I was lucky to obtain a grant to participate to the event “ISPRS Geospatial Week 2015” and particularly its sub-events, conferences Laserscanning and SilviLaser.

My main motivation was to present a paper entitled “Reconstructing forest canopy from the 3D triangulations of airborne laser scanning point data for the visualization and planning of forested landscapes”, in which I was the sole author. I presented results of studying triangulations and filtrations of airborne laser scanning point data derived from forest vegetation. Overall, the topic of using triangulated airborne laser scanning data for vegetation analyses is innovative and to the best of my knowledge, no similar attempts are presented by the scientific community despite several benefits of the approach can be listed. I believe that the approach was brought to a wider knowledge by the presentation.

Participation to the conference was also beneficial from the networking point of view. I discussed with scientists that are using different methodology for similar problems and that way got some potential research ideas for the future. I especially enjoyed the arrangement of the program typically starting with general plenary talks and continuing with detailed sessions. I found the topics related to structural properties of the forests most interesting. The way to arrange the coffee sessions in the poster hall was beneficial for meeting other attendees and discussing them with a coffee at hand and fresh ideas in mind.

The conference venue in La Grande Motte, France, was ideal for having such a meeting. It was slightly out of the tourist season, but still very warm, at least compared to Finland, where I was welcomed by the first flakes of wet snow when returning back 😊

I would like to sincerely thank the ISPRS Foundation for providing a grant to attend the ISPRS Geospatial Week 2015!

Jari Vauhkonen

University of Eastern Finland, School of Forest Sciences