

Report on EuroSDR / ISPRS European Calibration and Orientation Workshop EuroCOW 2012

February 8-10, 2012, Castelldefels, Spain

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Workshop European Calibration and Orientation Workshop EuroCOW 2012

The 4th EuroCOW workshop, biennially co-organized through EuroSDR and ISPRS successfully took place from February 8th to February 10th, 2012 at the Institute of Geomatics (IG), located in the Mediterranean Technology Park (PMT), Castelldefels (20 Km South from downtown Barcelona). More than 70 participants from 18 countries registered for this event, 34 authors presented their latest findings in oral presentations (@ 30min presentation time each).

The day before official workshop opening a **one day pre-workshop tutorial on camera orientation**: practice with the IGN open source photogrammetric software (APER0) was offered by IGN Paris.

The workshop itself was opened by the conference keynote given by **Dr. Craig Glennie, Univ. Houston** presenting on the open challenges for Mobile Mapping Systems. He focussed on the technical challenges including the better trajectory estimation, more rigorous calibration and integration of lower cost sensors. From a commercial adoption perspective, software to analysis/process/extract from data is clearly lagging far behind the hardware to collect it.

Dr. Naser el-Sheimy, Univ. of Calgary, current President of the ISPRS Commission 1 was keynote speaker to introduce into the Integrated Navigation topic of the workshop. His keynote was entitled: MEMS Sensors – State of the art and future trends in Mapping and Navigation applications. He summarizes the talk with his main conclusion: With the technology push and the market pull, MEMS inertial systems is going to reach the performance of tactical grade IMU soon.

The scientific program was structured in **8 different sessions**: three sessions on Calibration and Orientation in general, two special sessions on special Calibration and Orientation for UAV, one GNSS session, one INS session and one session on Radiometry.

The proceedings (and presentations) can be accessed via the IdeG web site: <http://www.ideg.es/page.php?id=1360> . Selected papers already made available in **Journal of the German Society of Photogrammetry, Remote Sensing and Geoinformation PFG Issue 02/2012**.

The technical program was continued with a very remarkable (evening) social program, where the **1st Wine Orientation and Calibration Seminar** happened in the historical castle of Castelldefels should be mentioned explicitly. Thus it was almost 24 hour program for all three days, giving lots of opportunity not only to discuss the technical issues but also to deepen social contacts and meet old and new friends!

As the years before the EuroCOW 2012 was a very valuable workshop. It was valuable because this event stays within the workshop character, not getting too big to become a conference. This allows strong personal contacts and to meet the same people during the coffee breaks to discuss on the presentation. It is always around 50-80 participants,

organized as single track only. The meeting has its clear scientific focus on orientation and calibration issues, but also looks for “side-disciplines”.

In the meantime EuroCOW is very well established and accepted and with its own history. It happened for the fourth time (2006 & 2008 & 2010 & 2012) and is originating as a follow up of the ISPRS workshops in “Integrated Sensor Orientation” 1995, 1999 and 2003 held at ICC and IG.

And last but not least it is almost perfectly organized, with a very good “input / output”-ratio and this is mainly due to **Ismael Colomina and his team at the Institute of Geomatics!**

For sure, EuroCOW will be continued, the 5th edition is already scheduled like follows:
February 12 – 14, 2014, Castelldefels, Spain.

