Critical review of the presentation: Recent advances in large scale FE-solvers, Santiago Badia 15/11/16 Karin Andersson

To present topic this complex it is important to have an interesting and pedagogic presentation. Overall this is something I think Badia manage to do, which was shown afterwards by getting lots of questions from an interested and alert audience.

Disposition and response to subject

Some things that Badian could have done better was the introduction. He barely presented him self or the topic which could have left the audience confused. Even though it was possible to read about the presentation and the speaker before it is always a good idea to have a short introduction so that everyone is on the same page. Instead he started the presentation with an agenda and explained the importance of every part to make it easier to understand the topic. This was very pedagogic but still a bit confusing as the topic yet hadn't been presented properly. Then he explained the problem and aim with his research and this he did very informative and structured and finally it maked sense what the presentation was about. He displayed the method in a good way, step-by-step, with easy colour combinations followed with concrete examples. The presentation ended in the same way it started, hasty. Though it can be good to end in the same way as starting, this was not a good example of a that.

Presentation tools

Badian used a power point-presentation to demonstrate his project. For this topic, it was probably the most convenient presentation tool to use as it is easy to follow. The layout of the slides where plain and uncomplicated, which is good when presenting such difficult subject because it helps the listener to focus on the advanced research instead of on the presentation. Every page contained a headline and before a new chapter there was a chapter page. This was good to help the audience keep up with what he talked about. Some slides had a lot of text which was pretty small a just by-clicked pretty fast. These pages he could have skipped as they didn't contribute anything to the presentation but rather made it worse. However, the most important words were highlighted with orange which made it easier to follow the important parts of the presentation. Step-by-step lists was also encircled by a box which indicated that it was extra important. All pictures in the presentation was of high relevance and were also explained thoroughly. Together with the power point Badian also used a clicker to change slides in the presentation and this contributed to a good flow.

Performance

The probably most important thing with a presentation is to keep the audience interested and to do that it is important to keep good contact with them. This is something Badian maintained by talking with his body against the listeners and also by being present during the whole presentation. It was obvious that he knew the topic very well and also new his presentation. Still there where a few things he could have improved. First of all, he moved to much and spoke very fast. This gives a nervous impression and it feels a bit tense. Secondly, he didn't seem to know what time it was and had to hurry through the end of the presentation. But besides that he had a good flow and got good response from the audience.