



Elmer/Ice advanced workshop 2017



Grenoble, France



CSC – Finnish research, education, culture and public administration ICT knowledge center

Calving Models in Elmer/Ice

Thomas Zwinger, Dorothée Vallot,
Shahbaz Memnon, Joe Todd, Jan Åström



Continuum damage models (CDM)



Continuum damage model

- Existing CDM in Elmer/Ice (where is actually the code/example?)
 - Krug, J., J. Weiss, O. Gagliardini and G. Durand, 2014. ***Combining damage and fracture mechanics to model calving***, *The Cryosphere*, **8**, 2101-2117, doi:[10.5194/tc-8-2101-2014](https://doi.org/10.5194/tc-8-2101-2014).
- Main difficulty (to my understanding) is damage transport
- Changing rheology with respect to damage parameter

Calving using in-situ stress-based criteria (Joe Todd's stuff)



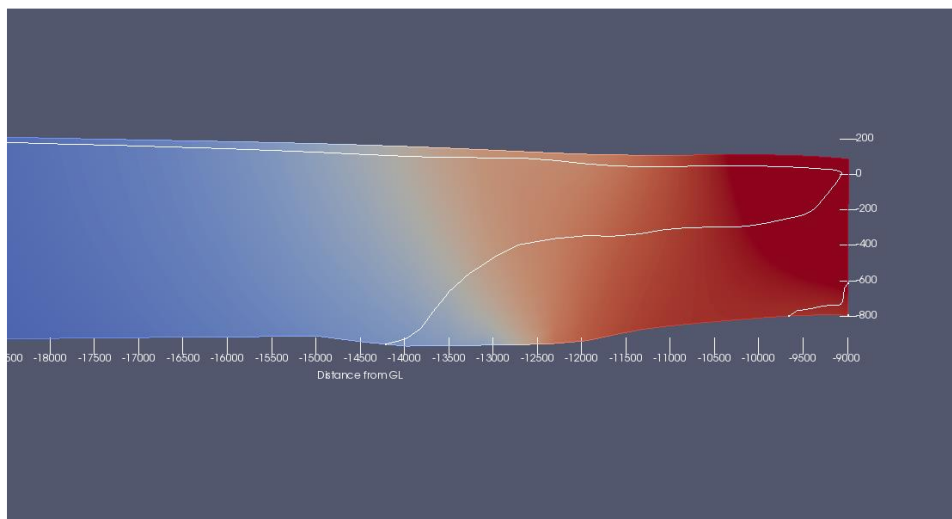
Calving using maximum extensional stress

- Code contributed by **Joe Todd** (Scott Polar/St. Andrews)
- Uses 3D Nye criterion to determine place of failure
 - Determining the max. principal stress, σ_3 , using [ComputeEigenValues](#)
 - Checking for places with $\sigma_3 > \sigma_{thresh.} \sim 0$
 - In-situ calving criterion (in opposite to CDM + transport)
- The “beef” is the calving/remeshing implementation

Elmer/Ice Calving Models

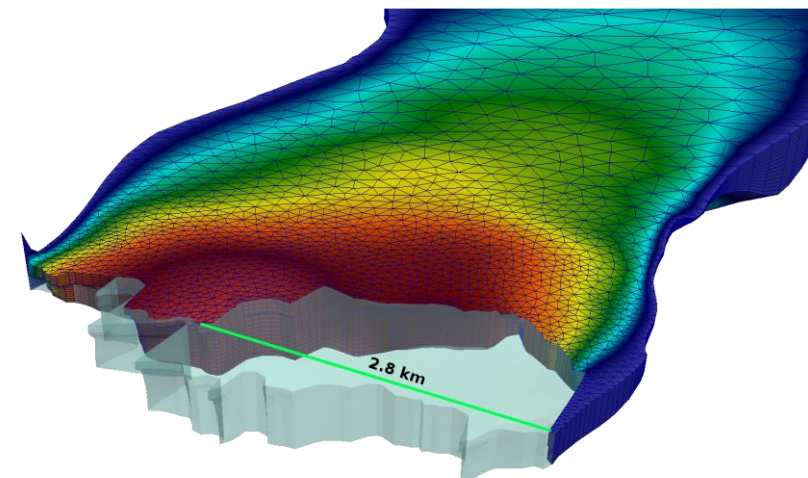
2D Calving:

- Calving = point on line
- Manipulate original mesh (accordion)
- Simple, fast, serial



3D Calving:

- Calving = line on surface
- Complete remeshing
- Complex, expensive, parallel
- Better



Elmer/Ice Calving Solvers

2D Calving:

- Calving.F90
- TwoMeshes.F90

2,000 lines of code

**Both use the
'crevasse depth
calving criterion' but
others could be
implemented easily.**

3D Calving:

- Calving3D.F90
- CalvingRemesh.F90
- ProjectCalving.F90
- CalvingGeometry.F90
- ComputeCalvingNormal.F90
- CalvingFrontAdvance3D.F90

11,000 lines of code

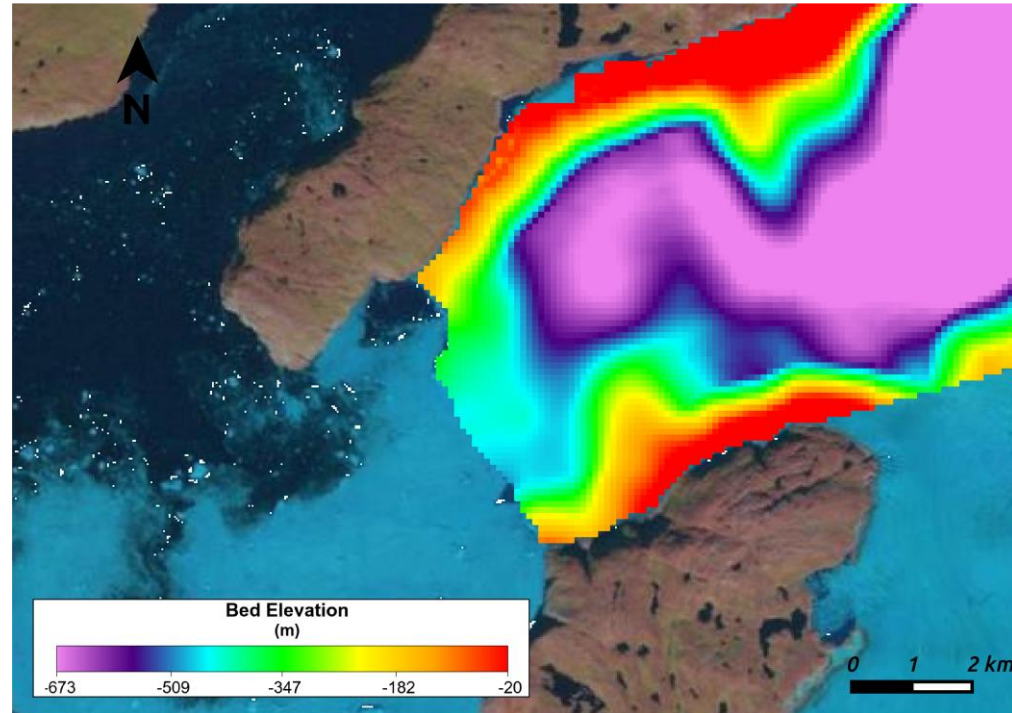
Dependencies

- Software:

- GMSH for remeshing
- NETCDF for GridDataReader
- Linux?

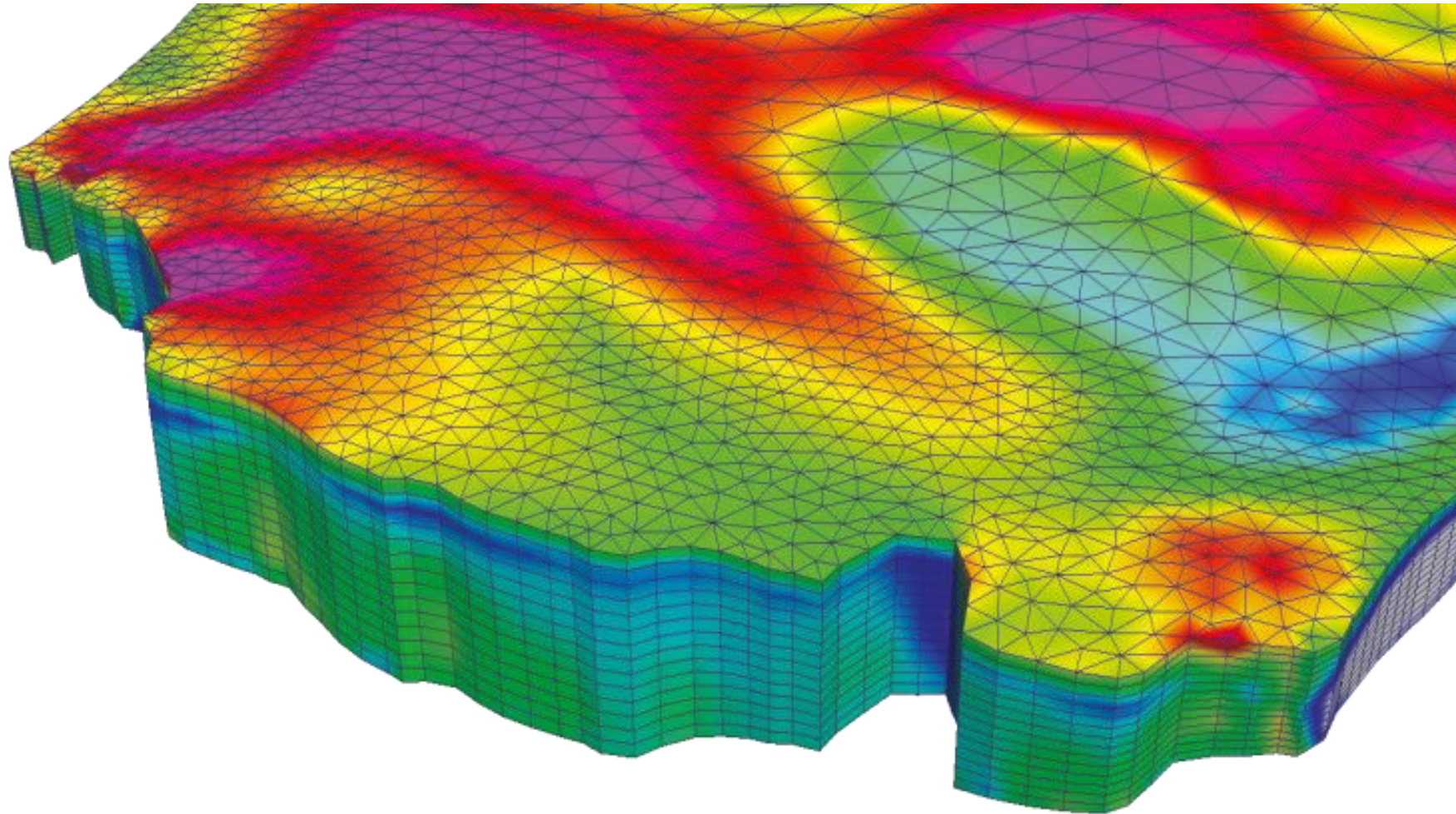
- Data:

- Accurate bed topography
- Initial terminus position
- Velocity for inversions

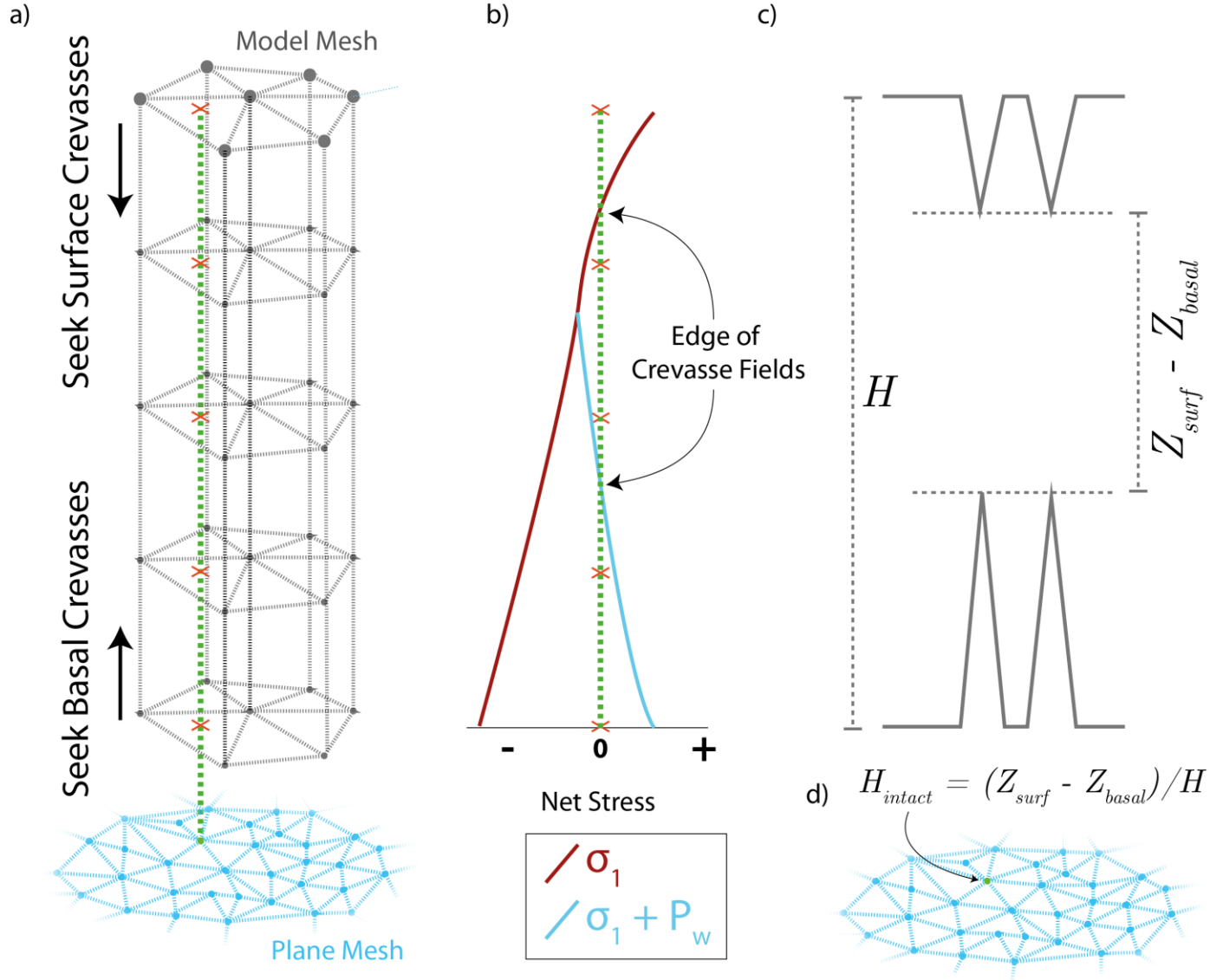


Basal topography produced via mass conservation.

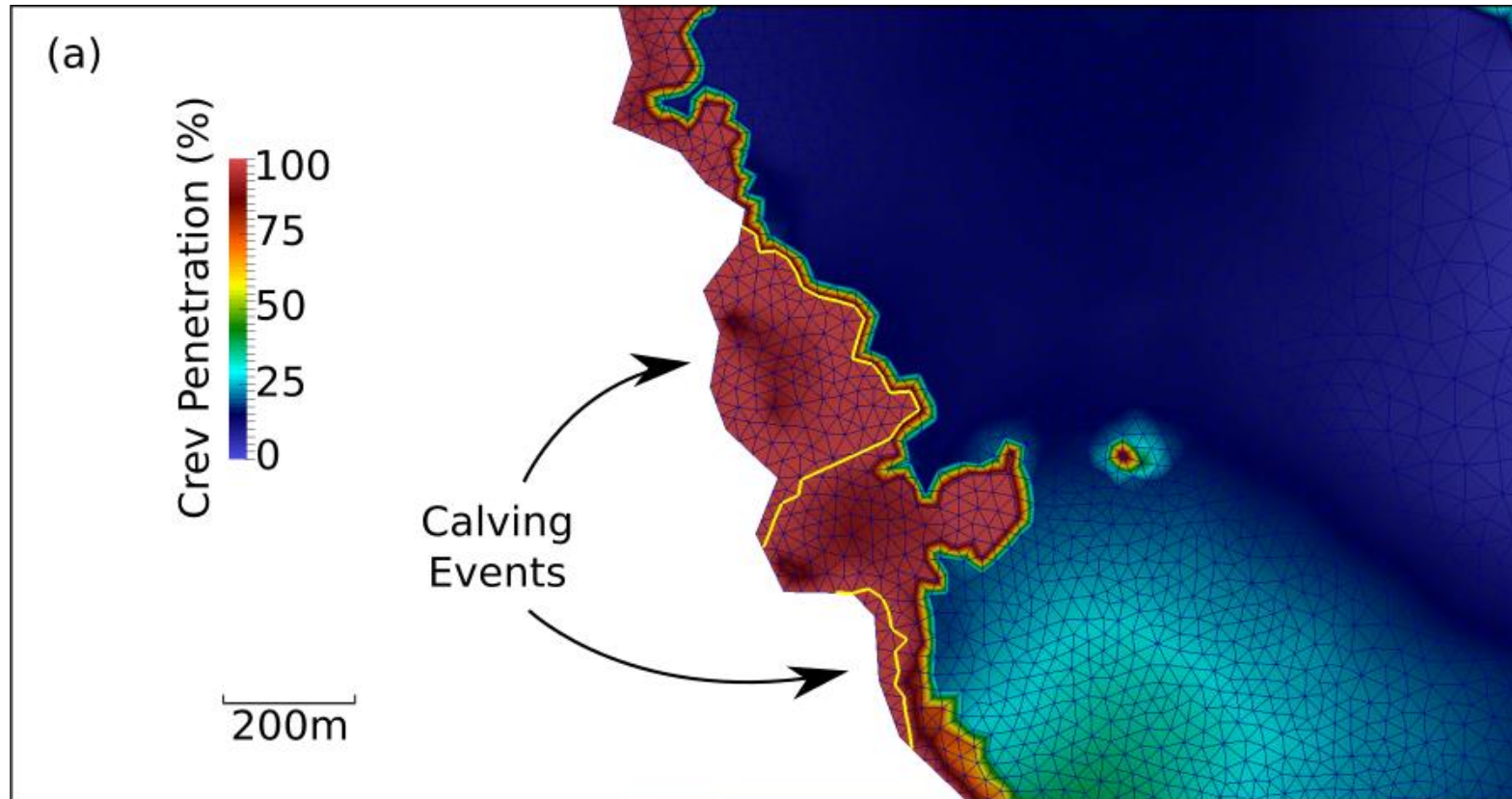
Predicting Calving



Predicting Calving



Predicting Calving



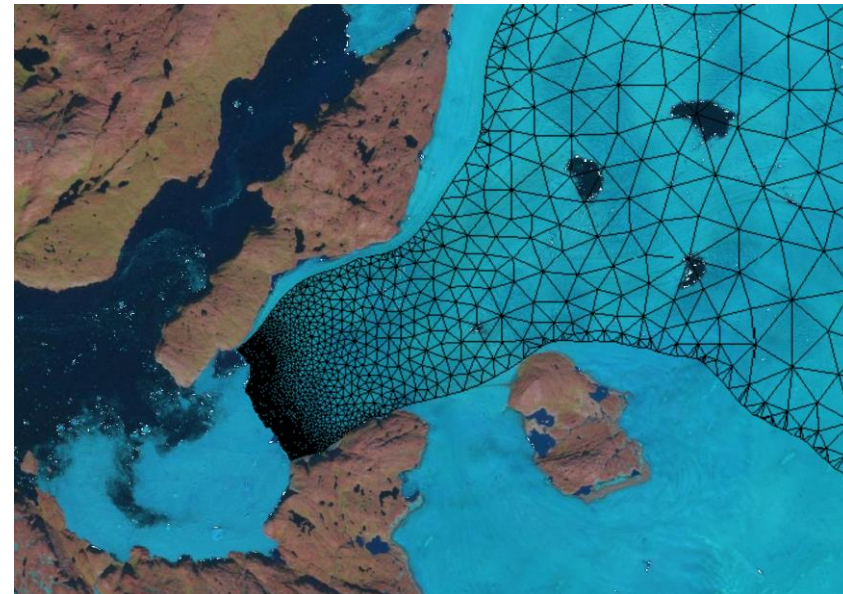
Remeshing

Input: Calving vector defined on front

Output: Good quality mesh with post-calving geometry & all field variables.

Method:

1. Produces 'post-calving' footprint
2. Mesh it in GMSH
3. Extrude it
4. Deform it
5. Interpolate variables

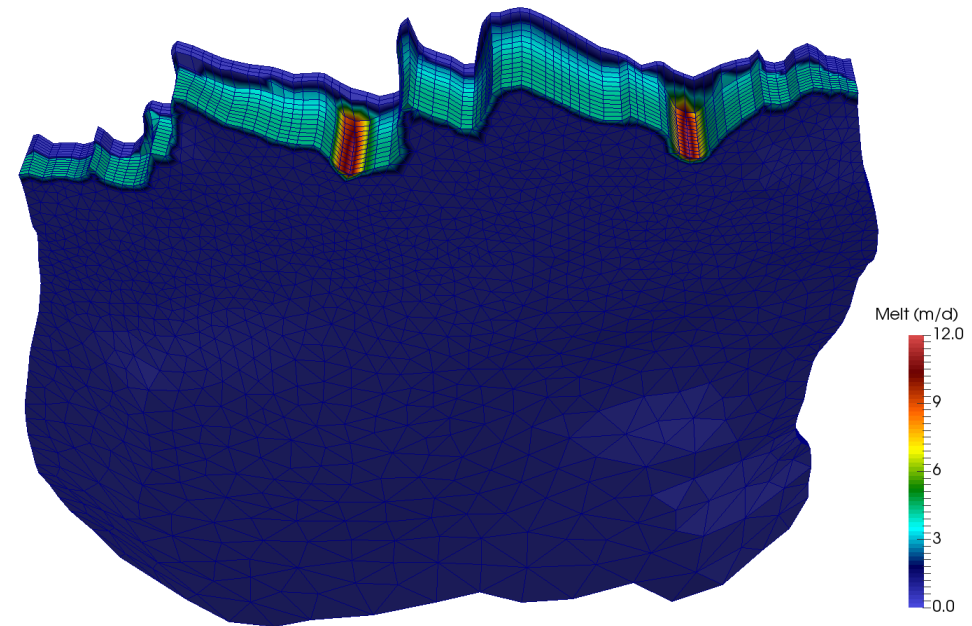


Terminus Advance

Continuous process, unlike calving
FreeSurfaceSolver doesn't work
CalvingFrontAdvance.F90 computes:

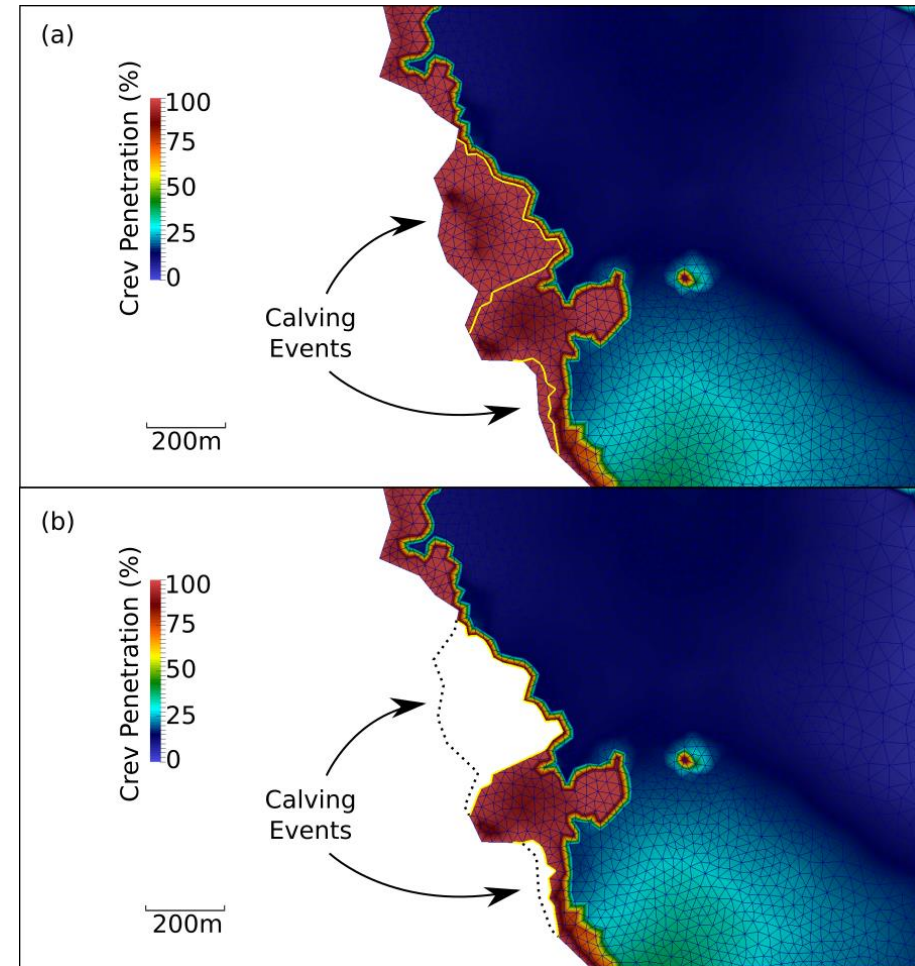
$$\vec{d} = (\vec{u} - a_{\perp} \vec{n}) dt$$

So nodes are free to move in any direction.



Adaptive Timestepping

- **Problem:** Calving events trigger 'follow-up' events, but timestepping introduces artificial delay.
- **Solution:** If a large calving event occurs, change the timestep size to quasi-steady state (1 day => 1 second) and recompute velocity, stress, calving.



Robustness & Stability

- Unsupervised remeshing causes issues
- “Check NS” looks for *suspicious* velocity solution and remeshes/rewinds
- Looks for:
 1. Convergence failure
 2. Very high velocity
 3. Large *changes* in velocity

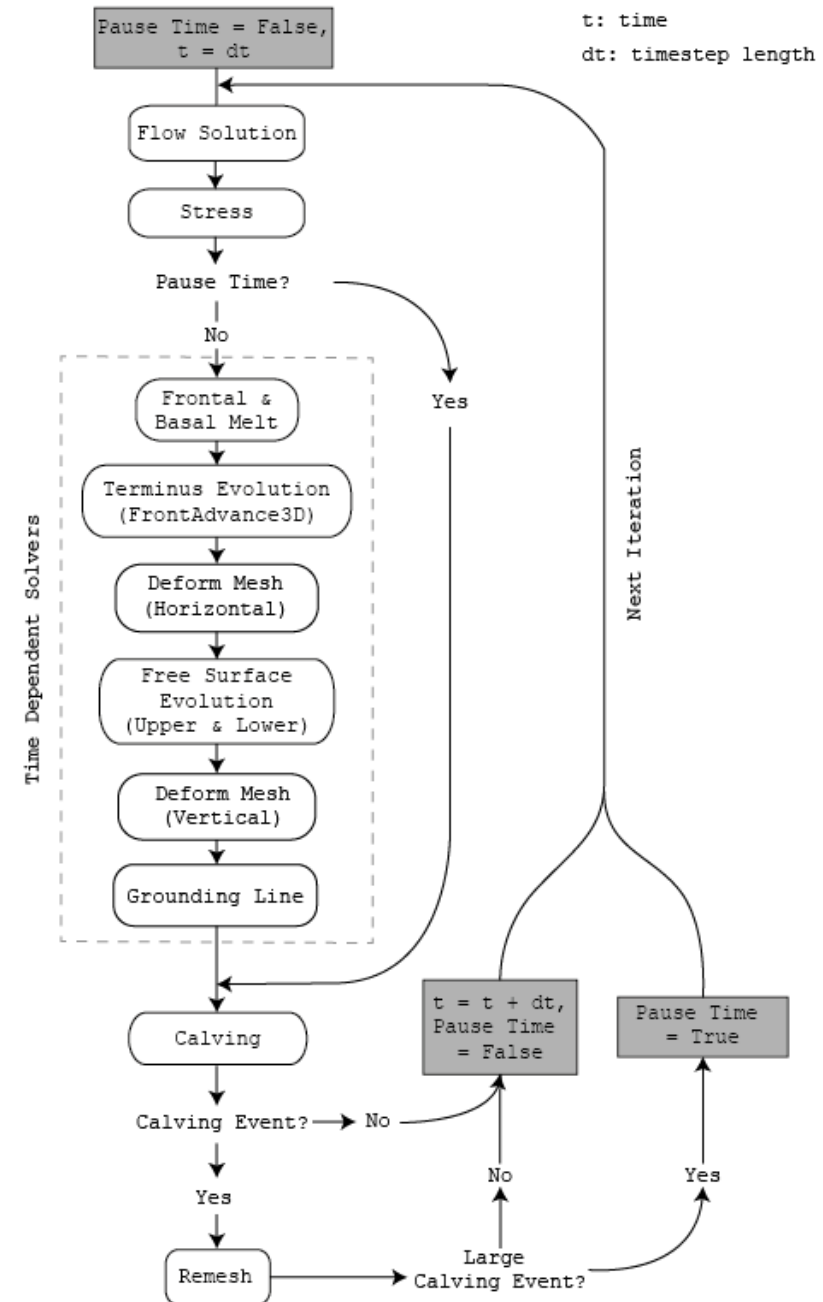
```
Solver 5
Equation = String "Check NS"
Procedure = File "ElmerIceSolvers" "CheckFlowConvergence"

Flow Solver Name = String "Flow Solution"
Maximum Flow Solution Divergence = Real 1.3
Maximum Velocity Magnitude = Real 1.0E6
First Time Max Expected Velocity = Real 8.0E4

!list of solvers to skip this time if NS fails to converge
Switch Off Equation 1 = String "StressSolver"
Switch Off Equation 2 = String "3D Calving"
Switch Off Equation 3 = String "Free Surface Top"
Switch Off Equation 4 = String "Free Surface Bottom"
Switch Off Equation 5 = String "Front Advance"
Switch Off Equation 6 = String "Longitudinal Mesh Update"
Switch Off Equation 7 = String "Vertical Mesh Update"
End
```


Typical Simulation

- Compute velocity & stress (and check!)
- Advance front
- Evolve upper & lower surfaces
- Look for calving
- Remesh, interpolate & continue



Getting Help

- Look at the **test cases** in: `elmerice/Tests/Calving*`
- Look at the **Elmer/Ice wiki** → Problems -> Calving
- Read the **source code!**

```
tElement % nodeindexes) .GT. 0))) CYCLE  
BC elements, stupid way of doing it, but whatever  
) nodeindexes == GoToNode))) CYCLE
```

- **Get in touch** – StAndrewsGlaciology.org

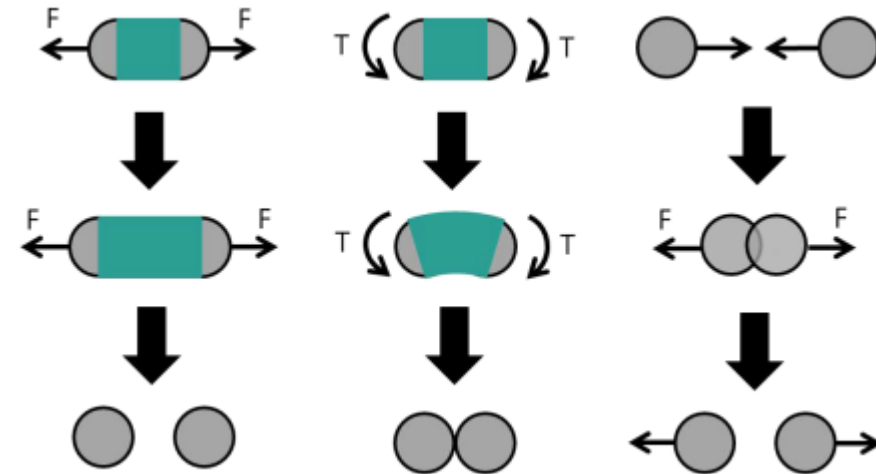


Coupling between Elmer/Ice and external model (Dorotheè Vallot, Jan Åström)



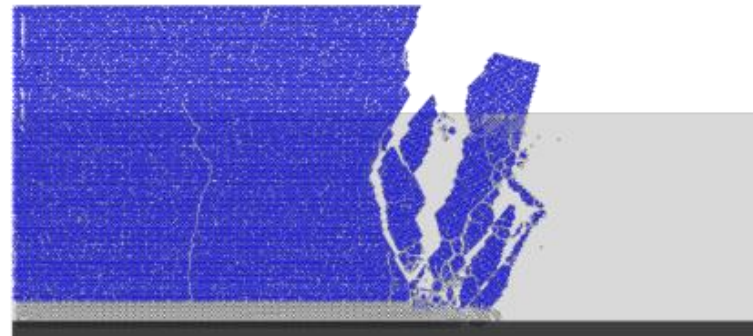
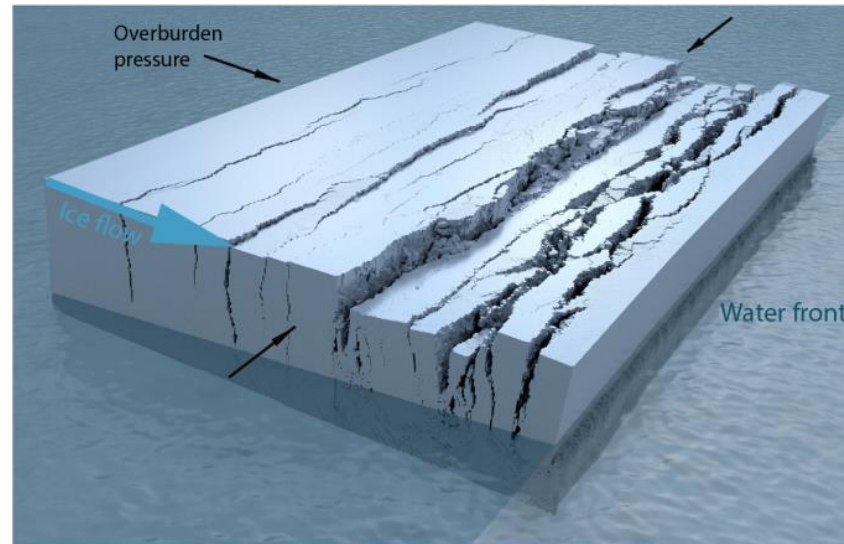
Discrete element model

- Numerical particle-based model (Åström et al., 2013) in 2D or 3D
- Glacier divided into discrete particles
- Frozen contacts
 - Beams
 - Inelastic interactions (dissipation of energy)
 - Breaking when elastic load > fracture threshold (stability tune)
- Sliding at the base



Discrete element model

- Is able to use first-principle approach on brittle failure of ice
- Can even include a viscous reaction
- Spatial-scales: resolves glacier in blocks of about $\Delta x = 10\text{m}$ length
- Timescales: $\frac{\Delta x}{c} \sim \frac{10}{5000} \sim 10\text{ms}$
- Severe constraints in applicability



Coupled discrete element – continuum model

- Used in a view instances already via offline-coupling, to either evaluate calving behaviour:

Åström, J.A., D. Vallot, M. Schäfer, E.Z. Welty, S. O’Neel, T.C. Bartholomäus, Yan Liu, T.I. Riihilä, T. Zwinger, J. Timonen, and J.C. Moore, 2014. *Termini of calving glaciers as self-organized critical systems*, Nature Geoscience, **7**, 874-878, doi:[10.1038/ngeo02290](https://doi.org/10.1038/ngeo02290)

Benn, D.I., J. Åström, T. Zwinger, J. Todd, F.M. Nick, S. Cook, N.R.J. Hulton, and A. Luckman, 2017. *Melt-under-cutting and buoyancy-driven calving from tidewater glaciers: new insights from discrete element and continuum model simulations*, Journal of Glaciology, 1-12, doi:[10.1017/jog.2017.41](https://doi.org/10.1017/jog.2017.41).

- Or to determine crevasse positions:

Gong, Y., T. Zwinger, S. Cornford, R. Gladstone, M. Schäfer, and J.C. Moore, 2016. *Importance of basal boundary conditions in transient simulations: case study of a surging marine-terminating glacier on Austfonna, Svalbard*, Journal of Glaciology, pp. 1–12, doi:[10.1017/jog.2016.121](https://doi.org/10.1017/jog.2016.121).

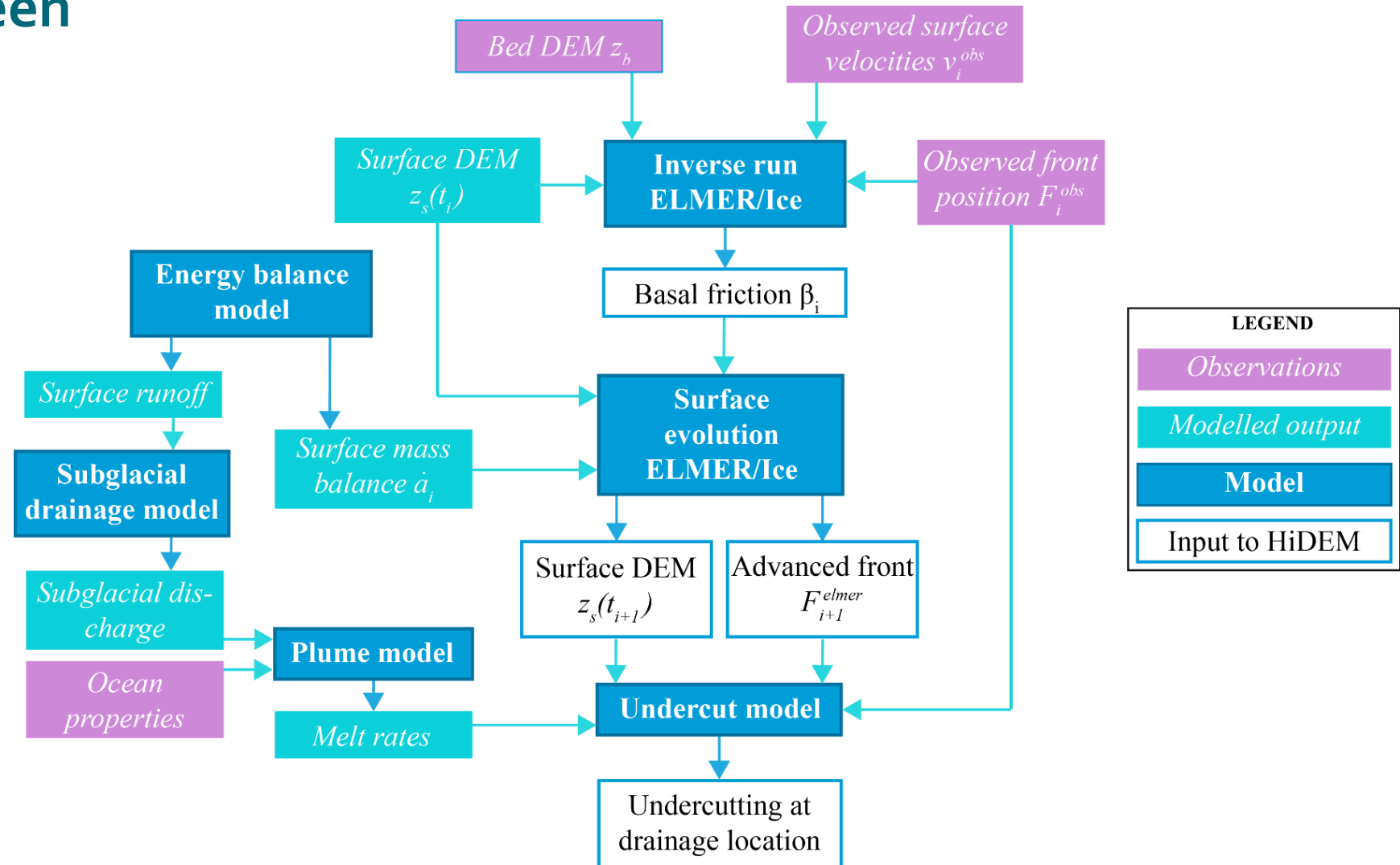
Test case: Kronebreen

- Tidewater glacier, one of the fastest in Svalbard archipelago
- Sliding at the base
- Started retreating in 2011
- Surface velocity and front positions available for 2014-2015
- High resolution surface and bed topography

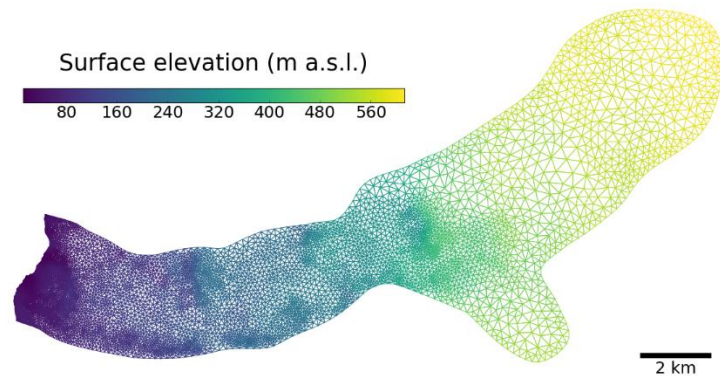


Test case: Kronebreen

- Work started by Dorothée Vallot
- Created workflow between Elmer/Ice, surface runoff, subglacial drainage, basal hydrology, plume model and undercutting
- Currently 2 submitted paper (see next slides)

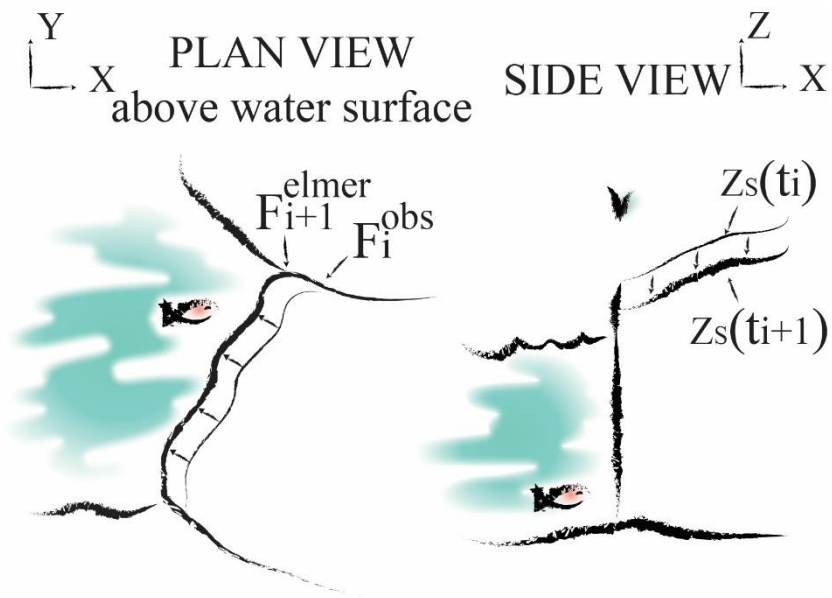


Step 1: Generate the mesh



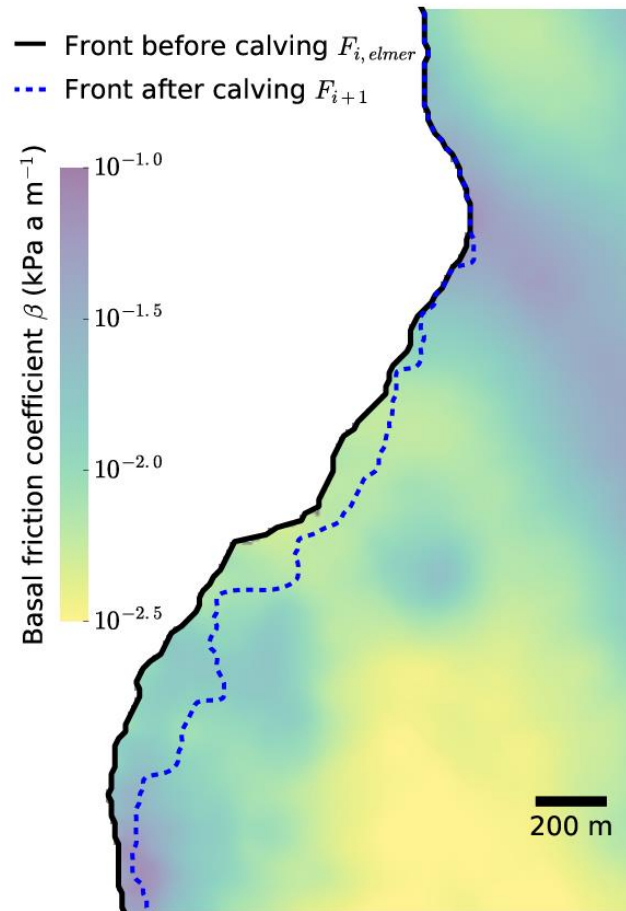
- From front position (initial or modelled) and contour
- Gmsh to create the mesh
- Conversion to Elmer format

Step 2-3: Transient advance with Elmer/Ice and conversion



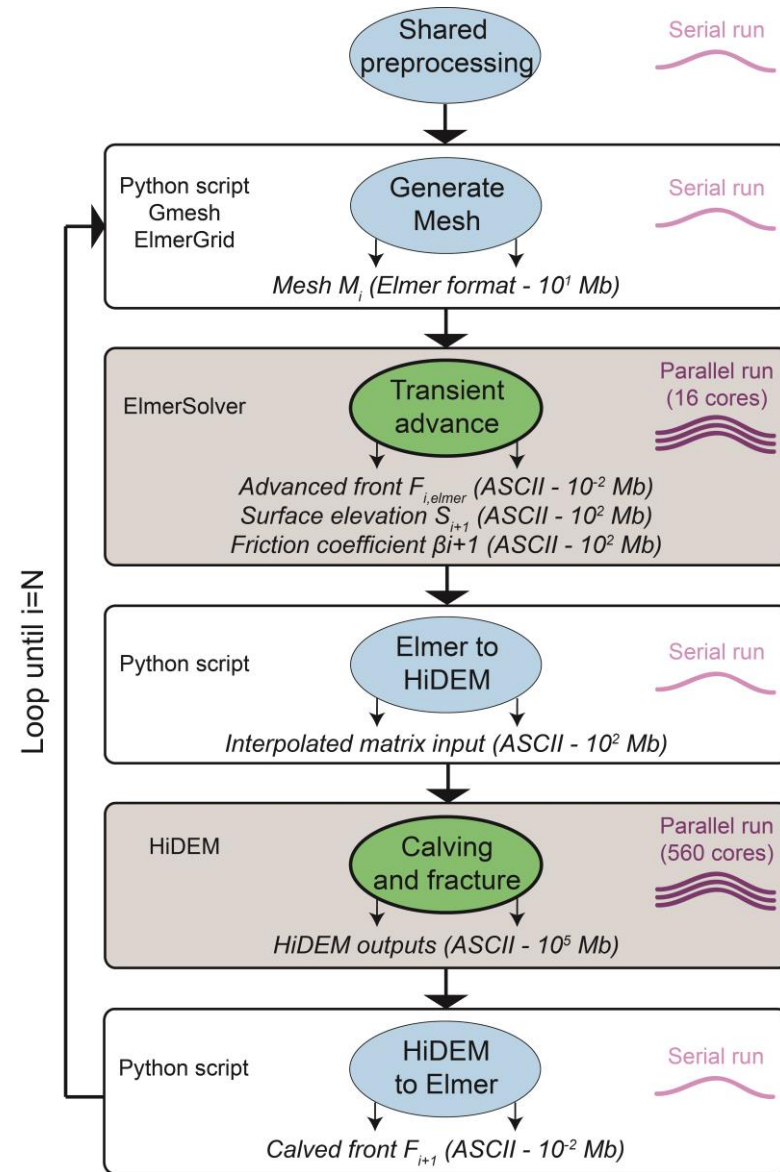
- Stokes equation
- Sliding law
- Surface and front evolution
- Long time period
- Conversion From Elmer/Ice to HiDEM domain

Step 4-5: Calving with HiDEM and new front position



- Scaling of sliding to accommodate small time step (10^{-4} s)
- New front position to apply to the next step (meshing)

Summary



Outlook

- Currently, a workflow using UNICORE to couple HiDEM and Elmer/Ice is being tested (eSTICC/NEiC activity) By Dorothee Vallot (Univ. Uppsala) and Shahbaz Memnon (Univ. Iceland)
- For usage of HiDEM, contact Jan Åström (givenname.familyname@csc.fi)
- Hard to estimate, when the model will be publicly available

