

climate change initiative

→ PERMAFROST

# The CryoGrid community model and Permafrost\_CCI results

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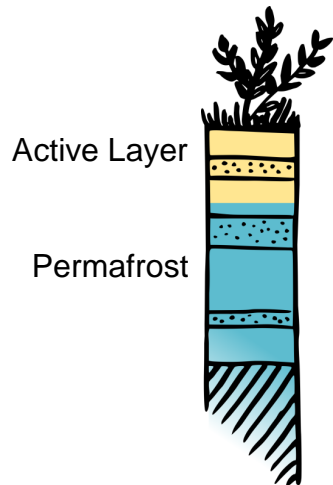


**permafrost**  
cci

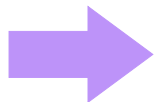
*1 Department of Geosciences, University of Oslo, Norway; 2 Alfred Wegener Institute Helmholtz Centre for Polar and Marine Research, Potsdam, Germany; 3 Center for Biogeochemistry in the Anthropocene, University of Oslo, Norway; 4 NORCE Norwegian Research Centre, Tromsø, Norway; 5 GAMMA Remote Sensing, Switzerland; 6 BGEOS, Vienna, Austria*



# Permafrost: What are we talking about?



- Ground that is at or below  $0^{\circ}$  C for at least 2 consecutive years
- ECVs: active layer thickness, permafrost temperature
- Subsurface phenomenon, hard to measure with EO



Modeling needed

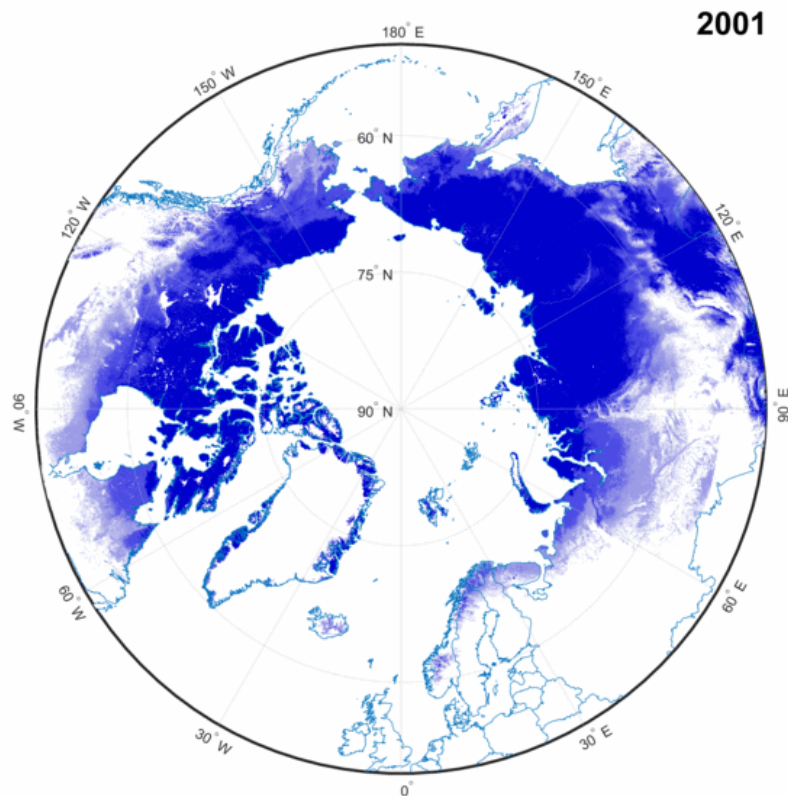




# Permafrost: Where is it?



permafrost extent





# Permafrost: Where is it?



yes



no

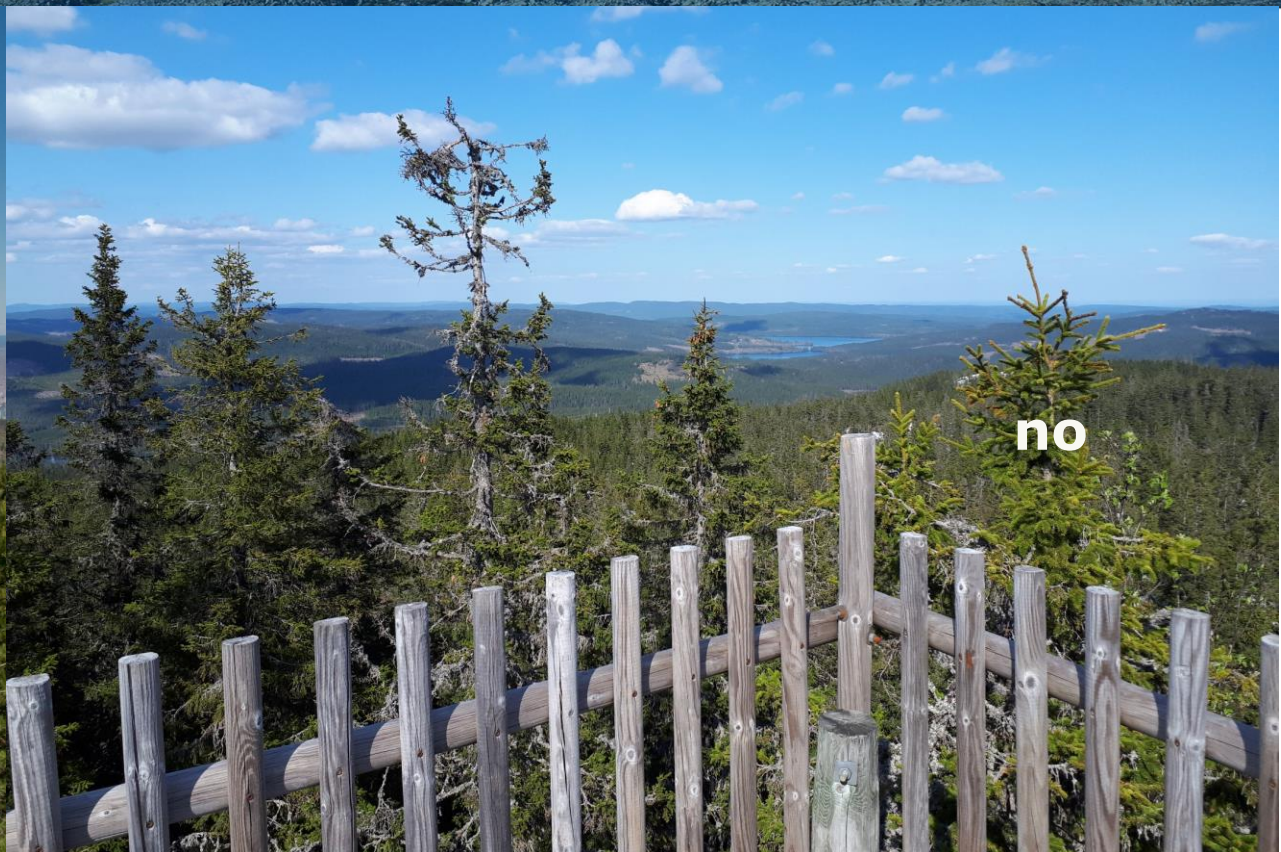
© Sebastian Westermann







# Permafrost: Where is it?



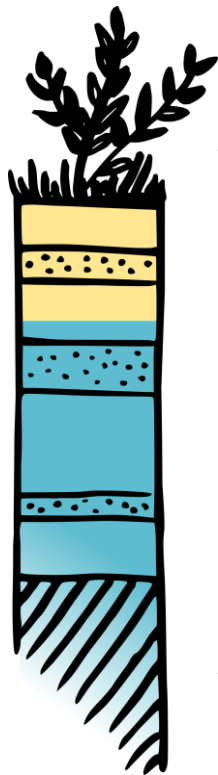
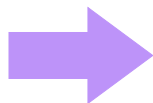


# Permafrost: Necessary Processes and Properties



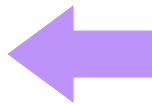
## Site Specifics:

- Ground properties
- Snow properties
- Vegetation
- Topography
- ...

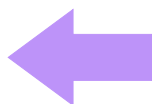


## Time series:

- Surface temperatures
- Snowdepth



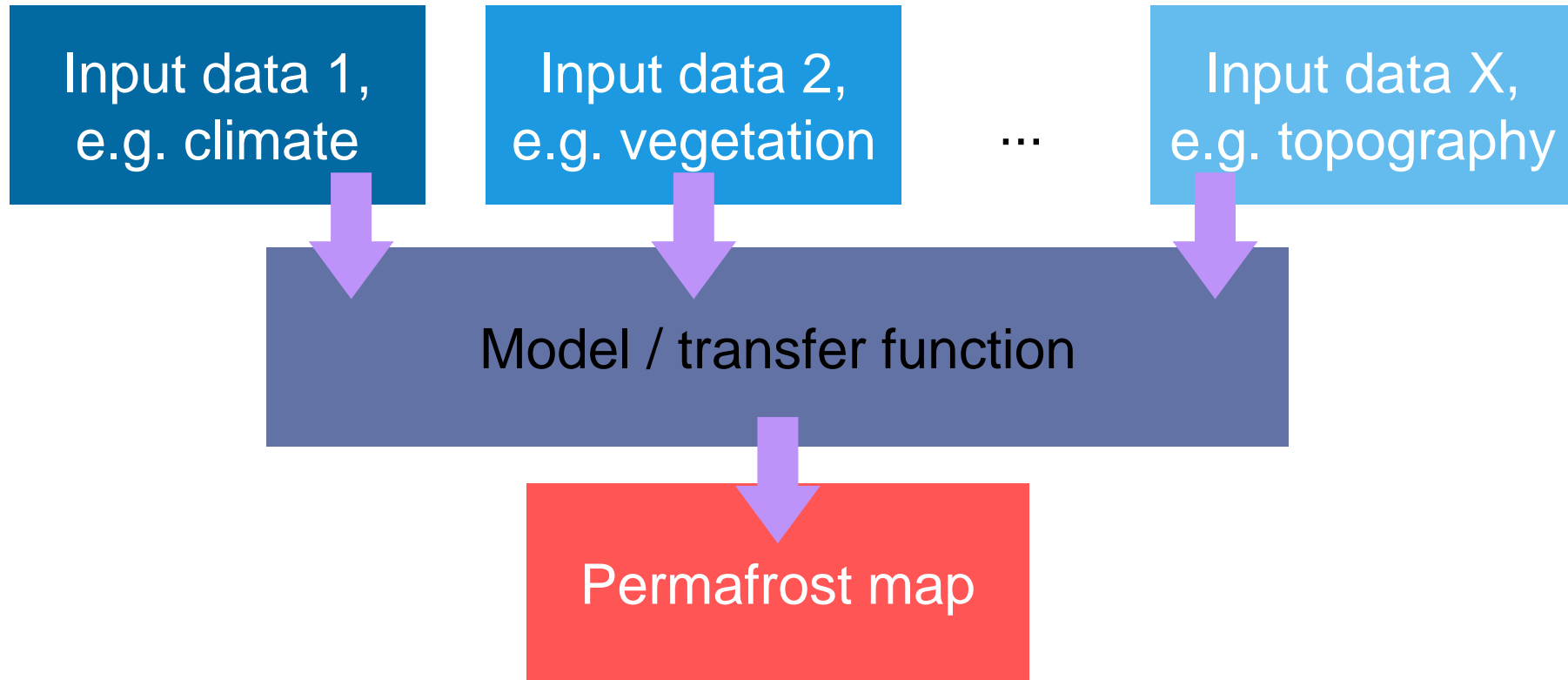
Geothermal heat flux







# How most (current) permafrost maps are produced



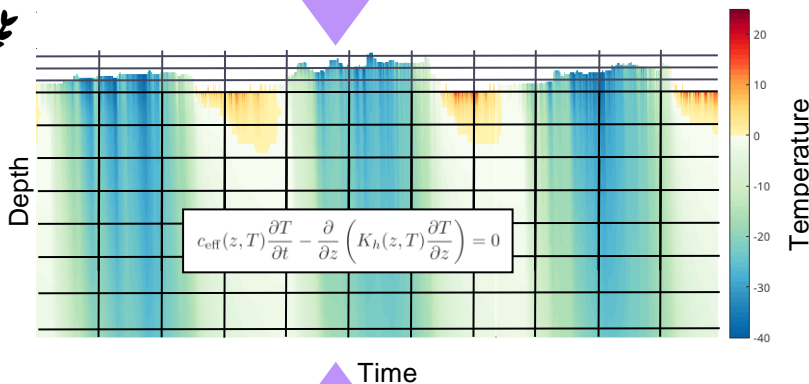
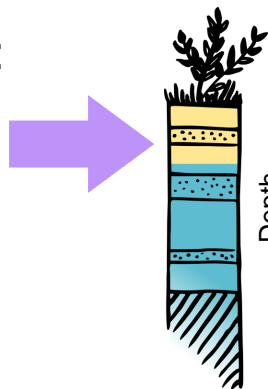


Time series:

- Surface temperature
- Snowdepth

Site Specifics:

- Ground properties
- Snow properties



$$c_{\text{eff}}(z, T) \frac{\partial T}{\partial t} - \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \left( K_h(z, T) \frac{\partial T}{\partial z} \right) = 0$$

Github.com/CryoGrid/CryoGrid  
 Langer et al. (2013)  
 Westermann et al. (2017)  
 Westermann et al. (2023)

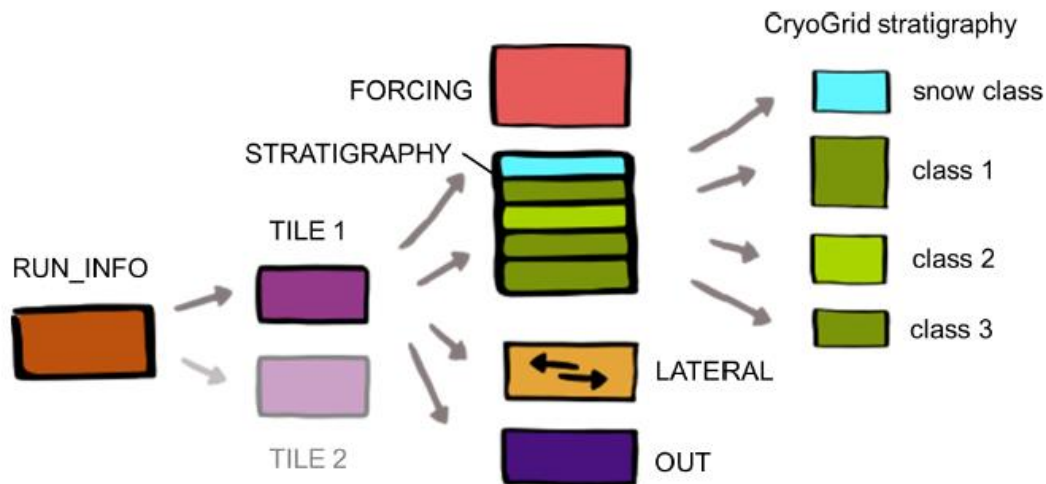
## Geothermal heat flux

Temperature Field  $T(z,t)$





modular structure with inherent compatibility through defined interfaces between «model classes»



- single point/area simulations
- variety of processes
- ensemble simulations
- data assimilation (particle filter, etc.)



Research article |

05 Oct 2023

Simulating ice segregation and thaw consolidation in

Research article |

perm

27 Jan 2023

comr Simulating the effect of subsurface



Juditha Ag

drainag

Research Article

Open Access



ground

**Simulating  
Balance o**

Research article |

26 Jan 2024

Cas Renette

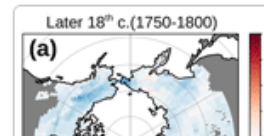
Bernd Etzelmü  
and Sebastian

Robin B. Zweigel  
Clare Webster, S

First published:

The evolution of Arctic permafrost over  
the last 3 centuries from ensemble

simi Cryogrid modelling of permafrost temperature in the  
per Maritime Antarctic (Barton Peninsula, King George  
Island)



Moritz L

Simone

Joana Baptista<sup>1</sup>, Gonçalo Vieira<sup>1</sup>, Sebastian Westermann<sup>2</sup>, and Hyoungseok Lee<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>2</sup>Department of Geosciences, University of Oslo, Oslo, Norway

<sup>3</sup>Division of Life Sciences, Korea Polar Research Institute, Incheon, Republic of Korea

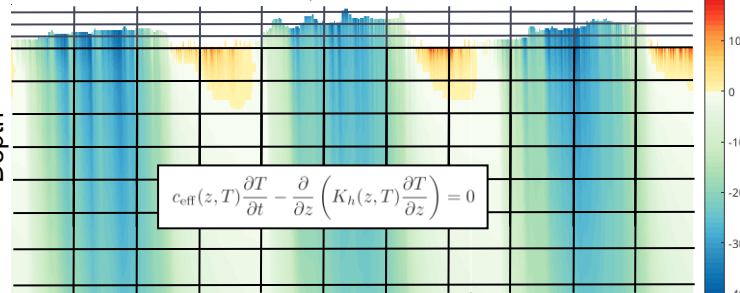
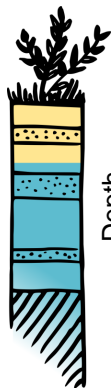
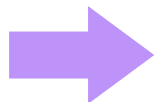




Time series:

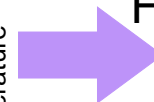
- MODIS LST + ERA-5
- ERA-5 Snow

- Landcover CCI in-situ Stratigraphies
- Landcover CCI snow model



Geothermal heat flux

Temperature Field  $T(z,t)$



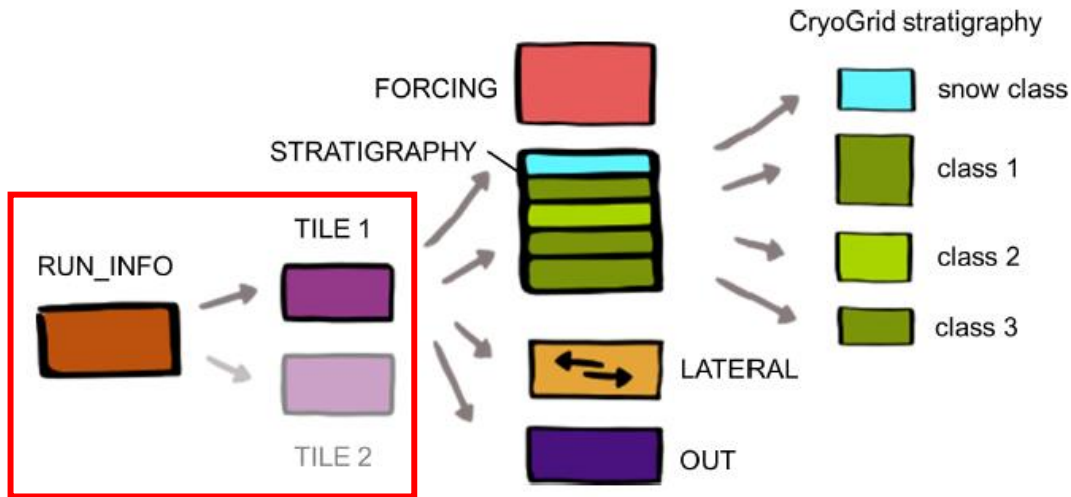
- 1km resolution
- (1980) 1997-2021
- Ground temperatures at defined depths
- Active layer thickness
- Permafrost fraction derived from subpixel representation of snow and landcover

Github.com/CryoGrid/CryoGrid  
 Langer et al. (2013)  
 Westermann et al. (2017)  
 Westermann et al. (2023)



«Data workflow» of ESA CCI processing chain added to CryoGrid community model

already used in several mountain permafrost projects (G. Viera (Portugal), C. Hauck (Switzerland), F. Magnin (France), B. Etzelmüller (Norway))

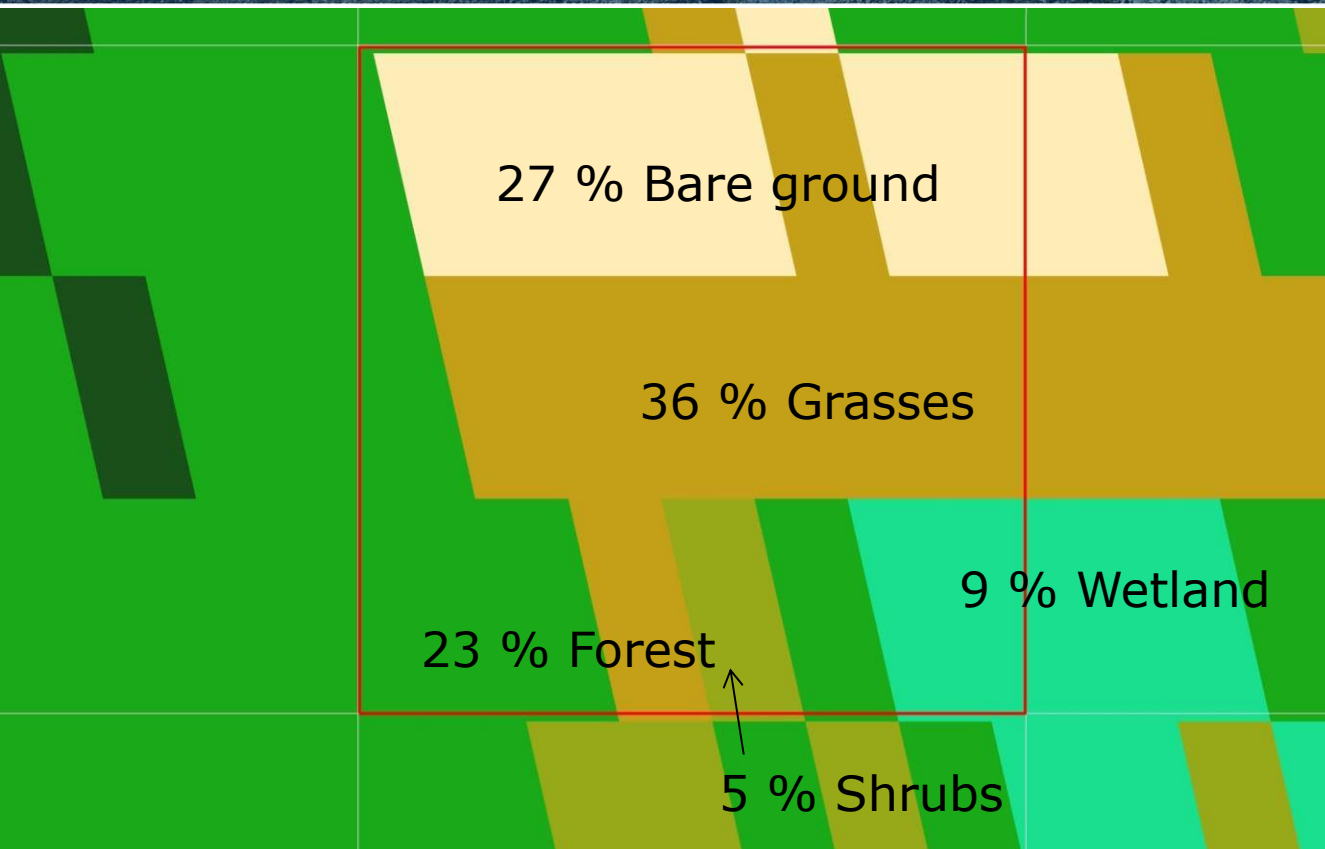


- single point/area simulations
- **spatially distributed simulations**
- ensemble simulations
- data assimilation (particle filter, etc.)
- **dedicated classes to translate spatial data sets (e.g. DEM, landcover) to model settings**





# Subpixel spatial variability



for each grid cell run ensemble to generate subpixel statistics

Landcover + snow  
→ different subsurface stratigraphies and snow properties

LST has no subpixel variability



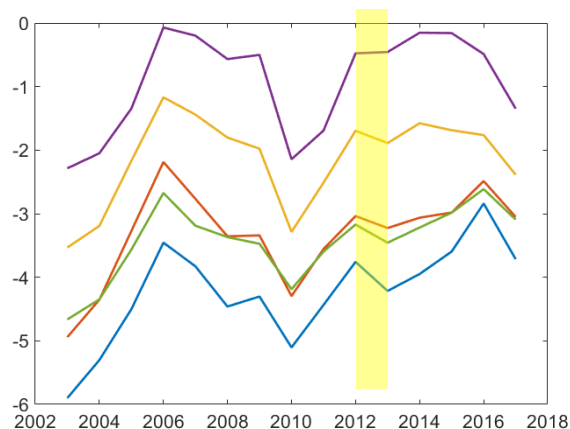
# Model ensembles for each pixel



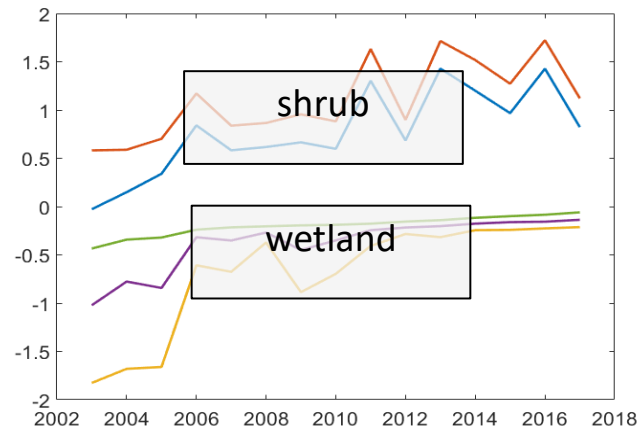
Peat Plateau, Scandinavia



Ground surface temperature



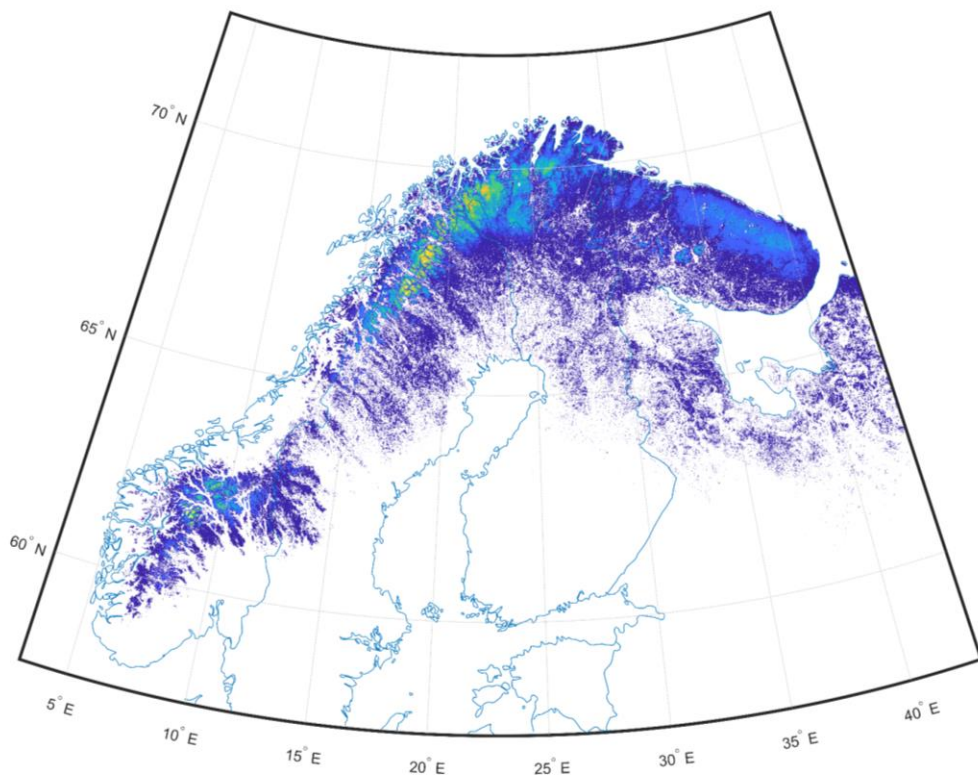
Ground temperature in 1m depth



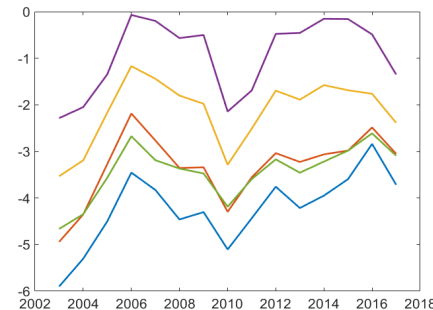




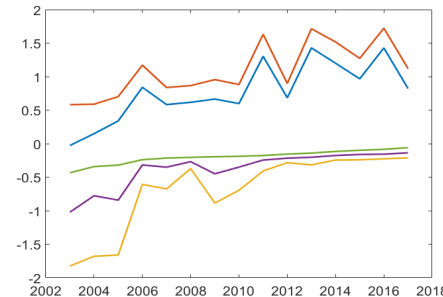
# Permafrost fraction from ensemble runs



Continuous: 100%



Dis-continuous: 66%



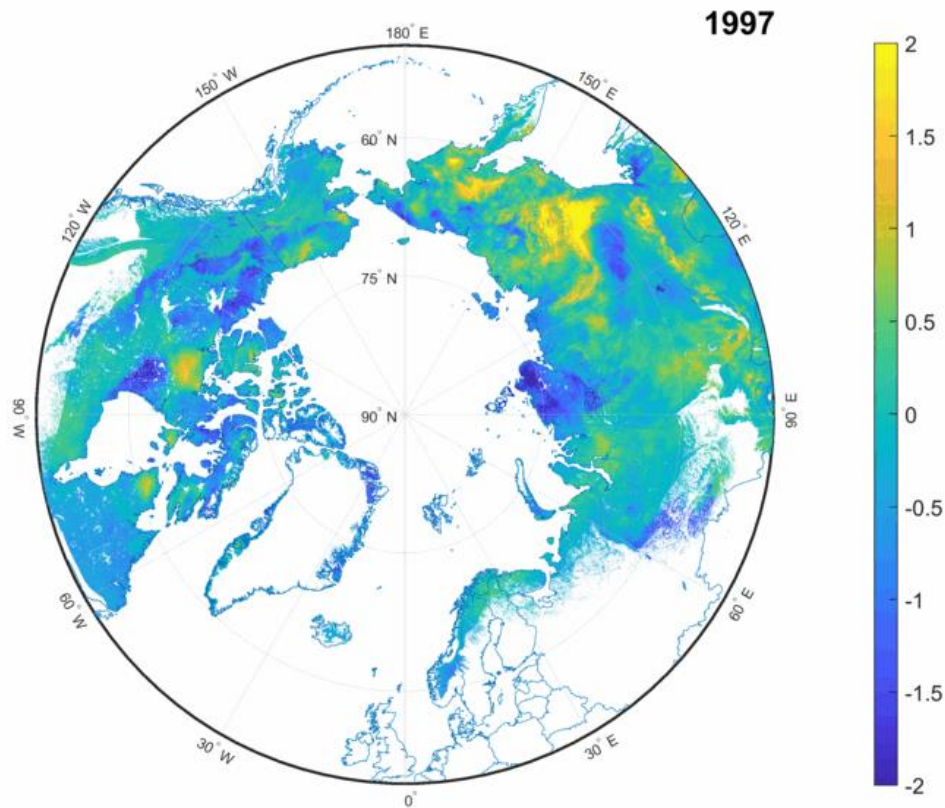


# Results: Ground temperature



2m ground  
temperature

difference from  
2000-2009  
average







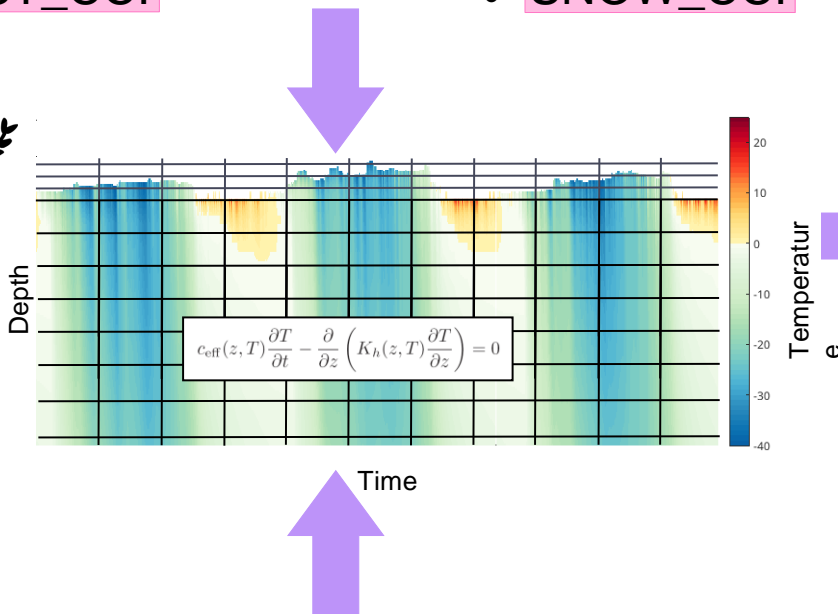
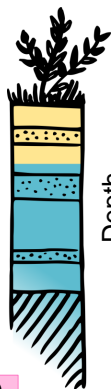
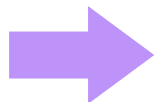
# CryoGrid CCI model improvements



Time series:

- LST\_CCI
- SNOW\_CCI

- Landcover CCI in-situ stratigraphies
- Landcover CCI snow model based on CROCUS



$$c_{\text{eff}}(z, T) \frac{\partial T}{\partial t} - \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \left( K_h(z, T) \frac{\partial T}{\partial z} \right) = 0$$

Temperature Field  $T(z,t)$

- 0.1° resolution
- (1980) 1997-2021
- Ground temperatures at defined depths
- Active layer thickness
- Permafrost fraction derived from subpixel representation of snow and landcover

[Github.com/CryoGrid/CryoGrid](https://github.com/CryoGrid/CryoGrid)  
 Langer et al. (2013)  
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Geothermal heat flux

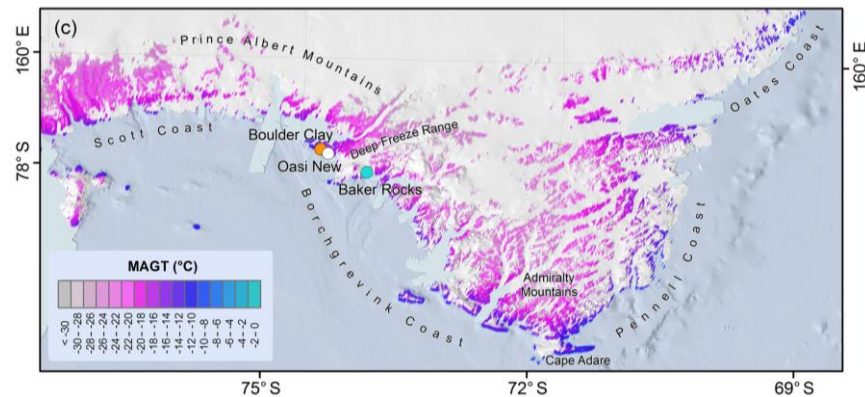
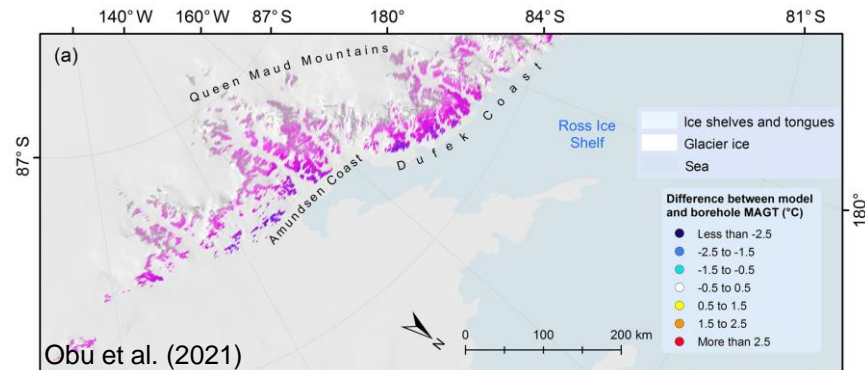




# Ongoing activities: Antarctica



- Current state of the art: static TTOP map from GlobPermafrost (Obu et al., 2021)
- Challenge 1: “normal” permafrost on Antarctic peninsula vs. “Dry valley permafrost” → use snow extent products
- Challenge 2: Antarctica is not covered by snow extent products

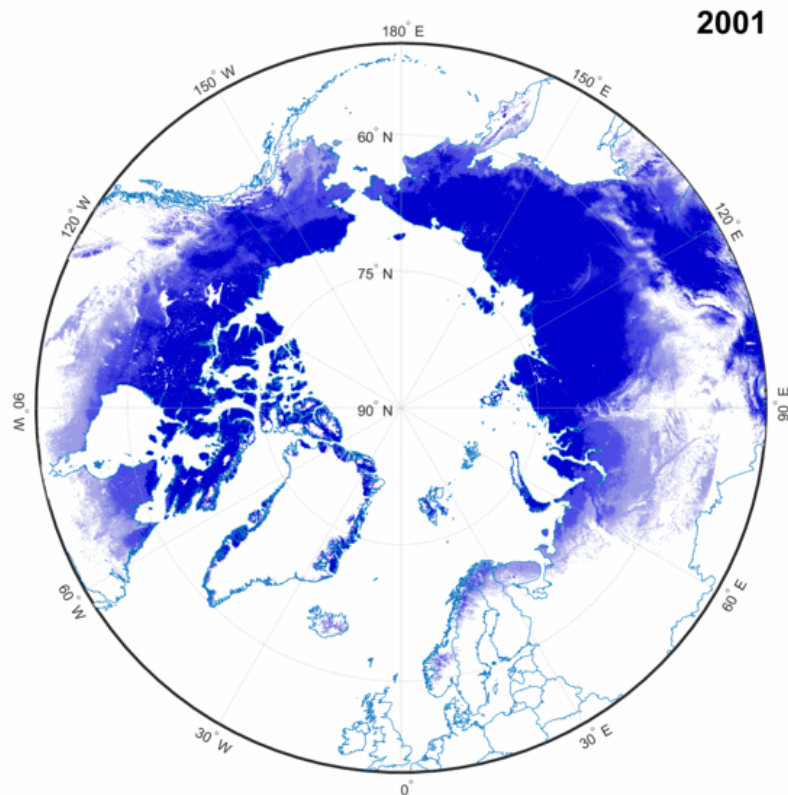




# Permafrost: Where will it be?



permafrost extent





climate change initiative

→ PERMAFROST



permafrost  
cci

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