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Preface

The International Symposium on Medical Data Analysis (ISMDA 2003) was the fourth meeting in a series of annual events, organized this year by the Institute of Computer Vision and Applied Computer Sciences (IBaI), Leipzig. The organization of this event was taken over by IBaI on short notice since we wanted to guarantee the smooth continuation of ISMDA. We consider this interdisciplinary research forum as an important platform that helps to drive the development of specific methods of artificial intelligence, signal and image processing, and data mining for medical, health and biological applications. Therefore, the event should continue into the future.

Our special thanks goes to all who contributed to the symposium and made this event successful, in spite of the short time constraints.

The 15 papers in these proceedings cover important topics related to medical models and learning, integration of intelligent analysis methods into medical databases, medical signal and image analysis, and applications of medical diagnostic support systems.

We would like to express our appreciation of the precise and highly professional work of the reviewers. We appreciated the help and understanding of the editorial staff at Springer-Verlag, and in particular Alfred Hofmann, who supported the publication of these proceedings in the LNCS series.

Last, but not least, we wish to thank all the speakers and participants who contributed to the success of the symposium.

October 2003 Petra Perner

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