

# ESA's 5th Earth Observation Summer School

02/08/2010 - 13/08/2010 (Frascati, Italy)

Pieter-Jan Baeck

This 5<sup>th</sup> version of the Earth Observation summer school was in many ways very interesting. Personally, it was an excellent opportunity to get feedback on my current and future work, to widen my field in the broad spectrum of Earth Observation science and technology and to meet my future colleagues.

At the moment, I am finishing a project at the Royal Meteorological Institute of Belgium (RMI). My poster, titled *GERB: Measuring the Earth's Energy Balance*, was about the operational activities of data processing our team is currently involved in. One aim of this poster was to promote data products from the GERB instrument, a science passenger on-board the Meteosat Second Generation satellites. Daily poster sessions made the process of getting other students interested very easy.

As of September, 1<sup>st</sup> I will join a small start-up company with a core business in UAV-based earth observation. Many of the lectures and student posters touched this field, so it was a valuable source of information for me.

A wide range of topics were handled during the theoretical and practical sessions, mainly with focus on data assimilation and remote sensing. My favourite lectures were about 1) gravity, very clearly explained by Prof. Reiner Rummel; 2) the state-of-the-art objective analysis techniques introduced by Prof. David Lary and 3) the multi-view photogrammetric analysis taught by Dr. Gabriela Seiz. The political and marketing oriented lectures were a nice break from the heavy programme. Also, the practicals were a good way to get our hands dirty.

During two intense weeks, a network of new contacts could be build up easily: from top scientists to freshly started PhD students, all from internationally renowned institutes.

This course is a must for everybody who is in some way involved in Earth Observation.