

**Report of the EUMETSAT Conference 2014
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I am very thankful for the Young Travel Scientist Award (YSTA), accorded to me by the European Meteorological Society (EMS) and which gave me the great opportunity to participate at the EUMETSAT Conference, held in Geneva, Switzerland from 22-26 September 2014. I would also want to thank EUMETSAT, all the other organisers, sponsors and the National Meteorological Administration of Romania.

The EUMETSAT Meteorological Satellite Conference represents one of the most important annual reunions of important research scientists over the world for the weather satellite area of interest. This year, the conference was focused on the current capabilities and future evolutions of satellite observations with a view to foster applications of the data from new satellite generations. The oral presentations, poster sessions and workshops were held during the conference.

The programme was divided in the 9 following sessions:

1. Current and future satellites, instruments and their applications
2. Climate
3. Quantitative applications for nowcasting
4. Data access for easy utilisation
5. Marine meteorology and oceanography
6. Instrument calibration and validation campaigns
7. Atmospheric composition
8. Satellite data in global and regional modelling
9. Advances in understanding atmospheric processes using satellite data

My main research fields refer to satellite products testing, operational support to real time satellite data acquisition, processing and dissemination. In the framework of the conference, I've been trying to attend as many presentations related to my fields of interest from the sessions held during the week.

My contribution was entitled "Meteosat SEVIRI Visualization and processing – Comparing open source software for operational use" and was part of the "Data access for easy utilisation" poster session. When facing the need of finding a suitable software to be used in an operational environment, a large number of functionalities need to be taken into consideration, like input/output supported file formats, available projections, availability of a scripting language, near real time operations, etc. This study summaries the experience of the Romanian Met Service with a number of open source software along the implementation of an operational Meteosat SEVIRI processing chain. It is focused on analysing the characteristics of different open source software for operational use and listing the principal features that should be considered when using the software.

We were a group of three researchers from the Satellite Department working for this poster. During the Conference I've talked to people interested on our research, we've got positive and constructive feedback. The discussions, debates and advices received were very encouraging for me.

As a recent master graduate, I'm new in the research area. This was my first international experience and I am very proud to be a participant in this large-scale conference. This award gives the occasion for youngsters to be involved in the scientific world, which is very important for their development and growth.

In total, about 400 people were present in Geneva for the event, which proves once again the expanding interest of the scientists on satellite meteorology and beyond. The topics were very wide and they covered many areas of research.

The speakers and the other attendees came from all parts of the world to show the results of their work. Representatives from WMO, NOAA, ESA and from other well-known institutions were part of the participants.

The participation on this conference, and here I include all the presentations (oral or poster sessions), workshops and also the social events, helped me make another step in the needed research experience for my future career.

Finally I can say that it was an extraordinary experience and I hope that in 2015 I will be in Toulouse at the next EUMETSAT Conference. Thank you again for this big chance!

Yours sincerely,
Alina Ristea