About the Contributors

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**Theodore Papatheodorou** has held several academic and consulting positions in Greece and the United States. Since 1984 he has been a professor at the Department of Computer Engineering and Informatics of the University of Patras, the first Computer Science/Engineering Department in Greece. He developed the HPCLab of the University of Patras, which now employs about fifty faculty members, graduate researchers and computer engineers. Currently he is the director of this laboratory. He also initiated the establishment of the Computer Technology Institute (CTI). As the first director of CTI (1985-1990) he led the Institute’s development and R&D work. Prof. Papatheodorou has received wide recognition for his work and several international awards. Most recent distinctions include: The Best Paper Award in Supercomputing, Dallas, Texas, November 2000; first price in the Moebius Competition...
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Mauro Barni was born in Prato, Italy, in 1965. He received his BS in electronic engineering at the University of Florence in 1991. He received the PhD in informatics and telecommunications in October 1995. From 1991 through 1998 he was with the Department of Electronic Engineering, University of Florence, Italy, where he worked as a postdoctoral researcher. Since September 1998, he has been with the Department of Information Engineering at the University of Siena, Italy, where he works as assistant professor. His main interests are in the field of digital image processing and computer vision. His research activity is focused on the application of image processing techniques to copyright protection and authentication of multimedia data (digital watermarking), and to the transmission of image and video signals in error-prone, wireless, environments. He is author/co-author of more than 100 papers published in international journals and conference proceedings. Mauro Barni is member of the IEEE, where he serves as member of the Multimedia Signal Processing Technical Committee (MMSP-TC).

Roberto Caldelli was born in Figline Valdarno (Florence), Italy, in 1970. He graduated (cum laude) in electronic engineering from the University of Florence, in 1997, where he also received his PhD degree in computer science and telecommunications engineering in 2001. He works now as a postdoctoral researcher with the Department of Electronics and Telecommunications at the University of Florence. He holds one Italian patent in the field of digital watermarking. His main research activities, witnessed by several publications, include digital image sequence processing, digital filtering, image and video digital watermarking, image processing applications for the cultural heritage field, and multimedia applications.

Vito Cappellini was born in Pistoia, Italy, in 1938. In 1961 he obtained the degree in electronic engineering from the Politecnico di Torino. In 1975 he obtained the Full Professor Degree in electrical communications at Florence University, being later appointed director of the Istituto di Elettronica for the period 1977-79. In 1981-1989 he was director of the IROE Institute in Florence. In 1993-1995 he was Dean of the Engineering Faculty of Florence University. His main research interests are: digital signal-image processing, digital communications, remote sensing, biomedicine, robotics and art work analysis-restoration. He has published over 250 papers in the above fields and contributed to several books: co-author of Digital Filters and Their Applications (Academic Press, 1978), editor of Data Compression and Error Control Techniques with Applications (Academic Press, 1985), editor of Time-Varying Image Processing and Moving Object Recognition (North-Holland, 1987). He is in the editorial board of several international journals: Signal Processing (North Holland), Circuits, Systems, and Signal Processing (Birkhauser), European Transactions on Telecommunications. He was chairman of the IEEE Middle & South Italy Section. He has been the Italian representative in the Seven Nations Cooperation Program on “Remote Sensing from Space”. He is the Italian representative in the EARSeL (European Association of Remote Sensing Laboratories). He is in the Committee of the Italian Telecommunications Group (TTI). He is president of the Scientific-Tecnical committee of ITINERA (Italian Info-structure for European Research in Advanced Communications). He is member of the Scientific Committee of
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**Vassilis Fotopoulos** was born in Patras in 1972. He graduated from the University of Patras, Department of Physics in 1995 and received his MSc degree from the Electronics Laboratory of the same department in 1998. He received his PhD in 2003 from Patras University as well. He is lecturing digital design, computer architecture and microprocessors for the Hellenic Open University (HOU) Computer Science department and the Technological Educational Institute of Patras, department of Electrical
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Lefteris Gortzis is a fellow at the Medical Physics Department of University of Patras. He studied physics. He received his MSc degree in medical physics and his PhD in medical informatics from the University of Patras. His PhD thesis is under the title Design Methodologies for Supporting Telediagnostic and Telesurgical Services Over Web. His research interests include the design and evaluation of telemedicine applications and specific collaborative clinical systems, and the use of information technology to increase patient’s safety. He has designed many collaborative clinical systems, which are already in use at the University Hospital of Patras. He has published one monograph and several articles in peer-reviewed journals and proceedings of conferences in the field of medical informatics. Additionally, he has served as reviewer for a number of scientific journals -including IEEE Transactions on Biomedical Engineering and the British Medical Association.

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**Ioannis Kostopoulos** was born in Athens, Greece, in November 18, 1972. He received the bachelor degree in mathematics, from the University of Patras, in 1995. He holds a PhD in computer engineering and informatics from 2003 and he has 15 years of experience in the fields of information technology and medium and large scale project management. He was member of the Database Laboratory of Computer Engineering and Informatics Department and member of the Multimedia Coding and Watermarking Group. He was also an IEEE Student member (Circuits and Systems Society and Signal Processing Society) and his main research interests include digital watermarking of still images and Video, data hiding and cryptography and e-government. He is currently member of the Information Systems and Business Intelligence Lab of the Business Administration Department of University of Patras. He has 18 publications in International Journals and Conferences.

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