

Minutes of the Steering Committee meeting

11 March, 2022

Teleconference: Zoom

SC members present:

Renato Vacondio, University of Parma, Italy (Chair)
Stefano Sibilla, University of Pavia, Italy (Secretary)
Ben Rogers, University of Manchester, UK (Vice chair)
Alex Crespo, University of Vigo, Spain (Webmaster) (only on June 24th)
Xiangyu Hu, Technical University of Munich, Germany (Newsletter editor)
Angelo Tafuni, New Jersey Institute of Technology, USA (new Webmaster)
Nathan Quinlan, NUI Galway, Ireland
Matthieu de Leffe, Nextflow Software, France
Salvatore Marrone, CNR-INM, Italy
Antonio Souto-Iglesias, Universidad Politecnica de Madrid, Spain
Abbas Khayyer, Kyoto University, Japan
Tom De Vuyst, University of Hertfordshire, UK

Apologies:

David Le Touzé, Ecole Centrale de Nantes, France
Pierre Sabrowski, Dive Solutions, Berlin, Germany

Also present:

Giuseppe Bilotta, INGV, Italy
Georgios Fourtakas, University of Manchester, UK
Fei Xu, Northwestern Polytechnical University, Xi'an, Shaanxi, China

1. Minutes and Actions from previous SC meeting

Action 1: Send an email to SPH research groups in the US to organize an online meeting

By: Vacondio

Deadline: September 2021

Status: Done (see following point 4)

Action 2: Finalize the rubric for the abstract review process in the part on industrial applications

By: Crespo, DeLeffe, Sabrowski

Deadline: Before the abstract selection phase of Catania 2022 Workshops

Status: The rubric has been finalized and is in use at present for the abstract selection of the Catania Workshop. Its usefulness will be discussed once again during the SC in Catania.

Action 3: Announce the extension of the JJM Prize deadline to the Newsletter mailing list & social media

By: Vacondio, Hu, Tafuni

Deadline: After October SC meeting

Status: Done

- Action 4:** invite Tom De Vuyst to join SC and inform other candidates on the outcome of the selection
By: Vacondio
Deadline: After October SC meeting
Status: Done
- Action 7:** Contact Authors of Catania 2022 relevant papers to find volunteers for the ERCOFTAC Bulletin contributions
By: Rogers
Deadline: Before Catania 2022 Workshop
Status: Giuseppe Bilotta will send to Ben Rogers a list of the full papers accepted for Catania 2022 Workshop to start a first selection of Authors to be contacted
- Action 8:** Start booking hotels and venue for Rhodes 2023 Workshop
By: Fourtakas
Deadline: end 2021
Status: The final contract with the Hotel must be checked: if it is approved, George Fourtakas will proceed with the booking
- Action 9:** Survey possible availability to organize Spheric Workshop in 2024
By: Hu, Vacondio, Souto-Iglesias
Deadline: next SC meeting
Status: Open issue. The survey will be made during Catania 2022 Workshop
- Action 11:** prepare the winter issue of the Newsletter
By: Hu
Deadline: January/February 2022
Status: Done
- Action 12:** process all pending requests of benchmark cases, update the website with new approved benchmark cases.
By: Marrone
Deadline: next SC meeting
Status: Done

2. Final decision on Catania 2022 workshop and update on the organization

Giuseppe Bilotta feels that the situation in June will be good enough to hold the Workshop in presence.

Nathan Quinlan suggests having a sort of Contingency Plan to handle the situation in case things go bad again at the beginning of May and some speakers would not be allowed to reach Catania. Giuseppe Bilotta contacted a couple of platforms offering online conference service, so the LOC is ready to shift to an online workshop if the situation requires it.

The Workshop website has been updated on travel information based on the restrictions to foreign people coming to Italy. Ben Rogers underlines that it is important to be sure that all the people are fully informed on the regulations, requirements, and possible travel restrictions.

Renato Vacondio suggests maximizing outdoor social events whenever possible and warns the organization about the difficulty of predicting the real physical participation to the event. Giuseppe

Bilotta confirms that the welcome cocktail is already scheduled as an outdoor activity, while the gala dinner is still an open issue.

Action 2 Link travel & COVID-19 information on the Website and check if the gala dinner can be held outside

By: Bilotta

Deadline: Before Catania Workshop

3. Update on Xi'an International workshop organization

Fei Xu informs that the LOC has received 87 abstracts, admitted 61 of them and finally scheduled the presentation of 54 papers. 12 papers have been admitted to the Special Issue on AMS: the guest editors Xu Fei and Renato Vacondio are still waiting for answers from the reviewers.

The draft program has been already prepared. Renato Vacondio suggests that the times should be specified also in UCT and not only in the Beijing TZ.

Up to now, 62 people have registered, of which 13 from abroad and the rest from China. The attendance in presence will be limited to 50 people in the conference rooms, due to the restrictions to the events in presence. 25 people have registered for the Training Day, only 1 of which is from abroad.

Finally, 20 students have applied for the Student Award.

4. Interaction with research groups in North America and possible future events under the SPHERIC umbrella

Renato Vacondio and Angelo Tafuni received different proposals from research groups based in US. In particular:

- Peter Koons, University of Maine, proposes to organize an event for PhD students, 1 or 2 days long, aimed at training/teaching DualSPHysics
- Nat Trask, Sandia National Laboratories, proposes to organize an event, 2-3 days long, with invited talks on SPH

Both events may be scheduled in 2023.

5. JMM Prize advertisement and voting procedure

Salvatore Marrone relates on the Monaghan prize. The list of the candidate papers has been published in the Newsletter together with the motivations.

Vote will be given in presence on voting papers, with a check on the list of participants to the Workshop. The JMM Prize winner will be announced during the Gala Dinner.

Nathan Quinlan recalls that, during Galway Workshop, each voter to the last JMM Prize edition gave his preference to the first 3 best papers.

Ben Rogers warns the SC that it should decide what happens in case of draw. Antonio Souto and Stefano Sibilla suggest counting, in this case, the number of votes assigning the 1st position to each paper.

Action 5 Setup the voting for the candidate papers to the JMM Prize
By: Marrone
Deadline: Before Catania Workshop

6. Update on the solid special interest group

Tom De Vuyst says that the Group is preparing a proposal for two rather simple benchmarks on solid SPH simulation, which are almost ready for evaluation. An announcement of the existence of the group will be made on the Newsletter.

The plan of the Group is to organize specific seminars. Such activities may be planned together with the proposed seminars in the US.

Alex Crespo suggests also finding out benchmark cases on fluid-structure interaction (interaction with elastic structures)

Renato Vacondio suggests organizing a 1-day online event in September 2022, advertising it at the Catania 2022 Workshop, specifying the aims and the contents.

Action 6 Organize a 1-day online event on solid SPH simulation to be announced in Catania
By: De Vujst
Deadline: Catania Workshop

7. Benchmarks

Renato Vacondio suggests subdividing the Benchmark page on the Website into different sections (e.g. benchmarks for fluids, for solids, etc...). Salvatore Marrone notes that there are labels (Test 1, Test 2, etc...) which have become a standard; however, he acknowledges that the numbering of the tests can be retained even if the tests are organized in sections.

Action 7 Restructure the benchmark page on the Website
By: Marrone, Tafuni
Deadline: Catania Workshop

8. CFD Wikipedia page

Ben Rogers underlines that the page https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Computational_fluid_dynamics on CFD in Wikipedia lists, among the CFD different methods, FEM, FDM, FVM, Spectra methods, Lattice Boltzmann but makes no reference to SPH or other meshless methods.

The topic will be added to the next SC agenda to be discussed more in detail.

Action 8 Address the issue in the agenda of the next SC meeting
By: Vacondio
Deadline: Next SC meeting