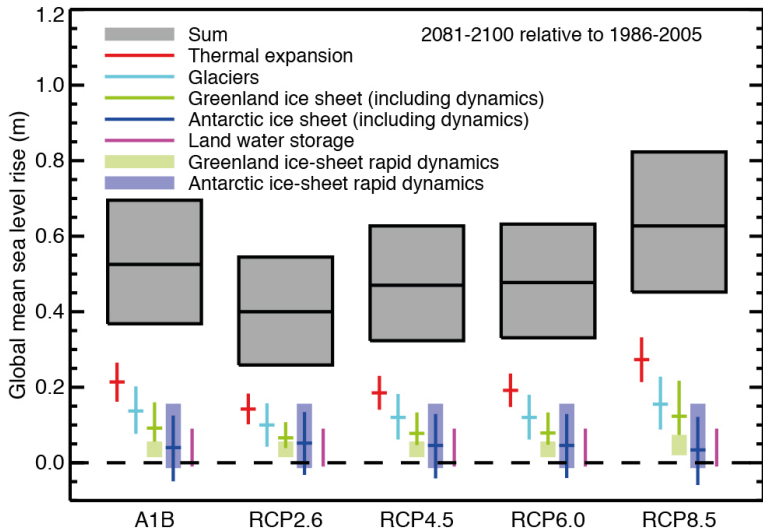


Sensitivity of the Antarctic ice sheet to marine climate variability and change

Steven J. Phipps
Institute for Marine and Antarctic Studies
University of Tasmania

Future Sea Levels and Coastal Impacts Workshop
15–17 November 2017

Likely changes in global sea level by 2081–2100



IPCC AR5 WG1 report (2013)

How do we project changes in global sea level?

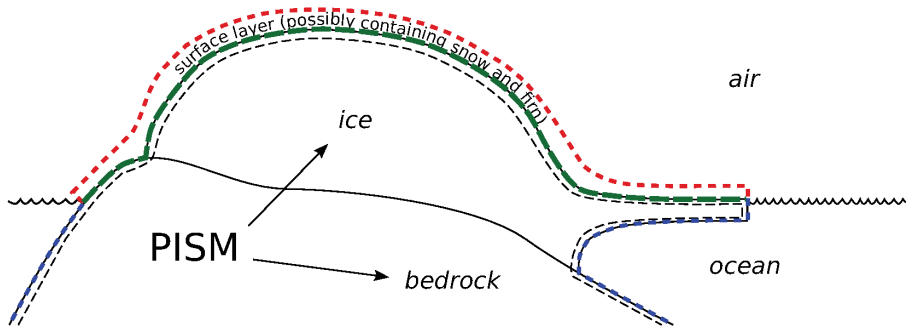
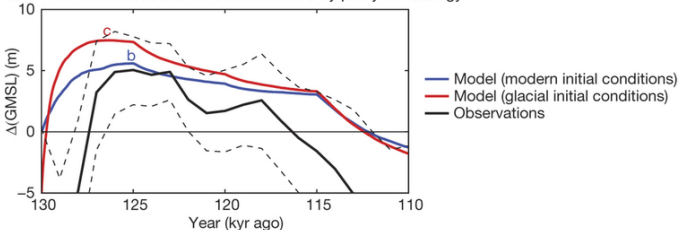


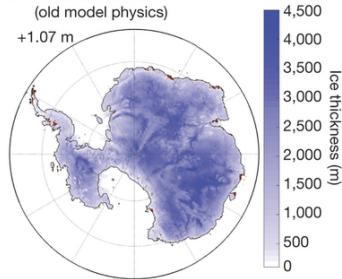
Figure 15: PISM's view of interfaces between an ice sheet and the outside world

Ice sheet modelling: The case of the ice that won't melt

a Time-continuous LIG simulations forced by proxy climatology

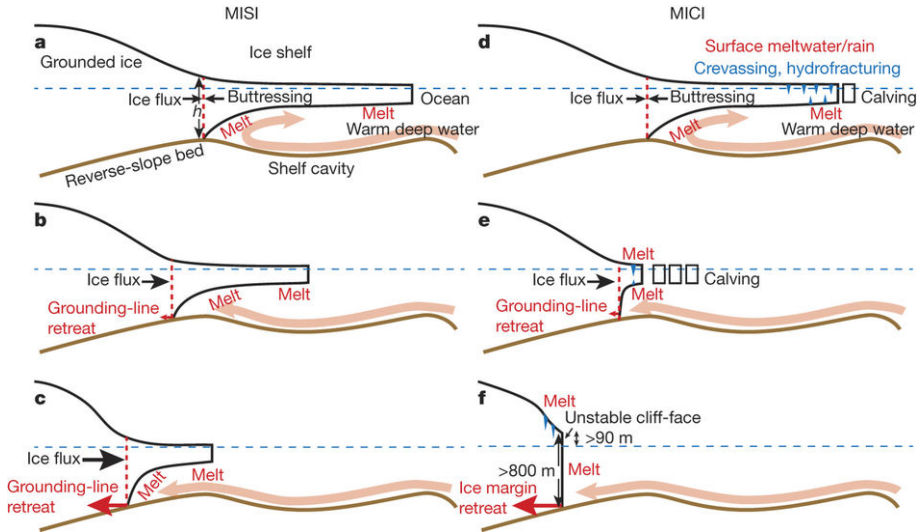


d Maximum retreat
(old model physics)



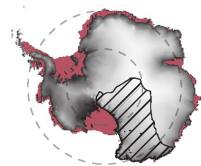
DeConto and Pollard (2016), *Nature*

Mechanisms of ice sheet instability

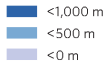


DeConto and Pollard (2016), *Nature*

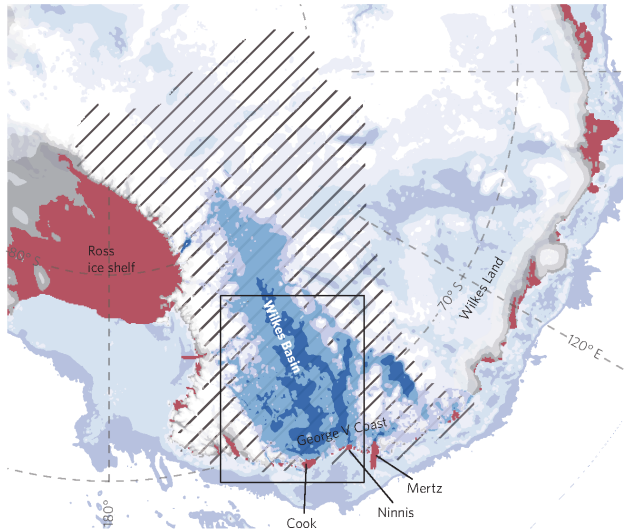
Marine ice sheet instability (MISI)



Wilkes Basin
subglacial topography

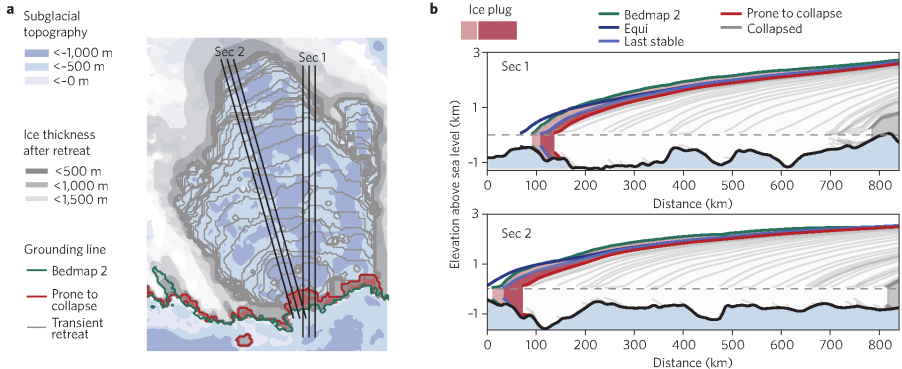


 Model domain



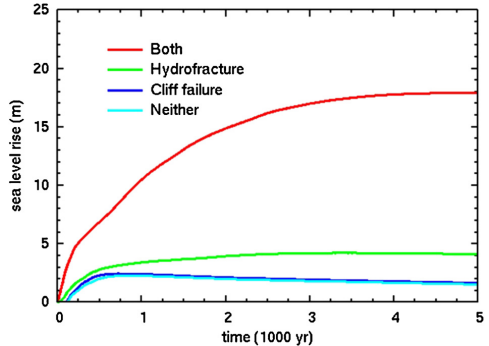
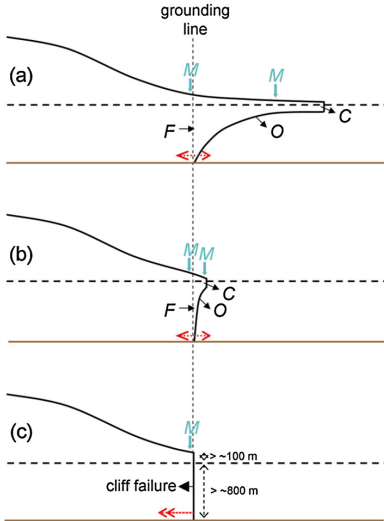
Mengel and Levermann (2014), *Nature Climate Change*

Marine ice sheet instability (MISI)



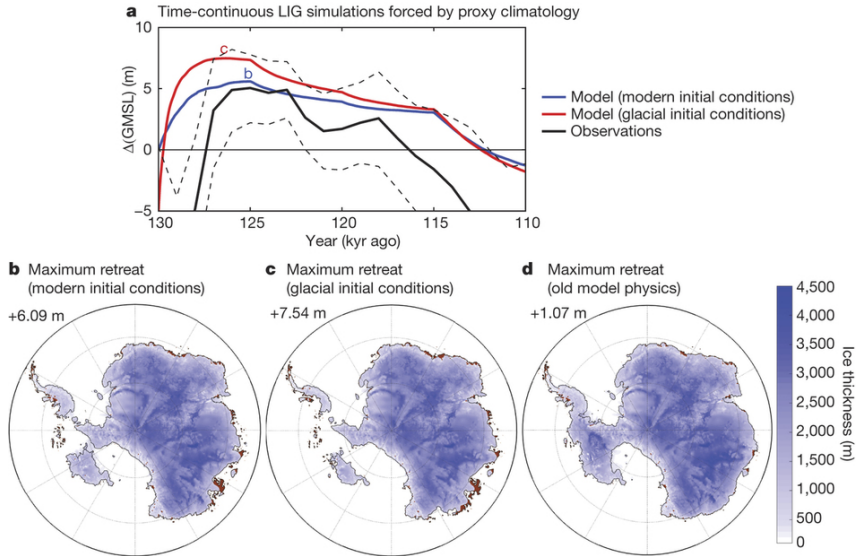
Mengel and Levermann (2014), *Nature Climate Change*

Hydrofracturing and ice cliff failure



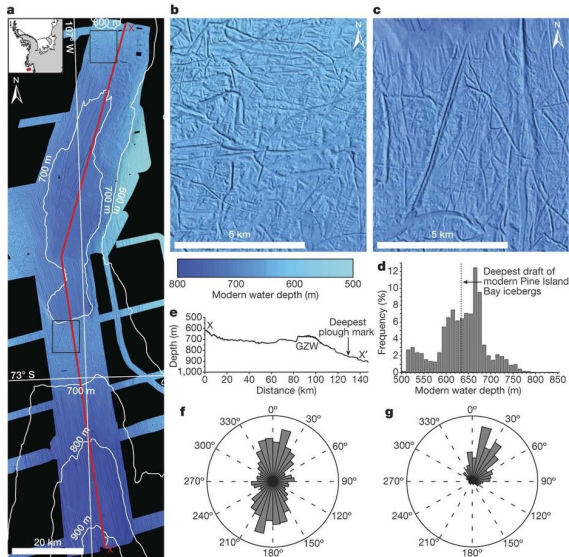
Pollard et al. (2015), *Earth and Planetary Science Letters*

Marine ice cliff instability (MICI)



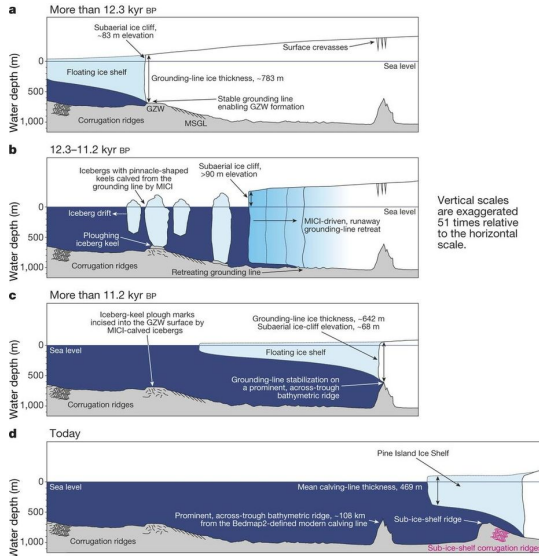
DeConto and Pollard (2016), *Nature*

Marine ice cliff instability: observational evidence



Wise et al. (2017), *Nature*

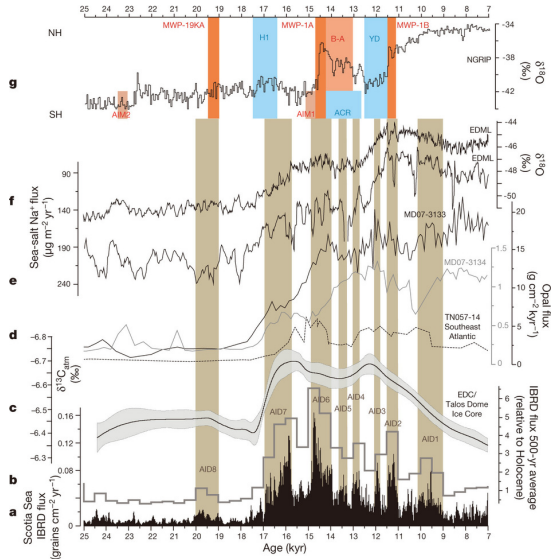
Marine ice cliff instability: observational evidence



Vertical scales are exaggerated 51 times relative to the horizontal scale.

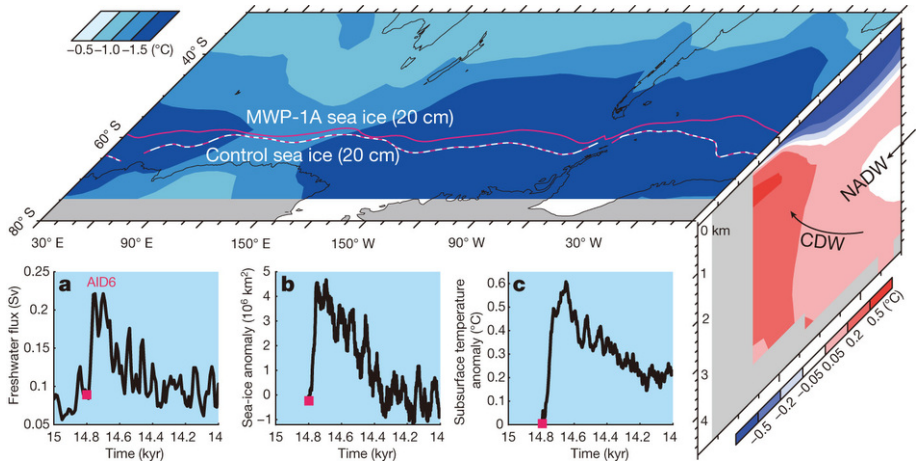
Wise et al. (2017), *Nature*

Millennial-scale ice sheet–ocean variability



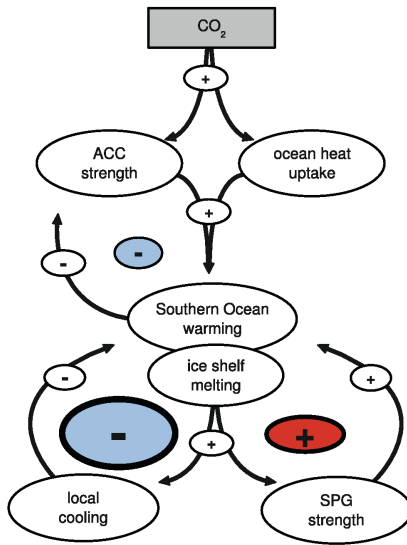
Weber et al. (2014), *Nature*

Millennial-scale ice sheet–ocean variability



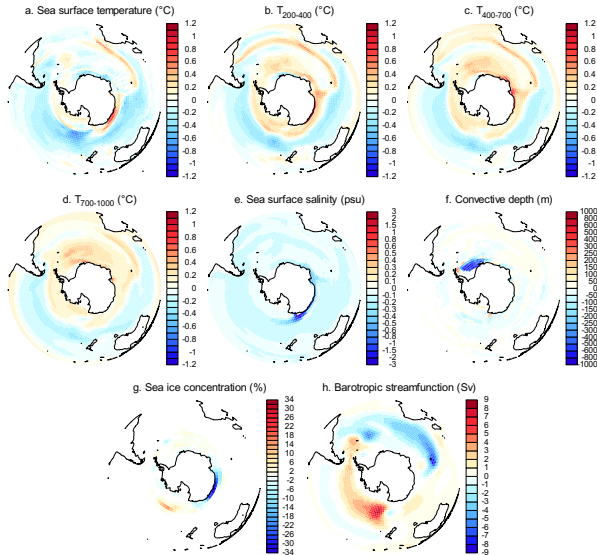
Weber et al. (2014), *Nature*

Ice sheet–ocean feedback loops



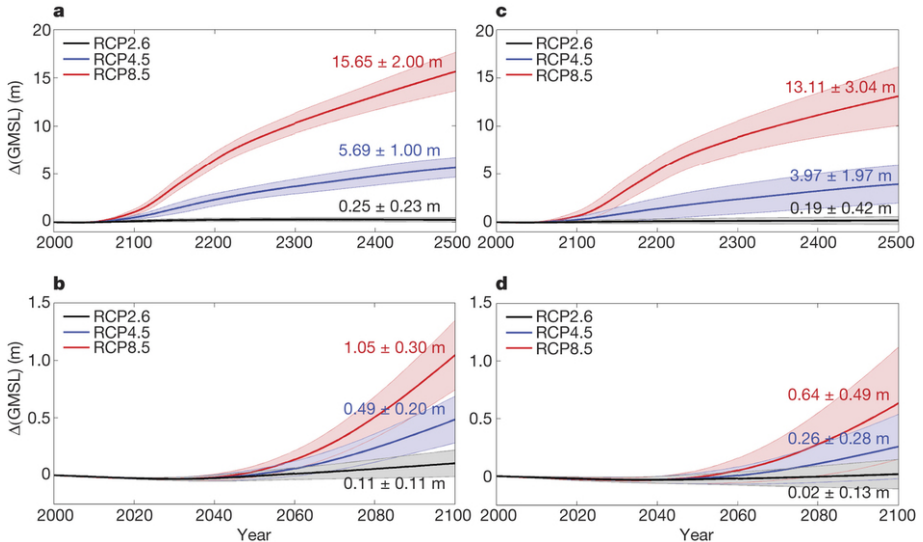
Hattermann and Levermann (2010), *Climate Dynamics*

Ice sheet–ocean coupling: freshwater fluxes into the ocean



Phipps et al. (2016), *The Cryosphere*

Consequences for global sea level



DeConto and Pollard (2016), *Nature*

Future research priorities

- Undertake large-scale observational programs to study the stability of the Antarctic margin.
- Use palaeoclimate data to identify missing processes and incorporate them into ice sheet models.
- Develop coupled climate–ice sheet models to be used for future climate projections.