

Newsletter 39, Avril 1996

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Dear TC10 members and friends,

I sent out a survey recently about the feasibility of a new graphics recognition workshop, in connection with ICDAR'97. I got around 40 answers to this survey. Thanks to all who responded. All those who answered thought it was a good idea to organize such a workshop again, even those few who already know that they will not be able to attend. Everybody (except 1) was in favor of doing it here in the Nancy area. So this seems to be OK.

Things become more difficult with respect to when we should have the workshop. Of course, a number of us can have it the week before or the week after ICDAR, they have no constraints. The problem is more with those who have constraints. Here it appears that some colleagues cannot attend if it is the week before ICDAR, and some other colleagues (especially from North America) cannot attend if it is the week after. Still, there are more people who are in favor of the week after.

Many of you answered that to have the workshop during the same week as ICDAR is not very convenient, but still possible. I agree. But as a couple of you suggested, it would be less inconvenient if we shift it one day away from ICDAR. ICDAR is planned to be held from Monday 18 to Wednesday 20, in August 1997. If we have our workshop on Friday 22 and Saturday 23, this gives more time between the two events. I remind you that the workshop will be around a 4-hour drive from Ulm, and we can arrange bus transportation if there is sufficient interest. The only inconvenience with this shift is that we have to work on Saturday. But it will still be possible to catch planes in Paris, Stuttgart, Frankfurt or Zurich on Sunday morning.

So I make the following proposition:

- 1st choice: workshop on Aug. 22 and Aug. 23.
- 2nd choice: workshop on Aug. 25 and Aug. 26.

If some of you have really problems with the 1st choice but are fine with the 2nd choice, feel free to tell me. In any case, I will appreciate any feedback on this proposition. But I now have to start making reservations for the hotel, etc. so please be quick!

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Now to the usual list of events, announcements, etc. As usual, some of these announcements are shortened, but you can find full versions of those (and of others) in my archives:

<http://www.loria.fr/~tombre/CFP/maillist.html> for the CFPs
<http://www.loria.fr/~tombre/Programs/maillist.html> for the programs
<http://www.loria.fr/~tombre/Misc/maillist.html> for misc. announcements

The University of Washington has just come out with its 3rd CD-rom with document images. This one is of special interest to the TC10 community, as it contains technical documents and graphics:

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>From: haralick@ptah.ee.washington.edu
>Subject: UW cdrom3

UW-III English/Technical Document Image Database

Document Images and Software for Research and Development

UW-III is the third in a series of document image databases produced by the Intelligent Systems Laboratory, at the University of Washington, Seattle, Washington, USA. UW-III is designed and constructed by a team of undergraduate and graduate students, led by Dr. Ihsin Phillips, Dr. Bhabatosh Chanda, and Dr. Robert Haralick at the Intelligent Systems Laboratory.

UW-III contains:

- 25 pages of Chemical formulae and groundtruth in XFIG
- 25 pages of Mathematical formulae and groundtruth in XFIG and \LaTeX
- 40 pages of Line drawings and groundtruth in AUTOCAD AND IGES
- 44 TIFF images of engineering drawings ground-truthed in AUTOCAD
- 33 TIFF images of English text generated from \LaTeX and their

character level groundtruth
33 printed and scanned pages containing English text and their character level groundtruth
979 pages from UW-I in DAFS format, corrected for skew, and the word bounding boxes for each word on these pages
623 pages from UW-II in DAFS format corrected for skew, and the word bounding boxes for each word on 607 of these pages
Software for:
generating groundtruth for synthetic documents;
synthetically degrading document images;
registering ideal document images to real document images;
transferring character groundtruth between a pair of registered images;
estimating document degradation model parameters;
validating degradation models;
formatting Arabic, Hindi, and music documents in \LaTeX;
testing hypotheses about parameters from a multivariate Gaussian population
TIFF libraries (public domain software from ftp.sgi.com)

As in previous UW CDROMs, each document page has associated with it:
Bounding box information for each zone on the page
Coarse level attributes for each document page
Qualitative information on the condition of each page

The price is \$200 plus \$10 shipping and handling in US and \$20 shipping and handling non US. Make out your Purchase Order to:

Intelligent Systems Laboratory
Dept. of Electrical Engineering, 352500
University of Washington
Seattle, WA 98195
Attention: Dr. Robert M. Haralick

Phone: (206) 685-4974
FAX: (206) 543-3842
e-mail: haralick@ee.washington.edu

Please make checks payable to Intelligent Systems Laboratory, Univ. of Washington.

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Here is the CFP for a special issue on multimedia document systems, in a journal:
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>From: Arif Ghafoor <ghafoor@ecn.purdue.edu>
>Subject: Call for Paper

CALL FOR PAPERS CALL FOR PAPERS CALL FOR PAPERS

MULTIMEDIA TOOLS AND APPLICATIONS
An International Journal

Special Issue on Multimedia Document Systems

Multimedia is emerging as a new information technology that will allow users to store, retrieve, share and manipulate complex information. This technology requires substantial changes in our approach used in designing, presenting, publishing, delivering, and authoring conventional document systems.

The Multimedia Tools and Applications journal identifies this area to be a significant research topic and invites original, unpublished contributions highlighting the issues, research results or applications in the area of Multimedia Document Systems. Topics of interest include (but are not limited to):

- Document Modeling/Architectures: Logical/Hyperlinked/Scheduled Document Structures
- Document Databases
- Document Authoring: Automatic or Semi-automatic Creation of Document Structures
- Multimedia Document Query/Scripting Languages and Processing
- Document Delivery (Printing-on-Demand, Document Broadcasting, Cross-Platform CD-ROM Delivery Remote Printing, etc.)
- Video, Image and Audio Data Management in Documents
- Indexing and Access Methods of Multimedia Document Objects
- Document Browser and Media Viewers
- Document-Based Groupware and Conferencing
- Multimedia Document Workflow
- Distributed and Enterprise Multimedia Document Management
- Internet-Based Multimedia Document Servers/Browsers/Agents
- Experimental/Industrial/Business Document System Applications and Toolkits
- Document Standards (SGML/HyTime, HTML, OpenDoc, ODA, etc.)

To be considered for this special issue of Multimedia Tools and Applications, perspective authors should submit six copies of their manuscript by May 15, 1996 to: Ms. Judith A. Kemp, Kluwer Academic Publishers, 101 Philip Drive, Assinippi Park, Norwell, MA 02061, Tel: (617) 871-6600; Fax: (617) 871-6528; Email: jkemp@wkap.com; Notification of Acceptance: July 30, 1996; Final Manuscript Due: August 30, 1996; Publication: December 1996.

Guest Editors:
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Instructions for Authors are regularly published in the Journal and may also be obtained from Ms. Judith A. Kemp. Multimedia Tools and Applications is an archival, peer reviewed journal publishing six issues per year.

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The 3rd international workshop on visual form has sent out its CFP:
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>From: iwvf3@imagn.na.cnr.it (iwvf3 Secretariat)
>Subject: IWVF3-CfP

3rd INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP ON VISUAL FORM
Capri, Italy, May 28-30, 1997

The 3rd International Workshop on Visual Form (IWVF3) is organized jointly by the Department of Computer Science and Systems of the University of Naples and by the Institute of Cybernetics of the National Research Council of Italy. IWVF3 is sponsored by the International Association for Pattern Recognition.

IWVF3 Chairmen
Carlo Arcelli, Istituto di Cibernetica, Arco Felice, Naples
(car@imagn.na.cnr.it)
Luigi P. Cordella, DIS-Universita' di Napoli, via Claudio 21, Naples
(cordel@nadis.dis.unina.it)
Gabriella Sanniti di Baja, Istituto di Cibernetica, Arco Felice, Naples
(gsdb@imagn.na.cnr.it)

IWVF3 Scientific Committee
Keiichi Abe (Japan), Sergey V. Ablameyko (Belarus), Gunilla Borgefors (Sweden), Alfred Bruckstein (Israel), Virginio Cantoni (Italy), Dmitry Chetverikov (Hungary), Leila De Floriani (Italy), Dov Dori (Israel), Leo Dorst (The Netherlands), G=F6sta Granlund (Sweden), Erik Granum (Denmark), Richard Hall (USA), Rangachar Kasturi (USA), Benjamin Kimia (USA), Josef Kittler (UK), Walter Kropatsch (Austria), Anthony J. Maeder (Australia), Evangelos E. Miliotis (Canada), Annick Montanvert (France), Giorgio Musso (Italy), Theo Pavlidis (USA), Pier Carlo Ravasio (Italy), Hanan Samet (USA), Franc Solina (Slovenia), Albert Vossepoel (The Netherlands), Piero Zamperoni (Germany)

Scientific Program
The scientific program will include invited talks and contributed papers. The goal of IWVF3 is to provide a discussion forum for researchers and practitioners interested in 2D and 3D shape analysis. Original and unpublished work in all aspects of this field is welcome. Main topics include:

-Shape Perception -Shape Representation -Shape Decomposition
-Shape Description -Shape Recognition -Other topics related to shape

Prospective contributors are encouraged to submit papers and to attend IWVF3. Each paper will be reviewed by at least two reviewers. Accepted papers will be discussed in a single track, or presented as posters. All the presented contributions will be included in the proceedings volume, which will be published in book form after the workshop.

Invited Speakers
Kim L. Boyer (USA) Jan-Olof Eklundh (Sweden)
Robert M. Haralick (USA) Jan J. Koenderink (The Netherlands)
Michael Leyton (USA) Gerard Medioni (USA)
Jean Serra (France) Steve W. Zucker (Canada)

Important Dates
October 31, 1996: Submission of contributions
March 1, 1997: Notification of acceptance
May 1, 1997: Camera-ready papers due

Paper submission

Four copies of full papers (no more than 10 pages, double-spaced, 12-point font) should be received no later than October 31, 1996 by the IWVF3 Scientific Secretariat, at the address listed below. The manuscript should include a separate title page, containing the names and the addresses of the authors (including e-mail and fax), an abstract of up to 200 words, one or more categories as listed above, and 3-5 keywords that can be used to match submissions to reviewers. Papers submitted by fax or email will not be reviewed.

IWVF3 Scientific Secretariat
Istituto di Cibernetica, CNR
Via Toiano 6

80072 Arco Felice, Napoli, Italy

IWVF3 Secretariat email address: iwvf3@imagn.na.cnr.it

WWW home page

Updated information is maintained at

<<http://amalfi.dis.unina.it/IWVF3/iwvf3cfp.html>>

Concomitant events

During the week preceding IWVF3, participants will have the opportunity to attend the International Workshop on Energy Minimization Methods in Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition (EMMCVPR'97), to be held in Venice, May 21-23, 1997. For additional information, please contact the program co-chairmen Marcello Pelillo (email: pelillo@dsi.unive.it) and Edwin R. Hancock (email: erh@minster.york.ac.uk), or see <http://Dcpu1.cs.york.ac.uk:6666/~adjc/welcome.html>

IWVF3 Scientific Secretariat

Istituto di Cibernetica - CNR

Via Toiano 6 - 80072 Arco Felice (Naples) ITALY

email: iwvf3@imagn.na.cnr.it

fax: + 39 81 5267654

www home page: <http://amalfi.dis.unina.it/IWVF3/iwvf3cfp.html>

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Here is the CFP for an artificial intelligence conference where the topics of interest also included ours:

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>From: johnw@water (Chih-Hung Wu)
>Subject: CFP ICAI-96

CALL FOR PAPERS

1996 International Conference on Artificial Intelligence (TAAI-96)
----- joint with 1996 International Computer Symposium (ICS'96) -----
December 19-21, 1996
National Sun Yat-Sen University
Kaohsiung, Taiwan, ROC

Sponsored by the Ministry of Education, ROC,
the National Science Council, ROC,
the Computer Society of ROC,
the IEEE, Taipei Section,
Taipei/Taiwan ACM Chapter, and
the Taiwanese Association for Artificial Intelligence (TAAI)

Conference Chair
Cheng-Seen Ho, National Taiwan Institute of Technology, ROC

Program Chair
Shie-Jue Lee, National Sun Yat-Sen University, ROC

This conference is intended to provide a forum to discuss current research developments and practices, and to explore future trends and applications in artificial intelligence technology.

Topics

Topics of interest include:

AI Applications Machine Learning and Knowledge Acquisition
AI Architectures Natural Language Processing
Automated Reasoning Pattern Recognition
Cognitive Modeling Planning
Common-Sense Reasoning Probabilistic and Uncertainty Reasoning
Distributed AI Problem Solving and Search
Fuzzy and Neural Networks Robotics
Hybrid Systems Speech Recognition and Synthesis
Intelligent Agents Vision
Knowledge-Based Systems Other Related Topics
Knowledge Representation

Tutorial

"Heuristics Learning for Performance Enhancement in Engineering Applications" by Benjamin W. Wah, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, USA

Submission

Authors are invited to submit 4 copies of a complete paper of about 5000 words (no longer than 20 double-spaced pages in A4/letter format using no less than 11-point font) by July 15, 1996, to the following addresses:

Prof. Chu-Sing Yang (Far East Region)
ICS'96 Program Chair
Institute of Computer and Information Engineering
National Sun Yat-Sen University
Kaohsiung, Taiwan 80424, ROC

Prof. Lionel M. Ni (Other Regions)
Department of Computer Science
Michigan State University
A714 Wells Hall

East Lansing, MI 48824-1027, USA

The cover page of each paper should contain:

- 1) name of the conference;
- 2) title of the paper;
- 3) a short abstract;
- 4) name, current affiliation, postal address, email address, telephone number, and fax number for each author;
- 5) name of the contact author; and
- 6) a list of keywords indicating the content areas related to the paper.

The results presented in the paper must be unpublished and not submitted for publication elsewhere, including the proceedings of other conferences or workshops. One author of each accepted paper will be expected to present the paper at the conference.

Important Dates:

Paper Submission Due: July 15, 1996

Acceptance Notification: September 15, 1996

Final Camera Ready Due: October 15, 1996

Web page

<http://earth.ee.nsysu.edu.tw/taai96.htm>

Inquiries

Prof. Shie-Jue Lee

Dept. of Electrical Eng., National Sun Yat-Sen Univ.

Kaohsiung, Taiwan 80424, ROC

Fax: +886-7-5615137 E-mail: leesj@ee.nsysu.edu.tw

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The topic of this workshop may be a little bit out of scope for TC10,
but I still think there are people on this list who are interested in
cross-linguistic, multilingual information retrieval:
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>From: Jacques Ducloy <Jacques.Ducloy@loria.fr>

>Subject: SIGIR' 96

CALL FOR PARTICIPATION:

SIGIR'96 Workshop on

Cross-Linguistic Multilingual Information Retrieval

August 22, 1996

Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (ETH)

Zurich, Switzerland

WORKSHOP DESCRIPTION: As more and more information sources are becoming available on the Web, the portion of internationally available non-English text is slowly growing, and surely the numbers of non-English speaking users is growing much faster. The problem of accessing unrestricted information with queries expressed in a language different from the source language of the documents will become more widespread. This workshop aims to bring together researchers working on this problem of cross-linguistic multilingual information retrieval.

We invite papers describing implementations of cross-linguistic retrieval; use of bilingual dictionaries, of parallel corpora, or of non-parallel comparable bilingual corpora applied to the retrieval problem; or providing answers to any of the following questions: Does automatic translation solve the problem? Are word-to-word correspondances sufficient? How should ambiguity in translation be dealt with? What kind of user interaction can help resolve ambiguities? How can test collections be built for multilingual information retrieval? How can retrieved documents in different languages be scored and ranked in a comparable fashion? What unique features are required by multilingual user interfaces? What can be learned from four decades of machine translation for the cross-linguistic retrieval problem?

WORKSHOP FORMAT: A limited number of papers will be accepted for presentation. Accepted papers will be allotted a 20-30 minute presentation followed by 20-30 minutes of questions and discussion.

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

Extended abstracts (max 5 pages) in plain ascii should be e-mailed to grefen@xerox.fr

Final version: For the final version to be distributed to workshop participants, a camera-ready uuencoded postscript file will be necessary.

DATES:

Submission Deadline: June 7, 1996

Notification Date: July 1, 1996

Full paper due: July 22, 1996

Workshop date: Aug 22, 1996

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It's still time to propose a demo at CVPR:
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>From: Charles Dyer <dyer@cs.wisc.edu>
>Subject: CVPR '96 Call for Demos

CALL FOR DEMOS

CVPR '96 DEMO SESSION

Experience state-of-the-art computer vision, and pattern recognition technologies at the CVPR Demo Session. The Challenge: Don't just talk! Demo it!

CVPR is now accepting submissions for demonstrations of computer vision, and pattern recognition technologies. Proposals can include the demonstration of either hardware or software tools on all aspects of computer vision and pattern recognition. Possible examples include but are not limited to: Scanners, Stereo Assemblies Imaging Devices, Image Analysis Systems, etc. Proposed demonstrations will be reviewed by the Demo Program Committee. If you have any questions, send email to lynne_grewe@monterey.edu or contact:

Professor Lynne Grewe
Media Learning Complex
California State University Monterey Bay
100 Campus Center
Seaside, CA 95933
Telephone: (408) 582-3789

For latest information see the CVPR homepage at:
<http://www.cs.wisc.edu/cvpr96/>

Note: In case you did not receive a copy of the Advance Program in the mail, the complete advance program and registration information is now available on the above web page.

Submission Guidelines

One electronic version of the proposal should be submitted no later than May 7, 1996 to the following email address with a subject title of "CVPR Demo Proposal":

lynne_grewe@monterey.edu

The proposal should be no longer than two pages and it should adhere to the following form:

- 1) Names of Participants: with address, phone and e-mail address.
- 2) Explanation of Demonstration: concise description of demonstration process and goal.
- 3) Time and Space Needs: description of space needed as well as approximate time to run a complete demonstration.
- 4) Related Publications: list of related publications.

Participant Fees

Non-Profit Organizations: No fee.
For-Profit Organizations: \$500 (US)

Important Dates

May 7, 1996 - Proposals due.
May 15, 1996 - Notification of acceptance

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CNED'96, the French national conference on character and handwriting recognition and document analysis, will be held in July, in Nantes (France). Here is a shortened and translated preliminary program. A complete version is available in my archives.
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>From: Michel.Gilloux@srt-poste.fr (Michel Gilloux)
>Subject: CNED'96
Date: Fri, 5 Apr 1996 09:56:02 +0200

CNED'96
4eme Colloque National sur l'Ecrit et le Document
Nantes, 3-5 juillet 1996

Programme technique

9. Multimodality
10. Transmission and Storage
11. Mathematical Methods
12. Language Resources
13. Evaluation

Within a few months, the Survey will be published as a book by Giardini Publishers in Italy and by Cambridge University Press elsewhere. The electronic version of the Survey will remain on-line, but will be modified slightly based on copy-editing by the publishers.

The Survey was funded by the National Science Foundation and the European Commission, with additional support provided by the Center for Spoken Language Understanding at the Oregon Graduate Institute and the University of Pisa.

Enjoy!

Editorial Board

Ron Cole Editor-in-Chief
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Annie Zaenen
Victor Zue

Managing Editors

Giovanni Battista Varile
Antonio Zampolli

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A colleague from Glasgow sent me this announcement for a MSc; maybe some of you are interested to forward this to students you know...
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>From: Mark Dunlop <mark@dcs.gla.ac.uk>
>Subject: Information on Advanced MSc in IR, DB & MM

University of Glasgow
Computing Science Department

MSc Advanced Information Systems

The MSc in Advanced Information Systems at the University of Glasgow is a new advanced masters programme designed to give students the intellectual and practical skills required to address the explosive growth in large-scale, networked, information systems. With world-class research groups in databases, information retrieval and interactive systems, the Computing Science Department at Glasgow is uniquely placed to provide a course to develop these skills. This one year advanced masters is composed of five components:

- * database and persistent systems
- * information retrieval
- * interactive multimedia systems
- * an introductory foundations fortnight
- * a large project resulting in a thesis

These components are designed to address the challenges of expanding access to large collections of information, for example over the internet. As well as technical issues of efficient and accurate searching of traditional data many other issues need to be addressed, such as accessing non-structured text and multimedia information, providing access to computer naive users, social implications of large information systems, browsing based access and general user interface issues. The graduates of this course will be well qualified for research or development work in academia, industry, commerce, or the public sector.

The foundations fortnight gives an overview of the three areas and covers introductory material which is common to the other components. This is followed by three specific courses on the main topics of the programme - all of these modules are compulsory, as the course is already specialised, and contain a high literature reading and presentation element. Finally, a research project must be carried out, under weekly supervision, to MSc standards. The course is assessed primarily on examinations of the main topics and submission of the research project. Although all successful students will graduate with an advanced MSc after one year, many are expected to carry on into PhD programmes (either in Glasgow or elsewhere).

The Department of Computing Science at Glasgow is a large department which has achieved the highest assessment in both research and teaching - having received a 5 rating in the last UK research assessment and a rating of excellent in the 1994 SHEFC teaching assessment. The department currently has about 120 students on an MSc IT degree and around 40 on our PhD programme. The University has an overall postgraduate student population of approximately 2 500 and has extensive sports and social facilities (including a dedicated postgraduate research club).

For further information on the MSc in Advanced Information Systems either contact us for a paper booklet (and application form) or look at the information on our web pages. Applications for entry in 1996/7 close on 21 April 96. Although late applications will be accepted until 1 June, priority will be given to applications received by 21 April 96.

Web: <http://www.dcs.gla.ac.uk/courses/ais/>
E-mail: ais@dcs.gla.ac.uk

Phone: +44 141 330 6041 (inside UK replace +44 with 0)
Fax: +44 141 330 4913

Post: MSc AIS Information
Computing Science Department
University of Glasgow
Glasgow G12 8QQ
Scotland

Mark Dunlop
(course director)

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Well, that's it. Don't forget to comment on my GREC'97 workshop
proposition. Please don't followup to the whole list, but mail only to
me!!

Your TC10 chairman,

--
Karl Tombre - INRIA Lorraine & CRIN-CNRS --- Email: Karl.Tombre@loria.fr
Post: 615 rue du jardin botanique, BP 101, 54602 Villers CEDEX, France --or--
Batiment LORIA, BP 239, 54506 Vandoeuvre CEDEX, France
Phone: +33 83.59.20.71 --- Fax: +33 83.27.83.19 --or-- +33 83.41.30.79
WWW URL: <http://www.loria.fr/~tombre>