



CNR.IT

CNR.IT HIGHLIGHTS 2009-2010

SECOND EDITION



CNR.IT HIGHLIGHTS 2008 - 2009

FIRST EDITION

Published by CNR PSC Office

CNR.IT

- CNR is the largest public research institution in Italy, performing multidisciplinary activities
- In 2010 it produced 6,898 publications and 6,986 in 2009, indexed in the Web of Science (WoS)
- Highlights: a selection of about 220 articles published in CNR.IT second edition
- EDITORIAL BOARD: selection of articles, general supervision
- SELECTION CRITERIA: High IF Journals, relevance for CNR research





Inside CNR.IT ...

Highlights CNR | 2009 • 2010

URBANIZATION

Towards a modern view of city: processes of urbanization in Europe 1700-1870

184

The 10th century marks the passage of Europe from a civilization based on agriculture and the countryside to a civilization based on industry. services and cities. Urbanisation is one of the main changes taking

and product and the rising share of industry and services, implied the relative decline of agriculture and countryside within both the economy and society. The period analysed in the chapter

inequality towards convergence: thus we could succinctly recall the main changes in 18th and ntury European urbanisation. In 800, the geography and the levels of European urbanisation were still similar to those of the late Middle Ages, the main changes being the rise of England and Scotland and the spread from Flanders towards the Netherlands in the early modern age. Inequality between North and South had diminished for this very reason. In 1870 by contrast, both the level and geography of urbanisation were significantly different. Rise in urbanisation had occurred within the great transformations of the European econ-

From stability to growth and from

220 scientific articles published in 2009-2010 on major journals



European Urbanisation in 1800.

DEMOGRAPHY Size. characteristics and prospects of EU minors in Italy

The increase in foreign mi one of the most important opments of foreign immig in Italy. This increase is the of the stabilisation of ma migrant communities and elled by family reunions a births by foreign couples. F

minors were 126,000 in 1997 and statistical data offers had become 862,000 by the beof the situation. As a matter of ginning of 2009. The increase of fact, the enlargement of the EU foreigners born, or who have grown has brought about a huge and



The new edition of the Etruscan Language Thesaurus, edited by Enrico Benelli, researcher at the Institute for the Study of Ancient Mediterranean Civilisations (Iscima) of CNR, is enhanced with five thousand new entries in addition to the original eight thousand entries of the first edition from 1978, published by Massimo Pallottino, the father of Italian Etruscan Studies. The new acquisitions are owed to the intensification but, since the 1970's, the increase of the territorial extension of the studies as well, mostly concentrated in Southern Etruria, full of accounts from the VII through the IV centuries B.C.: especially personal names and terms drawn from the funerary and sacred lexicon. It was also possible to loosen several crucial points in the identification of verbs, adjectives, and other grammatical elements and defining the pronunciation.

C. Bonifazi, "Dimensioni, caratteristiche e prospettive dei minori comunitari in Italia", Minorigiustizia, 2 (2010), pp. 28-32.

from CNR Press Office In the school year 2002-2003, only 6,000 students came from one of the countries of the EU-15 (2.5% of the total). After only five years, the number of EU-27 students arrived at 124,000, one fifth of all Italian students. A growth of 21 times in a very short time period. The growth in EU immigration is another important change in the Italian immigration scenario. It has been driven by the enlargement of the EU and has completely modified the legal status of a large part of the foreign population. In light of these changes, it should be a requirement to update our statistical tools, analysis, interpretations and policies towards foreign

immigration.

Scientific "GLAMs"

Culture and Society

4 TEMATIC SECTIONS

- LIFE AND ENVIRONMENT
- ENERGY AND MATTER

Health, Antitumorals, Neurosciences, **Biology**, Molecular biology, **Green technologies**, **Green technologies**, **Energy**, Nuclear Fusion, **New Materi** Spr Epistemology, Lexicology, Learning technology, Cognitive sciences Art

Genetics, Evolution,

Epistemology, Lexicology, Learning technology, Cognitive sciences, Art restoration, Art diagnostics, Linguistics, Landscape archaelogy, Energy policies, Urbanization, Demography, Psychology





Influence of operating parameters on the Arsenic removal by Nanofiltration

Figoli et al., Water Research 44 (2010) 97-104

Alberto Figoli^{*}, Alfredo Cassano,

Alessandra Criscuoli, Enrico Drioli Institute on Membrane Technology (ITM-CNR), Rende (CS), *a.figoli@itm.cnr.it

This work was carried out within the Asia Pro Eco Program "Technology partnership for innovative treatment of drinking and industrial water" (INNOWA) (BD Asia Pro Eco/07/96638) supported by the European Commission in the 6th Framework Programme. (*websites: www.innowa.org ; www.itm.cnr.it*)

Arsenic contamination in the water

• Dangerous arsenic concentrations in natural waters is a worldwide problem and often referred to as a 20th–21st century calamity.

• High Arsenic contaminations of surface and groundwater is reported in a large number of Countries (Bangladesh, Chile, Argentina, USA, New Zealand, Canada, Poland, Hungary and <u>also Italy</u>). However, the largest population at risk is in Bangladesh followed by West Bengal in India



Worldwide map of As contamination of surface and groundwater



Bangladesh map of As contamination of groundwater

Arsenic contamination in the water

Health Effects

Long term exposition to inorganic arsenic may cause a wide range of health effects including: skin lesions such as pigmentation changes, form of gangrene, circulatory disorders and diabetes. It is carcinogen increasing the risk of skin cancer and tumors of the bladder, kidney, liver and lungs.



Consequently, authorities have taken a more stringent attitude to arsenic (As) in the environment. World Health Organization (WHO) and US Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) guidelines fixed the new standard limit for arsenic in drinking water to **10 ppb.**

Chemistry of Arsenic

In nature arsenic occurs in several chemical forms and oxidation states. The two states prevalent in water environment are **trivalent (As (III)) and pentav** HA_{50} **(As(V)).** At neutral pH, the predominant species for As(V) are H_2AsO_4 and which means that As(V) exists as an anion at a typical pH in natural water (pH 5–8), whereas in this range of pH As(III) is mainly present as uncharged species (H3AsO3) and, therefore, is less efficiently rejected.

Experimental Section



Water Permeate Flux



Effect of operating T on permeate flux at different As concentrations (TMP=6 bar, pH=8). Effect of TMP on permeate flux at different As concentrations (T=25°C, pH=8).

As Rejection(%) vs As concentration and pH feed



removal of As feed concentration on th removal of As(V) (T=25°C, pH=8, TMP=6 bar) Effect of the **pH** on the removal of As(V) (feed Conc. = 500 ppb, T= 25C,TMP=6 bar.



• As a common trend, an <u>increase of pH</u> and a <u>decrease of operating</u> <u>temperature</u> and <u>As feed concentration</u> determined a <u>higher</u> <u>efficiency of As removal for both membranes</u>, whereas the TMP slightly affected the As rejection of the N30F membrane (it reduced at higher TMP). In both cases, the permeate flux increased with temperature and pressure and it had a maximum value at a pH of about 8.





Conclusions

• <u>Nanofiltration</u> can be considered a viable approach <u>to</u> <u>remove As(V) from contaminated water</u>. However, the As feed concentration has to be strongly considered in order to produce a permeate stream containing an As concentration within the allowed limits.





Solar hydrogen: Fuel of the near future

Energy Environ. Sci., 2010, 3, 279-287

- Solar H₂ is the fuel of the future because it solves the intermittency of supply of free solar energy, meeting the key requirement of today's global society
- the continuous flows of energy.
- **Solar H**₂ is the fuel of the future because it does so meeting two requirements of tomorrow's society:
- It will stop greenhouse emissions
- Solar energy is abundant (it exceeds 5,000 times current world's energy demand) and is free and evenly distributed (yearly sun radiation is 900 in the UK and 1500 in Sicily)



The first hydrogen 1 km pipeline in the world located in Arezzo delivers pure H_2 at 3.5 bar to the fuel cells installed in 4 goldsmith companies

Mario Pagliaro

Istituto per lo Studio dei Materiali Nanostrutturati (Palermo) <u>www.i-sem.net</u>

Solar H₂: Sun radiation is employed to split water using two main technologies

1. Water electrolysis using a photovoltaic current over a Pt catalyst:

 $\mathrm{H_2O} + 2F \rightarrow \mathrm{H_2} + \frac{1}{2}\mathrm{O_2}$



2. Thermochemical water splitting over a metal oxide catalyst:

 $\begin{array}{l} MO_{x\text{-}1} + H_2O \rightarrow MO_x + H_2 \\ \text{exothermic} \\ MO_{ox} \rightarrow \frac{1}{2}O_2 \ \text{endothermic} \end{array}$



Both technologies are becoming feasible on massive scale thanks to advances in nanochemistry

- Nanochemistry, namely chemistryenabled nanotechnology.
- An approach that is finally delivering after two decades of unfulfilled nano-promises



What do we do with the massive amounts of solar hydrogen?



First in the world to operate on such a scale, the 12 MW combined cycle plant in Venice's industrial zone of Porto Marghera fuelled by hydrogen by-products from local petrochemical industries.

PV-induced electrolysis over low amounts of nanostructured Pt catalyst

 Table 1
 Experimental parameters in alkaline electrolysis. (Reproduced from ref. 7).

 $H_2O \rightarrow H_2 + \frac{1}{2}O_2$ Electrolyte: 25–30% KOH $\Delta V = 1.65-2.00 \text{ V}, j = 1-10 \text{ kA m}^{-2}$ Energy consumption: 4–4.9 kW h m⁻³ Current yield: 98–99.9% H_2 purity: >99.8%





Multifunctional Silia*Cat*Pt catalysts, for instance

Catalysis Science & Technology



The CNR has 108 Institutes in Italy. Why no Solar Energy Institute@CNR?

- Italy ranks #3 in the world for installed PV power
- Italy ranks #2 in the European solar thermal market
- Germany -- solar energy world's leading country -- operates its Solar Energy Institute at Fraunhofer Society since 1981

• Despite remarkbale advances research on solar energy in Italy is fragmented and education -- with the le remarkable exception of Lazio's PV and Sicily's PV Pole -- is simply non existent



• Clearly, time has come to establish a Solar Energy Institute at Italy's CNR

Team



Giovanni Palmisano



Rosaria Ciriminna



Athanasios G. Konstandopoulos



Rosetta spacecraft encountered Asteroid (2867) Steins



Science 8 January 2010: Vol. 327 no. 5962 pp. 190-193

V. Da Deppo, G. Naletto CNR-IFN Institute for Photonics and Nanotechnologies – UOS Padova LUXOR

MPS Max Planck Institute for Solar System Research, Katlenburg-Lindau
H. U. Keller, et al.
IDA Institute fur Datentechnik und communikationsnetze GERMANY
LAM Laboratoire d'Astrophysique de Marseille, Marseille, FRANCE P. Lamy, et al.
RSSD Research and Scientific Support Department
European Space Agency
CISAS Centro Interdipartimentale per gli Studi e le Attività Spaziali - Università di Padova
C. Barbieri, et al.
IAA Instituto de Astrofísica de Andalucía
INTA Instituto Nacional de Técnica Aérospacial
UPM Universidad Politecnica de Madrid SPAIN R. Rodrigo, et al.

The ESA Rosetta Mission

- The main aim of the Rosetta mission is to study in detail a comet: the 67P/Churymov-Gerasimenko.
- The rendez-vous with the comet will be in 2014.



Rosetta in the thermal vacuum chamber at ESA/ESTEC (Noordwijk – NL)



orbit

- Rosetta was launched in 2004.
- The spacecraft experienced many swing-bys in order to gain enough energy to reach the comet orbit.

Rosetta fly-bys

• Rosetta passed three times near Earth (2005-2007-2009) and once near Mars (2007).



Steins encounter

On September 5th 2008 the spacecraft passed by Steins with a relative velocity of 8.6 km/s and a minimum distance of 803 km.

During the fly-by the OSIRIS (*Optical*, *Spectroscopic*, *and Infrared Remote Imaging System*) cameras on board Rosetta acquired hundreds of images which allowed studies of the asteroid morphology and determination of its volume.



Asteroid Steins WAC images taken before, during and just after closest approach. A large crater is visible near the asteroid south pole, which is oriented upward in the images



WAC during the integration in CNR-IFN LUXOR laboratory

OSIRIS consists of a *Narrow-Angle Camera* (NAC) and a *Wide-Angle Camera* (WAC), which were realized through the joint work of a European consortium led by the MPS Institute (Lindau-Germany).

Most of the mechanical and optical components of the WAC were designed and built in Italy. The researchers of the CNR-IFN LUXOR Laboratory in Padova have been responsible for its optical design, alignment and calibration.

Research Results

OSIRIS images allowed to resolve approximately 60% of Steins's surface. The acquired images yielded important information on the asteroid. It has been discovered that Steins's morphology is dominated by a large 2.1-km-diameter crater, whose presence provides information about the physical properties of the interior. The asteroid shape was modeled based on limb positions from 1 NAC and 61 WAC images and the simultaneous inversion of a set of 28 light curves taken from Earth and during approach. Steins's overall dimensions are 6.67×5.81×4.47 km³ and its volume is equivalent to a 2.65-km-radius sphere.



The reconstructed shape of Asteroid Steins is illustrated by two equatorial views (top panels) and two polar views (bottom panels)

Rosetta continues its journey towards the comet



67P/Churymov-Gerasimenko comet seen by OSIRIS just before hibernation

- On June 8th Rosetta was sent into deep-space hibernation.
- The hibernation is a phase during which all instruments and almost all control systems are silent. The deep sleep is made necessary by the spacecraft enormous distance from the Sun and the weakness of the sunlight falling on its solar panels, which cannot produce enough electricity to power the probe fully.
- On January 20th 2014, after 31 months of coasting, the Rosetta spacecraft will be waked up to observe the comet.



An ontology to model e-portfolio and social relationship in Web 2.0 informal learning

environments

International Journal of Computers, Communications & Control, ISSN 1841-9836, E-ISSN 1841-9844 Vol. V (2010), No. 4, pp. 578-585

- Web 2.0 environments create new opportunities for informal learning activities
- Semantic Web technologies provide standards and models to promote the evolution from a Web of document to a Web of data
- In "Social Semantic Information Spaces" information is socially created and managed, as well as interconnected and described in a machine understandable format



Davide Taibi, Manuel Gentile, Giovanni Fulantelli, Mario Allegra Istituto per le Tecnologie Didattiche

An ontology to model e-portfolio and social relationship in Web 2.0 informal learning environments

We propose an ontological approach to model:

•Social Network relationships: the results of learning activities are highly influenced by the group in which students participate, as demonstrated by the studies on the impact of positive interdependence on the effectiveness of cooperation.

•Students' e-portfolio: activities in which the student has participated, is participating, or plans to participate; competences and skills of the student; students achievements, whether or not certificated; student's preferences and interests; results of any test or examination.



Applications :

•Starting from a student's friendship group, the ontology can be used to extract the friends that have common learning interests and objectives

Suggesting new friends by selecting the people of the social network with specific competences in their portfolios that can help the student to achieve his learning objectives
Help students in finding the more suitable courses to attend

considering their own competences





Modeling the emergence of universality in color naming patterns

Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 107, 2403 (2010)

- Complex systems: many interacting simple elements → rich phenomena
- Borrowed from physics to other disciplines: biology, economy, social sciences
- Language dynamics: an emerging approach for modelling communicating systems (cybernetics, human)



<u>A Puglisi</u>, A Baronchelli, T Gong and V Loreto CNR - Istituto dei Sistemi Complessi

(in collaboration with: Universitat Politecnica de Catalunya Barcelona, Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology Leipzig, Dipartimento di Fisica Sapienza Roma, Institute for Scientific Interchange Torino)

Color naming

Problem: linguistic categories without strong natural constraints

• Example: color names in a language

• Experiments show that color dictionaries across languages are

- different (number and position of boundaries)
- similar (weak correlations in position of boundaries)

• A challenge for models: huge resolution $(10^5 \div 10^6 \text{ different hues})$ vs. tiny number of names $(5 \div 10)$

Solution: language evolves through its use

- A model with many interacting agents playing a category game with simple rules
- Computer simulations: start a population from scratch, play many games, reach an asymptotic state with few shared color names

Applications: technology and knowledge

- Systems of robots exploring a new environment
- Offering a possible interpretation of our language evolution
- Comparison with experiments: not only robots, also humans: the World Color Survey (1969 today)







The «in-silico» World Color Survey

Comparison of simulation and real experiments: a key ingredient is the Just Noticeable Difference (JND curve)



Inside CNR.IT ...

- WHAT IS CNR
- CNR PEOPLE AND FUNDING
- CNR IMPACT ON THE ADVANCEMENT
 OF SCIENCE
- CNR IN THE WORLD International activities
- CNR FACILITIES
- CNR STRUCTURE:
 DEPARTMENTS
 INSTITUTES







CNR People

PROFESSIONAL PROFILES AND GENDER



CNR Funding



Absolute values in ME

Fund Raising Index 1.43

TOTAL FUNDING 2010

CNR in the World

7th Framework Programme for RTD (2007-2013)

31 bilateral agreements for the promotion of Scientific and Technological Cooperation with Research Institutions throughout the world

In UE, CNR is now 5th among European Research Institutes for grants.





CNR Facilities

Oceanographic Infrastructures Urania Dallaporta Maria Grazia



Everest K2 - CNR







CNR - KTT Knowledge and Technology Transfer... <u>KTT instruments</u>



GOAL: 10/year



NetwOrK R2R

- Over 200 experts and researchers operating inside CNR: TT to industries, start-up and promoting communication and outreach activities
- Microblogging User Content Generated
- Intranet tool called cnr@work



Per iscriversi: http://weblab.iit.cnr.it/cnratwork/

	Wall Profilo	Relazioni Messaggi	Utenti Gruppi	Sedi News		
idenza						
gramma di incubazioni di abs	I miei grup	р				
18/08/2011 - 15:05						
gramma Percorsi Formativi erging Companies		Product Concernments	Courses maderate des l	inerio en informazioni en hane	d fauntiment of	
15/05/2011 = 15.11		bandi & Pinanziamenti	Gruppo moderato cne i	ornisce informazioni su bano	oi tinanziamento utili	
mio di Laurea Franco Denoth						
tutte	and a	Emerging Companies	Gruppo dedicato al neo	-imprenditori high-tech, spi	n off e ricercatori interessati ad avviare un	a propria idea di busir
ste inviate ellepa di sara dimarcelle (Annulla)	0					
i gruppi	6	the deside in the	te envere envere di dire			in del essentia e
ž @	e	Peedback Otente	m questo grappo oi ois	Cossione venanno raccolo o	to i reeduack utente per miglionare i usao	nita dei protocipo
dario eventi						
Margo 2011 Succ - dar Mer Clov Ven Sab Dom	Crea nuovo					
	Tutti i gru	ppi di CNR@wOrk	1			
15 16 17 18 19 20						
22 23 24 25 26 27	Cerca gruppo p Contiana	er nome				
29 20 21						

CNR Portfolio ~ 444 (including patents, trade marks, IPR copyrights, novel varieties, etc...)

CNR has the largest number of patents amongst ROs

 "Catalogo Brevetti" → New IPR Catalogue with a userfriendly interface

	Catalogo brevetti e proprietà intellettuale	
RICERCA		« t
PAROLE CHIAVE:		
NELLE CATEGORIE:	Tutte le categorie	
NEI SETTORI TECNOLOGICI:	Tutti i settori	
NEI DIPARTIMENTI:	Tutti i dipartimenti	2
		Q



Start Cup | 2011











Looking for new 1000 Italian innovators...



Goal: valorization of national research excellences





→ 'Come va... la ricerca?' a summer school to integrate scientific competences with managerial skills

→ 'Research Design' with Politecnico di Milano with the aim of enhancing prototypes design skills as a distinctive mark of the 'Made in Italy' also in new high-tech products.

→PhDs with Universities

→Workshops







Creating a new industrial system



Science and Research to promote a new "Made In Italy"



...and Outreach

CNR pays a particular attention to dissemination and outreach, starting from the worldwide known Genova Science Festival (www.festivalscienza.it, the largest European event dedicated to science dissemination and public engagement

Genoa 21° October – 2° November <u>9</u>°edition: **150 anni... di Scienza**®





1861 > 2011 > > 150° anniversario Unità d'Italia

> ateFitness[®] the math arena (www.matefitness.it) and several travelling exhibitions and events.

Semplice Comp

Mostra interattiva su complessità, disordine

Science and mathematics at the time of Archimedes

Dissemination is also supported by <u>CNR as a Publisher</u> of books, technical reports, research monographs and e-editions



CNR.IT

Editorial Board

Francesco Antinucci Luca Codignola Bo Roberto Defez Rosa Di Felice Maria Carla Gilardi Franco Miglietta Cesare Mirabelli Alfonso Morvillo Roberto Paoluzzi Marie Claude Tremouille

Production

Manuela Arata (Editor in Chief) Chiara Badia (Editorial Coordinator) Paola Bertolazzi Luciano Celi Massimo Cultraro Sara Di Marcello Miriam Einaudi Manuela Faella Marco Ferrazzoli Francesca Gorini Elisabetta Narducci

- Lucia Paciucci Caterina Russo Guido Schwarz Luca Tiberi
- **Graphic design** Valentina Gottardi
- Paging and Printing
 omgrafica Roma

Acknowledgements

Giovanni Abramo Silvestro Caligiuri Virginia Coda Nunziante Anna D'Amato Massimiliano Di Bitetto & UPO Staff Andrea Gemma Maurizio Lancia Debora Miele Cecilia Migali Serena Pagani Nicoletta Palazzo Elisa Strozzi

