

# Supplementary Material

## A consensus estimate for the ice thickness distribution of all glaciers on Earth

Daniel Farinotti<sup>1,2</sup>, Matthias Huss<sup>1,3</sup>, Johannes J. Fürst<sup>4</sup>, Johannes Landmann<sup>1,2</sup>, Horst Machguth<sup>3,5</sup>, Fabien Maussion<sup>6</sup>, and Ankur Pandit<sup>7</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Laboratory of Hydraulics, Hydrology and Glaciology (VAW), ETH Zurich, Zurich, Switzerland

<sup>2</sup> Swiss Federal Institute for Forest, Snow and Landscape Research (WSL), Birmensdorf, Switzerland

<sup>3</sup> Department of Geosciences, University of Fribourg, Fribourg, Switzerland

<sup>4</sup> Inst. of Geography, Friedrich-Alexander-University Erlangen-Nuremberg (FAU), Erlangen, Germany

<sup>5</sup> Department of Geography, University of Zurich, Zurich, Switzerland

<sup>6</sup> Institute of Atmospheric and Cryospheric Sciences, University of Innsbruck, Innsbruck, Austria

<sup>7</sup> Interdisciplinary Programme in Climate Studies, Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay, India

## 1 **S 1 Setup of individual models**

2 The models used within the study have been presented in earlier publications (Huss and Farinotti,  
3 2012; Frey et al., 2014; Fürst et al., 2017; Ramsankaran et al., 2018; Maussion et al., 2018) and are  
4 summarized in Farinotti et al. (2017). This section mainly provides additional implementation-  
5 details used for the present work.

### 6 **S 1.1 Model 1 (*HF-model*) – Huss and Farinotti (2012)**

7 The *HF-model* by Huss and Farinotti (2012) is based on mass conservation and principles of  
8 ice flow dynamics. Basically, the approach estimates the ice volume flux along the glacier, and  
9 converts it into ice thickness by using Glen’s flow law (Glen, 1955). Glacier hypsometry and  
10 surface characteristics (mean slope and glacier width) are evaluated for 10 m elevation bands,  
11 and all calculations are performed with this simplified two dimensional shape. Apparent mass  
12 balance gradients for the ablation and accumulation area (Farinotti et al., 2009) are estimated  
13 based on the continentality of the glacier. Ice volume fluxes along the glacier are converted  
14 into ice thickness using an integrated form of Glen’s flow law. Longitudinal variations in valley  
15 shape and basal shear stress are taken into account. Simple parametrisations describe both the  
16 temperature-dependence of the flow rate factor and the variability in basal sliding. Calculated  
17 mean elevation-band thickness is extrapolated to each cell of a regular grid considering local  
18 surface slope, and the distance from the glacier margin. For marine-terminating glaciers, a fixed  
19 ice volume flux is prescribed at the glacier terminus.

20 For the here presented results, the model was calibrated to the available ice thickness measure-  
21 ments by optimizing parameters specific to each RGI region. No model tuning was performed  
22 to reproduce ice thickness observations of individual glaciers. The misfit with observations was  
23 assessed by evaluating (i) the region-by-region average of the mean deviations of all points of  
24 individual glaciers, (ii) the glacier-area-weighted average of the mean deviation over all points  
25 of individual glaciers, (iii) the average of the difference between calculated and reported mean  
26 ice thickness, and (iv) the glacier-area-weighted average of the difference between calculated  
27 and reported mean ice thickness. Original model parameters used in Huss and Farinotti (2012)  
28 were adjusted to minimize each of the criteria (i) to (iv), with the aim of minimizing systematic  
29 deviations from the observations. For roughly half of the regions, no re-calibration was neces-  
30 sary. For the remaining RGI regions, the apparent mass balance gradient  $\tilde{db}/dz$  (see Equation 1  
31 in Huss and Farinotti, 2012) was adjusted within physically reasonable bounds. For two RGI  
32 regions, also the flow rate factor  $A_f$  (Equation 5 in Huss and Farinotti, 2012) was re-calibrated.

### 33 **S 1.2 Model 2 (*GlabTop2*) – Frey et al. (2014)**

34 The *GlabTop2* model is based on the same concepts as presented in Linsbauer et al. (2012),  
35 and uses an empirical relation between average basal shear stress and glacier elevation range  
36 (Haeberli and Hoelzle, 1995) to calculate the ice thickness at individual locations. The laborious  
37 process of manually drawing branchlines, required in the original approach (Linsbauer et al.,  
38 2012), is avoided by determining the local surface slope from the average of all grid cells within  
39 a predefined elevation buffer. This makes the entirely grid-based method applicable to the large  
40 scale. In a first step, an ice thickness is calculated at a set of randomly selected cells. In a  
41 second step, this thickness is interpolated to the entire glacier area. To achieve realistic glacier  
42 cross-sections, the interpolation scheme assigns a minimum, non-zero ice thickness to all grid

43 cells directly adjacent to the glacier margin.  
44 Parameter selection for the *GlabTop2* model was identical to the one described in Farinotti  
45 et al. (2017), with the exception of the shape factor  $f$  (see Equation 3 in Frey et al., 2014).  
46 For the latter, an empirically derived function of the form  $f = a \cdot (n_g/n_m)^b$  was used, where  
47  $n_g$  is the total number of grid cells of a glacier,  $n_m$  is the number of glacier grid cells that are  
48 directly adjacent to the glacier margin, and  $a$  and  $b$  are two empirical coefficients. The additional  
49 constraint  $f \leq 1$  was imposed. Coefficients of  $a = 5596$  and  $b = 0.1688$  were determined during  
50 the cross-validation experiment (see Methods in the main article) by minimizing the difference  
51 between (i) the average ice thickness given by the measurements and (ii) the average thickness  
52 given by the model at the corresponding locations (no calibration at the level of individual points  
53 was performed). Note that the dependency of  $f$  on  $r = n_g/n_m$  can be interpreted as the effect  
54 of the drag from valley walls on glacier flow (Paterson, 1994). For a given surface slope, a low  
55  $r$  value (typical for a valley-type glacier) results in a higher ice thickness than a high  $r$  value  
56 (typical for ice caps). Values of  $f$  were limited to  $\leq 1$ , thus varying from 0.5596 to 1.  
57 For the ice thickness calculations, DEMs with a spatial resolution below 75 m were resampled  
58 to 75 m, and re-brought to the original resolution afterwards. This is to reduce the noise that  
59 is introduced when strong, small-scale variations in surface slope occur (such variations directly  
60 affect the calculated ice thickness through the dependence on surface slope; e.g. Frey et al.,  
61 2014; Farinotti et al., 2017). No thickness calculations were performed when (1) the provided  
62 surface DEM contained negative values for more than 5% of the area, and (2) the estimated ice  
63 thickness was unrealistically high. To discern case (1), an arbitrary threshold of 100 m below  
64 sea level was used. If this threshold was reached by fewer than 5% of the DEM extent, the  
65 corresponding elevations were set to sea level (0 m a.s.l.); if the threshold was reached by more  
66 than 5% of the DEM extent, the glacier was not considered. To discern case (2), a threshold of  
67 900 m ice thickness was set. In cases where the threshold was met by 20% or more of the glacier  
68 domain, the results were discarded. The number of so-excluded glaciers is very small (0.05% of  
69 the total) but the glaciers represent a disproportionately large fraction of both the global glacier  
70 area (ca. 12%) and volume (ca. 28%).

### 71 **S 1.3 Model 3 (OGGM) – Maussion et al. (2018)**

72 The *Open Global Glacier Model* (OGGM; Maussion et al., 2018) is an open-source model for  
73 glacier dynamics applicable on any glacier in the world. The ice thickness inversion scheme relies  
74 on a mass-conservation approach similar to that of Farinotti et al. (2009), but is fully automated.  
75 The ice thickness is computed from mass turnover and the shallow ice approximation along  
76 multiple flowlines computed with the algorithm of Kienholz et al. (2014). A major difference  
77 from other models is that OGGM relies on gridded climate data (CRU in this instance; Harris  
78 et al., 2014) to compute the mass turnover, and not on predefined linear gradients.  
79 The OGGM parameter calibration for this study was limited to (i) the interpolation parameters  
80 used to translate the flowline thickness to a distributed ice thickness map, and (ii) the creep  
81 parameter  $A$  in Glen’s flow law (Glen, 1955). All other parameters are kept to their default  
82 values (see Maussion et al., 2018). The interpolation parameters were selected to minimize the  
83 glacier-wide root mean square deviation from actual ice thickness measurements, with  $A$  chosen  
84 to minimize the glacier-wide bias. Once the interpolation step was fixed, Glen’s  $A$  was chosen  
85 to minimize the bias to all point observations in a given cross-validation set.  
86 Unlike other models, OGGM does not rely on any regional tuning, i.e. the same set of parameters  
87 is used globally and for each cross-validation set. The reasoning behind this decision is that RGI  
88 regions are often arbitrary, and do not necessarily represent an homogeneous entity in terms

89 of climate or glaciological processes. Regional tuning might thus introduce artificial, model-  
90 dependant differences between regions that are not found in reality.  
91 A subjective assessment of the main sources of uncertainty (not ordered by importance) are (1)  
92 the reliance on actual gridded climate data to estimate the mass-turnover, (2) the interpolation  
93 step required to transpose the flowline representation into a two dimensional one, (3) uncer-  
94 tainties in the actual ice dynamics parameters (deformation and sliding in particular), and (4)  
95 uncertainties in the location and detection of glacier ice-divides.

#### 96 **S 1.4 Model 4 (no specific name so far)– Fürst et al. (2017)**

97 The approach by Fürst et al. (2017) is primarily based on mass conservation and solves for a  
98 basin-wide thickness field. A detailed description and performance analysis for various glacier  
99 types on Svalbard was presented in the mentioned publication. The approach is split into two  
100 steps to ensure wide applicability. For the global application, only the first step was applicable  
101 since no surface velocities were available. Similar as for Models 1 and 3, this step relies on the  
102 shallow-ice approximation for a flux-thickness conversion. Point measurements of ice thickness  
103 are readily assimilated and reproduced by an automatic viscosity calibration.

104 The only adaptation concerns the ability to use information on mean glacier thickness (provided  
105 within the *Glacier Thickness Database*; WGMS, 2016). For this purpose, a glacier-wide uniform  
106 ice viscosity is calibrated such that the mean glacier thickness is reproduced. Information  
107 on surface mass balance (SMB) for each glacier is based on the results of the *Global Glacier*  
108 *Evolution Model (GloGEM)*; Huss and Hock, 2015). The flowline SMB is averaged for the period  
109 1980–2010. Values are extrapolated over the drainage basin following elevation bands. For  
110 marine terminating glaciers, surface elevation changes were set to zero. For land-terminating  
111 glaciers, elevation changes are parametrized by an empirical relations given in Huss et al. (2010),  
112 which distinguishes between three glacier area classes.

#### 113 **S 1.5 Model 5 (*GlabTop2\_IITB version*) – Ramsankaran et al. (2018)**

114 The *GlabTop2\_IITB version* (referred to as *RAAJglabtop2* in Farinotti et al., 2017) is an inde-  
115 pendent implementation of the *GlabTop2* model developed by Frey et al. (2014) (Model 2 above;  
116 cf. Sec. S 1.2).

117 Calibration of the model followed Ramsankaran et al. (2018). In a nutshell, the method’s  
118 shape factor  $f$  (see Equation 3 in Ramsankaran et al., 2018) is used as the only calibration  
119 parameter, and direct ice thickness observations are used to iteratively adjust  $f$  so that the  
120 squared differences between modelled and observed ice thicknesses are minimized. Since no  
121 direct ice thickness estimates were available for the vast majority of the 1152 glaciers considered  
122 by the model, a set of 31 simulations were performed by varying  $f$  in the interval  $f = [0.6, 0.9]$   
123 with a spacing of 0.01. The so-obtained ice thickness distributions were then stacked by  
124 averaging pixel-wise the local ice thickness obtained from the individual simulations. The so  
125 obtained distribution was used as the best estimate.

Table S 1: Weights assigned to individual models (M1 to M5). Values are derived with the cross-validation experiment described in the Methods section of the main text.  $N_{\text{meas}}$  is the number of glaciers for which ice thickness information is reported within GlaThiDa v2. For regions with  $N_{\text{meas}} < 5$  (labelled with \*), the weights are obtained by pooling all regions. Weights are relative, and are distributed amongst models that actually provide a solution for a given region (i.e. the sum of the weights is 100 % for every region).

RGI region	$N_{\text{meas}}$	M1	M2	M3	M4	M5
01 Alaska	9	45 %	22 %	33 %	-	-
02 Western Canada and US	29	35 %	29 %	35 %	-	-
03 Arctic Canada North	235	35 %	30 %	35 %	-	-
04 Arctic Canada South	24	27 %	32 %	40 %	-	-
05 Greenland Periphery	204	44 %	56 %	-	-	-
06 Iceland	3*	38 %	32 %	30 %	-	-
07 Svalbard <sup>(1)</sup>	65	-	-	-	(100 %)	-
08 Scandinavia	97	26 %	19 %	25 %	31 %	-
09 Russian Arctic	15	30 %	33 %	37 %	-	-
10 North Asia	20	25 %	39 %	36 %	-	-
11 Central Europe	125	27 %	27 %	12 %	15 %	18 %
12 Caucasus and Middle East	21	31 %	25 %	23 %	-	21 %
13 Central Asia	38	25 %	25 %	20 %	31 %	-
14 South Asia West	0*	31 %	26 %	25 %	-	18 %
15 South Asia East	2*	26 %	22 %	20 %	32 %	-
16 Low Latitudes	4*	38 %	32 %	30 %	-	-
17 Southern Andes	38	41 %	42 %	17 %	-	-
18 New Zealand	2*	26 %	22 %	20 %	32 %	-
19 Antarctic and Subantarctic	69	60 %	40 %	-	-	-
All regions pooled	1000	22 %	19 %	18 %	28 %	13 %

<sup>(1)</sup> For Svalbard, estimates are taken from Fürst et al. (2018), who used a method similar to M4 (Fürst et al., 2017).

## Same weight for every region

Table S2: Estimated regional glacier ice volumes from this and previous studies. Values are given in mm sea level equivalent (see Methods in the main text). Numbers for this study (a) refer to the composite solution, (b) do not correct for ice portions below present sea level (in line with previous studies but contrary to Table 1 of the main text), and (c) are obtained by assigning the same, pooled weight (see last row of Table S1) to every RGI region. When previous studies used a different regions nomenclature, correspondence is given in the table's footnotes.

RGI region	This study	Radić and Hock (2010) <sup>(1)</sup>	Huss and Farinotti (2012)	Marzeion et al. (2012)	Grunsted (2013)	Radić et al. (2014)	Frey et al. (2014) <sup>(4)</sup>	Martín-Español et al. (2015)	Average of previous estimates	Difference between this study and average of previous estimates	Difference between this study and Huss and Farinotti (2012)
01 Alaska	45.8	66.3	49.3	75.1	43.3	67.3	-	-	60.3	(-23.9%)	[-7.0%]
02 Western Canada and US	2.6	4.6	2.5	3.0	2.5	3.1	-	-	3.1	(-18.7%)	[2.9%]
03 Arctic Canada North	68.4	193.6	83.1	100.6	59.9	134.1	-	-	114.3	(-40.1%)	[-17.6%]
04 Arctic Canada South	20.8	- <sup>(2)</sup>	23.7	20.2	14.8	22.6	-	-	20.3	(2.4%)	[-12.3%]
05 Greenland Periphery	37.9	43.1	46.0	26.8	45.7	41.4	-	-	40.6	(-6.6%)	[-17.6%]
06 Iceland	9.1	11.8	10.7	12.4	8.5	6.4	-	-	10.0	(-8.7%)	[-15.1%]
07 Svalbard	18.0	24.8	23.4	21.5	12.9	22.0	-	16.2	20.1	(-10.3%)	[-22.9%]
08 Scandinavia	0.7	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.8	0.5	-	-	0.6	(20.2%)	[16.4%]
09 Russian Arctic	35.4	42.8	40.7	57.1	32.8	42.9	-	-	43.3	(-18.3%)	[-13.1%]
10 North Asia	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.6	0.5	0.7	-	-	0.5	(-34.1%)	[-3.6%]
11 Central Europe	0.3	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	-	-	0.3	(-8.0%)	[8.5%]
12 Caucasus and Middle East	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	-	-	0.2	(-16.0%)	[3.3%]
13 Central Asia	7.9	30.1	12.1	15.2	23.0	15.7	-	-	19.2	(-58.9%)	[-34.9%]
14 South Asia West	6.9	- <sup>(3)</sup>	7.8	9.2	9.2	10.8	6.8	-	8.8	(-21.2%)	[-11.6%]
15 South Asia East	2.1	- <sup>(3)</sup>	3.2	3.7	4.0	4.5	2.2	-	3.5	(-39.4%)	[-33.2%]
16 Low Latitudes	0.2	0.8	0.3	0.6	0.3	0.6	-	-	0.5	(-54.6%)	[-31.9%]
17 Southern Andes	12.9	19.6	16.1	12.4	11.4	16.5	-	-	15.2	(-15.2%)	[-20.0%]
18 New Zealand	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.2	-	-	0.2	(-15.1%)	[4.3%]
19 Antarctic and Subantarctic	112.2	143.8	90.6	-	73.0	117.5	-	-	106.2	(5.7%)	[23.9%]
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>381.9</b>	<b>583.1</b>	<b>411.0</b>	<b>359.7</b>	<b>343.4</b>	<b>507.3</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>467.2</b>	<b>(-18.2%)</b>	<b>[-7.1%]</b>
Arctic (03+04+05+07+09)	180.5	304.3	216.9	226.2	166.1	263.0	-	-	238.6	(-24.4%)	[-16.8%]
Antarctic (19)	112.2	143.8	90.6	-	73.0	117.5	-	-	106.2	(5.6%)	[23.8%]
Alaska (01)	45.8	66.3	49.3	75.1	43.3	67.3	-	-	60.3	(-24.0%)	[-7.1%]
High Mountain Asia (13+14+15)	16.9	30.1	23.1	28.1	36.2	31.0	-	-	31.5	(-46.3%)	[-26.8%]
Other (9 regions)	26.5	38.6	31.1	30.3	24.8	28.5	-	-	30.6	(-13.4%)	[-14.8%]

<sup>(1)</sup> Regions nomenclature: RGI region (Reg.) 10 = Franz Josef Land + Novaya Zemlya + Severnaya Zemlya;  
Reg. 16 = South America I; Reg. 17 = South America II; Reg. 19 = Sub-Antarctic islands + Antarctica

<sup>(2)</sup> Volume accounted for within Reg. 04.

<sup>(3)</sup> Volume accounted for within Reg. 13.

<sup>(4)</sup> Regions nomenclature: Reg. 14 = Karakoram + West Himalayas; Reg. 15 = Central Himalayas + East Himalayas

## Regionally differentiated weights

Table S3: Same as Table S2, but for the case in which regionally differentiated weights (see Table S1) are assigned to individual models.

RGI region	This study	Radić and Hock (2010) <sup>(1)</sup>	Huss and Farinotti (2012)	Marzeion et al. (2012)	Grinsted (2013)	Radić et al. (2014)	Frey et al. (2014) <sup>(4)</sup>	Martín-Español et al. (2015)	Average of previous estimates	Difference between this study and average of previous estimates	Difference between this study and Huss and Farinotti (2012)
01 Alaska	45.5	66.3	49.3	75.1	43.3	67.3	-	-	60.3	(-24.4%)	[-7.6%]
02 Western Canada and US	2.6	4.6	2.5	3.0	2.5	3.1	-	-	3.1	(-18.2%)	[3.5%]
03 Arctic Canada North	68.0	193.6	83.1	100.6	59.9	134.1	-	-	114.3	(-40.5%)	[-18.1%]
04 Arctic Canada South	20.4	- <sup>(2)</sup>	23.7	20.2	14.8	22.6	-	-	20.3	(0.6%)	[-13.8%]
05 Greenland Periphery	37.8	43.1	46.0	26.8	45.7	41.4	-	-	40.6	(-6.8%)	[-17.7%]
06 Iceland	9.1	11.8	10.7	12.4	8.5	6.4	-	-	10.0	(-8.6%)	[-15.1%]
07 Svalbard	18.0	24.8	23.4	21.5	12.9	22.0	-	16.2	20.1	(-10.3%)	[-22.9%]
08 Scandinavia	0.7	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.8	0.5	-	-	0.6	(21.4%)	[17.6%]
09 Russian Arctic	35.0	42.8	40.7	57.1	32.8	42.9	-	-	43.3	(-19.1%)	[-14.0%]
10 North Asia	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.6	0.5	0.7	-	-	0.5	(-34.6%)	[-4.3%]
11 Central Europe	0.3	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	-	-	0.3	(-10.1%)	[6.0%]
12 Caucasus and Middle East	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	-	-	0.2	(-17.3%)	[1.6%]
13 Central Asia	7.8	30.1	12.1	15.2	23.0	15.7	-	-	19.2	(-59.2%)	[-35.4%]
14 South Asia West	6.9	- <sup>(3)</sup>	7.8	9.2	9.2	10.8	6.8	-	8.8	(-21.3%)	[-11.8%]
15 South Asia East	2.1	- <sup>(3)</sup>	3.2	3.7	4.0	4.5	2.2	-	3.5	(-39.8%)	[-33.6%]
16 Low Latitudes	0.2	0.8	0.3	0.6	0.3	0.6	-	-	0.5	(-54.6%)	[-31.9%]
17 Southern Andes	12.9	19.6	16.1	12.4	11.4	16.5	-	-	15.2	(-15.0%)	[-19.8%]
18 New Zealand	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.2	-	-	0.2	(-12.8%)	[7.1%]
19 Antarctic and Subantarctic	112.3	143.8	90.6	-	73.0	117.5	-	-	106.2	(5.8%)	[24.0%]
TOTAL	380.3	583.1	411.0	359.7	343.4	507.3	-	-	467.2	(-18.5%)	[-7.4%]
Arctic (03+04+05+07+09)	179.2	304.3	216.9	226.2	166.1	263.0	-	-	238.6	(-24.9%)	[-17.4%]
Antarctic (19)	112.3	143.8	90.6	-	73.0	117.5	-	-	106.2	(5.7%)	[24.0%]
Alaska (01)	45.5	66.3	49.3	75.1	43.3	67.3	-	-	60.3	(-24.5%)	[-7.7%]
High Mountain Asia (13+14+15)	16.8	30.1	23.1	28.1	36.2	31.0	-	-	31.5	(-46.7%)	[-27.3%]
Other (9 regions)	26.5	38.6	31.1	30.3	24.8	28.5	-	-	30.6	(-13.4%)	[-14.8%]

<sup>(1)</sup> Regions nomenclature: RGI region (Reg.) 10 = Franz Josef Land + Novaya Zemlya + Severnaya Zemlya;  
Reg. 16 = South America I; Reg. 17 = South America II; Reg. 19 = Sub-Antarctic islands + Antarctica

<sup>(2)</sup> Volume accounted for within Reg. 04.

<sup>(3)</sup> Volume accounted for within Reg. 13.

<sup>(4)</sup> Regions nomenclature: Reg. 14 = Karakoram + West Himalayas; Reg. 15 = Central Himalayas + East Himalayas

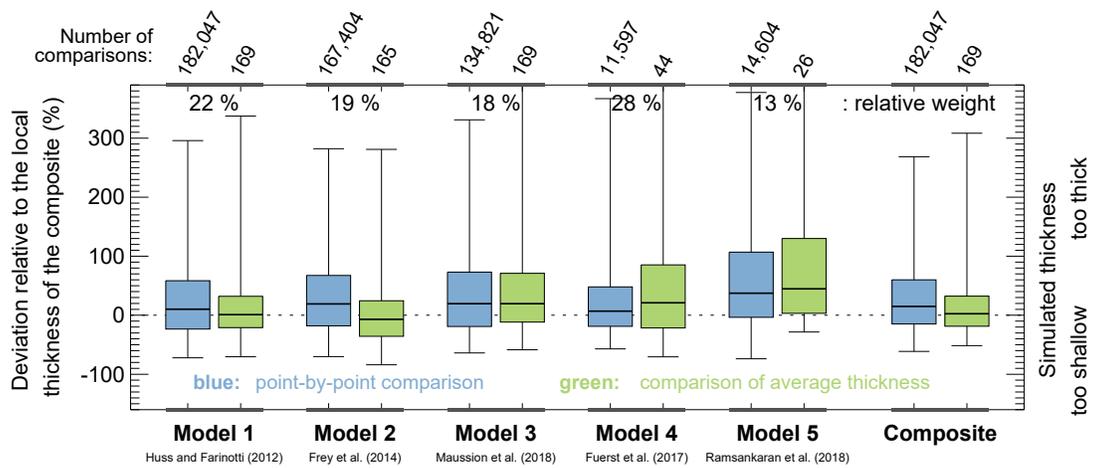


Figure S1: Assessment of model performance. The distribution of the relative deviations between modelled and measured ice thickness is shown for every model and for the composite solution. Deviations are given relative to the ice thickness of the composite and refer to point-by-point comparisons (blue) or comparisons of the average thickness (green). The number of points composing each box plot is given above the plot. Box plots show the 95% confidence interval (whiskers), the interquartile range (box), and the median (lines within box). "Relative weight" refers to the weight assigned to individual models when producing the composite solution (cf. Methods in the main text and Table S1).

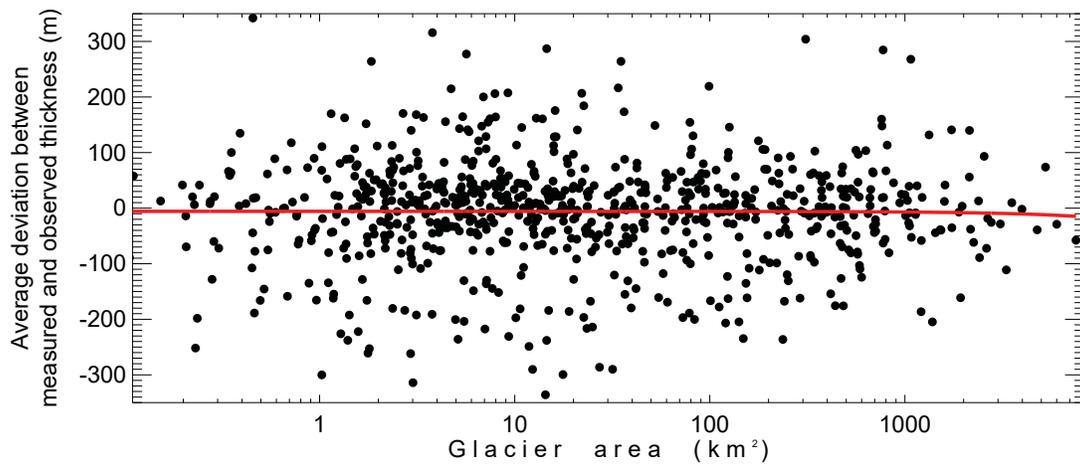


Figure S2: Assessment of possible bias in the results. The mean deviation between measured and observed ice thickness is shown as a function of glacier size. The red line is a linear fit through all points, and shows no discernible trend. Note the logarithmic scale for glacier area.

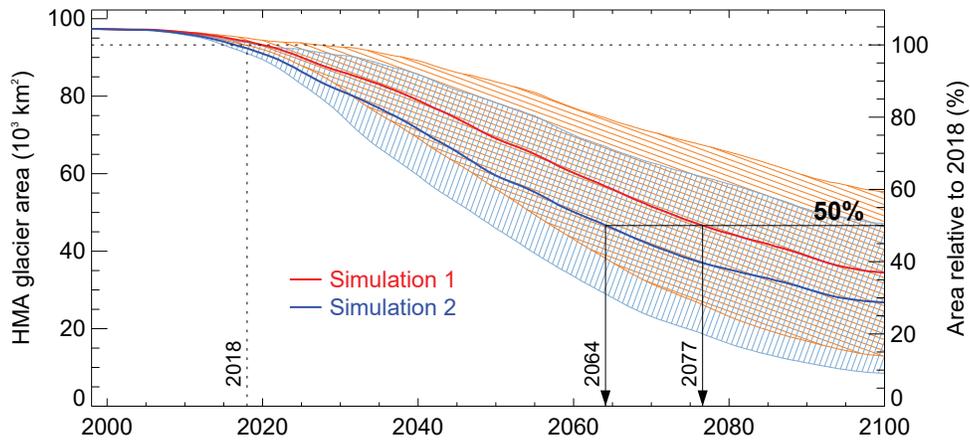


Figure S3: Implication of the estimated present-day ice thickness on the projected glacier area evolution for High Mountain Asia (RGI regions 13+14+15). Projections are based on the Global Glacier Evolution Model (GloGEM; see Huss and Hock, 2015, and "Methods" section of the main text), which was forced with the output of 14 different climate models under Representative Concentration Pathway 4.5 (Meinshausen et al., 2011). Simulation 1 and 2 are based on the ice thickness distribution presented by Huss and Farinotti (2012) and this study, respectively. Thick lines represent the ensemble median, whilst the bands are 95% confidence intervals. The time by which 50% of the present-day (year 2018) glacier area has shrunk by 50% is marked.

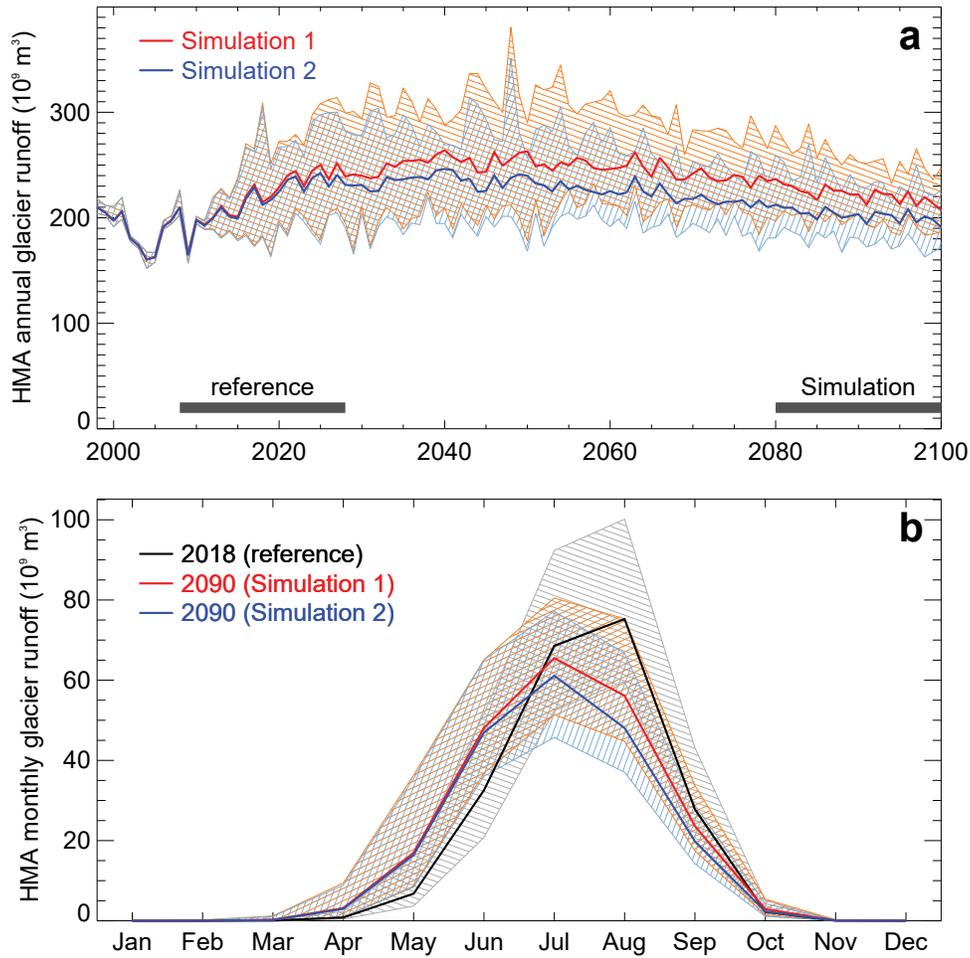


Figure S4: Implication of the estimated present-day ice thickness on the projected glacier runoff evolution for High Mountain Asia (RGI regions 13+14+15). (a) Total annual glacier runoff. (b) Monthly glacier runoff averaged over a 20-year period around the indicated year (see also horizontal bars in panel a). Projections are based on the Global Glacier Evolution Model (GloGEM; see Huss and Hock, 2015, and "Methods" section of the main text), which was forced with the output of 14 different climate models under Representative Concentration Pathway 4.5 (Meinshausen et al., 2011). Simulation 1 and 2 are based on the ice thickness distribution presented by Huss and Farinotti (2012) and this study, respectively. Thick lines represent the ensemble median, whilst the bands are 95% confidence intervals.

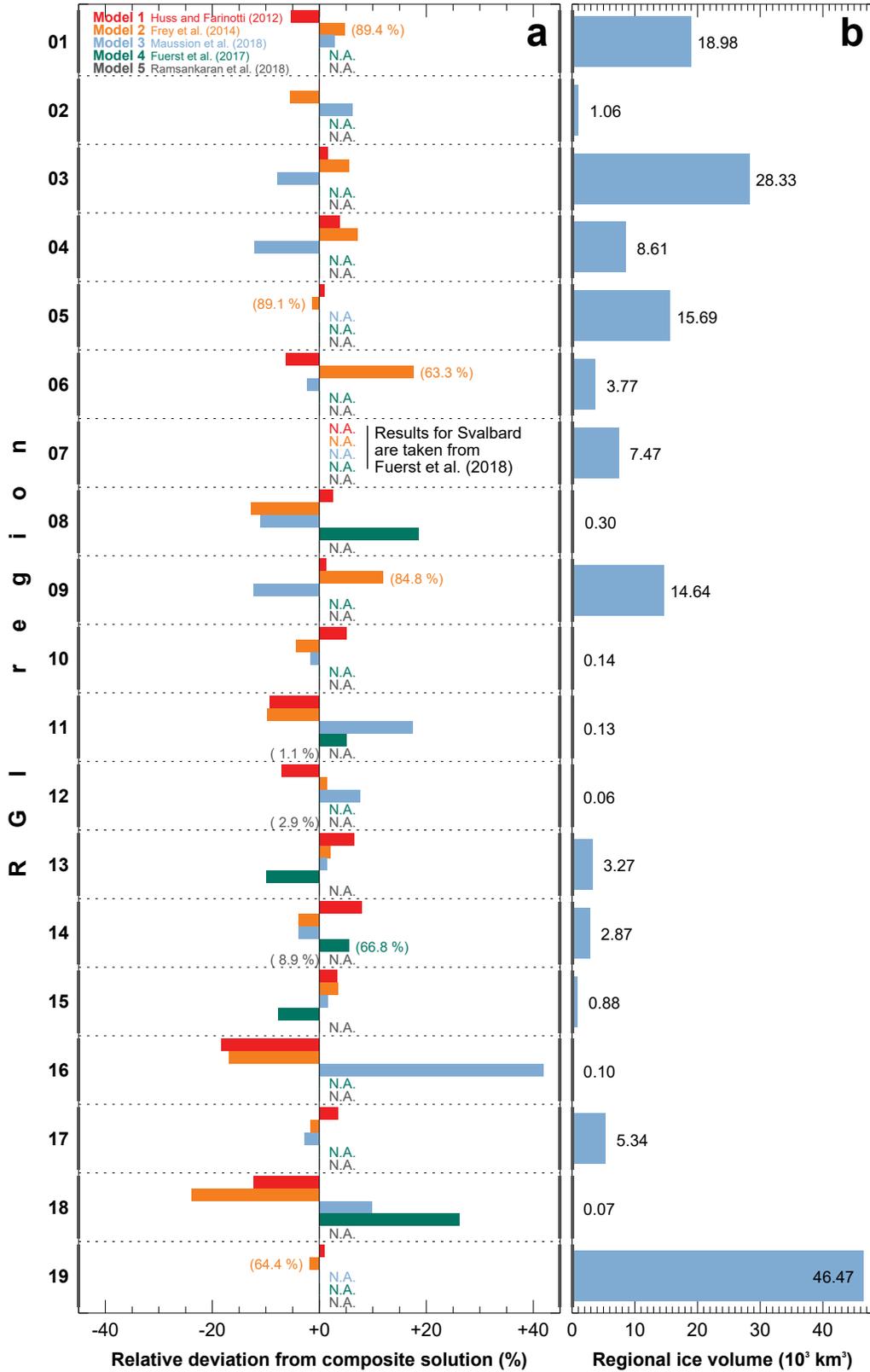


Figure S5: (a) Difference with respect to the composite solution of the ice volume estimated by individual models for the 19 regions of the Randolph Glacier Inventory (RGI). The difference is only shown if the corresponding model considered at least 50 % of the regional glacier area (cf. Fig. 1a in the main text), and only refers to the portion of area actually considered (given within parenthesis if <95 %). (b) Total ice volume as estimated by the composite solution.

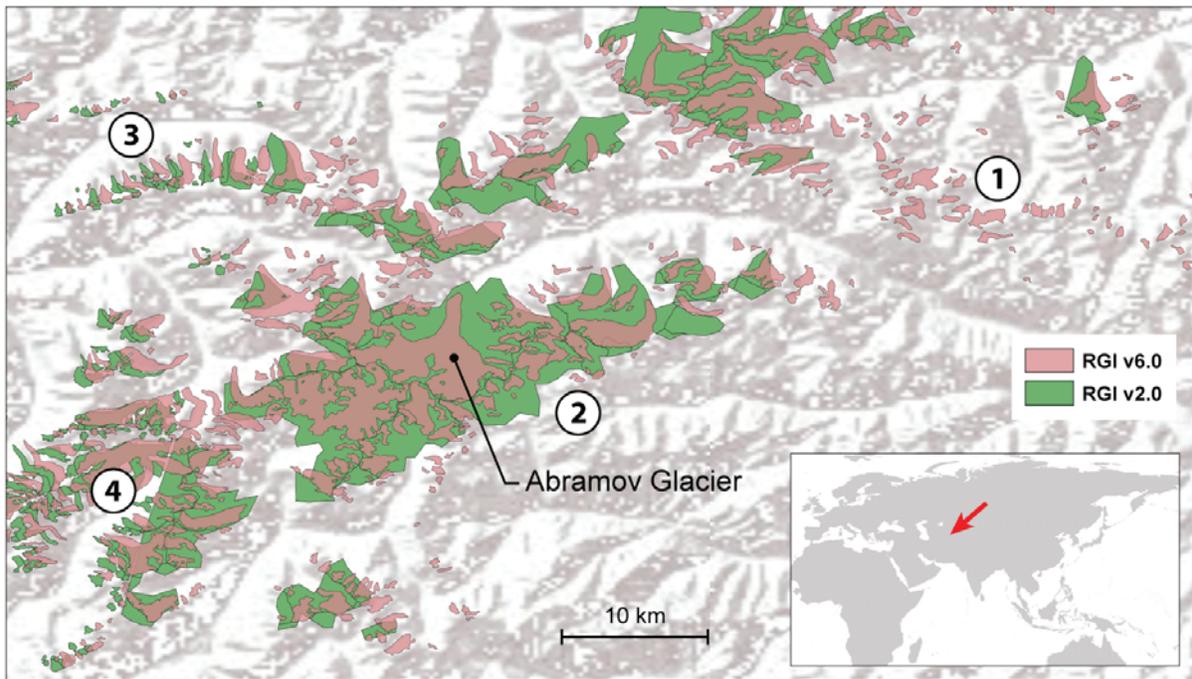


Figure S6: Example for glacier outline changes between RGI version 2.0 (used by Huss and Farinotti, 2012) and RGI version 6.0 (used in this study). The example refers to the region of Abramov Glacier (labeled), Central Asia. The circled numbers highlight regions for which (1) previously missing glaciers are now inventoried, (2) glacier complexes have been subdivided, (3) geolocation was improved, and (4) artifacts were corrected.

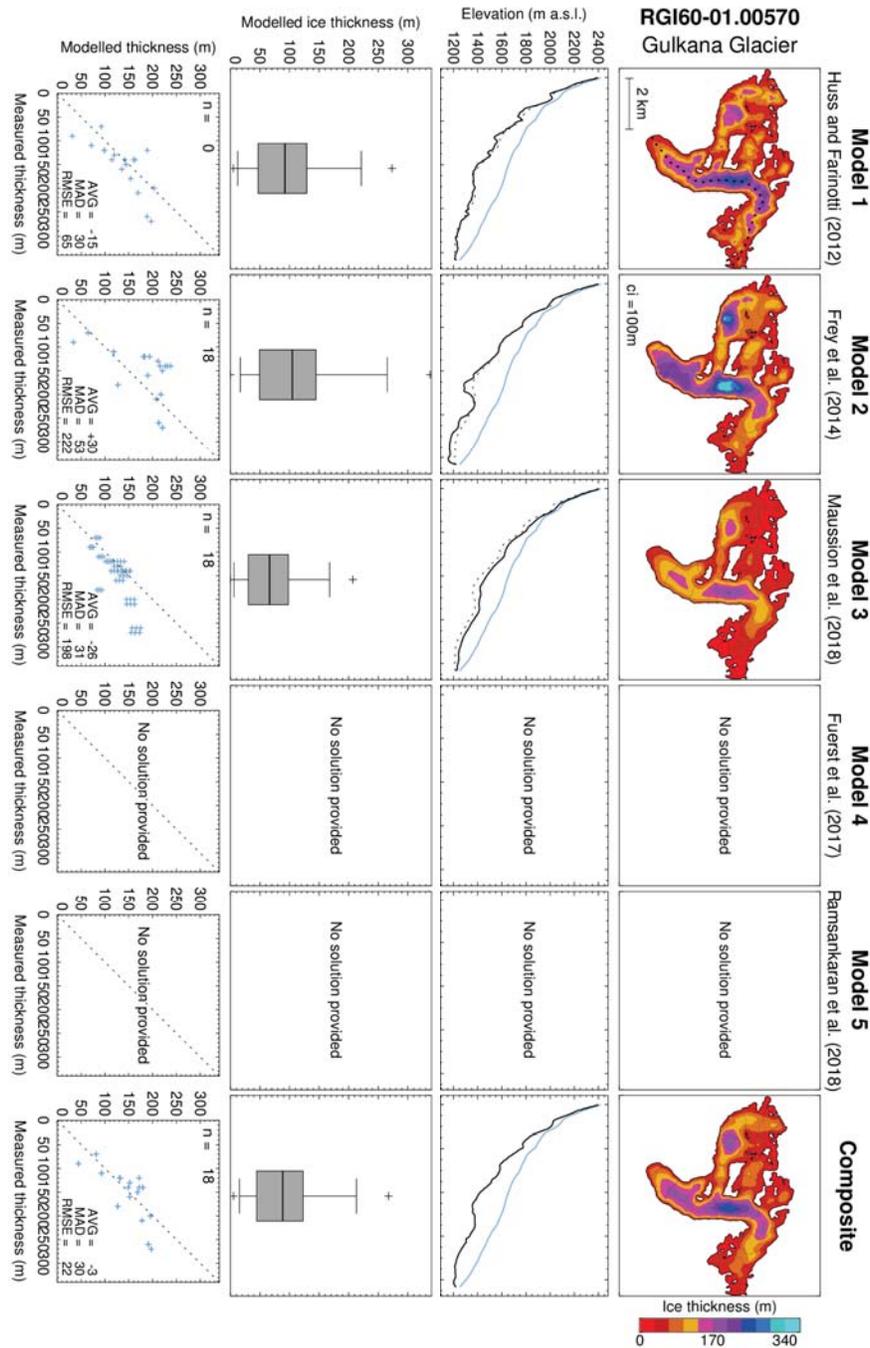


Figure S7: Example for the estimated ice thickness distribution. The example is arbitrary, and refers to glacier RGI60-01.00570 (RGI region "Alaska"). Rows show the following: (1) Ice thickness distribution as estimated by the various models (Model 1 to 5), and the composite. Contour lines refer to surface topography (the contour interval  $ci$  is given in the second panel). (2) Longitudinal profile of the glacier surface (blue) and the estimated bedrock topography (solid black). The composite solution (dashed black) is given as a reference. The profile's location is shown in the first panel of the first row (dashed line). (3) Distribution of the estimated ice thickness. Boxplots show minimum and maximum values (crosses), 95% confidence intervals (whiskers), interquartile ranges (box), and medians (line within box). The mean ice thickness reported in GlaThiDa v2.0 (WGMS, 2016) is given when available (asterisk). (4) Scatter-plot between measured and modelled point (blue markers) and mean (asterisk) ice thickness. The following information is given: number of point measurements ( $n$ ), average deviation ( $AVG$ ), mean absolute deviation ( $MAD$ ), root mean square error ( $RMSE$ ). The scatter-plots show pooled data from the cross-validation experiment (see Methods in the main text). All other panels show the final solution.

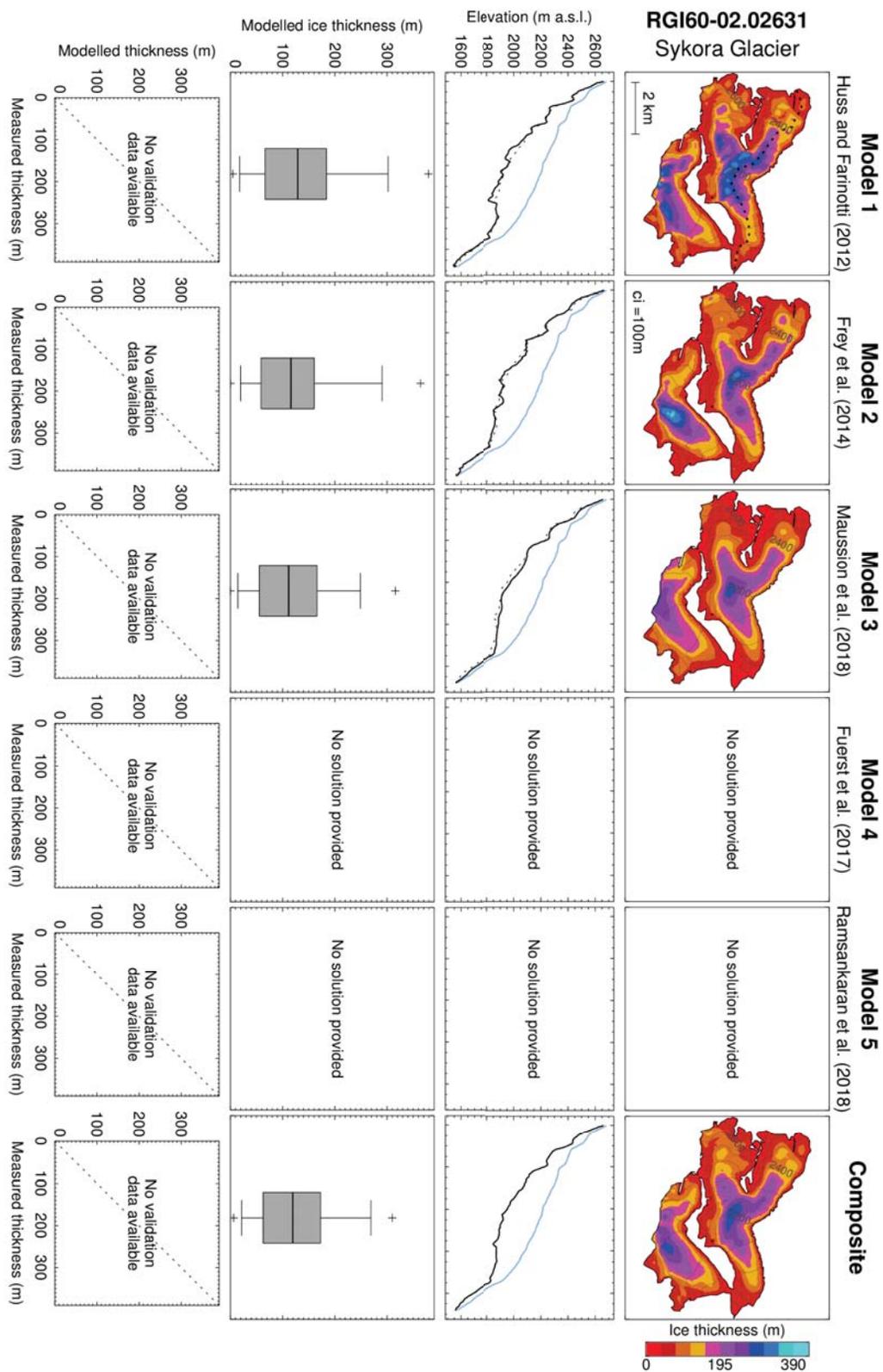


Figure S8: Same as Figure S7 but for glacier RGI60-02.02631 (RGI region "Western Canada and US").

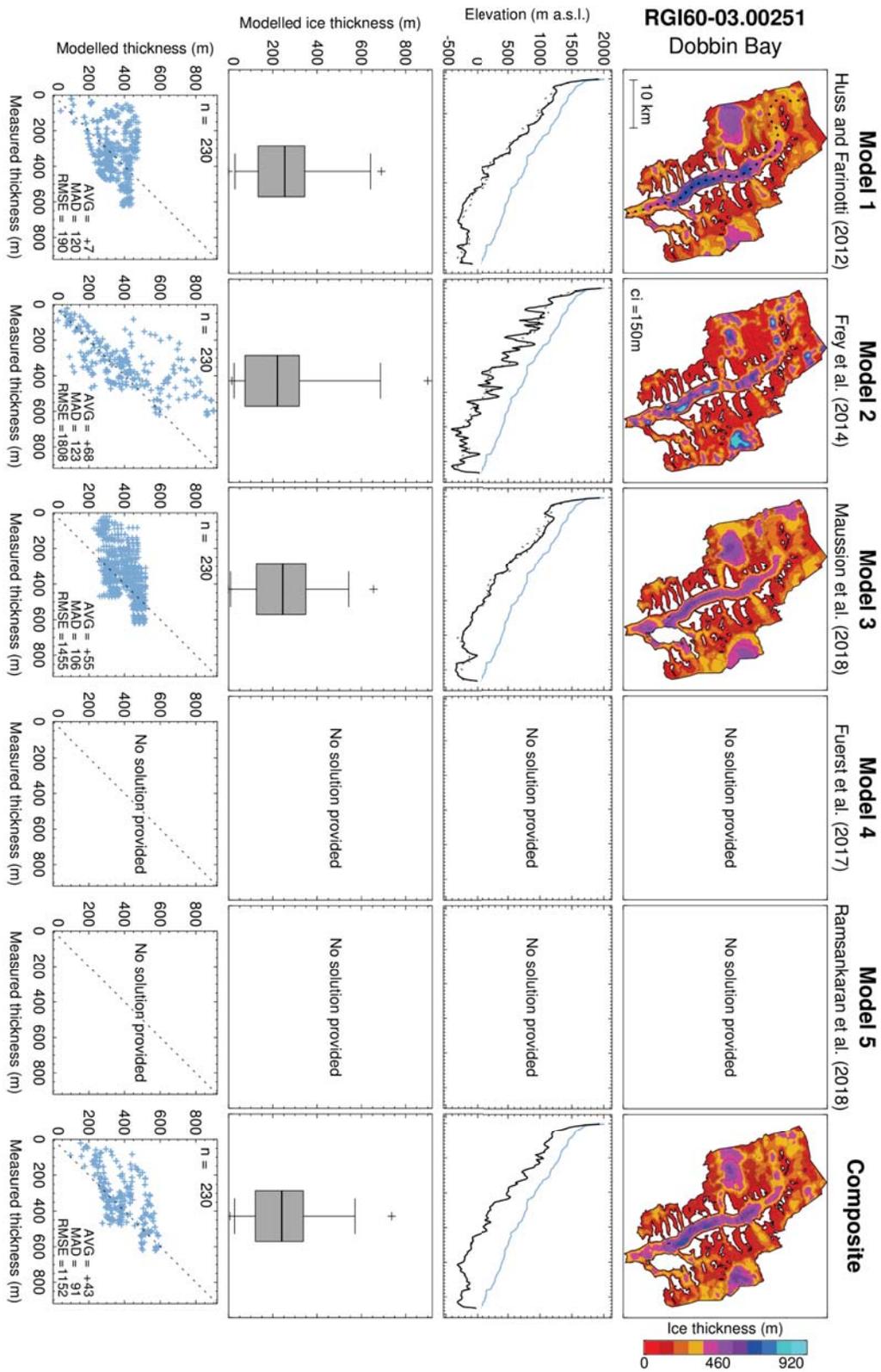


Figure S9: Same as Figure S7 but for glacier RGI60-03.00251 (RGI region "Arctic Canada North").

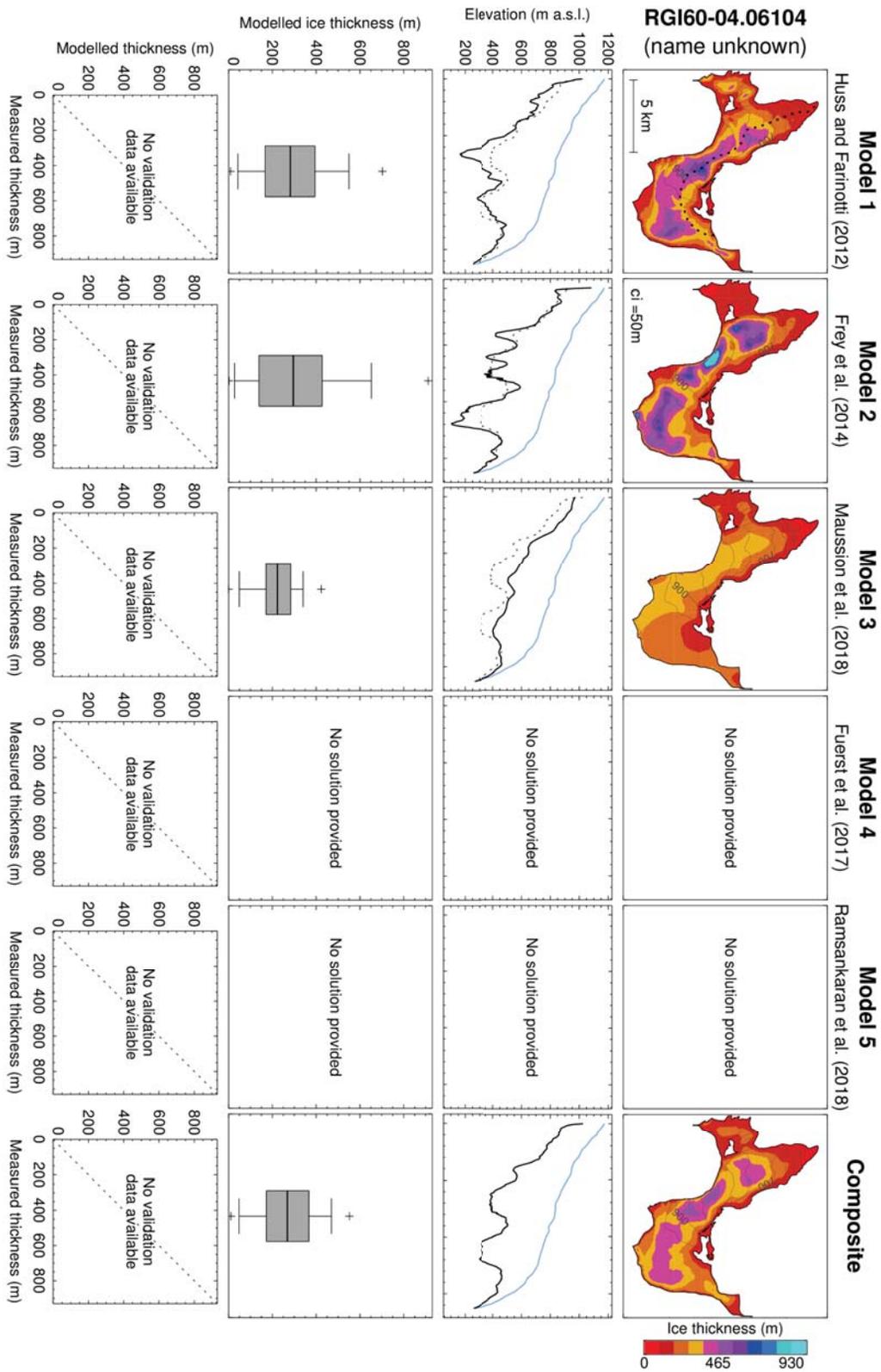


Figure S 10: Same as Figure S 7 but for glacier RGI60-04.06104 (RGI region "Arctic Canada South").

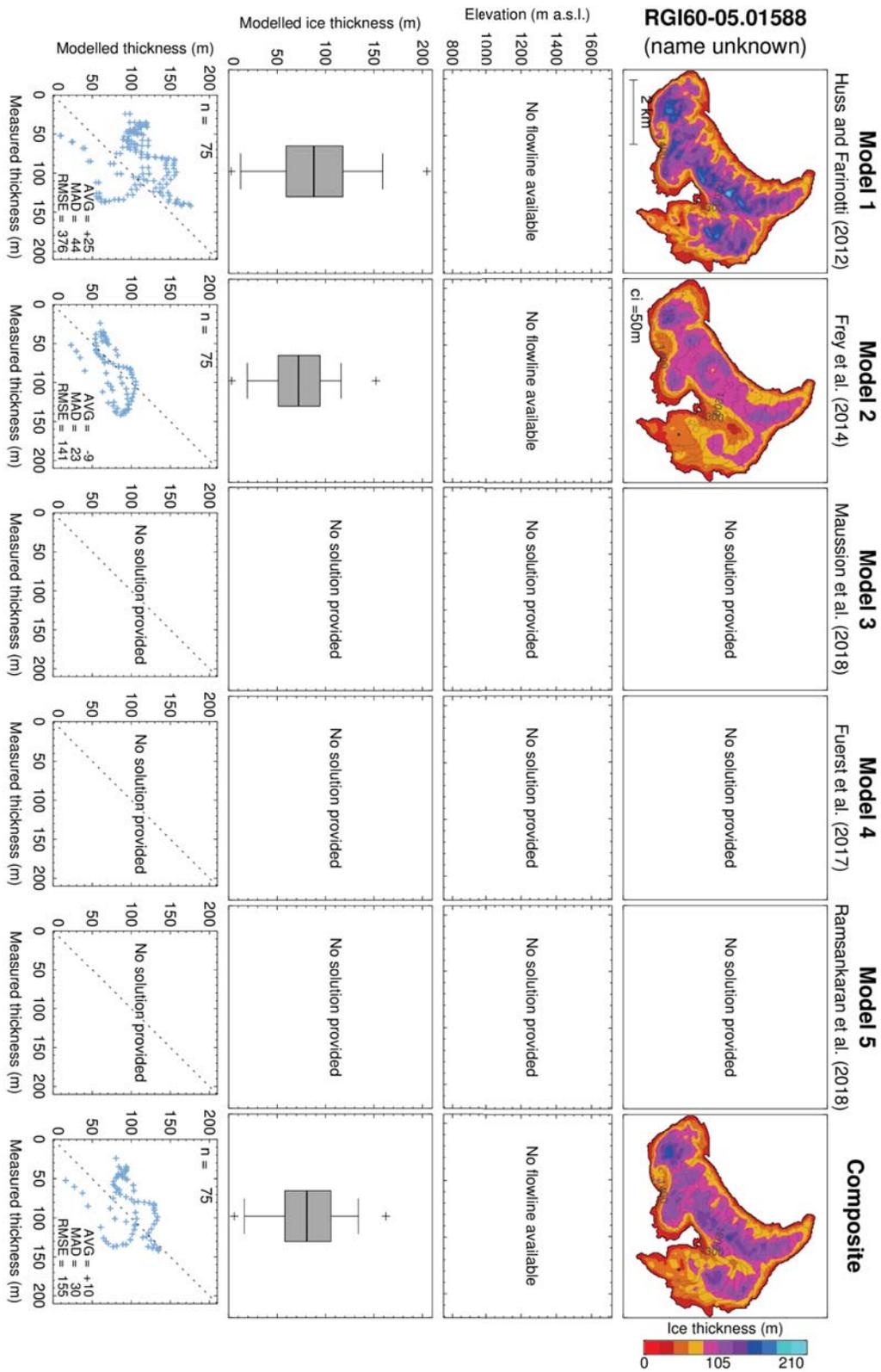


Figure S 11: Same as Figure S 7 but for glacier RGI60-05.01588 (RGI region "Greenland Periphery").

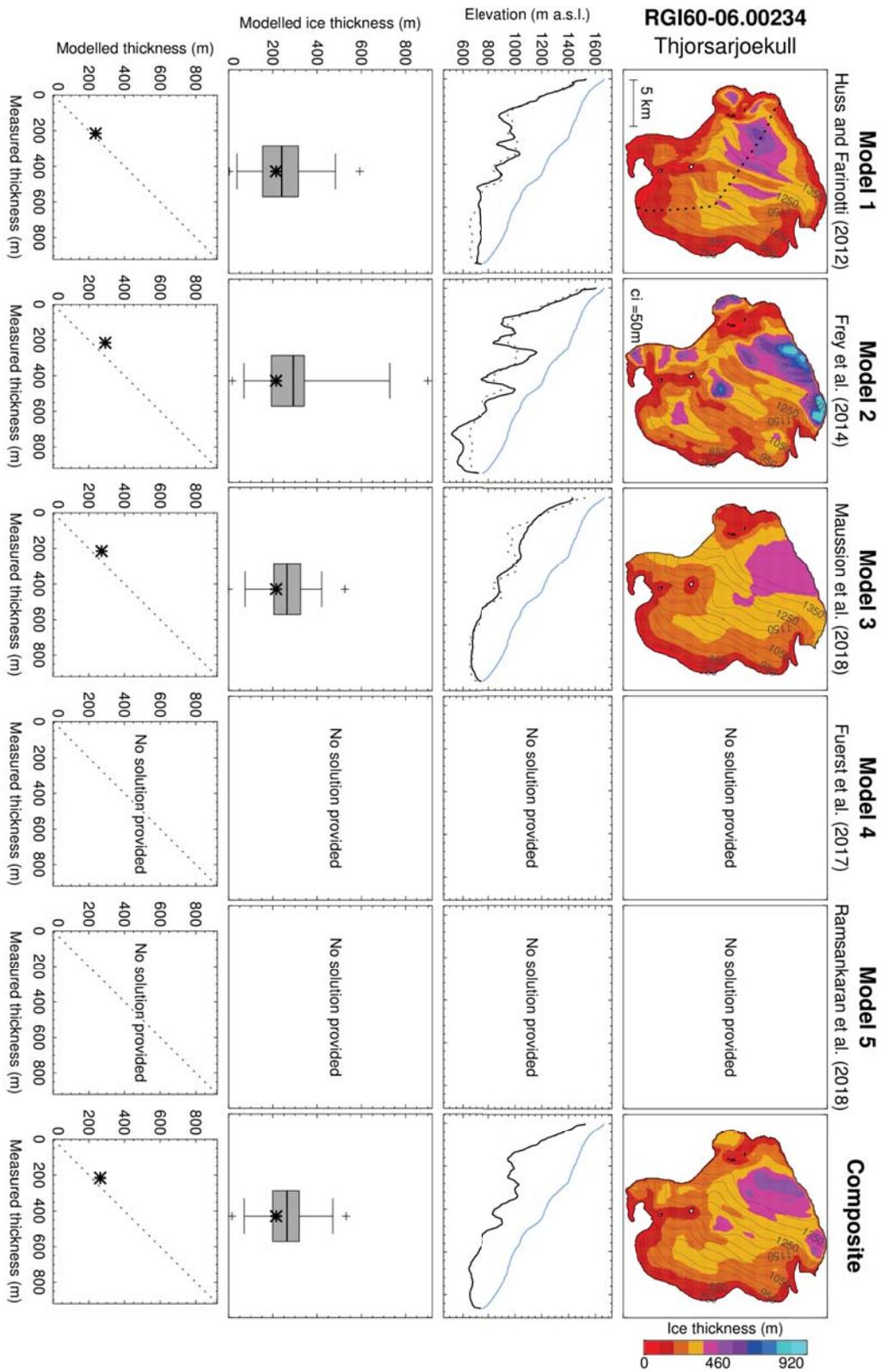


Figure S 12: Same as Figure S 7 but for glacier RGI60-06.00234 (RGI region "Iceland").

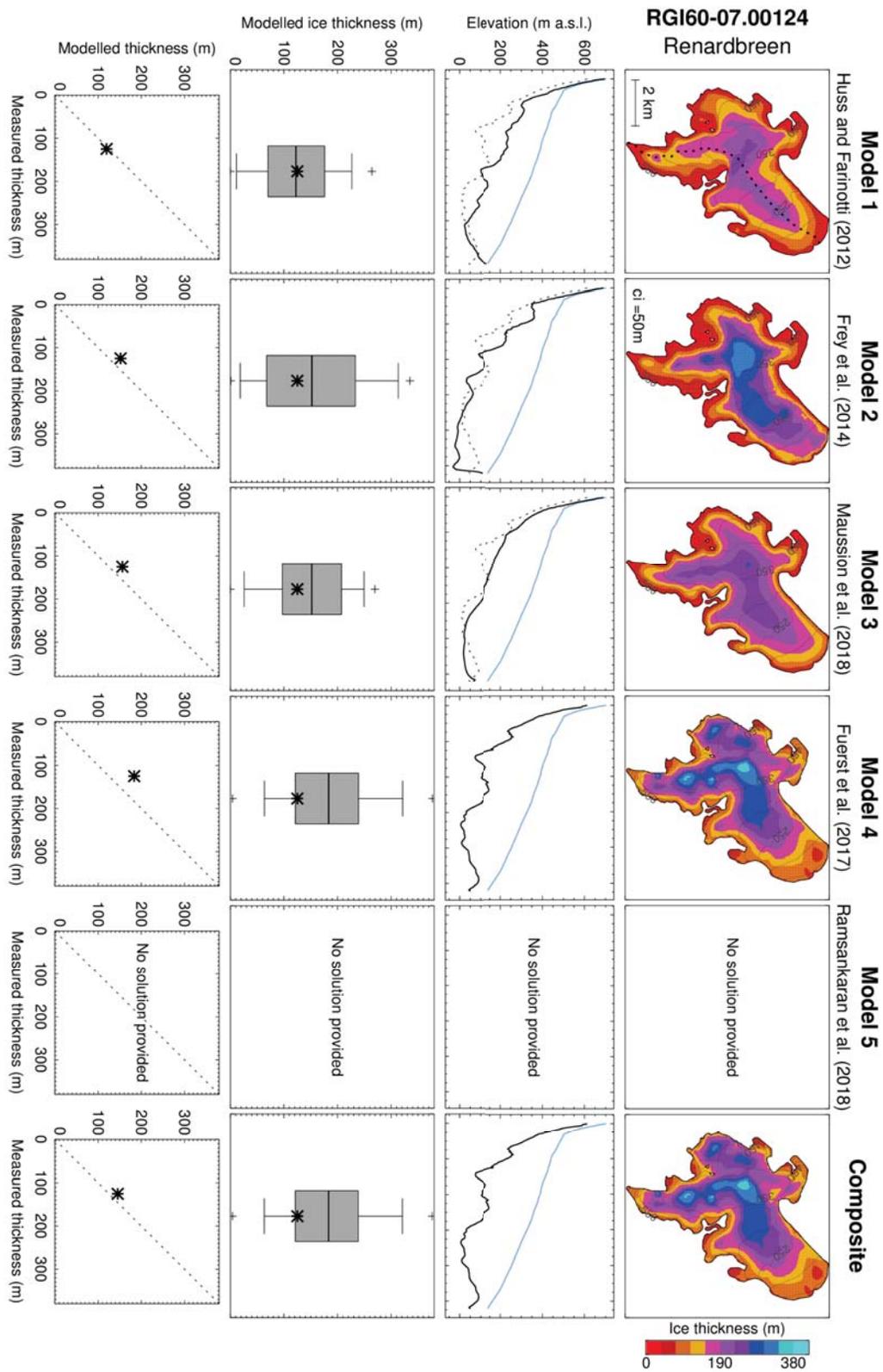


Figure S 13: Same as Figure S 7 but for glacier RGI60-07.00124 (RGI region "Svalbard").

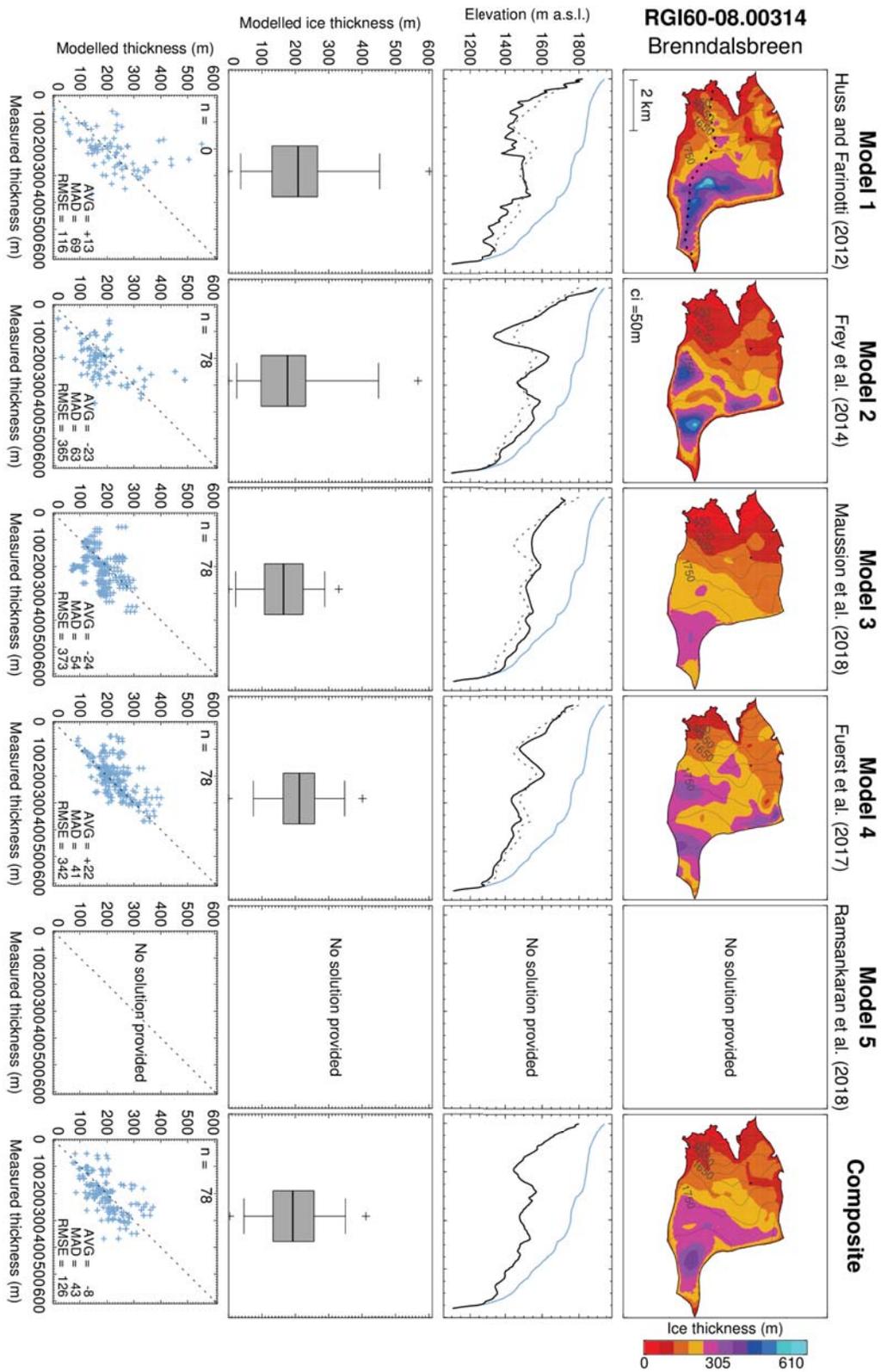


Figure S 14: Same as Figure S 7 but for glacier RGI60-08.00314 (RGI region "Scandinavia").

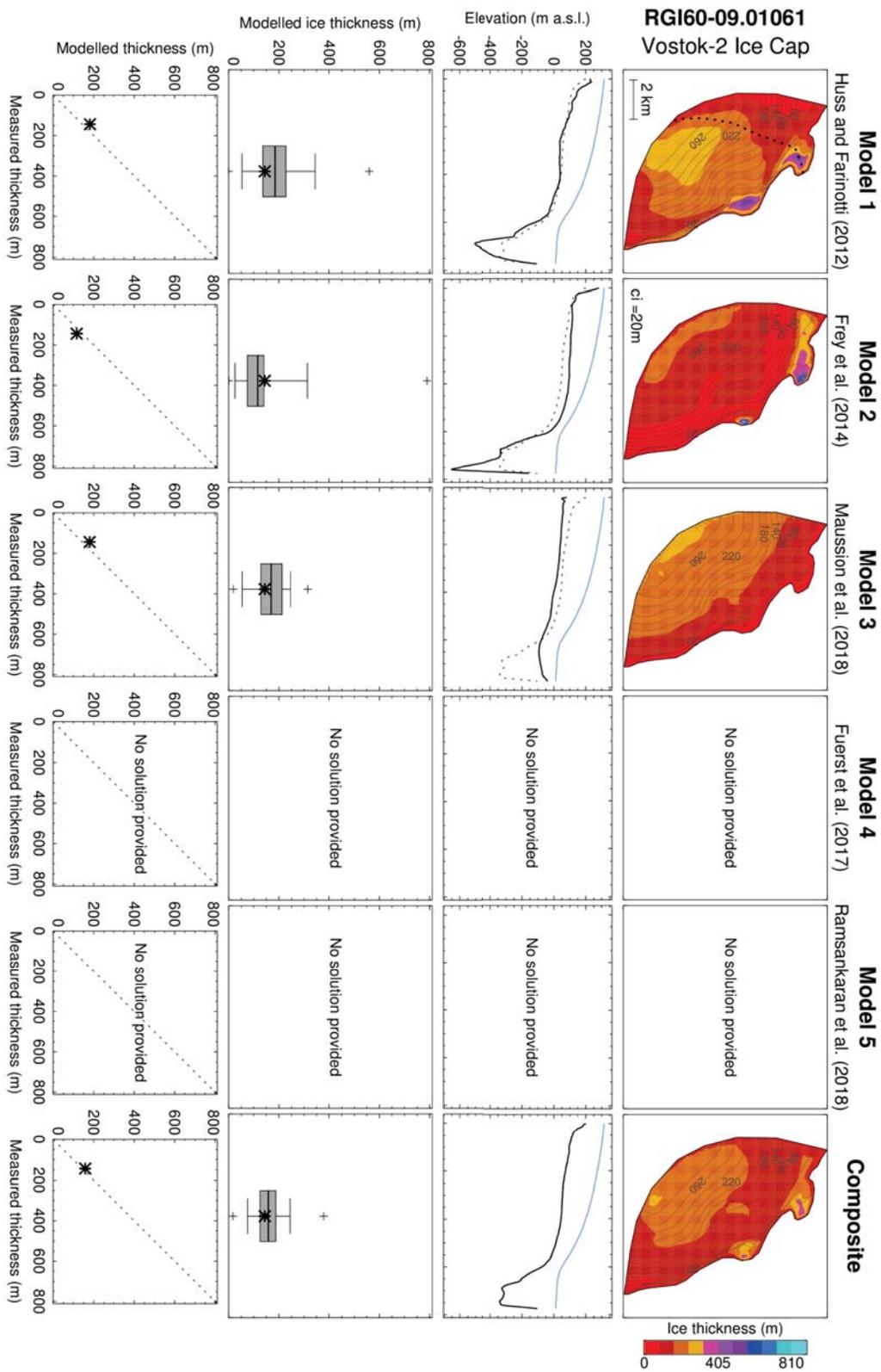


Figure S 15: Same as Figure S 7 but for glacier RGI60-09.01061 (RGI region "Russian Arctic").

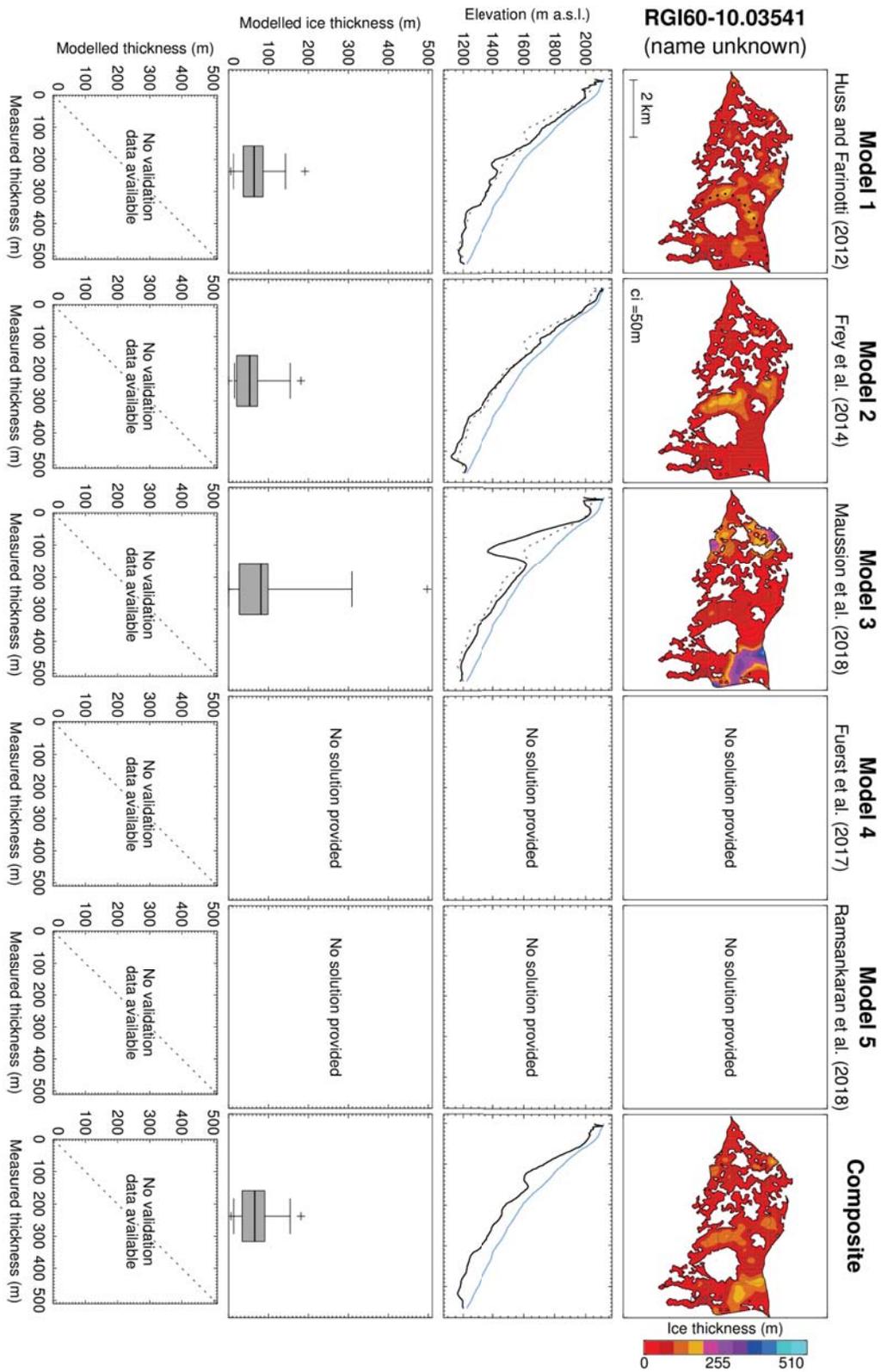


Figure S 16: Same as Figure S 7 but for glacier RGI60-10.03541 (RGI region "North Asia").

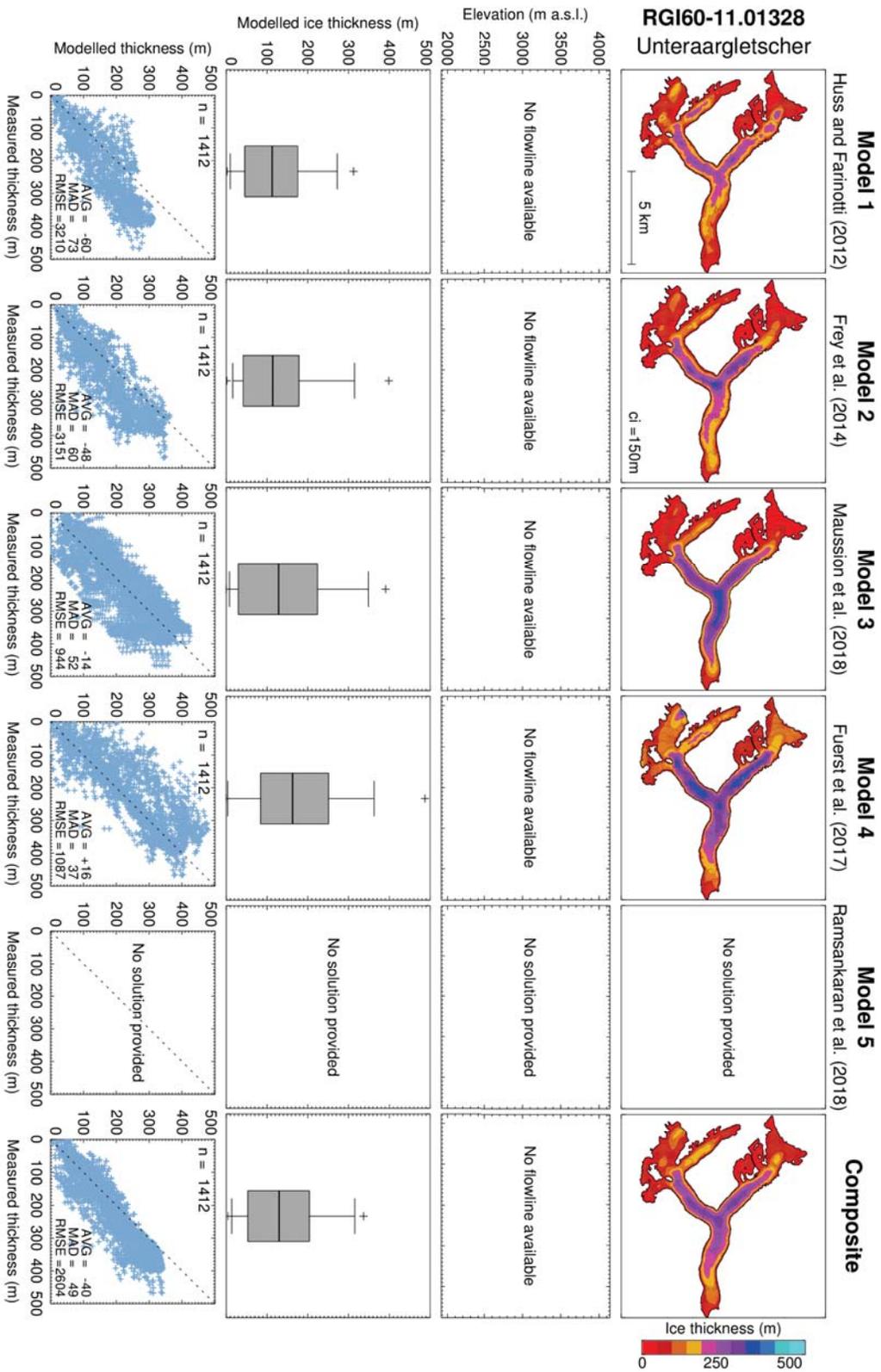


Figure S 17: Same as Figure S 7 but for glacier RGI60-11.01328 (RGI region "Central Europe").

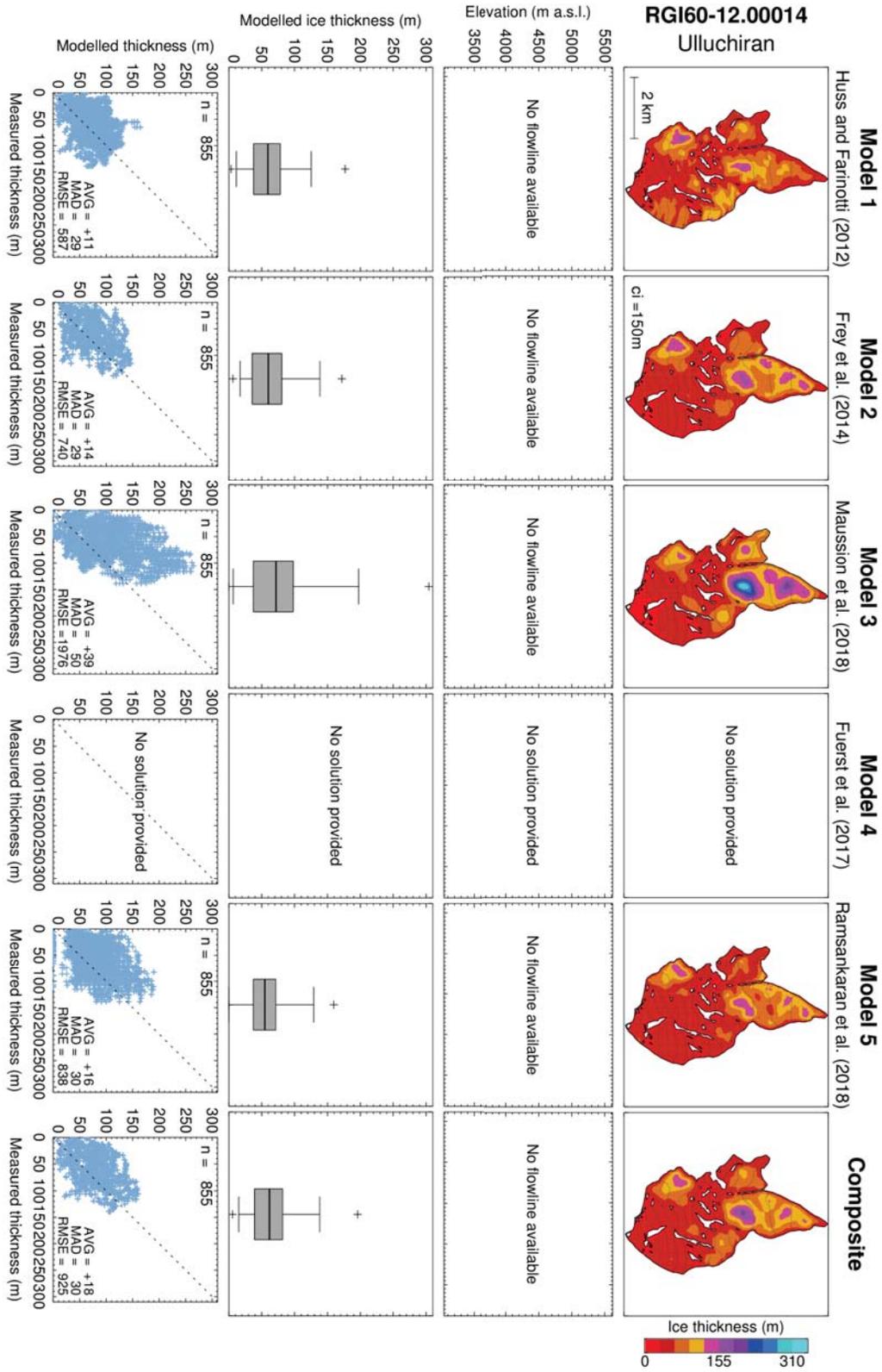


Figure S 18: Same as Figure S 7 but for glacier RGI60-12.00014 (RGI region "Caucasus and Middle East").

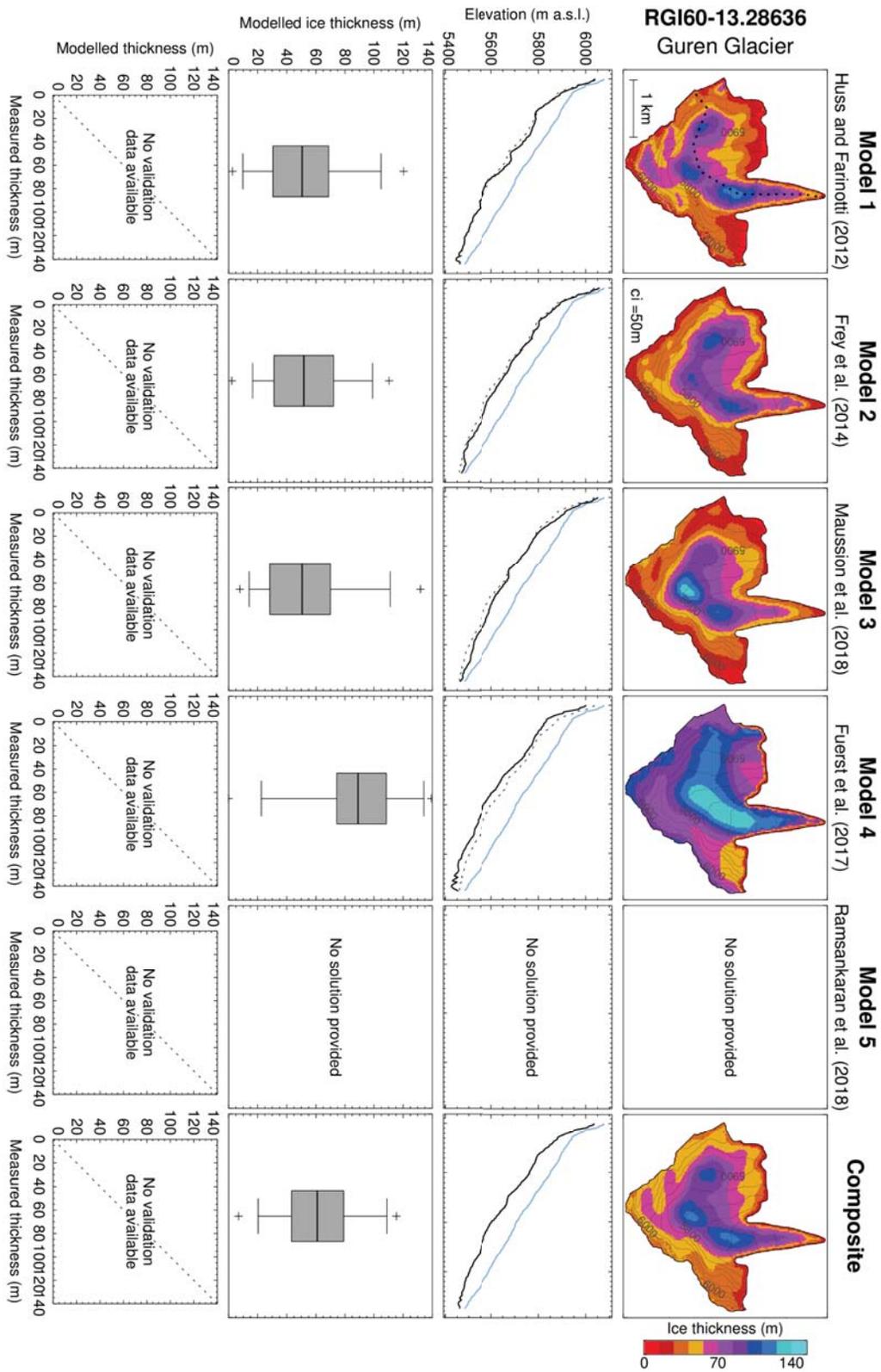


Figure S 19: Same as Figure S 7 but for glacier RGI60-13.28636 (RGI region "Central Asia").

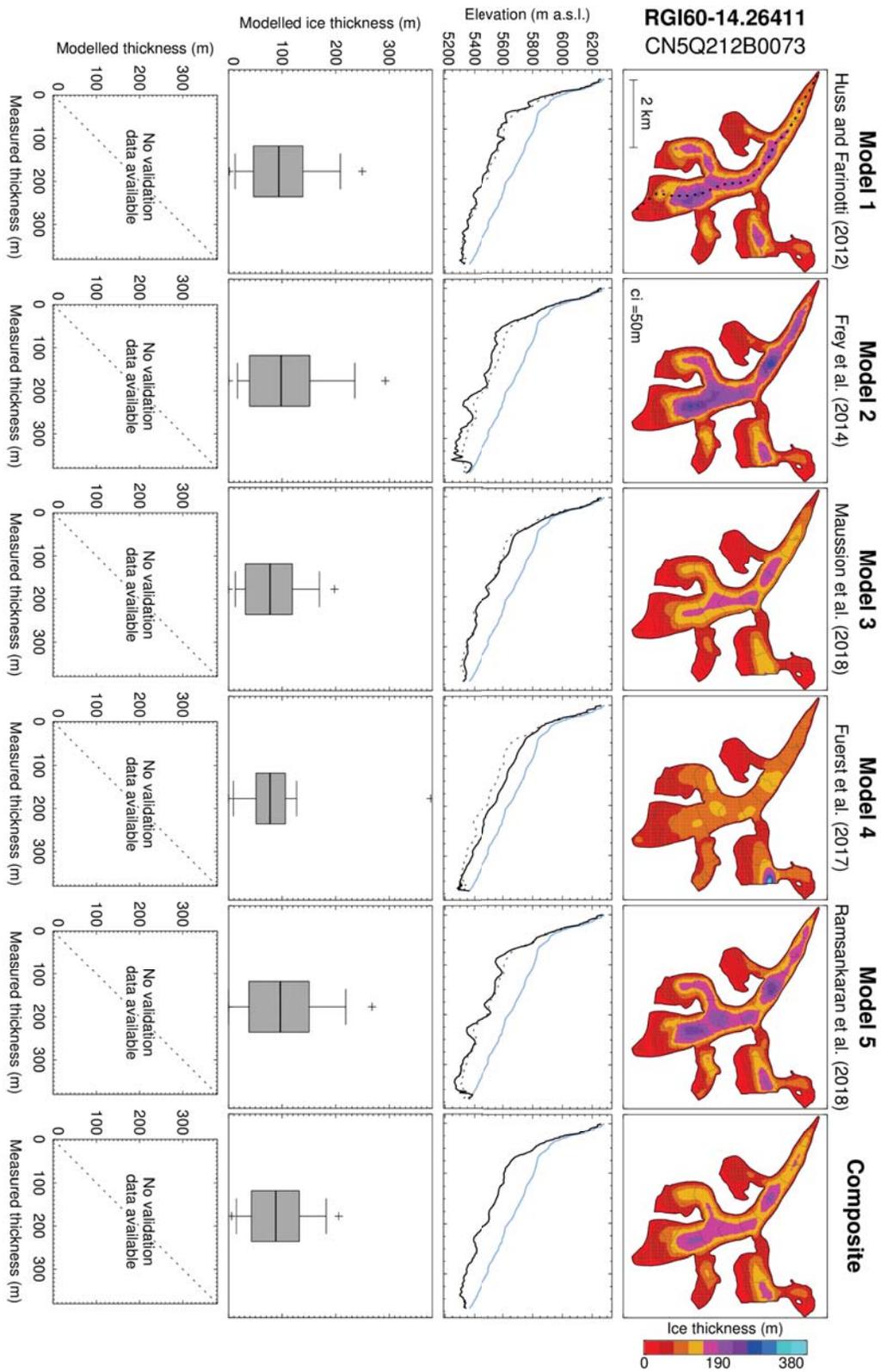


Figure S 20: Same as Figure S 7 but for glacier RGI60-14.26411 (RGI region "South Asia West").

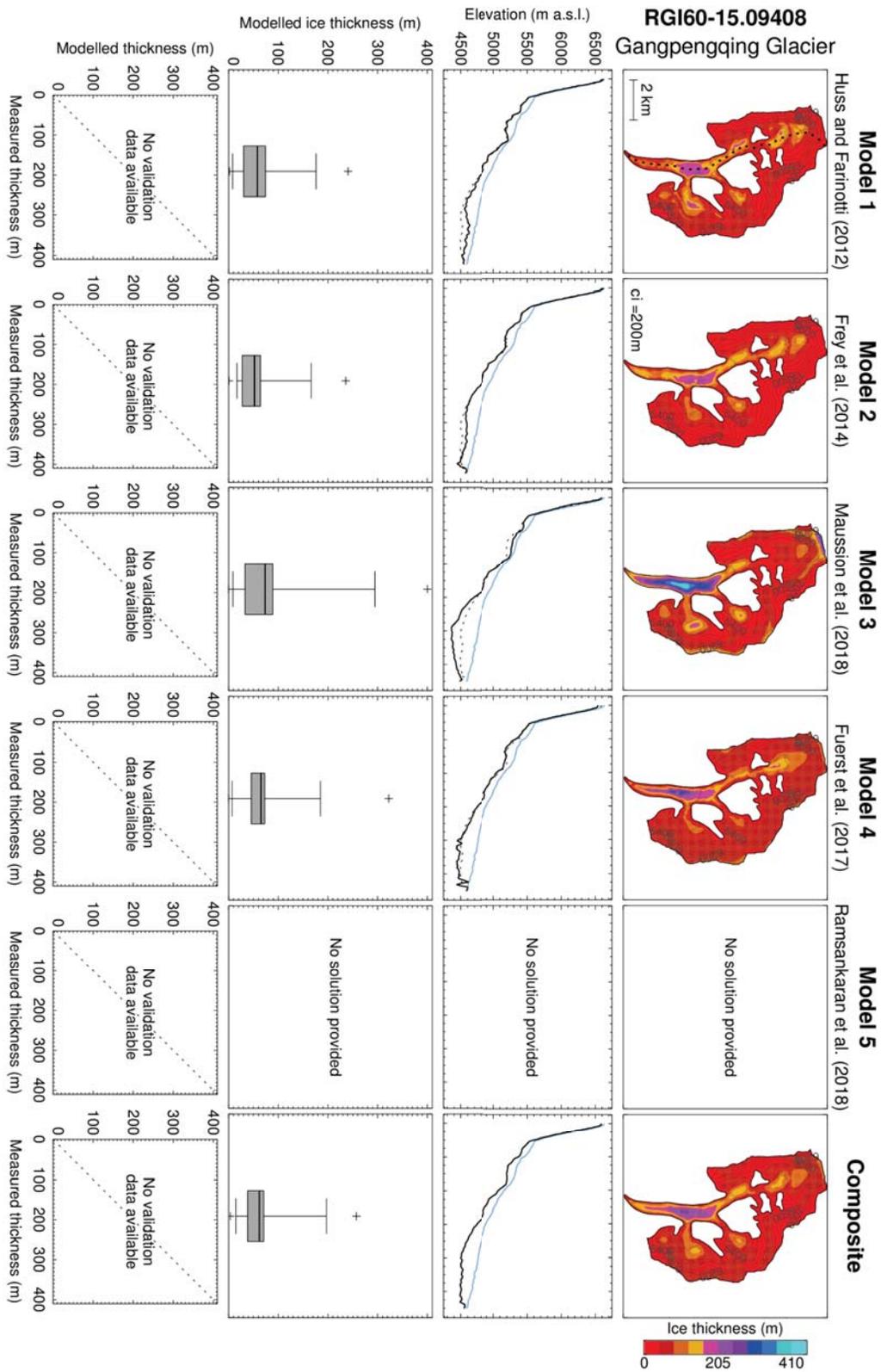


Figure S 21: Same as Figure S 7 but for glacier RGI60-15.09408 (RGI region "South Asia East").

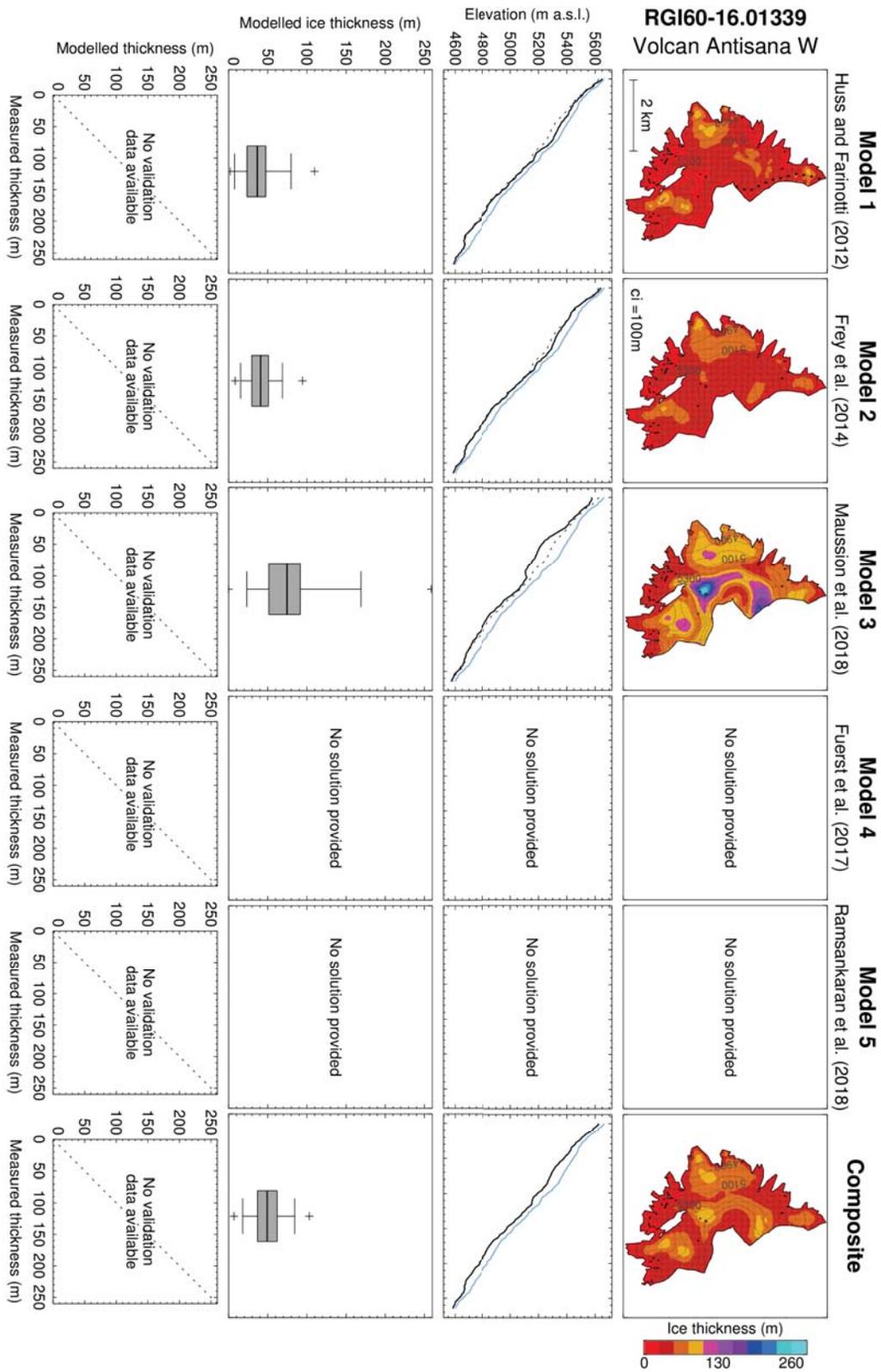


Figure S 22: Same as Figure S 7 but for glacier RGI60-16.01339 (RGI region "Low Latitudes").

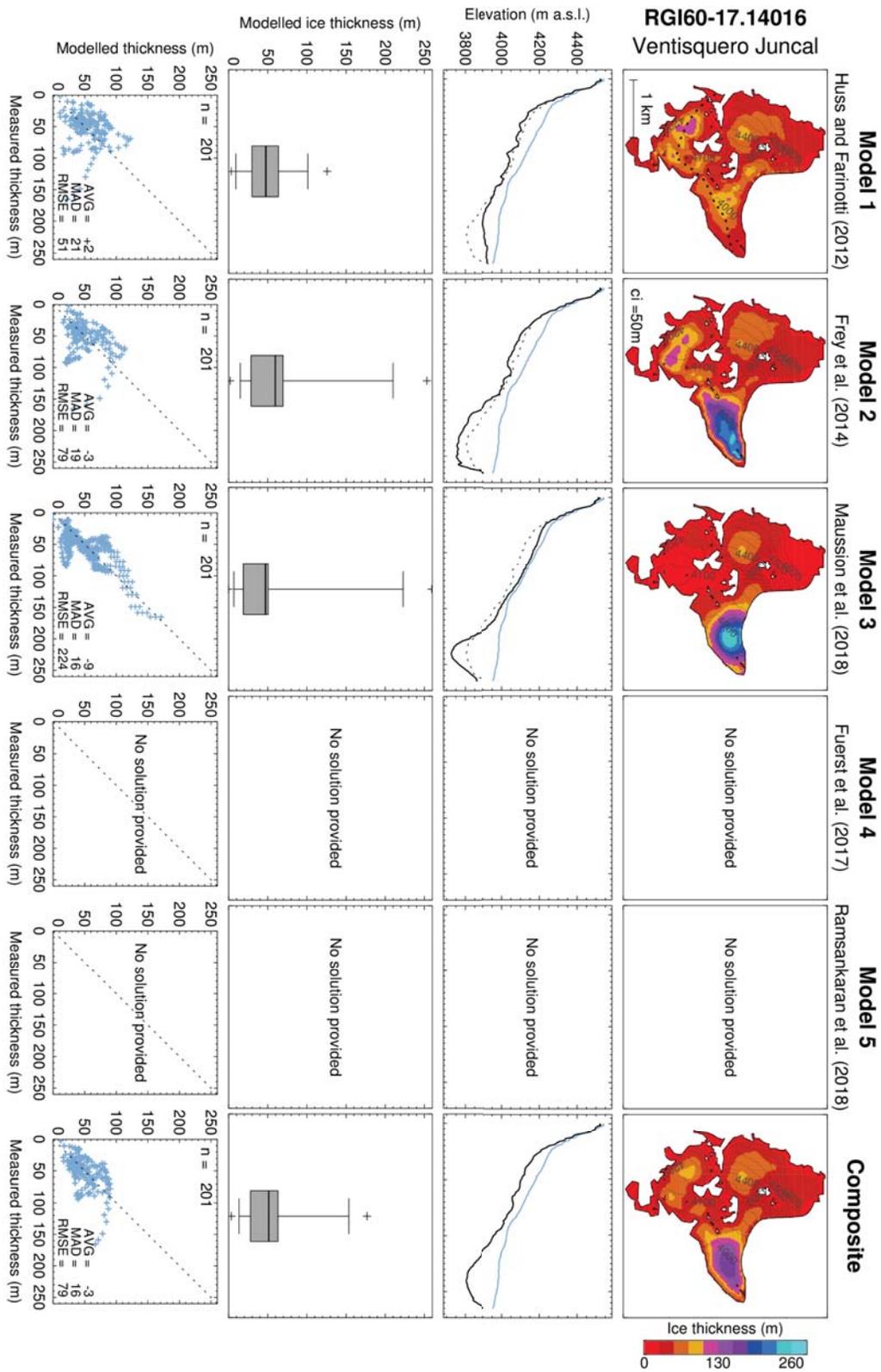


Figure S 23: Same as Figure S 7 but for glacier RGI60-17.14016 (RGI region "Southern Andes").

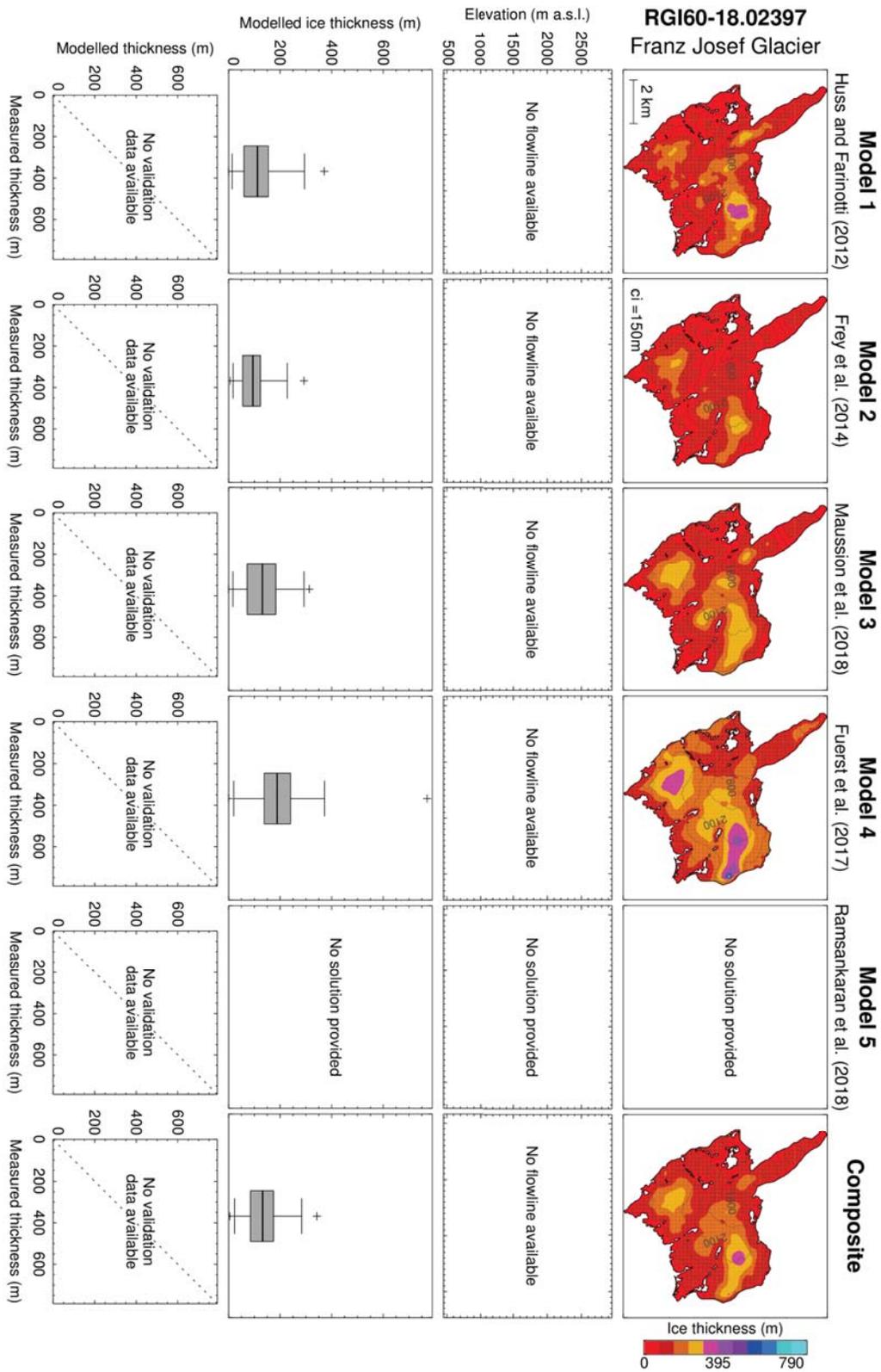


Figure S24: Same as Figure S7 but for glacier RGI60-18.02397 (RGI region "New Zealand").

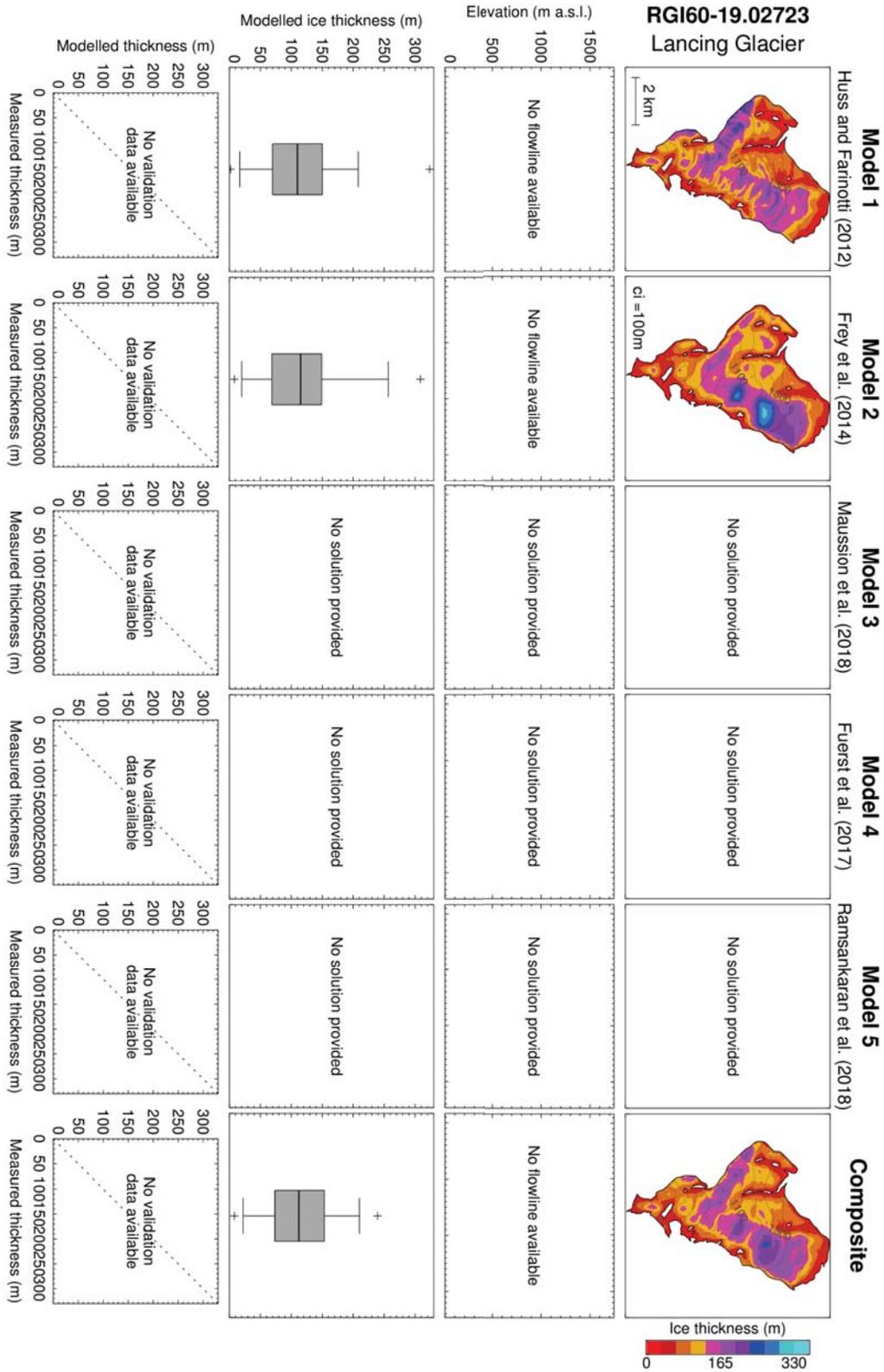


Figure S 25: Same as Figure S 7 but for glacier RGI60-19.02723 (RGI region "Antarctic and Subantarctic").

## 126 Supplementary References

- 127 Farinotti, D., Brinkerhoff, D. J., Clarke, G. K. C., Fürst, J. J., Frey, H., Gantayat, P., Gillet-  
128 Chaulet, F., Girard, C., Huss, M., Leclercq, P. W., Linsbauer, A., Machguth, H., Martin,  
129 C., Maussion, F., Morlighem, M., Mosbeux, C., Pandit, A., Portmann, A., Rabatel, A.,  
130 Ramsankaran, R., Reerink, T. J., Sanchez, O., Stentoft, P. A., Singh Kumari, S., van Pelt,  
131 W. J. J., Anderson, B., Benham, T., Binder, D., Dowdeswell, J. A., Fischer, A., Helfricht,  
132 K., Kutuzov, S., Lavrentiev, I., McNabb, R., Gudmundsson, G. H., Li, H., and Andreassen,  
133 L. M. (2017). How accurate are estimates of glacier ice thickness? Results from ITMIX, the  
134 Ice Thickness Models Intercomparison eXperiment. *The Cryosphere*, 11(2):949–970.
- 135 Farinotti, D., Huss, M., Bauder, A., Funk, M., and Truffer, M. (2009). A method to estimate ice  
136 volume and ice thickness distribution of alpine glaciers. *Journal of Glaciology*, 55(191):422–  
137 430.
- 138 Frey, H., Machguth, H., Huss, M., Huggel, C., Bajracharya, S., Bolch, T., Kulkarni, A., Lins-  
139 bauer, A., Salzmann, N., and Stoffel, M. (2014). Estimating the volume of glaciers in the  
140 Himalayan–Karakoram region using different methods. *The Cryosphere*, 8(6):2313–2333.
- 141 Fürst, J., Navarro, F., Gillet-Chaulet, F., M., H., Moholdt, G., Fettweis, X., Lang, C., Seehaus,  
142 T., Ai, S., Benham, T., Benn, D., Björnsson, H., Dowdeswell, J., Grabiec, M., Kohler, J.,  
143 Lavrentiev, I., Lindbäck, K., Melvold, K., Pettersson, R., Rippin, D., Saintenoy, A., Sánchez-  
144 Gámez, P., Schuler, T., Sevestre, H., Vasilenko, E., and Braun, M. (2018). The ice-free  
145 topography of Svalbard. *Geophysical Research Letters*.
- 146 Fürst, J. J., Gillet-Chaulet, F., Benham, T. J., Dowdeswell, J. A., Grabiec, M., Navarro, F.,  
147 Pettersson, R., Moholdt, G., Nuth, C., Sass, B., Aas, K., Fettweis, X., Lang, C., Seehaus,  
148 T., and Braun, M. (2017). Application of a two-step approach for mapping ice thickness to  
149 various glacier types on Svalbard. *The Cryosphere*, 11(5):2003–2032.
- 150 Glen, J. W. (1955). The creep of polycrystalline ice. *Proceedings of the Royal Society of London*,  
151 *Series A*, 228(1175):519–538.
- 152 Grinsted, A. (2013). An estimate of global glacier volume. *The Cryosphere*, 7:141–151.
- 153 Haeberli, W. and Hoelzle, M. (1995). Application of inventory data for estimating characteristics  
154 of and regional climate-change effects on mountain glaciers: a pilot study with the European  
155 Alps. *Annals of Glaciology*, 21:206–212.
- 156 Harris, I., Jones, P. D., Osborn, T. J., and Lister, D. H. (2014). Updated high-resolution  
157 grids of monthly climatic observations the CRU TS3.10 Dataset. *International Journal of*  
158 *Climatology*, 34(3):623–642.
- 159 Huss, M. and Farinotti, D. (2012). Distributed ice thickness and volume of all glaciers around  
160 the globe. *Journal of Geophysical Research*, 117:F04010.
- 161 Huss, M. and Hock, R. (2015). A new model for global glacier change and sea-level rise. *Frontiers*  
162 *in Earth Science*, 3:Art. 54.
- 163 Huss, M., Jouvett, G., Farinotti, D., and Bauder, A. (2010). Future high-mountain hydrology: a  
164 new parameterization of glacier retreat. *Hydrology and Earth System Sciences*, 14:815–829.

- 165 Kienholz, C., Rich, J. L., Arendt, A. A., and Hock, R. (2014). A new method for deriving glacier  
166 centerlines applied to glaciers in Alaska and northwest Canada. *The Cryosphere*, 8(2):503–519.
- 167 Linsbauer, A., Paul, F., and Haeberli, W. (2012). Modeling glacier thickness distribution and  
168 bed topography over entire mountain ranges with GlabTop: Application of a fast and robust  
169 approach. *Journal of Geophysical Research*, 117:F03007.
- 170 Martín-Español, A., Navarro, F., Otero, J., Lapazaran, J., and Blaszczyk, M. (2015). Estimate  
171 of the total volume of Svalbard glaciers, and their potential contribution to sea-level rise,  
172 using new regionally based scaling relationships. *Journal of Glaciology*, 61(225):2941.
- 173 Marzeion, B., Jarosch, A., and Hofer, M. (2012). Past and future sea-level change from the  
174 surface mass balance of glaciers. *The Cryosphere*, 6:1295–1322.
- 175 Maussion, F., Butenko, A., Eis, J., Fourteau, K., Jarosch, A. H., Landmann, J., Oesterle, F.,  
176 Recinos, B., Rothenpieler, T., Vlug, A., Wild, C. T., and Marzeion, B. (2018). The Open  
177 Global Glacier Model (OGGM) v1.0. *Geoscientific Model Development Discussions*, 2018:1–  
178 33.
- 179 Meinshausen, M., Smith, S., Calvin, K., Daniel, J., Kainuma, M., Lamarque, J.-F., Matsumoto,  
180 K., Montzka, S., Raper, S., Riahi, K., Thomson, A., Velders, G., and van Vuuren, D. (2011).  
181 The RCP greenhouse gas concentrations and their extensions from 1765 to 2300. *Climatic  
182 Change*, 109(1-2):213–241.
- 183 Paterson, W. S. B. (1994). *The Physics of Glaciers*. Pergamon, New York, third edition.
- 184 Radić, V., Bliss, A., Beedlow, A., Hock, R., Miles, E., and Cogley, J. (2014). Regional and global  
185 projections of twenty-first century glacier mass changes in response to climate scenarios from  
186 global climate models. *Climate Dynamics*, pages 1–22.
- 187 Radić, V. and Hock, R. (2010). Regional and global volumes of glaciers derived from statistical  
188 upscaling of glacier inventory data. *Journal of Geophysical Research*, 115:F01010.
- 189 Ramsankaran, R., Pandit, A., and Azam, M. (2018). Spatially distributed ice-thickness mod-  
190 elling for Chhota Shigri Glacier in western Himalayas, India. *International Journal of Remote  
191 Sensing*, 39(10):3320–3343.
- 192 WGMS (2016). Glacier thickness database 2.0. I. Gärtner-Roer, L. M. Andreassen, E. Bjerre,  
193 D. Farinotti, A. Fischer, M. Fischer, K. Helfricht, M. Huss, T. Knecht, S. Kutuzov, J. Land-  
194 mann, I. Lavrentiev, H. Li, Z. Li, H. Machguth, K. Naegeli, F. Navarro, A. Rabatel, P. Stentoft,  
195 M. Zemp (eds.), World Glacier Monitoring Service, Zurich, Switzerland.