# Newsletter 41, May 1996

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Dear TC10 members and friends,

Time for a new (one of my last!) TC10 news issue. First, let me remind you that we will have a formal TC10 meeting in Vienna during ICPR. The meeting wil be held on

[Monday, August 26th, 1996, at 18:00 (6pm)]

in the same building as the ICPR conference. The room will be announced on site (please look for posted announcement on different boards). As previously said, all the recipients of this mailing list, and any other person interested in the TC's activities, are heartily invited to join us. On the agenda:

- Report about TC10's activities these last 2 years
- Next TC10 chairperson
- Update information about the coming GREC'97
- Discussion about future plans and actions
- Miscellaneous

\_\_\_\_\_ 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

First, the CFP for the next SDAIR symposium:

>From: Frank Jenkins <frank@little-charlie.ISRI.UNLV.EDU> >Subject: SDAIR97 - Call for Papers

Call for Papers SDAIR '97

Sixth Annual Symposium on Document Analysis and Information Retrieval

April 20-23, 1997 Alexis Park Resort, Las Vegas, Nevada

SPONSOR

Information Science Research Institute University of Nevada, Las Vegas

SYMPOSIUM CHAIR

Jan O. Pedersen Xerox Palo Alto Research Center pedersen@parc.xerox.com

**PROGRAM CHAIRS** 

Document Analysis: Hiromichi Fujisawa Hitachi Central Research Lab fujisawa@crl.hitachi.co.jp

Information Retrieval: Susan Dumais Bellcore std@bellcore.com

SYMPOSIUM SECRETARY

Patty Corhn University of Nevada, Las Vegas Information Science Research Institute 4505 Maryland Parkway Box 454021

Las Vegas, NV 89154-4021 (702)895-3338 (702)895-1183 (fax) sdair@isri.unlv.edu

#### SCOPE

The purpose of this symposium is to present results of state-of-the-art research and to encourage the exchange of ideas in the general field of automatic extraction of information from images of printed documents. Papers are solicited on all aspects of document image analysis and information retrieval, both theoretical and applied, with particular emphasis on:

#### Document Analysis:

High-Accuracy Transcription Postprocessing of OCR Results Keyword Search in Textual Images Multilingual OCR, Language ID, etc. Geometric and Logical Layout Analysis Recognition of Forms, Tables and Equations Models of Document Image Degradation Methods for Performance Evaluation

#### Information Retrieval:

Full-Text Retrieval Retrieval from OCR'ed Text Image and Multimedia Retrieval Text Categorization Multilingual Retrieval User Interaction and Interfaces Text Representation Retrieval from Structured Documents Evaluation of IR Systems

Papers on subjects in the intersection of these two areas will be given priority.

#### SUBMISSIONS

Please send five copies of complete papers, with the corresponding author's name, postal address, telephone and fax numbers and e-mail address, to the appropriate Chair:

Hiromichi Fujisawa, Chair (Document Analysis) c/o Information Science Research Institute University of Nevada, Las Vegas 4505 Maryland Parkway Box 454021 Las Vegas, NV 89154-4021

Susan Dumais, Chair (Info. Retrieval) c/o Information Science Research Institute University of Nevada, Las Vegas 4505 Maryland Parkway Box 454021 Las Vegas, NV 89154-4021

Manuscripts should be no longer than 20 double-spaced pages or 5,000 words and should not already have been accepted for publication by another conference or journal, nor should they be submitted elsewhere during the SDAIR'97 review period. Manuscripts must arrive on or before the due date. Both camera-ready paper and machine-readable source copies of accepted papers will be required. The proceedings will be available at the conference.

Student papers are encouraged. The symposium will present a prize for the best accepted student paper.

#### CONFERENCE TIMETABLE

Papers Due September 30, 1996 Notification To Authors December 2, 1996 Camera Ready and Machine Readable Copy January 15, 1997

DOCUMENT ANALYSIS COMMITTEE:

Hiromichi FUJISAWA, chair, Hitachi Central Research Lab

Andreas DENGEL, German Research Center for Artificial Intelligence Tin Kam HO, Bell Laboratories Jonathan J. HULL, Ricoh California Research Center Junichi KANAI, University of Nevada, Las Vegas Seong Whan LEE, Korea University Yasuaki NAKANO, Shinshu University Larry SPITZ, Daimler Benz Research & Technical Center Suzanne TAYLOR, Lockheed Martin Karl TOMBRE, INRIA Lorraine

INFORMATION RETRIEVAL COMMITTEE:

Robert ALLEN, Bellcore Abe BOOKSTEIN, University of Chicago Jamie CALLAN, University of Massachusetts Stephen GALLANT, Belmont Research Donna HARMAN, National Institute of Standards and Technology David HULL, Rank Xerox Research Center Kazem TAGHVA, Univ of Nevada, Las Vegas Peter SCHAUBLE, Swiss Federal Institute of Technology, Zurich Ellen VOORHEES, National Institute of Standards and Technology Ross WILKENSON, Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology

This is the CFP for the 1997 edition of the Canadian Vision Interface conference:

>From: Gerhard Roth <GERHARD.ROTH@nrc.ca>
Subject: Call for papers - Vision Interface 97

VisionInterface'97

Kelowna, BC., Canada 19-23 May 1997

CALL FOR PARTICIPATION

Vision Interface '97 is the eleventh Canadian conference devoted to computer vision, signal and image processing, and pattern recognition. This conference, held in various Canadian cities, is sponsored by the Canadian Image Processing and Pattern Recognition Society. The 1997 conference will be held in Kelowna, BC., May 19-23, 1997 in conjunction with Graphics Interface '97.

INVITED SPEAKERS:

Richard Szeliski Microsoft Research Brian Funt Simon Fraser University

IMPORTANT DATES:

Four copies of a Full Paper due: Nov. 15 - 1996 Workshop/Tutorial Proposals due: Jan. 15 - 1997 Authors Notified: Jan. 20 - 1997 Final Paper due: Mar. 31- 1997

TOPICS:

Contributions are are solicited (English or French) describing unpublished research results and applications in any area of computer vision, signal and image processing, and pattern recognition. Topics will include, but are not limited to:

Robot Perception Biomedical Applications Intelligent Autonomous Systems Modeling Human Perception and Movement Multi-sensor Perception On-line and Off-line Document Processing Active Perception Industrial Applications S/W and H/W Architecture 3-D Vision Methods for Image and Scene Analysis Remote Sensing Neural Network Motion Representation Knowledge Representation Robust Methods for Signal and Image processing

Four copies of full papers should be submitted to the Program Co-chairmen before Nov. 15 1996 Include with the paper full name, address, phone number, fax number and electronic mail address of the contact author.

Submit papers to:

Gerhard Roth John Barron Visual Information Technology Dept. of Computer Science National Research Council The University of Western Ontario Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K1A 0R6 London, Ontario,Canada N6A 5B7 Tel: (613) 993-1219 Tel: (519) 679-2111 Fax: (613) 952-0215 Fax: (519) 672-7775 email:roth@iit.nrc.ca email: barron@csd.uwo.ca

See also the internet site: http://www.csd.uwo.ca/conf/VI97 for uptodate information on the conference, including registration information when it becomes available.

Those of us working on map analysis and having to do with GIS may be interested in this workshop:

>From: Thomas Roos <roos@inf.ethz.ch>
>Subject: ACM-GIS 96

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\* CALL FOR PAPERS \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

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\_\_\_\_\_ - 4th ACM INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP -= ON ADVANCES IN = - GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS -=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-= .....

Rockville, Maryland, USA November 15-16, 1996

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Sponsored by ACM

in cooperation with CACS-USL, UT1-CERISS

in conjunction with the Fifth International Conference on Information and Knowledge Management (CIKM'96)

\_\_\_\_\_

In recent years computer processing of Earth observations through geographic information systems has attracted a great deal of attention from the industrial and research world. The Fourth ACM International Workshop on Advances in Geographic Information Systems will provide an effective forum for disseminating original and fundamental research and experience in the rapidly advancing area of the use of computer science for spatial studies

Since the workshop will be held in conjunction with the Fifth International Conference on Information and Knowledge Management, (CIKM'96), participants will be able to maximize their interchange of experiences and knowledge among researchers and practioners across the entire field of knowledge and information management.

ACM-GIS'96 will bring together leading researchers and developers and will strive toward setting future research directions in this area. The primary focus of the workshop is on new and original research results in the areas of theorical foundations, design, implementation and applications of GIS as well as experience reports from application specialists. The goal is to exchange research ideas and results among participants.

Therefore the topics that will be addressed include, but are not limited to:

- Query processing and optimization
- Spatio-temporal data models and languages
- Requirements analysis for GIS applications
- GIS performance modeling and evaluation
- Reasoning with GIS information
- Imprecise spatio-temporal information
- Semantics of spatio-temporal matternation
   Quality aspects of geographic information
   Design of spatio-temporal data structures
   Spatial indexing and storage

- Knowledge discovery
- GIS meta data
- User interfaces for GIS
- Multi-media GIS
- Digital libraries for GIS
- Virtual reality in GIS
- Interoperability among heterogeneous GIS
- Electronic geographic data interchange standards
- Parallel/distributed GIS
- GIS and internetworking
- Client-server architecture for GIS
- GIS and cooperative work
- Multidatabase GIS
- Distributed spatial objects
- Time in GIS
- Active spatio-temporal objects
   Moving objects in GIS
- Real-time GIS systems
   GIS software tools and environments
- Novel applications in scientific and environmental domains
- Integration with existing commercial products
- Reports on experience with real applications

Papers submission:

Authors are invited to submit complete and original research contributions or experience reports; submissions should be written in english and should include:

- Title
- Author(s) information (Name, Affiliation, Postal address
- E-mail address, Phone/Fax numbers)
- Topic(s)
- Abstract (up to 200 words)
- Text (double-spaced and no longer than 5 000 words)
- References

In case of multiple authors, an indication of which author is responsible for correspondence and preparing the camera ready paper for the proceedings should also be included. Submitters should indicate in a cover letter their willingness to attend the workshop and present their paper.

All submitted papers will be refereed by at least five reviewers for quality, correctness, originality and relevance. Accepted papers will be published in the ACM-GIS'96 proceedings. We encourage submissions from both academic and industrial spheres.

Authors will be interested to know that extended versions of outstanding papers from the workshop will be considered for publication in "GeoInformatica", an international journal on advances of computer science for GIS (by Kluwer Academic Publishers).

Proposals for panels that examine emerging, innovative, or otherwise provocative geographic information issues are encouraged as well. Panel proposals should include a summary of the topic and the names and affiliations of the panelists who have made a commitment to participate.

Seven copies of the manuscript should be submitted by August 4, 1996 to either Dr. Patrick Bergougnoux or Dr. Shashi Shekhar, the ACM-GIS'96 Program Co-Chairs:

European Chair: USA Chair:

Dr Patrick Bergougnoux Prof. Shashi Shekhar c/o Michele Cuesta 4-192 EE/CS The University of Toulouse 1 University of Minnesota IRIT-CERISS laboratory 200 Union Street S.E. Place Anatole France Minneapolis 31042 Toulouse Cedex - FRANCE MN-55455 USA Email : bergougn@irit.fr Email : shekhar@cs.umn.edu Phone : (33) 09 70 13 36 Phone : 612-624-8307 Fax : (33) 61 77 06 71 Fax : 612-625-0572

All those of us who are interested in performance evaluation problems may be interested also in this special issue of MVA:

>From: hic@grip.cis.upenn.edu (Henrik I. Christensen)
>Subject: CFP, Special issue of MVA on Performance Characteristics

Call for papers for special issue of Machine Vision and Applications on

"Performance Characteristics of Vision Algorithms"

Guest editors: Henrik I. Christensen, Stockholm and Wolfgang Foerstner, Bonn

The special issue is motivated by the belief that the lack of performance characterization of vision algorithms is responsible for the hesitation of industry to use computer vision as one of its tools. Reasons for this situation are manifold: the lack of commonly accepted criteria for evaluation, the lack of a methodology for testing, the lack of translating the experience in testing of other engineering areas to Computer Vision and possibly also the non-acceptance of empirical or theoretical comparisons of vision algorithms, including their replication, as original research.

The goal of the special issue is to present the state of the art in characterizing the performance of vision algorithms in all stages of the development and use, such as the design of algorithms with a pre-specified performance, the testing of algorithms with respect to give specifications and the self-diagnosis of vision algorithms during their use in an automated process.

We encourage authors to submit papers on the following topics:

\* Theory and strategies for performance analysis of vision algorithms
 \* Linking analysis of vision experiments to the theory underlying the algorithms

\* Characterization of the limitations of vision algorithms and/or the class of image data for which a vision algorithm is suited or not suited

 Demonstrations of the usefulness of performance characterization and/or the limitations of statistical testing in Computer Vision
 Modularization of vision tasks and the characterization of networks of vision algorithms

General information about the IAPR journal Machine Vision and Applications published by Springer Verlag kan be found at the URL: gopher://trick.ntp.springer.de/11/TOC/138/ guidelines for authors and style files for LaTeX may be retrieved directly from Springer Verlag at the address gopher://trick.ntp.springer.de/11/tex/latex/ljour2/

#### TIMETABLE:

15 August 1996 Deadline for manuscripts 1 December 1996 Acceptance/Rejection decision and revies returned to authors. 31 December 1996 Final manuscript are due at the publisher No 1, 1997 Special issue will be published

Please submit papers before 15. August 1996 to:

Dr. Henrik I. Christensen Center for Autonomous Systems Numerical Analysis and Computing Science Kungliga Tekniska Hogskolan S-100 44 Stockholm Sweden

#### E-mail: hic@vision.auc.dk

This is also a conference which is close to our topics of interest: . >From: Ravi Rao <rao@watson.ibm.com>

>Subject: CFP: Machine Vision Applications in Industrial Inspection 1997

MACHINE VISION APPLICATIONS in INDUSTRIAL INSPECTION 1997

Conference Chairs: A. Ravishankar Rao, IBM Thomas J. Watson Research Ctr.; Ning Chang, KLA Instruments Corp.

Machine vision systems can augment human vision capabilities in repetitive or high-speed industrial inspection tasks or when precise visual measurement and inspection as to which product manufacturing productivity, quality, and compliance with product standards, and thus provide a competitive advantage. Improvements in machine vision hardware, algorithms, and software expand the range of industrial processes to which this technology can be successfully available. applied.

This conference brings together practitioners and researchers in machine vision to share recent developments in computer vision architectures, hardware, algorithms, and software for industrial inspection tasks. Papers are solicited but not limited to the following areas:

- r new or improved algorithms for industrial inspection
- \* novel hardware designs for machine vision systems
- \* robot vision and tracking
- \* verification and identification
- \* performance evaluation of algorithms
- \* use of 3D or color imaging techniques \* automatic defect classification

\* software systems for flexible automatic inspection \* applications of machine vision in microelectronics manufacturing, web and paper products, glass and steel inspection, food and agriculture, and pharmaceuticals.

Papers emphasizing fundamental methods that are widely applicable to industrial inspection are especially welcome. All submissions will be peer reviewed. Please note that abstracts must be at least 500 words in length in order to receive full consideration.

This conference is just one of nearly 30 conferences to be held at the El'97 symposium. And El'97 is just part of the larger Photonics West Symposium being held 8-14 February 1997, San Jose Convention Ctr., San Jose California USA.

TO OBTAIN ALL CALLS FOR PAPERS ELECTRONICALLY The URL for the web site with the calls is:

#### http://www.spie.org/web/meetings/calls/pw97/pw97call\_home.html

by anonymous FTP (ftp://spie.org/meetings/calls/pw97\*), or by e-mail file retrieval send a message to info-optolink-request@spie.org with the following in the message body: send [meetings.calls]pw97\*}

For a printed call for papers or other information: E-mail: pw97@spie.org Fax: 360/647-1445 Phone: 360/676-3290

Electronic Imaging '97 DEADLINES Paper Abstracts Due from Authors: 15 July 1996

Manuscripts Due from Authors: 13 January 1997

information on this event. Please check the WWW address for details:

>From: Alain Chehikian <chek@tirf.inpg.fr>
>Subject: Intl\_Conf\_on\_Image\_Processing\_1996

IEEE SIGNAL PROCESSING SOCIETY /| /| / |ICIP / | 1996 INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON IMAGE PROCESSING /\_\_\_\_ / | September 16-19, 1996 | /\_\_\_\_ | / / / Lausanne, Switzerland | / 96 | / //\_\_\_\_\_ |/ e-mail: icip96@ieee.org http://www.tele.ucl.ac.be/ICIP96/

REMINDER: Early registration DEADLINE for ICIP-96 is

MONDAY, JULY 29, 1996

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Your REGISTRATION and HOTEL reservation forms must be received by July 29, 1996 in order to qualify for the lower registration fees.

You will find:

Advance program, Registration Information including registration form, Hotel Information including reservation form, Travel Information, Social Program,

through the web site:

#### http://www.tele.ucl.ac.be/ICIP96/

Another conference in the general area:

>From: william.beaudot@csemne.ch

>Subject: ECVP96 Programme

Hi Everybody!

The full programme of the European Conference on Visual Perception ECVP96, which will take place in Strasbourg in next September, is now available on the Web: http://iris.inpg.fr/PERSON/beaudot/ecvp96.html

Best Regards,

Dr. William H.A. BEAUDOT E-mail: william.beaudot@csemne.ch CSEM SA Finger: beaudot@anina.csemne.ch Advanced Research & Development Dept.: Bio-inspired Systems Research Jaquet-Droz 1 Phone: (41) 38 205 666 < RECENT CH-2007 Neuchatel (Switzerland) Fax: (41) 38 205 763 < CHANGES !!! WWW: http://iris.inpg.fr/PERSON/beaudot/beaudot.html

This recent book has been announced:

>From: Dr Kevin Bowyer <kwb@bigpine.csee.usf.edu>>Subject: New Book Announcement: Advances In Image Understanding

\*\* New Book Announcement \*\*

Advances In Image Understanding: a Festschrift for Azriel Rosenfeld

This volume of original papers has been assembled to honor Azriel Rosenfeld on the occasion of his 65-th birthday.

There will be an announcement reception for the Festschrift on the evening of Monday, June 17, just prior to CVPR, in the conference hotel (Hotel Nikko, 6:00 pm, in the Pink Pearl Room).

The contributions in this book illustrate the changes that have occurred in dealing with crucial research problems and the methodologies employed to solve them. The contributors include Jake Aggarwal, Narendra Ahuja, Ruzena Bajcsy, Jacob Beck, Mike Brady, Freddy Bruckstein, Rama Chellappa, Larry Davis, Chuck Dyer, Herb Freeman, Robert Haralick, Thomas Huang, Bob Hummel, Anil Jain, Ramesh Jain, Jan J. Koenderink, Martin Levine, Hans-Hellmut Nagel, Sandy Pentland, Tomaso Poggio, Hanan Samet, and Steve Zucker.

344 pages. 6 x 9; Softcover. July 1996.

ISBN 0-8186-7644-2.

Published by IEEE Computer Society Press.

Catalog # BP07644. \$40.00 Members / \$45.00 List.

Telephone orders: 1 800 CS BOOKS.

#### http://www.computer.org/cspress/catalog/bp07644.htm

A new journal has also been announced; this may interest some of you:

>From: Melinda PALMER <palmerm@oup.co.uk>>Subject: New Journal - Medical Image Analysis

In June 1996, Oxford University Press will be publishing the first issue of a new journal - Medical Image Analysis - which will represent work at the forefront of medical imaging and computer vision/image processing.

Special emphasis will be placed on efforts related to the application of computer vision, virtual reality and robotics to medical imaging problems. While not limited to these alone, it is expected that the typical medical image datasets of interest will include those acquired >from magnetic resonance, ultrasound, computed tomography, nuclear medicine, X-ray and video and range data images of the patient.

A CD-ROM is distributed with each issue which will permit you to scan the text and view movies, images and graphics.

If you would like to submit a paper for publication, or request a free sample copy, you will find these options at the Medical Image Analysis web site at: <A href="//ca href="http://medweb.bham.ac.uk/mia">http://medweb.bham.ac.uk/mia">http://medweb.bham.ac.uk/mia">http://medweb.bham.ac.uk/mia">http://medweb.bham.ac.uk/mia">http://medweb.bham.ac.uk/mia">http://medweb.bham.ac.uk/mia">http://medweb.bham.ac.uk/mia">http://medweb.bham.ac.uk/mia">http://medweb.bham.ac.uk/mia">http://medweb.bham.ac.uk/mia">http://medweb.bham.ac.uk/mia">http://medweb.bham.ac.uk/mia">http://medweb.bham.ac.uk/mia</a>

The ECCV'96 is over. Proceedings are available: >From: Charles Dyer <dyer@cs.wisc.edu>

>Subject: ECCV '96 Proceedings Available

The European Conference on Computer Vision, held biennially, took place this year at Cambridge University. Over one hundred papers have been published in a two-volume proceedings by Springer-Verlag. Forty-three papers were selected for oral presentation in this single-track conference. You may like to check it out for yourself by browsing titles and abstracts at the conference web site:

### http://svr-www.eng.cam.ac.uk/Research/Vision/ECCV/ECCV.html

and ordering a copy of the proceedings for yourself.

Below are the directions for anonymous ftp access to our archive:

1. "ftp ftp.cfar.umd.edu"

2. login "anonymous"

3. password "your login" (e.g., sandy@cfar.umd.edu)

4. "cd CfAR/TRs/CVL-Reports-1995" (or CVL-Reports-1996) (please match upper and lower case as indicated)

The contents of these directories are:

a. "directory\_contents" (an ascii file containing abstracts and other descriptive information---keywords, postscript file name, total number of pages when output in hardcopy, etc.---about each report available in the directory)

b. "INDEX" (an ascii file containing the name of the postscript file and the title of the paper contained in that file)

c. postscript files (some of these files can be quite large---even when compressed---as they include figures and/or images)

Note: occasionally the title page of a report must be formatted separately from the body of the report. When this happens the title page will be posted as a separate postscript file with "tpg" as

#### part of the file name.

Advice: set "bin" (Apparently it is advisable to use binary transfer when downloading compressed files---which all of these files are)

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These files can also be accessed via the World Wide Web at:

The URL is: "http://www.cfar.umd.edu/cvl/". Then you should scroll to the bottom of the page and link to "CVL Technical Reports". From there you should choose the folder for the appropriate year in which the report was dated.

Most recent reports placed in CVL-Reports-1995 and CVL-Reports-1996 archive.

file name(s): TR3579-Hori ps Z title: Quantitative Measurement of the Performance of Raster-to-Vector **Conversion Algorithms** author(s): Osamu Hori and David Doermann date: December 1995 pages: 13 support: ARPA keywords: raster to vector conversion, vectorization, document image analysis abstract: This paper presents a methodology for measuring the performance of application-specific raster-to-vector conversion algorithms. In designing and building image analysis systems, comparison of several algorithms is often required. Unfortunately, many methods of comparison do not give quantitative performance measurements, but rather qualitative, and often subjective, evaluations. Our key observation is qualitative, and often subjective, evaluations. Our key observation is that there is a need for domain- or task-dependent evaluation of the output. By specifying the input data in the same parameter space as the intended output of the system, we are able to evaluate the quality of the output and how well it conforms to the intended representation. We provide a set of basic metrics, but we emphasize that in general, such metrics may be task-specific. In this paper, the performance of three approaches to raster-to-vector conversion----{lem thinning}, {\em medial line finding}, and {\em line fitting}---are compared using this methodology. file name(s): TR3580-Hori.ps.Z title: Box-Driven Reasoning: A Toolkit for the Development of Document Image Understanding Systems author(s): Osamu Hori and David Doermann date: December 1995 pages: 31 support: ARPA keywords: document images, tables, forms page segmentation abstract:

This paper proposes a strategy and set of supporting tools to aid in the development of document image understanding systems. Many document image understanding tasks can be generalized to the segmentation of an image into rectangular regions and the assignment of attributes to those regions. A data model which supports this view consists of three layers: images, features, and rectangular regions with attributes. The toolkit has been developed to employ the reusability and expandability of C++, an object-oriented language. Widely available image processing packages are used for feature extraction and the toolkit is used to extract and manipulate the third layer of data, rectangular regions. Two applications are implemented using the toolkit: table form processing and page segmentation. Results suggest that the use of the toolkit saves about one-third of the coding cost and one-fourth of the development, in comparison with development from scratch.

\_\_\_\_\_ This may not be directly related to graphics recognition or document analysis, but maybe some of you find interest in it:

\_\_\_\_\_ ========= >From: "Jean Ve'ronis" <veronis@univ-aix.fr>>Subject: Free Soft: MtRecode - Character conversion program

#### \*\*\* ANNOUNCING FREE SOFTWARE ALPHA RELEASE \*\*\*

MtRecode - Character conversion program

MtRecode is a program for translation between various character sets, developed in the framework of the MULTEXT project. It has some of the functionality of the GNU 'recode' tool, but it is based on different principles and is oriented towards SGML text manipulation. ISO 10646 is used internally as a pivot in the character translation process. When exact translation into a character is not possible, MtRecode can use SGML entities as a fallback. Conversely, MtRecode understands SGML entities in the input and can recode them into characters of the target character sets, if they exist. MtRecode is completely customizable: the user can add new character sets and/or entities by providing tables that map characters and entities to ISO 10646.

C source code for UN\*X platforms and documentation can be freely downloaded for non-commercial, non-military use (see our user agreement) from.

## http://www.lpl.univ-aix.fr/projects/multext/MtRecode/

Note that MtRecode is an alpha version with (probable) bugs and limitations. It is being distributed "as is" in order to solicit feedback. We invite the user community to send comments and advice, provide additional character tables, etc.

Jean Ve'ronis Multext project Coordinator\_\_\_

veronis@univ-aix.fr

Well, that's it for this issue. Looking forward to meeting as many of you as possible in Vienna in August. In the meantime, happy holidays to all those who take some holidays in this period of year.

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