

**REPORT**

## **Participation in ESA's 8th Earth Observation Summer School on Earth System Monitoring and Modelling**

Every two years the European Space Agency (ESA) organizes a two-week Earth Observation (EO) summer school on Earth System Monitoring & Modelling addressed to early career scientists. In 2016, I attended the 8<sup>th</sup> EO summer school (held in ESA/ESRIN premises in Italy) as a PhD candidate with 60 more fellow scientists from various disciplines, such as remote sensing, geology, and forestry to name a few. Overall it was an amazing experience and surely one of the highlights of that academic year for me.

What motivated me to apply for this summer school was the opportunity to attend a series of high-level lectures on data assimilation and EO, and also the chance to expand my professional network, and -why not?- to start collaborating with some of them. Overall my expectations were more than satisfied: the lectures of Dr. Benedetti (ECMWF) and Dr. Lawless (Univ. of Reading) introduced me to the concepts of data assimilation and Kalman filters, while the ones of Dr. Chrysoulakis (FORTH) and Prof. Parlow (Univ. of Basel) gave me valuable directions for my PhD research on thermal remote sensing. The poster session that was organized as part of the summer school was another chance to discuss with the other participants, to get to know their work and also to present mine. There I presented my PhD research on the spatial enhancement of geostationary land surface temperature (LST) data for the generation of high spatiotemporal LST time series, for which I got positive feedback. I also got some very helpful suggestions about some pre-processing improvements.

Overall, attending ESA's 8<sup>th</sup> EO summer school was a great experience. The lectures were interesting and thought-provoking and the participants friendly and easy-going. I would like to thank everyone I met there for the great time I had and ESA for the well-organized and rewarding summer school. I would like also to thank the European Meteorological Society for this award. It is a great honor for me!

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