

EFMI WG MIP
5th meeting, Munich, Germany

Wednesday, 16 June 2004, 9:00-12:00, at MIE STC conference

PROTOCOL

Participants: Laurence Clarke, Rockville, MD, USA
Alexander Horsch, Munich, Germany
Michael Owsijewitsch, Hamburg, Germany
Vytenis Punys, Kaunas, Lithuania
Thomas Wittenberg, Erlangen, Germany

- **TOP 1: Brief presentation of EFMI WG MIP for new members and guests**
 - Introduction of chair and co-chairs.
Each of the participants of the meeting introduced himself.
 - Mission and state of the efforts.
The mission and the actual state of efforts were briefly presented.

- **TOP 2: WG activities at CARS 2005 in Berlin**
 - Cooperative CARS / EFMI "Image Processing and Display" (IPD) track
It was agreed in suggesting to Heinz Lemke:
 - To have at CARS 2005 in Berlin a one day event on *medical image processing with emphasis on reference image databases and open source software*, comprising a session with scientific presentations (in the morning, of general interest), a panel or round table after that, and then, in the afternoon, a more specific workshop to discuss the future steps of reference image database and open source initiative.
 - To continue this kind of events as regular part of CARS conferences for the next years, as events cooperatively organized by CARS & EFMI (Working Group Medical Image Processing).
 - Other activities
 - To have a WG meeting at CARS.

- **TOP 3: RID-MIP (Reference Image Database for Medical Image Processing)**
 - Brief introduction of RID activities in USA and Europe.
 - Cooperation with NIH and National Cancer Institute, USA.
Larry Clarke confirmed the need of and presented the opportunities for international cooperation. Continuing cooperation was agreed on. Thomas Wittenberg will participate on behalf of the working group in the upcoming NIH symposium.
 - Cooperation with Insight Software Consortium / Kitware Inc., USA.
The concept of the Insight Journal was introduced by Alexander Horsch. It was found highly beneficial to host the image database for the new Insight Journal in order to promote open source and the reference data idea, and as a source for reference image data. The ITK (Insight Segmentation and Registration Tool Kit) and VTK (Visualization Tool Kit) are considered as an excellent basis for the open source approach.
 - Cooperation with Radiology Associations.
There are good contacts to such associations, and there is interest in participating in the efforts from the Radiologists' side.
 - Harmonization of efforts in USA and Europe.
It was agreed in trying to harmonize the efforts through a close cooperation

between National Cancer Institute (NCI) and the EFMI WG MIP. It was pointed out that not only the images are to be considered, but also the image analysis methods. That could be done by using and promoting an open source approach. The results of the initiatives shall be open to the global research and development community.

- Preparation of an EU application for funding.
The issue was discussed more general. It was agreed in trying to push national applications for funding in the European countries, and in parallel to prepare an application for EU funding. Short-term goals shall be envisaged in a timeframe of 5 years, and long-term goals in a timeframe of 10 years.
 - Extension and improvement of the Work Prototype RID-WP V1.0.
The work prototype was presented at the workshop in the afternoon. The document draft on suggestions (“Adjustment of RID-WP Version 1.0 Specification According to RFC Response”, Version 0.20, 2004-06-12) was distributed at the meeting.
 - Provision of image datasets and promotion of the initiatives.
One important source of image data is considered to be data from (large) clinical trials. The acquisition of image data is an expensive, time-consuming task, and after the study this ‘treasure’ should be given as a source to the research community (at least the data from publicly funded trials). A common image annotation tool shall be made available to dataset providers.
 - The medical advisory board.
In the afternoon, Markus Mohr (surgeon from Regensburg) gave a presentation on the expectations and requirements of a clinician.
 - Open issues and next steps
Thomas Wittenberg pointed out that there might be problems with a mere open source approach and emphasized the need for software development standards in order to make it easier for industry to adapt research results to make products out of them. The question was left open for discussion.
- **TOP 4: EIPG-IS (European Image Processing Groups Information System)**
 - Technical platform.
Until now, there is no special funding to build the information system. An opportunity to start building it up on an open source approach was discussed. Vytenis Punys will try to start the implementation as coordinated efforts of medical informatics students at Kaunas University of Technology.
 - First steps.
The concept of Web-based group ware was suggested for the information system. The main features (access control, content management, image files exchange) were considered.
 - **TOP 5: Miscellaneous**
 - Next meeting.
A working group meeting will take place in June 2005 June at CARS in Berlin, Germany. Other working group meetings are envisaged in March (EFMI Special Topic Conference in Athens, Greece) and Aug/Sept (MIE in Geneva, Switzerland).
 - Other issues.
None.

Munich, 17 June 2004



A. Horsch, Chair