

Supplement of E&G Quaternary Sci. J., 69, 33–53, 2020  
<https://doi.org/10.5194/egqsj-69-33-2020-supplement>  
© Author(s) 2020. This work is distributed under  
the Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 License.



*Supplement of*

## **The genesis of Yedoma Ice Complex permafrost – grain-size endmember modeling analysis from Siberia and Alaska**

**Lutz Schirrmeister et al.**

*Correspondence to:* Lutz Schirrmeister ([lutz.schirrmeister@awi.de](mailto:lutz.schirrmeister@awi.de))

The copyright of individual parts of the supplement might differ from the CC BY 4.0 License.

## Supplementary material

**Table S1:** Overview of current hypotheses about the formation of Yedoma deposits during the last ~120 years of research.

<b>Origin</b>	<b>Reference</b>
<b>(1) Fluvial, alluvial and proluvial</b>	
<b>Fluvial and alluvial sediments of meandering rivers</b>	Katasonov (1975)
<b>Floodplain sediments</b>	Popov (1953, 1969)
<b>Proluvial slope sediments</b>	Romanovsky (1958) Slagoda (1991, 1993, 2004) Vtyurin et al. (1957)
<b>(2) Aeolian</b>	
<b>Cryogenic-aeolian (“loess ice”) loess and retransported loess</b>	Murton et al. (2015, 2017) Péwé (1955, 1975) Péwé and Journaux (1983) Tomirdiaro (1982, 1996) Tomirdiaro et al. (1984) Tomirdiaro and Chernen’kiy (1987) Walter et al. (2007)
<b>(3) Lacustrine and palustrine</b>	
<b>Sediments of river deltas and swamps dammed by a shelf ice sheet</b>	Nagaoka (1994) Nagaoka et al. (1995)
<b>(4) Glacial and proglacial</b>	
<b>Buried remnants of glaciers</b>	Grosswald (1983, 1998)
<b>Proglacial deposits in basins dammed by a shelf glacier</b>	Toll (1895) Vollosowitch (1914)
<b>(5) Marine-estuarine-lagoon</b>	
<b>Near-shore marine and lagoon deposits</b>	Bol’shiyanov et al. (2013)
<b>(6) Polygenetic</b>	
<b>Polygenetic deposits as products of fluvial, lacustrine, palustrine, slope, aeolian transport</b>	Konishchev (1987) Sher (1997) Schirrmeister et al. (2011, 2013)
<b>(7) Nival -polygenetic</b>	
<b>Nival-polygenetic deposits as products of aeolian, fluvial, solifluction transport from melting extensive perennial snow patches in non-glaciated Siberia</b>	Galabala (1997) Kunitsky (1989), Kunitsky et al. (2002)

## References

- Bol’shiyanov D.Yu. Makarov, A.S., Schneider, V., and Stof, G.: Formation and development of the Lena River Delta, St Petersburg: Arctic and Antarctic Research Institute, 267 pp., 2013 (in Russian).
- Galabala, R.O.: Pereletki and the initiation of glaciation in Siberia, *Quaternary International* 41–42, 27–32, doi: 10.1016/S1040-6182(96)00033-X, 1997.
- Grosswald, M.G.: Glaciation of continental shelves, in: *Itogi nauki i tekhniki. VINITI. Paleogeografiya. Vyp. 1. M., VINITI, 1-165, 1983 (in Russian).*
- Grosswald, M.G.: Late-Weichselian ice sheets in Arctic and Pacific Siberia. *Quaternary International*, 45/46, 3-18, doi: 10.1016/S1040-6182(97)00002-5, 1998.

- Katasonov, E.M.: Frozen ground and facial analysis of Pleistocene deposits and paleogeography of central Yakutia, *Biuletyn peryglacjalny*, 24, 33-41, 1975.
- Konishchev, V.N. Origin of loess-like silt in Northern Yakutia, USSR, *Geo-Journal*, 15 (2), 135-139, 1987 (in Russian).
- Kunitsky, V., Schirrmeister, L., Grosse, G., and Kienast, F.: Snow patches in nival landscapes and their role for the Ice Complex formation in the Laptev Sea coastal lowlands, *Polarforschung*, 70, 53-67, doi: 10.2312/polarforschung.70.53, 2002.
- Kunitsky, V.V.: Cryolithogenesis of the lower Lena. Permafrost Institute, Academy of Science USSR, Siberian Department, pp. 162, Yakutsk, 1989 (in Russian).
- Murton, J.B., Goslar, T., Edwards, M.E., Bateman, M.D., Danilov, P.P., Savvinov, G.N., and Gubin, S.V.: Palaeoenvironmental Interpretation of Yedoma Silt (Ice Complex) Deposition as Cold-Climate Loess, Duvanny Yar, Northeast Siberia, *Permafrost and Periglacial Processes* 26, 208-288, doi: 10.1002/ppp.1843, 2015.
- Murton, J.B., Edwards, M.E., Lozhkin, A.V., Anderson, P.M., Savvinov, G.N., Bakulina, N., Bondarenko, O.V., Cherepanova, M., Danilov, P.P., Boeskorov, V., Goslar, T., Grigoriev, S., Gubin, S.V., Korzun, J., Lupachev, A. V., Tikhonov, A., Tsygankova, V.I., and Zanina, O.G.: Preliminary paleoenvironmental analysis of permafrost deposits at Batagaika megaslump, Yana Uplands, northeast Siberia, *Quaternary Research* 87(2), 314-330, doi: 10.1017/qua.2016.15, 2017.
- Nagaoka, D.: Properties of Ice Complex deposits in Eastern Siberia, in: *Proceedings of the Second Symposium on the Joint Siberian Permafrost Studies between Japan and Russia*, Isebu Tsukuba-Japan, 1993, 14-18, 1994.
- Nagaoka, D., Saijo, K., and Fukuda, M.: Sedimental environment of the Edoma in high Arctic eastern Siberia, in: Takahashi, K., Osawa, A., and Kanazawa, Y. (eds.): *Proceedings of the Third Symposium on the Joint Siberian Permafrost Studies between Japan and Russia*, Tsukuba, Japan, 1994, 8-13, 1995.
- Péwé T.L.: Origin of the upland silt near Fairbanks, Alaska, *Geological Society of America Bulletin* 66: 699-724, 1955.
- Péwé T.L.: Quaternary geology of Alaska. U.S. Geological Survey Professional Paper 835, p. 143, 1975.
- Péwé, T.L., and Journaux, A.: Origin and character of loess-like silt in unglaciated south-central Yakutia, Siberia, USSR. US Geological Survey Professional Paper 1262, p. 46, 1983.
- Popov, A.I.: Features of lithogenesis of alluvial plains under the conditions of cold climate. *Izvestiya AN SSSR, ser. geogr.*, 2, 29-41, 1953 (in Russian).
- Popov, A.I.: Underground ice in the Quaternary deposits of the Yana-Indigirka Lowland as a genetic and stratigraphic indicator, in: *The Periglacial Environment, Past and Present*, ed. T.L. Péwé (Montreal, McGill-Queen's Univ. Press), 55-64, 1969.
- Romanovsky, N.N.: Paleogeographic conditions of formation of the Quaternary deposits on Bol'shoy Lyakhovskiy Island (Novosibirsk Islands). *Voprosy fizicheskoy geografii polyarnykh stran. Vyp. 1, M., MGU, Geografich. fakul'tet*, 80-88, 1958 (in Russian).
- Schirrmeister, L., Kunitsky, V. V., Grosse, G., Wetterich, S., Meyer, H., Schwamborn, G., Babiy, O., Derevyagin, A. Y., Siegert, C.: Sedimentary characteristics and origin of the Late Pleistocene Ice Complex on North-East Siberian Arctic coastal lowlands and islands - a review, *Quaternary International* 241, 3-25, doi:10.1016/j.quaint.2010.04.004, 2011.
- Schirrmeister, L., Froese, D., Tumskey, V., Grosse, G., Wetterich, S.: Yedoma: Late Pleistocene ice-rich syngenetic permafrost of Beringia. In: Elias S.A. (ed.) *The Encyclopedia of Quaternary Science* 2nd edition, vol. 3, pp. 542-552. Amsterdam: Elsevier, 2013.
- Sher, A.: Yedoma as a store of paleoenvironmental records in Beringida. *Beringian Paleoenvironmental Workshop (abstracts and program)*, eds. Elias S. and Brigham-Grette, J. 92-94, 1997.

- Slagoda, E.A.: Microstructure features of the deposits of Ice Complexes in Northern Yakutia (by the example of Bykovsky Peninsula; in: *Kriologiya pochv. Pushchino*, IPFS PNTs AN SSSR, ed. D.A. Gilichinskiy, 38-47, 1991 (in Russian).
- Slagoda, E.A.: Genesis and microstructure of cryolithogenic deposits at the Bykovsky Peninsula and the Muostakh [unpubl. Diss., Yakutsk, RAS Siberian Section, Permafrost Institute, 218 p., 1993 (in Russian).
- Slagoda, E.A.: *Cryolithogenic Deposits of the Laptev Sea Coastal Plain: Lithology and Micromorphology*. Tyumen, Russia: Publishing and Printing Centre Express, 2004 (in Russian).
- Toll, E.V.: Die fossilen Eislager und ihre Beziehungen zu den Mammuthleichen. *Wissenschaftliche Resultate des Yamalandes und der Neusibirischen Inseln*. *Mern. Acad. Imper. Sci. Si.-Petersbourg*, VII Serie, 17, 13, St.-Petersbourg, 1-86, 7 Taf., 1895.
- Tomirdiario, S.V.: Evolution of lowland landscapes in northern Asia during Late Quaternary time, in: *Paleoecology of Beringia*, ed. D.V. Hopkins, J.V. Matthews, Jr., Ch.E. Schweger, and S.B. Young (New York, NY: Academic Press), 29-37, 1982.
- Tomirdiario, S.V.: Palaeogeography of Beringia and Arctida, in: *American Beginnings: The Prehistory and Palaeoecology of Beringia*, ed. C.F. West (Chicago and London: University of Chicago Press), 58-69, 1996.
- Tomirdiario, S.V., and Chernen'kiy, O.: Cryogenic deposits of East Arctic and Sub Arctic.- AN SSSR Far-East-Science Centre, 196 pp., 1987 (in Russian).
- Tomirdiario, S.V., Arslanov, Kh.A., Chernen'kiy, B.I., Tertychnaya, T.V., and Prokhorova, T.N.: New data on formation of loess-ice sequences in Northern Yakutia and ecological conditions of mammoth fauna in the Arctic during the late Pleistocene. *Doklady AN SSSR*, 278, 6, 1446-1449, 1984 (in Russian).
- Vollossovitch, K.A.: Mammoth of the Bolshoy Lyakhov Island (Novosibirsk Islands). Geological essay, *Zapiski Imp. Mineral. o-va*, ser.2, t. 50, Petrograd, Tipo-litografiya Birkenfel'da, 305-338, 1914 (in Russian).
- Vtyurin, B.I., Grigoryev, N.F., Katasonov, E.M., Kuznetsova, T.P., Shvetsov, P.F., and Shumskii, P.A.: Local stratigraphic scheme of Quaternary deposits at the Laptev Sea coast. Leningrad, Proceedings of the Interdepartmental Council for the Edition of a Unified Stratigraphical Scheme of Siberia. 564-572, 1957 in Russian).
- Walter, K.M., Edwards, M.E., Grosse, G., Zimov, S.A., and Chapin, F.S.: Thermokarst lakes as a source of atmospheric CH<sub>4</sub> during the last deglaciation. *Science* 318, 633-636, doi: 10.1126/science.1142924, 2007.

**Table S2:** Study sites, coordinates, geological and geomorphological characteristics, and corresponding site-specific publications.

Loc No.	Location	Elevation (m asl)	Age (kyr)	°N	°E	bedrock/ parent rock	Distance to mountains, rivers, past glacier border lines (Kaufmann et al., 2004; Archipov et al., 1986, 1988; Ehlers et al., 2011)
<b>Alaska</b>							
1	Colville River (Grosse et al., 2015)	250 120	45 - 13	69.03 69.30	-155.44 -152.32	Cretaceous sedimentary bedrock in the rolling foothills of the Brooks Range	80 km N of Brooks Range, at the Colville River, 78 km and 94 km N of the Laurentian Ice Sheet
2	Itkillik River (Kanevskiy et al., 2016; Lapointe et al., 2017; Strauss et al., 2012b)	85	>47.5 - 14	69.57	-150.87	Cretaceous sedimentary bedrock in the rolling foothills of the Brooks Range	135 km N of Brooks Range, at the Itkillik River, 91 km N of the Laurentian Ice Sheet
3	Seward Peninsula (Kitluk River) (unpublished data)	~ 30	----	66.55	-164.45	Loess-like deposits from the floodplains of the palaeo river (Péwé, 1975); local late Quaternary massive tephra layers and lava fields	150 km SW of the Brooks Range, 3 km S of the Chukchi Sea coast, 269 km W of the Laurentian Ice Sheet
4	Vault Creek tunnel (Schirrmeister et al., 2016a)	200	50 - 20	65.03	-147.71	Weathered schistose bedrock of the Precambrian or Lower Paleozoic “Birch-Creek schist”	270 km S of the Brooks Range, 27 km N of the Tanana River, between the Brooks (260 km) and Alaska range ice sheets (107 km)
<b>Western Laptev Sea</b>							
5	Cape Mamontov Klyk (Schirrmeister et al., 2004, 2008; Winterfeld et al., 2011)	30	46 - 9.5	73.61	117.18	Mesozoic sandstone and siltstone of the Pronchishchev Range	40 km N of the Pronshishchev Range, Laptev Sea coast, ca. 477 km SE of the Eurasian ice border (60 ka BP), 487 km NW of the Verkhoyansk Glacier
<b>Lena Delta</b>							

6	Ebe Basyn Sise Island (Nagym) (Schirrmeister et al., 2001, 2003)	25	>56.8 - 43	72.88	123.32	Mesozoic sandstone and slate of the Chekanovsky Ridge	20 km N of the Chekanovsky Ridge, Olenyek Channel, Lena delta, ca. 679 km SE of the Eurasian ice border (60 ka BP), 302 km NW of the Verkhoyansk Glacier
7	Khardang Sise Island (Schirrmeister et al., 2007)	20	30 - 20	72.95	124.21	Mesozoic sandstone and slate of the Chekanovsky Ridge	65 km N of the Chekanovsky Ridge, Olenyek Channel, Lena Delta, 696 km SE of the Eurasian ice border (60 ka BP), 298 km NW of the Verkhoyansk Glacier
8	Kurungnakh Sise Island (Schirrmeister et al., 2001, 2003, 2011a; Schwamborn et al., 2002; Wetterich et al., 2008)	35	50 - 32	72.33	126.30	Mesozoic sandstone and slate of the Chekanovsky Ridge	15 km N of the Chekanovsky Ridge, Olenyek Channel, Lena Delta, 794 km SE of the Eurasian ice border (60 ka BP), 218 km NW of the Verkhoyansk Glacier

#### Central and Eastern Laptev Sea

9	Bykovsky Peninsula, (Mamontovy Khayata) (Grosse et al., 2007; Schirrmeister et al., 2002a,b; Siegert et al., 1999, 2002; Sher et al., 2000, 2005)	40	57 - 12	71.78	129.43	Permocarbon sandstone and slate of the Kharaulakh Mountain	40 km E of the Kharaulakh Ridge, at the Laptev Sea coast, 914 km SE of the Eurasian ice border (60 ka BP), 121 km NNE of the Verkhoyansk Glacier
10	Muostakh Island (Grigoriev et al., 2003; Schirrmeister et al., 2011b)	20	39 - 20	71.60	129.99	Permocarbon sandstone and slate of the Kharaulakh Mountain	40 km E of the Kharaulakh Ridge, at the Laptev Sea coast, 942 km SE of the Eurasian ice border (60 ka BP), 103 km NNE of the Verkhoyansk Glacier

11	Buor Khaya Peninsula (Schirmeister et al., 2017; Strauss et al., 2011, 2015)	35	54 - 11	71.42	132.11	Permocarbon sandstone and slate of the Kharaulakh Mountains	100 km E of the Kharaulakh Ridge, at the Laptev Sea coast, 1010 km SE of the Eurasian ice border (60 ka BP), 123 km NE of the Verkhoyansk Glacier
----	--	----	---------	-------	--------	--	---

---

**New Siberian Archipelago and the Dmitry Laptev Strait**

---

12	Stolbovoy Island (Schirmeister et al., 2011b)	30	>51 – 36.6	74.06	136.08	Cretaceous sandstone, siltstone	at the Laptev Sea coast, 938 km E of the Eurasian ice border (60 ka BP), 434 km NNE of the Verkhoyansk Glacier
13	Bel'kovskiy Island (Schirmeister et al., 2011b)	15	54 - 40	75.37	135.59	Devonian siltstone, mudstone, sandstone, limestone	at the Laptev Sea coast, 853 km E of the Eurasian ice border (60 ka BP), 714 km NNW of the Chersky Range Glaciation, 554 km N of the Verkhoyansk Glacier
14	Northern Kotelny Island (Cape Anisii) (Schirmeister et al., 2011b)	20	28	76.17	139.01	Silurian limestone, siltstone	at the Laptev Sea coast, 887 km ESE of the Eurasian ice border (60 ka BP), 800 km NNW of the Chersky Range Glaciation, 677 km N of the Verkhoyansk Glacier
15	Southwestern Kotelny Island (Komurganakh River mouth) (Schirmeister et al., 2011b)	20	46 - 35	74.74	138.38	Devonian siltstone, mudstone, sandstone, limestone	at the Laptev Sea coast (Sannikov Strait), 962 km ESE of the Eurasian ice border (60 ka BP), 641 km NNW of the Chersky Range Glaciation, 535 km N of the Verkhoyansk Glacier

16	Maly Lyakhovsky Island (Schirmeister et al., 2011b)	15	38 - 28	74.25	140.35	Jurassic siltstone, mudstone, sandstone	at the Laptev Sea coast (Sannikov Strait), 1040 km SE of the Eurasian ice border (60 ka BP), 594 km N of the Chersky Range Glaciation, 563 km NNE of the Verkhoyansk Glacier
17	Bol'shoy Lyakhovsky Island (Zimov'e River) (Schirmeister et al., 2000; Andreev et al., 2004, 2009; Wetterich et al., 2011b, 2014; Schwamborn and Wetterich, 2015)	35	54 - 22	73.30	141.5	Permian to Triassic siltstone, sandstone, mudstone, Early Cretaceous granite	at the Laptev Sea coast (Dmitrii Laptev Strait), 1127 km SE of the Eurasian ice border (60 ka BP), 502 km N of the Chersky Range Glaciation, 505 km NNE of the Verkhoyansk Glacier
18	Oyogos Yar coast (Boike et al., 2008; Grigoriev et al., 2003; Opel et al., 2017; Schirmeister et al., 2011b)	30	48 - 32	72.68	143.53	Neogene silt, sand, gravel	at the Laptev Sea coast (Dmitrii Laptev Strait), 1223 km SE of the Eurasian ice border (60 ka BP), 467 km NNE of the Chersky Range Glaciation, 529 km NE of the Verkhoyansk Glacier

---

**Yakutian inland**

19	Duvanny Yar (Kolyma lowland) (Strauss et al., 2012a; Wetterich et al., 2011a)	50	47 - 22	68.63	159.14		at the Kolyma River, 120 km W of the Belaya Strelka Mountains, 315 m west of the Anyou Range Glaciation
20	Kytalyk (Indigirka lowland) (Schirmeister et al., 2012)	30	31 - 16	70.84	147.45		at the Berelekh River, 410 km NE of the Chersky Range Glaciation,
21	Batagay Mega-slump (Ashastina et al., 2017; Kunitsky et al., 2013; Murton et al., 2017)	300	>51 - 26	67.58	134.76	Tertiary terrigenous siltstone, mudstone, has undergone low-grade metamorphism	10 km SE of the Yana River, 200 km E of the Verkhoyansk Glacier, 105 km W of the Chersky Range Glaciation



22	Tabaga (Central Yakutia) (unpublished data)	160	32 - 20	61.66	130.94	40 km SE of the Lena River, 226 km S of the Verkhoyansk Glacier on the Abalakh terrace, 60 km SE of the Lena River, 219 km S of the Verkhoyansk Glacier
23	Yukechi (Central Yakutia) (unpublished data)	200	>49 - 22	61.76	130.47	

---

**Non Yedoma (as reference)**

---

	Pokhodsk polygon cores (Schirrneister et al., 2016b, 2018)	8	2 - 3	69.1	160.9	
	Pokhodsk polygon bottom (Schirrneister et al., 2016b)	7	modern	69.1	160.9	
	Kytalyk polygon cores (Schirrneister et al., 2018)	5	2 - 3	70.8	147.5	
	Kytalyk polygon bottom (de Klerk et al., in prep., Schirrneister et al., 2012, 2016b)	4	modern	70.8	147.5	
	Kolyma+Berelekh flood plains (Schirrneister et al., 2016b)	5	modern	69.1 70.8	161.0 147.5	

---

## References

- Andreev, A.A., Grosse, G., Schirrneister, L., Kuzmina, S.A., Novenko, E.Yu., Bobrov, A.A., Tarasov, P. E., Kuznetsova, T.V., Krbetschek, M., Meyer, H., and Kunitsky, V.V.: Late Saalian and Eemian palaeoenvironmental history of the Bol'shoy Lyakhovsky Island (Laptev Sea region, Arctic Siberia), *Boreas* 33(4), 319-348, doi:10.1080/03009480410001974, 2004.
- Andreev, A., Grosse, G., Schirrneister, L., Kuznetsova, T.V., Kuzmina, S.A., Bobrov, A.A., Tarasov, P.E., Novenko, E.Yu., Meyer, H., Derevyagin, A.Yu., Kienast, F., Bryantseva, A., and Kunitsky, V.V.: Weichselian and Holocene palaeoenvironmental history of the Bol'shoy Lyakhovsky Island, New Siberian Archipelago, Arctic Siberia, *Boreas* 38(1), 72–110, doi: 10.1111/j.1502-3885.2008.00039.x, 2009.
- Arkhipov, S.A., Bespaly, V.G., Faustova, M.A., Glushkova, O.Yu., Isaeva, L.L., and Velichko, A.A.: Ice-Sheet reconstructions. *Quaternary Science Reviews* 5: 475–483, doi: 10.1016/0277-3791(86)90213-1, 1986a.
- Arkhipov, S.A., Isayeva, L.L., Bespaly, V.G., and Glushkova, O.: Glaciations of Siberia and north-east USSR, *Quaternary Science Reviews*, 5, 463–474, doi: 10.1016/0277-3791(86)90212-X, 1986b.
- Ashastina, K., Schirrneister, L., Fuchs M., and Kienast F.: Palaeoclimate characteristics in interior Siberia of MIS 6–2: first insights from the Batagay permafrost mega-thaw slump in the Yana Highlands, *Clim. Past*, 13, 795–818, doi: 10.5194/cp-13-795-2017, 2017.
- Boike, J., Bolshiyarov, D.Yu., Schirrneister, L., and Wetterich, S. (eds.) Russian-German Cooperation SYSTEM LAPTEV SEA: The Expedition Lena - New Siberian Islands 2007 during the International Polar Year (IPY) 2007/2008, *Berichte zur Polar- und Meeresforschung = Reports on Polar and Marine Research*, 584, 265 pp., doi:[https://doi.org/10.2312/BzPM\\_0584\\_2008](https://doi.org/10.2312/BzPM_0584_2008), 2008.
- De Klerk, P., Couwenberg, J., Galka, M., Kalinska, E., Schirrneister, L., Teltewskoi, A., and Joosten, H.: Surprising spatio-temporal dynamics in an Arctic polygon mire (Berelekh-Indigirka lowlands, NE Siberia), to *Ecological Monographs*, (in prep).
- Ehlers, J., Gibbard, P.L., and Hughes, P.D.: Quaternary Glaciations - Extent and Chronology: A closer look, *Developments in Quaternary Science*, Vol. 15. Elsevier, Amsterdam, pp. 1126, <https://booksite.elsevier.com/9780444534477>, 2011.
- Grigoriev, M. N., Rachold, V., Bolshiyarov, D. Yu., Pfeiffer, E.-M., Schirrneister, L., Wagner, D., and Hubberten, H.-W. (eds.): Russian-German Cooperation System Laptev Sea - The Expedition Lena 2002, *Reports on Polar and Marine Research*, 466, 341 pp., doi:[https://doi.org/10.2312/BzPM\\_0466\\_2003](https://doi.org/10.2312/BzPM_0466_2003), 2003.
- Grosse, G., Schirrneister, L., Siegert, C., Kunitsky, V.V., Slagoda, E.A., Andreev, A.A., and Dereviagn, A.Y.: Geological and geomorphological evolution of a sedimentary periglacial landscape in Northeast Siberia during the Late Quaternary, *Geomorphology*, 86(1/2), 25-51, doi:10.1016/j.geomorph.2006.08.005, 2007.
- Grosse, G., Jones, B.M., Schirrneister, L., Meyer, H., Wetterich, S., Strauss, J., Gaglioti, B.V., Mann, D.H., and Romanovsky, V.E. Late Pleistocene and Holocene ice-rich permafrost in the Colville River valley, northern Alaska, *Terra Nostra*, 2015-1, 44-45, 2015.
- Kanevskiy, M., Shur, Y., Strauss, J., Jorgenson, T., Fortier, D., Stephani, E., and Vasiliev, A. Patterns and rates of riverbank erosion involving ice-rich permafrost (yedoma) in northern Alaska, *Geomorphology* 253, 370–384, doi:10.1016/j.geomorph.2015.10.023, 2016.
- Kaufman, D.S., and Manley, W.F.: Pleistocene Maximum and Late Wisconsinan glacier extents across Alaska, USA, *Developments in Quaternary Sciences*, Volume 2, Part B, pp 9-27, In: Ehlers, J., Gibbard P.L. (eds.): *Quaternary Glaciations-Extent and Chronology: Part II: North America*, doi.org/10.1016/S1571-0866(04)80182-9, 2004.

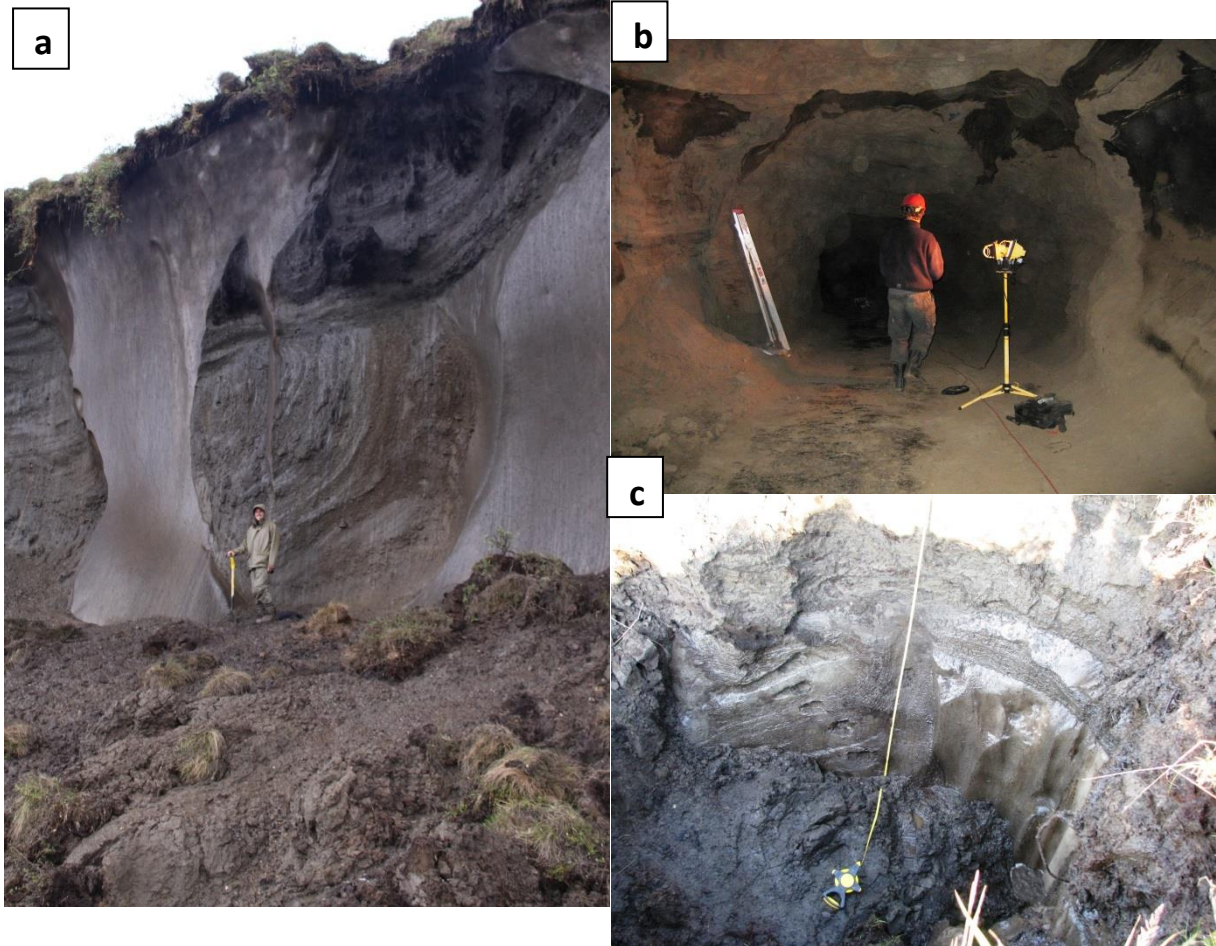
- Kunitsky, V.V., Syromyatnikov, I.I., Schirrmeyer, L., Skachkov, Yu.B., Grosse, G., Wetterich, S., and Grigoriev, M.N.: Ice-rich permafrost and thermal denudation in the Kirgillyakh area, *Kriosfera Zemli*, 17(1), 56-68, 2013 (in Russian).
- Lapointe, L.E. Talbot, J., Fortier, D., Fréchette, B., Strauss, J., Kanevskiy, M., and Shur, Y.: Middle to late Wisconsinan climate and ecological changes in northern Alaska: Evidences from the Itkillik River Yedoma, *Palaeogeography, Palaeoclimatology, Palaeoecology* 485, 906-916, doi: 10.1016/j.palaeo.2017.08.006, 2017.
- Murton, J.B., Edwards, M.E., Lozhkin, A.V., Anderson, P.M., Savvinov, G.N., Bakulina, N., Bondarenko, O.V., Cherepanova, M., Danilov, P.P., Boeskorov, V., Goslar, T., Grigoriev, S., Gubin, S.V., Korzun, J., Lupachev, A. V., Tikhonov, A., Tsygankova, V.I., and Zanina, O.G.: Preliminary paleoenvironmental analysis of permafrost deposits at Batagaika megaslump, Yana Uplands, northeast Siberia, *Quaternary Research*, 87(2), 314-330, doi: 10.1017/qua.2016.15, 2017.
- Opel, T., Wetterich, S., Meyer, H., Dereviagin, A.Yu., Fuchs, M.C., and Schirrmeyer, L.: Ground-ice stable isotopes and cryostratigraphy reflect late Quaternary palaeoclimate in the Northeast Siberian Arctic (Oyogos Yar coast, Dmitry Laptev Strait). *Clim. Past*, 13, 587–611, 2017, doi: 10.5194/cp-13-587-2017, 2017.
- Péwé, T.L.: Quaternary stratigraphic nomenclature in unglaciated Central Alaska, *Geological Survey Professional Paper*, 862, doi: 10.3133/pp862, 1975.
- Schirrmeyer, L., Kunitsky, V., Grosse, V., Meyer, H., Kuznetsova, T., Kuzmina, S., Tumskoy, V., Dereviagin, A., Akhmadeeva, I., and Syromyatnikov, I.: Quaternary deposits of Bol'shoy Lyakhovsky Island. *Reports on Polar Research, Alfred Wegener Institute for Polar and Marine Research, Bremerhaven*, 354, 113-168, 2000.
- Schirrmeyer, L., Kunitsky, V., Grosse, G., Kuznetsova, T., Kuzmina, S., and Bolshianov, D. Late Quaternary and recent environmental situation around the Olenyok Channel (western Lena Delta) and on Bykovsky Peninsula. *Reports on Polar Research, Alfred Wegener Institute for Polar and Marine Research, Bremerhaven*, 388, 85-13, 2001.
- Schirrmeyer, L., Siegert, C., Kuznetsova, T., Kuzmina, S., Andreev, A.A., Kienast, F., Meyer, H., and Bobrov, A.A.: Paleoenvironmental and paleoclimatic records from permafrost deposits in the Arctic region of Northern Siberia, *Quaternary International*, 89, 97-118, doi: 10.1016/S1040-6182(01)00083-0, 2002a.
- Schirrmeyer, L., Siegert, C., Kunitzky, V.V., Grootes, P.M., and Erlenkeuser, H.: Late Quaternary ice-rich permafrost sequences as a paleoenvironmental archive for the Laptev Sea Region in northern Siberia, *International Journal of Earth Sciences*, 91, 154-167, doi: 10.1007/s005310100205, 2002b.
- Schirrmeyer, L., Kunitsky, V.V., Grosse, G., Schwamborn, G., Andreev, A.A., Meyer, H., Kuznetsova, T., Bobrov, A., and Oezen, D.: Late Quaternary history of the accumulation plain north of the Chekanovsky Ridge (Lena Delta, Russia) - a multidisciplinary approach, *Polar Geography*, 27(4), 277-319, doi: 10.1080/789610225, 2003.
- Schirrmeyer, L., Grigoriev, M.N., Kutzbach, L., Wagner, D., and Bolshiyarov, D.Yu.: Russian-German Cooperation SYSTEM Laptev Sea: The Expedition Lena-Anabar 2003, in: *Expeditions in Siberia in 2003*, ed. L. Schirrmeyer, *Reports on Polar and Marine Research*, 489, 1-209, doi: [https://doi.org/10.2312/BzPM\\_0489\\_2004](https://doi.org/10.2312/BzPM_0489_2004), 2004.
- Schirrmeyer, L., Wagner, D, Grigoriev, M.N., and Bolshiyarov, D.Y. (eds.): *The Expedition LENA 2005, Expeditions in Siberia in 2005*, ed. by Lutz Schirrmeyer, *Reports on Polar and Marine Research*, 550, 41-242, doi.org/10.2312/BzPM\_0550\_2007, 2007.
- Schirrmeyer, L., Grosse, G., Kunitsky, V., Magens, D., Meyer, H., Dereviagin, A., Kuznetsova, T., Andreev, A., Babiy, O., Kienast, F., Grigoriev, M., Overduin, P.P., and Preusser, F.: Periglacial landscape evolution and environmental changes of Arctic lowland areas for the last 60,000 years (Western Laptev Sea coast, Cape Mamontov Klyk), *Polar Research*, 27(2), 249-272, doi: 10.1111/j.1751-8369.2008.00067.x, 2008.

- Schirrmeister, L., Grosse, G., Schnelle, M., Fuchs, M., Krbetschek, M., Ulrich, M., Kunitsky, V., Grigoriev, M., Andreev, A., Kienast, F., Meyer, H., Klimova, I., Babiy, O., Bobrov, A., Wetterich, S., and Schwamborn, G.: Late Quaternary paleoenvironmental records from the western Lena Delta, Arctic Siberia, *Palaeogeography, Palaeoclimatology, Palaeoecology* 299, 175–196, doi: 10.1016/j.quascirev.2009.11.017, 2011a.
- Schirrmeister, L., Kunitsky, V.V., Grosse, G., Wetterich, S., Meyer, H., Schwamborn, G., Babiy, O., Derevyagin, A.Y., and Siegert, C.: Sedimentary characteristics and origin of the Late Pleistocene Ice Complex on North-East Siberian Arctic coastal lowlands and islands - a review. *Quaternary International* 241, 3-25, doi: 10.1016/j.quaint.2010.04.004, 2011b.
- Schirrmeister, L., Pestryakova, L., Wetterich, S., and Tumskey, V.: Joint Russian-German polygon project East Siberia 2011 - 2014; the expedition Kytalyk 2011. Reports on Polar and Marine Research, Bremerhaven, Alfred Wegener Institute for Polar and Marine Research, 653, 153 pp., doi: [https://doi.org/10.2312/BzPM\\_0653\\_2012](https://doi.org/10.2312/BzPM_0653_2012), 2012.
- Schirrmeister, L., Meyer, H., Andreev, A.A., Wetterich, S., Kienast, F., Bobrov, A., Fuchs, M., Sierralta, M., and Herzsuh, U.: Late Quaternary records from the Chatanika River valley near Fairbanks (Alaska). *Quaternary Science Reviews* 147, 259-278, doi: 10.1016/j.quascirev.2016.02.009, 2016a.
- Schirrmeister, L., Pestryakova, L., Schneider, A., and Wetterich, S.: Studies of polygons in Siberia and Svalbard, *Berichte zur Polar- und Meeresforschung = Reports on polar and marine research*, Bremerhaven, Alfred Wegener Institute for Polar and Marine Research, 697, 275 p., doi: [http://doi.org/10.2312/BzPM\\_0697\\_2016](http://doi.org/10.2312/BzPM_0697_2016), 2016b.
- Schirrmeister, L., Schwamborn, G., Overduin, P.P., Strauss, J., Fuchs, M.C., Grigoriev, M., Yakshina, I., Rethemeyer, J., Dietze, E., and Wetterich, S.: Yedoma Ice Complex of the Buor Khaya Peninsula (southern Laptev Sea), *Biogeosciences* 14, 1261-1283, doi: 10.5194/bg-14-1261-2017, 2017.
- Schirrmeister, L., Bobrov, A., Raschke E., Herzsuh, U., Strauss, J., Pestryakova, L.A., and Wetterich S.: Late Holocene ice-wedge polygon dynamics in northeastern Siberian coastal lowlands, *Arctic, Antarctic, and Alpine Research*, 50(1), e1462595, doi: 10.1080/15230430.2018.1462595, 2018.
- Schwamborn, G., Rachold, V., and Grigoriev, M.N.: Late Quaternary sedimentation history of the Lena Delta, *Quaternary International* 89, 119–134, doi: 10.1016/S1040-6182(01)00084-2, 2002.
- Schwamborn, G., and Wetterich, S. eds.: Russian-German Cooperation CARBOPERM: Field campaigns to Bol'shoy Lyakhovsky Island in 2014, Reports on Polar and Marine Research 686, 98 pp, doi: 10.2312/BzPM\_0686\_20152015, 2015.
- Sher, A., Parmuzin, I., Bortsov, A.: Ice Complex on the Bykovsky Peninsula. In: Rachold V, Grigoriev MN (eds) Russian-German Cooperation System Laptev Sea 2000: The Expedition LENA 1999. Reports on Polar Research 354, 169-182, 2000.
- Sher, A., Parmuzin, I., and Bortsov, A.: Ice complex on the Bykovsky Peninsula, in Russian–German Cooperation System Laptev Sea 2000: The Expedition LENA 1999, eds. V. Rachold and M.N. Grigoriev, Reports on Polar Research, Alfred-Wegener-Institute for Polar and Marine Research, 354, 169–182, 2000.
- Siegert, C., Schirrmeister, L., Kunitsky, V., Meyer, H., Kuznetsova, T., Derevyagin, S., Kuzmina, S., Tumskey, V., and Sher, A., Paleoclimate signals of ice-rich permafrost, Reports on Polar Research, Alfred Wegener Institute for Polar and Marine Research, Bremerhaven, 315, 145-259, 1999.
- Siegert, C., Schirrmeister, L., and Babiy, O.: The sedimentological, mineralogical and geochemical composition of late Pleistocene deposits from the ice complex on the Bykovsky peninsula, northern Siberia, *Polarforschung*, 70, 2000, 3-11, doi: 10.2312/polarforschung.70.3, 2002.

- Strauss, J., and Schirrmeister, L.: Permafrost sequences of Buor Khaya Peninsula, in: Reports on Polar and Marine Research –Russian-German Cooperation System Laptev Sea: The Expedition Eastern Laptev Sea-Buor Khaya Peninsula 2010, ed. S. Wetterich, P.P. Overduin, and M. Grigoriev (Bremerhaven, Germany: Alfred Wegener Institute for Polar and Marine Research) 35–50, 2011.
- Strauss, J., Schirrmeister, L., Wetterich, S., Borchers, A., and Davydov S.P.: Grain-size properties and organic-carbon stock of Yedoma Ice Complex permafrost from the Kolyma lowland, northeastern Siberia. GBC. 26: GB3003, doi: 10.1029/2011GB004104, 2012a.
- Strauss, J., Shur, Y., Kanevskiy, M., Fortier, D., Bjella, K., Breen, A., and Johnson, C.: Expedition Alaskan North Slope/Itkillik 2012. in: Expeditions to Permafrost 2012: Alaskan North Slope/Itkillik, Thermokarst in Central Yakutia, and EyeSight-NAAT-Alaska, ed. J.M. Strauss, M. Ulrich, and M. Buchhorn, Bremerhaven: Alfred Wegener Institute for Polar and Marine Research, Reports on Polar and Marine Research 655, 3–28, 2012b.
- Strauss, J., Schirrmeister, L., Mangelsdorf, K., Eichhorn, L., Wetterich S., and Herzschuh U.: Organic matter quality of deep permafrost carbon - a study from Arctic Siberia. Biogeosciences, 12, 2227–2245, doi: 10.5194/bg-12-2227-2015, 2015.
- Wetterich, S., Kuzmina, S., Andreev, A.A., Kienast, F., Meyer, H., Schirrmeister, L., Kuznetsova, T., and Sierralta, M.: Palaeoenvironmental dynamics inferred from late Quaternary permafrost deposits on Kurungnakh Island, Lena Delta, Northeast Siberia, Russia, Quaternary Science Reviews, 27, 1523-1540, doi: 10.1016/j.quascirev.2008.04.007, 2008.
- Wetterich, S., Schirrmeister, L., and Kholodov, A.: The joint Russian-German expedition BERINGIA/ KOLYMA 2008 during the International Polar Year (IPY) 2007/2008, Reports on Polar and Marine Research), Bremerhaven, Alfred Wegener Institute for Polar and Marine Research, 636, 48 pp., doi.org/10.2312/BzPM\_0636\_2011, 2011a.
- Wetterich, S., Rudaya, N., Meyer, H., Opel, T., and Schirrmeister, L.: Last Glacial Maximum records in permafrost of the East Siberian Arctic, Quaternary Science Reviews 30, 3139-3151, doi: 10.1016/j.quascirev.2011.07.020, 2011b.
- Wetterich, S., Rudaya, N., Andreev, A.A., Opel, T., Schirrmeister, L., Meyer, H., and Tumskey, V.: Ice Complex formation in arctic East Siberia during the MIS3 Interstadial, Quaternary Science Reviews 84: 39-55, doi: 10.1016/j.quascirev.2013.11.009, 2014.
- Winterfeld, M., Schirrmeister, L., Grigoriev, M., Kunitsky, V.V., Andreev, A., and Overduin, P.P.: Permafrost and Landscape Dynamics during the Late Pleistocene, Western Laptev Sea Shelf, Siberia, Boreas 40(4), 697–713, doi: 10.1111/j.1502-3885.2011.00203.x, 2011.

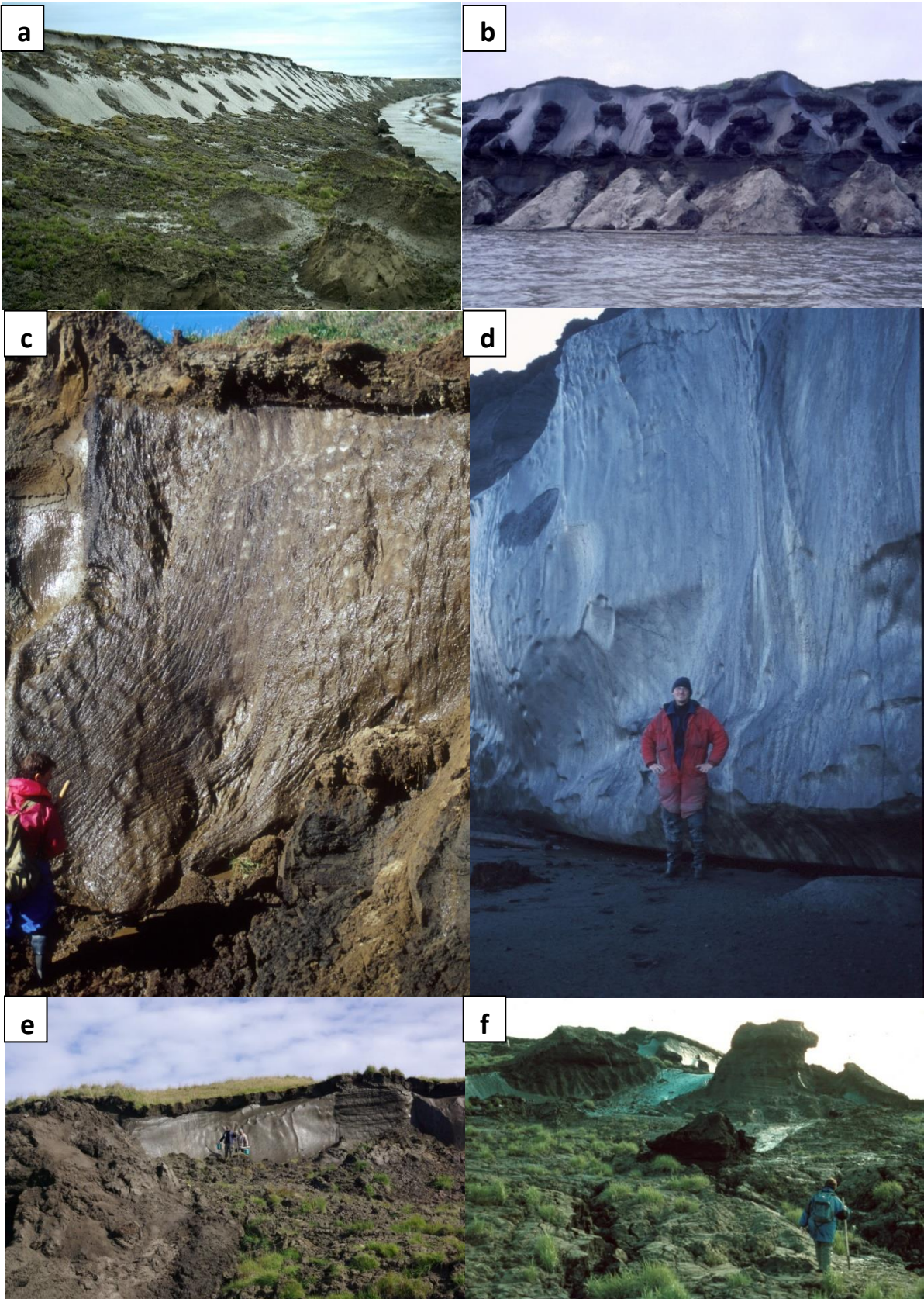
**Figs. S3** Examples of Yedoma locations across Beringia.

**Fig. S3.1** (a) The Alaskan Yedoma from the Colville site (Alaskan North Slope), (b) from the Vault Creek tunnel (Fairbanks), and (c) from the Seward Peninsula (Kitluk River).





**Fig. S3.2** The Yedoma from the Laptev Sea coast and the Lena Delta (a) Cap Mamontov Klyk (western Laptev Sea), (b) Kurungnakh Island (Lena Delta), (c) Ebe Basyn Sise Island (Lena Delta), (d) Muostakh Island (Central Laptev Sea), (e) Bykovsky Peninsula, and (f) Buor Khaya Peninsula.





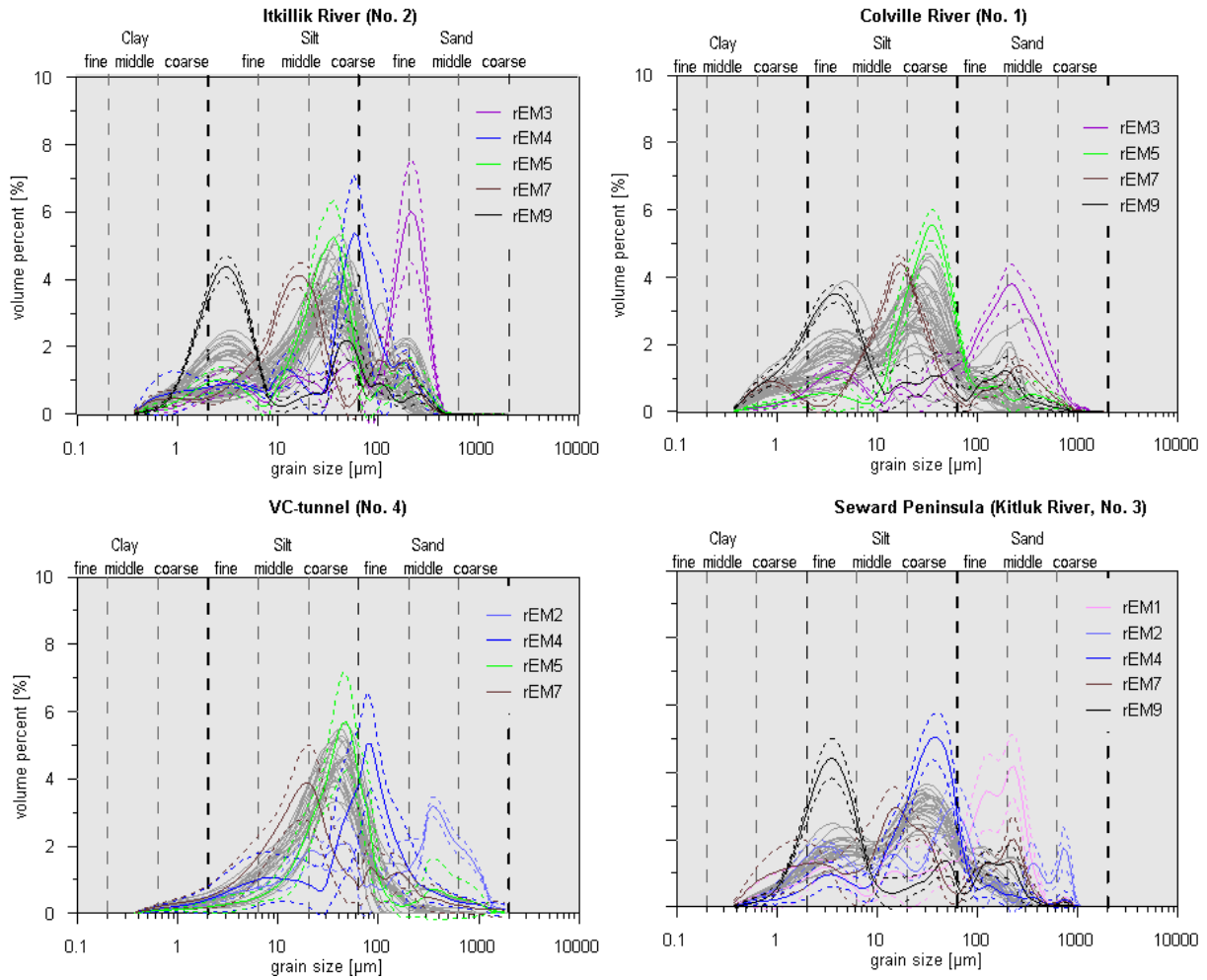
**Fig. S3.3** The Yedoma from the Yakutian inland (a) Kytalyk near the Berelekh River (Indigirka Lowland), (b) Batagay Mega-slump (Yana Highland), and (c) Tabaga (Central Yakutia).



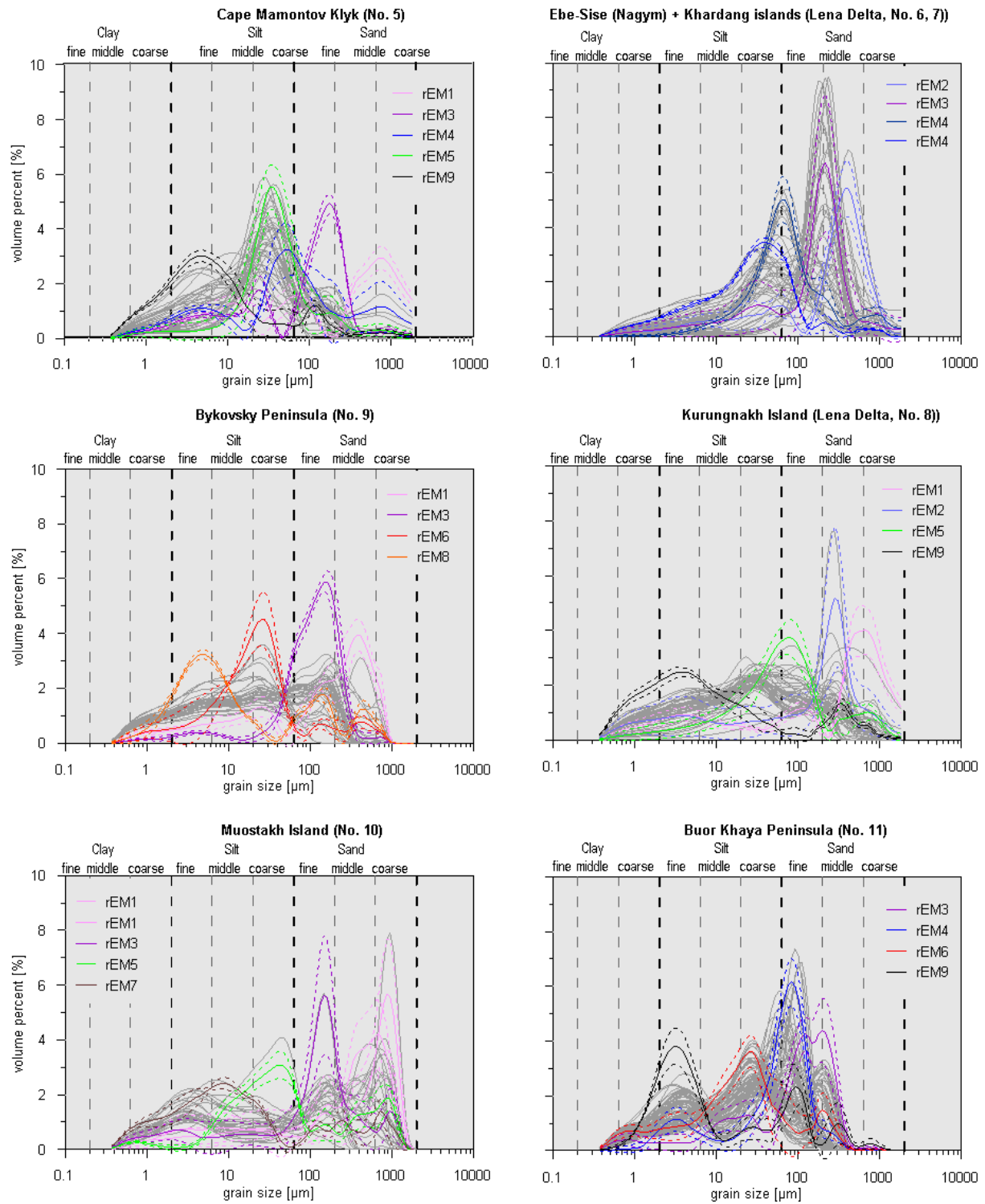


**Figs. S4** End-member modeling from all the 17 studied Yedoma sites and the non-Yedoma ice-wedge polygon sites

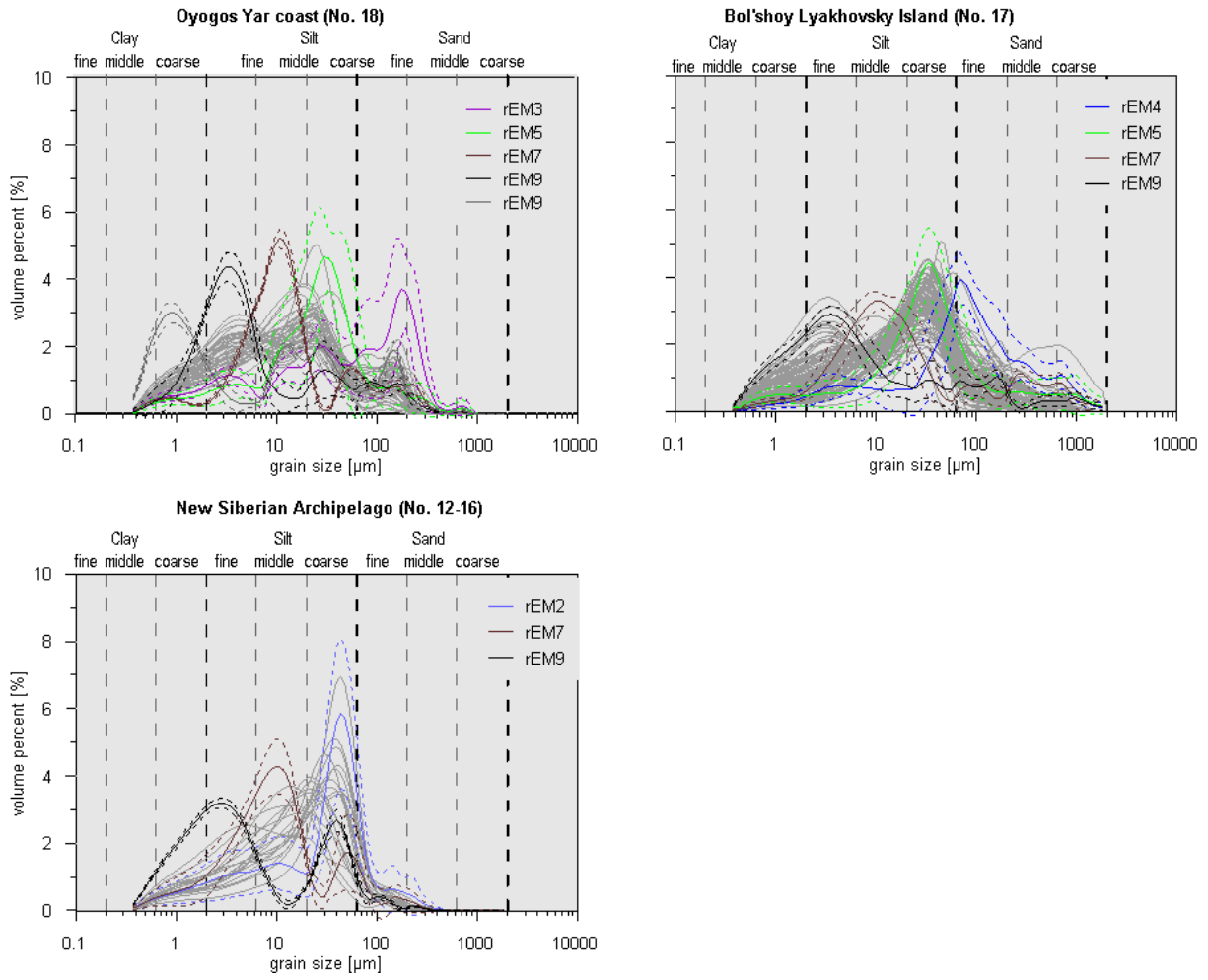
**Fig. S4.1** End-member modeling results from the Alaskan Yedoma sites.



**Fig. S4.2** Endmember modeling results from the Yedoma sites of the Laptev Sea coast and the Lena Delta.



**Fig. S4.3** Endmember modeling results from the Yedoma sites of the New Siberian Islands and the Dmitry Laptev Strait.



**Fig. S4.4** Endmember modeling results from the Yedoma sites of the Yakutian inland.

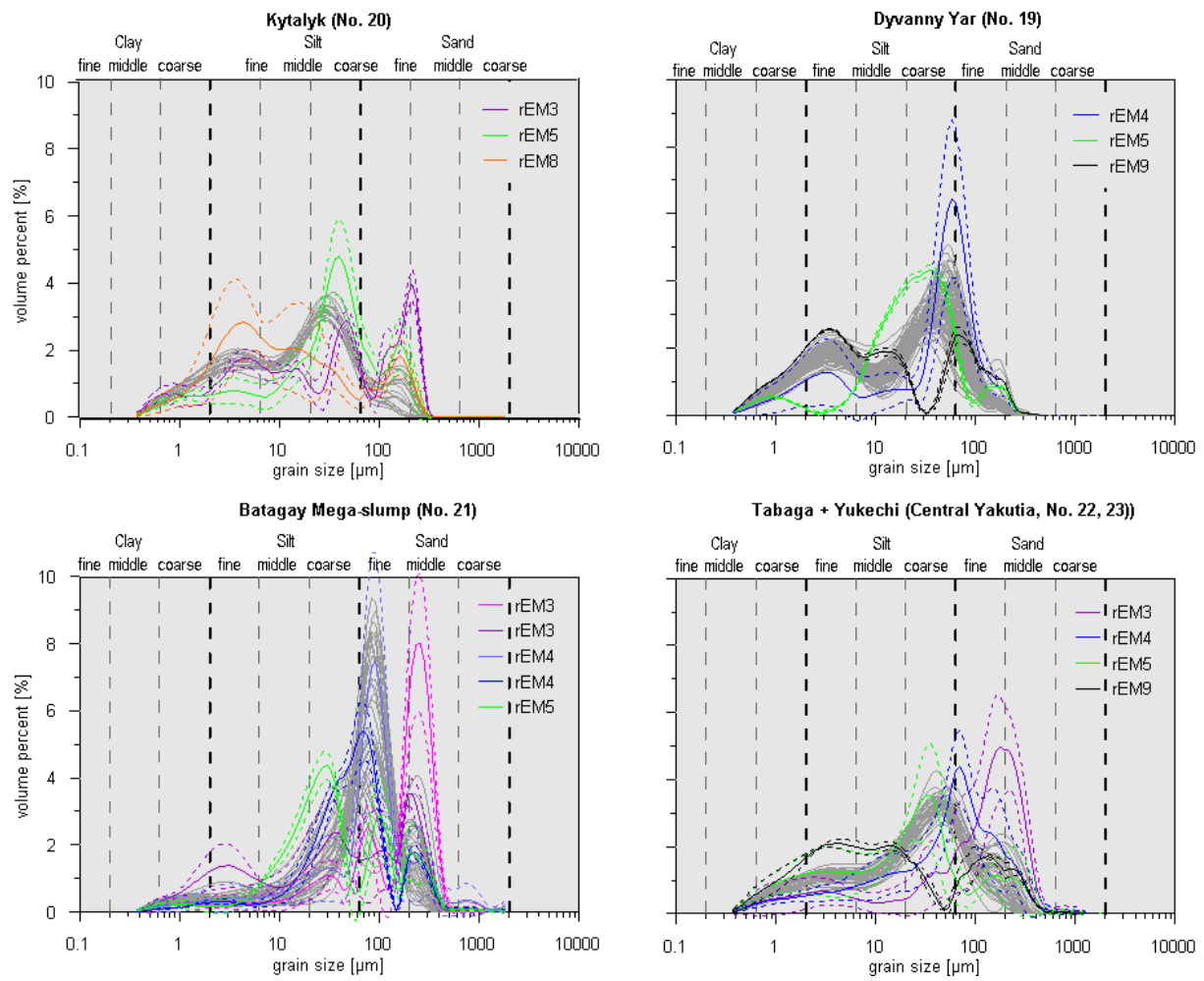
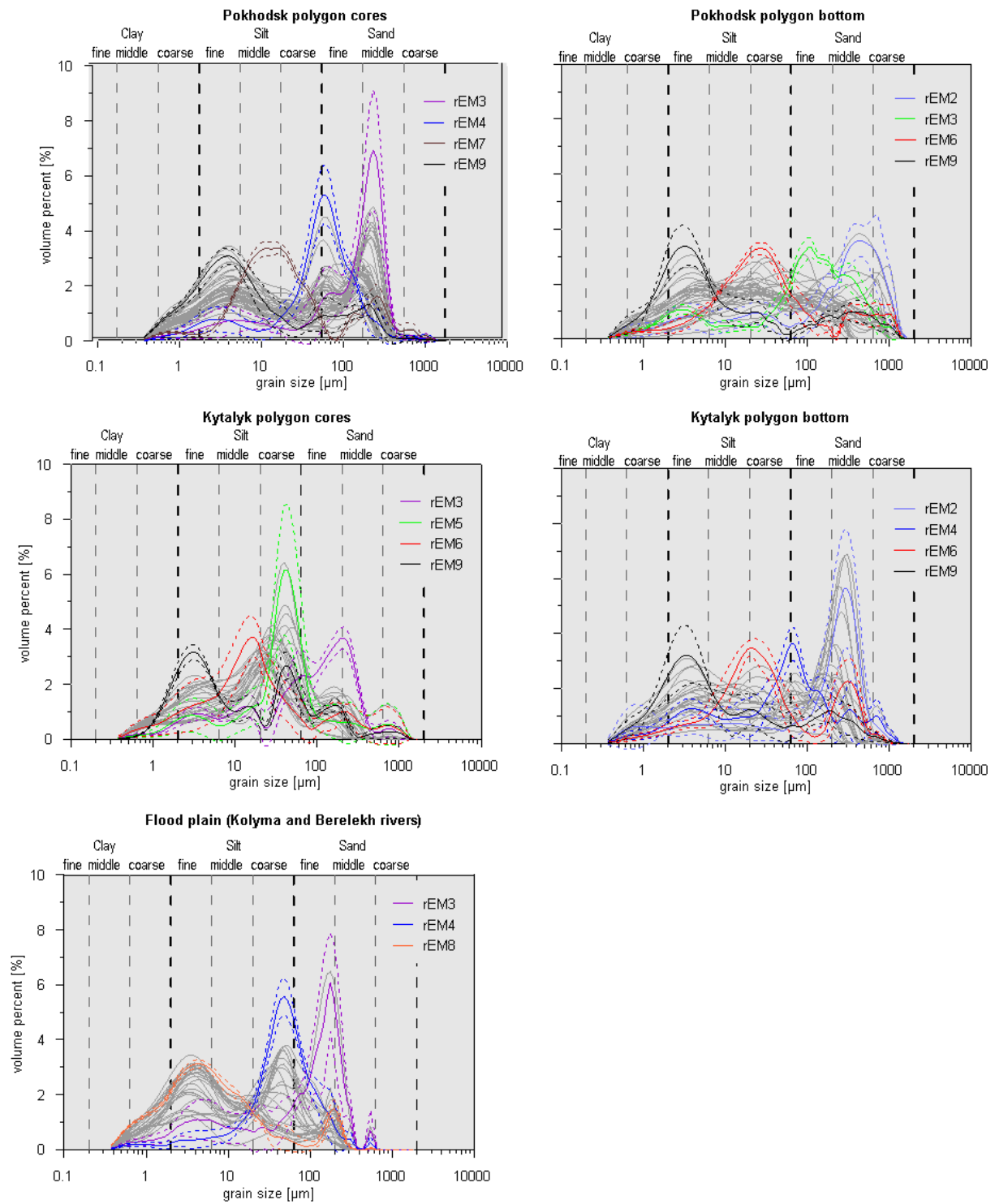
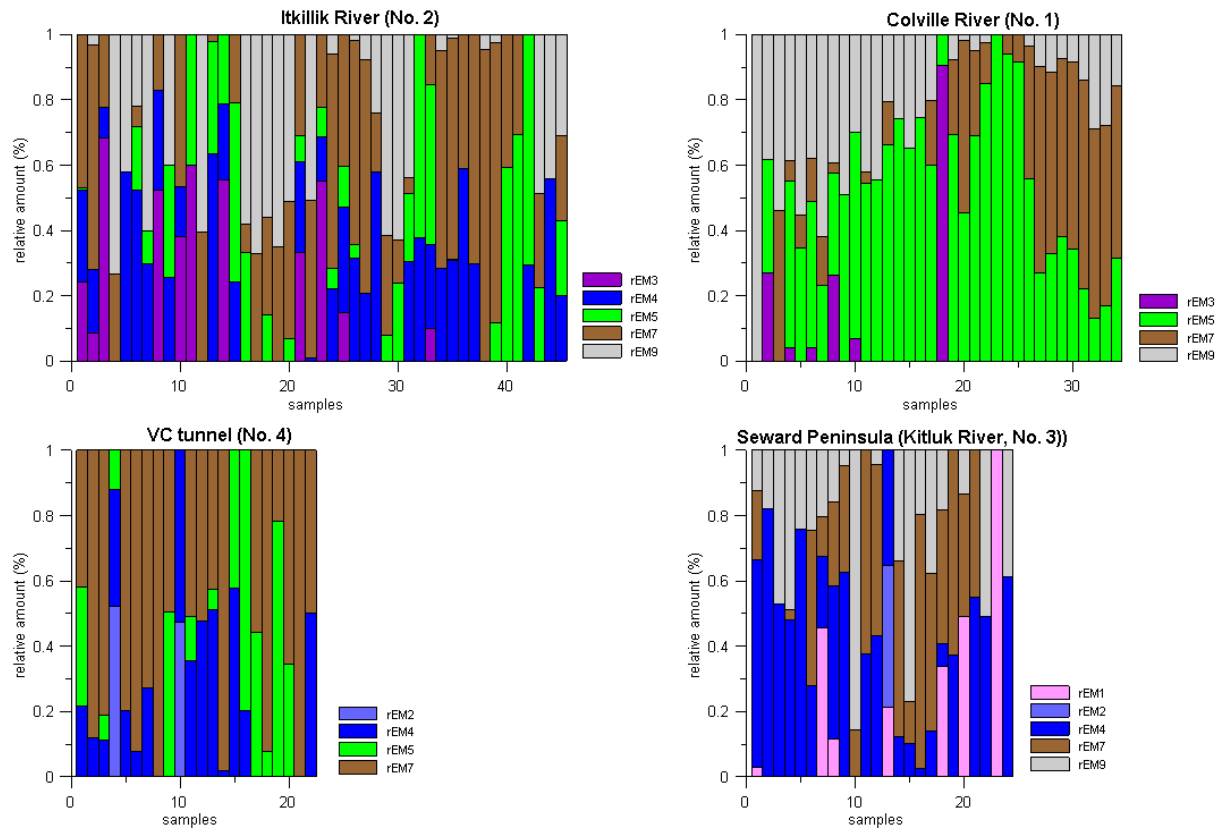


Fig.S4.5 Endmember modeling results from the non-Yedoma sites.

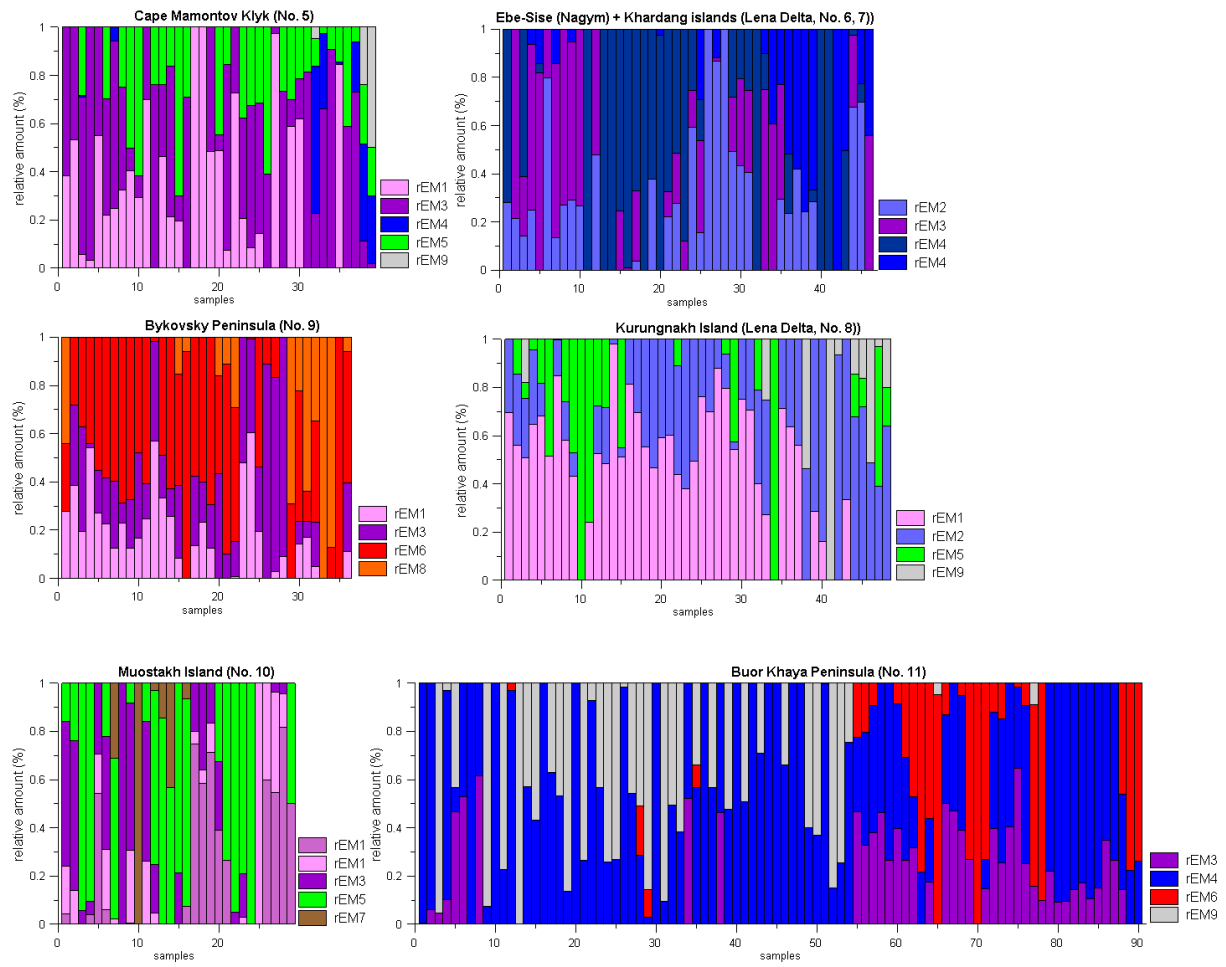


**Figs. S5** The mean scores (the relative contribution of an endmember to each sample) for all the 17 studied Yedoma sites and the non-Yedoma ice-wedge polygon sites. Please note, for better visual clarity loadings are not plotted with depth but in the same stratigraphic order.

**Fig. S5.1** Mean scores of the Alaska Yedoma sites



**Fig. S5.2** Mean scores from the Laptev Sea coast and the Lena Delta Yedoma sites.



**Fig. S5.3** Mean scores of the New Siberian Islands and Dmitry Laptev Strait Yedoma sites.

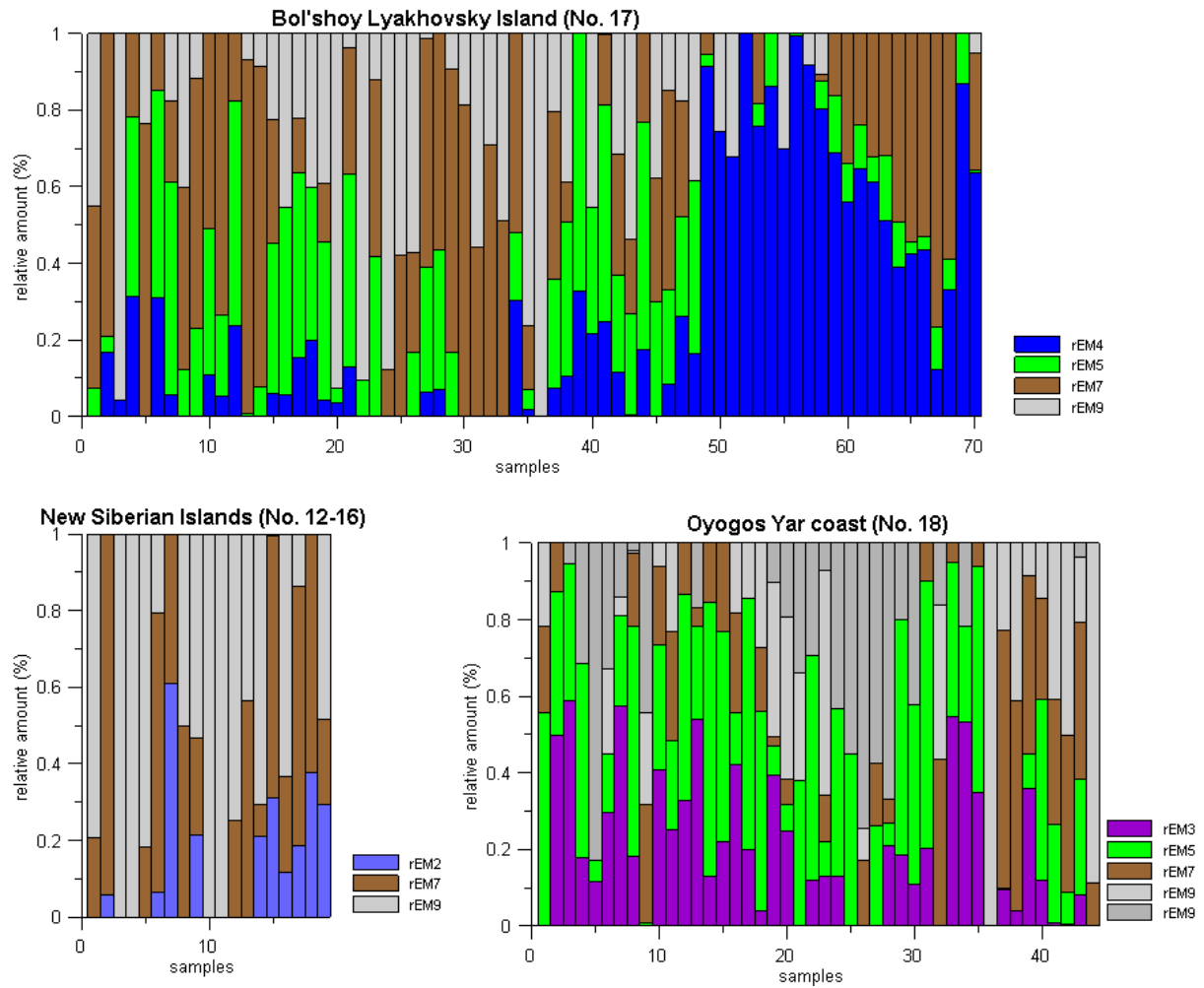




Fig. S5.4 Mean scores from the Yakutian inland Yedoma sites.

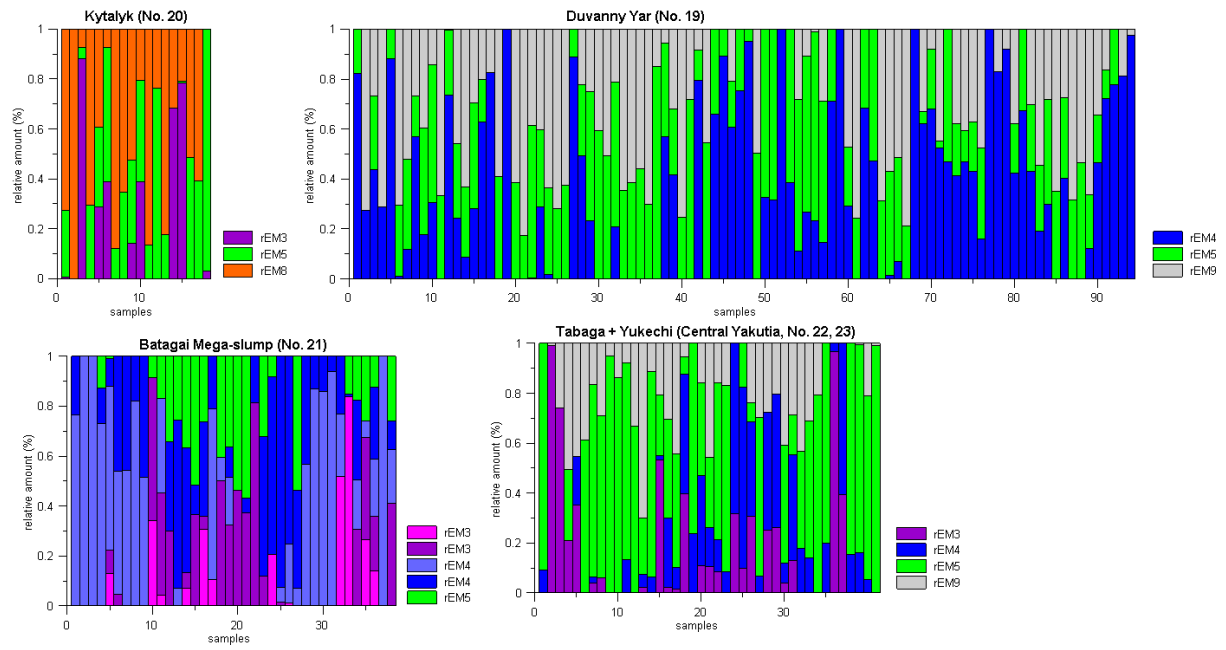
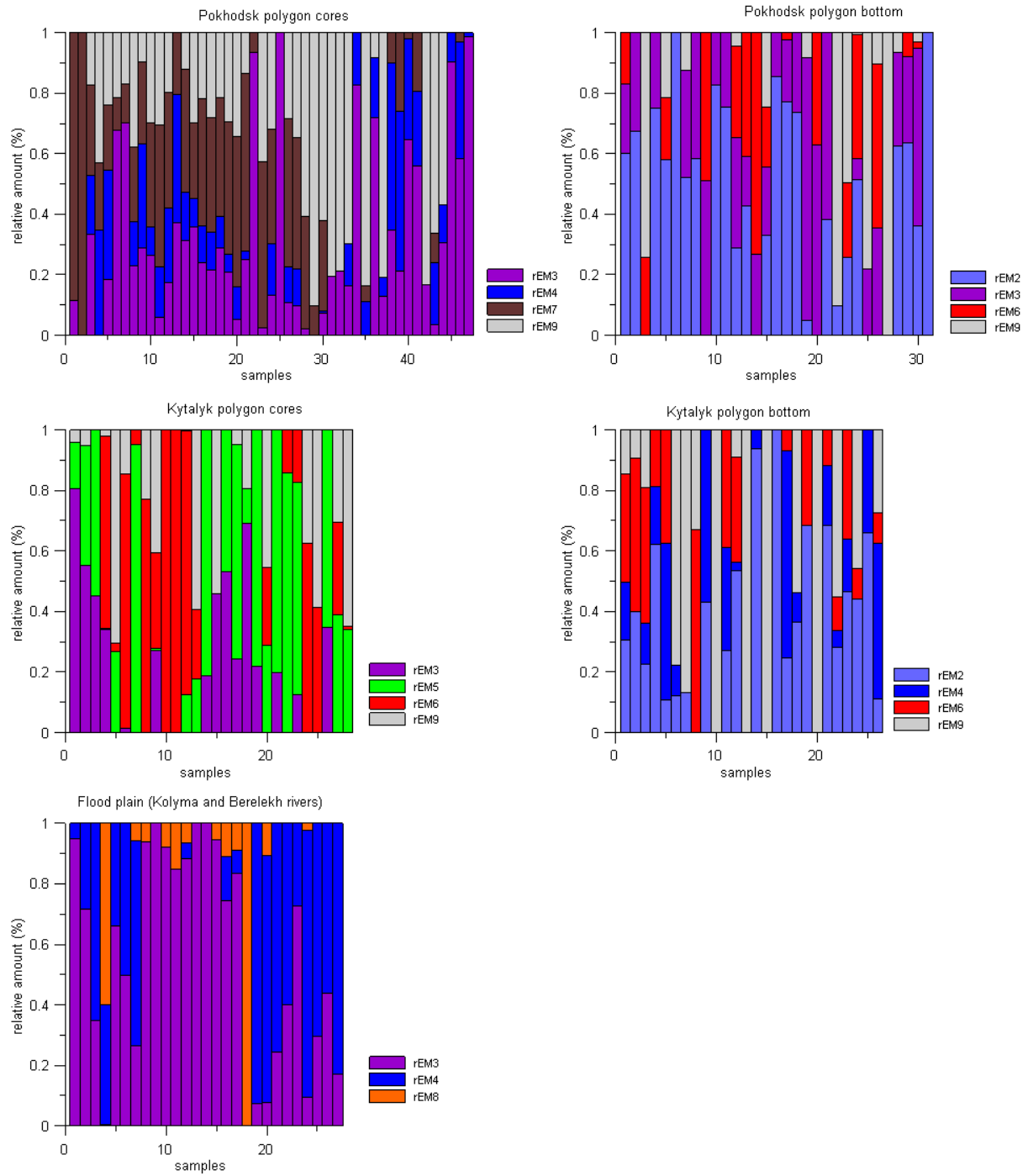
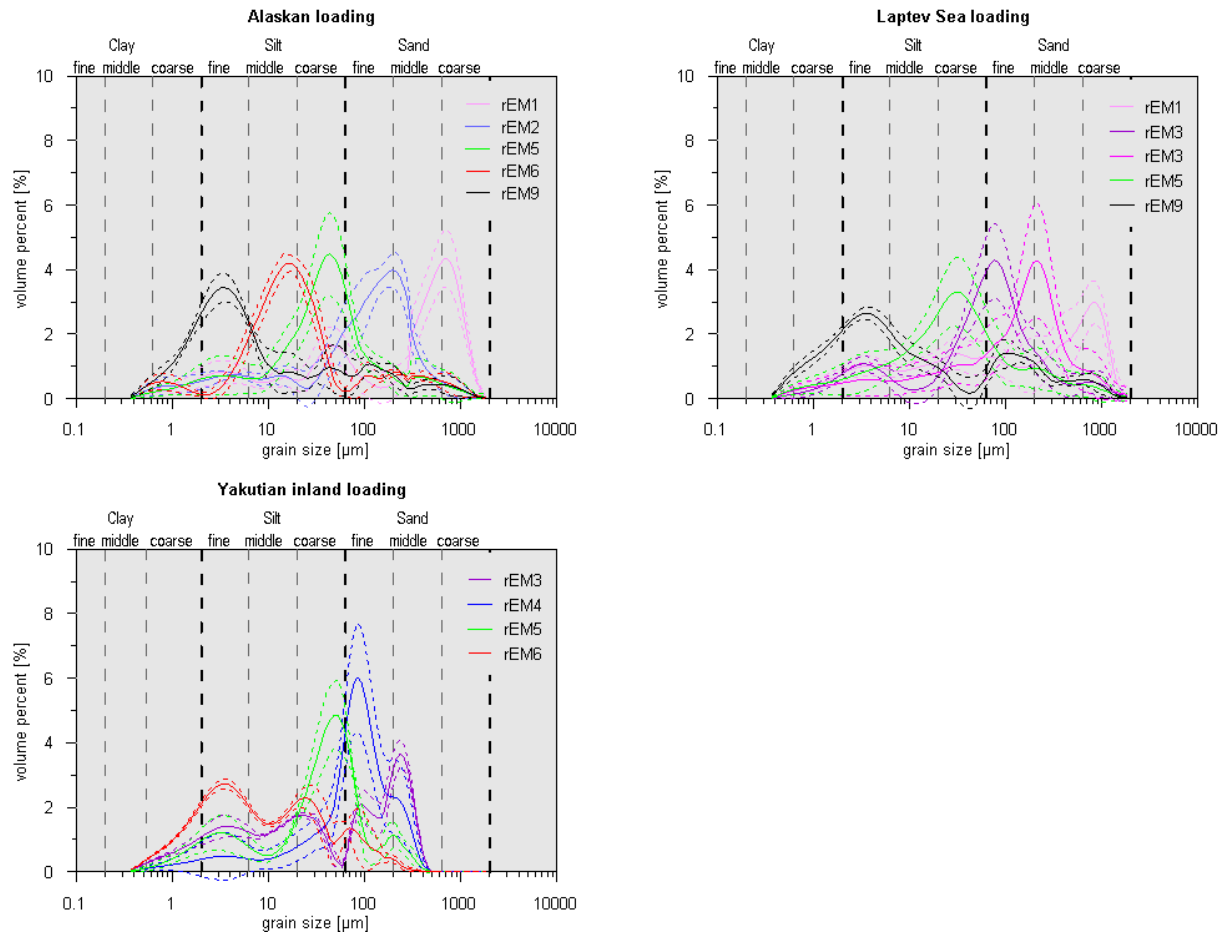


Fig. S5.5 Mean scores from non-Yedoma ice-wedge polygon sites.



**Figs. S6** Regional and Arctic-wide end-member modeling results.

**Fig. S6.1** Regional end-member modeling results (regional loadings) for the three study regions.



**Fig. S6.2** The mean scores (the relative contribution of an endmember to each sample) for the three study regions. Please note, for better visual clarity loadings are not plotted with depth but in the same stratigraphic order.

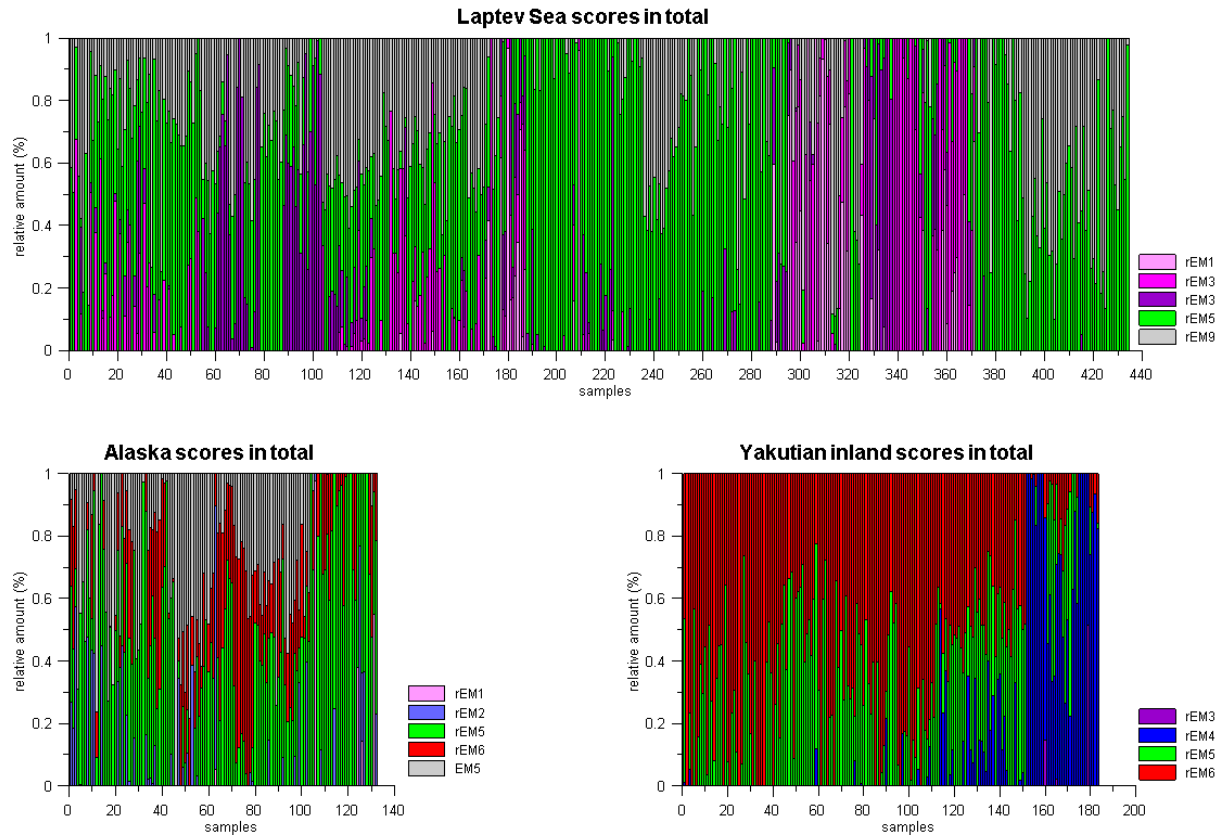
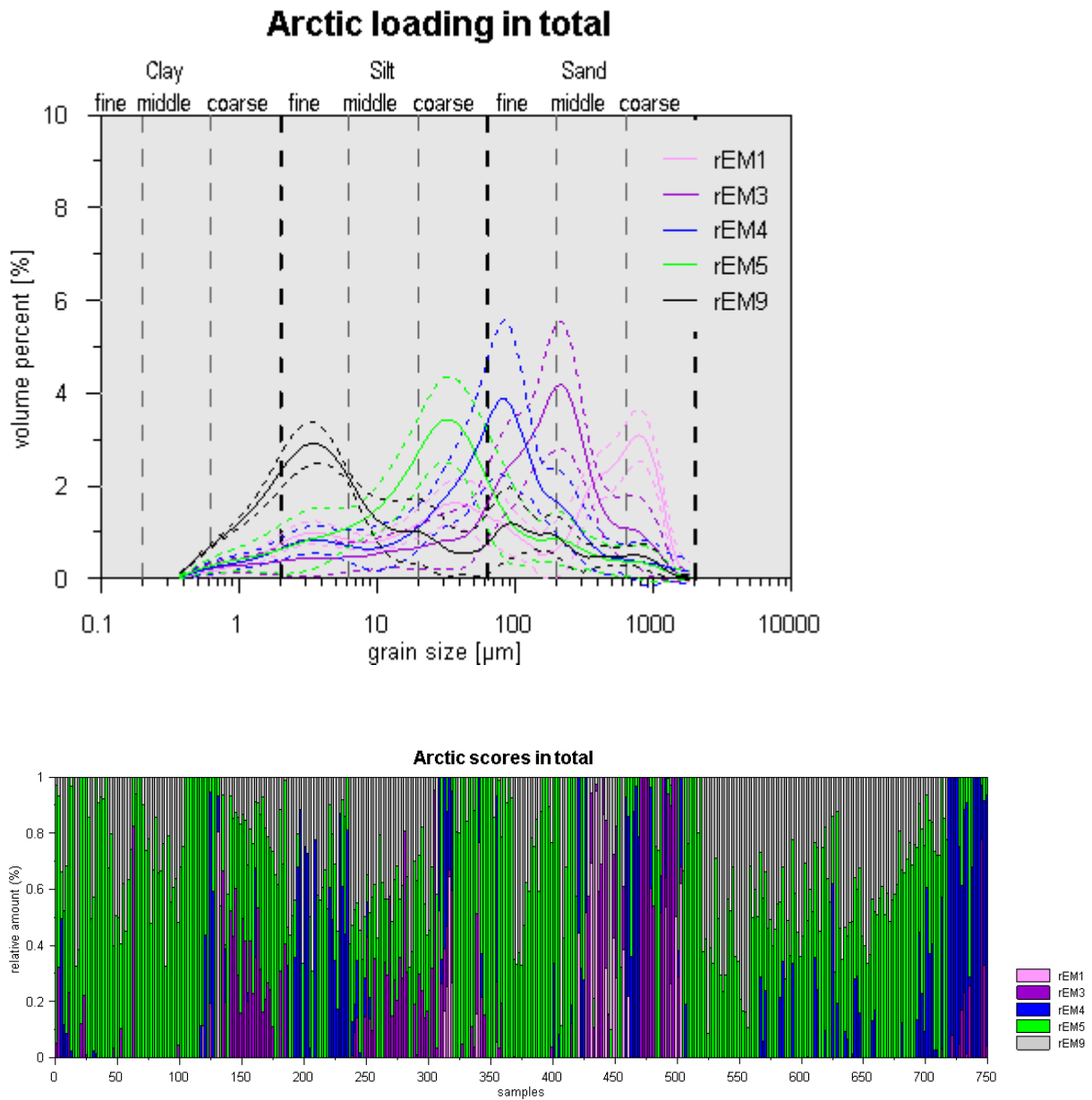
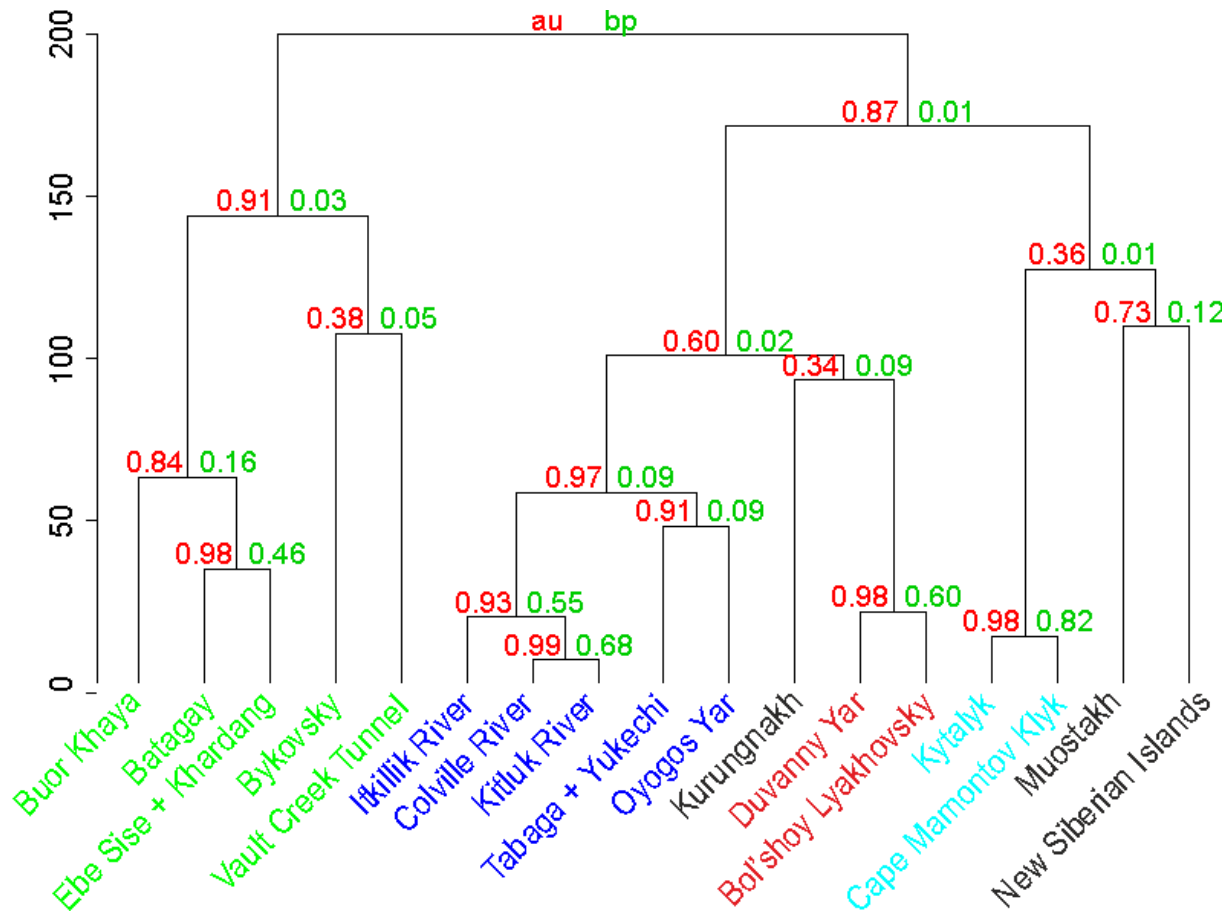


Fig. S6.3 Arctic-wide end-member modeling results and mean scores.



**Figs. S7** Results of cluster analyses.

**Fig. S7.1** Cluster dendrogram for the hierarchical clustering of the grouped endmember primary modes/explained variances. Distances between sites are assessed using the chi-squared method. Clustering method is "complete". Colors of the sample sites denote the cluster the site belongs to. Numbers at the dendrogram edges are for basic bootstrapping probability significance values (red) and corrected approximately unbiased significance values (green), statistical significances according to the bootstrapping approach used in pvclust.



**Fig. S7.2** Cluster means and standard deviations of each cluster for the grain-size groups following the classification described in the paper. Colors denote the four clusters. The post-hoc global p-values for each grainsize class are given at the top of the diagram.

