

Interactive comment on “Overview of areal changes of the ice shelves on the Antarctic Peninsula over the past 50 years” by A. J. Cook and D. G. Vaughan

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583.21: changed as suggested

587.28: The reviewer’s comment regarding our poor explanation of the hydrofracture hypothesis is entirely valid. However, we do not think we can introduce the mechanism on p. 581 as we feel it would be out of place in the introduction, as we do not mention any other mechanisms here. We have improved the text within the Wordie Ice Shelf section on p.587, and have added further comments in the discussion to address both the hydrofracture mechanism and other similar mechanisms of breakup relating to meltwater.

C490

590.13-18: changed as suggested

594.2: as requested, this has been re-worded to make it clear

594.7: changed as suggested

598.16: changed as suggested

603.1: We accept that the discussion of this section was confusing, and have modified both discussions of the “compressive arch” to make them clearer.

Interactive comment on The Cryosphere Discuss., 3, 579, 2009.