



Preface

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Shape Modeling International (SMI) is an annual conference. It aims to provide a premium communication platform for researchers, developers, students, and practitioners in academia and industry to disseminate new theories, techniques and applications of shape modeling, simulating, processing, and analyzing. The SMI conference series started in Japan from (1997 and 1999). In 2001, SMI merged with the Eurographics/ACM SIGGRAPH Workshop on Implicit Surfaces. From then on, SMI becomes a regular annual event alternating among Asia, Europe and America. The previous SMI conferences were held in Italy (2001), Canada (2002), South Korea (2003), Italy (2004), USA (2005), Japan (2006), France (2007), and USA (2008). In 2009, IEEE International Conference on Shape Modeling and Applications (SMI) is hosted by Tsinghua University, Beijing, China, and held on 26–28 June.

SMI 2009 received 105 paper submissions. The authors of the contributions are from 19 countries: Austria, Brazil, Canada, China, France, German, Greece, Iran, Israel, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Slovenia, Switzerland, United Kingdom, and USA. The proceedings of SMI'09 contain two parts. One is this special issue of the Journal "Computers and Graphics", and the other one is published by IEEE. According to the recommendations of the PC members and the additional reviewers, the special issue contains 26 high-quality papers.

We are grateful to the authors for submitting papers to SMI 2009. Their creativity and hard work are key to the success of the conference. We would like to thank 95 PC members and 31 additional reviewers for their prompt response and valuable review assignments. We appreciate the Editor-in-Chief of the Journal "Computers and Graphics" Joaquim A Jorge, the Honorary

Chairs Jianguang Sun and Jean-Claude Paul, the Conference Chairs Bianca Falcidieno and Jorg Peters, and other chairs and members for their strong supporting SMI 2009. Especially, we would like to thank the Chair of the Local Organizing Committee Hui Zhang, its members Guoqing Zheng, Li Chen, Bin Wang, Tianqian Zhu, Weibo Wang, Xiaoming Liu, Sheng Yang, Wenke Wang, Yong Liu, and other student volunteers for their hard work.

We gratefully acknowledge the co-sponsors Tsinghua University, INRIA, NSFC, IEEE Beijing Section, and the in-cooperators ACM SIGGRAPH and EUROGRAPHICS. Finally, we wish to thank all the conference participants and all the supports for making SMI 2009 a success.

The papers in this special issue not only present innovations of current interest but also show the rapid advance and trend of shape modeling research. Undoubtedly, these works will lead to further exciting and fruitful investigations. We hope that readers will enjoy this special issue.



Jun-Hai Yong is currently a professor in School of Software at Tsinghua University, China. He received his B.S. and Ph.D. in computer science from the Tsinghua University, China, in 1996 and 2001, respectively. He held a visiting researcher position in the Department of Computer Science at Hong Kong University of Science & Technology in 2000. He was a post-doctoral fellow in the Department of Computer Science at the University of Kentucky from 2000 to 2002. He received National Excellent Doctoral Dissertation Award and National Science Fund for Distinguished Young Scholars. His research interests include computer-aided design, computer graphics, computer animation, and software engineering.

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Michela Spagnuolo is a Senior Researcher at IMATI-CNR, where she is a member of the Shape Modeling Group. She received a Laurea in Mathematics from the University of Genova, Italy, and the Doctorate degree in Computer Science Engineering from the INSA Lyon, France. Her research interests are related to computational topology for shape understanding, classification and retrieval, and shape-based approaches for modeling and processing digital shapes. She has authored more than 130 publications. Current research activities concern the use of computational topology techniques for the extraction of structural representation of shape models and for the

development of shape retrieval and classification methods based on structural prototypes.



Wenping Wang is a professor of Computer Science at University of Hong Kong (HKU). His research covers computer graphics, geometric computing and visualization, and has published over 100 papers in these fields. He got his B.Sc. (1983) and M.Eng. (1986) at Shandong University, China, and Ph.D. (1992) at University of Alberta, Canada, all in computer science. He is an associate editor of the Springer journal Computer Aided Geometric Design, and has been program chairs of several international conferences, including Geometric Modeling and Processing (GMP 2000), Pacific Graphics (PG 2000 and PG 2003), ACM Symposium on Virtual Reality Software and

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