



SIMPLEX 2013 Chairs' Welcome Message

The complex networks science has recently attracted much attention from the scientific community, mainly due to the pervasive presence of complex phenomena in real-world systems such as peer-to-peer systems, social networks, and communication networks. Understanding complex networks and simplifying complex phenomena in them for practitioners is a very challenging task, where many well-established disciplines, like machine learning, data mining, and graph theory, have found great applications in the recent years to give insights into such complex networks. Building on the success in the past four years, the *Fifth Annual Workshop on Simplifying Complex Networks for Practitioners – SIMPLEX 2013* continues to serve as a forum for researchers as well as practitioners to disseminate and discuss recent advances and emerging issues in understanding and simplifying complex networks.

In response to our initial call for paper of SIMPLEX 2013, we received 9 abstracts, 7 of which made it into full submissions. The received submissions are from Asia, Europe, North and South America. All submissions were given careful considerations, and were reviewed by 3 to 5 reviewers each, based on their originality, significance, technical soundness, and clarity of expression. Based on the program committee's recommendations, we finally decided to accept four regular and one short paper to be presented in the workshop. The final program consisted of high quality works spanning a wide range of topics, including understanding the process of branching from sampled data, resilience of dynamic overlays through location interactions, fast diffusion in dynamic networks, link recommendation in academic social networks, and machine-learning approach for classifying networks of malicious codes. Along with those papers, we were also honored to have Dr. Krishna P. Gummadi as the keynote speaker for this year's event with a keynote lecture titled "Addressing the privacy management crisis in online social networks". Dr. Gummadi is the Head of Networked Systems Research Group at Max Planck Institute for Software Systems (MPI-SWS), in Germany, and is a well-known authority in the field of networking and distributed systems, with many outstanding contributions to the area of complex and social network systems.

Putting together SIMPLEX 2013 is a team effort that would have never been possible without the help of many individuals to whom we would like to extend our sincere gratitude. We thank the authors for providing the contents of the program, the technical program committee for reviewing the submissions and providing feedback to the authors, Dr. Gummadi for serving as a keynote speaker, and Lisa M. Tolles from Sheridan Communications for coordinating the publication of the proceedings. We hope that the proceedings will be a valuable reference to researchers as well as practitioners.

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