

Preface

It was an honor and a pleasure to organize the 36th German Conference on Pattern Recognition (GCPR 2014) in Münster, Germany. To reflect the steadily stronger internationalization of this conference series that took place in the last decade, the conference name was changed to the current English one last year. Several efforts have been made to further increase the international visibility and attendance.

For GCPR 2014, we received 145 submissions from institutions of 31 countries. Each paper underwent a rigorous double-blind reviewing procedure by at least three Program Committee (PC) members, sometimes with support from additional experts. Afterwards, one of the involved PC members served as moderator for a discussion among the reviewers and prepared a consolidation report that was also forwarded to the authors in addition to the reviews. The final decision was made during a PC meeting held in Münster based on all reviews, discussions, and if necessary, additional reviewing. As a result of this rigorous reviewing procedure, 58 papers of the 145 submissions were accepted, which corresponds to an acceptance rate of 40 %. Finally, these accepted papers were presented either as oral talks (25) or posters (33) in a single-track program. Following the tradition of this conference series, GCPR 2014 also featured a Young Researchers Forum to promote scientific interaction between excellent young researchers and our community. The work of eight selected Bachelor or Master students was presented in poster form and included as short paper in the proceedings. In addition, we were very happy to have three internationally renowned researchers as our invited speakers to present their work in three fascinating areas: Ernesto Estrada (University of Strathclyde, UK), Markus Gross (ETH Zurich, Switzerland), and Ron Kikinis (Harvard Medical School, USA, Fraunhofer MEVIS, Germany, and University of Bremen, Germany).

The technical program was complemented by a Workshop on New Challenges in Neural Computation and Machine Learning and two C³V (Challenges and Chances for Computer Vision) Tutorials: “The Hitchhiker’s Guide to Biomedical Imaging” held by Daniel Tenbrinck and “Throwing Computer Vision Overboard: How to Handle Underwater Light Attenuation and Refraction” held by Anne Jordt and Kevin Köser. With this overall program we hope to continue the tradition of GCPR in providing a forum for scientific exchange at a high quality level.

The success of GCPR 2014 would not be possible without the support of many institutions and people. First of all, we like to thank all authors of the submitted papers and the invited speakers for their contributions. All PC members and additional reviewers deserve great thanks for their timely and competent reviews. We are grateful to our sponsors for their support as well. Also, the cooperation with Münster City Marketing was very pleasant and helpful. Finally, many thanks go to the members of the Technical Support and the Local Organizing Committee.

We like to thank Springer for giving us the opportunity of continuing to publish GCPR proceedings in the LNCS series.

Founded in 793, Münster belongs to the historical cities of Germany. It is most famous as the site of signing the Treaty of Westphalia ending the Thirty Years' War in 1648. Today, it is acknowledged as a city of science and learning (and the capital city of bicycles, Germany's Climate Protection Capital, and more). With more than 45,000 students the University of Münster is among the largest universities in Germany. It was our great pleasure to offer the participants the platform in this multifaceted city for a lively scientific exchange and many other relaxed hours. Finally, to the readers of this proceedings book: Enjoy it!

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