

# On the way to Siberia



Sunrise over Siberia



Siberia from the plane



Lena river near Yakutsk



Permafrost structure  
near Chokhurdakh



By boat to Kytalyk



# Spasskaya Pad Station

Spasskaya Pad Research Station is 30 km north from Yakutsk in Sakha Republic of the Russian Confederation.



Eddy correlation tower

CO2 chamber



The station



## On the way to Kytalyk Station

The old lady was worried I was not very well dressed for the coming boat trip...we had a stop at her place to eat dinner on the way to Kytalyk reserve



And...the best friend  
Charlie...



A total surprise: you find in the tundra Romanian cherry marmalade..☺

# Kytalyk station

Kytalyk Research Station is located in a wildlife reserve in the Indighirka lowlands (Sakha Republic, East Siberia). The Institute of Biological Problems of the Cryolithozone (IBPC, Siberian Division of the Russian Academy of Sciences) and the VU Amsterdam operates at the site a research station for measurement of tundra carbon fluxes, including carbon dioxide and methane fluxes.





Kytalyk, methane bubbles from the floodplain and from a small pond

The methane is coming from peat underneath the water. The release of the  $\text{CH}_4$  is called ebullition.

The  $\text{CH}_4$  is produced by the bacteria in the poorly decomposed peat under anaerobic conditions.

# Melting permafrost



Permafrost nearby the station, on the river bank



# Working at Kytalyk station

## 1. Drilling

The cores were between 20-50cm long



And tired of drilling  
and mosquitoes





Splitting the core  
in parts in order  
to dry and  
measure the  
volumetric water  
content



## 2. Installing the weir to monitor the water discharge.



3. My colleague Frans-Jan Parmentier measuring the methane fluxes with INNOVA.



Flooded part of the plain at the station



and with floating chambers on a lake nearby the station.





Inflating the boat...really hard job with 25 degrees and all the mosquitoes around

4. Maarten is taking sediment cores from the lake bottom, an hour walk from the station.



An unexpected finding  
in front of the main  
house in Kytalyk:  
Reindeer horns!



And...found one more trophy for me!!! So as  
my private mosquito cloud around my head  
😊