

Reply to reviewer 1

-Reviewer 1 minor comment 1:

Line 16: "reduction? Not quite sure what's meant by buffering here."

Author reply: Replacement made accordingly

-Reviewer 1 minor comment 2:

Line 21: "Not sure you need this sub clause - I think the point is already clear."

Author reply: Agreed, we removed this sub-clause from the abstract.

-Reviewer 1 minor comment 3:

Line 67: "longer?"

Author reply: Agreed, this term was added.

-Reviewer 1 minor comment 4:

Line 69: "I'd remove yet"

Author reply: Agreed, this was removed.

-Reviewer 1 minor comment 5:

Line 74: "Perhaps because I mainly do contemporary glaciers, I'm not familiar with the exact meaning of these terms, so please could you briefly define / explain?"

Author reply: Agreed, we simplified the sentence to: *"They also inform mechanisms and timescales of debris cover and subglacial sediment storage, which can be involved in protecting bedrock from subglacial erosion (Delaney & Anderson, 2022)."*

-Reviewer 1 minor comment 6:

Line 84: "I'd swap for instance for such as."

Author reply: Agreed, this swap was made accordingly.

-Reviewer 1 minor comment 7:

Line 86: "Interesting application. Consider adding an example here - I've never heard of it but it sparked my interest!"

Author reply: Many thanks for the suggestion. We have now added this example to the paragraph: *"Lastly, tracking the transport history of iconic glacial erratics, some of which have cultural significance (Reynard, 2004; Coutterand, 2018), offers an opportunity to bridge scientific understanding with public engagement. The permanent glacial erratics exhibition of Grenchen (Solothurn, Switzerland) displaying erratics found during construction works, is a prime example of a cultural connection to the paleo-glacial heritage."*

-Reviewer 1 minor comment 8:

Line 94: "Please add a couple of examples of what this empirical data might look like"

Author reply: We now added these examples to the sentence: *"Numerical modelling offers a means to address the above knowledge gaps by generating spatially distributed, time-evolving estimates of glacial sediment transport which can be compared against empirical data such as glacial erratic mapping and provenance analyses (e.g. Veness et al., 2025)."*

-Reviewer 1 minor comment 9:

Line 102: "I'd make it clear here that you mean past limits, presumably from things like trim lines? As opposed to modern data ice thickness?"

Author reply: Many thanks for this suggestion. Indeed we are referring to trimline data here: we have now added more detail and example references to the sentence to make this clearer: “*First, previous AIF simulations (e.g. Mey et al., 2016; Seguinot et al., 2018; Jouvet et al., 2023) exhibited potent mismatches in ice thickness compared to trimline elevation field data (e.g. Kelly et al., 2004; Hippe et al., 2014), limiting confidence in inferred ice-flow dynamics.*”

-Reviewer 1 minor comment 10:

Line 104: “*Somewhere it would be useful to give the processing time using standard approaches versus IGM, just to really bring home the difference*”

Author reply: We fully agree; and this is something we do in results section 3.1: where we provide the numbers from our quantitative test experiment comparing particle tracking on GPU vs standard methods on CPU.

-Reviewer 1 minor comment 11:

Line 159: “*enabling the coupling of the advection of....*”

Author reply: The sentence was changed accordingly.

-Reviewer 1 minor comment 12:

Line 178: “*under> in*”

Author reply: Change made accordingly.

-Reviewer 1 minor comment 13:

Line 183: “*Quite a bit of this paragraph and particularly the highlighted sentences read a bit like what I'd expect in teh final prapgraph of the discussion, where you think about broader implications / applications. Please consider whether they are better placed there.*”

Author reply: Thank you for this comment, we agree and have now moved this paragraph to the beginning of the discussion instead, please also refer to our more detailed reply to comment 33.

-Reviewer 1 minor comment 14:

Line 209: “*As a form of mass input? Perhaps worth stating.*”

Author reply: Actually, as a form of mass re-distribution (from steep to less steep glacier surfaces). To make this clearer, we updated the sentence to: “*Their model setup (and thus also ours) integrates modules for ice-enthalpy (after Aschwanden et al., 2012), surface mass balance (after Calov & Greve, 2005), isostatic adjustment (after Wickert, 2015), and avalanching for mass re-distribution down steep slopes.*”

-Reviewer 1 minor comment 15:

Line 402: “*consists in > involves*”

Author reply: Change made accordingly.

-Reviewer 1 minor comment 16:

Line 411: “*ensures that we isolate...*”

Author reply: Change made accordingly.

-Reviewer 1 minor comment 17:

Figure3: “*Is the legend required here or could the numebrs and names be in a table in the sup info? If the names are used, I'd tudy them up in the legend, e.g. remove the underscores and LGM margins, as this appears on all of them - this would help readbaility.*”

Author reply: We have now redesigned the legend of Figure 3 in both panels to make it more readable (removing underscores and increasing the size of text).

-Reviewer 1 minor comment 18:

Figure3: *“Same point about the names here - the text is so small it's hard to read, so think about simplifying / shortening the names or just going with the numbers”*

Author reply: We have now redesigned the legend of Figure 3 in both panels to make it more readable (removing underscores and increasing the size of text).

-Reviewer 1 minor comment 19:

Line 490: *“consists in > involves”*

Author reply: Change made accordingly.

-Reviewer 1 minor comment 20:

Line 502: *“software”*

Author reply: Change made accordingly.

-Reviewer 1 minor comment 21:

Line 511: *“which is”*

Author reply: Change made accordingly.

-Reviewer 1 minor comment 22:

Line 517: *“Quite a few times you say small computational cost - it'd be good to put some numbers to this to give the reader a sense. E.G. it takes x minutes instead of xxxxx hours.*

OK, reading on you do this in the next paragraph, but would be worth adding to the abstract ./ intro.”

Author reply: To address this we have now added an extra sentence in the abstract to mention an estimate of the speed-up we observe:

“Our approach unlocks the ice advection of tens of millions of particles at minimal additional computational cost, allowing simulations of glacial sediment transport across the European Alps over multi-millennial timescales (40-18 ka) and at an unprecedented spatial resolution of 300 m. We achieve ~50x faster computation tracking 20 million particles across the Alps using a single GPU instead of 60 CPU threads. In doing so, we produce the first Alps-wide modelling reconstruction of glacial sediment transport during the LGM”

For this specific metric we extract from our resulting analysis on CPU vs GPU costs the case of 20 million particles in the system, and 60 CPU threads vs 1GPU: which results in a x50 speed up (see figure 4). However please note that depending on what computational system people use the speed up factor can be very different. Here we choose to mention the x50 figure as a conservative estimate but actually it is quite difficult to talk about this speedup using only a single number. Moreover, as these numbers are obtained from us conducting a separate analysis and simulation testing both GPU and CPU cases, it is therefore presented as a distinct “results” section in our paper. Therefore whilst we agree it makes sense to include a summary metric in the abstract: we think it would feel out of place in the introduction. We however have now made it clearer in the relevant introduction paragraph that a quantification of this is “coming” later in the paper :

“Here we show that IGM’s novel GPU-based architecture also enables efficient parallelization of Lagrangian particle tracking, enabling the coupling of the advection of millions of particles within our AIF model framework at minimal additional cost (see Results section for quantifications) and consequently track the glacial-transport trajectories of individual particles from their location of origin (the source) to their final deposition site (the sink).”

-Reviewer 1 minor comment 23:

Line 590: *“cover”*

Author reply: Change made accordingly.

-Reviewer 1 minor comment 24:

Figure 5: *“I'd consider a colour map with more colours, e.g. rainbow. I'm suggesting this because it's hard to see anything but dark blue in b here.”*

Author reply: We thank the reviewer for this comment. Please note that this is here also caused by the nature of the density data in panel B characterised by the majority of hexagons featuring few particle seeding point numbers (with high density points being quite rare and with a lot of noise in panel B), which makes it quite hard (we've made many tests) to find a colour map that works significantly better than the original. This is also because, throughout the paper, we choose colourmaps that are as colour-blind friendly as possible. For instance, the “rainbow” colourmap would not possible to choose for this reason. However, we believe to have now found a better option using a log_norm and inversed version of the original colour map (matplotlib plasma). We have thus modified the figure accordingly.

-Reviewer 1 minor comment 25:

Line 656: *“Please can you briefly explain what this is: is it the fraction from a certain area of from supra versus subglacial?”*

Author reply: This is fraction of sink particle provenance from specific hydrological basins. To make this clearer: we added information to the sentence: *“For each sink polygon mapped (n = 49; Fig. 3a), we provide a high-resolution map of particle trajectories, along with an estimation of particle provenance fractions, i.e. the proportions of sink particles originating from specific hydrological basins (see section 2.4; Figure S1)”*

-Reviewer 1 minor comment 26:

Line 681: *“Personally I wouldn't present it as +/- like this, I'd give median and range separately. When I first read it, I thought it was the error and was surprised how high it was.”*

Author reply: We agree, and this echoes a comment from reviewer 2 also. Indeed a +/- more often refers to an error estimate whilst the goal of the IQR here is to quantify data dispersion and define the distribution. We have now changed all statistics reporting of this kind to : *“with a cumulative glacial transport time of 6,361 yrs (IQR = 3,641 yrs)...”* with the interquartile range in brackets after reporting the median number.

-Reviewer 1 minor comment 27:

Figure8: *“Would be helpful to add a few key place names and basins to orientate the reader in these panels.”*

Author reply: We thank the reviewer for this comment. To adress this, we have now added a small inset to the figure allowing to see the location of the top panels and the Mount Salève relative to the full alps (with the hillshade of the topography and country bordies + country codes). We prefer this option over adding more data on top of the maps in the original figure panels in order not to overlay the model and particle data : which we feel would overload the figure and would hide the more important information. With this inset we hope the goal of allowing the reader to better locate the region we focus on in this example has now been reached.

-Reviewer 1 minor comment 28:

Line 966: *“May be worth stating explicitly here that it can be used to target future work to narrow down uncertainties / verify flow paths at key sites. I think that's one of the really powerful things with this work - it tells us where we can get the most bang for buck for dating”*

Author reply: Many thanks for this great suggestion: we added a sentence: *“Our model may either slightly overestimate ice thickness over the Rhône and Solothurn glaciers during the LGM, or may be correct but sedimentological evidence for such momentary transfluence may be rare and not yet documented/dated. In either case, our high-resolution modelling helps target field sampling*

locations more precisely by producing particle trajectories that inform physically-plausible transfluence locations.”

-Reviewer 1 minor comment 29:

Figure 9: “As for the figure above, I'd add some key place names / basins for context - I know you've probably spent a long time looking at the Alps, so know where everything is, but I'm less familiar!”

Author reply: Thank you for the suggestion, following this comment we have now added a few reasonably well-known city names to the top panel of Figure 9, to help the viewer get a sense of the location. The trick is also to not overload the figure nor make any labels overlap with the Orange trajectories which are the most important data on this figure.

-Reviewer 1 minor comment 30:

Line 1043: “This mini literature search is valuable in itself - do you have a table with the info summarised in supp info? If not, I would add.”

Author reply: Many thanks for this comment. Indeed, we produced such a table: it is located in the supplementary materials under Table S1.

-Reviewer 1 minor comment 31:

Line 1072: “the results of this analysis”

Author reply: Change to the sentence was made accordingly.

-Reviewer 1 minor comment 32:

Figure 10: “I like the idea of this figure but it's a bit hard to read. Consider making the yellow dots e.g. + but larger. The purple lines are very hard to see, so perhaps just a point to display them on a? I also find the ice surface colours a bit hard to see. Maybe a hillshade or some contours to help it really show up?”

Author reply: We thank the reviewer for this comment. We have now increased the size of the yellow dots (although there is a limit as it's also important to visualize the precise location of the modelled transfluences with respect to the topography as this is a major result from our work) and also increased the size of the panel reducing white space to make the maps slightly bigger within the figure. We have also modified the colour of the location labels in Panel A for red with black outline (rather than pink) and white transparent background to increase visibility. After many tests (we honestly tried many different options), we however did not find a notably better combination of colours for the data shown on panel B. Displaying the modelled flowlines (most important for the transfluences) + the model output ice geometry and surface elevation (enhanced by contours) + the hydrological basins outlines (important for their crossing with the flowlines: thus indicating the transfluences) + the underlying topography in places with a hillshade: is quite tricky altogether: especially when trying to make it colour-blind friendly. Please note that all figures are produced in very high resolution for the purpose of being zoomed-in on the digital paper version. Once zoomed-in we believe this figure becomes quite clear.

-Reviewer 1 minor comment 33:

Line 1182: “Personally, I think you're starting this section a bit negatively, given how much you have done. I'd suggest having a paragraph on the key take home points and things that can be done with the model - I think these appeared at the end of the intro, so I'd move them here and change the sub heading to e.g. Applications, limitations and future work. Basically, make it really clear for someone reading this how they could use it and show off a bit!”

Author reply: Thank you for the comment and nice suggestion. We agree, and we have now moved almost all of the content of the last introduction paragraph (the one which felt out of place) to the beginning of the Discussion: whose first section (4.1) title was now changed to “Applications, limitations and future work” , as suggested. This makes the discussion start on a much more

positive note, with main take home messages and the added value of our work, followed by the paragraphs on limitations and future improvements suggestions, and then followed by the second discussion section (4.2) on wider implications. Its important to us to finish the discussion on the wider implications rather than on the limitations of the study, in order not to finish the reading on a negative note. We have now also removed this last paragraph from the introduction.

-Reviewer 1 minor comment 34:

Line 1193 : “*sediments*”

Author reply: change made accordingly.

-Reviewer 1 minor comment 35:

Line 1217 : “*This would be nice to add. Do we have empirical or process modelling data on how this occurs?*”

Author reply: Yes there are a few empirical field and laboratory studies on the subject. We have now added an extra sentence to mention some key example studies which may provide quantitative means of parametrizing this in a model, even though this remains quite challenging and dependent on many other processes: “*In future modelling work, more realistic provenance fractions may thus be obtained through parameterizations that reduce particle preservation as glacial transport time and distances increase. For instance, previous work attempting to empirically quantify, through either laboratory (e.g. Hooke and Iverson, 1995) or field (e.g. Hubbard et al., 1996) investigations, the deformation-induced comminution of subglacial sediments by analysing their facies and properties (e.g. clast shape and size, fractal dimension), could help implement such model parameterizations.*”

-Reviewer 1 minor comment 36:

Line 1236 : “*I like the way you identify the limitations, but could you give an indication of how you might tackle them in the broadest sense and how challenging they are to either model and/or validate, E.g. it's very hard to get direct data on sediment evolution processes at the glacier bed, so it would be hard to validate if implimented.*”

Author reply: Thank you for this great comment. To address this, we have now added a few extra sentences to the discussion when mentioning possible future improvements to pursue, in order to provide thoughts about how they could be informed or how challenging they might be:

For instance here (line 1222):

“In future work, modelling these complex mechanisms would require full coupling of both subglacial hydrology and sediment-transport modules to glacier-evolution models. Whilst such coupling has already been implemented in single-glacier modelling studies (e.g. Delaney et al., 2023), the added computational cost remains a challenge for large spatial and temporal (paleo) timescales, and the lack of observation data on subglacial and bed conditions leaves the numerous additional parameters of such schemes poorly constrained.”

And here (line 1239):

“In future modelling work, more realistic provenance fractions may thus be obtained through parameterizations that reduce particle preservation as glacial transport time and distances increase. For instance, previous work attempting to empirically quantify, through either laboratory (e.g. Hooke and Iverson, 1995) or field (e.g. Hubbard et al., 1996) investigations, the deformation-induced comminution of subglacial sediments by analysing their facies and properties (e.g. clast shape and size, fractal dimension), could help implement such model parameterizations.”

And here (line 1255):

“The accuracy of future coupled glacier-particle modelling may thus be increased by adding an erodibility index parameter controlling the seeding likelihood based on rock hardness, faulting,

temperature-driven rock-permafrost conditions, and resistance to erosion, constrained by present-day geological observations and/or reconstructed past erosion rates (Gallach et al., 2021). A number of studies have already produced global (e.g. Moosdorf et al., 2018) or more regional Alps-specific (e.g. Kühni and Pfiffner, 2001) maps of erodibility indexes based on various geological attributes, which could thus be leveraged for improved model parameterization.”

-Reviewer 1 minor comment 37:

Line 1267 : *“I guess it could also be used by people at specific sites of interest, where it's possible to generate such data.”*

Author reply: We agree, and have now modified these sentences to accommodate this important additional point: *“An obvious future improvement would be to produce similar sink-to-source analyses for more specific sites yielding detailed glacial geomorphological mapping of ice-contact deposits, or for a more detailed Alps-wide map of individual glacio-terminal landforms that remain preserved to this day. However, the latter would require producing a digital (e.g. GIS database), open-access, Alps-wide map of preserved glacial geomorphology with geochronological constraints and a consistent naming convention (e.g. Glasser & Jansson, 2008; Clark et al., 2018). To our knowledge, such a valuable product is not yet available for the European Alps.”*

-Reviewer 1 minor comment 38:

Figure11 : *“I think you need to reconsider the colour scheme here - I can only see blue!”*

Author reply: Please refer also to our reply to comment 24 as some of the reasoning overlaps: i.e. the nature of the particle density data is partly responsible for this. But the most important information rather than the density values are the shapes produced by the deposits: which resemble glacio-terminal geomorphological features (e.g. terminal moraines): and we believe this figure already shows that nicely. However, to address this comment, we have now tested more combinations of colormaps and renderings. Displaying the topography + the model output data + the particle deposit data in spatial density scale + the ehlers LGM limit all in one map and in a clear manner, whilst making sure the result is as colour-blind friendly as possible: is non-trivial. The best result we eventually managed to obtain was to go back to the original colour map but in log scale rather than linear.

-Reviewer 1 minor comment 39:

Line 1335 : *“Are there any specific implications for surge type glaciers? E.g. if we know where the desposits came from and how long they took, could we reconstruct surging? Probably a lot more complex in terms of the flow, but just wondering if there are potential applications there that could be noted?”*

Author reply: Thank you for raising this interesting point, indeed we also think it is likely that particle tracking of large particle numbers can also be valuable to study surging glaciers: if the glacier model used is capable of representing surging mechanics and surging events realistically. In that case the addition of particles would likely help better visualize and understand the complex internal ice motion dynamics associated with these events, and help tie those to preserved sedimentary deposits associated with surging events. We have now added a sentence in this paragraph to mention this example:

“Lagrangian particle tracking coupled with glacier modelling essentially offers a mechanism to better visualize the time-transient 3D flow trajectories of simulated glacier motion (Figure S7). As a result, it can help to better understand contemporary and past internal glacier dynamics, including vertical ice motion, flow convergence and divergence, and the complex behaviours of merging glaciers. Provided that surge dynamics are realistically captured by the ice-flow model, particle tracking could also offer valuable insights into the transient flow complexity of surge-type glaciers and their associated sediment transport and deposition patterns.”

-Reviewer 1 minor comment 40:

Line 1340 : *“Please simplify the language here.”*

Author reply: We have simplified this to : “Reconstructing the precise locations and lateral migrations of such suture zones in paleo glaciers, which reflect differences in driving stress and ice flux between two merging glaciers, can be crucial to explain:...”

-Reviewer 1 minor comment 41:

Line 1349 : *“Perhaps it comes in here, but worth saying the model can be used to target future dating work at key sites / areas of uncertainty, such as ice divides.”*

Author reply: We agree that this important point is worth stating again in this section. We’ve added a last sentence to the end of section 4.2.2 on this: *“Our Mont Salève case study (section 3.3.3) is a good example for which understanding the location and migration of the suture zone separating the Rhône and Arve glaciers, easily visible with particles on Figure 8 (panel a), is key in understanding the modelled provenance and transport pathways of specific ice-contact deposits in this region (e.g. the Mont Salève erratics). Moreover, such coupled glacier-particle modelling can help target most appropriate field sites for future dating and/or provenance analyses of ice-contact deposits.”*

Reply to reviewer 2

-Reviewer 2 minor comment 1:

Line21: “suggest commas on either side of this clause”

Author reply: Change made accordingly

-Reviewer 2 minor comment 2:

Line86: “Here and in a few other locations, the reference is doing a lot of work. It would be helpful if you provided a bit more detail about the example(s) you're citing, so the reader doesn't need to be familiar with the literature to follow your point.”

Author reply: Thank you for this comment. We have now added more detail following this reference as well as for our next mention of the cultural heritage implications. This section of the introduction now features more tangible examples to help the reader better understand what we mean exactly:

“Quantifying glacial sediment routing and export in formerly glaciated landscapes is also crucial to inform industries such as concerned with aggregate resources or the geological disposal of nuclear waste (e.g. Fischer et al., 2015; 2021). Indeed, quantifying past long-term glacial sediment export and deposition dynamics helps better project future geological stability and future glaciations' impacts on possible industrial repository sites via basal erosion, ensuring safe containment of anthropogenic waste over millennia. Lastly, tracking the transport history of iconic glacial erratics, some of which have cultural significance (Reynard, 2004; Coutterand, 2018), offers an opportunity to bridge scientific understanding with public engagement. The permanent glacial erratics exhibition of Grenchen (Solothurn, Switzerland) displaying erratics found during construction works, is a prime example of a cultural connection to the paleo-glacial heritage. Thus, while it represents a substantial challenge, characterizing the pre-depositional history of glacial sediments and ice-contact deposits yields widespread implications for numerous research fields and industrial/societal activities.”

-Reviewer 2 minor comment 3:

Line95: “same point as earlier with nuclear waste, provide a bit more detail, so the reader does need to track down every reference to understand your examples.

The references should be there so they can follow up if they want additional information.”

Author reply: We have now added a more specific example to this sentence to make it clearer to the reader what was meant by “empirical data”. This goes in line with a similar comment by Reviewer 1 on this same sentence:

“Numerical modelling offers a means to address the above knowledge gaps by generating spatially distributed, time-evolving estimates of glacial sediment transport which can be compared against empirical data such as glacial erratic mapping and ice-contact sediment provenance analyses (e.g. Veness et al., 2025).”

-Reviewer 2 minor comment 4:

Line96: “Defining this for a non-modeling audience would be helpful.”

Author reply: We agree and have now added an extra sentence just following this initial statement which acts as a definition for non-modellers: “A robust and established method consists in

coupling a glacier evolution model with Lagrangian particle tracking to simulate the time-transient advection of sediment-like particles by ice-flow (e.g. Rybak & Huybrechts, 2003; Rowan et al., 2015; Bernard et al., 2020; Scherler & Egholm, 2020). In a Lagrangian approach, calculations are performed on individual moving particles themselves rather than at fixed grid locations, allowing to track their paths through the evolving glacier at sub-grid scales.”

-Reviewer 2 minor comment 5:

Line102: *“this sentence feels overly specific (specific number of particles, number of years, specific ice mass).*

It reduces the importance of the statement. If you need to be this specific, is it worth saying this?”

Author reply: Thank you for this comment: we have now simplified this sentence and removed some of its redundant components to make it also feel less specific : *“However, no studies have yet tracked large particle numbers (>106) within model simulations of past Alpine Ice Field (AIF) glaciations.”*

-Reviewer 2 minor comment 6:

Line166: *“This is stated quite a few times in the intro. I think once is fine, because it is a good study. But I'd delete the other mentions until you get to the conclusions.”*

Author reply: Thank you for this comment. We have just removed a few instances of the term “for the first time” or “the first...” describing the novel aspect of our reconstruction. As such, it now only appears once in the Abstract, once in the Introduction, and once in the Conclusion.

-Reviewer 2 minor comment 7:

Line180: *“This feels like a conclusion paragraph, highlighting results and findings. I can see the value in noting the Zenodo repository, but the rest is out of place in the intro.”*

Author reply: We agree and have now moved this paragraph out of the introduction and moved it to the beginning of the discussion: please refer to our reply to Reviewer 1 minor comment 33 on this same topic. We now also removed a few other sentences from the previous paragraph of the introduction to make the introduction less of a summary of our study: but instead with more focus on the context and motivations for our study.

-Reviewer 2 minor comment 8:

Figure 3: *“Consider removing the maximum extent between polygons, it's quite hard to see at this resolution. adding a polygon or mask for water would be helpful for readers who aren't familiar with the topography of the alps. suggest cleaning these names up, remove unnessecary_ and text. Possibly increase the size?”*

Author reply: Similar comments were also raised by reviewer 1 on Figure 3 (see our reply to Reviewer 1 minor comment 17). We have now modified the figure: removing the maximum extent outline, added country outlines with country labels for people not familiar with the alps, and added the Mediterranean sea mask (but we prefer not to include the lakes: in order to avoid confusion with our coloured sink and source polygons). We also cleaned up the names of the legend and made the text bigger for increased readability.

-Reviewer 2 minor comment 9:

Line 453: *“I don't think you need to define the acronyms here, they aren't used again in the figure caption.”*

Author reply: Change made accordingly.

-Reviewer 2 minor comment 10:

Line 599: *“I think high elevation terrain (or possibly mountains) would be better than high topographies”*

Author reply: We agree and replaced “high topographies” by “high elevation terrain” accordingly.

-Reviewer 2 minor comment 11:

Figure 5: *“The dark line disappears into the dark shading where the model oversteps the LGM extent. Maybe a bright blue outline? consider the color ramp used, this is hard to differentiate much variability (maybe there isn't much), with perhaps the exception in the SE.”*

Author reply: We agree and have now modified the colormap (although the data itself makes it challenging). Please see our reply to Reviewer 1 minor comment 24 for more details. The visibility of the LGM outline is also improved as a result of this new colormap, and we also increased its linewidth to increase its visibility.

-Reviewer 2 minor comment 12:

Line 682: *“would this just make sense presented as a range?
It seems to suggest particles spend negative years in the glacier?”*

Author reply: We agree and have now modified the reporting of these numbers across the paper using the median and the IQR in a following bracket instead. Please refer to our reply to reviewer 1 minor comment 26 for more detail.

-Reviewer 2 minor comment 13:

Line 688: *“I think you would put km here as well”*

Author reply: Change made accordingly.

-Reviewer 2 minor comment 14:

Line 691: *“Are there other time-periods where the subglacial particles are deposited and then re-entrained (though not in an ice free position)?*

I'm mostly curious what percentage of time is being transported vs stationary.”

Author reply: Thank you for this comment. We agree this is likely a potent mechanism in reality: however we do not have such a complex process modelled in our setup here. This would involve including in our modelling a parameterisation scheme for the deposition, storage, and freeze-on processes of subglacial sediments at the ice-bed interface. Here with the model results we have; we unfortunately cannot quantify this and answer your question. In our discussion section about the limitations of our study: we do however mention these existing complex processes which can make sediment transport velocity < ice velocity through storage for instance, a series of processes which represent an extra complexity which is here not taken into account in this work.

-Reviewer 2 minor comment 15:

Line 770: *“suggest: When averaging across all of the sinks”*

Author reply: Change made accordingly.

-Reviewer 2 minor comment 16:

Line 771: *“It's not very clear what this comparison is to (what is the increase on?)”*

Author reply: We agree and have now made this sentence more explicit: *“When averaging across all of the sinks, the glacial transport time for particles of supraglacial origin is higher than for those of subglacial origin by approximately 1,925 years, i.e. a factor of 1.9 increase.”*

-Reviewer 2 minor comment 17:

Line 864: *“One thing you could consider:*

Could the erratics have complex transport histories that involve multiple glacial cycles (or glacial and non-glacial transport?

I know your model doesn't examine that, but you might offer it as a possibility, given your model does not recreate the empirical hypothesis during one glaciation.”

Author reply: Yes this is a very good point. This belongs to our discussion on the limitation of our study and the likely underestimation that results from it due to the complexity of real-world glacial

sediment transport trajectory diversity. We had already made a small hint at this in the original discussion, but we have now made it more explicit in this sentence, based on this reviewer comment:

“Finally, while our GPU-based approach enables us to track an unprecedented number of particles in ice (~20.5 million) given our simulations’ spatio-temporal scales, sediments are ubiquitous in real glaciers. Moreover, our modelling also does not include the re-mobilization by glaciers and glaciofluvial systems of pre-LGM sediment deposits over multiple glacial cycles. We thus likely still underestimate the diversity of pathways glacial sediments may follow within a glacier system as complex as the former AIF during Late-Quaternary glaciations.”

-Reviewer 2 minor comment 18:

Figure 9: *“Similar to earlier comment, these maps are great, but could use water polygons, or maybe place names or borders?*

Something to help people place themselves.”

Author reply: Thank you for this comment. This also echoes comments from Reviewer 1. We have now added famous city names to panel A to help the viewer better locate these maps and data. We however try not to overload the maps with too much detail in order to not make the trajectories less visible.

-Reviewer 2 minor comment 19:

Line 1087: *“can you be more specific here?*

are there notable exceptions where/when it is not warm based”

Author reply: Thank you for your comment and for spotting this. This sentence was indeed misleading, as after double-checking, there is no need for the “nearly” statement: as virtually all of the transfluences detected via our particle trajectory analysis (e.g. Figure 10 and other maps in supplements) occur in places with modelled warm-based ice conditions, when they occur. There are no notable exceptions when it is not warm based. We have now updated the sentence accordingly.

-Reviewer 2 minor comment 20:

Line 1090: *“can you give an example here, as you did with the longer option?”*

Author reply: Yes indeed thank you for this comment. We have now added the example of the well-documented “Simplon pass” transfluence in bracket next to the short-time-span case.

-Reviewer 2 minor comment 21:

Figure 10: *“The pink letters are very hard to read on the shaded relief background. Maybe letters or symbols within a solid colour”*

Author reply: Thank you for spotting this. We have now replaced these by bigger letters in red with a thin black outline and a transparent white background underlying it: which we believe makes it easier to visualize now. The panels on this figure have now also increased in size, with less white space around them. The yellow dots for the transfluences were also made bigger.

-Reviewer 2 minor comment 22:

Line 1146: *“Does test 1 use the same number of particles as the other runs?”*

Author reply: Thank you for pointing this out. No in fact Test 1, due to the nature of the simpler seeding scheme employed, does not produce as much particles in the system as the original complex seeding scheme: with around 2 million particles at maximum. We’ve now added this information to the paragraph describing this scheme : *“The first sensitivity test uses a ‘simple’ seeding scheme, which is not process-based and instead creates particles supraglacially in a spatially- and temporally-regular manner, i.e. with seeding occurring in 20% of grid cells exclusive*

to the accumulation zone, and regularly every 300 yrs. This simpler scheme also produces less particles (~2.1 million at maximum) than the original seeding scheme.”

-Reviewer 2 minor comment 23:

Line 1160: *“I had a hard time following this, I’d make this all one sentence, as I paused at the end of the first, then went back and tried to read it again, and missed the context that came next.”*

Author reply: Thank you for this comment. To make this sentence easier to read, we have now removed the “using our source-to-sink analysis” clause which was not necessary, and have merged the two sentences together: *“In the first sensitivity test, which uses ‘simple’ seeding instead, model agreement with the locations of dated erratics presented above (section 3.4.2) decreases from 81-68% to 74-58%, with these two ranges representing whether we tolerate the small (<4 km) increase in ice extent mentioned above (section 3.4.2).”*

-Reviewer 2 minor comment 24:

Line 1178: *“A bit of a broader comment, the information in the discussion is good, though a challenge to follow in places, and especially hard to return to, as it’s a single section. A few subheadings would help give 4.1 some structure, and make it easier for the reader to refer back to something.”*

Author reply: Thank you for this comment. We have now added sub-section titles to section 4.1 to make it clearer to follow and give it more structure:

4 Discussion

4.1 Applications, limitations and future work

4.2.1 *Simplified glacial sediment transport dynamics*

4.2.2 *Simplified erosion and particle-seeding dynamics*

4.2.3 *Underestimated diversity of glacial sediment trajectories*

4.2.4 *Simplified mapping of terminal ice-contact deposits*

-Reviewer 2 minor comment 25:

Line 1246: *“computationally cheaper? or economically cheaper? I guess it could mean both, but you might clarify here.”*

Author reply: Thank you for spotting this. Here we meant computationally cheaper. To make this clearer: we have now rephrased to : *“However, as shown with this work, GPU-computing enables to lower the computational cost of coupled glacier-particle modelling by several orders of magnitude.”*