

Consulting Services Overview

Advanced Fuel Research, Inc.

2022

Leading Scientists

Leading Research

Focus on Advanced Fuels, Materials, and Sensors

Forty Plus Years of Experience

Helping to Create the Future of Energy

Advanced Fuel Research, Inc. (AFR) is a privately owned company, founded in 1980, that supplies contract research, product development, analytical services and consulting services. AFR has successfully developed several innovative analytical instruments and software products and has been particularly recognized as a world leader in advanced Fourier transform infrared (FT-IR) spectroscopy for environmental monitoring, process monitoring, and quality assurance applications.

AFR has also developed a number of technologies in the areas of Biomass Conversion, Waste-to-Energy, and Coal Conversion. A fuel characterization instrument known as a TG-FTIR (thermogravimetric analyzer with Fourier transform infrared analysis of the evolved products) was developed in a partnership with a Fortune 500 company.

AFR's FG-DVC (Functional-Group, Depolymerization, Vaporization, Crosslinking) and FG-BioMass models are comprehensive codes for predicting yields and compositions from coal, biomass, and waste pyrolysis. The models have been licensed by more than 50 domestic and international fuels research laboratories. AFR's FG-DVC/FG-BioMass clients have included ABB Power Plant Laboratories, Foster Wheeler, Babcock & Wilcox, Riley Stoker, U.S. Department of Energy, University of Utah, Brown University, Brigham Young University, University of Leeds (U.K.), DMT (Germany), CSIRO (Australia), Institut Français du Pétrole (France), and Instituto de Carboquimica (Spain).

Advanced FTIR-based fuel combustion monitoring systems have been developed and sold by AFR and its spin-off company, On-Line Technologies, Inc., to industrial and academic clients involved in fuels and combustion R&D. These clients have



Helping to Create the Future of Energy (continued)...

included the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Oregon State University, ABB Combustion Engineering, Factory Mutual Research Corporation, Dow Chemical U.S.A., Air Liquide, 3M, NASA Glenn Research Center, National Institute of Standards and Technology, and Arizona State University.

Selected research and sponsors on advanced energy applications include:

- Microporous carbons for hydrogen and methane storage in low emission vehicles (NASA)
- > Diesel processing for use in fuel cells (NSF)
- High performance carbon materials for ultracapacitors in hybrid vehicles (DOE)
- Fundamental studies on coal and biomass pyrolysis and torrefaction experiments and modeling (DOE, NSF, USDA, GRI, EPSRC, and a Fortune 500 company)
- > Pyrolysis of waste materials for fuel gas production (NASA, DOE, USDA)
- > Carbon black from oils derived from scrap tires (EPA)
- > Tire-derived activated carbons for mercury control in coal combustion (EPA)
- Carbon molecular sieve membranes for gas separation in oxygen-enriched combustion (DOE)

AFR was awarded the coveted Small Business Administration's 2000 Tibbetts Award for commercialization of innovative technologies. Since 1994, AFR has been a sixtime winner of the R&D 100 Award for developing one of the 100 most technologically significant new products of the year.

During the first 20 years of the journal *Energy & Fuels* (1987–2007), three AFR papers published in *Energy & Fuels* were ranked in the top 10 in numbers of citations, an accomplishment no other organization can claim.



AFR supplies its services to leading industrial, government, and academic clients throughout the world (Europe, Japan, Australia, South Africa). Its senior management has more than 100 years of combined experience in Energy R&D and more than 200 publications.





President mserio@AFRinc.com

Consulting Focus

Distributed Energy Generation Coal and Biomass Conversion Waste-to-Energy Synthetic Fuels

Education

Massachusetts Institute of Technology Ph.D., Chemical Engineering, 1984

Cornell University B.S., Chemical Engineering, 1977 ("with distinction")

Michael Serio

Dr. Serio has been a Principal Investigator on experimental and/or modeling studies on the pyrolysis, gasification, liquefaction, and combustion of coal; characterization and development of advanced jet fuel formulations; pyrolysis of biomass and waste materials; synthesis of fullerenes; pollution formation in combustion systems; FT-IR monitoring of combustion systems; advanced fire detection methods; and polymer thermal degradation. For several years, he led the team that developed AFR's widely used FG-DVC model for the pyrolysis of coal, biomass and related materials. He has been employed at AFR since March 1984.

Dr. Serio has been a Principal Investigator or Program Manager on contracts and grants for several government agencies, including NSF, DOE, DOD, EPA, NASA and USDA. He was a member of the Industrial Advisory Committee for the Department of Chemical Engineering at the University of Connecticut, and also a member of the editorial board of the journal *Fuel*. Dr. Serio has served as Chair, Program Chair, Program Secretary, and Trustee for the American Chemical Society (ACS) Division of Fuel Chemistry, and received their Distinguished Service Award in 2008 and 2017, the Salute to Excellence Award in 2014, and was named a Fellow of the ACS in 2015. He also was a consultant on a five-year coal research project sponsored by the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (1996-2001).

Dr. Serio has eleven patents and more than 175 publications, including two encyclopedia chapters. He was also the senior editor of a book titled "Synthesis and Characterization of Advanced Materials," which was published by the ACS in 1998 and which is now available from Oxford University Press. He is a member of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers, the American Chemical Society, The Combustion Institute, the Cornell Chapter of Tau Beta Pi, and the MIT Chapter of Sigma Xi.





Chief Executive Officer jim@AFRinc.com

Consulting Focus Instrumentation Gas Turbines Process Control Extreme Conditions

Education

Wesleyan University M.A. Chemistry, 1984

The University of Hartford B.S. Chemistry, 1981

James Markham

Mr. Markham's R&D contracts have concentrated on methods and instrumentation for optical-based measurements of process emissions, radiative properties, and temperature. Successful programs sponsored by the U.S. government have resulted in demonstrations and deliveries of new optical instruments that solve vital measurement needs. Often these measurements are needed in extreme environments.

Mr. Markham has more than 50 publications, two patents awarded and three patents pending, and has given presentations to the DOD, DOE, EPA, NASA, industrial/government consortiums, and universities. He has performed field tests at turbine engine test cells, black liquor recovery boilers, a high flux solar furnace, a glass kiln, a coal fired boiler, a chemical incinerator and several government labs and military bases. Mr. Markham is also the Manager of the Combustion Monitoring & Control Research Group ("TurboSense").

He received R&D 100 Awards in 1994 and 2008, received a U.S. SBA 2000 Tibbetts award on behalf of his company for SBIR commercialization, was recognized in Dec. 2001 by the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection for implementing energy efficient technology through a U.S. DOE NICE³ grant and, in 2003, received the ISA Major Charles Bassett III Outstanding Paper Award of the 48th International Instrumentation Symposium.

Mr. Markham joined AFR in January of 1983, and holds memberships in the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA) and the Instrumentation, Systems and Automation Society (ISA).





Vice President marek@AFRinc.com

Consulting Focus Fuel Science Coal and Biomass Conversion Carbon Materials Air Pollution Control Solid-Waste Utilization

Education

Brown University Ph.D., Chemical Engineering, 1988 M.S., Applied Mathematics 1986

Cracow University of Technology M.S., Chemical Engineering, 1979 ("with distinction")

Marek Wójtowicz

Dr. Wójtowicz has pursued experiments and modeling of reactions involved in coal and biomass pyrolysis, torrefaction, gasification, and combustion; diesel processing for use in fuel cells; hydrogen storage by adsorption on carbons with customengineered pore structure; the conversion of waste tires to value-added products (activated carbon for mercury sorption, carbon black); and the development of carbon electrodes for ultracapacitors (applications in hybrid and future-generation vehicles). Dr. Wójtowicz has more than 100 publications and eight patents in these areas.

Before joining AFR in 1993, he worked at the Delft University of Technology under Professor Jacob Moulijn, where he was involved in a large, European Union funded project concerned with the evolution of nitrogen during coal pyrolysis, gasification, and combustion. As a group leader at AFR, Dr. Wójtowicz has directed a number of R&D projects funded by the DOE, NSF, NASA, EPA, and industrial clients.

Dr. Wójtowicz serves on the Advisory Committee for the Chemical Engineering Program at Brown University and has been a Lecturer for several years. He acted as the Program Secretary (1999 – 2003) of the Fuel Chemistry Division of the American Chemical Society (ACS), was elected the Division Chair for 2005, and is currently a Trustee. He was named a Fellow of the ACS in 2017. Dr. Wójtowicz is also a member of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers and the American Carbon Society.

Dr. Wójtowicz has significant expertise in fuel science, carbon materials, air-pollution control (NO_x, N₂O, SO_x, mercury), solid-waste utilization, chemical reaction kinetics, and heterogeneous catalysis.





Chairman AFR Board of Directors prsolomon@thebeamer.com

Consulting Focus Coal and Biomass Conversion Fuel Characterization FTIR Analysis Superconductivity

Education

Columbia University Ph.D., Physics, 1965 M.A., Physics 1963

City College of New York B.S., Physics, 1960

Peter Solomon

Dr. Solomon has had extensive experience in performing and managing interdisciplinary experimental and theoretical research in several fields including superconductivity, electron spin resonance, solid state physics, and work during the last twenty-five years in energy, radiative properties, FT-IR process monitoring and semiconductor processing. He has guided the development of FT-IR as an on-line insitu monitor in high temperature reaction systems. He also developed the use of FT-IR as a tool for quantitative functional group determination in coals, jet fuels, and other hydrocarbons.

He was a member of the staff and management of United Technologies Research Center from 1965 until 1980, when he left to start Advanced Fuel Research, Inc. Dr. Solomon is the author of over twelve publications and three patents on superconductivity, nine publications and one book on solid state devices, and more than 140 publications on the application of FT-IR spectroscopy for fuel analysis, combustion monitoring, and semiconductor processing. Dr. Solomon was elected the 1991 winner of the American Chemical Society Henry H. Storch Award in Fuel Chemistry, was the Keynote Speaker at the Fourth Annual Australian Coal Science Conference (1991), and was also a Keynote Speaker for the International Coal Science Conference (1991). He has managed research contracts totaling over \$20,000,000.

Dr. Solomon served as CEO and President of AFR from 1980 to 1991 and presided over its growth from 3 to 40 employees. In 1991, he started a second company called On-Line Technologies, Inc. (OLT) and served as President and CEO of that company until 2001 when it was sold to MKS Instruments, Inc. (Wilmington, MA). OLT grew from 3 to 35 employees and reached \$5 million in sales of advanced FT-IR instrumentation for process and environmental monitoring.





Consultant

Consulting Focus Instrumentation Heat transfer Sensitivity and error analyses Image processing

Education

Princeton University Ph.D., Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering, 2002 M.A., Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering, 1997

The Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science and Art B.Eng., Mechanical Engineering, 1995

James Scire

Dr. Scire, formerly a Senior Engineer in the Combustion Monitoring & Control Group at AFR and now on the faculty of the New York Institute of Technology, has experience in the development of optical diagnostic techniques for the measurement of gas-phase species, surface properties, and gas and surface temperatures. The diagnostic systems that Dr. Scire has designed and implemented have included single-point and imaging measurements, and these systems have utilized wavelengths from the far ultraviolet to the long-wavelength infrared. He also has considerable experience in spectral simulation, modeling of instrument behavior, sensitivity and error analyses, and image processing.

Dr. Scire has been a key investigator on Air Force, NASA, NIST, and NSF-sponsored programs and has been the principal investigator on NASA and Air Force sponsored programs. He has performed numerous field tests at engine test cells and stationary gas turbine locations. He has six publications and one patent pending, and has presented project results and analyses to engine manufacturers, Air Force personnel, and NASA personnel.

Dr. Scire was employed at AFR from October 2001 to August 2013. He holds memberships in the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA), the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME), the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), and the Instrumentation, Systems and Automation Society (ISA). He is now a faculty member at the New York Institute of Technology in the Department of Mechanical Engineering and continues as a consultant with AFR.





Consultant ericr@imageinsightinc.com

Consulting Focus Image analysis Ultracapacitors

Education

Yale University Ph.D., Astrophysics, 1997

Columbia University B.S., Astrophysics, 1987

Eric Rubenstein

Dr. Rubenstein has extensive experience in image analysis, high-energy astrophysical outbursts and related phenomena, Monte Carlo simulations, and numerical modeling. He has studied and taught graduate-level radiative transfer and concentrated on the high-energy outbursts of stars, including their X-ray radiation. He has also worked on a variety of laboratory projects including a particle accelerator and superconductivity experiments.

Dr. Rubenstein managed a DOE sponsored program on the development of high performance carbon materials for ultracapacitors that can be used in hybrid vehicles. In addition, he has been involved in the development of AFR's FG-DVC model for biomass pyrolysis. Dr. Rubenstein has more than 40 publications and has managed several NSF and NASA sponsored projects using modeling, analysis, and simulation techniques. He is currently the President and Chief Technology Officer of Image Insight, Inc. (www.ImageInsightInc.com), an AFR spin-off in 2010, for which he has managed several projects on gamma radiation detection for the DOD, DHS, and private companies. He continues as a consultant at AFR.

Dr. Rubenstein is a member of the International Astronomical Union (Bio-Astronomy Commission), American Astronomical Society (High Energy Astrophysics Division), and Astronomical Society of the Pacific. Dr. Rubenstein successfully completed a background check for security clearance due to his commissioning as an officer in the U.S. Naval Reserve (Naval Air Systems Command). His honors include the following: (1) U.S. National Science Foundation International Research Fellow 1999-2001 (taken in Chile and at Yale Univ.); (2) JW Gibbs Lecturer at Yale Univ. 2000-2001; and (3) Lunar-Planetary Institute Intern, 1987.



SELECTED RESEARCH PAPERS AND PUBLICATIONS

- Wójtowicz, M. A., Cosgrove, J. E., Serio, M. A., Carlson, A. E., Hostetler, J. M., Espinosa, N. J., and Chullen, C., "Pressure-swing adsorption of trace contaminants using carbon sorbent monoliths," Proc. 50th International Conference on Environmental Systems (ICES), 12-15 July, 2021, technical paper No. ICES-2021-358, 2021.
- Cosgrove, J. E., Wójtowicz, M. A., Serio, M. A., and Lee, J. M., "Gas evolution from torrefaction processing of human solid wastes," Proc. 50th International Conference on Environmental Systems (ICES), 12-15 July, 2021, technical paper No. ICES-2021-346, 2021.
- Wójtowicz, M. A., Cosgrove, J. E., Serio, M. A., and Lee, J. M., "An Equivalent System Mass (ESM) Analysis for the Universal Waste Management System (UWMS) with and without the Torrefaction Processing Unit (TPU)," Proc. International Conference on Environmental Systems (ICES), 12-16 July, 2020, technical paper No. ICES-2020-560, 2020.
- Serio, M. A., Cosgrove, J. E., Wójtowicz, M. A., and Lee, J. M., "Optimization of a spacecraft Torrefaction Processing Unit (TPU) for human metabolic waste," Proc. International Conference on Environmental Systems (ICES), 12-16 July, 2020, technical paper No. ICES-2020-507, 2020.
- Wójtowicz, M. A., Cosgrove, J. E., Serio, M. A., Carlson, A., and Chullen, C., "Monolithic trace-contaminant sorbents fabricated from 3D-printed polymer precursors," *Proc.* 49th International Conference on Environmental Systems (ICES), Boston, Massachusetts, 7-11 July, 2019, technical paper No. ICES-2019-286, 2019.
- Serio, M. A., Wójtowicz, M. A., Cosgrove, J. E., Stapleton, T. J., Ewert, M. K., and Lee, J. M., "Operational data for a full-scale prototype Torrefaction Processing Unit (TPU) for spacecraft," Proc. 49th International Conference on Environmental Systems (ICES), Boston, Massachusetts, 7-11 July, 2019, technical paper No. ICES-2019-291, 2019.
- Serio, M. A., Wójtowicz, M. A., Cosgrove, J. E., Stapleton, T. J., Torres, M. A., Ewert, M. K., and Lee, J. M., "A prototype torrefaction processing unit for human solid waste in space," Proc. 48th International Conference on Environmental Systems (ICES), Albuquerque, New Mexico, 8-12 July, 2018, technical paper No. ICES-2018-250, 2018.
- Wójtowicz, M. A., Cosgrove, J. E., Serio, M. A., Nalette, T., Guerrero, S. V., Papale, W., and Wilburn, M. S., "Development of trace contaminant control prototypes for the Portable Life Support System (PLSS)," Proc. 47th International Conference on Environmental Systems (ICES), Charleston, South Carolina, 16-20 July, 2017, technical paper No. ICES-2017-270, 2017.
- Mason, P. E., Jones, J. M., Darvell, L. I., Williams, A., and Wójtowicz, M. A., "Studies on the effects of feedstock particle size in biomass torrefaction processes," International Bioenergy Conference 2017, Manchester, UK, March 22-23, 2017.



- Wójtowicz, M. A., Cosgrove, J. E., Serio, M. A., Nalette, T., Guerrero, S. V., Papale, W., and Wilburn, M. S., "Development of trace contaminant control prototypes for the Primary Life Support System (PLSS)," Proc. 47th International Conference on Environmental Systems (ICES), Charleston, South Carolina, 16-20 July, 2017, technical paper No. ICES-2017-270, 2017.
- Serio, M. A., Cosgrove, J. E., Wójtowicz, M. A., Stapleton, T. J., Nalette, T. A., Ewert, M. K., Lee, J., and Fisher, J., "Measurement and modeling of torrefaction processing for human solid waste management in space," Proc. 47th International Conference on Environmental Systems (ICES), Charleston, South Carolina, 16-20 July, 2017, technical paper No. ICES-2017-335, 2017.
- Serio, M. A., Cosgrove, J. E., Wójtowicz, M. A., Stapleton, T. J., Nalette, T. A., Ewert, M. K., Lee, J., and Fisher, J., "Torrefaction processing for human solid waste management," Proc. 46th International Conference on Environmental Systems (ICES), Vienna, Austria, 10-14 July, 2016, technical paper No. ICES-2016-341, 2016.
- Wójtowicz, M. A., Cosgrove, J. E., Serio, M. A., and Wilburn, M. S., "Coadsorption of ammonia and formaldehyde on regenerable carbon sorbents for the Primary Life Support System (PLSS)," Proc. 46th International Conference on Environmental Systems (ICES), Vienna, Austria, 10-14 July, 2016, technical paper No. ICES-2016-345, 2016.
- Wójtowicz, M. A., Cosgrove, J. E., Serio, M. A., and Wilburn, M. S., "Adsorption of ammonia on regenerable carbon sorbents," Proc. 45th International Conference on Environmental Systems (ICES), Bellevue, Washington, 12-16 July, 2015, technical paper No. ICES-2015-179, 2015.
- Serio, M. A., Cosgrove, J. E., Wójtowicz, M. A., Lee, J., Wignarajah, K., and Fisher, J., "Space applications of torrefaction processing," Proc. 45th International Conference on Environmental Systems (ICES), Bellevue, Washington, 12-16 July, 2015, technical paper No. ICES-2015-291, 2015.
- Wójtowicz, M. A., Cosgrove, J. E., Serio, M. A., Manthina, V. Singh, P., and Chullen, C., "Carbon-based regenerable sorbents for the combined carbon dioxide and ammonia removal for the Primary Life Support System (PLSS)," Proc. 44th International Conference on Environmental Systems (ICES), Tucson, Arizona, 13-17 July 2014, technical paper No. ICES-2014-241, AIAA, 2014.
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- Serio, M. A., Cosgrove, J. E., Wójtowicz, M. A., Lee, J., Wignarajah, K., and Fisher, J., "Torrefaction processing of spacecraft solid wastes," Proc. 44th International Conference on Environmental Systems (ICES), Tucson, Arizona, 13-17 July 2014, technical paper No. ICES-2014-211, AIAA, 2014.
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service thermal barrier coated turbine blade," **Review of Scientific Instruments**, 85, 124902, 2014.

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- Wójtowicz, M. A., Cosgrove, J. E., Serio, M. A., and Jennings, M. A., "Reversible ammonia sorption on carbon for the Primary Life Support System (PLSS)," Proc. 42nd Int. Conf. on Environmental Systems (ICES), San Diego, California, July 15-19, technical paper No. AIAA-2012-3437, AIAA, 2012.
- Serio, M. A., Cosgrove, J. E., Wójtowicz, M. A., Wignarajah, K. and Fisher, J., "Methane production from pyrolysis of mixed solid wastes," Proc. 42nd Int. Conf. on Environmental Systems (ICES), San Diego, California, July 15-19, technical paper No. AIAA-2012-3567, AIAA, 2012.
- Serio, M. A., Cosgrove, J. E., Wójtowicz, M. A., Wignarajah, K. and Fisher, J., "Pyrolysis yields from microwave-assisted heating of solid wastes," Proc. 42nd Int. Conf. on Environmental Systems (ICES), San Diego, California, July 15-19, technical paper No. AIAA-2012-3566, AIAA, 2012
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- Serio, M. A., Cosgrove, J. E., Wójtowicz, M. A., Wignarajah, K., and Fisher, J., "A compact, efficient pyrolysis/oxidation system for solid waste," Proc. 40th Int. Conf. on Environmental Systems (ICES), Barcelona, Spain, July 11–15, 2010, technical paper No. AIAA-2010-6009, AIAA, 2010.
- Saddawi, A., Jones, J. M., Williams, A., and Wójtowicz, M. A., "Kinetics of the thermal decomposition of biomass," **Energy & Fuels, 24** (2), 1274–1282, 2010.
- Serio, M. A. and Wójtowicz, M. A, "Methodology for identification and classification of biomass pyrolysis behavior," Proc. 39th Int. Conf. on Environmental Systems (ICES), Savannah, Georgia, July 12–16, 2009, SAE technical paper No. 2009-01-2384, SAE International, 2009.
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- Wójtowicz, M. A. and Serio, M. A., "Pyrolysis modeling with enhanced predictive capabilities;" **Proc. 44th Coal Science Conference**, The Japan Institute of Energy, ix–x, Akita, Japan, 11–12 October, 2007.
- "Carbon Black Derived from Waste Tire Pyrolysis Oil," **Proc. Carbon 2004 Conf.**, Brown University, Providence, RI (July 11-15, 2004).
- "Pyrolysis of Miscanthus Giganteus and wood pellets: TG-FTIR analysis and reaction kinetics," **Fuel**, 82, 1139-1147, 2003.
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Advanced Fuel Research, Inc. Consulting Services

For additional information on how Advanced Fuel Research, Inc. consultants may assist you, please contact the pertinent staff member directly.

Please also visit our website <u>www.AFRinc.com</u> for additional information.

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