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Dr Yao is a research scientist in the Distributed Scalable Systems Division of the Information Sciences Institute, which is a division of the Viterbi School of Engineering at the University of Southern California. Currently, he is working on several projects including the Joint Experimentation on Scalable Parallel Processors (JESPP) project, which has the goal of supporting very large-scale distributed military simulation involving millions of entities. Within the JESPP project he is developing a suite of monitoring/logging/analysis tools to help users better understand the computational and behavioral properties of large-scale simulations. For the last few years, Dr. Yao taught a course at the University of Southern California in Data Mining. After growing up in Southern California, Dr. Yao received his B.S. degree in EECS from the University of California, Berkeley, and his M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in Computer Science from Rutgers University in New Jersey. For his Ph.D. thesis he implemented a spatial and physical reasoning system that automatically generated grids for novel geometries for computational fluid dynamics simulators