Special Issue on Big Image Processing and Analytics in *Multimedia Tools and Applications*

Currently, with the explosion of multimedia data (image, video and audio) from remote sensors, mobile image captures, social sharing, the web, TV shows and movies, huge volume of images are being generated and consumed daily. The availability of massive images has created fundamental challenges to image processing and analysis. Big Data is a term used to refer to massive and complex datasets made up of a variety of data structures, including structured, semi-structured, and unstructured data. Today, businesses are aware that big data can be used to generate new opportunities and process improvements through their processing and analysis. The emergence of big data has brought about a paradigm shift to many fields of computing. We have seen remarkable advances in computing power and storage capacity of big data management. But most big data systems currently in use handle data types of text or numbers. Novel and scalable data management and analytical frameworks are needed to meet the challenges posed by the big images.

The purpose of this special issue is to seek high quality research papers that contribute to the advancement of knowledge in big image processing and analysis. Researchers and practitioners are invited to submit original papers addressing topics including but not limited to the following:

- Scalable algorithms for image data mining
- Novel indexing methods for massive image data
- NoSQL solutions for big image data
- Visualization of massive images
- Classification and annotation of massive images
- Content-based and key-based massive image retrieval
- Semantic retrieval of massive images
- Customizations and extensions of existing software infrastructures such as Hadoop for image data management and analysis
- Applications of big image retrieval and analysis

**Submission Guidelines**

Authors are encouraged to submit high quality, original work that has neither appeared in, nor is under consideration by, other journals. Manuscripts based on previously published conference papers must be extended substantially. All manuscripts will undergo the same rigorous *Multimedia Tools and Applications* review process. Manuscripts should be submitted to: [http://mtap.editorialmanager.com/](http://mtap.editorialmanager.com/). Please choose “Big Image Processing and Analytics” as the Article Type.

**Important Dates**

Paper submission: February 28, 2015
Review results to authors: April 30, 2015
Revised paper submission: May 31, 2015
Final acceptance notification: June 30, 2015
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