

Dylan Rubini

Mechanical Engineer

Oxford Thermofluids Institute
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Research Focus

- Developing machine-learning-assisted numerical tools to accelerate multiphysics design optimisation, within zero-carbon thermochemical & energy systems, and aerospace, aerodynamic and turbomachinery applications.
- Working at the intersection between machine learning, computational science and aerothermochemical design to develop multidisciplinary numerical tools accelerate the transition to a zero-carbon society.
- Investigating complex supersonic turbulent interactions in internal and external flows to inform design decisions.

Education and Research

2020–Present **DPhil Engineering Science**, *University of Oxford*, Oxford, UK.

- *Supervisors*: Budimir Rosic (Oxford) and Liping Xu (Cambridge).
- *Lab*: Oxford Thermofluids Institute - top thermofluids and heat transfer lab worldwide
- *Funding*: won competitive UKRI DTP EPSRC scholarship award.
- *Main Thesis*: pioneering work developing multi-fidelity machine-learning-assisted reduced-order modelling techniques to accelerate multiphysics coupling in a new class of high-speed turbomachines for zero-carbon high-temperature chemical reaction processes. This enables aerochemically-guided design optimisation for the first time in turbomachinery. This is first-ever work on reacting flows along bladed path of a turbomachinery in the engineering community
- *Further Research Contributions*:
 1. developed unstructured computational fluid dynamics solver using highly-optimised code generation for both multi-core CPU & GPU backends.
 2. developed PYTHON-based numerical tool for basic chemical kinetic analysis in turbomachines.
 3. numerically investigated complex aerothermal flow interactions and quantified aerodynamic loss mechanisms within new turbomachines for high-temperature processes for the first time.
 4. implemented and leveraged multiobjective chemical-reaction-guided design optimisation of a new class of turbomachines.

2016–2020 **MEng Engineering Science, First Class**, *University of Oxford*, Oxford, UK.

- *Final Year Dissertation*: the first work on computational modelling the uniquely complex aerothermodynamics for a new class of turbomachines to decarbonise heavy industry, which has helped inform aerodynamic design decisions.
- *Achievements*: top mark in the year for the 4th year project (scored 93%), as well as scoring above an average of 80% overall.

2008–2016 **A-Levels, A*A*A, GCSEs 8A*s, 4As.**

Awards and Achievements

2024 **Selected for poster competition**, *Reynolds Day, Manchester*.

2024 **Best paper award**, *ASME Journal of Turbomachinery*, Ref. [3].

2023–Present **Awarded 20k computing research grant**, *UKRI ARCHER2 HPC access*.

2023 **Best paper award**, *Global Power and Propulsion Society*, Ref. [2].

2022 **Best poster award**, *ASME Turbo Expo: Power for Land, Sea and Air*.

2020–Present **Doctoral scholarship**, *UKRI DTP EPSRC*.

2020 **Prestigious IMechE Project Award**, *Institution of Mechanical Engineers*.

2020 **Top mark in 4th year MEng project (93%)**, *Engineering Science Dept.*

2020 **Best project poster award**, *Oxford Engineering Science Dept.*

2018–2020 **Academic prize award**, *Oriel College, University of Oxford*.

Research Experience

Summer 2019 **Research Intern**, *Oxford Thermofluids Institute*, Advisor: Budimir Rosic.
MPI-parallelised an in-house computational fluid dynamics solver

Summer 2018 **Research Intern**, *Oxford Thermofluids Institute*, Advisor: Peter Ireland.
Designed flow measurement and instrumentation systems within a new wind tunnel

Journal Publications

- [1] **D. Rubini**, B. Rosic, and L. Xu. Energy Conversion Mechanisms in Turbomachines for High-Temperature Endothermic Reactions: Redefining Energy Quality. *ASME J. Turbomach.*, 2024. Under review.
- [2] **D. Rubini**, N. Karefyllidis, B. Rosic, L. Xu, and E. Nauha. Decarbonisation of High-Temperature Endothermic Chemical Reaction Processes Using a Novel Turbomachine: Robustness of the Concept to Feed Variability. *J. Glob. Power Propuls. Soc.*, 2024.
- [3] N. Karefyllidis, **D. Rubini**, B. Rosic, L. Xu, and V.-M. Purola. A Novel Axial Energy-Imparting Turbomachine for High-Enthalpy Gas Heating: Robustness of the Aerodynamic Design. *ASME J. Turbomach.*, 2023.
- [4] **D. Rubini**, N. Karefyllidis, L. Xu, B. Rosic, and H. Johannesdahl. Accelerating the Development of a New Turbomachinery Concept in an Environment With Limited Resources and Experimental Data: Challenges. In *ASME Turbo Expo*, 2022.
- [5] **D. Rubini**, N. Karefyllidis, L. Xu, B. Rosic, and H. Johannesdahl. A New Robust

Regenerative Turbo-Reactor Concept for Clean Hydrocarbon Cracking. *J. Glob. Power Propuls. Soc.*, 2022.

- [6] **D. Rubini**, L. Xu, B. Rosic, and H. Johannesdahl. A New Turbomachine for Clean and Sustainable Hydrocarbon Cracking. *ASME J. Eng. Gas Turbines Power*, 2021.

Talks and Conference Presentations

- 2023 **Conference**, *Global Power and Propulsion Society, Hong Kong*, Ref. [2].
- 2023 **Lecture**, *Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, Japan*, Ultra-Fast Multiphysics Coupling Tools Required for the Future Decarbonised World.
- 2022 **Invited Talk**, *Osney Thermofluids Institute, Oxford*, Designing a Turbo-Reactor to Selectively Control Chemical Reactions.
- 2022 **Lecture**, *Coolbrook, Finland*, Accelerated Aerochemistry Coupling Toolchain Enabling a Controllable, Selective and High-Yield Turbo-Reactor Design.
- 2022 **Conference**, *ASME Turbo Expo, Rotterdam*, Ref. [4].
- 2021 **Conference**, *Global Power and Propulsion Society, Xi'an*, Ref. [5].
- 2021 **Conference**, *ASME Turbo Expo, London*, Ref. [6].

Industry Experience

- 2019–Present **Coolbrook, Finland**, Collaborator.
- Collaborating on developing new numerical tools for modelling complex aerothermochemical flows within a new class of turbomachines to decarbonise high-temperature gas heating across 40 industries.
- Summer 2017 **GNL Quintero, Chile**, Intern.
- Investigated failures in pipes used for liquefied natural gas transport.

Academic Community Contributions

- Reviewer Elsevier Journal of Cleaner Production
- Reviewer Journal of the Global Power and Propulsion Society
- Mentoring PhD & MEng students and prospective Oxford applicants

Technical Skills

- Languages *Experienced:* PYTHON, FORTRAN, MATLAB, MPI programming, Domain Specific Language, L^AT_EX, *Familiar:* C/C++, CUDA, OPENMP programming
- ML libraries TENSORFLOW, PYMOO (multiobjective genetic optimisation)
- Software**
- Fluids ANSYS FLUENT, BOXERMESH, ICEM meshing, CFD code TBLOCK, Lattice Boltzmann OPENLB, SolidWorks CAD, PARAVIEW Post-processing
- Chemistry CANTERA, RMG-PY
- General Git, Visual Studio Code, Sublime Text, CorelDraw, Inkscape, Overleaf
- HPC Facilities ARCHER2, Advanced Research Computing Facility (Oxford)

OS Linux (Ubuntu & CentOS), Windows, macOS