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UNIVERSITY OF ICELAND  
INSTITUTE OF EARTH SCIENCES

# Seasonal-to-decadal geodetic mass balance of Hofsjökull, central Iceland, 1980–2020

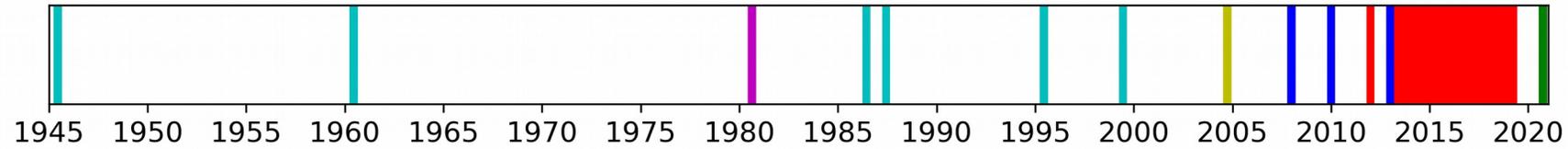
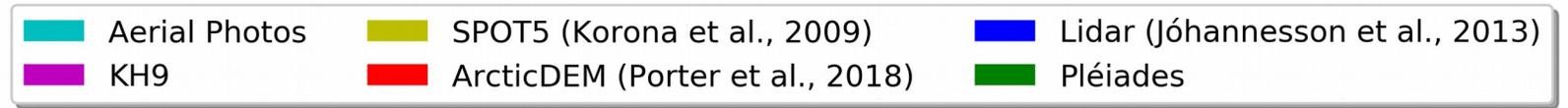
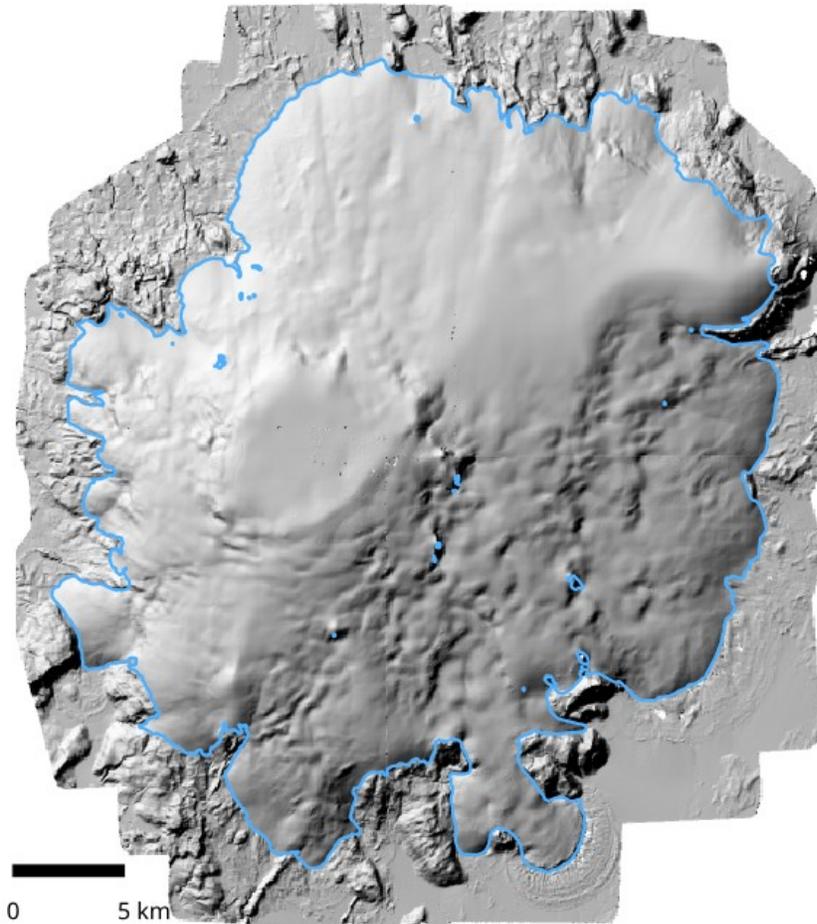
Joaquín M.C. Belart, Tómas Jóhannesson, Romain Hugonnet, Bob McNabb,  
Etienne Berthier, Þorsteinn Þorsteinsson, Johann Stötter

Virtual Nordic Branch IGS meeting, Cyberspace, DK, 11-13 November 2020

Background: Múlajökull drumlins from Pléiades false-color image ©CNES & Airbus D&S



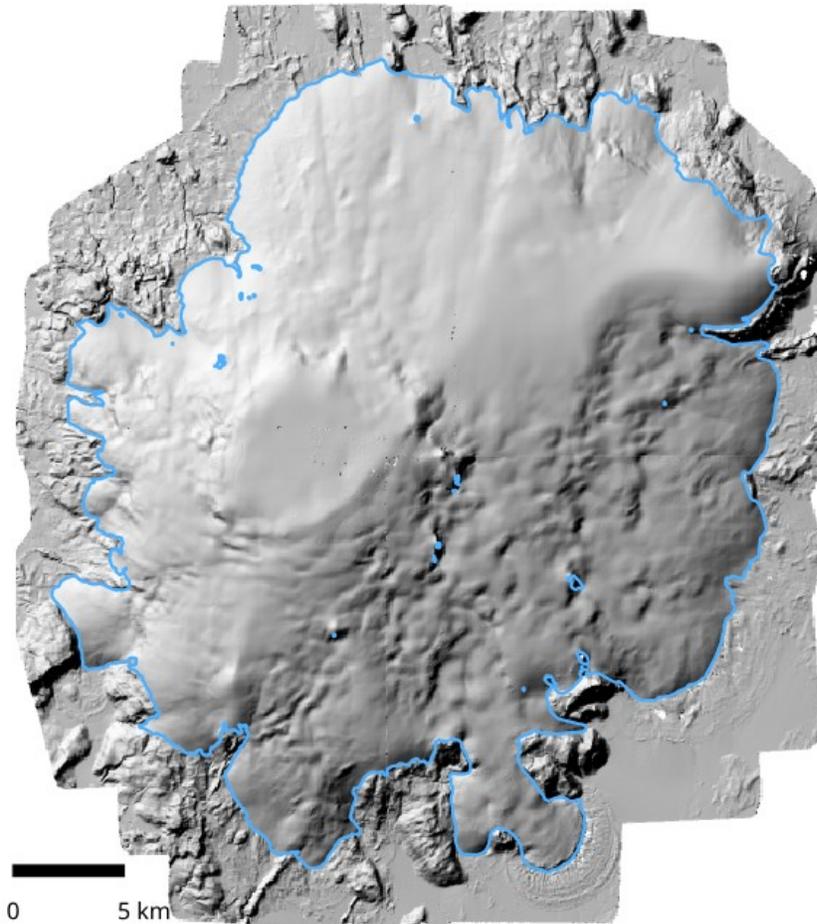
## Elevation data on Hofsjökull (810 km<sup>2</sup>)



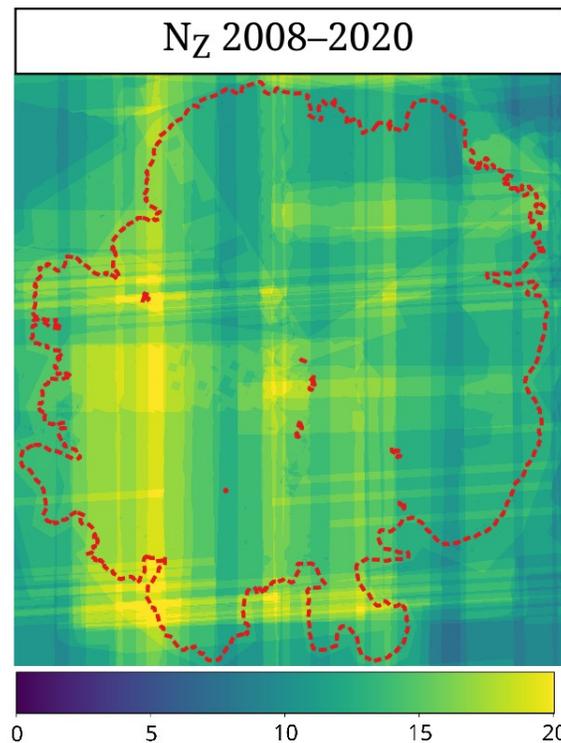
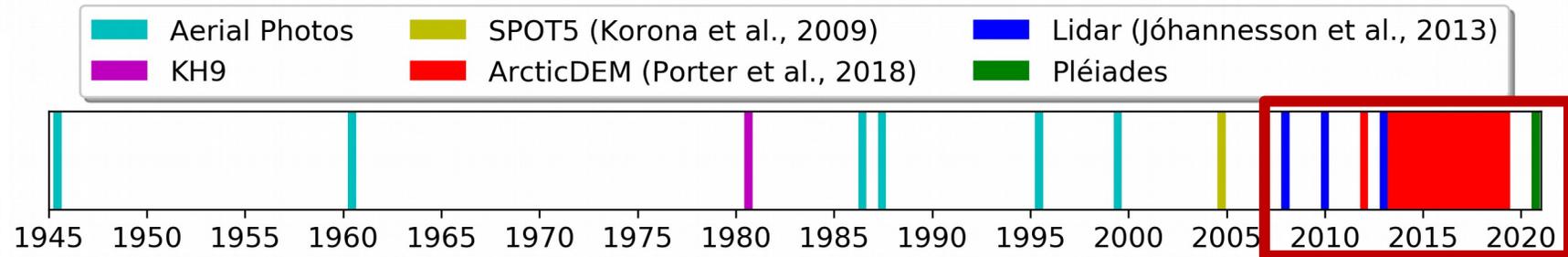
Pléiades DEM, Oct 2020



# Elevation data on Hofsjökull (810 km<sup>2</sup>)

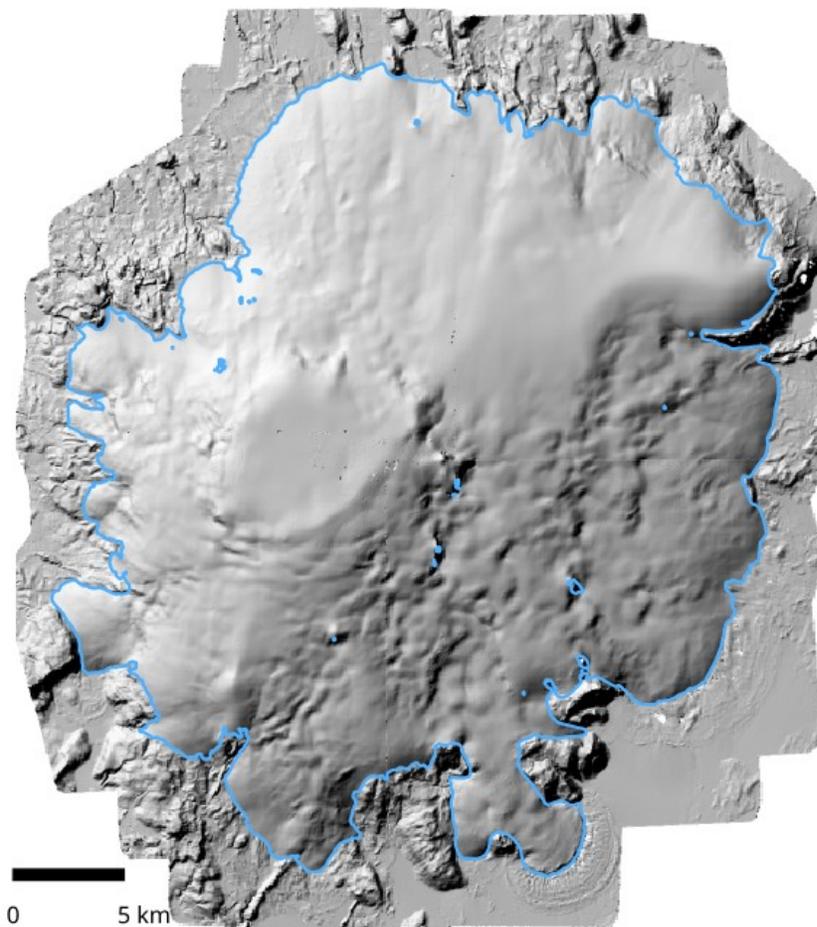


Pléiades DEM, Oct 2020

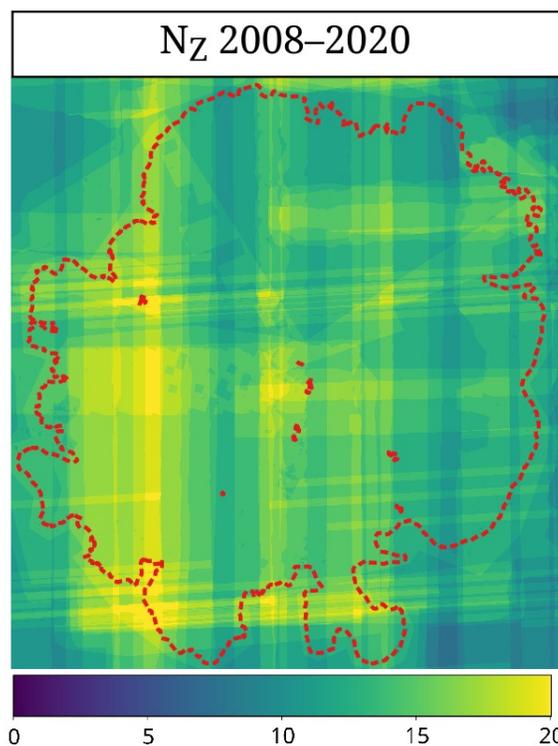
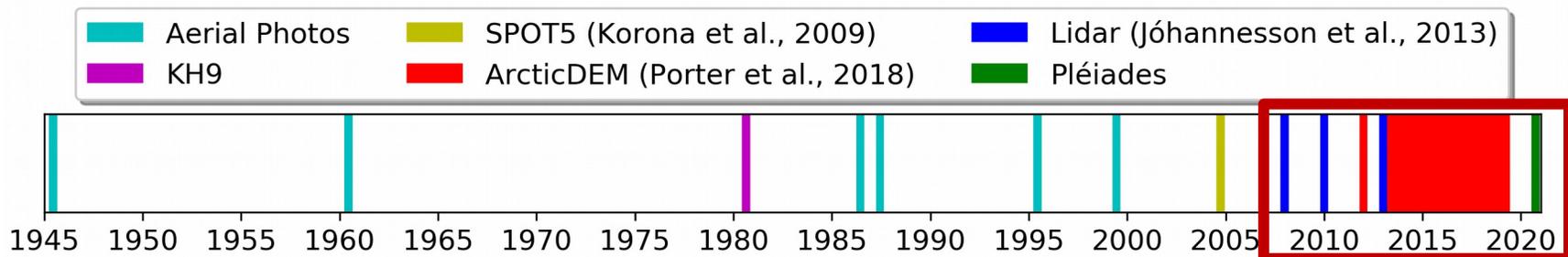




## Elevation data on Hofsjökull (810 km<sup>2</sup>)



Pléiades DEM, Oct 2020



### Aims of the study

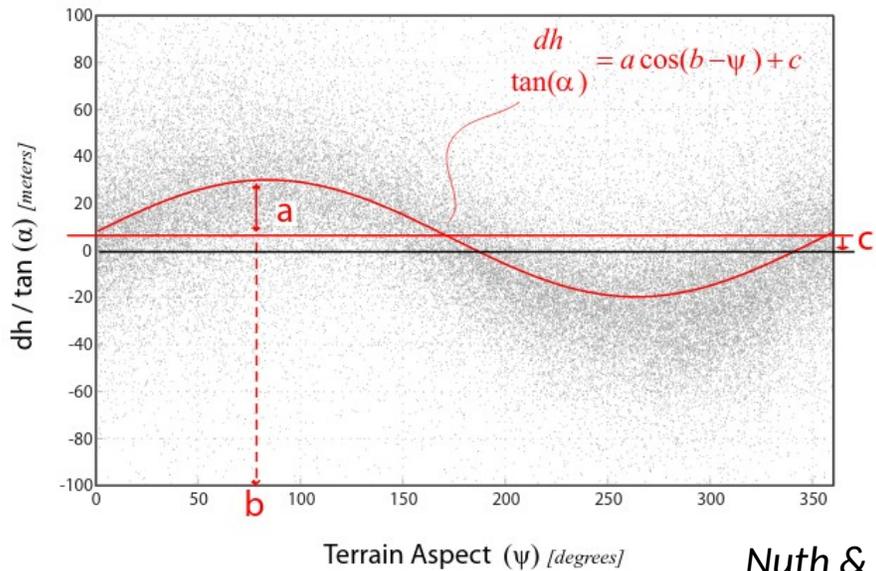
Efficient handling of multi-temporal DEMs

Applications in geodetic mass balance at several time scales

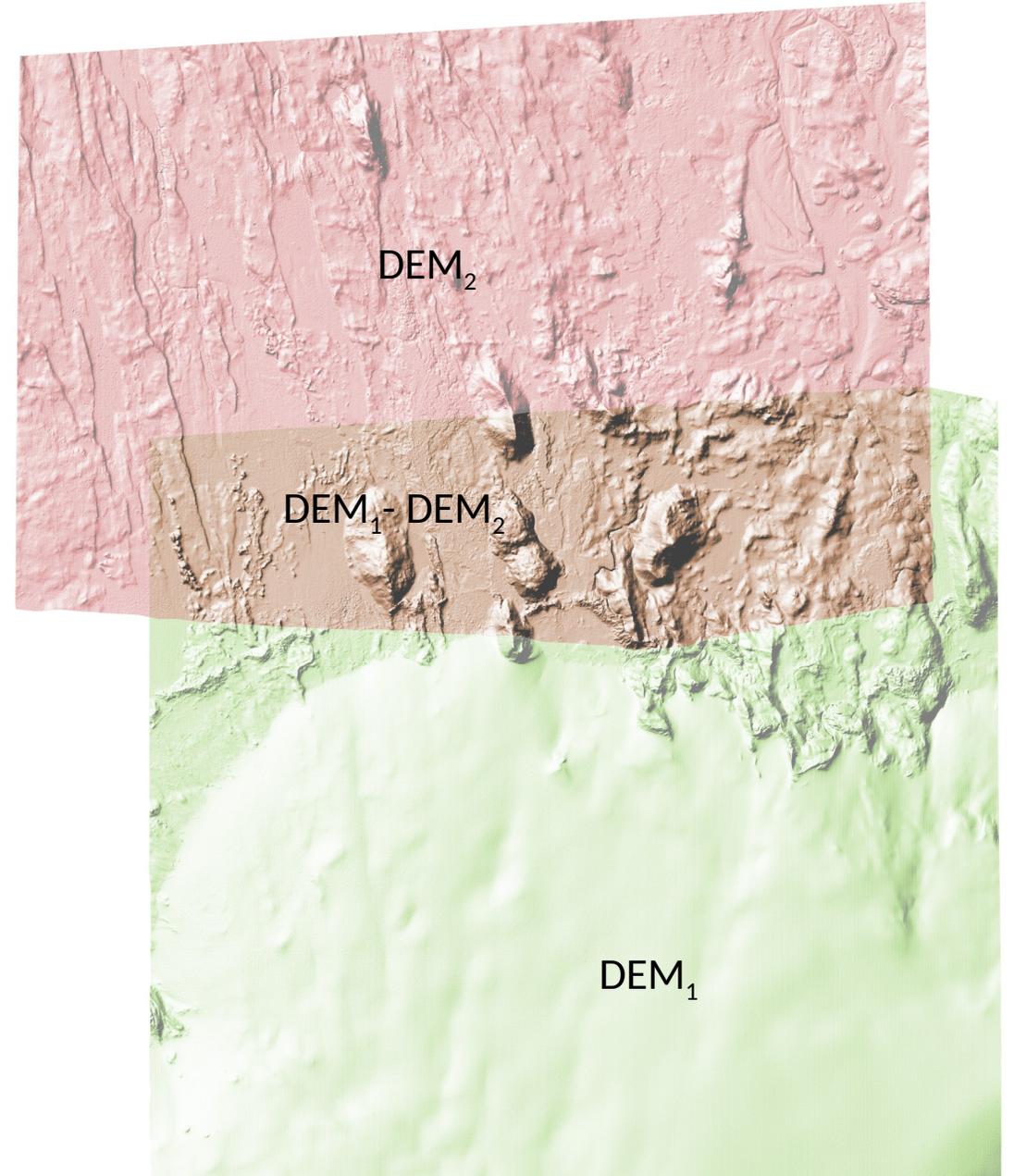


# DEM co-registration

- Pairwise shift between two DEMs:  $\Delta\xi_{ij}$



Nuth & Käab, TC, 2011





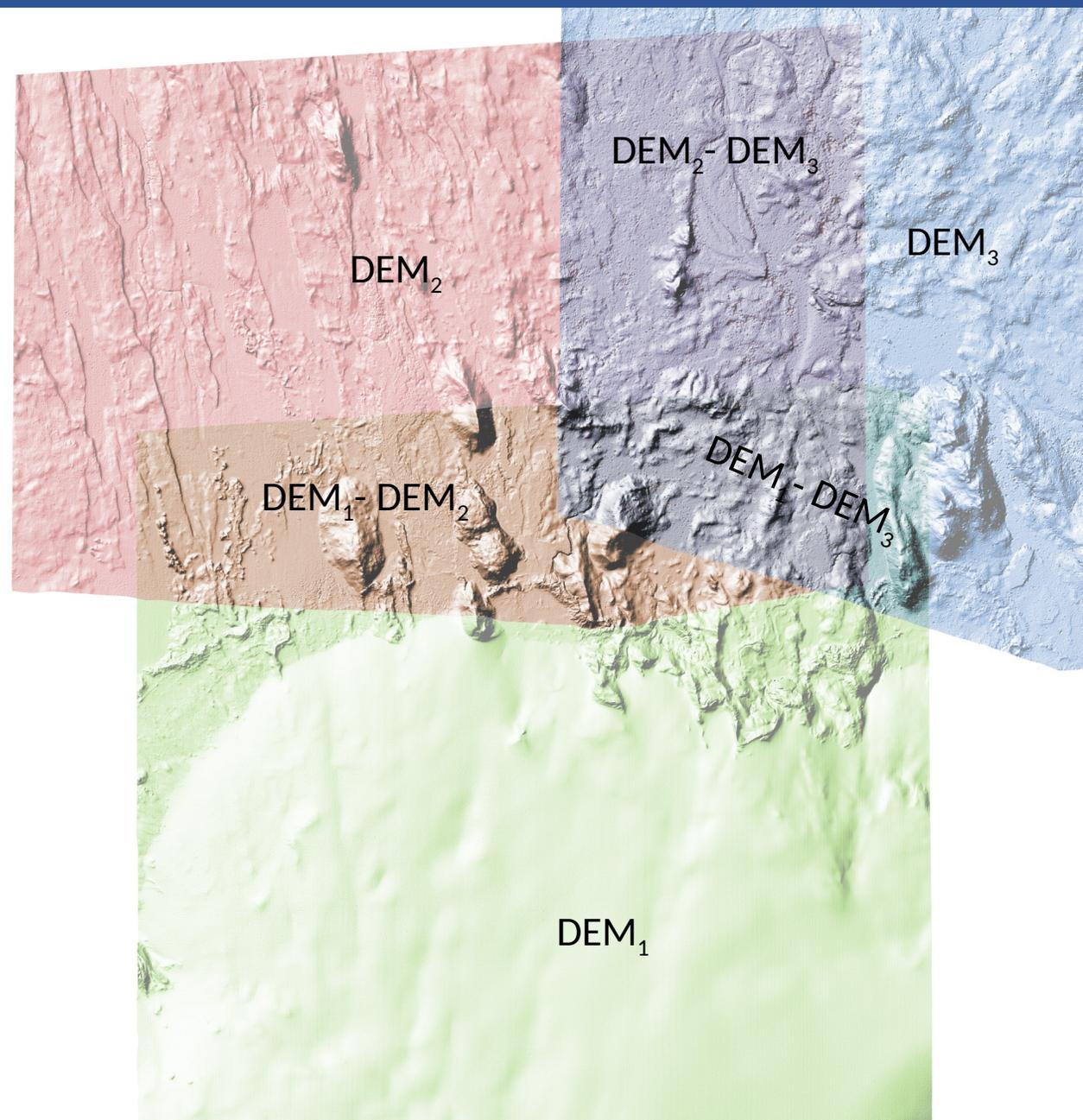
## Rscript 'Isqstripoffsets'

- Pairwise shift between two DEMs:  $\Delta\xi_{ij}$

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta\xi_{x_2} - \Delta\xi_{x_1} &= \Delta\xi_{x_{12}} \\ \Delta\xi_{x_3} - \Delta\xi_{x_1} &= \Delta\xi_{x_{13}} \\ &(\dots)\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta\xi_{y_2} - \Delta\xi_{y_1} &= \Delta\xi_{y_{12}} \\ \Delta\xi_{y_3} - \Delta\xi_{y_1} &= \Delta\xi_{y_{13}} \\ &(\dots)\end{aligned}$$

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## Rscript 'Isqstripoffsets'

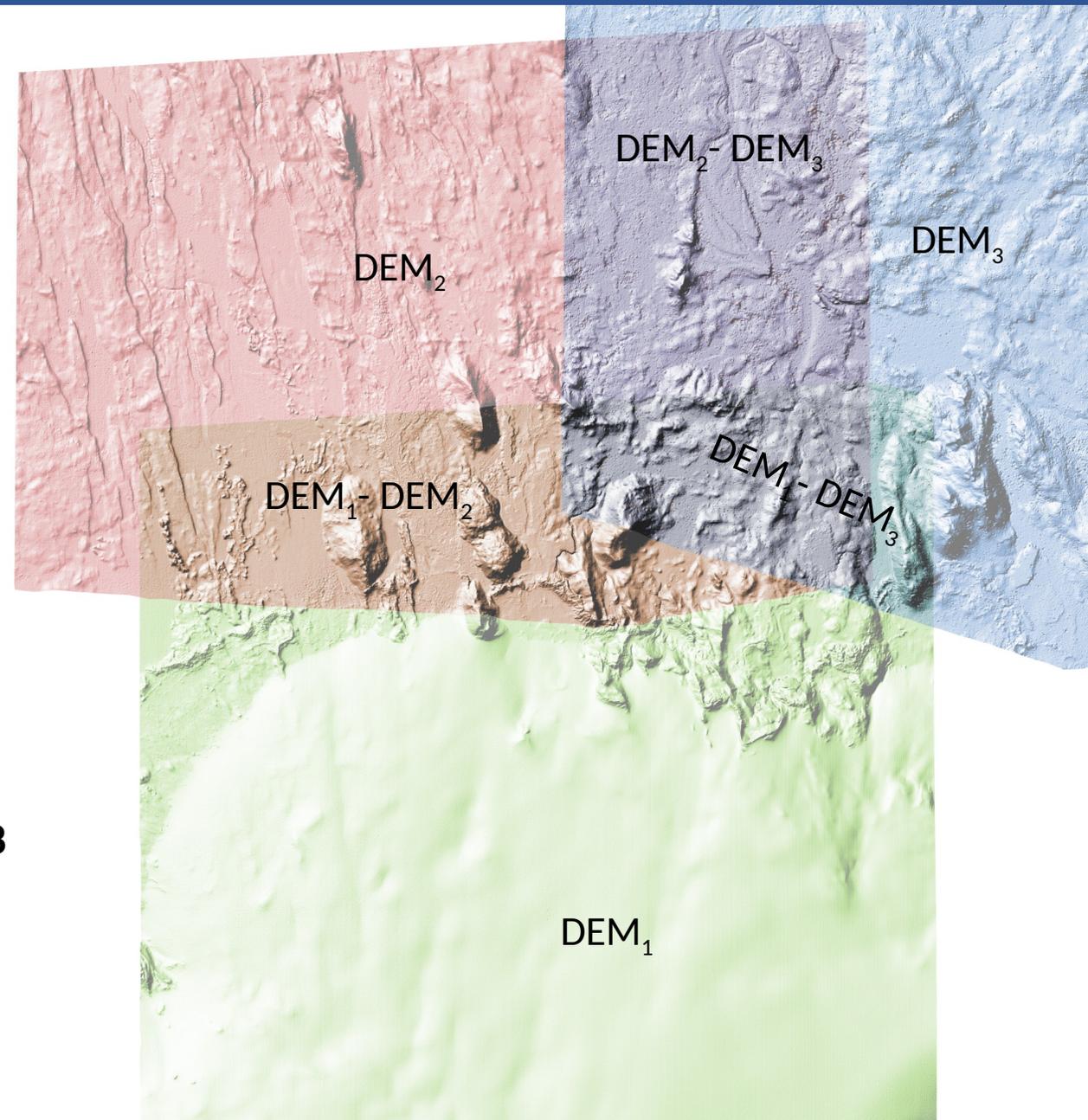
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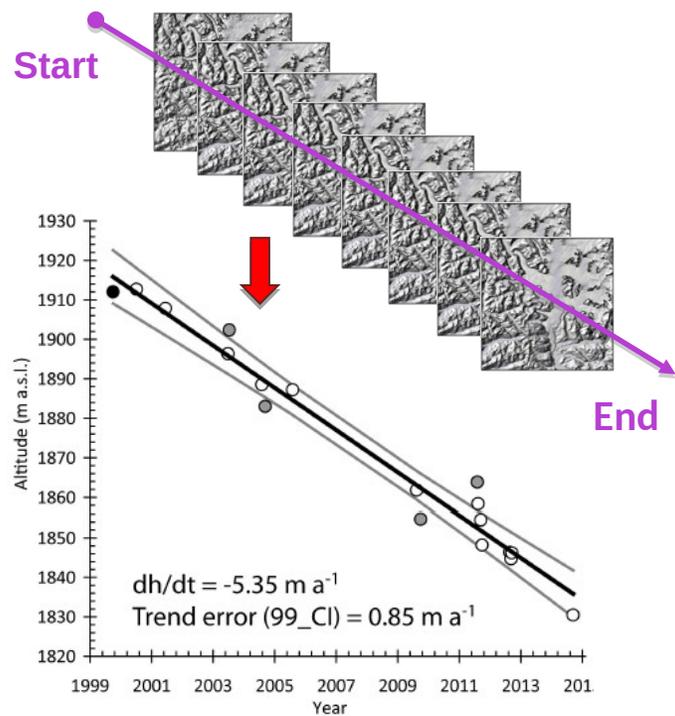
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- 200 ArcticDEMs: 4000 pairwise shifts. Optimal shift ( $\Delta\xi_i$ ) calculated for each individual ArcticDEM strip
- **Results: Every DEM re-located with sub-meter accuracy (~0.8 m in XY and ~0.3 m in Z)**

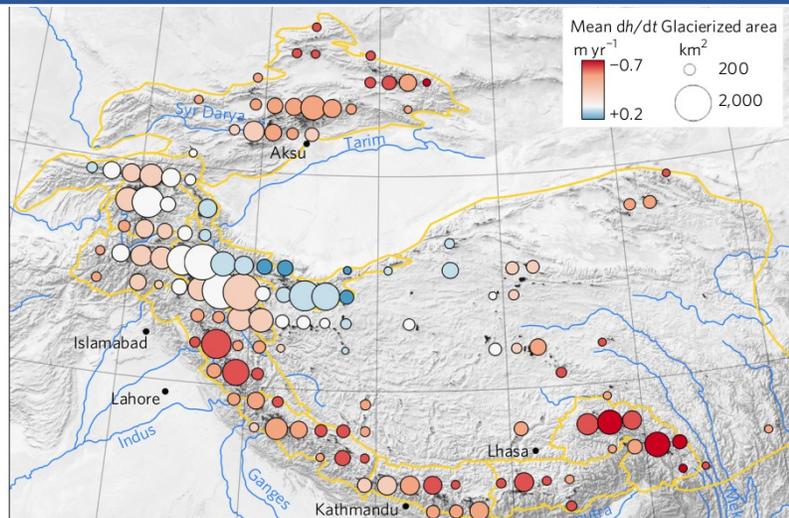




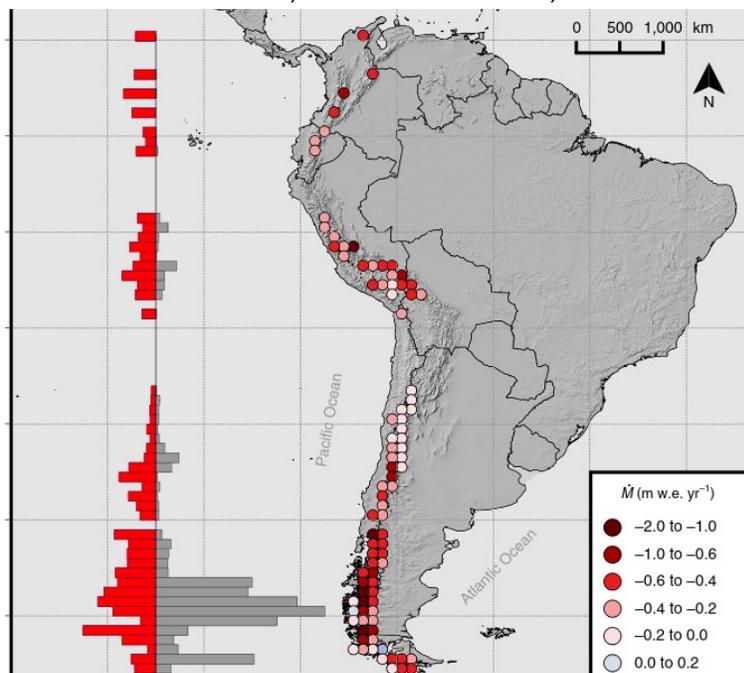
# ASTER DEM stacks



Berthier et al., *Frontiers*, 2016

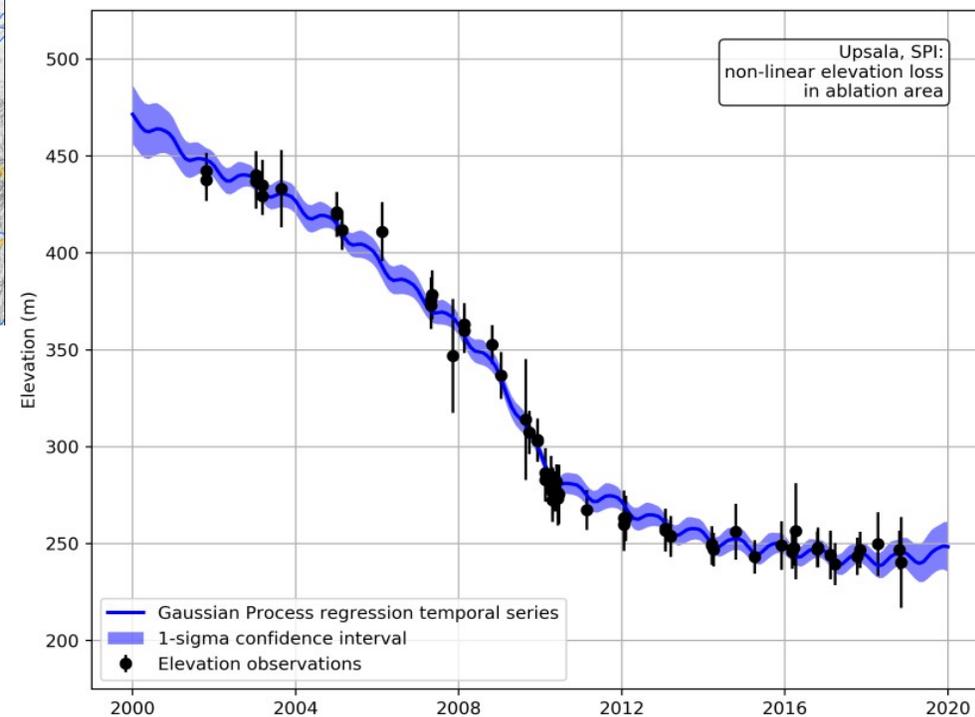


Brun et al., *Nat. Geoscience*, 2017



Dussailant et al., *Nat. Geoscience*, 2019

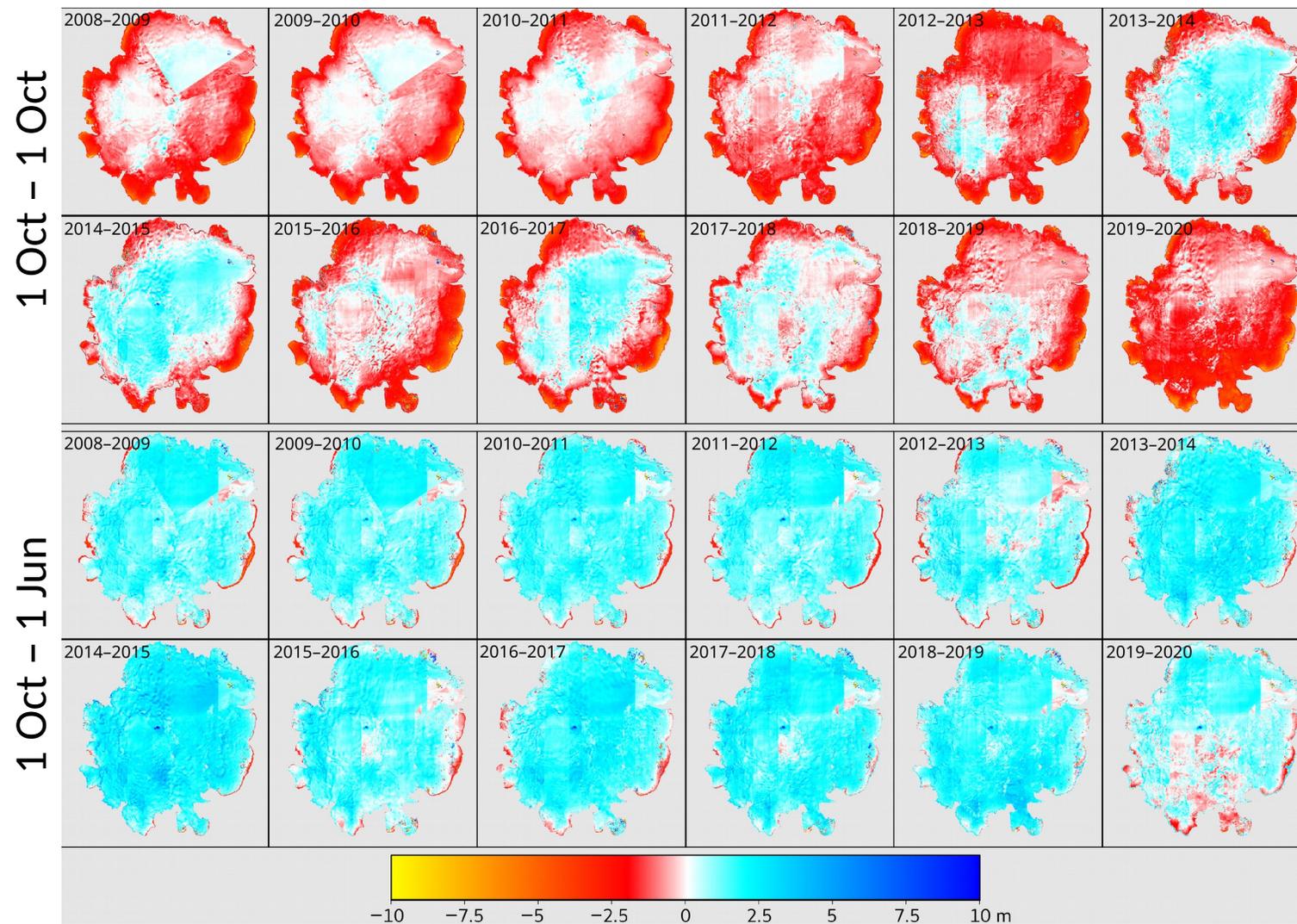
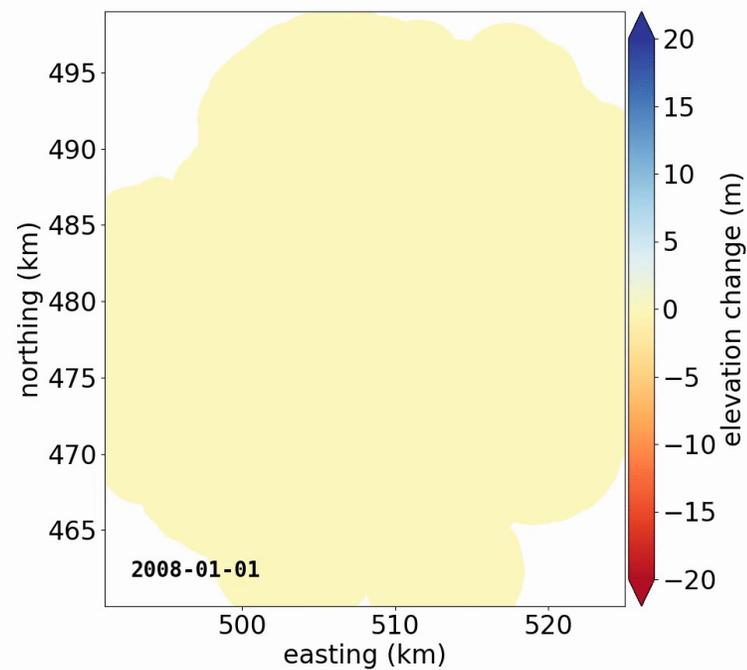
# Gaussian processes (GP)



Hugonnet et al., *Nature* (in revision).  
Figure from Hugonnet et al., *EGU*, 2020  
<https://github.com/iamdonovan/>  
<https://github.com/rhugonnet/>

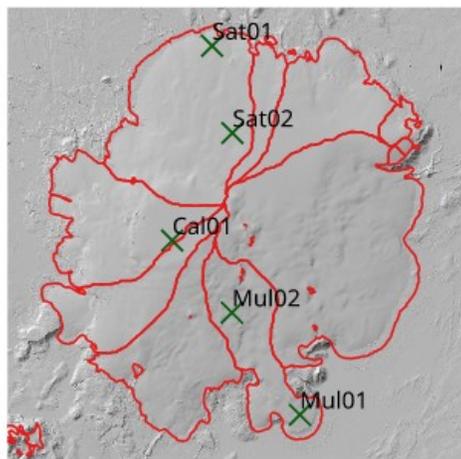


# Hofsjökull: Gaussian processes 2008–2020

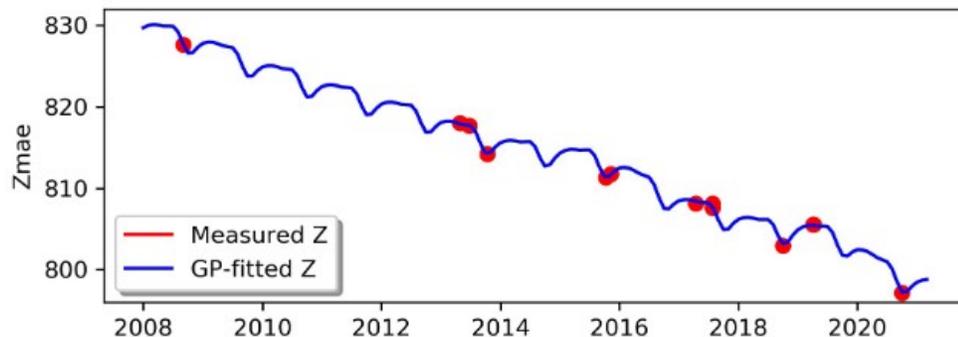




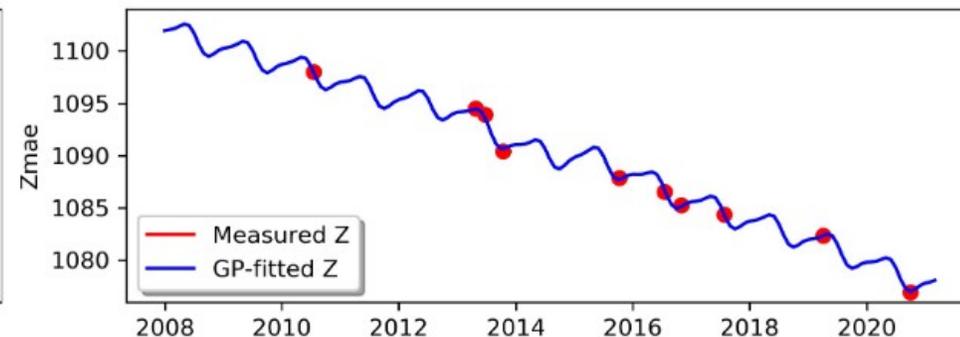
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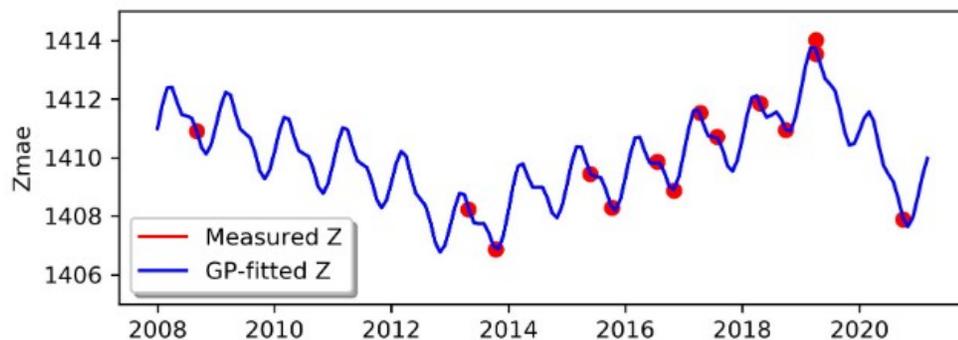
Mul01



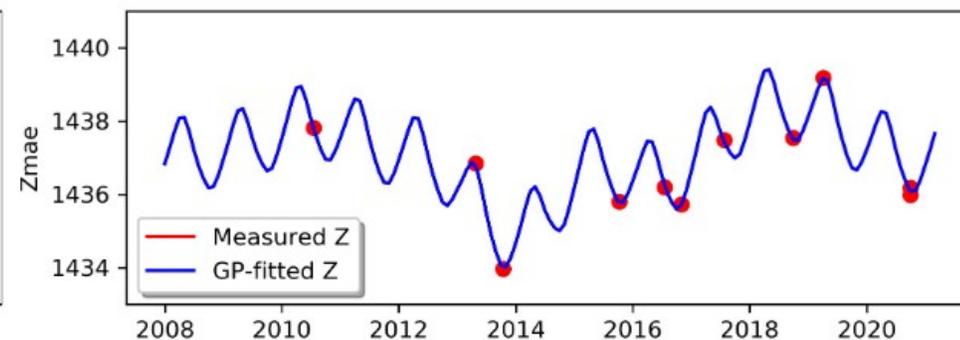
Sat01



Mul02



Sat02



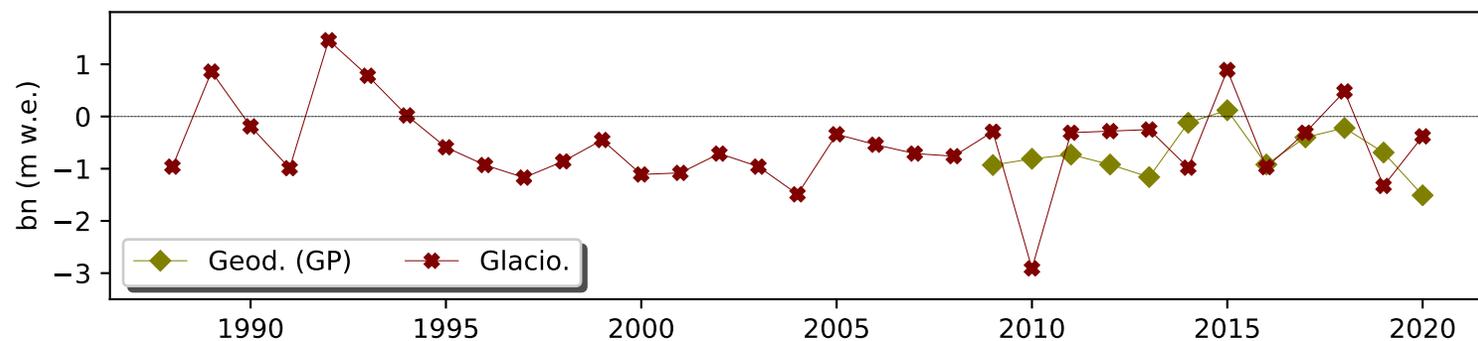
Ablation area:

Acc. area:



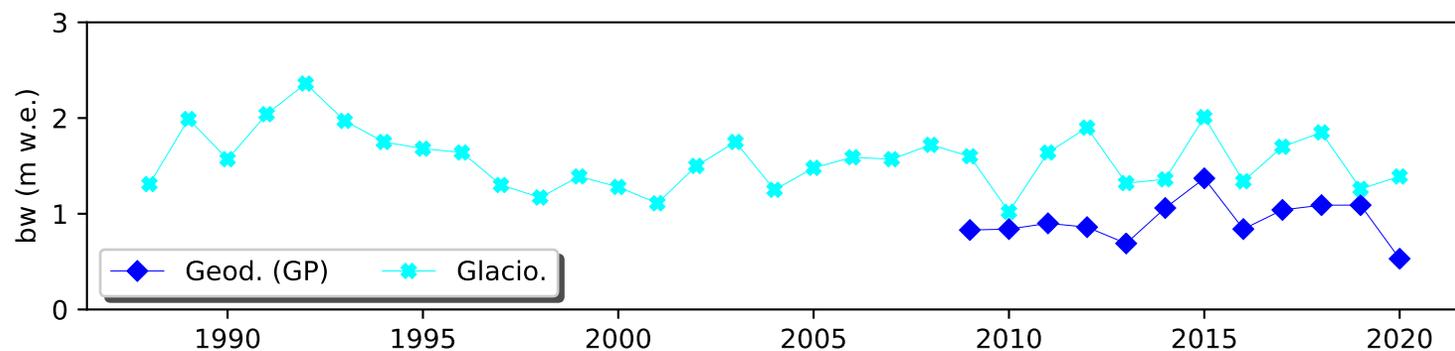
## Geodetic vs glaciological mass balance (very preliminary!)

$\Delta V$  to m w.e.:  $\rho = 850 \pm 60 \text{ kg m}^{-3}$  (Huss, TC, 2013)



Factors affecting comparison:

- Conversion factor
- Dates of surveys
- Firn & snow densification



$\Delta V$  to m w.e.: In situ measurements ( $\rho \approx 460 \text{ kg m}^{-3}$ )



## Take away messages

- Gaussian processes are efficient tools to handle time series of DEMs. Applied to ArcticDEM, lidar, Pléiades... they reveal seasonal and annual variability of mass balance
- Remaining (Non Remote Sensing) questions and challenges:
  - Density assumptions/observations
  - Snow & firn densification



# Thank you

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Background: Múlajökull drumlins from Pléiades false-color image ©CNES & Airbus D&S