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BOOK OF ABSTRACTS



4th Belgrade Bioinformatics Conference

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EDITORS

Dr. Ivana Morić

Dr. Valentina Đorđević

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FOREWORD

Dear colleagues and friends,

The 4th Belgrade Bioinformatics Conference - BelBi2023, where many high-quality scientific contributions were presented, has just ended. With great thanks to all participants, we now proudly present a book of abstracts that both reflects the scientific abundance and diversity of the conference and serves as a reminder of a memorable event.

Several research institutions, faculties, and scientific societies from Serbia joined forces in organizing this international conference, which covered numerous topics in computational biology, bioinformatics, and biomedical and health informatics. The main goal of BelBi2023 was to foster contact between scientists, both early stage career and senior researchers, allowing them to share experiences and latest advances in their fields. We sincerely hope that BelBi2023 has served as a platform for researchers from around the world to meet, initiate new collaborations, and expand professional contacts, and that all of you would become a part of the growing BelBi community.

We are grateful and proud to have welcomed more than 250 researchers from 21 countries. We have had 28 scientific sessions, consisting of more than 60 lectures (including eight Keynote talks), 47 presented posters, as well as three workshops and one satellite event – COST action. We have also organized seven industry lectures, including the NGS Challenge,

two Meet the Expert Sessions, and one Business Coffee Break where ten start-up companies took part. And finally, the future BIO4 campus was presented and first panel on Serbia's resources for storage and analyses of genetic data was organized.

We would like to thank all the members of the International Advisory Board and the International Program Committee for their efforts and help in making this event a success. We are very grateful to the Ministry of Science, Technological Development and Innovation of the Republic of Serbia, SAIGE project, and UNDP-Serbia for their support. Finally, the Local Organizing Committee is very grateful to all the sponsors of the conference - BGI, Illumina & Elta'90MS, PacBio & East Diagnostics, ThermoFisher Scientific & Vivogen, Huawei, Labena, DSP Chromatography, RNIDS, Telekom Srbija, Alfa Genetics, Kefo and Superlab, hoping that they will stay with us for many years to come.

Looking forward to seeing you again at the 5th Belgrade Bioinformatics Conference.

Belgrade, July 2023

*Dr. Valentina Đorđević
& Dr. Ivana Morić,*
On behalf of BelBi2023
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Application of principal component analysis (PCA) and analytical hierarchy process (AHP) in analysis of articulatory characteristics of phonemes of children with 22q11.2 Deletion Syndrome

Danijela Drakulic^{1*}, Marijana Rakonjac^{2,3}, Goran Cuturilo^{4,5},
Natasa Kovacevic-Grujicic¹, Jelena Kusic-Tisma¹, Ivana Moric¹,
Branka Zukic¹, and Milena Stevanovic^{1, 6,7}

¹ Institute of Molecular Genetics and Genetic Engineering,
University of Belgrade, Vojvode Stepe 444a, 11042 Belgrade 152, Serbia

² Institute for Experimental Phonetics and Speech Pathology, Jovanova 35,
11000 Belgrade, Serbia

³ Speech and language pathology center "Logogen"

⁴ University Children's Hospital, Tirsova 10, 11000 Belgrade, Serbia

⁵ Faculty of Medicine, University of Belgrade, Dr Subotica 8, 11000 Belgrade, Serbia

⁶ Faculty of Biology, University of Belgrade, Studentski trg 16, 11000 Belgrade, Serbia

⁷ Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts, Kneza Mihaila 35, 11000 Belgrade, Serbia

danieladrakulic@imgge.bg.ac.rs

22q11.2 deletion syndrome (22q11.2DS) is caused by 22q11.2 microdeletion, one of the strongest known risk factors for development of neurodevelopmental disorders. About 70% patients with 22q11.2DS have speech and language impairments. In the literature, there is no data about articulatory characteristics of phonemes of children with 22q11.2DS, monolingual native speakers of South Slavic languages. Here we, by applying Global Articulation Test, analyzed articulatory characteristics of phonemes of children with 22q11.2DS, monolingual native speakers of the Serbian language (group E1), children with a phenotype resembling 22q11.2DS but without the microdeletion (group E2), children with non-syndromic congenital heart malformations (since children with these malformations may exhibit a speech and language impairments) (group E3) and their peers with typical speech-sound development (group C). Results of PCA indicated that the groups can be distinguished based on the pronunciation of phonemes, and that the pronunciation of the phonemes "Č (tʃ)", "Dž (dʒ)", "Š (ʃ)", "Ž (ʒ)", "R", and "Lj (ʎ)" contributes the most to the variability between the groups. Results of AHP revealed that the pronunciation of the phonemes "Č (tʃ)", "Dž (dʒ)", "Š (ʃ)", "Ž (ʒ)", "R", and "Lj (ʎ)" was rated the worst in the group E1. In conclusion, obtained results indicate that the presence of 22q11.2 microdeletion influences articulation skills of carriers.

Keywords: PCA, AHP, articulation, 22q11.2DS

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