



European Research Council

Established by the European Commission

## Slide of the Seminar

# **Hemodynamics of biological and mechanical valves**

***Prof. Valeria Meschini***

***ERC Advanced Grant (N. 339032) "NewTURB"  
(P.I. Prof. Luca Biferale)***

Università degli Studi di Roma Tor Vergata  
C.F.n. 80213750583 – Partita IVA n. 02133971008 - Via della Ricerca Scientifica, 1 – 00133 ROMA

# Hemodynamics of biological and mechanical valves

NewTURB MEETING- 18 July 2016

*Università di Roma "Tor Vergata"*

**Valentina Meschini**

*Gran Sasso Science Institute*



**Prof. Roberto Verzicco**

*Università di Roma "Tor Vergata"*

*University of Twente*



in collaboration with

- **Prof. Marco De Tullio** - *Politecnico di Bari*
- **Prof. Giorgio Querzoli** - *Università di Cagliari*
- **L. Weltert, R. De Paulis** - *Dipartimento di Cardiocirurgia, Ospedale Europeo, Roma*

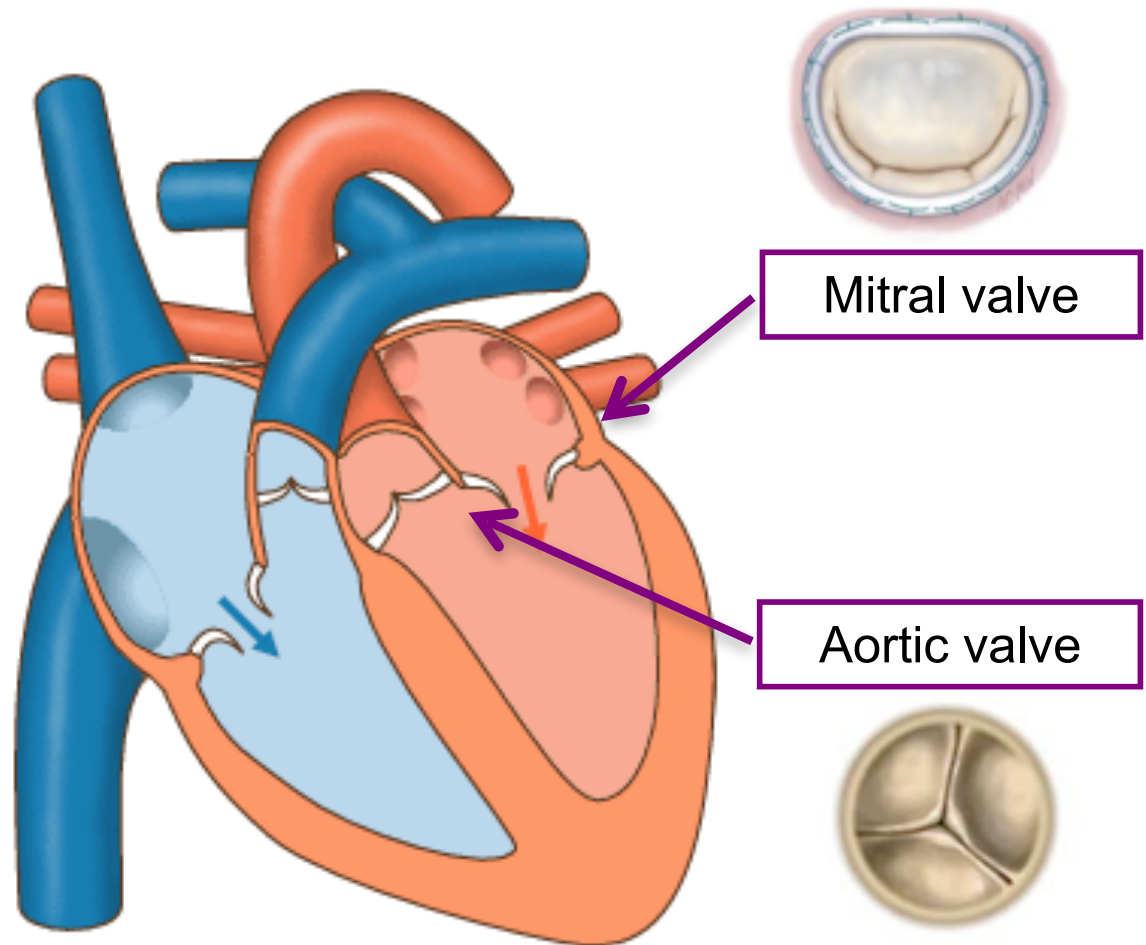


# Background

The heart is made of two parts (Left and Right) each composed of two chambers (ventricle and atrium) and valves that ensure the correct flow direction

The valves of the left side (Mitral and Aortic) are most commonly affected by diseases due to the large pressure they withstand (100-150 mmHg)

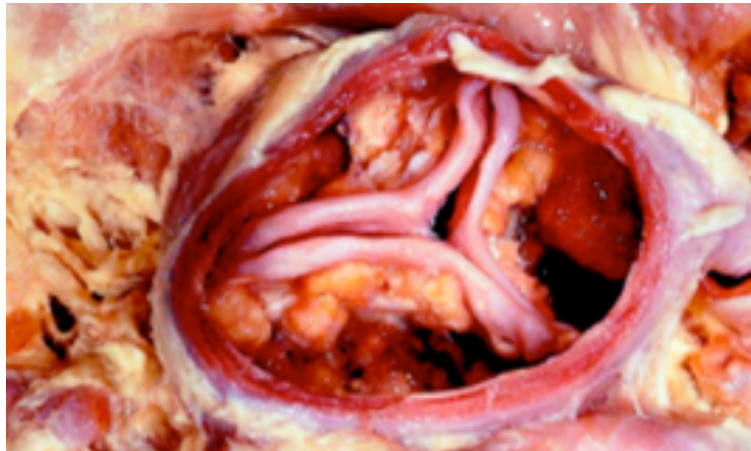
Sometimes valves need replacement



# Some diseases

## Valvular pathologies

Stenosis



Increased pressure drop across the valve

Leakage



Undesired regurgitation (back-flow)

# Some diseases

## Valve replacement

### Biologic



☺ Good hemodynamics

☹ Limited durability  
(10-15 years)

### Mechanic



☹ Bad hemodynamics  
(need for anticoagulants)

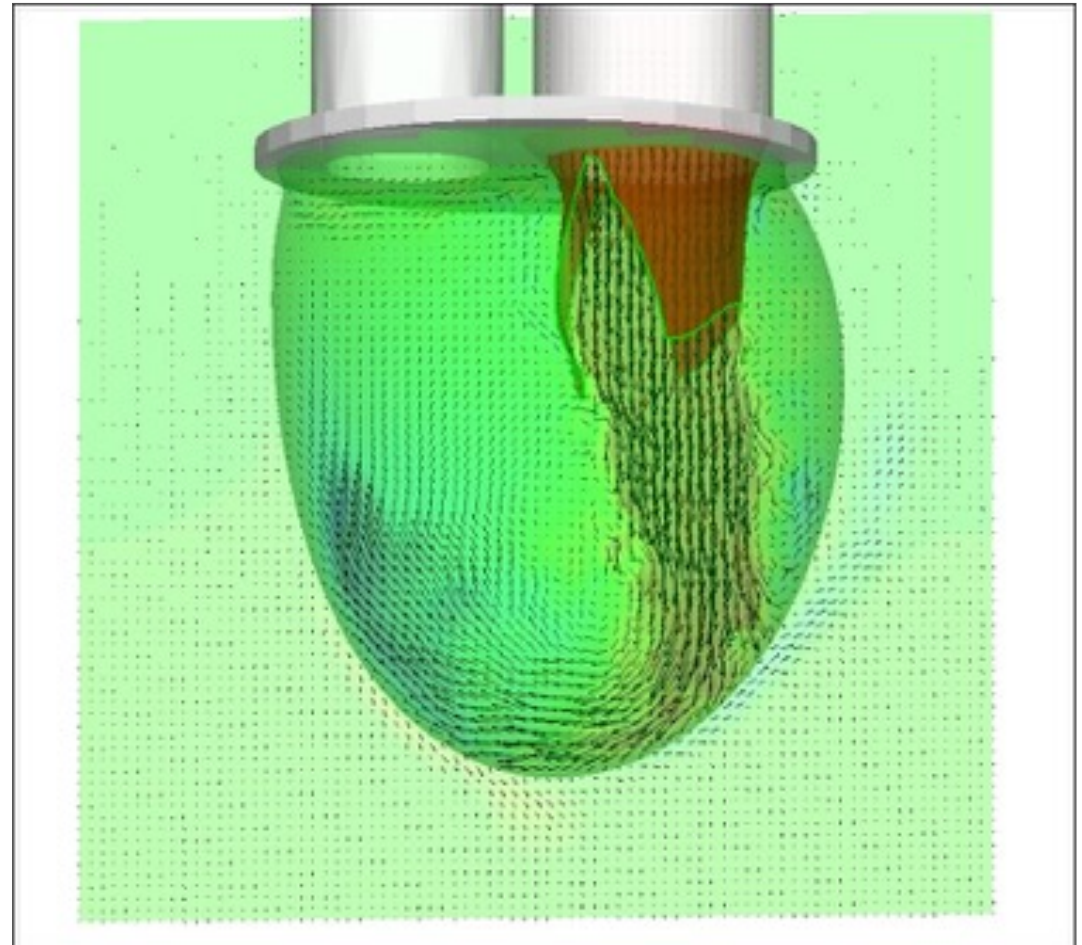
☺ Lifelong durability

☹ Noise

# Computational model of the left ventricle

Left ventricle with mechanical  
or natural **mitral valve**

**Fluid-Structure-Interaction**  
model



# Numerical tool

## The ingredients:

- Direct Numerical Simulation fluid solver
- Structural solver
- Immersed Boundary Technique
- Fluid-Structure-Interaction

**The simulation of such complex flows would be impossible without IB methods**

## Typical physiological conditions:

Cycle period: 866 ms (70 bpm)

Mean flowrate: 5 l/min

Peak flowrate: 28 l/min

$Re_{\text{peak}} = 6200$

Grid  $\approx$  20M nodes

$dt = 2\text{-}200 \mu\text{s}$

# Fluid Solver: AFiD

## Highly parallel code for turbulence

Open-source code available at  
[www.afid.eu](http://www.afid.eu)

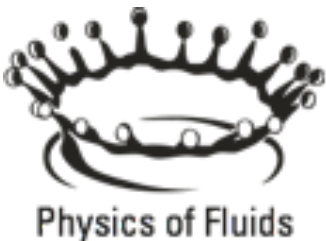
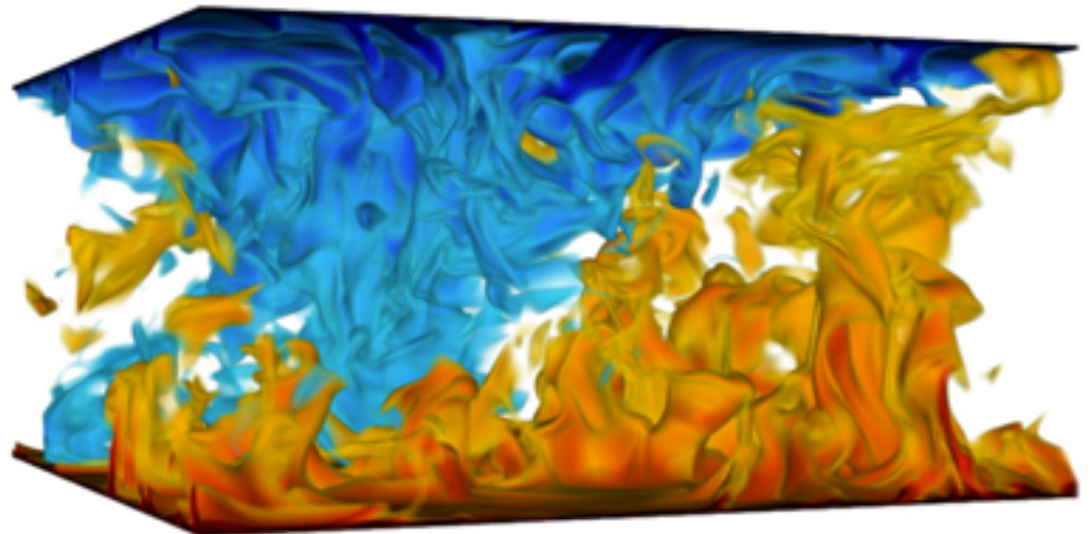
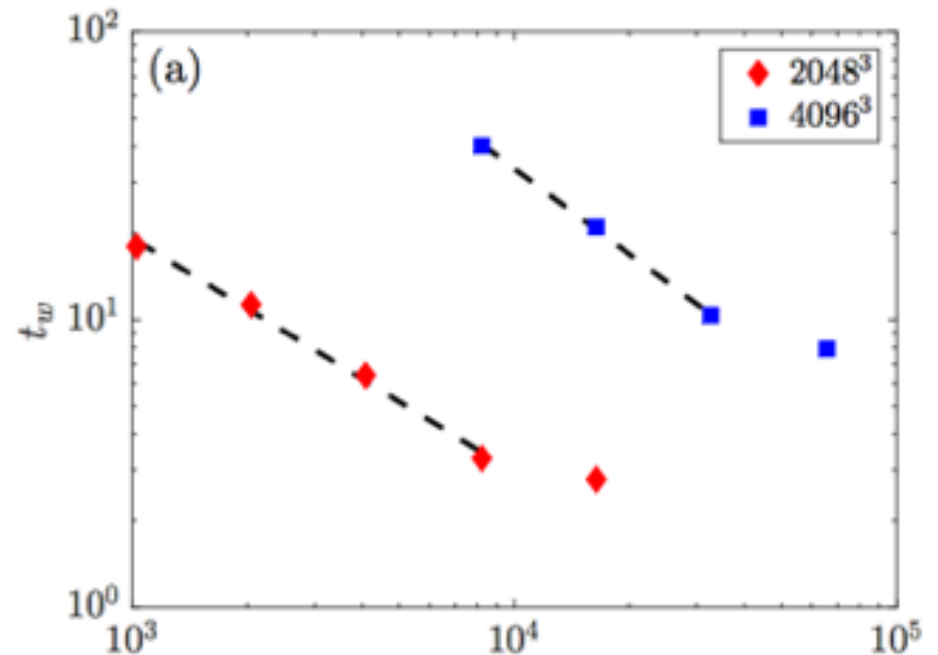
### Reference and tutorial:

Van der Poel et al. (2015), Computers & Fluids  
**116**, “A pencil distributed finite difference code for strongly turbulent wall-bounded flows”

### Upcoming modules:

- Cylindrical coordinates (Taylor Couette)
- Lagrangian particles
- Double diffusive convection
- GPU architectures

[afid-users@lists.surfsara.nl](mailto:afid-users@lists.surfsara.nl)

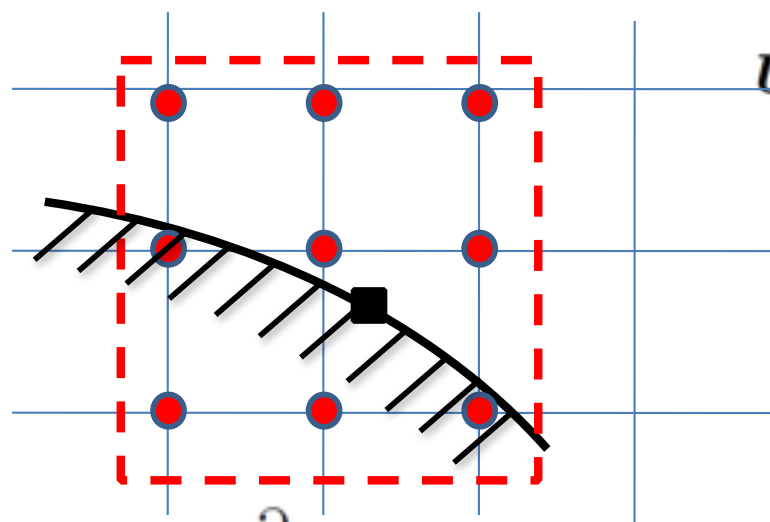




# Immersed boundary methods

Rigid/fixed bodies are handled by the Direct Forcing procedure (Fadlun et al., JCP, 2000)

For moving/deforming bodies the complex geometry is handled by a versatile Moving Least Squares (MLS) approach (Vanella and Balaras, JCP, 2009)



$$\hat{U}(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{k=1}^{ne} \phi_k^l(\mathbf{x}) \hat{u}_k$$

$$\hookrightarrow F = \frac{U_b - \hat{U}}{\Delta t}$$

$$\hookrightarrow f^k = \sum_{l=1}^{nl} c_l \phi_k^l F_l$$

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{u}_f}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (\mathbf{u}_f \mathbf{u}_f) = -\frac{\nabla p}{\rho_f} + \nu \nabla^2 \mathbf{u}_f + \mathbf{f}$$

Smooth hydrodynamic forces.

Zero-thickness bodies can be modelled (e.g., leaflets of biological valve, left ventricle)

# Structure Solver

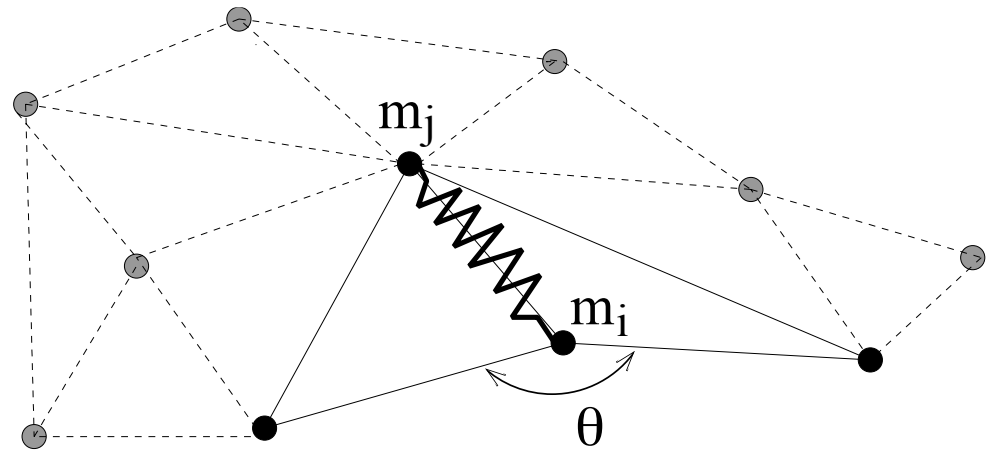
## Finite Element Method

$$\nabla \cdot \sigma_s = \rho_s \frac{\partial^2 d_s}{\partial t^2} \quad \sigma_s = CE_s$$
$$E_s = \frac{1}{2} [\nabla \cdot d_s + (\nabla \cdot d_s)^T + (\nabla \cdot d_s)^T \nabla \cdot d_s]$$

Standard finite-element approach (CALCULIX or ANSYS)

## Spring-mass method

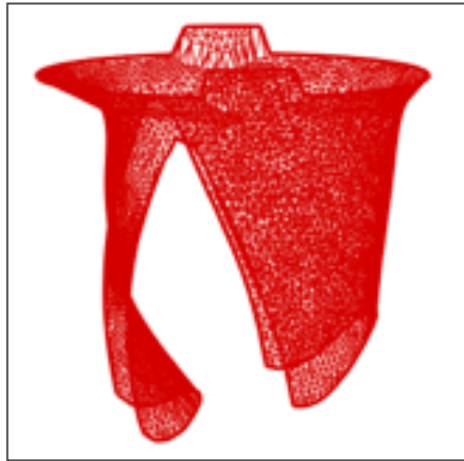
$$\mathbf{F}_i = m_i \mathbf{a}_i$$
$$\mathbf{F}_i = \nabla \Phi_i$$



$$\Phi_i = \Phi_{ei} + \Phi_{bi} + \Phi_{Ali} + \Phi_{ATi} + \Phi_{Vi} + ..$$

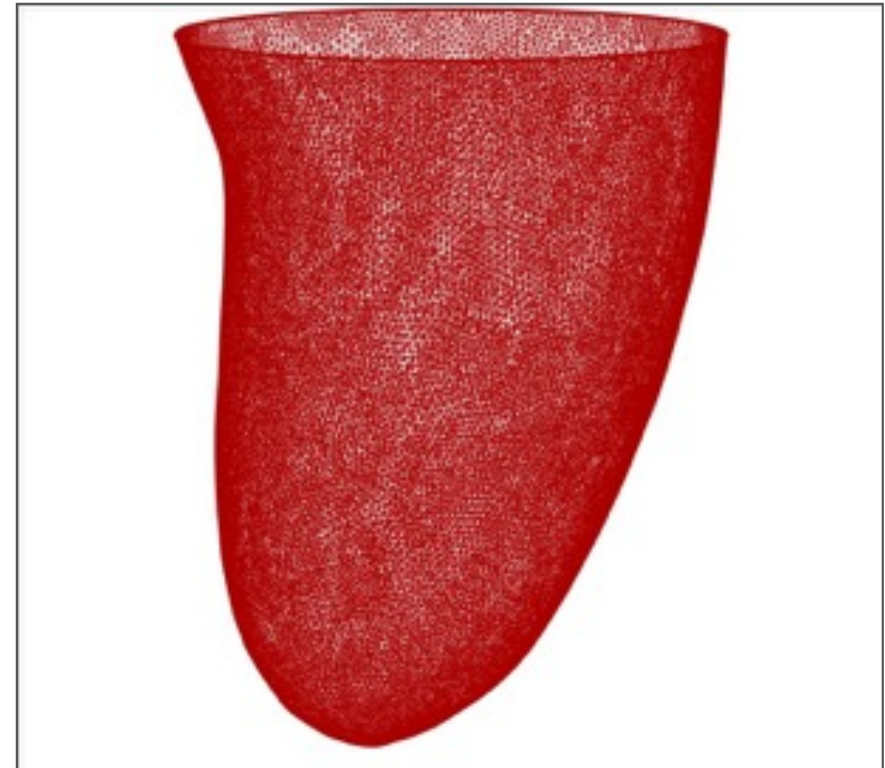
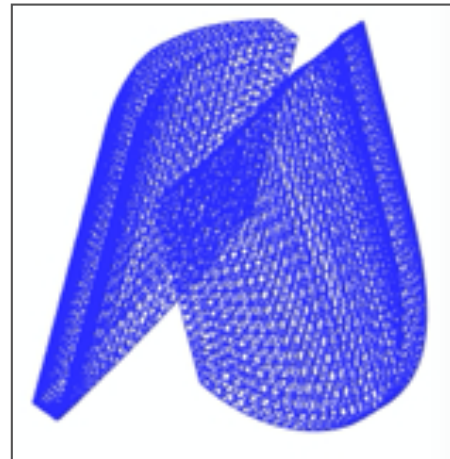
$\Phi$  from interaction potential model (Fedosov et al., [Comp. Methods in Appl. Mech. and Eng.](#), 2010)

# Structure : the left ventricle and the mitral valve



Natural  
mitral  
valve

Prosthetic  
Mechanical  
mitral valve



Left  
Ventricle

# Fluid-Structure interaction

## STRONG COUPLING

$$\frac{D\mathbf{u}}{Dt} = -\frac{\nabla p}{\rho} + \frac{1}{\rho} \nabla \cdot \boldsymbol{\tau} + \mathbf{f}$$
$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} = 0$$

$$M \frac{d^2 \mathbf{x}}{dt^2} = \mathbf{F} \quad \mathbf{F} = \int_s (\boldsymbol{\tau} \cdot \mathbf{n} - pn) dS$$
$$\mathbf{I} \frac{d^2 \boldsymbol{\theta}}{dt^2} = \mathbf{T} \quad \mathbf{T} = \int_s [\mathbf{r} \times (\boldsymbol{\tau} \cdot \mathbf{n} - pn)] dS$$

## LOOSE COUPLING

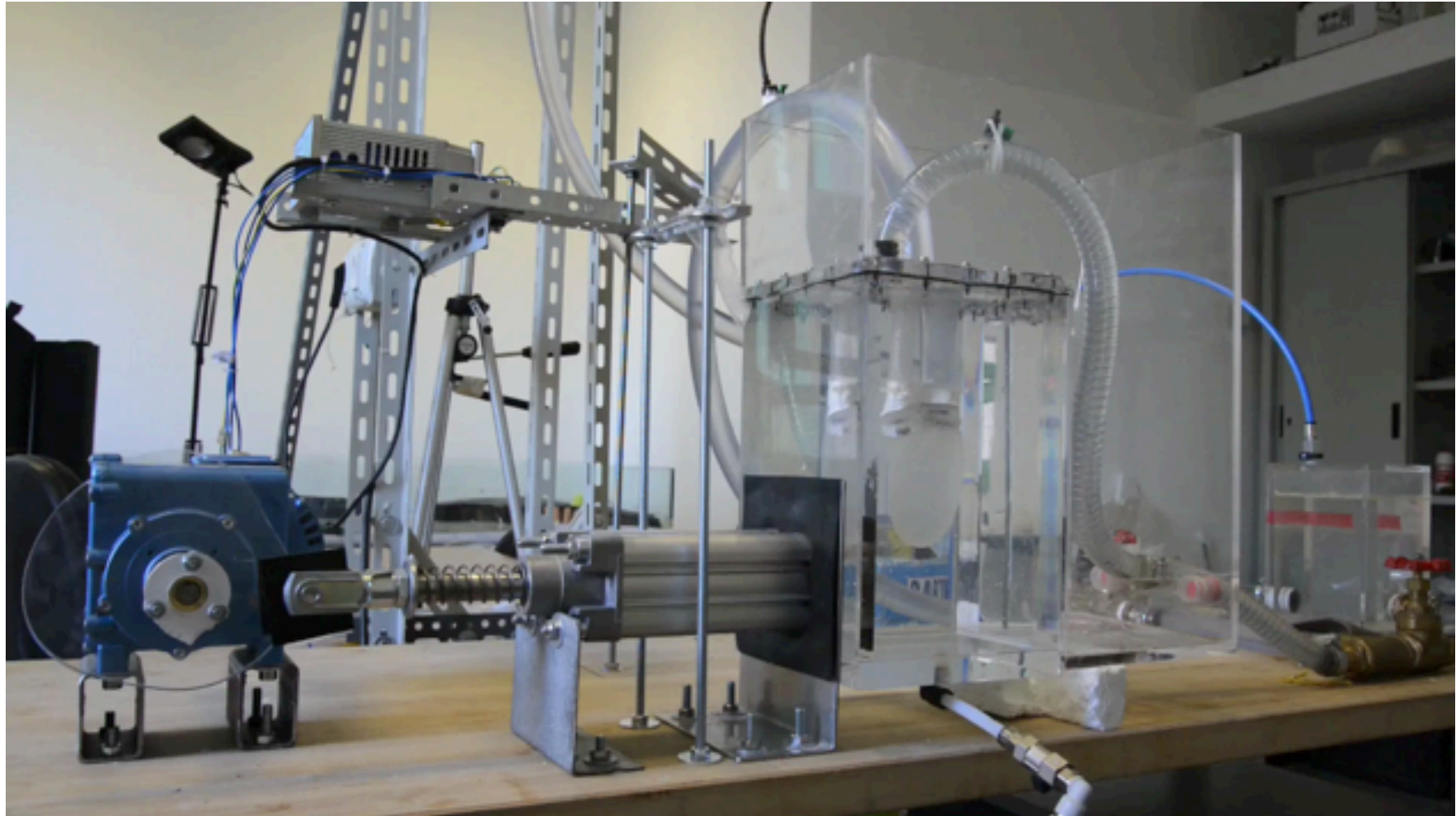
$$\frac{D\mathbf{u}}{Dt} = -\frac{\nabla p}{\rho} + \frac{1}{\rho} \nabla \cdot \boldsymbol{\tau} + \mathbf{f}$$
$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} = 0$$

$$\nabla \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma}_s = \rho_s \frac{\partial^2 \mathbf{d}_s}{\partial t^2} \quad \boldsymbol{\sigma}_s = \mathbf{C} \mathbf{E}_s$$
$$\mathbf{E}_s = \frac{1}{2} [\nabla \cdot \mathbf{d}_s + (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{d}_s)^T + (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{d}_s)^T \nabla \cdot \mathbf{d}_s]$$

(de Tullio et al, 2009)

(Borazjani et al, 2008)

# Ad-hoc experimental set-up

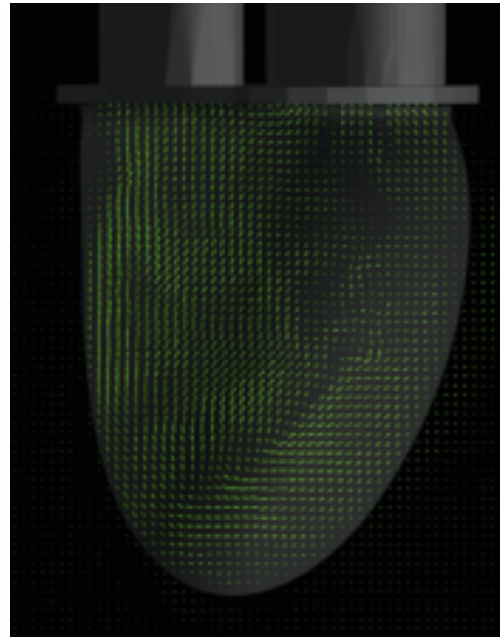
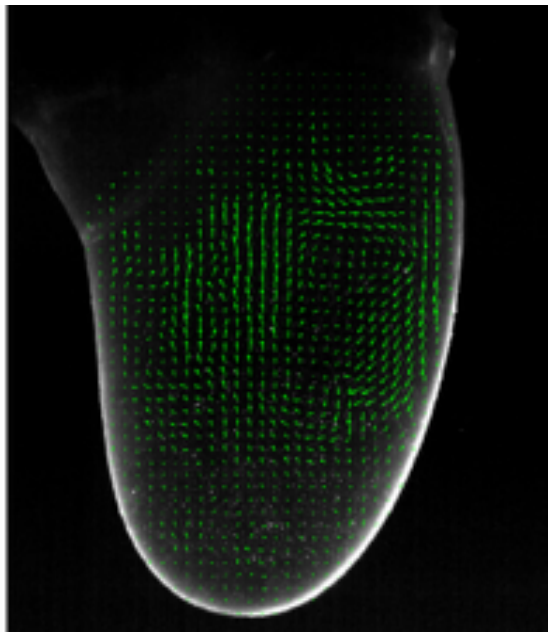


in collaboration with

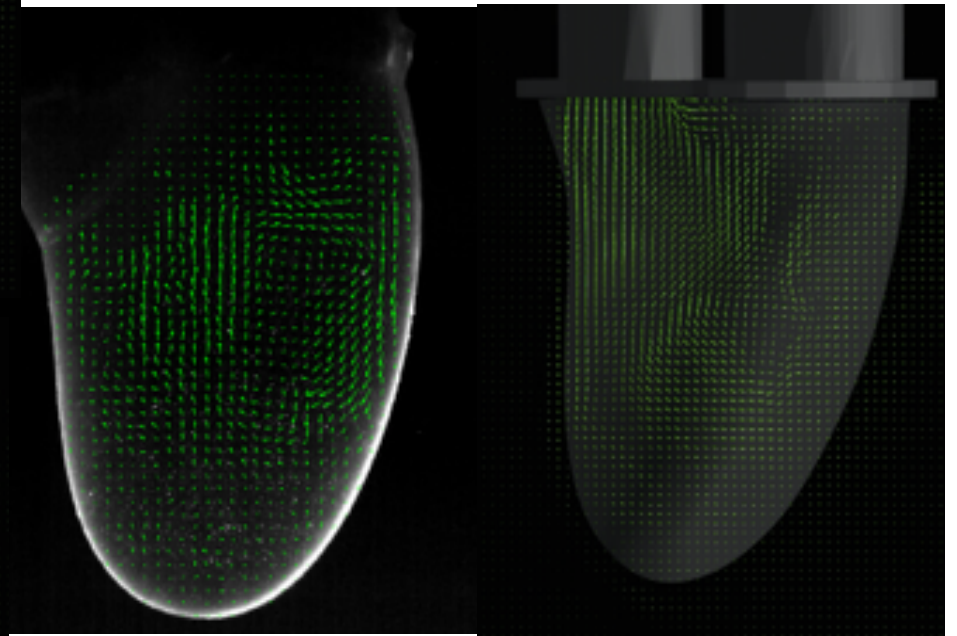
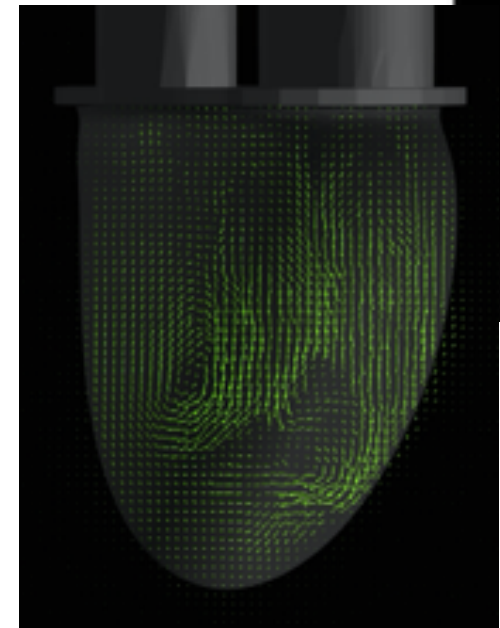
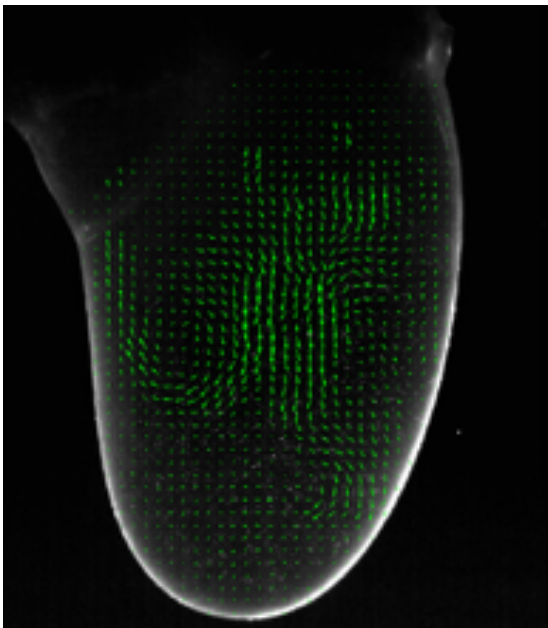
**Stefano Santamaria & Federica Sposato**

(Master Students of University of Roma Tor Vergata)

# Experimental vs Numerical

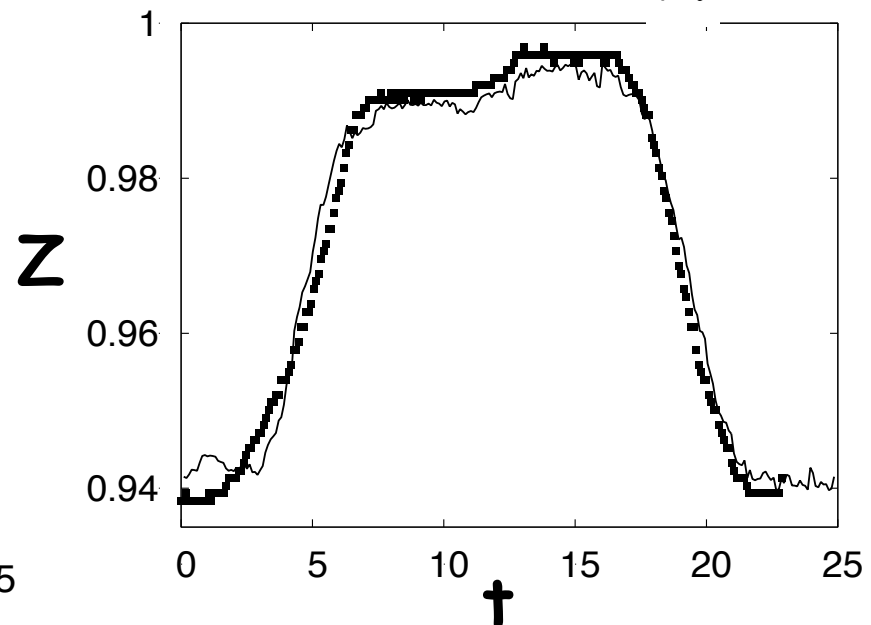
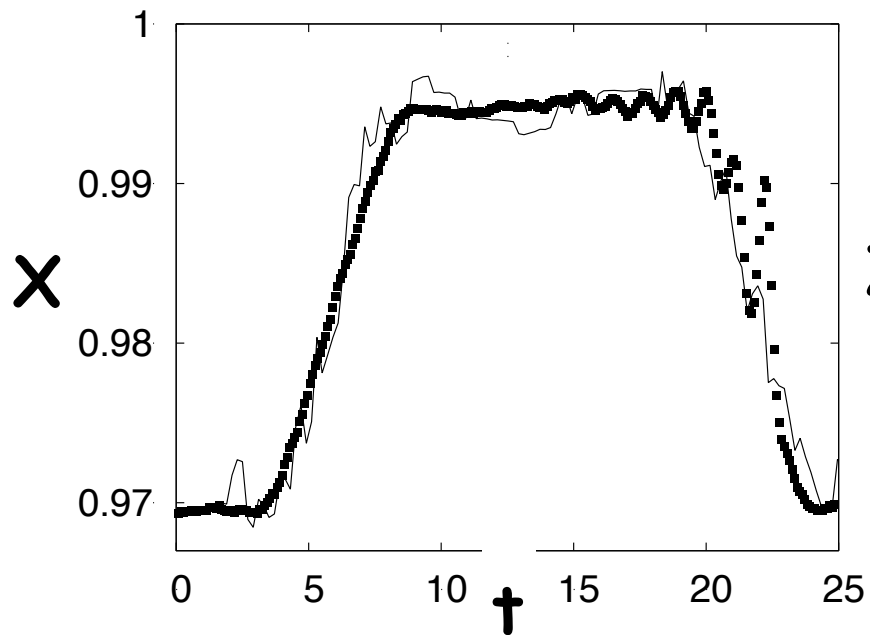
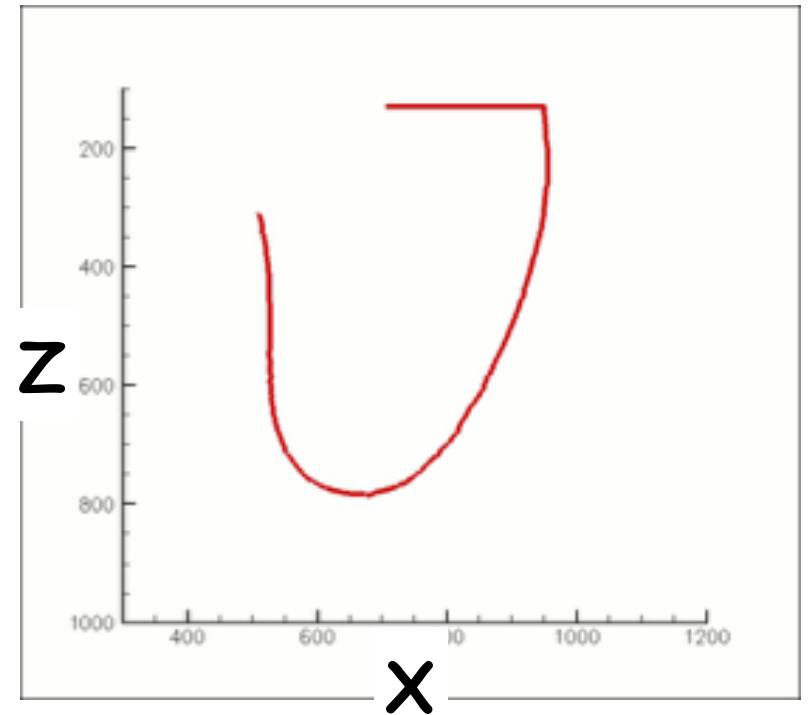
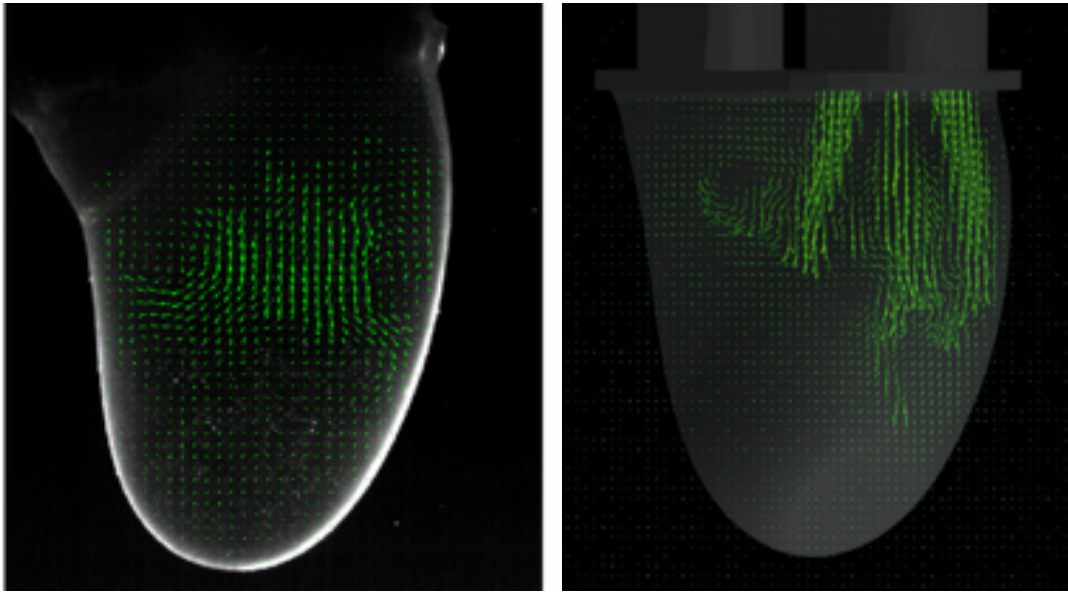


Strong cycle-to-cycle variation (small scales) but the large-scale features are



(Instantaneous velocity fields)

# Experimental vs Numerical



# Mitral valve and left ventricle

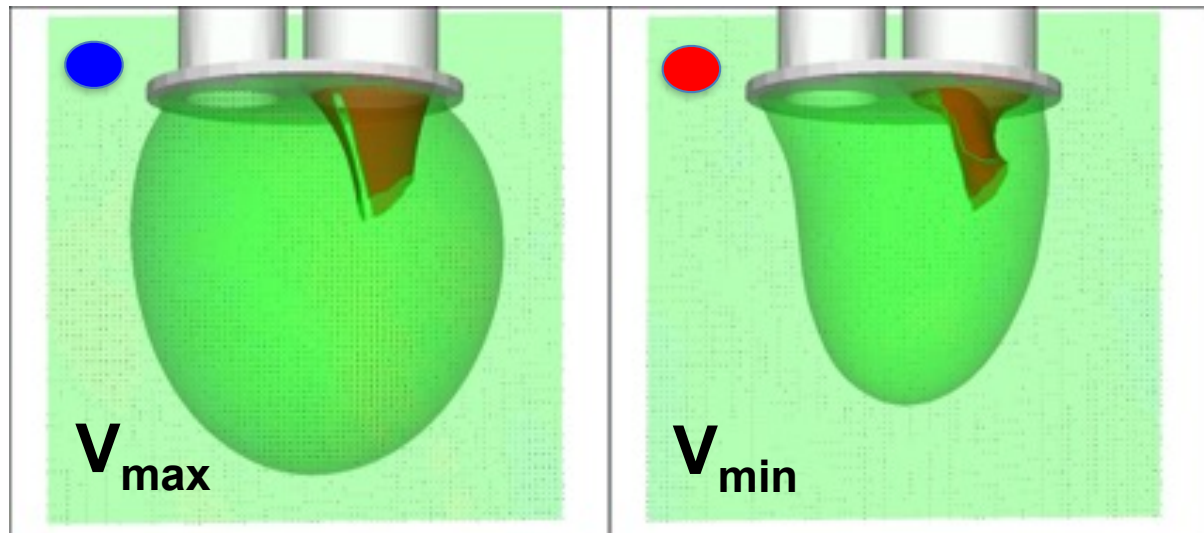
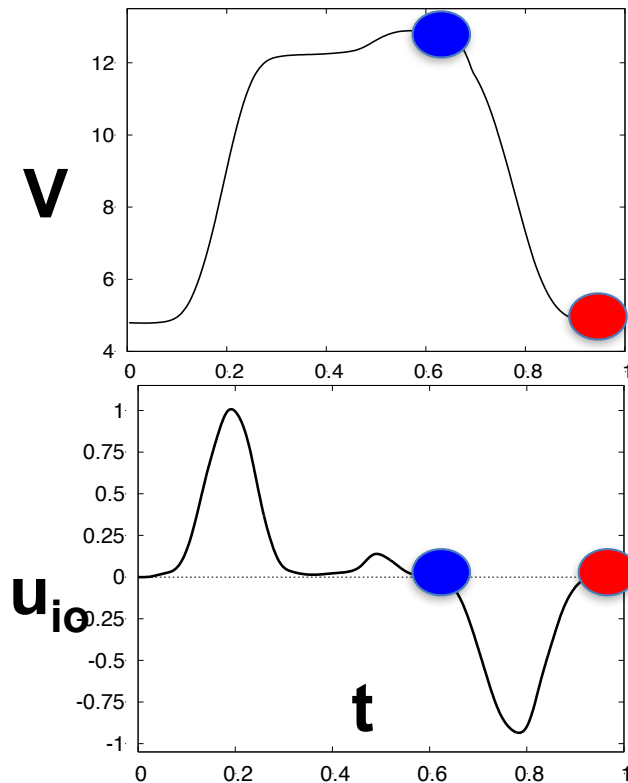
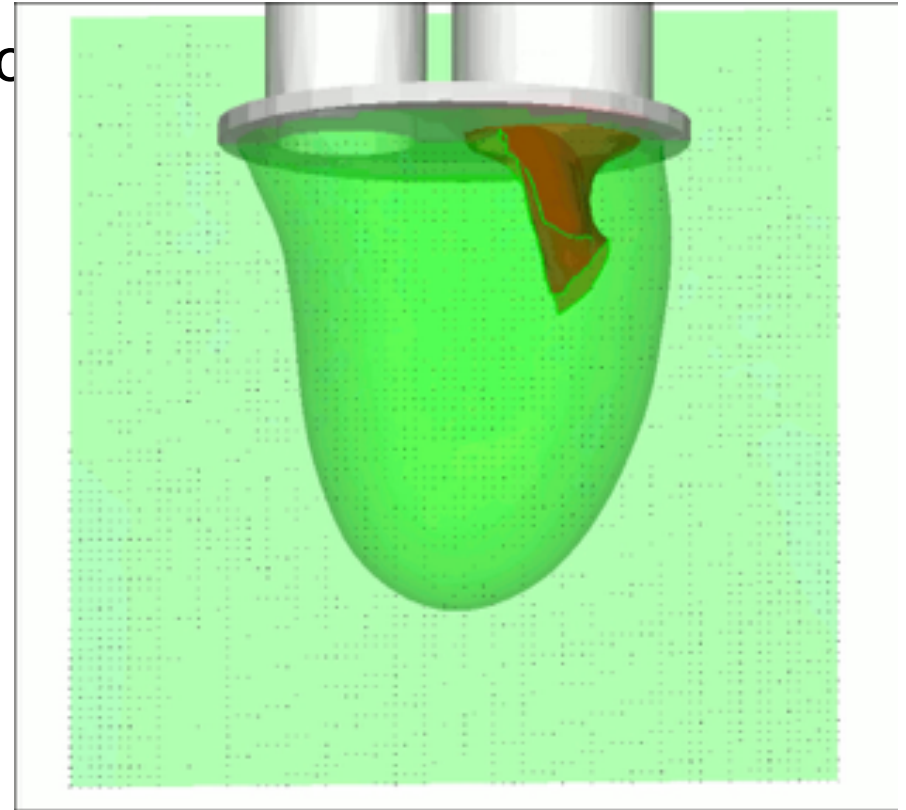
Ejection Fraction (EF), pumping efficiency of the left ventricle

$$EF = \frac{V_{max} - V_{min}}{V_{max}} * 100$$

EF=55-70% (good efficiency)

40% < EF < 50% (pathologic)

EF < 35% (life threatening)

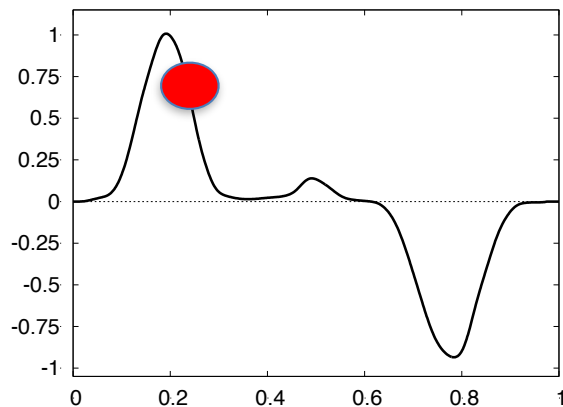
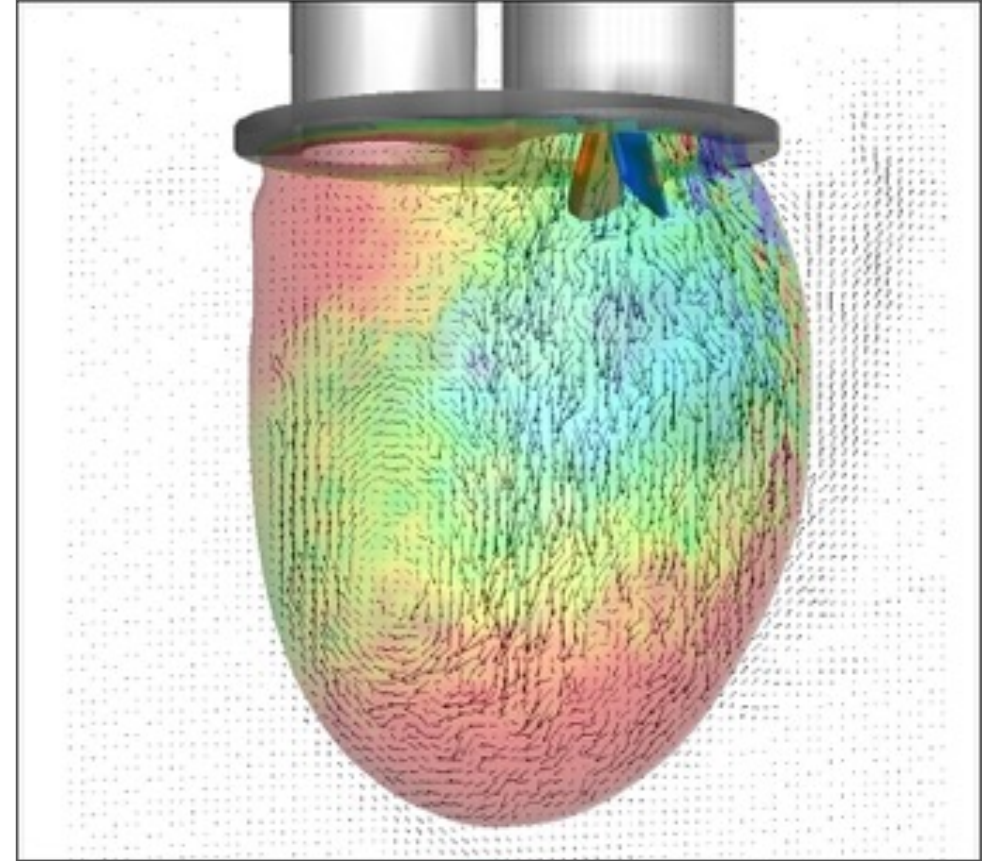
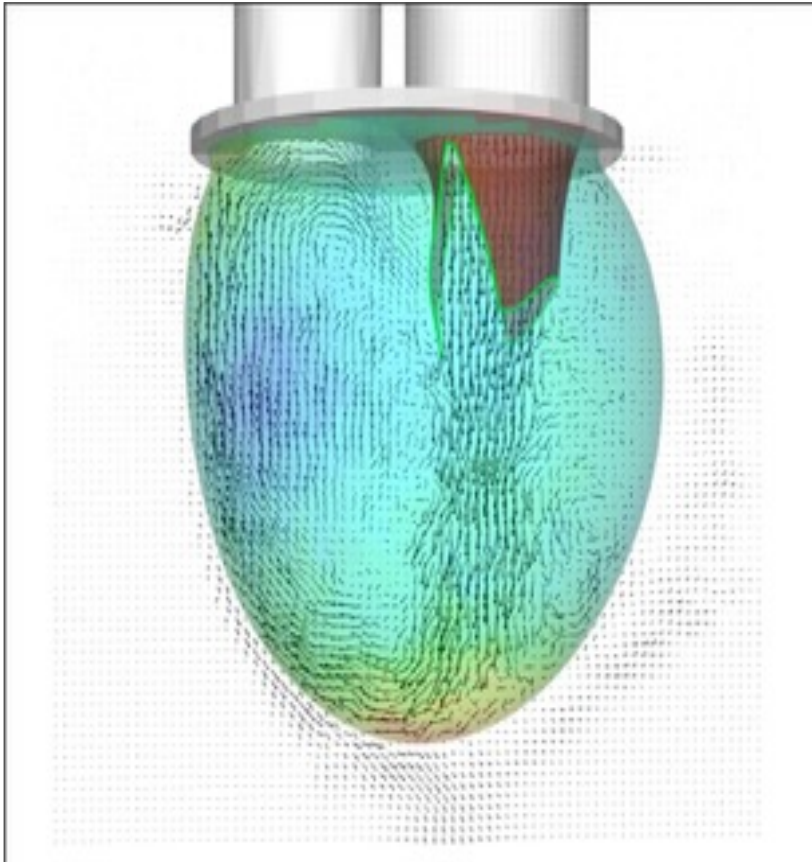






# Natural vs Mechanical Mitral valve

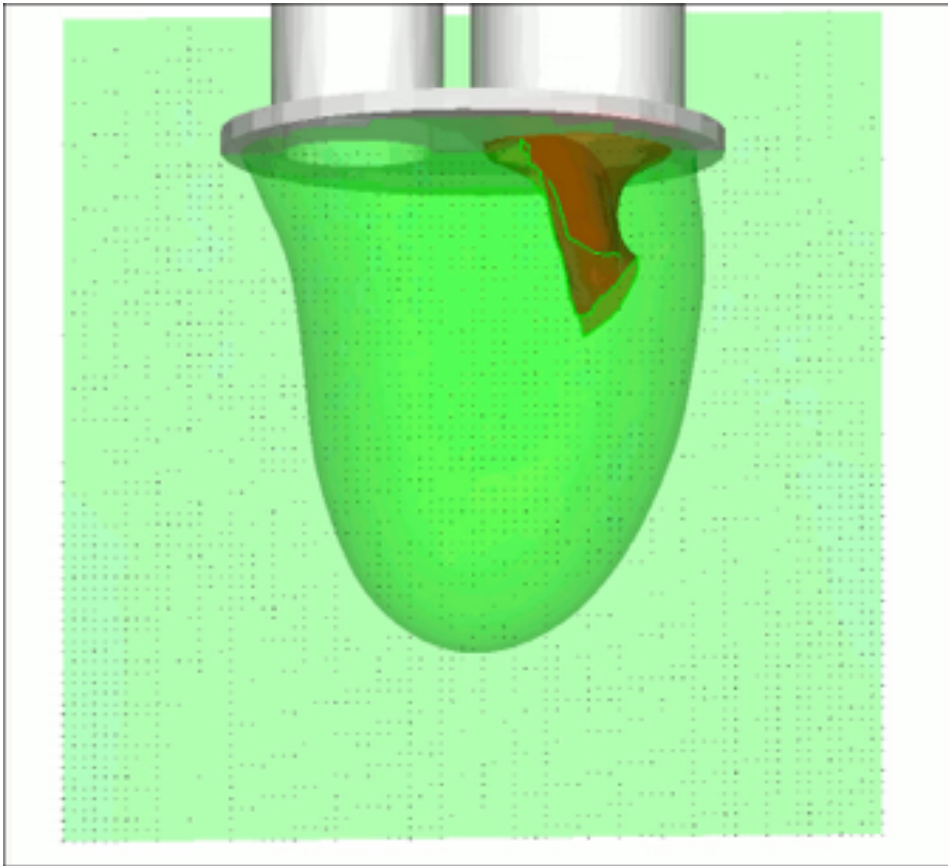
## 'Healthy' left ventricle (EF 60%)



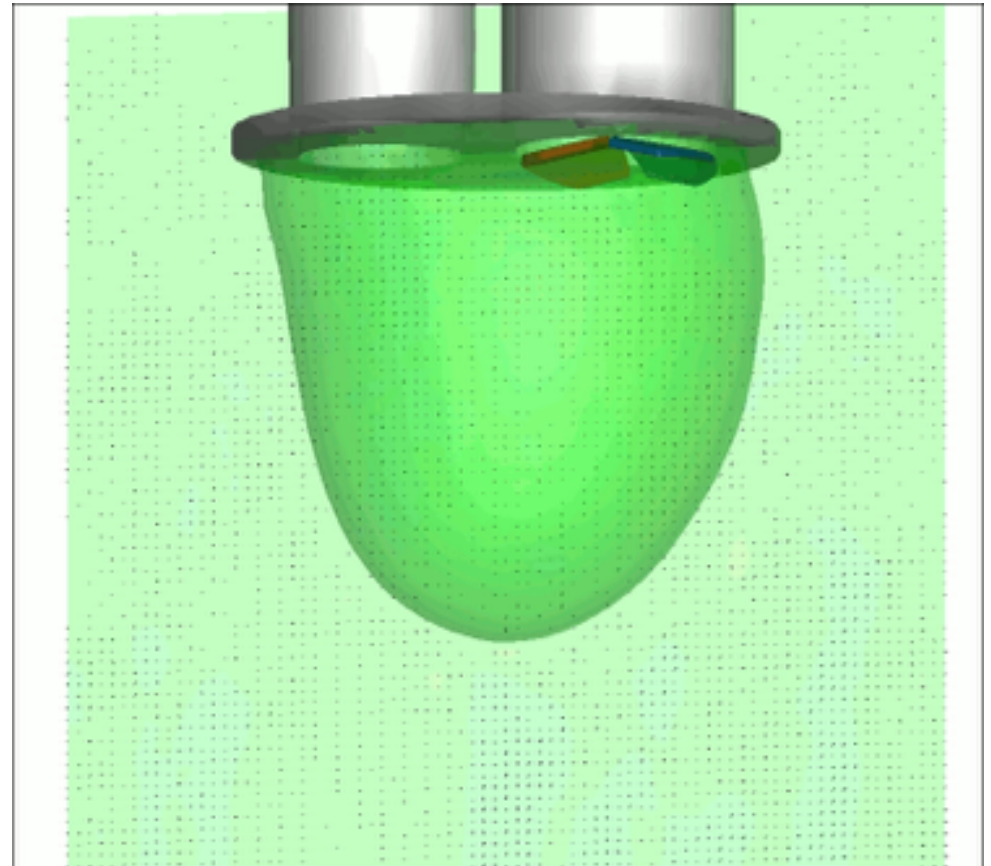
The disturbance produced by the mechanical valve considerably alters the flow and the shear stresses on the inner ventricle surface

# Natural vs Mechanical Mitral valve

## 'Healthy' left ventricle (EF 60%)



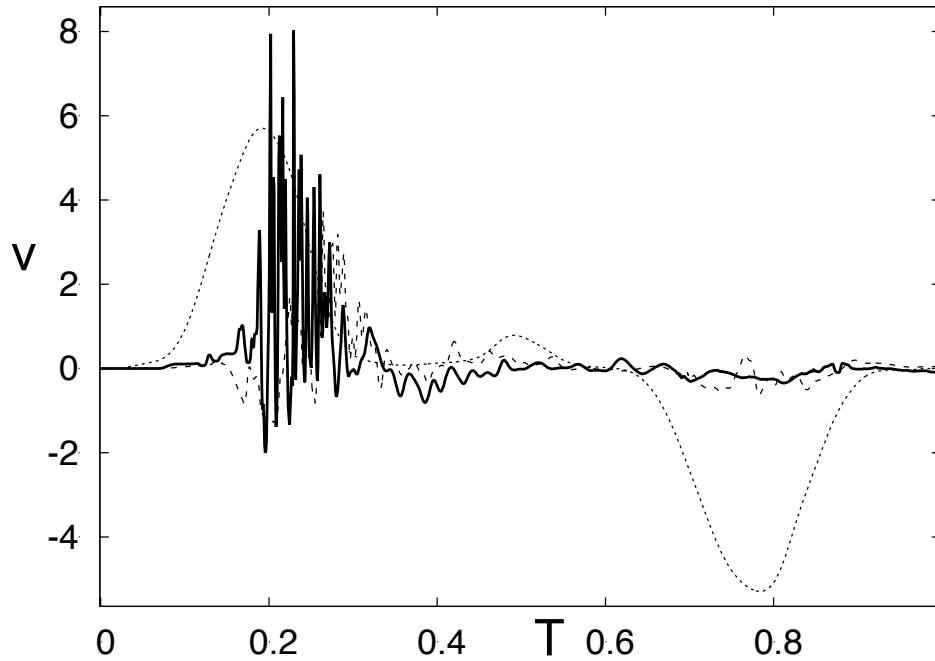
Natural valve



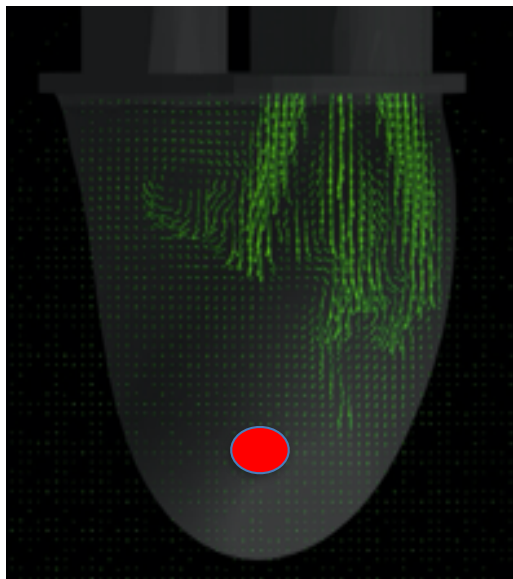
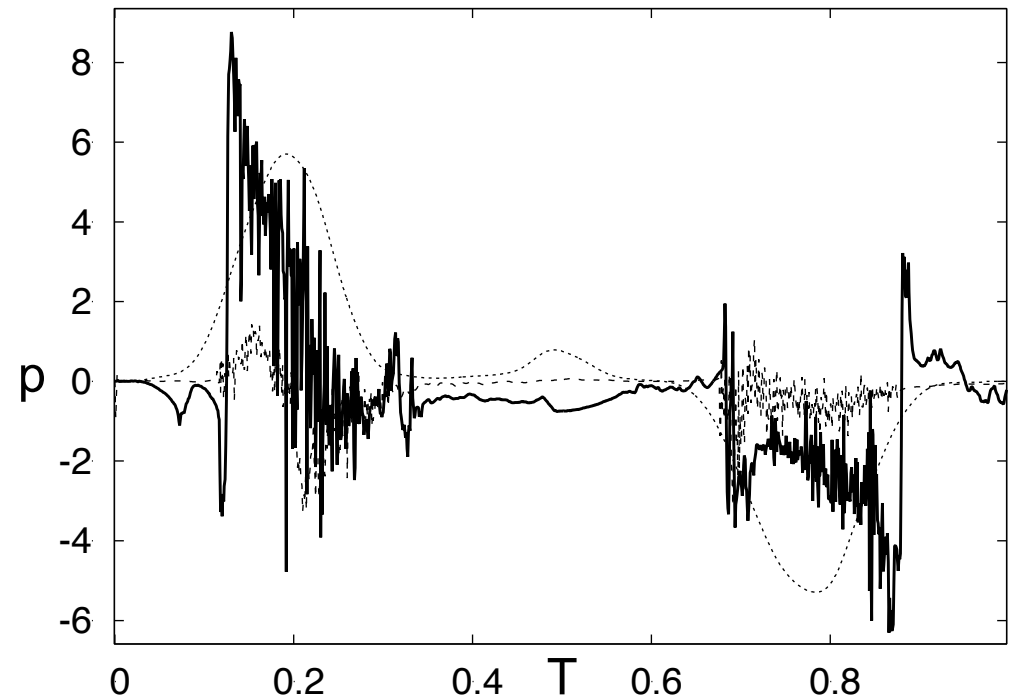
Mechanical valve

# 'Healthy' left ventricle (EF 60%)

More than 60 numerical probes are fit into the ventricle to sample in time velocity, pressure, vorticity ...



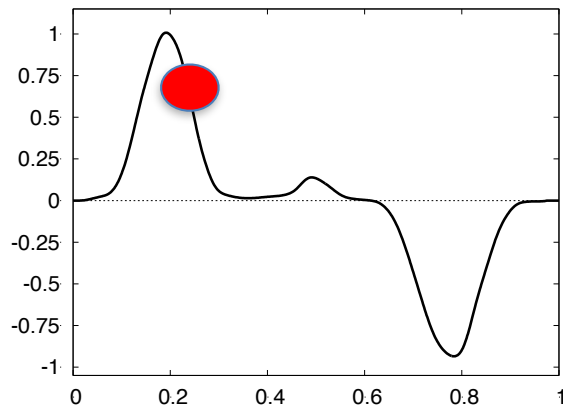
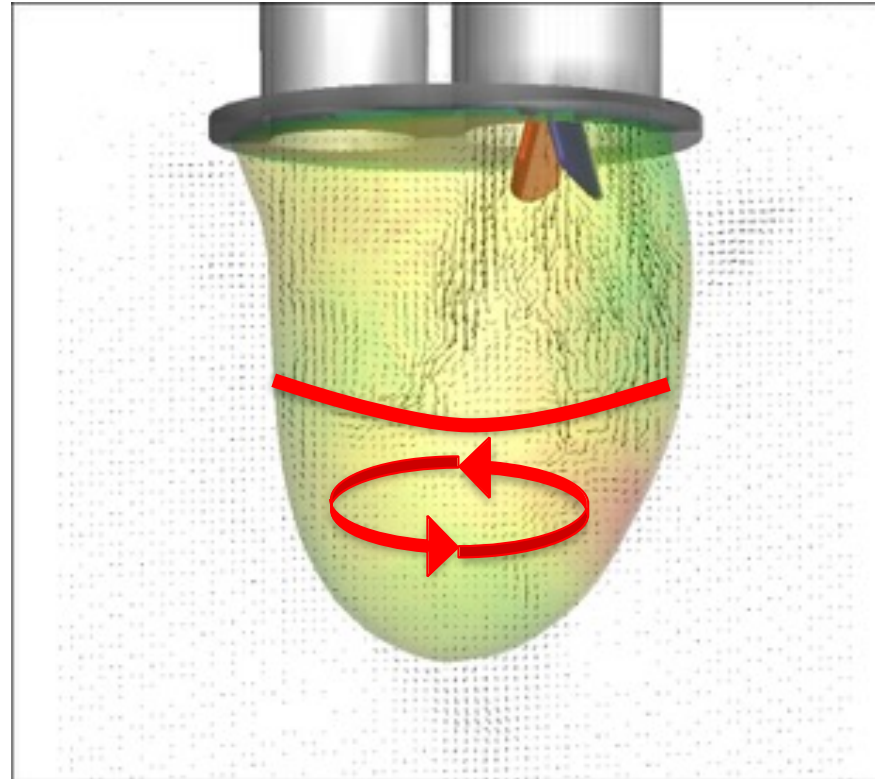
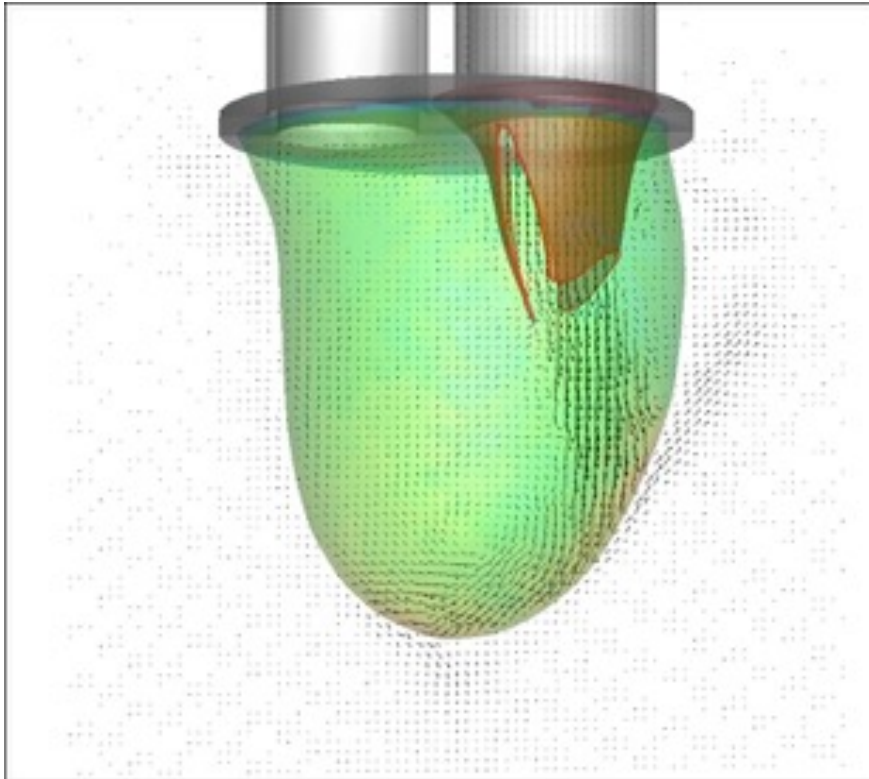
— Mechanical  
- - - Natural  
... Flow rate



Both, velocity and pressure have much more intense fluctuations for the mechanical valve

# Natural vs Mechanical Mitral valve

## Failing left ventricle (EF 30%)



The pressure drop across the mechanical valve and the increased dissipation of the flow prevents the mitral jet from penetrating up to the ventricle apex

# Ongoing work and future perspectives

Effect of **physical** cordae tendinae  
(not only their constrains)

Effect of trabeculae in the left  
ventricle (surface is not smooth)

Use the computational model to simulate different  
cardiac pathologies and intervention measures

Modelling the complete heart



*Politecnico di Bari, IT*

*European Hospital, Rome, IT*



*Univ. of Rome "Tor Vergata", IT*



*Univ. of Twente NL*



*GSSI IT*