Editorial preface

Special issue on ICDAR2009 selected and extended papers

**Josep Lladós · Apostolos Antonacopoulos ·
Mohamed Cheriet · Umapada Pal**

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This special issue represents a selected group of papers drawn from those presented in the program of the Tenth International Conference on Document Analysis and Recognition (ICDAR2009). ICDAR2009 was held at the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona (UAB), Catalonia, Spain in July 26–29, 2009. ICDAR is the main event of the technical committees TC-10 (Graphics Recognition) and TC-11 (reading Systems) within the International Association for Pattern Recognition (IAPR).

The volume and quality of technical material submitted to the conference confirm that Document Analysis and Recognition is an active community, both from the scientific and industrial sides, and reinforce ICDAR's status as one of the flagship Pattern Recognition conferences. ICDAR2009 had a varied and high-quality technical program. More than 430 manuscripts were submitted. Of these, 87

were accepted as oral and 190 as poster presentations. About a 16% of accepted papers had at least one author from a company, which shows that Document Analysis is rich in industry-academia pathways. The most represented topics were handwriting recognition, character recognition, and DIA systems and applications. ICDAR finally had 378 registered participants coming from 31 countries. Of these, 255 were full registrants and 123 were students.

After the conference, 20 papers were drawn according to the feedback received by the program committee. The authors of the pre-selected papers were invited to submit extended and improved versions of their manuscripts. The papers have been subjected to a rigorous peer review process that resulted in the five papers collected in this special issue. Clearly, the papers of this issue cover the major research areas of document image analysis and recognition: optical character recognition, handwriting recognition, multilingual recognition, oriental fonts recognition, graphics recognition, machine learning applied to document analysis, document retrieval, and document classification.

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J. Lladós (✉)
Computer Vision Center, Computer Science Department,
Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Bellaterra, Catalonia, Spain
e-mail: Josep.Lladós@uab.cat

A. Antonacopoulos
Pattern Recognition and Image Analysis (PRImA) Research
Laboratory, School of Computing, Science and Engineering,
University of Salford, Salford, UK
e-mail: A.Antonacopoulos@primaresearch.org

M. Cheriet
Synchronmedia Laboratory, University of Quebec's École de
technologie supérieure, Montreal, Quebec, Canada
e-mail: mohamed.cheriet@etsmtl.ca

U. Pal
Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition Unit,
Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata, India
e-mail: umapada@isical.ac.in