

On 4<sup>th</sup> December 2019, Alessandro Franci conducted a seminar on 'PFEM for Coupled Problems' at the CIMNE centre in UPC, Barcelona. A. Franci seemed to be well versed with the knowledge of the topic he was presenting on, and strived hard to make the audience understand every minutest detail he wished to explain them through the presentation. Of course, even though he gave a good presentation, it did not mean that everyone did understand all of it what he was explaining.

A. Franci started the presentation with an outline of what he was going to actually present which helped the audience to have a quick warm-up of the listening exercise that was going to happen in the next one hour. Also, one good point to be highlighted here is, the audience were given a quick introduction of PFEM which helped the non-familiar guys to get a knack of the topic. There were sufficient hand movements, good for a listener to understand the words spoken more significantly. Franci maintained a good rhythm while talking by taking pauses at regular intervals, making the audience digest the content on the slides. But unfortunately, in an abrupt middle time he forwarded the slides too fast which spoilt all the rapport he had maintained previously. The fact that Franci stayed stationary at a position while explaining seemed to be mundane, from presentation point of view. Franci lacked to maintain a good eye contact with the audience which highlighted the inefficiency in delivering the presentation as he was busy in reading the slides more often than to look into the audience eyes and speak. There was no interaction during the entire presentation with the audience which missed the liveliness of a presentation.

An important point to note which A. Franci stressed in his presentations, is the simulations inserted in the slides. Animation is a good concept to attract the attention of the sleepy audience which Franci was successful in catching. For example, the 3D simulation of the landslides he showed from all views, was worth admiring. It just made the audience easy to understand what they were looking at. Another example was, the explanation on 'Dense Granular Flow of Fluid on Slope', the graph was compared with the simulation and projected in front of the audience which helped to digest the topic more clearly. Every part in the presentation was ended with conclusions referring to what had been explained in that part, which is a good way that helps to analyse the content. Each slide in the presentation had a title and also name of the presenter on it, which maintained the presentation discipline. A. Franci took charge of comparisons while explaining two things, which was a short and effective way to convey more information in a less commonplace way.

In the short run, it was observed that Franci sometimes did not pronounce the words well. He ran out of words in some situations which worsened more when he did not even try to make up for the lost words in some other way and directly left the sentence half said. This was terrible for the audience to understand the points. A. Franci inserted slides containing the steps involved in software-use of PFEM in a good sense for the audience to have some extra information, but somehow this went wrong and it felt as if it was not required. The reason being, steps were not clearly visible even to the front rows and he hurried the slides too fast which ended the whole thing in a mess. Franci used laser to point out things on the slides but shook his hand too randomly and hence it was not totally clear what he exactly wanted to point on the slides, once again contributing to the fact of unclear explanation.

Last but not the least, an overview about the current research lines going on was given at the end which seemed a good additive extra information to the presentation set. A good end observed was the thanking process by a casting example which could really help the audience to end up the session with a good mood. To sum up, the overall presentation though being good was obstructed by some unnecessary small cracks which could have been avoided if the fatigue analysis was done earlier so that audience could have been able to digest the words and excellent information more clearly and efficiently.