1 Inorganic carbon dynamics of melt pond-covered first year sea ice in the

2 **Canadian Arctic**

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13 **1. Abstract**

Melt pond formation is a common feature of spring and summer Arctic sea ice, but the role and impact of sea ice melt and pond formation on both the direction and size of CO₂ flux between air and sea is still unknown. Here we report on the CO₂carbonate chemistry of melting sea ice, melt ponds and the underlying seawater as well as CO₂ fluxes at the surface of first year landfast sea ice in the Resolute Passage, Nunavut, in June 2012.

- 20 Early in the melt season, the increase of the ice temperature and the subsequent 21 decrease of bulk ice salinity promote a strong decrease of the total alkalinity (TA), 22 total dissolved inorganic carbon (TCO_2) and partial pressure of CO_2 (pCO_2) within 23 the bulk sea ice and the brine. As sea ice melt progresses, melt ponds form, mainly 24 from melted snow, leading to a low in situ melt pond pCO_2 (36 µatm). The 25 percolation of this low pCO_2 melt water into the sea ice matrix dilutes the brine 26 resulting in a strong decrease of the *in situ* brine pCO_2 (to 20 µatm). This initial low 27 in situ pCO₂ observed in brine and melt ponds results in air-ice CO₂ fluxes ranging between -0.04 and -5.4 mmol $m^{-2} d^{-1}$ (negative sign for fluxes out of the atmosphere 28 29 into the ocean). As melt ponds strive to reach pCO_2 equilibrium with the atmosphere, 30 their in situ pCO_2 increases (up to 380 µatm) with time and the percolation of this 31 relatively high concentration pCO_2 melt water increases the *in situ* brine pCO_2 within 32 the sea ice matrix as the melt season progresses. As the melt pond pCO_2 increases, 33 the uptake of atmospheric CO₂ becomes less significant. However, since melt ponds 34 are continuously supplied by melt water their in situ pCO₂ still remains under-35 saturated with respect to the atmosphere, promoting a continuous but moderate uptake of CO₂ (\sim -1 mmol m⁻² d⁻¹) into the ocean. Considering the minimum and 36 37 maximum Arctic sea ice extents during the melt period (90 days), we estimate an 38 uptake of atmospheric CO₂ ranging from 7.3 to 16.4 Tg of C yr⁻¹ due to the sea ice 39 melt pond dynamics. This additional uptake of CO₂ associated to Arctic sea ice needs 40 to be further explored and considered in the estimation of the Arctic Ocean's overall 41 CO₂ budget.
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43 **2. Introduction**

44 The Arctic Ocean represents a global important CO_2 sink, with current estimates of net air to sea CO₂ fluxes between -66 and -199 Tg C yr⁻¹ [*Bates and Mathis*, 2009; 45 Takahashi et al., 2009]. The role of sea ice in these measured air-sea CO₂ exchanges 46 still remains uncertain [Parmentier et al., 2013] although recent studies suggest that 47 sea ice may act as an important control on the pCO_2 in the ocean surface layer (e.g. 48 49 Rysgaard et al., [2012b; 2013]). In particularly, our understanding of inorganic 50 carbon dynamics during the sea ice melt season and its importance to the annual 51 exchange of CO₂ across the atmosphere-sea ice-ocean interfaces is incomplete. Early 52 studies have suggested that melt ponds could be invoked as significant contributors 53 to the Arctic CO_2 balance through their uptake of CO_2 [Semiletov et al., 2004]. 54 However, their impact on inorganic carbon transport through sea ice remains largely 55 uncharacterized, despite the fact that they are a major and increasing surface feature 56 of Arctic sea ice during spring and summer [Rösel and Kaleschke, 2012].

57 Melt ponds cover up to 50-60% of the Arctic summer sea ice area [Fetterer and 58 Untersteiner, 1998; Eicken et al., 2004]. They result from the accumulation of 59 meltwater on sea ice mainly due to melting of snow. Sea ice melt also contributes to 60 the melt pond formation and growth in advanced stages of melt [Rösel and Kaleschke, 61 2012], driven by the increase of short-wave radiation absorption during the summer 62 [Taylor and Feltham, 2004]. During melt pond formation, meltwater either drains 63 into the ocean through cracks and other openings in the sea ice or is collected on the 64 ice surface in depressed areas. This meltwater is nearly free of salt and has a density 65 maximum above the freezing point. Therefore, the radiative heating will favour 66 convection [Fetterer and Untersteiner, 1998]. This convection will be further assisted 67 by winds, increasing temperature erosion of the pond edge eventually extending the 68 pond area. As sea ice warms during spring its brine volume increases and meltwater 69 ponds located above the freeboard may drain by vertical seepage to the underlying 70 water (brine flushing - e.g. Fetterer and Untersteiner [1998]), thereby freshening the 71 upper layer of the ocean. This mechanism is believed to be the primary cause for sea 72 ice desalinisation [Untersteiner, 1968; Cox and Weeks, 1974]. The input of freshwater 73to the surface layer of the ocean can lead to the formation of under-ice melt ponds,74freshwater lenses trapped under thinner ice areas or in depressions in the bottom of75thicker ice [Hanson, 1965; Weeks, 2010]. The discharge of melt water through the ice76cover is proportional to the ice permeability and the hydraulic pressure gradient in77the brine system. In summer Arctic sea ice, this gradient is mostly determined by78differences in hydraulic head that develop as a result of melt over a non-uniform ice79surface [Eicken et al., 2002].

- 80 Melt pond formation has a strong impact on the summer energy and mass budgets of 81 an ice cover through the sea ice-albedo-feedback mechanism [Fetterer and 82 Untersteiner, 1998; Taylor and Feltham, 2004; Perovich et al., 2011]. Melt ponds also 83 alter the physical and optical properties of sea ice [Perovich et al., 2002], have a strong influence of the temporal evolution of sea ice salinity [Untersteiner, 1968; Cox 84 85 and Weeks, 1974] and affect the salt and heat budget of the ocean mixed layer [Eicken et al., 2002; Perovich et al., 2002]. Although a few studies report surface flux 86 87 measurements of CO₂ during active surface melt [Semiletov et al., 2004; Geilfus et al., 2012b; Nomura et al., 2013], the role of surface melt ponds and the impact of sea ice 88 89 melt on both the direction and the amount of air-sea CO₂ flux is still not well 90 understood.
- 91 Semiletov et al. [2004], using chambers, documented CO₂ fluxes of -3.9 to -51 mmol 92 $m^{-2} d^{-1}$ (negative flux indicating sea ice uptake of CO_2) across the sea ice-atmosphere 93 interface over melt ponds in June, near to Barrow, Alaska. At that time brine pCO₂ 94 was under-saturated (from 220 to 280 µatm) with respect to the atmosphere (365 – 95 375 μatm). This under-saturation was attributed to an increase of photosynthetically 96 active radiation (PAR), which was suggested to have reduced the pCO_2 in the brine 97 by enhancing photosynthesis [Semiletov et al., 2004]. In June 2008, Geilfus et al. 98 [2012b] reported CO₂ fluxes over melt ponds and sea ice ranging from -0.02 to -2.7 99 mmol m⁻² d⁻¹, also using the chamber technique over first year sea ice in the Beaufort 100 Sea. These fluxes were substantially smaller than those reported by *Semiletov et al.* 101 [2004], but in the same order of magnitude as those reported during period of melt 102 and surface flooding on Antarctic and Arctic sea ice [Nomura et al., 2013]. In the

103 *Geilfus et al.* [2012b] study, sea ice brine and overlying melt ponds were highly 104 under-saturated in CO_2 relative to atmospheric levels (pCO_2 between 0 and 188 µatm 105 for brine and between 79 and 348 µatm for melt ponds) for the 1.2 m thick landfast 106 sea ice in the Amundsen Gulf (Beaufort Sea). At that time, melt ponds were well 107 established and interconnected. The fresh water originating from internal and 108 surface melting was suggested as an important driver of the observed under-109 saturation together with other processes, including the dissolution of calcium 110 carbonate and primary production. Using micrometeorological techniques, 111 Papakyriakou and Miller [2011] also reported CO₂ uptake with the progression of 112 melt, although flux magnitudes are widely diverging from the chamber-based studies 113 highlighted above.

In this study, we examine how the melting of the sea ice cover and the associated formation of melt ponds affects the inorganic carbon dynamic and the air – ice CO_2 exchanges. The evolution of the carbonate system was examined using measurements of TA, TCO_2 and pCO_2 on bulk sea ice, brine and melt ponds, in association with CO_2 flux measurements over sea ice and melt ponds. Percolation of melt water from melt ponds was tracked using the isotopic ratios δD and $\delta^{18}O$ within bulk sea ice and brine.

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3. Study site, materials and methods

122 Field data were collected over first-year landfast sea ice in Resolute Passage, 123 Nunavut, from 3 to 23 June 2012. The sampling site (~ 100 x 100 m) was located 124 between Sheringham Point and Griffith Island (74.726°N, 95.576°W, Figure 1). At the 125 site, adjacent 5 x 5 m areas were chosen for regular sampling for carbonate 126 chemistry determination of ice cores and seawater (on 4-day intervals), while the 127 carbonate chemistry of brine and the surface flux of CO₂ was sampled every 2-days. 128 During our survey, the air temperature increased from 0.6 to 4.3° C (Figure 2). 129 During our first ice station (4 June), coarse wet snow was found at the surface of the 130 ice. On 10 June, the first melt ponds were observed (Figure 2). Once the melt ponds 131 started to form, the ice core and brine sampling was limited to area without melt 132 ponds, referred to as melt hummock.

133Brine was collected using the sackhole technique (*e.g. Gleitz et al.* [1995]). Sackholes134were drilled at incremental depths (20, 40, 75, 100 cm). Brine from adjacent brine135channels and pockets was allowed to seep into the sackholes for 5 to 10 min before136being collected using a peristaltic pump (Cole Palmer®, Masterflex – Environmental137Sampler). Each sackhole was covered with a plastic lid to stop snow falling into the138hole.

- 139 Sea ice core samples were collected using a MARK II coring system (Kovacs 140 Enterprises[®]). Two ice cores were immediately wrapped in polyethylene (PE) bags 141 and stored horizontally on the sampling site at -20°C in a portable freezer 142 (Whynter[®] 45 Quart portable Freezer FM-45G) to minimize brine drainage during 143 transport. The first core was dedicated to the analysis of total alkalinity (TA) and 144 total dissolved inorganic carbon (TCO_2). The second core was dedicated to partial 145 pressure of CO_2 in bulk ice (noted as $pCO_2[bulk]$) analysis. Two others cores were 146 collected for *in situ* sea ice temperature, bulk ice salinity and ikaite (CaCO₃• $6H_2O$) 147 content.
- 148Seawater was collected at the ice-water interface through an ice core hole using the149peristaltic pump. The same pump was used to collected melt pond samples and an150articulated arm was used to collect under-ice melt pond samples. We also collected151water column samples at six depths (2, 5, 10, 25, 50, 80 m) using 5 L Niskin bottles152for determination of TA and TCO2. Vertical profiles of water temperature and salinity153were measured with a newly calibrated Sea-Bird SBE 19plus V2 conductivity-154temperature depth (CTD) probe.
- The pCO_2 was measured *in situ* (noted as $pCO_2[in situ]$) on brine, melt pond water and under-ice seawater using a custom-made equilibration system. The system consists of a membrane contactor equilibrator connected to a non-dispersive infrared gas analyzer (IRGA, Li-Cor 820) via a closed air loop. Brine and airflow rates through the equilibrator and IRGA are approximately 2 l min⁻¹ and 3 l min⁻¹, respectively. Temperature was measured using a calibrated temperature probe (Testo 720[®], ±0.1°C precision) simultaneously *in situ* and at the outlet of the

162 equilibrator. Temperature correction of *p*CO₂ was applied assuming that the relation
163 of *Copin Montégut* [1988] is valid at low temperature and high salinity.

164 Sea ice temperature was measured in situ immediately after extraction of the ice 165 cores using a calibrated temperature probe (Testo 720[®], ±0.1[°]C precision) inserted 166 into pre-drilled holes (2.5 cm intervals), perpendicular to core sides. Bulk sea ice 167 salinity and ikaite content was determined on a duplicate ice core sliced into 5 cm 168 sections directly after extraction and placed in sealed containers, which were then placed in a lab fridge to melt at 4°C. These samples were checked regularly, so that 169 170 the melt water temperature never rose above 1-2°C. Once the samples melted, 171 crystals left in solution were observed on a chilled glass slide under a binocular 172 microscope at room temperature. Finally, the bulk salinity of these samples was 173 measured using a calibrated Thermo-Orion portable salinometer WP-84TPS meter 174 with a precision of ± 0.1 . The sea ice brine volume was calculated according to *Cox* 175 and Weeks [1983] for temperatures below -2°C, and according to Leppäranta and 176 Manninen [1988] between 0°C to -2°C.

177 Samples of melted bulk ice, brine, melt ponds, under-ice melt pond water and 178 underlying seawater were brought back to the University of Manitoba for TA and 179 TCO_2 measurements. Samples were poisoned with a solution of saturated HgCl₂ to 180 prevent any biological activity. The ice core was cut into 10 cm sections in a cold 181 room (-20°C), and each section was placed in a gas-tight laminated (Nylon, ethylene 182 vinyl alcohol, and polyethylene) plastic bag [Hansen et al., 2000] fitted with a 20-cm 183 gas tight Tygon tube and valve. The plastic bag was sealed immediately and excess 184 air was gently removed through the valve using a vacuum pump. The bagged sea ice 185 samples were then melted in the fridge at 4°C and the meltwater mixture and 186 bubbles were transferred to a gas-tight vial (12 ml Exetainer, Labco High Wycombe, 187 UK). TA was determined by potentiometric titration [Haraldsson et al., 1997] with a 188 precision of $\pm 3 \mu$ mol kg⁻¹ while TCO₂ was determined on a TCO₂ auto-analyzer (AS-189 C3, Apollo SciTech) via sample acidification (H₃PO₄) followed by non-dispersive 190 infrared CO₂ detection (LI-7000) with a precision of $\pm 2 \mu$ mol kg⁻¹. Both TA and TCO₂ were calibrated with certified references material from Dr. A. G. Dickson at theScripps Institution of Oceanography.

193 The ice cores taken for bulk ice pCO_2 analysis were cut into 10 cm sections and 194 stored at -20°C then shipped frozen so that the bulk ice pCO_2 (pCO_2 [bulk]) could be 195 measured at the Laboratoire de Glaciologie, Université Libre de Bruxelles, using the 196 technique developed by *Geilfus et al.* [2012a]. The general principle of the method is 197 to equilibrate the sea ice samples with a mixture of N_2 and CO_2 of known 198 concentration (referred to as the "standard gas", 146 µatm) at the in situ 199 temperature and rapidly extract the gases into a Varian 3300 gas chromatograph 200 under vacuum. The ice sample is cut to fit tightly the container (4 x 4 x 4.5 cm) to 201 both minimize the headspace volume and keep this headspace constant. The 202 standard gas is injected at 1013 mbar into the container. Then the container with the 203 ice sample is placed in a thermostatic bath setup at the field *in situ* temperature for 204 24 hours. This timing is chosen to ensure that the sample is re-equilibrated to the 205 brine volume and chemical conditions at the *in situ* temperature. A quick injection 206 into the gas chromatograph then allows the reconstruction of the equilibrium brine 207 pCO_2 at the *in situ* temperature. This method is only valid if the ice is permeable at 208 the *in situ* conditions.

209We determined δD and $\delta^{18}O$ in 2 ml aliquots of sea ice, brine, under-ice seawater,210melt ponds and under-ice melt ponds. Stable isotope measurements were carried out211at the University of Manitoba using a Picarro L2130-*i* analyzer. Samples were212calibrated against Vienna Standard Mean Ocean Water (VSMOW) with a precision of2130.1 ‰ for ∂D and 0.025 ‰ for $\partial^{18}O$.

CO₂ fluxes at the sea ice surface were measured using a Licor 8100-103 chamber associated with the LI-8100A soil CO₂ flux system. The chamber was connected in a closed loop to the IRGA with an air pump rate at 3 L min⁻¹. pCO₂ in the chamber was recorded every second for 15 minutes and the flux was computed from the slope of the linear regression of pCO₂ against time (r² > 0.99) according to *Frankignoulle* [1988], taking into account the air volume enclosed within the chamber. The uncertainty of the flux computation due to the standard error on the regressionslope was on average ±3%.

- **4. Results**
- **a. Sea ice**

224 The average ice thickness at the sampling site, as determined from cores, decreased 225 from 130 (±5) to 105 (±5) cm over the sampling campaign. The mean ice 226 temperature increased from -2.9°C on 4 June to -1.5°C on 12 June (Figure 3). From 227 10 June, the temperature of the top 20 cm of the ice was slightly negative (-0.5° C to 228 0° C) while the rest of the ice thickness remained around -1.5°C. Bulk ice salinity 229 ranged from 7.5 to 0 (Figure 3). The top 20 cm of the ice had salinity around 0 while 230 the bulk salinity of the central part of the ice decreased from 7.5 to 4 during the 231 survey. The salinities associated with the high sea ice temperatures result in brine 232 volumes greater than 5% (data not shown).

The δ^{18} O and δ D isotopic ratios ranged from 1.9 to -23.9‰ and 2.5 to -191.2‰, respectively (Figure 3). Profiles of δ^{18} O and δ D appear to follow the same trend with the lowest values observed in the top 20 cm of the ice cover. Two low events were reported in the upper 20 cm of the ice cover. The first was from 8 to 12 June with an isotopic ratios of δ^{18} O and δ D as low as -23.9 and -191.2‰, respectively. The second was on 17 June with δ^{18} O and δ D of -15.4 and -133.7‰ respectively. The rest of the ice cover ranged from -2 to 1.9‰ for δ^{18} O and from -7 to 2.5‰ for δ D.

240 The mean total alkalinity in melted bulk sea ice (TA_{ice}) for the entire ice column 241 gradually decreased from 408 µmol kg⁻¹ on 4 June to 283 µmol kg⁻¹ on 21 June 242 (Figure 3). This decrease of TA_{ice} was more pronounced in the top 20 cm of the ice 243 cover where the minimal value of 106 µmol kg⁻¹ was observed on 17 June. The same trend was observed for the total inorganic carbon (TCO_{2ice}, Figure 3). The mean 244 245 *T*CO_{2ice} of the entire ice column decreased from 332 µmol kg⁻¹ on 4 June to 225 µmol 246 kg⁻¹ on 21 June. The minimum values were observed on 17 June, with a mean 247 concentration of 189 µmol kg⁻¹. To discard concentration – dilution effect, we 248 normalized TA_{ice} and TCO_{2ice} to a salinity of 5 (noted as nTA_{ice} , $nTCO_{2ice}$, respectively) because that was the mean bulk salinity of our sea ice samples. The main change observed in normalized values occurred in the top 20 cm. From 4 to 17 June, nTA_{ice} and $nTCO_{2ice}$ increased from 468 and 345 µmol kg⁻¹ to 1762 and 1041 µmol kg⁻¹ while the rest of the ice cover ranged from 337 to 564 µmol kg⁻¹ and from 219 to 461 µmol kg⁻¹, respectively. On 19 and 21 June, in the top 20 cm, nTA_{ice} and $nTCO_{2ice}$ decreased to 376 and 323 µmol kg⁻¹.

- From TA_{ice} and TCO_{2ice} , we computed a bulk ice pCO_2 (noted as $pCO_2[bulk_calc]$) using the CO₂ dissociation constants of *Mehrbach et al.* [1973] refitted by *Dickson and Millero* [1987]. This $pCO_2[bulk_calc]$ ranged from 0 to 32 µatm (Figure 4). On a duplicate ice core, the $pCO_2[bulk]$ was also measured on solid ice, at the *in situ* temperature, using the sample equilibration technique developed by *Geilfus et al.* [2012a]. The $pCO_2[bulk]$ ranged from 6 to 182 µatm (Figure 4).
- We observed few minerals in the ice, which dissolved within a few minutes at room temperature. Due to technical problems we were unable to take any pictures of the crystals. However, as the overall aspect of these crystals look exactly as the crystals found in *Geilfus et al.* [2013a]; [2013b] and [2014] and as they dissolved quickly at room temperature, we assumed they were ikaite (after *Rysgaard et al.* [2012b; 2013; 2014]).

267 **b. Brine**

268 From 4 to 10 June, the brine salinity decreased from 55 to 23 (Figure 5). Starting on 269 10 June, low brine salinities (ranging from 1.6 to 11.8) were found at 20 cm depth 270 while deeper brine salinities ranged from 11 to 30, except on 17 June where low 271 salinity were also found at 40 cm depth. The δ^{18} O and δ D isotopic ratios ranged from -1.5 to -15.2‰ and from -15.5 to -118.2‰, respectively (Figure 5). Both profiles 272 273 appear to be similar, with the lowest values observed at 20 cm depth on 10 June (-274 15.2‰ and -118.1‰, respectively) and at 20 and 40 cm depth on 17 June (-10.4‰ and -87.5‰, respectively). 275

From 4 to 21 June, TA_{br} and *T*CO_{2br} decreased from their maximum values of 3487
 and 3189 μmol kg⁻¹, to 234 and 270 μmol kg⁻¹, respectively (Figure 5). Two periods

278of low concentrations were observed during our survey. First, on 10 June, minimums279of TA_{br} and TCO_{2br} occurred at 20 cm of 501 and 401 µmol kg⁻¹ respectively. Then, on28017 June, TA_{br} and TCO_{2br} were at 240 and 275 µmol kg⁻¹ respectively (at 20 and 40281cm). These two minimums in TA_{br} and TCO_{2br} coincided with maximums in nTA_{br} and282 $nTCO_{2br}$. On 10 June, nTA_{br} and $nTCO_{2br}$ were 596 and 478 µmol kg⁻¹, and on 17 June,283 nTA_{br} and $nTCO_{2br}$ were 874 and 900 µmol kg⁻¹.

- The brine $pCO_2[in situ]$ was under-saturated with respect to the atmosphere (395 µatm in June 2012) with values ranging from 20 µatm to 389 µatm (Figure 4, 5). From 4 to 12 June, the mean brine $pCO_2[in situ]$ decreased from 344 to 70 µatm. Then, it increased to 246 µatm on 17 June before decreasing to 81 µatm on 21 June.
- 288 c. Melt ponds

289 On 10 June, melt ponds started to form and were present during the rest of the 290 survey. The melt pond salinity ranged from 1.5 to 2.4 with temperatures from 0°C to 291 0.4° C. The δ^{18} O and δ D isotopic ratios ranged from -3.8 to -10.1‰ and from -40.6 to 292 -93.4‰.

- 293 TA_{mp} ranged from 219 to 332 µmol kg⁻¹ and $TCO_{2 mp}$ ranged from 206 to 306 µmol kg⁻2941 over the study period. *n*TA and *nTCO*₂ in the melt ponds ranged from 489 to 972295µmol kg⁻¹ and 562 to 918 µmol kg⁻¹, respectively.
- 296 Melt pond water was also under-saturated with respect to the atmosphere with a 297 $pCO_2[in \ situ]$ ranging from 36 to 381 µatm. During the initial formation of melt 298 ponds, their $pCO_2[in \ situ]$ was low (36 – 84 µatm) but increased to 381 µatm on 17 299 June before fluctuating between 150 and 370 µatm.
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d. Underlying seawater

301During the survey, the temperature of the seawater layer immediately underlying302the sea ice increased from -1.7°C to -1.4°C. The salinity of this layer decreased303gradually from 33.2 to 31.4 while the salinity of the water column below 10 m304changed much less (Figure 6).

- The δ^{18} O and δ D isotopic ratio of the surface layer decreased gradually from their respective maximums of -1.3 and -17.3 ‰ to -2.2 and -19.5 ‰ on 20 June. Deeper layers of the water column ranged from -1.5 and -14.9 ‰ to -1.9 and -18.9‰, respectively (Figure 6).
- 309TA_{sw} and TCO_{2sw} ranged from 2021 and 1920 µmol kg⁻¹ to 2239 and 2167 µmol kg⁻¹,310respectively. On 20 June, a strong decrease in TA_{sw} and TCO_{2sw} was observed, leading311to the observed minimum values at the surface of the water column. The normalized312TA_{sw} and TCO_{2sw} (nTA_{sw} and $nTCO_{2sw}$ to salinity 5 are shown (Figure 6) to allow313direct comparison with the sea ice and brine data) ranged from 319 to 350 µmol kg⁻¹314and 303 to 333 µmol kg⁻¹, respectively.

The $pCO_2[in situ]$ of the water column ranged from 259 to 469 µatm. The top 2 m of the seawater column was mainly under-saturated with respect to the atmosphere, except on 7 June where the $pCO_2[in situ]$ was at 455 µatm. From there, the $pCO_2[in situ]$ decreased to 269 µatm on 23 June (Figure 6).

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e. Air – ice CO₂ fluxes

- 320 CO_2 fluxes were systematically measured over sea ice and melt ponds (Figure 7)321throughout the campaign. Initially, CO_2 fluxes over sea ice were on average at -1.38322mmol m⁻² d⁻¹. During the initial formation of melt ponds, the fluxes over sea ice323peaked at -5.4 mmol m⁻² d⁻¹ on 10 June and -2 mmol m⁻² d⁻¹ on 12 June. Over melt324ponds, the initial uptake of CO_2 was significant at -2.9 mmol m⁻² d⁻¹ on 10 June and -3254.8 mmol m⁻² d⁻¹ on 12 June. Thereafter the uptake of CO_2 by sea ice and melt ponds326decreased over time and stabilized at around -1 mmol m⁻² d⁻¹.
- 327 **5. Discussion**

Over the course of our study period, the vertical temperature gradient within sea ice decreased, leading to a nearly isothermal ice cover. Seasonally rising sea ice temperature was associated with decreasing bulk ice salinity, until ultimately values approached 0 at the surface of the ice cover (Figure 3). The percolation of snowmelt through the ice cover, and its refreezing into the ice matrix formed interposed ice [Landy et al., 2014]. The formation of interposed ice has been described by *Freitag* 334and Eicken [2003] and Polashenski et al. [2012] and could explain the low salinity335and low δ^{18} O and δ D isotopic ratio found in the upper 20 cm of the ice cover.

336 Melt pond formation and subsequent percolation of melt water into the ice cover are 337 visible in the brine system from the isotopic ratio data (Figure 3, 5). The 20 cm depth 338 on 9 and 10 June as well as the 20 and 40 cm depth brine on 17 June had the same 339 isotopic ratios as the melt ponds. The increase of the δ^{18} O and δ D ratios in the melt 340 ponds observed on 19 and 21 June suggests that the contribution of sea ice melt to 341 the melt ponds had increased. The combination of low δ^{18} O and δ D values, low bulk 342 salinities (< 5), and warm ice temperatures ($\sim 0^{\circ}$ C) collectively suggest that melt water percolated into the ice cover, at least to a depth of 40 cm (Figure 5). 343

344Previous work has shown brine pCO_2 to change dramatically over the period345between sea ice formation and melting [Nomura et al., 2010a; Geilfus et al., 2012b].346Increasing ice temperature is associated with decreased brine concentration and347brine pCO_2 . Brine dilution will also promote the dissolution of ikaite that348precipitated in the sea ice, further decreasing the pCO_2 following the reaction:

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$CaCO_3 \bullet 6H_2O + CO_2 \rightleftharpoons Ca^{2+} + 2HCO_3 + 5H_2O \quad (Eq. 1)$

350 There are several reports of ikaite precipitation in Arctic sea ice [Dieckmann et al., 351 2010; Rysgaard et al., 2012a; Geilfus et al., 2013a; 2013b; Rysgaard et al., 2013; 352 *Søgaard et al.*, 2013]. In this study however only a few crystals were observed, and 353 they dissolved within minutes after melting the sea ice. Because the overall 354 morphology of these crystals are easily recognized as ikaite and similar to crystals 355 identified as ikaite by x-ray diffraction during other campaigns, we assumed they 356 were ikaite (after [Geilfus et al., 2013a; 2013b; Rysgaard et al., 2013; 2014]). It is not 357 surprising that only small amounts of ikaite crystals were observed in the ice 358 samples as the combination of elevated temperature and brine dilution associated 359 with melting would support the dissolution of ikaite [Rysgaard et al., 2012a]. 360 Rysgaard et al. [2014] linked the amount of ikaite content in the ice to the ice 361 temperature, suggesting that as the ice warms up/cools down, ikaite crystals will 362 dissolve/precipitate. As previously suggested, the dissolution of ikaite crystals during sea ice melt likely contributed to a lowering of *in situ* brine *p*CO₂ according to
equation 1.

365 The concentration of TA and TCO₂ reported in melted bulk sea ice, brine and melt 366 ponds in this study are in the same ranges as those reported from previous studies 367 in the Canadian Archipelago [Rysgaard et al., 2007; Miller et al., 2011; Geilfus et al., 368 2012b; 2013a]. The temperature increase and subsequent salinity decrease promote 369 the overall decrease of TA_{ice} and TCO_{2ice} concentrations (Figure 3). The relatively 370 constant nTA_{ice} and $nTCO_{2ice}$ reported within the ice cover during the survey suggests that the dilution effect was dominant. However, the reduction in TA_{ice} and 371 372 TCO_{2ice} in the top 20 cm of the ice cover was more pronounced after onset of melt 373 pond formation and the formation of interposed ice. These low concentrations are associated with a significant increase of nTA_{ice} and $nTCO_{2ice}$ during the survey. 374

375 Decreased brine salinity in response to seasonal warming promoted a decrease in 376 TA_{br} and TCO_{2br} [Geilfus et al., 2012b]. The mean TA_{br} and TCO_{2br} decreased from 3344 and 3037 µmol kg⁻¹ on 4 June to 1221 and 1092 µmol kg⁻¹ on 10 June, and 377 further to 657 and 579 μ mol kg⁻¹ on 19 June, with minima observed (i) at 20 cm 378 379 depth on 10 June, and (ii) at 20 and 40 cm depth on 17 June (Figure 5). Minima in 380 TA_{br} and *T*CO_{2br} were associated with minimum isotopic ratios of δ^{18} O and δ D, hence 381 we attribute the reduction in carbonate species largely to the percolation of fresh 382 melt water from surface melt ponds into the upper portion of the sea ice volume. 383 *n*TA_{br} and *nT*CO_{2br} remained relatively constant, until the period of melt water 384 percolation, which corresponded to a significant increase in both nTA_{br} and $nTCO_{2br}$.

385 Melt pond formation and the subsequent percolation of melt water into the ice cover 386 affects TA_{br} and TCO_{2br} and appears also affect the *in situ* brine pCO_2 (Figure 5). From 387 4 to 10 June, the decrease of the brine *p*CO₂[*in situ*] is mainly due to the drop in brine 388 salinity associated with rising ice temperatures and the dissolution of ikaite. As melt 389 ponds begin to form, their initial pCO_2 is much lower (36 – 84 µatm) than the 390 atmosphere (395 μ atm). The percolation of low pCO₂ melt pond water into the ice 391 matrix resulted in a strong decrease in the brine pCO₂[in situ] observed at 20 cm 392 depth on 9 and 10 June. However, over time, the melt pond *p*CO₂[*in situ*] increased as it equilibrated with the atmosphere (Figure 5). The subsequent percolation of this higher pCO_2 melt water into the ice matrix resulted in an increase in brine pCO_2 within the sea ice observed on 17 June. The melt pond $pCO_2[in situ]$ decreased slightly (150 µatm on 19 June) as did the brine pCO_2 (to <100 µatm) as a result of melt water being added to the pond. By 21 June, the pCO_2 in the melt pond had increased as a result of CO_2 uptake from the atmosphere.

399 The sea ice $pCO_2[bulk]$ measured on solid ice samples (Figure 4) are in the same 400 range as those reported by *Geilfus et al.* [2012a] on landfast sea ice sampled during 401 the same season in Barrow, Alaska. The ice characteristics were similar to our 402 survey; a nearly isothermal ice cover (approaching 0°C), low salinity in the surface 403 layer (0-20 cm) and melt ponds at the surface of the ice [Zhou et al., 2013]. Crabeck 404 et al. [2014] also reported sea ice pCO₂[bulk] from SW Greenland. However, the 405 concentrations reported in our study are in the lower end compared with the 406 concentrations of 77-330 µatm reported by Crabeck et al. [2014]. The lower 407 concentrations during our study may be due to warmer sea ice leading to a lower 408 pCO_2 due to brine dilution by fresh melt water and/or dissolution of ikaite. These 409 concentrations can be compared with the $pCO_2[bulk_calc]$ (Figure 4). However, the 410 pCO_2 [bulk calc] rely on the validity of the four equilibrium constants of the aqueous 411 carbonate system. The thermodynamic constants are assumed to be valid at subzero 412 temperatures, but this assumption needs to be tested. Moreover, the pCO_2 [bulk calc] 413 is not representative of the *in situ* concentrations because the ice sample is melted. 414 Melt will trigger the dissolution of ikaite crystals that may have formed, strongly 415 impacting both the TA and the TCO_2 of the resulting meltwater. On the contrary, the 416 ice pCO_2 [bulk] measured the CO₂ concentration at the *in situ* temperature, so it takes 417 into account the CO_2 dissolved within the brine as well as the gaseous CO_2 (bubbles) 418 in the ice sample. The range of $pCO_2[bulk calc]$ is in the lower end of $pCO_2[bulk]$. 419 However, both calculated and measured bulk pCO_2 show an over-all drop in pCO_2 420 associated with brine dilution and the dissolution of ikaite. While the ice 421 $pCO_2[bulk_calc]$ only shows a slight decrease over time, the ice $pCO_2[bulk]$ reveals 422 that larger changes may occur, especially in the upper 20 cm of the ice cover (Figure 423 4). The ice *p*CO₂[bulk] and brine *p*CO₂[*in situ*] differ in that a significant decrease of 424 the brine pCO₂[in situ] was observed on 12 June, just after melt pond formation, 425 whereas only a slight decrease was observed in the ice $pCO_2[bulk]$ time series. The 426 percolation of melt water with low *in situ* pCO_2 initiated a drop in the brine $pCO_2[in$ 427 *situ*] to similar concentrations as in the melt ponds. Other examples are observed on 428 17 June, then again on 19 and 21 June. On 17 June, high in situ pCO₂ melt water 429 percolation through the ice matrix was associated with an increase in brine $pCO_2[in$ 430 *situ*] whereas the ice *p*CO₂[bulk] remained constant. On 19 and 21 June, the brine 431 $pCO_2[in situ]$ decreased to reach the same concentration as the ice $pCO_2[bulk]$.

432 To test the sackhole technique's ability to sample uncontaminated brine, we 433 compared TA_{br} and TCO_{2br} with a TA and TCO₂ estimated from TA_{ice} and TCO_{2ice} and 434 the calculated brine volume (Figure 8) [Cox and Weeks, 1983; Leppäranta and 435 *Manninen*, 1988]. Both methods yield similar TA and TCO₂ concentrations (from 274 436 to 3554 μ mol kg⁻¹ and from 283 to 3189 μ mol kg⁻¹, respectively), with a similar 437 relationship between TA and TCO₂ with a R²'s of 0.84 and 0.85, respectively. The 438 scatter between the two methods could be due to the impossibility of determining 439 the exact original depth from which the brine seeped, especially if melt ponds are 440 present at the surface of the ice cover.

441 As melt ponds developed, freshwater percolated through the ice matrix and could 442 form a freshwater layer beneath the sea ice [Hanson, 1965]. An accumulation of 443 under-ice melt water was not observed during our survey. Perhaps this is because 444 the stage of ice melt was not sufficiently advanced and/or under-ice currents 445 effectively mixed the freshwater layer beneath the ice. The only noticeable impact of 446 the percolation of melt ponds water on the underlying seawater was observed on 20 447 June where the decrease of TA_{sw} and TCO_{2sw} was associated with the low isotopic ratio of δ^{18} O and δ D captured over a very short period (Figure 6). 448

449 As in previous studies, the relationships between nTA and $nTCO_2$ in seawater, brine 450 and sea ice samples can be use to determine the main processes affecting the 451 carbonate system. In Figure 9, the dotted lines represent the response of inorganic 452 carbon and alkalinity to different processes (*after Zeebe and Wolf-Gladrow* [2001]). 453 An exchange of $CO_{2(gas)}$ will affect TCO_2 while TA will remain constant. The 454 precipitation – dissolution of ikaite will affect TA and TCO₂ in a ratio of 2:1. Biological 455 activity will increase TA slightly and reduce TCO_2 slightly in the ratio TA: $TCO_2 = -$ 456 0.16 [Lazar and Loya, 1991]. To calculate these theoretical effects we assumed that 457 seawater sampled at 50 m (on average: T = -1.62°C; S = 32.43; $TA = 2229 \ \mu mol \ kg^{-1}$ 458 and $TCO_2 = 2135 \mu mol kg^{-1}$, Figure 6) was not influenced by the overlying melting 459 sea ice. nTA and $nTCO_2$ data from sea ice samples are located along the ikaite 460 dissolution line while brine and melt pond samples are located between the ikaite 461 dissolution line and the CO₂ uptake line, suggesting both processes occurred in 462 combination. We posit that ikaite crystals formed in winter were dissolved during 463 spring, thereby lowering pCO_2 and enhancing CO_2 uptake. The dissolution of the 464 ikaite crystals will increase nTA and $nTCO_2$ (in a ratio 2:1) in the upper brine layer 465 and melt pond while the uptake of CO_2 will only increase $nTCO_2$. This explains the 466 high *n*TA and *nT*CO₂ reported in the Figure 5. It is lent further credibility by the small 467 amount of ikaite crystals observed in the sea ice. The mean concentration of algal 468 biomass (Chl *a*) in bulk sea ice decreased from decreased from 23.15 μ g L⁻¹ in 4 June 469 to 1.11 µg L⁻¹ on 12 June and Chl *a* concentration in melt ponds ranged from 0.08 to 470 0.41 µg L⁻¹ (unpublished data, C. Mundy and V. Galindo). The loss of the biomass 471 could result from the warming and melting of the ice [Zeebe et al., 1996; Galindo et 472 al., 2014]. These concentrations are in the same range as those reported by Mundy et 473 al. [2011] and Geilfus et al. [2012b] on melting landfast sea ice in the Beaufort Sea. 474 From the brine profiles in Figure 5 and from the trend of the sea ice samples in 475 Figure 9, it looks like brine dilution and calcium carbonate dissolution are the main 476 factors controlling CO₂ exchange during our observation period. It should however 477 be underlined that most of the calcium carbonate dissolution trend holds in only 4-5 478 samples located in the top 20 cm of the sea ice cover. In the lowest range of *n*TA and 479 $nTCO_2$ (< 500 µmol kg⁻¹) which correspond to 80% of the sea ice cover (including the 480 bottom Chl a rich 10 cm layer), the ice samples pull the trend to the left of the 481 calcium carbonate dissolution line, suggesting an increasing influence of the algal 482 CO_2 uptakes, strong enough to maintain the bottom ice and brines pCO_2 at low 483 values, in the close vicinity of the nearly saturated water values at the ice-water 484 interface. This biological effect on the TCO₂ is however probably limited to the 485 decaying very bottom section of the sea ice cover [Søgaard et al., 2013; Glud et al., 486 2014]. This is similar to what has been described in the Beaufort Sea (Arctic, *Geilfus* 487 et al. [2012b]) and in the Weddell Sea (Antarctica, Papadimitriou et al. [2012]) on 488 landfast sea ice, although during early spring, i.e. at ice temperatures colder than 489 those observed during the present study. Therefore sea ice and brine samples from 490 these other studies are located on the other side of the seawater value, i.e. lying 491 between the precipitation of calcium carbonate and the release of CO₂, in the 492 nTA/nTCO₂ space.

493 The CO₂ fluxes reported here are lower than fluxes reported by *Semiletov et al.* 494 [2004] over melt ponds, but similar to fluxes reported by *Geilfus et al.* [2012b] over 495 sea ice and melt ponds and similar to fluxes reported by *Nomura et al.* [2013] on 496 Antarctic and Arctic sea ice during periods of snowmelt and surface flooding. CO_2 497 fluxes over sea ice depend on the ice permeability and the CO₂ concentration 498 gradient between the ice surface and the atmosphere conveyed through the liquid 499 phase (*i.e.* brine and melt water). Brine and melt ponds were under-saturated with 500 respect to the atmosphere (Figure 5). The sea ice uptake of atmospheric CO₂ was at first moderate (\sim -1 mmol m⁻² d⁻¹, Figure 7) due to brine being slightly under-501 saturated. Then the decrease of the brine $pCO_2[in situ]$ due to the percolation of melt 502 503 water with low in situ pCO_2 intensified the uptake of atmospheric CO_2 (up to -5.4) mmol m⁻² d⁻¹) by the ice. As the brine $pCO_2[in situ]$ increased, the uptake of CO_2 504 505 decreased accordingly (\sim -1 mmol m⁻² d⁻¹). In addition, insignificant fluxes (in the range of -0.005 mmol m⁻² d⁻¹) were detected over interposed ice, as *Nomura et al.* 506 [2010b] and Geilfus et al. [2012b] who reported fluxes ~ 0 mmol m⁻² d⁻¹ on 507 508 superimposed ice. During the initial formation of melt ponds, the low in situ pCO₂ 509 promoted a strong uptake of atmospheric CO_2 (-3.8 mmol m⁻² d⁻¹). However, as the 510 melt pond $pCO_2[in situ]$ approached equilibrium with the atmosphere, their CO_2 uptake decreased and stabilized around ~ -1 mmol m⁻² d⁻¹. 511

512 To estimate a total uptake of atmospheric CO₂ (Figure 7) over the sampling area (F_{tot} , 513 crosses), we used the pond coverage (fraction $0 \le x \le 1$) (Figure 2) to weight the 514 fluxes over sea ice (F_{ice} , open circles) and over melt ponds (F_{mp} , black triangles), 515 respectively, using the following equation:

$$F_{tot} = F_{ice}.\left(1 - x\right) + F_{mp}.x$$

516 The pond coverage (Figure 2) was obtained six times between the date of pond onset 517 (10 June) and the final sampling date with a terrestrial laser scanner. The scanner 518 was used to measure the surface topography of an untouched 80 x 160 m area of sea 519 ice and could differentiate between ice cover and melt ponds at the surface, 520 providing the pond fraction [Landy et al., 2014]. F_{tot} peaked during the initial formation of the melt ponds, then returned to previous values (-1 mmol $m^{-2} d^{-1}$) 521 522 when melt ponds were the dominant surface feature. pCO_2 conditions in melt ponds 523 are determined by a balance between equilibration with atmospheric CO_2 and the 524 continuous supply of low-pCO₂ melt water from melting snow and sea ice. This 525 allows melt ponds to be a continuous but moderate CO₂ sink. Therefore, if we take into account a mean uptake of CO_2 of -1 mmol m⁻² d⁻¹, over the minimum and 526 527 maximum Arctic sea ice extent during spring and summer thaw (90 days), we derive 528 an uptake from 7.3 to 16.4 Tg of C yr⁻¹. However, mixing the melt of the sea ice observed during this study (with average characteristics of T = -1.1 °C, S = 3.8, TA = 529 530 296 μ mol kg⁻¹ and *T*CO₂ = 228 μ mol kg⁻¹) in a 20 m thick mixed layer (with average 531 water column characteristics of T = -1.62° C; S = 32.43; TA = 2229μ mol kg⁻¹ and TCO₂ 532 = 2135 µmol kg⁻¹), will result in a 9.4 ppm decrease in the seawater composition and an oceanic uptake of 0.55 mmol of $CO_2 m^{-2} d^{-1}$ over the 90 days of spring and summer 533 thaw. This corresponds to a total oceanic uptake of 4.97 Tg of C yr⁻¹. *Rysgaard et al.* 534 535 [2011] estimated an overall budget for the Arctic sea ice between 14 and 31 Tg of C 536 yr⁻¹ depending on whether the precipitation of calcium carbonate took place in the ice or not. Other estimates of carbon uptake by the Arctic Ocean include Takahashi et 537 538 al. [2009], who estimated an uptake of 121 Tg of C yr⁻¹ for an area north of 66°N while *Bates and Mathis* [2009] estimated an uptake between 66 and 199 Tg of C yr⁻¹ 539 540 for the Arctic Ocean. However, these works ignored the role of the Arctic sea ice and 541 considered it an impermeable barrier, impeding the gas exchanges between the 542 ocean and the atmosphere. We have shown things may be more complicated and in fact sea ice may play an important role in mediating the exchange of CO₂ between theatmosphere and ocean at high latitudes.

545 **6.** Conclusions

546 We investigated the evolution of inorganic carbon within landfast first-year sea ice in 547 Resolute Passage, Nunavut, from 3 to 23 June 2012 during the spring and summer 548 melt period. Temperature profiles became isothermal (~ -1°C) with low salinity at 549 the surface (~ 0). Melt ponds started to form at the surface of the ice on 10 June.

550 Early in the melt period, increased ice temperatures and subsequent decreased bulk 551 ice salinity and dissolution of ikaite crystals promoted a strong decrease of TA, TCO₂ 552 and pCO_2 observed in bulk sea ice and brines (Figure 10a). The decrease of pCO_2 553 caused sea ice to act as a sink for the atmospheric CO_2 (~ -1 mmol m⁻² d⁻¹). This sink 554 increased (up to -5.4 mmol m⁻² d⁻¹) during the initial formation of melt ponds due to 555 their very low pCO_2 levels. The percolation of melt pond water into the ice matrix 556 increased brine dilution and decreased brine TA, TCO_2 and pCO_2 (Figure 10b). Low 557 TA_{br} and TCO_{2br} concentrations observed were associated with the percolation of 558 melt water from melt ponds, and the brine $pCO_2[in situ]$ was controlled by the melt 559 ponds. As melt ponds formed from melted snow and surface sea ice melt, the melt 560 pond $pCO_2[in situ]$ was low (36 µatm). The percolation of this low pCO_2 , low salinity 561 melt water into the sea ice matrix decreased the brine $pCO_2[in situ]$ to 20 µatm. As 562 sea ice temperatures rose, melt water was continuously supplied to the ponds, which 563 prevented melt ponds from fully equilibrating with the atmospheric CO₂. Instead, 564 pCO_2 in the melt ponds fluctuated between 0 µatm and the atmospheric 565 concentration (395 µatm). As melt ponds reached equilibrium with the atmosphere, 566 their uptake became less significant. But as melt ponds are continuously supplied 567 with fresh melt water while simultaneously draining to the ocean, the melt pond 568 pCO₂[in situ] remained under-saturated and promoted a continuous but moderate 569 uptake of CO₂ from the atmosphere ($\sim -1 \text{ mmol m}^{-2} \text{ d}^{-1}$).

570Based on the present study, we estimate the CO_2 flux due to melt ponds in the Arctic571to be in the order of -7.3 to -16.4 Tg of C yr⁻¹. This is a 5 – 15 % addition to the total

572uptake for the Arctic Ocean previously reported when sea ice was considered a573barrier to these fluxes [*Bates and Mathis*, 2009; *Takahashi et al.*, 2009].

574 **7. Acknowledgments**

575 This study was funded by the Canada Excellence Research Chair (CERC, S.R.), the 576 Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC) of Canada (T.P.) and 577 from the Bigsouth Belspo project (J.-L. T.) # SD/CA/05A . This work is a contribution 578 to the Arctic Science Partnership (ASP), the ArcticNet Networks of Centres of 579 Excellence programs and the SCOR BEPSII project. The authors are grateful to the 580 anonymous reviewers whose comments greatly improved the quality of the 581 manuscript.

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8. Figure captions

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Figure 1: Location map of the sampling area in the Resolute Passage, Nunavut. The sampling site was located between Sheringham Point and Griffith Island (74.726°N, 95.576°W).

- 588 Figure 2: (a.) Evolution of the atmospheric temperature in Resolute from the end of 589 May to the end of June 2012. The black dots represent the air temperature 590 during our survey (from 3 to 23 June). (b.) Evolution of the melt ponds 591 (black dots) and sea ice (white dots) fraction coverage at the sampling site. 592 The bold dashed line on 10 June represents the initial formation of melt 593 ponds at the surface of the ice cover. Aerial photo were taken over the field 594 study site on 13 June (pond fraction = 0.9; width of the picture = 4472m), 595 23 June (pond fraction = 0.65; width of the picture = 2212m), 29 June 596 (pond fraction = 0.61; width of the picture = 4426m).
- 597 Figure 3: Sea ice profiles of temperature (°C), salinity, isotopic composition of δ^{18} 0 598 and δ D (‰), TA_{ice} and *n*TA_{ice} (in µmol kg⁻¹), *T*CO₂ and *nT*CO_{2ice} (in µmol kg⁻⁵⁹⁹).
- Figure 4: Sea ice profiles of pCO_2 (µatm) calculated from TA_{ice} and TCO_{2ice} (grey diamonds) and *in situ* bulk sea ice pCO_2 (white diamonds). The *in situ* brine and melt ponds pCO_2 are also represented (back dots and triangle, respectively).
- 604Figure 5:Profiles of *in situ* brine pCO_2 (in µatm), salinity, isotopic composition of $\delta^{18}O$ 605and δD (‰), TA_{br} and nTA_{br} (in µmol kg⁻¹), TCO_{2br} and $nTCO_{2br}$ (in µmol kg⁻¹).606¹).
- 607Figure 6: Water column profiles of temperature (°C), salinity, isotopic composition of608 δ^{18} O and δ D (‰), TA and *n*TA (in µmol kg⁻¹), *T*CO₂ and *nT*CO₂ (in µmol kg⁻¹)6091) and calculated *p*CO₂ (in µatm).
- 610Figure 7: CO2 fluxes (in mmol m-2 d-1) measured over sea ice (white diamonds), melt611ponds (black triangle). The total fluxes are represented by the black cross.

- Figure 8: Comparison between brine TA and TCO₂ measured on brine collected using
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- 615 Figure 9: Relationship between the $nTCO_2$ and nTA (in µmol kg⁻¹) in bulk sea ice 616 (white diamonds), melt ponds (grey triangle) and brine samples (black 617 dots). The different dashed lines represent the theoretical evolution of 618 $nTA: nTCO_2$ ratio following the precipitation/dissolution of calcium of 619 carbonate. release/uptake and biological $CO_{2(g)}$ 620 photosynthesis/respiration.
- 621 Figure 10: Schematic illustration of the inorganic carbon dynamics of melt pond-622 covered first year sea ice. (a.) The increase of the ice temperature and the 623 decrease of the salinity, associated with the dissolution of ikaite crystals 624 promote the decrease of the bulk ice and brine pCO_2 . (b.) Formation of melt 625 ponds at the surface of the ice and percolation of meltwater into the ice 626 matrix further decreases the pCO_2 with episodes of partial recovery, due to 627 surface exchanges with the atmosphere. The pCO_2 level is indicated by the 628 size of the writing. The intensity of the CO_2 uptake is indicated by the size 629 of the arrow.

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Figure 3: Sea ice profiles of temperature (°C), salinity, isotopic composition of δ¹⁸O and δD (‰), TA_{ice} and *n*TA_{ice} (in µmol kg⁻¹), *T*CO₂ and *nT*CO_{2ice} (in µmol kg⁻¹).



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 Figure 5:Profiles of *in situ* brine pCO₂ (in μatm), salinity, isotopic composition of δ¹⁸O and δD (‰), TA_{br} and *n*TA_{br} (in μmol kg⁻¹), *T*CO_{2br} and *nT*CO_{2br} (in μmol kg⁻¹).





- 670Figure 6: Water column profiles of temperature (°C), salinity, isotopic composition of671 δ^{18} O and δ D (‰), TA and *n*TA (in µmol kg⁻¹), *T*CO₂ and *nT*CO₂ (in µmol kg⁻¹)672¹) and calculated *p*CO₂ (in µatm).



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