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## Contents

vii  Conference Committee
ix  Introduction

### SESSION 1  SENSORS AND SYSTEMS I

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Paper Number</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Authors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7668 02</td>
<td>3D imaging without range information</td>
<td>J. D. Rogers, D. R. Myatt, Waterfall Solutions Ltd. (United Kingdom)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7668 03</td>
<td>Lock-in imaging with synchronous digital mirror demodulation</td>
<td>M. G. Bush, Clear Align (United States)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7668 04</td>
<td>Chromotomographic imager field demonstration results</td>
<td>D. C. O'Dell, R. Bostick, M. R. Hawks, E. D. Swenson, J. T. Black, R. G. Cobb, G. P. Perram, Air Force Institute of Technology (United States)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7668 05</td>
<td>Novel hyperspectral imager for lightweight UAVs</td>
<td>H. Saari, V.-V. Aallos, C. Holmlund, J. Mäkynen, VTT Technical Research Ctr. of Finland (Finland); B. Delauré, K. Nackaerts, B. Michiels, Flemish Institute for Technological Research (Belgium)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### SESSION 2  SENSORS AND SYSTEMS II

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Paper Number</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Authors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7668 07</td>
<td>Multisensor airborne imagery collection and processing onboard small unmanned systems</td>
<td>D. Linne von Berg, U.S. Naval Research Lab. (United States); S. A. Anderson, A. Bird, N. Holt, Space Dynamics Lab. (United States); M. Kruer, T. J. Walls, M. L. Wilson, U.S. Naval Research Lab. (United States)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7668 08</td>
<td>Use of compact synthetic aperture radar systems to assist with device detection and discrimination</td>
<td>M. Jensen, Space Dynamics Lab. (United States); T. J. Walls, U.S. Naval Research Lab. (United States); S. A. Anderson, Space Dynamics Lab. (United States); D. Linne von Berg, U.S. Naval Research Lab. (United States); N. Holt, Space Dynamics Lab. (United States); M. Kruer, U.S. Naval Research Lab. (United States); D. G. Long, Brigham Young Univ. (United States); M. L. Wilson, U.S. Naval Research Lab. (United States)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7668 09</td>
<td>Compact survey and inspection day/night image sensor suite for small unmanned aircraft systems (EyePod)</td>
<td>A. Bird, S. A. Anderson, Space Dynamics Lab. (United States); D. Linne von Berg, U.S. Naval Research Lab. (United States); M. Davidson, N. Holt, Space Dynamics Lab. (United States); M. Kruer, M. L. Wilson, U.S. Naval Research Lab. (United States)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7668 0A</td>
<td>A simulation of wide area surveillance (WAS) systems and algorithm for digital elevation model (DEM) extraction</td>
<td>B. T. Cheng, Goodrich ISR Systems (United States)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
SESSION 3  SENSORS AND SYSTEMS III

7668 0B  Airborne sensor integration for quick reaction programs [7668-11]
G. Gosian, K. Mason, T. Servoss, B. Brower, M. Pellechia, ITT Geospatial Systems (United States)

7668 0C  High speed radiometric measurements of IED detonation fireballs [7668-12]
M. T. Spidell, J. M. Gordon, J. Pitz, K. C. Gross, G. P. Perram, Air Force Institute of Technology (United States)

7668 0D  Terrestrial imaging of military test centers [7668-13]
S. D. Fleming, U.S. Military Academy (United States)

7668 0E  Opto-mechanical review of a light weight compact visible zoom camera [7668-36]
B. McMaster, Corning Tropel Corp. (United States)

SESSION 4  DETECTION AND TRACKING

7668 0F  Moving target detection for a multi-band pushbroom sensor [7668-14]
B. T. Cheng, Goodrich ISR Systems (United States)

7668 0G  Robust vehicle detection in low-resolution aerial imagery [7668-15]
S. Sahli, Y. Ouyang, Y. Sheng, Univ. Laval (Canada); D. A. Lavigne, Defence Research and Development Canada (Canada)

7668 0H  Robust component-based car detection and counting in aerial imagery based on the mean-shift colour space clustering [7668-16]
Y. Ouyang, S. Sahli, Y. Sheng, Univ. Laval (Canada); D. A. Lavigne, Defence Research and Development Canada (Canada)

7668 0I  Advanced vehicle tracking in persistent aerial surveillance video [7668-17]
J. Xiao, H. Cheng, H. Sawhney, Sarnoff Corp. (United States)

7668 0J  Automated multiple target detection and tracking in UAV videos [7668-18]
H. Mao, C. Yang, Arizona State Univ. (United States); G. P. Abousleman, General Dynamics C4 Systems (United States); J. Si, Arizona State Univ. (United States)

7668 0K  Pan and tilt real-time target tracking [7668-19]
M. A. Akhloufi, Ctr. de Robotique et de Vision Industrielles (Canada) and Univ. Laval (Canada)

7668 0L  Directed area search using socio-biological vision algorithms and cognitive Bayesian reasoning [7668-20]
S. Medasani, Y. Owechko, D. Allen, T. C. Lu, D. Khosla, HRL Labs., LLC (United States)

7668 0M  A comparative study of four change detection methods for aerial photography applications [7668-21]
G. Abramovich, G. Brooksby, S. F. Bush, S. Manickam, GE Global Research (United States); O. Ozcanli, Brown Univ. (United States); B. D. Garrett, Lockheed Martin Corp. (United States)
SESSION 5 VIDEO/IMAGE PROCESSING AND EXPLOITATION

7668 ON Factors related to low-slant angle affecting airborne video interpretability (Invited Paper) [7668-22]
D. Young, Raytheon (United States); T. Bakir, Harris Corp. (United States); R. Butto, Jr., Photon Research Associates, Inc. (United States); F. Petitti, Raytheon (United States)

7668 OO Expanding the dynamic range of short wave infrared (SWIR) imagery [7668-23]
M. Hansen, M. C. Stern, Goodrich ISR Systems (United States)

7668 OQ Correction of projective distortion in long-image-sequence mosaics without prior information [7668-25]
C. Yang, H. Mao, Arizona State Univ. (United States); G. Abousleman, General Dynamics C4 Systems (United States); J. Si, Arizona State Univ. (United States)

7668 OR Information recovery through image sequence fusion under wavelet transformation [7668-26]
Q. He, Mississippi Valley State Univ. (United States)

7668 OS Real-time unmanned aircraft systems surveillance video mosaicking using GPU [7668-27]
A. Camargo, K. Anderson, Y. Wang, R. R. Schultz, R. A. Fevig, The Univ. of North Dakota (United States)

7668 OU Image exploitation algorithms for reconnaissance and surveillance with UAV [7668-29]
N. Heinze, M. Esswein, W. Krüger, G. Saur, Fraunhofer-Institut für Optronik, Systemtechnik und Bildauswertung (Germany)

7668 OV Temporal fusion for de-noising of RGB video received from small UAVs [7668-30]
A. D. Fischer, K. J. Hildebrand, 21st Century Systems, Inc. (United States)

7668 OW Research strategy for the electro-optics sensors domain of the Materials and Components for Missiles Innovative Technology Partnership [7668-31]
M. Bray, I. Panella, SELEX Galileo S.p.A. (United Kingdom)

POSTER SESSION

7668 OX Evaluation of a vehicle tracking system for multi-modal UAV-captured video data [7668-32]
D. A. Sadlier, N. E. O’Connor, Dublin City Univ. (Ireland)

7668 OY Application of Retinex wavelet moment features for complex illumination [7668-33]
B. Sun, J. Li, J. He, X. Zhu, Beijing Normal Univ. (China)

7668 OZ Improved VCA in hyperspectral image processing [7668-34]
X. Zhu, Beijing Normal Univ. (China); C. Chen, China Naval Armament Academy (China); B. Sun, X. Zhang, J. He, Beijing Normal Univ. (China)

7668 10 Cross delay line sensor characterization [7668-35]
UAV-based environmental monitoring using multi-spectral imaging [7668-37]
M. De Biasio, T. Arnold, R. Leitner, G. McGunnigle, Carinthian Tech Research AG (Austria);
R. Meester, Quest Innovations B.V. (Netherlands)

Author Index
Conference Committee

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1 Sensors and Systems I
   Daniel J. Henry, Goodrich ISR Systems (United States)

2 Sensors and Systems II
   Dale C. Linne von Berg, U.S. Naval Research Laboratory (United States)

3 Sensors and Systems III
   Dale C. Linne von Berg, U.S. Naval Research Laboratory (United States)

4 Detection and Tracking
   Beato T. Cheng, Goodrich ISR Systems (United States)

5 Video/Image Processing and Exploitation
   Darrell L. Young, Raytheon Intelligence and Information Systems (United States)
Introduction

Several trends in today’s world have facilitated renewed interest in Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance. Urban/asymmetric warfare, terrorist threats, border security, natural disasters, and overt criminal activity are causing us to rethink how we maintain safety and security for the inhabitants of our world. As a result, emphasis is being placed on improvements in several key ISR areas: sensor system functionality and capability, effective detection and tracking of many different targets, advanced video/image processing, and effective exploitation/evaluation of critical information products.

New solutions must also be smaller, lighter, less-expensive, use less power, and be quicker to market. These qualities will allow these systems to be hosted on smaller and/or unmanned vehicles and distributed in greater numbers for the users who desperately need them.

The 2010 Airborne ISR conference was the largest since I became conference chair in 2006. As a result, I had the support of three session chairs this year:

- Mr. Dale C. Linne von Berg, U.S. Naval Research Laboratory
- Dr. Beato T. Cheng, Goodrich ISR Systems
- Dr. Darrell L. Young, Raytheon Intelligence and Information Systems

These gentlemen brought a wide range of expertise and experience to the conference and I would like to extend my appreciation to them for all their efforts to make this conference a success.

This is the seventh year for the Airborne ISR Systems and Applications conference. Each year, innovative products and ideas have been presented to solve the daunting ISR challenges we face. This year was no exception. The quality of the papers and presentations was excellent, and I hope you learn as much as I did from the content of our conference.

Daniel J. Henry