

The invention is a method for automatically detecting surface anomalies in anatomical structures in virtual colonoscopy and other imaging studies. A region growing method segments three-dimensional image data of an anatomical structure using a tortuous path length limit to constrain voxel growth. The path length limit constrains the number of successive generations of voxel growth from a seed point to prevent leakage of voxels outside the boundary of the anatomical structures. Once segmented, a process for detecting surface anomalies performs a curvature analysis on a computer model of the surface of the structure. This process detects surface anomalies automatically by traversing the vertices in the surface model, computing partial derivatives of the surface at the vertices, and computing curvature characteristics from the partial derivatives. To identify possible anomalies, the process compares the curvature characteristics with predetermined curvature characteristics of anomalies and classifies the vertices. The process further refines potential anomalies by segmenting neighboring vertices that are classified as being part of an anomaly using curvature characteristics. Finally, the process colorizes the anomalies, and computes a camera position and direction for each one to assist the user in viewing 2D rendering of the computer model.

The method may be useful for automated detection of inflammatory, pre-cancerous and cancerous lesions of internal body cavities, such as the colon, airways, blood vessels and bladder. An example of a potential commercial application is as a component of software for clinical interpretation of virtual colonoscopy (CT colonography) examinations.

This research is also described in Summers et al., "Automated Polyp Detection at CT Colonography: Feasibility Assessment in a Human Population," *Radiology* 219:51-59 (2001) and in Summers et al., "Complementary Role of Computer-Aided Detection of Colonic Polyps with CT Colonography," *Radiology*, in press.

Dated: June 24, 2002.

Jack Spiegel,

Director, Division of Technology Development and Transfer, Office of Technology Transfer, National Institutes of Health.

[FR Doc. 02-16795 Filed 7-3-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

National Center on Minority Health and Health Disparities; Notice of Closed Meeting

Pursuant to section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. Appendix 2), notice is hereby given of the following meeting.

The meeting will be closed to the public in accordance with the provisions set forth in sections 552b(c)(4) and 552b(c)(6), Title 5 U.S.C., as amended. The grant applications and the discussion could disclose confidential trade secrets or commercial property such as patentable material, and personal information concerning individuals associated with the grant applications, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

Name of Committee: National Center on Minority Health and Health Disparities Special Emphasis Panel, Excellence in Partnerships for Community Outreach, Research on Health Disparities and Training.

Date: July 15-17, 2002.

Time: 6 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: Bethesda Marriott Suites, 6711 Democracy Boulevard, Bethesda, MD 20817.

Contact Person: Teresa Chapa, PhD, Chief, Division of Extramural Activities, National Center on Minority Health and Health Disparities, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, MD 20852, 301/402-1366, chapat@od.nih.gov.

This notice is being published less than 15 days prior to the meeting due to the timing limitations imposed by the review and funding cycle.

Dated: June 26, 2002.

Anna Snouffer,

Deputy Director, Office of Federal Advisory Committee Policy.

[FR Doc. 02-16793 Filed 7-3-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism; Notice of Closed Meetings

Pursuant to section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. Appendix 2), notice is hereby given of the following meetings.

The meetings will be closed to the public in accordance with the

provisions set forth in sections 552b(c)(4) and 552b(c)(6), Title 5 U.S.C., as amended. The contract proposals and the discussions could disclose confidential trade secrets or commercial property such as patentable material, and personal information concerning individuals associated with the contract proposals, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

Name of Committee: National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism Special Emphasis Panel Fellowship Application.

Date: July 16, 2002.

Time: 8 am to 6 pm.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: Bethesda Marriott, 5151 Pooks Hill Rd, Bethesda, MD 20814.

Contact Person: Kathy Ray, Lead Grants Technical Assistant, Extramural Project Review Branch, National Institute of Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, National Institutes of Health, 6000 Executive Blvd., Suite 409, Bethesda, MD 20892-7003, 301-443-2932, klray@mail.nih.gov.

Name of Committee: National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism Special Emphasis Panel RFA AA02-007—Mutant Mouse Phenotyping: Ethanol-related Behavior and Nervous System Function.

Date: July 17, 2002.

Time: 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: Willco Building, Suite 409, 6000 Executive Boulevard, Rockville, MD 20892, (Telephone Conference Call).

Contact Person: Karen P. Peterson, PhD, Scientific Review Administrator, National Institutes of Health, National Institute of Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, 6000 Executive Blvd., Suite 409, Bethesda, MD 20892-7003, (301) 451-3883, kp177z@nih.gov.

Name of Committee: National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism Special Emphasis Panel RFA AA02-006 Non-Human Primate Models of Neurobiological Mechanisms of Adolescent Alcohol Abuse.

Date: July 18, 2002.

Time: 8 am to 5 pm.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: Doubletree Hotel, 1750 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD 20852.

Contact Person: Sandra Camman, Grants Technical Assistant, Extramural Project Review Branch, National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, National Institutes of Health, Suite 409, 6000 Executive Boulevard, Bethesda, MD 20892, 301-443-9419, scamman@willco.niaaa.nih.gov.

Name of Committee: National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism Special Emphasis Panel SBIR Contract Topic 023.

Date: July 18, 2002.

Time: 12:30 pm to 2 pm.

Agenda: To review and evaluate contract proposals.

Place: Willco Building, Suite 409, 6000 Executive Boulevard, Rockville, MD 20892, (Telephone Conference Call).