



1 **A SOUTH ATLANTIC ISLAND RECORD UNCOVERS SHIFTS IN**  
2 **WESTERLIES AND HYDROCLIMATE DURING THE LAST GLACIAL**

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23 **Abstract**

24 The period 36-18 ka was a dynamic phase of the last glacial, with large climate shifts in both  
25 hemispheres. Through the bipolar seesaw, the Antarctic Isotope Maxima and Greenland DO  
26 events were part of a global “concert” of large scale climate changes. The interaction between  
27 atmospheric processes and Atlantic meridional overturning circulation (AMOC) is crucial for  
28 such shifts, controlling upwelling- and carbon cycle dynamics, and generating climate tipping  
29 points. Here we report the first temperature and humidity record for the glacial period from  
30 the central South Atlantic (SA). The presented data resolves ambiguities about atmospheric  
31 circulation shifts during bipolar climate events recorded in polar ice cores. A unique lake  
32 sediment sequence from Nightingale Island at 37°S in the SA, covering 36.4-18.6 ka, exhibits  
33 continuous impact of the Southern Hemisphere Westerlies (SHW), recording shifts in their



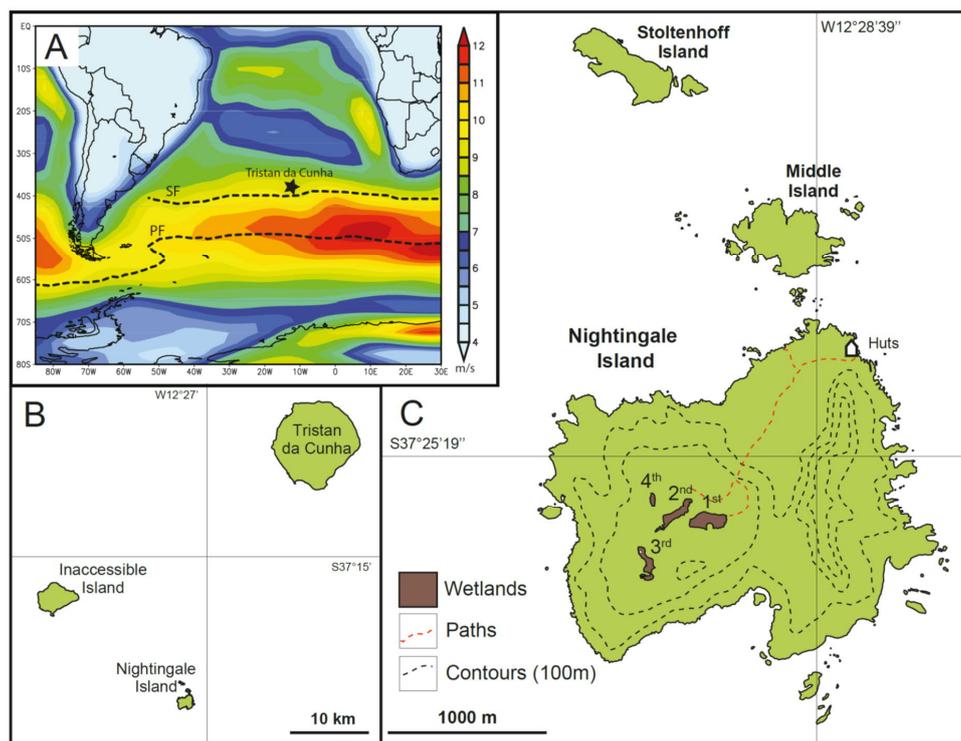
34 position and strength. The SHW displayed high latitudinal and strength-wise variability 36-31  
35 ka locked to the bipolar seesaw, followed by 4 ka of slightly falling temperatures, decreasing  
36 humidity and fairly southern westerlies. After 27.5 ka temperatures decreased 3-4°C, marking  
37 the largest hydroclimate change with drier conditions and a variable SHW position. We note  
38 that periods with more intense and southerly positioned SHW are correlated with periods of  
39 increased CO<sub>2</sub> outgassing from the ocean. Changes in the cross-equatorial gradient during  
40 large northern temperature changes appear as the driving mechanism for the SHW shifts.  
41 Together with coeval shifts of the South Pacific westerlies, it shows that most of the Southern  
42 Hemisphere experienced simultaneous atmospheric circulation changes during the latter part  
43 of the last glacial.

## 44 **1 Introduction**

45 The Southern Hemisphere Westerlies (SHW) is a major determinant of hydroclimate in the  
46 Southern Hemisphere (SH). In coupling marine and atmospheric processes, they are thought  
47 to have played a pivotal and multi-faceted role during and at the end of the last ice age by  
48 triggering changes in ocean-atmosphere CO<sub>2</sub> fluxes by physical processes (Saunders et al.,  
49 2018; Toggweiler and Lea, 2010) and Fe fertilization of the Southern Ocean through varying  
50 dust deposition (Lamy et al., 2014; Martin and Fitzwater, 1988; Martínez-García et al., 2014),  
51 as well as regulating the salt and heat leakage from the Agulhas current to the Atlantic  
52 meridional overturning circulation (AMOC) (Bard and Rickaby, 2009). In addition, changes  
53 in AMOC, SHW strength and position, and Southern Ocean upwelling seem to have been  
54 important mechanisms for different glacial CO<sub>2</sub> modes (Ahn and Brook, 2014). The position  
55 of the SHW during glacial times is debated with some arguing for a northward displacement  
56 (Toggweiler et al., 2006), while others argue for a southward move (Sime et al., 2013, 2016)  
57 during the Last Glacial Maximum (LGM), relative to the present. Holocene data also suggest  
58 an expanding-contracting SHW zone (Lamy et al., 2010). With these multiple scenarios the



59 pattern of SHW shifts and their detailed role for ocean ventilation and the global carbon cycle  
60 remains unclear. It is postulated that the SHW moved in concert with rapid climate shifts  
61 recorded in Greenland ice cores known as Dansgaard-Oeschger (DO) cycles (Markle et al.,  
62 2016), and that these shifts are part of inter-hemispheric climate swings involving heat  
63 exchange between the hemispheres through the atmosphere and the ocean, with atmospheric  
64 heat fluxes partly compensating anomalous marine heat fluxes (Pedro et al., 2016). Whether  
65 SHW zonal shifts only occurred in the Pacific sector of the Southern Ocean (Chiang et al.,  
66 2014) or if they occurred throughout the SH is another crucial question (Ceppi et al., 2013).  
67 Other key climate issues relate to the effects and areal extent of the bipolar seesaw mechanism  
68 (Broecker, 1998; Stocker and Johnsen, 2003) and any signs of an early and long temperature  
69 minimum at southern mid-latitudes matching Antarctic LGM (EPICA Community Members  
70 et al., 2006). The lack of climate proxy records directly reflecting atmospheric conditions in  
71 the central South Atlantic means that such information at these latitudes during the glacial are  
72 primarily based on remote proxy records or climate model simulations. This results in a  
73 largely unconstrained understanding of glacial conditions over vast parts of the mid-South  
74 Atlantic, especially between 20-50°S where archives reflecting atmospheric processes are  
75 absent.



76

77 **Figure 1.** (A) The position of the Tristan da Cunha island group in the South Atlantic, the 1000mb mean  
78 annual wind speed (m/s) for 1980-2010 according to NCEP/NCAR reanalysis data indicating yellow-  
79 red colors for the zone of the Southern Hemisphere Westerlies, and the positions of the Subtropical Front  
80 (SF) and the Polar Front (PF) as dashed lines. (B) The three main islands of the Tristan da Cunha island  
81 group. (C) The position and size of the four overgrown lake basins, so-called ponds (1P-4P), on  
82 Nightingale Island with 100 m contour lines.

83

## 84 **2 Study site**

85 The Tristan da Cunha island group (TdC) at 37.1° S (Fig. 1) sits strategically at the northern  
86 boundary of the SHW (Fig. 1A), a few degrees north of the Subtropical Front (SF), where sea  
87 surface temperatures (SST) and salinities decrease by 3-4°C and 0.3 per mil, respectively.  
88 Annual mean air temperature and precipitation are 14.3°C and approximately 1500 mm,  
89 respectively, with highest precipitation in austral winter when the SHW impact is largest. The  
90 record presented here is from 1<sup>st</sup> Pond (1P), an overgrown crater lake (200x70 m, 207 m a.s.l.)



91 in the central part of Nightingale Island (NI) (Fig. 1C and Fig. 2), a volcanic island dominated  
92 by trachytic bedrock. Its drainage area is about twice the size of today`s peat-bog and is thus  
93 sensitive to changes in the precipitation/evaporation balance (P/E). Previous studies from NI  
94 show that the area experienced shifts in precipitation during the Holocene (Ljung and Björck,  
95 2007) and partly also during the Last Termination (Ljung et al., 2015), mainly attributed to the  
96 changing impact of the SHW. These data also indicate a southerly displacement of the  
97 Intertropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) during the Heinrich 1 event (H1), and warming in the  
98 South Atlantic as a consequence of reduced AMOC, causing the lake basin to dry out, creating  
99 a hiatus between 18.6-16.2 ka (Ljung et al., 2015). Here we present a multi-proxy study of the  
100 sediments that accumulated before this hiatus dating to 36.4-18.6 ka, covering the younger  
101 part of Marine Isotope Stage 3 (MIS 3) and most of MIS 2, a climatically very dynamic  
102 period with Antarctic Isotope Maxima, DO and H events. In spite of its fairly northern  
103 position in relation to Antarctica we hypothesize that TdC was impacted by such events in  
104 terms of shifts of SHW, which we aim to test by using a suite of proxies.



105

106 **Figure 2.** Photograph from Nightingale Island. The over-grown lake basins of 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Pond are  
107 shown, with the higher situated 1<sup>st</sup> Pond in the background, seen towards southeast. Note the albatross  
108 chicks (white dots) and the four persons on 2<sup>nd</sup> Pond as scale. Photo S. Björck.

### 109 **3 Material and methods**

#### 110 **3.1 Field work, handling of cores and sample collection**

111 Two weeks of field work on NI were carried out in February 2010 and drilling was carried out  
112 using Russian chamber samplers providing 1 m long cores ( $\varnothing=50$  and 75 mm) with overlaps  
113 of 15-50 cm between each cored section. The ketch *Ocean Tramp* provided the transport from  
114 the Falkland Islands to TdC and back to Uruguay. In order to penetrate as deep as possible



115 into the very stiff sediments a chain-hoist was used for coring the deeper parts of the  
116 sequences. The sediments were described immediately in the field before being wrapped in  
117 plastic film and PVC tubes. Upon arrival in Uruguay the cores were transported to the  
118 Geology Department in Lund where they were stored in a cold room. Before sub-sampling for  
119 the different proxy analyzes, the field-based lithostratigraphy and correlations between  
120 individual core sections were adjusted in the laboratory. This was aided by magnetic  
121 susceptibility ( $\kappa$ ) measurements, which give a relative estimate of the magnetic mineral  
122 concentration, to confirm and adjust the visual correlation between overlapping core  
123 segments.

124

### 125 **3.2 Radiocarbon dating and age model**

126 The radiocarbon dated material consisted of 1 cm thick, organic-rich, bulk sediment. All 41  
127 dated samples were pre-treated and measured at the Lund University Radiocarbon Dating  
128 Laboratory with Single Stage Accelerator Mass Spectrometry (SSAMS). The age model was  
129 constructed using the OxCal software package (Bronk Ramsey, 1995, 2009a). To minimize  
130 subjective user input we ran the age model with a general outlier model (Bronk Ramsey,  
131 2009b), and a variable k-value that lets the model itself determine the sedimentation rate  
132 variability (Fig. 3). For calibration we use the Southern Hemisphere calibration dataset,  
133 SHCal13 (Hogg et al., 2013)).

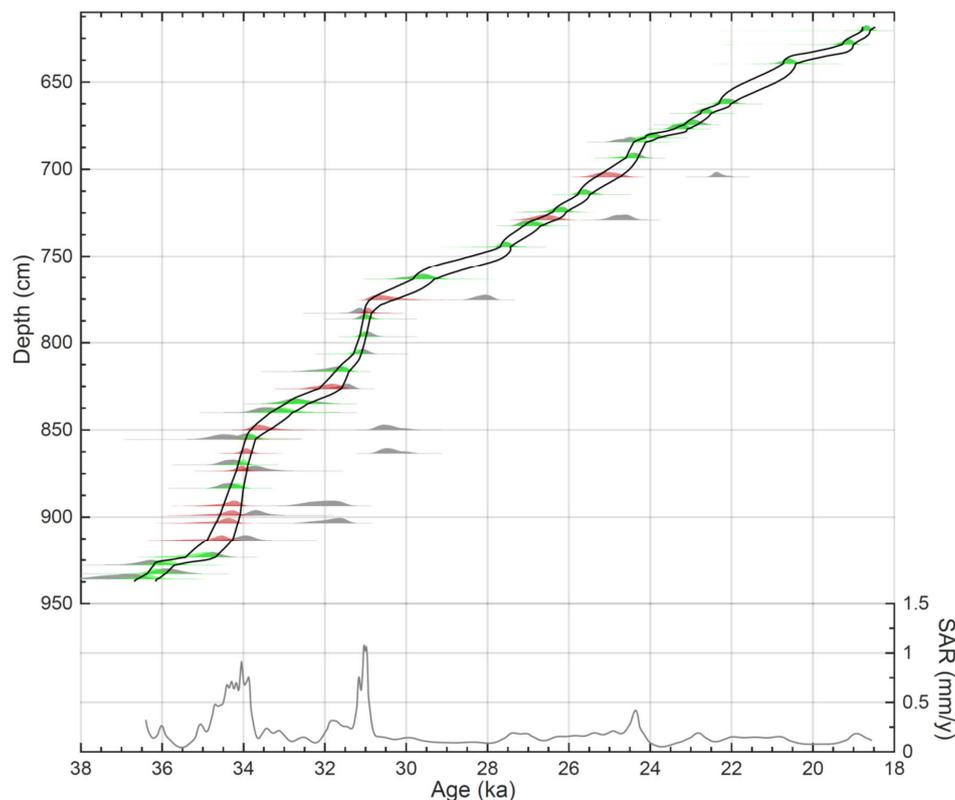
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### 135 **3.3 Measurements for magnetic susceptibility**

136 Magnetic susceptibility ( $\kappa$ ) was measured using a Bartington MS2E1 high resolution surface  
137 scanning sensor coupled to a TAMISCAN automatic logging conveyor. Measurements were  
138 carried out on non-sampled half cores and with a resolution of 5 mm and with results shown



139 in  $10^{-6}$  SI units. The magnetic susceptibility gives a relative estimate of the ability of the  
140 material to be magnetized, i.e. the magnetic mineral concentration.



141

142 **Figure 3.** Age model for the sediments at 1<sup>st</sup> Pond, Nightingale Island. Top panel: Radiocarbon based  
143 age-depth model (black lines encompass the 68.2% probability interval). The patches indicate the  
144 calibrated probability distributions of each radiocarbon date for un-modelled (single) dates (grey patch),  
145 and their posterior distributions when modeled as a P-sequence: Green patches indicate agreement  
146 indices of >60% and red patches agreement indices of <60%, i.e., outliers. Bottom panel: Sediment  
147 accumulation rates ( $\text{mm a}^{-1}$ ) based on the mean age-depth model shown in the top panel.

148

### 149 3. 4 XRF analyses

150 A handheld Thermo Scientific portable XRF analyzer (h-XRF) Niton XL3t 970 GOLDD+ set  
151 in the Cu/Zn mining calibration mode was used. The instrumentation provides highly accurate  
152 determinations for major elements (Helfert et al., 2011). All analyses were performed on  
153 freeze-dried sediments from the 1P cores using an 8 mm radius spot size in order to obtain



154 representative values. The elemental detection depends partly on the duration of the analysis  
155 at each point; this is especially true for the lighter elements such as Mg, Al, Si, P, S, Cl, K and  
156 Ca. For this reason the measurement time of each sample was set to 6 minutes. Although a  
157 larger suite of elements was acquired, we have chosen to work with Al, Si, P, S, K, Ca, Ti,  
158 Mn, Fe, Rb, Sr and Zr. These elements were selected based on their analytical quality (i.e.,  
159 level above the detection limit) and with the help of Principal Component Analysis (PCA).  
160 PCA was made using JMP 10.0.0 software in correlation mode using a Varimax rotation.  
161 Before analysis all data were converted to Z-scores calculated as  $(X_i - X_{avg})/X_{std}$ , where  $X_i$  is  
162 the normalized elemental peak areas and  $X_{avg}$  and  $X_{std}$  are the series average and standard  
163 deviation, respectively, of the variable  $X_i$ . A Varimax rotation allocates into the components  
164 variables which are highly correlated (sharing a large proportion of their variance) – imposing  
165 some constrains in defining the eigenvectors. By grouping together elements showing similar  
166 variation, the chemical signals tend to be clearer and key elements are better identified. To  
167 simplify the interpretation of our principal components (PC) we employ a modified Chemical  
168 Index of Alteration (CIA), see Fig. 4D, as defined by Nesbitt and Young (1982): CIA =  
169  $[Al_2O_3 / (Al_2O_3 + CaO + NaO + K_2O)] \times 100$ . This index expresses the relative proportion of  
170  $Al_2O_3$  to the more labile oxides and is an expression of the degradation of feldspars to clay  
171 minerals. Since we have no NaO data we call it a *modified CIA*.

### 172 **3.5 C and N analyses**

173 Dried and homogenized samples every 1-2 cm were analysed with a Costech Instruments ECS  
174 4010 elemental analyzer. The accuracy of the measurements is better than  $\pm 5\%$  of the  
175 reported values based on replicated standard samples. C/N atomic ratios were obtained by  
176 multiplying by 1.167.



177 **3.6 <sup>13</sup>C and <sup>15</sup>N analyses**

178 Dried homogenized bulk samples were measured using a ThermoFisher DeltaV ion ratio mass  
179 spectrometer. The isotopic composition of samples is reported as conventional  $\delta$ -values in  
180 parts per thousand relative to the Vienna Pee Dee Belemnite (<sup>13</sup>C) and atmospheric N (<sup>15</sup>N):  
181  $\delta_{\text{sample}} (\text{‰}) = [(R_{\text{sample}} - R_{\text{standard}}) / (R_{\text{standard}})] \times 1000$  where R is the abundance ratio of <sup>13</sup>C/<sup>12</sup>C in  
182 the sample or in the standard.

183 **3.7 Pollen analyses**

184 Sixty-four levels were sub-sampled and analysed for their pollen content. Pollen samples of 1  
185 cm<sup>3</sup> were processed following standard method A as described by Berglund and Ralska-  
186 Jasiewiczowa (1986) with added *Lycopodium* spores for determination of pollen concentration  
187 values. Counting was made under a light microscope at magnifications of x400 and x1000.  
188 The aim was to count at least 500 pollen grains in every sample, which was almost achieved  
189 (mean sum of 565 pollen grains and mean sum of 870 pollen grains and spores). Identification  
190 of pollen grains and spores was facilitated by published photos (Hafsten, 1960), standard  
191 pollen keys (Moore et al., 1991) and a small collection of type slides from Tristan da Cunha  
192 borrowed from The National History Museum in Bergen. The pollen percentage diagram (Fig.  
193 5) was plotted in C2 (Juggins, 2007). Warm/cold pollen ratios were calculated as  $W_p / W_p +$   
194  $C_p$ , where warm pollen types ( $W_p$ ) are from plants only found below 500 m a.s.l. and cold  
195 pollen types ( $C_p$ ) are from plants only found above 500 m a.s.l.

196 **3.8 Diatom analyses and diatom environmental ratios**

197 179 levels of 0.5 cm thick sediment segments were sub-sampled to analyse their diatom  
198 content. For preparation of diatom slides ~ 200 mg freeze-dried sediment was oxidized with  
199 15% H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> for 24 hours, then 30% H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> for a minimum of 24 hours, and finally heated at  
200 90°C for several hours. A known quantity of DVB (divinylbenzene) microspheres was added  
201 to 200  $\mu$ L aliquots of the digested and cleaned slurries in order to estimate diatom  
202 concentrations (Battarbee and Keen, 1982). The diatoms were mounted in Naphrax® medium



203 (refractive index = 1.65). 300 valves or more per sample were counted in most samples and  
204 identified largely using published diatom floras (Krammer and Lange-Bertalot, 1986; Lange-  
205 Bertalot, 1995; Le Cohu and Maillard, 1983; Moser et al., 1995; Van de Vijver et al., 2002).  
206 Diatom results are expressed as relative % abundance of each taxon (Fig. S3) and also as total  
207 concentrations of valves per g dry sediment.

208                 Freshwater diatom species are excellent indicators of water quality, particularly  
209 of pH, conductivity and dissolved nutrients (Battarbee et al., 2001). Sedimentary diatom  
210 assemblages *inter alia* can be used to reconstruct past changes in water quality using the  
211 ecological indicator information for each species. Where suitable modern diatom–water  
212 quality calibration data sets exist transfer functions can be generated to reconstruct these  
213 changes. However, in sediment records where diatom diversity is low and affinities of some  
214 species are not firmly established, placing diatom taxa into ecological/environmental  
215 preference groups using literature attributions and field experience can be used to generate  
216 ratio scores relevant to past conditions. The 1<sup>st</sup> Pond assemblages are suitable for such an  
217 approach, particularly for inferring changes in habitat and water acidity. The acid diatom  
218 index ratio is derived from the sum of acid water indicating taxa comprising *Aulacoseira*,  
219 *Frustulia*, *Pinnularia* and *Eunotia* compared to that of the fragilarioid tychoplanktonic taxa.  
220 Proportions of acidity tolerant to acidity intolerant diatom taxa indicate water pH, total  
221 tychoplankton (temporary phytoplankton) vs. total benthic taxa relate to open water  
222 conditions, subaerial/terrestrial taxa vs. the total assemblage indicate wetland development  
223 and/or in-washed material.

### 224 **3.9 Biogenic silica analyses**

225 The 310 samples were analyzed using a wet-alkaline digestion technique (Conley and  
226 Schelske, 2001). Samples were freeze-dried and gently ground prior to analysis.  
227 Approximately 30 mg of sample was digested in 40 ml of a weak base (0.47M Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>) at



228 85°C for a total duration of 3 hours. Subsamples of 1 ml were removed after 3 hours and  
229 neutralized with 9 ml of 0.021 M HCl. Dissolved Si concentrations were measured with a  
230 continuous flow analyzer applying the automated Molybdate Blue Method (Grasshoff et al.,  
231 1983). Biogenic silica content in lake sediments is a proxy for lake productivity.

### 232 **3.10 Lipid biomarker and compound specific hydrogen isotopic analyses**

233 The hydrogen isotopic composition ( $\delta$  notation) of *n*-alkanes was analyzed by gas  
234 chromatography–isotope ratio monitoring–mass spectrometry (GC-IRMS) using a Thermo  
235 Finnigan Delta V mass spectrometer interfaced with a Thermo Trace GC 2000 using a GC  
236 Isolink II and Conflo IV system. Helium was used as a carrier gas at constant flow mode and  
237 the compounds separated on a Zebtron ZB-5HT Inferno GC column (30 m x 0.25 mm x  
238 0.25 $\mu$ m). Lipid extraction was performed on freeze-dried samples by sonication with a  
239 mixture of dichloromethane and methanol (DCM-MeOH 9:1 v/v) for 20 minutes and  
240 subsequent centrifugation. The process was repeated three times and supernatants were  
241 combined. Aliphatic hydrocarbon fractions were isolated from the total lipid extract using  
242 silica gel columns (5% deactivated) that were first eluted with pure hexane (F1) and  
243 subsequently with a mixture of DCM-MeOH (1:1 v/v) to obtain a polar fraction (F2). A  
244 saturated hydrocarbon fraction was obtained by eluting the F1 fraction through 10% AgNO<sub>3</sub>-  
245 SiO<sub>2</sub> silica gel using pure hexane as eluent. The saturated hydrocarbon fractions were  
246 analyzed by gas chromatography – mass spectrometry for identification and quantification,  
247 using a Shimadzu GCMS-QP2010 Ultra. C<sub>21</sub> to C<sub>33</sub> *n*-alkanes were identified based on mass  
248 spectra from the literature and retention times. The concentrations of individual compounds  
249 were determined using a calibration curve made using mixtures of C<sub>21</sub>-C<sub>40</sub> alkanes of known  
250 concentration. More details about the GC-IRMS method, including GC oven temperature  
251 program, instrument performance and reference gases used, are given in Yamoah et al. (2016).  
252 The average standard deviation for  $\delta$ D values was 5%. Due to low sea levels during the time



253 period of our proxies the  $\delta D$  values of the *n*-alkanes were ice volume corrected (Tierney and  
254 deMenocal, 2013),  $\delta D_{\text{corr}} = (\delta D_{\text{wax}} + 1000) / (\delta O_{\text{w}}^{18} * 8 * 0.001 + 1) - 1000$ , with interpolated ocean  
255 water  $\delta O_{\text{w}}^{18}$  values (Waelbroeck et al., 2002).

256 Isoprenoid and branched glycerol dialkyl glycerol tetraethers (GDGTs) were  
257 measured on the F2 fractions after filtration through 0.45  $\mu\text{m}$  PTFE filters and reconstitution  
258 into a known volume of methanol. Analysis was done using a Thermo-Dionex HPLC  
259 connected to a Thermo Scientific TSQ quantum access triple quadrupole mass spectrometer,  
260 using an APCI interface. Chromatographic separation was achieved using a reverse phase  
261 method similar to the one used by Zhu et al. (2013). Partially co-eluting GDGT isomers were  
262 integrated as one peak in order to obtain data comparable to the normal phase method that has  
263 been in use by the community since Weijers et al. (2007).

264 One prerequisite for the valid use of brGDGTs is a relatively high branched-  
265 over-isoprenoid tetraether (BIT) index, which was 1.00 throughout the core. Reconstructed  
266 pH values, based on the CBT ratio (Weijers et al., 2007) were stable at  $6.6 \pm 0.1$  over the  
267 length of the core, which means that temperature is the dominant environmental factor exerted  
268 on the brGDGT distribution. At the time of measurement, we had not adopted the new method  
269 which separates between 5-methyl and 6-methyl branched GDGTs (De Jonge et al., 2014). As  
270 a consequence, we do not have individual quantifications of 5-methyl and 6-methyl branched  
271 GDGT isomers needed to use the revised  $\text{MBT}_{5\text{me}}$  temperature proxy for mineral soils (De  
272 Jonge et al., 2014) or peat (Naafs et al., 2017), which gives lower RMSE than the original  
273 terrestrial (soil) calibration (Weijers et al., 2007). However, since our data are from lake  
274 sediments, we argue that GDGT-based temperature proxy calibrations based on lake surveys  
275 is a valid approach. Indeed, using the original temperature calibration of Weijers et al. (2007)  
276 resulted in very low temperatures between 0 and 6°C, a cold bias observed in other studies  
277 from lakes. This bias is probably due to the addition of *in situ* produced brGDGTs on top of



278 any brGDGTs eroded from land (Loomis et al., 2012; Pearson et al., 2011). We therefore used  
279 the global calibration of Pearson et al. (2011), based on a global lacustrine data set and using  
280 mean summer temperatures, including samples from South Georgia Island in the S. Atlantic.  
281 In addition, we also use a calibration based on a large data set of East African lakes from  
282 different altitudes (Loomis et al., 2012), using mean annual temperatures, and which is also  
283 applicable outside of East Africa (Loomis et al., 2012).

### 284 **3.11 Calculation of insolation values**

285 A long term numerical solution for Earth's insolation quantities (Laskar et al., 2004) was used  
286 for the insolation values, 37-18 ka at 37°S, and calculated with the Analyseries program.  
287 While the austral winter values (W/m<sup>2</sup>) were based on mean daily June-August insolation  
288 (W/m<sup>2</sup>), the mean austral summer values were based on the mean daily December-  
289 February insolation.

### 290 **3.12 Isotope model simulation**

291 The isotope model analysis is based on a 1200-year simulation using the isotope enabled  
292 version of the ECHAM5/MPIOM earth system model (Werner et al., 2016) run with natural  
293 and anthropogenic forcings for 800 to 2000 CE (Sjolte et al., 2018). Horizontal resolution of  
294 the atmosphere is 3.75° x 3.75° (T31) with 19 vertical layers, while the ocean has a horizontal  
295 resolution of 3° x 1.8° with 40 vertical layers. Since both the present day situation and our  
296 Nightingale Island record show a continuous impact from the westerlies we deem it valid to  
297 use this late Holocene simulation as an analogue for interpreting the variability of the  
298 westerlies during the time period of study. The outcome of the simulation is presented in the  
299 result section, but further investigation of the model run shows that the multi-decadal  
300 variability of  $\delta D$  at TdC is related to the phase of the Antarctic Annular Mode, indicating that  
301 isotopic variability at TdC is sensitive to large scale SH climate variability (Fig. S4).

302



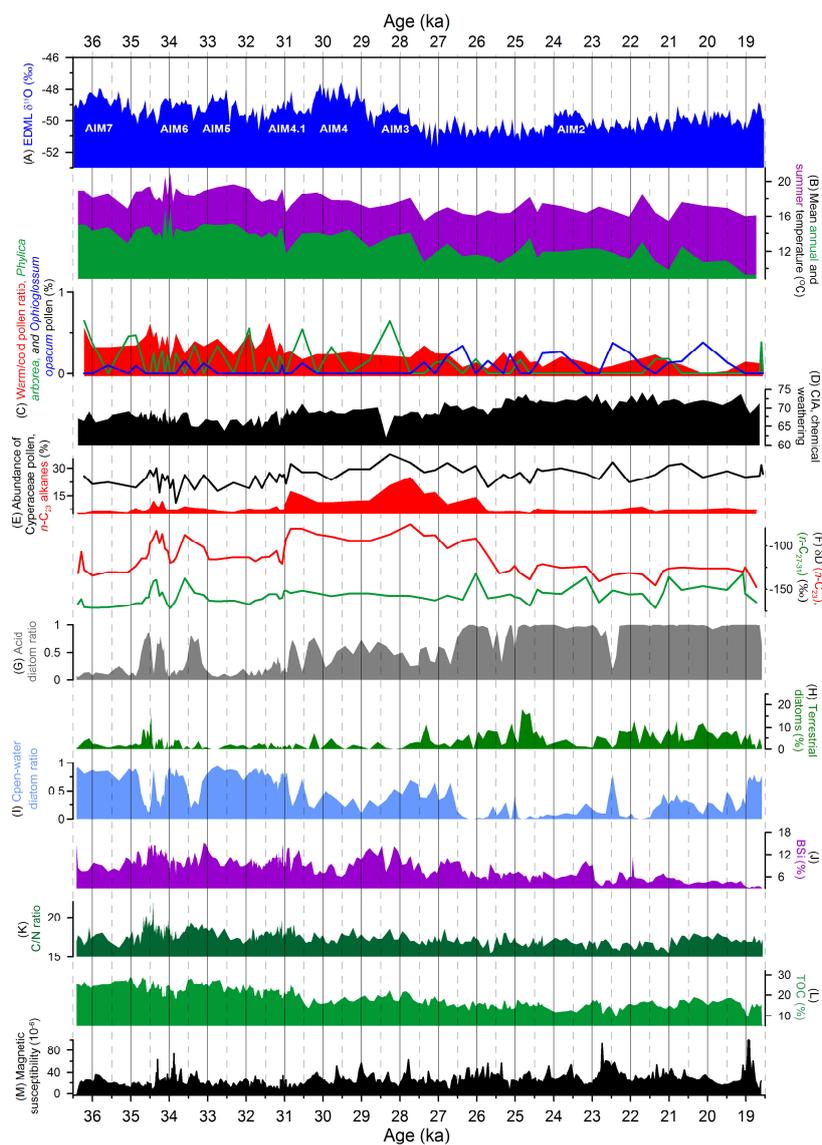
303 **3.13 Principal component analysis (PCA)**

304 PCA was performed with 14-16 of our variables (proxies) that we expect to respond to  
305 hydroclimate changes, using the C2 program (Juggins, 2007). The aim was to display the  
306 impact of different combination of proxies on samples in a biplot. Our two temperature  
307 proxies MAT and the MST/MAT ratio were both included and excluded in the analyses and  
308 this resulted in almost identical bi-plots in terms of positions of the variables. When the  
309 temperature proxies are excluded PC1 is slightly weaker (38.1 vs 40.9%) while PC2 is  
310 slightly stronger (13.4 vs 11.8%) than when they are included. We therefore include the  
311 temperature proxies in our PCA to illustrate temperature together with the other proxies. All  
312 the variables were centered and standardized before calculation.

313 **4. Results**

314 **4. 1 An island record of glacial climate in central South Atlantic**

315 Thirty-nine 1 m long overlapping cores were taken in February 2010 from three over-grown  
316 crater lakes (Fig. 1C) between lava ridges (Anker Björk et al., 2011). 1P was exceptional in  
317 that it was the only site where sediments older than 18.6 ka were recovered. At 1P the 16.2-  
318 18.6 ka hiatus (Ljung et al., 2015) is marked by a thin silt lamina at 618.8 cm. We retrieved  
319 five overlapping cores below the hiatus with 318.2 cm of sediments before coring was  
320 obstructed at 937 cm by suspected bedrock or boulders. These cores were correlated by  
321 lithology and magnetic susceptibility (MS). The lower 162 cm consist of a dark brown  
322 slightly silty gyttja, overlain by a grey brown silty clay gyttja, all deposited under anaerobic  
323 conditions. Because of the low concentration of plant macro-fossil remains our chronology is  
324 based on 41 <sup>14</sup>C dates of 1 cm thick bulk sediment samples between 620 and 936 cm (Table  
325 S1). Comparisons of <sup>14</sup>C dates of bulk sediment and plant remains (wood and peat) have  
326



327

328 **Figure 4.** Antarctic ice core data and some of the proxy data from the sediments in 1<sup>st</sup> Pond, between  
 329 36.4 and 18.6 ka. (A) The EDML  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  record (EPICA Community Members, 2006) showing AIM 7-2.  
 330 (B) Mean annual and summer temperature from the GDGT analyses and calibrated with Pearson et al.  
 331 (2011) and Loomis et al. (2012), respectively. (C) Warm pollen ratios, % *P. arborea* pollen and %  
 332 *Ophioglossum* spores. (D) Modified chemical index of alteration (CIA). (E) % Cyperaceae pollen and  
 333 *n*-C<sub>23</sub> alkanes. (F)  $\delta\text{D}$  values (‰) of *n*-C<sub>23</sub> and *n*-C<sub>27-31</sub> alkanes. (G) Acid diatom ratios. (H) % terrestrial  
 334 diatoms. (I) Open water diatom ratios. (J) % biogenic silica (BSi). (K). C/N ratios. (L) % total organic  
 335 carbon (TOC). (M) Magnetic susceptibility (MS) expressed as  $10^{-6}$  SI units. All proxies are related to  
 336 the age scale on the x-axes.



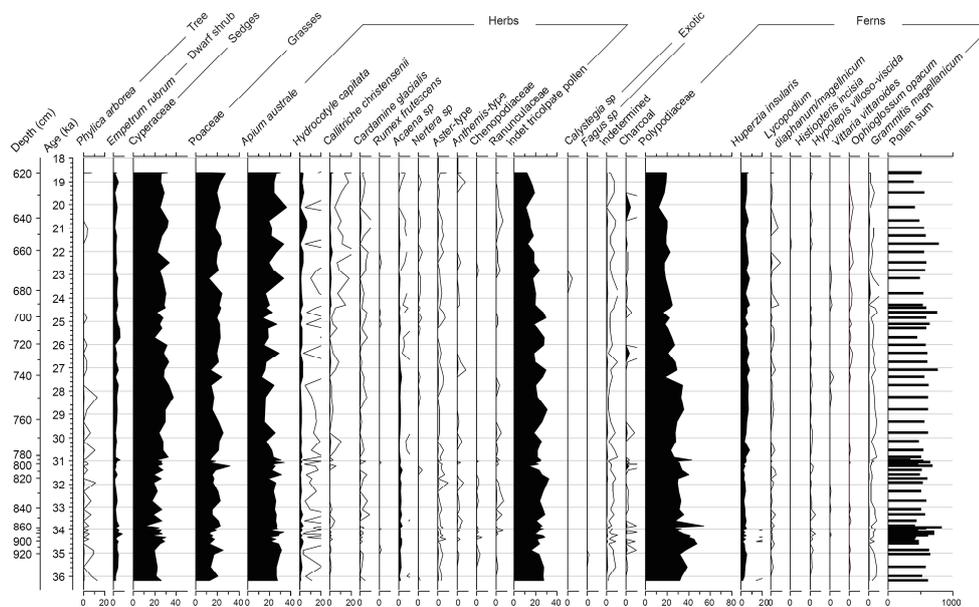
337 shown good concordance (Ljung et al., 2015; Ljung and Björck, 2007). Our age model (Fig.  
338 3) displays a mean sedimentation rate of  $0.18 \text{ mm yr}^{-1}$ , but with considerable variation.

339           A large set of proxy data from 1P (Figs. 4-5, Figs. S1-S3, Table S2) was  
340 analyzed and provides information about local changes such as soil conditions/erosion,  
341 weathering, vegetation composition, organic productivity, lake conditions and P/E ratios.  
342 Other proxies (GDGTs) display regional changes in temperature such as mean annual (MAT)  
343 and mean summer temperatures (MST) and hydroclimate conditions (deuterium isotopes),  
344 such as the source water of terrestrial and aquatic plants including evaporative conditions.  
345 Principal component analysis (PCA) was performed to investigate co-variability between  
346 proxies, showing the interplay of changes in hydroclimate driven by oceanic and atmospheric  
347 circulation changes (Fig. 6).

348           In agreement with the supposed minimum age of pond formation through  
349 volcanic activity (Anker Björk et al., 2011), the bottom of 1P has an age of  $36.4 \pm 0.3 \text{ ka}$ . Our  
350 temperature records (Fig. 4B) show an oscillating pattern, with the largest change at 27.5 ka,  
351 and share many similarities with the EDML curve (Fig. 4A). Before 27.5 ka MAT and MST  
352 vary between  $17\text{-}12^\circ\text{C}$  and  $21\text{-}17^\circ\text{C}$ , respectively, while the variation is between  $13\text{-}9^\circ\text{C}$  and  
353  $18.5\text{-}15.5^\circ\text{C}$ , respectively, after 27.5 ka. In terms of pollen as a local temperature indicator it  
354 is known that *Phyllica arborea*, *Acaena sarmentosa* and two Asteracea plant types are  
355 sensitive to cold conditions (Ryan, 2007). They make up warm pollen types at NI and the  
356 warm/cold pollen-types ratio (Fig. 4C) shows large variations until 31.4 ka, followed by a  
357 two-step decline largely in contrast to the spore abundance of the cold tolerant *Ophioglossum*  
358 *opacum* fern, and with a trend similar to the temperature curves. In comparison to Holocene  
359 sediments from NI (Ljung and Björck, 2007), the glacial pollen record from 1P (Fig. 5) shows  
360 less variability, and the most distinct difference is the very low abundance of the only tree  
361 species pollen on the island, the frost limited *P. arborea*. Based on lapse rates, with 65-130 m



362 lower sea levels 35-18 ka (Lambeck et al., 2014), and today's distribution of *P. arborea* on  
363 TdC and Gough Island (Ryan, 2007) we can estimate that its absence after 28 ka implies  
364 minimum winter temperatures at least 3°C lower than today, which agrees well with our MAT  
365 curve (Fig. 3B).



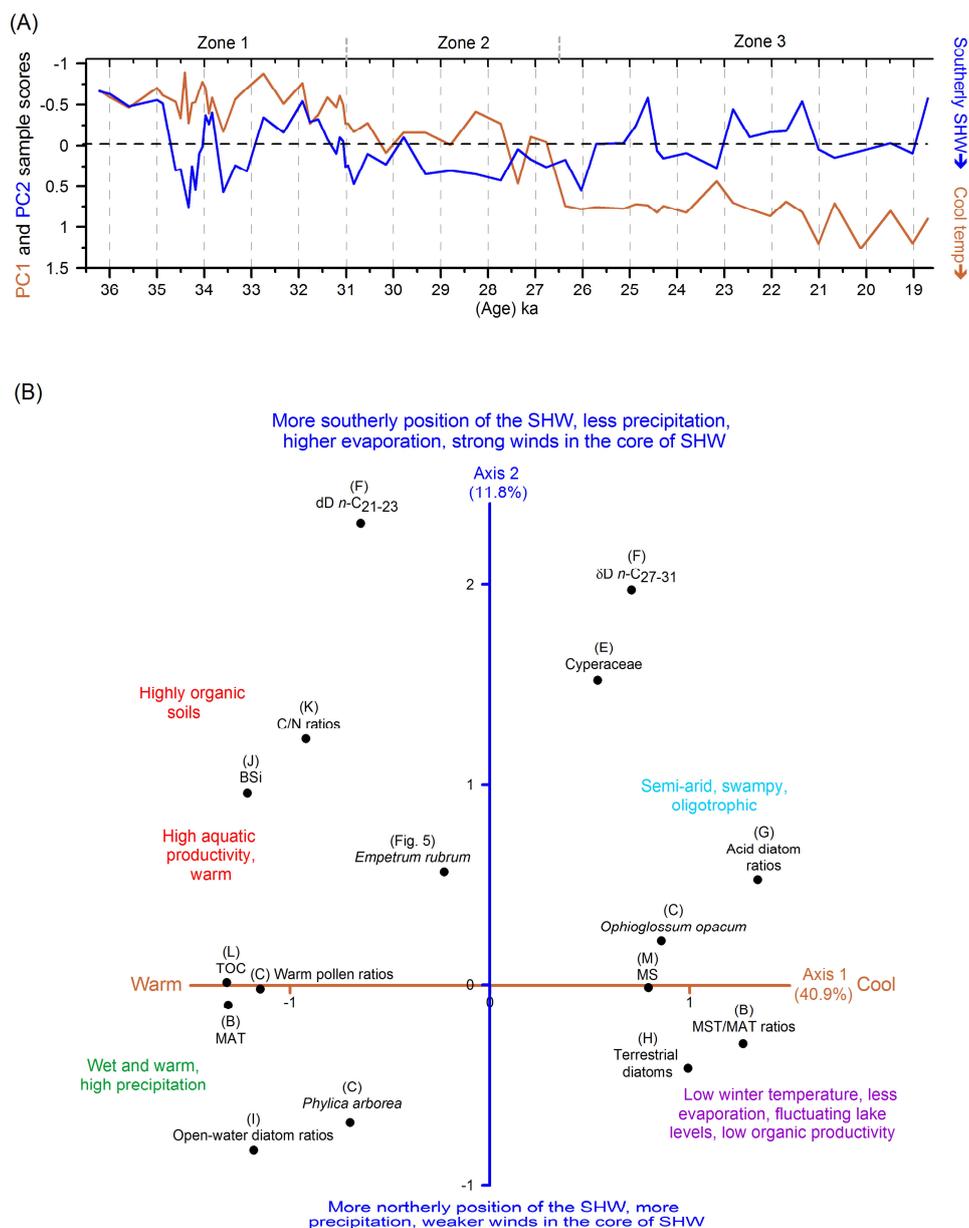
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368 **Figure 5.** Pollen diagram from 1<sup>st</sup> Pond, Nightingale Island. The diagram shows relative abundance (%)  
369 of the pollen taxa. Note that it is both related to depth (cm) and age (ka) on the y-axis, the latter according  
370 to the age-depth model in Fig. 3.  
371

372 To evaluate changes in the degree of weathered material we used a modified  
373 Chemical Index of Alteration (CIA) (Fig. 4D). The long-term development can be divided  
374 into three phases with initially low but very variable values until 31 ka, a second phase with  
375 stable intermediate CIA values until 27 ka, followed by higher and varying values (Fig. 4D).  
376 Magnetic susceptibility (MS) shows centennial-millennial oscillations superimposed on an  
377 increasing trend from the bottom to the top of the core (Fig. 4M), and is an indicator of in-  
378 washed mineral matter from magnetite-rich basaltic rocks of the catchment. The values of



379 total organic carbon (TOC) and biogenic silica (BSi) (Figs. 4L and J) reflect organic and  
380 aquatic productivity in and around the lake with highest values in the oldest section. TOC  
381 shows a general decline and BSi oscillates with higher values until 28 ka, after which it  
382 gradually drops. The fairly high C/N ratios (Fig. 4K), with a mean value of 17.6, show that  
383 organic matter is a mix of terrestrial and aquatic sources. The high and oscillating ratios in the  
384 older section followed by a gradual decline implies terrestrial sources dominating until 28 ka,  
385 after which time aquatic sources become more important. With respect to stable isotopes (Fig.  
386 S1), the high  $\delta^{15}\text{N}$  values imply a marine origin possibly related to presence of marine birds,  
387 such as Great Shearwater and Albatrosses which have a great impact on the Ponds today,  
388 suggesting a more or less continuous impact of SHW. Rising  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  values at 25.7 ka are  
389 consistent with the declining C/N ratios after 28 ka, i.e. more aquatic material with enriched  
390  $^{13}\text{C}$ , and possibly higher influence from  $\text{C}_4$  grasses.

391           Unlike the pollen record (Fig. 5), the diatom record shows large shifts and the 33  
392 diatom taxa (Fig. S2) have been classified into three environmental forms. Changes in these  
393 groups imply shifts in aquatic and environmental conditions in and around the lake. They  
394 show a lake with open water early in the record, followed by shifting lake levels between 35-  
395 33 ka (Fig. 4I), supported by  $\delta\text{D}$  values of long- and mid-chain *n*-alkanes (Fig. 4F). At 31 ka  
396 the open water ratios drop and reach a minimum at 29 ka, in anti-phase with the acid water  
397 diatom ratios (Fig. 4G), followed by a rise until 26.6 ka. Thereafter acid species dominate, as  
398 oligotrophic wetland encroached around the lake, while periods of more terrestrial diatoms  
399 imply episodes of in-washed diatoms from the surroundings. Around 21.2 ka more open water  
400 conditions prevail again with high ratios 19-18.6 ka, before the lake dried out (Ljung et al.,  
401 2015). The shifts in diatom communities shows that 1P went through substantial hydrologic  
402 changes, some of which were rapid, induced by changing P/E ratios, in contrast to the fairly  
403 stable vegetation around the lake as seen in the pollen record.



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**Figure 6.** Principal component analysis (PCA) of 16 proxies from 1<sup>st</sup> Pond. (A) Scores of the first two principal components related to age and the three PCA zones. Note that negative values point upwards and how PC1 and PC2 values relate to temperatures and SHW to the right y-axis. (B) PCA plot shows the loadings of the 16 proxies (shown as black dots and black text with reference to proxies in Fig. 4, except for *Empetrum rubrum*). PC1 (red brown) and PC2 (blue) accounts for 40.9 and 11.8% of the variance, respectively. The interpretations of the two axes are shown by red brown and blue texts, and the interpretations of the four segments are based on the combined positions of the proxies in the plot, and are shown in four different colors. MST/MAT=mean summer temperature/mean annual temperature, i.e. a proxy for low winter temperatures.

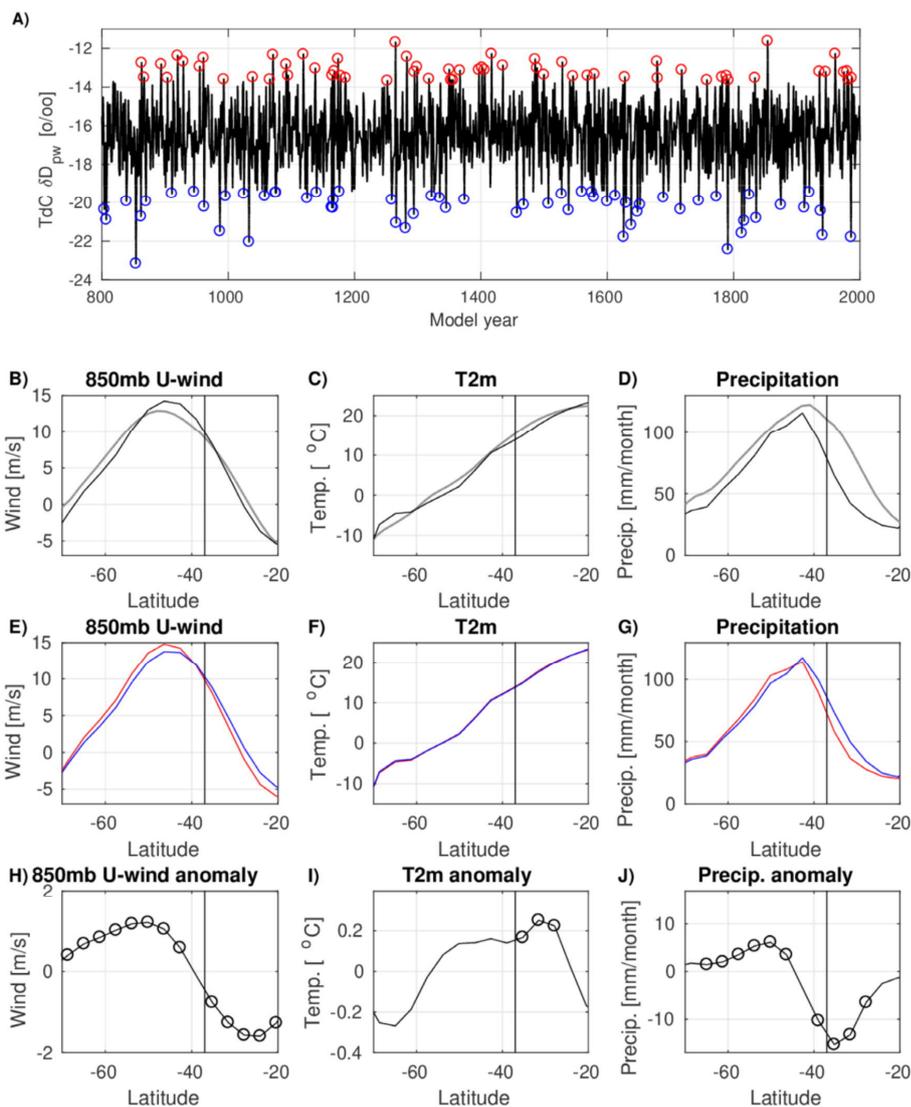


415 **4.2 Linking the Nightingale Island record to South Atlantic hydroclimate**  
416 The hydrological sensitivity of a basin like 1P makes it ideal to place local changes into the  
417 context of regional hydroclimate shifts. To analyze the variability through time Principal  
418 Component Analysis (PCA) was carried out on a data set with 16 hydroclimate-sensitive  
419 proxies resulting in 3 PCA zones (Fig. 6A). Note that resolution of the PCA record depends  
420 on the proxy with least common sample levels (Table S2), in this case biomarker analyzes.  
421 Therefore the temporal resolution of the PCA is not as high as some ice core and marine  
422 records. Based on the proxy loadings in the PCA plot (Fig. 6B), it can be divided into four  
423 different segments with variable hydroclimate and environmental conditions. The importance  
424 of temperature proxies on Axis 1 (40.9% of the variance) is obvious where reconstructed  
425 MAT, warm pollen ratios, *Phlylica arborea* pollen, BSi, TOC and open-water diatoms show  
426 warm humid conditions to the left (negative) in the biplot (Fig. 6B), vs cooler and drier to the  
427 right. The latter is accentuated by *Ophioglossum* spores, a fern growing at high and cold  
428 altitudes on TdC, and colder winter temperatures implied by the MST/MAT ratio. Axis 2  
429 (11.8% of the variance) is linked to hydrologic indicators being dominated by the  $\delta D$  values  
430 of the aquatic  $n\text{-C}_{21-23}$  and terrestrial  $n\text{-C}_{27-31}$  alkanes (Fig. 6B). We interpret higher  $\delta D$  values  
431 (positive axis 2 values) to show stronger influence of more local air masses, with more  
432 evaporation and semi-arid conditions, also shown by *Empetrum rubrum* pollen in the upper  
433 left quadrant, while the upper right quadrant of the plot shows an acid oligotrophic swampy  
434 setting. The segment to the lower right in Figure 6B displays cold conditions and in-wash of  
435 terrestrial diatoms as an effect of higher lake level during episodes of more precipitation. The  
436 lower left represents warm and wet conditions, implied by *P. arborea* pollen and open water  
437 diatoms, and in general, negative axis 2 values relate to more negative  $\delta D$  values.

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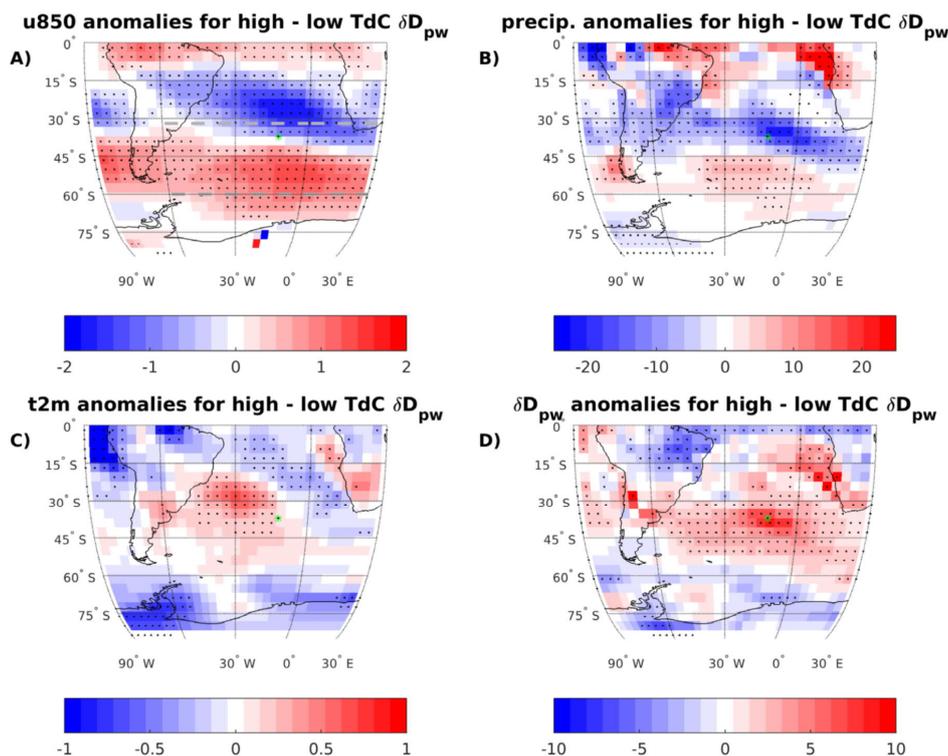


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442 **Figure 7.** Zonal mean changes in wind, temperature and precipitation related to  $\delta D$  variability at TdC.  
 443 A) Time series of simulated precipitation weighted annual mean  $\delta D$  at TdC, with values above and  
 444 below the 95<sup>th</sup> percentile indicated with red and blue circles, respectively. This selection of high and low  
 445  $\delta D$  is used to define the data in figures E-G. (B-D) Annual modeled (black) South Atlantic zonal mean  
 446 (30°W to 0°W) westerly wind speed (850mb U-wind, positive towards east), 2m temperature (t2m) and  
 447 precipitation compared to the 20<sup>th</sup> Century Reanalysis climatology 1981-2010 (Compo et al., 2011). (E-  
 448 G) Composites of annual modeled zonal mean (30°W to 0°W) westerly wind speed (850mb U-wind),  
 449 2m temperature (t2m) and precipitation for high (red) and low (blue)  $\delta D$  at TdC defined in (A). (H-J)  
 450 High-minus-low anomalies of model output are shown in (E-F). Circles indicate significant anomalies  
 451 ( $p < 0.01$ ) calculated using two-tailed Student's t-test. The vertical bars in (B-J) show the latitude of NI  
 452 at 37°S.



453 Observations of the isotopic content of precipitation are very sparse around TdC.  
454 Therefore we have investigated the hydroclimate variability with an isotope enabled climate  
455 model. To illustrate the relation between the position of the westerlies and the isotopic  
456 composition of precipitation at TdC in the simulation, we selected extreme values of high and  
457 low  $\delta D$  at TdC (Fig. 7A), and made composite anomalies of the annual mean westerly wind  
458 strength at 850mb (u850mb, Fig. 7A), precipitation (Fig. 7B), 2m temperature (t2m, Fig. 7C)  
459 and precipitation weighted  $\delta D$  (Fig. 7D) for high-minus-low  $\delta D$  at TdC. This shows that the  
460 variability of  $\delta D$  in precipitation at TdC is only weakly dependent on local temperature.  
461 Instead, shifts in  $\delta D$  at TdC are related to large scale changes in precipitation and the position  
462 of the westerlies. Positive  $\delta D$  anomalies at TdC imply a more southern position of the core of  
463 the westerlies with drier conditions at TdC, and negative  $\delta D$  anomalies at TdC denote a more  
464 northern position of the core of the westerlies bringing more polar air masses with wetter  
465 conditions at TdC. From Figs. 7 and 8, we note that the shifts in TdC precipitation are  
466 governed by the precipitation zone on the northern flank of the westerlies shifting with the  
467 position of the westerlies themselves. We therefore conclude that our model analysis shows  
468 that isotope variability in precipitation at TdC is mainly related to shifts in large scale  
469 circulation. High  $\delta D$  values at TdC imply a more southerly SHW position with stronger winds  
470 in its core, while low  $\delta D$  values show a more northerly SHW position with weaker winds  
471 (Figs. 7E and H). Our analysis also shows that high (low)  $\delta D$  values are related to less (more)  
472 precipitation at TdC, but shows little dependency on temperature (Figs. 7F and I, and 8C).  
473 The modelled relationship between  $\delta D$  and precipitation corresponds well to the PC2  
474 variability of the proxies (Fig. 6B); for example high PC2 and  $\delta D$  values relate to more  
475 Cyperaceae (lake overgrowth) and *Empetrum* pollen values (arid soils) and more acid diatoms  
476 (swampy), while low PC2 values relate to open-water (lake) and terrestrial (flushed-in)  
477 diatoms.



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479 **Figure 8.** Composite maps of changes in wind, precipitation, temperature and  $\delta D$  related to  $\delta D$   
480 variability at TdC, showing annual anomalies based on composites for high and low  $\delta D$  at TdC (see  
481 Figure 7A). A) Westerly wind speed (850mb U-wind, positive towards east, [m/s]). The dashed gray  
482 lines show the approximate northern and southern boundaries of the westerlies (850mb U-wind > 5 m/s)  
483 to clarify that high TdC  $\delta D$  is related to a southward shift in the westerlies. B) Precipitation [mm/month].  
484 C) 2m temperature (t2m, [°C]). D) precipitation weighted  $\delta D$  [%]. Stippling indicates significant  
485 anomalies ( $p < 0.01$ ) calculated using a two-tailed Student's t-test. The green spot shows the position of  
486 TdC.

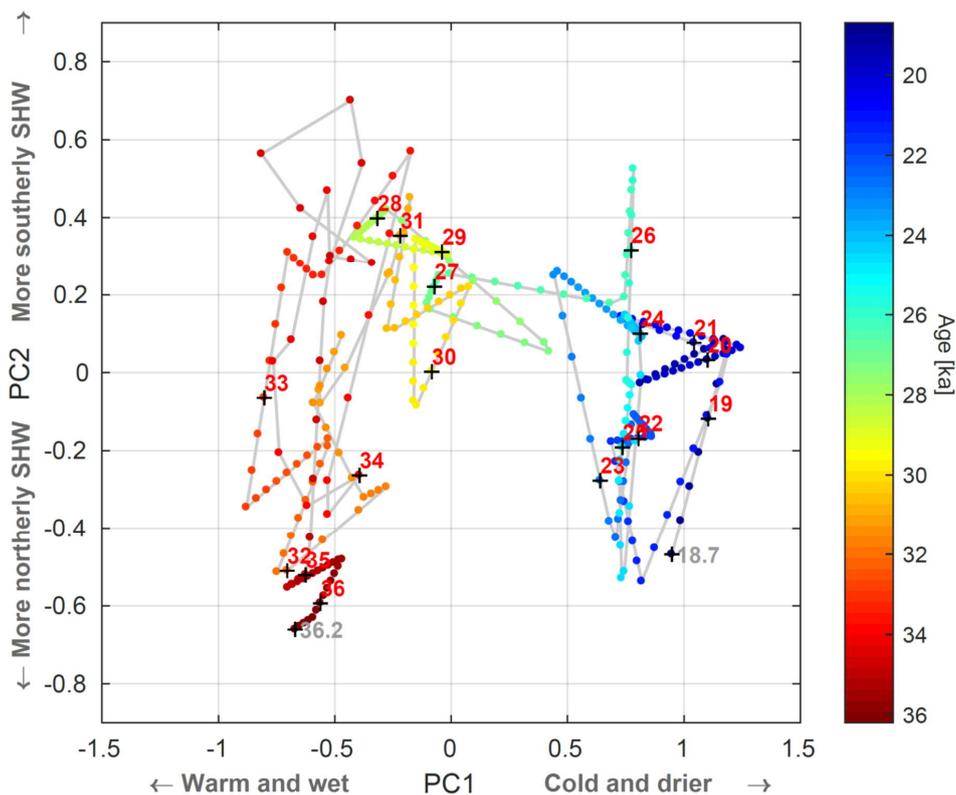
## 487 5 Hydroclimate correlations and interpretations

### 488 5.1 The large-scale hydroclimate pattern

489 The three PCA zones displayed in Figures 6A and 9, dated to 36.2-31.0, 31.0-26.5 and 26.5-  
490 18.6 ka, show a trend and pattern which is recognizable in much of our data set as well as in  
491 the EDML (Fig. 4A) and South Atlantic marine record (Fig. 10B). Zone 1 is fairly warm but  
492 oscillates between low and high PC2 values, related to more northerly and weaker SHW, and  
493 more local air masses with stronger westerlies in a more southern position, respectively. Zone



494 2 is generally more stable with some minor oscillations with more southerly SHW and  
495 corresponds largely to the fairly warm period in Antarctica with the three isotope maxima  
496 AIM4.1, AIM4 and AIM3 (Fig. 4A), and a stable and mild period in the South Atlantic marine  
497 realm (Fig. 10B). Zone 3 shows a cooling trend, also visible in the EDML and marine record,  
498 with variable SHWs. It appears that TdC was continuously influenced by the SHW, as shown  
499 by the absence of arid conditions and generally low  $\delta D$  values, verified by humid conditions  
500 in southwestern-most Africa throughout most of MIS3 and MIS2 (Chase and Meadows,  
501 2007). Apart from the resemblance between the long-term trends in Antarctic ice core data  
502 and marine data at 41°S in the South Atlantic (Barker and Diz, 2014) with our data it is, in  
503 spite of our lower resolution, interesting to compare our PC2 and  $\delta Dn-C_{C27-C31}$  records (Figs.  
504 4A and 10G) with other regional records related to SHWs. Taking age uncertainties of a few  
505 hundred years into account we note a resemblance with marine Fe fluxes at 42°S (Martínez-  
506 García et al., 2014) where low  $\delta D$  values (Fig. 10G) co-vary with high Fe fluxes (Fig. 10F)  
507 due to northerly SHW in a cooler Southern Hemisphere, thus expanding the Patagonian dust  
508 source. Similar co-variability can be seen in the  $\delta^{18}O$  record on fluid inclusions of SE  
509 Brazilian speleothems (Millo et al., 2017) where low values (Fig. 10E) imply strengthening of  
510 the monsoon shifting the South Atlantic atmospheric system southwards, including SHW. We  
511 also note that the Antarctic CO<sub>2</sub> record (Fig. 10C) and the [CO<sub>3</sub><sup>2-</sup>] record (Gottschalk et al.,  
512 2015) from the South Atlantic (Fig. 10D), inferring AMOC strength and Southern Ocean  
513 ventilation, share similarities with our SHW records, as described in the section below.  
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**Figure 9.** Parametric plot of the PC1 and PC2 sample values as a function of time shown by the color bar to the right. Red numbers denote each ka with grey numbers at the start and end of the plot. Data was interpolated to 50-year time steps to illustrate rate of change; the larger distance between dots the more rapid change. Note that the hydroclimate interpretations from Figure 6B are shown on the two PC axes.

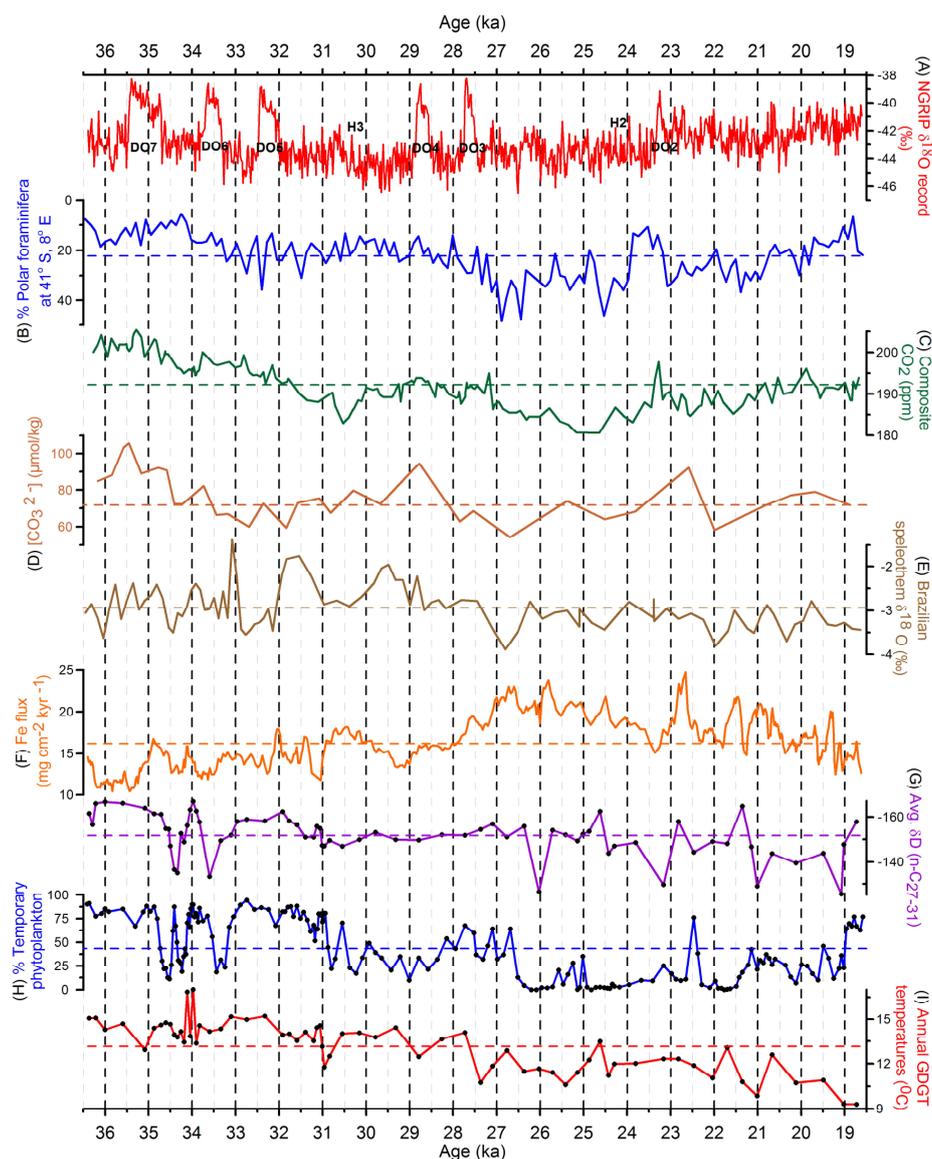
## 523 5.2 A detailed hydroclimate scenario for the central South Atlantic

524 Due to chronological uncertainties in all records, lower resolution in some records and the  
525 complex phase-relationships during abrupt interhemispheric climate shifts (Markle et al.,  
526 2016), detailed comparison of short-term variations across sites has to be treated with caution.  
527 In spite of these short-comings we will present a scenario based on our record and likely  
528 correlations.

529 The start of our record shows warm and wet conditions with northerly SHW,  
530 coinciding with the long and warm AIM7 followed by a cooling (Fig. 10J) at the onset of



531 DO7. This is followed by the very dynamic period 35-33 ka, shown by high sedimentation  
532 rates (Fig. 3) and peak variability in terms of both rapidity and amplitude (Fig. 9). Such  
533 variability is also seen in marine and ice core records, and in spite of the age uncertainties at  
534 34-35 ka (Fig. 3) we tentatively correlate this period in our record to the end of DO7 and the  
535 minimum between AIM6 and AIM7. This corroborates the overlaps and time lags that have  
536 been postulated for DO and AIM events (Markle et al., 2016; Pedro et al., 2018; WAIS  
537 Divide Project Members, 2015). At 34 ka we note a temperature peak at the onset of AIM6  
538 (Figs. 4 and 11) followed by falling temperatures,  $\delta D$ , Fe flux and  $CO_2$  values and high  
539 humidity (Figs. 10G, F, C and H). This change reflects northerly and weaker westerlies, with  
540 rising speleothem  $\delta^{18}O$  and WAIS  $d_{in}$  values (Figs. 10E and 11E), denoting the start of DO6  
541 with a warming of the NH (Fig. 10A). This caused northwards shifting ITCZ and SHW in line  
542 with the theory that the atmospheric circulation system moves towards the warmer  
543 hemisphere, responding to the change in the cross-equatorial temperature gradient (McGee et  
544 al., 2014). At 33.5 ka we see a southward SHW shift with rising temperatures and higher  $CO_2$   
545 and lower WAIS  $d_{in}$  values with dry conditions. We relate this to the onset of AIM5; a  
546 warming which is interrupted at 32.8 ka by a northerly SHW shift and wetter conditions (Figs.  
547 11F and 10H) possibly triggered by DO5. This partly continues until 31.7 ka when SHW  
548 moves south with a minor temperature rise (Fig. 11D) and decreasing humidity, possibly as a  
549 response to the post-DO5 cooling (Fig. 10A). The high variability and large amplitude of the  
550 changes of Zone 1 (Fig. 9) have facilitated conceivable correlations to other records. Based on  
551 these we can conclude that at large, PC2 implies northerly shift of the SHW during warm  
552 North Atlantic periods, and a more southerly position during warm periods in Antarctica, also  
553 in line with interpretation of Antarctic deuterium excess data (Markle et al., 2016).



554  
 555 **Figure 10.** Comparisons between other proxy records (A-F) and Nightingale Island proxies for SHW  
 556 (G), wetness (H) and temperature (I), with mean values as broken lines. (A)  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  values from the NGRIP  
 557 ice core (Andersen et al., 2006) showing DO and H events. Ice core records are on a common time scale  
 558 (Veres et al., 2013). (B) Abundance (%) of polar foraminifera at  $41^\circ\text{S}$  in the S Atlantic (Barker and Diz,  
 559 2014). (C) Composite Antarctic  $\text{CO}_2$  record from Siple Dome (Ahn and Brook, 2014) and WAIS (Stenni  
 560 et al., 2010). (D)  $[\text{CO}_3^{2-}]$  data at  $44^\circ\text{S}$  in the South Atlantic (Gottschalk et al., 2015). (E) Speleothem  $^{18}\text{O}$   
 561 record on fluid inclusions from SE Brazil (Millo et al., 2017). (F) Fe flux data in the South Atlantic at  
 562  $42^\circ\text{S}$  (Martínez-García et al., 2014). Then follow NI data, (G) Average  $\delta\text{D}$  values for the terrestrial  $n$ -  
 563  $\text{C}_{27-31}$  alkanes. (H) Abundance (%) of temporary phytoplanktonic diatoms implying relative water depth.  
 564 (I) Annual NI temperatures from the GDGT analyses. Note that that sample levels are shown by a dot  
 565 in (G)-(I) and that y-axes of (B) and (G) show higher values downwards to facilitate comparisons to  
 566 other proxies.



567                   The Zone 1/Zone 2 boundary at 31 ka (Fig. 6A) is a dynamic transition, shown  
568 by many proxies and peak sedimentation rates (Figs. 9 and 3). The 4.5 ka long and stable  
569 Zone 2 (Fig. 6A) is characterized by fairly high but slightly decreasing temperatures and as in  
570 Zone 1 a dominating southerly SHW position. It is possible, taking age uncertainties into  
571 account, that H3 at 30.5 ka (Fig. 10A) triggered the southbound SHW and the rising CO<sub>2</sub> and  
572 MAT values, and the reduced humidity between 31-30 ka (Figs. 11F, 10C, 10I and 10H). The  
573 following long and warm AIM4 may have stabilized conditions in the South Atlantic in spite  
574 of the DO4 event at 28.8 ka. This stability is also seen in marine records (Fig. 10B), and the  
575 rather stable southern position of the SHW agrees with the fairly high CO<sub>2</sub> values between 30-  
576 27.2 ka and with falling and rather low Fe fluxes (Fig. 10F). We also note higher lake  
577 evaporation from  $\delta D$  values of the aquatic *n*-C<sub>23</sub> (Fig. 4F), in concert with rising summer  
578 insolation (Fig. 11A). Around 27.5 ka we see a brief response in some of the proxies to the  
579 short DO3 event (Fig. 10A), such as the MAT and PC2 records (Figs. 11D and F) and is also  
580 noticeable in e.g. the marine and Brazilian monsoon records (Figs. 10B and E).

581                   The start of Zone 3 constitutes the most drastic change in our record (Figs. 6A  
582 and 9) but timing varies between proxies (Fig. 4). MAT, TOC and C/N ratios start to decrease  
583 already at 28 -27.5 ka, coinciding with DO3, the biologic proxies (Figs. 4C and G-J, Fig. S2)  
584 respond slightly later possibly because they do not react until certain hydroclimate thresholds  
585 for the vegetation and algae flora are reached. The Zone 2-3 transition is roughly  
586 simultaneous with the onset of LGM in Antarctica (Fig. 10C), when 1P switched from a lake  
587 to a wetland, coinciding with increased abundance of polar foraminifera at 41°S (Fig. 10B).  
588 This may be an effect of the STF moving north of TdC, a meridional shift comparable to what  
589 has been shown from the eastern Pacific (Kaiser et al., 2005). The fairly stable PC1 values  
590 show cool and less humid LGM conditions, while the variable PC2 values imply shifts in the  
591 position of SHW (Fig. 11F). There is also a good correspondence between our  $\delta D$  (*n*-C<sub>27-31</sub>)



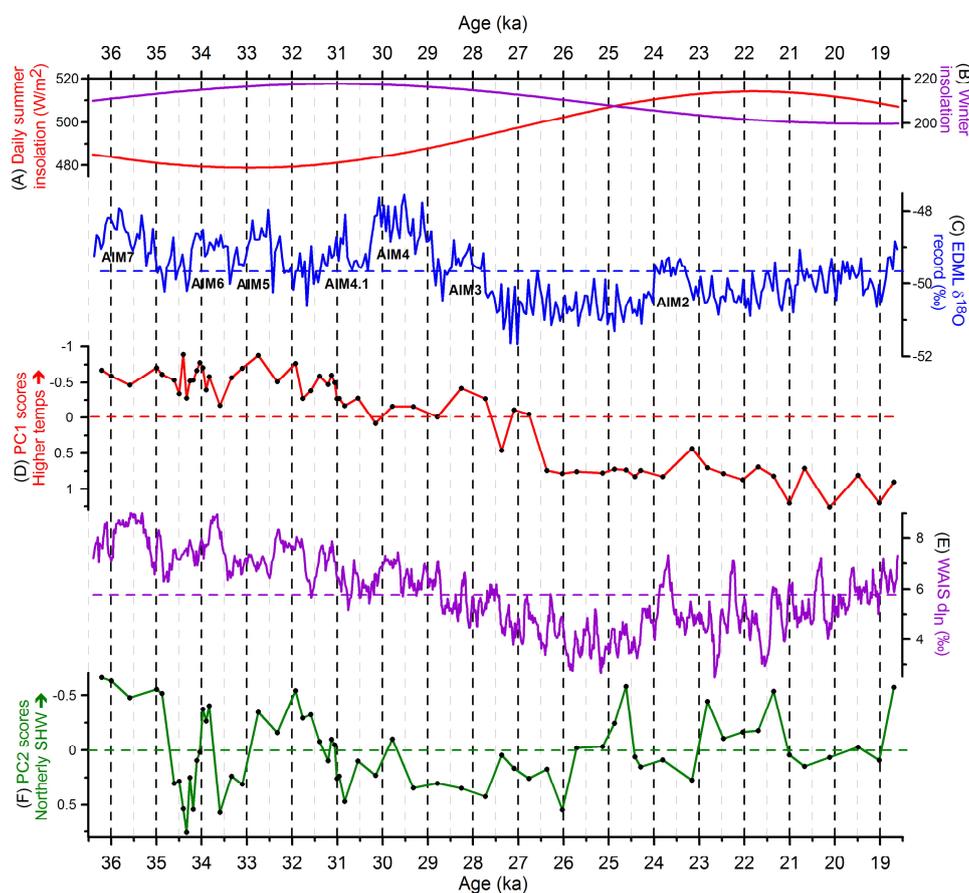
592 maxima after 27 ka and Fe flux minima from the South Atlantic (Figs. 10G-F), both indicating  
593 southerly shifts of SHW. During this period our data also show generally higher mean  $\delta D$  (n-  
594  $C_{27-31}$ ) values than in Zone 1, implying a more southern position of SHW during the Antarctic  
595 LGM, as seen in some modeling results (e.g. Sime et al., 2016). This is also compatible with  
596 the fact that the LGM temperature lowering in the Northern Hemisphere (Johnsen et al., 1995)  
597 was much larger than in the south (Stenni et al., 2010), shifting the atmospheric system to the  
598 south due to changes in the cross-equatorial gradient (McGee et al., 2014), as implied by the  
599 speleothem  $\delta^{18}O$  data (Fig. 10E) showing increased precipitation (Millo et al., 2017).

600           After 26.5 ka we note phases of less humid swampy oligotrophic conditions on  
601 NI at 26, 24.5-23, 22 and 20.5-19 ka (Fig. 10H) interrupted by periods of more or less open  
602 water, possibly driven by shifts of SHW. The former often show enriched  $\delta D$  values (Fig.  
603 10G), while the latter were characterized by higher precipitation and more depleted  $\delta D$   
604 values. Regarding the response of  $CO_2$  to these SHW shifts we note a fairly good agreement  
605 between low/falling  $CO_2$  values and a northerly SHW position, and vice versa. For example,  
606 the  $CO_2$  minimum at 24.5-25 ka (Fig. 10C) matches with an extreme northern SHW position  
607 (Figs. 10G and 11F), and the  $CO_2$  peak at 23.3 ka agrees with the end of a long phase of  
608 southwards moving SHW. The latter might have been triggered by the onset of H2 at 24.1 ka  
609 (Fig. 10A) followed by the inception of AIM2 (Fig. 11C).

610           The absence of *P. arborea* (Figs. 4C and 5) and our temperature proxies (Fig.  
611 4B) imply that minimum winter temperatures at our site were occasionally below zero,  
612 especially after 26 ka; periods of frost also explain increased weathering (Fig. 4D). Between  
613 23 and 19 ka the Antarctic winter sea ice reached 47°S in the South Atlantic (Gersonde et al.,  
614 2005), only some 1000 km south of TdC. Our 1P record shows a declining temperature trend  
615 during the end of this period (Fig. 10I), in contrast to rising temperatures in Antarctica and  
616 South Atlantic (Figs. 11C and 10B). This regional temperature anomaly may be explained by



617 the declining summer insolation at the latitude of Tristan da Cunha (Fig. 11A), and may also,  
618 at the end of LGM, be related to break-up of Antarctic ice shelves as sea levels rose, causing  
619 cooler conditions further north. In fact, temperature minima after 19 ka are seen in both our  
620 record and in marine data (Figs. 10I and B), as well as a  $\delta D$  minimum (Fig. 10G).



621 **Figure 11.** Comparison between our PC1 and PC2 records and other relevant data. (A and B) Mean daily  
622 summer and winter insolation at 37°S (Laskar et al., 2004). (C) EDML  $\delta^{18}O$  record (EPICA Community  
623 Members et al., 2006) with Antarctic Isotope Maxima (AIM). (D) PC1 scores implying temperature  
624 shifts at NI. (E) WAIS  $d_{in}$  values from west Antarctica (Markle et al., 2016). (F) PC2 scores indicate  
625 impact of SHW at NI. Note that sample levels, i.e. time resolution, for the PC records are shown as dots.  
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630 **5.3 A climate synthesis**

631 In general, our data implies two main climate modes for the study period, separated by a  
632 transition period 31-26.5 ka, Zone 2. This is displayed in Figure 9, with pre-LGM (Zone 1)  
633 clearly separated from the LGM period (Zone 3) on Axis 1, but also with higher variability of  
634 the pre-LGM period. This variability is possibly related to an active bipolar seesaw  
635 mechanism during Zone1/MIS3 even at the fairly low latitudes of TdC, triggering N-S shifts  
636 of SHW and related hydroclimate conditions. Any CO<sub>2</sub> effects from the rapid SHW shifts in  
637 Zone 1 are not discernible, but the dominating more northern SHW position may have  
638 resulted in the general CO<sub>2</sub> decline (Fig. 10C). With the onset of Zone 2 there may be a  
639 stronger link between CO<sub>2</sub> and SHWs. In view of carbon-cycle time lags, the mainly  
640 southerly positioned and more intense SHW at 31-27.5 ka (Fig. 11F) may have resulted in the  
641 rising and higher CO<sub>2</sub> concentrations at 30.5-27.2 ka (Fig. 10C), with more upwelling, CO<sub>2</sub>  
642 outgassing and less sea ice. The LGM mode is characterized by falling and low temperatures,  
643 lack of clear effects of the bipolar seesaw mechanism, possibly due to the much stronger  
644 cooling in the north as the cross-equatorial gradient changed. The variability is mainly related  
645 to proxies associated with SHW changes, as summarized by PC2, with a similarly high  
646 frequency variability of WAIS d<sub>in</sub> and Fe fluxes (Figs. 11E, 10F), with resulting CO<sub>2</sub>  
647 variability. However, a key difference between our SHW proxies (PC2) and the WAIS d<sub>in</sub>  
648 record is that the latter represents SHW variability superimposed on large scale temperature  
649 trends while our PC2 record reflects the SHW signal without temperature impact.

650 Thus, the largest change in our record occurs after 27.5 ka when the effects of  
651 the strong post-DO3 cooling of the Northern Hemisphere start dominating the hydroclimate of  
652 the South Atlantic with highly variable SHW after 25 ka ; possibly a prerequisite for the  
653 oscillating CO<sub>2</sub> levels after the CO<sub>2</sub> minimum at 25 ka (Fig. 10C).



654 **6. Conclusions**

655 Our 1P data, reflecting terrestrial and aquatic responses to shifting atmospheric conditions,  
656 show that the glacial hydroclimate of South Atlantic mid-latitudes experienced varying  
657 degrees of humidity, but with more or less continuous impact of SHW. Temperature  
658 conditions were in general warm but oscillating during MIS3, with shifting strength and  
659 positions of the westerlies. Weaker and northwards moving SHW at the onset of NH  
660 interstadials with stronger and southerly westerlies during NH stadials partly reflect the  
661 complex processes behind phase relationships between Greenland and Antarctic ice core  
662 climate records (Pedro et al., 2018). These shifts, possibly triggered by changes in the cross-  
663 equatorial gradient, are to some extent manifested by rising (falling) CO<sub>2</sub> levels when SHW  
664 was stronger (weaker) and located more towards the south (north), in line with Holocene  
665 records (Saunders et al., 2018). The largest variability in our record is seen during the fairly  
666 warm and humid period 36.5-31 ka with frequent and abrupt shifts, followed by a fairly stable  
667 period 31-27 ka with slowly declining temperatures and dominating southerly SHWs. The  
668 largest over-all change occurs after 27 ka, exhibited by a distinct cooling trend. This early  
669 mid-latitude cooling is in phase with LGM in Antarctica, consistent with some modeling  
670 results (Fogwill et al., 2015). We think this represents a mode shift in hydroclimate; from the  
671 highly variable MIS3 conditions through the more steady conditions 31-27 ka (Figs. 11D and  
672 F) into LGM with its cool and less humid climate, perhaps as a result of the SF moving north  
673 of TdC. The variable position of SHW (Fig. 11F), with particularly high  $\delta D$  values at 26, 23.1,  
674 21 and 19.1 ka (Fig. 10G), is noteworthy, inferring fairly sudden and distinct southerly shifts  
675 of the westerlies. The end of our record shows that cool conditions persisted in these SH mid-  
676 latitudes until at least 18.6 ka. This might have been a combined effect of declining summer  
677 insolation and northward shifting westerlies (Figs. 11A and F), conveying cold air masses, sea  
678 ice and ice bergs far north from collapsing Antarctic ice shelves (Weber et al., 2014).

679



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681 carried out sampling and XRF analyses and contributed with most writing, J.S. contributed with  
682 interpreting data, much writing, ran the isotope model experiment (ECHAM5-wiso/MPI-OM) and  
683 analyzed all modeling results, K.L. drilled and described cores, carried out sampling, analyzed C, N,  
684 <sup>13</sup>C, <sup>15</sup>N, pollen and contributed with writing, F.A. contributed with the age model and some writing,  
685 R.F. contributed with interpreting and analyzing diatom results and some writing, R.H.S. helped  
686 interpret biomarkers and hydrogen isotopes and contributed with some writing, M.E.K. analyzed XRF  
687 results and contributed with some writing, T.F.S. contributed with creative inputs and some writing,  
688 S.H. sampled and carried out diatom analyzes, H.J. carried out multivariate statistics, Y.K.K.A.  
689 analyzed biomarkers and hydrogen isotopes, R.M. calculated insolation values and contributed with  
690 little writing, J.E.R. carried out biomarker analyses and calibrated the GDGTs and N.V.d.P. carried out  
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712 **References**

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