Next-Generation Analyst

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Editors

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Introduction

A new generation of intelligence analysts and intelligence information users is emerging. These next-generation analysts and users are thoroughly familiar with Open Source information, participate in social networks and “hive mind” collaboration, and generally utilize all of the emerging capabilities of hand-held computer/sensor systems (a.k.a. “smartphones”). The new environment includes ubiquitous sensing and human reporting (participatory sensing), access to Cloud computing for advanced modeling, and dynamic collaboration via social networks and virtual world technologies.

This conference brought together researchers and practitioners to discuss these emerging changes including; perspectives on the evolution of tools and technology for accessing and processing data, collaboration methods, implications for new analysis methods, opportunities, threats (e.g., “the commoditization of Information, Surveillance and Reconnaissance (ISR)”), and implications for operations. Specific DOD and industry applications were of particular interest.

This proceedings volume provides the SPIE community with new perspectives on this emerging field. Papers contained here span the range from general overviews of advances in data visualization, decision support, mathematical techniques, and examples of test beds and prototype systems. A wide range of organizations are represented in this collection including universities, small and large companies, government organizations, and research laboratories.

Because of the high interest in these papers it is anticipated that this represents the inauguration of several years of focus on this topic area. We are grateful to the efforts of our distinguished invited speakers, authors, and associates in the program committee.

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