

Point-by-point responses to Referee #1 and 2.

Journal: BG

Title: CO₂ flux over young and snow-covered Arctic pack ice in winter and spring

Author (s): Daiki Nomura et al.

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MS Type: Research article

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We thank the reviewers for their valuable comments, which have helped us to improve the manuscript.

For clarity, the authors' responses are inserted as green text.

Referee #1 (Sian Henley)

The manuscript by Nomura et al has improved significantly since initial submission, and I am satisfied with their responses to the majority of the points that I made on the original version. There are a small number of minor remaining issues, which I detail below. Once these have been addressed, I believe that this work will be suitable for publication in biogeosciences. I think you (the authors) miss an opportunity to emphasise the importance of this work and the broader implications of these findings in the context of the profound changes in Arctic climate and sea ice that are underway. The original version had more of this emphasis, and in my first-round review I suggested strengthening these points to get the most of this work. Contrary to being strengthened, these statements were removed in the latest version; I suggest reinstating them and giving them more emphasis in the discussion and conclusions. The abstract could also be strengthened significantly by including the importance and implications there as well. The grammatical points that I raised in my first review have been addressed to some extent, but there are still many points throughout the text where the definite/indefinite article (a/the) is used incorrectly or not used when it should be. There are a small number of places where singular/plural nouns and their following verbs are still incorrect, e.g. frost flower formation (line 116, 132), was/were. I am not sure whether this is something that the journal addresses upon acceptance, so will leave that to the Editor.

We are grateful for your favorable assessment. We have made changes in response to all of your recommendations and edited the text improve the readability of the text.

Specific comments:

In the abstract, you define “old” as several weeks, whilst throughout the rest of the manuscript it refers to >1 year (e.g. line 150). Perhaps “older” would be better in the abstract (line 42)

Changed accordingly.

Line 89: should be underlying soil?

Changed accordingly.

Line 119-120: This sentence would be better phrased as something like “A potential consequence of this might be an increased contribution of open ocean surface and/or thinner sea ice to the overall CO₂ fluxes of the Arctic Ocean”. It is more nuanced than what you had. This section sets the scene nicely for you to emphasise the importance and implications of your work, as suggested above.

Agree. We have added “Thus, a potential consequence may be increased contribution of open ocean surface and/or thinner sea ice to the overall CO₂ fluxes of the Arctic Ocean. The dynamics of the thinner ice pack, through formation of leads and new ice, will play an important role in the gas fluxes from the ice pack.”.

Figure 2: I think one of your arrows is in the wrong place – please check

We have moved arrows for CO₂ chamber.

Table 2: I fully understand and sympathise with the challenges of polar fieldwork! Your addition is fine, but I would suggest using “logistical constraints” rather than “technical reason”.

Changed accordingly.

Line 206: effect of snow and frost flowers?

Changed accordingly.

Line 259-260: in the case of the VINDTA 3C, VINDTA stands for Versatile INstrument for the Determination of Total inorganic carbon and titration Alkalinity. Or in the case of the

basic model, it stands for Versatile INstrument for the Determination of Titration Alkalinity.

Changed accordingly.

Lines 262-267: What is the uncertainty on pCO₂ values arising from uncertainty in DIC and TA?

We have added “The calculated pCO₂ values varied within 1.7% when DIC and TA values were changed within the standard deviation ($\pm 2 \mu\text{mol kg}^{-1}$)” in the text.

Line 323-324: Cite table

Changed accordingly.

Line 378-380: this sentence is unclear. Does >5% mean when brine volume fraction increases by 5%, or when brine volume fraction is greater than 5%? If the latter, permeability increases by an order of magnitude compared to what? Please clarify.

Agree. We have changed to “It has been shown that ice permeability increases by an order of magnitude when brine volume fraction is greater than 5% as compared to when the brine volume fraction is less than 5% (Golden et al., 1998; Pringle et al., 2009; Zhou et al., 2013). A brine volume fraction of 5% would correspond to a temperature of -5°C for a bulk ice salinity of 5 – the so called “law of fives” (Golden et al., 1998).”.

Line 394-397: this still implies that your statement is true for most or all stations, and especially for FI5, FI6 and YI1. It is only true for those stations, so that should be made clear. In fact, there are more stations for which there is no significant difference (or even where F_{ice} is slightly lower, YI2) than where F_{ice} is higher. I understand that FI5, FI6 and YI1 show the effect that you want to describe, so in this sentence you should just remove “especially” and focus on describing those stations.

Changed accordingly.

Line 400-402: I suggest stating that this is consistent with your findings

Agree. We have added “This finding was consistent with the previous studies”.

Line 420: this number requires a significant figure, and would tell your story much better if presented as 0.02

Changed accordingly.

Line 430: “as compared to that in the atmosphere” not required as $\Delta p\text{CO}_2$ incorporates atmosphere and ice.

Changed accordingly.

Line 431-433: my comment at lines 262-267 is relevant here, and should be noted

Changed accordingly.

Line 433: I suggest changing “in these conditions” to “at station FI3”, for clarity.

Changed accordingly.

Line 454: special should be spatial

Changed accordingly.

Line 468: e.g. should be i.e.

Changed accordingly.

Line 472: “magnitude for the” not required

Changed accordingly.

Figure 6: in my opinion, you do not need to show temperature and temperature difference. It is temperature difference that is critical, so I would remove temperature itself to declutter the plot, as it doesn't add anything

Changed accordingly.

Line 508: is $r^2 > 0.7$ from linear regressions? Is a linear fit most appropriate here, or would you get a much better correlation from a different model? In either case, the model used should be stated

Changed accordingly.

Other point:

The native English-speaking co-author has now edited through the text.

Referee #2

The revised manuscript represents a dramatic improvement but I feel that the manuscript could and should be improved further before the manuscript is publishable.

We are grateful for your favorable assessment. We have made changes in response to all of your recommendations and edited the text improve the readability of the text.

I still question the use of ‘significant’ on line 42. Of course it isn’t a large flux globally, but it is significantly different from zero often times.

We agree. We have removed “significant” from the text.

Line 68/9 is still a reference dump. What did these different studies specifically find?

We agree. We indicated findings in the lower part of this paragraph.

On 137, please define what a frost flower is for readers unfamiliar with this term.

We have added “(vapor-deposited ice crystals that wick brine from the sea ice surface)”.

Line 177 is increasingly well understood, but references would still help.

Changed accordingly.

263: this is still a bit suspicious; was a vent present on the chamber?

LI-COR 8100-104 chamber has pressure vents to prevent pressure gradients and wind incursion from outside the chamber (<http://www.ecotek.com.cn/download/Manual-LI-8100A-V2-EN.pdf>).

491: include units for salinity unless this is a ratio (and then please specify).

According to Unesco (1985), the practical salinity scale defined as conductivity ratio has no units. We would like to follow the definition by Unesco (1985).

600: effectively impedes. Please check the manuscript once more for English usage. (One more example, “the snow surface” on 762. More can be found.)

Agree. The native English-speaking co-author has now edited through the text.

The statement on line 639-642 would benefit from a table showing the representative fluxes from the different studies for reference for the reader.

We agree that new table showing flux value for each reference may help reader. However, the comparison and discussion for CO₂ flux measurement from each reference by different method and device are beyond the scope of this paper. We will try to do these comparison and discussion (method and device comparison etc) in the ECV-Ice: SCOR working group task (http://www.scor-int.org/SCOR_WGs_WG152.htm) in the future.

Shouldn't the equation on line 684 appear instead in the Methods section rather than the end of the Discussion?

We would like to keep this equation in the Discussion because we used this equation to discuss the concept for CO₂ flux between the sea ice and overlying air (not for the calculation of FCO₂ results) in the Discussion section.

1 **CO₂ flux over young and snow-covered Arctic pack ice in**
2 **winter and spring**

3

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38 **Abstract**

39

40 Rare CO₂ flux measurements from Arctic pack ice show that two types of ice contribute,
41 to the release of CO₂ from the ice to the atmosphere during winter and spring: young
42 thin ice with a thin layer of snow, and older (several weeks), thicker ice with thick snow
43 cover. Young thin sea ice is characterized by high salinity and high porosity, and snow-
44 covered thick ice remains relatively warm (>-7.5°C) due to the insulating snow cover
45 despite air temperatures as low as -40°C. Therefore, brine volume fractions of these
46 two ice types are high enough to provide favorable conditions for gas exchange between
47 sea ice and the atmosphere even in mid-winter. Although the potential CO₂ flux from
48 sea ice decreased due to the presence of the snow, the snow surface is still a CO₂ source
49 to the atmosphere for low snow density and thin snow conditions. We found that young
50 sea ice that is formed in leads, without snow cover, produces CO₂ fluxes an order of
51 magnitude higher than those in snow-covered older ice (+1.0 ± 0.6 mmol C m⁻² day⁻¹
52 for young ice, and +0.2 ± 0.2 mmol C m⁻² day⁻¹ for older ice),
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54
55

56 **1 Introduction**

57

58 Arctic sea ice is changing dramatically, with rapid declines in summer sea ice extent
59 and a shift towards younger and thinner first-year ice rather than thick multi-year ice
60 (e.g., Stroeve et al., 2012; Meier et al., 2014; Lindsay and Schweiger, 2015). Although
61 the effects of sea ice formation and melting on biogeochemical cycles in the ocean have
62 previously been discussed (e.g., Vancoppenolle et al., 2013), the effects of sea ice freeze,
63 and melt processes on carbon dioxide (CO₂) exchange with the atmosphere are still
64 largely unknown (Parmentier et al., 2013).
65

66 Recent CO₂ flux measurements on sea ice indicate that sea ice is an active component in
67 gas exchange between ocean and atmosphere (Nomura et al., 2013; Geilfus et al., 2013;
68 2014; Delille et al., 2014; Brown et al., 2015; Kotovitch et al., 2016). The sea-ice CO₂
69 fluxes depend on (a) the difference in the partial pressure of CO₂ (pCO₂) between the

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97 sea ice surface and air, (b) brine volume fraction at the ice-snow interface, (c) ice
 98 surface condition including the snow deposited on ice, and (d) wind-driven pressure
 99 pumping through the snow. For (a), it is known that the air-sea ice CO₂ flux is driven
 100 by the differences in pCO₂ between the sea ice surface and atmosphere (e.g. Delille et
 101 al., 2014; Geilfus et al., 2014). Brine pCO₂ changes due to processes within the sea ice,
 102 such as thermodynamic process (e.g., Delille et al., 2014), biological activity (e.g.,
 103 Delille et al., 2007; Fransson et al., 2013; Rysgaard et al., 2013), and calcium carbonate
 104 (CaCO₃; ikaite) formation and dissolution (e.g., Papadimitriou et al., 2012). When pCO₂
 105 in brine is higher than that of air pCO₂, brine has the potential to release CO₂ to the
 106 atmosphere. Brine volume fraction (b) controls the permeability of sea ice (Golden et al.
 107 1998) and thus CO₂ fluxes (Delille et al. 2014; Geilfus et al 2014). The air-sea ice CO₂
 108 flux is also strongly dependent on the sea ice surface conditions (c) (Nomura et al.,
 109 2010a, 2013; Geilfus et al., 2013; 2014; Barber et al., 2014; Brown et al., 2015;
 110 Fransson et al., 2015). Nomura et al. (2013) proposed that snow properties (e.g., water
 111 equivalent) are important factors affecting gas exchange processes on sea ice. In
 112 addition, frost flowers (vapor-deposited ice crystals that wick brine from the sea ice
 113 surface) promote CO₂ flux from the ice to the atmosphere (Geilfus et al., 2013; Barber
 114 et al., 2014; Fransson et al., 2015). Finally, for (d), it is thought that CO₂ flux is affected
 115 by wind pumping through the snow pack (Massman et al., 1995; Takagi et al., 2005) in
 116 which the magnitude of CO₂ flux through snow or underlying soil (e.g., Takagi et al.,
 117 2005) can increase the transport relative to molecular diffusion by up to 40% (Bowling
 118 and Massman, 2011). These results were mainly found over land-based snow (soil and
 119 forest), and thus they are still poorly understood over sea ice (Papakyriakou and Miller,
 120 2011).

121

122 In addition to the processes described above, the CO₂ flux over sea ice may also be
 123 influenced by the temperature difference between the ice surface and the atmosphere.
 124 This has been shown in previous studies in dry snowpacks over land surfaces. These
 125 studies show that there is an unstable air density gradient due to heating at the bottom
 126 producing a strong temperature difference between the bottom and top of the snowpack
 127 (e.g., Powers et al., 1985; Severinghaus et al., 2010). This produces air flow within the
 128 snowpack, which is a potentially significant contributor to mixing and transport of gas

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141 and heat within the snowpack. We expect that this process would also occur in snow
142 over sea ice, especially during the wintertime when air temperatures are coldest and the
143 temperature difference between sea ice surface (snow bottom) and atmosphere is largest
144 (e.g., Massom et al., 2001). Generally, the sea ice surface under thick snow cover is
145 warm due to the heat conduction from the bottom of sea ice and the insulating effect of
146 the snow cover, and a strong temperature difference between the sea ice surface and
147 atmosphere is observed (e.g., Massom et al., 2001). Such a temperature difference
148 would produce an unstable air density gradient and upward transport of air containing
149 CO₂ degassed at the sea-ice surface, thereby enhancing CO₂ exchange between sea ice
150 and atmosphere.

151
152 In the ice-covered Arctic Ocean, storm periods which produce high wind speeds and
153 open leads are also important for air-to-sea CO₂ fluxes (Fransson et al., 2017), due to the
154 under-saturation of the surface waters in CO₂ with respect to the atmosphere. In
155 addition, the subsequent ice growth and frost flower formation in open leads promote
156 ice-to-air CO₂ fluxes in winter (e.g. Barber et al., 2014). Given the fact that Arctic sea
157 ice is shrinking and shifting from multi-year ice to first-year ice (e.g., Stroeve et al.,
158 2012; Meier et al., 2014; Lindsay and Schweiger, 2015), the area of open ocean and
159 thinner seasonal ice is increasing. Thus, a potential consequence may be increased
160 contribution of open ocean surface and/or thinner sea ice to the overall CO₂ fluxes of
161 the Arctic Ocean. The dynamics of the thinner ice pack, through formation of leads and
162 new ice, will play an important role in the gas fluxes from the ice pack. However, there
163 is a definite lack of information on sea ice processes during wintertime due to the
164 difficulty in acquiring observations in winter pack ice, as reflected by the fact that most
165 of the previous winter CO₂ flux measurements have been taken over landfast ice.

166
167 The Norwegian young sea ICE (N-ICE2015) campaign in winter and spring 2015
168 provided opportunities to examine CO₂ fluxes between sea ice and atmosphere in a
169 variety of snow and ice conditions in pack ice north of Svalbard. Formation of leads and
170 their rapid refreezing allowed us to examine air-sea ice CO₂ fluxes over thin young sea
171 ice, occasionally covered with frost flowers in addition to the snow-covered older ice
172 that covers most of the pack ice area. The objectives of this study were to understand

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195 | the effects of i) thin sea ice and frost flower formation on the air–sea ice CO₂ flux in
196 | leads, ii) effect of snow-cover on the air–sea ice CO₂ flux over thin, young ice in the
197 | Arctic Ocean during winter and spring seasons, and iii) of the effect of the temperature
198 | difference between sea ice and atmosphere (including snow cover) on the air–sea ice
199 | CO₂ flux.

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202 | 2 Materials and Methods

203

204 | 2.1 Study area

205

206 | This study was performed during N-ICE2015 campaign with R/V Lance in the pack ice
207 | north of Svalbard from January to June 2015 (Granskog et al., 2016). Air–sea ice CO₂
208 | flux measurements were carried out from January to May 2015 during the drift of floes
209 | 1, 2, and 3 of the N-ICE2015 campaign (Figures 1 and 2, Table 1). The ice pack was a
210 | mixture of young ice, first-year ice and second-year ice (Granskog et al., 2017), and
211 | both the first- and second-year ice had a thick snow cover (Merkouriadi et al., 2017;
212 | Rösel et al., 2018). Air–sea ice CO₂ flux measurements were made over young ice (YI
213 | stations), first-year ice (FI stations), and old ice (multi-year ice) (OI station). In the N-
214 | ICE2015 study region, the modal ice thickness was about 1.3–1.5 m and the modal
215 | snow thickness was about 0.5 m (Rösel et al., 2018). Formation of leads and their rapid
216 | refreezing provided us the opportunity to examine air–sea ice CO₂ fluxes over thin sea
217 | ice, occasionally covered with frost flowers at station YI1 (Figure 2 and Table 1). Air
218 | temperature and wind speed were measured at a 10 m weather mast on the ice floe
219 | installed about 400 m away from R/V Lance (Cohen et al., 2017).

220
221

222 | 2.2 CO₂ flux measurements

223

224 | The air–sea ice CO₂ flux was measured with LI-COR 8100-104 chambers connected to
225 | a LI-8100A soil CO₂ flux system (LI-COR Inc., USA) (Figure 2). This enclosed
226 | chamber method has been widely applied over snow and sea ice (e.g., Schindlbacher et

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232 al., 2007, Geilfus et al., 2015). Two chambers were connected in a closed loop to the
233 infrared gas analyzer (LI-8100A, LI-COR Inc., USA) to measure CO₂ concentration
234 through the multiplexer (LI-8150, LI-COR Inc., USA) with an air pump rate at 3 L min⁻¹.
235 Power was supplied by a car battery (8012-254, Optima Batteries Inc., USA). Four
236 CO₂ standards (324–406 ppmv) traceable to the WMO scale (Inoue and Ishii, 2005)
237 were prepared to calibrate the CO₂ gas analyzer prior to the observations. CO₂ flux was
238 measured in the morning or in the afternoon during low-wind conditions (Table 2), to
239 minimize the effect of wind on the flux (Bain et al., 2005).

240
241 One chamber was installed over undisturbed snow or frost flowers on the ice surface.
242 The chamber collar was inserted 5 cm into the snow and 1 cm into ice at the frost flower,
243 site to avoid air leaks between the inside and outside of the chamber. The second
244 chamber was installed on bulk sea ice after removing the snow or frost flowers. Flux
245 measurements were begun immediately in order to minimize the changes of the ice
246 surface condition. In order to evaluate the effect of removing snow on the ice surface
247 temperature, temperature was monitored during CO₂ flux measurements at station FI6.
248 A temperature sensor (RTR 52, T & D Corp., Japan) was installed in the top of the ice
249 (1 cm) surface after snow removal. During the first CO₂ flux measurements (about 30
250 minutes), the ice surface temperature was stable at -5.8°C, suggesting that the effect of
251 removing snow on the variation of sea ice surface temperature was negligible within 30
252 minutes. The ice surface temperature decreased from -5.8°C to -8.0°C at 200 minutes
253 after removal of snow. Therefore, in this paper, the data of the initial 30 minutes of CO₂
254 flux measurement after removal of snow or frost flowers was used. The chamber was
255 closed for 20 minutes in a sequence. The 20-minute time period was used because CO₂
256 fluxes over sea ice are much smaller than over land. The CO₂ concentrations within the
257 chamber were monitored to ensure that they changed linearly throughout the
258 measurement period (example given in Figure 3). The CO₂ flux (mmol C m⁻² day⁻¹)
259 (positive value indicates CO₂ being released from ice surface to air) was calculated
260 based on the changes of the CO₂ concentration within the headspace of the chamber
261 with LI-COR software (Model: LI8100PC Client v.3.0.1.). The mean coefficient of
262 variation for CO₂ flux measurements was less than 3.0% for CO₂ flux values larger than
263 ±0.1 mmol C m⁻² day⁻¹. For CO₂ flux values smaller than ±0.1 mmol C m⁻² day⁻¹, the

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271 mean coefficient of variation for CO₂ flux measurements was higher than 3.0%,
272 suggesting that the detection limit of this system is about 0.1 mmol C m⁻² day⁻¹.

273

274 In this paper, we express the CO₂ flux measured over the snow and frost flowers as
275 | F_{snow} and F_{ff}, respectively. The flux measured directly over the sea ice surface either on
276 | snow-free ice or after removal of snow and frost flowers as F_{ice}. F_{snow} and F_{ff} are the
277 | natural flux (snow and frost flowers are part of the natural system), and F_{ice} is the
278 | potential flux in cases when snow or frost flowers are removed. While removal of snow
279 | and frost flowers is an artificial situation, comparisons between F_{ice} and F_{snow} or F_{ff}
280 | provide information about the effect of snow [and frost flowers](#) on the CO₂ flux.
281 | Therefore, in this study, we examine both situations for CO₂ flux.

282

283

284 2.3 Sampling of snow, frost flowers, brine, and sea ice

285

286 For salinity measurements, separate samples were taken for snow only, snow and frost
287 flowers, and sea ice surface scrapes. The samples were taken using a plastic shovel,
288 placed into plastic bags and stored in an insulated box for transport to the ship-lab for
289 further processing. Samples were melted slowly (2–3 days) in the dark at +4°C. The
290 | temperature of the snow and frost flower samples were measured during CO₂ flux
291 | measurements (approximately 60 minutes after the onset of the CO₂ flux measurement)
292 | using a needle-type temperature sensor (Testo 110 NTC, Brandt Instruments, Inc.,
293 | USA). The accuracy of this sensor is ±0.2°C. Snow density was obtained using a fixed
294 | volume sampler (Climate Engineering, Japan) and weight measurement. The depth of
295 | the snow pack and frost flowers was also recorded using a ruler.

296

297 Brine was also collected at stations FI3–6 for salinity, dissolved inorganic carbon (DIC)
298 and total alkalinity (TA) measurements. Brine was collected from sackholes as
299 described in Gleitz et al. (1995). The sackholes were drilled using a 9 cm diameter ice
300 corer (Mark II coring system, Kovacs Enterprises, Inc., USA) to a depth of 30 cm. The
301 sackholes were then covered with a lid of 5 cm-thick urethane to reduce heat and gas
302 transfer between brine and atmosphere. When brine accumulated at the bottom of the

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305 sackholes (approximately 15 minutes), it was collected with a plastic syringe (AS ONE
306 Corporation, Japan) and kept in 500 mL unbreakable plastic bottles (I-Boy, AS ONE
307 Corporation, Japan) in order to facilitate safe transport to the sampling sites in cold and
308 harsh conditions. The brine bottles were filled without head-space and immediately
309 stored in an insulated box to prevent freezing. Immediately after return to the ship, the
310 brine samples were transferred to 250 mL borosilicate bottles (DURAN Group GmbH,
311 Germany) for DIC and TA measurements using tubing to prevent contact with air. The
312 samples were preserved with saturated mercuric chloride (HgCl_2 , 60 μL for a 250 mL
313 sample) and stored in the dark at $+10^\circ\text{C}$ until analyses was performed at the Institute of
314 Marine Research, Norway.

315

316 | Sea ice was collected by [the](#) same ice corer as described for brine collection and at the
317 | same location as snow and frost flowers were collected. Sea ice temperature was
318 | measured by [the](#) same sensor as described for snow. For the ice cores, the temperature
319 | sensor was inserted in small holes drilled into the core. The core was then cut with a
320 | stainless steel saw into 10 cm sections and stored in plastic bags for subsequent salinity
321 | measurements. The ice core sections were kept at $+4^\circ\text{C}$ and melted in the dark prior to
322 | measurement.

323

324

325 **2.4 Sample analysis**

326

327 Salinities for melted snow, frost flowers, sea ice, and brine were measured with a
328 conductivity sensor (Cond 315i, WTW GmbH, Germany). For calibration of salinity
329 measurement, a Guildline PORTASAL salinometer Model 8410A, standardized by
330 International Association for the Physical Sciences of the Oceans (IAPSO) standard
331 | seawater (Ocean Scientific International Ltd, UK) was used. [The accuracy of this sensor](#)
332 | was ± 0.003 .

333

334 Analytical methods for DIC and TA determination are fully described in Dickson et al.
335 (2007). DIC in brine was determined using gas extraction of acidified sample followed
336 | by coulometric titration and photometric detection using a [Versatile INstrument for the](#)

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338 | [Determination of Total inorganic carbon and titration Alkalinity](#) (VINDTA 3C,
339 | Germany). TA of brine was determined by potentiometric titration of 40 mL sample in
340 | open cell with 0.05 N hydrochloric acid using a Titrino system (Metrohm, Switzerland).
341 | The average standard deviation for DIC and TA, determined from replicate sample
342 | analyses from one sample, was within $\pm 2 \mu\text{mol kg}^{-1}$ for both DIC and TA. The accuracy
343 | of the DIC and TA measurements were $\pm 2 \mu\text{mol kg}^{-1}$ for both DIC and TA, as
344 | estimated using Certified Reference Materials (CRM, provided by A. G. Dickson,
345 | Scripps Institution of Oceanography, USA). The pCO_2 of brine ($\text{pCO}_{2\text{b}}$) was derived
346 | from in situ temperature, salinity, DIC and TA of brine using the carbonate speciation
347 | program CO2SYS (Pierrot et al., 2006). [The calculated \$\text{pCO}_{2\text{b}}\$ values \(Table 2\) varied](#)
348 | [within 1.7% when DIC and TA values were changed within the standard deviation \(\$\pm 2\$](#)
349 | [\$\mu\text{mol kg}^{-1}\$ \)](#). We used the carbonate dissociation constants (K_1 and K_2) of Mehrbach et al.
350 | (1973) as refit by Dickson and Millero (1987), and the KSO_4 determined by Dickson
351 | (1990). The conditional stability constants used to derive pCO_2 are only valid for
352 | temperatures above 0°C and salinities between 5 and 50. Studies in spring ice indicated
353 | that seawater thermodynamic relationships may be acceptable in warm and low-salinity
354 | sea ice (Delille et al., 2007). In sea ice brines at even moderate brine salinities of 80,
355 | Brown et al. (2014) found that measured and calculated values of the CO_2 system
356 | parameters can differ by as much as 40%. On the other hand, because the CO_2 system
357 | parameters are much more variable in sea ice than in seawater, sea ice measurements
358 | demand less precision than those in seawater. Fransson et al. (2015) performed one of
359 | the few detailed analyses of the internal consistency using four sets of dissociation
360 | constants and found that the deviation between measured and calculated DIC varied
361 | between ± 6 and $\pm 11 \mu\text{mol kg}^{-1}$, respectively. This error in calculated DIC was
362 | considered insignificant in relation to the natural variability in sea ice.
363 |
364 | The pCO_2 of atmosphere was calculated from CO_2 concentration (ppmv) at Ny-Ålesund,
365 | Svalbard (<http://www.esrl.noaa.gov/gmd/dv/iadv/>) taking into account saturated water
366 | vapor and atmospheric pressure during sampling day.
367 |
368 | The water equivalent was computed for snow by multiplying snow thickness by snow
369 | density (Jonas et al., 2009). Brine volume of sea ice was calculated from the

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375 temperature and salinity of sea ice according to Cox and Weeks (1983) and Petrich and
376 Eicken (2010).

377
378

379 3 Results

380

381 3.1 Air temperature

382

383 Air temperature is shown in Figure 4. During the study period, the air temperature
384 varied considerably from a low of -41.3°C (30 January) to a high of $+1.7^{\circ}\text{C}$ (15 June)
385 (Hudson et al., 2015). Even in wintertime (from January to March), rapid increases of
386 air temperature from less than -30°C up to -0.2°C (e.g., 18 February), were observed.

387 In springtime (from April to June), the air temperature increased continuously, and from
388 1 June, air temperatures were near 0°C , although rapid increases (and subsequent
389 decreases) of air temperature to near 0°C were observed on two occasions in mid-May
390 (Cohen et al., 2017).

391

392

393 3.2 Characteristics of snow, sea ice, and frost flowers

394

395 The snow and ice thickness at the observation sites ranged between 0.0 and 60.0 cm and
396 between 15.0 and >200 cm, respectively (Table 1). The thin snow and ice represent
397 newly formed ice in leads at station YII. The thickness of the frost flowers ranged from
398 1.0 to 2.5 cm.

399

400 Figure 5 shows vertical profiles of snow and ice temperature and salinity in the top 20
401 cm of ice. Temperatures within the snowpack depended on the air temperature at the
402 time of observation. However, the bottom of the snow and the surface of the sea ice
403 were relatively warm ($T > -7.5^{\circ}\text{C}$), except for the frost flower station YII and the multi-
404 year ice station OII (Figure 5a and Table 2). High salinities ($S > 18.6$) characterized the
405 bottom of the snow and the surface of the sea ice, except for the multi-year ice station
406 OII (Figure 5b). At the multi-year ice station OII, salinity was zero through the snow

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410 and top of sea ice. Salinity of frost flowers was up to 92.8 for the thin ice station YI1
411 (Figure 5b). Snow density and water equivalent ranged from 268 to 400 kg m⁻³ and 11
412 to 180 kg m⁻², respectively (Table 2).

413

414

415 3.3 Physical and chemical properties of brine

416

417 The brine volume fraction, temperature, salinity, DIC, TA, and calculated pCO₂ are
418 summarized in Table 2. Brine volume fraction in the top 20 cm of ice was between 9 to
419 17%, except for the value of 0% at the multi-year ice station OI1 (Table 2). Brine
420 temperatures and salinity ranged from -5.3 to -3.3°C and 51.8 to 86.6, respectively.
421 DIC and TA of brine ranged from 3261 to 4841 μmol kg⁻¹ and 3518 to 5539 μmol kg⁻¹,
422 respectively. The pCO₂ of brine (pCO_{2b}) (334–693 μatm) was generally higher than
423 that of atmosphere (pCO_{2a}) (401 ± 7 μatm), except for station FI4.

424

425

426 3.4 CO₂ flux

427

428 Table 3 summarizes the CO₂ flux measurements for each surface condition. For
429 undisturbed natural surface conditions, i.e. measurements directly on the snow surface
430 (F_{snow}) or the frost flowers (F_{ff}) on young ice, the mean CO₂ flux was +0.2 ± 0.2 mmol
431 C m⁻² day⁻¹ for F_{snow} and +1.0 ± 0.6 mmol C m⁻² day⁻¹ for F_{ff}. The potential flux in
432 cases when snow or frost flowers had been removed (F_{ice}) was +2.5 ± 4.3 mmol C m⁻²
433 day⁻¹. The air–sea ice CO₂ fluxes measured over the ice surface (F_{ice}) increased with
434 increasing differences in pCO₂ between brine and atmosphere (ΔpCO_{2b-a}) with
435 significant correlation (R² = 0.9, p < 0.02), but this was not the case for F_{snow} (R² = 0.0,
436 p < 0.96) (Figure 6).

437

438

439

440 4 Discussion

441

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443 4.1 Effect of snow cover on the physical properties of sea ice surface

444

445 In this study, we examined CO₂ fluxes between ~~the~~ sea ice and atmosphere in a ~~wide~~
446 ~~range~~ of air temperatures, ~~and~~ diverse snow and ice conditions (Table 2). The bottom of
447 the snow pack and the surface of the sea ice remained relatively warm (>-7.5°C)
448 (Figure 5a, Table 2), except for stations OI1 and YI1, even though air temperature was
449 sometimes below -40°C (Figure 4). Relatively warm ice temperatures were likely due
450 to the upward heat transport from the bottom of the ice and in some cases the thick
451 insulating snow cover, except for stations OI1 and YI1 (Table 2). Therefore, snow acted
452 as thermal insulator over sea ice, and in general the snow depths observed during N-
453 ICE2015 point towards this being representative for first-year and second-year or older
454 ice in the study region in winter 2015 (Rösel et al., 2018). The young and first-year ice
455 surfaces were characterized by high salinities (Figure 5b). During sea ice formation,
456 upward brine transport to the snow pack occurs (e.g., Toyota et al., 2011). In addition,
457 brine within the sea ice was not completely drained as compared to that of multi-year
458 ice. Furthermore, formation of frost flowers and subsequent wicking up of surface brine
459 into the frost flowers also provides high salinity at the surface of sea ice (Kaleschke et
460 al., 2004; Geilfus et al., 2013; Barber et al., 2014; Fransson et al., 2015) as observed in
461 this study (S>92) (Figure 5b). Snowfall over the frost flowers would have preserved the
462 high salinity at the bottom of snow pack and top of sea ice for young and first-year ice.

463

464 As a result of the combination of the relatively high temperature and high salinity at the
465 top of sea ice, brine volume fractions in the upper parts of the sea ice were high, up to
466 17% (Table 2). It has been shown that ice permeability increases by an order of
467 magnitude when brine volume fraction ~~is greater than 5% as compared to when the~~
468 ~~brine volume fraction is less than 5% (Golden et al., 1998; Pringle et al., 2009; Zhou et~~
469 ~~al., 2013). A brine volume fraction of 5%~~ would correspond to a temperature of -5°C
470 for a bulk ice salinity of 5 – the so called “law of fives” (Golden et al., 1998). Because
471 sea ice temperatures ~~are~~ low, ~~thereby reducing the~~ permeability in winter season, air-
472 sea ice CO₂ flux ~~is generally at its~~ minimum in the winter (e.g., Delille et al., 2014).

473 However, in our study, the brine volume fractions were generally >9%, except for
474 station OI1 with fresh ice at the surface, providing conditions for active gas exchange

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488 within sea ice and between sea ice and atmosphere. This situation was likely made
489 possible due to the thick snow cover and relatively thin and young sea ice.

490
491

492 4.2 CO₂ fluxes over different sea-ice surface types

493

494 The CO₂ flux measurements over different surface conditions indicate that the snow
495 cover over sea ice affects the magnitude of air–sea ice CO₂ flux, especially for stations
496 FI5 and FI6 (Table 3). For undisturbed natural surface conditions, the CO₂ flux
497 measured directly over snow-covered first-year ice and young ice with frost flowers
498 (F_{snow} and F_{ff}) was lower in magnitude than that for potential flux obtained directly over
499 the ice surface after removing snow (F_{ice}) for stations FI5, FI6, and YI1.

500

501 F_{ff} indicates that the frost flower surface on young thin ice is a CO₂ source to the
502 atmosphere and F_{ff} was higher than F_{snow} , except for station FI1. [This finding was](#)
503 [consistent with the previous studies](#) (Geilfus et al., 2013; Barber et al., 2014; Fransson
504 et al., 2015). At multi-year ice station OI1, neither snow or ice surface acted as a CO₂
505 source/sink. The surface of multi-year ice did not contain any brine (Figure 5b and
506 Table 2), and the top of the ice was clear, colorless and very hard, suggesting
507 superimposed formation at the top of sea ice. This situation would be similar as for
508 freshwater-ice and superimposed-ice as these non-porous media block gas exchange
509 effectively at the sea ice surface (Delille et al., 2014). Snow-ice and superimposed-ice
510 were frequently found in second-year ice cores during N-ICE2015 (Granskog et al.,
511 2017), so the ‘blocking’ of gas exchange in second-year and multi-year ice may be a
512 widespread process in the Arctic.

513

514 The magnitude of positive F_{snow} is less than F_{ice} for stations FI5 and FI6 (Table 3)
515 indicating that the potential CO₂ flux from sea ice decreased due to the presence of
516 snow. Previous studies have shown that snow accumulation over sea ice effectively
517 impedes CO₂ exchange (Nomura et al., 2013; Brown et al., 2015). Nomura et al. (2013)
518 reported that 50–90% of the potential CO₂ flux was reduced due to the presence of
519 snow/superimposed-ice at the water equivalent of 57–400 kg m⁻², indicating that the

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525 snow properties are an important factor that controls the CO₂ exchange through a
526 snowpack. Comparisons between stations FI5 and FI6 for F_{snow}/F_{ice} ratio (0.23 for FI5
527 and 0.02 for FI6) and water equivalent (11 kg m⁻² for FI5 and 127 kg m⁻² for FI6)
528 indicate that the potential CO₂ flux is reduced (80% for FI5 and 98% for FI6 of the
529 potential CO₂ flux) with increasing water equivalent. Although the magnitude of the
530 potential CO₂ flux through the sea ice surface decreased by the presence of snow for
531 stations FI5 and FI6 (Table 3), the snow surface still presents a CO₂ source to the
532 atmosphere for low snow density and shallow depth conditions (e.g., +0.6 mmol C m⁻²
533 day⁻¹ for FI5).

534

535 For F_{ice}, there were negative CO₂ fluxes at stations FI3 and FI4 (-0.6 mmol C m⁻² day⁻¹
536 for FI3 and -0.8 mmol C m⁻² day⁻¹ for FI4) (Table 3). These fluxes corresponded to low
537 or negative ΔpCO_{2 b-a} (Table 2 and Figure 6). Negative CO₂ fluxes should correspond to
538 negative ΔpCO_{2 b-a}. Therefore, the uncertainty for the calculation of carbonate
539 chemistry may be one reason for the discrepancy in pCO₂ calculation [at station FI3](#),
540 (Brown et al., 2014).

541

542

543 4.3 Comparison to earlier studies on sea-ice to air CO₂ flux

544

545 The CO₂ fluxes measured over the undisturbed natural surface conditions (F_{snow} and F_{ff})
546 in this study ranged from +0.1 to +1.6 mmol C m⁻² day⁻¹ (Table 3), which are at the
547 lower end of the reported range based on the chamber method and eddy covariance
548 method for natural and artificial sea ice (-259.2 to +74.3 mmol C m⁻² day⁻¹)
549 (Zemmelink et al., 2006; Nomura et al., 2006, 2010a, 2010b, 2013; Miller et al., 2011;
550 Papakyriakou and Miller, 2011; Geilfus et al., 2012, 2013, 2014; Barber et al., 2014;
551 Delille et al., 2014; Sørensen et al., 2014; Brown et al., 2015; Kotovitch et al., 2016).

552 Direct comparison to [these](#) previous studies is complicated because CO₂ flux
553 measurements with both chamber and eddy covariance techniques were used during
554 different conditions and ice surface characteristics. In addition, discrepancies between
555 chamber and eddy covariance measurements of air-ice CO₂ fluxes have been repeatedly
556 observed. The footprint size of CO₂ exchange measured with the two approaches

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560 (Zemmelink et al., 2006, 2008; Burba et al., 2008; Amiro, 2010; Miller et al., 2011;
561 Papakyriakou and Miller, 2011; Sørensen et al., 2014; Miller et al., 2015) may be one
562 reason for the large difference. The eddy covariance method reflects a flux integrated
563 over a large area that can contain several different surface types. Therefore, eddy-
564 covariance appears to be more useful for understanding fluxes at large spatial and
565 temporal scales. On the other hand, the chamber method reflects the area where
566 chamber was covered, and it is useful for understanding the relationship between fluxes
567 and ice surface conditions on smaller scales. The different spatial scales of the two
568 methods may be therefore one reason for the discrepancy in CO₂ flux measurements.

569
570 Comparison of the natural CO₂ flux range (+0.1 to +1.6 mmol C m⁻² day⁻¹ for F_{snow} and
571 F_{ff}) (Table 3) with previous estimates derived from the chamber method (-5.2 to +6.7
572 mmol C m⁻² day⁻¹) (Nomura et al., 2006, 2010a, 2010b, 2013; Geilfus et al., 2012,
573 2013; 2014; Barber et al., 2014; Delille et al., 2014; Brown et al., 2015; Kotovitch et al.,
574 2016) (these studies include both natural and potential fluxes) shows that CO₂ fluxes
575 during the N-ICE2015 experiment are at the lower end of positive values. However, our
576 potential CO₂ flux (F_{ice}) was a larger CO₂ source (up to +11.8 mmol C m⁻² day⁻¹) than
577 reported in previous studies (+6.7 mmol C m⁻² day⁻¹). In our study, the maximum
578 potential flux (+11.8 mmol C m⁻² day⁻¹) was obtained for F_{ice} at station FI6 (Table 3).

579 In this situation, ΔpCO_{2 b-a} (293 μatm) was the highest (Table 2 and Figure 6), and it is
580 reasonable to consider this as the highest magnitude of positive CO₂ flux within our
581 study. However, a previous study by closed chamber method showed that even for a
582 similar ΔpCO_{2 b-a} (297 μatm) and brine volume fraction (10–15%), the CO₂ flux was
583 +0.7 mmol C m⁻² day⁻¹ for artificial sea ice with no snow in the tank experiment
584 (Nomura et al., 2006).

585
586 The CO₂ flux between the sea ice and overlying air can be expressed by the following
587 equation,

588
589
$$F_{\text{CO}_2} = r_b k \alpha \Delta p\text{CO}_{2\text{ b-a}},$$

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598 where r_b is the ratio of surface of the brine channel to sea ice surface, and we assume
599 that the value of r_b is equal to brine volume fraction, k is the gas transfer velocity, α is
600 the solubility of CO_2 (Weiss, 1974), and $\Delta p\text{CO}_2_{b-a}$ is the difference in $p\text{CO}_2$ between
601 brine and atmosphere. The equation is based on the fact that CO_2 transfer between
602 seawater and air is controlled by processes in the near-surface water (Liss, 1973). The
603 gas transfer velocity (k) calculated from F , r_b , α and $\Delta p\text{CO}_2_{b-a}$ was 5.12 m day^{-1} for F_{ice}
604 at station FI6 and 0.29 m day^{-1} for the tank experiment examined in Nomura et al.
605 (2006). This result clearly indicates that the gas transfer velocity for F_{ice} at station FI6 is
606 higher than that of tank experiment examined in Nomura et al. (2006) even with very
607 similar $\Delta p\text{CO}_2_{b-a}$ and brine volume fraction.

608
609 Here, we surmise that the gas transfer velocity and thereby CO_2 flux is greatly enhanced
610 by the temperature difference between sea ice surface and atmosphere. Previous studies
611 indicate that there is an unstable air density gradient in a dry snowpack due to basal
612 heating and the strong temperature difference develops between bottom and top of snow
613 (e.g., Powers et al., 1985; Severinghaus et al., 2010), which enhances the flow of air
614 through the snowpack. We propose that the mixing and transport of gas within the
615 snowpack could also occur over sea ice. Because temperatures at the bottom of snow
616 and the top of sea ice were relatively warm due to a thick insulating snow over sea ice,
617 there was a strong temperature difference between sea ice surface and atmosphere when
618 air temperature was low (Figure 5a and Table 2). For station FI6, the temperature
619 difference between the sea ice surface and atmosphere was 20.2°C after snow removal.
620 On the other hand, in the tank experiment by Nomura et al. (2006), the temperature
621 difference between sea ice surface (top 1.5 cm) and air in the headspace was only 4.5°C .

622
623 Figure 6 shows the relationship between mean air–sea ice CO_2 fluxes and temperature
624 difference between ice and atmosphere. The strong dependence of CO_2 flux with
625 temperature difference ($T_{\text{ice}}-T_a$) was observed, especially for F_{ff} and F_{ice} ($R^2 > 0.7$, $p <$
626 0.01 , linear fitting) (Figure 6). Due to the high brine volume fractions (Table 2), the sea
627 ice surface had enough permeability for gas exchange. In addition, ice temperatures
628 were similar for young and first-year ice (Table 2), indicating that $p\text{CO}_2$ at the top of the

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631 sea ice and CO₂ flux would be of similar order of magnitude if thermodynamic
632 processes dominated. Therefore, our results suggest that the CO₂ fluxes even over the
633 frost flowers as a natural condition, would be enhanced by the upward transport of air
634 containing high CO₂ from the surface of sea ice to the atmosphere due to the strong
635 temperature difference between sea ice surface and atmosphere. Although the presence
636 of snow on sea ice has potential to produce a larger temperature difference between sea
637 ice surface and atmosphere and promote the upward transport, the magnitude of the CO₂
638 flux decreased due to the presence of snow. However, for young sea ice with frost
639 flowers (e.g., station YI1), ice surface temperature was warm (Table 2), suggesting that
640 CO₂ flux would be enhanced by the large temperature difference between sea ice
641 surface and atmosphere.

642
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645 5 Conclusions

646

647 We measured CO₂ fluxes along with sea ice and snow physical and chemical properties
648 over first-year and young sea ice north of Svalbard in the Arctic pack ice. Our results
649 suggest that young thin snow-free ice, with or without frost flowers, is a source of
650 atmospheric CO₂ due to the high pCO₂ and salinity and relatively high sea ice
651 temperature. Although the potential CO₂ flux from the sea ice surface decreased due to
652 the presence of snow, the snow surface still presents a modest CO₂ source to the
653 atmosphere for low snow density and shallow depth situations. The highest ice-to-air
654 fluxes were observed over thin young sea ice formed in leads. During N-ICE2015 the
655 ice pack was dynamic, and formation of open water was associated with storms, where
656 new ice was formed. The subsequent ice growth in these leads is especially important
657 for the ice-to-air CO₂ fluxes in winter, since the flux from young ice is an order of
658 magnitude larger than from snow-covered first-year and older ice.

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662 6 Data availability

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669
670 Data used in this paper will be available at Norwegian Polar Data Centre
671 (data.npolar.no).

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675 **7 Acknowledgments**

676

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944 **Figure captions**

945

946 Figure 1. Location map of the sampling area north of Svalbard during N-ICE2015.
947 Image of the sea ice concentrations (a) and station map (b) were derived from Special
948 Sensor Microwave Imager (SSM/I) satellite data for mean of February 2015 and from
949 Sentinel-1 (Synthetic Aperture Radar Sensor) satellite data, respectively.

950

951 Figure 2. Photographs of the CO₂ flux chamber system at station YI1 north of Svalbard
952 on Friday 13 March 2015. CO₂ flux chamber was installed over the frost flowers on the
953 new thin ice in the refreezing lead.

954

955 Figure 3. Example of the temporal variation in CO₂ concentration (ΔCO_2) in the
956 chambers installed at station YI1 that is use to calculate the CO₂ flux. ΔCO_2 indicates
957 the change in CO₂ concentration inside the chamber since the chamber was closed.

958

959 Figure 4. Time series of air temperature measured at the weather mast over the ice floe
960 (10 m height) (Hudson et al., 2015). Blank period indicates no data. Colored symbols
961 indicate the date for the chamber flux measurements. The horizontal dashed line
962 indicates air temperature = 0°C.

963

964 Figure 5. Vertical profiles of temperature (a) and salinity (b) in snow and sea ice (top 20
965 cm). The horizontal line indicates snow–ice interface. Shaded area indicates sea ice. The
966 triangle in (a) indicates the air temperature for each station. For stations FI7 and YI2
967 and 3, we have no salinity data.

968

969 Figure 6. Relationships between mean air–sea ice CO₂ fluxes and temperature
970 difference ($T_{\text{ice}} - T_{\text{a}}$) between ice (top 20 cm) (T_{ice}) and atmosphere (T_{a}) (circle) for F_{snow}
971 (blue), F_{ff} (black) and F_{ice} (red) for young and first-year sea ice. Relationships between
972 mean air–sea ice CO₂ fluxes and the difference of pCO₂ ($\Delta\text{pCO}_2_{\text{b-a}}$) between brine
973 (pCO_{2b}) and atmosphere (pCO_{2a}) (cross) for F_{snow} (blue) and F_{ice} (red).

974

975

976 Table captions

977

978 Table 1. Station, date for CO₂ flux measurement, position, floe number, surface
979 condition, ice type and thickness of snow, frost flowers, and sea ice.

980

981 a. Sea ice coring and snow sampling was conducted on 5 March 2015.

982

Nomura Daiki 2018/5/9 18:20
削除: and ice temperature (T_{ice}) (top 20 cm)
(cross)

Nomura Daiki 2018/5/10 17:02
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988 b. Sea ice coring and snow sampling was conducted on 10 March 2015.

989

990

991 Table 2. Station, snow density and water equivalent, brine volume fraction, and
992 temperature for sea ice (top 20 cm), brine temperature, salinity, DIC, TA, pCO₂ (pCO₂
993 _b), and atmospheric temperature, wind speed, pCO₂ (pCO_{2 a})^a and ΔpCO_{2 b-a}.

994

995 a. pCO_{2 a} (μatm) was calculated from CO₂ concentration (ppmv) at Ny-Ålesund,
996 Svalbard (<http://www.esrl.noaa.gov/gmd/dv/iadv/>) taking into account saturated water
997 vapor and atmospheric pressure during sampling day.

998

999 b. Mean values for snow column.

1000

1001 | c. "-" indicates no data. Due to [logistical constraints](#), data of snow, sea ice, and brine
1002 were not obtained. _

1003

1004

1005 Table 3. CO₂ flux measured over the snow (F_{snow}), frost flowers (F_{ff}), and ice surface
1006 (F_{ice}). Values measured directly over undisturbed surfaces (either with frost flowers or
1007 on snow surface) at a given station are indicated in bold.

1008

1009 a. Data of first CO₂ flux measurement after removal of snow or frost flowers.

1010

1011 b. "-" indicates no data.

1012

1013 c. Number of measurements in bracket.

1014

1015 d. Data from station OI1 was not included.

Nomura Daiki 2018/5/9 14:58

削除: technical reasons