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Structural, Syntactic, and Statistical Pattern Recognition

Joint IAPR International Workshops
SSPR 2004 and SPR 2004
Lisbon, Portugal, August 18-20, 2004
Proceedings

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Preface

This volume contains all papers presented at SSPR 2004 and SPR 2004, hosted by the Instituto de Telecomunicações/Instituto Superior Técnico, Lisbon, Portugal, August 18–20, 2004.

This was the fourth time that the two workshops were held back-to-back. The SSPR was the tenth International Workshop on Structural and Syntactic Pattern Recognition, and the SPR was the fifth International Workshop on Statistical Techniques in Pattern Recognition. These workshops have traditionally been held in conjunction with ICPR (International Conference on Pattern Recognition), and are the major events for technical committees TC2 and TC1, respectively, of the International Association for Pattern Recognition (IAPR).

The workshops were closely coordinated, being held in parallel, with plenary talks and a common session on hybrid systems. This was an attempt to resolve the dilemma of how to deal with the need for narrow-focus specialized workshops yet accommodate the presentation of new theories and techniques that blur the distinction between the statistical and the structural approaches.

A total of 219 papers were received from many countries, with the submission and reviewing processes being carried out separately for each workshop. A total of 59 papers were accepted for oral presentation and 64 for posters. In addition, four invited speakers presented informative talks and overviews of their research. They were: Alberto Sanfeliu, from the Technical University of Catalonia, Spain; Marco Gori, from the University of Siena, Italy; Nello Cristianini, from the University of California, USA; and Erkki Oja, from Helsinki University of Technology, Finland, winner of the 2004 Pierre Devijver Award.

SSPR 2004 and SPR 2004 were sponsored by the IAPR, the Instituto Superior Técnico, Technical University of Lisbon and the Fundação Luso-Americana para o Desenvolvimento (FLAD).

We would like to express our sincere gratitude to all the members of the program committees for performing the hard work of reviewing the many submissions which led to a selection of high-quality papers. We would like to thank everyone who made this meeting possible: the authors for submitting papers, the invited speakers for accepting our invitation, the organizing committee, and the sponsors for their support.

We also appreciate the help of the editorial staff at Springer-Verlag and, in particular, Anna Kramer and Alfred Hofmann, for supporting this publication in the LNCS series; and the help of Piotr Juszczak during the final editing process.

August 2004

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Table of Contents

Invited Talks

| | |
|---|----|
| Finding Clusters and Components by Unsupervised Learning | 1 |
| <i>Erkki Oja</i> | |
| Kernel Methods for Exploratory Pattern Analysis: A Demonstration on Text Data | 16 |
| <i>Tijl De Bie and Nello Cristianini</i> | |
| The Use of Graph Techniques for Identifying Objects and Scenes in Indoor Building Environments for Mobile Robots | 30 |
| <i>Alberto Sanfeliu</i> | |
| Graphical-Based Learning Environments for Pattern Recognition | 42 |
| <i>Franco Scarselli, Ah Chung Tsoi, Marco Gori, and Markus Hagenbuchner</i> | |

SSPR

Graphs I

| | |
|--|----|
| Spectral Analysis of Complex Laplacian Matrices | 57 |
| <i>Richard C. Wilson and Edwin R. Hancock</i> | |
| Decision Tree Structures for Graph Database Filtering | 66 |
| <i>Christophe Irniger and Horst Bunke</i> | |
| A Significant Improvement of Softassign with Diffusion Kernels | 76 |
| <i>Miguel Angel Lozano and Francisco Escolano</i> | |
| Structural Perceptrons for Attributed Graphs | 85 |
| <i>Brijnesh J. Jain and Fritz Wysotzki</i> | |

Visual Recognition and Detection

| | |
|---|-----|
| Eigenspace Method by Autoassociative Networks for Object Recognition . . | 95 |
| <i>Takamasa Yokoi, Wataru Ohyama, Tetsushi Wakabayashi, and Fumitaka Kimura</i> | |
| A Novel Constraint-Based Approach to Online Graphics Recognition | 104 |
| <i>Luo Yan, Guanglin Huang, Liu Yin, and Liu Wenjin</i> | |
| Extraction of Skeletal Shape Features Using a Visual Attention Operator . | 114 |
| <i>Roman M. Palenichka, Rokia Missaoui, and Marek B. Zaremba</i> | |

Contours, Lines and Paths

| | |
|---|-----|
| Computing the Cyclic Edit Distance for Pattern Classification by Ranking Edit Paths | 125 |
| <i>Víctor M. Jiménez, Andrés Marzal, Vicente Palazón, and Guillermo Peris</i> | |
| Contour Segments from Spline Interpolation | 134 |
| <i>Niklas Ludtke and Richard C. Wilson</i> | |
| Steady State Random Walks for Path Estimation | 143 |
| <i>Antonio Robles-Kelly and Edwin R. Hancock</i> | |
| Learning of Form Models from Exemplars | 153 |
| <i>Petra Perner and Silke Jähnichen</i> | |
| An Optimal Probabilistic Graphical Model for Point Set Matching | 162 |
| <i>Tibério S. Caetano, Terry Caelli, and Dante A.C. Barone</i> | |
| A New Variational Framework for Rigid-Body Alignment | 171 |
| <i>Tsuyoshi Kato, Koji Tsuda, Kentaro Tomii, and Kiyoshi Asai</i> | |
| An Error-Tolerant Approximate Matching Algorithm for Attributed Planar Graphs and Its Application to Fingerprint Classification | 180 |
| <i>Michel Neuhaus and Horst Bunke</i> | |

Graphs II

| | |
|---|-----|
| Comparison of Algorithms for Web Document Clustering Using Graph Representations of Data | 190 |
| <i>Adam Schenker, Mark Last, Horst Bunke, and Abraham Kandel</i> | |
| Heat Kernels, Manifolds and Graph Embedding | 198 |
| <i>Xiao Bai and Edwin R. Hancock</i> | |

Transduction and Translation

| | |
|---|-----|
| A Syntactic Pattern Recognition Approach to Computer Assisted Translation | 207 |
| <i>Jorge Civera, Juan M. Vilar, Elsa Cubel, Antonio L. Lagarda, Sergio Barrachina, Francisco Casacuberta, Enrique Vidal, David Picó, and Jorge González</i> | |
| GIATI: A General Methodology for Finite-State Translation Using Alignments | 216 |
| <i>David Picó, Jesús Tomás, and Francisco Casacuberta</i> | |

Image and Video Analysis

- A Coupled Relaxation Method for Finding Perceptual Structures 224
Richard C. Wilson
- A Comparison of Unsupervised Shot Classification Algorithms
 for News Video Segmentation..... 233
*Massimo De Santo, Gennaro Percannella, Carlo Sansone,
 and Mario Vento*
- Diagnosis of Lung Nodule Using the Semivariogram Function 242
*Aristófanés C. Silva, Perfilino Eugênio F. Junior,
 Paulo Cezar P. Carvalho, and Marcelo Gattass*

Syntactics, Languages and Strings

- Dictionary-Based Syntactic Pattern Recognition Using Tries 251
B. John Oommen and Ghada Badr
- Improving Probabilistic Automata Learning with Additional Knowledge .. 260
Christopher Kermorvant, Colin de la Higuera, and Pierre Dupont
- Distances between Distributions: Comparing Language Models..... 269
Thierry Murgue and Colin de la Higuera
- A New Uniform Translocation Distance 278
Carlos Martín-Vide and Victor Mitrana

Human Shape and Action

- Understanding Human-Computer Interactions in Map Revision 287
Jun Zhou, Walter F. Bischof, and Terry Caelli
- Multiscale Curvature Assessment of Postural Deviations 296
*Cornélia J.P. Passarinho, Fátima N.S. Medeiros, Jilseph Lopes Silva,
 Luís Henrique Cintra, and Rafael B. Moreira*
- Modelling Human Shape with Articulated Shape Mixtures 304
Abdullah A. Al-Shaher and Edwin R. Hancock
- Learning People Movement Model from Multiple Cameras
 for Behaviour Recognition..... 315
*Nam T. Nguyen, Svetha Venkatesh, Geoff A.W. West,
 and Hung H. Bui*

Poster Papers

Sequences and Graphs

| | |
|---|-----|
| A Comparison of Least Squares and Spectral Methods for Attributed Graph Matching | 325 |
| <i>Jianfeng Lu, Terry Caelli, and Jingyu Yang</i> | |
| An Auction Algorithm for Graph-Based Contextual Correspondence Matching | 334 |
| <i>Barend J. van Wyk, Michaël A. van Wyk, and Guillaume Noel</i> | |
| Segmentation Graph Hierarchies | 343 |
| <i>Yll Haxhimusa and Walter Kropatsch</i> | |
| Clustering Variable Length Sequences by Eigenvector Decomposition Using HMM | 352 |
| <i>Fatih Porikli</i> | |

Pattern Matching and Classification

| | |
|---|-----|
| A Kernel View of Spectral Point Pattern Matching | 361 |
| <i>Hongfang Wang and Edwin R. Hancock</i> | |
| Neural Networks for Improved Target Differentiation with Sonar | 370 |
| <i>Naima Ait Oufroukh and Etienne Colle</i> | |
| An MCMC Feature Selection Technique for Characterizing and Classifying Spatial Region Data | 379 |
| <i>Despina Kontos, Vasileios Megalooikonomou, Marc J. Sobel, and Qiang Wang</i> | |
| Human Action Recognition by Inference of Stochastic Regular Grammars | 388 |
| <i>Kyungeun Cho, Hyungje Cho, and Kyhyun Um</i> | |
| Optimizing Classification Ensembles via a Genetic Algorithm for a Web-Based Educational System | 397 |
| <i>Behrouz Minaei-Bidgoli, Gerd Kortemeyer, and William F. Punch</i> | |

Document Image Analysis

| | |
|---|-----|
| A Structural Approach to Adaptive Inverse Halftoning for Document Images | 407 |
| <i>Hirobumi Nishida</i> | |
| Syntactic Modeling and Recognition of Document Images | 416 |
| <i>Ignacio Perea and Damián López</i> | |

| | |
|--|-----|
| Symbols Recognition System for Graphic Documents Combining Global Structural Approaches and Using a XML Representation of Data | 425 |
| <i>Mathieu Delalandre, Éric Trupin, and Jean-Marc Ogier</i> | |

| | |
|--|-----|
| Sketch Recognition Based on Topological Spatial Relationship | 434 |
| <i>Binbin Peng, Yin Liu, Liu Wenyin, and Guanglin Huang</i> | |

| | |
|--|-----|
| A Study on the Consistency of Features for On-Line Signature Verification | 444 |
| <i>Hansheng Lei and Venu Govindaraju</i> | |

Image and Video Analysis

| | |
|---|-----|
| Statistical Structure of Natural 4×4 Image Patches | 452 |
| <i>Kostadin Koroutchev and José R. Dorronsoro</i> | |

| | |
|---|-----|
| Grey Scale Skeletonisation with Curvature Sensitive Noise Damping | 461 |
| <i>Huaijun Qiu and Edwin R. Hancock</i> | |

| | |
|--|-----|
| License Vehicle Plates Localization Using Maximum Correlation | 470 |
| <i>Regis C.P. Marques, Fátima N.S. Medeiros, Jilseph Lopes Silva, and Cassius M. Laprano</i> | |

| | |
|--|-----|
| Adaptive Context for a Discrete Universal Denoiser | 477 |
| <i>Georgy Gimel'farb</i> | |

| | |
|---|-----|
| Pose Estimation from Airborne Video Sequences Using a Structural Approach for the Construction of Homographies and Fundamental Matrices | 486 |
| <i>Eckart Michaelsen and Uwe Stilla</i> | |

| | |
|--|-----|
| Temporal Post-processing of Decision Tree Outputs for Sports Video Categorisation | 495 |
| <i>Edward Jaser, William Christmas, and Josef Kittler</i> | |

Shape Analysis

| | |
|--|-----|
| A New Method of Polyline Approximation | 504 |
| <i>Alexander Gribov and Eugene Bodansky</i> | |

| | |
|--|-----|
| On Extending Symmetry Sets for 2D Shapes | 512 |
| <i>Arjan Kuijper and Ole Fogh Olsen</i> | |

| | |
|---|-----|
| Structural Analysis and Matching of Shape by Logical Property | 521 |
| <i>Nanhyo Bang and Kyhyun Um</i> | |

| | |
|--|-----|
| Scale Descriptors through Phase Unwrapping | 530 |
| <i>Alex Hughes and Richard C. Wilson</i> | |

| | |
|---|-----|
| Lung Segmentation on Postero-anterior Digital Chest Radiographs Using Active Contours | 538 |
| <i>Isaac Iglesias, Pablo G. Tahoces, Miguel Souto, Anxo Martínez de Alegría, María J. Lado, and Juan J. Vidal</i> | |
| Emotion Recognition from Dance Image Sequences Using Contour Approximation | 547 |
| <i>Hanhoon Park, Jong-Il Park, Un-Mi Kim, and Woontack Woo</i> | |
| Matching Concavity Trees | 556 |
| <i>Ossama El Badawy and Mohamed Kamel</i> | |

SPR

Multiple Classifier Systems I

| | |
|---|-----|
| Combining Classifier for Face Identification at Unknown Views with a Single Model Image | 565 |
| <i>Tae-Kyun Kim and Josef Kittler</i> | |
| A Logodds Criterion for Selection of Diagnostic Tests | 574 |
| <i>Christopher J. Whitaker, Ludmila I. Kuncheva, and Peter D. Cockcroft</i> | |
| Evaluation of Classical and Novel Ensemble Methods for Handwritten Word Recognition | 583 |
| <i>Simon Günter and Horst Bunke</i> | |
| Improving Support Vector Classification via the Combination of Multiple Sources of Information | 592 |
| <i>Javier M. Moguerza, Alberto Muñoz, and Isaac Martín de Diego</i> | |

Multiple Classifier Systems II

| | |
|---|-----|
| Fusing Segmentation and Classification from Multiple Features | 601 |
| <i>Roberto Manduchi</i> | |
| A Classifier Combination Tree Algorithm | 609 |
| <i>Ross A. McDonald, Idris A. Eckley, and David J. Hand</i> | |
| Bounds for the Average Generalization Error of the Mixture of Experts Neural Network | 618 |
| <i>Luís A. Alexandre, Aurélio Campilho, and Mohamed Kamel</i> | |

Density Estimation

| | |
|---|-----|
| An Effective EM Algorithm for PCA Mixture Model | 626 |
| <i>Zhong Jin, Franck Dovoine, and Zhen Lou</i> | |

| | |
|--|-----|
| EM Initialisation for Bernoulli Mixture Learning | 635 |
| <i>Alfons Juan, José García-Hernández, and Enrique Vidal</i> | |

| | |
|---|-----|
| A New Family of Weak Estimators for Training in Non-stationary Distributions | 644 |
| <i>B. John Oommen and Luis Rueda</i> | |

| | |
|--|-----|
| Path Relinking Particle Filter for Human Body Pose Estimation | 653 |
| <i>Juan José Pantrigo, Ángel Sánchez, Kostas Gianikellis, and Abraham Duarte</i> | |

Clustering I

| | |
|--|-----|
| Clustering with Soft and Group Constraints | 662 |
| <i>Martin H.C. Law, Alexander Topchy, and Anil K. Jain</i> | |

| | |
|---|-----|
| Learning from General Label Constraints | 671 |
| <i>Tijl De Bie, Johan Suykens, and Bart De Moor</i> | |

| | |
|--|-----|
| Solving the One-Class Problem Using Neighbourhood Measures | 680 |
| <i>Javier M. Moguerza and Alberto Muñoz</i> | |

Clustering II

| | |
|--|-----|
| Detection of a Single Texture in Colour Images | 689 |
| <i>Linjiang Yu and Georgy Gimel'farb</i> | |

| | |
|--|-----|
| Clustering Based Under-Sampling for Improving Speaker Verification Decisions Using AdaBoost | 698 |
| <i>Hakan Altınçay and Cem Ergün</i> | |

Feature Selection

| | |
|--|-----|
| Control of Sparseness for Feature Selection | 707 |
| <i>Erinija Pranckeviciene, Richard Baumgartner, Ray Somorjai, and Christopher Bowman</i> | |

| | |
|--|-----|
| On Prediction Mechanisms in Fast Branch & Bound Algorithms | 716 |
| <i>Petr Somol, Pavel Pudil, and Jiří Grim</i> | |

Classification I

| | |
|--|-----|
| Structures of Covariance Matrix in Handwritten Character Recognition . . . | 725 |
| <i>Šarūnas Raudys and Masakazu Iwamura</i> | |

| | |
|---|-----|
| Statistical Machine Translation Decoding Using Target Word Reordering . . | 734 |
| <i>Jesús Tomás and Francisco Casacuberta</i> | |

| | |
|---|-----|
| Classifier Design for Population and Sensor Drift | 744 |
| <i>Keith Copsey and Andrew Webb</i> | |

Classification II

| | |
|---|-----|
| A Cost-Sensitive Paradigm for Multiclass to Binary Decomposition Schemes | 753 |
| <i>Claudio Marrocco and Francesco Tortorella</i> | |
| Cost-Based Classifier Evaluation for Imbalanced Problems | 762 |
| <i>Thomas Landgrebe, Pavel Paclík, David M.J. Tax, Serguei Verzakov, and Robert P.W. Duin</i> | |
| A Two-Stage Classifier with Reject Option for Text Categorisation | 771 |
| <i>Giorgio Fumera, Ignazio Pillai, and Fabio Roli</i> | |
| Misclassification Probability Estimations for Linear Decision Functions . . . | 780 |
| <i>Victor Mikhailovich Nedel'ko</i> | |

Representation

| | |
|---|-----|
| Generalized Variable-Kernel Similarity Metric Learning | 788 |
| <i>Johannes J. Naudé, Michaël A. van Wyk, and Barend J. van Wyk</i> | |
| Approximate Gradient Direction Metric for Face Authentication | 797 |
| <i>Josef Kittler and Mohammad T. Sadeghi</i> | |

Poster Papers

Classification

| | |
|--|-----|
| The Imbalanced Training Sample Problem: Under or over Sampling? | 806 |
| <i>Ricardo Barandela, Rosa M. Valdovinos, J. Salvador Sánchez, and Francesc J. Ferri</i> | |
| Automatic Preference Mining through Learning User Profile with Extracted Information | 815 |
| <i>Kyung-Yong Jung, Kee-Wook Rim, and Jung-Hyun Lee</i> | |
| A Computational Study of Naïve Bayesian Learning in Anti-spam Management | 824 |
| <i>Zhiwei Fu and Isa Sarac</i> | |
| Kernel-Based Non-linear Template Matching | 831 |
| <i>Barend J. van Wyk, Michaël A. van Wyk, and Guillaume Noel</i> | |
| Analyzing Weight Distribution of Feedforward Neural Networks and Efficient Weight Initialization | 840 |
| <i>Jinwook Go, Byungjoon Baek, and Chulhee Lee</i> | |
| One-Class Support Vector Machines with a Conformal Kernel. A Case Study in Handling Class Imbalance | 850 |
| <i>Gilles Cohen, Mélanie Hilario, and Christian Pellegrini</i> | |

| | |
|--|-----|
| Automatic Labeling of Sports Video Using Umpire Gesture Recognition . . | 859 |
| <i>Graeme S. Chambers, Svetha Venkatesh, and Geoff A.W. West</i> | |
| Comparison of Two Fast Nearest-Neighbour Search Methods in High-Dimensional Large-Sized Databases | 868 |
| <i>Javier Cano, Juan-Carlos Pérez-Cortés, and Ismael Salvador</i> | |
| A Shallow Description Framework for Musical Style Recognition | 876 |
| <i>Pedro J. Ponce de León, Carlos Pérez-Sancho, and José M. Iñesta</i> | |
| A Nearest Neighbor Method Using Bisectors | 885 |
| <i>Mineichi Kudo, Hideyuki Imai, Akira Tanaka, and Tetsuya Murai</i> | |
| Distance Based Strategy for Supervised Document Image Classification . . | 894 |
| <i>Fabien Carmagnac, Pierre Héroux, and Éric Trupin</i> | |
| Identification of Humans Using Robust Biometric Features | 903 |
| <i>Byungjun Son, Jung-Ho Ahn, Ji-hyun Park, and Yillbyung Lee</i> | |
| Facial Expression Recognition Based on the Two-Dimensional Structure of Affect | 912 |
| <i>Young-suk Shin</i> | |
| Clustering | |
| Clustering Using WCC Models | 921 |
| <i>Miguel Adán, Antonio Adán, and Andrés S. Vázquez</i> | |
| Algorithms for Constructing Min-Max Partitions of the Parameter Space for MDL Inference | 930 |
| <i>Adriana Vasilache, Ioan Tăbuș, and Jorma Rissanen</i> | |
| Preclustering of Electrocardiographic Signals Using Left-to-Right Hidden Markov Models | 939 |
| <i>Pau Micó, David Cuesta, and Daniel Novák</i> | |
| Graph-Based Clustering of Random Point Set | 948 |
| <i>Atsushi Imiya and Ken Tatara</i> | |
| Cluster Validity and Stability of Clustering Algorithms | 957 |
| <i>Jian Yu, Houkuan Huang, and Shengfeng Tian</i> | |
| Multiple Classifier Systems | |
| Bagging Classification Models with Reduced Bootstrap | 966 |
| <i>Rafael Pino-Mejías, María-Dolores Cubiles-de-la-Vega, Manuel López-Coello, Esther-Lydia Silva-Ramírez, and María-Dolores Jiménez-Gamero</i> | |

| | |
|---|-----|
| Multiple Classifier Prediction Improvements against Imbalanced Datasets through Added Synthetic Examples | 974 |
| <i>Herna L. Viktor and Hongyu Guo</i> | |

| | |
|--|-----|
| Automatic Design of Cascaded Classifiers | 983 |
| <i>Etienne Grossmann</i> | |

| | |
|---|-----|
| Recognition of Handwritten Numerals Using a Combined Classifier with Hybrid Features | 992 |
| <i>Kyoung Min Kim, Joong Jo Park, Young Gi Song, In Cheol Kim, and Ching Y. Suen</i> | |

| | |
|---|------|
| Generating Classifier Outputs with Fixed Diversity for Evaluating Voting Methods | 1001 |
| <i>Héla Zouari, Laurent Heutte, Yves Lecourtier, and Adel Alimi</i> | |

Feature Selection

| | |
|--|------|
| Feature Selection Using Improved Mutual Information for Text Classification | 1010 |
| <i>Jana Novovičová, Antonín Malík, and Pavel Pudil</i> | |

| | |
|--|------|
| Feature Subset Selection Using an Optimized Hill Climbing Algorithm for Handwritten Character Recognition | 1018 |
| <i>Carlos M. Nunes, Alceu de S. Britto Jr., Celso A.A. Kaestner, and Robert Sabourin</i> | |

| | |
|---|------|
| Feature Shaving for Spectroscopic Data | 1026 |
| <i>Sergei Verzhakov, Pavel Paclík, and Robert P.W. Duin</i> | |

| | |
|---|------|
| Feature Selection by Markov Chain Monte Carlo Sampling – A Bayesian Approach | 1034 |
| <i>Michael Egmont-Petersen</i> | |

Representation

| | |
|---|------|
| Classifier-Independent Visualization of Supervised Data Structures Using a Graph | 1043 |
| <i>Hiroshi Tenmoto, Yasukuni Mori, and Mineichi Kudo</i> | |

| | |
|---|------|
| Texel-Based Texture Synthesis with Bunch Sampling | 1052 |
| <i>Dongxiao Zhou and Georgy Gimel'farb</i> | |

| | |
|--|------|
| Towards 3-Dimensional Pattern Recognition | 1061 |
| <i>Ken-ichi Maeda, Osamu Yamaguchi, and Kazuhiro Fukui</i> | |

| | |
|--|------|
| A General Strategy for Hidden Markov Chain Parameterisation in Composite Feature-Spaces | 1069 |
| <i>David Windridge, Richard Bowden, and Josef Kittler</i> | |

| | |
|---|------|
| Tracking the Evolution of a Tennis Match Using Hidden Markov Models . | 1078 |
| <i>Ilias Kolonias, William Christmas, and Josef Kittler</i> | |
| Local Features for Speaker Recognition | 1087 |
| <i>Roberto Paredes, Enrique Vidal, and Francisco Casacuberta</i> | |
| Selection/Extraction of Spectral Regions for Autofluorescence Spectra Measured in the Oral Cavity | 1096 |
| <i>Marina Skurichina, Pavel Paclík, Robert P.W. Duin, Diana de Veld, Henricus J.C.M. Sterenborg, Max J.H. Witjes, and Jan L.N. Roodenburg</i> | |
| Kernel Relative Principal Component Analysis for Pattern Recognition .. | 1105 |
| <i>Yoshikazu Washizawa, Kenji Hikida, Toshihisa Tanaka, and Yuhikiko Yamashita</i> | |
| Dynamic Character Model Generation for Document Keyword Spotting .. | 1114 |
| <i>Beom-Joon Cho and Bong-Kee Sin</i> | |
| Texture Classification by Combining Wavelet and Contourlet Features ... | 1126 |
| <i>Shutao Li and John Shawe-Taylor</i> | |
| Hybrid Methods | |
| Distance Measures between Attributed Graphs and Second-Order Random Graphs | 1135 |
| <i>Francesc Serratos and Alberto Sanfeliu</i> | |
| On Not Making Dissimilarities Euclidean | 1145 |
| <i>Elżbieta Pękalska, Robert P.W. Duin, Simon Günter, and Horst Bunke</i> | |
| Content Structure Discovery in Educational Videos Using Shared Structures in the Hierarchical Hidden Markov Models | 1155 |
| <i>Dinh Q. Phung, Hung H. Bui, and Svetha Venkatesh</i> | |
| Author Index | 1165 |