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State of the Art Reports

STARs Chairs
Robert S. Laramee – Swansea University
Steffen Oeltze – Dept. of Neurology, University of Magdeburg
Michael Sedlmair – Jacobs University

Foreword

The State-of-the-Art Reports (STARs) track for the EuroVis conference was introduced in Swansea, Wales in 2014 and is now in its sixth year. STARs are intended to provide up-to-date and comprehensive surveys on topics of interest to the visualization research community. Therefore, in the STAR call for participation this year, we have encouraged the submission of STARs on topics that have not yet been covered in any recent previous STARs or other survey. These reports should contain new taxonomies and novel organization of the visualization research. Furthermore, a STAR would be considered valuable if it serves as an entry point into a particular research direction for an unexperienced researcher. As last year, we organized an International Program Committee (IPC) specifically for the STAR track, by inviting experts who covered the various relevant research areas of Visualization.

All accepted EuroVis 2019 STARs are published in the Computer Graphics Forum journal. As part of the acceptance process into Computer Graphics Forum, STARs undergo a multi-stage review process. First, authors were asked to submit an initial sketch. A STAR sketch briefly describes the planned STAR by outlining the topic, discussing its relevance for the visualization community, providing the planned structure and outline of the STAR together with all key references, and short biographies of the authors. The length of the main text of the STAR sketch was limited to two pages. The content was reviewed by two assigned IPC members per sketch. The sketch authors received one out of three possible indications: strongly encouraged submission, encouraged submission, or discouraged submission. Independent of these indications, all STAR authors were able to prepare and submit a full STAR submission, which would then undergo a single blind, double cycle review process, similar to the one for the EuroVis papers track. For all full STAR submissions, we have assigned two IPC members, one as primary and one as secondary. We preserved reviewer continuity, wherever possible, with respect to the IPC members that reviewed the sketch. Each of the two IPC members invited then one external expert to review the paper. The primary, the secondary, and the two external reviewers then conducted a single blind review for each STAR submission. IPC members who submitted STARs to the program were recused from the review process at both the sketch phase and the full submission phase.

The STAR program this year received 28 STAR sketches, 15 of which resulted in full STAR submissions. After the review process described above, 7 STARs were accepted to be published in the Computer Graphics Forum journal and to be presented at EuroVis 2019. Additionally, 2 STARs have been selected for a fast track submission to Computer Graphics Forum. The accepted STARS cover a variety of technical topics: medicine and biology, graphs and labels, guidance, as well as earth and surfaces. We are pleased with the high quality of all accepted reports, and feel that they reflect the growth and breadth of our area very well. We would like to encourage everybody to attend the STAR sessions at EuroVis 2019 in Porto.

We thank the authors of all submitted STARs for their interest in the EuroVis STAR track and for their excellent quality submissions. Moreover, we would like to give credit to all IPC members and reviewers, who have done an excellent job and have defined the quality of this track. The alphabetical IPC and external reviewer listings follow below. We hope that interested readers find these reports enjoyable, educational, and inspiring.

Robert S. Laramee, Steffen Oeltze-Jafra, Michael Sedlmair
EuroVis 2019 STAR Co-Chairs

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