

Preface

A Bridge between Asia and the World

Issue Associated with the 7th Asian Symposium on Visualization



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Visualization, the science to make the invisible visible, is a very important field of research for understanding the invisible phenomena by extracting new hidden information from visualized images by means of physical and computer techniques. Visualization has expanded its applicable objects from flow to heat, sound, electromagnetism and chemical change. Furthermore, in terms of discipline, the visualization techniques have been applied to the fields not only of engineering and physical science but also medical science, agriculture, oceanography, meteorology, archeology and sports sciences. In the midst of this trend of growing interest, 9 excellent papers after strict reviewing process are presented in this issue.

As the Journal of Visualization is associated with the Asian Symposium on Visualization (ASV), we should like to mention a brief account of ASV. The aim of Asian Symposium on Visualization is to act as a bridge between Asia and the world. Therefore, the symposia are hosted principally by Asian cities, and the participants are open to the world. The 1st symposium was held in Beijing, China (1988), 2nd in Hang Zhou, China (1992), 3rd in Chiba, Japan (1994), 4th in Beijing, China (1996), 5th in Bali, Indonesia (1999), and 6th in Pusan, Korea (2001). The 7th ASV was held in Singapore from November 3rd to 7th in 2003. Total participants were 122, and 107 papers from various research fields were presented. The details of the conference are reported in this issue.

We recommended the Journal of Visualization for the ISI (Institute of Scientific Information) evaluation process from Vol.5 No.1. As a result, an Impact Factor will be given in the Journal of Citation Report from the year 2005. It is a great pleasure to be informed that, from the test evaluation, a rather high provisional Impact Factor of 0.2625 is given to the Journal of Visualization. We are in no doubt that this Factor will increase fast in near future.

Lastly, on behalf of the Editorial Board, we wish to acknowledge all the authors, referees and related people who have made great efforts for publishing this issue possible.

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