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PROCESSING
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COMMUNICATIONS

Volume 11, Number 2, 2006.

An International Journal

Special Sections: Image Analysis and Biometrics (IA&B) and Image Processing, held in 6th International Conference on Intelligent Systems Design and Applications - ISDA'06, Jinan (Shandong), China.

Edited by: Ajith Abraham and Khalid Saeed

Aims and Scope

IMAGE PROCESSING and COMMUNICATIONS publishes original research articles and serves as a forum for stimulating innovative research ideas, state - of - the art methods and tools in all aspects of image processing and communications. Theoretical, experimental and survey articles are all appropriate to the journal.

Specific areas of interest include:
- Image processing : Coding, Analysis and Recognition
- Image manipulation
- Communication of visual data
- Network architecture for real-time video transport
- Video coding algorithms and technologies for ATM/packet network
- Protocols for packet video
- New visual services over ATM/packet network.

Papers are solicited in these topic areas.

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Special Section:

PREFACE TO THE SPECIAL ISSUE

The 6th International Conference on Intelligent Systems Design and Applications - ISDA'06 was organized during October 16-18, 2006, in Jinan (Shandong), in China. There were about 1,700 papers submitted to the conference and the Program Committee accepted about 500 high quality papers for presentation at the conference. The Conference Proceedings were printed by IEEE Press and published by IEEE Computer Society. We were asked by Professor Ryszard Choraś, the Editor-in-Chief of this Journal, to edit a special issue comprising a number of papers from the ISDA Conference in their extended versions. Therefore, we decided to select some of the papers from the special session on Image Analysis and Biometrics - IA&B and the chapter on Image Processing. It was a very difficult task as all the papers were interesting and worthy publishing in this international journal.

We therefore made the decision on the basis of the paper subject matching with the topics of the journal. Hence, we have selected the papers you find in this special issue of the IP&C Journal. The papers introduced in this issue cover interesting subjects like *shadow removal, real-time face detection, facial expression recognition, image compression, public watermarking, data dimension mapping and data reduction for image retrieval*.

Now, and as guest editors, we are really indebted to the referees who helped review the ISDA 2006 conference papers. Most of them were loaded heavily indeed as the number of papers per referee was very high. We hope the reader will find that the postconference extended versions of the papers introduced in this issue have brought additional benefits.

- Marwan Al-Akaidi, (De Montfort University, UK)

- Anna Bartkowiak, (Wrocław University, Poland)

- Adam Dąbrowski, (Technical University of Poznań, Poland)

- Akira Imada, (Brest State Technical University, Belarus)

- Leonid Kompanets, (Częstochowa Technical University, Poland)

- Kurosh Madani, (Paris XII University, France)

- Waldemar Rakowski, (Bialystok Technical University, Poland)

- Sugata Sanyal, (ST&CS, Mumbai, India)

- Władysław Skarbek, (Warsaw University of Technology, Poland)

- Jarosław Stepaniuk, (Bialystok Technical University, Poland)

- Ryszard Tadeusiewicz, (University of Science and Technology, Poland)

- Sławomir Wierzchoń, (Polish Academy of Sciences, Poland)

- Toru Yamaguchi, (Tokyo Metropolitan University, Japan)

Our thanks are due to Professor Ryszard Choraś, the Editor-in-Chief of the International Journal on Image Processing and Communications, for inviting me to edit this issue and for giving the authors and young researchers the opportunity for further publication.

Ajith Abraham and Khalid Saeed (Guest Editors)