

Preface for the Special Issue of MTAP following CBMI 2009

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It is ten years now that the first Workshop on Content Based Multimedia Indexing (CBMI) was organized. Since then CBMI evolved as one of the main forums for the presentation of the latest research advances in the field. It combines academic presentations, system demonstrations, discussions on industrial needs and product developments in multimedia indexing, search, retrieval, navigation and browsing. CBMI is now a well-established forum serving the needs to discuss developments in the field, foster relations among fragmented research groups across Europe and improve synergies between key players and research teams in the EU. Large EU cooperative projects and groups from several countries in and outside Europe are involved.

Following the six successful previous events of CBMI (Toulouse 1999, Brescia 2001, Rennes 2003, Riga 2005, Bordeaux 2007 and London 2008), the 7th International Workshop on Content-Based Multimedia Indexing (CBMI 2009) was hosted by the Image, Video and Multimedia Systems Lab (IVML) of the National Technical University of Athens (NTUA) and held in Chania on the island of Crete, one of the most exciting Greek destinations.

CBMI 2009 received 81 submissions from which the program committee selected 27 as oral presentations and 15 as poster presentations. Among these papers, some deserved more space to present ideas and results and a broader diffusion; MTAP offered to publish the best of them. 23 authors submitted a new and enlarged version of their paper that was subject to a new review according to the journal rules. Eleven among them were finally accepted for publication.

We are deeply grateful to all those who have helped to accomplish the task of successfully organizing CBMI 2009 and this special issue of MTAP. Special thanks to the Program Committee members and the reviewers of both the conference and this issue who have contributed to the high quality of the works presented here, to the Steering Committee members, the special session organizers and the invited speakers who undoubtedly helped to enhance the profile of CBMI 2009 and to attract many high quality papers.

Finally, we are indebted to all the authors of the papers submitted to the workshop and to this special issue. They constitute the true force behind the success of the workshop and are the first accountable for the quality and the interest of this issue.

Stefanos Kollias
Yannis Avrithis
CBMI'09 General Chairs

Horst Bischof
Patrick Gros
José M. Martinez
Yiannis Kompatsiaris
CBMI'09 Program Chairs

Patrick Gros
Jenny Benois-Pineau
Régine André-Obrecht
MTAP Guest Editors