



Paleoceanography and Paleoclimatology

RESEARCH ARTICLE

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Key Points:

- Deep waters sourced in the Pacific sector of Southern Ocean (SO) maintained high $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ values throughout the last 800 kyr
- A spatial gradient in SO-sourced deep water $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ was present between the Atlantic and Pacific SO throughout much of the Late Quaternary
- Differing methods of AABW formation are invoked to explain the observed difference in deep water $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ within the SO

Supporting Information:

- Supporting Information S1
- Supporting Information S2
- Figure S1
- Figure S2
- Figure S3
- Figure S4
- Table S1
- Data Set S1
- Data Set S2

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Paleocirculation and Ventilation History of Southern Ocean Sourced Deep Water Masses During the Last 800,000 Years

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Abstract Most conceptual models of ocean circulation during past glacial periods invoke a shallowed North Atlantic-sourced water mass overlying an expanded, poorly ventilated Southern Ocean (SO)-sourced deep water mass (Southern Component Water or SCW), rich in remineralized carbon, within the Atlantic basin. However, the ventilation state, carbon inventory, and circulation pathway of SCW sourced in the Pacific sector of the SO (Pacific SO) during glacial periods are less well understood. Here we present multiproxy data—including $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ and $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ measured on the benthic and planktic foraminifera *Cibicidoides wuellerstorfi*, and *Neogloboquadrina pachyderma*, and productivity proxies including percent CaCO_3 , total organic carbon, and Ba/Ti—from a sediment core located in the high-latitude (71°S) Pacific SO spanning the last 800 kyr. Typical glacial $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ values of SCW at this core site are $\sim 0\text{‰}$. We find no evidence for SCW with extremely low $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ values during glacials in the high-latitude Pacific SO. This leads to a spatial gradient in the stable carbon isotope composition of SCW from the high-latitude SO, suggesting that there are different processes of deep- and bottom-water formation around Antarctica. A reduced imprint of air-sea gas exchange is evident in the SCW formed in the Atlantic SO compared with the Pacific SO. A spatial $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ gradient in SCW is apparent throughout much of the last 800,000 years, including interglacials. A SO-wide depletion in benthic $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ is observed in early MIS 16, coinciding with the lowest atmospheric $p\text{CO}_2$ recorded in Antarctic ice cores.

1. Introduction

Reconstructed seawater carbonate ion concentrations and $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ recorded in tests of the benthic foraminifera *Cibicidoides* spp. ($\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{cib}}$) demonstrate that a sharp chemical boundary existed between North-Atlantic source waters (Northern Component Water, NCW) and Southern Ocean (SO)-sourced waters (Antarctic Bottom Water [AABW]/Lower Circumpolar Deep Water [LCDW]; collectively, these ancient water masses are hereafter referred to as Southern Component Water, SCW) in the glacial Atlantic Ocean (Curry & Oppo, 2005; Peterson et al., 2014; Yu et al., 2016). This vertical chemical gradient has been identified during multiple glacials (Hodell et al., 2003; Oliver et al., 2010) and is thought to reflect increased physical stratification within the Atlantic Ocean, with well-ventilated NCW overlying poorly ventilated SCW rich in remineralized carbon (Ferrari et al., 2014; Freeman et al., 2016; Gebbie, 2014; Lund et al., 2011; Lynch-Stieglitz et al., 2007). Temperature and salinity reconstructions suggest that this stratification was established and maintained via an increase in the salinity of SCW below this chemical divide (Adkins et al., 2002; Roberts et al., 2016). The shoaling of the NCW-SCW boundary to depths above rough bathymetry is also hypothesized to have reduced turbulent mixing between these water masses (Ferrari et al., 2014). During glacials, this reduced mixing between SCW and NCW, coupled with a more vigorous sequestration of carbon via the biological pump, is thought to have driven down $p\text{CO}_2^{\text{atm}}$ (Adkins et al., 2002; Archer et al., 2003; Curry & Oppo, 2005; Hoogakker et al., 2015; Jaccard et al., 2016; Yu et al., 2008, 2016). The subsequent breakdown of this stratification during glacial terminations led to the release of large amounts of this stored carbon back into the atmosphere, helping to drive a rapid transition from glacial to interglacial states (Anderson et al., 2009; Schmitt et al., 2012).

Reconstructed seawater dissolved inorganic carbon (DIC) $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ values in the abyssal South Atlantic and Atlantic sector of the SO (hereafter Atlantic SO: $>30^{\circ}\text{S}$, 70°W to 50°E) reached $<-1\text{‰}$ during the last glacial period, the lowest in the global ocean. A northward gradient toward higher $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{cib}}$ values within the deep Atlantic basin (Curry & Oppo, 2005; Gebbie et al., 2015) points to SCW formation in the Atlantic SO as the source of these poorly ventilated, low $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ deep waters. Paleocirculation pathways and past distribution of seawater $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ values outside of the Atlantic and Atlantic SO are currently less well constrained, however. A compilation of global $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{cib}}$ values from the Last Glacial Maximum (LGM; approximately 18–24 ka) shows no evidence for extremely low ($<-1\text{‰}$) $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ values in the Pacific basin during the LGM (Peterson et al., 2014); however, data coverage is sparse compared with the Atlantic. While lower than modern values, LGM $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{cib}}$ in the Southern Pacific and Pacific sector of the SO (hereafter Pacific SO: $>30^{\circ}\text{S}$, 165°E to 70°W) were not as low as the Atlantic SO (Bostock et al., 2013). Studies of LGM $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{cib}}$ depth profiles from core sites located within the SW Pacific have demonstrated a middepth ‘bulge’ of ^{13}C depleted waters (McCave et al., 2008; Sikes et al., 2017), with a $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{cib}}$ minimum of $\sim -0.5\text{‰}$ centered around approximately 2,500- to 3,000-m water depth, and elevated values above and below this depth. The depth of this $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{cib}}$ minimum in the SW Pacific coincides with maxima in oxygen isotope values of benthic foraminifera shells ($\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{cib}}$) and maximum radiocarbon ventilation ages within the Pacific SO, perhaps reflecting reduced entrainment of NCW within the SO at this time (Bostock et al., 2013; McCave et al., 2008; Ronge et al., 2016; Sikes et al., 2016; Skinner et al., 2017). In places, abyssal waters within the glacial Pacific SO appear to have remained better ventilated than within both the middepth Pacific SO and the abyssal Atlantic SO suggesting admixture of a better ventilated bottom water mass between the Atlantic and the Pacific (Sikes et al., 2017), presumably sourced in the high-latitude Pacific SO. However, $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{cib}}$ records from the high-latitude Pacific SO spanning the last glacial period with which to test this hypothesis are currently unavailable. There is also a paucity of $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{cib}}$ records spanning multiple glacial cycles with which to further examine glacial-interglacial variability in high-latitude SO paleocirculation. In this study, we use $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{cib}}$ alongside other proxies from marine sediment core PC493, located at 71°S within the Pacific SO, to better constrain temporal variations in $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ of SCW within the Pacific SO, and examine SO paleocirculation pathways and methods of deep water formation across the late Quaternary.

2. Materials and Methods

2.1. Hydrographic and Sedimentological Setting

Piston core PC493 ($71^{\circ}07'50''\text{S}$, $119^{\circ}54'49''\text{W}$, 2,077-m water depth, 10.4-m recovery of which 2.87 m is presented here) was retrieved from the West Antarctic continental slope in the Pacific SO during cruise JR179 aboard RRS *James Clark Ross* in 2008 (Figure 1). This core site is located on an isolated plateau atop a seamount belonging to the Marie Byrd Seamounts in the Amundsen Sea, a location previously reported to contain abundant calcareous foraminifera (cf. core PS2547 from the same site; see Hillenbrand et al., 2002). The position of site PC493 atop a seamount means the sediments of PC493 have remained undisturbed from the effects of turbidites (which have affected portions of nearby sediment cores; for example, Hillenbrand et al., 2002), and the core is free of major hiatuses. The sediments comprise a condensed but continuous sequence of olive brown, foraminiferal oozes, muds, and foraminifera-bearing muds (Figure 2). The presence of muds suggests a lack of current winnowing at this site, and the amount of biogenic versus lithogenic clasts broadly follows glacial-interglacial cyclicity with reduced biogenic clasts during glacial periods (Figure 2). Situated close to the modern maximum summer (February) sea-ice limit (Jacka, 1997), site PC493 is today bathed in LCDW as it upwells along the Antarctic continental margin, south of the southern boundary of the clockwise flowing Antarctic Circumpolar Current (ACC; Orsi et al., 1995; Figure 1b). In the modern SO, LCDW is predominantly a mixture of circumpolar waters with components of North Atlantic Deep Water (NADW) and AABW. The presence of NADW is reflected by a salinity maximum in LCDW most prominent in the Atlantic SO and Indian SO (defined here as 50°E to 165°E). Intensive mixing within the ACC leads to LCDW with more uniform physical properties within the Pacific SO compared with the Atlantic SO and Indian SO (Figure 1c). Reconstructions of near-surface water oxygen concentrations show that upwelling of deep water has continued at site PC493 throughout at least the last 250 kyr (Lu et al., 2016). As its location lies ‘upstream’ of the main inflow of Pacific Deep Water (PDW; poorly oxygenated waters in Figure 1b) into the SO, which mixes with Circumpolar Deep Water (CDW) within the ACC in the central

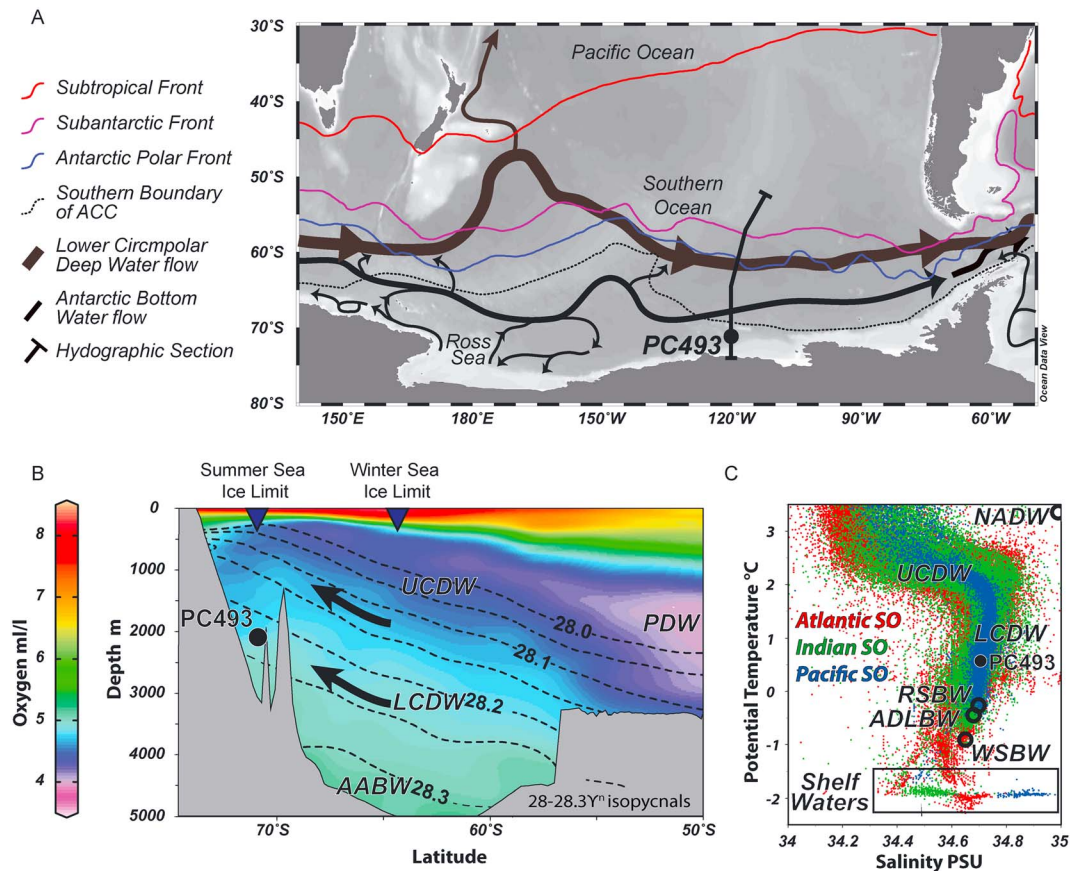


Figure 1. Location of sediment core PC493 together with Southern Ocean (SO) hydrographic data. (a) Schematic deep and bottom water circulation in the Pacific SO. The thick lines denote major interbasin circulation pathways, and the thin arrows denote intrabasin circulation pathways (Morozov et al., 2010; Orsi et al., 1999). (b) Hydrographic section across site PC493 showing oxygen content and lines of neutral density, demonstrating the upwelling of deep- and bottom-water masses in the Pacific SO. The location of this section is shown in panel (a). (c) Potential temperature and salinity of waters bathing site PC493 in relation to water masses of >500-m water depth in the SO, including Ross Sea Bottom Water (RSBW), Adélie Land Bottom Water (ADLBW), Weddell Sea Bottom Water (WSBW), Lower and Upper Circumpolar Deep Water (LCDW/UCDW), and North Atlantic Deep Water (NADW) as it enters the SO (Martinson et al., 2008; Pardo et al., 2012). Data from the Atlantic (70°W to 50°E), Indian (50°E to 165°E), and Pacific (165°E to 70°W) SO are differentiated. All plots created using Ocean Data View (Schlitzer, 2015), using data from the Hydrographic Atlas of the Southern Ocean (panel b; Olbers et al., 1992) and the World Ocean Atlas 2013 (panel c; Garcia et al., 2014).

and eastern Pacific SO (Talley, 2013), core PC493 is well situated to monitor the carbon isotope composition of SCW in the high-latitude Pacific SO.

2.2. Stable Carbon and Oxygen Isotope Analyses

Stable carbon and oxygen isotope analyses were performed on the planktic foraminifer species *Neogloboquadrina pachyderma* sinistral (12–24 tests) and the epibenthic foraminifer *Cibicidoides wuellerstorfi* (5–20 tests). Tests were picked from the wet sieved 63- to 2,000- μm sediment size fraction at every centimeter of the upper 2.87 m of core PC493 and analyzed at the Godwin Laboratory for Palaeoclimate Research at the Department of Earth Sciences, University of Cambridge (UK), using a Micromass Multicarb sample preparation system attached to a VG SIRA Mass Spectrometer. Results are reported with reference to the international standard Vienna Pee Dee Belemnite, and analytical precision is better than $\pm 0.06\text{‰}$ for $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ and $\pm 0.08\text{‰}$ for $\delta^{18}\text{O}$.

Multiple studies have demonstrated that of all benthic foraminifer taxa, *C. wuellerstorfi* forms its tests closest to equilibrium with $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ of seawater DIC and is therefore the preferred benthic species for $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ reconstructions (Belanger et al., 1981; Duplessy et al., 1984; Graham et al., 1981; Mix et al., 1991; Schmittner et al., 2017; Woodruff et al., 1980). In contrast, the $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ values of *N. pachyderma* sin. ($\delta^{13}\text{C}_p$) in the high-latitude SO display an offset from the equilibrium with $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ DIC values of surface water. The offset between core-top

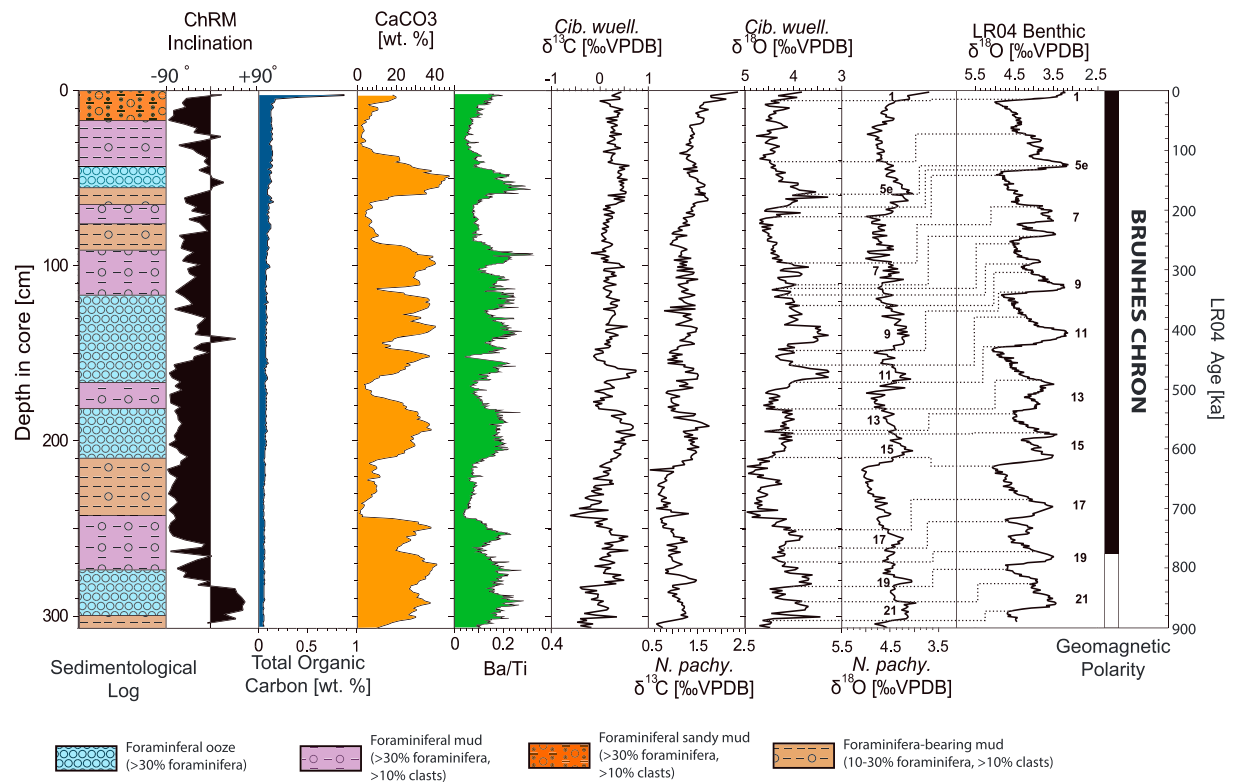


Figure 2. Lithology, inclination of the Characteristic Remanent Magnetization (ChRM) with magnetic polarity, paleoproductivity proxies (total organic carbon [TOC], CaCO₃ content, and Barium/Titanium [Ba/Ti] ratio), and δ¹³C and δ¹⁸O isotope data measured on planktic (*Neogloboquadrina pachyderma* sinistral) and benthic (*Cibicidoides wuellerstorfi*) foraminifera from core PC493. The LR04 benthic δ¹⁸O stack (Lisiecki & Raymo, 2005) with numbers giving interglacial Marine Isotope Stages and age-depth tie points (indicated by dotted lines) is also shown. Note that the analysis made on core PC493 is on a depth scale (left axis), while the LR04 stack and global geomagnetic polarity are plotted versus age (right axis).

N. pachyderma sin. and modeled preindustrial equilibrium seawater δ¹³C values has been shown to increase from approximately 1‰ at 70°S to approximately 1.28‰ at 43°S in the Atlantic SO (Charles & Fairbanks, 1990; Kohfeld et al., 2000). The variable offset is the result of changes in (i) dietary δ¹³C, (ii) seawater carbonate ion concentrations, and (iii) seawater temperature. Based on the modeled preindustrial offset from equilibrium surface waters at 70°S (Kohfeld et al., 2000), a correction of +1.0‰ is applied to all δ¹³C_p data presented here.

δ¹⁸O measured on *C. wuellerstorfi* tests (δ¹⁸O_{cib}) does not match equilibrium seawater δ¹⁸O, and an offset of 0.64‰ has been suggested to correct for vital effects (Shackleton, 1974), although this may be an over estimate and may not be uniform in all ocean basins (Keigwin, 1998; Marchitto et al., 2014). The vital offset for *N. pachyderma* sin. δ¹⁸O (δ¹⁸O_p) is not well constrained, with estimates ranging from 0.5 to 1.5‰ (Hendry et al., 2009; Pados et al., 2015). The range in these estimates may reflect variable calcification depths within the upper approximately 20–200 m of the water column (Kohfeld et al., 1996), where fluctuations in temperature and salinity could result in variable δ¹⁸O values of calcite within the life cycle of a single foraminifer. On the other hand, there is evidence that *N. pachyderma* sin. migrates vertically within the water column to maintain constant temperature and salinity conditions (Simstich et al., 2003). Neither benthic nor planktic δ¹⁸O data of core PC493 presented here have been corrected for these offsets.

2.3. Barium/Titanium (Ba/Ti) Ratios, Total Organic Carbon (TOC), and CaCO₃ Contents

The barium/titanium (Ba/Ti) ratio of sediments reflects the content of biogenic barium, which is the most reliable productivity proxy in sediments from the Antarctic continental margin (Bonn et al., 1998; Hillenbrand et al., 2002, 2009) and south of the Antarctic Polar Front (APF; Jaccard et al., 2013; Nürnberg et al., 1997). Ba/Ti ratios were measured to gauge the potential for past biological productivity changes to

affect $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{cib}}$ at site PC493 (Mackensen et al., 1993). X-ray fluorescence (XRF) scanning of sediment core PC493 was undertaken to obtain semiquantitative Ba and Ti concentrations. The split archive halves of core PC493 were analyzed using an Avaatech XRF core scanner at the Department of Earth Sciences, University of Cambridge (UK), to obtain elemental data at 2.5-mm spatial resolution. The length and width of the irradiated surface was 10 and 12 mm. The detector consisted of the Canberra X-PIPS Silicon Drift Model SXD 15C-150-500 with 150eV X-ray resolution and the Canberra Digital Spectrum Analyzer 1000. Spectra was fit with WinAxil software.

The calcium carbonate (CaCO_3) content of marine sediments is controlled by productivity of calcareous (mainly planktic) microfossils, carbonate dissolution, and dilution by noncalcareous sediment components. Dissolution has been shown to cause an offset between $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ recorded in foraminiferal calcite and that of seawater DIC (McCorkle et al., 1995). The CaCO_3 content of core PC493 was also measured in order to (a) assess changes in productivity and (b) monitor for potential dissolution of CaCO_3 . Total carbon (TC) content was first determined on ground bulk sediment samples using a Vario EL III Elementar analyzer at the Institute for Geophysics and Geology, University of Leipzig (Germany). TOC was measured with an Eltra METALYST-CS-1000-S after removal of the inorganic carbon with HCl, and CaCO_3 contents were calculated from the TC and TOC data.

3. Results

3.1. Stable Oxygen Isotopes, Age Model, and Sedimentation Rates

Both $\delta^{18}\text{O}_p$ and $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{cib}}$ demonstrate cyclical variations, which reflect changes in temperature and the $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ of seawater, which on the timescales discussed here is predominantly influenced by global ice volume. The age model for core PC493 is also constrained by the presence of the Bruhnes-Matuyama boundary (780 ka), inferred from the ChRM Inclination reversal at 277- to 284-cm core depth (Figure 2), which occurs in Marine Isotope Stage (MIS) 19. The age model was refined via tuning of both $\delta^{18}\text{O}_p$ and $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{cib}}$ data to the LR04 global $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{cib}}$ stack (Lisiecki & Raymo, 2005). $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{cib}}$ age-depth tie points for core PC493 were mainly taken as the transition between glacial and interglacial MIS as defined by the LR04 stack (Lisiecki & Raymo, 2005). Other tie points, such as the interglacial MIS 5e $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ minimum at 123 ka (Lisiecki & Raymo, 2005) and the glacial MIS 8 $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ peak at 294 ka (cf. substage 8.6 of Imbrie et al., 1984), were also used (Figure 2). A full list of tie points is provided in Table S1 in the supporting information. Sedimentation rates at site PC493 were generally low throughout the last 800 kyr, averaging 0.36 cm/kyr (Figure 3), providing an average sampling resolution of ~ 3 kyr for stable isotopic analyses.

$\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{cib}}$ values do not match the maxima/minima of the LR04 stack for every glacial/interglacial of the last 800 kyr, suggesting some smoothing of the $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{cib}}$ record, probably due to the low sedimentation rates. Between ~ 65 and 90% of the expected glacial-interglacial $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{cib}}$ variability found in the LR04 stack is observed at site PC493 (Figures 3 and S1 in the supporting information). Bioturbation is likely to have been minimal at this site given the low TOC contents of the sediments (section 3.3. and Figure 2), which probably inhibited the establishment of a significant benthic community at this location, as exemplified by the lack of infaunal foraminifera species such as *Uvigerina*. Nevertheless, it has to be taken into account that our isotope data were derived from a 1-cm-thick sediment slice representing a few kiloyears, that is, our data are likely to present an integrated, and thus somewhat smoothed, isotope signal. Termination 1 (TI) appears to be diffuse in the $\delta^{18}\text{O}_b$ record of PC493, which may reflect either bioturbation or coring disturbance of the upper few centimeter of the core. Stable oxygen isotope data from trigger core TC493 retrieved alongside piston core PC493 do not show the same 'smearing' through TI (Lu et al., 2016), and $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ and $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ data from the LGM and deglacial sections of TC493 are therefore presented here alongside the record of PC493 (hereafter TPC493 when referring to both records).

3.2. Stable Carbon Isotopes

The $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{cib}}$ values of core PC493 typically range from 0.5 to 0.7‰ during peak interglacials and from -0.2 to 0.2‰ during glacial maxima (Figure 3). The amplitude of $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{cib}}$ changes at glacial terminations varies between 0.7‰ and 0.2‰, with an average amplitude of 0.39 ± 0.16 ‰ across all terminations. The $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{cib}}$ record of TC493 shows an increase of approximately 0.42‰ between the LGM (18–24 ka average $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{cib}} = 0.29$ ‰, $\sigma = 0.16$ ‰) and the early Holocene (9.5–8 ka average $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{cib}} = 0.71$ ‰, $\sigma = 0.21$ ‰), close to the

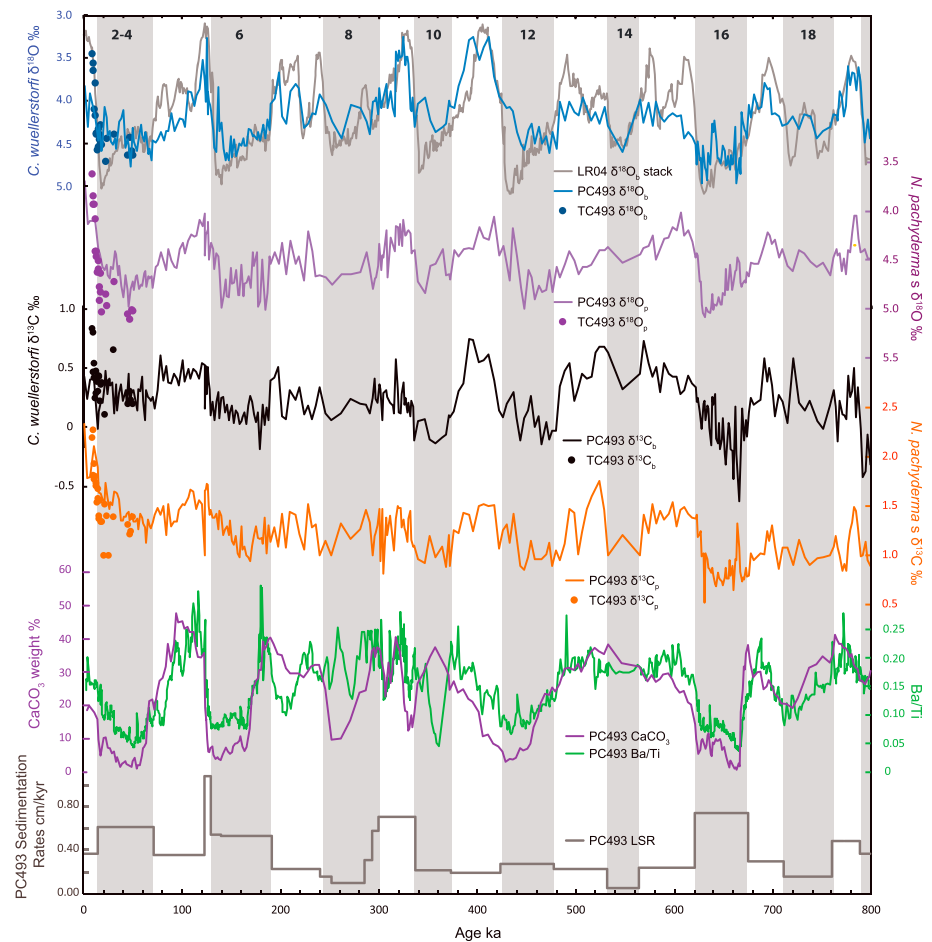


Figure 3. Proxy records at site PC493. Stable isotope records of piston core PC493 and associated trigger core TC493 (dots) measured on benthic *Cibicidoides wuellerstorfi* and planktic *Neogloboquadrina pachyderma* (s) tests, alongside the LR04 $\delta^{18}\text{O}_b$ stack (grey curve; Lisiecki & Raymo, 2005) and palaeoproductivity indicators CaCO_3 content and Ba/Ti ratio. Also shown are linear sedimentation rates (LSRs) for core PC493. At no point during the last 800 kyr did $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{cib}}$ values in core PC493 (or core its trigger core, TC493) reach the extreme values ($<-1.0\text{‰}$) found in sediment cores from the deep South Atlantic and Atlantic Southern Ocean during past glacial periods. Glacial Marine Isotope Stages are shaded and numbered according to Lisiecki and Raymo (2005).

$0.38 \pm 0.08\text{‰}$ whole ocean (0.5–5 km water depth) $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ shift across the last deglaciation estimated by Peterson et al. (2014). The LGM $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{cib}}$ minimum in core TC493 was 0.11‰ .

$\delta^{13}\text{C}_p$ values in core PC493 range from 1.3 to 1.7‰ during peak interglacials and from 0.8 to 1.2‰ during glacial maxima, while the amplitude across terminations varies from 0.2 to 0.6‰ . The average amplitude in $\delta^{13}\text{C}_p$ values across all terminations is $0.43 \pm 0.11\text{‰}$. The $\delta^{13}\text{C}_p$ values in core PC493 are higher in the Holocene than at any other point during the last 800 kyr, with peaks of 2.33‰ (0.5 cm) and 2.11‰ (4.5 cm) being particularly high.

Despite the low sedimentation rates at site PC493, there is no consistent relationship between lower (glacial) or higher (interglacial) $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{cib}}$ values and higher sedimentation rates (Figure 3), as might be expected if the $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{cib}}$ record had been significantly smoothed by either integrating isotopic signals from a time interval spanning several kiloyears, or bioturbation. $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{cib}}$ minima during glaciations which experienced relatively low sedimentation rates, such as MIS 10, MIS 12, and MIS 14, are comparable to minima observed in glacial-time sediments deposited at higher sedimentation rates, for example, MIS 2 and MIS 6 (Figure 3). As such, the amplitude of $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{cib}}$ shifts on orbital timescales (i.e., multiple kiloyears) at site PC493 do not appear to have been considerably attenuated by low sedimentation rates.

3.3. Paleoproductivity Proxies

The TOC content in core PC493 is 0.4–0.9 wt. % at the core top and <0.1–0.2 wt. % down-core (Figure 2). CaCO₃ contents are highest during interglacials, typically reaching values of 35–45%, and much lower during glacials, at times reaching values as low as 2–6%. Ba/Ti values are also lower during glacials, often reaching values of <0.05 compared with interglacial highs of >0.2. Percent CaCO₃ and Ba/Ti within the sediments of PC493 show a strikingly similar pattern throughout the last 800 kyr (Figure 3), suggesting that percent CaCO₃ is primarily a function of past productivity at this core site.

4. Discussion

4.1. Paleoproductivity and Carbonate Preservation at Site PC493

Down-core TOC values at site PC493 are generally low (<0.1–0.2 wt %) when compared to typical values of 0.1–0.4 wt. % at other sites from the Amundsen Sea (Hillenbrand et al., 2002) and the western Antarctic Peninsula margin (Pudsey & Camerlenghi, 1998). This likely reflects a low flux of organic material to the sea-floor combined with its poor preservation in the sediments (DeMaster & Ragueneau, 1996), consistent with the low sedimentation rates at this site. Organic particulate fluxes in the seasonal sea ice zone of the Amundsen Sea are greatly reduced during periods of persistent sea ice cover compared with open water conditions, owing to reduced primary biological productivity in surface waters (Kim et al., 2015). Given the proximity of site PC493 to the modern summer sea ice limit (Jacka, 1997), it can be assumed that the site experienced prolonged periods of persistent sea-ice cover in the past, and thus reduced supply of organic matter to the sea floor. Low organic matter content likely inhibited the establishment of an abundant benthic community and, along with the absence of infaunal foraminifera species such as *Uvigerina*, probably prevented deep bioturbation of the sediments in core PC493.

There is a positive correlation between CaCO₃ contents and Ba/Ti (Pearson's R^2 of 0.78; Figure S2) in the sediments of core PC493, indicating that the percent CaCO₃ reflects primarily biological productivity and that this productivity signal has not been substantially overprinted by carbonate dissolution. The lack of carbonate dissolution overprinting demonstrates that site PC493 remained above the lysocline throughout the last 800 kyr. The poor correlation (Pearson's $R^2 = 0.28$; Figure S2) between the CaCO₃ content and $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{cib}}$ furthermore indicates that the $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{cib}}$ signal records changes in water mass chemistry rather than local productivity effects (Mackensen et al., 1993) and demonstrates that carbonate dissolution has not affected the $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{cib}}$ record.

4.2. Late Quaternary $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ at Site TPC493

Averaged LGM $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{cib}}$ values are $0.29 \pm 0.16\text{‰}$ for TC493 and $0.35 \pm 0.14\text{‰}$ for PC493 and did not fall below -0.01‰ in either core at any point during the last glacial period. This is also the case for most previous glacial periods within core PC493: only during MIS 16 and at Termination 9 (TIX) did $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{cib}}$ values fall below -0.2‰ . At no point did they reach the very low values recorded in sediment cores from the deep Atlantic SO, where glacial $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{cib}}$ values repeatedly reached $<-1.0\text{‰}$. There is a long-term trend toward more positive $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{cib}}$ values recorded at PC493 during glacials, which may be part of a longer term 400-kyr cyclicity observed in global carbon isotope records (Wang et al., 2010). Interglacial maxima in $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{cib}}$ do not show the same trend, but this may be obscured by the high $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{cib}}$ values observed in the Holocene (as recorded in TC493) and MIS 11 (Figure 3), both of which are particularly strong interglacials globally (Lang & Wolf, 2011). Interglacial $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{cib}}$ values do not show a marked increase following the Mid-Bruhnes Event (approximately 430 ka). This contrasts with the $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{cib}}$ record of PC493, which demonstrates increased interglacial intensity after 430 ka. (Figure 3).

The most prominent $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{cib}}$ minimum recorded at site PC493 occurs during early MIS 16, at the time of cool substage MIS 16c (Bereiter et al., 2015), which corresponds to substage 16.4 in other substage assignments (Railsback et al., 2015), when values as low as -0.6‰ are recorded. Coeval $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{cib}}$ minima are also observed in other $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{cib}}$ records from the SO and Pacific but are much less pronounced in records of NCW (Lisiecki, 2010; Figure 4c). This $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{cib}}$ minima coincided with the lowest $p\text{CO}_2^{\text{atm}}$ recorded in Antarctic ice cores throughout the last 800 kyr, 174–180 ppmv between 665 and 668 ka (Lüthi et al., 2008; using the AICC2012 chronology of Bazin et al., 2013; Figure 4b). δD measurements suggest that air temperatures at the EPICA Dome C ice core site during MIS 16c were as low as those during the peak glacial conditions

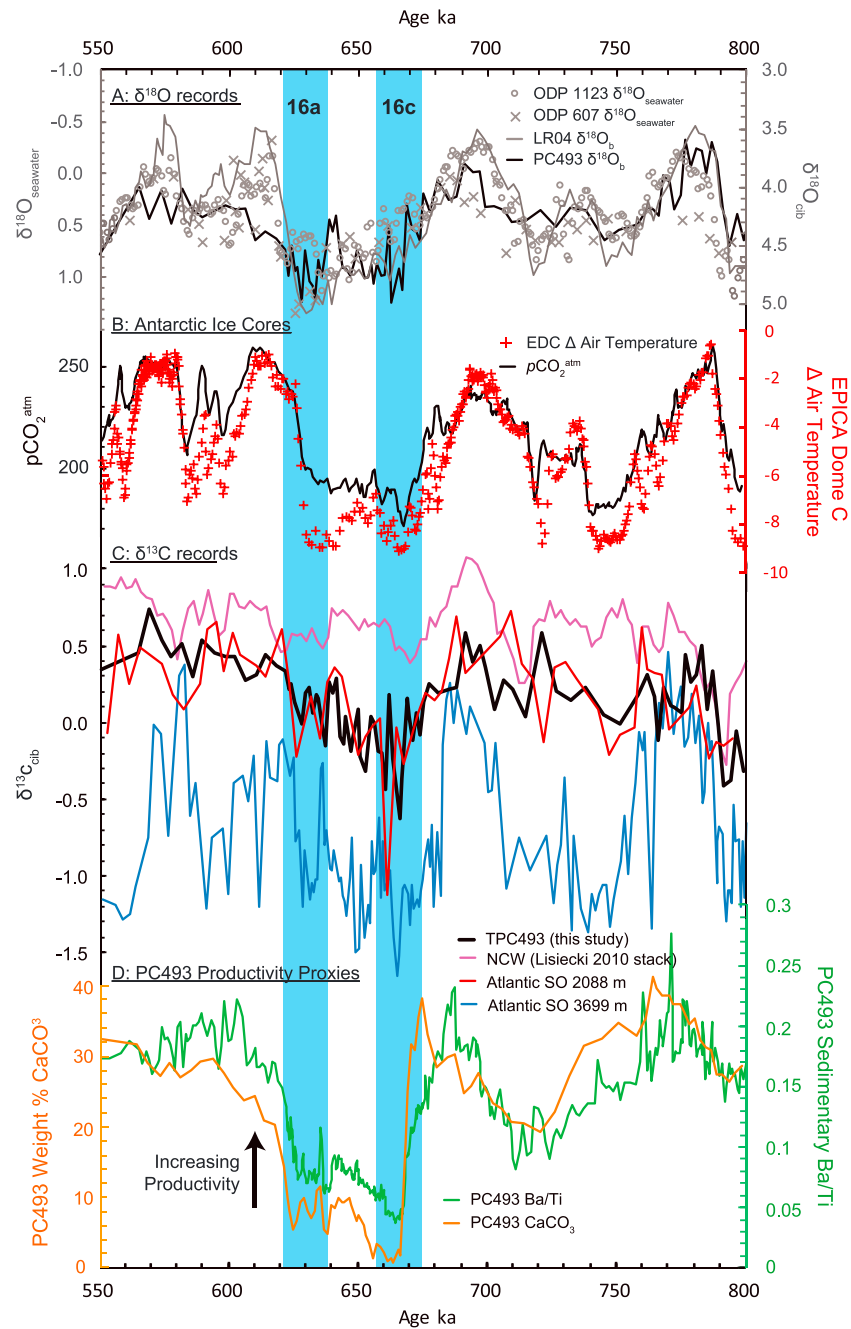


Figure 4. Paleoclimate proxy records spanning MIS 16. (a) $\delta^{18}\text{O}_b$ and $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{seawater}}$ are characterized by gradual increases throughout MIS 16 (676–621 ka) followed by sharp decreases, reflecting the slow buildup and relatively rapid decay of northern hemisphere ice sheets (Elderfield et al., 2012; Ford et al., 2016; Lisiecki & Raymo, 2005; Sosdian & Rosenthal, 2009). (b) Peak $p\text{CO}_2^{\text{atm}}$ values are reached relatively early, during MIS 16c, and coincide with minima in $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{cib}}$ (c) recorded in the intermediate (red curve; Hodell et al., 2003) and deep (black and blue curves; this study; Hodell et al., 2003) Southern Ocean and a decrease in productivity (d: lower green and orange curves)—due to a seaward location of the summer sea ice limit—at site PC493. A stack of NCW $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{cib}}$ records (c: magenta curve; Lisiecki, 2010) does not show the same extreme $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{cib}}$ minimum during MIS 16c.

of MIS 16a, and comparable to other glacial minima (Jouzel et al., 2007; Figure 4b). The low CaCO_3 content and Ba/Ti ratios in sediments at site PC493 during the onset of MIS 16c (Figure 4d) reflect a drop in biological productivity, probably due to the summer sea ice limit being located north of the core site. This suggests the low air temperatures recorded in the EPICA Dome C ice core may have been part of a wider

early onset in extreme glacial conditions in the Antarctic region during MIS 16c. Seawater $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ reconstructions show no evidence for an expansion of northern hemisphere ice sheet during MIS 16c (Elderfield et al., 2012; Ford et al., 2016; Sosdian & Rosenthal, 2009; Figure 4a), suggesting that this climatic phenomenon was restricted to the southern hemisphere. The onset of the deposition of Heinrich Layers within the North Atlantic occurred later in MIS 16, suggesting that northern hemisphere intensification did occur later during MIS 16a (Hodell et al., 2008).

A $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{cib}}$ minimum during MIS 16c is also evident in the cores of Ocean Drilling Program (ODP) Leg 177 Site 1088 (2,082-m water depth) and Site 1090 (3,699-m water depth) in the intermediate and deep Atlantic SO (Hodell et al., 2003), suggesting a SO-wide event. This ^{13}C depletion cannot be explained by a reduction in the end-member carbon isotope composition of NCW, which was similar to the onset of other glacials (Lisiecki, 2010; purple curve in Figure 4c). These $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{cib}}$ data suggest a reduced supply of well-ventilated NCW to the SO, and thus a reduction in AMOC, and an expansion in SO-sourced deep waters depleted in ^{13}C . The perturbation in SO carbon chemistry during MIS 16c may reflect an increased storage of remineralized carbon within the deep ocean. If this were the case, a transfer of carbon from the atmosphere to the ocean interior would provide a mechanism to explain the $p\text{CO}_2^{\text{atm}}$ minimum during MIS 16c.

4.3. $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ Values of SCW During the LGM

The persistent presence of SCW enriched in ^{13}C during the LGM and during previous glacial periods at site PC493 is at odds with previous studies of SO deep and bottom water masses, which largely describe heterogeneous, ^{13}C -depleted deep and bottom water masses within the glacial SO (e.g., Hodell et al., 2003; Mackensen et al., 2001; Ullermann et al., 2016; Venz & Hodell, 2002). To date, studies compiling global LGM $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{cib}}$ data have largely either treated the intermediate to abyssal SO as one distinct water mass or failed to assess longitudinal differences in SO $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{cib}}$ (compilations of Curry & Oppo, 2005; Oliver et al., 2010; Peterson et al., 2014). In light of our new $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{cib}}$ data, we build upon previously published compilations to re-investigate the distribution of $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{cib}}$ data measured on *Cibicidoides* from core sites located south of 30°S.

The compiled LGM $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{cib}}$ data are plotted as a function of water depth in supplementary Figure S3, however, due to the tilting of isopycnals within the SO as deep waters upwell around the Antarctic continent, water masses within the SO cannot always be defined by water depth alone. The LGM compilation of $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{cib}}$ data is therefore also plotted as a function of the physical properties of waters bathing the core sites today in Figure 5. Although the physical properties of these waters varied in the past and were likely very different during the LGM, this is a useful visual aid to assess the potential sources and distribution of seawater DIC $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ of SO water masses. The compilation illustrates the difference in $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{cib}}$ between core sites bathed today in LCDW/AABW (i.e., LGM SCW) from the Atlantic SO (Figure 5c) and the Pacific SO (Figure 5e). The lowest LGM $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{cib}}$ values (dark blue/purple points in Figure 5) were all obtained from cores bathed in SCW within the Atlantic and Indian SO. One exception to this is core MD97-2121 (2,314-m water depth; average LGM $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{cib}} = -1.09\text{‰}$; McCave et al., 2008), which is located off the eastern coast of New Zealand in the SW Pacific and was apparently bathed in PDW during the LGM (McCave et al., 2008; Skinner et al., 2015). The LGM $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{cib}}$ distribution in Figure 5 suggests that deep and bottom waters formed in the Atlantic SO south of the APF (i.e., the region where bottom waters are formed today) were the source of SCW with extremely low $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ values. In contrast to the Atlantic, there is a trend in the LGM Pacific SO data toward elevated $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ values within bottom water masses, with the lowest $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{cib}}$ values found within cores bathed in CDW. This suggests the presence of bottom waters relatively better ventilated in the Pacific versus Atlantic SO.

Cores within the Atlantic SO that are today bathed in a mixture of CDW and NADW do not show the same level of ^{13}C depletion at the LGM as those bathed in deep and bottom waters (Figure 5c), suggesting a continued inflow of NCW (relatively well ventilated and low in remineralized nutrients, therefore relatively elevated in ^{13}C) to the SO. The pattern in the Indian SO is similar to that of the Atlantic SO, with SCW being depleted in ^{13}C , while cores that are bathed in UCDW or lie on a mixing line between UCDW and LCDW today were relatively enriched in ^{13}C (Figure 5d). This suggests the entrainment and advection of NCW into the intermediate-depth Indian SO continued during the LGM (Hu et al., 2016).

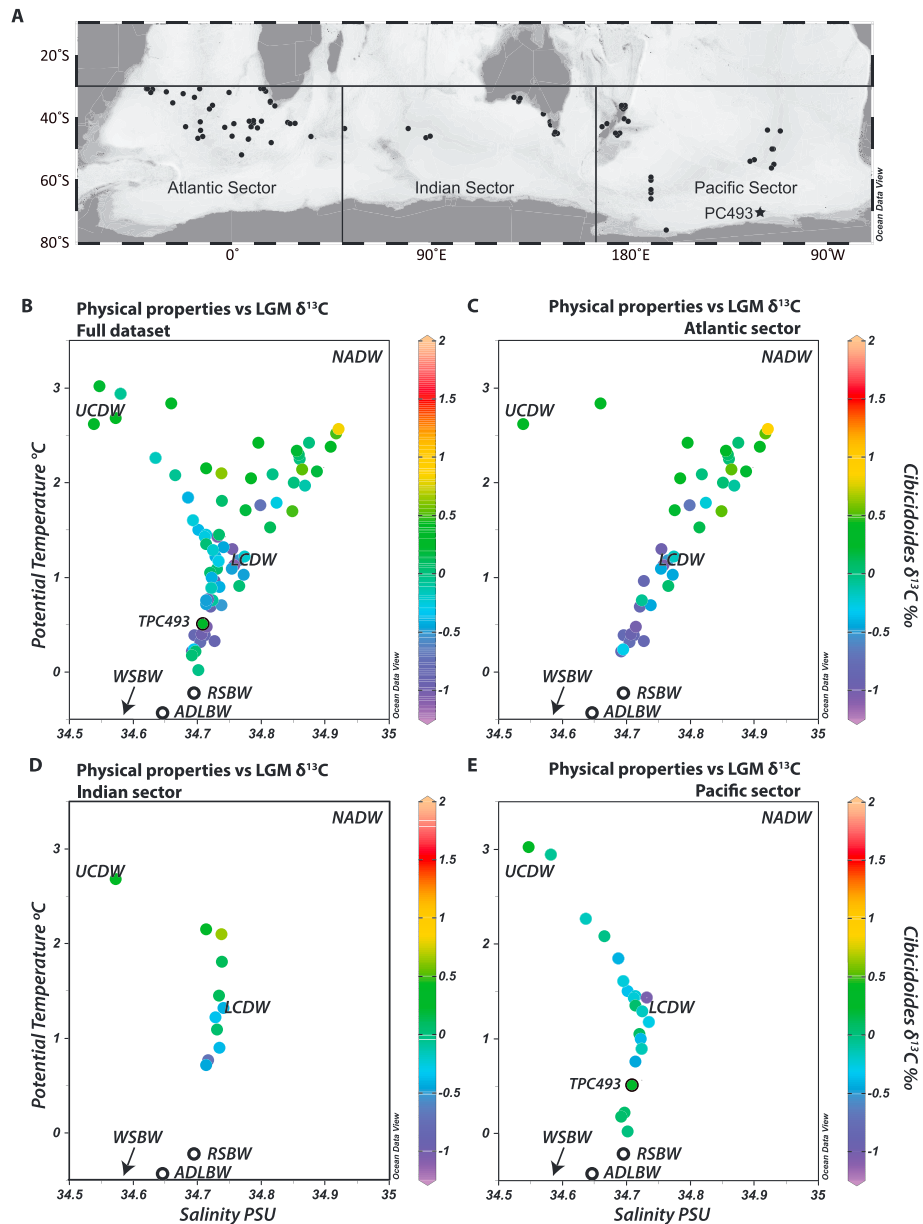


Figure 5. Average Last Glacial Maximum (LGM) $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{cib}}$ values from *Cibicides* specimens as a function of the physical properties of modern deep and bottom water masses bathing the core sites. The $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{cib}}$ compilation is after Peterson et al., 2014, with some additional data from the Pacific Southern Ocean (SO) and Pacific Ocean (Matsumoto et al., 2001; Molina-Kescher et al., 2016a; Ronge et al., 2015; Ullermann et al., 2016). See Table S2 for full list of data and references. (a) Core locations are shown and divided into (b) all core sites south of 30°S, (c) core sites in the Atlantic SO, (d) core sites in the Indian SO, and (e) core sites in the Pacific SO. Physical properties of water masses at core locations were compiled using the Hydrographic Atlas of the Southern Ocean (Ollers et al., 1992). Plots produced using Ocean Data View (Schlitzer, 2015). Cumulatively, Weddell Sea Bottom Water (WSBW), physical properties off the Y-axis in this figure), Adelle Land Bottom Water (ADLBW), Ross Sea Bottom Water (RSBW), and LCDW make up SCW at the LGM.

4.4. $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ of SCW During the Late Quaternary

In combination with other $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{cib}}$ records from the SO, the $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{cib}}$ record of PC493 allows us to infer spatial variations in deep water DIC $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ across the glacial-interglacial cycles of the past 800,000 years. The deep Pacific SO core sites E11-2 (3,109 m), PS75/059-2 (3,613 m), and PS75/056-1 (3,581 m) are all located far north of site PC493 on the East Pacific Rise in the central Pacific SO, north of the Subantarctic Front.

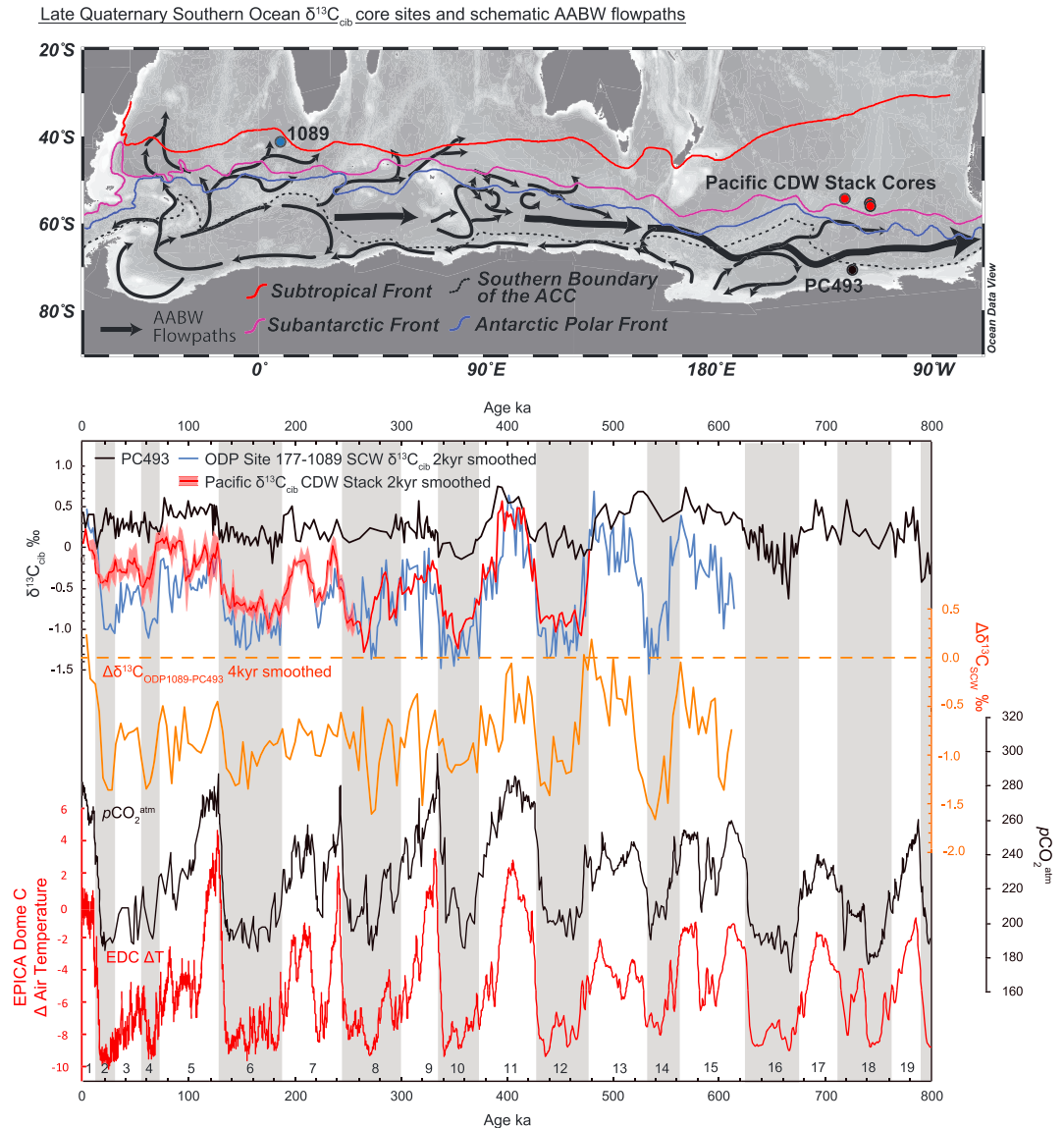


Figure 6. Comparison of the $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{cib}}$ records of core PC493, Ocean Drilling Program (ODP) Leg 177 Site 1089, and a composite $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{cib}}$ ‘stack’ of Circumpolar Deep Water (CDW) from the Pacific Southern Ocean produced by averaging and smoothing individual records at 2-kyr resolution (see text for references for records used for the stack). The red shading denotes 1σ error in this stack. The location of individual records is shown in the upper panel. The $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{cib}}$ record from site PC493 and ODP 1089—bathed in SCW sourced in the high-latitude Atlantic Southern Ocean—were then both smoothed at 4-kyr resolution and the difference between them ($\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{SCW}}$) plotted. Increased spatial gradients in $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{SCW}}$ coincide with periods of decreased $\text{pCO}_2^{\text{atm}}$ and cooling of Antarctic air temperatures (EPICA Community Members, 2004; Jouzel et al., 2007).

These cores all record lower $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{cib}}$ values than PC493 during past glacial periods (Figure 6; Ninnemann & Charles, 2002; Ullermann et al., 2016). These cores are today bathed in CDW and were located above the depth of AABW during at least the last glacial period (Basak et al., 2018). To explore the long-term trends in SO paleocirculation, we have smoothed these East Pacific Rise records to 2-kyr resolution and averaged them to form a ‘stack’ of central Pacific SO CDW of $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ (Figure 6). Ullermann et al. (2016) suggest that these East Pacific Rise core sites are bathed in CDW with a similar $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ composition as core sites located in the northern Cape Basin in the Atlantic SO, citing as evidence the near-identical evolution of $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ values between these locations (Ullermann et al., 2016). However, there exists a gradient between $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ values measured at these central Pacific SO sites and the deep southern Cape Basin, where $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ values

are consistently lower (e.g., ODP Leg 177 Site 1089 at 4,621-m water depth; Figure 6). This gradient is especially pronounced during past glacial periods and is attributed to the presence of AABW—sourced in the high-latitude Atlantic SO—within the southern Cape Basin, which was extremely ^{13}C -depleted during past glacials (Ullermann et al., 2016). This is consistent with the picture from the LGM, when deep core sites in the Atlantic SO were bathed in SCW with extremely negative $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ values. There exists throughout most of the last 614 kyr an even larger gradient in $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ between SCW bathing Site 1089 and SCW bathing site PC493. To investigate this gradient in high-latitude SCW $\delta^{13}\text{C}$, we have smoothed the $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ record of Site 1089 to 4-kyr resolution, to allow for direct comparison with the lower resolution $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{cib}}$ record of core PC493. The record of PC493 has also been smoothed to a 4-kyr resolution, and the difference between these two smoothed records calculated. This allows us to directly gauge the spatial gradient in $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ of SCW sourced in the high-latitude Atlantic and Pacific SO ($\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{SCW}}$ in Figure 6).

Today, the SO is well mixed due to a combination of strong meridional and longitudinal circulation and intense diapycnal mixing, particularly in areas of rough bathymetry, such as the Scotia Sea in the Atlantic SO (Heywood et al., 2002). This mixing leads to the condensed temperature/salinity field observed in Figure 1c, and a homogenization of $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ DIC in the SO, which today averages $0.4 \pm 0.1\text{‰}$ within CDW (Kroopnick, 1985). Conversely, a negative spatial gradient in $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{SCW}}$ between the southern Cape Basin and high-latitude Pacific SO is apparent throughout much of the last 614 kyr (Figure 6), with the only exceptions being late MIS 15, late MIS 13, MIS 11, and the current interglacial. This suggests that the well mixed nature of the SO we observe today may not be the norm for the Late Quaternary, even during interglacial periods.

The largest gradient in $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{SCW}}$ occurred during glacial periods, reflecting the ^{13}C depletion of SCW in the high-latitude Atlantic SO at these times. There is a close match between $p\text{CO}_2^{\text{atm}}$ and $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{SCW}}$, suggesting that $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{SCW}}$ played a crucial role in regulating past $p\text{CO}_2^{\text{atm}}$ concentrations (Figure 6), most likely through reduced ventilation and increased storage of respired carbon within SCW sourced within the Atlantic SO. It is also plausible, however, that changes in $p\text{CO}_2^{\text{atm}}$ drove changes in bottom water formation, perhaps through cooling and expansion of grounded and floating ice in the formation regions, which in turn led to changes in physical properties of SCW and to reduced mixing between water masses, and hence a gradient in $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{SCW}}$.

The presence of a gradient in $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{SCW}}$ suggests that the water masses within the deep basins south of the APF in the Atlantic and Pacific SO were in the past more isolated from one another than in the modern ocean, especially during glacial periods (see Figure S4 for a schematic depiction of LGM water mass distributions). This increased isolation is in many ways unsurprising. In the modern SO, very little AABW formed in the Atlantic SO—if any—makes its way into the Pacific SO, rather it is mixed through the water column into overlying circumpolar deep water masses, which are then circulated throughout the SO via the ACC (Pardo et al., 2012). Where AABW (or modified AABW) does make its way between SO basins, it tends to do so via fracture zones, where strong diapycnal mixing between dense bottom waters and overlying water masses occurs (e.g., McCartney & Donohue, 2007). Temperature and salinity reconstructions suggest that LGM deep waters in the Atlantic SO were the densest waters in the global ocean (Adkins et al., 2002; Roberts et al., 2016). This high density was primarily driven by increased salinity, presumably acquired during SCW formation within the Atlantic SO, and led to a reduction in the mixing of this Atlantic SO sourced SCW into overlying circumpolar waters, which appears to have been a feature of past glaciations for at least the previous 500 kyr (Ullermann et al., 2016).

4.5. Implications for Deep Water Formation

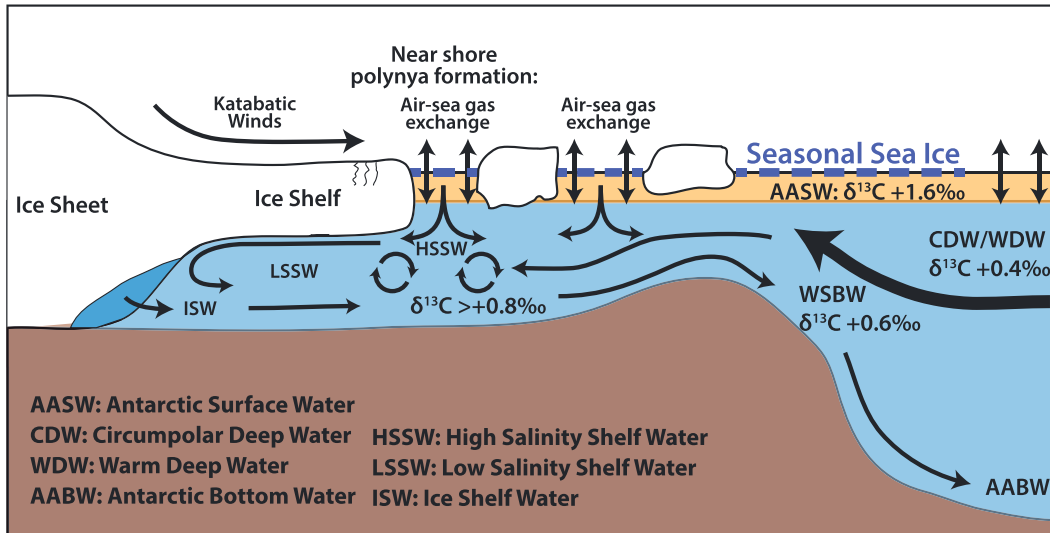
The negative $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{cibs}}$ values measured in the Atlantic SO and at core sites on the East Pacific Rise within the Pacific SO (Figure 6) suggest that some of the extremely ^{13}C -depleted AABW formed in the Atlantic SO during past glacial periods must have mixed with overlying CDW, and subsequently circulated though the SO and north in to the Atlantic, Indian, and Pacific oceanic basins (e.g., Figure S4). However, we argue based on measurements of SCW at site PC493 that deep waters forming within the high-latitude Pacific SO were not similarly ^{13}C -depleted. The development of the spatial gradient in $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{SCW}}$ observed in Figure 6, especially pronounced during glacial periods, suggests differing mechanisms of deep- and bottom-water formation in the Atlantic and Pacific SO. While some of the glacial $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{cib}}$ minima observed in the deep

Atlantic basin may have been related to PDW inflow to the SO (Ullermann et al., 2016), our new $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{cib}}$ data excludes the region south of the APF in the Pacific SO as the source of an extremely ^{13}C -depleted, high- CO_2 water mass.

Some of the lowering of glacial seawater $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ values in the Subantarctic Zones of the Atlantic and Pacific SO may have been due to increases in biological productivity driven by increased dust deposition during past glacial periods (Bradtmiller et al., 2009; Lamy et al., 2014; Martínez-García et al., 2009, 2011), leading to increased remineralization of ^{12}C -rich organic matter at depth. However, the gradient in SCW $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ between the Atlantic and Pacific SO cannot be explained solely via productivity changes, as productivity increased in both the Pacific and Atlantic SO (Bradtmiller et al., 2009). Moreover, surface productivity in the region south of the APF actually decreased during past glacial periods (Bonn et al., 1998; Hillenbrand & Cortese, 2006; Jaccard et al., 2013; Nürnberg et al., 1997). As such, processes operating south of the APF within the Atlantic SO must have acted to reduce ventilation and maintain lowered $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ values. These processes probably include glacial changes in the production modes of deep and bottom waters, air-sea gas exchange (possibly linked to sea ice expansion), and vertical advection and/or mixing between SO water masses.

Today, most AABW within the Atlantic SO forms within the Weddell Sea. There, AABW precursor water masses are produced via two mechanisms: (i) brine rejection in regions of sea-ice formation and polynyas and (ii) supercooling of waters beneath floating ice shelves (Figure 7). The first mechanism leaves a high thermodynamic imprint on AABW, leading to elevated $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ values (Mackensen, 2012), while the second mechanism minimizes this effect. Thus, increasing the relative proportion of bottom water production via supercooling beneath ice shelves in the past would act to decrease bottom water $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ compared to modern values. Hillenbrand et al. (2014) and Arndt et al. (2017) showed that due to widespread ice-sheet grounding the extent of floating ice shelves on the Weddell Sea embayment shelf at the LGM was smaller than at present, limiting or even preventing subice shelf formation of precursor water masses for SCW (Figure 17). If anything, this would lead to elevated bottom water $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ values compared with the modern, and therefore cannot explain the observed glacial depletion in ^{13}C of Atlantic SO SCW. Deep and bottom water formation via the process of brine rejection in polynyas north of regions of grounded ice could still have occurred during glacials (Mackensen et al., 1996; Smith et al., 2010). Brine rejection would also have provided the increased salinity required to drive an increased deep-shallow density contrast within the glacial SO (Ferrari et al., 2014). However, increasing the proportion of AABW precursor water mass formation via brine rejection in ice-free polynyas at the expense of production in subice shelf cavities would not have lessened the thermodynamic fractionation imprint on bottom water $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ compared to the modern and thereby cannot explain newly formed deep waters with very low $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ values (Mackensen, 2012; Mackensen et al., 1996, 2001). The answer to this paradox may lie in the glacial formation of AABW precursor water masses in the Atlantic SO by brine rejection under permanent sea-ice cover, thereby reducing the ability of thermodynamic fractionation during air-sea exchange to ventilate, or 'reset', the $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ of deep waters (Figure 7). Stephens and Keeling (2000) and Keeling and Stephens (2001) hypothesized that during past glacial periods, upwelling waters in the SO froze at the sea surface leading to increased winter and, at least locally, summer sea ice cover (Gersonde et al., 2005) and reduced air-sea gas exchange. A reduction in the transfer of deep water to the surface ocean, concurrent with the freshening of surface waters leading to the development of a stronger halocline across the MPT, has also been proposed as a mechanism for reducing ventilation of within the Antarctic Zone of the Atlantic SO during the Late Quaternary (Hasenfratz et al., 2019). This may not only have reduced surface ocean ventilation in the permanent sea-ice zone but also the seasonal sea-ice zone, where a fresh water lid prevented air-sea exchange (Hasenfratz et al., 2019; Mackensen, 2012). Lowering of CDW DIC $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ values due to increased remineralization of organic carbon north of the APF, as well as a decrease in the proportion of NADW with elevated $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ values entering the deep Atlantic SO, could not then be offset by air-sea gas exchange south of the APF during bottom water formation (Figure 7). As newly formed AABW circulated north of the APF, $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ may have been lowered by the further addition of remineralization of organic carbon, leading to the extremely low $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{cib}}$ values recorded in the deep southern Cape Basin. In the modern Weddell Sea, mixing between CDW and newly formed bottom water 'dilutes' the $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ signature of bottom water masses, lessening the gradient in $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ between CDW and AABW (Mackensen, 2012). The increased density of AABW during glacial periods compared with the modern would hinder this mixing, allowing the buildup of organic carbon within AABW and the lowering of seawater DIC $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ values beyond that of overlying CDW.

Modern Weddell Sea



Glacial Weddell Sea

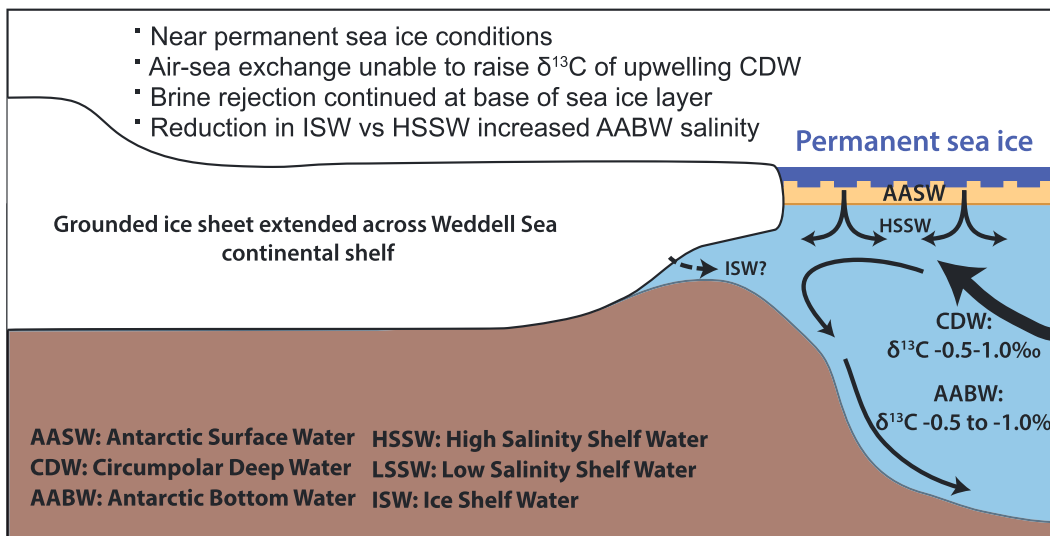


Figure 7. Schematic depiction of modern versus proposed glacial bottom water production mechanisms in the Weddell Sea. Modern Antarctic Bottom Water (AABW) δ¹³C values ultimately reflect those of upwelling Circumpolar Deep Water (CDW) and recirculated Warm Deep Water (WDW), and Antarctic Surface Water (AASW), which undergoes buoyancy loss and sinks to form High Salinity Shelf Water (HSSW). Permanent or near-permanent sea ice conditions during glacials reduced or eliminated air-sea gas exchange during HSSW formation, restricting the ability of HSSW to ‘reset’ δ¹³C of CDW/WDW toward higher values (Mackensen, 2012). Increased remineralization of organic carbon, coupled with decreased NADW (relatively high δ¹³C) contributions to CDW within the Atlantic Southern Ocean (SO), were thereby compounded by reduced bottom water ventilation, leading to extremely low δ¹³C values of AABW within the Atlantic SO. In the Pacific SO, permanent sea ice may not have been as extensive (Benz et al., 2016) which, coupled with the presence of polynyas north of the Ross Sea shelf (Bonaccorsi et al., 2007; Smith et al., 2010), allowed for continued ventilation during bottom water production. Modern seawater δ¹³C values in upper panel from Mackensen 2001, 2012, glacial seawater δ¹³C estimates in lower panel from compilation in supplementary Table S2.

In contrast with the Atlantic SO, deep water formation mechanisms south of the APF in the Pacific SO maintained a relatively well-ventilated SCW, with elevated δ¹³C values, even during glacial periods. In contrast to bottom water formation in the Weddell Sea, only a minor proportion of modern day Ross Sea Bottom Water production is attributed to the supercooling of waters beneath floating ice shelves, with the majority of AABW precursor water mass production occurring in the western Ross Sea Embayment via brine rejection during sea ice formation (Orsi & Wiederwohl, 2009). Reconstructed ice grounding limits within the

Ross Sea Embayment suggest that grounded ice expanded further north on the Ross Sea shelf at the LGM (Anderson et al., 2014), potentially further reducing the amount of deep water formation beneath floating ice shelves. The presence of polynyas over the north western Ross Sea continental slope has been inferred from the deposition of planktic foraminifera-bearing sediments (Bonaccorsi et al., 2007; Smith et al., 2010). LGM sea-ice reconstructions from the Pacific SO (Benz et al., 2016) show that in contrast to the Atlantic SO (Gersonde et al., 2005), the winter sea-ice limit there was only located slightly further north than today, making it less likely that AABW precursor water mass formation in the Ross Sea sector was maintained largely by brine rejection under permanent sea-ice cover, as may have been the case in the Weddell Sea (Mackensen, 2012). Thus, the surface waters, which went on to form AABW in the high-latitude Pacific SO, may have remained better ventilated than the Atlantic, with continued air-sea gas exchange and elevated $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ values, even during past glacial periods, ultimately leading to better ventilated bottom waters within the high-latitude Pacific SO, as observed at site PC493.

5. Conclusions

Today, the SO is relatively well mixed, leading to a small range of $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ DIC values between different SO water masses, with a SO average of $\sim 0.4\text{‰}$ (Kroopnick, 1985). During the LGM, a large difference in $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{cib}}$ is observed between core sites bathed in SCW sourced from the Atlantic SO and site PC493 in the high-latitude Pacific SO. This difference is driven by a decrease in the $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ values of SCW forming in the Atlantic SO, where $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{cib}}$ values of $< -1.0\text{‰}$ were repeatedly recorded during the last glacial period. In contrast, $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{cib}}$ values in the high-latitude Pacific SO never fell below -0.01‰ during the last glacial period, reflecting the continued ventilation of SCW within this region.

A gradient in SCW $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{cib}}$ values between the deep southern Cape Basin core site ODP 1089 and PC493 in the high-latitude Pacific SO is apparent throughout much of the last 614 kyr; however, it is most pronounced during glacial periods, when differences in $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{cib}}$ of up to $\sim 1.5\text{‰}$ are observed. This suggests an increased isolation of bottom water masses within both the Atlantic and the Pacific (cf. McCave et al., 2008), consistent with increased bottom water densities (Adkins et al., 2002; Roberts et al., 2016) and decreased turbulent mixing (Ferrari et al., 2014) in the glacial Atlantic SO. This spatial gradient in SCW $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ values suggests differing modes of deep- and bottom-water formation in the Weddell Sea in the Atlantic SO versus the Pacific SO, especially during glacial periods. Changes in bottom-water formation in the Atlantic SO may have included a reduction in the formation of precursor water masses on the Antarctic continental shelf, or differences in the relative proportion of dense shelf waters formed under ice shelves versus those formed in polynyas. Evidence for increased salinity and an expansion of the seasonal sea ice zone in the Atlantic SO is consistent with increased deep-water formation via brine rejection during sea ice formation. This, however, would lead to an increase in the thermodynamic fractionation of carbon isotopes during air-sea gas exchange, increasing the $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ values of deep waters. This is the opposite of what is observed in the $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{cib}}$ records from the Atlantic SO. It has been hypothesized that the formation of bottom waters via brine rejection under permanent sea-ice conditions, or in the seasonal sea-ice zone alongside the presence of a strongly stratified surface ocean covered by a freshwater 'lid', reduced this thermodynamic imprint on AABW forming in the Atlantic SO (Mackensen, 2012; Stephens & Keeling, 2000). In contrast, deep waters formed within the Pacific SO maintained elevated $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ values, most likely via continuous air-sea exchange.

The lowest $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{cib}}$ values recorded in core PC493 occur during MIS 16c and coincide with minima in $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{cib}}$ values in the intermediate and deep Atlantic SO, suggesting a SO-wide ^{13}C depletion at this time. This SO $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ minimum may have been driven by a prolonged expansion of poorly ventilated SCW combined with a reduced advection of NCW into the SO, and hence a reduction in the AMOC. This $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ minimum coincides with the lowest $p\text{CO}_2^{\text{atm}}$ values observed in Antarctic ice cores, suggesting that a reduction in AMOC and/or ventilation of SCW within the SO may have played a role in the draw-down of $p\text{CO}_2^{\text{atm}}$ at this time.

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