

# The Optical Imaging Congress (by OPTICA)

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I had the privilege of participating in the Optical Imaging Congress, a significant event hosted by OPTICA (formerly OSA). The congress took place at the Boston Park Plaza Hotel, located in the picturesque city of Boston, Massachusetts. This congress, combines academic, industrial, and defense research perspectives, aimed to present a wide-ranging overview of the latest innovations in optical imaging and their practical applications to solve crucial industrial, military, and medical challenges.

I was invited to share my research focusing on 3D reconstruction using an event camera, an innovative technology with diverse applications in fields such as robotics, drones, autonomous driving, and fluid dynamics. The organizers requested that presentations be uploaded 24 hours beforehand and allocated time for rehearsal in an unoccupied conference room, ensuring all presenters were well accommodated. I felt well-prepared and my presentation attracted genuine interest and discussions, opening doors for potential future collaborations.

The organization of the congress was exemplary, marked by the presence of esteemed speakers from premier companies and academic institutions and complemented by a well-planned program and a user-friendly native app for effective scheduling. The engaging poster sessions and the thoughtfully arranged venues contributed to the overall success of the event. However, the hybrid format of the congress had its challenges. While the benefits of online participation are apparent, the virtual sessions were not as captivating, and the attendance was notably lesser compared to fully in-person events. A suggestion for future events would be to restrict online sessions to a day or two and conduct the rest in-person, ensuring higher interaction and engagement.

This experience would not have been possible without the support of the Israeli Smart Transportation Research Center. I extend my heartfelt gratitude to them for enabling my participation in this enlightening conference, which has significantly contributed to advancing my research by providing new insights and tools.

To those involved in optics research, I highly recommend considering attending upcoming events by OPTICA. The integration of knowledge from various domains and the opportunity to network with a diverse community of scientists and professionals make these events an invaluable experience for anyone in the field.