

Supplementary information for

Carbon degradation and mobilisation potentials of thawing permafrost peatlands in Northern Norway

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Table S1: Operational layers in the three peat profiles. The deepest layers (PF3) at Áidejávri and Lakselv (indicated with *) were categorised as mineral soil based on visual inspection and chemical analysis.

Layer	Iškoras		Áidejávri		Lakselv	
	Top (cm)	Bottom (cm)	Top (cm)	Bottom (cm)	Top (cm)	Bottom (cm)
AL1	0	15	0	15	2	12
AL2	25	35	20	35	20	35
AL3	45	55	40	50	40	60
TZ	60	73	50	60	60	70
PF1	80	86	69	80	70	80
PF2	106	118	89	100	80	85
PF3	150	162	104*	110*	85*	95*

Table S2: Operational layers in the thermokarst peat profile.

Layer	Iškoras		Áidejávri	
	Top (cm)	Bottom (cm)	Top (cm)	Bottom (cm)
New peat	N/A	N/A	0	10
Old active layer	10	20	20	30
Top old permafrost	40	46	60	65
Bottom old permafrost	80	92	90	95

Table S3: CO₂ kinetics throughout the first 17-19 days of high-resolution monitoring. X = exponential accumulation, (X) = some exponentiality, - = no exponentiality

Layer/ Treatment	CO ₂					
	Ískoras		Áidejávri		Lakselv	
	Oxic	Anoxic	Oxic	Anoxic	Oxic	Anoxic
Loose						
AL1	-	-	-	-	-	-
AL2	-	-	-	-	-	-
AL3	-	-	-	-	-	-
TZ	X	X	-	-	-	(X)
PF1	X	X	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
PF2	X	X	-	(X)	(X)	-
PF3	X	X	-	(X)	(X)	-
Slurry						
AL1	(X)	(X)	-	-	-	-
AL2	X	(X)	-	(X)	-	X
AL3	-	(X)	-	(X)	-	(X)
TZ	X	X	-	(X)	-	-
PF1	X	X	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
PF2	X	X	-	-	(X)	X
PF3	X	X	-	-	-	-

Table S4: CH₄ kinetics throughout the first 17-19 days of high-resolution monitoring. X = exponential accumulation, (X) = some exponentiality, - = no exponentiality

Layer/ Treatment	CH ₄					
	Iškoras		Áidejávri		Lakselv	
	Oxic	Anoxic	Oxic	Anoxic	Oxic	Anoxic
Loose						
AL1	-	-	-	-	-	-
AL2	-	-	-	-	-	-
AL3	-	-	-	-	-	-
TZ	-	-	-	X	-	-
PF1	-	-	X	X	-	-
PF2	-	-	-	-	-	-
PF3	-	-	-	-	-	-
Slurry						
AL1	-	-	(X)	-	X	-
AL2	-	-	-	-	-	-
AL3	-	-	-	-	-	-
TZ	-	-	-	-	-	-
PF1	-	-	-	X	-	-
PF2	-	-	-	X	-	-
PF3	-	-	-	-	-	-

Table S5: Geochemical properties of thermokarst samples at the beginning of incubation.

	Iškoras		Áidejávri	
	pH	DOC mg g dw ⁻¹	pH	DOC mg g dw ⁻¹
New peat			3.62 ± 0.05	2.29 ± 0.21
Top old peat	3.3 ± 0.02	1.01 ± 0.09	3.40 ± 0.09	2.03 ± 0.57
Middle old peat	3.44 ± 0.05	1.14 ± 0.02	4.25 ± 0	0.66 ± 0.01
Deep old peat	3.84 ± 0.005	1.85 ± 0.06	5.11 ± 0.01	0.83 ± 0.03

Table S6: Average (n=4) CO₂ and CH₄ accumulation (\pm SD) of TZ and PF samples during overnight thawing. Bottles were flushed with He before thawing to ensure anoxic conditions and equal gaseous concentrations. No data are available for Lakselv due to technical reasons.

Layers	Iškoras		Áidejávri	
	$\mu\text{mol CO}_2 \text{ g dw}^{-1}$	$\text{nmol CH}_4 \text{ g dw}^{-1}$	$\mu\text{mol CO}_2 \text{ g dw}^{-1}$	$\text{nmol CH}_4 \text{ g dw}^{-1}$
TZ	4.5 ± 0.9	171 ± 49	2.1 ± 0.1	9 ± 3
PF1	3.3 ± 0.2	128 ± 19	2 ± 0.2	44 ± 4
PF2	3 ± 0.5	170 ± 59	1.5 ± 0.1	71 ± 8
PF3	2.1 ± 0.1	144 ± 9	0.3 ± 0.01	8 ± 1

Table S7: Comparison of CO₂ and CH₄ production potentials in this study with Kirkwood et al. (2021). Average cumulative CO₂ production was 2014 and 1282 $\mu\text{g CO}_2 \text{ g dw}^{-1} 225 \text{ d}^{-1}$ in active layer and permafrost, respectively and average cumulative CH₄ production was 215 and 611 $\mu\text{g CH}_4 \text{ g dw}^{-1} 225 \text{ d}^{-1}$ in active layer and permafrost, respectively (Kirkwood, 2021). Cumulative CO₂ and CH₄ production in loosely packed samples from this study were adjusted to 14°C using Q10 =2 and reported as $\mu\text{g g dw}^{-1} 225 \text{ d}^{-1}$.

Layer	Iškoras		Áidejávri		Lakselv	
	$\mu\text{g CO}_2 \text{ g}^{-1} 225 \text{ d}^{-1}$	$\mu\text{g CH}_4 \text{ g}^{-1} 225 \text{ d}^{-1}$	$\mu\text{g CO}_2 \text{ g}^{-1} 225 \text{ d}^{-1}$	$\mu\text{g CH}_4 \text{ g}^{-1} 225 \text{ d}^{-1}$	$\mu\text{g CO}_2 \text{ g}^{-1} 225 \text{ d}^{-1}$	$\mu\text{g CH}_4 \text{ g}^{-1} 225 \text{ d}^{-1}$
AL1	9627.4	107.7	5992.3	83.7	3758.2	53.7
AL2	2430.4	19.1	5868.3	2.2	1497.3	6.9
AL3	2202.2	4.0	2559.3	5.8	2798.9	30.5
TZ	4092.8	2241.6	5091.6	111.1	2497.3	42.0
PF1	3452.6	1100.5	2513.3	18988.8	1398.3	7562.4
PF2	2074.0	116.3	4754.2	1204.1	660.9	19426.4
PF3	2478.4	649.0	783.2	2826.6	368.2	599.2
Average						
AL	4753.3	43.6	4806.6	30.5	2684.8	30.4
Average						
PF	3024.5	1026.8	4119.7	6768.0	1518.8	9010.2

Table S8: Comparison of CO₂ production potentials with Treat et al. (2014). The cumulative CO₂ production reported by Treat et al. (2014) for the Alaskan peat plateau were roughly 4 and 2 mg CO₂-C g C⁻¹ 30 d⁻¹ for oxic and anoxic incubation, respectively. Cumulative CO₂ production from loosely packed samples in this study was adjusted to 20°C using Q₁₀ =2 and reported in mg CO₂-C g C⁻¹.

Layer	mg CO ₂ -C g C ⁻¹ 30 days ⁻¹					
	Iškoras		Áidejávri		Lakselv	
	Oxic	Anoxic	Oxic	Anoxic	Oxic	Anoxic
AL1	10.77	6.01	9.66	3.92	3.88	1.14
AL2	0.94	0.60	1.80	0.84	0.83	0.33
AL3	0.82	0.56	1.34	0.60	0.92	0.44
TZ	5.61	2.35	5.68	1.69	1.44	1.20
PF1	5.41	2.11	6.79	0.87	3.46	1.19
PF2	2.91	1.15	5.07	0.85	4.67	0.33
PF3	2.84	1.44	9.63	6.84	0.45	0.14

Table S9: Comparison of CO₂ production potentials with Waldrop et al. (2021). The incubations showed no difference in cumulative CO₂ production across horizons and CO₂ accumulation was therefore given as an average over the whole peat column. Measured average oxic respiration was 831 μmol CO₂ g C⁻¹ 6 months⁻¹ and anoxic respiration 214 μmol CO₂ g C⁻¹ 6 months⁻¹. Cumulative CO₂ production after 6 months (183 days) was calculated using interpolated values from long term incubation of loosely packed samples. Temperature was adjusted to 5°C using Q₁₀ =2 and reported as μmol CO₂ g C⁻¹ 6 months⁻¹.

Layer	μmol CO ₂ g C ⁻¹ 6 months ⁻¹					
	Iškoras		Áidejávri		Lakselv	
	Oxic	Anoxic	Oxic	Anoxic	Oxic	Anoxic
AL1	628.48	215.43	392.78	143.92	333.38	76.62
AL2	125.95	48.26	171.82	117.14	138.33	34.22
AL3	109.14	43.99	148.06	52.73	133.04	63.83
TZ	286.79	99.24	396.70	107.83	183.96	88.27
PF1	343.34	80.79	413.36	55.47	332.21	71.13
PF2	140.06	45.35	291.78	N/A	448.65	26.51
PF3	190.79	58.85	1001.08	327.86	49.27	12.70
Average	260.65	84.56	402.23	134.16	231.26	53.33

Table S10: pH measured in the beginning and the end of oxic incubations.

Layer	pH (oxic incubation)					
	Ískoras		Áidejávri		Lakselv	
	0 days	358 days	0 days	363 days	0 days	354
AL1	2.8	3.04	3.4	3.08	3.6	3.19
AL2	3.1	3.24	3.7	3.74	4.2	3.85
AL3	3.2	3.49	3.9	3.52	4.5	4.09
TZ	3.8	4.09	4.3	3.95	4.7	4.1
PF1	3.9	4.2	5.4	4.13	5.5	4.6
PF2	4.2	4.28	5.5	4.02	5.2	4.48
PF3	4.5	4.14	5.4	3.41	5.5	4.16

Table S11: pH measured in the beginning and the end of anoxic incubations.

Layer	pH (anoxic incubation)					
	Ískoras		Áidejávri		Lakselv	
	0 days	358 days	0 days	363 days	0 days	354
AL1	2.8	3.26	3.6	3.06	3.3	3.28
AL2	3.1	3.52	3.7	3.67	4.1	4.12
AL3	3.2	3.7	4.0	3.62	4.5	4.43
TZ	3.8	4.23	4.4	4.29	4.7	4.7
PF1	3.9	4.22	4.6	4.57	5.6	5.17
PF2	4.2	4.44	5.5	3.97	5.1	4.86
PF3	4.5	4.74	5.5	5.02	5.5	5.06

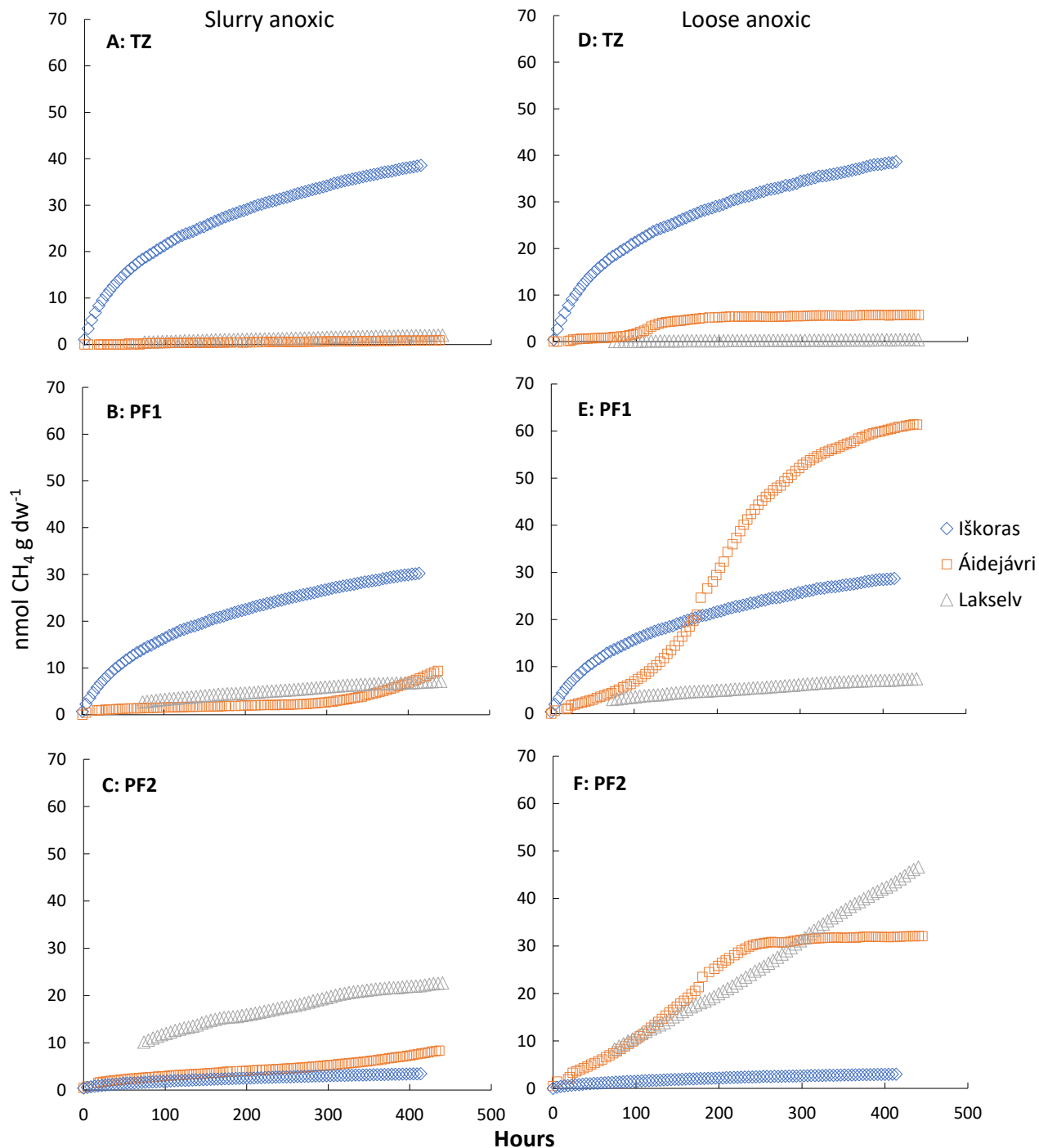


Figure S1: Comparison of CH₄ accumulation kinetics across peat plateaus (until day 19) for two treatments; left panel: slurry anoxic; right panel: loose anoxic, for samples from TZ, PF1, and PF2. A: Slurry anoxic TZ. B: Slurry anoxic PF1. C: Slurry anoxic PF2. D: Loose anoxic TZ. E: Loose anoxic PF1. F: Loose anoxic PF2

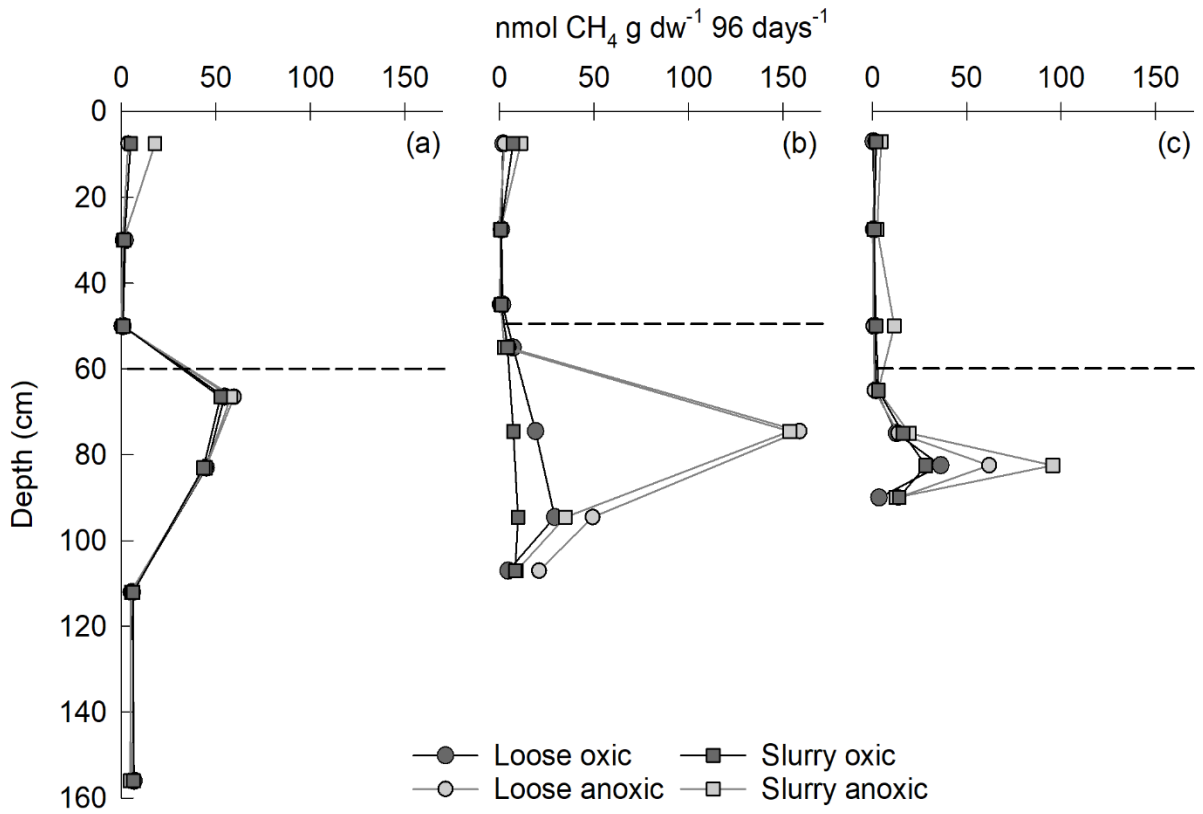


Figure S2: Cumulative CH_4 production (96 d) over depth under different incubation conditions (treatments). (a) Iškoras, (b) Áidejávri and (c) Lakselv. The depth is given as the average depth of the incubated sample. Stippled line indicates thaw depth at sampling time.

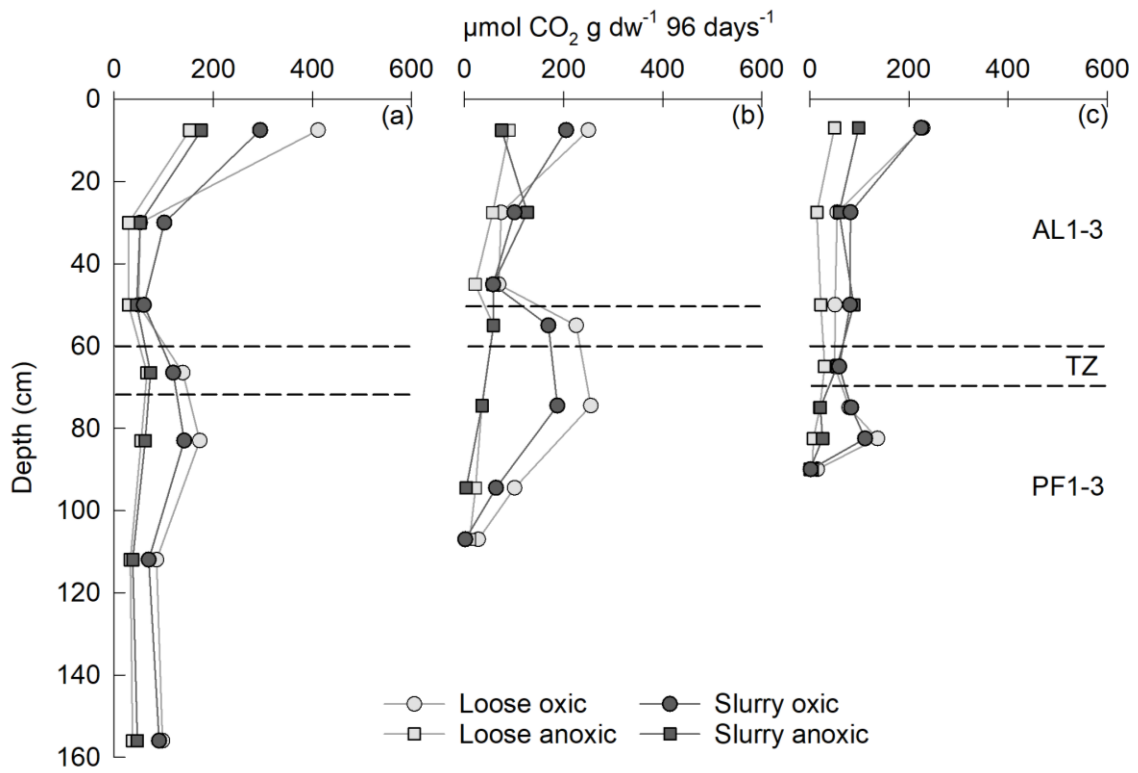


Figure S3: Cumulative CO_2 production (96 d) over depth and 96 days under different incubation conditions (treatments). (a) Iškoras, (b) Áidejávri and (c) Lakselv. The depth is given as the average depth of the incubated sample. Stippled line indicates thaw depth at sampling time.

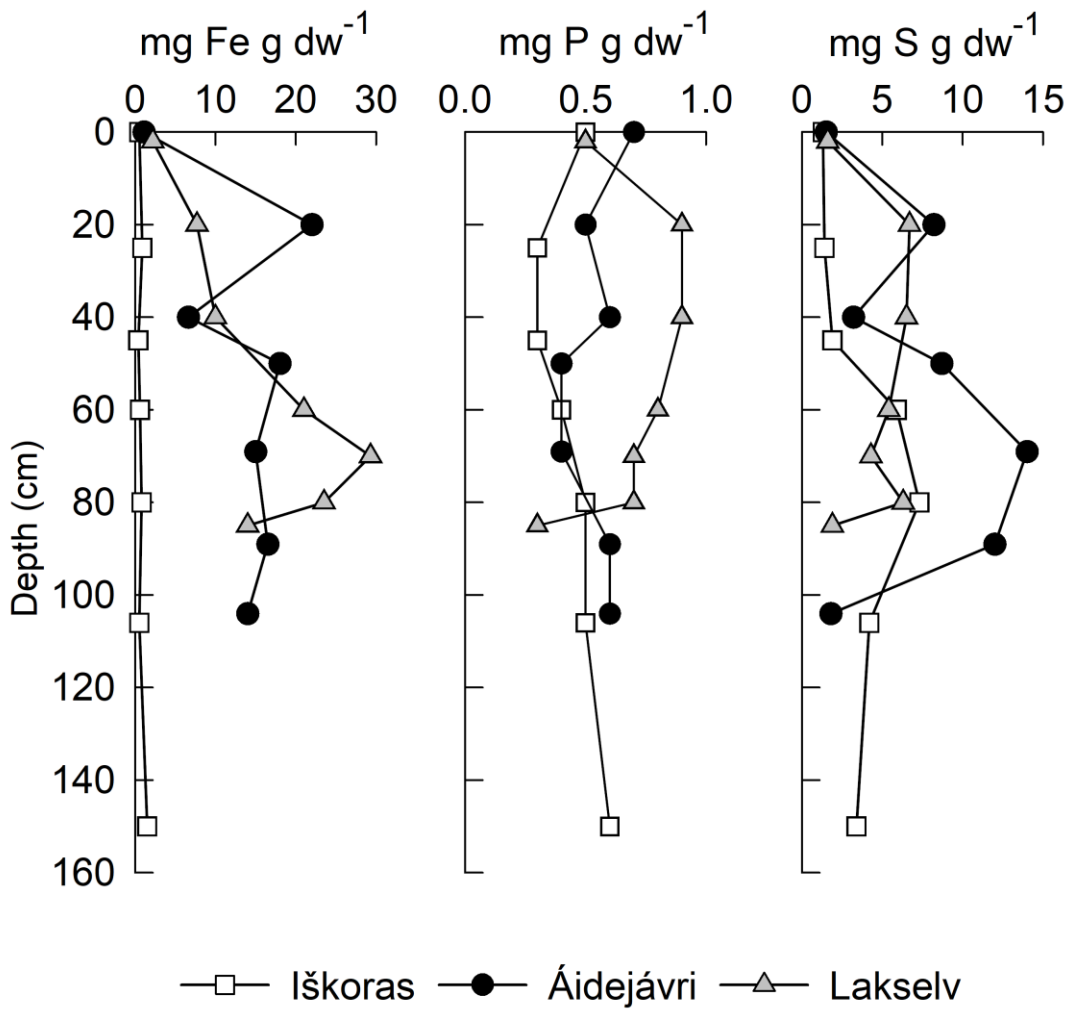


Figure S4: Depth profiles of geochemical variables in permafrost cores at Iškoras, Áidejávri and Lakselv. Shown are (from left to right) iron content (mg Fe g dw⁻¹), phosphorous content (mg P g dw⁻¹) and sulphur content (mg S g dw⁻¹). The deepest layer at Áidejávri and Lakselv were affected by mineral soils. The thaw depths at the coring location were 60 cm (Iškoras and Lakselv) and 50 cm (Áidejávri). NB: different x-axis

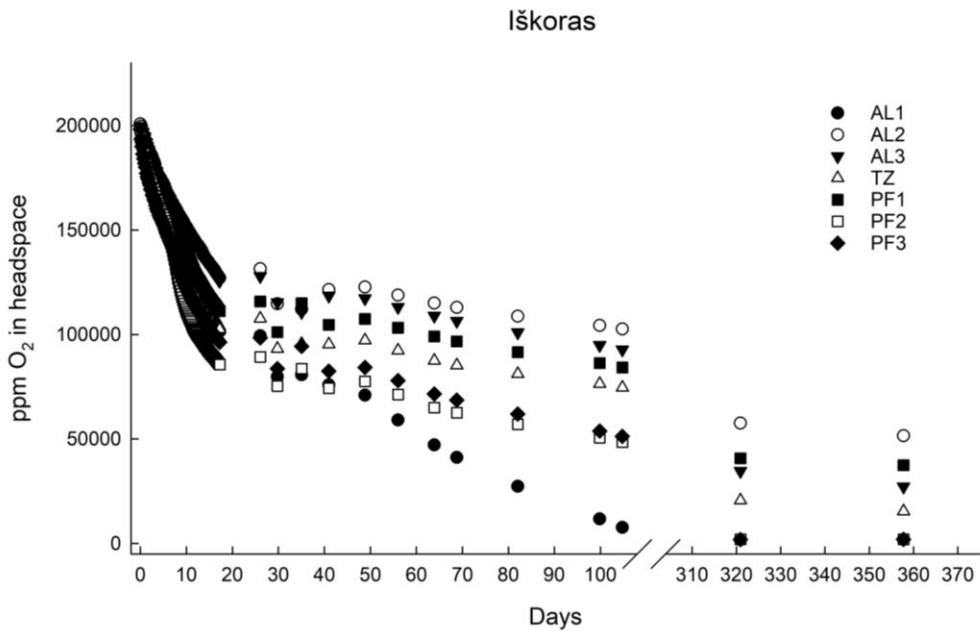


Figure S5: Kinetics of O₂ depletion in initially oxalic incubations of loosely packed samples from Iškoras. Shown are measured headspace concentrations not corrected for dilution. The rapid decline during the first 17-19 days of incubation is due to dilution from He back-pumping.

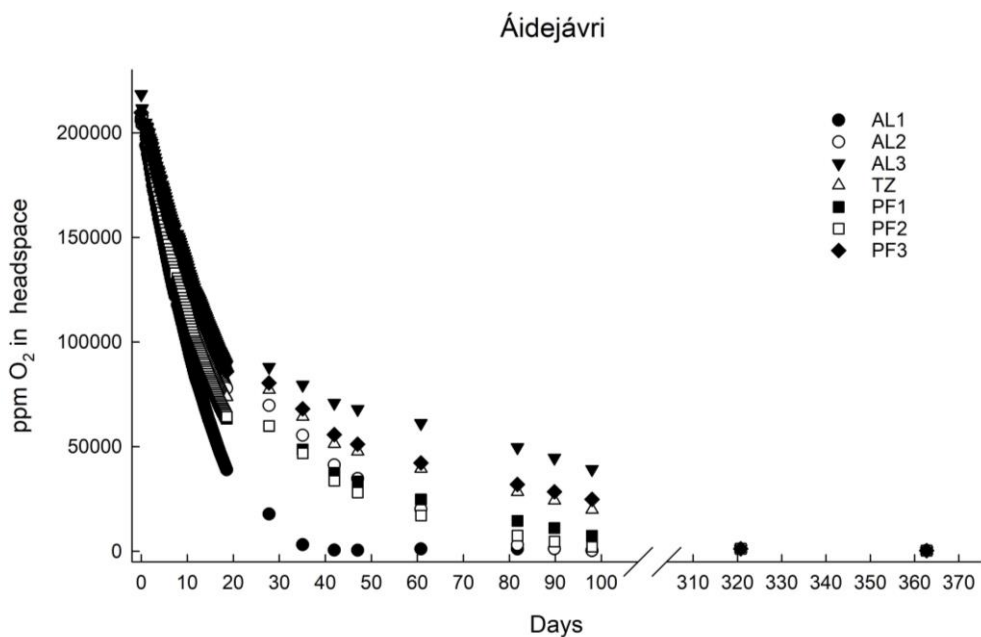


Figure S6: Kinetics of O₂ depletion in initially oxalic incubations of loosely packed samples from Áidejávri. Shown are measured headspace concentrations not corrected for dilution. The rapid decline during the first 17-19 days of incubation is due to dilution from He back-pumping. PF2 had a leakage and could not be measured in the two last samplings.

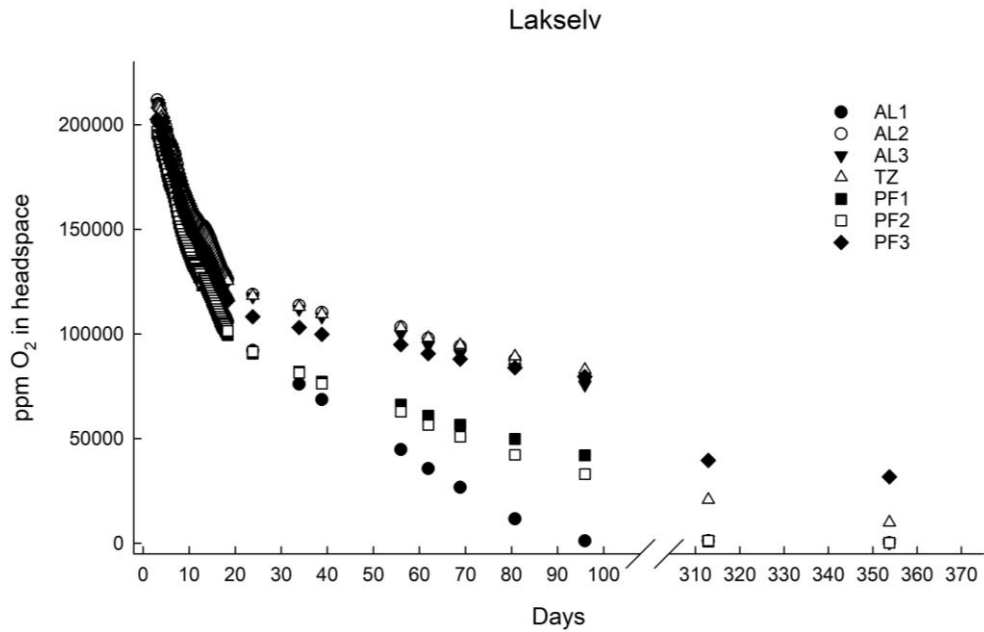


Figure S7: Kinetics of O₂ depletion in initially oxidic incubations of loosely packed samples from Lakselv. Shown are measured headspace concentrations not corrected for dilution. The rapid decline during the first 17-19 days of incubation is due to dilution from He back-pumping.

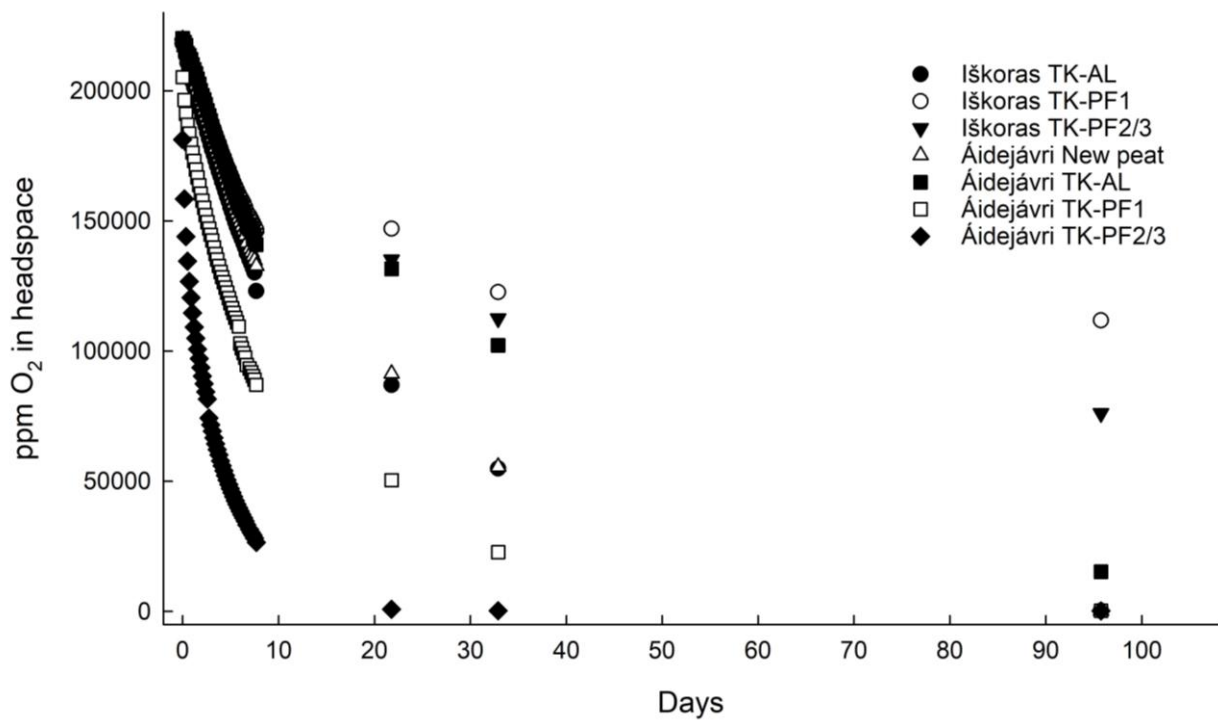


Figure S8: Kinetics of O₂ depletion in initially oxidic incubations of loosely packed samples from thermokarst cores from Iškoras and Áidejávri. Shown are measured headspace concentrations not corrected for dilution. The rapid decline during the first 9 days of incubation is due to dilution from He back-pumping.

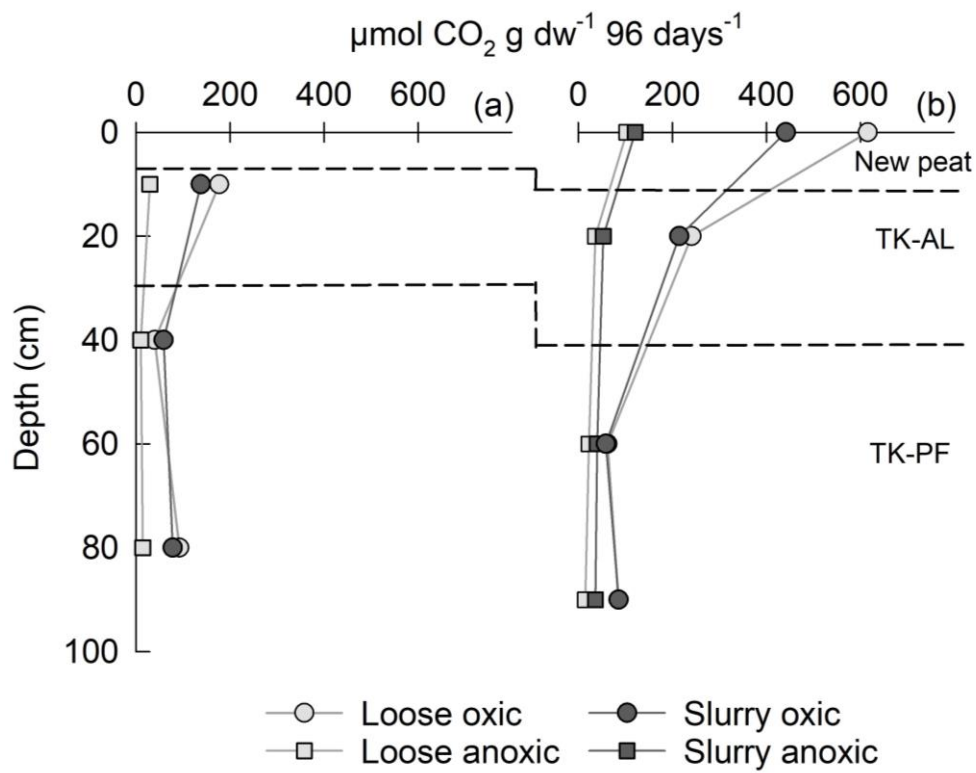


Figure S9: Cumulative CO₂ production (96 d) over depth in thermokarst cores under different incubation conditions (treatments). (a) Iškoras and (b) Áidejávri. Stippled line indicates different layers in the thermokarst core.

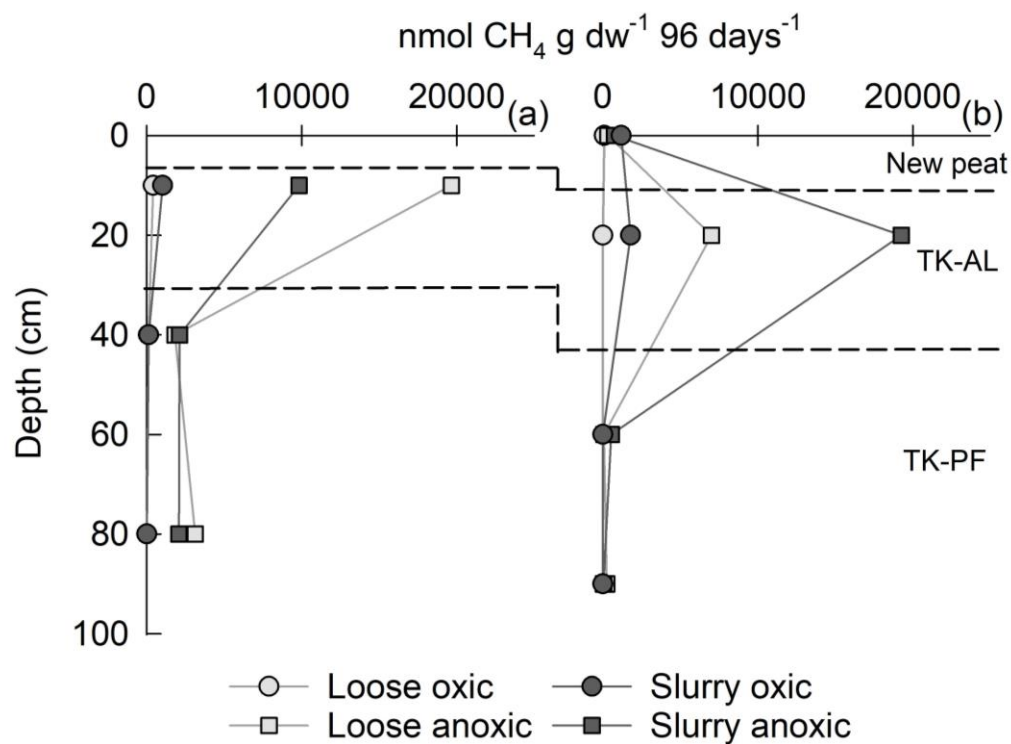


Figure S10: Cumulative CH₄ production (96 d) over depth in thermokarst cores under different incubation conditions (treatments). (a) Iškoras and (b) Áidejávri. Stippled line indicates different layers in the thermokarst core.

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