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and

IS&T—The Society for Imaging Science and Technology

7003 Kilworth Lane, Springfield, Virginia, 22151 USA
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Contents

vii	<i>Conference Committee</i>
ix	<i>Introduction</i>

VIDEO CODING

- 650402 **Optimal bit allocation for fine-grained scalable video sequences in distributed streaming environments** [6504-01]
C. Hsu, M. Hefeeda, Simon Fraser Univ. (Canada)
- 650403 **A framework for MPEG-21 DIA based adaptation and perceptual encryption of H.264 video** [6504-02]
R. Iqbal, S. Shirmohammadi, A. El Saddik, Univ. of Ottawa (Canada)
- 650404 **FMOE-MR: content-driven multiresolution MPEG-4 fine grained scalable layered video encoding** [6504-03]
S. Chattopadhyay, X. Luo, S. M. Bhandarkar, K. Li, The Univ. of Georgia (USA)
- 650405 **Impact of reference distance for motion compensation prediction on video quality** [6504-04]
Y. Wang, EMC Corp. (USA); M. Claypool, R. Kinicki, Worcester Polytechnic Institute (USA)
- 650406 **Perceptual multimedia compression based on predictive Kalman filter eye movement modeling** [6504-05]
O. V. Komogortsev, J. I. Khan, Kent State Univ. (USA)

SYSTEMS AND MEASUREMENTS

- 650407 **Share with thy neighbors** [6504-06]
S. Chandra, X. Yu, Univ. of Notre Dame (USA)

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- The first four digits correspond to the SPIE volume number.
- The last two digits indicate publication order within the volume using a Base 36 numbering system employing both numerals and letters. The CID number appears on each page of the manuscript. The complete citation is used on the first page, and an abbreviated version on subsequent pages.

- 650408 **Video to go: the effects of mobility on streaming media in a CDMA2000 1xEV-DO network** [6504-07]
P. Sessini, M. Leventer, A. Mahanti, Univ. of Calgary (Canada)
- 650409 **iTVP: large-scale content distribution for live and on-demand video services** [6504-08]
E. Kusmierek, M. Czyrnek, C. Mazurek, M. Stroinski, Poznan Supercomputing and Networking Ctr. (Poland)

USER PERCEPTION

- 65040A **Olfactory enhanced multimedia applications: perspectives from an empirical study** [6504-09]
O. A. Ademoye, G. Ghinea, Brunel Univ. (United Kingdom)
- 65040B **The effects of resolution on users playing first person shooter games** [6504-10]
K. Claypool, Oracle Corp. (USA); M. Claypool, Worcester Polytechnic Institute (USA)

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

- 65040C **Efficient cost-based scheduling for scalable media streaming** [6504-11]
N. J. Sarhan, B. Qudah, Wayne State Univ. (USA)
- 65040D **Resource management in a shared infrastructure video CDN** [6504-12]
A. J. Cahill, C. J. Sreenan, Univ. College Cork (Ireland)
- 65040E **Flash on disk for low-power multimedia computing** [6504-13]
L. Singleton, R. Nathuji, K. Schwan, Georgia Institute of Technology (USA)

STREAMING SCALABILITY

- 65040F **On providing reliability guarantees in live video streaming with collaborative clients** [6504-14]
A. Raghuvver, Univ. of Minnesota (USA); Y. Dong, Univ. of Hawaii (USA); D. Du, Univ. of Minnesota (USA)
- 65040G **Priority-progress CPU adaptation for elastic real-time applications** [6504-15]
C. Krasic, A. Sinha, Univ. of British Columbia (Canada); L. Kirsh, Amazon.com (USA)

SHORT PAPERS: MULTIMEDIA SYSTEMS

- 65040I **CompatPM: enabling energy efficient multimedia workloads for distributed mobile platforms** [6504-17]
R. Nathuji, K. J. O'Hara, K. Schwan, T. Balch, Georgia Institute of Technology (USA)
- 65040J **Efficient MPEG-21-based adaptation decision-taking for scalable multimedia content** [6504-18]
I. Kofler, C. Timmerer, H. Hellwagner, Klagenfurt Univ. (Austria); A. Hutter, F. Sanahuja, Siemens AG (Germany)

- 65040K **Cross-channel collaborations in peer-to-peer streaming** [6504-19]
H. Li, K. Li, Univ. of Georgia (USA)
- 65040L **Resource estimation methodology for multimedia applications** [6504-20]
H. Kalva, R. Shankar, T. Patel, C. Cruz, Florida Atlantic Univ. (USA)
- 65040M **Multimodal event streams for virtual reality** [6504-21]
J. von Spiczak, Brigham and Women's Hospital (USA) and Technical Univ. of Karlsruhe (Germany); E. Samset, Brigham and Women's Hospital (USA), Univ. of Oslo (Norway), and Harvard Medical School (USA); S. DiMaio, Brigham and Women's Hospital (USA) and Harvard Medical School (USA); G. Reitmayr, Cambridge Univ. (United Kingdom); D. Schmalstieg, Graz Univ. of Technology (Austria); C. Burghart, Technical Univ. of Karlsruhe (Germany); R. Kikinis, Brigham and Women's Hospital (USA) and Harvard Medical School (USA)
- 65040N **A multi-channel multi-encoding transmission scheme for wireless video streaming** [6504-22]
A. Kolekar, W. Feng, Portland State Univ. (USA); M. Venkatachalam, Intel Corp. (USA)
- 65040O **Fine granularity adaptive multireceiver video streaming** [6504-23]
V. S. W. Eide, Simula Research Lab. (Norway) and Univ. of Oslo (Norway); F. Eliassen, Univ. of Oslo (Norway) and Simula Research Lab. (Norway); J. A. Michaelsen, F. Jensen, Univ. of Oslo (Norway)

MULTIMEDIA MIDDLEWARE

- 65040P **CameraCast: flexible access to remote video sensors** [6504-24]
J. Kong, I. Ganev, K. Schwan, Georgia Institute of Technology (USA); P. Widener, Univ. of New Mexico (USA)
- 65040Q **Plasma: a scripting language for processing media streams** [6504-25]
T. Zhu, P. Korshunov, B. Liu, W. T. Ooi, National Univ. of Singapore (Singapore)
- 65040R **SenseTK: a multimodal multimedia sensor networking toolkit** [6504-26]
P. Sitbon, W. Feng, N. Bulusu, T. Dang, Portland State Univ. (USA)

Author Index

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Introduction

It is our great pleasure to welcome you to the Multimedia Computing and Networking Conference (MMCN) 2007 at Electronic Imaging!

This year's MMCN is the 14th installment of the conference series. MMCN has traditionally served as an opportunity for researchers and practitioners to share their perspectives with others interested in the various aspects of multimedia systems and networks. The program committee had a good number of papers from which to choose thanks to the outstanding efforts of our publicity cochairs Andreas Mauthe, Wei-Tsang Ooi, and Michael Zink, and the additional support of the ACM SIG Multimedia.

Each original submission was reviewed by at least three reviewers, conflicting review results were addressed in email discussions, and all the papers that received favorable reviews were intensely discussed during the program committee's day-long meeting on August 26, 2006, that committee members attended either in person, or by IP or POTS audio conference. The average quality of submission was very high, so that we were able to accept 18 full and seven short papers this year.

Putting together MMCN 2007 was a team effort. First of all, we would like to thank the authors for their submissions and for choosing MMCN to highlight their work. Our thanks also go to the program committee members and the external reviewers for their excellent job in evaluating the submissions. We also thank the following colleagues who contributed additional reviews: Sakire Arslan Ay, Svetlana Boudko, Jacob Chakareski, Beomjoo Seo, and Leslie S. Liu. We would further like to express our gratitude to the Computer Science department of the University of Massachusetts that hosted the PC meeting and Michael Zink, in particular, for being gracious hosts in all aspects. We also want to thank SPIE, IS&T, and ACM SIG Multimedia for making MMCN possible again this year.

The program addresses multimedia systems issues under the topics of video coding, systems and measurements, user perception, resource management, streaming scalability, multimedia systems, and multimedia middleware. In addition to the presentation of the research papers, the program features a keynote speech by Ramesh Sarukkai of Yahoo! Inc., and a panel that will discuss "Getting in Touch with the Real World" — how multimedia systems interact with physical objects. We hope that you will find the program interesting and thought-provoking and that the conference will provide you with a valuable opportunity to share ideas with other researchers from institutions around the world!

Carsten Griwodz
Roger Zimmermann

