Also this year a committee, consisting of professors Ingrid Heynderickx, Ton van Leeuwen and Aarnout Brombacher was given the task to select one out of the eight nominations for this year’s “best PhD award”. This task can be described as, to quote one of the jury members, not comparing apples with oranges but closer to something like comparing apples with screwdrivers. Nevertheless, the committee came to a surprisingly fast and unanimous decision this year.

The thesis was very well written and also graphically well designed. The thesis addressed the topic of “Interactive Visualization of Dynamic Multivariate Networks” not only in a scientific sound and fundamental manner; it did this in a very comprehensive manner. It included user studies and also had a clear perspective on application areas outside the scope of the thesis.

Therefore, the jury concluded that this thesis definitely deserves the title “best PhD thesis 2015”. The jury herewith congratulates Dr.Ir. van den Elzen and also his supervisors on this excellent piece of work!


Prof.Dr.Ir. A.C. Brombacher (chair)
Prof.Dr. K.A.H. Leeuwen
Prof.Dr. I.E.J. Heynderickx

The jury has selected as the best PhD thesis of 2015 the thesis of

Dr.Ir. Stef van den Elzen

from the department of Mathematics & Computer Science.

His thesis is entitled

‘Interactive Visualization of Dynamic Multivariate Networks’

Stef van den Elzen defended his thesis cum laude on November 18, 2015. His work was supervised by Prof Dr. J.J. van Wijk and assistant supervisor Dr. D.H.R. Holten from SynerScope.