

Critical review of the seminar  
“Reactive transport: numerical issues and challenges” by Jesus Carrera  
*Mario Alberto Mendez Soto*

The lecturer started the seminar by giving some examples of transport phenomena (specifically the case of crystal growth in a Mexican mine), which allowed the audience to familiarize right away with real applications of the modelling approach to be explained.

Even though an outline of the contents was presented, time issues forced the lecturer to skip some topics and go over others too fast. As a result, some of the ideas were not effectively transmitted to the listeners.

It is worth mentioning that the speaker structured the presentation in such a way that the topics were introduced in order of complexity, i.e. the speaker initially explained some basic concepts and equations, and only then moved to the main idea of the modelling procedure and the numerics involved in the method. This adaptation, presuming no previous knowledge of the topic, made his ideas clearer for those unfamiliar with the field.

Another positive feature of the speaker was his body language and space use throughout the presentation. Dr. Carrera constantly moved around to keep the audience focused and included gestures to truly impact the audience and make his ideas more understandable. Furthermore, the expressiveness of his voice successfully kept the presentation vibrant and interesting, which in addition with his enthusiasm for the field, made the audience feel comfortable while listening and making questions afterwards.

In conclusion and regardless of the very mathematical nature of the seminar, the speaker successfully combined his enthusiasm and expertise to deliver a very fascinating presentation which resulted on several students approaching the speaker at the end of the seminar to address additional questions and discuss further related topics.