

# Modeling the Fracture of Ice Sheets on Parallel Computers

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**Columbia  
University**

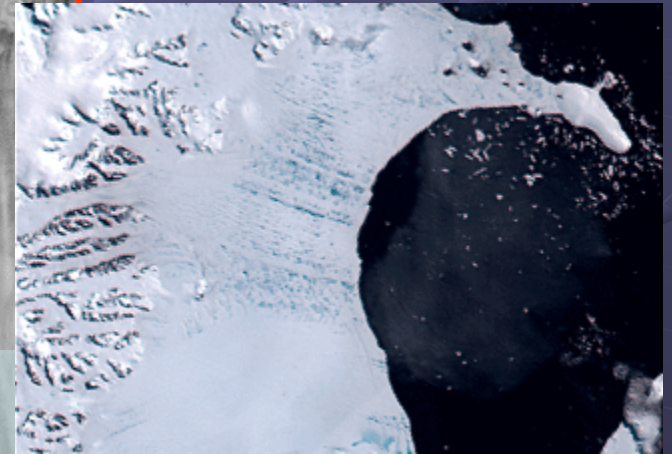
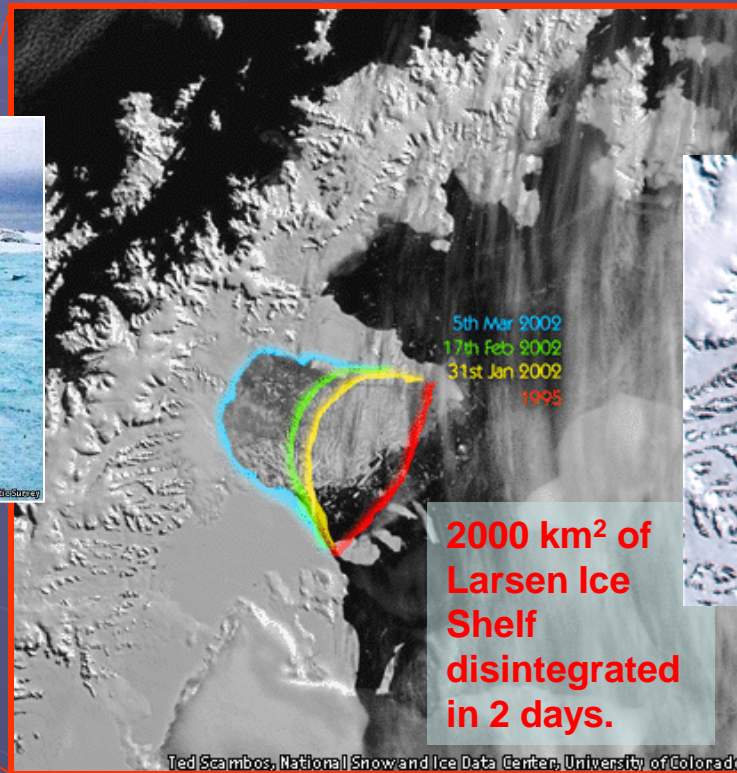
*NCAR, Boulder, CO, 02/17/2010*



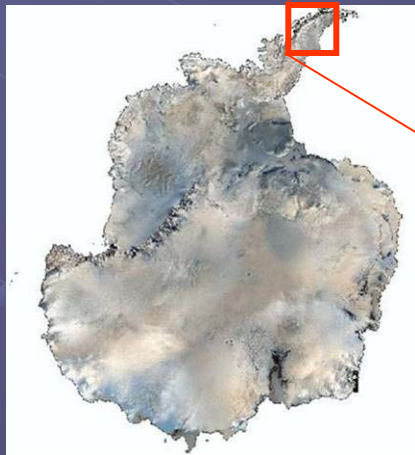
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# Disintegrating Ice Shelves

Since the mid-1980s



Source: T. Scambos



Require  $>10,000$  years to form  
Disintegrate in weeks

# FEA Model Description

## Geometry

- Strip model with degrading stiffness towards tip

## Temperature dependent properties

- Elastic
- Thermal

## Boundary Conditions

- Fixed edges
- Elastic foundation

## Loads

- Body gravity Load
- Temperature Increase

## Analysis Steps

- Static, General with body load
- Coupled Temp-Disp – steady state

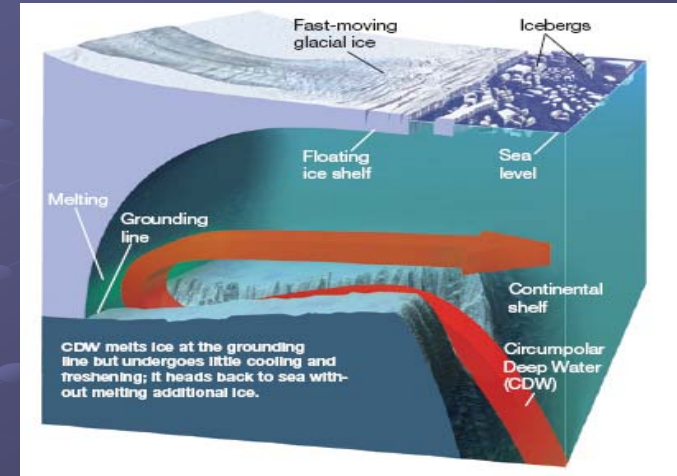


Image from Dr. Bindschadler presentation, DOE workshop Sep. 2009



# Basic Equations

## Static Force Equilibrium:

$$\sigma_{ij,j} + \mathbf{f}_i = 0$$

## Constitutive Law:

$$\sigma_{ij}^{el} = C_{ijkl} \varepsilon_{kl} \equiv \mathbf{D}^{el}(\theta) \cdot \varepsilon$$

## Deformation:

$$\text{Elastic: } \varepsilon_{ij}^{el} = \frac{1}{2} (u_{j,i} + u_{i,j})$$

$$\text{Expansion: } \varepsilon_{ij}^{th} = \alpha \Delta \theta \delta_{ij}$$

$$\text{Total-Strain: } \varepsilon_{ij} = \varepsilon_{ij}^{el} + \varepsilon_{ij}^{th}$$

## Fourier Law:

$$\mathbf{q} = -\kappa \nabla \theta$$

## Thermal Equilibrium:

$$-\kappa \nabla^2 \theta + c_p \rho \dot{\theta} = \mathbf{q}$$

## Material Properties:

$\kappa(\theta)$ : Material conductivity

$c_p(\theta)$ : Specific heat capacity

$\rho(\theta)$ : density

Note: Since the time scales for (a) temperature change (which affects both the elastic and thermal properties) and (b) thermal equilibrium are vastly different, these two sets of conditions are only weakly coupled and can be solved independently

# Ice – Physical, Thermal and Mechanical Properties

Temperature	Density	Thermal conductivity	Specific Heat	Elastic Modulus	Temperature
T (c)	rho (kg/m <sup>3</sup> )	K (W/m.K)	Cp (J/kg.K)	E (Gpa)	Temp (C)
0	916.2	2.22	2.05E-03	6.0	0
-5	917.5	2.25	2.03E-03	7.0	-10
-10	918.9	2.30	2.00E-03	7.5	-20
-15	919.4	2.34	1.97E-03	8.0	-30
-20	919.4	2.39	1.94E-03	8.5	-40
-25	919.6	2.45	1.91E-03	9.0	-50
-30	920.0	2.50	1.88E-03	10.0	-60
-35	920.4	2.57	1.85E-03	11.0	-80
-40	920.8	2.63	1.82E-03	12.0	-100
-50	921.6	2.76	1.75E-03		
-60	922.4	2.90	1.68E-03		
-70	923.3	3.05	1.61E-03		
-80	924.1	3.19	1.54E-03		
-90	924.9	3.34	1.46E-03		
-100	925.7	3.48	1.39E-03		

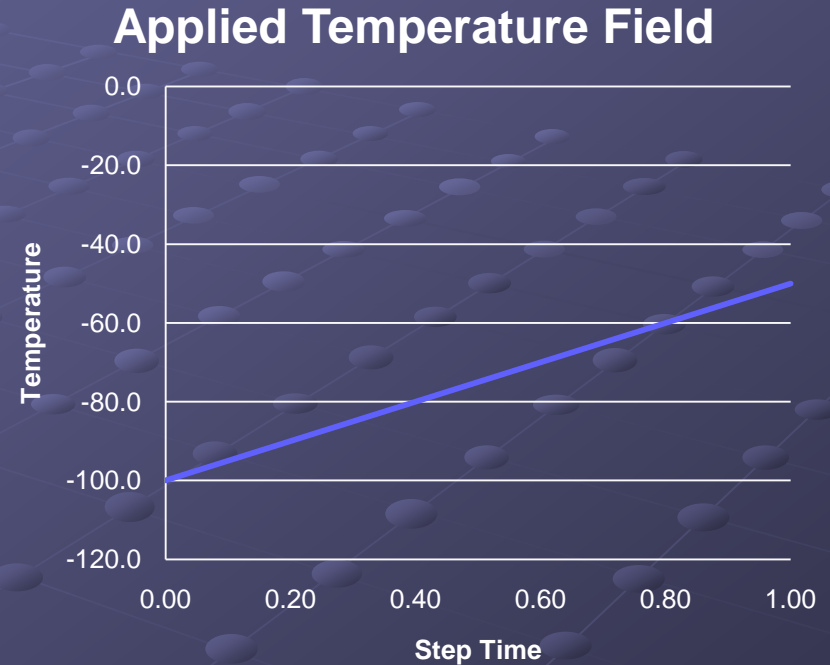
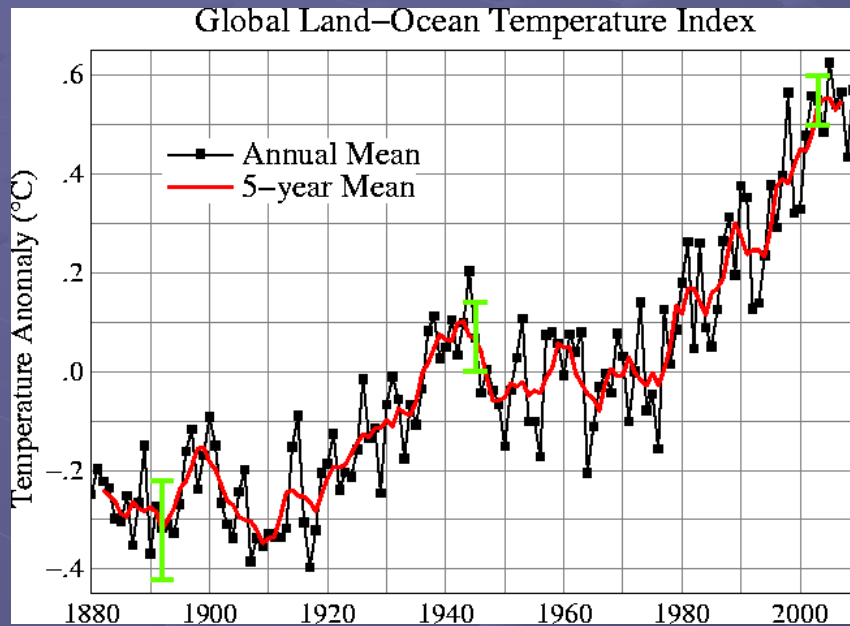
The elastic modulus properties have a wide range of variability and is generally strongly orthotropic. In the preliminary analysis, it was assumed to be linearly isotropic with softening at higher temperature

Thermal Expansion  
 $\alpha = 5.1E-05$  /deg. C

## References:

- [http://www.engineeringtoolbox.com/ice-thermal-properties-d\\_576.html](http://www.engineeringtoolbox.com/ice-thermal-properties-d_576.html)
- <http://www.its.caltech.edu/~atomic/snowcrystals/ice/ice.htm>

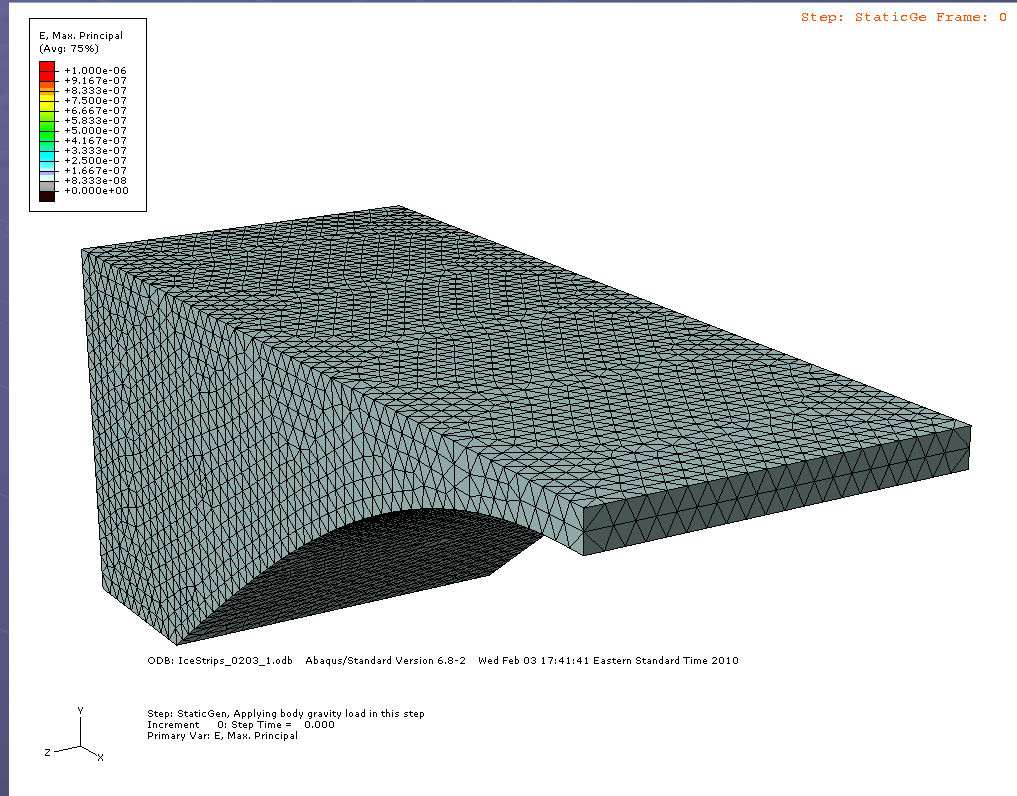
# Temperature Rise



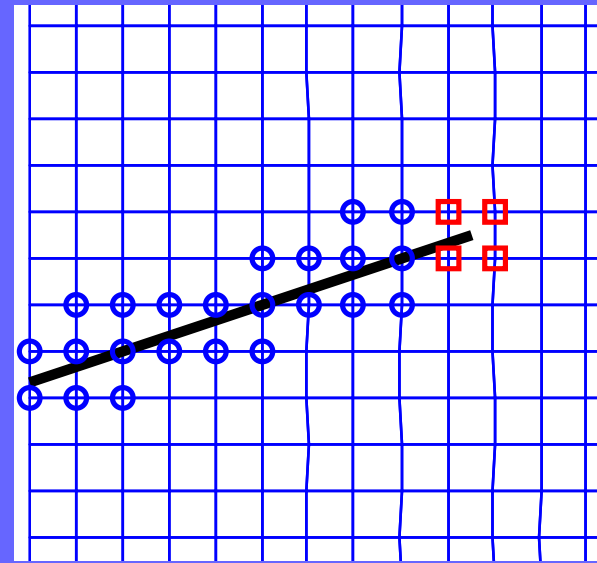
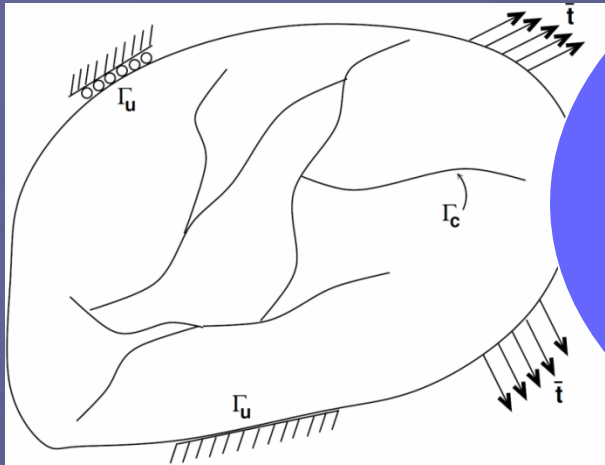
## Reference:

Hansen, J., Mki. Sato, R. Ruedy, K. Lo, D.W. Lea, and M. Medina-Elizade, 2006:  
Global temperature change. *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci.*, 103, 14288-14293,  
<http://data.giss.nasa.gov/gistemp/graphs/>

# Preliminary Simulation



# How XFEM works



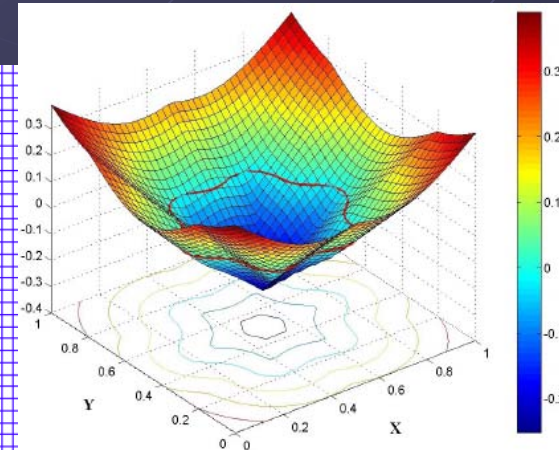
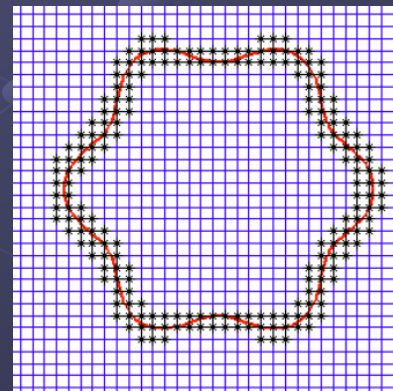
Displacements written as

$$u^h(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{I=1}^n N_I(\mathbf{x})u_I + \sum_{I=1}^{n_J} N_I(\mathbf{x})H(\mathbf{x})a_I + \sum_{I=1}^{n_T} \left[ N_I(\mathbf{x}) \sum_{j=1}^4 F_j(\mathbf{x})b_{jI} \right]$$

Heaviside jump-enrichment

$$H(\mathbf{X}) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{above } \Gamma_c^+ \\ 0 & \text{below } \Gamma_c^- \end{cases}$$

Levelset Method





# XFEM Linear System

$$u(x) = \sum_i \phi_i(x)u_i + \sum_i \phi_i(x)H(x)z_i + \dots, \quad H(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & \varphi \geq 0 \\ 0 & \varphi < 0 \end{cases}, \quad \Gamma = \{(x, y) \mid \varphi(x, y) = 0\}$$

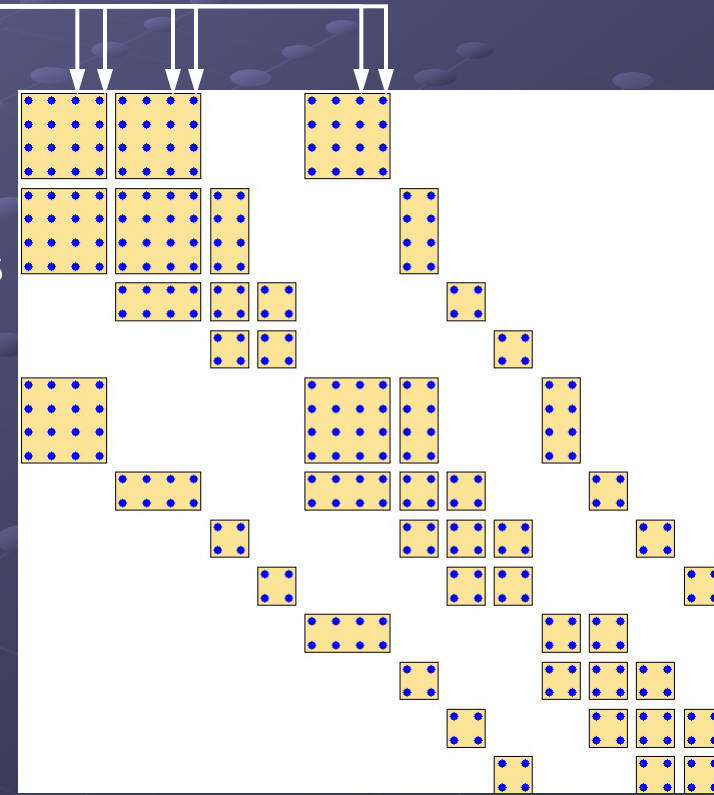
- Very large linear system
- Variable block size matrix with peculiar basis functions

Alternative view of matrix:

standard  $\rightarrow$

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} A_{SS} & A_{SW} \\ A_{WS} & A_{WW} \end{pmatrix}$$

$\leftarrow$  weird

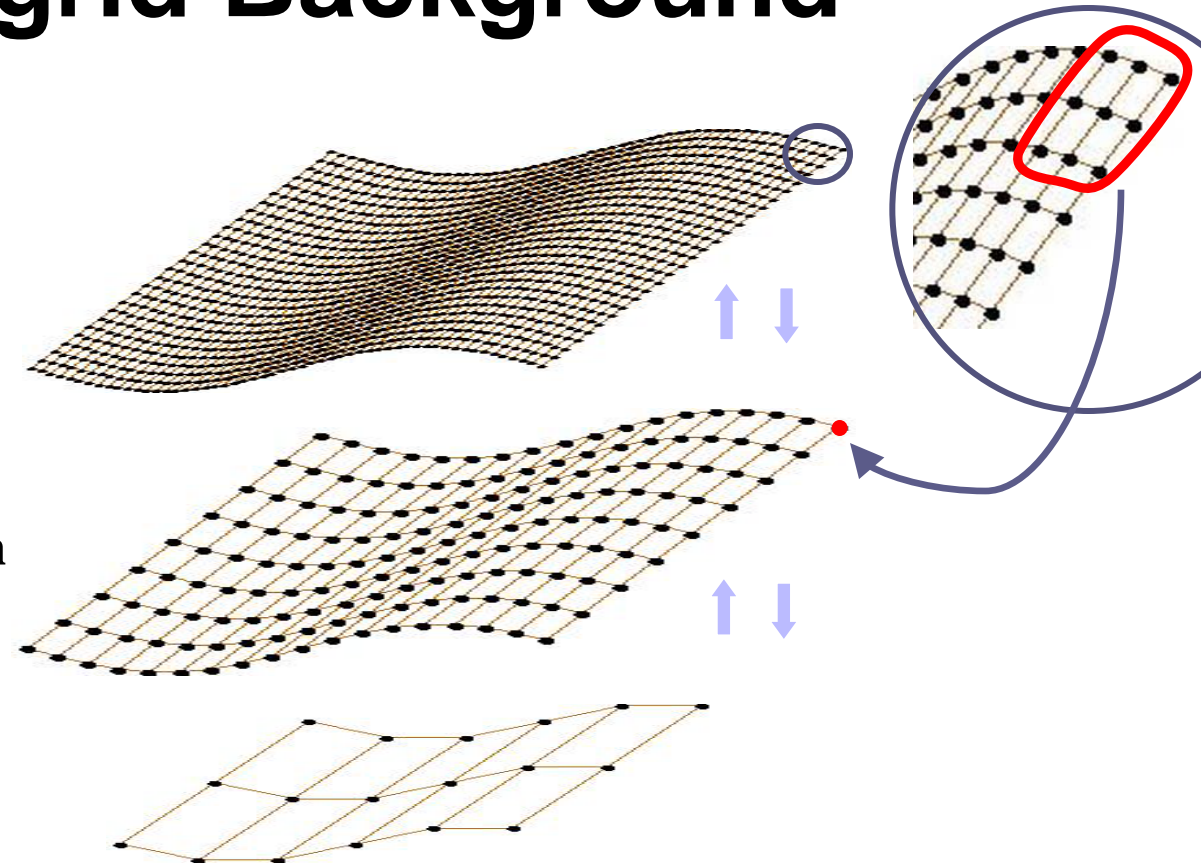


$\Rightarrow$  Need fast highly parallel solver !

# *Algebraic* Multigrid Background

**Solve  $A_3 u_3 = f_3$**

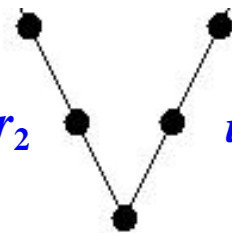
- Construct graph & coarsen
- Determine  $P_i$  sparsity pattern
- Determine  $P_i$  's coefs
- Project:  $A_i = (P_i)^T A_{i+1} P_i$



Smooth  $A_3 u_3 = f_3$ ,  $f_2 \leftarrow (P_2)^T r_3$

Smooth  $A_2 u_2 = f_2$ ,  $f_1 \leftarrow (P_1)^T r_2$

Solve  $A_1 u_1 = f_1$  directly



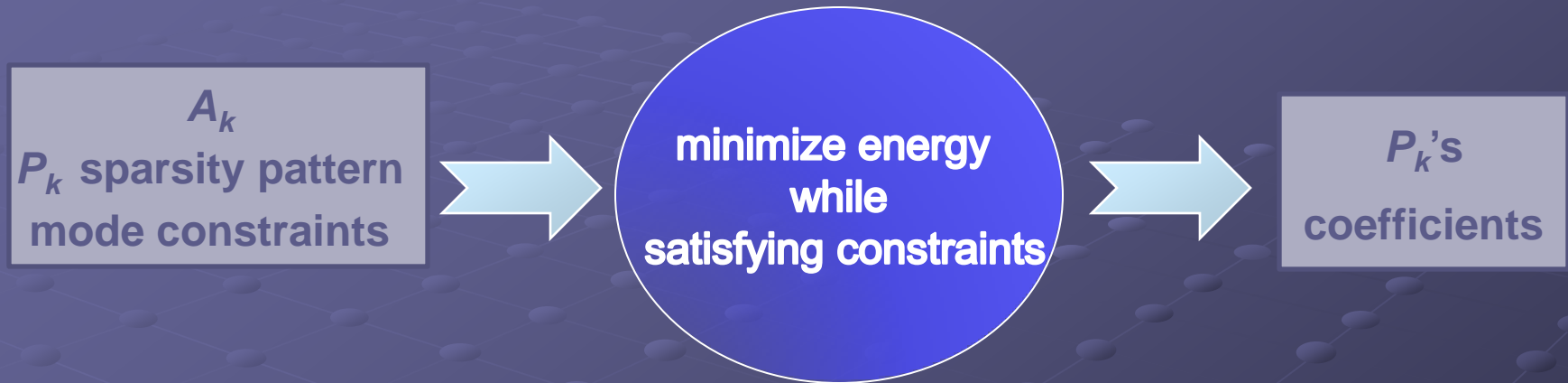
$u_3 \leftarrow u_3 + P_2 u_2$

$u_2 \leftarrow u_2 + P_1 u_1$

Brandt,  
McCormick, Ruge,  
Stübén

# AMG & Energy Minimization

## Basic Idea



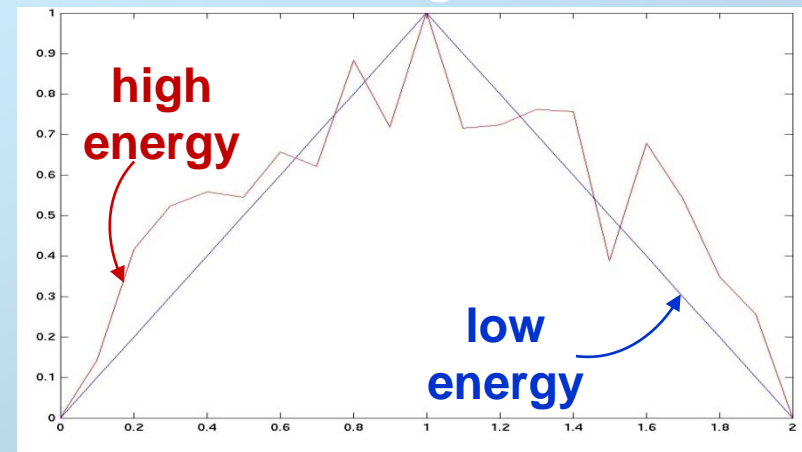
## Tradeoffs:

+ flexibility

- any coarsening
- any sparsity pattern
- constraints
  - important modes requiring accurate interpolation

+ robustness

Constraints : accurate interpolation of certain modes, e.g. constant



# XFEM philosophy

standard grid

standard basis functions

+ weird

Standard **FEM** requires special meshes to model flaws

# Our AMG philosophy

standard coarsening

standard prolongator columns

+ weird prolongator columns

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} A_{SS} & A_{SW} \\ A_{WS} & A_{WW} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$P = \begin{pmatrix} P_{SS} & P_{SW} \\ 0 & P_{WW} \end{pmatrix}$$

$P_{SS} \leftarrow \text{StandardAMG}(A_{SS})$

$P_{WW} \leftarrow I$  (currently not coarsening special functions)

$P_{SW}$  use standard energy minimization

- determine sparsity pattern
- special interpolation constraints

# Details

## Energy Minimization

- Boils down to repeated iteration on

$$A_{ss} P_{sw} = -A_{sw}$$

followed by sparsity restriction & enforcing mode constraints

- Without sparsity limits

$$\Rightarrow P_{sw} = -(A_{ss})^{-1} A_{sw} \quad (\text{Schur complements})$$

## $P_{sw}$ Sparsity Pattern

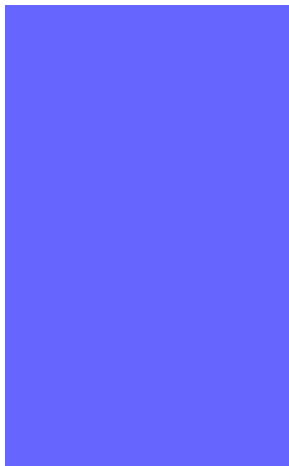
$$\mathcal{N} = p(A_{ss}) A_{sw}$$

for experiments  $p(A_{ss}) = A_{ss}$

## Special constraints

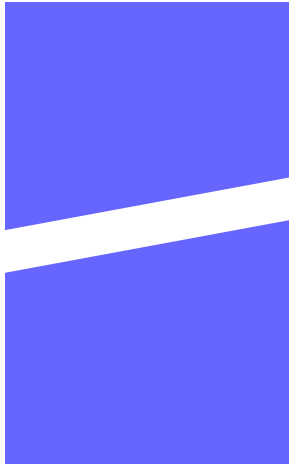
- 3 zero energy modes corresponding to discontinuity captured by XFEM

# Special Constraints



**Standard  
AMG**

# Special Constraints



**Standard  
AMG  
& XFEM**

**Only need  
to add  
special  
constraints  
near crack**

# Results for 1 crack

$$P = \begin{pmatrix} P_{ss} & Z \\ 0 & I \end{pmatrix}$$

n x n grid	AMG on $A_{ss}$	Z=0 AMG	Z ≠ 0 AMG	Z ≠ 0 AMG + constraints
6	9	9	8	8
18	9	13	10	9
54	9	19	14	9
162	10	29	21	9

crack crosses domain, aligned coarsening

n x n grid	AMG on $A_{ss}$	Z=0 AMG	Z ≠ 0 AMG	Z ≠ 0 AMG + constraints
6	9	11	11	10
18	9	14	12	10
54	9	21	15	11
162	10	32	23	11

partial domain crossing, coarsening aligned

n x n grid	AMG on $A_{ss}$	Z=0 AMG	Z ≠ 0 AMG	Z ≠ 0 AMG + constraints
6	9	10	9	8
18	9	16	11	9
54	9	25	16	10
162	10	43	24	12

crack crosses domain, nonaligned coarsening

n x n grid	AMG on $A_{ss}$	Z=0 AMG	Z ≠ 0 AMG	Z ≠ 0 AMG + constraints
6	9	13	11	11
18	9	17	13	11
54	9	29	18	13
162	10	50	27	15

partial crossing, nonaligned coarsening



# Conclusions

- Initial studies to explain the collapse (disintegration) of an ice shelf with simple models
- Ice is a complicated material
  - Further research is needed to characterize the material behavior
- The model may provide the crack initiation for the fracture modeling
- Algebraic multigrid can mirror XFEM idea !
  - Special prolongator columns to capture discontinuities
- Promising results, but ...
  - Still need to resolve special constraints near crack tip & determine special constraints for crack network