

# CCI+ Permafrost

climate change initiative

→ PERMAFROST



permafrost  
cci

<http://cci.esa.int/Permafrost>

# What CCI+ Permafrost is about



- Permafrost cannot be directly detected from space.
- but many surface variables relevant for characterizing the state of permafrost (LST, SWE, land cover) can be observed with space-based Earth Observation.
- Permafrost\_cci will provide for different epochs consistent global maps of the parameters permafrost temperature and active layer thickness based on Earth Observation records ingested into a permafrost model scheme.
- Validation and evaluation efforts comprise comparison to in-situ measurements of subsurface properties (active layer depth, active layer and permafrost temperatures, organic layer thickness, liquid water content in the active layer and permafrost) and surface properties (vegetation cover, snow depth, surface and air temperatures) as well as rock glacier inventories, local permafrost maps and geophysical survey measurements.

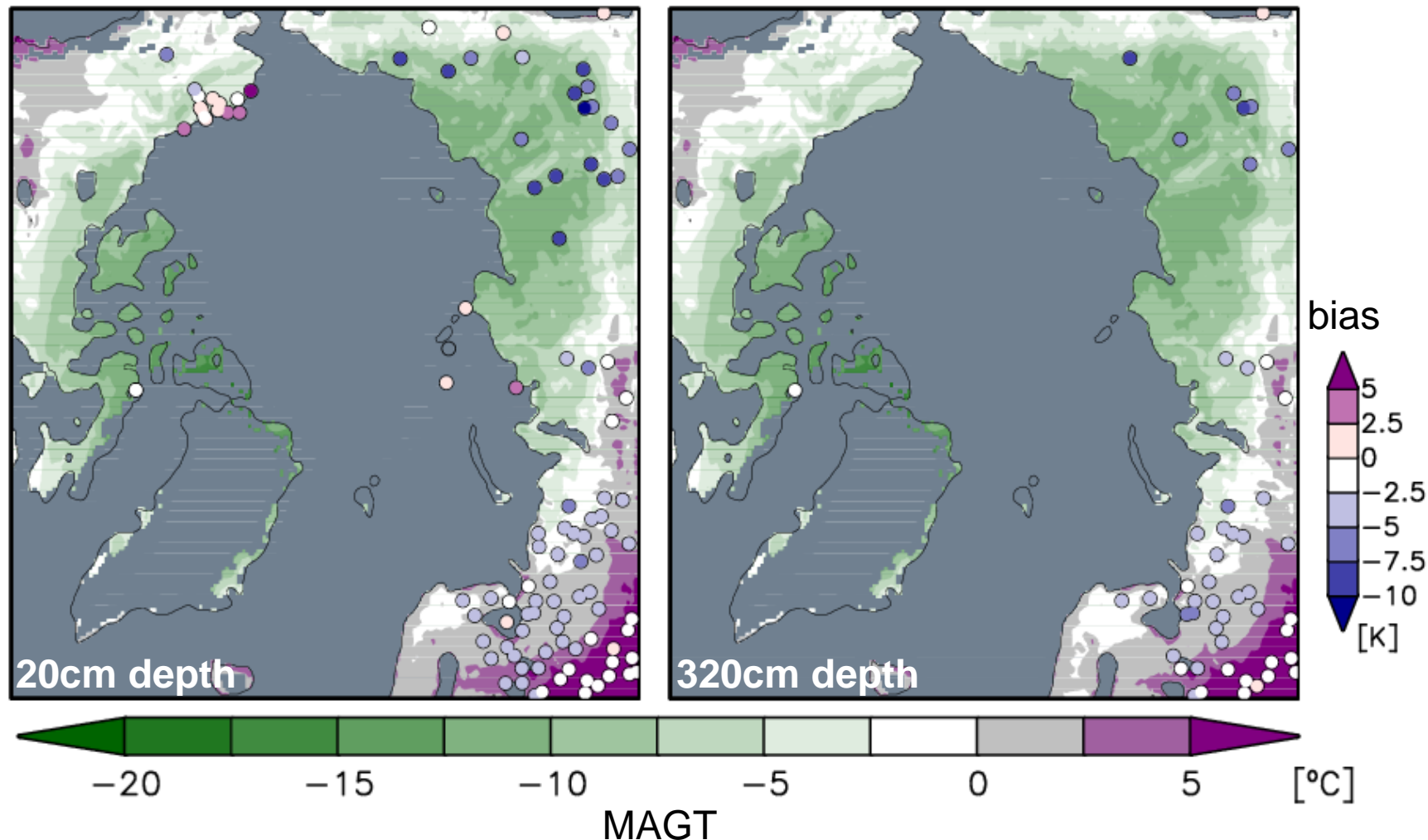




- station borehole data from various sources (PL, GTN-P, RosHydroMet, Nordicana D)
- usual drawbacks of comparing with point data
- difficult to access
- time period and depth coverage very variable among data sets -> difficult to make comparison to models on climate time scale



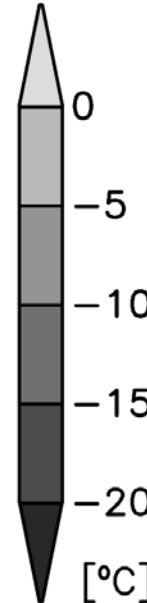
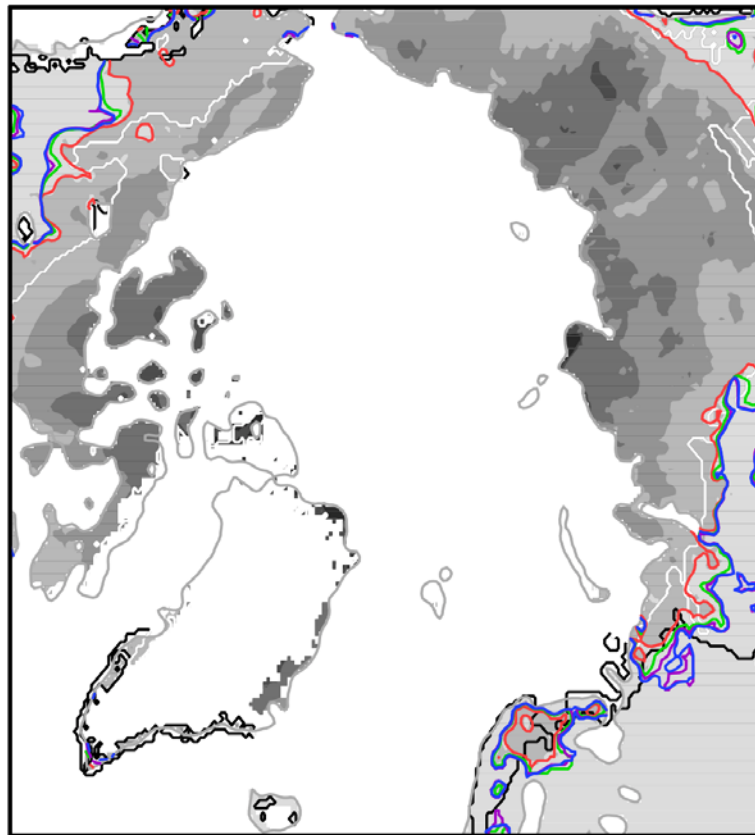
- station borehole data - MAGT





- IPA map by Brown et al., 1997

HIRHAM5-CLM4



- grey shading: initial soil temperature at 320cm depth
- colored lines: permafrost boundary at different years
- black line: Brown et al discontinuous permafrost boundary
- white line: Brown et al continuous permafrost boundary
- permafrost boundary in the model is not stationary

permafrost boundary

— 2010 — 2000 — 1990 — 1980



## • ESA GlobPermafrost Project



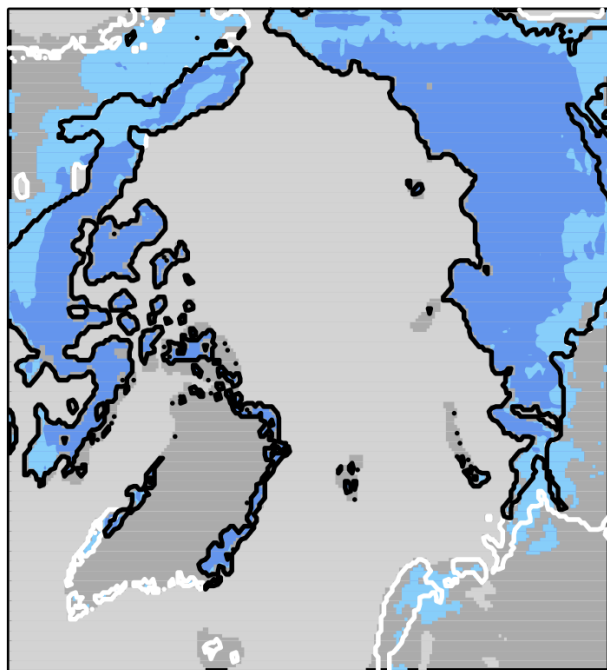
<https://www.globpermafrost.info>

- covers Northern Hemisphere in 1km resolution
- variables: permafrost zonation and probability, MAGT at TTOP, standard deviation of MAGT at TTOP
- uses an equilibrium model, 200 ensemble runs to account for uncertainties
- delivers one map each for time slice 2000-2016

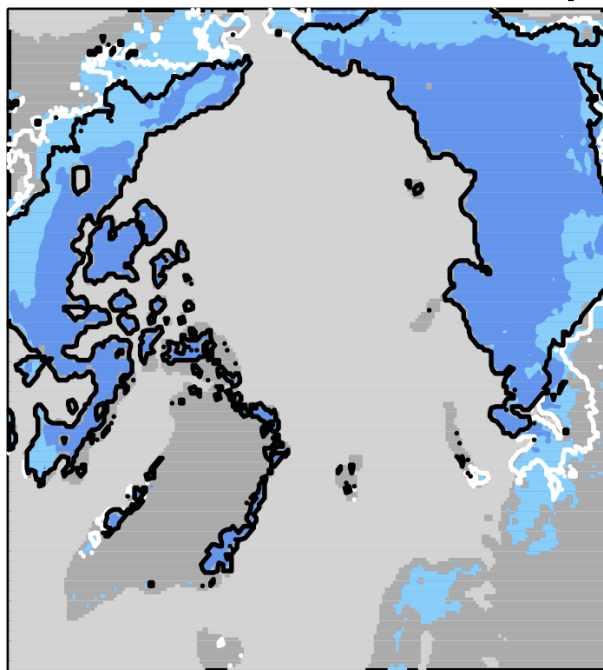


## • ESA GlobPermafrost Project

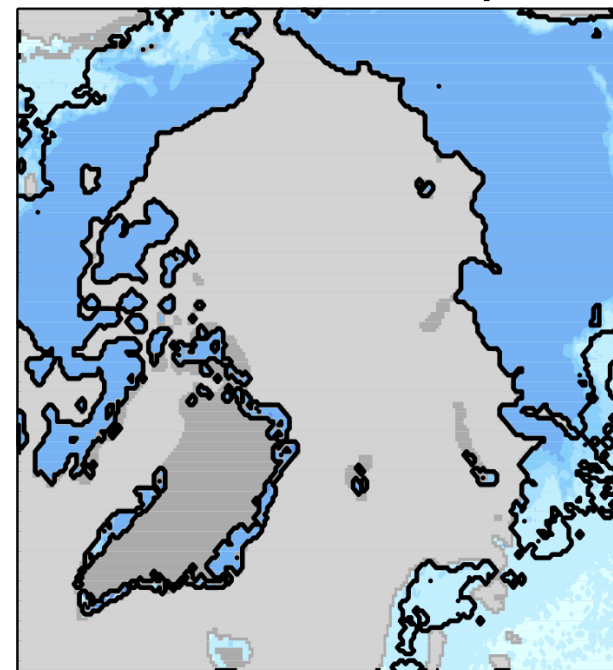
model versus  
Brown et al. map



model versus  
GlobPermafrost map



model versus  
GlobPermafrost perc.



model based on 2000-2014



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MAGT at 320cm [K]

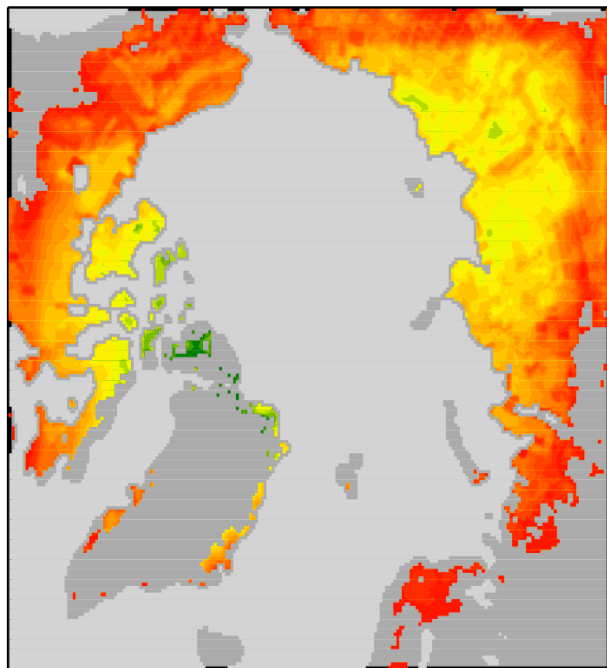


0 0.25 0.5 0.75 1 [prob.]

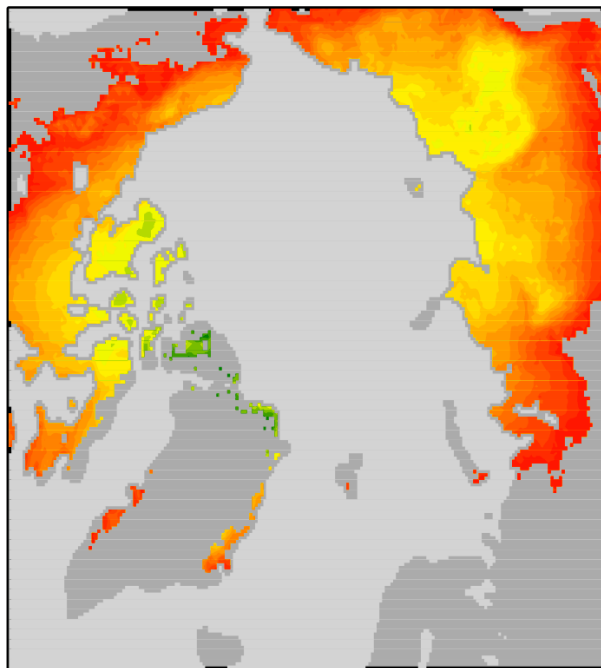


## • ESA GlobPermafrost Project

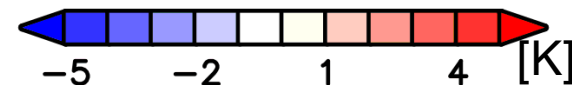
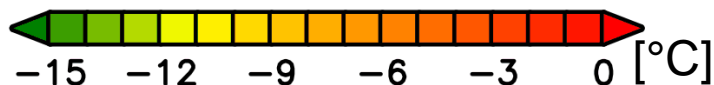
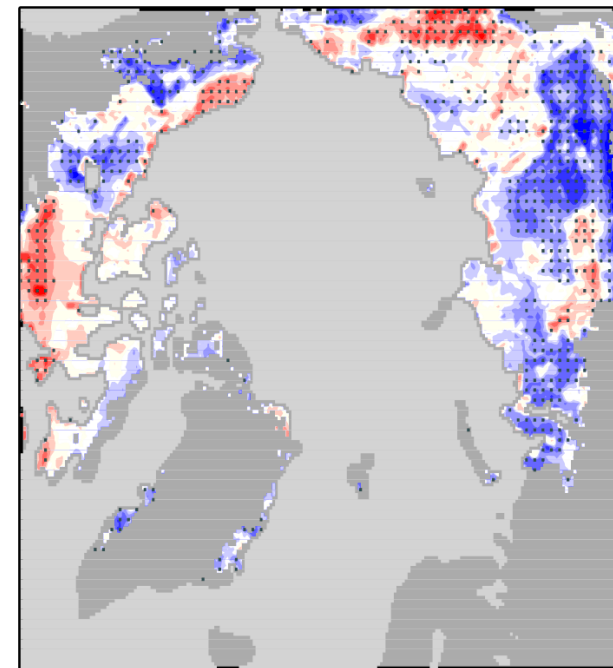
modelled MAGT at  
TTOP



GlobPermafrost  
MAGT at TTOP



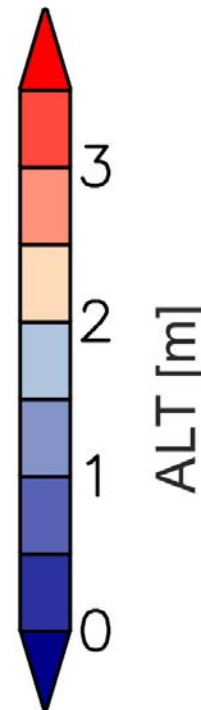
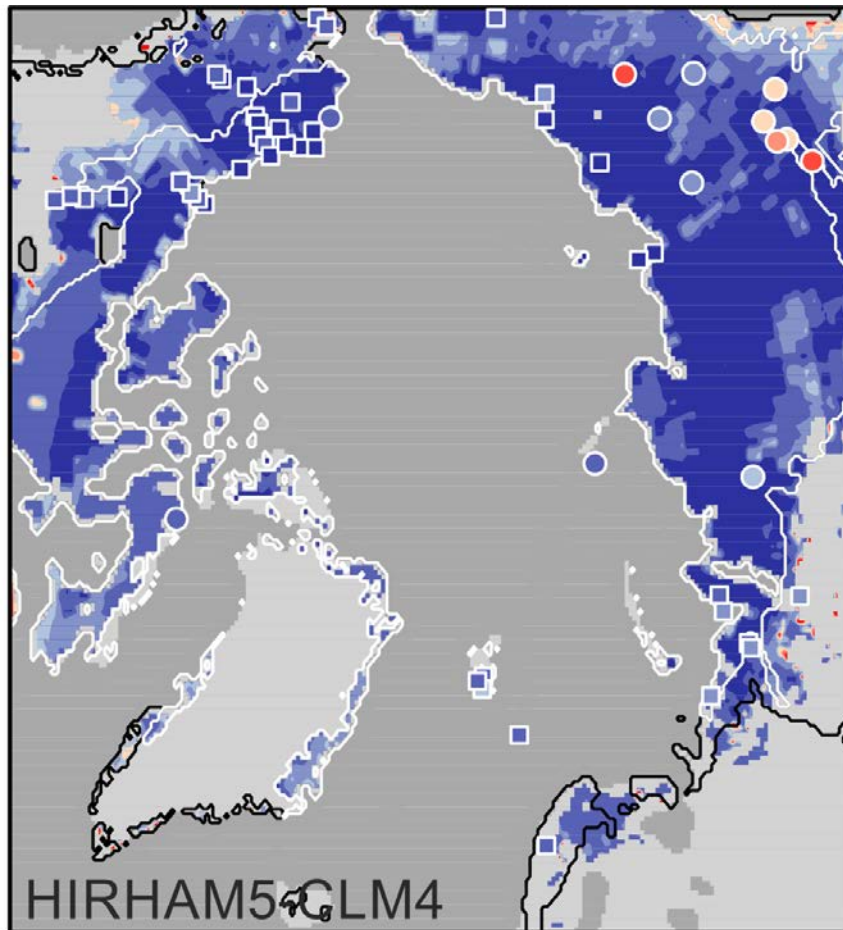
model minus  
GlobPermafrost







## • **spatial** active layer thickness (ALT)

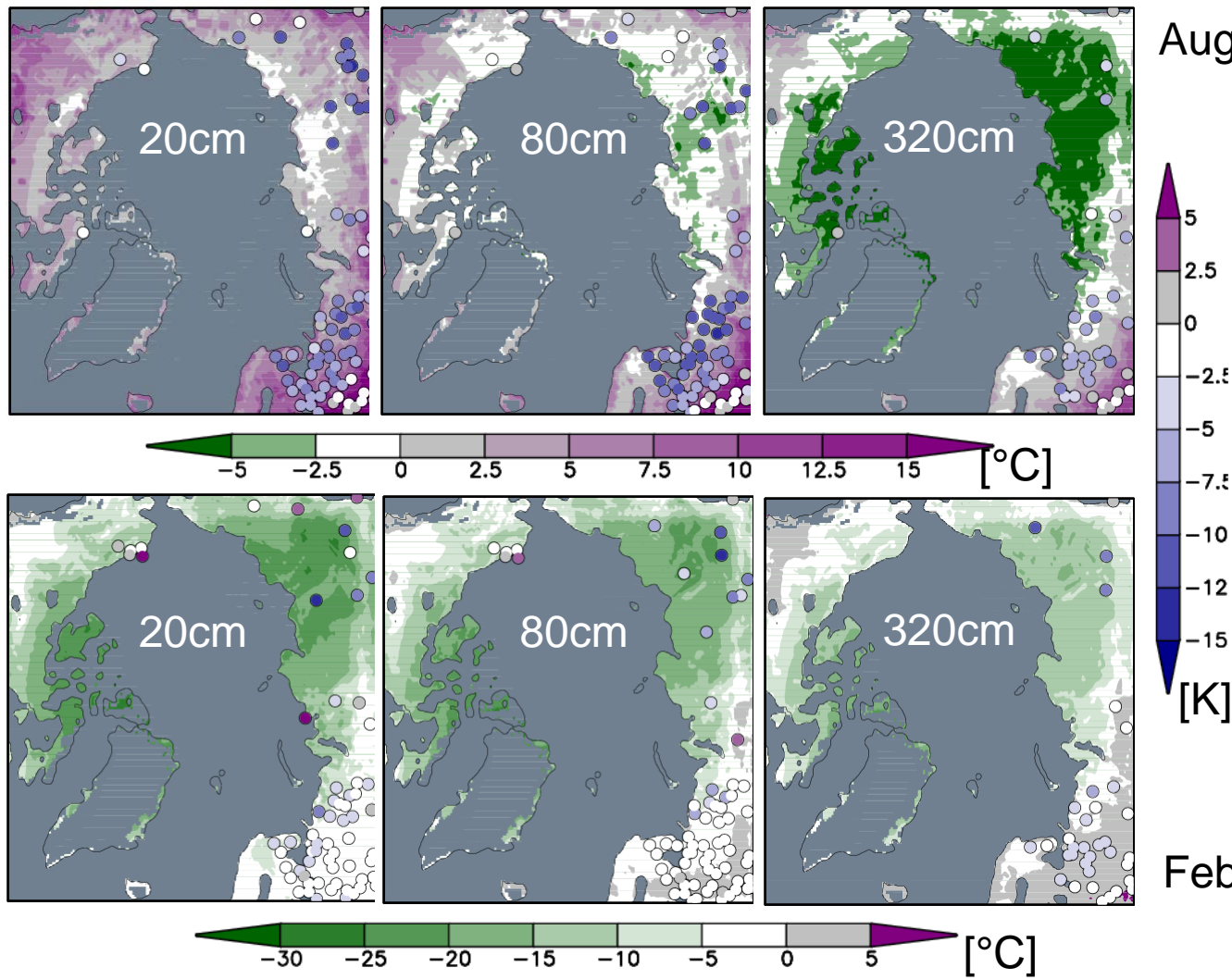


- shading: modelled ALT (average 2000-2011)
- colored squares: measured ALT from CALM sites
- colored circles: ALT computed from temperature profiles in boreholes
- methods for deprival of measured ALT are not consistent
- on climate time scales, there are very few measurements available

# What we would like to have



## • monthly temperature at **different** depths



August

- shading: modelled ground temperature (average 2000-2011)
- colored circles: measured ground temperature (average 2000-2011)
- biases strongly depend on depth and month

February



- global maps in 1km resolution
- variables: ground temperature in different depths, maximum active layer thickness
- other specifications are determined by a user survey:
  - time resolution
  - depth resolution
  - uncertainty estimates



PLEASE HELP US BY FILLING THE  
USER SURVEY!

HERE at the meeting or at

<https://goo.gl/forms/tgjR8nXaPd8HogkF3>