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From platform top to adjacent deep sea: new source-to-sink insights into carbonate sediment production and transfer in the SW Indian Ocean (Glorieuses archipelago)

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18 Abstract

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20 Over the past ten years, a huge amount of source-to-sink studies have aimed to unravel the 21 tectonic, climatic and other processes that shape the landscape from mountains to the deep ocean. Interestingly, these studies have been mainly dedicated to siliciclastic or mixed 22 23 systems, for which the connection between drainage basins, continental shelves, slope and 24 basin environments are often well constrained. Here we present a study focusing on a source-25 to-sink study dedicated to a pure carbonate system, located in the SW Indian Ocean 26 (Glorieuses archipelago). Extensive field sampling and geophysical acquisition across the 27 carbonate platform have allowed us to estimate the composition, the lateral variability, and 28 volumes of neritic sands deposited on the platform top. Additional seismic and bathymetric 29 surveys across the platform interior illustrate the presence of plurimetric sandy bodies 30 deposited along the leeward platform edge, corresponding to the export of carbonate 31 sediments from the platform top toward the platform edge, under the influence of dominant 32 currents and wind-driven processes. High-resolution seismic, bathymetric data and sediment 33 cores acquired along slope and basin adjacent to the carbonate platform highlight the presence 34 of channel-levee complexes and turbiditic lobes, which have accumulated on top of a 250m-35 thick sedimentary basin at 2000-3400 m water depth. Our study points out that a half of carbonate sands and aragonitic mud have been shed from the platform top to the adjacent 36 37 basin during the Holocene. We also demonstrate that this routing system was active at least 38 through the last three glacial/interglacial cycles. This study has important consequences for 39 our understanding of carbonate sedimentation processes occurring in the vicinity of isolated 40 carbonate platforms, and contributes to a first quantification of a carbonate source-to-sink 41 system.

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43 **1. Introduction**

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Other than fluvial sediment, calcium carbonate (CaCO₃) is the greatest source of sediment in the present-day ocean, estimated to be about 5 bt per year, of which about 3 bt accumulate in sediments, while the other 40 % is dissolved (Milliman, 1993). Therefore, the burial of CaCO₃ and organic carbon in marine sediments is the largest sink for carbon from Earth's surface environment (Falkowski et al., 2000; Milliman, 1993; Milliman and Droxler, 1996).

- 50 Unlike fluvial sediments, modern carbonates accumulate more or less equally in the nertice $(22 10^{12})^{12}$
- 51 and pelagic environments. The estimated present-day carbonate accumulation (32×10^{12})

52 moles.yr⁻¹) is 1.5 times the sum of calcium influx from rivers and the amount estimated to 53 weather out of mid-ocean ridge crests $(21x10^{12} \text{ moles.yr}^{-1})$. Although this difference lies 54 within some uncertainties, the hypsometry of the ocean basins and the much greater rates of 55 production and accumulation in the neritic environment suggest that steady state is elusive 56 when sea level changes (Milliman and Droxler, 1996).

57

58 Biogenic calcification is an important process in the building of coral reefs and for the supply of carbonate sands to coastal lagoons (Kangwe, 2006). The contribution of carbonates to the 59 60 sedimentary composition of the marine environments is particularly significant in particular in 61 the West Indian Ocean (Kangwe, 2006; Rees et al., 2005), with approximately 50 per cent of all CaCO₃ stored in shallow coastal regions and continental shelves as well as in coral reef 62 environments (Andersson and Gledhill, 2013). Many studies have demonstrated that an 63 64 appreciable portion of neritic carbonates produced on banks and shelves (characterized by 65 rapid production of metastable aragonite and magnesian calcite) is exported to the deep sea by nepheloid plumes (Wilson and Roberts, 1995) and gravity flows (Andresen et al., 2003; 66 Droxler and Schlager, 1985; Glaser and Droxler, 1993; Jorry et al., 2010, 2008; Schlager et 67 68 al., 1994; Webster et al., 2012). Until recently, the seismic architecture of neritic-dominated 69 carbonate basins has been largely unexplored. The first evidence came from core, logging and 70 high-resolution seismic data from ODP Leg 166 (Eberli et al., 1997a, 1997b), where Miocene-71 Lower Pliocene calciturbidites are arranged into mounded lobes with feeder channels along 72 the Great Bahama Bank (Betzler et al., 1999). Recently, new investigations along the western 73 slope of Great Bahama Bank have pointed out notable differences when comparing carbonate 74 gravity systems to siliciclastic counterparts, which include the lack of connection with the 75 shallow bank top, the small size of the sedimentary system, and the lack of sandy turbidites 76 (Mulder et al., 2014, 2012).

77

78 A complete understanding of the production, preservation, and accumulation of neritic 79 carbonates at the scale of a carbonate platform thus necessitates investigating the entire 80 depositional system, by integrating production, transfer and storage of neritic CaCO₃ along 81 the sediment routing system. Our study presents an example of a modern carbonate source-to-82 sink system, by investigating the platform top and the adjacent slope and basin of Glorieuses, 83 an isolated carbonate platform located in the SW Indian Ocean. The study of the entire system 84 allows us to attempt to a first quantification of sediment volume produced during the present-85 day highstand and presently stored on the platform top, and to estimate the sediment of 86 volume exported toward the deep sea since the last reflooding of the platform. Links with 87 platform top production and sediment export and trigger mechanisms are also discussed at the 88 scale of the glacial/interglacial high-amplitude sea level fluctuations of the Late Quaternary.

89

90 **2. Study area**

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92 Located in the volcanic axis of the Comoros, the Glorieuses archipelago developed at the top 93 of a seamount in the northern part of the Mozambique Channel, North of Madagascar and 94 North-East Mayotte (Figure 1A). The volcanic edifices of this region are interpreted as 95 resulting from the activity of a hot spot under the Somali plate (Emerick and Duncan, 1982). 96 An alternative hypothesis considers that the islands may be the product of the injection of 97 basaltic magma along old lithospheric fractures trending NW–SE related to the drift of 98 Madagascar relative to Africa (Nougier et al., 1986).

99

100 The base of the Glorieuses seamount is composed of encrusted trachy-andesite to trachyte 101 lavas (Courgeon et al., 2016). The flanks of the Glorieuses platform and the nearby areas contain several flat-topped terraces and associated slope breaks ranging from 1100 m to 35 m
water depths, interpreted as drowned carbonate platforms, the oldest one being Paleocene in
age (Courgeon et al., 2016). The shallowest reef terraces located between 120m to 35m of
water depth have been interpreted as reflecting brief periods of extremely rapid sea-level rise
during the last deglaciation (Jorry et al., 2016) initiated 20,000 years ago (Blanchon and
Shaw, 1995; Clark et al., 2004; Deschamps et al., 2012; Hanebuth et al., 2000; Weaver et al.,
2003).

109

110 The Glorieuses carbonate platform is organized in distinctive morphological units, including a 111 reef flat developed along the windward side, an apron, and a semi-enclosed inner platform (up 112 to 15 m water depth; Figure 3). The composition of carbonate sediments includes Halimeda 113 segments, coral fragments, large benthic foraminifers, red algae, and molluscs (Jorry et al., 114 2016). The distribution of all these fragments is controlled mainly by the location of carbonate 115 producers on the archipelago, by local hydrodynamics (tide and waves) and exceptional 116 events such as storms and cyclones which induce the reworking of sediments, and the 117 winnowing of mud (Prat et al., 2016). The development and lateral migration of the sand 118 dunes on the platform (about 43m/year toward the southwest) reveal the importance of the 119 activity of shallow currents (waves or tide) on the inner platform, despite the shelter induced 120 by the presence of the barrier reef (Prat et al., 2016).

121

122 The climate of this region is tropical and characterized by two distinct seasons. The cool 123 season, from May to November (Austral winter), is dominated by SE trade winds with daily average temperatures ranging from 24.8 to 27.7 °C. The hot season, from December to April 124 125 (Austral summer), is influenced by the NW monsoon; daily temperatures average 28 °C and 126 the humidity ranges from 81 to 84%. At Glorieuses, the dominant trade winds blow from the 127 east during March and December, and monsoon winds come from southwest to northwest 128 during January and February (Figure 1C). Rainfall is about 110 to 210 mm per month, with a 129 maximum in January. The Glorieuses Islands are directly affected by the Northeast 130 Madagascar Current (NEMC), flowing westwards off north Madagascar. The NEMC 131 transports about 30 Sv and supplies water for the Mozambique Channel flow and the East 132 African Coastal Current (Schott et al., 2009; Swallow et al., 1988). The NEMC has a weak seasonal variability (Schott et al., 2009; Schott and McCreary, 2001). (Swallow et al., 1988) 133 134 estimated a seasonal variation in the transport of about 2 Sv at 10-12°N, presenting the 135 highest values in August/September and the lowest in January/February.

136

137 **3. Materials and methods**138

Data were collected during a set of scientific expeditions between 2011 and 2015 in Glorieuses. Data from shallow areas (up to 200 m water depth) were acquired in the frame of the REEFCORES (REEFs and CORals from the EparseS) program, during two cruises completed in 2013 and in 2015 onboard the *Antsiva* schooner. Data concerning the slope and basin adjacent to the Glorieuses platform were acquired onboard the R/V *L'Atalante* during the 2014 PTOLEMEE (Jorry, 2014) and PAMELA-MOZ1 (Olu, 2014) expeditions, part of the PAMELA project (PAssive Margins Exploration LAboratory).

- 146
- 147 *3.1. Oceanographic measurements*
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Maximal daily velocity of the wind at 10 m above the ground were registered on the Météofrance station in the Glorieuses Island (station number 98403001, 47°17'18''E 11°34'54''S) from January 2007 to November 2013. Wind speed and direction at sea was

- 152 obtained from the meteorological station onboard the R/V L'Atalante during the PTOLEMEE 153 survey in 2014. At the same time, current velocity data were obtained from a hull-mounted ADCP (150 kHz). The ADCP data were processed using the Cascade 7.1 software (Ifremer 154 155 in-house software).
- 156

157 3.2. Bathymetry and backscatter sonar images

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- 159 A bathymetric survey was performed in 2015 along the Glorieuses platform edge, in water 160 depths varying from 5 to 200 m. We operated a Kongsberg EM3002 multibeam echo sounder 161 (293 or 300 or 307 kHz, 160 beams, emission and reception angles of 0.5° and 1°, 50 to 162 400 ms pulse length) onboard the Antsiva schooner.
- 163

164 Multibeam surveys were conducted onboard the RV L'Atalante to systematically map slope 165 and basins adjacent to the Glorieuses archipelago. The deeper seafloor data (> 1000 m) were 166 acquired with a Kongsberg EM122 multibeam echo sounder (12 kHz, 288 beams, emission 167 and reception angles of 1° and 2°, 2 or 5 or 15 ms pulse length), with automatic swath width 168 control and an equidistant sounding pattern over water depths varying from 1500 to 5000 m. 169 The shallower seafloor data (100-1000m) were acquired with a Kongsberg EM710 multibeam 170 echo sounder (70 to 110 kHz, 256 beams, emission and reception angles of 1.5°, 0.15 to 2 ms 171 pulse length), with manual swath width control over water depths varying from 200 to 172 1500 m.

173

174 Furthermore, laser bathymetry and topography (LiDAR) were available through the area 175 The LiDAR acquisition published (Litto3D® database). was in 2012 176 (https://diffusion.shom.fr/pro/risques/altimetrie-littorale/litto3d-eparses2012.html) by the 177 Institut Geographique National (IGN) and Service Hydrographique French et Oceanographique de la Marine (SHOM). Bathymetric and topographic LiDAR allowed metric 178 179 accuracy on the plane and decimetric precision of heights and depths.

- 180
- 181 3.3. Seismic acquisition
- 182

183 A Sparker Source, a single-channel SIG streamer and a numerical DELPH acquisition system 184 were used to acquire about 250 km of high-resolution seismic profiles in shallow waters 185 (<200m water depth). The sparker emission energy ranges from 25 to 160 J, the shooting rate 186 was 250 ms and the vessel bottom speed was 4 to 5 knots. Raw data were processed using 187 Delph Interpretation (developed by iXBlue). Interpretation of seismic lines was conducted 188 using Kingdom Suite software (HIS Markit). Seismic lines are displayed with two-way travel 189 time in ms. Time-depth conversions have been made assuming an average velocity of 1800 190 m/s for unconsolidated sediments. The signal penetration is satisfactory in lagoonal 191 sediments, although the attenuation of the high-resolution signal is significant beneath the 192 high amplitude reflectors that correspond to reefal substrates, and amplifies the seabed 193 multiple reflector in shallow water. These limitations prevent the examination of inner reefal 194 structures and the lower part of seismic records.

195

196 Seismic lines along slope and basin (areas deeper than 200 m) were collected using the 197 seismic acquisition system SEAL (Sercel, Ifremer). Multichannel seismic data were acquired 198 at 10 knots using a short (600 m) streamer (24 traces of 12.5 meters group length each) without any active depth controller or buoy, and two sub-arrays of a single GI air gun each 199 200 which were towed at 6 meters depth using tow fishes. Fast seismic processing consisted of a 201 basic trace stacking and migration at constant velocity (1500 m/s).

202203 *3.4. Sediment cores*

203

205 Four sediment cores (RC-GLO-C024/C025/C029/C030) were collected on top of the 206 Glorieuses platform in intertidal zones (see locations on Figure 1 and Figure 3), using a 1-m-207 long hand corer. Physical properties (which includes the gamma density) and X-Ray images 208 were measured by using a Multi-Sensor Core Logger and a X-CT Scan, respectively, both manufactured by Geotek. Two piston cores (MOZ1-KS04 and MOZ1-KS07) were collected 209 210 in the Glorieuses basin using a Kullenberg corer system (see location on Figure 1). Physical properties and X-ray computed tomography were acquired following the same process as for 211 212 the platform cores. A sedimentological description of all cores has been done during the 213 postcruise sampling, and main types of sediments and sedimentary structures were 214 differentiated.

215

216 The stratigraphy of the two basin cores was established thanks to oxygen isotopes measured 217 on batches of several specimens of *Globigerinoides ruber*. Samples were collected in layers 218 composed of pelagic periplatform carbonate, purposely excluding turbidites. On average, 10 219 to 15 specimens were picked from the >250 mm fraction. Analyses were performed with a Thermo MAT253 Mass Spectrometer, operated by Pôle Spectrométrie Océan (PSO), located 220 at the Institut Universitaire Européen de la Mer (IUEM / UBO), Plouzané, France. Isotopic 221 data are reported in the conventional δ notation relative to VSMOW for δ^{18} O. The repetition 222 of 10 measurements of a calcite working standard gave a precision (1Ò) lower than 0.2‰ for 223 δ^{18} O. 224

225

Nine radiocarbon dates were also obtained from the upper parts of the deep basin cores. For each AMS dating, approximately 500 specimens of *G. ruber* were picked from the >250 μ m fraction, washed in an ultrasonic bath with distilled water, and dried. These aliquots were analyzed by Beta Analytic Limited. Reported radiocarbon ages (Table 1) have been calibrated using the Marine13 radiocarbon age calibration curve (Reimer et al., 2013).

231

232 Variation in Strontium (Sr) content was measured by a X-Ray fluorescence core scanner 233 (XRF-CS). The Sr XRF-CS profile was quantified using Wavelength Dispersive X-ray 234 Fluorescence (WD-XRF) measurements of sediments collected along core MOZ1-KS04, and 235 the aragonite percentage was determined by X-ray diffraction (XRD). Aragonite fluxes were 236 calculated in order to estimate the contribution of platform top-derived fine sediments in the 237 deep adjacent basin. The aragonite fluxes (AF; g.cm⁻².kyr⁻¹) at site MOZ1-KS04 were quantified according to the following formula: $AF = LSR \times DBD \times (\% \text{ aragonite})$, with LSR: 238 Linear Sedimentation Rate (cm.kyr⁻¹) and DBD: Dry Bulk Density (g.cm⁻³). 239

- 240
- 241 *3.5. Estimating platform top sedimentary facies distribution*
- 242
- The distribution of sedimentary facies on the platform top was mapped using a combination of the satellite images and direct observations of bottom type and biota (including 138 sediment samples collected with box corer), as previously documented in detail by Prat et al. (2016).
- 247

3.6. Estimating Recent and Holocene carbonate production

In order to estimate the total volume and mass of calcium carbonate produced on the Glorieuses platform through the Holocene, we combined the volume of sediment preserved in 252 the Holocene sand bodies on the platform with the volume of sediment represented in the 253 submarine fans draining the platform to the northwest.

254

The area and volume of the carbonate sand bodies on the platform top were estimated using the 2D shallow seismic profiles. Enough profiles along and across the sand bodies were collected to allow estimation of the volume of the sandy isopach.

258

The area of the submarine fans draining the rise of the Glorieuses seamount was estimated from multibeam bathymetry, backscatter and seismic profiling. The thickness of Holocene sands and muds was based on the average thickness of sand and mud facies within the two cores, which has accumulated since the earliest Holocene (radiocarbon dates of 10.9 ka cal BP in MOZ1-KS04, 10.5 ka cal BP in MOZ1-KS07; Table 1).

264

265 In order to compare the volume of sediment produced on the Glorieuses platform with 266 regional and global carbonate production estimates, we converted volumes to mass via the 267 gamma ray measured bulk density (from MSCL acquisition) of sand and mud facies within sediment cores. We used the four gravity cores collected through the sand bodies atop the 268 269 Glorieuses platform to estimate density of the platform-top sand bodies. Gamma ray density 270 measurements of these four cores were used to convert the volume of carbonate sand in these 271 sand bodies into a total mass of calcium carbonate. Bulk density of sandy calciturbidites and 272 muddy intervals within the two deep basin cores were measured separately. 273

4. Results

275

276 *4.1. Oceanography*

270 4. 277

278 Hull mounted ADCP data acquired in September 2014 (during the period of highest transport 279 according to Swallow et al., 1988) show mainly a NW-W direction of the surface currents (at 60-150 m water depth). Current velocity is very high, reaching up to 150 m.s⁻¹ at the north of 280 the island and 80-90 cm.s⁻¹ at the northern and southern flanks of the island (Figure 2A). 281 These values are in agreement with the measured and simulated magnitude of the NEMC of 282 around 100 cm.s⁻¹ (Jose et al., 2016; Schott and McCreary, 2001). In contrast, currents are 283 slower at the western flank of the island ranging between 20 and 40 m s⁻¹ (Figure 2A). Wind 284 285 data acquired onboard at the same time show that the winds around the Glorieuses Island 286 present mainly an easterly component (Figure 2B), in concordance with the measurements 287 from the station on the island (Figure 1C). In the Glorieuses Island the dominant wind is from 288 the east, although there are some periods of opposing wind (from SW, W and NW), especially 289 during the rainy season (December to April) (Figure 1C). The wind and current directions are 290 coherent with the sediment plume extending from the western part of the island observed 291 from a satellite image (Figure 2C). The strong east winds may favour the export of fine 292 sediment through the western part of the island. Moreover, currents in the same direction may 293 also transport the sediment westwards; sediment would be concentrated along the west side of 294 the island, where the currents are the lowest (Figure 2A).

295

296 4.2. Sediment distribution on Glorieuses platform top297

The Glorieuses platform exhibits several facies areas including islands, the reef flat, the reef front, the apron, a shallow and a deep inner platform, and the fore-reef (Table 2). Sediments on Glorieuses platform top, dominated by *Halimeda* fragments (Jorry et al., 2016), are mainly derived from typical tropical carbonate producers such as corals, large benthic foraminifers, Halimeda, and molluscs. These sediments accumulate on three main localities: the back reef
 (including a sand apron), the leeward platform edge, and at the northeastern edge of the
 platform where carbonate sands are deposited on top of successive submarine terraces (Figure
 3).

306

307 Two main seismic sequences can be identified on seismic profiles: a lower sequence 308 characterized by chaotic seismic facies interpreted as an old reef substrate, and an upper 309 sequence showing stratified seismic facies, interpreted as uncemented sands deposited since 310 the last reflooding of the platform top and mostly during the Holocene (Figure 4).

311

312 Sand dunes form a large sand apron beside the reef flat. The sand dunes are sub-parallel 313 bodies, 1.5 m high on average and are oriented SW-NE. They are less than 100 m wide, and 314 their length ranges from 500 to 600 m; the top of the sand dunes is on average 0.2 to 1 m deep 315 at low tide. The general morphology of sand dunes is characterized by a gentle southeast 316 (seaward) flank and a steeper face to the northwest (bankward). This morphology is 317 seemingly influenced by E-W currents, whereas the intertidal and deeper sand dunes on the 318 inner platform are probably shaped by NW-SE currents. The migration of intertidal sand 319 dunes has been estimated at about 43 m/year, with a significant migration observed towards the south/southwest, increasing in the same direction over several years (2004 to 2009, after 320 321 Prat et al., 2016). Based on seismic profiles, the overall sediment accumulation on the back 322 reef is approximately 15 m thick, few hundreds of meters off the sand apron. It shows some 323 progradation toward the platform interior with a decreasing thickness, before completely 324 disappearing 8 km from the reef flat (Figure 4A and Figure 4B).

325

326 Sediments that have accumulated along the leeward edge of the platform form large 327 subaqueous dunes, in 40 - 60 m water depth (Figure 1E). These dunes are elongated (5 to 16 328 km-long) sand bodies of about 5 to 20 m-thick, showing some plurimetric prograding sets 329 separated by erosional surfaces (Figure 4C and Figure 4D). They are lying on a seismic unit 330 characterized by chaotic seismic reflections and incisions. This unit is interpreted as an old 331 reef sequence, whose irregular top probably results from erosion during past sea level 332 lowstands. Three radiocarbon dates have been performed on monospecific assemblage of 333 large benthic foraminifera (Amphistegina lessonii) which have been picked in sediments 334 collected on top of these bodies (Sample RC-GLO-B248, Table 1, location on Figure 3A). These samples give ages ranging from 630 to 1170 cal BP, attesting that the feeding of these 335 336 bodies was active during the late Holocene. Taking into account observations on the 337 displacement of sand dunes at present-day (Prat et al., 2016), we assume that the deposition of 338 carbonate sands along the leeward platform edge is probably still active at present.

339

The deposition of carbonate sands is also observed on top of submerged terraces located at the north-eastern edge of the Glorieuses platform, those terraces having been interpreted as the imprint of the last deglacial sea-level rise (Jorry et al., 2016). Sands are preferentially accumulated on the largest (4 to 5 km-wide) terrace located at 35m water depth, forming an 8 m-thick horizontally stratified sand sheet (Figure 4E and Figure 4F).

345

Based on the seismic interpretation and geomorphological observations, the volume of sediments accumulated on the Glorieuses platform top (which represents a surface of about 188 km², with 80% of the area ranging between 0 and 20 m of water depth) has been estimated at about 0.3 km³ (Table 3). A significant amount of sands appears preferentially accumulated and stored along the leeward platform edge, forming thick elongated carbonate sand dunes. Taking into account that the main carbonate productivity occurs in the inner 352 platform and the reef flat, we interpret these dunes as the result of transportation of sediment 353 mainly from the back-reef apron, where sand dunes migrate towards the south/southwest with 354 a possible outlet located at the northwest of main island, i.e. Grande Glorieuse (Prat et al., 355 2016). The storage of carbonate sands along the leeward platform edge is also in agreement 356 with reduced current and wind effects measured at this location (Figure 2).

357

358 4.3. Sediment accumulation along the Glorieuses slope and adjacent basin

359

360 Bathymetry acquired offshore the Glorieuses archipelago revealed the presence of a steep 361 slope (about 45°) with lineaments, probably volcanic in origin (Figure 1B). Some incisions 362 are observed, but these do not connect to the platform top, originating instead from the 363 smooth, steeper upper platform slope. The floor of these incised channel features is generally flat, lacking a thalweg, and seem to collect platform-derived sediments delivered to the upper 364 365 slope / platform edge transition (Figure 1D). The increased backscatter seen in these channels 366 indicates that sediment within channel margins is probably coarser-grained than that surrounding it. The basin, in approximately 3700 m water depth, shows some lobe-shaped 367 sedimentary accumulations and channels imprinted on the sea floor, at the base of the 368 369 leeward-platform slope (Counts et al., 2018) (Figure 1B). All these accumulations are typified by a basin extent of 35 to 50 km maximum. Sediments accumulated in the deep basin are 370 371 characterized by the stacking of thick (up to 450 ms TWT, i.e ~ 250 m-thick) seismic bodies, 372 which together rest on a volcanic substrate (Counts et al., 2018) (Figure 5). The upper 200 ms 373 show some seismic units composed of amalgamated erosive features, interpreted as channel-374 levees systems and turbiditic lobes, and chaotically bedded debris flows (Counts et al., 2018). Based on seismic data, Counts et al. (2018) also interpreted some of these uppermost 375 376 sedimentary deposits as depositional thrusts resulting from downslope mass movement of 377 slope sediments. Undulating surface features seen on the proximal basin floor may be the 378 surface expression of these thrusts, but may also be sediment waves.

379

380 Two sediment cores were collected in the deep basin adjacent to the Glorieuses platform. 381 MOZ1-KS04 was collected in 3167 m water depth along a channel levee system, and core 382 MOZ1-KS07 was retrieved from 3751 m water depth on a distal lobe (Figure 1B). Analysis 383 and description of both sediment cores shows bundled calciturbidites and carbonate mud 384 (Figure 6A and Figure 6B). The calciturbidites form centimeter to decimeter well-laminated 385 and normally graded beds, with erosive bases (Figure 6C and Figure 6D). They represent 386 6.5% (73 cm) and 20% (146 cm) of the total sediment composition, in core MOZ1-KS07 and 387 core MOZ1-KS04, respectively, the remaining content being composed of carbonate mud 388 (containing 25% aragonite on average). While calciturbidites appear more abundant in core MOZ1-KS04 than in core MOZ1-KS07, we noted that the composition of the calciturbidites 389 390 of both sediment cores is very similar to coarse carbonate sands collected on the platform 391 tops, including coral, Halimeda and mollusc fragments, as well as well-preserved large 392 benthic foraminifera tests (Figure 6E and Figure 6F).

393

394 We also noted that the Sr signal is different between the two sediment cores (Figure 6A and 395 Figure 6B), with Sr concentrations much higher in the proximal core MOZ1-KS04 than in the 396 distal core MOZ1-KS07. Sr peaks are correlated with the presence of calciturbidites in both 397 cores, while some progressive downcore enrichment in the Sr content observed also in 398 hemipelagic layers in core MOZ1-KS04, between 0 and 450 cm core depth. By measuring the 399 aragonite percentage and the Sr abundances along core MOZ1-KS04, it can be demonstrated 400 that Sr variations (at least in hemipelagic sediments) are mainly driven by the aragonite 401 composition of sediments (which ranges between 3% and 44%). Therefore, we can consider 402 the XRF Sr variation as a proxy to estimate the relative concentration in aragonite of basin403 sediments (Figure 7).

404

According to the extent of lobes and channel-levee complexes that can be seen in the basin adjacent to the leeward-platform slope (Figure 1B), the depositional area in the deep basin approximates 600 km² in Glorieuses (Table 3). It is bounded at its northeastern extremity by a volcanic ridge about 1 km high, which may act as a topographic barrier for gravity flows coming from the platform top.

410

411 4.4. Estimate of the carbonate routing system since the last reflooding of the Glorieuses
412 platform

413

Age models have been established on the two sediment cores using δ^{18} O isotope stratigraphy. 414 Core MOZ1-KS04 displays a 250 kyr record, and MOZ1-KS07 core goes back to 350 ka (see 415 Figure 10). For the two cores, fluctuations of the δ^{18} O are in agreement with the well-416 established global sea level changes. Based on the nature of the deposits observed at the two 417 418 core sites in the basin, two main processes at the origin of sediment transfer from the platform 419 top toward the basin can be invoked: neritic carbonate sands have been transferred downslope 420 by turbidity currents, and aragonitic mud has been winnowed from the platform under the 421 action of currents and dominant wind and deposited by settling through the water column (c.f. 422 Counts et al., 2019). Considering that the mean depth of the modern Glorieuses platform edge 423 is located at -60m, we tried to estimate the carbonate budget of the entire platform/basin 424 system since the latest deglacial sea level rise, when the Glorieuses platform was flooded and 425 started to produce carbonate sediments (Table 3).

426

427 The average bulk density of sand and mud facies within the deep basin cores is 1.590 g/cm^3 . 428 The two cores have considerable differences in density properties, with proximal core MOZ1-429 KS04 displaying much greater variation in density, and much higher density of sand layers 430 than in mud layers, particularly in the lower 1/3 of the core (Figure 9A). In order to estimate 431 the density of sediments exported since the Holocene transgression, we measured the bulk 432 density of sandy and muddy facies within each core from the Last Glacial Maximum to the present (18.6 ka in core MOZ1-KS04; 19.1 ka in core MOZ1-KS07); the age range was 433 434 extended to LGM for both cores to ensure that both sandy and muddy facies since the 435 Holocene transgression were represented, and because linear sediment accumulation curves 436 cannot be assumed based upon the core age model. The average density of post-LGM sand 437 bodies was 1.640 ± 0.086 , while the average density of muds was 1.655 ± 0.045 . Surprisingly, 438 the bulk density of muds in the proximal core, MOZ1-KS04, was greater than that in the distal 439 core (1.851 ± 0.047 , 1.501 ± 0.018 , respectively). This difference may be attributable to a 440 larger grain size in the proximal core, in which muds are dominantly silty in its upper 1m, as 441 opposed to dominantly clay muds in the distal core.

442

443 Based on age models from sediment cores collected in the deep-basin, it appears that 23 cm 444 on average of neritic carbonate sands have been exported from the platform top since its last 445 reflooding, i.e. 25% of the total sediment deposited in the deep basin (Table 3). To estimate 446 the portion of carbonate muds derived from the local platform, we used the % aragonite 447 values within the muddy portions of the deep basin cores, noting that most tropical pelagic 448 carbonates in the region are calcitic (e.g. coccolithophores, planktonic foraminifera), while 449 carbonate muds derived from the platform are almost exclusively aragonitic, being composed 450 primarily of fine bioclasts of Scleractinian corals, Halimeda, benthic foraminifera, and 451 mollusc shells, much like the neritic carbonate sands (Jorry et al., 2016). Calciturbidite lobes

and channels cover an area of about 600 km²; we estimate that about 0.55 km³ of carbonate 452 sediments have been deposited in the deep basin during the last 10 kyr, including 0.14 km³ of 453 neritic sands transferred by turbidity currents and 0.13 km³ of aragonitic muds, the latter 454 455 being winnowed from the platform top and settled down through the water column (Table 3). 456 Our data from sediment cores suggest that the aragonite represents 32% of the fine sediments 457 deposited during the last 10 kyr (Figure 7), with aragonite percentage decreasing offshore 458 with water depth.

459

460 To explain the preservation of well-laminated calciturbidite beds (Figure 6C and Figure 6D), 461 we suggest that turbidity currents might have also incorporated some mud, which would 462 favour the occurrence of wavy and planar laminations (Figure 6C and Figure 6D). We also suggest that turbidity currents originating from carbonate slopes might have a low transport 463 capacity, explaining the relatively short distance of propagation on the Glorieuses abyssal 464 465 plain (less than 50 km).

466

Based on these estimates, we may conclude that the average carbonate production of the 467 Glorieuses platform since the last reflooding can be estimated at about 0.57 km³. This volume 468 469 includes 0.3 km³ of neritic sands which are still presently stored on the platform top, and 0.27 km³ of carbonate sand and mud exported to the basin. The estimated volume of carbonate 470 471 muds exported from the platform is a minimum estimate, based on the area of deposition 472 within the sediment lobes and fans mapped. Carbonate mud winnowed from the platform and 473 exported in other directions has not been estimated. Thus we may infer that at least half of the 474 sediments produced on the Glorieuses platform during the last 10 kyr have been reworked and 475 transported onto the slopes or into the proximal basin (Figure 9).

- 476
- 477

4.5. Comparison with regional and global carbonate production estimates 478

479 The validity of these carbonate production estimates was tested by comparing them with 480 various global and regional production estimates produced by a variety of methods. Three 481 global tropical reef carbonate production estimates (Kleypas, 1997; Milliman, 1993; Vecsei, 482 2004) were applied to the Glorieuses example by calculating the average annual production rate per km^2 , and applying this to the marine area of the Glorieuses platform (183 km^2 , Table 483 484 3). In addition, three regional production estimates from the Torres Straits (Leon & 485 Woodroffe 2013) the central Great Barrier reef (Hamylton et al., 2017) the Indian Ocean 486 (Perry et al., 2015) were considered, and the % of estimated production was calculated relative to the global estimate (Table 4). For the Torres Strait example, which represents a 487 488 mesotidal to macrotidal environment similar to Glorieuses, only the crescentic reefs were 489 considered, as this was the reef morphology most similar in shape to the Glorieuses platform. 490 Average Holocene annual carbonate production estimates for the Glorieuses archipelago 491 $(9.26 \cdot 10^8 \text{ mol})$ were 13-33% of the carbonate production estimated from regional or global average carbonate per km^2 production rates. 492

- 493
- 494

495 **5.** Discussion

496

497 5.1. Lessons from past interglacials in the Glorieuses basin 498

499 By comparing records of the two sediment cores, the number of turbidites deposited in the 500 Glorieuses basin appears to be greater during interglacial periods when sea level rose above -501 60 m of water depth, which corresponds to the mean depth of the present-day Glorieuses 502 platform edge (Figure 10D and Figure 10E). During these periods, the deposition of turbidites 503 seems to be preferentially preserved in the proximal basin (i.e. location of core MOZ1-KS04, 504 where 126 cm of carbonate sands have been accumulated). The thickest accumulation of 505 turbidites during these periods (sea level above -60 m) occurred during MIS7 on both cores 506 (Figure 10D and Figure 10E). In addition, the increase of aragonite flux observed at core 507 MOZ1-KS04 (Figure 10A) when sea level rose above -60 m is consistent with the highstand 508 shedding model. According to this model, when the platform is flooded, excess sediment produced on the platform top is exported to the adjacent deep sea (Counts et al., 2019; 509 510 Droxler and Schlager, 1985; Glaser and Droxler, 1993; Jorry et al., 2010; Schlager et al., 511 1994).

512

513 The difference in turbidite frequency in each core indicates that individual turbidite events do 514 not result in deposits that cover the entire proximal basin floor on the north western side of the 515 platform. However, except for MIS7, flooding of the Glorieuses platform at the beginning of 516 each interglacial, was apparently marked by systematic and sudden increases of aragonite 517 fluxes on core MOZ1-KS04 (Figure 10A). Increased aragonite flux appears decisive for 518 calciturbidite deposition in the adjacent basin, as reported for several examples described in 519 worldwide carbonate basins (Andresen et al., 2003; Webster et al., 2012). For MIS7, there has 520 been considerable ambiguity regarding the relative heights of the three highstands, namely MIS7a, MIS7c and MIS7e. Sea levels estimated from reconstructions based in whole or part 521 on benthic oxygen isotope (δ^{18} O) data (Bintanja et al., 2005; Lisiecki and Raymo, 2005; 522 523 Waelbroeck et al., 2002) predict similar peak sea level at, near, or just below that of the 524 present day, whereas some sea-level curves based on other proxies indicate a lower elevation 525 for MIS 7c, near -18m (Dutton et al., 2009; Lea et al., 2002; Siddall et al., 2003). Interestingly, our data show that turbidite deposition thickness was much higher during MIS7 526 527 than for any other interglacials in the Glorieuses basin (Figure 10D and Figure 10E). This 528 could be explained by a sea level which persisted at a level between 0 and -60 m for a long 529 time (Bintanja et al., 2005; Dutton et al., 2009; Lea et al., 2002; Thompson and Goldstein, 530 2005; Waelbroeck et al., 2002). The absence of calciturbidites during the last interglacial 531 (MIS 5e) is also noted on both cores. Considering that sea level rose at +5 to +8m above 532 modern sea level during MIS5e (Dutton and Lambeck, 2012; Lambeck and Chappell, 2001), 533 it might suggest that the Glorieuses platform was totally submerged, increasing the potential area for sediment storage by 15% (\pm 46 km²) due to the drowning of the modern reef flat and 534 exposed islands. The earliest calciturbidites of the last interglacial occurred during the sea 535 536 level drop subsequent to MIS5e, and during the following MIS5c and MIS5a highstands, 537 when sea level fluctuated between 0 and -40 m.

538

539 The relatively high number of calciturbidites deposited during MIS6 at both sites suggest that 540 reworking processes along the carbonate slope might have occurred during lower sea levels 541 (corresponding to periods when sea level was stagnated between 60 and 100 m water depth). 542 This interpretation is reinforced by the presence of sediments that presently drape the 543 upperslope of Glorieuses during the modern highstand (Figure 1D and Figure 3). All these 544 observations demonstrate that the topography of carbonate platform edges and leeward slopes 545 is playing an important role by storing sediment that might be initially shed during 546 highstands, which is then re-mobilized during lowstands and deposited as calciturbidites.

547

548 Because hemipelagic sediments of core MOZ1-KS07 exhibit some relatively low Sr 549 concentrations, we infer that the flushing of aragonitic mud from the platform top was limited 550 in how far it could travel offshore in suspension to about 30km maximum, as observed in the 551 present day where this process seems to be mainly influenced by dominant winds coming 552 from the east (Figure 2C). Another explanation for the low Sr counts in MOZ4-KS07 may be 553 related to the greater depth of this core (3751 m water depth) compared to MOZ1-KS04 (3167 554 m water depth), as the dissolution of aragonite occurs more readily at greater depths. At the 555 present time the carbonate compensation depth (CCD) in the Indian Ocean occurs at 556 approximately 5000 meters of water depth, assuming that the Somali Basin is a typical 557 equatorial area with no significant dilutions by terrigenous debris (Kolla et al., 1976). Because 558 aragonite is more soluble than calcite, its compensation depth is generally considered as 559 shallower than for the calcite. In the Mozambique Channel, some aragonite dissolution has 560 been previously documented in the basin adjacent to Juan de Nova island (at about 1900 m 561 water depth), in the form of pitting on the surface of aragonite needles (Counts et al., 2019).

562

563 5.2. Implications for modern and ancient counterparts564

565 Carbonate production by coral reefs located throughout the tropical and sub-tropical oceans is 566 an important component of the global carbon cycle (Vecsei, 2004). Global estimates are dependent on up-scaling from a small number of individual coral reef studies that represent 567 limited coverage of the world's reefs. At the reef platform scale, carbonate production 568 569 estimates are also of critical importance in understanding the geological and geomorphic 570 development of coral reefs and islands. Furthermore, carbonate production by primary frame 571 builders and secondary benthic organisms, along with mechanical and biological erosion, 572 control the generation of detrital sediment on reef platforms, sediment which is subsequently 573 follows one or more of several possible pathways: reincorporation into reef framework 574 (Hubbard et al., 1990), storage on reef surfaces, transportation off-reef (Hughes, 1999; Jorry 575 et al., 2010, 2008; Webster et al., 2012), transferred to infill lagoons (Kench, 1998; Macintyre 576 et al., 1987; Purdy and Gischler, 2005) or transfer landward to build islands (Hopley, 1982; 577 Maragos et al., 1973; Woodroffe and Grime, 1999; Yamano et al., 2002, 2000). For the 578 Glorieuses, the carbonate productivity initiated by reef corals, Halimeda, benthic 579 foraminifera, and other reef-dwelling benthic organisms, since the last transgression at least, 580 contributes actively to the general evolution of the platform, at least since the last 581 transgression. Detrital carbonate sediments are mainly stored on the platform top and along 582 the leeward edge, and exported downslope. Our study can be compared to previous estimates 583 of carbonate production on coral reefs and carbonate platforms (Table 4). The annual CaCO₃ carbonate production of the Glorieuses platform approximates $9.27 \cdot 10^8$ mol.km⁻² Compared 584 with the global CaCO₃ production of coral reefs in the world oceans (i.e. $9 \cdot 10^{12}$ mol.yr⁻¹ for 585 an area of about $6 \cdot 10^5$ km² (Milliman, 1993), i.e. $27.5 \cdot 10^8$ mol.yr⁻¹ for a carbonate platform of 586 587 about 188 km²), the estimated carbonate production rates at Glorieuses are of comparable 588 order of magnitude, but somewhat lower than predicted (Table 4).

589

590 The Glorieuses carbonate platform appears to produce carbonate sediments at 25-60% of most 591 regional and global carbonate production rate estimates. The net carbonate production rate for 592 the Chagos archipelago (pre-bleaching; Perry et al. 2018) refers strictly to the coral reefs of 593 Chagos, and does not consider the associated non-reefal carbonate facies, hence is not 594 completely representative of Glorieuses, even though it is the closest example geographically. 595 The gross production rate from crescentic reefs in the Torres Strait is the weighted average of 36 crescentic reefs ranging in size from 0.9 to 194 km² (average 26.7 km²), and with gross 596 597 production rates ranging from $0.5 - 10 \text{ kg/m}^2/\text{y}$ (Leon & Woodroffe 2013), emphasizing the 598 tremendous range of variability in carbonate production within reef or platform types.

599

600 Several factors may account for the lower production estimates on Glorieuses. First, the 601 observed lower CaCO₃ carbonate production estimates in Glorieuses reflect a large amount of 602 carbonate mud which has not been considered in our estimates, because, after winnowing 603 from the platform, carbonate mud has been deposited in other areas outside the footprint of 604 the mapped carbonate slope deposits. Secondly, because much of the Glorieuses platform is 605 relatively deep, half < 10 m, (x% < 20 m), the average rate of carbonate production on the 606 entire platform should be expected to be lower than for shallow water reef and platform facies 607 where the most rapidly growing corals flourish (Hamylton et al., 2017; Perry et al., 2015, 608 2013). Third, most of the Glorieuses platform is occupied by non-reef carbonate facies, 609 especially Halimeda meadows, which are generally considered to have a much lower 610 carbonate production rate than the coral reef components of platforms, which are more 611 intensely studied (Hamylton et al. 2017). Furthermore, the lack of oolites or other abiogenic carbonate sediment particles observed on the platform, indicates that platform sediment 612 production is limited to typical coral reef sediment producers. Finally, actualistic survey-613 based carbonate production estimates likely underestimate the long-term rates of carbonate 614 615 export during rare, intense storm events (Hubbard et al. 1990, Hubbard 1992). The Glorieuses 616 estimate, being a Holocene average, necessarily incorporates these, in the basinal calcituridites, although it is possible that not all of the sediment exported was retained within 617 618 the calciturbidite fan system.

619

620 All these processes are also in agreement with the highstand shedding model (Droxler and Schlager, 1985), and confirms that "reflooding windows" at glacial terminations may very 621 rapidly switch on carbonate production on platform tops and export the excess sediment to the 622 deep-sea (Counts et al., 2019; Jorry et al., 2010). While many studies on carbonate basins 623 have demonstrated that most of the calciturbidites are deposited during highstands (Andresen 624 et al., 2003; Glaser and Droxler, 1993; Jorry et al., 2008; Webster et al., 2012), our results in 625 626 Glorieuses show that periods with low sea levels (e.g. MIS6 and MIS10) may have also 627 experienced the export of carbonate sands into deep adjacent basins, as previously documented in the Northern Nicaragua Rise (Reijmer and Andresen, 2007) and in the Exuma 628 629 Sound, Bahamas. According to (Reijmer and Andresen, 2007), the increased coarse-fraction 630 percentage during glacials may be the result of various interacting processes such as a lower 631 input of fine neritic sediments, redepositional processes at the upper slope during lowered sea 632 level, and the export of this material to "proximal basinal" sites (28 km in the basin adjacent 633 to the Pedro Bank). In Glorieuses, it appears that the more frequent and bigger turbidites 634 during MIS6 indicate that sediment was stored on ledges near the platform edge during 635 highstand, then re-exported during lowstand turbidites. This suggests that some calciturbidites behave like siliciclastic turbidites, with sediment accumulating at or slightly below the shelf 636 637 break, then being removed catastrophically during lowstands.

638

639 Based on observations on modern and fossil examples, fundamental differences in large-scale 640 margin transitions and stratal patterns indicate contrasting ratios of material exported downslope relative to the volume of material required to fill the slope profile, creating 641 642 significant lateral variations between leeward and windward margins in their degree of 643 contribution to the foreslope (Eberli et al., 2004; Mullins, 1983; Playton et al., 2010). 644 Compared to ancient analogues, the Glorieuses carbonate system provides some close 645 similarities in terms of size, seismic expression, sediment composition, and slope processes. 646 The turbiditic system observed at Glorieuses is consistent with the classification of Playton et 647 al. (2010) who proposed that grain-dominated facies extend for great distances along strike 648 (up to 10s of kilometers), as documented for Upper Aptian to Danian carbonates series outcropping at the Gargano Peninsula (SE Italy) where a bioclastic base-of-slope apron 649 650 developed 25 km far from the platform edge (Hairabian et al., 2015). Our observations also 651 clarify that channel-fan complexes are characterized by lower slope to toe-of-slope onlaps and erosive channel-form morphologies on the slope that pass into mounded, non-erosive lobate bodies in distal settings (as described in the Miocene Sardinia Basin, Vigorito et al., 2005). At a smaller observation scale, sediment cores collected in the Glorieuses basin may also serve as analogues for grain-dominated deposit transport processes which are related to well-sorted hyperconcentrated and concentrated flow when finer grained fractions are present (see review based on outcrop features proposed by Mulder and Alexander (2001), resulting in the expression of partial to full Bouma sequences (Figure 6C and Figure 6D).

660 **6. Conclusions**

661

666

659

662 Our study provides an estimate of the functioning of a modern carbonate routing system 663 located in the SW Indian Ocean, which helps to improve our knowledge of the processes 664 related to the production, storage, and export of carbonate sediments from the platform top to 665 the deep sea.

The Glorieuses case study clearly illustrates the physiographic connection between the platform top, the slope and the adjacent basin where shed carbonate products are collected. Our findings conclude that a large proportion (about 1/2) of the production of the carbonate platform during the Holocene has been exported downslope, the remaining 1/2 of the production being stored on the platform top, in the form of on windward terraces, a sand apron composed of migrating sand dunes, and dominantly along the leeward edge where subtidal dunes are accumulated.

674

During the last two climatic cycles, calciturbidites have been deposited during successive lowstands and highstands, being transferred to the deep-sea through turbidite channels and deposited on lobes, with a maximum extent of 50 km into the abyssal plain. We note that the thickest sand deposits are transferred mainly during high sea levels when the platform top was flooded, in particular during MIS 7. Deposition of turbidites also occurred during glacial stages and was particularly important during MIS 6, which may imply some reworking processes occurring along the upper slope.

682

Interestingly, we found that the annual carbonate production calculated from the overall Holocene production on the Glorieuses platform was slightly lower than what has been proposed in the literature for modern reefs and carbonate platforms. We conclude that such small-size carbonate platforms can potentially illustrate the carbonate budget in the ocean, at a regional or global scale.

688

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690

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709

710 Figure 1: (A) Location of the Glorieuses archipelago in the SW Indian Ocean, north of 711 Madagascar. (B) Satellite image of the Glorieuses archipelago (Google Earth) and bathymetry 712 acquired along slopes and adjacent basin. The black dashed lines underline turbiditic lobes 713 deposited into the deep-basin. The red lines and arrows describe the canyon network and 714 sediment pathways connected to the distal lobes. Black lines represent seismic lines acquired 715 in that region, and are shown in Figure 5. Yellow circles correspond to the location of 716 sediment cores. (C) Diagram showing maximal daily wind velocity registered at the 717 Météofrance station in Glorieuses, from January 2007 to November 2013. (D) Back-scattered 718 image acquired on the leeward slope of Glorieuses platform. Data are shown with high 719 backscatter in black, interpreted as the presence of a coarse-grained sediment blanket. Red 720 lines refer to transfer axes shown on B. (E) Detailed bathymetry acquired along the 721 northwestern edge of the Glorieuses platform, indicating the presence of submarine sand 722 dunes deposited along the platform edge.

723

Figure 2: Current at 60-150 m water depth from a hull-mounted ADCP (A) and wind velocity from the vessel meteorological station (B) acquired during the 2014 Ptolemee cruise. (C) Satellite image of the Glorieuses archipelago showing bank-derived carbonate sediment plume being exported offshore (Prat et al., 2016). The white dashed line corresponds to the platform edge.

729

730 Figure 3: (A) Map of the Glorieuses platform showing the main depositional environments 731 (modified after Jorry et al., 2016). Black dots correspond to surface sediment samples 732 collected in the Archipelago, which have been used to characterize bottom types and biota (cf. 733 Prat et al., 2016). White dots correspond to sediment cores collected on the platform top, in 734 intertidal settings. Small black dots within the fore-reef facies are coral pinnacles. (B) Satellite 735 image (Google Map) of the Glorieuses platform and back-scattered image acquired along 736 adjacent slopes. The red lines represent the seismic survey done on the Glorieuses platform 737 during the REEFCORES 2 and REEFCORES 3 cruises. The green lines correspond to seismic 738 profiles illustrated in Figure 4. Yellow areas represent the main sediment depocenters which 739 have been deduced from interpretation of the seismic lines.

740

Figure 4: Illustration of Sparker seismic lines acquired on the Glorieuses platform. (A) and (B) represent respectively processed and interpreted seismic profile acquired along the backreef. (C) and (D) correspond respectively to processed and interpreted seismic profile acquired along the leeward platform edge. (E) seismic profile (interpreted in (F)) acquired on submerged terraces located at the north-eastern edge of the Glorieuses platform. The location of the seismic profiles A, B, and C can be found on Figure 3.

747

Figure 5: (A) and (C) are seismic profiles acquired in the Glorieuses basin, with interpretation in (B) and (D). Both profiles show a combination of sedimentary features atop the clearly defined volcanic basement, notably sandy turbidite lobes, identified by their better-organized and mixed-to high-amplitude reflections, that pinch out distally over the course of tens of kilometres. Chaotically bedded, low amplitude debris flows can also be seen in Figure 5A and 5B (labelled). These gravity-flow deposits interfinger with the evenly bedded, fine-grained pelagic sediments.

755

Figure 6: (A) and (B) Sedimentological description and Sr XRF record of two sediment cores collected in the Glorieuses basin (see core location on Figure 1). Yellow facies correspond to calciturbidites, and carbonate mud correspond to orange facies. Blue dots represent
radiocarbon dates and corresponding ages (cal BP). The location of both cores can be found in
Figure 1. (C) and (D) represent pictures (left) and XCT (right) of two calciturbidite sequences
identified on the two sediment cores, characterized by typical laminated, fining-upward
sequences. (E) Petrographic content of a calciturbidite sampled in core MOZ1-KS04 (at
245cm). (F) Petrographic content of sediment sampled on the apron of the Glorieuses
archipelago (core top of RC-GLO-C030, see Figure 1 and 3 for location).

765

Figure 7: Relationships between the WD-XRF Sr (ppm) and the XRD Aragonite (%), and the
WD-XRF Sr (ppm) with the XRF-CS Sr (counts). R2 indicates the correlation coefficient for
each linear regression. The black squares indicate Holocene samples.

769

Figure 8: Density from cores collected in the Glorieuses basin (A) and on the platform top(B).

772

Figure 9: Summary diagram illustrating the sediment volume partitioning in Glorieuses since the last reflooding of the platform, from platform top to deep basin. Estimates show that the Glorieuses platform has produced about 0.57 km³ of sediment, with 0.3 km³ presently stored on the platform top, and 0.27 km³ being exported downslope and deposited in the adjacent

- 777 basin.
- 778

779 Figure 10: Timing of sandy turbidites and aragonite deposition across the last three glacial-780 interglacial cycles. (A) Antarctica (EDC3) sea-level curve in blue (Rohling et al., 2009), with 781 numbers corresponding to isotopic stages. The dashed black line centered on -60m water 782 depth represents the mean depth of the Glorieuses platform edge. The red line represents the 783 aragonite flux calculated along core MOZ1-KS04. B: Planktonic oxygen isotopes along core 784 MOZ1-KS04. Blue circles and associated numbers indicate radiocarbon dates with 785 corresponding ages (cal BP). Bands crossing (A) and (B) represent the base of the 786 calciturbidites identified along core MOZ1-KS04, which were deposited during periods when 787 sea level was above (orange bands) or below (yellow bands) the mean platform edge (i.e. -788 60m water depth). (C) Antarctica (EDC3) sea-level curve in blue (Rohling et al., 2009), with 789 numbers corresponding to isotopic stages, and planktonic oxygen isotopes (white circles) 790 along core MOZ1-KS07. The dashed black line centered on -60m water depth represents the 791 mean depth of the Glorieuses platform edge. Bands represent the base of the calciturbidites 792 identified along core MOZ1-KS07, which were deposited during periods when sea level was 793 above (orange bands) or below (yellow bands) the mean platform edge (i.e. -60m water 794 depth). Turbidite thicknesses and frequencies have been calculated for both MOZ1-KS04 (D) 795 and MOZ1-KS07 (E) sediment cores. Both diagrams illustrate cumulative thickness and 796 number of turbidites recognized in each marine isotope stages (MIS), for periods when the 797 Glorieuses platform was flooded (sea level above -60m water depth) or exposed (sea level 798 below -60m water depth). 799

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Table 1: Radiocarbon dates for cores MOZ1-KS04 and MOZ1-KS07, collected in the Glorieuses basin, and for surface sediment RC-GLO-B248 collected on the leeward platform edge, at 31m water depth. ¹⁴C ages were calibrated using the Marine13 radiocarbon age calibration curve (Reimer et al., 2013).

806

807 Table 2: Main facies areas of the Glorieuses platform and gross productivity estimate (G, 808 expressed in $g.CaCO_3.m^{-2}.d^{-1}$).

809

Table 3: Glorieuses volume and mass of sediment stored on platform sand bodies and exported in submarine fans. Estimates for Holocene mud samples take into account a composition of 32% aragonite of the average of 2 cores with a total of 3 samples.

813

Table 4: Glorieuses volume and mass of sediment produced during Holocene compared with

815 global and regional reef production estimates. *NB: these results are based on the assumption

that the measured value of 32% aragonite in basin muds corresponds to the proportion of

817 aragonite muds derived from the platform, i.e. assuming that the majority of the platform 818 sediments are aragonite, and include only the mud within the footprint of the basin sediment

818 sediments are aragonite, and include only the mud wit819 lobes.

819 lo 820

822 824 Table 1

Core label	Depth (cm)	Lab. Number	Species	¹⁴ C age (yr BP)	error (1σ)	Calendar age range (yr BP, 2σ)
MOZ1-KS04	10	Beta-409928	G. ruber	5450	30	5734-5901
MOZ1-KS04	40	Beta-423385	G. ruber	9940	30	10750-11057
MOZ1-KS04	60	Beta-423386	G. ruber	15750	50	18848-18754
MOZ1-KS04	70	Beta-423387	G. ruber	21690	80	25405-25838
MOZ1-KS04	105	Beta-423388	G. ruber	38680	410	41847-42955
MOZ1-KS07	0	Beta-475302	G. ruber	8240	40	8411-8842
MOZ1-KS07	24	Beta-475303	G. ruber	9750	30	10314-10685
MOZ1-KS07	54	Beta-475304	G. ruber	16380	60	18905-19324
MOZ1-KS07	120	Beta-475305	G. ruber	43320	650	44925-47590
RC-GLO-B248A	0	Beta-361147	A. lessonii	1430	30	640-1030
RC-GLO-B248B	0	Beta-361148	A. lessonii	1560	30	730-1170
RC-GLO-B248C	0	Beta-361149	A. lessonii	1410	30	630-990

Table 2

Facies	Area (%)	Area (km2)	Productivity	Source for CaCO ₃ Productivity Estimate
			(G)	
islands	2.5	4.79	0	n/a
reef flat	11.1	20.85	1.66	Leon and Woodroffe (2013)
reef front	17	31.97	4	Kinsey and Hopley (1991)
apron	5.8	10.9	0.2	Cyronak et al. (2013) in Hamylton et al. (2017)
shallow inner platform	11.4	21.34	2.2	Rees et al. (2007) in Hamylton et al. (2017)
deep inner platform	27	50.78	1.1	Half of shallow inner platform
fore-reef	25.2	47.38	2.2	Vecsei (2004)
Total Area / weighted	100	188.01	1.76	n/a
average production rate				

Table 3

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Location	Sediment body (Holocene)	Area (m ²)	Average thickness (m)	% aragonite	Volume (m ³)	Density (kg/m ³)	Kg CaCO ₃	Mol CaCO ₃
Platform	Sand lenses	$18.8 \cdot 10^{6}$		100 %	$3.0 \cdot 10^8$	1603.9 ±25	$4.81 \cdot 10^{11}$	$4.80 \cdot 10^{12}$
Basin	All sediment in fans	$600 \cdot 10^{6}$	0.92		$5.52 \cdot 10^8$	1590 ±9.5	8.77 • 10^{11}	8.77 • 10^{12}
	Calci-turbidite sands	$600 \cdot 10^{6}$	0.23	100 %	$1.38 \cdot 10^8$	1640 ±86	$2.26 \cdot 10^{11}$	$2.26 \cdot 10^{12}$
	Carbonate muds	$600 \cdot 10^{6}$	0.69	32 %	$1.32 \cdot 10^8$	1655 ±45	$2.19 \cdot 10^{11}$	$2.19 \cdot 10^{12}$

844

846 Table 4

Author (year)	Scale	CaCO ₃ production (mol/y)	CaCO ₃ production (Gt/y)	Area (km ²)	Production rate (mol,kg/km ² /y)	Applied to Glorieuses (mol,kg/y)	Glorieuses estimate (this study)* (mol,kg/y)	% of regional or global rate
Milliman (1993)	Global	$9.0 \cdot 10^{12}$	n/a	$6.0 \cdot 10^5$	$1.50 \cdot 10^7 \mathrm{mol}$	$2.75 \cdot 10^9 \mathrm{mol}$	$9.26 \cdot 10^8 \mathrm{mol}$	33.73
Kleypas (1997)	Global	n/a	0.9-1.68	$6.65 \cdot 10^5$	$2.07 \cdot 10^6$ kg	$3.80 \cdot 10^8$ kg		24.37
Vecsei (2004)	Global	n/a	0.73	$3.037 \cdot 10^5$	$2.40 \cdot 10^6$ kg	$4.40 \cdot 10^8 \mathrm{kg}$		21.04
Leon & Woodroffe (2013)	Regional (Torres Strait; crescentic only		3.2 x 10 ⁻⁶	961	3.3 • 10 ⁶ kg	6.10 • 10 ⁸ kg	9.27 • 10^7 kg	15.19
Hamylton et al. (2017)	Regional (GBR, all reef types	n/a	4.8 • 10 ⁻⁷	181	$2.7 \cdot 10^6 \mathrm{kg}$	$4.95 \cdot 10^8 \mathrm{kg}$		18.72
Perry et al. (2015)	Local (Chagos)	n/a	n/a	n/a	$3.7 \cdot 10^6$ kg	$6.78 \cdot 10^8$ kg		13,67

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