

***Automated in situ albedo observations:
PROMICE status and opportunities***



G E U S
a research and advisory institution in the Ministry of Climate and Energy

PROMICE

Programme for Monitoring of the Greenland Ice Sheet

Programme for Monitoring of the Greenland Ice Sheet



PROMICE goals

- **Provide a consistent long-term data set of observations from the Greenland ice sheet**
- **Calculate mass loss**
- **Understand the mass loss**

Established: *2007 – 2010*

Operational: *2011 – onwards*

All our data is public from day 1, see www.promice.org



Monitoring of:

- **surface energy balance (SEB)**
- **surface mass balance (SMB)**
- **dynamic loss (icebergs)**

Largest energy source during melt season: solar radiation

**albedo is enough for SEB at
the point of the station**

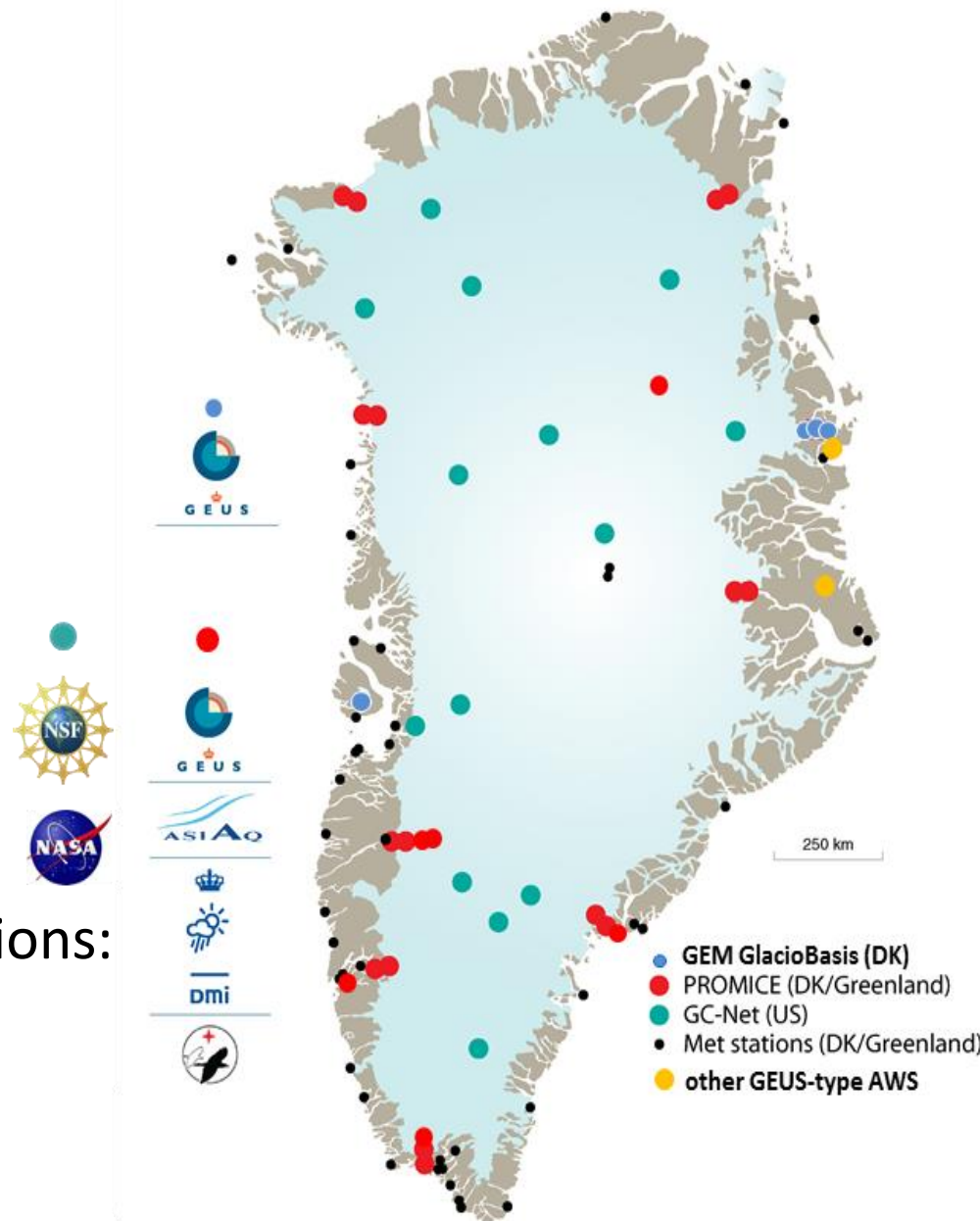
... but ...

we work at the Greenland scale

To link with space-based observations:

- **narrow- vs. broadband**
- **BRDF**
- **surface roughness**

Automatic weather stations in Greenland



Observationally based melt products

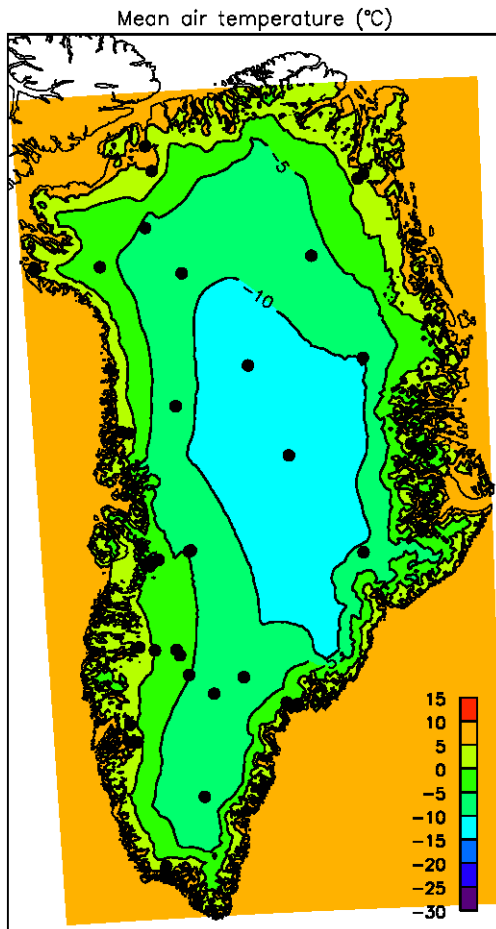


Figure 1: Average near-surface air temperature for days 178-182 in 2011.

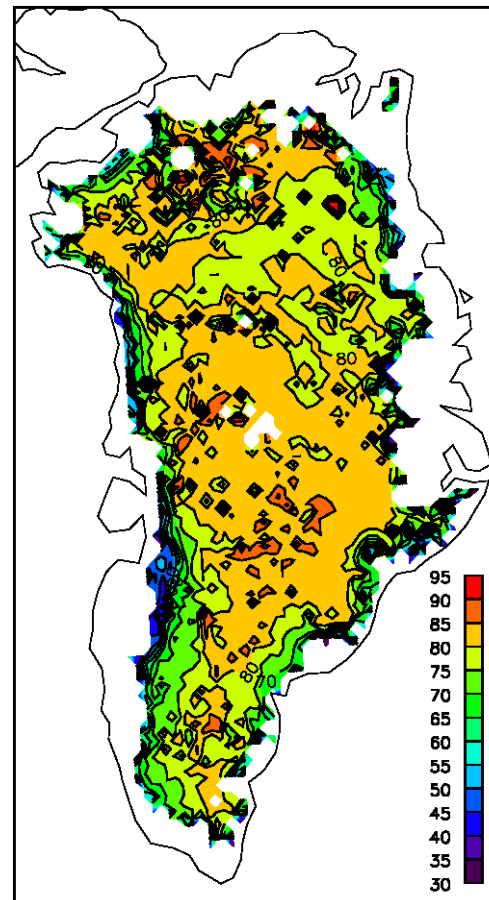


Figure 2. MODIS albedo

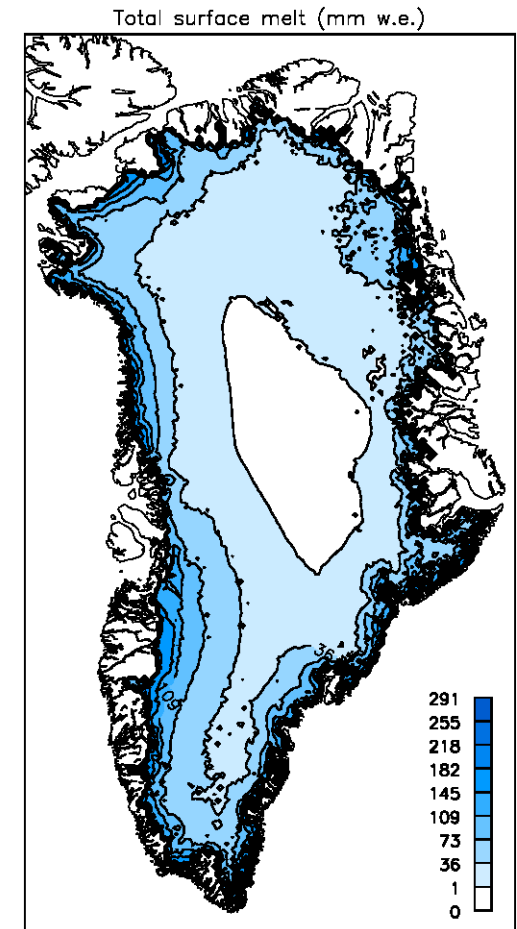
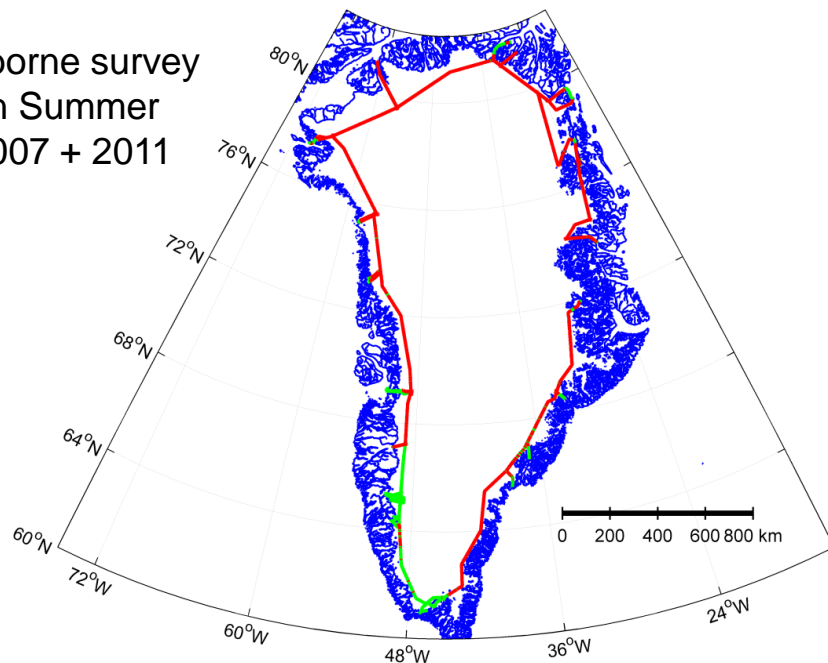


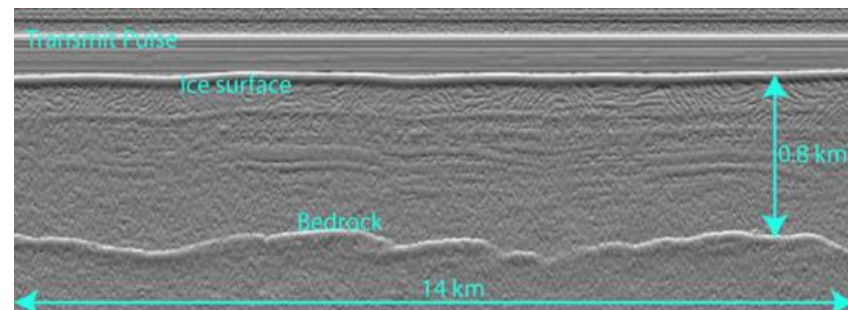
Figure 3. Surface meltwater locally generated on the Greenland ice sheet for days 178-182 in 2011.

Airborne surveys of flux gates, and...

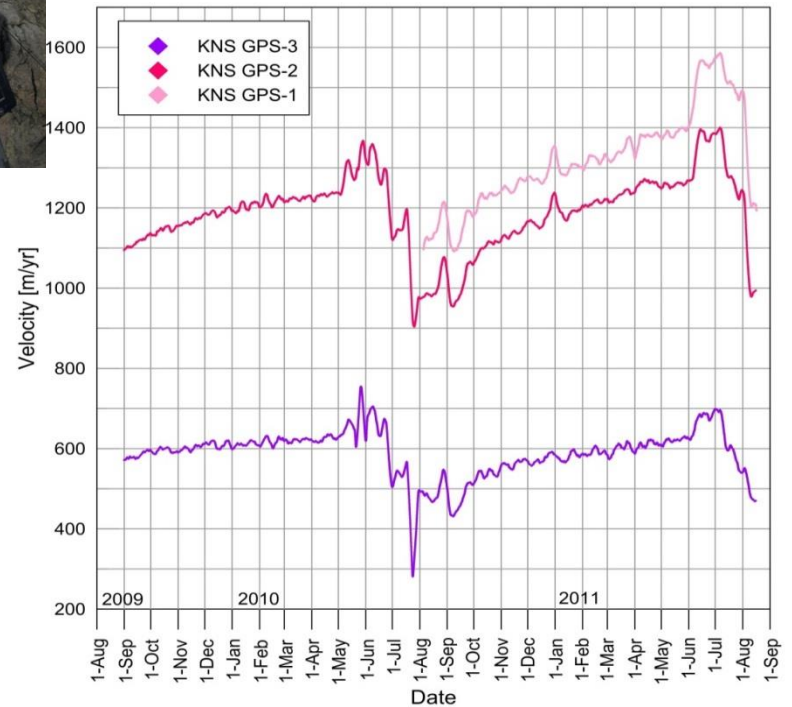
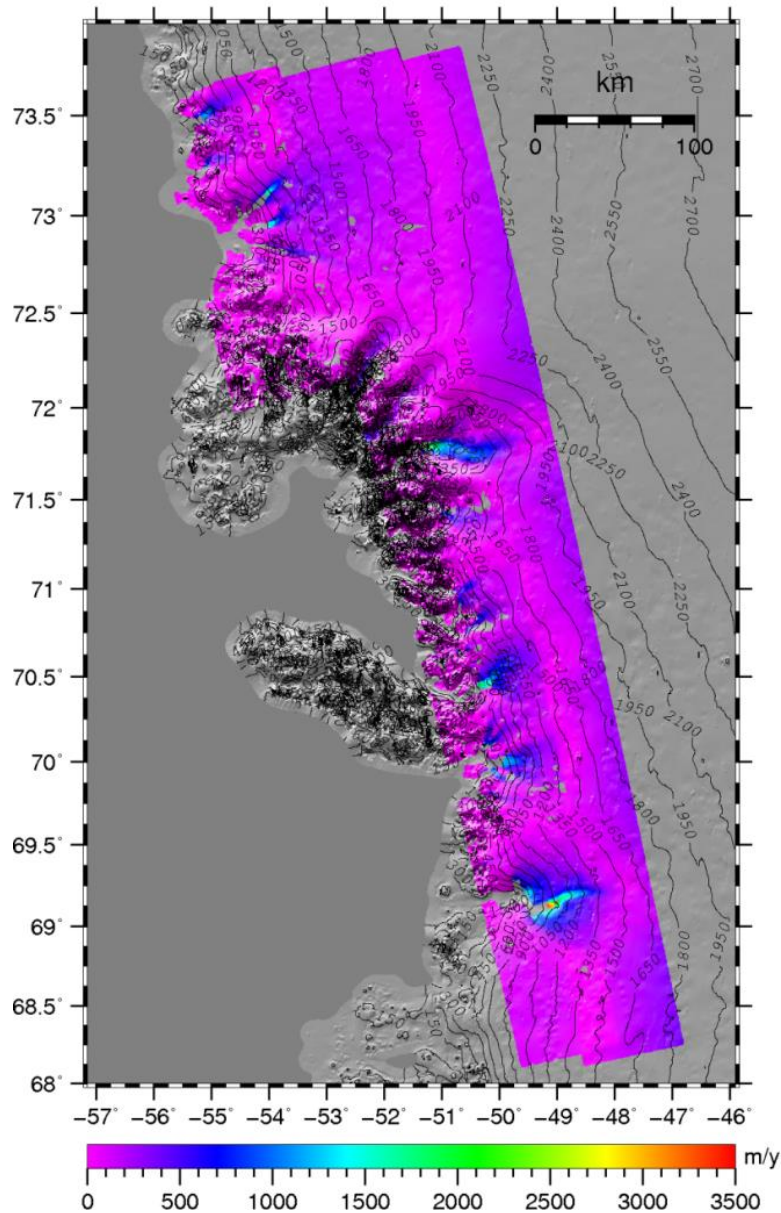
Airborne survey
in Summer
2007 + 2011



DTU DTU Space
National Space Institute



...flow velocities → dynamic mass loss



Mapping glacier margin fluctuations, and...

- ice sheet
- 10^5 glaciers separated from the ice sheet
- 10 - 30 m change (Sentinel 2 – Landsat pixel)

Pre-1980's (Citterio & Ahlstrøm, 2013)

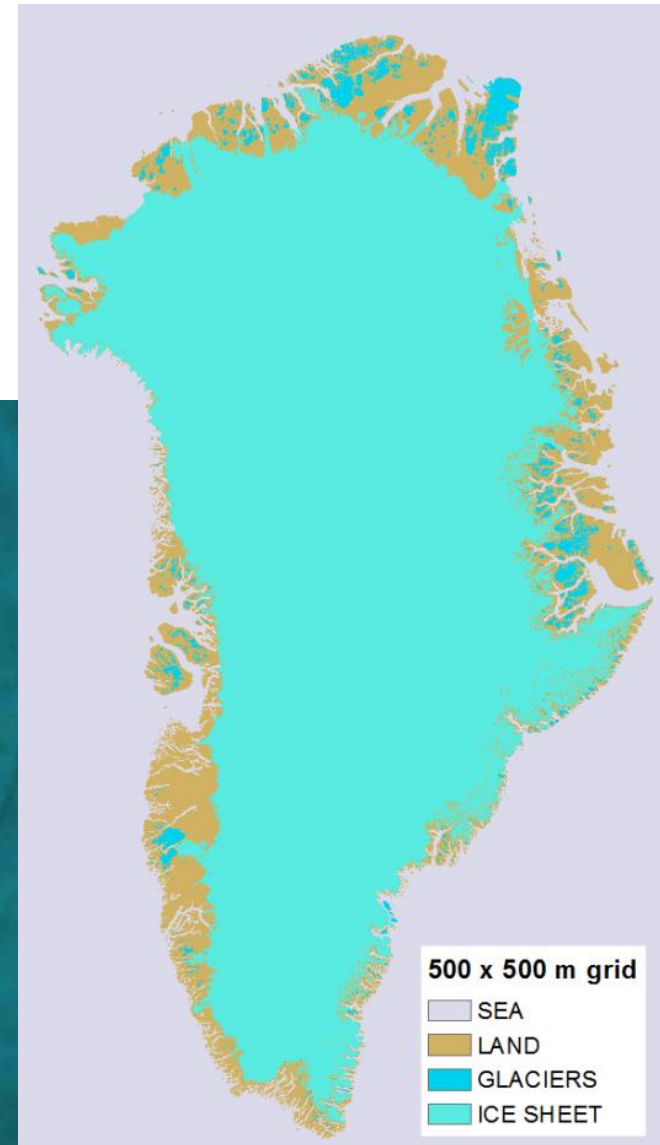
2001, this study

2001, GIMP

2014, this study, automatic

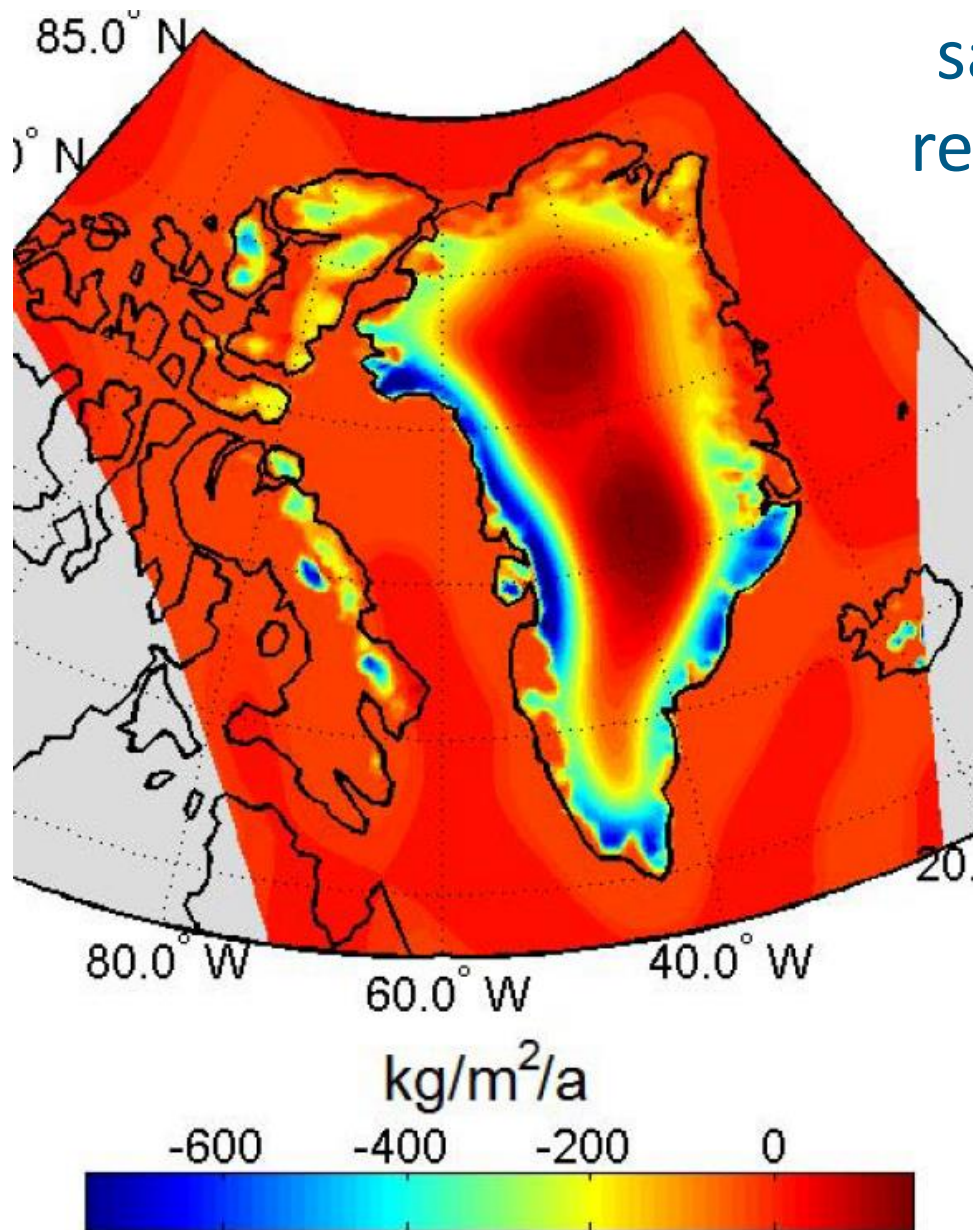
2014, this study, manual

2014, L8 OLI



(Citterio & Ahlstrøm, TC, 2013)

... regional mass change from satellite gravimetry → high resolution total mass change



- Partition mass loss between ice sheet and local glaciers
- Avoids double counting
- No mixing of fast (glaciers) and slow (ice sheet) response time ice masses

Between December 2003 to December 2010:

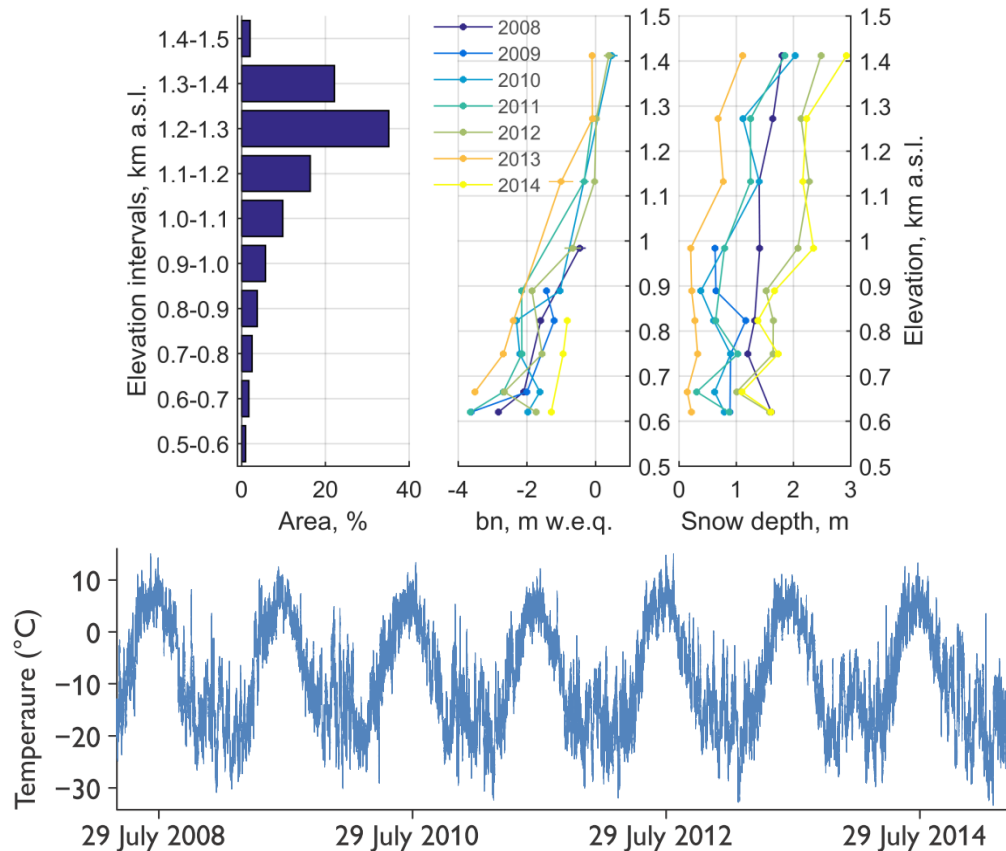
$218 \pm 20 \text{ Gt / yr}$ from the ice sheet proper,

$34 \pm 5 \text{ Gt / yr}$ (or 14%) from Greenland peripheral glaciers and ice caps

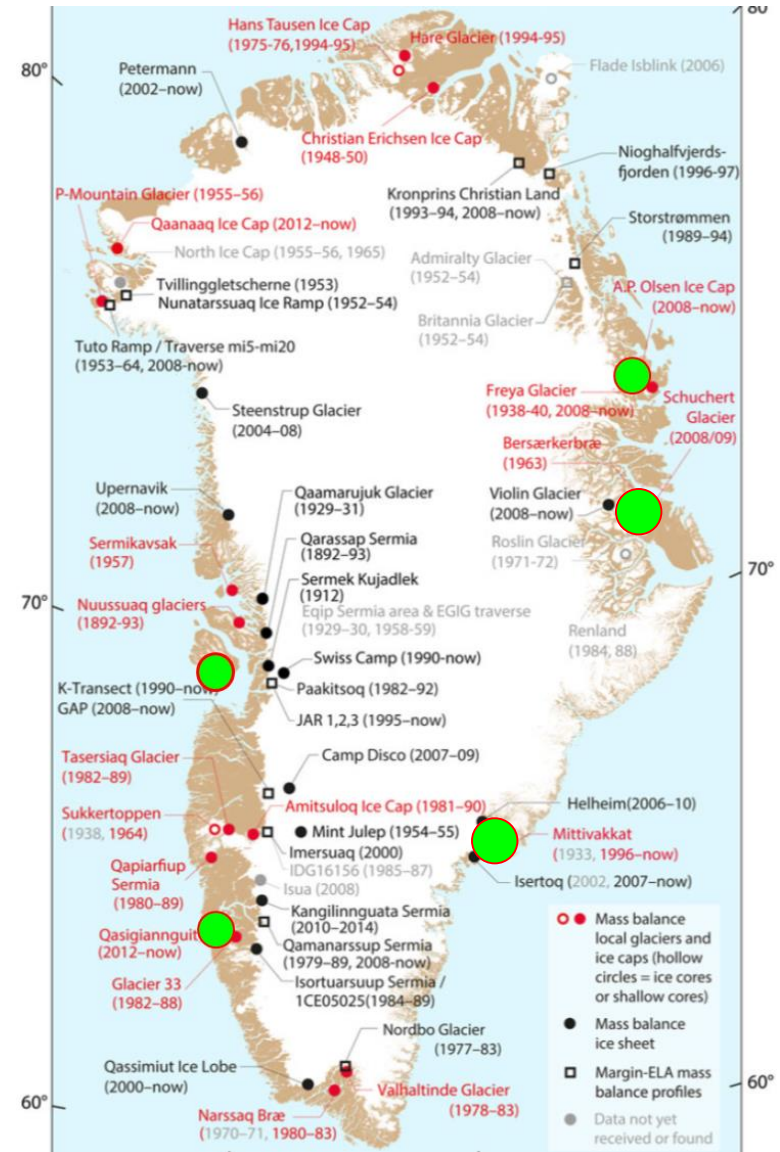
*Colgan et al.,
Rem. Sens. Env. 2015*

Monitoring of local glaciers

- A.P. Olsen ice cap (GEM, GEUS)
- Qasigiannugit glacier (GEM, Asiaq)
- Chamberlin glacier (GEM, GEUS)
- Mittivakkat glacier (KU and PROMICE, GEUS)
- Schuchert glacier (mining, GEUS)

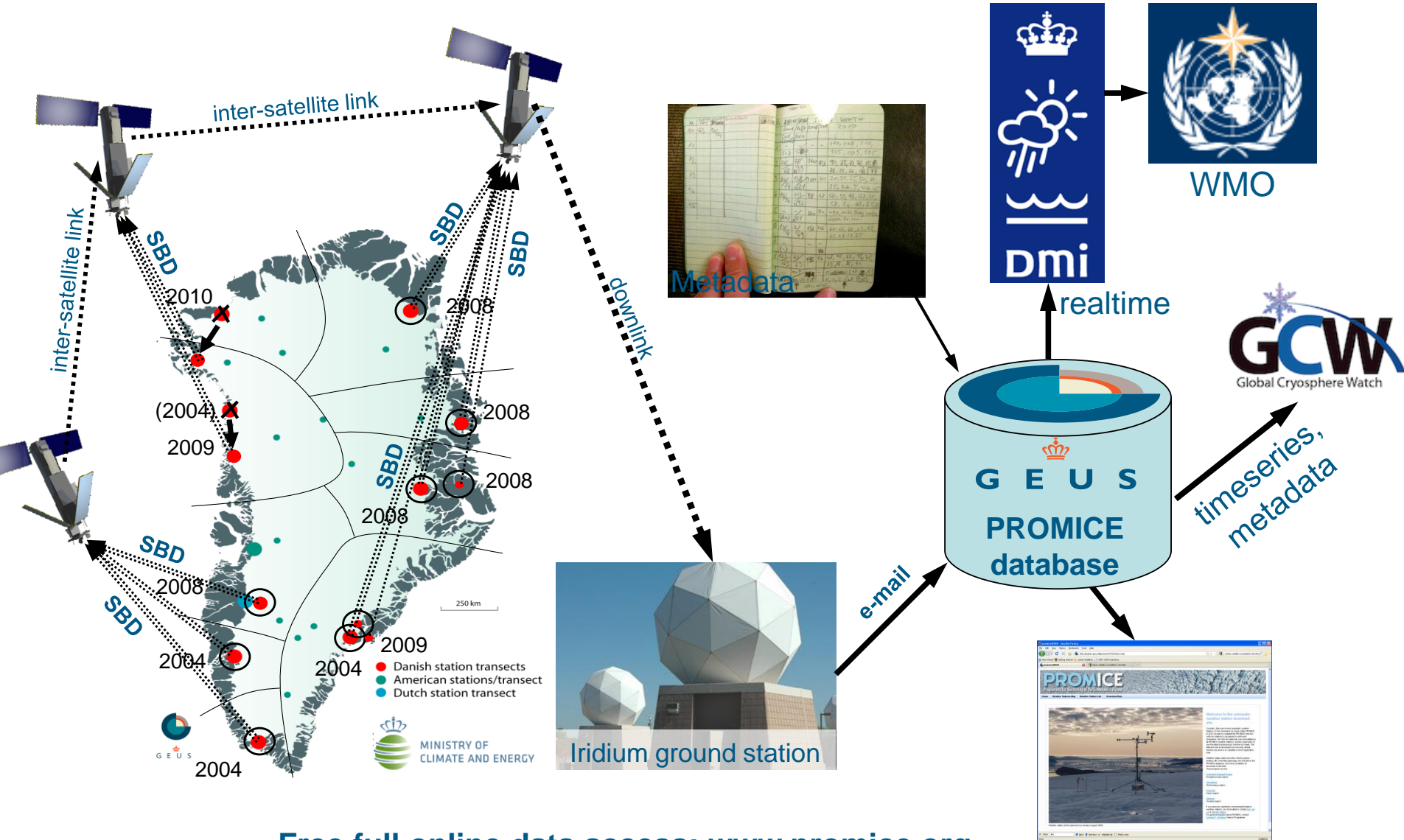


APO-1 AWS

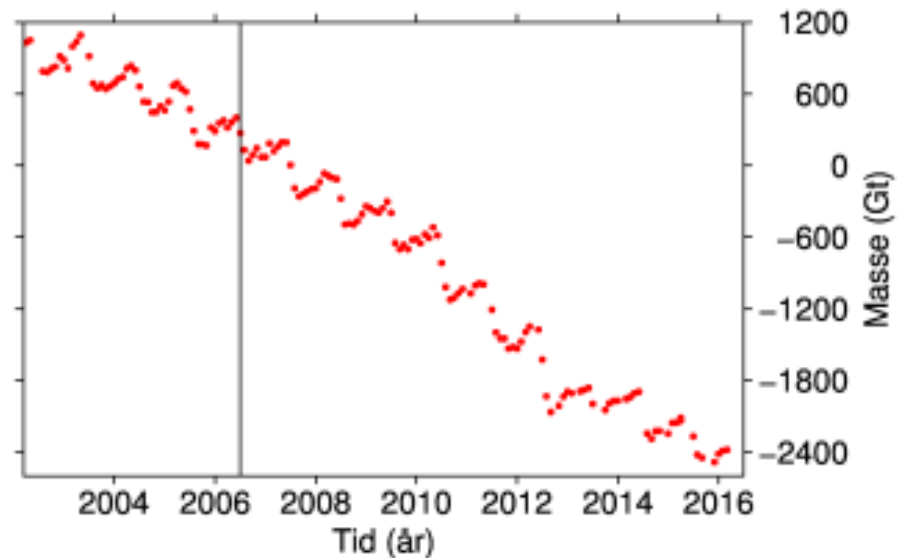
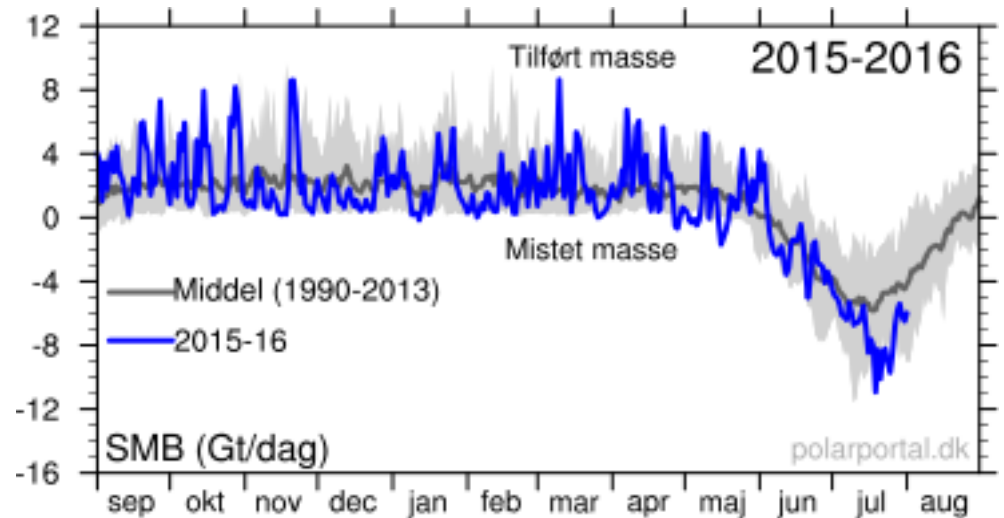
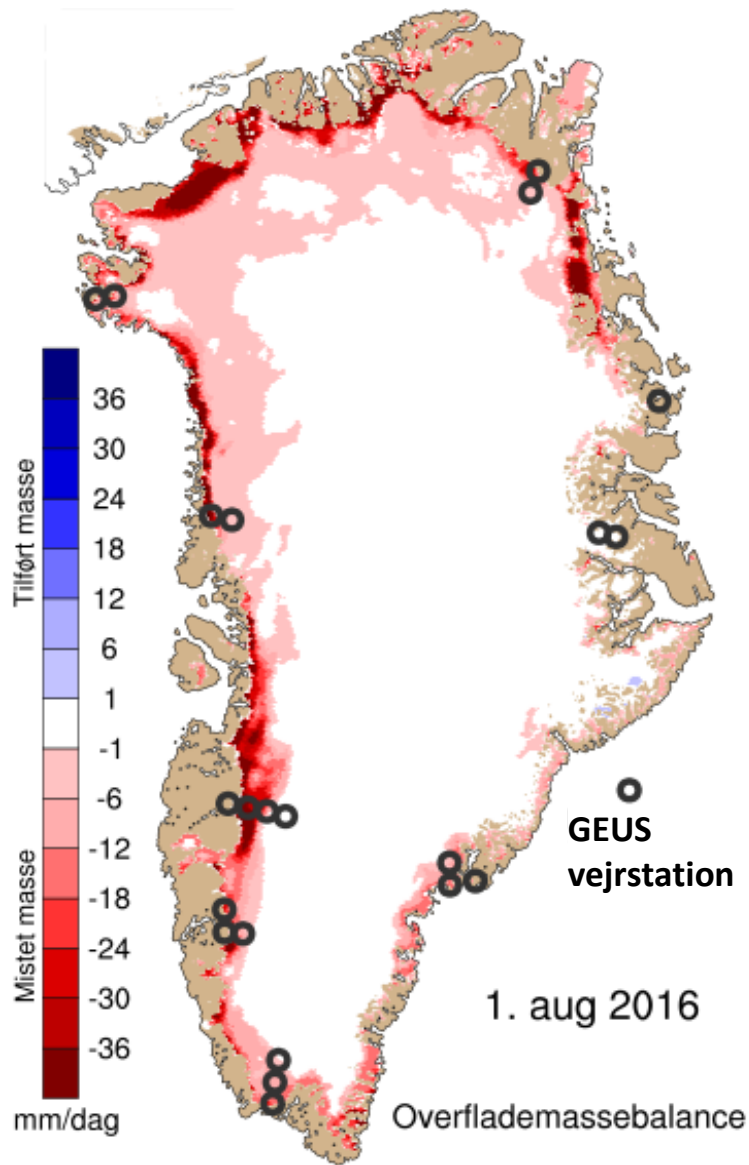


Machguth et al., 2016

PROMICE as a component of GCW CryoNet



Near real time mass balance estimate and public outreach



from www.polarportal.dk, daily updated state of Greenland cryosphere by DMI, GEUS & DTU

PROMICE

Programme for Monitoring of the Greenland Ice Sheet



Sensors on the mast and boom

Sensors mounted on the tripod:

1. air temperature and humidity (aspirated)
2. SW↓, LW↓, SW↑, LW↑ radiation
3. wind speed and direction
4. snow surface level
5. two-axes tilt meter
6. Iridium satellite antenna

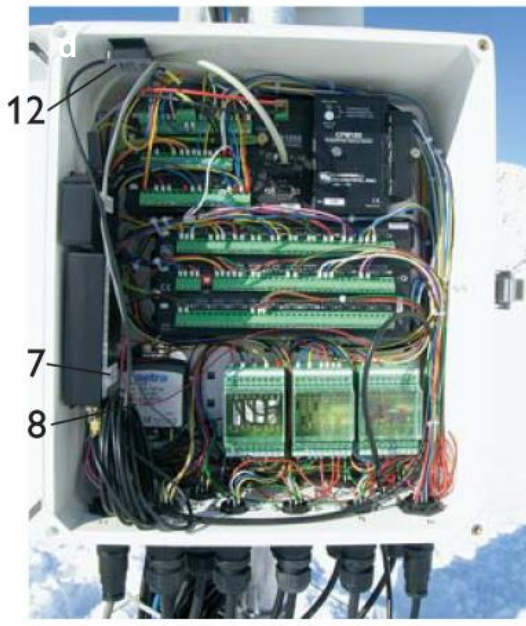
7. GPS receiver and Iridium modem

8. barometric pressure

Other sensors:

ice surface level (sonic ranger on drilled stakes)
8-levels thermistors string (GEUS)
hydraulic ablation meter (GEUS)



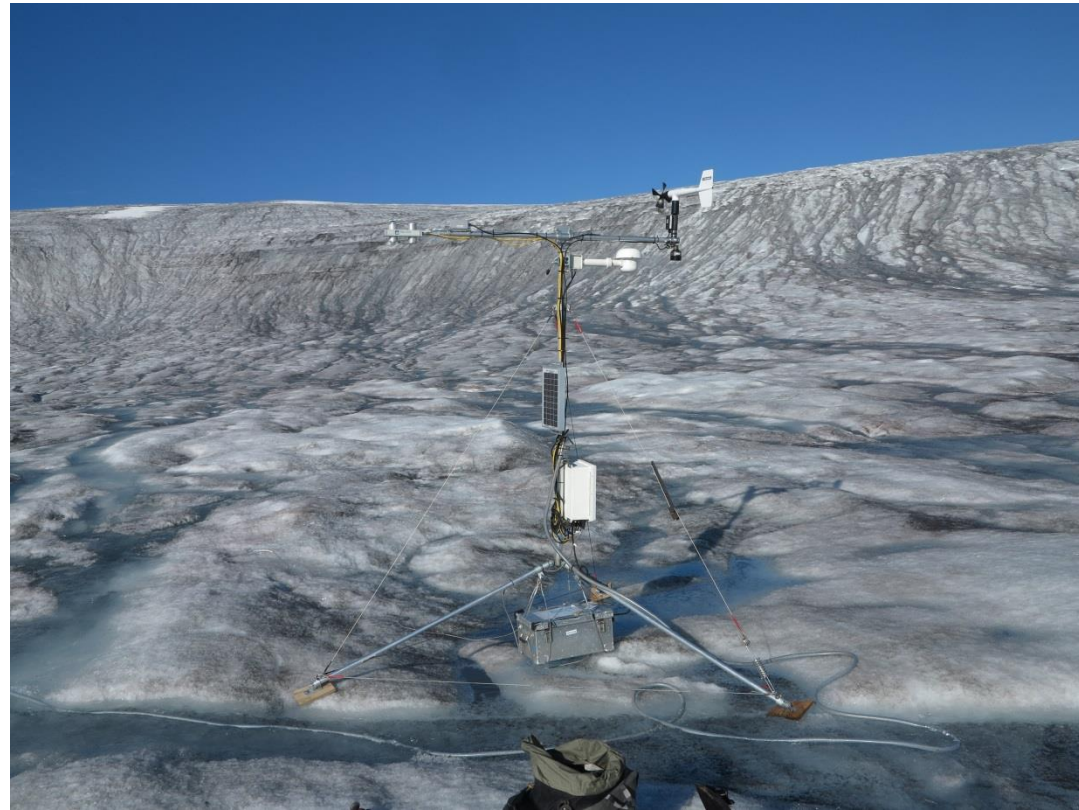


GEUS glaciological AWS (Citterio et al., 2015)
mcit@geus.dk

Surface melt conditions

Monitoring of surface energy balance (SEB) and surface mass balance (SMB)

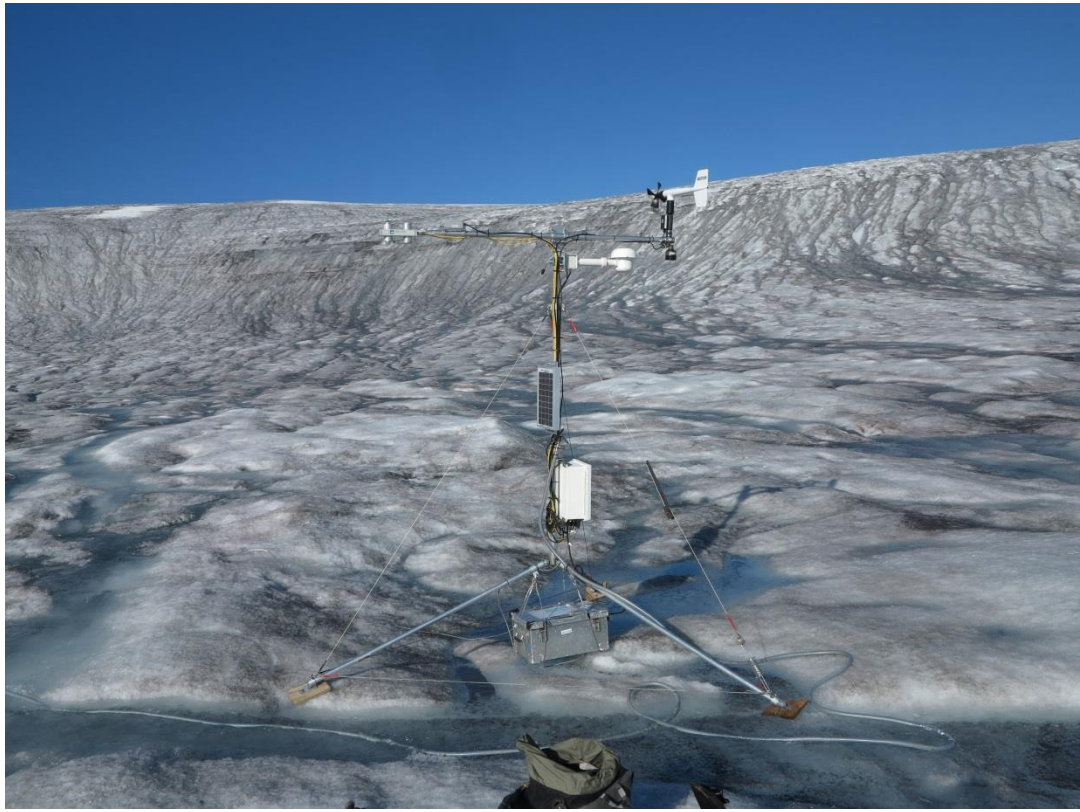
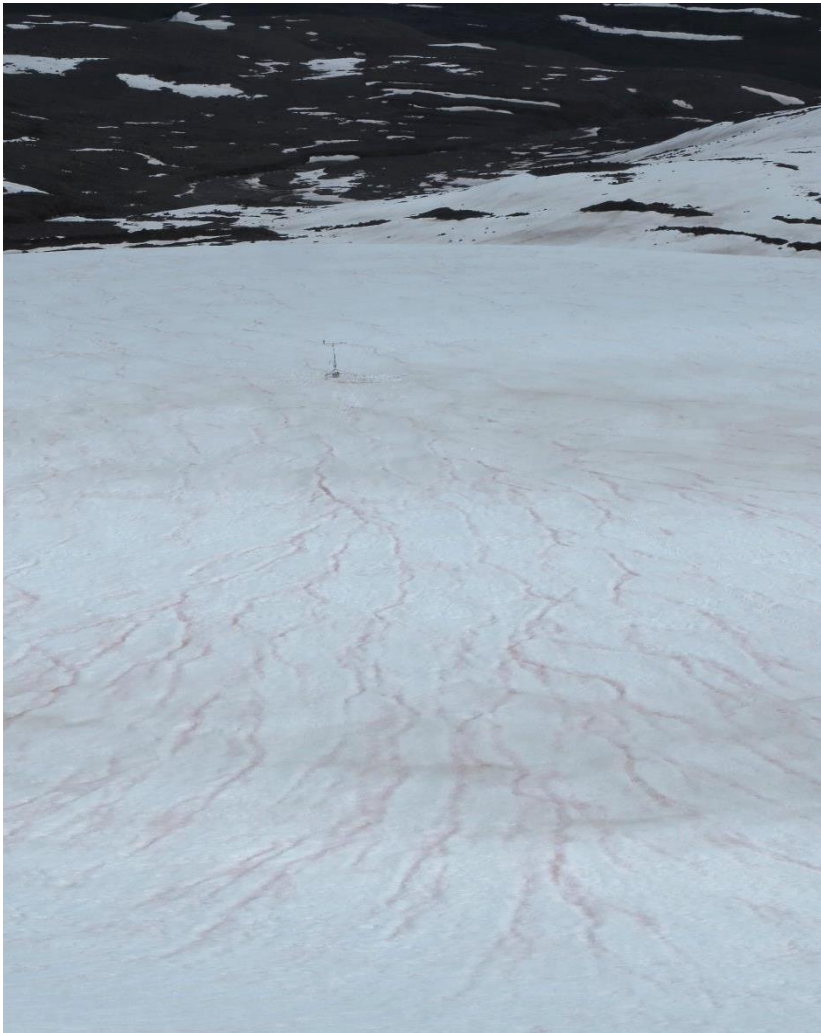
- Ice vs. firn vs. Snow albedo
- Surface roughness
- 'dirt'
- meltwater ponds and streams
- crevasses



Surface melt conditions

Monitoring of surface energy balance (SEB) and surface mass balance (SMB)

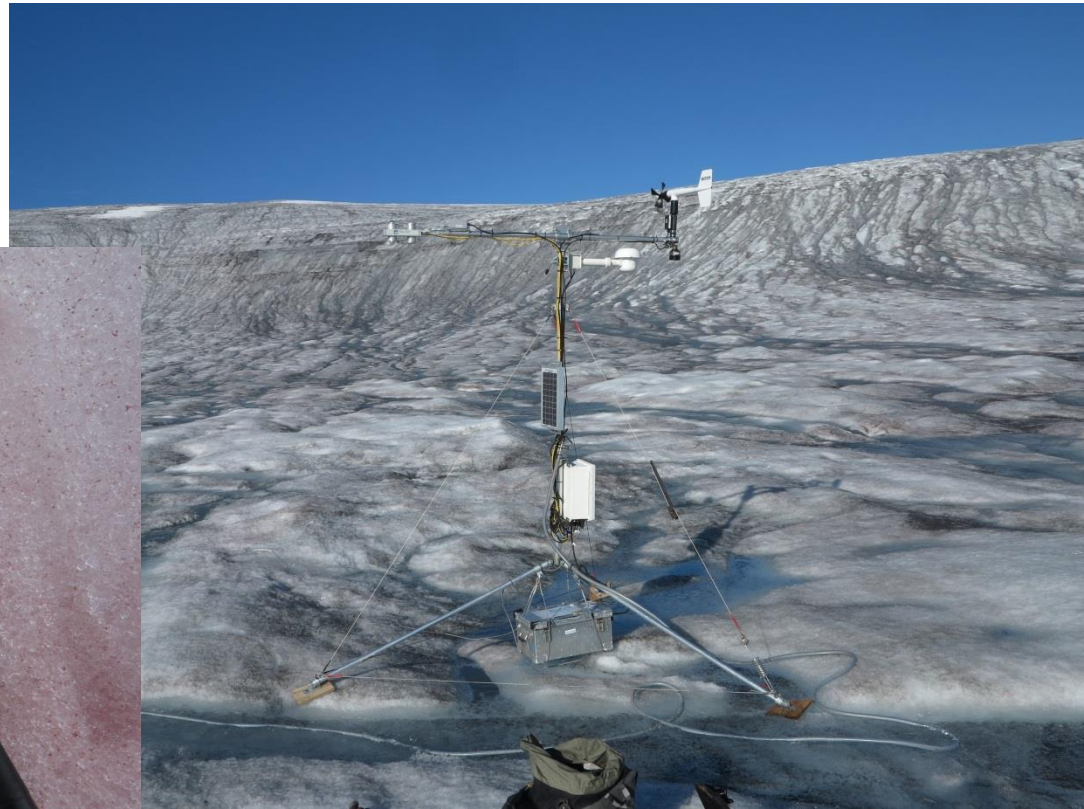
- Microbiology (algae, bacteria)



Surface melt conditions

Monitoring of surface energy balance (SEB) and surface mass balance (SMB)

- ...
- Microbiology (algae, bacteria):
 - albedo change?
 - timing?

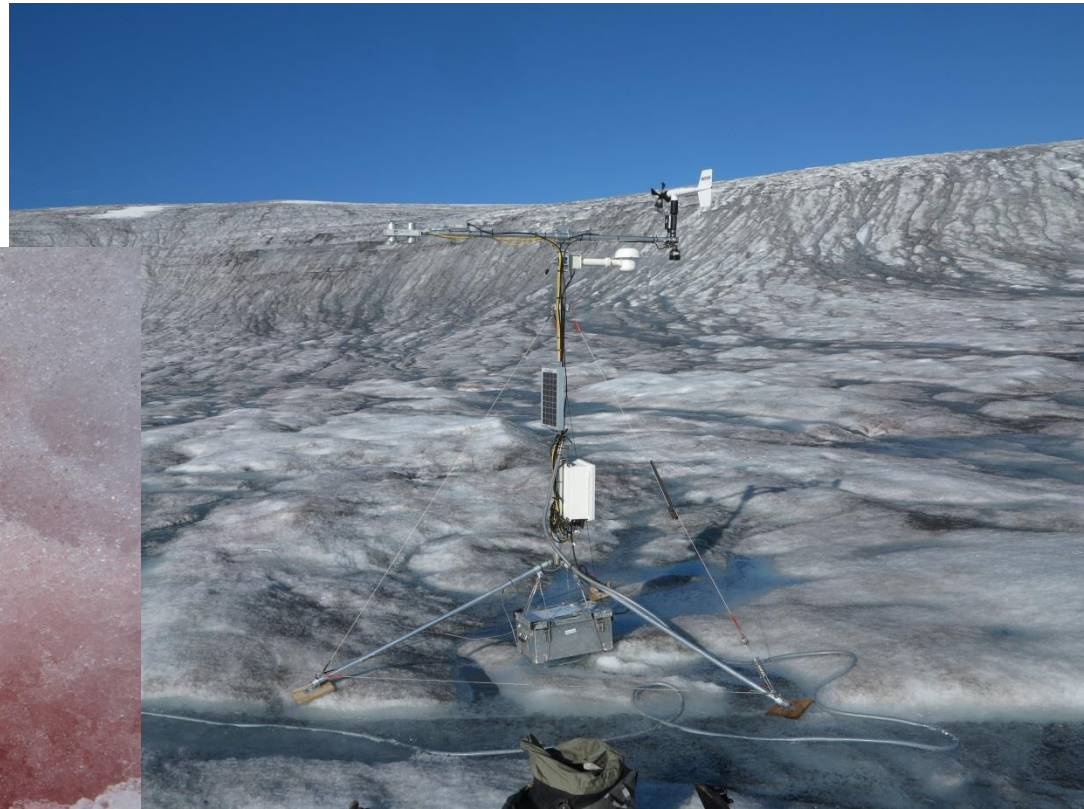


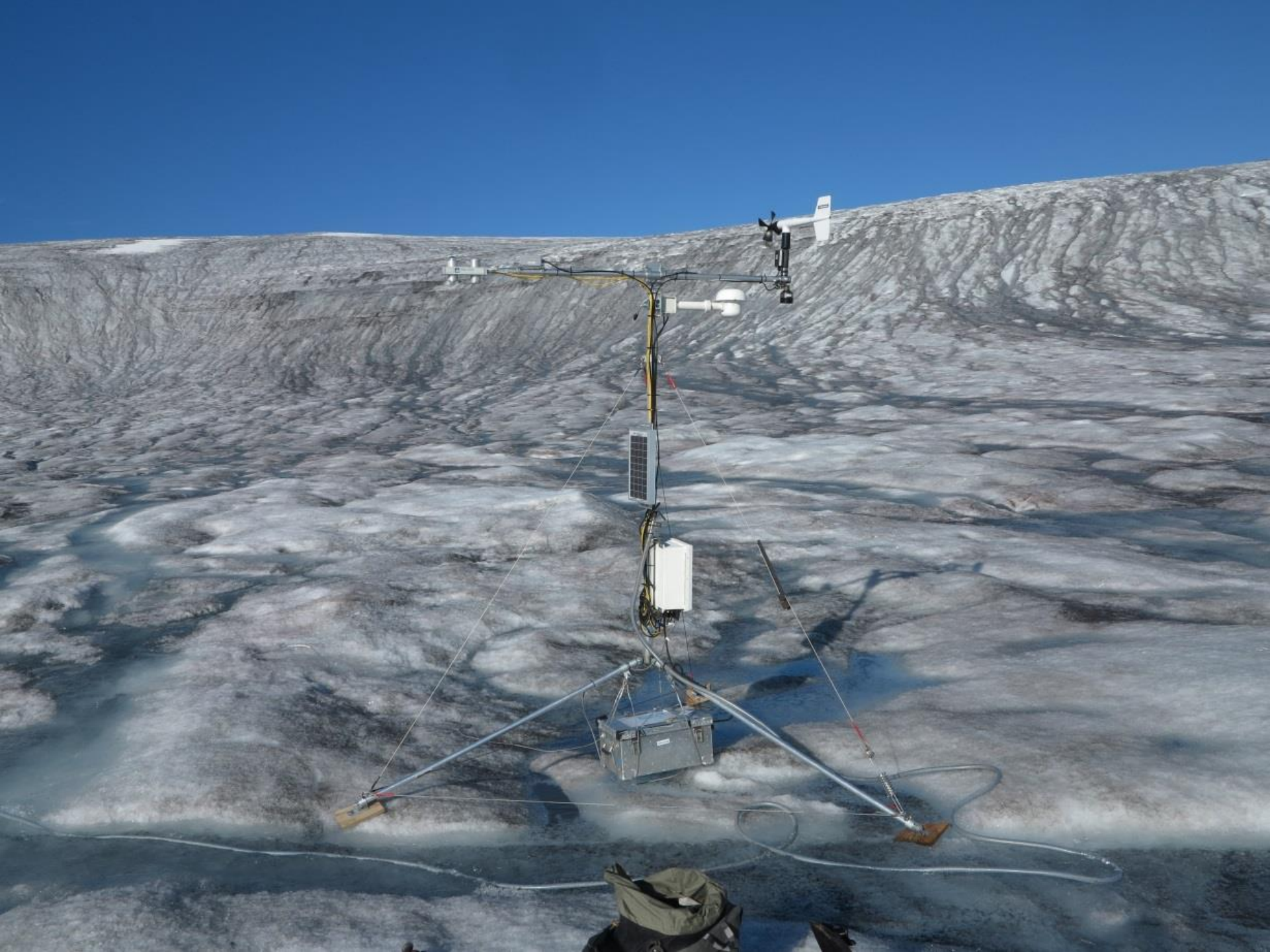
Surface melt conditions

Monitoring of surface energy balance (SEB) and surface mass balance (SMB)

- ...
- Microbiology (algae, bacteria):
 - albedo change?
 - timing?
 - not only at the surface

13% lower albedo (Lutz et al 2016)







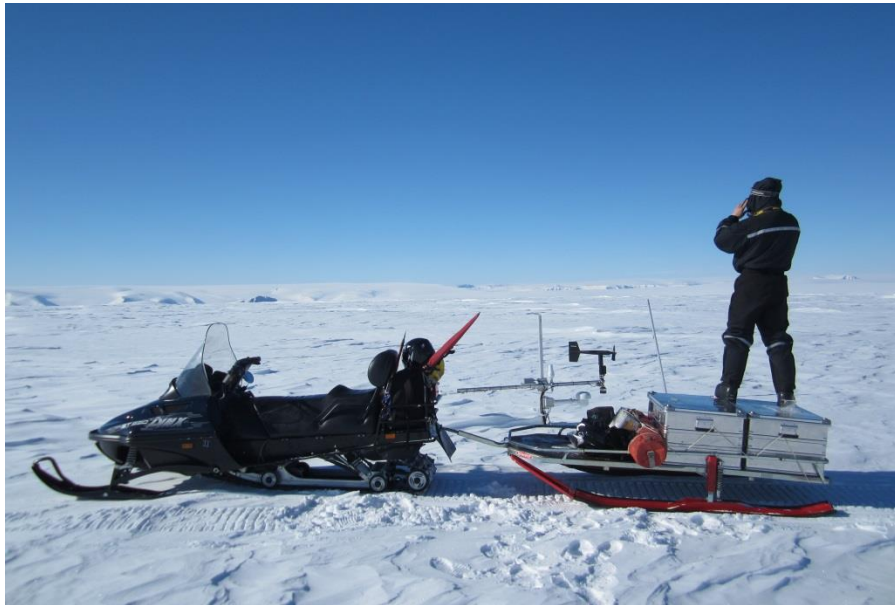
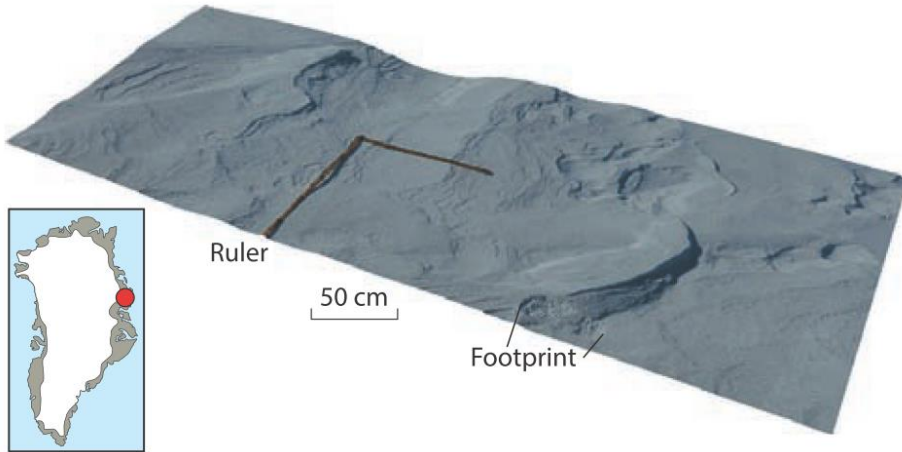




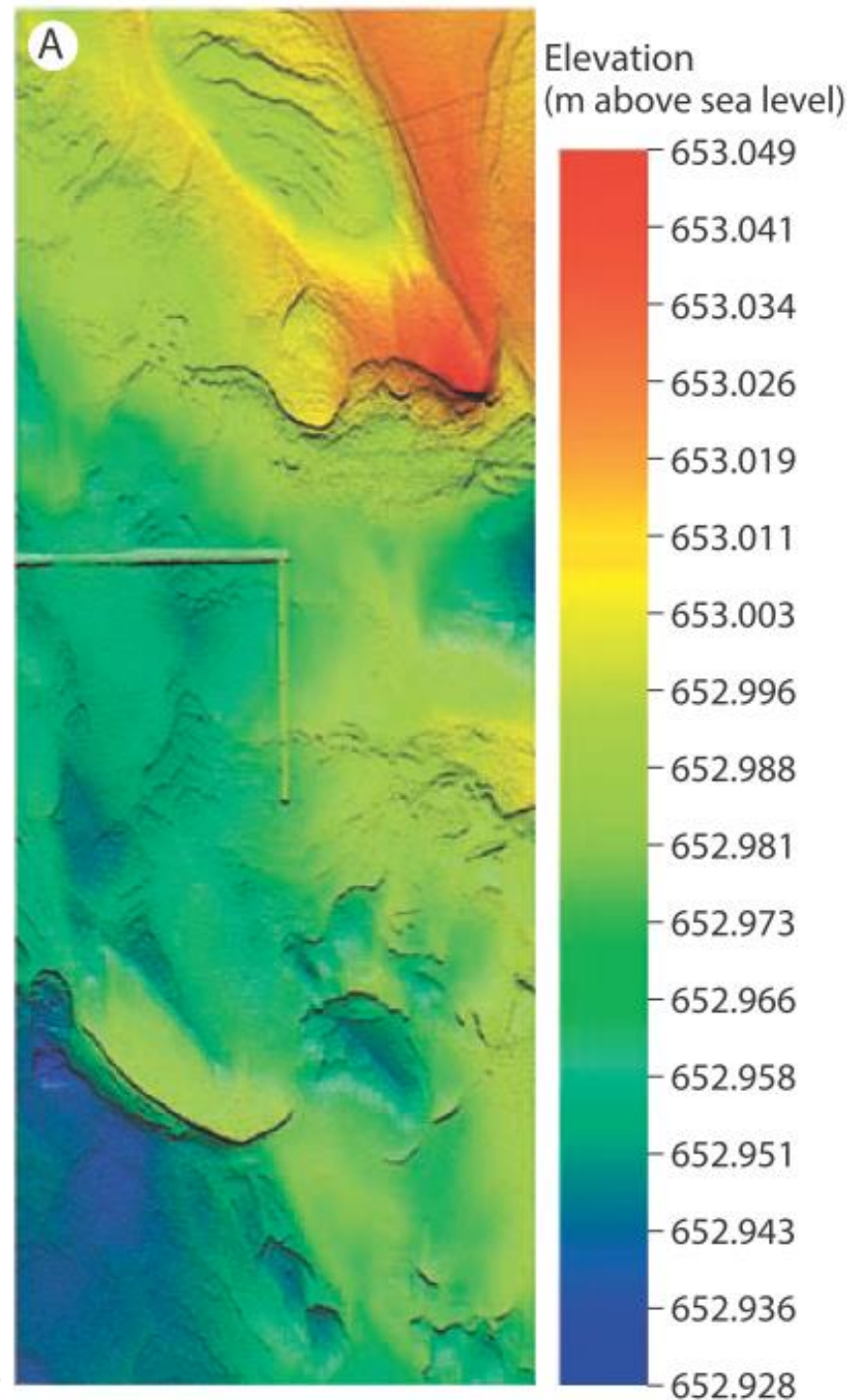




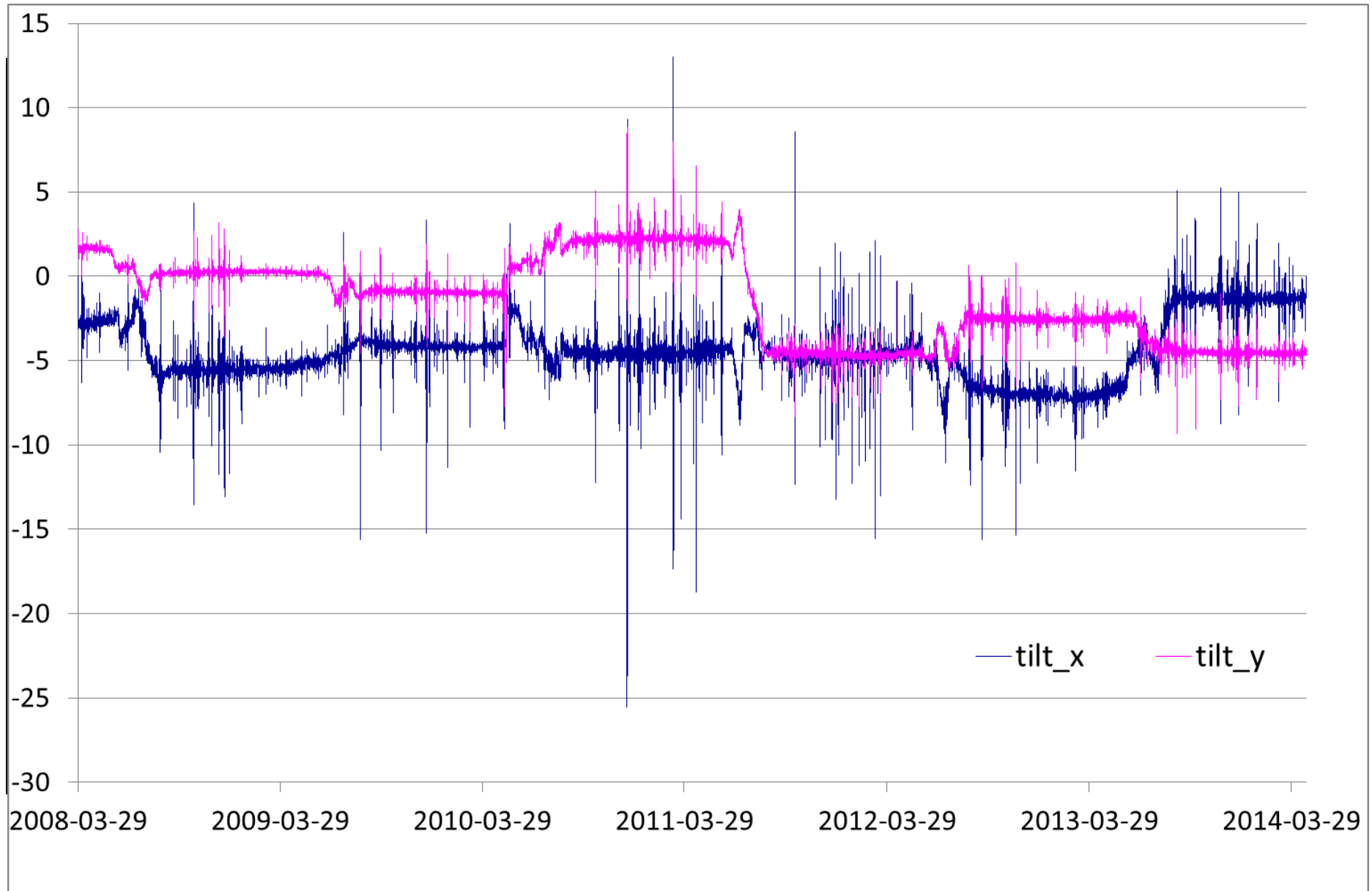
Surface microtopography from close range stereo-photogrammetry



Sørensen, Bjærger & Citterio, 2015



Station tilt





ablation stake South Greenland.mp4



Surface melt aws.mp4



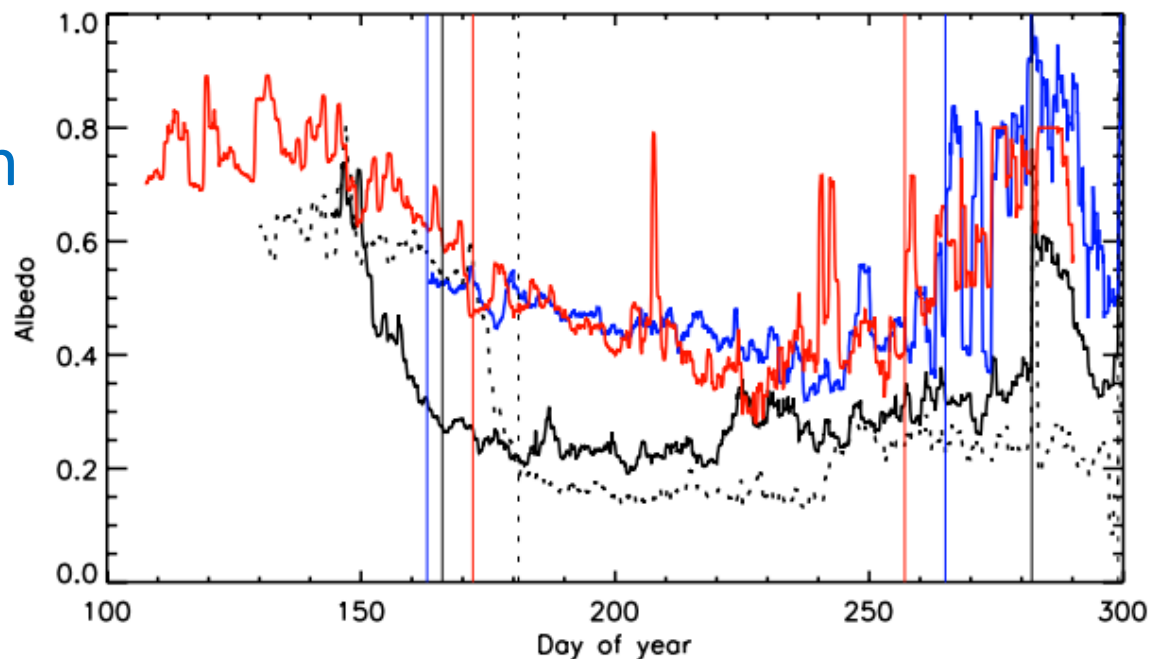
Animation of a PROMICE weather station with ablation sensor.mp4

Albedo after tilt correction for radiation on a horiz. surface

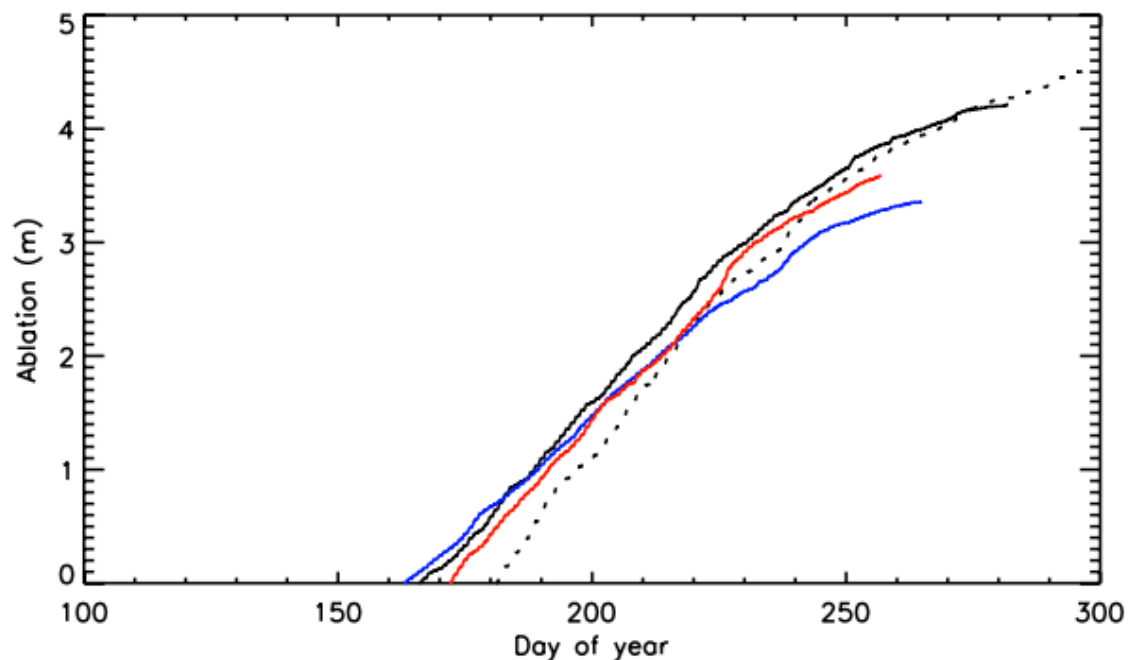
Correction based on
measured 2-axes tilt of the
radiometers

Up- and down facing
radiometers known to be
exactly aligned (are both
part of the same
instrument)

van As et al., 2009



St71 (black), Nuuk2 (blue), and Tas1 (red)



Retrospective tilt correction

Wang et al., 2016

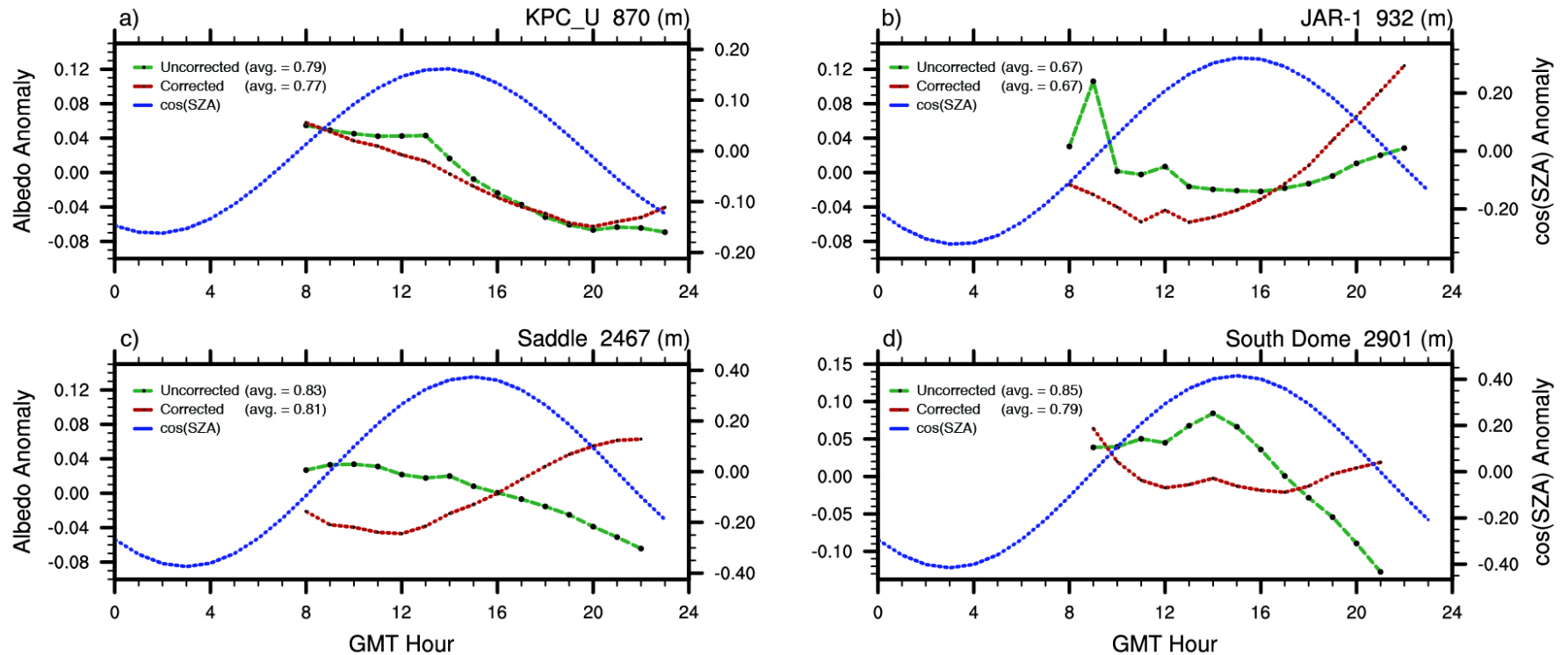
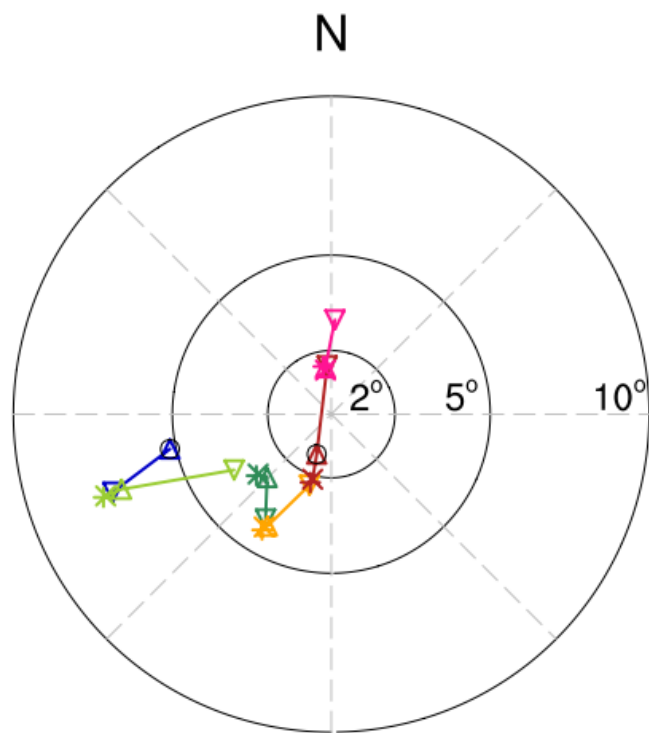
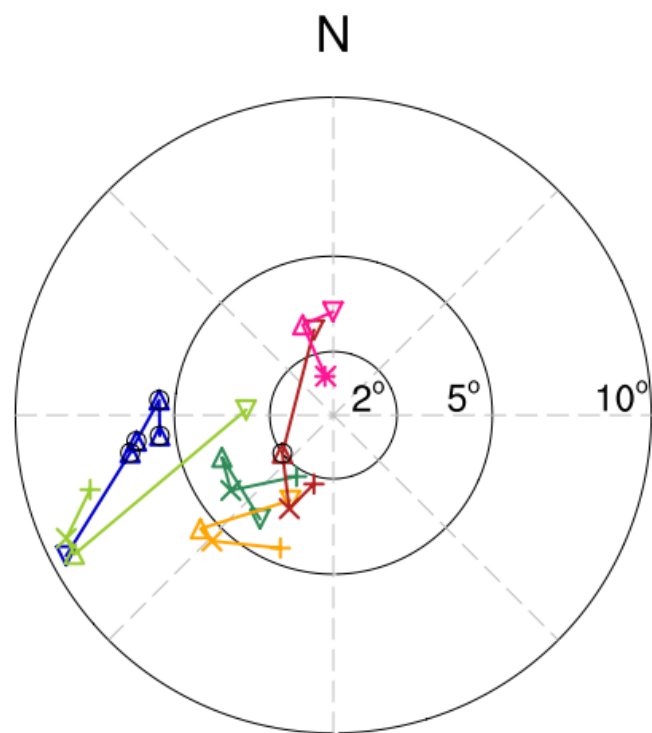


Figure 1. Diurnal variability of albedo with SZA less than 75° in June 2013 at a) KPC_U; b) JAR-1; c) Saddle; d) South Dome.

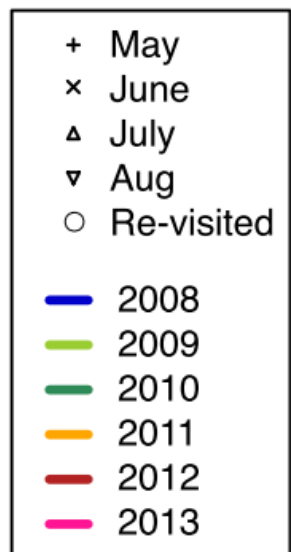
Measured vs. estimated tilt angle and tilt direction at the KPC_U station



Measured

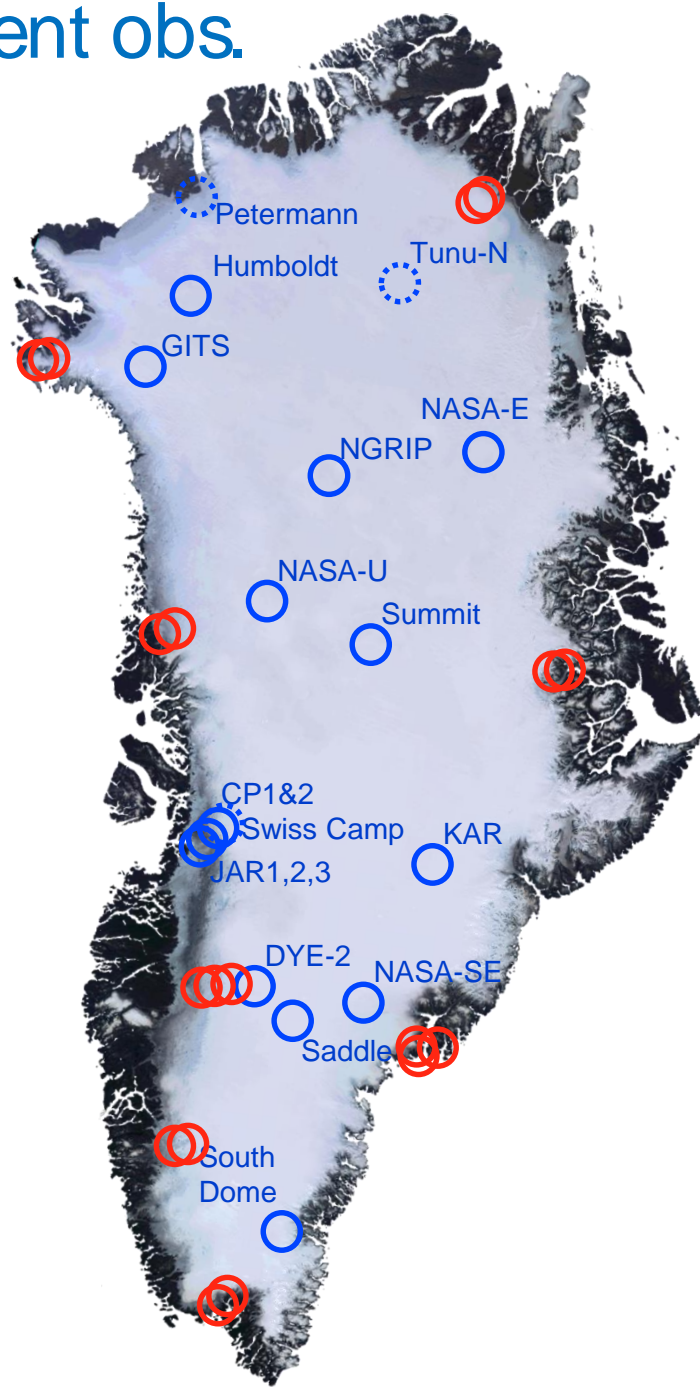


Estimated

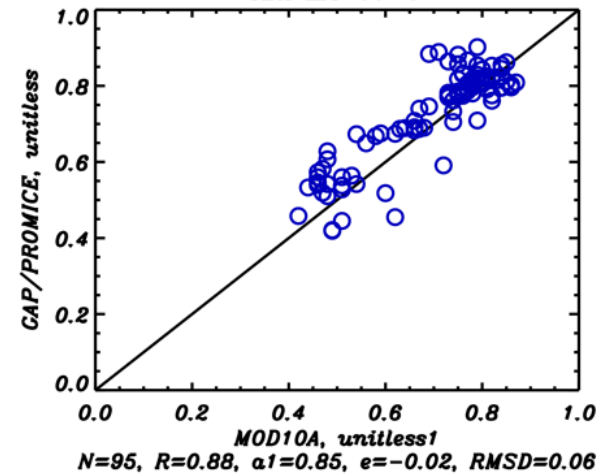
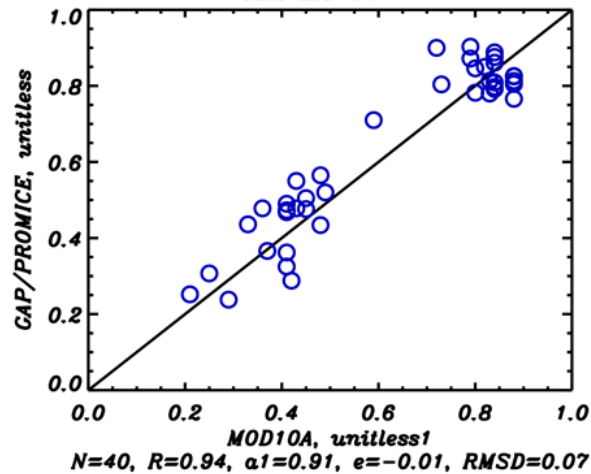
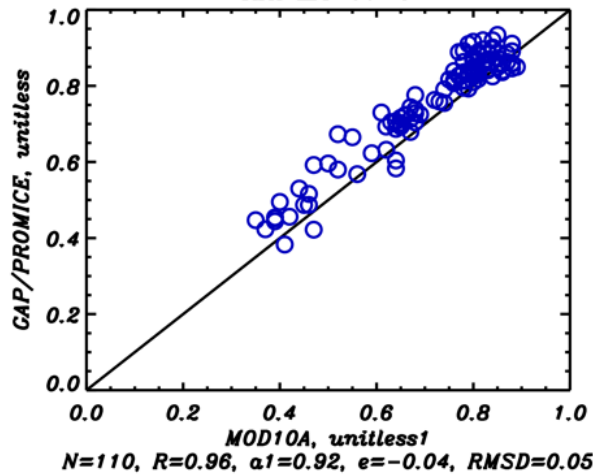
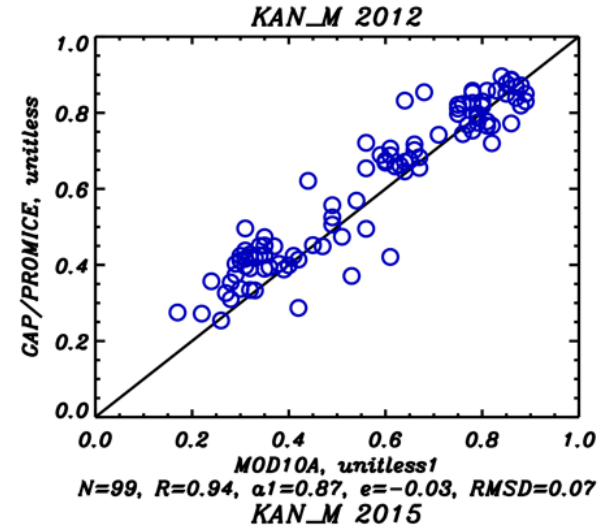
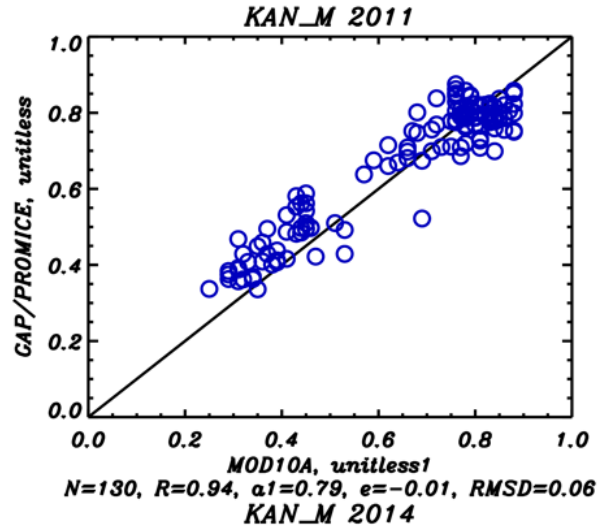
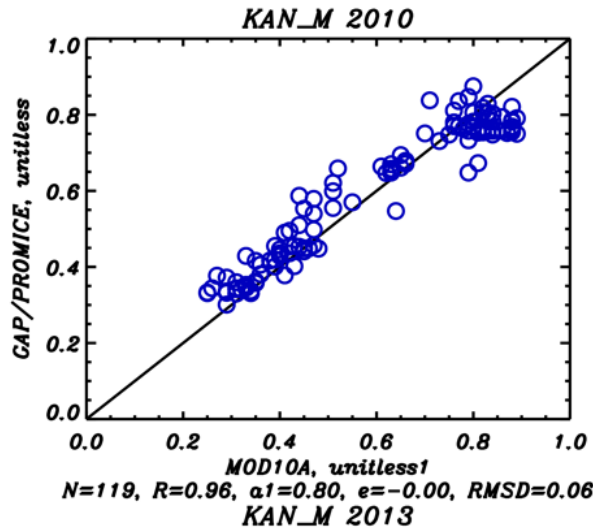


RIGB (Wang et al., 2016)

PROMICE homogeneous 2007-present obs.



MOD10 Albedo vs. PROMICE in situ



The way ahead

Improve tilt measurement (improve SEB):

- smaller 2-axes tilt sensor built under the CNR-4 shield to guarantee exact alignment
- integrate a solid state compass to address change of azimuth

Characterize and if possible compensate for CNR-1 / CNR-4 error sources (improve SEB):

- long term sensitivity drift, temperature coefficient, cosine response

Add spectral information (assist with linking to satellite albedo):

- as soon as a practical (low power, low cost and low maintenance ... possibly)

Add surface roughness information (assist with linking to satellite albedo):

- stereophotogrammetry



Thank you

