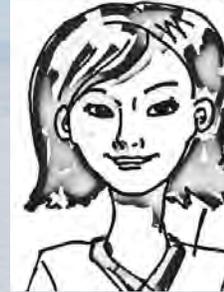




The Ice is Moving Fast at the Poles



TODAY! Be a polar scientist and measure a speeding glacier! See how it compares to two of the fastest polar glaciers – Antarctica’s Pine Island Glacier (P.I.G.), and Greenland’s Jakobshavn Glacier.



The ice is changing in both poles. The glaciers are shrinking (losing mass), the ice is moving faster (accelerating), and the edges of the ice sheets are dropping (losing elevation). Scientists are monitoring these changes through regular measurements. Lamont’s role in the Ice Bridge and Ice Pod programs contribute important information.

ANTARCTICA



P.I.G. – The front of P.I.G. where pieces of ice are breaking off (calving) and becoming icebergs. The glacier moves at rates of up to 31 ft./day (~9.5 meters).

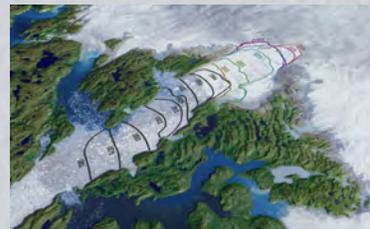


Located in a section of the continent that is really a string of islands connected by a solid covering of ice, the glacier is speeding up as the front edge calves into the sea.

GREENLAND



Jakobshavn Glacier - When glaciers move quickly they stretch and thin and can develop crevasses (long opened cracks) like the ones in this picture.



Jakobshavn in the fastest flowing glacier in Greenland at 134 ft/day (~41 meters). It is decreasing in size as it accelerates. Note how it has lost more and more ice in the 10 years. (image from NASA)