

GIS Ostrava 2014 – Final resume



The 11th Symposium GIS Ostrava 2014 was held in the New Hall of the Technical University of Ostrava for three days since Jan 27th to Jan 29th. Similarly, as in previous years, the symposium was divided in two parallel conferences – the first conference was organised in Czech language and was focused on applications of GI technologies in various fields, especially in the transportation. The aim of the English conference, entitled Geoinformatics for Intelligent Transportation, was to present and discuss new methods, issues, and challenges, how geoinformatics makes transportation more intelligent, efficient and human friendly. The conference was free for all the participants for the first time.

The symposium was organised under the auspices of the Association of Geographic Information Laboratories for Europe (AGILE), European Spatial Data Research Organisation (EuroSDR), Intelligent Transport Systems & Services (ITSS), Czech and Slovak Association for Geoinformatics, President of the Moravian-Silesian Region, Mayor of the City of Ostrava and Rector of VSB – TU Ostrava. The opening ceremony consisted of opening speech of Jiří Horák, who represented the organisers, Ivo Vondrák, who welcomed all participants on behalf of the hosting University, and four keynote presentations.

First keynote presentation 'Ht-Index for Characterizing Street Hierarchy' was presented by Bin Jiang from University of Gävle. He introduced the ht-index for characterizing the street hierarchy, and scaling structure of geographic features. Itzak Benenson from Tel-Aviv University presented in his keynote 'Transport Accessibility from a Human Point of View' spatio-temporal high-resolution accessibility analyses utilising of the AccessCity software. The third keynote was presented by James Haworth from the University College London, who came to Ostrava on behalf of Tao Cheng. Their presentation entitled 'Spatio-Temporal Analytics of Network Data' reported the progress in spatio-temporal analyses through an innovative combination of machine learning methods with advanced statistical approaches, concepts from network complexity and data mining. The last but not the least presenter was Pavel Hrubes from the Czech Technical University in Prague. His keynote dealt with utilising of GI technologies in Intelligent Transport Systems.

After the opening session, the conference continued with ten presentations organised into two sessions - 'Transport modelling' and 'Sensor data and services'. The presentations in Czech conference summarized progress in development of the GeoInfostrategy. The first day was closed by

the welcome drink with introduction of a newly published book 'The Introduction to Dynamical Systems: Theory and Practise in Geoinformatics' (in Czech).

The organisation of the second day was changed compared to previous year. Workshops and sessions were mixed during the day not to split conference into more parallel sessions. Day started with the excellent James Haworth's workshop entitled 'Spatio-Temporal Analytics of Network Data' followed by session with the papers focused on intelligent transport systems. The conference continued with nine presentations grouped in sessions entitled 'Transport planning and accessibility' after the lunch break. Highly interesting workshop by Bin Jiang closed the program. He explained his research in the area of street hierarchy in more details. The whole day was closed by the banquet with the traditional gateau thematically focused on transportation.

Two interesting excursions were organised during the third day. The first was sightseeing tour and second Wednesday excursion headed to the Mošnov Airport. During this journey, attendants had wonderful opportunity to visit aircraft simulator, simulator of Mi-171 helicopter and also the hangar of aircraft repair centre (Job Air Technic) for Boeing, Airbus and Saab aircrafts.

The number of participants exceeded our expectations. The symposium attracted 313 attendants from 11 different countries. Altogether, there were presented 71 presentations, organised 5 workshops (3 of them in English), presented several posters and realised three excursions. Based on these numbers and the participants' responses, this year symposium can be considered as a very successful event. Finally, let me invite you to the next year symposium of GIS Ostrava 2015 which is going to be held since Jan 26th to Jan 28th, 2015. We are looking forward meeting you in Ostrava.

Igor IVAN
Institute of Geoinformatics
Chair of the Scientific Committee



Opening ceremony (from the left: Jiří Horák, Ivo Vondrák, James Haworth, Bin Jiang, Itzak Benenson, Pavel Hrubeš)



Keynote of Bin Jiang



Introduction of the newly published book (from the left Jaroslav Hofierka and authors Jiří Horák, Igor Ivan and Marek Lampart)



Welcome drink



Course of the conference Geoinformatics for Intelligent Transportation



Tuesday's banquet