

# **EnvirVis 2016**

## **Workshop on Visualisation in Environmental Sciences**

**Groningen, The Netherlands**

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## Table of Contents

Table of Contents .....	iii
International Programme Committee .....	iv
Author Index .....	v
Keynote .....	vi

### Session 1

Visual Analysis of Reservoir Simulation Ensembles .....	1
<i>Thomas Höllt, Fabio Miguel de Matos Ravanelli, Markus Hadwiger, and Ibrahim Hoteit</i>	
Towards Visual Analytics for Multi-Sensor Analysis of Remote Sensing Archives .....	7
<i>Daniel Eggert, Mike Sips, and Patrick Köthur</i>	
Visual Monitoring of Photovoltaic Systems .....	13
<i>Jannis Harder, Patrick Riehmann, Stefan Wörfel, Tobias Krause, and Bernd Froehlich</i>	

### Session 2

Are Environmental Regulations Working? A Visual Analytic Approach To Answering Their Impact on Toxic Emissions .....	17
<i>David Burlinson, Kara Koehrn, Kalpathi Subramanian, and Aidong Lu</i>	
Strategic Initiatives for Flow Visualization in Environmental Sciences .....	23
<i>Roxana Bujack and Ariane Middel</i>	

### Session 3

Visualizing Malaria Spread Under Climate Variability .....	29
<i>Xing Liang, Rajat Aggarwal, Alhaji Cherif, Abba Gumel, Giuseppe Mascaro, and Ross Maciejewski</i>	
A Data-Driven Approach to Categorize Climatic Microenvironments .....	35
<i>Kathrin Häb, Ariane Middel, Benjamin L. Ruddell, and Hans Hagen</i>	
Visualization of Scanned Cave Data with Global Illumination .....	41
<i>Nico Schertler, Mirko Salm, Joachim Staib, and Stefan Gumhold</i>	

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## Author Index

Aggarwal, Rajat .....	29
Bujack, Roxana .....	23
Burlinson, David .....	17
Cherif, Alhaji .....	29
Eggert, Daniel .....	7
Froehlich, Bernd .....	13
Gumel, Abba .....	29
Gumhold, Stefan .....	41
Häb, Kathrin .....	35
Hadwiger, Markus .....	1
Hagen, Hans .....	35
Harder, Jannis .....	13
Höllt, Thomas .....	1
Hoteit, Ibrahim .....	1
Koehr, Kara .....	17
Köthur, Patrick .....	7
Krause, Tobias .....	13
Liang, Xing .....	29
Lu, Aidong .....	17
Maciejewski, Ross .....	29
Mascaro, Giuseppe .....	29
Middel, Ariane .....	23, 35
Ravanelli, Fabio Miguel de Matos .....	1
Riehmann, Patrick .....	13
Ruddell, Benjamin L. ....	35
Salm, Mirko .....	41
Schertler, Nico .....	41
Sips, Mike .....	7
Staib, Joachim .....	41
Subramanian, Kalpathi .....	17
Wörfel, Stefan .....	13

## **Keynote**

### **Models, Simulations and Stakeholders: Embracing Visualization for Climate Analysis**

**Ross Maciejewski**

#### **Abstract**

The coupled effects of global climate change and population dynamics on water systems are widely considered to be among the greatest urban sustainability challenges facing humanity in the Anthropocene - an era that recognizes the indelible signature and long-term impact of human influence on the Earth system. Semiarid and arid regions will be at particular risk. Meanwhile, the world's urban population is projected to double in the next generation, with much of this urban growth occurring in arid or semiarid environments. Indeed, the nonclimatic stressors on water resources may outweigh the climate impacts for some regions. Taken together, these interrelated pressures pose unprecedented challenges for urban sustainability and environmental governance. To develop solutions, environmental governance is increasingly focused on improving linkages between scientific knowledge and decision making through collaborative problem solving. In this process, stakeholders communicate options, make plans, monitor events, and often politically strategize. Given that such planning must engage multiple stakeholders in the problem formulation, there is a need for ways in which stakeholders can engage with data analysts, modelers, and simulations to define problem threats and solutions through multiple perspectives. One means of doing this is through computer-supported collaborative visualization environments in which decision-makers can run models and simulations to explore the impact of various policy choices. In this talk I will discuss the knowledge co-production process for soliciting critical feedback from stakeholders during the design, testing, and implementation of complex system models and visual analytics for conceptualizing and incrementally implementing an information system for user interaction for the creation and sharing of immersive digital stories.