1	Glacial to deglacial reservoir ages of surface waters in the southern South Pacific
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19 Plain Language Summary

This study is focused on the time coordinate of paleoclimate research. It employs an 20 advanced tuning technique to age-classify glacial-to-deglacial ocean sediments with 21 22 semi-millennial resolution and a new level in dating accuracy. The method is based on age-calibrated suites of atmospheric radiocarbon plateaus that are reflected by 23 24 analogous radiocarbon plateaus obtained from planktic foraminifers sampled in sediment 25 cores at centennial-scale resolution. The results provide a novel record of short-term 26 changes in the radiocarbon age of dissolved carbon and ventilation, i.e. the 'reservoir 27 age' of ocean surface waters. Such proxy records document variations in ocean 28 circulation and mixing, now established at four sites along the western and eastern 29 margins of the subpolar South Pacific. The age tie points are confirmed in a sediment 30 core off Chile by independently dated marine ash layers. Our results provide precise 31 stratigraphic correlations across the ocean and with paleoclimate records of Antarctic ice 32 cores. In particular, the age records support the model of "bipolar seesaw" at the onset 33 of rapid deglacial Antarctic warming coeval with the onset of the Heinrich cold spell in the North Atlantic, moreover, with the Antarctic Cold Reversal that preceded the onset of the 34 35 Younger Dryas cold spell in the northern Hemisphere.

37 Abstract

Ocean sediment records document abrupt changes in glacial-to-deglacial circulation 38 and mixing of the ocean, recorded as changes in ¹⁴C reservoir ages of surface waters. 39 40 Here we present ¹⁴C-based high-resolution age records of four sediment cores derived by means of ¹⁴C plateau tuning. This provides a detailed and precise stratigraphic 41 42 correlation between the western and eastern South Pacific and paleoclimate records of Antarctic ice cores as well as ¹⁴C reservoir ages. The accuracy and precision of plateau 43 tuning are confirmed in two sediment cores off Chile; in one core by independent land-44 45 based age control of four tephra layers, in a second core by a suite of glacial sediment varves. During glacial times, high reservoir ages reaching up to ~1500 yr may reflect 46 47 seasonal sea ice and/or a melt water lid at high latitudes both east of New Zealand and 48 off southern Chile and may be linked to northward advection of upwelled old subsurface 49 waters from the Polar Frontal Zone. Our results support the model of a bipolar seesaw at the onset of rapid deglacial Antarctic warming, moreover, they show that the Antarctic 50 51 Cold Reversal immediately preceded the onset of the Younger Dryas cold spell.

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54 Introduction

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Glacial-to-interglacial changes in atmospheric pCO₂ are considered to be strongly 56 57 affected by atmosphere-ocean mixing processes in the Southern Ocean. During the Last Glacial Maximum (LGM) a more extended and prolonged sea-ice cover, northward 58 shifted Southern Hemisphere westerlies (Kohlfeld et al., 2013; Lamy et al., 2019), and 59 60 reduced deep-water mixing (Skinner et al., 2015) led to an enhanced stratification of the deep Southern Ocean and reduced air-sea gas exchange (Sigman et al., 2010, Marcott 61 62 et al., 2014) which implies a pronounced sequestration of CO₂ in circumpolar deep waters (e.g., Sarnthein et al., 2013; Ronge et al., 2016; 2020; Marzocchi and Jansen, 63 2019, Khatiwala, et al., 2019). The beginning of the last glacial termination in Antarctica 64 65 at 17,600-17,800 calibrated years ago (17.6-17.8 cal. ka) (Kawamura et al., 2007; 66 Buizert et al., 2018; Marcott et al., 2014) was linked to changes in overturning circulation of the deep Southern Ocean and a southward shift of the Southern Hemisphere 67 68 westerlies (Denton et al., 2010; Toggweiler et al., 2006; Lamy, et al., 2007; Siani et al., 2013; Timmermann et al., 2014) that probably led to a southward shift of upwelling 69 70 zones along the Antarctic Polar Frontal Zone and probably off western South America. These shifts went along with four distinct events of CO₂ outgassing (18.2-17.5; 17.4-71 72 16.7; 16.3-16.2; 14.75-14.53 cal. ka) from deep- ocean and permafrost reservoirs into 73 the atmosphere as documented in Antarctic ice core records (Marcott et al., 2014). Events 1 and 2 paralleled a rapid drop in atmospheric δ^{13} C (Lourantou et al. 2010; 74 Schmitt et al., 2012, Bronk Ramsey et al., 2012, Bauska et al., 2018) induced by an 75 abrupt degassing of the deep ocean, also reflected by two atmospheric ¹⁴C plateaus 76 (Moy et al., 2019; Martinez-Fontaine et al., 2019; Sarnthein et al., 2020). 77

79 The knowledge of local ¹⁴C reservoir ages, that is the difference between the ¹⁴C age of marine surface waters and that of the contemporaneous atmosphere, is crucial to 80 establish robust age control of past changes in surface and deep-water masses. Simple 81 82 linear age correlations between ¹⁴C based age tie points potentially contain large errors up to several hundred years, since they do not consider the numerous fast but 83 significant temporal and spatial changes in ¹⁴C concentration both of surface waters 84 85 and the atmosphere (Sarnthein et al., 2015, 2020, accepted). Due to this lack of precision in centennial-scale age control the resulting age estimates in cal. years may 86 87 hamper the quantification of the actual leads and lags, phasings and anti-phasings, 88 and/or delayed response of proxy-based paleoceanographic signals compared to, for example, ice core and speleothem-based time series independent of ¹⁴C dating. 89 90 Accurate age relationships, however, are crucial for properly assessing the processes 91 responsible for the shifts of carbon between different reservoirs.

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93 On the basis of closely spaced age tie points surface water reservoir ages themselves may serve as a prime tracer to constrain past changes in surface water ventilation 94 (Sarnthein et al. 2015, 2020; Balmer et al., 2016; Skinner et al., 2019). 95 Reservoir/ventilation ages may provide intriguing insights into related changes in 96 97 upwelling and stratification processes as well as in variations of local surface water 98 productivity and the inventory of dissolved inorganic carbon (DIC). These insights may contribute to a better understanding of changes in atmospheric δ^{13} C that document the 99 100 carbon release from the Ocean (Schmitt et al. 2012, Bauska et al. 2018).

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102 The precise specification of temporal variations in ¹⁴C reservoir ages is crucial for the 103 global correlation of surface ocean changes such as sea surface temperature (SST) at 104 centennial timescales and their link to terrestrial records including ice-cores (e.g., Pahnke et al., 2003, 2005; Lamy et al., 2007; De Pol-Holz et al., 2010; Martinez-105 106 Fontaine et al., 2019). Even at high sedimentation rates and high sampling resolution most records are hampered by the lack of narrow-standing tie points for absolute age 107 control, and hence may fail to precisely constrain the timing of rapid changes in 108 oceanography on centennial to millennial time scales. Previous chronologies that used 109 110 age tie points such as a correlation of paleoclimate events to incremental time-scales of nearby ice cores (e.g., Pahnke et al., 2003) and/or that of independently dated ash 111 112 layers (tephras) (Rose et al., 2010, Sikes et al., 2016) may suffer from a large uncertainty range of the age estimates, moreover, from their wide spacing of up to 5000 113 114 yr and more.

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To circumvent this problem, more accurate ¹⁴C-based correlation of paleoclimatic 116 records can be achieved using a great number of robust tie points spaced over semi-117 millennials such as given by the narrow standing jump and plateau structures in the 118 Suigetsu atmospheric ¹⁴C record (Bronk Ramsey et al., 2012; Sarnthein et al., 2007, 119 2015, and 2020, accepted) in order to constrain regional reservoir age changes. Here 120 we use this suite of atmospheric ¹⁴C plateau boundaries as a reference record for global 121 122 correlations reaching far beyond the tree ring-based evidence of the last 14 cal. ka, back 123 to the base of the Last Glacial Maximum (LGM) near 27.5 cal. ka. In particular, we employ the technique of ¹⁴C plateau tuning to four high-resolution sediment records 124 from the western and two from the eastern continental margins of the South Pacific. In 125 126 particular, sediment record MD07-3088 from the Chile continental Margin offers a unique opportunity to compare our ¹⁴C plateau-based chronology to age estimates 127

independently derived from four pre-Holocene tephra layers (Siani et al. 2013; Haddamet al., 2018).

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131 The high-resolution chronology of four sediment cores from the Subantarctic South

132 Pacific may help to constrain the following major objectives of paleoclimate research:

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To facilitate detailed temporal comparisons of paleoceanographic records to
 paleoclimate records of Antarctic ice-cores.

To quantify local and regional short-term changes in surface water reservoir ages of
 sediment sections along the eastern and western continental margins of the
 southern South Pacific.

In particular, to use these ages to uncover the differential evolution of stratification
 and overturning as well as the admixture of old subsurface waters along the Chilean
 continental margin in comparison to features observed off New Zealand.

To better define the timing of past changes in zonal ocean circulation along the
 Antarctic Circumpolar Current (ACC) that may help to constrain shifts in the position
 of the mid-latitude Westerly belt off Chile.

To reconstruct past local changes such as the advection of coastal waters and sea
 ice from Chilean fjords linked to past advances and retreats of the peak glacial
 Patagonian ice-sheet and a peak-glacial incursion of Antarctic icebergs in front of
 southern New Zealand.

To derive the accurate pacing that controlled the outgassing or uptake of carbon in
the Southern Ocean. This target demands a centennial-scale accuracy in age
control.

153 **Regional Setting**

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Two of our sediment records are located in the SW Pacific off Southern New Zealand, 155 at the northern margin of the Bounty Trough (PS75-104) and, further offshore, near the 156 157 mouth of this trough (SO213-76). Both sites are located in Subantarctic surface waters (Fig. 1) within the northern ACC. East of Southern New Zealand, Subantarctic surface 158 waters impinge on a near-shore narrow tongue of salty subtropical waters advected 159 from the north, a major conversion named Subtropical Front (STF) that forms the 160 northern boundary of the Southern Ocean (Bostock et al., 2013). To the north the flow 161 162 path of the Subantarctic inflow is topography-locked by the Chatham Rise, a ridge in the south separated from the Campbell Plateau by the deep Bounty Trough (Heath et 163 164 al., 1981; Crundwell et al., 2008). Below 2000 m depth a strong Deep Western Boundary 165 Current (DWBC) moves a volume of ~20 Sv branching off from deep parts of the ACC, a current that forms the source of Antarctic deep waters entering the West Pacific 166 (Schmitz, 1995). During the last glacial, the patterns of surface water hydrography were 167 shifted northward but blocked by the Chatham Rise (e.g., Bostock et al., 2013). 168

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The hydrography along the continental margin of South Chile is influenced by ACC surface waters. Their northern branch of the ACC approaches the Chilean coast at 40°– 50°S (Fig. 1), where it bifurcates into a northern branch, the Peru-Chile-Current (PCC), and a southern branch, the Cape Horn Current (CHC) (Strub et al. 1998, Chaigneau and Pizarro, 2005). Core sites MD07-3088 and PS97-137 document past changes in PCC and CHC surface waters, respectively (Fig. 1). Deep-water currents include southward flowing Pacific Deep Water (PDW) sandwiched between northward flowing Antarctic Intermediate Waters (AAIW, 400–1200 m) and Antarctic deep and bottom
waters below 3000 m (Reid, 1973; Tsuchiya and Talley, 1998).

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180 During the last glacial, the southern Andean hinterland of both core sites was largely covered by the Patagonian Ice Sheet extending from 56°S up to 38°S and reaching the 181 coastline south of 43°S with glaciers that formed deep fjords along the Chilean coast 182 183 (Glasser and Jansson, 2008). Close to the Pacific margin of the Patagonian Ice Sheet, melt waters, rivers, and the outflow from fjords probably formed a fresh-water lid on the 184 185 proximal surface ocean and delivered some ice-rafted debris (IRD) (Caniupan et al., 2011). Though there is a general consensus on ocean changes largely following an 186 "Antarctic timing" along the Chilean margin (e.g., Lamy et al., 2007 and 2015, Caniupan 187 188 et al., 2011, Haddam et al., 2018), on sub-millennial scales, the details of last glacialto-deglacial changes in Pacific near-shore hydrography off Chile still remain somewhat 189 uncertain. This is mainly related to a lack of robust ¹⁴C reservoir ages constraining both 190 an accurate radiocarbon-based chronology and short-term but distinctive changes in 191 192 surface water ventilation.

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At the Chile continental margin, local records of IRD and SST suggest a glacial advance of ice transport that culminated near the end of the LGM, 19–18 cal. ka, and during the Antarctic Cold Reversal (ACR) near 14–13 cal. ka (Caniupan et al., 2011; Darvill et al., 2016). Ice advances then were probably tied to both a northward shift of the west wind belt and enlarged melt water lids and seasonal spreading of sea ice near Chile that resulted in more stratified surface waters of the easternmost subpolar Pacific (Kohlfeld et al., 2013, Lamy et al., 2015).

202 Material and Methods

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204 Our study is based on four hemipelagic sediment cores from the South Pacific (Table 1, Fig. 1). As required by the ¹⁴C plateau tuning method (Sarnthein et al., 2007; Balmer 205 206 and Sarnthein, 2017) the cores show on average high sedimentation rates of >10, in 207 part >100 cm/kyr (Fig. 2a-d). These high rates are needed to compare centennial-scale ¹⁴C records of planktic foraminifera with plateau structures of coeval atmospheric ¹⁴C 208 209 concentrations measured on plant macrofossils of the Lake Suigetsu section (Bronk Ramsay et al., 2012). In this way we deduce changes in planktic ¹⁴C reservoir age (or 210 211 'reservoir effect' sensu Alves et al., 2018, or Marine Reservoir Age, MRA) for peak 212 glacial and deglacial times. Occasional tephra layers independently dated nearby on land provide additional evidence in support of the age control deduced by ¹⁴C plateau 213 214 tuning.

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Sediment samples were freeze dried, washed over a 63 µm sieve, and finally cleaned 216 217 with deionized water. Monospecific planktic foraminifera tests of Globigerinoides bulloides (250-315 µm) and/or Cibicidoides wuellerstorfi (150-400 µm) were picked for 218 stable-oxygen isotopes (δ^{18} O). In Core PS75-104-1 an initial stratigraphic assessment 219 was established by a record of X-Ray fluorescence (XRF) -based Calcium counts 220 (AVAATECH core scanner, AWI). Stable oxygen and carbon isotopes were analyzed 221 on 6-12 clean specimens of G. bulloides each with a Finnigan MAT 253 mass 222 spectrometer equipped with a Kiel IV Carbonate Device. On the basis of the initial age 223 model we selected G. bulloides samples for accelerator mass spectrometry (AMS) ¹⁴C 224 analyses. In the first part of our project, 3-7 mg graphitized carbonate samples of cores 225 226 PS75-104-1 and SO213-76 were analyzed at the Keck Laboratory of the University of California Irvine. Subsequently, for each sample, we analyzed CO₂ gas of 0.6–1 mg carbonate at the Mini Carbon Dating System (MICADAS) facility of the AWI. Our data are complemented by a planktic δ^{18} O record and ¹⁴C ages of ~30 *G. bulloides* samples of Core MD07-3088, that were taken from Siani et al. (2013) and Haddam et al. (2018).

232 Age Control Based on ¹⁴C Plateau Tuning Technique

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Atmospheric ¹⁴C jumps and plateau boundaries in the ¹⁴C record of Lake Suigetsu (SG) 234 provide a suite of >25 age tie points between 10 and 27 cal. ka to correlate local and 235 236 global changes in paleoceanography to variations in global climate (Sarnthein et al., 2007; 2015). For age control we employ the modeled SG06₂₀₁₂ time scale of Bronk 237 Ramsey et al., (2012). This scale is based on a correlation of Hulu Cave U/Th ages and 238 239 has turned out as best reproducible basis for age calibrations, superior to microscopybased varve counts (Sarnthein et al., 2020 accepted). The uncertainty of U/Th model-240 based age estimates rises from ~±20 at 10 cal. ka, ~±65 yr at 26 cal ka, to to ±95 yr at 241 242 29 cal ca. The error of atmospheric plateau boundary ages (half the age distance between two neighbor ages in the Suigetsu record) reaches a maximum of $140/2 = \pm 70$ 243 cal. yr. Sediment ages between upper and lower plateau boundaries are derived by 244 245 means of linear interpolation.

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A suite of ¹⁴C ages is named "¹⁴C plateau" if these ages form a scatter band with almost constant values, where the overall gradient is significantly lower than one ¹⁴C year per calendar year, either based on visual inspection and/or on statistical evaluation by means of the first derivative of all downcore changes in the ¹⁴C age – calendar age relationship (Sarnthein et al., 2015). Apart from up to 10% outliers (located outside the scatter bands of ¹⁴C ages framed as plateau 'boxes') ¹⁴C plateaus show an age variance of less than ± 100 to ± 300 ¹⁴C years and extend over more than 300 years in the Suigetsu atmospheric ¹⁴C record and equivalent sediment sections of planktic ¹⁴C records. Prior to 25 cal. ka, the variance is reaching up to 500 ¹⁴C years.

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To obtain a rough initial stratigraphic guideline for splicing the succession of planktic ¹⁴C plateaus to pertinent plateaus in the Suigetsu atmospheric reference record, we use planktic and/or benthic oxygen isotope (δ^{18} O) records, at Site PS75-104 a record of Xray fluorescence (XRF)-based Ca counts (a record of biogenic CaCO₃ content) to identify age-calibrated intervals such as the ACR, the early deglacial and LGM. In case of uncertainties in plateau assignment, the planktic ¹⁴C reservoir ages derived from plateau tuning are kept as low as possible (Sarnthein et al., 2007).

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In Core MD07-3088 we use tephra layers equivalents which have been ¹⁴C dated on land, as independent age markers (Siani et al., 2013; Haddam et al., 2018). The same applies to a tephra layer in Core SO213-76 east of Southern New Zealand (Ronge et al., 2016).

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The basic assumption of the ¹⁴C plateau tuning technique is that the fine structure of fluctuations of the global atmospheric ¹⁴C concentration record can also be found in the surface ocean. Here we refer to the origin and interpretation of planktic ¹⁴C plateaus, assuming a global atmospheric origin with local atmospheric and oceanographic forcings. The series of planktic ¹⁴C plateaus and jumps and their plateau-specific structures in a (hemipelagic) sediment age-depth record form a well-defined suite for which absolute age and reservoir age are derived by means of a strict alignment to the reference suite of global atmospheric ¹⁴C plateaus as a whole. Initially, age tie points of
 the stable-isotope records serve as stratigraphic guideline for the alignment. Planktic
 reservoir ages and their short-term changes are derived from the difference in (average)
 ¹⁴C age between atmosphere and surface waters in subsequent plateaus.

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To avoid arbitrariness and to stay close to modern estimates for low latitude waters 282 283 (Sarnthein et al., 2007) reservoir ages are kept at a minimum unless paired stringent evidence (e.g., paired benthic ¹⁴C ages) requires otherwise. A close correspondence 284 285 between ¹⁴C concentrations in atmosphere and surface ocean is expected based on rapid gas exchange. In several cases, however, deviations of the specific length and 286 structure of a planktic ¹⁴C plateau from those of the pertinent atmospheric plateau within 287 288 the suite of atmospheric plateaus indicate temporary local intra-plateau changes of reservoir age. Such changes may result from local changes in ocean atmosphere 289 exchange and in oceanic mixing. As a rule, the use of the suite of plateaus in this case 290 291 still provides valuable information because major millennial-scale changes in reservoir age, induced by climate change, are more widely spaced than the length of most 292 individual ¹⁴C plateaus (400-1100 yr; Sarnthein et al., 2020), which keeps plateaus 293 recognizable. Abrupt changes in gas exchange or ocean mixing usually affect one or 294 295 only a few plateaus of the suite. Absolute age estimates within a plateau are derived by 296 linear interpolation between the age of the base and top of an undisturbed plateau assuming linear sedimentation rates. The potential impact of short-term sedimentation 297 pulses on the formation of ¹⁴C plateaus has largely been discarded by Balmer and 298 299 Sarnthein (2016).

As indicated above, uncertainties in the age control of plateau boundaries are generally lower than 70 cal. yr (details in Sarnthein et al., 2020, based on Bronk Ramsey et al., 2012). Uncertainties in planktic ¹⁴C reservoir ages are calculated by Gaussian error propagation including the uncertainties of calibrated age of each ¹⁴C plateau at Suigetsu plus that of the coeval planktic ¹⁴C plateau as well as the measurement error of each planktic ¹⁴C date (Table 2).

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As a valuable byproduct the high-resolution planktic ¹⁴C records help to detect millennial-scale hiatuses in marine sediment records generally missed by conventional stratigraphic techniques but revealed as far more frequent than commonly assumed.

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312 **Results**

313 **Core PS75-104-1** (upper continental slope off Southern New Zealand)

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Küssner et al. (2018) gave a detailed account of the top 120-long cm of sediment and ¹⁴C records of Core PS75-104-1. The records are now extended down to 220 cm depth (Fig. 2a; Suppl. Table S2). XRF-based Ca counts and (raw) ¹⁴C ages show carbonaterich Holocene sediments from 0 to 25 cm. Below, decreasing carbonate contents mark the deglacial section down to 85 cm depth on top of carbonate-poor peak glacial sediments that reach down to ~250 cm depth.

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Based on visual inspection we can separate two populations of planktic ¹⁴C ages: Age population (1) consists of a suite of eight narrow plateau-shaped scatter bands of the maximum ¹⁴C ages found in each sediment section (blue dots in Fig. 2a), plateaus that can be tuned to Suigetsu atmospheric plateaus number 1 to 4 and 6a to 8. Altogether 326 the ¹⁴C plateau boundaries result in 14 age tie points that encompass a time span of about 14.1 to 24.3 cal. ka (Table 2a). Also, they include a minor hiatus near 19.6-21 327 cal. ka, where we assume a loss of Plateaus 5a and b to avoid potential reservoir ages 328 329 higher than 2000 years (Suppl. Table S1). This definition follows the rule always to derive the lowest-possible reservoir age (Sarnthein et al., 2007); in this case, we choose 330 double plateau 6a and 6b instead of subsequent plateaus 5a and 5b. – The boundary 331 between ¹⁴C plateaus 6b and 7 is poorly defined because of ¹⁴C ages biased by 332 333 downcore burrowing activity outlined below.

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Age population (2) consists of a cone-shaped array of 'aberrant' ¹⁴C ages that extend from ~30 down to 180 cm core depth (red dots in Fig. 2a) and reflect the burrowing activity of *Zoophycos* (Küssner et al., 2018). The slight rise of these ages shows a gradually increasing incorporation of older foraminifera tests from the ambient host sediment. The age offset between younger foraminifera tests in the burrows and those picked from the adjacent host sediment (i.e., ¹⁴C age population no. 1) varies from 900 yr near the top up to ~6000 ¹⁴C yr in deeper parts of the burrow.

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Different from Küssner et al. (2018), who used Suigetsu microscopy-based varve counts 343 344 to derive cal. ages, the age tie points now are calibrated to U/Th model-based ages that 345 have been transferred from the Hulu Cave record to the Suigetsu record by Bronk Ramsey et al. (2012; reasons for the revision detailed in Sarnthein et al., 2020). 346 Resulting sedimentation rates vary from >10-35 cm/kyr during the LGM and 16-19 347 348 cm/kyr during the late deglacial, but drop to ~3 cm/kyr during the latest deglacial and Holocene. A minimum in sediment deposition also applies to the section between 349 Plateau 2b and 3. Prior to 23 cal. ka, a lack of pertinent planktic ¹⁴C data prevents us 350

351 from defining the lower boundary of Plateau 8 and accurate sedimentation rates.

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Surface water reservoir ages equivalent to the difference between the average ¹⁴C ages of associated planktic and atmospheric ¹⁴C plateaus, vary between 1650 and 1030 ¹⁴C yr during peak glacial times, near 1100 yr at early deglacial plateaus 2a–3, and amount to ~800 yr at Plateau 1. After 14 cal. ka, the raw gradient of ¹⁴C ages suggests that they probably drop significantly (Figs. 2a and 3).

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359 **Core SO213-76-2** (Bounty Trough east of New Zealand)

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The benthic δ^{18} O record of Site SO213-76 reflects a 230 cm thick section of Holocene 361 and deglacial sediments. Below they pass into glacial sediments reaching down to 600 362 cm and farther below (Fig. 2b). Off New Zealand modern benthic ¹⁴C and δ^{18} O signals 363 of deep waters at 4340 m may be delayed because of global meridional overturning 364 365 circulation on average by 600–1000 ¹⁴C yr (Matsumoto, 2007) in comparison to signals 366 linked to atmospheric age tie points of surface waters that record past changes in 367 climate and global ice volume in the North Atlantic. At 4340 m depth, the benthic δ^{18} O signal reflects signals linked to Antarctic Bottom Water (AABW) formation (McCave et 368 369 al., 2008) coeval with climate changes in the Weddell Sea. Vazquez-Riveiros et al. (2010) suggest that the δ^{18} O record of benthic foraminifera in AABW lags a paired 370 planktic record by 1.9 kyr. Accordingly, we ascribe the early deglacial ¹⁴C plateau at 371 105–226 cm to Plateau 2b the base of which puts the onset of a deglacial benthic δ^{18} O 372 shift to \sim 16.8 cal. ka. 373

375 Below Plateau 2b, the ¹⁴C record shows an abrupt jump by 2000 yr, most likely the result of a hiatus on top of a brief ¹⁴C plateau, possibly a fragment of Plateau 4 although 376 no sediment structure pertinent for a hiatus was found yet near 230 cm depth. Farther 377 378 below, a two-step rise in ¹⁴C age leads to two major planktic ¹⁴C plateaus at ~287 – 400 and 400 – 600 cm core depth, tentatively tuned to plateaus 5a and 5b (Fig. 2b, Table 379 2b, Suppl. Table S2). In theory, the LGM core section below the 230-cm hiatus may be 380 assigned to alternative suites of ¹⁴C plateaus, in particular, the fragment of Plateau 4. 381 382 Here plateau tuning is hampered due to a general lack of initial age tie points that might 383 provide a stratigraphic guideline for plateau assignment. The tuning mode we propose in Fig. 2b, however, leads to a suite of ¹⁴C plateaus that closely resemble various details 384 of the Suigetsu record and imply lowest-possible marine reservoir ages larger than 300 385 386 yr, moreover, long-term fairly constant sedimentation rates.

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Below Plateau 5b, a hiatus spans about 3000 ¹⁴C yr reaching back to the top of a poorly identified plateau structure tentatively assigned to Plateau 10a. The sediment thickness for Plateau 5a includes a major, up to 10 cm thick graded turbidite layer (also revealed by a groove mark at its base) as well as several minor turbidites that mainly consist of volcanic ash. Both their chemistry and ¹⁴C ages of foraminifera grains picked from inside the graded turbidite layer suggest the Kawakawa Ash as potential origin (Ronge et al., 2016). Problems of age correlation, however, are discussed below.

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Prior to ~20 cal. ka, LGM planktic reservoir ages reach 1460 yr. Later, they drop to 990 and 700 14 C yr. Age-calibrated plateau boundaries suggest hemipelagic sedimentation rates of ~217–284 cm/kyr. The hiatuses below Plateau 2b and below Plateau 5b may result from erosive turbidity currents frequently running along the Bounty Trough(Bostock et al., 2013).

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402 **Core PS97-137-1** (upper continental margin of South Chile)

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Holocene sediments in core PS97-137-1 extend from 0–50 cm with planktic δ^{18} O values of 2.0–2.5 ‰. From 50–150 cm the values increase from 2.5 to 4 ‰, which reflects the last deglacial. Below, peak glacial δ^{18} O values strongly fluctuate, possibly salinity (e.g., melt water) -induced, from 3.5 to 4.2 ‰ (Fig. 2c). Overall the δ^{18} O-based stratigraphy is consistent with our high-resolution suite of planktic ¹⁴C ages that extend from 2690 yr BP near to the core top back to 24,160 ¹⁴C yr BP at 830 cm depth (Suppl. Table S3).

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Glacial-to-deglacial ¹⁴C values display a suite of nine ¹⁴C plateaus, most of them with 411 412 structures resembling those of Suigetsu plateaus 2a and b, 3, 4, 5a, 6a and b, 7, and 8, 413 altogether covering a time span from 15.3 to 24.25 cal. ka (Table 2c). A pronounced ¹⁴C jump of 1840 yr occurs within laminated sediments of the section between base of 414 Plateau 4 and top of Plateau 6a, at 273 to ~320 cm depth. Our mode of plateau tuning 415 ascribes the jump to a section with close-to-zero deposition. Here sedimentation rates 416 417 drop from plateaus 3 and 4 back to 5a from 85 to 50 and 21 cm/kyr. The brief minimum 418 culminates in a minor hiatus right at the base of Plateau 5a (disconformity displayed by distorted sediment laminations near 300 cm; Fig. S1), where up to 15 cm sediment may 419 be lost, while Plateau 5b is hardly developed. 420

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Instead of a quasi-hiatus near 300 cm one may assume an alternative mode of tuning
with a short-term drop in local reservoir ages by 1360 yr from 2180 yr for a plateau here

named '5a' (instead of '6a' in Fig. 2c) down to 1790 yr for the lowermost part of Plateau
4, here split off as plateau splinter named '4b' instead of '5a', and to 820 yr for the main
portion of Plateau 4 (Fig. S2). As compared to the former tuning mode, however, this
second mode leads to far more pronounced, hence less likely short-term jumps in both
reservoir age and sedimentation rate (between 100 and 180 cm/kyr), thus is discarded.

Below plateau 8 (in tuning mode one; Fig. 2c) the ¹⁴C record extends back to a plateau that we tuned to atmospheric Plateau 10a, ~25.9–27.0 cal. ka, when assuming a reservoir age of 900 yr per analogy to LGM reservoir ages obtained further up-core. Between a short core section below the base of Plateau 8 and a short section on top of Plateau 10a, our ¹⁴C plateau tuning suggests a hiatus of ~1000 cal. yr near 680 cm core depth (Table S3; Fig. 2c). Indeed, this gap is confirmed by an erosional sediment structure depicted in Fig. 4.

437

438 On top of Plateau 4, the reservoir age of Plateau 3 shows a brief rise to 1500 ¹⁴C yr at 18.2–17.5 cal. ka, that is at the vey end of the LGM. Subsequently, reservoir ages 439 continuously decrease to ~460 ¹⁴C yr at 15.4 cal. ka (Fig. 3). Based on the cal. age of 440 ¹⁴C plateau boundaries of PS97-137-1 (Suppl. Table 3; Fig. 2c), LGM sedimentation 441 rates vary from 35–130 cm/kyr. During early deglacial plateaus 3 to 2a they drop from 442 443 ~85 to ~25 cm/kyr. High sedimentation rates may be linked to increased terrigenous input from the southern Andes including pronounced pulses of sediment supply at ~23-444 21 and 18.2–16.5 cal. ka, then possibly linked to Patagonian ice-sheet dynamics. 445 446 Accordingly, sediments below 700 cm (>25 cal. ka) contain rare pieces of IRD (Fig. S1), confirming a record of Caniupan et al. (2011). 447

449 **Core MD07-3088** (Upper continental margin of southern Central Chile)

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Previously published ¹⁴C ages (Suppl Table S4), various chronostratigraphic proxy 451 records (e.g., planktic foraminiferal δ^{18} O, alkenone-based SSTs), and four pre-Holocene 452 ash layers (14C-dated on land) indicate that sediments in core MD07-3088 cover the last 453 ~22 cal. kyr (Siani et al., 2010, 2013, Haddam et al., 2018; Martinez-Fontaine et al., 454 2019). Our newly compiled ¹⁴C record based on 68 ¹⁴C ages defines a suite of 11 ¹⁴C 455 456 plateaus from ~11 back to 22 cal. ka between 600 and 1900 cm core depth. Their internal plateau structures closely match those of the Suigetsu atmospheric ¹⁴C record 457 (Table 2d, Fig. 2d). This tuning mode is largely superior to alternative modes that try to 458 slightly regroup the definition of plateau boundaries for plateau 4, 5a and 5b. 459

460

Different from Core PS97-137-1, ¹⁴C plateaus 4 to 6a in Core MD07-3088 suggest fairly 461 low reservoir ages of ~400 (380–450) ¹⁴C yr for LGM surface waters between ~22 and 462 18.6 cal ka. About 1000 yr prior to the deglacial onset of rapid Antarctic warming, 463 surface water reservoir ages started to increase to 800 and up to 1310 ¹⁴C yr near the 464 end of HS-1. During the ACR (14.35-12.8 cal. ka; Morgan et al., 2002; Buizert et al., 465 2015), however, surface water reservoir ages briefly dropped back to 730-940 ¹⁴C yr, 466 467 a clear reversal of the overall deglacial rise. This short-term drop by 600 years resulted in a (presumed) bisection of Plateau 1 ('1 base' and '1 top'). Parallel to the upper 468 Younger Dryas (YD) reservoir ages reached a further maximum of 1750 ¹⁴C yr, that 469 lasted until 11.8 cal. ka. With the onset of the Holocene, reservoir ages dropped back 470 to 800–950 ¹⁴C yr, values that were similar to those during the ACR and the onset of 471 HS-1. Moreover, they match reservoir ages of ~500-1100 yr recorded by Early 472

473 Holocene shells from the coastal upwelling region off Southern Peru (Fontugne et al.,474 2004).

475

476 Most important, the reservoir ages derived from the tuning of ¹⁴C plateaus Top YD, 1a, 477 1, and 2b closely confirm the four reservoir ages that were deduced from the difference 478 between ¹⁴C ages of planktic foraminifera and those of paired tephra layers 479 independently ¹⁴C dated on land by the atmospheric ¹⁴C age of terrestrial plants (Siani 480 et al. 2013; Haddam et al., 2018) (Figs. 2d and 3). The highly resolved deglacial suite 481 of planktic ¹⁴C plateaus allows to further constrain the variability of marine reservoir 482 ages between the tephra layers.

483

Based on the cal. age of ¹⁴C plateau boundaries peak glacial sedimentation rates in 484 core MD07- 3088 reached 140-215 cm/kyr, with a brief maximum of 730 cm/kyr 485 between 13.5 and 16 m core depth, equivalent to 20±0.25 cal. ka (Fig. 2d; Suppl. Table 486 487 S4). This sediment layer is marked by a prolonged Ti/K maximum showing that the extreme sediment supply was due to terrigenous sediment input that mainly consisted 488 of fine sand <125 µm and silt, slightly graded near to the base of the layer (Siani et al., 489 2013; Suppl. Fig. 4). This grain size spectrum is characteristic of 'glacial milk', a facies 490 491 suggesting nearby discharge of glacial meltwaters from the Patagonian Ice Sheet. The 492 extreme sediment input led to a dilution of foraminiferal tests in glacial sediment samples and in turn, to a reduced temporal resolution of ¹⁴C samples between 1200 493 and 1900 cm core depth. This results in a less precise definition of ¹⁴C plateau 494 495 boundaries. After 17.6 cal. ka, deglacial sedimentation rates dropped to 35-50 cm/kyr during the time equivalent of HS-1 and YD. Finally, they rose back to 120 cm/kyr right 496 at the onset of the Holocene. 497

499 DISCUSSION

500 Advanced age control

501 Plateau boundaries in planktic ¹⁴C records of four sediment cores from the southern 502 South Pacific were tuned to pertinent atmospheric ¹⁴C plateau boundaries to provide a 503 new level in the accuracy of centennial-to-millennial-scale age control and the global 504 age correlation of South Pacific paleoceanographic records to terrestrial records 505 including ice-cores.

506

A unique characteristic of our sediment records is the occasional occurrence of tephra 507 that have been independently dated on land. Previous studies used tephra chronologies 508 509 to improve the knowledge of glacial-to-deglacial reservoir ages (Sikes et al., 2000; Rose 510 et al., 2010; Siani et al., 2013; Skinner et al., 2015; Sikes and Guilderson, 2016; Shao et al., 2019; Stott et al., 2019; Martinez-Fontaine et al., 2019). In particular, the authors 511 512 used ¹⁴C ages of marine carbonates deposited below and/or on top of rare volcanic tephra layers erupted over the last 30 kyr. Reservoir ages of these carbonates were 513 deduced from the difference obtained for (atmospheric) ¹⁴C ages of organic material of 514 land-based deposits paired with the same tephra. In comparison to the ¹⁴C plateau 515 516 tuning, the irregular occurrence of tephra layers, unfortunately, does not provide the 517 high density of narrow-spaced tie points. Off Chile, our calibrated ¹⁴C ages closely correspond to ages previously derived from four tephra over the last deglaciation. Off 518 New Zealand, however, our plateau tuning suggests a depositional age different from 519 520 that previously assigned.

522 Several authors (Carter et al., 1995; Rose et al., 2010; Sikes et al., 2016) used the Late Pleistocene Kawakawa ash layer, erupted from New Zealand, as tie point for ages in 523 SW Pacific sediment cores. The terrestrial ¹⁴C age of Kawakawa ash amounts to 22.59 524 525 ±0.23 ka equal to 26.3 cal. ka, later revised to 25.36 cal. ka (Carter et al., 1995; Vandergoes et al., 2013; Lowe et al., 2013). In Core SO213-76-2, however, ¹⁴C plateau 526 tuning revealed for the ~10 cm thick layer of Kawakawa ash a depositional age of ~18,5 527 14 C yr equal to ~20 cal. ka, 5000 yr less than previously suggested. Both a groove mark 528 529 near the base and clear sediment gradation show that the ash layer was likely dispersed 530 by a major turbidite current followed by several small turbidites shortly thereafter (Fig. 2b). Planktic foraminifera picked near the base of the turbidite layer showed an age of 531 21.9 ¹⁴C ka. This value indeed comes closer to the terrestrial ¹⁴C age estimate if we 532 533 assume a low, though unknown marine reservoir age of ~200 yr for the source region of the displaced foraminiferal tests. In summary, our ¹⁴C plateau-based cal. ages show 534 that the occurrence of a Kawakawa ash layer in sediments of the Bounty Trough off 535 536 New Zealand *per se* may not always be appropriate as age tie point, since the ash may have been dispersed by subsequent turbidites up to >5000 yr after the eruption. The 537 ¹⁴C age of foraminifers reworked near the base of the turbidite indeed comes close to 538 the actual age of Kawakawa ash originally proposed. 539

540

For the LGM, the quality of ¹⁴C plateau-based age control was corroborated by evidence independently obtained from Subantarctic Site PS97-137 off South Chile. Highresolution core photography of the Plateau-8 sediment section (500–643 cm core depth; 22.94–24.25 cal. ka; Figs. 2c and 4b) reveals continuous fine-scale lamination. Similar laminae mark most of LGM Plateaus 4 to 6a, moreover, sediments assigned to Plateau 10a. On average, one cm of laminated sediment contains about eight to twelve layers, which implies some 960–1440 layers for the ~140 cm long sediment section of Plateau 8. This number comes close to ~1300 years, the interval contained in atmospheric Plateau 8, hence suggesting annual layering and giving independent support for the age range deduced by ¹⁴C plateau tuning.

551

We surmise that the laminae resulted from seasonal variations in glaciomarine sediment 552 553 deposition, despite a lack of organic-carbon enrichment that is widely characteristic of 554 oxygen minimum zones and sediment lamination. By contrast, the layers formed in a 555 basically oxic environment. Possibly nutrient supply was that low that it precluded any bottom life needed for bioturbational mixing. Also, the laminated sediments contain 556 some ice-rafted debris. The laminated facies may be similar to one reported by Stein 557 558 (2008) for late deglacial sediments off East Greenland, deposited during glacier retreat and/or seasonal sea-ice cover, moreover, to that of contourite ridges in the LGM 559 Weddell Sea possibly deposited below coastal polynyas (Sprenk et al., 2014). 560

561

562 Implications for deglacial changes in South Pacific surface water hydrology

Based on Parennin et al. (2013), Marcott et al. (2014), and the WDC record (Sigl et al., 563 2016) the last deglaciation started in West Antarctica with a 4000 yr long period of slow, 564 565 millennial-scale mode warming near 21.8 cal. ka. In contrast, abrupt, centennial-scale 566 warming of West and East Antarctica only started at 17.6±0.1 cal. ka (Fig. 3). As postulated by the bipolar seesaw concept (Stocker and Johnson, 2003), this date is 567 coeval with the onset of Heinrich Stadial 1 (HS1) in the northern Hemisphere. Also, it 568 569 matches the onset of the deglacial rise in atmospheric pCO₂ (Fig. 3a/b) and, in particular, the top of atmospheric ¹⁴C Plateau 3 at 17.5 cal. ka (Fig. 2) within an 570 571 uncertainty range of ~±50 yr (Sarnthein et al., 2020).

Based on this global age tie point we can now directly correlate the onset of rapid 573 Antarctic warming to the very top of the LGM maximum in planktic δ^{18} O, thus constrain 574 the precise age of the beginning of major δ^{18} O decrease in our two sediment records 575 off Chile (Figs. 2c,d). However, the onset of a prominent SST rise (Uk37 and 576 foraminifera assemblages; Haddam et al., 2018), that is the onset of local deglacial 577 warming, lags the paired δ^{18} O signal by ~100-200 yr at Site MD07-3088 (Fig. 2d) .The 578 579 lead of enhanced planktic δ^{18} O depletion may thus primarily reflect an early incursion of meltwaters. This conclusion would be in line with an abrupt shift in the composition of 580 terrigenous sediment input at MD07-3088 (Fig. S4; Siani et al., 2013). Moreover, it 581 582 parallels the onset of deglacial Patagonian ice sheet retreat between 17.77 and 17.38 583 cal. ka (Bendle et al., 2019).

584

Transferring our ¹⁴C plateau-based chronology of Core PS75-104-1 (for the interval ~14-24 cal. ka) to neighbor Core MD97-2120 (using XRF data; Fig. S3) results in cal. ages for MD97-2120 about 1500 yr younger than those proposed by Pahnke et al. (2003 a, b). This correlation shifts the onset of deglacial warming in the Uk37-based SST record of Core MD97-2120 (Pahnke and Sachs, 2006) (Figs. 3c and S3) from 19.1 to 17.6 cal. ka, that is, precisely coeval with the beginning of fast deglacial warming in Antarctic ice-cores.

592

In addition to the initiation of rapid warming in Antarctica coeval with Heinrich event cooling in the northern hemisphere, the timing of short-term interhemispheric climate oscillations later during the last deglaciation (i.e., Antarctic Cold Reversal (ACR)) provide a test case for the bipolar seesaw (Stocker and Johnsen, 2003). In harmony with the ages reported from Antarctic ice cores (Buizert et al., 2015, the planktic δ^{18} O record of Core MD07-3088 off Central Chile (Fig. 2d) indeed reflects an ¹⁸O enrichment during the ACR that terminated near 12.8 cal. ka, that is, right after the base of a ¹⁴C plateau named 'YD' (12.9 cal. ka). The paired Uk37-based SST record (Siani et al., 2013) suggests a brief cooling that preceded the δ^{18} O signal by few 100 years and ended with a first minor warming already as early as 13.7 cal. ka, thus implies that changes in sea surface salinity were a major driver of variations in δ^{18} O during the ACR.

605 Planktic reservoir ages as tracer of surface water history

606

607 Beyond high-resolution age control, ¹⁴C plateau tuning provides novel details on the 608 spatio-temporal variation of planktic Marine Reservoir Ages (MRA) over last glacial-todeglacial times. This claim was validated by four tephra-based reservoir ages in Core 609 MD07-3088 that closely match our robust MRA estimates based on ¹⁴C plateau tuning 610 (Fig. 2d and 3). As outlined in the introduction, past MRA are regarded as robust tracer 611 612 of the origin and fate of local surface waters along the South Pacific margins and are compared to coeval shifts in atmospheric pCO₂ and its stable carbon isotope (δ^{13} C) 613 614 composition (Fig. 3).

615

In general, low MRA (<500 yr) suggest extensive surface water ventilation and unimpeded uptake of atmospheric CO₂ such as off southern Central Chile (MD07-3088 at 46°S), where – different from previous assumptions (Martinez-Fontaine et al., 2019) – ages of ~400 yr continued over the LGM, 22–18.5 cal. ka. We thus may infer opensea conditions, minimum surface water stratification, possibly linked to local convection which, however, contradicts the supposed glacial setting close to the Patagonian Ice Sheet (Davies et al., 2020). Vivid LGM mixing of surface waters at Site MD07-3088 was coeval with major shifts in benthic Δ^{14} C that record coeval changes in Antarctic Intermediate Water formation (Haddam et al., 2020; Siani et al., 2013; Martinez-Fontaine et al., 2019).

626

Off Southern Chile (PS97-137 at ~53°S) brief changes in ¹⁴C reservoir age during the 627 late LGM and early deglacial may also be linked to short-term changes in coastal outline 628 629 and/or regional Patagonian ice sheet geometry and dynamics during this time (Figs. 1, 3b). These changes involved periods of reduced or enhanced melt water input that 630 induced changes in offshore surface water stratification and ventilation. Peak glacial 631 632 surface waters off Southern Chile show MRA of 600–1200, finally reaching 1500 yr (Fig. 3). These values are in harmony with a paleoenvironmental setting close to the Pacific 633 margin of the glacial Patagonian ice sheet (Caniupan et al. (2011). 634

635

Only after the onset of rapid Antarctic warming, 17.5 cal. ka, MRA started to drop to 450 yr, at site PS97-137. Likewise, a striking brief low in local MRA occurred over Plateau 8 (equivalent to HS-2 / GIS 2). The low may be linked to a transient coeval warming in Antarctica, a trend corresponding to the MAR drop during HS-1 (Fig. 3). Off southernmost Chile both events may probably reflect brief time spans with open-sea conditions and enhanced admixture of atmospheric CO₂ possibly linked to a brief latitudinal shift of the Subantarctic Front in response to Heinrich Events.

643

Last glacial MRAs at both Chilean sites, only 800 km apart from each other, differ by 400-800 yr (Fig. 3b). During the last deglaciation, MRA at northern Site MD07-3088 started to rise, while MRAs decreased towards values of 400 yr further south. The opposed trends might be explained by an LGM advection of upwelled waters from the
Polar Frontal Zone not reaching the northern site where surface water ventilation
remained high.

650

In the Southwest Pacific, high glacial MRA values of 1000–1650 yr were recorded both 651 at sites PS75-104 and SO213-076-2 (Fig. 3a). Here peak glacial surface waters were 652 poorly ventilated probably due to predominant stratification, a hydrographic setting 653 654 controlled by icebergs and local meltwaters immediately east, that is leeward of 655 glaciated Southern New Zealand. This regime is documented by ice-rafted debris along the northern fringe of the LGM Antarctic Circumpolar Current then advanced far north 656 (Bostock et al., 2013; Carter et al, 2002). The stratification hindered a free exchange of 657 658 atmospheric CO₂ over several thousand years (sensu Sessford et al., 2019, in the Nordic Seas), a regime that continued over early deglacial times until ~15 cal. ka. Off 659 New Zealand it also extended farther east, up to Bounty Trough Site SO213-76 (Fig. 3), 660 where MRA also reach values of 1500-1000 yr, though IRD is largely absent from this 661 region (Bostock et al., 2013). At this site the stratification may have merely resulted from 662 a far eastward extension of New Zealand borne melt water and stratification. 663 Alternatively, high MRA values may also result from an upwelling of old subsurface 664 665 waters from below that also entails, however, an enhanced productivity of local surface 666 waters (Sarnthein et al., 2015, 2019; Balmer and Sarnthein, 2018). We hardly find any traces of high productivity near to our Southwest Pacific sites. 667

668

669 With regard to sediment cores east of New Zealand, most authors used the global 670 and/or marine calibration curves IntCal13 for age control (Reimer et al., 2013), now to 671 be replaced by IntCal20 (Reimer et al., 2020). Sikes and Guilderson (2016) assumed 672 that surface reservoir ages during the late deglaciation and early Holocene did not differ much from the recent value of 400 ±100 yr. Their glacial-to-early-deglacial reservoir 673 ages of subtropical surface waters ranged from ~600 to 700 yr, compared to much 674 higher values of 3200 yr estimated for Subantarctic waters. Shao et al. (2019), in turn, 675 converted the planktic ¹⁴C ages of a Chatham Rise core to calendar years by means of 676 the BChron Bayesian chronology package (Haslett & Parnell, 2008). This technique 677 requires previous knowledge of surface water reservoir ages, derived from, e.g., the ¹⁴C 678 age of the Kawakawa ash (Lowe et al., 2013), which implies a glacial-to-early deglacial 679 680 reservoir age of ~1600–1300 yr. These values differ little from 1000–1200 yr inferred by Skinner (2015; Fig. 5) and in particular, from 1000–1650 yr derived by ¹⁴C plateau tuning 681 for Core PS75-104-1 offshore Southern New Zealand, an island then strongly glaciated 682 683 and located south of the influence of subtropical waters (Bostock et al., 2013; Fig. 1, 2a, 3c). 684

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Our estimates of glacial-to-deglacial MRAs were compared to an overview of MRAs compiled by Skinner et al. (2019) on the basis of various age tie points and IntCal13 for cores from the Southern Ocean (Fig. 5). By its trend, however, the spline curve of Skinner et al. does not reflect but envelopes the array of our estimates. In particular, it does not display the ongoing extreme spatio-temporal variability of MRA, which underlines the need to establish detailed region-specific MAR records (Fig. 3a and b) for ¹⁴C dating purposes.

693

694 CONCLUSIONS

- Robust centennial-scale age control was established for last glacial and deglacial
 sediment sections in four marine sediment cores to obtain a detailed and precise
 stratigraphic correlation between both the western and eastern continental margins of
 the southern South Pacific and paleoclimate records of Antarctic ice cores.

- Off central Chile four tephra layers provide independent proof for precise age 700 assignment and marine reservoir ages derived by means of the ¹⁴C plateau technique. 701 702 Inversely, the Kawakawa ash layer in the Bounty Trough off New Zealand entails a more complex view on tephra-based age assignment: ¹⁴C plateau tuning and sediment 703 704 structures indicate that the tephra was supplied by a turbidity current that spread only 5,000 yr after volcanic ash eruption. The age of ash formation, however, is partially 705 recorded in the tephra layer by the ¹⁴C age of foraminifera tests reworked near the base 706 707 of the turbidite.

- Our ¹⁴C plateau-based age control suggests that the onset of fast West Antarctic warming dated in ice cores near 17.6 cal. ka is also reflected by a robust tipping point in planktic δ^{18} O records from the eastern South Pacific. This date is coeval with the onset of Heinrich Stadial 1 within the range of age uncertainty, hence confirms the concept of bipolar seesaw. Likewise, the plateau-tuning technique shows that the end of the ACR in a core off southern central Chile was precisely coeval with the onset of the YD cold spell in the northern Hemisphere.

-Our revised stratigraphy suggests that the local onset of Uk37-based deglacial
warming off New Zealand was synchronous with the onset of the main temperature rise
in Antarctica at 17.6 cal. ka.

- East of Southern New Zealand, along the Bounty Trough, glacial MRA reach 10001500 yr here probably recording widespread surface water stratification linked to

icebergs and meltwater also documented by ice-rafted debris. This regime continueduntil ~15.5 cal. ka.

During the LGM, surface waters off southern Chile (46°S) are marked by low planktic
 ¹⁴C reservoir ages of ~400 yr. Low MRA reflect a maximum exchange of carbon with
 the atmosphere, indicative of open sea conditions and overturning surface waters.

By contrast, high MRA off Chile at 53°S range from 900–1200 yr that may largely
reflect a local stratification of surface waters by melt waters of icebergs, in part
documented by ice-rafted debris. Moreover, high MRA may be linked to northward
advection of upwelled old subsurface waters from the Polar Frontal Zone.

High MRAs off southern Chile are linked to sediments that show fine-scale
 laminations, and partly IRD. Assuming a process of annual sediment layering, the
 number of laminae largely confirms the age control inferred from ¹⁴C plateau
 boundaries. The laminations possibly reflect a depositional environment covered by
 meltwaters similar to that of the Greenland Sea and near the Filchner-Rønne Ice Shelf.

734

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1069 TABLE CAPTIONS

1070 Table T. Details of core locations and selection of C sam	1070	Table 1.	Details of core	locations and	selection of	¹⁴ C sample
----------------------------------------------------------------	------	----------	-----------------	---------------	--------------	------------------------

Sea Region	Chatham Rise (NZ)	Bounty Trough (NZ)	Chilean Margin	Chilean Margin		
Core ID Latitude/Longitude Water depth	PS75-104-1 44° 46' S / 174° 31' E 835	SO213-76-2 46° 12' S / 178° 1.6' W 4339	MD07-3088 46° 04' S / 75° 41' W 1536	PS97-137-1 52° 39.6' S / 75° 33.9' W 1027		
Sediment facies	Homogenous silt to clay	Homogenous silt to clay, smaller turbidites, one major tephra layer	Silty clay with sandy layers	Homogenous silt to clay, in part sandy, LGM: laminated (Pl. 6a), major and minor unconformities		
No. of planktic ¹⁴ C Ages	8 + 56 ^{a,b}	48 + 9ª	68 + 25°	59		
Planktic species	G. bulloides	G. bulloides	G. bulloides	G. bulloides		
No. of tests/ Weight/ ¹⁴ C sample	60 - 353 (>1.1 mg)	40 - 500 (>0.9 mg)	20 - 376 (>0.9 mg)	37 - 136 (>0.5 mg)		
No. of tephra layers	-	3ª	6 ^{c,d}	-		
a) Ronge et al. (2016) b) Küssner et al. (2018) c) Siani et al. (2013) d) Haddam et al. (2018)						

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1073 Table 2a-d. Definition of planktic ¹⁴C plateaus in PS75-104-1, SO213-76-2, PS97-137-1, and

1074 MD07-3088 aligned to Suigetsu atmospheric ¹⁴C plateaus (lower panel). Plateau boundaries

1075 defined by visual inspection, ¹⁴C jumps defined maximums in the 1st derivative of the ¹⁴C

1076 gradient vs. core depth (top panel).

Table 2a

Definition of planktic ¹⁴C plateaus in PS75-104-1 (defined by visual inspection)

Plateau no.	Age top	Depth	Age base	Depth	PS75-104-1	Suigetsu Plateau	Pla. Res.	1σ error
	(cal yr)	(cm)	(cal yr BP)	(cm)	ø ¹⁴ C yr BP	Ø ¹⁴ C yr BP	Age (yr)	(±yr)
1	14160	40	15100	57.5	13283	12471	810	280
2a	15420	59.5	16520	77	14590	13406	1180	350
2b ?	16520	77	16930	?	15040	13850	1190	?
3	17500	86	18220	109	15765	14671	1090	265
4	18650	114	19590	135	17360	15851	1500	340
Hiatus								
6a	21000	137	21890	155	18700	17667	1030	270
6b	21890	155	22300	170 ?	19350	18075	1275	285
7	22400	176 ?	22870	192	20320	18843	1480	210
8	22940	192	24250	205	21360	19715	1650	320

Plateau no.	Age top	Depth	Age base	Depth	SO213-076-2	Suigetsu Plateau	Pla. Res.	1σ error
	(cal yr)	(cm)	(cal yr BP)	(cm)	ø ¹⁴ C yr	Ø ¹⁴ C yr BP	Age (yr)	(yr)
2b	16520	109.5	16930	226	14693	13850	840	312
Hiatus								
4			19590	270	16548	15851	700	225
5a	19720	266	20240	400	17410	16670	990	340
5b	20240	416.5	20900	600	18466	17007	1460	515
Hiatus								
10a	25880	655	?	?		22328	?	?

Table 2b Definition of planktic ¹⁴C plateaus in SO213-076-2 (defined by visual inspection)

Table 2c

Definition of planktic ¹⁴C plateaus in PS97-137-1 (defined by visual inspection)

Plateau no.	Age top	Depth	Age base	Depth	PS97-137-1	Suigetsu Plateau	Pla. Res.	1σ error
	(cal yr	(cm)	(cal yr BP)	(cm)	ø ¹⁴ C yr BP	Ø ¹⁴ C yr BP	Age (yr)	(yr)
	BP)							
2a	15420	91	16520	121	13861	13406	455	270
2b	16520	121	16930	151	14518	13850	670	90
3	17500	161.5	18220	214.5	16177	14671	1500	180
4	18650	223.5	19590	273	16670	15851	820	225
5a	19720	276	20240	292	17643	16670	970	93
Hiatus		296						
6a	21000	321.5	21890	397	18851	17667	1185	406
6b	21890	397	22300	447	19260	18075	1185	202
7	22400	455	22900	521	19730	18843	885	276
8	22900	521	24250	643	20315	19715	600	465
Hiatus		681						
10a	25880	695	27000	728	22525	22328	900	365

Plateau no	Age top	Denth	Age hase	Denth	MD07-3088	Suigetsu Plateau	Pla Res	1 σ
Thateau no.	(cal vr	(cm)	(cal vr BP)	(cm)	ø ¹⁴ C vr BP	Ø ¹⁴ C vr BP	$\Delta \sigma e (vr)$	Error
	(cury) BD)	(citi)	(curyr br)	(em)	y cyrbr	yo cyrbr		(\ur)
	DFJ				40004			(91)
Preboreal	10560	?	11108	617.5	10331	9525	806	180
Top YD	11281	629	11755	685.5	11006	10060	946	195
YD	11895	694	12475	721	12121	10380	1741	160
1a	13656	744	14042	763	12948	12006	942	125
1 top	14160	764	14450	782	13200	12471	729	190
			(interpol.)					
1 base	14570	788	15100	811	13780	12471	1309	190
	(interpol.)							
2a	15420	822	16520	858	14462	13406	1060	275
2b	16520	858	16930	873	14937	13850	1087	85
3	17500	889	18220	968	15470	14671	799	125
4	18650	1070	19590	1195	16296	15851	445	230
5a	19720	1315	20240	1620.5	17104	16667	435	140
6a ?	21000	1748	21890	1870	18051	17667	384	315
Tephra	Depth	Ter	restrial	Cal. A	Age (yr BP)	MD07-3088	Reservoir	
Layers	(cm)	conventi	onal ¹⁴ C Age			ø ¹⁴ C yr	age (yr)	
Tephra	660.5	9	960ª	1126	0-11390 *	11006 (Pl. Top YD)	1050	
Tephra	750.5	11910ª		1372	0-13770 *	12948 (Plateau 1a)	1040	
Tephra	800.5	12435°		141	60-15100	13780 (Plateau 1)	1345	
Tephra	870	13650 ^b		1634	0-16450 *	14937 (Plateau 2b)	1290	
		a) Siani et al. b) Haddam e	2013, t al. 2018	*Based on In	tcal13 tree rings			

 Table 2d

 Definition of planktic ¹⁴C plateaus in MD07-3088 (defined by visual inspection)

1081

1082 FIGURE CAPTIONS

1083	Fig. 1. Bathymetry of the eastern and western continental margins of the southern South
1084	Pacific. Red stars mark position of sediment cores. (a) Margin off New Zealand, (b)
1085	Margin off Southern Chile. Thin broken lines show modern position of ocean fronts: SAF
1086	(purple, hatched) - Sub-Antarctic Front (Bostock et al. 2013), STF (orange) -
1087	Subtropical Front (Carter et al. 2008). Blue broken lines show position of modern ocean
1088	currents (Carter et al. 2008; Siani et al. 2013): ECC – East Cape Current, EAUC – East
1089	Auckland Current, DWBC – Deep Western Boundary Current, SC – Southland Current.
1090	PCC – Peru-Chile Current, CHC – Cape Horn Current, and ACC – Antarctic Circumpolar
1091	Current. Map plotted with OceanDataView; Schlitzer, R. ODV (2018, odv.awi.de)



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Fig. 2a-d. Planktic ¹⁴C records measured on four South Pacific sediment cores (Table 1094 1; Fig. 1; Suppl. Table S1–4) and plotted vs. core depth. Scatter bands of largely coeval 1095 planktic ¹⁴C ages depict suite of planktic ¹⁴C plateaus (framed by horizontal boxes) that 1096 are compared to the suite of atmospheric (atm) ¹⁴C plateaus defined in the Lake 1097 Suigetsu record (¹⁴C ages of Bronk Ramsey et al., 2012), where atm. ¹⁴C ages are given 1098 1099 to the left, U/Th-based calibrated (cal.) model ages below. Local planktic reservoir ages (in blue) present the difference between the average uncorrected ¹⁴C age of a planktic 1100 ¹⁴C plateau measured in a core and the average ¹⁴C age of equivalent atm. ¹⁴C plateaus 1101 1102 numbered 1–10 (bold numbers/names in brackets). Top panels in Figs. 2a-d show units of the 1st derivative and 1- σ uncertainty range of the planktic ¹⁴C record (¹⁴C yr per cm 1103 core depth), with peak values indicating ¹⁴C jumps (constrained by asterisks) that 1104 confine ¹⁴C plateaus (numbered in black). B/A = Bølling-Allerød, HS1 and HS2 = 1105 Heinrich Stadial 1 and 2, LGM = Last Glacial Maximum, ACR = Antarctic Cold Reversal, 1106 1107 YD = Younger Dryas. Sedimentation rates are deduced from Suigetsu-based cal. ages 1108 of plateau boundaries.

(2a) Planktic ¹⁴C record and paired XRF record of Ca counts in Core PS75-104-1 (data
of Küssner et al., 2018, suppl. below 120 cm core depth). Red dots reflect aberrant
planktic ¹⁴C ages (i.e., ages that are "too young" as compared to the suite of ¹⁴C
plateaus) that result from downcore reworking of foraminiferal tests in a Zoophycos
burrow (Küssner et al., 2018).





(2b) Planktic ¹⁴C record and paired benthic δ^{18} O record of Core SO213-76-2. Hiatus 1117

near 238 cm assigned tentatively. 1118



1121 (2c) Paired planktic ¹⁴C and δ^{18} O records of Core PS97-137-1. Hatched line marks 1122 sediment laminations; 'D' = Minor unconformities within the suite of laminae, 'H' = Major 1123 erosional unconformity. Sediments below 700 cm contain rare pieces of IRD.



1126 (2d) Paired planktic ¹⁴C and δ^{18} O records of Core MD07-3088 (¹⁴C ages of Siani et al., 1127 2013, and this study). Bold red dots mark age position of tephra layers ¹⁴C dated on 1128 land (Siani et al., 2013; Haddam et al., 2018). Plateau 5a covers graded layer of glacial 1129 fine sand and silt (Fig. S4). Below, plateau 5b assigned tentatively.





1132 Figure 3a and b. Temporal and spatial variations in planktic (pla.) ¹⁴C reservoir age recorded at sites in the western and eastern South Pacific (core locations marked in 1133 1134 Fig. 3c). Bold red bars give paired tephra-based reservoir ages in Core MD07-3088 (Siani et al., 2013; ref.). Reservoir ages are compared to records of contemporaneous 1135 changes in West Antarctic δ^{18} O and pCO₂ (WDC Project Members, 2013; Marcott et 1136 al., 2014) and coeval changes in atm. δ^{13} C (Schmitt et al., 2012). Stratigraphic units 1137 are marked at diagram base: Younger Dryas (YD), Antarctic Cold Reversal (ACR), 1138 Bølling-Allerød (B/A), Heinrich Stadial 1 and 2 (HS-1 and HS-2), Last Glacial 1139 Maximum (LGM). Figure 3c. Modern mean annual SST (°C; Locarnini et al., 2013) in 1140 southern South Pacific and LGM extent of winter sea ice, Patagonian and New 1141 1142 Zealand ice sheets (Darvill et al., 2016), and oceanic fronts. Red stars = core locations, white polygons off New Zealand reflect icebergs documented by ice rafted 1143 debris (Bostock et al. 2013). SAF (hatched purple shading) = Sub-Antarctic Front, STF 1144 (broken orange line) = Subtropical Front (Carter et al., 2008, Bostock et al., 2013, 1145 1146 Benz et al., 2016; own data). Estimates of LGM Winter Sea Ice (WSI) (white lines) show maximum (>15%) and average sea-ice concentrations (40%) of winter sea-ice 1147 1148 during September (Benz et al. 2016). Whitish shading = Area of maximum LGM vs. 1149 modern SST anomaly (Kelvin) for summer (SSST) (Benz et al. 2016).

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Fig. 4. Photography of sediment fabrics in Core PS97-137-1. (a) 678-686 cm and (b) 1153 561- 572 cm depth, showing a major LGM disconformity at 681.5 cm core depth (white 1154 broken line line outlines two dark horizontal grove structures cut off at their top) and 1155 millimeter-scale laminations. Sediment photographies were slightly brightened. 1156

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Fig. 5. Compilation of glacial-to-deglacial planktic ¹⁴C reservoir ages (MRA values) estimated for four region-specific sediment cores analyzed in this study and compared to IntCal13-based mode MRA values compiled for cores from the Southern Ocean by Skinner et al. (2019).



- 1169 Fig. S1. Sediment laminations with a minor disconformity near 299 cm depth (= 49.5–
- 1170 50 cm on yardstick).



- 1172
- Fig. S2. Alternative mode of ¹⁴C plateau tuning of paired planktic ¹⁴C and δ^{18} O records of Core PS97-137-1 (for discussion see text).



- 1177 Fig. S3. Uk37-based SST and benthic δ^{18} O records of Core MD97-2120 (blue) (Pahnke et al.,
- 1178 2005) tuned to ¹⁴C plateau-based age model for PS75-104-1 (red). Age control is compared to
- 1179 EDML δ^{18} O record of Antarctic temperatures and to the Liesicki & Stern (2016) stack of
- 1180 benthic d18O records of the intermediate Pacific.



Fig. S4. Planktic ¹⁴C plateaus and MRA in Core MD07-3088 versus XRF-based Ti/K data and grain sizes >63 um (Siani et al., 2013, and unpubl.data), marked by a single layer of high Ti/K ratio and enhanced fine-sand content in parallel with extreme sedimentation rates of 730 cm/ky linked to ¹⁴C Plateau 5a. ACR = Antarctic cold reversal.



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- 1189 Supporting Information
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1191 Table S1- S4. Listings of <sup>14</sup>C ages and derivates for four cores presented in this paper
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1193 The contents of Suppl. Table S1-S4 are archived at 'PANGAEA' Data Archiving and

1194 Publication (PDI-24801).