Conference Report

Numerical Methods for Non-Newtonian Flows – XVth IWNMNNF 2007

Picture 1 (left above): Rhodes Island, Greece, was the meeting place for the XVth International Workshop on Numerical Methods for Non-Newtonian Flows, June 6 – 10, 2007. Pictured is the harbor with the Medieval Castle in the background.

Picture 2 (middle above): Roger Tanner of the University of Sydney, Australia, with a plenary lecture entitled "The Changing Face of Computational Rheology".

Picture 3 (right above): Delegates during the poster session of the Workshop.

Picture 4 (left below): The head table during the banquet of the Workshop. From left: Mike Graham (Organizer of the next Workshop in 2009 in N. America), Martin Kröger, Gerrit Peters, Vlasis Mavrantzas (Co-Chair of this Workshop), Martien Hulsen, Roland Keunings, Roger Tanner.

Picture 5 (right below): Delegates during the banquet of the Workshop. The XVth International Workshop on Numerical Methods for Non-Newtonian Flows (XVth IWN-MNNF 2007) was held on the island of Rhodes, Greece, in June 6 - 10, 2007. Since their inception in 1979, in Providence, Rhode Island, USA, the workshops are rotated biennially between North America and Europe. This was the first time the meeting was held in Greece. Rhodes Island was a proper destination, as the meetings have come a full circle after almost 30 years of frantic activity, which have seen workshop meetings in castles, lakes, islands, seasides. Rhodes, as the capital of the Dodecanese Islands, combines all of the above, and has been a place of tourism and holidays since antiquity.

The XVth IWNMNNF was by all measures a truly international event, drawing around 60 scientists and engineers from 18 countries around the world. The Workshop included a plenary lecture by Roger Tanner, from University of Sydney, Australia, and 7 thematic sessions. A total number of 60 papers were divided into two categories: 50 oral and 10 posters. The Workshop promoted and facilitated scientific exchange, collaboration and interactions between participants as well as their organisations in advancing non-Newtonian Fluid Mechanics and Computational Rheology to higher levels of success. According to its reputation as the "Island of the Sun", Rhodes provided that and much more. Terrific beaches together with ancient and medieval sights that attract people from around the world. The international delegates had the chance to experience some of these important attractions, by going on a half-day excursion to ancient Lindos.

On the scientific part, sessions included: viscoelastic suspensions, multiscale modeling and molecular simulations, viscoplastic and viscoelastic fluids - modeling and simulation, viscoelastic flow instabilities, complex materials experiments and modeling, and turbulence in complex fluids. The overwhelming conclusion from these sessions was that the nature of the Workshop, after almost 30 years of existence, has definitely changed, and researchers have moved to many new and exciting fields. New challenges have appeared and very promising research fields have emerged. As Professor Tanner pointed out in his plenary talk entitled "The changing face of computational rheology", numerical methods have been moved now to molecular and even atomistic and quantum levels of computations for non-Newtonian fluids.

A highlight of IWNMNNF-2007 was the banquet, which took place on Saturday night, 9 June 2007, featuring some late-night reminiscences and anecdotes from early workshops by delegates who had participated in those. Pictures taken from the banquet and other moments during the days of the Workshop can be found in the web page of the Meeting: http://www.complexfluids.ethz.ch/IWNMNNF2007. The next Workshop will take place somewhere in North America in the summer of 2009, and the Organizers are Mike Graham and Patrick Doyle.

Evan Mitsoulis (Chair) Vlasis Mavrantzas (Vice-Chair)



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