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## Future projections of the Greenland ice sheet energy balance driving the surface melt, developed using the regional climate MAR model

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#### Abstract

In this study, 25 km-simulations are performed over the Greenland ice sheet (GrIS) throughout the 20th and 21st centuries, using the regional climate model MAR forced by four RCP scenarios from two CMIP5 global circulation models, in order to investigate

- the projected changes of the surface energy balance (SEB) components driving the surface melt. Analysis of 2000–2100 melt anomalies compared to melt results over 1980–1999 reveals an exponential relationship of the GrIS surface melt rate simulated by MAR to the near-surface temperature (TAS) anomalies, mainly due to the surface albedo positive feedback associated with the extension of bare ice areas in summer.
- <sup>10</sup> On the GrIS margins, the future melt anomalies are rather driven by stronger sensible heat fluxes, induced by enhanced warm air advections over the ice sheet. Over the central dry snow zone, the increase of melt surpasses the negative feedback from heavier snowfall inducing therefore a decrease of the summer surface albedo even at the top of the ice sheet. In addition to the incoming longwave flux increase associated to
- <sup>15</sup> the atmosphere warming, MAR projects an increase of the cloud cover decreasing the ratio of the incoming shortwave versus longwave radiation and dampening the albedo feedback. However, it should be noted that this trend in the cloud cover is contrary to that simulated by ERA-INTERIM-forced MAR over current climate, where the observed melt increase since the 1990's seems rather to be a consequence of more anticyclonic extraordiate senditions.
- <sup>20</sup> atmospheric conditions. Finally, no significant change is projected in the length of the melt season. This timing highlights the importance of solar radiation in the melt SEB.

#### 1 Introduction

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The significant increase of the surface melting (Mote, 2007; Hall et al., 2008; Tedesco et al., 2008; Fettweis et al., 2011a) and corresponding meltwater run-off of the Greenland ice sheet (GrIS) (Hanna et al., 2005; Box et al., 2006; Fettweis, 2007; Ettema et al., 2009), which accounts for more than half of its recent mass loss (Van den Broeke et al.,



2009), is generally attributed to Arctic warming (Box and Cohen, 2006; Hanna et al., 2008) as a direct consequence of an increased concentration of atmospheric greenhouse gas (GHG) (Fettweis, 2007; Stroeve et al., 2007; Hanna et al., 2008, 2009). Those parts of this surface freshwater flux that reach the bed of the ice sheet through

- <sup>5</sup> crevasses and moulins may interact with the surmounting ice sheet by increasing the basal sliding (Zwally et al., 2002; Van de Wal et al., 2008; Sundal et al., 2011). Combined with the increased glacier velocity and discharge recently observed (Rignot and Kanagaratnam, 2006; Howat et al., 2008; Rignot et al., 2008), the surface meltwater is projected to substantially accelerate GrIS mass loss under a future warmer climate (Mashl et al., 2007) and to impact the accelerate GrIS mass loss under a future warmer climate
- <sup>10</sup> (Meehl et al., 2007) and to impact the sea level (Lemke et al., 2007). But major concerns and uncertainties remain concerning these projections (Gregory et al., 2004; Cazenave, 2006).

The melt regime of the GrIS can be investigated by partitioning the energy available at the ice sheet surface to enable melt into the components of the surface energy balance (SEB), using data for example from automatic weather stations (AWS) combined

with a SEB model (Van den Broeke et al., 2008, 2011). The surface albedo is closely linked to surface melt: while the freshly fallen snow reflects most of the incoming solar radiation, the melt-induced lower albedo of the wet snow or the bare ice allows more solar energy to be absorbed by the ice sheet surface, which further fosters the melt.

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- Because of this positive feedback loop, the surface albedo appears to be the dominant SEB component governing surface melt variability in the ablation zone of the GrIS (Van den Broeke et al., 2008; Box et al., 2012) and is believed to amplify the general warming in the Arctic (Lindsay and Zhang, 2005; Stroeve et al., 2005). Because the surface albedo reacts to changing climatological conditions and impacts the melt regime of the
- <sup>25</sup> GrIS, it is essential to assess the SEB alterations in response to a warmer climate over Greenland.

Different scenarios of global warming produced by GCMs are available for investigations of this issue, but the SEB (especially the surface albedo) in the GCMs is still found to be lacking in accuracy, mainly because of inadequate parameterizations



(Roesch et al., 1999; Yoshimori and Abe–Ouchi, 2012). However, regional climate models (RCMs), parameterized for polar regions and fully coupled with a physical multilayer snow model, are particularly well designed to solve the SEB and to estimate the surface melt of the GrIS at high spatial resolution (10–25 km). Given the lack of mea-

- <sup>5</sup> surement on the scale of the entire ice sheet, RCMs such as MAR (Fettweis, 2007) and RACMO2/GR (Ettema et al., 2009) are the best tools for estimating the surface mass balance (SMB) of the GrIS. Using reanalysis data as forcing fields at the lateral boundaries, they have satisfactorily simulated the GrIS melt extent on a daily time scale with respect to the microwave satellite (Fettweis et al., 2011a) and the SMB along
- the K-transect (Franco et al., 2012). RCMs forced by the outputs of future projections performed with GCMs could be valuable in the process of assessing the GrIS SEB changes induced by a warming of Greenland through the 21st century. Such experiments have also demonstrated their importance for gauging the future GrIS contribution to the global sea-level rise (SLR), as in Fettweis et al. (2011b).
- In this study, the MAR model is run over Greenland throughout the 20th and 21st centuries at a spatial resolution of 25 km, according to different GHG concentrations and forced by outputs produced by GCMs from the World Climate Research Programme's (WCRP's) Coupled Model Intercomparison Project phase 5 (CMIP5) multi-model dataset that was prepared for the Fifth Assessment Report of the Intergovern-
- 20 mental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC AR5). The MAR results are used to evaluate for the GrIS the surface melt anomalies and the changes of the different SEB components (i.e. the absorbed solar radiation, the infrared emission from the ice sheet surface, and the turbulent fluxes of sensible and latent heat) related to future nearsurface air temperature (TAS) increases, compared to the present-day climate (gauged
- here over 1980–1999). Such an analysis makes it possible to highlight the different responses of the SEB components to considerable Greenland warming. Furthermore, as the GrIS SEB is here calculated during melt events only, this work aims to investigate the inter-annual and spatial contribution of each SEB component to the anomalies of the net energy flux available at the ice sheet surface to enable the melt. Analysis of



the projected precipitation, run-off of meltwater and SMB of the GrIS will be part of a further study; we refer to Fettweis et al. (2012) on this issue.

The MAR model and the simulations performed in this study are developed in Sect. 2 and then validated in Sect. 3 for the present-day climate (1980–1999). Section 4 is de-

- voted to the evaluation of the GrIS melt anomalies throughout the 21st century. The following Sects. 5 and 6 analyse the annual anomalies of the SEB components related to TAS increases (compared to the present-day climate) and their spatial distribution over the GrIS, respectively. Section 7 presents a focus on the surface albedo anomalies. In Sect. 8 the annual SEB changes are also assessed over the bare ice area.
- <sup>10</sup> Finally, this study concludes with a short discussion of the results.

#### 2 Data and method

#### 2.1 The MAR model

The GrIS outputs used in this study were produced by the regional climate model MAR (Modèle Atmosphérique Régional), fully coupled with the energy balance-based <sup>15</sup> snow model SISVAT (Soil Ice Snow Vegetation Atmosphere Transfer) resolving the interactions between the atmosphere, the sea ice, the snow-covered tundra and the ice sheet surface. We refer to Gallée and Schayes (1994) and Fettweis (2007) for a detailed description of the MAR model. The version used in this study was the same as Fettweis et al. (2011a) with two exceptions: this study used a new tundra/ice sheet

- mask based on the Greenland land surface classification mask from Jason Box (http:// bprc.osu.edu/wiki/Jason\_Box\_Datasets) and the smoothing of the Bamber et al. (2001) based topography, which was reduced by a factor of two. Finally, the SISVAT scheme is explained in De Ridder and Gallée (1998), Gallée et al. (2001) and Lefebre et al. (2003).
- <sup>25</sup> The SISVAT snow-ice model (also used in cases of deposition of snow on the tundra and the sea ice) is based on the CEN (Centre d'Etudes de la Neige) snow model



CROCUS (Brun et al., 1992), in which the snow metamorphism parameterizations describe the snowpack according to its gradient of temperature, its age, its density, and the shape and size of the snow grains. The snowpack vertical discretization allows for the accumulation of snow on a maximum of 20 snow layers. CROCUS snow metamor-

- <sup>5</sup> phism laws control the variable thickness and the evolution of the snowpack during the simulation. A fresh snow layer is added to the snowpack when enough snow (1 mm of snowfall) is available. Both the run-off of excessive internal and accumulated surface meltwater and the drainage of excessive meltwater inside the snowpack are derived from Zuo and Oerlemans (1996). MAR posits the formation of bare ice at the surface
- (with a density higher than 900 kgm<sup>-3</sup> and an albedo near 0.45) if the high density melting snow (as flush) refreezes in winter for forming ice lenses or if the 10 m of snow prescribed at the beginning of the simulation have melted. Indeed, the CROCUS model resolves the first 10 m of the snowpack. If snow melt occurs and if the snowpack height is lower than 8 m in the snow model, an ice layer of 1 m is added at the bottom of the snow model. A similar rule is used in the RACMO2 model (Ettema et al., 2010).

The surface albedo is calculated according to the CROCUS snow metamorphism laws (Brun et al., 1992), as a function of the depth of the snowpack upon the ice or the tundra, the snow grain shape and size, the accumulated surface water height, the presence of bare ice or superimposed ice, the cloudiness and the zenithal solar angle. We refer to Lefebre et al. (2003) for a detailed description of the albedo parameterization in the SISVAT model.

The albedo, incoming solar flux, melt extent and near-surface temperature from the MAR model have been successfully compared to satellite-derived observations over Greenland and to measurements from the GC-net (Steffen and Box, 2001) AWS (Fet-

tweis et al., 2005, 2011a; Tedesco et al., 2011; Box et al., 2012). MAR has been used to simulate the GrIS SMB since 1958 at a resolution of 25 km (Fettweis, 2007; Fettweis et al., 2011a) and since 1990 at a resolution of 15 km (Franco et al., 2012), producing very good estimations of the SMB with respect to the K-transect measurements



(Van de Wal et al., 2005). Moreover, long-term MAR simulations of the GrIS SMB have already been performed through the 20th and 21st centuries (Fettweis et al., 2011b).

#### 2.2 Simulations

In this study, the reference run was performed by the MAR model running at a resolution of 25 km, forced at the lateral boundaries (with temperature, wind components and specific humidity) every 6 h by the ERA-INTERIM reanalysis from the European Centre for Medium Range Weather Forecasts (ECMWF) for present-day climate covering 1979–2011. During the simulations, the daily sea surface temperature (SST) and sea-ice cover (SIC) were provided to SISVAT by the ECMWF reanalysis.

- <sup>10</sup> Using the same set up, the MAR model was also run over Greenland for the current climate, forced by the ERA-40 reanalysis and by two GCMs (CanESM2 and NorESM1-M) from the WCRP's CMIP5 multi-model dataset prepared for the IPCC AR5, according to the outputs from the historical experiment (data available at: http://pcmdi3.llnl.gov/ esgcet/query/advanced.htm). MAR future projections of the GrIS were also performed
- <sup>15</sup> by using the 6 hourly CanESM2 and NorESM1-M outputs (as well as the daily SST and SIC) from different CMIP5 Representative Concentration Pathways (RCP) experiments as forcing fields. We refer to Moss et al. (2010) for more details about the CMIP5 RCP experiments. The different MAR simulations over Greenland carried out in the framework of this study and the periods covered by these simulations are listed in
   <sup>20</sup> Table 1.

Both CanESM2 and NorESM1-M models have been chosen for their ability to simulate the current climate over Greenland with respect to the ERA-INTERIM reanalysis over 1980–1999 (Fettweis et al., 2012). Using an automatic circulation classification type, the present-day (1961–1990) atmospheric circulation simulated by CanESM2 and

NorESM1-M was successfully compared with reanalysis datasets (especially during summer) over Greenland on a daily time scale (Belleflamme et al., 2012). Overland et al. (2011) classified these two models among the GCMs recommendable to force RCMs at a high temporal resolution over Greenland. Furthermore, MAR has already



been forced satisfactorily by CanESM2 to perform current and future GrIS SMB simulations (Fettweis et al., 2011b). As highlighted by Walsh et al. (2008), assessing the ability of the GCMs for the current climate is essential before making future projections.

### 2.3 Surface energy budget

The net energy flux (NET) of the GrIS, representing the energy available at the surface of the ice sheet for enabling melt, may be partitioned in the different physical processes (the SEB components):

NET =  $LW_{net} + SW_{net} + SHF + LHF + G_s (W m^{-2})$ 

- where LW<sub>net</sub> and SW<sub>net</sub> are the net longwave and shortwave radiation fluxes, SHF and LHF the sensible and latent heat fluxes, and G<sub>s</sub> the subsurface conductive heat flux. LW<sub>net</sub> represents the infrared irradiance, calculated by the difference between the longwave downward (LWD) and longwave upward (LWU) radiations. SW<sub>net</sub> is the shortwave downward (i.e. solar energy) radiation flux (SWD) absorbed at the surface, depending on the surface albedo (ALB):
- 15  $SW_{net} = SWD \times (1 ALB) (Wm^{-2})$

20

In this study, two other net shortwave radiation fluxes are also estimated by keeping either ALB or SWD constant throughout the investigated period, producing  $SW_{alb}$  (net shortwave flux with constant ALB) and  $SW_{swd}$  (net shortwave flux with constant SWD), respectively. When oriented towards the surface, these fluxes are defined positive and constitute an energy source for melt. Therefore melt occurs if NET is positive. Finally,

as G<sub>s</sub> is simulated by MAR close to zero in the subsurface ice sheet during melt, this SEB term will not be investigated here.

### 2.4 Mask of daily melt events

In the framework of this study, those SEB components are taken into account during ice sheet melt events only. Therefore, a mask of daily melt events (referred to below as



(1)

(2)

 $MSK_{melt}$ ) is defined as the area where the daily average over the investigated period of the melt rates produced by MAR simulations is greater than 1 mm WE day<sup>-1</sup>. Using this mask, the SEB components of the GrIS can be annually averaged with respect to the mean occurrence of daily melt events in each grid point. For example,  $MSK_{melt}$ 

- <sup>5</sup> calculated for the MAR-ERA<sub>INT</sub> simulation over the 1980–1999 period resolves 93.63 % of the total annual melt from the GrIS (see Table 2). However, according to the forcing fields used to perform the MAR simulations, the related masks of daily melt events differ slightly, especially towards the centre of the ice sheet. The part of the GrIS area covered by the maximum extent (occurring Mid-July) of MSK<sub>melt</sub> for the different forcing fields over 1980–1999 and 2080–2099, as well as the part of the total GrIS melt from
- <sup>10</sup> fields over 1980–1999 and 2080–2099, as well as the part of the total GrIS melt from each MAR simulation resolved by the 1980–1999 specific mask, are summarized in Table 2.

However, it should be mentioned that such a mask based on average melt values includes pixels where melt does not occur every year, as in 1983 and 1992. Neverthe-

<sup>15</sup> less, if the mask includes only the pixels where melt higher than 1 mm WE occurs each year throughout the reference period, it only resolves 46.64 % of the GrIS melt for the MAR-ERA<sub>INT</sub> run, compared to 93.63 % with MSK<sub>melt</sub> (see Table 2). In addition, melt can occur only a part of the day and then the surface temperature can be negative during the night. Selecting the pixels on the basis of a daily averaged surface temperature 20 near 0 °C will miss such short-lived melt events.

In this study, all the annual anomalies of SEB components and other investigated variables provided by a MAR simulation (present or future) refer to the 1980–1999 average over the 1980–1999  $MSK_{melt}$  mask of the MAR simulation performed with the same forcing fields. This implies that  $MSK_{melt}$  is kept fixed throughout a simulated period even for the future projections, while in reality the melt area varies appually and

period, even for the future projections, while in reality the melt area varies annually and gradually spreads to higher elevations further inland on the GrIS.

An annually-varying mask based on daily melt events not averaged over a multiannual period is more representative of the melt for a given year of simulation, but



does not allow comparison of the summers between themselves. Nevertheless, using such a varying mask does not change our analysis developed in Sect. 5.

In order to investigate the SEB component anomalies on the GrIS areas covered by bare ice, another daily mask was implemented (defined here as  $MSK_{ice}$ ) for each

<sup>5</sup> MAR simulation, based on a daily melting rate higher than 1 mm WE day<sup>-1</sup> and a daily surface snow density higher than 850 kgm<sup>-3</sup> averaged over the 1980–1999 period. This new daily mask MSK<sub>ice</sub> is confined to the daily mean bare ice extent in the ablation zone of the ice sheet and covers smaller areas than MSK<sub>melt</sub> (see Table 2 for the parts of the total GrIS melt resolved by the different MSK<sub>ice</sub>).

#### **3 Validation of the MAR simulations**

Given that the ERA-INTERIM-forced MAR run has already been successfully validated (see Sect. 2) and given the lack of direct measurements of melt on the scale of the whole ice sheet, the melt outputs from MAR forced by the GCMs under current climate (1980–1999) are validated by comparison with the results from MAR-ERA<sub>INT</sub> (see

<sup>15</sup> Fig. 1b–d). The annual melt amounts from the GrIS simulated by the different MAR runs over the same period, as well as the melt energy flux (NET), and the different SEB components averaged over the 1980–1999 MSK<sub>melt</sub> are summarized in Table 3.

It appears that the MAR model forced by the ERA-40 reanalysis and the CMIP5 GCMs is able to reproduce the inter-annual MAR-ERA<sub>INT</sub> variability (investigated here

- through the standard deviation) of the 1980–1999 GrIS melt. Moreover, the annual melt trends are generally consistent between the different MAR runs for this period, and the average biases are significantly lower than the MAR-ERA<sub>INT</sub> standard deviation. Assessing the averaged NET fluxes and SEB components over the MSK<sub>melt</sub> specific to each MAR run generally leads to the same conclusions (see Table 3).
- Fig. 1 shows non-significant spatial differences (lower than 2 standard deviations) in the annual melt pattern simulated between the MAR-ERA<sub>INT</sub> and the other MAR runs over 1980–1999. Furthermore, the skill scores of these simulations, which represent



a normalized root mean square deviation of the multi-annual averaged modelled field from the multi-annual averaged MAR-ERAINT field rescaled between 0 and 1 (with 1 as the perfect match), are lower than the annual standard deviation skill score (0.73) of MAR-ERAINT. We refer to Franco et al. (2012) for more details about this skill score methodology. The MAR-ERA<sub>40</sub> simulation shows negative anomalies in the western 5 ablation zone (Fig. 1b) because the ERA-40 reanalysis is colder in summer than the ERA-INTERIM. The discrepancies between our reference MAR simulation (MAR-ERAINT), and MAR-CANhisto and MAR-NORhisto are primarily caused by the GCMs biases with respect to the ERA-INTERIM over 1980–1999. CanESM2 is too warm in summer over the north-western ice sheet, and its atmospheric circulation does not enable a sufficient moisture advection into this region (Fettweis et al., 2012). Therefore, MAR-CAN<sub>histo</sub> makes the bare ice appear sooner (which fosters the melt) because of the underestimation of precipitation in this part of the GrIS compared to MAR-ERAINT (Fig. 1c). Conversely, CanESM2 underestimates the air temperature in the southern GrIS, which explains the negative melt discrepancies in MAR (Fig. 1c). Similarly, NorESM1-M is too cold in summer at the MAR boundaries with respect to the ERA-INTERIM (Fettweis et al., 2012), which causes the MAR model to simulate lower melting rates in the ablation zone than MAR-ERA<sub>INT</sub> (Fig. 1d).

#### 4 Projected melt anomalies of the GrIS

- Exceptional melt events of the GrIS have been highlighted with a focus on the close relationship between the melt and the near-surface air temperatures (TAS) (Mote, 2007; Tedesco, 2007). The different MAR simulations performed in this study (listed in Table 1) allow the assessment of the response of GrIS meltwater production to a TAS increase, independent of the CMIP5 RCP scenarios. By comparing the annual anomalies
- of total GrIS melt and summer TAS averaged over the ice sheet throughout the presentday period and the 21st century, it appeared that the increase of the annual melting rate is strongly correlated (R = 0.943) but non-linearly related to the TAS anomalies



(Fig. 2a). In addition, this relationship seems to be independent of the forcing fields used in this study, but all the MAR runs simulate comparable melt rates over current climate. Such an exponential relationship suggests that if melt rate is over- or underestimated for the current climate, the melt response to temperature increases is different,
 <sup>5</sup> as shown by Fettweis et al. (2012).

The projected Greenland warming also impacts the melt season. A comparison between the 1980–1999 MAR-CAN<sub>histo</sub> and the 2080–2099 MAR-CAN<sub>45</sub> and MAR-CAN<sub>85</sub> simulations reveals that the melt season is expected to start approximately two weeks sooner at the end of the 21st century compared to the present-day climate and that significant melt events could still occur from two to three weeks after the end of the present-day melt season (Fig. S1a). The different factors explaining this offset will be developed further in this study. However, the MAR model projects no significant melt event during winter, even for the most extreme scenarios.

These GrIS melting rates, increased due to higher temperatures, are also attended <sup>15</sup> by an enlarged melt area on the ice sheet, as suggested by Fig. 2b, where the anomalies of annual mean temperature and annual cumulated melt extents (obtained by summing throughout the year all the daily areas with melting rate higher than 1 mm WE day<sup>-1</sup>) are highly correlated (R = 0.969). According to Table 2, the maximum GrIS melt extent covers the entire ice sheet at the end of the 21st century for <sup>20</sup> the most pessimistic scenarios. Nonetheless, the cumulated melt extents are rather linearly related to the TAS anomalies (Fig. 2b), while the melting rate is gradually amplified (Fig. 2a).

Unlike the melt extent, the bare ice extent expands non-linearly with increasing temperatures (R = 0.921) (Fig. 2c). This suggests that the extension of the bare ice area resulting from the positive surface albedo feedback could be responsible for the amplified melt anomalies with increasing temperatures in the future. Indeed, the albedo of melting snow covered surface remains high (~0.70), but drops when the bare ice appears (albedo of ~0.45) after the removing of the winter snowpack.



#### 5 SEB component contributions to melt anomalies

Partitioning the net energy flux received at the surface of the ice sheet during melt within the SEB components makes it possible to investigate their different responses to Greenland warming and to estimate their relative contributions to the increased GrIS

- <sup>5</sup> melting rate induced by such temperature changes. First the annual anomalies of the SEB components to the 1980–1999 period are compared on MSK<sub>melt</sub> to the related TAS anomalies by using outputs from MAR, forced by CanESM2 and NorESM1-M (Fig. 3a) for historical simulations (1979–2005) and future projections (2006–2100). The same comparison is also carried out for the present-day climate modelled by MAR
- <sup>10</sup> using the ERA-INTERIM (1979–2011) and ERA-40 (1979–1999) reanalyses as forcing fields (Fig. 3b). The relative contributions of the SEB components to NET anomalies, and hence to GrIS melt energy anomalies, are then estimated between the 2080–2099 projections and the 1980–1999 results on the 1980–1999 masks of daily melt events (MSK<sub>melt</sub>) (Table 4a). Fig. 3 on MSK<sub>melt</sub> can be compared to the same experiment
   <sup>15</sup> carried out on an annually-varying mask of melt events (Fig. S2).

#### 5.1 Net shortwave flux (SW<sub>net</sub>)

According to the different future projections investigated here (Table 4a), more than half of the 2080–2099 NET anomalies to the present-day climate are explained by the SW<sub>net</sub> increase (52.64%) simulated by MAR. The solar energy absorbed at the ice sheet surface has already been highlighted as the dominant factor controlling the melt variability during present-day summer in the ablation area of the western GrIS (Van den Broeke et al., 2008, 2011). Nevertheless, partitioning this SEB component in SW<sub>alb</sub> and SW<sub>swd</sub> (i.e. SW<sub>net</sub> calculated for the 2080–2099 period by keeping the averaged 1980– 1999 ALB and SWD constant, respectively) reveals that the surface albedo anomalies contribute 64.75% to the NET increase compared to the present-day climate, while the

SWD decrease causes the influence of albedo to be slightly lessened (-6.75%). This



means that the warmer the projected scenario, the more the surface albedo feedback is attenuated (Table 4a).

The comparison of the annual SW<sub>alb</sub> and SW<sub>swd</sub> versus the TAS anomalies simulated by MAR forced by different CMIP5 scenarios (Fig. 3a) confirms that SW<sub>swd</sub> is the most sensitive SEB component to an increasing temperature with a strong correlation (R = 0.952) independent of the forcing fields used here. While the SW<sub>alb</sub> decrease is linearly related to the TAS changes (R = -0.497), the positive SW<sub>swd</sub> anomalies are projected to be strongly amplified by GrIS warming due to the positive feedback of the ice sheet albedo (Box et al., 2012). This positive albedo feedback can also be observed in the present-day simulations performed by MAR forced with reanalyses (Fig. 3b), and

- <sup>10</sup> In the present-day simulations performed by MAR forced with reanalyses (Fig. 3b), and explains most of the non-linearity between the temperature and melting rate changes over current climate (Fig. 2a): an increased temperature contributes to reducing the surface albedo by improving snow metamorphism, and consequently snow grain growth (Wiscombe and Warren, 1980; Dozier et al., 1981), which in turn amplifies the net en-15 ergy flux (through the increase of absorbed solar radiation) available at the ice sheet
- ergy flux (through the increase of absorbed solar radiation) available at the ice sheet surface to enable the melt. In addition, increasing temperature induces heightened melt of the winter snowpack and then an early appearance of the bare ice zone.

According to Fig. 3a, SWD is projected to decrease slightly with the TAS increase. Indeed, the MAR future projections tend to increase the cloudiness over Greenland

- with respect to a future increased temperature (R = 0.897) because there is more evaporation above the ocean, and the atmosphere can contain more moisture, which decreases the solar radiation passing through the atmosphere towards the surface (Fig. S3b). But the MAR model forced by the ECMWF reanalyses instead simulates increased SWD with positive TAS anomalies (Fig. 3b), due to a reduced cloud
- <sup>25</sup> cover observed in the present-day climate over Greenland induced by more persistent anticyclonic circulations during the recent summers (Box et al., 2012). These observed changes in the general circulation linked to the North Atlantic Oscillation (NAO) are nevertheless not simulated by the CMIP5 GCMs (Belleflamme et al., 2012), which explains these opposite trends between SWD and TAS over the current climate



(Fig. 3a,b). Consequently, the MAR simulations performed with the CMIP5 GCMs as forcing fields underestimate the impact of the surface albedo feedback with respect to the reanalyses-forced MAR runs for a same TAS increase (see the dashed and solid purple lines, respectively, in Fig. 3b).

#### 5 5.2 Sensible heat flux (SHF)

The second most important contribution in the SEB changes is provided by the positive SHF anomalies (26.95%), as presented in Table 4a. Indeed, as the temperature inversions are almost persistent over the GrIS, SHF generally represents a significant energy source during the melt season (Van den Broeke et al., 2008, 2011). Fig. 3a suggests that the SHF changes from the GrIS are gradually strengthened with the increasing temperature (R = 0.916), as also observed for the present-day climate modelled by ERA-INTERIM-forced MAR (Fig. 3b). This is mainly due to the increase of warm air advection occurring in marginal parts of the GrIS under a warmer climate.

Furthermore, barrier winds driven by the contrast of temperature between the tundra and the ice sheet also contribute to transporting warm air to the ice sheet surface in the western part of Greenland, and consequently enhance SHF (Van den Broeke and Gallée, 1996). As the tundra is projected to warm more rapidly than the surrounding ice sheet (Fig. S4a–d), the thermal contrast would be strengthened, resulting in stronger barrier winds along the western margin (Fig. S4e–h) and then in an enhanced warm air advection over the surface of the western ice sheet.

The SHF increase with respect to increasing TAS is less important than albedo (Fig. 3), because SHF depends strongly on air temperature gradients, and the ice sheet surface rises rapidly from the margins towards the centre, impeding the warm air from penetrating further inland. Moreover, positive SHF anomalies (due to increased warm

<sup>25</sup> air advection) add more melt energy to the ice sheet surface, which in turn reduces the albedo and then contributes to strengthening the absorbed solar radiation (SW<sub>net</sub>). However, SHF appears to be the SEB component with the highest relative increase between the 1980–1999 and 2080–2099 periods (Table S1 in the Supplement): from



+39.89 to +211.79 % of SHF increase according to the RCP scenario, compared to: from +13.32 to +42.94 % for the SW<sub>net</sub>.

#### 5.3 Net longwave flux (LW<sub>net</sub>)

The increased LW<sub>net</sub> represents a rather limited contribution to the projected NET anomalies (13.6%), mainly because the positive LWD anomalies (55.01%) are partly counterbalanced by the reinforced LWU (-39.68%) (Table 4a). Indeed, as the atmosphere is warmer and the cloudiness increases, the infrared radiation towards the surface is strengthened with respect to the positive TAS anomalies (R = 0.879), as drawn in Fig. 3a,b. Nevertheless, increased temperatures warm the surface and then increase the infrared radiation emitted by the surface (LWU) (R = -0.989), partly counterbalancing the LWD anomalies and hence impeding a large LW<sub>net</sub> increase.

According to the MAR outputs, the LWD and LWU anomalies are generally in balance over MSK<sub>melt</sub> for small TAS increases lower than +2°C (Fig. 3a,b). For a larger warming, the pixels where melt occurs every time of the day are more frequent. Given that the surface temperature of melting snow is limited to 0°C, higher temperature does

not increase LWU, while the incoming longwave (LWD) carries on to be enhanced by a warmer atmosphere, resulting in more positive LW<sub>net</sub> anomalies.

#### 5.4 Latent heat flux (LHF)

Finally, the contribution of LHF changes induced by higher temperatures (R = 0.767) to the NET increase by the end of the 21st century would be almost negligible compared to the other SEB components (5.08%). LHF is generally defined as an energy source around the GrIS margins during melt but, in contrast, as an energy sink in the centre parts of the ice sheet (Van den Broeke et al., 2008). Indeed, the little moisture contained in the air over the central GrIS enables evaporation and sublimation and hence contributes to reducing the melt energy at the surface, while areas around the ice sheet



margins are characterized by a warmer air generally containing more moisture, so that LHF adds to energy available for surface melt in the border regions of the ice sheet.

According to Table 3, LHF averaged over  $\text{MSK}_{\text{melt}}$  appears to be an energy sink during the present-day climate, but Fig. 3 shows positive LHF anomalies with increasing

temperatures simulated by the MAR model. These results suggest that LHF is expected to become less of an energy sink in a future warmer climate and to turn eventually into an average energy source over MSK<sub>melt</sub>, mainly because of the projected warmer air and the significant addition of moisture brought to the low-elevation ice sheet.

#### 6 Spatial distribution of SEB component anomalies

- <sup>10</sup> A spatial comparison between the 2080–2099 MAR-CAN<sub>85</sub> and 1980–1999 MAR-CAN<sub>histo</sub> simulations reveals that the projected highest NET anomalies (up to +80 Wm<sup>-2</sup>, which represents an increase by more than 150 % of the 1980–1999 NET) are essentially located in the western and northern border areas of the GrIS (Fig. 4a). According to Fig. 4, these large marginal biases are mainly due to the increased
- SW<sub>net</sub> and particularly by the decreased albedo (evaluated here through SW<sub>swd</sub>) in areas where higher melting rates cause the appearance of bare ice (as shown in Fig. 4b). Therefore, the strongest projected NET anomalies occur in areas where the bare ice is projected to appear and which are covered by snow in the present-day climate. This explains why most of the changes are not located in the closest vicinity of the ice sheet margin, which is already covered for part of the time by bare ice in the present-day climate.

Figure 4 also shows that the equilibrium line altitude (ELA) from 2080–2099 MAR-CAN<sub>85</sub> simulations is strongly pushed aside towards the centre of the ice sheet, especially in the western and northern parts of Greenland. This comparison highlights that the accumulation zone located near the present-day ELA could turn into an ablation zone. Conversely, the offset of the 2080–2099 ELA along the eastern GrIS margin is quite limited by the huge topography of these areas (and hence by the strong horizontal



gradients of temperature), impeding the ablation zone from significantly spreading further inland over the ice sheet.

As mentioned previously, the projected SHF anomalies contribute significantly to the 2080–2099 NET increase over the GrIS (Table 4a). Nevertheless, this contribution is

- <sup>5</sup> essentially confined to the present-day ablation zone (Fig. 4d). Moreover, the projected decrease of the sea ice concentration in the Arctic region (Stendel et al., 2008), already observed in the present-day climate (Serreze et al., 2007; Comiso et al., 2008), enhances the warm air advection in the border parts of Greenland, especially along the northern coast. Consequently, the SHF increase related to projected GrIS warming
- is expected to strongly increase the melt intensity in the ablation zone of the presentday climate, but unlike the reduced surface albedo would not contribute significantly to enlarging the melt extent in the future.

To a lesser extent, the NET changes along the western and northern GrIS margins are also due to small positive  $LW_{net}$  anomalies (Fig. 4c). As explained previously, the LWD strengthening over the GrIS (Fig. 4g) is not entirely counterbalanced by the increased LWLL (Fig. 4b) in the border areas where days without night refressing are

creased LWU (Fig. 4h) in the border areas where days without night refreezing are already modelled over 1980–1999.

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The projected spatial LHF changes (not shown here) are confined to within  $\pm 10 \, Wm^{-2}$ , and hence can be considered as an almost negligible contribution to the increased melt energy compared to the other SEB components.

Projected changes in precipitation regimes in Greenland also impact the spatial distribution of the SEB component anomalies. Although the future simulations produce heavier winter snowfall (Fig. S1d), during the melt season the projected snowfall (temporally increasing the surface albedo) is highly reduced, and the rainfall strongly in-

<sup>25</sup> creased compared to the present-day climate (Fig. S1d). However, these precipitation anomalies are not homogeneously distributed over the GrIS: while the annual snowfall is mainly strengthened in the central parts of the ice sheet (Fig. S5a,e), significant parts of the snowfall in South Greenland are turned into heavy rainfall (Fig. S5b,f).



2283

According to the MAR future simulations, the surface albedo decrease over  $MSK_{melt}$  induced by the projected Greenland warming (Fig. S7a) is also amplified by less events of snowfall and more events of rainfall (Fig. S7b,c). This results in an enlargement of

the area covered by lower-albedo bare ice in the place of higher-albedo dry/melting snow, enhancing the surface solar heating and eventually fostering the melt.

The summer surface albedo over the central GrIS is investigated on the dry snow zone, which is limited here to pixels higher than 2000 m elevation and to areas where the annual melt averaged over 1980–1999 is lower than 5 mm WE (defined here as MSK

- <sup>15</sup> MSK<sub>centre</sub>). Over this mask, the MAR model simulates positive surface albedo anomalies with increasing temperatures compared to the 1980–1999 results (Fig. 5a), due to heavier modelled snowfall over the central ice sheet (Fig. 5b) (Box et al., 2012). Indeed, more frequent snow depositions induced by increasing temperatures over MSK<sub>centre</sub> lead to a rise in the surface albedo of the GrIS. However, larger Greenland warming
- (higher than 2°C) in the central ice sheet would enable the surface melt, which decreases the surface albedo (Fig. 5c). Such enhanced surface melt rapidly counterbalances the albedo increase induced by heavier snowfall, and eventually surpasses the snowfall negative feedback for larger TAS anomalies (more than 4–5°C) by lowering the surface albedo. Nonetheless, the projected 2080–2099 surface albedo anomalies
   with respect to 1980–1999 are non-significant (lower than 0.05) over the central ice sheet.





Such increased rainfall contributes to the lowering of the surface albedo (see Sect. 7 and Fig. S1c,d).

As already highlighted in Sect. 5 and Sect. 6, the summer surface albedo is projected

to be strongly reduced in the present-day percolation zone of the GrIS: up to -0.20 of

anomalies for the 2080–2099 period compared to the 1980–1999 results (see Fig. S6).

#### 7 Surface albedo

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#### 8 SEB component anomalies over bare ice area

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The strengthened anomalies of the bare ice extent have been proved very important to explaining the non-linearity between the simulated melt and temperature increase (see Sect. 4). Furthermore, the spatial distribution assessment of the SEB component

- anomalies suggested behaviours over the bare ice areas guite different from those simulated over the melt areas (see Sect. 6). Therefore, the response of the SEB components to GrIS warming is investigated here on the bare ice areas specifically, by carrying out the same experiment as in Sect. 5, but on the 1980–1999 MSKice, taking into account the melting bare ice area only.
- The contribution of the SW<sub>net</sub> anomalies to the NET 2080–2099 anomalies is strongly 10 reduced on  $\text{MSK}_{\text{ice}}$  (from 52.64 % to 4.53 %), because the surface albedo of the mean present-day melting bare ice extent has already reached its minimum in the presentday climate. According to Fig. 6, the influence of the reduced surface albedo (evaluated here through SW<sub>swd</sub>) on the positive SW<sub>nat</sub> anomalies over the bare ice extent is progressively decreased with the increasing temperature, and finally tends to stabilize for
- TAS anomalies higher than  $+2^{\circ}C$  compared to 1980–1999.

As the surface temperature on the bare ice zone is already limited to 0°C over the current climate, the low increase of infrared emission from the surface (LWU) due to the positive TAS anomalies does not counterbalance the enhanced LWD (Fig. 6), making the positive  $LW_{net}$  anomalies the second most important contribution (30.62%) to the 2080–2099 NET increase compared to 1980–1999 on the bare ice extent (Table 4b).

According to Fig. 6, the warm air advection (and hence SHF) appears as the dominant process (52.10%) leading the NET response to temperature increase over the bare ice extent, as highlighted for the current climate by Van den Broeke et al. (2008, 2011). 25

Finally, the relative contribution of LHF anomalies to the 2080–2099 NET increase is higher on the bare ice extent (11.15%) than on the entire melt extent (5.08%) of the GrIS, as suggested by Fig. 6 compared to Fig. 3. Because the warmer air over



the marginal parts of the ice sheet should contain more moisture (due to an enhanced warm air advection) according to the CMIP5 RCP scenarios, LHF is projected to decrease more rapidly over the bare ice ( $MSK_{ice}$ ) with increasing temperatures than over the  $MSK_{melt}$  as a whole.

#### **5 9 Conclusion and discussion**

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In this study, MAR simulations forced by CMIP5 GCMs (CanESM2 and NorESM1-M) with respect to different RCP scenarios have been performed to assess the SEB changes of the GrIS related to Greenland warming. As MAR is only based on physical parameterizations, model simulations of the GrIS and its SEB in a warmer climate are possible, as opposed to when statistics are compiled specifically for the current period and cannot be held true for a different climate. By assessing the anomalies to the present-day climate, the investigated relationships between the SEB components and temperature changes have been made independent of the forcing fields or the future scenarios of global warming used for this work.

- <sup>15</sup> The MAR future projections have revealed a strong exponential relationship between the GrIS near-surface temperature and the surface melt. While the melt extent is projected to spread towards the central ice sheet linearly to TAS warming, the increase of bare ice extent (i.e. the ablation zone) is amplified, which impacts the albedo, which in turn impacts the melt.
- <sup>20</sup> The surface albedo is the SEB component which most reacts to an increase in temperature, gradually amplifying the amount of incoming shortwave radiation fluxes absorbed by the ice sheet surface. Nevertheless, along the margins of the ice sheet (especially in the western GrIS), the increase of melt energy is primarily driven by the SHF anomalies due to stronger warm air advection, partly induced by enhanced bar-
- rier winds bringing more heat and moisture to the ice sheet. Over the central GrIS, the summer surface albedo is projected to be enhanced by heavier snowfall but the melt enabled for larger TAS increases eventually surpasses the snowfall feedback by



lowering the albedo. The limited surface temperature of the melting snow (0 °C) generally impedes the infrared surface emission (LWU) anomalies to counterbalance the increasing LWD due to warmer atmosphere and larger cloud cover, which leads to positive LW<sub>net</sub> changes related to a Greenland warming. The LHF anomalies are not sexpected to be a significant contributor to the NET increase under a warmer climate over the GrIS.

The ability of CMIP5 GCMs to reproduce the current climate over Greenland accurately is very important because they are required as forcing fields in MAR to perform future projections of the GrIS. Indeed, a GCM that fails to simulate the present-day atmospheric circulation will lack in reliability in future projections. That CanESM2 and NorESM1-M have been proven to be able to reproduce the current climate over Green-

- land allows the MAR model to provide reliable estimations of the GrIS melt over 1980– 1999 with respect to the ECMWF-forced simulation. Nevertheless, the GCMs are not able to model atmospheric circulation changes observed recently over Greenland ex-
- plaining the decrease of cloudiness in summer. This results in SWD trends (inversely correlated to LWD) over 1980–1999 that are opposite to those provided by MAR forced with ECMWF reanalyses. Such current biases could be a source of uncertainty in future simulations.

Despite the use of different RCP scenarios and different CMIP5 GCMs as forcing fields to perform the future projections of the GrIS, the MAR model has produced outputs (melt, TAS, SEB components) with consistent anomalies to the present-day simulations. Such a consistency is essential to lead to reliable relationships between the melt, the SEB components and the temperature anomalies. However, the GCMs used as forcing fields generally constitute the largest part of uncertainty in performing future

simulations of the GrIS (Graversen et al., 2011; Yoshimori and Abe–Ouchi, 2012). In addition, consistent results related to a specific change of temperature can only be obtained by forcing the MAR model with GCMs that are able to model efficiently the present-day climate over Greenland. If GCMs are either too cold or too warm for the current climate, the response of the melt will be different for a specific temperature



increase because the melt rate changes are driven by the temperature anomalies according to a non-linear (exponential) relationship.

Because the SEB and its changes lead the melt of the GrIS, it is of primary importance to investigate the responses of the run-off of meltwater and the SMB to increasing temperatures over Greenland. This will be the topic of a further study (Fettweis et al., 2012).

# Supplementary material related to this article is available online at: http://www.the-cryosphere-discuss.net/6/2265/2012/tcd-6-2265-2012-supplement.pdf.

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B. Franco et al.





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**Table 1.** Forcing fields used to perform MAR simulations, covered period, and abbreviation of the simulations.

Forcing fields	Period	Abbreviation
ERA-INTERIM	1979–2011	MAR-ERA <sub>INT</sub>
ERA-40	1979–1999	MAR-ERA <sub>40</sub>
CanESM2-Histo	1979–2005	MAR-CAN <sub>histo</sub>
CanESM2-RCP4.5	2006–2100	MAR-CAN <sub>45</sub>
CanESM2-RCP8.5	2006–2100	MAR-CAN <sub>85</sub>
NorESM1-Histo	1979–2005	MAR-NOR <sub>histo</sub>
NorESM1-RCP2.6	2006–2100	MAR-NOR <sub>26</sub>
NorESM1-RCP4.5	2006–2100	MAR-NOR <sub>45</sub>
NorESM1-RCP6.0	2006–2100	MAR-NOR <sub>60</sub>
NorESM1-RCP8.5	2006–2100	MAR-NOR <sub>85</sub>



**Table 2.** Part (in %) of the GrIS area covered by the maximum extent of MSK<sub>melt</sub> and MSK<sub>ice</sub>, and percentage of the total GrIS melt resolved by the 1980–1999 mask (PCT<sub>melt</sub> and PCT<sub>ice</sub>, respectively), according to the forcing fields of the MAR model. MSK<sub>melt</sub> and MSK<sub>ice</sub> have been implemented over the 1980–1999 period for the present-day simulations, and over the 2080–2099 period for the future projections. PCT<sub>melt</sub> and PCT<sub>ice</sub> have been calculated on the basis of the 1980–1999 MSK<sub>melt</sub> and MSK<sub>ice</sub>.

GrIS area covered by a mask (%) and part of the GrIS melt resolved (%)						
	MAR-ERA <sub>INT</sub>	MAR-ERA <sub>40</sub>		Greenland	Ice sheet	
MSK <sub>melt</sub> (%)	59.74	61.30		$2.30 \times 10^{6} \text{ km}^{2}$	$1.80 \times 10^{6} \text{ km}^{2}$	
MSK <sub>ice</sub> (%)	4.96	4.01				
PCT <sub>melt</sub> (%)	93.63	93.27				
PCT <sub>ice</sub> (%)	12.74	10.12				
	MAR-CAN <sub>histo</sub>	/	MAR-CAN <sub>45</sub>	/	MAR-CAN <sub>85</sub>	
MSK <sub>melt</sub> (%)	59.08	/	90.59	/	100.00	
MSK <sub>ice</sub> (%)	4.84	/	16.48	/	30.90	
PCT <sub>melt</sub> (%)	93.19	/	84.66	/	74.69	
PCT <sub>ice</sub> (%)	19.15	/	10.55	/	7.13	
	MAR-NOR <sub>histo</sub>	MAR-NOR <sub>26</sub>	MAR-NOR <sub>45</sub>	MAR-NOR <sub>60</sub>	MAR-NOR <sub>85</sub>	
MSK <sub>melt</sub> (%)	56.51	73.94	77.67	82.74	98.94	
MSK <sub>ice</sub> (%)	3.29	8.02	8.18	10.52	16.09	
PCT <sub>melt</sub> (%)	92.74	88.48	87.11	85.65	78.95	
PCT <sub>ice</sub> (%)	9.74	6.95	6.26	5.59	4.34	



Table 3. Annual melt amount (Gtyr <sup>-1</sup> ) of the GrIS over the 1980–1999 period from different
MAR simulations, and the melt energy flux (NET) and SEB components (Wm <sup>-2</sup> ) averaged over
the 1980–1999 MSK <sub>melt</sub> specific to each MAR run.

	MAR-ERA <sub>INT</sub>	$MAR\text{-}ERA_{40}$	MAR-CAN <sub>histo</sub>	MAR-NOR <sub>histo</sub>
Melt (Gt yr <sup>-1</sup> )	455.25	435.14	422.31	404.75
Stdev	93.36	98.22	116.44	63.31
Trend	4.08	6.16	8.65	0.61
NET (Wm <sup>-2</sup> )	20.84	19.56	21.02	18.42
Stdev	4.59	4.77	6.19	3.26
Trend	0.18	0.28	0.46	0.07
SW <sub>net</sub> (Wm <sup>-2</sup> )	75.83	73.74	71.34	73.50
Stdev	4.97	4.89	6.44	4.40
Trend	0.20	0.22	0.36	0.09
$LW_{net} (Wm^{-2})$	-61.57	-60.37	-57.10	-61.59
Stdev	2.12	2.10	2.28	2.39
Trend	-0.06	0.01	0.00	0.00
SHF (Wm <sup>-2</sup> )	9.86	9.20	9.27	9.50
Stdev	1.03	1.00	2.11	1.27
Trend	0.04	0.03	0.09	-0.04
LHF (Wm <sup>-2</sup> )	-3.28	-3.01	-2.50	-2.99
Stdev	0.29	0.24	0.45	0.38
Trend	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.01

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**Table 4.** (a) Relative contribution (%) of each SEB component to the NET anomalies of the 2080–2099 period compared to the 1980–1999 period, according to the forcing fields. Each future projection was compared to the 1980–1999 average of the present-day simulation performed with the same GCM as forcing fields, on the related 1980–1999  $MSK_{melt}$ . (b) The same as (a), but on the related 1980–1999  $MSK_{ice}$ .

(a) Relative contribution (%) of the SEB components on 1980–1999 $MSK_{melt}$								
	SW <sub>net</sub>	LW <sub>net</sub>	SHF	LHF	$SW_{swd}$	$SW_{alb}$	LWD	LWU
MAR-CAN <sub>45</sub>	56.37	11.45	26.49	5.69	66.69	-8.15	47.92	-36.46
MAR-CAN <sub>85</sub>	46.49	16.18	29.81	7.51	53.86	-9.44	40.31	-24.12
MAR-NOR <sub>26</sub>	60.12	9.31	28.56	2.01	74.26	0.15	59.96	-50.65
MAR-NOR <sub>45</sub>	57.95	12.85	26.10	3.10	71.55	-3.32	59.51	46.67
MAR-NOR <sub>60</sub>	51.69	18.38	24.52	5.41	65.70	-8.21	62.73	-44.36
MAR-NOR <sub>85</sub>	43.21	23.82	26.23	6.74	56.39	-11.50	59.64	-35.82
Mean	52.64	15.33	26.95	5.08	64.75	-6.75	55.01	-39.68
Stdev	6.72	5.28	1.90	2.12	8.13	4.32	8.86	9.57
(b) Relative contribution (%) of the SEB components on 1980–1999 MSK <sub>ice</sub>								
(b) Rel	ative cor	ntribution	(%) of th	ne SEB c	omponents	on 1980– <sup>-</sup>	1999 MSK <sub>ic</sub>	ce
(b) Rel	ative cor SW <sub>net</sub>	ntribution LW <sub>net</sub>	(%) of the SHF	ne SEB c LHF	omponents SW <sub>swd</sub>	on 1980– <sup>-</sup> SW <sub>alb</sub>	1999 MSK <sub>ic</sub> LWD	ce LWU
(b) Rel	ative cor SW <sub>net</sub> 1.91	ntribution LW <sub>net</sub> 31.62	(%) of th SHF 54.22	ne SEB c LHF 12.25	omponents SW <sub>swd</sub> 10.42	on 1980– <sup>-</sup> SW <sub>alb</sub> –5.48	1999 MSK <sub>ic</sub> LWD 39.54	ce LWU –7.91
(b) Rel MAR-CAN <sub>45</sub> MAR-CAN <sub>85</sub>	ative cor SW <sub>net</sub> 1.91 0.37	tribution LW <sub>net</sub> 31.62 30.94	(%) of th SHF 54.22 54.61	ne SEB c LHF 12.25 14.08	omponents SW <sub>swd</sub> 10.42 5.90	on 1980– <sup>-</sup> SW <sub>alb</sub> –5.48 –4.06	1999 MSK <sub>ic</sub> LWD 39.54 36.94	LWU -7.91 -6.00
(b) Rel MAR-CAN <sub>45</sub> MAR-CAN <sub>85</sub> MAR-NOR <sub>26</sub>	ative cor SW <sub>net</sub> 1.91 0.37 10.26	tribution LW <sub>net</sub> 31.62 30.94 25.07	(%) of th SHF 54.22 54.61 56.23	ne SEB c LHF 12.25 14.08 8.45	omponents SW <sub>swd</sub> 10.42 5.90 18.37	on 1980– SW <sub>alb</sub> -5.48 -4.06 -0.53	1999 MSK <sub>ic</sub> LWD 39.54 36.94 32.77	LWU -7.91 -6.00 -7.70
(b) Rel MAR-CAN <sub>45</sub> MAR-CAN <sub>85</sub> MAR-NOR <sub>26</sub> MAR-NOR <sub>45</sub>	ative cor SW <sub>net</sub> 1.91 0.37 10.26 13.45	tribution LW <sub>net</sub> 31.62 30.94 25.07 25.11	(%) of th SHF 54.22 54.61 56.23 53.92	ne SEB c LHF 12.25 14.08 8.45 7.52	omponents SW <sub>swd</sub> 10.42 5.90 18.37 16.88	on 1980– SW <sub>alb</sub> -5.48 -4.06 -0.53 3.77	1999 MSK <sub>ic</sub> LWD 39.54 36.94 32.77 32.95	LWU -7.91 -6.00 -7.70 -7.84
(b) Rel MAR-CAN <sub>45</sub> MAR-CAN <sub>85</sub> MAR-NOR <sub>26</sub> MAR-NOR <sub>45</sub> MAR-NOR <sub>60</sub>	ative cor SW <sub>net</sub> 1.91 0.37 10.26 13.45 4.46	tribution LW <sub>net</sub> 31.62 30.94 25.07 25.11 33.28	(%) of th SHF 54.22 54.61 56.23 53.92 51.12	ne SEB c LHF 12.25 14.08 8.45 7.52 11.14	omponents SW <sub>swd</sub> 10.42 5.90 18.37 16.88 14.28	on 1980– SW <sub>alb</sub> -5.48 -4.06 -0.53 3.77 -4.60	1999 MSK <sub>ic</sub> LWD 39.54 36.94 32.77 32.95 41.20	LWU -7.91 -6.00 -7.70 -7.84 -7.92
(b) Rel MAR-CAN <sub>45</sub> MAR-CAN <sub>85</sub> MAR-NOR <sub>26</sub> MAR-NOR <sub>45</sub> MAR-NOR <sub>60</sub> MAR-NOR <sub>85</sub>	ative cor SW <sub>net</sub> 1.91 0.37 10.26 13.45 4.46 -3.30	LW <sub>net</sub> 31.62 30.94 25.07 25.11 33.28 37.71	(%) of th SHF 54.22 54.61 56.23 53.92 51.12 52.10	ne SEB c LHF 12.25 14.08 8.45 7.52 11.14 13.49	omponents SW <sub>swd</sub> 10.42 5.90 18.37 16.88 14.28 9.89	on 1980– SW <sub>alb</sub> -5.48 -4.06 -0.53 3.77 -4.60 -9.54	1999 MSK <sub>ic</sub> 29.54 36.94 32.77 32.95 41.20 45.42	LWU -7.91 -6.00 -7.70 -7.84 -7.92 -7.71
(b) Rel MAR-CAN <sub>45</sub> MAR-CAN <sub>85</sub> MAR-NOR <sub>26</sub> MAR-NOR <sub>45</sub> MAR-NOR <sub>60</sub> MAR-NOR <sub>85</sub>	ative con SW <sub>net</sub> 1.91 0.37 10.26 13.45 4.46 -3.30 4.53	tribution LW <sub>net</sub> 31.62 30.94 25.07 25.11 33.28 37.71 30.62	(%) of th SHF 54.22 54.61 56.23 53.92 51.12 52.10 53.70	ne SEB c LHF 12.25 14.08 8.45 7.52 11.14 13.49 11.15	omponents SW <sub>swd</sub> 10.42 5.90 18.37 16.88 14.28 9.89 12.62	on 1980– SW <sub>alb</sub> -5.48 -4.06 -0.53 3.77 -4.60 -9.54 -3.41	1999 MSK <sub>ic</sub> LWD 39.54 36.94 32.77 32.95 41.20 45.42 38.14	LWU -7.91 -6.00 -7.70 -7.84 -7.92 -7.71 -7.51
(b) Rel MAR-CAN <sub>45</sub> MAR-CAN <sub>85</sub> MAR-NOR <sub>26</sub> MAR-NOR <sub>45</sub> MAR-NOR <sub>60</sub> MAR-NOR <sub>85</sub> Mean Stdev	ative con SW <sub>net</sub> 1.91 0.37 10.26 13.45 4.46 -3.30 4.53 6.29	LW <sub>net</sub> 31.62 30.94 25.07 25.11 33.28 37.71 30.62 4.89	(%) of th SHF 54.22 54.61 56.23 53.92 51.12 52.10 53.70 1.83	ne SEB c LHF 12.25 14.08 8.45 7.52 11.14 13.49 11.15 2.68	omponents SW <sub>swd</sub> 10.42 5.90 18.37 16.88 14.28 9.89 12.62 4.72	on 1980– SW <sub>alb</sub> -5.48 -4.06 -0.53 3.77 -4.60 -9.54 -3.41 4.55	1999 MSK <sub>ic</sub> 29.54 36.94 32.77 32.95 41.20 45.42 38.14 4.93	LWU -7.91 -6.00 -7.70 -7.84 -7.92 -7.71 -7.51 0.75





**Fig. 1. (a)** Annual melt (mm WE yr<sup>-1</sup>) of the GrIS from the MAR-ERA<sub>INT</sub> simulation, over the 1980–1999 period. **(b)** Annual melt anomalies (mm WE yr<sup>-1</sup>) of MAR-ERA<sub>40</sub> compared to **(a)** over the 1980–1999 period. In the bottom right side of the view, in red, is the melt skill score of MAR-ERA<sub>40</sub> compared to MAR-ERA<sub>INT</sub>. **(c)** The same as **(b)**, but for the MAR-CAN<sub>histo</sub> simulation. **(d)** The same as **(b)**, but for the MAR-NOR<sub>histo</sub> simulation.





**Fig. 2. (a)** Annual melt anomalies  $(Gtyr^{-1})$  from the GrIS according to the annual near-surface temperature anomalies (°C), for the MAR simulations forced by the reanalyses and the CMIP5 GCMs, with regression drawn in a solid black line. All the annual anomalies are related to the 1980–1999 average outputs provided by MAR forced with the same forcing fields. (b) The same as (a), but for the annual anomalies of cumulated daily melt extents ( $10^6 \text{ km}^2 \text{ yr}^{-1}$ ) on the GrIS, based on significant melt rates higher than 1 mm WEday<sup>-1</sup>. (c) The same as (b), but for the annual anomalies of cumulated daily bare ice extents ( $10^6 \text{ km}^2 \text{ yr}^{-1}$ ) on the GrIS.







**Fig. 3. (a)** SEB component anomalies  $(Wm^{-2})$  from the GrIS according to the near-surface temperature anomalies (°C) for the MAR simulations forced by CMIP5 GCMs, with regressions drawn in solid lines. All the anomalies are related to the 1980–1999 average outputs provided by MAR forced with the same forcing fields on the 1980–1999 MSK<sub>melt</sub>. (b) The same as (a), but for the MAR simulations forced by the ERA-INTERIM and ERA-40 reanalyses, with the regressions from (a) drawn in dashed lines.



**Fig. 4. (a)** Net energy flux (NET) anomalies (Wm<sup>-2</sup>) of the 2080–2099 MAR-CAN<sub>85</sub> simulation over the GrIS, compared to the 1980–1999 MAR-CAN<sub>histo</sub> simulation, on the 1980–1999 MSK<sub>melt</sub>. The equilibrium line altitude (ELA) of the 1980–1999 MAR-CAN<sub>histo</sub> and 2080–2099 MAR-CAN<sub>85</sub> simulations are drawn in a solid green line and a solid blue line, respectively. **(b–h)** The same as **(a)**, but for the SEB component anomalies (Wm<sup>-2</sup>).





**Fig. 5. (a)** Summer (from May to September) surface albedo anomalies according to the summer near-surface temperature anomalies (°C) over the central ice sheet ( $MSK_{centre}$ ) for the MAR simulations forced by the reanalyses and the CMIP5 GCMs, with regression drawn in a solid black line. All the summer anomalies are related to the 1980–1999 average outputs provided by MAR forced with the same forcing fields. (b) The same as (a), but for the summer snow-fall anomalies (Gt yr<sup>-1</sup>) on MSK<sub>centre</sub>. (c) The same as (b), but for the summer melt anomalies (Gt yr<sup>-1</sup>) on MSK<sub>centre</sub>.





Fig. 6. The same as Fig. 3, but on the 1980–1999  $MSK_{ice}$ .

