



# Journal of Environmental Science and Technology

ISSN 1994-7887

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## Research Article

# Triangle Graphs Development for Estimating Methane and Nitrous Oxide Gases Emission from the System of Rice Intensification (SRI)

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## Abstract

**Background and Objective:** SRI paddy field occasionally experiences aerobic soil conditions that emit complicated greenhouse gases due to biophysical processes. Understanding these emission patterns, as well as the amount, is important to determine the proper mitigation action to take. This study was carried out to produce a simple method to estimate CH<sub>4</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>O using easily measure environmental parameters that might be used to simulate the mitigation of non-CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. **Materials and Methods:** Two Artificial Neural Network (ANN) models were developed to estimate methane (CH<sub>4</sub>) and nitrous oxide (N<sub>2</sub>O) fluxes based on three selected variables. Based on the models, patterns of CH<sub>4</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>O emissions in SRI paddy fields were presented in the form of a triangle graph that can be used to estimate emissions from the easily measured soil pH, soil moisture and air temperature. A sensitivity test (Spearman's correlation test) was used to statistically analyze data. **Results:** ANN models were developed to estimate emission fluxes based on three selected variables of soil pH, soil moisture and air temperature that could produce R<sup>2</sup> 0.96 and 0.82 for CH<sub>4</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>O, respectively. CH<sub>4</sub> emission in the SRI paddy field increased with air temperature but decreased when soil moisture decreased, while N<sub>2</sub>O emissions were mostly stable at all times regardless of changes in soil moisture and air temperature. In general, a higher soil pH produced higher CH<sub>4</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>O emissions. The triangle graph shows that in SRI paddy field with soil pH, soil moisture and air temperature range 4.30-5.30, 0.354-0.524 m<sup>3</sup> m<sup>-3</sup>, 29.0-32.5°C, respectively; it could be a sink or emission of methane until more than 45 mg m<sup>-2</sup> day<sup>-1</sup> and be able to emit nitrous oxide to more than 6 µg m<sup>-2</sup> day<sup>-1</sup>. **Conclusion:** SRI paddy field can be emission source of CH<sub>4</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>O. The graphs can be used to identify mitigation action that can be implemented to lower emissions by showing the set-point value of soil moisture. For example, in an air temperature of 29.4°C and soil pH condition of 4.8, to minimize the emission of CH<sub>4</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>O, the soil moisture should be less than 0.418 m<sup>3</sup> m<sup>-3</sup>.

**Key words:** Artificial neural network, emission estimation graphs, mitigation, soil moisture, system of rice intensification

**Received:** February 09, 2017

**Accepted:** April 24, 2017

**Published:** June 15, 2017

**Citation:** Nur Aini Iswati Hasanah, Budi Indra Setiawan, Masaru Mizoguchi, Gary Robert Sands, Chusnul Arif and Slamet Widodo, 2017. Triangle graphs development for estimating methane and nitrous oxide gases emission from the System of Rice Intensification (SRI). J. Environ. Sci. Technol., 10: 206-214.

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**Competing Interest:** The authors have declared that no competing interest exists.

**Data Availability:** All relevant data are within the paper and its supporting information files.

## INTRODUCTION

The System of Rice Intensification, or SRI, is a set of alternative agricultural practices to increase rice production by changing the management of plants, soil, water and nutrients. In water management, SRI recommends intermittent irrigation (as opposed to permanent flooding in a conventionally managed production system). This process is carried out to improve soil aeration and root development and activity<sup>1</sup>. The drying period creates aerobic conditions that have the potential to reduce emissions of CH<sub>4</sub>, which is a potent, non-CO<sub>2</sub> greenhouse gas. While the emission rate is much lower than CO<sub>2</sub>, it has more effect per molecule in a period of 100 years (23 times eq-CO<sub>2</sub>). However, this benefit may be offset by increased nitrous oxide (N<sub>2</sub>O) emission, which has a much higher effect than CH<sub>4</sub> with 296 times eq-CO<sub>2</sub><sup>2</sup>.

CH<sub>4</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>O are byproducts of microbial survival, which are characterized by a transfer of electrons in the redox reaction<sup>3</sup>. Its emission from a paddy field depends on the source and sink process that is related to soil Eh, which is a major factor controlling the redox processes and showing the aerobic-anaerobic condition of soil. Some studies report that the amount of non-CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from SRI paddy fields are less than half as much in conventional rice production<sup>4</sup>. The average emission of CH<sub>4</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>O of SRI paddy cultivation in Indonesia is 2.22 ton ha<sup>-1</sup><sup>5</sup>. The contribution of CH<sub>4</sub> to Global Warming Potential (GWP) is very significant, exceeding 87% compared to a 3% contribution from N<sub>2</sub>O<sup>6</sup>. The peak of the emissions of CH<sub>4</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>O depend on many environmental factors, such as air temperature, soil moisture, soil temperature, EC, soil pH and soil Eh due to their influence on gas production and consumption.

Biogenic CH<sub>4</sub> is formed by methanogens under strictly anaerobic conditions where soil Eh <150 mV. In a paddy field under aerobic soil condition where the soil pores are not completely filled with water, CH<sub>4</sub> is produced likely in saturated soil zones and escapes from the soil to the atmosphere by means of the diffusion process through aerated microsities<sup>7</sup>. Meanwhile, N<sub>2</sub>O is a byproduct from two biological processes, namely nitrification and denitrification. In aerobic soil conditions in which O<sub>2</sub> concentration is relatively high, nitrification is the main mechanism to produce N<sub>2</sub>O. Mostly, N<sub>2</sub>O is produced through nitrate reduction when the soil moisture moderately reduces, or when the nitrate diffuses into a zone that is less oxidized<sup>8</sup>. N<sub>2</sub>O emission begins from light textured soils when Eh >400 mV but <400 mV for heavily textured soils<sup>9</sup>.

CH<sub>4</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>O emissions from SRI paddy fields under aerobic condition are indeed very dynamic and

simultaneous processes that are difficult to control, like for the sake of mitigation strategies. However, since these processes involve environmental parameters that are easy to measure, it would be possible to find out what the parameters are that play a significant role in the production of emission. This research aimed to examine environmental parameters that contribute to the release of CH<sub>4</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>O emission in paddy fields under aerobic conditions with these objectives: (1) To find such parameters and their sensitivities, (2) To come up with CH<sub>4</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>O emission patterns based on the parameters; and (3) To produce a simple method to estimate both emissions that might be used to simulate the mitigation of non-CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

**Experimental site and data collection:** Field experiments were conducted in an experimental site belonging to Bogor Agricultural University, Bogor Regency, West Java Province of Indonesia, located at S 6°33' 48.78"; E 106°43'38.09" with an elevation of 183.4 m above sea level. At this location, there are some plots of paddy fields mainly used for field practices and outdoor experiments. Based on Schmidt-Ferguson Climate Classification<sup>10</sup>, this location belongs to A rainfall type (very wet) with the average annual and monthly rainfall being 4046 and 329.7 mm, respectively. In general, the rainy season occurs from September to February. This experiment was conducted between March 10 and June 20, 2015 within one cultivation period using the SRI method (one young seedling of Ciherang variety with 30 × 30 cm space).

This study used a modeled SRI paddy field in the form of a box made mainly from wood, Fig. 1. This was primarily used to obtain the SRI method. The modeled field was constructed in such a way that the water level could be easily controlled. The box consists of cultivation space having 90 cm length, 60 cm width and 50 cm depth, along with circumference canal that having a water inlet and outlet equipped with solenoid valves and e-Tape water level sensor (Milone Technologies, USA) installed in the canal. A micro-controller was used to detect the water level and subsequently issue commands to each solenoid valve whether to open or close in order to maintain the desired water level in the canal.

In this research, the irrigation water that was used for cultivation, stored in surface irrigation-drainage channel than pass porous media. The porous media has a different conductivity with soil so that water can pass through this media. Water table control is water management that is implemented in this SRI paddy field. The purpose of the system is to control soil moisture in the range that is suitable

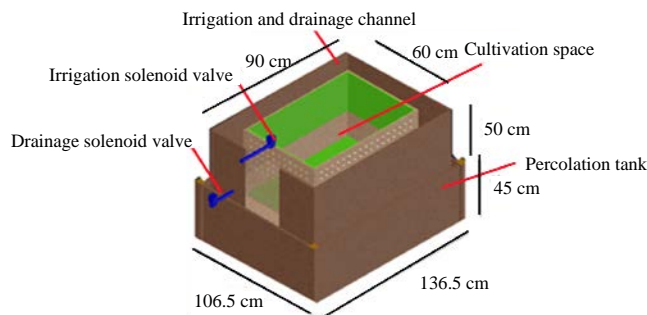


Fig. 1: Experimental box for paddy cultivation

for plant growth to get a high yield. The water table is then controlled according to the desired set point (0 and +2 cm from soil surface during normal and flooding time, respectively).

A weather monitoring station was installed on-site. Air temperature was measured every 30 min by EHT sensors (Decagon Devices, Inc., USA). Soil moisture, soil temperature and EC were measured using 5-TE sensor (Decagon Devices, Inc., USA) that was placed 5 cm under the soil surface every 30 min. Meanwhile, soil pH (pH 3310 SET 2 incl. SenTix®41, Germany) and soil Eh (WTW SenTix, Germany) were measured every week when gas sampling was conducted.

CH<sub>4</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>O fluxes were analyzed in the laboratory using two gas samples that were captured each week. The static (closed) chamber method was used for gas sampling. This method is normally used extensively in various ecosystems including paddy fields because of its low cost and simple application.

Gas samples were collected at 0, 10, 20 and 30 min after the chamber top placement and 15 mL of the sample was injected into a gas bottle sample. The CH<sub>4</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>O concentrations of the samples were measured by a Gas Chromatograph (GC). The gas flux was calculated to see the fluctuation of CH<sub>4</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>O concentration, using Eq. 1<sup>11</sup>:

$$E = \frac{\delta C}{\delta t} \times h_{ch} \times \frac{mW}{mV} \times \frac{273.2}{273.2 + T} \quad (1)$$

Where:

- E = CH<sub>4</sub> or N<sub>2</sub>O flux (mg m<sup>-2</sup> min<sup>-1</sup>)
- δC = The difference concentration between t<sub>0</sub> and t<sub>c</sub> (ppm)
- δt = The time interval (minutes)
- h<sub>ch</sub> = Height of the chamber (m),
- mW = Molecular weight (g)
- mV = Mole volume (22.41 L)
- T = Sampling temperature (°C)

The physical properties of textures, porosity, densities, permeability, as well as water retention, were obtained

through laboratory analysis. The soil texture is silty clay loam (8% sand, 62% silt and 30% clay) with bulk density 0.90 g cc<sup>-1</sup> and particle density 2.35 g cc<sup>-1</sup>. Soil moistures at Field Capacity (FC) and Permanent Wilting Point (PWP) were 45.1 and 27.7%, respectively. The Water Retention Curve (WRC) conformed to the Van Genuchten model with a coefficient correlation (R<sup>2</sup>) near unity, whereas the saturated soil moisture was 59.19%, the residual water content was 20.0%, the Air-Entry Value (AEV) was 98.1 cm H<sub>2</sub>O and the n and m parameters were 1.3 and 0.2, respectively.

**Statistical analysis:** A sensitivity test (Spearman's correlation test) was used as statistical analysis to analyze data from six parameters (soil pH, soil Eh, air temperature, soil moisture, soil temperature and EC). It was conducted by using the Analyse-it add-in for Microsoft Excel Professional Plus 2013 (Microsoft, USA) to find out the most sensitive factors for CH<sub>4</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>O gases emissions from the SRI paddy field.

Spearman's correlation coefficient (r<sub>s</sub>) can satisfactorily show if there is any relationship between variables<sup>12</sup>. The best three parameters that have higher r<sub>s</sub> were used as input parameters in the estimation model.

**Emission estimation model:** Two ANN models were developed with the multi-layer network to estimate CH<sub>4</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>O gas emission, separately. Each ANN model consisted of three layers: input layer (three input nodes), hidden layer (three hidden nodes with 1 bias) and output layer (one output node). The learning method used for this ANN model is back propagation. A sigmoid function was selected as the activation.

Weekly fluctuations of input parameters and greenhouse gas emissions could be determined by plotting the average value in gas sampling time. The general relationship between each input parameter and gas emission were analyzed by making a trend line of scattered graphs. The strange trend data were ignored and not used as inputs in the estimation model.

The comparison between CH<sub>4</sub> or N<sub>2</sub>O fluxes were observed and estimated values conducted for evaluating the ANN model. The indicators for evaluation used are RMSE and coefficient of determination (R<sup>2</sup>).

**Simple method for emission calculation:** A simple method was proposed to easily calculate CH<sub>4</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>O emission in the SRI paddy field. In the proposed new method, emission graphs built using modified ternary-contour diagram in Origin 2017 (OriginLab, USA) were used. The triangle shows CH<sub>4</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>O emission contour in various environmental conditions in the form of a two-dimensional plot. Each of the three axes represents crucial environmental parameter values that are pre-determined using a sensitivity test.

The emissions data that are capable of representing variations in environmental conditions are needed to create a good contour in the CH<sub>4</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>O emission graphs. Since actual measured data were not able to represent the whole variety of environmental conditions, generated simulation data under previous ANN models were needed.

The use of the triangular emission graphs can serve to quickly represent certain phenomena, such as emitted or sink of CH<sub>4</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>O from the SRI paddy field. It was good to determine the mitigation action, by changing the value of an environmental parameter.

## RESULTS

### Sensitivity analysis of input parameter estimation models:

CH<sub>4</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>O fluxes in a paddy field are related to some biophysics parameters. Some are more sensitive than others in forming CH<sub>4</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>O. The selection of input parameter is very crucial. In the model development, input parameters' sensitivity can be related to the predicting result and model typology<sup>13</sup>.

The result of sensitivity analysis tests in several input parameters are shown in Table 1. The correlation coefficient (r<sub>s</sub>) varies. If the r<sub>s</sub> is a positive value, the CH<sub>4</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>O fluxes will tend to increase while the input parameter also increases. Inversely, if r<sub>s</sub> is a negative value, the CH<sub>4</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>O fluxes will tend to increase while the input parameter decreases.

The result shows that CH<sub>4</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>O fluxes in SRI paddy field are related to all input parameters because r<sub>s</sub> ≠ 0. The higher the r<sub>s</sub> in sensitivity analysis is, the more influential the parameter is Gajev *et al.*<sup>14</sup>. Based on the sensitivity analysis result, air temperature, soil moisture and soil pH are the most influential to CH<sub>4</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>O flux. Other parameters were less influential or uninfluential and could be neglected as input parameters of the estimation model.

Table 1: Sensitivity analysis result of input parameters in estimation model

| Parameters                                      | r <sub>s</sub>      |                     |
|-------------------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
|                                                 | CH <sub>4</sub>     | N <sub>2</sub> O    |
| Soil moisture (m <sup>3</sup> m <sup>-3</sup> ) | 0.104 <sup>3</sup>  | -0.250 <sup>1</sup> |
| Soil temperature (°C)                           | -0.046 <sup>5</sup> | 0.181 <sup>3</sup>  |
| EC (dS m <sup>-1</sup> )                        | 0.078 <sup>4</sup>  | 0.073 <sup>4</sup>  |
| Air temperature (°C)                            | 0.187 <sup>2</sup>  | 0.033 <sup>5</sup>  |
| Soil pH                                         | 0.250 <sup>1</sup>  | -0.171 <sup>2</sup> |
| Soil Eh (mV)                                    | -0.030 <sup>6</sup> | 0.052 <sup>6</sup>  |

\*r<sub>s</sub> value is the correlation coefficient, number index in r<sub>s</sub> value showed the rank of sensitivity

### ANN estimation models of methane and nitrous oxide gas

**emission:** The average daily air temperature during cultivation season at sites is 27.3 °C, while in gas sampling, it ranged from 29-33.8 °C with an average of 31.8 °C. The ripening phase and heavy precipitation had effects on soil moisture. A water table that is properly controlled in this paddy field makes soil moisture conditions suitable for crop growth, which ranged from 0.278-0.524 m<sup>3</sup> m<sup>-3</sup> in gas sampling. Meanwhile, the average soil pH in this study is 4.9 with a range value from 4.1-5.6. All of the environmental biophysical conditions resulted in fluctuations in CH<sub>4</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>O fluxes emissions. The emission and sinks of methane occur during the growing season, with maximum 422.4 sink and 590.9 mg m<sup>-2</sup> day<sup>-1</sup> emit. In the meantime, N<sub>2</sub>O sink did not occur at all with average emissions at 3.4 µg m<sup>-2</sup> day<sup>-1</sup>. Detailed weekly fluctuations of these parameters are shown in Fig. 2.

The general relationship between the air temperature, soil moisture and soil pH to the CH<sub>4</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>O flux are shown in Fig. 3. All of those relationships were non-linear relations. This result shows that the ANN model, rather than having the capability to capture the non-linearity of a system, can be a solution to making a model of CH<sub>4</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>O flux emission in a SRI paddy field.

The soil Eh data fluctuated during crop season. After it was corrected with pH, it ranged from 237.7-699.0 mV with an average of 480.5 mV. However, it never had a negative value because the Eh measurement and gas sampling were not conducted at the time of flooding; this field also uses intermittent irrigation with very short flooding time. Most of the soil data showed values of more than 300 mV, which is categorized in aerated (oxid) conditions, except in week 12 and 13. Therefore, the data in those weeks were not used as input in ANN models.

Environmental conditions in 0 week after transplantation were not yet stable (seen from the different soil moistures), which resulted in the data for that week being ignored and not used as input model. CH<sub>4</sub> flux values that were very

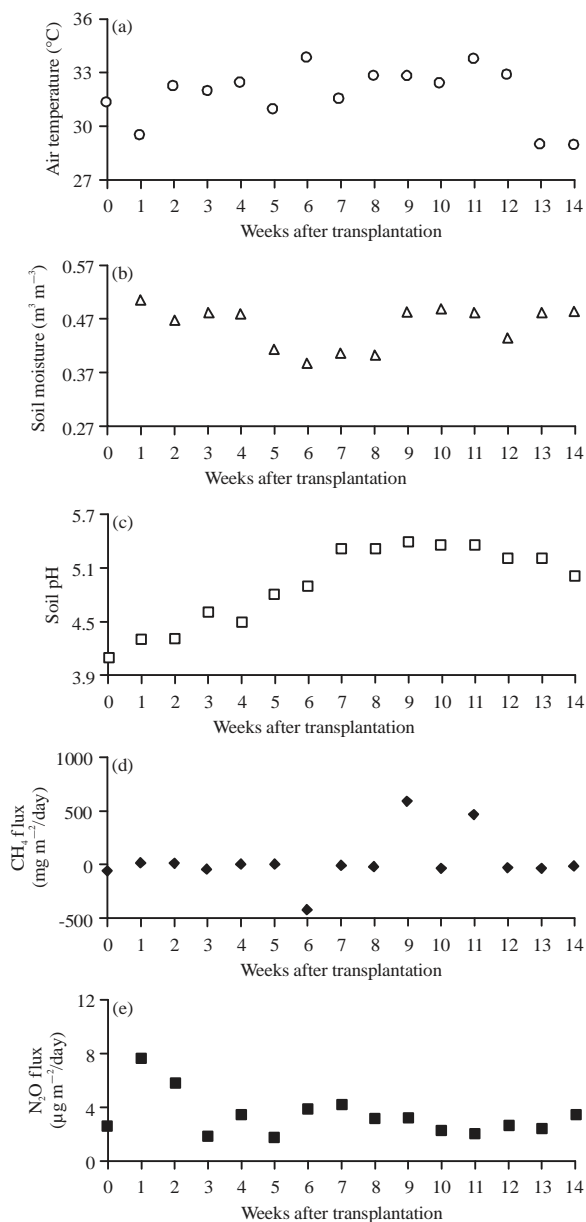


Fig. 2: Value of (a) Air temperature, (b) Soil moisture, (c) Soil pH (d) CH<sub>4</sub> and (e) N<sub>2</sub>O flux

different suddenly occurred in 6, 9 and 11 weeks after transplantation. Data from those weeks were also discharged as inputs in the CH<sub>4</sub> ANN model. The neglected data from 1 and 2 weeks after transplantation were performed at the N<sub>2</sub>O estimation ANN model due to sudden high fluctuation. Under and over measure emissions could have happened because of the effects of turbulence and pressure disturbances in the chamber and also leakages in the chamber or bottle sample, leading to contamination from ambient air and error in GC analysis which is as a result of the injection system<sup>15-17</sup>.

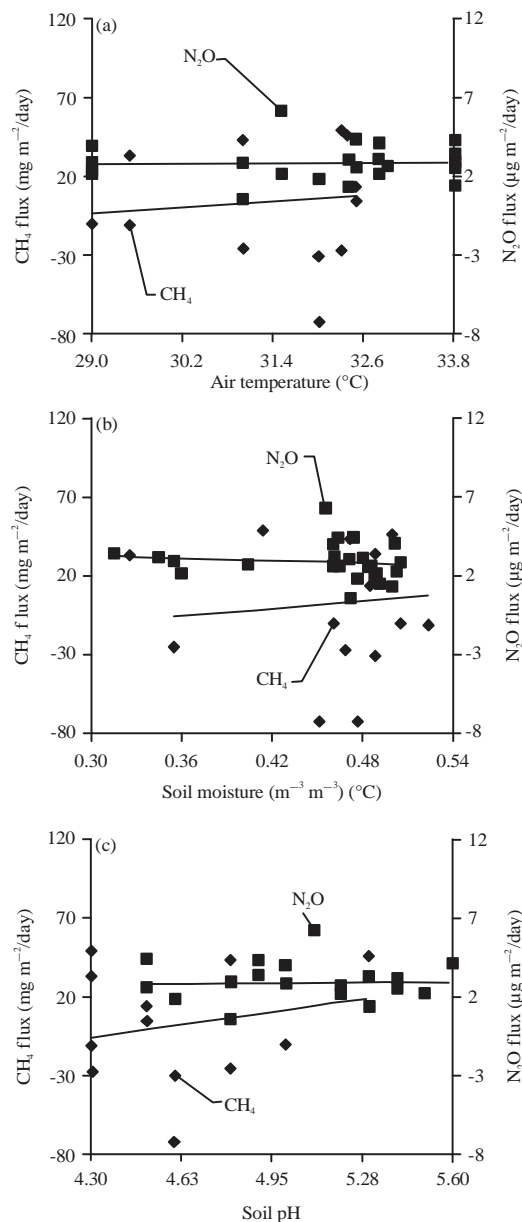


Fig. 3: Relationship between CH<sub>4</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>O flux in aerobic paddy field with (a) Air temperature (b) Soil moisture and (c) Soil pH

Two ANN models were developed for estimating CH<sub>4</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>O gas emissions from crucial environmental parameter data in SRI paddy cultivation during various conditions. The ANN models each have three input nodes (input parameters that passed a sensitivity analysis test) and one output node (CH<sub>4</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>O flux, separately). During the training process, the weight is adjusted in order to make the actual outputs (prediction) close to the target (measured data) output during the iterations to minimize the error of estimation. As a result, the RMSE values of the ANN models were 0.40 and 0.19.

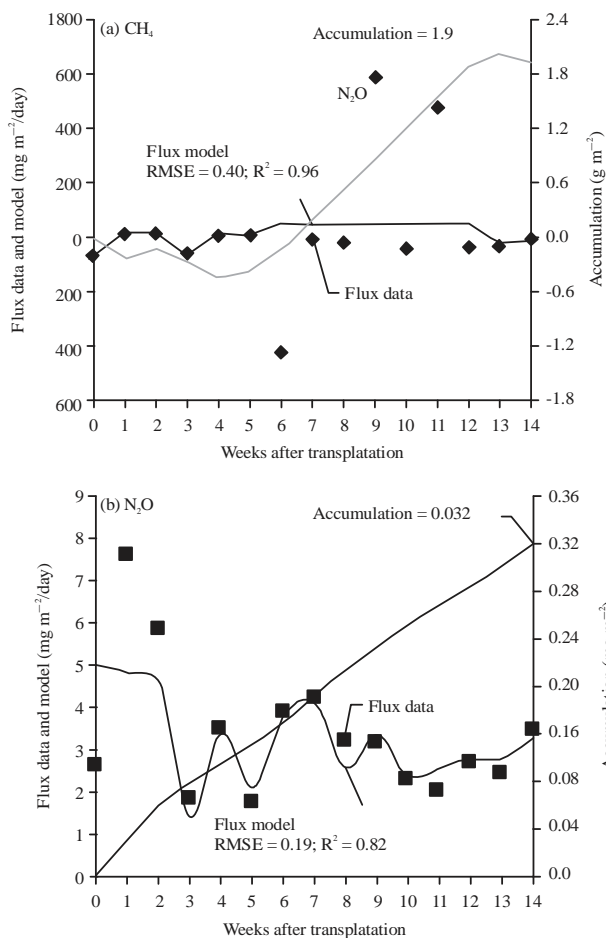


Fig. 4: ANN model and validation curve of (a) CH<sub>4</sub> and (b) N<sub>2</sub>O emission

Moreover, the coefficient determination (R<sup>2</sup>) values were 0.96 and 0.82 for CH<sub>4</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>O, respectively, as shown in Fig. 4. That result showed that this model could be accepted as a suggested method to estimate CH<sub>4</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>O fluxes in a SRI paddy field with only three parameters in the input layer.

**Quick emission estimation using develop triangle graph:**

ANN models were used in this study to simulate non-CO<sub>2</sub> greenhouse gas emissions in various environmental conditions. The generated emissions data were then used as inputs in contour mapping in the estimation graph making, as well as in the estimation graphs shown in Fig. 5.

The graphs correlate three independent input parameters to provide easy readable CH<sub>4</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>O gas emission estimation, reading instructions shown in Fig. 6. These graphs clearly show the characteristics of greenhouse gas emissions in various environmental conditions in a SRI paddy field.

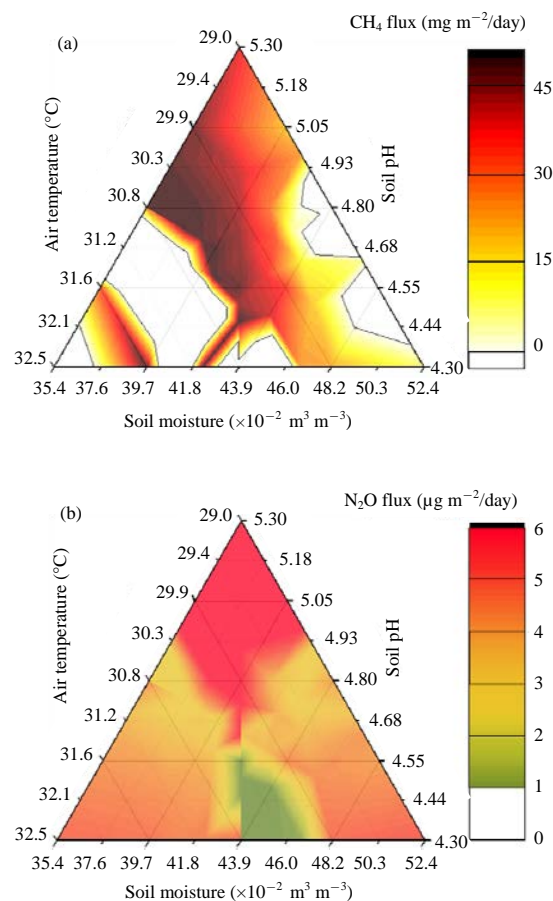


Fig. 5(a-b): Triangle estimation graph of (a) CH<sub>4</sub> and (b) N<sub>2</sub>O flux

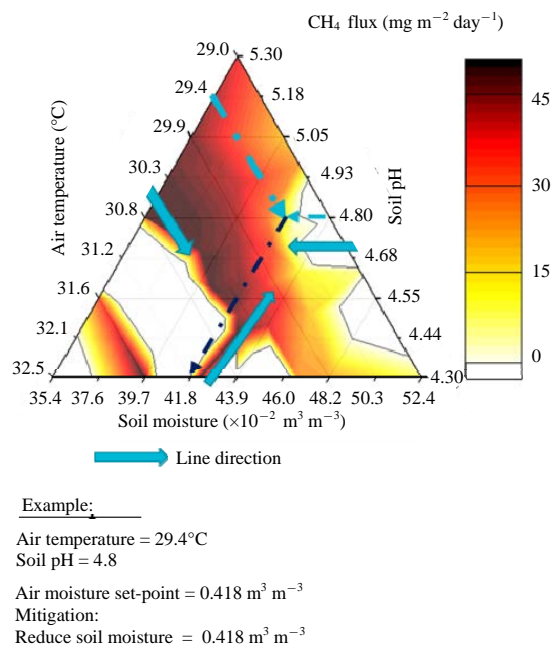


Fig. 6: Reading instruction and mitigation strategy



## DISCUSSION

Air temperature, soil moisture and soil pH are founded as the most influential to CH<sub>4</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>O flux. The findings result agree in general with most previous studies. Both of CH<sub>4</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>O fluxes tended to increase at higher air temperature<sup>18-19</sup>. In wet soil (high soil moisture), the oxygen diffusion rates are low. This condition triggers the oxidation of CH<sub>4</sub> because the availability of oxygen is the major factor limiting methanotroph, which results in higher methane emission by reason of high un-oxidized methane. Less CH<sub>4</sub> occurred in lower pH because more methanogens (that produce methane) started to appear when pH increased. Aerobic methane oxidation, MO, requires both oxygen and methane. N<sub>2</sub>O emission is different, as it will decrease at that condition due to the decrease in nitrification rates<sup>20</sup>. It will be higher at lower pH because the nitrate accumulation was higher<sup>21</sup> but it could be different in acid conditions because an inhibition of nitrite production could happen<sup>22</sup>.

The estimation graphs were made to easily know the character of emissions in various environmental conditions. To make the contours of the emissions in graphs, CH<sub>4</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>O emission data in various environmental conditions were needed. In terms of that, several observations from the field were required to collect such data. It should be noted that CH<sub>4</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>O flux observations from the field were not easily conducted. It requires high cost, time and trained human resources<sup>23</sup>. An easy way of knowing the actual CH<sub>4</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>O fluxes to indicate gas emission was highly needed.

In this study, a greenhouse gas emission estimation model was built based on SRI paddy field experimental data in aerobic conditions. The ANN models in this study used three input nodes (air temperature, soil moisture and soil pH) and one output node (CH<sub>4</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>O flux, separately). The coefficient determination (R<sup>2</sup>) values were 0.96 and 0.82 for CH<sub>4</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>O respectively, while in another study, a greenhouse gas emission estimation model was also built based on paddy field experimental data in aerobic and anaerobic conditions using different parameter inputs. ANN models achieved reasonable predictive power, producing R<sup>2</sup> of 0.72 and 0.70 for CH<sub>4</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>O, respectively in Setiawan *et al.*<sup>6</sup> using soil moisture, air temperature and soil pH input. Higher R<sup>2</sup> levels from a greenhouse gas prediction ANN model found in Arif *et al.*<sup>23</sup> are 0.93 and 0.73 for CH<sub>4</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>O, using soil moisture, soil temperature and EC inputs.

The CH<sub>4</sub> emission from the SRI paddy field based on this study generally increased when the air temperature increased, which is the same as with Jugold *et al.*<sup>24</sup>. However, it should be noted that in higher air temperature, the soil moisture

decreased. This leads to the increase of oxygen availability in the soil, thus allowing it to oxidize and sink more methane, as mentioned before. The higher emissions occur in higher pH. Benstead and King<sup>25</sup> showed that methane uptake by methanotroph occurred over a wide pH range (3.5-7.5); however, methanogen is more sensitive. Increasing pH will increase fermentative activity and generally the availability of acetate (and presumably H<sub>2</sub>); furthermore this increase in methanogenic substrates is likely partially responsible for the increase in CH<sub>4</sub> production at higher pH<sup>19,26</sup>.

N<sub>2</sub>O emission decreases at lower pH; the same condition appears in Mosier *et al.*<sup>22</sup>. As previously mentioned, nitrification (NO to N<sub>2</sub>O) mostly controls the N<sub>2</sub>O emission in oxid conditions<sup>8</sup>. NO was produced through the chemical decomposition of nitrite, which in turn was a product of biological nitrification. Although NO formation is likely due to the chemical decomposition of nitrite at low pH, nitrite is produced in large part by biological processes; as such, an inhibition of nitrite production could happen<sup>22</sup>. The N<sub>2</sub>O emission is not big, as founded at Meijide *et al.*<sup>27</sup>. It occurs almost in all soil moisture and air temperature conditions. The emission decreases when air temperature increases due to the decrease in nitrates rates, it was the same with conditions of Benoit *et al.*<sup>18</sup>.

The CH<sub>4</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>O flux estimation graphs were helpful in knowing the amount of non-CO<sub>2</sub> greenhouse gases that occur from a SRI paddy field in quick time. It can be used to identify mitigation action that can be implemented to lower emissions. Based on the non-CO<sub>2</sub> gas emission pattern in the SRI paddy field, maintaining soil moisture will be a great way to mitigate greenhouse gas emission. Soil moisture is easier to control than air temperature and soil pH. For example, in an air temperature of 29.4°C and soil pH condition of 4.8, to minimize the emission of CH<sub>4</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>O, the soil moisture should be less than 0.418 (Fig. 6).

However, maintaining soil moisture in crop production only in the range between FC and PWP is a way to lower greenhouse gas emission without interfering with plant growth. Deciding the best soil moisture set-point in cultivation for mitigating greenhouse gas emission also needs be based on the kind of crop that is cultivated by the farmer. The impact of it on the crop yield needs to be considered.

It was clear that the SRI method in paddy cultivation can reduce CH<sub>4</sub> emission and emit small amounts of N<sub>2</sub>O emission. Nevertheless, we noticed from this cultivation that controlling the water level in SRI to get good soil moisture also has a potential to reduce the non-CO<sub>2</sub> greenhouse gases while still giving a good yield, as seen in Table 2. The average paddy height, total and productive tiller numbers are 132 cm, 72 and



Table 2: Resume of GHG emission during ideal SRI paddy cultivation

| Items                                                                  | Value   |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| Yields (kg m <sup>-2</sup> )                                           | 1.64    |
| Straws (kg m <sup>-2</sup> )                                           | 3.70    |
| Roots (kg m <sup>-2</sup> )                                            | 6.09    |
| Biomass (kg m <sup>-2</sup> )                                          | 11.44   |
| Carbon (kg m <sup>-2</sup> )                                           | 5.94    |
| CH <sub>4</sub> (kg-CO <sub>2</sub> m <sup>-2</sup> )                  | 0.04    |
| N <sub>2</sub> O (kg-CO <sub>2</sub> m <sup>-2</sup> )                 | 0.00001 |
| GHG Emission-non CO <sub>2</sub> (kg-CO <sub>2</sub> m <sup>-2</sup> ) | 0.04    |
| Emission factor (kg-CO <sub>2</sub> kg <sup>-1</sup> yields)           | 0.03    |

47 tillers, respectively in harvesting time with 1.64 kg m<sup>-2</sup> yields. The aerobic condition during the cultivation is able to make the GHG emission only 0.04 kg-CO<sub>2</sub> m<sup>-2</sup>.

In real paddy fields, it is not easy to apply the SRI elements, particularly in water management<sup>28</sup>. That is the reason why the emission factor that is reported from real fields in Indonesia (0.295-0.343) is much higher than this study (0.03)<sup>5</sup>. It was indicated that better water management in a SRI paddy field will not only influence the efficiency of water use but will also lower the global warming potential. Thus, management of soil moisture in a SRI paddy field based on the estimation graph presented will lower the emission factor from the SRI cultivation practice.

## CONCLUSION

From the modeled paddy field experiment, it found that a SRI paddy field has the potential to emit CH<sub>4</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>O; it was also found that some environmental parameters (air temperature, soil moisture and soil pH) are influential to this emission. The CH<sub>4</sub> emission tended to increase when the air temperature increased and soil moisture decreased and generally at higher pH. The N<sub>2</sub>O emission occurs almost in all soil moisture and air temperature conditions but decreases at lower pH. The CH<sub>4</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>O emissions in a SRI paddy field can be estimated accurately using triangle graph that developed by using generated data from ANN model. The simple triangle graphs can be used to easily estimate soil moisture set-point which is expected to lower emissions. From the emission graphs, we conclude that soil moisture control is the best way to mitigate greenhouse gas emissions.

## SIGNIFICANCE STATEMENTS

This study discovers the possible easy calculation of CH<sub>4</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>O fluxes emission in the SRI paddy field using triangle graphs that can be beneficial for making mitigation action. It will help the researcher to uncover the critical areas of non-CO<sub>2</sub> emission pattern from SRI paddy field that many

researchers were not able to explore. This work emphasized on a new theory of CH<sub>4</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>O source and sink process from SRI paddy field that mostly having aerobic condition.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

This work was supported by grant numbers 081/SP2H/PL/Dit.Litabmas/VI/2014, 157/SP2H/ PL/Dit.Litabmas/II/2015 and 180/SP2H/PL/Dit.Litabmas/II/2016 under PMDSU research project "Automation of Irrigation and Drainage to Improve the Productivity of Land and Water and Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions Factor" from the Ministry of Research, Technology and Higher Education, Indonesia. Paperwork was supported by the same ministry, especially by Directorate General of Resources for Science, Technology and Higher Education through PKPI scholarship. We greatly appreciate the warm reception from Department of Bioproducts and Biosystems Engineering, University of Minnesota and Department of Global Agricultural Sciences, The University of Tokyo during paperwork activity. I would additionally like to thank Prof. K. Noborio (Meiji University) for his scientific advice and discussion about greenhouse gases emission from agricultural soil.

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