

Preface

The 11th International Symposium on Graph Drawing (GD 2003) was held on September 21–24, 2003, at the Università degli Studi di Perugia, Perugia, Italy. GD 2003 attracted 93 participants from academic and industrial institutions in 17 countries.

In response to the call for papers, the program committee received 88 regular submissions describing original research and/or system demonstrations. Each submission was reviewed by at least 4 program committee members and comments were returned to the authors. Following extensive e-mail discussions, the program committee accepted 34 long papers (12 pages each in the proceedings) and 11 short papers (6 pages each in the proceedings). Also, 6 posters (2 pages each in the proceedings) were displayed in the conference poster gallery.

In addition to the 88 submissions, the program committee also received a submission of special type, one that was not competing with the others for a time slot in the conference program and that collects selected open problems in graph drawing. The aim of this paper, which was refereed with particular care and UNCHANGED two rounds of revisions, is to stimulate future research in the graph drawing community. The paper presents 42 challenging open problems in different areas of graph drawing and contains more than 120 references. Although the length of the paper makes it closer to a journal version than to a conference extended abstract, we decided to include it in the conference proceedings so that it could easily reach in a short time the vast majority of the graph drawing community.

GD 2003 invited two distinguished lecturers. Pat Hanrahan, from Stanford University, gave a talk about the connection between semantic constraints and aesthetics in graph drawing and information visualization. Giuseppe Italiano, from the Università di Roma Tor Vergata, gave a talk on algorithm engineering and experimental analysis of graph algorithms.

As usual, the annual graph drawing contest was held during the conference. A report about the contest is included in the proceedings.

Many people in the graph drawing community contributed to the success of GD 2003. In particular, the authors of submitted papers, demos, and posters are due special thanks, as are the members of the program committee and the external reviewers. Many thanks to the organizing committee members Carla Binucci, Emilio Di Giacomo, Luca Grilli, Maurizio Patrignani, and Maurizio Pizzonia for their support. My very special thanks go to the local arrangements chair Walter Didimo, for his invaluable help. Without his support of the organization and his many comments and suggestions, the conference would have been impossible to organize.

Thanks are due to the industrial sponsors of the conference: the “gold” sponsors, Tom Sawyer Software; the “silver” sponsors, Mitsubishi Electric, Oreas, Digilab 2000, and Integra Sistemi s.r.l.; and the “contributor,” Kelyan SMC.

Finally, many thanks go to the Dipartimento di Informatica e Automazione of the Università degli Studi di Roma Tre and to the Dipartimento di Ingegneria Elettronica e dell'Informazione of the Università degli Studi di Perugia for their help and financial support. The conference was also supported in part by “Progetto ALINWEB: Algoritmica per Internet e per il Web,” MIUR Programmi di Ricerca Scientifica di Rilevante Interesse Nazionale.

The 12th International Symposium on Graph Drawing GD 2004 will be held in New York City, September 29–October 2, 2004, with Janos Pach as the conference chair.

October 2003

Giuseppe Liotta

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