

Interactive comment on “Petermann Glacier, North Greenland: massive calving in 2010 and the past half century” by O. M. Johannessen et al.

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It is valuable to have a paper like this, in which a survey of available data is made. The conclusions points 1 and 2 are entirely valid and very interesting.

p3 line 10: “The calving removed 28 km of the 70 km ice shelf” seems to be in error. Box and Decker (accepted) measure 17 km effective retreat, that is, area change (-275km) divided by width (16 km). I don’t see how you can get 28 km.

minor comments p2 line 4: “longest floating” instead of “long floating” p3 line 6: “between 3 and 5 August 2010” instead of “5 August 2010” p4 line 24: missing number for effective length change. The accurate number is 17 km according to Box and Decker. p5 line 19: “annual” instead of “interannual” p6 line 9: remove “northwards” p8 line 13:

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title of Box and Decker is: “Box, J.E. and Decker, D. T.: Greenland marine-terminating glacier area changes, 2000–2010, Ann. Glaciol., in press, 2011.”

References Box, J.E. and D.T. Decker, accepted: Greenland marine-terminating glacier area changes: 2000-2010, Annals of Glaciology, submitted August 2010, accepted February 2011 preprint

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