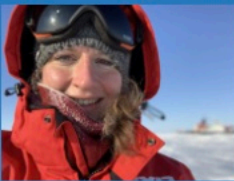


# Effect of a warm air masses in April on the snowpack properties of the MOSAiC floe

Stefanie Arndt<sup>1</sup>, Amy Macfarlane<sup>2</sup>, Martin Schneebeli<sup>2</sup>, Christopher J. Cox<sup>3</sup>, Martin Radenz<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Alfred-Wegener-Institut Helmholtz-Zentrum für Polar- und Meeresforschung, Bremerhaven, Germany, <sup>2</sup> WSL Institute for Snow and Avalanche Research SLF, Davos, Switzerland, <sup>3</sup> NOAA Physical Sciences Laboratory, Boulder, Colorado, USA, <sup>4</sup> TROPOS, Leipzig, Germany



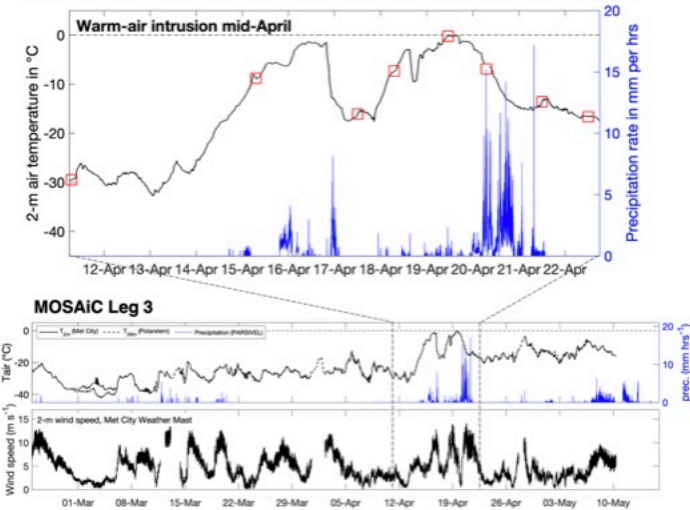
## Summary

The warm air advection events in mid-April was associated with near-surface temperatures near freezing at the MOSAiC floe causing numerous changes in the snowpack:

- Increasing layering of snowpack
- Decreasing snow grain size
- Temporary inversed temperature gradient and water vapour transport in the snowpack
- Temporary negative vertical heat flux indicating potential surface melt

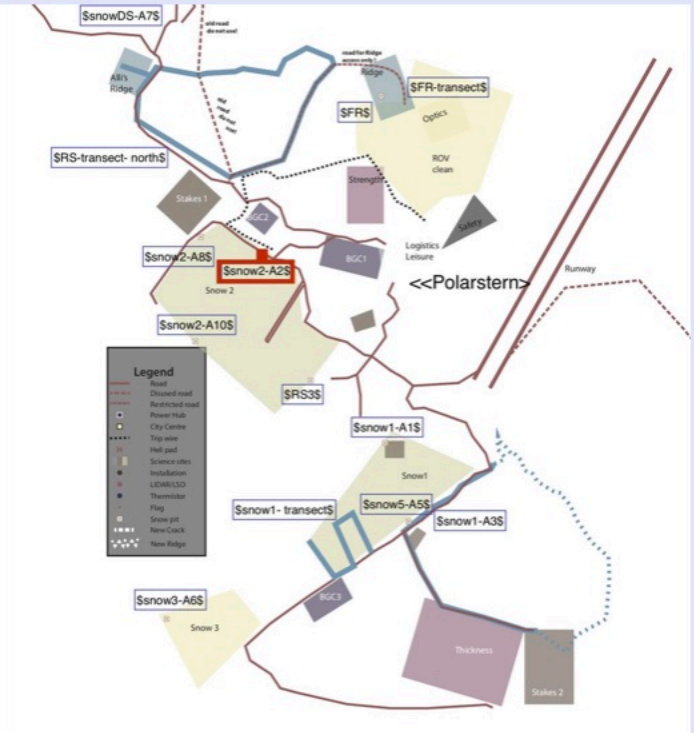
Such a temporary warm spell event has **decisive impacts on the sea-ice energy and mass budget** of the MOSAiC floe.

## Meteorological conditions



OPEN

## Snow sampling

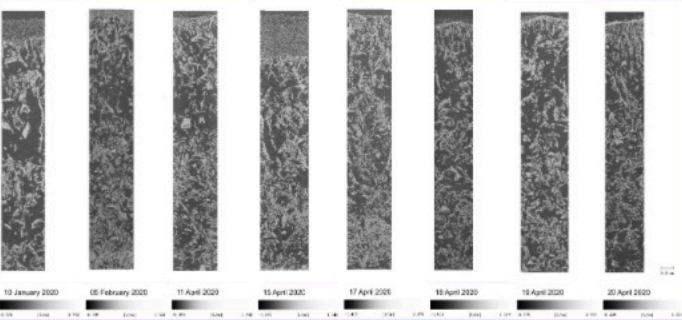
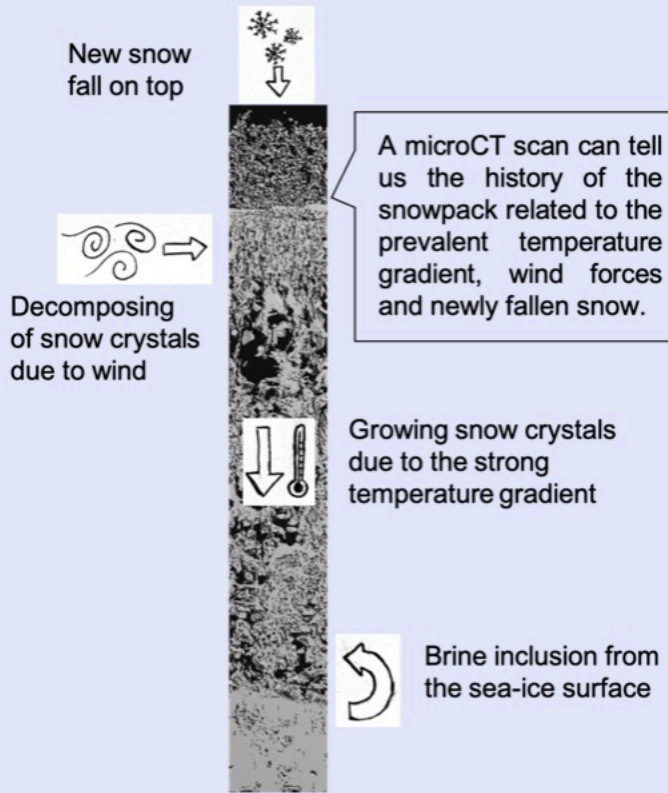


**Figure 2:** Simplified floe map from February 25, 2020 showing all snowpit sites until that date. Snowpit site **Snow2-A2** is highlighted in red as our main sampling site for that poster.



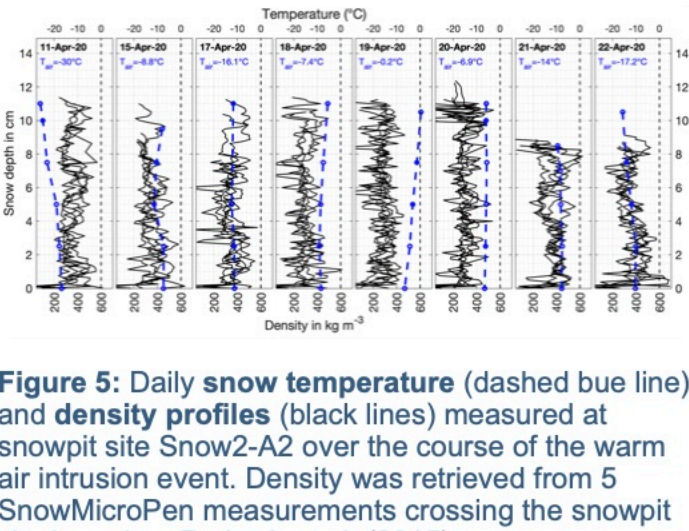
OPEN

## Snow structure from microCT



OPEN

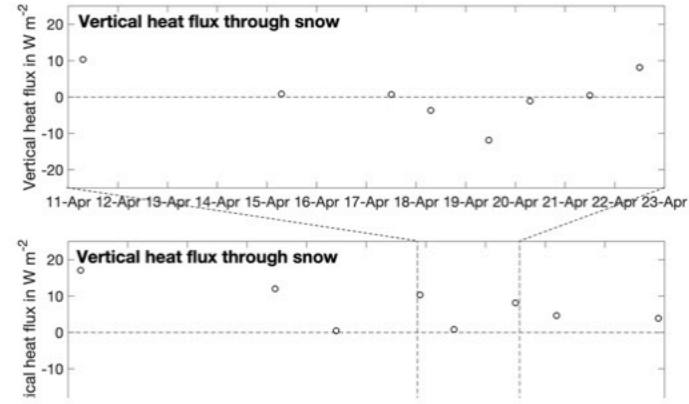
## Snow density and temperature



**Figure 5:** Daily snow temperature (dashed blue line) and density profiles (black lines) measured at snowpit site Snow2-A2 over the course of the warm air intrusion event. Density was retrieved from 5 SnowMicroPen measurements crossing the snowpit

OPEN

## Vertical heat fluxes



OPEN