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Keywords:	Glacier hydrology, Subglacial sediments, Subglacial processes, Glacial tills, Ice dynamics
Abstract:	<p>Subglacial hydrology modulates basal motion but remains poorly constrained, particularly for soft-bedded Greenlandic outlet glaciers. Here, we report detailed measurements of the response of subglacial water pressure to the connection and drainage of adjacent water-filled boreholes drilled through kilometre-thick ice on Sermeq Kujalleq (Store Glacier). These measurements provide evidence for gap opening at the ice-sediment interface, Darcian flow through the sediment layer, and the forcing of water pressure in hydraulically-isolated cavities by stress transfer. We observed a small pressure drop followed by a large pressure rise in response to the connection of an adjacent borehole, consistent with the propagation of a flexural wave within the ice and underlying deformable sediment. We interpret the delayed pressure rise as evidence of no pre-existing conduit and the progressive decrease in hydraulic transmissivity as the closure of a narrow < 1.5 mm gap opened at the ice-sediment interface, and a reversion to Darcian flow through the sediment layer with a hydraulic conductivity of $\leq 10^{-6} \text{ m s}^{-1}$. We suggest that gap opening at the ice-sediment interface deserves further attention as it will occur naturally in response to the rapid pressurisation of water at the bed.</p>

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Manuscripts

Water flow through sediments and at the ice-sediment interface beneath Sermeq Kujalleq (Store Glacier), Greenland

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ABSTRACT. Subglacial hydrology modulates basal motion but remains poorly constrained, particularly for soft-bedded Greenlandic outlet glaciers. Here, we report detailed measurements of the response of subglacial water pressure to the connection and drainage of adjacent water-filled boreholes drilled through kilometre-thick ice on Sermeq Kujalleq (Store Glacier). These measurements provide evidence for gap opening at the ice-sediment interface, Darcian flow through the sediment layer, and the forcing of water pressure in hydraulically-isolated cavities by stress transfer. We observed a small pressure

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 31 sediment layer with a hydraulic conductivity of $\leq 10^{-6} \text{ m s}^{-1}$. We suggest that
 32 gap opening at the ice-sediment interface deserves further attention as it will
 33 occur naturally in response to the rapid pressurisation of water at the bed.

34 LIST OF SYMBOLS

35	α	Surface and bed slope ($^{\circ}$)
36	β_w	Water compressibility ($5.1 \times 10^{-10} \text{ Pa}^{-1}$)
37	γ	Clausius-Clapeyron constant ($9.14 \times 10^{-8} \text{ K Pa}^{-1}$)
38	δ	Gap width (m)
39	η_i	Effective ice viscosity (Pa s^{-1})
40	η_w	Water viscosity at 0°C (0.0018 Pa s)
41	ρ_i	Ice density ($910 \pm 10 \text{ kg m}^{-3}$)
42	ρ_w	Water density at 0°C (999.8 kg m^{-3})
43	ρ_d	Hose density (kg m^{-3})
44	τ_e	Effective stress (Pa)
45	ϕ	Areal fraction of the bed covered by gap
46	A	Rate factor in Glen's flow law ($\text{Pa}^{-3} \text{ s}^{-1}$)
47	b	Sediment thickness (m)
48	B	Bending modulus of the ice (Pa m^3)
49	D	Time constant (s)
50	E	Elastic modulus (9.3 GPa)

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51	f	Shape factor
52	f_D	Frictional drag coefficient
53	F	Force on the drill tower (N)
54	g	Gravitational acceleration (9.81 m s^{-2})
55	h	Hydraulic head (m)
56	h_0	Reference hydraulic head (m)
57	H_i	Ice thickness (m)
58	H_w	Water height (m)
59	K	Hydraulic conductivity (m s^{-1})
60	M	Sediment stiffness (p-wave modulus) (Pa)
61	n	Exponent in Glen's flow law (3)
62	N	Effective pressure (Pa)
63	p_i	Ice overburden pressure (Pa)
64	p_w	Subglacial water pressure (Pa)
65	p_{tr}	Triple point pressure of water (611.73 Pa)
66	Q	Volumetric flux ($\text{m}^3 \text{ s}^{-1}$)
67	r	Radial distance (m)
68	r_d	External hose radius (0.015 m)
69	r_0	Borehole radius at base (m)
70	r_s	Borehole radius at near-surface (m)
71	R	Radius of influence (m)
72	Re	Reynolds number
73	s	Recharge ($s = h - h_0$) (m)
74	s_0	Reference recharge (m)
75	S	Storage coefficient (m)
76	t	Time (s)
77	t_M	Maxwell time (s)
78	T	Hydraulic transmissivity ($\text{m}^2 \text{ s}^{-1}$)
79	T_m	Melting temperature of ice ($^{\circ}\text{C}$)
80	T_{tr}	Triple point temperature of water (273.16 K)

81	U_d	Drill velocity (m min^{-1})
82	U_w	Water velocity (m s^{-1})
83	V	Volume (m^3)
84	$W(u)$	Well function
85	z	Orthometric height (m)

86 1. INTRODUCTION

87 The nature of subglacial hydrology and basal motion on ice masses underlain by soft sediments are central
88 questions in ice dynamics (e.g. Tulaczyk and others, 2000; Clarke, 1987; Murray, 1997). However, despite
89 abundant evidence for subglacial sediments beneath fast-moving outlet glaciers and ice streams draining the
90 Greenland and Antarctic ice sheets (e.g. Alley and others, 1986; Blankenship and others, 1986; Christianson
91 and others, 2014) and mountain glaciers (e.g. Humphrey and others, 1993; Iverson and others, 1995), soft-
92 bedded processes remain poorly constrained (Alley and others, 2019; Walter and others, 2014). Water
93 flow in a soft-bedded subglacial environment has been hypothesised to occur via: Darcian flow through
94 permeable sediments (Clarke, 1987); sheet flow at the ice-sediment interface (e.g. Weertman, 1970; Alley
95 and others, 1989; Flowers and Clarke, 2002; Creyts and Schoof, 2009); and concentrated flow in channels
96 cut into the ice, and canals eroded into the sediment (Walder and Fowler, 1994; Ng, 2000). Drainage
97 through gaps opened and closed dynamically at the ice-sediment interface by turbulent water flow at high
98 pressure has also been proposed as an explanation for the rapid drainage of boreholes (Engelhardt and
99 Kamb, 1997; Kamb, 2001) and both supra- and pro-glacial lakes (Sugiyama and others, 2008; Tsai and
100 Rice, 2010, 2012; Hewitt and others, 2018). Direct evidence for gap-opening at the ice-sediment interface is
101 limited to three observational studies (Engelhardt and Kamb, 1997; Lüthi, 1999; Iverson and others, 2007).
102 However, despite support from detailed analytical modelling (Schoof and others, 2012; Rada and Schoof,
103 2018) dynamic gap opening has yet to be fully developed for larger-scale numerical models of subglacial
104 hydrology.

105 The water-saturated sediment layer beneath a soft-bedded ice mass can be approximated as an aquifer
106 confined by an overlying ice aquiclude (e.g. Lingle and Brown, 1987; Stone and Clarke, 1993). And,
107 with careful adaptation, standard hydrogeological techniques can be used to estimate subglacial aquifer
108 properties such as transmissivity, conductivity, diffusivity, and storativity. These include slug tests, where
109 the borehole water level is perturbed by the insertion and sudden removal of a sealed pipe of known
110 volume (Stone and Clarke, 1993; Stone and others, 1997; Iken and others, 1996; Kulesa and Hubbard,

111 1997; Kulesa and Murray, 2003; Kulesa and others, 2005; Hodge, 1979), packer tests where the borehole
112 is sealed near the surface and subsequently rapidly pressurised with air (Stone and Clarke, 1993; Stone
113 and others, 1997), and pumping tests where the borehole hydraulic head is monitored in response to water
114 injection or extraction (e.g. Engelhardt, 1978; Engelhardt and Kamb, 1997; Iken and Bindschadler, 1986;
115 Lüthi, 1999). Borehole drainage on connection with the bed (hereafter 'breakthrough'), and the recovery to
116 equilibrium water levels have also been used to determine subglacial aquifer properties (e.g. Engelhardt and
117 Kamb, 1997; Stone and Clarke, 1993; Stone and others, 1997; Lüthi, 1999). During breakthrough events the
118 water level in the initially water-full borehole either: (i) drops rapidly to a new equilibrium level some tens
119 of metres below the surface, (ii) does not drop at all, or (iii) drops slowly, or rapidly, to a new equilibrium
120 level after a delay of minutes to days, with the variability in response usually explained in terms of the
121 connectivity of the subglacial drainage system (e.g. Smart, 1996; Gordon and others, 2001). The hydraulic
122 conductivity of a subglacial sediment layer has also been derived from the propagation and attenuation of
123 diurnal subglacial water pressure waves (e.g. Hubbard and others, 1995), and from numerical modelling of
124 the pressure peaks induced when pressure sensors freeze in (Waddington and Clarke, 1995). To date, the
125 application of borehole response tests to marine-terminating glaciers in Greenland is limited to a single
126 study (Lüthi, 1999), presumably due to the challenges of adapting groundwater techniques to the ice sheet
127 setting.

128 The application of hydrogeological techniques requires a number of simplifying assumptions. Many
129 techniques are fundamentally based on Darcian flow and inherently assume that the aquifer is isotropic and
130 homogeneous; conditions that may rarely be met in the subglacial environment. Water flow in groundwater
131 investigations is typically slow and assumed to be Darcian. While this may hold for low-velocity water flow
132 through subglacial sediments, the discharge rates during borehole breakthrough events mean turbulent flow
133 is likely in the vicinity of the borehole base (e.g. Stone and Clarke, 1993). Further complications arise due
134 to the greater density of water than ice, overpressurising the ice at the base of water-filled glacier boreholes
135 with the potential to raise the ice from its substrate permitting water to flow through the gap created.
136 (Overpressure here being water pressure in excess of the ice overburden pressure). Previous studies have
137 attempted to determine the widths of such gaps (Weertman, 1970; Engelhardt and Kamb, 1997; Lüthi,
138 1999; Iverson and others, 2007).

139 Ice boreholes provide direct access to the subglacial environment allowing sensor installation and borehole
140 response tests. Here, we analyse borehole response tests conducted on Sermeq Kujalleq (Store Glacier) in

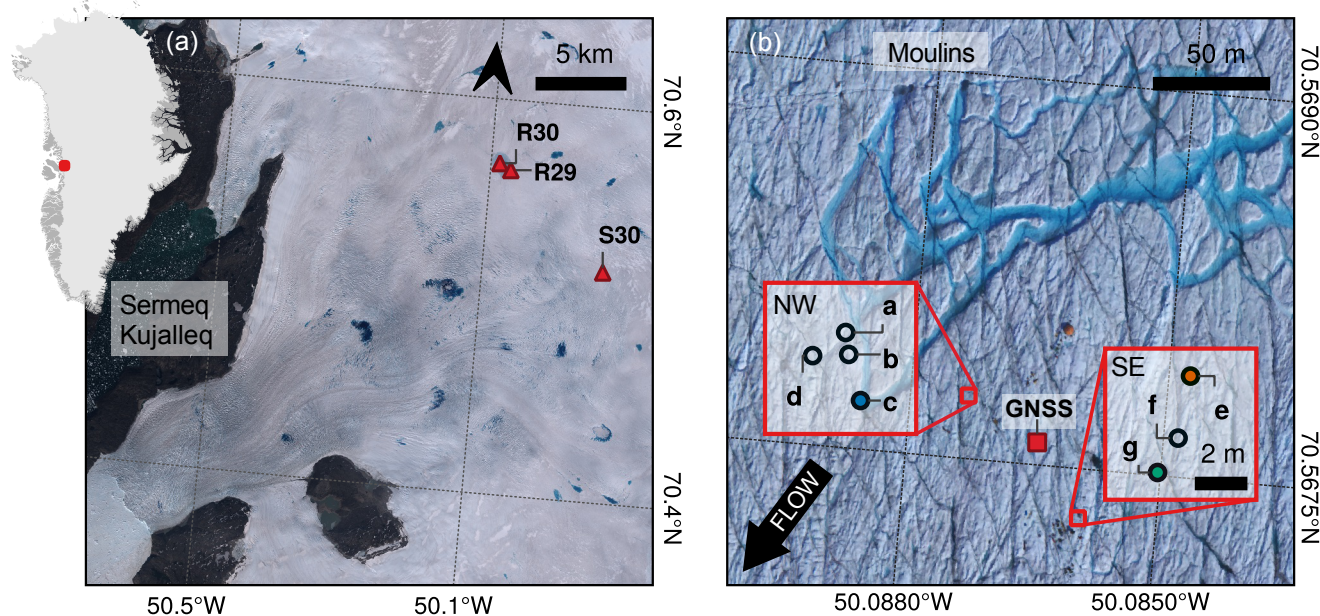


Fig. 1. Maps of the field site. (a) Location of the study site R30 on Sermeq Kujalleq (Store Glacier) with the location of the R29 and S30 drill sites also marked. The background is a Sentinel-2 image acquired on 1 June 2019 and the red square on the inset map shows the location in Greenland. (b) Close up of the R30 study site showing the location of boreholes, moulins, and the GNSS receiver. Three boreholes intersected the ice-sediment interface (filled, colour-coded circles) and four terminated above the base (hollow circles). The background orthophoto was acquired by an uncrewed aerial vehicle survey following Chudley and others (2019a) on 21 July 2019.

141 West Greenland during summer 2019. The response tests included breakthrough events, which occurred
 142 consistently when boreholes intersected the ice-sediment interface, constant-rate pumping tests undertaken
 143 as water was pumped into the borehole as the drill stem was raised to the surface, and recovery tests
 144 following removal of the stem. The results provide insights into subglacial hydrological conditions and
 145 permit estimation of the hydraulic transmissivity and conductivity of the subglacial drainage system.

146 2. METHODS

147 2.1. Field site

148 Sermeq Kujalleq (Store Glacier) is a major fast-moving outlet glacier of the Greenland Ice Sheet draining an
 149 $\sim 34,000 \text{ km}^2$ catchment area (Rignot and others, 2008) into Ikerasak Fjord — a tributary of Uummannaq
 150 Fjord. (Note that as several glaciers share the same name — and for continuity with previous literature —
 151 we give the English glacier name in brackets after the official Greenlandic name.) In summer 2019, we used
 152 pressurised hot water to drill seven boreholes on Sermeq Kujalleq (Store Glacier) at site R30 (N70° 34.0',

153 W050° 5.2') located in the centre of the drained bed of supraglacial lake L028 (Fig. 1a; Table S1). R30 lies
154 30 km from the calving front at 863 m asl and is within the ablation area; there was no winter snow or firn
155 present during the drilling campaign. Ice flow measured by a Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS)
156 receiver averaged 521 m yr^{-1} in the SSW direction (217° True) between 9 July and 16 September 2019. The
157 surface slope was calculated as 1.0° from linear regression of the ArcticDEM digital elevation model (Porter
158 and others, 2018) over a distance of ten ice thicknesses (10 km). Lake L028 drained via hydraulic fracture
159 on 31 May 2019 (Chudley and others, 2019b) forming two major moulins (each of diameter ~ 6 m) located
160 within 200 m of the drill site (Fig. 1b). Borehole-based Distributed Acoustic Sensing (DAS) in BH19c
161 provides evidence for up to 37 m of consolidated subglacial sediment at R30 (Booth and others, 2020),
162 while seismic reflection surveys at site S30 (8 km to the south-east of R30; Fig. 1a) revealed up to 45 m
163 of unconsolidated sediment overlying consolidated sediment (Hofstede and others, 2018). Borehole-based
164 investigations of englacial and basal conditions at S30 reported low effective pressures (180 – 280 kPa),
165 an absent or thin (< 10 m) basal temperate ice layer, and internal deformation concentrated within the
166 lowermost 100 m of ice, below the transition between interglacial (Holocene) and last-glacial (Wisconsin)
167 ice (LGIT; Doyle and others, 2018; Young and others, 2019). At R30, Distributed Temperature Sensing
168 (DTS) reveals a 70-m-thick basal temperate ice layer, the LGIT at 889 m depth, and a steeply curving
169 temperature profile with a minimum ice temperature of -21.1°C near the centre of the ice column (Law
170 and others, 2021).

171 2.2. Hot water drilling

172 Boreholes were drilled using a hot water drill system similar to that described in Makinson and Anker
173 (2014). Pressurised, hot water (11.0 MPa; $\sim 80^\circ\text{C}$) was provided by five pressure-heater units (Kärcher
174 HDS1000DE) at a regulated flow rate of 75 l min^{-1} , through a 1,350 m long, 19.3 mm (0.75") bore hose. A
175 load cell and rotary encoder recorded the load on the drill tower and the hose length below the surface at
176 0.5 Hz with a resolution of 1 kg and 0.1 m respectively (Figs. S1-S3). Borehole logging to a depth of 325 m
177 indicates that the hot water drilling system consistently drills boreholes that are within 1° of vertical
178 (Hubbard and others, 2021).

179 Boreholes (BH) were named by year and by letter in chronological order of drilling, with BH19a the first
180 borehole drilled in 2019 (Table S1). Boreholes were drilled in two clusters with the first (BH19a, b, c, and
181 d) separated from the second (BH19e, f, and g) by 70 m (Fig. 1b). Seven boreholes were drilled in 2019
182 with three reaching the ice-sediment interface at depths of 1043 m (BH19c), 1022 m (BH19e), and 1039 m

183 (BH19g), giving a mean ice thickness of 1035 m and mean elevation of the glacier sole of -172 m asl (Table
184 1). Four boreholes were terminated above the ice-sediment interface (see Table S1). Prior to breakthrough
185 boreholes were water-filled to the bare ice surface, with excess water supplied by the pressure-heater units
186 overflowing from the top of the borehole.

187 To reduce overall drilling duration and produce a more uniform borehole radius (0.06 m four hours after
188 termination of drilling), we optimised drilling speed using the numerical borehole model of Greenler and
189 others (2014). The borehole model was constrained by ice temperature from BH18b at site R29, 1.1 km
190 distant (Fig. 1a; Hubbard and others, 2021), and a hose thermal conductivity of $0.24 \text{ W m}^{-1} \text{ K}^{-1}$. Borehole
191 radius at the time of breakthrough was then estimated by re-running the model with the recorded drill
192 speeds and the equilibrated ice temperature profile measured in BH19c at site R30 (Law and others, 2021).
193 The mean borehole radius for BH19c, BH19e and BH19g output by the model at the time of borehole
194 breakthrough was 0.07 m, with larger radii (mean of 0.10 m) in the lowermost 100 m of the ice column
195 (Table A1) due to intentionally slower drilling as the drill approached the ice-sediment interface, together
196 with the presence of temperate ice that was unaccounted for during initial model runs. The borehole
197 model underestimated the near-surface (i.e. 0 – 100 m) borehole radius (r_s), possibly due to turbulent heat
198 exchange that is not included in the model, so we use the radius at the water line calculated for BH19g
199 (0.14 m) as r_s for all the borehole response tests (see Appendix A).

200 Analysis of the temperature time series recorded by DTS in BH19c (Law and others, 2021) shows that
201 the boreholes rapidly froze shut. At 580 m depth, where the undisturbed ice temperature was -21.1°C , the
202 temperature fell below the pressure-dependent melting temperature 3 h after drilling. Within warmer ice
203 refreezing was slower: at 920 m depth in BH19c the ice temperature was -3°C and refreezing was complete
204 after 5 days.

205 2.3. Pressure measurements

206 Basal water pressures were recorded by vibrating wire piezometers (Geokon 4500SH) installed at the base
207 of BH19c and BH19e and a current loop transducer (Omega Engineering Ltd. PXM319) installed at the
208 base of BH19g. Pressure records from the Geokon 4500SH were zeroed with atmospheric pressure at the
209 surface, temperature compensated using a high-accuracy thermistor in contact with the piezometer body,
210 and calibrated using the manufacturer's second-order polynomial to an accuracy of ± 3 kPa, equivalent
211 to ± 0.3 m of hydraulic head. The pressure record from the PXM319 current loop transducer (accuracy
212 = ± 35 kPa, equivalent to ± 3.6 m of head) was calibrated using the manufacturer's linear calibration and

213 zeroed with atmospheric pressure at the surface. A pressure spike indicates that the ice surrounding the
 214 transducer installed in BH19g froze at 13.7 h post-breakthrough.

All pressure sensors were lowered until contact with the ice-bed interface was confirmed by the pressure ceasing to increase. The sensor was then raised slightly (piezometer offset: 0.05 – 0.4 m; Table 1) to prevent the piezometer from being dragged through the substrate. The borehole water level below the surface (that is the length of the uppermost air-filled section of the borehole) at installation was measured with a well depth meter, and by reference to distance markers on the piezometer cable. The final installation depth was determined by adding this water level to the depth recorded by the piezometer. The ice thickness (H_i) was calculated by adding the piezometer offset to the final installation depth. Borehole positions were surveyed on 22 July 2019 using a Trimble R9s GNSS receiver with 8 min long observations post-processed using the precise point positioning service provided by Natural Resources Canada (CSRS-PPP). Borehole surface elevation was converted to orthometric EGM96 geoid heights. To allow inter-comparison of pressure records from sensors installed at different depths below the surface, water pressure was expressed as hydraulic head h , which represents the theoretical orthometric height of the borehole water level,

$$h = \frac{p_w}{\rho_w g} + z, \quad (1)$$

where $\rho_w = 999.8 \text{ kg m}^{-3}$ is water density at 0°C , $g = 9.81 \text{ m s}^{-2}$ is gravitational acceleration and z is the orthometric height of the piezometer determined by subtracting the piezometer depth below the surface from the orthometric height of the borehole at the surface. Pressure was also expressed as the effective pressure $N = p_i - p_w$ and the overpressure ($p_w - p_i$), the latter in respect of the excess pressure exerted at the base of water-filled boreholes due to the greater density of water than ice (Table 1). The ice-overburden pressure p_i was approximated for an inclined, parallel-sided slab of ice as

$$p_i = \rho_i g H_i \cos \alpha, \quad (2)$$

215 where ρ_i is the density of ice, H_i is the height of the overlying ice column, $\alpha = 1.0^\circ$ is the mean surface
 216 and bed slope (see Section 2.1), and ice density was taken as $\rho_i = 910 \pm 10 \text{ kg m}^{-3}$.

217 2.4. Temperature measurements

Temperature was measured using high-accuracy ($\pm 0.05^\circ\text{C}$) thermistors (Littelfuse: PR502J2) at ~ 0 , 1, 3, 5, and 10 m above the bed in BH19c and BH19e and also throughout the full ice column in BH19c using fibre-optic DTS (Law and others, 2021). Here we present temperature measurements recorded by the

Table 1. Key data for the boreholes that reached the bed. Variables h_0 , p_w , and N were calculated for the reference period 36-60 h after each respective breakthrough, which was deemed representative of subglacial water pressure.

	BH19c	BH19e	BH19g	Mean
Ice thickness (m)	1043.0	1022.3	1039.2	1034.8
Piezometer offset (m)	0.05	0.1	0.4	0.18
Piezometer orthometric height (m asl)	-180.5	-159.6	-175.1	-171.7
Water-full overpressure (kPa)	921 ± 102	902 ± 100	917 ± 102	913 ± 101
Breakthrough time (UTC)	5 July 2019 02:54:36	12 July 2019 03:39:35	22 July 2019 08:07:23	n/a
Breakthrough volume (m ³)	4.83	4.50	4.93	4.75
Peak load (kg)	199	180	214	198
Drill-indicated breakthrough depth* (m)	1031.0	1010.5	1017.3	1019.6
Drill-indicated maximum depth* (m)	1031.0	1013.3	1017.4	1020.6
Pump rate (l min ⁻¹)	75	75	75	75
Pumping duration during raise (min)	140	140	118	133
Volume of water pumped during raise (m ³)	10.5	10.5	8.9	10.0
Recovery time (h)	36.4	49.7	45.4	43.8
Initial water level depth (m)	78.1	72.9	79.8	76.9
h_0 (m)	773.0	777.1	775.9 [†]	775.3
p_i (MPa)	9.310 ± 0.1	9.125 ± 0.1	9.276 ± 0.1	9.237 ± 0.1
p_w (MPa)	9.352	9.178	9.166 [†]	9.232
p_w (% of p_i)	100.5 ± 1.1	100.6 ± 1.1	100.5 ± 1.1 [†]	100.5 ± 1.1
N (kPa)	-43 ± 102	-54 ± 102	-42 ± 102 [†]	-46 ± 102

*Drill-indicated depths do not account for the elastic extension of the hose under load.

[†]Recorded in BH19e due to freeze-in of pressure transducer in BH19g.

lowermost thermistor in BH19c, which was mounted with the Geokon 4500SH piezometer. We calculated the pressure-dependent melting temperature

$$T_m = T_{tr} - \gamma(p_i - p_{tr}), \quad (3)$$

218 where $\gamma = 9.14 \times 10^{-8} \text{ K Pa}^{-1}$ is the Clausius-Clapeyron gradient determined from the basal temperature
 219 gradient (Law and others, 2021), and $T_{tr} = 273.16 \text{ K}$ and $p_{tr} = 611.73 \text{ Pa}$ are the triple point temperature
 220 and pressure of water respectively.

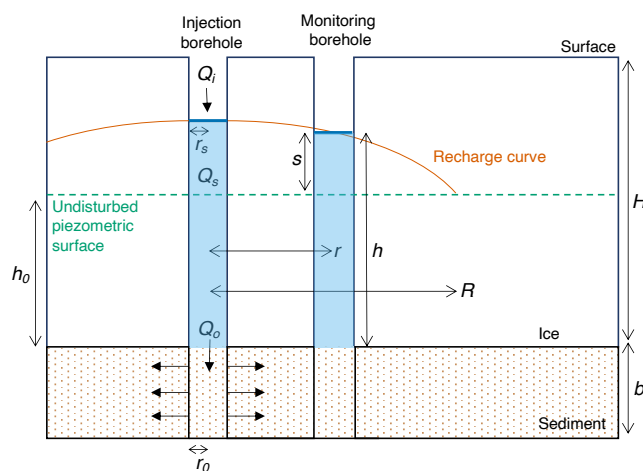


Fig. 2. Conceptual diagram and nomenclature for borehole drainage via radial Darcian flow through a subglacial sediment aquifer confined by an overlying ice aquiclude. Note that monitoring boreholes are likely to have refrozen at the time of the tests and h is therefore the equivalent hydraulic head for the subglacial water pressure recorded.

221 2.5. GNSS Measurements of ice motion

222 Time series of horizontal and vertical ice motion were determined from dual frequency (L1 + L2) GNSS
 223 data recorded by a Trimble R7 receiver at 0.1 Hz and post-processed kinematically using Precise Point
 224 Positioning with Ambiguity Resolution (CSRS PPP-AR). The GNSS antenna was mounted on a 5 m long
 225 pole drilled 4 m into the ice surface at a location between the two clusters of boreholes (Fig. 1b). Rapid
 226 re-freezing of the hole ensured effective coupling of the antenna pole with the ice. Small gaps (< 5 min)
 227 in the position record were interpolated linearly before a 6 h low pass Butterworth filter was applied. The
 228 filtered position record was differentiated to calculate velocity. The time series was then resampled to
 229 10 min medians and a further 6 h moving average was applied to the velocity record. To prevent a shift in
 230 phase, phase preserving filters and differentiation were used.

231 3. BOREHOLE RESPONSE TESTS

232 We analysed the response of borehole water pressure to the perturbations induced at breakthrough,
 233 during the continued pumping of water into the borehole while the drill stem and hose were raised to
 234 the surface, and also during the recovery phase after which borehole water pressure was in equilibrium
 235 with the pressure in the subglacial drainage system. These tests were conducted at different times since
 236 breakthrough, allowing us to investigate whether hydraulic transmissivity changed as water pressure

237 returned to equilibrium. Rapid borehole refreezing precluded slug testing. Below we describe the borehole
238 response test results alongside the methods.

239 For the majority of tests the monitoring borehole was the same as the injection borehole and these are
240 referred to simply by the borehole name. To distinguish response tests where the injection and monitoring
241 boreholes were different, we give the injection borehole in full followed by the monitoring borehole's letter
242 code in brackets. A conceptual illustration of our borehole response tests is presented in Figure 2.

243 All data loggers, including that of the drill, were synchronised precisely with Global Positioning System
244 Time (GPST) immediately prior to drilling. Water pressure data were logged by separate Campbell
245 Scientific CR1000X data loggers for each cluster of boreholes. The sampling frequency was increased to
246 0.2 Hz prior to borehole breakthrough, necessitating temporary suspension of thermistor measurements.
247 Hence, no measurements of basal water temperature were made when drilling was taking place.

248 As it is difficult to measure the background hydraulic head without disturbing the subglacial environment
249 it is necessary to define a reference head (h_0). The head in BH19e averaged from 36 – 60 h after BH19g
250 breakthrough had recovered to within 0.1 m of the mean head over the 24 h period preceding BH19g
251 breakthrough (Fig. 3b). On this basis, we define h_0 as the mean head from 36 – 60 h post-breakthrough
252 for all tests. No corrections for background trends in hydraulic head were made but such trends are small
253 relative to the perturbations induced (Fig. 3a).

254 3.1. Breakthrough tests

255 3.1.1. Observations

256 All three boreholes drilled to the bed in 2019 drained rapidly upon intersecting the basal interface. During
257 breakthrough, water levels dropped to an initial level measured during pressure transducer installation
258 of 78, 73, and 80 m below the surface in BH19c, BH19e and BH19g (Table 1). The frictional drag of
259 water flowing past the hose during breakthrough events caused transient ~ 2 kN magnitude peak forces, as
260 recorded on the drill tower (Figs. 4, S1-S3). Following the peak, force on the drill tower became constant at
261 ~ 200 s post-breakthrough but at a higher level than recorded prior to breakthrough. The offset in the pre-
262 and post-breakthrough force on the drill tower represents the difference between the weight of the hose in
263 a water-filled and part-filled borehole.

As the drill stem was raised to the surface over ~ 2 h water continued to be pumped into the borehole,
supplying an additional ~ 10 m³ of water (Table 1). The volume of water drained during the breakthrough
events was determined from the initial water level and annular cross-sectional area of the borehole of

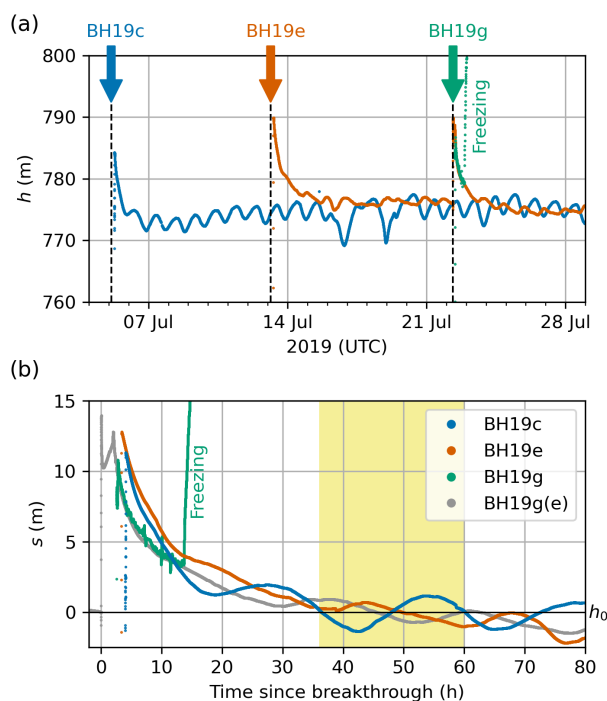


Fig. 3. (a) Time series of hydraulic head (h). Borehole breakthrough times are marked with a vertical dashed line and arrow. (b) Time series of head above the reference head ($s = h - h_0$) plotted against time since respective breakthrough for all breakthrough tests. The yellow shade marks the 24 h period selected to define h_0 (36 – 60 h post-breakthrough).

near surface radius (r_s) containing the hose of external radius (r_d), yielding a mean volume for the three breakthrough events of 4.70 m^3 (Table 1). Taking the duration of rapid drainage as the duration of the peak in force of $\sim 200 \text{ s}$ gives a mean discharge for the three breakthrough events of $2.3 \times 10^{-2} \text{ m}^3 \text{ s}^{-1}$ supplied from the borehole, with an additional flux supplied by the pumps $Q_i = 75 \text{ l min}^{-1}$ ($1.25 \times 10^{-3} \text{ m}^3 \text{ s}^{-1}$) bringing the total discharge to $Q_o = 2.5 \times 10^{-2} \text{ m}^3 \text{ s}^{-1}$, and the total volume over the $\sim 200 \text{ s}$ duration to 4.95 m^3 . The Reynolds number for outflow from the base of the borehole can be approximated as flow through a uniform cylindrical pipe, with a radius equal to that at the borehole base, the mean of which was $r_0 = 0.10 \text{ m}$ for the three boreholes (Table A1),

$$Re = \frac{U_w 2r_0 \rho_w}{\eta_w} = \frac{2Q_o \rho_w}{\pi \eta_w r_0}, \quad (4)$$

264 where $\eta_w = 0.0018 \text{ Pa s}$ is the water viscosity at 0°C . Water flow through the boreholes near the base was
 265 turbulent with a high $Re \approx 87,500$ greatly exceeding the threshold for laminar flow of 2,000 (de Marsily,
 266 1986).

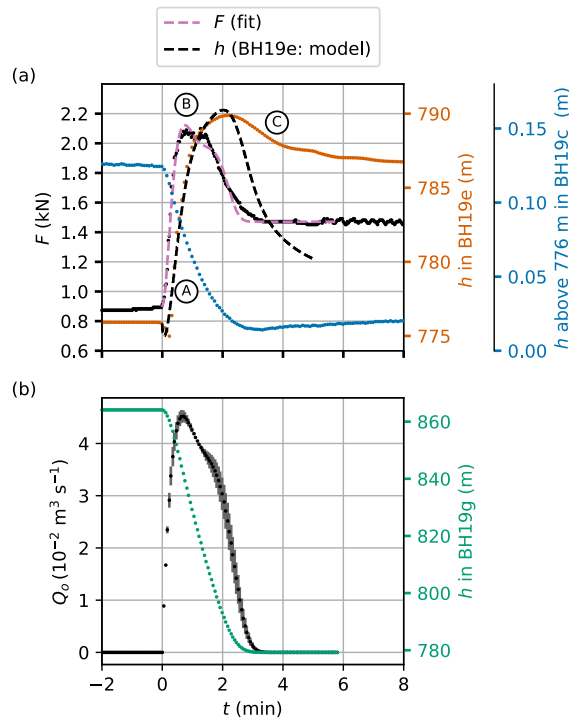


Fig. 4. (a) Force on the drill tower with best fit plotted against time since BH19g breakthrough, together with measured and modelled hydraulic head. (b) Volumetric flux into the subglacial drainage system (Q_o) with error bars, and hydraulic head in BH19g determined by inverting the force on the drill tower. Labels A–C are described in Section 4.1.

267 3.1.2. Determining the BH19g breakthrough flux

268 To avoid sensor cables becoming tangled around the drill hose, pressure transducers were installed after the
 269 drill stem and hose had been recovered to the surface. Hence, no measurements of pressure were made within
 270 boreholes being drilled including during breakthrough. As the pressure response to BH19g breakthrough
 271 was captured by transducers already installed in BH19c and BH19e (Fig. 4) we now focus on the BH19g
 272 breakthrough.

We determined the time varying flux of water into the subglacial drainage system during the breakthrough of BH19g by inverting the recorded force on the drill tower from the hose, which is a combination of its weight, both in air and in water, and the frictional drag on the hose when the water drains through the borehole,

$$\begin{aligned}
 F(t) = & \pi r_d^2 \bar{\rho}_d g (H_{w0} - H_w) + \pi r_d^2 \Delta \bar{\rho} g H_w \\
 & + \frac{\pi r_d}{4} f_D \rho_w U_w^2 H_w + F_{ds},
 \end{aligned} \tag{5}$$

273 where r_d is the radius of the drill, $\bar{\rho}_d$ is the mean density of the drill (including the water core), $\Delta\bar{\rho} = \bar{\rho}_d - \rho_w$,
 274 f_D is the coefficient of frictional drag exerted on the outside of the hose by the down-rushing water in the
 275 borehole, $H_w(t)$ is the height of water in the borehole, F_{ds} is the force exerted by the weight of the drill
 276 stem in water, and the bulk velocity of water in the borehole during the drainage event is $U_w(t) = dH_w/dt$.

The force on the drill hose is initially set by the water height, which for a borehole full to the surface is equal to the ice thickness, therefore $H_w(t=0) = H_{w0} = H_i = 1039$ m (Table 1). Since the initial force just before breakthrough $F_0 = 893$ N the density difference between the hose and water is

$$\Delta\bar{\rho} = \frac{F_0 - F_{ds}}{\pi r_d^2 g H_{w0}} = 96 \text{ kg m}^{-3}. \quad (6)$$

Taking $\rho_w = 999.8 \text{ kg m}^{-3}$ gives a mean density of the hose filled with water $\bar{\rho}_d = 1096 \text{ kg m}^{-3}$. Note that the composite density of the hose is

$$\bar{\rho}_d = \rho_d - (\rho_d - \rho_w)(r_d/r_d)^2, \quad (7)$$

277 where ρ_d is the density of the hose material, and $r_d = 9.7$ mm is the internal bore radius of the hose. Using
 278 the calculated value of $\bar{\rho}_d = 1096 \text{ kg m}^{-3}$ gives an estimate of the hose material density of $\rho_d = 1166 \text{ kg m}^{-3}$,
 279 which is slightly larger than the nominal manufacturer's specification of 1149 kg m^{-3} . This apparent extra
 280 density corresponds to an extra force measured on the drill tower prior to breakthrough of 65 N, which we
 281 interpret as a drag of 0.0625 N per metre of hose from the pumped water flowing down the centre of the
 282 hose.

Neglecting minor residual oscillations, the force $F_\infty = F(t \rightarrow \infty)$ on the drill tower after the initial rapid breakthrough was again approximately constant and is given by

$$F_\infty = 1470 \pm 10 \text{ N} = \pi r_d^2 g [\bar{\rho}_d(H_{w0} - H_{w\infty}) + \Delta\bar{\rho}H_\infty]. \quad (8)$$

283 From this we can infer that the final height of the water level $H_{w\infty} = 954 \pm 1$ m. That is, during BH19g
 284 breakthrough the water in BH19g transiently drops $H_{w0} - H_{w\infty} \approx 85$ m below the surface.

Following BH19g breakthrough a portion of the water in the borehole is rapidly evacuated into the subglacial environment. We know that the water level in the borehole decreases monotonically from an initial height H_0 to a final height H_∞ and so fit the transient response with a modified exponential solution of the form

$$H_w = H_{w\infty} + (H_{w0} - H_{w\infty})e^{-y(t)}, \quad (9)$$

where

$$y(t) = c_1 t^2 + c_2 t^3 + c_3 t^4. \quad (10)$$

A fourth order polynomial was found to be the lowest order of polynomial to accurately represent the data.

The flux of water from the borehole into the subglacial environment (Q_o) can then be given by

$$Q_o(t) = \pi r_d^2 U_w(t) + Q_i = \pi r_d^2 \frac{dH_w}{dt} + Q_i, \quad (11)$$

285 where $Q_i = 1.25 \times 10^{-3} \text{ m}^3 \text{ s}^{-1}$ is the input flux from the drill. The three constants in the polynomial $y(t)$, c_i
 286 where $i = 1, \dots, 3$, along with the drag coefficient f_D were estimated using nonlinear regression (MATLAB:
 287 fitnlm). The resulting constants, with error estimation, are given in Table S2. From this fit ($R^2 = 0.996$) of
 288 the force on the drill hose the height of water, and therefore hydraulic head, in BH19g can be calculated,
 289 together with the flux into the subglacial hydrological network (Fig. 4b). This reveals that the discharge
 290 peaked at $4.5 \pm 0.1 \times 10^{-2} \text{ m}^3 \text{ s}^{-1}$ at 38 s after breakthrough.

291 3.1.3. Modelling the pressure response to BH19g breakthrough

292 Distinct pressure perturbations, here expressed as hydraulic head, occurred in BH19c and BH19e following
 293 the breakthrough of BH19g (Fig. 4a). In BH19e, located 4.1 m from BH19g, head instantaneously decreased
 294 by 0.93 m over a 20 ± 5 s period before rising rapidly and peaking at 14.0 m above its pre-breakthrough
 295 level 130 ± 5 s post-breakthrough. Synchronously with the drop in head observed in BH19e, a 0.11 m drop
 296 in head began in BH19c.

297 To analyse these pressure perturbations further we modelled the propagation of water at the contact
 298 between elastic ice and poroelastic sediment during BH19g breakthrough following Hewitt and others
 299 (2018). The Maxwell time for the basal temperate ice at site R30 is 10-25 min, and it is therefore reasonable
 300 to assume an elastic ice rheology for the short duration (< 4 min) of breakthrough events (Appendix
 301 B). This model accounts for pressure diffusion, flexure of the ice, and deformation of the sediment, and
 302 was originally developed to describe the subglacial response to a rapidly draining supraglacial lake. The
 303 original model, which is based on Darcy's law, allowed for the formation of a subglacial cavity as well as
 304 seepage through the sediment or established subglacial networks. However, for simplicity, here we do not
 305 include cavity formation and instead assume a single effective hydraulic transmissivity for subglacial water
 306 transport; and that the fluid is incompressible. The model allows the poroelastic sediment layer to deform
 307 in response to fluid flow and pressure gradients, which allows the overlying ice to flex and bend slightly as
 308 reflected in the small (0.93 m) transient head decrease preceding the large (14.0 m) head increase recorded

309 in BH19e following BH19g breakthrough (Fig. 4a). With these features included, the model shows how an
 310 injected fluid diffuses through the subglacial environment and how this drives a propagating flexural wave
 311 in the overlying ice.

The linearised form of the model reduces to an evolution equation for the subglacial water pressure, which for consistency is here expressed as hydraulic head h

$$\rho g \frac{\partial h}{\partial t} = A_1 \nabla^2 h + A_2 \nabla^6 h. \quad (12)$$

Here $A_1 = TM/b$ and $A_2 = TB$, in terms of transmissivity T , till stiffness (p-wave modulus) M , bending modulus of the ice B , and sediment thickness b . Here b is a fitting parameter, unconstrained by measurements of the actual sediment thickness, that represents the thickness of sediment affected by pressure diffusion. Assuming radial flow,

$$\nabla^2 = \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} r \frac{\partial}{\partial r}, \quad (13)$$

the associated flux of water q at radius r is

$$q(r) = -2\pi r T \frac{\partial h}{\partial r}, \quad (14)$$

312 and $q(r) = Q_o(t)$ is the injection flux into the subglacial environment.

313 This problem can be solved numerically for any injection flux $Q_o(t)$. By entering the time-varying injection
 314 flux for BH19g breakthrough (Section 3.1.2) into Equation 14, we predicted the response of hydraulic head
 315 at BH19e (4.1 m from the injection point of BH19g). An automated nonlinear optimisation procedure
 316 (MATLAB: fitnlm) was used to determine the best-fit model parameters, yielding $B = 2.75 \times 10^9 \text{ Pa m}^3$,
 317 $M/b = 1 \times 10^4 \text{ Pa m}^{-1}$, and $T = 1.46 \times 10^{-4} \text{ m}^2 \text{ s}^{-1}$. The prediction initially follows the data closely and
 318 it captures the initial decrease in BH19e hydraulic head as the flexural wave passes through (Fig. 4a).
 319 However, the model does not capture the subsequent development of the pressure recorded in BH19e;
 320 instead it predicts that the pressure drops off too rapidly after the first two minutes. We discuss this
 321 discrepancy further in Section 4.1.

322 3.2. Pumping tests

323 3.2.1. Observations

324 Following each breakthrough event, the hose was raised back to the surface over ~ 2 h (Table 1; Figs. S1-
 325 S3), with the continued supply of water into the borehole functioning as a pumping test. We captured the
 326 pressure response at the base of BH19e to such a pumping test following the breakthrough of BH19g (Fig.

327 5). Although water was pumped down the hose while it was raised to the surface for all boreholes that
 328 reached the bed, no other pumping tests were useful as they occurred prior to the installation of pressure
 329 sensors. During the BH19g(e) pumping test the water pressure was measured in BH19e, 4.1 m distant (Fig.
 330 5).

331 Starting 28 min after the breakthrough of BH19g the head in BH19e increased at a steady rate of
 332 1.24 m h^{-1} (Fig. 5). This period of steady increase was interrupted by the temporary shutdown of the
 333 water supply when pressure-heater units were refuelled, with the linear increase in head resuming at the
 334 slightly higher rate of 1.36 m h^{-1} . The rate of change of hydraulic head increased again to 7.40 m h^{-1} when
 335 the drill stem and hose rose above the borehole water level, indicating that, while the stem was below the
 336 water line, part of the water pumped into the borehole was replacing the reducing volume displaced by
 337 the hose as it was raised to the surface. We refer to these three periods of linearly increasing head as PT1,
 338 PT2 and PT3, respectively.

Discharge from the base of BH19g (Q_o) was calculated by correcting the input flux Q_i ($1.25 \times 10^{-3} \text{ m}^3 \text{ s}^{-1}$)
 for storage within BH19g (Q_s), and for the flux offsetting the decreasing water displacement caused by the
 hose as it was raised to the surface (Q_d)

$$Q_o = Q_i - Q_d - Q_s. \quad (15)$$

The pumping test was undertaken nine days after the breakthrough of BH19e. Hence, we assume that
 storage within BH19e was negligible due to rapid borehole refreezing within cold ice that was present above
 a 70 m thick basal temperate layer (Law and others, 2021). We also consider storage within temperate ice
 to be negligible within the time span of our experiments due to its low permeability (e.g. $10^{-12} - 10^{-8} \text{ m}^2$;
 Haseloff and others, 2019). Q_d was calculated as

$$Q_d = \pi r_d^2 \bar{U}_d, \quad (16)$$

where $r_d = 0.015 \text{ m}$ is the hose radius and \bar{U}_d is the mean drill speed. For PT3, $Q_d = 0$ as the drill stem and
 hose were above the borehole water level. Q_s is the flux lost to storage in the injection borehole calculated
 from the rate of change in head dh/dt and the area of the borehole, which for PT1 and PT2 is annular as
 the hose was below the borehole water level

$$Q_s = (\pi r_s^2 - \pi r_d^2) \frac{dh}{dt}, \quad (17)$$

where $r_s = 0.14$ m is the radius of BH19g at the surface (see Appendix A). For PT3

$$Q_s = \pi r_s^2 \frac{dh}{dt}. \quad (18)$$

339 As the measurement of hydraulic head in BH19g did not start until after the pumping test, we assume
340 that the rate of change of hydraulic head was the same in BH19g and BH19e.

341 These calculations reveal that during the pumping test the vast majority (90%) of water pumped into
342 the borehole was discharged from the base (Table 2). Furthermore, this discharge from the borehole base
343 (Q_o) was remarkably steady, averaging $1.12 \times 10^{-3} \text{ m}^3 \text{ s}^{-1}$ with a standard deviation of $1.1 \times 10^{-6} \text{ m}^3 \text{ s}^{-1}$.
344 It follows that the bulk velocity of the water ($\bar{U}_w = Q_o/\pi r_0^2$) through the borehole near the base during
345 all periods was also steady, averaging $3.2 \times 10^{-2} \text{ m s}^{-1}$ with a standard deviation of $3.1 \times 10^{-5} \text{ m s}^{-1}$.

To test whether the outflow of borehole water during the pumping test was laminar or turbulent we
calculated the Reynolds number (Re) using Equation 4. During all periods, $Re \approx 3750$, indicating that
flow of water in the bottom of the borehole was turbulent during the pumping tests. If, however, we assume
that water leaves the borehole through a gap of width δ the Reynolds number for flow through this gap is

$$Re = \frac{Q_o D_h \rho_w}{2\phi\pi r \delta \eta_w}, \quad (19)$$

where D_h is the hydraulic diameter of the water film, r is the distance from the borehole, and ϕ is the areal
fraction of the bed occupied by the gap (Iken and others, 1996; de Marsily, 1986). For thin films with a
large lateral extent D_h can be approximated as 2δ (de Marsily, 1986) and the equation can be simplified
to

$$Re = \frac{Q_o \rho_w}{\phi\pi r \eta_w}. \quad (20)$$

346 Using Equation 20 and following the approach of Lüthi (1999), the transition from turbulent to laminar
347 flow occurs at a distance of ~ 1 m from the borehole base for even the low value of $\phi = 0.1$. Hence, water
348 flow beyond this point can be treated as laminar allowing the application of standard hydrogeological
349 techniques.

350 3.2.2. Hydraulic transmissivity according to the Thiem method

The hydraulic transmissivity (T_s) of a subglacial sediment layer can be calculated by applying the Thiem
(1906) method to the pumping test data. The Thiem method assumes that a steady state has been reached

Table 2. Statistics for the BH19g(e) pumping test. V_o is the volume of water discharged from the borehole base during the period. All other symbols are defined in the text.

Period	PT1	PT2	PT3
Time since breakthrough (h)	0.9	1.7	1.9
Duration (min)	54	24	6
s (m)	11.2	12.1	12.8
dh/dt (m h^{-1})	1.24	1.36	7.40
\bar{U}_d (m min^{-1})	8.80	8.82	8.75
Q_i ($10^{-4} \text{ m}^3 \text{ s}^{-1}$)	12.5	12.5	12.5
Q_d ($10^{-4} \text{ m}^3 \text{ s}^{-1}$)	1.04	1.04	0
Q_s ($10^{-4} \text{ m}^3 \text{ s}^{-1}$)	0.210	0.231	1.27
Q_o ($10^{-4} \text{ m}^3 \text{ s}^{-1}$)	11.3	11.2	11.2
Q_o (% of Q_i)	90.0	89.8	89.8
V_o (m^3)	3.65	1.62	0.41
T_s^* ($10^{-5} \text{ m}^2 \text{ s}^{-1}$)	1.51 – 4.75	1.39 – 4.37	1.31 – 4.13
T^\dagger ($10^{-5} \text{ m}^2 \text{ s}^{-1}$)	7.96	3.93	0.62

*Calculated using the Thiem (1906) method (Eq. 21)

†Calculated using the analytical solution to the simplified

Hewitt and others (2018) model (Eq. 23b)

within a vertically-confined, homogeneous, isotropic, and incompressible aquifer with Darcian flow. In these limits the hydraulic transmissivity

$$T_s = \frac{Q_o}{2\pi s} \ln \frac{R}{r}, \quad (21)$$

351 where $r = 4.1$ m is the horizontal distance between the injection borehole (BH19g) and the monitoring
 352 borehole (BH19e), and $s = h - h_0$, is the mean hydraulic head (h) during the pumping test above the
 353 reference head (h_0). The radius of influence (R) is the distance to the theoretical point at which the
 354 hydraulic head remains unchanged at the equilibrium level (that is, at radial distance R , $h = h_0$; $s = 0$;
 355 Fig. 2). (Note that the subscript in T_s indicates that the method used assumes Darcian flow through
 356 sediment rather than through a gap at the ice-sediment interface, later denoted T_g , or some combination of
 357 the two, for which we use T to represent the effective transmissivity.) The strong response of hydraulic head
 358 in BH19e to breakthrough in BH19g and the close agreement between head in these boreholes during the

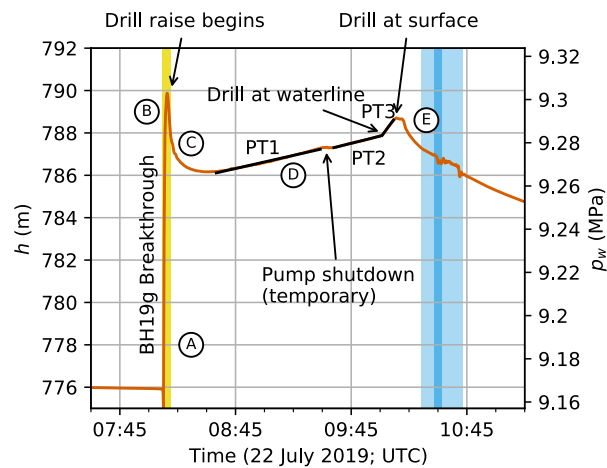


Fig. 5. Time series of BH19e hydraulic head (red line) capturing the response to BH19g breakthrough and the injection of water as the hose was raised to the surface. Post-breakthrough the drill stem was kept stationary at the bed for 4 min 39 s (yellow shading). Linear fits during the three pumping test periods are shown with black lines. The light blue shade marks the period during which a piezometer was lowered into BH19g, and the dark blue shade marks the time the piezometer was temporarily snagged (see Section 4.1 for details). Labels A–E are also described in Section 4.1.

359 recovery phase (Fig. 3) indicates that the radius of influence is greater than the distance between BH19e and
 360 BH19g, which is 4.1 m at the surface. On the other hand, assuming a homogeneous, isotropic aquifer, the
 361 lack of a positive pressure peak in BH19c suggests the radius of influence is less than 70 m. Using Equation
 362 10, and reasonable R values of 10 and 70 m gives hydraulic transmissivity from $(1.31 - 4.75) \times 10^{-5} \text{ m}^2 \text{ s}^{-1}$
 363 (Table 2).

364 Although the Thiem (1906) method is well established, it has limitations. The first is that the radius of
 365 influence R is difficult to interpret physically. The second is the requirement that a steady state has been
 366 reached. A third limitation in our application is that to calculate the flux of water leaving the base of the
 367 injection borehole (BH19g) we assume that the rate of change in hydraulic head is the same in BH19g as
 368 that recorded in BH19e.

369 3.2.3. Hydraulic transmissivity according to the Hewitt model

An alternative method to calculate the transmissivity from the pumping test data is through the application of an analytical solution to the simplified Hewitt and others (2018) model. During the pumping test Q_o is steady, thereby permitting an asymptotic solution of Equation 12 that, based on the monitoring borehole

at radius r being sufficiently near to the injection borehole, gives

$$h(r) \rightarrow -\frac{Q_o}{2\pi T} \ln \left(r \sqrt{\frac{\rho g}{A_1 t}} \right). \quad (22)$$

Hence, the predicted rate of change in hydraulic head at the nearby monitoring borehole is:

$$\frac{\partial h}{\partial t} \rightarrow \frac{Q_o}{4\pi T t} \implies T = \frac{Q_o}{4\pi t} \left(\frac{\partial h}{\partial t} \right)^{-1}. \quad (23a,b)$$

370 This expression is independent of parameters B , M , and b and is sensitive only to the transmissivity. In
 371 principle this provides an alternative means of predicting T from the measured rate of change in hydraulic
 372 head during the pumping test, which avoids the limitations of the Thiem (1906) method outlined in
 373 Section 3.2.2. This method (Eq. 23b) gives estimates of T decreasing from $7.96 \times 10^{-5} \text{ m}^2 \text{ s}^{-1}$ during PT1,
 374 to $3.93 \times 10^{-5} \text{ m}^2 \text{ s}^{-1}$ during PT2, to $0.62 \times 10^{-5} \text{ m}^2 \text{ s}^{-1}$ during PT3 (Table 2).

375 3.3. Recovery tests

376 3.3.1. Observations

377 After water input to the borehole ceased, the borehole water pressure recovered to the reference head (h_0)
 378 over $\sim 36 - 50$ h (Fig. 3b; Table 1). The range in recovery times can be explained by the variable timing
 379 and magnitude of the diurnal cycle in subglacial water pressure (Fig. 3). The observed recovery curves
 380 were similar (Fig. 3b) suggesting spatially uniform subglacial hydrological conditions between boreholes.
 381 We analysed the early phase of the recovery by fitting an exponential decay curve (Weertman, 1970, 1972;
 382 Engelhardt and Kamb, 1997) and the late phase using the Cooper and Jacob (1946) recovery test method.
 383 This provides us with two further estimates of hydraulic transmissivity: the first at 4–5 h post-breakthrough
 384 (early-phase), and the second at 14–27 h post-breakthrough (late-phase).

385 3.3.2. Exponential decay curve

The early phase of the recovery curve can be approximated as an exponential decay using the water-film
 model of Weertman (1970, 1972):

$$s(t) = s_0 \exp \frac{-t}{D}, \quad (24)$$

386 where s_0 is the initial recharge at the time the pumps stopped, t is the time since the pumps stopped,
 387 and D is a time constant determined by log-linear fitting (Fig. 6a-c). The water-film model, which is
 388 referred to as the gap-conduit model in Engelhardt and Kamb (1997), is based on the Hagen-Poiseuille

389 equation and assumes laminar flow through a constant-width gap at the interface between the ice and a
390 level, impermeable bed.

In the recovery curves of tests BH19c and BH19e the first part of the curve is missing due to the time taken to lower the pressure transducer to the bed after the drill stem was raised to the surface (Fig. 3a). Hence, s_0 was also treated as an unknown. In the BH19g(e) test the monitoring borehole was different from the injection borehole and the first part of the recovery curve was recorded. The initial BH19g(e) recovery curve was not, however, exponential and linear-log fitting was delayed for 5000 s (83 min; Fig. 6c). After this delay the trend for BH19g(e) was quasi-exponential, in common with the other tests, and s_0 was again treated as an unknown for this test (Fig. 6a-c). Hence, measured s_0 for BH19g(e) is 12.7 m and that calculated by fitting Equation 24 is 10.1 m. The resulting time constant D was 18,200 s for BH19c, 25,000 s for BH19e, and 23,000 s for BH19g(e). Rearranging Equation 9 of Engelhardt and Kamb (1997) allows the gap width δ to be calculated from the time constant as

$$\delta = \left(\frac{6\eta_w r_s^2}{D\rho_w g\phi} \ln \frac{R}{r_0} \right)^{1/3}. \quad (25)$$

Furthermore, if we make the reasonable assumption of laminar flow at distances > 1 m from the borehole (Section 3.2), the transmissivity (T_g) of a continuous porous medium equivalent to a gap of width δ is given by de Marsily (1986) as

$$T_g = \delta^3 \frac{\phi g \rho_w}{12\eta_w}. \quad (26)$$

Combining Equations 25 and 26 (see Appendix C) allows T_g to be calculated directly from the time constant (D)

$$T_g = \frac{r_s^2}{2D} \ln \frac{R}{r_0}. \quad (27)$$

391 For each test, two values of transmissivity were calculated, bracketing the radius of influence R to 10–70 m.

392 The results show that hydraulic transmissivity was an order of magnitude lower during the early recovery
393 phase than during the pumping test, with hydraulic transmissivity spanning the range $(1.8 - 3.5) \times$
394 10^{-6} m s^{-1} equivalent to gap widths of 0.16 – 0.20 mm for gaps covering the whole of the glacier bed
395 ($\phi = 1$; Table 3).

396 3.3.3. Cooper and Jacob recovery tests

Hydraulic transmissivity can also be derived from the later stages of the recovery curve using the Cooper and Jacob (1946) recovery test method, providing information about the nature of the subglacial hydrological

Table 3. Results from the gap-conduit model (exponential fit). Gap width and the apparent hydraulic transmissivity were calculated for two values of the radius of influence ($R = 10$ and 70 m). Gap widths were additionally calculated for two areal fractions of the bed covered by the gap ($\phi = 0.1$ and 1.0). The apparent gap transmissivity is independent of ϕ because gap cross-sectional area is a product of δ and ϕ .

Test	s_0 (m)	D (s)	δ (mm)		T_g (10^{-5} m s^{-1})
			$\phi = 1$	$\phi = 0.1$	
BH19c	16	18,200	0.18 – 0.20	0.38 – 0.43	0.25 – 0.35
BH19e	14.8	25,000	0.16 – 0.18	0.34 – 0.38	0.18 – 0.26
BH19g(e)	10.1	23,000	0.16 – 0.18	0.35 – 0.39	0.19 – 0.28

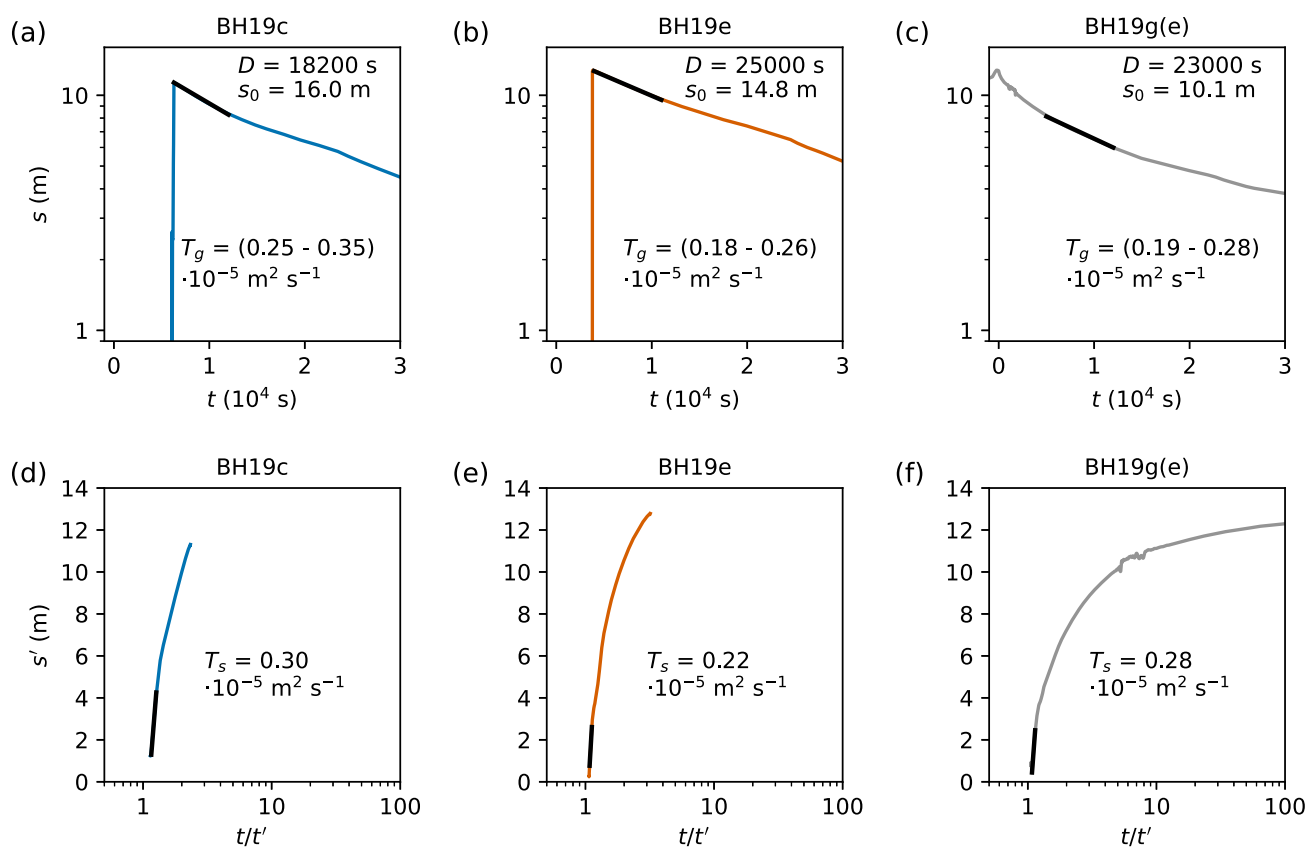


Fig. 6. Recovery tests including: (a-c) exponential fits (black) applied to the early stage of recovery curves plotted as hydraulic head above background (s) on the logarithmic y-axis against time (t); and (d-e) Cooper and Jacob (1946) recovery test linear-log fitting (black) applied to the late stage of the recovery curves plotted as residual drawdown (s') against the logarithm of the time ratio (t/t').

system as it returns to its original state. This method is based on the observation that, after a certain period of time, drawdown (or in our case drawup) within an aquifer at a given distance from a borehole decreases approximately in proportion to the logarithm of time since the discharge (or in our case recharge) began. The method assumes a non-leaky, vertically-confined aquifer of infinite lateral extent. Although the Theis (1935) method — on which the Cooper and Jacob (1946) method is based — requires a constant pumping rate, the method can be applied to a recovery test (i.e. after the pumps have ceased) using the principle of superposition of drawdown (e.g. de Marsily, 1986; Hiscock and Bense, 2014). Under this principle, pumping is assumed to continue uninterrupted while a hypothetical drawdown well is superimposed on the monitoring well from the time pumping stopped to exactly counteract the recharge from the pump. The residual drawup s' is

$$s' = h - h_0 = \frac{Q}{4\pi T} [W(u) - W(u')], \quad (28)$$

where h , h_0 , Q and T are as previously defined, and $W(u)$ and $W(u')$ are well functions for the real and hypothetical boreholes where

$$u = \frac{r^2 S}{4Tt}, \quad u' = \frac{r^2 S}{4Tt'}, \quad (29a,b)$$

and S is the storage coefficient, which cannot be determined using this method. In the previous two equations, t is time since the start of pumping, which for our tests is at breakthrough, and t' is the time since the pumps stopped. As per the standard Cooper and Jacob (1946) method for pumping tests, for small values of u' and large values of t' , the well functions can be approximated so that residual drawup can be estimated from the simplified equation

$$s' = \frac{2.303Q}{4\pi T} \log_{10} \frac{t}{t'}. \quad (30)$$

Hence, linear-log fitting allows hydraulic transmissivity (T_s) to be calculated,

$$T_s = \frac{2.303Q}{4\pi \Delta s'}, \quad (31)$$

397 where $\Delta s'$ is the rate of change of residual drawup with respect to the logarithmic time ratio. The Cooper
 398 and Jacob (1946) recovery test method described above has the advantage that the rate of recharge can
 399 be assumed to be constant, in contrast to that during an actual pumping test, which may vary (Hiscock
 400 and Bense, 2014).

401 During the recovery phase, the sampling interval was increased from 5 s to 300 s. Prior to application
 402 of the Cooper and Jacob (1946) recovery test method, the data were resampled to a constant 5 s interval

403 and interpolated linearly. The data presented in Figure 6d-f extends from the time of pressure transducer
 404 installation at the bed (or in the case of BH19g the earlier time at which the pumps were stopped),
 405 to when diurnal pressure variations began. Fitting was applied to the later stages of the recovery curve
 406 where the trend in recharge versus the logarithmic time ratio was linear, as is required for this method to be
 407 appropriate. Accordingly, hydraulic transmissivity was calculated to be $3.0 \times 10^{-6} \text{ m}^2 \text{ s}^{-1}$, $2.2 \times 10^{-6} \text{ m}^2 \text{ s}^{-1}$
 408 and $2.8 \times 10^{-6} \text{ m}^2 \text{ s}^{-1}$ for BH19c, BH19e, and BH19g respectively.

Table 4. Summary of borehole response test results.

Test	Type (period)	Method	t (h)	δ (mm)		T ($10^{-5} \text{ m}^2 \text{ s}^{-1}$)
				$\phi = 1$	$\phi = 0.1$	
BH19g(e)	Breakthrough	Hewitt and others (2018)*	0	0.69	1.48	14.56
BH19g(e)	Pumping (PT1)	Hewitt and others (2018) [†]	0.9	0.56	1.21	7.96
BH19g(e)	Pumping (PT2)	Hewitt and others (2018) [†]	1.7	0.44	0.95	3.93
BH19g(e)	Pumping (PT3)	Hewitt and others (2018) [†]	1.9	0.24	0.51	0.62
BH19g(e)	Pumping (PT1)	Thiem (1906)	0.9	0.32 – 0.47	0.69 – 1.01	1.51 – 4.75
BH19g(e)	Pumping (PT2)	Thiem (1906)	1.7	0.31 – 0.46	0.67 – 0.99	1.39 – 4.37
BH19g(e)	Pumping (PT3)	Thiem (1906)	1.9	0.31 – 0.45	0.66 – 0.97	1.31 – 4.13
BH19c	Recovery (early)	Weertman (1970) exponential fit	4.9	0.18 – 0.20	0.38 – 0.43	0.25 – 0.35
BH19e	Recovery (early)	Weertman (1970) exponential fit	4.4	0.16 – 0.18	0.34 – 0.38	0.18 – 0.26
BH19g(e)	Recovery (early)	Weertman (1970) exponential fit	4.4	0.16 – 0.18	0.35 – 0.39	0.19 – 0.28
BH19c	Recovery (late)	Cooper and Jacob (1946)	14.1	0.19	0.40	0.30
BH19e	Recovery (late)	Cooper and Jacob (1946)	27.2	0.17	0.36	0.22
BH19g(e)	Recovery (late)	Cooper and Jacob (1946)	23.0	0.18	0.39	0.28

*Simplified model (Eq. 14)

[†]Analytical solution (Eq. 23b)

409 4. DISCUSSION

410 4.1. Hydraulic ice-sediment separation

411 The average drop in borehole water level during breakthrough indicates that the subglacial environment
 412 accommodated 4.70 m^3 of water within 200 s. For all three boreholes that reached the bed, the delayed
 413 recovery to background levels over 36 – 50 h suggests that this breakthrough water and an additional
 414 $\sim 10 \text{ m}^3$ of water injected during the raise, could not be efficiently drained away from the immediate

vicinity of the borehole's base. For example, recovery to the reference head took 45 h following the input of 13.6 m³ of water injected into BH19g at breakthrough and during the drill stem raise (Table 1; Fig. 3b) yielding a mean discharge of $8.4 \times 10^{-5} \text{ m}^3 \text{ s}^{-1}$. If the boreholes had intercepted a conduit with the capacity to drain the water away efficiently then the mean discharge rate would have been higher and the recovery time would have been shorter. Hence, it follows that at least some of this water must have been temporarily stored locally. We hypothesise that water was predominantly stored within a gap opened at the ice-sediment interface facilitated by the overpressure ($913 \pm 101 \text{ kPa}$; Table 1) exerted at the base of water-filled boreholes due to the greater density of water than ice. In the following analysis we constrain the geometry of this gap and investigate how the gap width changed through time.

An approximate calculation of the plausible range in gap width can be made for the BH19g breakthrough by assuming a uniform cylindrical subglacial water sheet with a radius ranging from 10 – 70 m (that is just greater than the distance to BH19e where a positive peak in pressure was observed and just less than the distance to BH19c where there was no positive peak in pressure). Under these assumptions, a gap width of 0.3 – 16.5 mm could accommodate the 5.17 m³ of water injected in 200 s after BH19g breakthrough. This range is consistent with a lack of discernible ice surface uplift in data collected by a GNSS receiver at R30, confirming that surface uplift was below the precision of the GNSS data of $\pm 50 \text{ mm}$ (Fig. S4). Assuming a straight-sided cylinder with a volume equal to that injected during BH19g of 5.17 m³ the upper bound on the surface uplift of 50 mm provides a lower bound on the radius of the uplift of $\sim 5.7 \text{ m}$.

Further estimates of gap widths can be determined from the hydraulic transmissivity measurements. If we assume laminar flow, which is reasonable at distances $> 1 \text{ m}$ from the borehole (see Section 3.2), the gap width (δ), equivalent to a continuous porous medium with an effective hydraulic transmissivity (T_g), is given by rearranging Equation 26

$$\delta = \left(\frac{12T_g\eta_w}{\phi\rho_w g} \right)^{1/3}. \quad (32)$$

Assuming the gap is uniformly distributed across the bed ($\phi=1$) these estimates show a decrease from 0.69 mm during breakthrough to a mean of 0.18 mm during the late recovery phase (Table 4; Fig. 7). A comparable trend was measured by Lüthi (1999) using similar methods on Sermeq Kujalleq (Jakobshavn Isbræ), with gap widths decreasing from 0.7 – 0.9 mm during a pumping test to 0.5 mm during the recovery phase. Similarly, pump tests on a prism of simulated sediment installed beneath Engabreen yielded gap widths of 0.4 – 1.0 mm during pumping and 0.1 – 0.2 mm during recovery (Iverson and others, 2007). We interpret this decrease in hydraulic transmissivity and equivalent gap widths with time since breakthrough

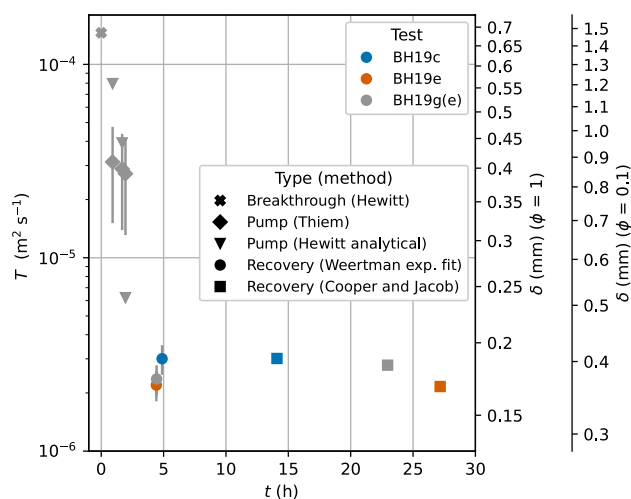


Fig. 7. Hydraulic transmissivity (T) from multiple tests and methods plotted against time (t) since respective breakthrough. The equivalent gap width (δ) is shown on the right-hand axes for gaps covering a range of fractions of the bed ($\phi = 1$ and $\phi = 0.1$). Where appropriate, the range in the hydraulic transmissivity derived using radius of influence $R = 10 - 70$ m is shown by error bars.

(Fig. 7) as evidence for progressive closure of gaps opened at the ice-sediment interface (in response to decreasing hydraulic head). Both our estimates and those of Lüthi (1999) and Iverson and others (2007) are lower than those of 1.4 – 2.0 mm estimated from boreholes drilled on Whillans Ice Stream (formerly Ice Stream B) in West Antarctica; however, this may, at least partly, be explained by the earlier timing made possible by measuring pressure within the Whillans boreholes while they were drilled (Engelhardt and Kamb, 1997). The areal extent of the gap exerts a relatively weak control on gap width, with gap width approximately doubling for gaps occupying just one tenth of the bed ($\phi = 0.1$; Table 4; Fig. 7). Other lines of evidence that support the gap opening hypothesis are discussed below.

The initial drop in hydraulic head in BH19e was punctuated by a 14 m increase after 20 ± 5 s, which we interpret to be the arrival of the water from the BH19g breakthrough event through a gap opened at the ice-sediment interface. The delayed arrival of the pressure increase demonstrates that no efficient hydraulic connection existed between BH19e and BH19g prior to the breakthrough of BH19g. The 20 ± 5 s delay between the start of the load increase on the drill tower and the start of the pressure increase in BH19e gives a mean velocity of the pressure pulse of $0.20 \pm 0.04 \text{ m s}^{-1}$. Similar pressure pulse propagation velocities of $0.08 - 0.18 \text{ m s}^{-1}$ were observed on Whillans Ice Stream (Engelhardt and Kamb, 1997). If a conduit existed between BH19g and BH19e prior to breakthrough, the pressure pulse would be transmitted at the speed of sound (1440 m s^{-1}) and attenuated in amplitude by the viscosity of water at a rate proportional to the

457 gap width (Engelhardt and Kamb, 1997). The observed delay of 20 ± 5 s is four orders of magnitude longer
458 than the expected delay of a sound wave through 4.1 m of water of 0.003 s, which confirms that no conduit
459 existed between BH19g and BH19e prior to breakthrough. Instead, we infer that the delay represents the
460 propagation velocity of the gap tip outwards from BH19g.

461 On the other hand, the disturbance in hydraulic head in BH19e caused by attempts to free a piezometer
462 snagged at 394 m depth in BH19g, demonstrates that a hydraulic connection between the two boreholes
463 was present at this time 2.4 h after breakthrough (Fig. 5). The piezometer in BH19g was freed after
464 repeated pulling on the cable, which caused the hydraulic head to fluctuate in BH19e, with disturbance
465 continuing as the piezometer was lowered to the bed. We infer that this inter-borehole transmission of
466 pressure perturbations indicates an open gap at the ice-sediment interface at this time.

467 The performance of the simplified Hewitt and others (2018) model in predicting the pressure response to
468 borehole breakthrough provides further evidence for gap opening. The simplified model makes a reasonable
469 prediction of the initial pressure response in BH19e to BH19g breakthrough (Fig. 4). The model closely
470 reproduces the small (0.93 m) drop in hydraulic head followed by the rapid rise within the first minute. This
471 suggests that the small drop in BH19e head can be explained by the propagation of a flexural wave through
472 the ice that is faster than the spread of water. Furthermore, the initial drop in pressure indicates that the
473 sediment is deformable because such a drop cannot be reproduced by the model if the sediment is rigid
474 (see Figure 7b of Hewitt and others, 2018). The model, however, predicts that the hydraulic head should
475 reduce much more rapidly after the peak than was observed (Fig. 4a). Furthermore the analytical solution
476 to the model (Eq. 23b) predicts that $\partial h/\partial t$ should decrease non-linearly as $1/t$, whereas the measured
477 linear trends in hydraulic head during the pumping test suggest that $\partial h/\partial t$ was constant (Fig. 5). Both
478 these disparities can be explained by gap opening.

479 The response of hydraulic head in BH19e to BH19g breakthrough and pumping (Figs. 4, 5) resembles
480 the idealised pressure response of petroleum reservoirs to hydraulic fracture treatment (cf. Figure 18a of
481 Hubbert and Willis, 1957). Specifically, the BH19g(e) breakthrough curve can be interpreted as a horizontal
482 hydraulic fracture induced from a relatively smooth borehole, which is consistent with our interpretation
483 of gap-opening at the ice-sediment interface induced by borehole breakthrough. We can therefore apply
484 hydraulic fracture treatment theory to interpret the response to BH19g(e) breakthrough, as follows. After
485 the initial drop in head, the arrival of water in BH19e is marked by a steep rise (labelled A on Figures
486 4a and 5), and the gradient of this increase indicates compression of the water and subglacial sediment

487 prior to the initiation of gap opening beyond BH19e. As gap opening begins the energy stored within
488 the compressed water and sediment is transferred to gap propagation outwards from BH19e resulting in
489 more space for the water to occupy, and therefore lower pressure and a decrease in the gradient (dh/dt ;
490 label B). The peak in head after 130s represents the transition from stable to unstable gap opening
491 at the so called “breakdown pressure”. The ensuing transient head decrease (label C) can be explained
492 by the gap opening rate transiently exceeding the water input rate, and by the diffusion of unevenly
493 distributed pressure within the immature gap. With continued water input, a steady state of gap opening
494 was reached resulting in the linear trend in hydraulic head (label D). In our pump tests, the recharge
495 from the pump exceeded the discharge through the gap and the borehole filled with water at a linear rate
496 determined by the supply rate from the pumps and the extraction rate of the drill hose. That water input
497 exceeded water output during the pumping test despite discharge rates being much lower than during
498 breakthrough provides evidence for partial gap closure in response to reduced water pressure. When the
499 pumps ceased, head briefly stayed constant before dropping rapidly and then transitioning into a logarithmic
500 decay representing gap closure and reversion to Darcian flow. In petroleum engineering, the pressure at the
501 onset of the rapid drop (label E) has been interpreted to approximate the fracture propagation pressure.
502 For BH19g(e) this occurs at 9.290 MPa, which is comparable to the ice overburden pressure (Table 1), and
503 is thus consistent with hydraulic ice-sediment separation. This interpretation suggests that the application
504 of hydraulic fracture models to borehole breakthrough and pumping tests would be an improvement over
505 hydrogeological techniques such as the Thiem (1906) method, which inherently assume Darcian flow through
506 an incompressible, isotropic aquifer. Such assumptions are unlikely to be valid if gap opening is taking place
507 and this may explain the difference between the Thiem (1906) and (analytical) Hewitt and others (2018)
508 estimates of transmissivity during the pumping test (Table 4; Fig. 7).

509 The observation of an instantaneous drop in hydraulic head of 0.11 m in BH19c in response to BH19g
510 breakthrough without a subsequent increase in head (Fig. 4a) also cannot be reproduced by the simplified
511 Hewitt and others (2018) model; the model predicts a flexural wave that would be apparent at any fixed
512 radius as a small pressure drop followed by a large pressure rise. We hypothesise that the drop in pressure in
513 BH19c is caused by uplift at the BH19g injection site increasing the volume of a hydraulically-isolated cavity
514 at BH19c, and that cavity expansion without an increase in water mass leads to a reduction in water density
515 and pressure — that is a rarefaction. The simplified Hewitt and others (2018) model cannot reproduce
516 rarefactions caused by stress transfer through the ice because it assumes that water compressibility is

517 zero and, more fundamentally, it directly couples vertical displacement of the ice to the pressure in the
 518 subglacial environment, so that cavity expansion cannot occur without an increase in pressure (and vice
 519 versa). Further evidence for hydraulic isolation of the BH19c cavity is provided by diurnal water pressure
 520 variations that are anti-correlated with those in BH19e and ice velocity (Fig. 8a,b; e.g. Murray and Clarke,
 521 1995; Meierbachtol and others, 2016; Lefeuvre and others, 2018). The inference of BH19c cavity isolation
 522 is also supported by the observation that diurnal pressure variations in BH19c are manifested as small
 523 ($\sim 0.05^\circ\text{C}$ peak-to-peak) temperature cycles recorded at the base of BH19c (Fig. 8). This demonstrates
 524 that the water temperature quickly equilibrates with the pressure-dependent ice temperature, which would
 525 occur within an isolated cavity but not in a connected conduit. We would expect that within a connected
 526 conduit a throughput of water from different regions of the bed at variable pressures and temperatures
 527 would mask the small pressure-driven diurnal variations in temperature.

Rearranging the equation of state for water assuming mass is conserved and that temperature is constant,
 allows the pressure change to be related to the change in cavity volume

$$\frac{V}{V_0} = \frac{1}{\exp[\beta_w(p_w - p_{w0})]}, \quad (33)$$

528 where V_0 and p_{w0} are the reference volume and pressure and $\beta_w = 5.1 \times 10^{-10} \text{ Pa}^{-1}$ is the compressibility
 529 of water. We can constrain the initial cavity geometry in two situations. First, the observation of no prior
 530 hydraulic connection between BH19e and BH19g, which were separated at the surface by 4.1 m, indicates
 531 the BH19e cavity was smaller than this distance. Second, the volume of water drained during BH19c
 532 breakthrough and the hose raise of 15.6 m^3 provides an approximate maximum constraint on the BH19c
 533 cavity volume. These constraints are consistent with measurements of dye dilution in boreholes drilled
 534 on Isunnguata Sermia, which indicated cavity volumes of $7.6 \pm 6.7 \text{ m}^3$ (Meierbachtol and others, 2016).
 535 Assuming the initial BH19c cavity volume was within the reasonable range of $0.5 - 15 \text{ m}^3$ the small 0.11 m
 536 decrease in hydraulic head measured in BH19c located $\sim 70 \text{ m}$ distant can be explained by the contraction
 537 of the BH19c cavity of $0.3 - 8.2 \times 10^{-6} \text{ m}^3$. This demonstrates that, due to the low compressibility of
 538 water, the 0.11 m head decrease can be explained by a small cavity contraction of $5.5 \times 10^{-5}\%$. Hence, we
 539 hypothesise that hydraulic ice-sediment separation caused by the overpressure at the base of BH19g caused
 540 elastic uplift of the BH19c cavity roof. The 0.11 m drop in BH19c head in response to BH19g breakthrough
 541 therefore provides direct evidence for the hypothesis of Murray and Clarke (1995) that pressure variations
 542 in hydraulically-isolated cavities occur due to elastic displacement of the ice roof driven by perturbations
 543 in hydraulically-connected regions of the bed. We discuss this further in Section 4.3.

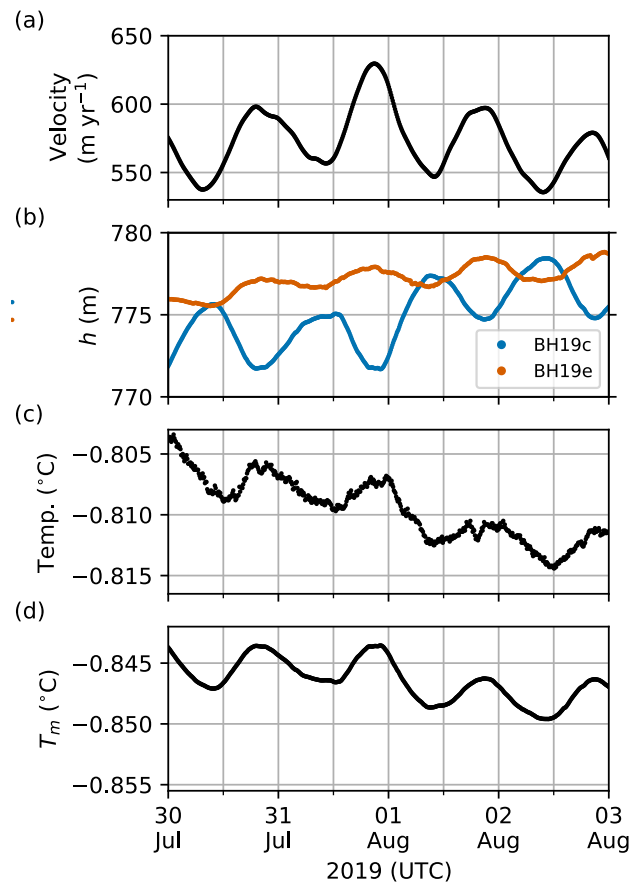


Fig. 8. Time series of (a) horizontal ice velocity, (b) hydraulic head in BH19c and BH19e, (c) temperature at the base of BH19c, and (d) pressure-dependent melting temperature T_m calculated from the water pressure recorded in BH19c. Note that although the y-axes for (c) and (d) are offset the y-axis range is identical for both. The offset between measured temperature and T_m can be explained by uncertainties in the sensor installation depths and the Clausius-Clapeyron gradient.

544 4.2. Hydraulic conductivity of subglacial sediments

545 We interpret the decrease in hydraulic transmissivity with time since breakthrough (Table 4; Fig. 7) as
 546 evidence for the closure of a gap at the ice-sediment interface that was opened by the overpressure at
 547 borehole breakthrough. It is notable that hydraulic transmissivity estimates derived using the Cooper and
 548 Jacob (1946) recovery tests were relatively constant (that is within $8 \times 10^{-7} \text{ m}^2 \text{ s}^{-1}$), despite the tests
 549 occurring over a wide range in time since breakthrough (14.1 – 27.2 h; Table 4; Fig. 7). Hence, these tests
 550 may be representative of Darcian flow through the sediment layer after gap closure. This suggestion is
 551 supported by the observation that the drawdown decreased logarithmically through time (Fig. 6d-e) as
 552 is expected under Darcian flow, which is unlikely to be the case if gap closure was incomplete. Darcian

553 flow through subglacial sediments was also inferred at site S30 from the initially logarithmic recovery in
554 subglacial water electrical conductivity (EC) observed over 12 h following the dilution effect caused by
555 drilling with low EC surface waters (Doyle and others, 2018).

When there is no flow through a gap at the ice-sediment interface, hydraulic transmissivity (T) is the hydraulic conductivity (K) integrated over the sediment thickness b

$$T = bK. \quad (34)$$

556 The sediment thickness at the borehole location has been estimated at 20_{-2}^{+17} m by fibre-optic distributed
557 acoustic seismics in BH19c (Booth and others, 2020). The full sediment thickness represents an upper limit
558 for the calculation of hydraulic conductivity due to an increase in sediment compaction with depth, and
559 the pressure-dependent depth limit to the diffusion of water from the ice-sediment interface (Tulaczyk and
560 others, 2000). For the range of hydraulic transmissivity from the Cooper and Jacob (1946) recovery tests
561 of $(2.2 - 3.0) \times 10^{-6} \text{ m}^2 \text{ s}^{-1}$ (Table 4), and a range of reasonable ‘hydraulically-active’ sediment thicknesses
562 of 2 – 20 m, the hydraulic conductivity is $(0.1 - 1.5) \times 10^{-6} \text{ m s}^{-1}$. This estimate is reasonable and within
563 the range of hydraulic conductivities of glacial tills found in a range of settings by previous studies (Table
564 5). The Cooper and Jacob (1946) recovery test for BH19c was performed several hours earlier with respect
565 to the time of breakthrough than those in BH19e and BH19g (Fig. 7) due to the earlier establishment
566 of diurnal pressure variations in BH19c (Fig. 3b). If gap closure was still taking place, this earlier timing
567 could explain the slightly higher transmissivity derived for BH19c. We also cannot exclude the possibility
568 that water flow during breakthrough and pumping tests — or from previous natural subglacial water flow
569 — winnowed fine particles from the upper layer of sediment, increasing the hydraulic conductivity of this
570 layer (Iverson and others, 2007; Fischer and others, 1998). As we cannot exclude winnowing, or be certain
571 that the gap was fully closed, we interpret our estimates to represent an upper bound on the hydraulic
572 conductivity of the sediment beneath this site.

573 Our inferred sediment hydraulic conductivity is two orders of magnitude higher than that determined
574 from laboratory analysis of sediment retrieved from beneath Whillans Ice Stream (Engelhardt and others,
575 1990) and Trapridge Glacier in Canada (Murray and Clarke, 1995), see Table 5. A hydraulic conductivity of
576 $10^{-7} - 10^{-6} \text{ m s}^{-1}$ is, however, broadly consistent with the type of glaciogenic sediment within core samples
577 taken from Uummannaq Fjord. These core samples comprise glaciomarine sediments deposited during the
578 last glacial maxima including matrix supported diamict with angular to sub-angular clasts of basalt and
579 granitic gneiss dispersed throughout a sandy mud matrix (Ó’Cofaigh and others, 2013).

580 Laboratory measurements of the hydraulic conductivity of glacial sediments, which inherently measure
581 only Darcian flow, are typically a few orders of magnitude lower than field measurements (Table 5; Hubbard
582 and Maltman, 2000), a disparity that could, at least partly, be explained by residual gap opening at the
583 ice-sediment interface during borehole response tests (e.g. Fountain, 1994; Stone and others, 1997). While
584 in-situ measurement of hydraulic conductivity of subglacial sediments appears to overestimate hydraulic
585 conductivity under strict Darcian flow conditions, laboratory measurements provide little insight into the
586 complexity of subglacial hydrological processes such as ice-sediment separation. Furthermore, as glacial
587 sediment is by nature poorly sorted, with grain sizes ranging from boulders to clays, analysing samples
588 that are large enough to be representative in laboratory experiments conducted at the scale necessary is
589 more difficult than conducting in situ measurements (Clarke, 1987; Hubbard and Maltman, 2000). True
590 subglacial water flow at this site may neither occur as entirely Darcian (laminar) flow through subglacial
591 sediment nor exclusively through a gap at the ice-sediment interface, but rather a combination of the two.
592 In any case, our in situ measurements represent a constraint on the effective hydraulic transmissivity that
593 is independent of the process of water flow.

594 4.3. Implications for subglacial hydrology and basal motion

595 Subglacial water flow at glaciers underlain by porous sediment will naturally occur as laminar Darcian flow
596 through interconnected pore spaces, although only insofar as the hydraulic transmissivity of the sediment
597 is sufficient to accommodate the input of meltwater. With sustained inputs of water to the bed of many
598 glaciers, from surface melt for example, it may also be natural for a portion of that input to be stored
599 temporarily in gaps opened at the ice-sediment interface, when water is delivered faster than it can permeate
600 into the sediment below. The evidence presented herein demonstrates that the overpressure of a water-filled
601 borehole can open a gap at the ice-sediment interface and need not directly intersect an active subglacial
602 drainage system in order to drain. The delayed arrival of the pressure pulse in BH19e rules out the existence
603 of sheet flow (Weertman, 1970; Alley and others, 1989; Creyts and Schoof, 2009), efficient conduits such as
604 R-channels or canals (e.g. Röthlisberger, 1972; Walder and Fowler, 1994; Ng, 2000), and linked cavities (e.g.
605 Kamb, 1987) prior to BH19g breakthrough, but supports the gap-opening theory of Engelhardt and Kamb
606 (1997). We infer that prior to the breakthrough of BH19g, subglacial drainage at this location consisted
607 exclusively of Darcian flow through subglacial sediments with a hydraulic conductivity $K \leq 10^{-6} \text{ m s}^{-1}$.

608 Borehole drainage at the ice-sediment interface may be physically similar, but of lower magnitude, to
609 that which occurs during the subglacial drainage of proglacial (Sugiyama and others, 2008), subglacial (e.g.

Table 5. Selected hydraulic conductivities of glacial sediments from the literature in ascending order. Sediments at the lower end of the scale ($K \leq 10^{-4} \text{ m s}^{-1}$) were typically interpreted as unconsolidated sands and gravels, often associated with water flow from subglacial channels winnowing fine particles (Fischer and others, 1998).

K (m s^{-1})	Location (method)	Source
$10^{-12} - 10^{-6}$	Literature review of glacial tills	Freeze and Cherry (1979)
$10^{-12} - 10^{-9}$	Haut Glacier d'Arolla, Switzerland (laboratory measurement)	Hubbard and Maltman (2000)
$10^{-11} - 10^{-9}$	Coastal exposure of glacial till, Traeth y Mwnt, Wales (laboratory measurement)	Hubbard and Maltman (2000)
10^{-9}	Whillans Ice Stream, Antarctica (laboratory measurement)	Engelhardt and others (1990)
10^{-9}	Trapridge Glacier, Canada (analysis of pressure freezing curves)	Waddington and Clarke (1995)
$10^{-9} - 10^{-8}$	Storglaciaren, Sweden (pressure wave propagation)	Fischer and others (1998)
10^{-8}	Storglaciaren, Sweden (laboratory measurement)	Iverson and others (1994)
10^{-8}	Trapridge Glacier, Canada (laboratory measurement)	Murray and Clarke (1995)
$10^{-7} - 10^{-6}$	Sermeq Kujalleq (Store Glacier), Greenland (borehole response tests)	This study
$10^{-7} - 10^{-5}$	Surface-exposures of glacial till, Snowy Range, Wyoming (infiltration tests)	Ronayne and others (2012)
$10^{-7} - 10^{-4}$	Haut Glacier d'Arolla, Switzerland (diurnal pressure wave propagation)	Hubbard and others (1995)
$10^{-7} - 10^{-4}$	South Cascade Glacier, USA (diurnal pressure wave propagation)	Fountain (1994)
10^{-6}	Breidamerkurjökull, Iceland (laboratory measurement)	Boulton and Dent (1974)
10^{-5}	Midre Lovénbreen, Svalbard (slug tests)	Kulesa and Murray (2003)
10^{-4}	Trapridge Glacier, Canada (breakthrough response tests)	Stone and others (1997)
10^{-3}	Bakaninbreen, Svalbard (slug tests)	Kulesa and Murray (2003)
$10^{-3} - 10^{-2}$	Haut Glacier d'Arolla, Switzerland (slug tests)	Kulesa and others (2005)
10^{-2}	Gornergletscher, Switzerland (slug tests)	Iken and others (1996)

610 Jóhannesson, 2002), and supraglacial lakes (Doyle and others, 2013; Dow and others, 2015; Stevens and
 611 others, 2015; Tsai and Rice, 2010, 2012; Hewitt and others, 2018) via a broad, turbulent, and transient
 612 sheet. We note that gap opening at the ice-sediment or ice-bed interface is conceptually the same as
 613 horizontal hydraulic fracture at this interface as envisaged by previous studies (Tsai and Rice, 2010, 2012;
 614 Hewitt and others, 2018). Rapid water flow into this narrow gap is likely to be turbulent (Section 3.1.1);
 615 however, flow must become laminar near the gap tip as the width of the gap decreases to zero, and flow

616 velocity will also decrease with distance from the injection point (Hewitt and others, 2018). Continued
617 sheet flow through a uniform gap would be unstable as irregularities in flow would theoretically favour the
618 formation of conduits through preferential sediment erosion and concentrated ice melt from frictional heat
619 (Röthlisberger, 1972; Walder and Fowler, 1994; Ng, 2000). Conduit development beneath kilometre-thick ice
620 is, however, anticipated to require continuous water supply at high pressure over prolonged periods, which
621 may only occur if there is continued water input from the surface (e.g. Dow and others, 2014, 2015). Hence,
622 our inference of complete, or at least partial, gap closure in response to declining pressure is consistent with
623 existing theory as the water volumes provided by borehole drainage and subsequent pumping ($\sim 15 \text{ m}^3$)
624 are likely insufficient to establish an efficient conduit beneath kilometre-thick ice. The development of
625 efficient conduits in response to borehole breakthrough can also be excluded by the low discharge rate
626 of $8.4 \times 10^{-5} \text{ m}^3 \text{ s}^{-1}$ calculated from the 45 h required for hydraulic head to recover to the equilibrium
627 level following the injection of 13.6 m^3 of water at BH19g breakthrough and during the drill stem raise.
628 Although we cannot rule out the persistence of stable sheet flow following borehole drainage facilitated by
629 clasts partially supporting the ice overburden pressure (Creyts and Schoof, 2009), our observations of a
630 progressive decrease in hydraulic transmissivity can be entirely explained by gap closure and a reversion
631 to Darcian flow through the sediment layer. For simplicity, this and previous studies (Tsai and Rice, 2010,
632 2012; Hewitt and others, 2018), make the reasonable assumption that initial gap opening is elastic; however,
633 where temperate ice is present, as it is at R30, viscous deformation cannot be neglected during the longer
634 time scales of pumping tests or lake drainage events (Appendix B). The application of a viscoelastic model
635 (e.g. Reeh and others, 2003) to borehole response tests (and lake drainage events) would therefore represent
636 an improvement over the analysis presented herein.

637 The instantaneous 0.11 m drop in BH19c head in response to BH19g breakthrough (Fig. 4a) provides
638 direct evidence for the hypothesis of Murray and Clarke (1995) that pressure variations can be transmitted
639 to unconnected cavities through elastic displacement of the ice roof. Murray and Clarke (1995) theorised
640 that uplift caused by high water pressure relieves the pressure in adjacent hydraulically-isolated cavities.
641 This hypothesis is one of three hypotheses of mechanical forcing of water pressure that have been proposed
642 to explain the often observed diurnal variation of water pressure in hydrologically-isolated cavities that is
643 out of phase with both ice velocity and water pressure in boreholes and moulins deemed to be connected to
644 efficient subglacial conduits (Murray and Clarke, 1995; Engelhardt and Kamb, 1997; Gordon and others,
645 1998; Dow and others, 2011; Andrews and others, 2014; Ryser and others, 2014; Lefeuvre and others, 2015;

646 Meierbachtol and others, 2016; Rada and Schoof, 2018). While we cannot rule out the possibility that
647 such anti-correlated diurnal pressure and velocity variations in BH19c (Fig. 8) can be attributed to the
648 alternative hypotheses of cavity expansion and contraction caused by longitudinal strain (Ryser and others,
649 2014) or basal sliding (Iken and Truffer, 1997; Bartholomaus and others, 2011; Hoffman and Price, 2014),
650 displacement of the ice roof due to elastic uplift during gap-opening at BH19g breakthrough can entirely
651 explain the 0.11 m instantaneous drop in BH19c head. It is therefore plausible that elastic displacement
652 of the ice roof by diurnal pressure variations within a nearby conduit also explains the anti-correlated
653 diurnal variations in BH19c pressure. This assertion is supported by three-dimensional full-Stokes modelling
654 (Lefeuvre and others, 2018) that reproduced anti-correlated pressure variations between connected and
655 unconnected components of the subglacial drainage system without invoking cavity expansion caused by
656 sliding.

657 Similar to borehole breakthrough events, we argue that water flow at the ice-sediment interface may also
658 occur at times of naturally high subglacial water pressures. It is important to note that the gap widths we
659 report are probably larger than would have occurred naturally for the same volume of cold glacial water
660 because warm drilling water would have enlarged the gaps through ice melt. The greater variability in
661 meltwater supply means that gap opening at the ice-sediment interface is more likely to occur naturally on
662 the Greenland Ice Sheet, and on mountain glaciers, than on the West Antarctic ice streams where the process
663 was originally inferred (Engelhardt and Kamb, 1997). Hence, gap opening at the ice-sediment interface has
664 important implications for our understanding of subglacial hydrological systems that extends beyond its
665 ability to explain the drainage of boreholes. Subglacial hydrology in ice sheet models may for instance
666 include exchanges of water flowing partly at the interface and partly within subglacial sediment, which
667 has proven efficient in reproducing day-to-day variations in ice flow as observed at the land-terminating
668 southwest ice margin (Bougamont and others, 2014). Darcian flow and gap-opening therefore provide a
669 physical explanation for the partitioning of water flowing at the interface and within subglacial sediment.

670 Gap-opening may also play a role in the formation and growth of subglacial drainage systems. Within
671 the framework of existing theory, gap opening provides the initial conduit that may later develop into
672 an inefficient narrow orifice in a distributed (i.e. linked cavity) drainage system (Kamb, 1987), which
673 may ultimately develop into an efficient channel or canal (Röthlisberger, 1972; Walder and Fowler, 1994;
674 Ng, 2000). That the overpressure of a water-filled vertical conduit stretching from the surface to the
675 bed (that is, a borehole) can open a gap at the ice-sediment interface, despite the low volumes of water

676 involved, has implications for the establishment of subglacial drainage of the much larger water volumes
677 supplied via moulins, crevasses, and supraglacial lakes. It illustrates the manner in which regions of
678 the basal environment can become hydrologically connected during peaks in water pressure. Hence, gap
679 opening can explain transient periods of borehole water pressure synchronicity that abruptly punctuate
680 the often observed long term pattern of anti-correlated variations in water pressure and velocity measured
681 in hydraulically-isolated cavities during periods of high water pressure (e.g. Murray and Clarke, 1995;
682 Engelhardt and Kamb, 1997; Harper and others, 2007; Andrews and others, 2014; Rada and Schoof, 2018).
683 If areas of the bed that were previously hydraulically isolated experience net drainage as a result of gap
684 opening at the ice-sediment interface, it may also explain the hydro-mechanical regulation of ice flow
685 (e.g. Sole and others, 2013; Tedstone and others, 2015; Davison and others, 2020), which observations
686 suggest cannot be entirely explained by water pressures within efficient channels (Andrews and others,
687 2014). It follows that drainage at the ice-sediment interface and Darcian flow through sediments with a
688 low hydraulic conductivity may be two of potentially multiple processes behind the hypothesised weakly-
689 connected component of the subglacial drainage system (Hoffman and others, 2016).

690 A drainage system consisting of cavities, which we assume are present at the base of our boreholes,
691 linked via gaps opened at the ice-sediment interface would at first appear similar to the linked cavity
692 theory of glacial drainage, which consists of cavities connected via narrow orifices (e.g. Kamb, 1987). There
693 is, however, an important distinction in that the linked cavity model specifies that orifices are continuously
694 open and water flow is inefficient and turbulent due to the length and narrowness of orifices (Kamb,
695 1987). Modification of the linked cavity theory to allow transient gap opening between cavities under high
696 water pressure with turbulent flow would explain the same characteristics associated with linked cavity
697 drainage systems: enhanced basal motion, sediment entrainment (as indicated by increased turbidity), and
698 increased connectivity of the bed at times of high water pressure. It would also explain the existence of
699 neighbouring yet behaviourally-independent subglacial drainage subsystems in close proximity (e.g. Murray
700 and Clarke, 1995; Harper and others, 2007; Rada and Schoof, 2018), which the majority of previous models
701 of subglacial drainage cannot reproduce as they inherently allow water to diffuse across the entire glacier
702 bed (e.g. Schoof, 2010; Hewitt, 2013; Werder and others, 2013). This implies a strong link between subglacial
703 hydrology, stresses within the ice, and basal motion that will be challenging to reproduce within numerical
704 models due to the requirement to combine linear-elastic gap opening with a viscous ice rheology.

705 To date, every borehole drilled on Sermeq Kujalleq (Store Glacier) drained rapidly and immediately upon
706 reaching the bed. This includes three boreholes at R30 in 2019, four boreholes at R29 in 2018 (unpublished),
707 and seven boreholes at S30 in 2014 and 2016 (Doyle and others, 2018). A similar pattern of rapid borehole
708 drainage, with a small number of exceptions, has been reported for Whillans Ice Stream in West Antarctica
709 (Engelhardt and Kamb, 1997) and Sermeq Kujalleq (Jakobshavn Isbræ) in West Greenland (Lüthi, 1999).
710 While the results presented here provide further evidence for gap opening as a mechanism for rapid borehole
711 drainage, it also raises the question of why some boreholes on other ice masses don't drain rapidly upon
712 reaching the bed. Some boreholes appear to never drain (e.g. Smart, 1996), while others drain slowly
713 (e.g. Andrews and others, 2014), and others drain after a delay (e.g. Gordon and others, 2001; Kamb and
714 Engelhardt, 1987; Engelhardt and Kamb, 1997; Fischer and Clarke, 2001). This heterogeneity, which often
715 occurs within the same field site, could be explained by the stress regime, boreholes terminating blind in
716 debris-rich basal ice before they are able to connect to the subglacial drainage system, or by the presence
717 of impermeable barriers such as areas of ice-bedrock contact or cold ice, the latter of which can occur
718 even within predominantly temperate glaciers (Robin, 1976). A detailed discussion of the heterogeneity of
719 borehole drainage is not warranted here (see instead Smart, 1996; Gordon and others, 2001), but we do
720 seek an explanation for the homogeneity in borehole drainage observed to date on Sermeq Kujalleq (Store
721 Glacier). Hot water drilling is ineffective at penetrating debris-rich basal ice, which is characteristic of many
722 exposed margins of the Greenland Ice Sheet, for example on Russell Glacier (Knight and others, 2002) and
723 at the base of icebergs discharging from Sermeq Kujalleq (Jakobshavn Isbræ; Lüthi and others, 2009), yet
724 none of the boreholes drilled to date on Sermeq Kujalleq (Store Glacier) terminated above the bed due
725 to an obstruction by englacial clasts. We therefore speculate (while noting the small number of boreholes
726 drilled at a limited number of sites) that debris content within basal ice on Sermeq Kujalleq (Store Glacier)
727 may be low. If so, this could be explained by the removal of debris-rich basal ice formed upstream by basal
728 melt. Furthermore, low (and potentially even negative) effective pressures (e.g. -46 ± 102 kPa at R30;
729 Table 1) are conducive to hydraulic ice-bed separation (e.g. Schoof and others, 2012) and these conditions
730 are found at all the Sermeq Kujalleq (Store Glacier) sites drilled to date. Modelling of subglacial drainage
731 through a poroelastic sediment and cavity beneath ice suggests that elastic gap opening is enabled by the
732 suction of water from an underlying porous sediment layer without the requirement for a pre-wetted water
733 film (Hewitt and others, 2018). We therefore conclude that rapid borehole drainage on Sermeq Kujalleq

734 (Store Glacier) is facilitated by low effective pressures, subglacial sediment, and a potentially low debris
735 content within basal ice.

736 Booth and others (2020) used the low basal reflectivity in vertical seismic profiles to infer that the
737 subglacial sediment layer at site R30 has an acoustic impedance similar to that of basal ice, and from this,
738 they suggested that the sediment is consolidated, and neither deforming nor lithified. The inference that
739 the sediment layer is not deforming implies that the fast ice velocity at this site must be accommodated
740 by either enhanced internal deformation of the ice, ice-sediment decoupling under high water pressure (e.g.
741 Iverson and others, 1995, 2007), or deformation of a sediment layer thinner than the 5 – 10 m vertical
742 resolution of the seismic technique. With regard to the last assertion we note that sediment deformation
743 often occurs within an upper layer that is typically only decimetres to a few metres thick (e.g. Clarke,
744 1987; Murray, 1997; Humphrey and others, 1993; Engelhardt and Kamb, 1998), and that the shape of
745 the pressure pulse during BH19g breakthrough can only be reproduced using the model of Hewitt and
746 others (2018) if the sediment layer is deformable. While the extent of sediment deformation beneath this
747 site remains inconclusive the evidence presented herein supports the hypothesis of ice-sediment decoupling
748 under periods of high water pressure. Indeed, we suggest that the theory of gap opening at the ice-sediment
749 interface (Engelhardt and Kamb, 1997) may involve the same physical process as ice-sediment decoupling
750 envisaged by Iverson and others (1995). To explain the reverse tilt of inclinometers just below the ice-
751 sediment interface, Iverson and others (1995) envisaged that sediment would be squeezed into the zone
752 of uplift at times of high water pressure. The modulation of slip by pressurised water at the ice-sediment
753 interface was confirmed by pump tests on a simulated prism of till on Engabreen (Iverson and others,
754 2007). Further evidence for gap opening and decoupling at the ice-sediment interface is provided by (as
755 far as we are aware) unrepeated, direct observation of a cm-wide gap at the ice-sediment interface of
756 Blue Glacier, USA (Engelhardt and others, 1978). Borehole photography revealed a ~0.1 m thick sediment
757 layer overlying bedrock that was mechanically and visibly distinct from a 0.1 – 16.0 m thick debris-laden
758 basal ice layer. Engelhardt and others (1978) suggested that the gap was opened by the overpressure of
759 the water-filled borehole and that basal sliding velocities were faster where gaps were present. They also
760 inferred that interstitial pressure within the sediment must be close to or at the ice overburden pressure in
761 order to prevent the basal ice merging with the sediment layer through regelation, an assertion supported
762 by Rempel (2008). Hence, further in situ observations are required to investigate whether ice-sediment
763 decoupling occurs via a gap at the ice-sediment interface or through an increase in the thickness of the

764 sediment layer as proposed by Iverson and others (1995), or a combination of both processes as modelled
765 by Hewitt and others (2018).

766 5. CONCLUSIONS

767 Detailed measurements of pressure pulses during a borehole breakthrough event, and a decrease in hydraulic
768 transmissivity with time since breakthrough, provide evidence for hydraulic gap opening and closure at
769 the ice-sediment interface, with gaps opening and closing in response to water pressure. Analysis of the
770 subsequent recovery of subglacial water pressure indicates that the hydraulic conductivity of the subglacial
771 sediment layer is on the order of $10^{-7} - 10^{-6} \text{ m s}^{-1}$, which suggests it is coarse-grained and more permeable
772 than the fine-grained sediments beneath West Antarctic ice streams. As seismic surveys suggest that
773 sediment at this site is not deforming, we infer that fast basal motion may be accommodated by ice-
774 sediment decoupling and potentially shallow-depth sediment deformation in a layer thinner than the 5–10 m
775 resolution of the seismic technique.

776 Observations of a pressure drop simultaneous with the breakthrough of a borehole 70 m away provides
777 direct evidence for the hypothesis that anti-correlations between water pressure in connected and
778 unconnected regions of the bed can be explained via elastic displacement of the ice roof.

779 We argue that water flow via gaps opened at the ice-sediment interface is likely to play a critical role in
780 both basal motion and the development of subglacial hydrology on soft-bedded ice masses, and that Darcian
781 flow through sediments may explain the drainage and recharge of areas of the bed that are otherwise
782 hydrologically isolated.

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793 SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL

794 The supplementary material is provided as a separate document and includes two supplementary tables
795 and four supplementary figures.

796 DATASET AVAILABILITY

797 The data sets presented in this paper are available for download from
798 <https://doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.16838020>.

799 AUTHOR CONTRIBUTION STATEMENT

800 The overall research project (RESPONDER) was led by PC, with BH leading the hot water drilling and
801 borehole instrumentation reported herein. Data collection was led by SD, with contributions from BH, PC,
802 RL, CS and TC. SD conducted the data analysis. RL adapted and ran the borehole drilling model. TC
803 surveyed the borehole positions and led site mapping. DH and JN calculated the breakthrough volumetric
804 flux and pressure response. The manuscript was written by SD, with contributions from all co-authors.

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1061 APPENDIX A. BOREHOLE RADIUS

As the hose radius (r_d) and speed (U_d) are known, the differential rate of change in hydraulic head below and above the water line during the BH19g(e) pumping test allows the borehole radius at the water line (r_s) to be determined as follows. The total volumetric flux of water stored within the borehole when the drill hose was below the water line during PT2 is $Q_{b2} = Q_{s2} + Q_{d2}$, or alternatively

$$Q_{b2} = (\pi r_s^2 - \pi r_d^2) \frac{dh_2}{dt} + \pi r_d^2 U_d, \quad (\text{A1})$$

where the numeric subscript indicates the period. Similarly the borehole storage flux with the drill stem above the water line during PT3 is

$$Q_{b3} = \pi r_s^2 \frac{dh_3}{dt}. \quad (\text{A2})$$

Assuming water input (Q_i) and output (Q_o) were constant at the transition from PT2 to PT3

$$Q_{b2} = Q_{b3}. \quad (\text{A3})$$

Therefore equating fluxes gives

$$(\pi r_s^2 - \pi r_d^2) \frac{dh_2}{dt} + \pi r_d^2 U_d = \pi r_s^2 \frac{dh_3}{dt}. \quad (\text{A4})$$

Expanding on the left hand side gives

$$\pi r_s^2 \frac{dh_2}{dt} - \pi r_d^2 \frac{dh_2}{dt} + \pi r_d^2 U_d = \pi r_s^2 \frac{dh_3}{dt}. \quad (\text{A5})$$

Rearranging gives

$$\pi r_s^2 \frac{dh_3}{dt} - \pi r_s^2 \frac{dh_2}{dt} = \pi r_d^2 U_d - \pi r_d^2 \frac{dh_2}{dt}, \quad (\text{A6})$$

and factorising gives

$$\pi r_s^2 \left(\frac{dh_3}{dt} - \frac{dh_2}{dt} \right) = \pi r_d^2 \left(U_d - \frac{dh_2}{dt} \right), \quad (\text{A7})$$

which we rearrange to find

$$r_s = \left[\frac{r_d^2 \left(U_d - \frac{dh_2}{dt} \right)}{\frac{dh_3}{dt} - \frac{dh_2}{dt}} \right]^{1/2}. \quad (\text{A8})$$

Using Equation A8, the known bore radius ($r_d = 0.015$ m), the measured mean drill speed during PT2 ($\bar{U}_d = 8.82 \text{ min}^{-1}$), and the rate of change in hydraulic head during PT2 ($dh_2/dt = 1.36 \text{ m h}^{-1}$) and PT3 ($dh_3/dt = 7.40 \text{ m h}^{-1}$), gives a borehole radius at the water-line $r_s = 0.14$ m. This estimate is double that of the borehole model ($r_s = 0.07$ m; Table A1), but consistent with the borehole radius measured at the surface.

Measurements were not made of BH19g but BH19e had a radius at the surface of 0.17 m. As the pumping test period was not recorded in BH19c and BH19e we assume that their near-surface radius was the same as BH19g: that is, we assume $r_s = 0.14$ m for all response tests. Near-surface borehole radii larger than predicted by the Greenler and others (2014) model could be explained by turbulent heat exchange from warm upwelling water. Laminar flow is specified in the model. The effect of turbulent heat exchange on borehole radius would decrease with depth so the model should perform better near the base. With no better estimate available, we therefore use the model output for the borehole radius at the base (r_0 ; Table A1).

APPENDIX B. ELASTIC RESPONSE OF ICE TO BOREHOLE

BREAKTHROUGH

Here we consider the relative importance of viscous and elastic deformation in the response of the ice sheet at site R30 to borehole breakthrough forcing by calculating the Maxwell relaxation time

$$t_M = \frac{\eta_i}{E}, \quad (\text{B1})$$

Table A1. Borehole radii at the time of borehole breakthrough predicted using the model of Greenler et al. (2014) over ten depth intervals ranging from the ice surface to the ice-sediment interface at a depth below the ice surface corresponding to the ice thickness (H_i).

Depth (m)	Radius (m)		
	BH19c	BH19e	BH19g
0 – 100	0.07	0.07	0.07
101 – 200	0.05	0.06	0.05
201 – 300	0.06	0.07	0.05
301 – 400	0.06	0.07	0.06
401 – 500	0.07	0.07	0.06
501 – 600	0.07	0.07	0.06
601 – 700	0.07	0.07	0.07
701 – 800	0.08	0.08	0.08
801 – 900	0.10	0.10	0.11
901 – H_i	0.10	0.10	0.11
Mean	0.07	0.08	0.07

where $E = 9.3$ GPa is the elastic modulus for ice (Sinha, 1978), and η_i is the effective ice viscosity. The effective viscosity can be given as

$$\eta_i = \frac{1}{2A} (\tau_e^2)^{\frac{1-n}{2}}, \quad (\text{B2})$$

where A and $n = 3$ are the rate factor and exponent in Glen's flow law, and τ_e is the effective stress (Hutter, 1983). For simplicity, we estimate the effective stress as

$$\tau_e = f \rho_i g H_i \sin \alpha, \quad (\text{B3})$$

1077 where, for site R30, $f \approx 0.75$ is the shape factor representing the proportion of driving stress supported
 1078 by basal drag (Nye, 1952). Using Equation B3, the effective stress at site R30 is 121 kPa. We assume that
 1079 viscous deformation will be greatest within the basal temperate ice layer and therefore use upper and lower
 1080 limits of A for temperate ice of $5.5 - 2.4 \times 10^{-24} \text{ Pa}^{-3} \text{ s}^{-1}$ (Cuffey and Paterson, 2010). With these values
 1081 the effective viscosity is $6.2 - 14.2 \times 10^{-12} \text{ Pa s}^{-1}$, and the Maxwell time is 11 – 25 min. Hence, assuming
 1082 elastic ice rheology at site R30 is reasonable during the initial stages of gap opening. Over the time scales

1083 relevant to pumping and recovery tests viscous deformation should not be neglected and a viscoelastic
 1084 model (e.g. Reeh and others, 2003) would be more appropriate. Note, however, that the rheology of the ice
 1085 actually drops out of the asymptotic solution of the Hewitt and others (2018) model in Equation 22, and
 1086 so incorporating viscous deformation may not have a large effect on the predictions of transmissivity from
 1087 that model.

1088 APPENDIX C. TRANSMISSIVITY FROM TIME CONSTANT

The hydraulic transmissivity (T_g) of a porous medium equivalent to a gap of uniform width δ is given by de Marsily (1986) as

$$T_g = \frac{\phi\delta^3\rho_w g}{12\eta_w}. \quad (\text{C1})$$

The time constant D is given by

$$D = \frac{6\eta_w r_s^2}{\delta^3\rho_w g} \ln \frac{R}{r_0}, \quad (\text{C2})$$

which is Equation 7a of Weertman (1970) and Equation 9 of Engelhardt and Kamb (1997). Combining Equations C1 and C2 as follows allows the hydraulic transmissivity to be approximated from the time constant D . Inserting ϕ and then multiplying both sides of Equation C2 by two gives

$$2D = \frac{12\eta_w r_s^2}{\phi\delta^3\rho_w g} \ln \frac{R}{r_0}. \quad (\text{C3})$$

This permits simplification by inserting the inverse of Equation C1 into Equation C3

$$2D = \frac{1}{T_g} r_s^2 \ln \frac{R}{r_0}. \quad (\text{C4})$$

Multiplying both sides by T gives

$$2DT_g = r_s^2 \ln \frac{R}{r_0}. \quad (\text{C5})$$

And further rearranging gives

$$T_g = \frac{r_s^2}{2D} \ln \frac{R}{r_0}, \quad (\text{C6})$$

1089 which is Equation 8.7 of Lüthi (1999) and Equation 26 of this paper.