

# THERMAL STATE OF PERMAFROST IN THE NORTHERN YAKUTIA: MODERN DYNAMICS AND SPATIAL VARIABILITY.

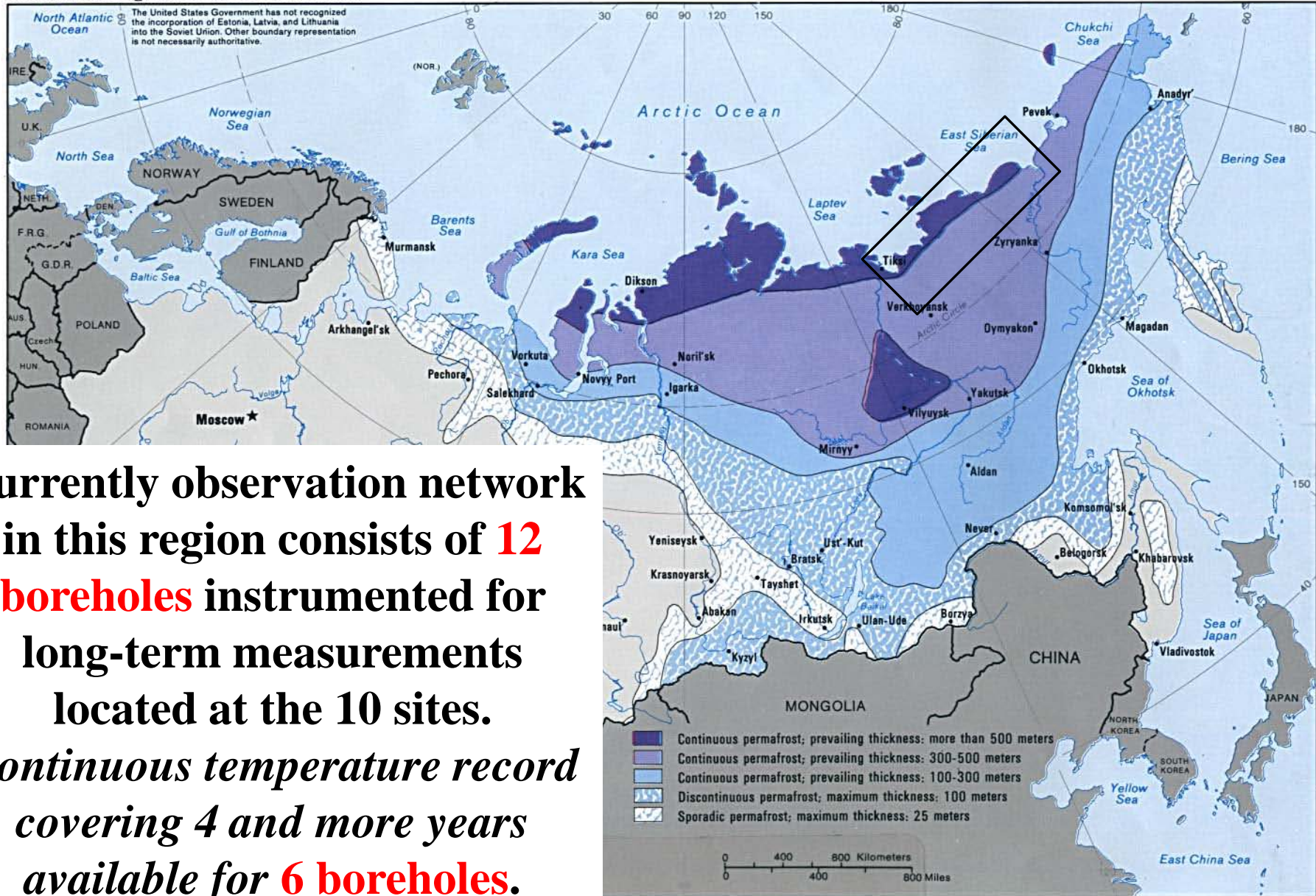
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Vladimir Romanovsky (1),  
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- (4) Woods Hole Research Center, Falmouth, USA



# REGIONAL PERMAFROST CONDITIONS (YAKUTIA)

Permafrost Regions in the Soviet Union



Currently observation network  
in this region consists of **12**  
**boreholes** instrumented for  
long-term measurements  
located at the 10 sites.  
*Continuous temperature record  
covering 4 and more years  
available for **6** boreholes.*



# VEGETATION AND LANDSCAPE TYPES

TUNDRA



BOREAL FOREST



FLOODPLAIN



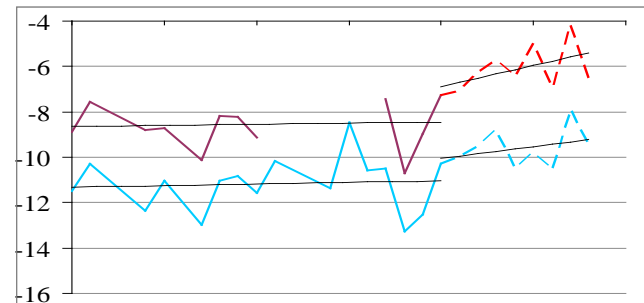
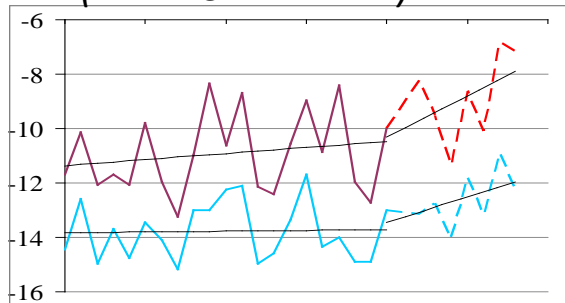
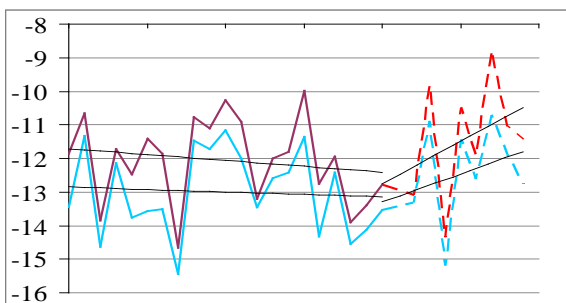
# AN ANNUAL AIR TEMPERATURE DYNAMICS AND ESTIMATION OF THE SNOW INFLUENCE ON THE GROUND TEMPERATURE.

TIKSI

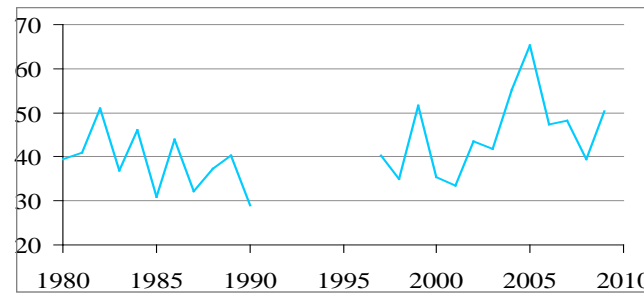
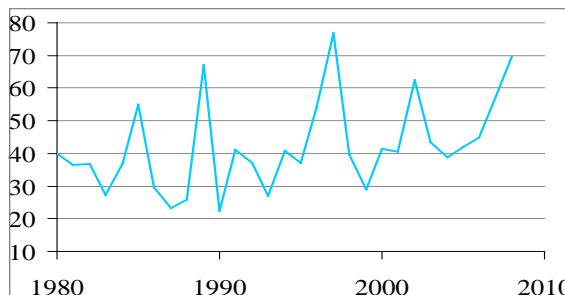
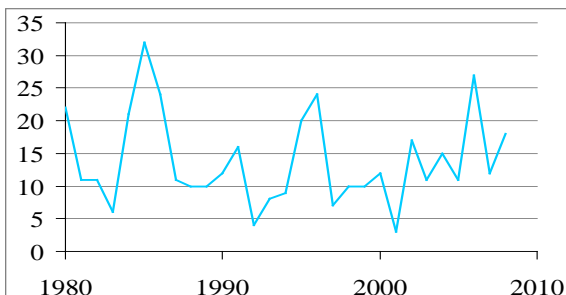
CHOKURDAH

CHERSKY

*MEAN ANNUAL AIR TEMPERATURE (BLUE LINE) AND TEMPERATURE WITH SNOW INFLUENCE CORRECTION (RED-PURPLE LINE) DYNAMICS*



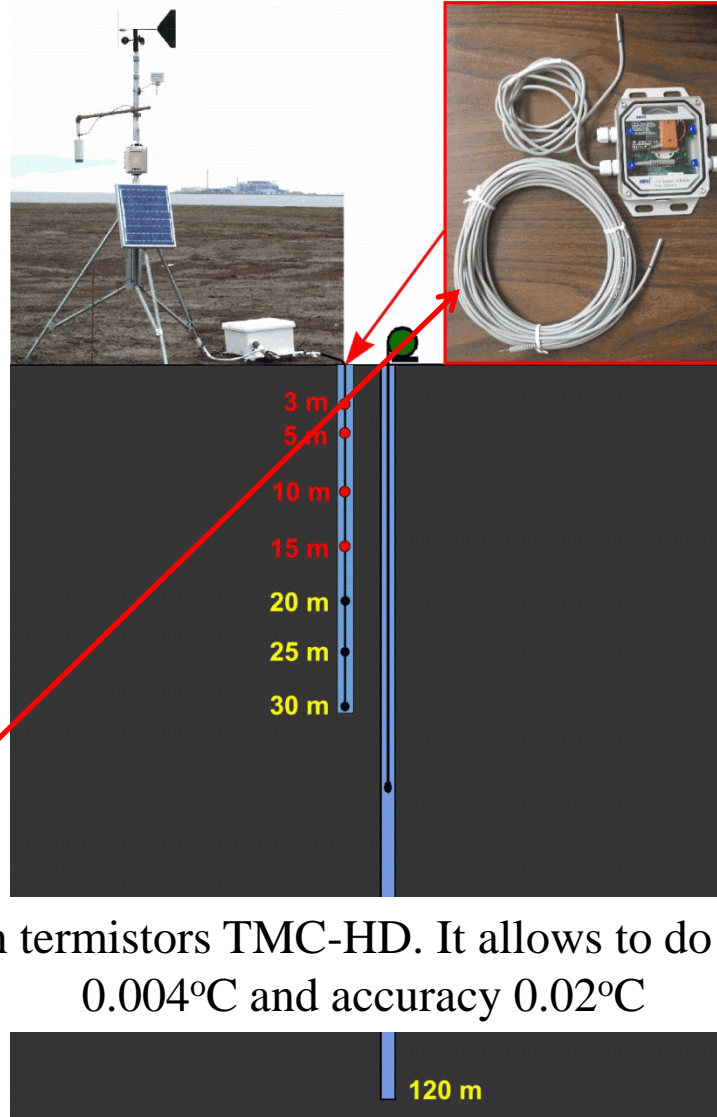
*MAXIMAL SNOW THICKNESS DYNAMICS*



**Snow warming influence was estimated using Kudryavtcev approach, taking into consideration snow thickness, density and amplitude of air temperature seasonal oscillation.**

Before 2006

Occasional or  
periodical  
measurements



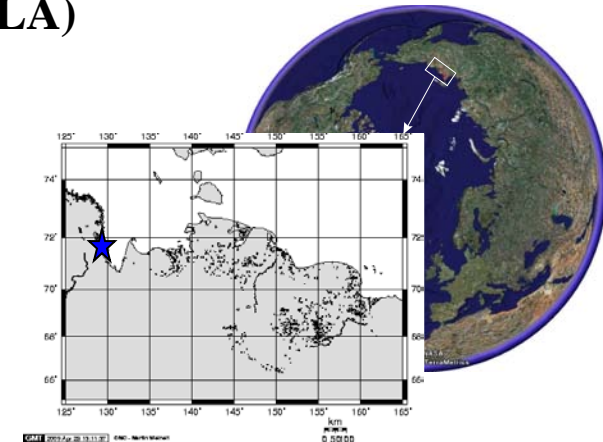
After 2006

Long-term  
high-frequency  
(hourly to daily)  
continuous  
observations

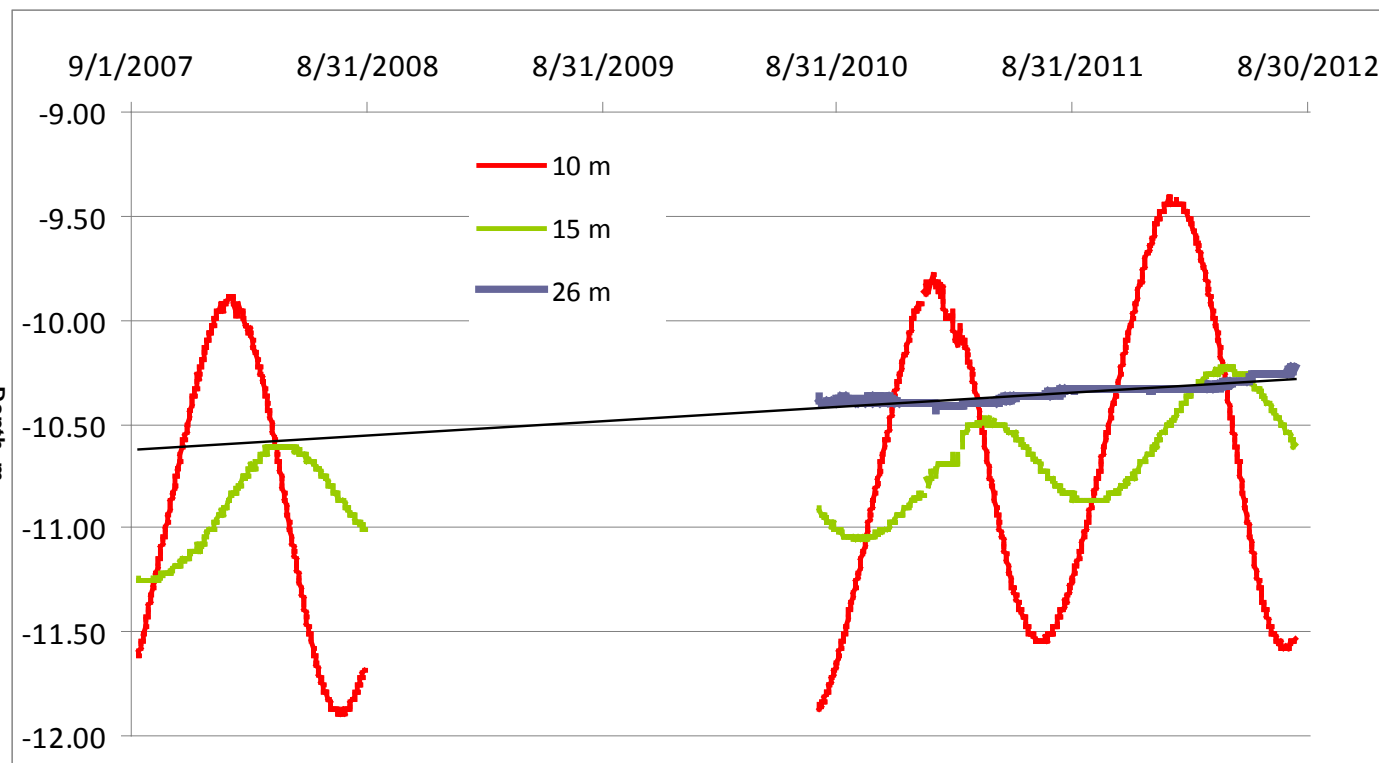
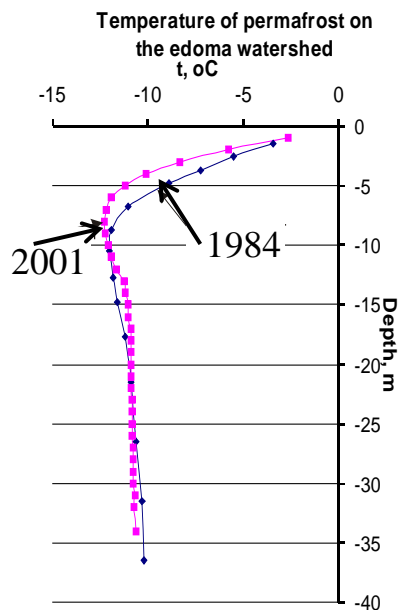
Data logger HOBOTermistor U-12 with termistors TMC-HD. It allows to do measurements with resolution  $0.004^{\circ}\text{C}$  and accuracy  $0.02^{\circ}\text{C}$



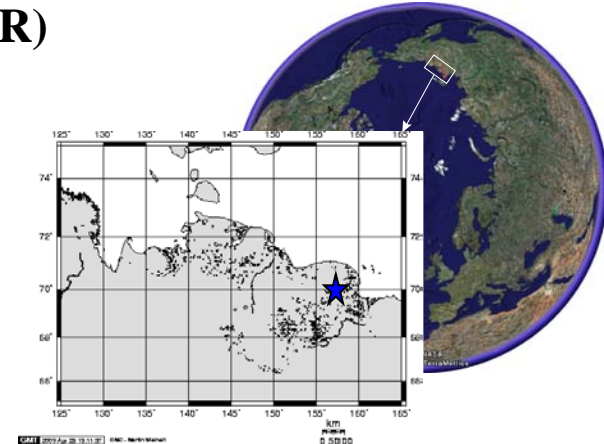
# TUNDRA (BYKOVSKY PENINSULA)



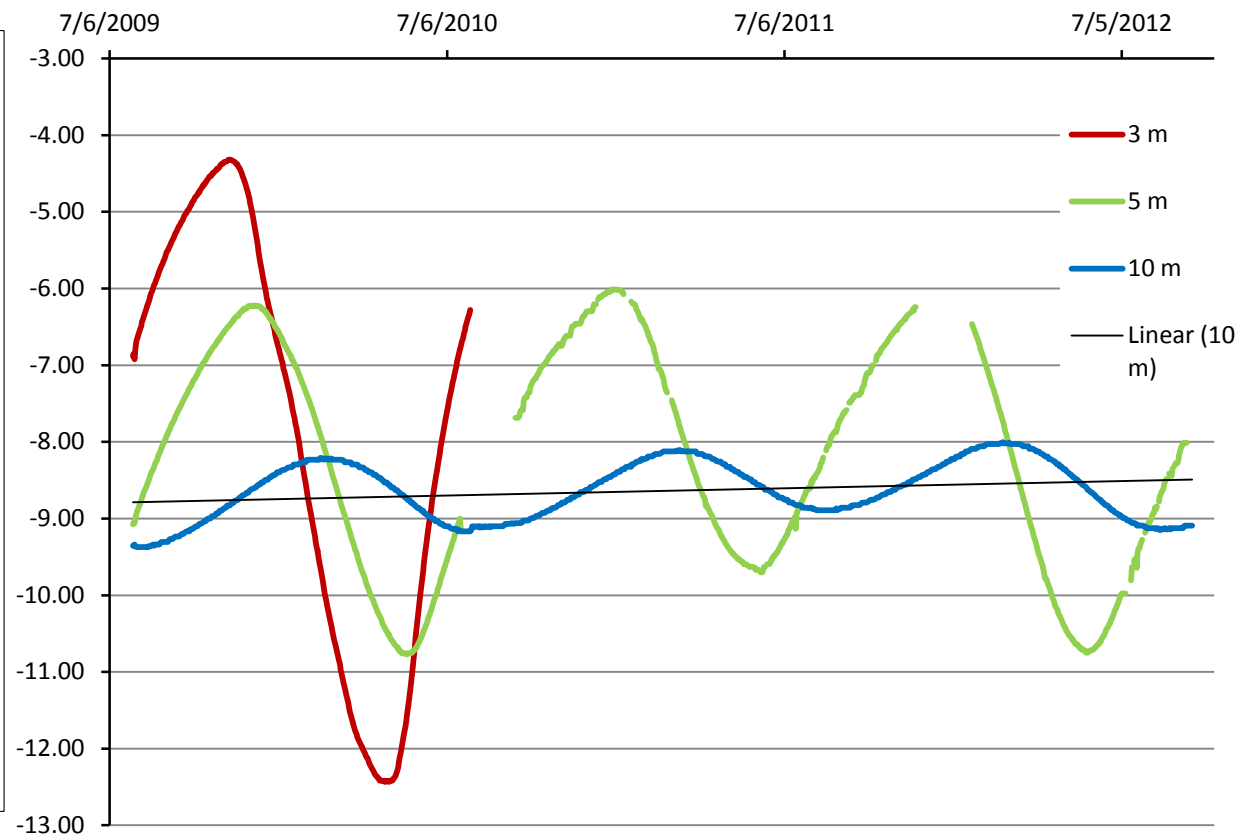
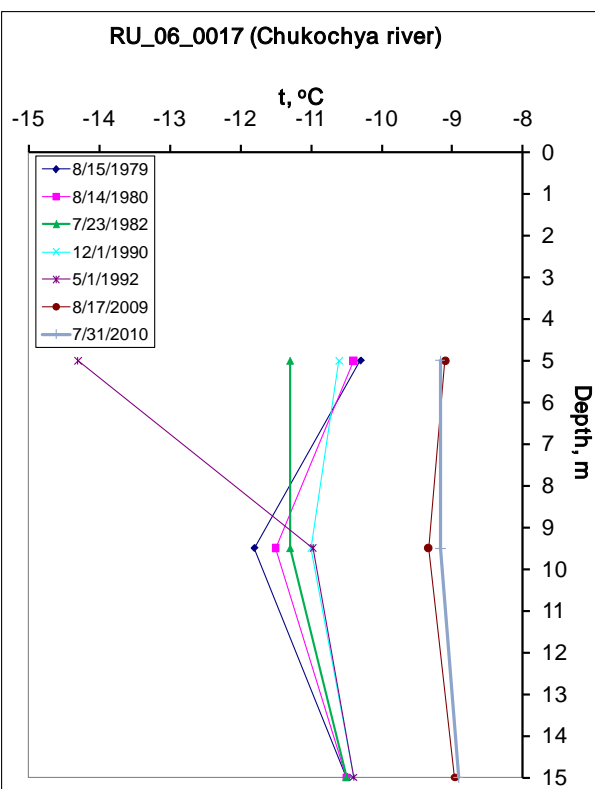
MAGT at the 26 m depth (2012) **-10.3°C** Positive trend, °C/year **0.073**



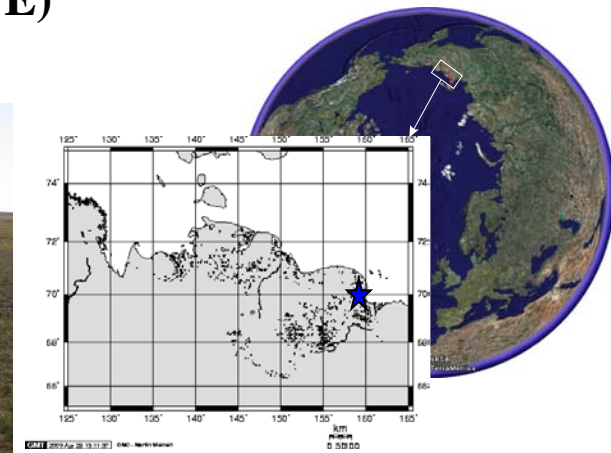
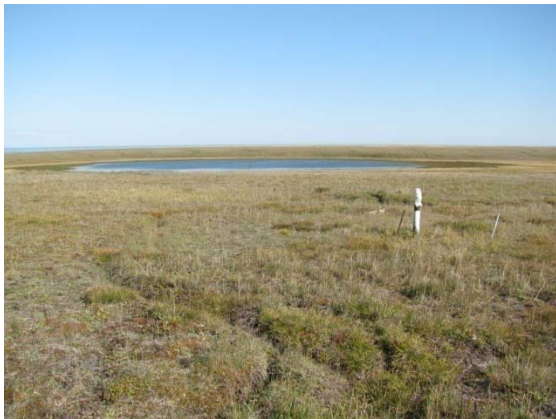
# TUNDRA (CHUKOCHYA RIVER)



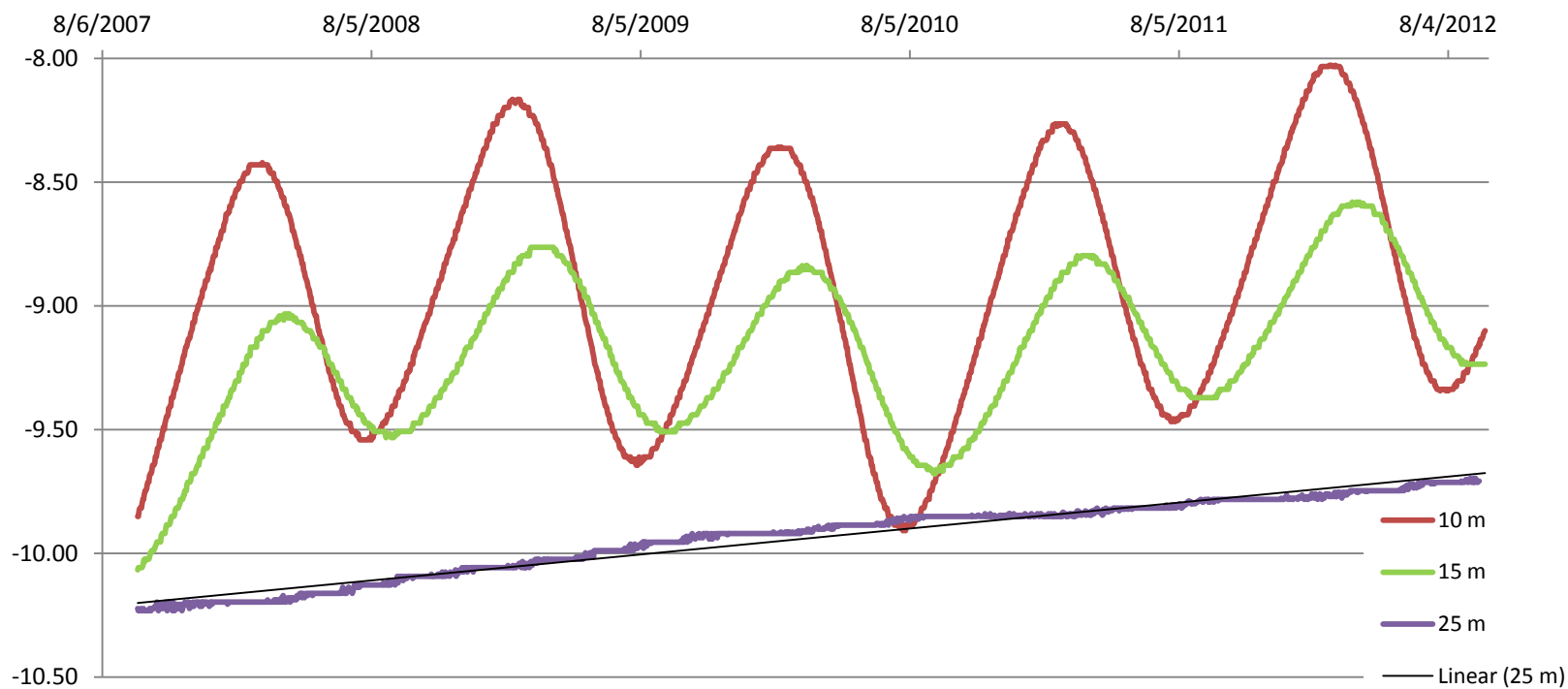
MAGT at the 10 m depth (2012) **-8.6°C** Positive trend, °C/year **0.109**



# TUNDRA (CHUKOCHIYA CAPE)

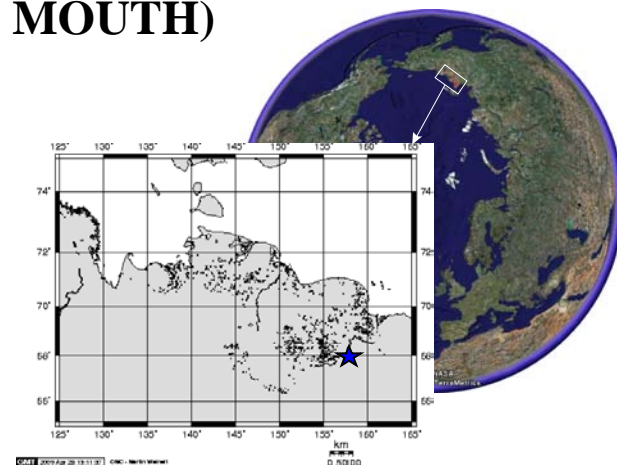


MAGT at the 25 m depth (2012) **-9.8°C** Positive trend, °C/year **0.109**

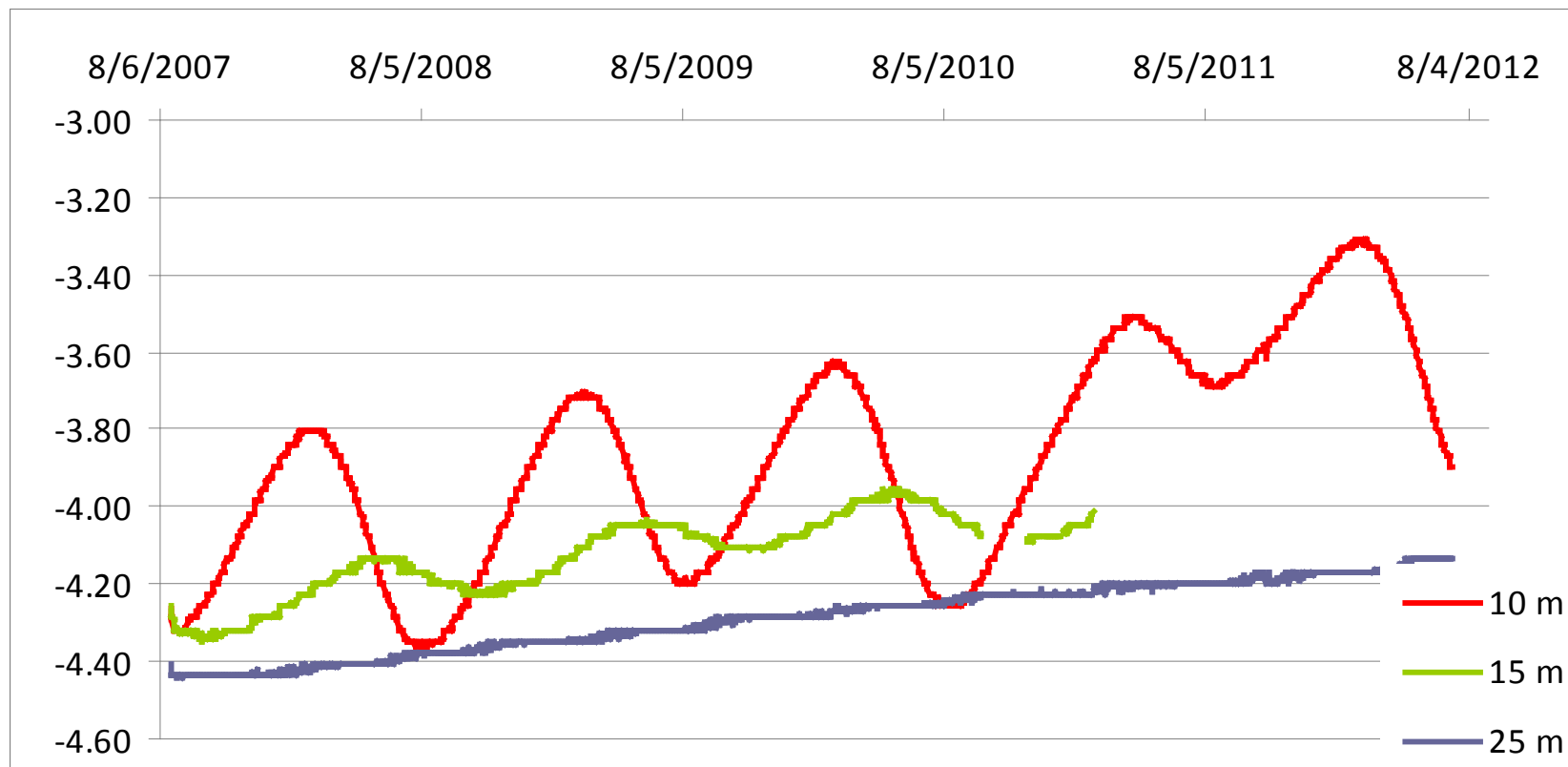




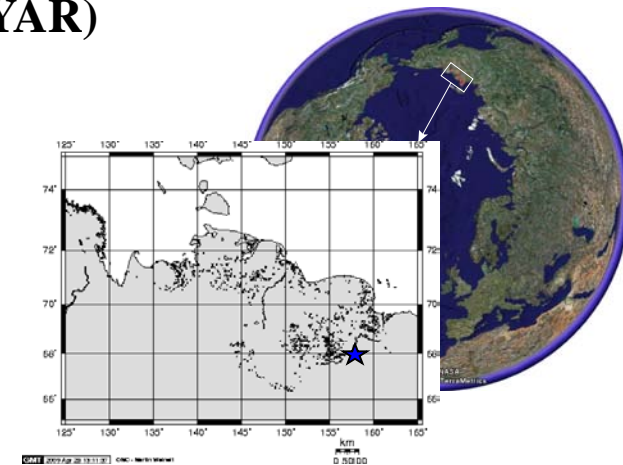
# BOREAL FOREST (OMOLON RIVER MOUTH)



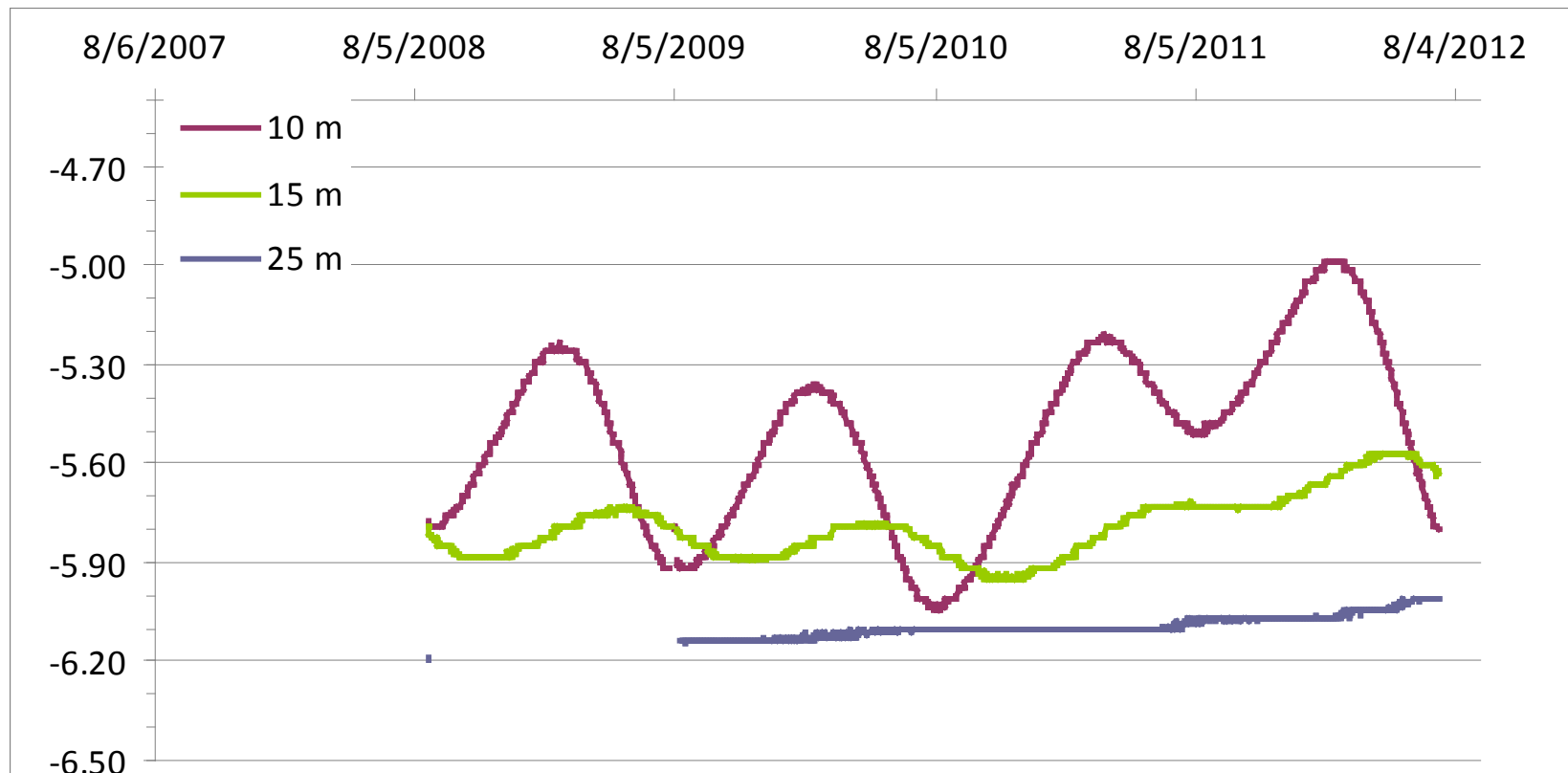
MAGT at the 25 m depth (2012) **-4.2°C** Positive trend, °C/year **0.063**



# BOREAL FOREST (DUVANNY YAR)



MAGT at the 25 m depth (2012) **-6.1°C** Positive trend, °C/year **0.035**



# FLOODPLAIN (AMBOLIHA)

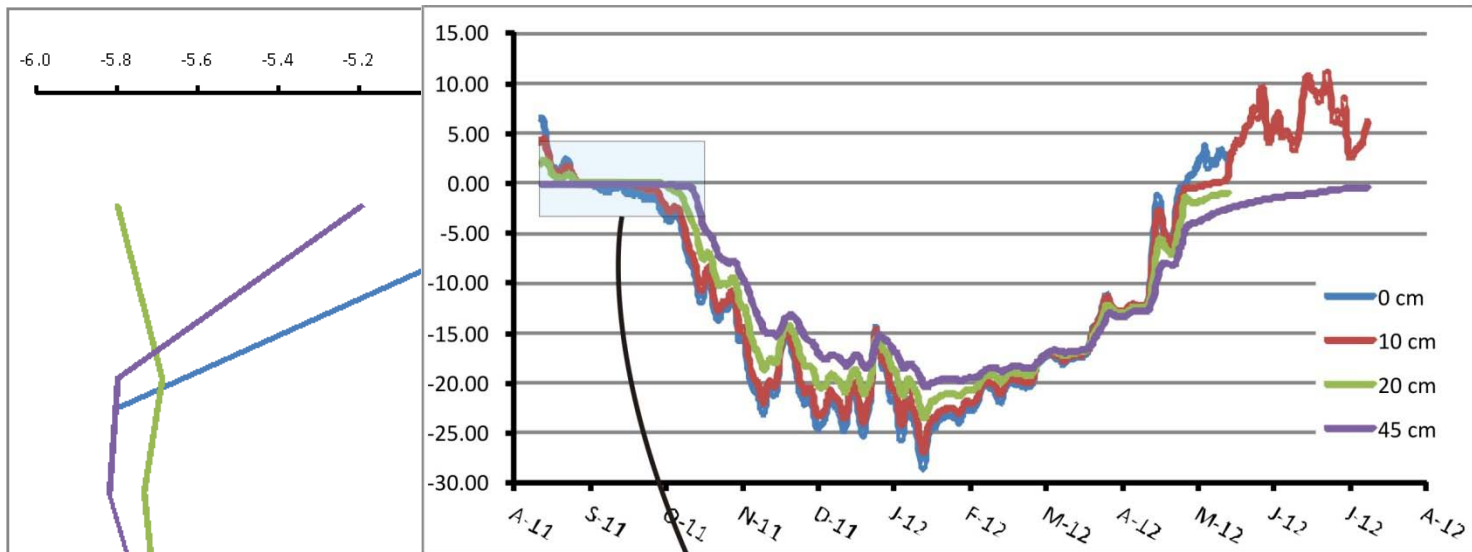
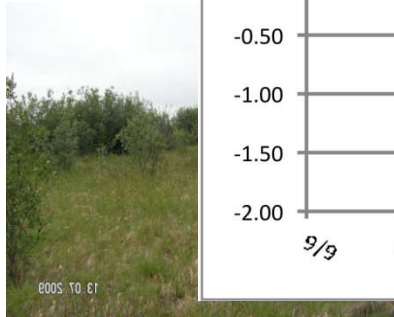
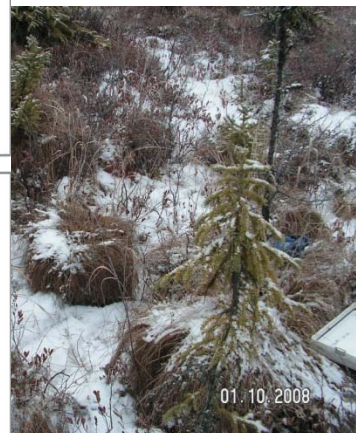
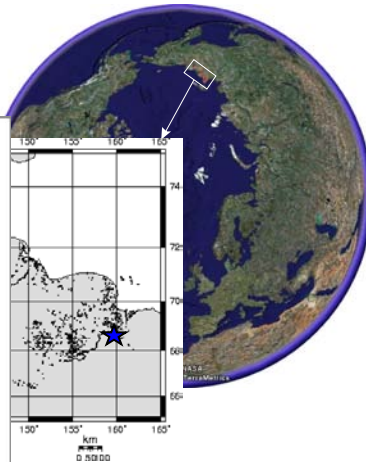
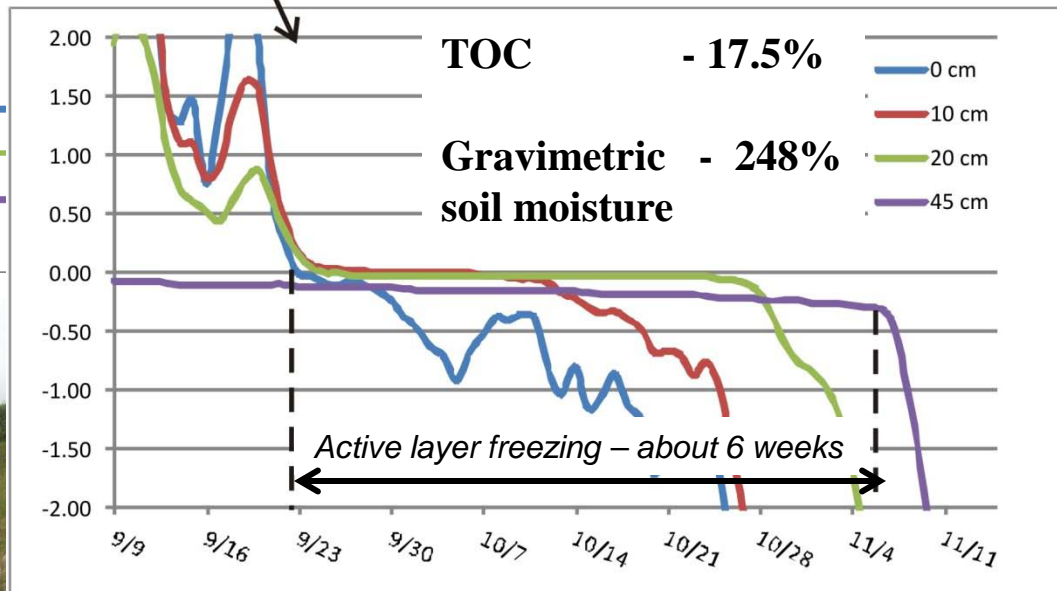


Fig. 10. Mean annual temperature in the borehole at Amboliha site at 1981; 2008 and 2009.

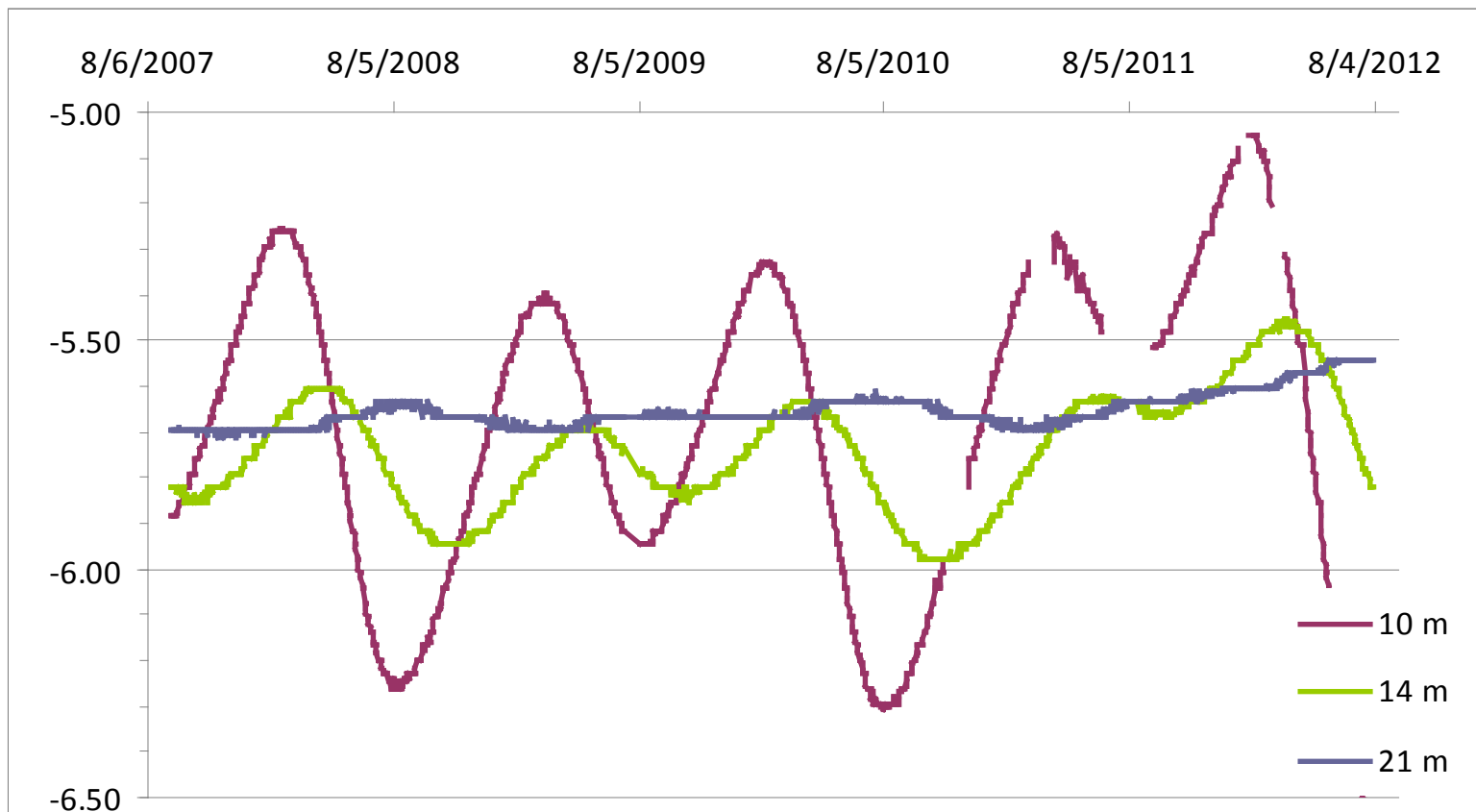




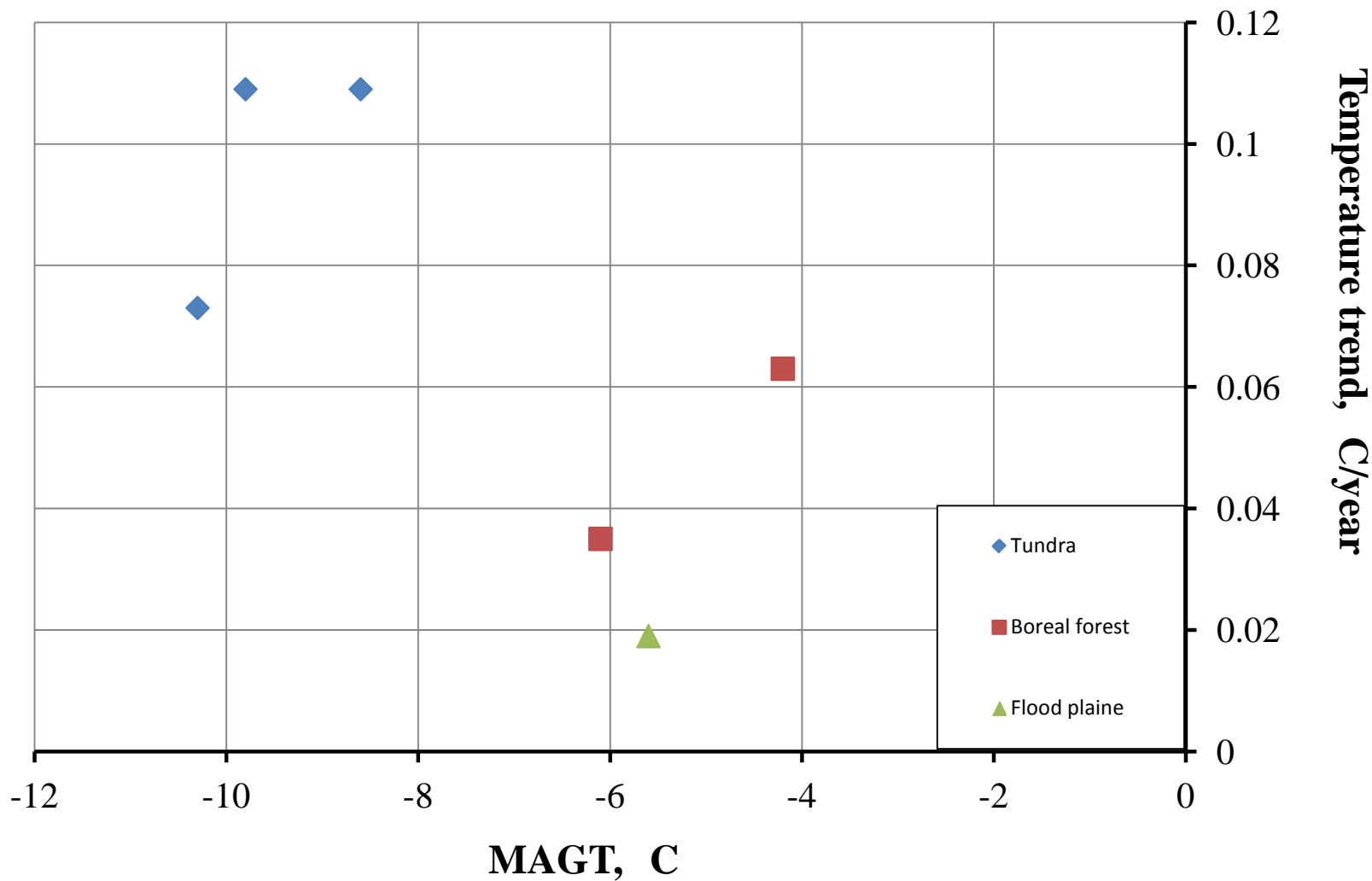
# FLOODPLAIN (AMBOLIHA)



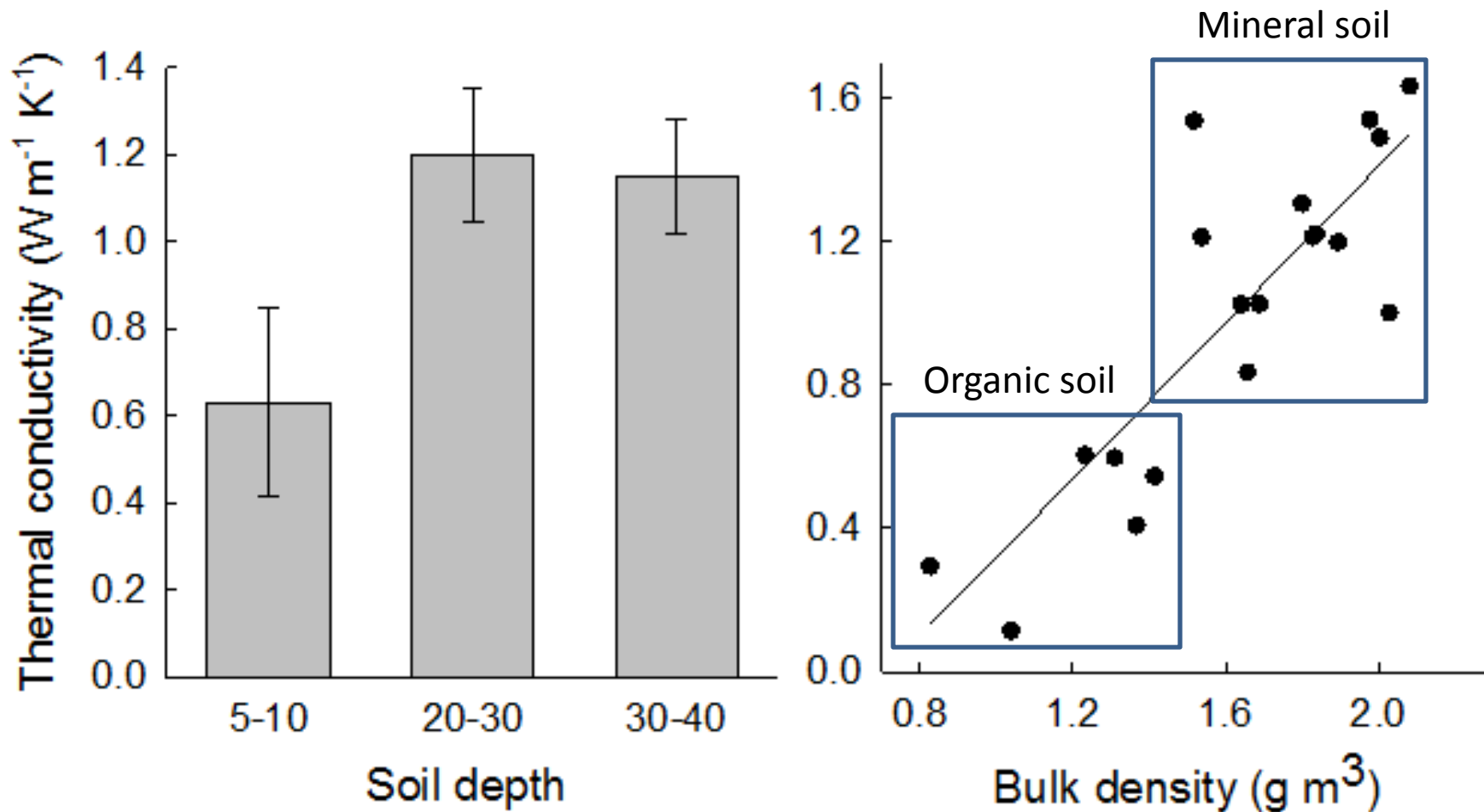
MAGT at the 21 m depth (2012) **-5.6°C** Positive trend, °C/year **0.019**



# RESULTS: CORREALATION OF GROUND TEMPERATURE VALUES AND DYNAMICS WITHIN THE DIFFERENT LANDSCAPE TYPES



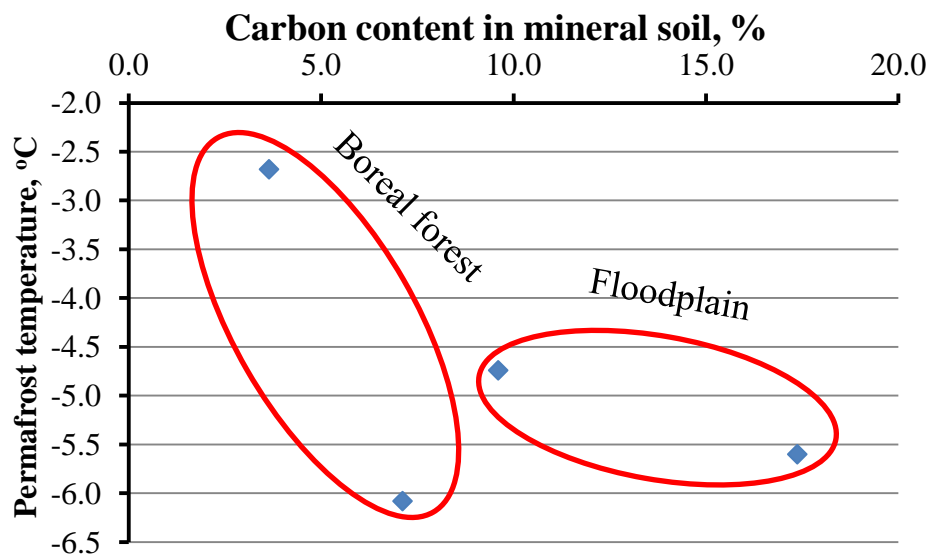
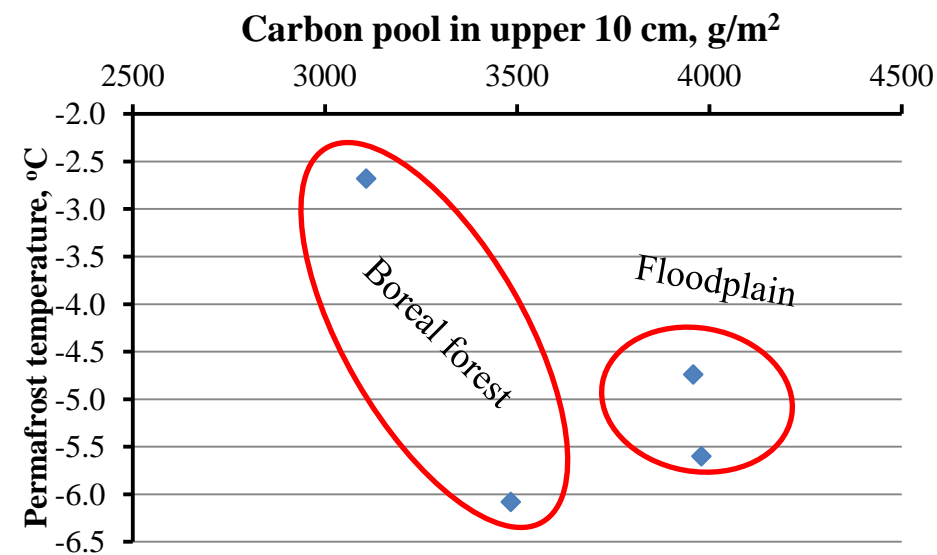
# **THERMAL CONDUCTIVITY OF ACTIVE LAYER SOIL IN THE INVESTIGATED AREA**



Left panel: Conductivity of organic (5-10 cm) soil was lower than mineral (20-40 cm). Right panel: The positive relationship between bulk density (low in organic soil) and thermal conductivity



# CORRELATION OF PERMAFROST TEMPERATURE AND SOIL CARBON CONTENT



Mean annual permafrost temperature rising was recorded at the most of observation sites in the region.

Rate of rising changes from **0.03 C/year** within boreal forest natural zone to **0.1 C/year** in tundra. Within each of ecosystem types rate of permafrost warming strongly depends on local surface conditions.

Cooling natural factors such as higher *organic content in active layer* or *snow redistribution due to micro topography* reduce permafrost temperature and climate impact on its dynamics.

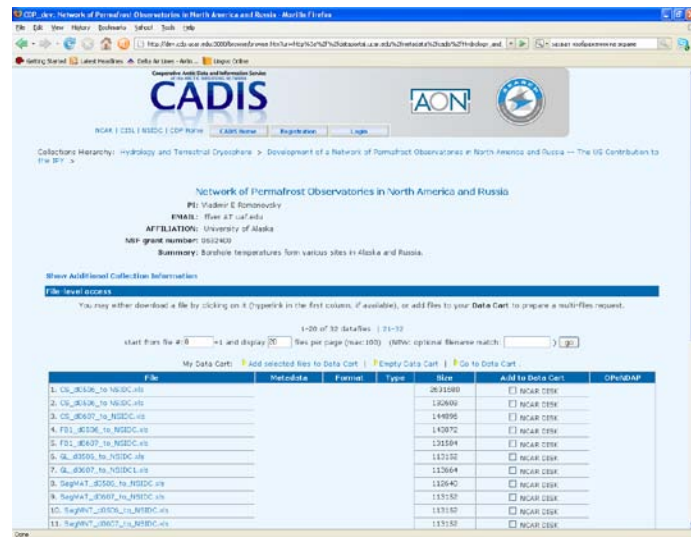
Ecosystems with *higher bioproductivity* are characterized by *lower rate of permafrost warming*

Based on the current research we would **strongly recommend to take into consideration climate induced ecosystem changes** (i.e. vegetation structure, microtopography dynamics, increasing of bioproductivity and soil organic carbon accumulation) when doing long-term permafrost dynamics modeling and forecasts.

# DATA ACCESS

Results of measurements are available via Internet on the web site of the Cooperative Arctic Data and Information Service (CADIS)

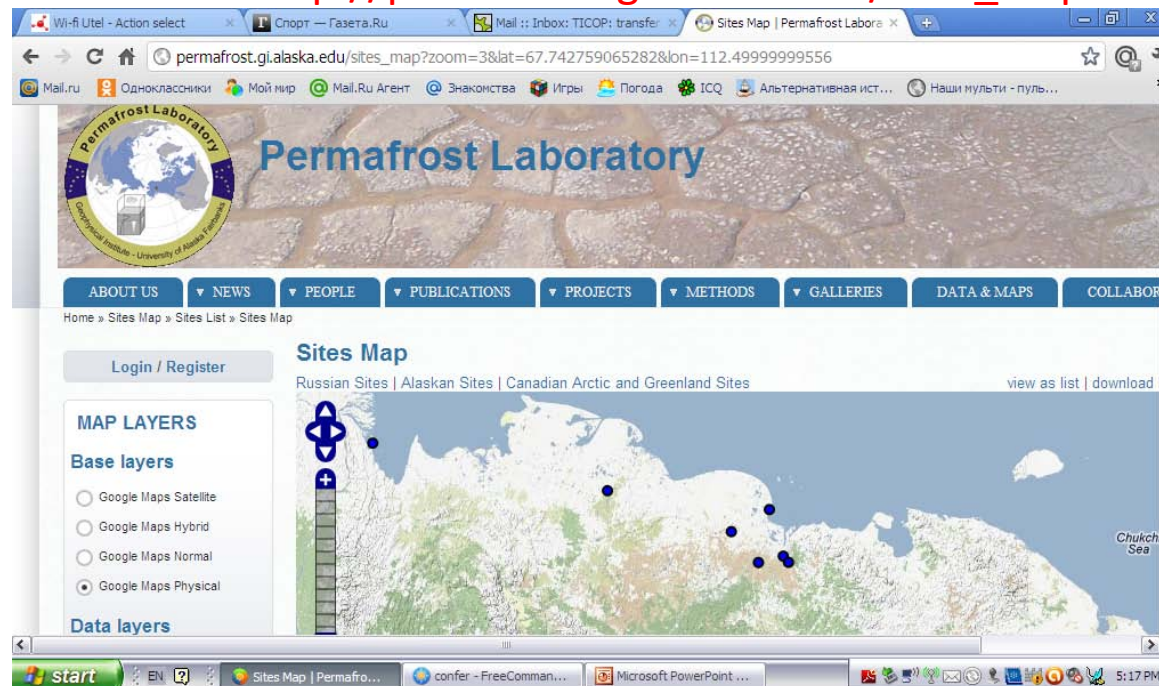
[WWW.AONCADIS.UCAR.EDU](http://WWW.AONCADIS.UCAR.EDU)



Geophysical Institute UAF,  
Permafrost laboratory web site

[WWW.PERMAFROSTWATCH.ORG](http://WWW.PERMAFROSTWATCH.ORG)

[http://permafrost.gi.alaska.edu/sites\\_map](http://permafrost.gi.alaska.edu/sites_map)





## AKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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and

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