

## The “Kármán vortex street”: approaches to fluid dynamics with a historical and phenomenological perspective

MICHAEL ECKERT

*Deutsches Museum, Munich, Germany. e-mail: m.eckert@deutsches-museum.de*

**ABSTRACT.** Theodore von Kármán is well known all over the world for his achievements in aerodynamics. Like many famous Hungarians he spent most of his life outside Hungary. He is part of the “Hungarian Phenomenon” (Arthur Stinner). This presentation is about the phenomenon which has been named after Kármán: the “Kármán vortex street”. The phenomenon is ubiquitous but often not noticed. It is generally ignored in physics teaching although it is crucial for understanding fluid resistance. I approach the “Kármán vortex street” both from a historical and phenomenological perspective in an attempt to raise the interest of physics teachers for fluid dynamics.

