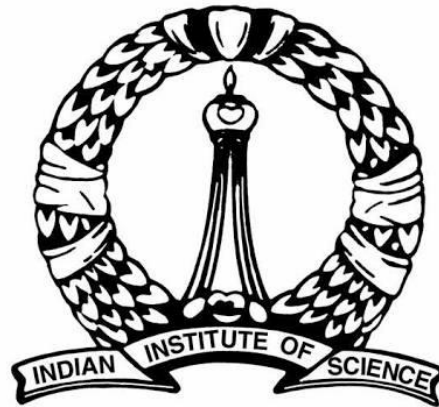


# Presence of continental and Bay of Bengal moisture in the rainwater $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ signature at Kolkata, India during South-West monsoon

Shaakir Shabir Dar

Prosenjit Ghosh

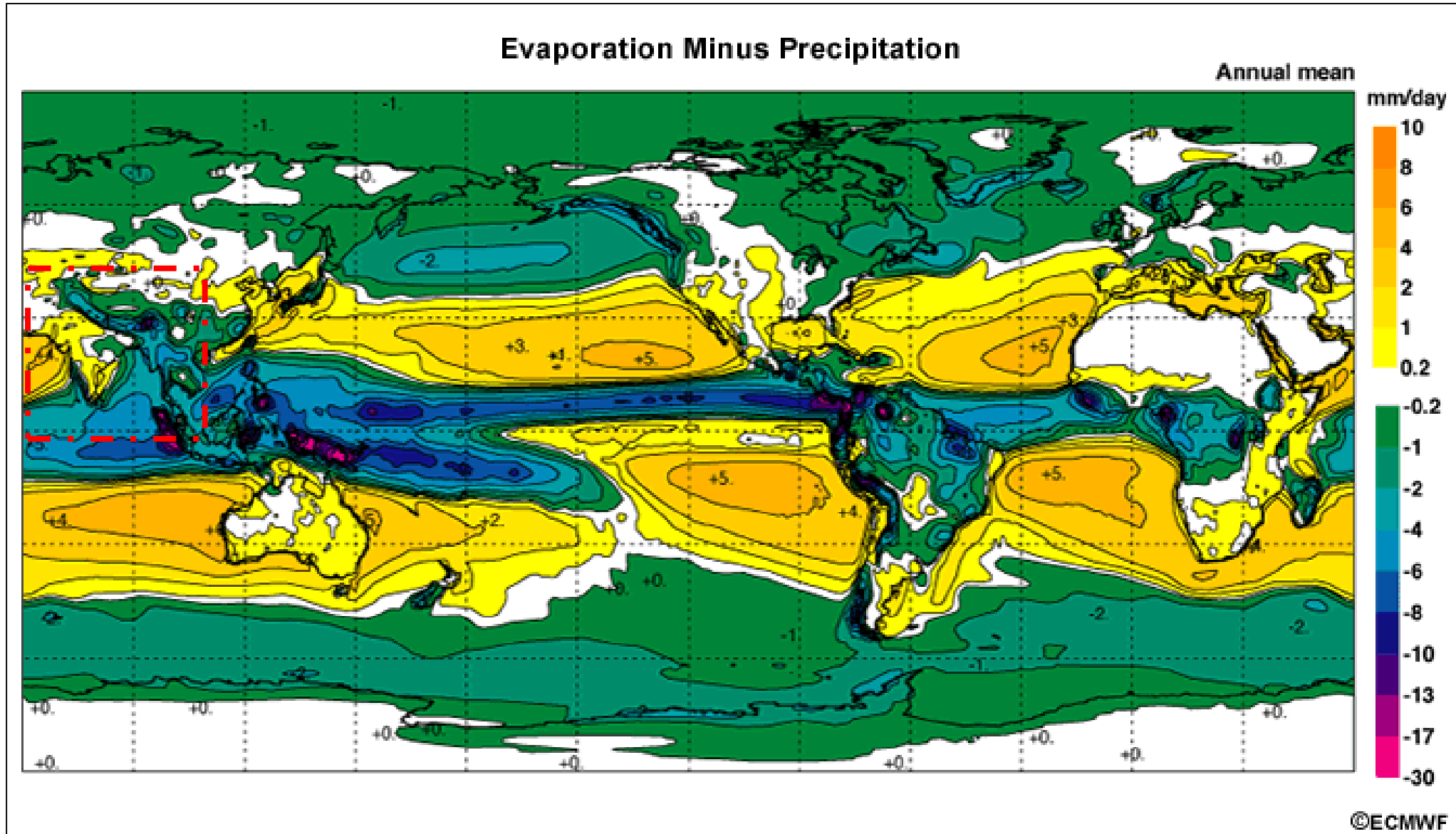
Centre for Earth Sciences, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore



# Outline

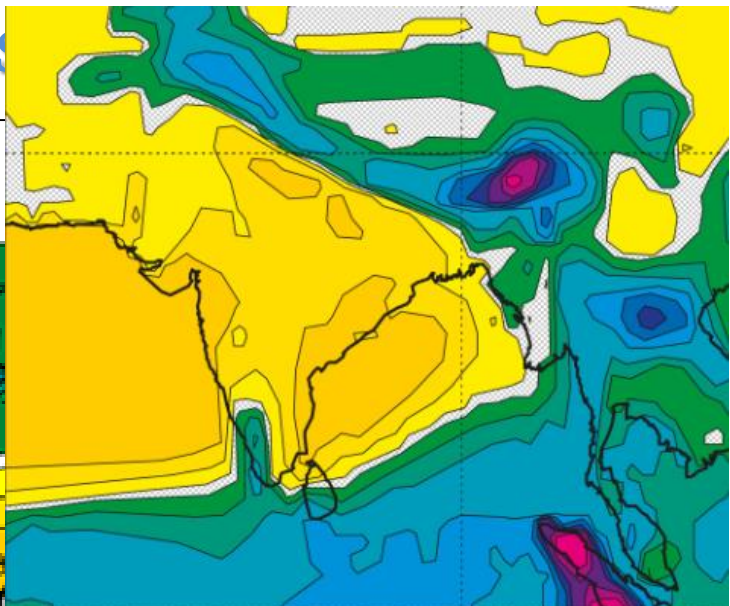
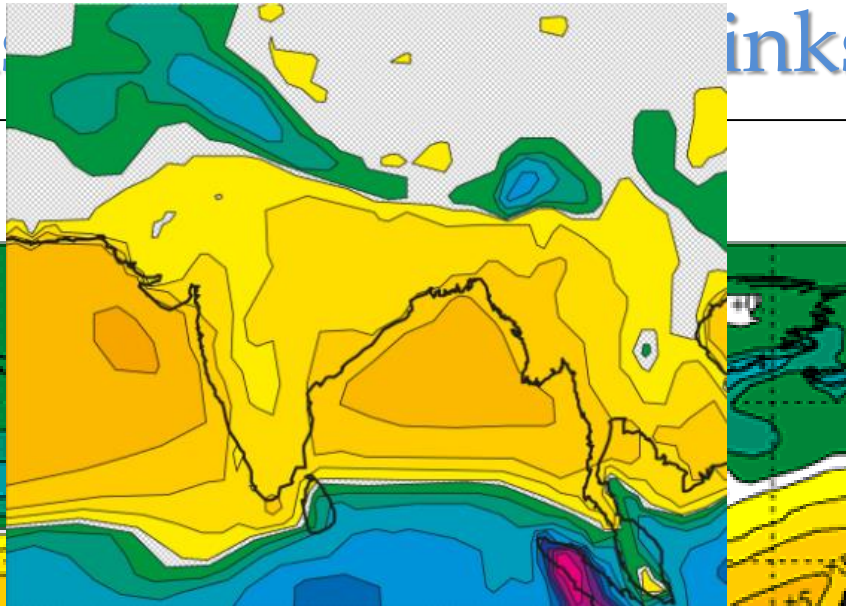
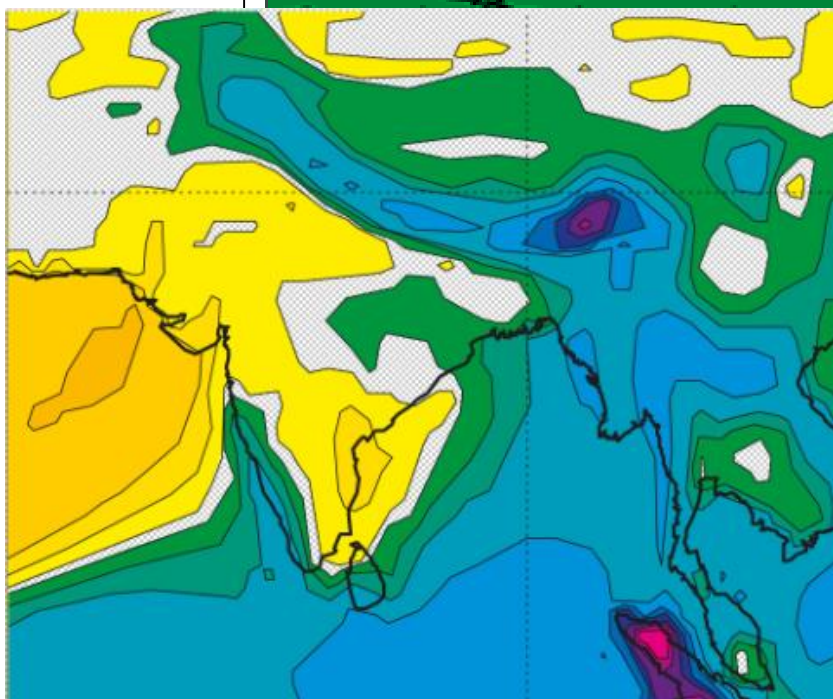
- Introduction
  - Moisture sources and sinks
  - Stable isotopes in the hydrological cycle
  - South-west monsoon
  - Isotopic studies over the Indian Subcontinent
- Objectives
- Data Used
- Model description
- Results and conclusions

# Moisture sources and sinks



Moi

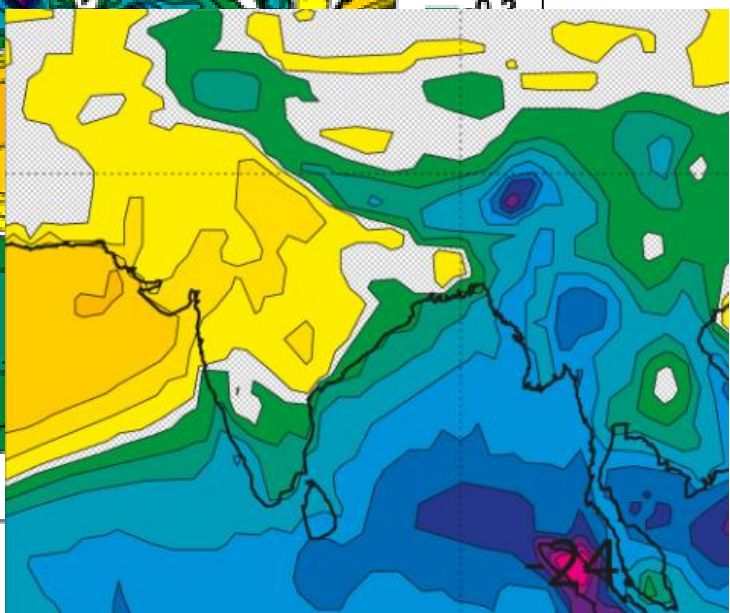
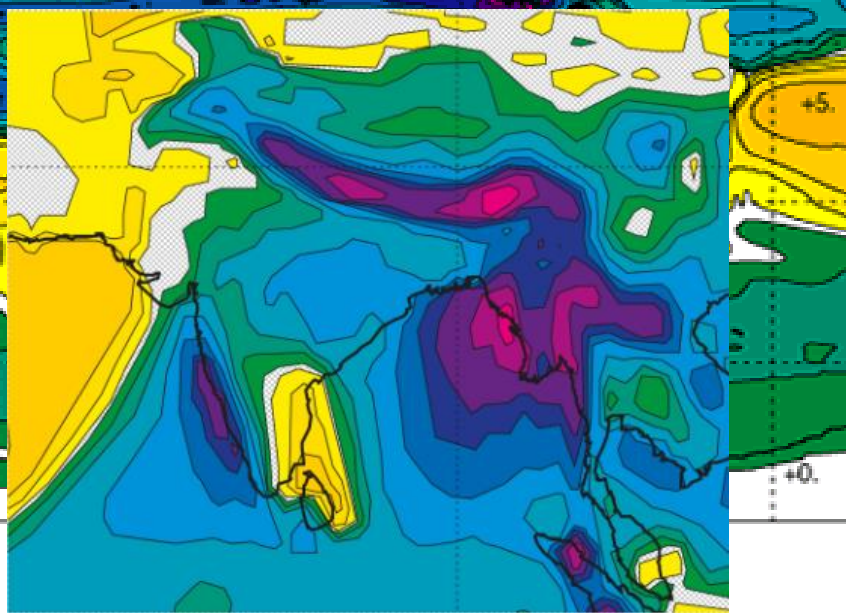
inks



December - February

March - May

Annual Mean



June - August

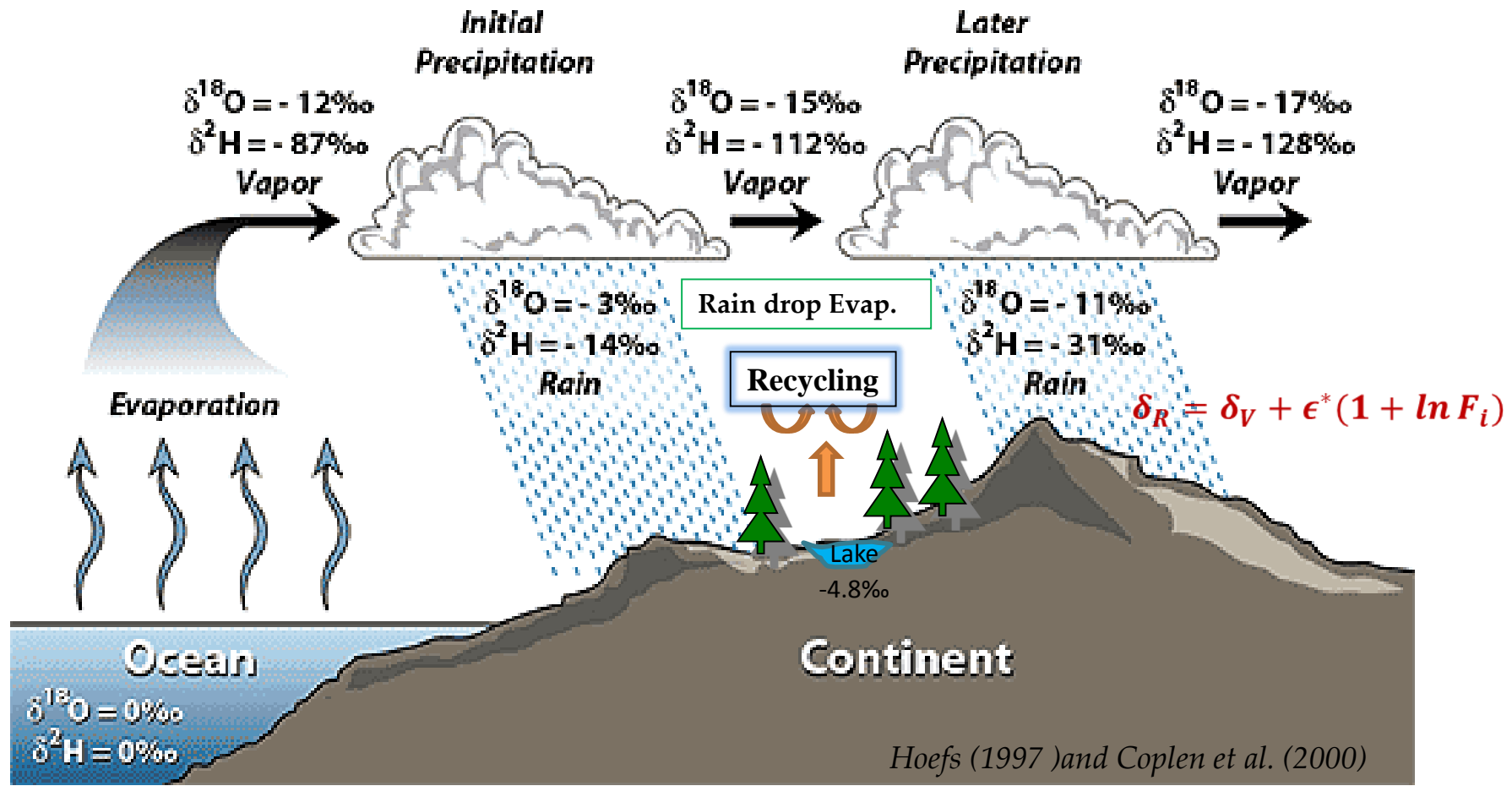
September - November



# Stable Isotopes in the Hydrological Cycle

Rayleigh distillation model, *Daansgard 1964*

$$\delta_v = (\delta_{vo} + 1) \times F_i^{\alpha-1} - 1$$

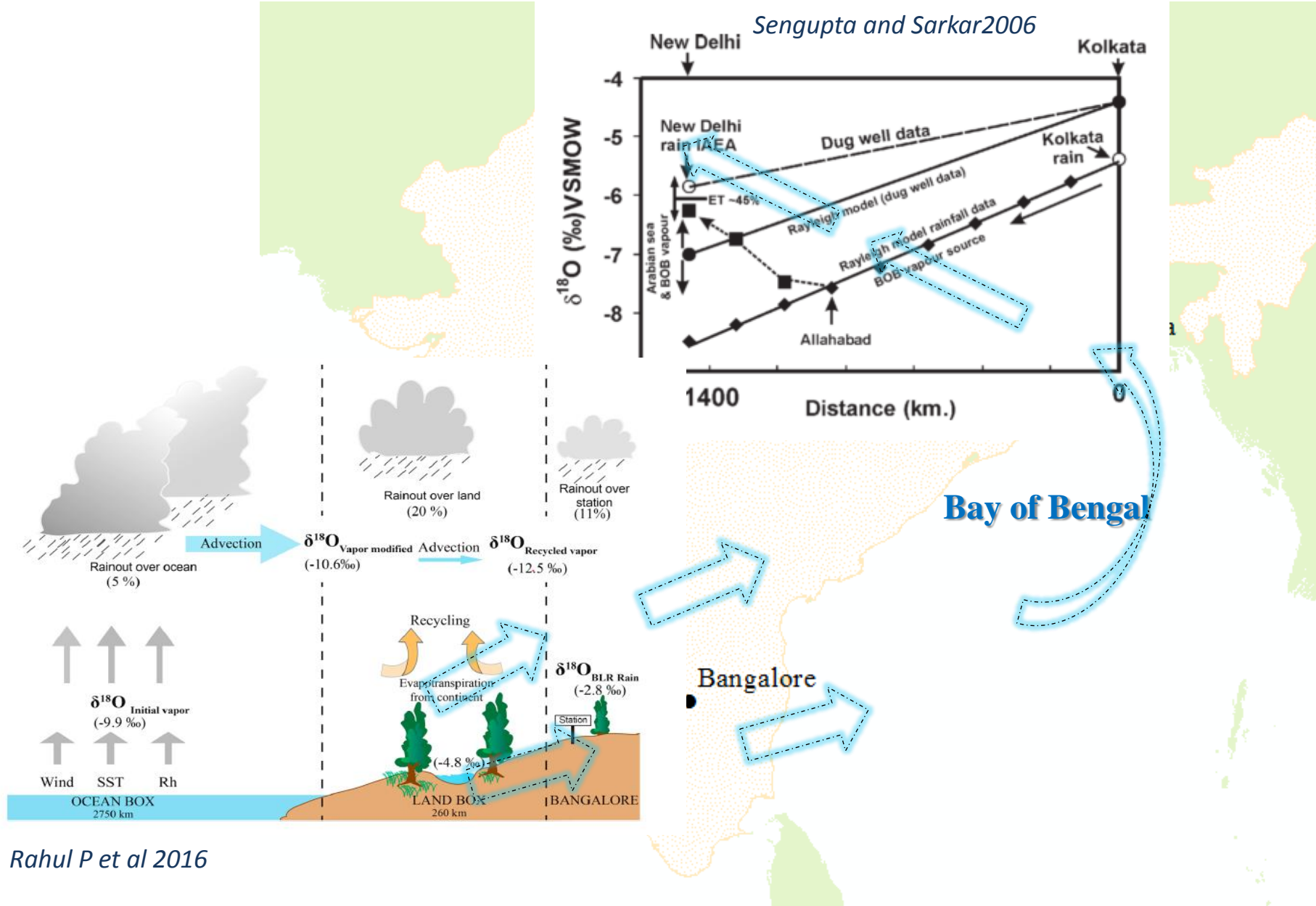


$$\delta_{Ei} = \frac{\delta_l - h\delta_a - \epsilon^* - \epsilon}{1 - h}$$

Langmuir resistance model  
*Craig and Gordon (1965)*

- Equilibrium factor
- Kinetic factor
- Relative humidity

# Isotopic Studies over the Indian Region



# Objectives

- How much is the peninsular moisture contribution to rain at Kolkata?
- Is the isotopic signature retained as the moisture packet moves from Bengaluru to Kolkata?
- How much uptake of Bay of Bengal moisture is contributing to precipitation at Kolkata?

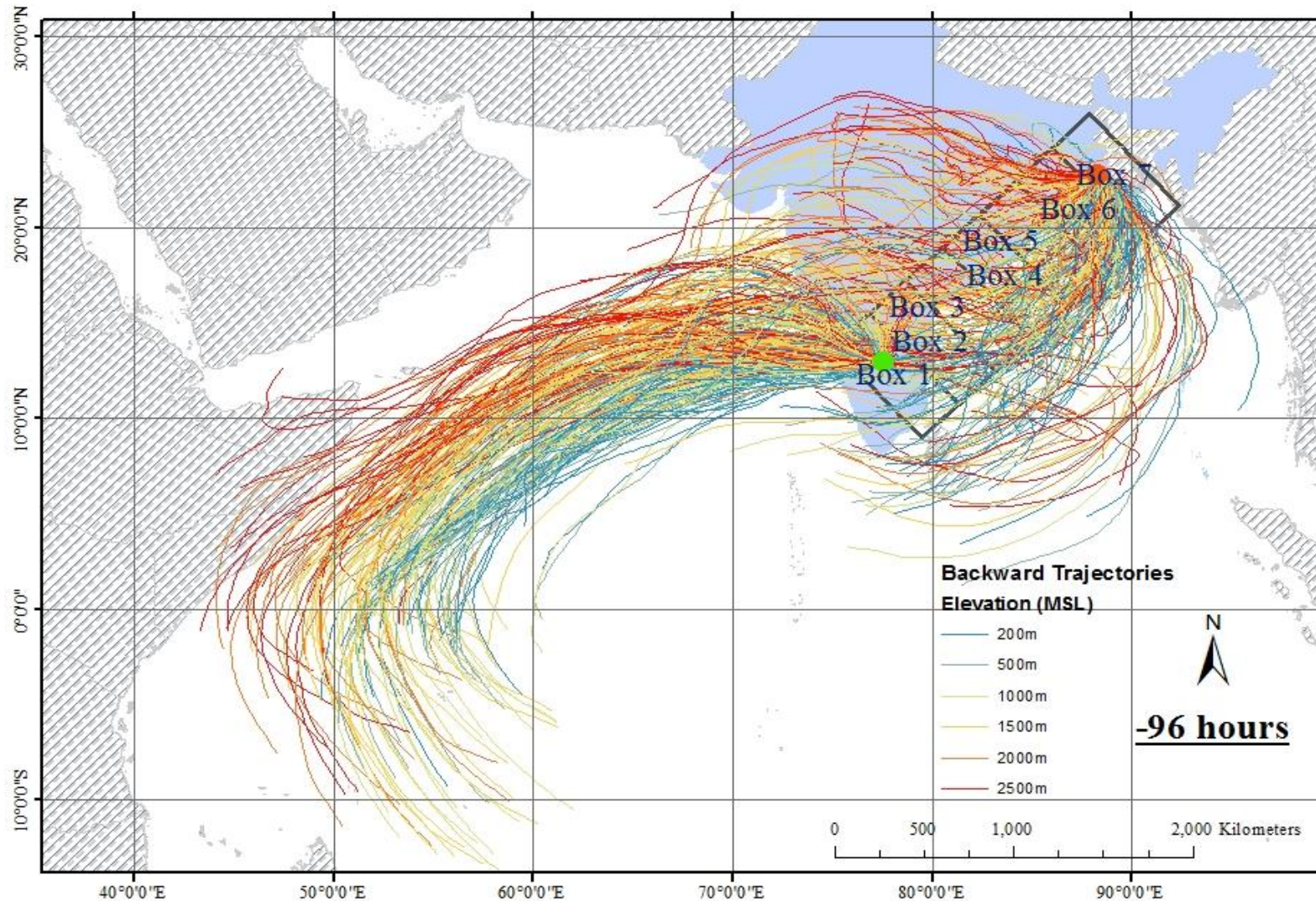
# Data and Sources

- Precipitation: TRMM (Daily and Monthly time scales) 2.5 degree spatial resolution (<http://trmm.gsfc.nasa.gov/>)
- Total Precipitable Water, Air Temperature, Relative Humidity, Wind Speed: NCEP-DOE Reanalysis 2 (<http://www.esrl.noaa.gov/psd/data/gridded/data.ncep.reanalysis2.html>)
- Global Sea Water Oxygen-18 Database (<http://data.giss.nasa.gov/o18data/>)
- Oxygen and hydrogen isotopic compositions (IAEA-GNIP): ([http://www-naweb.iaea.org/napc/ih/IHS\\_resources\\_gnip.html](http://www-naweb.iaea.org/napc/ih/IHS_resources_gnip.html)) Kolkata and Bangalore. (2003-2004)
- Isotopic composition of rainfall over Bay of Bengal.



# Backward Trajectory analysis

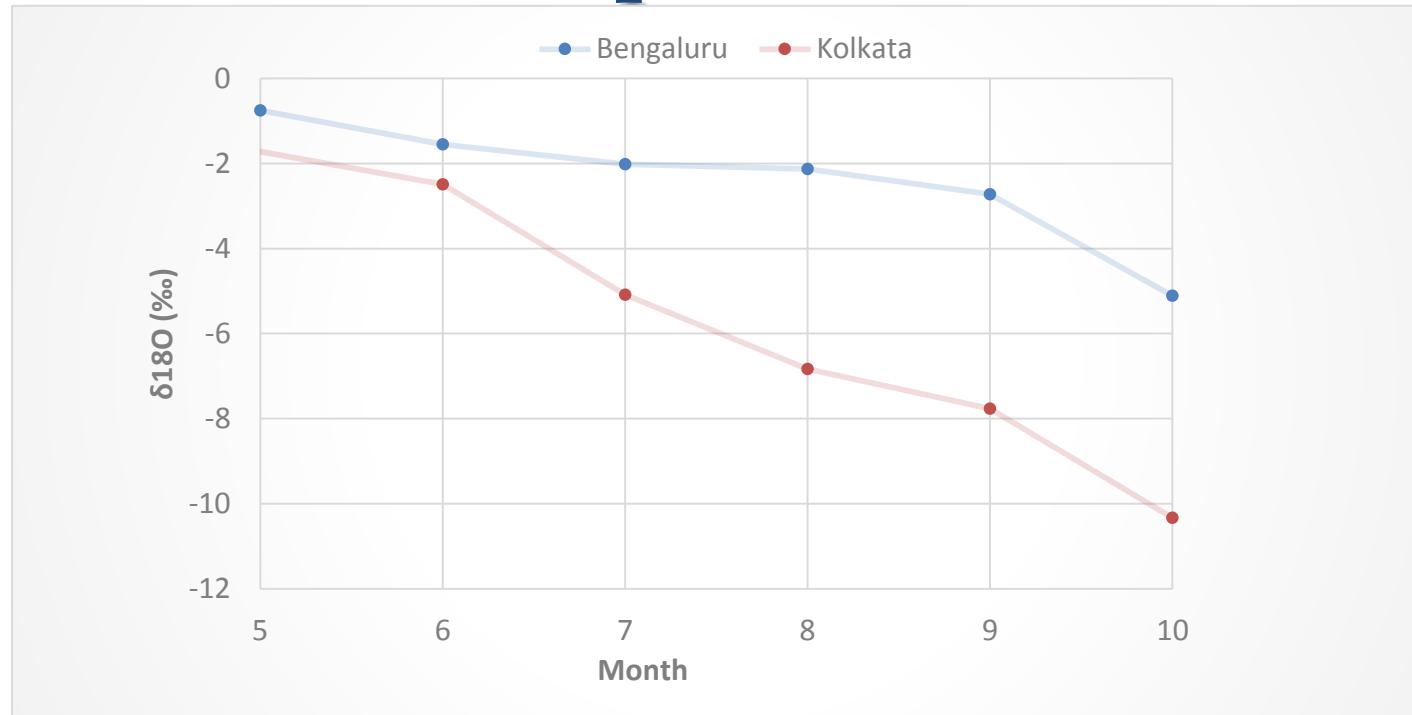
Backward air-mass Trajectories (-48 hours, -72 Hours and -96 hours prior to a rainy day at 200m, 500m, 1000m, 1500m, 2000m and 2500m above MSL for a single year (2004) at Bengaluru and Kolkata during all rainy days of the SW Monsoon



Three types of moisture sources can be identified, originating from:

- Arabian Sea,
- Bay of Bengal
- Continent.

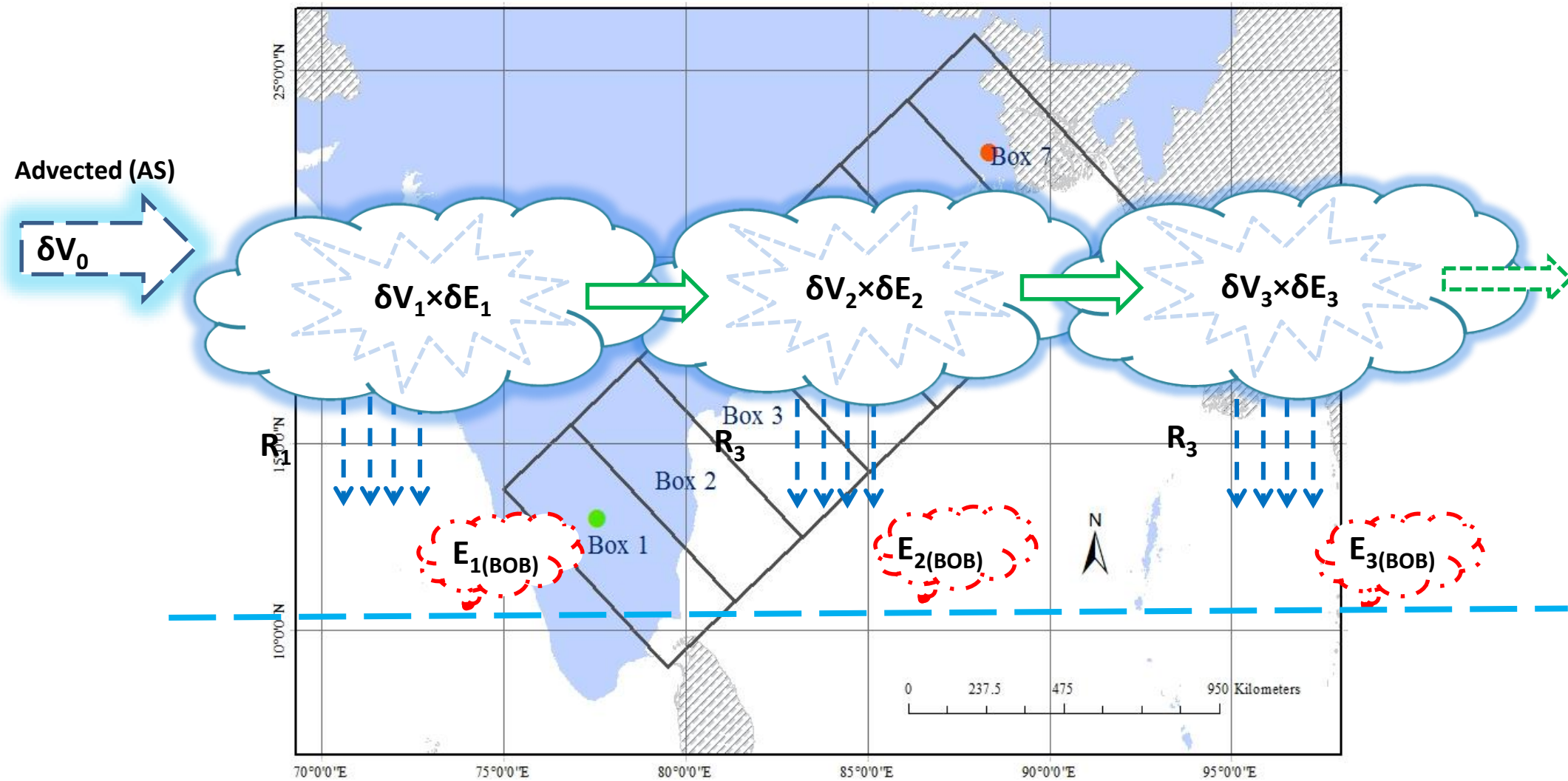
# Rainfall isotopic characteristics



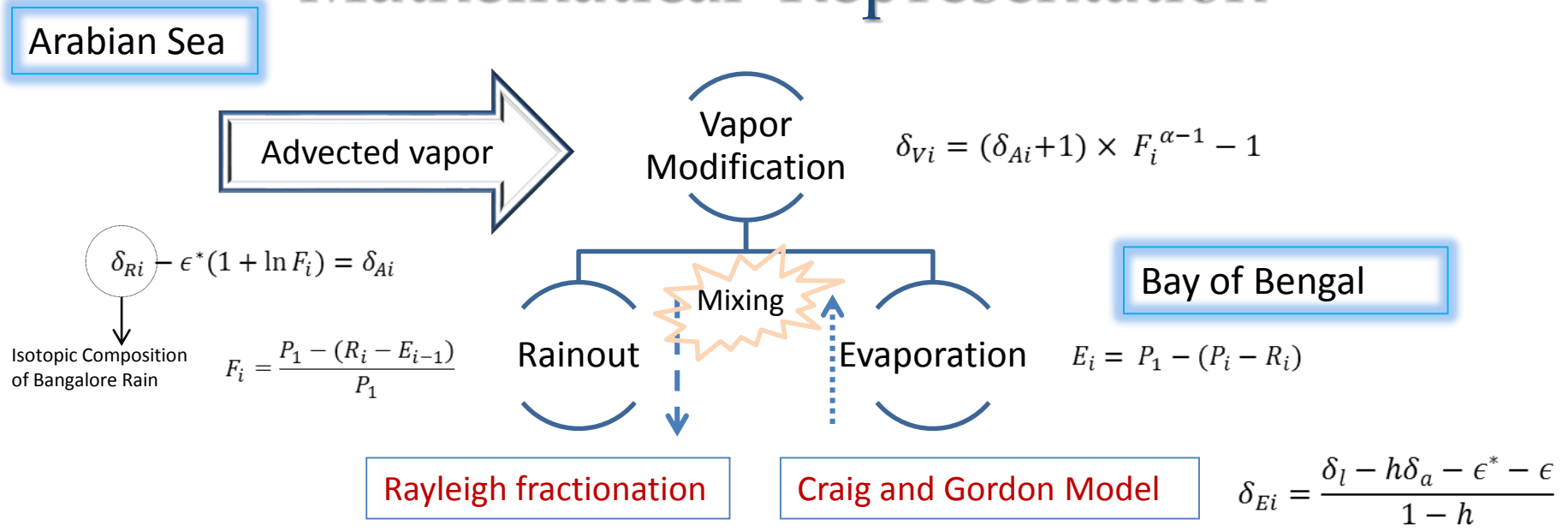
IAEA-GNIP

- The depletion (JJAS) follows a similar trend for both the sample sites suggesting they presumably receive moisture from same source. The isotopic composition decreases steadily and follows a similar pattern for both sites reaching minimum value in October.
- Hence we should be able to explain the precipitation at Kolkata employing Rayleigh distillation

# Modelling the isotopic composition



# Mathematical Representation

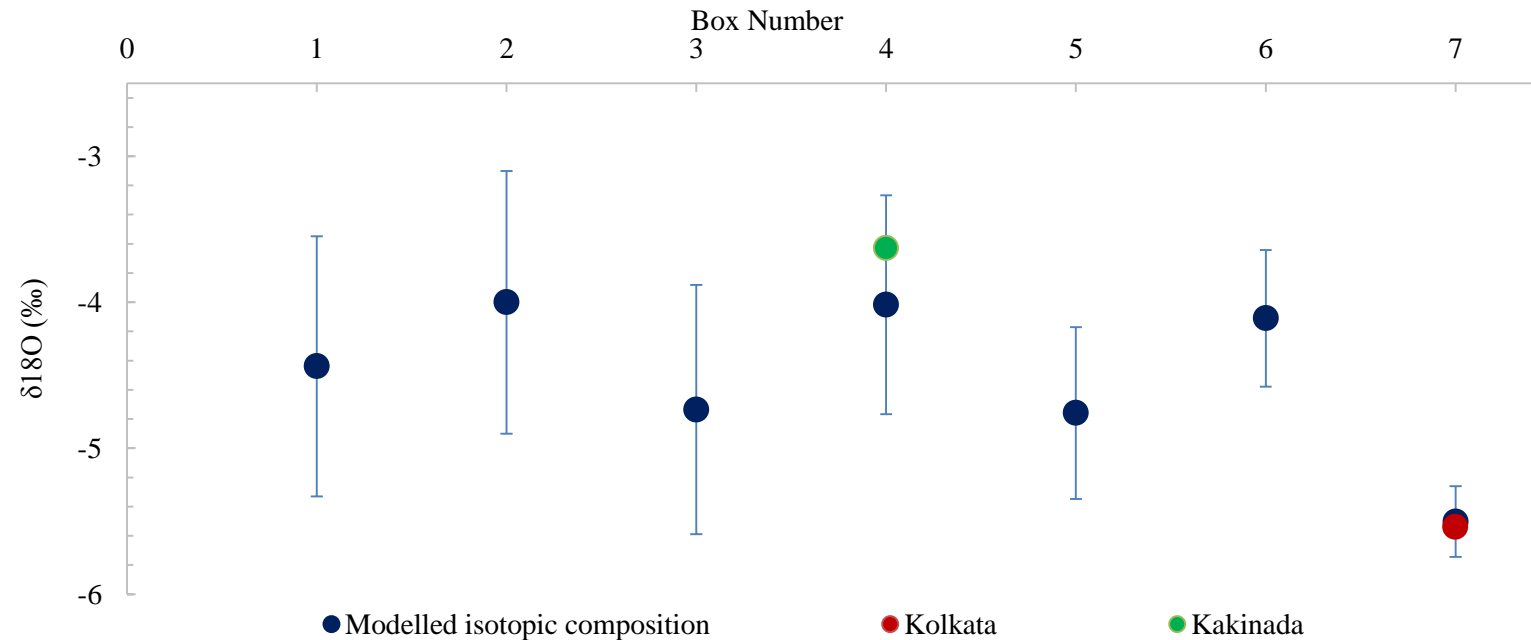


- $\delta_R, \delta_A$  is the isotopic composition of rain and advected vapour respectively.
- $\delta_V$  is the isotopic composition of the vapour over the  $i$ th box after mixing of advected and evaporation component and rainout,
- $F$  is the fraction of vapour remaining in the air-mass.
- $\alpha$  is the equilibrium fractionation factor  $\epsilon^* = (\alpha - 1) \times 1000$ ,  $\epsilon$  is the kinetic enrichment factor
- $P$  is the Total Precipitable Water (Reanalysis 2),  $R$  is the rainfall (TRMM) and  $E$  is the evaporation over each box respectively in mm.



# Model output results

| $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ Rain BOB= -2.37 (‰) | Bengaluru $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ Rain (‰) | Kolkata $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ Rain (‰) |                     |
|---|--|--|---------------------|
|   |  | Observed                               | Modelled            |
| <b>JJAS</b>                               | <b>-1.61(±0.97)</b>                      | <b>-5.54(±1.99)</b>                    | <b>-5.50(±0.24)</b> |
| June                                      | -0.76 (±2.64)                            | -2.49 (±3.24)                          | <b>-6.46(±0.86)</b> |
| July                                      | -0.97 (±3.18)                            | -5.08 (±2.43)                          | <b>-5.63(±0.34)</b> |
| August                                    | -1.82 (±2.96)                            | -6.83 (±2.27)                          | <b>-5.34(±2.15)</b> |
| September                                 | -2.9 (±3.22)                             | -7.76 (±3.05)                          | <b>-7.03(±2.52)</b> |





# Conclusions

- Modelled value of  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  of rain at Kolkata for the SW monsoon=-**5.50‰**
- Actual Value of  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  of Rain at Kolkata during the SW monsoon=-**5.54 ‰**

The Isotopic signature of Bangalore is completely lost albeit the significant contribution of the moisture from Bay of Bengal

To explain the isotopic composition of precipitation at Kolkata during the SW-Monsoon, it is necessary to invoke **55-65% moisture from the Bay of Bengal** whereas the **peninsular contribution varies from 35%-45%**.

**Thank You**