

Visualization and Data Analysis 2013

**Pak Chung Wong
David L. Kao
Ming C. Hao
Chaomei Chen**
Editors

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P.O. Box 10, Bellingham, Washington 98227-0010 USA

Telephone +1 360 676 3290 (Pacific Time) · Fax +1 360 647 1445

SPIE.org

and

IS&T—The Society for Imaging Science and Technology

7003 Kilworth Lane, Springfield, Virginia, 22151 USA

Telephone +1 703 642 9090 (Eastern Time) · Fax +1 703 642 9094

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Introduction

Celebrating 20 Years of Community Participation at SPIE Conference on Visualization and Data Analysis 2013

Welcome to the SPIE Conference on Visualization and Data Analysis (VDA) 2013. This year we proudly celebrate the 20th anniversary of the VDA conference that supports the international community of visualization and data analysis. VDA 2013 will be held in the city of Burlingame near San Francisco, CA on February 4-6, 2013.

VDA 2013 is organized by a team of chairs (Pak Chung Wong, David Kao, Ming Hao, and Chaomei Chen) and co-chairs (Mark Livingston, Christopher Healey, Thomas Wischgoll, and Ian Roberts). David Kao and Ming Hao also serve as the paper chairs and Chaomei Chen as the best paper chair. Ian Roberts designs and maintains the VDA conference website at <http://vda-conference.org>. The entire conference committee supports all aspects of conference organizing activities including paper review, publicity and sponsorship development, and keynote speaker invitation.

This year, the conference received 36 high-quality manuscript submissions from the visualization and data analysis community from around the world. Each submission received at least three peer reviews. The two paper chairs examined the reviewers' comments and selected 21 manuscripts as full papers for conference presentation. The best paper chair independently selected five best conference papers from the accepted full papers. Authors of the best papers are invited to extend their VDA manuscripts for potential publication in *Information Visualization (IVI)* in 2013. Lead student authors of the best papers will also receive a modest monetary award from the VDA conference. The best papers at VDA 2013 are:

1. [8654-5] Visibility-difference entropy for automatic transfer function generation – Student Paper
2. [8654-11] Three-dimensional volume analysis of vasculature in engineered tissues – Student Paper
3. [8654-15] Visual analysis of situationally aware building evacuations – Student Paper
4. [8654-19] iMap: a stable layout for navigating large image collections with embedded search – Paper
5. [8654-24] Multi-focus and multi-level techniques for interactive network exploration – Student Paper

The conference also accepted 12 poster papers for interactive presentation on Wednesday during the conference week.

Two renowned visualization and data analysis researchers will deliver their keynotes addresses at VDA 2013. Dr. Wes Bethel of Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory will present on Monday, and Dr. Meichun Hsu of HP Labs will present on Tuesday. Their presentations will cover both the scientific and information aspects of visualization and data analysis areas.

VDA 2013 has received corporate sponsorships from (in alphabetical order) HP Labs, Kitware, SPIE, and VA Community. Their financial support allows the conference to maintain the conference website, offer four best student paper awards in 2013, and host the annual dinner party for all paper authors, presenters, and conference organizers on Monday evening during the conference week. We gratefully appreciate the continued support of the VDA conference sponsors.

We thank the paper and poster authors, program committee members, and paper reviewers, who continue to support the VDA conference. We also thank the staff at SPIE, who patiently and effectively supports VDA throughout the year. We encourage all VDA participants to share their conference improvement ideas and thoughts with the conference chairs. Finally, on behalf of the entire conference organizing committee, we look forward to serving the VDA community and the SPIE society for another 20 years.

Pak Chung Wong
David L. Kao
Ming C. Hao
Chaomei Chen