

2015 European SpaceModeling Championships Review



2015 **UKRAINE**
LVIV
FAI EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS
FOR SPACE MODELS

September, 2015

Contest Overview

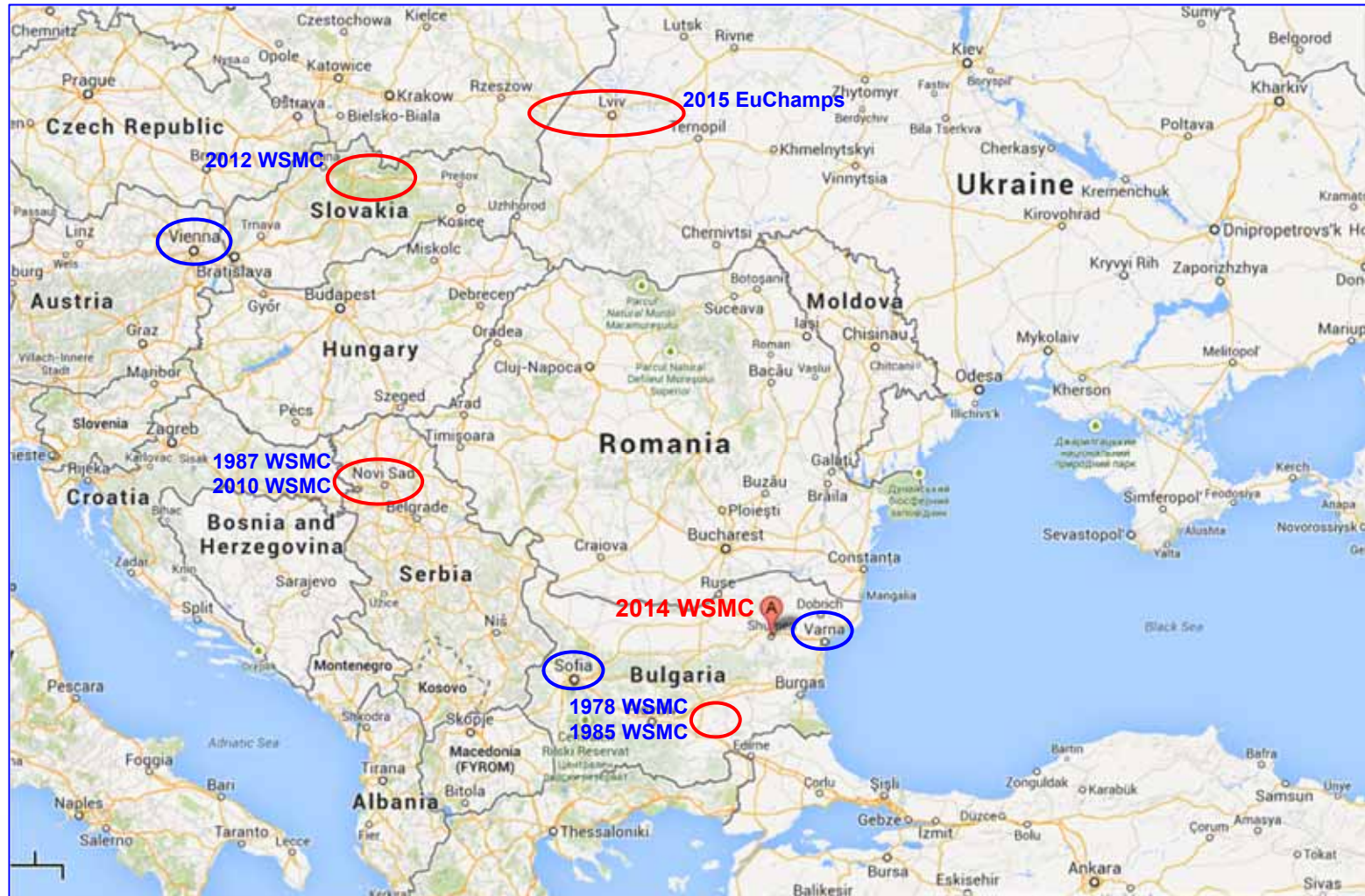
- We were warmly welcomed by all the teams
 - Many of the Europeans were happy to see us
 - The Ukrainians were very happy we came
- The Russians, Czechs, and Serbians did not attend.
- 59 Seniors from 12 countries; 37 Juniors from 6 countries
- The Ukrainians took advantage of their home field to dominate, followed by the Poles.
- We learned a lot that will help us better prepare for 2016
- We had a lot of fun
- We are looking forward to returning



Contest Location



Contest Location in Relation to Other Meets



Engines

- We plan to have motors from the following countries available:
 - Bulgaria
 - Germany
 - Ukraine
- Our ejection charges are “more powerful” than other countries
- We need to tailor the ejection charges in the motors for each event before we submit them
 - S9 needs more than the “stock” amounts we got in the motors



Field



Field Observations

- The field is a huge thermal generator
 - Lift was fairly easy to find
 - Mike, James and Matt all flew away S3A models
- Lots of obstacles around the field
 - Canals
 - Towns
 - Big recovery teams will have an advantage
- Dethermalizers on at least one S3A model are going to be required to medal



S5 Observations

- This was a much different event than in the past.
- Multiple prototypes were seen.
- Originality can add 40 points to static score
- James was in second in static points
- The team did well, placing 4th



S5 Observations



S7 Observations

- There was a wider variety of model than in the past;
 - Originality can add 40 points to static score
- A Zenit won the Senior event



S7 Observations



S8 Observations



S9 Observations

- Most models did not use flop rotors
- Best ones spun up quickly



General Contest Observations

- Be ready! Be on time!
- Be prepared before you leave
 - Know how you are going to transport models & gear
- Be ready the day of the meet
 - Get a good night's sleep the night before your event
 - Have as much done as possible before the round opens
- Be ready at the start of the round
 - You need to plan on a 20 minute window to prep and fly
- Plan for wind
 - The weather can change very quickly, even in a round
- We design, they practice

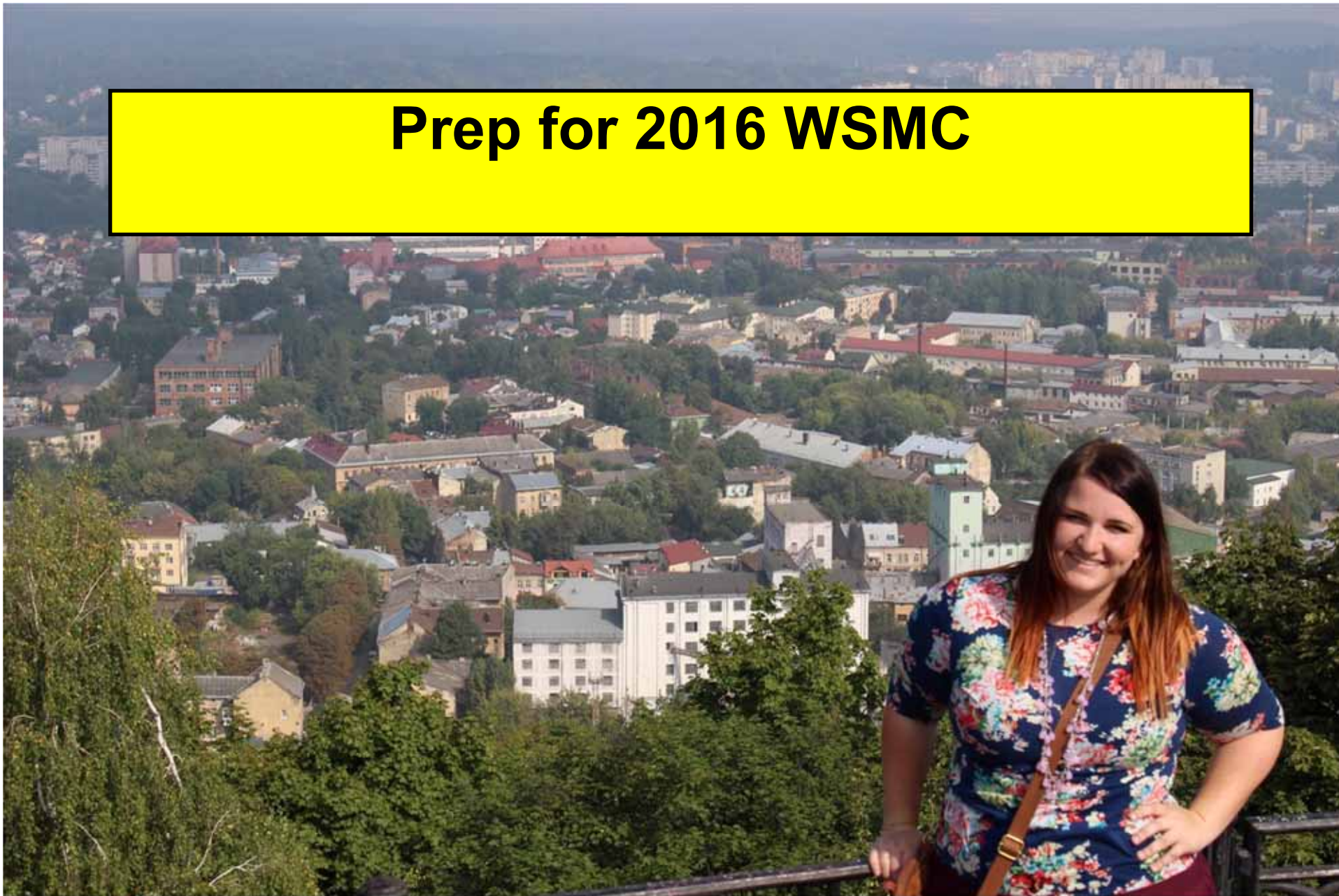


Lessons Learned

- Develop and use a checklist!
- Get your rest!
- Use the practice day to familiarize yourself with the field and the engines
 - Plan on at least 3 test flights
 - Especially Juniors!
- Our motors are competitive with everyone else's – if you practice with them.
- 10mm motor igniters are still an issue – these approaches worked well
 - Q2G2 with wick
 - Solar igniter with foam
 - Ukrainian igniters



Prep for 2016 WSMC



Travel

- L'viv's airport is modern – with good connenctions from Munich and Warsaw



Logistics

- Plan your transport box – remember most airlines have a 50 lb. limit
 - Wheeled luggage is great!
- Plan your packing
- Driving in Lviv is very, very difficult
 - Narrow streets and pedestrians make it stressful
 - Parking in the middle lane will drive you crazy!
 - Large number of one way roads
 - Constant construction means detours
- Google Maps works well in Ukraine



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Food



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Banquet



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Accommodations

- Limited elevator service
- Bring electrical adapters for 220/50 Hz



Seeing Lviv



Seeing Lviv



A Sincere Note of Thanks!

- The organizers family went out of their way to make our stay better, both flying-wise and comfort-wise



Summary

- We have entered a new age in competitive spacemodeling
- Have fun!

