3RD EDITION | 2026

Satellite Data Processing Masterclass

Turn satellite data into a project that matters.

What could you build with a new perspective on Earth? Explore satellite data and AI, learn from experts and turn an idea into a research project or a working web product.

300	120	100	80
PLACES IN 3 CITIES	BUCHAREST	CLUJ-NAPOCA	TIMIȘOARA

Who should apply

For students curious about satellite data, AI and what they can make possible. Come ready to learn, work in a team and build something real.

> In-person attendance is mandatory for students from participating universities; online participation is available only to students from other universities.

Your journey

APPLY **Sep 30 - Oct 18**	**Apply** from Sep 30, 2026 to Oct 18, 2026. You will receive your application result by email on Oct 20, 2026. On the same day, accepted participants will receive their invitations and a phone call to confirm their participation.
LEARN **Oct 22 - Nov 6**	Learn from Oct 22, 2026 to Nov 6, 2026. Explore four recorded modules on SpacedIn and build the foundations for your project. Complete at least 70% by the end of this phase to join the Ideathon.
MEET **Oct 22, 29 & Nov 5**	Meet your community: hybrid kick-off on Oct 22, 2026; meet your peers in person on Oct 29, 2026 and Nov 5, 2026.
IDEATHON **Nov 7**	Ideathon on Nov 7, 2026: a full day to explore ideas, find your team and choose your track, with a fresh perspective from Space Economy & Business.
BUILD **Nov 7 - Dec 11**	Build from Nov 7, 2026 to Dec 11, 2026, with hands-on workshops, mentoring and a community to help you move from idea to outcome.
DEMO DAY **Dec 11 - Dec 12**	**Submit on Dec 11, 2026. Selected projects take the stage at Demo Day on Dec 12, 2026 in all three cities.**

The learning programme

19 lectures. Four modules. Discover where satellite data comes from, what it can reveal and how to turn it into something useful.

01 Foundations

Introduction to the Space Sector	Simonel David, AIM-Space & ROSPIN
Doing Research in the Space Domain	Adrian Dumitrescu, Astera Institute, USA
Satellite Missions and Data: What Exists and What Matters	Dragoș Ilinca, AIM-Space & ROSPIN
Satellite Payloads: What Satellites Carry and Why	Armin Purle Kopacz, DLR
The Space Economy Today and the Earth Observation Market	Iulian Juhasz, Initium Space

02 Accessing Data

Satellite Data Access Tools	Dragoș Ilinca, AIM-Space & ROSPIN
USGS and NASA Data: Landsat, MODIS and Beyond	Simonel David, AIM-Space & ROSPIN
Commercial Satellite Data: When Free Data Is Not Enough	KOMPSAT
GIS Fundamentals for Satellite Data	Alina Vizireanu, British Cartographic Society

03 Processing Data

Understanding Sensor Data: Optical, SAR, Thermal and Atmospheric	Dragoș Ilinca, AIM-Space & ROSPIN
Optical Indices: From Reflectance to Insight	Noe Brugger, ETH Zurich
Machine Learning for Prediction with Satellite Data	Ege Berk Çınar, Aydın Adnan Menderes Üniversitesi
Computer Vision and Foundation Models for Earth Observation	Ana Maria Pelin, ESA Φ-lab & TU Delft Franka Weiler, TUM
Onboard AI: Processing Satellite Data in Orbit	Samuel Boyle, NTNU

04 Building with It

Research Methodology: From Question to Paper	Bernát-Kristóf Vescan-Bakcsy and Atena Szabo, Shobolinsky
From Research to Product: A Deep Dive into Dynamic Avalanche Hazard Mapping	Michael Caneff Avmap & Sofia University
Cloud Computing Fundamentals	Gabriel Arcaș, RebelDot
Software Engineering in Earth Observation	Simonel David, AIM-Space & ROSPIN
Building with AI and Git: Coding Assistants and Collaborative Development	Gabriel Arcaș, RebelDot

Choose your track and build

Scientific Research

TEAMS OF 1-3

What could satellite data help us understand better? Explore a focused question, compare results and bring a fresh angle to existing work. You may explore foundation models where relevant. The goal is insight you can explain and a promising direction to take further.

YOUR OUTCOME

A research paper of up to 10 pages, backed by code on GitHub and data analysis you understand. Promising projects may be developed further together for potential conference submissions.

Enterprise Software

TEAMS OF 5-7

What if your idea became a product people actually use? Turn satellite data into a dynamic website that solves a real problem. Explore what makes a solution valuable and how to communicate its potential.

YOUR OUTCOME

A technically functional website, code on GitHub and a business pitch deck for a five-minute presentation, grounded in your market analysis. The programme helps you connect a working product with a compelling business story.

Five workshops to move your project forward

DATE	CITY	WORKSHOP	LED BY
Nov 12, 2026	Cluj-Napoca	**Machine Learning with AI Coding Assistants**	TBD
Nov 19, 2026	Bucharest	**Machine Learning Applied in Earth Observation**	Andrei Toma Stoica
Nov 26, 2026	Timișoara	**Working with SAR Data**	Simonel David, AIM-Space & ROSPIN
Dec 3, 2026	Cluj-Napoca	**Cloud Automation and Deployment**	RebelDot
Dec 10, 2026	Bucharest	**Pitching Your Project**	Violeta Mihai, Underline Ventures

Each two-hour workshop connects the three city hubs and gives you practical help with your project.

Build your team, your way

Meet potential teammates at the networking workshops on Oct 29, 2026 and Nov 5, 2026, then team up around shared interests and complementary strengths.

Suggested roles: **Scientific Research** - research, data analysis and writing. **Enterprise Software** - data/AI, development, UX and business/pitch.

Choose a Team Lead to coordinate the team, gather everyone's questions and share them with the organisers. These roles are a starting point: divide or combine responsibilities as you prefer; the Team Lead can also take on another role.

Demo Day is your chance to show what you have built. Submit your project with a presentation and a short demo video; selected teams will present their work across the three cities.

Ready to build? Return to the **registration form** and apply by **Oct 18, 2026**.