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Using close -to-daily snowline observations from multi -sensor satellite images to derive glacier melt water contribution to total river runoff

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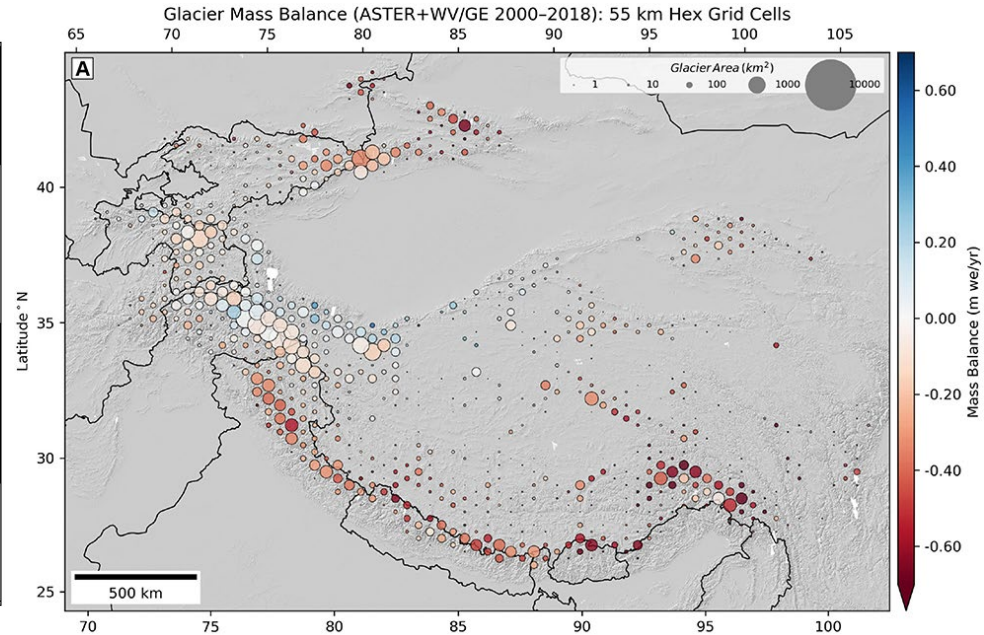
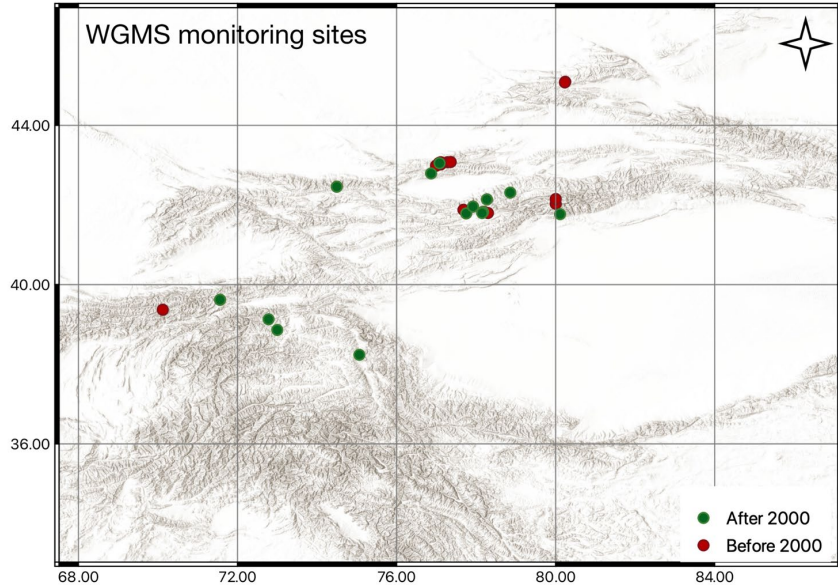
4) Department of Remote Sensing, University of Würzburg, Germany

An aerial photograph of a mountain range. The mountains are rugged and brownish-tan, with deep valleys and ridges. A river valley is visible, with a river winding through it. The surrounding areas are covered in green vegetation. The text is overlaid on the upper right portion of the image.

Glaciers will continue to lose mass at least for several decades even if global temperature would stabilize

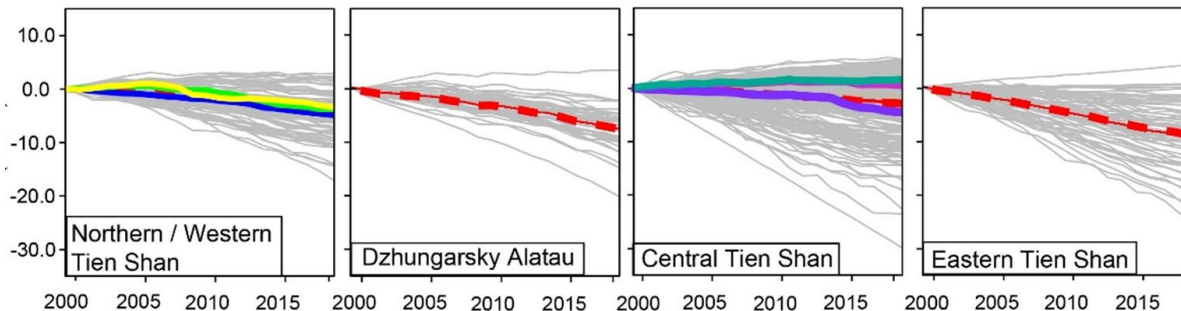
(Climate Change 2021, The Physical Science Basis, IPCC)

Glaciological & geodetic measurements

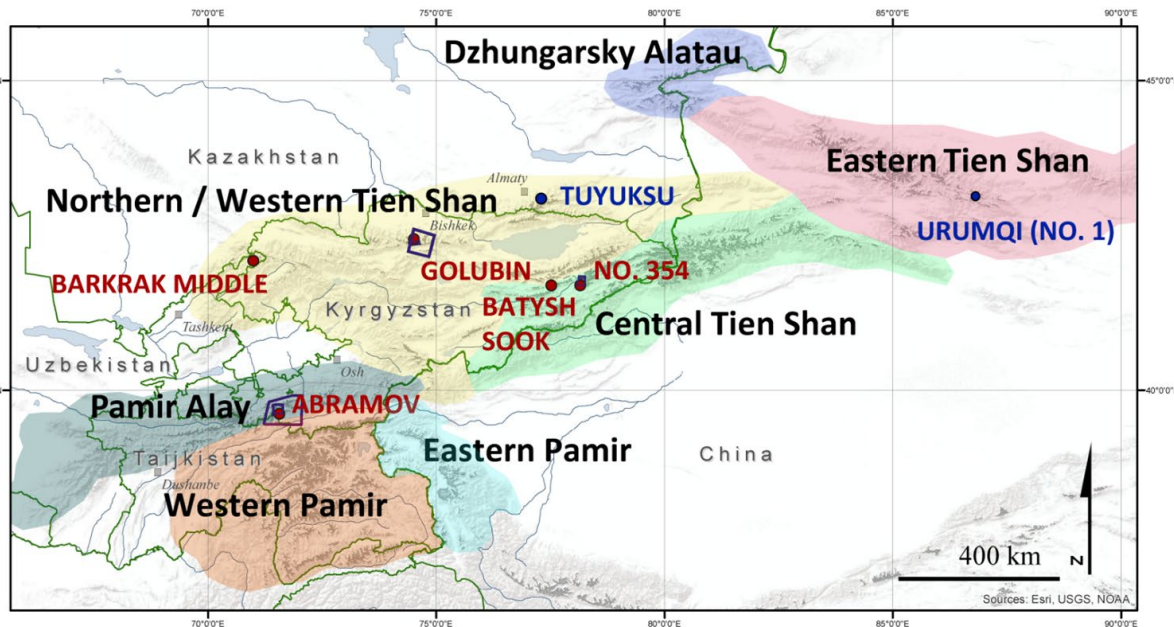
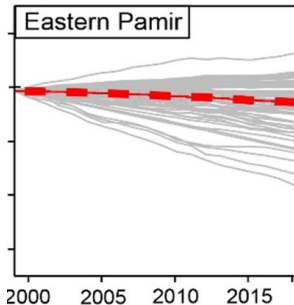
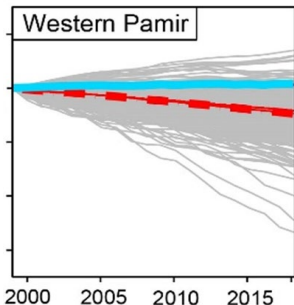
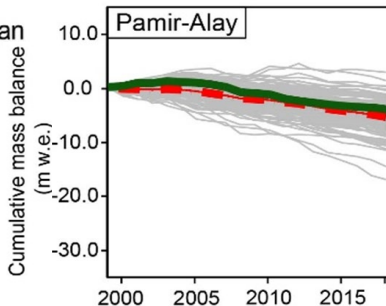


Shean et al. 2020

Representativeness

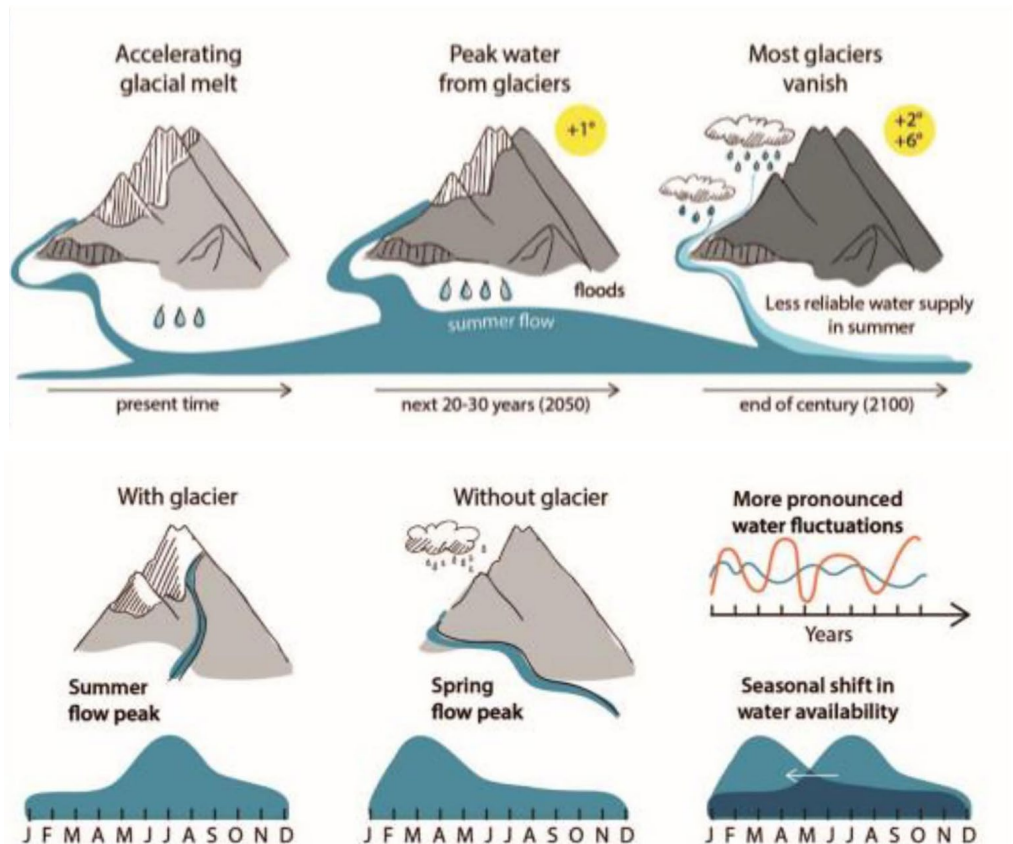


- TSL model
- Regional mean
- Abramov
- Zulmart
- Golubin
- Tuyuksu
- Barkrak
- No. 354
- Sary-Tor
- Karabatkak



Barandun et al. 2021

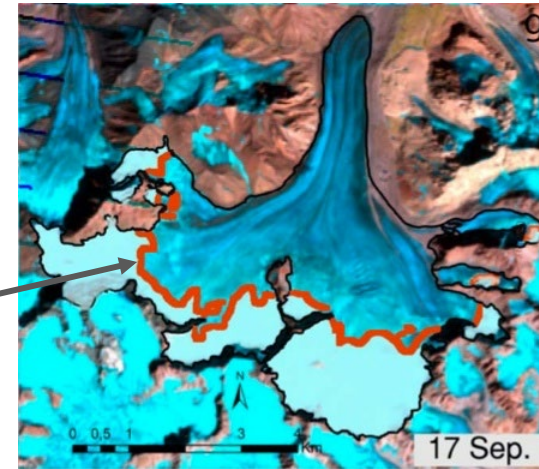
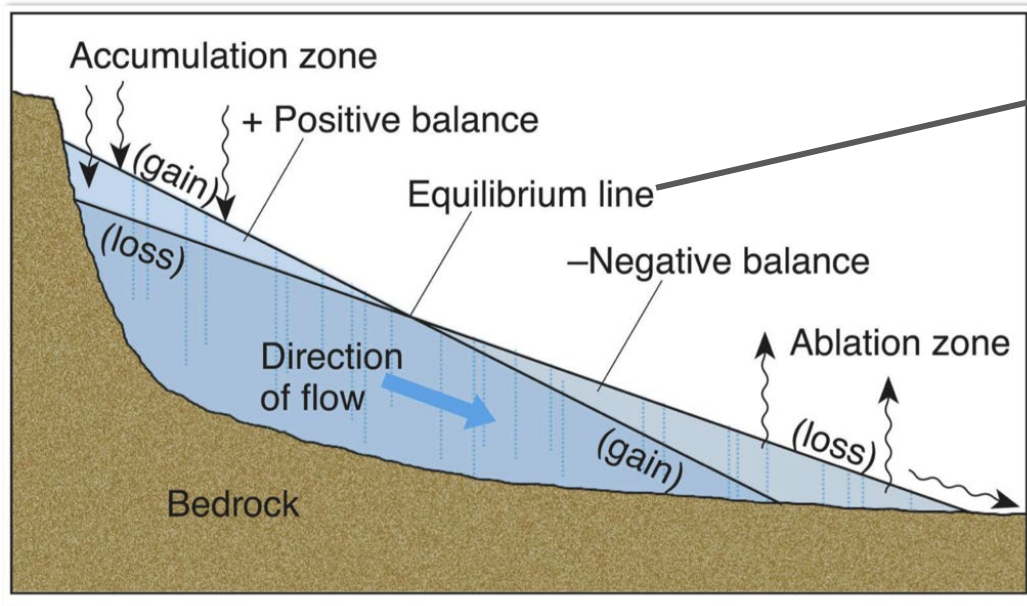
Toward sub -seasonal estimates



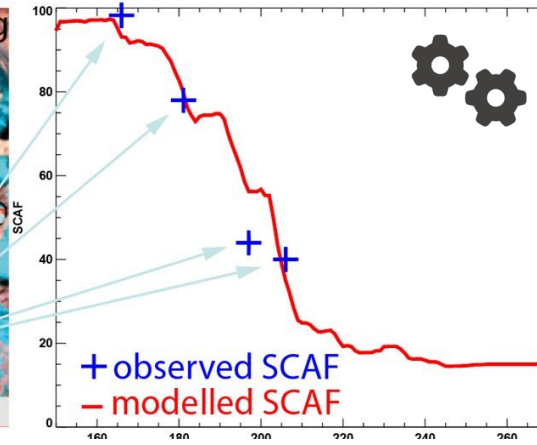
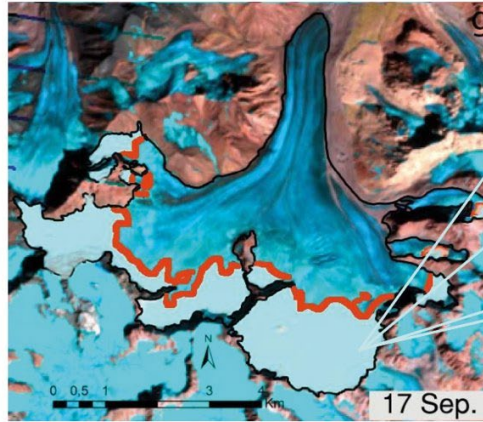
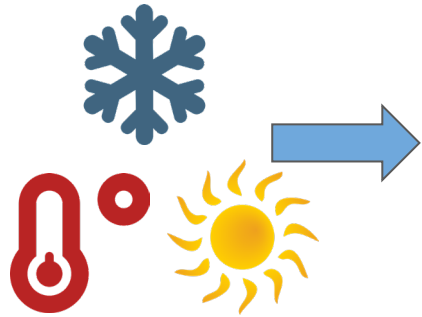
Credits: Zoï Environment Network, Geneva

Transient snowline as a proxy for mass balance

Østrem, 1973; Dyurgerov et al., 1994; Hock, 2007

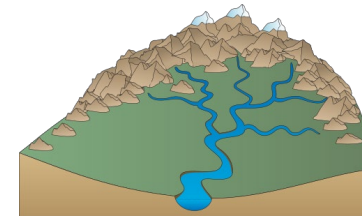
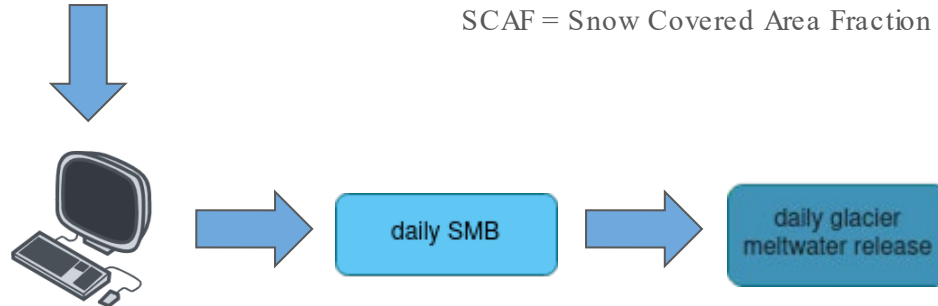


openAmundsen constrained by TSL



Calibration after Barandun et al. 2018 & 2021

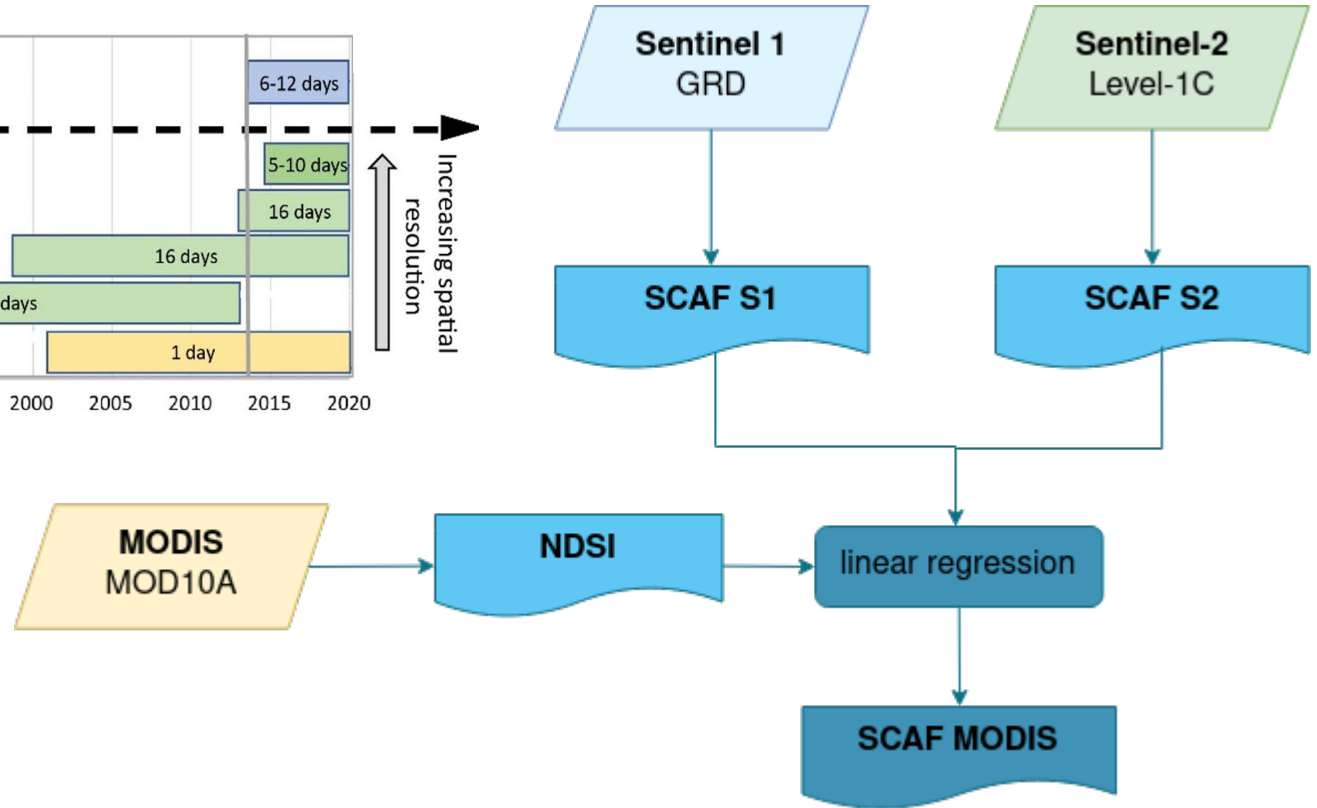
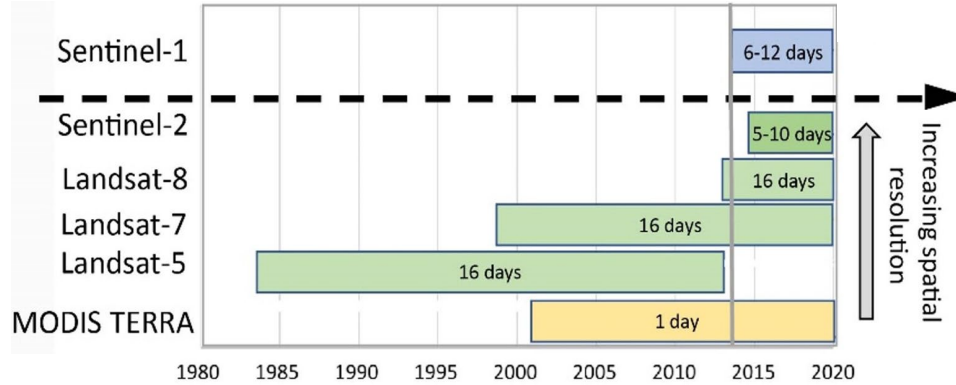
SCAF = Snow Covered Area Fraction



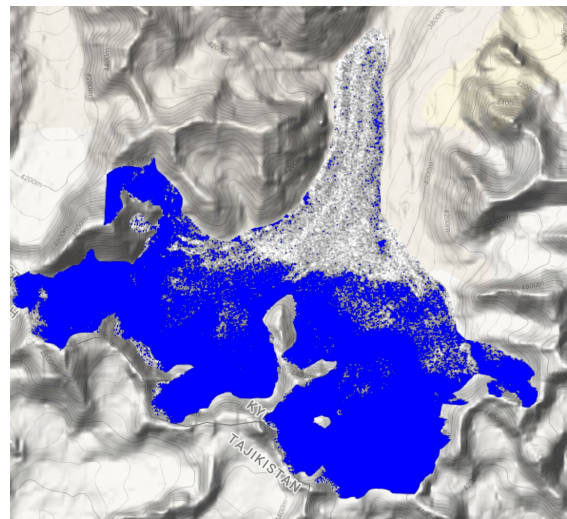
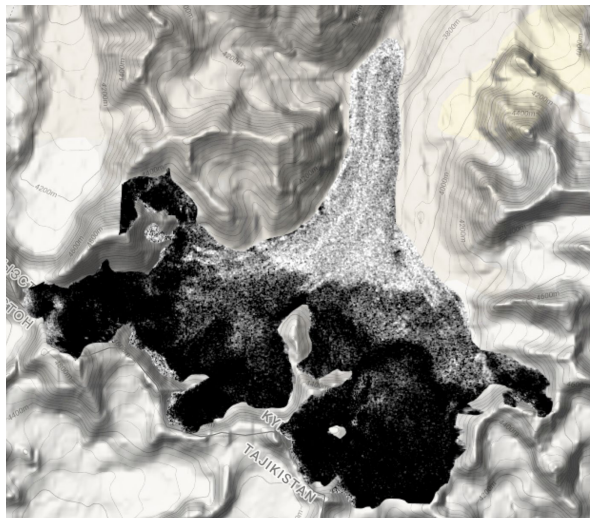
source: pyi.org/project/openamundsen/



Methodology



SAR wet snow classification



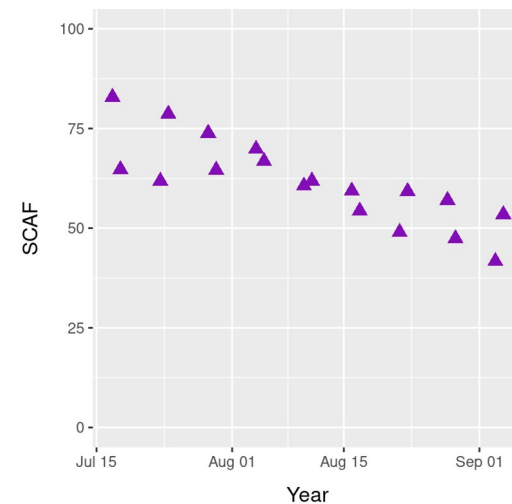
Nagler's Method:

$$R_{VV} = \sigma_{\text{snow}}^{0\text{VV}} - \sigma_{\text{ref}}^{0\text{VV}}$$

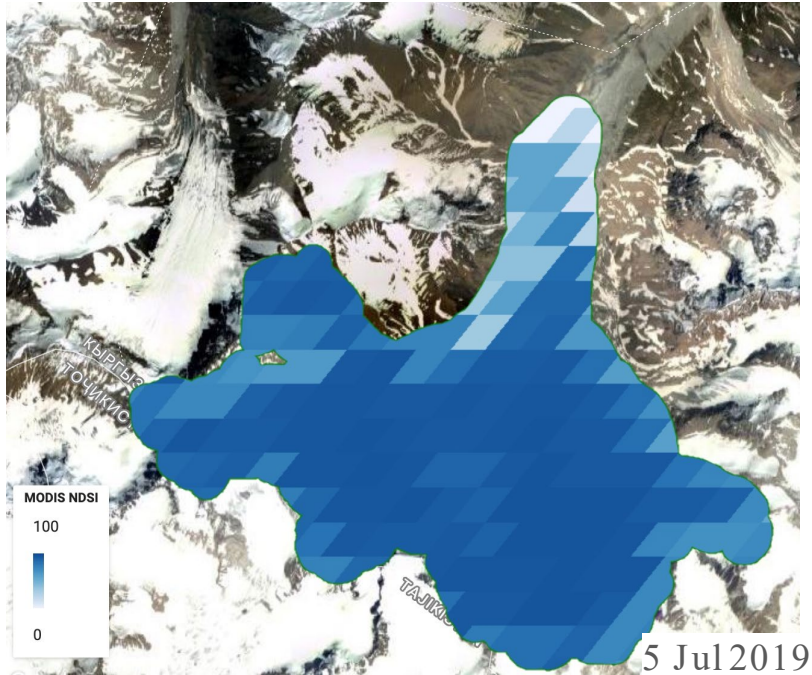
$$R_{VH} = \sigma_{\text{snow}}^{0\text{VH}} - \sigma_{\text{ref}}^{0\text{VH}}$$

$$R = (R_{VV} + R_{VH})/2$$

2019 Abramov Glacier Sentinel 2 SCAF



MODIS mean NDSI

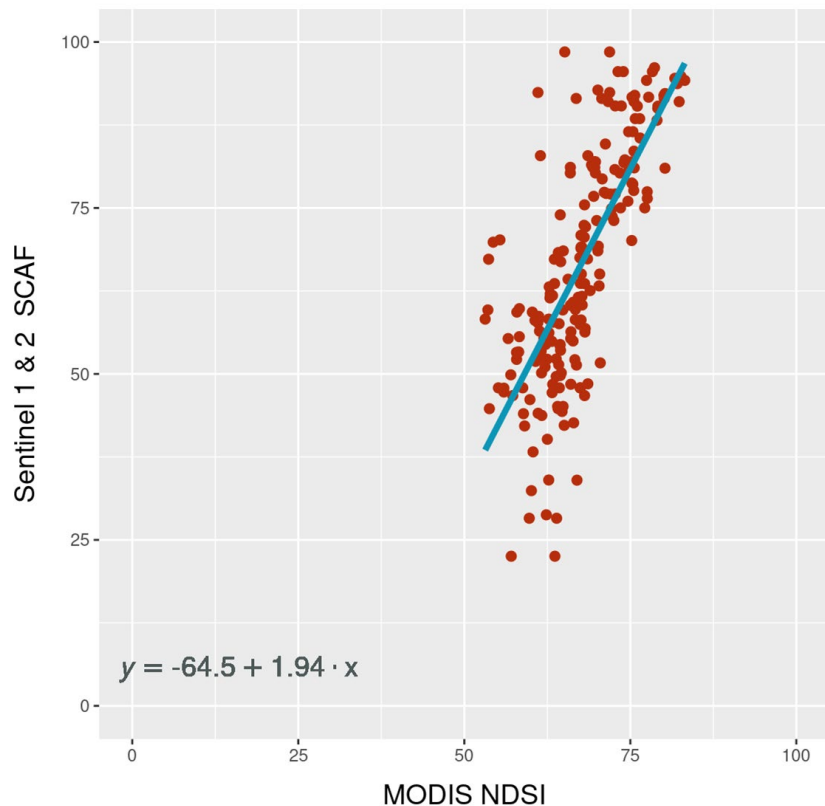


MOD10A NDSI Snow Cover

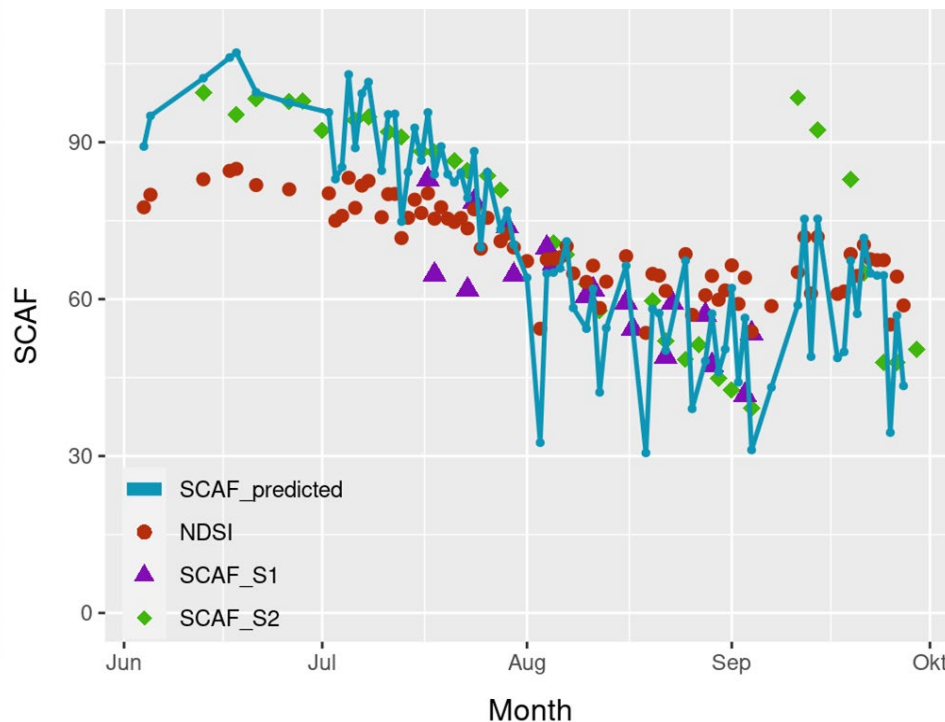
$$\text{NDSI} = \frac{B4 - B6}{B4 + B6}$$

Temporal gap-filling

SCAF correlation & regression result

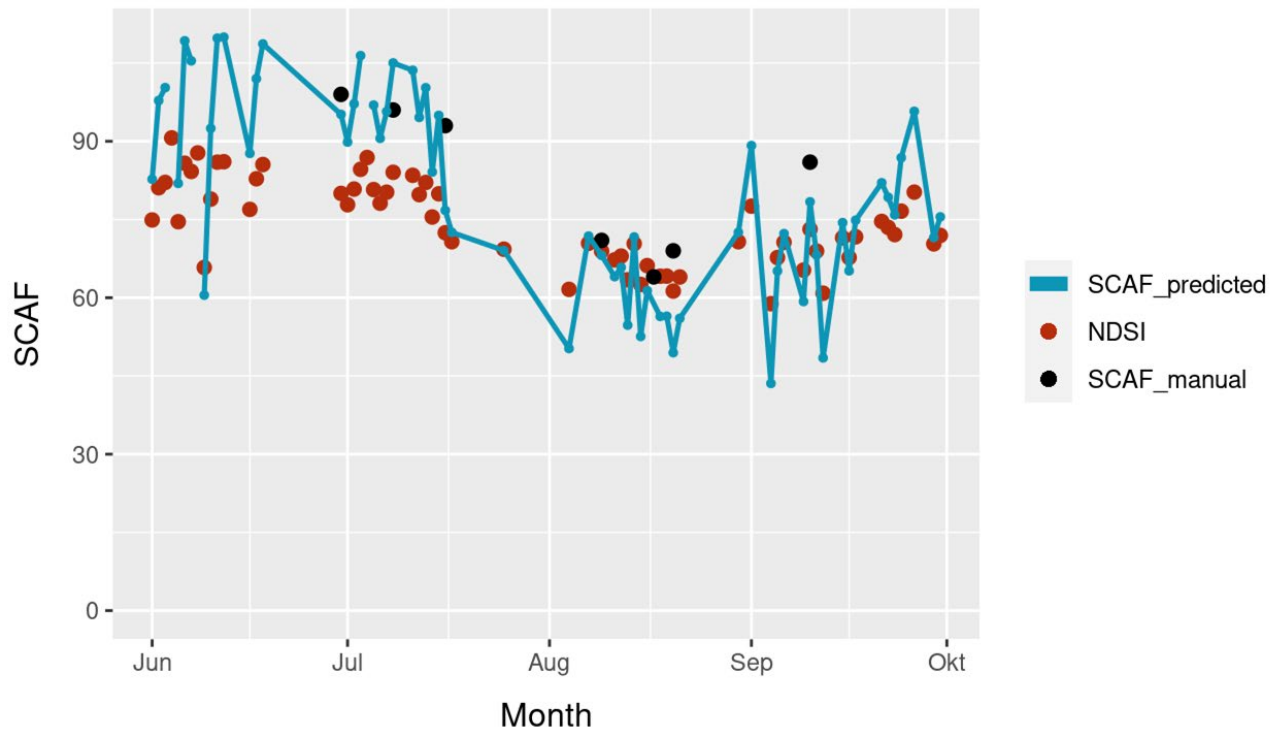


2019 Abramov Glacier SCAF Regression



SCAF validation

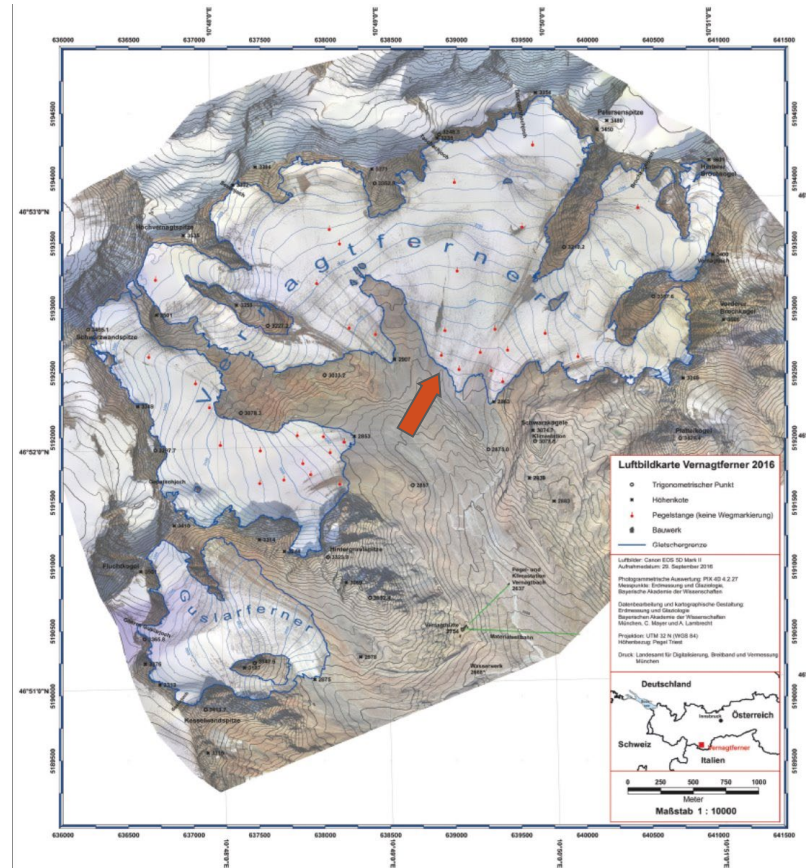
2015 Abramov Glacier SCAF Regression



openAmundsen: calibration & validation



Smart Stake

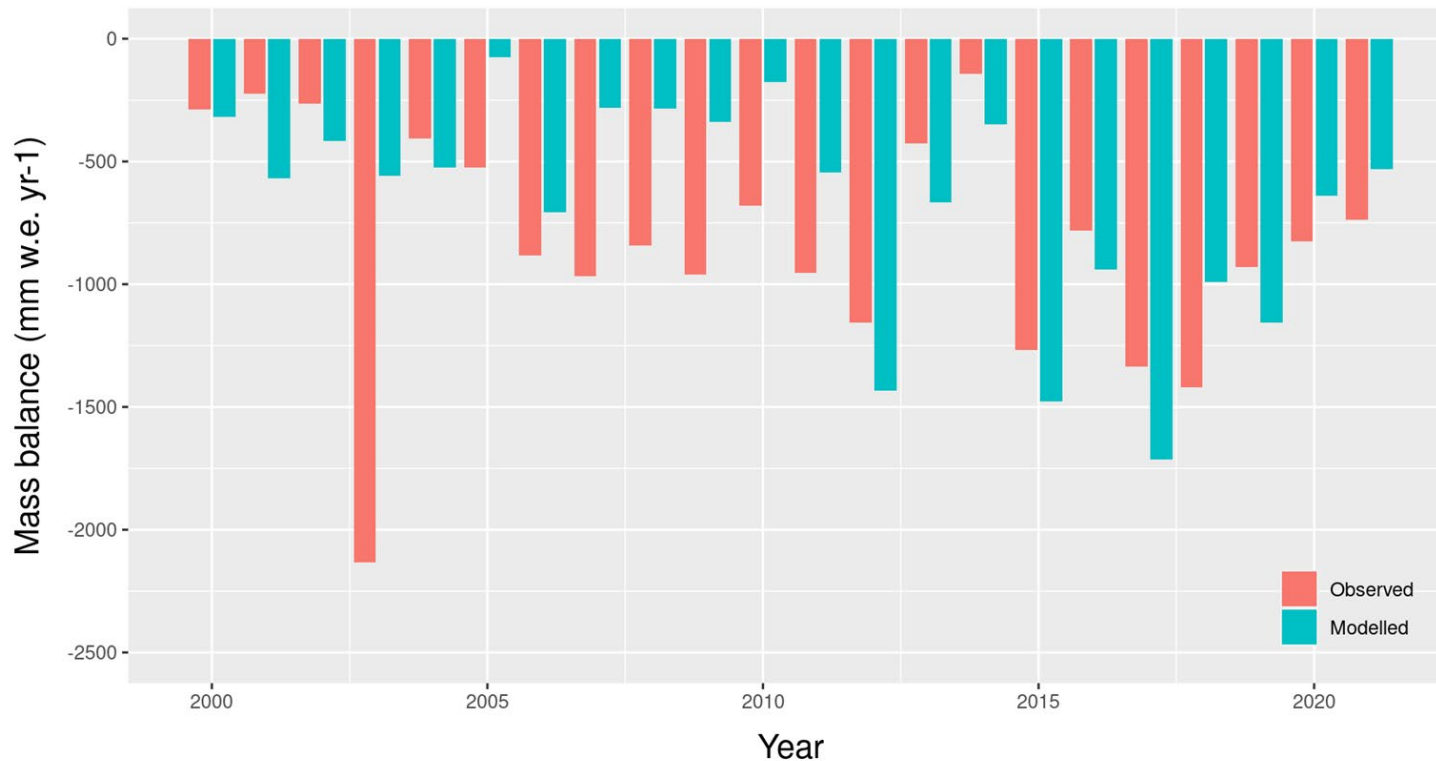


Electronic Stake

Photo: M. Barandun

Preliminary results

2000-2021 Vernagtferner Surface Mass Balance



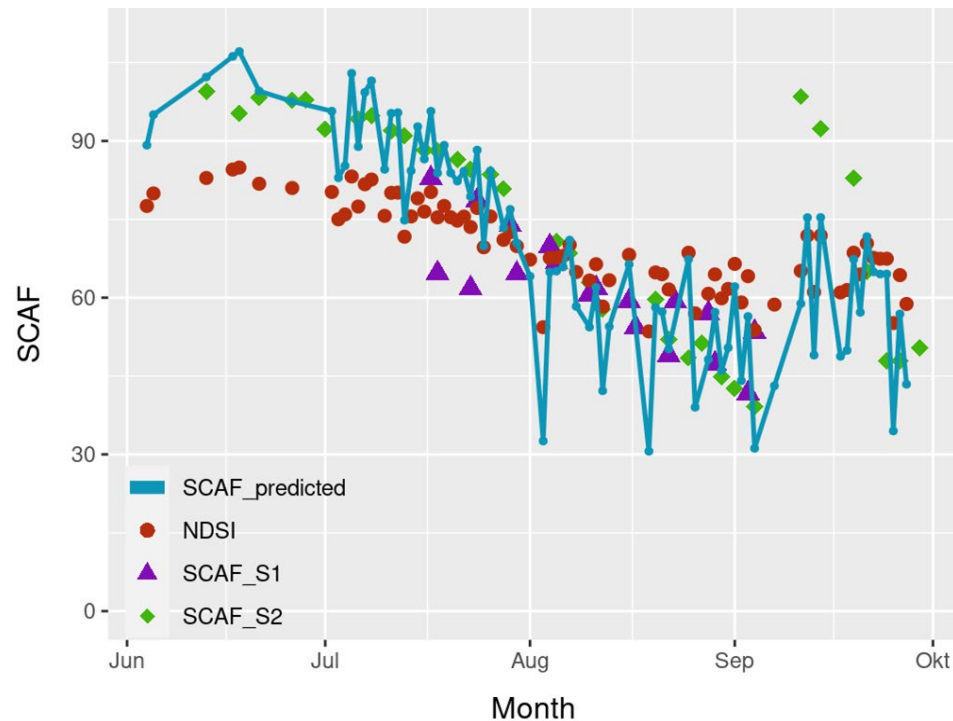
Limitations

- Sentinel-2 SVM classification training dataset
- Sentinel-1 unable to detect the end of ablation season
- Agreement is limited in observed and modelled SMB in earlier years

Conclusion

- Snowline derived from multi-source satellite observations used for mass balance model calibration

2019 Abramov Glacier SCAF Regression



Thank you!

