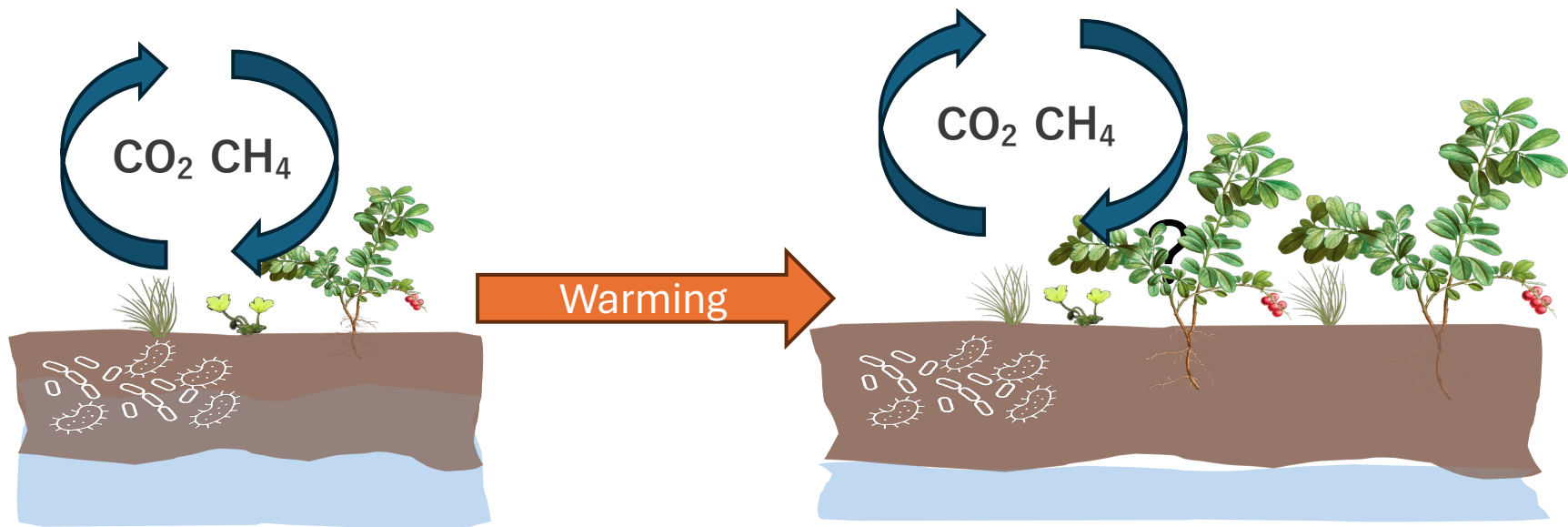


# Arctic tundra methane dynamics under warming

ITEX annual meeting  
2024  
Jan Dietrich

# Climate change in the tundra

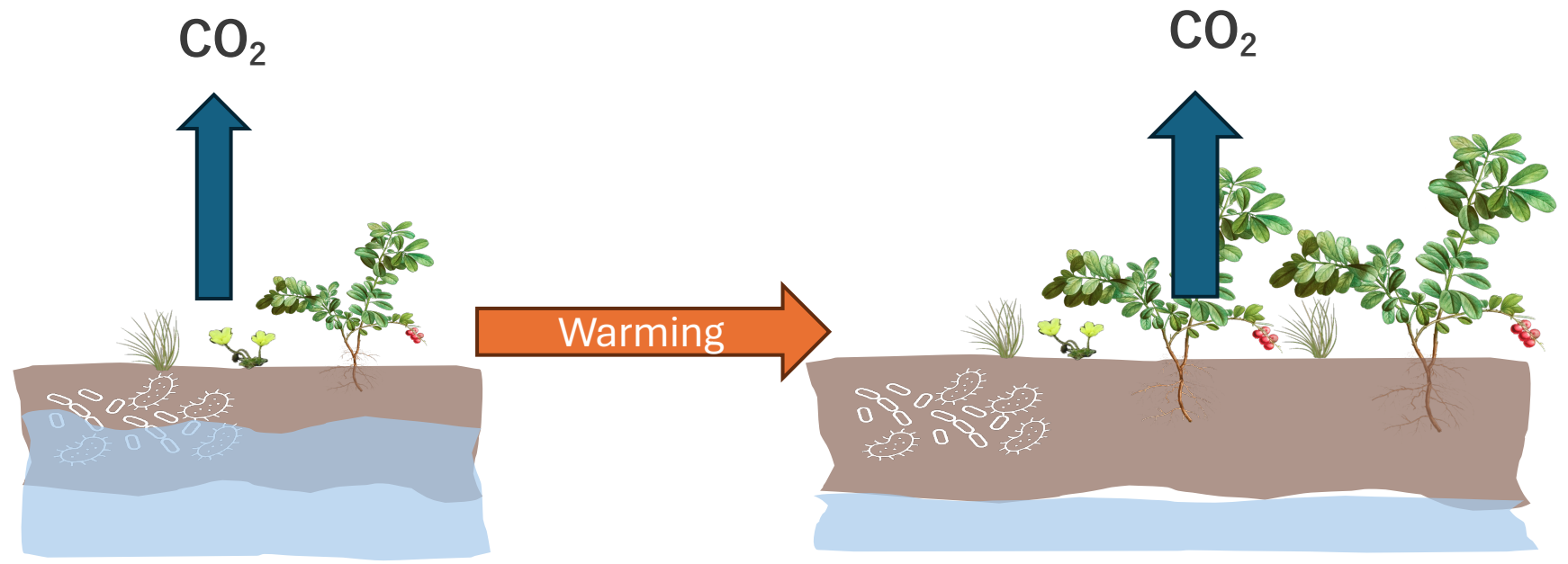
How does the carbon cycle in tundra ecosystems respond to a rapidly warming climate?



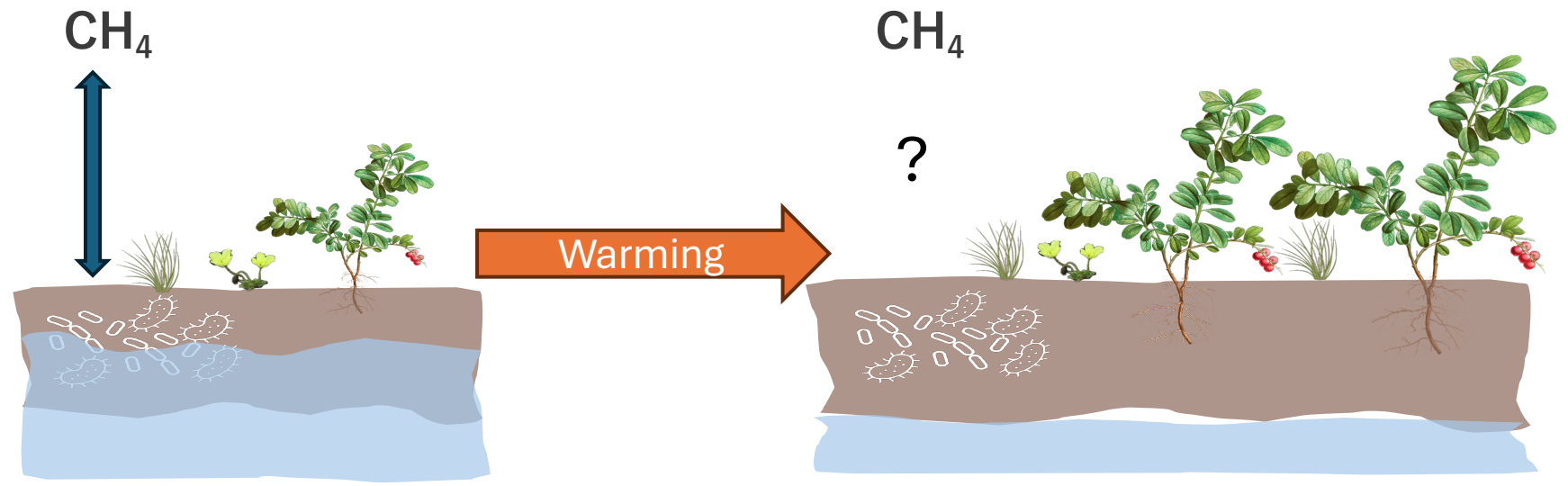
**Ecosystem respiration responses to warming across the tundra**

**Remember Ellens Talk!**

30% increase in growing season ecosystem respiration

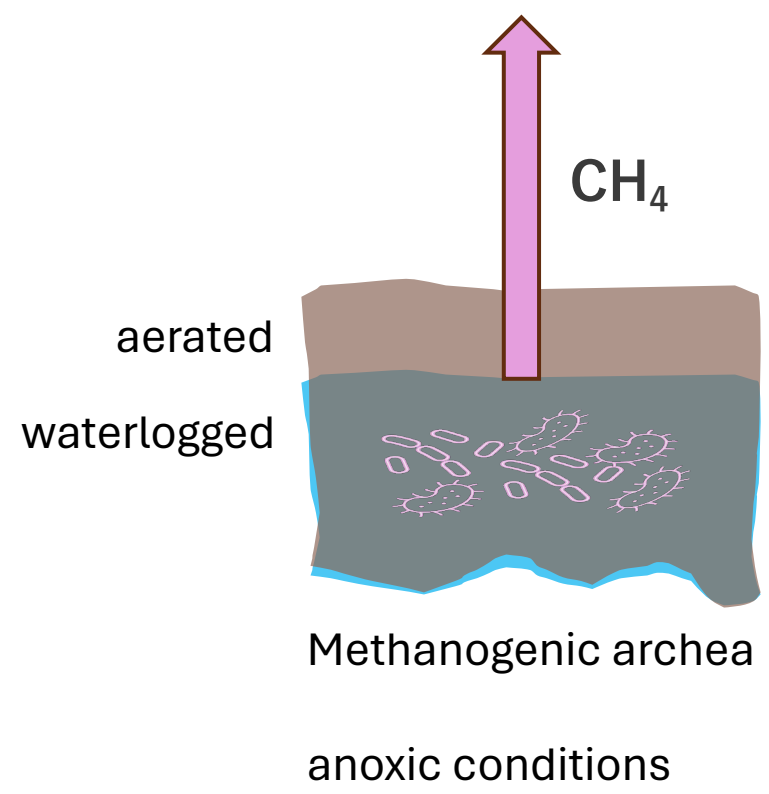


But how does the methane flux respond to warming?



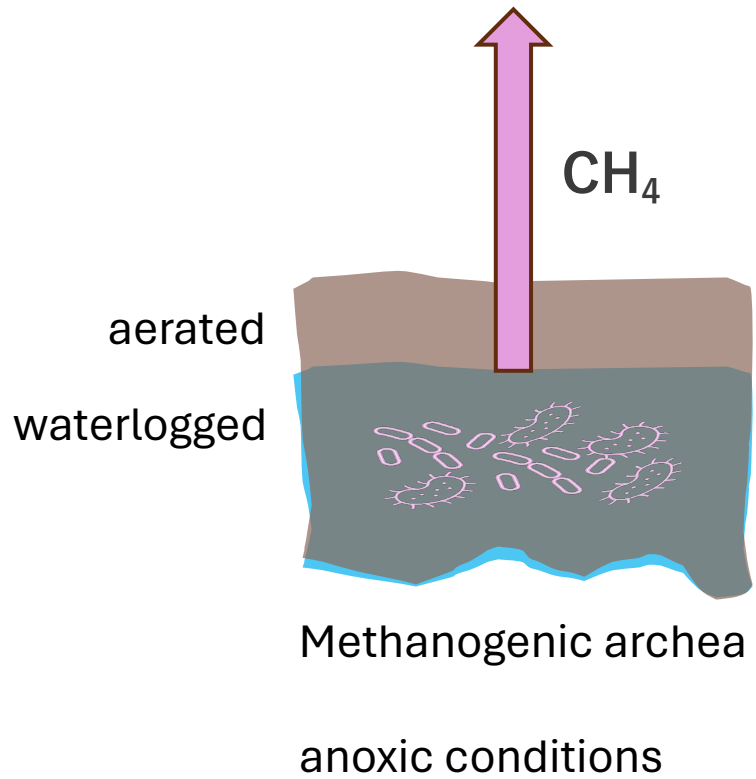
# Methane Dynamics

## Methanogenesis (Production of CH<sub>4</sub>)

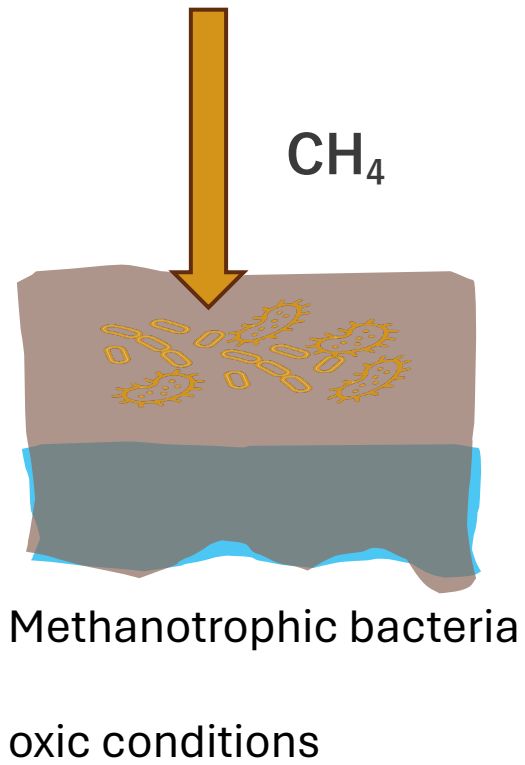


# Methane Dynamics

## Methanogenesis (Production of CH<sub>4</sub>)

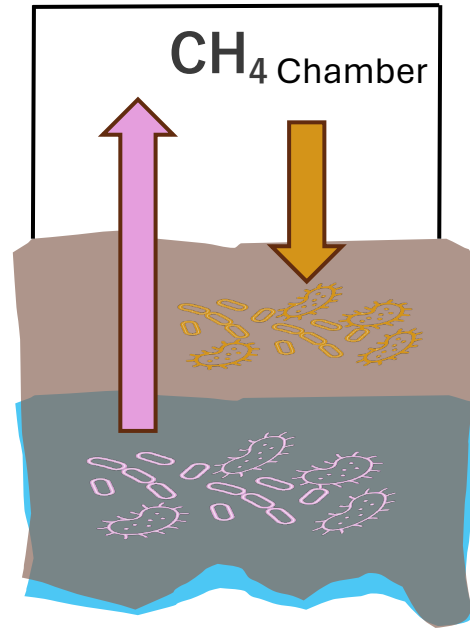


## Methane oxidation (Consumption of CH<sub>4</sub>)



# Methane Flux

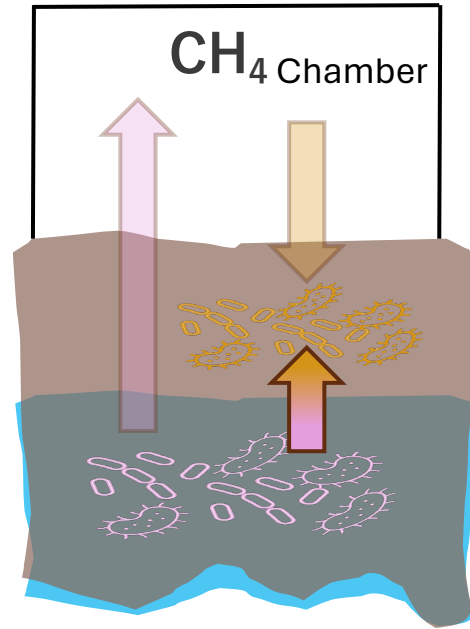
What we measure



$$\text{Net flux} = \text{Production} + \text{Consumption}$$



What we do not measure



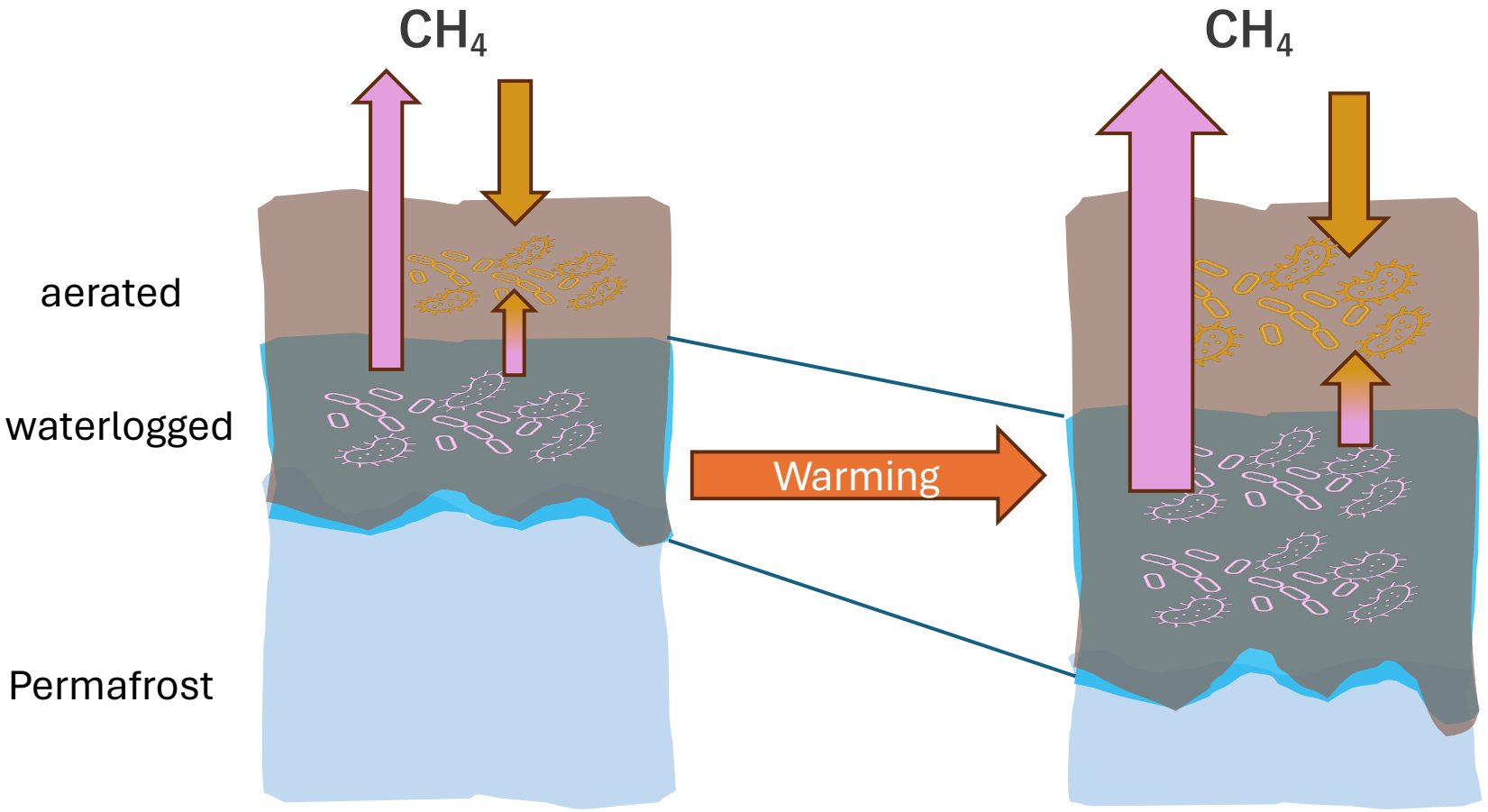
Production + Consumption within the soil column





# Methane Emissions

Increasing methane **emissions** with warming permafrost



# Methane Emissions

Letter | Published: 01 December 2008

## Large tundra methane burst during onset of freezing

[Mikhail Mastepanov](#), [Charlotte Sigsgaard](#), [Edward J. Dlugokencky](#), [Sander Houweling](#), [Lena Ström](#), [Mikkel P. Tamstorf](#) & [Torben R. Christensen](#) 

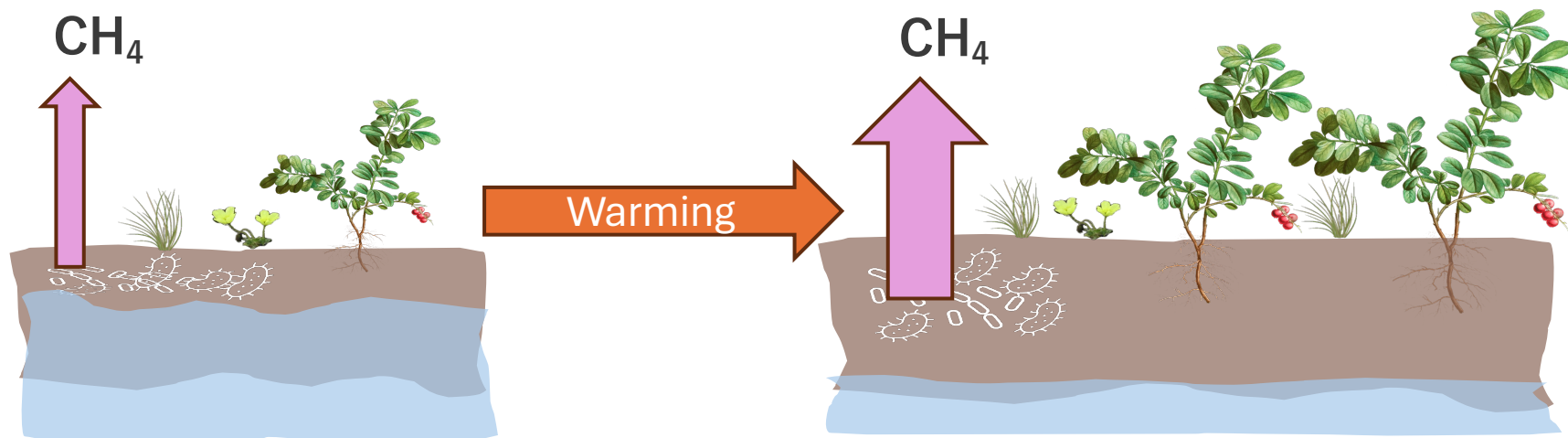
*Nature* **456**, 628–630 (2008) | [Cite this article](#)

Article | [Open access](#) | Published: 27 October 2022

## Seasonal increase of methane emissions linked to warming in Siberian tundra

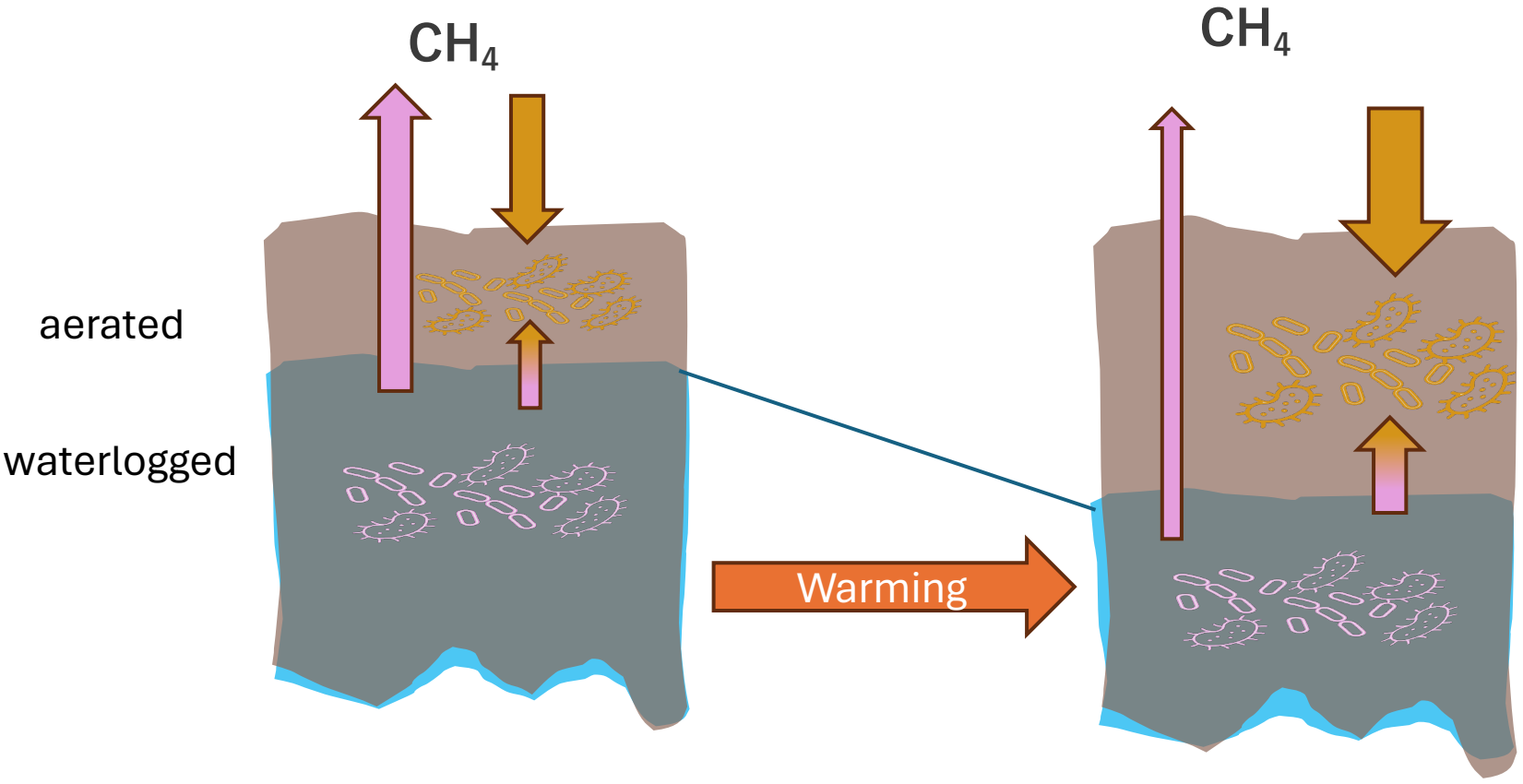
[Norman Rößger](#), [Torsten Sachs](#) , [Christian Wille](#), [Julia Boike](#) & [Lars Kutzbach](#) 

*Nature Climate Change* **12**, 1031–1036 (2022) | [Cite this article](#)



# Methane Uptake

Increasing methane **uptake** with drier soil conditions



# Methane Uptake

Article | [Open access](#) | Published: 31 August 2023

## Arctic soil methane sink increases with drier conditions and higher ecosystem respiration

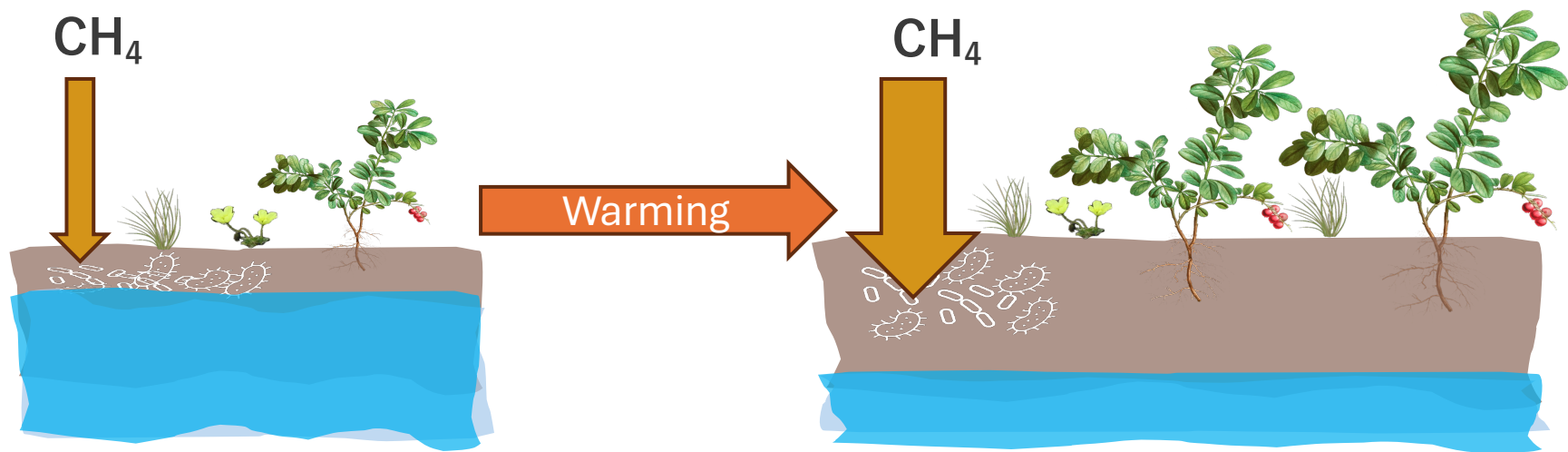
[Carolina Voigt](#) ✉, [Anna-Maria Virkkala](#), [Gabriel Hould Gosselin](#), [Kathryn A. Bennett](#), [T. Andrew Black](#), [Matteo Detto](#), [Charles Chevrier-Dion](#), [Georg Guggenberger](#), [Wasi Hashmi](#), [Lukas Kohl](#), [Dan Kou](#), [Charlotte Marquis](#), [Philip Marsh](#), [Maija E. Marushchak](#), [Zoran Nesic](#), [Hannu Nykänen](#), [Tajja Saarela](#), [Leopold Sauheitl](#), [Branden Walker](#), [Niels Weiss](#), [Evan J. Wilcox](#) & [Oliver Sonnentag](#)

*Nature Climate Change* **13**, 1095–1104 (2023) | [Cite this article](#)

RESEARCH ARTICLE | [Open Access](#) | 

## Reduced methane emissions in former permafrost soils driven by vegetation and microbial changes following drainage

[Christoph Keuschnig](#), [Catherine Larose](#), [Mario Rudner](#), [Argus Pesqueda](#), [Stéphane Doleac](#), [Bo Elberling](#), [Robert G. Björk](#), [Leif Klemedtsson](#), [Mats P. Björkman](#) ✉

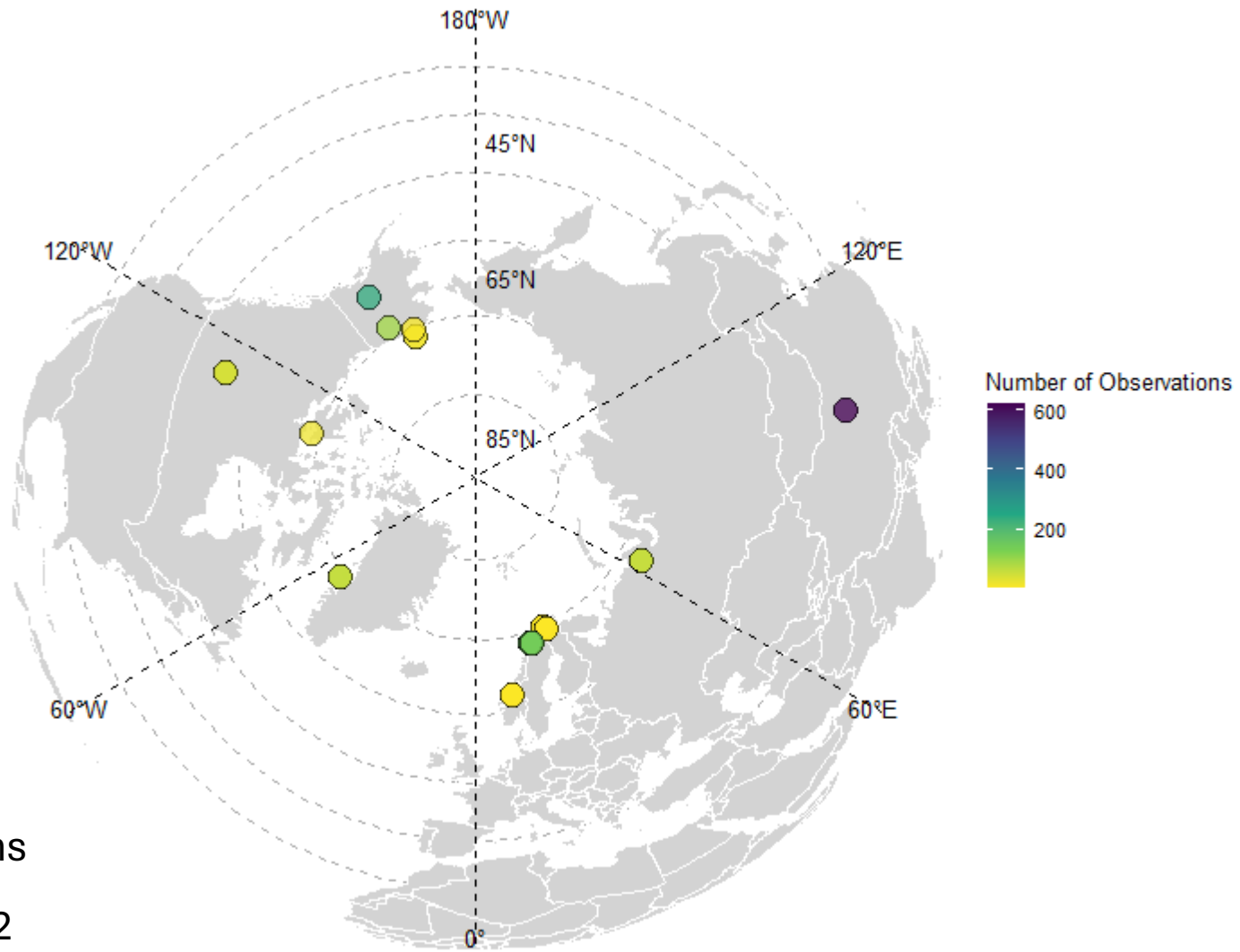


## What we did

- Collection CH<sub>4</sub>-data from OTC experiments across the arctic
- Synthesize the response of methane to experimental warming



# Meta Analysis



- 69 Datasets
- 39 Locations
- 2625 Observations
- from 1999 to 2022



# Meta Analysis

$$\text{SMD}_{\text{CH}_4 / \text{site} * \text{year}} = \frac{\text{mean}(\text{CH}_{4\text{CTL}}) - \text{mean}(\text{CH}_{4\text{OTC}})}{\text{SD}_{\text{pooled}}}$$

$$\text{SMD}_{\text{CH}_4 / \text{overall}} = \text{mixed effect model} ( \text{SMD}_{\text{CH}_4 / \text{site} * \text{year}} + \text{moderators} + \varepsilon )$$

**Positive SMD = higher** net flux in OTC than CTL  
**Negative SMD = lower** net flux in OTC than CTL

Small Effect	+ - 0.2
Medium Effect	+ - 0.5
Large Effect	+ - 0.8

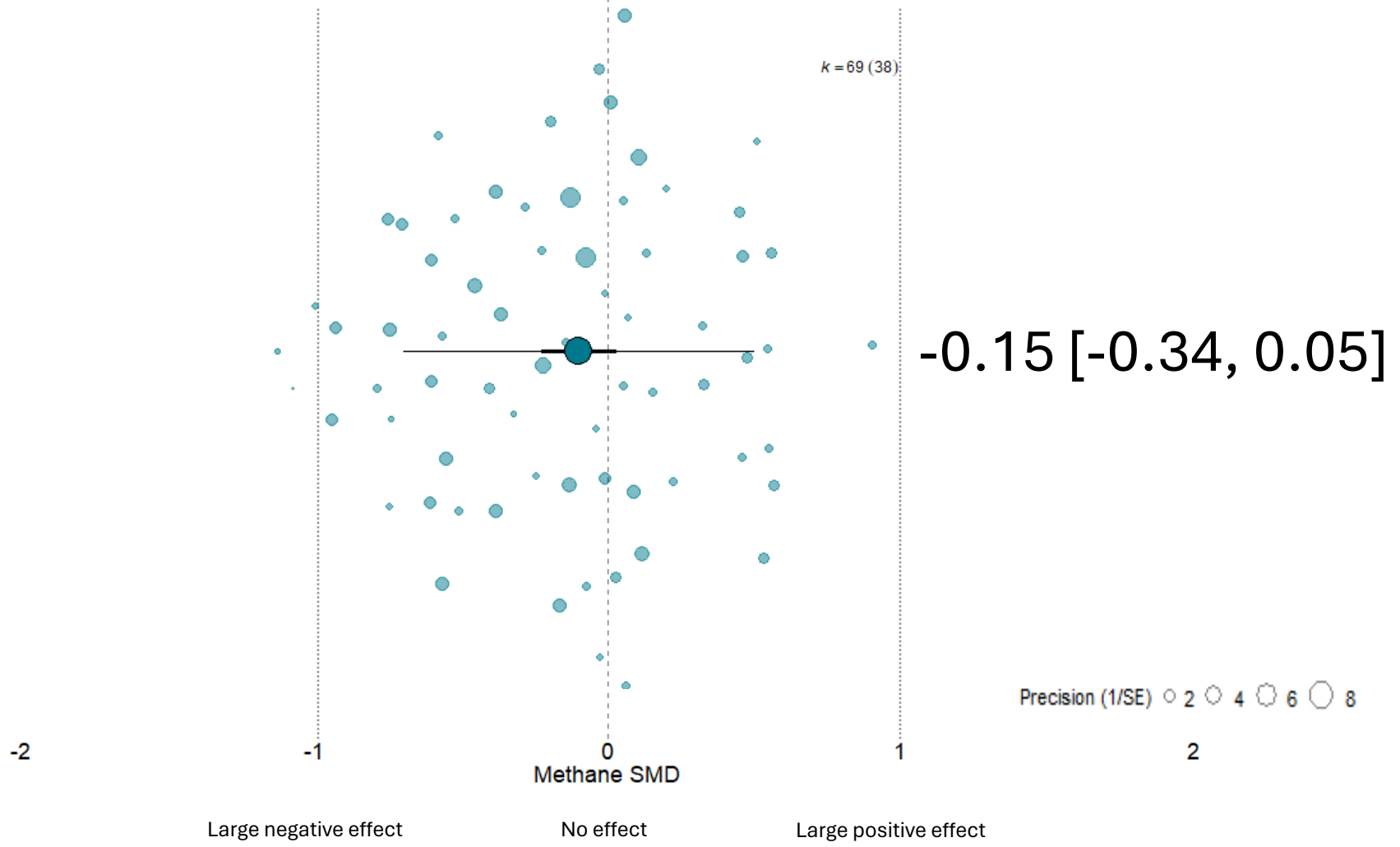


# Summary



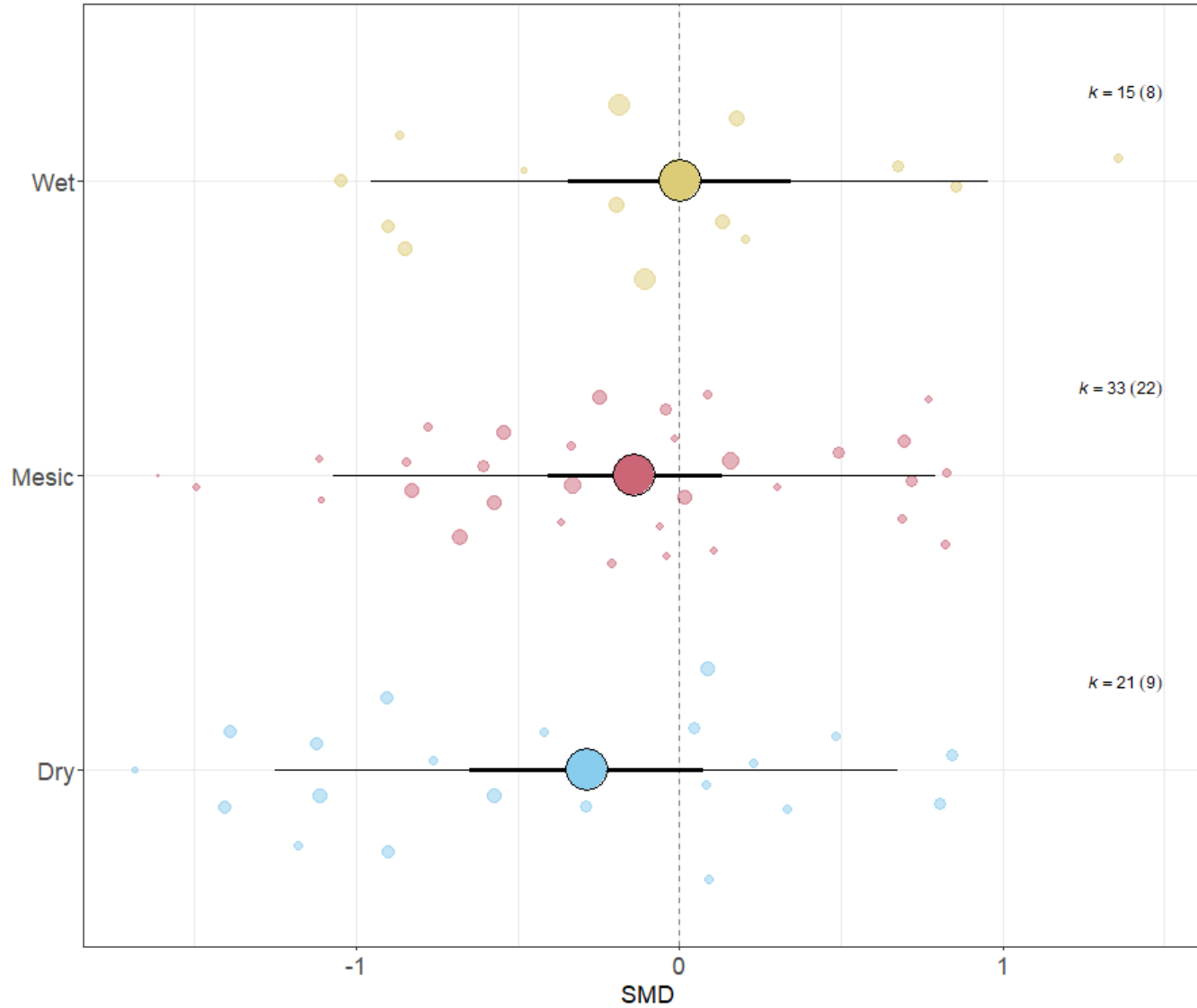
Decreasing methane net flux with warming

Increasing methane net flux with warming

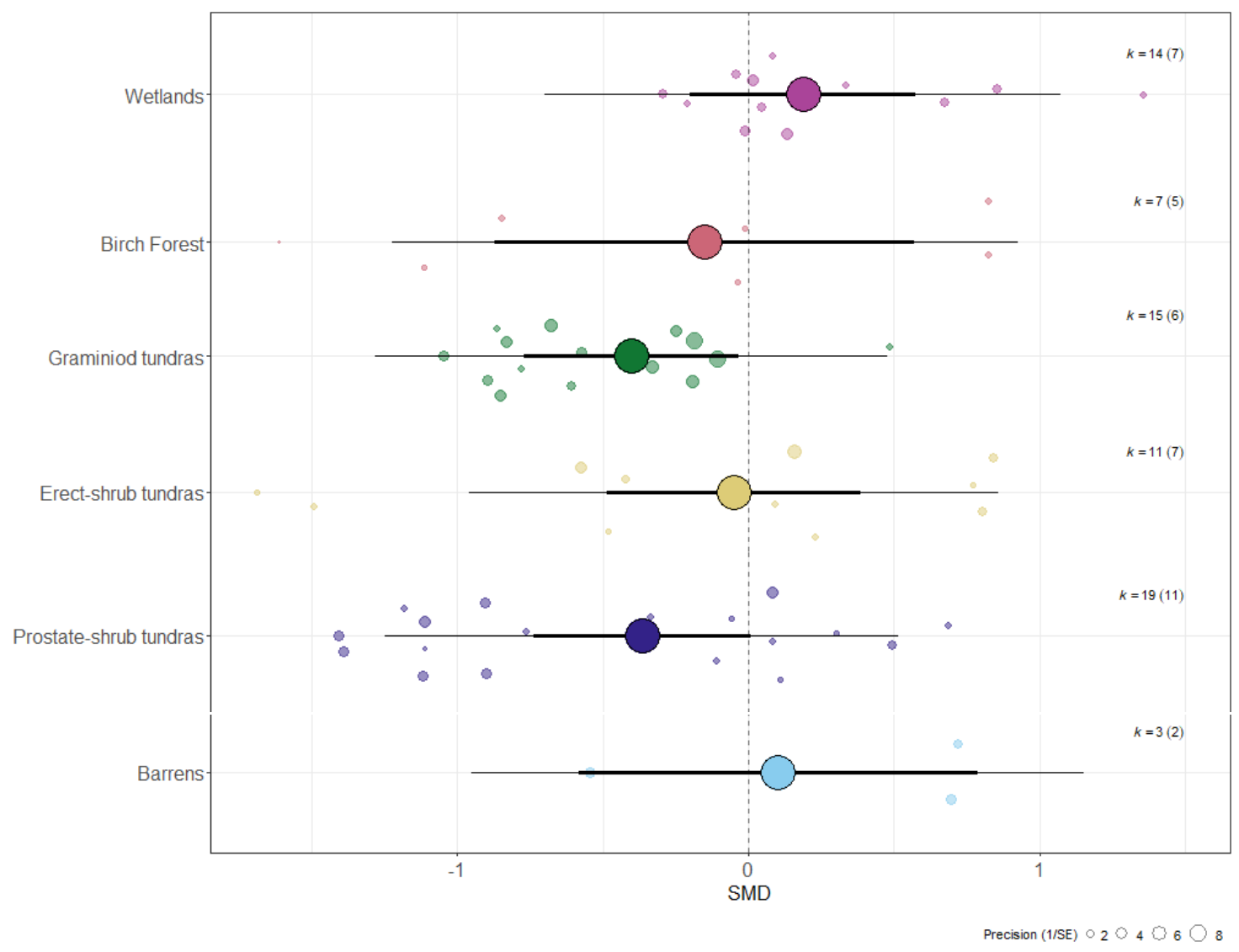




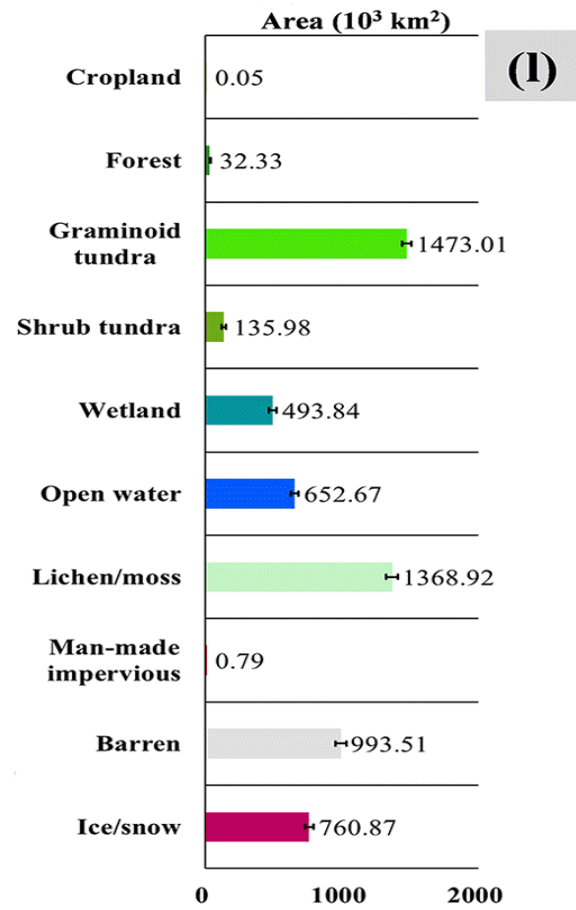
# Soil Moisture Category



# Vegetation Type



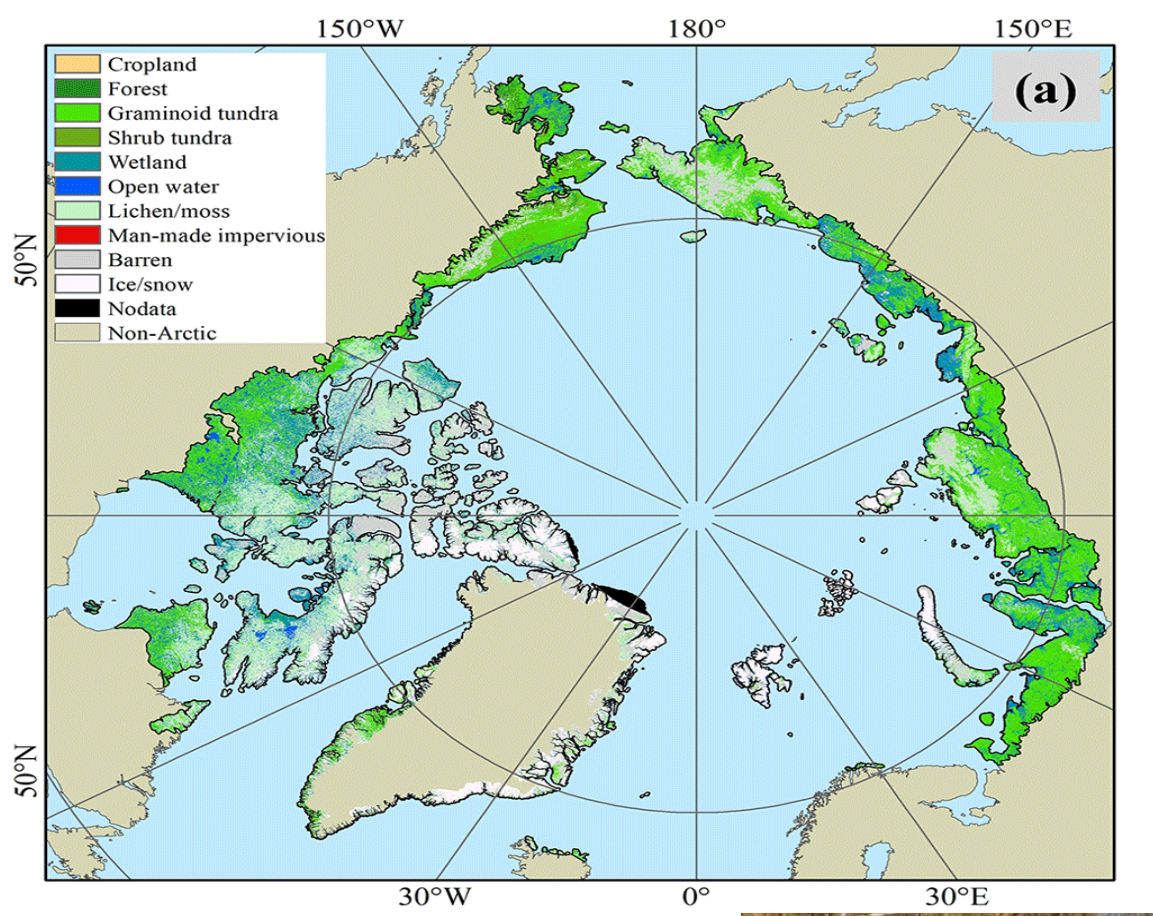
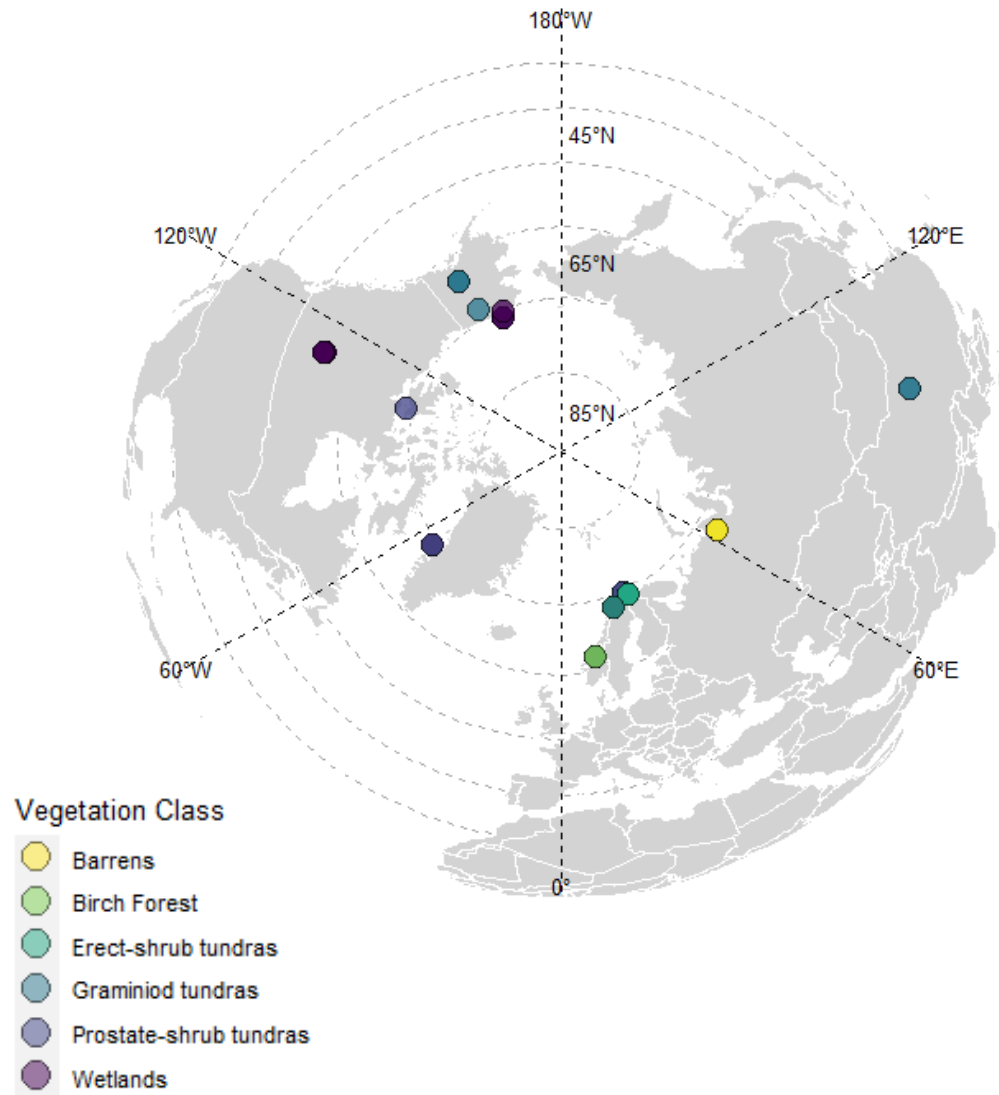
# Vegetation Type



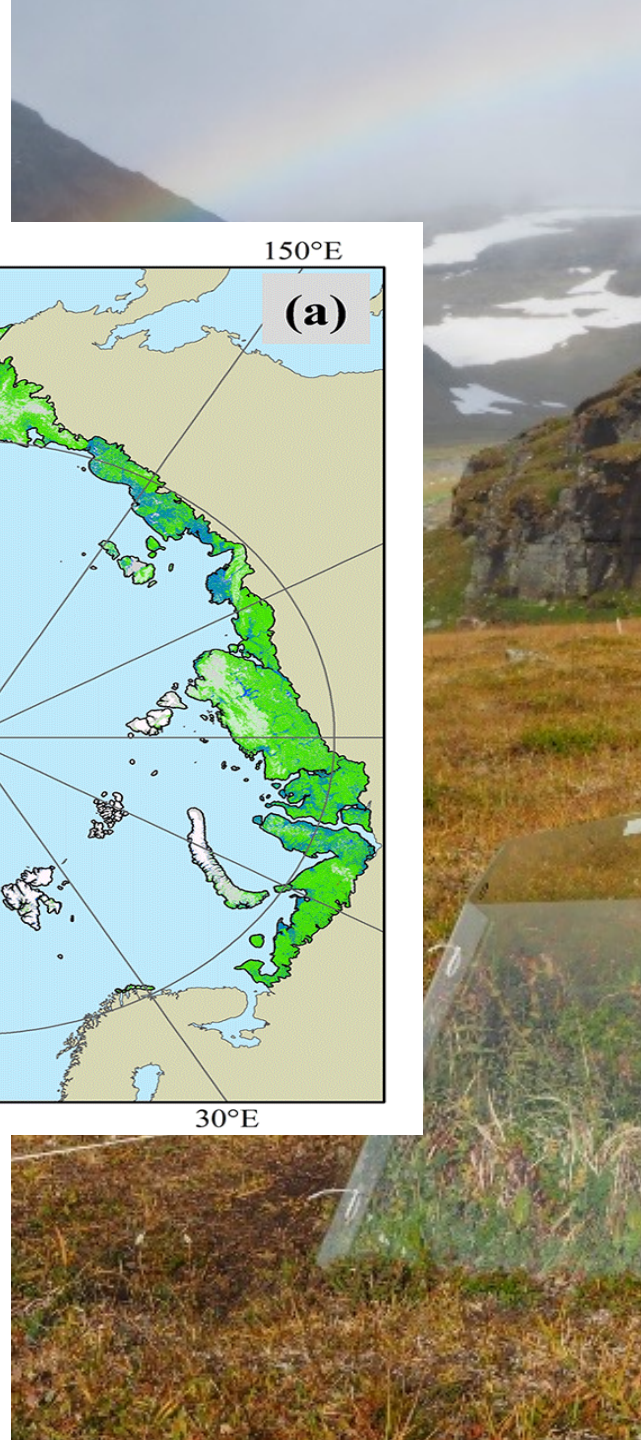
Liu et al. (2023)



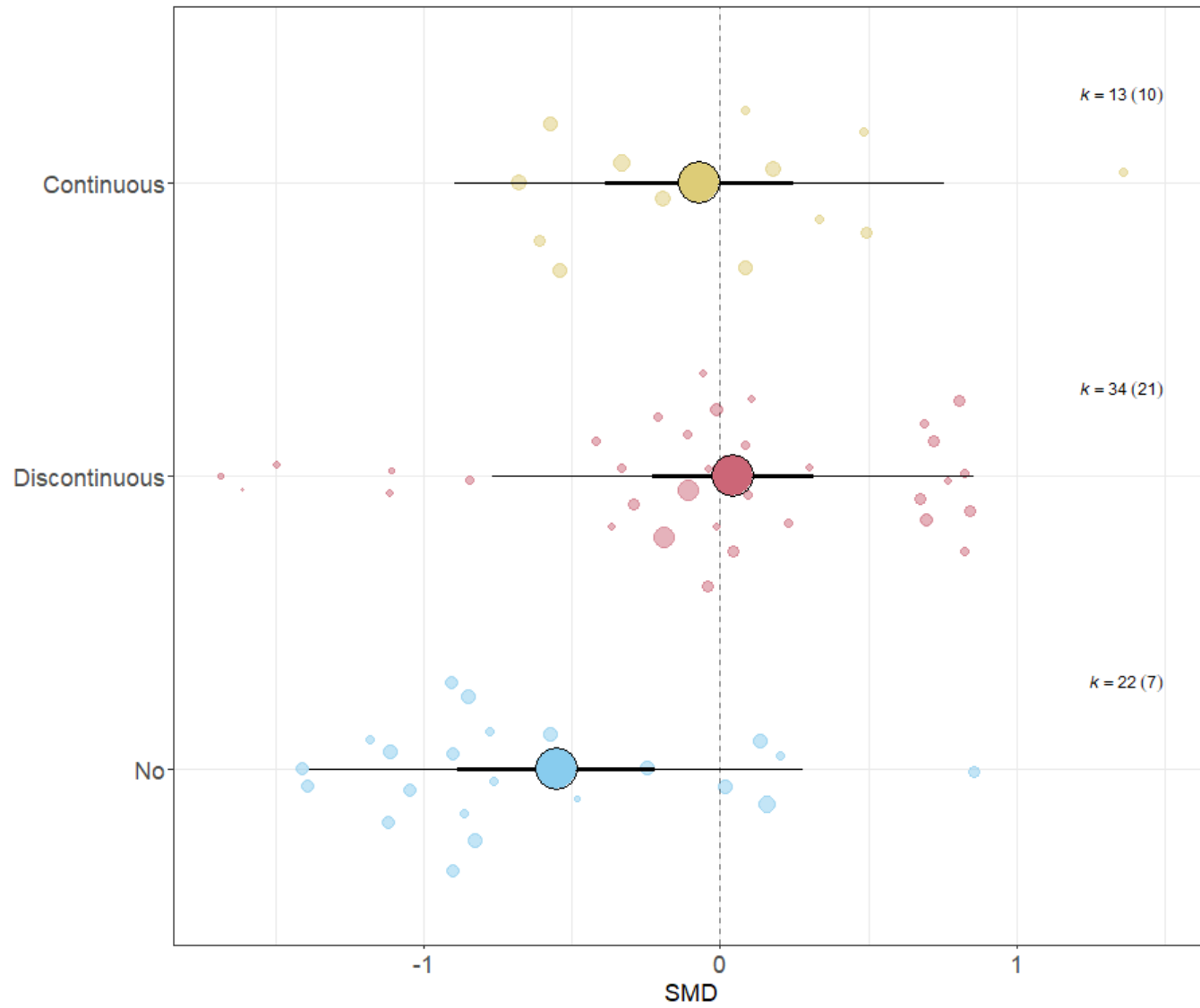
# Vegetation Type



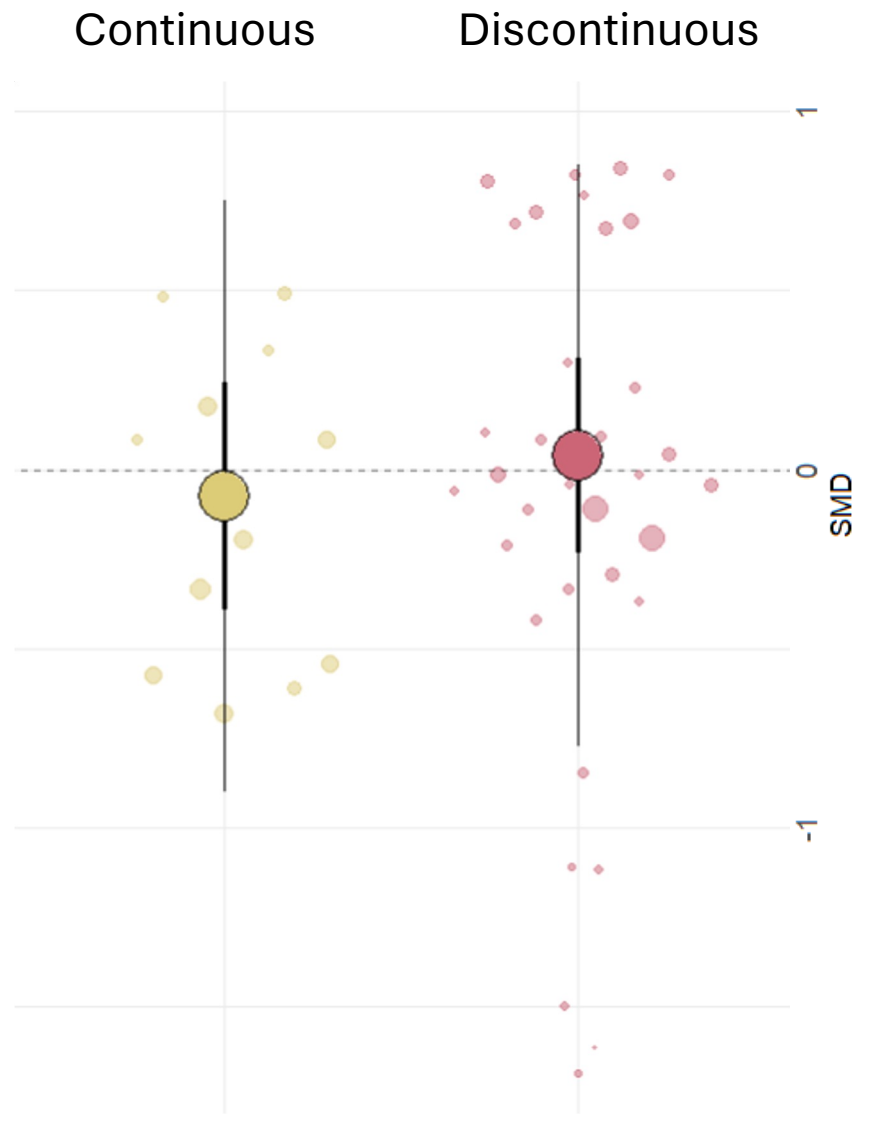
Liu et al. (2023)



# Permafrost



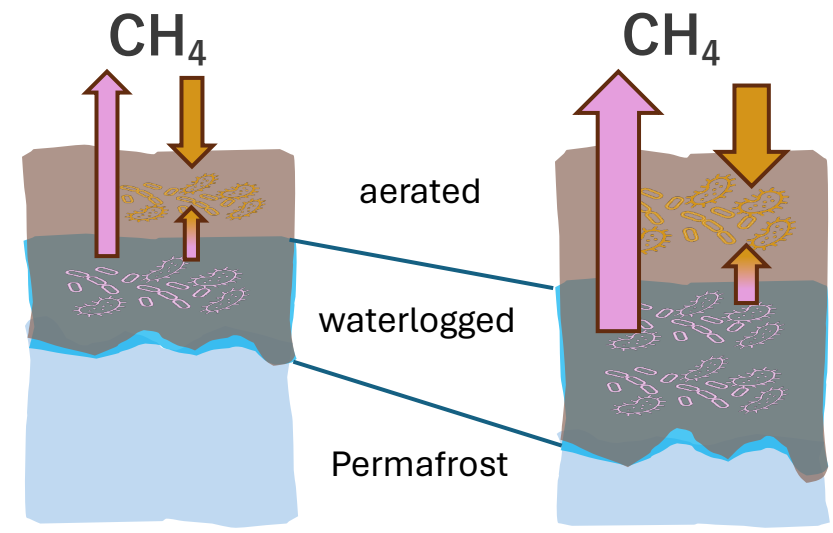
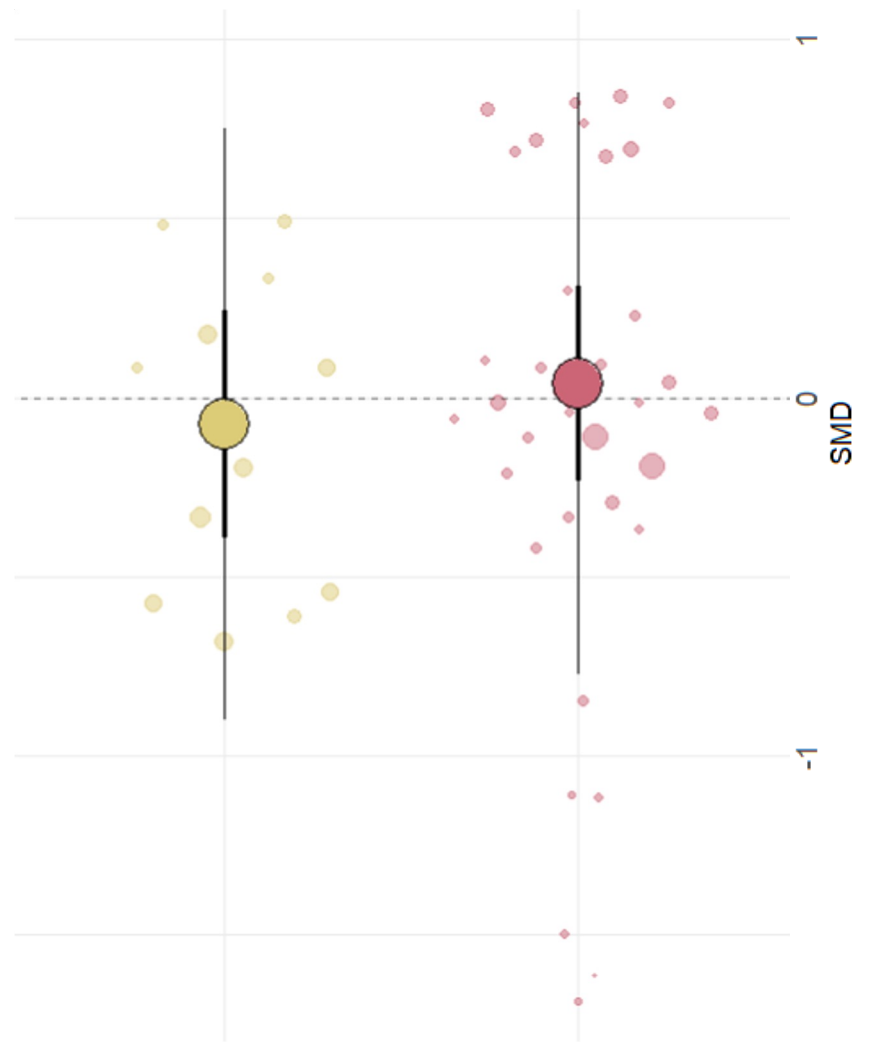
# Methane in permafrost



# Methane in permafrost

Continuous

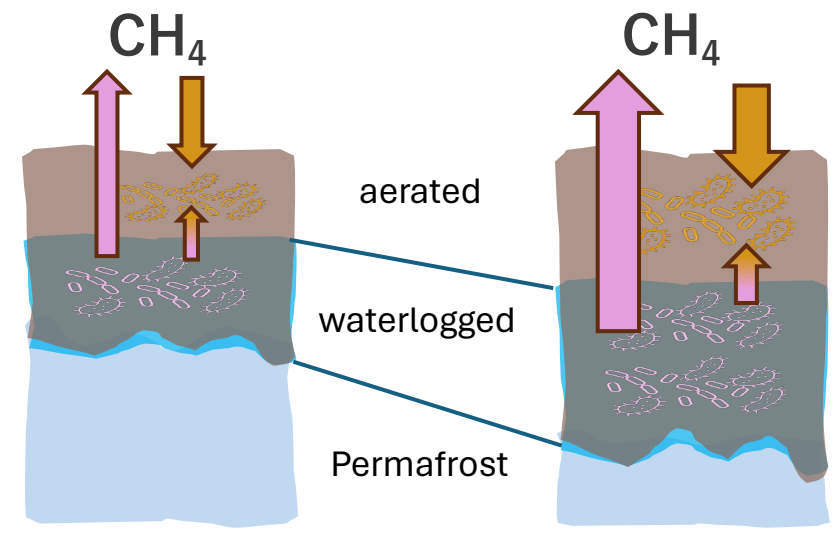
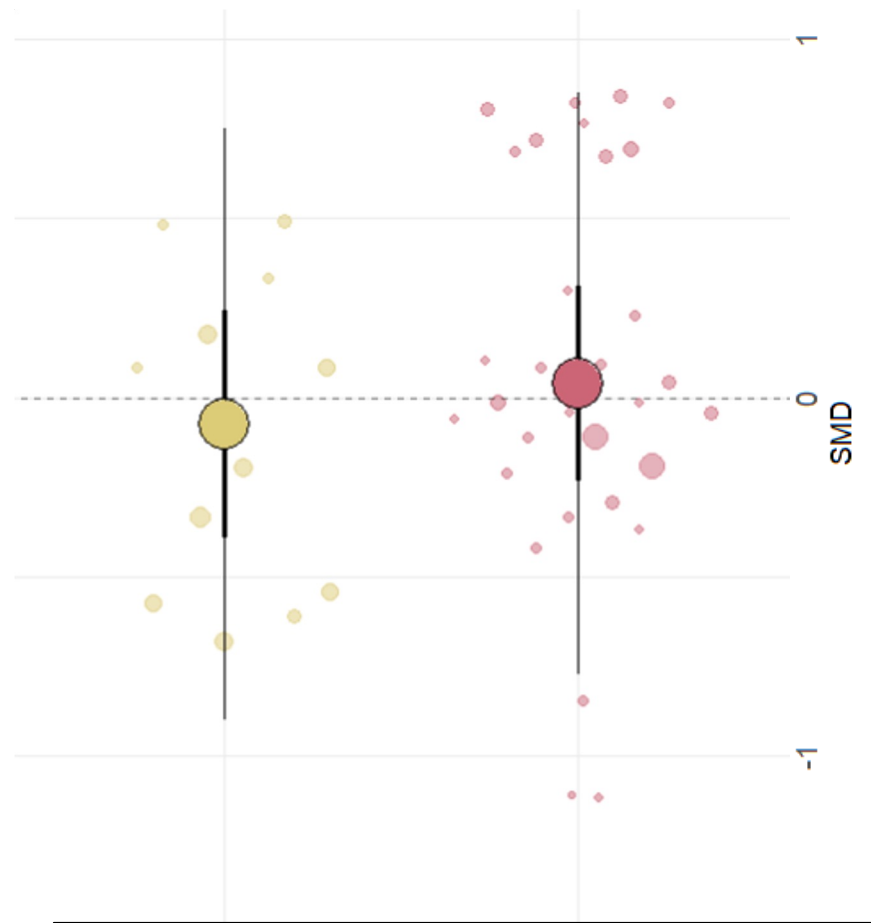
Discontinuous



# Methane in permafrost

Continuous

Discontinuous

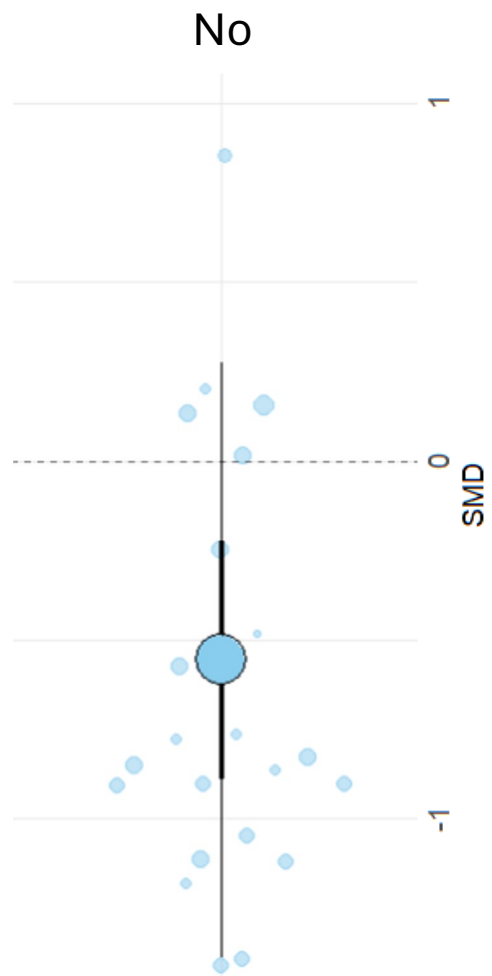


No Evidence of increasing methane **emissions** with warming in permafrost

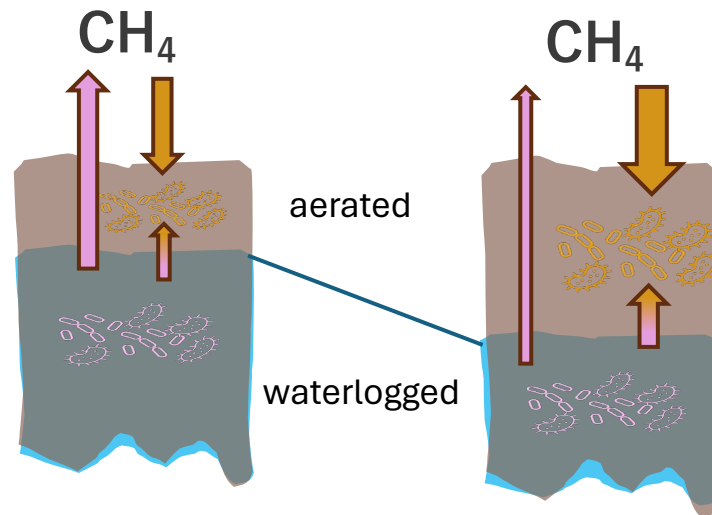
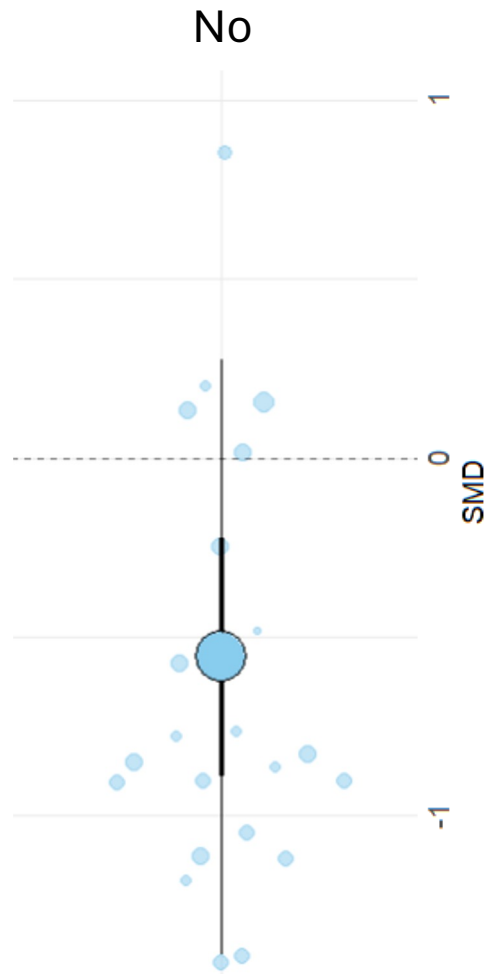




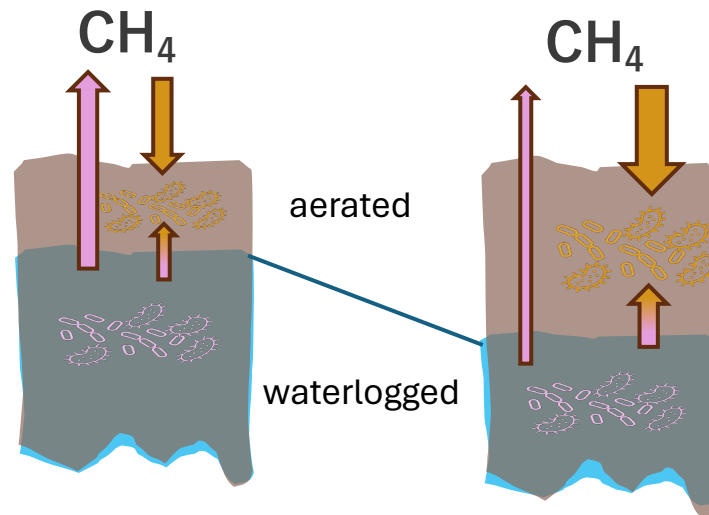
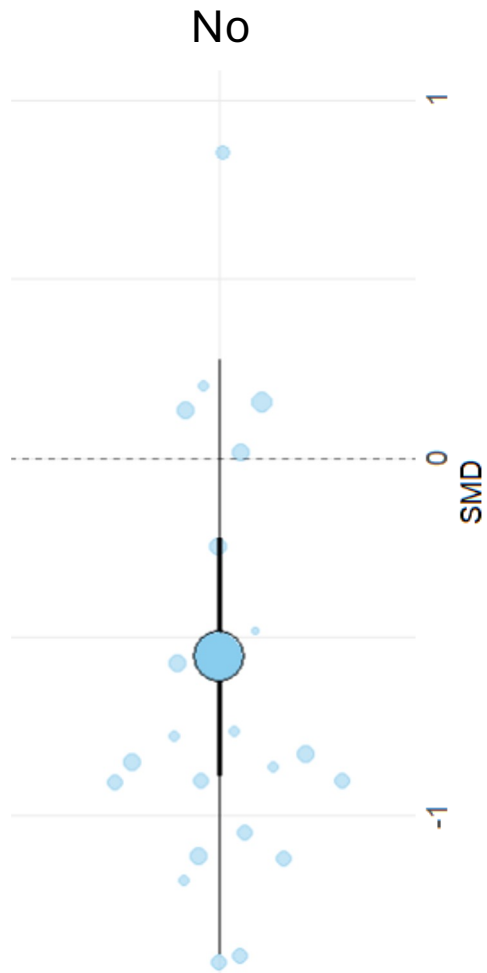
# No Permafrost



# No Permafrost



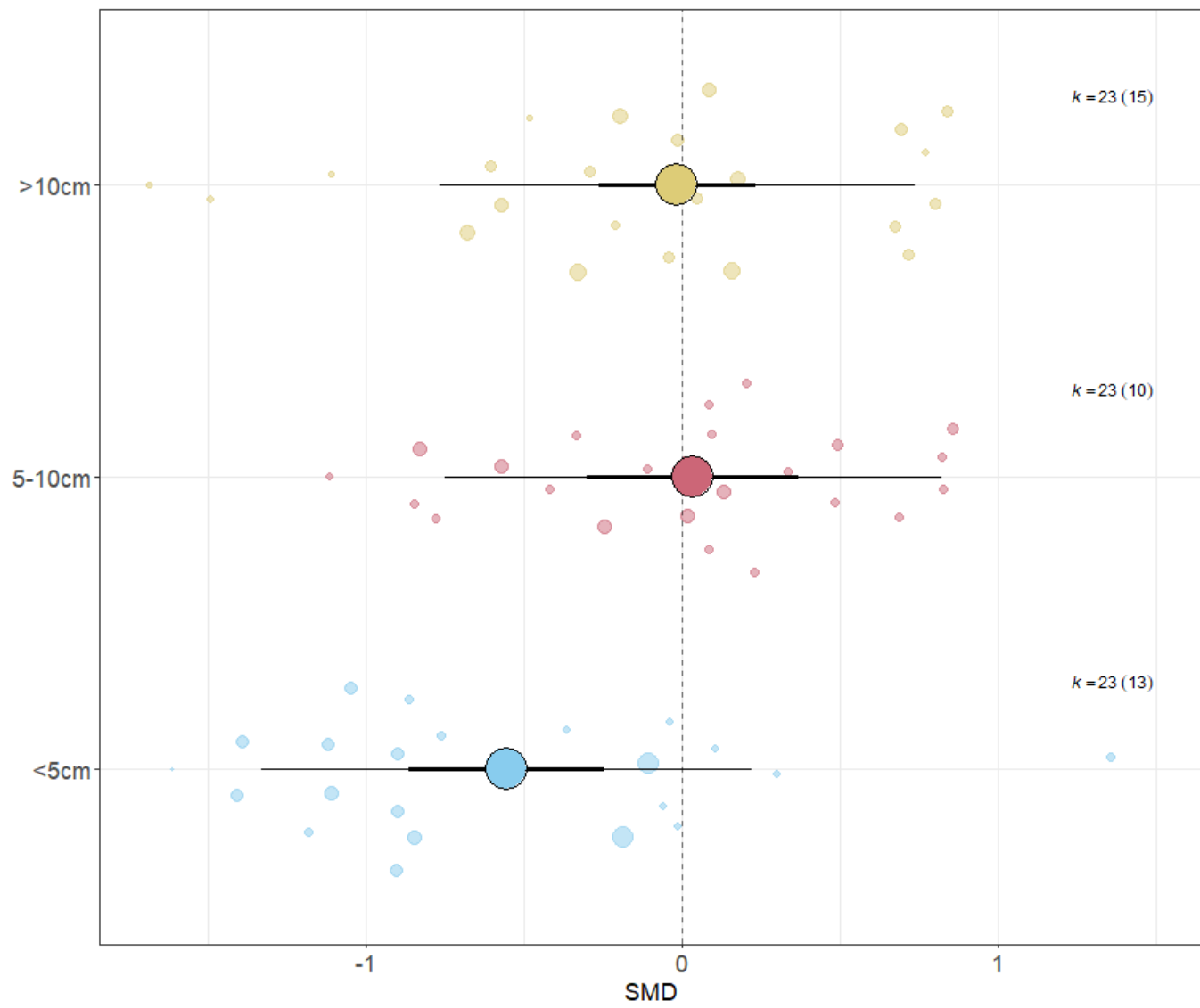
# No Permafrost



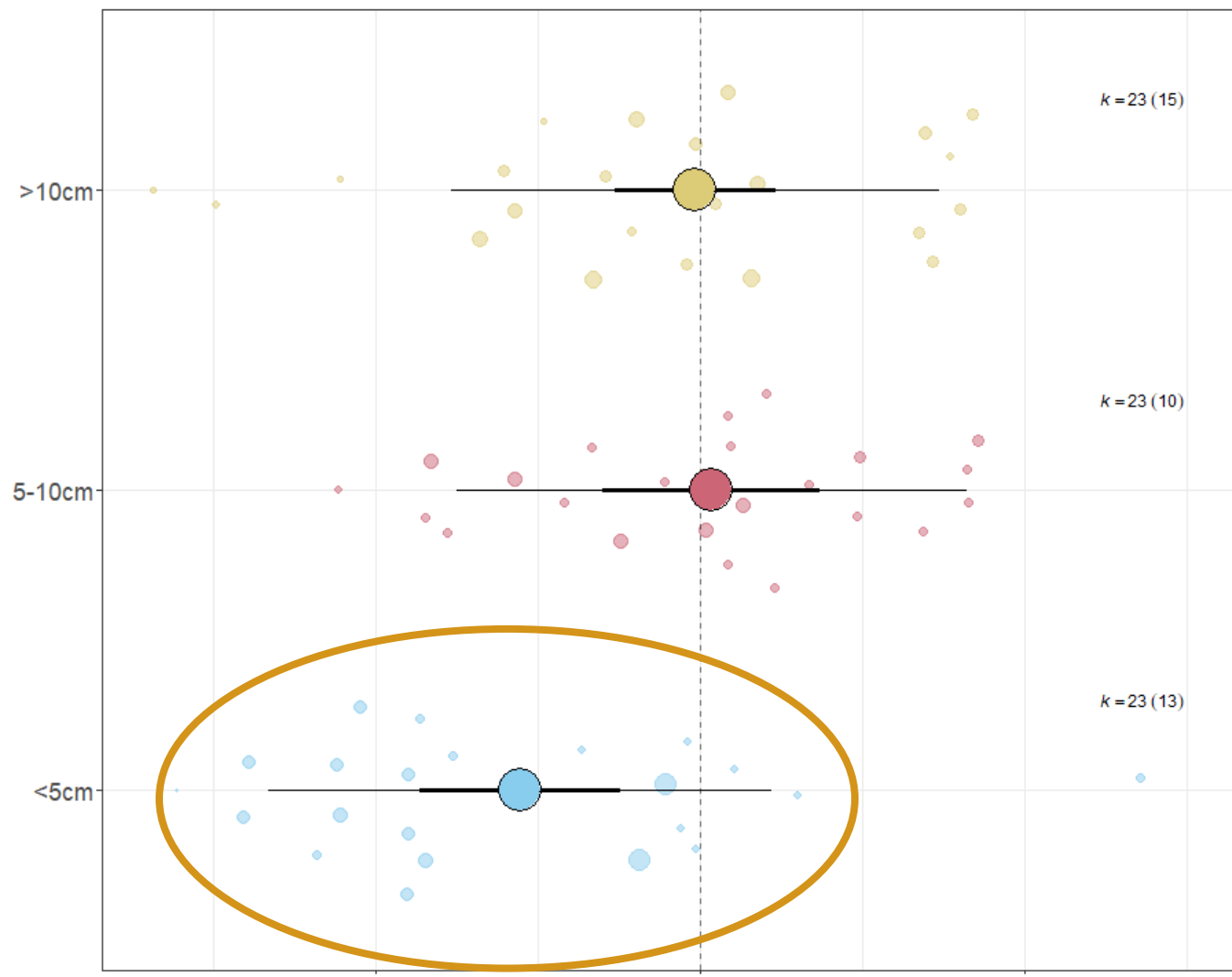
Decrease in net methane flux in non-permafrost soils



# Organic Layer Depth



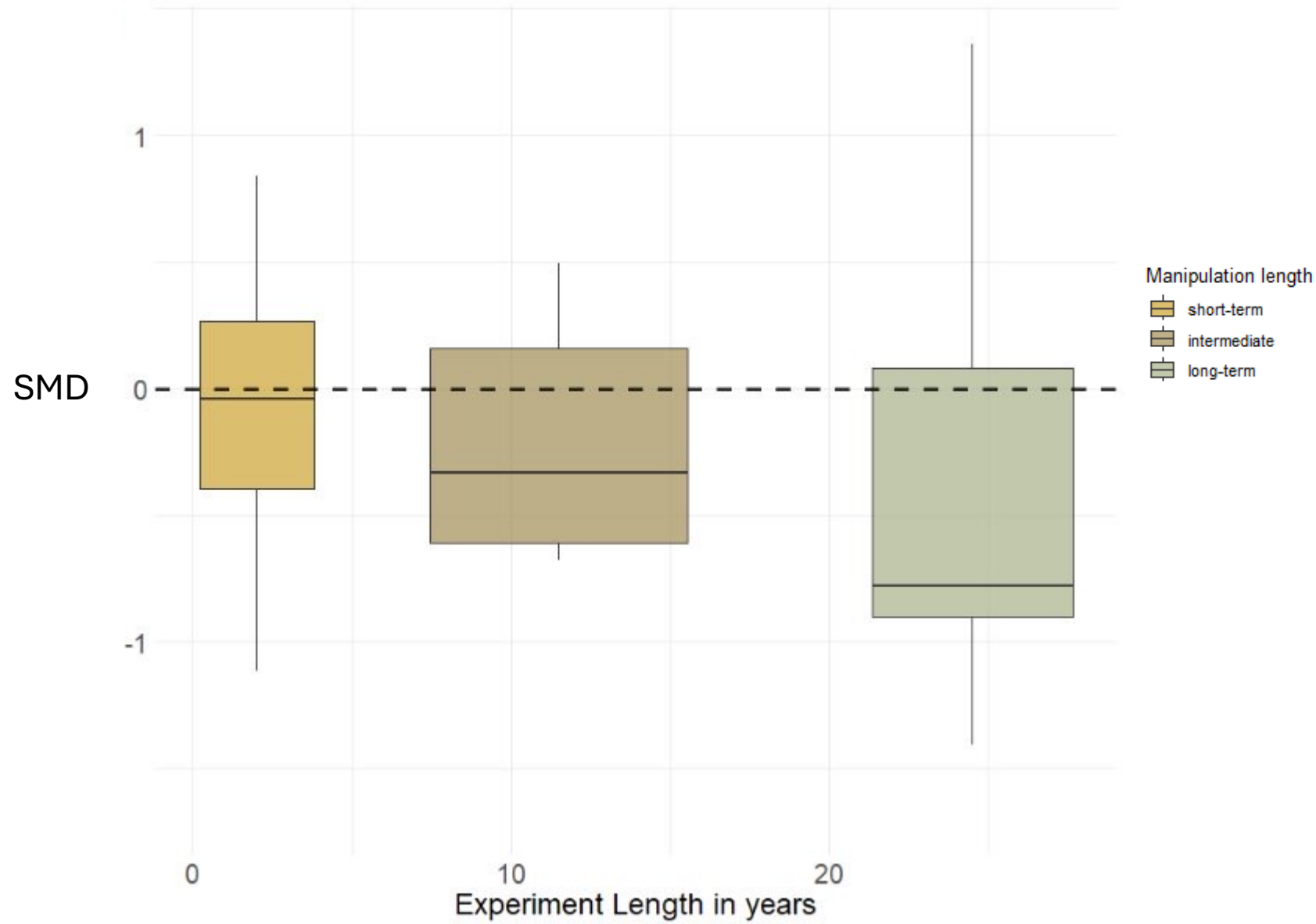
# Organic Layer Depth



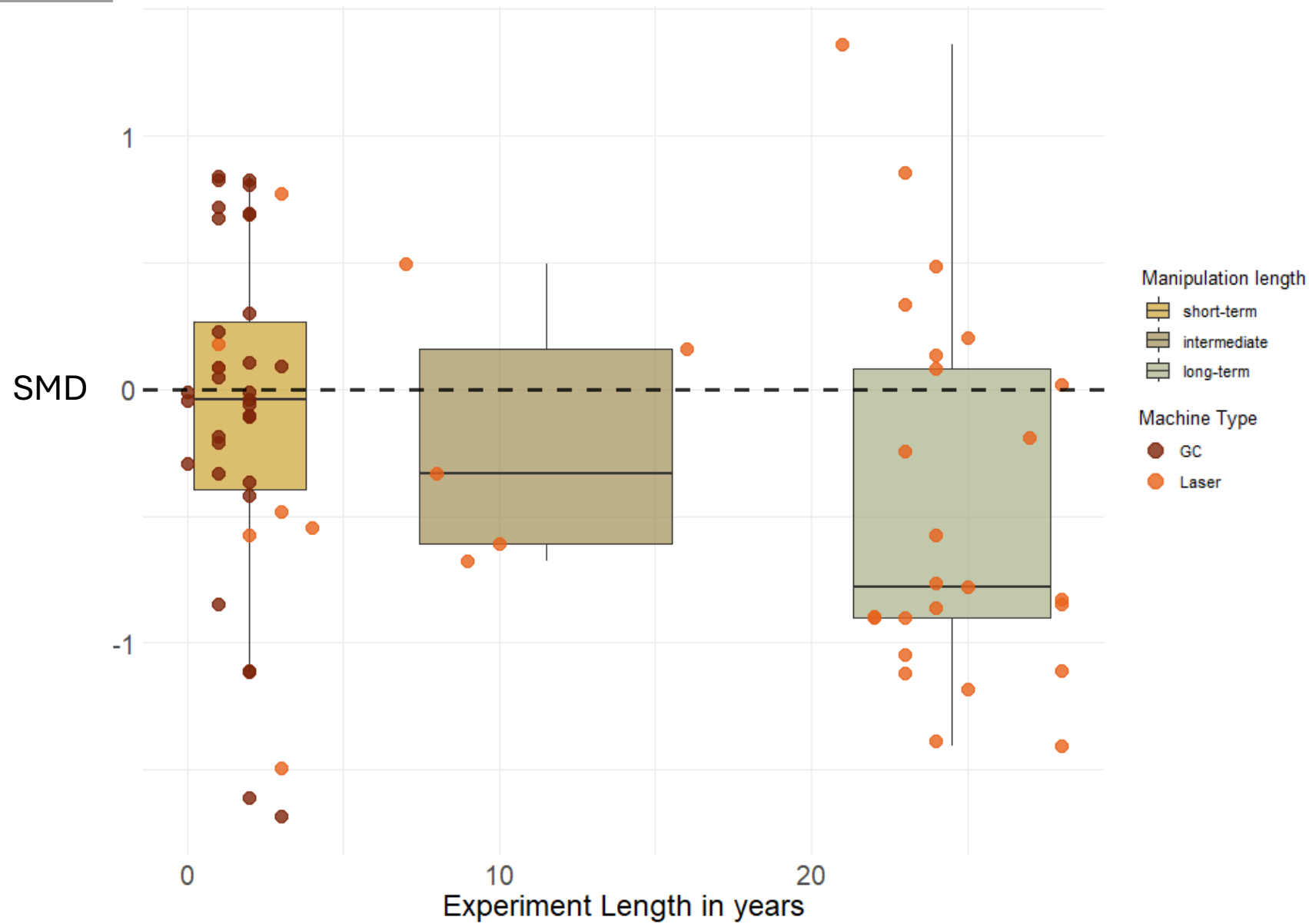
Decrease in **net methane flux** in **thin organic layers**



# Experiment Duration



# Experiment Duration



## Take home message

Tendency for decrease in net methane flux in **graminoid** and **prostrate-shrub tundra**

**Decrease** in net methane flux in soils with **thin organic layer**

**Decrease** in net methane flux in **non-permafrost soils**



Potentially **increased** methane **consumption**

Uncertainties: **Temporal trajectory** (measurement devices)

**Spatial extent** (sampling locations)







**Thanks!**

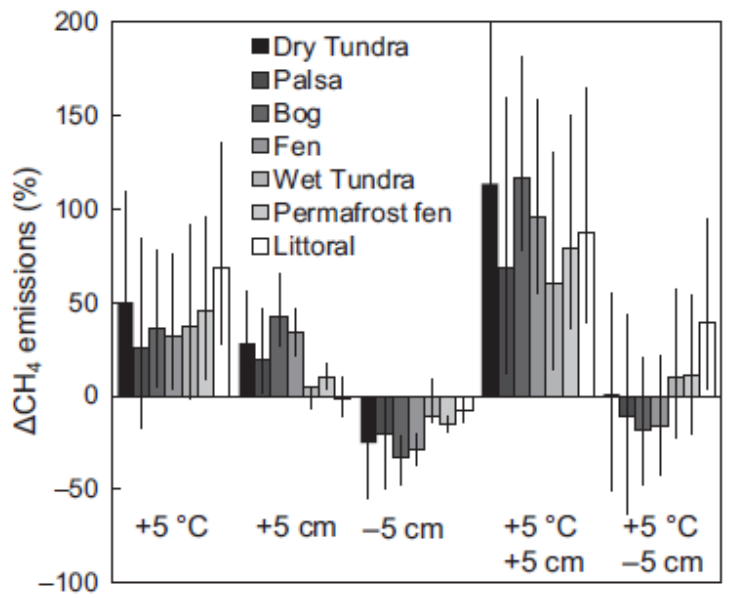
Sybryn Maes  
 Mats P. Björkman  
 Judith Sarneel  
 Ellen Dorrepaal  
 Sarah Schwieger  
 Niki Leblans

R. Aerts, I.H.J. Althuisen, C. Biasi, R.G.B. Björk, H. Böhner, M. Carbognani, G. Chiari, C.T. Christiansen, K.E. Clemmensen, E.J. Cooper, J.H.C. Cornelissen, B. Elberling, P. Faubert, N. Fetcher, T.G.W. Forte, J. Gaudard, K. Gavazov, Z.-H. Guan, J. Guðmundsson, R. Gya, S. Hallin, B.B. Hansen, S.V. Haugum, J.-S. He, C. Hicks Pries, M.J. Hovenden, M. Jalava, I.S. Jónsdóttir, J. Juhanson, J.Y. Jung, E. Kaarlejärvi, M.J. Kwon, R.E. Lamprecht, M. Le Moullec, H. Lee, M.E. Marushchak, A. Michelsen, T.M. Munir, E. Myrsky, C.S. Nielsen, M. Nyberg, J. Olofsson, H. Óskarsson, T.C. Parker, E.P. Pedersen, M. Petit Bon, A. Petraglia, K. Raundrup, N.M.R. Ravn, R. Rinnan, H. Rodenhizer, I. Ryde, N.M. Schmidt, E.A.G. Schuur, S. Sjogersten, S. Stark, M. Strack, J. Tang, A. Tolvanen, J.P. Töpper, M.K. Väisänen, V. Vandvik, R.S. van Logtestijn, C. Voigt, J. Walz, J.T. Weedon, Y. Yang, H. Yläne  
 + probably a lot of assistants



**KU LEUVEN**

# Results



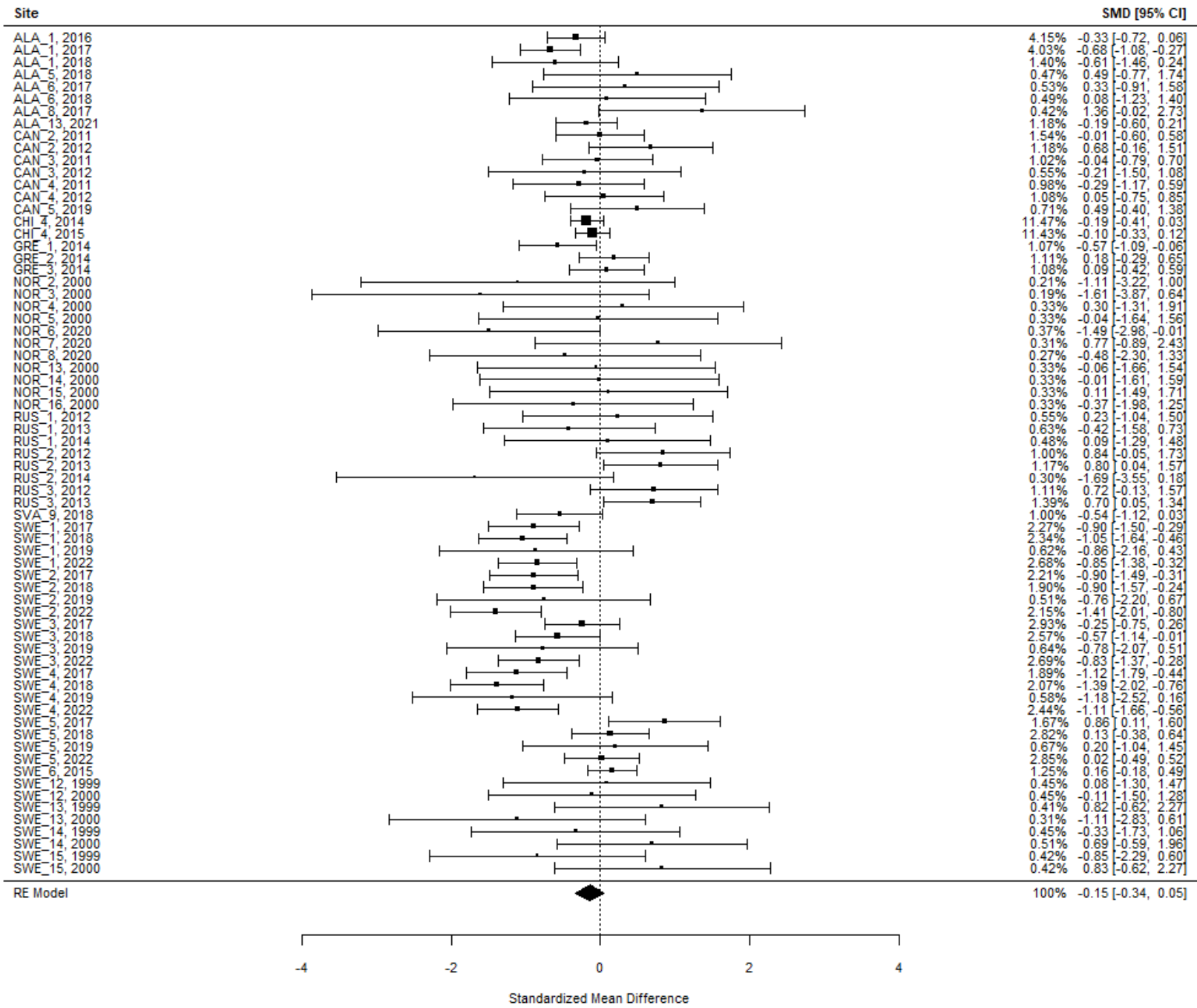
Olefeldt 2013

Permafrost zone	Sporadic/Iso.	+	+	+	+	92	a		
	Discontinuous.				+	+	71	a	
	Continuous				++++	++	140	a	
Permafrost conditions	Absent			+	+	++	+	110	a
	Present			+++		+++	++	180	a
$Z_{\text{WT}}/T_s$ categories	Sat./Warm							13	a
	Sat./Inter.							24	a
	Sat./Cold						+	17	ab
	Wet/Warm							23	a
	Wet/Inter.						+	26	a
	Wet/Cold							16	bc
	Dry/Warm							15	bc
	Dry/Inter.		+		+				15
Dry/Cold								14	c
Ecosystem	Littoral						+	17	a
	Permafrost fen						+	32	a
	Wet tundra						++	48	a
	Fen						+	65	a
	Bog						+	35	ab
	Palsa						++	36	bc
	Dry Tundra Upland		+	+	+				41
Trees	Dominant Present						+	22	b
	Absent						+	219	b
							++++	++	
Shrubs	Dominant Present						+	77	b
	Absent						+	116	c
							++++	+	
Sedges	Dominant Present						+	89	b
	Absent						+	64	c
							++++	+	

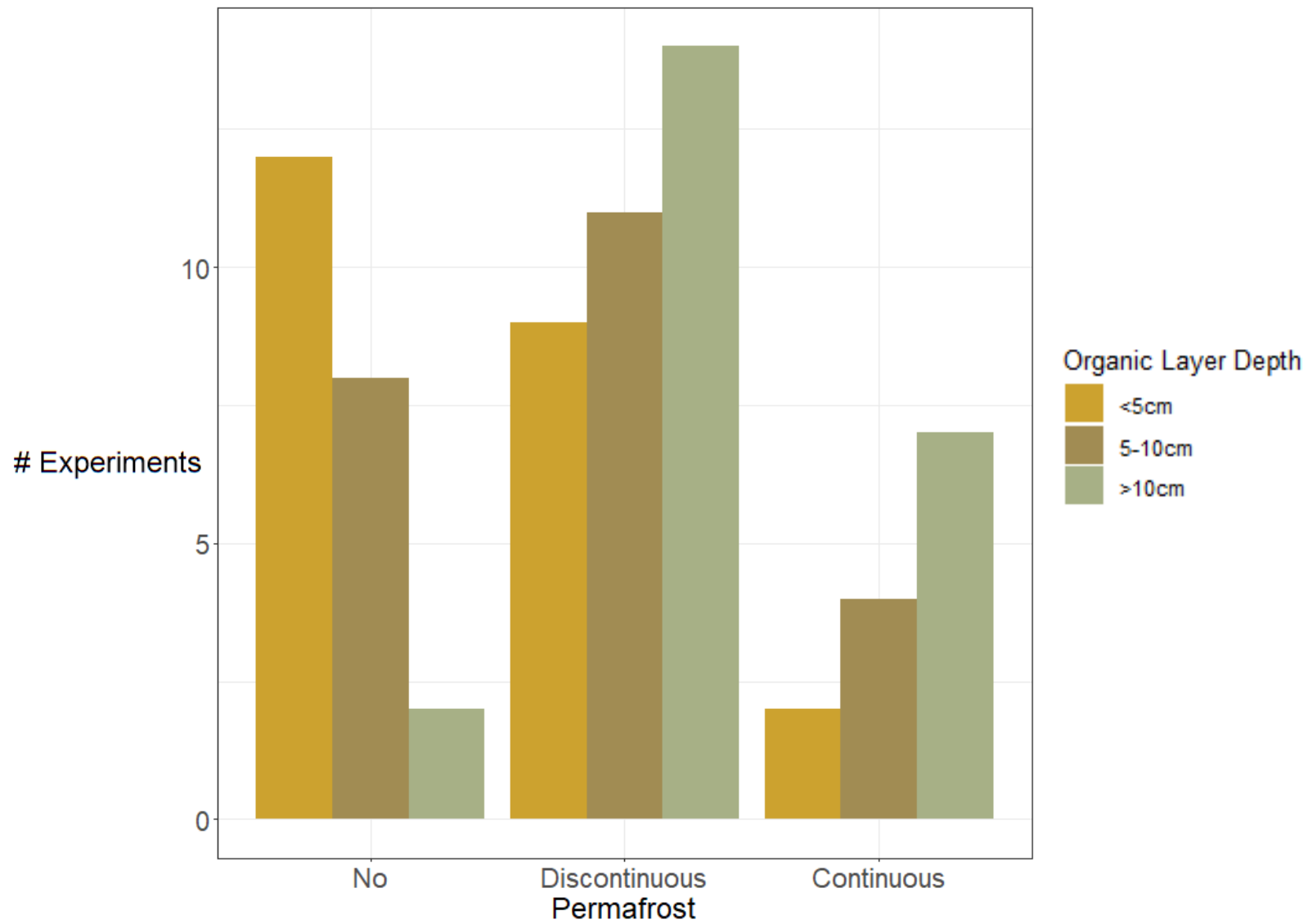
Methane flux ( $\text{mg CH}_4 \text{ m}^{-2} \text{ day}^{-1}$ )



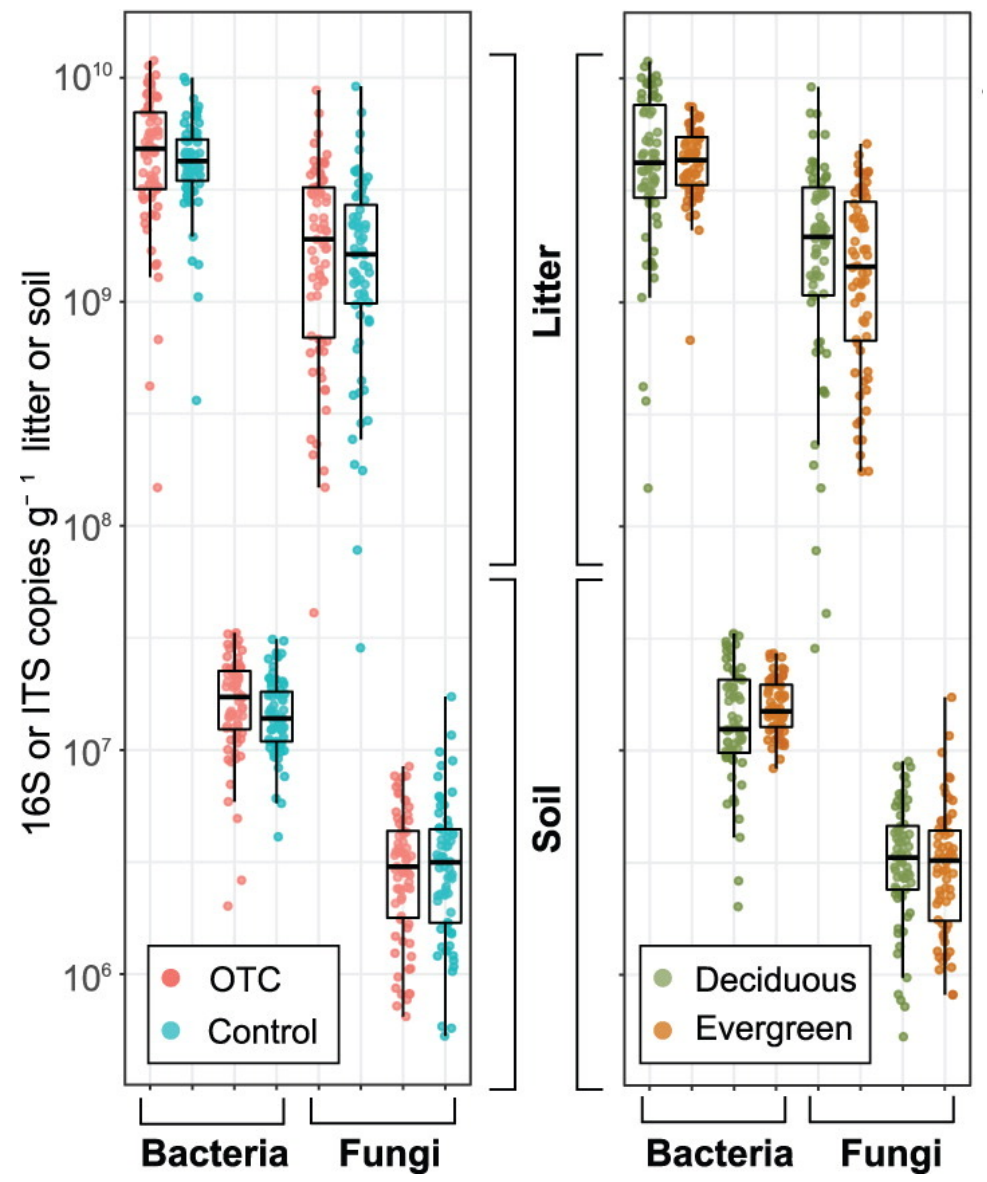
# Results

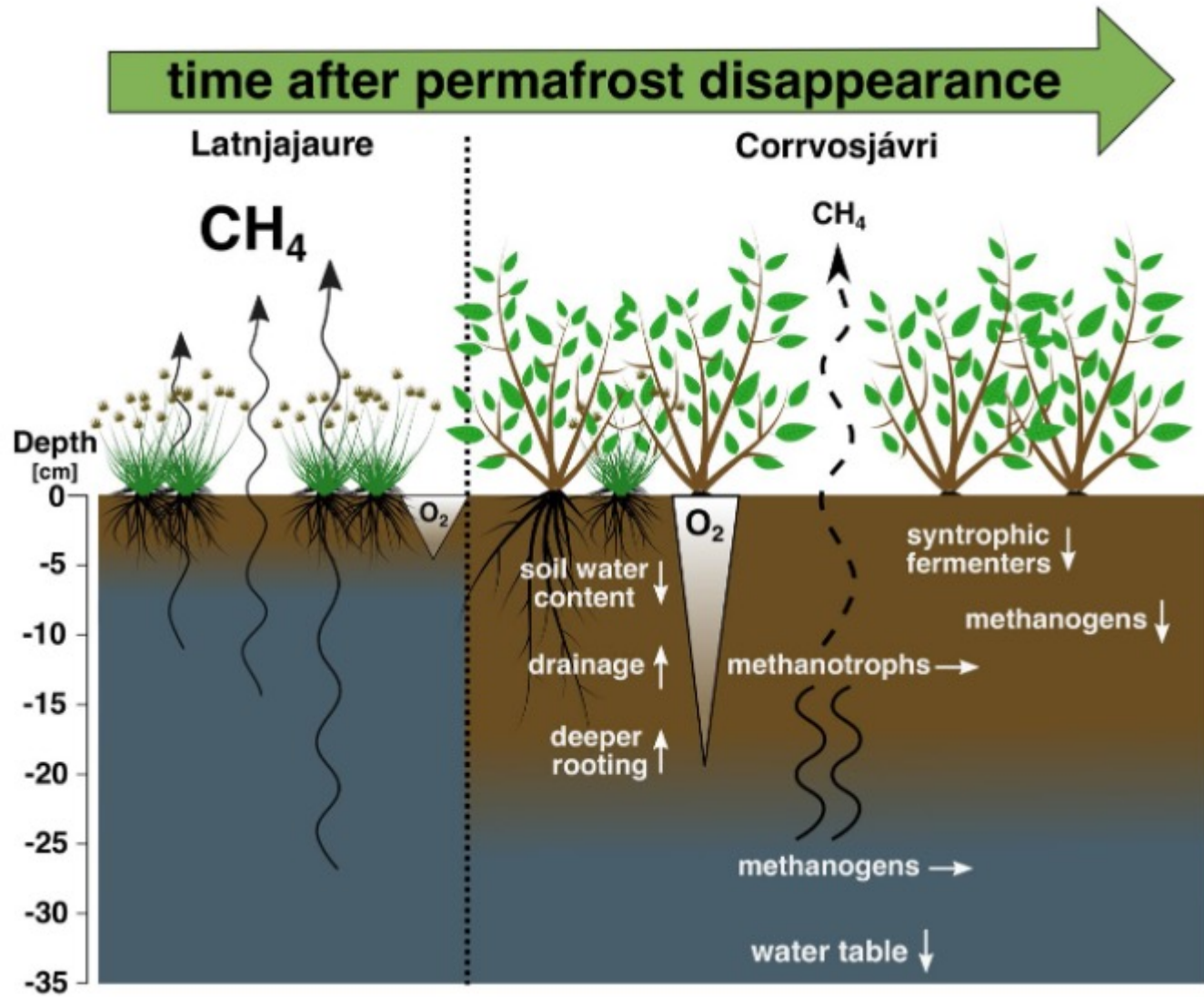


# Permafrost - Organic Layer Depth

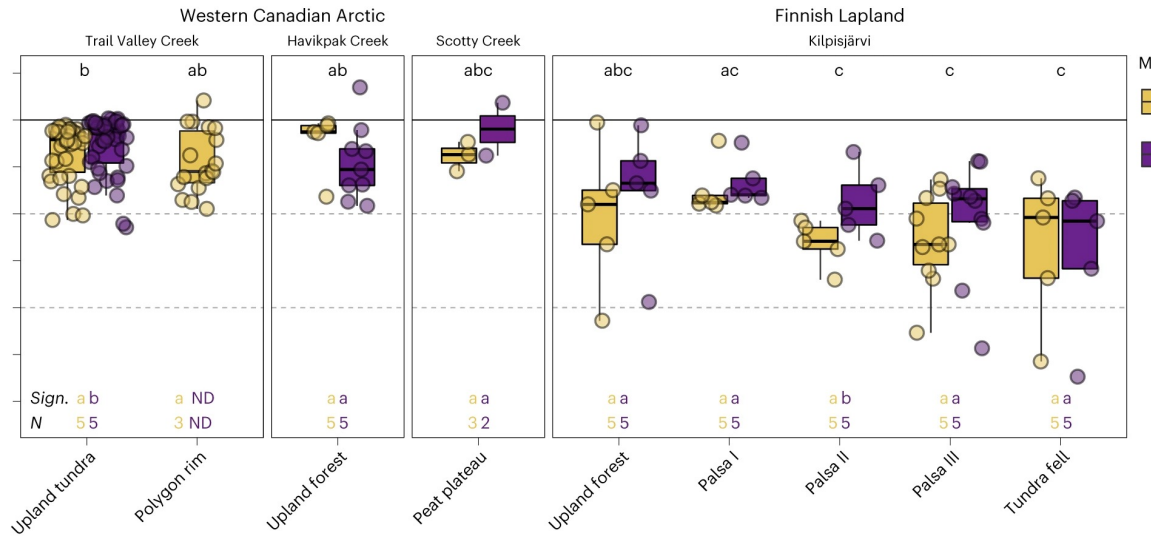
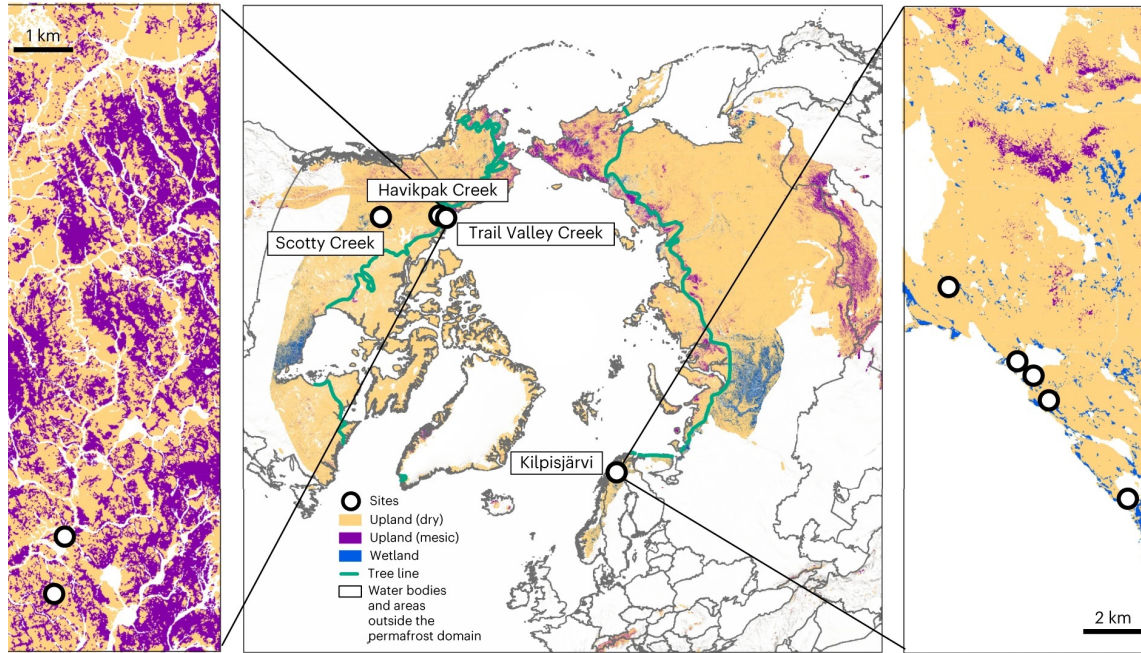


microbes





# Dry Upland soils



Voigt 2023



Article | [Open access](#) | Published: 31 August 2023

# Arctic soil methane sink increases with drier conditions and higher ecosystem respiration

