Lecture Notes in Computer Science 2526

Edited by G. Goos, J. Hartmanis, and J. van Leeuwen

Springer
Berlin
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Medical Data Analysis

Third International Symposium, ISMDA 2002
Rome, Italy, October 10-11, 2002
Proceedings

Springer

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Cataloging-in-Publication Data applied for

Bibliograhpic information published by Die Deutsche Bibliothek
Die Deutsche Bibliothek lists this publication in the Deutsche Nationalbibliografie;
detailed bibliographic data is available in the Internet at http://dnb.ddb.de

CR Subject Classification (1998): I.2, H.2.8, H.3, G.3, I.5.1, I.4, J.3, F.1

ISSN 0302-9743
ISBN 3-540-00044-5 Springer-Verlag Berlin Heidelberg New York

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Springer-Verlag Berlin Heidelberg New York
a member of BertelsmannSpringer Science+Business Media GmbH

http://www.springer.de

© Springer-Verlag Berlin Heidelberg 2002
Printed in Germany

Typesetting: Camera-ready by author, data conversion by Boller Mediendesign
Printed on acid-free paper SPIN: 10873138 06/3142 5 4 3 2 1 0

Preface

The International Symposium on Medical Data Analysis is an important periodical opportunity to exchange ideas and first-hand experiences with groups interested in the medical applications of innovative hardware and software tools.

The massive information available through continuous improvements in the various modeling approaches to Medical Data Analysis is reflected in the results, dealing with quite different topics, presented during the Third Edition of the Symposium (ISMDA 2002). They have been grouped into the following four categories: (1) Data Mining and Decision Support Systems; (2) Medical Informatics and Modeling; (3) Time-Series Analysis; and (4) Medical Imaging.

In setting up the symposium program we tried to avoid, even with the shortage of time, parallel sessions. Thus, all participants had the chance to catch all the oral presentations, and we hope that this third proceedings volume will extend this chance also to non-participants. As for the previous volumes, it contains extensive up-to-date chapters on Medical Data Analysis, packed with ideas, suggestions, and solutions to many problems typical of this field.

An appealing feature of ISMDA is the informal character coupled to a careful selection and reviewing procedure for the submitted contributions, which guaranteed a high-quality standard within a relaxing and friendly environment. In this connection, it is not only fair but also a great pleasure for us to thank the many people involved in the set-up of ISMDA 2002, from the authors to the organizing committee to the international panel of reviewers, all of them provided an invaluable contribution to the success of the symposium.

September 2002

Alfredo Colosimo
Alessandro Giuliani
Paolo Sirabella

Organization

The ISMDA 2002 symposium was organized by the CISB, the Interdepartmental Research Centre for Models and Information Analysis in Biomedical Systems, University of Rome, La Sapienza, Italy.

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