

Referee Report 5 YE

CD Laboratory Particulate Flow Modeling

Laboratory Head Stefan Pirker

→ Excerpts of the following section may be passed on to the laboratory head:

Quality of the Research Programme

Is the performed research innovative and is its quality at a high scientific level?

The research performed by scientist and the students in the laboratory is of high scientific standards.

Is there – in addition to the application-oriented activities – sufficient progress in basic research?

The research maintains strong focus towards industrial applications. However, considering the strong liaisons with excellent international scientific laboratories and the throughput of high quality scientific papers, my opinion is that the research grants novel progresses in basic research.

Methodology

How do you judge the theoretical and methodological approaches of the performed research?

The theoretical and methodological approaches are adequate to tackle the basic research objectives which are necessary to grant further advancements in the application oriented research. Research methodologies are the most up to date methodologies in the field and there are original developments which have been highly appreciated by the scientific community.

Are aspects of diversity (such as gender, age etc.) in this field of importance? If yes, are these aspects considered sufficiently?

I was struck by the particularly young age of all the members of the group (avg. age 29.5 yrs). This aspect is important in a growing lab and young age always brings with it ideas and energy. This laboratory maximizes the input of such energy and ideas in research, scientific worldwide collaborations and intramural and extramural management.

Working Programme

Is the CD-Laboratory working according to its schedule? If not, are the reasons given justified?

The CD Lab is working according to the schedule.

Dissemination of Results



Is the number of publications/poster presentations/proceedings in accordance with the respective scientific field and the run time of the laboratory?

The research is published in highly reputed scientific journals; laboratory members attend prestigious scientific conferences where they present their recent researches. The lab is new and young and it is now in the first vintage period: papers are coming out with an increasing pace.

Are the results published in journals of high reputation?

Results are published in journal of high scientific reputation.

Collaborations

How do you rate the non-academic collaborations and especially the knowledge-transfer?

The non-academic collaborations (specifically the collaborations with the industries participating to the CD Lab) are of high standard and customized according with the specific company/industry. Knowledge transfer ranges from consultancy based collaborations to software transfer, to innovative solutions.

Are the existing academic collaborations productive or should they be enhanced or expanded?

I was impressed by the amount and quality of the new scientific collaborations started in the last three years. The quality of the international research groups involved is impressive.

Tutoring

Are the diploma students or PhD students engaged in the laboratory well supported in their work? Are they encouraged to participate in conferences and workshops and are they encouraged to publish in journals of high quality?

Students are one strength of the research labs and I see a capillary support/mentoring/tutoring activity. Students are sent to conference, schools, labs. to present and learn. From the results I see (journal papers, conference proceedings papers, conference posters) they are encouraged to disseminate their activities very well.

Future Funding

Are the aims for the future funding period well explained?

The aims of the future funding period are well explained.

Improvements

Which changes and/or improvements should be considered?

I would encourage to increase further (if possible) the visibility of the group: For this purpose, Journal papers are the best quality brand. In addition I would recommend to consider organizing small international workshops at the lab.