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Bio-Inspired/Biomimetic Sensor Technologies and Applications

Nicholas F. Fell, Jr.
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Editors

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Contents

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

SESSION 1 SENSORS

- 7321 03 **Optimization of a multi-well array SERS chip** [7321-03]
J. L. Abell, J. D. Driskell, R. A. Dluhy, R. A. Tripp, Y.-P. Zhao, The Univ. of Georgia (United States)
- 7321 04 **Detection of immunocomplex formation by enhanced photoluminescence of antibody-functionalized diatom biosilica** [7321-04]
D. K. Gale, Oregon State Univ. (United States); T. Gutu, J. Jiao, Portland State Univ. (United States); C.-H. Chang, G. L. Rorrer, Oregon State Univ. (United States)
- 7321 05 **Engineering new aptamer geometries for electrochemical aptamer-based sensors** [7321-05]
R. J. White, K. W. Plaxco, Univ. of California, Santa Barbara (United States)
- 7321 06 **Approaches to detection of airborne biological agents** [7321-06]
A.-C. Chang, M. B. Tabacco, Smiths Detection (United States)

SESSION 2 ACOUSTIC DETECTION

- 7321 07 **Biomimetic smart sensors for autonomous robotic behavior I: acoustic processing (Invited Paper)** [7321-07]
S. Deligeorges, S. Xue, A. Soloway, L. Lichtenstein, T. Gore, BioMimetic Systems, Inc. (United States); A. Hubbard, Boston Univ. (United States) and BioMimetic Systems, Inc. (United States) and The Boston Univ. Photonics Ctr. (United States)
- 7321 08 **Biomimetic smart sensors for autonomous robotic behavior II: vestibular processing** [7321-08]
S. Xue, S. Deligeorges, A. Soloway, L. Lichtenstein, T. Gore, BioMimetic Systems, Inc. (United States); A. Hubbard, Boston Univ. (United States) and BioMimetic Systems, Inc. (United States) and The Boston Univ. Photonics Ctr. (United States)

- 7321 09 **Biologically inspired circuitry that mimics mammalian hearing** [7321-09]
A. Hubbard, Boston Univ. (United States) and BioMimetic Systems, Inc. (United States) and The Boston Univ. Photonics Ctr. (United States); H. Cohen, Boston Univ. (United States); C. Karl, Boston Univ. (United States) and BioMimetic Systems, Inc. (United States) and Intel, Inc. (United States); D. Freedman, Boston Univ. (United States); D. Mountain, BioMimetic Systems, Inc. (United States) and Boston Univ. (United States); L. Ziph-Schatzberg, The Boston Univ. Photonics Ctr. (United States); M. Nourzad Karl, Intel, Inc. (United States) and Boston Univ. (United States); S. Kelsall, Boston Univ. (United States); T. Gore, Boston Univ. (United States) and BioMimetic Systems, Inc. (United States); Y. Pu, Boston Univ. (United States); Z. Yang, Boston Univ. (United States) and Intel, Inc., (United States); X. Xing, Boston Univ. (United States); S. Deligeorges, Boston Univ. (United States) and Systems, Inc. (United States)
- 7321 0A **Fly-ear inspired acoustic sensors for gunshot localization** [7321-10]
H. Liu, Univ. of Maryland, College Park (United States); L. Currano, Univ. of Maryland, College Park (United States) and Army Research Lab. (United States); D. Gee, Army Research Lab. (United States); B. Yang, M. Yu, Univ. of Maryland, College Park (United States)
- 7321 0B **Microscale implementation of a bio-inspired acoustic localization device** [7321-11]
L. J. Currano, Army Research Lab. (United States); H. Liu, Univ. of Maryland, College Park (United States); D. Gee, Army Research Lab. (United States) and Univ. of Maryland, College Park (United States); B. Yang, M. Yu, Univ. of Maryland, College Park (United States)

SESSION 3 LOCOMOTION AND ROBOTICS

- 7321 0E **Bio-inspired locomotion for a modular snake robot** [7321-14]
S. Zhang, Y. Guo, Stevens Institute of Technology (United States)

SESSION 4 ALGORITHMS

- 7321 0F **GeoTrack: bio-inspired global video tracking by networks of unmanned aircraft systems (Invited Paper)** [7321-15]
P. Barooah, Univ. of Florida (United States); G. E. Collins, Toyon Research Corp. (United States); J. P. Hespanha, Univ. of California, Santa Barbara (United States)
- 7321 0G **A comparison of foveated acquisition and tracking performance relative to uniform resolution approaches** [7321-16]
S. Dubuque, T. Coffman, 21st Century Technologies, Inc. (United States); P. McCarley, Air Force Research Lab. (United States); A. C. Bovik, Univ. of Texas at Austin (United States); C. W. Thomas, 21st Century Technologies, Inc. (United States)
- 7321 0H **Fuzzy logic and coarse coding using programmable logic devices** [7321-17]
G. Brooks, Florida State Univ., Panama City (United States)

POSTER SESSION

- 7321 OI **Bio-inspired synthesis and laser processing of nanostructured barium titanate thin films: implications for uncooled IR sensor development** [7321-02]
F. E. Livingston, The Aerospace Corp. (United States); W. L. Sarney, Army Research Lab. (United States); K. Niesz, T. Ould-Ely, A. R. Tao, D. E. Morse, Univ. of California, Santa Barbara (United States)

Author Index

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- 3 Locomotion and Robotics
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- 4 Algorithms
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Introduction

Bioinspired/biomimetic technologies are a fast growing field that attempts to take advantage of the plethora of ideas and models in nature that work to an extraordinary degree of perfection. One application of immediate relevance of bioinspired technologies is to develop smart sensor systems that employ a heterogeneous group of multi-modal sensors, and perform real time processing and communication of data. With increasing emphasis on the Size, Weight and Power and Cost (SwaP-C) requirements for deployed systems, it is imperative that future sensor platforms take advantage of processes/mechanisms found in nature to design miniaturized electronic, optical and computational systems. These sensor systems must leverage biomimetic models of the animal/insect world to enable substantial reduction in processing requirements and to achieve real time operation.

The conference included sixteen papers organized into four technical sessions consisting of Sensors, Acoustic Detection, Locomotion and Robotics, and Algorithms. One of the sixteen papers was presented as a poster in the poster session. Each session included an invited paper by a leading expert in the field. The following invited papers were presented:

- Super-bright, stable, reproducible, SERS biotags for simultaneous identification of multiple biomarkers by Professor Martin Moskovits (Univ. of California, Santa Barbara)
- Biomimetic smart sensors for autonomous robotic behavior part I: acoustic processing by Dr Socrates Deligeorges (BioMimetic Systems, Inc.)
- Mechanisms of frictional adhesion in biological adhesion and locomotion by Professor Jacob Israelachvili (Univ. of California, Santa Barbara)
- GeoTrack: global video tracking by networks of unmanned aircraft systems by Dr Prabir Barooah (Univ. of Florida)

We thank all the authors for their presentations and all the participants for a successful first symposium on Bioinspired/Biomimetic Sensor Technologies and Applications. We thank all the Program Committee members for their assistance in conference planning and organizing. Our thanks to all the session chairs. Last but not the least, our special thanks to SPIE staff for their dedication and help in organizing the symposium.

We hope that the conference theme will continue to generate interest and bring together researchers working in the multiple areas of biology, engineering, the physical sciences and medicine in applying designs and processing models inspired from biological systems to realize microsensor systems that provide

unprecedented situational awareness meeting concurrently the SWaP-C requirements.

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