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Structural, Syntactic, and Statistical Pattern Recognition

Joint IAPR International Workshops
SSPR 2004 and SPR 2004
Lisbon, Portugal, August 18-20, 2004
Proceedings

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Preface

This volume contains all papers presented at SSPR 2004 and SPR 2004, hosted by the Instituto de Telecomunicações/Instituto Superior Técnico, Lisbon, Portugal, August 18–20, 2004.

This was the fourth time that the two workshops were held back-to-back. The SSPR was the tenth International Workshop on Structural and Syntactic Pattern Recognition, and the SPR was the fifth International Workshop on Statistical Techniques in Pattern Recognition. These workshops have traditionally been held in conjunction with ICPR (International Conference on Pattern Recognition), and are the major events for technical committees TC2 and TC1, respectively, of the International Association for Pattern Recognition (IAPR).

The workshops were closely coordinated, being held in parallel, with plenary talks and a common session on hybrid systems. This was an attempt to resolve the dilemma of how to deal with the need for narrow-focus specialized workshops yet accommodate the presentation of new theories and techniques that blur the distinction between the statistical and the structural approaches.

A total of 219 papers were received from many countries, with the submission and reviewing processes being carried out separately for each workshop. A total of 59 papers were accepted for oral presentation and 64 for posters. In addition, four invited speakers presented informative talks and overviews of their research. They were: Alberto Sanfeliu, from the Technical University of Catalonia, Spain; Marco Gori, from the University of Siena, Italy; Nello Cristianini, from the University of California, USA; and Erkki Oja, from Helsinki University of Technology, Finland, winner of the 2004 Pierre Devijver Award.

SSPR 2004 and SPR 2004 were sponsored by the IAPR, the Instituto Superior Técnico, Technical University of Lisbon and the Fundação Luso-Americana para o Desenvolvimento (FLAD).

We would like to express our sincere gratitude to all the members of the program committees for performing the hard work of reviewing the many submissions which led to a selection of high-quality papers. We would like to thank everyone who made this meeting possible: the authors for submitting papers, the invited speakers for accepting our invitation, the organizing committee, and the sponsors for their support.

We also appreciate the help of the editorial staff at Springer-Verlag and, in particular, Anna Kramer and Alfred Hofmann, for supporting this publication in the LNCS series; and the help of Piotr Juszczak during the final editing process.

August 2004

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