

# Uncertainty Quantification of Ocean Driven Melting Under the Pine Island Ice Shelf, West Antarctica

Timothy Smith<sup>1,2,3</sup>, tim.smith@noaa.gov  
 Patrick Heimbach<sup>3,4,5</sup>

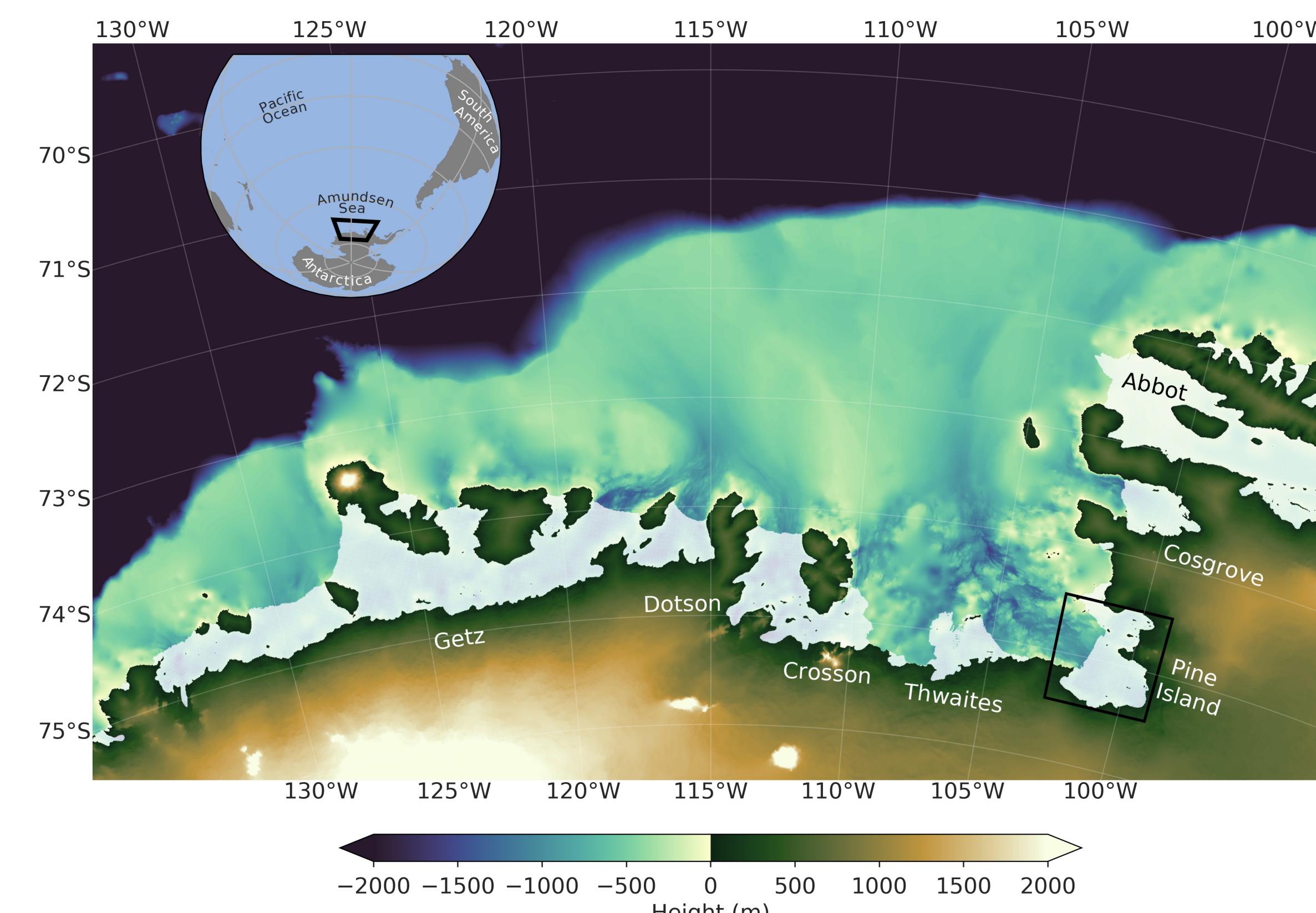
<sup>1</sup>Cooperative Institute for Research in Environmental Sciences, CU Boulder

<sup>2</sup>NOAA, Physical Sciences Lab (PSL)

<sup>3</sup>Oden Institute for Computational Engineering and Sciences, UT Austin

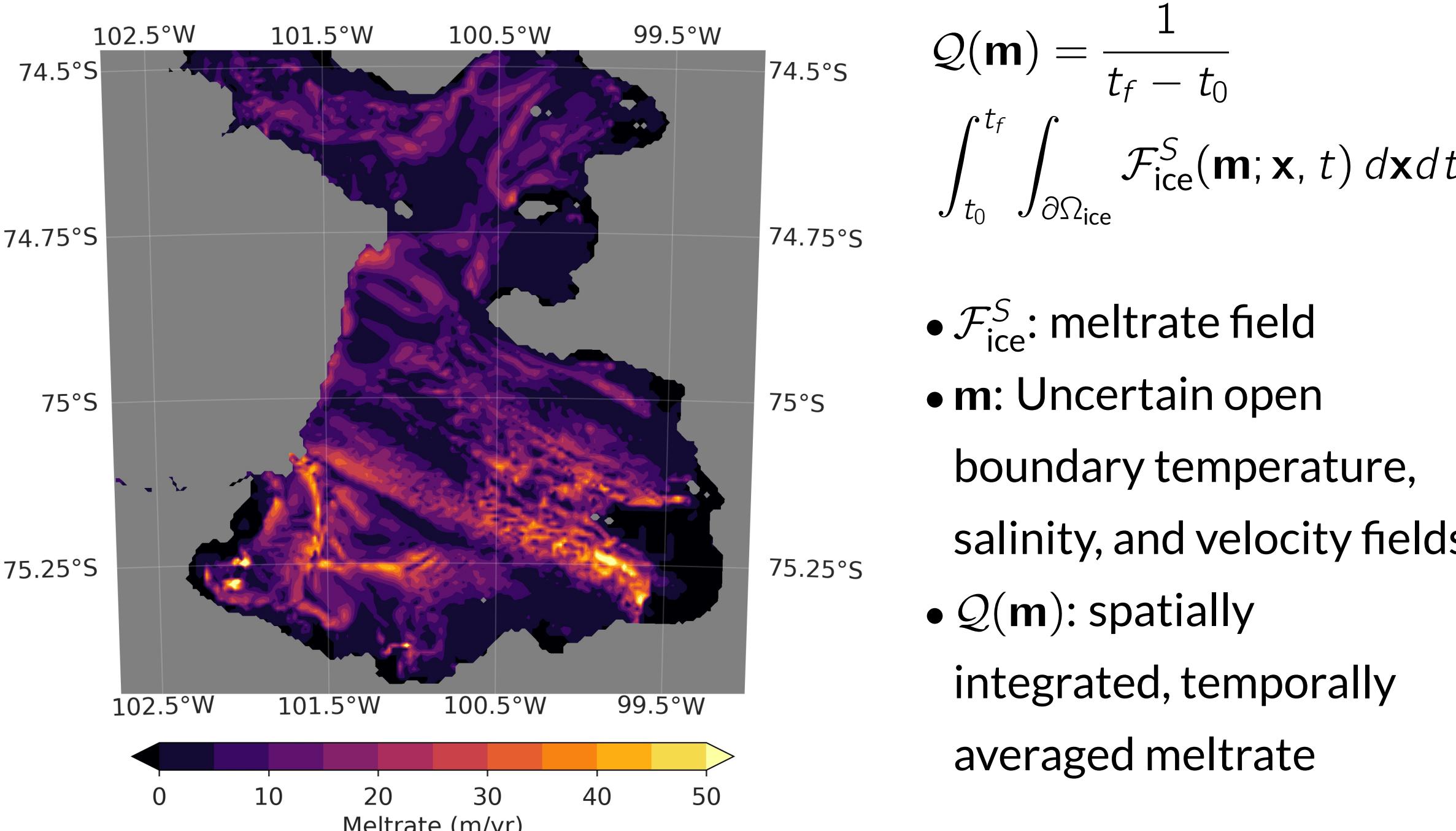
<sup>4</sup>Institute for Geophysics, UT Austin    <sup>5</sup>Jackson School of Geosciences, UT Austin

## Motivation



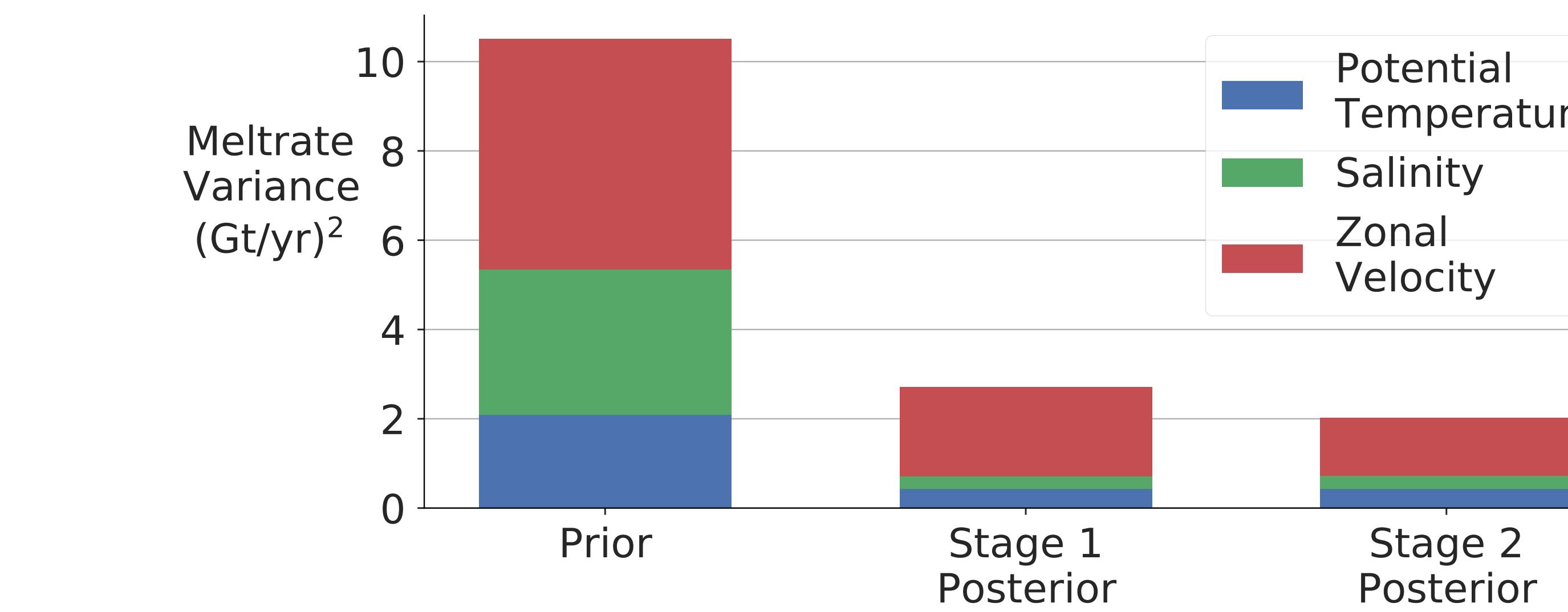
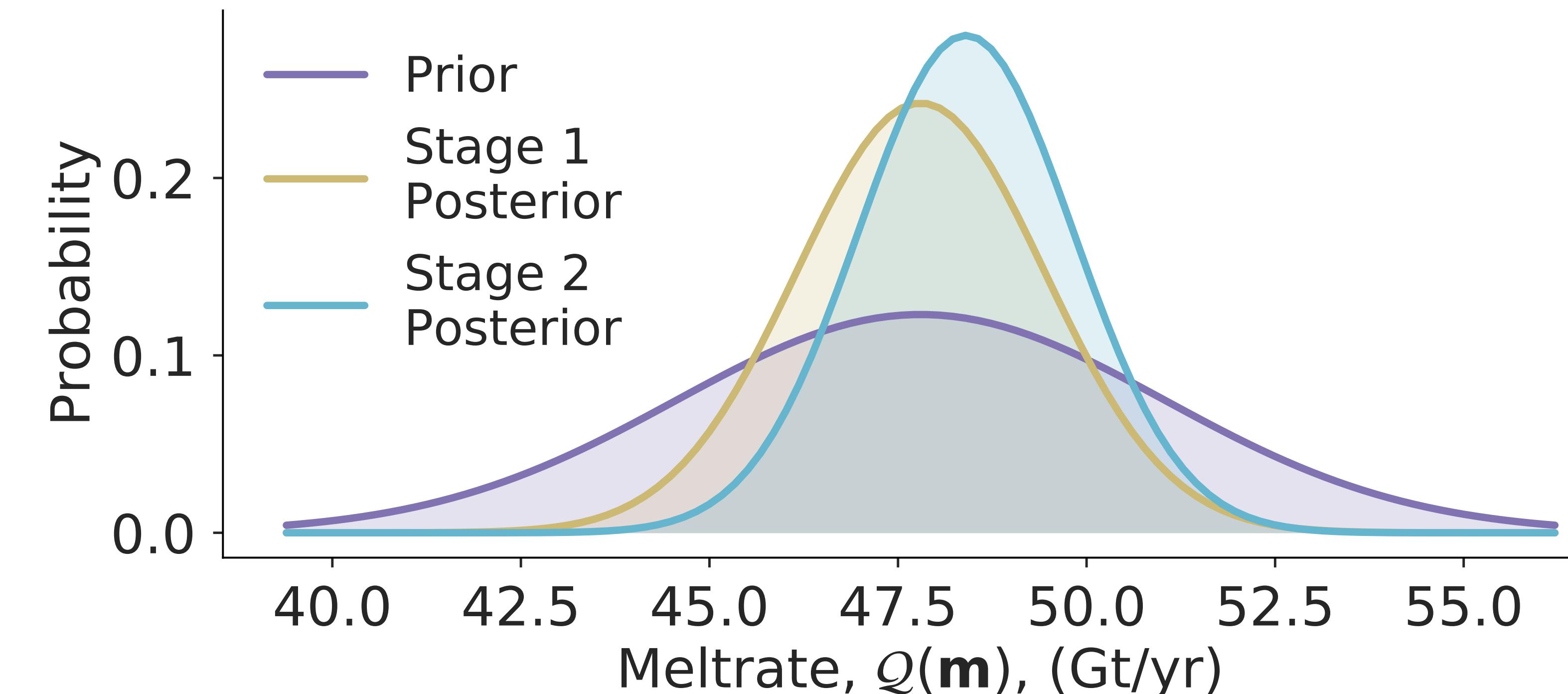
- Amundsen Sea ice shelves have some of the highest meltrates in Antarctica, e.g. (Adusumilli et al., 2020)
- This leads to ice shelf thinning, glacial mass loss, and sea level rise (Fürst et al., 2016; Gudmundsson et al., 2019)
- Warm waters access the deepest portions of the ice shelves and drive high meltrates (Jacobs et al., 2011)

## Meltrate Estimate

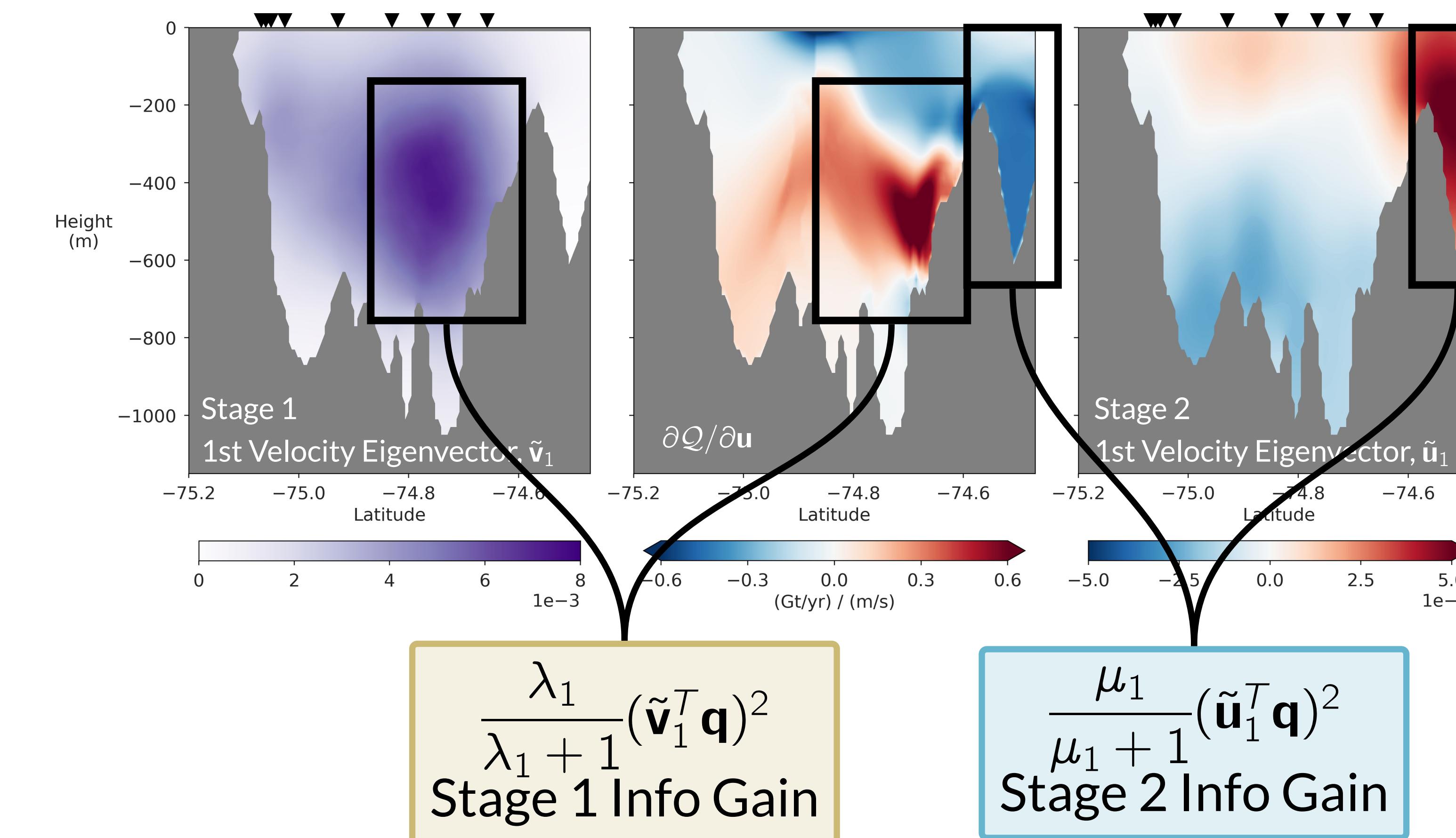


What are the uncertainties, stemming from the open boundary conditions?

## Multi-Stage Uncertainty Quantification



## The Informed Regions of the Velocity Field

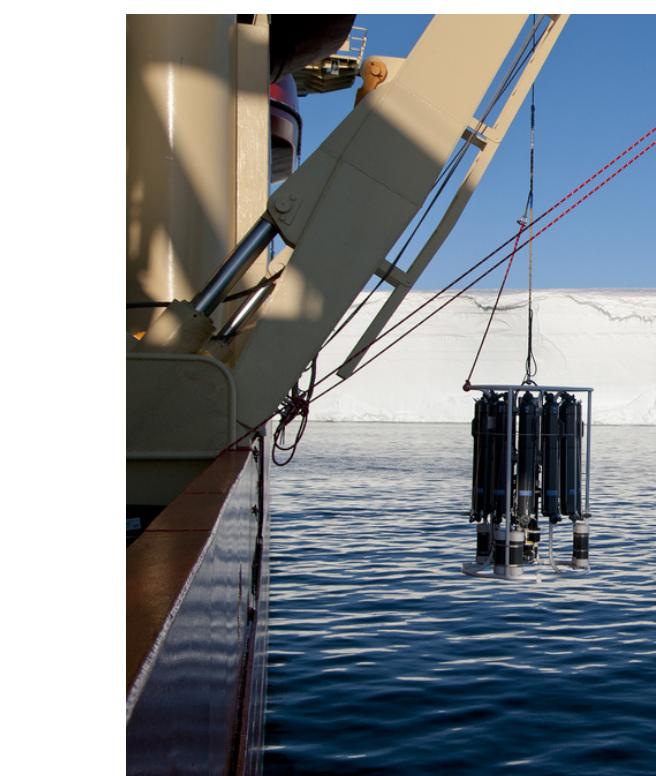


## Main Results

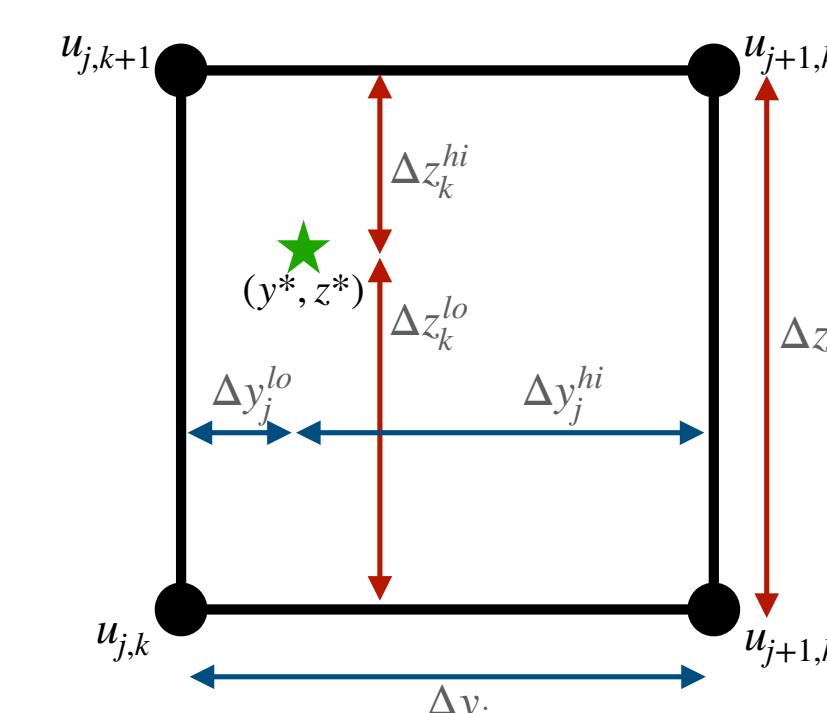
- Optimal Interpolation constrains open boundary conditions near CTD/LADCP measurements
- Unobserved region informed via model dynamics during physics informed inference
- Standard deviation in meltrate reduced by 90% relative to prior 3.2 Gt/yr

## Bayesian Inference for Open Boundary Conditions

Stage 1: Optimal Interpolation, info gain from:

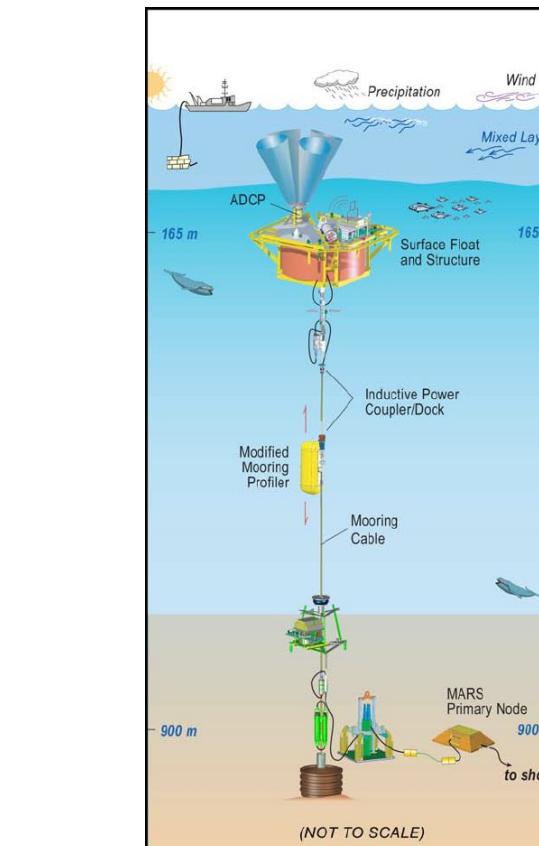


CTD/LADCP observations at open boundary

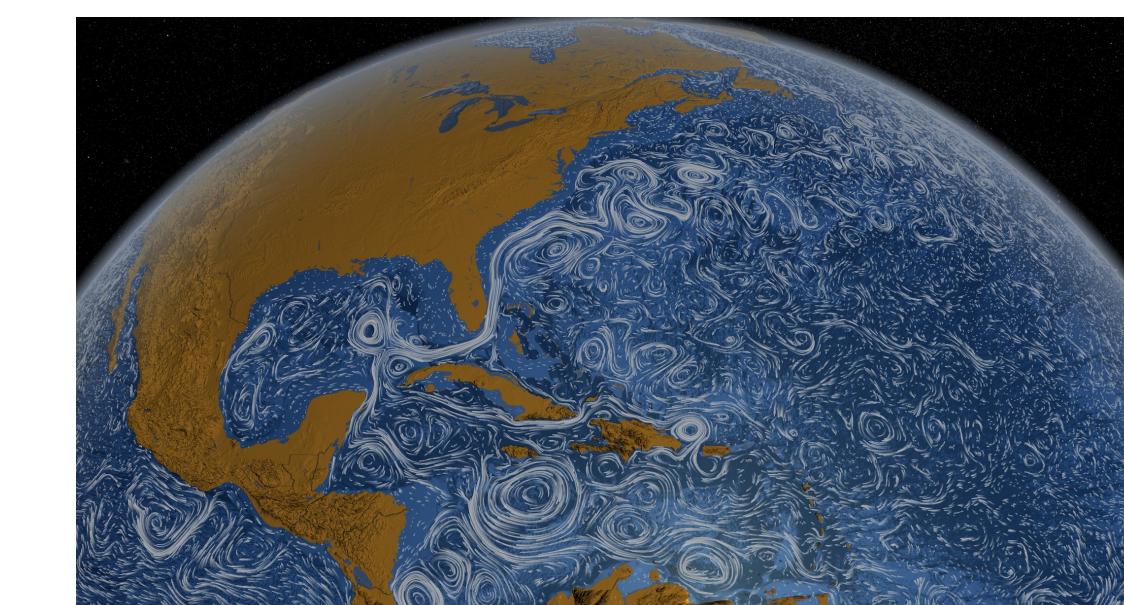


Interpolation Operator (no dynamics)

Stage 2: Physics Informed Inference, info gain from:



Mooring observations closer to ice shelf



MITgcm

## Meltrate Uncertainty Propagation

Using adjoint model, compute sensitivity of meltrate to open boundaries,

$$\mathbf{q} := \frac{\partial Q}{\partial \mathbf{m}^T}$$

Map eigenvalue decomposition of posterior covariance onto meltrate via sensitivity,

$$\mathbf{q}^\top \Gamma_{\text{post}} \mathbf{q} \approx \underbrace{\mathbf{q}^\top \Gamma_{\text{prior}} \mathbf{q}}_{\text{Prior Uncertainty}} - \underbrace{\sum_{i=1}^r \frac{\lambda_i}{\lambda_i + 1} (\tilde{\mathbf{v}}_i^\top \mathbf{q})^2}_{\text{Stage 1 Info Gain}} - \underbrace{\sum_{i=1}^l \frac{\mu_i}{\mu_i + 1} (\tilde{\mathbf{u}}_i^\top \mathbf{q})^2}_{\text{Stage 2 Info Gain}}$$

## References

- (Adusumilli et al., 2020) doi: 10.1038/s41561-020-0616-z  
 (Fürst et al., 2016) doi: 10.1038/nclimate2912  
 (Gudmundsson et al., 2019) doi: 10.1029/2019GL085027  
 (Jacobs et al., 2011) doi: 10.1038/ngeo1188