



BigSkyEarth Conference:

# AstroGeoInformatics - Knowledge Discovery in Big Data from Astronomy and Earth Observation

Tenerife, Spain  
December 17-19, 2018

Hosted by Instituto de Astrofísica de Canarias and  
Universidad de La Laguna

Website for registration and program updates: <http://bigskyearth.eu>

The BigSkyEarth book of the same topic will be presented at the conference!

Conference contributions will be published as proceedings on [zenodo.org](http://zenodo.org)

What is BigSkyEarth?

With the current emergence of Terabyte(TB)-scale astronomical and Earth observation systems, the traditional approach to basic functions such as data searching, analytics or visualization are becoming increasingly difficult to handle. Simple database queries can result now in data subsets so large that they are incomprehensible, slow (or even impossible) to handle, and impossible to visualize with commodity visualization tools. Astronomy and remote sensing complement each other, as they are on the quest for new Big Data interpretation capabilities: both disciplines have peculiar data, typical data processing and analysis chains, and specific models to be fed with data. However, both disciplines lack the capabilities for easily accessible semantics-oriented browsing (usage of higher level descriptive expressions) in large data archives. Therefore, joint efforts to design and develop innovative Big Data tools should help users in many different fields and set new standards for many communities. This has identified several broad challenges to this line of reasoning that need multidisciplinary approach through international networking of experts and professionals. These challenges are then channelled into Action Objectives:

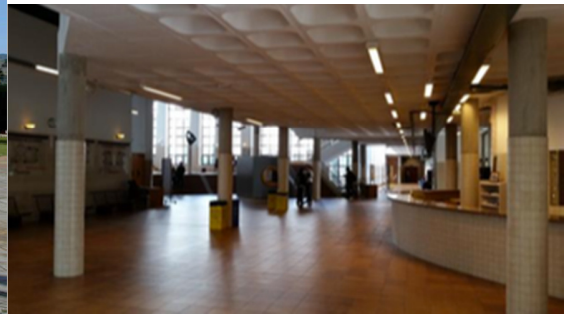
- Challenge A: Digital curation and data access
- Challenge B: New frontiers in visualisation
- Challenge C: Adaptation to new high performance computing (HPC) technologies
- Challenge D: New generation of scientists in the age of interdisciplinarity

BigSkyEarth is funded by COST framework under Action TD1403. More at: <http://bigskyearth.eu>

Dates: December 17-19, 2018

Venue:

- 'Sala de Actos' in the Guajara campus of the University of La Laguna
- GoogleMap: <https://goo.gl/maps/Pa1t1wEGoz42>
- Same venue as EWASS 2015 (<http://eas.unige.ch/EWASS2015/venue.jsp>)
- Room has 90 seats, each with table, power socket
- Free wifi available
- Catering in-house – warm lunch served in cafeteria



Host organisations:

- Instituto de Astrofísica de Canarias is an internationalized research and technology centre for Astrophysics: <http://www.iac.es> and one of the main Astrophysics centres of Spain, with close to 400 staff, incl. 120 PhD astronomers and 60 PhD students
- Universidad de La Laguna (<https://www.ull.es/>) has more than 200 years of history, with currently more than 25,000 students, academic or research staff, and personnel.

#### Important CONTACT INFORMATION

For project related information, please contact: **Dejan Vinkovic** ([dejan@iszd.hr](mailto:dejan@iszd.hr))

For local information, please contact: **Johan Knapen** ([johan.knapen@iac.es](mailto:johan.knapen@iac.es))

Updates on the conference preparation are distributed to BigSkyEarth members – if you are not a member, follow simple instructions for registration under “Become a Member” at <http://bigskyeearth.eu>

## Program timetable:

Monday, Dec. 17, 2018	
8:30-9:00	Registration
9:00-9:30	Opening
9:30-13:00	Oral presentations
13:00-14:30	Lunch break
14:30-17:30	Oral presentations
17:30-18:30	BigSkyEarth Management Committee meeting (closed session)
Tuesday, Dec. 18, 2018	
8:30-9:00	Registration
9:00-11:30	Oral presentations
11:30-12:30	Poster session
12:30-14:00	Lunch break
14:00-	Excursion
Wednesday, Dec. 19, 2018	
8:30-9:00	Registration
9:00-13:00	Oral presentations
13:00-14:30	Lunch break
14:30-16:00	Oral presentations
16:00-17:30	open discussion on BSE future after the end of COST funding (open part of the MC meeting)

## Travel, accommodation and costs:

- There is **no conference registration fee!**
- Tenerife has 2 international airports – see here how to reach the venue from them: <http://eas.unige.ch/EWASS2015/travel.jsp>
- Many direct flights, incl. many low-cost, to around 100 cities in Europe
- Excellent bus and taxi services from airports to the venue
- Many decent **hotels** from 60 euros/night (we recommend staying in **La Laguna** or **Santa Cruz de Tenerife**, from where travel to the venue is easy by tram line L1 ([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tenerife\\_Tram](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tenerife_Tram), venue is at the tram stop '**Campus Guajara**')
- Local transport few euros/day (tram)
- From/to airports of order 10 euros (bus)
- Lunch 10-15 euros, dinner similar but very wide range
- Coffee breaks are covered by BigSkyEarth

## Reimbursement:

- BigSkyEarth provides travel and accommodation reimbursements to invited speakers.
- BigSkyEarth will provide travel and accommodation reimbursements to **a limited number of conference participants who will contribute with short (15min) talks**. You can apply for the reimbursement directly at the registration form. The final number of participants selected for reimbursement will be based on the available budget.
- **NOTE:** reimbursements are possible only to the invited speakers and to the participants coming from institutions in BigSkyEarth member countries: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, fYR Macedonia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Lithuania, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovenia, Slovakia, Spain, United Kingdom. Members of the Byurakan Astrophysical Observatory from Armenia are also eligible for grants.
- There will be special considerations with respect to supporting COST policies on promoting gender balance, enabling Early Career Investigators and broadening geographical inclusiveness.
- The deadlines for reimbursement applications:
  - **1<sup>st</sup> round: October 8, 2018**
  - **2<sup>nd</sup> round (if funds remain): November 5, 2018.**
  - Note that reimbursements require the applicant to give a short oral presentation.

## Registration:

- There is no registration fee.
- Registration (including short abstract) is available online at:  
<https://goo.gl/forms/jZczpTDn1lcb1C3k2>
- The deadlines for submitting long abstracts (**2 pages or more, including figures**) for oral presentations:
  - 1<sup>st</sup> deadline (required for reimbursement applicants): **October 8, 2018**
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> deadline (required for reimbursement applicants): **November 5, 2018**
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> deadline (required for setting up the final program): **November 19, 2018**
- The deadline for submitting abstracts for poster presentations:
  - **December 3, 2018**

## Abstract format:

- Short abstract needs to be submitted through the registration form.
- A long abstract should be uploaded to a dedicated community on [COMING SOON] using the template available at [COMING SOON]

## Excursion (weather permitted):

- To the Teide Observatory: <http://www.iac.es/eno.php?op1=3&lang=en>
- Travel by bus on Dec.18: departure at 14:00, return at about 19:30
- Cost: about 10€ per person (payed on site)