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*Supplement of*

**New insights into the environmental factors controlling the ground thermal regime across the Northern Hemisphere: a comparison between permafrost and non-permafrost areas**

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**Table S1: Sources of mean annual ground temperature (MAGT) observations.**

<b>Data source</b>	<b>Data title</b>	<b>Link to the data</b>	<b>MAGT observations</b>
GTN-P Database	<b>GTN-P:</b> Global Terrestrial Network for Permafrost Database: Permafrost Temperature Data (TSP - Thermal State of Permafrost). Akureyri, Iceland, ISSN 2410-2385 (accessed multiple times in early 2016), 2016.	<a href="http://gtnpdatabase.org/boreholes">http://gtnpdatabase.org/boreholes</a>	453
Roshydromet	<b>Sherstiukov, A. B.:</b> Dataset of daily soil temperature up to 320 cm depth based on meteorological stations of Russian Federation RIHMI-WDC (5 <sup>th</sup> February 2016), 2012.	<a href="http://meteo.ru/data/164-soil-temperature">http://meteo.ru/data/164-soil-temperature</a>	89
Geological Survey of Canada	<b>Smith, S. L. et al.:</b> A Map and Summary Database of Permafrost Temperatures in Nunavut, Canada, Geological Survey of Canada, Open File 7393, 2013.	doi:10.4095/292615	50
	<b>Crow et al.:</b> Borehole geophysical logs in unconsolidated sediments across Canada, Geological Survey of Canada, Open File 7591, 2015.	doi:10.4095/295753	46
	<b>Smith, S. L. &amp; Ednie, M.:</b> Ground thermal data collection along the Alaska Highway easement (KP 1559-1895) Yukon, summer 2014, Geological Survey of Canada, Open File 7762, 2015.	doi:10.4095/295974	7
	<b>Ednie, M. et al.:</b> Report on 2012 field activities and collection of ground thermal and active layer data in the Mackenzie Corridor completed under Northwest Territories Science Licence #15053, Geological Survey of Canada, Open File 7416, 2013.	doi: 10.4095/292864	1
	<b>Wolfe, S. A. et al.:</b> Geotechnical Database and Descriptions of Permafrost Monitoring Sites Established 2006-10 in the Northern Mackenzie Corridor, Northwest Territories, Geological Survey of Canada, Open File 6677, 2010.	doi: 10.4095/287167	1
NGDS (National Geothermal Data System, U.S. Department of Energy)	<b>Blackett, R.:</b> Utah Temperature-Depth Log Compilation, Utah Geological Survey, 2013.	<a href="http://search.geothermaldata.org/data-set/utah-temperature-depth-log-compilation">http://search.geothermaldata.org/data-set/utah-temperature-depth-log-compilation</a>	20
	<b>Maine Geological Survey:</b> Maine Well Headers, 2014.	<a href="http://search.geothermaldata.org/data-set/maine-well-headers">http://search.geothermaldata.org/data-set/maine-well-headers</a>	19
	<b>Kelley, S.:</b> New Mexico Temperature-Depth Logs and Graphic Profiles New Mexico Bureau of Geology & Mineral Resources, 2011.	<a href="http://search.geothermaldata.org/data-set/new-mexico-temperature-depth-logs-and-graphic-profiles">http://search.geothermaldata.org/data-set/new-mexico-temperature-depth-logs-and-graphic-profiles</a>	14
	<b>Virginia Division of Geology and Mineral Resources:</b> Georgia Well Logs, 2012.	<a href="http://search.geothermaldata.org/data-set/georgia-well-logs">http://search.geothermaldata.org/data-set/georgia-well-logs</a>	11
	<b>Curran, J. et al.:</b> New Jersey Well Logs, 2013.	<a href="http://search.geothermaldata.org/data-set/new-jersey-well-logs">http://search.geothermaldata.org/data-set/new-jersey-well-logs</a>	10
	<b>Czajkowski, J.:</b> Well Logs. Washington Division of Geology and Earth Resources, Department of Natural Resources, 2012.	<a href="http://search.geothermaldata.org/data-set/washington-well-logs">http://search.geothermaldata.org/data-set/washington-well-logs</a>	8
	<b>Virginia Division of Geology and Mineral Resources:</b> Virginia Well Logs, 2012.	<a href="http://search.geothermaldata.org/data-set/virginia-well-logs">http://search.geothermaldata.org/data-set/virginia-well-logs</a>	6
	<b>University of North Dakota:</b> Temperature at Depth Database, 2014.	<a href="http://geothermal.smu.edu/static/DownloadFilesButtonPage.htm">http://geothermal.smu.edu/static/DownloadFilesButtonPage.htm</a>	4
	<b>Virginia Division of Geology and Mineral Resources:</b> Georgia Borehole Temperatures, 2011.	<a href="http://search.geothermaldata.org/data-set/georgia-borehole-temperatures">http://search.geothermaldata.org/data-set/georgia-borehole-temperatures</a>	1

Table S1 continued

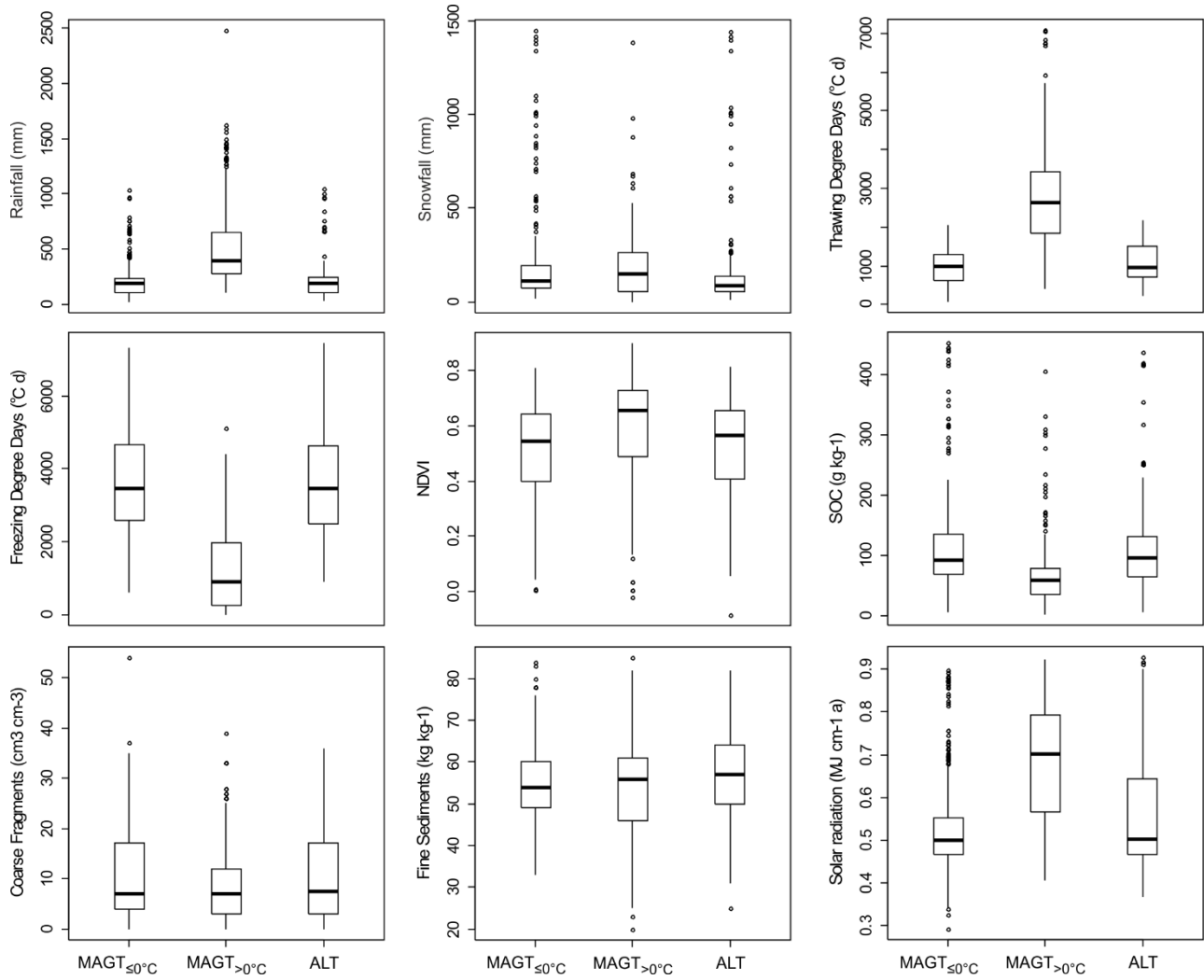
	<b>Gosnold, W.:</b> Nebraska Temperature-Depth Data and Profiles, University of North Dakota, 2013.	<a href="http://search.geothermaldata.org/data/set/nebraska-temperature-depth-data-and-profiles">http://search.geothermaldata.org/data set/nebraska-temperature-depth-data-and-profiles</a>	1
	<b>Niewendorp, C. A.:</b> Oregon Well Logs, Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries, 2012.	<a href="http://search.geothermaldata.org/data/set/oregon-well-logs">http://search.geothermaldata.org/data set/oregon-well-logs</a>	1
	<b>Harrison III, W. B.:</b> Michigan Well Log Observation Data. Western Michigan University - Geosciences Department, 2012.	<a href="http://search.geothermaldata.org/data/set/michigan-well-log-observation-data">http://search.geothermaldata.org/data set/michigan-well-log-observation-data</a>	1
	<b>Nevada Bureau of Mines and Geology:</b> Nevada Borehole Temperatures, 2014.	<a href="http://search.geothermaldata.org/data/set/nevada-borehole-temperatures">http://search.geothermaldata.org/data set/nevada-borehole-temperatures</a>	1
NOAA (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce)	<b>Huang, S. et al.:</b> Temperature trends over the past five centuries reconstructed from borehole temperatures, <i>Nature</i> , 403, 756–758 (accessed 10 <sup>th</sup> February 2016), 2000.	doi:10.1038/35001556	13
FMI (Finnish Meteorological Institute)	<b>Finnish meteorological institute</b> , 2016.		9
NSF Arctic Data Center (formerly ACADIS)	<b>NSF Arctic Data Center:</b> Network of Permafrost Observatories in Western Alaska. Arctic Data Center (accessed 5 <sup>th</sup> October 2015), 2014.	doi:10.18739/A2D934	3
Nordicana D, Centre for Northern Studies	<b>Allard, M. et al.:</b> Borehole and near-surface ground temperatures in northeastern Canada, v. 1.3 (1988-2014), Nordicana D8, data set (accessed 22 <sup>nd</sup> January 2016), 2015.	doi:10.5885/45291SL-34F28A9491014AFD	3
Permafrost Laboratory (University of Alaska, Fairbanks)	<b>The Geophysical Institute Permafrost Laboratory:</b> Site Information and Historical Data Access (accessed 26 <sup>th</sup> January 2016), 2010.	<a href="http://permafrost.gi.alaska.edu/sites_list?order=field_site_latitude_value&amp;sort=asc&amp;title_op=contains&amp;title=">http://permafrost.gi.alaska.edu/sites_list?order=field_site_latitude_value &amp;sort=asc&amp;title_op=contains&amp;title=</a>	2
NSIDC (National Snow & Ice Data Center, Boulder, Colorado, USA)	<b>Paetzhold, R. F. ed:</b> Monthly Summaries of Soil Temperature and Soil Moisture at Sites in China, Digital Media (accessed 23 <sup>rd</sup> December 2015), 2003.	<a href="http://nsidc.org/data/docs/fgdc/ggd62_5_soiltemp_china/">http://nsidc.org/data/docs/fgdc/ggd62_5_soiltemp_china/</a>	2
Publications	<b>Ødegård, R. S. et al.:</b> MAGST in Mountain Permafrost, Dovrefjell, Southern Norway, 2001–2006, Ninth International Conference on Permafrost, At University of Alaska Fairbanks, USA, in: Proceedings Volume 2, Kane D.L. & Hinkel, K.M. (eds.), Institute of Northern Engineering, University of Alaska Fairbanks, ISBN 978-0-9800179-3-9, 1311–1315, 2008.		2
	<b>Streletskiy, D. A. et al.:</b> Permafrost hydrology in changing climatic conditions: seasonal variability of stable isotope composition in rivers in discontinuous permafrost, <i>Environ. Res. Lett.</i> 10, 095003, 2015.		2
	<b>Peter, M.:</b> Modeling of permafrost temperatures in the Lena River Delta, Siberia, based on remote sensing products, Master thesis, University of Leipzig, 2015.	hdl:10013/epic.45589	2
	<b>Günther, F. et al.:</b> Russian-German Cooperation SYSTEM LAPTEV SEA. The Expeditions Laptev Sea - Mamontov Klyk 2011 & Buor Khaya 2012, <i>Berichte zur Polar- und Meeresforschung</i> 664, 2013.		1
Geological Survey of Norway (NGU)	<b>The Norwegian Permafrost Database:</b> Geological Survey of Norway (NGU), Trondheim, Norway, Accessed 4 <sup>th</sup> February 2016, 2016.	<a href="http://geo.ngu.no/kart/permafrost_sv_albard/?lang">http://geo.ngu.no/kart/permafrost_sv albard/?lang</a>	1
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>784</b>

**Table S2: Sources of active-layer thickness (ALT) observations.**

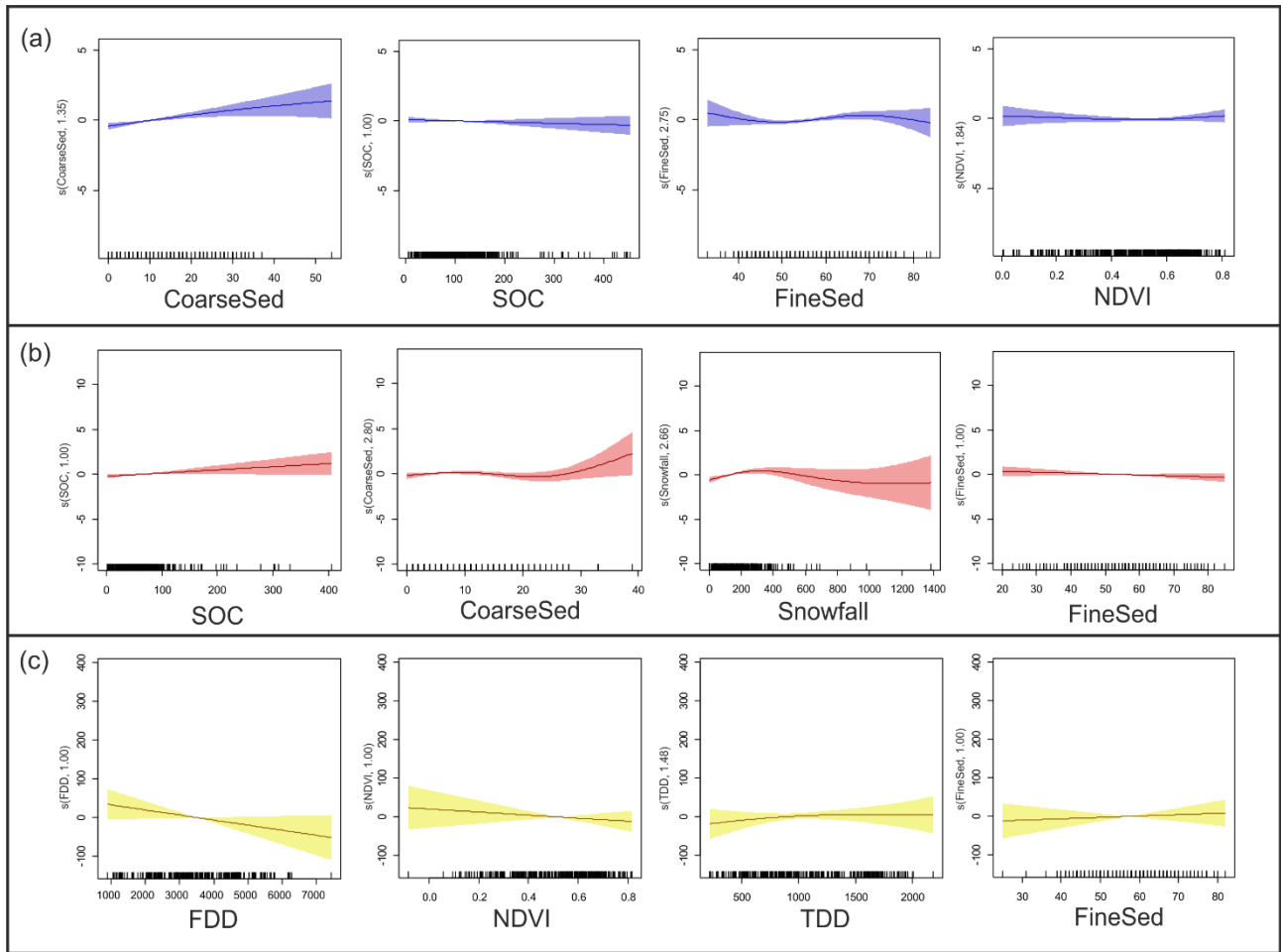
<b>Data source</b>	<b>Data title</b>	<b>Link to the data</b>	<b>ALT observations</b>
GTN-P database	<b>GTN-P:</b> Global Terrestrial Network for Permafrost Database: Permafrost Temperature Data (TSP - Thermal State of Permafrost). Akureyri, Iceland, ISSN 2410-2385 (accessed multiple times in early 2016), 2016.	<a href="http://gtnpdatabase.org/activelayers">gtnpdatabase.org/activelayers</a> <a href="https://www2.gwu.edu/~calm/">https://www2.gwu.edu/~calm/</a>	200
Publications	<b>Wu, Q. et al.:</b> Thermal state of the active layer and permafrost along the Qinghai-Xizang (Tibet) Railway from 2006 to 2010, <i>The Cryosphere</i> 6, 607–612, 2012.		23
Geological Survey of Canada	<b>Smith, S. L. et al.:</b> Report on 2014 field activities and collection of ground thermal and active layer data in the Mackenzie Corridor, Northwest Territories, Geological Survey of Canada, Open File 7935, 2015.	doi:10.4095/296958	}
	<b>Chartrand, J. et al.:</b> Report on 2013 field activities and collection of ground thermal and active layer data in the Mackenzie Corridor, Geological Survey of Canada, Open File 7659, 2014.	doi:10.4095/295596	
	<b>Ednie, M. et al.:</b> Report on 2012 field activities and collection of ground thermal and active layer data in the Mackenzie Corridor completed under Northwest Territories Science Licence #15053, Geological Survey of Canada, Open File 7416, 2013.	doi: 10.4095/292864	
	<b>Ednie, M. et al.:</b> Report on 2011 Field Activities and Collection of Ground Thermal and Active Layer Data in the Mackenzie Corridor Completed Under Northwest Territories Science Licence #14918, Geological Survey of Canada, Open File 7231, 2012.	doi:10.4095/291982	
	<b>Ednie, M. et al.:</b> Report on 2010 Field Activities and Collection of Ground Thermal and Active Layer Data in the Mackenzie Corridor Completed Under N.W.T. Science Licence #14686, Geological Survey of Canada, Open File 6932, 2011.	doi:10.4095/288924	
	<b>Smith, S. L. et al.:</b> Report on 2009 field activities and ground thermal data collection in the Mackenzie Corridor completed under N.W.T. science licence #14582, Geological Survey of Canada, Open File 6695, 2010.	doi:10.4095/287166	
	<b>Smith, S.L. et al.:</b> Data for Geological Survey of Canada active layer monitoring sites in the Mackenzie Valley, N.W.T., Geological Survey of Canada, Open File 6287, 2009.	doi:10.4095/248197	16
	<b>Wolfe, S. A. et al.:</b> Report on 2010-11 permafrost investigations in the Yellowknife area, Northwest Territories, Geological Survey of Canada, Open File 6983, 2011.	doi:10.4095/289596	5
	<b>LeBlanc, A.-M. et al.:</b> Assessing permafrost conditions and landscape hazards in support of climate change adaptation in Pangnirtung, Nunavut, Geological Survey of Canada, Open File 6868, 2011.	doi:10.4095/289548	4
LTER (Long Term Ecological Research, University of Alaska, Fairbanks)	<b>Ruess, R. W. et al.:</b> Active Layer Depth or Permafrost Presence for the Regional Site Network. Bonanza Creek LTER - University of Alaska Fairbanks, BNZ:605 (accessed 14 <sup>th</sup> March 2016), 2015.	<a href="http://www.lter.uaf.edu/data/data-detail/id/605">http://www.lter.uaf.edu/data/data-detail/id/605</a>	20

Table S2 continued

PERMOS (The Swiss Permafrost Monitoring Network)	<b>PERMOS:</b> PERMOS Database. Swiss Permafrost Monitoring Network, Fribourg, Switzerland (accessed 12 <sup>th</sup> March 2016), 2016.	<a href="http://dx.doi.org/10.13093/permos-2016-01">http://dx.doi.org/10.13093/permos-2016-01</a>	9
NSIDC (National Snow & Ice Data Center, Boulder, Colorado, USA)	<b>Rönkkö, M.:</b> Active-Layer Depth of a Finnish Palsa Bog, Digital Media (accessed 15 <sup>th</sup> March 2016), 2003.	<a href="http://nsidc.org/data/docs/fgdc/ggd62_2_palsabog_finland/index.html">http://nsidc.org/data/docs/fgdc/ggd62_2_palsabog_finland/index.html</a>	1
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>298</b>



**Figure S1:** The ranges of values recorded by the environmental variables in MAGT<sub>≤0</sub> °C (mean annual ground temperature at or less than 0 °C), MAGT<sub>>0</sub> °C and (mean annual ground temperature greater than 0 °C) and ALT (active-layer thickness) datasets. The bottoms and tops of the boxes depict the first and third quartiles with thick black line at median. Values more than 1.5 times the inter-quartile range away from the first or third quartile are shown as outliers (open circles). The abbreviated variables are NDVI (normalized difference vegetation index) and SOC (soil organic carbon, g kg<sup>-1</sup>).



**Figure S2: Response shapes of the four predictors with most contribution in  $MAGT_{\leq 0}^{\circ C}$  (mean annual ground temperature less than or equal to  $0^{\circ C}$ , blue curves) (a),  $MAGT_{>0}^{\circ C}$  (mean annual ground temperature greater than  $0^{\circ C}$ , red curves) (b), and ALT (active-layer thickness, yellow curves) (c) datasets obtained from generalized additive modelling (GAM). Variables are presented in the descending order of their effect size in respective datasets. X-axis units appear in the original scale of the explanatory variables. Y-axis displays partial residuals and labels the estimated degrees of freedom used in fitting the respective variables to a response. Three degrees of freedom at maximum were allowed. Shaded areas depict 95 % confidence limits. The variables shown are proportion of coarse sediments (CoarseSed, %), proportion of fine sediments (FineSed, %), soil organic carbon (SOC,  $g\ kg^{-1}$ ), normalized difference vegetation index (NDVI), precipitation when monthly mean air temperature was below  $0^{\circ C}$  (Snowfall, mm), freezing degree days (FDD,  $^{\circ C}$ ) and thawing degree days (TDD,  $^{\circ C}$ ).**