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Front Matter: Volume 9223

, "Front Matter: Volume 9223," Proc. SPIE 9223, Remote Sensing System Engineering V, 922301 (3 October 2014); doi: 10.1117/12.2086915

SPIE.

Event: SPIE Optical Engineering + Applications, 2014, San Diego, California, United States

PROCEEDINGS OF SPIE

Remote Sensing System Engineering V

**Philip E. Ardanuy
Jeffery J. Puschell**
Editors

**18 August 2014
San Diego, California, United States**

Sponsored and Published by
SPIE

Volume 9223

Proceedings of SPIE 0277-786X, V. 9223

SPIE is an international society advancing an interdisciplinary approach to the science and application of light.

Remote Sensing System Engineering V, edited by Philip E. Ardanuy, Jeffery J. Puschell,
Proc. of SPIE Vol. 9223, 922301 · © 2014 SPIE · CCC code: 0277-786X/14/\$18
doi: 10.1117/12.2086915

Proc. of SPIE Vol. 9223 922301-1

The papers included in this volume were part of the technical conference cited on the cover and title page. Papers were selected and subject to review by the editors and conference program committee. Some conference presentations may not be available for publication. The papers published in these proceedings reflect the work and thoughts of the authors and are published herein as submitted. The publisher is not responsible for the validity of the information or for any outcomes resulting from reliance thereon.

Please use the following format to cite material from this book:

Author(s), "Title of Paper," in *Remote Sensing System Engineering V*, edited by Philip E. Ardanuy, Jeffery J. Puschell, Proceedings of SPIE Vol. 9223 (SPIE, Bellingham, WA, 2014) Article CID Number.

ISSN: 0277-786X
ISBN: 9781628412505

Published by

SPIE

P.O. Box 10, Bellingham, Washington 98227-0010 USA
Telephone +1 360 676 3290 (Pacific Time) · Fax +1 360 647 1445
SPIE.org

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Printed in the United States of America.

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Introduction

The fifth Remote Sensing System Engineering Conference was held on Monday, 18 August 2014, at the San Diego Convention Center as a part of the SPIE Optics + Photonics and Optical Engineering + Applications Annual Meeting. The goals of the Conference were, first and foremost, to exchange critical and invaluable lessons learned and best practices in the systems engineering of ground-, air-, and space-based remote sensing systems. Additional goals were to share existing and emerging design approaches, engineering methods, tools, and future trends for engineering remote sensing systems.

Chaired by Dr. Philip E. Ardanuy (Raytheon Intelligence & Information Systems) and Dr. Jeffery J. Puschell (Raytheon Space & Airborne Systems), the conference featured 21 diverse and interesting presentations on Remote Sensing System Applications, Active Remote Sensing Systems, and Innovations in Remote Sensing across four oral sessions, plus additional poster presentations in the evening session. The authors were international in breadth, with Asian and European engineers and scientists joining their American systems engineering colleagues for the conference. Topics discussed included: systems engineering best practices and lessons learned; system architecture and design; requirements, performance metrics, and measures of success; modeling and simulation tools and methods; design and integration of distributed architectures; use of commercial assets in future remote sensing systems; bridging and balancing across the science-to-engineering and technologist-to-end-user valleys of "death and lost opportunities"; and the end user, effective data/information/system utilization, and optimum return on investment.

The conference chairs wish to thank the presenters and authors for their fascinating and innovative contributions, which spanned the full diversity of the field. The papers which follow include:

- Persistent observations of the Arctic from highly elliptical orbits using multispectral, wide field of view day-night imagers, by Jeffery Puschell of Raytheon Space & Airborne Systems
- VIIRS reflective solar bands on-orbit calibration coefficient performance using imagery and moderate band intercomparisons, by D. Moyer of The Aerospace Corporation
- Uncooled emissive infrared imager for CubeSats, by Jeffery Puschell of Raytheon Space & Airborne Systems
- Calibration of a system to collect visible-light polarization data for classification of geosynchronous satellites, by Andy Speicher of the University of Denver

- Control architecture for an adaptive electronically steerable flash lidar and associated instruments, by Lyle Ruppert of Ball Aerospace & Technologies Corporation
- Pattern recognition applied to infrared images for early alerts in fog, by Vincent Boucher of Cerema/DTer Ouest
- Appreciation of the traffic effects on the RST by infrared thermography, by Abderrahmen Khalifa of Cerema/DTer Est
- A hybrid algorithm for robust acoustic source localization in noisy and reverberant environments, by Ramesh Rajagopalan of the University of St. Thomas
- An optical positioning sensor by combining optical projection and a virtual camera model, by Benrui Zheng of The University of North Carolina at Charlotte

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