

1 **Modeling the timing of Patagonian Ice Sheet retreat in the Chilean Lake District from 22-**
2 **10 ka**

3
4 Joshua Cuzzone¹, Matias Romero², Shaun A. Marcott²

5
6 ¹Joint Institute for Regional Earth System Science and Engineering, University of California, Los
7 Angeles

8 ²Department of Geoscience, University of Wisconsin, Madison

9
10 *Correspondence to:* Joshua K. Cuzzone (Joshua.K.Cuzzone@jpl.nasa.gov)

11 **Abstract**

12
13 Studying the retreat of the Patagonian Ice Sheet (PIS) during the last deglaciation represents an
14 important opportunity to understand how ice sheets outside the polar regions have responded to
15 deglacial changes in temperature and large-scale atmospheric circulation. At the northernmost
16 extension of the PIS during the last glacial maximum (LGM), the Chilean Lake District (CLD)
17 was influenced by the southern westerly winds (SWW), which strongly modulated the hydrologic
18 and heat budget of the region. Despite progress in constraining the nature and timing of deglacial
19 ice retreat across this area, considerable uncertainty in the glacial history still exists due to a lack
20 of geologic constraints on past ice margin change. Where the glacial chronology is lacking, ice
21 sheet models can provide important insight into our understanding of the characteristics and drivers
22 of deglacial ice retreat. Here we apply the Ice Sheet and Sea-level System Model (ISSM) to
23 simulate the LGM and last deglacial ice history of the PIS across the CLD at high spatial resolution
24 (450 meters). We present a transient simulation of ice margin change across the last deglaciation
25 using climate inputs from the CCSM3 Trace-21ka experiment. At the LGM, the simulated ice
26 extent across the CLD agrees well with the most comprehensive reconstruction of PIS ice history
27 (PATICE). Coincident with deglacial warming, ice retreat ensues after 19ka, with largescale ice
28 retreat occurring across the CLD between 18 and 16.5 ka. By 17 ka the northern portion of the
29 CLD becomes ice free, and by 15 ka, ice only persists at high elevations as mountain glaciers and
30 small ice caps. Our simulated ice history agrees well with PATICE for early deglacial ice retreat
31 but diverges at and after 15 ka, where the geologic reconstruction suggests persistence of an ice
32 cap across the southern CLD until 10 ka. However, given the high uncertainty in the geologic
33 reconstruction of the PIS across the CLD during the later deglaciation, this work emphasizes a
34 need for improved geologic constraints on past ice margin change. While deglacial warming drove
35 the ice retreat across this region, sensitivity tests reveal that modest variations in wintertime
36 precipitation (~10%) can modulate the pacing of ice retreat by up to 2 ka, which has implications
37 when comparing simulated outputs of ice margin change to geologic reconstructions. While we
38 find that TraCE-21ka simulates large-scale changes in the SWW across the CLD that are consistent
39 with regional paleoclimate reconstructions, the magnitude of the simulated precipitation changes
40 is smaller than what is found in proxy records. From our sensitivity analysis we can deduce that
41 larger anomalies in precipitation as found in paleoclimate proxies may have had a large impact on
42 modulating deglacial ice retreat, highlighting an additional need to better constrain the deglacial
43 change in the strength, position, and extent of the SWW as it relates to understanding the drivers
44 of deglacial PIS behavior.

46 **1 Introduction**

47

48 During the Last glacial maximum (LGM), the Patagonian Ice Sheet (PIS) covered the Andes
49 mountains from 38°S to 55°S, with an estimated sea-level equivalent ice volume of 1.5 meters
50 (Davies et al., 2020). At the northernmost extent of the PIS, across an area presently known as the
51 Chilean Lake District (CLD), the LGM to deglacial ice behavior and related climate forcings has
52 been a subject of historical interest (Mercer, 1972; Porter, 1981; Lowell et al., 1995; Andersen et
53 al., 1999; Denton et al., 1999; Glasser et al., 2008, Moreno et al., 2015; Kilian and Lamy, 2012;
54 Lamy et al., 2010), and have served as important constraints towards understanding the drivers of
55 ice sheet change across centennial to millennial timescales. Currently, PATICE (Davies et al.,
56 2020) serves as the latest and most complete reconstruction of the entire PIS during the LGM and
57 last deglaciation. Across the CLD (Figure 1), the LGM ice limits are well constrained by terminal
58 moraines in the southwest and western margins (Denton et al., 1999; Glasser et al., 2008, Moreno
59 et al., 2015). However, due to a lack of geomorphological and geochronologic constraints on past
60 ice margin change, the reconstructed deglaciation remains highly uncertain.

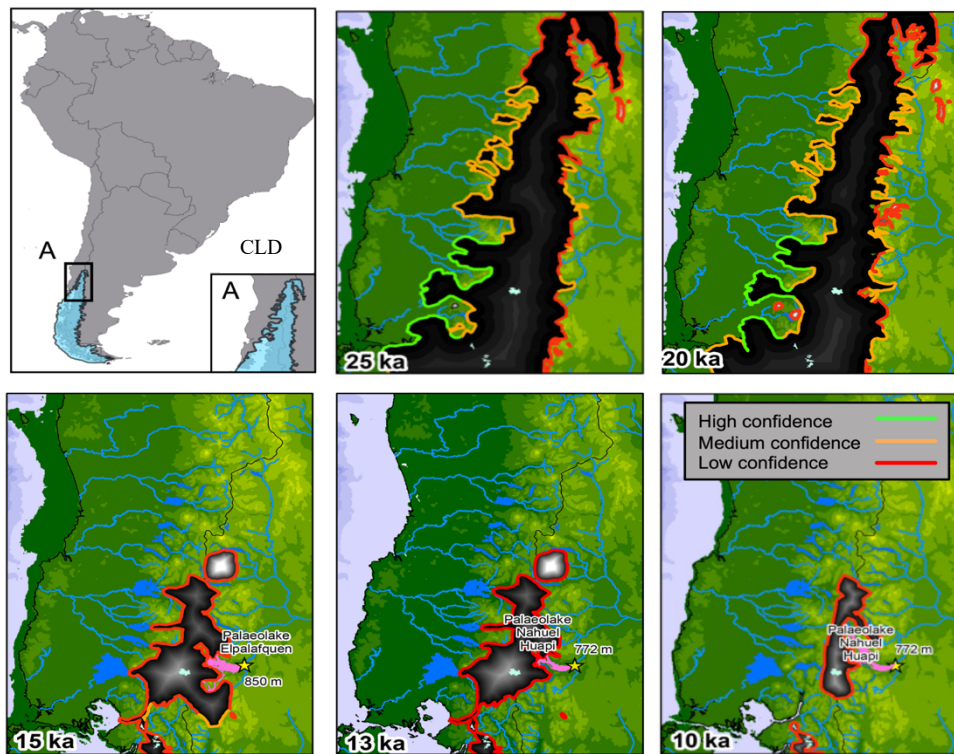


Figure 1. Location of the study area across the Chilean Lake District (CLD; Upper Left Panel). The reconstructed ice extent from PATICE for the PIS across the CLD at 25 ka, 20 ka, 15 ka, 13 ka, and 10 ka are taken from Davies et al., 2020. The color of the line marking the reconstructed ice extent corresponds to the confidence in the reconstruction as described in section 3.3.

61 While deglacial warming is a primary driver of ice retreat across the CLD, evidence suggests that
62 variations in precipitation patterns influenced the timing and magnitude of this retreat (Moreno et
63 al., 1999; Rojas et al., 2009). The wintertime climate across South America is strongly influenced
64 by the southern westerly winds (SWW), which exert a large control on the synoptic scale
65 hydrologic and heat budget (Garreaud et al., 2013). During the LGM and last deglaciation,

66 paleoclimate data indicates that the position, strength, and extent of the SWW varied latitudinally,
67 migrating southward during warmer intervals and northward during cooler intervals, ultimately
68 altering overall ice sheet mass balance (Mercer, 1972; Denton et al., 1999; Lamy et al., 2010;
69 Kilian and Lamy, 2012; Boex et al., 2013). Terrestrial paleoclimate proxies that indicate that the
70 CLD was wetter during the LGM and early deglaciation have been used to support the idea that
71 the SWW migrated northward of 41°S across the CLD (Moreno et al., 1999; Moreno et al., 2015;
72 Moreno and Videla, 2018; Diaz et al., 2023). Additionally, these proxies indicate a switch from
73 hyper humid to humid conditions around 17,300 cal yr BP, which was inferred by Moreno et al.
74 (2015) to indicate the poleward migration of the SWW south of the CLD.

75
76 However, inferring changes in the SWW across the last deglaciation from paleoclimate proxies
77 can be problematic as outlined by Kohfeld et al. (2013) who compiled an extensive dataset of
78 paleoclimate archives that record changes in moisture, precipitation-evaporation balance, ice
79 accumulation, runoff and precipitation, dust deposition, and marine indicators of sea surface
80 temperature, ocean fronts, and biologic productivity. Kohfeld et al. (2013) conclude that
81 environmental changes inferred from existing paleoclimate data could be potentially explained by
82 a range of plausible scenarios for the state and change of the SWW during the LGM and last
83 deglaciation, such as a strengthening, poleward or equatorward migration, or no change. Climate
84 model results from Sime et al. (2013) indicate that the reconstructed changes in moisture from
85 Kohfeld et al. (2013) can be simulated well without invoking large shifts or changes in strength to
86 the SWW. This discrepancy also exists amongst climate models which diverge on whether the
87 LGM SWW was shifted equatorward or poleward, and was stronger or weaker than present day
88 (Togweiler et al., 2006; Menviel et al., 2008; Rojas et al., 2009; Rojas et al., 2013; Sime et al.,
89 2013; Jiang et al., 2020). Therefore, from paleoclimate proxies and climate models, we still do
90 not have a firm understanding of how the SWW may have changed during the last deglaciation,
91 and how these variations may have influenced the deglaciation of the PIS.

92
93 Early paleo ice sheet modelling experiments across the PIS have focused on evaluating the
94 relationship between the simulated LGM ice sheet geometry in response to spatially uniform
95 temperature change (Hulton et al., 2002; Sugden et al., 2002; Hubbard et al., 2005). While these
96 early simulations provided constraints on PIS areal extent, ice volume, and sensitivity to LGM
97 temperature depressions, spatially varying temperature and precipitation were not considered.
98 Recently, Yan et al. (2022) simulated the PIS behavior at the LGM using an ensemble of climate
99 model output from the Paleoclimate Modelling Intercomparison Project (PMIP4; Kageyama et al.,
100 2021). Results best matching the empirical reconstructions from PATICE (Davies et al., 2020)
101 suggest that reduction in temperature was likely the main driver of PIS LGM extent, although the
102 authors found that variation in regional LGM precipitation anomaly can have large impacts on the
103 simulated ice sheet geometry. This evidence is supported by recent glacier modelling across the
104 northeastern Patagonian Andes which suggests that increases in precipitation during the
105 termination of the LGM are necessary to achieve modeled fit with reconstructed glacier extent
106 (Muir et al., 2023; Leger et al., 2021). Additionally, Martin et al. (2022) found that precipitation
107 greater than present day are needed to explain late glacial and Holocene ice readvance of the Monte
108 San Lorenzo ice cap, lying to the southeast of the current Northern Patagonian Ice Field. These
109 regional studies therefore provide further evidence that late glacial and deglacial variability in
110 precipitation, perhaps driven by changes in the SWW, influenced PIS retreat and readvance over
111 numerous timescales.

112 To advance our understanding of the last glacial and deglacial ice behavior across the CLD, we
113 use a numerical ice sheet model to simulate the LGM ice geometry and deglacial ice retreat using
114 transiently evolving boundary conditions from a climate model simulation of the last 21,000 years
115 (TraCE-21ka; Liu et al., 2009; He et al., 2013) which simulates large scale variability in the
116 strength and position of the SWW (Jiang and Yan, 2020). Because there is a lack of transiently
117 evolving ice sheet model simulations of the PIS across the last deglaciation, our aim is to provide
118 possible constraints on the nature of ice retreat across the CLD region, from which the
119 reconstructions (PATICE; Davies et al., 2020) are uncertain. Also, by assessing the sensitivity of
120 our ice sheet experiments to a range of climatic boundary conditions, we aim to provide additional
121 insight into the dominant climatic controls on the deglacial evolution of the PIS in the CLD region.
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123 **2 Methods: Model description and setup**

124 **2.1 Ice sheet model**

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127 In order to simulate the ice margin migration across the CLD during the LGM and last deglaciation,
128 we use the Ice Sheet and Sea-level System Model (ISSM), a thermomechanical finite-element ice
129 sheet model (Larour et al., 2012). Because of the high topographic relief across the CLD and
130 associated impact on ice flow, we use a higher-order approximation to solve the momentum
131 balance equations (Dias dos Santos et al., 2022). This ice flow approximation is a depth-integrated
132 formulation of the higher-order approximation of Blatter (1995) and Pattyn (2003), which allows
133 for an improved representation of ice flow compared with more traditional approaches in paleo-
134 ice flow modelling (e.g., Shallow Ice Approximation or hybrid approaches; Hubbard et al., 2005;
135 Leger et al., 2022; Yan et al., 2022), while allowing for reasonable computational efficiency. Our
136 model domain comprises the northernmost LGM extent of the PIS across the CLD, extending
137 beyond the LGM ice extent reconstructed from Davies et al. (2020) and ends along the northern
138 shore of the Golfo de Ancud (Figure 2).
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140 We rely on anisotropic mesh adaptation to create a non-uniform model mesh that varies based
141 upon gradients in bedrock topography from the General Bathymetric Chart of the Oceans
142 (GEBCO; GEBCO Bathymetric Compilation Group, 2021), a terrain model for ocean and land.
143 For the land component, the GEBCO model uses version 2.2 of the Surface Radar Topography
144 Mission data (SRTM15_plus; Tozer et al., 2019), to create a 15 arc second gridded output of terrain
145 elevation relative to sea level. Our ice sheet model horizontal mesh resolution varies from 3 km
146 in areas of low bedrock relief to 450 meters in areas where gradients in the bedrock topography is
147 high and comprises 40,000 model elements.
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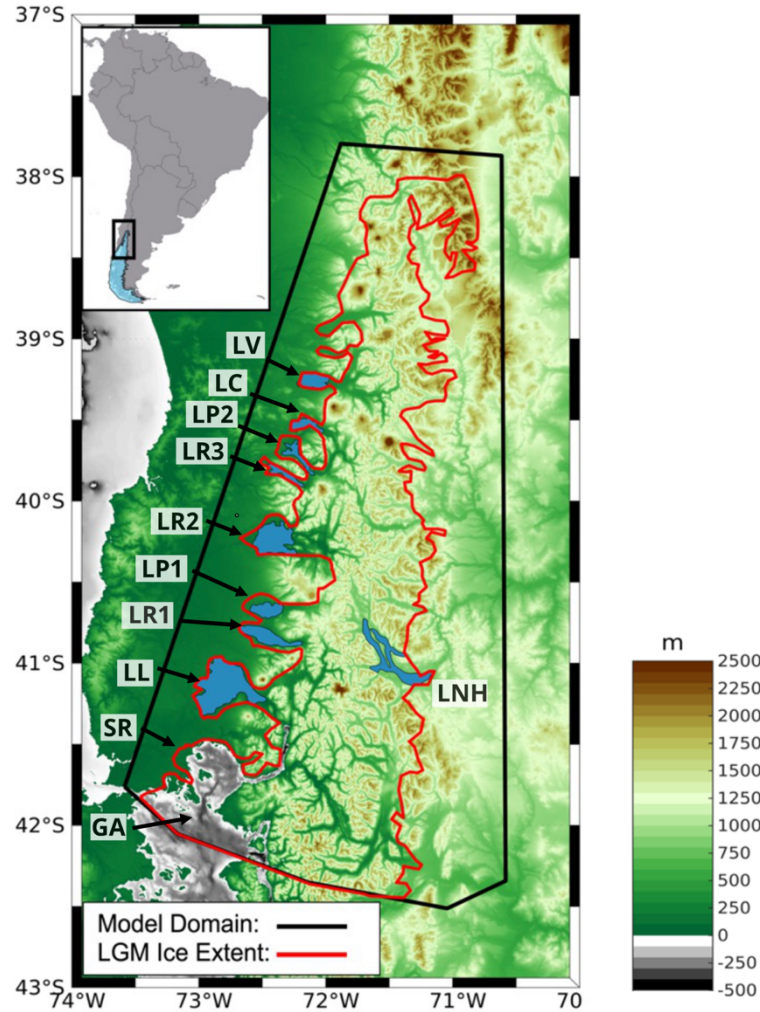


Figure 2. Bedrock topography for our study area (meters). Our model domain (shown as the black line), encompasses the reconstructed LGM ice limit (shown in red) from PATICE (Davies et al., 2020). Present day lakes are shown in blue, with abbreviated names as: SR (Seno de Reloncaví), GA (Golfo de Ancud), LL (Lago Llanquihue), LR1 (Lago Rupanco), LP1 (Lago Puyehue), LR2 (Lago Ranco), LR3 (Lago Riñihue), LP2 (Lago Panguipulli), LC (Lago Calafquén), LV (Lago Villarica), LNH (Lago Nahuel Huapi).

150 Although geomorphological evidence suggests that while southernmost glaciers across the PIS
 151 may have been temperate with warm based conditions during the LGM, there may have been
 152 periods where ice lobes were polythermal (Darvill et al., 2016). However, recent ice flow
 153 modelling (Leger et al., 2021) suggests that varying ice viscosity mainly impacts the accumulation
 154 zone thickness in simulations of paleoglaciers in Northeastern Patagonia, with minimal impacts
 155 on overall glacier length and extent. Accordingly, based on sensitivity tests (see supplement
 156 section S1), our model is 2-dimensional and we do not solve for ice temperature and viscosity
 157 allowing for increased computational efficiency. For our purposes, we use Glen's flow law (Glen,
 158 1955) and set the ice viscosity following the rate factors in Cuffey and Paterson (2010) assuming
 159 an ice temperature of -0.2°C . We use a linear friction law (Budd et al., 1979)

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 161
$$\tau_b = -k^2 N v_b \tag{1}$$

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163 where τ_b represents the basal stress, N represents the effective pressure, and v_b is the magnitude
164 of the basal velocity. Here $N = g(\rho_i H + \rho_w Z_b)$, where g is gravity, H is ice thickness, ρ_i is the
165 density of ice, ρ_w is the density of water, and Z_b is bedrock elevation following Cuffey and Paterson
166 (2010).

167
168 The spatially varying friction coefficient, k , is constructed following Åkesson et al. (2018):
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$$170 \quad k = 200 \times \frac{\min[\max(0, z_b + 600), z_b]}{\max(z_b)} \quad (2)$$

171
172 where z_b is the height of the bedrock with respect to sea level. Using this parameterization, basal
173 friction is larger across high topographic relief and lower across valleys, and areas below sea level.

174 To account for the influence of glacial isostatic adjustment (GIA), we prescribe a transiently
175 evolving reconstruction of relative sea level from the global GIA model of the last glacial cycle
176 from Caron et al. (2018). This includes three physical components: 1) Bedrock vertical motion
177 2.) Eustatic sea level, and 3.) Geoid changes. The time series we use to prescribe GIA is from the
178 model average of an ensemble of GIA forward model estimations from Caron et al., 2018. The
179 prescribed GIA is in good agreement (Figure S2) with a reconstruction of relative sea-level change
180 from an isolation basin in central Patagonia (Troch et al., 2022). This methodology has been
181 applied in recent modelling following Cuzzone et al. (2019) and Briner et al. (2020).

182 **2.2 Experimental Design**

183
184 In order to simulate the ice history at the LGM and across the last deglaciation we use climate
185 model output from the National Center for Atmospheric Research Community Climate System
186 Model (CCSM3) TraCE-21ka transient climate simulation of the last deglaciation (Liu et al., 2009;
187 He et al., 2013). Monthly mean output of temperature and precipitation are used from these
188 simulations as inputs to our glaciological model (full climate forcings details are further described
189 in section 2.4) and we use the monthly mean output every 50 years across the last deglaciation.
190 Large, multi-proxy reconstructions from He and Clark (2022), Liu et al. (2009), He et al. (2011),
191 and Shakun et al. (2012; 2015) have all demonstrated good agreement between TRACE 21k and
192 a wide variety of paleo-proxy data during the last deglaciation that include records from the West
193 Antarctic and South America.

194 **2.3 Surface Mass Balance**

195
196 In order to simulate the deglaciation of the PIS across our model domain we require inputs of
197 temperature and precipitation to estimate the surface mass balance. To derive snow and ice melt
198 we use a positive degree day model (Tarasov and Peltier, 1999; Le Morzadec et al., 2015; Cuzzone
199 et al., 2019; Briner et al., 2020). Our degree day factor for snow melt is $3 \text{ mm } ^\circ\text{C}^{-1}\text{day}^{-1}$ and 6 mm
200 $^\circ\text{C}^{-1}\text{day}^{-1}$ for bare ice melt, and we use a lapse rate of $6 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}/\text{km}$ to adjust the temperature of the
201 climate forcings to surface elevation, which are within a range of typical values used to model
202 contemporary and paleo glaciers across Patagonia (see Fernandez et al., 2016 Table 3; Yan et al.,
203 2022). The hourly temperatures are assumed to have a normal distribution, of standard
204 deviation 3.5 degrees Celsius around the monthly mean. An elevation-dependent desertification

205 is included (Budd and Smith, 1981) which reduces precipitation by a factor of 2 for every kilometer
 206 change in ice sheet surface elevation. We note that the values in the surface mass balance
 207 parameters were chosen to provide a reasonable fit within 5% between the simulated LGM ice
 208 sheet area and the reconstructed ice area from PATICE (see Figure 10).

210 2.4 Climate forcings

211
 212 In order to scale monthly temperature and precipitation across the LGM and last deglaciation we
 213 applied a commonly used modeling approach (Pollard et al., 2012; Seguinot et al., 2016; Golledge
 214 et al., 2017; Tigchelaar et al., 2019; Clark et al., 2020; Briner et al., 2020; Cuzzone et al., 2022; Yan
 215 et al., 2022; equations 3 and 4). First, we use the monthly mean climatology of temperature and
 216 precipitation for the period 1979-2018 ($\bar{T}_{(1979-2018)}$, $\bar{P}_{(1979-2018)}$) from the Center for Climate
 217 Resilience Research Meteorological dataset version 2.0 (CR2MET; Boisier et al., 2018). This
 218 output, which uses information from a climate reanalysis and is calibrated against rain-gauge
 219 observations, is provided at 5 km spatial resolution. We then bilinearly interpolate these fields
 220 onto our model mesh.

$$222 T_t = \bar{T}_{(1979-2018)} + \Delta T_t \quad (3)$$

$$224 P_t = \bar{P}_{(1979-2018)} + \Delta P_t \quad (4)$$

225
 226 Next, anomalies of the monthly temperature and precipitation fields are computed as the difference
 227 from the preindustrial control run and interpolated onto our model mesh (ΔT_t and ΔP_t). These
 228 anomalies are added to the contemporary monthly mean as shown in equations 3 and 4, to produce
 229 the monthly temperature and precipitation fields at LGM and across the last deglaciation (T_t and
 230 P_t).

232 2.5 Ice front migration and iceberg calving

233
 234 We simulate calving where the PIS interacts with ocean. We track the motion of the ice front
 235 using the level-set method described in Bondzio et al. (2016; equation 3) in which the ice velocity
 236 (v_f) is a function of the ice velocity vector at the ice front (v), the calving rate (c), the melting rate
 237 at the calving front (\dot{M}), and where n is the unit normal vector pointing horizontally outward from
 238 the calving front. For these simulations the melting rate is assumed to be negligible compared to
 239 the calving rate, so \dot{M} is set to 0.

$$241 v_f = v - (c + \dot{M}) n \quad (5)$$

242
 243 To simulate calving we employ the more physically based Von Mises stress calving approach
 244 (Morlighem et al., 2016) which relates the calving rate (c) to the tensile stresses simulated within
 245 the ice, where $\tilde{\sigma}$ is the von Mises tensile strength, $\|v\|$ is the magnitude of the horizontal ice
 246 velocity, and σ_{max} is the maximum stress threshold which has separate values for grounded and
 247 floating ice.

$$248 \quad 249 c = \|v\| \frac{\tilde{\sigma}}{\sigma_{max}} \quad (6)$$

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The ice front will retreat if von Mises tensile strength exceeds a user defined stress threshold, which we set to 200 kPa for floating ice and 1 MPa for tidewater ice. This calving law has been applied in Greenland to assess marine terminating icefront stability (Bondzio et al., 2016; Morlighem et al., 2016; Choi et al., 2021; Cuzzone et al., 2022) and for our simulations applies where ocean is present such as the Seno de Reloncaví and the Golfo de Ancud (see Figure 2).

3 Results

3.1 Simulated LGM state

In order to arrive at a steady state LGM ice geometry, we first initialize our model with an ice-free configuration. A constant LGM monthly climatology of temperature and precipitation are then applied, as well as the prescribed GIA from Caron et al. (2018). We allow the ice sheet to relax for 10,000 years, during which, the ice sheet is free to grow and expand until it reaches a steady state ice geometry and volume, in equilibrium with the climate forcings.

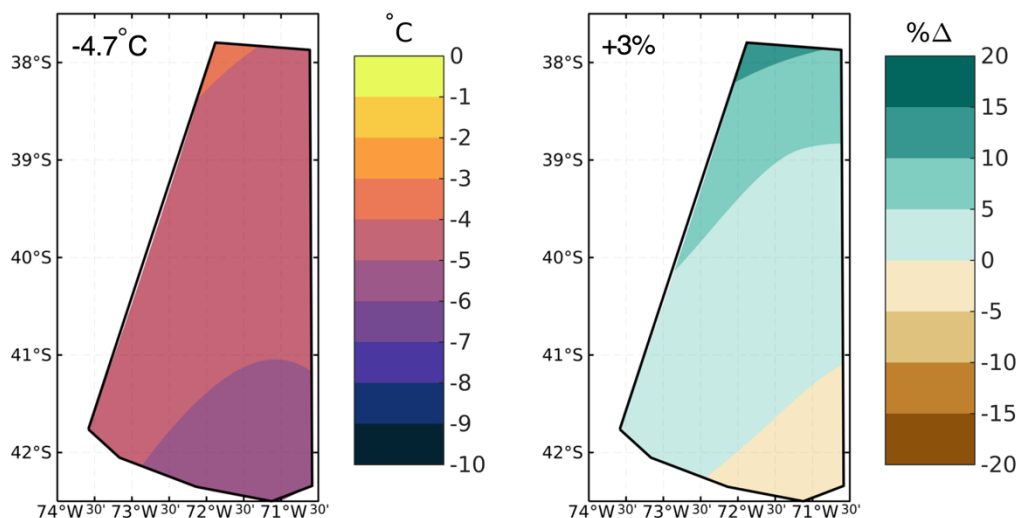


Figure 3. The LGM summer (DJF) temperature anomaly (left panel) and the LGM winter precipitation anomaly (right panel) from TraCE-21ka. Anomalies are taken as the difference between the LGM and preindustrial (LGM-PI), with the precipitation anomalies expressed as the percent difference of the LGM from preindustrial. The area averaged value of the anomaly is shown in the upper left of each panel.

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At 22 ka, Trace-21ka simulates an area averaged summertime (DJF) cooling of 4.7°C relative to the PI across our model domain (Figure 3). The LGM cooling increases from north to south, with the greatest magnitude of cooling occurring across the southern portion of our model domain of up to 6°C. During winter (JJA), Trace-21ka simulates an overall wetter climate across our model domain during the LGM relative to the PI. While the area-averaged LGM precipitation anomaly is small (3% higher), the LGM precipitation anomaly increases from south to north, with Trace-21ka simulating 10-15% more wintertime precipitation during the LGM than the PI across the

274 northern portion of the model domain. While the mean position of the wintertime SWW is
 275 simulated to be poleward during the LGM relative to the PI in TraCE-21ka (Jiang and Yan, 2022),
 276 the low-level zonal wind (925 hPa) is stronger during the LGM across our model domain and
 277 Patagonia (Figure S3A). We also find that relative to PI, wintertime low level (850 hPa) moisture
 278 flux convergence is higher during the LGM across our model domain (Figure S4A).
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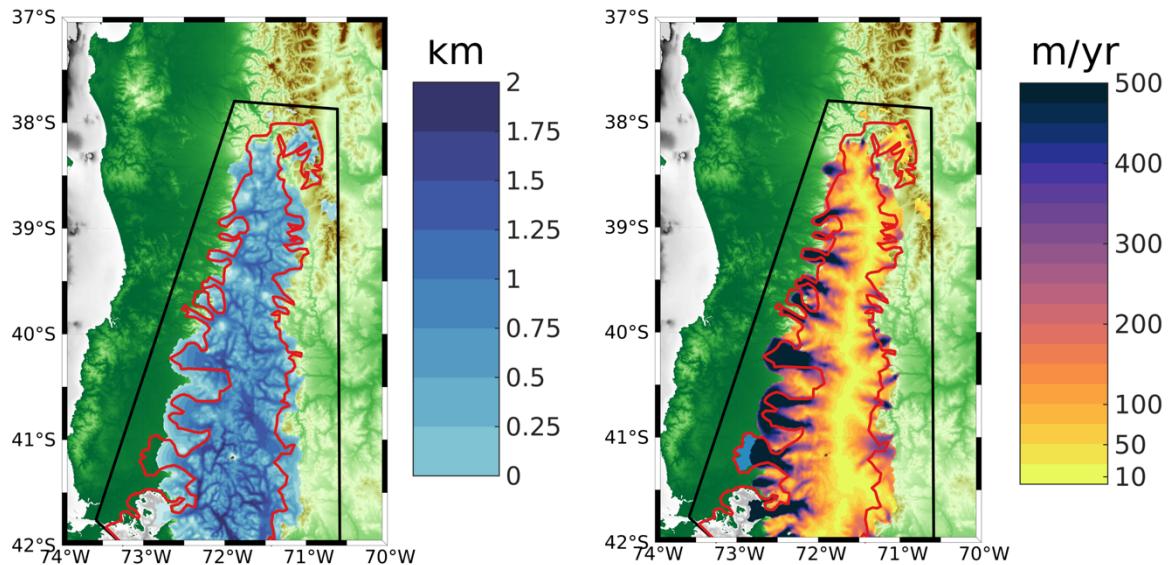


Figure 4. The simulated LGM ice thickness (km; left panel) and the simulated LGM ice surface velocity (m/yr; right panel) is shown. The black outline denotes our ice sheet model boundary, and the red line denotes the LGM reconstructed ice extent from PATICE (Davies et al., 2020).

280 Bedrock elevation increases from west to east, with deep valleys interspersed across most of our
 281 model domain (Figure 2). LGM ice thickness is greatest in these valleys (upwards of 2000 meters)
 282 where driving stresses dominate and where bedrock geometry controls the flow of ice from higher
 283 terrain and through these valleys. Across the highest terrain such as the many volcanoes across
 284 the CLD, ice is comparatively thinner than the surrounding valleys. An ice divide is present as
 285 slow ice velocities in the interior of the ice sheet, which give way to fast flowing outlet glaciers
 286 especially on the western margin of the CLD where velocities reach in excess of 500 m/yr and in
 287 some location up to 2 km/yr. The simulated LGM ice sheet area across the CLD is 414,120 km²,
 288 which is within 1% of the area calculated from the PATICE reconstruction (414,690 km²). This
 289 agreement is in part due to the tuning of our degree day factors as discussed in section 2.3, and
 290 gives confidence to our ability to simulate a reasonable LGM ice sheet across the CLD and
 291 throughout the last deglaciation.

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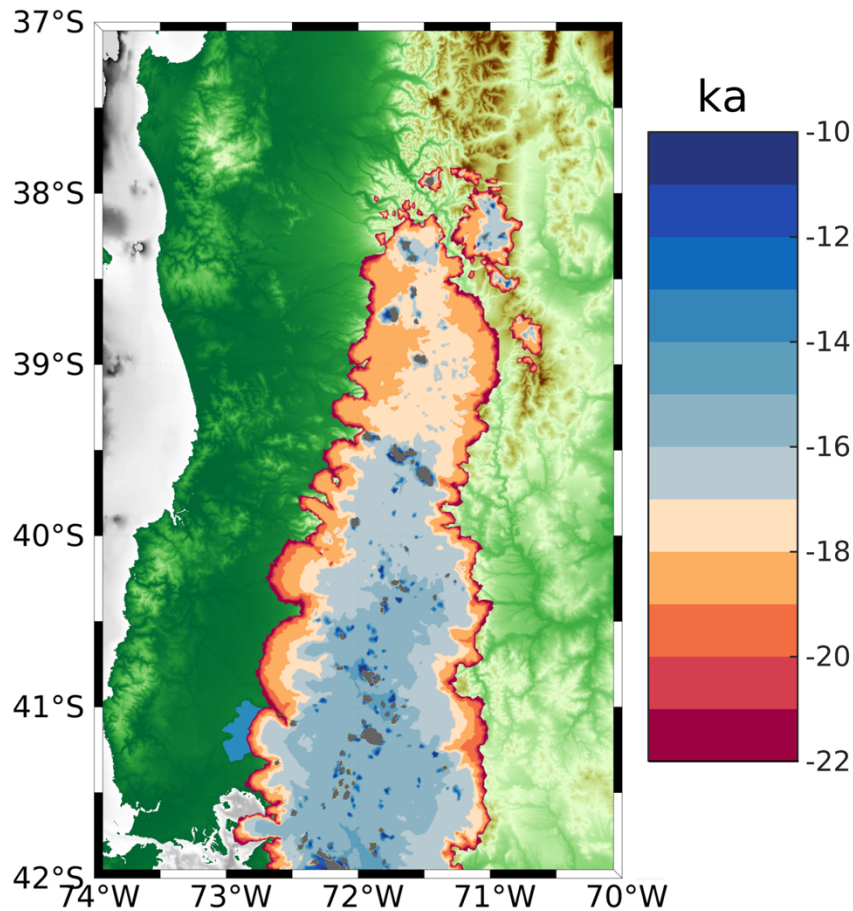
293 3.2 Simulation of the Last Deglaciation

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295 Monthly mean temperature and precipitation, taken every 50 years from the TraCE-21ka (Liu et
 296 al., 2009; He et al., 2013) experiment is used to drive our simulation of ice history across the last
 297 deglaciation (22 ka – 10 ka). The transient simulation is initialized with the LGM ice sheet
 298 geometry shown in Figure 4, and is run forward with the appropriate climate boundary conditions
 299 until 10 ka.

300 3.2.1 Pattern of Deglaciation

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328 Figure 5. The simulated deglaciation age for the transient simulation from the LGM to 10 ka. The gray color
329 indicates where ice persists after 10 ka.

330 From the resulting transient simulation, we calculate the timing of deglaciation across our model
331 domain (Figure 5). Because of possible readvances during the deglaciation, we select the youngest
332 age at which grid points become ice free. Our map of the simulated deglaciation can be paired
333 with a timeseries of the rate of ice mass change (Figure 6) to highlight some key features in the
334 magnitude and timing of ice retreat between 22 ka and 10 ka.

335
336 Between 22 ka to 19 ka, the ice sheet undergoes periods of minor to moderate ice mass loss and
337 gain in an interval of time where summer temperature anomalies (Figure 6) and the corresponding
338 ice margin remain relatively stable (Figure 5). Between 19 ka and 18.5 ka, coincident with a rise
339 in summertime temperature (Figure 6), a pulse of ice mass loss exceeding 5,000 GT/century occurs
340 before trending toward minimal ice mass loss around 18 ka as the rise in summer temperature
341 levels off. During this time interval, the ice margin pulls back considerably towards higher terrain
342 across the northern portion of the model domain (Figure 5), and many of the fast-flowing outlet
343 glaciers on the western margin retreat back towards the ice sheet interior. Between 18 ka to 16.2
344 ka, summer temperature rises steadily $\sim 1.2^{\circ}\text{C}$ and is punctuated with an abrupt warming of $\sim 0.5^{\circ}\text{C}$
345 at 16 ka (Figure 6). During this interval, ice mass loss remains high and steady at ~ 1000

346 GT/century with pulses of increased mass loss at 17.8 ka, 16.8 ka, and 16 ka varying between
347 2000-5000 GT/century (Figure 6).
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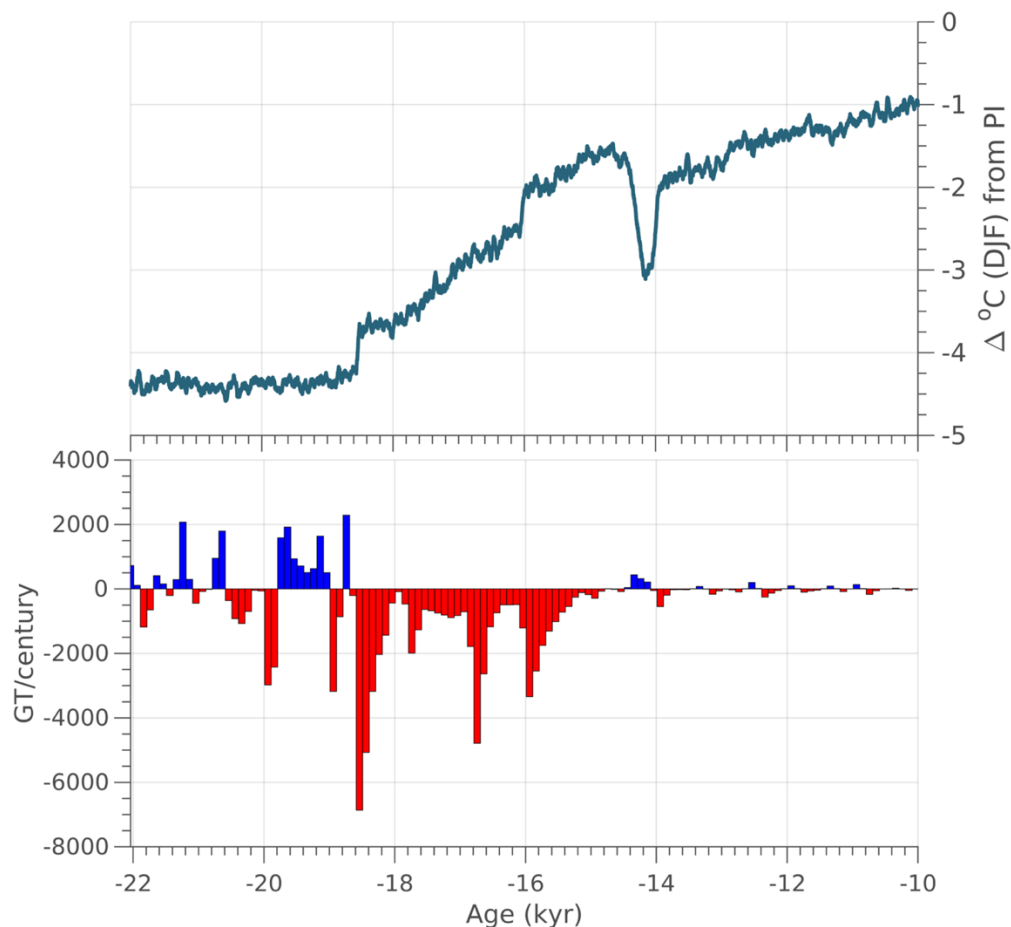


Figure 6. Top Panel: The TraCE-21ka Summer (DJF) temperature anomaly taken as the difference from the preindustrial period, area averaged across our model domain. Bottom Panel: The simulated ice mass change calculated in GT/century across the last deglaciation (22 ka to 10 ka). Red indicates ice mass loss, and blue indicates ice mass gain.

349
350 By 17 ka, the northern portion of the model domain (north of 39.5°S), has generally become ice
351 free for the exception of the highest terrain (e.g., mountain glaciers). By 16 ka, between 39.5°S
352 and 40.5°S, ice remains only on the highest terrain (Figure 5), however ice cover persists south of
353 40.5°S. Between 16 ka and 15 ka, summer temperature rises $\sim 0.5^{\circ}\text{C}$ (Figure 6) and the remaining
354 ice sheet retreats south of 40.5°S. By 15 ka, there is no evidence of an ice sheet, with only
355 mountain glaciers and small ice caps (e.g. Cerro Tronador) existing across the high terrain
356 throughout the model domain (Figure 5).

357
358 After 15 ka, TraCE-21ka simulates a short and abrupt Antarctic Cold Reversal (ACR) between
359 14.6 ka and 14 ka (Figure 6), before temperatures continue to rise into the early Holocene. There
360 is only a minor ice mass gain (e.g., <500 GT/yr) during the ACR, and minimal fluctuation in ice
361 mass after 14 ka. By 10 ka, only small mountain glaciers persist across the high terrain and
362 volcanoes of the CLD (gray color in Figure 5).

363 3.2.2 Sensitivity Tests

364

365 To better assess how changes in precipitation may modulate the deglaciation across the CLD we
366 perform additional sensitivity tests. We refer to the simulation discussed above as our *main*
367 *simulation*, where the climate boundary conditions of temperature and precipitation varied
368 temporally and spatially across the last deglaciation. Three more simulations are performed where
369 temperature is allowed to vary across the last deglaciation, but precipitation remains fixed at a
370 given magnitude for a particular time interval. Each experiment is listed below as:

- 371 1) Monthly precipitation is held constant at the preindustrial mean. Preindustrial precipitation
372 is reduced compared to the period 22 ka to 18 ka, but is similar to and higher than what is
373 simulated after 18 ka for the exception of the ACR at 14.5 ka (Figure 7).
374 2) Monthly precipitation is held constant at the 12.5 ka-12 ka mean. This is a period of
375 reduced precipitation relative to the preindustrial (~7% reduction; Figure 7).
376 3) Monthly precipitation is held constant to the 22-20 ka mean, which is approximately 10%
377 higher than preindustrial values across the Northern portion of the model domain (North
378 of 40°S).

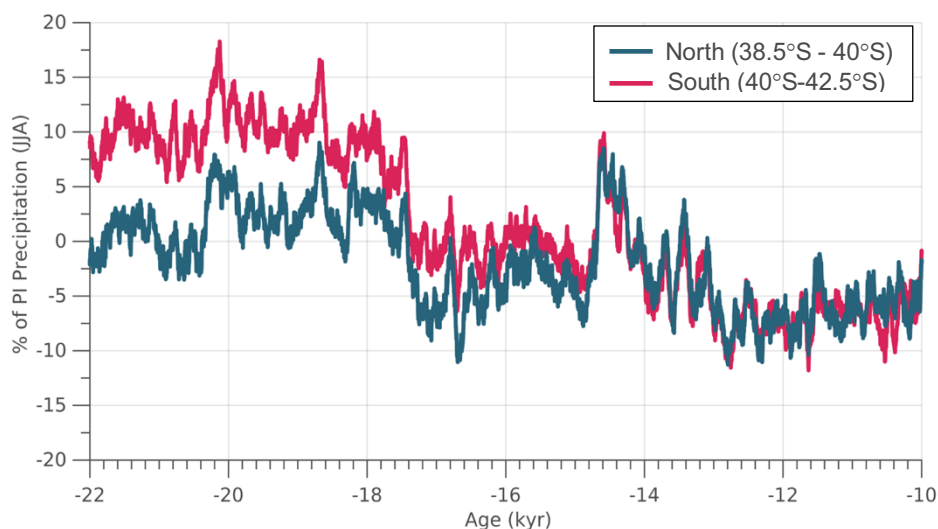


Figure 7. The winter (JJA) precipitation anomaly expressed as the percent difference from the preindustrial period. The area averaged anomaly is shown for the region north of 40°S and for the region south of 40°S (see Figure 2 for reference to the latitudinal range of our model domain).

379 Across our model domain during experiment 2 (Figure 8A), wintertime precipitation during the
380 preindustrial is reduced compared to the early deglaciation (22 ka to 18ka) and is similar to slightly
381 higher particularly south of 40°S after 18 ka (Figure 7). When holding precipitation constant at
382 the preindustrial mean through the last deglaciation, the ice retreats faster across most portions of
383 the model domain, particularly along the ice margins and in area north of 40°S. In the southern
384 portion of our model domain (south of 40°S), where the changes in deglacial precipitation relative
385 to the preindustrial are lower (Figure 7), the difference in simulated deglaciation age are also
386 smaller. In general, the pace of deglaciation increases by up to 1 kyr compared to the main
387 simulation, with many locations experiencing deglaciation 200-600 yrs earlier than the main
388 simulation.

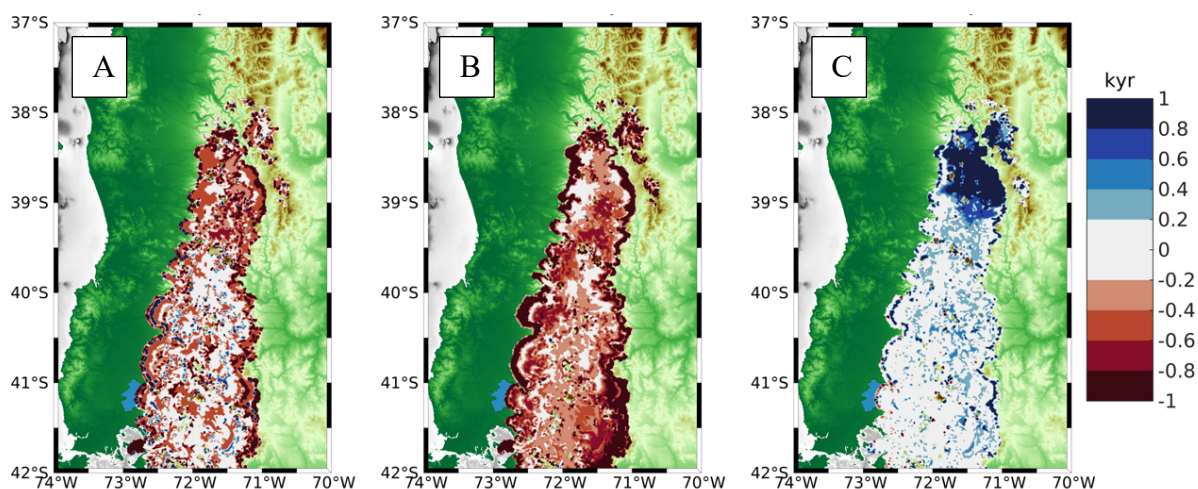


Figure 8. A) The difference in the simulated deglaciation age between sensitivity experiment 2 B.) experiment 3, C.) and experiment 4, from the main simulation. Blue colors indicate slower ice retreat for the sensitivity experiments compared to the main simulation, while red colors indicate faster ice retreat for the sensitivity experiments compared to the main run.

390 For our other two sensitivity tests, winter precipitation is reduced by up to 7% (Figure 8B) relative
 391 to the preindustrial across the model domain (Figure 7) and increased by up to 10% (Figure 8C)
 392 across the northern portion of the model domain (north of 40°S), but is similar to preindustrial
 393 values across the southern portion of our model domain (south of 40°S). For experiment 2 ice
 394 retreats faster across most of the CLD, along the ice margins and through the interior. Deglaciation
 395 along the margins occurs >1 kyr faster in many locations, and between 200 yrs to 1 kyr faster
 396 across portions of the ice interior. In experiment 3 with the imposed higher precipitation across
 397 the northern portion of the model domain, ice retreats slower during the last deglaciation relative
 398 to our standard simulation by >1 kyr, and in some locations up to 2 kyr.

399 3.3 Comparison to the reconstructed deglacial ice extent

400
 401 Shown in Figure 1, PATICE assigns high to medium confidence to the reconstructed LGM (25 ka
 402 – 20 ka) ice extent along most of the western ice margin and portions of the eastern margin, with
 403 low confidence assigned to the northernmost ice extent. The majority of the ice history is poorly
 404 constrained (low confidence) during the deglaciation, and PATICE reconstructs a small cap that
 405 persists across the southern CLD until 10 ka, after which the ice disappears and only the Cerro
 406 Tronador glacier remains (see Figure 13 from Davies et al., 2020). We show the simulated and
 407 reconstructed ice extent in Figure 9 as well as the calculated ice area from PATICE at 20 ka, 15
 408 ka, 13 ka, and 10ka and for our transient simulation in Figure 10. At 22 ka (Figure 9), our model
 409 simulates a generally greater ice extent along the eastern and western margin, except at the Seno
 410 de Reloncaví, Golfo de Ancud, and Lago Llanquihue, where the simulated ice margin does not
 411 advance to the well dated terminal LGM moraines (Mercer, 1972; Porter, 1981; Andersen et al.,
 412 1999; Denton et al., 1999). At 20 ka, the simulated ice area is $4.1 \times 10^4 \text{ km}^2$ which is nearly identical
 413 to the PATICE areal extent across our model domain (Figure 10). The ice margin at the Seno de
 414 Reloncaví, Lago Llanquihue, and other locations along the eastern boundary in the CLD advances
 415 slightly at 20 ka, but still remain inboard of the PATICE reconstruction for these regions.

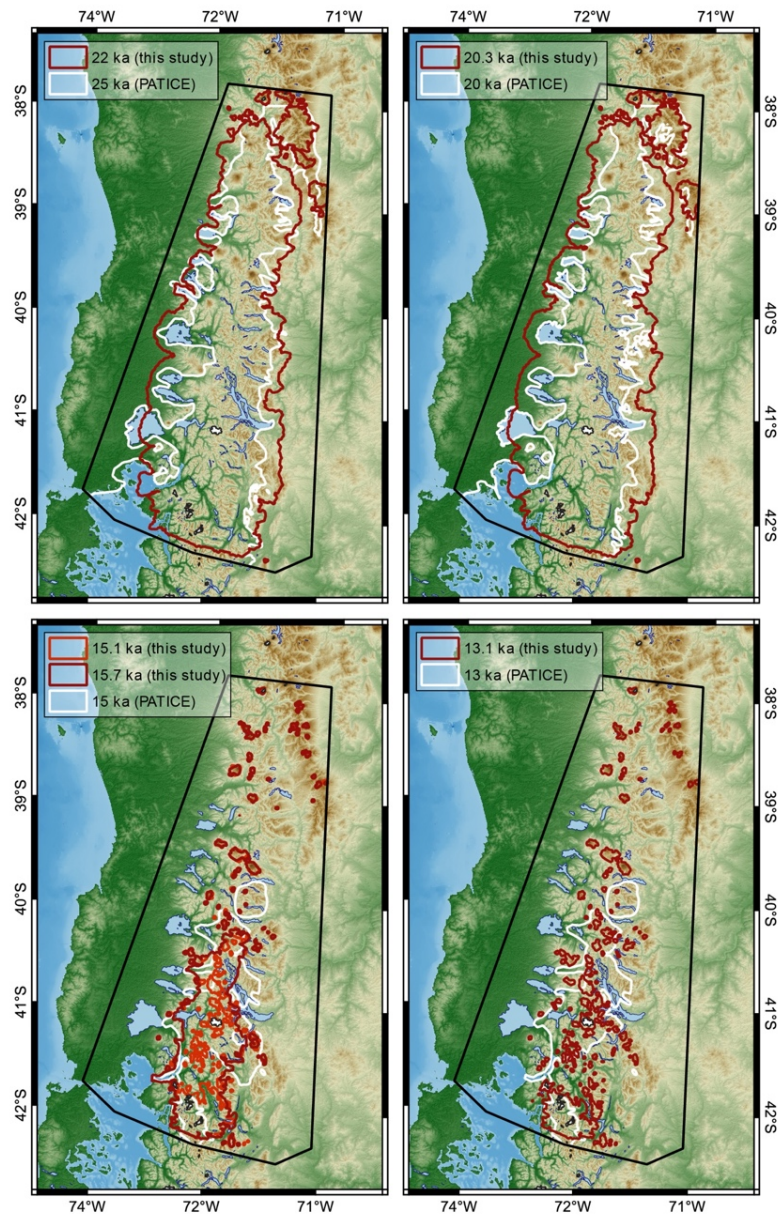


Figure 9. Comparison between the simulated ice extent at time intervals closest to the corresponding reconstructed ice extent from PATICE (Davies et al., 2020).

416 Between 18.3 ka and 15 ka large scale ice retreat occurs, and the simulated ice sheet loses 90% of
 417 its ice area, while the PATICE reconstruction suggests a reduction of 75% (Figure 10). At 15 ka,
 418 PATICE reconstructs an existing ice cap that separates from the remainder of the PIS to the south
 419 (Figure 9). This is in contrast to the simulated ice extent, which shows that by 15 ka, the PIS
 420 across our model domain has completely retreated and only mountain glaciers or small ice caps
 421 exist amongst the high terrain. However, if we compare the PATICE area at 15 ka and the
 422 simulated ice area at 15.7 ka (Figure 10), they are nearly identical at $1.2 \times 10^4 \text{ km}^2$. While the
 423 PATICE ice extent at 15 ka and the simulated ice extent 15.7 ka do not match completely, the
 424 simulated ice extent at 15.7 ka still has evidence of a large ice cap similar to the PATICE

425 reconstruction. Therefore, the simulated transition from ice sheet to ice cap and to discrete
426 mountain glaciers occurs between 15.7 ka and 15 ka in our simulations. By 13 ka, our simulated
427 ice area is 60% lower than the PATICE reconstructed area. By 10 ka this difference is 50%,
428 however by this time the majority of the ice sheet has deglaciated (Figure 10), with our model
429 simulating discrete mountain glaciers while PATICE reconstructs a small and narrow ice cap
430 across the high terrain in the southern CLD (also see Figure 1).

431
432
433

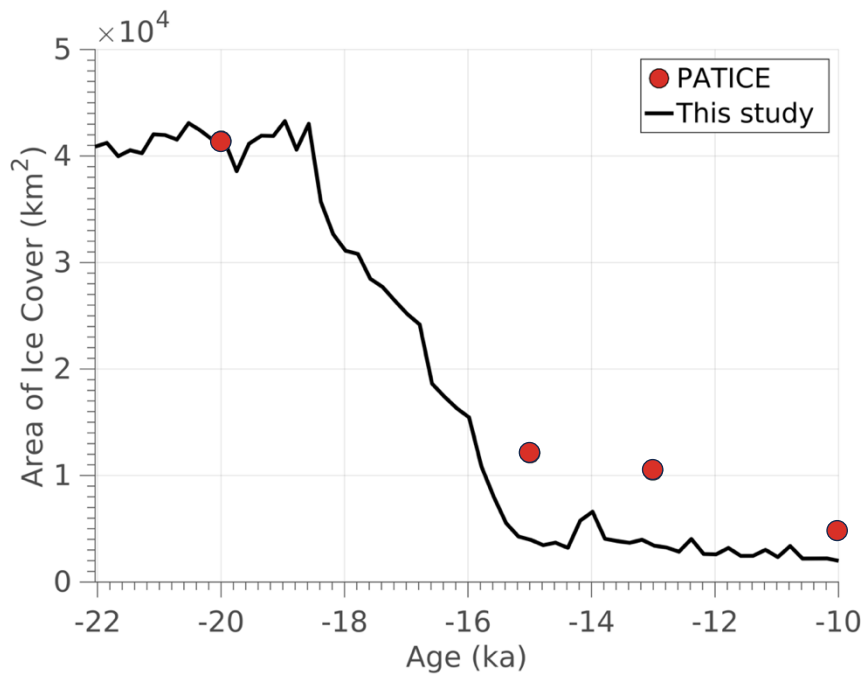


Figure 10. The simulated ice area (km²) from 22 ka to 10 ka shown as the black line. The red dots indicate the calculated ice area across our model domain for the reconstructed ice extent from PATICE (Davies et al., 2020).

434

435 4 Discussion

436

437 4.1 Climate-ice sensitivity

438

439 Determining the influence of the SWW on the heat and hydrologic budget across South America
440 during the LGM and last deglaciation remains difficult, as limitations in paleo-proxy data and
441 disagreement between climate models prohibit certainty (Kohfeld, 2013; Berman et al., 2018).
442 And while evidence does suggest wetter conditions across the CLD during the late glacial (Moreno
443 and Videla, 2018), linking the paleoclimate change in SWW position and strength from regional
444 paleoclimate proxies remains problematic (Kohfeld et al., 2013).

445

446 The scale at which we deduce ice history and climate interactions is also important. Looking at
447 the PIS as a whole, recent numerical ice sheet modelling studies indicate that the simulated ice
448 extent and volume for the entire PIS at the LGM is largely controlled by the magnitude of the
449 temperature anomaly compared to present day (Yan et al., 2022). However, regional scale ice

450 flow modelling informed by geologic constraints on past ice margin extent show that higher
451 precipitation during the LGM (Leger et al., 2021), the late glacial, and the Holocene (Muir et al.,
452 2023; Martin et al., 2022) is needed to support model-data agreement. It appears that during the
453 LGM a northward shift in the SWW (Kohfeld et al., 2013; Rojas et al., 2009; Togweillier et al.,
454 2006) or a strengthening or expansion of the wind belt (Lamy et al., 2010) is perhaps the most
455 likely scenario, with high frequency variability possible during the deglaciation as atmospheric
456 reorganization altered the heat and hydrologic budget as recorded by glacier and ice sheet change
457 (Davies et al., 2020; Boex et al., 2013).

458
459 We analyzed outputs of the wintertime (JJA) 925 hPa zonal wind as the mean over 500 yr periods
460 from TraCE-21ka for the LGM (22-21ka), 18ka (18.5-18ka), 16ka (16.5-16ka), 14ka (14.5-14ka),
461 12ka (12.5-12ka) and the Preindustrial (Supplemental section 3, Figures S3 A-E). Across our
462 model domain and to its south, relative to the PI, zonal winds are stronger during the LGM with a
463 southerly displacement (Figure S3A first and second column). During 18ka (Figure S3B), the zonal
464 wind increases in strength relative to the PI, with the stronger winds having wider latitudinal
465 coverage, particularly across our model domain. While the mean position of the SWW is poleward
466 at 18ka relative to the PI (Jiang and Yan, 2022), across Patagonia the simulated position of the
467 maximum zonal wind is at the same latitudinal band as the PI. At 16ka, the zonal wind is stronger
468 across our domain and Patagonia (Figure S3C) relative to the PI, although not as large as the
469 differences during 18ka. By 14ka, the strength in the zonal winds across Patagonia and our model
470 domain are similar to slightly stronger than the PI (Figure S3D), however, the zonal wind
471 maximum is situated more equatorward across our model domain relative to the PI. By 12ka
472 (Figure S3E), the zonal wind is similar to slightly weaker than the PI across our model domain,
473 although it is stronger relative to the PI to the south of our model domain across central and
474 southern Patagonia. The position of the maximum zonal winds is also displaced further south
475 relative to the PI. These changes in strength and position of the simulated SWW during the last
476 deglaciation are similar to the findings of Jian and Yan (2020), which found that relative to the
477 Preindustrial (PI), TraCE-21ka simulates a more poleward subtropical and subpolar jet over the
478 Southern hemisphere at the LGM. During the remainder of the LGM and last deglaciation, the
479 overall position of the SWW migrates northward in TraCE-21ka, with poleward displacements
480 during Heinrich Stadial 1 (HS1), equatorward displacements during the Antarctic Cold Reversal
481 (ACR), and poleward displacements during the Younger Dryas (YD), similar to our analysis.

482
483 Additionally, we evaluated the wintertime (JJA) low-level (850 hPa) moisture flux convergence
484 from TraCE-21ka (MFC; Supplement section 4, Figure S4A-E), which is influenced by the mean
485 flow and transient eddies in the extratropical hydrologic cycle (Peixoto and Oort, 1992). During
486 the LGM and 18 ka, MFC increases across our model domain, consistent with a convergence of
487 the mean flow moisture fields relative to the PI (Figure S4 A, B). During the LGM and 18ka, we
488 note that TraCE-21ka simulates higher JJA precipitation anomalies (relative to the PI) across our
489 model domain (Figure 7). While our analysis cannot directly constrain the source of the positive
490 precipitation anomalies (e.g., mean flow, storms), the strength of the simulated SWW in TraCE-
491 21ka increases across our model domain (Figure S3 A, B) coincident with the increases in MFC,
492 which may contribute to the positive precipitation anomalies at these time intervals (Figure 7). By
493 16ka, there is increased divergence in the 925 hPa winds and moisture relative to the PI (Figure
494 S4 C). Decreased MFC relative to the PI coincides with a reduction in precipitation across our
495 model domain that is similar to or less than the PI (Figure 7). We note that the ice thickness

496 boundary conditions used in the TraCE-21ka come from the Ice5G reconstruction (Peltier, 2004),
497 which has the PIS being completely deglaciated by 16ka. However, our analysis cannot
498 decompose whether the simulated changes in precipitation and MFC are a consequence of the
499 coupling between regional atmospheric circulation and the ice thickness boundary conditions used
500 in TraCE-21ka or if these changes represent wider interactions with changes in hemispheric
501 atmospheric circulation. By 14ka, and during the ACR, MFC increases relative to the PI (Figure
502 S4D). This is consistent with a simulated equatorward migration of the SWW as shown in Jiang
503 and Yan (2020) and our analysis (Figure S3D), and positive anomalies in precipitation across our
504 model domain relative to the PI (Figure 7). By 12ka, precipitation across our model domain is
505 reduced relative to the PI (Figure 7), and TraCE-21ka simulates a reduction in the MFC as well as
506 a poleward migration of the SWW (Figure S3E; Jiang and Yan, 2020).

507
508 When considering proxy records of precipitation across the CLD, there is reasonable agreement
509 with the changes in precipitation simulated by TraCE-21ka. Moreno et al. (1999;2015) and
510 Moreno and Videla (2018) find that wetter than present day conditions existed across the CLD
511 during the LGM and early deglaciation which is consistent with the precipitation anomalies
512 simulated by TraCE-21ka (Figure 7). These changes in paleoclimate proxies are attributed to an
513 intensified storm track associated with an equatorward shift of the SWW (Moreno et al. 1999;
514 2015). While TraCE-21ka instead simulates a poleward shift of the SWW during these time
515 intervals, increases in precipitation and the intensification of the storm track as inferred by Moreno
516 et al. (2015) may also be consistent with a strengthening of the SWW as simulated by TraCE-21ka
517 during these intervals (Figure S3 A, B; Rojas et al., 2009; Sime et al., 2013; Kohfeld et al., 2013).
518 Moreno et al. (2015) note that rapid warming ensues across the CLD around 17,800 cal yr BP,
519 which is similar to the timing of deglacial warming as simulated by TraCE-21ka around 18.5 ka
520 (Figure 6). Coincident with this rapid temperature rise, Moreno et al. (2015) note a shift from
521 hyper humid to humid conditions which aligns well with decreases in the simulated precipitation
522 in TraCE-21ka across our model domain (Figure 7). Lastly, Moreno et al. (1999; 2015) find that
523 colder and wetter conditions occur across the CLD during the ACR, and infer an equatorward
524 expansion of the SWW as a potential cause. While TraCE-21ka simulates an abrupt and short
525 ACR, it does simulate an equatorward expansion of the SWW (Figure S4 D; Jian and Yan, 2020),
526 associated cooling (Figure 6), and increases in precipitation (Figure 7) that agree with the proxy
527 data.

528
529 Prior numerical ice flow modelling has indicated that precipitation played an important role in
530 controlling the extent of paleoglaciers across the PIS (Muir et al., 2023; Leger et al., 2021) by
531 modulating the pace and magnitude of ice retreat and advance during deglaciation (Martin et al.,
532 2022). Much of the TraCE-21ka simulated winter precipitation anomalies shown in Figure 7 are
533 within 10% of the preindustrial value. The sensitivity tests conducted here suggest that modest
534 changes (~10%) in precipitation can alter the pace of ice retreat across the CLD on timescales
535 consistent with the resolution of geochronological proxies constraining past ice retreat. We note
536 that while TraCE-21ka simulates variations in precipitation across our model domain that are
537 consistent with hydroclimate proxies discussed above (Moreno et al., 1999; 2015; 2018), the
538 magnitude of those changes is not as large as proxy data across the CLD indicate. For example,
539 hydroclimate proxies suggest that the LGM and early deglaciation was up to 2 times wetter across
540 the CLD than present day (Moreno et al., 1999; Heusser et al., 1999). Therefore, we can deduce
541 from our sensitivity analysis here that higher precipitation anomalies during the LGM and last

542 deglaciation, forced by proposed changes in the SWW (Moreno et al.,1999;2015), may have
543 helped offset melt from deglacial warming thereby influencing the pacing of early deglacial ice
544 retreat in this region.

545

546 ***4.2 Ice retreat during the Last Deglaciation***

547

548 The PATICE dataset (Davies et al., 2020) serves as the best available reconstruction of ice margin
549 change for the PIS across the last deglaciation. This state-of-the-art compilation provides an
550 empirical reconstruction of the configuration of the PIS as isochrones every 5 ka, from 35 ka to
551 present, based on detailed geomorphological data and available geochronological evidence.
552 Because geochronological constraints on past PIS change are limited, the PATICE reconstruction
553 assigns qualitative confidence to its reconstructed ice margins. Where there is agreement between
554 geochronological and geomorphological indicators of past ice margin history (i.e., moraines), high
555 confidence is assigned. Where geomorphological evidence suggests the existence of past ice
556 margins, but lacks a geochronological constraint, medium confidence is assigned. Lastly, low
557 confidence is assigned where there is a lack of any indicators of past ice sheet extent, where the
558 ice limits result in interpolated interpretations from immediately adjacent moraines from valleys
559 that have been mapped and dated. Across the CLD, the LGM ice extent is well constrained by
560 geologic proxies particularly in the west and southwest (Figure 1). The moraines that constrain the
561 piedmont ice lobes that formed along the western boundary are now presently lakes and have
562 reasonable age control (Denton et al., 1999; Moreno et al., 1999; Lowell et al., 1995), giving
563 confidence to the LGM ice margin limits. Beyond this region, age control is sparse along the
564 western boundary for the timing of LGM ice extent, but the existence of well-defined moraines
565 along lakes in the northern CLD are assumed to be in sync with those moraines deposited to the
566 south (Denton et al., 1999). However, low confidence remains in the geologic reconstruction of
567 the LGM ice boundary along the eastern margin where little to no chronological constraints are
568 available. In general, deglaciation from the maximum LGM ice extent begins between 18 – 19 ka
569 (Davies et al., 2020), however, poor age control and a lack of geomorphic indicators make it
570 difficult to constrain the ice extent across this region during the deglaciation. For instance, a single
571 cosmogenic nuclide surface exposure date retrieved from the Nahuel Huapi moraine yielded an
572 age of ~31.4 ka (Zech et al., 2017). While it is assumed that the ice limit behaved similarly both
573 to the west and east, the limited existing data prevents a comprehensive understanding of the ice
574 extent at the northeastern margin. This induces the highest level of uncertainty in the reconstruction
575 and hinders our data model comparison. Therefore, we rely on the PATICE dataset interpolated
576 isochrones (low confidence) for this northeastern region as the state-of-the-art reconstruction.

577

578 In regards to ice area and extent, our simulated ice sheet at the LGM using TraCE-21ka climate
579 boundary conditions agrees well with the PATICE reconstruction (Figure 10). Our simulations
580 reveal that deglaciation began between 19 ka to 18 ka, consistent with the geologic proxies (Davies
581 et al., 2020). The simulated ice retreat continues until 15 ka, with the largest pulses in ice mass
582 loss occurring at 18.6 ka, 16.8 ka, and 16 ka (Figure 6). Where PATICE estimates an ice cap
583 around 15 ka (~40°S), our simulations reveal that glaciation was restricted to high elevations.
584 After 15 ka, mountain glaciers remain in our simulation but there is no presence of a large ice cap
585 as reconstructed in PATICE. Comparison between the model simulations and PATICE becomes
586 difficult during the 15 -13 ka period as confidence in the geologic reconstruction is low. Therefore,
587 our model results offer a different reconstruction to PATICE, and indicate that the ice sheet in this

588 region largely retreated by 15 ka, with only mountain glaciers remaining. However, during this
589 interval, the Antarctic Cold Reversal (ACR) may have influenced the heat and hydrologic budget
590 across this region, with wetter and cooler conditions interrupting the deglacial warming (Moreno
591 et al., 2018). While TraCE-21ka simulates a cooler and wetter ACR, it is short-lived, lasting about
592 500 years as compared to 2,000 years in some ice core records or proxy-based studies (Lowry et
593 al., 2019; He et al., 2013, Pedro et al., 2015). This potential for a favorable and prolonged period
594 of glacier growth is likely missing in our simulations during the ACR, which may explain some of
595 the mismatch against the PATICE reconstruction at 15 ka – 13 ka.

596

597 *4.3 Limitations*

598

599 Currently ISSM is undergoing model developments to include a full treatment of solid earth-ice
600 and sea-level feedbacks (Adhikari et a., 2016). Therefore, at this time, there is no coupling
601 between the ice sheet and solid earth. Instead, we prescribed GIA from a global GIA model of the
602 last glacial cycle from Caron et al. (2018). While this model reasonably estimates GIA across the
603 PIS over the last deglaciation, our simulated ice history does not feedback onto GIA. The ice
604 history for Patagonia incorporated into the Caron et al. (2018) ensemble is from Ivins et al. 2011.
605 Therefore, the prescribed GIA response across our domain does not perfectly match our simulated
606 ice history. Additionally, the global mantle from Caron et al. (2018) does not exhibit regional low
607 viscosity that is attributable to Patagonia and therefore, current rates of deformation are likely
608 underestimated by the model. By not simulating the 2-way coupled ice and solid-earth
609 interactions, we could be missing some feedbacks between our simulated ice history and the solid
610 earth that may modulate the deglaciation across this region. Despite this limitation however, our
611 prescribed GIA from Caron et al. (2018) is reasonable when compared with reconstructed deglacial
612 GIA in Patagonia (Troch et al., 2022), giving confidence that our simulation is capturing the
613 regional influence of GIA on the simulated ice history.

614

615 Across most of our domain, there is evidence for an advance of piedmont glaciers across glacial
616 outwash during the LGM, which formed the physical boundary for some of the existing terminal
617 moraines around the lakes within the CLD (Bentley, 1996; Bentley, 1997). The formation of ice-
618 contact proglacial lakes likely occurred as a function of deglacial warming and ice retreat (Bentley,
619 1996). Where there were proglacial lakes along the westward ice front in the CLD, evidence
620 suggests that ice was grounded during the LGM (Lago Puyehue; Heirman et al., 2011). During
621 deglaciation, iceberg calving into the proglacial lakes may have occurred (Bentley 1996,1997;
622 Davies et al., 2020), with evidence suggesting that local topography and calving may have
623 controlled the spatially irregular timing of abandonment from the terminal moraines surrounding
624 the proglacial lakes (Bentley, 1997). Recent glacier modelling (Sutherland et al., 2020) suggests
625 that inclusion of ice-lake interactions may have large impacts on the magnitude and rate of
626 simulated ice front retreat, as ice-lake interactions promote greater ice velocities, ice flux to the
627 grounding line, and surface lowering. However, across our region, Heirman et al. (2011) indicate
628 that it is not well constrained how the proglacial lakes in the CLD may have influenced local
629 deglaciation, as more geomorphic data is needed. Therefore, because the inclusion of ice-lake
630 interactions is relatively novel for numerical ice flow modeling (Sutherland et al., 2020; Quiquet
631 et al., 2021; Hinck et al., 2022), we choose to not simulate the evolution and influence of proglacial
632 lakes on the deglaciation across this model domain. Given this limitation, our simulated magnitude
633 and rate of ice retreat at the onset of deglaciation may be underestimated, especially when looking

634 at local deglaciation along these proglacial lakes. Although we do not think that these processes
635 would greatly influence our conclusions regarding the role of climate on the evolution of the PIS
636 is the CLD and the simulated ice retreat history, future work is required to assess the influence of
637 proglacial lakes in this region.

638

639 **5 Conclusions**

640

641 In this study, we use a numerical ice sheet model to simulate the LGM and deglacial ice history
642 across the northernmost extent of the PIS, the CLD. The ice sheet model used inputs of
643 temperature and precipitation from the TraCE-21ka climate model simulation covering the last
644 22,000 years in order to simulate the deglaciation of the PIS across the CLD into the early
645 Holocene.

646

647 Our numerical simulation suggests that large scale ice retreat occurs after 19 ka coincident with
648 rapid deglacial warming, with the northern portion of the CLD becoming ice free by 17 ka. The
649 simulated ice retreat agrees well with the most comprehensive geologic assessment of past PIS
650 history available (PATICE; Davies et al., 2020) for the LGM ice extent and early deglacial but
651 diverge when considering the ice geometry at and after 15 ka. In our simulations, the PIS persists
652 until 15 ka across the remainder of the CLD, followed by ice retreat to higher elevations as
653 mountain glaciers and small ice caps persist into the early Holocene (e.g., Cerro Tronador). The
654 geologic reconstruction from PATICE instead estimates a small ice cap persisting across the
655 southern portion of high terrain in the CLD until about 10 ka. However, of the limited geologic
656 constraints particularly after 15 ka, high uncertainty in the timing and extent of deglacial ice history
657 remains in the geologic reconstruction. Therefore, our results provide an additional reconstruction
658 of the deglaciation of the PIS across the CLD that differs from PATICE after 15 ka, emphasizing
659 a need for future work that aims to improve geologic reconstructions of past ice margin migration
660 particularly during the later deglaciation across this region.

661

662 While deglacial warming was a primary driver of the demise of the PIS across the last deglaciation,
663 we find that precipitation modulates the pacing and magnitude of deglacial ice retreat across the
664 CLD. Paleoclimate proxies within the CLD has shown that the strength and position of the SWW
665 varied during the LGM and last deglaciation, altering hydrologic patterns and influencing the
666 deglacial mass balance. We find that the simulated changes in the strength and position of the
667 SWW in TraCE-21ka are similar to those inferred from paleoclimate proxies of precipitation,
668 consistent with a wetter than preindustrial climate being simulated and reconstructed over the CLD
669 and in particular the region north of 40°S. Through a series of sensitivity tests, we alter the
670 magnitude of the precipitation anomaly modestly (up to 10%) during our transient deglacial
671 simulations and find that the pacing of ice retreat can speed up or slow down by a few hundred
672 years and up to 2000 years depending on the imposed increase or decrease in the precipitation
673 anomaly. While paleoclimate proxies of precipitation suggest that the CLD may have experienced
674 twice as much precipitation during the LGM and early deglacial relative to present day (Moreno
675 et al.,1999;2015), TraCE-21ka simulates smaller increases in LGM and early deglacial
676 precipitation (~10-15% greater than preindustrial). Therefore, while our modelling suggests that
677 modest changes in precipitation can modulate the pace of deglacial ice retreat across the CLD,
678 from our analysis we can deduce that larger anomalies in precipitation as found in the paleoclimate
679 proxies may have an even larger impact on modulating deglacial ice retreat. Because paleoclimate

680 proxies of past precipitation are often lacking, and climate models can simulate a range of possible
681 LGM and deglacial hydrologic states, these results suggest that improved knowledge of the past
682 precipitation is critical towards better understanding the drivers of PIS growth and demise,
683 especially as small variations in precipitation can modulate ice sheet history on scales consistent
684 with geologic proxies.

685

686 **Code/Data Availability**

687 The simulations performed for this paper made use of the open-source Ice-Sheet and Sea-level
688 System Model (ISSM) and are publicly available at <https://issm.jpl.nasa.gov/> (Larour et al., 2012).

689

690 **Author Contribution**

691 JC and SM secured funding for this research. JC, MR, and SM all contributed to the project design.
692 JC performed the model setup and simulations. JC performed the analyses on model output, with
693 help from MR who performed analysis on PATICE reconstructions. JC wrote the manuscript with
694 input from MR and SM.

695

696 **Competing interests**

697 The contact author has declared that none of the authors has any competing interests.

698

699 **Acknowledgements**

700 This work was supported by a grant from the National Science Foundation, Frontier Research in
701 Earth Sciences # 2121561. We would like to thank Lambert Caron from the Jet Propulsion
702 Laboratory for his input regarding Glacial Isostatic Adjustment across our study region.

703

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