



# Multi-phase flows Modelling and Simulation

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# Numerical Tools & Facilities



### In-house Computational Codes

- FV Code <u>T-FlowS</u>
  - ✓ Fully unstructured
  - ✓ Incompressible
  - ✓ DNS, LES, URANS, Hybrid LES-RANS
- FE Code <u>*P-Track*</u>
  - ✓ Particle tracking
  - ✓ Particle Cloud tracking
- FD Code <u>NSF</u>
  - ✓ Block-structured
  - ✓ Compressible and Incompressible
  - ✓ DNS, LES
  - ✓ Multiphase, 1-, 2-, 4-way coupling

### **Open Source Codes**

- Open-Foam
  - Moving Grids
  - Compressible

# **Computational Facilities**

- Cluster <u>Iron</u>
  - ✓ 64 cores
  - ✓ 128 GB Ram
- Cluster <u>TU Berlin</u>
  - ✓ 544 cores
  - ✓ 8700 GB Ram
- Access on
  - ✓ ENEA Supercomputing Facilities, Cineca Fermi in Italy
  - ✓ HLRS, HLRN, LRZ, in Germany



### **Multi-phase flows**



### Particle Tracking

✓ Single Particle tracking

**Cloud Particle tracking** 

$$m_{p}\frac{d\vec{v}}{dt} = \vec{F}_{D} = -\frac{1}{8}\pi d_{p}^{2}\rho_{f}C_{D}(\vec{u} - \vec{v})|\vec{u} - \vec{v}|$$

- Hypotesis: spherical, non-rotating, non-reacting
- $\begin{cases} \frac{d\langle v_i \rangle}{dt} = -\frac{3}{4d_p} \frac{\rho_f}{\rho_p} C_D(\langle u_i \rangle \langle v_i \rangle) | \langle \vec{u} \rangle \langle \vec{v} \rangle | \\ \langle x_i(t) \rangle = \int_0^t \langle v_i(t) \rangle dt + \langle x_i(0) \rangle \end{cases}$ Gaussian distribution of particles within each cloud  $G_D = \frac{24}{\text{Re}_p} (1 + 0.15 \text{Re}_p^{0.687}) \quad \text{(Shiller and Naumann, 1933)}$



# Multi-phase flows



### Particle Wall Interaction

- ✓ Deposit Model: Thornton and Ning (1998) now extended to take in account temperature effects
  - Baseline: Elastic-plastic adhesion (based on impact mechanics) and Temperature-based adhesion (critical viscosity statistical model)
  - Advanced: Elastic-plastic oblique adhesion and Temperature-based elastic-plastic adhesion
- ✓ Erosion model: Tabakoff (1979)
  - Baseline: Erosion on ductile materials
  - Advanced: Rain erosion of wind turbine blades
  - An in-house Multiphase Solver and Adaptive-mesh Interface (MaSAI) was developed to account for the change in target body geometry during erosion/depositon processes
- Resuspension: Guingo and Minier (2008)
  - Particle lift: FL>Fa
  - Particle slip: FD>ks(Fa-FL)
  - Paricle roll: Mrot>Mres





### Prediction of deposit formation in biomass fed boilers

### PON-PIBE (Piattaforma Integrata Bioreflui e Energia) Project

Particle tracking approach: original PCT Adhesion model: temperature-based (critical viscosity)



# Furnace for panela production (International Cooperation Perù)

Particle tracking approach: modified (local velocity) PCT Adhesion model: temperature-based (critical viscosity)







# Prediction of erosion in turbomachinery applications

### Particle erosion af a centrifugal fan (Flakt-Woods)

Flow solver: U-RANS Particle tracking approach: PCT Erosion model: semi-empirical (Tabakoff)

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# Multi-physics flows in Turbomachinery applications

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### Blade cooling – Overview







### Film cooling



Multiphase flow and Blade temperature distribution (w and w/o film cooling:

- ✓ First stage vane blade of General Electric Energy Efficient Engine (E<sup>3</sup>)
- ✓ Block structured grid, Compressible RANS Open FOAM
- ✓ Expression of Interest from <u>GE Oil & Gas</u>, Included in the <u>JETLAG MSCA-ITN project</u>







Leading edge impingement cooling on a cylindrical surface:

- ✓ Cartesian grid, Compressible DNS NSF code
- ✓ Expression of Interest from <u>GE Oil & Gas</u>, Included in the <u>JETLAG MSCA-ITN project</u>



Nusselt fluctuation on the impinging wall





Rib turbulators

## Rib turbulators

- ✓ Cartesian grid, LES T-FlowS code
- ✓ Development of rotation sensitized RANS model
- ✓ Expression of Interest from <u>GE Oil & Gas</u>, cooperation with K. Hanjalic, TU Delft





Streamwise velocity profile at different abscissa. Comparison between corrected and uncorrected model





Blade pitting prediction

- ✓ Cartesian grid, U-RANS T-FlowS/Commercial code
- ✓ <u>GE Oil & Gas</u>, cooperation with K. Hanjalic, TU Delft





Qualitative comparison between actual and simulated eroded blade (pressure side)





Qualitative comparison between actual and simulated eroded blade (suction side)







# **Energy Systems simulations**

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**Carbon Capture and Storage** 

## Calcium Looping in a blast furnace steel mill





Air to BF Steam

SH

![](_page_14_Figure_7.jpeg)

	<u>→</u>				
eCO2	0	2.7	5.5	11	Inf.
0.2	3012	3012	3012	3012	3012
0.7	2595	2595	2595	2595	2595
1.4	2405	2378	2359	2359	2359
2.1	2329	2212	2093	2037	2037
2.7	2285	2153	1983	1749	1698

### Non-decarbonized steel mill: ~ 6200 ton/year

![](_page_15_Picture_0.jpeg)

### **Ocean Energy**

![](_page_15_Picture_2.jpeg)

![](_page_15_Figure_3.jpeg)

✓ WEC-Sim code <u>PAR –ENEA, PoliTo</u>

![](_page_15_Picture_5.jpeg)

![](_page_15_Figure_6.jpeg)

![](_page_16_Picture_0.jpeg)

### **Biomass Gasification**

# Catalyzers for tar reforming

# Plant-assisted Fitoremediation

 $\checkmark\,$  Experimental test-rig, cooperation with RESET s.r.l., CNR and ISPRA

![](_page_16_Figure_6.jpeg)

#### Ni-Mayenite catalyzer

![](_page_16_Picture_8.jpeg)

![](_page_16_Figure_9.jpeg)

#### Mayenite structure

![](_page_16_Picture_11.jpeg)

![](_page_17_Picture_0.jpeg)

![](_page_17_Picture_2.jpeg)

# Catalyzers for tar reforming

# Plant-assisted Fitoremediation

✓ Experimental test-rig, cooperation with RESET s.r.l., CNR and ISPRA

![](_page_17_Figure_6.jpeg)

![](_page_18_Picture_0.jpeg)

<u>DMFCs</u> are liquid powered fuel cells aiming to overcome the typical fuel storage issues associated with hydrogen fuel cells.

### Main experimental research topics :

- Electrochemical characterization of single DMFCs and stacks (from mW up to 1.5 kW);
- Evaluation of the main DMFC sources of loss (fuel cross-over, CO<sub>2</sub> channels clogging);
- Evaluation of the temporary and permanent degradation;
- Design of hybrid energy systems for small power size in stand alone applications

**DMFC1.** 200 mW DMFC under PIV analysis and VI curve, pressure and temperature recording.

![](_page_18_Picture_9.jpeg)

![](_page_18_Figure_10.jpeg)

**DMFC2.** Velocity field (PIV result) around a  $CO_2$  bubble in the anode channel at low Re (<8) and high current density.

![](_page_18_Picture_12.jpeg)

![](_page_18_Picture_13.jpeg)

![](_page_18_Picture_14.jpeg)

![](_page_19_Picture_0.jpeg)

![](_page_19_Picture_2.jpeg)

### Projects:

- Ecocell, 2013-2014. Development of a test rig for a 120 W DMFC.
  - a. Assembly and test of single DMFC
  - b. Assembly of the test bench and test of a commercial short stack
- Stealth Energy, 2015-2016. Design of a 1.3 kW DMFC stack and assembly of a test bench for higher power.
- Far Seas, 2016-2017. Design of a DMFC system for an *AIP* (Air Indepndent Propulsion).
  - a. Experimental tests measuring the permanent degradation over *800 h* of functioning on a commercial *1 kW* stack.
  - b. Sizing of a DMFC system for a 240 kW.

![](_page_19_Picture_11.jpeg)

**DMFC4.** *Passive DMFC under high current density.* 

![](_page_19_Picture_13.jpeg)

DMFC5. Active DMFC assembly

![](_page_19_Picture_15.jpeg)

DMFC6. 120 W DMFC stack under test

![](_page_19_Picture_17.jpeg)

**DMFC7.** Test rig for a 1.5 kW DMFC system for 800 h of permanent degradation test

![](_page_20_Picture_0.jpeg)

![](_page_20_Picture_2.jpeg)

Routine, short circuit and thermal runaway tests on LiFePo batteries

✓ Experimental test-rig, cooperation with Fincantieri and Marina Militare

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![](_page_20_Figure_6.jpeg)

![](_page_20_Picture_7.jpeg)

![](_page_20_Picture_8.jpeg)

![](_page_21_Picture_0.jpeg)

### **Environmental studies**

![](_page_21_Picture_2.jpeg)

Use of recycled canvas from exhaust tyres for dispersed oil absorption

✓ Experimental analysis, with Ecoflora 2 and Regione Lazio

![](_page_21_Picture_5.jpeg)

Recycled Fluff

![](_page_21_Picture_7.jpeg)

Absorption capability

![](_page_21_Picture_9.jpeg)

Intermediate scale

![](_page_21_Picture_11.jpeg)

![](_page_21_Picture_12.jpeg)

![](_page_21_Picture_13.jpeg)

![](_page_21_Picture_14.jpeg)

![](_page_21_Picture_15.jpeg)

![](_page_21_Picture_16.jpeg)