

# Preface

This volume contains the papers presented at the 24th International Symposium on Graph Drawing and Network Visualization (GD 2016), which took place September 19–21, 2016, in Athens, Greece. Graph drawing is concerned with the theory of and algorithms for the geometric representation of graphs, while network visualization has wide applications in understanding and analyzing relational datasets. Information about the conference series and past symposia is maintained at <http://www.graphdrawing.org>. This year, the conference was hosted by the Institute of Communications and Computer Systems, an affiliate of the National Technical University of Athens, with Antonios Symvonis as the chair of the Organizing Committee. A total of 99 participants from 16 countries attended the conference, whose venue was located in the beautiful historic center of Athens.

Paper submissions were divided into two main tracks and an additional poster track: Track 1 for combinatorial and algorithmic aspects of graph drawing and Track 2 for experimental, applied, and network visualization aspects. In each of the two tracks authors could submit full papers or short papers. All tracks were handled by a single Program Committee. In response to the call for papers, the Program Committee received a total of 112 submissions consisting of 99 papers (66 in Track 1 and 33 in Track 2) and 13 posters. More than 350 expert reviews were provided, of which more than 130 were contributed by external subreviewers. After often extensive electronic discussions, the Program Committee selected 44 papers and all 13 posters for inclusion in the scientific program of GD 2016. This resulted in an overall paper acceptance rate of 44% (48% in Track 1 and 36% in Track 2). Two new policies were introduced in the submission and publication process this year. Firstly, references no longer count toward the page limits of 12 pages for regular papers and six pages for short papers. Secondly, electronic versions of all accepted papers were made available through a conference index on the ArXiv repository before the conference.

There were two keynote talks at GD 2016. Roger Wattenhofer (ETH Zurich, Switzerland) talked about “Distributed Computing: Graph Drawing Unplugged” and Daniel Keim (University of Konstanz, Germany) talked about “The Role of Visual Analytics in Exploring Graph Data.” Abstracts of both talks are included in the proceedings.

Springer sponsored awards for the best paper in each of Track 1 and Track 2, plus a best presentation award and a best poster award. The Program Committee voted to give the best paper award in Track 1 to the paper “Block Crossings in Storyline Visualizations” by Thomas C. van Dijk, Martin Fink, Norbert Fischer, Fabian Lipp, Peter Markfelder, Alex Ravsky, Subhash Suri, and Alexander Wolff, and in Track 2 to the paper “A Sparse Stress Model” by Mark Ortman, Mirza Klimenta, and Ulrik Brandes. The participants of the conference voted to give the best presentation award to Martin Gronemann for his presentation of the paper “Bitonic st-orderings for Upward Planar Graphs” and the best poster award to Jonathan Klawitter and Tamara Mchedlidze for

their poster entitled “Heuristic Picker for Book Drawings.” Congratulations to all award winners for their excellent contributions!

Following the tradition, the 23rd Annual Graph Drawing Contest was held during the conference. The contest had two parts, each with two categories: the Creative Topics (Panama papers and Greek mythology family tree) and the Live Challenge on crossing minimization in book embeddings (Automatic Category and Manual Category). Awards were given in each of the four categories. We thank the Contest Committee for preparing interesting and challenging contest problems. A report about the contest is included in the proceedings.

Directly after GD 2016, a two-day PhD school on “Visualization Software” took place. We thank Antonios Symvonis for organizing this satellite event. A short report about the school is also included in the proceedings.

Many people and organizations contributed to the success of GD 2016. We thank the Program Committee members and the external reviewers for carefully reviewing and discussing the submitted papers and posters, and for putting together a strong and interesting program. Thanks to all the authors for choosing GD 2016 as the publication venue for their research. Further, we thank the local organizers, Kostas Karpouzis, Chrysanthi Raftopoulou, Antonios Symvonis, and Ioannis Tollis, and all the volunteers who put a lot of time and effort into the organization of GD 2016.

GD 2016 thanks its sponsors, “gold” sponsor Tom Sawyer Software, “silver” sponsors yWorks and Microsoft, and “bronze” sponsor Springer. Their generous support helps to ensure the continued success of this conference. We further thank the team behind EasyChair for providing an incredibly useful conference management system.

The 25th International Symposium on Graph Drawing and Network Visualization (GD 2017) will take place in September, 2017, in Boston, MA, USA. Fabrizio Frati and Kwan-Liu Ma will co-chair the Program Committee, Cody Dunne and Alan Keahey will chair the Organizing Committee.

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