

LAST ADVANCES OF PFEM FOR COUPLED PROBLEMS

PRESENTED BY: ASST. PROF. ALESANDRO FRANCI

Professor Franci started the talk by giving a general overview of PFEM as a branch of FEM methods. He explained the main differences from the general FEM method and its advantages, this in my view was important in order to arouse the attention of the listeners, whom most of them were students. His tone was also indicative of his passion on the subject matter which also made his presentation interesting.

After giving a brief introduction, he dived into PFEM's application for coupled problems, in some of his slides he used images and videos of the simulations they made in order to better address some of his points, and i think it was a very effective way of keeping the audience hooked to his presentation and at the same time making us understand what he was presenting. In one of his videos he showed results of the simulation of the 1963 Vajont dam disaster, and being Italian his tone became a bit emotional which i think led to an emotional connection with the audience but at the end it was about how they successfully modelled a real life event using PFEM.

The other thing he did very well was to notice that the majority of his audience were students, and as such the way he explained and presented some of his points was to make sure that he can arouse interest in some students who might want to pursue the same subject matter. When ever he wasn't looking at the slides, he maintained an eye contact with the audience and often used hand gestures in emphasizing some of the points which i think made him to connect more with the audience.

His presentation was also well structured and coherent which made it easy for him to connect points as he moved from one slide to another. Also he kept the slides so simple and well detailed, he didn't use fancy colours or formats, which might end up destructing the audience from the main purpose of the presentation. Although in some cases i feel too many equations were presented and at the same time not well explained.

In conclusion, i can say that his presentation was well done. He tried to explain everything as eloquently as he can, keeping it simple and easy to follow up. He managed to present a difficult topic in a simple way, making it interesting for those who would like to venture into this subject.