

Report on EUMETSAT Meteorological Satellite Conference

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First of all, I would like to thank the award committee of the European Meteorological Society (EMS) for the Young Scientist Travel Award (YSTA). This award enabled me to participate in the EUMETSAT Meteorological Satellite Conference, which was held in Geneva, Switzerland, from 22 to 26 September 2014. I received the YSTA for my oral presentation 'Worldwide biogenic soil NO_x emissions inferred from OMI NO₂ observations', which I presented in the 'Atmospheric Composition' session on 24 September.

This conference was useful for both research and networking. The first two days of the conference I attended presentations on current and future satellites, instruments, and their applications. Although not all these presentations were directly related to my field, I appreciate the broad of these talks, and they really gave me a nice overview of upcoming satellite missions and what properties of the atmosphere they will measure. I also visited a few presentations in the 'Climate' session, and remember an interesting presentation on how scientists should report uncertainties due to natural variations in climate datasets.

On Wednesday the session 'Atmospheric Composition' started, which had a lot of high quality presentations. I was most interested by the talks on satellite observations of ozone (O₃), sulphur dioxide (SO₂), and nitrogen dioxide (NO₂). In the afternoon there was also a very interesting presentation on soil NO_x emissions, which is also the topic of my research. It was nice to see this presentation, and to be able to discuss with the presenter his work in more detail afterwards. My presentation was the last one of Wednesday, but still well visited. I got some interesting questions from several scientists at the end of my presentation, and also after the session had finished. These questions were motivating in the sense that they provide interesting directions for future research.

The last days of the conference I attended more presentations in the 'Atmospheric Composition' session, with interesting talks on O₃ precursor emissions and the monitoring of SO₂ emissions with IASI. Next to the oral presentations during the conference, I also visited several poster presentations. I especially recall an interesting poster on observing tropospheric formaldehyde using GOME-2.

In general, I appreciate the time that this conference dedicates to stimulate social interaction between scientists. There were social events in the evenings of Monday till Wednesday, which I attended. The side-event to the World Meteorological Organisation Headquarters was motivating, and included an interesting discussion on the benefit of satellite observations in weather forecasts. Furthermore, I also appreciate the amount of time available for posters, as well as enough time to discuss results in the breaks.

I would like to thank the EMS again for the financial support to attend this interesting and motivating conference, and the chance to meet fellow scientists in the field of satellite observations.

Yours sincerely,

Geert Vinken