# Comprehensive Assessment of Stress Calculations for Crevasse Depths and Testing with Crevasse Penetration as Damage

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Abstract. Crevasse depth calculations with the Nye formulation zero stress approximation or linear elastic fracture mechanics are used in many applications, including calving laws, determination of stable cliff heights, shelf vulnerability to collapse via hydrofracture, and damage evolution in ice. The importance of improving the representation of these processes for reducing sea-level rise uncertainty makes careful calculation of stresses for crevasse depths critical. The resistive stress calculations used as input for these crevasse predictions have varied across studies, including differences such as the use of flow direction stress versus maximum principal stress, the inclusion of crevasse-parallel deviatoric stress, and calculation of effective strain rate. Some studies even use deviatoric stress in the place of resistive stress for crevasse depth calculations. Many studies do not provide an adequate description of how stress was calculated. We provide a systematic review of how resistive stress calculations found in the literature result in differing crevasse depth predictions and where these differences are most pronounced. First, we study differences in crevasse size depths calculated from idealized representative strain rate states and then from velocity observations of several Antarctic ice shelves. To test whether the patterns of crevasse depths predicted from these stresses have a strong connection to bulk rheology, we use crevasse penetration as damage and compare predicted velocities from an ice sheet model against observed velocity. We find that the selection of stress calculation ean-frequently changes crevasse size depth predictions by a factor of two or more and that differences are pronounced in shear margins and regions of unconfined, spreading flow. The most physically consistent calculation uses the maximum principal stress direction, includes vertical strain rate from continuity in the effective strain rate calculation, and uses three-dimensional resistive stress  $(R_{xx} = 2\tau_{xx} + \tau_{yy})$ . However, this calculation has rarely been used to date in studies requiring crevasse depth predictions. We find that this most physically consistent stress calculation produces a damage pattern that qualitatively matches surface features and quantitatively reproduces observed velocities better than other stress calculations; we therefore recommend the use of this stress calculation. This result also suggests that other stress calculations likely overpredict shear margin vulnerability to hydrofracture and would overpredict calving in shear margins and spreading fronts when implemented in the crevasse depth calving law.

#### 1 Introduction

Ice damage evolution, ice shelf collapse, and calving are three related processes that lead to increased ice velocityflow rates into the ocean, increasing sea level rise rates. Highadd uncertainty in modeling these processes propagates into uncertainty in the future sea-level riseto the sea level rise contributions of the Greenland and Antarctic ice sheets (van de Wal et al., 2022). Ice shelves restrain upstream ice flow via buttressing, backstress from shear load transmitted to embayment walls, or from compressive loading caused by pinning points (Fürst et al., 2016; Gudmundsson, 2013; Schoof, 2007). In ice shelves, dDamage evolution can reduce the amount of buttressing provided by the shelf to the upstream ice. This causes an increase in speed of the upstream ice and thus a higher rate of sea-level contribution (e.g. Khazendar et al., 2015; Lhermitte et al., 2020). This damage evolution, sometimes aided by high surface meltwater availability, can also lead to collapse of entire ice shelves. Shelf collapse fully removes buttressing, so the corresponding change in speed of upstream ice can be large, as seen for the inlet glaciers into the former Larsen B shelf (e.g., Rignot et al., 2004; Rott et al., 2011). While retreat from increased calving is less dramatic than a sudden ice shelf collapse, the result can be the same: both can result in increased in glacier velocities because of termini in locations that provide less backstress. This effect was demonstrated via ice sheet modeling of Sermeq Kujalleq (Jakobshavn Isbrae) that found terminus position change caused the majority of the doubling of the glacier's velocity (Bondzio et al., 2017). Finally, in the case of ice shelf collapse, initialization of retreat through the rapid, brittle mechanism of Marine Ice Cliff Instability (MICI) has been proposed if cliffs are exposed that ice strength cannot support (Bassis and Walker, 2011; Pollard et al., 2015).

A commonality between these processes is the importance of the presence and size of crevasses. For damage evolution, Sun et al. (2017) used crevasse penetration directly as damage. Albrecht and Levermann (2014) and Borstad et al. (2016) proposed damage laws that do not directly consider crevasse depth but use threshold stresses for damage initiation that can be linked to crevasse initiation by linear elastic fracture mechanics (LEFM). For ice shelf vulnerability to hydrofracture, Lai et al. (2020) demonstrated that crevasse presence predictions with LEFM aligns with locations where crevasses are observed. They then identify regions that both provide buttressing and are expected to be crevassed to assess where hydrofracture could cause shelf collapse that will yield increased upstream velocity. Calving has been modeled directly based on the predicted crevasse depths from local stresses in the crevasse depth calving law (Benn et al., 2007; Nick et al., 2010), which has been used by many subsequent studies (Amaral et al., 2020; Benn et al., 2023; Choi et al., 2018; Todd et al., 2018). Berg and Bassis (2022) also showed the importance of crevasse advection from upstream for modeling calving. Finally, the limit on cliff height for stability under the MICI theory used crevasse penetration with the Nye crevasse formulationzero stress approximation (Bassis and Walker, 2011). On top of these phenomena that are linked to and often modeled with crevasse depths, crevasses also affect surface energy balance (Cathles et al., 2011; Colgan et al., 2016).

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There are two-three primary methods for calculating crevasse depths from stress. First, 7the zero stress approximation (Nye, 1955) assumes The Nye crevasse formulation (Nye, 1957) assumes-ice has no tensile strength and that the presence of a crevasse does not modify the surrounding stress field. Second, tThe horizontal force balance method (Roger-Buck, 2023) maintains the assumption that ice has no tensile strength but considers the impact of water pressure in basal crevasses on force balance. As basal crevasse height increases with stress according to the zero stress approximation, so too does the force balance impact, creating a crevasse-size-amplifying effect. Finally, Linear-linear elastic fracture mechanics (LEFM), which waapplied to crevasses by (Weertman, (1973) and many subsequent researcherss applied to crevasses by (Smith, 1976) (Rist et al., 1996) van der Veen (1998a, 1998b), considers the stress-amplifying effect of crevasse geometry and allows laboratory measurements of a material's resistance to fracture to be used for predicting fracture in more complex stress states recognizes ice strength and considers the stress amplifying effect of crevasse geometry. LEFM changes the predicted depths relative to Nye crevasse theorytends to increase predicted crevasse depths relative to the zero stress approximation for isolated crevasses (Lai et al., 2020; van der Veen, 1999) (Lai et al., 2020) and allows for the determination of threshold stress for crevasse formation based on ice's fracture toughness and the size of the initial flaw (a small defect in the ice surface) (e.g., Lai et al., 2020; van der Veen, 1999). Studies have assessed the differences in crevasse depth predictions between these calculations and compared them to observations (Mottram and Benn, 2009; Enderlin and Bartholomaus, 2020). A key input to these calculations is the full stress as a function of ice depth, although not all studies have used the full stress.

The crux of the problem is what component or components of ice stress control the propagation of a crevasse. The calculation steps to go from observed strain rate and temperature to the full stress have varied significantly across crevassedepth studies. For example, five different stress calculations can be found in six studies that use crevasse depths for damage evolution, shelf collapse vulnerability, calving, and comparison to observed crevasses (Amaral et al., 2020; Choi et al., 2018; Enderlin and Bartholomaus, 2020; Lai et al., 2020; Mottram and Benn, 2009; Sun et al., 2017). The differences in stress calculations come from the stress orientation (flow direction or maximum principal), use and calculation of effective strain rate, and inclusion of the deviatoric stress running parallel to the crevasse in the resistive stress calculation. Two studies (Choi et al., 2018; Lai et al., 2020) have tested their methods across two different stress calculations, but to date no study has comprehensively surveyed the range of stress calculations used for crevasse depths.

We seek to determine more broadly whether and where selection of stress calculation is significant in determining crevasse depths. In the background, we will present the differences in stress calculations across studies in more detail. Then, in the methods, we show crevasse sizes for simple idealized strain rate states with each calculation before plotting crevasse penetration on real ice shelves. We compare predicted crevasse penetration against observed surface features and velocity to assess whether the results with each stress calculation are realistic. With stress calculation versions that seem plausible, we then study the connection between calculated crevasse depths and bulk ice rheology. We do this by testing the ability of crevasse penetration as damage to yield observed velocity fields with an ice sheet model. We find that common assumptions made when calculating resistive stress from strain rates frequently lead to differing crevasse depths by a factor of two or more

and that the most physically based calculation creates crevasse penetration that best reproduces observed velocities when used 95 as damage in an ice sheet model.

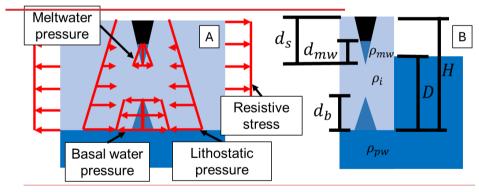
# 2 Background

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#### 2.1 Stress contributions for crevasse calculations

While the viscous flow of ice is driven by deviatoric stressstress differences (deviatoric stresses), the component of the Cauchy stress that does not cause volume change during deformation, brittle failure is driven by the Cauchy stress itself-comes from the full stress. If ice is pulled on in equi-triaxial tension, it will not flow but it may fracture. For this reason, the lithostatic pressure that increases with depth does not affect viscous deformation but does suppress crevasse extension. (Change in lithostatic pressure with distance causes flow, but pressure itself does not.) The Calculating the full Cauchy or full stress as a function of depth in the ice column used total determine crevasse sizes is done by combining comes from the combination of resistive stress, lithostatic pressure, and water pressure (Fig. 1).



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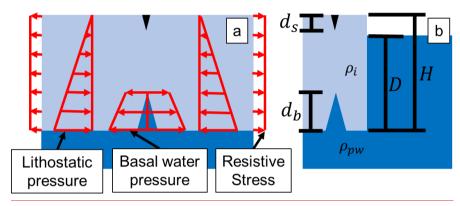


Figure 1: Diagrams of (aA) stress and pressures that control crevasse sizes and (bB) variables used in crevasse size calculations. Physical property values and variable descriptions are provided in Tables A1 and A2 in the appendix.

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The resistive stress is the stress pulling a crevasse open because of local ice extension. In areas with simple stress states, such as on an ice shelf or near an ice cliff, the average resistive stress may be known directly through force balance calculations. More often, however, stress states are complex; there, In remote-sensing or field-measurement-s based workflows, deviatoric stresses are calculated from strain rates using Glen's flow law, from which resistive stress may then be calculated. Within Glen's flow law, the selection of depth-averaged temperature, depth-averaged rigidity, a vertical temperature profile, or surface and basal temperatures will have large impacts (Coffey et al., 2024) but is not considered here. Change in ice rigidity with firn density is also important in specific settings but not considered (Clayton et al., 2024; Gao et al., 2023) but also not considered here. The differences in stress calculations we consider are in the stress direction selected, the calculation of effective strain rate, and the consideration of deviatoric stress in the crevasse-parallel direction when calculating resistive stress.

Lithostatic pressure comes from the weight of ice above the vertical position in the ice column and counters the 120 resistive stress to prevent crevasse extension. For surface crevasses, firn density properties are again critical, with density changing the increase in lithostatic pressure with depthis an important consideration as it can significantly change the lithostatic pressure near the surface (Clayton et al., 2024; Gao et al., 2023; van der Veen, 1998a)((Clayton et al., 2024; Gao et al., 2023; van der Veen, 1998a) Van Der Veen, 1998)). In the case of meltwater in a surface crevassepooled surface melt, water pressure acts against the lithostatic pressure, allowing for more crevasse extension. Water in crevasses has been included as fixed depth (e.g., Benn et al., 2007) or as maintaining a water table height (e.g., van der Veen, 1998a). The water table height approach leads to hydrofracture once a crevasse reaches the water table (or potentially a little beyond for LEFM) due to water's density exceeding that of ice. Firn porosity can reduce the pressure loading transmitted into the ice itself (Meng et al., 2024). Water in basal crevasses again acts against lithostatic pressure. In floating ice in hydrostatic equilibrium, the lithostatic pressure and water pressure at the bottom surface of the shelf are equal. With vertical position, water pressure decreases more than lithostatic

pressure according to their densities. This adds net compression with rising crevasse height, but at a much slower rate than

lithostatic pressure alone for surface crevasses, resulting in the prediction of much largertaller basal crevasses. In the case of a

crevasse allowing water to reach higher in the ice column, the increase in pressure with elevation is proportional to the

difference between ocean (or lake) water density and ice density. As the corresponding increase in compressive stress with

depth for a dry surface crevasse is proportional to ice density, basal crevasses are predicted to be much larger than surface

crevasses. This remains so even when the relative softness of basal ice near melting temperature is considered in the calculation,

as shown later in the Results section (Table 3Table 3).

#### 2.2 Nye crevasse formulation Zero stress approximation

The zero stress approximation (Nye, 1955). The Nye crevasse formulation (Nye, 1957) assumes that ice has no tensile strength such that a crevasse extends as far into ice as tension is present. When the resistive stress is tensile, then, surface crevasses will extend down until the lithostatic pressure of ice equals the resistive stress. Weertman (1980) and Jezek (1984) used this idea criterion to calculate basal crevasse heights on ice shelves by including the pressure from ocean water. The crevasse depth calving law (Benn et al., 2007; Nick et al., 2010) applies the Nye crevasse formulation zero stress approximation for prediction of calving by limiting the terminus position to where surface crevasses do not reach the waterline and the combined surface and basal crevasse sizes do not penetrate the full thickness of ice. The water level in surface crevasses can thus be used as a tuning variable (e.g., Choi et al., 2018; Amaral et al., 2020). Subsequent studies based on the Nye crevasse formulation zero stress approximation (Bassis and Walker, 2011; Sun et al., 2017) have applied the equations in Nick et al. (2010) for surface and basal crevasses, which we reprint here for easy reference. Surface crevasse depth, d<sub>s</sub>, is given by

$$d_S = \frac{R_{XX}}{\rho_I g} + \frac{\rho_{mw}}{\rho_I} d_{mw} , \qquad (1)$$

where  $R_{xx}$  is the resistive stress perpendicular to the crevasse,  $\rho_i$  is ice density,  $\rho_{mw}$  is meltwater density,  $d_{mw}$  is the depth of meltwater in the crevasse, and g is gravitational acceleration (Fig. 1). Basal crevasse height,  $d_b$ , is given by

$$d_b = \frac{\rho_i}{\rho_{pw} - \rho_i} \left( \frac{R_{xx}}{\rho_{ig}} - H_{ab} \right), \tag{2}$$

where  $\rho_{pw}$  is the density of the proglacial water (lake or ocean) and  $H_{ab}$  is the height above buoyancy is defined as

$$H_{ab} = H - D \frac{\rho_{pw}}{\rho_i},\tag{3}$$

where H is ice thickness and D is the depth of ocean or lake water in contact with the ice cliff. Height above buoyancy is zero for ice shelves assumed to be in hydrostatic equilibrium. The resistive stress,  $R_{xx}$ , in Nick et al. (2010) is the one-dimensional form and is given as

$$R_{\rm xx} = 2 \left(\frac{\varepsilon_{\rm xx}}{a}\right)^{1/n},\tag{4}$$

where  $\dot{\varepsilon}_{xx}$  is the crevasse-perpendicular strain rate, A is the rate parameter flow rate-factor in Glen's flow law, and n is the flow law exponent. This is the crevasse-perpendicular deviatoric stress multiplied by a factor of two. More generally, the resistive stress is defined as the full stress minus the lithostatic pressure (van der Veen, 2017). Assessing three-dimensional implementations of Equation 4 that consider effective strain rate (ice softening from multiple directions of deformation) and crevasse parallel stress is the primary focus of our work. We will work with zero stress approximation because it is simple and will represent the same general pattern of change in crevasse depth predictions with stress calculation as would result in the other methods for predicting crevasse depths presented next.

#### 2.3 Horizontal force balance

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The horizontal force balance method (Roger Buck, 2023) maintains the zero stress criterion for ice failure but includes the self-amplifying effect of crevasses themselves on the force balance of the region of ice. As surface crevasse depth and basal crevasse height increase, force is carried by a smaller cross section of ice (here termed the ligament), and basal water pressure adds force that must be counteracted by additional force from ice deformation. These effects mean that, with increasing resistive stress and thus crevasse sizes, there will be an increasing additional crevasse size relative to those predicted by the zero stress approximation. The ratio of the increased stress in the remaining ligament ( $R_{xx,1}$ ) relative to the original resistive stress ( $R_{xx,0}$ ) for isothermal ice is

$$\frac{R_{XX,1}}{R_{XX,0}} = \frac{2}{1 - K_b} \left( \frac{d_w}{d_{pw}} \right) \left[ 1 - \sqrt{1 - (1 - K_b) \frac{d_{pw}}{d_w}} \right] \tag{5}$$

where  $K_b$  is the buttressing number, which normalizes the depth-averaged stress relative to a floating ice cliff and can be calculated as in (Fürst et al.; (2016), and  $d_w$  and  $d_{pw}$  are the distances between the ice surface and zero water pressure for water in the crevasse and proglacial water, respectively. The ratio between them can be calculated as

$$\frac{d_w}{d_{nw}} = \frac{\rho_{pw}}{\rho_w} \left( \frac{\rho_w - \rho_i}{\rho_{nw} - \rho_i} \right) \tag{6}$$

where  $\rho_w$  is the density of water filling the basal crevasses. If proglacial water density ( $\rho_{pw}$ ) and water in crevasses ( $\rho_w$ ) are saltwater of equal density, this ratio will be one. If freshwater fills a crevasse in an ice shelf floating in saltwater, this ratio would be around 0.8, increasing the stress in the remaining ligament. Surface (basal) crevasse depths (heights) with force balance are larger than those of the zero stress approximation by the ratio of the original resistive stress to the new resistive stress in the ligament ( $R_{xx,1}/R_{xx,0}$ ). For isothermal ice with saltwater filling the crevasse, this ratio extends from 1.0 to 2.0 as buttressing number decreases from 1.0 to 0.0.

#### 185 2.43 Linear elastic fracture mechanics

Linear elastic fracture mechanics (LEFM) addresses the stress singularity that would be predicted for a sharp crack tip and provides a parameter, stress intensity factor ( $K_I$ ), that describes the state at the crack tip. LEFM allowings crack size predictions in complex geometries and stress fields using laboratory measurements of fracture toughness ( $K_{IC}$ ) from comparatively simple

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test samples (Anderson, 2005 Section 2.6.1). LEFM was first applied to crevasses by Weertman (1973); later, with consideration of factors like finite ice thickness, crevasse spacing, basal crevasses, and boundary conditions was added by Smith (1976), (Rist et al. (1996), van der Veen (1998a,b), and Jiménez and Duddu (2018). There are three modes of loading, each, with their own stress intensity factor and fracture toughness. Mode I is load that pulls the crevasse walls apeart, Mode II would seeinvolves the rising of the surface on one side of the crevasse raise while the other side's surface lowers, and Mode III would seeinvolves the crevasse walls sliding parallel to the crevasse when viewed from above along strike, as in a strikeslip fault (van der Veen, 1998a). Functions for mixed mode fracture have been applied to crevasses (van der Veen, 1999); however, crevasse typically form perpendicular to maximum principal stress such that Mode I drives all crevasse opening (Colgan et al., 2016; Van Wyk de Vries et al., 2023; van der Veen, 1999). This tendency holds in shear margins, where crevasses form approximately 45-degrees from flow as Mode I crevasses, whereas Mode HIII fractures would be running strike parallel to the flow direction. As these crevasses reorient with flow, accounting for mixed mode fracture may be more critical. The application of linear elastic fracture mechanics (LEFM) to crevasses was formulated by van der Veen (1998a, 1998b) and has been updated by Jiménez and Duddu (2018) to better include the effects of boundary conditions (e.g., grounded versus floating ice)(Weertman, 1973)(Smith, 1976)(Rist et al., 1996)(van der Veen, 1998)(Jiménez and Duddu, 2018)(Rist et al., 1996; Smith, 1976; Van Der Veen, 1998; van der Veen, 1998). Like the zero stress approximation, LEFM requires the Cauchy stress as a function of depth. LEFM uses the same stress inputs (resistive, lithostatic, and hydrostatic) but considers the stress concentration at the crevasse tip caused by the presence of the crevasse itself. A crevasse will extend to the depth where the stress intensity factor becomes smaller than the fracture toughness of ice. For a single basal crevasse for example, the Mode I stress intensity factor,  $K_{I4}$ , as a function of the crevasse height, h, is given as (75)

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 $K_{I4} = \int_0^h \frac{2\sigma_n(z)}{\sqrt{\pi h}} G(\gamma, \lambda) dz$ 

where  $\sigma_n$  is the far\_field full stress Cauchy stress normal to the crevasse (which comes from resistive stress, lithostatic 210 pressure, and water pressure), z is the vertical distance from the shelf base, and  $G(\gamma, \lambda)$  is a function that accounts for geometry and and edge effectsstress distribution (van der Veen, 1998b). When resistive stress is used to reconstruct Cauchy stress through the ice thickness, our As the resistive stress inputs are the same between the Nye crevasse formulation and LEFM, we will work with the Nye crevasse formulation because it is simpler. Our findings about resistive stress calculation methods for the zero stress approximation will also be applicable to LEFM, with the recognition that differences in crevasse sizes from 215 stress calculations may be amplified with LEFM. An additional caveat regarding LEFM is that the stress intensity factor functions frequently assume a two-dimensional, plane strain state. When a material responds elastically, this means a stress forms parallel to the crack base due to Poisson ratio. Test sample thickness requirements are based on reproducing this stress triaxiality near the crevasse tip across most of the sample's thickness. The additional plasticity from this stress decreases the measured fracture toughness (Anderson, 2005 Section 2.10). This means that, in viscously deforming ice, there is some value of far-field, crevasse-parallel Cauchy stress that would recreate the equivalent triaxial stress state at the crevasse tip. This plane strain assumption will be violated when applying LEFM to all strain rate states across ice sheet surfaces.

#### 2.54 Stress calculations

# 2.5.1 Cauchy, deviatoric, and resistive stress

The Cauchy (or full) stress,  $\sigma$ , is the true infinitesimal force over area and has the tensor

$$\sigma = \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_{xx} & \sigma_{xy} & \sigma_{xz} \\ \sigma_{yx} & \sigma_{yy} & \sigma_{yz} \\ \sigma_{zx} & \sigma_{zy} & \sigma_{zz} \end{bmatrix}$$
(8)

where the first index refers to the face of the stress element a stress component is applied to, and the second index is the direction of that stress component. Cauchy stress is symmetric (Cuffey and Patterson, 2010 p. 676) and the shear components in the top right are used. The deviatoric stress,  $\tau$ , is the part of the Cauchy stress that does not cause volume change during deformation and is used in the flow law. It can be calculated by subtracting mean normal stress from the normal stresses on

230 the diagonal:

$$\boldsymbol{\tau} = \begin{bmatrix} \boldsymbol{\tau}_{xx} & \boldsymbol{\tau}_{xy} & \boldsymbol{\tau}_{xz} \\ \boldsymbol{\tau}_{yx} & \boldsymbol{\tau}_{yy} & \boldsymbol{\tau}_{yz} \\ \boldsymbol{\tau}_{zx} & \boldsymbol{\tau}_{zy} & \boldsymbol{\tau}_{zz} \end{bmatrix} = \boldsymbol{\sigma} - \delta_{ij} \sigma_{M} = \begin{bmatrix} \boldsymbol{\sigma}_{xx} - \boldsymbol{\sigma}_{M} & \boldsymbol{\sigma}_{xy} & \boldsymbol{\sigma}_{xz} \\ \boldsymbol{\sigma}_{yx} & \boldsymbol{\sigma}_{yy} - \boldsymbol{\sigma}_{M} & \boldsymbol{\sigma}_{yz} \\ \boldsymbol{\sigma}_{zx} & \boldsymbol{\sigma}_{zy} & \boldsymbol{\sigma}_{zz} - \boldsymbol{\sigma}_{M} \end{bmatrix} . \tag{9}$$

The mean normal stress is

$$\sigma_{\rm M} = \frac{1}{2} \left( \sigma_{\rm XX} + \sigma_{\rm VV} + \sigma_{\rm ZZ} \right). \tag{10}$$

The resistive stress, applied to glaciology by (Van Der Veen and Whillans; (1989), is defined as the Cauchy stress minus the
lithostatic pressure. It is primarily applied in two-dimensional, plan-view approximations of flow and can be written in terms
of deviatoric stress components as

$$R_{xx} = 2\tau_{xx} + \tau_{yy} + R_{zz}, \tag{11}$$

$$R_{yy} = 2\tau_{yy} + \tau_{xx} + R_{zz}, \tag{12}$$

$$\Omega_{YV} = T_{YV}$$
, (13)

$$240 \quad R_{\chi z} = \tau_{\chi z}, \tag{14}$$

$$R_{yx} = \tau_{yx} \tag{15}$$

(Van der Veen,  $2017 \underline{p.56}$ ).  $R_{ZZ}$  is zero when the bed fully supports the full weight of ice above, which is usually the case (Van der Veen,  $2017 \underline{p.57}$ )(Van Der Veen and Whillans, 1989).

While studies using ice sheet models can directly calculate the Cauchy stress, studies using strain rates from field measurements or from remote sensing velocity products must recover the Cauchy stress by calculating deviatoric stress from strain rate; resistive stress from deviatoric stress; and then the Cauchy stress from resistive stress, lithostatic pressure, and water pressure (Fig. 2). The calculations for each of the steps have varied across studies. We assess the impacts of variations in the calculation of effective strain rate, choice of stress direction, and inclusion of the crevasse-parallel deviatoric stress  $(\tau_{yy})$ 

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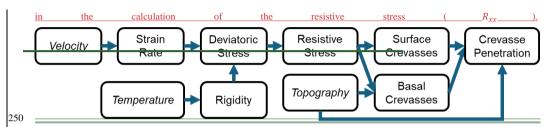
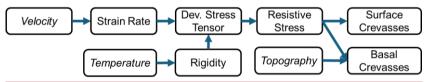


Figure 3: Flowchart showing the steps of the workflow used to make crevasse penetration maps. Italicized text indicates inputs from remote sensing products.

Studies using crevasse depth calculations have selected one or more methods of calculating stress from strain rate and temperature. The choice breaks down into the categories of consideration and calculation of effective strain rate, stress direction, and inclusion of the deviatoric stress parallel to the crevasse. We will consider six combinations of these options to explore where each choice is significant.



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Figure 2: Flowchart showing the steps of the workflow used to make crevasse penetration maps teps to calculate surface crevasse depths and basal crevasse heights from remote sensing velocity products. Italicized text indicates inputs from remote sensing products.

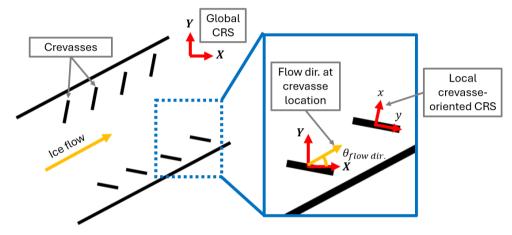
As satellite-derived or stake-derived measurements of strain rate yield only the surface value, we will be making the assumption that velocity and thus strain rate is constant with depth making the vertical shear stress terms  $(\sigma_{xz}, \sigma_{yz})$  zero. This is the assumption of the shallow shelf approximation (MacAyeal, 1989), which holds for ice shelves but is also a good approximation for grounded ice with high amounts of basal slip (Maier et al., 2019)including at tidewater glaciers near the terminus (e.g. Cuffey and Patterson, 2010 p. 495; Lüthi et al., 2002; Veen et al., 2011)(Cuffey and Patterson, 2010), in ice streams (e.g. Echelmeyer et al., 1994; MacAyeal, 1989), and even some of Greenland's slower moving margin (Maier et al., 2019).

In the subsequent sections considering these calculation choices and the rest of this study-, wWe use the following notation throughout the study except when noted otherwise. Capital X, Y, and Z subscripts indicate directions aligned to a global, arbitrary coordinate system with X and Y being the surface planar directions. Lower case x, y, and z subscripts indicate the local crevasse-perpendicular, crevasse-parallel, and vertical directions, respectively. The local x and y will usually differ from the global X and Y, as shown in Fig. 32, whereas Z and Z will be equivalent. The flow direction is indicated by the subscript, flow dir. Fig. 32 shows these coordinate systems. Also, maximum and minimum principal stresses or strain ratess from the planar tensorsurface terms receive subscripts of 1 and 2, respectively. (The true minimum

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275 principal term would sometimes be the vertical direction.)  $\tau_{ij}$  and  $\sigma_{ij}$  are used to denote components of the deviatoric stress tensor and <u>full-Cauchy</u> stress tensor, respectively. Finally,  $R_{xx}$  is the resistive stress perpendicular to the crevasse, which is the only direction of resistive stress needed.



280 Figure 3: DFigure 2: Diagram showing the global coordinate reference system (CRS), local crevasse-aligned CRS, and local flow direction angle relative to the global CRS.

### 2.45.21 Effective strain rate

The first determination in calculating stresses we consider is the calculation of the effective strain rate. Some implementations of crevasse depth calculations neglect effective strain rate and apply Glen's flow law\_(Glen, 1952) in a single dimension to determine the deviatoric stress in the crevasse-perpendicular direction,  $\tau_{xx}$ , as

$$\tau_{xx} = BA^{\frac{-1/n}{2}} \dot{\varepsilon}_{xx}^{1/n} = \frac{1}{2}$$

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where B is ice rigidity (B =  $A^{-1/n}$ ). Other studies use Nye's generalization of Glen's flow law (Nye, 1953) which accounts for the softening of ice from flow in multiple directions and gives each deviatoric stress component,  $\tau_{ij}$ , from the corresponding

strain rate component,  $\dot{\varepsilon}_{ij}$  as

$$\tau_{ij} = BA^{-1/n} \dot{\varepsilon}_{\text{eff}}^{\frac{1}{n}-1} \dot{\varepsilon}_{ij}$$

(17)

where  $\dot{\varepsilon}_{eff}$  is the effective strain rate,

$$\dot{\varepsilon}_{\text{eff}} = \sqrt{\frac{1}{2}} (\dot{e}_{XX}^2 + \dot{e}_{YY}^2 + \dot{e}_{ZZ}^2) + \dot{e}_{XY}^2 + \dot{e}_{XZ}^2 + \dot{e}_{YZ}^2. \tag{18}$$

295 Given the shallow shelf approximation, the  $\dot{e}_{XZ}$  and  $\dot{e}_{YZ}$  terms will both be zero. Most remote sensing velocity products include only horizontal (or planar) velocities, so studies using these products are only able to directly calculate the planar strain rate components ( $\dot{e}_{XX}$ ,  $\dot{e}_{YY}$ ,  $\dot{e}_{XY}$ ). From incompressibility, the divergence of velocity is zero. This means that the vertical strain rate is given by

$$\dot{e}_{ZZ} = -\dot{e}_{XX} - \dot{e}_{YY}$$
 (197)

It may be reasonable to neglect the vertical strain rate, as crevasses and low density firn relax incompressibility. In the testing of the crevasse depth calving law by Amaral et al. (2020), the effective strain rate is calculated without the vertical strain rate. The same resulting value in our notation with the global coordinate systems comes from

$$\dot{e}_{\text{eff,planar}} = \sqrt{\frac{1}{2}} (\dot{e}_{XX}^2 + \dot{e}_{YY}^2) + \dot{e}_{XY}^2, \qquad (208)$$

which we define as the planar effective strain rate,  $\dot{e}_{\rm eff,planar}$ . The implication of assuming no vertical strain rate is a change of ice density for a moving parcel of ice of rate

$$\frac{d\rho_i}{dt} = -\rho_i(\dot{e}_{XX} + \dot{e}_{YY}). \tag{21}$$

When the vertical strain rate,  $\dot{c}_{ZZ}$ , from mass conservation is included, the effective strain rate is instead

$$\dot{e}_{\text{eff}} = \sqrt{\frac{1}{2} (\dot{e}_{xx}^2 + \dot{e}_{yx}^2 + \dot{e}_{zz}^2) + \dot{e}_{xx}^2} \,. \tag{9}$$

This is incorrect when considering stress before crevasse formation but could potentially apply once crevasses have formed violating incompressibility. We will re-Ffer to the effective strain that includes this version neglects only the vertical shear terms,  $\dot{e}_{XZ}$  and  $\dot{e}_{YZ}$ , which is consistent with the shallow shelf approximation (MacAyeal, 1989). Each deviatoric stress component,  $\tau_{ij}$ , can then be calculated from each corresponding strain rate component,  $\dot{e}_{ij}$ , (Cuffey and Patterson, 2010) as

$$\tau_{ij} = A^{-1/n} \dot{\varepsilon}_{eff}^{\frac{4}{n}} \dot{\varepsilon}_{ij}^{c} \tag{10)} \underline{he}$$

vertical strain from continuity as the full effective strain rate

315 We will and consider crevasse depths calculated without effective strain rate, with the planar effective strain rate, and with the mass-conservation basedfull effective strain rate.

#### 2.54.32 Stress direction

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Studies including crevasse depth calculations in three dimensions must select a stress direction. In their tests of the crevasse depth calving law, Amaral et al. (2020) used the maximum principal stress direction while Choi et al. (2018) and (Lai et al., (2020) tested with both the maximum principal and flow direction stresses. Lai et al. (2020) studied the vulnerability of buttressing regions of ice shelves to hydrofracture with both stress directions as well, van der Veen (1999) found that crevasses

generally open in or closenearly perpendicular to the maximum principal stress direction. We will show representative calculations and crevasse depth maps with each direction. The flow direction,  $\theta_{flow\ dir}$ , is given by

$$\theta_{\text{flow dir.}} = tan^{-1}(V_Y/V_X), \tag{1122}$$

where  $V_{\mathbf{v}}$  and  $V_{\mathbf{x}}$  are the y and x components of velocity in the global coordinate system. The normal, deviatoric stress in the flow direction can be calculated as

$$\tau_{\rm flow\,dir.} = \frac{\tau_{XX} + \tau_{YY}}{2} + \frac{\tau_{XX} - \tau_{YY}}{2} cos(2\theta_{\rm flow\,dir.}) + \tau_{XY} sin(2\theta_{\rm flow\,dir.}) \ . \tag{1223}$$

The maximum and minimum principal deviatoric stresses from the planar stress tensor are given by

$$\tau_{1}, \tau_{2} = \frac{\tau_{XX} + \tau_{YY}}{2} \pm \sqrt{\left(\frac{\tau_{XX} - \tau_{YY}}{2}\right)^{2} + \tau_{XY}^{2}}, \tag{4324}$$

which is the equation for the eigen-values of the planar stress tensorsurface terms (a two-by-two matrix). Note that the vertical deviatoric stress could in some cases be the true maximum or minimum principal deviatoric stress. The principal stresses are invariants with coordinate transformation, while the flow direction stress is not. Note that there There is no difference between rotating to a direction before or after calculating effective strain rate and deviatoric stress components, assuming that ice rheology is isotropic (the effective strain rate is an invariant).

# 2.54.43 Crevasse-parallel stress term in the resistive stress

From van der Veen (2017), the resistive stress,  $R_{xx}$ , is defined as the full stress minus the lithostatic pressure and is given by

$$R_{xx} = 2\tau_{xx} + \tau_{yy}$$
, (142:

when bridging stress is neglected in accordance with the shallow shelf approximation (MacAyeal, 1989). For the Nye crevasse formulation zero stress approximation, a derivation that yields the use of the resistive stress is as follows. The definitions of

the normal, planar, deviatoric stress terms,  $\tau_{xx}$  and  $\tau_{yy}$ , are

$$\tau_{xx} = \sigma_{xx} - \frac{1}{3}(\sigma_{xx} + \sigma_{yy} + \sigma_{zz}), \tag{1526}$$

$$\tau_{yy} = \sigma_{yy} - \frac{1}{3} (\sigma_{xx} + \sigma_{yy} + \sigma_{zz}), \tag{1627}$$

where  $\sigma$  terms are full-Cauchy stress components. These equations combine to give

$$\sigma_{xx} = 2\tau_{xx} + \tau_{yy} + \sigma_{zz}. \tag{4728}$$

The vertical full stress component is assumed to come only from ice lithostatic pressure and water pressure. For vertical stress at the crack tip for surface and basal crevasses respectively, this gives

$$\sigma_{zz} = -\rho_i g d_s + \rho_{mw} g d_{mw} , \qquad (1829)$$

$$\sigma_{zz} = -\rho_i g(H - d_b) + \rho_{pw} g(D - d_b) , \qquad (3019)$$

where (as before)  $\rho_i$  is ice density,  $\rho_{mw}$  is meltwater density,  $\rho_{pw}$  is proglacial water density, H is ice thickness, D is proglacial water depth, g is the gravitational acceleration,  $d_s$  is surface crevasse depth,  $d_{mw}$  is the height of meltwater in surface crevasses, and  $d_b$  is basal crevasse height. Equations  $\frac{18-29}{2}$  and  $\frac{19-30}{2}$  can be substituted into Equation  $\frac{17-28}{2}$  to find the full stress at the crack tip as a function of surface crevasse depth and basal crevasse heightas a function of depth  $(\sigma_{\rm m}(z))$  in

Equation 5) for surface and basal crevasses. The Nye crevasse formulation zero stress approximation predicts crevasse tips where  $\sigma_{xx} = 0$ , which will give the transition point between tension and compression. This yields the following equations for surface and basal crevasse sizes, respectively:

$$d_s = \frac{2\tau_{xx} + \tau_{yy}}{\rho_i g} + \frac{\rho_w}{\rho_i} d_w , \qquad (2031)$$

$$d_b = \frac{\rho_i}{\rho_p - \rho_i} \left( \frac{2\tau_{xx} + \tau_{yy}}{\rho_i g} - H_{ab} \right). \tag{2132}$$

Note that when aligned such that  $\tau_{xx}$  is the maximum principal deviatoric stress ( $\tau_1$ ),  $\tau_{yy}$  will be the minimum principal deviatoric stress from the surface stress tensor,  $\tau_2$ . The physical explanation for the lateral terms is that the full stress in the longitudinal direction must be higher to create the same longitudinal deviatoric stress if there is also a tensile lateral stress.

Studies using two-dimensional flowline models like Nick et al. (2010) inherently do not use the crevasse-parallel,  $\tau_{yy}$ , term. However, for studies working with plan view ice sheet models or remote sensing products, this term has been included (Amaral et al., 2020) or neglected (Choi et al., 2018; Lai et al., 2020; Sun et al., 2017). The resulting resistive stress,  $R_{xx}$ , terms are shown in <u>Table 1 Table 1</u>. We only consider the crevasse-parallel stress term when using the maximum principal direction stress, as we found no examples in the literature that considered it with flow direction stress.

Finally, several studies have used a deviatoric stress component (either maximum principal stress or flow direction) rather than the resistive stress in implementations of both the Nye crevasse formulation zero stress approximation and LEFM (Sun et al., 2017; Choi et al., 2018; Enderlin and Bartholomaus, 2020). Use of deviatoric stress is not consistent with underlying ice failure assumptions in these crevasse depth theories and will under-predict crevasse sizes by a factor of two for the zero stress approximation Nye crevasse formulation (with constant density and temperature) and around two for LEFM, compared to correctly using resistive stresses. The results for such calculations will not be shown.

3D (includes crevasse-parallel)	Maximum Principal	Flow Direction		
$R_{xx} = 2\tau_1 + \tau_2  (22)$	$R_{xx} = 2\tau_1  (23)$	$R_{xx} = 2\tau_{\text{flow dir.}}  (24)$		

Table 1: Equations for resistive stress assuming crevasse formation in the maximum principal and flow directions with and without the crevasse-parallel deviatoric stress.

#### 3 Methods

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We calculate crevasse depths with a subset of all possible combinations of effective strain rate, stress direction, and resistive stress calculations discussed above. The stress calculation versions being tested are given in <a href="Table 2 Table 2">Table 2</a> and will be referred to by the names listed there throughout the rest of this study. Only one flow direction stress calculation is included, as the studies where the selection is significant (plan view) tend to use the maximum principal stress direction. Also, as noted, van der Veen (1999) showed that crevasses tend to align (with some variation) to the maximum principal stress direction. <a href="Table 2">Table 2</a> does not contain all possible permutations, but instead only several that occur in the literature. For example, there are no cases where the crevasse-parallel stress is considered (low simplification) but the effective strain rate is neglected (high

simplification). The impact of the selection will be shown through idealized deformation state test cases, plots of predicted crevasse penetration on real ice shelves, and modeling ice shelf velocities with crevasse penetration as damage.

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Calculation	Effective Strain Rate	Stress Direction	Crevasse-parallel Stress	Resistive stress
A_E0-SF-0	None	Flow	No	$R_{xx} = 2\tau_{\text{flow dir.}}$
B_E0-SM-0	None	Max Prin	No	$R_{xx} = 2\tau_1$
C_EP-SM-0	Planar (eq. <u>20</u> 8)	Max Prin	No	$R_{xx}=2\tau_1$
D_EF-SM-0	Full (eq. <u>18</u> 9)	Max Prin	No	$R_{xx} = 2\tau_1$
E_EP-SM-1	Planar (eq. <u>20</u> 8)	Max Prin	Yes	$R_{xx} = 2\tau_1 + \tau_2$
F_EF-SM-1	Full (eq. <u>18</u> 9)	Max Prin	Yes	$R_{xx} = 2\tau_1 + \tau_2$

Table 2: Summary of effective strain rate, stress direction, and crevasse-parallel deviatoric stress used for each calculation considered as well as the corresponding resistive stress equations. The calculation names indicate the versions of individual calculation steps used. Effective strain rate may be (E0) not used, (EP) taken as planar effective strain rate, or (EF) taken as full effective strain rate. The stress direction may be (SM) maximum principal or (SF) flow. Crevasse-parallel stress may be (0) not used or (1) used.

#### 3.1 Idealized deformation state test cases

Before calculating crevasse depths on real shelves, it is useful to review the expected differences between calculations for idealized strain rate states of biaxially spreading flow, uniaxial extension, and pure shear. Biaxial spreading occurs for unconfined ice tongues and, to a lower extent, areas of spreading flow via non-parallel shear margins, such as on the <a href="Larsen B">Larsen B</a> remnantScar Inlet ice <a href="sheflshelf">sheflshelf</a>. Uniaxial extension occurs in the center of glaciers in fjords or shelves with parallel shear margins such as the Pine Island Glacier shelf. Pure shear is approached in shear margins.

#### 3.2 Ice shelf crevasse penetration maps

# 3.2.1 Crevasse penetration workflow

We calculate crevasse penetration maps for several Antarctic ice shelves. Crevasse penetration is the ratio of crevassed ice thickness to the total thickness:

crevasse penetration = 
$$\frac{d_s + d_b}{H}$$
. (2533)

To do this, we use a workflow described by the flowchart in Fig. 23. The calculation of the deviatoric stress tensor from strain rates and the calculation of the resistive stress from the stress deviatoric componentstensor are varied for each version being tested. The surface topography comes from the reference elevation map of Antarctica (REMA) mosaic product (Howat et al., 2019) as included in BedMachine (Morlighem et al., 2020; Morlighem, 2022). Velocity comes from the ITS\_LIVE annual mosaic products (Gardner et al., 2018, 2019) and MEaSUREs multi-year averaged products (Rignot et al., 2022). As the REMA mean year is 2015, velocities from 2015 are used except where a different time period gives better matching ice extents between the topography and velocity data.

Strain rates are calculated from velocity with central differences and strain rate maps are available in the supplement (Fig. S1). Surface crevasse depths are calculated with constant rigidity corresponding to the surface temperature from Comiso

(2000), and basal crevasse heights are calculated with the assumption that the presence of the crevasse allows ocean water to bring the ice temperature to the constant rigidity corresponding to the saltwater freezing temperature melting temperature, -20°C. This may be a reasonable assumption in areas with marine ice or if where crevasses change in size slowly as they advect to locations with different stresses, allowing warming. If stress increases suddenly, however, such that the crevasse grows immediately to a larger size without its tip reaching -20°C, the actual crevasse penetration will be larger than what is modeled. IceThe rigidity, B, as a function of temperature comes from Cuffey and Patterson (2010) rheology.

An important note for working from remote sensing velocity products on ice shelves is that the calculated stress will be impacted by the presence of crevasses themselves, particularly as basal crevasses may penetrate a large fraction of the total thickness (Luckman et al., 2012; McGrath et al., 2012). Rifts are the extreme case where complete failure has occurred and a calculation of complete crevasse penetration would be virtually guaranteed by the high strain rate and low thickness present because of the rift itself, even though the calculated stress does not exist in the discontinuous material making up the rift. Using a term from plasticity, the stress calculated is a trial stress: the stress that would exist if the material had the strength to sustain it without failure. (In plasticity, the trial stress is the elastic stress that would exist if the yield strength of the material were not exceeded (Shabana, 2018 p.287)). Where ice is at least partially continuous (crevasses exist but do not penetrate full thickness), 425 the crevasse is predicted through the fraction of ice that, if it were continuous, has tensile (>0) Cauchy stress assuming, for the basal crevasse, the presence of ocean water pressure. Considering the effect of horizontal force balance (Roger-Buck, 2023), it is also possible that the stress being measured is nearer to the updated ligament stress because of crevasses  $(R_{XX,1})$  than the stress that would have existed in the thicker cross section to maintain the same force  $(R_{xx,0})$ . In any case, to avoid drawing attention to trivial results in rifts, we mask out regions with thickness below 150m in the subsequent plots of crevasse penetration. We also produce crevasse penetration maps with an n=4 rheology (Goldsby and Kohlstedt, 2001; Millstein et al., 2022) as well as with horizontal force balance in the supplement.

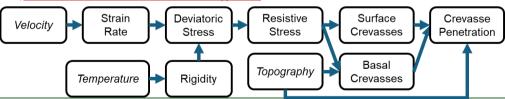


Figure 3: Flowchart showing the steps of the workflow used to make crevasse penetration maps. Italicized text indicates inputs from remote sensing products.

#### 435 3.2.2 Ice shelf selection

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We compare the predicted crevasse penetration from each calculation on three-two ice shelves: the Larsen B remnantScar Inlet shelf and the , the Brunt/Stancomb Wills shelf, and Pine Island Glacier's shelf. We study shelves in particular because, in the subsequent modeling component of the study, floating ice removes the confounding effect of basal drag and may have bulk rheology that is strongly impacted by the presence of large basal crevasses. We use floating rather than grounded ice as the predicted large basal crevasses in shelves create a stronger connection between crevasses and bulk rheology. Shelves also remove the confounding effect of basal drag. The Scar Inlet ice shelf was the southern portion of the larger Larsen B shelf that collapsed in 2002 and is also sometimes referred to as the Remnant Larsen B (e.g. Khazendar et al., 2015). The Larsen B remnant Scar Inlet was selected as it has both shear margins and spreading flow. These features highlight the difference between calculations in different strain rate states. Shear margins became a focus after finding larger differences in predicted crevasse penetration in those of the Larsen B remnantScar Inlet. This led to studying the Brunt/Stancomb-Wills for its fully failed (rift) shear margins and Pine Island Glacier's ice shelf for its southern shear margin which partially brokeas it also has well defined shear margins one of which broke up around 2018 (Lhermitte et al., 2020).

#### 3.3 Testing with velocity prediction using crevasse penetration as damage

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Some checking of crevasse depth calculations can be done by assessing whether the results are realistic. For example, some calculations will predict shear margins that have basal crevasses alone penetrating full thickness, which is physically inconsistent with an observation of an intact shear margin—with surface crevasses. For calculations that yield plausible results (E\_EP-SM-1 and F\_EF-SM-1), validation would require measurement of crevasse depths as well asand detailed knowledge of ice temperature, which are rarely (if ever) available. In an attempt to get around this problem, we use crevasse penetration (Equation 2533) as damage, as proposed in Sun et al. (2017). The damage field is used to model velocity in the Ice-sheet and Sea-level System Model (ISSM) (Larour et al., 2012) allowing for comparison to the observed velocity field. ISSM is run with the shallow shelf approximation (MacAyeal, 1989).

We take crevasse penetration calculated with constant surface temperature for surface crevasse and constant -2°C temperature for basal crevasses as damage. We assume that the depth-averaged rigidity that damage is applied to is constant across the shelf and iteratively tune this value for the lowest mean absolute velocity misfit across the nodes. This method decouples the temperature for crevasses from the temperature profile for depth-averaged rigidity which is likely not physically consistent. Despite this, the method allows for a pattern of damage based on crevasse penetration for the various stress calculations to be tested for its ability to recreate the observed velocity pattern. Because temperature measurements through thickness on shelves are rare, we hold a constant depth averaged temperature across each ice shelf domain. We tune this temperature for the best velocity match, quantified as the lowest average error from each node. While this means we are not directly testing the success of the crevasse depth calculations in predicting the magnitude of damage, the crevasse calculations still provide a pattern of ice rigidity that would define the velocity field. To have reference points, we also calculate velocities with no damage and with inverted damage. For the undamaged velocity predictions, temperature again must be assumed. Without damage, a falsely warm cold temperature will yield lower higher misfiterror than the real temperature. We intentionally select a temperature profile that is likely warmer than the fast-flowing portions of the shelves, which is shown as Fig. S5 in the supplement. This is a conservative choice to ensure that the crevasse-based damages are not made to look more successful than they really are by overly high error from the undamaged predictions. . We use a quadratic temperature profile where the temperature at one third depth is equal that of the surface and the temperature at the base is near melting. An example

of this temperature profile is provided in Fig. S1. For inverting damage, the temperatures tuned for matching velocity with crevasse penetration from calculation F (Table 2) were assumed. Inversions were initialized with 40% damage, as done in Borstad et al. (2016). Like noted in Borstad et al. (2016), we found that the success of the inversion in matching velocity was not very sensitive to this selection of 40% (we tested 30% to 70%). Inversions used only velocity misfit as the cost function except when including small coefficients for log velocity misfit and regularization terms helped find a solution with lower velocity misfit. The depth averaged rigidity assumed for the initial rheology in the inversion was set to tuned value from Calculation F EF-SM-1 to have the same bounds on the resulting rigidity; maximum damage was set to 90% as rigidity nearing zero causes model instability (Borstad et al., 2016).

This analysis requires imperfect assumptions including the noted temperature assumptions regarding both the crevasse depth and depth-averaged rigidity, which will impact predicted crevasse penetration (Coffey et al., 2024). We analyze the impact of the flow law exponent by considering an n=4 flow law (Goldsby and Kohlstedt, 2001; Millstein et al., 2022) in the supplement. Rifts are included in the domain and therefore treated as continuous features. Finally, It is not expected that a different temperature assumption would be significant, as the effect is not different than using a different damage percentage initialization damage, both calculated from crevasse penetration and with inversion, is implemented assuming isotropy due to model capability. The reduction in load bearing area from crevasses would be expected to be directional and anisotropic damage laws have been shown to better capture tabular iceberg calving (Huth et al., 2021). Despite these assumptions, this workflow allows us to test velocity fields produced by damage from each calculations' crevasse penetrations giving a method of testing predicted crevasse fields' connection to bulk rheology. We also test crevasse penetration calculated with horizontal force balance using this workflow (supplement Section S7).

The ice shelves selected for our analysis are small shelves that show high amounts of crevasse penetration, which makes it more likely that damage, not temperature, drives the pattern of rheology, so that the error in the total rigidity field from assuming constant temperature is lessened. The shelves used to compare predicted crevasse penetration (Larsen BScar Inlet, Brunt/Stancomb-Wills, Pineand Pine Island) meet these criteria, as do the Brunt/Stancomb-Wills, Larsen C<sub>2</sub> and Fimbul ice shelves.

#### 4 Results

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#### 4.1 Crevasse depths for representative strain states

As noted in Section 3.1, pure shear, uniaxial extension, and biaxial spreading are simplified strain rate states that are representative of shear margins, centerlines of confined glaciers, and unconfined ice fronts, respectively. To compare the stress calculations in these <u>idealized</u> flow types, the <u>same</u> magnitude <u>is used for s of each strain rate component</u> ( $\dot{\varepsilon}_{xx}$ ,  $\dot{\varepsilon}_{yy}$ ,  $\dot{\varepsilon}_{xy}$ ), which are assumed to be constant through thickness are held constant. The strain rate component magnitude, 0.012 yr<sup>-1</sup>, corresponds approximately to the center of flow near the terminus of the <u>Larsen BScar Inlet remnant</u> ice shelf, which has high and spreading strain rates. <u>Table 3 Table 3</u> shows surface and basal crevasse sizes for these three representative strain rate states. For pure

505 shear, the flow direction stress (calculation A\_E0-SF-0) predicts no crevasse depth as the flow direction normal stress is zero.

The differences from effective strain rate and crevasse-parallel stress are better shown graphically and are discussed with Fig.

4 next. The remaining takeaway from this table is that, even with the warmer ice temperature assumed, basal crevasses are several timesnearly four times larger than surface crevasses and will make up most of the total crevasse penetration.

Stress calculation		Surface crevasse depths (m)		Basal crevasse heights (m)					
Calc.	Dir <u>.eetio</u>	Effective strain rate	Crevasse -parallel stress	Pure shear Biaxi al sprea ding	Uniaxial extension	Equi- biaxial spreading Pure shear	Pure shear Biaxi al sprea ding	Uniaxial extension	Equi- biaxial spreading Pure shear
A_E0-SF-0	Flow	None	No	0.030. 0	30.0	30.00.0	0.0 <del>99.</del> 8	<del>99.8</del> 111.5	<u>111.50.0</u>
B_E0-SM-0	Max principal	None	No	30.03 0.0	30.0	<u>30.0</u> 30.0	111.5 99.8	111.599.8	<u>111.5</u> 99.8
C_EP-SM-0		Planar	No	30.03 0.0	37.7	<u>30.0</u> 30.0	111.5 111.2	140.4125. 7	<u>111.5</u> 99.8
D_EF-SM-0		Full	No	30.02 0.8	30.0	<u>20.8</u> 30.0	111.5 77.8	<u>111.5</u> 99.8	<u>77.3</u> 99.8
E_EP-SM-1		Planar	Yes	15.04 4.9	37.7	44.915.0	55.7 <sub>1</sub> 48.3	140.4125. 7	<u>167.2</u> 49.9
F_EF-SM-1		Full	Yes	15.03 1.2	30.0	<u>31.2</u> <del>15.0</del>	55.7 <sub>1</sub> 03.7	<u>111.5</u> 99.8	<u>115.9</u> 49.9

Table 3: Surface and basal crevasses with each stress calculation for representative strain rates for equi-biaxial spreading  $(\dot{\varepsilon}_{xx}=0.012\ yr^{-1},\dot{\varepsilon}_{yy}=0.012\ yr^{-1},\dot{\varepsilon}_{xy}=0.012\ yr^{-1})$ , uniaxial extension  $(\dot{\varepsilon}_{xx}=0.012\ yr^{-1},\dot{\varepsilon}_{yy}=0.0\ yr^{-1},\dot{\varepsilon}_{xy}=0.0\ yr^{-1})$ , and pure shear  $(\dot{\varepsilon}_{xx}=0.0\ yr^{-1},\dot{\varepsilon}_{xx}=0.0\ yr^{-1},\dot{\varepsilon}_{xy}=0.012\ yr^{-1})$ . The flow direction is  $\dot{\varepsilon}_{xx}$  in this example (breaking notation). Ice rigidity corresponds to -18°C for surface crevasses and -20°C for basal crevasses. Strain rate is assumed to be constant through thickness.

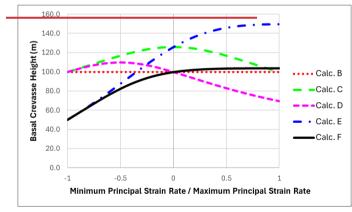
For all crevasse size-depth calculations that assume the crevasse forms perpendicular to the maximum principal stress direction (calculations B\_E0-SM-0 to F\_EF-SM-1), the difference in crevasse depths can be shown as a function of the ratio of minimum principal strain (of the surface terms) to maximum principal strain rate,  $\dot{e}_2/\dot{e}_1$ , with a constant maximum principal strain rate,  $\dot{e}_1$  strain rate state can be shown by varying the minimum principal strain rate (from the planar tensor) while holding the maximum principal strain rate constant. When this ratio is -2.0, all longitudinal extension comes from compressive lateral stress such that the longitudinal resistive stress (when three-dimensional) is zero. A ratio of -1.0 occurs when the surface principal strain rates are equal and opposite, as is the case for a pure-shear shear margin when a stress rotation 45-degrees from

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flow is performed.  $\dot{e}_2/\dot{e}_1$  is 0.0 for longitudinal extension as in the center of flow where shear margins are parallel.  $\dot{e}_2/\dot{e}_1$  is +1.0 for a fully unconfined ice tongue spreading equally in both surface directions. Fig. 4 a to d shows velocity magnitude and the value of  $\dot{e}_2/\dot{e}_1$  across the Scar Inlet and Pine Island Glacier ice shelves. Values of near -2 occur where the inlets glacier into the Scar Inlet shelf merge (Fig. 4c). As expected, values of around -1 can be seen in the shearing zones of both shelves. Pine Island has  $\dot{e}_2/\dot{e}_1$  near zero in the center of flow (with increasing local variation near the front) while the Scar Inlet has higher values toward the front as lateral spreading occurs from the opening shear margins. Predicted basal crevasse depth for a constant maximum principal strain rate as a function of  $\dot{e}_2/\dot{e}_1$  is shown in Fig. 4e, this for the minimum principal strain rate varying from equal in magnitude to the maximum principal strain rate in compression to tension. This corresponds to a pure shear strain rate state and a biaxially spreading strain rate state, respectively. The values for a basal crevasses are presented, but the ratios of depths between calculations will be identical to those of dry surface crevasse calculations so long as depth variable temperature and density are neglected. For example, surface crevasse depth predictions for a strain rate state corresponding to -1 on the x-axis with calculation B E0-SM-1, C EP-SM-0, and D EF-SM-0 will still yield a depth twice that of calculation E EP-SM-1 and F EF-SM-1.



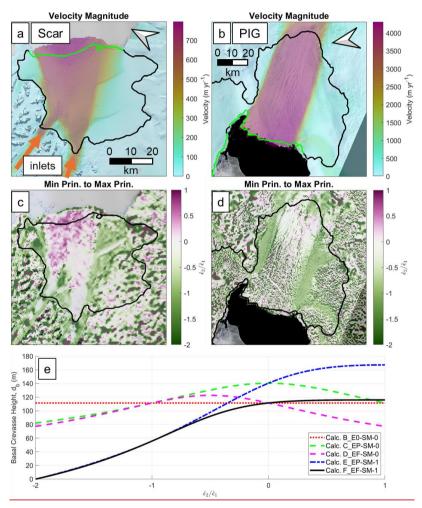


Figure 4: (a) Surface velocity (MEaSUREs 2014-2017 – Gardner et al., 2019, 2018) of the Scar Inlet ice shelf, (b) surface velocity velocity (ITS LIVE 2015 – Rignot et al., 2022) of the Pine Island Glacier ice shelf, (c) ratio of minimum to maximum principal surface strain rates at Scar Inlet, (d) the same at Pine Island, and (c) bBasal crevasse heights for each stress calculation using maximum principal directions stress as a function of the ratio of minimum to maximum principal strain rate. The maximum principal strain rate,  $\dot{e}_1$ , is held constant as 0.0117 yr<sup>-1</sup> and the minimum principal strain rate,  $\dot{e}_2$ , ranges from -0.0234117 yr<sup>-1</sup> to 0.0117 yr<sup>-1</sup>. On the x axis, -2 occurs when all longitudinal extension is caused by lateral compression, -1 is a state of pure shear, 0 is longitudinal extension, and +1 is equi-biaxial spreading. The black line in a,b,c,d is shelf extent and the green line in a and b is the calving front.

The maximum principal stress direction with no effective strain rate calculation (calculation B\_E0-SM-0) is independent of the predicts the same crevasse height regardless of minimum principal strain rate. The calculations including crevasse-parallel deviatoric stress (calculation E EP-SM-1 and F EF-SM-1) reduce the crevasse depth-when  $\dot{e}_2/\dot{e}_1$  is negative because there will be a negative minimum principal deviatoric stress,  $\tau_2$ , counteracting the maximum principal ( $\tau_1$ ) in the resistive stress  $(R_{xx} = 2\tau_1 + \tau_2)$  in the pure shear strain rate state because the negative minimum principal stress term,  $\tau_2$ , reduces the total resistive stress. Because the pure shear state  $(\dot{e}_2/\dot{e}_1=-1)$  has planar surface strain rates that are equal in magnitude but opposite in sign, mass conservation is met with no vertical strain rate. This causes the pure shear crevasse depths to be independent of the selection of planar or full effective strain rate explaining the equivalency of calculations E. E. EP-SM-1 and F F EF-SM-1 as well as calculations C EP-SM-0 and D EF-SM-0. As the minimum principal strain rate becomes more positive, the vertical strain rate magnitude grows increasing the effective strain rate when continuity is respected. This reduces the stress from the same value of maximum principal strain rate, explaining the smaller crevasse depths from the full effective strain rate calculations (D\_EF-SM-0 and F\_EF-SM-1) compared to their planar effective strain rate counterparts (ealculations-C\_EP-SM-0 and E\_EP-SM-1) when moving towards the right side of the plot. For positive values of minimum principal strain rate, the simple calculation without effective strain rate (calculation B\_E0-SM-0) is nearly equivalent to the most physically based calculation that includes effective strain rate and crevasse-parallel deviatoric stress (calculation F EF-SM-1). For calculation F\_EF-SM-1, as the minimum principal strain rate increases, the increase in effective strain rate reduces stress in the maximum principal direction. This effect is apparently cancelled by the growing minimum principal stress term to explain the nearly constant value of calculation—F F\_EF-SM-1 from zero-0.0 to 1.0 one on the x axis.

#### 4.2 Crevasse penetration on the Larsen BScar Inlet remnant ice shelf

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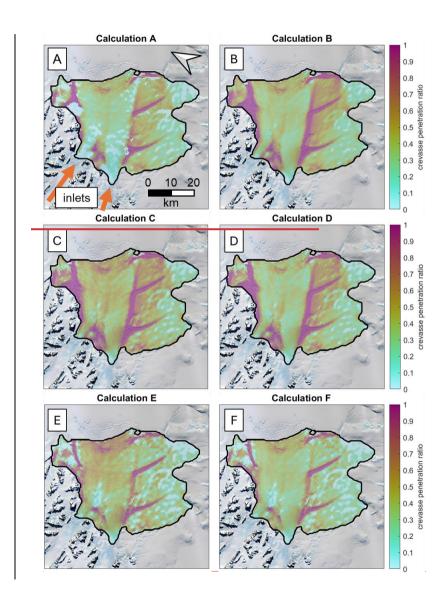
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Fig. 5 provides the crevasse penetration ( $(d_s + d_b)/H$ ) for the Larsen B remnantScar Inlet ice shelf with each stress calculation listed in Table 2Table 2. The Larsen B remnantScar Inlet was selected as it includes both shear margins (approximately pure shear) and spreading flow, which, as our idealized test case shows, will highlight where differences between calculations occur (Table 3Table 3 and Figure 4e). Results over rifts have been masked out using a 150m thickness threshold to avoid highlighting the trivial result of full crevasse penetration. The calculations using the maximum principal direction but neglecting crevasse-parallel deviatoric stress (calculations B E0-SM-0, C EP-SM-0, and D EF-SM-0) appear similar and are characterized by wide zones of full crevasse penetration in the shear margins. The flow direction calculation (A E0-SF-0) and the two maximum principal direction calculations that use the full resistive stress (calculations-E-E EP-SM-1 and F EF-SM-1) show similar results to one another. Calculation A E0-SF-0, however, does predict more zones of no damage where the flow direction stress components are not tensile, as well as a larger fully failed area in the north shear zone near the terminus.

Next, we compare crevasse penetration predicted by each calculation against that of calculation F\_EF-SM-1. These differences in crevasse penetration are shown in Fig. 6. Significant differences between the calculations occur in certain areas. In the fast-flowing center, particularly near the terminus, calculation—E-E\_EP-SM-1 predicts higher crevasse penetration than calculation F\_EF-SM-1. This is likely because of increased lateral spread between the diverging, non-parallel shear margins

causing the crevasse-parallel deviatoric stress to increase relative to the maximum principal (crevasse-perpendicular) stress. This corresponds to moving toward the right side of the Fig. 4e plot. There is also a large difference in crevasse penetration between calculation—F—F EF-SM-1 and the calculations in the max principal direction that do not include crevasse-parallel stress (calculations B E0-SM-0, C EP-SM-0, and D EF-SM-0) in the region between the two inlets. As noted, cCalculations B E0-SM-0, C EP-SM-0, and D EF-SM-0 predict higher crevasse penetrations because they neglect the compressive lateral stress in this region, which results from the converging flow. This causes a negative minimum principal stress term and corresponds to the left side of Fig. 4e. Calculation A E0-SF-0 predicts lower crevasse penetration in the glacier inlets themselves. This is because lateral spreading is occurring faster than longitudinal spreading such that the maximum principal stress direction is rotate approximately 90 degrees from the flow direction. In the rest of the fast-flowing center region closer to the front, the flow direction and maximum principal directions more closely align such that calculation A E0-SF-0 is nearer to calculation F EF-SM-1.



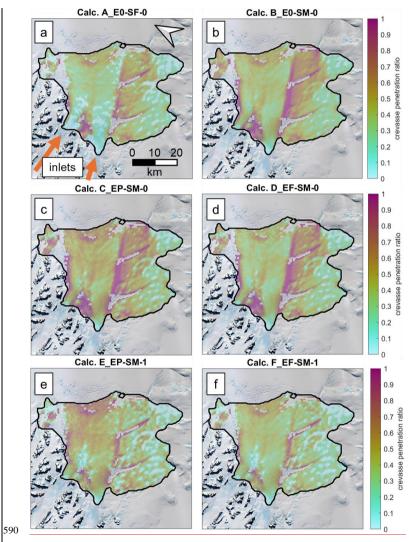
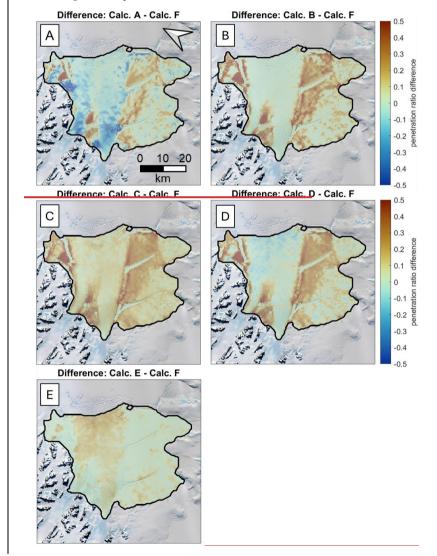


Figure 5: Crevasse penetration at the Larsen B remnantScar Inlet ice shelf with (aA) calculation A <u>E0-SF-0</u>, (bB) calculation B <u>E0-SM-0</u>, (cC) calculation C <u>EP-SM-0</u>, (dD) calculation D <u>EF-SM-0</u>, (E) calculation E <u>EP-SM-1</u>, and (fF) calculation F <u>EF-SM-1</u> resistive stress versions overlaid on satellite imagery from October 2014 (Landsat-8 image courtesy of the U.S. Geological Survey). The glacier inlets into the <u>Larsen B remnantScar Inlet shelf</u> (Flask and Lepperd glaciers) are shown on (A). <u>Crevasse penetration</u>



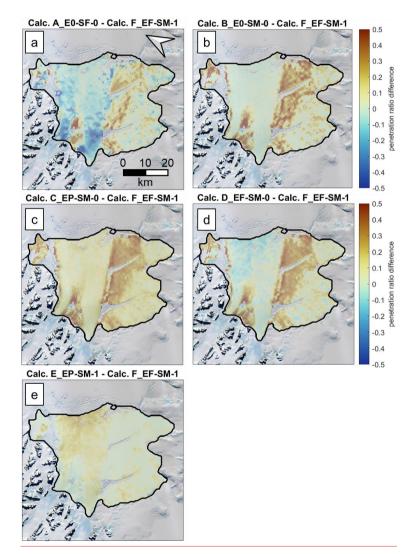
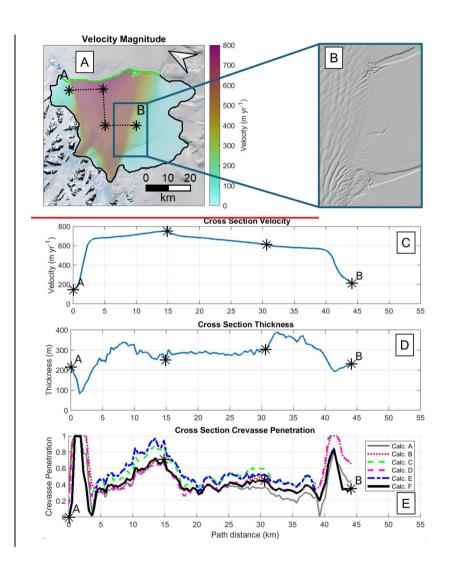
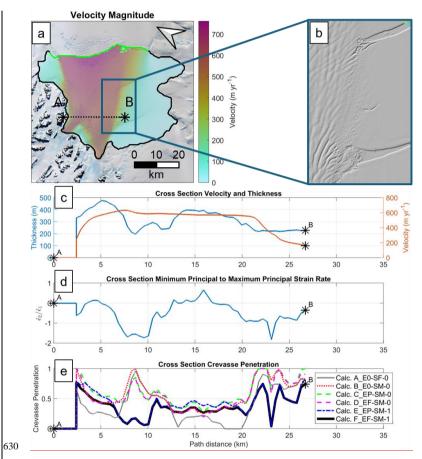


Figure 6: Difference from calculation F\_EF-SM-1 crevasse penetration for (aA) calculation A\_EF-SM-1, (bB) calculation B\_E0-SM-0, (cC) calculation C\_EP-SM-0, (dD) calculation D\_EF-SM-0, and (eE) calculation E\_EP-SM-1 crevasse penetration at the Larsen B-remnantScar Inlet ice shelf.

#### 4.3 Crevasse penetration in ice sheet shelf shear margins

Next, we use cross section plots to examine differences in crevasse penetration across shear margins. Fig. 7 shows the observed surface velocity, thickness, minimum to maximum principal strain rate ratio, and crevasse penetration -and surface topography 605 on one of the shear margins for the Larsen B remnant ice shelfa transect across the fast flowing portion of the Scar Inlet shelf. The crevasse penetration plot (Fig. 7e) again shows large difference between the maximum principal stress calculations that do and do not include the crevasse parallel deviatoric stress in the resistive stress when  $\dot{e}_2/\dot{e}_1$  is less than -0.5. -It also shows the velocity, thickness, and crevasse penetration (with each stress calculation) on a cross section through the fast flowing center of the shelf. The calculations including crevasse-parallel stress (ealculations E E EP-SM-1 and F EF-SM-1) predict 610 high but not total crevasse penetration in the south shear margin both shear margins whereas all maximum principal direction calculations neglecting the crevasse parallel deviatoric stress (B\_E0-SM-0, C\_EP-SM-0, D\_EF-SM-0) predict complete penetration. Interestingly, the flow direction calculation (A\_E0-SF-0) predicts less crevasse penetration in the northwestern shear margin but more in the southeastern shear margin relative to calculations E\_EP-SM-1 and F\_EF-SM-1. Misalignment between the flow and principal direction would reduce calculation A\_E0-SF-0's crevasse penetration while the lack of crevasse parallel stress may add penetration should the flow direction not fully misalign. The smooth velocity profile (Fig. 7c) through the shear margins and appearance of continuous ice in the shear margins away from the rifts (Fig. 7b) suggest that full crevasse penetration should not be predicted. (The Brunt/Stancomb-Wills shelf has examples of fully failed (rift) shear margins with a discontinuous velocity profile and an equivalent figure to Fig. 7 for the Brunt is available as Fig. S2 in the supplement.) This suggests the calculations that use the maximum principal direction but do not include the crevasse-parallel deviatoric stress 620 (calculations B\_E0-SM-0, C\_EP-SM-0, and D\_EF-SM-0) overpredict crevasse depths. In the portion of the north shear margin included in the cross section, all calculations predict full crevasse penetration. The surface topography elevation (Fig. 7b) of the southeastern shear margin shows visible features oriented 45 degrees from flow which may suggest crevasses forming approximately perpendicular to the maximum principal stress, but the ice appears continuous except for the regions near the rifts. This suggests the calculations that use the maximum principal direction but do not include the crevasse parallel deviatoric stress (calculations B, C, and D) overpredict crevasse depths here, and possibly in shear margins in general. Also, the higher predicted crevasse penetrations in the spreading flow area for calculations with the planar effective stress (calculations C and E) are visible at the 5-15 km path distance on the cross-section plot.



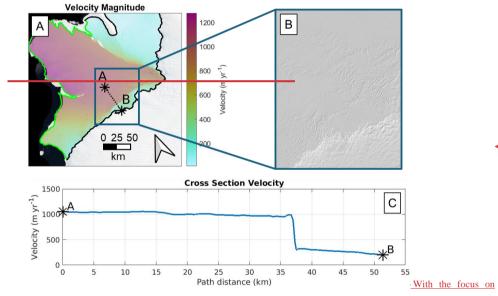


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Figure 7: (aA) observed velocity map (MEaSUREs 2014-2017 – Gardner et al., 2019, 2018) with cross section location, (bB) 2015 hillshade REMA (Howat et al., 2019) snapshot of the shear margin between rifts, (cC) cross section velocity and thickness, (dD) cross section thickness minimum to maximum principal strain rate ratio, and (cE) cross section crevasse penetration at the Larsen BScar Inlet remnant ice shelf.

Focusing on the difference in shear margin crevasse penetration between calculations that do and do not consider crevasse parallel deviatoric stress, we next consider the Stancomb Wills shelf, as it has entirely failed shear zones. Both shear zones bordering the fast flowing center were identified as rifts by Larour et al. (2014). Fig. 8 shows the velocity and topography over one of the shearing rifts as well the cross-section velocity. The velocity cross-section shows a sharp drop without rounded corners. If the entirety of the shear margin of the Larsen B remnant was fully failed, a similar velocity profile might be expected.

640 This provides more evidence then, against the quality of the calculations without crevasse-parallel stress that predict fully failed shear margins (calculations B, C, and D) and for the calculations that include crevasse-parallel stress (calculations E and F). Given that the northern shear margin at the Larsen B is predicted to be fully crevasse-penetrated by all calculations and yet a smooth velocity profile remains, all principal direction calculations may over-predict crevasse penetration, with calculations E and F overpredicting by less than calculations B, C, and D.



differing crevasse penetration predictions in shear margins, we

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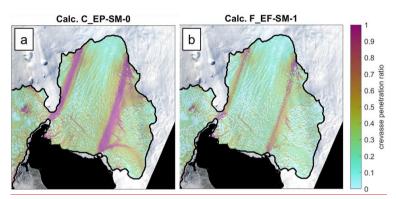
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Figure 8: (A) observed velocity map (ITS\_LIVE 2015—Rignot et al., 2022) with cross section location, (B) 2015 hillshade REMA (Howat et al., 2019) snapshot of the lower rift, and (C) cross section velocity for the Brunt/Stancomb-Wills ice shelf. Plot A is overlaid on the Landsat Image Mosaic of Antarctica (Bindschadler et al., 2008). Ice flow direction is approximately from image right to left.

The last shelf used to evaluate crevasse penetration is-next consider the Pine Island Glacier shelf. It again shows full penetration in its shear margins with all versions of crevasse depth calculations that do not include the effect of the crevasse-parallel deviatoric stress, Fig. 8 shows this for calculation C\_EP-SM-0 which yields similar results to the other calculations without the minimum principal deviatoric stress,  $\tau_{yy}$ . Calculation F\_EF-SM-1 again predicts significant but not complete crevasse penetration throughout the shear margins (Fig. 8a and 9e). This can be seen from the map view of crevasse penetration with calculation C (Fig. 9D), which has the same crevasse penetration as calculations B and D for pure shear. Calculation F shows elevated but not complete crevasse penetration in the shear margins (Fig. 9E), which is a similar result to that of the Larsen B remnant.

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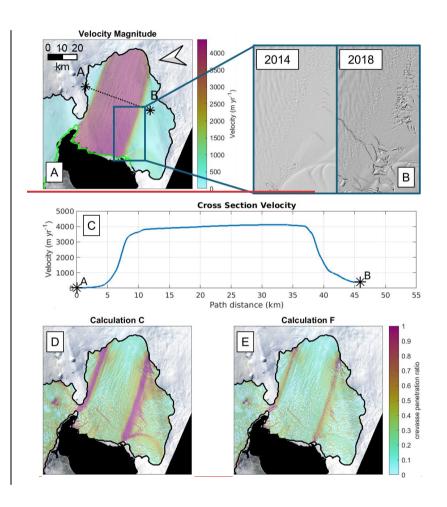
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Figure 8: Crevasse Penetration ratio on Pine Island Glacier Ice shelf with (a) Calculation C EP-SM-0 and (b) Calculation F EF-SM-1. The plan view plots Crevasse penetration is are overlaid on satellite imagery from November 2014 (Landsat-8 image courtesy of the U.S. Geological Survey). Ice flow direction is approximately image top right to bottom left.

Pine Island's south shear margin failed in some regions in 2018, which can be seen in the 2014 and 2018 surface topography elevation views provided in Fig. 9bB. This indicates later collapse suggests that partial crevasse penetration rather than total crevasse penetration prior to 2018 should be predicted, again favoring the use of the crevasse-parallel deviatoric stress term. The flow direction calculation (A\_E0-SF-0) predicts no crevasse penetration in the northern shear margin. In the center of flow, differences between the different stress calculations are small (Fig. S2 and S3). This is because, unlike the Larsen B remnantScar Inlet, Pine Island has parallel shear margins and thus little lateral spreading in the center of flow. Therefore, the strain rate state in the center of flow corresponds to the center portion of Fig. 4e, where there is less range across the calculations.

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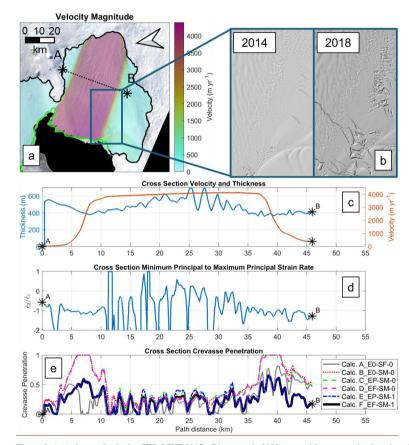


Figure 9: (aA) observed velocity (ITS\_LIVE 2015 – Rignot et al., 2022) map with cross section location, (bB) hillshade REMA (Howat et al., 2019) views from 2014 and 2018 of the south shear margin , (cC) cross section velocity and thickness, (dD) map view crevasse penetration with calculation C cross section minimum to maximum principal strain rate ratio, and (E) map view crevasse penetration with calculation F-F EF-SM-1 for the Pine Island Glacier ice shelf. The plan view plots are overlaid on satellite imagery from November 2014 (Landsat-8 image courtesy of the U.S. Geological Survey). Ice flow direction is approximately image top right to bottom left.

# 4.4 Velocity comparison results

Velocity predictions were made with crevasse penetration as damage from the two stress calculations that include crevasse-parallel stresses (calculations <u>E\_E\_P-SM-1</u> and F\_<u>EF-SM-1</u>). The maximum principal stress calculations that do not use the crevasse-parallel stress (calculations <u>B\_E0-SM-0</u>, <u>C\_EP-SM-0</u>, and <u>D\_EF-SM-0</u>) are not included, as they all yield fully failed

shear margins for Pine Island Glacier's shelf and the Larsen B remnantScar Inlet. In these locations, the modeled velocity would fully depend on the selection of the maximum allowable damage, which is a user-defined parameter that protects against an element having full damage and therefore zero viscosityrigidity. The flow direction stress calculation (A\_E0-SF-0A) is also not used for similar reasons and because it is not consistent with the observed orientations of crevasses (Section 4.3).

The mean average nodal velocity misfits for damage calculated with calculations E-E EP-SM-1 and F-F EF-SM-1 as well as with no damage and inverted damage are shown in Fig. 10aA. As noted in Section 3.3, the a spatially constant temperature and thus undamaged rigidity is tuned for the best velocity match averaged across the entire model domain. Damage from crevasse penetration will control the relative rigidity between regions of the ice shelves. The assumption is that the stress calculation that gives the best modeled velocity performs best in predicting relative crevasse depths between regions of the ice shelf (e.g., center of flow, shear margins, unconfined front). Velocity misfits with no damage and from an inversion are included to contextualize the crevasse-penetration-based velocity misfit values.

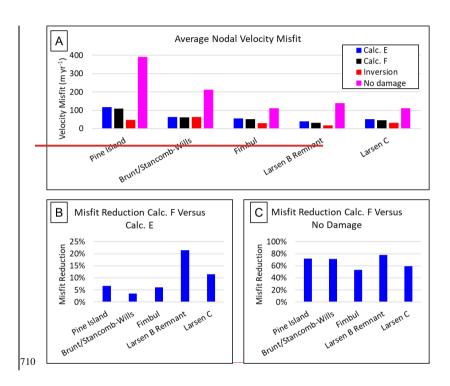
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The primary finding is that calculation F EF-SM-1 outperforms calculation E EP-SM-1 at all ice shelves tested by 5% to 25% (Fig. 10b) suggesting that including vertical strain rate from continuity yields a damage field more connected to physical crevasse depths. Inversions performed best at all shelves likely due to their ability to adjust the rigidity field to account for all sources of error (spatial temperature variation, flow law, and crevasses) rather than just crevasses and bulk temperature. Despite this, setting damage from crevasse penetration and tuning bulk temperature removed most of the misfit relative to no damage and approached the misfit of inversions for some shelves. The inversion for the Brunt/Stancomb-Wills only performed better when initialized with the crevasse penetration damage field.

We found that the inversion performs best on four of the five domains tested, that modeling damage from crevasse depth calculations and tuning temperature performed best on the Brunt/Stancomb-Wills, and that the crevasse modeled damage approaches the success of inversions on the other four domains. The full-effective strain rate-based calculation (F) outperforms the planar strain rate-based calculation (E) for all shelves, albeit marginally in some cases (Fig. 10B). Calculation F EF-SM-I makes the The-largest improvements relative to no damage are at small shelves with high crevasse penetration (Pine Island, Brunt/Stancomb-Wills, Larsen B remnantScar Inlet) as opposed to shelves that are larger (Larsen C) or have less crevasse penetration (Fimbul) as shown by the error reduction percentages in Fig. 10cc. Larger shelves may also have more temperature variability that is not being captured while - Lower crevasse penetration may make temperature error more significant in predicting the net bulk rheology.



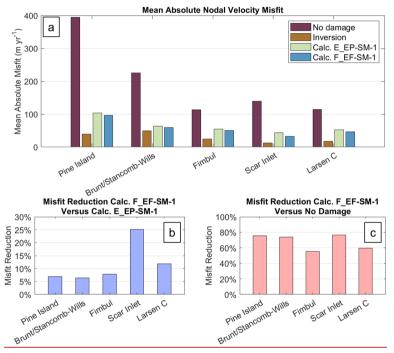


Figure 10: (aA) Average nodal velocity misfit with damage from calculation E\_EF-SM-1 crevasse penetration, no damage, and inverted damage; and (B) misfit reduction percentages with calculation E relative to calculation F, and (bC) misfit reduction percentages with calculation F\_EF-SM-1 relative to calculation E\_EP-SM-1 misfit reduction percentages with calculation F\_EF-SM-1 relative to no damage relative to no damage.

#### 4.4.1 Larsen BScar Inlet remnant velocity predictions

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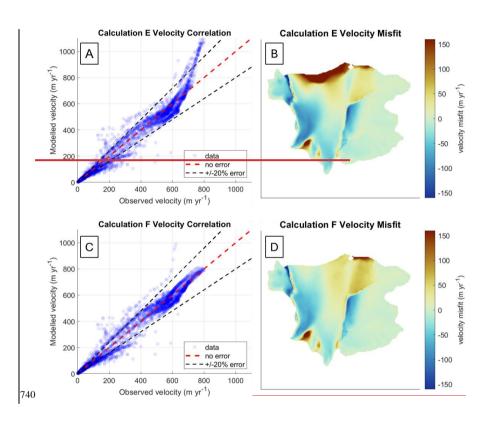
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Fig. 11 shows the modeled velocity correlation and mapped misfit for calculations—E. E. EP-SM-1 and—F. F. EF-SM-1 at the Larsen-B remnant\_Scar Inlet ice shelf. The ealculation Emodeled velocity correlation plot for damage from calculation E. EP-SM-1 (Fig. 11aA) shows that it predicts excess velocity for the fastest-moving ice near the terminus. This likely stems from the background rigidity average temperature tuning, which balanced excess velocity at the terminus with overly slow velocities upstream to minimize the overall misfit. This may indicate that the damage in the spreading flow region approaching the terminus is being over-predicted relative to the shear margins and more confined flow upstream. The full effective strain rate calculation (F\_EF-SM-1) predicts smaller crevasses in regions of spreading flow due to increased ice softening from the vertical strain rate term, as was seen in Fig. 6eE. This fixes the problem of the fast front and slow upstream seen in the planar effective strain rate calculation (E\_EP-SM-1) and reduces the average nodal velocity misfit by 251%, from 43.939 m yr<sup>-1</sup>

(calculation E\_EP-SM-1) to 32.94 m yr<sup>-1</sup> (calculation F\_EF-SM-1). While local regions with substantial misfit remain, it is misfit is distributed across observed velocities rather than being concentrated. This provides some evidence that mass conservation should be included in the effective strain calculation even when crevasses are present (calculation-F-EF-SM-1 rather than E\_EP-SM-1). The modeled velocity maps themselves are available as Fig. S64.

The dense line of points where modeled velocity is slower than observed velocity (below the lower black line in Fig. 11c) corresponds to the blue zones (Fig. 11d) in the slow-moving ice adjacent to shear margins. That the fast-flowing ice is not imparting adequate speed to these areas may suggest the shear margins have been made overly soft. The tuned ice rigidity for calculation—F—F—EF-SM-1 damage corresponds to  $-197^{\circ}$ C if temperature were constant through thickness ( $T(\bar{B}) = -197^{\circ}$ C). This agrees well with the average surface temperature over the shelf of  $-17.7^{\circ}$ C from Comiso (2000); the cold bias (being close to the surface rather than basal temperature) likely stems from advection of colder ice from upstream. However, the tuned temperature is colder than thermal-model-derived temperatures in Borstad et al. (2012) which were no colder than approximately  $-12^{\circ}$ C. This does not significantly alter our findings, however, as we are not testing the ability of crevasse depth to predict the absolute magnitude of damage, only the pattern of damage.



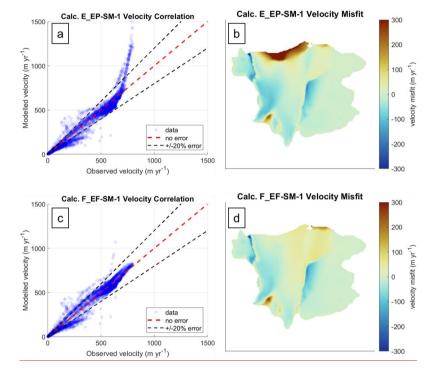
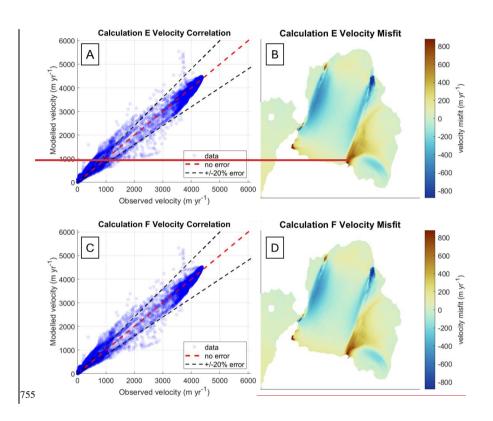


Figure 11: Plots of (aA) velocity correlation and (bB) velocity misfit with calculation—<u>F\_E\_EP-SM-1</u> as well (<u>cC</u>) velocity correlation and (dD) velocity misfit with calculation—<u>F\_E\_EF-SM-1</u> for the <u>Remnant LarsenScar Inlet-B</u> ice shelf. The velocity product used for crevasse penetration calculation and correlation plots is the MEaSUREs 2014-2017 averaged product (Gardner et al., 2018, 2019).

# 745 4.4.2 Pine Island Glacier ice shelf velocity predictions

The effect of the full effective strain rate based on mass conservation versus the planar effective strain rate is less significant at the Pine Island Glacier ice shelf as can be seen in Fig. 12. This is likely due to the parallel shear margins and thus lack of spreading flow that would cause increased stress when the vertical strain rate term is not included in the effective strain rate calculation. Including the full effective strain rate reduces average absolute mean nodal misfit by 7% from 103.517 m yr<sup>-1</sup> (calculation E\_EP-SM-1) to 96.4109 m yr<sup>-1</sup> (calculation F\_EF-SM-1). Unlike at the Larsen B-remnantScar Inlet, there is no region or clear spatial pattern in the difference between calculation E\_E EP-SM-1 and F; the 7% appears to come from small improvements spread over the whole domain. The tuned background rigidity corresponds to a temperature of -186°C, which compares well to the average surface temperature from Comiso (2000) of -17.8°C. The crevasse penetration plots used as damage and their differences are provided in Fig. S3 and S42, and the modeled velocity plots themselves are in Fig. S75.



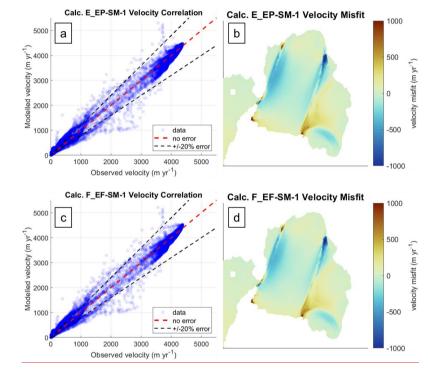


Figure 12: Plots of (aA) velocity correlation and (bB) velocity misfit with calculation E E EP-SM-1 as well (cC) velocity correlation and (dD) velocity misfit with calculation F-F EF-SM-1 for the Pine Island Glacier ice shelf. The velocity product used for crevasse penetration calculation and correlation is the ITS\_LIVE 2015 annual map (Rignot et al., 2022).

### 760 5 Discussion

#### 5.1 Recommended resistive stress calculation

Our findings support resistive stress calculation—F—F EF-SM-1 for use in crevasse depth predictions. Predicted crevasse penetration with calculation—F—EF-SM-1 are is better aligned with observed surface features and velocity cross sections than all other calculations except calculation—E—E EP-SM-1 (Sections 4.2 and 4.3). Calculations B\_E0-SM-0, C\_EP-SM-0, and D\_EF-SM-0, which neglect the crevasse-parallel deviatoric stress in the three-dimensional resistive stress equation, overpredict crevasse penetration in shear margins. Calculation A\_E0-SF-0 predicts no crevasses in some portions of shear margins in addition to not lining up with observed crevasse orientations in this and other studies (e.g., van der Veen, 1999). Calculations—E-E EP-SM-1 and F-F EF-SM-1 yield identical results in shear margins and similar results in uniaxial extension,

but calculation—E—E EP-SM-1 predicts larger crevasses in biaxial spreading through neglecting the ice softening effect of vertical strain rate (Section 4.1). Applying crevasse penetration as damage from these two calculations supports calculation F—EF-SM-1. Calculation—F—F EF-SM-1 outperforms calculation—E—E EP-SM-1 in reducing modeled velocity misfit for all shelves with large improvements at the Larsen B remnantScar Inlet and Larsen C (Section 4.4). At the Larsen B remnantScar Inlet, the improved modeled velocity field of calculation—F—F EF-SM-1 can be explained by its lower crevasse penetration prediction in biaxially spreading flow. This finding held when implemented with n=4 rheology (supplement Section S6). Finally, calculation—F—EF-SM-1 is the most physically consistent stress calculation. It can be derived from deviatoric stress equations with the assumptions of continuity, crevasse formation in the maximum principal stress direction, and vertical stress ( $\sigma_{zz}$ ) coming from only lithostatic pressure and water pressure (Section 2.4.3).—We would maintain this stress calculation recommendation for crevasse depths calculated with horizontal force balance and LEFM again noting that applying LEFM where the crevasse parallel stress may take any value violates the plane strain assumption. Despite this concern, applying other stress calculations for LEFM may find high tensile resistive stresses where none exist (Fig. 4e and 7e).

#### 5.2 Classification of stress calculation by study type

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As noted throughout the introduction and background, the stress calculation used as input for crevasse depth calculations has varied widely across studies. In some cases, the differences are zero or trivial. For example, the maximum principal stress and flow direction stress in the center of a two-dimensional flowline domain will be equivalent. However, for studies that use planar remote sensing data (Amaral et al., 2020; Lai et al., 2020) or <u>plan-view</u> ice sheet models (Choi et al., 2018; Huth et al., 2021; Sun et al., 2017; Todd et al., 2018), the selections of effective strain rate, stress direction, and resistive stress equation may differ significantly.

Table 4Table 4 shows the stress calculations used by eight-some past studies. It was not always possible to tell with complete certainty which stress calculation was used from the study text; we made a best effort in some cases by working backwards from reported resistive stresses or crevasse depths. For example, Todd et al. (2018) simply state crevasses extend until the maximum principal full stress is zero. As they used a full Stokes model, it is assumed all effects were considered, but this is not certain. Secondly, not all studies fit a category perfectly. Mottram and Benn (2009), for example, directly used the direction perpendicular to the crevasse by measuring strain rate with stakes on either side, and therefore did not need to assume crevasses form perpendicular to flow or maximum principal stress bypassing the stress direction consideration. This method avoids the assumption that the crevasse forms perpendicular to the flow direction or maximum principal stress that must be made when predicting the spatial pattern of crevasse depths. Studies that used multiple stress calculations are listed in each corresponding cell. Choi et al. (2018) and Lai et al. (2020) both evaluated their results with a flow-direction and maximum-principal-direction calculation. Enderlin and Bartholomaus (2020) used different stress versions for the Nye formulation-zero stress approximation and LEFM components of their workflow.

There is a distinction to be made between studies that apply the zero stress approximation for crevasses in ice sheet models. For studies that use full stokes flow or three-dimensional viscoelastic modeling approaches, the Cauchy stress through

thickness is calculated across the domain so the crevasse depth can be determined directly. Studies using the shallow shelf approximation solve for the depth-averaged resistive stress and could bypass these calculations as well. Some modeling-based studies, however, apply the zero stress approximation as a parametrization rather than a physical failure criterion and still calculate a stress for use in crevasse depth equations starting with strain rates or deviatoric stresses. We distinguish studies that apply the zero stress approximation using the modeled stress directly with double asterisks in Table 4.

The eight-14 studies tabulated use seven distinct stress calculations with multiple studies selecting Calculations A E0SF-0, B\_E0-SM-0, and D\_EF-SM-0, and F\_EF-SM-1. Three-Four studies (Choi et al., 2018; Enderlin and Bartholomaus, 2020; Hulbe et al., 2016; Sun et al., 2017) use deviatoric rather than resistive stress terms. Only one study that calculates stress from observed strain rates (Scott et al., 2010)(Todd et al., 2018) study uses the most physically consistent calculation (F\_EF-SM-1).

Stress calculations				Study types		
Calculation	Effective strain rate	Stress direction	Crevasse- parallel stress	Comparison to measured	Crevasse depth	Other
A_E0-SF-0	None	Flow	No	Enderlin and Bartholomaus	Nick et al. (2010)	Lai et al. (2020)
				(2020), Enderlin and		
Not tested	Planar	Flow	No	Bartholomaus (2020) *		
Not tested	Full	Flow	No	*Enderlin and Bartholomaus	*Choi et al. (2018)*	
Not tested	Planar	Flow	Yes	(2020)		
Not tested	Full	Flow	Yes			Lai et al. (2020)
B_E0-SM-0	None	Max Prin	No	Mottram and Benn (2009)		*(Hulbe et al.,
C EP-SM-0	Planar	Max Prin	No			
D_EF-SM-0	Full	Max Prin	No		*Choi et al. (2018)*	*Sun et al. (2017) *
E_EP-SM-1	Planar	Max Prin	Yes		Amaral et al. (2020)	
F_EF-SM-1	Full	Max Prin	Yes		**Todd et al. (2018).  **(Huth et al.,	(Scott et al., (2010)
					(2021)(Clayton et al., 2024)	**{Clayton et al., (2022)
Not tested	None	***N/A	***Yes		***(Pollard et al., (2015), ***(Wilner et	
					al. <del>,</del> (2023)	

Table 4: Classification of studies using crevasse depth calculations by stress calculation method. \*These Asterisks indicates studies that used (for at least one calculation included in the study) a deviatoric stress term rather than the resistive stress. The predicted crevasse depths would correspond to one half the values yielded by the calculation classification. (Pollard et al., 2015)(Wilner et al., 2023)(The calculation is direction independent. \*\*These studies use the physical basis of the zero stress approximation (crevasse extends to where the maximum principal Cauchy stress is zero) in ice sheet models. Where flow is fully viscous and the shallow shelf

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Formatted Formatted Formatted Formatted approximation is a perfect assumption, they would predict identical crevasse sizes to those of calculation F EF-SM-1. \*\*\*The calculation developed in Pollard et al. (2015) and tested along other calving laws in Wilner et al. (2023) uses the divergence of the surface velocity terms as strain rate and would be equivalent to using  $R_{xx} = \tau_{xx} + \tau_{yy}$  with the deviatoric stress terms calculated without effective strain rate.

Many more studies <u>we</u> reviewed used crevasse depth calculations but did not provide adequate details for classification. As we have shown, these factors can change crevasse size <u>significantly even when a resistive stress version is used by a factor of two</u>, so future studies be more diligent in describing which stresses and what equations were used. <u>For studies using calculating crevasse depths from observed strain rates</u>, <u>wWe</u> recommend calculation—<u>F</u>—<u>F</u>—<u>EF-SM-1</u> based on its physical basis and success in recreating ice sheet velocity patterns when implemented as damage. <u>For studies implementing</u> the crevasse depth calving law or damage laws based on the zero stress approximation in models, we recommend following the physical basis of the zero stress approximation (crevasse tips reach where the maximum principal stress from the Cauchy tensor reaches zero), which calculation F <u>EF-SM-1</u> reproduces for the assumption of shallow shelf approximation flow.

#### 5.3 Effect on studies comparing observed crevasse depths to predictions

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Mottram and Benn (2009), or using calculation B\_E0-SM-0, neglected effective strain rate and crevasse parallel stress in their testing of the Nye formulation-zero stress approximation and van der Veen (1998) LEFM. So long as the crevasse-parallel stress (minimum principal surface stress) is positive, the effect of this would be negligible. Future studies evaluating crevasse depths against observations could avoid potential error by confirming this to be the case or by using calculation-F-F EF-SM-1 if the crevasse-parallel stress is available.

Enderlin and Bartholomaus (2020) used different stress calculations for the Nye formulation zero stress approximation and LEFM components of their analysis. Their Nye formulation calculation zero stress approximation neglects effective strain rate and crevasse-parallel stress but does use resistive stress (calculation A\_E0-SF-0). The LEFM calculation uses effective strain rate but takes the flow-direction deviatoric stress as the resistive stress. The Nye formulation zero stress approximation and LEFM have different assumptions about ice's failure criterion and the local effects of a crevasse on farfield stress, but do not call for differing calculations of that far-field stress. We encourage the use of calculation-F\_F\_EF-SM-1 for resistive stress regardless noting of the subsequent crevasse depth calculations being performed that applying LEFM where crevasse parallel stress is large violates the assumed elastic plane strain state. This limitation always applies, and other calculations may predict high values of tension where little is present.

Both these studies were of grounded ice which may necessitate considering non-constant strain rate with depth (Jiménez and Duddu, 2018). As the analysis in (Enderlin and Bartholomaus, (2020) was performed on Greenland tidewater glaciers near the terminus, assuming constant vertical velocity is likely appropriate (Cuffey and Patterson, 2010 p. 495). The field measurements in (Mottram and Benn, (2009) were taken near the terminus of an ice cap outlet glacier. While modeling would be needed to assess the validity of the assuming shallow-shelf-approximation flow, crevasses were measured and modeled to be mostly less than 30m in ice approximately 200 to 600m thick (Guðmundsson et al., 2017) and the glacier has a soft, temperate bed (Baurley et al., 2020; Björnsson et al., 2001) indicating significant sliding is likely. Even where driving

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stress is primarily balanced by vertical shear stress, longitudinal stress from change in thickness and surface slope may vary slowly with depth near the surface (Dahl-Jensen, 1989) suggesting that crevasse depth calculations for dry crevasses that penetrate a small fraction of thickness may not be highly impacted.

### 5.4 Effect on the crevasse depth calving law

An ideal calving law will capture retreat across the terminus and across different glaciers accurately with minimal difference in tuning, and the stress calculation used affects both criteria. In their testing of the crevasse depth law, Choi et al. (2018) use deviatoric stress. We have shown neglecting the crevasse-parallel stress causes an over-prediction of shear margin crevasse depth. This may cause a single tuning of the crevasse depth law to balance over-retreat of the shear margins with under-retreat of the glacier center. This would correspond to an overly convex shape in the modeled glacier front. Also, using a deviatoric stress term rather than resistive stress will under-predict crevasse depths and require a higher tuned meltwater height. This will lead to calving law that is less sensitive to changes in stress.

We have also shown that neglecting vertical strain in the effective strain rate calculation predicts large crevasse depths in regions of unconfined spreading flow. If the calculation including vertical strain rate best corresponds to crevasse depths, then crevasse depth law implementations that neglect this term will artificially require different tunings between glaciers based on the confinement of their termini. This bias may be present in the calving law testing by Amaral et al. (2020), who used calculation—E-E-EP-SM-1 in their crevasse depth law implementation.

# 5.5 Effect on damage laws

Complex damage laws that are consistent with continuum mechanics, capture water pressure effects, consider both ductile and brittle failure, and avoid overly-general use of LEFM's stress intensity factor functions are in development (e.g., Duddu et al., 2020). Some of the associated challenges and opportunities with these models are discussed by Mobasher et al. (2024). However, where simpler damage implementations tied to crevasse depths are used (e.g., Sun et al., 2017), our results encourage the use of the physical basis of the zero stress approximation, which calculation—F. F. EF-SM-1 foreproduces, for crevasse depths. The calculation selection will control the ratio of damage applied to shear margins versus the extensional center of glacier and ice shelves. A mechanism of shelf retreat observed at Pine Island and Petermann is thinning of shear margins via melting in basal channels, increased damage in shear margins from the thinning, and frontal retreat (calving) from reduced buttressing from weakened shear margins (Alley et al., 2019; Lhermitte et al., 2020). The presence of polynyas indicating basal melt channels under other shelves' shear margins suggests widespread vulnerability to this retreat mechanism (Alley et al., 2019). This observed process of retreat highlights the importance of capturing damage in shear margins accurately which includes using a resistive stress calculation where the crevasse parallel stress impacts the resistive stress.

### 5.6 Effect on ice shelf vulnerability to hydrofracture

Lai et al. (2020) considered the impacts of including or neglecting effective strain rate, firn density and rigidity effects, and stress direction in their analysis of where ice shelves are simultaneously vulnerable to hydrofracture and provide significant buttressing. For each of these choices, they showed either mathematically or empirically that their findings are minimally affected. The vulnerability of shear margins with calculation—F\_F\_EF-SM-1 would fall between their maximum principal direction and flow direction calculations and is thus enveloped. However, if future ice sheet modeling efforts use their criterion to locally fail regions of ice shelves, the calculation choice may control whether some shear margins are vulnerable or not. As discussed above (Section 5.5), shear margins are critical to ice shelf integrity, so overprediction of shear margin vulnerability to hydrofracture may be significant in controlling which and how much of ice shelves are predicted to collapse under increased surface melt. Based on our results showing that the flow direction calculation can miss crevasse penetration in shear margins while neglecting crevasse parallel stress over-predicts crevasse penetration, we suggest that calculation—F\_F\_EF-SM-1 provides the most accurate mapping of vulnerability in shear zones. We note, however, that the assumption of plane strain is violated in shear margins adding uncertainty to LEFM's application following stress calculation.

### 6 Conclusions

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We reviewed the differences in resistive stress calculations found in literature and calculated the corresponding differences in crevasse depths for representative strain rate states. Next, we showed the spatial patterns of crevasse penetration with each calculation using the Nye crevasse formulation zero stress approximation on several two real ice shelves. Finally, we tested the ability of damage patterns from crevasse penetration to yield velocity fields that match observations. We found that, among six variations of resistive stress state-calculation commonly found in the literature, the predicted crevasse depths ean varywill frequently vary by a factor of two or more (and even more if a deviatoric stress component is used) by a factor of two. This difference is most pronounced in in-converging flow, shear margins, and and regions of unconfined spreading flow (Figure 4). The best results, where predicted damage patterns were consistent with observed velocity patterns, came from the most physically based calculation, which uses effective strain rate respecting continuity, maximum principal direction stress, and includes the crevasse-parallel deviatoric stress term in the resistive stress equation. This method (calculation F\_EF-SM-1) outperformed a slightly simpler formulation (calculation E\_EP-SM-1), which uses the planar effective strain rate instead, on all ice shelves tested, but especially on the Larsen B remnantScar Inlet and Larsen C shelves. All other stress calculations yielded either too-deep, unrealistic crevasse penetration or no crevasse penetration in some parts of shear margins., except in stress states between uniaxial and biaxial tension (no shear or compressive planar strain rate; most commonly found near the center of ice flow), where the simplest principal direction stress calculation (calculation B) gives crevasse depths that are nearly identical to those of calculation F.

From these findings, we encourage future studies needing crevasse sizes to carefully choose their resistive stress calculation methodology and explicitly state the equations. Due to the significant changes the stress calculation method makes,

this <u>clarity</u> is necessary to <u>assureensure</u> comparisons can be made across studies. We also encourage studies to use the resistive stress rather than a deviatoric stress term to avoid underpredicting crevasse depths relative to the depths that correspond to the physical bases of the <u>Nye crevasse formulation zero stress approximation</u> and LEFM. Finally, we encourage studies to use calculation <u>F. F. EF-SM-1 for resistive stress</u> based on its performance in <u>modeling observed velocity recreating observed velocity as damage</u> and its physical basis. This selection is particularly important for applications where any strain rate state from <u>lateral compression pure shear</u> to <u>shear to</u> unconfined spreading is possible (e.g., plan view remote sensing based or modeling studies). This includes crevasse depth calving law implementations, <u>which can give the calving front a falsely convex shape when less physically based stress calculations are used where modeled calving front convexity changes with stress calculation as in (Choi et al., (2018). Crucially, our findings also affect calculations of ice shelf vulnerability, which may be overpredicted in shear margins when less physically based stress calculations are used.</u>

Appendix A: Physical properties and variables

Name	Symbol	Units	Value	Justification / Comments
Gravitational acceleration	g	m s <sup>-2</sup>	9.81	
Ice density	$\rho_i$	kg m <sup>-3</sup>	917	Cuffey and Patterson (2010)
Meltwater density	$ ho_{mw}$	kg m <sup>-3</sup>	1000	Not used for results in paper as dry surface crevasses assumed.
Proglacial water density	$ ho_{pw}$	kg m <sup>-3</sup>	1027	This is the value of ocean density used in BedMachine (Morlighem et al., 2020) for calculating hydrostatic equilibrium. Temperatures and salinities at 500m from the world ocean atlas (Locarnini et al., 2013; Zweng et al., 2013) converted to density with the Thermodynamic Equations of SeaWater – 2010 (TEOS-10) oceanographic toolbox (McDougall and Barker, 2011) yield densities up to 1030.3 kg/m^3. This causes no more than a 3% difference in predicted basal crevasse height. If density is closer to 1000 kg m <sup>-3</sup> through fresh meltwater, then the impact could be important (up to 30%).
Glen's flow law exponent	n	n/a	3	Using rheology from Cuffey and Patterson (2010).

Table A1: Values of all physical properties used with justification and comments.

Name	Symbol	Unit	Comments
Resistive stress	$R_{xx}$	Pa	Resistive stress in the crevasse perpendicular direction (in this paper's nomenclature). Defined as the full stress minus the lithostatic stress. See van der Veen (2017) section 3.1 to 3.4 for the derivation of Resistive stress components in terms of deviatoric stresses including $R_{xx} = 2\tau_{xx} + \tau_{yy}$ in terms of deviatoric stresses.
Surface crevasse depth	$d_s$	m	
Basal crevasse height	$d_b$	m	
Meltwater depth	$d_{mw}$	m	Not used in workflow as surface crevasses assumed to be dry.
Height above buoyancy	$H_{ab}$	m	

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Ice thickness	Н	m	
Submerged depth	D	m	
Flow law factor rate parameter in Glen's flow law	Α	s-1 Pa-3	Using rheology from Cuffey and Patterson (2010).
Ice rigidity.	В	<u>s<sup>1/3</sup> Pa</u>	Used for calculating stress from strain rate. Calculted from flow law rate parameter as $B = A^{-1/n}$ .
Velocity	$V_x, V_y$	m s <sup>-1</sup>	*
Planar deviatoric stresses (crevasse aligned)	$ au_{xx},  au_{yy},  au_{xy}$	Pa	$ au_{xx}$ is perpendicular to the crevasse and $ au_{yy}$ runs parallel.
Planar maximum principal deviatoric stress	$ au_1$	Pa	May also be called the major principal stress or the first eigen value of the planar deviatoric stress tensor.
Planar minimum principal deviatoric stress	$ au_2$	Pa	May also be called the minor principal stress or the second eigen value of the planar deviatoric stress tensor.
Flow direction deviatoric stress	$ au_{flow\;dir.}$	Pa	
Planar strain rates (crevasse aligned)	$\dot{\varepsilon}_{xx},\dot{\varepsilon}_{yy},\dot{\varepsilon}_{xy}$	s-1	$\dot{\varepsilon}_{xx}$ is perpendicular to the crevasse and $\dot{\varepsilon}_{yy}$ runs parallel.
Planar strain rates (global CRS aligned)	$\dot{arepsilon}_{\chi\chi},\dot{arepsilon}_{\gamma\gamma},\dot{arepsilon}_{\chi\gamma}$	s <sup>-1</sup>	
Planar effective strain rate	$\dot{e}_{eff,planar}$	s <sup>-1</sup>	Effective strain rate calculated only from $\dot{\varepsilon}_{xx}$ , $\dot{\varepsilon}_{yy}$ , $\dot{\varepsilon}_{xy}$ terms neglecting the $\dot{\varepsilon}_{zz}$ term that could be calculated using conservation of mass.
(Full) effective strain rate	ė <sub>eff</sub>	s <sup>-1</sup>	Effective strain rate including the $\dot{\varepsilon}_{zz}$ term calculated from conservation of mass.
Full stress components (crevasse parallel direction)	$\sigma_{xx},\sigma_{yy},\sigma_{zz}$	Pa	$\sigma_{xx}$ is perpendicular to the crevasse and $\sigma_{yy}$ runs parallel.

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			Defined as the fraction of the ice column that does not carry stress.
			See A factor reducing rigidity used to account Borstad et al. (2016) for
Damage	D	[unitless]	ice failure, as $\tau_{ij} = (1 - D)B\dot{\varepsilon}_{\text{eff}}^{\frac{1}{n}-1}\dot{\varepsilon}_{ij}$ (e.g. Borstad et al. 2016).
			Damage is related to enhancement factor as $D = 1 - E^{-1/n}$ .

Table A2: All variables used with their symbols, units, and comments.

### Code availability

A Python function that calculates resistive stress and then surface crevasse depths and basal crevasse heights with the Nye formulation zero stress approximation is available at <a href="https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.15420465">https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.15420465</a> https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.12659663 (Reynolds et al., 2025)(Reynolds et al., 2024). The repository also includes a Jupyter notebook and downsampled data files to reproduces plot the crevasse penetration results for the Larsen B and Pine Island Glacier ice shelve the minimum to maximum principal strain rate ratio plots (Fig. 4 c and d) as well as crevasse penetration (Fig. 5) and crevasse penetration difference between calculations plots (Fig. 6)s. ISSM is available at https://issm.jpl.nasa.gov/.

#### Data availability

The fields used to create any of the figures are available by request. The data used in this work are publicly available. NASA ITS\_LIVE annual velocity mosaics can be found at https://doi:10.5067/6II6VW8LLWJ7. The MEaSUREs 2014-2017 velocity mosaic (and other multiyear mosaics) are available here: https://doi.org/10.5067/FB851ZIZYX5O. The temperature data from (2000)ISSM 940 Comiso, the example data for here: can be found in sets https://issm.jpl.nasa.gov/documentation/tutorials/datasets/. The BedMachine product including the REMA surface elevation mosaic can be found here: https://doi.org/10.5067/FPSU0V1MWUB6.

### Supplement link

[PDF attached in submission]

#### 945 Author contribution

BR did conceptualization, methodology, software, visualization, and original draft writing. SN did conceptualization, manuscript review and editing, funding acquisition, and supervision. KP did conceptualization and manuscript review and editing.

### **Competing interests**

One of the coauthors is a member of the editorial board of *The Cryosphere*.

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