The ISPRS Foundation (TIF)

ISPRS Technical Commission V Symposium

"Close-range imaging, ranging and applications"

TIF Travel Grant Report by Ana Djuricic

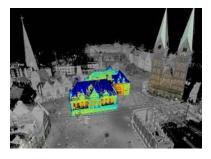
I am taking this opportunity to share my experience and impressions from ISPRS Technical Commission V Symposium. I am a PhD student in Photogrammetry, Department of Geodesy and Geoinformation, Vienna University of Technology where I am involved in the project "Smart-Geology for the World's largest fossil oyster reef" in cooperation with Natural History Museum Vienna (NHM). For me this was the first time to attend the ISPRS Symposium. I was very happy to have been there. It is a great pleasure and honour. I worked very hard in order to prepare my contribution with colleagues from Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT), Germany.

When I arrived there the feeling was just "WOW!" The place where symposium was held is such a beautiful place in north part of Italy – Riva del Garda!



Pre-Symposium

The first day, Sunday morning and also the afternoon, I took the opportunity to attend two interesting tutorials: "3D Toolkit for 3D point clouds processing" given by Andreas Nuchter from University of Wuerzburg, Germany, and "Structure-from-Motion solutions for heritage 3D documentation: pros and cons, issues and solutions" given by Geert Verhoeven from Vienna Institute for Archaeological Science, University of Vienna, Austria.



The tutorials started first with a theoretical introduction and the algorithmic steps included in most workflows. Afterwards, using several data sets covering various examples, the solutions were demonstrated and displayed followed by comments, tricks and tips. There was also the chance to talk to lecturer, to make questions and to get additional information on how they did their research.

At the Symposium

Opening

The Symposium is officially opened by Dr Fabio Remondino, Head of research unit 3DOM - 3D Optical Metrology Unit, FBK - Bruno Kessler Foundation. After that, a welcome speech is given by ISPRS General Secretary Christian Heipke, who welcomed all participants and handed out 7 travel grants provided by TIF - The ISPRS Foundation.



The picture of the winners of the ISPRS Foundation grants.

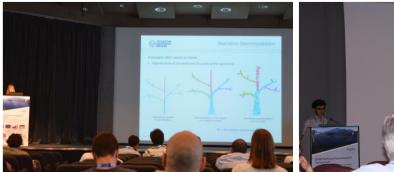
Keynotes

These were long sessions, the keynotes were given by the special invited speakers and were a great chance to see one of the top of the field talks on their work and to hear general perspectives about certain topics of close range photogrammetry or laser scanning. Those talks are relevant to all participants of the symposium and were a must see/hear sessions!



Oral Sessions

Since there were parallel sessions, it was good that I had organised my personal programme in order to catch all interesting things related to my field of interest. The personal programme gave me a chance to work out what sessions I want to be in and when they are. I could then have a look at it and work out when to change session for another one or just to stay in the same room and see all the talks in one session. This really helps where and when you really need to go.





Sessions were interesting. Indeed, there were so many different topics, so many scientists from all over the world speaking with great enthusiasm about their research. I really liked to listen them. I saw many of different research projects displayed during 3 days of symposium. I was taking notes and also seeing people I know by name from the papers, but I never had opportunity to meet them before. It was very exciting to talk with some of them afterwards and to introduce myself.

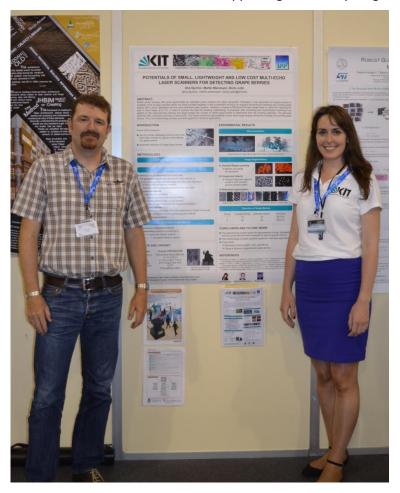
Poster Sessions

I learned from poster presentations a lot. I used the opportunity to meet people there and to talk to them.



I was chatting with people and I also invite them to my poster presentation which I had on 25th of June. My topic was "Potentials of small, lightweight and low cost Multi-Echo Laser Scanners for detecting Grape Berries" by A. Djuricic et al. submitted to ICWG I/Va. I prepared two types of my talk, short one and long one. If person didn't have time, I was using just the short version of my talk to introduce the main points of my research. Some people wanted first to read the poster and then to ask a questions. I received a lot of questions during the poster presentation but also afterwards,

during brake. All conversations were good and I found it interesting in many points. I felt like everything passed well. This was definitely a great experience for me. I am very thankful to my coauthors, Martin Weinmann and Boris Jutzi, who were supporting me all way long.



Networking and Friends

This event was a fantastic opportunity to meet the fellow PhD and Post-docs from my field. I enjoyed very much doing networking. I think that socializing is very important. Before arriving to Italy, I already checked out who of my colleagues is attending the symposium. It was a great opportunity to meet up with them (especially with the ones who are geographically far away). For example, I met with my ex-boss Dr Stefan Hinz and ex-supervisor Dr Boris Jutzi from Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT) where I spent almost one year as guest researcher during 2013.

Beside that, I got in touch with many new people, with well-known faces and also with many young researchers. As much people you know, there is higher chance to share more your research and spread the idea of your work and receive their comments. It is fascinating how others see the things which I have not seen by myself.

I haven't done anything touristic in Riva, really, because there was no time for that – time schedule of the event was very intensive and I went back home on the same day when symposium was over. However, I think I liked the lake because I managed to swim half an hour on the first day.



Organisation, Food and Drinks

The symposium assistants were doing a great job, always kind and ready to help. They provided for us map of the city and guide book in English. The social dinner inside of the city castle was a nice surprise and great evening. The last night we had gala outdoor dinner where we enjoyed delicious food and drinks.



Conclusion

Indeed, it was a great experience and I want to thank the ISPRS Foundation for kind support in time of need. It was very helpful.

In general, the conference was very good, and I tried to talk also about my current research as much as I could. There were a lot of new inputs for me. I really liked poster sessions. It was nice to have the opportunity to talk with many experts. I definitely know now more about close range photogrammetry and laser scanning.



The content of the event was very useful for my work. I had the chance to hear new things about actual research and applications. When I returned to Vienna, I started reading the papers and thinking about one of many ideas that I heard during symposium, and then I felt how the value of the participating in the ISPRS event is going to be priceless.

Overall, ISPRS TCV Symposium was very impressive and now I'm back to office with even more enthusiasm for science and keep up the good work. Thanks to The ISPRS Foundation (TIF) to offer me a travel grant for participating in this excellent symposium.