

Visualization and Data Analysis 2011

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Interactive Paper Session

Robert Kosara, The University of North Carolina at Charlotte (United States)

Introduction

Welcome to the Conference on Visualization and Data Analysis (VDA) 2011. VDA covers all topics and areas of data visualization and visual analytics. Since the first VDA conference in 1994, the annual event has grown steadily into a major forum for visualization researchers and practitioners from around the world to present their work and share their experiences.

For the first time in over a decade, the conference has moved out of San Jose, CA and to the neighboring city of San Francisco. The conference has also made a number of personnel, organizational, and operational changes this year. Matti Gröhn has stepped down as a conference co-chair after years of dedicated service. His co-chair position has been filled by David Kao at NASA Ames. The conference has also established a new steering committee in 2011 to oversee its organization and agenda. The two steering committee members in 2011 are Rob Erbacher and Umesh Dayal. Operational-wise, Pak Chung Wong and Jinah Park are responsible for the conference program. Ming Hao and David Kao are the paper chairs. Chaomei Chen is the best paper chair.

This year, the conference received 42 high-quality submissions. After careful review and consideration by the conference program committee, 24 of the submissions were invited for full paper conference presentations, which represent an overall acceptance rate of 57%. The two paper chairs led the paper review process and made final accept/reject decisions based on the comments made by the program committee. The paper chairs also nominated the best paper candidates to the best paper chair. The best paper chair reviewed the nominations independently and made the final selections. The five best papers selected at VDA 2011 are:

- 78680G "EdgeMaps: Visualizing Explicit and Implicit Relations" by M. Dörk, S. Carpendale, and C. Williamson, [7868-14]
- 78680R "A Web-Enabled Visualization Toolkit for Geovisual Analytics" by Q. Ho, P. Lundblad, T. Åström, and M. Jern, [7868-25]
- 78680I "Interactive Visualization of Scattered Moment Tensor Data" by H. Obermaier, M. Billen, H. Hagan, and M. Hering-Bertram, [7868-16]
- 786808 "Interactive Isosurfaces with Quadratic C1 Splines on Truncated Octahedral Partitions" by T. Marinc, T. Kalbe, M. Rhein, and M. Goesele [7868-5]
- 78680J "Visualizing Frequent Patterns in Large Multivariate Time Series" by M. Hao, M. Marwah, H. Janetzko, R. Sharma, D. Keim, U. Dayal, D. Patnaik, and N. Ramakrishnan [7868-17].

Because the first four papers are led by student authors, the conference will give a monetary award to each of these papers to recognize the students' outstanding technical contributions to the visualization and data analytics community.

The two keynote speakers at VDA 2011 are Dr. Lucy Nowell at DOE Office of Advanced Scientific Computing Research (ASCR) and Dr. David Kao at NASA Ames Research Center. Dr. Nowell will talk about "The Science of Visual Analysis at Extreme Scale" on Monday, and Dr. Kao will discuss "Scientific Visualization for Data Analysis" on Tuesday. The two senior scientists bring a wealth of today's cutting-edge technology and tomorrow's challenges to each invited presentation.

The conference is fortunate to have five corporate and government supporters in 2011. They are (in alphabetical order) HP Labs, Kitware, National Visualization and Analytics Center (NVAC), Palgrave, and U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Their financial and promotional support allows us to continue to grow the conference and serve the community of visualization and data analytics.

Finally, we would like to thank our paper authors, program committee members, and paper reviewers for their continued support and quality input to the conference. In particular, we want to show our great appreciation to the staff at SPIE, who have provided invaluable advice and guidance throughout the year.

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