

Preface

The workshop on Multimodal Retrieval in the Medical Domain (MRMD) took place for the first time on March 29, 2015, in Vienna, Austria in connection with the ECIR (European Conference on Information Retrieval) conference. The workshop had as its main goal to bring the medical information analysis and the information retrieval communities together. The multimodal focus highlighted the importance of data other than text for information retrieval, in particular images, and usually this is used in combination with text for the retrieval stage. Further emphasis was on semantic data analysis and on scalability of approaches towards big data sets that are often difficult to obtain in the medical field.

The workshop received 11 paper submissions of which four were accepted as full papers and three obtained a conditional acceptance. These three papers were then reviewed again and were accepted as full papers in their revised versions. In addition to these seven papers, the proceedings contain one paper of an invited speaker that was also reviewed, a workshop overview paper, and five papers on the VISCERAL Retrieval Benchmark. The VISCERAL Retrieval Benchmark was an important part of the workshop, and of these proceedings, as such evaluation challenges enable us to compare the algorithms of several research groups on the same data and in the same scenario. The VISCERAL Retrieval Benchmark is actually the first retrieval benchmark that includes 3D medical data and also semantic terms.

Over 25 persons participated in the workshop and the high-quality presentations sparked many discussions on medical information analysis and the evaluation of the approaches.

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