NEW ASPECTS OF ENERGY, ENVIRONMENT, ECOSYSTEMS and SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Proceedings of the 4th IASME/WSEAS International Conference on ENERGY, ENVIRONMENT, ECOSYSTEMS and SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (EEESD'08)

Algarve, Portugal, June 11-13, 2008

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Preface

This book contains the proceedings of the 4th IASME/WSEAS International Conference on ENERGY, ENVIRONMENT, ECOSYSTEMS and SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (EEESD'08) which was held Algarve, Portugal on June 11-13, 2008. This conference aims to disseminate the latest research and applications in environment and sustainable development sustainable management, indoor air quality in offices and houses, quality of water, global change, climate and biodiversity, sustainable marine ecosystems, climate and global change, advanced marine research, research on natural hazards, cleaner energy systems, renewable, energy systems, combined heat and power systems, combustion and gasification, energy storage and other related topics.

The friendliness and openness of the WSEAS conferences, adds to their ability to grow by constantly attracting young researchers. WSEAS Conferences attract a large number of well-established and leading researchers in various areas of Science and Engineering as you can see from http://www.wseas.org/reports. Your feedback encourages the society to go ahead as you can see in http://www.worldses.org/feedback.htm

The contents of this Book are also published in the CD-ROM Proceedings of the Conference. Both will be sent to the WSEAS collaborating indices after the conference: www.worldses.org/indexes

In addition, papers of this book are permanently available to all the scientific community via the WSEAS E-Library.

Expanded and enhanced versions of papers published in these conference proceedings are also going to be considered for possible publication in one of the WSEAS journals that participate in the major International Scientific Indices (Elsevier, Scopus, EI, ACM, Compendex, INSPEC, CSA .... see: www.worldses.org/indexes) these papers must be of high-quality (break-through work) and a new round of a very strict review will follow. (No additional fee will be required for the publication of the extended version in a journal). WSEAS has also collaboration with several other international publishers and all these excellent papers of this volume could be further improved, could be extended and could be enhanced for possible additional evaluation in one of the editions of these international publishers.

Finally, we cordially thank all the people of WSEAS for their efforts to maintain the high scientific level of conferences, proceedings and journals.
# Table of Contents

**Plenary Lecture I:** Solar radiance measurements for fixed and tracking photovoltaic systems  
*Nicola Pitrone*

**Plenary Lecture II:** World Energy and Future  
*M. Kostic*

**Plenary Lecture III:** Water, Environment and Sustainability  
*Miquel Salgot*

## Part I: ENERGY

**Sustainable Energy Options for the Future Airport Metropolis**  
*Andrew Rowlings, Arron Walker*

**Comparative analysis of different combined heat and power generation: fuel cells, gas turbine, internal combustion engine**  
*Roxana Patrascu and Eduard Minciuc*

**Compact, low power-consumption cooling systems for repetitive, burst thermal-loads based on two-stage water and phase change material heat reservoirs**  
*Z. Horvitz and S. Jackel*

**The determination of energy performance and rehabilitation measures for a commercial building**  
*Bogdan Caracaleanu; Andrei Damian; Ionut Vladulescu*

**Analysis with the Finite Elements Method of Solar Collector’s Tracking Systems**  
*Mihai Tiberiu Lates, Raluca Septimia Lates*

**Mathematical Optimization of Solar Thermal Collectors Efficiency Function Using MATLAB**  
*Raluca - Septimia Lates, Ion Visa, Ciprian Lapusan*

**New concept of solar air heater integrated in the building**  
*Jean-Louis Canaletti, Gilles Notten, Andrei Damian, Iolanda Colda, Christian Cristofari*

**Small-scale cogeneration - a viable alternative for Romania**  
*Rodica Frunzulica, Andrei Damian*

**Direct Carbon Fuel Cell**  
*Lia Kouchachvili and Michio Ikura*
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Numerical and experimental investigation of wind induced pressures</td>
<td>74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>on a photovoltaic solar panel</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Costin Ioan Cosoiu, Andrei Damian, Radu Mircea Damian, Mircea</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Degeratu</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A prospective study of PV cells and its effect on global warming,</td>
<td>81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>case study: North Cyprus</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M.Reza Azizian, Hossein Assefi, O.Phillips Agboola</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Noise Map of Wind Farms</td>
<td>86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Javier Bilbao, Eugenio Bravo, Olatz Garcia, Concepción Varela,</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miguel Rodríguez, Purificación González, Andoni Olozaga</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Energy and Thermal Comfort Management in a Kindergarten School</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building in the South of Portugal in Winter Conditions</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eusébio Z. E. Conceição, Margarida C. Lopes And Mª. Manuela J. R.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lúcio</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Design and performance of a multiple compressor solar ice-maker</td>
<td>96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Petros Axaopoulos, Michael P. Theodoridis</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Models for the analysis. Equipments meant for producing energy from</td>
<td>101</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>renewable sources, solar energy</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matei Mihaela Florentina, Luiza Popa, Claudia Popescu, Mihai</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Octavian Popescu</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comparison of cycles for hydrogen production</td>
<td>107</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miroslava Smitkova, Juri Riccardi, Frantisek Janicek</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Impact of grid management on wind energy in turkey a case study –</td>
<td>113</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>the marmara region</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eralp Ozil, Alper Ozpinar</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Impact of grid management on electricity production from turkish</td>
<td>120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>renewable resources</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eralp Ozil, Alper Ozpinar</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Development of Biomass Energy in Taiwan: Current Status and Prospects</td>
<td>126</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cheng-Yan Kao</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thermal Energy Supply Strategy for the City of Oradea, Romania</td>
<td>130</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marcel Rosca</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Research on the Environmental Burden of Building Constructs</td>
<td>136</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Methods – Case Study on Cast-in-Place-Concrete and Prefabricate</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Concrete Methods</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shih-Hung Yang, Zhai-Shu Lin, Ming-Huangfu</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time Series Analysis of Solar Radiation Data</td>
<td>144</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ahmad Mahir Razali, Tee Pei Gim, Azami Zaharim And Kamaruzzaman</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sopian</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sustainable Bioethanol Production Using Agro-industrial buproducts</td>
<td>149</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pardao Jm, Diaz I, Raposo S, Manso, T, Lima-Costa Me</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Fitting of Statistical Distributions to Wind Speed Data
Ahmad Mahir Razali, Rozaimah Zainal Abidin, Azami Zaharim And Kamaruzzaman Sopian

Sadi Carnot’s Ingenious Reasoning of Ideal Heat Engine Reversible Cycles
Milivoje M. Kostic

Investigation of steam injection effect and exergy analysis on ABC gas turbine cycle
Mohsen Ghazikhani, Mohammad Passandideh-Fard And Masoud Mousavi

Cotton oil mixtures behavior in a four-stroke engine
Charalampos Arapatsakos, Dimitrios Cristoforidis, Anastatios. Karkanis, Dimitrios. Mitroulias, Cristina Teka

Key success factors in implementing renewable energy programme
Baharuddin Ali, Kamaruzzaman Sopian, Chan Hoy Yen, Sohif Mat, Azami Zaharim

Performance of a hybrid photovoltaic diesel system in a cable car resort facility
Baharuddin Ali, Kamaruzzaman Sopian, Mohdazhar Abd. Rahman, Mohd Yusof Othman, Azami Zaharim, Ahmad Mahir Razali

Potential for large scale solar assisted hot water heating systems for public and commercial buildings
Baharuddin Ali, Kamaruzzaman Sopian, Baharudin Yatim, Mohd Yusof Othman, Azami Zaharim, Ahmad Mahir Razali

Economics of residential solar hot water heating systems in malaysia
Baharuddin Ali, Kamaruzzaman Sopian, Baharudin Yatim, Mohd Yusof Othman, Azami Zaharim, Ahmad Mahir Razali

Managing Intermittent Renewable Energy Sources
Alasdair Macleod

Thermo-Hygrometric Comfort In Hospital Rooms Conditioned by Means of a Primary Air System and Ceiling Radiant Panels
Silvia Costanzo, Alessia Cusumano, Carlo Giaconia, Sante Mazzacane, Paolo Valdiserri

SPECIAL SESION I:
PHOTOVOLTAIC SYSTEMS: SOLAR RADIATION MEASUREMENT AND ENERGY ASSESSMENT

Probability Analysis of Weather Data for Energy Assessment of Hybrid Solar/Wind Power System
G. Tina, S. Gagliano

Photovoltaic Tracking System Solar Radiation Measurement: Data Validation Using MPPT
A. Lay-Ekuakille, G. Vendramin, A. Fedele, A. Trotta

Design of low cost solar radiation sensing transducer for planning and monitoring of photovoltaic systems
S. Gagliano, D. Neri, N. Pitrone, N. Savalli, G. Tina
Review on Single-phase PV Inverters for Grid-connected Applications  
R. Attanasio, M. Cacciato, F. Gennaro, G. Scarcella  

Design of a Robot Photovoltaic Power Supply System  
G. Tina, G. Gozzo, P. Arena, L. Patane’ E S. De Fiore  

Part II: ENVIRONMENT AND ECOSYSTEMS  

An Integrated water quality Management project (INTERREG III) for the Kalamas River basin (NW-GREECE): towards EU-WFD implementation?  
Kagalou I., Moutou K Kalfakakoy V.  

Monitoring the Aral Sea Landscape Change  
Thomas Panagopoulos, Dan Blumberg, Lea Orlovsky  

Numerical solution of resonantly fored ODE with applications to weakly nonlinear instability of shallow water flows  
Andrei Kolyshkin, Sergejs Nazarovs  

Transient flows in pipes and channels: analytical solutions  
Inta Volodko, Valentina Koliskina  

Determination of an approximation formula for soil moisture  
Pop Ioana, Matei Florica, Budiu Viorel, Stanca Liana  

A time continuous soil water balance model for crop rotation irrigation requirement analysis  
João Rolim, José Teixeira  

Semi-pilot application of one-process gasification/smelting unit to conversion of mixed plastic waste into alternative energy carrier  
R. Kikuchi, J. Kukacka, T. Yamamoto, R. Raschman, H. Sato & J. Lederer  

Economic comparison of competitive waste treatments: case studies of municipal waste, sewage sludge and automobile shredder residue  
R. Kikuchi, H. Sato, T. Yamamoto & R. Gerardo  

Optimizing Rain Harvesting for Mediterranean Climate  
Shakib Shahidian, Ricardo Serralheiro, José Teixeira, Francisco Santos, Maria Oliveira, José Costa, Célia Toureiro, Rui Machado  

On the Recycling of Carbon Fibers Reinforced Polymer Matrix Composites  
Florin Teodorescu, Horatiu Teodorescu, Grigore Stanca, Dumitru Condurache, Radu Stefan Craciunoiu  

Neural networks identification of wastewater biodegradation process  
Dorin Sendrescu, Dan Popescu, Cosmin Ionete, Monica Roman  

A new adaptive control strategy for a class of anaerobic wastewater treatment bioprocesses
Emil Petre, Eugen Bobasu

**Nonlinear control and identification of an aerobic fermentation depollution bioprocess**
Dan Selisteaneu, Constantin Marin, Eugen Iancu

**Microbial abundance and diversity during phytoremediation of military site**
S.H Kim, K.H Beak, H.W Lim, I.S Lee

**Identification of Wastewater Biodegradation Processes with Time Variable Parameters**
Constantin Marin, Dan Selisteaneu, Dorin Sendrescu, Virginia Finca

**Simulation of the Process Fluids Release in Emergency States**
Cornelia Croitoru, Mihaei Anghel, Floarea Pop, Ioan Stefanescu, Gheorghe Titescu, Mihai Patrascu, Ervin Watzlawek, Dorin Cheresdi

**Integrated system for the optimisation and control of the CO2 emissions released in the burning processes**
Ion Melinte, Mihaela Balanescu, Georghe Surugiu, Adrian Tantau

**Disaster Management Spatial Information System**
Marius Cioca, Lucian-Ionel Cioca, Adrian Cioca

**Environmental Monitoring at the New Industrial Area of Sta Margarida, Portugal**
G. Passalis, B. Ramos, C. Carraça, Carlos Otero Silva, Ana Figueira, Frederico Vieira, Ricardo Martins, Thomas Panagopoulos

**Optimum solution of environmental factors towards productivity improvement using taguchi method**

**Vehicle emission regulation and air quality improvement in atmospheric aerosols in downtown Tokyo**
Hiroaki Minoura, Katsuyuki Takahashi, Judith C. Chow, John G. Watson

**Contesting Discourses of Water saving: the Dilemma of under-utilised Infrastructure versus over-exploited Water Resources**
Dr. Dimitrios Zikos

**Assessment of contaminated surface soils in Municipal Solid Waste landfills in the State of Río Grande do Sul, South Brazil.**
Flávia Schenato, Nádia T. Schröder, Flávia B. Martins

**Noise Modeling Scenario from Industrial Projects in Malaysia**

**Selection of a Simplified Method to Compute Evapotranspiration for Climatic Input on an Autonomous Controller for Landscape Irrigation**
José Teixeira, Shakib Shahidian, João Rolim
Evaluation of the Assimilative Capacity for the Tseng-Wen Reservoir (TAIWAN)  
Yu-Chao Lee, Chen-Cheng Yang, Chao-Shi Chen, Chih-Sheng Lee  

Recovery of beta-glucans from Industrial Starch Effluents through appropriate Unit Operations  
Anna Patsioura, Emmanuel Grillakis And Vassilis Gekas  

Removal of Heavy Metals from wastewaters using Greek Coals  
Grigoris Souflias, Nikos Kallithrakas-Kontos, Vassilis Gekas  

Water Resources in the Context of Agro-Environmental Policies: Paradigms in Thessaly, Greece  
Efstathios Koutseris  

NOx emissions in the case of the catalyst mounting inversion  
Charalampos Arapatsakos  

PART III: SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT  

Water Use and Conservation at the Environmental Protection Area of Brilhante, Santa Catarina - Brazil  
Martin Sebastian Lassen, Antonio Carlos Beaumord, Thomas Panagopoulos  

Yield and quality of Bermuda grass (Cynodon dactylon) response to the combined effects of wastewater and potassium application in the Mediterranean Basin  
Rui Santos, Pedro Jose Correia, Jose Beltrao  

Geographical Relations Dynamics (4) - Haptic Megalopolis -- Haptic Megalopolis  
Minoru Ueda  

Advantages of sustainable development application in iron and steel industry  
Cristian Predescu, Avram Nicolae, Andra Stoica, Ecaterina Matei, Mirela Sohacieu, Andrei Predescu  

Post-mining Landscape Reclamation: A Comparison between Portugal and Estonia  
JSuse Dias, Thomas Panagopoulos, Luis Loures  

Geographic Information Systems in Tourism Management  
P. Sousa, S. Fernandes  

On the way to sustainable architecture in the united states  
Ulrike Heine  

Empirical modeling of Pollution Abatement and Control Expenditure in new EU members countries: evidence from Romania  
Robert Sova, Anamaria Sova, Rault Christophe  

Estimation of rainfall-radar reflectivity relationship using buffer probability technique (BPT)  
Sarintp Tantanee, Saman Prakarnrat, Punya Polsan, Uruya Weesakul
Holistic approach to assessing landscapes transforming by tourism development in terms of sustainability: case study Ilavian lakes and Bialka Tatrzanska, Poland.  
*Adam Czarnecki, Anna Lewandowska-Czarnecka*  
466

Interactive system for substantiating and determining the maximum efficiency coal processing, regardless of the technology applied  
*Florin Dumitru Popescu, Viorica Ciocan*  
473

Portugal Implements Sustainable Water Reuse  
*Maria Helena F. Marecos Do Monte*  
478

Conceptual Design of Sustainable Processes. Using Heuristics with Statistical Design  
*Florinda Martins, Carlos A.V. Costa*  
484

SPECIAL SESION II: SUSTAINABILITY IN AGRICULTURE  
495

Fuzzy Logic and Geographic Information Systems for Pest Control in Olive Culture  
*Jorge Jesus, Thomas Panagopoulos, Alcinda Neves*  
497

Comparison Between the Effects of Sludge and of Manure Application on the Soil of a Citrus Orchard  
*Manuel Costa, Jose Beltrao, Joao Brito, Carlos Guerrero, Lidia Dionisio*  
502

Chloride Removal Potential of Turfgrasses in Golf Courses of the Mediterranean Regions  
*José Seita, Jose Beltrao, João Carrasco de Brito, Alcinda Neves*  
507

The Influence of Pre and Post Harvest Calcium Applications on Storage Capability and Quality of ‘Hayward’ Kiwifruit  
*J. Franco, f. Melo, R. Guilherme, D. Antunes, N. Neves, F. Curado, S. Rodrigues*  
512

Effect of Nitrogen and Potassium Fertilization on Yield and Fruit Quality in Kiwifruit  
517

Sustainable Postharvest Handling of Minimally Processed Melon Fruits  
*D. Antunes, S. Nunes, G. Miguel, S. Dundlen, A. Cavaco*  
521

Comparison of two different integration sphere configurations for ‘Rocha’ pear determination of firmness and soluble solids by Vis/NIR spectroscopy  
*Ana Cavaco, Rui Guerra, Jorge Silva, and Dulce Antunes*  
526

A First Approach to the Optical and Antioxidant Properties of Propolis Collected at Different Sites of Algarve Region  
*Cláudia Cruz, Ana Cavaco, Rui Guerra, Dulce Antunes, Helder Guia, Graça Miguel*  
532

Flavonoids Content of Different Apricot (Prunus armeniaca L.) Cultivars  
*Graca Miguel, Susana Dandlen, Alcinda Neves, Dulce Antunes*  
537

A Minimum Crossed Entropy Model to Generate Information at Disaggregated Level  
540
Fragoso, R., Belem, M., Lucas, M.

Biological Control of Several Fungi Diseases on Turfgrass
Guerrero, C., Vitoriano, J., Neto L., Dionisio, L.

SPECIAL SESION III:
RURAL SUSTAINABILITY

Territorial governance and the sustainable development in rural territories: an imperative or a utopia? The case of Almeida (Portugal)
Fernando Fonseca, Rui Ramos

Trade and Welfare, some Evidence from the Gravity Model
Paulo Batista Basílio

Spatial Databases for Decision Support in Agriculture
Eric Vaz, Teresa Vaz

INOTEC-Empresa Plan: the Technological Innovation Plan for Enterprises in the Autonomous Region of Azores
Ana Correia

The Recent Trends of Portuguese Agriculture
Teresa Vaz

Learning in Small Firms Across European Rural Regions
Marisa Cesario, Teresa Vaz

Author Index
Plenary Lecture I

Solar radiance measurements for fixed and tracking photovoltaic systems

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Abstract: In order to increase the profitableness of photovoltaic systems (PVS) it is decisive to investigate as deeply as possible the features of the primary energy source (the solar energy). This task can be done during the planning or design phase making the right choices on the technology to adopt, on the deployment of the arrays, on the type of the system (fixed or tracking) and also during the operation as well. In any case suitable instruments to measure some variables connected with the solar radiation are needed. In particular the following considerations should be taken into account: Planning of PVS: just one solar radiation sensor, instead of two, would allow us to make some measurements of the components (beam and diffuse) of the solar radiation; this characteristic is crucial: in fact, very often the only radiation data available to predict energy production of a PVS, in a given site, is the global radiation on horizontal surface and also, when the diffuse component is available, it has been calculated by means of simple experimental expressions that calculate the diffuse components as a function of clearness index KT. On the other hand a long term campaign of measurements of both components could be very useful to evaluate the energy performances of system based on tracking systems. Indeed, if the the diffuse component is small in comparison with the beam one, the system equipped with a tracking system (e.g. concentrating PVSs) is more advantageous as far as the economical aspect is concerned. Operation of PVS: the correct operation of a PV plant can be attained on the basis of monitoring the primary energy (the solar radiation). To calculate the efficiency of the PV field the solar radiation that reaches the PV array should be measured. If the PV panels have a tilt angle different from zero, one or more pyranometers parallel to the arrays have to be installed. In this case, an instrument that can measure both components of the solar radiation could be very useful. In fact, by means of straight calculations it is possible to calculate the radiation that strikes a surface whatever inclination it has, if the beam and diffuse components are known. Most PVSs undergo some type of monitoring for at least a few years after their installation. Such monitoring can have several goals: Ensure that the system is operating properly. Assess the performance of system components, pinpoint faulty devices or devices operating below their nominal performance. Permit the calibration of design and simulation tools. Reveal improvements to the design and increase the understanding of the designer. Despite its usefulness, monitoring is often overlooked. In the past few years, the authors have encountered numerous examples of improper monitoring. For example, in one case, some important variables as diffuse inplane irradiance were simply not monitored. In another case, improper connections of some sensors to the data logger led to useless numbers. In a third case, improper calibration of an instrument led to recording useless data collected for several years. In another case, a data file was inadvertently erased several months after it was recorded – and no back up was available. And in countless cases, the data gathered have been properly analyzed after months – or years. Presenting a review of updated references on this subject and reporting the theoretical basis and qualitative considerations that justify the research on new multipurpose radiation sensors is the purpose of the speakers. Recent developments will be presented by the authors in a paper.
Plenary Lecture II

World Energy and Future

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Brief Biography of the Speaker: Professor Kostic's teaching and research interests are in Thermodynamics (a science of energy, the Mother of All Sciences), Fluid Mechanics, Heat Transfer and related fluid-thermal-energy sciences; with emphases on physical comprehension and creative design, experimental methods with computerized data acquisition, and CFD simulation; including nanotechnology and development of new-hybrid, POLY-nanofluids with enhanced properties, as well as design, analysis and optimization of fluids-thermal-energy components and systems in power-conversion, utilizations, manufacturing and material processing. Dr. Kostic came to Northern Illinois University from the University of Illinois at Chicago, where he supervised and conducted a two-year research program in heat transfer and viscoelastic fluid flows, after working for some time in industry.

"Kostic’s unique synergy of philosophical, theoretical, computational and experimental approach, results in open mind, intense curiosity and sharp focus for identifying and analyzing natural and engineering phenomena with high motivation for problem identification, troubleshooting and solving."

Kostic received his B.S. degree with the University of Belgrade Award as the best graduated student in 1975. Then he worked as a researcher in thermal engineering and combustion at the Vinca Institute for Nuclear Sciences, which then hosted the headquarters of the International Center for Heat and Mass Transfer, and later taught at the University of Belgrade in ex-Yugoslavia (*). He came to the University of Illinois at Chicago in 1981 as a Fulbright grantee, where he received his Ph.D. in mechanical engineering in 1984. Subsequently, Dr. Kostic worked several years in industry. In addition, he spent three summers as an exchange visitor in England, West Germany, and the former Soviet Union. Dr. Kostic has received recognized professional fellowships and awards, including multiple citations in Marquis’ "Who’s Who in the World" and "Who’s Who in Science and Engineering.”; the Fulbright Grant; NASA Faculty Fellowship; Sabbatical Semester at Fermilab as a Guest Scientist; and the summer Faculty Research Participation Program at Argonne National Laboratory. He is a frequent reviewer of professional works and books in Thermodynamics and Experimental Methods. Dr. Kostic is a licensed professional engineer (PE) in Illinois and a member of the ASME, ASEE, and AIPs Society of Rheology. He has a number of publications in refereed journals, including invited state-of-the-art chapters in the Academic Press series Advances in Heat Transfer, Volume 19, and “Viscosity” in CRC Press’ Measurement, Instrumentation and Sensors Handbook; as well as invited reference articles: Work, Power, and Energy in Academic Press/Elsevier's Encyclopedia of Energy; Extrusion Die Design in Dekker's Encyclopedia of Chemical Processing; and Energy: Global and Historical Background and Physics of Energy in Taylor & Francis/CRC Press Encyclopedia of Energy Engineering and Technology. Professor Kostic is a member of the Graduate Faculty at Northern Illinois University.
Plenary Lecture III

Water, Environment and Sustainability

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Abstract: After searching the convenient definitions of water, environment and sustainability; it seems evident that there are common links among the three terms; links leaded by the energy spent when water moves the biogeochemical cycles in the Earth surface. Depending on the amount of energy spent in the water cycle a society can be defined as sustainable in which respects to the water and environment interface. Nevertheless, the relationships between water and the environment are far more complex and involve an important amount of societal activities, always with the background of energy and pollution. The relationships water-environment are examined in a general and particular way, defining finally the present status of the interface and the ways the water cycle can be sustainable and the present mistakes. There is not a single solution but a series of different approaches which combined increase the sustainability of the water cycle, especially in areas with water scarcity.