



NUMERICAL MODELING OF AIR FLOWS IN AN UNDERGROUND CAVITY CONNECTED TO THE SURFACE BY A SHAFT

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Geophysical Introduction: Framing Our Study

MATHEMATICAL MODEL FOR NATURAL CONVECTION

Application to the Barcq cavity

CONCLUSION AND PERSPECTIVES

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- Morphology of an underground cavity¹
 - * Dug in the 19th century to extract chalk,
 - * Approximately 120,000 in the Normandy region,



¹C. Fauchard, P. Pothérat, P. Côte, and M. Mudet. Détection de cavités souterraines par méthodes géophysiques. Guide technique- Laboratoire central des ponts et chaussées, 2004.

- * Shaft filled with heterogeneous materials (planks, rocks, debris),
- * Climate change: acceleration of collapses.





well blocked by rocks (view from inside the underground cavity) - Collapse under a house.

- Presence of multiple detection methods:
 - * Microgravimetry, geological radar, electrical methods, seismic methods,
 - * Each method has its own advantages and disadvantages.
- Search for a flexible method:
 - * Thermal camera carried by drone,
 - * A cost-effective and high-yield method.



Drone DJI M600 Pro + Thermal camera²

²ENDSUM-Rouen Team, Cerema

Objective: Characterize heat transfer between the cavities and the atmosphere; evaluate the potential of thermal infrared observation.





winter

summer

Surface temperatures observed by airplane using a thermal camera showing the thermal signature of two invisible wells, with a contrast between 2 and 4 degrees³

³Fauchard, 2004, Pothérat, 2000

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Concepts of natural convection

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Forging the numerical solutions of progressively complex PDEs using FreeFem $++^4$ to craft a model of an underground cavity.





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• Heat equation:

$$\begin{split} &\frac{\partial T}{\partial t} - K\Delta T = f \text{ in } \Omega, \\ &T(t=0) = T_0, \\ &K \cdot \frac{\partial T}{\partial n} + \alpha \cdot (T-T_e) = 0 \text{ on } \Gamma_2 \cup \Gamma_3, \\ &T = T_e \text{ sur } \Gamma_1 \cup \Gamma_4. \end{split}$$



Image: A mathematical states and a mathem

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⁵Georges Sadaka, Aina Rakotondrandisa, Pierre-Henri Tournier, Francky Luddens, Corentin Lothode, and Ionut Danaila. Parallel finite-element codes for the simulation of two-dimensional and three-dimensional solid-liquid phase-change systems with natural convection. Computer Physics Communications, 257:107492, 2020.

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• Mathematical validation of methods, spatial convergence using the Burggraf solution (Velocity: P1b, Pressure: P1, Temperature: P2).



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• Generation of the 3D mesh of the Barcq ⁶ underground cavity:



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```
int[int] labs = [0];
meshL ThL = extract(ThSBarc, label=labs);
// compute the barycenter of the meshL ThL
real bx=int1d(ThL)(x)/ThL.measure;
real by=int1d(ThL)(y)/ThL.measure;
meshL ThLup = movemeshL(ThL,transfo=[(x-bx)*.97+bx,(y-by)*.97+by,bz+2.],region=labS);
meshL ThLmiddle = ThL + ThLup;
include "buildmeshS.idp"
meshS Thcylmiddleup = buildmeshSLap(ThLmiddle,1);
meshS Thcyldown = buildmeshSLap(ThL,1);
meshS ThSfinal = Thcyldown + Thcylmiddleup + ThSBarc;
```







- Concepts about the Rayleigh number: $\mathcal{R}a = \frac{g\beta H^3 \delta T}{\nu \alpha}$
 - * $g, \beta, \nu, \alpha \longrightarrow$ Constants (gravitational acceleration, thermal expansion coefficient, viscosity, thermal diffusivity),
 - * $\delta T \longrightarrow$ Low temperature difference,
 - $* \ H^3 \longrightarrow$ volume of the cavity,
- Example of Rayleigh:

* $\mathcal{R}a = 10^9 \iff \delta T = 1^\circ$ et $H^3 = 10m^3$

• Following simulations carried out in non-dimensional case.

Solvers used from the ${\tt PETSc}^7$ library ((Portable, Extensible Toolkit for Scientific Computation)

- Direct solver used for the 2D case:
 "-pc_type lu -ksp_type preonly",
- For the 3D problem, we used the following set of parameters: "-ksp_converged_reason -pc_type asm -pc_asm_overlap 1 -ksp_pc_side left -ksp_type gmres -ksp_gmres_restart 50 -ksp_max_it 100 -ksp_atol 1e-5 -sub_pc_type lu -sub_pc_factor_mat_solver_type mumps -ksp_rtol 1e-6".

⁷https://www.mcs.anl.gov/petsc/

2D Natural convection with $Ra = 10^9$.

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3D Natural convection with $Ra = 10^8$.

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CONCLUSION AND PERSPECTIVES

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Conclusion :

- * The geological context in the Normandy region obstructs the discovery of cavities. The thermal infrared method shows great potential for overcoming these challenges.
- * Simulating natural convection within the cavity using FreeFem++ .
- * Observing the initiation of natural convection, as well as changes in heat flux and the quantity of convection cells, based on the Rayleigh number.

Conclusion :

- * The geological context in the Normandy region obstructs the discovery of cavities. The thermal infrared method shows great potential for overcoming these challenges.
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Perspectives :

- * The 3D case requires improvement in terms of the solver.
- * Integration of geophysical parameters into the simulation for enhanced realism.
- Incorporating data from thermocouples and radiation sensors to validate and compare our simulation results with actual parameters.

CONCLUSION AND PERSPECTIVES



Point cloud, visible, and thermal images of the Goderville cavity (Normandy).



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Conclusion and perspectives





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Thank you for your attention.

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