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Jianguo Liu
Kunio Doi
Patrick S. P. Wang
Qiang Li
Editors

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Contents

xi	<i>Symposium Committees</i>
xiii	<i>Preface</i>

MEDICAL IMAGING AND PROCESSING

6789 03	Computer-aided diagnosis for detection of lung nodules on thin-section CT Q. Li, The Univ. of Chicago (USA)
6789 04	Image analysis of placental issues using three-dimensional ultrasound and color power doppler Q. Wang, Q. Cheng, J. G. Liu, Huazhong Univ. of Science & Technology (China)
6789 05	Implementation of nonlinear registration of brain atlas based on piecewise grid system R. Liu, L. Gu, J. Xu, Shanghai Jiao Tong Univ. (China)
6789 06	Studies on techniques and application of numerical simulation oriented three-dimensional reconstruction for medical images A. Qiao, W. Fu, Beijing Univ. of Technology (China)
6789 07	New automatic liver segmentation and extraction method P. Zhang, Q. Xu, Z. Wang, Southeast Univ. (China)
6789 08	Algorithm of ICA-based poisson-noise reduction and its application to CT imaging J. Li, X. Han, Central South Univ. of Forestry and Technology (China)
6789 09	Vision-based augmented reality computer assisted surgery navigation system L. Sun, X. Chen, K. Xu, X. Li, W. Xu, Fuzhou Univ. (China)
6789 0A	New auto-segment method of cerebral hemorrhage W. Wang, T. Shen, H. Dang, Beijing Institute of Technology (China)
6789 0B	Contrast of doppler radar wind field retrieval methods between VVP and advanced simple adjoint model H. Kang, M. Wei, L. Tang, Nanjing Univ. of Information Science and Technology (China)
6789 0C	Fluorescent molecular tomographic image reconstruction based on parallel forward computation W. Zou, Soochow Univ. (China) and Hong Kong Polytechnic Univ. (Hong Kong China); J. Wang, Soochow Univ. (China), Univ. of Sydney (Australia), and Hong King Polytechnic Univ. (Hong Kong China); D. D. Feng, Univ. of Sydney (Australia) and Hong Kong Polytechnic Univ. (Hong Kong China)

- 6789 OD **Freehand 3D ultrasound breast tumor segmentation**
Q. Liu, Sichuan Univ. (China); Y. Ge, Chengdu Univ. (China); Y. Ou, B. Cao, Sichuan Univ. (China)
- 6789 OE **Lossless compression of medical images using Hilbert scan**
Z. Sun, C. Li, H. Liu, Z. Zhang, Guangxi Univ. of Technology (China)
- 6789 OF **Optical tomography with MRI anatomical information based on the transport equation**
J. Meng, Qufu Normal Univ. (China); J. Wang, Soochow Univ. (China); D. D. Feng, Univ. of Sydney (Australia)
- 6789 OG **Globally defined MAP method for PET image reconstruction**
Y. Hu, Southeast Univ. (China); J. Zhou, Lab. Traitement du Signal et de l'Image-INSERM, Univ. de Rennes 1 (France); L. Luo, Southeast Univ. (China)
- 6789 OH **Region counting algorithm based on region labeling automaton**
S. Yang, Huaiyin Teachers College (China); G. Gu, East China Normal Univ. (China)
- 6789 OI **Choosing compact support of radial basis function based on landmarks space distribution**
X. Yang, J. Pei, Z. Zhang, Shenzhen Univ. (China)
- 6789 OJ **Boundary extracting algorithm using region growing and snake model**
J. Ma, Z. Cui, J. Wu, Soochow Univ. (China)
- 6789 OK **New coarse region segmentation used in computer-aided diagnosis of liver cancer from ultrasound images**
X. Huang, M. Ding, T. Xu, Huazhong Univ. of Science and Technology (China); S. Zhang, Beijing Tsinghua R&D Industry Institute (China)
- 6789 OL **Research on enhancement methods applied to B-model liver cancer images**
T. Xu, S. Huang, M. Ding, Huazhong Univ. of Science and Technology (China); S. Zhang, Beijing Tsinghua R&D Industry Institute (China)
- 6789 OM **Lung segmentation from HRCT using united geometric active contours**
J. Liu, Univ. of Science and Technology (China); C. Li, Univ. of Science and Technology (China) and Anhui Traditional Medicine College (China); J. Xiong, H. Feng, Univ. of Science and Technology (China)
- 6789 ON **Feature statistic analysis of ultrasound images of liver cancer**
S. Huang, M. Ding, Huazhong Univ. of Science and Technology (China); S. Zhang, Beijing Tsinghua R&D Industry Institute (China)
- 6789 OO **Design of wireless triggering pulse generation for X-ray medical system**
D.-S. Ko, J.-C. Lee, Mokwon Univ. (South Korea)
- 6789 OP **Medical image restoration approach using cultural algorithms**
Z. Pan, L. Chen, South China Normal Univ. (China)

- 6789 0Q **New real time needle segmentation technique using grayscale Hough transformation**
W. Qiu, H. Zhou, M. Ding, Huazhong Univ. of Science and Technology (China); S. Zhang, Beijing Tsinghua R&D Industry Institute (China)
- 6789 0R **Automatic needle segmentation in 3D ultrasound images using 3D Hough transform**
H. Zhou, W. Qiu, M. Ding, Huazhong Univ. of Science and Technology (China); S. Zhang, Beijing Tsinghua R&D Industry Institute (China)
- 6789 0S **Medical image-guided surgery planning for breast reconstruction using deformable modeling and surface flattening**
P. Huang, L. Gu, J. Liu, J. Zhang, H. Xu, J. Dong, W. Chen, W. Pei, J. Song, B. Li, J. Xu, Shanghai Jiao Tong Univ. (China)
- 6789 0T **Image segmentation combining level sets and principal component analysis**
C. Song, K. Wang, L. Zheng, Beijing Institute of Technology (China)
- 6789 0U **Segmentation of medical ultrasound images: novel level set approach**
Z. Zhou, Sichuan Univ. (China); T. Wang, Shenzhen Univ. (China); J. Lin, Sichuan Univ. (China); D. Li, Beihang Univ. (China); C. Zheng, Sichuan Univ. (China)
- 6789 0V **3D reconstruction of medical CT images by IDL**
L. Gao, J. Zhu, X. Zhang, Huazhong Univ. of Science and Technology (China)
- 6789 0W **Visualization of three dimensional brain atlases for image guided neurosurgery**
W. Pei, L. Gu, P. Huang, B. Li, J. Xu, Shanghai Jiao Tong Univ. (China)
- 6789 0X **Blur identification in super-resolution restoration with Arnoldi process**
K. Xie, Y. Li, T. Li, Beijing Institute of Graphic Communication (China)
- 6789 0Y **A hybrid optimization model based on multi-metrics for registration using free-form**
J. Song, L. Gu, P. Huang, W. Li, J. Xu, Shanghai Jiao Tong Univ. (China)
- 6789 0Z **Algorithm to calculate left ventricular volume by number of filled pixels**
C. Yang, Y. Peng, Y. Zheng, D. Wang, Shandong Univ. of Science and Technology (China)
- 6789 10 **Organizing and accessing methods for massive medical microscopic image data**
Y. Deng, L. Tang, Huazhong Univ. of Science and Technology (China)
- 6789 11 **Segmentation of kidney using C-V model and anatomy priors**
J. Lu, J. Chen, J. Zhang, W. Yang, Beijing Institute of Technology (China)
- 6789 12 **Medical image interpolation method based on similarity analysis of discrete wavelet transforms**
S. Peng, J. Liu, Huazhong Univ. of Science and Technology (China)
- 6789 13 **Application of ensemble classifier in EEG-based motor imagery tasks**
B. Liu, H. Hao, Univ. of Science and Technology Beijing (China)
- 6789 14 **Optimizing hidden layer node number of BP network to estimate fetal weight**
J. Su, Y. Zou, J. Lin, Sichuan Univ. (China); T. Wang, Shenzhen Univ. (China); D. Li, Beihang Univ. (China); T. Xie, Sichuan Univ. (China)

- 6789 15 **Fast algorithm of 3D median filter for medical image despeckling**
C. Xiong, J. Hou, Z. Gao, X. He, S. Chen, South-Central Univ. for Nationalities (China)
- 6789 16 **Semi-automatic elastic registration on thyroid gland ultrasonic image**
X. Xu, Y. Zhong, Y. Luo, Sichuan Univ. (China); D. Li, Beihang Univ. (China); J. Lin, Sichuan Univ. (China); T. Wang, Shenzhen Univ. (China)
- 6789 17 **3D medical image multi-material segmentation approach based on threshold**
W. Hao, J. Du, Y. Liu, Beijing Univ. of Technology (China)
- 6789 18 **Enhancement of coronary angiogram by estimation of local background**
P. Tang, H. Liu, Guangxi Univ. of Technology (China); K. Sun, Huazhong Univ. of Science and Technology (China)
- 6789 19 **Retinal vascular boundary extraction based on direction filtering**
H. Wang, R. Wang, Zhejiang Chinese Medical Univ. (China); L. Chen, Shanxi Univ. (China)
- 6789 1A **Image interpolation using median characteristics and spatial information**
L. Jin, Huazhong Univ. of Science and Technology (China); C. Xiong, Huazhong Univ. of Science and Technology (China) and Hubei Univ. of Technology (China); X. Yao, Huazhong Univ. of Science and Technology (China) and The Second Artillery Command College (China); D. Li, Huazhong Univ. of Science and Technology (China)
- 6789 1B **Comparison of image reconstruction algorithms on parallel MRI**
M. Huang, South-Central Univ. for Nationalities (China)
- 6789 1C **Color constancy model based on topology resolve-map in medical image processing**
J. Xu, Shanghai Univ. of Traditional Chinese Medicine (China) and TsingHua Univ. Beijing (China); Y. Guo, X. Qiu, Fudan Univ. (China); L. Tu, Shanghai Univ. of Traditional Chinese Medicine (China); H. Mao, Xiamen Univ. (China); Y. Lu, TsingHua Univ. (China)
- 6789 1D **Application of image fusion techniques in DSA**
F. Ye, J. Wu, Z. Cui, J. Xu, Soochow Univ. (China)
- 6789 1E **Study and application on accelerated algorithm of ray-casting**
X. Sun, J. Wu, Z. Cui, J. Ma, Soochow Univ. (China)
- 6789 1F **Symmetry analysis to detect pathological brain in MRI**
E. Song, Q. Wang, G. Ma, H. Liu, Huazhong Univ. of Science and Technology (China)
- 6789 1G **Mammographic mass segmentation based on maximum entropy principle and active contour model**
E. Song, L. Jiang, J. Liu, R. Jin, X. Xu, Huazhong Univ. of Science and Technology (China)

- 6789 1H **Spatially adaptive Bayesian wavelet thresholding for speckle removal in medical ultrasound images**
J. Hou, South-Central Univ. for Nationalities (China) and Huazhong Univ. of Science and Technology (China); C. Xiong, S. Chen, X. He, South-Central Univ. for Nationalities (China)
- 6789 1I **Color transfer algorithm in medical images**
W. Wang, Y. Xu, Zhejiang Univ. of Technology (China)
- 6789 1J **Method for measuring anterior chamber volume by image analysis**
G. Zhai, Beijing Jiaotong Univ. (China); J. Zhang, Beijing Institute of Civil Engineering and Architecture (China); R. Wang, Beijing Jiaotong Univ. (China); B. Wang, N. Wang, Capital Univ. of Medical Sciences (China)
- 6789 1K **Improving diffuse optical tomography imaging with adaptive regularization method**
H. Niu, Beijing Normal Univ. (China); P. Guo, Beijing Normal Univ. (China) and Beijing Institute of Technology (China); L. Ji, T. Jiang, Institute of Automation (China)
- 6789 1L **Blind image restoration based on parzen-window estimate and regularization method**
L. Chen, X. Chen, Beijing Normal Univ. (China); P. Guo, Beijing Normal Univ. (China) and Beijing Institute of Technology (China)
- 6789 1M **Image segmentation and its application in 3D reconstruction of auricle image**
J. Zhou, T. Zhou, W. Zeng, Nanchang Univ. (China)
- 6789 1N **Virtual probing system for medical volume data**
Y. Xiao, Y. Fu, S. Wang, Harbin Institute of Technology (China)
- 6789 1O **Microscopic image analysis of reticulocyte based on watershed algorithm**
J. Q. Wang, G. F. Liu, J. G. Liu, G. Wang, Huazhong Univ. of Science and Technology (China)
- 6789 1P **Arithmetic of five-part of leukocytes based on image process**
Y. Li, G. Wang, J. Liu, Huazhong Univ. of Science and Technology (China)
- 6789 1Q **Ultrasound breast tumor segmentation based on 3D level set**
L. Li, Y. Wang, Y. Ou, Q. Liu, Sichuan Univ. (China)
- 6789 1R **Hyperspectral image fusion using empirical mode decomposition**
Y. Xu, K. Hu, Huazhong Univ. of Science and Technology (China); J. Han, Shandong Univ. of Finance (China)
- 6789 1S **PCA and level set based non-rigid image registration for MRI and Paxinos-Watson atlas of rat brain**
C. Cai, A. Liu, M. Ding, C. Zhou, Huazhong Univ. of Science and Technology (China)
- 6789 1T **Novel biomedical tetrahedral mesh methods: algorithms and applications**
X. Yu, Y. Jin, W. Chen, P. Huang, L. Gu, Shanghai Jiao Tong Univ. (China)

PARALLEL PROCESSING OF IMAGES AND OPTIMIZATION TECHNIQUES

- 6789 1U **Realization of image smear compensation for multi-mode airborne digital camera system**
X. Liu, W. Zhang, Institute of Remote Sensing Applications (China) and Graduate Univ. of Chinese Academy of Science (China); J. Fang, Beijing Institute of Technology (China); Z. Wei, Institute of Remote Sensing and Geographic Information Systems (China); B. Zhang, L. Zheng, Q. Tong, Institute of Remote Sensing Applications (China)
- 6789 1V **Para-GMRF: parallel algorithm for anomaly detection of hyperspectral image**
C. Dong, H. Zhao, N. Li, W. Wang, Beijing Univ. of Aeronautics and Astronautics (China)
- 6789 1W **Fixed-point B.G. Lee IDCT without multiplication**
P. P. Zhu, J. G. Liu, S. K. Dai, Huazhong Univ. of Science & Technology (China)
- 6789 1X **Neighbor-based FCM clustering for remote sensing image and its parallel implementation**
X. Gong, Beijing Institute of Technology (China) and The Academy of Equipment Command and Technology (China); L. Ci, Beijing Institute of Technology (China); K. Yao, The Equipment Institute of PLA's Second Artillery (China)
- 6789 1Y **Wavelet based hierarchical coding scheme for radar image compression**
W. Sheng, X. Jiao, Air Force Radar Academy (China); J. He, No. 23 Research Institute (China)
- 6789 1Z **Adaptive Lee enhancement algorithm for processing drop_quality image**
X. Wang, J. He, Air Defense Forces Command Academy (China); X. Li, Huazhong Univ. of Science and Technology (China); M. He, Air Defense Forces Command Academy (China)
- 6789 20 **Distributed parallel computation in DP grid system**
M. Sun, J. Zhang, Y. Chen, Wuhan Univ. (China)
- 6789 21 **Practical and cost-efficient design of fingerprint recognition system based on DSP**
C. Ran, M. Xie, Univ. of Electronic Science and Technology of China (China)
- 6789 22 **Optimal features selection based on circular Gabor filters and RSE in texture segmentation**
Q. Wang, J. Liu, J. Tian, Huazhong Univ. of Science and Technology (China)
- 6789 23 **Moving object segmentation based on optical flow field**
K. Zhao, Y. Zeng, F. Peng, Y. Tian, Y. Xu, Huazhong Univ. of Science and Technology (China)
- 6789 24 **Uniform design and inertia mutation based particle swarm optimization**
B. Zhang, Y. Yang, J. Wang, Guangdong Univ. of Technology (China)
- 6789 25 **Application of particle swarm optimization algorithm to image texture classification**
Z. Ye, Hubei Univ. of Technology (China); Z. Zheng, J. Zhang, X. Yu, Wuhan Univ. (China)
- 6789 26 **Processing of mass aerial digital images and rapid response based on cluster computer system**
J. Zhang, T. Ke, Wuhan Univ. (China); Y. Duan, Supresoft Co. (China)
- 6789 27 **Realization of a novel meaningful digital image watermarking scheme**
H. Liu, Q. Liu, Wuhan Univ. of Technology (China)

- 6789 28 **Optimized algorithm module for large volume remote sensing image processing system**
C. Jing, N. Liu, R. Liu, Zhejiang Univ. (China); J. Wang, China Communications Water Transportation Planning and Design Institute Co. Ltd. (China); Q. Zhang, Academy of Armored Force (China)
- 6789 29 **Optimization algorithm of digital watermarking anti-coalition attacks in DWT-domain based on genetic algorithm**
D. Que, G. Li, P. Yue, Wuhan Technology Univ. (China)
- 6789 2A **Application of particle swarm optimization technique in optimal parameters determination of the spacecraft remote rendezvous**
Q. Wang, J. Yuan, Z. Zhu, Northwestern Polytechnical Univ. (China)
- 6789 2B **Optimization technology of 9/7 wavelet lifting scheme on DSP**
Z. Chen, X. Yang, R. Yang, Beihang Univ. (China)
- 6789 2C **FPGA implementation of a 2D discrete cosine transforms algorithm using systemC**
Y. Liu, M. Ding, Huazhong Univ. of Science and Technology (China)
- 6789 2D **Remote visualization for large terrain surfaces based on parallel streaming pipeline architecture**
C. Hu, J. Tian, D. Ming, D. Shen, Huazhong Univ. of Science and Technology (China)
- 6789 2E **Building outline detection based on height and intensity information from airborne LIDAR system**
C. Wang, Z. Zhao, J. Ma, Institute of Remote Sensing Applications (China)
- 6789 2F **Robust natural image matting approach based on strokes**
Y. Wu, F. He, D. Zhang, L. Wei, Z. Huang, Wuhan Univ. (China)
- 6789 2G **Real-time generation of infrared ocean scene based on GPU**
Z. Jiang, X. Wang, Y. Lin, J. Jin, Zhejiang Gongshang Univ. (China)
- 6789 2H **Infrared inversion of 3D scene**
X. Luo, J. Sun, Research Institute of High-Tech Hongqing Town (China)
- 6789 2I **Efficient multi-value connected component labeling algorithm and its ASIC design**
H. Sang, J. Zhang, T. Zhang, Huazhong Univ. of Science and Technology (China)
- 6789 2J **Moments based fast fourier transform without multiplications**
Z. Liu, G. Wang, J. Liu, Huazhong Univ. of Science and Technology (China)
- 6789 2K **Fast global motion estimation using threshold method**
J. Zheng, Y. Zhang, G. Ni, Institute of Computing Technology (China)
- 6789 2L **Improving quality of error-diffusion using random-function based combination of algorithm**
W. Zhu, X. Wang, X. Xiu, Hangzhou Dianzi Univ. (China)
- 6789 2M **Research of information classification and strategy intelligence extract algorithm based on military strategy hall**
L. Chen, D. Li, J. Yang, Huazhong Univ. of Science and Technology (China)

- 6789 2N **Implementation of large kernel 2D convolution in limited FPGA resource**
S. Zhong, Y. Li, L. Yan, T. Zhang, Z. Cao, Huazhong Univ. of Science and Technology (China)
- 6789 2O **Restoration algorithm of aero-optical degraded images using nonlinear regularization optimization**
H. Hong, Wuhan Institute of Technology (China) and Huazhong Univ. of Science and Technology (China)
- 6789 2P **New autonomous navigation technique: the vision system with single camera**
K. An, A. Han, L. Song, J. Lu, Shandong Aerospace Electro-technology Institute (China)
- 6789 2Q **Simple surface reconstruction algorithm with 3D points in parallel lines**
X. Fu, P. Wang, X. Tang, J. Chen, Huazhong Univ. of Science and Technology (China)
- 6789 2R **Labeling line drawings with hidden-part-draw of curved surface object**
X. Cai, M. Gao, Y. Shi, Northwestern Polytechnical Univ. (China)
- 6789 2S **Improving boundary classification accuracy of remotely sensed images using weighted semivariogram**
S. Yin, Wuhan Univ. (China); X. Chen, Wuhan Univ. (China) and Jiangxi Normal Univ. (China)
- 6789 2T **Simplification of camera models without loss of precision**
Y. Shang, Y. Li, Y. He, W. Wang, Q. Yu, National Univ. of Defense Technology (China)

Author Index

Symposium Committees

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Preface

Universities in Wuhan have a long history of outstanding research in multispectral image processing and related areas. Thus, it is most fitting that the Fifth International Symposium on Multispectral Image Processing and Pattern Recognition has chosen Wuhan as its venue. Professor Deren Li, Wuhan University, is one of the leading authorities in remote sensing in the world. We are very happy that he is honorary chair of the symposium. Wuhan was established about 3,500 years ago, and is of great importance in China's cultural, military, economical, and political history. There are many important historical sites within the city's limits. We hope that the participants of the symposium will not only be hard working at the conference, but also finding time to see some of these historical sites.

The Symposium has a broad charter. Instead of interpreting "multispectral" in its narrow sense of multiple-wavelength, we consider it in a very broad sense to include "multimodal" (e.g., audio and visual) and "multimedia" (e.g., text, graphics). In the 696 papers presented at this Symposium, we will find discussions on almost all aspects of this broad field. Important and novel tools in signal processing and machine learning will be presented and applied to remote sensing, GIS data processing, automatic target recognition, biometrics, medical imaging, and other problems. One crucial issue in multispectral/multimodal/multimedia processing and analysis is: How do we fuse the cues from multiple sources? (There are three possibilities: Low- or feature-level fusion, middle-level fusion, and high- or decision-level fusion.) This issue will be discussed in some of the papers.

The response to the call for papers was overwhelming. Around 1,400 papers were submitted, of which 696 were selected for presentation. The proceedings of the Symposium have 5 volumes:

- Automatic Target Recognition and Image Analysis; and Multispectral Image Acquisition
- Multispectral Image Processing
- Pattern Recognition and Computer Vision
- Medical Imaging, Parallel Processing of Images, and Optimization Techniques
- Remote Sensing and GIS Data Processing and Applications; and Innovative Multispectral Technology and Applications.

This Symposium provides a forum for scientists and engineers from universities, industry, and government labs to meet and exchange ideas. We expect that there will be ample discussions both inside and outside the lecture halls, and we can guarantee that this will be a most exciting event.

The realization of a symposium depends on the hard work of many people. We would like to thank everyone on the organization committee, all of whom are responsible for making this conference a success.

Thomas S. Huang
Bo Zhang