

The Poster Session

Praskovia Milova, PhD

The rocket girl

Degree: **Engineer**

Specialization: **Rocket engines**

PhD: **Politecnico di Milano, Italy**

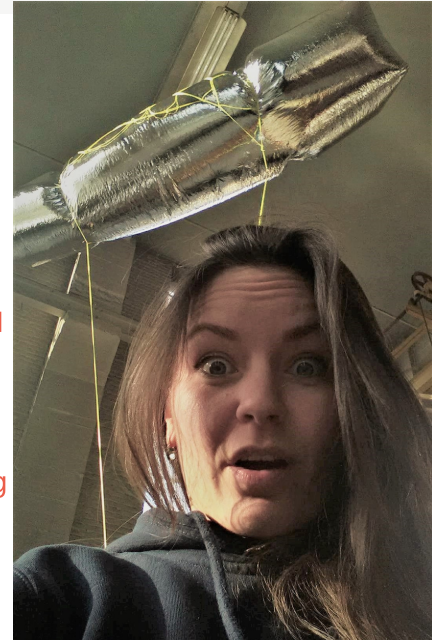
Topic of Thesis: **Hybrid rocket engines**

Currently at: **ULB, Belgium** (not the electric car ones!)

Praskovia comes from a place far from everywhere - a city called Omsk in Siberia, Russia. Don't imagine a scene from a frosty desolate land where only century old conifer trees survive. It is a 1mln inhabitants city, which apparently gives birth to **beautiful, smart and empowered women** who take the STEM fields by storm.

She always wanted to get her hands dirty and have a technical degree. While looking into the **combustion process inside a rocket engine** in Italy, she discovered that it's not only the experimenting she loved about science. She adored being part of the **multiculti environment** the university program placed her in and instead of shying away from the melting pot of languages, she enjoyed it to the fullest. Before long she moved to Belgium where she's now developing a **hydrogen airship for cargo transport**.

"I used to make things burn and explode, now I do completely the opposite - making sure that all is safe and operational. If I want my airship filled with hydrogen to deliver its payload safely, the last thing I want it to do is blow up!"



The daily musings of a scientist

What **Praskovia** loves about research is the process of methodically testing your object, playing with variables and interviewing the data to make sure that you don't miss a pattern that might lead you to the right answer just because you had a different expectations of the result. Getting her hands on and her mind in an experiment is what keeps her going beyond the dry spells of repeating over and over an experiment to ensure its reproducibility and the truthfulness of the outcome.

"**Loneliness**", says she, is the one aspect of research that can put her truly down. Science can be extremely solitary business, with too few and far spaced meetings of like-minded people.

Materials and Methods for a favourite dish

Tuna salad

- 1 can tuna, drained
- 150g mixed salad
- 75g mozzarella
- 100g cherry tomatoes
- 140g sweet corn
- 10 black olives

Extra virgin olive oil, lemon juice, salt, pepper to taste. In a bowl mix all the ingredients except tuna. Sear the tuna with salt and pepper and then add it on top of salad. Dress and serve.

Favorite pass times



And she even sings! (In case anyone ever truly questioned the creativity of engineers)

[@PraskoviaM](https://twitter.com/PraskoviaM)

<https://goo.gl/2BmrHd>

The kid asks

Does glitter pollute?

Yes, it does. Nature can digest some things, for example the fallen leaves in autumn. But it cannot digest these little particles much like you can't eat pebbles. So the tiny glitter pieces pile up in the environment similar to the dust under your bed. And if you don't clean it out it makes you cough and sneeze. When nature is too much polluted it gets ill too.