

1 **Supporting Information for**

2 **“The role of tides in ocean–ice-shelf interactions in the southwestern Weddell Sea”**

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5 **Contents**

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9 **Introduction**

10 This supporting information provides further characterization of the water-mass properties of  
11 the reference simulation, for different open-ocean regions and cavities (Figs. S1 and S2, re-  
12 spectively), as well as a characterization of the water-mass changes induced by the presence  
13 of tides (Fig. S3), with further discussion of these provided in Supplementary Note S1. Fur-  
14 thermore Table S1 provides additional details on ocean model parameterizations used.

15 **Note S1. Water mass properties and impact of tides**

16 Further characterization (in addition to Fig. 5 & 6) of the reference simulation's volume cen-  
17 sus in conservative temperature ( $\Theta$ )-absolute salinity ( $S_A$ ) space for several subdomains of the  
18 regional simulation is provided in Figs. S1 & S2.

19 **Open-ocean water masses** Water mass distributions for open-ocean gyre and continental  
20 shelf regions (cf. map in Fig. S1d) are color-contoured in Fig. S1 (panels S1a & b show the  
21 southwestern & southeastern deep open ocean, panels c, e & f the northwestern, southwest-  
22 ern, eastern continental shelves; here panel S1e is repeated from Fig. 5b to place it in the re-  
23 gional context). As in Fig. 5, the gray dots superimposed on the model volumetric  $\Theta$ - $S_A$  con-  
24 tours represent observed  $\Theta$ - $S_A$  from all available in-situ profiles acquired by ships, Argo floats  
25 and instrumented seals, within each of the regions post 1972, with profile locations mapped  
26 and counted in panel Fig. S1d. Profiles are obtained through all seasons, with the summer-focus  
27 of ship observations mediated by the addition of seals, as well as of Argo floats, including un-  
28 der sea ice (with interpolated coordinates as seen in Fig. S1d). Note that in-situ profiles rep-  
29 resent the respective instantaneous local ocean state as indication of observed water-mass pop-  
30 ulations, rather than a quantitative census of volume distributions as available in the model.  
31 Overall this comparison shows that water masses observed coincide with the primary poles  
32 of simulated water masses in each of the open-ocean regions considered. In addition to the  
33 discussion of simulated water masses and their overall favorable comparison to observations  
34 provided in the main text, several further descriptive aspects are detailed here.

35 The eastern open gyre (Fig. S1b) features two major water mass poles, the warm and salty warm  
36 deep waters (WDW) transiting along the modified warm deep water (MWDW) mixing lines  
37 into the fresher secondary pole of winter waters (WW) at the surface freezing point. The lighter  
38 Antarctic surface waters (AASW) though occupying a large extent of the  $\Theta$ - $S_A$  space repre-  
39 sent a comparatively small volume of ocean. Only a more modified version of the WDW pole  
40 makes it onto the eastern shelf to the south (Fig. S1f), where waters at the surface freezing  
41 point are the major water mass occupying a large range of salinities both fresh and also al-  
42 ready somewhat salinified transiting in the range of dense shelf waters but remaining below  
43 34.8 g/kg. A relatively small volume of subsurface freezing point waters is present, indicat-  
44 ing the interaction with ice shelves (local, or upstream imported across the eastern boundary).

45 Moving westward onto the wide continental shelf in front of FRIS (Fig. S1e, repeated from  
46 Fig. 5), MWDW and WW still present major poles, and here a large fraction of the latter has

47 been salinified into a major pole of high salinity shelf waters (HSSW) with salinities in ex-  
48 cess of 34.8 g/kg reaching peaks above 35.1 g/kg. Their interaction with FRIS produce fresher  
49 ice shelf waters (ISW) with temperatures below the surface freezing point, which upon leav-  
50 ing the cavity constitute a major water mass on the open continental shelf. On the continen-  
51 tal shelf to the north adjoining the Antarctic peninsula (Fig. S1c), MWDW and WW are the  
52 major water masses, with salty HSSW present only in smaller quantities, and only a tiny frac-  
53 tion of ISW produced by the local interaction with Larsen ice shelves.

54 In the western open gyre (Fig. S1a) simulated water masses are overall similar to the eastern  
55 open gyre with major poles of WW and (M)WDW, but here a new water mass denser than MWDW  
56 is present occupying a large fraction of volume. This corresponds to Weddell sea deep and bot-  
57 tom waters (WSDW/WSBW) formed locally within the model domain through the simulated  
58 ocean–atmosphere–sea-ice interactions on the wide southern and western continental shelf and  
59 and ocean–ice-shelf interactions with the adjacent FRIS ice shelf. The eastern gyre (east of  
60 25°W, Fig. S1b) only shows a small fraction of this water mass and only at its warmest ex-  
61 treme (with temperatures remaining above  $-0.5^{\circ}\text{C}$ ).

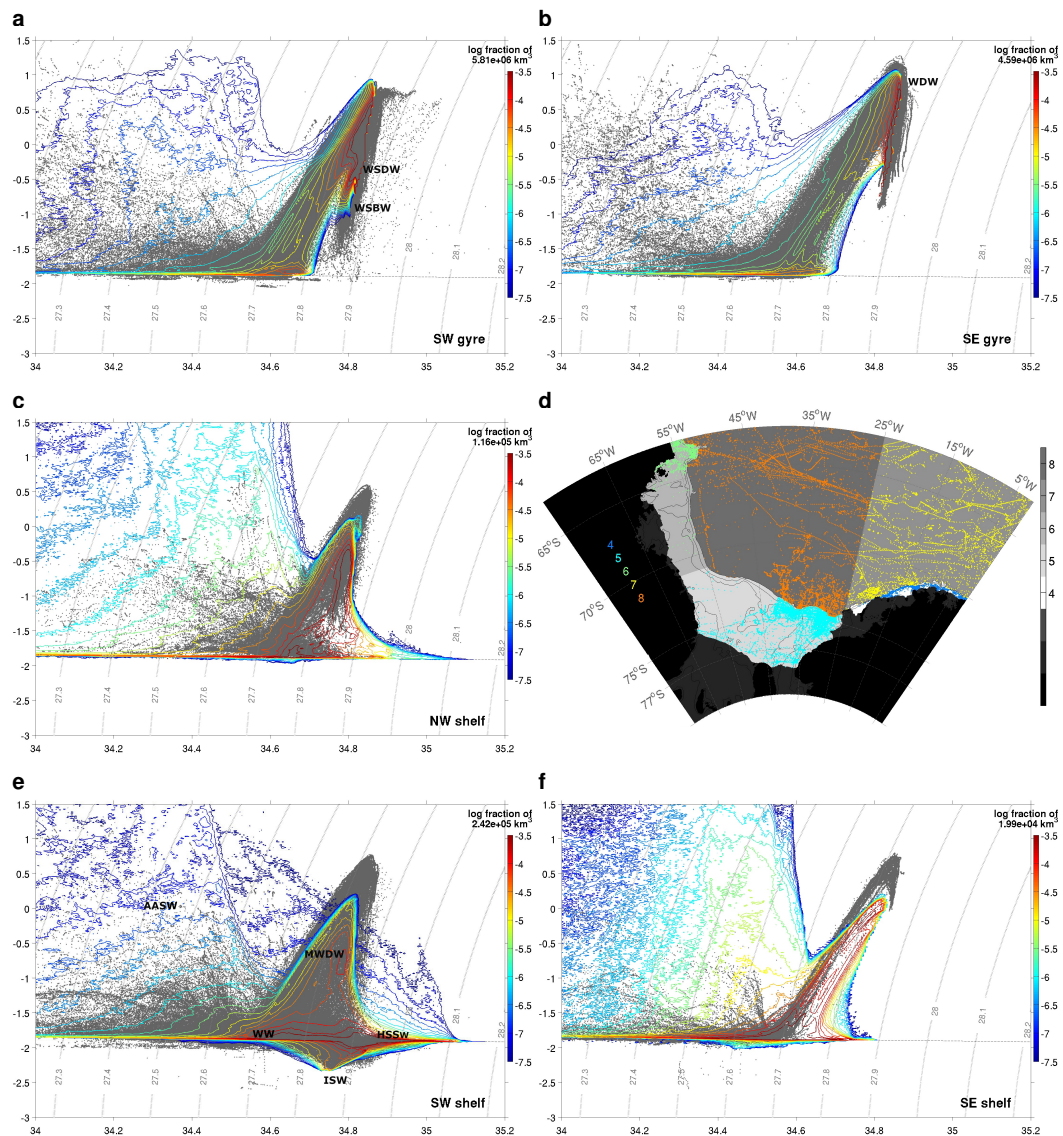
62 **Cavity water masses** Cavity water masses are color-shaded for the three ice-shelf cavity  
63 formations within the Weddell Sea regional domain: FRIS (Fig. 6), and EWIS (Fig. S2a) and  
64 Larsen (Fig. S2b). Whereas low volumes of AASW are found in each of the three cavities,  
65 the shallower Larsen and EWIS cavities, in contrast to the large and deep FRIS cavity, also  
66 show important volume fractions of MWDW. Whereas MWDW that enters Larsen is substan-  
67 tially modified and relatively cold ( $\Theta < -1^{\circ}\text{C}$ ), waters that reflect the characteristics of the  
68 major pole of WDW/MWDW in the eastern gyre and continental shelf regions are able to en-  
69 ter the EWIS cavities (up to  $0^{\circ}\text{C}$ ). Together with substantial volumes of WW, these drive ice-  
70 shelf melting thereby transforming into ISW. Here ISW features several poles with different  
71  $\Theta$ - $S_A$  properties in the different EWIS and Larsen cavities, being overall fresher in EWIS and  
72 saltier in Larsen.

73 **Water-mass changes** Fig. S3 provides a characterization of the impact of tides on regional  
74 water mass properties, by displaying the difference of oceanic volume in  $\Theta$ - $S_A$  space, between  
75 the reference simulation with tides and the perturbation experiment without tides. For lisibil-  
76 ity across the large range of volumes and volume changes, instead of the simple difference,  
77 the Figure colors the difference of the logarithms of volume fractions weighted by the loga-  
78 rithm of the no-tide volume fractions, where the volume fraction is the ratio of the volume in

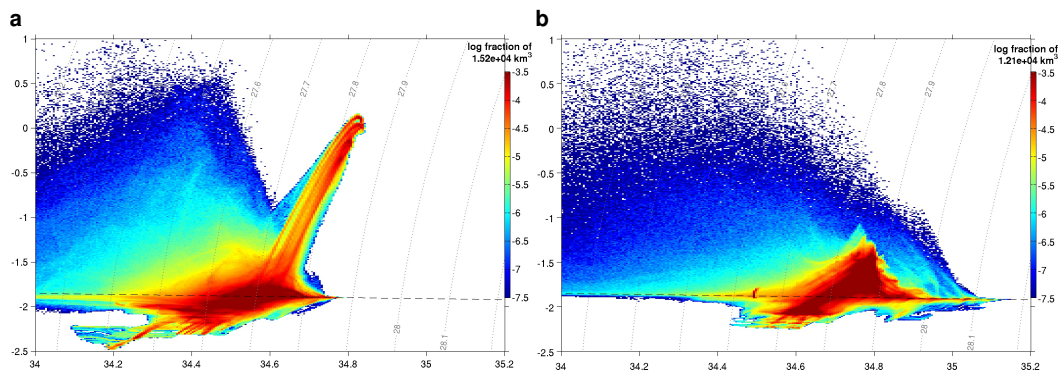
79 each  $\Theta$ - $S_A$  bin and the total ocean volume of the region considered. Characterization is pro-  
80 vided for western & eastern open gyre (Fig. S3a & b), southwestern & eastern continental shelves  
81 (Fig. S3c & d), and FRIS & EWIS (Fig. S3e & f). Whereas tidally-induced water-mass changes  
82 are often small and fragmented, several key differences stand out as systematic and pronounced  
83 and have been highlighted in the main text. In particular, they consist, in the eastern Weddell  
84 Sea, in more sub-freezing-point water produced through larger melting in the EWIS cavities  
85 (Fig. S3f), which is accompanied with a slight enhancement of EWIS ISW on the eastern con-  
86 tinental shelf outside (Fig. S3d). For the southwestern Weddell Sea, similar signatures of the  
87 tidally-driven enhancement of basal melt are seen: In the FRIS cavity (Fig. S3e), the volume  
88 of above-freezing-point waters diminishes while that of sub-freezing-point waters augments,  
89 with in the latter several poles of  $\Theta$ - $S_A$  changes with enhanced volume in particular in fresher  
90 FRIS ISW. On the southwestern continental shelf outside FRIS (Fig. S3c) outflowing ISW loose  
91 volume in their salty varieties but gain volume in their fresh varieties. Here also the saltiest  
92 waters along MWDW to HSSW/ISW mixing line decline, while the saltiest HSSW somewhat  
93 augment. Regarding the deep ocean beyond the continental shelves, while the eastern Wed-  
94 dell Sea (Fig. S3b) shows no substantial tidal impact, in the western open gyre (Fig. S3a) tides  
95 induce a marked change: here deep and bottom waters loose saltier and gain fresher varieties,  
96 as a consequence of the tidally-driven changes in ocean-cryosphere interactions in the south-  
97 western Weddell shelf and cavity. Overall, as discussed in the main text, these provide evi-  
98 dence for an impact of the tidal enhancement of Weddell ice-shelf melting that, besides its con-  
99 sequence for ice shelves and adjacent ice sheets, extends beyond cavities: through the asso-  
100 ciated enhanced meltwater export it influences oceanic properties on the continental shelves,  
101 known for their generating role in the formation of Weddell Sea and global ocean deep and  
102 bottom waters.

103 Further differences in the  $\Theta$ - $S_A$  properties between the two experiments present throughout  
104 most of the 8-year simulations reflect tide-driven changes in the renewal of cavity water masses.  
105 Thus, in absence of tides, remote cavity localities exist, especially under FRIS, whose water  
106 masses are never fully flushed out. There (artificial) water masses present in the initial state,  
107 which themselves are remnants from the initialization of the forcing simulation (GO7) and thus  
108 survived a 14-year non-tidal spinup at coarser resolution (eORCA025), remain present through-  
109 out the 8-year no-tide perturbation experiment. To the contrary, in presence of tides, these are  
110 replaced by what are thought to be more physically-consistent FRIS cavity water masses within  
111 the first simulated year. In such remote cavity locations of lingering warm deep water masses,

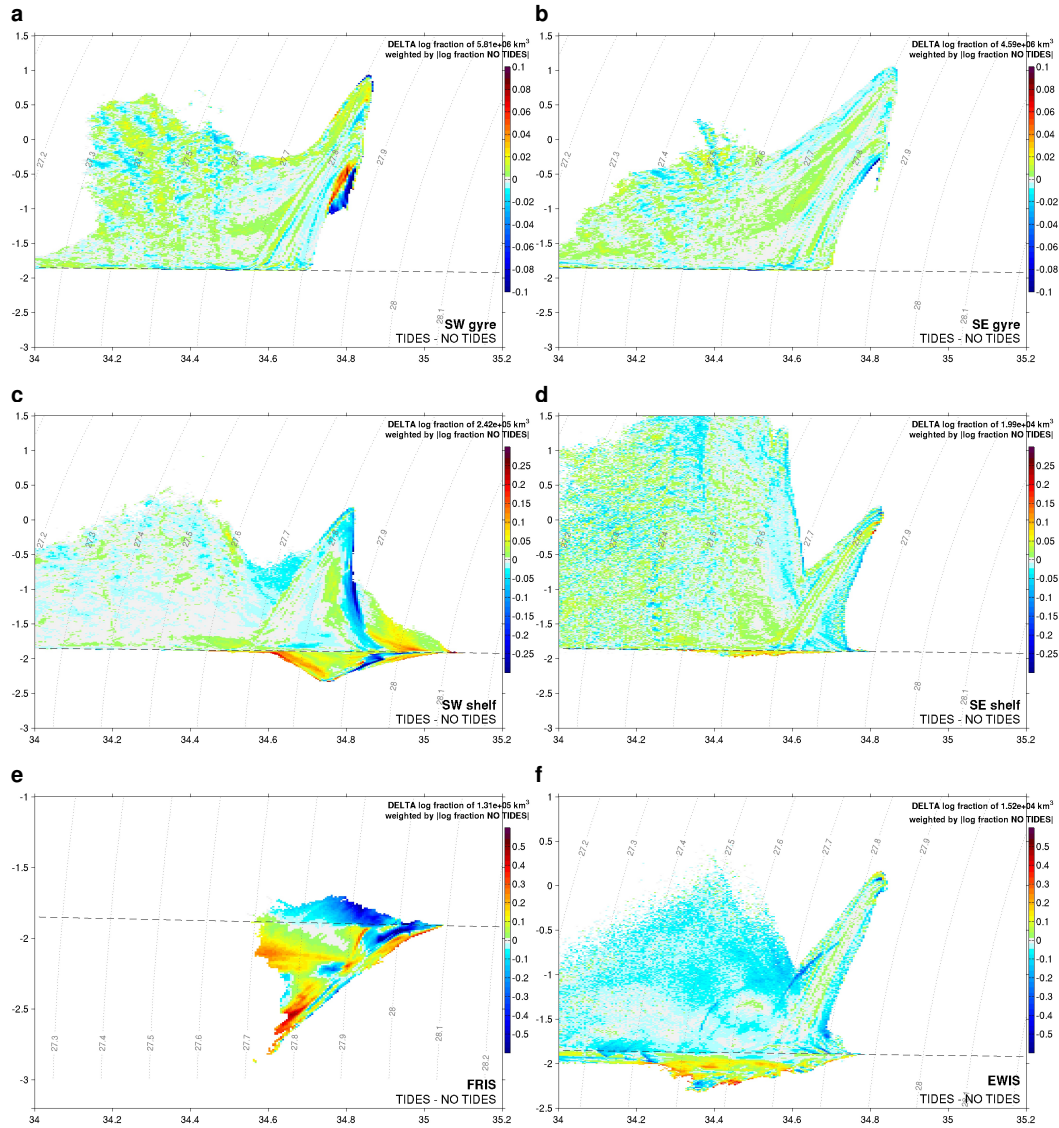
112 inherited from extrapolated initial conditions, strong enhanced-melt anomalies may be expected.  
113 However, as in absence of tides water masses stagnate there, the tbt freshens and cools instead  
114 in response to the artificially concentrated meltwater in contact with the ice drafts. This is rep-  
115 resented by small pockets of very fresh and cold water masses in the no-tide FRIS volumet-  
116 ric  $\Theta-S_A$  that are too small in terms of volume to be visible on the color scale in Fig. S3. To  
117 provide further assessment of the impact of the differing renewal of these local cavity water  
118 masses on the net results presented in this study, a second sensitivity experiment has been re-  
119 alized. It makes use of the tidally-driven flushing out of water masses in the high-resolution  
120 tidally-forced reference experiment designed in this study, and removes tides from this tidal  
121 state at year 6 of the reference experiment for a two-year simulation. However, this second  
122 assessment strategy also cannot fully assess the impact of tides, as the no-tidal sensitivity sim-  
123 ulation is not able to fully separate itself from its tidal-state initialization, and as suggested  
124 by present results, will likely not be able to do so for two decades or more. Whereas our anal-  
125 ysis suggests that such local tide-induced phenomena do not contribute significantly to the in-  
126 tegral tidal signatures discussed here, they nonetheless underline the important role of tides  
127 in shaping ocean-ice-shelf interactions and the renewal of water masses in large, deep and cold  
128 cavities such as FRIS.



129 **Figure S1. Further characterization of open-ocean water masses.** Open-ocean regional subdomain (as  
 130 mapped in **d**) volumetric  $\Theta$ - $S_A$  diagrams (colored contours, shown as log fraction of the respective region's  
 131 total ocean volume) in the reference experiment (5-year average over years 4-8, i.e. 1993-1997). Dotted  
 132 contours show  $\sigma_0$ . All-time available in-situ observations (mapped in **d**, one color per region, with numbers  
 133 indicating region) are superimposed (as gray dots) over the regional model  $\Theta$ - $S_A$  diagrams. Regions dis-  
 134 played are: **a** the southwestern open gyre ( $n^\circ 8$  in **d**), **b** the southeastern open gyre ( $n^\circ 7$ ), **c** the northwestern  
 135 Weddell shelf ( $n^\circ 6$ ), **e** the southwestern Weddell shelf (repeated from the main text,  $n^\circ 5$ ), and **f** the eastern  
 136 Weddell shelf ( $n^\circ 4$ ). Further water masses labelled, besides those indicated in the main text & panel **e**, are  
 137 warm deep water (WDW) and Weddell Sea deep & bottom water (WSDW & WSBW).



138 **Figure S2. Further characterization of cavity water masses.** Reference experiment 5-year average  
 139 (years 4-8, i.e. 1993-1997) volumetric  $\Theta$ - $S_A$  diagram for the cavities of EWIS (a) and Larsen (b), shown as  
 140 log fraction of the respective cavity's total ocean volume (colors). The corresponding water mass diagram for  
 141 the FRIS cavity is displayed in the main text in comparison to sub-ice-shelf in-situ observations.



142 **Figure S3. Impact of tides on water-mass properties**, in the open ocean (cf. map locations in Fig. S1d)  
 143 for **a** the southwestern & **b** the southeastern open gyre, **c** the southwestern & **d** the eastern continental shelves,  
 144 and for the cavities of **e** FRIS & **f** EWIS. (For corresponding tidal reference  $\Theta-S_A$  cf. Figs. 5, 6, S1 & S2.)  
 145 Here, to visualize changes over the large magnitude range of ocean volumes concerned, panels display  
 146 (in color) the ratio of  $\Theta-S_A$  volume fractions (with respect to the total ocean volume of a given region  
 147  $V_0$ ) in presence of to in absence of tides, weighted by the corresponding no-tide volume fraction, that is:  
 148  $(\log_{10}(\frac{V_{tide}}{V_0}) - \log_{10}(\frac{V_{notide}}{V_0})) / |\log_{10}(\frac{V_{notide}}{V_0})|$ , colored only where both tide and no tide volume frac-  
 149 tions exceed  $10^{-7}$ . Thus, positive values (red shades) indicate a tidally-driven increase of volume in a given  
 150  $\Theta-S_A$  bin, negative values (blue shades) a decrease. Values of  $\pm 1$  indicate a change of volume by  $n/10$   
 151 powers, where the volume without tides  $V_{notide}$  was  $10^{-n}V_0$ , and larger/smaller absolute values indicate  
 152 larger/smaller relative changes. Note changing color bars, reflecting largest relative changes in cavities (lower  
 153 panels), followed by continental shelves (middle) and then the open gyre (top).



**Table S1. Ocean model parameterizations.<sup>a</sup>**

|                                                |                                                                                                         |                                                            |
|------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|
| free surface:                                  | nonlinear, variable volume<br>distributed through depth in<br>time-varying $z^*$ -coordinate            | (linear, fixed volume,<br>with constant $z$ -coordinate)   |
| split-explicit free surface:                   | integrating barotropic equations<br>with centered scheme                                                | (forward scheme)                                           |
| barotropic boundary conditions imposed<br>via: | Flather radiation                                                                                       | (flow relaxation)                                          |
| lateral momentum boundary condition via:       | no slip                                                                                                 | (partial slip)                                             |
| nonlinear bottom & top friction, with drag:    | varying with last ocean cell<br>depth within $2.5e-3$ & $1.e-2$<br>( <i>Madec and NEMO-team</i> , 2016) | (constant value of $1.e-3$ )                               |
| vertical eddy diffusivity:                     | $2.0e-6$ m <sup>2</sup> /s, modulated by<br>horizontal shape function                                   | ( $1.2e-5$ m <sup>2</sup> /s, without<br>horizontal shape) |
| enhanced vertical diffusion:                   | $10$ m <sup>2</sup> /s, applied on tracer                                                               | (tracer & momentum)                                        |

Notes: <sup>a</sup> Key ocean model parameterizations are as in Jourdain et al. 2017, besides those specifically listed here. In the table, parameterization choices used in this study are given in the middle column, and followed by Jourdain et al. 2017's choice (given in brackets in the last column). Configuration and experiment forcing strategies are detailed in the main text (sections 2.1 & 2.2), and in Jourdain et al. 2017, respectively. For further details of parameterizations employed refer to <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.3384022> for this study, and to <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.1067647> for Jourdain et al. 2017.