Interactive comment on “Derivation of a numerical solution of the 3D coupled velocity field for an ice sheet – ice shelf system, incorporating both full and approximate stress solutions” by T. J. Reerink et al.

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This paper has been an interesting test case for Geoscientific Model Development, which seeks to publish modelling science in a more complete way than has previously been possible. As such it was not immediately clear whether a paper which explored various numerical approaches in a welcome level of detail, but provided no numerical calculations to underpin the approaches would be acceptable.

The paper submitted included an interesting proposal for how to solve the whole ice
shelf system, but the reviewers were unconvinced due to a lack of any demonstration in the paper that the methods could produce good solutions in either idealised test-cases or real-world applications. Since it will take some time for the authors to revise their manuscript to include the required working illustrations of the method (at least including test-cases), I have asked them to make a fresh submission to GMDD at a later date.

Interactive comment on Geosci. Model Dev. Discuss., 2, 81, 2009.