More information about this series at http://www.springer.com/series/7409
Preface

These proceedings report on the state of the art in the research on Web and Wireless Geographic Information Systems, as presented at the 14th W2GIS Symposium in Grenoble, in May 2015. Recent developments in Web technologies and advances in wireless Internet access have generated an increasing interest in the capture, processing, analysis, and diffusion of online geo-referenced data in and about the Web environment. Until recently only possible on desktop workstations, devices wirelessly connected to the Internet now offer ways of accessing and analyzing online geo-spatial information. These developments were the primary subject of this symposium series. This series has been capturing the developments in W2GIS since its earliest days. Alternating between Asia, Europe, and North America, the symposia have brought together researchers focusing on the technological and computational aspects of W2GIS, as well as on the human–computer interaction and dynamics afforded by this new technology. Over time, W2GIS has evolved into a mature field of research and this symposium series has become one of its principal annual meetings.

The 14th conference of the W2GIS Symposium was held in Grenoble, France, and hosted by the Grenoble University. In total, 43 researchers contributed by their work to the W2GIS 2015 Symposium. In an elaborate peer-review process, 12 original papers were selected for their high quality for single-track oral presentations, out of a total of 19 submissions. Each paper was reviewed by at least two (most often three) anonymous reviewers. Selected papers cover hot topics related to W2GIS including spatiotemporal data collection, processing and visualization, mobile user generated content, semantic trajectories, location-based Web search, Cloud computing, and VGI approaches.

Many people have contributed to the success of the W2GIS 2015 Symposium. First of all, we thank the authors for their excellent contributions and the members of the Program Committee for carefully reviewing their submissions. Second, the Local Organizers from the Grenoble University significantly contributed to the smooth running of the symposium and a very amicable atmosphere. We thank Prof. Mark Graham from the Oxford Internet Institute and Prof. Johannes Schöning from the ICT research institute of Hasselt University for delivering engaging and stimulating keynote speeches. We have been stimulated to think critically about the broader impact of the wealth of data held by the Web, and by their use in ubiquitous information systems. These views added tremendously to a broader perspective on the current research in the field of Web and Wireless Geographic Information Systems.

We are looking forward to the exciting developments of the field, which we hope will be presented in the future editions of the W2GIS Symposium.

May 2015

Jérôme Gensel
Martin Tomko
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