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Smart Graphics

9th International Symposium, SG 2008
Rennes, France, August 27-29, 2008
Proceedings



Springer

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Library of Congress Control Number: 2008933457

CR Subject Classification (1998): I.3, I.2.10, H.5.2, I.3.7, I.4

LNCS Sublibrary: SL 6 – Image Processing, Computer Vision, Pattern Recognition,
and Graphics

ISSN 0302-9743
ISBN-10 3-540-85410-X Springer Berlin Heidelberg New York
ISBN-13 978-3-540-85410-4 Springer Berlin Heidelberg New York

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© Springer-Verlag Berlin Heidelberg 2008
Printed in Germany

Typesetting: Camera-ready by author, data conversion by Scientific Publishing Services, Chennai, India
Printed on acid-free paper SPIN: 12463794 06/3180 5 4 3 2 1 0

Preface

For centuries, artists and designers have been creating communicative graphics. With the advent of new forms of media, the emergence of paradigms such as ubiquitous computing, and the rapid evolution of interaction devices, there is a continuous cycle of renewal of the technologies and methods to support artists, interaction designers and developers.

Developing new approaches requires an understanding of the fundamentals of perception and cognition as they relate to interaction and communication technologies, together with artificial intelligence and computer graphics techniques to automate reasoning and enhance cognition. Smart Graphics is in essence an interdisciplinary endeavor and brings together the fields of computer graphics, artificial intelligence, cognitive science, graphic design and fine art.

The International Symposium on Smart Graphics 2008 was held on August 27–29 in Rennes, France. It was the ninth event in a series which originally started in 2000 as an American Association for Artificial Intelligence Spring Symposium and has taken place every year since then. Due to the high quality of the papers submitted this year, the Program Committee decided to accept 17 full papers (instead of the usual 15), 9 short papers and 3 system demonstrations. The acceptance rate for full papers was 34%.

This year's meeting included a discussion as to the nature of the shape, content and future of the event. Representatives from different communities were invited to give their opinions, and the organizing committee would like to warmly thank them here. Such questions as the ongoing viability of the symposium and the consequences of co-locating Smart Graphics with other larger research events led to interesting debates and have prepared the groundwork for what could be the future of the Smart Graphics conference series.

We would like to thank all authors and speakers for making this year's event such a success, the reviewers for their careful work, and the program committee for selecting and ordering the contributions for the final program. Special thanks go to the INRIA research institute and to the local organizers of the event (especially Edith Blin and Lena Baudoin) for taking care of all the financial and organizational aspects of the symposium.

August 2008

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The Smart Graphics Symposium 2008 was held in cooperation with Eurographics, AAAI, ACM Siggraph, ACM Siggart and ACM Sigchi. It has been supported by INRIA Rennes - Bretagne Atlantique, CNRS, LINA Laboratory of Nantes, University of Rennes, City of Rennes and Brittany territory.

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