COACHING SESSION AGAUR-FECYT ERC StG 2022

--- 2nd Phase - Interview ---

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UNIVERSITAT POLITÈCNICA DE CATALUNYA BARCELONATECH

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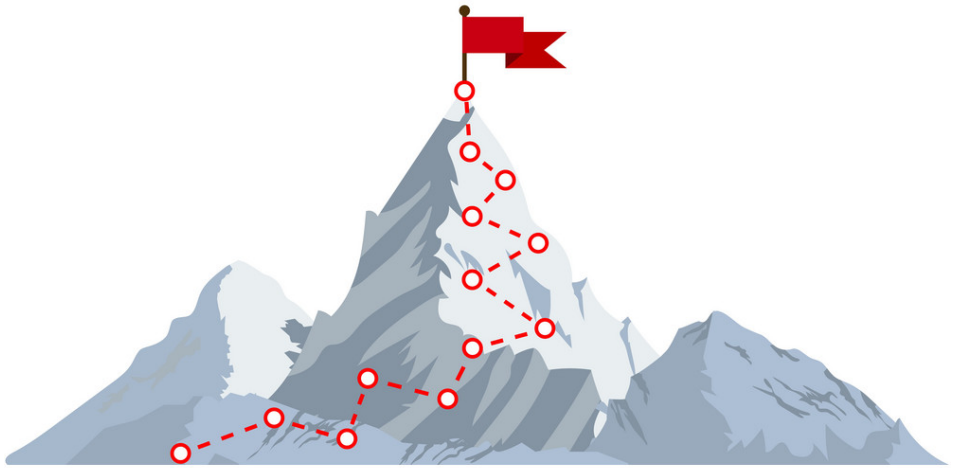
INTRODUCTION & OUTLINE

Who am I?

- Lluís Jofre Cruanyes, Professor in Dept. Fluid Mechanics at UPC
- Director of the *Multiscale Fluid Mechanics Lab*
- ERC StG 2021 – SCRAMBLE (PE8 Products and Processes Engineering)
- Beatriz Galindo Distinguished Researcher

Outline:

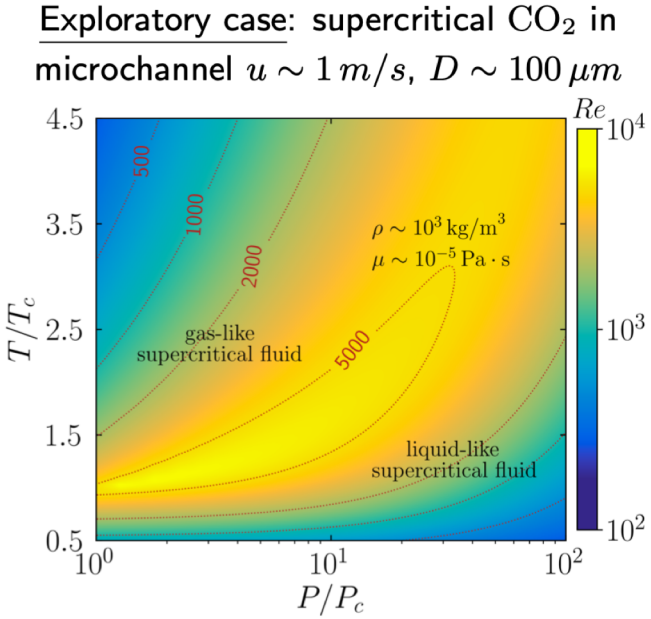
1.- Preliminary work
2.- Interview slides
3.- Interview speech
4.- Setup and connection
5.- Interview day

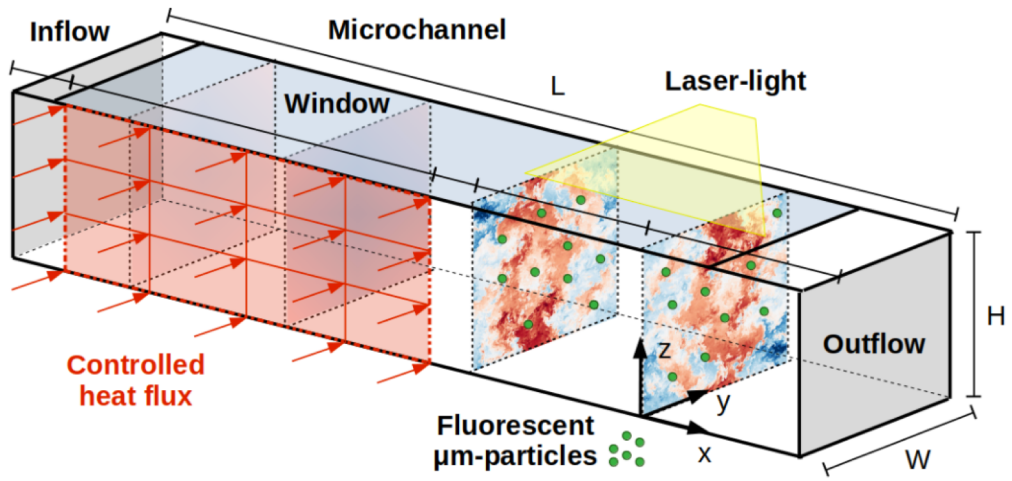


PRELIMINARY WORK

What? Ideally, 6-8 weeks before Interview

- Perform exhaustive review of published work related to the project
- Define in more detail the project … detect weak points
- Try to identify potential Interview Panel Members: https://erc.europa.eu/sites/default/files/document/file/erc_2021_stg_panel_chairs.pdf
- Work (if possible) on initial result … demonstrate that the idea is plausible!

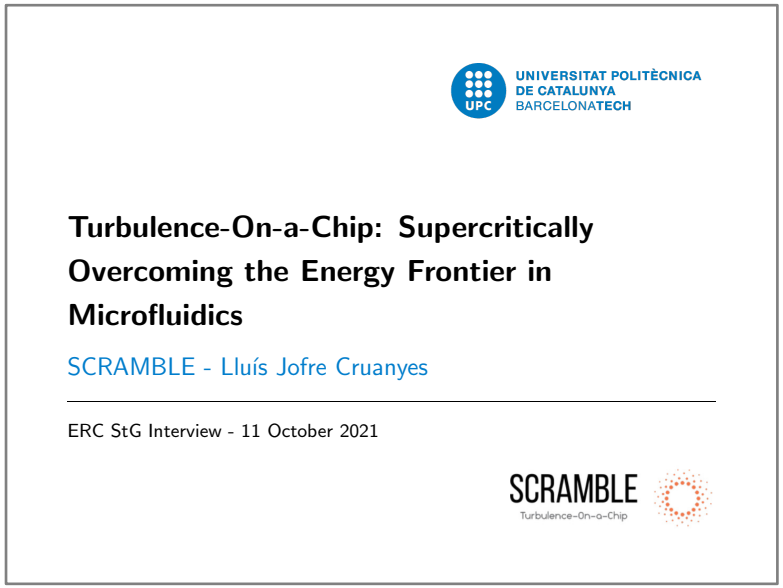


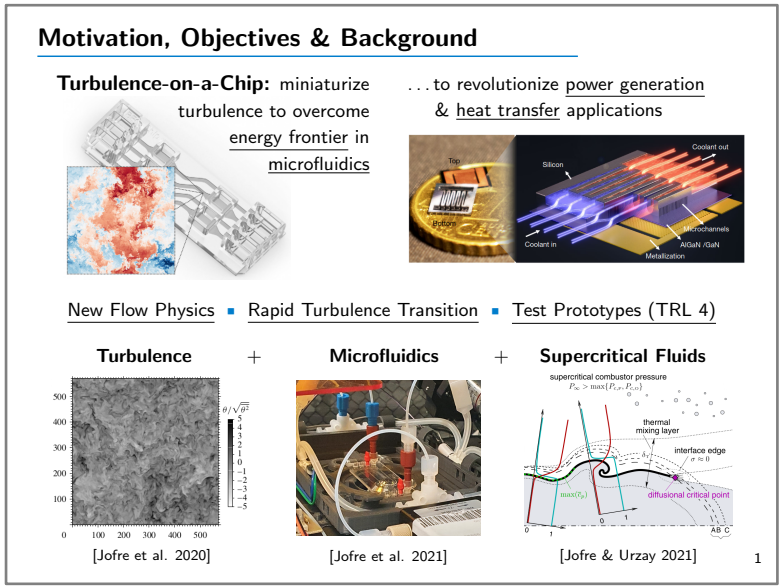


INTERVIEW SLIDES

What? Ideally, 4-6 weeks before Interview

- Carefully read the instructions for your panel
- Professional style, clear concise ideas, visually pleasing
- Slide 1: Motivation, Objectives & Background … novelty & importance
- Slide 2: Scientific & Engineering Approach … why is plausible
- Slide 3: Project Methodology & Management … how to do it





INTERVIEW SPEECH

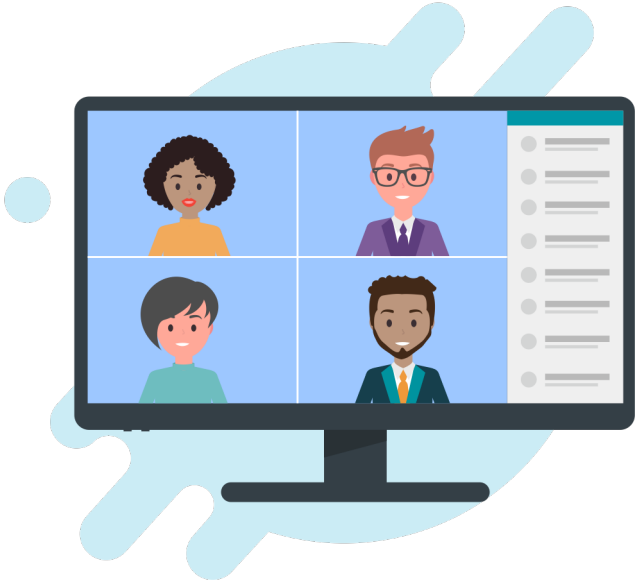
What? Ideally, 2-4 weeks before Interview

- Carefully read the instructions for your panel
- Approach it as "I would do it even if I don't get funding" …
  … enthusiasm is key, you have to convince them!
- Talk slow and smoothly, use intonation, slides & speech 100% synch
- Prepare a written script and memorize the structure (not words)
- Rehearse in real conditions (camera with friend/colleague listening)
  … rehearse
  … rehearse
- Rehearse in real conditions … I rehearsed more than 20 times!
  … at least once a day in real conditions
- Do not feel afraid of changing script and slides … iterate them
- Prepare potential questions and answers … ask colleagues for help

SETUP & CONNECTION

What? Ideally, 1-2 weeks before Interview

- Carefully read the instructions for your panel
- High quality image & sound … invest some money if needed
  … you don't want Interviewers annoyed because they can't hear/see you!
- Prepare office setup and connection … test several times:
  https://www.adweek.com/convergent-tv/adweek-guide-professional-video-conferencing-work-from-home/
- White background, good illumination, business professional attire



INTERVIEW DAY

What? Ideally, 1-2 hours before interview

- Carefully read the instructions for your panel
- Dedicate the day to the interview … cancel all other meetings/activities
- Check that computer, camera, microphone, software, internet works
- Relax … dedicate some time to walk and enter “focus mode”
- Follow the instructions of the panel leader
- Enjoy the process of presenting your slides
  … Interviewers will resonate with you!

Questions & Answers:

- Respond in a positive attitude and to the point
- Utilize rock-solid arguments
  … this can be trained by preparing potential questions and answers
- Most likely, they will go for the weak points … which you already know ☺
- If you don’t know the answer ... be honest, say that you will look at it

THANKS FOR YOUR ATTENTION

Contact & further information:

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- Twitter: @FluidMechLJC
- ERC StG: https://erc.europa.eu/funding/starting-grants

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