

# Ice shelf mass balance observations : toward a spatially and timely resolved dataset for modelling the future evolution of Antarctica

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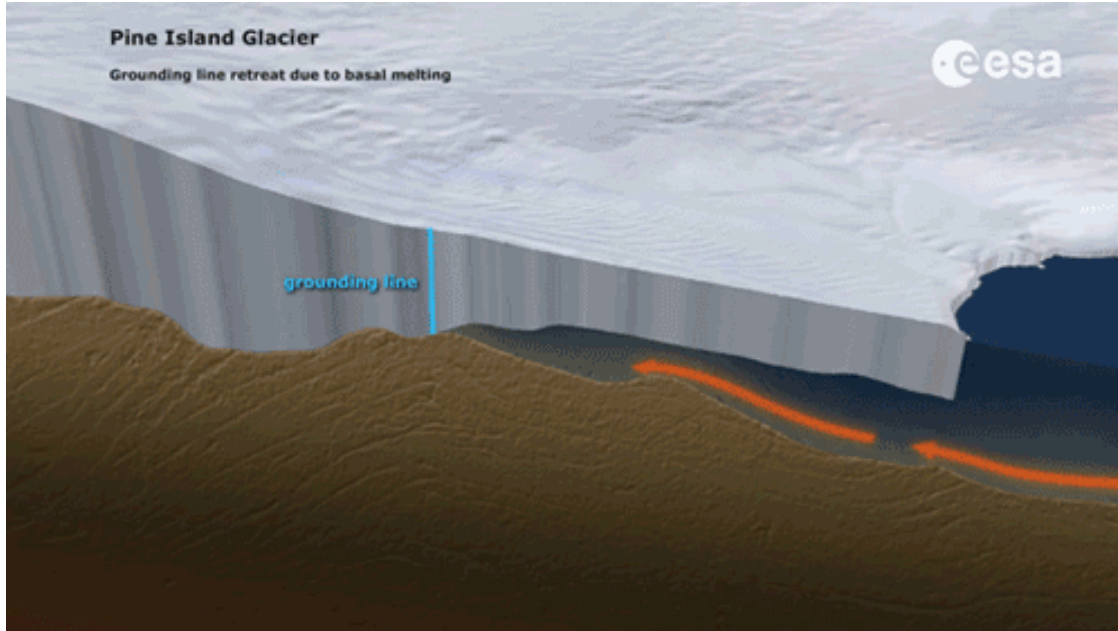
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2 - TU Delft, 2600 AA Delft, The Netherlands

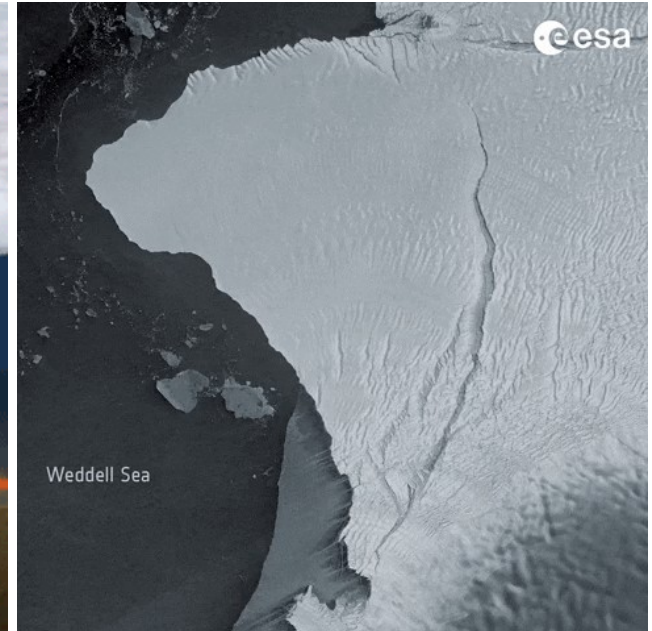
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## Ice Shelf Basal Melting



## Ice Shelf Calving



A81 iceberg breaking away from the Brunt Ice Shelf.

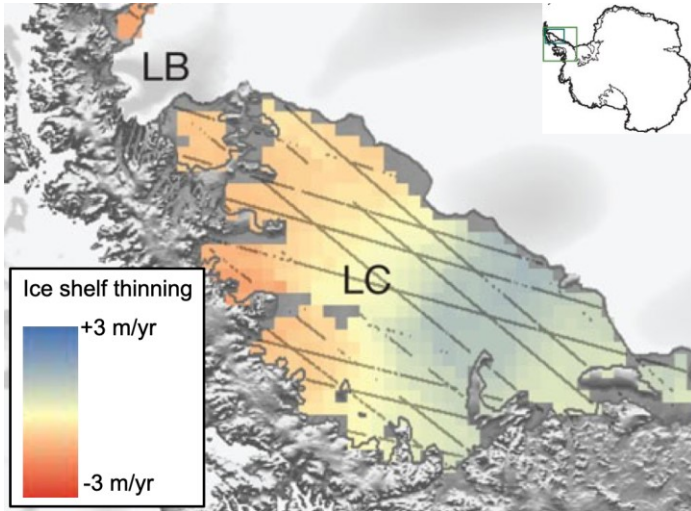
January 2023 - Copernicus Sentinel data (2021-23), processed by ESA

# Ice shelf basal melting: Methods

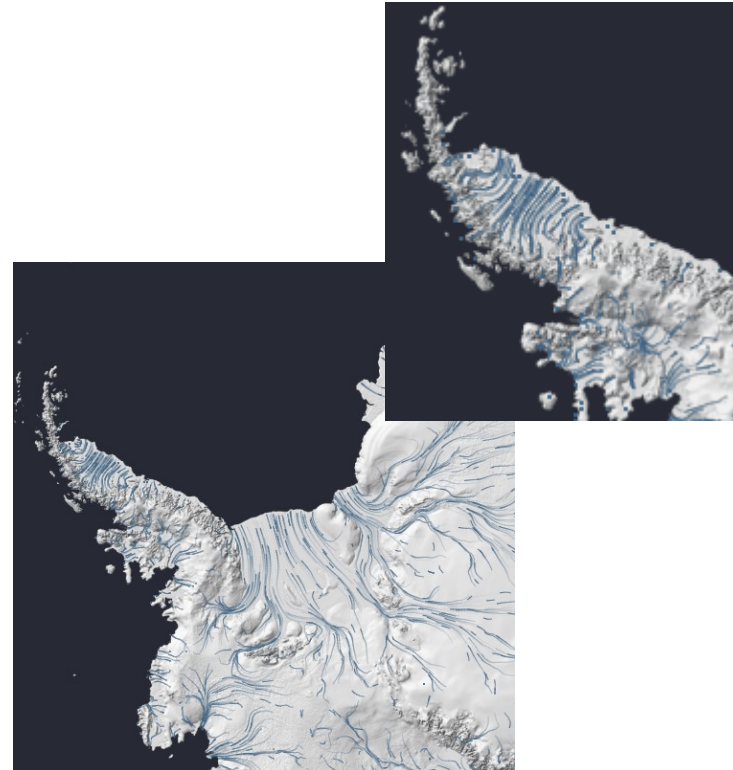
Ice flux divergence    Firn air content

$$\frac{Dh}{Dt} = \frac{(\rho_w - \rho_i)}{\rho_w} \left( \frac{M_s}{\rho_i} - H_i \nabla \cdot v - w_b \right) + \frac{Dh_{air}}{Dt}$$

Thickness changes    Changes in SMB    Basal melting rates

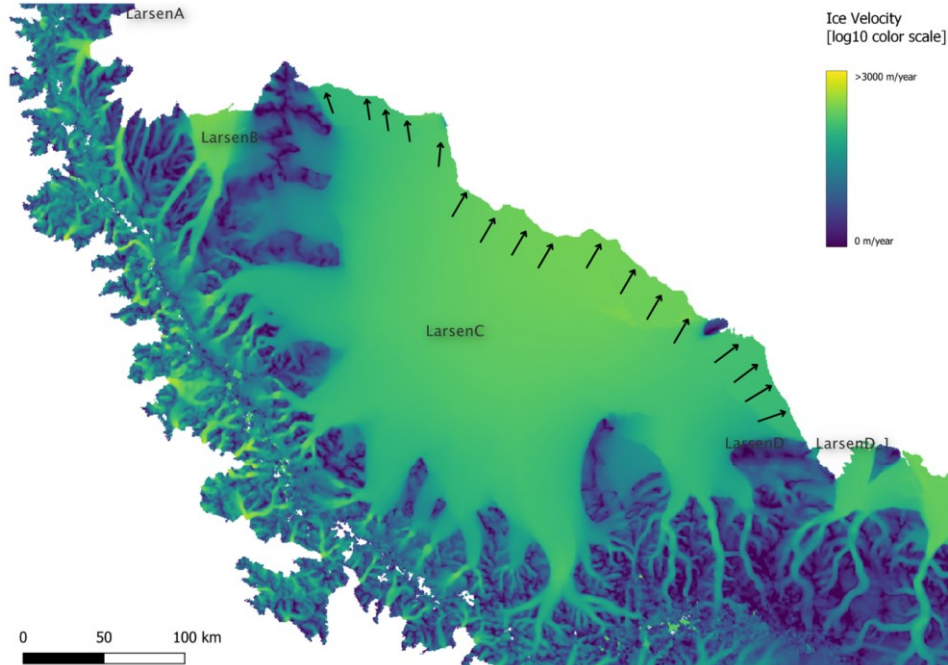


Pritchard et al., 2012



[ige-vis.univ-grenoble-alpes.fr/antarctica/index.html](http://ige-vis.univ-grenoble-alpes.fr/antarctica/index.html)

# Ice shelf calving: Methods



MEaSURES InSAR-Based Antarctica Ice Velocity Map, Version 2

## Mass budget equation

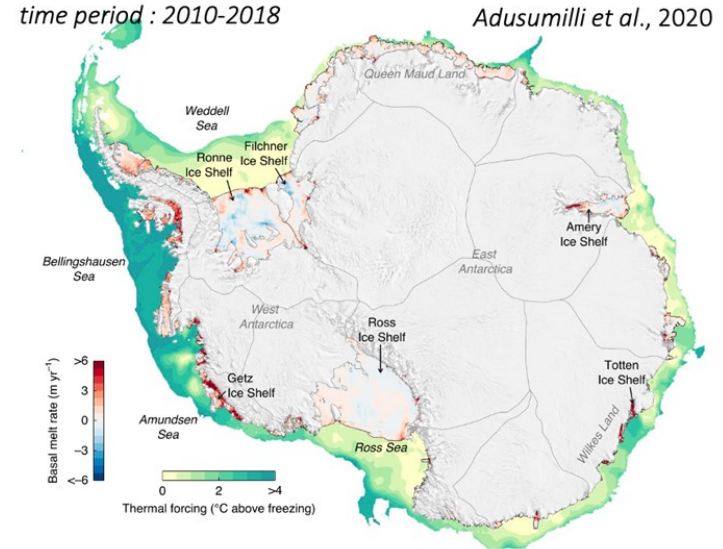
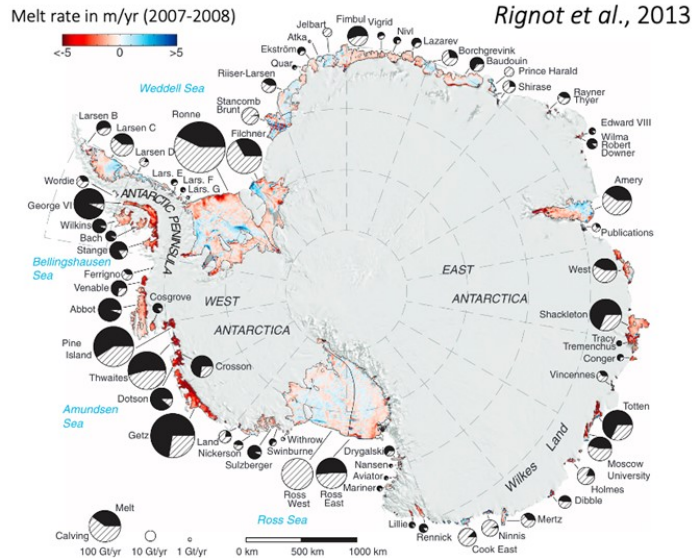
$$dV = BMB + SMB + GLF - CF$$

Basal melt                      Grounding line flux

Volume change      Surface mass balance      **Calving flux**

Front line gate  
(ice thickness, surface flow velocity)

# Ice shelf basal melting and calving: state of the art



- Grid resolution 10x10 km
- Time period 2007-2008

- Average basal melting 2010-2018 in Lagrangian approach (500x500 m)
- Time series 1994-2018 (Eulerian) with grid size 10x10 km

# Ice shelf basal melting and calving : new datasets



## Article

### Antarctic calving loss rivals ice-shelf thinning

<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41586-022-05037-w> Chad A. Greene<sup>1</sup>, Alex S. Gardner<sup>1</sup>, Nicole-Jeanne Schlegel<sup>1</sup> & Alexander D. Fraser<sup>2</sup>

<https://doi.org/10.5194/egusphere-2022-1128>  
Preprint. Discussion started: 1 November 2022  
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### Widespread slowdown in thinning rates of West Antarctic Ice Shelves

Fernando S. Paolo<sup>1</sup>, Alex S. Gardner<sup>1</sup>, Chad A. Greene<sup>1</sup>, Johan N. Nilsson<sup>1</sup>, Michael P. Schodlok<sup>1</sup>, Nicole-Jeanne Schlegel<sup>1</sup>, Helen A. Fricker<sup>2</sup>

	<b>Calving flux</b> Greene et al., 2022	<b>Basal melt</b> Paolo et al., 2022 (submitted)
Grid Resolution	240 m (frontline) or integrated mass changes	2 x 2 km
Time series	1997, 2000 to 2021 (yearly)	1992 to 2017 (bi-yearly)
Extent	Antarctica 181 ice shelves	Antarctica 181 ice shelves
Data	open access (MIT licence) <a href="https://github.com/chadagreene/ice-shelf-geometry">https://github.com/chadagreene/ice-shelf-geometry</a>	open-access <a href="https://its-live.jpl.nasa.gov">https://its-live.jpl.nasa.gov</a>

# Ice shelf basal melting and calving : new datasets



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	<b>Calving flux</b> Greene et al., 2022	<b>Basal melt</b> Paolo et al., 2022 (submitted)
	240 m (frontline) or integrated mass	

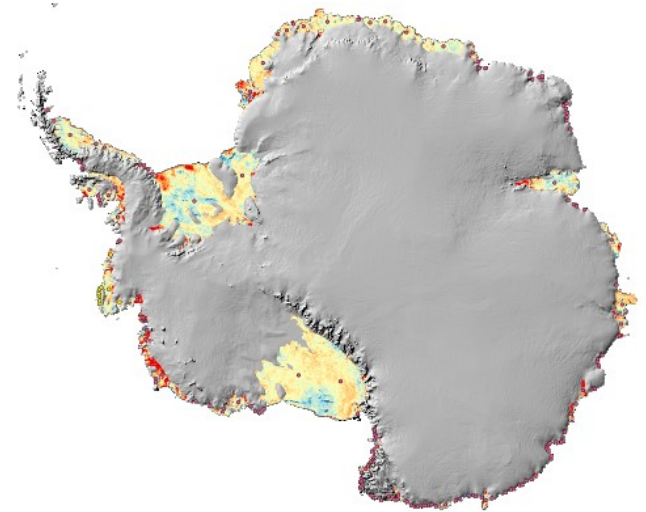
## Goal

Provide latest freshwater fluxes estimates from iceberg calving and basal melting

**Goal:** provide latest freshwater fluxes estimates from basal melting

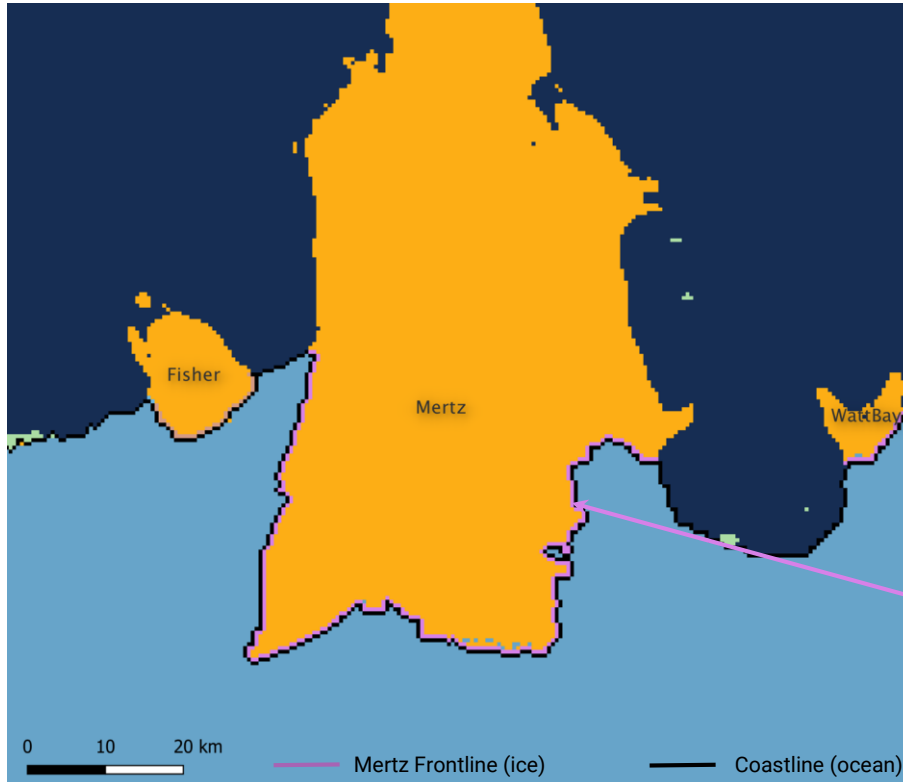
## Basal melt rates

- Use of the Paolo et al., 2023 paper based on altimetry data and Eulerian framework
- Calculation of yearly averages over the entire period of study
- Resampling on the BedMachine grid size and polar stereographic projection
- Calculation of integrated basal melting rates for each ice shelves (correct for pixel deformation in PS projection)





**Goal:** provide latest freshwater fluxes estimates from iceberg calving



## Dataset

- Greene *et al.*, 2022 : Integrated value of mass losses for each one of the 181 ice shelves.

## Constraint

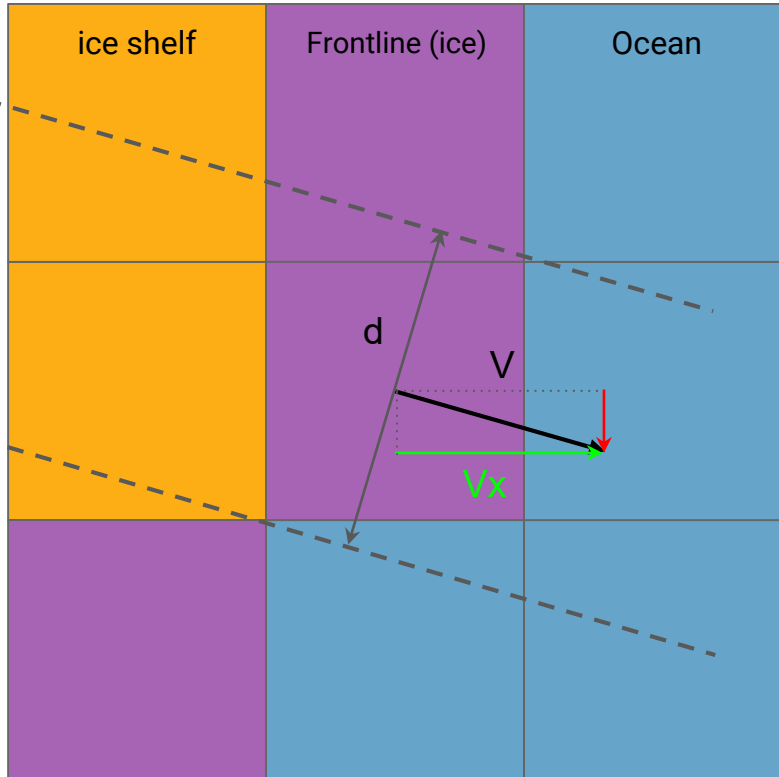
- frontlines need to be fixed for ocean models.

## Frontlines database

- Delineate each front independently of the others using Bedmachine mask V3.

Ice shelves frontlines identified with BedMachine V3  
Morlighem, M. (2022). MEaSURES BedMachine Antarctica, Version 3

**Goal:** provide latest freshwater fluxes estimates from iceberg calving



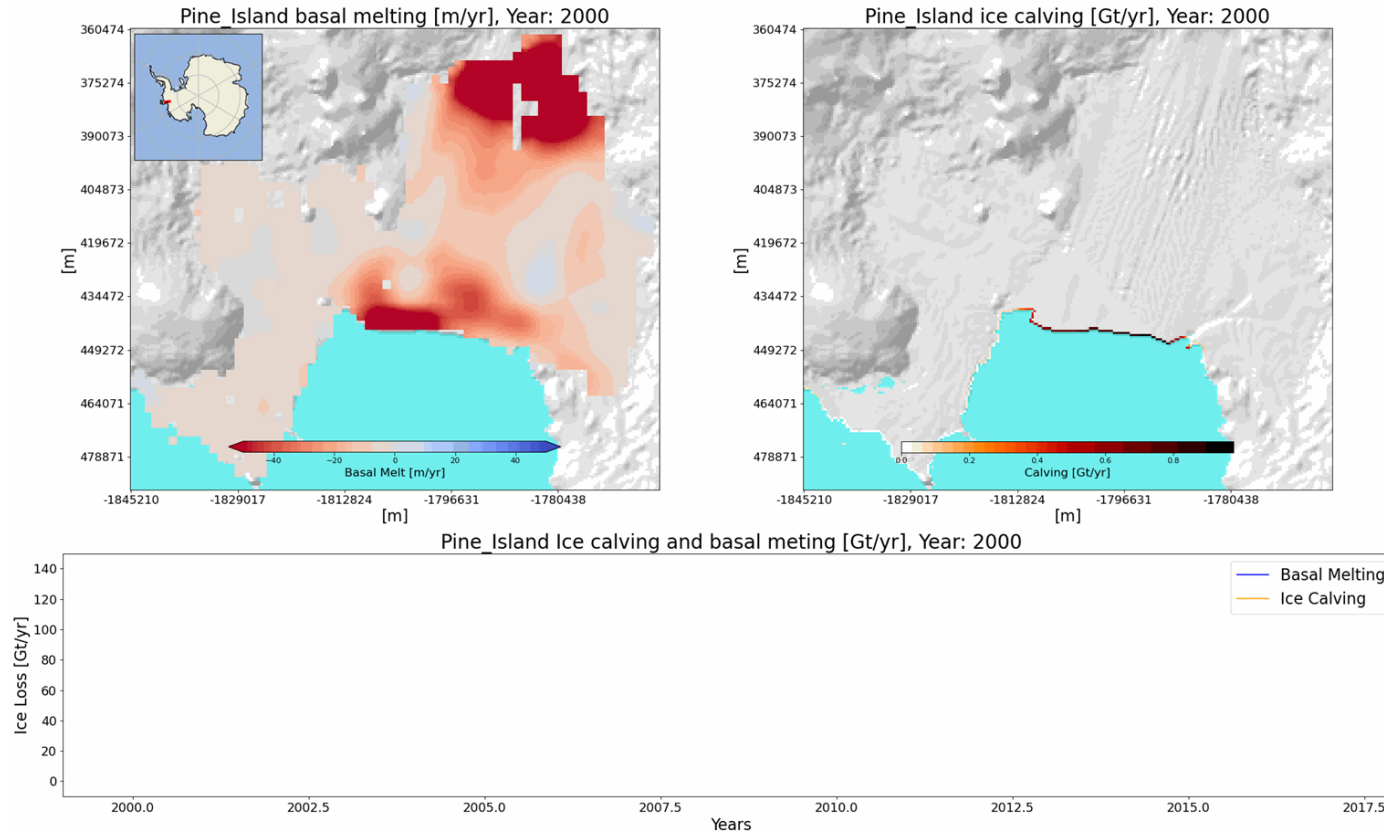
Frontline pixel surrounded by two ocean pixels

## Spatialization of the calving fluxes along the frontlines

- For each pixel of the frontline:
  - spatialization coefficient  $[0,1]$  based on surface flow velocities,
  - applied this coefficient to the integrated yearly mass loss
- Consider only negative mass losses, *i.e.* calving events.

# Results

## Comparison of calving vs melting over the entire time period (2000 - 2017)



# Results

Comparison of results over similar time periods and same ice shelves groups.

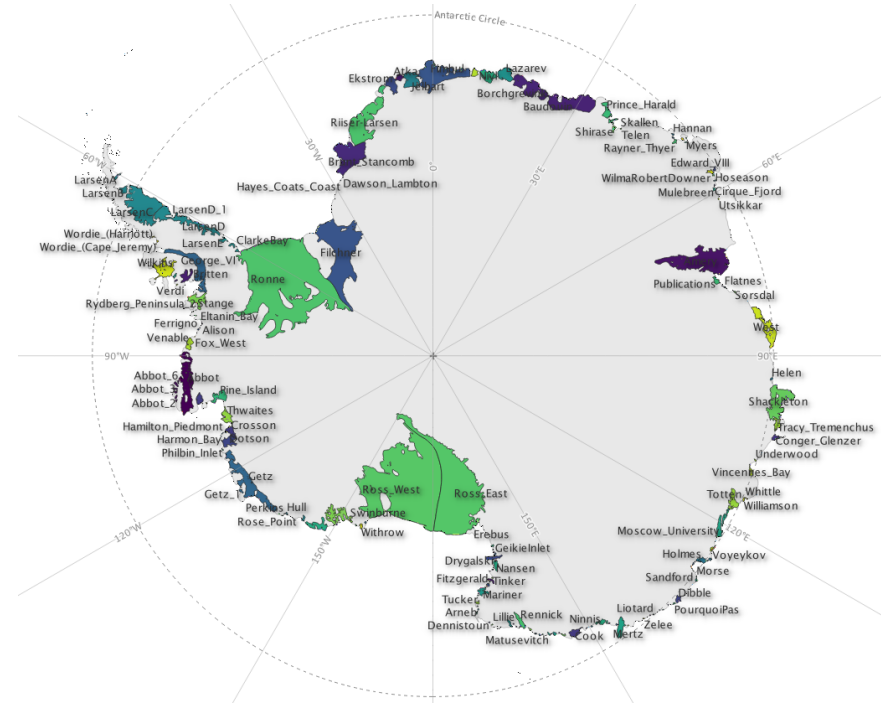
Period 2007-2008	<b>Rignot et al.,2013</b>	<b>Greene et al. ,2022</b>
Ice Calving [Gt/y]	1081±126	1032±37

Period 2007-2008	<b>Rignot et al.,2013</b>	<b>Paulo et al., review</b>
Basal Melting [Gt/y]	1310±418	1292±388

Period 1994-2017	<b>Adusumilli et al.,2020</b>	<b>Paulo et al., review</b>
Basal Melting [Gt/y]	1250±150	968±290

# Data products

- **Ice shelves vector file:**  
ice shelves layer (MEaSURES) and calving data (Greene et al. 2022) merged into a file in *shp/gpkg* format.
- **Integrated basal melt/calving** over the same time period in *csv* format,
- **Spatialized basal melting and calving** in *netcdf* format.



Mouginot et al. (2017). **MEaSURES Antarctic Boundaries** for IPY 2007-2009 from Satellite Radar, Version 2. Boulder, Colorado USA. NASA NSIDC



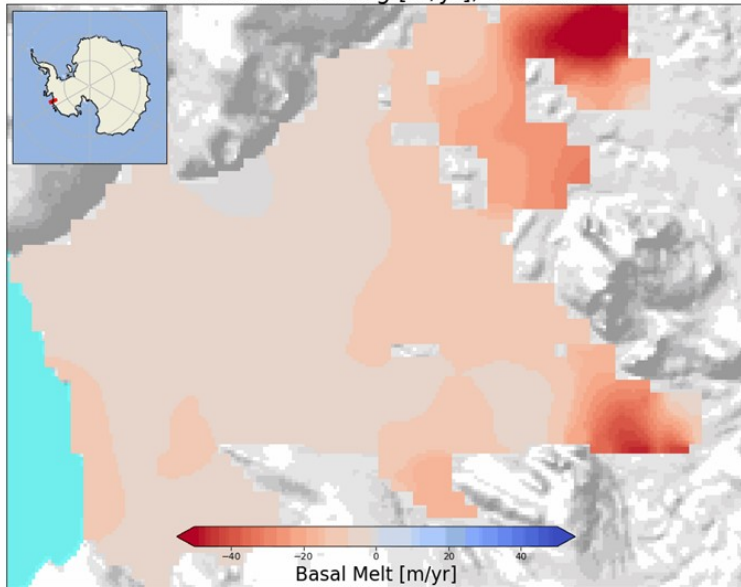
Calving front of the Astrolabe Glacier, 2007. B. Jourdain

Thank you for your attention

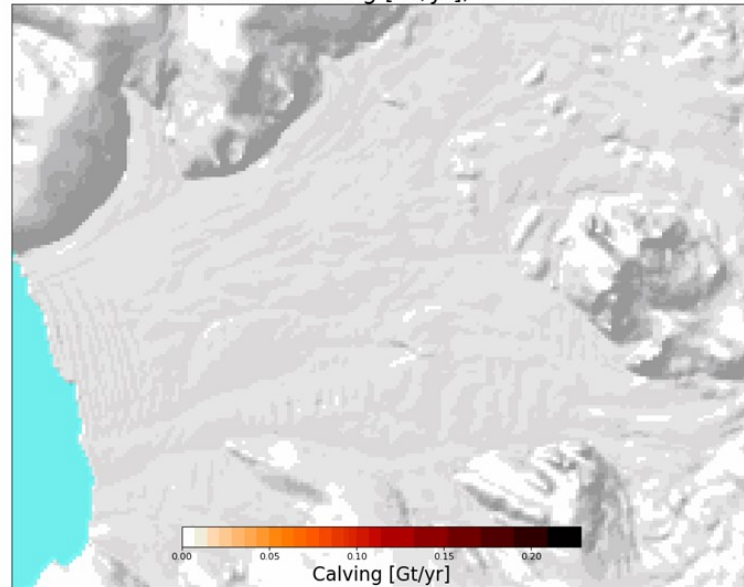
**Paolo, F., Gardner, A., Greene, C., Nilsson, J., Schodlok, M., Schlegel, N., and Fricker, H.:** Widespread slowdown in thinning rates of West Antarctic Ice Shelves, EGU sphere [preprint], <https://doi.org/10.5194/egusphere-2022-1128>, 2022.

**Greene, C.A., Gardner, A.S., Schlegel, N.J. et al.** Antarctic calving loss rivals ice-shelf thinning. *Nature* 609, 948–953 (2022). <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41586-022-05037-w>

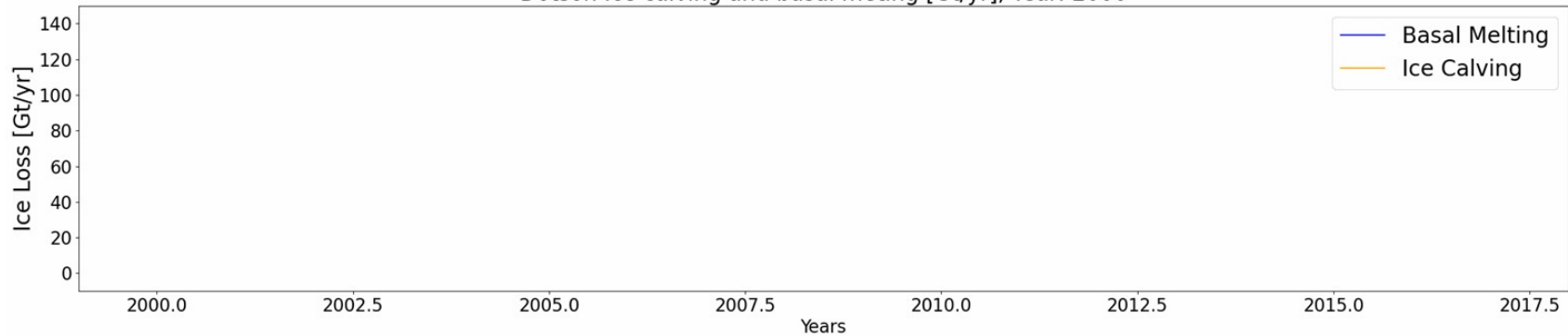
Dotson basal melting [m/yr], Year: 2000



Dotson ice calving [Gt/yr], Year: 2000

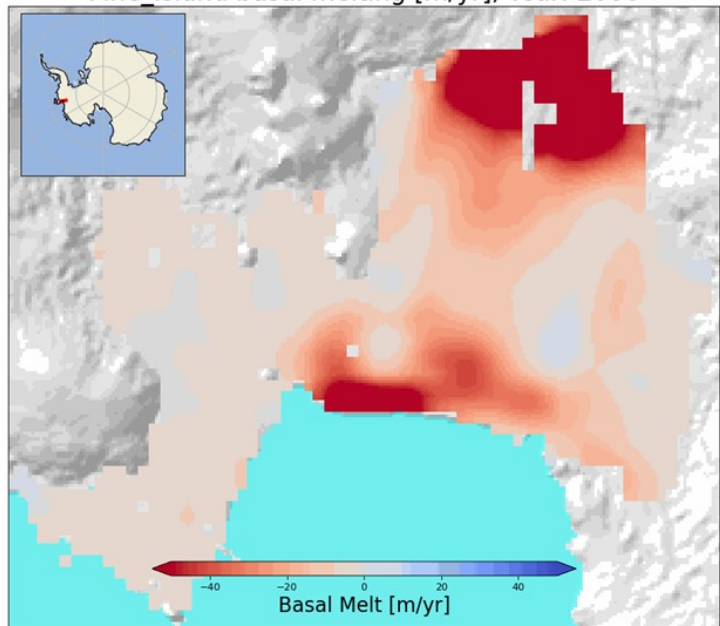


Dotson Ice calving and basal melting [Gt/yr], Year: 2000

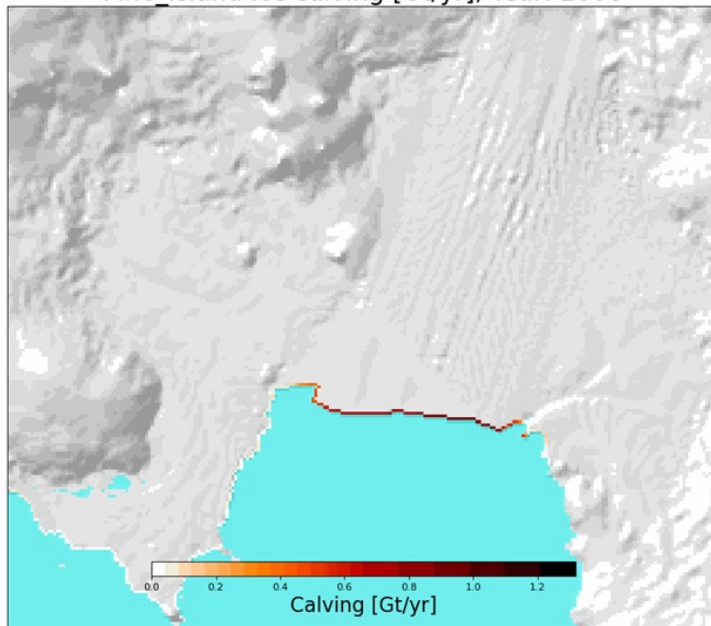




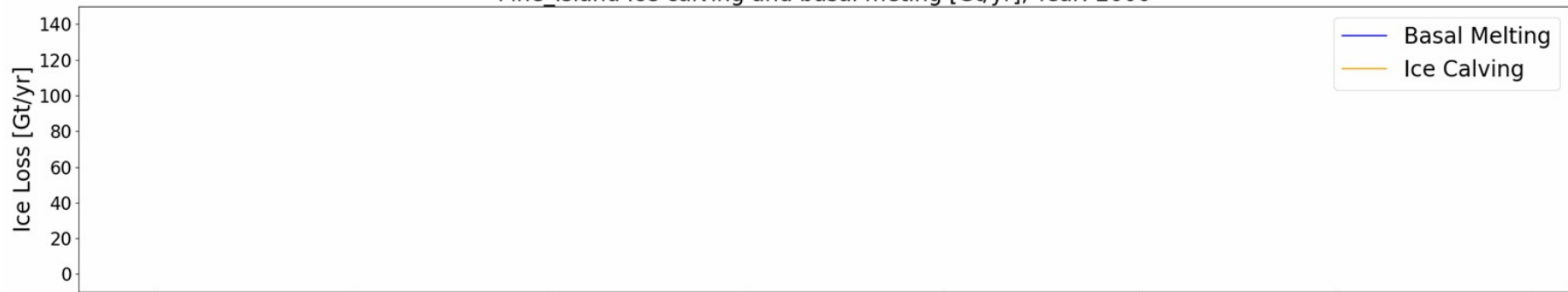
Pine\_Island basal melting [m/yr], Year: 2000



Pine\_Island ice calving [Gt/yr], Year: 2000

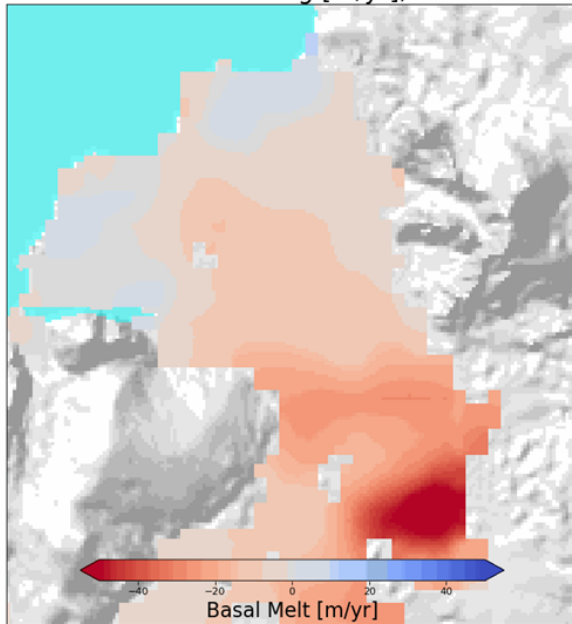


Pine\_Island Ice calving and basal meting [Gt/yr], Year: 2000

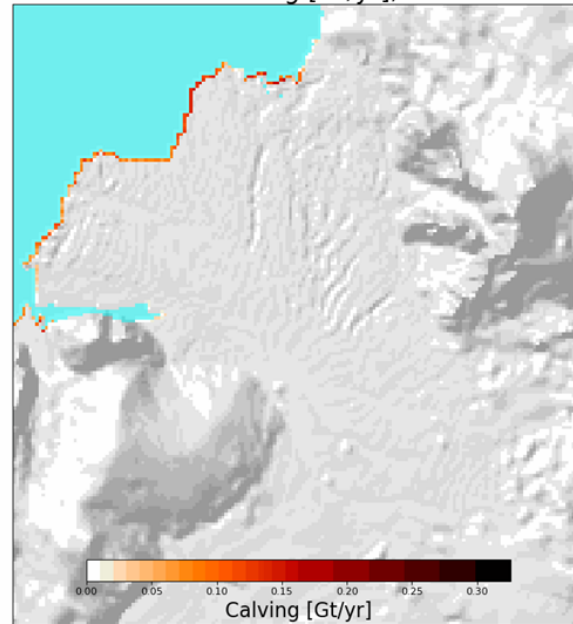




Crosson basal melting [m/yr], Year: 2000



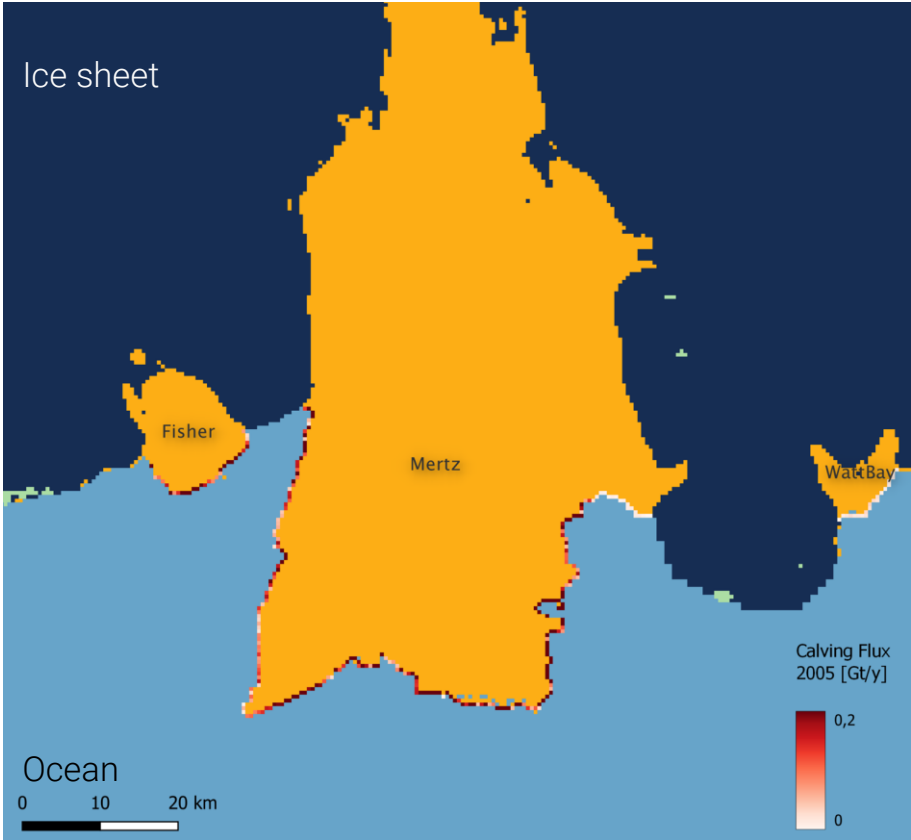
Crosson ice calving [Gt/yr], Year: 2000



Crosson Ice calving and basal melting [Gt/yr], Year: 2000

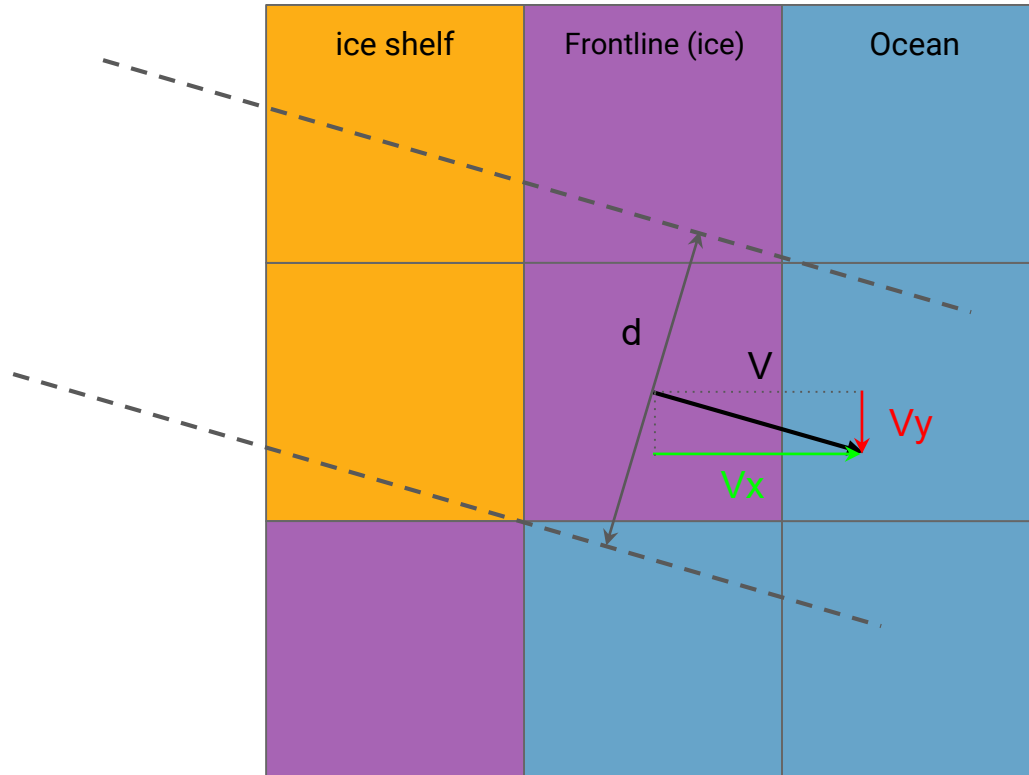


# Calving flux



# Calving flux spatialisation

Frontline pixel surrounded by two ice pixels



Calving flux along the frontline for a pixel  $i$  (in [Gt/y]):

$$Q_{ci} = [h*d*V / Q_{is}] * Q_{greene}$$

with

- $Q_{is}$  = sum  $Q_{ci}$  for the whole Ice shelf.
- $h$ , ice shelf thickness
- $V$ , ice velocity
- $d$ , calving distance
- $Q_{greene}$ , calving flux [Gt/y]

Negative values of IS mass change are considered as calving.