

1 **NEMO-ICB (v1.0): interactive icebergs in the NEMO ocean**
2 **model globally configured at eddy-permitting resolution**

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18
19 **Abstract**

20 An established iceberg module, ICB, is used interactively with the NEMO ocean model in a
21 new implementation, NEMO-ICB (v1.0). A 30-year hindcast (1978-2007) simulation with an
22 eddy-permitting (0.25°) global configuration of NEMO-ICB is undertaken to evaluate the
23 influence of icebergs on sea ice, hydrography, mixed layer depths and ocean currents, through
24 comparison with a control simulation in which the equivalent iceberg mass flux is applied as
25 coastal runoff, a common forcing in ocean models. In the southern hemisphere, drift and
26 melting of icebergs are in balance after around 5 years, whereas the equilibration timescale for
27 the northern hemisphere is 15-20 years. Iceberg drift patterns, and Southern Ocean iceberg
28 mass, compare favourably with available observations. Freshwater forcing due to iceberg

1 melting is most pronounced very locally, in the coastal zone around much of Antarctica,
2 where it often exceeds in magnitude and opposes the negative freshwater fluxes associated
3 with sea ice freezing. However, at most locations in the polar Southern Ocean, the annual-
4 mean freshwater flux due to icebergs, if present, is typically an order of magnitude smaller
5 than the contribution of sea ice melting and precipitation. A notable exception is the
6 southwest Atlantic sector of the Southern Ocean, where iceberg melting reaches around 50%
7 of net precipitation over a large area. Including icebergs in place of coastal runoff, sea ice
8 concentration and thickness are notably decreased at most locations around Antarctica, by up
9 to ~20% and ~10% in both the Weddell and Ross Seas, with opposing increases of ~10% in
10 the Amundsen and Bellingshausen Seas. Antarctic sea ice mass decreases by 2.9%, overall.
11 As a consequence of changes in net freshwater forcing and sea ice, salinity and temperature
12 distributions are also substantially altered. Surface salinity increases by ~0.1 psu around much
13 of Antarctica, due to suppressed coastal runoff, with extensive freshening at depth, extending
14 to greatest depths in the polar Southern Ocean where discernible effects on both salinity and
15 temperature reach 2500 m in the Weddell Sea by the last pentad of the simulation. Substantial
16 physical and dynamical responses to icebergs, throughout the global ocean, are explained by
17 rapid propagation of density anomalies from high to low latitudes. Complementary to the
18 baseline model used here, three prototype modifications to NEMO-ICB are also introduced
19 and discussed.

20

21 **1. Introduction**

22 Fresh water fluxes from the terrestrial cryosphere comprise liquid runoff and calved icebergs.
23 This partitioning is believed to be significant for freshwater distribution in the oceans
24 (Gladstone et al., 2001). Runoff freshens the ocean locally near the coast, while individual
25 icebergs represent pathways for continuous and increasingly remote freshwater influence on
26 the open ocean (Bigg et al., 1996, 1997).

27 In order to accommodate the climatic influence of icebergs, principally through the freshwater
28 input to the ocean, it is necessary to model their statistical distribution, rather than track large
29 numbers of individual bergs (Hunke and Comeau, 2011). Interactive ocean-iceberg modelling
30 began with the development of an ocean-forced iceberg trajectory model (Bigg et al., 1996).
31 An iceberg momentum balance accounts for Coriolis and pressure gradient forces, plus drag
32 forces from ocean, wind, waves and sea ice. Along each trajectory, iceberg mass is reduced

1 according to parameterizations of basal melting, buoyant convection, and wave erosion. This
2 model has been extensively used and validated in the Arctic (e.g. Bigg et al., 1996) and
3 Antarctic (Gladstone et al., 2001), as well as for palaeoclimate studies (e.g. Watkins et al.,
4 2007).

5 The iceberg model was subsequently coupled with the ocean model FRUGAL, which features
6 a curvilinear grid system with a North Pole centred in Greenland, ensuring reasonably high
7 resolution (20-50 km) in the northern Atlantic and Arctic (Wadley and Bigg, 2000). This
8 coupling allows for feedback between iceberg meltwater and the surface ocean dynamics and
9 thermodynamics (Levine and Bigg, 2008). For a given calving flux, a distribution of icebergs
10 is specified in terms of size, with characteristic length, width and thickness.

11 In separate developments, modified versions of the Bigg et al. (1996, 1997) iceberg model
12 have been coupled with the ECBilt-CLIO Earth System Model (Jongma et al., 2009) and with
13 CM2G, a next-generation GFDL climate model, featuring an isopycnal-coordinate ocean
14 component (Martin and Adcroft, 2010; henceforth MA10). Jongma et al. (2009) found that
15 freshening and cooling influences of icebergs enhance sea ice area by 12% and 6%
16 respectively. MA10 conversely found that sea ice cover is generally thinner and less compact
17 with icebergs, compared to a control experiment in which fresh water enters the ocean at the
18 coast and stimulates sea ice growth. They found strongest decreases in sea ice concentration
19 of 6-8% in the Amundsen, Bellingshausen, Weddell, and D'Urville Seas, i.e., along the major
20 export routes for icebergs. The reduced fresh-water input over continental shelf regions in
21 experiments with icebergs (in particular, the flux of “bergy bits”) enhances deep-water
22 formation in CM2G, leading to an increase of up to 10% in the production rate of model
23 Antarctic Bottom Water.

24 It should be noted that the iceberg mass fluxes and distributions in CM2G – and the
25 aforementioned impacts – are associated with calving rates, in balance with precipitation over
26 ice sheets, that are rather different from observations. We also note that Jongma et al. (2009)
27 distributed Antarctic runoff globally in the control experiment, in contrast to the control run
28 with CM2G, which could explain the opposing sea ice trends associated with the introduction
29 of icebergs to ECBilt-CLIO and CM2G.

30 In the present study, a modified version of the Bigg et al. (1996, 1997) iceberg model,
31 developed by MA10, is coupled to an eddy-permitting global implementation of NEMO
32 (Madec, 2008), to simulate the trajectories and melting of calved icebergs – from Antarctica,

1 Greenland and small northern ice caps – in the presence of mesoscale variability and fine-
2 scale dynamical structure. In contrast, both MA10 and Jongma et al. (2009) included icebergs
3 in models with coarse (non-eddy resolving) ocean resolution.

4 The rest of the paper is organised as follows. In a model description section (Sect. 2), we
5 provide details of the iceberg module, the NEMO configuration, the NEMO-ICB
6 implementation, specified calving, experimental design and diagnostics. In a model validation
7 section (Sect. 3), we consider first the distribution of icebergs and the associated freshwater
8 flux, followed by differences, attributed to the inclusion of icebergs, in sea ice, hydrography,
9 mixed layer depths and ocean currents. In an additional section (Sect. 4), we describe
10 prototype modifications of NEMO-ICB, in relation to the baseline configuration used here. In
11 a summary and discussion section (Sect. 5), we compare and contrast our present results with
12 observations and previous simulations, before highlighting some caveats related to physical
13 processes that are yet to be included in coupled iceberg-ocean models. We conclude with
14 details of code availability (Sect. 6).

15

16 **2. Model Description**

17 **2.1 The iceberg module (ICB)**

18 The iceberg module, ICB (for ICBerGs), is based on the original model of Bigg et al. (1997),
19 as recently adapted for coupling to the CM2G climate model by MA10. Collections of
20 icebergs are treated as Lagrangian particles, with the distribution of icebergs by size derived
21 from observations. With increasing size (e.g., thickness ranging from 40 m to 250 m), smaller
22 collections of icebergs are represented per particle – see Bigg et al. (1997) and MA10 for full
23 details. The momentum balance for icebergs comprises the Coriolis force, air and water form
24 drags, the horizontal pressure gradient force, a wave radiation force, and interaction with sea
25 ice. The mass balance for an individual iceberg is governed by basal melting, buoyant
26 convection at the side-walls, and wave erosion (see Bigg et al., 1997). All respective
27 equations are the same as detailed in MA10, so are not repeated here.

28 Internal stresses from the sea ice model are not directly used in the iceberg momentum
29 balance, and similarly there is no feedback from the iceberg motion to the sea ice. Neglect of
30 the momentum exchange between icebergs and sea ice is consistent with resolved length
31 scales. The length scale of our biggest represented icebergs is ~ 1 km, and such icebergs are
32 generally well dispersed around Antarctica, Greenland and Arctic ice caps. Only near release

1 sites will there be a sufficient iceberg density to perhaps impact sea ice motion, which is
2 determined on model grid scales that are more than ten times larger than our largest icebergs.
3 Independent of iceberg concentration, the impact of sea ice drag on icebergs is observed to be
4 minimal around 80-90% of the time (Lighey and Hellmer, 2001), so the momentum interaction
5 term, and any resulting feedback, may be regarded as second order. Only when the pack is
6 concentrated does this change, and then there is a switch to the berg being carried by the sea
7 ice. This step change in iceberg dynamics is not yet parameterized. We also assume that
8 icebergs are oriented at 45° relative to the wind, with the wind to the left (right) in the
9 northern (southern) hemisphere, as outlined in Bigg et al. (1997). This may or may not be the
10 case in reality. Thus, any stress provided from the sea ice model grid is likely to be only
11 approximate. For these reasons, a simple drag law - as implicit here (equation A.2c in MA10)
12 - is realistic for iceberg interaction with sea ice. For higher resolution ocean models, with
13 grid-cell dimensions of just a few km, it would be necessary to more explicitly account for
14 momentum transfers between icebergs and sea ice, but the present resolution prohibits such
15 representation.

16 Sea ice concentration and thickness can also be impacted by freshwater fluxes from melting.
17 Given the scale issues mentioned above, but the spreading of meltwater widely across the
18 surface, one can argue that the effect of meltwater on these sea ice parameters is likely to be
19 much greater than the imprecisely represented and resolved dynamical effect.

20 **2.2 NEMO version and configuration**

21 Interactive icebergs are implemented in NEMO v3.5, in a model option known as NEMO-
22 ICB. The source code and forcing files used in the configurations presented here are available
23 to registered NEMO users (see Sect. 6). The NEMO ocean model component is coupled to
24 either the Louvain-la-Neuve sea ice model LIM2 with viscous-plastic rheology, formulated by
25 Fichefet and Maqueda (1997), or the Los Alamos National Laboratory sea ice model version
26 4.1 (CICE v4.1; Hunke and Lipscomb, 2010). After initial NEMO-ICB development with
27 LIM2 (Marsh et al., 2014), the results presented here are obtained with NEMO coupled to
28 CICE. While testing of the latest NEMO versions is ongoing, validation of v3.4 demonstrated
29 substantial improvements in surface physics over v3.2 (Megann et al., 2014).

30 **2.3 NEMO-ICB implementation - baseline and prototype versions**

31 Implementation of the ICB module within the NEMO framework differs from implementation
32 of icebergs in the sea ice module of CM2G (MA10). The NEMO-ICB implementation was

1 motivated by anticipated model development. Icebergs in the real world – up to 250 m thick
2 in the model – are largely submerged into the ocean, and therefore influenced by vertical
3 temperature gradients and current shears. For physically correct model representation of
4 iceberg-ocean interaction, model icebergs should correspondingly be submerged in the model
5 ocean – difficult to code within the CM2G scheme.

6 The results presented here are obtained for icebergs interacting with surface currents and
7 surface temperatures – henceforth denoted the baseline version (the available code - see Sect.
8 6). Besides the baseline version of the code, a number of optional modifications have been
9 implemented and are currently being tested. In particular, this includes an option for advection
10 of icebergs with depth-averaged currents, extending the dynamics routines to 3D settings with
11 minor code changes. Other optional modifications to the baseline version of the code include
12 iceberg interaction with shallow bathymetry and computation of melting rates with the 3D
13 temperature field. These modifications are further described and discussed in Sect. 4 but are
14 not yet readily available in the code.

15 As icebergs melt, freshwater is added to the surface level of the ocean model with salinity 0
16 psu – effectively a frozen fraction of the total runoff in NEMO, re-distributed – freshening the
17 ocean surface layer. There is no associated heat flux in the experiment presented here,
18 although the option exists in NEMO-ICB for meltwater with nominal temperature -4°C to mix
19 with the ocean. The additional mass flux associated with iceberg melt also alters the free
20 surface height in NEMO.

21 **2.4 Iceberg calving**

22 Climatological iceberg calving rates are distributed realistically around coastlines in high
23 latitudes of the northern and southern hemispheres (as shown in Fig. 2a of Levine and Bigg,
24 2008), and the implied calving events are constant through time. The initial length/width ratio
25 for all newly calved icebergs is 1.5, and size distributions as specified in Sect. 2.1.

26 The total calving rate specified for Antarctica is $1140 \text{ Gt year}^{-1}$, compared to $1332 \text{ Gt year}^{-1}$ in
27 Gladstone et al. (2001) and $1375 \text{ Gt year}^{-1}$ in Levine and Bigg (2008) – from $1500 \text{ km}^3 \text{ year}^{-1}$
28 in the latter study, taking a standard density for ice, at 0°C , of 916.7 kg m^{-3} . While giant
29 icebergs are unrepresented here, their absence does not account for these differences. Our
30 Antarctic calving rate comprises 51.6% of total freshwater flux into the Southern Ocean from
31 Antarctica ($2210 \text{ Gt year}^{-1}$), prescribed as 100% runoff in the absence of icebergs.

1 The mean calving rate in the Northern Hemisphere is considerably smaller at 188 Gt year^{-1} ,
2 compared to 206 Gt year^{-1} (from $225 \text{ km}^3 \text{ year}^{-1}$) in Levine and Bigg (2008). The great
3 majority of NH calving is from the Greenland ice sheet, with minor contributions from Axel
4 Heiberg Island, Ellesmere Island, Devon Island, Bylot Island, Baffin Island, Svalbard, Franz
5 Josef Island, Novaya Zemlya and Severnaya Zemlya. Around Greenland, the calving rate
6 comprises around 50% of total freshwater flux into the North Atlantic from the ice sheet.

7 It is noteworthy that our calving rates derive from a mass balance calculation for around 2000,
8 before melt and discharge from ice sheets began to increase significantly. Rignot et al. (2011)
9 report steadily increasing rates of ice sheet mass discharge (remote sensing of ice motion and
10 thickness) over 1992-2009, ~ 500 to $\sim 630 \text{ Gt year}^{-1}$ for Greenland, and ~ 2140 to $\sim 2300 \text{ Gt}$
11 year^{-1} for Antarctica. The partitioning of this discharge between calving and melting (basal
12 melting of outlet glaciers and ice shelves) is poorly known and undoubtedly changing rapidly,
13 but it is likely that recent calving rates are substantially higher than those used to develop
14 earlier climatological rates, and trending upwards. In summary, our calving rates are
15 conservative in the context of these ongoing changes, akin to “pre-industrial” estimates. The
16 oceanographic and sea ice impacts reported here are therefore also likely to be conservative.

17 **2.5 Experimental Design**

18 In common with preceding NEMO development (e.g., Megann et al., 2014), we undertook 30-
19 year hindcast experiments, here for the period 1978-2007, with the 0.25° resolution (eddy-
20 permitting) global configuration known as ORCA025. We henceforth refer to corresponding
21 NEMO experiments (without icebergs) as “CONTROL”, and NEMO-ICB experiments (with
22 icebergs) as “ICEBERG”. In CONTROL, liquid freshwater (runoff) fluxes are prescribed at
23 coastal grid-cells around Antarctica, Greenland and the smaller icecaps. This reference run is
24 designed to emphasize the importance of icebergs in transporting freshwater, and we stress
25 here that most DRAKKAR simulations with ORCA025 now use “static” 2D maps of
26 freshwater flux due to icebergs - e.g., for the Southern Ocean, the map is derived from Silva et
27 al (2006), or freshwater from melting icebergs is homogeneously spread south of 60°S .

28 In ICEBERG, runoff around ice sheets is re-partitioned between iceberg calving and reduced
29 runoff at coastal grid-cells (spatially distributed as in CONTROL), such that the global ocean
30 receives exactly the same freshwater flux in CONTROL and ICEBERG. Seasonal cycles of
31 runoff are preserved through small adjustments at selected locations, while iceberg calving is
32 constant throughout the year. We cannot guarantee that global-mean salinity will remain the

1 same in both experiments, due to partial dependence of evaporation on sea surface
2 temperature, and the salinity relaxation scheme of NEMO. However, these effects on global-
3 mean salinity are found to be very small (see Sect. 3.3).

4 **2.6 Diagnostics**

5 For a given time interval, the locations and properties of individual iceberg particles (each
6 representative of varying numbers of icebergs in a given size class) are saved in a set of files
7 that may be post-processed to obtain selected distributions and tracks for individual icebergs.

8 Integral diagnostics are written to the tracer files of standard NEMO output. Table 1 lists the
9 full suite of these diagnostics, along with corresponding variable names and units. Most
10 iceberg diagnostics are 2D fields on the NEMO ocean model mesh. Particularly useful
11 instantaneous measures of the iceberg model include the virtual coverage by icebergs – virtual
12 in the sense that total grid cell area is the sum of open water and sea ice, consistent with the
13 very small fractional area for icebergs in the size categories considered here. Other important
14 diagnostics are the melt rate of icebergs, in total and partitioned into the three components:
15 “buoyancy component of iceberg melt rate” (basal melting); “convective component ...”
16 (sidewall melting); “erosion component ...” (wave erosion).

17

18 **3. Model Evaluation**

19 We first consider the spin-up of NEMO-ICB in terms of total iceberg volume. We then
20 illustrate typical near-equilibrium iceberg distributions, based on year 26-30 (hindcast years
21 2003-07) averages. We subsequently examine sea ice concentration and thickness,
22 hydrography, mixed layer depths, and preliminary evidence for iceberg influences on the
23 global ocean circulation.

24 **3.1 Iceberg distribution and freshwater flux**

25 Time series of the total mass of icebergs (Fig. 1) indicate that global mass is dominated by
26 Southern Hemisphere (SH) mass over Northern hemisphere (NH) mass, in a ratio of around
27 4:1. We also note more interannual variability in the Southern Hemisphere, perhaps expected
28 given the larger long-term mean. SH mass has equilibrated as early as year 5, while NH mass
29 equilibrates more slowly, due to the prevalence of semi-enclosed basins in the NH compared
30 to the SH, where icebergs become trapped. It requires some time for the mean iceberg mass of
31 the Arctic in particular, but also Baffin Bay, to reach equilibrium. This extends the mean

1 lifetime of NH icebergs and delays equilibration relative to the SH by 10-15 years. Icebergs
2 are more rapidly exported from the Antarctic Coastal Current to the Southern Ocean, where
3 they melt relatively quickly, hence the shorter mean lifetime and equilibration timescale for
4 SH icebergs. However, the model does not include giant icebergs, of which there will always
5 be some resident in the Southern Ocean (Silva et al., 2006) and which will take much longer
6 to melt. The real ratio of iceberg mass between the Hemispheres is therefore likely to be
7 greater than in the model.

8 The year 26-30 mean global iceberg mass of 800-1000 Gt is considerably lower than the
9 ~6000 Gt obtained after 100 years spin-up of CM2G (MA10). However, as further discussed
10 below, the high global iceberg mass in CM2G is associated with excessive calving rates in the
11 Pacific sector of Antarctica (see Fig. 9a in MA10). For SH regions where observations are
12 available, total iceberg mass in NEMO-ICB appears to be realistic: ~200 Gt north of 66°S in
13 the Southern Ocean (dashed red line in Fig. 1) compares favourably with estimates based on
14 satellite observations over 2002-10 (Tournadre et al. 2012, their Figs. 5 and 6).

15 Global iceberg mass budgets for NEMO-ICB and CM2G are summarized in Table 2. Both
16 models are close to a balance between calving and melting, with the imbalances (net melting)
17 just under 5 Gt year⁻¹ for both simulations, corresponding to 0.37% and 0.19% of the total
18 calving rates in NEMO-ICB and CM2G respectively. In spite of the adopting the same
19 parameterizations as MA10, we obtain somewhat different global rates and partitioning (see
20 Table 2). As in CM2G, wave erosion flux is dominant in NEMO-ICB, but basal melt flux is
21 less substantial (17.27% in NEMO-ICB, compared to 29.21% in CM2G), which may be due
22 to different SST and wind speeds in the forced ORCA025 run compared to the fully coupled
23 CM2G. Sidewall melting (buoyant convection) is similarly negligible in both models. For the
24 SH, averaged over years 26-30, total melting of icebergs is 1128.5 Gt year⁻¹. This almost
25 exactly balances total Antarctic calving of 1140 Gt year⁻¹, and is partitioned as follows: wave
26 erosion of 918.44 Gt year⁻¹ (81.4% of the total); basal melting of 205.68 Gt year⁻¹ (18.2%);
27 sidewall melting of 4.37 Gt year⁻¹ (0.4%).

28 Compared to NEMO-ICB, Bigg et al. (1997) note similar magnitudes and partitioning in the
29 North Atlantic and Arctic, although a later version of the model featured enhanced basal
30 melting (Gladstone et al., 2001). We might expect more difference in partitioning between the
31 North Atlantic, dominated by wave erosion, and the Arctic, where basal melting should be
32 enhanced in the presence of a relatively warm Atlantic layer (at around 100 m in many
33 places). However, surface temperatures are used here in the basal melting parameterization of

1 NEMO-ICB, which may limit basal melting in the Arctic, where surface temperatures are
2 close to the freezing point during most of the year. A sensitivity of basal melting rates to
3 temperature is evident in an experiment using one of our prototype modifications: when
4 melting rates are computed with the 3D temperature field (see Sect. 4.3), basal melting in the
5 Southern Ocean accounts for an increased proportion of the total iceberg melting rate, from
6 18.2% to 29.1%.

7 As an example of simulated iceberg drift patterns, Figure 2 shows daily iceberg positions,
8 colour-coded for size class (or thickness), for the two seasons of year 30 in each hemisphere
9 [see also Figure A1 for the corresponding number of icebergs and average iceberg thickness
10 on the ORCA025 grid]. Evaluation of these drift patterns is rather qualitative in the absence of
11 corresponding observational data (except for giant icebergs), but the SH distribution patterns
12 compare favourably with maps of average probability, length and volume of icebergs, based
13 on altimetry data (Tournadre et al., 2012, their Fig. 4).

14 In the SH (Fig. 2a,b), large icebergs (thickness > 200 m) cluster along most of Antarctica,
15 with smaller icebergs (thickness < 50 m) generally found farther offshore. Large icebergs
16 spread further equatorward in the north part of the Weddell Gyre, east of the Antarctic
17 Peninsula to about 30°E . To a lesser extent, large icebergs also reach the Southern Ocean in
18 the Indian Ocean sector at around 60°E , and south of New Zealand, from around 150°E to
19 180°E . Icebergs may initially drift equatorwards due to topographically induced distortions of
20 the Antarctic Coastal Current, subsequently following the periphery of subpolar gyres to reach
21 the Antarctic Circumpolar Current, where they melt rapidly. There is also a degree of
22 seasonality in iceberg distribution, with more extensive and equatorward distributions in the
23 austral summer/autumn (January-June), likely due to the retreat of sea ice and disappearance
24 of an associated drag force in the iceberg momentum balance.

25 In the NH (Fig. 2c,d), highest iceberg concentrations are located to the west of Greenland, in
26 Nares Strait and Baffin Bay, and north of Greenland and around Ellesmere Island. The
27 majority of the icebergs follow the Labrador Current and are fully melted within the vicinity
28 of the Grand Banks. As for the SH, there is a degree of seasonality in iceberg distributions.
29 During July-December, icebergs are present in large numbers just to the north of Iceland
30 (while largely absent in January-June), and larger icebergs are evident in the East and West
31 Greenland Currents around Cape Farewell. As calving rates are constant year round, these
32 differences are due to seasonal variations in the dynamics and thermodynamics of icebergs.

1 For comparison with observations, in the northwest Atlantic we consider monthly counts of
2 iceberg numbers observed south of 48°N (see Bigg et al., 2014a, and references therein),
3 compiled by the United States Coast Guard since 1913, with earlier reports to the US
4 Hydrographic Service extending the record back to 1900. This record is characterized by a
5 strong, and regular, seasonal cycle (see Figure 2 in Bigg et al., 2014a), with a pronounced
6 peak in numbers from spring to early summer. Bigg et al. (2014a) explain this as a
7 combination of seasonal peaks in discharge, a delay effect from the release of icebergs being
8 trapped in winter sea ice, and varying travel paths. Considering the iceberg drifts in Fig. 2c,d,
9 we find an annual total of 40 icebergs south of 48°N, with 19 (21) recorded as crossing this
10 latitude during January-June (July-December). This is a considerably smaller count than the
11 long-term observed annual total of ~400 icebergs (Bigg et al., 2014a), although we note
12 strong inter-annual variability in the observed record. The near absence of a seasonal cycle in
13 NEMO-ICB is consistent with our use of a constant calving rate.

14 Figure 3 shows spatial distributions of the total freshwater fluxes due to iceberg melting,
15 averaged over years 26-30 (upper panels), alongside these fluxes as fractions of the net
16 freshwater flux (other than iceberg melting) associated with local imbalances of precipitation
17 and evaporation (P-E), runoff, and sea ice growth and melt (lower panels). Equatorward of
18 66°S in the Southern Ocean, melting patterns (and amplitudes) bear favourable comparison
19 with estimates based on satellite observations (Tournadre et al., 2012, their Fig. 16). Notably
20 devoid of substantial iceberg melting is the sector 60-120°W, consistent with relatively few
21 calving sites between the Bellingshausen Sea and the tip of the Antarctic Peninsula, while the
22 Antarctic Coastal Current carrying icebergs westward in this sector is strongly constrained to
23 follow coastal topography and there is relatively limited offshore transport of icebergs into
24 warmer waters. In the NH, high melting rates are limited to the periphery of Greenland and
25 the offshore Labrador Current, with very weak melting rates in the Arctic and elsewhere.

26 As a fraction of total freshwater input, iceberg melting exceeds 1.0 at many locations in the
27 coastal zone of Antarctica, and around southern Greenland, where melting rates are clearly
28 high. The fraction exceeds 0.5 in a broad southwest Atlantic swathe of the Southern Ocean.
29 The net freshwater flux in this region is otherwise dominated by precipitation, so we can
30 conclude that iceberg melting locally reaches around 50% of the precipitation rate. MA10
31 simulate a lower melting rate in this region, consistent with the location of most iceberg
32 melting closer to Antarctica in CM2G, where the freshwater flux associated with sea ice melt
33 dominates total freshwater flux (see Figs. 2a and 10 in MA10). In some regions of NEMO-

1 ICB, iceberg melting as a fraction of net freshwater flux is negative, as the net freshwater flux
2 is locally reversed (iceberg melting cannot be negative). This is most evident in the Weddell
3 Sea and the Ross Sea, associated with local dominance of sea ice freezing over melting
4 through the seasonal cycle. At some locations, the ratio exceeds -1, indicating that iceberg
5 melting dominates the negative freshwater flux due to sea ice freezing, and there is overall net
6 freshening.

7 **3.2 Impacts on Sea ice**

8 With a focus on SH sea ice, we first evaluate CONTROL, with reference to very similar
9 findings in Megann et al. (2014). Hindcast ORCA025 runs presently underestimate overall
10 annual mean sea ice thickness around Antarctica by a moderate 15% in comparison with the
11 Antarctic Sea Ice Processes and Climate (ASPeCt) data for the period 1996–2005 (Worby et
12 al., 2008). The seasonal cycle of the sea ice thickness in the model is, however, in good
13 agreement with these observations: maximum austral summer (December-February) sea ice
14 thickness of about 1.06 m in the model compares to 1.02 m in the observations, while
15 minimum austral winter (June-August) thickness of 0.58 m in the model compares to 0.60 m.

16 Comparing model sea ice concentrations in the Southern Ocean with data from the HadISST
17 (Hadley Centre Sea Ice and Sea Surface Temperature) observational dataset (Rayner et al.,
18 2003), winter sea ice distribution in hindcast ORCA025 runs is realistic, although summer sea
19 ice concentrations are somewhat lower than in the data. Lower summer sea ice concentration
20 in the Southern Ocean is a known bias in most forced models, and is attributed to regional
21 uncertainties in the reanalysis fields (see discussion in Megann et al., 2014).

22 Icebergs substantially influence sea ice distribution, thickness and total mass. Changes are
23 most evident in the SH. Figures 4 and 5 show year 26-30 means for ICEBERG, and
24 differences relative to CONTROL, in SH sea ice concentration and thickness. Including
25 icebergs, concentration and thickness are notably decreased at most locations around
26 Antarctica, by up to ~20% and ~10% respectively in the Weddell Sea, with opposing
27 increases of ~10% in the Amundsen Sea. At locations of maximum difference in the Weddell
28 and Ross Seas, annual-mean thicknesses of ~50-100 cm in CONTROL are reduced by ~10 cm
29 in ICEBERG. Conversely, sea ice of thickness ~100 cm thickens by ~10 cm throughout the
30 Bellingshausen and Amundsen Seas, and along the western Antarctic Peninsula.

31 Considering the combined effect of net reductions in annual-mean concentration and
32 thickness in the Southern Hemisphere, the total mass of sea ice (averaged over years 26-30) of

1 4.715×10^{15} kg in CONTROL (ICEBERG) is decreased by 2.9 % in ICEBERG. Following
2 the energy budget of MA10, we take the latent heat of fusion of water (334×10^3 J kg⁻¹), and
3 consider a notional SH sea ice area of 10^{13} m². The sea ice volume decrease in ICEBERG,
4 interpreted as a consequence of differences in the annual cycle compared to CONTROL, thus
5 equates to additional energy uptake of 0.14 Wm⁻², which is an order of magnitude smaller
6 than the corresponding uptake in MA10.

7 Generally speaking, sea ice concentration and thickness are decreased (increased) in regions
8 where surface salinity is higher (lower) in ICEBERG (see Sect. 3.3), consistent with sea ice
9 formation responding to the strength of the halocline - a direct thermodynamic iceberg
10 influence on sea ice. Local coincidence of changes of sea ice thickness and concentration also
11 suggests an indirect effect of icebergs on internal sea ice dynamics, in turn related to changes
12 in upper ocean stratification. We infer that the presence of icebergs thus reduces sea ice
13 convergence in the much of the Weddell and Ross Seas. In the Bellingshausen and Amundsen
14 Seas, sea ice drift is westward (along-shore) and divergent (e.g., Holland and Kwok, 2012). In
15 these regions, icebergs thus appear to reduce the divergence of sea ice transport, conversely
16 increasing ice thickness and concentration.

17 Decreased sea ice concentration and thickness in ICEBERG is consistent with decreases at
18 most affected grid-points in the coupled atmosphere-ocean model of MA10. In the
19 Greenland/Arctic area, the presence of icebergs lead to only minor redistributions of sea ice
20 concentration and thickness (not shown).

21 **3.3 Impacts on Hydrography**

22 Figures 6 and 7 show ICEBERG differences, relative to CONTROL, in the global fields of
23 salinity and potential temperature at selected depth levels (surface, 163 m, 508 m, 1046 m),
24 averaged over years 26-30, thus accounting for short-term differences associated with
25 transient eddies that are excited by icebergs. Given the relatively short experiments, an
26 important caveat is that differences are likely to be less equilibrated as depth increases.

27 The most striking hydrographic impact of icebergs is increased surface salinity at southern
28 high latitudes (Fig. 6). Differences are strongly positive immediately adjacent to Antarctica (>
29 0.2 psu at most longitudes), where runoff is substantially reduced (in proportion to the
30 specified calving flux), but salinity differences also exceed 0.05 across broad swathes of the
31 high-latitude Southern Ocean. Salinity in ICEBERG is notably increased in regions where
32 annual-mean sea ice concentration and thickness is strongly reduced (see Figs. 4 and 5). This

1 suggests that differences in the seasonal cycle of sea ice freezing, export and melting
2 contribute substantially to the increases of surface salinity in ICEBERG.

3 Weaker negative differences are coincident with the locally strong iceberg melting “plume” to
4 the east of the Antarctica Peninsula, in the Atlantic sector of the Southern Ocean (see Fig. 3).
5 More distinct negative differences are coincident with the highest concentration of Greenland
6 icebergs, around Davis Strait. With increasing depth, negative differences are more evident in
7 southern high latitudes, and are extensive throughout the Weddell Sea at 508 m and 1046 m.

8 Temperature differences are also substantial. At the surface, positive differences are extensive
9 at southern high latitudes, again coincidental with differences in sea ice concentration and
10 thickness. A simple explanation is that surface temperatures are higher due to stronger surface
11 ocean heat gain where sea ice is thinner and/or absent for more of the year. Large differences
12 are also evident sub-surface, with widespread negative differences in the Atlantic and Pacific
13 sectors of the high-latitude Southern Ocean. In the Weddell Sea, where particularly large
14 negative differences extend to great depth (e.g., ~1000 m), we can conclude that a thin
15 warmer, more saline layer lies above an otherwise cooler, fresher water column. This implicit
16 re-partitioning of heat and freshwater is associated with locally reduced sea ice concentration
17 and thickness.

18 Substantial salinity and temperature differences are also evident at lower latitudes, such as in
19 the South Atlantic to at least ~500 m, with broader freshening and cooling of the tropical and
20 subtropical Atlantic at this depth. At all four selected depth levels, large salinity and
21 temperature differences are also evident near strong currents such as the Antarctic
22 Circumpolar Current, and western boundary currents such as the Gulf Stream and Kuro Shio.
23 We show in Sect. 3.5 that such differences are also associated with changes in ocean currents.

24 Informed by differences on selected levels in Figs. 6 and 7, in Figures 8 and 9 we show
25 salinity and temperature differences along selected meridional transects, at 35°W and 175°E
26 [see also Figures A2-A5 for transects with an expanded vertical scale in the upper 1000 m]. In
27 both Figs. 8 and 9, the deepest extent of negative salinity and temperature differences is
28 clearly located at high southern latitudes. In the Weddell Sea of ICEBERG, negative
29 differences of up to 0.01 psu - below 100-200 m - extend to around 2000 m. In Fig. 8, it is
30 evident that Antarctic Intermediate Water in ICEBERG is fresher by up to 0.02. This fresh
31 signal may be traced back to the region of iceberg melting east of the Antarctic Peninsula, and
32 may be a transient signal of locally more dominant iceberg melting earlier in the hindcast,

1 noting that the positive surface salinity differences progressively spread northward from the
2 coastal zone of Antarctica over years 21-30 (not shown).

3 To show how temperature and salinity change in relation to density, for selected regions
4 where iceberg influences are strongest, Figure 10 shows area-averaged T-S diagrams for the
5 Ross Sea/Pacific and Weddell Sea/Atlantic sectors (both south of 50°S, excluding all grid-
6 points near the coast). An overall impression (upper panels) is that ICEBERG salinities (red
7 points) are mostly shifted to lower salinity below around 300 m, by up to 0.01 psu relative to
8 CONTROL salinities (blue points). Area-averaged differences are generally not temperature-
9 compensated at upper levels (above ~500 m), leading to ICEBERG density increases (shifts
10 across isopycnals) on depth levels in the upper 500 m, reaching maxima of ~0.015 kg m⁻³ at
11 ~100 m and ~0.030 kg m⁻³ at 5 m, in the Weddell Sea and Ross Sea respectively. Below
12 ~1000 m, changes of salinity and temperature are very close to density-compensating,
13 although there are, on average, slight density decreases in ICEBERG at around 4000 m in the
14 Weddell Sea (Fig. 11) and at around 500 m in the Ross Sea. These density changes will
15 potentially influence dense water formation and the global abyssal circulation in a longer
16 simulation.

17 Averaged over years 26-30, global volume-averaged salinity is 0.00025 psu higher in
18 ICEBERG compared to CONTROL, while for the Antarctic region (south of 50°S), volume-
19 averaged salinity is 0.0015 psu higher in ICEBERG. In contrast, in the North Atlantic (north
20 of 50°N) volume averaged salinity is around 0.0010 lower in ICEBERG. These very small
21 differences are within the interannual variations of global-mean and regional-mean salinity,
22 and confirm that the prescribed freshwater fluxes in CONTROL and ICEBERG are identical.

23 **3.4 Impacts on Mixed Layer Depth**

24 Related to their widespread impact on the seasonal evolution of salinity and temperature,
25 icebergs exert an influence on end-of-winter mixed layer depths (MLDs). Figures 11 and 12
26 show global fields of average March and September MLD, in ICEBERG and the difference
27 from CONTROL, averaged over years 26-30. In March (Fig. 11), areas of greatest MLD (>
28 500 m) in the North Atlantic are generally shallower in ICEBERG by up to 100 m, notably in
29 the central Labrador Sea, the Irminger Sea and around Iceland. Conversely, in the western
30 subtropics of the North Pacific, MLDs of up to 250 m in ICEBERG are in many places
31 around 25 m deeper than in CONTROL.

1 In September (Fig. 12), deep mixed layers in the Pacific sector of the Southern Ocean are
2 most strongly affected by icebergs. From 180°E to around 90°W, in the zone 50-65°S,
3 ICEBERG MLDs in the range 200-400 m are generally deeper than those in CONTROL, by
4 around 50 m at many locations. This can be related to hydrographic changes. North of ~60°S
5 in the Southern Ocean, we conjecture that increased surface salinity in ICEBERG (see Fig. 6)
6 is mostly driven by the weaker redistribution of freshwater by sea ice, which is a first order
7 mechanism for transporting freshwater northward in the Southern Ocean and contributes to
8 the fresh signature of Antarctic Intermediate Water (AAIW). In ICEBERG, reductions in sea
9 ice concentration and thickness (Figs. 4, 5) are indicative of reduced northward transport of
10 (thinner) sea ice, with sea ice melting shifted southward. This appears to have a large impact
11 on subducting AAIW properties (see Fig. 8) and local mixed layer depth, as outlined above.
12 We also note substantial changes close to Antarctica, notably in the western sectors of the
13 Weddell and Ross Seas, where MLDs of 100-200 m in ICEBERG are up to 50 m shallower
14 than in CONTROL.

15 **3.5 Impacts on Ocean Currents**

16 To quantify the mean strength of ocean currents, we take the time average of kinetic energy
17 (KE), here simply defined as $(u^2+v^2)/2$ where u and v are the zonal and meridional
18 components of the ocean current, at selected depths. The difference of kinetic energy is
19 calculated from currents averaged over years 26-30 in ICEBERG relative to CONTROL
20 (ΔKE), and shown in Figure 13 at three levels, 61 m, 163 m and 508 m (the deeper levels
21 coincident with levels chosen to show property changes).

22 Starting in the region most directly impacted by re-partitioning of freshwater fluxes, we find
23 negative near-surface ΔKE values at all depths of the Antarctic Coastal Current (ACoC) that
24 skirts Antarctica, particularly in the Atlantic sector. This indicates a weaker baroclinic
25 component of the ACoC in ICEBERG, due to changes in the cross-shelf density gradients
26 (low to high density moving cross-shelf) that drive an eastward flow component of the ACoC
27 via the thermal wind balance (Núñez-Riboni and Fahrbach, 2009, 2010). The ACoC is a
28 primarily wind-driven westward current (Hayakawa et al., 2012), so the thermal wind
29 component in ICEBERG more strongly opposes the largely unchanged westward component.
30 We note that wind forcing can possibly increase with reduced sea ice concentration, but this
31 effect is likely to be small. The stronger thermal wind would be consistent with particularly
32 strong offshore cooling at e.g., 163 m and 508 m, indicated in Fig. 7.

1 More remote from Antarctica, we find high near-surface ΔKE values in the Antarctic
2 Circumpolar Current, associated in particular with major topographic features near South
3 America and South Africa. Substantial ΔKE values are also evident further afield, in
4 equatorial regions, and aligned with the cores of the separated boundary currents (up to 0.05
5 $m^2 s^{-2}$) – notably the Gulf Stream and Kuroshio currents. The substantial and coherent area of
6 ΔKE in the Kuroshio, persistent over the 5-year averaging period, corresponds to an increase
7 in the central meandering jet, and a decrease in the south part of this jet.

8 A more detailed view of the Gulf Stream region is provided in Figure A6. The spatial
9 structure of ΔKE is coherent with depth, between the surface and 200-300 m, but differences
10 rapidly decline below 300 m. Temperature differences averaged over years 26-30 (see Fig. 7)
11 are spatially coherent on large scales in the vicinity of boundary currents. For example,
12 considering negative differences in excess of $-0.5^\circ C$, a substantial cold anomaly is apparent to
13 the north of the Gulf Stream at 508 m. We conclude here that property differences throughout
14 the global ocean are to an extent associated with systematic changes in ocean currents. In the
15 relatively short simulations here, these remote changes (in properties and currents) must be
16 excited by rapid propagation of density anomalies from high to low latitudes, a mechanism
17 discussed briefly in Sect. 5.

18 **4. Prototype modifications of NEMO-ICB**

19 While we have focused so far on a baseline simulation with NEMO-ICB, three modifications
20 of the iceberg model have been most recently implemented and are currently being tested in a
21 slightly different ORCA025 configuration. These modifications will possibly be included in
22 future code releases and are therefore only briefly described and discussed below.

23 **4.1 Advection of icebergs with vertically integrated ocean velocity**

24 Icebergs in the real world are influenced by the vertical shear of ocean currents. In particular,
25 Ekman drift is suspected to affect iceberg trajectory. In a first modification of the baseline
26 code, the depth-averaged ocean velocity is used in place of surface currents for advecting
27 icebergs. In practice, the ocean velocity value used by the iceberg dynamics solver
28 corresponds to the depth-averaged ocean velocity between the surface and the deepest tracer
29 grid-point reached by the iceberg. Preliminary results suggest that iceberg trajectories are
30 sensitive to this modification. Icebergs movements are locally less erratic, being less affected
31 by high frequency fluctuations of surface currents and winds. The large-scale distribution of
32 icebergs, especially in the Southern Ocean, also appears to be affected by this modification.

1 **4.2 Iceberg interaction with shallow bathymetry**

2 The thickness of bigger icebergs in the model is not negligible in comparison to the
3 bathymetry of several coastal regions in the ORCA025 configuration. It is also known that big
4 icebergs can get stuck on shallow bathymetry around Antarctica, where they stay for long
5 periods of time before moving northwards. Besides, using depth-integrated currents for
6 advecting icebergs also requires accounting for how icebergs interact with shallow
7 bathymetry (where depth-averaged currents can be ill-defined). Fully accommodating this
8 interaction with shallow bathymetry in the iceberg model could be complicated and
9 computationally expensive. Indeed, in the model, Lagrangian particles represent a collection
10 of icebergs with identical parameters, but physically we do not expect the bathymetry to
11 “stock” more than one iceberg at the same time. We therefore tested two simpler options for
12 handling iceberg interaction with shallow bathymetry, although comparison with observations
13 remains largely qualitative. These options are outlined as follows:

- 14 • Option A: Shallow bathymetry points are considered as islands. With this
15 modification, icebergs tend to travel around shallow regions, or eventually get stuck
16 when no escape is possible, until melting enough to cross the shallow region.
- 17 • Option B: Icebergs proceed across shallow bathymetry, even if their thickness exceeds
18 the local depth. In this case, the iceberg drift velocity is computed from depth-
19 averaged ocean currents (see Sect. 4.1), which now include masked values (zero
20 currents) at model depth levels below the seabed. With this choice, icebergs are
21 slowed down over shallow bathymetry but can still transit through shallow regions.

22 Preliminary results suggest that the differences between the two options appear not globally
23 very important in the long term, but further work and longer simulations are needed.
24 However, we see more remarkable differences of individual trajectories close to coastal areas.

25 **4.3 Melting rates computed with the 3D temperature field**

26 To further resolve vertical physics in the model, we are also testing modifications for
27 computing melting rates from the 3D ocean temperature field. All three components of melt
28 rate in the baseline version of ICB depend on surface temperature, and are
29 reconsidered/modified accordingly:

- 30 • Basal melting: in our 3D modification, we consider instead the temperature at the
31 maximal depth reached for each iceberg

- 1 • Buoyant convection at the side-walls: this is a quadratic temperature-dependent
2 function; in our 3D modification, this function is integrated between the surface and
3 the maximum depth of each iceberg
- 4 • Wave erosion: this depends only on surface temperature, hence we do not modify this
5 component

6 In the few cases when icebergs are at a grid point where bathymetry is shallower than the
7 iceberg thickness, the temperature considered for the part of iceberg that is deeper than
8 bathymetry takes the value of the deepest ocean point.

9 Preliminary results show that, overall, this modification leads to a slightly higher global melt
10 rate. In the Southern Ocean, this happens mostly during the boreal autumn and winter months
11 (from April to September) when icebergs start transiting across the Weddell and Ross Seas.
12 Icebergs therefore tend to melt faster which leads to shorter trajectories downstream in the
13 northern Weddell and Ross Seas. Incidentally, with 3D temperature, icebergs are also less
14 sensitive to some surface warm biases that may appear related to the stronger stratification
15 induced by iceberg melting, but further analysis is required for more robust conclusions about
16 this modification.

17

18 **5. Summary and Discussion**

19 We have included icebergs interactively in an eddy-permitting global configuration of the
20 ocean model NEMO, the first time that icebergs have been implemented at this resolution.
21 Simulated iceberg distributions and freshwater fluxes are in reasonable agreement with
22 limited available observations, in the northwest Atlantic (Bigg et al., 2014a, and references
23 therein) and in the Southern Ocean (Tournadre et al., 2012).

24 Freshwater forcing due to iceberg melting is most pronounced very locally, in the coastal zone
25 around much of Antarctica, where it often exceeds in magnitude and opposes the negative
26 freshwater fluxes associated with sea ice freezing. However, at most locations in the polar
27 Southern Ocean, the annual-mean freshwater flux due to icebergs, if present, is typically an
28 order of magnitude smaller than the contribution of sea ice and precipitation. A notable
29 exception is the southwest Atlantic sector of the Southern Ocean, where iceberg melting
30 reaches around 50% of net precipitation over a large area. Including icebergs, sea ice
31 concentration and thickness are notably decreased at most locations around Antarctica, by up

1 to ~20% and ~10% in both the Weddell and Ross Seas, with opposing increases of ~10% in
2 the Amundsen and Bellingshausen Seas. Antarctic sea ice mass decreases by 2.9%, overall.

3 As a consequence of changes in net freshwater forcing and sea ice, salinity and temperature
4 distributions are also substantially altered. Surface salinity increases by ~0.1 psu around much
5 of Antarctica, due to suppressed coastal runoff, with extensive freshening at depth, extending
6 to greatest depths in the high-latitude Southern Ocean where discernible effects on both
7 salinity and temperature reach 2500 m in the Weddell Sea by the last pentad of the simulation.

8 Our choice of reference run (CONTROL) has considerable bearing on the present results.
9 Most DRAKKAR simulations with ORCA025 now use static 2D maps of freshwater flux due
10 to melting icebergs. Further experiments and analysis would be necessary to establish the
11 impact of interactive icebergs on the model ocean, in contrast to implicit iceberg melting. A
12 step in this direction is to preserve runoff rates around the ice sheets and ice caps. In a shorter
13 sensitivity experiment, ICEBERG2, we re-ran the first ten years of the hindcast with calved
14 icebergs as in ICEBERG and runoff as in CONTROL. The icebergs in ICEBERG2 thus
15 provide an additional freshwater flux, and the Southern Ocean (in particular) consequently
16 freshens almost everywhere. Such an experiment provides the preliminary basis for
17 investigating the sensitivity of the ocean to ice sheet mass imbalance.

18 Coherent patterns of difference in salinity and temperature develop throughout the global
19 ocean, and ocean currents are systematically altered. Perturbations in the high-latitude density
20 field, associated with icebergs, will propagate around the globe as Rossby and Kelvin waves.
21 Previous model studies have shown the importance of wave-like mechanisms for
22 communication between Antarctic and equatorial regions (e.g., Atkinson et al., 2009). In such
23 studies, salinity anomalies in the Southern Ocean excite fast westward-propagating barotropic
24 planetary waves (Gill 1982), which propagate to the western boundary of the South Pacific.
25 On arrival at the western boundary, these Rossby waves excite baroclinic Kelvin waves,
26 which propagate more slowly to, and then along, the Equator. However, the perturbations
27 applied in previous model studies were artificial, involving large and sustained changes in
28 salinity over substantial portions of the Southern Ocean. In contrast to these studies, salinity
29 and temperature differences between ICEBERG and CONTROL can be regarded as
30 fluctuations that are more naturally associated with melting icebergs. It is also possible for the
31 density anomalies associated with iceberg melting to directly generate baroclinic planetary
32 waves, which can propagate similar distances, much more slowly, but with potentially larger
33 amplitude. In conclusion, more experiments for longer periods of time are needed to better

1 understand slower variability of the system, and the various ocean teleconnections associated
2 with variable iceberg calving and melting.

3 In the context of NEMO development and evaluation, the effects of icebergs on surface
4 property fields and mixed layer depths (MLDs) are noteworthy. Megann et al. (2014) evaluate
5 a similar 30-year hindcast using a global eddy-permitting configuration of NEMO v3.4. Over
6 large areas of the World Ocean, sea surface temperature (SST) and surface salinity errors
7 (Fig. 1 in Megann et al., 2014) exceed ± 0.25 °C and ± 0.1 psu respectively, with SST biases
8 near Greenland of ± 1.0 °C. Based on the SST differences in Fig. 7, we suggest that the
9 inclusion of icebergs could substantially reduce SST errors in mid and high latitudes of the
10 North Atlantic, although errors may be exacerbated elsewhere. Maximum MLDs in the
11 NEMO v3.4 hindcast (Fig. 2 in Megann et al., 2014) are generally excessive. In particular,
12 very deep mixing in the eastern Weddell Sea is regarded as unrealistic, related to reduced sea
13 ice extent in this region. While this feature is largely absent in both CONTROL and
14 ICEBERG, at least within the short hindcast, the inclusion of icebergs may further improve
15 realism in the subpolar North Atlantic, where we find reductions in end-of-winter MLDs of
16 order 10%.

17 The baseline representation of icebergs has been extended to represent iceberg interactions
18 with shallow topography, and to use 3D velocity and temperature fields to force iceberg drift
19 and melt. We are, however, not yet vertically resolving the iceberg melting rates. Given that
20 the size of our maximum iceberg is much less than even the ORCA025 resolution, and that
21 buoyant plumes from iceberg basal and sidewall melting are expected to rise quickly to the
22 surface within a few hundred metres, applying these fluxes to the surface is inherently
23 reasonable at current model resolutions. Large icebergs may exert a more remote influence on
24 hydrography, at distances of up to several 10's of km (Stephenson et al., 2011). Melting at
25 sufficient depth may lead to the entrainment and upwelling of relatively warm and salty
26 Circumpolar Deep Water around large icebergs in the Southern Ocean (Jenkins, 1999).
27 Stephenson et al. (2011) report observations of the corresponding alternative ways that ice
28 meltwater disperses from a large tabular iceberg in the northern Weddell Sea: turbulent
29 entrainment, localized near the berg; wider horizontal dispersal due to double diffusive
30 processes, as originally demonstrated in pioneering laboratory experiments (Huppert and
31 Turner, 1980). Representation of large icebergs and these associated processes is currently
32 beyond the capability of NEMO-ICB.

1 More feasible is the development of iceberg interaction with sea ice. At high sea ice
2 concentration, icebergs tend to drift with the sea ice (Lighey and Hellmer, 2001). However,
3 trajectories for individual giant icebergs (e.g., B31 over the austral winter of 2014 - see Bigg
4 et al., 2014b) indicate that this only holds when the icebergs are frozen in to thick pack
5 (essentially land-fast ice), rather than in the extensive areas where lead formation is common.
6 More generally, we anticipate a maximum in the velocity of icebergs moved by sea ice,
7 proportional to sea ice thickness and inversely proportional to iceberg draft (Morison and
8 Goldberg, 2012). For sea ice moving at velocities higher than this maximum, sea ice ridging
9 is expected, amounting to a dynamical feedback of icebergs on sea ice. In ongoing work, we
10 have implemented solutions proposed by Hunke and Comeau (2011), and initial findings are
11 that iceberg trajectories are sensitive to these changes.

12 Finally, NEMO-ICB may be used with a parameterization of ice shelf cavity melting, to more
13 realistically represent rapidly changing mass fluxes from Antarctica to the surrounding ocean.
14 This combined capability should underpin experiments with enhanced calving and melting
15 rates that eventually supplant current state-of-the-art protocols for freshwater forcing (van den
16 Berk and Drijfhout, 2014). In the longer term, it would be desirable for ocean models with
17 this capability to be included in future experimental activities of the Coupled Model Inter-
18 comparison Project.

19

20 **6. Code Availability**

21 NEMO-ICB is available via the NEMO home page, where new users can register via
22 <http://www.nemo-ocean.eu/user/register>. Registered users can access the ICB modules at:

23 https://forge.ipsl.jussieu.fr/nemo/browser#trunk/NEMOGCM/NEMO/OPA_SRC/ICB

24 ICB comprises the following modules:

25 [icb_oce.F90](#) - declares variables for iceberg tracking

26 [icbclv.F90](#) - calving routines for iceberg calving

27 [icbdia.F90](#) - initialises variables for iceberg budgets and diagnostics

28 [icbdyn.F90](#) - time stepping routine for iceberg tracking

29 [icbini.F90](#) - initialises variables for iceberg tracking

30 [icblbc.F90](#) - routines to handle boundary exchanges for icebergs

- 1 [icbrst.F90](#) - reads and writes iceberg restart files
- 2 [icbstp.F90](#) - initialises variables for iceberg tracking
- 3 [icbthm.F90](#) - thermodynamics routines for icebergs
- 4 [icbtrj.F90](#) - trajectory I/O routines
- 5 [icbutl.F90](#) - various iceberg utility routines

6 Default iceberg parameters are specified in:

7 https://forge.ipsl.jussieu.fr/nemo/browser/trunk/NEMOGCM/CONFIG/SHARED/namelist_re
8 [f](#)

9 When compiling NEMO-ICB, the flag `ln_icebergs` in this namelist file is set to `.true`.

10

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1 Table 1. Iceberg diagnostics saved in the standard NEMO tracer files

Diagnostic	Variable name	Units
calving mass input	calving	kg s ⁻¹
calving heat flux	calving_heat	-
Melt rate of icebergs + bits	berg_floating_melt	kg m ⁻² s ⁻¹
Accumulated ice mass by class	berg_stored_ice	kg
Melt rate of icebergs	berg_melt	kg m ⁻² s ⁻¹
Buoyancy component of iceberg melting	berg_buoy_melt	kg m ⁻² s ⁻¹
Erosion component of iceberg melting	berg_eros_melt	kg m ⁻² s ⁻¹
Convective component of iceberg melting	berg_conv_melt	kg m ⁻² s ⁻¹
Virtual coverage by icebergs	berg_virtual_area	m ²
Mass source of bergy bits	bits_src	kg m ⁻² s ⁻¹
Melt rate of bergy bits	bits_melt	kg m ⁻² s ⁻¹
Bergy bit density field	bits_mass	kg m ⁻²
Iceberg density field	berg_mass	kg m ⁻²
Calving into iceberg class	berg_real_calving	kg s ⁻¹

2

1 Table 2. Global iceberg mass balances in NEMO-ICB (year 26-30 averages) and CM2G (100-
 2 year averages)

Fluxes (Gt year⁻¹)		CM2G	NEMO-ICB
Total fluxes	calving	2210.0	1327.9
	melting	2214.3	1332.8
Net flux		-4.3	-4.9
(calving-melting)			
Components of melt flux (and % contribution)	wave erosion	1550.0 (70.00%)	1097.1 (82.32%)
	basal melting	646.8 (29.21%)	230.2 (17.27%)
	sidewall melting	17.5 (0.79%)	5.5 (0.41%)

3

1 **Figure Captions**

2 Figure 1. Time series of total iceberg mass (1 Gt = 10^9 tonne = 10^{12} kg); Southern hemisphere
3 (SH) and Northern Hemisphere (NH) iceberg mass is indicated by the red and blue lines
4 respectively. SH iceberg mass north of 66°S (dashed red line) is shown for comparison with
5 observations of Tournadre et al. (2012).

6 Figure 2. All iceberg positions, colour-coded for size class (or thickness), for the two seasons
7 of year 30 in each hemisphere: (a) NH, January-June; (b) NH July-December; (c) SH January-
8 June; (d) SH July-December.

9 Figure 3. Iceberg total freshwater flux (year 26-30 average): total flux (m year^{-1}) - upper
10 panels; fractions ($-1 < 0 < 1$) of iceberg freshwater flux to total freshwater input - lower
11 panels.

12 Figure 4. Annual-mean SH sea ice concentration averaged for years 26-30, in ICEBERG (left
13 panel), and ICEBERG minus CONTROL differences (right panel).

14 Figure 5. As Fig. 4, for sea ice thickness (defined here as the mean ice thickness of the ice-
15 covered part of a grid cell).

16 Figure 6. Changes in the global fields of salinity at selected depth levels (surface, 163 m, 508
17 m, 1046 m), averaged over years 26-30.

18 Figure 7. As Fig. 6, for potential temperature.

19 Figure 8. Meridional transect along 35°W, showing changes in salinity (left) and temperature
20 (right), averaged over years 26-30.

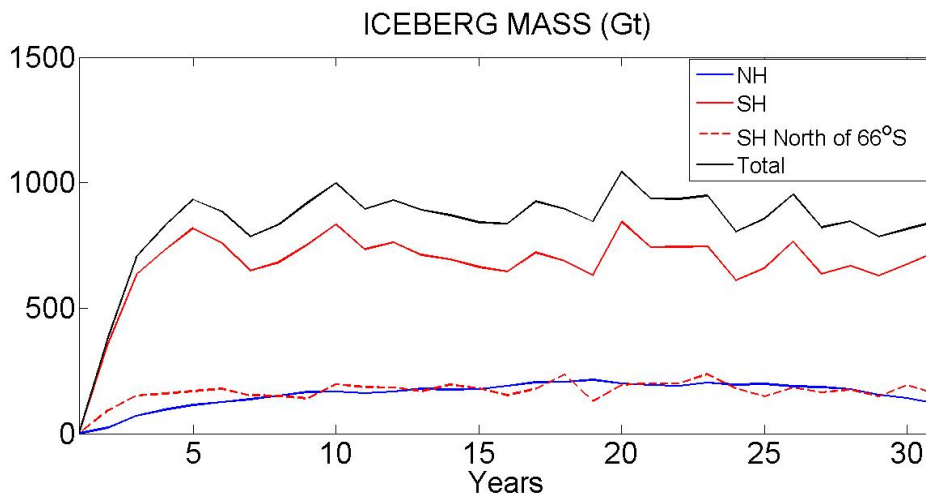
21 Figure 9. As Fig. 8, at 175°E

22 Figure 10. Area-averaged T/S diagrams representative of the Weddell Sea (50-70°S, 15-
23 55°W; upper panel) and the Ross Sea (50-70°S, 172°E-137°W; lower panel), for ICEBERG
24 (red points) and CONTROL (blue points).

25 Figure 11. Mixed layer depth in March (year 26-30 average): (a) ICEBERG; (b) ICEBERG
26 minus CONTROL.

27 Figure 12. Mixed layer depth in September (year 26-30 average): (a) ICEBERG; (b)
28 ICEBERG minus CONTROL.

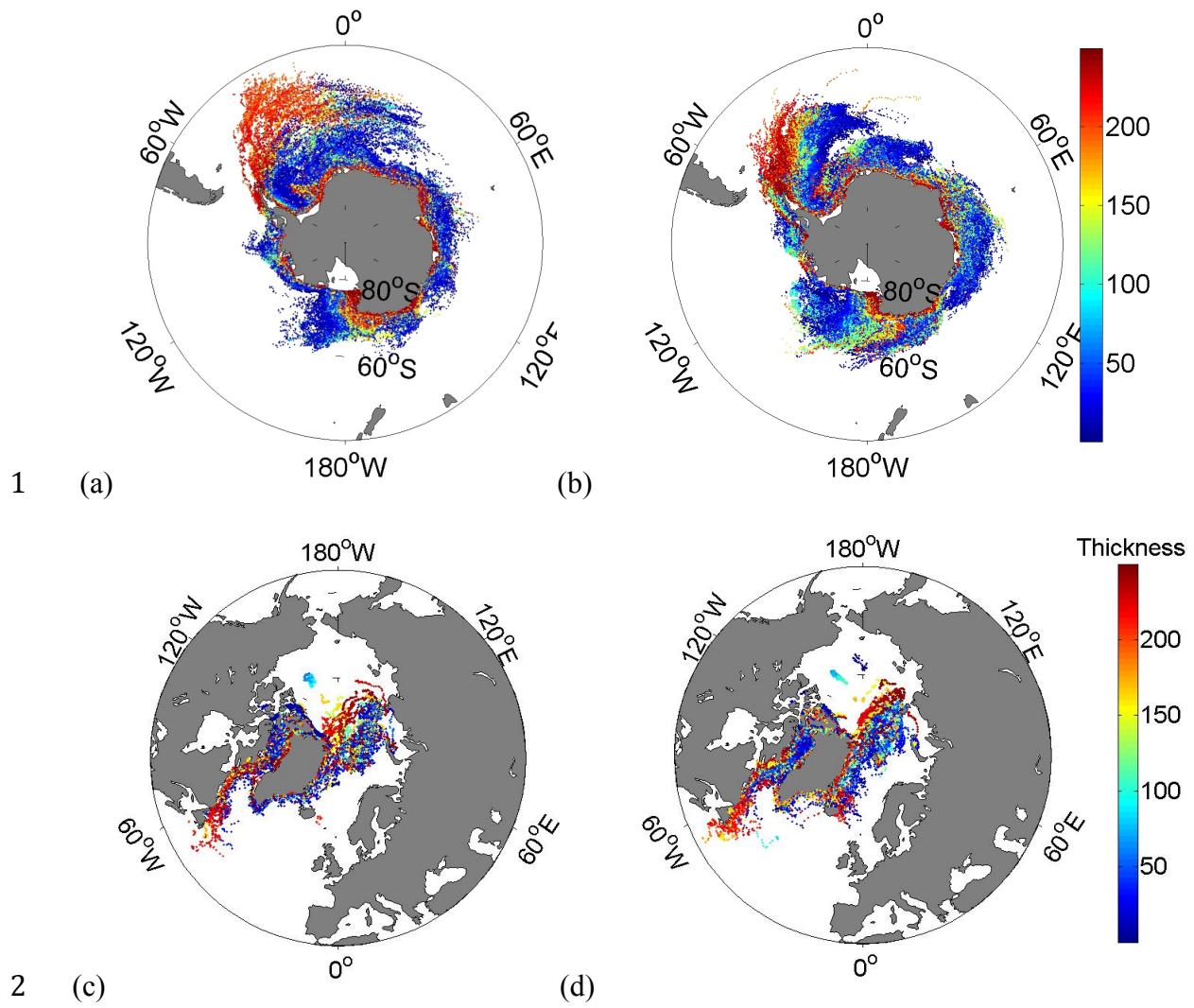
29 Figure 13. Differences (ICEBERG minus CONTROL) in the year 26-30 time average of
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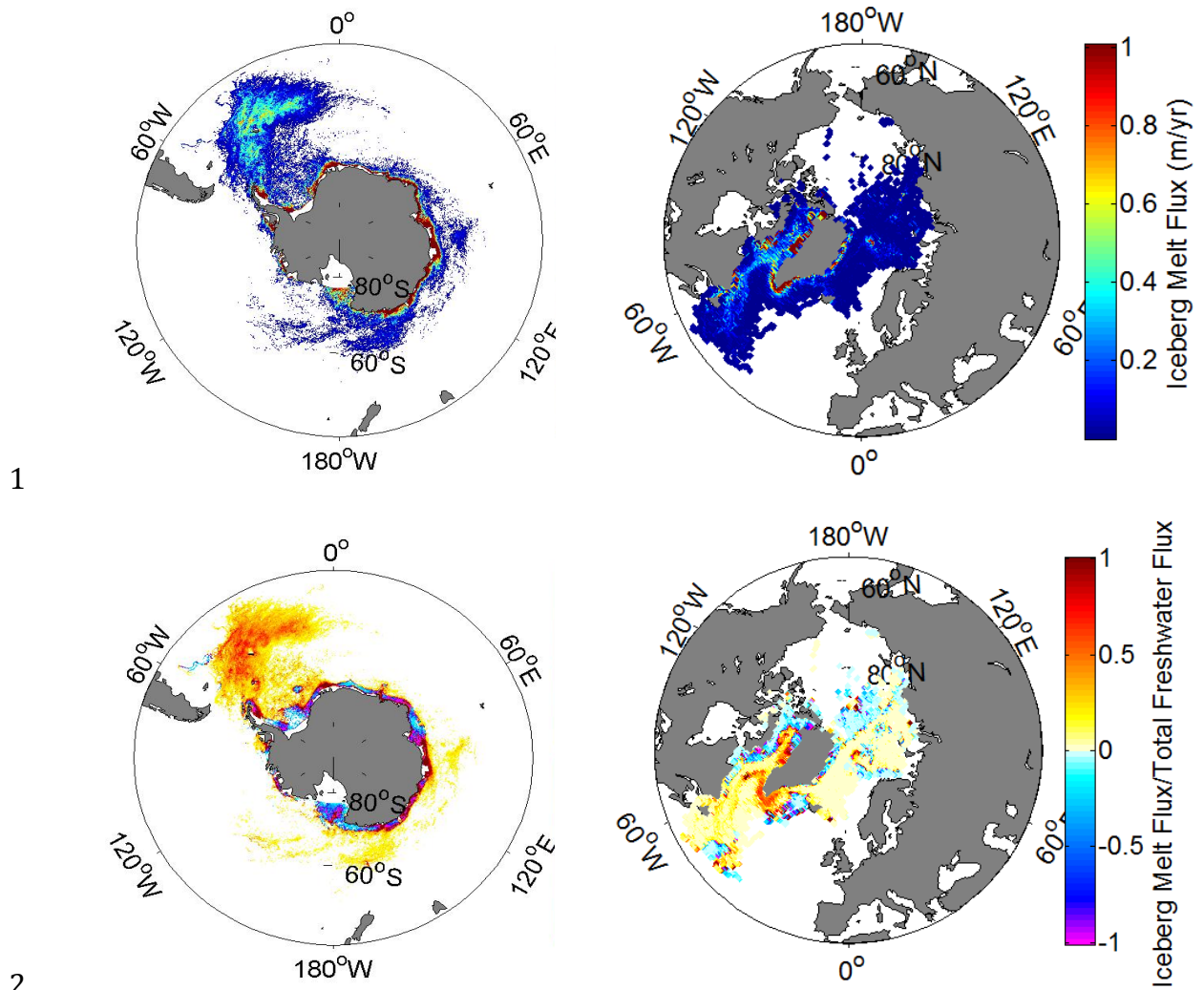
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 5 respectively. SH iceberg mass north of 66°S (dashed red line) is shown for comparison with
 6 observations of Tournadre et al. (2012).



1 (a) (b)
 2 (c) (d)
 3
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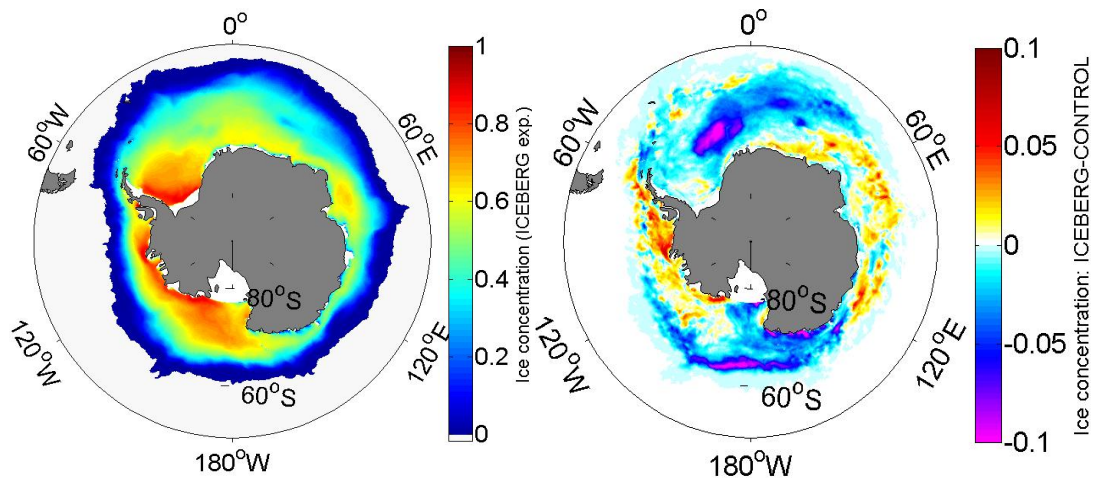
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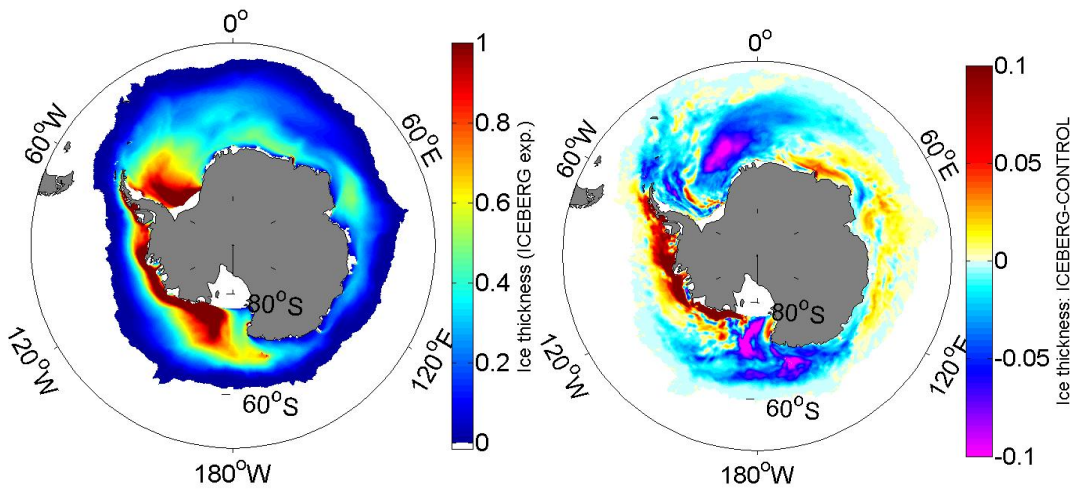


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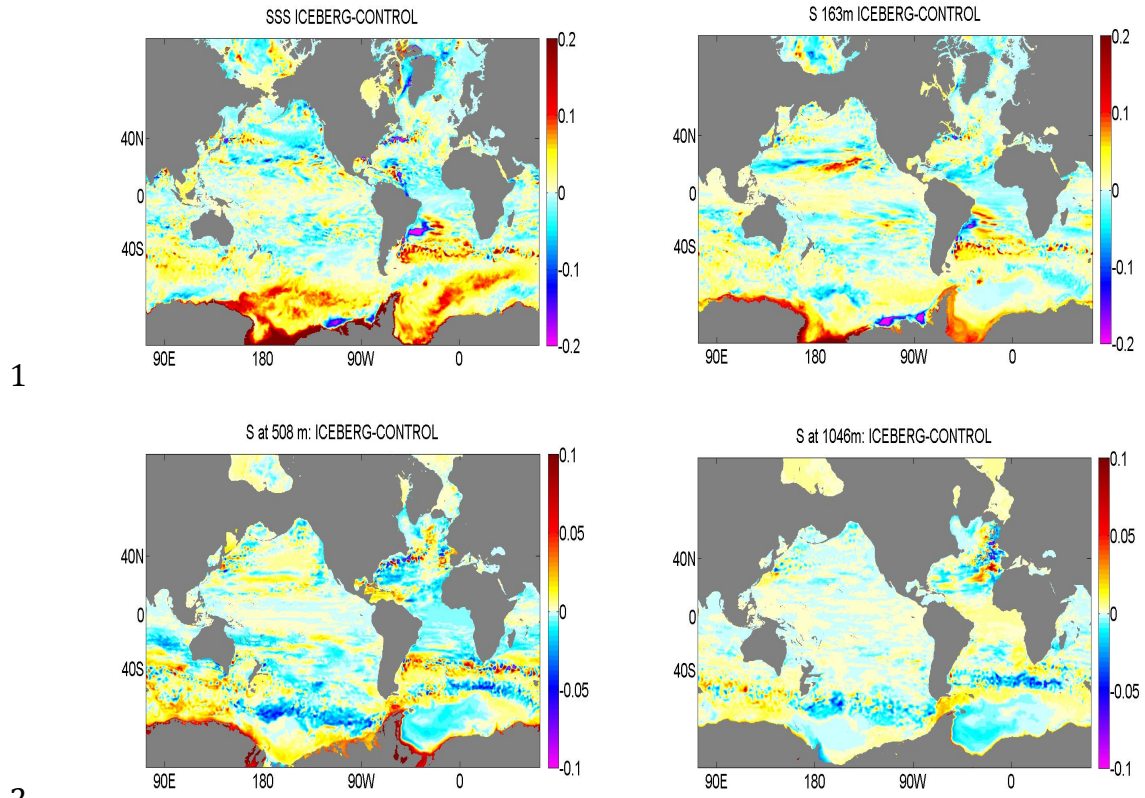
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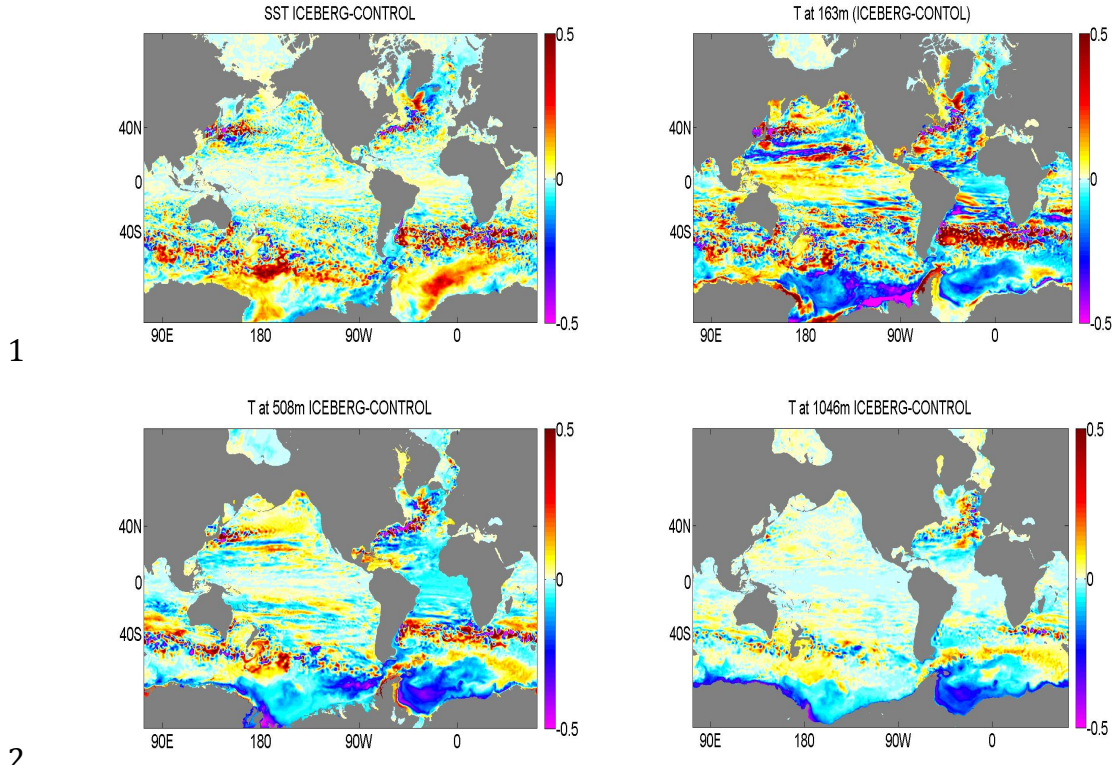
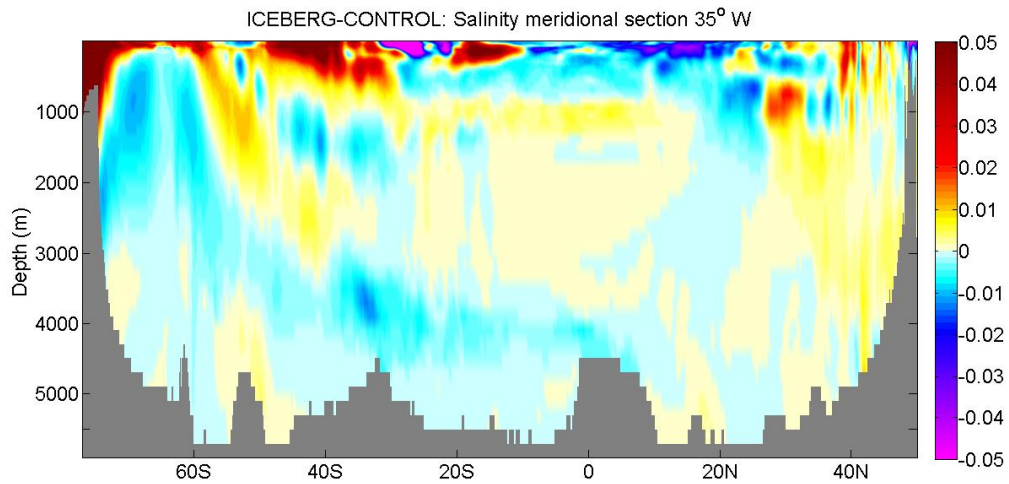
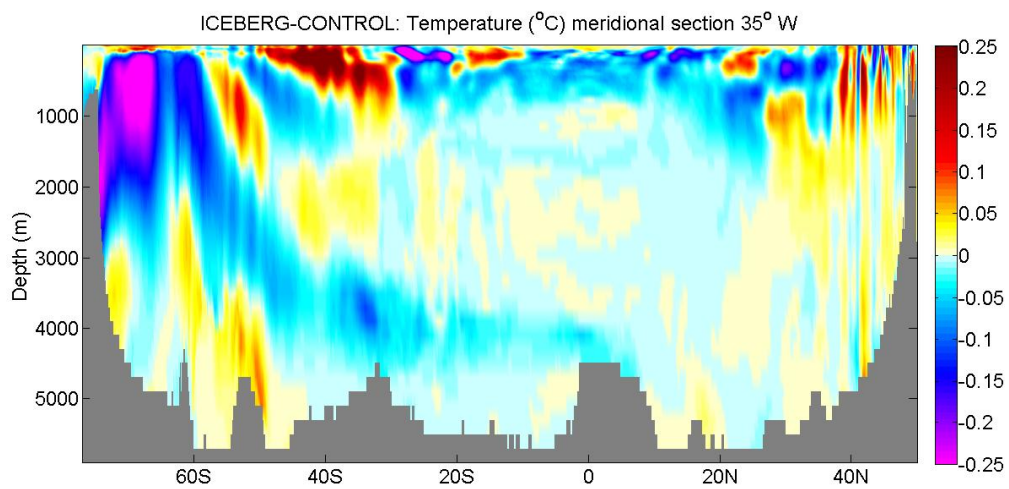


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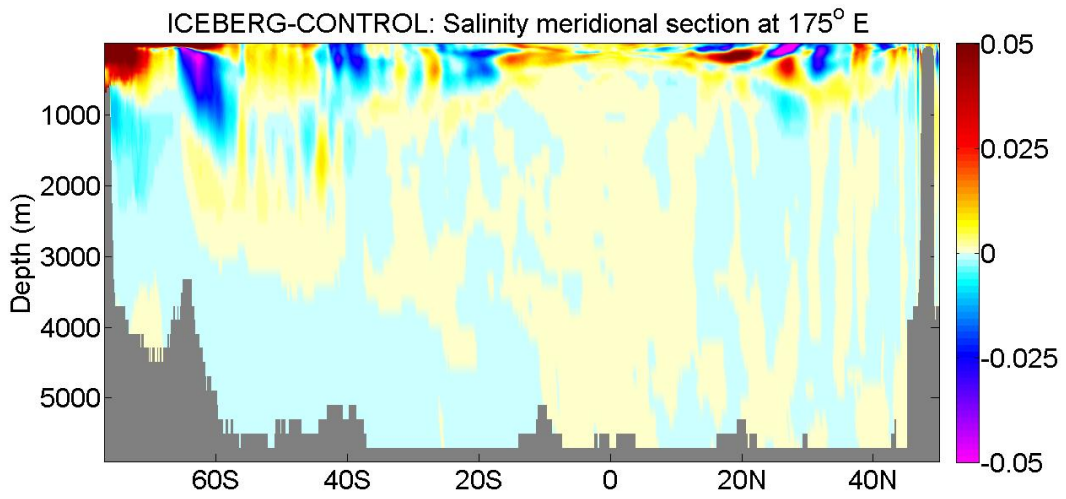
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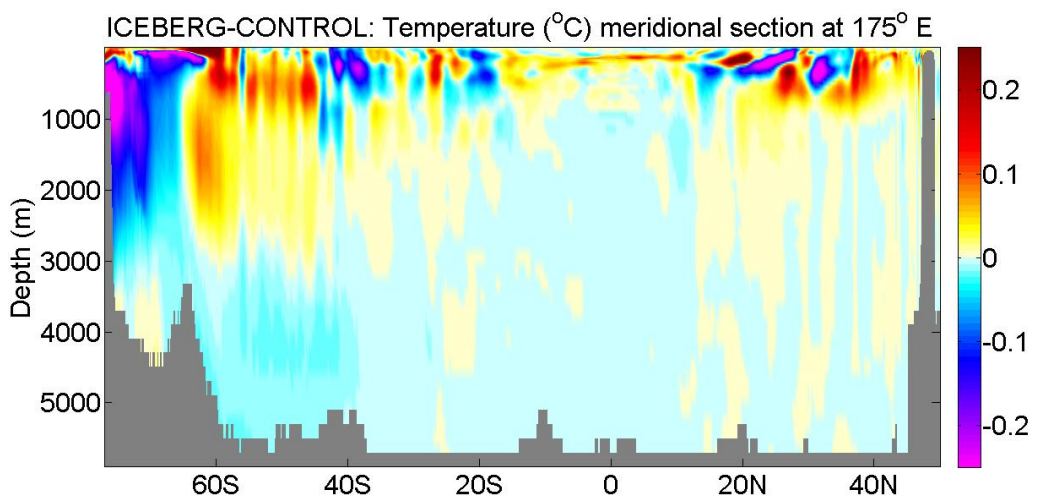
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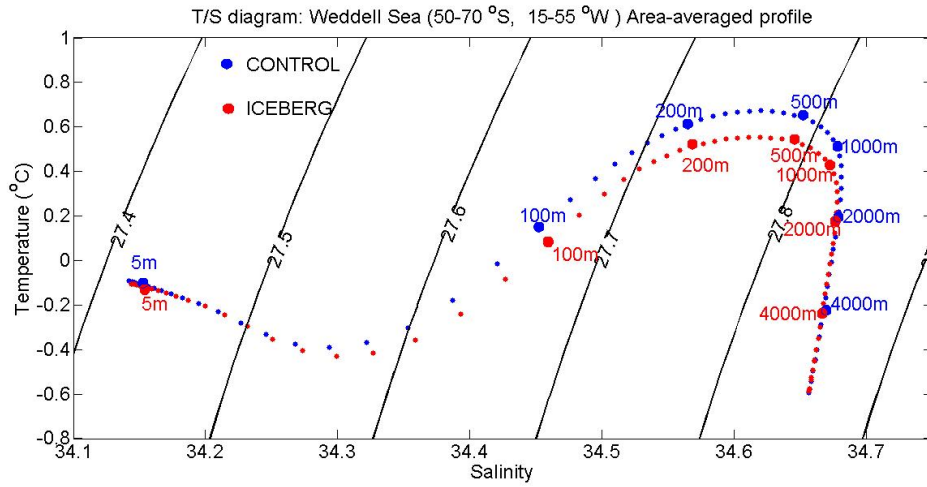
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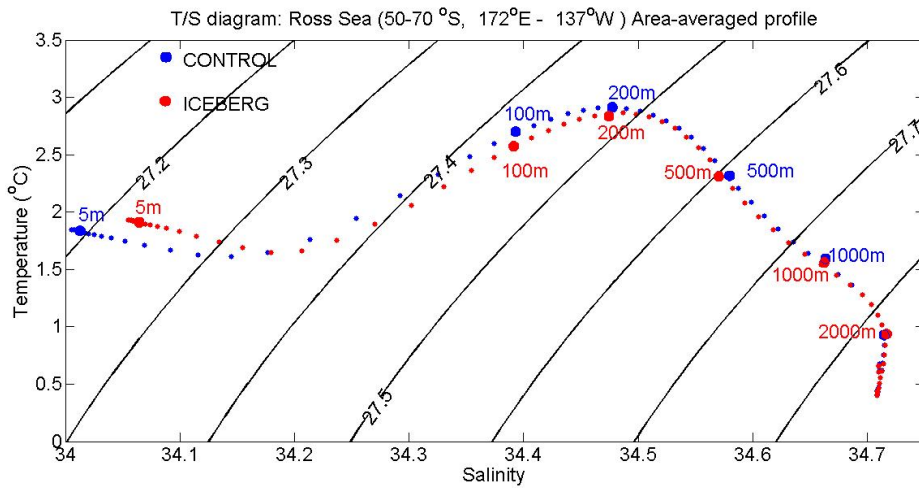
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3 Figure 9. As Fig. 8, at 175°E

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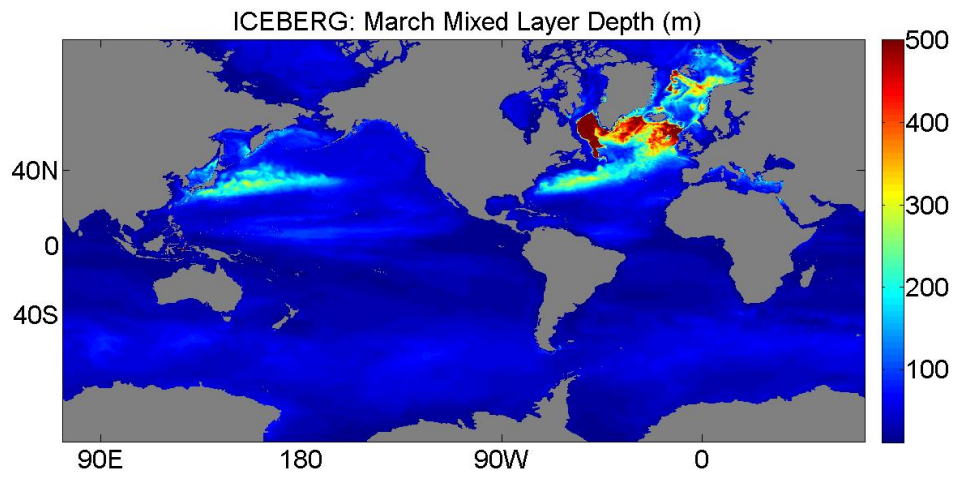
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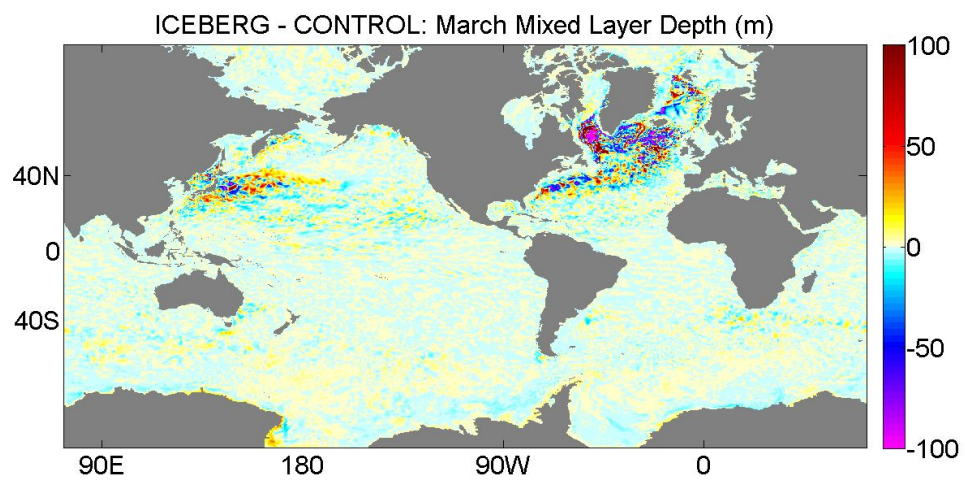
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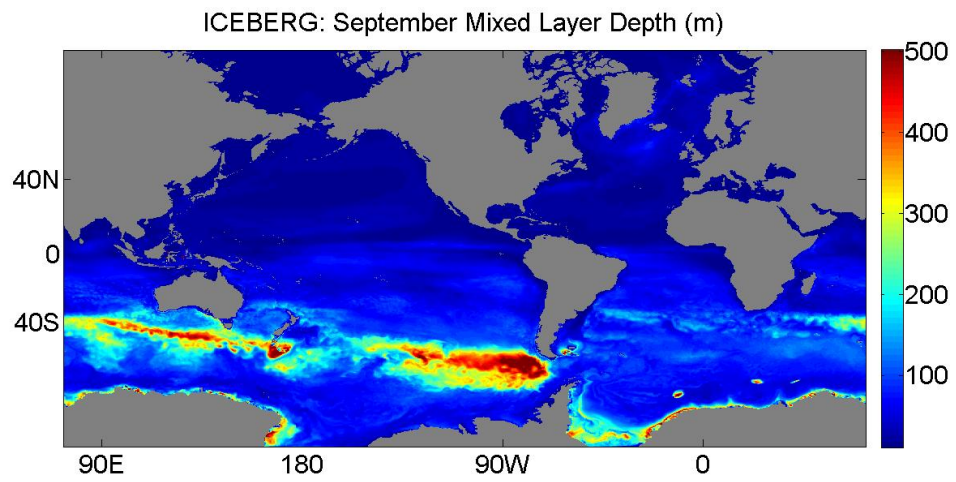
1 (a)



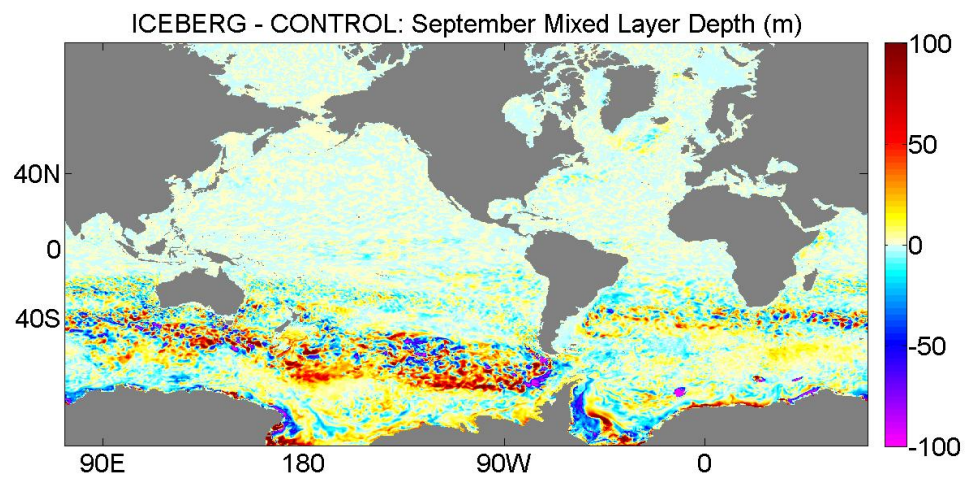
2 (b)

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1 (a)

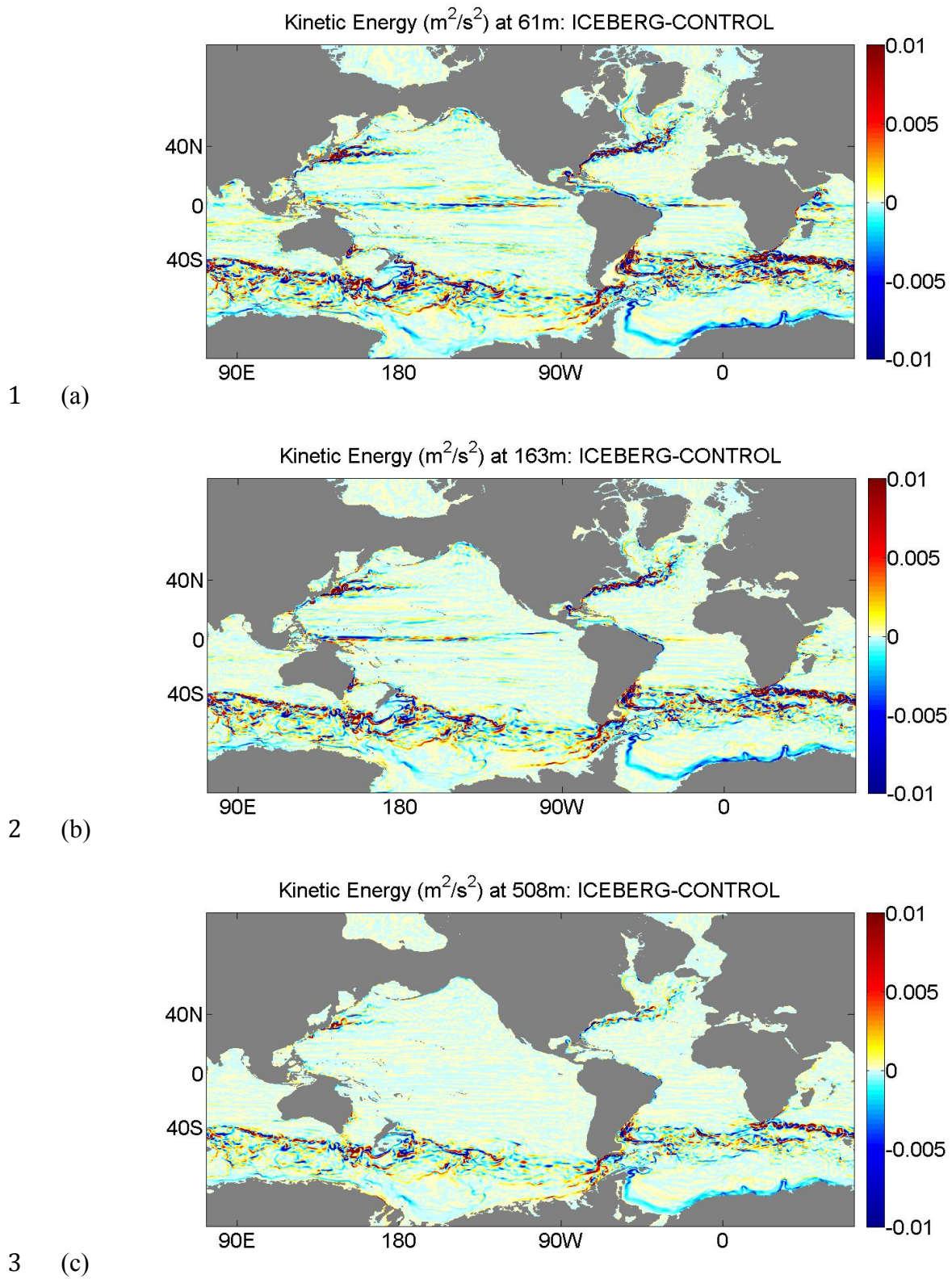


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