

La neige du Svalbard

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Atelier Neige, 22/03/2024



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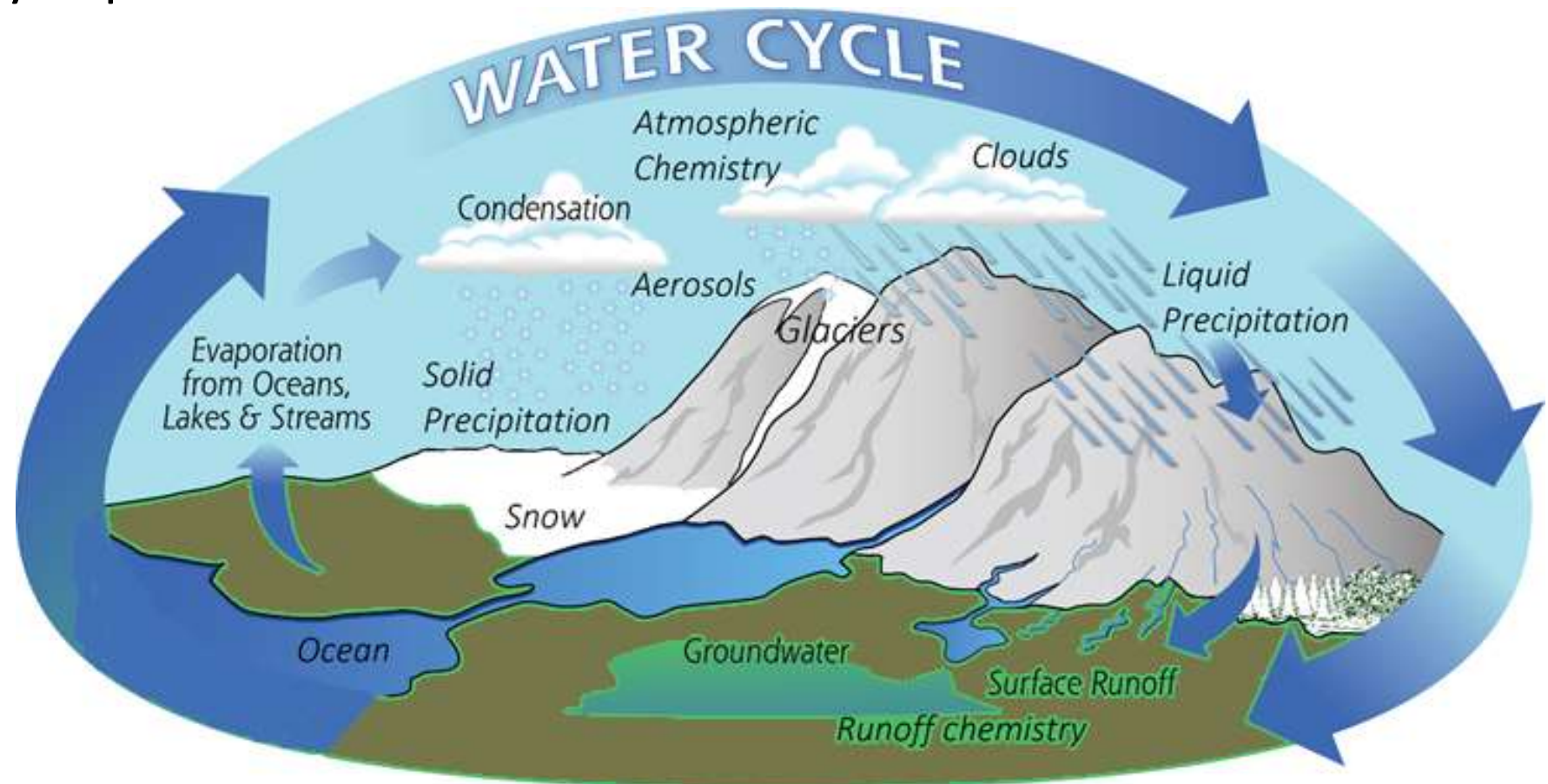
AWIPEV 79°N
Arctic Research Base Ny-Ålesund



ARCSNOW: Snow-atmosphere interactions and deposition in the Arctic

The objectives of ARCSNOW are

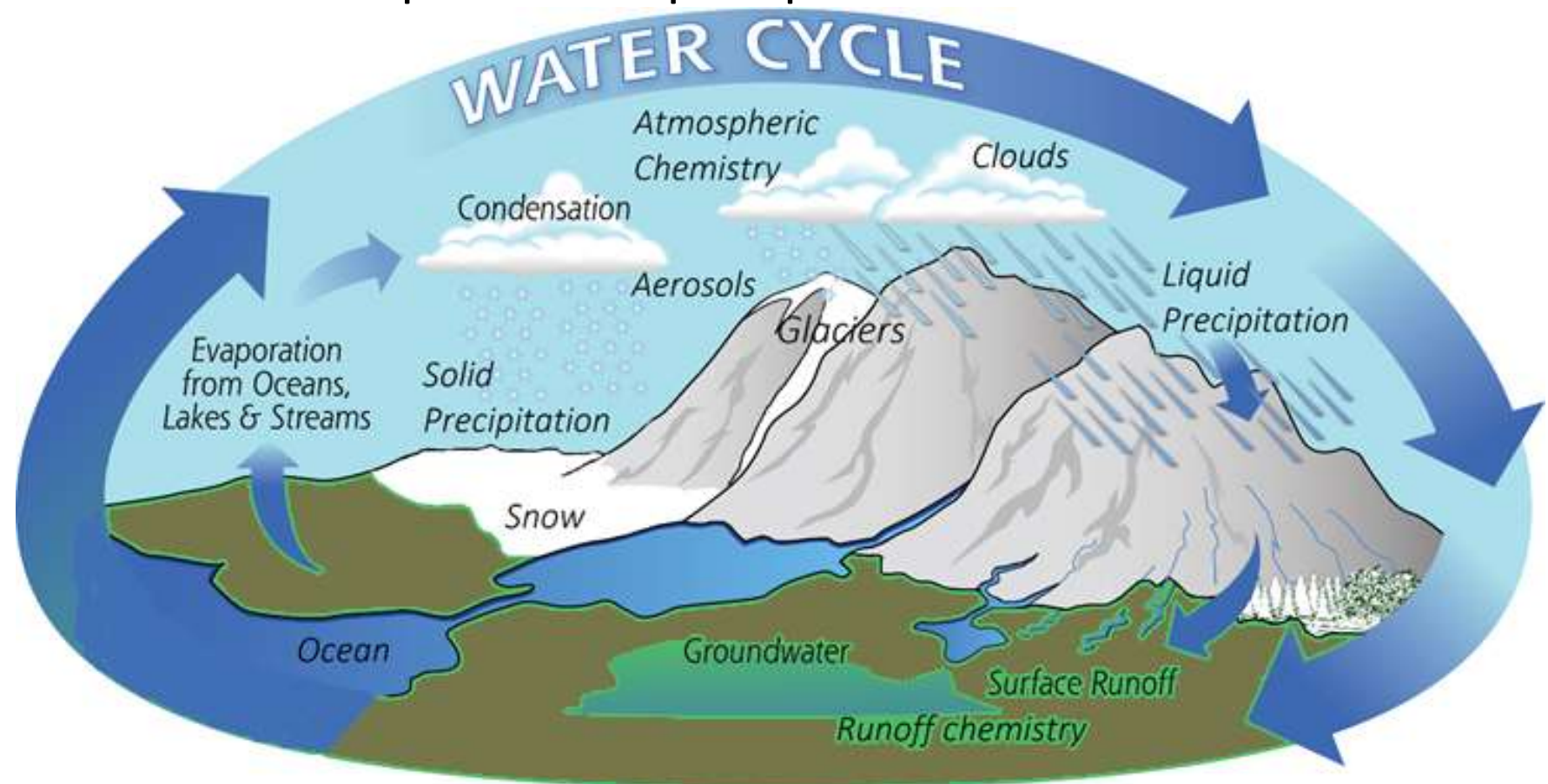
- to understand changes in the water cycle in the Arctic
- to study biogeochemical cycles in the Arctic
- to quantify wet and dry deposition in the Arctic



ARCSNOW: Snow-atmosphere interactions and deposition in the Arctic

ARCSNOW includes

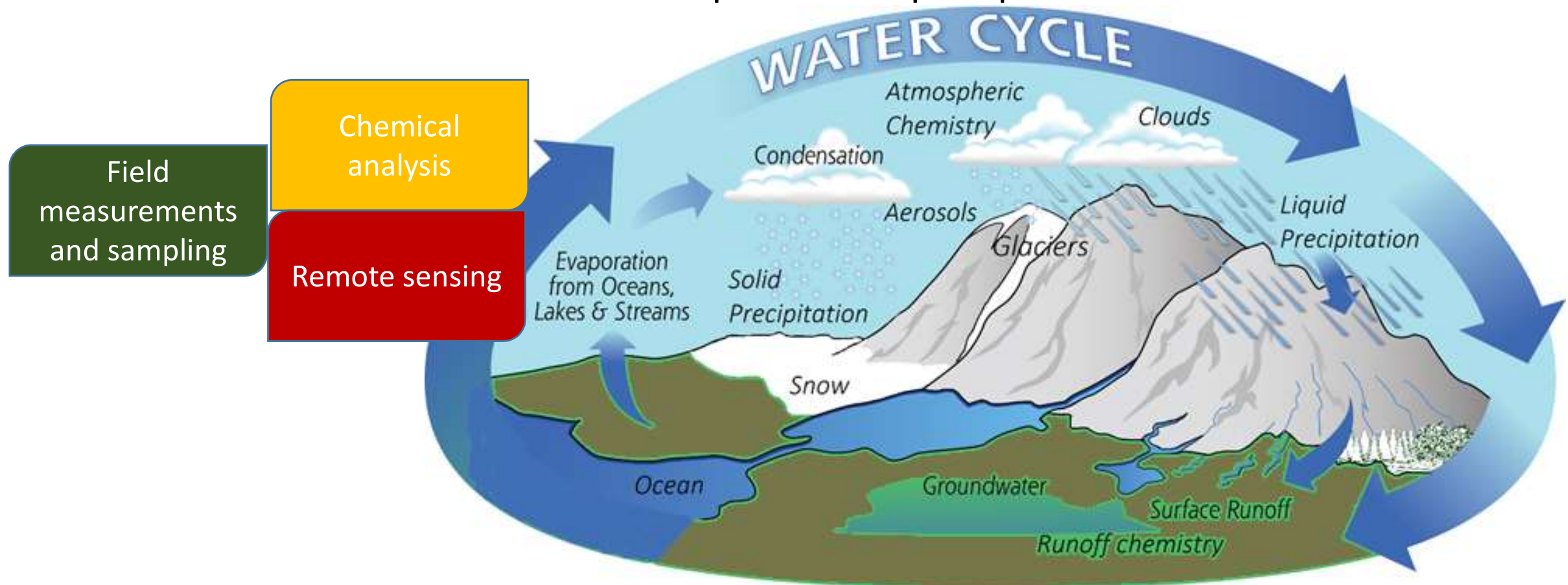
- **year-round observations** of precipitation and snow
- the determination of snowpack properties and their spatial variability
- the determination of the chemical composition of precipitation and snow



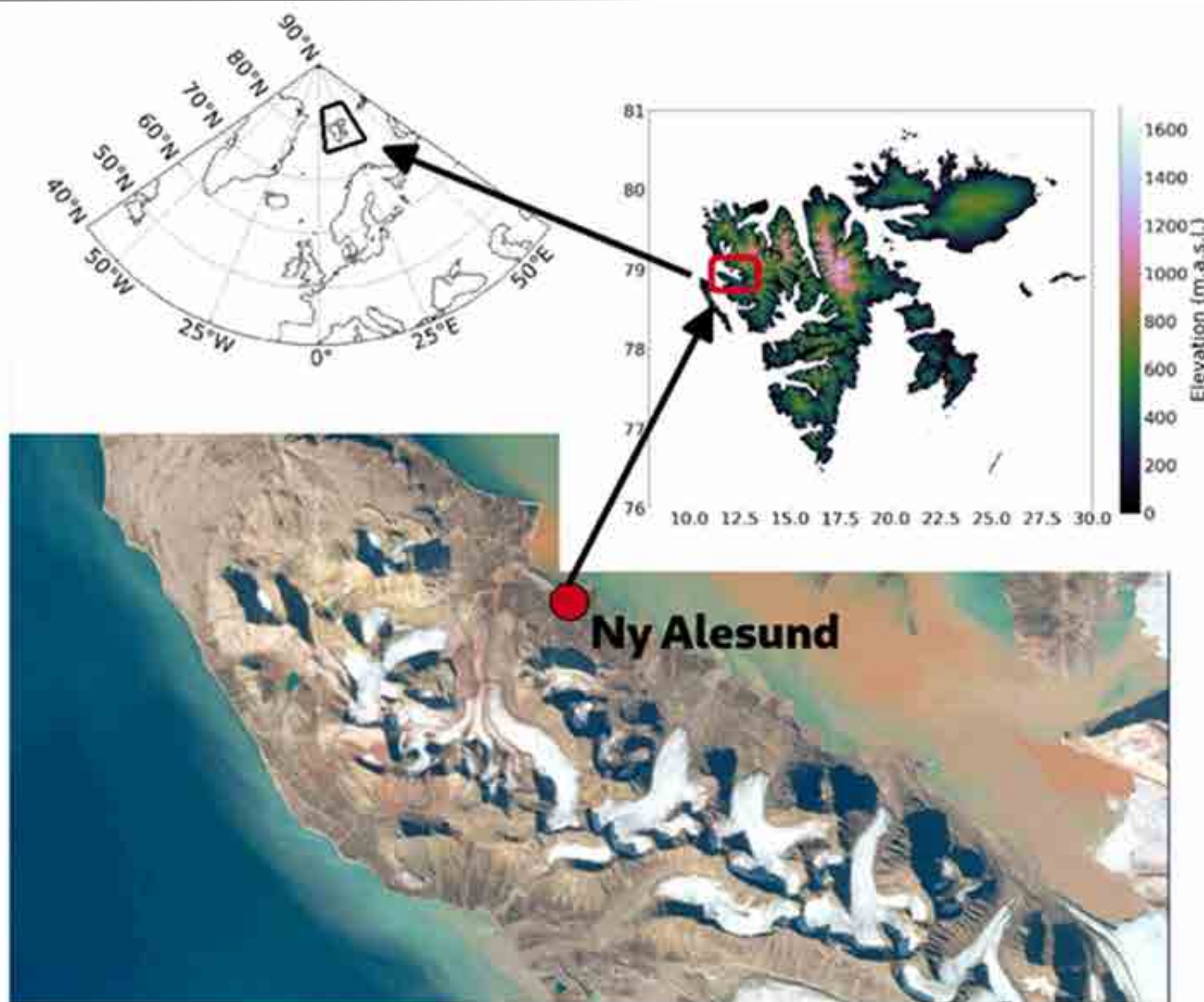
ARCSNOW: Snow-atmosphere interactions and deposition in the Arctic

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- year-round observations of precipitation and snow
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ARCSNOW: Observations at Ny-Alesund, Svalbard



ARCSNOW: Observations at Ny-Alesund, Svalbard



© ESA Sentinel-2 31/08/2017

Brøgger peninsula 206 km²

10

ARCSNOW: Observations at Ny-Alesund, Svalbard

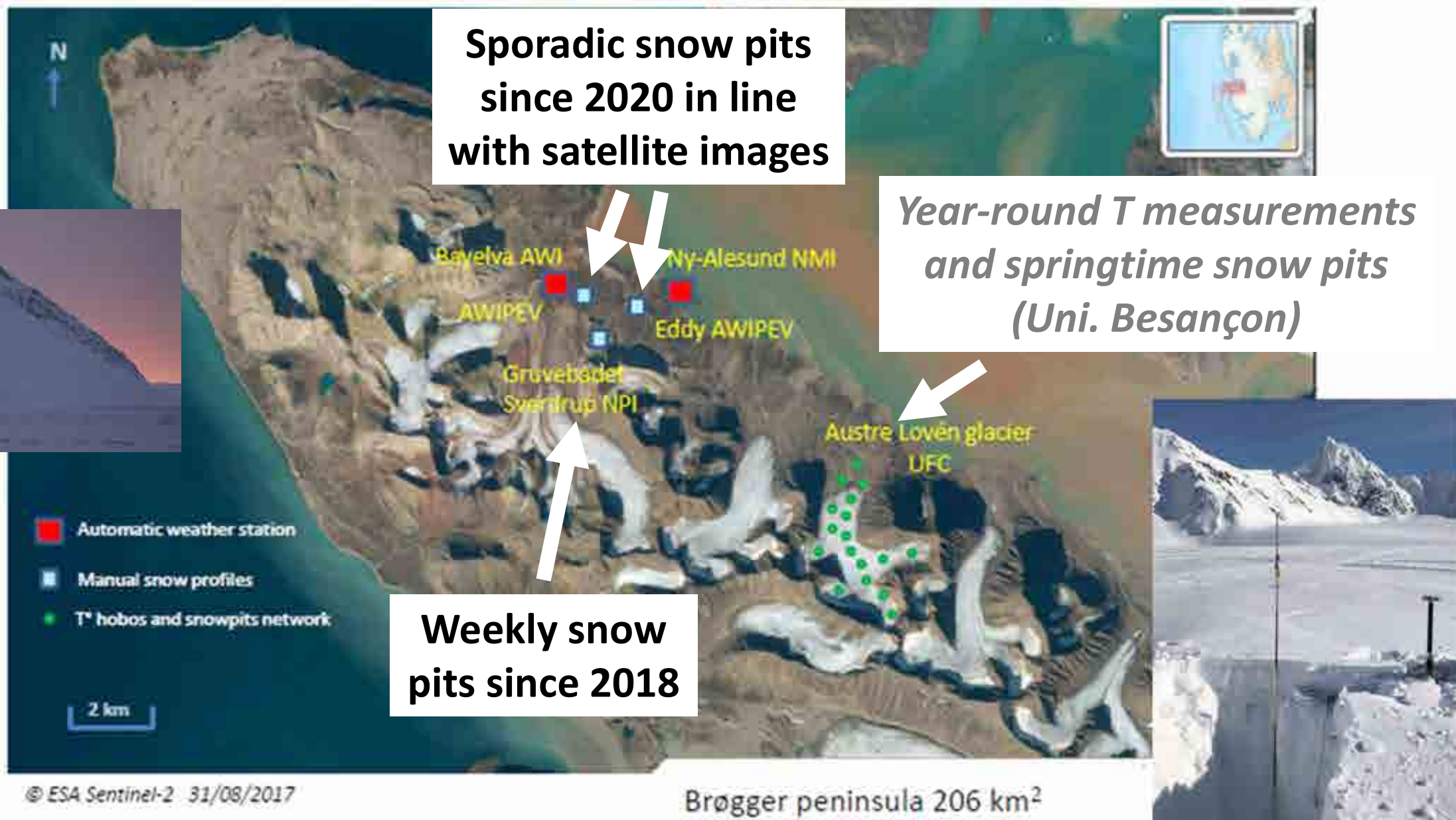


© ESA Sentinel-2 31/08/2017

Brøgger peninsula 206 km²

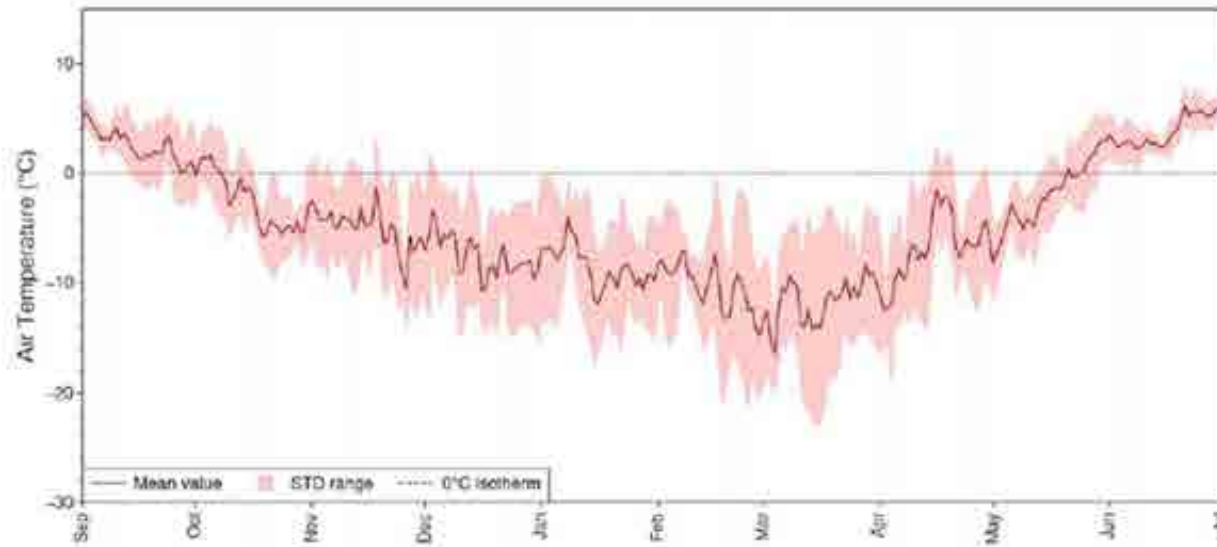


ARCSNOW: Observations at Ny-Alesund, Svalbard

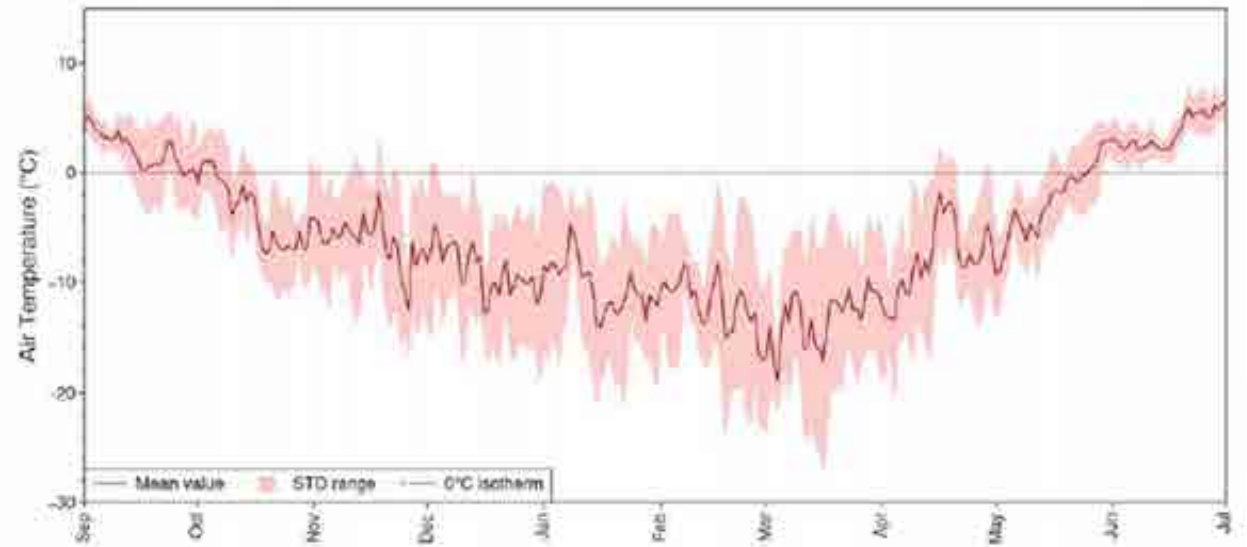


Observations at Ny-Alesund and Bayelva: Temperature and snow depth 2018-2023

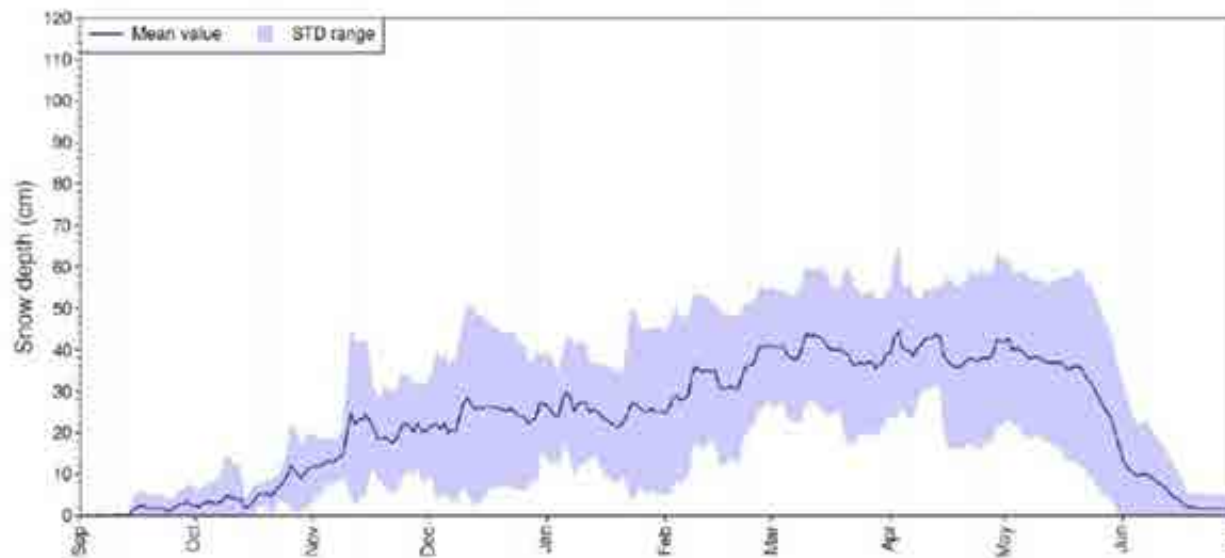
Air Temperature Ny-Alesund 2018 - 2023



Air Temperature Bayelva 2018 - 2023



Snow depth Ny-Alesund 2018 - 2023



Snow depth Bayelva 2018 - 2023

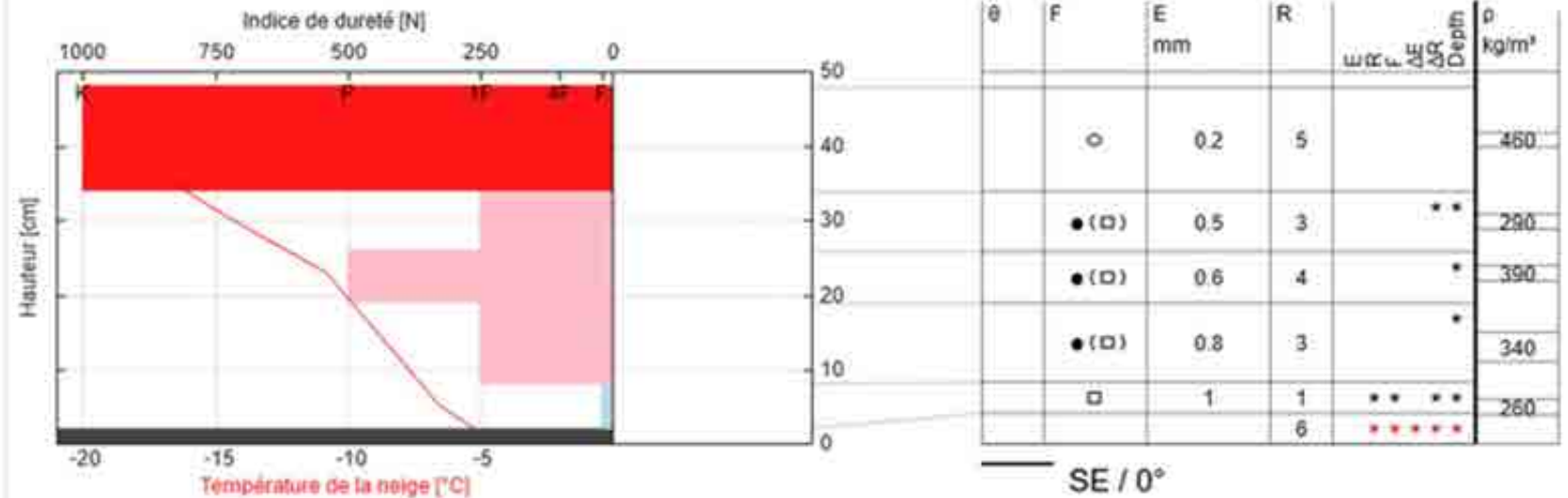


ARCSNOW: Weekly snow pits at Gruvebadet

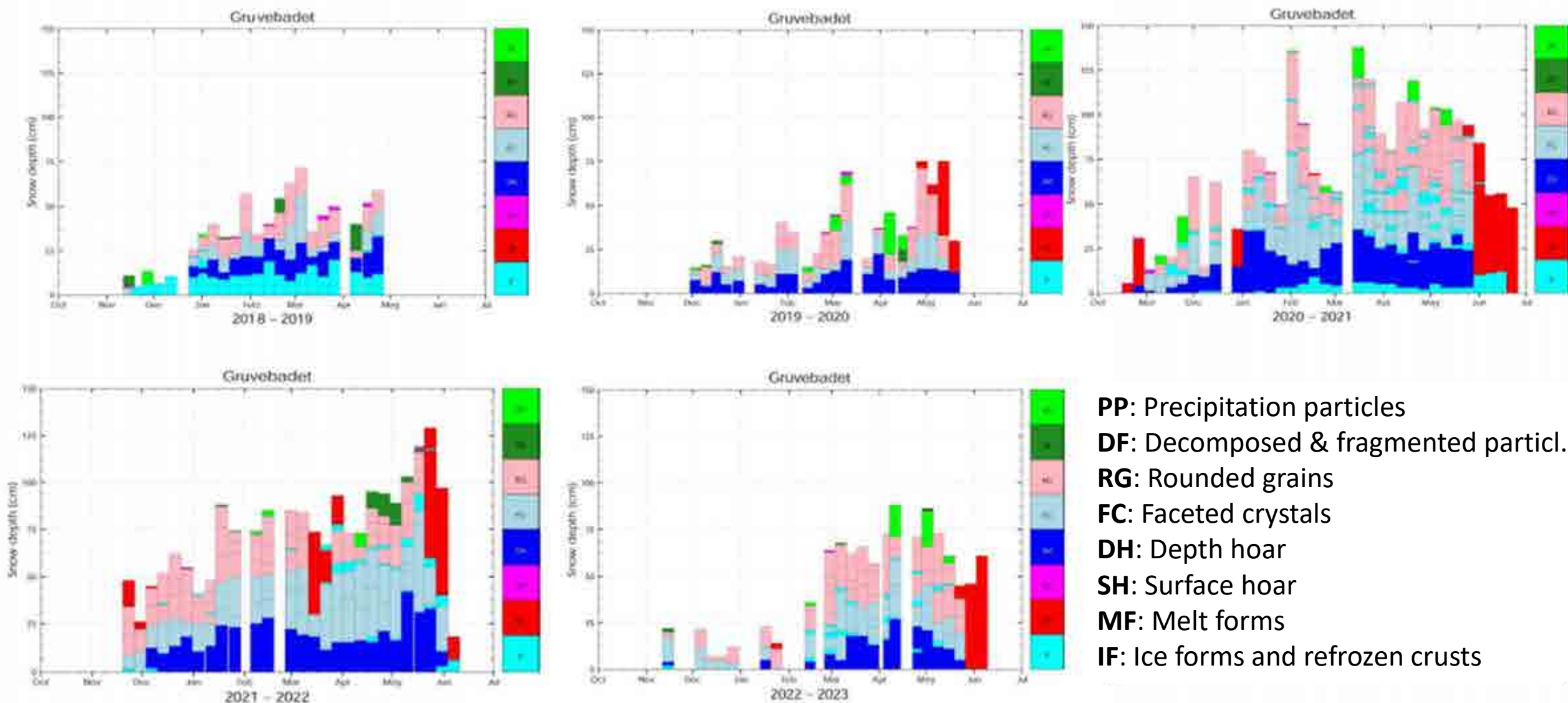


Profile View - 202111231333.SimpleProfile-v5.caaml

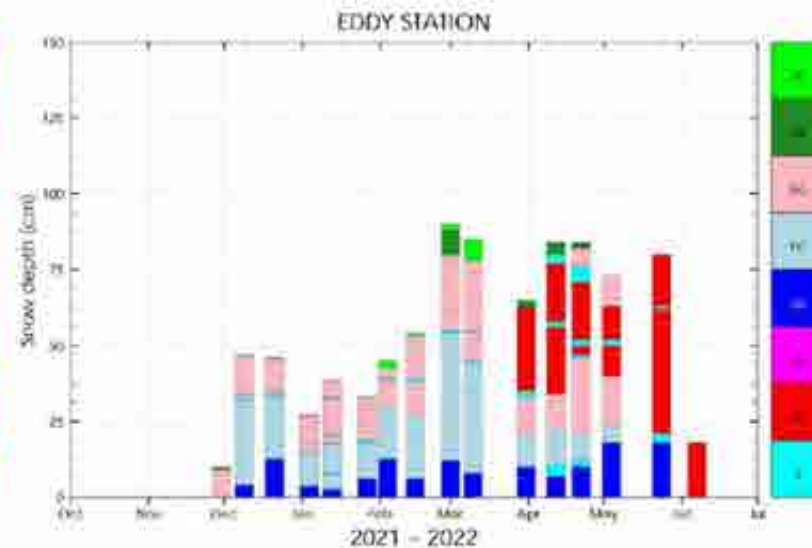
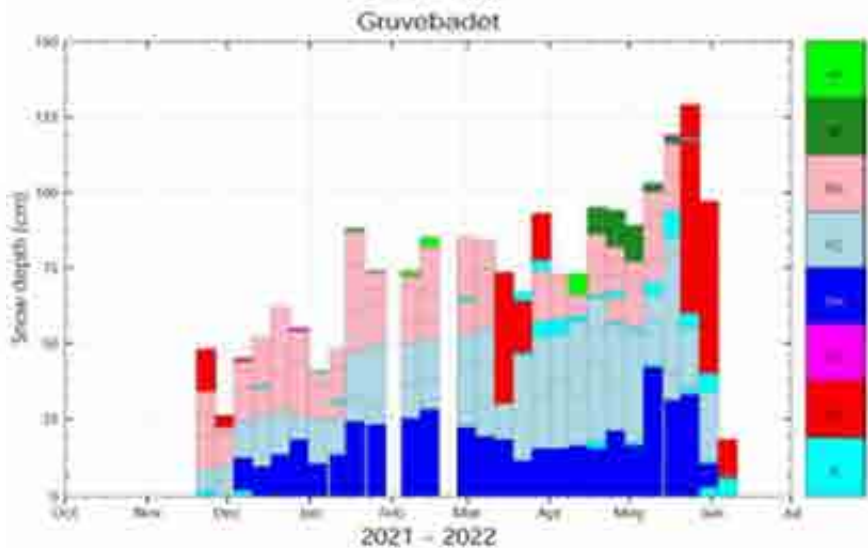
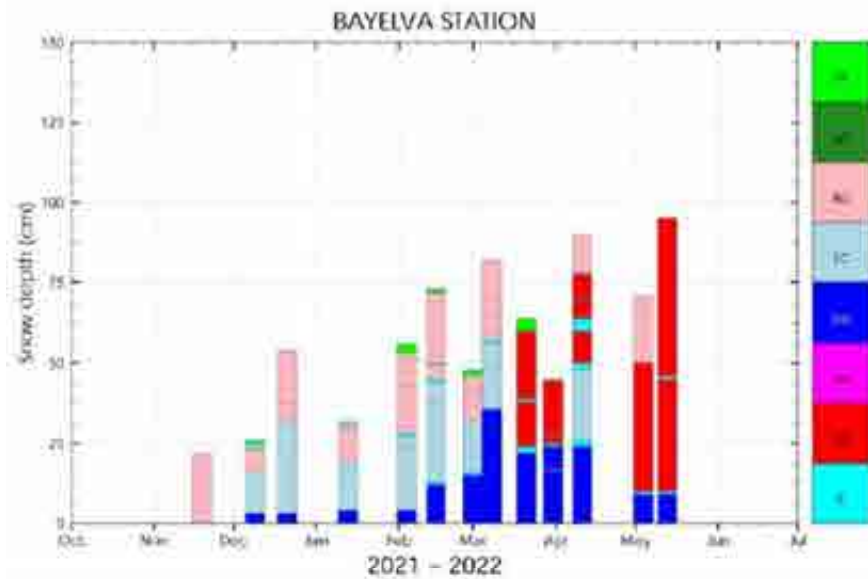
Lieu: Gruvebadet - Ny-Ålesund		Date / Heure: 2021.11.23 13:33 +01:00
Observateur: CG, RJ, CS, GT, FR, YD, HWJ		Température de l'air: -13.5 °C
Altitude: 40 m		Nébulosité: clair (0/8)
Exposition: SE / Inclinaison: 0°		Vent: SE / 13.5 km/h
Coordonnées: 78.91689 / 11.89778		Résistance moy. au battage:
Masse vol. moy.: --		
Remarques: SWE= 581 + 504		



ARCSNOW: High annual variability at Gruvebadet

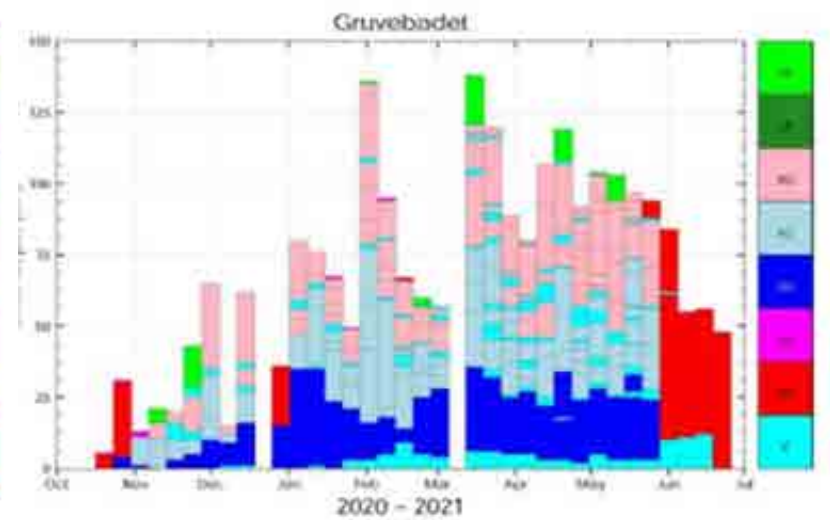
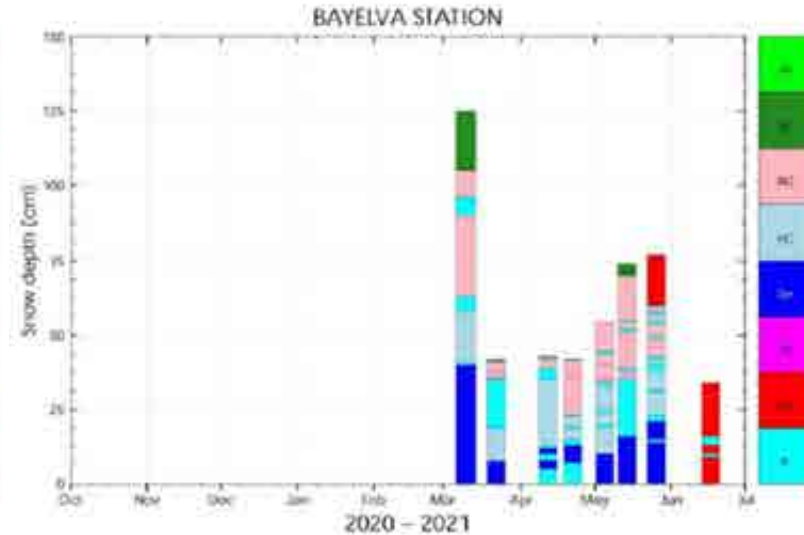
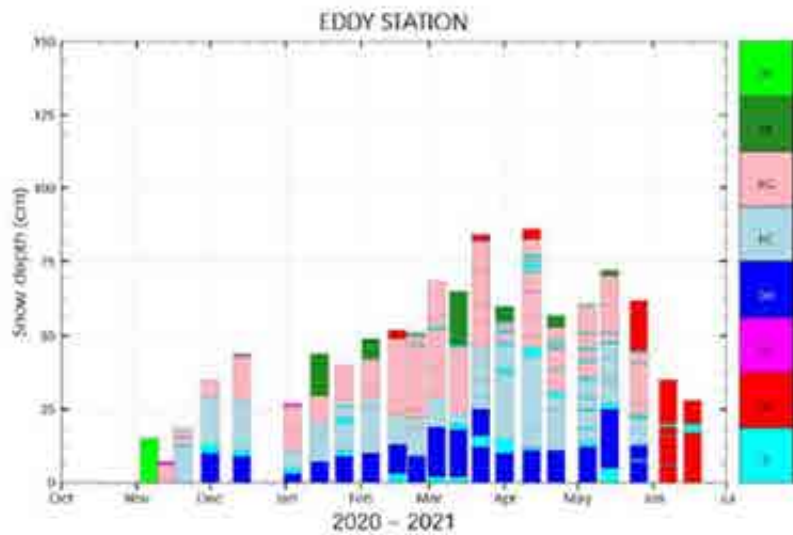


ARCSNOW: High spatial variability



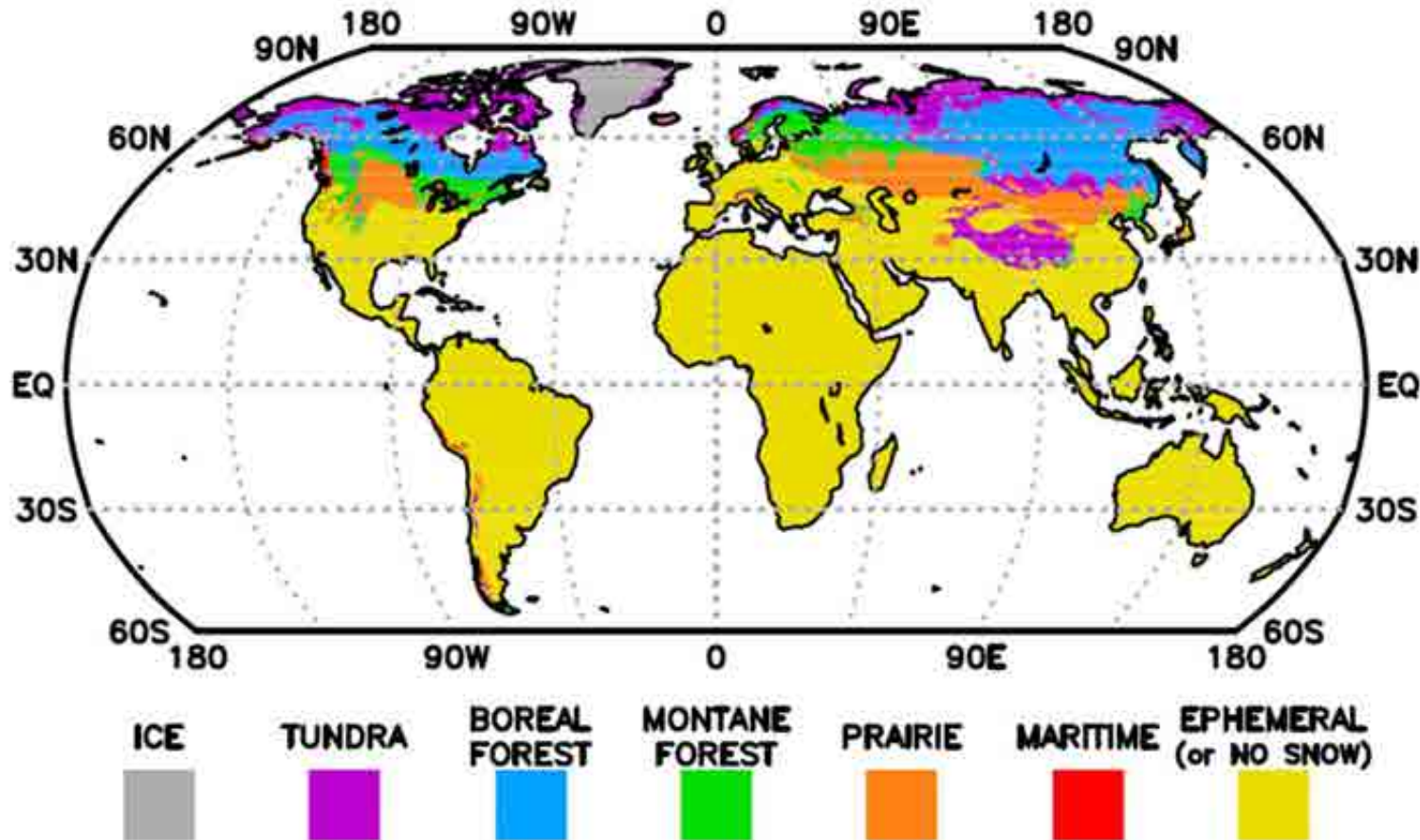
PP: Precipitation particles
DF: Decomposed & fragmented particl.
RG: Rounded grains
FC: Faceted crystals
DH: Depth hoar
SH: Surface hoar
MF: Melt forms
IF: Ice forms and refrozen crusts

ARCSNOW: High spatial variability

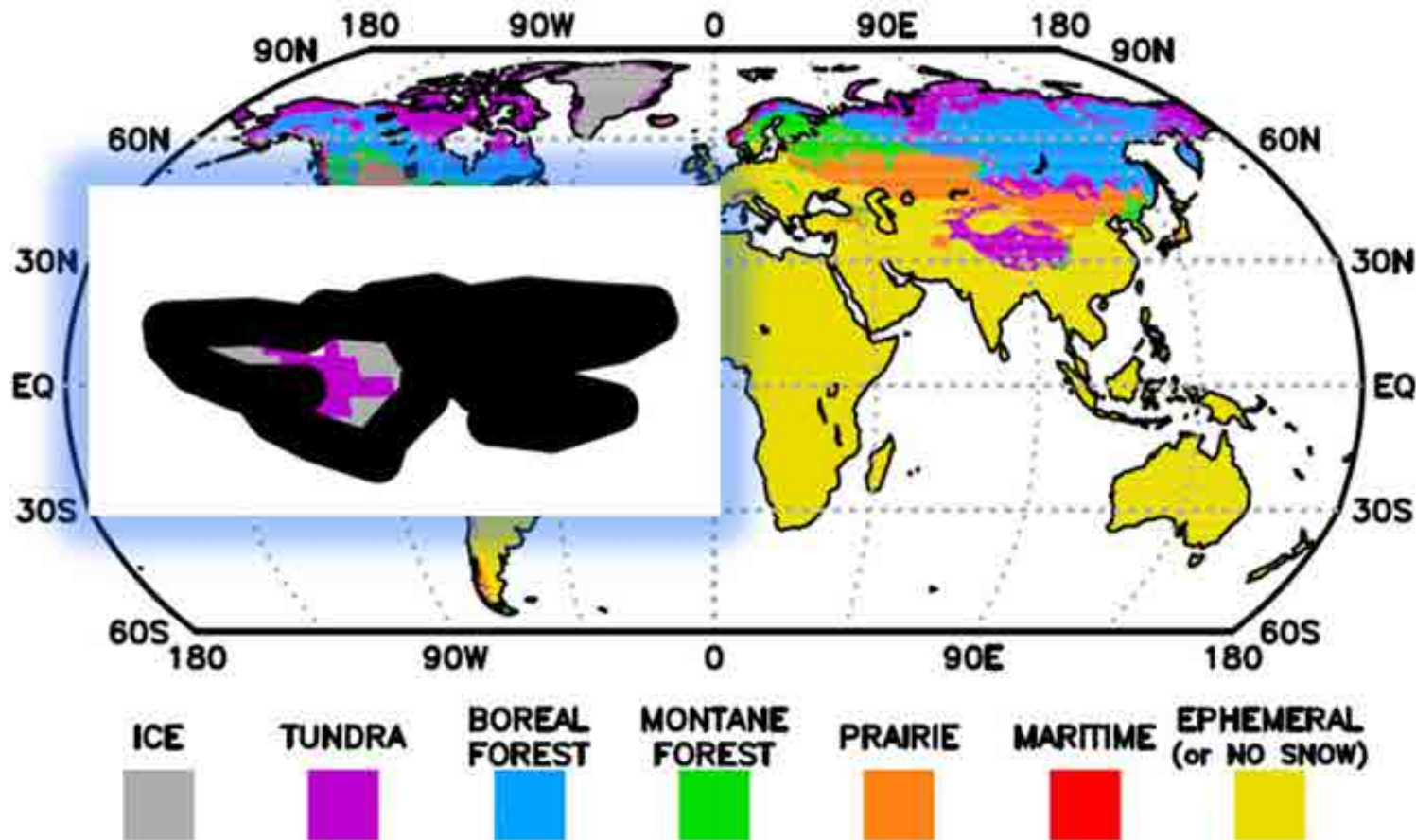


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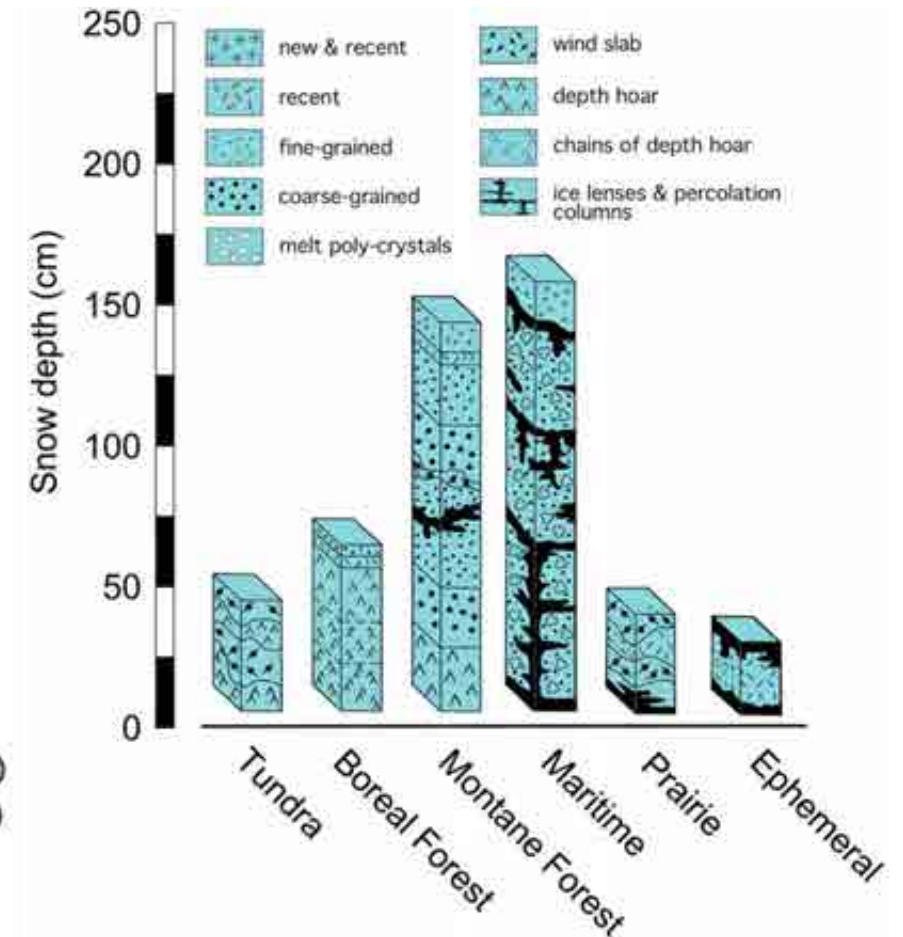
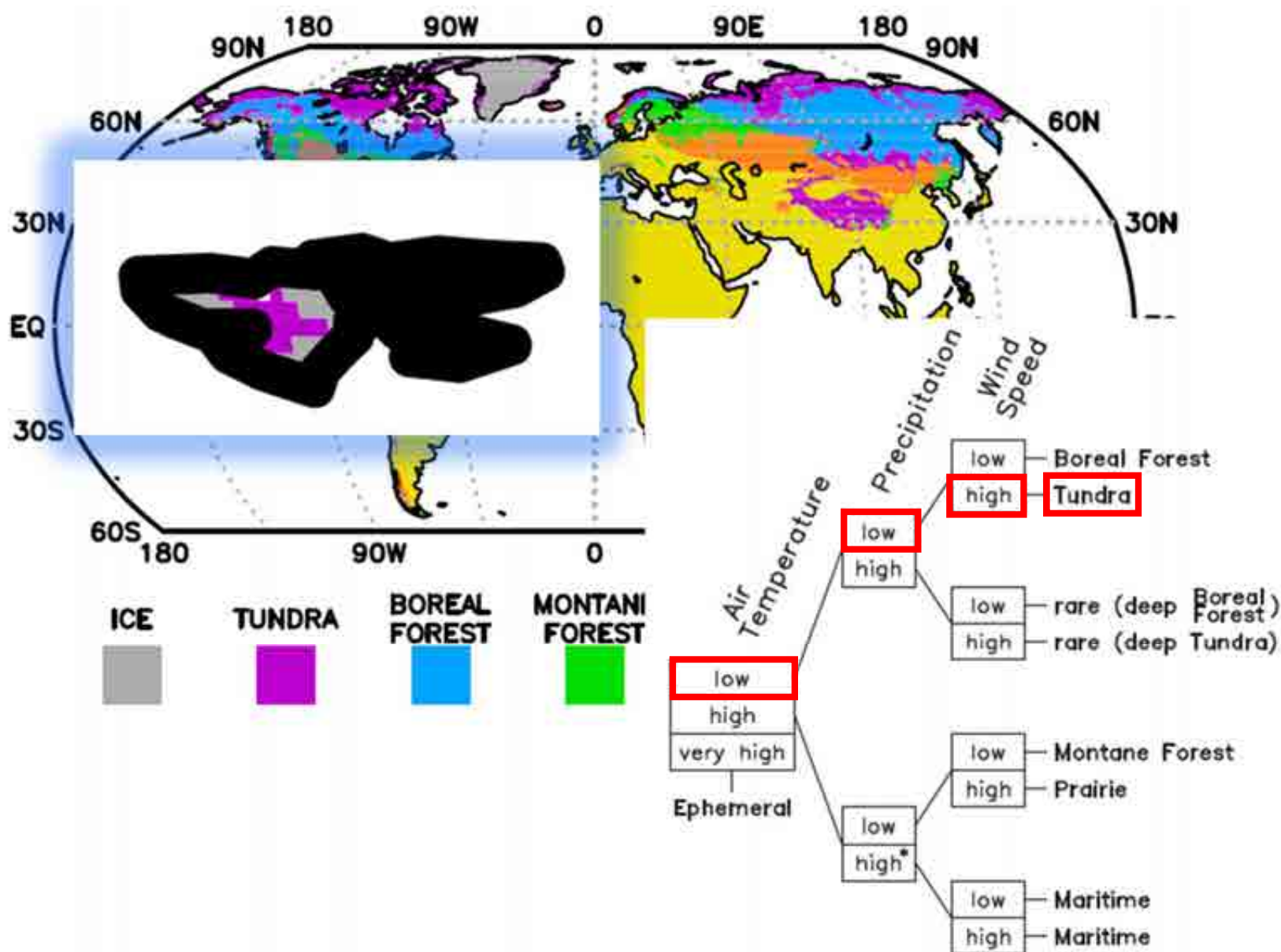
What class of snow at Ny-Alesund to expect?



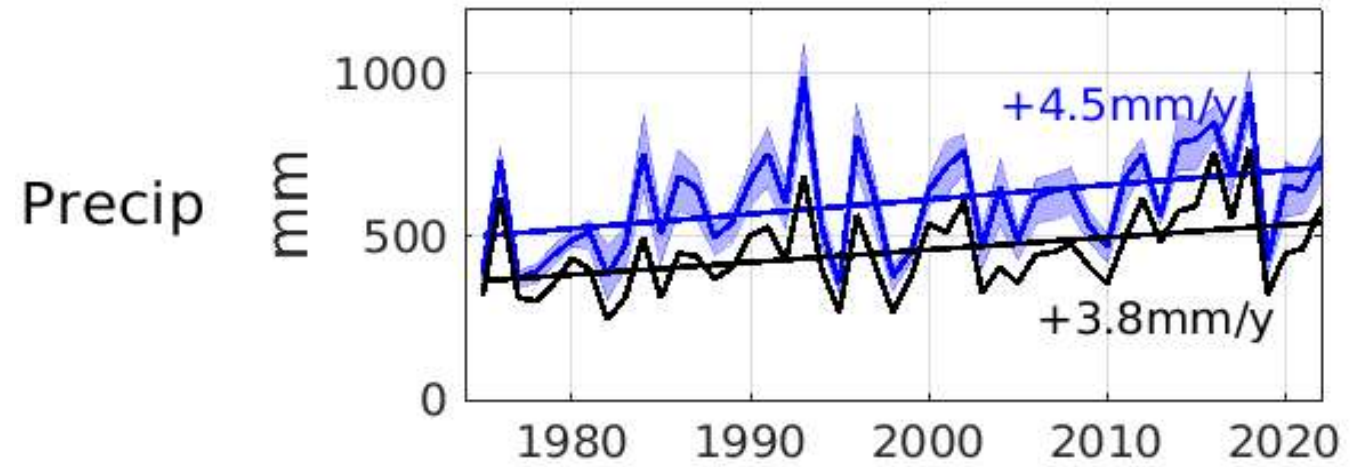
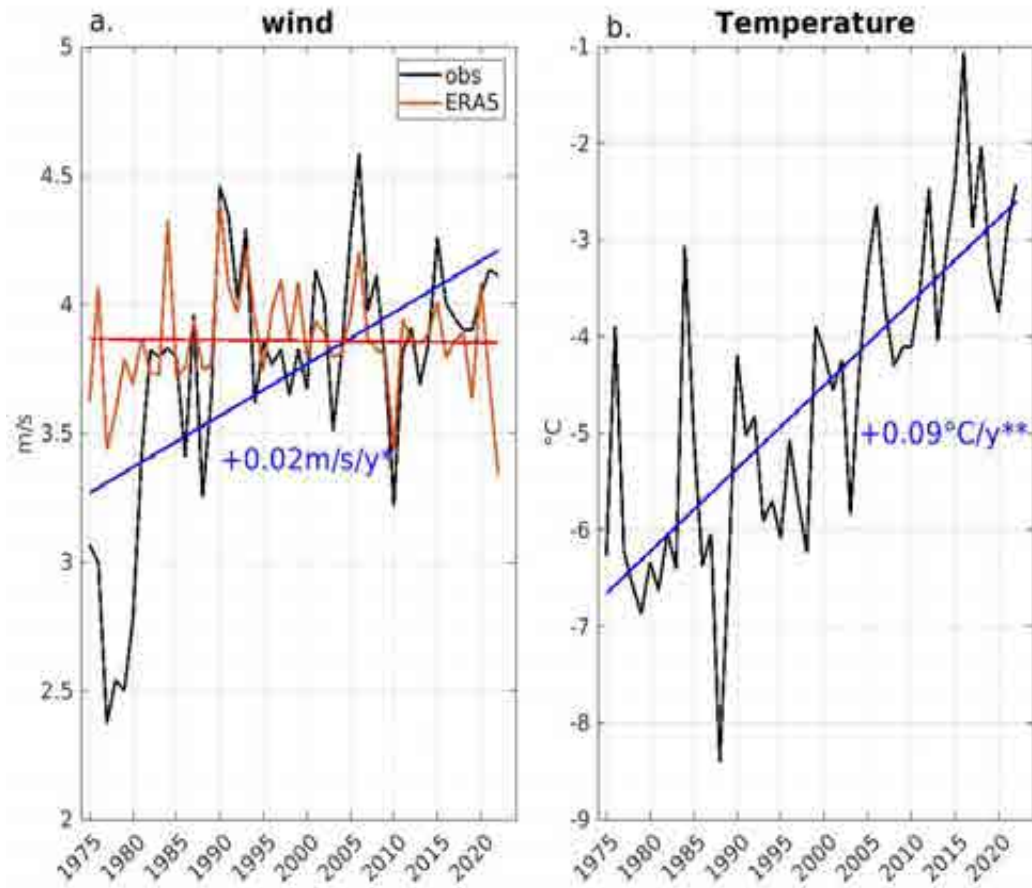
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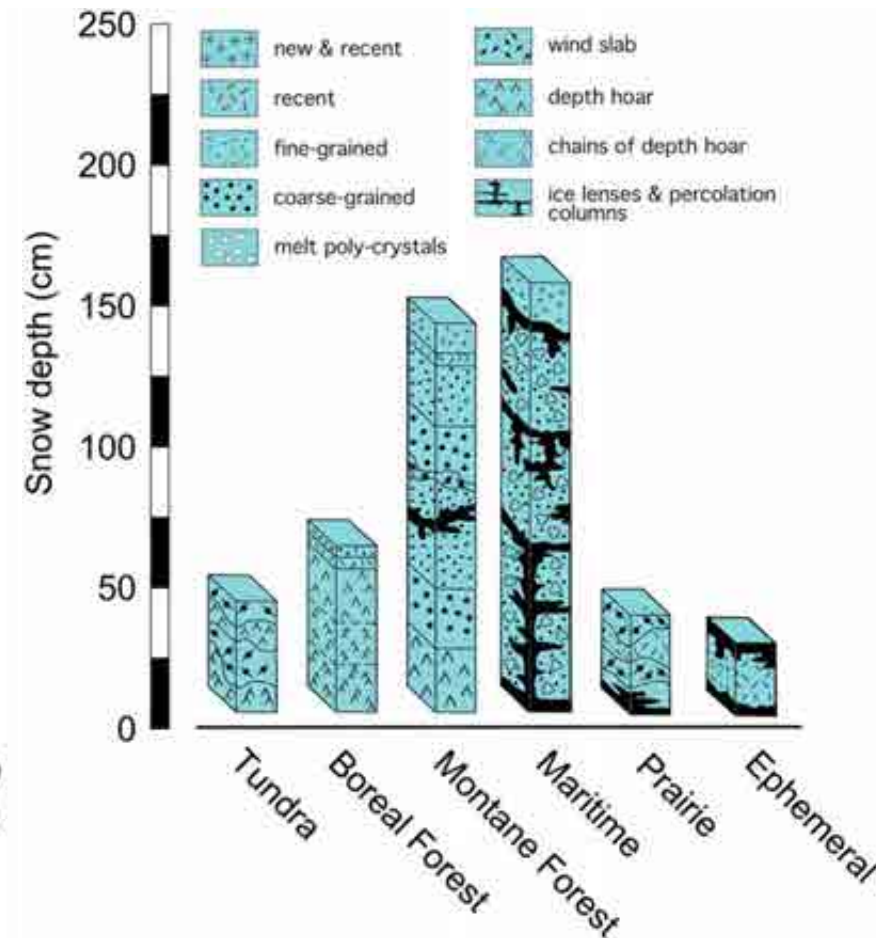
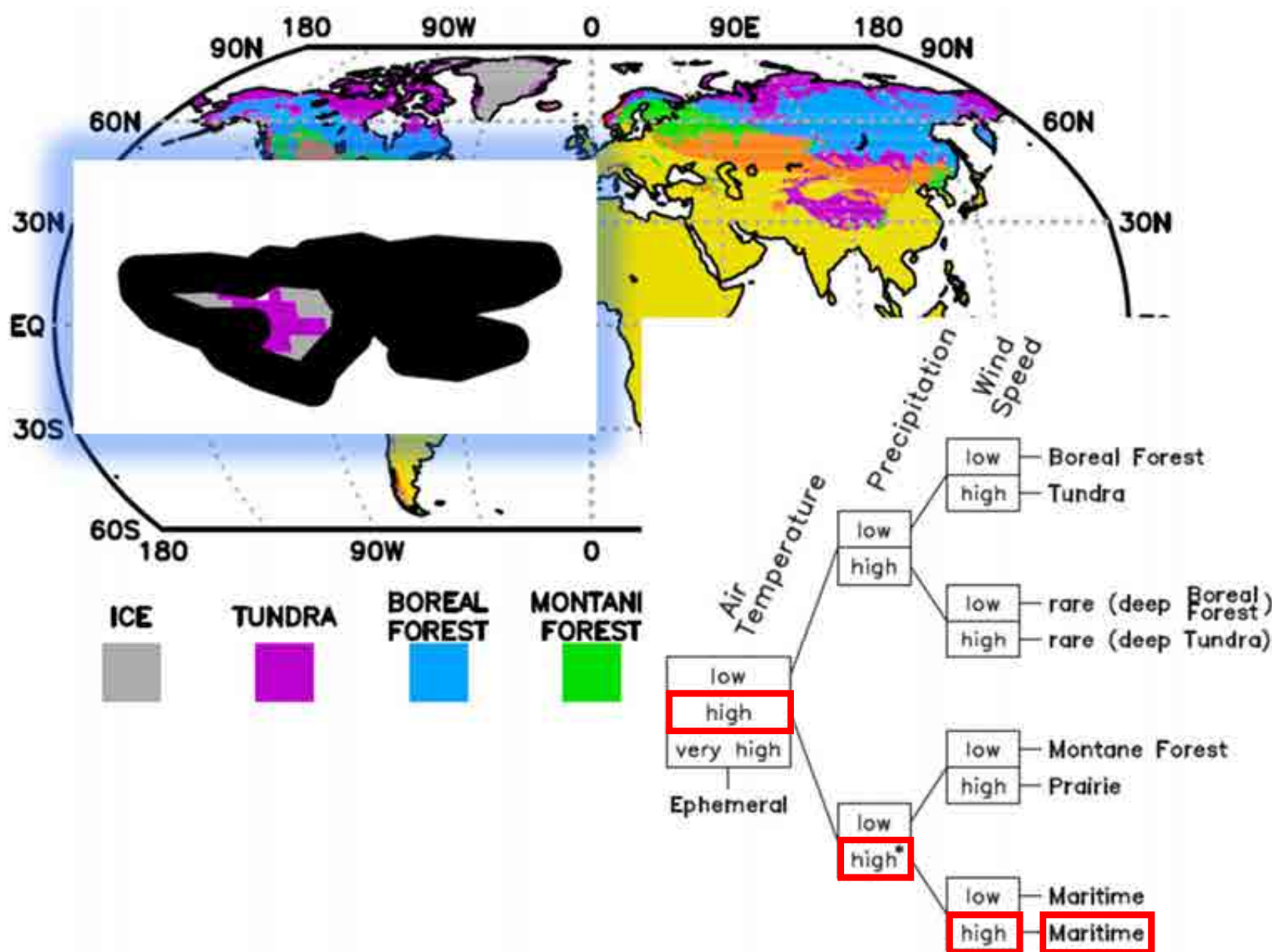


Strong changes in the last 48 years at Ny-Alesund



	Trend 1975 – 2022	Increase
Wind speed – Observations	$+0,02 \text{ m s}^{-1}$ per year	$\sim 1 \text{ m s}^{-1}$
Wind speed – ERA 5	No trend	0
Temperature	$+0,09^{\circ}\text{C}$ per year	$+4,3^{\circ}\text{C}$
Precipitation	$+4,5 \text{ mm}$ per year	$+220 \text{ mm}$

What class of snow at Ny-Alesund to expect?



ARCSNOW: Use remote sensing techniques to address the spatial variability of snow properties

Ascending and descending tracks representation on Brøgger peninsula

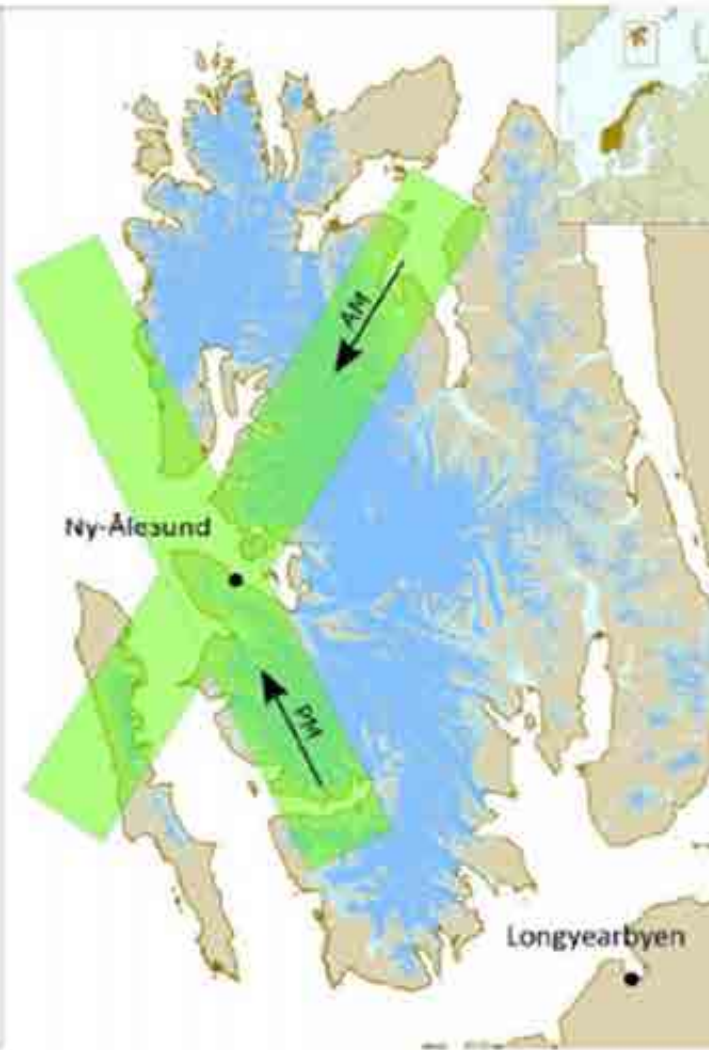
Topography

- Settlement
- Land
- Tracks

Glaciology

- Deltas
- Moraines
- Glaciers

0 250 500 750 1000 km



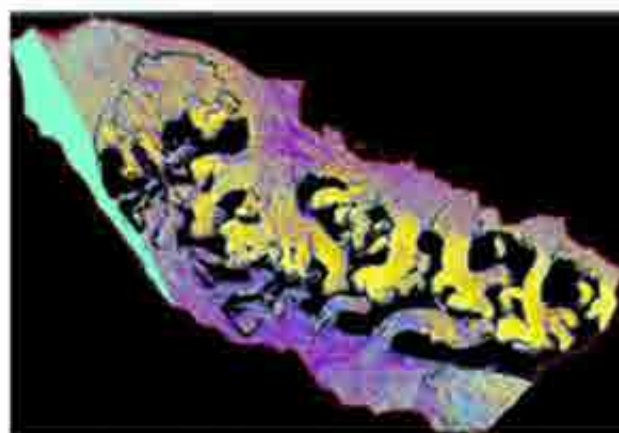
Satellite TerraSAR-X (DLR)

- regular SAR Images since September 2018
- 36h pairwise orbits : over path at 06:30 and 15:40 UTC
- 11-day cycle
- X-band = 3.1 cm (9.6 GHz)
- 5-m resolution

ARCSNOW: Mapping of snow metamorphism at a regional scale

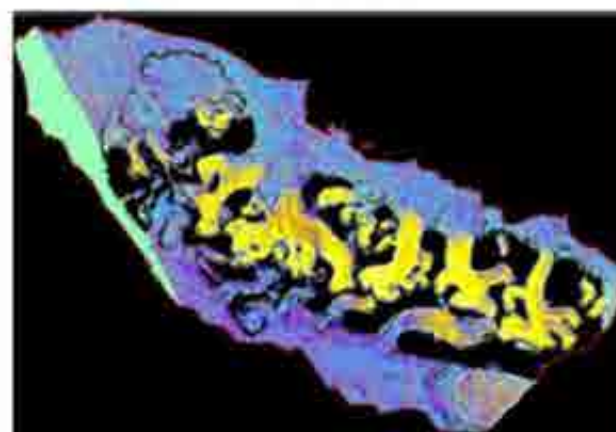
Cross-polar difference: polarimetric SAR method to determine the degree of snow metamorphism from dry (positive °) to transformed (negative °)

Three representative cases of snow metamorphism
(all areas are covered by snow ; terrestrial black: slopes > 25°= SAR shadow mask)



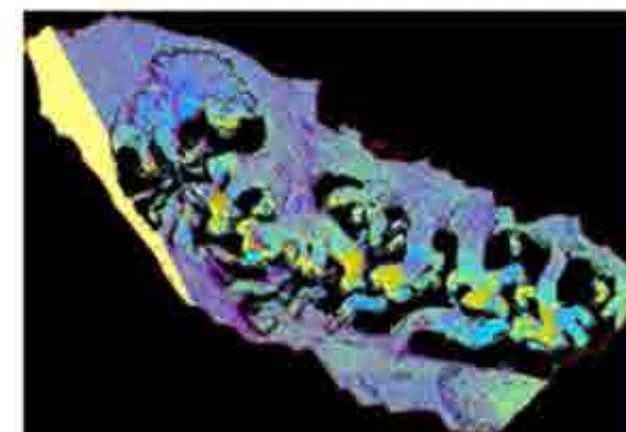
13.12.2020

Dry fresh snow
(precipitation particles
to fragmented)



05.03.2021

Transformed snow
(rounded grains and
faceted crystals)



14.04.2019

Rain event, snow
with melt forms
(LWC)

WM



MM



HM

CPD 45° to 180°

CPD 0° to 45°

CPD 0° to -45°

CPD -45° to -180°

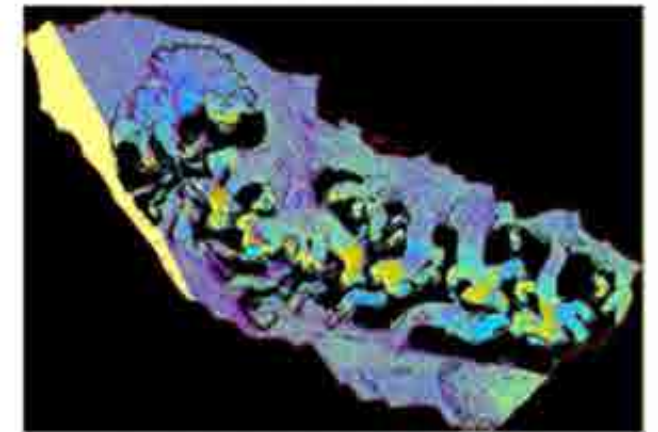
WM: weakly metamorphosed ; MM: moderately metamorphosed ; HM: highly metamorphosed

ARCSNOW: Mapping of snow metamorphism at a regional scale



31/01/2024
c/o Mathilde Carbonnel

... of snow metamorphism
(°)



14.04.2019

Rain event, snow
with melt forms
(LWC)

WM

CPD 45° to 180°

MM

CPD 0° to 45°

CPD 0° to -45°

HM

CPD -45° to -180°

WM: weakly metamorphosed ; MM: moderately metamorphosed ; HM: highly metamorphosed



ARCSNOW: Characterization of rain-on-snow (ROS) events at Ny-Alesund

Sensors design and ROS events

Sensor	Radarsat Constellation Mission (RCM)	TerraSAR-X (TSX)
Band	C	X
Frequency (GHz)	5.4	9.6
Wavelength (cm)	5.6	3.1
Repeat cycle (day)	4	11
Resolution (m)	5 (CP) & 9 (QP)	5
Incidence Angle (°)	33 to 43	36 to 39
Acquisition mode	Quad-Pol & Comp-Pol (SLC)	Dual-Pol HH VV (SLC)

Liquid precipitation at Ny-Alesund

ROS dates	P (mm)	RCM	TSX
05 - 10/02/2017	75	/	X
13 - 14/01/2018	64	/	X
27/02/2018	45	/	X
17 - 18/04/2019	43	/	X
03 - 04/01/2021	27	/	X
15 - 16/03/2022	63	X	/
02 - 03/12/2022	53	X	/
22 - 24/05/2023	42	X	X

ARCSNOW: Workflow for SAR data processing

PRE-PROCESSING

(radio- & geometric correction)

MASTER IMAGES

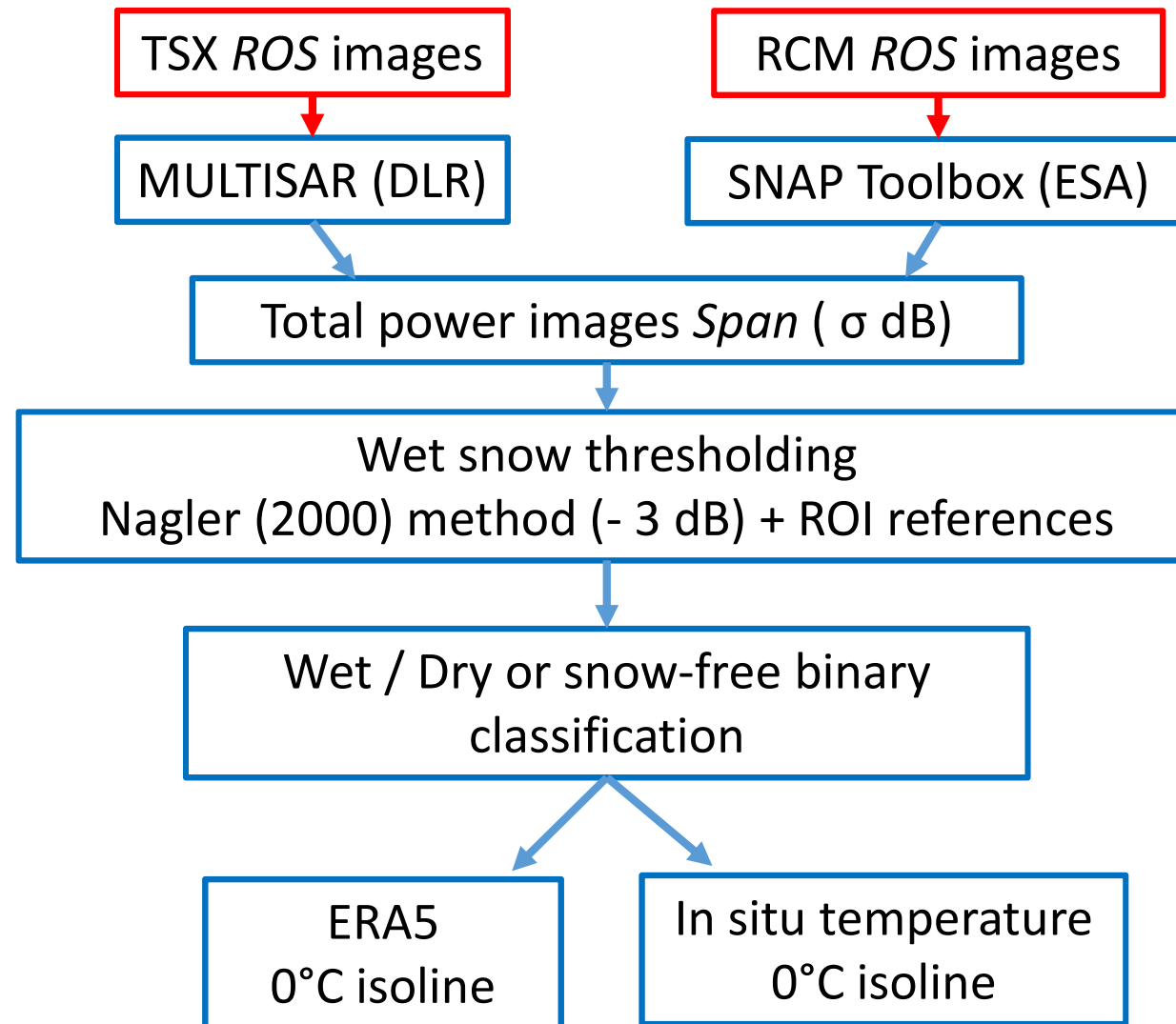
for dry snow

(13/12/20, 01/01/22, 06/02/22)

OUTPUT PRODUCTS

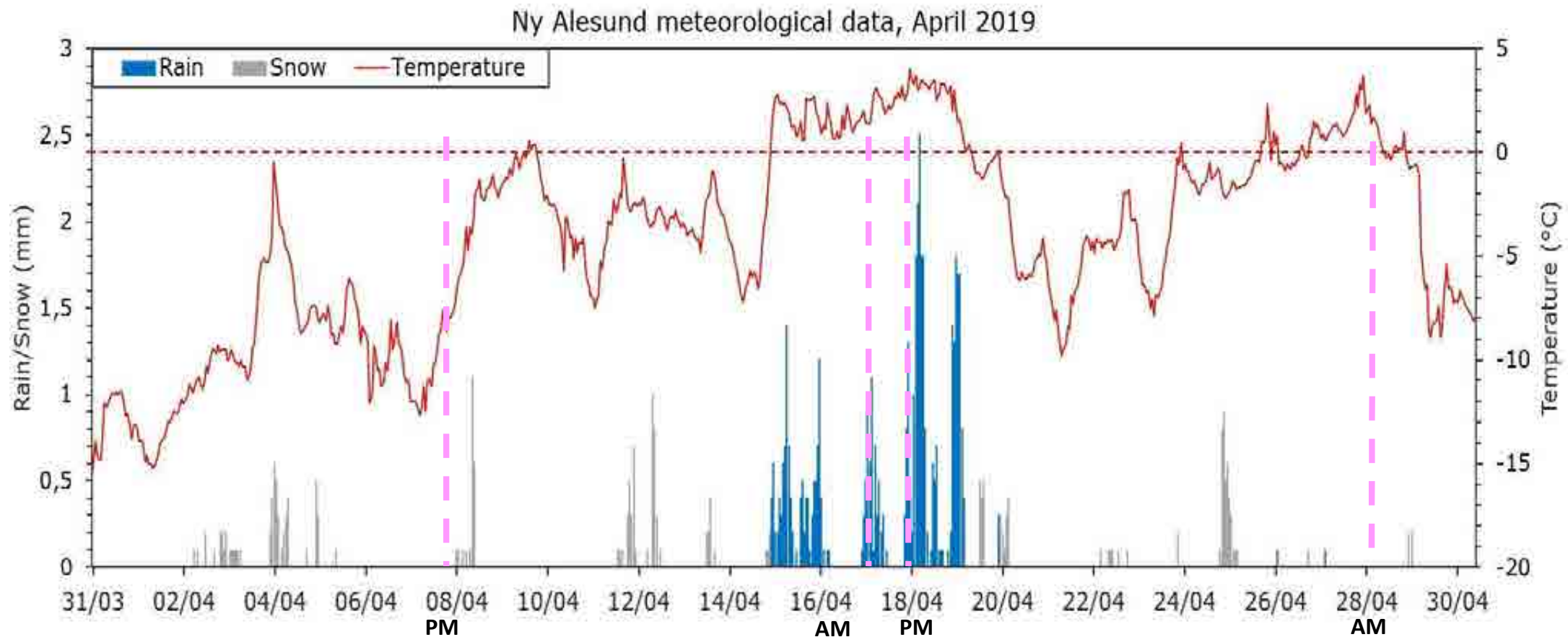
(mapping)

VALIDATION



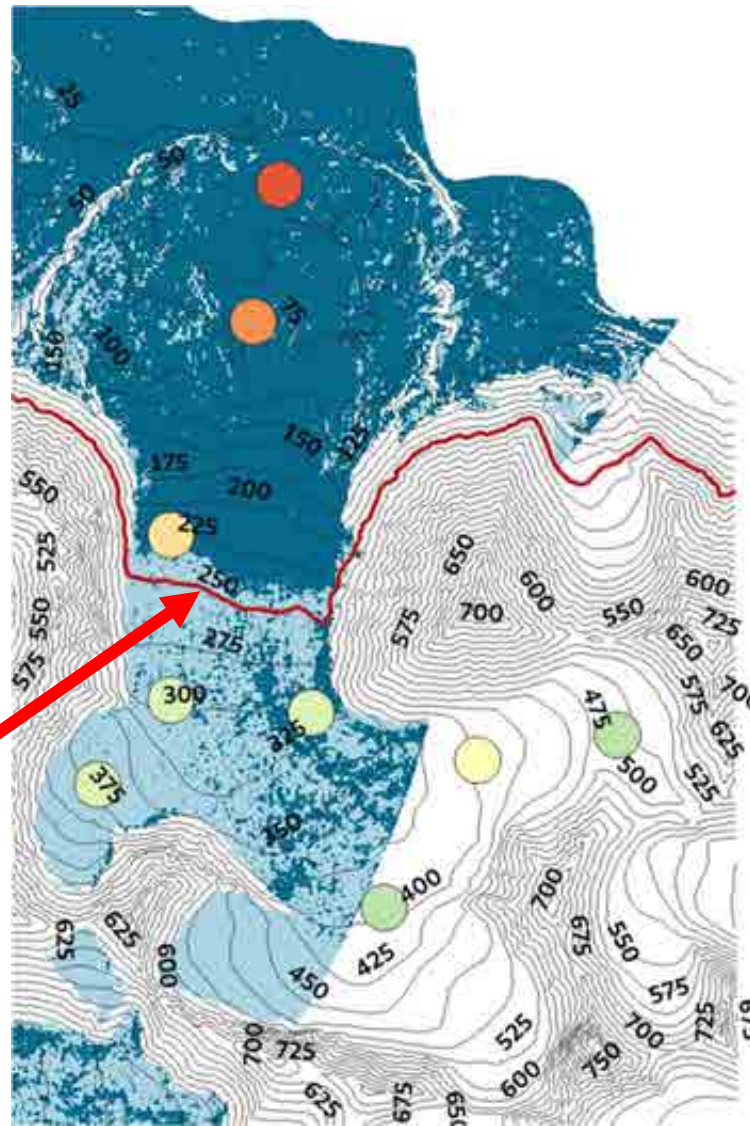
ARCSNOW: ROS event characterization using TerraSAR-X

Example of 17 - 18/04/2019 event ($P = 43.1$ mm, $T_{\max} = 4.6$ °C)

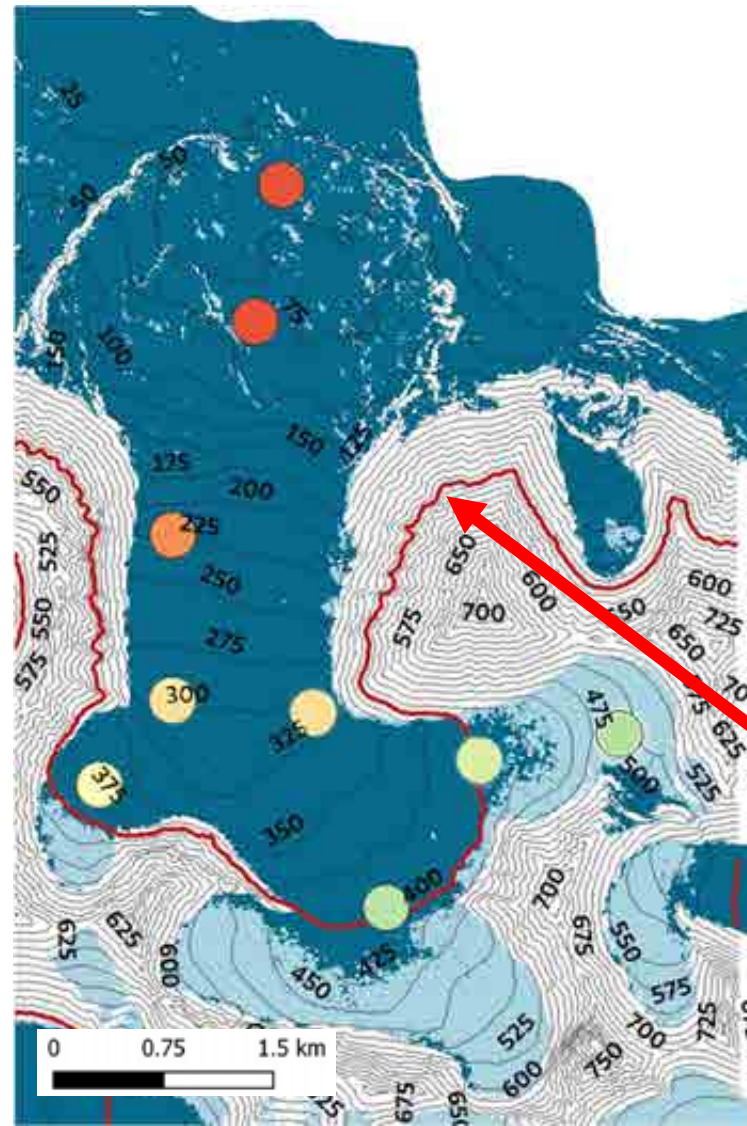


— TerraSAR-X
— registration date and mode

ARCSNOW: Development of the ROS event on the Austre Lovénbren

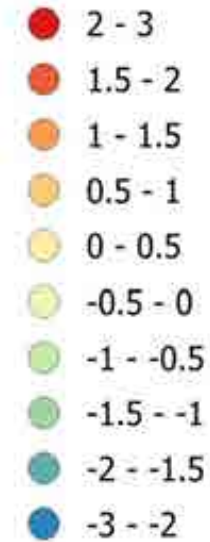


17 April 2019



18 April 2019

In situ temperature in °C

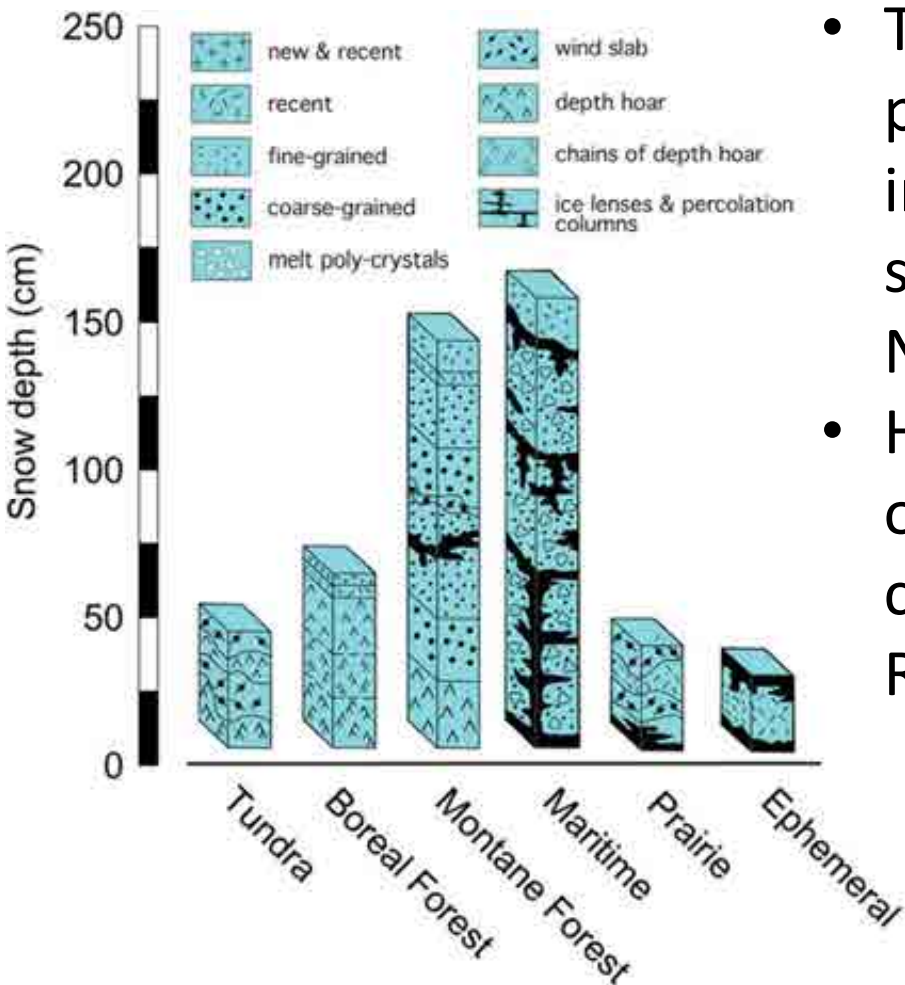


ERA5 0°C isoline

No SAR data
(layover mask)

Conclusions

- The changes in Ny-Alesund (as well as in the Arctic!) have been very strong (temperature, precipitation) leading to a very strong impact on snow properties.



- The variability of the snowpack properties is very high (documented in detail since 2016). A typical tundra snowpack sometimes still forms at Ny-Alesund.
- However, properties of a snowpack of a warmer climate are more common (melt forms, ice layers, ROS).
- High resolution data can be used to characterize ROS events, i.e. identify regions not impacted by ROS.

