Grounding Zone mapping in Antarctica using radar interferometry

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Ice-sheet melt contributes to sea-level rise (SLR)

=> Still a lot of uncertainties in projecting future SLR



Probability Distribution functions for a +2°C temperature scenario (blue) and +5°C temperature scenario (red) temperature scenarios for the combined ice sheet SLR contributions at (A) 2100 and (B) 2300. Bamber et al., 2019



Grounding line (GL) : a crucial feature

Introduction

To know accurately GL position:

- To constrain numerical models Grounded ice = basal friction Floating ice = zero friction
- > To detect retreat and advances of glaciers
- To compute ice-sheet mass balance Ice thickness is much lower downstream of the GL





Sentinel-1: a higher temporal resolution

Double difference interferometry = current state of the art way

Traditional approach (few available acquisitions): → A grounding line

Today (ongoing observations):

 \rightarrow A grounding zone (short-term grounding line migration)



Objectives/Research questions

- Provide an update to grounding line position in Antarctica
- What is the range of the short-term variations of the grounding line?
- How to explain these variations?
- What is the long-term variation of grounding line position taking into account these new data?

Study Area

Grounding line position detection

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SAR
$$\phi = \frac{4\pi}{\lambda}r_1 + \phi_{ground} + \phi_{noise} [2\pi]$$

SAR

$$\phi = \frac{4\pi}{\lambda} r_1 + \phi_{ground} + \phi_{noise} [2\pi]$$

unknown

SAR
$$\phi = \frac{4\pi}{\lambda}r_1 + \phi_{ground} + \phi_{noise} [2\pi]$$

InSAR
$$\Delta \phi = \frac{4\pi}{\lambda} \left(r_1 - r_2 + \phi_{ground_1} - \phi_{ground_2} + \phi_{noise_1} - \phi_{noise_2} \right) [2\pi]$$

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SAR
$$\phi = \frac{4\pi}{\lambda}r_1 + \phi_{ground} + \phi_{noise} [2\pi]$$

InSAR
$$\Delta \phi = \frac{4\pi}{\lambda} \left(r_1 - r_2 + \phi_{noise_1} - \phi_{noise_2} \right) [2\pi]$$

$$\Delta \phi = \Delta \phi_{atmosphere} + \Delta \phi_{imaging geometry} + \Delta \phi_{topography} + \Delta \phi_{surface deformation}$$

$$\Delta \phi_{glacier flow motion} \qquad \Delta \phi_{tidal motion}$$

SAR
$$\phi = \frac{4\pi}{\lambda}r_1 + \phi_{ground} + \phi_{noise} [2\pi]$$

InSAR
$$\Delta \phi = \frac{4\pi}{\lambda} \left(r_1 - r_2 + \phi_{ground_1} - \phi_{ground_2} + \phi_{noise_1} - \phi_{noise_2} \right) [2\pi]$$

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Double difference interferometry

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Grounding line: the upstream limit of detection of vertical motion

DInSAR image

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Grounding line: the upstream limit of detection of vertical motion

DInSAR image

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Grounding Zone Width

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Influence of the maximum of tidal displacement

Sentinel-1 2017 (Track099) GL migration along the center flow line of Southern part of Vanderford Glacier compared with the maximum of tide elevations computed with tide model CAT2008A (Padman et al,, 2002)

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Influence of the maximum of tide elevation

Sentinel-1 2017 (Track099) GL migration along the center flow line of Southern part of Vanderford Glacier compared with the maximum of tide elevations computed with tide model CAT2008A (Padman et al,, 2002) MDIS - October 2019

0,1

0,2

0,3

0,4

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Influence of the bed topography

2017 Sentinel-1 Grounding line colored according to the first date of acquisition

Grounding line migration compared to the bed topography model from Morlighem, 2019 (in review)).

Comparison with previous years

Grounding lines mapped for the first time over 250 km of coast

=> Position with GL used by the model was not suitable

Bed topography model from Morlighem, 2019 (in review)

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Slight advance of grounding lines between 1996 and 2017

Advance of 4 km near Lambert Glacier Along a prograde bed

Strong retreat of grounding lines between 1996 and 2017

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Retreat of 20 km near Vanderford Glacier Along a retrograde bed

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Conclusion

Short-term variations

Moving position of the grounding line (variations from 0.4 km to 14.3 km) \Rightarrow But not yet implemented in numerical models

Long-term variations

- Areas where no grounding lines were mapped before : new information for numerical models
- Short-term migration has to be taken into account
- Huge retreat in some areas and slight advances in others

> To explain short-term variations

Parameters involved in grounding line migration:

- Bed topography
- Tide elevation: The tidal flushing may play a role (further investigations needed) The tide cycle also may play a role (further investigations needed)

Comparison with predicted grounding line migration:

the bed should have visco-elastic properties (Sayag et al., 2017)

Perspective

- > Expansion of the Grounding Zone measurement to the entire coastline of Antarctica
- > Quantitative evaluation of Grounding Line migration (short and long term) for more glaciers

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Conclusion

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Thank you for your attention !

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Conclusion

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Implication for the bed stiffness

Model for a hard bed: Thomas and Bentley, 1978

Predicted migration:
$$\dot{a} = \frac{\dot{h}_{tide} \frac{\rho_{W}}{\rho_{i}}}{\alpha - \beta \frac{1 - \rho_{W}}{\rho_{i}}}$$

	Vanderford Glacier S	Vanderford Glacier N	Anzac Glacier
Migration for a tide rise of 1 m (m) (Thomas and Bentley, 1978)	-79	-93	-97
Oberved migration landward (m)	-4557	-690	-900
Oberved migration seaward (m)	4159	6684	1034

=> Visco-elastic properties of the bed

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<u>Figure</u> 11 Localization of tide model computation a) around Publications Ice Shelf b) around Vanderford glacier. The background is a velocity map produced by Rignot's group [Mouginot et al., 2019 (in review)]

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Figure 7 Comparison between the CSK DInSAR recorded vertical differential tidal displacements along the main trunk of Pine Glacier, West Antarctica and the corresponding estimates from the CATS2.01 tidal model at a center location of 73.761629 South and 104.803 West (Padman et al., 2002).

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