

# 1 **Projected Poleward migration of the Southern Ocean CO<sub>2</sub> sink**

## 2 **region under high emissions**

3  
4 Precious Mongwe<sup>1</sup>, Luke Gregor<sup>2</sup>, Jerry Tjiputra<sup>3</sup>, Judith Hauck<sup>4</sup>, Takamitsu Ito<sup>5</sup>, Christopher Danek<sup>4</sup>,  
5 Marcello Vichi<sup>6,7</sup>, Sandy Thomalla<sup>1</sup> and Pedro M. S. Monteiro<sup>8</sup>

6  
7 <sup>1</sup>Southern Ocean Carbon Climate Observatory (SOCCO), CSIR, Cape Town, South Africa

8 <sup>2</sup>Environmental Physics, Institute of Biogeochemistry and Pollutant Dynamics, ETH Zurich, Zurich, Switzerland

9 <sup>3</sup>NORCE Norwegian Research Centre, Bjerknes Centre for Climate Research, Bergen, Norway

10 <sup>4</sup>Alfred-Wegener-Institut, Helmholtz Zentrum für Polar- und Meeresforschung, Bremerhaven, Germany

11 <sup>5</sup>Earth and Atmospheric Sciences, Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, Georgia, USA

12 <sup>6</sup>Department of Oceanography, University of Cape Town, Cape Town, South Africa

13 <sup>7</sup>Marine and Antarctic Research centre for Innovation and Sustainability, University of Cape Town, Cape Town, South  
14 Africa

15 <sup>8</sup>School for Climate Studies, Stellenbosch University, Stellenbosch, South Africa

## 17 **Supplementary Note 1: Mechanisms of CO<sub>2</sub> uptake in Sub-Antarctic region**

18  
19 The seasonal cycle of  $(dpCO_2/dt)_{nonT}$  in the contemporary Sub-Antarctic region is broadly  
20 characterized by a maximum in mid-winter (JJA) and minima in late spring to early summer (NDJ)  
21 (Fig. 4e). The increase of  $(dpCO_2/dt)_{nonT}$  from mid-autumn to winter coincides with the increase in  
22  $dDIC/dt$  (Fig. 5e), surface cooling (Fig. 6i), and deepening of the MLD (Fig. 6c). As the surface ocean  
23 cools, the buoyancy flux weakens and MLD deepens. This stimulates the entrainment of the DIC-rich  
24 subsurface waters resulting in the increase of  $dpCO_2_{nonT}/dt$  during the cool seasons, peaking in winter  
25 (Fig. 4e). From early spring when light becomes available, the primary production removes ocean  
26 surface DIC to form organic matter. This decreases surface DIC concentrations ( $dDIC/dt < 0$ ) and  
27 leads to the  $(dpCO_2/dt)_{nonT}$  minima (Fig. 4e & 6a). NPP peak in ESMs coincides with a minimum in  
28  $dDIC/dt$  (Fig. 6a & 4e). Furthermore, the timing of NPP peaking coincides with a minimum in the  
29 apparent oxygen utilization rate ( $dAOU/dt$ ) (Fig. 6g, h). AOU is defined as the difference between  
30 oxygen at saturation (pre-formed estimate;  $O_{2sat}$ ) and the in situ dissolved oxygen concentration ( $O_2$ );  
31 here, it is used to estimate near-surface (within the MLD) respiration. Negative  $dAOU/dt$  magnitude  
32 when NPP is high reflects oxygen production during photosynthesis, whereas positive  $dAOU/dt$   
33 magnitudes can be used to roughly estimate the respiration or oxidation of organic matter back to DIC  
34 in the near-surface. Indeed, ESMs show positive  $dAOU/dt$  at the tail of NPP maxima, and, AOU and  
35 DIC rates are aligned which indicates respiration (Fig. 6). Moreover, we find that particularly large  
36  $dAOU/dt$  magnitudes are shown by ESMs with extensive NPP magnitudes, (MPI models, Fig. S4 &);  
37 in these models, a significant amount of the organic matter formed during the growing season models

38 is respired back to DIC within the MLD. It is worth noting that even if respiration occurs below the  
 39 MLD, the MLD is still relatively shallow (~80m) when dAOU/dt is at its peak (Fig. 5). It is,  
 40 therefore, unlikely that a significant amount of organic matter permanently leaves the winter mixed  
 41 layer before it respire, it likely that a significant organic carbon is respired above the winter MLD.  
 42

No.	Earth System Model	Country	Horizontal resolution	Vertical resolution	Reference
1.	CanESM5	Canada	1° x 1°	z 45	Swart et al., 2019 <sup>1</sup>
2.	CMCC-ESM2	Italy	1° x 1°	z 50	Lovato et al., 2022 <sup>2</sup>
3.	CESM2-WACCM	USA	1° x 1°	z 60	Danabasoglu et al., 2020 <sup>3</sup>
4.	IPSL-CM6A-LR	France	1° x 1°	z 75	Dufresne et al., 2013 <sup>4</sup>
5.	NorESM2-LM	Norway	1° x 1°	z- ρ 53	Bentsen et al., 2013 <sup>5</sup>
6.	MPI-ESM1-2-LR	Germany	1.5° x 1.5°	40	Mauritsen et al., 2019 <sup>6</sup>
7.	MPI-ESM1-2-HR	Germany	0.4° x 0.4°	z 40	Müller et al., 2018 <sup>7</sup>
8.	UKESM1-0-LL	UK	1° x 1°	Z 75	Sellar et al., 2019 <sup>8</sup>
9.	AWI-CM1	Germany	0.25° x 0.25°		Semmler et al., 2020 <sup>16</sup>

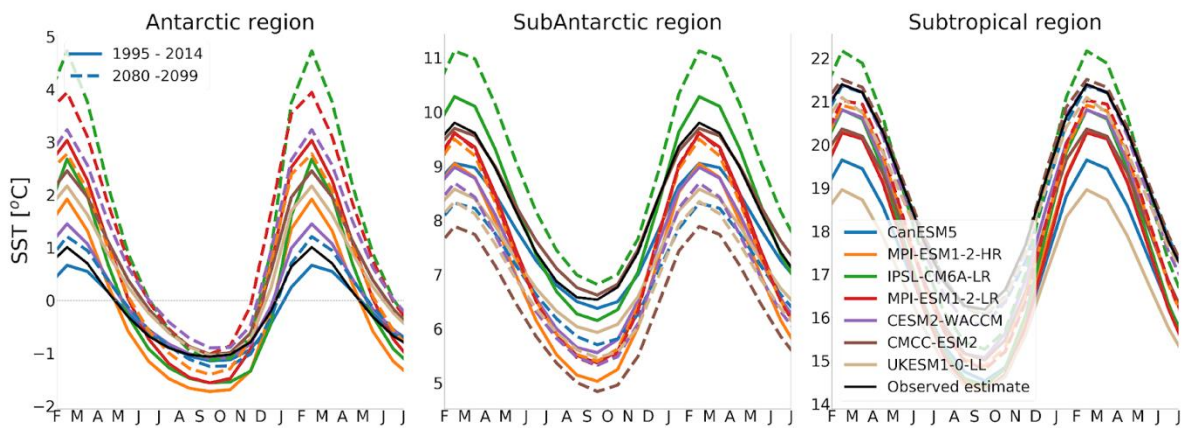
43 *Supplementary table 1. The list of the nine Earth System models used in this study. For the vertical grid ρ means*  
 44 *isopycnic and several symbols means hybrid*  
 45

Abbreviated name	Brief method description	Proxy variables	References
JMA-MLR	A regional regression approach where MLR is applied to 44 defined regions	xCO <sub>2</sub> , SST, SSS, MLD, Chl-a, SLP, WIND	Iida et al. (2020) <sup>10</sup>
NIES-nn	A NN approach that uses no clustering or regions	MON, LAT, LON, SST, SSS, CHL	Zeng et al. (2014) <sup>11</sup>
CMEMS-LSCE-FFNN	Two-step NN that estimates seasonal variability and the anomalies there from	SST, SSS, SSH, MLD, Chl-a, xCO <sub>2</sub>	Denvil-Sommer et al. (2019) <sup>12</sup>
MPI-SOMFFN	A two-step approach that first clusters data with SOM, and then performs a regression per cluster using NN.	xCO <sub>2</sub> , SST, SSS, MLD, Chl-a	Landschützer et al. (2014) <sup>13</sup>
CSIR-ML6	An ensemble two-step cluster-regression approaches. Clustering is performed with K-means, and	xCO <sub>2</sub> , SST, SSS, MLD, Chl-a, WIND, MON	Gregor et al. (2019) <sup>14</sup>

	regression: NN, GBDT, and SVR.		
Jena-MLS	Mixed Layer Scheme: A bayesian approach that matches pCO <sub>2</sub> observations to the mixed layer DIC budget.	SST, SSS, and other variables (see Fig 1 in reference)	Rödenbeck et al. (2013) <sup>15</sup>

46 *Supplementary table 2. Details of observation-based surface pCO<sub>2</sub> products collated in the SeaFlux ensemble*  
47 *product (Fay and Gregor et al. 2021). Note that the abbreviated names all contain the institution(s) and then an*  
48 *abbreviation for the method. Further, NN = neural network, SOM = self-organising map, MLR = multi-linear*  
49 *regression, GBDT = gradient boosted decision trees, SVR = support vector regression. For proxy variables,*  
50 *SST = sea surface temperature, SSS = sea surface salinity, SSH = sea surface height, MLD = mixed layer*  
51 *depth, Chl-a = Chlorophyll-a, SLP = sea level pressure, WIND = wind speed at 10m, xCO<sub>2</sub> = atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub>*  
52 *concentration, LAT = latitude, LON = longitude, MON = month. Note that some of these variables have been*  
53 *transformed in the original study but have simplified for brevity in this table. Please see the original study for*  
54 *full details.*

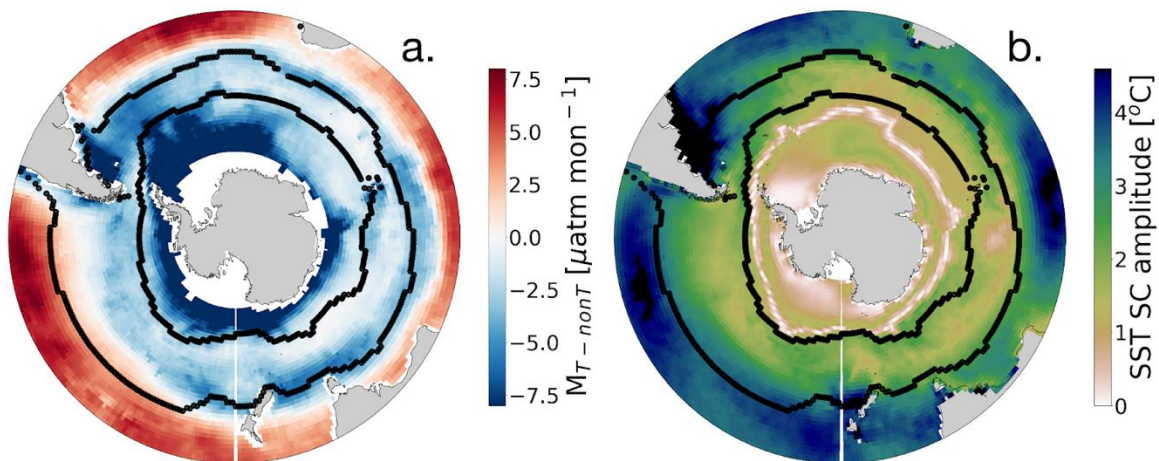
55



56

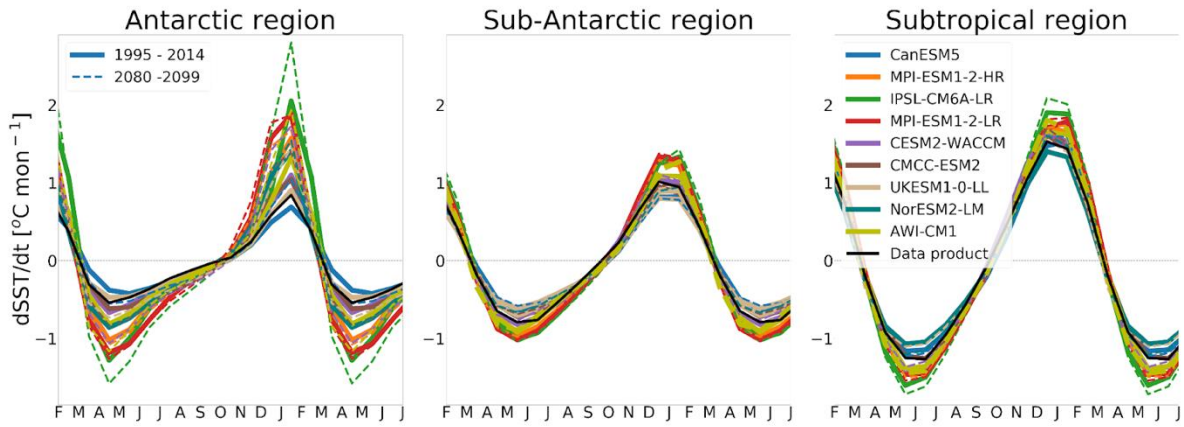
57 *Supplementary figure 1. The seasonal cycle of sea surface temperature. The left panel is the Antarctic region,*  
58 *the middle panel is the Sub-Antarctic region, and the right is the subtropical region.*

59

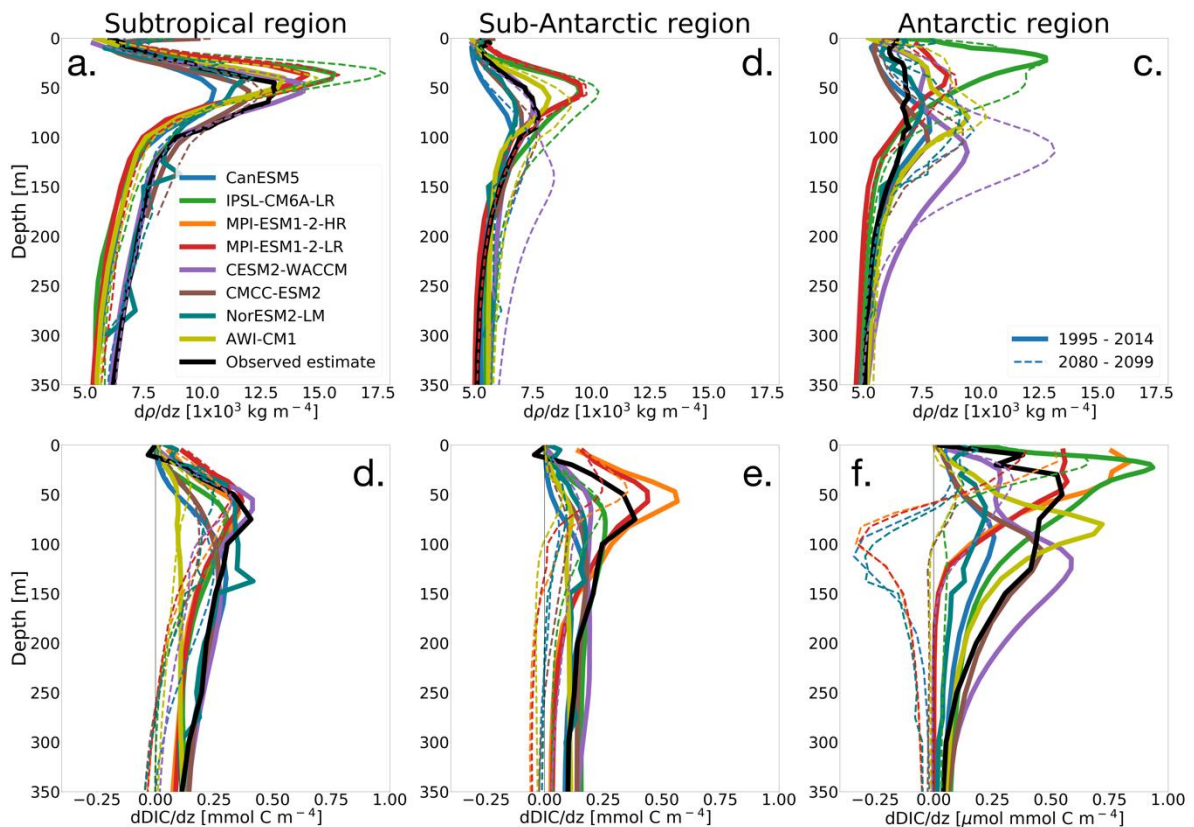


60

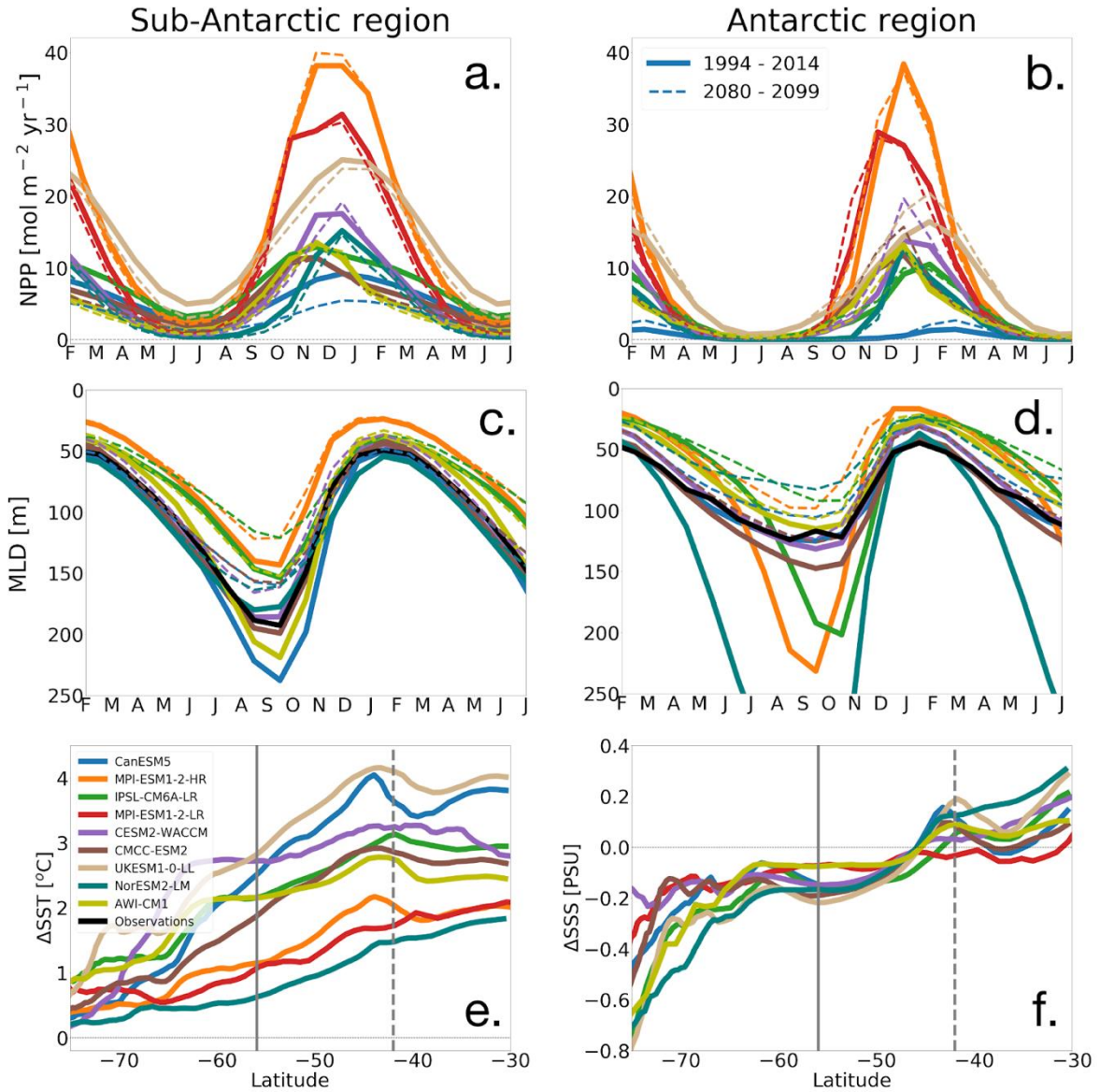
61 *Supplementary figure 2. The left panel shows the annual mean of the observation-based estimate of  $MT\text{-}nonT$*   
 62 *(eq. 3), red (blue) denotes regions where the thermal (nonthermal) component is leading driving monthly  $pCO_2$*   
 63 *changes, and blue denotes nonthermal processes (biological and mixing) are leading the monthly  $pCO_2$*   
 64 *changes. The right panel shows the seasonal amplitude {summer (DJF) vs. winter (JJA)} of sea surface*  
 65 *temperature in the Southern Ocean.*  
 66



67 *Supplementary figure 3. The seasonal cycle of the monthly rate of sea surface temperature. The left panel is the*  
 68 *Antarctic region, the middle panel is the Sub-Antarctic region, and the right is the subtropical region.*  
 69  
 70



71 *Supplementary figure 4. Vertical density gradient ( $dp/dz$ , top panel) and dissolved inorganic carbon vertical*  
 72 *gradient ( $dDIC/dz$ , bottom panel) for Subtropical (left panel), Sub-Antarctic (middle panel) and Antarctic (right*  
 73 *panel) regions. Solid lines depict the present climate (1995 – 2014) and dotted lines the end of the 21st century*  
 74 *(2080 – 2099).*  
 75  
 76



77

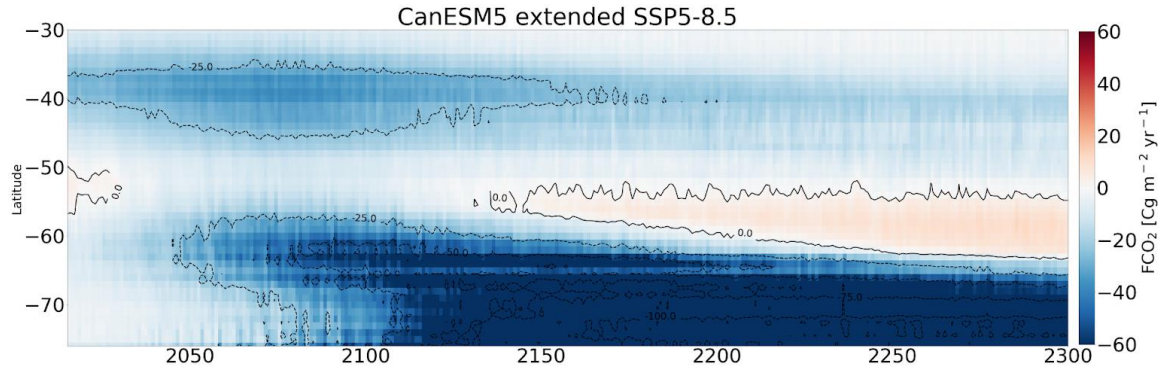
78 *Supplementary figure 5. The seasonal cycle of net primary production (NPP, top panel), the seasonal cycle of*  
 79 *the ocean mixed layer depth (MLD, second row panel). The solid lines are the present climate (1995 – 2014)*  
 80 *and dotted lines are the end of the 21st century (2080 – 2099). The bottom panel shows zonal averages of sea*  
 81 *surface temperature and surface salinity net change (2080-2099 vs 1995-2014).*

82

83

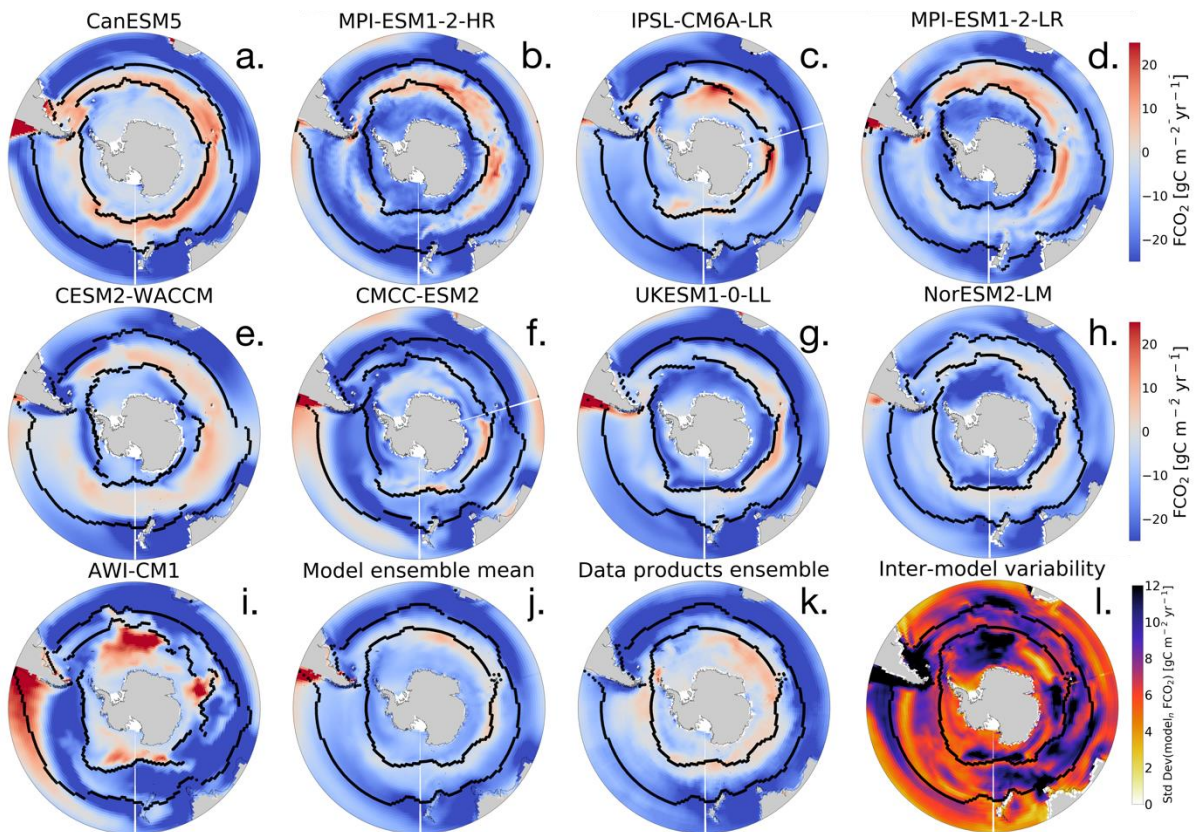
84

85



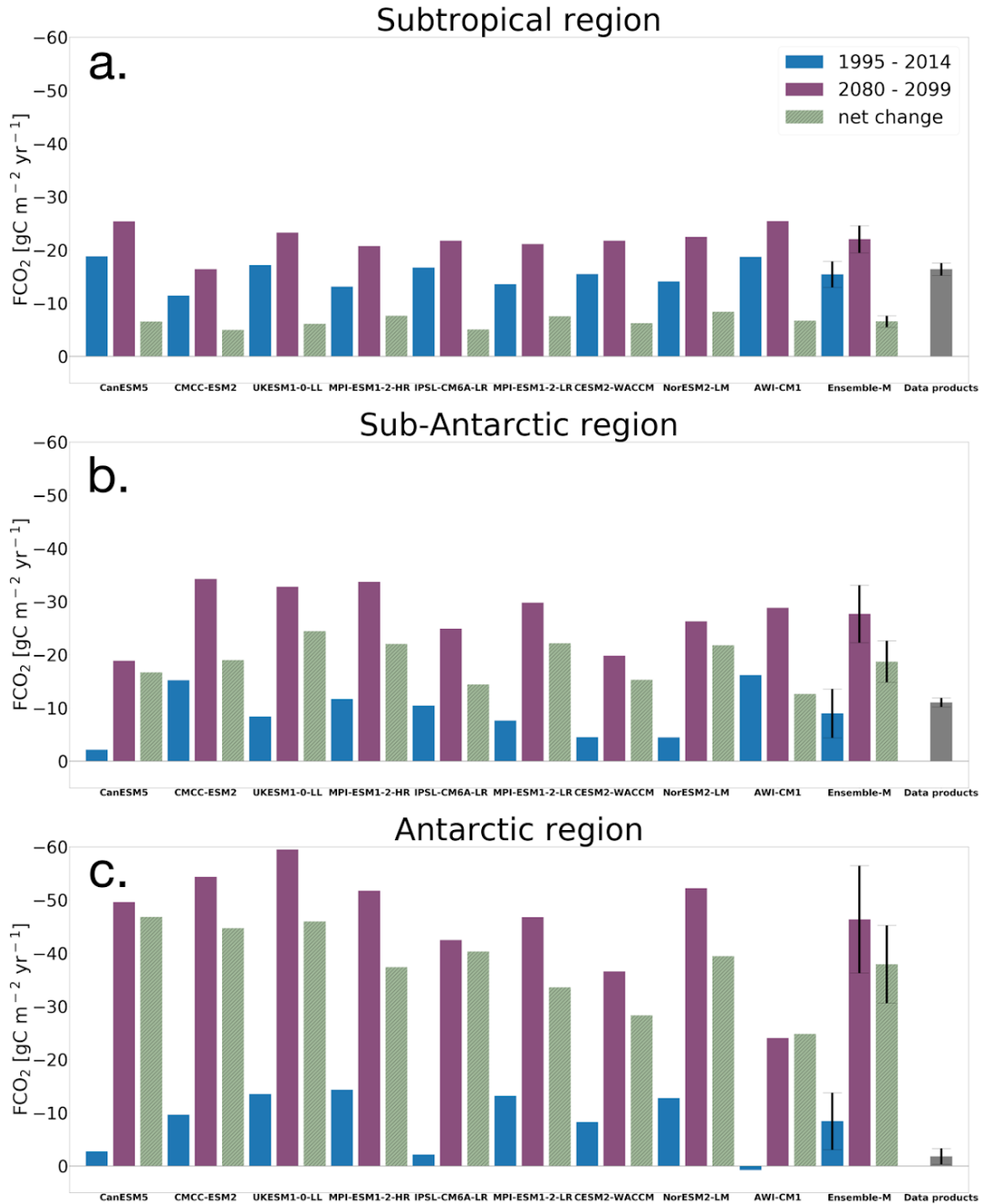
86  
87  
88  
89  
90

Supplementary figure 6. Annual and zonal mean air-sea  $CO_2$  fluxes ( $FCO_2$ ) south of  $30^\circ$  in CanESM5 for SSP5-8.5 climate scenario.



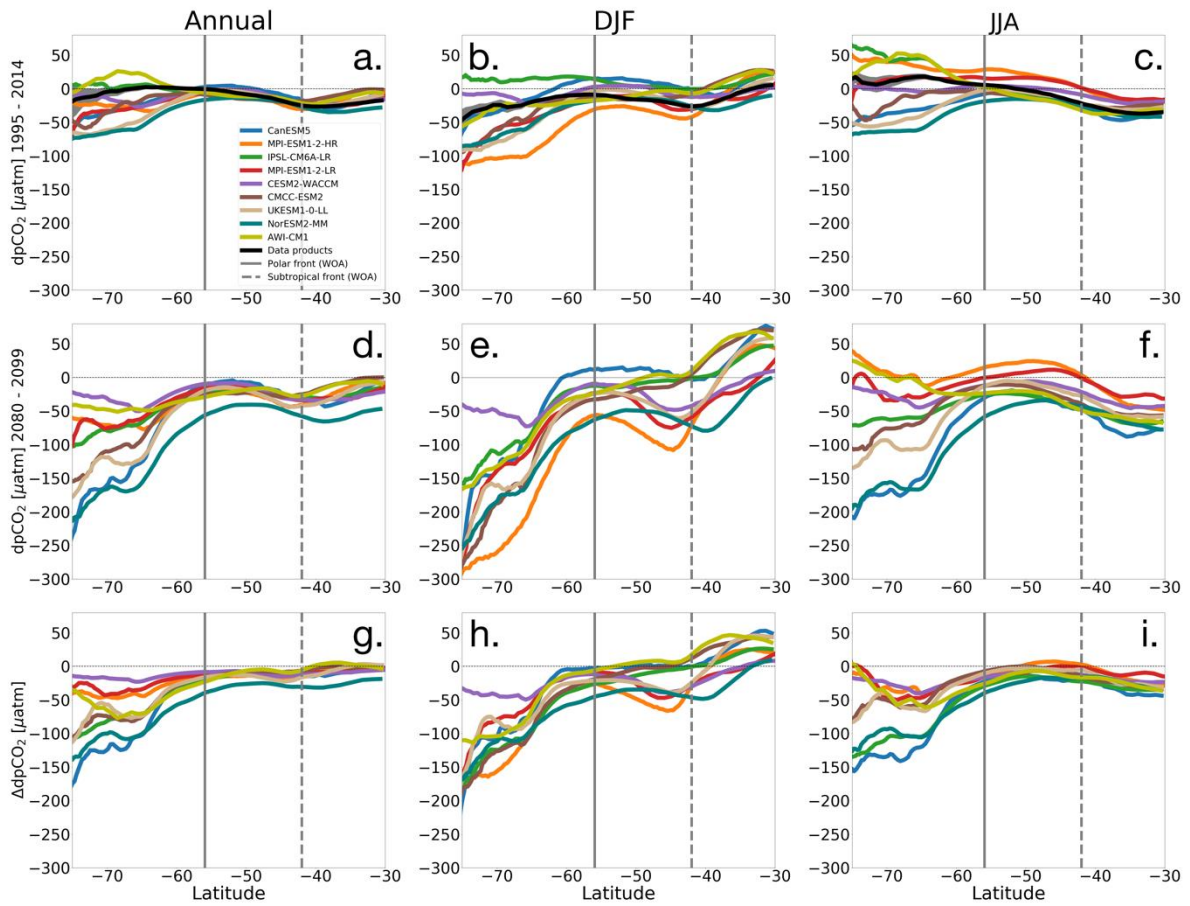
91  
92  
93  
94  
95  
96  
97  
98  
99  
100  
101

Supplementary figure 7. The climatological mean of air-sea  $CO_2$  flux ( $FCO_2$ ) in the Southern Ocean (south of  $30^\circ S$ ) for nine CMIP6 ESMs for historical period (1995 - 2014), negative indicates flux into the ocean and positive outgassing for (a- i), the multi model mean (j), the ensemble mean of six  $pCO_2$  products (k) and the ESM inter model variability (l), all given in  $gC m^{-2} yr^{-1}$ . The fronts are defined according to Orsi et al. (1995) as black lines with the Subtropical Front to the North and the Polar Front to the South. The zones are defined as the subtropical region north of the Subtropical Front (outer line), the Sub-Antarctic region between the two fronts and the Antarctic region to the south of the Polar Front (inner line).



102  
 103  
 104  
 105  
 106  
 107

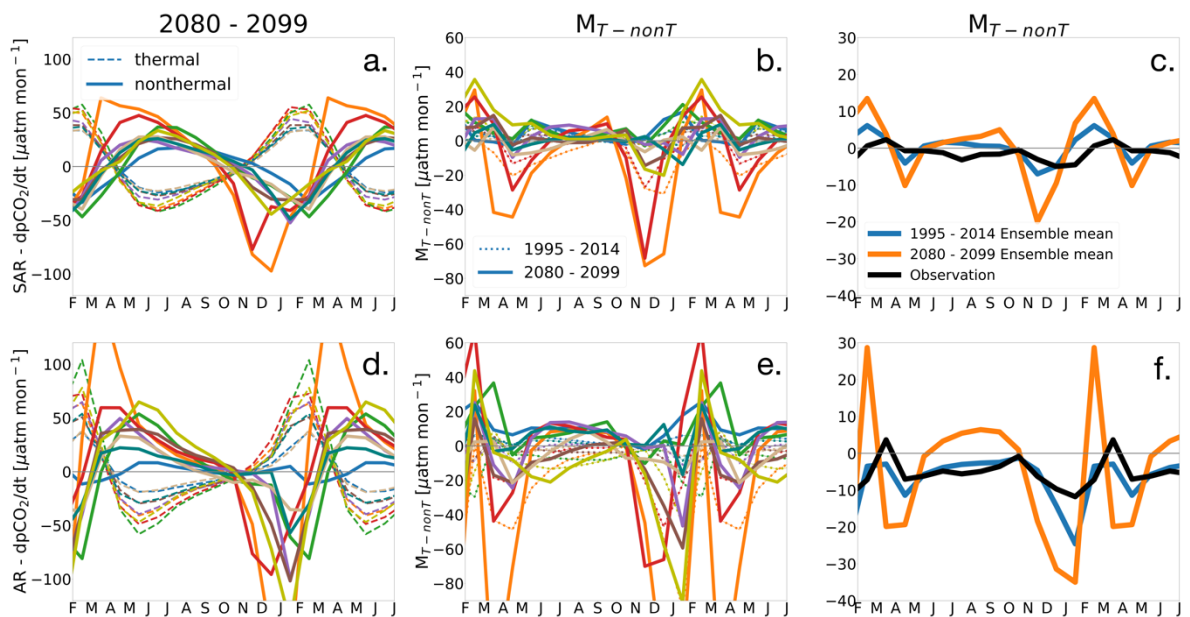
Supplementary figure 8. Annual mean air-sea  $CO_2$  fluxes ( $FCO_2$ ) in the Southern Ocean (south of  $30^\circ S$ ) for nine CMIP6 ESMs, the multi model mean, and ensemble mean of six  $pCO_2$  products, given in  $gC\ m^{-2}\ yr^{-1}$ . The error bars reflect the standard deviation.



108

109 *Supplementary figure 9. Zonally averaged  $\Delta pCO_2$  in the Southern Ocean (south of 30°S) for nine CMIP6 ESMs,*  
 110 *and ensemble mean of six  $pCO_2$  products, given in  $\mu atm$  units. The top panels show the present climate*  
 111 *averages, middle panels show the end of the century (2080 – 2099) averages and net changes are shown in the*  
 112 *bottom panel. The first, second, and third column depict the annual mean, the austral summer (DJF), and*  
 113 *austral winter (JJA) averages, respectively. The vertical grey lines denote frontal positions, solid line the Polar*  
 114 *Front and dotted the Subtropical Front.*

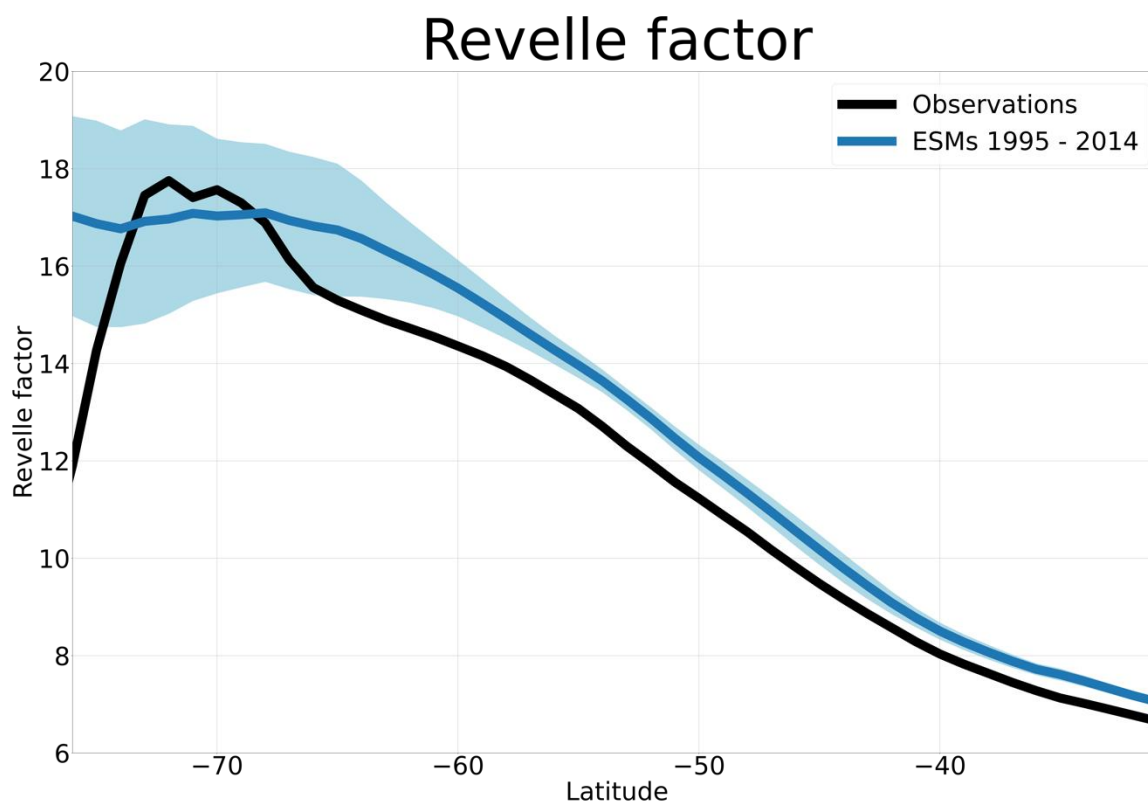
115



116



117 Supplementary figure 10. The seasonal cycle of the rate of change of the thermal ( $dpCO_{2\text{ thermal}}/dt$ ) and  
 118 nonthermal ( $dpCO_{2\text{ nonthermal}}/dt$ ) ocean  $pCO_2$  components for the present climate (left panel), the absolute  
 119 difference between thermal and non-thermal components (middle panel;  $M_{T\text{-non}T}$ ) in the Sub-Antarctic region  
 120 (SAZ, top panel) and Antarctic region (AZ, bottom panel). The right panel show the ensemble mean of the  $M_{T\text{-non}T}$   
 121 for present climate (blue), end of the 21st century (orange) and observations (black). The colors legend  
 122 for each ESM in the first two columns follow the previous figure.



123  
 124 Supplementary figure 11. The Revelle factor ESMs ensemble (1995 – 2015, in blue) and the CSIR-ML6 data-  
 125 product estimate in black. The shading show the inter-model variability, one standard deviation.

126

## 127 Supplementary References

- 128 1. Swart, N. C. *et al.* The Canadian Earth System Model version 5 (CanESM5.0.3). *Geosci*  
 129 *Model Dev* **12**, 4823–4873 (2019).
- 130 2. Lovato, T. *et al.* CMIP6 Simulations With the CMCC Earth System Model (CMCC-ESM2). *J*  
 131 *Adv Model Earth Syst* **14**, (2022).
- 132 3. Danabasoglu, G. *et al.* The Community Earth System Model Version 2 (CESM2). *J Adv Model*  
 133 *Earth Syst* **12**, (2020).
- 134 4. Vial, J., Dufresne, J. L. & Bony, S. On the interpretation of inter-model spread in CMIP5  
 135 climate sensitivity estimates. *Clim Dyn* **41**, 3339–3362 (2013).
- 136 5. Bentsen, M. *et al.* The Norwegian Earth System Model, NorESM1-M – Part 1: Description  
 137 and basic evaluation of the physical climate. *Geosci Model Dev* **6**, 687–720 (2013).

- 138 6. Mauritsen, T. *et al.* Developments in the MPI-M Earth System Model version 1.2 (MPI-  
139 ESM1.2) and Its Response to Increasing CO<sub>2</sub>. *J Adv Model Earth Syst* **11**, 998–1038 (2019).
- 140 7. Müller, W. A. *et al.* A Higher-resolution Version of the Max Planck Institute Earth System  
141 Model (MPI-ESM1.2-HR). *J Adv Model Earth Syst* **10**, 1383–1413 (2018).
- 142 8. Sellar, A. A. *et al.* UKESM1: Description and Evaluation of the U.K. Earth System Model. *J*  
143 *Adv Model Earth Syst* **11**, 4513–4558 (2019).
- 144 9. Semmler, T. *et al.* Simulations for CMIP6 With the AWI Climate Model AWI-CM-1-1. *J Adv*  
145 *Model Earth Syst* **12**, (2020).
- 146 10. Iida, Y., Takatani, Y., Kojima, A. & Ishii, M. Global trends of ocean CO<sub>2</sub> sink and ocean  
147 acidification: an observation-based reconstruction of surface ocean inorganic carbon variables.  
148 *J Oceanogr* **77**, 323–358 (2021).
- 149 11. Zeng, J., Nojiri, Y., Landschützer, P., Telszewski, M. & Nakaoka, S. A global surface ocean  
150 fCO<sub>2</sub> climatology based on a feed-forward neural network. *J Atmos Ocean Technol* **31**, 1838–  
151 1849 (2014).
- 152 12. Denvil-Sommer, A., Gehlen, M. & Vrac, M. Observation system simulation experiments in the  
153 Atlantic Ocean for enhanced surface ocean pCO<sub>2</sub> reconstructions. *Ocean Science* **17**, 1011–  
154 1030 (2021).
- 155 13. Landschützer, P., Gruber, N., Bakker, D. C. E. & Schuster, U. Recent variability of the global  
156 ocean carbon sink. *Global Biogeochem Cycles* **28**, 927–949 (2014).
- 157 14. Gregor, L., Lebehof, A. D., Kok, S. & Scheel Monteiro, P. M. A comparative assessment of  
158 the uncertainties of global surface ocean CO<sub>2</sub> estimates using a machine-learning ensemble  
159 (CSIR-ML6 version 2019a)-Have we hit the wall? *Geosci Model Dev* **12**, 5113–5136 (2019).
- 160 15. Rödenbeck, C. *et al.* Global surface-ocean pCO<sub>2</sub> and sea-Air CO<sub>2</sub> flux variability from an  
161 observation-driven ocean mixed-layer scheme. *Ocean Science* **9**, 193–216 (2013).
- 162 16. Semmler, T. *et al.* Simulations for CMIP6 With the AWI Climate Model AWI-CM-1-1. *J Adv*  
163 *Model Earth Syst* **12**, (2020).

164