

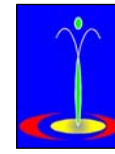


# Iberian Meeting on Rheology, IBEREO 2008

MADRID, SPAIN

SEPTEMBER 11 – 12, 2008

GRUPO ESPAÑOL DE REOLOGÍA (RSEQ/RSEF) AND SOCIEDADE PORTUGUESA DE REOLOGIA



## Conference Report II

The Iberian Meeting on Rheology, IBEREO 2008, held in Madrid the 11th and 12th of September 2008, was organized by the Portuguese Rheology Society (Sociedade Portuguesa de Reologia) and the Spanish Rheology Group (Grupo Español de Reología). More than 100 participants were registered, most of them from Portugal and Spain but also from other European countries like, Czech Republic, UK, France and Germany.

Invited lectures were given by Professor Mats Stading from Chalmers University of Technology (Göteborg, Sweden) on “Biopolymer rheology in materials and food” and Professor Peter Fischer from ETH Zurich (Switzerland) on “Interfacial rheology of complex interfaces and its role in soft materials”. Current research on basic and applied aspects of rheology was contemplated in the scheduled 7 Oral Presentation sessions and 2 Posters sessions. A total of 29 Oral communications and 53 Posters were presented, covering the following topics: Biopolymers and Biomaterials, Food Rheology, Formulation and Product Engineering, Non-Newtonian Fluid Mechanics, Polymers, Rheometry and Experimental Methods and Suspensions and Colloids. The session on Biopolymers and Biomaterials included 3 oral communications and 8 posters and dealt with a fascinating variety of materials, such as bioplastics, fluid gels, polysaccharides in microemulsions, protein films, protein-polysaccharide systems, polymerized fatty acids, ice crystals and a new galactomannan seed gum. Food rheology

session, with 3 oral communications and 17 posters, accounted for about 25% of the contributions, reflecting the evident importance of these products in the research efforts in the Iberian Peninsula. Most chapters on this topic dealt with dairy products, although the subjects of vegetable and animal protein-based emulsions and gels were also well addressed. Further interesting topics involved low-calorie stuffs, specialities, cryoprotectants and preservatives. Formulation and Product Engineering was treated throughout the 11 communications presented, 3 of which were oral. This emerging branch of applied rheology was covered by appealing communications on the design and processing of modified bitumens and lubricant greases, including the role of polymers, copolymers and recycled polymers in their formulation and manufacture. Further materials embraced self-compacting concrete, cryoprotectant mixtures for food, and photo-protection creams. Contributions on Non-Newtonian Fluid Mechanics (4 oral and 1 poster) embraced computational fluid dynamics simulations for flow in a 2D-T junction, simulations of 3D effects in cross-slot geometries and experimental studies on melt flow instabilities. Around 22% of the communications, which comprised 8 oral presentations and 10 posters, reported updated works on Polymer rheology, spanning from theoretical and simulation works to experimental research, which included processing and engineering operations, such as extrusion,



Figure 1:  
IBEREO 2008 delegates in front of the conference centre building “Instituto Rocasolano” in Madrid (September 12, 2008).

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21-25 September 2009



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moulding, sedimentation and filtration, as well as the characterization of interesting new materials. Results on block copolymers, nanocomposites, adhesives, recycled polymers, and blends were reported in this session. Nine communications (4 oral and 5 posters) were devoted to suspensions and colloids, involving quite different materials such as magneto rheological fluids, polymer monolayers, surfactant micelles and liquid crystals for drug delivery, weak gels based on silica-polysaccharide systems, silica suspensions in polymeric matrices and cement. The development of new rheometers and the incorporation of simultaneous parallel techniques were among the main points dealt with in the topic on Rheometry and Experimental methods, along with the study of the effects of irradiation process on polymers. Eight communications were presented in this session, 4 of which were oral presentations.

The most significant scientific contributions have been included in the book "Rheology in product design and engineering" edited by A.Guerrero, J.Muñoz and J.M. Franco and published by the Spanish Rheology Group (Grupo Español de Reología).

Distinguishing relevant features of IBEREO 2008 were the significant presence of young rheologists (Ph.D. students and Post-Docs) who participated actively in the different sessions, as well as the attendance of agents of rheometers industry. The following companies were represented in the special session organized to promote last trends in commercial equipments: Anton Paar, TA Instruments, Malvern Instruments and Thermo Scientific.

A Gala Dinner in a Basque cuisine restaurant in downtown Madrid constituted the principal social activity. During the event the friendship between Portuguese and Spanish rheologists was praised and hopes of new collaborations were expressed. Crispulo Gallegos, Secretary of the European Society of Rheology, and Joao Maia, Portuguese delegate in the International Committee on Rheology, announced the XVI th International Congress on Rheology to be held in Lisbon in 2012, jointly organized by the Portuguese, Slovenian and Spanish Societies of Rheology.

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