

# **“Modeling of Waste Engine Oil Treatment by means of Inorganic Membranes”**

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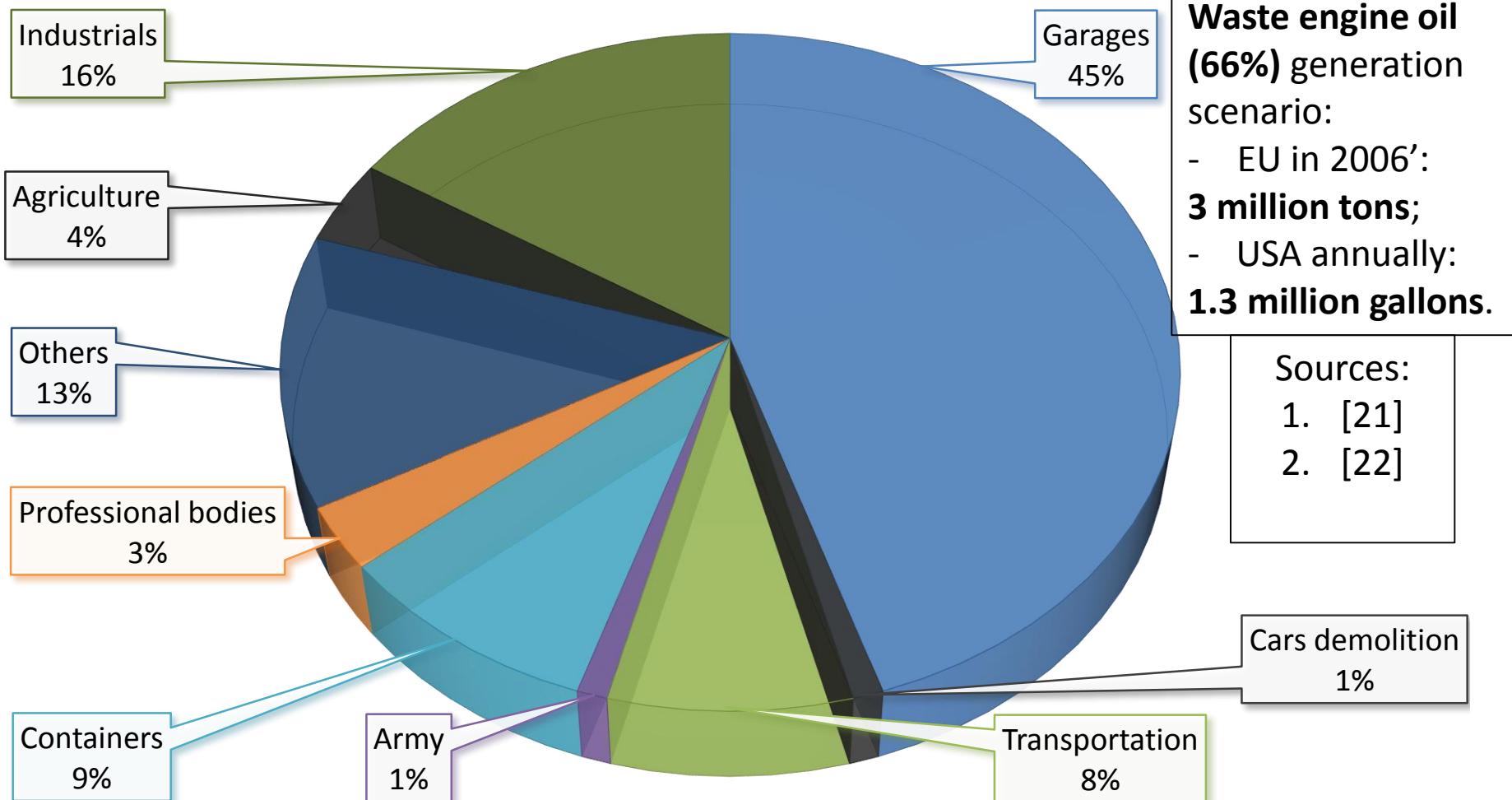
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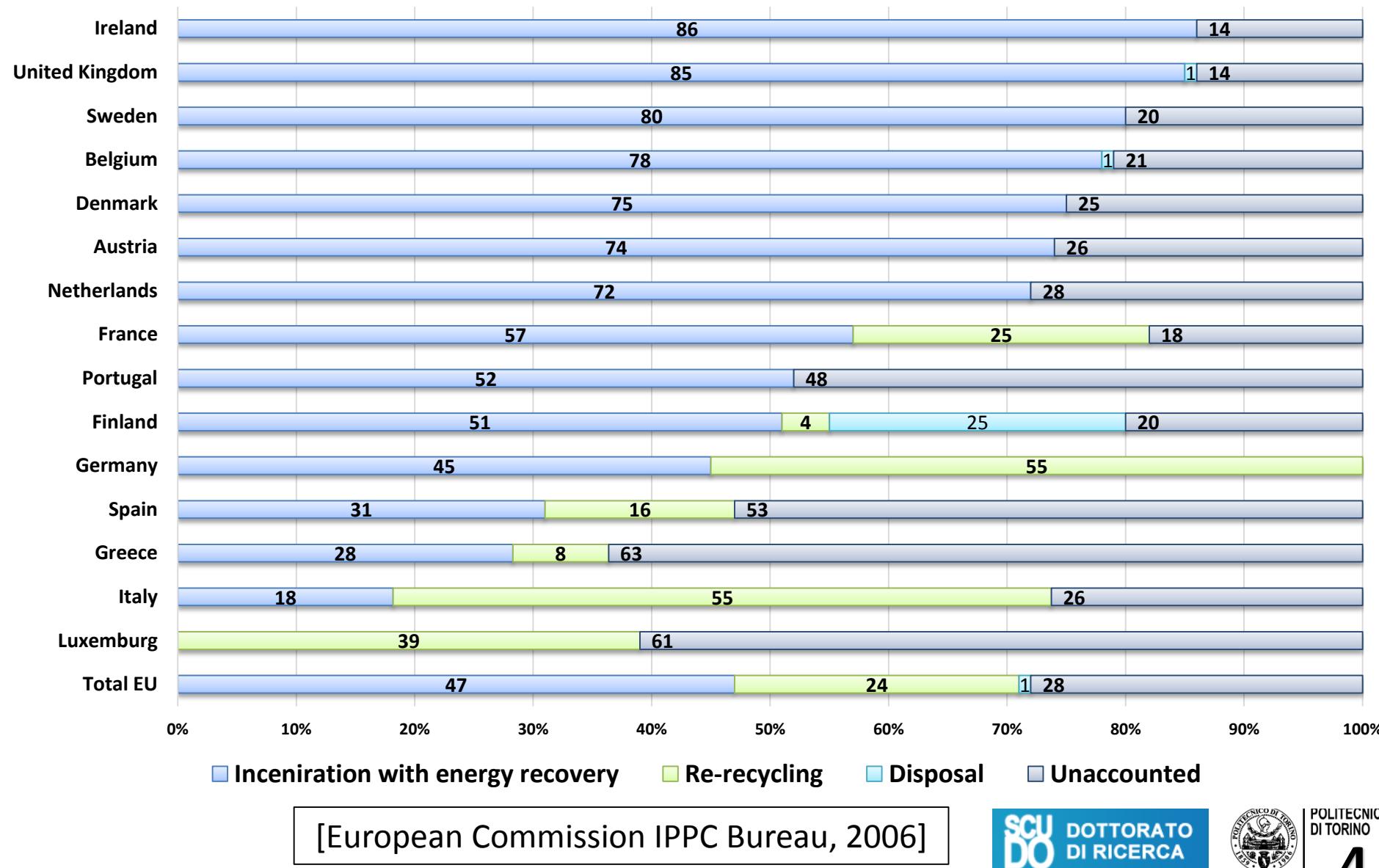
# 1. State of the art:

## COLLECTED BLACK WASTE OILS ORIGIN - UPDATE 2004

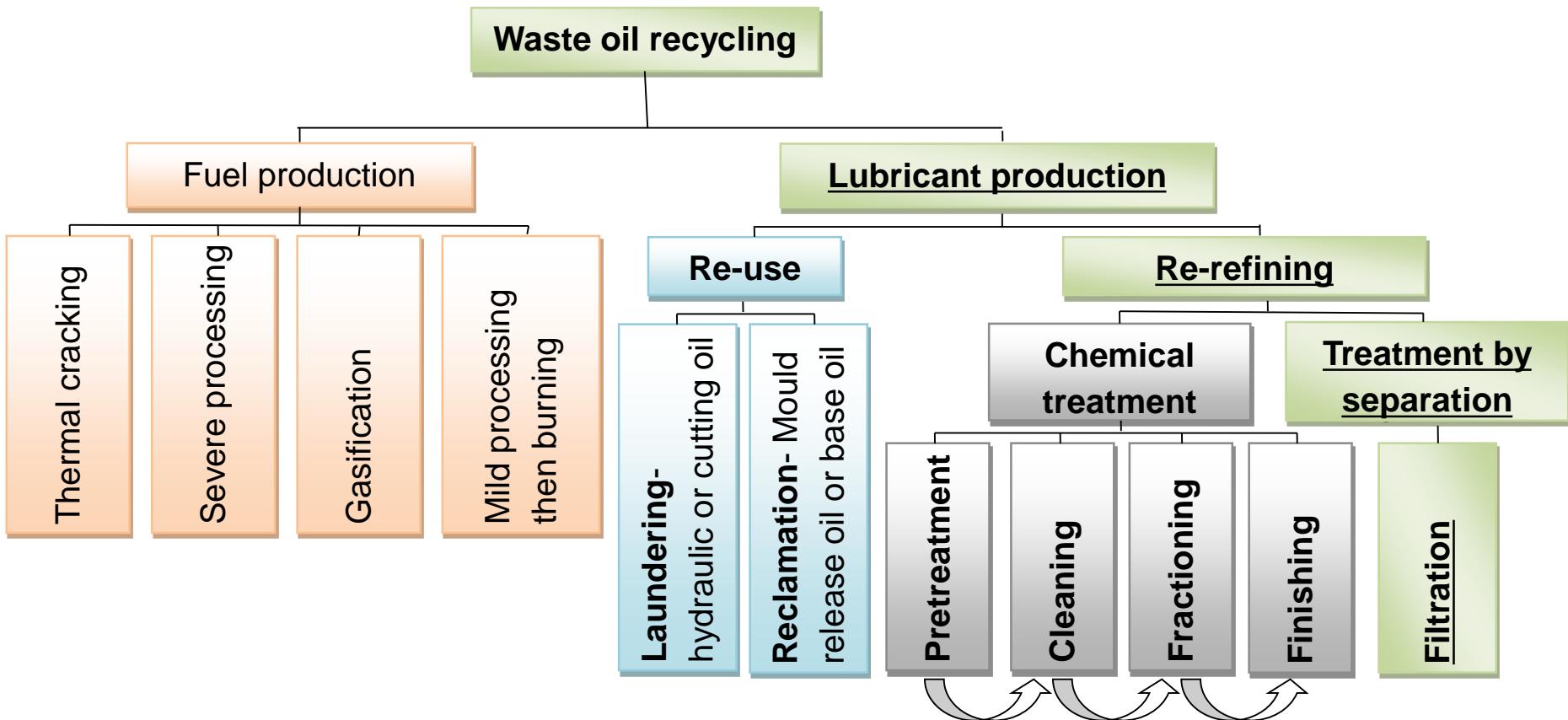


[Audibert, 2006]

# 1. State of the art: Waste oil generation, EUROPE



# 1. State of the art: Classification of recycling



[European Commission IPPC Bureau, 2006]

# 1. State of the art: MF, UF, NF

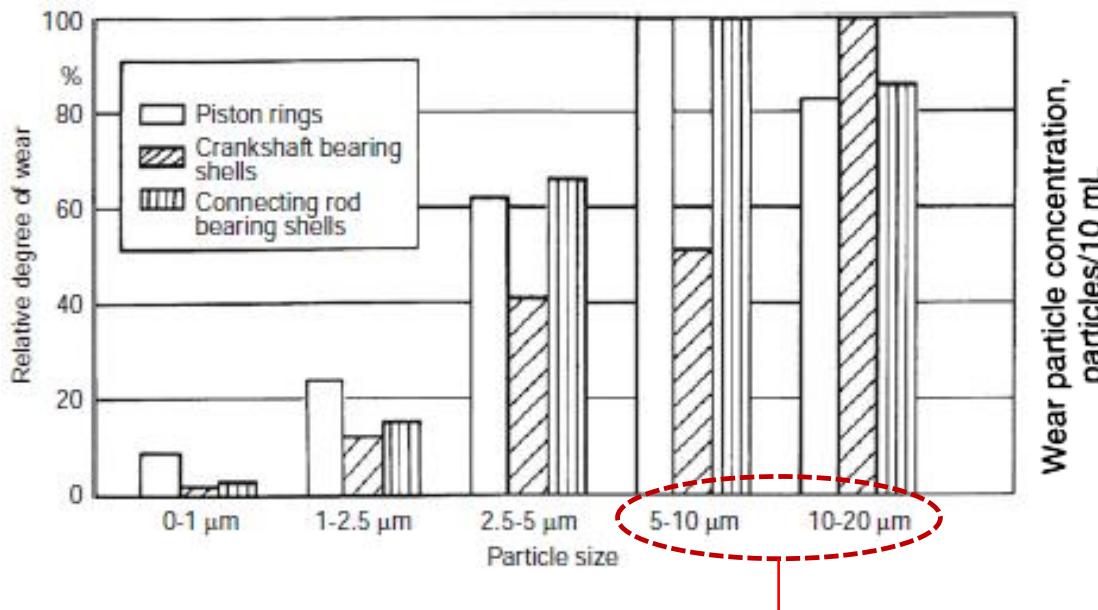
| Organic contaminants              | Probable source                                   | Approximate concentration range <sup>a</sup> |
|-----------------------------------|---|--|
| <b>Aromatic hydrocarbons</b>      |   |  |
| <b>Polynuclear (PNA):</b>         |   |  |
| Benzol(a)pyrene                   | Petroleum base stock                              | 360 - 62 000                                 |
| Benzol(a)anthracene               | Petroleum base stock                              | 870 – 30 000                                 |
| Pyrene                            | Petroleum base stock                              | 1670 – 33 000                                |
| <b>Monoaromatic Alkylbenzenes</b> | Petroleum base stock                              | 900 000                                      |
| <b>Diaromatic Naphthalenes</b>    | Petroleum base stock                              | 440 000                                      |
| <b>Chlorinated hydrocarbons</b>   |   |  |
| Trichloroethanes                  | Chemical reactions during use of contaminated oil | 18 – 1800                                    |
| Trichloroethylenes                | Chemical reactions during use of contaminated oil | 18 – 2600                                    |
| Perchloroethylenes                | Chemical reactions during use of contaminated oil | 3 - 1300                                     |
| <b>Metals</b>                     |   |  |
| Barium                            | Additive package                                  | 60 – 690                                     |
| Zinc                              | Additive package                                  | 630 – 2500                                   |
| Aluminum                          | Engine or metal wear                              | 4 – 40                                       |
| Chromium                          | Engine or metal wear                              | 5 – 24                                       |
| Lead                              | Leaded gasoline                                   | 3700 – 14 000                                |

<sup>a</sup> - All values in µg/l, except metals in mg/kg

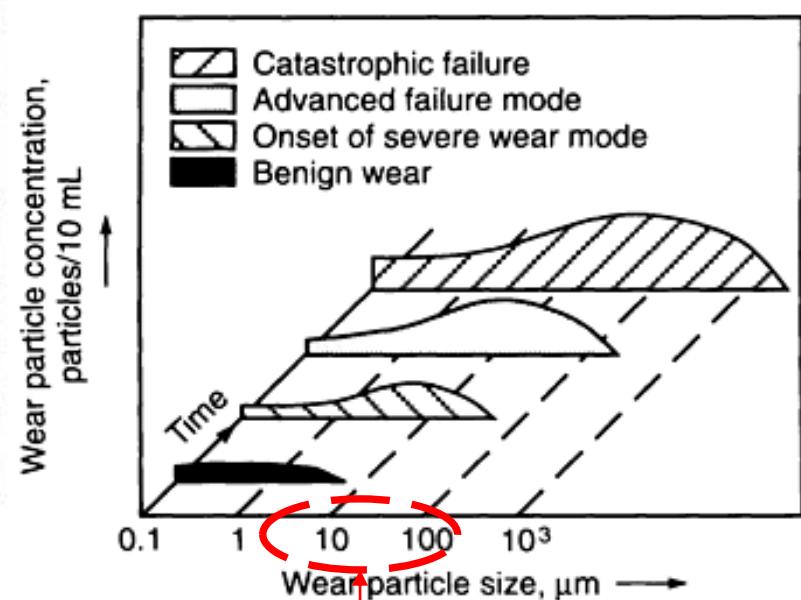
[El-Fadel et al, 2001]

# 1. State of the art: Wear rate

[Mollenhauer et al, 2010]



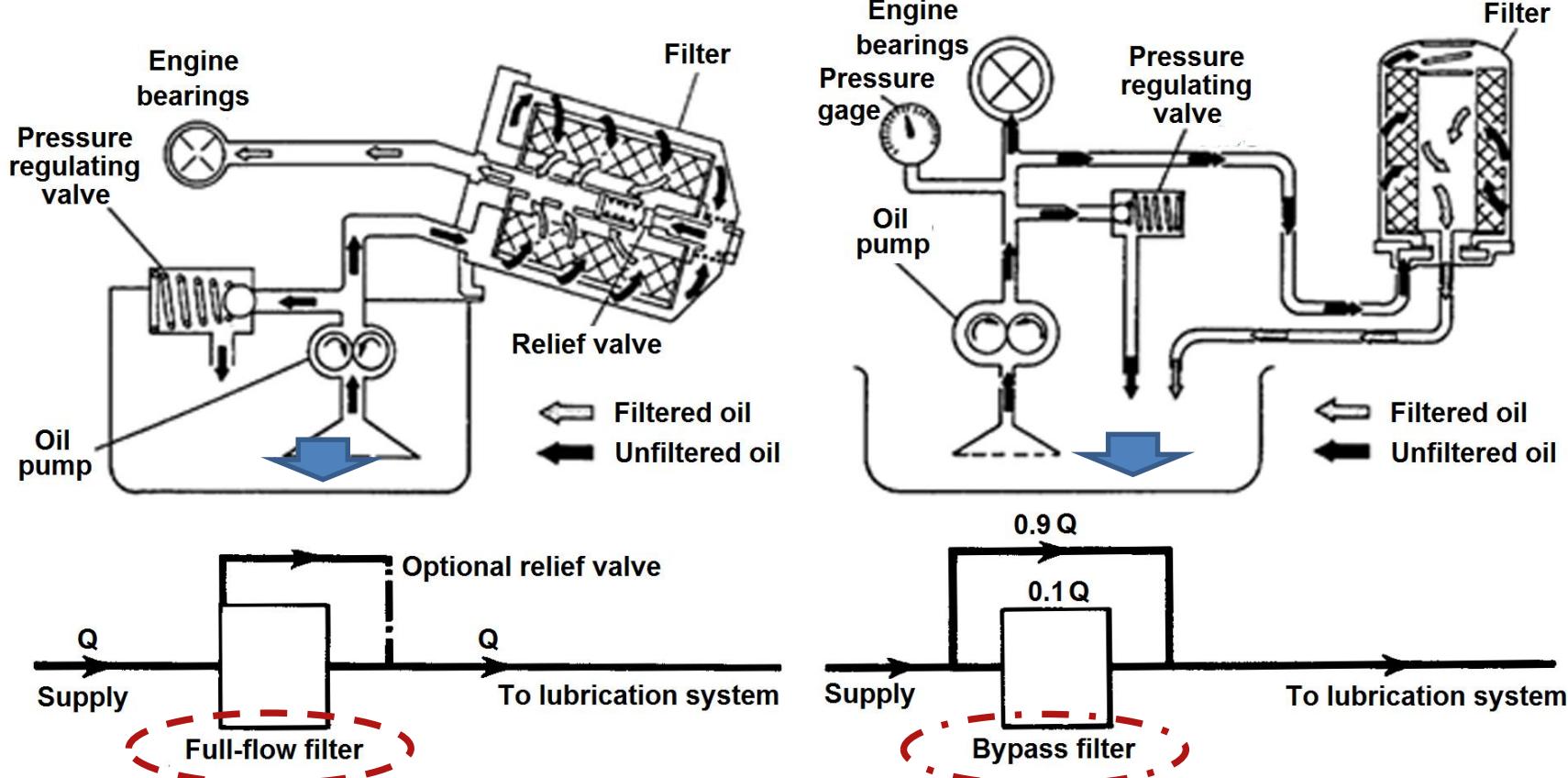
[ASM Int. Comm., 1997]



The images above show how particle size can affect the engine components. Wear in tolerance can be considered if it is below circa 5 µm which is about 50% of piston rings, crankshaft bearing shells and connecting rod bearing shells wear. Hence, to keep this limit, membrane whose maximum permeate is below 5 µm is necessary to be used in such a system.

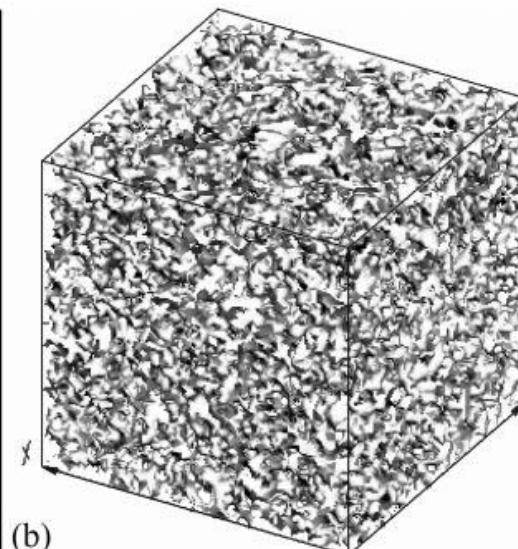
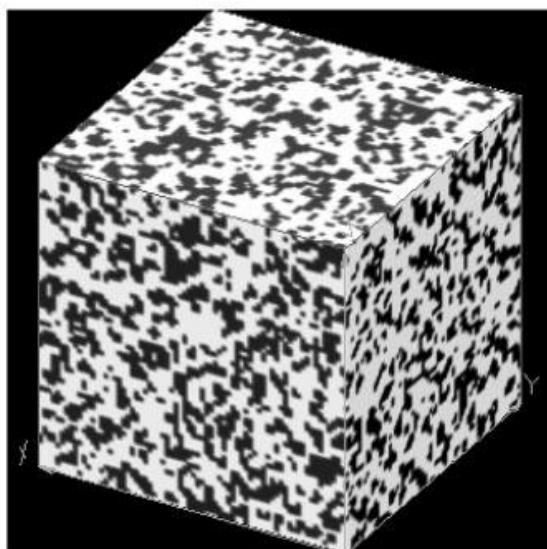
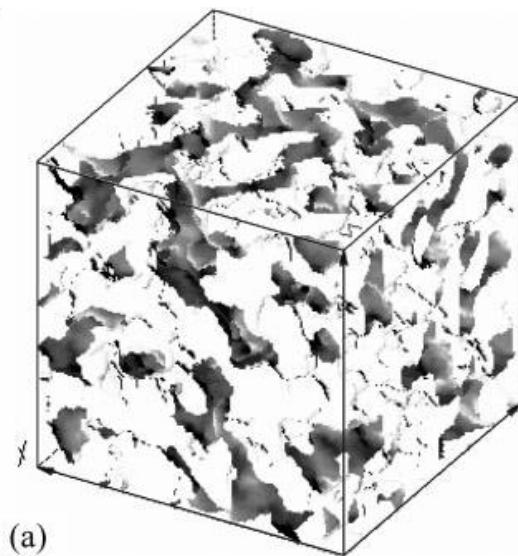
From the previous slide, one could see that double filtration is recommended to use in the lube system to prevent nano particles to become sticky soot (unwanted by engine components) and support steady state treatment of the system from worn particles.

# 1. State of the art: Possible filtration methods



**Full flow (a) and bypass flow (b) type of lubricant filters** are already being practiced in lubrication system of an engine.

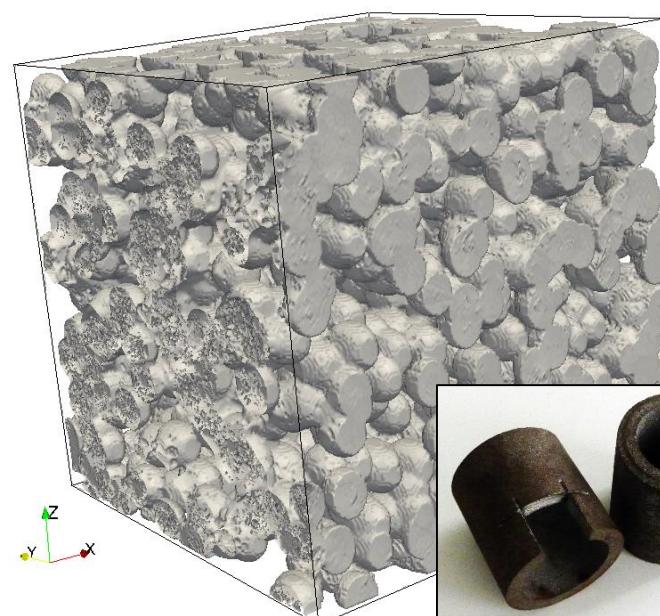
# 1. State of the art: Membrane



[Singh et al, 2000]:

Comparison of two porous structures having the same porosity, 40% and different pore length

Image a)-top has 0.05 and image b)-bottom 0.5 correlation length values or tortuosity.



## 2. Aims (scope) of the work

1. Waste engine oil treatment: perform pore scale simulation of the single phase flow through the porous complex medium;
2. Application of the metal-ceramic membranes to treat the waste oil;
3. Application of the membranes in-situ on engine;
4. Development of the reliable methodology to design metal-ceramic based membranes;
5. Recommendations to improve existed membrane parameters;
6. Investigation of optimal parameter of the filters;
7. To fit the specific needs of membrane customers.

### 3. Theory

- Reynolds number for flow in the porous media:

$$Re^* = \frac{\chi U \rho_f}{\mu(1-\varepsilon)}; \quad (1)$$

where,  $\chi$  – average size of membrane grains,  $\varepsilon$  – membrane porosity,  $\rho_f$  – fluid density,  $U$  – velocity,  $\mu$  – dynamic viscosity of the fluid; [Rhodes, 2008]

- Kozeny-Carman equation of permeability for a packed bed, the laminar flow:

To be computed by LBM

$$k = \frac{D^2 \varepsilon^3}{C(1-\varepsilon)^2}; \quad (2)$$

where,  $D$  – average size of membrane grains,  $\varepsilon$  – membrane porosity,  $C$  – a geometrical shape factor; [Hwang, 2009]

- Computing with LBM's discrete Boltzmann equation by tending local relaxation time  $\tau$  to 0, Chapman-Enskog solved Boltzmann equation for Navier-Stokes equation according to BGK model for incompressible viscous fluid:

$$\frac{1}{c_x^2} \frac{\partial P}{\partial t} + \nabla u = 0; \quad (3)$$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + u \nabla u = -\nabla P + \nu \nabla^2 u; \quad (4)$$

Finite difference method

where  $P=p/\rho$  and the kinematic viscosity  $\nu = \frac{(2\tau-1)}{6} \frac{\delta_x^2}{\delta_t}$ ,  
 $p$  – independent pressure,  $\rho$  – fluid density, [He, 1997]

- Darcy's equation for flow-rate estimation:

$$Q = \frac{-kA(P_b - P_a)}{\mu L}; \quad (5)$$

Lattice Boltzmann method

where,  $k$  – membrane permeability,  $P_b-P_a$  – pressure drop across membrane,  $\mu$  – dynamic viscosity of fluid,  $L$  – membrane thickness

## 4. Methodology

The sequence of the work flowed according to following scheme:

- Obtaining, gaining any tubular inorganic membrane;
- Gaining several waste engine oil samples for the study;
- Analysis of the lubrication system to know if the flow in the lubrication system is laminar, transient or turbulent;
- Membrane surface image acquisition with the aid of SEM;
- Membrane material approval with EDS results;
- Image processing with ImageJ software;
- Based on the results of the image processing, reconstruction of 3D morphology of the membrane with help of Matlab, C++, ParaVIEW;
- Simulation of the waste engine oil passing through the reconstructed membrane pores in order to evaluate the permeability with help of PALABOS software (based on LBM);
- Based on Darcy's (flow rate) and Kozeny-Carman (permeability) equations, calculation of the flow rate of the membrane;
- Validation of the methodology with similar published experimental findings.

### 4.Theoretical calculations

# 5. Input data for modelling

Obtaining necessary parameters of waste engine oil samples during 2012-2013

| # | Car and lubricant brand                                  | Type of a car | Car ID #   | Oil mileage | Viscosity, 100 °C, mm <sup>2</sup> /s | Density, kg/m <sup>3</sup> |         |
|---|--|---------------|------------|-------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|---------|
|   |  |               |            |             |                                       | Each                       | Average |
| 1 | MAN<br>with<br>'Prista<br>Ultra,<br>10W-40'<br>lubricant | Dump truck    | 10 206 QAA | 0 km        | 14.18                                 | 855.92                     | 861.786 |
|   |  |               |            | 5734 km     | 13.66                                 | 858.41                     |         |
|   |  |               |            | 13172 km    | 14.73                                 | 862.23                     |         |
|   |  |               |            | 25789 km    | 14.6                                  | 864.20                     |         |
|   |  |               |            | 32789 km    | 13.1                                  | 868.17                     |         |
| 2 | Bitumen tank wagon                                       | 10 207 QAA    |            | 0 km        | 13.94                                 | 855.92                     | 857.898 |
|   |  |               |            | 6015 km     | 13.96                                 | 856.51                     |         |
|   |  |               |            | 14664 km    | 14.89                                 | 859.02                     |         |
|   |  |               |            | 21498 km    | 14.4                                  | 858.78                     |         |
|   |  |               |            | 33168 km    | 14.0                                  | 859.26                     |         |
| 3 | Container truck  | 10 248 LAA    |            | 0 km        | 13.94                                 | 855.92                     | 860.766 |
|   |  |               |            | 6017 km     | 14.1                                  | 860.59                     |         |
|   |  |               |            | 10587 km    | 14.1                                  | 859.15                     |         |
|   |  |               |            | 16042 km    | 14.3                                  | 863.55                     |         |
|   |  |               |            | 22283 km    | 14.1                                  | 864.62                     |         |



# 5. Inorganic (metal-ceramic) membrane production

Scale reduction

Grinding

Sieving

Batch preparation

Compaction (compression)

Sintering

Second (final) compaction

Product final test

The procedure of tubular ceramic-metal membrane (based on 82% of electrocorundum, 14% clay and 4% of borosilicate concentrate) preparation flows as below:

- Preliminary grinding of clay and borosilicate concentrate;
- Raw materials are blended in wet condition inside ball mill during 30 minutes while slip (slurry) has humidity of 45-50%;
- Finished slip is dried on pallets inside electric drying chamber;
- Dried mass passes through a gasoline and then through a sieve with cell size of 1 mm;
- Obtained powder is mixed with methylcellulose and water solution to obtain wet powder.
- The maximum moisture of the powder must be 17 to 19%;
- The mass is aged during one day and then processed inside vacuum auger (the depth of vacuum is between 0.96 and 0.98 MPa);
- Following the vacuuming of the mass, the vertical plunger (piston) press takes place for extrusion of tubular substrates. The unit pressure of extrusion comprises 6-10 MPa;
- Formed tubular goods are then subjected to air-seasoning in warm places for 2 days;
- Maximum temperature of calcination following this storage must be 1200°C.**

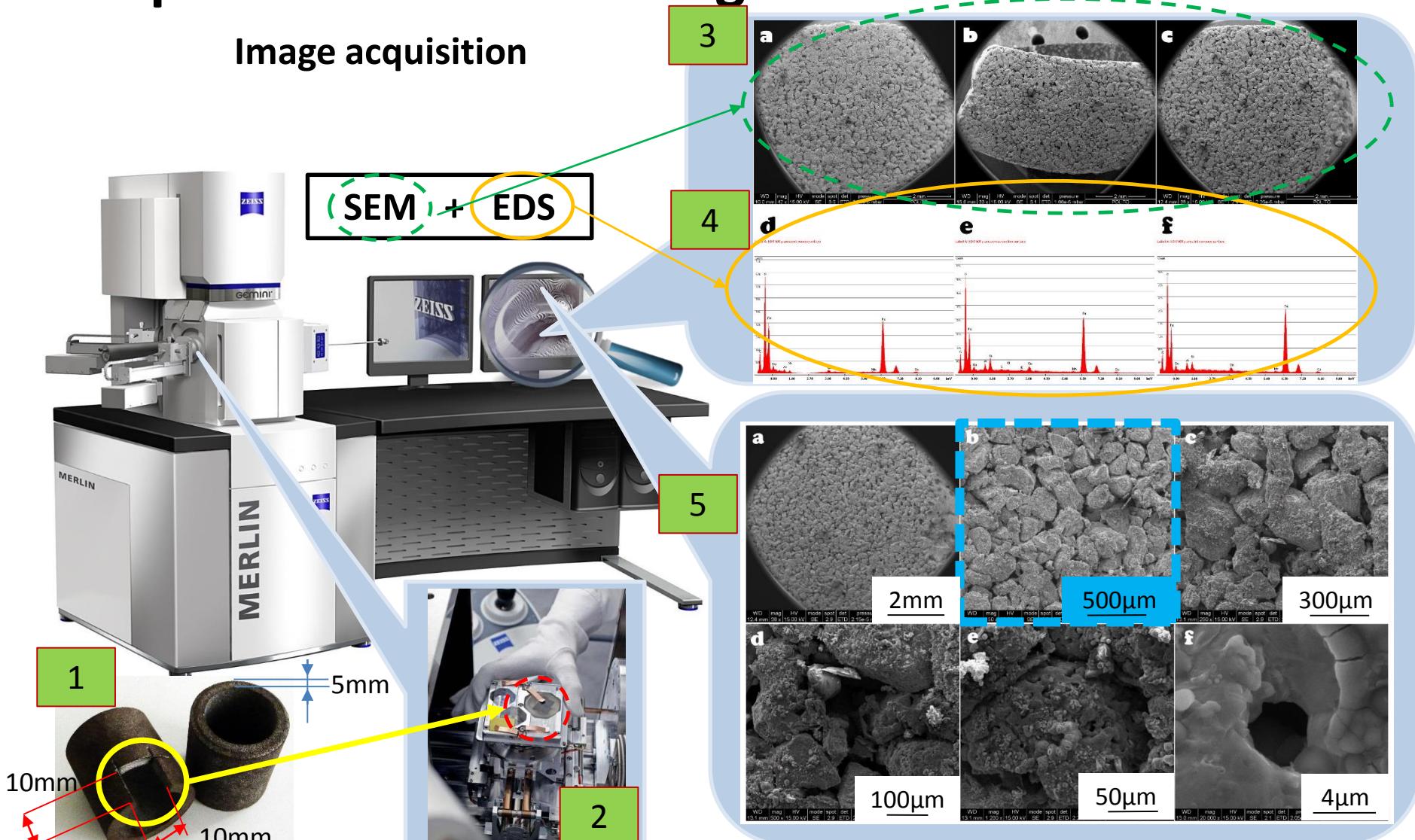
## 5. Input data for modelling

### Requirements on image acquisition

- The surfaces of the membranes must **be orthogonal**;
- The membrane structure must **be homogeneous**;
- They (membranes) **must be produced based on sintering, pressing and/or extrusion**;
- The structure must **be granular**;
- The **structure** is basically **irregular**;
- In order to evaluate the membrane volumetric porosity, the membrane **images must be sliced** and the **slices must illustrate three different surfaces** – or three axes;
- In case if slicing is impossible or unavailable like in this work, then to have images from **three different surfaces**. In this work, this was like **internal, external and cross-sectional surfaces**;
- If even this is unavailable (like the case with validation – the only **single SEM image was available**) then **to use the declared volumetric porosity value** and use SEM image only for average pore size evaluation.

# 5. Input data for modelling

## Image acquisition



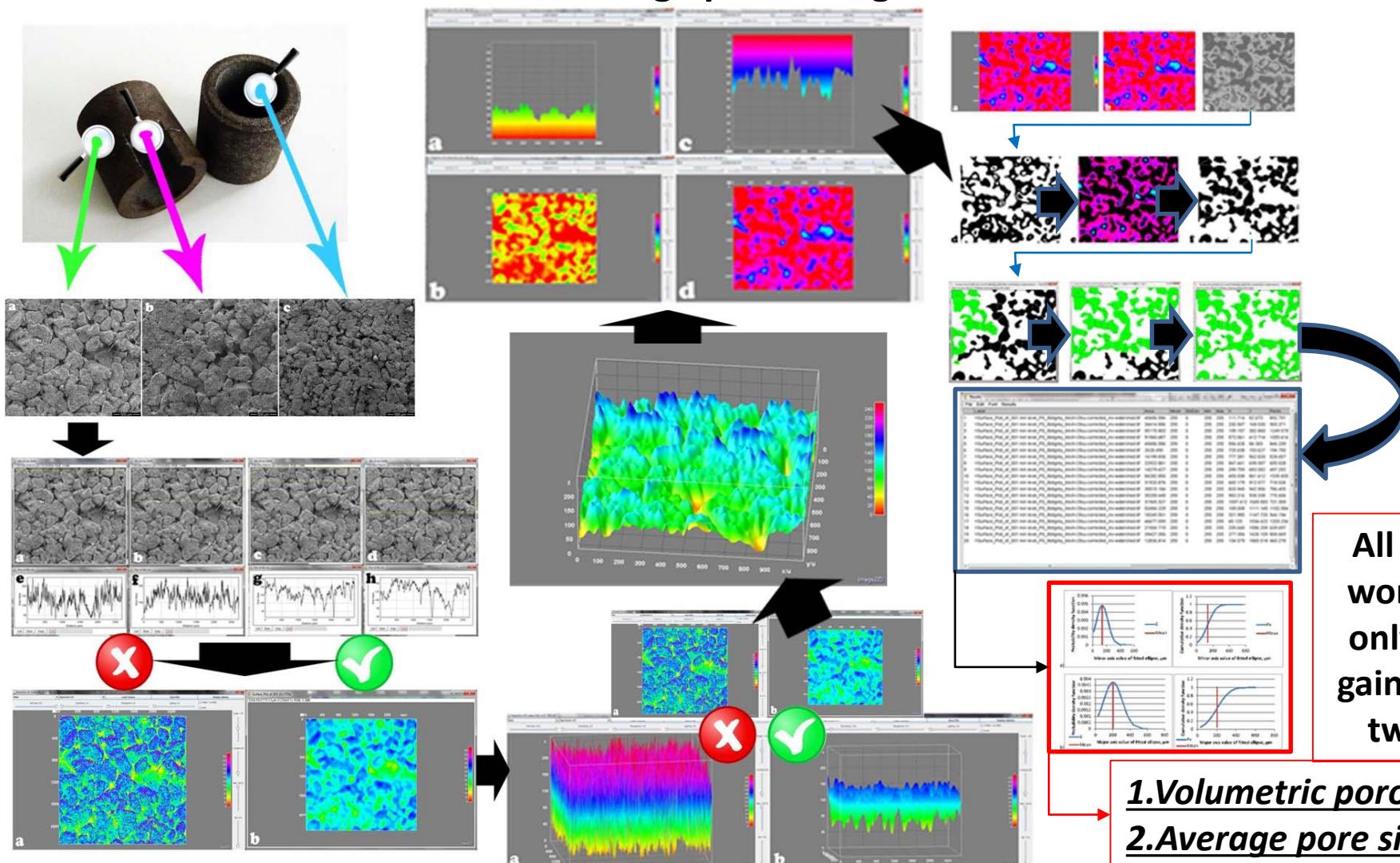
## 5. Input data for modelling

### Image processing procedure

- **Depth analysis** of the membrane structure;
- **Image noise reduction**;
- **Reconstruction** of the 3D morphology;
- **Separation** of the recreated 3D morphology;
- **Cropping** obtained image to select the region of interest;
- **Calibration** of the size;
- **Converting** color image to grey level (one of the step to gain binary image);
- **Conversion** of grey level image into binary by thresholding algorithm;
- **Watershedding**;
- Application of **Boolean operators** on thresholded images;
- **Measuring (with software)** the porous and granular areas.

## 5. Input data for modelling

### Image processing

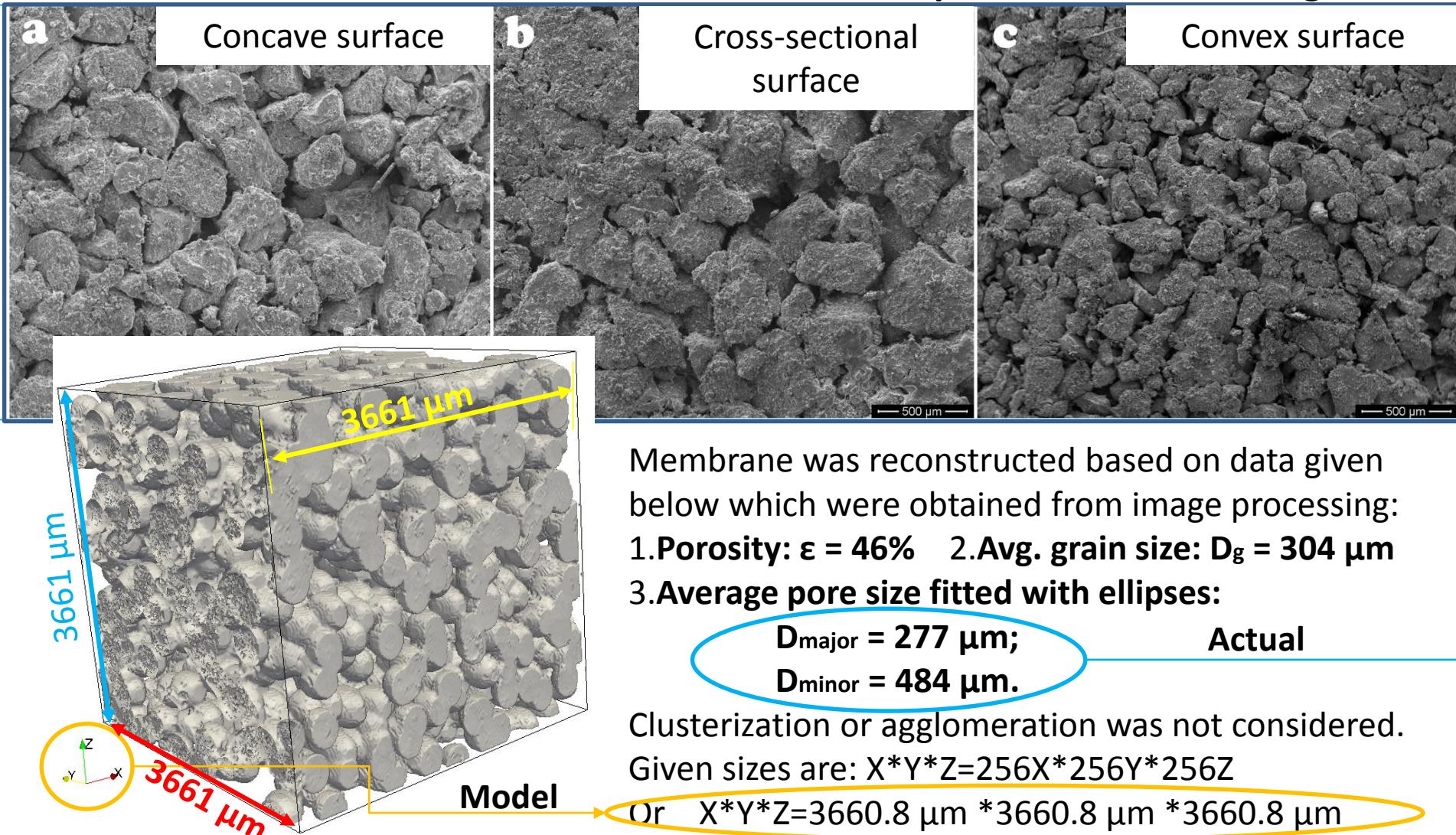


All the work is only to gain this two:

- 1. Volumetric porosity;**
- 2. Average pore size.**

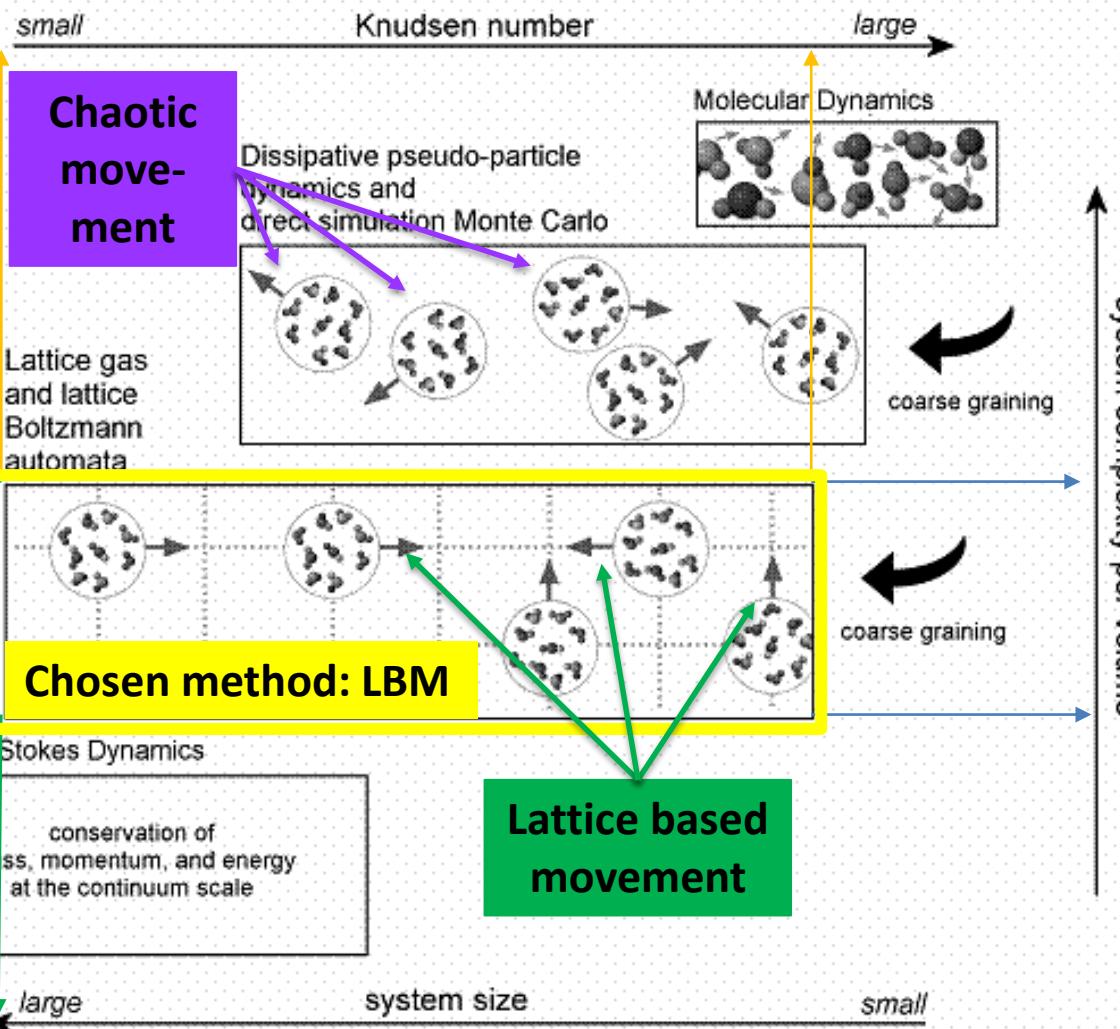
# 6. Modelling

## Membrane's 3D structure reconstruction and comparison with SEM images



# 6. Modelling, cont-ed

## CFD: Bhatnagar-Gross-Krook (BGK) model



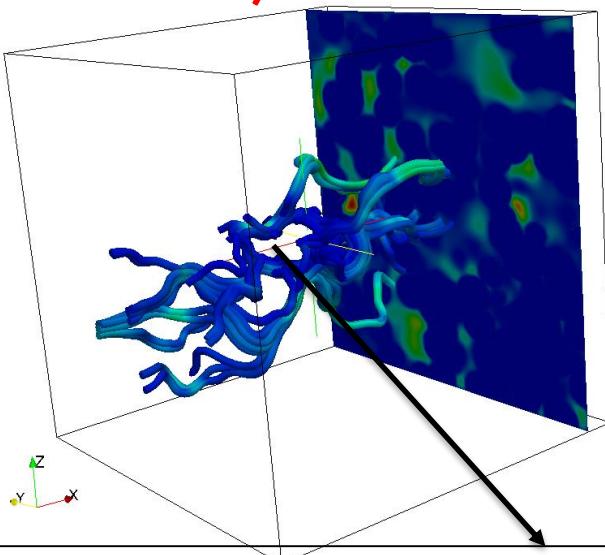
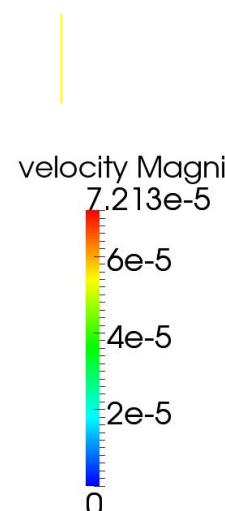
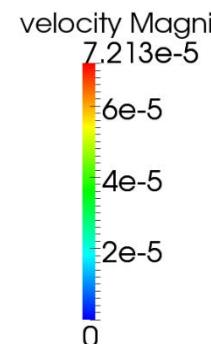
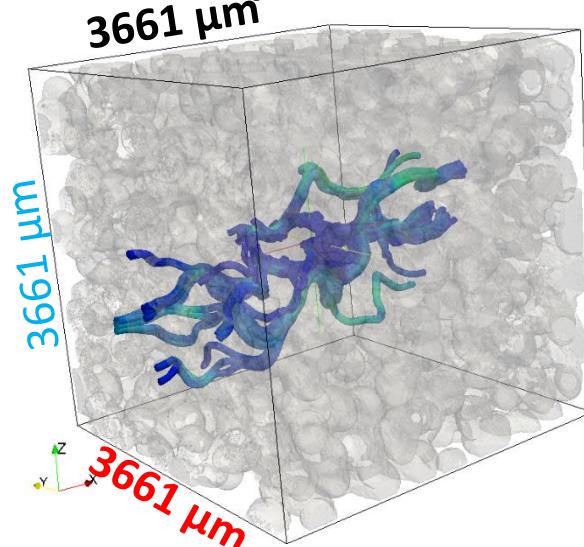
[Raabe, 2014]

**Advantages of LMB method** compared with other CFD methods:

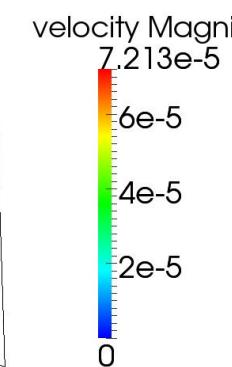
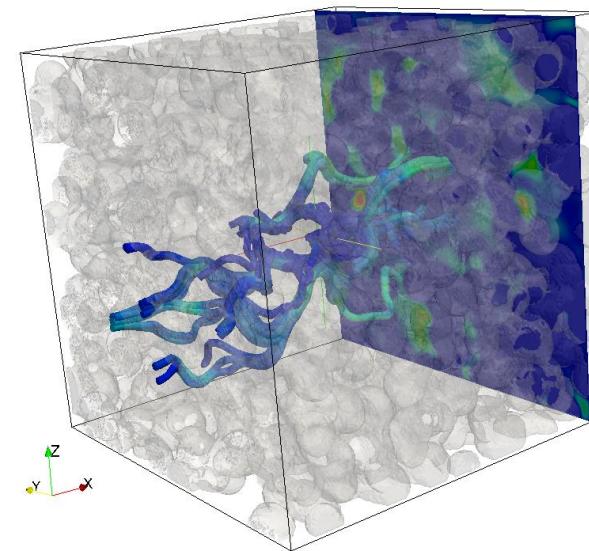
- Possibility to deal with **irregular morphologies**;
- Being **mesoscopic**, it bridges micro physics with macro;
- Possibility of **parallelization** of the computation;
- Bounce-back principle** – reproduces the non slip boundary condition.
- There is **no need for complex mesh** generation – the is based on method **rectangular mesh**;
- Unlike to conventional CFD solvers, the LBM solves Boltzman equation, forcing relaxation parameter tend to zero

# 6. Modelling, cont-ed

Results of pore scale simulation of flow through reconstructed porous medium



Streamlines show that tortuosity of the membrane is rather big.



**Waste oil streamlines passing through the structure of the membrane.**

**Assumptions:**

- Incompressible single phase fluid;
- Const. pressure and const. temperature;
- No slip boundary condition;

**Initial input parameters:**

- Fluid: viscosity & density;
- Membrane: avg. pore size & porosity.

# 6. Modelling, cont-ed

## Computational fluid dynamics

In this image, the convergence of membrane under the waste engine oil flow is given. As the CFD method of the study relies on LBM, the

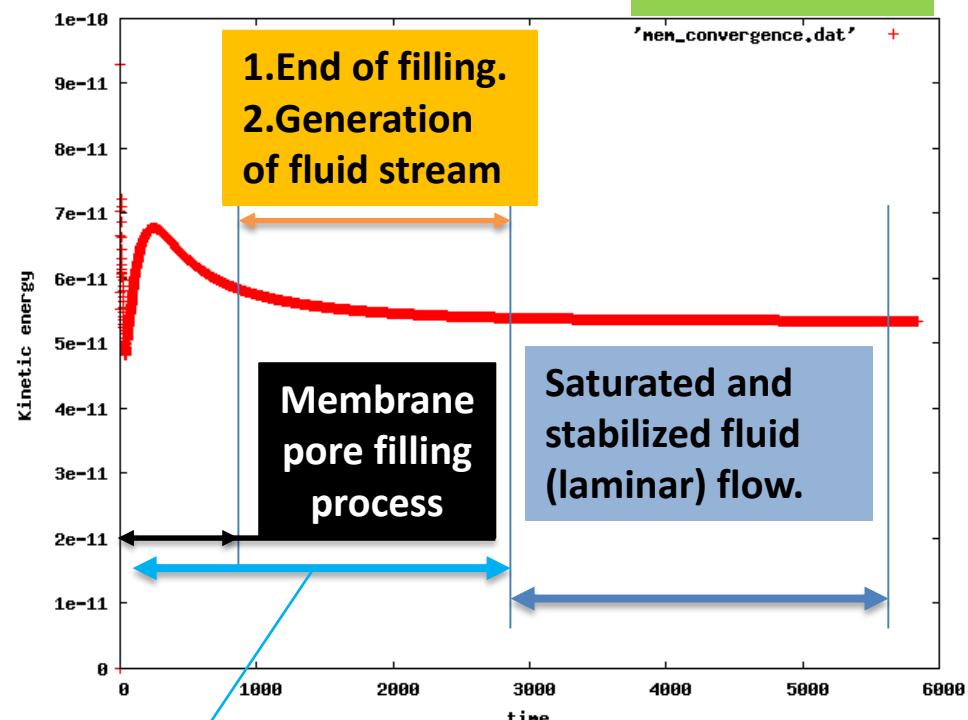
### The simulation physical time

comprised two days or **48 hours** which is equal to **5880 iterations** as given in the image.

The **flow saturation** occurs **between 2000 – 3000 iterations** and the flow inside the membrane becomes **stabilized** or **laminar**.

The **laminar flow coincidence proves** the primary assumption to apply **Darcy's law** and the calculation of the lubrication system flow. Precisely the flow at the outlet of the lube pump and inside the membrane.

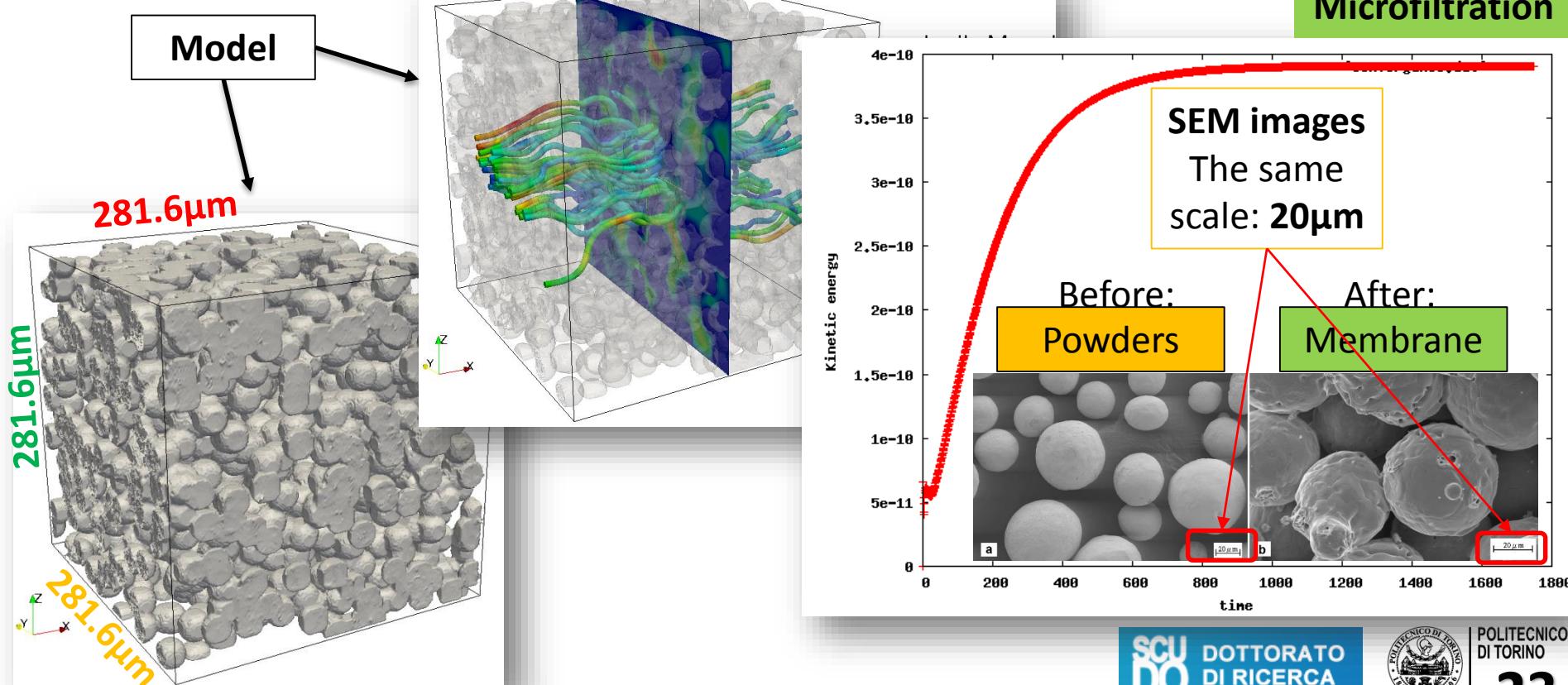
### Conventional filtration



In this region, error of the method is maximum!!!

## 7. Validation of the method

The validation of the method is necessary to know the possible error or difference between experimental and numerical results. In this study, the same work has been accomplished. The study of Hwang (2009) had the appropriate finding necessary for validation. Declared porosity - 38%, fitted pore size -  $39.6\mu\text{m}$  and  $23.0\mu\text{m}$  and grain size  $\approx 30\mu\text{m}$ , error between experimental ( $4.50 \times 10^{-12}\text{m}^2$ ) and numerical ( $4.92 \times 10^{-12}\text{m}^2$ ) permeabilities were few percents:



## 8. Results of pore scale modelling and theoretical prediction

| #  | Parameters   | Values  | Units   |
|----|--|---|---|
| 1  | Used computer (cluster) Transtec HPC: Total virtual cores/Total RAM/Nodes, [20]  | 72 / 144 / 8  | Pcs/GB/pcs  |
| 2  | Quantity of processors used for computation by PALABOS open source software  | 20  | CPUs  |
| 3  | Membrane porosity, $\epsilon$  | 0.46  | No unit   |
| 4  | Flow velocity, $u$   | 0.00825   | m/s   |
| 5  | Reynolds number for flow in porous media, $R_e^*$  | 0.3318  | No unit   |
| 6  | Membrane permeability, $k$   | $1.65 \times 10^{-10}$  | $m^2$   |
| 7  | Geometric factor of the membrane structure (depending on the powder and process used and the resulting effective pore length, pore surface roughness tortuosity of the pore structure): function of shape, function of size, specific surface, degree of compression, function of topology, porosity parameter (macroscopic parameter) | 187.14 (this study)<br>180 (for spherical grain shapes)<br>150 (Ergun)<br>250 (Hwang, 2009) | No unit   |
| 8  | Membrane surface area for separation, $A$ :<br>$A_1$ , (when membrane length is 40 mm, $h=5$ mm, $d_{int}=25$ mm)*<br>$A_2$ , (when membrane length is 251 mm, $h=5$ mm, $d_{int}=70$ mm)**  | 0.00314<br>0.05517  | $m^2$   |
| 9  | Flow rate of the waste oil while passing the membrane, $Q$ :   |   |   |
| 10 | Case 1 - sizes of investigated membrane  | - $\Delta P100, A_1$<br>- $\Delta P200, A_1$<br>- $\Delta P300, A_1$                        | - $0.9 \times 10^{-3}$<br>- $1.8 \times 10^{-3}$<br>- $2.7 \times 10^{-3}$    |
| 11 | Case 2 - sizes of real membrane by Henry Technologies, Model s4005   | - $\Delta P100, A_2$<br>- $\Delta P200, A_2$<br>- $\Delta P300, A_2$                        | - $15.9 \times 10^{-3}$<br>- $31.8 \times 10^{-3}$<br>- $47.7 \times 10^{-3}$ |

\* - sizes of the membrane under investigation; \*\* - estimated and available sizes

## 8. Results, cont-ed

1. Main finding of the study is that the membrane under 100kPa pressure drop, 100°C and with the given internal 25mm, external 35mm diameter, 40mm length can produce or treat waste engine oil (with 817.2 kg/m<sup>3</sup> density and 14 cSt kinematic viscosity) with **0.3 ml/h flow-rate!!!**
2. **The lubrication system needs at least flow-rate of 17 l/h.** However, it worth to note that this flow-rate is produced with another size of the membrane and another type of material: length is 251mm, membrane thickness 1mm and internal diameter of 70 mm. Moreover, as that material is corrugated, filtration area is increased for several orders than of inorganic tubular one.
3. **Membrane thickness** is one the most important factors. The smaller the thickness – the better the permeability according to Kozeny-Carman permeability.
4. **The geometric shape factor that is 187.14.** In case of theoretical Kozeny-Carman for spherical grains, it was **180** and Ergun declared it to be **150** regarding his experimental findings. Hwang (2009) had **250** for spherical grains. Hence the factor seems to be in good agreement with theoretical one being **fitted with ellipsoid pores and spherical grain fitting.**

## 9. Conclusion

1. Waste oil in terms of oil contamination at microscale has been investigated.
2. Micro-morphologic model of the metal-ceramic material based membrane has been developed.
3. Optimal design of filtration has been proposed.
4. Reliable algorithm for reconstruction of the membrane filter morphology has been elucidated.
5. Developed morphological model has been approved by validating with experimental data from literature.
6. Optimal parameters for specific filtration process based on waste metal particles are proposed.
7. Geometrical shape factor is in good agreement with theoretical.
8. Recommendation for in-situ application of the membrane.
9. The method is valid for application down to 20 microns.
10. Depending on the contaminant size distribution, the membrane can be adopted (tuned) for full flow filtration.
11. For by-pass flow filtration, the membrane must have maximum 5 microns of pore diameter.

## 10. Recommendations

|                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| Practical application | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Application in new material investigation;</li> <li>2. Application of the results in production of improved membrane material;</li> <li>3. Application of the results in separation: food production, beverages, and so on;</li> <li>4. Application of the results in treatment: water, oil, etc.;</li> </ol>  |
| Theoretical           | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The membrane investigated <b>lacks of flow-rate</b> to be full-flow filter. It is better to use it as <b>bypass flow filter</b> instead. However, the grain and average pore sizes must be much smaller, not 200 or 300 microns, but 1-10 microns at most (the study of Hwang could be good reference in preparation at such scale sizes);</li> <li>2. <b>The sizes</b> (length, internal diameter, etc) of the membrane <b>need to be enhanced</b> and thickness is decreased for this in-situ application. This will further allow to increase the filtration area;</li> <li>3. The membrane surface must be increased to increase the flow rate.</li> <li>4. <b>Further studies on tortuosity are suggested.</b></li> <li>5. <b>It is recommended to produce membrane with bigger porosity values but within the limit of 60-70%;</b></li> <li>6. The Kozeny-Carman curve of the membrane is desirable to construct following the production of the membranes with different porosities to understand critical values of the porosity for the given membrane material.</li> </ol> |

## 11. Acknowledgements

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Thank you for your attention and please questions ...

