9th Australian-Korean Rheology Conference

SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA
NOVEMBER 29 – DECEMBER 1, 2017

The 9th Joint conference between the Australian and Korean Societies was held from November 29th to December 1st 2017. This conference is held biannually and organized alternately by Australian Society of Rheology or Korean Society of Rheology. The conference was hosted for the second time in Sydney, by Ahmad Jabbarzadeh, in the new Sydney Nano Institute on the beautiful University of Sydney Campus in Camperdown. This conference was well attended with over 60 registrations and 35 talks over the three days including invited keynote presentations from both Australian and Korean researchers. There was excellent variety in the talks including both theoretical and experimental rheology, fundamental and industry based problems and both synthetic materials such as polymers and biological materials such as biopolymers and waste sludge.

This variety was exemplified by the three plenary speakers: Kyung Hyun Ahn, Seoul National University, Korea who spoke about building up the picture of materials processing at different length scales; Eric Shaqfeh, Stanford University, USA, who presented a very well received talk on a variety of systems containing suspended particles in complex fluids, and Raja Huilgol, Flinders University, Australia who presented his ASR Medallion Lecture—A Particle Distribution Function Approach to The Equations of Continuum Mechanics in Cartesian, Cylindrical and Spherical Coordinates: Newtonian And Non-Newtonian Fluids.

One goal of this conference is to include the entire rheological community from undergraduate to senior researchers and offer opportunities for junior researchers to present their work. This was realised, with registrations from a wide range of rheologists from across the two countries. It was also rewarded with interesting and valuable presentations from many junior researchers. Diversity in the rheology community is also valued. To continue progress towards this goal, speakers were selected from both Korea and Australia and 3 female keynote speakers Hyun Wook Jung, Korea, Chiara Neto, University of Sydney and Heather Shewan, University of Queensland were selected from a total of eight (Kwang Soo Cho, Kyungpook National University, Korea, Stefan Kasapis, RMIT University, Ju Min Kim, Ajou University, Korea, Joung Sook Hong, Korea, Jae-wook Nam, Korea).

A conference highlight was the presentation of the Australian Society of Rheology Medallion to R. R. Huilgol. To be eligible for the award it was confirmed that R. R. Huilgol is a rheologist, resident in Australia, whose contributions to rheology have been internationally recognized as outstanding and meritorious. This is evidenced by publication of three books on the continuum mechanics of viscoelastic and viscoplastic materials that have been highly acclaimed internationally in addition to a significant body of journal articles on a broad range of subjects related to rheology, including major contribu-

Figure 1: AKRC 2017 group photo.

Figure 2: Raja Huilgol with his wife Dimitra Beroukas and daughter Kalyani Huilgol after presentation of the ASR medallion.

tions to the understanding of the kinematics of viscoelastic flows, making an outstanding contribution to the field internationally. He has also made a demonstrable contribution to rheology in Australia through significant contributions to the understanding of flows occurring in injection molding processes with benefits to Australian industry through his collaboration with Moldflow, and the reduction of grain losses due to pulverisation in silos. Evidence for his outstanding contribution to the field was also demonstrated in letters from 5 world leading rheologists: Ken Walters, Roger Tanner, Nhan Phan-Thien, Ian Frigaard, and Tam Sridhar.

The social programme was designed to include time for re-connecting with old friends and making new ones, with two long lunch breaks, Wednesday evening drinks and networking session and an enjoyable conference dinner at Cyren at Sydney's iconic Darling Harbour. During the dinner, researchers from the two countries were chatting about the differences of food, culture and education system between Australia

and Korea, which enhanced the understanding and friendship among researchers. On the last day of the conference, some participants took an excursion trip to the beautiful Blue Mountains in the outskirts of Sydney. I gather our Korean colleagues especially enjoyed an introduction to beautiful Australian fauna and flora by Peter Daivis (ASR, President), while walking up through almost vertical steps in the mountain near Three Sisters. Overall this was a valuable and enjoyable conference for the Australian and Korean rheology communities. Thanks to the conference sponsors, Anton Paar, T. A. Instruments, A.T.A Scientific and The University of Sydney.

Thanks also to the organising committee Peter Daivis, ASR President, Jason Stokes, ASR Vice-President, Heather Shewan, ASR Council, Ravi Jagadeeshan, ASR Council, and Ahmad Jabbarzadeh, ASR Council.

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27th Conference and Workshop on Rheology of Building Materials

OSTBAYERISCHE TECHNISCHE HOCHSCHULE (OTH) REGENSBURG, GERMANY
 MARCH 7–8, 2018

On March 7, the 27th conference on Rheology of Building Materials took place at the Ostbayerische Technische Hochschule (OTH) in Regensburg, Germany. For 27 years, this conference has become a firmly established international event. This year again more than 140 participants from 17 countries joined this conference. Fourteen very interesting presentations showed different investigations and applications within the field of rheology. Organic and inorganic rheology modifying agents for concrete and mortar, but also for oil well cement as well as the measurement techniques via different rheometers and alternative methods were in the focus of discussions.

The opening of the lectures was done with welcome address by Markus Greim, CEO of Schleibinger Geräte GmbH, and Wolfgang Kusterle, OTH Regensburg, who informed about the program and the targets of rheological measurements as well as occurring problems. Then, the president of the OTH Regensburg, Wolf-

gang Baier, welcomed all delegates and speaker. The first lecture was held by Ghada Bassioni from the Ain Shams University, Cairo, Egypt. She presented her investigations in the field of oil well cement. Different superplasticizers, classical as well as of the newer generations, were tested for their rheological performance providing a huge data base for the mathematical model. The model based on artificial neural networks can be used to predict the viscosities of mortars using modern polycarboxylate based superplasticizers without having to deal with many different and time-consuming experiments. An overview about the screed compositions and properties was given by Roland Augustin from the IBF Institut für Baustoffprüfung und Fußbodenforschung, Troisdorf, Germany. Modern screeds are multicomponent and highly complex systems. By using different additives and admixtures the properties of such systems can be customized. The characterization of these mixtures can be done using different measure-