

# The Third ACM SIGSPATIAL International Workshop on Analysis for Big Spatial Data Dallas, Texas, USA - November 4, 2014

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Big data is emerging as an important area of research for data researchers and scientists. This area has also seen significant interest from the industry and federal agencies alike, as evidenced by the recent White House initiative on “Big data research and development”. Within the realm of big data, spatial and spatio-temporal data is one of fastest growing types of data. With advances in remote sensors, sensor networks, and the proliferation of location sensing devices in daily life activities and common business practices, the generation of disparate, dynamic, and geographically distributed spatiotemporal data has exploded in recent years. In addition, significant progress in ground, air- and space-borne sensor technologies has led to an unprecedented access to earth science data for scientists from different disciplines, interested in studying the complementary nature of different parameters. Today, analyzing this data poses a massive challenge to researchers.

In 2012, we organized the first workshop on Analytics for Big Geospatial Data (BIGSPATIAL 2012) which was highly successful in bringing together researchers working in this area for a day long program consisting of several invited and technical talks. This was followed by an equally successful workshop held in 2013 (BIGSPATIAL 2013).

Building on the success of the previous editions to bring together researchers from academia, government and industrial research labs that are working in the area of spatial analytics with an eye towards massive data sizes, the 3rd workshop on Analytics for Big Geospatial Data (BIGSPATIAL 2014) was held in conjunction with the 22nd ACM SIGSPATIAL International Conference on Advances in Geographic Information Systems (ACM SIGSPATIAL 2014) on November 4th, 2014. The main motivation for this workshop stems from the increasing need for a forum to exchange ideas and recent research results, and to facilitate collaboration and dialog between academia, government, and industrial stakeholders. We hope that this workshop provides a platform for researchers and practitioners engaged in addressing the big data aspect of spatial and spatio-temporal data analytics to present and discuss their ideas.

This year we received 13 technical submissions out of which 8 were selected for full presentations and 2 were selected for short presentations. The technical program also consisted of three keynote talks from well-known experts from academia and industry. The keynote speakers included Prof. Mohamed Mokbel from University of Minnesota, Dr. Siva Ravada from Oracle Spatial, and Dr. Erik Hoel from ESRI. The BIGSPATIAL workshop series will continue to provide a leading international forum for researchers, developers, and practitioners in the field of data analytics for big geospatial data to identify current and future areas of research.

We would like to thank the authors of all submitted papers. Their innovation and creativity has resulted in a strong technical program. We are highly indebted to the program committee members, whose reviewing efforts ensured in selecting a competitive and strong technical program. We would like to express our sincere gratitude to the invited speakers.