



*Tipping Points in Antarctic  
Climate Components*

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## Stability of current Antarctica grounding lines

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# Introduction

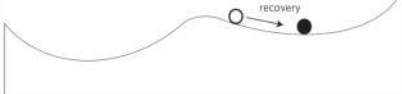
## Tipping Point

Far from bifurcation:

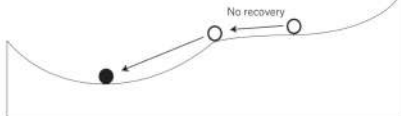


Larger deviations

Approaching bifurcation:



At bifurcation point:



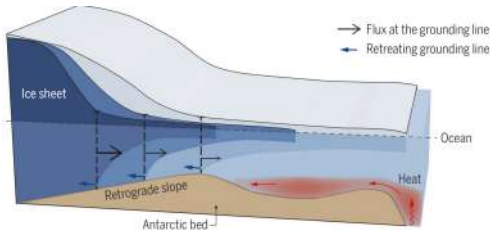
Lenton, 2011

## Antarctica

Warming context

Increasing of the instability

# MISI (Marine Ice-Sheet Instability)



Pattyn, 2020

## Conditions :

- retrograde slope of the bedrock
- Circumpolar Deep Water (CDW)

## Consequences :

- Increasing the melt under the ice-shelf
- Retreat of the grounding line (boundary between floating and grounding ice)
- Thinning and reduction of the buttressing effect
- Increased flow velocity and flux at the grounding line

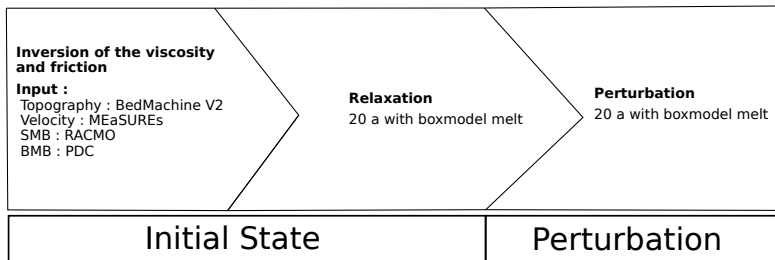
## Work Package 2 : Ice Modelling

- Use of 3 ice-flow models : PISM, Úa, **Elmer/Ice**



- Define the stability state of the grounding line (GL)
  - Define some initial states
  - Apply melting perturbation under the ice-shelf and define the stability of the GL
  - or an unstable and irreversible retreat of the GL

# Framework



## Creating an initial state

Initial state : reproduce the ice-sheet at define time

Localisation : Antarctica

Parameters to be optimized :

- $\beta$  for the friction parameter  $C = 10^\beta$
- $\eta$  for the viscosity  $\bar{\mu} = \eta^2 \times \bar{\mu}_{ini}$

We are using the adjoint method described by MacAyeal (1993)

3 steps for the inversion :

- Mesh
- Initialization of the variables
- Optimisation of the friction and viscosity parameters

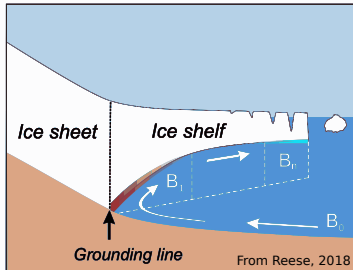
Relaxation

20 a with box model parametrization

# Box model parametrization

Newly on Elmer/ice

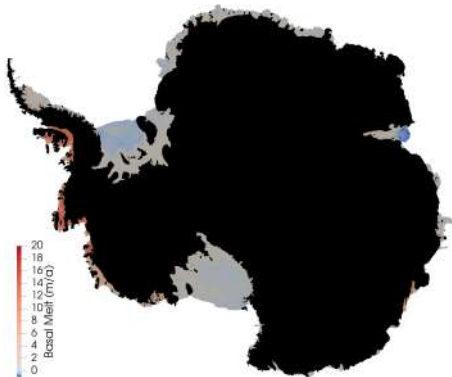
for realistic case



Temperature and salinity are given for each basin.

The parameters of this box model come from the PICO model of Reese, 2018

# Box model parametrization



Total Melt = 1 464 Gt/yr

The melting is too high on the West Antarctica => Collapse of WAIS  
Tuning of the parameter in progress



# Perturbation

## General Perturbation

Applied the same perturbation every where  
Goal : Have overview of the ice-shelf reaction

Perturbation on $T^{\circ}$ under the ice-shelf							
0°C référence	0.1°C	0.3 °	0.5°	1°C	1.5°C	2°C	5°C

## Perturbation

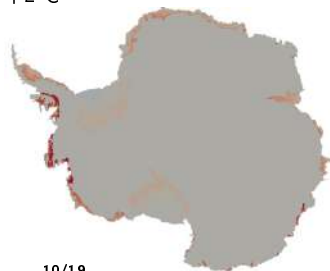
Ref



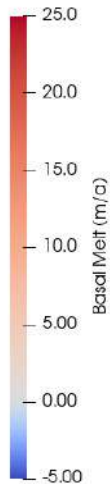
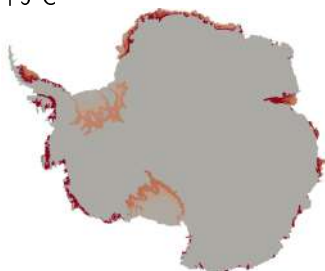
+0.5°C



+2°C

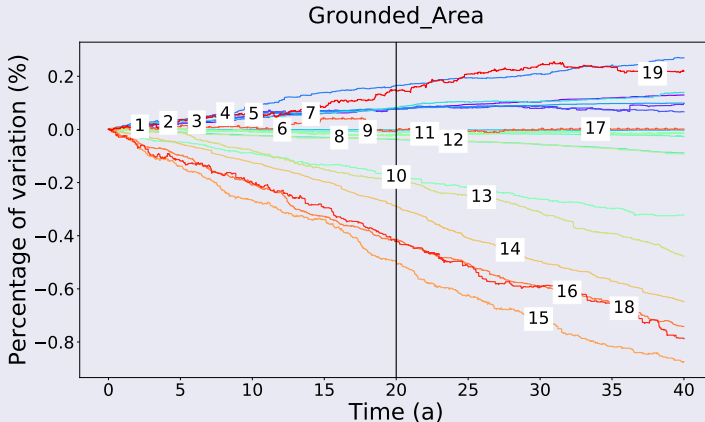


+5°C



# What is the basin initial state?

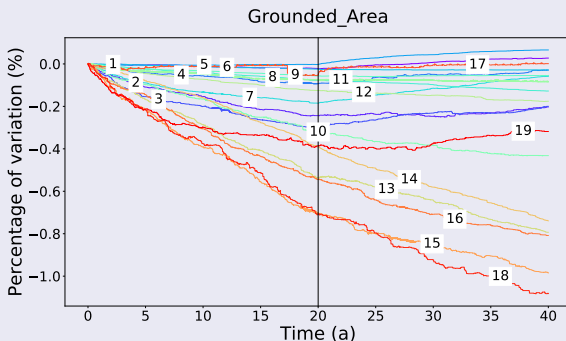
Reference case : No perturbation



Only the warmer cavities have a retreat of the grounding line  
(Basin 13 to 16 have a too strong melting)

Which Basin is the most impacted by a small perturbation?

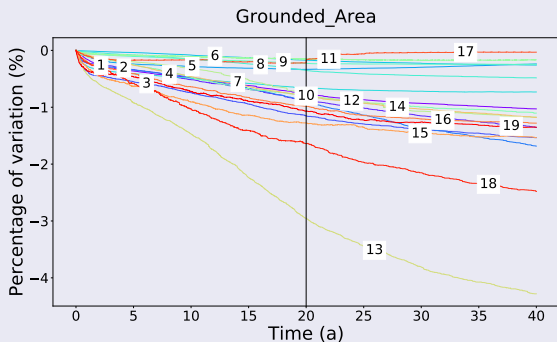
+0.5 °C



Retreat of **most** grounding lines which move forward if we remove the perturbation  
(Basin 13 to 16 have a too strong melting)

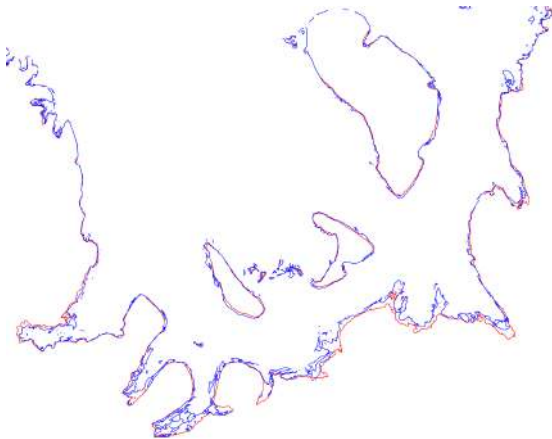
Which Basin is the most impacted by a strong perturbation?

+5 °C



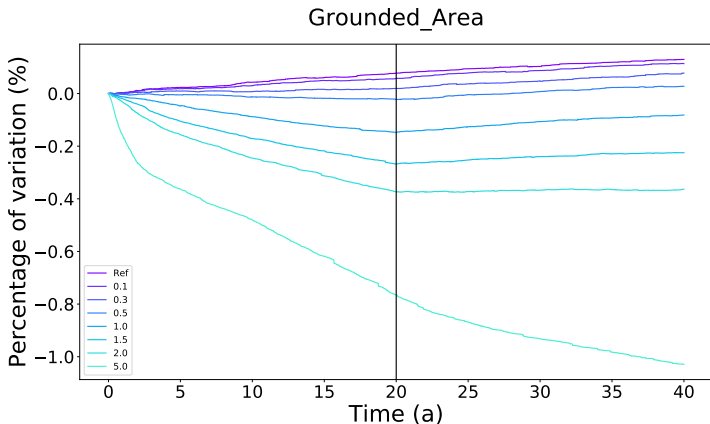
Retreat of all grounding lines. Only few basins stop retreating if we remove the perturbation  
(Basin 13 to 16 have a too strong melting)

# The cold cavities case : Ronne-Filchner Basin



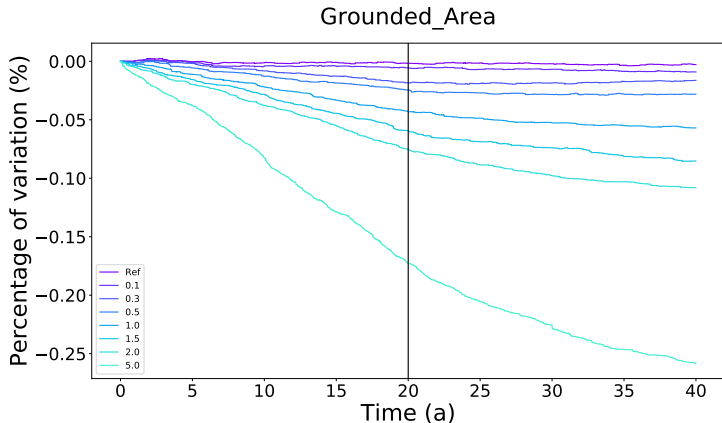
The GL is moving backward with a sufficient perturbation

# The cold cavities case : Ronnie-Filcher Basin



Remove the perturbation → advance again (except with +5.0°C)

## Aymery Basin



Removing the perturbation don't change the direction of the slope for small perturbation

The retreat seems irreversible



## Current work :

- New parameter for the box model
- Change the temperature of the boxmodel (colder cavity on WAIS)
- Continue the work to define the stability state of each basin
- Create longer perturbation (200 a)

# Take Away Message

- Cold cavities as Ronne-Filchner are really stable
- Some basins (Aymery) considered as cold cavities seems to be sensible to a small perturbations and an irreversible retreat.
- Huge perturbation (+5°C) seems to be irreversible on all basins

# Acknowledgement

All the simulation have been run on the CINES supercomputer.

