Glacial-interglacial Circumpolar Deep Water temperatures during the last 800,000 years: estimates from a synthesis of bottom water temperature reconstructions

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Abstract. Future climate and sea-level projections depend sensitively on the response of the Antarctic Ice Sheet to oceandriven melting and the resulting freshwater fluxes into the Southern Ocean. <u>Incursion of Circumpolar Deep Water (CDW)</u> transport across the Antarctic continental shelf, and into cavities beneath ice shelves, is increasingly recognised as a crucial heat source for ice shelf melt. Quantifying past changes in the temperature of CDW is therefore of great benefit for modelling

- 5 ice sheet response to past warm climates, for validating paleoclimate models, and for putting recent and projected changes in CDW temperature into context. Here we synthesise the few compile the available bottom water temperature reconstructions representative of CDW and its principal source water mass (North Atlantic Deep Water) over the past 800 kyr. Estimated CDW temperature anomalies consistently reached ca. -2interglacial warming reached anomalies of +0.6±0.4°C during glacial periods, warming to (MIS 11) and +0.1 to +0.5±0.5°C during the strongest interglacials (marine isotope stages MIS 11, 9,
- 10 (MIS 5, and 1). The temperature anomaly in MIS 7 was comparatively cooler at ca. -0.6) relative to present. Glacial cooling typically reached anomalies of ca. -1.5 to -2°C, therefore maintaining positive thermal forcing for ice shelf melt even during glacials in the Amundsen Sea region of West Antarctica. Despite high variance amongst a small number of records, and poor (4 kyr) temporal resolution, we find persistent and close relationships between our estimated CDW temperature and Southern Ocean sea-surface temperature, Antarctic surface air temperature, and global ocean-deep water temperature reconstructions
- 15 at glacial cycle time scales. Given the important role that CDW plays in connecting the world's three main ocean basins, and in driving Antarctic Ice Sheet mass loss, additional temperature reconstructions targeting CDW are urgently needed to increase temporal and spatial resolution and to decrease uncertainty in past CDW temperatures – whether for use as a boundary condition, model validation or in their own rightto understand past oceanographic changes.

1 Introduction

20 In its position at the southern end of the Atlantic meridional overturning circulation (AMOC), the Southern Ocean plays a major role in the Earth's climate. Interactions between the Southern Ocean and Antarctic Ice Sheet drive changes in ice discharge and ocean circulation, which in turn have global-scale impacts on <u>sea-level and climate</u> (Bronselaer et al., 2018; Rintoul, 2018; Mackie et al., 2020b; Noble et al., 2020). Complex feedbacks between grounded ice dynamics, ice shelves and ocean circulation are either poorly understood and/or difficult to capture at adequate resolution in numerical simulations

25 (Bronselaer et al., 2018; Edwards et al., 2019; Fox-Kemper et al., 2021; Bamber et al., 2022; Siahaan et al., 2022). As a result, the contribution of Antarctica to future sea-level and climate change remains very uncertain (Fox-Kemper et al., 2021; Bamber et al., 2022).

To help inform future climate and sea-level projections, we can reconstruct or simulate past climates, and their corresponding ocean and ice sheet responses, for <u>previous</u> periods when the Earth was warmer than present. These experiments complement

- 30 future projections as they represent climate and ice sheet states outside of those for which direct observations are available (Tzedakis et al., 2009; Gilford et al., 2020; DeConto et al., 2021). As the most recent warmer period in geological history, the last interglacial (LIG) has seen widespread interest as an analogue for future warming, from the perspectives of both paleoclimate (Mercer, 1984; Bakker et al., 2014; Arias et al., 2021; Otto-Bliesner et al., 2021; Zhang et al., 2023) and the resulting ice sheet response (Mercer, 1978; Scherer, 1991; Goelzer et al., 2016; DeConto et al., 2021; Golledge et al., 2021).
- 35 This interest likely reflects the relatively greater availability and/or resolution of LIG paleoenvironmental reconstructions, compared to those for older warm periods. However, there have been many Quaternary interglacials before the LIG, some a little warmer or cooler than the present (Tzedakis et al., 2009; Yin and Berger, 2015; Past Interglacials Working Group of PAGES, 2016). Climate and ice sheet simulations through several glacial-interglacial cycles build a much more complete picture of feedbacks, instabilities and tipping points in the Earth system. Of particular interest here-is the period after the mid-
- 40 Pleistocene transition (MPT, at ca. 1250-700 ka: Clark et al., 2006; Legrain et al., 2023), and particularly marine isotope stages (MIS) 11, 9, 7 and 5, since these best represent the 100-kyr glacial cycles of our pre-industrial interglacial period. However, we should note that the moderate (SSP2-4.5) and high (SSP5-8.5) IPCC warming scenarios could take us beyond the global surface warming magnitudes reconstructed in any Quaternary interglacial (IPCC 6th Assessment Report, Technical Summary: Arias et al., 2021).
- 45 Southern Ocean sea-surface temperature (SST) and sea-ice extent during the LIG and preceding glacial (the penultimate glacial maximum, PGM) have been the focus of several recent synthesis studies (Hoffman et al., 2017; Turney et al., 2020; Chandler and Langebroek, 2021b; Chadwick et al., 2022). Important elimatic Climatic changes in the Southern Ocean extend far deeper than the surface waters: the region's role in the AMOC (Buckley and Marshall, 2016; Rintoul, 2018)(Talley, 2013; Buckley and I, deep ocean heat storage (Gjermundsen et al., 2021), and in delivering warm water *at depth* to cavities beneath Antarctic ice
- 50 shelves (Walker et al., 2007; Wåhlin et al., 2010; Herraiz-Borreguero et al., 2015; Silvano et al., 2017), means that changes in the temperature of deep water masses are a crucial consideration in both climate and ice sheet simulations. The importance of upwelling circumpolar deep water (CDW) around Antarctica is being increasingly recognised, as particularly important, owing to the sensitivity of key Antarctic Ice Sheet sectors to sub-surface ocean warming becomes clearer (Walker et al., 2007; Herraiz-Borreguero et al., 2015; Silvano et al., 2017; Reese et al., 2018; Noble et al., 2020; van Wijk et al., 2022).
- 55 Despite the apparent importance of deep water masses, there is still a strong reliance on surface temperature reconstructions for evaluating climate models (e.g., Otto-Bliesner et al., 2021; Purich and England, 2021). The bias presumably reflects the availability of proxy reconstructions, but at the same time there is no guarantee that models selected on the basis of their match to surface conditions will show similar skill in simulating deeper levels. This is particularly the case in the Southern Ocean, where processes that are not yet well represented in CMIP models can drive subsurface temperature changes in directions

- opposite to those at the surface (Rintoul, 2018; Mackie et al., 2020b; Bronselaer et al., 2018). Indeed, a significant difficulty in simulating Southern Ocean warming, and the Antarctic Ice Sheet response to warming, are the strong ice ocean atmosphere interactions at sub-grid scales (Heywood et al., 2014; Hewitt et al., 2020; Mackie et al., 2020a; Purich and England, 2021). However, the high computational cost of fully-coupled models limits experiments to short (decadal) time periods (e.g., Kreuzer et al., 2021; Pelletier et al., 2022; Siahaan et al., 2022). For now, if we want to adequately resolve important oceanographic
- 65 or ice flow features, uncoupled or semi-coupled models reliant on imposed or parameterised ice/ocean boundary conditions remain crucial for simulations over centennial to orbital time scales.

Motivated by the need for CDW temperatures as an temperature reconstructions to constrain the ocean temperature boundary condition in stand-alone (uncoupled) Antarctic Ice Sheet simulations, this paper synthesises the sparse proxy reconstructions data that are available to estimate changes in CDW temperature over the last 800,000 years. This time span is constrained

- 70 by-was selected for five reasons: (i) it covers the period for which there are sufficient data to establish a meaningful synthesis at a practical resolution. Conveniently this period covers the latter part of the Pleistocene dominated by reasonable temporal resolution; (ii) it covers the 100 kyr glacial cycles after the MPT (Clark et al., 2006; Legrain et al., 2023), and allows comparison with the full most relevant to our present climate state, albeit before the onset of anthropogenic influences; (iii) inclusion of colder interglacials prior to MIS 11 can provide a more detailed picture of Earth system response to warming; (iv)
- 75 it matches the duration of the longest Antarctic ice core record (EPICA Dome C(EDC) ice core record (Jouzel et al., 2007). Besides our original motivation, estimates of past CDW temperature variability are also useful for putting present-day changes into perspective. : Jouzel et al. 2007): and (v) proxy records derived from oxygen isotopes (the main data source here - see methods) are considered less reliable prior to the MPT (Bates et al., 2014).

The 4-kyr temporal resolution of our synthesis is currently too coarse for practical application directly as a boundary

- 80 condition for Antarctic Ice Sheet models. Furthermore, we have not reconstructed changes in the rate of transport of CDW towards ice shelf cavities, which is currently only possible in the Holocene (e.g. Hillenbrand et al., 2017; King et al., 2018; Xu et al., 2021). Hence, the scope of this paper is to provide a best estimate of CDW temperature changes at these time scales, without going further to calculate potential changes in Antarctic ice shelf melting. However, the synthesis can be used to validate alternative CDW temperature estimates that have recently been employed in ice sheet models without independent validation
- 85 (e.g. Quiquet et al., 2018; Tigchelaar et al., 2018; Sutter et al., 2019; Albrecht et al., 2020); it can also help in evaluating transient or time-slice climate model output.

2 Modern oceanographic Oceanographic setting

This section provides a very brief overview of brief summary of how CDW fits within the complex Southern Ocean circulation, included here as context for the temperature reconstructions and site selection. The cited studies (particularly Talley, 2013, and Carter et al., 2022) provide much more detail.

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CDW comprises the relatively warm water mass forming the bulk of the water within the Antarctic Circumpolar Current (ACC) (Pardo et al., 2012). North of the Southern Polar Front, CDW lies at intermediate depths between the underlying colder

and saltier-Antarctic Bottom Water (AABW), and the overlying colder and fresher surface water masses (Marshall and Speer, 2012; Pardo c - Antarctic intermediate water (AAIW) (Fig. 1). South of the Southern Polar Front, upwelling of CDW is brings CDW

- 95 towards the surface, driven partly by diverging Ekman transport beneath the mid-latitude westerlies and polar easterlies (Marshall and Speer, 2012; Tamsitt et al., 2021)(Pardo et al., 2012; Talley, 2013; Tamsitt et al., 2021; Carter et al., 2022), and partly by topography beneath the ACC (Tamsitt et al., 2017). bathymetry (Tamsitt et al., 2017). CDW can be further classified into its lower (LCDW) and upper (UCDW) components, of which the LCDW is the more significant for ice shelf basal melt in Antarctica (Orsi et al., 1995; Jacobs et al., 1996; Adusumilli et al., 2020; Carter et al., 2022).
- 100 Some of CDW is not a water mass formed directly by ocean surface processes, but is instead a mixture of deep water masses entering the ACC from each of the three main ocean basins. In the Atlantic sector, southwards-flowing upper NADW (primarily sourced in the Labrador Sea) upwells to join the UCDW, subsequently returning northwards as AAIW in the upper leg of the AMOC (Fig. 1). Meanwhile, southwards-flowing lower NADW (sourced primarily from ice-ocean interactions in the Greenland and Norwegian Seas) upwells to join the LCDW (Smethie et al., 2000; Talley, 2013; Tamsitt et al., 2017). In
- the Indian basin, AABW and an eastbound branch of NADW spread northwards and are gradually mixed diffusively with overlying deep water, before returning southwards as Indian deep water and joining the UCDW (Talley, 2013). In the Pacific sector, this same diffusive process returns northwards-spreading AABW and LCDW southwards as Pacific deep water, again most likely joining the UCDW (Kawabe and Fujio, 2010; Talley, 2013; Biddle et al., 2017; Assmann et al., 2019). Finally, on its path around the ACC, LCDW is cooled by mixing with other Antarctic water masses (e.g., Weddell Sea deep water),
 particularly in the Scotia Sea (Naveira Garabato et al., 2002; Carter et al., 2022).
- Although the ACC flows (on average) mainly eastwards, LCDW within the ACC is transported southwards towards the upwelling CDW is subsequently transported southwards onto the Antarctic continental shelf, by a range of processes including eddies, internal waves, dense water outflow, topographic influences, and Ekman transport (Stewart and Thompson, 2015; Tamsitt et al., 2018; Tamsitt et al., 2017, 2021; Darelius et al., 2023). Mixing with colder lo-
- 115 cal surface and shelf water masses further transforms CDW-LCDW temperature and salinity as if it crosses the shelf (MacAyeal, 1984; Pardo et al., 2012; Petty et al., 2013). This cross-shelf transport of modified CDW reaches enters the cavities beneath 'warm' some Antarctic ice shelves, including those in the Amundsen Sea Embayment, and those draining the Aurora and Wilkes basins basin of East Antarctica (Walker et al., 2007; Petty et al., 2013; Silvano et al., 2017; van Wijk et al., 2022) . Even (Walker et al., 2007; Wåhlin et al., 2010; Silvano et al., 2017; van Wijk et al., 2022). Even the modified CDW has suf-
- ficient thermal forcing to cause rapid ice shelf basal melting (exceeding 10 m yr⁻¹: Adumusilli et al., 2020) near Antarctic grounding lines. Modified CDW does not currently enter cavities beneath 'cold' ice shelves such as Filchner-Ronne or Ross, except in very localised regions (Darelius et al., 2023). Instead, beneath these 'cold' ice shelves, slower rates of basal melt are driven mainly by high salinity shelf water (HSSW) originating from sea-ice processes (brine rejection) (MacAyeal, 1984; Petty et al., 2013). It is this ocean-driven melting of ice shelves, and its resulting freshwater release, that is a crucial component
- 125 process in Antarctic Ice Sheet models and climate models over a broad range of time scales.

CDW is sourced mainly from southwards flowing North Atlantic Deep Water (NADW)(Sloyan and Rintoul, 2001; Lumpkin and Speer, 2 , but on its path around the ACC it is cooled by mixing with other water masses (e.g., Weddell Sea deep water), particularly in the Scotia Sea (Naveira Garabato et al., 2002). The Indian and Pacific oceans lack overturning circulations equivalent to the AMOC (Broecker et al., 2006; Thompson et al., 2016), and although some Pacific deep water likely enters the ACC west

- of the Drake Passage, this joins the upper CDW and is returned northwards in Antarctic Intermediate Water (it is mostly the NADW-rich lower CDW that is transported southwards and onto the continental shelf)(Sloyan and Rintoul, 2001; Kawabe and Fujio, 2010;
 Hence, the temperature of CDW accessing ice shelf cavities should reflect the temperature of its dominant precursor water mass (NADW), with an additional cooling signature attributed to subsequent mixing within the ACC and during cross-shelf transport. In our synthesis of CDW temperatures we select sites currently bathed in LCDW (Section 3.3). There is no guarantee
- 135 that the same water masses have persisted at these sites particularly during climates increasingly different from present. This possibility is discussed further in Section 5.3.



Figure 1. Schematic diagrams showing how the Atlantic meridional overturning circulation (AMOC) contributes North Atlantic deep water (NADW) to circumpolar deep water (CDW) during present-day (interglacial) and reconstructed glacial climate states. Both schematics highlight the main circulation features in slightly different versions by Ferrari et al. (2014), Howe et al. (2016), and Matsumoto (2017). Note that we only show the meridional (upwelling) component of CDW, whereas its dominant velocity component in reality is eastwards in the Antarctic Circumpolar Current. In both climate states, Antarctic bottom water (AABW) reaching the North Atlantic eventually returns south within a lower cell to mix with water masses upwelling in the Southern Ocean (NADW, CDW, or their glacial equivalents). The properties of upwelling CDW should then reflect contributions from southbound upper NADW or glacial North Atlantic intermediate water (GNAIW) in the upper overturning cell as well as lower NADW and returning AABW in the lower cell. Talley (2013) provides 3D schematics showing the AMOC within the global ocean circulation. See Sections 2 and 5.3 for more details.

3 Methods

3.1 Bottom water temperature reconstructions from proxies

CDW paleotemperature estimates are dependent on bottom water temperature reconstructions, which in the Southern Ocean are

140 based on just two proxies. Both use benthic foraminiferal calcite: these are the Mg/Ca ratio, and oxygen isotopic composition $(\delta^{18}O_b)$.

3.1.1 Mg/Ca ratio

Benthic foraminifera incorporate several trace metals into their calcite shells, including magnesium. The shell Mg/Ca ratio depends partly on water temperature-dependent thermodynamic and physiological processes during calcification (Chave, 1954; Izuka, 1988)

- 145 , enabling its use as a proxy for seawater paleotemperature. Mg/Ca has been particularly valuable for SST reconstructions in the Southern Ocean (Chandler and Langebroek, 2021a, and references therein), but is unfortunately much less widely used for bottom water reconstructions in this region (Elderfield et al., 2012; Hasenfratz et al., 2019). Calibrations to reconstruct water temperature from benthic foraminiferal Mg/Ca have been developed both for deep ocean environments (Elderfield et al., 2006; Hasenfratz et and for the Antarctic continental shelf (Rathburn and De Deckker, 1997; Mawbey et al., 2020), although there are as yet no
- 150 pre-Holocene sedimentary Mg/Ca records from the latter.
 - Besides temperature, Mg/Ca is influenced by important non-thermal factors, to varying extents in different species and environments, as well as by laboratory analytical procedures (Elderfield et al., 2006; Yu et al., 2007). Perhaps most importantly in the Southern Ocean is the seawater carbonate chemistry (carbonate ion saturation: $\Delta[CO_3^{2-}]$), which is considered a secondary control on Mg/Ca (especially at temperatures below ~ 4°C) in several foraminifera species (Raitzsch et al., 2008; Elderfield et al
- 155 or possibly a primary control in *Cibicidoides wuellerstorfi* over glacial-interglacial cycles (Raitzsch et al., 2008; Yu and Elderfield, 2008) . Corrections for this influence are feasible (e.g. Healey et al., 2008) but only if $\Delta[CO_3^{2-}]$ can also be reconstructed (which can be done in p . Infaunal species which live *within* the surface sediments may be less influenced by $\Delta[CO_3^{2-}]$ than epifaunal species which live *on* the sediment surface (Elderfield et al., 2006, 2010). The two records included in this synthesis use infaunal species *Melonis pompiloides* and *Uvigerina spp.*. Neither record has been corrected for $\Delta[CO_3^{2-}]$, but this correction could be considered in
- 160 future studies if sufficient data are available.

Alternative biogenic calcite trace-metal proxies may be less sensitive to carbonate saturation: these include foraminiferal calcite Li/Mg (Bryan and Marchitto, 2008; Chen et al., 2023); or ostracod calcite Mg/Ca (Farmer et al., 2012). Neither has yet been used as a temperature proxy in the Southern Ocean, but the latter has been used to reconstruct NADW temperature changes in the North Atlantic since MIS 7 (Cronin et al., 2000).

165 Another influence of carbonate chemistry is post-depositional calcite dissolution. Firstly, dissolution hinders sampling by reducing the amount of material available in deep ocean sites (see Section 3.2 below). Secondly, dissolution can bias Mg/Ca paleothermometry – either if Mg is not distributed evenly through individual shells and only the outer parts of shells are dissolved, and/or if Mg-rich calcite is dissolved preferentially (Hintz et al., 2006; Kunioka et al., 2006). Dissolution begins below the carbonate saturation horizon (about 3100 m in the Southern Ocean: Bostock et al., 2011; Jones et al., 2021) and increases

- 170 sharply below the lysocline at ca. 4000 m (Williams et al., 1985; Hayward et al., 2001; Bostock et al., 2011). Depths of the two sites with Mg/Ca data in our study are 2807 m (ODP 1094) and 3290 m (ODP 1123), suggesting minimal influence of dissolution under modern conditions. However, the lysocline may have been shallower during glacial climates (Howard and Prell, 1994)
 - ~

Finally, changes in ambient seawater Mg/Ca ratio are potentially important at Myr timescales (Ries, 2010). Seawater Mg/Ca

175 has increased by only ~ 0.1 mol/mol/Myr during the last 20 Myr, towards its modern ratio of ~ 5 mol/mol (Coggon et al., 2010; Evans and M , so that changes in seawater Mg/Ca are not considered important for the purposes of this study.

3.1.2 For a miniferal calcite $\delta^{18}O_b$

Benthic foraminiferal calcite $\delta^{18}O_b$ depends on both the temperature T_{sw} and $\delta^{18}O_{sw}$ of ambient seawater (Urey et al., 1951; Emiliani, 195). At glacial cycle timescales, $\delta^{18}O_{sw}$ varies primarily with global ice volume, as fractionation of ¹⁶O and ¹⁸O during evaporation

180 and precipitation causes ¹⁶O to become preferentially locked up in ice sheets. Consequently, seawater $\delta^{18}O_{sw}$ becomes more positive as ice volume increases. Local hydrographic changes may also influence $\delta^{18}O_{sw}$, but at glacial cycle time scales we follow Siddall et al. (2010) and Bates et al. (2014) who neglect this additional influence. Hence, we assume $\delta^{18}O_b$ contains only ambient temperature and global ice volume signals, i.e.,

$$\delta^{18}\mathbf{O}_b = \delta^{18}\mathbf{O}_T + \delta^{18}\mathbf{O}_{ice} \tag{1}$$

185 Separating the temperature and seawater contributions to $\delta^{18}O_b$ requires firstly estimates of global sea-level, secondly a suitable scaling to convert changes in sea level to changes in $\delta^{18}O_{ice}$, and finally a suitable paleotemperature equation linking benthic calcite $\delta^{18}O_b$, T_{sw} , and $\delta^{18}O_{ice}$ (Chappell and Shackleton, 1986; Waelbroeck et al., 2002; Siddall et al., 2010; Bates et al., 2014) . These three steps are described below.

Past sea-level estimates at key times, and their likely uncertainty ranges, were estimated using published records derived
from multiple sources of evidence including fossil corals, oxygen isotopic analysis of marine sediments, GIA modelling, and cave speleothems (Table 1 and references therein).

The scaling from $\delta^{18}O_b$ to sea-level *S* is accomplished using site-specific transfer functions (Siddall et al., 2010; Bates et al., 2014) . The transfer functions are established using "calibration windows" – typically full glacial or interglacial conditions – for which both sea-level and $\delta^{18}O_b$ have been respectively reconstructed or measured. These functions are then used to convert the $\delta^{18}O_b$

- 195 time series in each sediment core to a site-specific sea-level time series S. Siddall et al. (2010) and Bates et al. (2014) used linear piece-wise transfer functions relating S to $\delta^{18}O_b$ for sea-level markers in MIS 1 to 5, 7 and the mid-Pliocene (Table 1). However, because of uncertainties in the sea-level estimates and noise in the $\delta^{18}O_b$ records, linear piece-wise functions are susceptible to very variable gradients (which sometimes reverse) between neighbouring points (Fig. 2), that lack a clear physical basis. This is increasingly a problem as more markers are added, particularly when they have similar $\delta^{18}O_b$. Instead,
- 200 we here develop their approach by (i) updating existing and adding additional sea-level markers that have become available since their studies, as noted above (Table 1); and (ii) establishing second- or third-order polynomial transfer functions for each site instead of linear piece-wise functions. These changes enable a greater sampling of the ($\delta^{18}O_b$, S) space so there is less

influence of individual (and typically uncertain) events, while the smoothly varying relationship between S and $\delta^{18}O_b$ is more physically plausible.

Since the sea-level markers have varying estimates of uncertainties, we use weighted least-squares regression to calculate the polynomial coefficients (β_i), with weights equal to the inverse square of the respective sea-level uncertainty ranges in Table 1. Specifically, if we have N pairs of sea-level and $\delta^{18}O_b$, at events i = 1..N, the transfer function is

$$S = \beta_0 + \beta_1 (\delta^{18} \mathbf{O}_b) + \beta_2 (\delta^{18} \mathbf{O}_b)^2 + \beta_3 (\delta^{18} \mathbf{O}_b)^3$$
(2)

with the coefficients calculated using

210 $\beta = (\mathbf{X}^{T}\mathbf{W}\mathbf{X})^{-1}\mathbf{X}^{T}\mathbf{W}\mathbf{s}$

Here $s = s_i$ is a vector of sea-levels at each event i = 1..N; **W** is an $N \times N$ matrix with weights w_i on the diagonal and zeros elsewhere (i.e., $W_{i=j} = w_i$, $W_{i\neq j} = 0$); and **X** has elements $X_{ij} = \delta_i^k$ where δ_i is the $\delta^{18}O_b$ for event *i* and k = 0..m. The choice of order (m=2 or m=3) is made heuristically for each site, with the aim of avoiding a reversal in gradient at sea-levels close to present-day (Fig. 2).

(3)

- 215 Not all events can be confidently identified in each $\delta^{18}O_b$ record, for example if a peak is not sufficiently resolved. However, provided multiple glacial and interglacial lowstands and highstands are included, our method is not very sensitive to the presence or absence of individual markers. We also note that our approach in compiling Table 1 was to obtain sufficient markers capturing a range of sites and methods, rather than carrying out an exhaustive review of all published sea-level estimates relevant to the last 800 kyr.
- 220 Once the transfer function has been used to convert $\delta^{18}O_b$ to S (Fig. 3, middle column), S is scaled to calculate changes in $\delta^{18}O_{ice}$:

$$\delta^{18}\mathcal{O}_{ice} = S \times \Delta \delta^{18}\mathcal{O}_{swLGM} / \Delta S_{LGM} \tag{4}$$

where $\Delta \delta^{18}O_{swLGM}$ and ΔS_{swLGM} are the global mean changes in $\delta^{18}O_{sw}$ and S between the LGM and Holocene, taken by Bates et al. (2014) to be $1.0\pm0.1\%$ and -130 ± 10 m, respectively. Estimates of $\Delta \delta^{18}O_{swLGM}$ specific to the Southern Ocean

suggest a slightly higher Δδ¹⁸O_{swLGM}=1.1±0.1‰ in that region (Adkins and Schrag, 2001; Adkins et al., 2002; Schrag et al., 2002; Malo
We continue to use the Bates et al. (2014) ΔS_{swLGM} = -130 ± 10 m which is consistent with several other recent studies (within errors) (Medina-Elizalde, 2013; Grant et al., 2014; Shakun et al., 2015; Hughes and Gibbard, 2018) (Table 1). Eq. 1 is then used to calculate the residual temperature contribution, i.e., δ¹⁸O_T = δ¹⁸O_{ice} - δ¹⁸O_b.

The third step converts $\delta^{18}O_T$ to water temperature T_{sw} , using a suitable paleotemperature equation. Bates et al. (2014) used the Shackleton (1974) Uvigerina spp. paleotemperature equation after applying suitable offsets for other species:

$$T_{sw} = 16.9 - 4.38(\delta^{18}O_T) + 0.1(\delta^{18}O_T)^2$$
(5)

Five of the six sites selected in our study use *Cibicidoides* $\delta^{18}O_b$, and bottom water temperatures are frequently close to 0°C. Hence, we here use a more recent paleotemperature for *Cibicidoides* recommended by Marchitto et al. (2014, their Eq.

235 $T_{sw} = 111.36 - \sqrt{9392.77 + 909.09\delta^{18}O_T}$

(6)

We also follow Marchitto et al. (2014) for *Uvigerina* $\delta^{18}O_b$, by again using the *Cibicidoides* Eq. 6 but after applying their recommended $\delta^{18}O_b$ offset of 0.47%. This final step yields the bottom water temperatures shown in Fig. 3, which are then re-sampled to 4 kyr resolution as described in Section 3.4.

Each of the steps in this method requires assumptions that evidently introduce important uncertainties, as already discussed in detail by Siddall et al. (2010) and Bates et al. (2014). Perhaps most crucially, Bates et al. (2014) note that *"The calibration windows for sea level are chosen as prolonged interstadial or stadial events, when sea level and temperature are at approximate equilibrium"* and that the method is not suitable during glacial inceptions and terminations. Some recent Pleistocene interglacials were likely too short, especially MIS 9 and 5, for all ice sheets to reach equilibrium with climate: this could require several thousands of years of constant climate (for example the Antarctic Ice Sheet: see Garbe et al., 2020). In contrast, deep ocean

- 245 temperature responds to surface climate change at centennial time scales (Yang and Zhu, 2011; Li et al., 2013). Hence, the ambient temperature signal ($\delta^{18}O_T$) in $\delta^{18}O_b$ might respond to global climatic changes over time scales of order 0.1 kyr, while the ice volume $\delta^{18}O_{ice}$ signal likely responds over time scales reaching 10 kyr, potentially biasing reconstructions with this method during the rapid climate changes encountered through interglacials. However, if we assume that only the Greenland and Antarctic ice sheets remained during the warmer interglacials since MIS 11, the difference in ice volume between their transient
- and equilibrium states is likely less than ~ 12 m (based on complete loss of Greenland and West Antarctic ice sheets). That is only $\sim 9\%$ of the ~ 140 m glacial-interglacial amplitude of sea-level change, suggesting the assumption of "approximate" equilibrium is reasonable during interglacial calibration windows. Glacial calibration windows are selected near the ends of stadial conditions, when climatic changes are generally much slower or of lower magnitude than climatic changes during interglacials.
- Further questions concern whether the scaling (Eq. 4) is regionally variable and whether it is linear. Regional variability may need considering for global studies; for example, $\Delta \delta^{18}O_{swLGM}$ is typically lower – ~ $0.8\pm0.1\%$ – in the deep North Atlantic (Adkins and Schrag, 2001; Adkins et al., 2002; Schrag et al., 2002). However, four out of five estimates of $\Delta \delta^{18}O_{swLGM}$ at sites distributed around the Southern Ocean at 40 to 50 °S lie within $1.1\pm0.1\%$ (the fifth is $1.4\pm0.1\%$) (Adkins et al., 2002; Schrag et al., 20 , indicating little regional variability at least within that zone. The question of linearity arises because the oxygen isotopic
- 260 composition of ice is not spatially uniform in ice sheets, so that $\delta^{18}O_{ice}$ does not necessarily vary linearly with *S*. This potential nonlinearity was considered by Bates et al. (2014) to introduce an error "of order 10%". Coarse-scale modelling by de Boer et al. (2012) supports a reasonably steady ratio of $\delta^{18}O_{ice}/S$ close to -1% per 100 m at 400 kyr time scales during the Pleistocene (see their Fig. 4), but with shorter time-scale variability reaching amplitudes of 0.3‰ per 100 m. Their results suggest the question of linearity should be revisited in future developments of this BWT method and when more detailed 265 modelling results are available.

Overall, Bates et al. (2014) considered this method most appropriate for glacial-cycle time scales after the mid-Pleistocene transition (MPT), and less so for rapid changes during glacial inceptions or terminations, or prior to the MPT.



Figure 2. Transfer functions to convert $\delta^{18}O_b$ to sea-level (Section 3.1.2). Sea-levels and their uncertainty ranges (blue error bars) taken from the markers in Table 1 are plotted against $\delta^{18}O_b$ averaged over respective calibration windows in the $\delta^{18}O_b$ time series. Previously Bates et al. (2014) fitted linear piece-wise functions to a smaller selection of markers, which if applied here would yield the red dotted lines. Here we instead use second- or third-order polynomial fits (black solid line). Details of the sites and their selection are provided in Table 2 and Section 3.3.

3.2 Additional uncertainties common to both methods

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The relatively small variations in BWT over glacial-interglacial cycles have been recognised as a potential challenge in reconstructions (Tisserand et al., 2013; Stirpe et al., 2021). From an optimistic perspective we could see this lower variability as advantageous, since the less an environmental variable changes with time, the less concerned we need to be with reconstructing its changes. However, when considering the high sensitivity of ice shelf basal melt to small temperature changes (e.g. Burgard et al., 2022) , we do indeed need accurate estimates of past CDW temperatures - even if these changes have been < 1°C.

Compared to planktic organisms used in SST reconstructions, benthic organisms are not subject to lateral advection while

275 sinking, or to strong seasonality, or to varying habitat depth along a temperature gradient within the mixed layer and thermocline



Figure 3. Extraction of the temperature signal from the oxygen isotopic content of benthic foraminiferal calcite ($\delta^{18}O_b$: see Section 3.1.2). Raw $\delta^{18}O_b$ time series (left column) are converted to sea-level time series (middle column) using site-specific transfer functions (Fig. 2). Sea-levels are then used to remove the ice volume contribution from $\delta^{18}O_b$, before applying a paleotemperature equation (Eq. 6) to calculate bottom water temperature (right column). Details of the sites and their selection are provided in Table 2 and Section 3.3.

(Chandler and Langebroek, 2021a, and references therein). Nevertheless, some of the same problems do still apply – most notably related to calcite dissolution, sediment reworking, and dating uncertainties. These error sources are summarised briefly here, but more detailed discussion relevant to the specific sites and proxies used in this synthesis can be found in the original

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Dissolution is an important problem for calcite-based proxies at deep ocean sites. Besides the loss of material available for proxy analysis, there is also less calcite available for dating (if using $\delta^{18}O_b$), potentially leading to lower resolution records. Dissolution rate generally increases with ocean depth, becoming most problematic below the foraminferal lysocline (Berger, 1968). This lies at ~ 3500 to 4000 m in the Southern Ocean (Williams et al., 1985; Hayward et al., 2001; Bostock et al., 2011)

285 , only just reaching our deepest sites (Section 3.3), and is likely more significant for reconstructions of underlying AABW temperature than for CDW temperature. However, the lysocline may have been shallower during glacial periods, as carbonate solubility increases at colder temperatures (Howard and Prell, 1994).

Further dating uncertainties arising from aligning one proxy record with another (e.g., benthic $\delta^{18}O_b$ with a global stack) can reach several kyr once outside the range of ${}^{14}C$ dating – particularly for the lower resolution records. Dating uncertainties

- 290 can also arise from subjective choice of tie-points in noisy records, and uncertainties in the target chronology. In a synthesis of records it must be noted that dating errors will tend to smooth out sharp peaks, if peaks that were in reality synchronous across several sites are slightly asynchronous in the synthesis. On the other hand, by aligning our (mostly) benthic δ^{18} O-based temperature reconstructions with the LR04 benthic δ^{18} O stack, we may be imparting some artificial synchronicity it is not clear to what extent these two factors will offset each other.
- 295 Post-depositional bioturbation causes vertical mixing of foraminifera shells in surface sediments, leading to observed age differences as high as 1 to 3 kyr between different foraminifera species in the same sediment horizon (Anderson, 2001; Broecker et al., 2006). This vertical mixing is equivalent to temporal smoothing of the reconstructed temperature signal, and most strongly affects sites with lower sedimentation rates. Although bioturbation could be problematic if revising this synthesis to a higher temporal resolution in future when more data are available, we would not expect this error source to substantially alter our results
- 300 at 4 kyr resolution. Reworking for example by winnowing and re-deposition adds a further source of error to both the reconstructed temperature and the age model, as local sediments become contaminated with older material from distal sites (e.g., Dezileau et al., 2000).

As more records become available, site-specific assessments of the likely error sources would be worthwhile as an extra quality control step. Given the sparse data available at present we do not discriminate on this basis, or impose any weighting.

305 Instead we assume the associated errors mainly contribute higher variance, rather than a substantial temperature bias.

3.3 Sites selection

CDW is an elusive water mass for paleotemperature reconstructions. As noted above, CDW lies above AABW, preventing the use of bottom water temperature (BWT) reconstructions from benthic organisms except where the bathymetry penetrates upwards through the AABW and into the CDW (for example, on the Chatham Rise: Elderfield et al., 2012). Meanwhile, CDW

310 (and particularly lower CDW, of greatest consequence for ice shelf melt: Wåhlin et al., 2010; Biddle et al., 2017; Assmann et al., 2019) (and particularly lower CDW, of greatest consequence for Antarctic ice shelf melt: Wåhlin et al., 2010; Assmann et al., 2019) lies at depths beyond the reach of proxies based on surface or even sub-surface planktic organisms. Finally, sediments poor preservation affects some deep ocean sites (Section 3.2), while sediments in shallower water on the Antarctic continental shelf were likely may have been repeatedly overridden by grounded ice during glacial stages and may also be, disturbed by deep ice-

315 berg keels. Even though suitable BWT proxies are available for the continental shelf (Hillenbrand et al., 2017; Totten et al., 2017; Mawbey , this reworking by icebergs and grounded ice hinders reconstructions representative of CDW directly accessing ice-shelf cavities prior to the Holocene.

, or are difficult to core due to logistical problems such as sea-ice. The above difficulties are perhaps compounded by the remoteness of the Southern Ocean and a greater community interest in other environmental indicators (e.g., δ^{18} O, δ^{13} C, and

320 planktic SST proxies). Even though suitable BWT proxies are available for the continental shelf (Hillenbrand et al., 2017; Totten et al., 2017; there are not yet any reconstructions representative of CDW directly accessing ice-shelf cavities prior to the Holocene.

To-date, at glacial-interglacial timescales there are no reconstructions of CDW temperature from the Antarctic continental shelf, and only two or three sites timescales there only three temperature reconstructions representing CDW in the Southern Ocean (ODP sites 1123, 1094, possibly 1090: Elderfield et al., 2012; Hasenfratz et al., 2019; Bates et al., 2014, respectively) (ODP sites 1 (Fig. ??). To 4).

The only Antarctic Ice Sheet modelling studies using deep water temperature reconstructions directly are the GRISLI simulations by Quiquet et al. (2018) and Crotti et al. (2022), who used NADW temperatures reconstructed at ODP site 980 (55°N in the North Atlantic). Their use of this single distant site, and the current paucity of records from the Southern Ocean, raises the question of what geographic extent is appropriate if we wish to achieve reasonable statistical confidence and temporal

330 resolution in CDW temperature changes, even reconstructed CDW temperatures. Even at coarse (multi-millennial) time scales, we need to find additional sites.

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<u>One option is to look further afield to the main water masses from which CDW is derived sourced</u>, and assume these same water masses and regions have contributed in similar proportions to CDW under past climates. <u>Under On</u> that assumption, *changes* in these source-region water temperatures should be representative, to some extent, of *changes* in CDW temperature.

- 335 This greater scope expands would expand our region of interest to include NADW in its two main source regions(Labrador Sea water; Iceland-Scotland and Denmark Strait overflow waters), and along three key regions: the North Atlantic (including ODP 980 used by Quiquet et al. 2018 and Crotti et al. 2022); its transit south in the deep western boundary current which forms the lower, southbound leg of the AMOC (Fig. 1) (Lumpkin and Speer, 2007; Pardo et al., 2012; Rhein et al., 2015; Buckley and Marshall, 2016).
- 340 NADW source regions yield the three additional sitesChain 82-24-4PC (Cronin et al., 2000), DSDP 607 and ODP 980 (Bates et al., 2014). The deep western boundary current is represented by just one relevant site (MD07-3076Q: Roberts et al., 2016) covering the period 20 to 2 ka, which we have not included as it only covers the last deglaciation. Finally, site M16772 (Martin et al., 2002) in the eastern tropical Atlantic lies neither in a NADW source region nor directly within its primary southwards transport pathway, but we include this site as it lies in NADW transported eastwards from the deep western
- 345 boundary current via an equatorial plume (Smethie et al., 2000; Rhein et al., 2015); and along its eastwards-spreading pathways near the equator and towards the Cape Basin in the South Atlantic (Smethie et al., 2000; Garzoli et al., 2015; Rhein et al., 2015) . While this could yield several additional sites, there are important drawbacks to this approach. First, besides NADW, other

deep water masses from the Indian and Pacific contribute to CDW, albeit more strongly to UCDW at present (Section 2). Second, temperature changes particularly in North Atlantic NADW are likely modified by subsequent mixing with overlying

350 water masses or underlying AABW during transit southwards (Fig. ??). 1). Third, a weakened AMOC during glacials could greatly reduce the contribution of NADW (or its glacial equivalent), making these sites less relevant during such periods. Overall, NADW temperature changes are interesting for comparison, but are not included in our synthesis.

As noted above (Section 2), Pacific deep water is unlikely to make an important contribution to lower CDW and we therefore exclude one site in the eastern tropical Pacific (TR163-31P: Martin et al., 2002).

- 355 Given the wide geographic scope that extends well beyond the boundaries of CDW, we are effectively compiling a BWT synthesis, rather than directly a CDW temperature synthesis. We reiterate here that we use this approach to infer *changes* in CDW temperature (i.e., anomalies from present-day conditions), rather than estimating CDW temperatures directly. This point is discussed further in Sections ?? and ?? Another option, which we follow here, is to analyse additional sites with $\delta^{18}O_b$ data that were not used by Bates et al. (2014). There are many such sites even in the Southern Ocean (e.g., see the database compiled by Mulitza
- 360 . However, including all possible sites currently bathed by CDW would heavily weight the synthesis towards the last glacial cycle (particularly the last deglaciation), and would dominate any information provided by the two Mg/Ca records. Given that only long time-scale changes in BWT are captured by the $\delta^{18}O_b$ method (Section 3.1.2), and to preserve the diversity of proxies – albeit already limited to just two – we are selective in which additional records to include: these must lie south of 40°S; they must represent LCDW at present day; they must have sufficient resolution to establish sea-level calibration windows; and they
- 365 must extend back to at least MIS 11, so that our results are not greatly affected by changing geographic coverage with time. This somewhat stringent selection yields five additional $\delta^{18}O_b$ BWT records (MD05-2588, ODP 1094, ODP 1123, ODP 1170, PS75/059-2; Table 2), bringing the total to six sites with eight temperature records (two Mg/Ca and six $\delta^{18}O_b$: Fig. 4 and Table 2). All the $\delta^{18}O_b$ records were analyzed for BWT following the method outlined in Section 3.1.2.

There is no guarantee that selected sites have been bathed in lower CDW throughout the last 800 kyr. This concern is discussed later in Section 5.3.

3.4 Bottom water temperature synthesis

In total we use seven six sites located as described above (6 Atlantic, 1 SW Pacific: Table 2, Fig. ??4). BWT at these sites has been reconstructed using benthic foraminiferal $\delta^{18}O_b$ and Mg/Ca, and ostracod Mg/Ca. The records are published at varying temporal resolution, using different calibrations and chronologies. Therefore, to improve consistency and to considerably reduce variance, we stacked the records following a similar methodology to that employed in a SST synthesis covering the last

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- 200 ka (Chandler and Langebroek, 2021b). Briefly there are five main steps:
 - 1. Temperatures derived from <u>Uvigerina</u> Mg/Ca at ODP 1123 (Elderfield et al., 2012) were recalculated using recently published calibrations appropriate for that species (see details in the Table 2 caption the more recently published Stirpe et al. (2021) calibration (Mg/Ca = 0.073T + 0.9).

- 2. The reconstructed 'modern' temperature was subtracted so that down-core temperatures are anomalies from the recent past. Considering the low resolution of the records, the 'modern' temperature is an average of all samples younger than 2 ka (if possible) or otherwise the observed bottom water temperature reported by the original authors.
 - 3. For records with published benthic foraminiferal Age models were transferred to a consistent chronology by aligning δ^{18} O, age models were aligned O_b with the Lisiecki and Raymo (2005) LR04 global benthic stack.
- 4. All records were resampled to 4 kyr resolution following the method used by Chandler and Langebroek (2021b). This choice of coarse resolution reflects a necessary compromise between data resolution and uncertainty, because the uncertainty increases as resolution increases (due to fewer contributing sites). Note that our method admits gaps: we do not interpolate low-resolution records onto a higher resolution time series.
 - 5. Uncertainties for each time slice were calculated using the t-distribution, under the assumption that temperatures at each site are sampled independently from those at other sites.

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4 Results

Each of the 4-kyr time slices from 800 ka to present has BWT contributions from at least 3 sites, <u>but mostly 6 or 7 (Fig. 4a-b)</u>. The record-mean BWT, which we consider to represent CDW temperature, shows clear glacial-interglacial cycles consistent with many other relevant proxy records (e.g., Fig. ??), but we note that high uncertainties prevent detailed quantitative

- **395** comparison of the magnitudes of BWT warming in specific interglacials. Cooling is similar through each glacial variability, as well as the shift to stronger cycles after the Mid-Bruhnes event. Interglacial warming peaked in MIS 5 ($0.5\pm0.5^{\circ}$ C) and MIS 11 ($0.6\pm0.4^{\circ}$ C); MIS 9 was not well resolved at 4 kyr resolution. CDW temperatures only a little cooler than present-day were likely also reached in MIS 19 (- $0.4\pm0.2^{\circ}$ C) and 7 (- $0.3\pm0.5^{\circ}$ C). Confidence in warming during MIS 17 and 15 is low, due to higher scatter across fewer sites. Glacial cooling was similar through glacial stages 12, 10, 8, 6 and 2, with anomalies typically
- 400 close to -2°C(again, bearing in mind the wide uncertainties). Prior to MIS 11 it is unclear whether the reduced amplitude of glacial-interglacial cycles is a genuine feature (consistent with weaker interglacials in the Antarctic surface air temperature record, Fig. ??), or an artefact of the greater inter-site variance which tends to smooth out peaks., and perhaps less severe (closer to -1.5°C) in glacials 18, 16 and 14.

We observe some systematic biases in reconstructed BWTs between the two main proxies (between temperatures reconstructed

- 405 with δ^{18} Ovs_b and with Mg/Ca) and between the two water masses (NADW vs CDW) (Fig. ??at the two sites for which both proxies are available (ODP sites 1094 and 1123: Fig. 7). The mean Mg/Ca BWT anomaly is on average 0.5°C warmer than the mean δ^{18} O anomaly, and varies over a wider range. The warm bias is particularly noticeable in Fig. 4 during interglacials, which show warmer peaks in the envelopes of points are very consistent between the two sites, in both cases showing that (i) the range of BWTs is wider for Mg/Ca BWT than in the than for δ^{18} OBWT. When comparing the two water masses, we
- 410 find BWT anomalies at sites currently situated in CDW are on average 0.6°C warmer than those situated in NADW. In both comparisons the correlations are well scattered, but are surprisingly stronger for NADW vs CDW ($r^2 = 0.31$) than for δ^{18} O



Figure 4. Locations of marine sediment cores used in the our CDW temperature synthesis, and locations of other sites of note. Sediment cores with both Mg/Ca and $\delta^{18}O_b$ are coloured purple; the remainder with only $\delta^{18}O_b$ are coloured blue. Additional details of each site are provided in Table 2. Also shown is a simplified, schematic representation of Antarctic ice cores used in the main pathways for southbound NADW-Parrenin et al. (2013) surface air temperature reconstruction (purplegrey circles) and eastbound CDW-are, from top to bottom, EPICA Dronning Maud Land (blueEDML), based on Smethie et al. (2000)Dome Fiji, Oppo and Curry (2012) and Rhein et al. (2015). Sites ODP 980Vostok, DSP 607 EPICA Dome C (EDC) and Chain 82-24-4PC lie in NADW close to its North Atlantic source regions Talos Dome (TALDICE). Site M16772 lies Regions used in an eastwards heading plume of NADW that breaks off the deep western boundary current. Site ODP 1090 lies close to the boundary discussion of NADW and CDW in ice shelf basal melt (red squares) are the South Atlantic, site ODP 1094 lies in CDW within the Antarctic Circumpolar Current Amundsen Sea Embayment (ACCincluding Thwaites Glacier, ASE), Aurora basin (including Ninnis Glacier, NG) and site ODP 1123 lies in CDW that branches north from the main ACC in the SW PacificWilkes basin (including Totten Glacier, TG).

 $v_{s_{2b}}$, as also evident from the scatter in Fig. 4b; and (ii) Mg/Ca ($r^2 = 0.23$). Both proxies contributed reconstructions in both water masses, and unfortunately these potentially interesting differences cannot yet be analysed in detail with only 7 sites in total temperatures tend to be cooler than $\delta^{18}O_b$ temperatures in glacials, and warmer in interglacials, with a transition close to -1°C.

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Comparing our synthesis with other Southern Hemisphere paleotemperature reconstructions, we find BWT is well correlated with that CDW temperature closely follows both Southern Ocean SST and Antarctic surface air temperature (Fig. 84d-e) at 4 kyr time scales, but the amplitudes of glacial-interglacial BWT T_{CDW} changes are weaker, reaching about 50% and 20% of the respective changes in SST and. In both cases, the correlation is best described by a quadratic relationship, as the gradients

420 $(dT_{CDW}/d(SST) \text{ and } dT_{CDW}/dT_{AIS})$ decrease at colder temperatures (Fig. 8). Close to present-day conditions (SST = 0 or $T_{AIS} = 0$), the respective gradients are 0.28 and 0.70, highlighting the much stronger changes in Antarctic surface air temperature, and slightly stronger changes in Southern Ocean SST, than in T_{CDW} during interglacials.

We also compare our T_{CDW} reconstruction with NADW temperature, using T_{NADW} calculated from $\delta^{18}O_b$ at site ODP 980 (Oppo et al., 1998; McManus et al., 1999; Flower et al., 2000). We chose ODP 980 as BWT at this site has been analysed

425 previously (Waelbroeck et al., 2002; Bates et al., 2014) and used as an ocean temperature boundary condition in Antarctic Ice Sheet modelling (Quiquet et al., 2018; Crotti et al., 2022). Here we recalculate BWT following the same method as used above for T_{CDW}, except we use a slightly smaller Δδ¹⁸O_{sw} = 0.8% for the North Atlantic (instead of 1.1% for the Southern Ocean), following Adkins and Schrag (2001) and Schrag et al. (2002). When compared with T_{CDW} we find interglacial warming is similar or slightly weaker in T_{NADW}, while glacial cooling is consistently stronger in T_{NADW} by 1 to 2°C (Fig. 4c). Overall
430 the correlation is again described by a quadratic relationship (Fig. 8).

At global scale our BWT is also T_{CDW} is well correlated with a global mean deep water temperature (GDWT) reconstruction by Rohling et al. (2021), and the magnitudes are very closely matched (Figs. 4e and 8). In this case the relationship is only weakly nonlinear (linear and quadratic R^2 values are very similar, at 0.66 and 0.67, respectively), and the magnitudes of interglacial warming appear closely matched between both records through most of the study period (Fig. ??) – but in this case

435 the apparently weaker changes in BWT than in GDWT (Fig. 8) are mainly due to a slight offset in the timing of interglacial peaks in Fig. 4. However, the glacial terminations and the peak interglacial warming both appear to occur earlier in GDWT than in CDW, and correlation is stronger ($r^2 = 0.83$) when a 4 kyr lag is applied to T_{GDW} (Fig 9d).

The coarse temporal resolution hinders detailed <u>Although further</u> analysis of leads/lags between BWT and other records , that we might otherwise use to evaluate whether deep ocean temperatures are driven by surface climatic changes or vice-versa.

- 440 However, we can at least suggest there is likely to be less than 4 kyr lead/lag between BWT and either Antarctic surface air temperature or in the above correlations is hindered by the coarse temporal resolution, it is nevertheless worthwhile. Fig. 9 shows how the strength of correlation changes between T_{CDW} and all four comparative paleotemperature records when leads or lags of up to 8 kyr are applied to T_{CDW} . For both T_{AIS} and Southern Ocean SST, as the peaks in correlation coefficients are centred near zero lag the lag of T_{CDW} is likely close to 2 kyr, as lags of 0 and 4 kyr yield similar correlations (Fig. 9a,b).
- 445 In contrast it is likely that BWT lags global mean deep water temperature (Rohling et al., 2021) by As noted above, the lag behind GDWT appears longer (close to 4 kyr(: Fig. 9c). In contrast, *T_{CDW}* appears to lead *T_{NADW}* by 0 to 4 kyr.

5 Discussion

Considering the vast distances (109 degrees of latitude) separating the seven sites study area, and the two different proxies employed, there is not surprisingly some considerable variance between BWT anomalies at different sites considerable variance in

450 <u>BWT anomalies reconstructed at each time slice</u>. The combination of high variance and a low number of sites, particularly in the period before ca. 300-500 ka, yields wide uncertainties for many of the time slices (Fig. 4). Besides uncertainty arising from geographic variability, this variance could reflect This variance is likely dominated by methodological errors, including non-

thermal influences on Mg/Ca paleothermometry (especially at relatively cold temperatures, e.g., Raitzsch et al., 2008; Stirpe et al., 2021) , and (e.g., Raitzsch et al. 2008, Stirpe et al. 2021, and Section 3.1.1), and uncertainties in sea-level estimates and transfer

455 functions, transfer functions and additional assumptions required in the oxygen isotopic reconstructions (Siddall et al., 2010; Bates et al., 2 . See the original studies cited in Table 2, and Section ?? below, for further discussion of assumptions and errors. The original motivation of this study was to estimate changes in CDW temperature through recent glacial-interglacial cycles.

Our approach of including temperature reconstructions from the distant North Atlantic is not immediately intuitive and was justified only on its modern oceanographic basis (Section 2). Reasonable correlation between the reconstructed NADW and

- 460 CDW temperatures (Fig(Siddall et al. 2010, Bates et al. 2014, and Section 3.1.2). To make this assessment we have first compared T_{CDW} analysed with both proxies in the same core (i.e. where geographic variability is eliminated); here, root mean square differences are 0.7°C (ODP 1094) and 0.9°C (ODP 1123) (Fig. 7). ??)empirically supports our approach. The mean 0.6We next compared T_{CDW} regional averages in the Atlantic and Indian-Pacific sectors, which each conveniently have 3 $\delta^{18}O_b$ and 1 Mg/Ca records, thus minimising contributions of methodological errors; here the RMSD between groups is lower
- 465 (0.5°C bias between the NADW and CDW temperature anomalies is considerably smaller than the ~ 3°C C, Fig. 6). This comparison indicates methodological errors contribute considerably more variance than regional differences. Nevertheless, all RMSDs are substantially lower than glacial-interglacial variability. However, since ice shelf basal melting is very sensitive to ocean temperature, this bias is relatively important; there is also the question of changes in NADW contribution to CDW under glacial climates (Section ?? below). As more data become available for the Southern Ocean we would recommend eventually
- 470 excluding the NADW sites from CDW temperature estimates, and instead focusing on a comparison of the individual changes in these two important water masses. variability, and the confidence intervals in the latter part of the study period (since 500 ka) are reasonably narrow. Therefore it is worthwhile in the next section to highlight close relationships with other paleotemperature records.

Weaker correlation between the two proxy groups, than between the two water masses (Fig. ??), is indicative (tentatively,

475 for only 7 sites) that methodological uncertainties remain an important – probably greatest – contributor to the wide scatter in individual time slices. These are described further below (Section ??). Similar to the recommendation in our Southern Ocean SST synthesis (Chandler and Langebroek, 2021b), this should underline the caution required when interpreting temperature reconstructions based on a single site or proxy in this region.

5.1 Comparison with other temperature records Regional and global context

- 480 Despite the wide uncertainties, strong Strong relationships emerge between our CDW temperature estimates T_{CDW} reconstruction and other paleotemperature records for the Southern Hemisphere and even globally (Figs. ??4, 8). Indeed, the correlations of the CDW temperature with Antarctic T_{CDW} with East Antarctic Ice Sheet surface air temperature, Southern Ocean SST, ODP 280 NADW temperature, and global mean deep water temperature (DWT) (r² values 0.70, 0.72 and 0.79, 0.83, 0.64 and 0.67, respectively) are stronger than correlations correlation between the two BWT proxies (r² = 0.23) or between NADW
 485 and CDW (r² = 0.31) (Fig. ??). Such strong relationships between temperature records are encouraging as they indicate
- and CDW ($r^2 = 0.31$) (Fig. ??). Such strong relationships between temperature records are encouraging as they indicate persistence of key underlying drivers of the climate system throughout the study period (800 ka to present), supporting the

notion that paleoenvironmental reconstructions from any one or several glacial cycles within this period can provide valuable insights into our present-day interglacial elimate 0.36 (Figs. 7, 8). Consistent with these close relationships are the magnitudes of interglacial warming, which are highest in MIS 11, 9 and 5 in our T_{CDW} reconstruction as well as in T_{ALS} , T_{NADW} and

490 <u>*T_{GDW}*</u>.

There are several features in our synthesis which may not yet be statistically significant themselves, but which do match patterns in many other records. Specifically, we make comparisons with global DWT records based on (i) paired SST and planktic $\delta^{18}O$ recordsmostly outside of NADW/CDW source regions Shakun et al. (2015) and (ii) reanalysis of Although correlations are strong, magnitudes of glacial-interglacial changes in T_{CDW} are typically weaker than in these other records,

- 495 particularly when compared to surface temperature changes (Southern Ocean SST and East Antarctic Ice Sheet surface air temperature: Fig. 8a). This is due to both stronger interglacial warming and stronger glacial cooling in the surface temperature records, as indicated by the regression curves crossing the dotted line (y = x) in Fig. 8a). We would expect that cooling of CDW (or of its equivalent glacial-state water mass) is limited by the physical lower bound imposed by the freezing point of seawater; this likely contributes to the decrease in gradients $dT_{CDW}/d(SST)$ and dT_{CDW}/dT_{ALS} under glacial conditions
- 500 (Fig. 8a). It is also likely that T_{CDW} lags T_{AIS} and SST although probably by < 2 kyr, since correlations at 4 kyr applied lag are a little weaker than those with zero applied lag (Fig. 9a,b). This lag should be expected, given the lack of significant heat sources or sinks in the global benthic δ^{18} O stack (Rohling et al., 2021); our 220 ka Southern Ocean SST synthesis based on planktic proxies Chandler and Langebrock (2021b); a 20 ka high-resolution NADW temperature record from the South Atlantic, based on benthic foraminiferal Mgdeep ocean, as temperature changes at depth must be driven primarily by changes
- 505 in surface heating and/Ca (Roberts et al., 2016); and an estimate of mean ocean temperature from 157 to 120 ka using ice core noble gas ratios (Shackleton et al., 2020). We also make comparisons with surface air temperatures estimated using ice core stable water isotopes: these are from a five-site average in East Antarctica (Parrenin et al., 2013); the WAIS Divide ice core in West Antarctica (Cuffey et al., 2016), and the GRIP ice core in central Greenland (Johnsen et al., 1995). Comparing these records allows us to highlight the following three important common features.
- 510 The first common feature is the early Holocene thermal maximum, as recognised in a diverse range of temperature reconstructions from both hemispheres (e.g., Marcott et al., 2013). The event was captured in this synthesis (albeit coarsely), in the higher resolution SW Atlantic NADW temperature record (Roberts et al., 2016), in both annual and summer Southern Ocean SST syntheses (Chandler and Langebroek, 2021b), in global mean SST and in one of the global DWT reconstructions (Shakun et al., 2015) , in the East Antarctic and Greenland surface air temperatures (Johnsen et al., 1995; Parrenin et al., 2013), and a little later (ca.
- 515 or surface wind-driven circulation. Either way, a delay is introduced as these surface changes are propagated to the deep ocean by advection or diffusive processes. This is particularly relevant for CDW, which has no surface source region and instead is a mixture of deep water masses. Under modern ocean circulation conditions the propagation of surface changes to the deep Southern Ocean is modelled to have time scales of order hundreds of years (Li et al., 2013; Yang and Zhu, 2011) , consistent with the probably short (< 2 kyr) lag in our T_{CDW} compilation. Asymmetry in the time scales for cooling and
- 520 warming (e.g. Gough and Lin, 1992; Yang and Zhu, 2011; Li et al., 2022) is an interesting question that unfortunately cannot yet be evaluated at 4 ka) at the WAIS divide (Cuffey et al., 2016).

The second feature is the relatively stronger peaks of interglacials MIS 11, 9 kyr resolution.

The strong link between T_{CDW} and surface temperature changes supports the use of surface temperatures (which are generally better constrained by proxy data) as a basis for parameterising deep ocean temperature at this coarse 4 kyr temporal

525 resolution. The EDC ice core temperature reconstruction has been employed by paleo ice sheet modellers for example in parameterisations of sub-ice-shelf melting (Albrecht et al., 2020) or as a glacial index to interpolate linearly between ESM snapshots (Mas e Braga et al., 2021). In the former case, Albrecht et al. (2020) used ESM equilibrium simulations to quantify linear scalings between surface air temperature and deep ocean temperature, finding equilibrium T_{CDW} was 0.75 times mean ocean temperature and 5 compared to MIS 7, in our CDW temperature estimate, in global DWT (Shakun et al., 2015; Rohling et al., 2021)

530 , and in East Antarctica air temperature (Parrenin et al., 2013). These three interglacials also yielded the highest global mean sea-level in the recent reanalysis of the Lisiecki and Raymo (2005) (LR04) benthic stack by Rohling et al. (2021)0.42 times T_{ALS} . The scalings compare similarly with our $dT_{CDW}/d(T_{GDW}) = 0.80$ at $T_{GDW} = 0^{\circ}$ C but are somewhat higher than our $dT_{CDW}/d(T_{AIS}) = 0.28$ at $T_{AIS} = 0^{\circ}$ C. Hence, our quadratic relationship between T_{CDW} and these other temperature indicators could be used to revise or validate scalings in these parameterisations. Implications of our results for ice shelf melt 535 are discussed further in Section 5.4 below.

Third is the consistency in DWT estimates through the Through the last two glacial cycles (Fig. ??). We see MIS 6 to present), our T_{CDW} closely follows other recent global mean and deep water temperature estimates: this includes relatively steady temperature anomalies of ca. -2° C throughout the penultimate glacial (MIS 6) in our study, in global DWT (Shakun et al., 2015; Rohling et al., 2021) and in mean ocean temperature (Shackleton et al., 2020). This was followed by global deep and mean

- 540 ocean temperature warming to ca. +1°C during the LIG (Shakun et al., 2015; Shackleton et al., 2020; Rohling et al., 2021, before resampling (Shakun et al., 2015; Shackleton et al., 2020; Rohling et al., 2021). LIG warming is weaker ($+0.30.5\pm0.90.5^{\circ}$ C) in our BWT synthesis at 4 kyr resolution, but can be better resolved to $+0.8\pm0.7^{\circ}$ C if running the synthesis at 2 kyr resolution (figure not shown: this is one of the few periods for which higher resolution reduces uncertaintyalbeit with less confidence: see Section 5.2 below). Consistent trends are then observed through from MIS 5 to 2 in DWT and estimated CDW temperature. Hence,
- several deep ocean temperature estimates are closely consistent through the penultimate glacial cycle, present in T_{CDW} and 545 T_{GDW} (Shakun et al., 2015; Rohling et al., 2021). Interestingly the T_{NADW} at ODP 980 is often cooler, particularly through glacial periods, and only reaches warming magnitudes comparable to T_{CDW} in interglacials 9 and 5.

Overall our estimated changes in CDW temperature are remarkably similar to the changes in global mean DWT (Rohling et al., 2021, resa (Fig. ??) throughout the last Such strong relationships between temperature records are encouraging as they indicate persistence

of key underlying interactions and drivers of the climate system throughout the study period (800 kyr. The only difference of 550 note is the phase in some cycles (earlier peak in global DWT than in CDW temperature). This would be an interesting aspect to pursue when the CDW temperatures can be better resolved.

The consistencies highlighted above further support both the strength and persistence of coupling between these different parts of the Earth system over multiple glacial eycles, at least at ka to present), supporting the notion that paleoenvironmental

555 reconstructions from any one or several glacial cycles within this period can provide valuable insights into our present-day interglacial climate. This confidence could extend to potential future changes, but only at multi-millennial time scales.

5.2 **Uncertainties and limitations**

The relatively small variations in BWT over glacial-interglacial cycles have been recognised as a potential challenge in reconstructions (Tisserand et al., 2013; Stirpe et al., 2021). From an optimistic perspective we could see this lower variability

- 560 as advantageous, since the less an environmental variable changes with time, the less concerned we need to be with reconstructing its changestimescales owing to the coarse temporal resolution we have used. However, when considering the high sensitivity of ice shelf basal melt to small temperature changes (e.g. Burgard et al., 2022), we do indeed need accurate estimates of past CDW temperatures - even if these changes have been $< 1^{\circ}$ C, given increasing evidence for close coupling between the Antarctic Ice Sheet and NADW in the North Atlantic (e.g. Iberian margin) even at millennial time scales (Hodell et al., 2023), we anticipate that strong relationships will emerge between T_{CDW} and the records discussed above once T_{CDW} can be reconstructed at
- 565

higher resolution.

Compared to planktic organisms usedin SST reconstructions, benthic organisms are not subject to lateral advection while sinking, or to strong seasonality, or to varying habitat depth along a temperature gradient within the mixed layer and thermocline (Chandler and Langebroek, 2021a, and references therein). Nevertheless, some of the same problems do still apply – most

570 notably related to seawater chemistry, diagentic alteration (calcite dissolution, secondary calcite precipitation), and sediment reworking. Additional sources of uncertainty are associated with oxygen isotopic BWT estimates (Siddall et al., 2010; Bates et al., 2014) . These error sources are summarised briefly in the sub-sections below, but for more detailed discussion relevant to the specific sites and proxies used in this synthesis please refer to the original publications (Cronin et al., 2000; Martin et al., 2002; Elderfield et al., 201 and calibrations (Healey et al., 2008; Farmer et al., 2012; Stirpe et al., 2021).

575 5.2 **Temporal resolution and smoothing**

All the records used here are additionally subject to uncertainty in their ages, which can reach several kyr once outside the range of ^{14}C dating. Dating uncertainty can arise from One of the aspects we consider most problematic is the low resolution (due to low sedimentation rate), regional hydrographic variability when compared with global stacks used for alignment, subjective choice of tie-points, and uncertainties in the target chronology.

- 580 As more records become available, site-specific assessments of the likely error sources would be worthwhile as an extra quality control step. Given the sparse data available at present we do not discriminate on this basis, or impose any weighting. Instead we assume the associated errors mainly contribute higher variance, rather than a substantial temperature bias, in a synthesis that averages across multiple proxies and oceanographic sedimentary settings. As noted in Section 4 above, comparison of the two proxy groups (Mg/Ca and δ^{18} O) in Fig. ?? shows substantial scatter indicative of methodological
- differences that need further investigation when more sites are available or, ideally, when Mg/Ca and δ^{18} O temperature 585 estimates are obtained for the same core samples.

5.2.1 Seawater chemistry influences on calcite Mg/Ca

Seawater chemistry affects calcite Mg/Ca mainly through the influence of seawater or pore-water carbonate ion saturation (ΔCO_2^{2-}) , which is considered a secondary control on Mg/Ca (especially at cold temperatures) in some foraminifera species

- (Raitzsch et al., 2008; Tisserand et al., 2013; Stirpe et al., 2021) or possibly a primary control in Cibicidoides wuellerstorfi (Yu and Elderfid 590 . Corrections for this influence are feasible for some species (e.g. Healey et al., 2008) but only if ΔCO_{2}^{2-} can also be reconstructed (which can be done in principle from B/Ca: Yu et al., 2008). Records used in this synthesis have not been corrected for ΔCO_3^{2-} ; this should be considered in future studies if sufficient data are available. Alternatively, the Mg/Li ratio may in future provide estimates of temperature that are independent of carbonate saturation (Bryan and Marchitto, 2008). Ostracod Mg/Ca appears less sensitive to ΔCO_3^{2-} (Farmer et al., 2012) but unfortunately the single relevant reconstruction available for this synthesis
- 595

extends back only to MIS 7 (Cronin et al., 2000).

Changes in ambient seawater Mg/Ca ratio are potentially important at Myr timescales (Ries, 2010). However, seawater Mg/Ca has increased by only ~ 0.1 mol/mol/Myr during the last 20 Myr, towards its modern ratio of ~ 4 kyr) of the synthesis. This is constrained partly, but not entirely, by the number of sites and the need to balance temporal resolution with statistical

confidence. In all interglacials except MIS 15, there would still be sufficient records to resolve peaks with at least 6 sites if 600 increasing resolution from 4 kyr to 2 kyr: in this case, some peaks become stronger because temporal smoothing is reduced. For example, the MIS 5 mol/mol (Coggon et al., 2010; Evans and Müller, 2012), so that changes in seawater Mg/Ca are not considered important for the purposes of this study.

5.2.1 **Diagenetic alteration, transport, and sample analysis**

Post-depositional dissolution or precipitation of calcite can further modify the Mg content of foraminiferal calcite (Sexton et al., 2006) 605 . Dissolution of calcite into seawater or interstitial pore waters with low ΔCO_3^{2-} biases the isotopic or trace metal content of the remaining shell, while secondary calcite precipitates deposited onto shells from ambient water may have different isotopic or trace metal signatures to those of the original biomineralised calcite (Broecker et al., 2006; Stirpe et al., 2021).

Bioturbation causes vertical mixing of foraminifera shells in surface sediments, leading to observed age differences as high as

- 1 to 3 kyr between different foraminifera species in the same sediment horizon (Anderson, 2001; Broecker et al., 2006; Mekik, 2014; Ausín 610 . This vertical mixing is equivalent to temporal smoothing of the reconstructed temperature signal, and most strongly affects sites with lower sedimentation rates. Although bioturbation could be problematic if revising this synthesis to a higher temporal resolution in future when more data are available, we would not expect this error source to substantially alter our results at peak increases from $0.5\pm0.5^{\circ}$ C (4 kyr) to $0.8\pm0.7^{\circ}$ C (2 kyr), while MIS 11 increases only from $0.6\pm0.4^{\circ}$ C (4 kyr) to $0.7\pm0.6^{\circ}$ C (2
- 615 kyr). Further reducing the resolution to 1 kyr leads to fewer contributing records in each time slice, and very wide error bars. Even though 2 kyr resolution - Reworking for example by winnowing and re-deposition adds a further source of error to both the reconstructed temperature and the age model, as local sediments become contaminated with older material from distal sites (e.g., Dezileau et al., 2000).-

In remains statistically viable through much of the study period, we chose not to use this higher resolution even for the latter period (MIS 11 to present) because it is not justified by assumptions underlying the $\delta^{18}O_b$ method, as outlined in Section 3.1.2. 620

A higher resolution synthesis would need a greater number of Mg/Ca paleothermometry the reductive sample cleaning method

can cause preferential leaching of Mg, relative to the oxidative method (Yu et al., 2007; Yu and Elderfield, 2008), as is also the case for planktic foraminifera (Barker et al., 2003). records, which do not have the same limitations on time scale.

5.2.1 Sea-level transfer functions for oxygen isotopic bottom water temperature estimates

625 Benthic foraminiferal calcite δ^{18} O depends on both the temperature and δ^{18} O of ambient seawater. At glacial cycle timeseales, the latter varies primarily with global ice volume, as ¹⁶O becomes preferentially locked up in ice sheets so that seawater δ^{18} O becomes more positive.

Deconvolving the temperature and seawater δ^{18} O contributions requires firstly estimates of global sea-level, secondly a suitable scaling to convert changes in sea level to changes in seawater δ^{18} O, and finally a suitable paleotemperature equation

- 630 linking benthic calcite δ^{18} O, water temperature, and seawater δ^{18} O(Waelbroeck et al., 2002; Siddall et al., 2010; Bates et al., 2014) . Many assumptions are required in each stage, as discussed in detail by these authors. Overall, Bates et al. (2014) considered this method most appropriate for glacial cycle time scales after the mid-Pleistocene transition (MPT), and less so for rapid changes during glacial inception or termination, or prior to the MPT. Hence, we consider this method appropriate at 4 kyr time scales in the last 800 kyr. At higher temporal resolutions, Further smoothing is introduced in a regional mean temperature
- anomaly if spatial variability is not synchronous. This is increasingly less important at coarser resolution, because it only applies if the peak in one record is captured by a different time slice to the peak in another. However, with the sparse spatial distribution of records in our study, this is another argument against using a higher resolution, until there are sufficient records available such that the original temperature estimates using this method might benefit from revision using additional sea-level and hydrographic reconstructions that have been published in the last ca. 10 years. dataset can be subdivided into smaller
 regions.

A further point of caution is the lack of independence from sea-level records: this is not itself a problem for temperature reconstructions but it should be borne in mind when comparing the reconstructed temperatures with sea-level records (some correlation should be inevitable)For now we caution that 4 kyr resolution likely underestimates the magnitudes of peak warming in interglacials.

645 5.3 Persistence of target water masses CDW at selected sites

In Section 2 we provided a brief overview of the present-day distribution of CDW and its source regions, that we used as a basis for site selection. However, there is no guarantee these selected sites will represent the same water masses in the past. Under climates that are increasingly different from present, the question of changes in ocean circulation becomes increasingly importantas selected sites may no longer represent the target water mass. Of particular relevance is the debate concerning

weakening of the AMOC extent to which the AMOC has weakened during glacial climates , based on several proxies including foraminiferal carbon and neodymium isotopic signatures (¹³C and ε_{Nd}, respectively), foraminiferal Cd/Ca and Zn/Ca, and ²³¹Pa/²³⁰Th (e.g. Duplessy et al., 1988; Raymo et al., 1990; Yu et al., 1996; Marchitto et al., 2002; Lund et al., 2011; Kim et al., 2021; Wi . The debate is further addressed in modelling studies (e.g. Rahmstorf, 1994; Gu et al., 2017; Kageyama et al., 2021; Muglia and Schmittne -(e.g. Duplessy et al., 1988; Raymo et al., 1990; Yu et al., 1996; Marchitto et al., 2002; Lund et al., 2011; Gu et al., 2017; Kageyama et al.

. With a weaker AMOC, <u>shealing of</u> the southbound flow of NADW is thought to have been confined to shallower depths, and underlain by AABW extending further north than its present extent. That would be accompanied by upwards expansion of AABW. This could have resulted in some deep Atlantic core sites sites in the Atlantic sector of the Southern Ocean being bathed in colder AABW, instead of NADW upwelling NADW/CDW, during glacial elimates. climate states (Fig. 1). It is also possible that NADW was replaced to some extent by a different glacial water mass (glacial North Atlantic intermediate water:
GNAIW Boyle and Keigwin, 1987; Duplessy et al., 1988; Marchitto et al., 2002).

The drivers of this change in circulation could have been in the North Atlantic, where changes in sea-ice formation modify deep convection and deep water formation, and/or in the Southern Ocean, where changes in stratification reduced the mixing between Southern Ocean and Atlantic water masses (Duplessy et al., 1988; Muschitiello et al., 2019; Sun et al., 2020; Williams et al., 2021; Either way, Glacial-interglacial circulation changes in the effect of this change in circulation on our CDW temperature

- estimates may be less marked than might first be anticipated. In the case that shoaling of NADW leads to a switch from NADW to AABW bathing a core site, proxies based on benthic organisms should record a corresponding drop in temperature as AABW is colder than NADW (under present-day conditions). At the same time, recalling that CDW comprises a mix of NADW and colder locally-sourced water masses (Section 2), we would expect the reduced contribution of NADW to CDW to increase the relative importance of the mixing of CDW with colder water masses in the ACC. This change in balance would
 result in cooling of the CDW, which at least is qualitatively consistent with cooling in the proxy record. Overall, we would
- anticipate that reconstructed Atlantic BWT cooling caused by a change in water mass should still reflect (albeit less directly)a Pacific sector of the Southern Ocean were likely less variable, at least since the MPT (McCave et al., 2008; Bates et al., 2014)

 $\stackrel{.}{\sim}$

Insights into water mass changes at our sediment core sites can firstly be gained by comparing the Atlantic and Indian-Pacific
regional averages (Fig. 6). Here we find strong linear correlation (R²=0.63), and the RMSD between regions is 0.5°C (~20% of the glacial-interglacial variability). If a weakened glacial AMOC had strongly influenced the Atlantic sector sites, we might have expected to reconstruct greater cooling in any Atlantic sites switching to AABW. On the contrary, we find slightly weaker glacial cooling in the Atlantic sector, on average, than in the Indian-Pacific sector. This is shown by points clustering below the dashed *y* = *x* line in Fig. 6. On the other hand, δ¹³C at ODP 1090 (Hodell et al., 2003b) and MD02-2588 (Ziegler et al., 2013).
suggest an increased influence of southern-sourced water masses during glacial periods. Our reconstructed glacial cooling in both regions (Atlantic and Indian-Pacific), is then interpreted as reflecting cooling of CDW in the Southern Ocean. As more reconstructions become available, it would of course be preferable to constrain the temperature changes separately in NADW, CDW and AABW, by combining paleotemperature proxies and water mass tracers employed in sediment cores simultaneouslyall sectors – likely driven partly by an increased contribution of AABW – rather than a switch to north-bound

685 AABW at a subset of sites.

Further discussion of circulation changes is not warranted here but could be supplemented in future by other proxies analysed in the sediment cores we have used, e.g. ^{13}C .

5.4 Recommendations for use as a boundary condition or for model validation

As an ocean temperature boundary condition for calculating

690 5.4 Implications for ice shelf basal melting

We next provide an indication of how our reconstructed temperature changes could *potentially* influence ice shelf basal melt in an Antarctic Ice Sheet model, this record currently has insufficient temporal resolution to capture rapid temperature changes during interglacial periods, and its uncertainties are likely too large, melting, bearing in mind the important caveat that we have reconstructed changes in CDW temperature, and not changes in polewards CDW transport across the continental shelf.

- 695 We use the Amundsen Sea Embayment in West Antarctica, and the ice shelves of the Wilkes and Aurora subglacial basins of East Antarctica as examples. Each of these regions has extensive basins grounded below sea-level and has been considered as susceptible to rapid, ocean-driven retreat under future warming (Arthern and Williams, 2017: Golledge et al., 2021; Reese et al., 2022; Jord . Modified CDW currently accesses cavities beneath ice shelves in the Amundsen Sea and Aurora sectors (Jacobs et al., 1996; Wåhlin et al., , but probably not in the Wilkes sector (Silvano et al., 2016).
- 700 With our anomaly-based temperature reconstruction (T_{CDW}) , temporal changes in the thermal forcing (T_F) driving ice shelf basal melt are estimated using

$$T_F(x, y, t) = T_0(x, y) + \Delta T_{CDW}(t) - T_{PMP}(x, y)$$
⁽⁷⁾

where T_0 is the present-day temperature of water accessing sub-shelf cavities; ΔT_{CDW} is the CDW temperature *anomaly* we have calculated in this study, and T_{PMP} is the pressure melting point at the ice shelf base, taken here as -1.8°C. When

- 705 $T_E > 0$, ice shelf basal melt rates increase as ocean temperature increases (e.g. Beckmann and Goosse, 2003). When $T_E \le 0$ there is no basal melting. Present-day temperatures (T_0) at 500 to be used directly. A 1-dimensional time series also contains no information on spatial variability between ice shelves or even between the Atlantic, Indian and Pacific sectors . Until the uncertainty can be reduced with the addition of further reconstructions, the synthesis would be more appropriately used to complement or validate alternative (less direct) estimates of CDW temperature changes such as those previously employed
- 710 800 m depth adjacent to ice shelves in each region are extracted from the World Ocean Atlas (Locarnini et al., 2018) following Chandler et al. (2023), and closely match previous estimates by Schmidtko et al. (2014). Although transferring CDW temperature anomalies directly to changes in thermal forcing beneath ice shelves is a very simplistic representation of how ocean warming might translate to sub-shelf melting, this approach is commonly used by paleo ice sheet modellers (Pollard and DeConto, 2012; Tigchelaar of due to an absence of practical alternatives (Quiquet et al., 2018; Albrecht et al., 2020; Sutter et al., 2019; Crotti et al., 2022),
- 715 and at least illustrates regional differences in potential ice shelf susceptibility to interglacial warming.

We also note that changes in CDW temperature do not necessarily correlate directly with changes in basal melting: ocean-ice heat transport and sub-shelf melting depend not only on the open-ocean CDW temperature but also the rate of transport of CDW across the continental shelf. Neither the strength of cross-continental-shelf transport of CDW, nor its mixing with other local water masses, can yet be reconstructed directly for any ice Comparing the three regions (Fig. 10) we find three distinct

720 characteristics in their T_F time series. Thermal forcing in the Amundsen Sea Embayment remains positive throughout the 800 kyr study period, although the uncertainty envelope includes $T_F < 0$ in some glacial time slices. This indicates potential for

persistent basal melting of ice shelves buttressing key ice streams (e.g. Thwaites and Pine Island glaciers) even under glacial climates, provided that CDW can still access the continental shelf in existing proxy records prior to the Holocene. However, the extent to which CDW can access sub-shelf cavities has been parameterised, for example using local geometric factors

725 (DeConto and Pollard, 2016).

755

One of the main uncertainties in our synthesis is the possible switch from NADW to AABW at some core sites during cooler elimates. From an ice sheet modelling perspective this issue is likely of little consequence: as the ocean cools below during glacial climate states. This would be consistent with a reconstructed LGM ice extent that did not reach the continental shelf break in the Amundsen Sea (Klages et al., 2017). Ice shelves buttressing the Aurora subglacial basin (e.g., Totten) are more

- 730 likely to have switched from cold to warm conditions between glacials and interglacials, as T_F switches from significantly negative to significantly positive. Finally the Wilkes subglacial basin is the only one of these three basins to have its main ice shelves considered as a 'cold' cavities under present-day conditions , we would expect basal melting to rapidly decrease, leading to an advance of ice shelf fronts and grounding lines, and an increase in the relative contribution of calving to ice sheet mass balance. If modelling ice sheet response to warming in past interglacials (which is a more common aim of
- 735 such experiments), the persistent and close relationship between our BWT synthesis andother temperature estimates (Fig. 8 and Section ??) supports interglacial ocean circulation patterns similar to that of our modern circulation; in this case our BWT synthesisshould provide a good estimate of CDW changes. Under those conditions, the greatest unconstrained uncertainty might be the influence of West Antarctic Ice Sheet collapse on Southern Ocean circulation: this would open deep pathways connecting the Amundsen, Ross and Weddell seas which could substantially impact Southern Ocean circulation
- 740 (Bougamont et al., 2007; Vaughan et al., 2011)(Silvano et al., 2016), and it thus seems likely to have remained in a cold state through much of the past 800 ka – except for the peaks of interglacials 11, 9 and 5.

Given the high sensitivity of the marine subglacial basins of West and East Antarctica to ocean-driven melting, the results from this very basic analysis highlight how we really need more CDW temperature reconstructions, to (i) increase confidence in glacial-interglacial temperature changes; (ii) improve temporal resolution, which is currently too poor for direct use of T_{CDW}

745 as a boundary condition; and (iii) evaluate regional variability. The issue of low resolution is likely to always hinder use directly as a boundary condition, because even decadal-scale temperature variability influences basal melt and grounding line migration (e.g. Jenkins et al., 2018). Hence in practice it is likely that stochastic noise, with characteristics determined based on modern observations and/or modelling, will need adding to a proxy-based temperature reconstruction.

For now, the synthesis would be more appropriately used to complement or validate the alternative (less direct) estimates of
750 CDW temperature changes employed in modelling studies (Pollard and DeConto, 2012; de Boer et al., 2014; Quiquet et al., 2018; Tigchela, since none of these approaches has yet been independently validated.

5.5 Recommendations for comparison with climate model output

Besides its use as a boundary condition in ice sheet modelling, our synthesis can be used for comparison with climate model output. This can be done in two ways: the first is to carry out site-by-site comparison; the second is to compute regional or water-mass averages in the climate model output and compare those with the regional average in this synthesis. The first

method has the advantages that no water mass classification or regional averaging is required when processing the climate model output, and the site-by-site comparison reveals where the model-data match is particularly good or poor. A disadvantage is that we do not provide error bounds for individual sites. This is an important consideration since errors are likely to be large for an individual site at each time slice, and only become reasonable when averaging over several sites. Errors particularly in

the $\delta^{18}O_h$ method are hard to quantify and are instead combined with spatial variance in our empirical uncertainty estimates 760 reported for the regional average. In the case that site-specific errors were needed, we would recommend conservative estimates of errors in each step, that can be propagated through the whole analysis in a Monte-Carlo simulation.

Priorities for future reconstructions 5.6

Given the high value that CDW temperature reconstructions have for ice sheet and climate modellers, whether for model 765 validation or as a boundary condition, further efforts to improve the resolution, reduce variance and add regional variability would be very welcome. These could be addressed by:

- 1. Analysis of foraminiferal Mg/Ca in additional sediment cores, targeted at sites in the Southern Ocean or South Atlantic Southern Ocean sediment cores. Even relatively low-resolution records, which might have limited use individually, can be helpful in a synthesis of reconstructions provided reasonable age control can be established. This is because we use the t-distribution to calculate confidence intervals, and the width of confidence intervals decreases rapidly with increasing sample size, when sample size is small.
- 2. Further work to account for the influence on non-thermal factors in Mg/Ca paleothermometry, in particular carbonate chemistry, and how these might be corrected for (Bryan and Marchitto, 2008; Healey et al., 2008; Raitzsch et al., 2008) in the Southern Ocean (Bryan and Marchitto, 2008; Healey et al., 2008; Raitzsch et al., 2008).
- 775 3. Application of additional proxies, in particular those less sensitive to carbonate chemistry: for example clumped isotope paleothermometry as this proxy is independent of seawater chemistry (e.g. Tripati et al., 2010; Piasecki et al., 2019). (e.g. Tripati et al., 2010; Piasecki et al., 2019; Peral et al., 2022) or Li/Mg (Bryan and Marchitto, 2008; Chen et al., 2023) . Calcium isotope paleothermometry has also shown potential in benthic foraminifera, but less convincingly at temperatures below 3°C (Gussone and Filipsson, 2010; Mondal et al., 2023). An increased diversity in proxy types helps reduce bias associated with a single method or organism. 780

770

4. Application Further application of multiple proxies to the same core samples would be greatly beneficial, to quantify proxy biases and uncertainties independently of variance contributed by dating uncertainties and geographic variability. Only two sites in this synthesis have both proxies, and at these sites it appeared the methodological errors contributed more variance than spatial variability.

785 6 Conclusions

Here we have synthesised BWT reconstructions in the Southern Ocean and Atlantic Ocean with the aim of estimating changes in CDW temperature during the last 8 glacial-interglacial cycles (from 800 ka / MIS 19 to present) to present. Although BWT reconstructions are sparse in comparison to SST, there are sufficient data to establish a statistically meaningful synthesis at 4 kyr resolution. This yields estimated CDW temperature anomalies of ca. -2 to -1.5°C during glacial periods, warming to +0.1 to +0.6 \pm 0.4°C and 0.5 \pm 0.5°C during the strongest interglacials (MIS 11 , 9, and 5, 1 respectively) (Fig. 4). The MIS

- +0.1 to +0.6±0.4°C and 0.5±0.5°C during the strongest interglacials (MIS 11 , 9, and 5, 1respectively) (Fig. 4). The MIS
 7 CDW temperature anomaly was comparatively cooler at -0.6-0.3±0.5°. A warmer early Holocene is consistent with many other paleotemperature records (Section ??) but not yet statistically significant owing to the small sample size. C, and MIS 9 was poorly resolved at our temporal resolution.
- There are many periods of high uncertainty, particularly prior to MIS 11, and the signal-to-noise ratio is generally much poorer than for our recent Southern Ocean SST synthesis that followed a similar approach (Chandler and Langebroek, 2021b) attributed to the combination of high variance amongst a small number of sites. The high variance is likely dominated by methodological rather than geographic variability (see Section 54 and Figs. 6 and 7). Despite the uncertainty, we find strong correlation with the AIS surface air temperature and Southern Ocean SST at time-scales of 4 kyr and longer, with little evidence of substantial leads/lags evidence for a likely short (< 2 kyr) lag of T_{CDW} behind T_{AIS} and SST (Figs. ??4, 8, 9). We also find
- 800 very close agreement between our CDW temperature estimates and the Rohling et al. (2021) global DWT reconstruction, but with the latter leading by up to 4 kyr. Interestingly there is a stronger relationship with GDWT than with T_{NADW} at ODP 980 (Fig. 8). Our results do not provide evidence of the strength of such correlations at shorter timescales, and additional sites that help to increase the temporal resolution would be very beneficial in this respect.
- Besides the low resolution and high uncertainty there are some significant weaknesses to address in future work: in particular, dependence on records from distant sites in the North Atlantic, which imposes assumptions on the persistence of ocean circulation patterns during past climate states; and an absence of sites with reconstructions from multiple methods, which prevents one of the most valuable means of validation. Given the importance of the deep ocean in both climate variability and Antarctic Ice Sheet mass balance, an increase in the number of South Atlantic or Southern Ocean sites with BWT CDW temperature reconstructions is urgently needed, for its own worth in understanding past oceanographic changes and also for use by modellars as a boundary condition or for validation.
- 810 use by modellers as a boundary condition or for validation.

Data availability. Original temperature reconstructions are available from the sources cited in Table 1. The synthesis will be archived at Pangaea and is also available from the authors on request.

Author contributions. DC compiled the synthesis. Both authors contributed to the manuscript.

815 *Acknowledgements.* This study was funded by the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement no. 820575 (TiPACCs). We gratefully acknowledge the authors of the original temperature reconstructions cited in Table 2, who have made their data publicly available. We also thank the two anonymous reviewers, whose comments have greatly improved this paper.



Comparison of CDW temperatures Here T_{NADW} is estimated in our BWT synthesis as the mean of two North Atlantic temperature reconstructions from $\delta^{18}O_b$ (black with grey shaded 95% confidence intervalODP 980 and DSDP 607), with other paleotemperature records: . (d) East Antarctic Ice Sheet surface air temp (SAT) from Jouzel et al. (2007) and Parrenin et al. (2013) (red); , resampled to 4 kyr resolution to match the resolution of our BWT synthesis. (e) Southern Ocean SST from Chandler and Langebroek (2021b) (blue turquoise with shaded 95% confidence interval); global mean deep water temperature from Shakun et al. (2015) (turquoise dots); and global mean deep water temperature from Rohling et al. (2021) (orange blue dashes). All Both records have been are again resampled to 4 kyrto match. Numbers and vertical shading show the resolution of our BWT synthesis, except for Shakun et al. (2015) which is plotted at its original 3 kyr resolutionmarine isotope stages (Lisiecki and Raymo, 2005).

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Figure 6. Correlation between mean T_{CDW} in the three Atlantic sector cores and mean T_{CDW} in the three Indian-Pacific sector cores (asee Fig. 4 for locations). The dashed line indicates the 1:1 ratio. Each point represents a 4 kyr time slice.



Figure 7. <u>Correlation between BWT</u> reconstructed with Mg/Ca and BWT reconstructed with foraminiferal δ^{18} O; and (b) BWT, at the two Southern Ocean sites situated in CDW and sites situated in NADW under present-day conditions for which both are available. Dashed lines indicate The dashed line indicates the 1:1 ratio. Each point represents a 4 kyr time slice.



Figure 8. Correlation between our BWT CDW temperature synthesis (y-axis) and other paleotemperature records. These are: (x-axisa) \div these are East Antarctic Ice Sheet surface air temperature from 800 ka to present (T_{AIS} ; red) (Jouzel et al., 2007; Parrenin et al., 2013) , and Southern Ocean sea surface temperature from 220 ka to present (SST; blueturquoise) (Chandler and Langebroek, 2021b); and (b) NADW temperature at ODP 980 (T_{NADW} , orange, this study) reconstructed using data from Oppo et al. (1998), McManus et al. (1999) and Flower et al. (2000), and global mean deep water temperature (GDWT T_{GDW} , orangeblue) (Rohling et al., 2021). All records have been resampled to 4 kyrto match our BWT synthesis. Dashed lines and corresponding text show best fit curves calculated using quadratic regression. The black dotted line is y = x.



Figure 9. Correlation between our BWT synthesis T_{CDW} and other paleotemperature records, after introducing applying a lag temporal offset of -8 to +8 kyr in the BWT records T_{CDW} . A negative offset (lag) indicates that changes in the other record precede precede changes in BWT T_{CDW} . The three four panels are the for (a) East Antarctic Ice Sheet surface air temperature (panel a) (Jouzel et al., 2007; Parrenin et al., 2013); the (b) Southern Ocean sea surface temperature (for the period 220 ka to present, Chandler and Langebroek, 2021b) (panel bc) for the period 220 ka to present (Chandler and Langebroek, 2021b) NADW deep water temperature at ODP 980 (Oppo et al., 1998; McManus et al., 1999; Flower et al., 2000) (re-analyed in this study); and the (d) global mean deep water temperature (panel c) (Rohling et al., 2021). Since the BWT T_{CDW} time series is at 4 kyr resolution, leads/lags shorter than 4 kyr cannot yet be evaluated.



Figure 10. Estimated changes in thermal forcing for ice shelf basal melt in the Amundsen Sea, Aurora and Wilkes sectors of the Antarctic Ice Sheet. Here we consider thermal forcing as the temperature of upwelling CDW (T_{CDW}), before it is modified during its transport across the continental shelf and into ice shelf cavities. In this very simplistic demonstration there is no guarantee that CDW always accesses sub-shelf cavities or that transport rates have not changed, i.e., an increase in thermal forcing only indicates *potential* for increasing ice shelf basal melt under ocean circulation conditions conducive for CDW access to cavities.

Event	Sea-level (B14) [m]	Sea-level (this study) [m]	Sources
Mid-Pliocene	+28 [+12,+44]	1	S10
MIS 12	1	-138 [-150, -125]	G14, H18, S15
MIS 11c	1	+10 [-8, +13]	G14
MIS 10	1	-103 [-125, -75]	G14, S15
MIS 9e	1	0 [-26, +6]	G14, M13
MIS 8	1	-93 [-106, -72]	G14, S15
MIS 7e	-10 [-15, -5]	-10 [-20, 0]	G14, M13
MIS 7c	-12.5 [-15, -10]	1	S10
MIS 7a	-12.5 [-15, -10]	-10 [-25, 0]	G14
MIS 6	1	-110 [-140, -90]	D15, G14, S15
MIS 5e	+8.7 [+8, +9.4]	+5 [+2, +7]	G14, D15, D20
MIS 5c	-11.3 [-12, -10.6]	-10 [-20, 0]	G14, M13
MIS 5a	-11.3 [-12, -10.6]	-10 [-34, -5]	G14, M13
MIS 4	-90 [-100, -80]	-91 [-107, -81]	S15
MIS 3	-70 [-90, -50]	-50 [-70, -44]	G14, M13, S15
MIS 2	-130 [-140, -120]	-130 [-140, -120]	G14, H18, M13, S15
1 SIM	0	0 [-2, 0]	D15
Table 1. Sea-level mark	ers used for establishing transfer functions. Ma	arkers used by Bates et al. (2014) are provided	d here for comparison. Sources and very briefly
the methods employed a	re as follows: C17 Creveling et al. (2017) glob.	val database of high-stands in MIS 7a, 7c; D15	Dutton et al. (2015) review of global evidence;

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220 Dyer et al. (2021) Bahamas paleo shore-lines and GIA modelling; G14 Grant et al. (2014) Red Sea benthic oxygen isotopes; H18 Hughes and Gibbard (2018)
eview of ice extent, marine oxygen isotopes and ice core evidence; M13 Medina-Elizalde (2013) global compilation of coral benchmarks; R06 Rabineau et al.
2006) sedimentary evidence (Western Mediterranean); S10 Siddall et al. (2010); S15 Shakun et al. (2015) paired benthic/planktic oxygen isotopes.

Site	Location	Proxy	Proxy ref
MD02-2588	41.2S 8.9E, 2905 m	C. wuellerstorfi $\delta^{18}O_b$	Starr et al. (2021)
ODP 1090	42.9S 8.9E, 3702 m	C. wuellerstorfi $\delta^{18}O_b$	Hodell et al. (2003b)
ODP 1094	53.2S 5.1E, 2807 m	M. pompiloides Mg/Ca,	Hasenfratz et al. (2019)
		Cibicidoides spp. $\delta^{18}O_b$	
ODP 1123	41.7S 171.5W, 3290 m	Uvigerina spp. Mg/Ca (*),	Elderfield et al. (2012)
		Uvigerina spp. $\delta^{18}O_b$	
ODP 1170	47.2S 146.1E, 2704 m	C. wuellerstorfi $\delta^{18}O_b$	Nürnberg et al. (2004)
PS75-059-2	54.2S 125.4E, 3613 m	Cibicidoides spp. $\delta^{18}O_b$	Ullermann et al. (2016)
Table 2. Proxy records used for bc	ottom water temperature reconstructi	ons. Notes: (*) BWT recalculated here using the Stirpe of	et al. (2021) calibration for Uvigerine

spp. Mg/Ca = 0.073T + 0.9.

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