

# Atharva Sunil Sathe

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## Education

### Columbia University in the city of New York

Jan 2021 - Present

*Doctor of Philosophy in Civil Engineering & Engineering Mechanics*

New York, NY

**Specialties:** Environmental Fluid Mechanics, Urban Climate, Turbulence Modeling, High Performance Computing

### Indian Institute of Technology Bombay

July 2015 - Aug 2020

*Bachelor-cum-Master of Technology (Dual Degree) in Aerospace Engineering (GPA: 9.39 / 10.00)*

Mumbai, MH

**Specialties:** Computational Fluid Dynamics, Numerical Modeling, High Performance Computing

## Research Experience

### Columbia University

Jan 2021 – Present

*Graduate Researcher, Environmental Flow Physics Lab*

New York, NY

**Project #1:** Published in JFM, 3 Conference Presentations

- Conducted a comprehensive analysis of domain size impacts in canopy flow simulations, demonstrating how inadequate sizing compromises turbulent structures and flow statistics.
- Identified significant flaws in conventional scale separation testing method. Developed a novel, superior alternative for accurate isolation of scale separation effects.
- Discovered a critical interplay between canopy element arrangement and the existence of inertial sublayer in the atmosphere, challenging the previous understanding that scale separation was the sole factor.

**Project #2:** Under preparation for submission to JFM, 2 Conference Presentations

- Investigated the structure and dynamics of roughness-induced secondary flows in turbulent boundary layers over multi-column roughness, revealing the critical role of topographic clustering.
- Identified the spacing of roughness elements at cluster edges as a crucial factor determining secondary flow polarity.
- Analyzed the instantaneous behavior of secondary flows, demonstrating their inherent unsteadiness and the non-periodic, chaotic reversals of high- and low-momentum pathways.
- Showcased the persistent and intrinsic variability in vertical momentum transport as a fundamental characteristic of secondary flow dynamics.

### Indian Institute of Technology Bombay

July 2015 – Aug 2020

*Undergraduate and Graduate Researcher*

Mumbai, MH

**Master Thesis Project:** Published in IEEE-ICCE

- Developed a novel multidimensional extension of the Large Time-Step (LTS) method using the Radon Transform's intertwining property, addressing errors common in dimensional splitting.
- Validated the algorithm for electromagnetic wave propagation, achieving a remarkable 14x speedup while simultaneously reducing error by a factor of 4.
- Proved the effectiveness of the first-order Mur absorption boundary condition within this approach, demonstrating its ability to minimize reflections.

**Bachelor Thesis Project:**

- Contributed to the development of arcFOAM, a magnetohydrodynamic solver built upon sonicFOAM with the addition of essential source terms in the momentum and enthalpy conservation equations.
- Validated arcFOAM against both the analytical solution for current flow in an infinite rod and by replicating results from the 2D transferred arc geometry presented in Sass-Tissovskaya thesis.
- Employed arcFOAM to investigate flow properties in arc heaters, simulating various arc lengths (4mm, 10mm, 20mm) to gain comprehensive insights.

### Nanyang Technological University

May 2018 – July 2018

*Summer Research Intern – NTU-India Connect Program*

Singapore, SG

- Conceptualized and executed a project investigating the effect of swirling flow on average heat transfer coefficients, recognizing its potential for turbulence and velocity gradient enhancement.
- Established a baseline by validating a straight-flow simulation, carefully evaluating the influence of different turbulence models.
- Introduced a weak, constant axisymmetric swirl into the designated geometry, demonstrating its positive impact on microscale heat transfer and validating the project's hypothesis.

## Peer Reviewed Journal and Conference Publications

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- **Sathe, A.S.** and Giometto, M.G. (2024) 'Impact of the numerical domain on turbulent flow statistics: scalings and considerations for canopy flows', *Journal of Fluid Mechanics*, 979, p. A36. doi:10.1017/jfm.2023.1041.
- **Sathe A.S.**, Anderson W., Calaf M., Giometto M.G., (2024) 'On the structure and dynamics of secondary flows over multi-column roughness in turbulent boundary layers', *Journal of Fluid Mechanics (under preparation)*
- **Sathe, A.S.**, Makwana, N., Chatterjee, A., Pillai, H. (2020) 'FVTD Large Time-Step Method Using Radon Transform', *IEEE International Conference on Computational Electromagnetics*, Singapore, 25-27 March.

## Selected Conference Presentations

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- **Sathe A.S.**, Anderson W., Calaf M., Giometto M.G., Rearrangement of secondary flows in multi-column roughness configurations. *Oral Presentation*. In APS DFD Meeting, November 2024, Salt Lake City, Utah.
- **Sathe A.S.**, Anderson W., Calaf M., Giometto M.G., Rearrangement of secondary flows in multi-column roughness configurations. *Oral Presentation*. In AGU Fall Meeting, December 2024, Washington D.C.
- **Sathe A.S.**, Giometto M.G., Impact of numerical domain on turbulent flow statistics: scalings and considerations for canopy flows. *Oral Presentation*. In APS DFD Meeting, November 2023, Washington D.C.
- **Sathe A.S.**, Giometto M.G., Impact of numerical domain on turbulent flow statistics: scalings and considerations for canopy flows. *Poster Presentation*. In AGU Fall Meeting, December 2023, San Francisco, California.
- **Sathe A.S.**, Giometto M.G., Impact of numerical domain on turbulent flow statistics: scalings and considerations for canopy flows. *Oral Presentation*. In AGU Fall Meeting, December 2022, Chicago, IL.

## Academic Service

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- Reviewer, *Boundary Layer Meteorology* and *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society A*.
- Sorter, Wind Energy Sessions, *APS Division of Fluid Dynamics (DFD) Meeting*, November 2024, Salt Lake City, Utah.

## Teaching and Mentorship

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- Received **two Teaching Assistant Excellence Awards** at Columbia University for outstanding student mentorship and instruction: one for Fluid Mechanics (2022), and another for Dynamics and Vibrations (2023).
- Delivered substitute lectures at Columbia University:
  - Graduate course (Turbulence Theory and Modeling, Spring 2024): Taught Kolmogorov hypotheses and similarity laws.
  - Undergraduate course (Fluid Mechanics, Fall 2024): Explained derivations of Euler and Navier-Stokes equations.
- Institute Student Mentor at IIT Bombay (2017–2020): Mentored 22 freshmen students across two years, providing academic, social, and wellness support; promoted to Senior Mentor to lead and train a cohort of 15 mentors.

## Scholastic Achievements

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- Awarded **Institute Silver Medal** at 58th Convocation, IIT Bombay 2020
- **Ranked 1st** in the Dual Degree batch of the Aerospace Engineering Department.
- Awarded the prestigious **NTU-India connect program scholarship** for academic excellence. 2018
- Earned the **Institute Academic Award** for exceptional academic performance. 2017
- Secured a **top 0.71%** percentile in JEE (Advanced) and a **top 0.14%** percentile in JEE (Main). 2015
- Qualified for the Indian National Chemistry Olympiad, placing within the **top 1%** of participants nationwide. 2015

## High Performance Computing Grants

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Our research relies heavily on high-fidelity simulations of turbulent boundary layers, which require significant high performance computing (HPC) resources. I have taken primary responsibility for writing and submitting successful HPC proposals to XSEDE, TACC, and ACCESS programs on behalf of our group. Selected awarded projects include:

- **550,400 Node Hours on Stampede3 and 90M Core Hours on Anvil (ACCESS – \$489,045)** 2024-2025  
**Investigators:** PI: Giometto M.G., Co-PIs: Sathe A.S., Chandiramani P., Schmid M.F., Janin J.A., Sathia K.R.
- **152k Node Hours on Frontera (TACC – \$35,409)** 2024-2025  
**Investigators:** PI: Giometto M.G., Co-PI: Sathe A.S.
- **69M Core Hours on Anvil (ACCESS – \$287,040)** 2023-2024  
**Investigators:** PI: Giometto M.G., Co-PIs: Sathe A.S., Schmid M.F., Chandiramani P.
- **144k Node Hours on Frontera (TACC – \$33,546)** 2023-2024  
**Investigators:** PI: Giometto M.G., Co-PI: Sathe A.S.

## Technical Skills

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**Softwares:** MATLAB, ANSYS, OpenFOAM, Gmsh, Maple, Solidworks, AutoCAD

**Programming:** Python, FORTRAN, C++, C, CUDA, OpenGL

## Extracurricular Activities

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**Experiment Leader: Paper Planes Unleashed – Girls' Science Day, Columbia University** Nov 2023, 2024

- Contributed to Columbia Engineering's Girls' Science Day, leading hands-on science experiment for middle school girls and fostering STEM interest within NYC communities.
- Designed an engaging experiment demonstrating how principles of aircraft design can be applied to enhance paper plane flight using a single paper clip.

**Counseling and Training Cabinet Head – Student Mentor Program, IIT Bombay** July 2018 – May 2020

- Led a collaboration between the Student Wellness Center and Student Mentor Program, driving 100% undergraduate participation in mental health screening through innovative integration into mentor-led activities.
- Orchestrated institute-wide orientation for new department academic mentors (DAMP), incorporating faculty introductions, program objectives, and counselor-led case studies to promote mentor-student connection.
- Partnered with TATA Institute of Social Sciences to design and deliver an 8-hour mentor training program focused on communication and problem-solving skills.
- Organized mandatory POSH orientation for first-year students, promoting a gender-neutral campus at IIT Bombay.
- Revamped the Institute Student Mentor and DAMP Mentor handbooks and updated the First-Year Student Guide, enhancing mentor knowledge and promoting academic ethics, institute rules, and campus engagement for students.