Syllabus
Course description

Course title
Thermomechanical measurements

Course code
47550

Scientific sector
ING-IND/10 + IND-IND/14

Degree
Master in Industrial Mechanical Engineering

Semester
II

Year

Academic year
2020/21

Credits
6

Modular
No

Total lecturing hours
32

Total exercise hours
24

Attendance

Prerequisites

Course page

Specific educational objectives
The course specifically deals with the fundamental concepts of thermomechanical measuring systems, integrates and complements topics of thermodynamics, heat transfer and mechanics introduced in previous elective courses and supplies some tools useful for the implementation of measuring systems in thermomechanical applications.

The course consists of a single module of 32 hours of frontal lectures and 24 hours of exercises and is composed by two main parts, the first one mainly dealing with thermal measurements and the second one with mechanical measurements.

The lectures introduce the fundamentals of measuring systems, by presenting and discussing the general principles of metrology and the definition of an internationally recognized system of units. Proper terms and definitions will be introduced, as well as the concepts of accuracy and precision of a measure, the uncertainty associated to a measure and the propagation of the uncertainty along a measuring chain.

Emphasis will be given in the first part of the course on thermal measurements, presenting the typical temperature sensors used in the industry: thermocouples and resistance temperature detectors. Particular care will be given to the role of calibration, also from a practical perspective. Elements will be finally provided on
temperature measurements through optical methods and on pressure and flow measurements.

The second part of the course will be devoted to mechanical measurements, with a peculiar focus on the measurement of the strain of a mechanical component. A description of the working principle of strain gauges will be provided, as well as the use of Wheatstone bridge for the compensation of external effects. Moreover, the course will provide elements of signal processing through filtering and aliasing and of Digital Image Correlation.

Theoretical topics will be supplemented by practical activities, preferably carried out in the laboratories of the Faculty. Exercises proposed during the course will consist in solving practical problems with the aim of giving the students a deeper comprehension and understanding of the topics.

### List of topics covered

The first part of the course (thermal measurements) will cover the following topics:

- Introduction to the principles of measurement systems: measuring chains, accuracy, precision
- Review on unit of measurements and conversion
- Uncertainty of a measure and uncertainty propagation
- Temperature sensors: international scale of temperature, thermocouples, resistance sensors
- Calibration of temperature sensors
- Elements of optical methods and pressure and flow measurements

The second part of the course (mechanical measurements) will cover the following topics:

- Introduction to mechanical measures
- Strain gauges: working principle of the sensors
- Wheatstone bridge: compensation of external effects
- Introduction to signal processing: filtering, aliasing
- Elements of Digital Image Correlation

### Teaching format

The course consists of lectures in which the topics are
presented by the lecturers. There are also classes (exercises) that will give practical examples of the application of the theoretical topics. Course topics will be presented at the blackboard and using electronic slides. Teaching material and additional materials will be provided by the lecturers during the semester.

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<tr>
<th>Learning outcomes</th>
<th>Through the study and the application of the topics presented during the lessons, students should acquire:</th>
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<tr>
<td>1)</td>
<td>the knowledge and understanding of the fundamentals principles of thermomechanical measuring systems</td>
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<td>2)</td>
<td>the ability of applying knowledge and understanding of the theoretical principles to the analysis of thermomechanical measuring systems</td>
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<td>3)</td>
<td>the ability to make autonomous judgements in the assessment of accuracy and precision of measurement instrumentation and uncertainty of a performed measurement</td>
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<td>4)</td>
<td>communication skills to correctly and properly present the concepts acquired in the course and to solve simple application problems regarding thermomechanical measurements</td>
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<td>5)</td>
<td>lifelong learning skills through the possession of the tools for the acquisition of technical information on measuring systems and to update knowledge.</td>
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<th>Assessment</th>
<th>Formative assessment In class and laboratory exercises and activities (2,3,4,5)</th>
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<td>Summative assessment</td>
<td>Examination of the course is carried out by means of an oral exam. The oral examination includes questions to assess the knowledge and understanding of the course topics and questions designed to assess the ability to transfer these skills to case studies and practical applications (1,2,3,4) Questions on practical applications also assess the ability of the student to apply the knowledge and understanding of the course topics, the ability to make judgments and finally, the student communication skills (1-5).</td>
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<th>Assessment language</th>
<th>English</th>
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<td>Evaluation criteria and criteria for awarding marks</td>
<td>It is relevant for the assessment of the oral exam to: master the specific language (also with respect to teaching language); prove the understanding of the topics</td>
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and learning skills; evaluate and establish relationships between topics; grow specific skills in critical thinking. Regarding the practical applications, it is relevant to clearly describe suitable technical solutions and be able to make critical judgments and apply the theoretical concepts.

### Required readings

Didactic materials will be provided by the professor during the course. There is no single textbook that covers the entire course. The course material is collected from various sources that will be announced during the course. Some relevant sources are:


### Supplementary readings