep-Oct mean sea ice concentration anomalies 71% everaged over Laptev Sea is less than 0.75*sigma.

(year: 1995, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2009, 2011, 2012, 2014)

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Changma onset and retreat



How to define Changma onset?

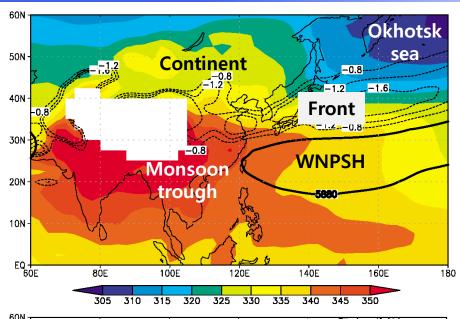
- θ_e 355K line averaged over 122.5~135E > 32.5N and 3-day lasting
- 5850 gpm line averaged over 122.5~135E > 32.5N and 3-day lasting
- Minimum value(meridional gradient of θ_e) > 32.5N and 3-day lasting

How to define Changma retreat?

- Minimum value(meridional gradient of θ_e) > 42.5N and 2-day lasting
- Maximum value(meridional gradient of U200) > 42.5N and 2-day lasting

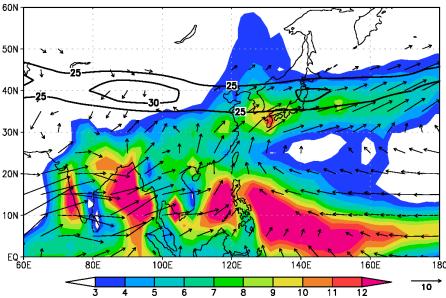


General characteristics during the Changma period



- EPT (color)
- Meridional gradient of EPT(dashed line)
- 5880 gpm (thick black line)

The climatological locations of front and air masses can be determined by EPT and its gradient.



- Precipitation (color)
- 200-hPa zonal wind (thick line)
- 850-hPa wind (vector)

Low level moisture flux and upper level Jet are important factors for Changma.