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Preface

These are the proceedings of the 9th European Conference on Computer Vision (ECCV 2006), the premium European conference on computer vision, held in Graz, Austria, in May 2006.

In response to our conference call, we received 811 papers, the largest number of submissions so far. Finally, 41 papers were selected for podium presentation and 151 for presentation in poster sessions (a 23.67% acceptance rate).

The double-blind reviewing process started by assigning each paper to one of the 22 area chairs, who then selected 3 reviewers for each paper. After the reviews were received, the authors were offered the possibility to provide feedback on the reviews. On the basis of the reviews and the rebuttal of the authors, the area chairs wrote the initial consolidation report for each paper. Finally, all the area chairs attended a two-day meeting in Graz, where all decisions on acceptance/rejection were made. At that meeting, the area chairs responsible for similar sub-fields thoroughly evaluated the assigned papers and discussed them in great depth. Again, all decisions were reached without the knowledge of the authors' identity. We are fully aware of the fact that reviewing is always also subjective, and that some good papers might have been overlooked; however, we tried our best to apply a fair selection process.

The conference preparation went smoothly thanks to several people. We first wish to thank the ECCV Steering Committee for entrusting us with the organization of the conference. We are grateful to the area chairs, who did a tremendous job in selecting the papers, and to more than 340 Program Committee members and 220 additional reviewers for all their professional efforts. To the organizers of the previous ECCV 2004 in Prague, Vaclav Hlaváč, Jirí Matas and Tomáš Pajdla for providing many insights, additional information, and the superb conference software. Finally, we would also like to thank the authors for contributing a large number of excellent papers to support the high standards of the ECCV conference.

Many people showed dedication and enthusiasm in the preparation of the conference. We would like to express our deepest gratitude to all the members of the involved institutes, that is, the Institute of Electrical Measurement and Measurement Signal Processing and the Institute for Computer Graphics and Vision, both at Graz University of Technology, and the Visual Cognitive Systems Laboratory at the University of Ljubljana. In particular, we would like to express our warmest thanks to Friedrich Fraundorfer for all his help (and patience) with the conference software and many other issues concerning the event, as well as Johanna Pfeifer for her great help with the organizational matters.

February 2006

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Table of Contents – Part I

Recognition I

<i>TexonBoost: Joint Appearance, Shape and Context Modeling for Multi-class Object Recognition and Segmentation</i> <i>Jamie Shotton, John Winn, Carsten Rother, Antonio Criminisi</i>	1
Weakly Supervised Learning of Part-Based Spatial Models for Visual Object Recognition <i>David J. Crandall, Daniel P. Huttenlocher</i>	16
Hyperfeatures – Multilevel Local Coding for Visual Recognition <i>Ankur Agarwal, Bill Triggs</i>	30

Statistical Models and Visual Learning

Riemannian Manifold Learning for Nonlinear Dimensionality Reduction <i>Tony Lin, Hongbin Zha, Sang Uk Lee</i>	44
Controlling Sparseness in Non-negative Tensor Factorization <i>Matthias Heiler, Christoph Schnörr</i>	56
Conditional Infomax Learning: An Integrated Framework for Feature Extraction and Fusion <i>Dahua Lin, Xiaoou Tang</i>	68

Poster Session I

Shape Representation and Object Modeling

Degen Generalized Cylinders and Their Properties <i>Liangliang Cao, Jianzhuang Liu, Xiaoou Tang</i>	83
Geodesics Between 3D Closed Curves Using Path-Straightening <i>Eric Klassen, Anuj Srivastava</i>	95
Robust Homography Estimation from Planar Contours Based on Convexity <i>Alberto Ruiz, Pedro E. López de Teruel, Lorenzo Fernández</i>	107

Detecting Instances of Shape Classes That Exhibit Variable Structure <i>Vassilis Athitsos, Jingbin Wang, Stan Sclaroff, Margrit Betke</i>	121
Direct Solutions for Computing Cylinders from Minimal Sets of 3D Points <i>Christian Beder, Wolfgang Förstner</i>	135
Tracking and Motion	
Estimation of Multiple Periodic Motions from Video <i>Alexia Briassouli, Narendra Ahuja</i>	147
Robust Multi-body Motion Tracking Using Commute Time Clustering <i>Huaijun Qiu, Edwin R. Hancock</i>	160
A Tuned Eigenspace Technique for Articulated Motion Recognition <i>M. Masudur Rahman, Antonio Robles-Kelly</i>	174
Real-Time Non-rigid Shape Recovery Via Active Appearance Models for Augmented Reality <i>Jianke Zhu, Steven C.H. Hoi, Michael R. Lyu</i>	186
A Fluid Motion Estimator for Schlieren Image Velocimetry <i>Elise Arnaud, Etienne Mémín, Roberto Sosa, Guillermo Artana</i>	198
Bilateral Filtering-Based Optical Flow Estimation with Occlusion Detection <i>Jiangjian Xiao, Hui Cheng, Harpreet Sawhney, Cen Rao, Michael Isnardi</i>	211
Multiview Geometry and 3D Reconstruction	
Geometry and Kinematics with Uncertain Data <i>Christian Perwass, Christian Gebken, Gerald Sommer</i>	225
Euclidean Structure from $N \geq 2$ Parallel Circles: Theory and Algorithms <i>Pierre Gurdjos, Peter Sturm, Yihong Wu</i>	238
Overconstrained Linear Estimation of Radial Distortion and Multi-view Geometry <i>R. Matt Steele, Christopher Jaynes</i>	253
Camera Calibration with Two Arbitrary Coaxial Circles <i>Carlo Colombo, Dario Comanducci, Alberto Del Bimbo</i>	265

Molding Face Shapes by Example <i>Ira Kemelmacher, Ronen Basri</i>	277
---	-----

Reconstruction of Canal Surfaces from Single Images Under Exact Perspective <i>Vincenzo Caglioti, Alessandro Giusti</i>	289
--	-----

Statistical Models and Visual Learning

Subspace Estimation Using Projection Based M-Estimators over Grassmann Manifolds <i>Raghav Subbarao, Peter Meer</i>	301
--	-----

Learning 2D Hand Shapes Using the Topology Preservation Model GNG <i>Anastassia Angelopoulou, José García Rodríguez, Alexandra Psarrou</i>	313
---	-----

Towards Optimal Training of Cascaded Detectors <i>S. Charles Brubaker, Matthew D. Mullin, James M. Rehg</i>	325
--	-----

Learning and Incorporating Top-Down Cues in Image Segmentation <i>Xuming He, Richard S. Zemel, Debajyoti Ray</i>	338
---	-----

Learning to Detect Objects of Many Classes Using Binary Classifiers <i>Ramana Isukapalli, Ahmed Elgammal, Russell Greiner</i>	352
--	-----

Low-Level Vision, Image Features

A Unifying Framework for Mutual Information Methods for Use in Non-linear Optimisation <i>Nicholas Dowson, Richard Bowden</i>	365
--	-----

Random Walks, Constrained Multiple Hypothesis Testing and Image Enhancement <i>Noura Azzabou, Nikos Paragios, Frederic Guichard</i>	379
--	-----

From Tensor-Driven Diffusion to Anisotropic Wavelet Shrinkage <i>Martin Welk, Joachim Weickert, Gabriele Steidl</i>	391
--	-----

SURF: Speeded Up Robust Features <i>Herbert Bay, Tinne Tuytelaars, Luc Van Gool</i>	404
--	-----

Top-Points as Interest Points for Image Matching <i>B. Platel, E. Balmachnova, L.M.J. Florack, B.M. ter Haar Romeny</i>	418
Machine Learning for High-Speed Corner Detection <i>Edward Rosten, Tom Drummond</i>	430
Segmentation and Grouping	
Smooth Image Segmentation by Nonparametric Bayesian Inference <i>Peter Orbanz, Joachim M. Buhmann</i>	444
Shape Analysis and Fuzzy Control for 3D Competitive Segmentation of Brain Structures with Level Sets <i>Cybèle Ciofolo, Christian Barillot</i>	458
Variational Motion Segmentation with Level Sets <i>Thomas Brox, Andrés Bruhn, Joachim Weickert</i>	471
Ellipse Fitting with Hyperaccuracy <i>Kenichi Kanatani</i>	484
A Physically-Motivated Deformable Model Based on Fluid Dynamics <i>Andrei C. Jalba, Jos B.T.M. Roerdink</i>	496
Image Formation and Acquisition Devices and Sensors	
Video and Image Bayesian Demosaicing with a Two Color Image Prior <i>Eric P. Bennett, Matthew Uyttendaele, C. Lawrence Zitnick, Richard Szeliski, Sing Bing Kang</i>	508
Generalized Multi-sensor Planning <i>Anurag Mittal</i>	522
Illumination and Reflectance	
Variational Shape and Reflectance Estimation Under Changing Light and Viewpoints <i>Neil Birkbeck, Dana Cobzas, Peter Sturm, Martin Jagersand</i>	536
Specularity Removal in Images and Videos: A PDE Approach <i>Satya P. Mallick, Todd Zickler, Peter N. Belhumeur, David J. Kriegman</i>	550

3D Reconstruction and Multi-view Geometry

Carved Visual Hulls for Image-Based Modeling <i>Yasutaka Furukawa, Jean Ponce</i>	564
What Is the Range of Surface Reconstructions from a Gradient Field? <i>Amit Agrawal, Ramesh Raskar, Rama Chellappa</i>	578
Practical Global Optimization for Multiview Geometry <i>Sameer Agarwal, Manmohan Krishna Chandraker, Fredrik Kahl, David Kriegman, Serge Belongie</i>	592
Perspective n -View Multibody Structure-and-Motion Through Model Selection <i>Konrad Schindler, James U, Hanzi Wang</i>	606
Confocal Stereo <i>Samuel W. Hasinoff, Kiriakos N. Kutulakos</i>	620
Author Index	635