



Figure 2: General physical setting and characteristics of the Weddell gyre region. Bottom topography is shaded at 1000 m intervals; the winter (August) and summer (February) ice extents are indicated by solid lines (the latter represents the extent of the perennial ice cover in the region); the approximate location of the southern limit of the Antarctic Circumpolar Current, as defined by Orsi et al. [1995] gives the approximate location of the northern limit of the polar gyre.