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Proceedings

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Preface

This volume contains the full and short papers of SAMT 2009, the 4th International Conference on Semantic and Digital Media Technologies 2009 held in Graz, Austria.

SAMT brings together researchers dealing with a broad range of research topics related to semantic multimedia and a great diversity of application areas. The current research shows that adding and using semantics of multimedia content is broadening its scope from search and retrieval to the complete media life cycle, from content creation to distribution and consumption, thus leveraging new possibilities in creating, sharing and reusing multimedia content. While some of the contributions present improvements in automatic analysis and annotation methods, there is increasingly more work dealing with visualization, user interaction and collaboration. We can also observe ongoing standardization activities related to semantic multimedia in both W3C and MPEG, forming a solid basis for a wide adoption.

The conference received 41 submissions this year, of which the Program Committee selected 13 full papers for oral presentation and 8 short papers for poster presentation. In addition to the scientific papers, the conference program included two invited talks by Ricardo Baeza-Yates and Stefan Rüger and a demo session showing results from three European projects.

The day before the main conference offered an industry day with presentations and demos that showed the growing importance of semantic technologies in real-world applications as well as the research challenges coming from them. From the submitted proposals, the Workshop and Tutorial Chairs selected two full day workshops, namely:

- Semantic Multimedia Database Technologies
- Learning the Semantics of Audio Signals

In addition, there were three half-day tutorials, namely:

- A Semantic Multimedia Web: Create, Annotate, Present and Share Your Media
- MPEG Metadata for Context-Aware Multimedia Applications
- Web of Data in the Context of Multimedia

The workshops complement the conference by providing a forum for discussion about emerging fields in the scope of SAMT and the tutorials are an opportunity for the participants to get a condensed introduction in one of the many areas related to semantic multimedia.

This conference would not have been possible without the tremendous support of many people. We would like to thank the Workshop and Tutorial Chairs, Josep Blat, Noel O'Connor and Klaus Tochtermann, the Industry Day Chairs

Wessel Kraaij and Alberto Messina, as well as Wolfgang Halb, Helen Hasenauer and Karin Rehatschek, who did a great job in organizing this event. We would like to thank the Program Committee members for the thorough review of the submissions, the invited speakers, the workshop organizers and tutors, and all contributors and participants. We are grateful for the support provided by the consortia of the SALERO and VidiVideo projects, the Young European Associated Researchers (YEAR) network, the City of Graz, the Province of Styria and the Austrian Federal Ministry of Science and Research.

December 2009

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Table of Contents

Keynote Talk: Mining the Web 2.0 for Improved Image Search	1
<i>Ricardo Baeza-Yates</i>	
Keynote Talk: More than a Thousand Words	2
<i>Stefan Rüger</i>	
Content Organization and Browsing	
A Simulated User Study of Image Browsing Using High-Level Classification	3
<i>Teerapong Leelanupab, Yue Feng, Vassilios Stathopoulos, and Joemon M. Jose</i>	
Exploring Relationships between Annotated Images with the ChainGraph Visualization	16
<i>Steffen Lohmann, Philipp Heim, Lena Tetzlaff, Thomas Ertl, and Jürgen Ziegler</i>	
On the Coöperative Creation of Multimedia Meaning	28
<i>Claudio Cusano, Simone Santini, and Raimondo Schettini</i>	
Annotation and Tagging I	
On the Feasibility of a Tag-Based Approach for Deciding Which Objects a Picture Shows: An Empirical Study	40
<i>Viktoria Pammer, Barbara Kump, and Stefanie Lindstaedt</i>	
Statement-Based Semantic Annotation of Media Resources	52
<i>Wolfgang Weiss, Tobias Bürger, Robert Villa, Punitha P., and Wolfgang Halb</i>	
Large Scale Tag Recommendation Using Different Image Representations	65
<i>Rabeeh Abbasi, Marcin Grzegorzec, and Steffen Staab</i>	
Interoperable Multimedia Metadata through Similarity-Based Semantic Web Service Discovery	77
<i>Stefan Dietze, Neil Benn, John Domingue, Alex Conconi, and Fabio Cattaneo</i>	

Content Distribution and Delivery

Semantic Expression and Execution of B2B Contracts on Multimedia Content	89
<i>Víctor Rodríguez-Doncel and Jaime Delgado</i>	
A Conceptual Model for Publishing Multimedia Content on the Semantic Web	101
<i>Tobias Bürger and Elena Simperl</i>	
CAIN-21: An Extensible and Metadata-Driven Multimedia Adaptation Engine in the MPEG-21 Framework	114
<i>Fernando López, José M. Martínez, and Narciso García</i>	

Annotation and Tagging II

Shot Boundary Detection Based on Eigen Coefficients and Small Eigen Value	126
<i>Punitha P. and Joemon M. Jose</i>	
Shape-Based Autotagging of 3D Models for Retrieval	137
<i>Ryutarou Ohbuchi and Shun Kawamura</i>	
PixGeo: Geographically Grounding Touristic Personal Photographs	149
<i>Rodrigo F. Carvalho and Fabio Ciravegna</i>	

Short Papers

Method for Identifying Task Hardships by Analyzing Operational Logs of Instruction Videos	161
<i>Junzo Kamahara, Takashi Nagamatsu, Yuki Fukuhara, Yohei Kaieda, and Yutaka Ishii</i>	
Multimodal Semantic Analysis of Public Transport Movements	165
<i>Wolfgang Halb and Helmut Neuschmied</i>	
CorpVis: An Online Emotional Speech Corpora Visualisation Interface	169
<i>Charlie Cullen, Brian Vaughan, John McAuley, and Evin McCarthy</i>	
Incremental Context Creation and Its Effects on Semantic Query Precision	173
<i>Alexandra Dumitrescu and Simone Santini</i>	
OntoFilm: A Core Ontology for Film Production	177
<i>Ajay Chakravarthy, Richard Beales, Nikos Matskanis, and Xiaoyu Yang</i>	

RelFinder: Revealing Relationships in RDF Knowledge Bases	182
<i>Philipp Heim, Sebastian Hellmann, Jens Lehmann,</i>	
<i>Steffen Lohmann, and Timo Stegemann</i>	
Image Annotation Refinement Using Web-Based Keyword	
Correlation	188
<i>Ainhoa Llorente, Enrico Motta, and Stefan Ruger</i>	
Automatic Rating and Selection of Digital Photographs	192
<i>Daniel Kormann, Peter Dunker, and Ronny Paduschek</i>	
Author Index	197