Fluid Structure Interaction V

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FLUID STRUCTURE INTERACTION

FLUID STRUCTURE INTERACTION V

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Dedicated to the memory of Subrata K. Chakrabarti

1941–2009

Preface

The International Conference on Fluid Structure Interaction was started by the late Subrata Chakrabarti in 2001. The first meeting was held in Halkidiki, Greece, followed by one in Cádiz, Spain in 2003, another in La Coruña, Spain in 2005, one in our New Forest Campus in the UK and then finally this 2009 conference in Crete, Greece.

Subrata, who was a truly extraordinary person, teacher and researcher, will be sorely missed by his family and friends, and by all the members of our scientific and academic communities. He was the inspiration behind this Conference and many other activities carried out at our Wessex Institute of Technology.

This book, which contains the papers presented at the 5th Fluid Structure Conference, is dedicated to his memory. We hope that the Conference will continue to reflect his high standards of personal and scientific integrity. The next page presents a short Obituary describing the highlights of his outstanding career. He was the most prominent and respected scientist in the field of Fluid Structure Interaction, particularly related to hydrodynamics of offshore structures.

The Directors of WIT have decided that from now on this meeting will be known as the Subrata Chakrabarti Conference in order to honour his memory.

Subrata would have been delighted to see that this Conference, as with previous meetings, attracted a series of outstanding contributions published in this book. This reflects the excellent work of all authors and the care taken by the Scientific Advisory Committee and other colleagues in reviewing the presentations.

Carlos A. Brebbia
Crete, 2009

Obituary

Professor Subrata K. Chakrabarti

Subrata K. Chakrabarti was a world renowned expert in design and analysis of offshore structures, namely offshore oil platforms. He was a member of the National Academy of Engineers, one of the highest professional distinctions in the US. He had a forty year career in the offshore platform industry, most of it at the Chicago Bridge and Iron Company (CBI) in Plainfield Illinois. Early in his career at CBI, he developed a special test method to facilitate analysis and design of offshore platforms. His experimental technique for understanding the fluid–structure interaction for offshore structures soon became a world standard. He was involved in the development of several offshore projects including Dubai storage tanks, Gulf of Mexico Submersible, Brazilian Mooring Towers, North Sea Production Platform, and Gulf of Mexico Tension Leg Platform. He had performed research and experiments for the US Navy on such projects as their Submarine Development, Advanced Navy Seal Delivery System, Advanced Torpedo, and USS Midway Aircraft re-design effort. He also founded his own company Offshore Structure Analysis Inc., providing engineering and technical services.

He was the author of more than six books on the various subjects of offshore structures, fluid–structure interaction, and design. Professor Chakrabarti joined the University of Illinois at Chicago's College of Engineering five years ago, and possessed joint appointments at two Departments. He was a Fellow of the American Society of Civil Engineers, American Society of Mechanical Engineers and a number of other organizations. He had over 300 publications, lectured world wide and served as an expert and consultant to the industry. He was also an excellent teacher at both his undergraduate and graduate courses that he taught.

He was born in Calcutta, India, on February 3, 1941. Subrata was a gold medalist in 1963 at the Jadavpur University, Calcutta during his bachelor's degree in Mechanical engineering. He achieved his Master in Mechanical Engineering in 1965 and a PhD with honors in Engineering Mechanics from the University of Colorado in 1968, having arrived in America in 1965 with eight dollars in his pocket.

He was a most beloved husband and dear father. He enjoyed spending time with his family, home improvement projects, walking for exercise, and cultural activities of the Bengali Association. He is survived by wife Prakriti (Nature), daughter Sumita, son Prabal, and granddaughter Sajni.

Note: Subrata was a frequent visitor to the Wessex Institute of Technology in the UK where he regularly offered two courses on Offshore Structures. He was the Co-Chairman of the International Conference on Fluid Structure Interaction organized by WIT and was the author of a best selling book on the topic, i.e. '*Hydrodynamics of Offshore Structures*', published by WIT Press, the academic publishers of the Institute.

Carlos A. Brebbia
Director, Wessex Institute of Technology, 2009

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