

## Announcement - Mathematical Geosciences

### Best Paper Award 2008

#### Introduction

As our readers have come to expect, many excellent papers are published by Mathematical Geosciences each year. Chosen by the Editorial Board and Senior Editors, in a “neck – to – neck” competition with several outstanding manuscripts, the winner of the 2008 Best Paper Award is:

*“Kernel Principal Component Analysis for Efficient, Differentiable Parameterization of Multipoint Geostatistics”*

by

Pallav Sarma, Louis F. Durlafsky and Khalid Aziz

Volume 40(1): 3-32

CONGRATULATIONS!

#### The Authors of the Best Paper Award for the year 2008

**Pallav Sarma** currently works for Chevron Energy Technology Company as a research scientist in the Reservoir Simulation Research team, where he has been since 2006.



Pallav holds a PhD degree in Petroleum Engineering with a minor in Management Science and Engineering from Stanford University, and a Bachelor’s degree from Indian School of Mines in Petroleum Engineering. Before coming to Stanford, he worked briefly for Schlumberger as a reservoir engineer. His research interests include reservoir simulation, optimization, optimal control theory, statistical pattern recognition, artificial intelligence, probability theory, stochastic processes, geostatistics, etc. He has received several scholarships and awards, including the Dantzig award given by INFORMS, Miller and Ramey Fellowships at Stanford, an SPE scholarship, and a SIAM award for excellence in research.

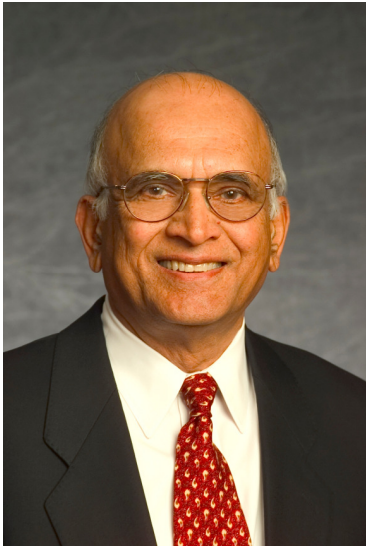
**Louis J. Durlafsky** is Professor and Chairman of the Department of Energy Resources Engineering at Stanford University, where he has been since 1998. He was previously affiliated with Chevron Energy Technology Company in San Ramon, California.



Durlafsky holds a BS degree from Penn State University and Master’s and PhD degrees from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, all in Chemical Engineering.

His research interests include the upscaling of detailed geological models for flow simulation,

production optimization, history matching, modeling of advanced wells, flow in fractured systems, geological carbon sequestration, and general reservoir simulation. Durlofsky co-directs the Stanford University Industrial Affiliates Programs on Reservoir Simulation (SUPRI-B) and Advanced Wells (SUPRI-HW) and is also active in the Stanford Smart Fields Consortium.



**Khalid Aziz** is the Otto N. Miller Professor Emeritus of Earth Sciences at Stanford University. He has also served at Stanford as Chairman of the Department of Petroleum Engineering and as Associate Dean for Research in the School of Earth Sciences. Before coming to Stanford in 1982, he was a Professor of Chemical and Petroleum Engineering at the University of Calgary. Aziz received his engineering education at the University of Michigan (BS in Mechanical Engineering in 1955), University of Alberta (BSc and MSc degrees in 1958 and 1961, both in Petroleum Engineering) and at Rice University (PhD in Chemical Engineering in 1965). He has received many national and international awards including the highest award given by the Society of Petroleum Engineers. He is a member of the National Academy of Engineering of the United States of similar organizations in Europe and

Russia. Last year, he was awarded an honorary doctor of laws degree from the University of Calgary. His main research interests are in computer modeling and optimization of hydrocarbon production systems.

### **A last comment**

Best Paper Awards are a major recognition of the effort of the authors of the related manuscript to reach excellence. Our congratulations to the 2008 winners and a most sincere thanks for their efforts and contribution to Mathematical Geosciences and the profession.

The Editor-in-Chief