

***Interactive comment on* “Brief Communication: Greenland’s shrinking ice cover: “fast times” but not that fast” by J. S. Kargel et al.**

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Comments on: Greenland’s shrinking ice cover: “fast times” but not that fast, by J. S. Kargel, A. P. Ahlstrøm, R. B. Alley, J. L. Bamber, T. J. Benham, J. E. Box, C. Chen, P. Christoffersen, M. Citterio, J. G. Cogley, H. Jiskoot, G. J. Leonard, P. Morin, T. Scambos, T. Sheldon, and I. Willis

This manuscript is well describing and explaining the problems with the Times Comprehensive Atlas of the World. The manuscript is well written, and using scientific data in a comprehensive way. The manuscript should be accepted with minor revisions.

However, I do have a few comments:

P3209 L14: Is there an online address for this statement? It would be nice with a

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reference.

P3210 L6: It should be ‘...on September 19, 2011’. Is there an online link to those two press releases? There should be a reference.

P3213 L17: It should be Yde and Knudsen, 2007, without a ‘t’ in Knudsen.

P3214 L2: The A.P. Olsen Ice cap SMB has been simulated for the period 1997/1998 through 2004/2005, indicating an average SMB loss of 1347 ± 343 mm w.e., and an average balance rate of -102 mm w.e. y⁻¹. This reference might be of interest for you: Mernild, S. H., G. E. Liston and B. Hasholt 2007. Snow-distribution and melt modeling for glaciers in Zackenberg River drainage basin, NE Greenland. Hydrological Processes. 21: 3249–3263. DOI: 10.1002/hyp.6500.

P3214 L5: We have published data from Mittivakkat Glacier for the period 1995/96 through 2009/2010. Why are you not using the entire period, instead of only 1998/99 through 2009/2010? Here, are the observed annual mass balance data from Mernild et al. (2011) for Mittivakkat Glacier, SE Greenland:

1995/96 0.01 m w.e., 1996/97 -0.40, 1997/98 -1.17, 1998/99 -0.77, 1999/00 -0.83, 2000/01 -0.96, 2001/02 -0.50, 2002/03 0.34, 2003/04 -1.07, 2004/05 -1.82, 2005/06 -0.58, 2006/07 -1.58, 2007/08 -0.52, 2008/09 -1.01, 2009/10 -2.16,

Average -0.87 m w.e. y⁻¹ Balance rate: -0.07 m w.e.y⁻¹

Interactive comment on The Cryosphere Discuss., 5, 3207, 2011.

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