

Feedback on the 2026 ISPRS conference

Sylvain Colomer

I. Profile

My name is Sylvain Colomer, I am 30 years old, and I currently work as a contract lecturer and researcher at Université Bretagne Sud in France. My research focuses on the analysis of airborne hyperspectral data for forest monitoring. The main objective of my work is to develop a processing pipeline capable of predicting physiological variables from hyperspectral imagery in order to assess tree health at the individual-tree level. The long-term goal is to develop a tool that can help identify tree species that are more tolerant to climate change and thereby support improved forest replanting and management strategies.

During the ISPRS conference, I presented part of the research I conducted during my postdoctoral fellowship at the University of Toronto. This work focused on the large-scale segmentation of individual tree crowns using hyperspectral imagery.

II. The Conference

Overall, attending the ISPRS conference was an excellent experience for me. From a scientific perspective, participating in this event was extremely beneficial. I had the opportunity to attend many high-quality presentations covering a broad range of research topics. As my academic background is primarily in robotics and computational neuroscience, I used this opportunity to deepen my understanding of the remote-sensing field and to gain a broader overview of its latest advances. I was particularly impressed by the number and diversity of contributions presented during the conference, with approximately ten parallel sessions and more than 800 posters displayed throughout the week. I particularly appreciated the presentations delivered during the “Remote Sensing Data Processing and Understanding” sessions. These sessions were closely related to my own research interests and gave me valuable insights into recent methodological developments in remote-sensing data analysis. As a result, I believe that I significantly strengthened my scientific knowledge and discovered several remote-sensing approaches and methodologies with which I had previously been unfamiliar.

From a networking perspective, the event also allowed me to meet many researchers working on related topics. These interactions enabled me to establish initial contacts with potential future collaborators, engage in highly stimulating discussions about my research area, and better assess how my current work relates to the state of the art. My presentation generated particular interest among several researchers, leading to valuable discussions about my methods and results. I intend to remain in contact with some of these researchers and explore possible opportunities for future collaboration. For example, during the conference, I discovered the *Revue Française de Photogrammétrie et de Télédétection* (RFPT), an open-access scientific journal closely related to

my research field. I found this particularly interesting, as it could offer a valuable opportunity to disseminate some of my future work within the French remote-sensing community.

From a career perspective, my discussions with other participants, as well as my visits to the professional exhibition, allowed me to discover new possibilities for obtaining research funding. I was also pleasantly surprised by the large number of PhD and postdoctoral opportunities advertised at the exhibition, which highlighted the dynamism of the field and the wide range of career paths available in remote sensing. In addition, I learned about several remote-sensing institutes and organizations that I had not previously known. These contacts were therefore highly beneficial and introduced me to potential career and research opportunities of which I had not been aware before attending the conference.

III. The TIF Grant

Receiving the TIF grant was essential in enabling me to attend the conference. The work I presented had been conducted during my postdoctoral fellowship at the University of Toronto as part of a research project that had already ended. Consequently, no project funding remained available to cover my travel from France, where I now work, to Toronto. The TIF grant therefore made it possible for me to travel to Toronto, secure accommodation, attend the conference, and fully benefit from the scientific, professional, and networking opportunities offered by the event. I am extremely grateful for this support, as attending the conference was a particularly valuable and important experience for me as a young researcher at the beginning of my academic career.

IV. Photos



