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Preface

Practicing medicine has always been an art. However, never before has such a diverse team of specialists, including traditional physicians, technicians and nurses, been cooperating during routine diagnostic and therapeutic processes. Most recently, this team has acquired additional allies – scientists and engineers, responsible for the development and maintenance of various supporting medical systems, materials and devices. Consequently, there has been a major development in medical applications of various technologies to the benefit of patients and physicians. The quality of healthcare improves, the diagnosis is faster and the therapy more effective.

The Information Technologies in Biomedicine Conference deals with various domains where computer-aided design, processing or assistance help to improve diagnostics and patient monitoring. The first part of this volume addresses different image and signal processing applications. This domain is especially important during early diagnosis and later in monitoring treatment, where fast and reliable computer-assisted systems evaluate the medical data. Novel approaches to 3D and 2D imaging in early tumor detection, liver segmentation, stroke diagnosis etc. are then presented. Medical signal (i.e., EEG and ECG) analysis is supported by computerized methods. In addition, human-computer interaction and biometric approaches represent a modern area of biocybernetics with new solutions.

The next part deals with therapy and rehabilitation. The topics cover a broad spectrum of human kinematics modelling. Development and evaluation of contemporary biomaterials technologies are also introduced.

A separate section is dedicated to bioinformatics, where information techniques are used in nano-scale. Gene expression, DNA signal distribution and genome assemblers are discussed.

Finally, telemedicine applications are presented. Novel home monitoring and assisted living systems are introduced.

The topics presented at the Information Technologies in Biomedicine conference reflect a small but representative part of contemporary worldwide research.

We would like to express our gratitude to the scientific committee as well as the authors who have contributed their original research studies.

June 2012

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Table of Contents

Image Analysis

Blood Vessel Segmentation in HRT Images for Glaucoma Early Detection	1
<i>Marcin Grzegorzek and Paula Lubina</i>	
Enhancing the Quality of Layer Detection in Tomographic Images of the Eye	13
<i>Robert Koprowski, Sławomir Teper, Edward Wylegala, and Zygmunt Wróbel</i>	
Segmentation of the Left Ventricle Using Active Contour Method with Gradient Vector Flow Forces in Short-Axis MRI	24
<i>Tomasz Pieciak</i>	
White Matter Segmentation from MR Images in Subjects with Brain Tumours	36
<i>Paweł Szwarc, Jacek Kawa, and Ewa Pietka</i>	
3D Fuzzy Liver Tumor Segmentation	47
<i>Paweł Badura and Ewa Pietka</i>	
Kernelized Fuzzy C-Means Method and Gaussian Mixture Model in Unsupervised Cascade Clustering	58
<i>Joanna Czajkowska, Monika Bugdol, and Ewa Pietka</i>	
Automatic Detection of Melanomas: An Application Based on the ABCD Criteria	67
<i>Joanna Jaworek-Korjakowska</i>	
Subtle Directional Mammographic Findings in Multiscale Domain	77
<i>Magdalena Jasionowska and Artur Przelaskowski</i>	
Automatic Nuclei Detection on Cytological Images Using the Firefly Optimization Algorithm	85
<i>Paweł Filipczuk, Weronika Wojtak, and Andrzej Obuchowicz</i>	
Computer Assisted Location of the Lower Limb Mechanical Axis	93
<i>Piotr Zarychta, Henryk Konik, and Anna Zarychta-Bargieła</i>	
Automatic Early Stroke Recognition Algorithm in CT Images	101
<i>Grzegorz Ostrek and Artur Przelaskowski</i>	

VIII Table of Contents

The Design of a System for Assisting Burn and Chronic Wound Diagnosis	110
<i>Ewa Majchrzak, Miroslaw Dziewoński, Mariusz Nowak, Marek Kawecki, Michał Bachorz, and Paweł Kowalski</i>	

The Feature Detection on the Homogeneous Surfaces with Projected Pattern	118
<i>Paweł Popieliski and Zygmunt Wróbel</i>	

Sensed Compression with Cosine and Noiselet Measurements for Medical Imaging	129
<i>Artur Przelaskowski and Rafał Jozwiak</i>	

An Image Processing Approach to Determination of Steel Fibers Orientation in Reinforced Concrete	143
<i>Marcin Rudzki, Monika Bugdol, and Tomasz Ponikiewski</i>	

Signal Processing

Multichannel Biomedical Signals Analysis Based on a Split-and-Collect Approach	151
<i>Juliusz L. Kulikowski</i>	

Detection of Abnormalities in ECG	161
<i>Branko Babusiak and Michał Gala</i>	

Research into the Possibility to Use Impedance Rheocardiography in a Non-invasive Assessment of Haemodynamic Condition of Patients with Heart Diseases	172
<i>Brygida Przywara-Chowaniec, Lech Polański, Maciej Gawlikowski, and Tadeusz Pustelný</i>	

Ontology of EEG Mapping – Preliminary Research	183
<i>Teresa Podsiadly-Marczykowska and Hanna Goszczyńska</i>	

Biocybernetics

Control System of Bioprosthetic Hand Based on Advanced Analysis of Biosignals and Feedback from the Prosthesis Sensors	199
<i>Marek Kurzynski and Andrzej Wolczowski</i>	

Threshold-Crossing Model of Human Motoneuron	209
<i>Bożenna Kuraszkiewicz, Dariusz Młodziak, and Maria Piotrkiewicz</i>	

CeDeROM Brain Computer Interface	219
<i>Tomasz Bolesław Cedro and Antoni Grzanka</i>	

Planimetric Parameters of the Tree Test in a Quantitative Evaluation of the Susceptibility to Examination Stress and Acoustic Stress	232
<i>Andrzej Dyszkiewicz, Ewa Nowak, Jan Szczegielniak, and Tomasz Szurmak</i>	
The Methodology of Designing Serious Games for Children and Adolescents Focused on Psychological Goals	245
<i>Agnieszka Szczesna, Marta Tomaszek, and Aleksandra Wieteska</i>	
Phase Angles of Sound as a Biometric Feature	256
<i>Andrzej W. Mitas, Marcin D. Bugdol, Witold Konior, and Artur Rygula</i>	
Strengthening a Cryptographic System with Behavioural Biometric.....	266
<i>Andrzej W. Mitas and Marcin D. Bugdol</i>	
Driver Biomedical Support System	277
<i>Andrzej W. Mitas, Artur Rygula, Bartłomiej Pyciński, Marcin D. Bugdol, and Witold Konior</i>	
First Measurements with Objective Bipolar Electrogustometer	286
<i>Janusz Fraczek, Tomasz Kaminski, and Antoni Grzanka</i>	
Evidence of S. Cerevisiae Proliferation Rate Control via Exogenous Low Frequency Electromagnetic Fields.....	295
<i>Jan Barabas and Roman Radil</i>	
The Novel Approach to the Estimation of the Blood Volume in the POLVAD Prosthesis	304
<i>Grzegorz Konieczny, Zbigniew Opilski, and Tadeusz Pustelný</i>	
The Numerical Modelling of the Heat Transfer Processes within Neonate's Body Based on the Simplified Geometric Model.....	310
<i>Joanna Laszczyk, Anna Maćzko, Wojciech Walas, and Andrzej J. Nowak</i>	
Biomaterials	
Comparison of Numerical and Experimental Analysis of Plates Used in Treatment of Anterior Surface Deformity of Chest	319
<i>Wojciech Kajzer, Anita Kajzer, Bożena Gzik-Zroska, Wojciech Wołński, Irena Janicka, and Józef Dzielicki</i>	
Non-destructive Investigation of the Artificial Heart Valves Using Eddy Current Testing – An Innovative Approach	331
<i>Tatiana Strapacova, Milan Smetana, and Klara Capova</i>	
Numerical Analysis of the Implant – Abutment System	341
<i>Anna Ziębowicz and Bohdan Bączkowski</i>	

Experimental Research on Plate for Corrective Osteotomy	351
<i>Jan Marciniak, Marcin Kaczmarek, Witold Walke, Zbigniew Paszenda, and Jerzy Cieplak</i>	
The Panoramic Visualization of Metallic Materials in Macro- and Microstructure of Surface Analysis Using Microsoft Image Composite Editor (ICE)	358
<i>Anna Wójcicka and Zygmunt Wróbel</i>	
Electrochemical Properties of Ti-6Al-4V ELI Alloy after Anodization ...	369
<i>Marta Kiel, Janusz Szewczenko, Jan Marciniak, and Katarzyna Nowińska</i>	
Application of Electrochemical Impedance Spectroscopy for Comparison Analysis of Surface Modified Ti-6Al-4V ELI and Ti-6Al-7Nb Alloys	379
<i>Magdalena Pochrzałt, Jan Marciniak, Janusz Szewczenko, and Witold Walke</i>	
Impedance Spectroscopy Study of the Electrochemical Corrosion of Steel Wire Used in Cardiologic Leaders	389
<i>Witold Walke and Joanna Przondziono</i>	
Effect of Surface Pretreatment on Corrosion Resistance of Anodically Oxidized Ti6Al7Nb Alloy	398
<i>Janusz Szewczenko, Jan Marciniak, Jadwiga Tyrlak-Held, and Katarzyna Nowińska</i>	
Bioinformatics and Biotechnology	
Features of DNA Signals Codistribution in High-Content Screening of Drug-Induced Demethylation in Cancer Cells	412
<i>Arkadiusz Gertych</i>	
Genome Assembler for Repetitive Sequences	422
<i>Robert M. Nowak</i>	
Techniques of Bioclustering in Gene Expression Analysis	430
<i>Anna Tamulewicz, Aleksandra Lipczyńska, and Ewaryst Tkacz</i>	
Neural Network-Based Method for Peptide Identification in Proteomics	437
<i>Lech Raczyński, Tymon Rubel, and Krzysztof Zaremba</i>	
Artifical Images for Evaluation of Segmentation Results: Bright Field Images of Living Cells	445
<i>Anna Korzynska and Marcin Iwanowski</i>	

Estimation of Fractal Dimension According to Optical Density of Cell Nuclei in Papanicolaou Smears	456
<i>Dorota Oszutowska-Mazurek, Przemysław Mazurek, Kinga Sycz, and Grażyna Waker-Wójciuk</i>	

Biomechanics and Rehabilitation

Kinematic Differences in Gait Obtained for People with Right and Left Paresis	464
<i>Jacek Jurkojć, Robert Michnik, Agata Guzik-Kopyto, Marek Gzik, and Wiesław Rycerski</i>	
Numerical Analysis of the Strength of Prototype Device for Rehabilitation of Lower Limbs	472
<i>Robert Michnik, Jacek Jurkojć, Zbigniew Paszenda, and Michał Bachorz</i>	

Control System of the Lower Limb Rehabilitation Robot	478
<i>Andrzej Michnik, Jacek Brandt, Zbigniew Szczurek, Michał Bachorz, Zbigniew Paszenda, Robert Michnik, and Jacek Jurkojć</i>	

Gas Transport in Human Lungs – Modelling and Simulation.....	489
<i>Bozenna Kuraszkiewicz</i>	

Assisted Living Systems

Layered Design of an Assisted Living System for Disabled	498
<i>Piotr Augustyniak</i>	
Geoinformation Technologies in Biomedicine and Health Care: Review of Scientific Journals	510
<i>Małgorzata Gajos</i>	
The Use of Mobile Devices in the Care and Home Monitoring of the Elderly and the Sick	525
<i>Mariusz Kaczmarek, Jędrzej Nowak, Jacek Rumiński, Jerzy Wtorek, and Tomasz Kocejko</i>	
Combining Pattern Matching and Optical Flow Methods in Home Care Vision System	537
<i>Zbigniew Mikrut, Przemysław Pleciak, and Magdalena Smoleń</i>	

Wearable Mobile Network as an Integrated Part of Assisted Living Technologies	549
<i>Eliasz Kańtoch and Piotr Augustyniak</i>	
A Metropolitan Assistive System for Disabled and the Elderly	560
<i>Aleksander Lamża and Zygmunt Wróbel</i>	

XII Table of Contents

Fast and Robust Method for Wheezes Recognition in Remote Asthma Monitoring	568
<i>Marcin Wisniewski and Tomasz P. Zielinski</i>	
Vision Based Facial Action Recognition System for People with Disabilities	577
<i>Jaromir Przybylo</i>	
Gaze Pattern Lock for Elders and Disabled	589
<i>Tomasz Kocejko and Jerzy Wtorek</i>	
Indexing and Retrieval of Medical Resources for a Telemedical Platform	603
<i>Bartosz Kukawka and Szymon Wilk</i>	
Author Index	615