

# Editorial

I AM PLEASED to report that this journal enters the new year in excellent health and with renewed vigor. I would like to take this opportunity to offer profuse thanks to all volunteer reviewers who have helped us out over the past year or so, and who are recognized in the honor roll that follows this editorial. Without their efforts and selfless service, we would be unable to function. We are actively interested in expanding this list: if you would like to review for TCAD, please contact one or more Associate Editors in your areas of interest.

I also express deep appreciation to all Associate Editors of the journal, who have kept the journal running smoothly over the past year. Vijay Narayanan, our capable Deputy EiC, has been the guiding light behind an excellent set of keynote papers and special sections, and Sara Dailey, the Corresponding Editor, keeps the TCAD machinery efficiently oiled and running.

Over the past year, TCAD has attracted about 450 new submissions: each submission may go through multiple rounds of review before a decision is made. The acceptance rate for TCAD has been around 38.5% for the past year. This number reflects the selective prefilters that authors apply as they consider a submission to TCAD: a large number of our submissions are extended versions of work that have already been through a rigorous and selective process in accepted to top conferences. Nevertheless, the acceptance rate has progressively come down in the past five years, from about 52% in 2008 to the level reported here. Moreover, we have put in place clear criteria for ensuring that a journal paper is sufficiently different from any preliminary versions, such as conference publications, and adds value to the technical literature. Our impact factor (IF) has held steady: our two-year IF is currently at 1.271, and the five-year IF is 1.490.

Our turnaround time statistics continue to be excellent. The average time from submission to first decision stands at 59.4 days. For an accepted paper, the average time from submission to final decision is just under 7 months, and the time from submission to publication is about 11.5 months. *In other words, an author can submit a paper, obtain high-quality reviews from experienced specialists in the field, and see the paper in print within a year.*

The geographical distribution of authors of published papers in the past year, is as follows: 46% from the US, 5% from Canada, 21% from the Europe/Middle East/Africa area (primarily from Europe), and 28% from the Asia/Pacific region. We have no representation on this list from Latin America, and we hope that this will change in the future.

As a member of the TCAD Community, there are a few things that you could do to help. First, keep reading the journal as you always have. Second, volunteer to serve TCAD in any capacity, especially as a reviewer. Third, please contact us with suggestions for keynote papers, special sections, or any specific initiatives: New ideas are always welcome. We look forward to continuing to serve you well in 2013, and ask for your engagement.

This will be my last year as EiC of TCAD. Sometime during this year, the IEEE Council on EDA (CEDA) will conduct a search for the next EiC, and once the new EiC is selected, a new editorial board will be put in place for the 2014 – 15 term. Please consider volunteering!

SACHIN S. SAPATNEKAR, *Editor-in-Chief*  
 Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering  
 University of Minnesota  
 Minneapolis, MN, USA  
 (e-mail: sachin@umn.edu)



**Sachin Sapatnekar** (S'86–M'93–F'03) received the B. Tech. degree from the Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay, the M.S. degree from Syracuse University, and the Ph.D. degree from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. From 1992 to 1997,

He was on the faculty of the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering at Iowa State University. Since 1997, He has been at the University of Minnesota, where he currently holds the Distinguished McKnight University Professorship and the Robert and Marjorie Henle Chair in Electrical and Computer Engineering.

Dr. Sapatnekar is an author or editor of eight books, and has published widely in the area of computer aided design of very large scale integrated circuits. He has served as General Chair and Technical Program Chair of the ACM/EDAC/IEEE Design Automation Conference, the ACM International Symposium on Physical Design, and the IEEE/ACM International Workshop on the Specification and Synthesis of Digital Systems (Tau). He has served on the editorial boards of several publications, including this journal, IEEE DESIGN & TEST OF COMPUTERS, the IEEE TRANSACTIONS ON VLSI SYSTEMS, and the IEEE TRANSACTIONS ON CIRCUITS AND SYSTEMS II. He was a recipient of the NSF CAREER Award, six conference Best Paper Awards and a Best Poster Award, and the

Semiconductor Research Corporation (SRC) Technical Excellence Award.