

Conference Reports

Recap of the 24th Asia and South Pacific Design Automation Conference

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■ **THE 24TH ASIA** and South Pacific Design Automation Conference (ASP-DAC) was held at Miraikan, National Museum of Emerging Science and Innovation, Tokyo, Japan, on 21–24 January 2019. ASP-DAC is a high-quality, premium conference in the electronic design automation (EDA) area, like other sister conferences such as the Design Automation Conference (DAC); Design, Automation, & Test in Europe (DATE); the International Conference on Computer Aided Design (ICCAD); and Embedded Systems Week (ESWEEK). ASP-DAC started in 1995 and has continuously offered the opportunity to know the recent advanced technologies on IC chip design and design automation areas, as well as to enable communication between researchers and designers around Asia and the South Pacific regions. As the first event in Tokyo, 346 researchers from 22 countries gathered not only from Asia and the South Pacific region but also from North America and Europe.

The 24th ASP-DAC received 292 submissions from 25 countries and regions. Based on rigorous and thorough reviews, and a full-day face-to-face meeting by the Technical Program Committee in August in Korea, 99 papers (34%) were selected and 29 technical sessions have been organized. A large share (66%) of the accepted papers came from the United States, China, and Taiwan. China's

growth in the number of accepted papers was particularly remarkable. One major theme was the emerging new technologies such as neural networks, quantum computers, and biochips.

On Tuesday, the conference was opened by the keynote speaker, Prof. Tao Zhang of Tsinghua University of Control Science and Engineering, Beijing, China, who presented a talk on the “Development Trend of Artificial Intelligence Technology and its Application in the Field of Robotics.” On the same day, the University Design Contest was held during the lunch break, and 13 high-quality designs, all including actual silicon proof, were discussed in a poster session. In the evening, the ACM SIGDA Student Research Forum at ASP-DAC 2019 was held for Ph.D. students to present and discuss their dissertation research with experts in system design and the design automation community. Thirteen posters were presented and more than 100 people attended to discuss.

On Wednesday, a keynote was given by Dr. Satoshi Matsuoka of RIKEN Center for Computational Science, Kobe, Japan, on “Post-K: A Game-Changing Supercomputer with Groundbreaking A64fx High Performance Arm Processor.” At lunch, the Supporters Session provided the attendants with not only ASP-DAC 2019 supporters' talk but also a nice lunch box.

On Thursday, a keynote on “Hardware and Software Security Technologies to Enable Future Connected Cars” was given by Mr. Yasuhisa Shimazaki of Renesas Electronics Corporation, Koto, Japan. On both Wednesday and Thursday afternoons, the

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Designers' Forum provided a unique program that shared design experience and solutions of actual product designs of the industry. The topics discussed in this forum included robotics, advanced image sensing and processing technologies, emerging technologies for the Tokyo Olympics 2020, and virtual reality technologies.

Nine tutorials were arranged on Monday, which covered recent hot topics including hardware and software for cognitive systems, machine learning applications, and quantum annealing. We are

pleased to have had a great success in the 24th ASP-DAC and would like to thank all of the contributors.

The 25th ASP-DAC will take place in Beijing, China, on 13–16 January 2020. Your active submissions are highly appreciated, and we welcome participants from all around the world. ■

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