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Terry Caelli Adnan Amin  
Robert P.W. Duin Mohamed Kamel  
Dick de Ridder (Eds.)

# Structural, Syntactic, and Statistical Pattern Recognition

Joint IAPR International Workshops  
SSPR 2002 and SPR 2002  
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## Volume Editors

Terry Caelli

University of Alberta, Dept. of Computing Science  
Athabasca Hall, Room 409, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada T6G 2H1  
E-mail: tcaelli@ualberta.ca

Adnan Amin

University of New South Wales, School of Computer Science and Engineering  
Sydney 2052, NSW, Australia  
E-mail: cse.unsw.edu.au

Robert P.W. Duin

Dick de Ridder

Delft University of Technology, Dept. of Applied Physics  
Pattern Recognition Group, Lorentzweg 1, 2628 CJ Delft, The Netherlands  
E-mail: {duin,dick}@ph.tn.tudelft.nl

Mohamed Kamel

University of Waterloo, Dept. of Systems Design Engineering  
Waterloo, Ontario, Canada N2L 3G1  
E-mail: mkamel@uwaterloo.ca

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# Preface

This volume contains all papers presented at SSPR 2002 and SPR 2002 hosted by the University of Windsor, Windsor, Ontario, Canada, August 6-9, 2002.

This was the third time these two workshops were held back-to-back. SSPR was the ninth International Workshop on Structural and Syntactic Pattern Recognition and the SPR was the fourth 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 of Pattern Recognition (IAPR).

The workshops were held in parallel and closely coordinated. This was an attempt to resolve the dilemma of how to deal, in the light of the progressive specialization of pattern recognition, with the need for narrow-focus workshops without further fragmenting the field and introducing yet another conference that would compete for the time and resources of potential participants.

A total of 116 papers were received from many countries with the submission and reviewing processes being carried out separately for each workshop. A total of 45 papers were accepted for oral presentation and 35 for posters. In addition four invited speakers presented informative talks and overviews of their research. They were:

Tom Dietterich, Oregon State University, USA  
Sven Dickinson, the University of Toronto, Canada  
Edwin Hancock, University of York, UK  
Anil Jain, Michigan State University, USA

SSPR 2002 and SPR 2002 were sponsored by the IAPR and the University of Windsor.

We would like to thank our sponsors and, in particular, the members of the program committees of both workshops for performing the hard work of reviewing the many submissions which led to a selection of high quality papers.

Special thanks to our host, Majid Ahmadi, and his colleagues, for running the event smoothly. Moreover, special thanks to Sue Wu for helping prepare the proceedings.

We also appreciate the help of the editorial staff at Springer-Verlag and, in particular, Alfred Hofmann, for supporting this publication in the LNCS series.

August 2002

Terry Caelli  
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Mohamed Kamel  
Dick de Ridder

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Dept. of Computing Science  
University of Alberta  
Alberta, Canada  
tcaelli@ualberta.ca

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University of Windsor, Canada  
ahmadi@uwindsor.ca

## Conference Information Technology Manager

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dick@ph.tn.tudelft.nl

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Adnan Amin

School of Computer Science and Engineering  
University of New South Wales  
Sydney, Australia  
amin@cse.unsw.edu.au

Terry Caelli

Dept. of Computing Science  
University of Alberta  
Alberta, Canada  
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Delft University of Technology  
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Dept. of Systems Design Engineering  
University of Waterloo  
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# Table of Contents

## Invited Talks

Spectral Methods for View-Based 3-D Object Recognition Using Silhouettes .....	1
<i>Diego Macrini, Ali Shokoufandeh, Sven Dickinson, Kaleem Siddiqi, and Steven Zucker</i>	
Machine Learning for Sequential Data: A Review .....	15
<i>Thomas G. Dietterich</i>	
Graph-Based Methods for Vision: A Yorkist Manifesto .....	31
<i>Edwin Hancock and Richard C. Wilson</i>	

## SSPR

### Graphs, Grammars and Languages

Reducing the Computational Cost of Computing Approximated Median Strings .....	47
<i>Carlos D. Martínez-Hinarejos, Alfonso Juan, Francisco Casacuberta, and Ramón Mollineda</i>	
Tree $k$ -Grammar Models for Natural Language Modelling and Parsing .....	56
<i>Jose L. Verdú-Mas, Mikel L. Forcada, Rafael C. Carrasco, and Jorge Calera-Rubio</i>	
Algorithms for Learning Function Distinguishable Regular Languages .....	64
<i>Henning Fernau and Agnes Radl</i>	

### Graphs, Strings and Grammars

Non-bayesian Graph Matching without Explicit Compatibility Calculations .....	74
<i>Barend Jacobus van Wyk and Michaël Antonie van Wyk</i>	
Spectral Feature Vectors for Graph Clustering .....	83
<i>Bin Luo, Richard C. Wilson, and Edwin R. Hancock</i>	
Identification of Diatoms by Grid Graph Matching .....	94
<i>Stefan Fischer, Kaspar Gilomen, and Horst Bunke</i>	
String Edit Distance, Random Walks and Graph Matching .....	104
<i>Antonio Robles-Kelly and Edwin R. Hancock</i>	

Learning Structural Variations in Shock Trees ..... 113  
*Andrea Torsello and Edwin R. Hancock*

A Comparison of Algorithms for Maximum Common Subgraph  
on Randomly Connected Graphs ..... 123  
*Horst Bunke, Pasquale Foggia, Corrado Guidobaldi, Carlo Sansone,  
and Mario Vento*

Inexact Multisubgraph Matching Using Graph Eigenspace  
and Clustering Models ..... 133  
*Serhiy Kosinov and Terry Caelli*

Optimal Lower Bound for Generalized Median Problems  
in Metric Space ..... 143  
*Xiaoyi Jiang and Horst Bunke*

**Documents and OCR**

Structural Description to Recognising Arabic Characters  
Using Decision Tree Learning Techniques ..... 152  
*Adnan Amin*

Feature Approach for Printed Document Image Analysis ..... 159  
*Jean Duong, Myrian Côté, and Hubert Emptoz*

Example-Driven Graphics Recognition ..... 168  
*Liu Wenjin*

Estimation of Texels for Regular Mosaics  
Using Model-Based Interaction Maps ..... 177  
*Georgy Gimel'farb*

Using Graph Search Techniques for Contextual Colour Retrieval ..... 186  
*Lee Gregory and Josef Kittler*

**Image Shape Analysis and Application**

Comparing Shape and Temporal PDMs ..... 195  
*Ezra Tassone, Geoff West, and Svetha Venkatesh*

Linear Shape Recognition with Mixtures of Point Distribution Models .... 205  
*Abdullah A. Al-Shaher and Edwin R. Hancock*

Curvature Weighted Evidence Combination for Shape-from-Shading ..... 216  
*Fabio Sartori and Edwin R. Hancock*

Probabilistic Decisions in Production Nets:  
An Example from Vehicle Recognition ..... 225  
*Eckart Michaelsen and Uwe Stilla*

Hierarchical Top Down Enhancement of Robust PCA .....	234
<i>Georg Langs, Horst Bischof, and Walter G. Kropatsch</i>	

An Application of Machine Learning Techniques for the Classification of Glaucomatous Progression .....	243
<i>Mihai Lazarescu, Andrew Turpin, and Svetha Venkatesh</i>	

## Poster Papers

### Graphs, Strings, Grammars and Language

Estimating the Joint Probability Distribution of Random Vertices and Arcs by Means of Second-Order Random Graphs .....	252
<i>Francesc Serratos, René Alquézar, and Alberto Sanfeliu</i>	

Successive Projection Graph Matching .....	263
<i>Barend Jacobus van Wyk, Michaël Antonie van Wyk, and Hubert Edward Hanrahan</i>	

Compact Graph Model of Handwritten Images: Integration into Authentication and Recognition .....	272
<i>Denis V. Popel</i>	

A Statistical and Structural Approach for Symbol Recognition, Using XML Modelling .....	281
<i>Mathieu Delalandre, Pierre Héroux, Sébastien Adam, Eric Trupin, and Jean-Marc Ogier</i>	

A New Algorithm for Graph Matching with Application to Content-Based Image Retrieval .....	291
<i>Adel Hlaoui and Shengrui Wang</i>	

Efficient Computation of 3-D Moments in Terms of an Object's Partition .....	301
<i>Juan Humberto Sossa Azuela, Francisco Cuevas de la Rosa, and Héctor Benitez</i>	

### Image Analysis and Feature Extraction

A Visual Attention Operator Based on Morphological Models of Images and Maximum Likelihood Decision ...	310
<i>Roman M. Palenichka</i>	

Disparity Using Feature Points in Multi Scale .....	320
<i>Ilkay Ulusoy, Edwin R. Hancock, and Ugur Halici</i>	

Detecting Perceptually Important Regions in an Image Based on Human Visual Attention Characteristic .....	329
<i>Kyungjoo Cheoi and Yillbyung Lee</i>	

Development of Spoken Language User Interfaces:  
A Tool Kit Approach .....339  
*Hassan Alam, Ahmad Fuad Rezaur Rahman, Timotius Tjahjadi, Hua Cheng,  
Paul Llido Aman Kumar, Rachmat Hartono, Yulia Tarnikova, and Che Wilcox*

**Documents and OCR**

Document Image De-warping for Text/Graphics Recognition .....348  
*Changhua Wu and Gady Agam*

A Complete OCR System for Gurmukhi Script ..... 358  
*G. S. Lehal and Chandan Singh*

*Texprint*: A New Algorithm to Discriminate Textures Structurally ..... 368  
*Antoni Grau, Joan Climent, Francesc Serratos, and Alberto Sanfeliu*

Optical Music Interpretation .....378  
*Michael Droettboom, Ichiro Fujinaga, and Karl MacMillan*

On the Segmentation of Color Cartographic Images .....387  
*Juan Humberto Sossa Azuela, Aurelio Velázquez, and Serguei Levachkine*

**SPR**

**Density Estimation and Distribution Models**

Projection Pursuit Fitting Gaussian Mixture Models .....396  
*Mayer Aladjem*

Asymmetric Gaussian and Its Application to Pattern Recognition .....405  
*Tsuyoshi Kato, Shinichiro Omachi, and Hirotomo Aso*

Modified Predictive Validation Test for Gaussian Mixture Modelling ..... 414  
*Mohammad Sadeghi and Josef Kittler*

**Multi-classifiers and Fusion**

Performance Analysis and Comparison of Linear Combiners  
for Classifier Fusion .....424  
*Giorgio Fumera and Fabio Roli*

Comparison of Two Classification Methodologies  
on a Real-World Biomedical Problem ..... 433  
*Ray Somorjai, Arunas Janeliunas, Richard Baumgartner,  
and Sarunas Raudys*

Evidence Accumulation Clustering Based on the K-Means Algorithm ..... 442  
*Ana Fred and Anil K. Jain*

**Feature Extraction and Selection**

A Kernel Approach to Metric Multidimensional Scaling .....	452
<i>Andrew Webb</i>	
On Feature Selection with Measurement Cost and Grouped Features .....	461
<i>Pavel Paclík, Robert P.W. Duin, Geert M.P. van Kempen, and Reinhard Kohlus</i>	
Classifier-Independent Feature Selection Based on Non-parametric Discriminant Analysis .....	470
<i>Naoto Abe, Mineichi Kudo, and Masaru Shimbo</i>	
Effects of Many Feature Candidates in Feature Selection and Classification .....	480
<i>Helene Schulerud and Fritz Albrechtsen</i>	

**General Methodology**

Spatial Representation of Dissimilarity Data via Lower-Complexity Linear and Nonlinear Mappings .....	488
<i>Elżbieta Pekalska and Robert P. W. Duin</i>	
A Method to Estimate the True Mahalanobis Distance from Eigenvectors of Sample Covariance Matrix .....	498
<i>Masakazu Iwamura, Shinichiro Omachi, and Hirotomo Aso</i>	
Non-iterative Heteroscedastic Linear Dimension Reduction for Two-Class Data (From Fisher to Chernoff) .....	508
<i>Marco Loog and Robert P. W. Duin</i>	
Some Experiments in Supervised Pattern Recognition with Incomplete Training Samples .....	518
<i>Ricardo Barandela, Francesc J. Ferri, and Tania Nájera</i>	
Recursive Prototype Reduction Schemes Applicable for Large Data Sets .....	528
<i>Sang-Woon Kim and B. J. Oommen</i>	

**Documents and OCR**

Combination of Tangent Vectors and Local Representations for Handwritten Digit Recognition .....	538
<i>Daniel Keysers, Roberto Paredes, Hermann Ney, and Enrique Vidal</i>	
Training Set Expansion in Handwritten Character Recognition .....	548
<i>Javier Cano, Juan-Carlos Perez-Cortes, Joaquim Arlandis, and Rafael Llobet</i>	

Document Classification Using Phrases ..... 557  
*Jan Bakus and Mohamed Kamel*

## **Image Shape Analysis and Application**

Face Detection by Learned Affine Correspondences ..... 566  
*Miroslav Hamouz, Josef Kittler, Jiri Matas, and Petr Bilek*

Shape-from-Shading for Highlighted Surfaces ..... 576  
*Hossein Ragheb and Edwin R. Hancock*

Texture Description by Independent Components ..... 587  
*Dick de Ridder, Robert P. W. Duin, and Josef Kittler*

Fusion of Multiple Cue Detectors  
for Automatic Sports Video Annotation ..... 597  
*Josef Kittler, Marco Ballette, W. J. Christmas, Edward Jaser,  
and Kieron Messer*

Query Shifting Based on Bayesian Decision Theory  
for Content-Based Image Retrieval ..... 607  
*Giorgio Giacinto and Fabio Roli*

Recursive Model-Based Colour Image Restoration ..... 617  
*Michal Haindl*

## **Poster Papers**

### **Face Recognition**

Human Face Recognition with Different Statistical Features ..... 627  
*Javad Haddadnia, Majid Ahmadi, and Karim Faez*

A Transformation-Based Mechanism for Face Recognition ..... 636  
*Yea-Shuan Huang and Yao-Hong Tsai*

Face Detection Using Integral Projection Models\* ..... 644  
*Ginés García-Mateos, Alberto Ruiz, and Pedro E. Lopez-de-Teruel*

Illumination Normalized Face Image for Face Recognition ..... 654  
*Jaepil Ko, Eunju Kim, and Heyran Byun*

Towards a Generalized Eigenspace-Based Face Recognition Framework .... 662  
*Javier Ruiz del Solar and Pablo Navarrete*

### **Speech and Multimedia**

Automatic Segmentation of Speech at the Phonetic Level ..... 672  
*Jon Ander Gómez and María José Castro*

Class-Discriminative Weighted Distortion Measure for VQ-based Speaker Identification .....	681
<i>Tomi Kinnunen and Ismo Kärkkäinen</i>	
Alive Fishes Species Characterization from Video Sequences .....	689
<i>Dahbia Semani, Christophe Saint-Jean, Carl Frélicot, Thierry Bouwmans, and Pierre Courtellemont</i>	

## Data and Cluster Analysis

Automatic Cut Detection in MPEG Movies: A Multi-expert Approach .....	699
<i>Massimo De Santo, Gennaro Percannella, Carlo Sansone, Roberto Santoro, and Mario Vento</i>	
Bayesian Networks for Incorporation of Contextual Information in Target Recognition Systems .....	709
<i>Keith Copsey and Andrew Webb</i>	
Extending LAESA Fast Nearest Neighbour Algorithm to Find the $k$ Nearest Neighbours .....	718
<i>Francisco Moreno-Seco, Luisa Micó, and Jose Oncina</i>	
A Fast Approximated $k$ -Median Algorithm .....	725
<i>Eva Gómez-Ballester, Luisa Micó, and Jose Oncina</i>	
A Hidden Markov Model-Based Approach to Sequential Data Clustering ..	734
<i>Antonello Panuccio, Manuele Bicego, and Vittorio Murino</i>	
Genetic Algorithms for Exploratory Data Analysis .....	743
<i>Alberto Perez-Jimenez and Juan-Carlos Perez-Cortes</i>	

## Classification

Piecewise Multi-linear PDF Modelling, Using an ML Approach .....	752
<i>Edgard Nyssen, Naren Naik, and Bart Truyen</i>	
Decision Tree Using Class-Dependent Feature Subsets .....	761
<i>Kazuaki Aoki and Mineichi Kudo</i>	
Fusion of n-Tuple Based Classifiers for High Performance Handwritten Character Recognition .....	770
<i>Konstantinos Sirlantzis, Sanaul Hoque, Michael C. Fairhurst, and Ahmad Fuad Rezaur Rahman</i>	
A Biologically Plausible Approach to Cat and Dog Discrimination .....	779
<i>Bruce A. Draper, Kyungim Baek, and Jeff Boody</i>	
Morphologically Unbiased Classifier Combination through Graphical PDF Correlation .....	789

*David Windridge and Josef Kittler*

Classifiers under Continuous Observations ..... 798  
*Hitoshi Sakano and Takashi Suenaga*

**Image Analysis and Vision**

Texture Classification Based on Coevolution Approach  
in Multiwavelet Feature Space ..... 806  
*Jing-Wein Wang*

Probabilistic Signal Models to Regularise Dynamic Programming Stereo .. 814  
*Georgy Gimel'farb and Uri Lipowezky*

The Hough Transform without the Accumulators ..... 823  
*Atsushi Imiya, Tetsu Hada, and Ken Tatara*

Robust Gray-Level Histogram Gaussian Characterisation ..... 833  
*José Manuel Iñesta and Jorge Calera-Rubio*

Model-Based Fatigue Fractographs Texture Analysis ..... 842  
*Michal Haindl and Hynek Lausmann*

Hierarchical Multiscale Modeling of Wavelet-Based Correlations ..... 850  
*Zohreh Azimifar, Paul Fieguth, and Ed Jernigan*

**Author Index** ..... 861