PROCEEDINGS OF SPIE

MIPPR 2009

Automatic Target Recognition and Image Analysis

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30 October–1 November 2009
Yichang, China

Organized by
Huazhong University of Science and Technology (China)

Sponsored by
The National Laboratory for Multi-spectral Information Processing Technologies (China)
Huazhong University of Science and Technology (China)
National Natural Science Foundation of China (China)
China Three Gorges University (China)

Published by
SPIE

Volume 7495

Proceedings of SPIE, 0277-786X, v. 7495

The papers included in this volume were part of the technical conference cited on the cover and title page. Papers were selected and subject to review by the editors and conference program committee. Some conference presentations may not be available for publication. The papers published in these proceedings reflect the work and thoughts of the authors and are published herein as submitted. The publisher is not responsible for the validity of the information or for any outcomes resulting from reliance thereon.

Please use the following format to cite material from this book:
Author(s), "Title of Paper," in *MIPPR 2009: Automatic Target Recognition and Image Analysis*, edited by Tianxu Zhang, Bruce Hirsch, Zhiguo Cao, Hanqing Lu, Proceedings of SPIE Vol. 7495 (SPIE, Bellingham, WA, 2009) Article CID Number.

ISSN 0277-786X
ISBN 9780819478061

Published by
SPIE
P.O. Box 10, Bellingham, Washington 98227-0010 USA
Telephone +1 360 676 3290 (Pacific Time) · Fax +1 360 647 1445
SPIE.org

Printed in the United States of America.

Publication of record for individual papers is online in the SPIE Digital Library.

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Paper Numbering: Proceedings of SPIE follow an e-First publication model, with papers published first online and then in print and on CD-ROM. Papers are published as they are submitted and meet publication criteria. A unique, consistent, permanent citation identifier (CID) number is assigned to each article at the time of the first publication. Utilization of CIDs allows articles to be fully citable as soon they are published online, and connects the same identifier to all online, print, and electronic versions of the publication. SPIE uses a six-digit CID article numbering system in which:

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Introduction

The Three Gorges Dam is one of the most spectacular engineering feats in the modern world, and has become a famous site for admiring visitors from afar. We are proud to have chosen Yichang, the nearest city to the Three Gorges Dam, as the venue of the Sixth International Symposium on Multispectral Image Processing and Pattern Recognition. Professor Deren Li, Wuhan University, is one of the leading authorities on remote sensing in the world. We are very happy that he has agreed to serve as honorary chair of the symposium.

We hope that the participants of the symposium will not only be hard working at the conference, but also find time to see the sites around the area. The symposium has a broad reach: Instead of interpreting "multispectral" in its narrow sense of multiple-wavelength, we consider it in a very broad sense to include "multimodal" (e.g., audio and visual) and "multimedia" (e.g., text, graphics). In the 672 papers presented at this symposium, there are discussions on almost all aspects of this broad field. Important and novel tools in signal processing and machine learning will be presented and applied to remote sensing, GIS data processing, automatic target recognition, biometrics, medical imaging, and other problems. One crucial issue in multispectral/multimodal/multimedia processing and analysis is: How do we fuse from multiple sources? There are three possibilities: Low or feature-level fusion, middle level fusion, and high or decision level fusion. This issue will be discussed in some of the papers.

The response to the call for papers was overwhelming. Around 1,300 papers were submitted, of which 672 were selected for presentation. The proceedings of the symposium includes 5 volumes:

1. Multispectral Image Acquisition and Multispectral Image Processing
2. Automatic Target Recognition and Image Analysis
3. Pattern Recognition and Computer Vision
4. Parallel Processing of Images and Optimization Techniques and Medical Imaging and Processing
5. Remote Sensing and GIS Data Processing and Other Applications.

This symposium provides a forum for scientists and engineers from universities, industry and government labs to meet and exchange ideas. We expect that there will be ample discussions both inside and outside the lecture halls, and we can guarantee that this will be a most exciting event. The realization of a symposium depends on the hard work of all people related and interested. We would like to thank all members of the organization committee who are responsible for making this conference a success.

Thomas S. Huang
Bo Zhang