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# Simulating or prescribing the influence of tides on the Amundsen Sea ice shelves

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## Abstract

The representation of tides in regional ocean simulations of the Amundsen Sea enhances ice-shelf melting, with weakest effects for Pine Island and Thwaites ( $< +10\%$ ) and strongest effects for Dotson, Cosgrove and Abbot ( $> +30\%$ ). Tides increase vertical mixing throughout the water column along the continental shelf break. Diurnal tides induce topographically trapped vorticity waves along the continental shelf break, likely underpinning the tidal rectification (residual circulation) simulated in the Dotson-Getz Trough. However, the primary effect by which tides affect ice-shelf melting is the increase of ice/ocean exchanges, rather than the modification of water masses on the continental shelf. Tide-induced velocities strengthen turbulent heat fluxes at the ice/ocean interface, thereby increasing melt rates. Approximately a third of this effect is counterbalanced by the resulting release of cold melt water that reduces melt downstream along the meltwater flow. The relatively weak tide-induced melting underneath Pine Island and Thwaites could be partly related to their particularly thick water column, which limits the presence of quarter wavelength tidal resonance. No sensitivity to the position of Pine Island and Thwaites with respect to the  $M_2$  critical latitude is found. We refine and evaluate existing methodologies to prescribe the effect of tides on ice-shelf melt rates in ocean models that do not explicitly

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include tidal forcing. The best results are obtained by prescribing spatially-dependent tidal top-boundary-layer velocities in the melt equations. These velocities can be approximated as a linear function of existing barotropic tidal solutions. A correction factor needs to be applied to account for the additional melt-induced circulation associated with tides and to reproduce the relative importance of dynamical and thermodynamical processes.

*Keywords:* Amundsen Sea, tides, ice shelf melt, ice shelf cavity, NEMO, Pine Island, Thwaites

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## 1. Introduction

The interactions between the Southern Ocean and the Antarctic Ice Sheet remain poorly understood and simulated in spite of their importance for the ice sheet stability and associated global sea level rise (e.g., Jacobs et al., 2012; Asay-Davis et al., 2017; Turner et al., 2017). Part of the difficulty in simulating oceanic melt rates lies in the absence or poor representation of tides in the ocean models that are used for climate projections (e.g., Dinniman et al., 2016). Ice shelf cavities are usually represented in barotropic tide models (e.g., Padman et al., 2002; Carrère et al., 2012), but with no thermodynamical ice/ocean interactions. Several regional ocean models resolving the primitive equations and enabling thermodynamical ice/ocean interactions have been used to estimate tide-induced melting (e.g., Makinson et al., 2011; Mueller et al., 2012, 2018; Galton-Fenzi et al., 2012; Robertson, 2013; Mack et al., 2017). This was done by imposing the solution of one of the aforementioned barotropic tide models at the regional model lateral boundaries. However, these studies were limited to individual ice shelves and their close vicinity, and some did not account for variable atmospheric forcing. Several Ocean General Circulation Models (OGCMs) have the capability to represent aspects of the tidal signal in global ocean simulations (e.g., Savage et al., 2017; Stewart et al., 2018) but some processes are missing (see below), and so far, tides have not been used in OGCMs that represent ocean/ice-shelf interactions. In fact, most OGCMs or large-extent ocean regional models that include thermodynamical ocean/ice-shelf interactions rely on parameterizations to account for melting modulation by tides (see section 2), yet an assessment of these parameterizations is lacking.

In their review of tidal effects on ice sheets, Padman et al. (2018) distinguish tidal processes occurring seaward of the ice shelf, such as tidal vertical

28 mixing and residual currents, from those directly affecting heat exchanges at  
29 the ocean/ice-shelf interface. Tidal vertical mixing is caused by (i) the ver-  
30 tical shear as barotropic tidal currents rub upon the seafloor (in particular  
31 in shallow areas where these currents tend to be relatively swift); and by (ii)  
32 the breaking of internal tidal waves (also called baroclinic tides or internal  
33 tides) generated by the interaction of barotropic tidal currents with steep  
34 topography. Internal tides freely propagate equatorward of a critical latitude  
35 at which the tidal frequency equals the inertial frequency. Critical latitudes  
36 are  $74.5^\circ$  for  $M_2$  (principal lunar, semi-diurnal),  $85.7^\circ$  for  $S_2$  (principal so-  
37 lar, semi-diurnal), and near  $27$  to  $30^\circ$  for diurnal constituents dominated  
38 by  $O_1$  (principal lunar declinational) and  $K_1$  (luni-solar declinational) (e.g.,  
39 Cartwright, 1977; Furevik and Foldvik, 1996). Poleward of the critical lati-  
40 tude, internal tides are trapped, i.e. they cannot propagate away from the  
41 topography where they are generated, and therefore, they only induce ver-  
42 tical mixing close to their generation site. Tidal vertical mixing has been  
43 suggested to mix the relatively cold ice-shelf melt water with the underlying  
44 and relatively warmer HSSW (High Salinity Shelf Water) in the Ross and  
45 Weddell Seas, thereby increasing ice-shelf melt (MacAyeal, 1984b; Scheduikat  
46 and Olbers, 1990; Makinson and Nicholls, 1999). Tides not only induce mix-  
47 ing but also generate a mean residual circulation through the Stokes drift and  
48 non-linear dynamics (Longuet-Higgins, 1969; Zimmerman, 1979). Residual  
49 transports of a few tenths of a Sverdrup ( $1 \text{ Sv} = 10^6 \text{ m}^3 \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$ ) affect heat and  
50 salt exchanges across the Ross and Weddell Sea continental shelves (Makin-  
51 son and Nicholls, 1999; Padman et al., 2009; Wang et al., 2013), but are  
52 thought to be very small in all the other Antarctic Seas (Bessières et al.,  
53 2008). Heat and salt exchange across ice-shelf edges can also be significantly  
54 influenced by the tidal residual circulation (e.g., Makinson and Nicholls, 1999,  
55 for the Filchner-Ronne ice shelf).

56 Within ice shelf cavities, tides primarily affect ice/ocean interactions by  
57 increasing velocities and therefore turbulent exchanges along the ice base.  
58 This effect is relatively more important for large and cold cavities, such as  
59 Ross and Filchner-Ronne, where tidal currents can be significantly stronger  
60 than buoyancy-driven currents (e.g. MacAyeal, 1984a; Padman et al., 2003;  
61 Makinson et al., 2011), in contrast to other Antarctic ice shelves (e.g., Hemer  
62 et al., 2006; Robertson, 2013). Finally, the extra melting caused by tides  
63 induces an additional buoyancy-driven residual circulation, which in turn in-  
64 creases ice-shelf melting (MacAyeal, 1984b; Makinson and Nicholls, 1999).  
65 Estimating the relative importance of each of these tidal processes is a pre-

66 requisite for better prescribing or parameterizing the effect of tides on ice  
67 shelf cavities.

68 While some models have the capability to explicitly simulate tides, pre-  
69 scribing or parameterizing their effects can be desirable for a range of ap-  
70 plications. First, parameterizing their effects obviates the need for filter-  
71 ing model outputs for diagnostics over periods shorter than a few months  
72 (which has to be done to avoid aliasing if an explicit representation of tides  
73 is used). Second, even in OGCMs capable of representing tides, several  
74 processes such as loading and self-attraction are sometimes not accounted  
75 for (by contrast with some barotropic tide models). Finally, vertical mix-  
76 ing due to internal tides is usually not adequately simulated because ocean  
77 models do not resolve the cascade of energy conducive to the breaking of  
78 internal tides (Müller, 2013), and spurious diapycnal mixing can be caused  
79 by internal tides in level-coordinate models (Leclair and Madec, 2011). Sev-  
80 eral kinds of tidal mixing parameterization have been proposed so far for  
81 three-dimensional ocean models. Some of them enhance vertical diffusivity  
82 to account for the dissipation of barotropic (Lee et al., 2006; Holloway and  
83 Proshutinsky, 2007) or baroclinic (Simmons et al., 2004; Olbers and Eden,  
84 2013) tides. It is also possible to parameterize the effect of residual tidal  
85 currents in a three-dimensional ocean model by adding velocities from the  
86 solution of a barotropic tidal model to the Eulerian velocities used in the  
87 equations of tracer advection (Bessières et al., 2008). So far, most modelling  
88 studies dedicated to ice-shelf/ocean interactions have, instead, parameterized  
89 the influence of tides within the formulation of the ice/ocean heat and salt  
90 fluxes in the top boundary layer of ice shelf cavities (Timmermann et al.,  
91 2002; Jenkins et al., 2010; Hattermann et al., 2014; Asay-Davis et al., 2016).

92 In this paper, we focus on the Amundsen Sea Embayment where the rela-  
93 tively warm ocean has a high potential to trigger marine ice sheet instabilities  
94 (e.g., Weertman, 1974; Schoof, 2007; Durand et al., 2009; Favier et al., 2014;  
95 Joughin et al., 2014; Mougnot et al., 2014), and where melt rates therefore  
96 need to be accurately simulated. In the Amundsen Sea, relatively warm Cir-  
97 cumpolar Deep Water (CDW) penetrates into the ice shelf cavities, leading to  
98 the highest melt rates in Antarctica (e.g., Jacobs et al., 2012; Turner et al.,  
99 2017). As a consequence, the melt-induced circulation is particularly strong  
100 within ice-shelf cavities and in their vicinity (e.g., Jenkins, 1999; Dutrieux  
101 et al., 2014; Jourdain et al., 2017). As tides are also weaker than in the Ross  
102 and Weddell Seas (e.g., Padman et al., 2018), their effect on the Amundsen  
103 Sea circulation and ice shelf melt is often neglected. The inclusion of tides in

104 an ocean model nonetheless indicated a significant increase in melt rates un-  
 105 derneath some ice shelves, by 15% and 52% for Getz and Dotson ice shelves  
 106 respectively (Robertson, 2013, , hereafter R2013). By contrast, R2013 did  
 107 not find a strong effect on melt rates beneath Pine Island ice shelf (see ice  
 108 shelf locations in Fig. 1). R2013 argued that the small effect of tides on Pine  
 109 Island was due to its location poleward of the  $M_2$  critical latitude (red line  
 110 in Fig. 1), inducing a more vertically uniform tidal flow and therefore weaker  
 111 tidal currents near the ice shelf base. Here we propose a new estimation of  
 112 tide-induced ice-shelf melting in the Amundsen Sea sector, accounting for  
 113 synoptic and seasonal atmosphere and sea ice variability, and considering a  
 114 large regional domain in order to analyze tidal processes both seaward and  
 115 underneath ice shelves. We identify the most important impacts of tides on  
 116 ice shelf melting in our simulations, and use this as a basis for evaluating and  
 117 improving methods to prescribe the effects of tides in an ocean model (e.g.,  
 118 OGCM) that would not simulate them explicitly.

## 119 2. Model experiments

120 We make use of NEMO-3.6 (Nucleus for European Modelling of the  
 121 Ocean; Madec and NEMO-team, 2016) that includes the ocean model OPA  
 122 (Océan Parallélisé) and the Louvain-la-Neuve sea-ice model LIM-3.6 (Rous-  
 123 set et al., 2015) with a single ice category. We use the same AMU12.L75  
 124 regional configuration as Jourdain et al. (2017), with z-coordinates and an  
 125 isotropic horizontal resolution of  $\sim 3$  km along the continental shelf break,  
 126 thus resolving the first few vertical normal modes of internal tides. Our set-  
 127 up includes a split-explicit free surface formulation and a representation of  
 128 ice-shelf cavities (Mathiot et al., 2017). The depth of the ocean/ice-shelf  
 129 interface is calculated through the free surface formulation and fluctuates  
 130 about the hydrostatic equilibrium position of ice within a reference ocean  
 131 density profile. It is thus assumed that the ice flexural rigidity does not  
 132 affect vertical motions of the ice/ocean interface. In our configuration, we  
 133 assume a constant top-boundary-layer (TBL) thickness of 20 m and the heat  
 134 flux through the TBL is expressed as in McPhee et al. (2008) and Jenkins  
 135 et al. (2010):

$$136 \quad Q = \rho_w c_{pw} \Gamma_T u_* (T_{\text{TBL}} - T_f) \quad (1)$$

137 where  $\Gamma_T$  is a constant and uniform heat exchange coefficient,  $u_*$  the friction  
 138 velocity,  $\rho_w$  and  $c_{pw}$  the density and heat capacity of sea water, and  $(T_{\text{TBL}} - T_f)$

139 is the difference between the TBL temperature and the freezing point at  
140 the ice draft depth. A similar expression is used for salinity. Simulated  
141 temperatures, salinities and velocities are averaged over the imposed TBL  
142 thickness to calculate the heat flux in Eq. (1) or in the equivalent expression  
143 for salinity as in Losch (2008).

144 All the experiments used in this paper are summarized in Tab. 1. To  
145 assess the representation of tides in our regional model configuration and  
146 to describe the characteristics of barotropic tides, we first run a pseudo-  
147 barotropic simulation (referred to as BTP-07) in which the sea ice model  
148 is switched off, heat fluxes are set to zero at the ocean/ice-shelf interface,  
149 no atmospheric forcing is used, and lateral boundaries other than tidal con-  
150 stituents are set to zero velocities, with constant and uniform temperature  
151 and salinity profiles (equal to the domain-mean initial state values), in a  
152 similar way as Maraldi et al. (2013) and Mueller et al. (2012, 2018). The  
153 only external forcing consists of the amplitude and phase of seven tidal con-  
154 stituents ( $M_2$ ,  $S_2$ ,  $N_2$ ,  $K_1$ ,  $O_1$ ,  $Q_1$ ,  $M_4$ ), which are used as lateral boundary  
155 conditions for sea surface height and barotropic velocities. It is therefore  
156 assumed that the tidal signal is forced remotely, and that the gravitational  
157 forcing within the regional domain is negligible. The tidal constituents used  
158 as lateral boundary conditions are interpolated from the global Finite El-  
159 ement Solution FES2012 (Carrère et al., 2012; Lyard et al., 2006). The  
160 latter comes from the resolution of the tidal barotropic equations in the  
161 spectral domain with assimilation of long-term altimetry data. To com-  
162 pare our results to an independent tide dataset, we also use the Circum-  
163 Antarctic Tidal Simulation CATS2008, which is an inverse model that as-  
164 simulates altimetry data and in-situ tide records (updated version of Pad-  
165 man et al., 2002, [https://www.esr.org/research/polar-tide-models/  
list-of-polar-tide-models/cats2008](https://www.esr.org/research/polar-tide-models/list-of-polar-tide-models/cats2008)). Both CATS2008 and a former  
166 version of FES were found to be relatively accurate near Dotson ice shelf  
167 despite the lack of assimilated data in the Amundsen Sea (McMillan et al.,  
168 2011). Our harmonic analyses are done after 2 years of spin-up, and are  
169 based on 15-minute samples analyzed over a 190-day window. With these  
170 characteristics, our harmonic analyses can accurately separate at least 7 tidal  
171 constituents.  
172

173 The second set of experiments is designed to represent more realistic  
174 conditions, with fully-coupled sea-ice and thermodynamically-coupled ice-  
175 shelf cavities. Lateral boundaries (temperature, salinity, velocities) are from  
176 the global  $0.25^\circ$  simulation described by Spence et al. (2014). Importantly,

177 that global simulation does not represent tides. Both the global simulation  
 178 and the regional experiments are forced by atmospheric fields from version 2  
 179 of the Coordinated Ocean-ice Reference Experiments (CORE-2) Normal Year  
 180 Forcing (NYF) (Griffies et al., 2009; Large and Yeager, 2009). The reference  
 181 experiment (REF), which includes no tidal constituents, is the one described  
 182 and evaluated with respect to CTD, ice-shelf melt rates, and sea ice cover  
 183 by Jourdain et al. (2017). The mean barotropic circulation in REF is shown  
 184 in Fig. 1. We then ran three additional simulations accounting for one, four,  
 185 and 18 tidal constituents. The latter are imposed through lateral boundary  
 186 conditions as for BTP-07, but on top of other oceanic boundary conditions  
 187 from the global 0.25° simulation. The TIDE-M2 simulation only includes  
 188 the M<sub>2</sub> tidal constituent because its importance was emphasized in R2013.  
 189 The TIDE-04 simulation additionally includes S<sub>2</sub>, K<sub>1</sub>, and O<sub>1</sub>. Finally, the  
 190 TIDE-18 simulation includes the four aforementioned constituents and N<sub>2</sub>,  
 191 K<sub>2</sub>, P<sub>1</sub>, Q<sub>1</sub>, N<sub>1</sub>, 2N<sub>2</sub>, μ<sub>2</sub>, ν<sub>2</sub>, L<sub>2</sub>, T<sub>2</sub>, M<sub>4</sub>, M<sub>f</sub>, M<sub>m</sub> and M<sub>tm</sub> (e.g. Schureman,  
 192 1958).

193 A third set of experiments is designed to propose a method to prescribe  
 194 the effect of tides on ice shelf melt. It is based on our most realistic configu-  
 195 ration (i.e. with stratification, sea ice, atmospheric forcing), but has no tides  
 196 prescribed at its boundaries. A first possibility to account for non-resolved  
 197 tides in (1) is to use a velocity-independent formulation of  $Q$ :

$$198 \quad Q = \rho_w c_{pw} \gamma_{T0} (T_{TBL} - T_f) \quad (2)$$

199 where  $\gamma_{T0}$  is a constant referred to as heat exchange velocity. The  $\gamma_{T0}$  value  
 200 can be chosen to represent non-resolved tidal velocities in cavities where tides  
 201 dominate the circulation (Timmermann et al., 2002), and can also represent  
 202 the poorly captured buoyancy-driven circulation in coarse-resolution mod-  
 203 els. However, a majority of recent simulations have preferred a velocity-  
 204 dependent formulation of ice-shelf/ocean heat fluxes (Eq. 1), because it  
 205 better accounts for non-uniform circulation and melt-circulation feedbacks  
 206 (Dansereau et al., 2014; Asay-Davis et al., 2017; Donat-Magnin et al., 2017).  
 207 We therefore opt for another method in which the expression of  $u_\star$  in (1) is  
 208 modified as follows:

$$209 \quad u_\star = \sqrt{C_d (u_{TBL}^2 + u_{tide}^2)} \quad (3)$$

210 where  $C_d$  is the drag coefficient,  $u_{TBL}$  the TBL velocity simulated by NEMO  
 211 (averaged within the imposed TBL thickness), and  $u_{tide}$  is a prescribed “tidal  
 212 TBL velocity” (e.g. Jenkins et al., 2010; Hattermann et al., 2014; Asay-Davis



213 et al., 2016). To our knowledge, such parameterization of tidal effects has  
 214 always been used at a single point or with a uniform tidal TBL velocity,  
 215 although Jenkins et al. (2010) noted that such velocity would ideally be  
 216 a spatially varying quantity. It is presently unclear to what extent such  
 217 prescription of mean-square tidal TBL velocity adequately accounts for the  
 218 various processes involved in the overall interactions between tides and ice-  
 219 shelves. Here we assess three different definitions of the tidal TBL velocity:  
 220 uniform velocity for all the ice shelves in the domain (Utide-UNIF), uniform  
 221 velocity under each ice shelf, but with a value specific to each ice shelf (Utide-  
 222 PERISF), and 2-dimensional local velocities (Utide(x,y)). The methods used  
 223 to calculate these prescribed velocities are discussed along with the results.

224 All the analyses performed on the second and third sets of experiments  
 225 are done after a spin up of 6 years, which is sufficient to reach a steady state  
 226 (Jourdain et al., 2017). We analyze yearly averages over the 7<sup>th</sup> year. One-  
 227 year average is enough to avoid any significant aliasing by the modulation of  
 228 the four main tidal harmonics by the other harmonics represented here (as  
 229 indicated by Tab. 4-7 of Müller, 2013).

### 230 3. Results

#### 231 3.1. Harmonic decomposition of barotropic tides

232 We start with a description of the main characteristics of barotropic tides  
 233 in the Amundsen Sea. A Sea Surface Height (SSH) harmonic analysis of  
 234 the BTP-07 simulation (Fig. 2) indicates a stronger amplitude for the diur-  
 235 nal ( $O_1$  and  $K_1$ ) than for the semi-diurnal ( $M_2$ ,  $S_2$ ,  $N_2$ ) harmonics in the  
 236 Amundsen Sea (Fig. 2). The  $M_4$  constituent, resulting from an interaction  
 237 of  $M_2$  with itself, is significantly weaker than the other six constituents. The  
 238 diurnal constituents generate topographically trapped vorticity waves along  
 239 the continental shelf break (stronger amplitude and closed cotidal lines in  
 240 Fig. 2a,b), as previously described for other locations poleward of the diurnal  
 241 critical latitudes (e.g. Middleton et al., 1987; Padman and Kottmeier, 2000;  
 242 Padman et al., 2003). The semi-diurnal constituents experience a stronger  
 243 signal in the cavities than on the continental shelf seaward of the ice fronts  
 244 (Fig. 2c,d,e), which is reminiscent of tide resonance in semi-enclosed bays.  
 245 Such resonance can occur for bays of characteristic size close to the tidal  
 246 quarter wavelength which can be estimated as  $\sqrt{gH}/\nu_{\text{tide}}$ , where  $g$  is the  
 247 gravity acceleration,  $H$  the water column thickness, and  $\nu_{\text{tide}}$  the tidal fre-  
 248 quency (Fig. 3). The qualitative match between the semi-diurnal quarter

249 wave lengths and the cavity sizes (Fig. 3b) supports the similarity between  
250 the resonance in semi-enclosed bays and the resonance in ice-shelf cavities.  
251 For diurnal constituents, quarter wave lengths are longer than most typical  
252 ice-shelf sizes, so that cavities appear less resonant. There is weak resonance  
253 in Thwaites and in the core of Pine Island: the cavities are deep and there-  
254 fore present a quarter wave length much longer than the cavity size. Finally,  
255 considering the entire Amundsen Sea Embayment in Fig. 3, the continental  
256 shelf appears too narrow or too deep to favour a widespread resonance of  
257 diurnal and semi-diurnal tides in this region.

258 The harmonic analysis of barotropic velocities in the BTP-07 simulation  
259 indicates strong amplitude along the continental shelf break for the diur-  
260 nal constituents (up to  $25 \text{ cm.s}^{-1}$  in Fig. 4a,b). These patterns are consis-  
261 tent with the aforementioned topographically trapped vorticity waves and  
262 are expected to induce vertical mixing as they dissipate locally. For most  
263 constituents, strong barotropic velocities are also generated within ice shelf  
264 cavities, with the exception of Thwaites and the main trunk of Pine Is-  
265 land cavity (Fig. 4), likely because of the aforementioned reduced quarter  
266 wavelength resonance. Such strong tidal velocities under the ice shelves are  
267 expected to increase TBL velocities, and therefore melt rates.

268 The tidal residual circulation is now estimated using the same methodol-  
269 ogy as Bessières et al. (2008), i.e. through the annual mean barotropic stream  
270 function (Fig. 5). The main feature is a strengthening of the Antarctic Slope  
271 Current (westward jet along the continental shelf break, e.g. Heywood et al.,  
272 1998; Mathiot et al., 2011) by up to 0.8 Sv (maximum barotropic stream  
273 function difference between 2 points). Locally, the residual circulation can be  
274 more important than the background ocean circulation, e.g. 0.70 Sv residual  
275 transport through the green section in Fig. 5 vs 0.49 Sv in the REF simula-  
276 tion (Fig. 1). This effect is locally important, but remains small compared to  
277 the total barotropic transport by the Slope Current which is approximately  
278 12 Sv along the entire slope of the continental shelf (e.g., 0.12 Sv residual  
279 in Fig. 5 vs 11.7 Sv through the cyan section in Fig. 1a). There is also a  
280 southward residual flow on the eastern flank of Dotson-Getz Trough. It reach  
281 approximately 0.2 Sv near the continental shelf break, 0.17 Sv through the  
282 magenta section, and gradually decreases to zero near the ice shelves. The  
283 associated transport has a similar magnitude as the transport in the absence  
284 of tides at this location (e.g., 0.13 Sv through the magenta section in Fig. 1b).  
285 These residual circulations were not found in Bessières et al. (2008), possi-  
286 bly due to their different set-up (e.g. their coarser horizontal resolution).

287 Underneath most ice shelves, the residual tidal circulation is typically a few  
288 mSV, which represents only a few percent of the circulation in the presence  
289 of ice shelf melt (Tab. 2). This effect is slightly stronger for Getz and Abbot,  
290 where the residual tidal circulation reaches  $\sim 20$  mSv, representing  $\sim 10\%$  of  
291 the circulation in the presence of ice shelf melt (Tab. 2).

292 We now compare the tide characteristics in the NEMO pseudo-barotropic  
293 simulation to the barotropic tide models, in order to assess NEMO's ability to  
294 rebuild the tidal signals from the lateral boundary conditions. Overall, there  
295 is a fair agreement between the SSH harmonics from NEMO and those from  
296 FES2012 and CATS2008, both in terms of phase and amplitude (Fig. S1-  
297 S3). An exception is the phase of  $M_2$  that is quite different between NEMO  
298 and the tide models, but also between FES2012 and CATS2008. A possible  
299 explanation is a particularly strong sensitivity to the different bathymetries  
300 used in these models near the critical latitude. The amplitude of diurnal  
301 SSH harmonics is slightly weaker in NEMO than in FES2012 and CATS2008  
302 (Fig. S1ab-S3ab), which could be related to the absence of direct tide influ-  
303 ence (gravitational potential) on the water mass located within our simula-  
304 tion domain. It is unclear why the resonance of semi-diurnal constituents  
305 within the ice shelf cavities is significantly less prominent in FES2012 and  
306 CATS2008 than in NEMO (Fig. S1cde-S3cde). The harmonics of barotropic  
307 velocities in NEMO have a pattern that better matches CATS2008 than  
308 FES2012, but the maximum velocity amplitude along the continental shelf  
309 break and within ice-shelf cavities in NEMO is more similar to FES2012  
310 ( $\sim 25$  cm.s $^{-1}$ , not shown) than to CATS2008 ( $\sim 16$  cm.s $^{-1}$ , not shown).

### 311 *3.2. Impact of tides on ice-shelf melt*

312 R2013 has been the only study so far to estimate the effects of tides on ice-  
313 shelf melt in the Amundsen Sea sector. Besides a different ocean model used,  
314 that study did not account for sea ice or for variability in the atmospheric  
315 forcing. We therefore revisit the influence of tides in this sector with a more  
316 realistic model set-up including sea ice and an atmosphere that varies at  
317 seasonal and synoptic scales. As R2013 emphasized the importance of the  
318 presence of the  $M_2$  critical latitude near the ice shelves of the Amundsen  
319 Sea, we first run a simulation that is only forced by  $M_2$ . Then, we add three  
320 additional constituents,  $K_1$ ,  $O_1$ , and  $S_2$ , which have stronger amplitudes than  
321  $M_2$ , to get the same set of four harmonics as used by R2013. Finally, we use  
322 a total of 18 harmonics (see section 2) to estimate the influence of a more  
323 complete tidal signal on melt rates.

324 The effect of 18 tidal harmonics is shown in Fig. 6a. Tides generally  
 325 increase melt rates (Tab. 3), although a weak decrease is found at a few lo-  
 326 cations, mostly in the Getz cavity. However, even with 18 tidal constituents,  
 327 the increase is negligible for Pine Island (Tab. 3) and small for Thwaites  
 328 (+7.8%), which is consistent with the weak tidal amplitude in these two  
 329 cavities. By contrast, the relative increase is larger than 30% for Dotson,  
 330 Cosgrove and Abbot. These results have to be considered carefully because  
 331 of the high uncertainty on the bathymetry under these ice shelves. Using  
 332 four tidal constituents instead of 18 induces errors below 6%, so restrict-  
 333 ing a tidal analysis to four constituents as in R2013 seems very reasonable.  
 334 Tide-induced melt is generally not located near grounding lines (Fig. 6a),  
 335 probably because tidal currents often become weak in the shallowest parts  
 336 of small cavities.

337 Our results with four constituents are in qualitative agreement with R2013  
 338 on the relative importance of tides for three different cavities, although we  
 339 find slightly weaker effects. R2013 found that tides were responsible for  
 340 moderate change in the Getz cavity (+24 Gt.yr<sup>-1</sup>, +15%), stronger change  
 341 in Dotson cavity (+11 Gt.yr<sup>-1</sup>, +52%), and little change in Pine Island cav-  
 342 ity (-2 Gt.yr<sup>-1</sup>, -3%). R2013 also emphasized the importance of M<sub>2</sub> and  
 343 the associated critical latitude. Our simulation in which only M<sub>2</sub> is rep-  
 344 resented indicates that this constituent only accounts for a limited part of  
 345 the tidal influence on melt rates. This was expected from the dominance  
 346 of diurnal tides and of S<sub>2</sub> over M<sub>2</sub> revealed by the pseudo-barotropic simu-  
 347 lations. Further, we repeated R2013's experiment where the latitudes were  
 348 shifted by 1°S (i.e. bathymetry and ice drafts are shifted by 1°N ). We ran  
 349 shifted-latitude experiments with and without tides to isolate the effect on  
 350 the geostrophic circulation from the critical latitude effects. In the absence  
 351 of tides, shifting latitudes enhances mean melt rates in all the cavities, but  
 352 the increase is weaker than 2.5% everywhere (Fig. 7a). In the presence of  
 353 tides, shifting latitudes affect melt rates by less than 1% in all the cavities  
 354 (Fig. 7b). This implies that the M<sub>2</sub> critical latitude is of limited importance  
 355 to the ice-shelf melting in this region. A possible explanation for the opposite  
 356 conclusion of R2013 is that our atmospheric forcing varies at synoptic and  
 357 seasonal scales, which may lead to a large variability of the effective critical  
 358 latitude (accounting for the ocean relative vorticity). This result is reminis-  
 359 cent of Richet et al. (2017) who analyzed simulations with weakened critical  
 360 latitude effects on tidal energy dissipation in the presence of a background  
 361 ocean circulation.

362 We now look further into the physical mechanisms through which tides  
 363 affect ice-shelf melt rates. Neglecting heat diffusion in ice (which yields no  
 364 more than 10-20% error according to Dinniman et al. (2016) and Arzeno et al.  
 365 (2014)), the melt rate  $m$  (in meters of ice per second) can be approximated  
 366 as:

$$\rho_i m \simeq \rho_w c_{pw} \gamma_T (T_{\text{TBL}} - T_f) / L_f \quad (4)$$

367 where  $\rho_i$  is the ice density,  $L_f$  the latent heat associated with melting/freezing,  
 368  $\gamma_T = \Gamma_T u \star$ , and other variables have been introduced in (1). Expressing  $\gamma_T$  in  
 369 the presence of explicit tides as  $(\gamma_T)_{\text{tide}} = (\gamma_T)_{\text{no tide}} + \Delta\gamma_T$  in (4), and similarly  
 370 for the thermal forcing, we can define a dynamical/thermodynamical decom-  
 371 position that explains the differences in melt rates between the simulations  
 372 with and without tides:

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \rho_i \Delta m = \rho_i (m_{\text{tide}} - m_{\text{no tide}}) \\ \simeq \rho_w c_{pw} (T_{\text{TBL}} - T_f) \Delta\gamma_T / L_f \quad (\text{dynamical}) \\ + \rho_w c_{pw} \gamma_T \Delta(T_{\text{TBL}} - T_f) / L_f \quad (\text{thermodynamical}) \\ + \rho_w c_{pw} \Delta\gamma_T \Delta(T_{\text{TBL}} - T_f) / L_f \quad (\text{covariational}) \end{array} \right. \quad (5)$$

373 The decomposition for the simulation with 18 tidal harmonics indicates  
 374 that tidal velocities in the TBL of ice-shelf cavities are the main driver of in-  
 375 creased melt rates (the dynamical term dominates in Fig. 6). This dynamical  
 376 term includes the mean effect of tidal velocities but also the effect of the ad-  
 377 ditional buoyancy-driven circulation caused by tide-induced melting. About  
 378 a third of the dynamical component is compensated by the thermodynamical  
 379 and covariational components (Fig. 6c,d). The negative covariational compo-  
 380 nent can be understood as a decrease of thermal forcing (through latent heat  
 381 and injection of water at the freezing point) occurring where and when the  
 382 TBL velocities are increased. The thermodynamical component accounts for  
 383 a tide-induced reduction of thermal forcing in the cavities. It could a priori  
 384 either come from a tide-induced cooling on the continental shelf (resulting  
 385 from increased vertical mixing or residual currents), from a non-local thermal  
 386 effect of increased melt rates (the local part being in the covariational term),  
 387 or from modified vertical mixing within ice shelf cavities (outside the TBL).  
 388 Similar tide-induced reduction in thermal forcing was reported by Gwyther  
 389 et al. (2016). Our simulations indicate locally increased vertical diffusivity

390 ( $K_z$ ) in ice shelf cavities (Fig. 8), but this tends to bring heat from below  
 391 and therefore increase temperatures in the TBL, whereas a decrease is found.  
 392 We also find that subsurface (200-1000 m) temperatures over the continen-  
 393 tal shelf tend to get warmer when tides are included, by up to 0.15°C and  
 394 0.45°C in front of Abbot and Dotson-Getz respectively (not shown), which  
 395 likely results from a combination of both increased vertical mixing associated  
 396 with topographically-trapped vorticity waves (Fig. 8) and the tidal residual  
 397 circulation depicted in Fig. 5. However, this coastal warming cannot explain  
 398 the decreased thermal forcing within ice shelf cavities. We conclude that the  
 399 negative thermal component is explained by non-local thermal effect related  
 400 to the injection and transport of cold meltwater in the TBL.

401 The prominence of the dynamical component in our decomposition sup-  
 402 ports the concept of parameterizing the tides effect on melt rates through  
 403 a prescribed tidal velocity, although the thermodynamical and covariational  
 404 components are non negligible. Such parameterization is explored in the  
 405 following sub-section.

### 406 3.3. Prescribing the effect of tides

407 We now attempt to represent the tidal influence on melt rates without  
 408 explicitly representing tides in our simulations, but rather by prescribing a  
 409 “tidal TBL velocity”  $u_{\text{tide}}(x, y)$  in (3). Ideally  $u_{\text{tide}}$  would be deduced from  
 410 a tidal model such as FES2012 or CATS2008, but we start with a proof  
 411 of concept, assuming that the tidal influence on TBL velocities is perfectly  
 412 known, and trying to reproduce the effect of tides on melt rates through the  
 413 use of (3) in the melt equations of NEMO. A first challenge is to deduce  
 414  $u_{\text{tide}}(x, y)$  from the simulation with explicit tides. A first possibility is to  
 415 define  $u_{\text{tide}}(x, y)$  as the local time-RMS difference between TBL velocities  
 416 with and without tides:

$$u_{\text{tide}}(x, y) = \sqrt{\overline{u_{\text{TBL, TIDE18}}^2(x, y)} - \overline{u_{\text{TBL, REF}}^2(x, y)}} \quad (6)$$

417 where  $u$  are velocity amplitudes and overbars are 1-year averages (exact  
 418 calculation of mean square TBL velocities during the simulations). Such  
 419 definition leads to an overestimation of melt fluxes by 63 Gt.yr<sup>-1</sup>, i.e. by  
 420 68% (Fig. 9a). This strong overestimation is due to the melt-induced circu-  
 421 lation that is included in our calculation of  $u_{\text{tide}}(x, y)$ . Indeed, by prescribing  
 422  $u_{\text{tide}}(x, y)$  in (3), we increase melt rates, which creates an additional melt-  
 423 induced circulation, which, in turns, further amplifies melt rates. In other

424 words, this definition of  $u_{\text{tide}}(x, y)$  leads to double the feedback of the melt-  
 425 induced circulation on melt rates.

426 A better way to estimate  $u_{\text{tide}}(x, y)$  is to perform a harmonic analysis  
 427 on TBL velocities in our realistic simulation with tides. As in the pseudo-  
 428 barotropic case, we analyze 15-minute samples over a 190-day window, and  
 429 extract the seven main harmonics  $k$ , i.e. the amplitude  $(u_k, v_k)$  and phase  
 430  $(\phi_k, \psi_k)$  of zonal and meridional TBL velocities. From this, we reconstruct  
 431 the RMS tidal TBL velocity as:

$$u_{\text{tide}}^2(x, y) = \overline{\left( \sum_{k=1}^7 u_k(x, y) \cos(\omega_k t + \phi_k(x, y)) \right)^2 + \left( \sum_{k=1}^7 v_k(x, y) \cos(\omega_k t + \psi_k(x, y)) \right)^2}^{190d} \quad (7)$$

432 where  $\omega_k$  is the angular frequency of harmonic  $k$ . This definition of  $u_{\text{tide}}(x, y)$   
 433 gives weaker velocities than the previous definition (see last columns in  
 434 Tab. 3), indicating that tidal currents create a residual melt-induced circula-  
 435 tion that does not appear in the harmonic analysis. Such residual circulation  
 436 is specific to ice shelf cavities and is distinct from the one due to the Stokes  
 437 drift and non-linear dynamics (see Introduction). In terms of melt rates, the  
 438 bias is reduced by half compared to the previous definition, with an overes-  
 439 timation by 31 Gt.yr<sup>-1</sup>, i.e. 34% (Fig. 9b). The remaining overestimation  
 440 suggests that there is also a melt-induced circulation varying at tidal fre-  
 441 quencies. The latter is included in our calculation of  $u_{\text{tide}}(x, y)$  so that the  
 442 feedback of the melt-induced circulation to melt rates is still overestimated.

443 To get rid of the overestimated melt-induced circulation at tidal frequen-  
 444 cies, we multiply  $u_{\text{tide}}(x, y)$  by a correction factor  $\alpha$ , i.e. the simulated value  
 445 of  $u_{\star}$  is calculated as:

$$u_{\star}(x, y) = \sqrt{C_d (u_{\text{TBL}}^2(x, y) + \alpha^2 u_{\text{tide}}^2(x, y))} \quad (8)$$

446 where  $u_{\text{TBL}}$  is the TBL velocity resolved by the ocean model. Empirically,  
 447 we find that  $\alpha = 0.777$  reduces the melt bias to nearly zero. Applying the  
 448 decomposition defined in (5) to the case of prescribed  $\alpha u_{\text{tide}}(x, y)$ , we find  
 449 that the dynamical/thermodynamical/covariational contributions are 148/-  
 450 34/-23 Gt.yr<sup>-1</sup> respectively versus 148/-31/-26 Gt.yr<sup>-1</sup> in the simulation  
 451 with explicit tides (Fig. 6). This shows that this method correctly replicates  
 452 the effect of tides on melt rates. This result also supports the interpretation  
 453 that tides mostly affect ice shelf melting through tidal velocities along the  
 454 ice draft and subsequent turbulent exchange rather than through residual

455 circulation or tidal mixing farther from the ice shelf base. Prescribed tidal  
 456 TBL velocities have no marked effect on  $K_z$  in ice-shelf cavities and along the  
 457 continental shelf break (Fig. 8d), which indicates that tide-induced changes in  
 458  $K_z$  (Fig. 8c) are mostly related to tidal currents and not to the melt-induced  
 459 circulation. It also confirms the negligible effect of tidal vertical mixing on  
 460 melt rates in our simulations.

461 So far, the studies parameterizing the effect of tides have prescribed uni-  
 462 form tidal velocities (e.g. Hattermann et al., 2014; Asay-Davis et al., 2016).  
 463 We therefore evaluate this approach by prescribing uniform  $u_{\text{tide}}$  obtained  
 464 through an average of  $u_{\text{tide}}(x, y)$  all over the domain ( $3.5 \text{ cm}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$ ) or for each  
 465 individual ice shelf (values in the last column of Tab. 3). The bias is approx-  
 466 imately 1.5 and 2 times larger with per-ice-shelf and domain-wide uniform  
 467 velocities respectively than with spatially-dependent velocities (Fig. 9c,d).  
 468 The strongest biases are found in the vicinity of deep grounding lines, par-  
 469 ticularly for Thwaites and Pine Island, where thermal forcing is high due to  
 470 the presence of CDW, but where tides do not produce strong velocities (see  
 471 subsection 3.2 and Mueller et al., 2012 and Gwyther et al., 2016). Given  
 472 the sensitivity of the ice sheet dynamics to melting at the grounding line, we  
 473 conclude that prescribing uniform tidal TBL velocities is best avoided.

474 As mentioned earlier, a tide parameterization would be more useful if it  
 475 can be directly based on the barotropic velocities derived from tide models  
 476 such as FES2012 or CATS2008. As shown in Fig. 10,  $\alpha u_{\text{tide}}(x, y)$  is signif-  
 477 icantly correlated with  $\langle U_{\text{btp}} \rangle(x, y)$  calculated as in (7) but with amplitude  
 478 and phases related to the barotropic velocities in the pseudo-barotropic ex-  
 479 periment (BTP-07) rather than the TBL velocities in the realistic experiment  
 480 (TIDE-18). It is therefore a good approximation to define  $\alpha u_{\text{tide}}(x, y)$  as a  
 481 linear function of  $\langle U_{\text{btp}} \rangle(x, y)$  calculated from the output of a tide model.

482 In summary, we suggest the following method to parameterize the effect



483 of tides on ice-shelf melt in the melt equations:

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l}
 \gamma_T(x, y) = \Gamma_T u_\star(x, y) \\
 u_\star(x, y) = \sqrt{C_d (u_{\text{TBL}}^2(x, y) + \alpha^2 u_{\text{tide}}^2(x, y))} \\
 \alpha u_{\text{tide}}(x, y) = A_0 \langle U_{\text{btp}} \rangle(x, y) + U_0 \\
 \langle U_{\text{btp}} \rangle^2(x, y) = \overline{\left( \sum_k U_k(x, y) \cos(\omega_k t + \Phi_k(x, y)) \right)^2} + \overline{\left( \sum_k V_k(x, y) \cos(\omega_k t + \Psi_k(x, y)) \right)^2}
 \end{array} \right. \quad (9)$$

484 in which  $u_{\text{TBL}}$  is the ocean model solution,  $(U_k, V_k)$  and  $(\Phi_k, \Psi_k)$  are the am-  
 485 plitudes and phases of zonal and meridional barotropic velocities provided by  
 486 the tide model for each harmonic of angular frequency  $\omega_k$ , and  $\Gamma_T$ ,  $C_d$ ,  $\alpha$ ,  $A_0$ ,  
 487 and  $U_0$  are constant scalars with values summarized in Tab. 4. The overline  
 488 represents an average over a period that is long enough to correctly sample  
 489 the interaction between harmonics (e.g. 6 months for 7 harmonics). The  
 490 parameters  $A_0$  and  $U_0$  account for the shape of the vertical velocity profile in  
 491 ice shelf cavities (their values are shown in Fig. 10). A non-zero  $U_0$  ensures  
 492 a background heat transfer due to molecular diffusivity in the case of zero  
 493 TBL velocity and zero tidal velocity, although we obtain  $U_0$  from an empiri-  
 494 cal fit with no knowledge of the role of molecular diffusivity. Gwyther et al.  
 495 (2016) estimated that  $u_\star$  should have a minimum value of approximately  
 496  $2.0 \times 10^{-5} \text{ m.s}^{-1}$  due to molecular diffusion, which would be equivalent to  
 497  $U_0 = 6.3 \times 10^{-4} \text{ m.s}^{-1}$  in (9) i.e.  $\sim 5$  times less than our value.

#### 498 4. Discussion and Conclusion

499 In this paper, we have undertaken harmonic analyses of pseudo-barotropic  
 500 simulations to show that our regional model configuration is able to pro-  
 501 duce tides with similar characteristics as in the barotropic tide simulation  
 502 imposed at the domain lateral boundaries. Diurnal tides induce topographi-  
 503 cally trapped vorticity waves along the continental shelf break in the vicinity  
 504 of the Dotson-Getz Trough. This slightly strengthens vertical mixing in that  
 505 area, and is likely responsible for the residual circulation of 0.2 Sv that flows  
 506 southward on the eastern flank of the Dotson-Getz Trough. While diurnal  
 507 tides have a larger amplitude than semi-diurnal tides over the Amundsen

508 Sea continental shelf, semi-diurnal tides are found to resonate in the shal-  
509 lowest ice-shelf cavities, so that both diurnal and semi-diurnal tides produce  
510 strong velocities at the base of the ice shelves. Tides increase mean melt  
511 rates in all the simulated cavities of the Amundsen Sea, with weakest effects  
512 for Pine Island and Thwaites ( $< +10\%$ ) and strongest effects for Dotson,  
513 Cosgrove and Abbot ( $> +30\%$ ). There is a large uncertainty on these esti-  
514 mates, in particular because of the poorly known bathymetry underneath ice  
515 shelves, and recent studies have proposed alternative bathymetry datasets in  
516 the Amundsen Sea sector (Schaffer et al., 2016; Millan et al., 2017).

517 We suggest that the weak tide-induced melting underneath Pine Island  
518 and Thwaites is partly related to the particularly thick water column for these  
519 cavities, which makes resonant quarter wavelengths much larger than the  
520 cavity size and therefore limits the presence of tidal resonance. By contrast  
521 with Robertson (2013), we do not find a significant influence of the position  
522 of Pine Island and Thwaites with respect to the  $M_2$  critical latitude. The  
523 importance of tidal resonances suggests that the characteristics of tides may  
524 evolve in a warmer climate with thinner ice shelves and retreated grounding  
525 lines. Proximity to resonance is also affected by large uncertainties in the  
526 bathymetry underneath ice shelves (e.g., Schaffer et al., 2016; Millan et al.,  
527 2017).

528 A dynamical/thermodynamical decomposition for all the simulated ice  
529 shelves indicates that enhanced melting when tides are explicitly added is  
530 mostly due to tide-induced velocities in the top boundary layer that enhance  
531 heat fluxes at the ice/ocean interface. Approximately a third of this effect  
532 is counterbalanced by the resulting additional release of cold melt water.  
533 We also present evidence for a positive feedback whereby tide-induced cir-  
534 culation produces more melt, which strengthens the buoyancy-driven ocean  
535 circulation underneath ice shelves, in turn producing stronger melting. Such  
536 positive feedback was previously reported by Makinson et al. (2011) in the  
537 case of the Filchner-Ronne Ice Shelf. We find that tide-induced vertical  
538 mixing does not significantly affect melt rates. This result has to be taken  
539 cautiously because (1) our model resolution only allows the first few vertical  
540 normal modes of internal tides to be resolved, and (2) the simulated vertical  
541 mixing is inaccurate because the model is not able to explicitly represent  
542 internal wave breaking (and the energy cascade) associated with the resolved  
543 modes. These are, however, general caveats of large-scale ocean models, and  
544 the first few baroclinic modes still contain most of the energy of internal  
545 tides.

546 As tides mostly affect simulated melt rates through increased velocities  
547 in the top boundary layer (TBL) of ice-shelf cavities, it is possible to pre-  
548 scribe their effect by including a “tidal TBL velocity” in the calculation of  
549 the friction/exchange velocity along the ice draft. In the Amundsen Sea, pre-  
550 scribing a spatially-uniform tidal TBL velocity leads to overestimated melt  
551 rates near deep grounding lines where the thermal forcing is high due to the  
552 presence of modified CDW, but where simulated tidal currents are weak. In  
553 the absence of spatially-distributed observations of tidal currents along the  
554 ice draft, we therefore recommend to derive spatially-varying tidal velocities  
555 from the outputs of tide models following Eq. (9). In our simulations, TBL  
556 velocities can be prescribed as 66% ( $A_0$  in Tab. 4) of the barotropic velocities  
557 from a tide model to account for the vertical profile due to the interaction  
558 with the ice draft and for the melt-induced circulation. Furthermore, if it  
559 was possible to observe spatially distributed currents underneath an ice shelf  
560 and to perform a harmonic analysis, we would still have to apply a correction  
561 factor of  $\sim 0.777$  before prescribing the observed mean-square TBL velocity  
562 into the TBL equations of an ocean model. Indeed, tide-induced melting en-  
563 hances observed TBL velocities, so that directly applying observed velocities  
564 would effectively apply these velocities twice, due to the feedback related to  
565 the buoyancy-driven ocean circulation.

566 The proposed methodology to represent the effects of tides on melt rates  
567 is not a standalone parameterization in the sense that it relies on a tide  
568 model. For example, our methodology would remain valid in a warmer ocean,  
569 with a different coastal circulation, but would not allow adapting the tide  
570 characteristics (e.g. resonance) for evolving cavity shapes (see Mueller et al.,  
571 2018) or when new bathymetry datasets become available. In this respect,  
572 the proposed methodology can be considered as bulk formula for the interface  
573 with barotropic tide models, in a similar way as the bulk formula used to  
574 calculate air-sea fluxes from atmospheric models or reanalyses. Relying on  
575 barotropic models specially developed for tides allows more accuracy in the  
576 tide solution (e.g. through data assimilation) and a higher level of complexity  
577 in the representation of tidal processes (e.g. self attraction and loading)  
578 compared to what is usually implemented in OGCMs.

579 We suggest that our methodology to prescribe tidal TBL velocities could  
580 be applied to other sectors of Antarctica, but with care with regards to two  
581 aspects. First, although vertical mixing and residual circulation near the con-  
582 tinental shelf break have no major effects on ice-shelf melting in the Amund-  
583 sen Sea, this may not be true elsewhere in Antarctica. For example, water

584 masses in cold cavities such as Ross and Filchner-Ronne could hypotheti-  
585 cally be more sensitive to the tide-induced exchanges across the continental  
586 shelf and ice-shelf front. Second, our parameterization includes a factor  $\alpha$  to  
587 account for the buoyancy-driven TBL velocity associated with tide-induced  
588 melting. According to the theoretical considerations in Appendix C of Jour-  
589 dain et al. (2017), this factor is likely non-uniform around Antarctica, and  
590 should depend on the background ocean density and on the depth at which  
591 tides enhance melt rates. We nonetheless suggest to use  $\alpha < 1$  everywhere, as  
592 buoyancy-driven circulation resulting from tide-induced melting is expected  
593 to occur in any ice shelf cavity. For example, such buoyancy-driven circula-  
594 tion was simulated under Filchner-Ronne by Makinson et al. (2011).

595 Our concluding remark is for melt rate parameterizations used in ice sheet  
596 models (see review in Asay-Davis et al., 2017). The methodology proposed  
597 in this paper to prescribe tides could be applied to these parameterizations in  
598 order to better distinguish melt-induced and tide-induced circulation. The  
599 background melt-induced circulation depends on the thermal forcing and  
600 makes melt rates proportional to the square thermal forcing (Holland et al.,  
601 2008). In contrast, tide-induced melt rates are expected to depend more  
602 linearly on the thermal forcing, although a weak non-linearity may also be  
603 expected due to the additional circulation induced by melting.

## 604 **Data availability**

605 The model version, customizations, and parameters used to run the eight  
606 main experiments presented in this paper are provided on [http://doi.org/  
607 10.5281/zenodo.1067647](http://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.1067647). The output and forcing files are available on  
608 request.

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617



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Simulation	Sea Ice	Atm. For.	Ice shelf melt	Lateral boundaries
BTP-07	-	-	zero	$T_0, S_0$ , tides (7 har.)
REF	LIM	CORE	3-equation	MOM025, no tides
TIDE-M2	LIM	CORE	3-equation	MOM025, tides (1 har.)
TIDE-04	LIM	CORE	3-equation	MOM025, tides (4 har.)
TIDE-18	LIM	CORE	3-equation	MOM025, tides (18 har.)
Utide-UNIF	LIM	CORE	3-equ. w. uniform $u_{\text{tide}}^2$ (1 value)	MOM025, no tides
Utide-PERISF	LIM	CORE	3-equ. w. uniform $u_{\text{tide}}^2$ (per ice shelf)	MOM025, no tides
Utide(x,y)	LIM	CORE	3-equ. w. $u_{\text{tide}}^2(x,y)$	MOM025, no tides
0.777Utide(x,y)	LIM	CORE	3-equ. w. $(0.777 \times u_{\text{tide}}(x,y))^2$	MOM025, no tides

Table 1: List of the nine 7-year AMU12.L75 simulations used in this paper. “3-equation” means that the square friction velocity involved in the three melt equations is directly proportional to the square TBL velocity, with no additional background RMS velocity unless specified. The “MOM025” lateral boundaries refer to 5-day temperature, salinity, velocity, sea-ice concentration and thickness prescribed from the  $0.25^\circ$  MOM simulation produced by Spence et al. (2014).

Ice Shelf	tidal residual circulation (mSv)	circulation w. 18 tidal harm. (mSv)	circulation w. no tide (mSv)
Getz	24	320	278
Dotson	5	247	241
Crosson	3	58	65
Thwaites	5	313	317
Pine Island	2	299	290
Cosgrove	1	48	41
Abbot	20	251	179

Table 2: Barotropic transport within each cavity, calculated as the maximum amplitude (maximum minus minimum) of the barotropic stream function under the ice-shelf. These numbers are calculated from averages over the 3<sup>rd</sup> year of the BTP-07 simulation (2<sup>nd</sup> column) and over the 7<sup>th</sup> year of the TIDE-18 (3<sup>rd</sup> column) and REF (4<sup>th</sup> column) simulations.

Ice Shelf	Melt with no tides	Melt with $M_2$	Melt with $M_2, S_2, K_1, O_1$	Melt with 18 harmonics	$u_{\text{tide}}$ (RMS)	$u_{\text{tide}}$ (harm.)
Getz	277.6	282.5 (+1.8%)	305.5 (+10%)	309.0 (+11%)	4.9	4.3
Dotson	25.0	26.4 (+5.6%)	31.7 (+27%)	32.6 (+30%)	6.1	3.1
Crosson	8.0	8.4 (+5.0%)	9.8 (+22%)	9.8 (+22%)	6.5	5.7
Thwaites	70.4	71.5 (+1.6%)	74.9 (+6.4%)	75.9 (+7.8%)	2.3	0.9
Pine Island	124.3	124.5 (+0.2%)	124.8 (+0.4%)	125.9 (+1.3%)	1.8	1.3
Cosgrove	20.2	21.2 (+4.9%)	25.4 (+26%)	27.0 (+34%)	4.9	3.3
Abbot	94.7	100.8 (+6.4%)	128.8 (+36%)	131.4 (+39%)	5.6	3.6

Table 3: Mean melt rates in the simulated ice shelf cavities ( $\text{Gt.yr}^{-1}$ ). Increase relative to the first column is shown in brackets. The two last columns show the tidal TBL velocity in each individual cavity (in  $\text{cm.s}^{-1}$ ) from the simulation with 18 tidal constituents, either deduced from a time-RMS difference between the simulation with tides and the one with no tides (RMS diff.) or from a harmonic analysis of the TBL velocity in the simulation with tides (Eq. 7).

$\Gamma_T$	$2.21 \times 10^{-3}$
$C_d$	$1.00 \times 10^{-3}$
$\alpha$	0.777
$A_0$	0.656
$U_0$	0.003 $\text{m.s}^{-1}$

Table 4: Values of the coefficients used in Eq. (9).

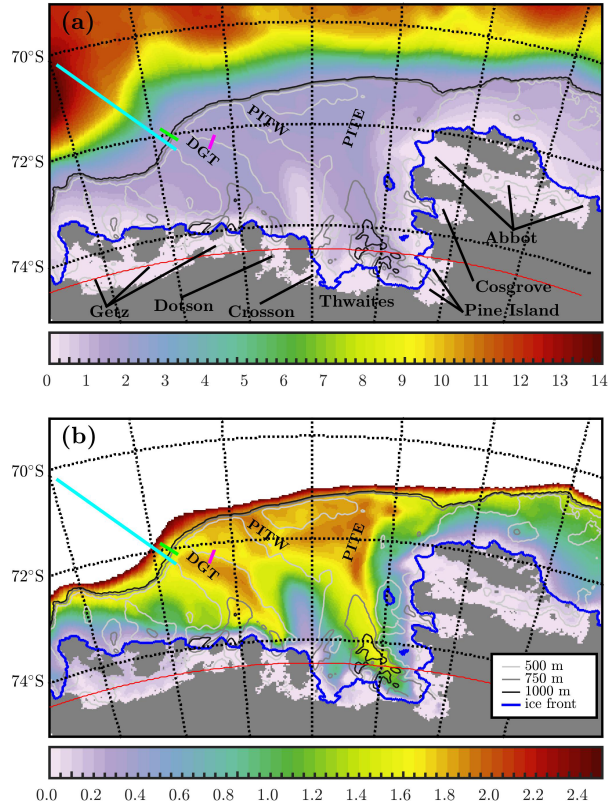


Figure 1: (a) Mean barotropic stream function (Sv) in the reference simulation (REF). Maxima indicate clockwise rotation and minima indicate anti-clockwise rotation. (b) same as (a) but with finer color range. Ice shelf names located within the domain are indicated, as well as DGT (Dotson-Getz Trough), PITW (Pine Island Trough - West) and PITE (Pine Island Trough - East). Are also shown: the  $M_2$  critical latitude (red), the bathymetry on the continental shelf (grey contours), and the land ice terminus (blue). The grounded ice is in grey. The barotropic transports across the cyan, green and magenta sections are 11.7 Sv, 0.49 Sv and 0.13 Sv respectively.

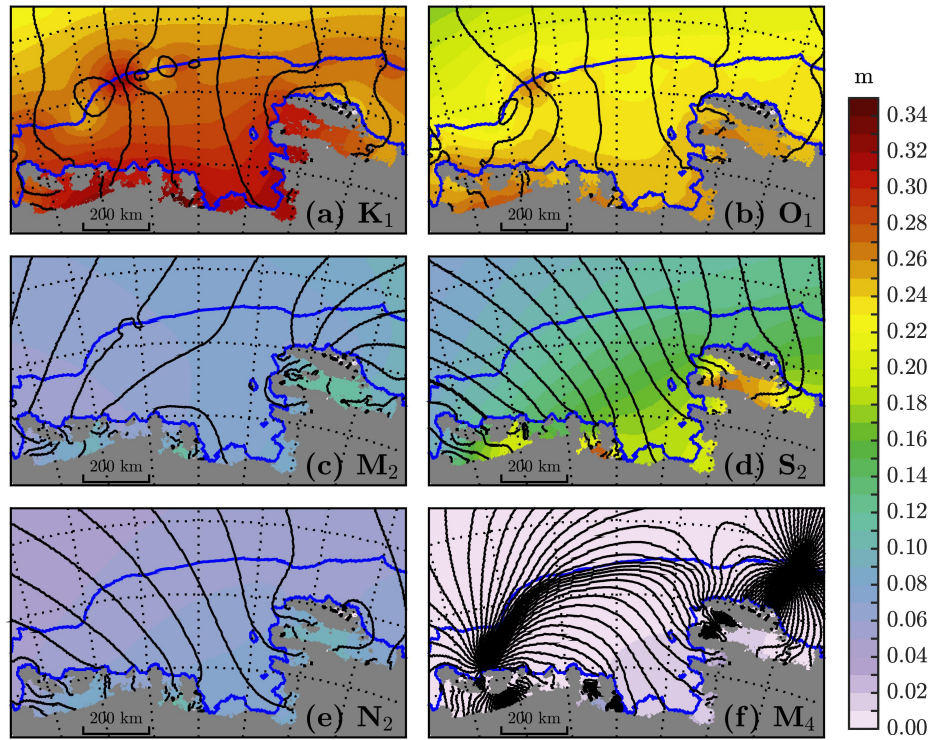


Figure 2: Amplitude (shaded) and phase (thin black, contour every  $5^\circ$ ) of six SSH harmonics in the pseudo-barotropic experiment (harmonic analysis over the six first months of the third simulation year). Grounded ice is in gray, and the thick blue contours represent the ice-sheet margin and the 1500 m isobath (indicating the location of the continental shelf break). Dotted lines are latitude (every  $2^\circ$ ) and longitude (every  $5^\circ$ ).



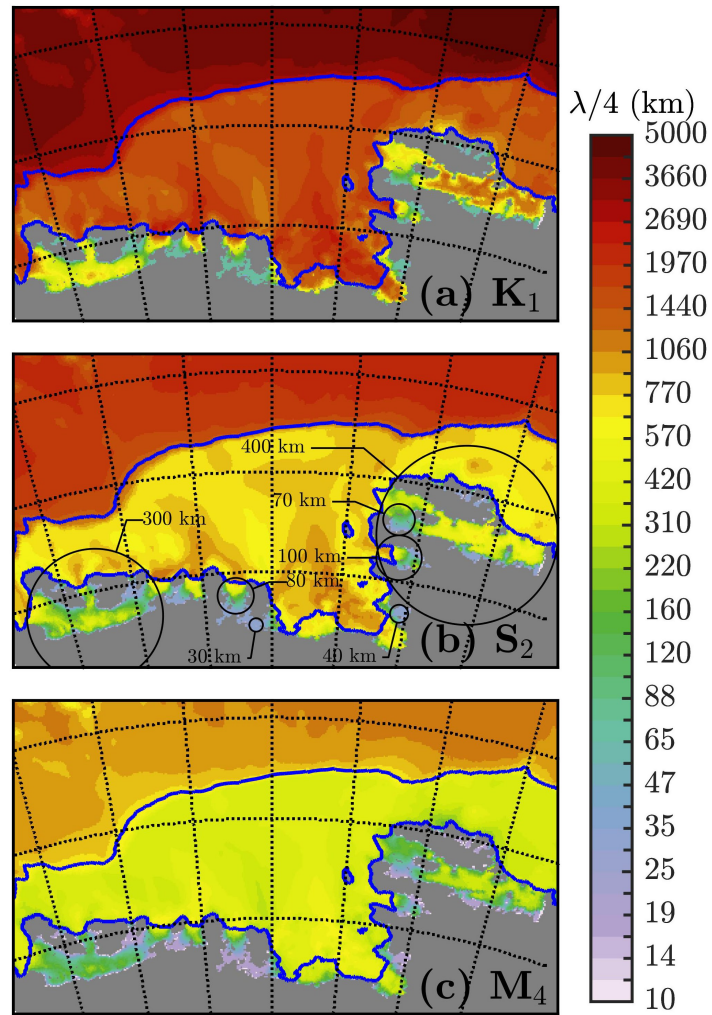


Figure 3: Quarter wavelength estimated under the shallow water approximation for (a)  $K_1$ , (b)  $S_2$  and (c)  $M_4$ . The circles indicate typical ice-shelf and bay sizes on the map. The blue lines show the land ice terminus and the continental shelf break (1500 m isoline).

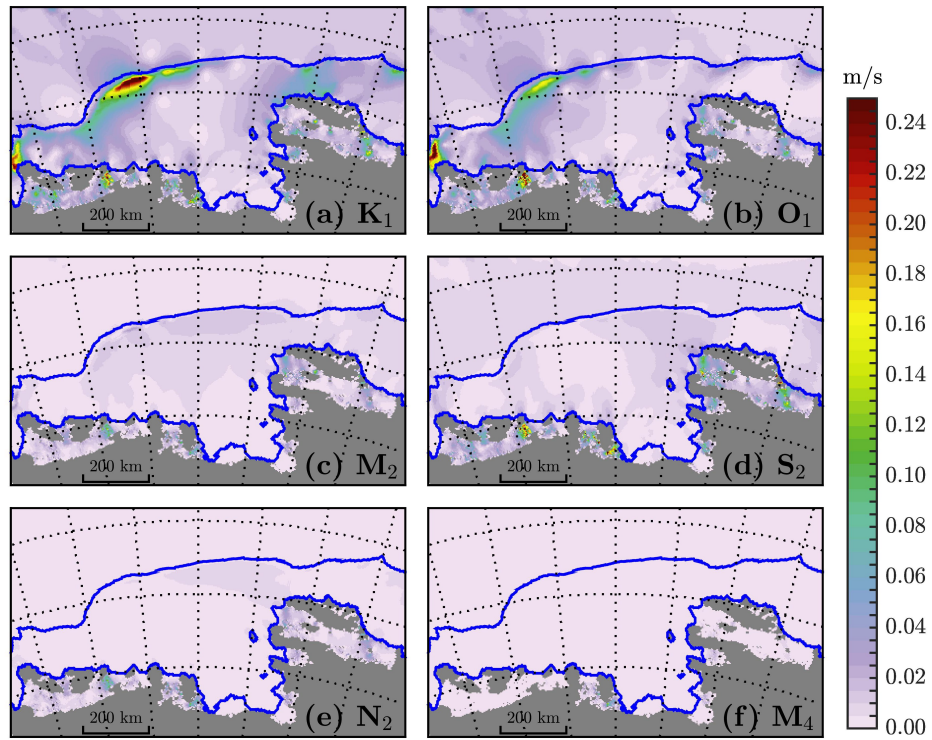


Figure 4: Major semi-axis of the tidal ellipse related to six barotropic-velocity harmonics (shaded) in the pseudo-barotropic experiment (harmonic analysis over the six first months of the third simulation year). Grounded ice is in gray, and the thick blue contours represent the ice-sheet margin and the 1500 m isobath (indicating the location of the continental shelf break). Dotted lines are latitude (every 2°) and longitude (every 5°).

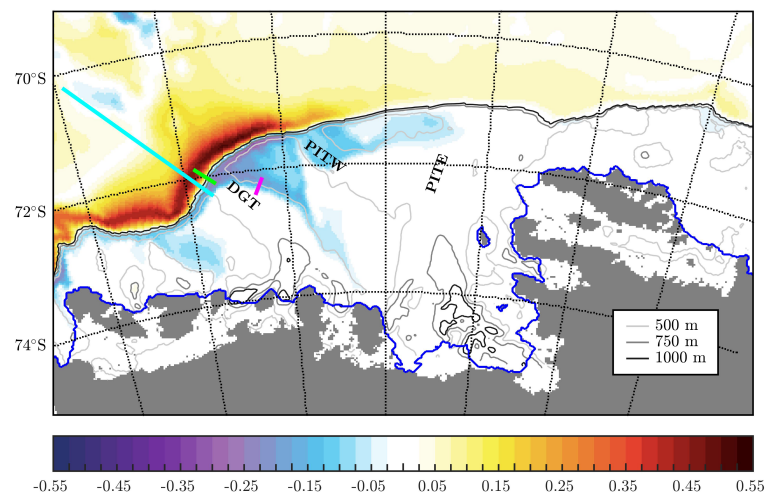


Figure 5: Residual tidal circulation, calculated as the annual mean barotropic stream function (Sv) in the BTP-07 simulation. Maxima indicate clockwise rotation and minima indicate anti-clockwise rotation. The grey contours show the bathymetry on the continental shelf, and the blue contour indicates the land ice temrinus. The grounded ice is in grey. The barotropic transports across the cyan, green and magenta sections are 0.12 Sv, 0.70 Sv and 0.17 Sv respectively.

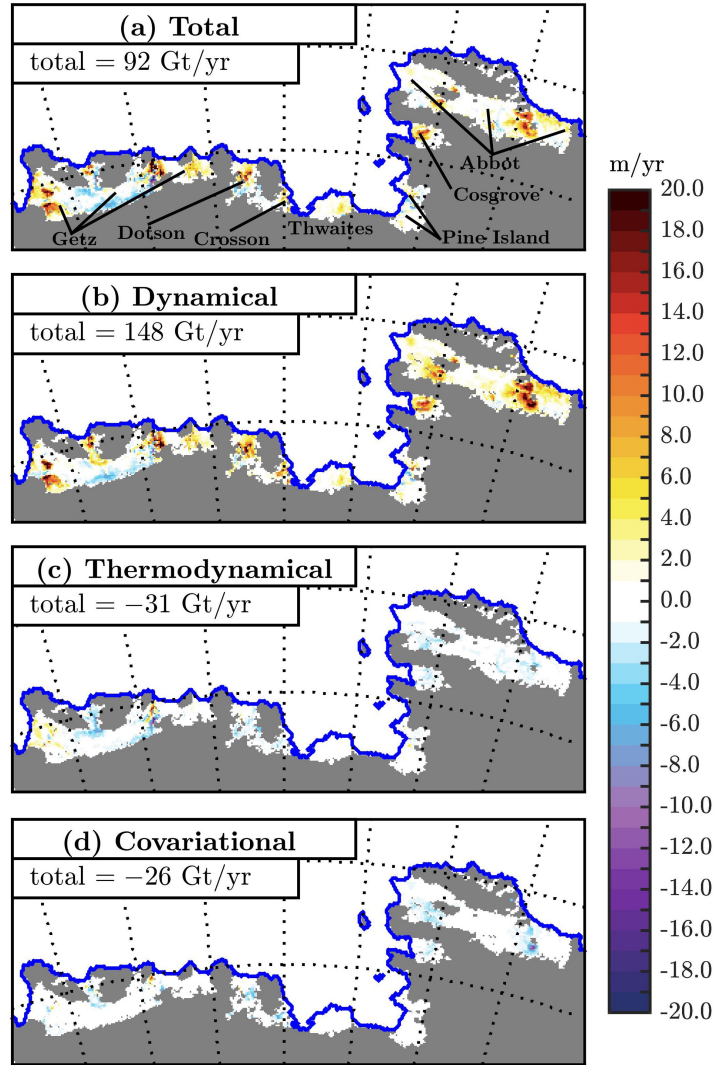


Figure 6: (a) Change in melt rate explained by the presence of 18 tidal harmonics, i.e.  $\Delta m$  in Eq. (5). (b-d) Terms of the decomposition of Eq. (5). The numbers in the upper left corners give the total melt anomaly over the domain.

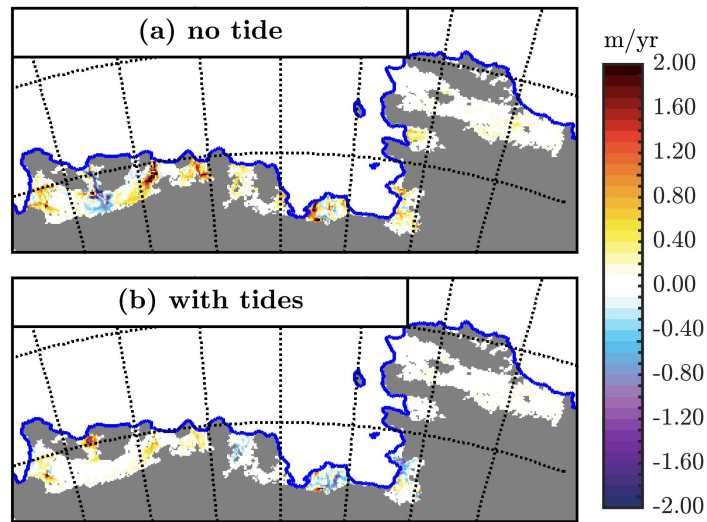


Figure 7: Changes in annual mean melt rates due to a  $1^\circ\text{S}$  shift of latitudes (i.e. bathymetry and ice drafts are shifted by  $1^\circ\text{N}$ ) in simulations with (a) no tides, (b) 18 tidal harmonics. The blue contour indicates the land ice terminus and the grounded ice is in grey. Note that the amplitude of the color bar is ten times smaller than in Fig. 6.

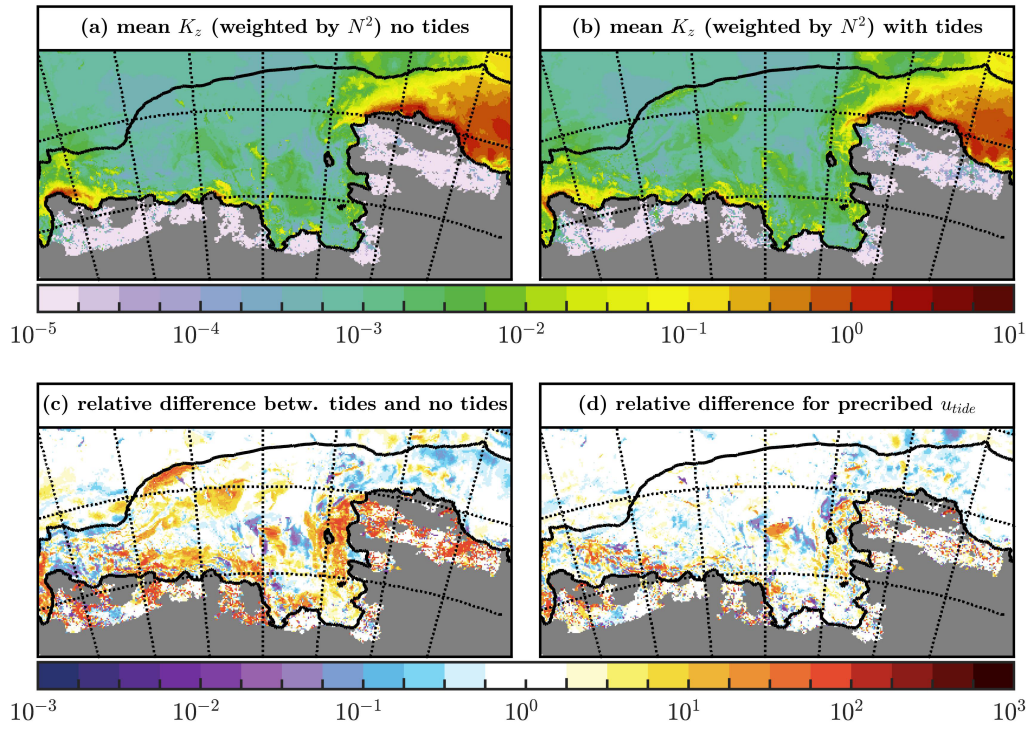


Figure 8: Stratification-weighted depth-mean vertical diffusivity ( $K_z$ , in  $\text{m}^2 \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$ ) in: (a) REF and (b) TIDE-18. (c) relative difference (i.e. difference divided by half sum) between (a) and (b). (d) Same as (c) but with prescribed tidal TBL velocity ( $0.777U_{\text{tide}}(x,y)$ ) instead of explicit tides. The land ice terminus and the 1500 m isobath are in black, the grounded ice sheet is in gray.

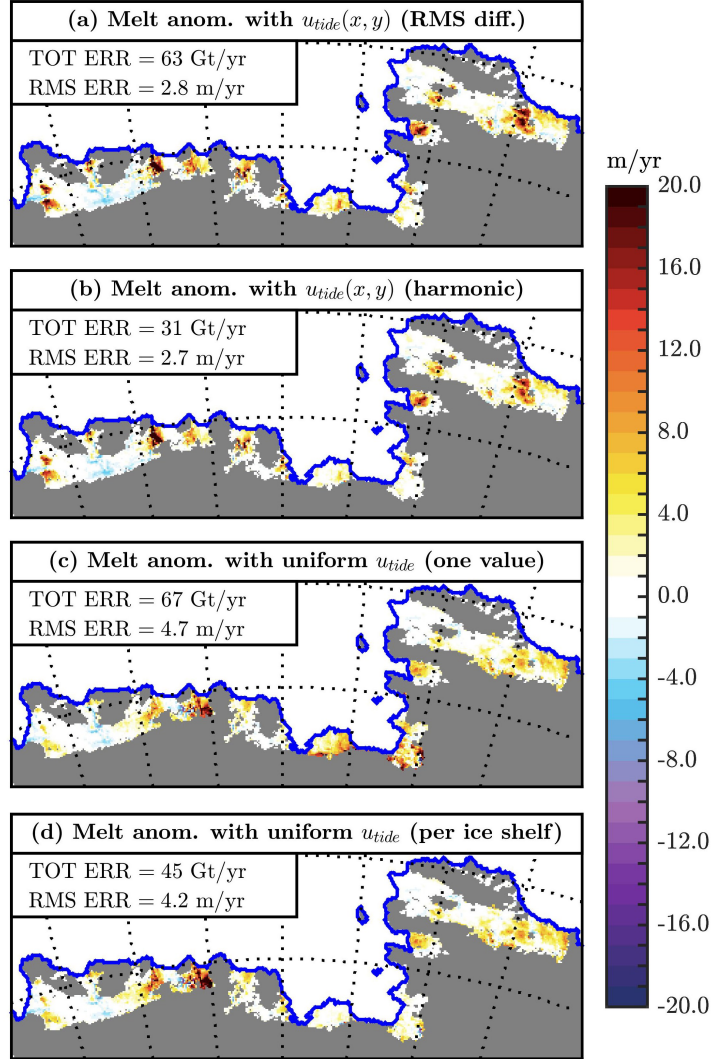


Figure 9: Change in melt rate due to the use of prescribed tidal TBL velocity in the melt equations, with (a) spatially-varying tidal velocity from the RMS difference between TIDE-18 and REF, (b) spatially-varying tidal velocity from a harmonic analysis in TIDE-18, (c) uniform tidal velocity all over the domain, calculated from the RMS of (b) under all the ice shelves, and (d) uniform tidal velocity calculated from the RMS of (b) under each individual ice shelf. The total error and RMS error with respect to the simulation with explicit tides (TIDE-18) are indicated for each panel.

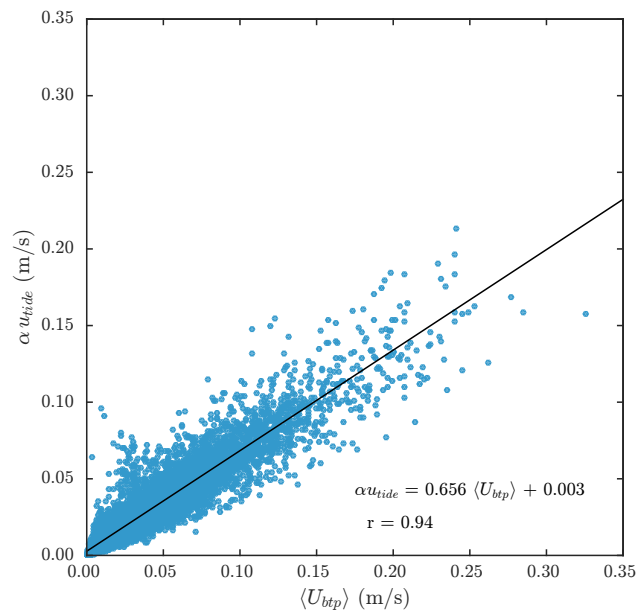


Figure 10: Harmonic tidal TBL velocity (from TIDE-18) versus the root-sum-square barotropic velocity from the harmonic analysis of the BTP-07 simulation as defined in eq. (9). Also indicated are the correlation coefficient ( $r$ ) and regression coefficients of the least-squares linear fit.



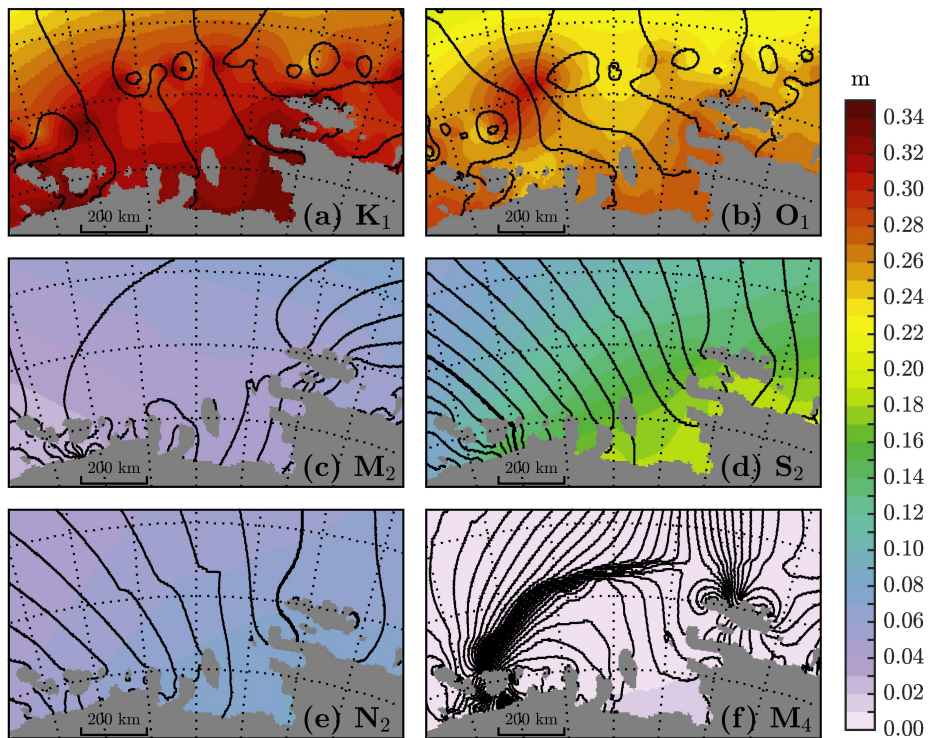


Figure S1: Amplitude (shaded) and phase (thin black, contour every  $5^\circ$ ) of six SSH harmonics in FES2012. Grounded ice is in gray and dotted lines are latitude (every  $2^\circ$ ) and longitude (every  $5^\circ$ ).

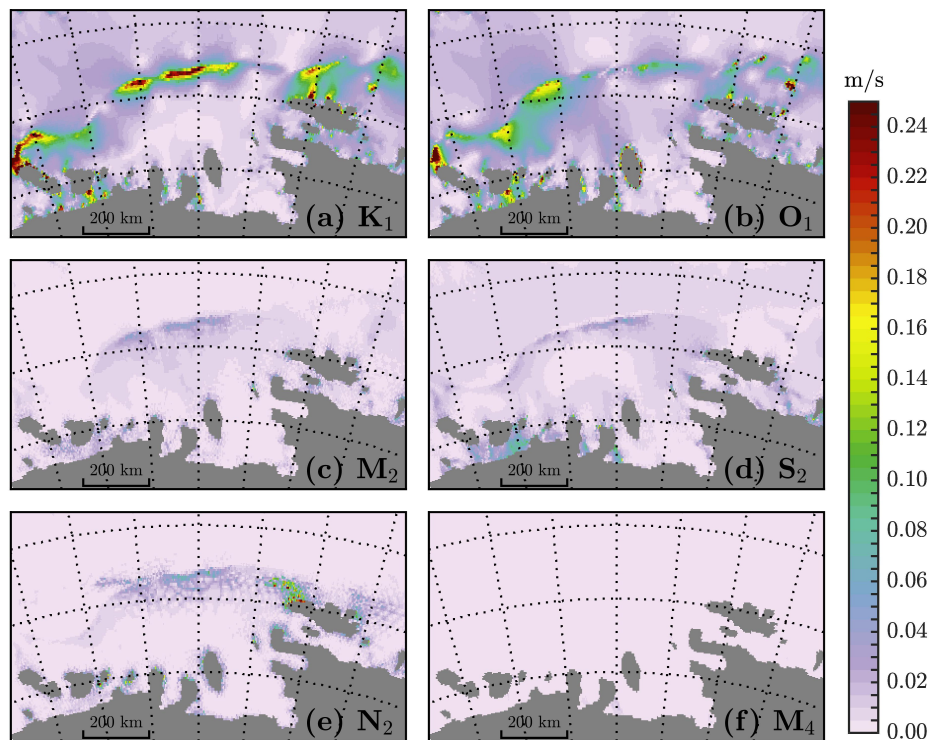


Figure S2: Major semi-axis of the tidal ellipse related to six barotropic-velocity harmonics (shaded) in FES2012. Grounded ice is in gray, and dotted lines are latitude (every  $2^\circ$ ) and longitude (every  $5^\circ$ ).

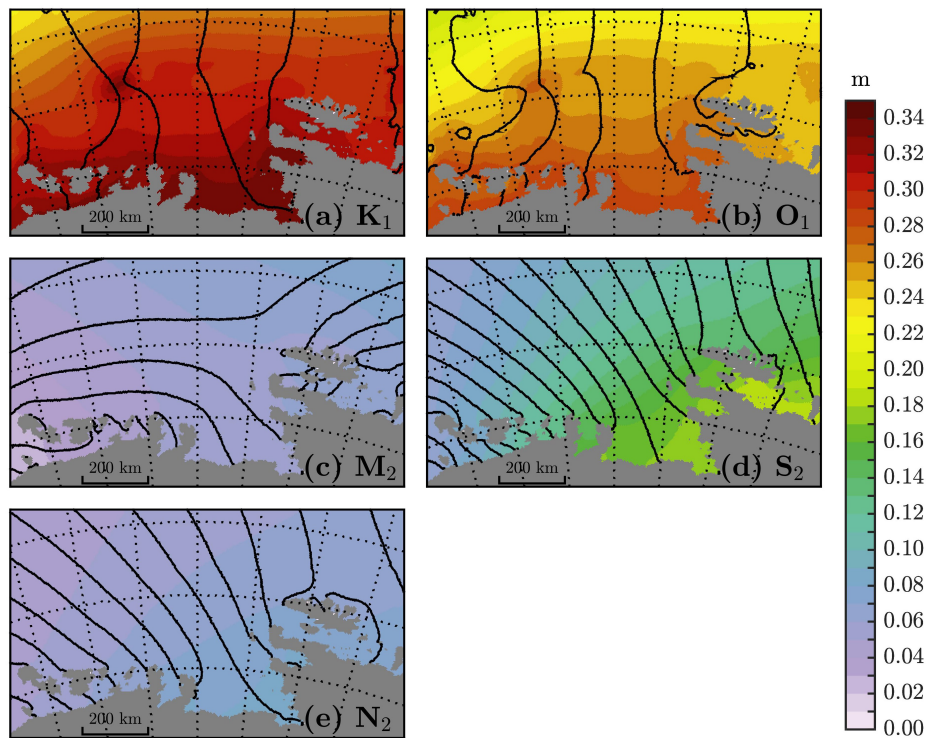


Figure S3: Amplitude (shaded) and phase (thin black, contour every  $5^\circ$ ) of six SSH harmonics in CATS2008. Grounded ice is in gray and dotted lines are latitude (every  $2^\circ$ ) and longitude (every  $5^\circ$ ).

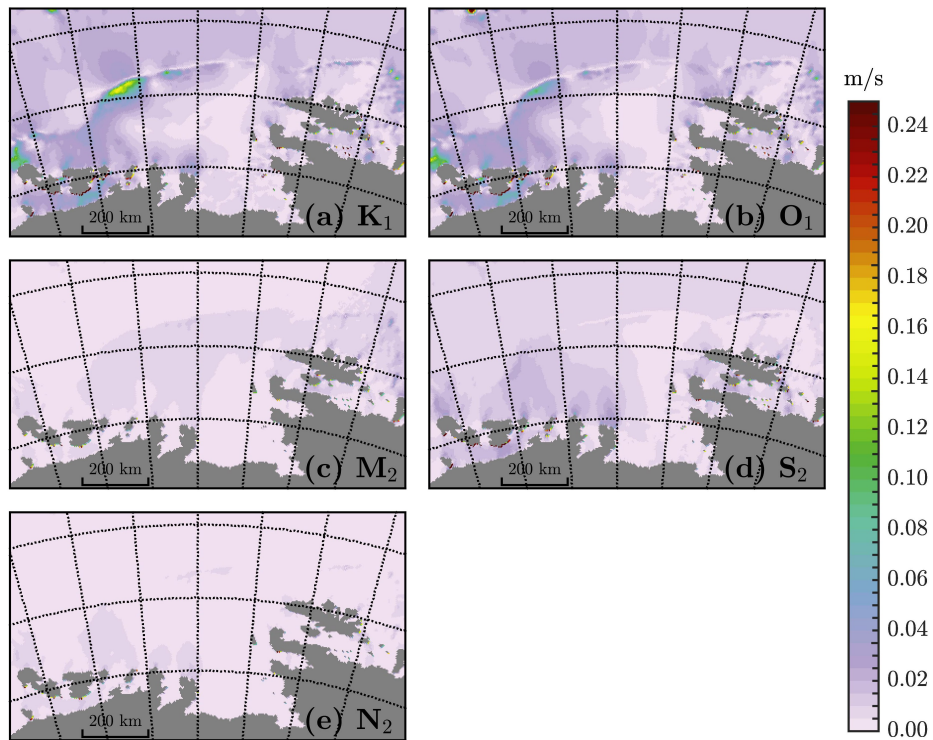


Figure S4: Major semi-axis of the tidal ellipse related to six barotropic-velocity harmonics (shaded) in CATS2008. Grounded ice is in gray, and dotted lines are latitude (every 2°) and longitude (every 5°).