FOREWORD

Special Section on Intelligent Transport Systems

Intelligent transport systems (ITS) have been recognized as a major field in both academia and industry since the 1980s. It has now (2020) been improved to the point of being able to discuss autonomous driving, and autonomous vehicles with limited level of automation have been put on the market thanks to the remarkable improvements in vision sensing, control, and communication technology.

ITS range over vast areas, not only in autonomous driving, and the above-mentioned technologies must converge more to improve the next-generation ITS to solve growing problems such as accidents caused by elderly drivers and difficulty in sustaining mobility in depopulated areas. I hope this special issue will contribute to the progress of ITS.

As a result of promoting submissions from collaborative research areas, 11 papers have been submitted and 4 papers have been accepted for the publication in the special issue. The special issue invited Mr. Koichi Sakai from the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism to publish an invited paper on Mobility-as-a-Service (MaaS), which is an important concept in achieving sustainable transportation systems.

I would like to express my sincere appreciation to the authors of all the submitted papers, reviewers, and editorial committee members for their significant contributions to the special issue. I would like to express special appreciation to Prof. Tetsuya Manabe and Prof. Kenshi Saho as Guest Editors on the editorial committee.

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Takayoshi Yokota (Tottori University), Guest Editor in Chief

Takayoshi Yokota (*Member*)   has been a professor of the Graduate School of Engineering at Tottori University since 2012. He received his B.S., M.S., and Ph.D. from the Tokyo Institute of Technology in 1979, 1981, and 1984. He worked for the Hitachi Research Laboratory of Hitachi Ltd. from 1984 to 2008. He contributed to Hitachi's R&D of intelligent transport systems and car navigation systems from 1993 to 2008. He was a professor of Advanced Transport Logistics (Hanshin Expressway) at Kyoto University from 2009 to 2011. His current research interests include analysis, modeling, and spatio-temporal information processing of vehicles and traffic flow. He is a member of IEEE, IPSJ, and SICE.