

Prof. Fabio NOBILE

Mathematics Institute of Computational Science and Engineering - MATHICSE

SEMINAR OF NUMERICAL ANALYSIS

FRIDAY 1 APRIL 2016 - ROOM MA A1 10 - 11h15

Dr. Mauro PEREGO (SANDIA National Laboratories, USA) will present a seminar entitled:

"Computational and mathematical challenges in ice sheet modeling"

Abstract:

Large ice sheets such as Greenland or Antarctica play a significant role in climatology and, in particular, in sea level rise. Ice sheets behave like very viscous nonlinear fluids and can be modeled with highly nonlinear Stokes equations. The nonlinearities of the model, the large extension and complexity of the geometries, the free boundary nature of the problem, the lack of data, the coupling with other climate components make the problem very challenging from a mathematical and computational point of view.

In order to simulate the evolution of the ice sheets and have an accurate prediction of the sea level rise, it is mandatory to estimate the current thermomechanical state (initial condition) of the system. Plenty of data about the current state of the ice sheet on the surface (ice velocity, temperature, snow accumulation etc.) are available (e.g. from satellites). However, little is known about the thermomechanical state of the ice in the interior of the ice sheet or at the interface between the ice sheet and the bedrock. Moreover it is important to quantify the uncertainty on the prediction of sea level rise. This is currently a formidable task due to the high dimension of the parameter space.

In this talk, I will give an overview of mathematical modeling of ice sheets and present some of the current challenges. Then, I will present in more detail the inverse problem of estimating the parameters and the initial state of the ice sheet performed using a large-scale PDE constrained optimization approach, and I will present some preliminary results on the quantification of the uncertainty for the prediction of sea level rise.

Joint collaboration with: John D. Jakeman 1, Stephen Price 2, Andrew Salinger 1, Georg Stadler 3, Irina K. Tezaur 1 1 Sandia National Laboratories, NM, USA, 2 Los Alamos National Laboratory, NM, USA, 3 Courant Institute, NY, USA

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