

# West Antarctic coastal ice cores

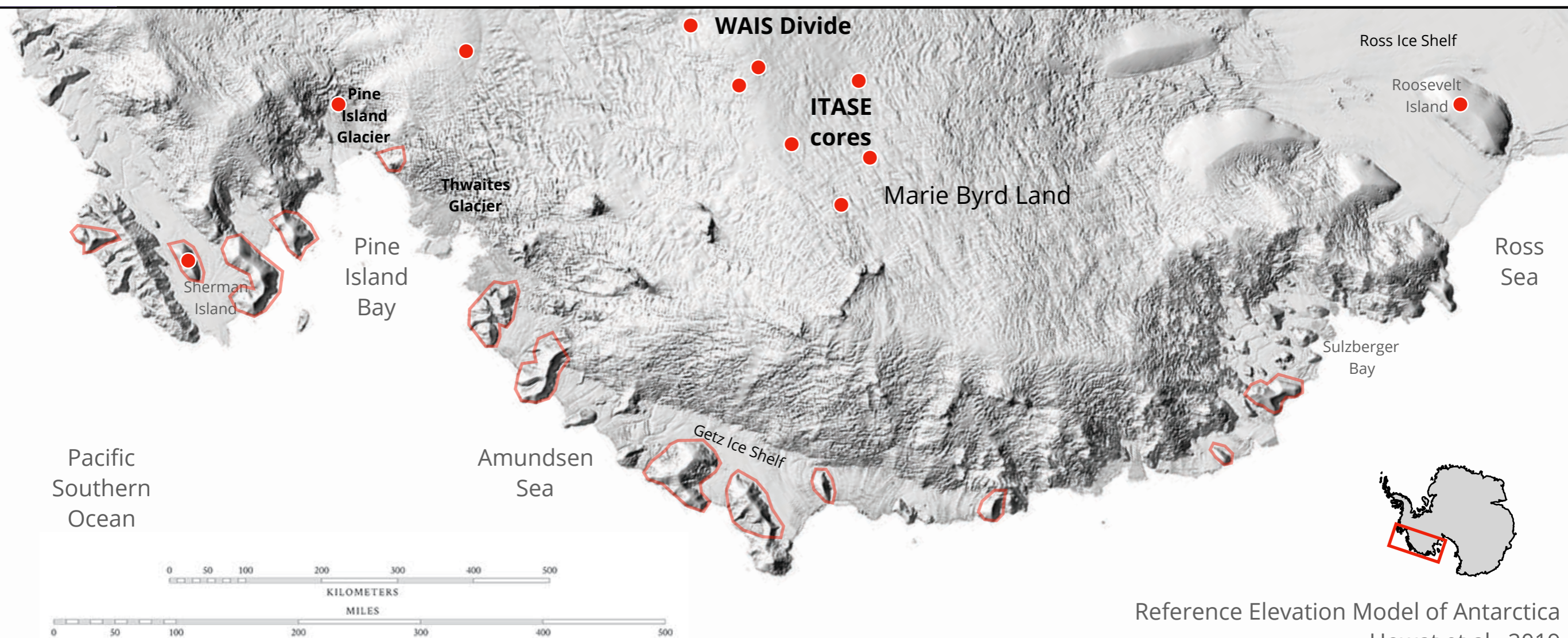
High-fidelity records of atmosphere-ocean forcing on outlet glaciers



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA (Aug. 2020)

Peter Neff

@peter\_neff



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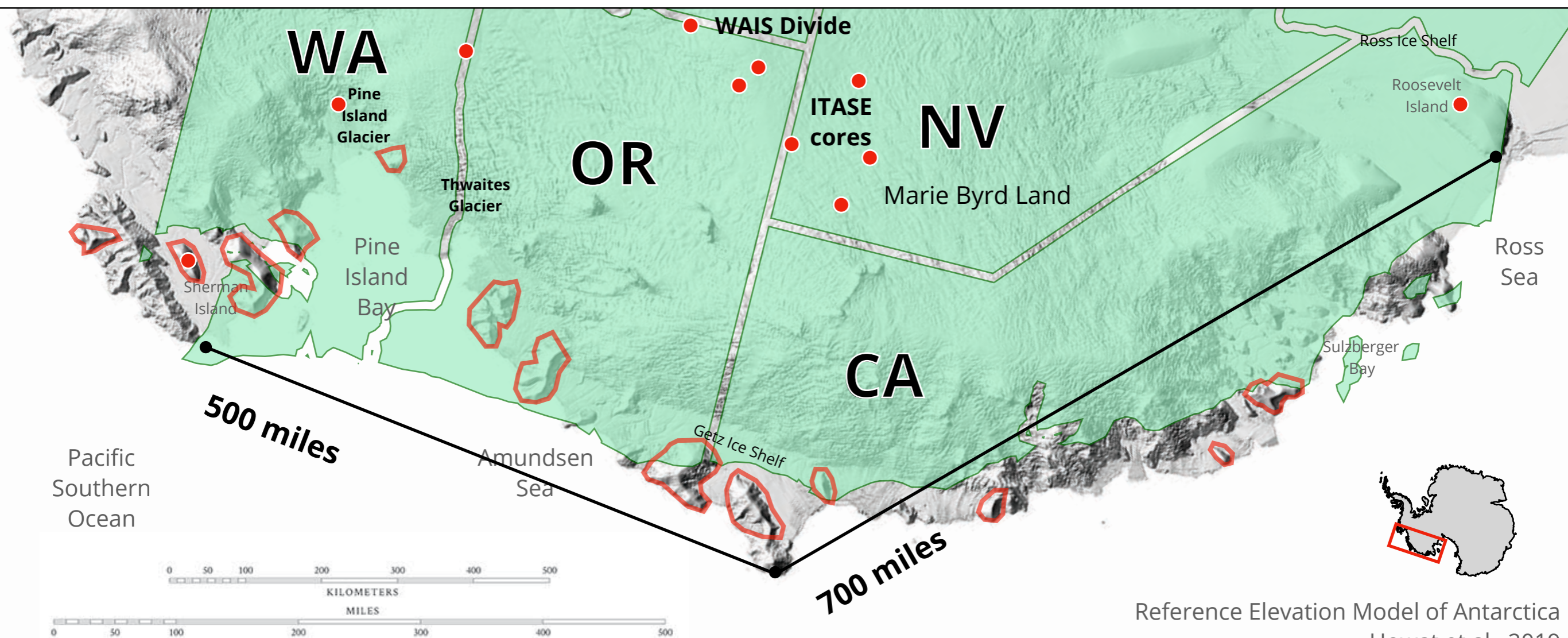
High-fidelity records of atmosphere-ocean forcing on outlet glaciers



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[@peter\\_neff](https://twitter.com/peter_neff)



# WAIS Coastal Cores



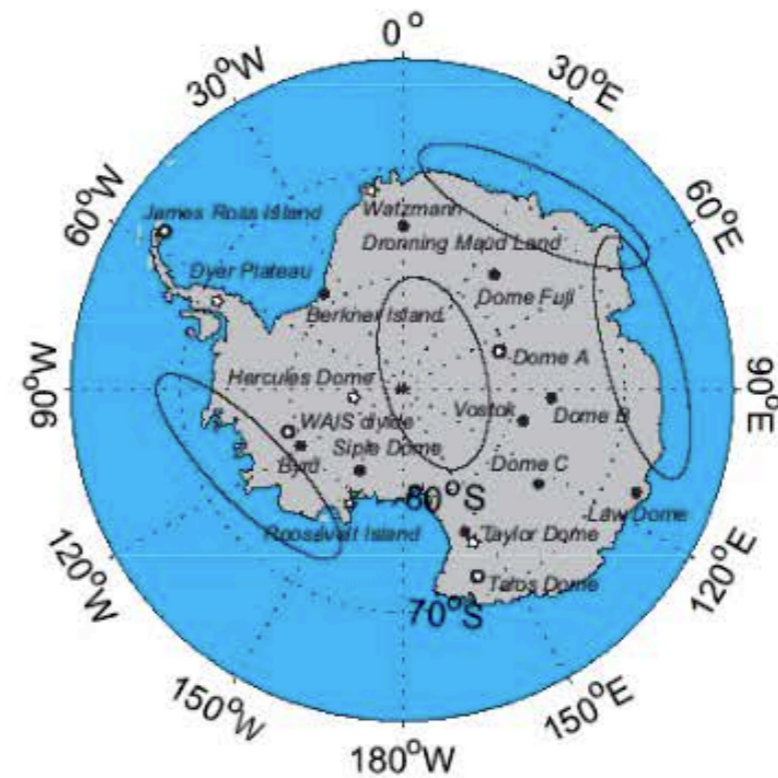
**Infill sparse sampling**

**Capture coastal dynamics**

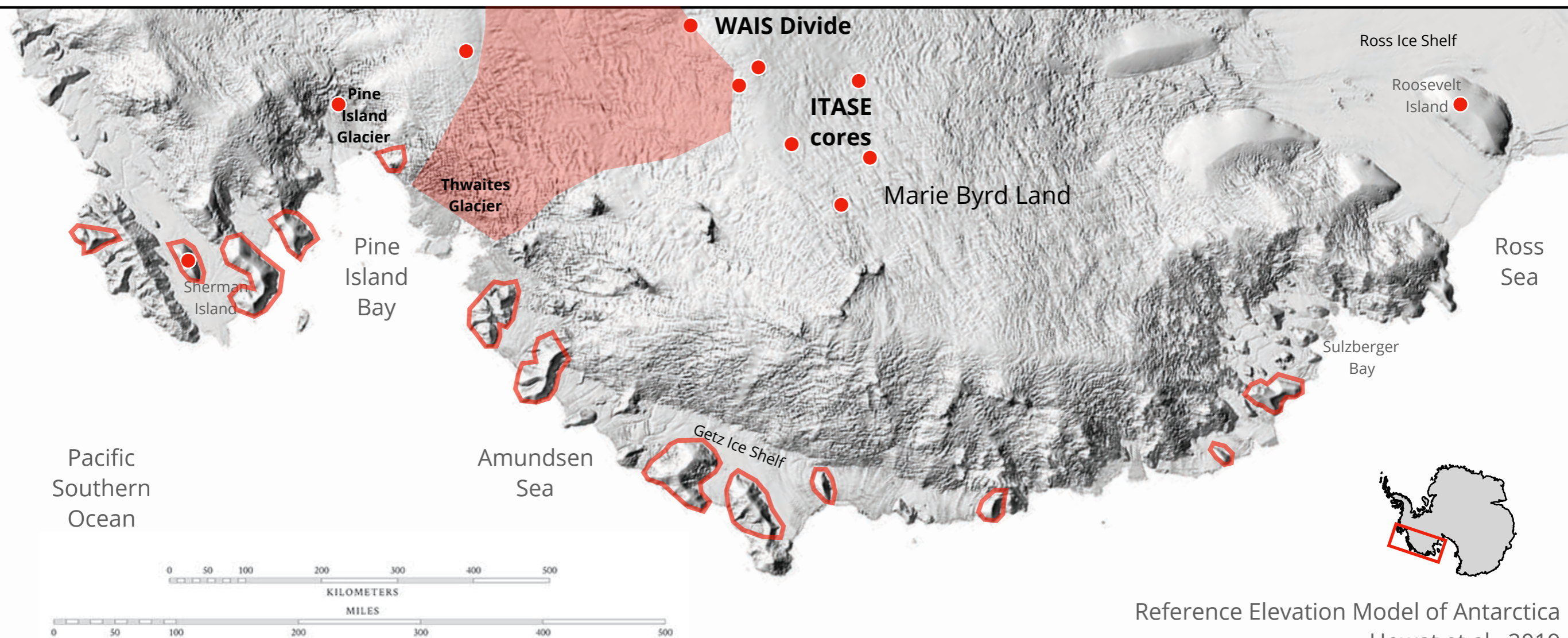
(Accum., temp., melt gradients)

**PIG / Thwaites thinning**

Centennial ocean-atmosphere forcing



IPICS 40k Array white paper



Reference Elevation Model of Antarctica  
Howat et al., 2019

# WAIS Coastal Cores

Infill sparse sampling

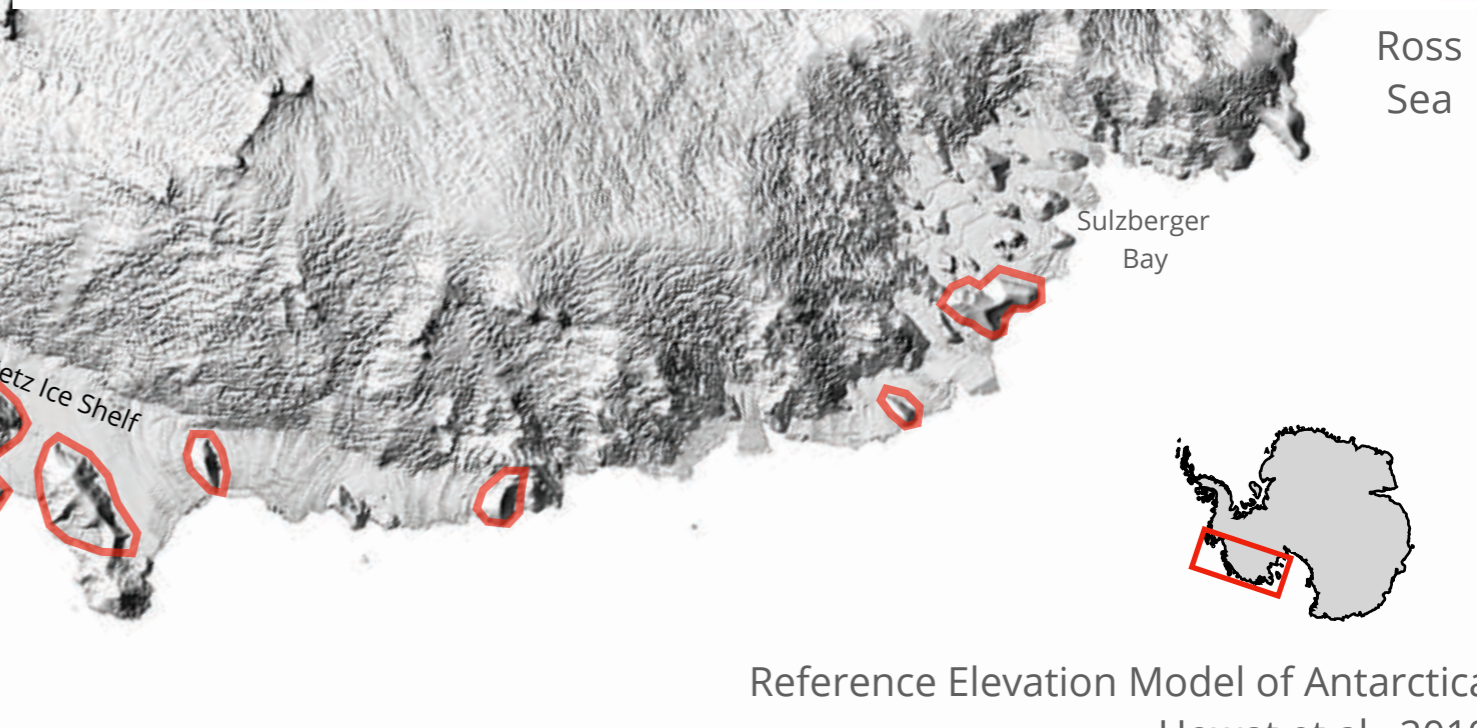
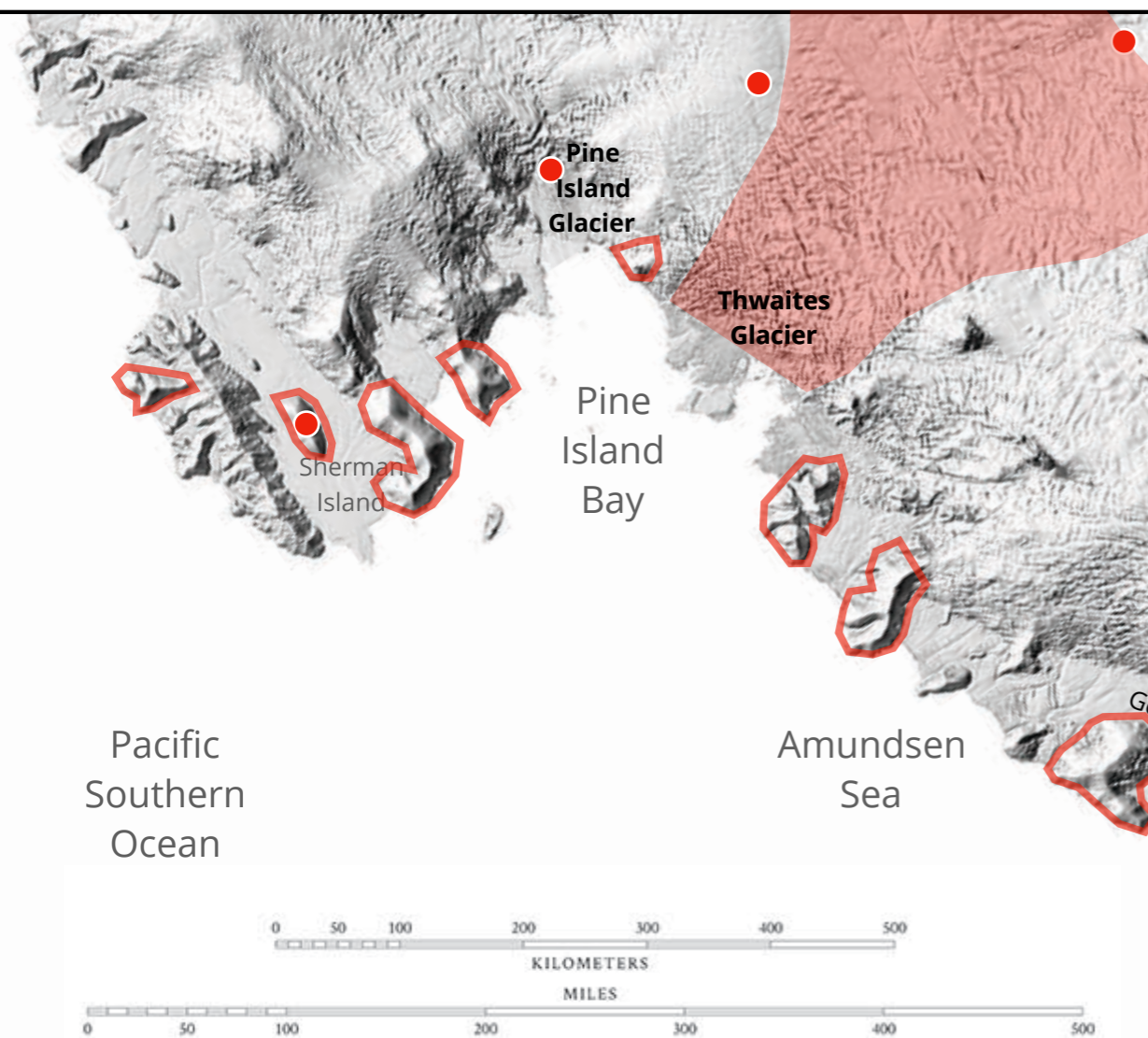
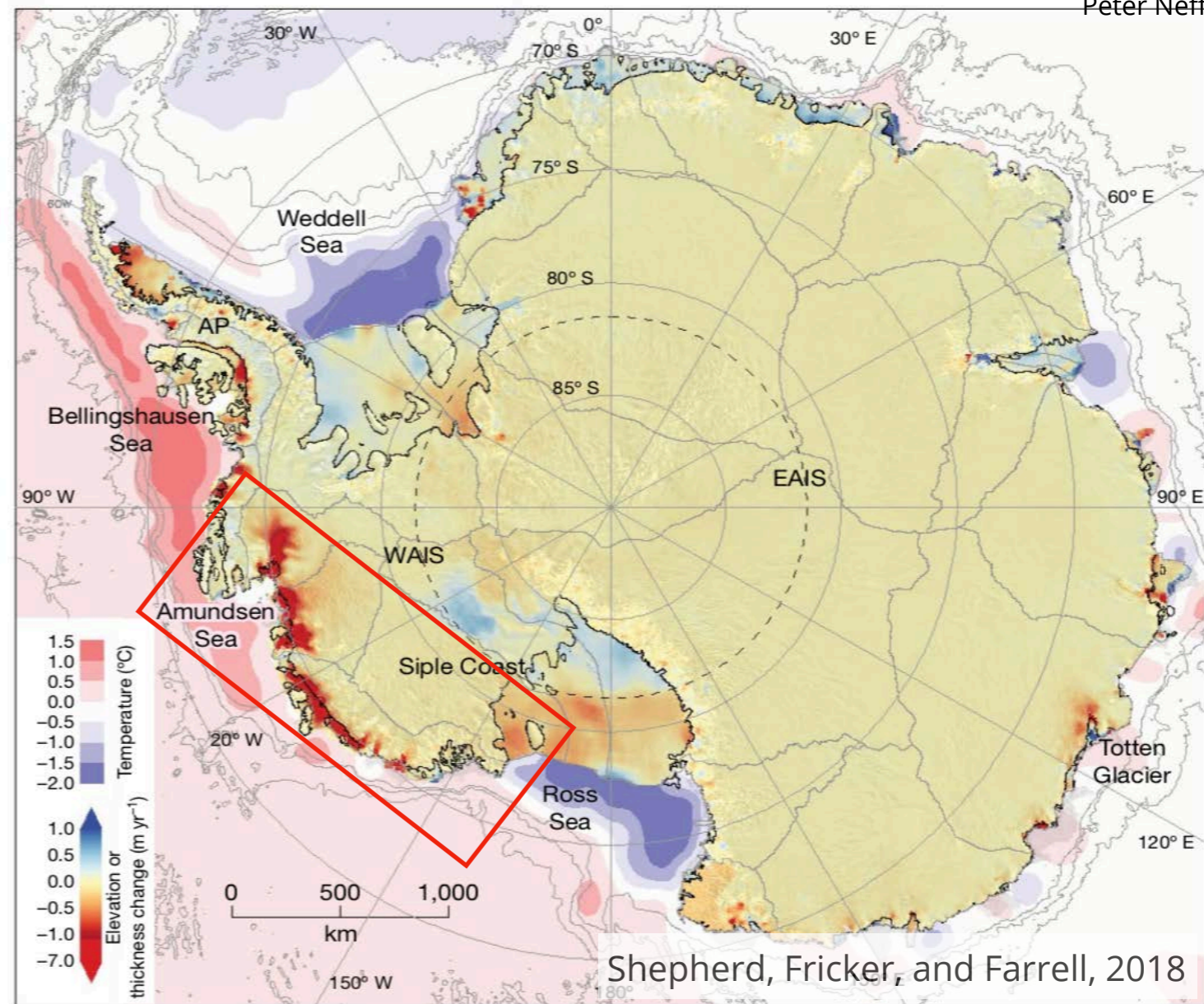
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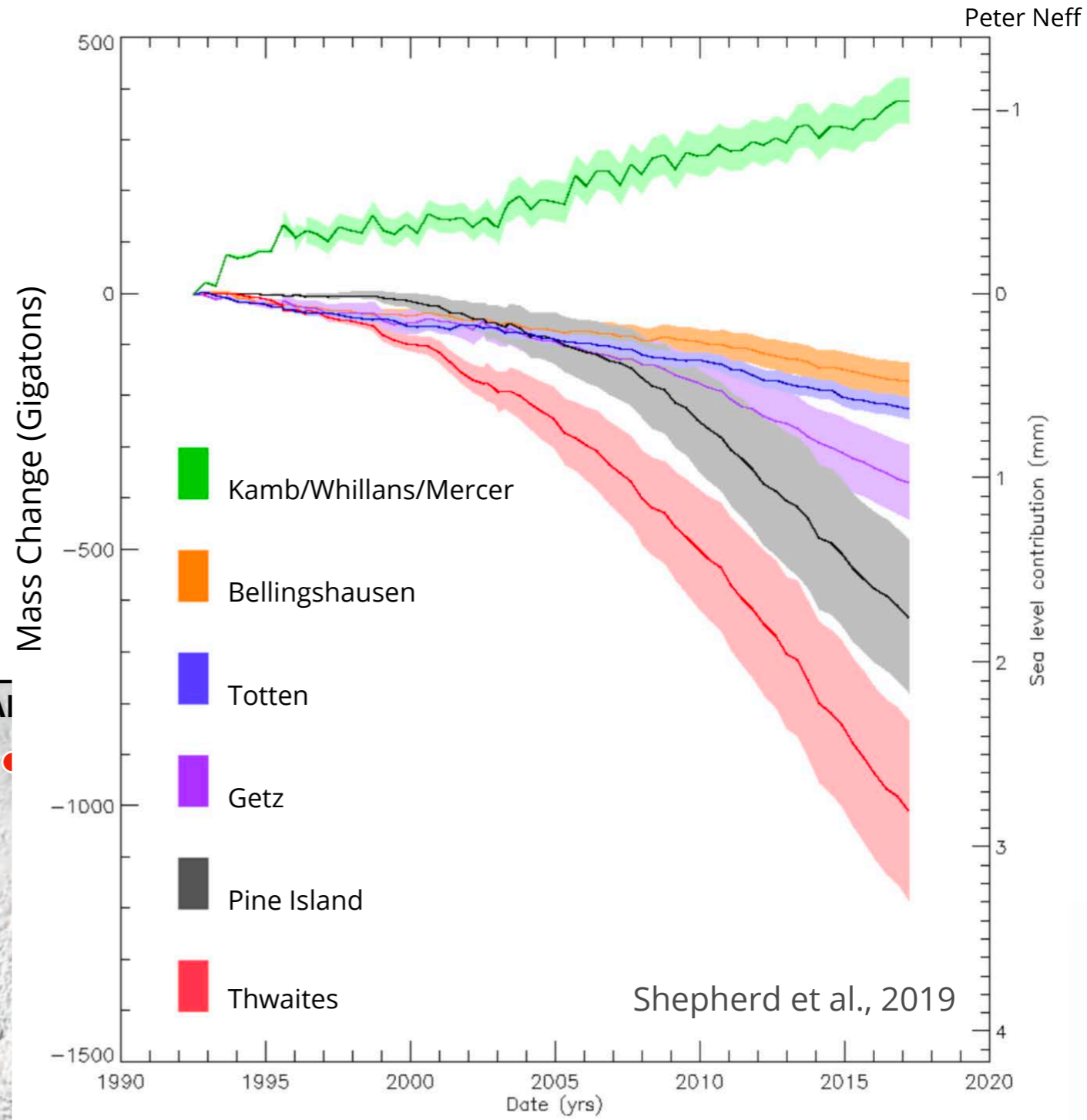
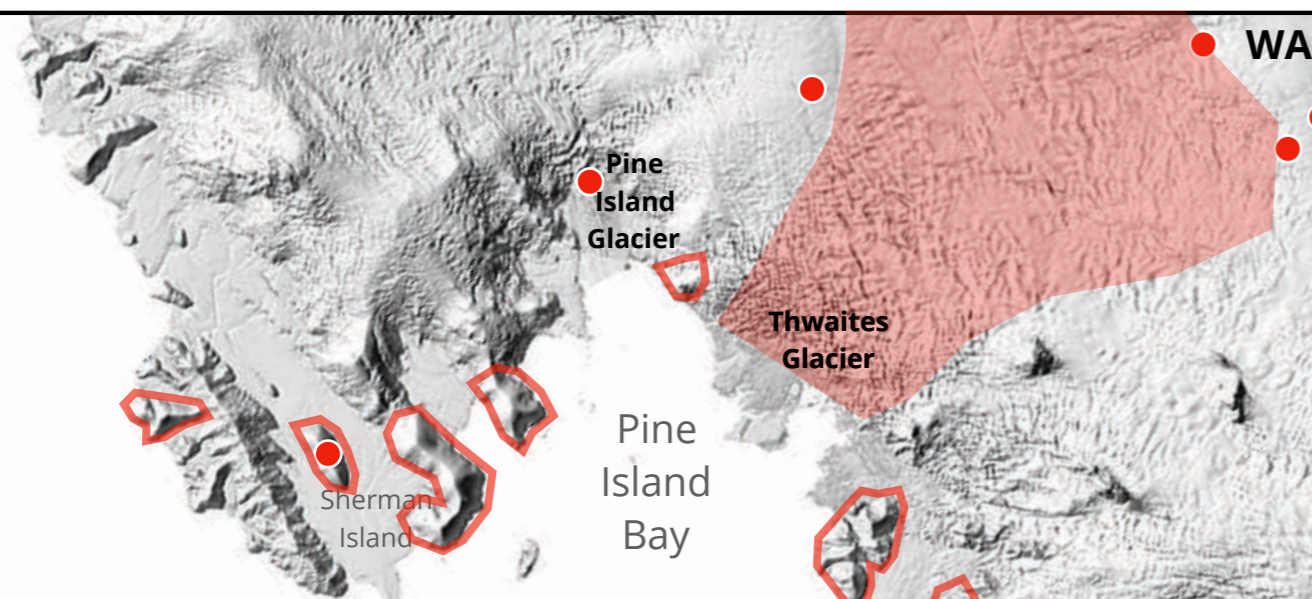
Infill sparse sampling

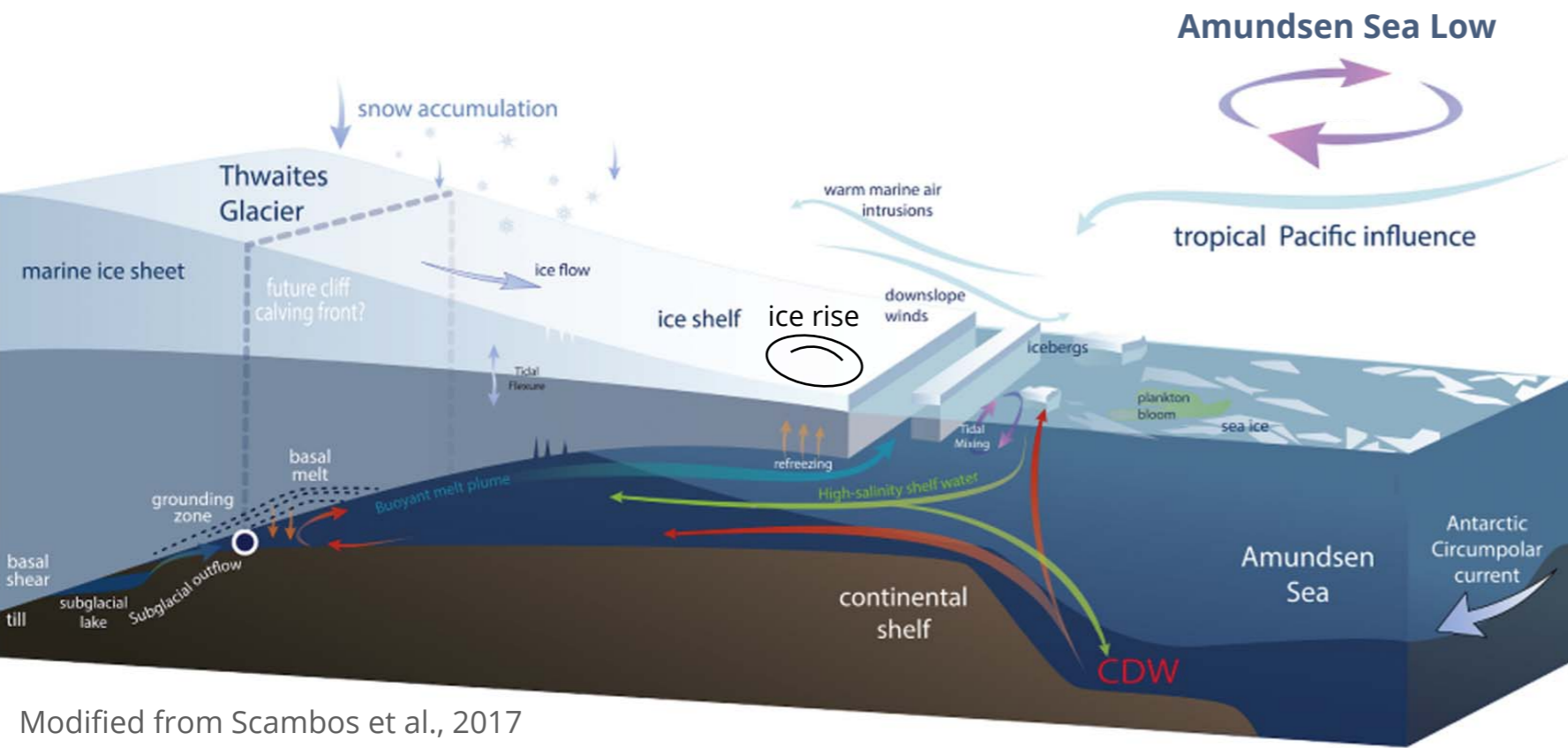
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(Accum., temp., melt gradients)

**PIG / Thwaites thinning**

Centennial ocean-atmosphere forcing





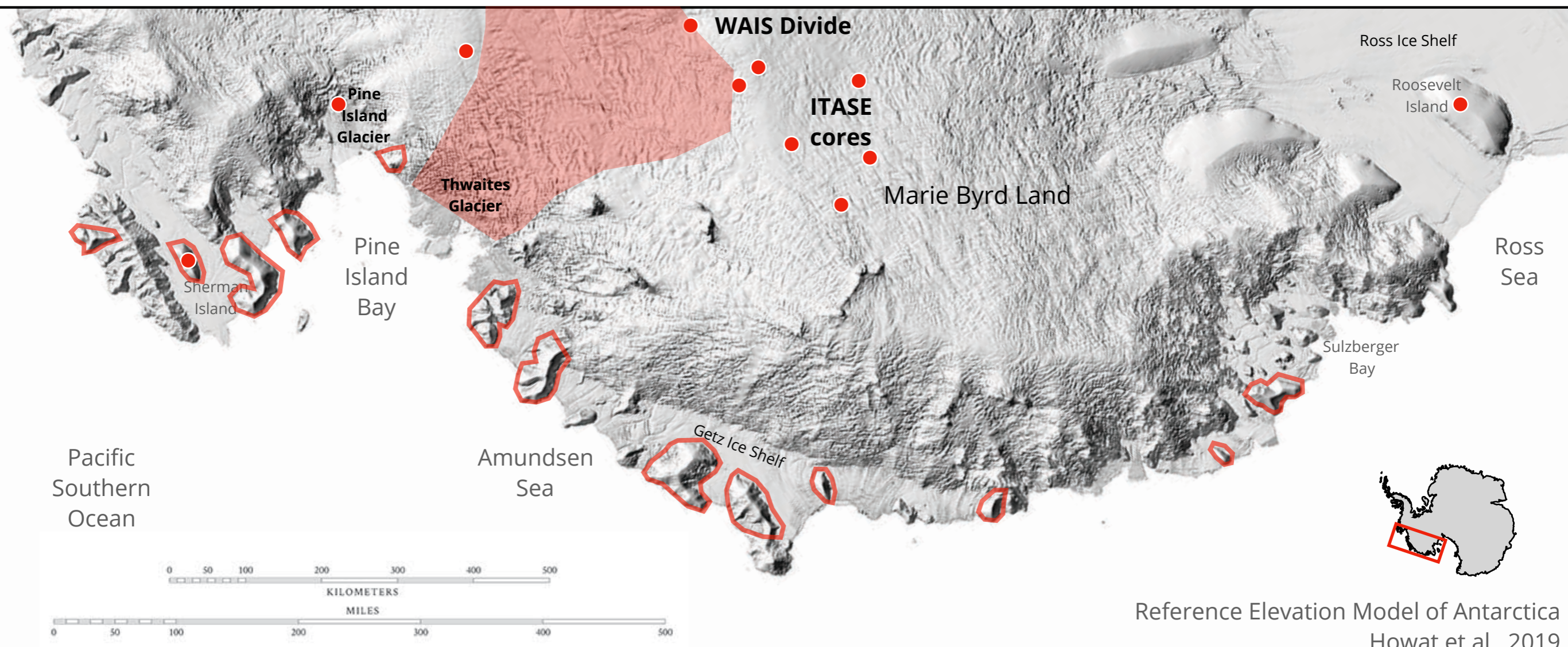
Modified from Scambos et al., 2017

Winds drive  
Circumpolar Deep Water  
upwelling beneath  
ice shelves

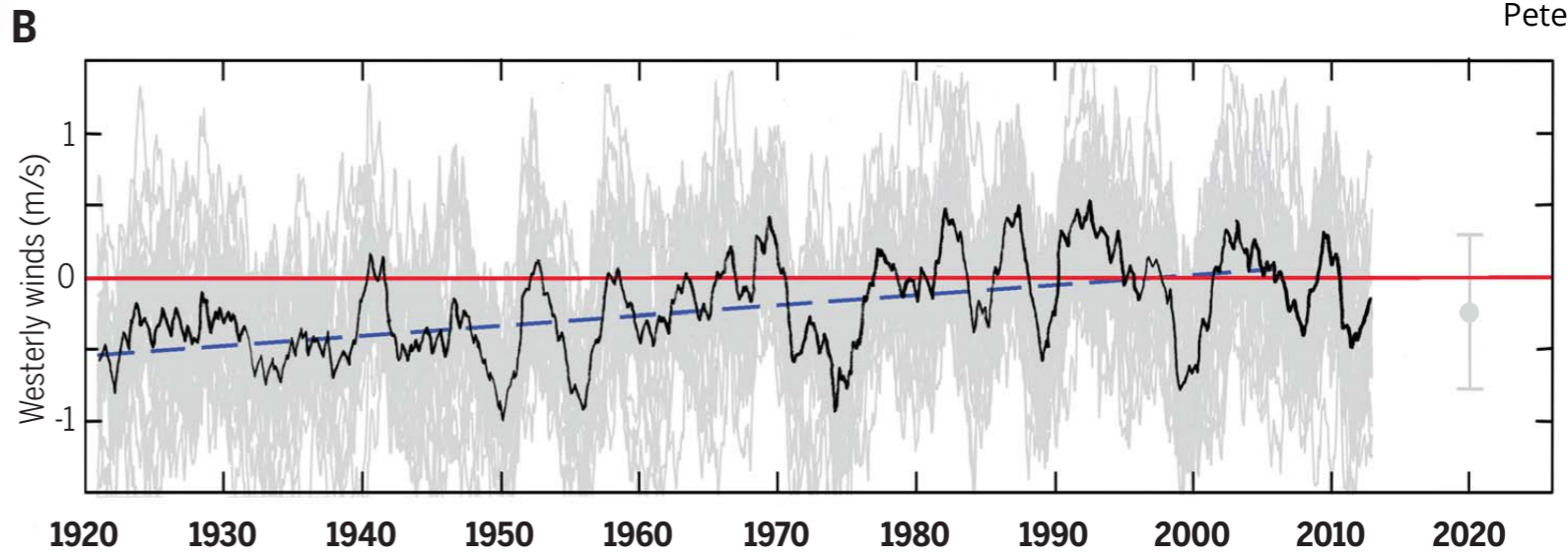
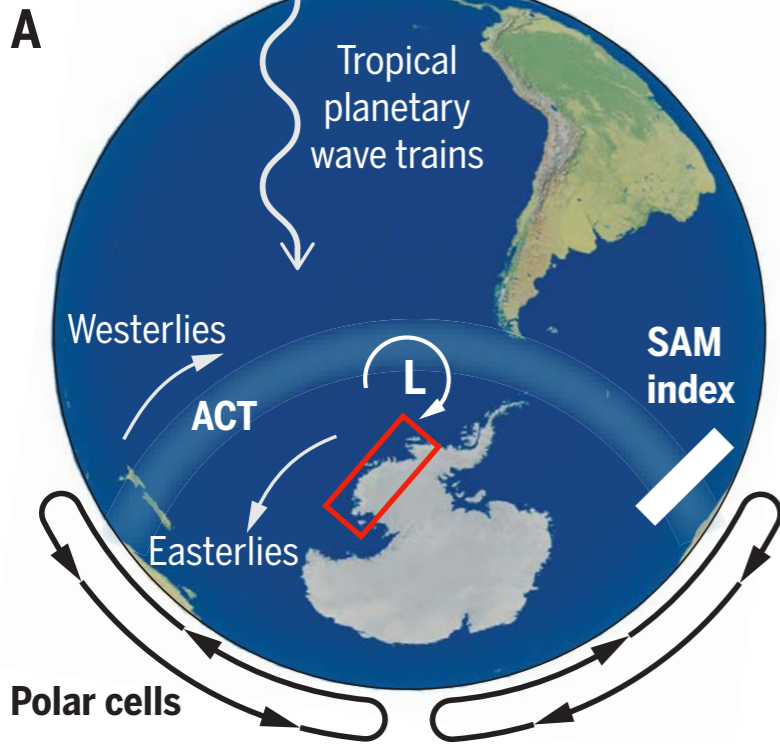
Tied to Pacific variability

-Westerlies strengthening-  
**Human caused?**

P. Holland et al., 2019; D. Holland et al., 2020

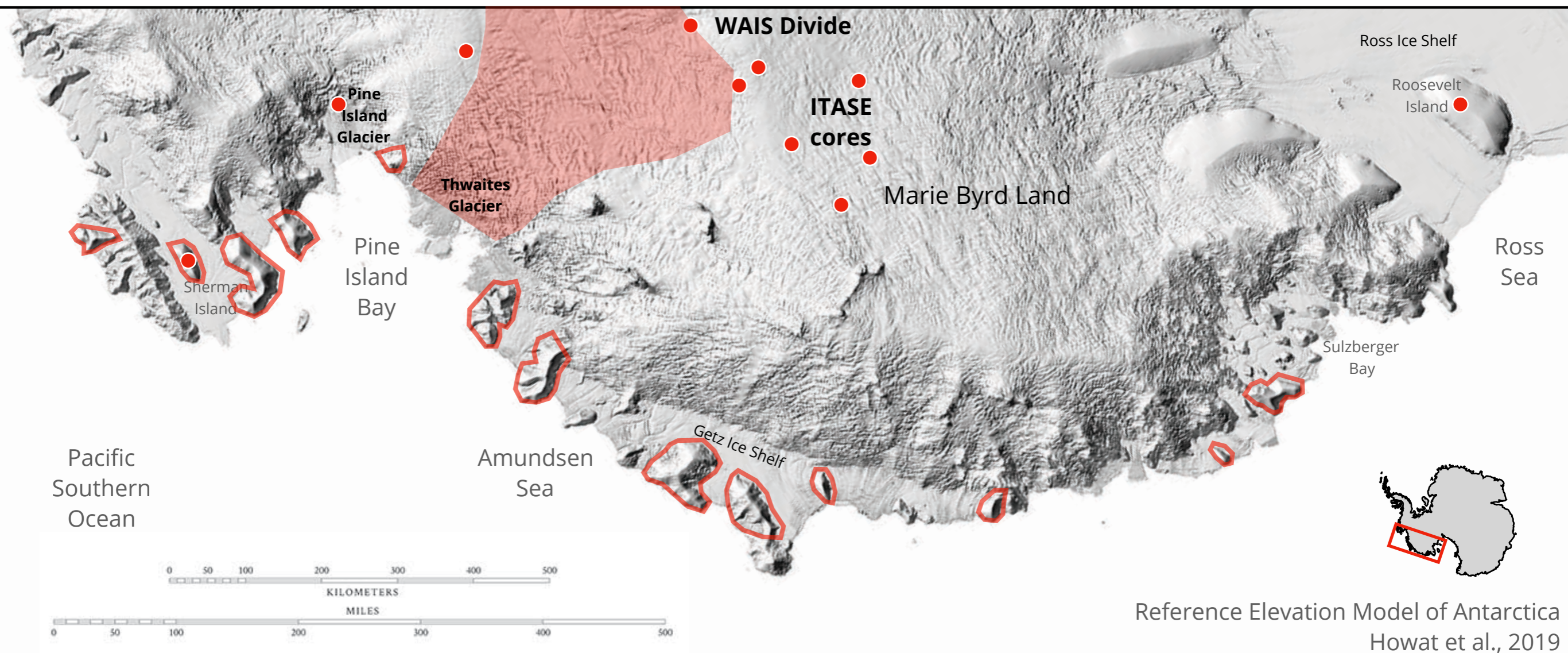


Reference Elevation Model of Antarctica  
Howat et al., 2019



—20th century wind trend is model-based—  
**WAIS coastal ice cores will test this**

“The Southern Ocean and its interaction with the Antarctic Ice Sheet,” D. Holland et al., *Science*, March 20th, 2020



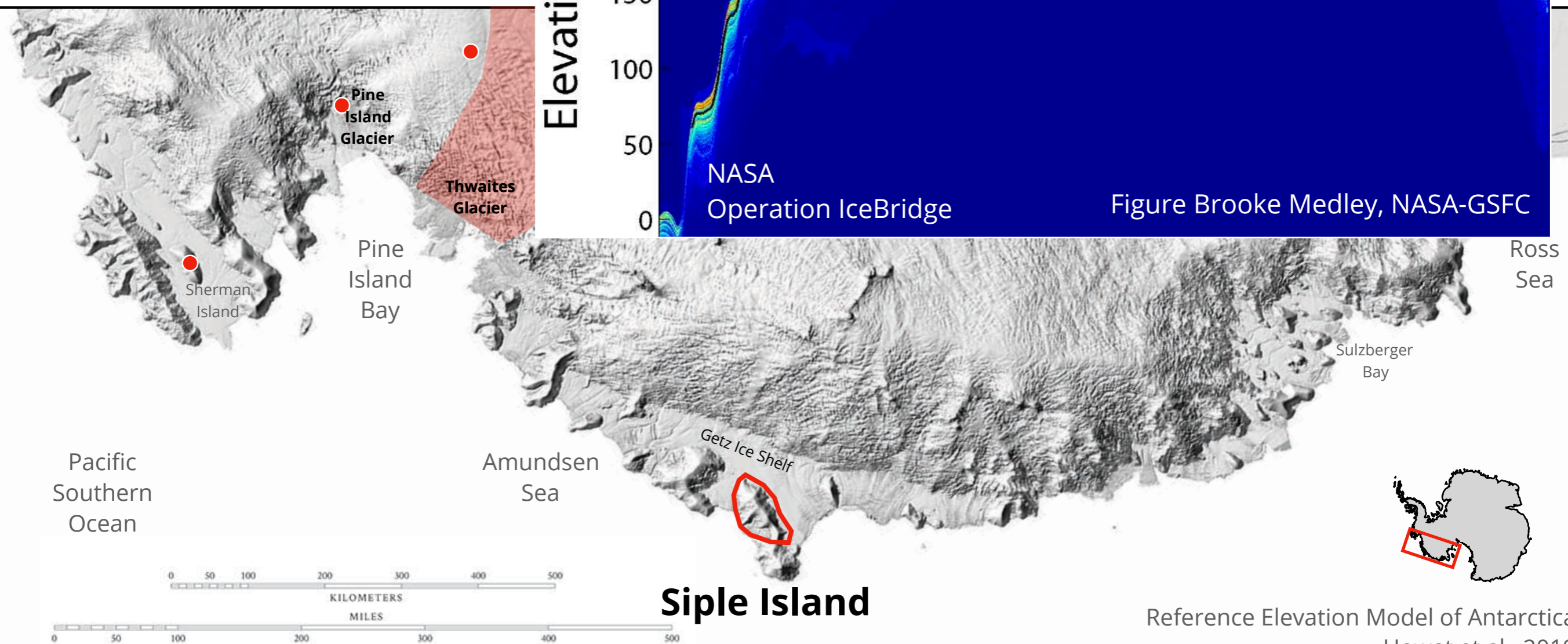
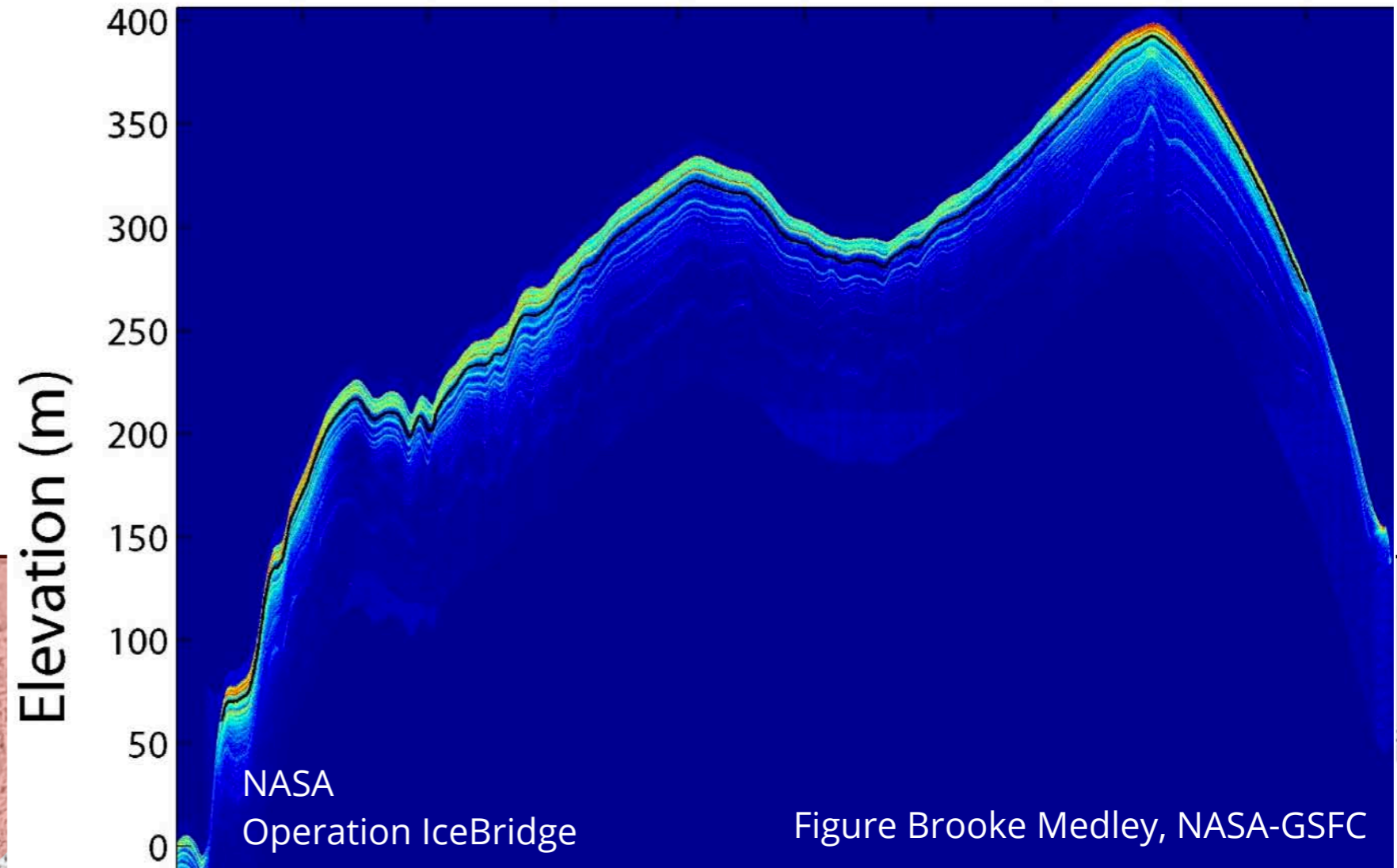
Reference Elevation Model of Antarctica  
 Howat et al., 2019

# WAIS Coastal Ice Domes: site features

## Siple Island

Accumulation  
at divide  
**1.3 m/yr**

Lenaerts et al., 2017



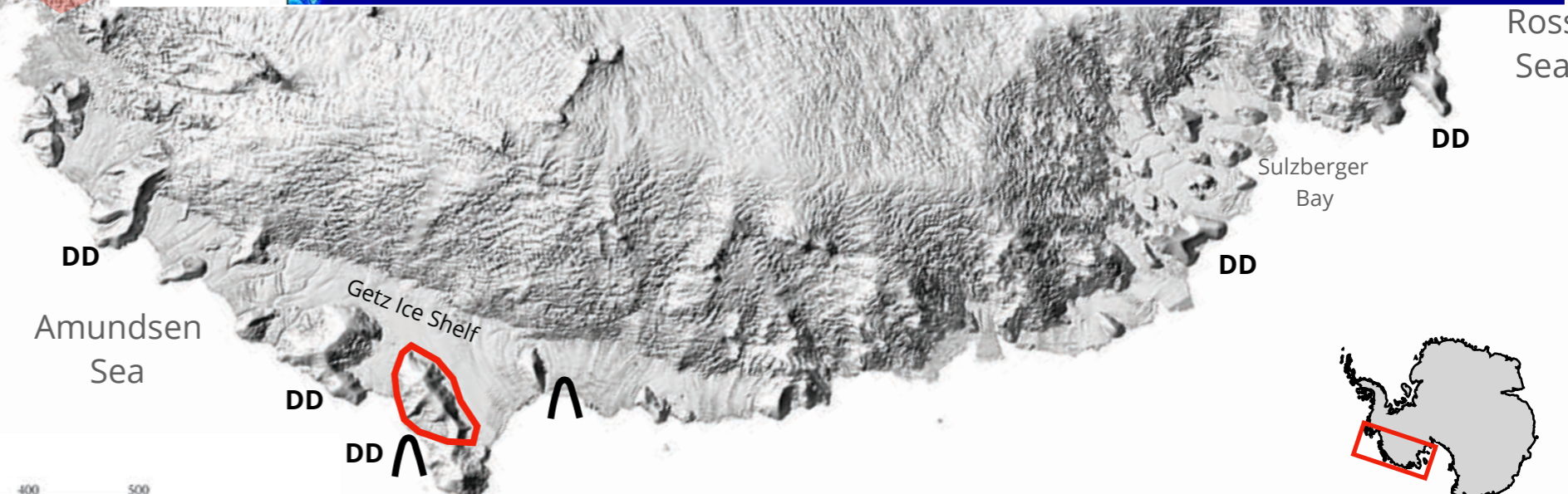
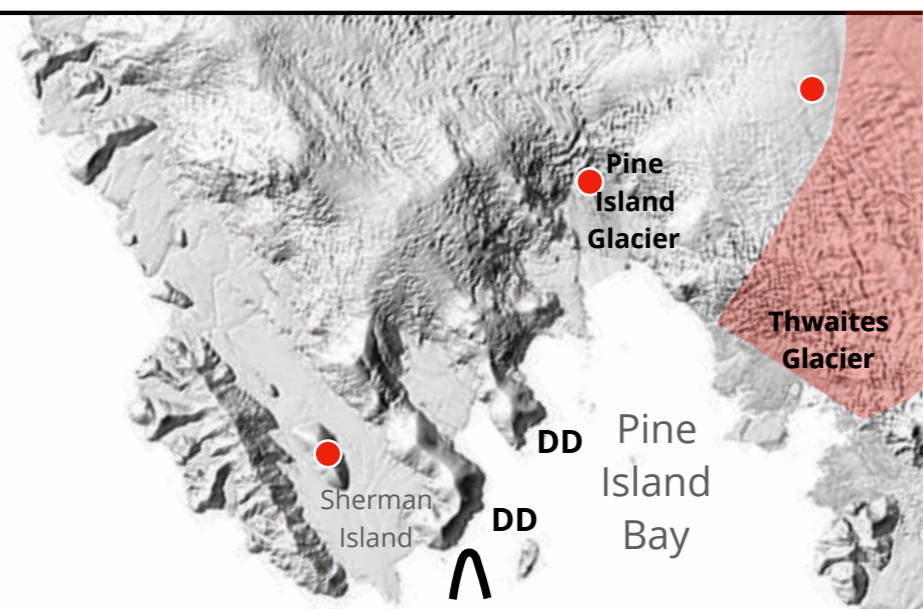
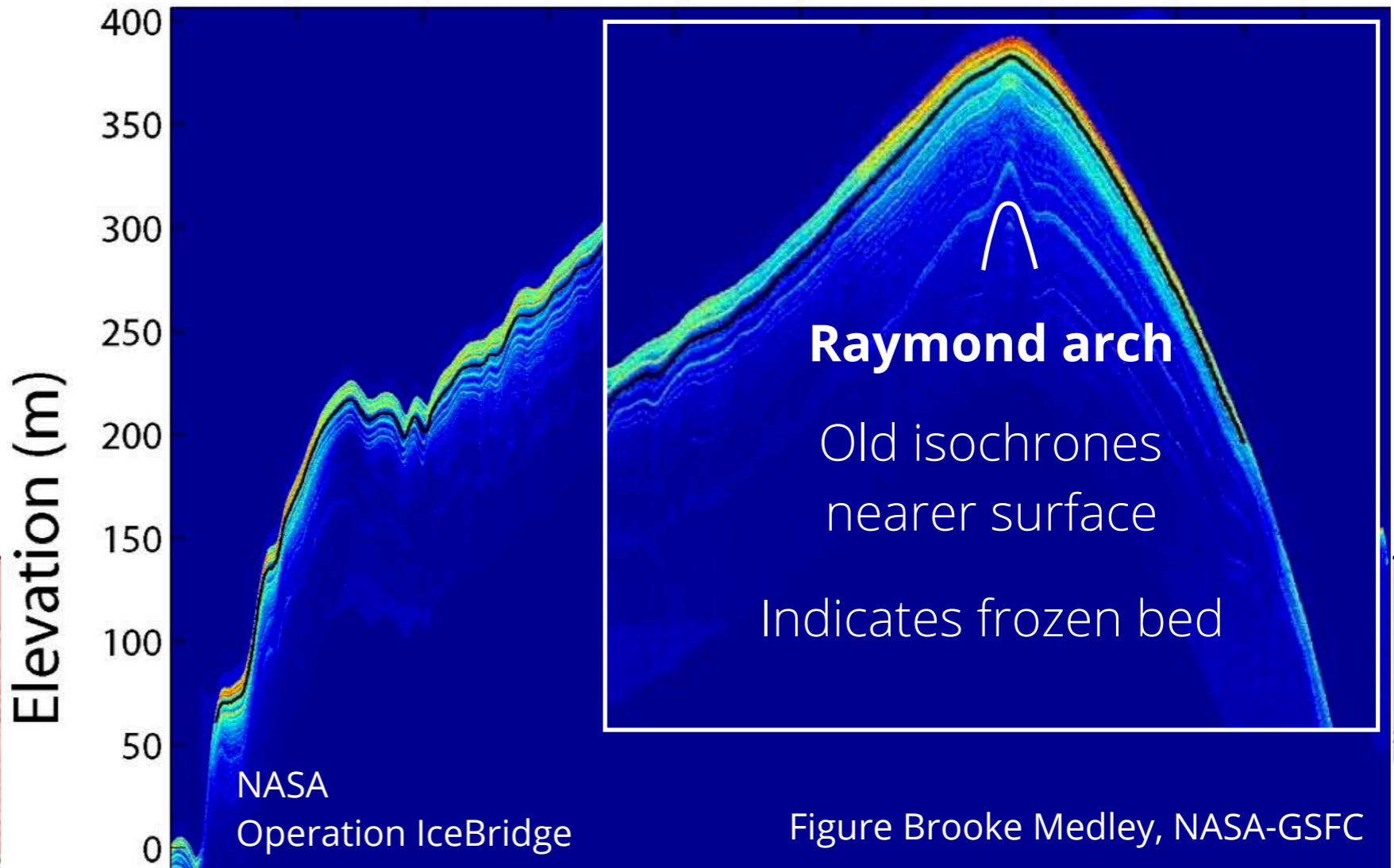
## Siple Island

# WAIS Coastal Ice Domes: site features

## Siple Island

Accumulation  
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Lenaerts et al., 2017



Pacific  
Southern  
Ocean



## Siple Island

# WAIS Coastal Ice Domes: site features

Double divide ridges

Indicative of dynamic stability

Likely Raymond arch

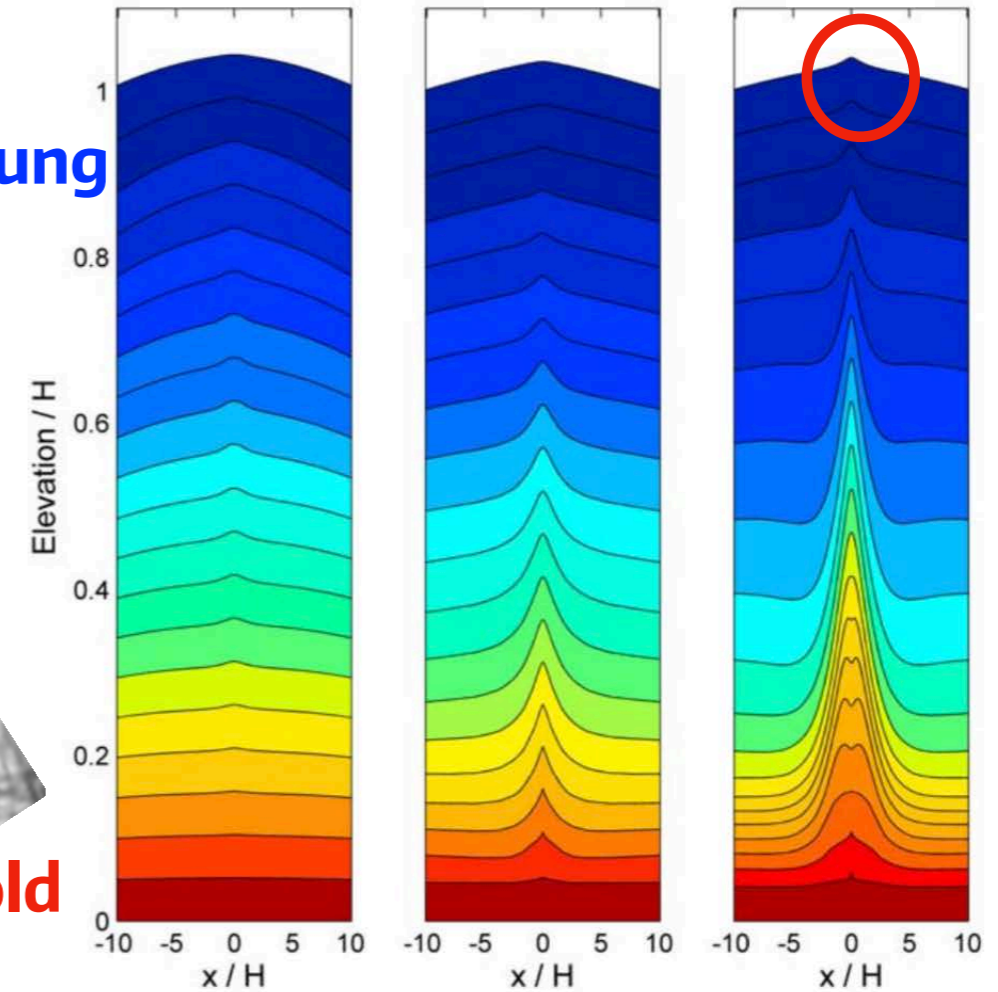
young

old

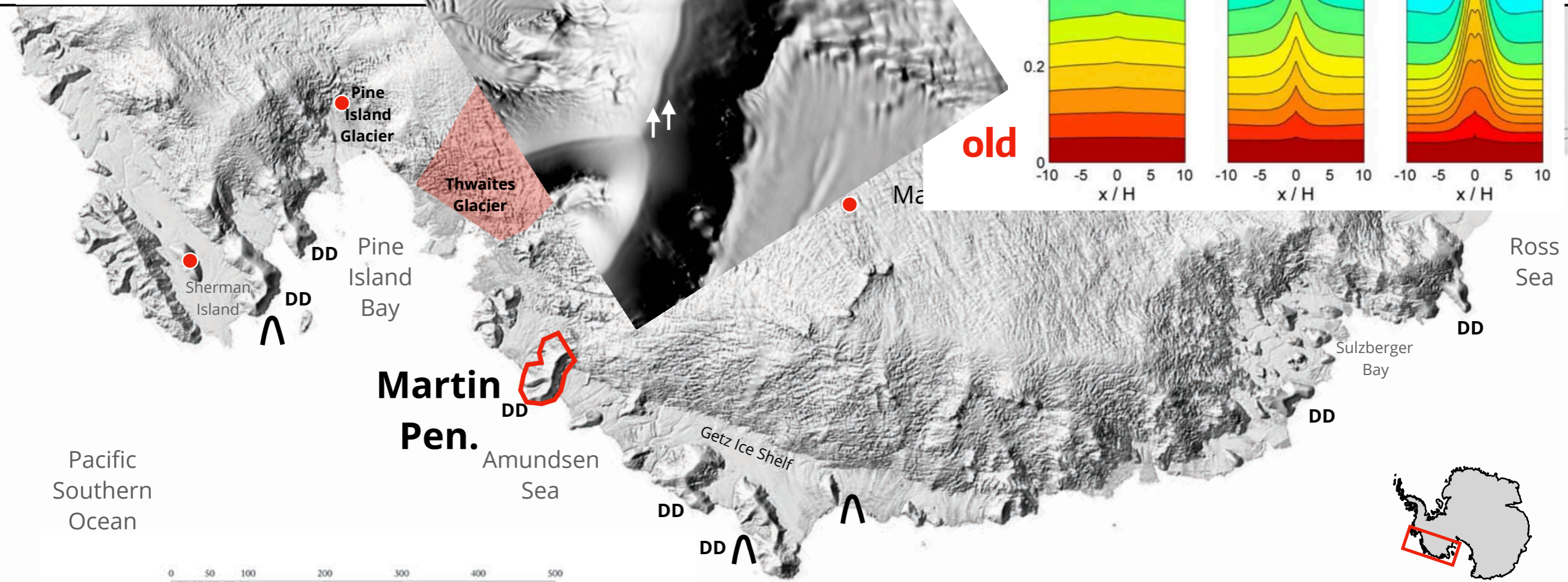
$t = 1/10 T$

$t = 1 T$

$t = 4 T$



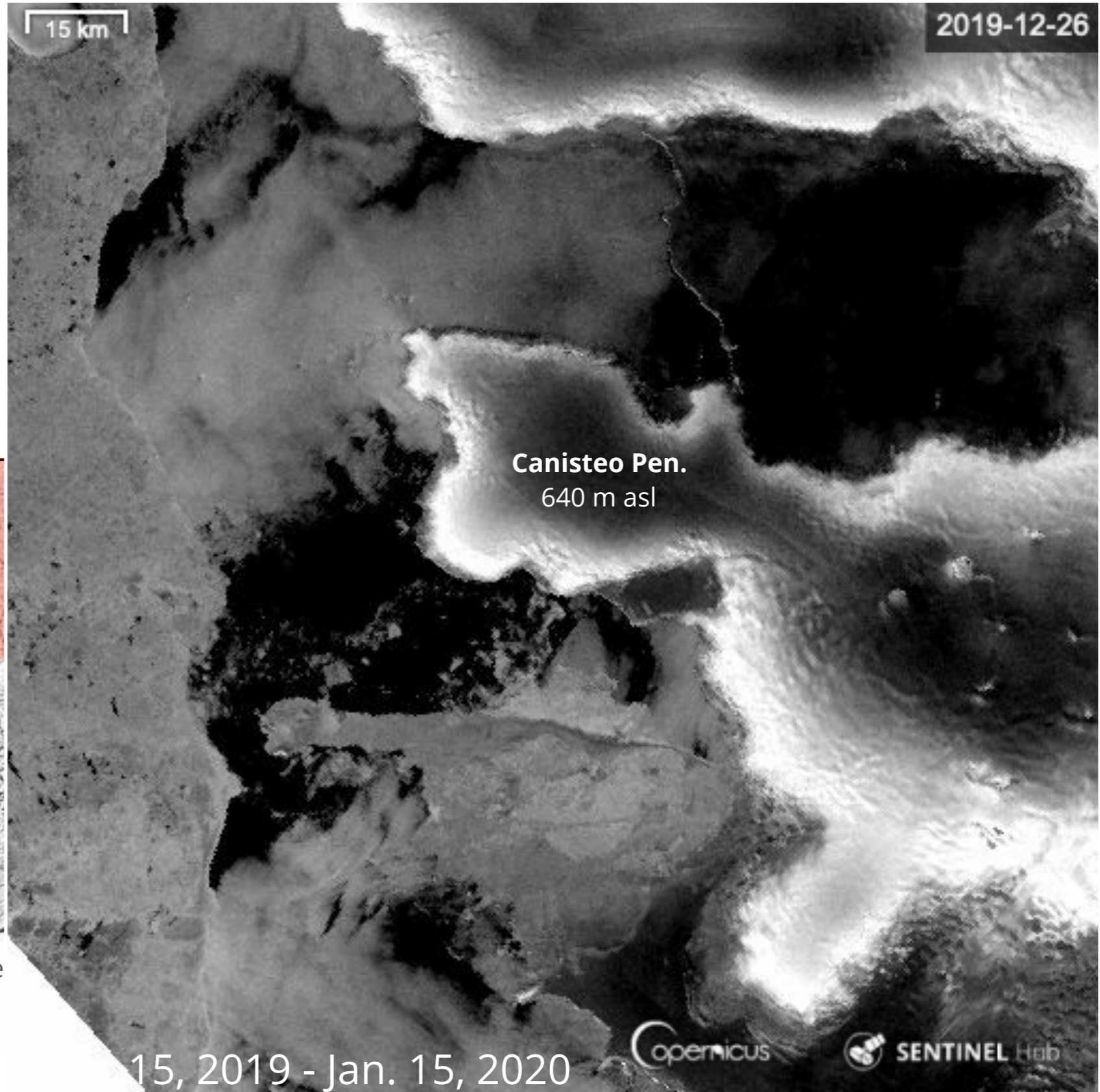
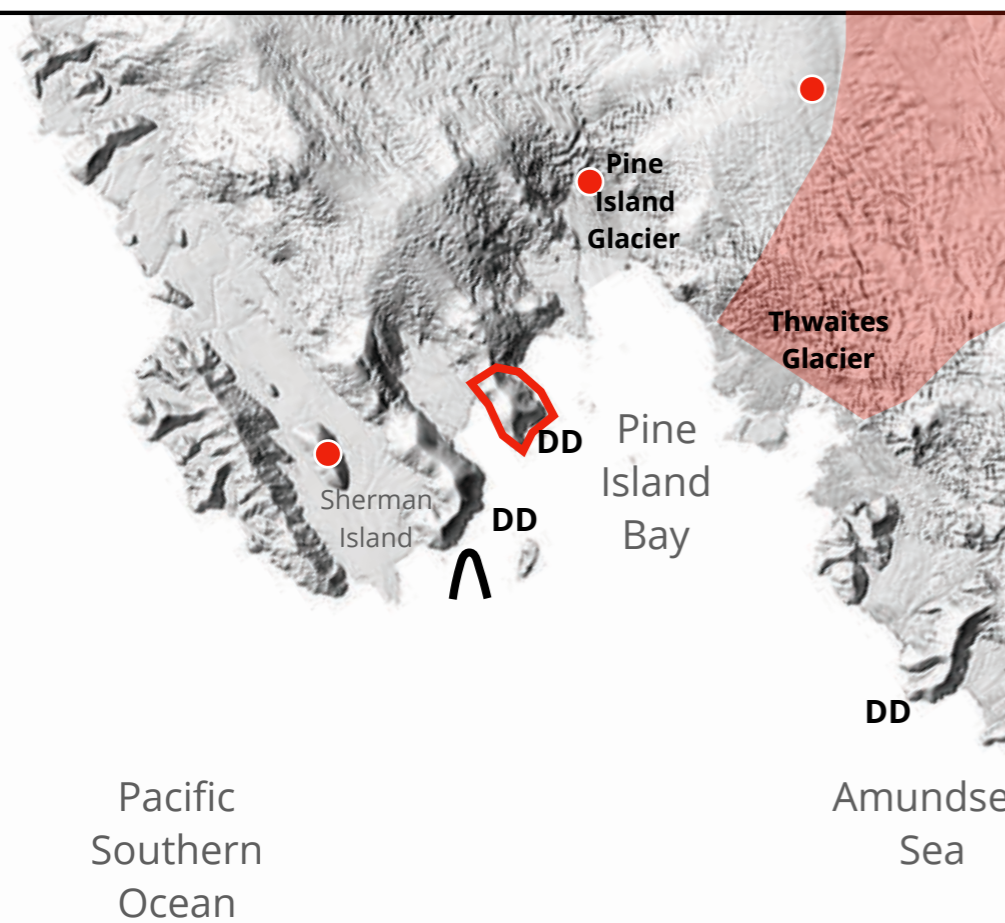
Martín et al., 2009



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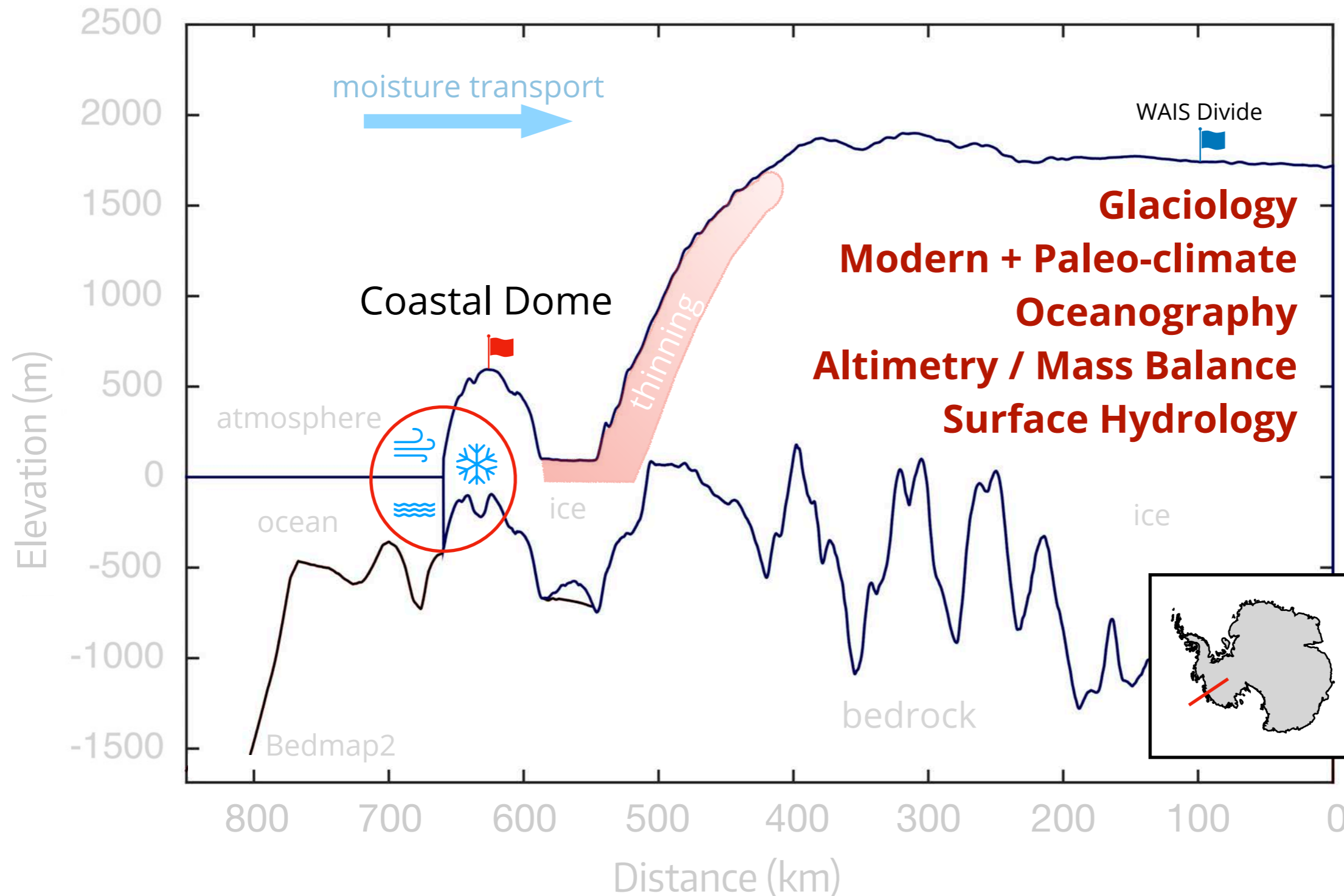
## Elevated above ice shelf melt

Ice divides in reach of only most significant melt events



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April 2, 2020