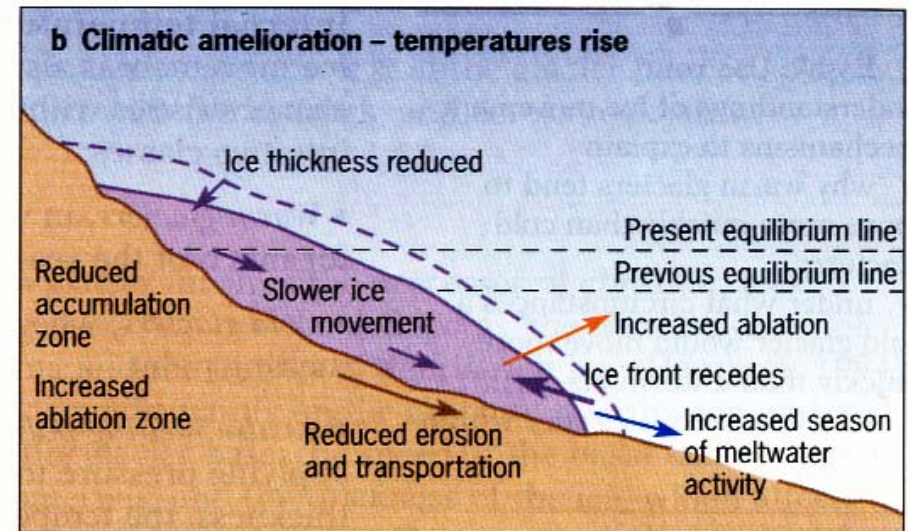
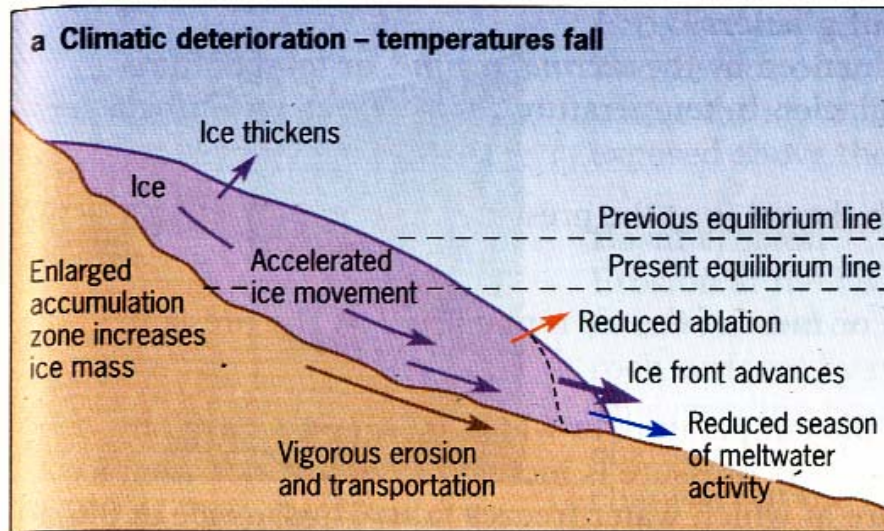


Variations in  
Mass Balance:

Advance and  
Retreat



The impacts of climatic fluctuations on glacier budgets

Variations in the mass balance of a glacier can lead to advance or retreat.

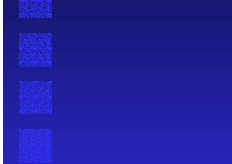
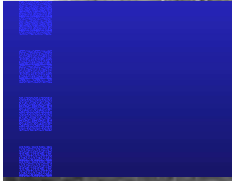
# The front of the Athabasca Glacier, British Columbia, Canada.



Lateral moraine

Former position of snout

Terminal moraine



**The Mer de Glace displays evidence of a negative mass balance.**







Examples of the impact of surging glaciers.



This image shows the termini of the glaciers in the Bhutan-Himalaya. Glacial lakes have been rapidly forming on the surface of the debris-covered glaciers in this region during the last few decades.

According to the USGS scientist, glaciers in the Himalaya are wasting at alarming and accelerating rates, as indicated by comparisons of satellite and historic data, and as shown by the widespread, rapid growth of lakes on the glacier surfaces.

