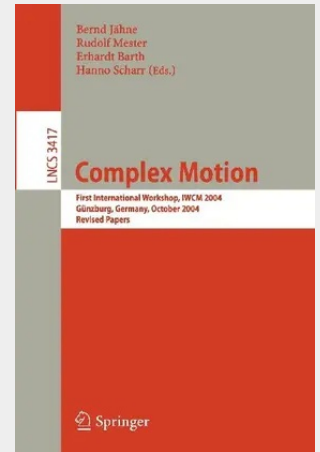


Complex Motion

First International Workshop, IWCM 2004, G nzburg, Germany, October 12-14, 2004,
Revised Papers

The world we live in is a dynamic one: we explore it by moving through it, and many of the objects which we are interested in are also moving. Tra c, for instance, is an example of a domain where detecting and processing visual motion is of vital interest, both in a metaphoric as well as in a purely literal sense. Visual communication is another important example of an area of science which is dominated by the need to measure, understand, and represent visual motion in an efficient way. Visual motion is a subject of research which forces the investigator to deal with complexity; complexity in the sense of facing a variety of motion in a very large diversity of forms, starting from analyzing simple motion in a changing environment (illumination, shadows, . . .), under adverse observation conditions, such as bad signal-to-noise ratio (low illumination, small-scale processes, low-dose x-ray, etc.), covering also multiple motions of independent objects, occlusions, and - ing as far as dealing with objects which are complex in themselves (articulated objects such as bodies of living beings). The spectrum of problems includes, but does not end at, objects which are not 'bodies' at all, e. g., when analyzing fluid motion, cloud motion, and so on. Analyzing the motion of a crowd in a shopping mall or in an airport is a further example that implies the need to struggle against the problems induced by complexity.

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53,49 €
49,99 € (zzgl. MwSt.)

Lieferfrist: bis zu 10 Tage

Artikelnummer: 9783540698647
Medium: Buch
ISBN: 978-3-540-69864-7
Verlag: Springer
Erscheinungstermin: 26.01.2007
Sprache(n): Englisch
Auflage: 2007
Serie: Lecture Notes in Computer Science
Produktform: Kartoniert
Gewicht: 388 g
Seiten: 238
Format (B x H): 155 x 235 mm

