



International Association for Pattern Recognition Inc

An affiliate member of the International Federation for Information Processing

# NEWSLETTER

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**April Issue Deadline**

**15 February 1995**

## FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

**Dear Everybody,**

This is the ISSUE after the EVENT before! 520 of you gathered in Jerusalem last October and had the chance to mix business with pleasure! The business part is all in the 5 kilograms of the Proceedings; and so that you do not think that IAPR sells knowledge by the gram, I should note that the acceptance rate of the papers was 1 in 2 (1 in

4 for oral presentations and 1 in 4 for posters). Thus, the knowledge is definitely measured in Kilos rather than in grams! There were submissions from 41 countries but apparently people from Belarus could not get visas to go and people from India had problems with flight cancellations due to an epidemic. There were four parallel tracks and a fifth one with posters. The areas covered were Computer Vision, Pattern Recognition, Signal Processing and Parallel Computing. You can find it all in the Conference Proceedings (ISBN 0-8186-6260-3) so I will tell you about the pleasure bit! In fact, I do not even need to tell you about that, because you can see for yourself on the next page; even belly dancers were summoned for the participants to practice in shape recognition! As for the camels, they were brought for the curve fitting practice (definitely very wobbly, if you know what I mean!). The banquet was a Bedouin feast in the desert, followed by a Sound and Light performance at Masada castle (the ruined palace of Herod) - a very moving and memorable experience.

Being the newsletter editor, I had the chance for the first time to sit at the Governing Board meeting as an observer. So, I will tell you some "behind the scenes" news. There are 46 Governing Board members representing the 32 member states. 37 of them were present or represented by

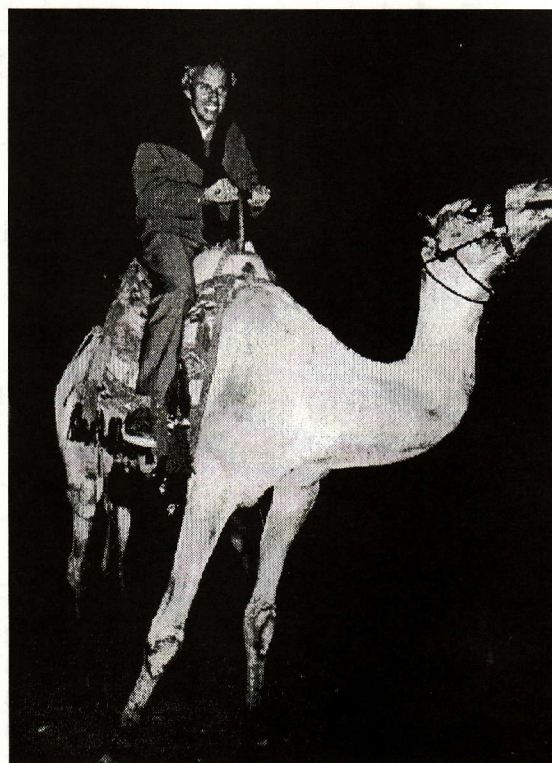


proxy at the meeting. Each member of the executive committee (J K Aggarwal, President, S Tsuji, First Vice-president, J Kittler, Second Vice-president, G Borgefors, Secretary, S L Tanimoto, Treasurer) and some heads of Technical Committees gave reports. It was good news all around, except from the Treasurer! (I don't think it is a coincidence that people ask for "the bad news" when they ask for the bill!) The main income of our association is from the ICPRs, and the other important source is the dues paid by the member societies. The main expenditure is the Newsletter (that is us!!!)-my heart sunk at this point!). Other expenses are the Secretariat, loans to the TCs, and running expenses in general. The full sum allocated for loans to the TCs was not used, which was fortunate, as the IAPR could not have afforded it! New expenditures are the Fellowships and the Industrial Award. The projected biennial result for the next two years is a decrease in funds of about US \$12,000, from a balance of US \$72,000. The King Sun Fu award money is something separate invested mostly in mutual funds, which have decreased in value, to US \$26,000. The award sum was not increased this year, and in the future it may become necessary to decrease it! (If you are to get it, hurry up, before it shrinks!)

A long discussion followed on how to balance the IAPR budget. The Treasurer noted that even with the decrease in funds there is no immediate danger, especially when remembering that IAPR should never have funds above US \$100,000, due to taxation rules in USA. The Secretary noted that there is no way of decreasing Newsletter costs other than printing less than four issues a year. The general feeling of the meeting seemed to be that the Newsletter should be supported. (Hear! Hear!). Eventually, a budget was accepted with a temporary reduction in resources of about US \$12,000, with the proviso that the next Executive Committee will work on generating new income (lucky them!). The good news is that the 13th ICPR (in Vienna in 1996) is expected to generate US \$37,000 for the IAPR, but in the meantime a US \$5,000 loan was approved to get it started. And of course, plans had to be made for the 14th ICPR. Two proposals had been submitted for its location: Brighton in Britain and Brisbane in Australia. My heart was with Brisbane (I have never been to Australia) but my brain with Britain: (more accessible to European and US participants who form the bulk of the conference goers). Britain lost! So, Australia, here we come! (The only trouble is we have to wait until 1998!)

The other news was that the Technical Committee TC12 (Automatic Speech Recognition), was found asleep at a time of duty ("dormant" was the term used), and it was sent to the heaven where all "good" committees go when the time comes to meet their maker! It will be replaced by the "Multimedia and Communication Systems" committee which could easily absorb the activities on speech as well. Finally, the big moment came: The election of the new Executive Committee. The constitution of IAPR allows

the nomination of candidates via two routes: either via the Nominating Committee, following a process that takes place a few months before the meeting, or during the Governing Board meeting following a different process. There were two candidates for the Presidency, one nominated via each route: Gunilla Borgefors via the Governing Board-Nominating Committee route and Josef Kittler nominated directly by members of the Governing Board there. I was asked to wait outside (with the two candidates) when the relevant discussion took place, so I missed all of it. However, I had the chance to capture the new President later on, at a time of lowered defences, and I am pleased to present him to you here:



(He is the guy at the top)

And now, having dealt with the EVENT before the ISSUE, I will deal with the ISSUE after the EVENT! Well, it is that time of year again!

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

I am pleased to announce  
THE 2nd IAPR NEWSLETTER COMPETITION!  
Here is your chance to start the New Year  
with the right foot! Take part in the  
CROSSWORD COMPETITION  
First Prize US \$70  
☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

Send me a crossword which YOU made with definitions related to IAPR activities! Deadline: May 1995. And don't forget to send me the solution as well - it rather makes a difference!

**Maria Petrou**



## SSPR WORKSHOP NAHARIYA ISRAEL OCTOBER 1994

**W**orkshops, which gather less than 100 people, with a single track and more time for presentation of papers and for discussions, are often very exciting events, provided the quality of the scientific content is good. This has been the case of the series of IAPR International Workshops on Structural and Syntactic Pattern Recognition, traditionally held just close to ICPR. Many attendees of these workshops have experienced fruitful and pleasant days, and there are probably quite a few collaborations between groups in different countries or regions which have been initiated during a coffee break at one of these workshops.

In 1994, the SSPR workshop was held in Nahariya (Israel), a pleasant resort town on the Mediterranean Sea, north of Haifa, at the Carlton Hotel. This city was founded more sixty years ago by German settlers and its clean and organised structure is probably a heritage of the founders.

The organizers of the workshop were colleagues from the Technion in Haifa, with Dov Dori and Alfred Bruckstein being co-chairs, Ms. Nilly Schnapp providing an excellent administrative support and many other people helped to have everything run very smoothly. Congratulations to the organizers for an excellent job! We think all the participants enjoyed their stay in Nahariya.

This workshop maintained the tradition of high-quality standards established by its predecessors. The range of papers presented covered multiple aspects of pattern recognition, in terms of methods and of applications, but the focus was kept on structural and syntactic approaches. Among all the papers presented, let us just mention some highlights. Leo Dorst presented an interesting view on mathematical morphology, with the concept of directional representations, which enable an elegant reformulation of basic morphological operations such as dilation, through algorithms such as the slope transform for function morphology. This also enables a scale-space approach in morphological operations. Anisotropic diffusion on contours allows Thierry Cohignac to extract robust local affine invariant features from smooth contours, providing an interesting alternative to existing methods. Matching structures is a key tool in our field. It was addressed directly or indirectly by many authors. Ronen Basri presented a method for matching based on a new concept in region-based matching, which applies to planar objects under similarity, affine and projective transformations. H. Bunke presented the new extensions of the tolerant error-matching principle developed in Bern; precompiling the image structure in relational data structure allows efficient matching procedures.

Text processing is always an active field in SSPR. Larry Spitz presented a very interesting and efficient approach for spotting words in document images without explicit

OCR, through a coding of the character shapes. This can be very useful for the indexing of large databases of documentation. Henry Baird proposed an automatic method for constructing preclassification trees, with the interesting concept of "population": after building a first tree using one million training samples, with an entropy minimization approach, he populated this tree with many million more samples to drive the error rate down. A rigorous method was also used to determine the stopping rules for this population process, based on the upper bounds on error specified by the user.

This was only a sample of the papers presented at SSPR'94. Other topics were explored like inference, in the field of learning structures, grammars or image processing. All these papers will appear in a forthcoming book, "Shape, Structure and Pattern Recognition", edited by D. Dori and A. Bruckstein and expected to be published in April 1995. The program also provided time for social activities and informal get-together. We had an interesting excursion to Rosh Hanikra, at the border with Lebanon, where we visited marine caves and had dinner. As the Mediterranean sea was nearby, many participants also used the opportunity to have a swim (temperatures were very high in Nahariya during the workshop, and the sea temperature was marvellous) or just to stroll along the beach. As mentioned, the organization was excellent, as was the accommodation and the food, so we will remember SSPR'94 with real pleasure and we hope that the organizers of SSPR'96 will meet the challenge of keeping the high quality, both scientifically and with respect to organization and general atmosphere, we have become accustomed to with the SSPR series.

*Karl Tombre, Roger Mohr - France*



*Partially Occluded Shapes  
ICPR Bedouin Feast, October 1994, Jerusalem*



**MESSAGE FROM THE OUTGOING PRESIDENT  
PROFESSOR J K AGGARWAL**

**I** am honored and grateful to have had the opportunity to serve as IAPR President for the past two years. I feel very satisfied that a number of new programs have been implemented, which represent the fruition of the efforts of many persons over a number of years.

First, the initiation of the IAPR Fellow Program culminated in the selection of 35 persons, (listed below), who were presented with certificates at a ceremony at the recent ICPR. This program was created and will be administered by the Fellow Committee under the leadership of Professor Saburo Tsuji. Also, the Industrial Affiliates Membership program, developed by Professor Masakazu Ejiri and the members of the Industrial Liaison Committee, has been put into action. This program will enhance our visibility with industry and provide an important link between academic and industrial research in pattern recognition.

During the past two years, the Executive Committee has striven to accomplish improved communications with the Governing Board and the IAPR membership. One aspect of this emphasis was to improve distribution of the IAPR Newsletter. Under the direction of our new editor, Dr. Maria Petrou, with the assistance of Susan Duff, our Newsletter printing schedule has been standardized and the distribution time has been substantially reduced, resulting in more effective communication on IAPR related activities to our membership.

Other important business which has been transacted in the last biennium include: the abolition of the "Individual" membership category; amendment of voting procedures to permit voting by email and fax for Executive Committee decisions; the establishment of the Industrial Liaison Committee as a standing committee and the creation of a permanent award for the best industrial paper; the formalization and distribution of procedures for IAPR sponsorship and financial assistance for workshops and conferences; the creation of a new technical committee, TC-14, on Image Processing; the IAPR sponsorship of the journal Machine Vision and Applications, and improved distribution of Pattern Recognition Letters to individual IAPR members.

The recent ICPR in Jerusalem was an outstanding success that afforded the opportunity to exchange technical information as well as to visit Israel's cultural and historic sites. The Bedouin feast, and the tours of Masada and the city of Jerusalem were memorable experiences. The presentation of the Fellow certificates following the Bedouin feast in the middle of the desert is an experience the recipients are unlikely to forget. It is indeed a pleasure to thank the conference organizers, Drs. S. Ullman, S. Peleg and Y. Yeshuran, for arranging a technically sound program and the social events. It was a most enjoyable and memorable ICPR.

I would like to thank the members of the Executive Committee and the Governing Board, the committee chairmen, and the many committee members who have served with me during my term. I believe this period has been extremely productive for IAPR. I greatly appreciate their cooperation, hard work, and enthusiasm, which made my job as IAPR President a most rewarding experience. It is with a sense of accomplishment and pride that I hand over the reins to our new President, Josef Kittler, and the newly elected members of the Executive Committee, Vice Presidents Gunilla Borgefors and J.-I. Toriwake, Secretary Gabriella Sanniti de Baja, and Treasurer Josef Bigun. This new team is especially well equipped to continue the ongoing activities and to take us forward into new areas of endeavor.



*Michael Duff (President 1990-1992) having a good look at his Fellowship Certificate just given to him by Jake Aggarwal (President 1992-1994)*

**IAPR FELLOWSHIP AWARDS OCTOBER 1994**

The first IAPR Fellows honoured at 12th ICPR were: **Narendra Ahuja**, USA; **Eric Backer**, Netherlands; **Virginio Cantoni**, Italy; **Serge Castan**, France; **Per-Erik Danielsson**, Sweden; **Pierre Devijver**, France; **Vito Di Gesu**, Italy; **Michael Duff**, UK; **Herbert Freeman**, USA; **Edzard Gelsema**, Netherlands; **Robert Haralick**, USA; **Thomas Huang**, USA; **Pieter Jonker**, Netherlands; **Laveen Kanal**, USA; **Rangsami Kashyap**, USA; **Masakazu Kidode**, Japan; **Walter Kropatsch**, Austria; **Stefano Levialdi**, Italy; **Martin Levine**, Canada; **Gerhard Maderlechner**, Germany; **Dwijesh Dutta Majumder**, India; **Makoto Nagao**, Japan; **Erkki Oja**, Finland; **Theo Pavlides**, USA; **Shmuel Peleg**, Israel; **Matti Pietikainen**, Finland; **Re'jean Plamondon**, Canada; **Azriel Rosendfeld**, USA; **Toshiyuki Sakai**, Japan; **Alberto Sanfeliu**, Spain; **Jean-Claude Simon**, France; **Jack Sklansky**, USA; **Ching Y Suen**, Canada; **Mikio Takagi**, Japan; **Patrick Wang**, USA.



## MESSAGE FROM THE INCOMING PRESIDENT PROFESSOR JOSEF KITTLER



I have always been happy and willing to serve the IAPR in whatever capacity was called for as borne witness by my numerous jobs with which I had been entrusted in the past such as Chairman of TC1, Chairman of Publications and Publicity Committee, General Chairman of IAPR Technical Committees, Newsletter Editor, 2nd Vice President and my membership of various IAPR Committees at some time or other. In that respect I was not all that unprepared to leave Jerusalem charged with some new responsibility with which I could help the cause of the Association. Nevertheless, ending up with the Presidency came to me as a surprise, inducing in me a mixed feeling of delight from the honour bestowed on me by the Governing Board, and at the same time apprehension in the face of the huge responsibility this leadership role entails. I would like to thank the Governing Board for electing me to this position and say that I will do my utmost to meet its challenges.

My tenure as President follows that of Professor Jake Aggarwal, during which a number of evolutionary changes have been accomplished. For the first time the Association awarded some of its members IAPR Fellowships to recognise their distinctive contributions to the field of Pattern Recognition and service to IAPR. An Industrial Affiliate Scheme has been introduced to foster a close involvement of industry in the activities of the Association. The IAPR Newsletter has been revitalised under the new Editor, Dr Maria Petrou, assisted on the production front by the IAPR Secretariat. Several new national member societies joined the Association, with the number of countries now totalling thirty-two. These achievements would not have been possible without the dedicated effort of not only the Past President but of the whole outgoing

Executive Committee, with Professor Gunilla Borgefors, the Past Secretary, deserving a particular mention for her contributions to these accomplishments.

I would like to thank the outgoing Executive Committee members and welcome the new ones. Jake Aggarwal replaces Michael Duff in the capacity of Past President and Gunilla Borgefors takes over from Saburo Tsuji as First Vice-President. They will both provide valuable continuity in the operation of IAPR. Gabriella Sanniti di Baja, who has demonstrated her effectiveness and efficiency in the chair of the Education Committee, replaces Gunilla Borgefors as Secretary. Josef Bigun is succeeding Steve Tanimoto as Treasurer, taking the responsibility for the financial well-being of the Association across the Atlantic for the first time in IAPR's history. Prof Toriwaki is the incoming Second Vice-President. The most urgent task of a new administration is the appointment of IAPR Committees. Vice-President Gunilla Borgefors will continue to chair the Membership Committee to capitalise on the contacts she has established in that role with potential new member countries.

For the time being I shall continue to discharge my former responsibility for IAPR Technical Committees, now as part of the duties of the President. This task should now be relatively easy as all IAPR Technical Committees Chairmen have already been appointed. Pavel Pudil is joining TC1 (Statistical Pattern Recognition Techniques) as a co-chairman jointly with Davi Geiger. Marco Ferretti will chair TC6 (Special-Purpose Architectures), Franz Leberl assumes the responsibility for TC7 (Applications in Remote Sensing), Prof Nishida takes over TC8 (Applications in Industry), Jan Gerbrands will chair TC9 (Biomedical Pattern Recognition), and Guy Lorette succeeds Re'jean Plamondon in running TC11 (Applications in Text Processing). Horace Ip and Arnold Smeulders agreed to co-chair the newly established TC12 (Multimedia and Communication Systems) and Cettina Maccarone will chair TC13 (Pattern Recognition in Astronomy and Astrophysics). The other Technical Committees will continue under their past chairmen.

Following a well established tradition, the Nominating Committee will be chaired by Past President Jake Aggarwal. Other members of the Nominating Committee are Dr M Ejiri, Prof E S Gelsema, Prof H Niemann and Prof C Y Suen. The Nominating Committee membership has already been approved by the Governing Board as required by the IAPR Constitution.

Herb Freeman, in spite of the earlier reports of his retirement from IAPR, which proved to be widely exaggerated, will lead the Awards Committee which assists the Governing Board in selecting the recipient of the K S Fu Award and the Industrially-Related Paper Award. Michael Duff will chair the Constitution and Bylaws Committee which will have the task to look at some of the current procedures used for implementing the

*continued overleaf*



articles of the IAPR Constitution and Bylaws which appear to require some tuning. The Conference and Meetings Committee will be chaired by Prof Re'jan Plamondon. Erkki Oja is becoming responsible for the Publications and Publicity Committee which will look into the opportunities offered by World Wide Web to increase publicity for IAPR and its activities. Dr Petrou will continue to serve as the Newsletter Editor.

Gerhard Maderlechner will head the Industrial Liaison Committee which will attempt to encourage the growth of IAPR Industrial Affiliate membership. Pierre Devijver will lead the Fellow Committee which this time round is expected to deal with a substantially greater number of nominations. Stefano Levialdi will continue to maintain our link with IFIP. The Education Committee, which has now become a Standing Committee of IAPR, will be chaired by Chris Taylor. His committee is currently being constituted.

I am pleased to report also that the process of appointing IAPR committee members is essentially complete. This accomplishment provides an ideal opportunity for me to convey my thanks and deepest appreciation to the outgoing officers and committee members for their good work on behalf of the Association.

A detailed list of all the new appointments is available as a pull out section of this issue of IAPR Newsletter. Some of the appointees are well known faces in the community with a lot of experience while others bring new blood. This mixture should guarantee a smooth sailing towards continuously updated horizons which will ensure IAPR's relevance for a long time to come.

With most of my effort since our meeting in Jerusalem being devoted to the urgent task of restarting the IAPR machinery, there has been a little time to think about the goals to strive for during my period of office as IAPR President. Perhaps the most pressing one will be to redress the problem of the projected operating budget deficit. The Executive Committee has already started looking at ways additional revenues could be raised for the Association. Another aim will be to devise a scheme which would complement the existing IAPR Awards (K S Fu Award and Fellowships) by an award to encourage young scientists or engineers. Also, ground rules will have to be determined for the use of World Wide Web as an IAPR publicity medium. The issue of European Coordinating Committee which has not been conclusively resolved by the previous administration should be considered. I look forward to collaborating with you on maintaining the IAPR a live organisation relevant to the evolving needs of its members.

Looking ahead, the 13th International Conference on Pattern Recognition will be held in Vienna in October 1996. I hope to see you all there to participate in its technical programme and through your Governing Board members to help forge IAPR's future developments.

## KING SUN FU AWARD 1994

**N**ow, what do you call an editor who a couple of months BEFORE the decision of the K S Fu award, publishes a photo and a whole feature article about the recipient? Clever, for having predicted the outcome of the competition? Stupid, for having pre-empted herself and has nothing to write now? After careful consideration of the pros and cons, and thought given to the consequences, I decided that I prefer the first option!

Some of you now might think that my choice was not difficult! But the task of awards committees is usually more difficult. Our community has several worthy members who have offered a lot to the advancement of the field and five of them were nominated for this year's K S Fu Award. (It should be noted that no member of the Executive Committee or the Governing Board is eligible for the award and no member of the Executive Committee is allowed to nominate a candidate.) The award, which consists of a plaque and a cash prize, is given once every two years to an individual in recognition of a technical contribution of far reaching significance and impact on the field of Pattern Recognition or its closely allied fields. The undisputed winner this year was none else than

### HERBERT FREEMAN

from Rutgers University, USA. There was a feature article in the July issue of the Newsletter on Professor Freeman with the opportunity of his retirement from active service in IAPR. The article had mainly concentrated on his activity within IAPR, however his scientific offer to the community should not be underestimated. One of the most commonly used tools in shape description, encoding and recognition, namely that of chain code (often called the Freeman chain code) was proposed by him in 1959. Professor Freeman has also made significant pioneering contributions to the representation and analysis of line drawings. He has published more than 120 papers and has supervised more than 36 PhD theses! More recently, Herbert Freeman had been working on recognition and pose determination of 3-D objects, using the "characteristic-view" approach, automated cartographic name placement (automatically placing the names for area, line, and point features on geographic maps), and off-line cursive hand-writing recognition in applications involving severely constrained vocabularies. Apart from his professional activities within IAPR, IEEE, IFIP and other professional organizations, he has served (and still serves) on the editorial boards of many prestigious journals in our area of research. The award was only a small token of appreciation of his numerous contributions to the Community.

*Editor*



## BOOK REVIEW

### Geometric Invariance in Computer Vision

Edited by Joseph L. Mundy & Andrew Zisserman  
MIT Press, ISBN 0-262-13285-0

This book is a very well thought out and well presented introduction to the subject of invariance and its application to computer vision. I had always associated invariance with a set of musty books on the bottom shelf of the maths library, full of algebraic expressions and lemmas. Although I had always thought that this is a subject just waiting for an application, making the connection from dry lemmas to computer vision is not easy. This book achieves this goal with a readable and consistent presentation.

Another area of mathematics that always should be part of computer vision, and has for too long been inscrutable, is projective geometry, and the appendix of the book, written by the two editors of the volume, cuts through this subject like a surgeon's knife to the results of interest to the vision community. It does not wander away from what is strictly necessary, and shows the limitations of the subject - that it is principally concerned with the projection of one plane onto another, but goes on to the model of the perspective camera as a basis for extending the applicability of this theory to vision. Although this is only presented as an appendix, an aside of the main thrust of the book, it is in itself a very valuable part of this volume.

The book is divided into four sections - the first two dealing with algebraic and non-algebraic invariants. The third deals with invariants from multiple views, which is an exciting direction in which the application of invariance is expanding. The fourth section deals with applications. These sections are further subdivided into chapters written by various authors. At the start of each section is an overview setting out the aims and the approaches to be presented. A lot of these chapters are based on papers presented at a workshop in Reykjavik, Iceland in 1991.

After a very clear introduction to all the aspects of the subject of the book provided by the editors, the book delves into the nitty-gritty of algebraic invariance. I have to say that I found the first chapter of this section the least useful contribution to my understanding of the subject, being very reminiscent of those musty books in the maths library. The liberal use of acronyms (especially FFT for First Fundamental Theorem) jarred throughout the reading of this chapter. It did, however, provide a historical account of the development of the subject - and possibly why the application of it was not immediately apparent! The other chapters were, much more application driven. I particularly liked the chapter on the experimental evaluation of algebraic invariants, as this reassures the student of any new field - "Is any of this stuff of any practical use?" - "Is it worth learning?". The final chapter of this section demonstrates that very general and important theorems can be derived in the subject, and these influence our use of invariants.

The second section deals with curves or surfaces that are not expressed algebraically. The general approach in terms of exploiting the differentiability of these curves is presented in the first chapter. Invariants are found which depend upon high order derivatives. Again there is a very useful chapter on the evaluation of these invariants for practical purposes. Not surprisingly, any invariant which is dependent upon high order derivatives is not numerically stable enough for such use. Other invariants, of lower order, are also presented and there is a good chapter explaining the use of Lie groups in finding how many invariants a system may have, as well as the way to generate them. Other methods are also introduced, such as geometric constructs and the use of algebraic fits.

The third section is a short, but very important section, on the application of invariants to stereo (multiple views) and motion. The use of invariants could help us to avoid camera calibration as long as correspondences can be established. There is a chapter on invariants of 3D curves seen in a pair of coplanar image planes, which extends results presented in earlier chapters. The final chapter of this section is on motion of an object characterised by a 3D curve. Although this is a short section, it illustrates further applications of the ideas presented in the previous two sections to more complex problems in vision.

The last section concerns applications and again shows how invariants can help with a variety of problems. The majority of these chapters are concerned with the use of invariants as a means of indexing objects in a model based approach and can also be used to determine their relative positions under general projective transformation.

All in all, this is a good balance between theoretical development and practical application. The book provides a good introduction to the subject and what can be achieved. It has been well thought out so that information can be extracted easily, and so will provide a useful reference book too. In short, it is a good buy!

*Philip I. Palmer*  
*University of Surrey, UK*

#### Best Paper Awards - BMVC'94 Conference

(Proceedings ISBN 952 1898 IX from E Hancock: erh@uk.ac.york.minster)  
The British Machine Vision Association and Society of Pattern Recognition awarded the following prizes during their recent conference: The Science prize was split between **Tat-Jen Cham** and **Roberto Cipolla** and **Jun Sato** and **Roberto Cipolla** (University of Cambridge, UK) for their papers *Skewed Symmetry Detection Through Local Skewed Symmetry* and *Image Registration using Multiscale Texture Moments* respectively. The Industry prize (donated by Computer Recognition Systems, UK) went to **Jeff Hunter**, **Jim Graham** and **Chris Taylor** (Manchester University, UK), for their paper *User Programmable Visual Inspection*. The Best Poster prize went to **Antony Worrall**, **Geoff Sullivan** and **Keith Baker** for *A Simple Intuitive Camera Calibration Tool for Natural Images*.



## Report on the activities of IAPR TC-10 Graphics Recognition

**D**ocument image analysis is an exciting field of pattern recognition, where lots of research activities take place, not only on optical character recognition (which is probably the first topic to come to mind when somebody mentions document analysis), but also on the analysis of physical and logical structures of scanned documents, and more generally the interpretation of the document's contents. IAPR's Technical Committee 10 on Graphics Recognition promotes interaction among researchers working in document image analysis in general, and graphics recognition in particular. Topics of primary interest to members of this Technical Committee are: recognition of graphical shapes- segmentation of graphics from text- conversion of line drawings and maps- interpretation of engineering drawings of various kinds- recognition of printed music, fingerprints, etc.

To give a short report on TC-10's activities, we can mention the following scientific events:

◆ The 2nd IAPR Conference on Document Analysis and Recognition (ICDAR), co-sponsored by TC-10, TC-11 and IGS, was held in Tsukuba Science City, Japan, on October 20-22, 1993. ICDAR'93 was definitely a success, with around 400 attendees and an excellent organisation by our Japanese hosts. Many things were discussed in Tsukuba: scientific matters, organizational matters and friendly matters (conferences are also a good place to get acquainted with the real people behind the names in the bibliography lists!), so the outcome of ICDAR'93 was deemed very positive at all of these levels. The next ICDAR will be held in Montreal (Canada), on August 14-16, 1995. General chair is Professor C. Y. Suen (Canada), with co-chairs R. Plamondon (Canada) and S. Srihari (U.S.A.), and program co-chairs R. Kasturi (U.S.A.), G. Lorette (France) and K. Yamamoto (Japan). ICDAR'95 is sponsored by IAPR TC-10 and TC-11, by the International Graphonomics Society and by the Canadian Image Processing and Pattern Recognition Society.

◆ Just after ICPR in Jerusalem, more precisely on October 18-20, 1994, a workshop on Document Analysis Systems (DAS'94) was held in Kaiserslautern (Germany). Sponsors were IAPR TC-2, TC-10 and TC-11, and Daimler Benz. Workshops chairs: Andreas Dengel (Germany) and Larry Spitz (USA). The topics of interest to TC-10 were largely covered in this workshop.

◆ TC-10 co-sponsored (with TC-6 and TC-8) the 4th IAPR workshop on Machine Vision Applications, held on December 13-15, 1994 in Kawasaki, Japan. Its main topic was machine vision and its applications, which included machine vision algorithms, special purpose architectures, industrial applications and document, map and line drawing processing. Workshop Co-chairs: Mikio Takagi and Akira Maeda. An invited talk titled "The Object-

Process Paradigm and its Application to Machine Vision" was given at this workshop by Dov Dori, an active member of IAPR TC-10.

◆ In addition to these scientific events, TC-10 has decided to organize its own workshop in connection with the next ICDAR in 1995. This IAPR Workshop on Graphics Recognition, sponsored by IAPR and organized by TC-10, will be held on August 10-11, 1995 at the Pennsylvania State University (USA), the week before ICDAR'95 in Montreal.

We have also set up an electronic mailing list for TC-10 related activities, where information is regularly communicated (one posting every month on average) about TC-10's specific activities, other IAPR events of interest to our graphics recognition community (SSPR'94, ICPR'94, IWVF'94) and various other relevant announcements (other scientific events in image processing, document analysis and pattern recognition which may be of interest to TC-10 members, information about available databases and information servers on the Internet, etc.). There are currently 147 members of this mailing list. Send E-mail to [Karl.Tombre@loria.fr](mailto:Karl.Tombre@loria.fr) if you want to join the mailing list.

*Karl Tombre, Chairman TC-10  
([Karl.Tombre@loria.fr](mailto:Karl.Tombre@loria.fr))*

### Best Industry-Related Paper Award at 12-ICPR - Jerusalem

The First-Place Award went to **Dr. Minori Noguchi** and **Prof. Shree K. Nayar** of Columbia University for their outstanding paper entitled "Microscopic Shape from Focus using Active Illumination".

Two Honorable Mention papers were also selected: "Towards Robust Automatic Traffic Scene Analysis in Real-Time" by D. Koller, J. Weber, T. Huang, J. Malik, G. Ogasawara, B. Rao and S. Russell of the University of California at Berkeley, and "Real-Time Facial-Feature Tracking based on Matching Techniques and its Applications" by H. Sako, M. Whitehouse, A. Smith and A. Sutherland of the Hitachi Dublin Laboratory. The winning papers were selected from the 449 papers accepted for presentation at the 12th ICPR Conference.

This award program was established three years ago to build better relationships with industry and to encourage practical research and development, especially cooperative work between academia and industry, and lead to greater participation from industry in IAPR activities.

The selection of the award winners was a difficult decision due to the high quality of the submissions. Weight was particularly given to the work's uniqueness, applicability, robustness, and importance to the future.

*Masakazu Ejiri  
Chairman Industrial Liaison Committee*



## CONFERENCE ANNOUNCEMENTS

### 19TH ÖAGM & 1ST SDRV WORKSHOPS

Maribor Slovenia  
13-15 May 1995 [IAPR]

The Slovenian Society for Pattern Recognition and the Austrian Society for Pattern Recognition are organising this joint workshop which will include:

- Image Analysis and Understanding
- Computer Vision
- Neural Networks
- Speech Analysis and Understanding
- Pattern Recognition
- Applications

#### Paper submission:

3 copies of the full-length draft paper (English) to include:  
title of paper  
author's name, address, tel, fax and email  
abstract  
up to 10 pages of text and figures

#### Papers should be submitted to:

Franc Solina, University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, Trzaska, 61000, Ljubljana, Slovenia.

**Paper submission deadline:** 15 February 1995

### 3 IEEE WORKSHOPS

Cambridge Massachusetts USA  
18-19 June 1995

#### 1. Physics-Based Modelling in Computer Vision (18th-19th)

Submit 4 copies complete paper (address p.10)

**Paper submission deadline:** 10 January 1995

**Final camera ready paper:** 10 April 1995

#### 2. Context-Based Vision (19th)

3 copies manuscript (address p.10)

**Paper submission deadline:** 16 January 1995

**Final camera ready paper:** 3 April 1995

#### 3. Shape/Pattern Matching-Computational Biology (19th)

4 copies complete manuscript (address p.10)

**Paper submission deadline:** 1 March 1995

### INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON DIGITAL SIGNAL PROCESSING

Limassol Cyprus 26-28 June 1995

Digital Signal Processing, Speech Coding, Non-Linear IP, Image Compression & Video Coding, Digital Filter Theory & Design, Adaptive Filters & Analysis, Image & Scene Analysis, IP Algorithms, Filter Banks, Wavelets & Sub-band Coding, Morphological Techniques, Neural Network Theory, Transfer Coding. Full details from address p.10.

**Paper submission deadline:** 10 March 1995

**Acceptance notification:** 10 April 1995

### SIXTH BMVC CONFERENCE

Birmingham UK 11-14 September 1995

Topics to include: IP and Feature Extraction, Object Recognition & Scene Analysis, Reconstruction of 3D Shape, Advanced Pattern Analysis, Computational Issues in Perception, Robotic Vision. Full details address p 11.

4 copies full paper not exceeding 10 pages (approx 5000 words if no figures). Include 2 title pages, 1 anonymous, containing only paper title and 5 key words.

**Paper submission deadline:** 24 April 1995

**Notification of acceptance:** 12 June 1995

**Final camera ready paper:** 7 July 1995

### DIGITAL IMAGE COMPUTING TECHNIQUES

Brisbane Australia 6-8 December 1994

To include Computer Vision and Object Recognition, Motion Analysis, Morphology, Medical Imaging, Fuzzy Logic and Neural Networks, Image Coding, Machine Vision & Robotics, Enhancement & Restoration, Industrial Applications, Software and Hardware Tools, Classification & Machine Learning. 4 Copies extended abstract 750-1000 words to address on p 11.

**Paper submission date:** 16 June 1995

**Final camera ready paper** 29 September 1995

For latest details see WWW entry on URL:

<http://www.cssip.elec.uq.oz.au/~walker/dicta95.html>

### THIRD INTERNATIONAL COMPUTER SCIENCE CONFERENCE

Hong Kong 11-13 December 1995 [IAPR]

The theme for the conference is Image Analysis Applications and Computer Graphics and will include:

#### Image Analysis Applications:

Industrial Visual Inspection, Vision for Robotic Applications, 3D or Color Imaging in Inspection, Document Image Processing, Cursive Script Recognition, Map & Drawing Analysis, Biomedical Image Analysis, Image Analysis for Multimedia, Remote Sensing Image Analysis, Software & Novel Systems.

#### Computer Graphics:

Natural Phenomenon Modeling, Shading & Rendering Algorithms, Image Synthesis & Realism, Computer Animation, Graphics for CAD/CAM, Graphics in Education, Arts, Simulation, Scientific Visualization, Virtual Reality, Graphics in Multimedia.

#### Paper submission:

Manuscripts (English) should be no longer than 5000 words, double-spaced, 11pt.type or larger, to include:

title page

names and addresses of authors

abstract - not more than 200 words

4 hard copies with cover letter

Papers should be submitted to address on page 11.

**Paper submission deadline:** 17 April 1995

**Acceptance notification:** 17 July 1995

**Final camera ready paper:** 15 September 1995



## FORTHCOMING CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS AND EVENTS

1995	Event	Location	Contact [Sponsor]
4-7 Jan 3rd-ICAIA	Third International Conference on Artificial Intelligence Applications	Cairo Egypt	Prof A Goneid, Dept Computer Science, The American University in Cairo, 113 Kasr Al Aini Street, PO Box 2511, Cairo Egypt. Goneid@EGAUCACS.bitnet
12-15 Feb ISCCP-C	ISCC Pan-Chromatic Conference	Virginia USA	Steve Shafer, Computer Science Department, Carnegie-Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA 15213, USA. sas@cs.cmu.edu
15-17 March EMBS	Int Conf on Computer Applications in Eng and Medicine	Indianapolis USA	Dr M El-Sharkawy, Dept Electrical Engineering, Purdue University, 723 W Michigan Street, Indianapolis 46202, USA. el-shark@etsun.engr.iupui.edu
23-24 March RecPad'95	7th Annual Conference on Pattern Recognition	Aveiro Portugal	RecPad'95, António Sousa Pereira, Dept. Electrónica e Telecomunicações, Universidade de Aveiro, 3800 Aveiro, Portugal. recpad95@inesca.pt
28-31 March Scanning'95	7th Annual International Scientific Meeting	Monteray USA	Mary K Sullivan, Foundation for Advances in Med & Sci, PO Box 832, Mahwah, New Jersey 07430-0832, USA. fams@holonet.net
18-20 April FOM'95	8th Int Conf 3D Image Processing in Microscopy & 7th on Confocal Microscopy	Taipei Taiwan	Dr P Cheng, Advanced Microscopy & Imaging Lab, Dept Elec & Comp Engineering, State University of New York at Buffalo, PO Box 84, Getzville, NY 14968, USA. elepcc@corn.eng.buffalo.edu
27-29 April WGMICV	Europe-China Workshop Geometrical modelling, Invariants for Computer Vision	Xi'an China	Prof R Mohr, LIFIA INRIA, 46 Avenue F Viallet, 38031 Grenoble Cedex, France. Mohr@imag.fr
8-12 May ICASSP-95	IEEE Int Conference on Acoustics, Speech and Signal Processing	Detroit USA	ICASSP-95, Diversified Management Services, PO Box 265, Eaton Rapids, MI 48827-0265, USA.
11-13 May ÖAGM	19th ÖAGM and 1st SDVR Workshop	Maribor Slovenia	Franc Solina, University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Electrical Eng & Comp Sci, Trzaska 25, 61000 Ljubljana, Slovenia. franc@fer.uni-lj.si [IAPR]
15-19 May VI'95	Vision Interface'95	Québec Canada	Denis Poussart, Department of Electrical Engineering, Laval University, Québec, Canada G1K 7P4. poussart@gel.ulaval.ca [IAPR]
6-9 June 9SCIA	9th Scandinavian Conference on Image Analysis	Uppsala Sweden	9SCIA, Centre for Image Analysis, Lagerhyddsvägen 17, S-752 37 Uppsala, Sweden. scia9@cb.uu.se [IAPR]
18-19 June WPBMCV	IEEE Workshop on Physics-Based Modelling in Computer Vision	Cambridge MA, USA	Demetri Metaxas, Dept Comp & Information Science, University of Pennsylvania, 200 South 33rd Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104-6389, USA.
19 June WCBC	IEEE Workshop on Context-Based Vision	Cambridge MA, USA	Tom Strat, SRI International, 333 Ravenswood Avenue, Menlo Park, California 94025, USA.
19 June WSPM	IEEE Workshop on Shape & Pattern Matching	Cambridge MA, USA	Andrea Califano, IBM TJ Watson Research Center, 30 Saw Mill River Road, Hawthorne, New York 10532, USA. acal@watson.ibm.com
20-22 June WNSIP	1995 IEEE Workshop on Nonlinear Signal and Image Processing	Halkidiki Greece	Professor Ioannis Pitas, Department Electrical & Computer Eng., Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, PO Box 463, 54006 Thessaloniki, Greece. pitas@vergina.eng.auth.gr
20-23 June 5-CCV	Fifth International Conference on Computer Vision	Cambridge MA, USA	Eric Grimson, Artificial Intelligence Lab, 545 Technology Square, MIT, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139, USA. welg@ai.mit.edu
26-28 June DSP 95	International Conference on Digital Signal Processing	Limassol Cyprus	DSP 95, Department of Computer Science, University of Cyprus, Kallipoleos 75 PO Box 537, Nicosia, Cyprus. dsp95@cs.ucy.ac.cy



PLEASE INFORM THE SECRETARIAT OF ANY REVISIONS OR ADDITIONS TO THIS INFORMATION.  
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1995	Event	Location	Contact [Sponsor]
3-6 July IPA95	5th Int Conf on Image Processing and its Applications	Edinburgh UK	IPA95 Secretariat, IEE Conference Services, Savoy Place, London, WC2R 0BL, UK. <a href="mailto:conference@iceorg.uk">conference@iceorg.uk</a> [IAPR]
9-14 July 40 SPIE	SPIE's 40th Annual Meeting - Mathematical Imaging	San Diego USA	For full details of the many conferences forming this meeting, contact: SPIE, PO Box 10, Bellingham, Washington 98227-0010, USA. Phone: +1 206 676 3290
5-9 Aug IROS'95	IEEE/RSJ International Conference on Intelligent Robots and Systems	Pittsburgh USA	Patricia Mackiewicz, School of Computer Science, Carnegie-Mellon University, 5000 Forbes Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15213-3891 USA. <a href="mailto:patty@cs.cmu.edu">patty@cs.cmu.edu</a>
10-11 Aug GRec'95	IAPR Workshop on Graphics Recognition	Pennsylvania USA	Professor R Kasturi, Dept Computer Science & Engineering, Penn State University, University Park, Pennsylvania 16802, USA. <a href="mailto:kasturi@cse.psu.edu">kasturi@cse.psu.edu</a> [IAPR]
10-11 Aug ISATP'95	1995 IEEE International Symposium on Assembly and Task Planning	Pittsburgh USA	Prof Sukhan Lee, Dept Computer Science, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, California 90089-0781, USA. <a href="mailto:rajeev@cs.uiuc.edu">rajeev@cs.uiuc.edu</a>
14-16 Aug ICDAR '95	Third Int Conference on Document Analysis and Recognition	Montreal Canada	Professor R Kasturi, Dept Computer Science & Engineering, Penn State University, University Park, Pennsylvania 16802, USA. <a href="mailto:kasturi@cse.psu.edu">kasturi@cse.psu.edu</a> [IAPR]
6-8 Sept CAIP'95	6th International Conference Computer Analysis of Images and Patterns	Prague Czech Republic	Vaclav Hlavac, Czech Technical University, Faculty of Electrical Engineering, Department of Control Engineering, Karlovo namesti 13, CZ-121 35 Prague 2, Czech Republic. <a href="mailto:caip95@vision.felk.cvut.cz">caip95@vision.felk.cvut.cz</a> [IAPR]
11-14 Sept BMVC'95	Sixth British Machine Vision Conference	Birmingham UK	David Pycock BMVC'95, School of Electronic & Electrical Engineering, The University of Birmingham, Edgbaston, Birmingham B15 2TT UK <a href="mailto:BMVC95@bham.ac.uk">BMVC95@bham.ac.uk</a>
13-15 Sept ICIAP '95	8th International Conference on Image Analysis and Processing	San Remo Italy	Professor Leila De Floriani, ICIAP '95, University of Genova, Viale Benedetto XV 3, I-16132 Genova, Italy. <a href="mailto:iciap@dibe.unige.it">iciap@dibe.unige.it</a> [IAPR] WWW entry, URL: <a href="http://afrodite.lira.dist.unige.it/confs/ICIAP.ps">http://afrodite.lira.dist.unige.it/confs/ICIAP.ps</a>
17-22 Sept ISIT'95	IEEE International Symposium on Information Theory	Whistler Canada	Prof I Blake, Dept Elec Comp Eng, University of Waterloo, Waterloo, Ontario, Canada N2L 3G1. <a href="mailto:iflake@claude.uwaterloo.ca">iflake@claude.uwaterloo.ca</a>
18-20 Sept CAMP'95	Computer Architectures for Machine Perception	Como Italy	Alessandra Setti, Dip. di Informatica e Sistemistica, Via Abbiategrasso 209, 27100 Pavia, Italy. <a href="mailto:ale@ipvvis.unipv.it">ale@ipvvis.unipv.it</a> [IAPR]
19-21 Sept PRIA'95	Third Scientific Conference on Pattern Recognition and Image Analysis	Minsk Belarus	Professor S Ablameyko, Institute of Engineering Cybernetics, Belarusian Academy of Sciences, Surganov str 6, 220012 Minsk, Belarus. <a href="mailto:mahaniok%bas10.basnet.minsk.by@demossu">mahaniok%bas10.basnet.minsk.by@demossu</a>
9-13 Oct ESSRS II	European Symposium on Satellite Remote Sensing II	Florence Italy	The Europto Series, Direct Communications GmbH, Att. Ms Susan Jones, Xantener Str 22, 10707 Berlin, FR Germany. (Jones)100140,3214@compuserve.com
6-8 Dec DICTA'95	Digital Imaging Computing Techniques and Applications	Brisbane Australia	Ross Walker, DICTA'95, C/-Dept Elect and Comp Engineering, University of Queensland 4072, Australia. <a href="mailto:dicta95@cssip.elec.uq.oz.au">dicta95@cssip.elec.uq.oz.au</a>
11-13 Dec ICSC'95	3rd Int Computer Science Conf - Image Analysis Applications and Computer Graphics	Hong Kong	Professor R T Chin, Department of Computer Science, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, Clear Water Bay, Hong Kong. <a href="mailto:roland@cs.ust.hk">roland@cs.ust.hk</a> [IAPR]



# YEAR AT A GLANCE CONFERENCE PLANNER

Contact Addresses on pages 10-11 Previous Newsletter Reports are shown in Brackets (volume, number)  
 ● = submission date ■ = final paper deadline dates = meeting dates

Conference	Location	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
3rd-ICAIA	Cairo	4-7											
ISCCP-C	Virginia		12-15										
EMBS	Indianapolis			15-17									
RecPad'95	Aveiro	■31		23-24									
Scanning'95	Monteray			28-31									
FOM'95	Taipei	●1			18-20								
WGMICV(v16 n3)	Xi'an			■1	27-29								
ICASSP-95	Detroit					8-12							
ÖAGM	Maribor		■15			11-13							
VT'95(v16 n4)	Quebec			■15		15-19							
9SCIA(v16 n3)	Uppsala		■28				6-9						
WPBMCV	Cambridge, MA	●10			■10		18-19						
WCBC	Cambridge, MA	●16			■3		19-19						
WSPM	Cambridge, MA			●1			19-19						
WNSIP(v16 n3)	Halkidiki			■1			20-22						
5-CCV	Cambridge, MA						20-23						
DSP 95	Nicosia			●10			26-28						
IPA95(v16 n4)	Edinburgh			■8				3-6					
40 SPIE	San Diego							9-14					
IROS'95	Pittsburgh								5-9				
Grec'95(v16 n3)	Pennsylvania					■15			10-11				
ISATP'95	Pittsburgh		■1						10-11				
ICDAR '95(v16 n3)	Montreal					■1			14-16				
CAIP'95(v16 n4)	Prague		●1				■20			6-8			
BMVC'95	Birmingham				●24			■7		11-14			
ICLAP '95(v16 n4)	San Remo	●2				■6				13-15			
ISIT'95	Whistler	●1			■15					17-22			
CAMP'95(v16 n4)	Como	●31			■30					18-20			
PRIA'95(v16 n4)	Minsk			●15				■1		19-21			
ESSRS II	Florence										9-13		
DICTA'95	Brisbane						●16			■29			6-8
ICSC'95	Hong Kong				●17					■15			11-13



# IAPR DIRECTORY 1995

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TC13	Pattern Recognition in Astronomy & Astrophysics <b>Dr M C Maccarone</b>
TC14	Image Processing <b>Dr H Knutsson</b>



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**Japan**

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