

November 2022 – April 2023 Arctic Seasonal Review



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WMO OMM

World Meteorological Organization
Organisation météorologique mondiale



Content of seasonal review

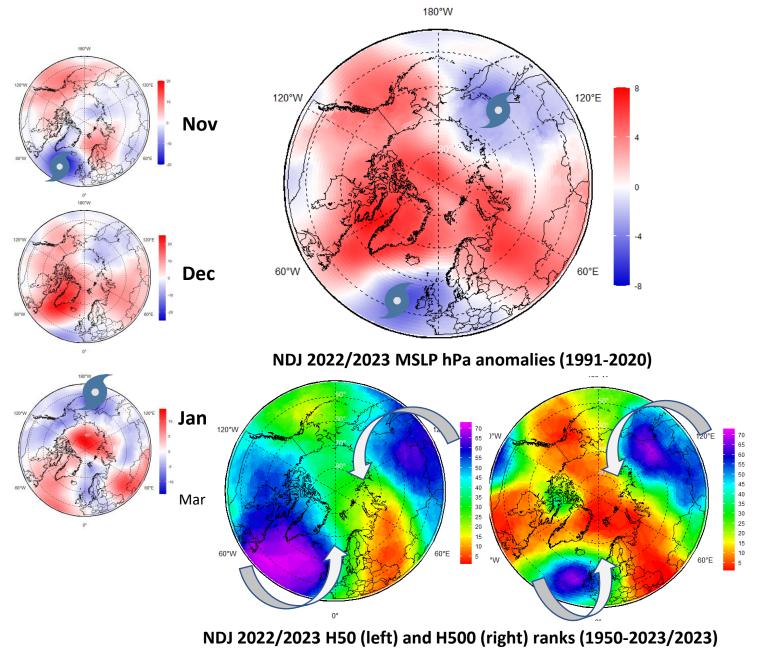
Review for NDJFMA (November 2022 April 2023)
☐ Atmosphere:
Atmospheric circulation
Surface air temperature – anomalies, ranks by Arctic regions
Precipitation – anomalies by Arctic regions
☐ Sea ice:
Precursors in atmosphere and polar ocean
Ice extent – anomalies by regions
Ice conditions including February – March 2022 winter maximum
Sea ice thickness and volume variability
☐ Polar Ocean:
Heat content, waves and swell height (storminess) - anomalies
pH (acidification/alkalization estimates) - anomalies
☐ Land hydrology:
river discharge – anomalies
snow extent – anomalies and ranks
☐ Bioclimatic weather severity (introduction to particular report by Anastassiya Revina and Svetlana Emelina
Briefs for May 2023: SAT, winds, precipitation, sea ice, snow

Majority of the described parameters are the WMO accepted Essential Climate Variables (ECV). Anomalies based both on reanalysis and surface observations are given relative to the latest 3rd WMO period 1991-2020 while ranks are given for 1950...2022/2023 period.

<u>Atmosphere</u>

- Precursors: atmospheric circulation
- Surface air temperature
- Precipitation

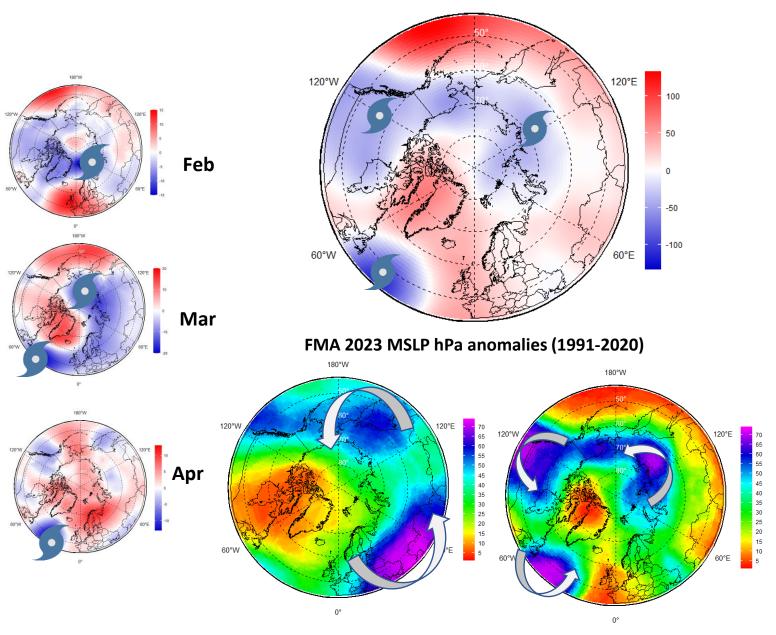
Atmospheric circulation: NDJ 2022/2023



- ❖ During November 2022 January 2023 (NDJ) a bi-center polar vortex (dark violet, 50hPa and 500hPa geopotential height patterns) was observed with centers over the N Atlantic and the Eastern Siberia with a blocking atmospheric crest in between. That led to prevalence of meridian circulation (transfer south/north) in the troposphere over W Siberian and Canadian regions and zonal one over other parts of the Arctic
- ❖ For the surface atmosphere that meant predominance of negative mean sea level atmospheric pressure (MSLP) anomalies (lower pressure, marked in blue) and cyclonic activity over the southern Nordic, E Siberian regions.
- Opposite situation (higher pressure, marked in red) was observed over Alaska, Canada, Greenland, northern Nordic and W Siberia regions

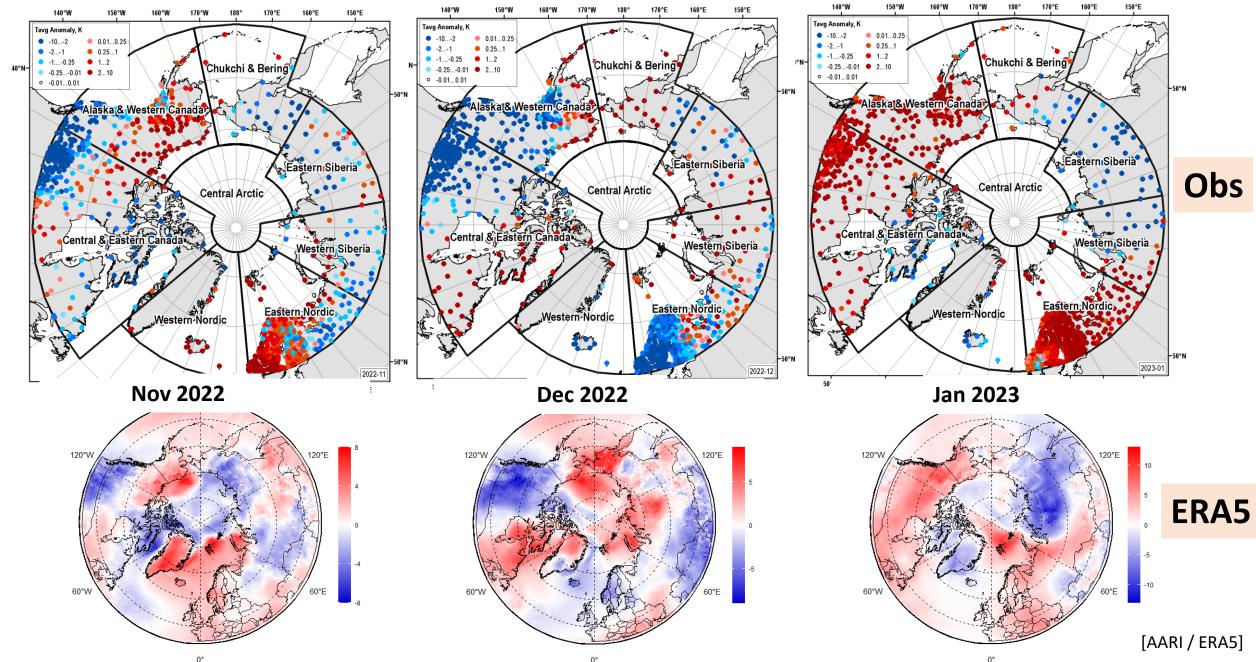
[AARI / CCCS ERA

Atmospheric circulation: FMA 2023

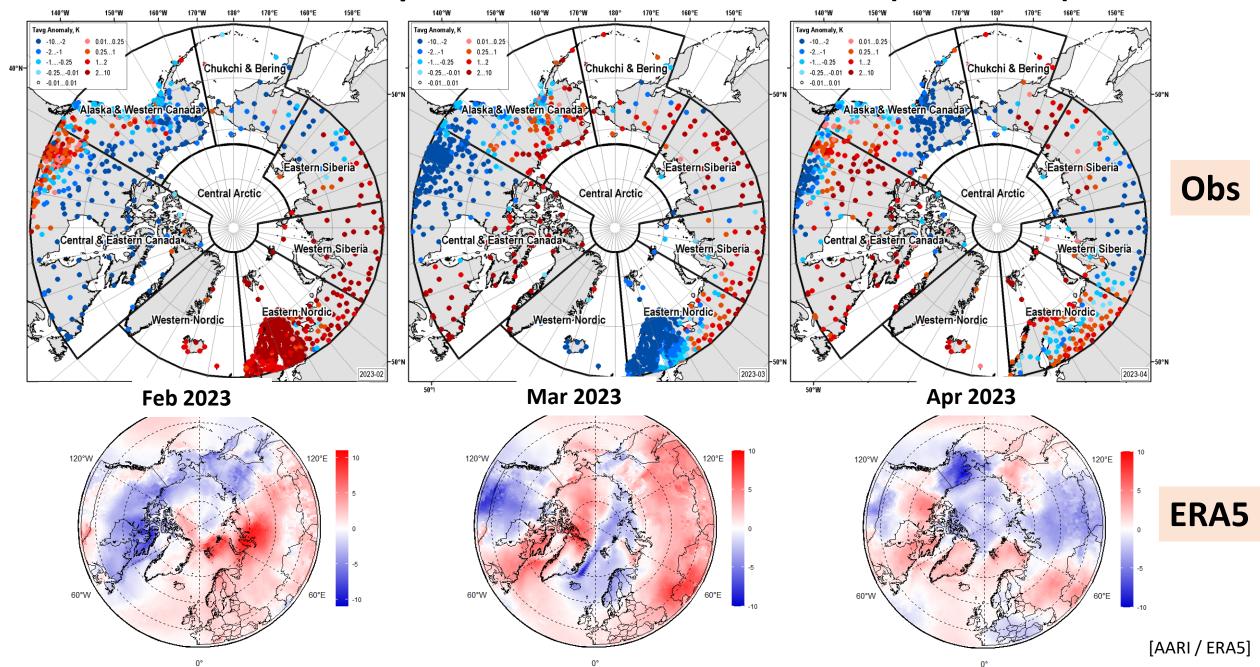


- Further in season during February-April (FMA) 2023 bi-and tri-center polar vortex shifted to American side with centers over the Laptev Sea, central Canada and North Atlantic causing in general zonal circulation both in Siberia and Canada regions.
- Monthly patterns of the surface atmosphere circulation were fully different in February, March and April with negative MSLP anomalies - cyclonic activity over the whole Eurasian Arctic or Canadian Arctic.
- Blocking positive MSLP anomalies were observed in April from Nordic and W Siberia to Bering Sea.

Surface air temperature: NDJ 2022-2023 anomalies (1991-2020)



Surface air temperature: FMA 2023 anomalies (1991-2020)



Surface air temperature:

AARI / ERA5]

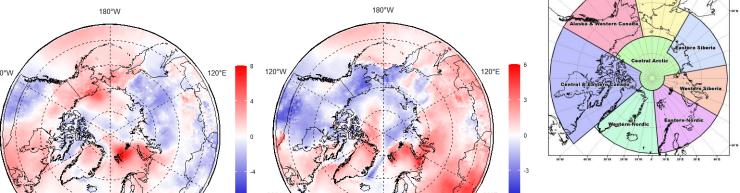
NDJ 2022/2022 and FMA 2023 anomalies and ranks (ERA5)

Nov 2022 - Apr 2023 anomalies and ranks (1093 st.)

Anomalies relative to: 1991-2020

Ranks: based on 1950-2022/2023

Year min/max: based on 1900-2022/2023



NDJ 2022-2023	FMA 2023 ank	Anominank rearmin rearmax)
	1 200	Anom(Rank Yearmin Yearmax)
60°E	0 4 60°W	Western Nordic Western Nordic O Western Nordic O O O O O O O O O O O O O

Region	Alaska & W Canada	Central & E Canada		
2022-11	0.32 (37 2006 1979)	-2.17 (44 1985 1917)		
2022-12	-2.31 (55 1933 1913)	-3.27 (53 1933 1930)		
2023-01	3.47 (11 1909 1981)	3.46 (4 1950 1931)		
2023-02	-1.40 (48 1904 1920)	-0.49 (24 1979 1931)		
2023-03	-0.25 (41 2007 1915)	-2.02 (37 1964 2010)		
2023-04	-2.96 (66 1972 1940)	-0.73 (28 1954 1915)		
NDJ 2022/2023	0.44 (30 1946 1913)	-0.81 (24 1949 1930)		
FMA 2023	-1.64 (54 1972 1906)	-1.89 (40 1948 1915)		
Region	Western Nordic	Eastern Nordic		
2022-11	2.01 (4 1971 1941)	1.32 (16 1902 2020)		
2022-12	-3.23 (72 1965 1933)	-1.19 (38 1915 2006)		
2023-01	-2.27 (59 1959 1933)	2.86 (4 1987 2020)		
2023-02	1.50 (17 1969 1932)	3.02 (9 1966 1990)		
2023-03	-1.80 (57 1967 1929)	-2.01 (51 1942 2007)		

3.19 (2|1983|1926)

-1.06 (49 | 1965 | 1933)

-0.01 (29 | 1929 | 2011)

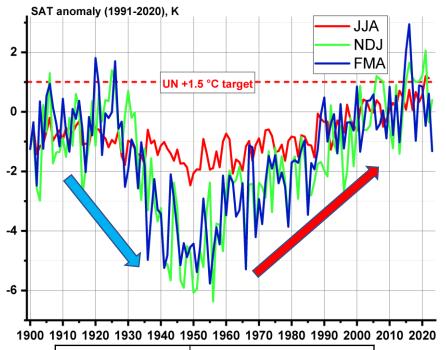
1.03 (14|2023|2011)

	FMA 2023	0.77 (17 1969 1929)	-1.01 (38 1917 1990)
Region	Western Siberia	Eastern Siberia	Chukchi & Bering
2022-11	-0.44 (38 1968 2020)	-1.04 (35 1982 2020)	-0.65 (25 1905 1919)
2022-12	2.47 (19 1968 1913)	0.51 (30 1907 2013)	3.05 (10 1993 1911)
2023-01	0.46 (25 1969 2007)	-5.47 (70 1900 2007)	1.01 (32 1910 1926)
2023-02	6.72 (4 1966 2020)	-0.11 (31 1900 1934)	-1.28 (40 1902 1926)
2023-03	2.31 (10 1960 2017)	1.97 (15 1942 2017)	0.81 (16 1901 1926)
2023-04	-1.83 (43 1984 1995)	-0.38 (24 1956 1920)	0.97 (15 1976 1926)
NDJ 2022/2023	0.88 (22 1968 1936)	-1.81 (50 2023 1924)	1.18 (14 1994 1925)
FMA 202	2.43 (6 1966 2020)	0.32 (17 1966 1920)	0.08 (19 1902 1926)

2023-04

NDJ 2022/2023

Surface air temperature

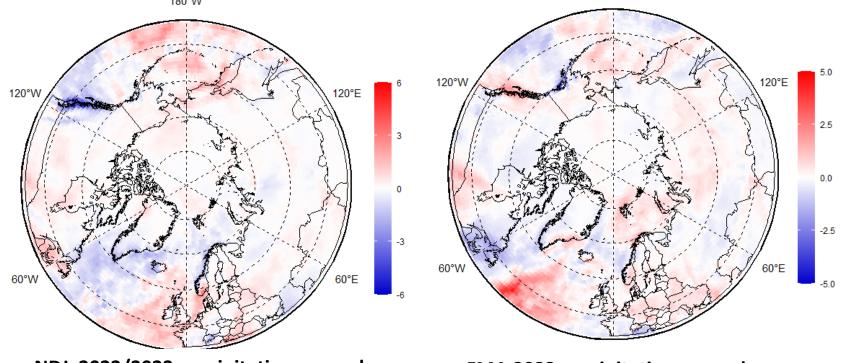


7.0 1020 1000 1010 1000 1010 1000 1000 2000				
Region	Arctic total			
2022-11	0.11 (17 1955 1924)			
2022-12	-1.57 (34 1955 2006)			
2023-01	2.75 (1 1950 1926)			
2023-02	1.01 (8 1936 2016)			
2023-03	-1.15 (35 1942 1926)			
2023-04	-1.78 (41 1956 2016)			
NDJ 2022/2023	0.40 (14 1955 2020)			
FMA 2023	-1.32 (38 1955 2016)			

Anom(Rank|Yearmin|Yearmax)

- ❖ The start of winter 2022 (November-December) surface air temperature showed prominent positive anomalies in W Nordic (4th in row) and Chukchi&Bering (10th in row) and negative Alaska (55th in row), Central&Eastern Canada (53rd in row) and Western Nordic (72nd in row) anomalies (to 3rd WMO reference period 1991-2020, ranks for 1950-2022 observation period).
- ❖ During mid-winter (January-February 2023) strong positive anomalies were observed over Alaska&W Canada (11th in row), Central and E Canada (4th in row), Eastern Nordic (4th and 9th in row), W Siberia (4th in row) with negative anomalies observed over W Nordic region (59th in row) and E Siberia (70th in row).
- ❖ Further by the end of winter in March April 2023 both negative and positive anomalies were observed over W Nordic (57th and 2nd in row), negative over Alaska &W Canada (66th in row) and E Nordic regions (57th and 51st in row) and positive over W Siberia (10th in row).
- ❖ Due to lack of surface marine observations conclusions for the Central Arctic, done on reanalysis, include partly colder conditions in November but warmer in December 2022 and predominantly colder during February – April 2023.
- For the whole land Arctic extremely warmer conditions were observed in January and lesser extreme in February 2023 with preliminary ranks 1st (from 1950) and 8th in row, though large regional and inner season variations and changes in anomaly sign did occur.
- ❖ Centennial long analysis show that extreme negative anomalies (to 1991-2020 period) in general occurred in mid 20th century with comparable to current decade positive anomalies occurred in 1910-1920s but that is again NOT the SAME for all of the Artic subregions. Though positive trends from 1940s-1950s are obvious, the quantitive estimates depend on the WMO reference period chosen, density and subset of the stations chosen for the analyzed subregion, in particular for the marine Arctic.

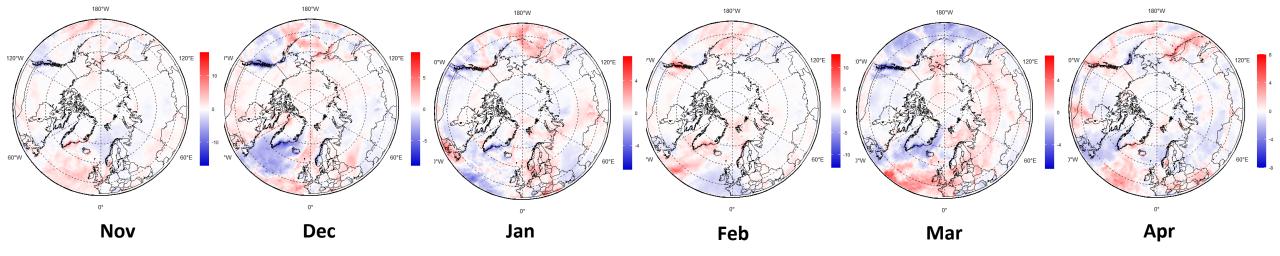
Surface precipitation: monthly NDJFMA 2022/2023 anomalies (1991-2020)



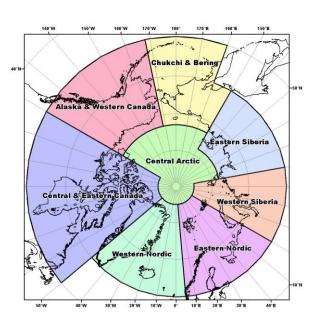
- In general, during the whole season wetter (snowy) conditions occurred in parts of Canadian, Alaska, Bering & Chukchi regions
- Drier conditions occurred in parts of E and W Nordic, parts of Canadian and Alaska regions

NDJ 2022/2023 precipitation anomaly

FMA 2023 precipitation anomaly



Surface precipitation: seasonal NDJ 2022/2023 & FMA 2023 anomalies (reanalysis)



Region	NDJ 2022/2023	FMA 2023	
Western Nordic	drier	drier to wetter	
Eastern Nordic	drier	wetter	
Western Siberia	slightly drier	wetter	
Eastern Siberia	normal	wetter	
Bering & Chukchi	wetter	slightly drier to wetter	
W Canada & Alaska	drier to normal	drier to wetter	
Eastern Canada	slightly wetter	drier	
Central Arctic	slightly wetter	normal	

Reference period: 1991-2020

- **The least amount of precipitation was for the Western Nordic and parts of Alaska regions**
- ❖ More abundant precipitation was observed in the Siberia regions.
- Somewhat wetter or close to normal conditions are estimated for the Central Arctic

Bioclimatic weather severity

- ❖ During winter 2022/2023 milder than for the last 30 years weather severity can be attributed on a basis of Bodman's index to the most of Nordic, Western Siberia, Eastern and Central Canada and for NDJ 2022/2023 Alaska region.
- Opposite situation harsher /more severe weather can be attributed to most of Siberia, parts of Chukchi and Bering and in FMA 2023 for Eastern Canada and Alaska region.
- ❖ Particular report on bioclimatic indexes synopsis and forecast will follow.

Bodman's weather severity index (S) (dimensionless) is used for bioclimatic evaluation of weather conditions for winter half year and is calculated according to Bodman's formula as

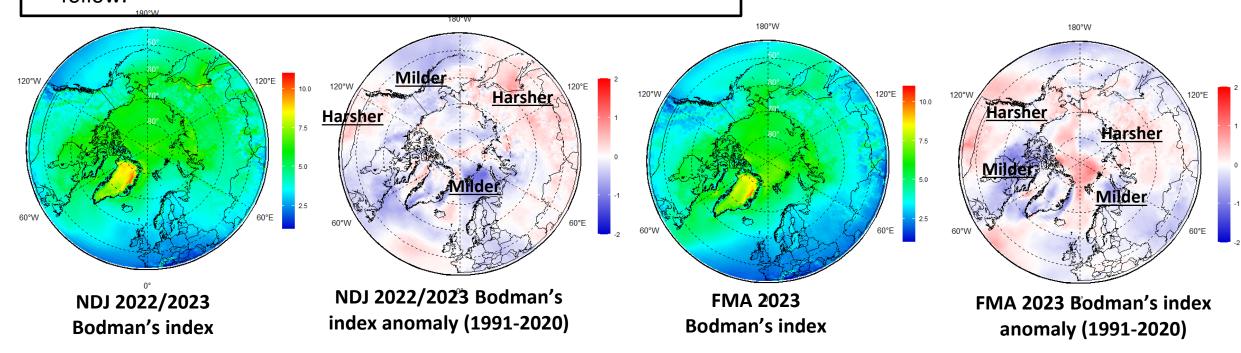
follows: S = (1 - 0.04 T) (1 + 0.272 v) where: v is wind speed (in m/s) at 10 m above ground level and T is air temperature (in °C)

The scale in use to assess using S is:

> 6 extraordinary severe 5-6 extremely severe

3-5 severe & very severe 1-3 slightly&less severe

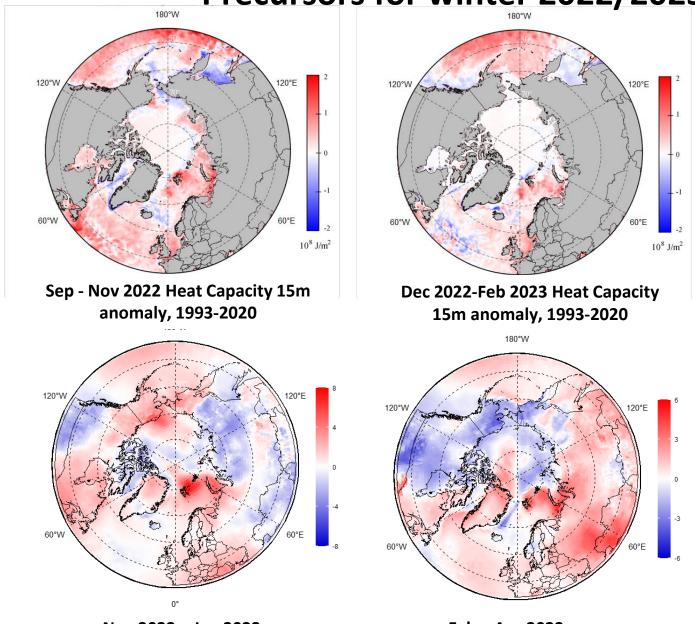
< 1- mild



Sea ice

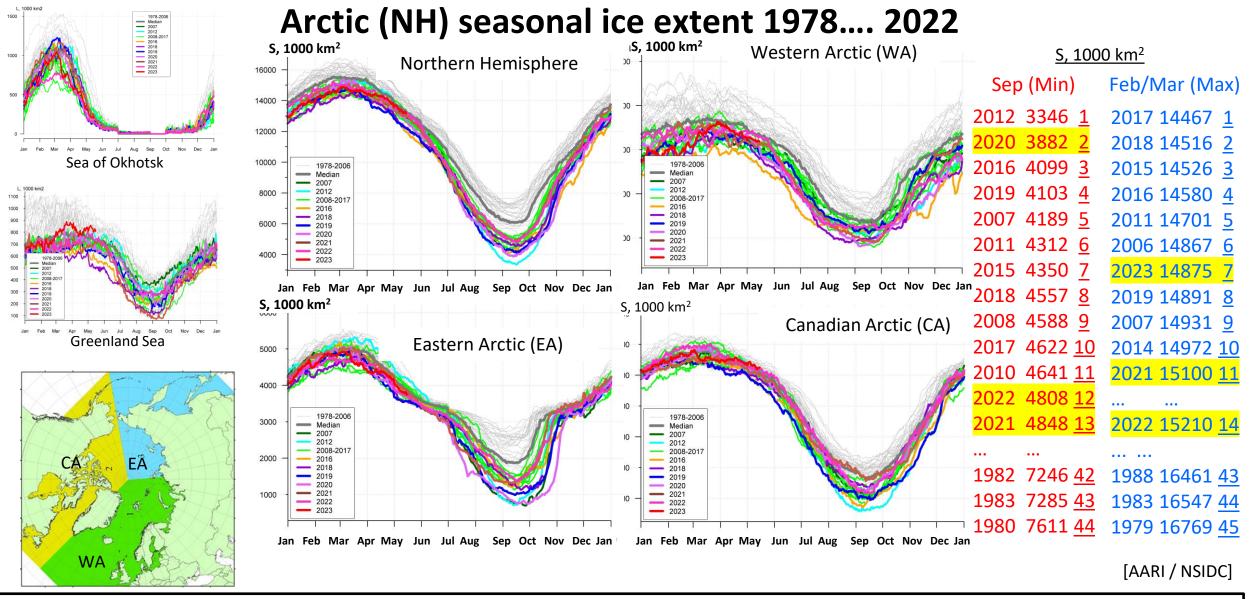
- Precursors in atmosphere and polar ocean
- Ice extent and ice conditions based on ice charting
- Sea ice thickness and volume based on reanalysis

Precursors for winter 2022/2023 ice conditions



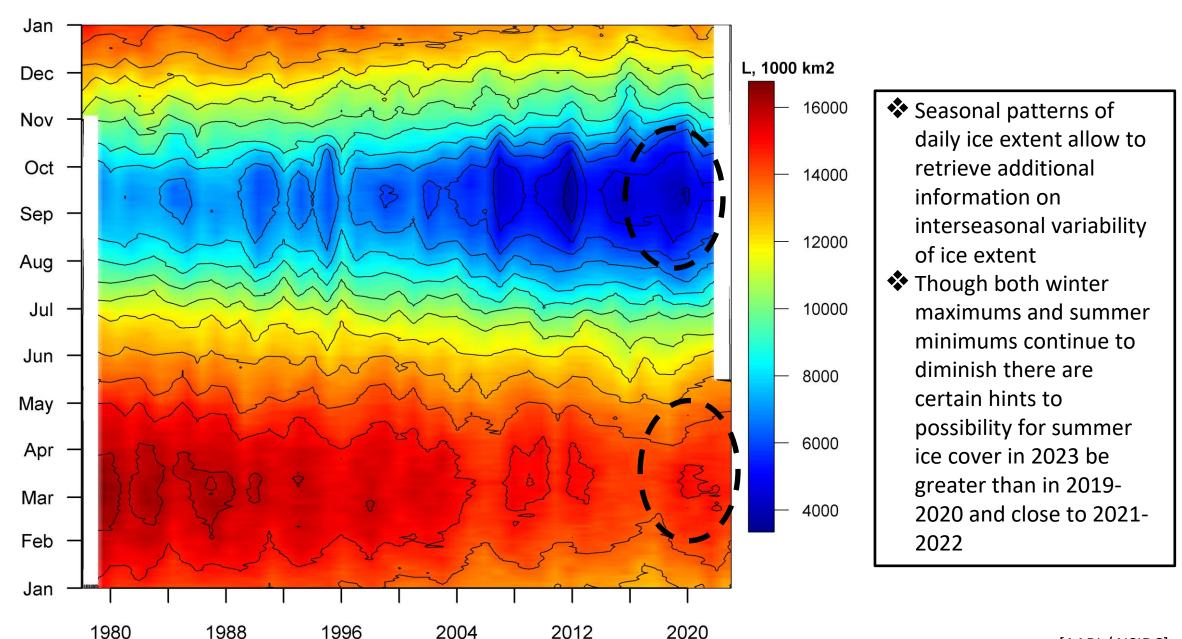
- ❖ Prevailing positive ocean heat capacity (HC) anomaly during Sep − Nov 2021 for the Svalbard, Barents, Kara, parts of Laptev and Hudson Bay slowed freezing processes in these regions
- ❖ Oppositely, zero or negative HC anomalies in Sep − Nov 2022 in ESS, Chukchi, Bering, Okhotsk, Baffin Seas provided background for close to normal freeze-up
- ❖ Further in winter occurrence of general positive SAT anomalies over Barents and Svalbard areas in February April 2023 slowed the ice growth, however negative SAT anomalies during the same period stimulated ice growth in Eurasian Arctic, Bering and Okhotsk Seas

Feb – Apr 2023



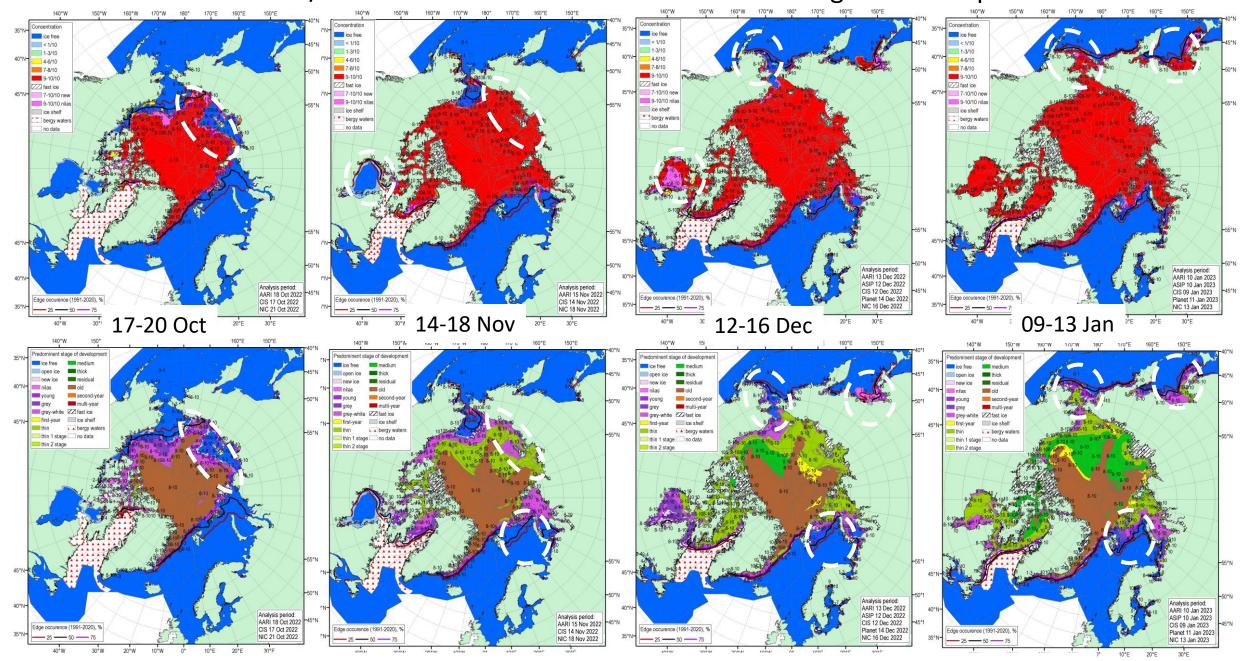
Asximum Arctic (NH) winter ice extent, 7th in row, ~14.9 mln km² (~15,2 in 2022, 14th in row) was reached 4-5 March 2023, which is close in time to climatic date and later by 2 weeks than previous year. With exception of the Barents Sea, prominent area of residual ice in late summer led to decadal normal ice extent growth in the Eurasian and Canadian Arctic. Opposite to 2022 the Sea of Okhotsk had ice extent close to 45-years median and the Greenland Sea ice extent exceeding the 45-years median in late winter 2023.

Seasonal NH ice extent variability: 1978 -2023



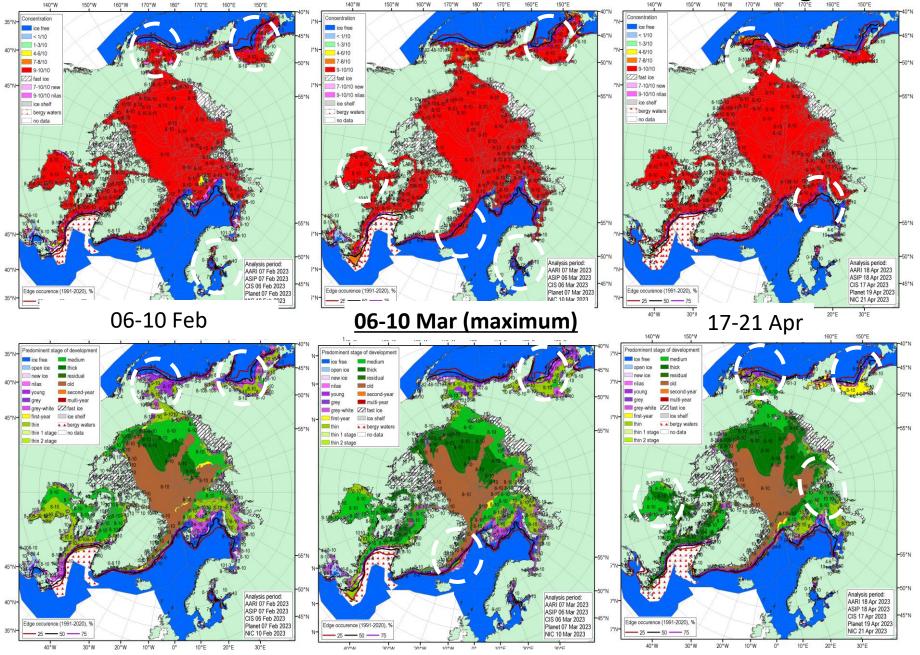
[AARI / NSIDC]

ONDJ 2022/2023 Arctic sea ice – concentration and stage of development



[sea ice analysis - AARI/ASIP/CIS/Planet/NIC; ice edge – AARI/NSIDC, nearest 5days, reference period: 1991-2020]

FMA 2023 Arctic sea ice – concentration and stage of development



Special features of ice conditions in the Arctic during autumn – winter 2022/2023 included:

- occurrence of residual and further in season the second-year ice in the parts of the Laptev and East Siberian Sea and close to normal autumn ice growth within eastern lanes of the NSR,
- Close to decadal normal ice conditions in the Canadian Arctic
- Close to normal ice conditions in the Sea of Okhotsk which is opposite to 2022

[sea ice analysis - AARI/ASIP/CIS/Planet/NIC; ice edge - AARI/NSIDC, nearest 5days, reference period: 1991-2020]

Sea ice thickness for 5 Mar 2004...2023, ice volume and CryoSAT-2 SIT 2022 2023 2010 2013 0.0 0.5 1.0 1.5 2.0 2.5 3.0 3.5 4.0 4.5 5.0 0.0 0.5 1.0 1.5 2.0 2.5 3.0 3.5 4.0 4.5 5.0 3.5 4.0 4.5 5.0 0.0 0.5 1.0 1.5 2.0 2.5 3.0 3.5 4.0 4.5 5.0 0.0 0.5 1.0 1.5 2.0 2.5 3.0 3.5 4.0 4.5 5.0 00 05 10 15 20 25 30 35 40 45 50 00 05 10 15 20 25 30 35 40 45 50 00 05 10 15 20 25 30 35 40 45 50 00 05 10 15 20 25 30 35 40 45 50 [DMI North Atlantic - Arctic Ocean model HYCOM-CICE - http://ocean.dmi.dk/models/hycom.uk.php]

ESA CryoSAT-2 sea ice thickness (AWI v2p5)

Cryosat-2 measurements show the general Arctic Basin SIT distribution in March 2022 similar to mean 2011-2023. Estimate of the total Arctic ice volume, based on modelling is close to ~2nd lowest for 2004-2023 after 2020 and 2021 due to SIT loss in Canadian Arctic

Arctic Sea Ice Volume, 18-May-2023

Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec Jan

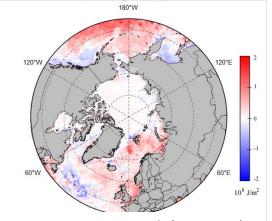
— 2021 — 2022 — 2023 — 2004-2013 SALIENSEAS

Polar Ocean

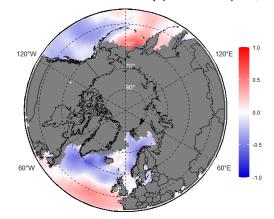
- Sea surface temperature
- Storms Wave and swell height
- pH and acidification or alkalization of the Arctic ?

Heat content, waves and pH - NDJ 2022/2023 & FMA 2023

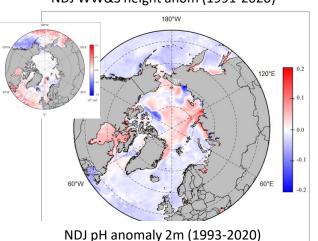
- ❖ During first part of the winter 2022/2023 higher 15 m upper ocean layer Heat Content (HC) was noticed in the E Bering, Svalbard, southern Greenland waters. Lower HC was noticed in Chuchki and Okhotsk seas with somewhat neutral over other parts of the Arctic. Calmer sea surface conditions were observed in the Barents and Greenland Seas with higher stormier conditions in the Bering and Okhotsk Seas.
- ❖ Later in winter the HC was mostly neutral to 1993-2020 average for most of the Arctic with the same lower exception for the Sea of Okhotsk and higher for parts of Svalbard and Barents Sea. Prominent higher stormier sea was observed for the open-water Atlantic sector of the Arctic, Barents and W Bering sea.
- Numerical models show for the current winter season both neutral and positive pH anomalies (alkalization) for the Arctic Basin, Laptev, Chukchi Seas and negative pH for the Barents, parts of the Kara, East Siberian, Greenland Seas) anomalies to the 1993-2020 period, which is in general similar to 2022, the latter may point to acidification processes though need further verification with ground-truth data.



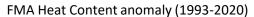
NDJ Heat Content anomaly (1993-2020)

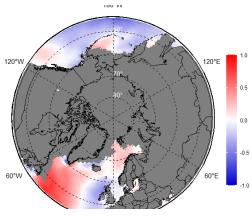


NDJ WW&S height anom (1991-2020)

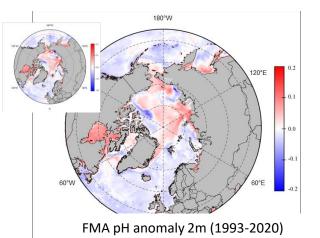


60°E 22





FMA WW&S height anom (1991-2020)



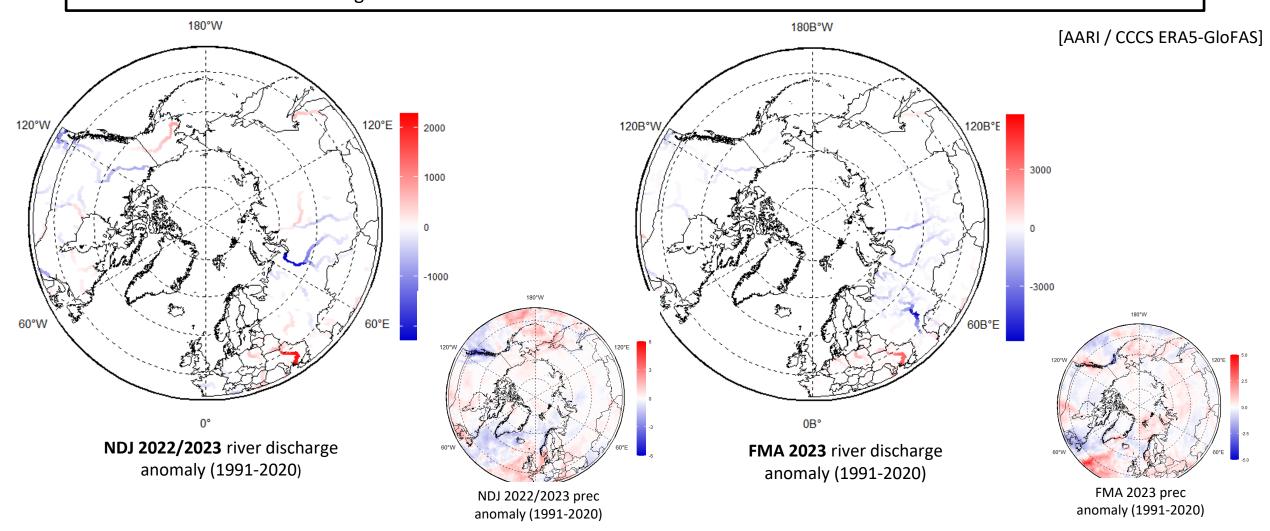
Hydrology and land Snow

- River discharge
- Snow water equivalent
- Snow extent

Impacts of precipitation on river discharge

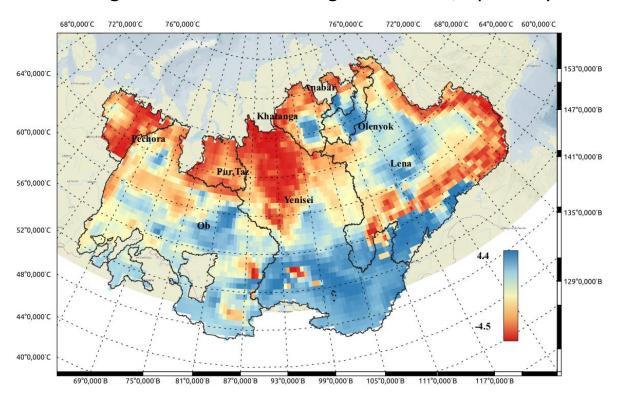
Impacts of wetter/drier and colder/warmer weather conditions were reflected in the winter/spring 2022-2023 Arctic rivers discharge though the frozen ground restricts direct effects

- ❖ lesser drainage than normal is seen for Pechora, Ob', most of Enisey and Mackenzie rivers through the whole season
- ❖ Yukon, partly Enisey rivers experienced **greater** discharge than normal
- Close to normal river discharge was estimated for Lena and further eastward Siberian rivers

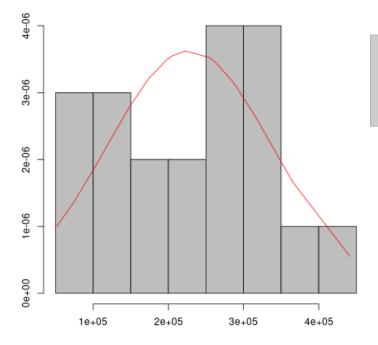


River discharge trends (Eurasian Arctic) based on MERRA2 reanalysis

Linear regression of river discharge 2013-2022, April-May



Normal distribution and histogram.



Histogram of sum Runoff 2013-2022, april-may

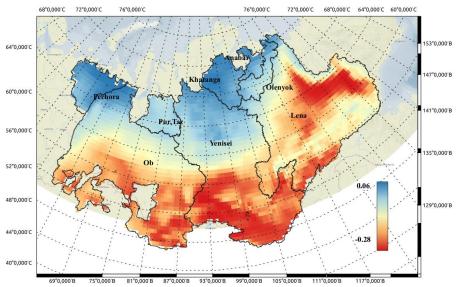
Normal distribution of sum runoff 2013-2022, april-may Mean = 228 168.3 Sd = 109 963.4

mean	median	std	min	max
-1,39	-1,44	0,67	-3,21	-0,09
-0,27	-0,17	0,34	-3,86	0,31
-1,18	-1,22	0,36	-2,04	-0,41
-0,61	-0,23	0,92	-4,50	0,70
_	-1,39 -0,27 -1,18	-1,39 -1,44 -0,27 -0,17 -1,18 -1,22	-1,39 -1,44 0,67 -0,27 -0,17 0,34 -1,18 -1,22 0,36	-1,39 -1,44 0,67 -3,21 -0,27 -0,17 0,34 -3,86 -1,18 -1,22 0,36 -2,04

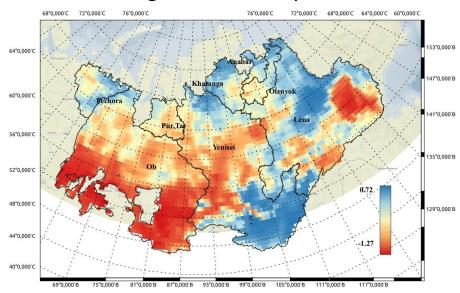
	watersheds	mean	median	std	min	max
)	Khatanga	-0,73	-0,73	0,58	-2,47	0,26
1	Anabar	-0,47	-0,22	0,62	-1,61	0,50
1	Olenyok	-0,31	-0,25	0,42	-1,42	0,36
)	Lena	-0,43	-0,26	0,67	-4,05	4,43
7						

MERRA2 reanalysis (2013-2022), April-May, of river discharge precursors (Eurasian Arctic)

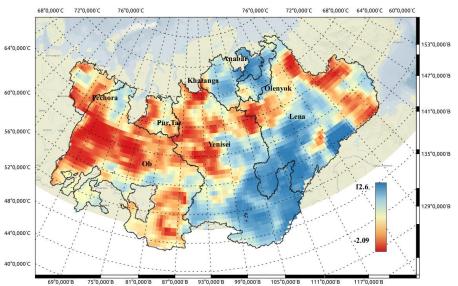
Linear regression, 2m air temperature



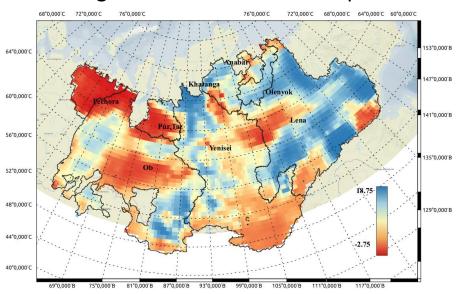
Linear regression of evaporation



Linear regression of corrected land precipitaion

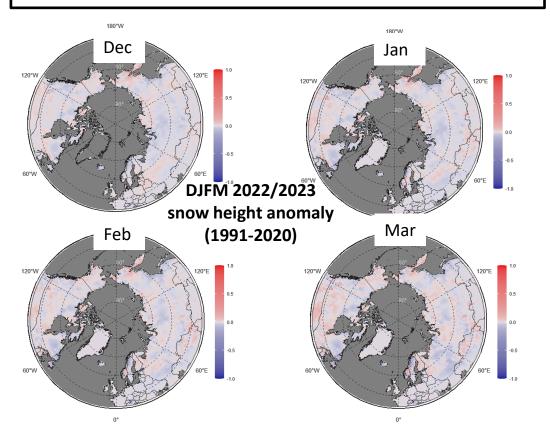


Linear regression of snow water equivalent



NDJFMA 2022-2023 land snow

- During NDJFMA 2022-2023 lesser snow height as well as snow water equivalent dominated over parts of Siberia and N Canada
- Positive anomalies (greater snow height) were observed in parts of Alaska, C Canada, Nordic and E Siberia
- The snow extent over Eurasia was below 1991-2020 normal. Alaska and Canada in general experienced normal or somewhat greater snow extent

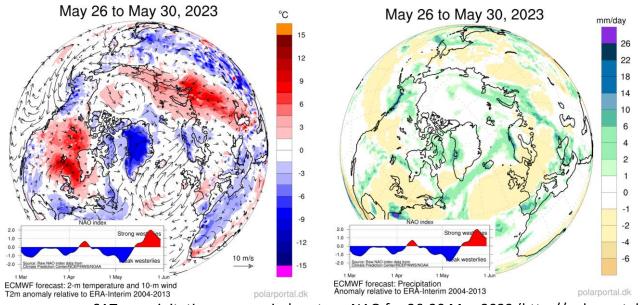


[GCW / Rutgers Global SnowLab]

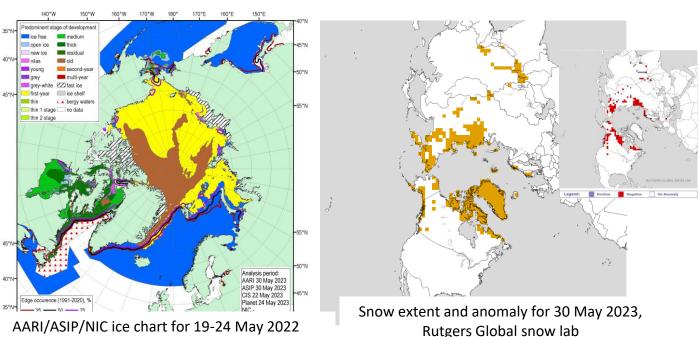
2022-2023		1991-2020 No	2020 Normal Period of Record from Nov 1966		66			
Month	Area, 1000 km²	Mean	Departure	Rank	Maximum (Year)	Minimum (Year)		
	Eurasia							
4	16,347	16,759	-412	43/57	20,687 (1981)	14,767 (2014)		
3	22,266	24,091	-1,825	52/57	27,950 (1981)	20,183 (2002)		
2	28,210	28,515	-305	37/57	32,285 (1978)	25,913 (2002)		
1	28,607	29,647	-1,040	48/57	32,265 (2008)	25,823 (1981)		
12	26,119	27,365	-1,246	48/57	29,699 (2002)	22,882 (1980)		
11	22,494	21,181	1,313	11/57	24,132 (1993)	16,796 (1979)		
			Canada					
4	8,984	8,787	197	27/57	9,860 (1979)	6,939 (2010)		
3	10,323	10,074	248	07/57	10,368 (1982)	9,486 (1981)		
2	10,325	10,309	16	24/57	10,424 (2013)	10,015 (1981)		
1	10,299	10,319	-20	35/57	10,424 (1982)	10,060 (1981)		
12	10,259	10,147	112	14/57	10,403 (2016)	9,691 (1980)		
11	9,667	8,948	718	05/57	9,978 (2018)	7,254 (1987)		
			Alaska					
4	1,500	1,461	39	2-15/57	1,526 (2018)	1,360 (2016)		
3	1,530	1,495	35	05/57	1,534 (2008)	1,293 (1968)		
2	1,527	1,513	14	25/57	1,534 (tie)	1,417 (1968)		
1	1,502	1,505	-3	14-16/57	1,534 (tie)	1,423 (1986)		
12	1,529	1,495	34	04-05/57	1,534 (tie)	1,330 (1967)		
11	1,483	1,416	67	07/57	1,521 (2021)	950 (1979)		

[AARI / CCCS ERA5 / GCW / Rutgers Global SnowLab]

Current Conditions (update closer to ACF11)



SAT, precipitation, mean wind vectors, NAO for 26-30 May 2023 (http://polarportal.dk)



- Since mid May strong westerly winds dominate in Nordic, SW winds over Siberia and Alaska sectors with southern winds over Canada
- Lower SAT is observed over European, Alaska, E Canadian and Greenland regions
- Higher SAT observed over central and eastern Siberia and central Canada regions
- Northmost Scandinavia, eastern Siberia? Chukchi, parts of Alaska, N Canada are under snow with overall negative anomalies for snow extent for all regions
- Bering and Sea of Okhotsk are under intense melting, with parts of the Kara, W Laptev Sea and Beaufort Seas under start of melt
- Other parts of the Arctic with fast ice zones in Siberia and Canadian Arctic are still well preserved, which is similar to 2021 and 2022

Data sources:

- 1. Copernicus Climate Change Service
 - **ERA5** monthly averaged data on pressure and single levels (ERA5)
 - Marine environment monitoring service (CMEMS)
 - GloFAS operational global river discharge reanalysis (ERA5-GloFAS)
- 2. Weekly ice charts from AARI, CIS, NIC, ASIP, Planet / WMO GDSIDB project (http://wdc.aari.ru)
- 3. NSIDC Near-Real-Time DMSP SSMIS Daily Polar Gridded Sea Ice Concentrations
- 4. ESA CryoSAT-2 data (AWI)
- DMI PolarPortal (<u>http://polarportal.dk</u>)
- 6. WMO GCW SnowWatch (FMI, ECCC, Rutgers Glob Snow Lab, http://climate.rutgers.edu/snowcover/)

Thank you! Merci! Takk! Спасибо!
Tak! Tack! Kiitos! þakka þér fyrir!
Naqurmiik! Qaĝaasakuq!
Giitu! Vielen Dank!
Dhanyavaad!



Monthly and seasonal graphs at full resolution and for all ECVs are available at:

- □ http://wdc.aari.ru/prcc/reanalysis/era5/png/monthly/arctic/0/
- □ http://wdc.aari.ru/prcc/reanalysis/era5/png/season/arctic/0/
- http://wdc.aari.ru/datasets/d0040/arctic/png/ArcRCC/

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