

## **Comments on the general remarks from the reviewers:** *(Our comments are in italic)*

*The overall objective of this study is to do an exploratory data analysis of field data to better understand the governing processes of ice patch mass balance and Holocene development. Such an exploratory approach is normally a good research strategy when moving into new territory. The long-term objective is modelling studies to get a better quantitative understanding of the processes controlling the growth and decline of ice patches in this alpine environment. Design of models requires a basic understanding of the governing processes and how they interact. We think this study was successful to bring the state of knowledge to a level where such models can be designed.*

*One additional dimension in this research is the cooperation with the archeologist to help them in their interpretation of finds and give some advice regarding the cultural management perspective and future development.*

*Based on the feedback from both reviewers we have tried to clarify better the objectives (short-term, long-term) and make a better integration of the results in the conclusion. We have also made some changes in the data analysis with particular focus on the limitation of the available data (wind, mass balance) regarding quantitative calculations of turbulent fluxes, ice deformation etc. However, our intention in this study was to explore the possibilities. The quantitative modelling studies will be the next step.*

*New text to the introduction:*

*"The overall objective of this study is to do an exploratory data analysis of field data to better understand the governing processes of ice patch mass balance and Holocene development. The long-term objective is to design reliable models of the growth and decline of ice patches in this alpine environment. One additional dimension in this research is the cooperation with the archaeologist to help them in their interpretation of finds and give them some advice regarding future development."*

*Chapter 6 – Conclusion is re-written "6. Conclusions and future perspectives"*

## **Interactive comment on "Climate change threatens archeologically significant ice patches: insights into their age, internal structure, mass balance and climate sensitivity" by R. S. Ødegård et al.**

**Anonymous Referee #1**

Received and published: 3 July 2016

This paper provides an interesting analysis of the physical characteristics and recent mass balance of an ice patch in northern Norway, and provides information about a topic which has been little investigated in the past. The results are certainly interesting, but the paper is currently quite simplistic and underdeveloped compared to the rich datasets that are available for analysis. The paper basically lists the different characteristics of the ice patch, but does little to integrate them and to really explore the different processes that might be driving its temporal and spatial changes. For example, wind is stated to be an important factor in the ice patch development, but no proper analysis of the wind dataset and its connections to air temperatures and surface melt rates is made.

*Out interpretation is that available wind data is not useful for calculations at the ice patch. Chapter 3.4 and conclusion changed to better clarify the value of the available data.*

Similarly, no calculations are made of likely internal deformation rates for the observed ice thicknesses and surface slope. There is a considerable glaciological literature that could help with these kinds of calculations, but this is little referenced at the moment. These kinds of analyses could lift the paper from its current simplistic form to one that could really provide useful long-term insights into the factors that control ice patch growth and decline.

*Chapter 5.3 was rewritten to include calculations of deformation rates.*

There is considerable duplication between the latter sections, with the Conclusions basically just providing a bulleted list of what's already been said in the Discussion and Results.

*Conclusion has been re-written. The bulleted part is shorter and new text added at the end.*

The paper would also benefit from a thorough read by a native English speaker; there are currently many (generally minor) typos and language issues, some of which I detail below, but several others that I don't.

*We have made some corrections in addition to those suggested by the reviewers. Otherwise we rely on the English copy-editing provided by the journal if the paper is accepted for TC.*

Finally, several of the figures and tables could do with improvement, as detailed below. Here are a list of comments by line number:

P2, L20: for a reader who may be unfamiliar with Otzi, please indicate where he was Found

*Included in text (P2, L22)*

P3, L6: it would be good to add some more details about the finds at other ice patches around the world, such as the clothing associated with Otzi, spears in Yukon ice patches, etc.

*The authors of this paper have no background in archeology. We have a short introduction with references to finds, but we don't have the background for a more detailed introduction. Based on the comments from reviewers we have added 2 references from Yukon, but it is difficult for us to make more extensive references based on the vast literature available.*

*Added references from Yukon (Hare et al, Meulendyk et al., P2, L28)*  
).

P3, L13: 'differed' should be 'differentiated'

*Done*

P3, L18: to help with the differentiation between glaciers and ice patches it would be useful to specify the ice thickness needed to cause ice motion (i.e.,  $\sim 40$  m according to most textbooks)

*Chapter 5.3 is rewritten including calculations of ice deformation (P17, L12)*

P4, L6: change 'was excavated' to 'were excavated'. Also need to specify where the ice patch was that was investigated: from this para it's not even obvious that it's in Norway!

*Done – "located in Jotunheimen in central southern Norway", P4, L9*

P4, L29: it would be useful to state what the ELA is on the nearby glaciers

*ELA added.*

*"The ELA increases with distance from coast from 1780 m a.s.l. at Storbreen to 2150 m a.s.l. at Gråsubreen (Kjølmoen et al., 2011)"*

P5, L6 (and elsewhere): there should be a space after every semi-colon. At the moment the references run into each other due to this space being missing.

*An update of the output style fixed the problem.*

P5, L19: where exactly 'in the area' were these boreholes and air temp measurements installed? I also think that you mean 'temperature sensors' rather than 'temperature measurements'

*New text, P4, L2*

*"In 2008 an altitudinal transect of boreholes and adjacent air temperature sensors were installed at three sites ranging from shallow seasonal frost to permafrost"*

P6, L9: change 'Totally' to 'A total of'

Done

P6, L11: please provide more information about these measurements: e.g., what was the flight altitude above the ground, what was the name of the instrument, what data was used for positioning?

*New text, P6, L28:*

*"The ice patch and surrounding terrain was scanned with an air-borne laser (Leica ALS70) on 17 September 2011. The company COWI AS, on assignment from Norwegian Water Resources and Energy Directorate, carried out the laser scanning and the processing of the data. The flight altitude was 10100-11800 feet (3078-3597 m a.s.l). The area was scanned with 5 points m<sup>-2</sup>. Quality controls and accuracy assessments revealed an accuracy better than 0.1 m in surface elevation. Aerial photos were taken on the same day. These data were used to produce a high quality DTM and orthophotos of the ice patch surface and surrounding terrain. The DTM was resampled to a resolution of 1 m."*

P6, L18/19: some words are missing from this sentence: I think that you need to say 'were made following standard'

Done

P7, L1: please provide information on how the GNSS data was processed (e.g., using a base station, using precise point positioning?)

*Text added, P7, L18:*

*The extent of the Juvfonne ice patch has been surveyed by foot with GNSS with a Topcon receiver mounted on a back pack and one reference receiver mounted in a fixed base point (Fig 3a, Table 1). The GNSS data was processed with Topcon software TTOOLS version 8. '*

P7, L6: please add a label to Fig. 2 to show the location of this station

*Location added on figure 2.*

P7, L18: delete extra bracket from end of this sentence The Norwegian Mapping Authority

Done

P7, L22: it would be useful to provide some information about how the tunnels were excavated. E.g., using chainsaws? Did the excavation cause any disturbance to the surrounding ice?

*New text, P8, L23:*

*"The tunnels were excavated with specially designed ice axes causing minimal disturbance to the surrounding ice. The tunnels gave an excellent opportunity to verify the radar data and to collect organic material and ice for radiocarbon dating"*

P9, L5: later in the paper (P15, L8) you say that 'there are several organic/debris layers' observed within the ice tunnels. These seem to be just as likely, or perhaps more likely, to explain the layering observed in the GPR profiles.

*From observations in the tunnels the organic layers are discontinuous.*

*New text, P10, L3:*

*"The bed reflection was clearly seen in the radar plots (see example in Fig. 4). In addition the ice layering was detected on most of the plots, probably due to density differences in the ice layers (air bubbles) (Hamran et al., 2009) or organic layers."*

P10, L14: this sentence makes it sound as if the ice patch almost doubled in size between 2014 and 2015 (0.101 to 0.186 km<sup>2</sup>), but based on the presence of an asterisk in Table 1 it appears that this growth was entirely due to the presence of temporary snow rather than ice. This should be made clearer in the text, and I don't believe that it's fair to include temporary snow in the calculation of the ice patch area.

*Added text: P11, L16*

*“Furthermore, observations in field show that the ice is very thin along the margins. In 2015, seasonal snow covered the entire margin, and the measured area of 0.186 km<sup>2</sup> is thus only to be considered a maximum extent, not the actual ice patch area. “*

P10, L27: please state here as to what defines a ‘strong breeze’, and how that value was chosen

*The definition was written in the Figure caption for Figure 10b (P37, L7) and follow the international classification given by World Meteorological Organization and is now also included in the text (see below). The available wind dataset is from Juvvasshøe, located 750 meters from the ice patch, and from Fokstugu, 70 km NE of Juvvasshøe. The wind speed at Juvvasshøe and Fokstugu is unfortunately not representative for the ice patch. Experience gained through field work at Juvfonne suggests that the wind speed is only 10 to 50% compared to Juvvasshøe, especially during prevailing westerly winds. Thus strong breeze observed at the two meteorological stations was used as a lower limit to get sufficient high wind speeds for effective turbulent fluxes at Juvfonne.*

*The text was changed to P11, L29: “Due to the sheltered setting of Juvfonne compared to the meteorological stations, strong breeze (wind speed above 10.8 ms<sup>-1</sup>) was used as a lower limit to get sufficient high wind speeds for effective and enhanced turbulent fluxes at Juvfonne. In general there is a high frequency (35-58 days per season) of strong breeze during the period 2009-2015 (Fig. 10b).” According to this our text at P7, L6-7 was also changed: “It is the highest official meteorological station in Norway and is freely exposed and representative for this study, except for wind speed.”*

P11, L1: change ‘peaks out’ to ‘stands out’  
Done

P11, L3-L6: there is no data presented to back up the statements in this para, so either the para should be deleted or the data should be provided.

*Snow accumulation and erosion are among the most discussed processes in context with local wind speed variations in mountainous areas (see e.g. Liston and Sturm 1988; Lehning et al. 2007; Dadic et al. 2009). Data is now provided with a new figure included (Figure 11).*

*The text was changed to P12,L8: “For snow accumulation or abrasion on ice patches wind speed and wind direction is crucial (Lehning et al. 2008; Dadic et al. 2010). There are great variations from year to year in respect to frequency of strong gale and wind direction. During the two stormiest winters 2011-12 and 2013-14, the frequency of strong gale was 15.7 % and 17.3 %, respectively (Figure 11).”*

*Lehning M, Löwe H, Ryser M, Raderschall N. Inhomogeneous precipitation distribution and snow transport in steep terrain. Water Resour Res 44(7), 10.1029/2007WR006545.*

*Dadic R, Mott R, Lehning M, Burlando P. Wind influence on snow depth distribution and accumulation over glaciers. J Geophys Res 115 (F01012), 10.1029/2009JF001261.*

*New figure text:*

*Figure 11. Relative frequency (as % of all hourly observations) of strong gale or more ( $\geq 20.8$  ms<sup>-1</sup>) at Juvvasshøe during winter (Oct-Apr) 2009-2015 for the wind sectors SE to NW. The values inserted show the total frequency of strong gale or more.*

P11, L13: I haven’t heard the term abrasion used much in relation to snow events; ‘wind scouring’ is a more commonly used term, and would seem to be a better descriptor here.  
Done

P11, L13: change ‘not take’ to ‘don’t take’  
Done

P12, L1-4: please indicate the depth of the winter cold wave. Also please explain why the heat flow into the ice would gradually decrease during the melt season. And approximately how much superimposed ice forms each year?

*Winter cold wave is a confusing expression here since there is cold ice below the level of meltwater percolation. Paragraph has been rewritten P13, L10:*

*"There is cold ice below the level of meltwater percolation, which means that the heat flow into the ice is gradually decreasing during the melt season. Because of this heat flow superimposed ice forms at the level of impermeable ice, generally less than 0.1 m."*

P13, L1: change 'obtained results' to 'results obtained'

*Done, P14,L18*

P13, L19: it's not clear from the text as to why 'increased accumulation towards the front of the ice patch probably a response to increased melt'. Please explain.

*Added at the end of the sentence P15, L8:*

*"which will increase the snow accumulation at the leeward side of prevailing westerly winds".*

P13, L26-29: please provide information to back up these statements. You have the wind, temperature and ablation data, so you need to provide specific data that shows the patterns that you are arguing for.

*We have only one ablation stake that survived the measurement period. For the asymmetric melting we have to rely on field observations reporting extreme melt in early-mid August 2010 and pictures. The table below shows the warmest 10-day periods each year. 8-18 August was the warmest in 2010 with average wind speed 3.4 m/s, humidity 79.5% and wind direction from SW. The wind speeds are not representative for Juvfonne, but SW is an exposed wind direction for Juvfonne.*

*Table below show median values of wind speed, air temperature, relative humidity and wind direction of the warmest 10-day period during Jun-Jul-Aug each year. 8-18 August 2010 is a period with high wind speeds, high humidity and most important median wind from SE.*

	Wind speed [ms-1]	Temperature [°C]	Humidity [%]	Wind direction [°]	Ending date for 10-day period
2009	2.3	11.1	59.5	192.0	2009-07-04
2010	3.4	7.8	79.5	139.0	2010-08-18
2011	2.6	8.7	81.5	183.0	2011-08-04
2012	2.5	6.5	77.0	155.0	2012-08-20
2013	2.5	9.4	65.5	256.0	2013-07-29
2014	2.7	11.0	67.5	182.5	2014-07-28
2015	7.3	7.8	53.0	162.0	2015-08-23

*Added text P15, L19:*

*"Extreme melt was reported in early-mid August. The warmest 10-day period in 2010 was 8-18 August. Average wind speed was 3.4 m/s from SE (humidity 79.5%)."*

P14, L1-3: if you make comparisons with recent major Greenland melt events you have to persuade the reader that the same conditions prevail at Juvfonne as they did in Greenland, but this isn't done at the moment.

*The comparisons with Greenland were meant to highlight situations that lead to a significant increase in nonradiative energy fluxes and the importance of exposure to wind. A similar exceptional melt event caused by a warm, very humid storm system in the Central Cascade Mountains of Oregon was reported by Marks et al. 1998. They showed that the snow melt were enhanced by strong wind, high air temperature and high humidity. At higher unsheltered sites 60-90% of the energy for snowmelt came from sensible and latent heat exchanges, while it was only about 35% at more sheltered sites (Marks et al. 1998).*

*The text was changed to, P15, L23: "Exceptionally large melt episodes have been reported from the Central Cascade Mountains of Oregon where snow melt were enhanced by strong wind, high air temperature and high humidity (Marks et al. 1998). At higher unsheltered sites 60-90% of the energy for snowmelt came from sensible and latent heat exchanges, while it was only about 35% at more sheltered sites (Marks et al. 1998). Recently similar extreme melt events have been reported from the southern and western part of Greenland ice sheet in July 2012, where nonradiative energy fluxes (sensible, latent, rain, and subsurface collectively) dominated the ablation area surface energy budget during multiday episodes (Fausto et al., 2016)."*

*Added reference:*



Marks D, Kimball J, Tingey D, Link T. The sensitivity of snowmelt processes to climate conditions and forest cover during rain-on-snow: a case study of the 1996 Pacific Northwest flood. *Hydrol Process* 1998; 12: 1569–1587.

P14, L8-9: delete 'One'. Also provide the specific date that you're referring to in this sentence (I presume that it's the storm that occurred around Feb. 5 in Fig. 11?)

*Changed to, : "Single storm events with westerly winds could account for almost 50% of the winter accumulation in less than 24 hours, like the storm February 7-8 in 2015 (Figure 11, 2014-15)."*

P14, L10: I'm unclear as to what event you're referring to here. Please provide a specific date so that it can be connected to the patterns shown in Fig. 11

*Changed to P16, L8: "Spring snow accumulation with insignificant wind drift could also influence mass balance, like the period from early April to mid May 2012 where more than 40 cm of snow accumulated (Figure 11, 2011-2012)."*

P14, L23-24: if you say that the ice patches have a similar thermal regime to nearby glaciers, then please describe what the thermal regime of the nearby glaciers actually is

*New text P16, L14:*

*The temperature measurements at Juvfonne show that there is sufficient melt water to bring the permeable snowpack to an isothermal condition within a few weeks in early summer (Fig. 13). Below the seasonal snowpack, the ice remains cold during the summer with temperatures on the range -2 - -4°C at 5-10 m depth (Fig. 13). In Norway most glaciers are considered to be temperate, although measurements are available for only a few glaciers (Andreassen and Winsvold, 2012). Recent observations from nearby glaciers in Jotunheimen, reveal that at the lower parts of Storbreen the winter cold wave is removed during summer, but remained at Hellstugubreen and Gråsubreen (Sørdal, 2013; Tachon, 2015). The temperature measured close to the equilibrium line at Hellstugubreen (-1°C) and Gråsubreen (-2°C) were warmer than the temperature measured at similar depths at Juvfonne (-3°C).*

P14, L29: state the ice thickness used to determine this basal shear stress

*Chapter 5.3 is rewritten including ice thickness and other details..*

P15: L1-3: please provide reference to previously published studies that indicate the shear stress required for ice deformation to occur. There are several laboratory studies that have investigated this, so this could provide insight into the likely amount of deformation that is currently occurring, and that occurred in the past.

*Chapter 5.3 is rewritten including references.*

P15, L5: change 'theses layer' to 'these layers'

*Done*

P15, L13-L16: I don't understand what the point of this para is. What are you trying to say?

*Deleted, not really necessary in this context.*

P15, L21: I don't understand what 'environmental treats' are. Please define.

*Spelling error corrected*

P16, L5: it would be good if this photo could be incorporated into this study, as it would really help to extend the timeline provided in Table 1

*New figure 17 with old photo.*

*Figure text:*

*Figure 17. Picture taken from Vesljuvbrea towards north-northwest showing Juvfonne from around 1900. The surface slope of Juvfonne is estimated to approximately 15°. Height and length estimate from map based on position in the picture. The upper and northern part of Juvfonne is not seen on the picture.*

P17, L16: delete 'One'

*Done*

Table 2: this table is poorly organized and difficult to follow, with inconsistent placing of columns between different part of the table. For example, some parts of the table have a 'Comments' column, others have a 'Dated material' column, while others have neither of these. Some sample ages are only given with 1 sigma, others are with 2 sigma. Some ages are given in relation to 1950, others are BCE. The table needs completely reworking and tidying up to make it consistent throughout.

*New table 2 is totally reorganized. All dates from Juvfonne changed to BP in the manuscript. We have also made some other corrections to the error ranges based on feedback from a parallel review in TC discussion (Radiocarbon dating of glacier ice).*

Table 3: I don't see the value in including this table. For the (limited) information it provides it seems that it could just be incorporated into the text

*Agree, deleted.*

Table 4: this table makes little sense by itself as from the caption it's not even possible to know what it relates to, and none of the data given in the table are really described or evaluated in the text. It should either be deleted or better described and better integrated into the manuscript.

*Deleted, not important.*

Figure 1: this map is pretty poor quality and is missing basic information such as a scale or elevations. If you can't find better quality vector data it would be better to use something like a Landsat 8 image for the base map.

*New figure 1 with a simple map. We have plenty of available vector data, but decided to keep it simple.*

Figure 2: provide date of photo, and the direction in which the photo was taken. Also add labels to show where the P30 and P31 boreholes are located.

*Date of photo not available (month and year inserted). The rest is corrected.*

Figure 3: this figure needs a scale bar. Also change 'ortofoto' to 'orthophoto' in caption

*With the UTM references in meters a scale bar is not included. UTM reference added in figure text.*

Figure 6/7 (and check elsewhere): use a, b, etc. to label figure parts rather than terms such as upper, lower, left and right

*Done*

Figure 8: the base of the bars for 2010 and 2013 are cut off, so it's not clear what the bs values are for these years

*OK in Word-version. Problem in PDF-version*

Figures 12/13: it's very difficult to distinguish between the black lines then they cross each other. Please use a different colour (or different shade of the same colour) for each line.

*New figures with different colors.*

Figure 14: very nice picture

*OK – text on photo changed to BP*

# Interactive comment on “Climate change threatens archeologically significant ice patches: insights into their age, internal structure, mass balance and climate sensitivity” by R. S. Ødegård et al.

## Anonymous Referee #2

Received and published: 10 July 2016

This is an interesting research project at a very interesting site. The authors collected an impressive array of data from the perennial ice patch studied. This makes a contribution to the field as there are relatively few studies on ice patches, their development and evolution to draw information from. However, the paper lacks a central theme that ties all the data together, and more importantly, the analysis and interpretation of the data presented is rather superficial.

General comments: Overall, the paper is fairly well written but has a number of topographic and grammatical errors that, in some places, could lead to confusion. I have identified a few of these below, but a thorough copy edit should be done. As well, the authors could have done a better job in placing their findings in the broader context.

For example, a similar study from the Canadian Arctic was published a few years ago (Meulendyk, T. et al., 2012. 'Morphology and development of ice patches in Northwest Territories, Canada.' *Arctic* 65, 43-58).

*Reference included. The authors of this paper have no background in archeology. We have a short introduction with references to finds, but we don't have the background for a more detailed discussion of finds.*

It could have been used as a comparison to delve deeper into age, development, internal structure and radar stratigraphy of the results from this study. Further, the authors collected georadar and GNSS data to image the ice thickness and bed topography, but did not do a topographic correction to the radar lines to reveal the true internal structure of the ice body.

*New figure figure 7 with topographic corrections..*

The depth of the samples for radiocarbon dating should be given and so they can be put into a proper stratigraphic context.

*New figure 16: age/vertical distance to bed.*

Specific comments: P14, L12-13. I disagree that perennial ice patches can be used as indicators of permafrost. Just like warm-based glaciers, ice patches can be at the melting point at their base with no permafrost below them.

*Very interesting comment – 2 references added, Imhof 1996 and Kneisel 1998.*

*Additional text: “Based on this argument there is good reason to suggest that long-term perennial ice patches like Juvfonne indicate permafrost directly beneath them.”*

*Mountain permafrost researchers have used perennial snow patches as an indicator of permafrost. Some authors (Imhof 1996) consider perennial snow patches as permafrost by definition with a statement: “The only exception are perennial snow patches, which - by definition - cover permafrost and which are easily detectable by aerial photographs: below snow patches, the ground surface temperature cannot rise above zero degrees during the whole season.” Other authors like Kneisel, 1998 use statements like “perennial snow patches as indicator of mountain permafrost”. To our knowledge these types of statements have not caused any big controversy.*

*There is no doubt that temperate ice can survive for some years, maybe decades in a perennial snow/ice patches during an initial fast build up. However, ice patches are by definition areas with close to zero mass balance. Snow could accumulate fast and reduce heat loss to the atmosphere during most of the winter. The critical phase occurs in late autumn/early winter when cold weather occurs before the first snowfall. In summer/summers with negative balance, ice is often exposed and there is a cooling of surface ice. This is similar to the situation close to ELA of glaciers. This cooling occurs when the ice patch is at its minimum.*



*Depending on the melt the following years, there is plenty of time (years or decades) for the cold wave to penetrate and eventually reach the base. Unlike glaciers this ice is not likely to melt because there is no movement and close to zero mass balance. When the ice is cold and stagnant, there is no way to bring it back to temperate ice.*

*The possibility of melt at the base is another aspect that needs to be considered for an ice patch with no permafrost beneath. If the ice at the base is at the pressure melting point heat flow from below will cause basal melting. Even the geothermal heat flow in Southern Norway (50-60 mW/m<sup>2</sup>) will cause a melting of 5-6 m/years\*1000. Additional heat sources like ground water are likely. With no permafrost the old ice at the base will not survive. Even 100 years with no permafrost could cause significant basal melt. The oldest ice samples at Juvfenne are within 0.5 meters of the base.*

P15, L5 change theses to these

*Done*

P15, L11-12 Explain why you suggest that at other ice patches the age of the ice does not correlate to that of the organic layers.

*Se chapter 5.3 (re-written) P17, L19*

*New text: "This is necessarily not the case at other ice patches, where organic material exposed at the surface could be contaminated by surface processes or microbial activity."*

P15, L21 change treats to threats

*Done*

P16, L8-12 This paragraph is unclear. All the dating is relative as all sample could be contaminated with carbon from different times.

*Text added: P17, L18*

*"Contamination is not likely in the clear ice samples, which gives confidence in the dating of the ice stratigraphy."*

P16, L29 The authors refer to the ice patch not developing into a glacier with basal sliding. However, earlier they argue that it is cold based and underlain by permafrost, in which case you wouldn't expect basal sliding. See other papers on cold based glaciers. The ice temperatures and evidence of internal deformation in Figure 6 suggests that at least at some point it has been a polar style glacier (ie. cold based).

*Chapter 5.3 rewritten in an attempt to clarify. We definitely agree that at some point this was a cold based glacier. See also P21, L21.*

P17L17 change events to event

*Done*

P17L24-29 The data presented are not detailed enough to support an assertion such as this.

*Chapter 5.3 rewritten and conclusion modified P18, L4*

*"The possibility of cumulative ice deformation on a time scale of several millennia makes it difficult to relate the present thickness and slope of these layers to previous thickness of the ice patch."*

P23L8-12 instead of referencing theses that are difficult to get ahold of, it would be

*There are no papers from these theses. See also our response to P14, L23-24.*

P25Table 2 It would be good to have the depth, or stratigraphic position, of the samples presented here to better understand the radiocarbon dates that in some cases appear to be out of order (e.g. L28&33)

*New figure 16: age/vertical distance to bed.*

P26Table 3 change into into

*Done.*

P31 Figure 4 Topographic correction should be applied to show true stratigraphic relationships such as in Figure 5. As they are presented the unconformity in the two

figures appears to be very different. As well, there seems to be a problem with the application of gain to this profile. The processing methodology is not presented in the methods section, so it is unclear what was done. However, the uniform 15 ns of muted returns above the basal reflection suggests that the gain window may have been too large or that there was some other error in the processing.

*New figure 4 with topographic correction. Gain has been changed.*

P34 Figure 7 – the winter precipitation used appears to be the modeled values estimated from the regional weather data instead of the on-site data as shown Figure 11, where the modeled data is shown to be dramatically different than the measured.

*Data from SeNorge are the best data for precipitation in Norway (they are modelled but based on observations). Text changed to “estimated precipitation”.*

*Other changes made to the manuscript:*

*We have added a new chapter “Data availability” at P21, L24.*

# Climate change threatens archeologically significant ice patches: insights into their age, internal structure, mass balance and climate sensitivity

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## Abstract

Despite numerous spectacular archaeological discoveries worldwide related to melting ice patches and the emerging field of glacial archaeology, governing processes related to ice patch development during Holocene and their sensitivity to climate change are still largely unexplored. Here we present new results from an extensive 6-year (2009-2015) field experiment at Juvfonne ice patch in Jotunheimen in central southern Norway. Our results show that the ice patch existed continuously since the late Mesolithic period. Organic-rich layers and carbonaceous aerosols embedded in clear ice shows ages spanning from modern at the surface to ca. ~~6200 BCE~~7600 cal. years BP at the bottom. This is the oldest dating of ice in mainland Norway. ~~Moss mats appearing along the margin of Juvfonne in 2014 were covered by the expanding ice patch~~The expanding ice patch covered moss mats appearing along the margin of Juvfonne in 2014 about 2000 years ago. During the study ~~period~~period, the mass balance record shows a strong negative balance, and the ~~net-annual~~net-annual balance is highly

1 asymmetric over short distances. Snow accumulation is poorly correlated with estimated  
2 winter precipitation and single storm events may contribute significantly to the total winter  
3 balance. Snow accumulation is approx. 20 % higher in the frontal area compared to the upper  
4 central part of the ice patch. ~~The thermal regime in Juvfonne is similar to what is found close~~  
5 ~~to the equilibrium line of nearby glaciers.~~ There is sufficient melt water to bring the  
6 permeable snowpack to an isothermal state within a few weeks in early summer. Below the  
7 seasonal snowpack, ~~ice~~ice -temperatures are between -2 and -4°C, ~~similar to the surrounding~~  
8 ~~permafrost terrain.~~ Juvfonne has clear ice stratification of isochronic origin. The cumulative  
9 deformation of ice over millennia could explain the observed curved layering in the basal  
10 parts of the ice patch, which makes it difficult to relate the present thickness to previous  
11 thickness of the ice patch. Ice deformation and surface processes (i.e. wind and melt water)  
12 may have caused significant displacement of artefacts from their original position. ~~Thus~~Thus,  
13 the dating and position of artefacts cannot be used directly to reconstruct previous ice patch  
14 extent. In the perspective of surface energy and mass ~~balance~~balance, ice patches are in the  
15 transition zone between permafrost terrain and glaciers. Future research will need to carefully  
16 address this interaction to build reliable models.

## 18 **1 Introduction**

19 The emergence of glacial archaeology is described by Andrews and Mackay (2012) and  
20 Dixon et al. (2014). In archaeology, the term ‘glacial archaeology’ or ‘snow patch  
21 archaeology’ refers to several alpine contexts in different regions of the world (Callanan,  
22 2010). The release of Ötzi’s 5300 year old body from the ice in northern Italy marked the  
23 beginning of a number of remarkable archaeological discoveries world-wide connected to  
24 melting ice and thawing permafrost in the high mountains (Spindler, 1994). Discoveries are  
25 known from the Alps (Grosjean et al., 2007; Suter et al., 2005), mummies in Greenland  
26 (Hansen et al., 1985) and the Andes Mountains (Ceruti, 2004), and from archaeological finds  
27 at retreating ice patches in North America (Brunswig, 2014; Dixon et al., 2005; Farnell et al.,  
28 2004; Hare et al., 2012; Lee, 2012; Meulendyk et al., 2012). When analysing the number of  
29 artefacts on a global scale during the Holocene, there is a negative correlation between  
30 periods of glacial advance and the number of artefacts. This is particularly the case in the Alps  
31 and North America (Reckin, 2013), but a similar pattern is also found in Norway (Nesje et al.,

2012). The question is if this is caused by changes in climate dependent preservation conditions or decreased human use of these areas in periods of cold climate.

In Norway, there has been an increasing focus on ice patches since the extreme melting in southern Norway in the autumn of 2006. There are about 3000 known artefact finds globally from ice patches. Most of these have melted out during the last three decades. Approximately 2000 of these archaeological finds are in central southern Norway, making it by far the most find-rich region in the world (Curry, 2014, pers.comm. Lars Pilø).

Among the most spectacular finds is a Bronze Age leather shoe that melted out in late autumn 2006 and a well-preserved tunic dated between 230-390 (Common Era) CE (Finstad and Vedeler, 2008; Vedeler and Jørgensen, 2013). The shoe was dated to be around 3400 years old (1429-1257 Before Common Era (BCE)), and is by far the oldest shoe found in Norway.

Dates are given in calibrated ages (BCE/CE) including 1 sigma errors ( $\sigma$ ) when referencing archaeological finds in Norway. Radiocarbon dates from ice patches are referenced as calibrated years Before Present (BP=1950CE).

The geoscience of old ice patches is still in its infancy and the geoscience literature about ice patches is sparse compared to glacial archaeology. Within the glaciological community it is commonly differentiated between glaciers and snowfields and active or inactive ice (UNESCO, 1970). Snowfields may be seasonal or perennial. Seasonal snowfields melt during the summer. Perennial snowfields exist for two years or more. Smaller ice bodies without significant movement may be remnants of a past active glacier or a perennial snowfield and are commonly referred to as glacierets. In this paper, we use ice patch for perennial snowfields and glacierets. Ice patches are, in contrast to glaciers, mostly stagnant and therefore, do not convey mass from an accumulation towards an ablation area. In fact, ice patches often do not exhibit distinct glacier facies such as a firn area. In the wet-snow zone, the transformation of snow to ice is fast by metamorphism and refreezing of melt water. (Kawasaki et al., 1993). Ice patches and surrounding terrain are generally underlain by permafrost (Haeberli et al., 2004). There are few studies related to the thermal regime, mass balance and dynamics (Eveland et al., 2013; Fukui, 2003; Fukui and Iida, 2011; Sato et al., 1984). Fujita et al. (2010) concluded that they exist below the altitude of the regional equilibrium-line altitude (ELA) of glaciers. A study by Glazirin et al. (2004) showed that they can modify the nearby wind field. The mentioned studies have documented feedbacks between ice patch size and both summer ablation and winter snow accumulation. The spatial

variability of the turbulent fluxes in an alpine terrain is of particular interest to ice patches. Ice patches are influenced by advective heat transfer in summer (Essery et al., 2006; Mott et al., 2015; Pohl et al., 2006). The sensible heat flux is reported to be to twice the net radiation input for melting snow (Morris, 1989).

Despite some progress in these studies, the state of knowledge is not at a level to design reliable models of how ice patches have developed during the Holocene and to evaluate their sensitivity to future climate changes. The main objective of this study is to help fill this knowledge gap— based on a 6-year field experiment at Juvfonne ice patch (Fig. 1 and 2), located in Jotunheimen in central southern Norway.

The overall objective of this study is to do an exploratory data analysis of field data to better understand the governing processes of ice patch mass balance and Holocene development. The long-term objective is to design reliable models of the growth and decline of ice patches in this alpine environment. One additional dimension in this research is the cooperation with the archaeologist to help them in their interpretation of finds and give advice regarding future development. A multi-disciplinary approach was chosen, combining a set of new geophysical data, radiocarbon dating, mass balance measurements and visual observations from two 30-70 m tunnels that were excavated into the central parts of the ice patch ~~in order to~~ better understand (1) the age, (2) the mass balance, (3) the thermal regime, (4) ice layering and deformation on Holocene time scale and finally (5) the physical processes relevant to artefact displacement and preservation.

## 2 Field site and physical setting

~~The presented research is based on a 6 year field experiment at Juvfonne ice patch, located in Jotunheimen in central southern Norway (Fig. 1 and 2, 61.676°N, 8.354°E). In this area~~ central southern Norway the archaeologists have so far identified more than 65 sites with finds related to ice patches, but many sites with potential finds have not been checked in the field. The archaeological finds are related to reindeer hunting. The snowfields are an important refuge for the reindeers during hot summer days, giving them relief from pestering insects. The focus of this study is the ice patch Juvfonne (61.676°N, 8.354°E) and the surrounding terrain (Fig. 1 and 2). This site is a well-preserved Iron Age hunting ‘station’ documented by more than 600 registered wooden artefacts and 50 hunting blinds. Radiocarbon dating of artefacts shows ages in two separate time intervals, 246-534 CE and 804-898 CE (Nesje et al.,



2012). The geoscience studies at Juvfonne started in 2009 (Ødegård et al., 2011). Nesje et al. (2012) gave a comprehensive presentation and discussion of archaeological finds in central southern Norway related to Late Holocene climate history.

The width of the ice patch is approx. 500 m and upslope length 350 m. Juvfonne had an area of 0.15 km<sup>2</sup> and ranged in altitude from 1839 to 1993 m a.s.l. in 2010 (Andreassen, 2011).

The mean surface slope is 17 degrees and the ice patch has a ~~north-easterly~~north easterly aspect.

Due to snowdrift by prevailing westerly winds during the accumulation season, Juvfonne is below the regional temperature-precipitation equilibrium-line altitude (TP-ELA). Annual surface mass balance measurements have been conducted on three glaciers (since 1949 at Storbreen and 1962 at Hellstugubreen and Gråsubreen) in the Jotunheimen mountain region (Andreassen et al., 2005; Andreassen and Winsvold, 2012). The ELA increases with distance from coast from 1780 m a.s.l. at Storbreen to 2150 m a.s.l. at Gråsubreen (Kjøllmoen et al., 2011). Except for a transient mass surplus from 1989-1995 due to increased winter precipitation in this period, the glaciers have lost mass. Map surveys and inventory data show a reduction in area of the glaciers in Jotunheimen of about 10 % from the 1960s to 2003 (Andreassen et al., 2008).

Juvfonne is well within the mountain permafrost zone. Present permafrost thicknesses at elevations where we find perennial ice patches (~> 1700 m a.s.l.) can be estimated to be more than 100 m. Observations of ground thermal regimes (Farbrot et al., 2011; Harris et al., 2009), bottom temperature of snow cover (BTS) (Farbrot et al., 2011; Isaksen et al., 2002; Ødegård, 1993) and geophysical surveys to delineate the altitudinal limit of the permafrost (Hauck et al., 2004; Isaksen et al., 2011) along with spatial numerical equilibrium and transient permafrost models (Gisnås et al., 2013; Gisnås et al., 2015; Hipp et al., 2012; Westermann et al., 2013) indicate a lower limit of permafrost at 1450-1600 m a.s.l. in the area.

Juvfonne is at a distance of 750 m and at the same altitude as the permafrost boreholes (the P30 and 31 Permafrost and Climate in Europe (PACE) boreholes) and climate monitoring site at Juvvasshøe (Sollid et al., 2000)(see Fig. 2). The site has a record of ground temperatures and meteorological observations since September 1999. Mean annual air temperature for the period 2000-2015 is -3.5 °C. At 15 m depth, the permafrost temperature ranges from a minimum of -3.1 °C in 1999 to a maximum of -2.5°C recorded in 2008. The active layer thickness has varied between 2.0 and 2.4 m and permafrost thickness is estimated to exceed

300 m (Isaksen et al., 2011). In ~~2008~~2008, an altitudinal transect of ~~permafrost~~ boreholes and adjacent air temperature ~~measurements-sensors~~ were installed ~~in the area~~at three sites ranging from shallow seasonal frost to permafrost (Farbrot et al 2013).

For the period ~~1961-1990~~1961-1990, the mean annual precipitation is estimated to be between 800mm a<sup>-1</sup> and 1000mm a<sup>-1</sup> at 1900 m a.s.l. at Juvfonne (Norwegian Meteorological Institute, unpublished data).

Results of analysis from sediment cores in the nearby Juvvatnet was used to reconstruct the glacier activity of Kjelebrea and Vesljuvbrea (Nesje et al., 2012) following the methodology described by Bakke et al. (2010). The results indicate that the late Holocene variations of these glaciers are largely in agreement with size variations of other glaciers in the Jotunheimen area (Matthews and Dresser, 2008; Nesje, 2009). Lichenometry suggests that the margin of Juvfonne extended ~250 m from its present position during the ‘Little Ice Age’(LIA) maximum extent in the mid-18th century (Nesje et al., 2012).

### 3 Methods

#### 3.1 Georadar

The ice patch was surveyed by a RAMAC georadar 23 September 2009 and 1 March 2012, using a high frequency antenna of ~~250~~500 MHz. The dielectric constant of ice was set to be 3.2, giving a phase velocity of 168 m  $\mu\text{s}^{-1}$ . —Georadar data and positioning data from the Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS) were manually digitized to obtain a point dataset of ice thickness and bed topography. The point datasets were interpolated to get an ice thickness map and a digital terrain model (DTM) of the ice patch bed. Obvious artefacts caused by the interpolation technique were manually removed. ~~Totally~~A total of 40 independent control points gave an estimated standard deviation of 1.1 m, and a maximum error of 2.6 m. The control points were obtained by point measurements (GNSS) in the recently exposed area.

#### 3.2 Laser scanning

The ice patch and surrounding terrain was scanned with an air-borne laser (Leica ALS70) on 17 September 2011. The company COWI AS, on assignment from Norwegian Water

Resources and Energy Directorate, carried out the laser scanning and the processing of the data. The flight altitude was 10100-11800 feet (3078-3597 m a.s.l.). The area was scanned with 5 points m<sup>2</sup>. Quality controls and accuracy assessments revealed accuracy better than 0.1 m in surface elevation. Aerial photos were taken on the same day. These data were used to produce a high quality DTM and orthophotos of the ice patch surface and surrounding terrain. The DTM was resampled to a resolution of 1 m.

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### 3.3 Mass balance and front measurements

~~Standard~~ surface mass balance measurements of winter accumulation (snow depth at 20-60 sites and density at 1 site) and ablation (at 1-4 stakes) were made following standard methods for the melting seasons of 2010-2015 (Andreassen, 2011). Distance to the terminus ~~has been~~was measured from two points outside the ice patch (Fig. 3a) in August or early September using a laser distance meter.

The extent of the Juvfonne ice patch was surveyed by foot with GNSS with a Topcon receiver mounted on a back packbackpack and one reference receiver mounted in a fixed base point (Fig. 3a, Table 1). The GNSS data was processed with Topcon software TTOOLS version 8.

~~The extent of the Juvfonne ice patch has been surveyed by foot with differential GNSS mounted on a back pack (Fig 3a, Table 1). Surveys have been~~were done annually in August or September from 2010 to 2015, but the survey from 2012 was only done along the lower part due to snow conditions. Areal extent was also determined by digitising outlines from orthophotos from 2011 and from topographical maps from the Norwegian mapping authorities in 1981 and 2004. Furthermore, outlines from Landsat inventories from 1997 and 2003 were used (Andreassen et al., 2008; Winsvold et al., 2014). The accuracy of the differential GNSS are within 1m, the accuracy of the N50 within 5 m and the accuracy of the Landsat mapping within 30 m. The standard deviation in height of the GNSS measurements is on the range 10-20 cm giving  $\pm 2$  standard deviations of 0.6 m.

### 3.4 Meteorological measurements

Hourly meteorological data was obtained from the automatic weather station (AWS) at Juvvasshøe (1894 m a.s.l.). It is the highest official meteorological station in Norway, and is freely exposed and representative for this study, except for wind speed. ~~It is the highest official meteorological station in Norway and is freely exposed and highly representative for this study.~~ The first station was set up in 1999 (Isaksen et al., 2003) and a new official weather station was established at the same site in June 2009. One additional station recording hourly snow depth was set up in autumn 2011 in front of Juvfonne (95 m from the eastern margin of the snowfield). Hourly data on snow depth is scarce in the high mountains in Scandinavia. Observed air temperature and wind speed on Juvvasshøe were compared against the 1971-2000 climatological normal based on interpolated air temperature data from seNorge (Engeset et al., 2004) and daily observations of wind speed from Fokstugu (973 m a.s.l.), 70 km NE of ~~Juvasshøe~~Juvvasshøe, which was the best nearby correlated meteorological station having long-time series.

A thermistor cable was installed in a 10 m deep borehole in 2009 to record ice temperatures. Temperatures were recorded every 3 hours until late September 2011 with an accuracy of 0.05 °C (1 standard deviation). The entire thermistor cable melted out in September 2014. ~~→~~. Additional thermistor measurements were made in the snow and ice at the onset of thaw in spring 2010.

### 3.5 Radiocarbon dating

In May 2010, a 30 m long ice tunnel was excavated in the Juvfonne ice patch. During spring ~~2012~~2012, a new 70 ~~metre~~ long tunnel was excavated into the central parts of the ice patch. The tunnels were excavated with specially designed ice axes causing minimal disturbance to the surrounding ice. The tunnels gave an excellent opportunity to verify the radar data and to collect organic ~~material—material and ice for for Accelerator Mass Spectrometry (AMS)~~ radiocarbon dating. Dateable organic material is available, but there are no continuous layers of organic material. Radiocarbons dating prior to 2012 are published in (Nesje et al., 2012; Zapf et al., 2013; Ødegård et al., 2011). Conventional  $^{14}\text{C}$  ages were calibrated using OxCal v4.2.4 software (Bronk Ramsey and Lee, 2013) with the IntCal13 calibration curve (Reimer et al., 2013).

1 The organic debris has been collected from the walls and below the floor of the ice tunnels (5  
2 samples from the tunnel excavated in 2010 and 5 samples from the tunnel excavated in 2012 –  
3 Table 2) and organic debris melting out at the front of which two datings are reported in this  
4 paper. Nine additional datings were published by Nesje et al. (2012).

5 The recently developed method for radiocarbon dating of ice utilizes the organic carbon  
6 fraction of carbonaceous aerosols scavenged from the atmosphere during snowfall and  
7 embedded into the ice matrix (Jenk et al., 2009; Sigl et al., 2009; Uglietti et al., 2016). This  
8 method was tested with 11 samples from Juvfonne in 2011 by comparing for the first time  $^{14}\text{C}$   
9 ages determined from carbonaceous particles with  $^{14}\text{C}$  ages conventionally obtained from  
10 organic remains found in the ice (Zapf et al., 2013). The 2011 samples are JUV1 and JUV2  
11 adjacent to the dated organic-rich layers in the 2010 tunnel and a surface sample JUV3 (Table  
12 2). In summer 2015 five samples of clear ice were collected adjacent to the plant fragment  
13 layer located just above the bed in the tunnel excavated in 2012 (JUV0, Table 2 ~~and 3~~). All  
14 blocks of ice ( $\sim 20 \times 15 \times 10$  cm) were extracted with a pre-cleaned chainsaw and were  
15 subsequently divided into smaller pieces. All ice blocks were transported frozen to Paul  
16 Scherrer Institute (PSI, Switzerland), decontaminated in a cold room by removing the outer  
17 layer (0.3 mm) with a pre cleaned stainless steel band saw and by rinsing the ice samples with  
18 ultra-pure water in a class 100 clean room (Jenk et al., 2007).

19 Insoluble carbonaceous particles are filtered onto preheated quartz fibre filters (Pallflex  
20 Tissuquartz, 2500QAO-UP) and combusted with a thermo-optical organic carbon/elemental  
21 carbon (OC/EC) analyser (Model4L, Sunset Laboratory Inc., USA), using a well-established  
22 protocol (Swiss\_4S) for OC/EC separation (Zhang et al., 2012). Analyses of  $^{14}\text{C}$  were  
23 conducted using the 200 kV compact radiocarbon system ‘MICADAS’ at the University of  
24 Bern (LARA laboratory), equipped with a gas ion source coupled to the Sunset instrument,  
25 allowing measuring  $^{14}\text{C}$  directly in  $\text{CO}_2$  of 3-100  $\mu\text{g C}$  with an uncertainty level as low as 1%  
26 (Ruff et al., 2010).

27 Dates are given in calibrated ages ~~(BCE/CE)~~BP (BP=1950 CE) including 1 sigma errors ( $\sigma$ ).

28

## 4 Results

### 4.1 Ice thickness and ice layering

The bed reflection was clearly seen in the radar plots (see example in Fig. 4). In addition the ice layering was detected on most of the plots, probably due to density differences in the ice layers (air bubbles) (Hamran et al., 2009) or organic layers. Georadar soundings from 2009 revealed a maximum ice thickness of 17-19 m (Ødegård et al., 2011). The near-surface reflection horizons are nearly parallel to the present surface. At depth, curved reflection horizons are observed. In the ~~ice~~-tunnels the curved layers can be directly observed forming a distinct angular discontinuity with the surface-parallel ice layers (Fig. 5). The surface parallel layers have melted away since 2009 in the central and southern parts of the ice patch (Fig 6). The DTM obtained from laser scanning combined with the bottom topography from the georadar gave a volume of 710,000 m<sup>3</sup> in late August 2011 (mean thickness 5.6 m). The surface of Juvfonne in September 2011 was ~~used as~~ the reference surface for the depth map (Fig. 3b). The maximum depth was 16 m close to ~~the~~the inner part of ice tunnel excavated in 2012. In this area the surface slope is about 18 degrees.

### 4.2 Mass balance, front changes and areal extent

Only one of the mass balance stakes (J2) existed continuously from ~~autumn 2009~~spring 2010 to spring 2015 (Figs. 7 and 8). Stake J2 is in the central part of the ice patch (Fig. 3a).

Snow sounding measurements (N=232) range from 0.6-4.8 m over the period 2010-2015. Mean snow depth is 2.6 m (1.2 m w.e.). Some years show a pattern where most snow accumulates on the leeward side of the prevailing wind the previous winter, but this is not consistent. Inter annual variation accounts for 66%. The accumulation was further investigated by analysing the deviation from mean each year. This dataset contains a significant trend with increased accumulation towards the front (Fig. 3c ~~and Table 4~~). The difference between the upper central area and the front is 0.2 m w.e (Fig. 3c), which corresponds to approx. 20% increase in accumulation.

The total mass loss is measured to 10 m of ice at the site of the thermistor measurements (Fig. 3a). The 10-metre thermistor cable installed on the ~~on the~~ 29<sup>th</sup> of October 2009 melted out in mid-September 2014. The total mass loss at stake J2 was 10.5 m w.e. during the same period.



Elevation changes from September 2011 to September 2014 are shown in Fig. 3d. These results are based on the laser scanning in 2011 and differential GNSS-tracking in 2014. The measurements show a highly significant asymmetric pattern with close to zero surface elevation changes in the western part and surface lowering of 3-5 m in the eastern and central part of the ice patch. This strong gradient is measured over a distance of just 200 m at approximately the same altitude. The part with most negative change has more than average accumulation.

Front change measurements ~~were initiated~~started in 2009 at JF1 and in 2010 at JF2 (Fig. 9). The measurements revealed that Juvfonne retreated in all years except in 2012 and 2015 where the ice patch increased its size due to excessive snow that formed a thin ice and snow layer around the margin. The total retreat 2009-2014 is -52 m measured from JF1 and over 2010-2014 the mean change is 44 m (-51m from JF1 and -38 m from JF2).

The annual extent measurements (2010-2015) show area fluctuations of the margin, varying from 0.101 km<sup>2</sup> (9 September 2014) to a maximum of 0.186 km<sup>2</sup> on 11 September 2015 (Table 1). The extent measurements show that the ice patch shrinks and grows along the whole margin. Furthermore, observations in field show that the ice is very thin along the margins. In 2015, seasonal snow covered the entire margin, and the measured area of 0.186 km<sup>2</sup> is thus only to be considered a maximum extent, not the actual ice patch area.

### 4.3 Climate parameters

Air temperature and wind speed at Juvvasshøe for the period 2000-2015 are outlined in Fig. 10 a-b over the ablation season (June-September). The mean June-September air temperature in this period is 3.2 °C (1.0 °C above the 1971-2000 mean). Air temperatures, near-ground surface temperatures and frequency of days with daily mean air temperature above 0 °C (the two latter are not shown in Fig. 10) are high in summers 2002, 2003, 2006, 2011 and 2014, and especially 2006. Observations from nearby weather stations with long climate series reported record-breaking temperatures in late summer and autumn 2006. In the investigation period 2009-2015 the coldest summer was 2012, which was the only summer below the 1971-2000 mean (Fig. 10).

Due to the sheltered setting of Juvfonne compared to the meteorological stations, strong breeze (wind speed above 10.8 ms<sup>-1</sup>) was used as a lower limit to get sufficient high wind speeds for effective and enhanced turbulent fluxes at Juvfonne. In general there is a high

1 ~~frequency (35-58 days per season) of strong breeze during the period 2009-2015 (Fig. 10b). In~~  
2 ~~general there is a high frequency (35-58 days per season) of strong breeze during the period~~  
3 ~~2009-2015 (Fig. 10b).~~ Comparing wind data from the AWS at Fokstugu indicates two to three  
4 times more frequent strong wind than 1971-2000 mean during the investigation period.  
5 Observed incoming short- and longwave radiation from Juvvasshøe (not shown) show no  
6 clear patterns related to single summers, but 2011 ~~peaks-stands~~ out as the summer with  
7 greatest incoming ~~longwave~~long wave radiation.

8 ~~For snow accumulation or abrasion on ice patches wind speed and wind direction is crucial~~  
9 ~~(Dadic et al., 2010; Lehning et al., 2008). There are great variations from year to year in~~  
10 ~~respect to frequency of strong gale and wind direction. During the two stormiest winters~~  
11 ~~2011-12 and 2013-14, the frequency of strong gale was 15.7 % and 17.3 %, respectively (Fig.~~  
12 ~~11). For snow accumulation or abrasion on ice patches wind speed and wind direction is~~  
13 ~~crucial. Results reveal (not shown here) that strong wind is frequent during winter. There are~~  
14 ~~great variations from year to year and between early and late winter in respect to frequency of~~  
15 ~~strong gale and wind direction.~~

#### 17 4.4 Snow measurements and modelling

18 The automatic snow depth observations in front of Juvfonne show great hourly to daily  
19 variability and there is distinct different pattern of snow accumulation between the four winter  
20 seasons (Fig. 121). The greatest increase in snow depth during early and mid-winter in all  
21 years is related to storm events. This is also the case for strong snow depth decrease events  
22 (mainly due to ~~abrasion~~wind scouring). Comparing the observed and ~~estimated~~modeled snow  
23 depths (which ~~don't~~not take into account redistribution of snow by wind), it is clear that much  
24 of the accumulation is not correlated with precipitation (Fig. 121). The ~~modelled~~snow depth  
25 for Juvfonne was obtained from a precipitation/degree-day model operating on 1×1 km<sup>2</sup>  
26 developed for a web-based system (<http://senorge.no/>) for producing daily snow maps for  
27 Norway (Engeset et al., 2004; Saloranto, 2012). A similar poor correlation ( $r^2=0.24$ ) is also  
28 found for very small glaciers in the Alps (Huss and Fischer, 2016)

29 The observed melt in central parts (J2) was compared with a degree-day model using typical  
30 values calculated from nearby glaciers (Fig. 7a) (Laumann and Reeh, 1993). This modelling

shows a quite good fit except the 2010 season. In this ~~season~~season, the summer balance was about twice the outcome of the degree-day model.

#### 4.5 Temperature of ice and permafrost

Temperature measurements in Juvfonne reveal 10-m depth ice temperature in the range of -2 to -4 °C (Fig. 132). The ice and snow temperature results show that the Juvfonne ice patch is cold-based and underlain by permafrost (~~Fig. 13~~). The measurements at 5-10 m depth in the ice are similar to the measurements in the nearby permafrost borehole at Juvvasshøe (Fig. 132). In spring, the melt water percolates and refreezes in the snowpack until the snow is isothermal at a temperature close to 0°C (Fig. 14). There is cold ice below the level of meltwater percolation, which means that there is a heat flow into the ice gradually decreasing during the melt season. Because of this heat flow superimposed ice forms at the level of impermeable ice, generally less than 0.1 m/year. The surface melt water does not percolate through the level of the winter cold wave. The heat flow into the ice is gradually decreasing during the melt season. Superimposed ice forms at the level of impermeable ice.

#### 4.6 Radiocarbon dating

The AMS radiocarbon dating obtained from organic-rich layers and from carbonaceous aerosols embedded in clear ice in the Juvfonne ice patch shows ages spanning from modern at the surface to ca. ~~6200 BCE~~7600 cal. years BP at the bottom (clear ice below the basal organic-rich layer), thus showing that Juvfonne has existed continuously during the last ~7500 ~~years~~rs. So far, the basal ice in Juvfonne is the oldest dated ice in mainland Norway (Table 2).

In the tunnel opened in 2010 the AMS radiocarbon dating of organic matter embedded in the ice shows modern age in the top layer at the entrance, and ages ranging from ~~1218-1125~~3075-3168 cal. years BP ~~BCE~~ to ~~945-987 CE~~963-1005 cal. years BP inside the tunnel. These results were previously published in Nesje et al. (2012) and recalibrated for this study (~~Fig. 14~~Table 2 and Fig. 15).

1 In the tunnel opened in 2012 the AMS radiocarbon dating of five organic layers embedded in  
2 the ice about 70 m from the margin of the ice patch, yielded dates in chronological order from  
3 the base upwards, ranging from ~~4711-4606 BCE~~6555-6660 cal. years BP at the base to ~~53~~  
4 ~~BCE—21 CE~~1929-2002 cal. years BP in the ceiling of the ice tunnel, approximately 2.85 m  
5 above the tunnel floor. The organic debris that yielded the oldest age was collected from the  
6 innermost part of the ice tunnel, about 0.43 m above the bed. The layer where the sample was  
7 retrieved could be followed close to the bed in the inner parts of the tunnel. The carbon dates  
8 on carbonaceous aerosols were sampled at the same location to the side and below the plant  
9 fragment layer ~~(Table 3).~~ The oldest dating is ~~7476-7785~~is 6418-5988 BCE cal. years BP.  
10 The position of the sample site in the 2012 tunnel is marked on Fig. 3a.

11 In the autumn 2014, two *in-situ* *Polytrichum* moss mats melted out along the margin of  
12 Juvfonne south of the ice tunnel excavated in 2010. AMS radiocarbon dates of the two moss  
13 mats indicate that the moss was killed by the expanding margin of the ice patch about 2000  
14 years ago (~~1951-1896 cal. years BP - Poz-66166 and 1945-1882 cal. years BP - Poz-66167~~)  
15 ~~BCE—54 CE—Poz-66166 and 5-68 CE—Poz-66167~~. ~~Thus~~Thus, the minimum extent of the  
16 ~~south-eastern~~southeastern part of the ice patch observed in September 2014 is most likely the  
17 smallest in 2000 years.

18 With the exception of one identified outlier, the results obtained ~~results~~ from dating of  
19 carbonaceous aerosol particles in the ice could reproduce the expected ages very well (Zapf et  
20 al., 2013). This gives confidence that the age of organic debris in the ice is similar to the  
21 surrounding ice. In fig. 16 radiocarbon datings from both ice tunnels are plotted according to  
22 vertical distance from bed.

## 24 5 Discussion

25 The discussion focuses on the value of this research in the context of the long-term objective  
26 to develop models of mass balance and thermal regime on Holocene time scale at ice patches  
27 and surrounding terrain.

28 The discussion is organised in four sections: (1) the mass balance, (2) thermal regime, (3) ice  
29 layering and deformation on Holocene time scale and (4) the environmental processes  
30 relevant to artefact displacement and preservation.

## 5.1 The mass balance

Perennial ice patches are, due to their existence, located at sites with close to long-term zero mass balance. The inter-annual variability in summer and winter balance could be considerable, but the long-term changes in mass must be close to zero as long as they do not disappear or develop into a glacier. The 6-year record of mass balance gives some insight into the spatial and temporal variability of the mass balance.

The snow accumulation during the 6-year period (2010-2015) shows increased accumulation towards the front of the ice patch. This is probably a response to increased melt, which will increase the snow accumulation at the leeward side of prevailing westerly winds.

Along the outer rim of ~~Juvfonne~~Juvfonne, the surface altitude changes (negative ~~net-mass~~ balance) vary between less than 1m to nearly 5m within a 200 m distance at same altitude over a period of 3 years (Fig. 3d). Field data is consistent with the interpretation of increased melting due to sensible and latent heat fluxes. Micro-meteorological investigations by Mott et al. (2011) of processes driving snow ablation in an alpine catchment show that advection of sensible heat cause locally increased ablation rates at the upwind edges of ~~the~~ snow patches.

The 2010 anomaly in the summer balance (Fig. 7a) is most likely related to increased melt during periods with strong south and ~~south-easterly~~southeasterly winds (unsheltered direction for Juvfonne) combined with relatively high air temperatures and high relative humidity causing enhanced turbulent fluxes. Extreme melt was observed in early-mid August. The warmest 10-day period in 2010 was 8-18 August. Median wind speed was 3.4 m/s from SE and humidity 79.5% at the meteorological station 750 m from the ice patch. This 2010 anomaly is probably the reason for the asymmetric net balance of Juvfonne (Fig. 6). Exceptionally large melt episodes have been reported from the Central Cascade Mountains of Oregon where snow melt were enhanced by strong wind, high air temperature and high humidity (Marks et al., 1998). At higher unsheltered sites 60-90% of the energy for snowmelt came from sensible and latent heat exchanges, while it was only about 35% at more sheltered sites. Recently similar extreme melt events have been reported from the southern and western part of Greenland ice sheet in July 2012, where nonradiative energy fluxes (sensible, latent, rain, and subsurface collectively) dominated the ablation area surface energy budget during multiday episodes (Fausto et al., 2016). ~~Exceptionally large melt episodes have recently been reported from the southern and western part of Greenland ice sheet in July 2012, where~~

~~nonradiative energy fluxes (sensible, latent, rain, and subsurface collectively) dominated the ablation area surface energy budget during multiday episodes (Fausto et al., 2016).~~

The snow recording from the station in front of Juvfonne (95 m from the front) clearly illustrates the complexity of snow accumulation in this environment. In front of ~~Juvfonne~~Juvfonne, abrupt changes in snow depth within hours dominate the series, causing great day-to-day variability. These changes seem to be mainly driven by the rate of wind speed and wind direction. ~~One~~single storm events with westerly winds could account for almost 50% of the winter accumulation in less than 24 hours, like the storm February 7-8 in 2015 ~~-(Fig. ure 124, 2014-15).~~ Spring snow accumulation with insignificant wind drift could also influence mass balance, like the period from early April to mid May 2012 where more than 40 cm of snow accumulated (Fig. 12, 2011-2012).~~Spring snow accumulation with insignificant wind drift could also influence mass balance, like the 2012 season.~~

## 5.2 Ground and ice thermal regime

The temperature measurements at Juvfonne show that there is sufficient melt water to bring the permeable snowpack to an isothermal condition within a few weeks in early summer (Fig. 13). Below the seasonal snowpack, the ice remains cold during the summer with temperatures on the range -2 - -4°C at 5-10 m depth (Fig. 13). In Norway most glaciers are considered to be temperate, although measurements are available for only a few glaciers (Andreassen and Winsvold, 2012). Recent observations from nearby glaciers in Jotunheimen, reveal that at the lower parts of Storbreen the winter cold wave is removed during summer, but remained at Hellstugubreen and Gråsubreen (Sørdal, 2013; Tachon, 2015). The temperature measured close to the equilibrium line at Hellstugubreen (-1°C) and Gråsubreen (-2°C) were warmer than the temperature measured at similar depths at Juvfonne (-3°C).

Juvfonne consists of cold ice surrounded by permafrost terrain (Fig. 132). Perennial ice patches can be used as indicators of local (mountain) permafrost conditions (Imhof, 1996; Kneisel, 1998). The physical background is that their ice cannot warm above 0°C in summer, but cool down far below 0°C during the cold season. Based on this argument there is good reason to suggest that long-term perennial ice patches like Juvfonne indicate permafrost directly beneath them. Holocene permafrost modelling (Lilleøren et al., 2012) suggest that permafrost survived the highest areas of the Scandinavian mountains during the Holocene thermal maximum (HTM), and thus permafrost ice could be of Pleistocene age. Radiocarbon



1 dates from Juvfonne show that the deepest central part of the ice patch contains carbonaceous  
2 particles embedded in the ice ~~7476-7785 cal. years BP 6418-5988 BCE~~ (JUV0\_B5 - Table 2).  
3 This is a strong indication that Juvfonne has existed continuously since mid-Holocene, and  
4 the dating of the ice could offer strongly needed validation of Holocene permafrost models.  
5 Juvfonne could contain older ice, and it is most likely that ice patches at higher altitude  
6 contains older ice.

~~7 The thermal regime of the ice in Juvfonne is similar to what is found close to the equilibrium  
8 line of nearby glaciers (Sørdal, 2013; Tachon, 2015). The temperature measurements show  
9 that there is sufficient melt water to bring the permeable snowpack to an isothermal condition  
10 within a few weeks in early summer (Fig. 13). Below the seasonal snowpack, the ice remains  
11 cold during the summer with temperatures on the range  $-2$ — $-4^{\circ}\text{C}$  at 5–10 m depth (Fig. 12).~~

### 12 5.3 Ice layering and deformation on Holocene time scale

13 The observed ice layers almost certainly represent surface of isochronic deposition. Within  
14 both ice tunnels in Juvfonne there are several organic/debris layers of uncertain origin. From  
15 the appearance of these layers, it is probably wind or water transported material or reindeer  
16 droppings. The organic layers are horizontally continuous over a few meters. There is  
17 reasonable correlation between the age of the clear ice and the age of the organic layers (Zapf  
18 et al., 2013). Contamination is not likely in the clear ice samples, which gives confidence in  
19 the dating of the ice stratigraphy. This is necessarily not the case at other ice patches, where  
20 surface processes or microbial activity may contaminate organic material exposed at the  
21 surface.

22 The ice deformation on Holocene time scale is difficult to calculate based on the available  
23 data. In the central parts of the ice patch, a first-order an estimate of maximum basal shear  
24 stress is on the range of 30-405 kPa (no averaging of surface slope  $17^{\circ}$ , depth 12-16 m,  
25 laminar flow). Adding 5 m to the depth will increase the basal shear stress to 450-60-55 kPa  
26 for the central part. The latter is probably close to the range for the last decades. Calculation  
27 of deformation based on a Glen type flow law will be highly sensitive to the chosen stress  
28 exponent (Glen, 1955). Using a softness parameter  $A=2.4 \cdot 10^{-15} \text{ s}^{-1} \text{ kPa}^{-3}$  based on an ice  
29 temperature of  $-2^{\circ}\text{C}$  from Table 5.2 in Paterson (1994) and a stress exponent of  $n=2$  (Duval et  
30 al., 2000) gives a surface velocity of 2.3 m/1000\*years (surface slope  $17^{\circ}$ , depth 19 m,  
31 laminar flow). A likely situation for the LIA (surface slope  $15^{\circ}$ , depth 45-60 m) gives an

estimate of 25-60 m/1000\*years assuming a cold based glacier (Fig. 17). These calculations are uncertain, but suggest that The a cumulative deformation of ice (maximum 30-60 kPa basal shear stresses) over millennia could explains the observed curved layering in the basal layer of the ice patch (Fig. 4). The possibility of cCumulative ice deformation on a time scale of several millennia makes it difficult to relate the present thickness and slope of theses layers to previous thickness of the ice patch.

~~The observed ice layers almost certainly represent surface of isochronic deposition. Within both ice tunnels in Juvfonne there are several organic/debris layers of uncertain origin. From the appearance of these layers, it is probably wind or water transported material or reindeer droppings. In the case of Juvfonne, there is a reasonable correlation between the age of the ice and the age of the organic layers (Zapf et al., 2013). This is necessarily not the case at other ice patches.~~

~~The empirical relation between basal shear stress and altitude range of glaciers was investigated by Haeberli and Hoelzle (1995) based on data from the European Alps. A basal shear stress of 15-20 kPa is in good agreement with the values for ice bodies with elevation ranges of 150m as at Juvfonne.~~

#### 5.4 Artefact displacement and preservation

From a cultural management perspective, there is particular interest in developing methods to identify sites of interest (Rogers et al., 2014) and a better understanding of the environmental threats (Callanan, 2015). The environmental threats are mainly related to sub-aerial exposure of artefacts. Especially leather artefacts, textiles and steering feathers of arrows are exposed to movement and decomposition short time after melt out. Wooden objects are more resistant.

The artefacts found at Juvfonne have been found are in permafrost terrain surrounding the ice patch, most of them are found in the front of the ice patch within a few tens of meters of the ice patchmeters. The wooden artefacts range from 250-900 CE. Even during the extreme minimum in September 2014 (Fig. 6) there are no observations of artefacts melting out within the ice.

The exposure time to physical processes and microbial activity is critical to artefact decomposition. At JuvfonneJuvfonne, there is a gradual increase in the ground exposure time

1 depending on snow accumulation and melt over millennia. The oldest ice found so far is  
2 7476-7785 cal. years BP 6418-5988 BCE (JUV0\_5-B - Table 2). At the eastern edge AMS  
3 radiocarbon dates show that the moss mats were covered (killed) by the expanding snowfield  
4 about 2000 years ago (Table 2, Poz-56952). Lichenometry indicates that the front of Juvfonne  
5 extended ~250 m from its present position during the LIA maximum in the mid-18<sup>th</sup> century  
6 (Nesje et al., 2012). A photo of Juvfonne from around 1900 shows the front close to the  
7 expected LIA extent (Fig. 17). These results constrain the extent of the ice patch since the  
8 mid-Holocene, but temporal and spatial variability need to be considered to assess the actual  
9 exposure time of artefacts.

10 Several radiocarbon dates of the top layer in 2010 (Fig. 4) show modern age. This means that  
11 artefacts found at Juvfonne have been sub-aerially exposed after the LIA but prior to 2009.  
12 ~~Thus~~ Thus, the dating and position of artefacts cannot be used directly to reconstruct previous  
13 ice patch extent.

14 Juvfonne and surrounding terrain is an active environment in terms of geomorphological  
15 processes. In particular, during the extreme melting in autumn 2014 several small  
16 accumulations of organic material/debris occurred at the upper margin of the ice patch.  
17 Within a few days, melt water moved this material to the front of the ice patch. Downslope  
18 movement of artefacts by melt water is certainly possible at Juvfonne. Finds at other ice  
19 patches in Jotunheimen supports this interpretation, where different pieces of the same  
20 artefact ~~have been~~ were found along the direction of steepest slope. Textiles and leather  
21 objects are more likely transported by wind, and preservation at its original position is less  
22 likely. There are no finds of textiles or leather objects at Juvfonne.

## 24 **6 Conclusions and future perspectives**

26 The exploratory analyses of field data from Juvfonne show for the first time the geoscience  
27 research potential of ice patches in Scandinavia. The results give new insights into their age,  
28 internal structure, mass balance and climate sensitivity, and have taken the state of knowledge  
29 to level where models can be designed.

30 These are the main conclusions from the analysis of field data:

- Ice stratigraphic characteristics and radiocarbon dating strongly suggest that the Juvfonne ice patch was small or absent during Holocene thermal maximum, but existed continuously since ca. 7600 cal. years BP (the late Mesolithic period) without disappearing. This is the oldest dating of ice in mainland Norway.
- A 6-year record of mass balance measurements shows a strong negative balance. The total mass loss at one site was 10.5 m w.e. Elevation changes are highly asymmetric over short distances, from close to zero to surface lowering of several meters. There is a significant increase in snow accumulation towards the front of approx. 20% compared to the upper central area. The winter balance is poorly correlated with winter precipitation. One single storm event may contribute significantly to the winter balance.
- Temperature measurements of the ice in Juvfonne reveal colder ice than what is found at similar depths close to the equilibrium line of nearby polythermal glaciers. There is sufficient melt water to bring the permeable snowpack to an isothermal state within a few weeks in early summer. Below the seasonal snowpack, at 5-10 m depth, the ice remains cold with temperatures between -2 and -4°C. The cold ice is surrounded by permafrost terrain having similar ground temperatures.
- Geophysical investigations show a clear stratification. The observed ice layers almost certainly represent surface of isochronic deposition. At depth, curved reflection horizons are observed consistent with cumulative ice deformation over millennia.
- Ice deformation and surface processes (i.e. wind and melt water) may have caused significant displacement of artefacts from their original position.
- Since the surface ice shows modern age artefacts melted out in front of Juvfonne since 2009 have been sub-aerially exposed after the LIA but prior to 2009. Thus, the dating and position of artefacts cannot be used directly to reconstruct previous ice patch extent.

The radiocarbon datings show that Juvfonne is robust to climate change, even on a Holocene timescale. The datings indicate a slow build-up over a period of 8000 years. The survival of relatively thin ice over a long period is a good documentation of the well-known mass balance feedback mechanisms of ice patches. The datings of mass mats appearing at the southeastern

1 edge of Juvfonne in September 2014 suggest the smallest ice patch in ~2000 years. These  
2 field data constrain the Holocene development of Juvfonne, but care should be taken in the  
3 interpretation. Radiocarbon datings of the ice layers only show the timing of minima in  
4 volume.

5 Perennial ice patches are, due to their existence, areas with close to long-term zero mass  
6 balance similar to the zone close to the ELA of glaciers. However, there are obvious  
7 differences between ice patches and glaciers. The accumulation processes are to a variable  
8 degree dependent on surrounding topography and the topography of the ice patch itself. One  
9 possible future approach is field observations in combination with simulations of the wind  
10 field to obtain the necessary spatial and temporal resolution to model the snow accumulation  
11 during storm events. The wind field with high spatial and temporal resolution is also needed  
12 to calculate the turbulent fluxes.

13 Ice patches are in the transition zone between seasonal snow cover and perennial snow/ice.  
14 This interaction needs to be addressed since ice patches could be influenced by advective heat  
15 transfer in summer. The melt anomaly in 2010 is probably related to periods of strong  
16 southeasterly winds, high air temperatures and high relative moisture boosting the turbulent  
17 fluxes at the upwind edge. The time series of mass balance at Juvfonne is too short to study  
18 the long-term effect of melt anomalies.

19 The possibility of cumulative deformation of ice on a Holocene time scale makes it difficult  
20 to relate the present thickness and slope of theses layer to previous thickness of the ice patch.  
21 Maximum ice volume was reached during LIA, when Juvfonne probably developed into a  
22 cold based glacier with significant internal deformation.

## 23 24 **7 Data availability**

25 The ice thickness and point mass balance data of Juvfonne are submitted to the World Glacier  
26 Monitoring Service (WGMS) to their Glacier Thickness Database (GlaThiDa) and  
27 Fluctuations of Glaciers Database (FoG). The snow accumulation data are included in the  
28 supplement. Meteorological data for stations Juvvasshøe (15270) and Fokstugu (16610) are  
29 available for free download from the climate database of the Norwegian Meteorological  
30 Institute, eKlima (<http://eklima.met.no/>).

1 ~~Based on a 6 year field experiment on Juvfonne ice patch in central southern Norway, the~~  
2 ~~following main conclusion could be drawn:~~

- 3 ~~• Ice stratigraphic characteristics and radiocarbon dating strongly suggest that the~~  
4 ~~Juvfonne ice patch was small or absent during Holocene thermal maximum, but~~  
5 ~~existed continuously since ca. 6200 BCE (the late Mesolithic period) without~~  
6 ~~disappearing or developing into a glacier with basal sliding. The oldest radiocarbon~~  
7 ~~dates show that the deepest central part of the ice patch contains carbonaceous~~  
8 ~~particles embedded in the ice 6418-5988 BCE, which is the oldest dating of ice in~~  
9 ~~mainland Norway.~~
- 10 ~~• Radiocarbon dates show that the moss mats appearing in 2014 were covered (killed)~~  
11 ~~by the expanding snowfield about 2000 years ago. The minimum extent observed in~~  
12 ~~September 2014 at the south-eastern part is most likely the smallest ice patch in ~2000~~  
13 ~~years.~~
- 14 ~~• A 6 year record of mass balance measurements shows a strong negative balance. The~~  
15 ~~total mass loss at one site was 10.5 m w.e. Elevation changes are highly asymmetric~~  
16 ~~over short distances, from close to zero to surface lowering of several meters. There is~~  
17 ~~a significant increase in snow accumulation towards the front of approx. 20%~~  
18 ~~compared to the upper central area. Assuming that this is a close to equilibrium~~  
19 ~~situation, increased accumulation reflects increased melt. Locally increased ablation~~  
20 ~~rates are probably caused by significant spatial variability of the sensible and latent~~  
21 ~~heat fluxes. The melt anomaly in 2010 is most likely related to periods of strong~~  
22 ~~south-easterly winds and high relative moisture boosting the turbulent fluxes.~~
- 23 ~~• The winter balance is poorly correlated with winter precipitation. One single storm~~  
24 ~~events may contribute significantly to the winter balance.~~
- 25 ~~• The thermal regime of the ice in Juvfonne is similar to what is found close to the~~  
26 ~~equilibrium line of nearby glaciers. Temperature measurements show that there is~~  
27 ~~sufficient melt water to bring the permeable snowpack to an isothermal state within a~~  
28 ~~few weeks in early summer. Below the seasonal snowpack, at 5-10 m depth, the ice~~  
29 ~~remains cold with temperatures between -2 and -4°C. The cold ice is surrounded by~~  
30 ~~permafrost terrain having similar ground temperatures.~~



- Geophysical investigations show a clear stratification. The observed ice layers almost certainly represent surface of isochronic deposition. At depth, curved reflection horizons are observed consistent with cumulative ice deformation over millennia. Even a thin ice patch like Juvfonne (<20 m thick) ice deformation is a critical factor in the interpretation of the ice layering and makes it difficult to relate the present thickness and slope of these layer to previous thickness of the ice patch.
- Ice deformation and surface processes (i.e. wind and melt water) may have caused significant displacement of artefacts from their original position.
- Artefacts melted out in front of Juvfonne since 2009 have been sub-aerially exposed after the LIA but prior to 2009. Thus the dating and position of artefacts cannot be used directly to reconstruct previous ice patch extent.

The exploratory analyses of field data from Juvfonne show for the first time the geoscience research potential of ice patches in Scandinavia. The results give new insights into their age, internal structure, mass balance and climate sensitivity, and have taken the state of knowledge to level where models can be designed. The feedback mechanisms observed on Juvfonne suggest that ice patches are robust to climate change, at least on the time scale of decades. Perennial ice patches are, due to their existence, areas with close to long term zero mass balance. However, they are probably more sensitive than glaciers to changes in the wind pattern. In the perspective of surface energy and mass balance; ice patches are in the transition zone between permafrost terrain and glaciers. Future research will need to carefully address this interaction to build reliable models of how ice patches have developed during the Holocene and their response to future climate change.

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- 12



1 Table 1.

2 Areal extents of Juvfonne derived from topographic maps, Landsat imagery, GNSS  
3 measurements by foot and digitising from orthohotos. \*Seasonal snow remaining along the  
4 extent.

5

Year	Date	Source	Area (km <sup>2</sup> )
1981		map	0.171
1984	10.08.1984	Orthophoto	0.208
1997	15.08.1997	Landsat	0.208
2003	09.08.2013	Landsat	0.150
2004	12.08.2004	map	0.187
2010	25.08.2010	GNSS	0.149
2011	02.08.2011	GNSS	0.150
2011	17.09.2011	Orthophoto	0.127
2012	12.09.2012	GNSS	0.160
2013	12.08.2013	GNSS	0.151
2014	09.09.2014	GNSS	0.101
2015	11.09.2015	GNSS	0.186*

6

7

## Table 2.

AMS radiocarbon dates from the ice tunnels (clear ice samples and organic remains) and ice samples from the ice patch surface. Ice samples collected as blocks and subdivided in several sub-samples. Therefore an average value is shown for every block (JUV1, JUV2 and JUV3) except for JUV0 because JUV0\_1 and JUV0\_2 were taken adjacent to the plant fragment layer, dated 6600 cal BP (Poz-56955), while samples from JUV0\_3 to JUV0\_8 were collected at the bottom of the wall, a few cm below the plant fragment layer. Thus JUV0\_A is the yielded average of JUV0\_1 and JUV0\_2 while the other six samples were averaged as JUV0\_B. Calibrated ages (cal BP) denote the 1  $\sigma$  range.

<u>Sample ID</u>	<u>AMS Lab. No.</u>	<u>Type of material</u>	<u><sup>14</sup>C age (BP)</u>	<u>cal age (cal BP)</u>	<u>median probability (cal BP)</u>
<u>JUV3_1 (tunnel 2010)</u>	<u>ETH 42845.1.1</u>	<u>Surface ice</u>	<u>-939 <math>\pm</math> 93</u>		
<u>JUV3_2 (tunnel 2010)</u>	<u>ETH 42847.1.1</u>	<u>Surface ice</u>	<u>-722 <math>\pm</math> 110</u>		
<u>JUV3_3 (tunnel 2010)</u>	<u>ETH 42849.1.1</u>	<u>Surface ice</u>	<u>-1158 <math>\pm</math> 104</u>		
<u>JUV3_4 (tunnel 2010)</u>	<u>ETH 43446.1.1</u>	<u>Surface ice</u>	<u>-1220 <math>\pm</math> 117</u>		
<u>JUV3 (tunnel 2010)</u>		<u>Surface ice</u>	<u>-1010 <math>\pm</math> 120</u>	<u>(-46 - -7)</u>	<u>-43</u>
<u>JUV2_1 (tunnel 2010)</u>	<u>ETH 43443.1.1</u>	<u>Ice</u>	<u>1018 <math>\pm</math> 210</u>		
<u>JUV2_2 (tunnel 2010)</u>	<u>ETH 43445.1.1</u>	<u>Ice</u>	<u>1873 <math>\pm</math> 669</u>		
<u>JUV2_3 (tunnel 2010)</u>	<u>ETH 43559.1.1</u>	<u>Ice</u>	<u>1119 <math>\pm</math> 323</u>		
<u>JUV2_4 (tunnel 2010)</u>	<u>ETH 45109.1.1</u>	<u>Ice</u>	<u>1128 <math>\pm</math> 287</u>		
<u>JUV2 (tunnel 2010)</u>		<u>Ice</u>	<u>1277 <math>\pm</math> 207</u>	<u>965 - 1368</u>	<u>1190</u>
<u>Poz-37877 (tunnel 2010)</u>	<u>Poz-37877</u>	<u>Organic remains</u>	<u>1095 <math>\pm</math> 30</u>	<u>963 - 1052</u>	<u>1001</u>
<u>Poz-37879 (tunnel 2010)</u>	<u>Poz-37879</u>	<u>Organic remains</u>	<u>1420 <math>\pm</math> 30</u>	<u>1300 - 1338</u>	<u>1322</u>
<u>Poz-39788 (tunnel 2010)</u>	<u>Poz-39788</u>	<u>Reindeer dung</u>	<u>1480 <math>\pm</math> 30</u>	<u>1335 - 1395</u>	<u>1363</u>
<u>Poz-37878 (tunnel 2010)</u>	<u>Poz-37878</u>	<u>Organic remains</u>	<u>1535 <math>\pm</math> 30</u>	<u>1380 - 1518</u>	<u>1438</u>
<u>Poz-56952 (tunnel 2012)</u>	<u>Poz-56952</u>	<u>Organic remains</u>	<u>2025 <math>\pm</math> 30</u>	<u>1929 - 2002</u>	<u>1974</u>
<u>JUV1_3 (tunnel 2010)</u>	<u>ETH 43555.1.1</u>	<u>Ice</u>	<u>2141 <math>\pm</math> 304</u>		
<u>JUV1_4 (tunnel 2010)</u>	<u>ETH 43557.1.1</u>	<u>Ice</u>	<u>2650 <math>\pm</math> 715</u>		
<u>JUV1 (tunnel 2010)</u>		<u>Ice</u>	<u>2386 <math>\pm</math> 314</u>	<u>2011 - 2783</u>	<u>2450</u>
<u>Poz-36460(tunnel 2010)</u>	<u>Poz-36460</u>	<u>Organic remains</u>	<u>2960 <math>\pm</math> 30</u>	<u>3074 - 3168</u>	<u>3121</u>
<u>Poz-56953 (tunnel 2012)</u>	<u>Poz-56953</u>	<u>Organic remains</u>	<u>3490 <math>\pm</math> 35</u>	<u>3716 - 3828</u>	<u>3764</u>
<u>Poz-56954 (tunnel 2012)</u>	<u>Poz-56954</u>	<u>Organic remains</u>	<u>4595 <math>\pm</math> 35</u>	<u>5148 - 5445</u>	<u>5316</u>
<u>Tra-4427 (tunnel 2012)</u>	<u>Tra-4427</u>	<u>Organic remains</u>	<u>5044 <math>\pm</math> 100</u>	<u>5664 - 5904</u>	<u>5791</u>
<u>Poz-56955 (tunnel 2012)</u>	<u>Poz-56955</u>	<u>Organic remains</u>	<u>5800 <math>\pm</math> 40</u>	<u>6555 - 6660</u>	<u>6600</u>
<u>JUV0_1 (tunnel 2010)</u>	<u>BE 4184.1.1</u>	<u>Ice</u>	<u>5913 <math>\pm</math> 252</u>		

JUV0_2 (tunnel 2010)	BE 4380.1.1	Ice	6290 ± 141		
JUV0_A (tunnel 2012)		Ice	6099 ± 240	6720 - 7256	6970
JUV0_3 (tunnel 2012)	BE 4185.1.1	Ice	6504 ± 217		
JUV0_4 (tunnel 2012)	BE 4381.1.1	Ice	6559 ± 127		
JUV0_5 (tunnel 2012)	BE 4186.1.1	Ice	7301 ± 239		
JUV0_6 (tunnel 2012)	BE 4382.1.1	Ice	6632 ± 202		
JUV0_7 (tunnel 2012)	BE 4187.1.1	Ice	7281 ± 219		
JUV0_8 (tunnel 2012)	BE 4383.1.1	Ice	6397 ± 232		
JUV0_B (tunnel 2012)		Ice	6761 ± 168	7476 - 7785	7632

#### Ice tunnel 1 (opened 2010)

Calibrated ages					
Lab. no.	Dated material	Radiocarbon age BP	Median probability	1 sigma (68.3%)	2 sigma (95.4%)
Poz-37877	Organic remains	1095 ± 30	CE 949	CE 945-987	CE 890-1012
Poz-37879	Organic remains	1420 ± 30	CE 627	CE 612-651	CE 582-660
Poz-39788	Reindeer dung	1480 ± 30	CE 586	CE 557-614	CE 539-644
Poz-37878	Organic remains	1535 ± 30	CE 511	CE 532-569	CE 428-592
Poz-36460	Organic remains	2960 ± 30	BCE 1172	BCE 1218-1125	BCE 1262-1072

Radiocarbon dates on carbonaceous aerosols trapped in the 'clean' ice matrix (Paul Scherrer Institute, Villigen, Switzerland; Zapf et al., 2013: Radiocarbon 55 (2-3), 571-578)

Calibrated ages BP (=AD 1950)					
Lab. no.	Radiocarbon age	Median probability	1 sigma (68.3%)	Comments	
JUV3_1 42845.1	940 ± 95 BP	42 BP (1950)	42 - 47 BP	Sample from ice patch surface	
JUV3_2 42845.2	723 ± 113 BP	48 BP	46 - 53 BP	Sample from ice patch surface	
JUV3_3 42845.3	1157 ± 102 BP	36 BP	8 - 42 BP	Sample from ice patch surface	
JUV3_4 42845.4	1221 ± 116 BP	34 BP	8 - 41 BP	Sample from ice patch surface	
JUV-3 2010 mean	1010 ± 107 BP	41 BP	40 - 45 BP (Modern)	Samples from ice patch surface	

Calibrated ages					
Lab. no.	Radiocarbon age BP	Median probability	1 sigma (68.3%)	2 sigma (95.4%)	
JUV2_1 43443.1	1021 ± 205	CE 995	CE 861-1211	CE 640-1312	
JUV2_2 43443.2	1874 ± 665	CE 45	BCE 592-CE 724	BCE 1433-CE 1329	
JUV2_3 43443.3	1121 ± 321	CE 891	CE 640-1221	CE 251-1432	
JUV2_4 43443.4	1126 ± 284	CE 892	CE 652-1169	CE 381-1405	
JUV2 2010 Mean	1286 ± 409	CE 720	CE 378-1165	BCE 169-1442	
JUV1_1/2 43442.1	3875 ± 342	BCE 2353	BCE 2776-1924	BCE 3138-1504	
JUV1_3 43442.2	2144 ± 303	BCE 200	BCE 541-CE 172	BCE 846-CE 475	
JUV1_4 43442.3	2647 ± 711	BCE 834	BCE 1641-CE 69	BCE 2588-CE 775	
JUV1 2010 Mean	2889 ± 488	BCE 1105	BCE 1643-471	BCE 2346-CE 85	

#### Ice tunnel 2 (opened 2012)

Calibrated ages					
Lab. no.	Dated material	Radiocarbon age BP	Median probability	1 sigma (68.3%)	2 sigma (95.4%)
Poz-56952	Organic remains	2025 ± 30	BCE 25	BCE 53-BCE 21	BCE 111-CE 55
Poz-56953	Organic remains	3490 ± 35	BCE 1816	BCE 1831-1767	BCE 1904-1737
Poz-56954	Organic remains	4595 ± 35	BCE 3367	BCE 3376-3340	BCE 3382-3326
Tra-4427	Organic remains	5044 ± 100	BCE 3841	BCE 3954-3761	BCE 4001-3645
Poz-56955	Organic remains	5800 ± 40	BCE 4651	BCE 4711-4606	BCE 4729-4544

Radiocarbon dates on carbonaceous aerosols trapped in the 'clean' ice matrix sampled and dated in 2015 (Paul Scherrer Institute, Villigen, Switzerland)

Calibrated ages					
Lab. no.	Radiocarbon age BP	Median probability	1 sigma (68.3%)	2 sigma (95.4%)	
juv1-1 4184.1.1	5909 ± 248	BCE 4807	BCE 5061-4495	BCE 5373-4319	
juv1-2 4380.1.1	6300 ± 138	BCE 5255	BCE 5384-5203	BCE 5525-4932	
juv2-1 4185.1.1	6521 ± 217	BCE 5455	BCE 5664-5292	BCE 5877-4985	
juv2-2 4381.1.1	6565 ± 135	BCE 5514	BCE 5628-5463	BCE 5730-5293	
juv3-1 4186.1.1	7306 ± 232	BCE 6178	BCE 6418-5988	BCE 6602-5725	

1	juv3-2 4382.1.1	6682 ± 227	BCE 5609	BCE 5812-5463	BCE 6049-5207
2	juv5-1 4187.1.1	7293 ± 219	BCE 6166	BCE 6397-5987	BCE 6532-5734
3	juv5-2 4383.1.1	6405 ± 230	BCE 5336	BCE 5564-5204	BCE 5735-4800
4	juv-0 (2015) Mean	6623 ± 210	BCE 5555	BCE 5733-5359	BCE 5983-5206
5					
6					
7					

1 Table 3.

Sample blocks	Sample description
1	JUV 0_1 and JUV 0_2: the side of the ice step with plant fragment layer. Clear ice divided into two sub-samples.
	Since there was no place to cut off further ice, the other samples were taken from the wall on the left side of the corner where the ice step is located.
2	JUV 0_3 and JUV 0_4: divided into two subsamples. This sample broke into pieces during cutting, but it is clear ice.
3	JUV 0_5 and JUV 0_6: nice and clear ice block cut at the right of sample 4. It was divided into two subsamples.
4	This ice block contains a lot of dark organic material. For the moment it is stored in the cold room and has not been processed. It could be measured with the conventional radiocarbon procedure and it is possible to separate some clear ice for the carbonaceous dating approach.
5	JUV 0_7 and JUV 0_8: clear ice cut inside the hole left after cutting sample 3. It was divided into two subsamples.

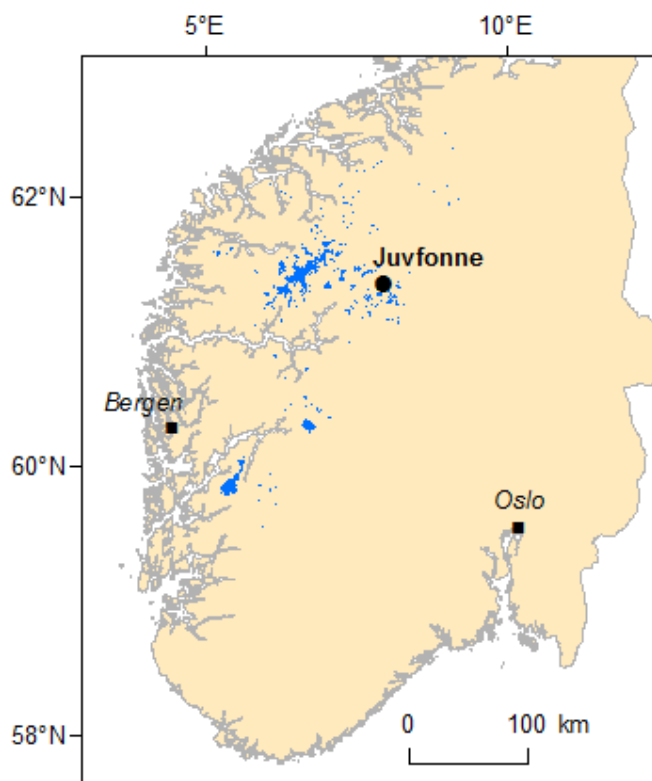
2

3

1 **Table 4**

2 **Key statistics for the first order polynomial fit of snow accumulation (deviation from mean**  
 3 **each year) in the period 2010–2015:**

Sources of variation	Sums of squares	Degrees of freedom	Mean Square	F-test
First order polynomial regression	0.656	2	0.328	6.339
Deviation	11.847	232-2-1 (229)	0.052	
Total variation	12.503	232-1 (231)	0.054	



4

5

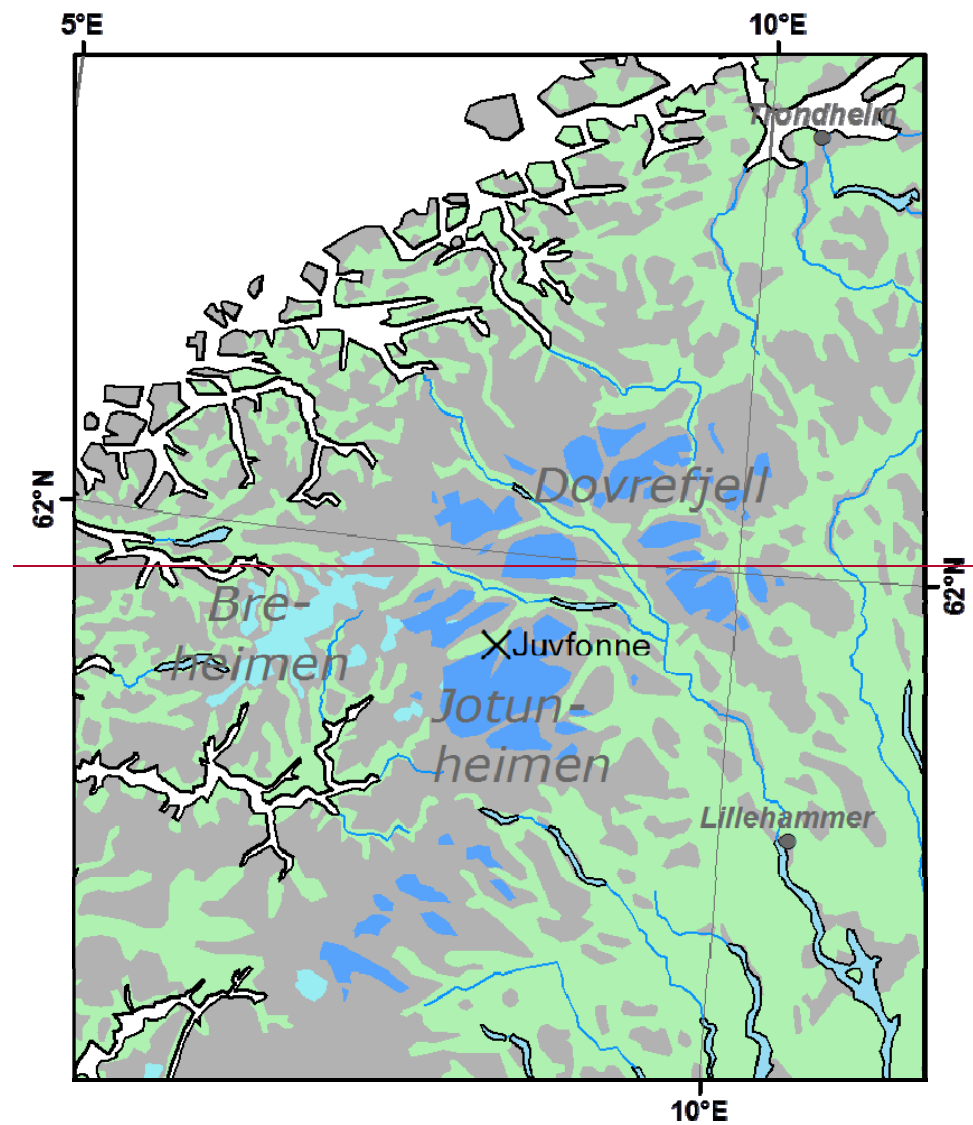
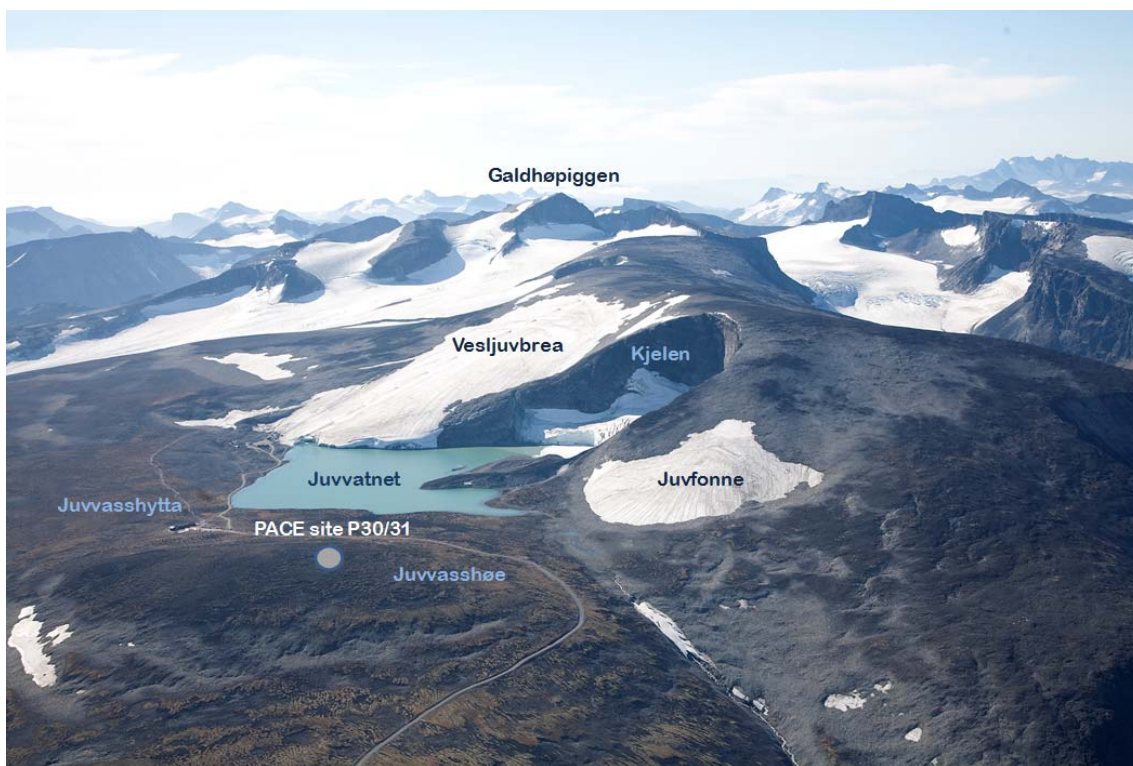


Figure 1. The field site Juvfonne (marked with X) in central southern Norway. Dark blue is permafrost areas, light blue is are glaciers. Permafrost extent generalized from Lilleøren et al. (2012).





1



2

1 Figure 2. Overview picture from September 2008 towards SSW showing Juvfonne and the  
2 Juvflye area including Kjelen, Juvvatnet, Juvvasshytta, ~~Vesljuvreen~~ Vesljuvbrea and the  
3 P30/~~and~~-31 Permafrost and Climate in Europe (PACE) boreholes at Juvvasshøe. Also visible  
4 is the highest mountain of Norway, Galdhøpiggen (2469 m a.s.l.). Photo: Helge J. Standal.

5

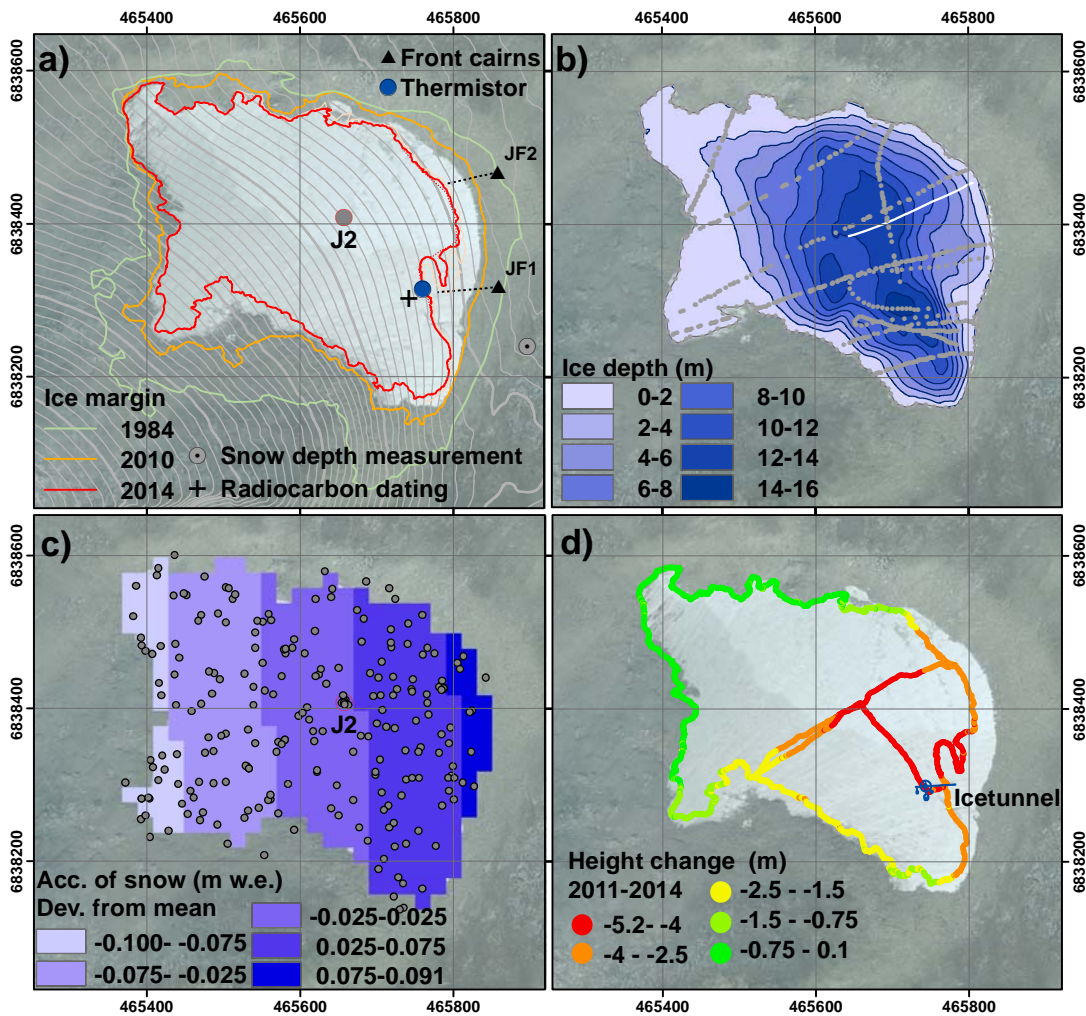
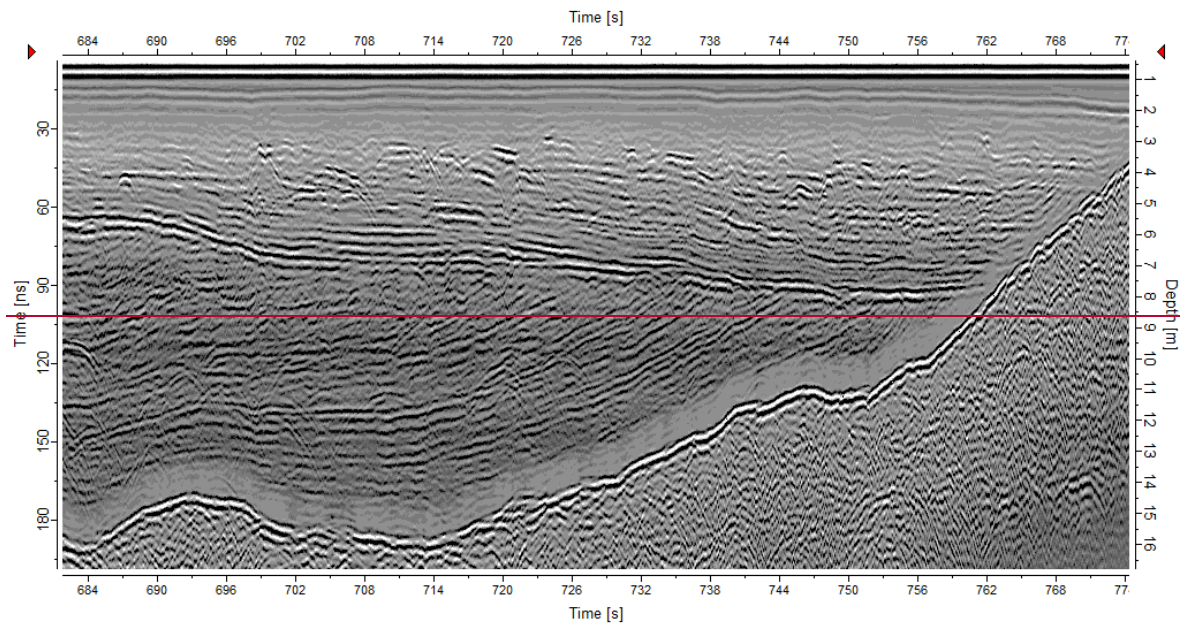
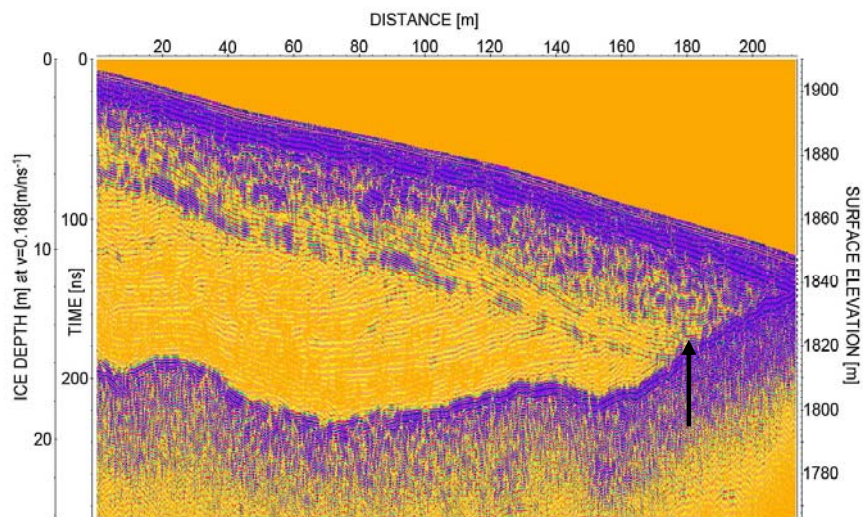


Figure 3. Maps of Juvfonne with ~~ortho~~orthophoto from September 2011 as background (~~UTM coordinates zone 32N~~), a) ice margins, position of front measurements (JF1 and JF2- see ~~figure~~Fig. 914), position of mass balance stake J2, position of thermistor for ice temperature measurements (Fig. 132) and position of the oldest radiocarbon dating and position of snow depth measurement station, b) interpolated contours of bed topography relative to ice thickness in September 2011 (grey markers are ~~radar points~~radar points used in the interpolation) and position of the georadar track in Fig. 4 - white line, c) grey markers are snow depth measurements (2010-2015), the raster map shows a first order polynomial fit to the deviation from mean accumulation each year (~~see table 3 for details~~) d) height differences along GNSS tracks in 2014 relative to ice surface from laserdata in 2011 and positions of ice tunnel excavated in 2012.





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3 Figure 4. Example of 500-250 MHz Georadar profile. The position of the track shown in  
 4 figure-Fig. 3b. The arrow shows the approximate minimum front position in September 2014

1 ~~(Ice velocity: 168 m  $\mu$ s<sup>-1</sup>, adjustment velocity: 300 m  $\mu$ s<sup>-1</sup>, automatic gain control, scale~~  
2 ~~factor 5000).~~  
3



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3 Figure 5. Photo of angular discontinuity at the wall of the 2010 ice tunnel, as also observed on  
4 the georadar data (Fig. 4). The upper layering is parallel to the surface of Juvfonne.  
5 Radiocarbon dating of the upper part showed modern age. Width of picture is approximately  
6 0.4 m.

7



Figure 6. Photos of Juvfonne 17 September 2014 (apper) and 10 September 2014 (blower) showing the pre ~~'Little Aee Age'~~LIA surface exposed in central and southern parts of the ice patch (left side). The area on Juvfonne in the north-west (right side) is interpreted to be ice of modern age. The entrance of the ice tunnel is sitting on a small ridge that might be ice cored (left side lower image). The collapsed 2010 tunnel is to the left of the entrance. Photo: Glacier Archaeology Program/Oppland County Council (upper) and L. M. Andreassen (lower).



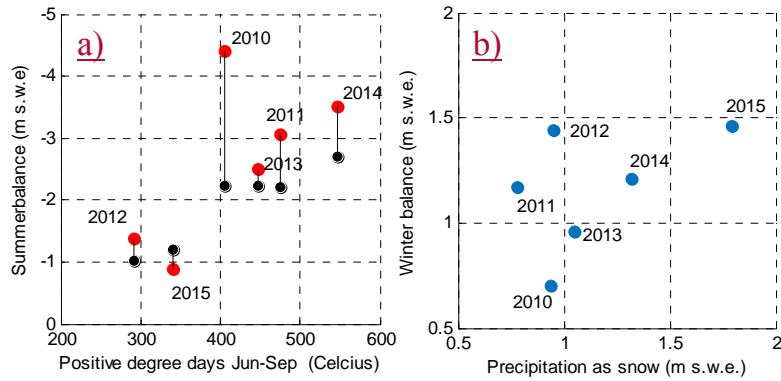


Figure 7. Summer (a) and winter (b) balance plotted against summer temperature (positive degree-days) and estimated precipitation as snow, respectively. For the summer balance, the black markers are calculated melt using a degree-day model with typical values calibrated from nearby glaciers (3.5 mm/°Cday for snow and 7.5 mm/°Cday for ice). Winter precipitation is obtained from seNorge (Engeset et al., 2004).

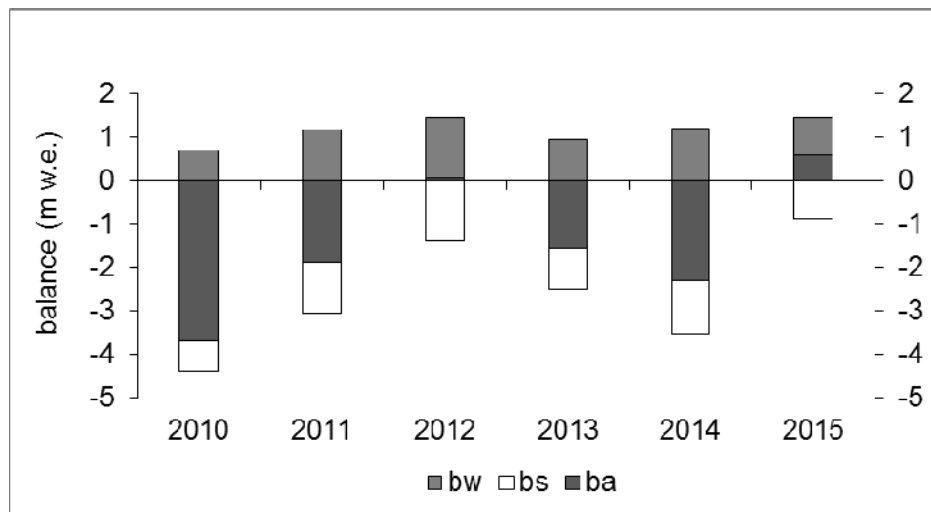
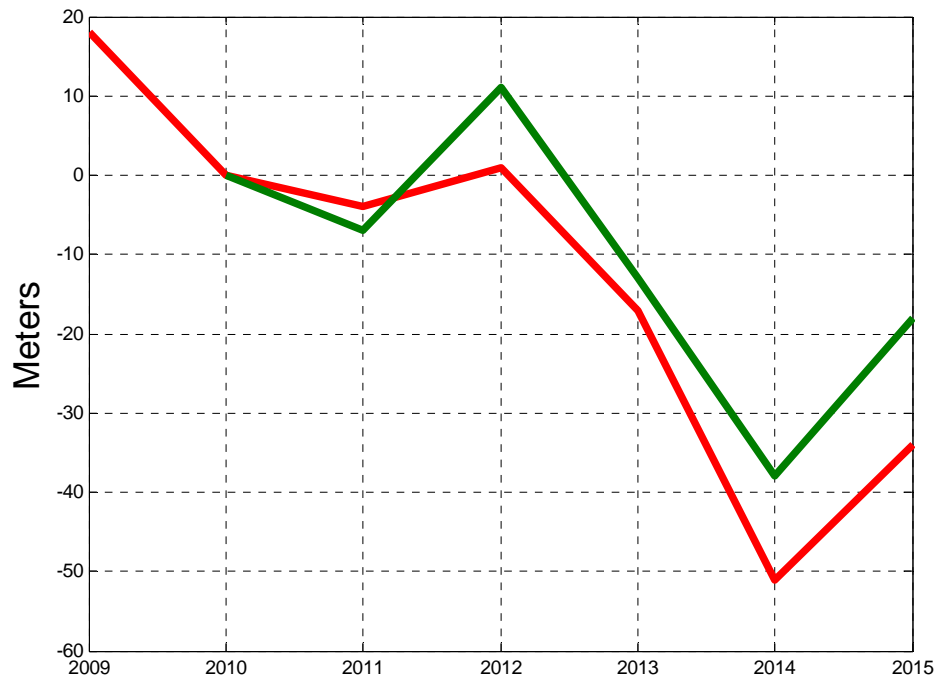


Figure 8. Mass balance measurements at stake J2 on Juvfenne: bw – balance winter, bs – balance summer, ba – annual (net) balance (~~See figure Fig. 3a for position of stake~~).



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3 Figure 9. Front position of Juvfonne measured at two locations relative to the 2010-front.

4 Minima are observed in 2011 and 2014. The front retreat 2009-2014 was measured to 69 m.

5 For position of measurements, see [figure-Fig. 3a](#). Red - JF1, Green – JF2.

6

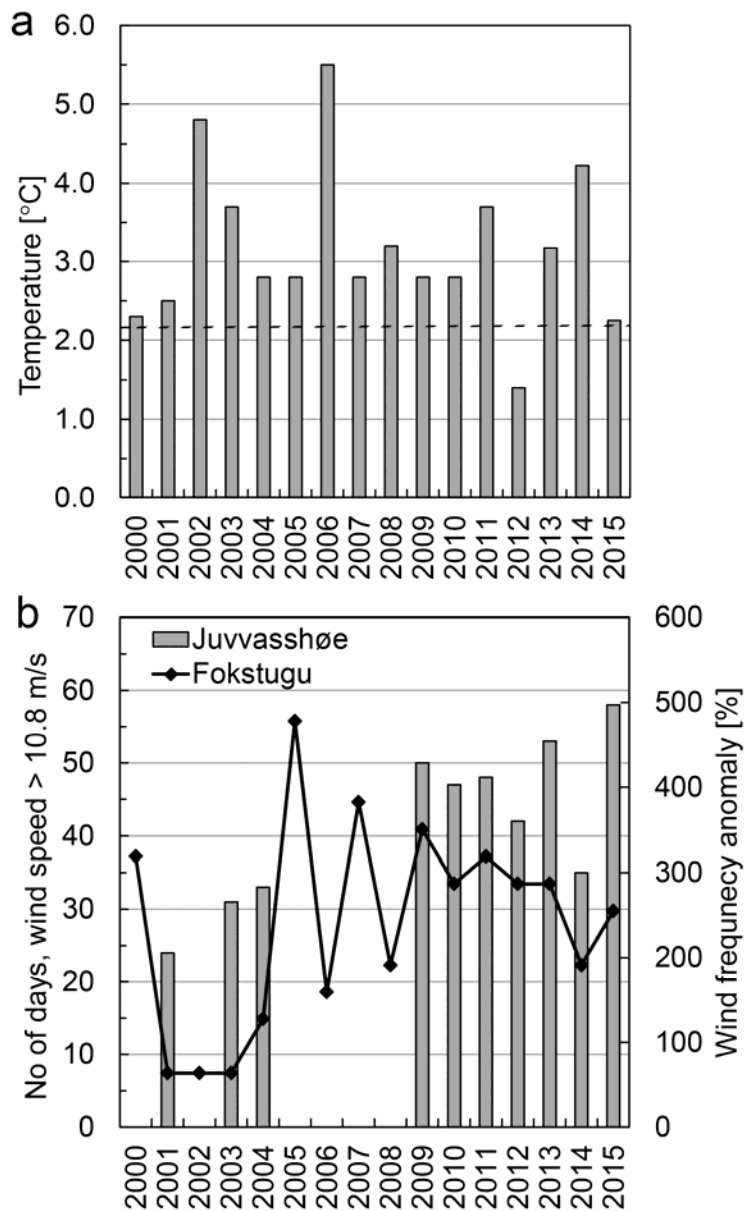


Figure 10. Meteorological data from the station at Juvvasshøe (750 m from the front of Juvfonne) and Fokstugu 70 km NE a) Juvvasshøe June-September mean Air Temperature. The black dotted line denotes the 1971-2000 mean, obtained from the interpolated seNorge dataset (Engeset et al. 2004). b) Number of days for the period June-September with strong breeze or higher (wind speed above 10.8 ms<sup>-1</sup>) at Juvvasshøe (grey bars) and at Fokstugu (black line), the latter shown as anomaly (in %, right axes) with respect to 1971-2000 mean.

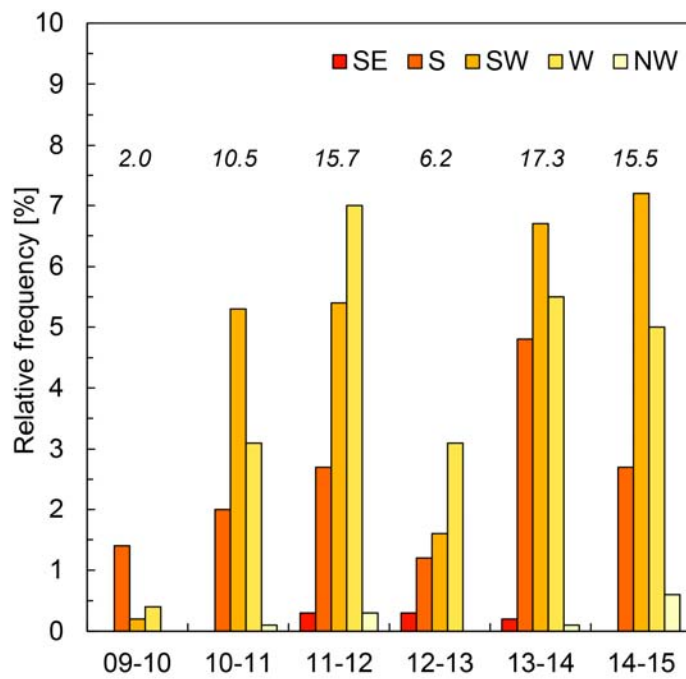


Figure 11. Relative frequency (as percentage of all hourly observations) of strong gale or more ( $\geq 20.8 \text{ ms}^{-1}$ ) at Juvvasshøe during winter (Oct-Apr) 2009-2015 for the wind sectors SE to NW. The values inserted show the total frequency of strong gale or more.

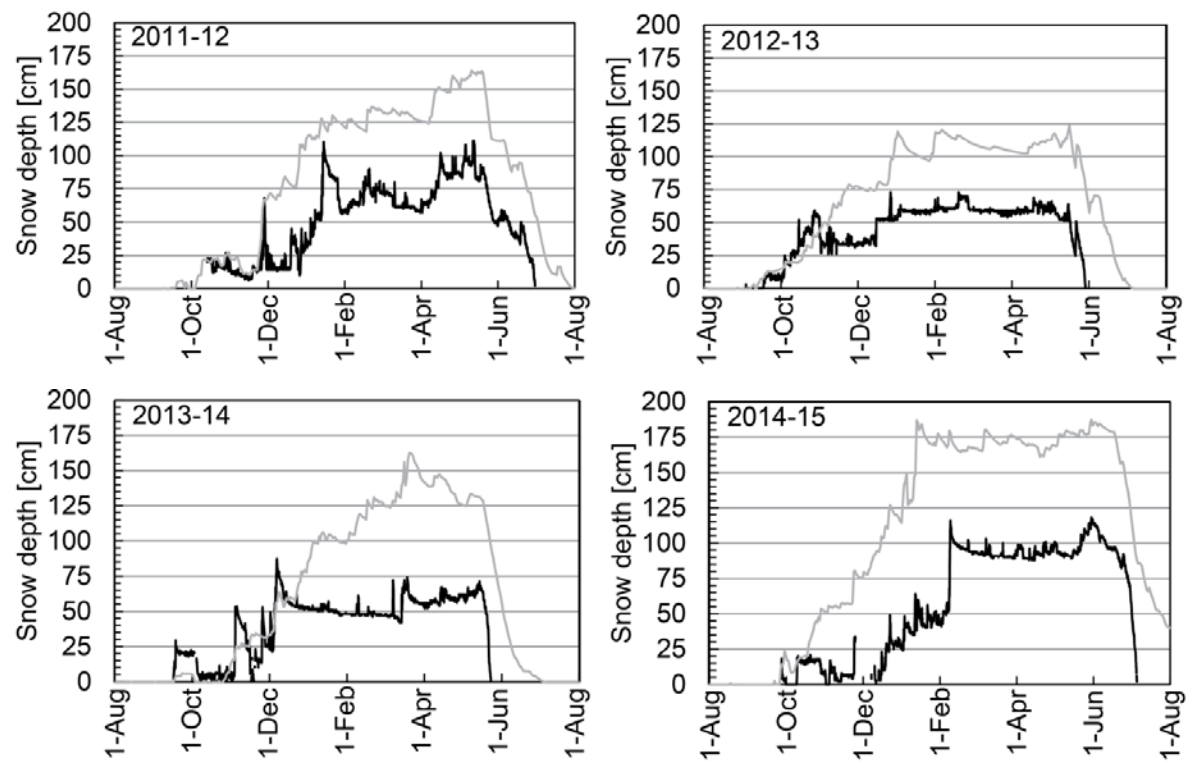
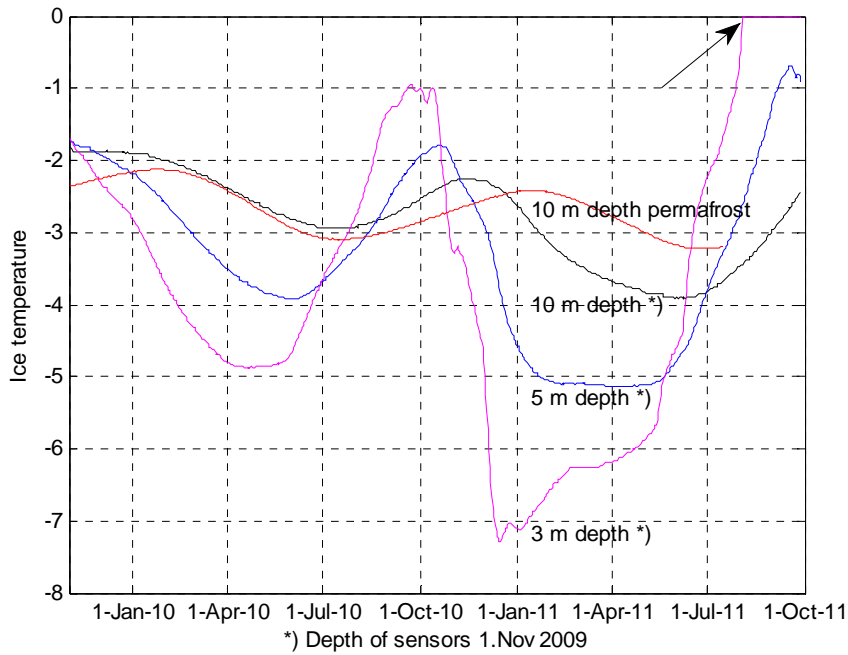
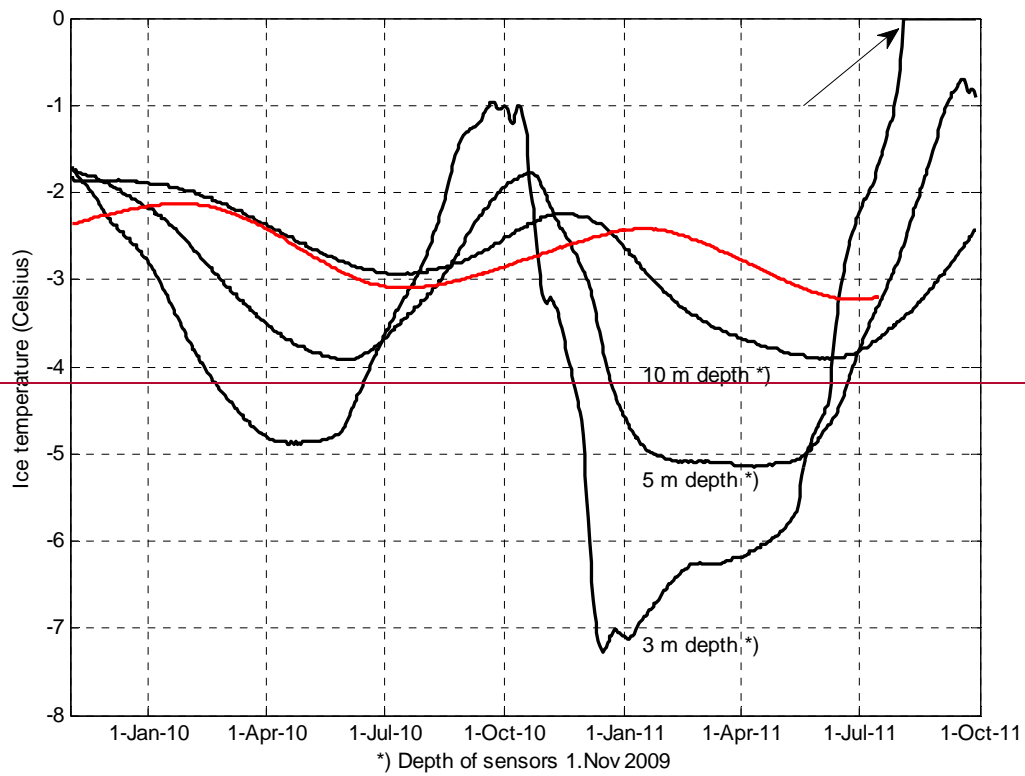


Figure 124. Hourly snow depth measurements (black lines) from the station 95 m from the front of Juvfonne (see Figure 3a for position). Grey lines show modelled daily snow depth from seNorge (Engeset et al. 2004).



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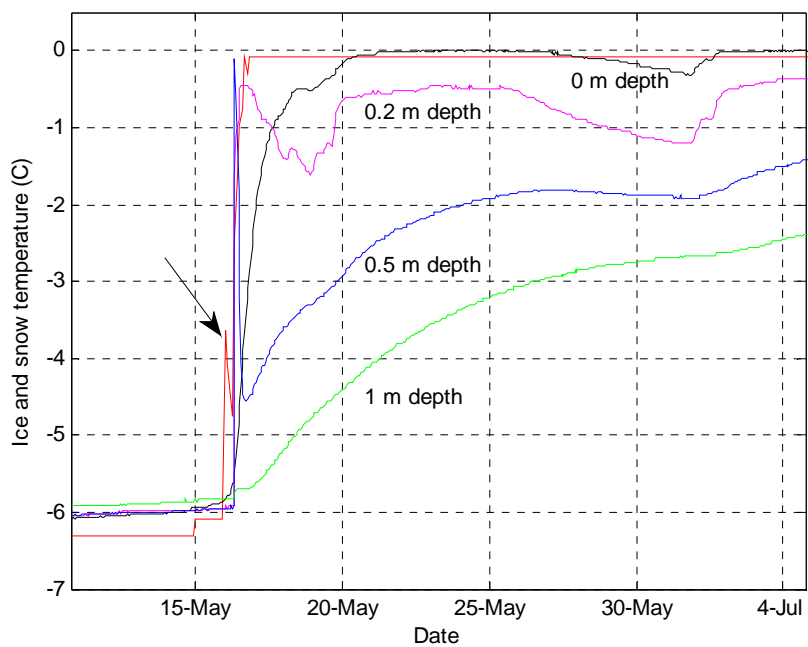


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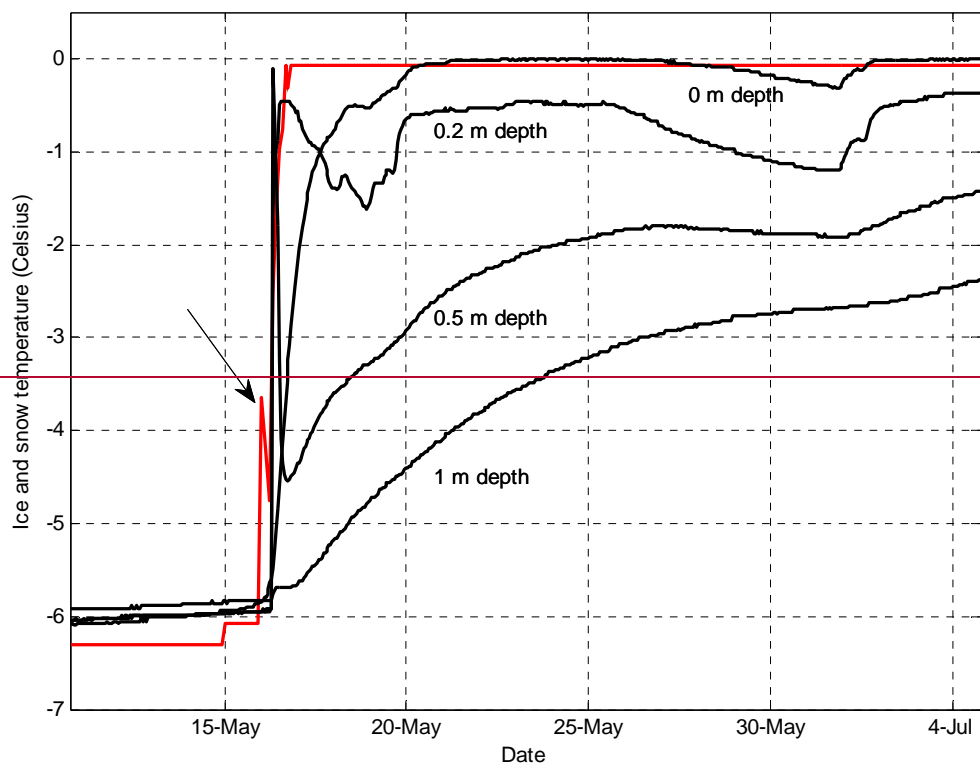
3



1 Figure 132. Temperature for November 2009-September 2011 in a 10 m deep borehole in the  
2 Juvfonne ice patch (see Fig. 3a for position). The red line is the temperature at 10 m depth  
3 in the P31 permafrost borehole 750 m north from the ice patch (see Fig. 2 for location).  
4 Arrow points to the time when the sensor placed at 3 m depth in autumn 2009 melted out. The  
5 entire thermistor string melted out in mid-September 2014.  
6



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1 Figure 143. Plot of temperature measurements in ice and snow at the onset of thaw in May  
2 2010 (position at the thermistor shown in ~~Fig.~~figure 3a). The depth reference is the ice surface  
3 the previous autumn. The red line is the snow temperature 0.25 m from the base of the snow  
4 cover. The arrow point the first signal of surface meltwater refreezing close to the base of the  
5 snow cover.

6

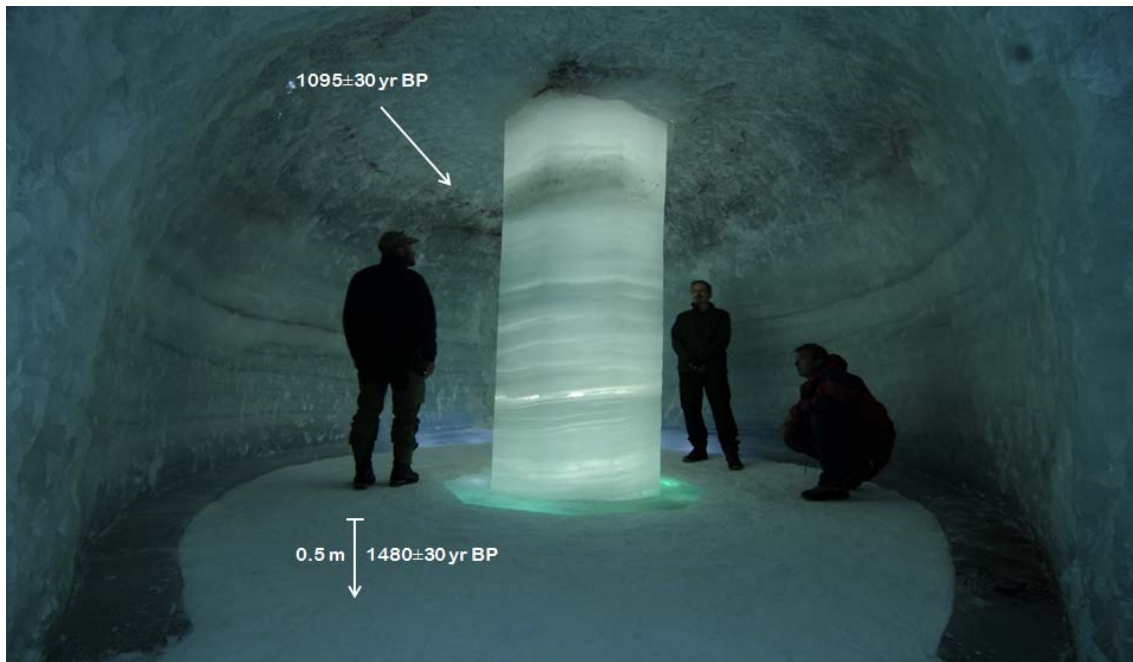


Figure 154. Photo from the old ice tunnel excavated in 2010 showing the layering in the ice and position of two samples for radiocarbon dating. Photo: Klimapark2469 AS.

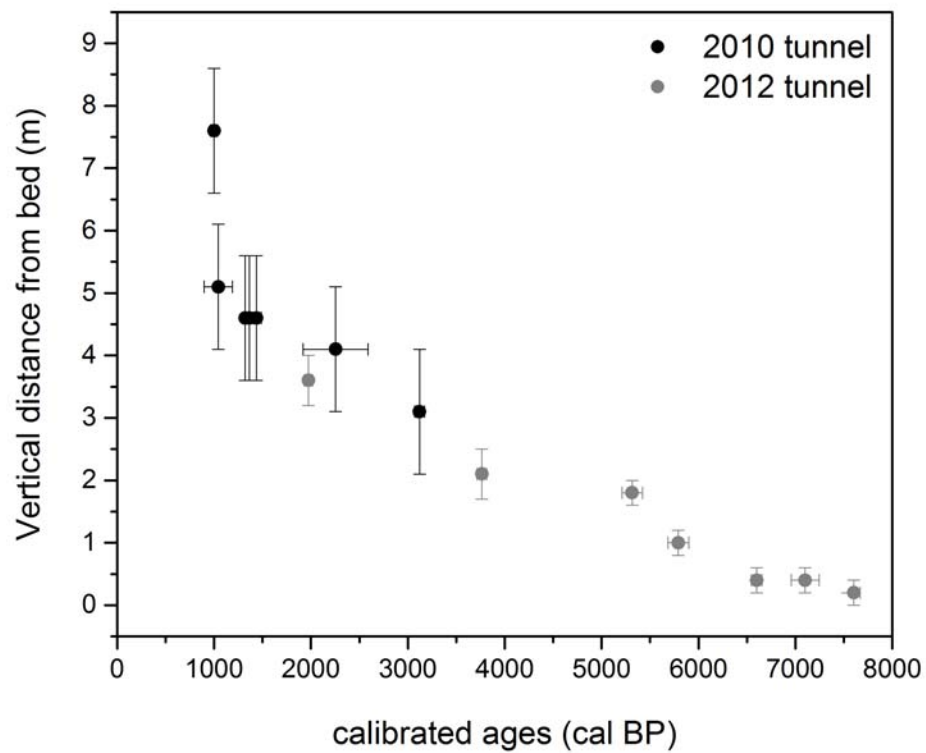


Figure 16. Plot of the samples in Table 2 except samples with modern age. In the inner parts of the 2012 tunnel the bed is partly exposed, which gives good distance to bed estimates. In the 2010 tunnel, the distance estimates depend on the radar data (the old tunnel partly melted out). The horizontal distance between the samples are up to 50 m.

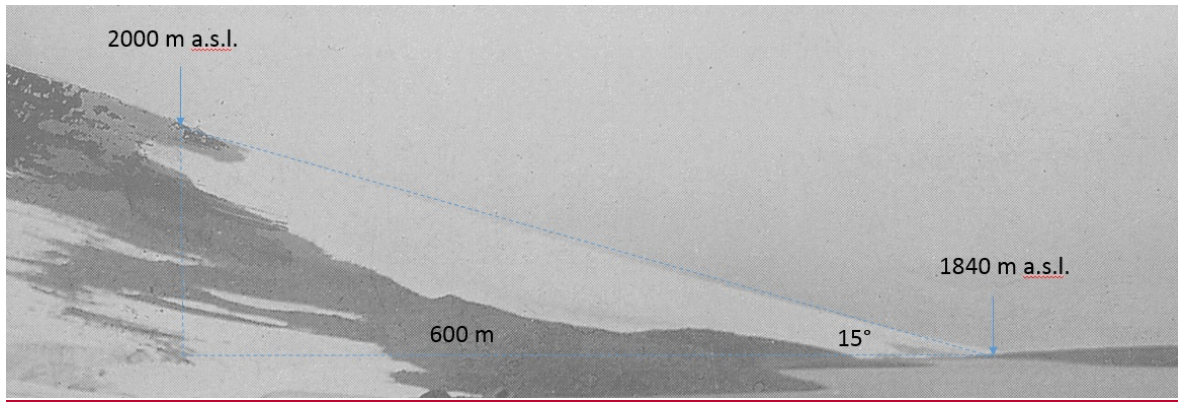


Figure 17. Picture taken from Vesljuvbrea towards NNW showing Juvfonne from around 1900. The surface slope of Juvfonne is approximately  $15^\circ$ . Height and length estimate from map based on position in the picture. The upper and northern part of Juvfonne cannot be seen on the picture.