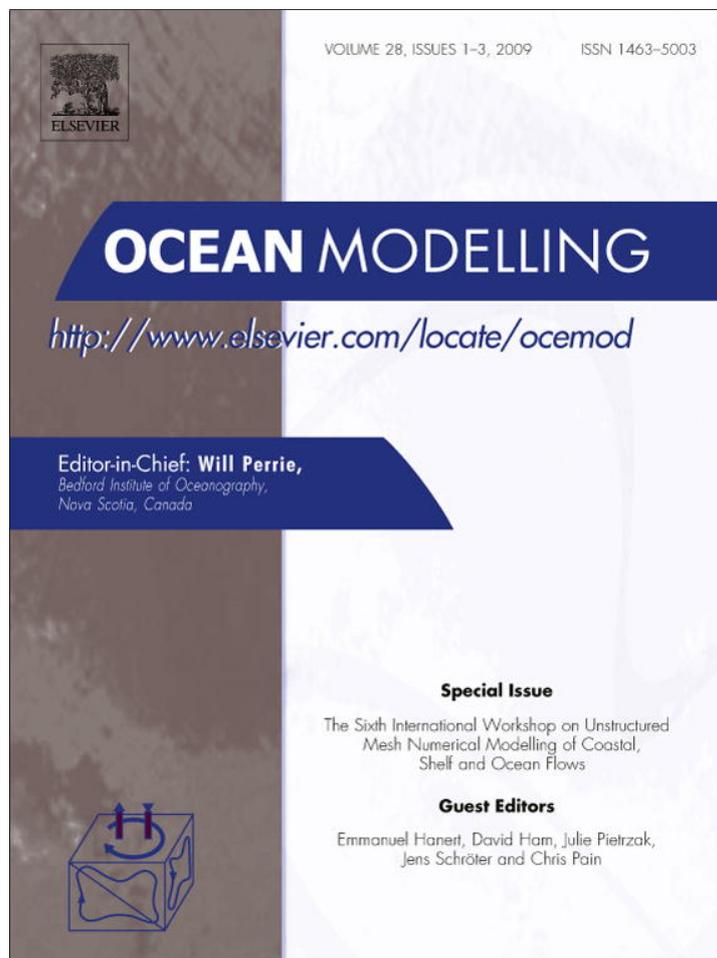


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Editorial

Special Issue: The sixth international workshop on unstructured mesh numerical modelling of coastal, shelf and ocean flows. Imperial College London, September 19–21, 2007

The advantages of unstructured meshes in the development of ocean models in resolving phenomena at a wide range of scales and in representing complex coastlines and bathymetry has led to their adoption by an increasing number of researchers in the field of ocean simulation. This volume contains 16 papers covering themes raised at the workshop held in London from 19 to 21 September 2007. It is a sign of the growing maturity of many of the unstructured mesh models that the papers detailing new numerical advances and the complex task of validating models are joined in this issue by a number of articles describing the application of unstructured mesh ocean models to the simulation of complex coastal and shelf phenomena.

The series of international workshops on unstructured mesh methods for ocean, coastal and shelf flows has become an established annual event attracting steadily increasing participation from developers and users of the latest generation of finite element and finite volume ocean models. Since its inception in Louvain-la-Neuve in 2002, the workshop has been held in Delft, Toulouse, Bremerhaven, Miami, London and Halifax (Nova Scotia). In 2009, the series will return to its origins in Louvain-la-Neuve.¹ The workshop is characterised by its open and informal nature with time available for in-depth discussions of the sort which are difficult to accommodate at the larger conferences. Participation in the London workshop was further broadened by the audio streaming of all of the presentations live over the internet. This enabled colleagues from both sides of the Atlantic who were unable to attend the event to hear talks and engage in the discussions. We were particularly glad that it enabled Professor Peter Killworth to participate in much of the workshop.

In the unstructured mesh ocean modelling community, as in all the fields of endeavour in which he was engaged, Peter Killworth was held in very high regard. Under his editorship, Ocean Modelling has become the publication of choice for this field. His support for the workshop by three times agreeing to publish special issues containing papers from these meetings is greatly appreciated. Peter was also directly involved in the development of unstructured adaptive mesh ocean models as principle investigator for the Southampton component of the Imperial College Ocean Model consortium. In this role, his knowledge of ocean modelling meth-

ods and physical and mathematical insights were invaluable in helping to develop some of the new unstructured mesh models that promise to become more prominent over the coming years and contribute to his great legacy.

Peter was much more than a world-class oceanographer. He had a long interest in sociology and co-authored 27 papers on social networks. About 30 years ago, he developed a number of video games that have now become classics. Finally, on top of all that, he also was a keen amateur magician. His passing was a great loss to our community. He was the wizard of Ocean Modelling and we miss his magic.

In addition to Peter's support, we would like to acknowledge the contributions of the authors and reviewers of the papers in this volume and to thank the new editor-in-chief of Ocean Modelling, Dr. Will Perrie for his support. David Ham and Christopher Pain acknowledge the support of the Natural Environment Research Council [NERC research grant reference NE/C52101X/1].

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¹ Workshop website: <http://www.uclouvain.be/ummm2009/>.