Geophysical Research Abstracts, Vol. 8, 05531, 2006 SRef-ID: 1607-7962/gra/EGU06-A-05531 © European Geosciences Union 2006



## A model including compressible firn applied to crater glacier flow simulation

T. Zwinger (1), O. Gagliardini (2,1) and R. Greve (3)

(1) CSC-Scientific Computing Ltd., Finland, (2) LGGE CNRS UJF-Grenoble I, France, (3) Institute of Low Temperature Science, Hokkaido University, Japan.
(thomas.zwinger@csc.fi/Fax : +358 9 457 2302)

Large parts of cold glaciers may consist of firn rather than pure ice. As the shear fluidity as well as compressibility of firn show a strong dependency on the ice volume fraction, this altered rheology should be taken into account. We present a fully threedimensional, thermo-mechanical model for glacier dynamics accounting for firn and its transition to ice. The numerical implementation is based on the Finite Element package Elmer and solves simultaneously the compressible Stokes-flow problem with non-Newtonian isotropic rheology, the heat transfer equation and – if applied prognostically – the evolution of the ice volume fraction. Additionally, a three-dimensional model for the dating of firn/ice is applied. Due to the hyperbolic (advection dominated) nature of the latter two problems, a discontinuous Galerkin method has been adopted for their numerical solution.

The model is applied to the Gorshkov crater glacier at Ushkovsky volcano, Kamchatka; the only crater glacier for which the bedrock topography has been determined so far. As a large part of the glacier's volume consists of firn, comparison of profiles for the temperature distribution as well as the age/depth relation between an incompressible and the presented model shall demonstrate the impact of the altered rheology. The results will also be compared to measured values from boreholes.