FOREWORD

Special Section on Mathematical Systems Science and its Applications

Mathematical systems science (MSS) is the study of design, analysis, verification, and control based on mathematical models and is expected to be applied to various engineering and scientific problems. The aim of this special section is to clarify the state of art of research on mathematical systems science and to promote the future research. The editorial committee has received 11 papers and 1 letter, and accepted 7 papers after a careful review process. In particular, this special section invites the following paper:

"Effectiveness and Limitation of Blockchain in Distributed Optimization: Applications to Energy Management Systems" by Daiki Ogawa (Hokkaido University), Koichi Kobayashi (Hokkaido University), Yuh Yamashita (Hokkaido University).

This paper is recommended as the latest recipient MSS best paper award, and we hope that it will inspire readers.

On behalf of the editorial committee of the Special Section on Mathematical Systems Science and its Applications, I would like to express my appreciation to all the authors for their contributions and the referees for their cooperation on the review process. I am also grateful to the following guest associate editors of the editorial committee for their kind cooperation.

Guest Associate Editors of Special Section:

Daisuke Ishii (Japan Advanced Institute of Science and Technology), Atsushi Ohta (Aichi Pref. University), Shun Kataoka (Otaru University of Commerce), Yoshinobu Kawabe (Aichi Institute of Technology), Shoichi Kitamura (Mitsubishi Electric Corporation), Koichi Kobayashi (Hokkaido University), Ichiro Toyoshima (Toshiba Energy Systems), Shingo Yamaguchi (Yamaguchi University), Tatsushi Yamasaki (Setsunan University)

Shun-ichi Azuma, Guest Editor-in-Chief

Shun-ichi Azuma (*Member*) received his B.E. degree in electrical engineering from Hiroshima University, Higashi Hiroshima, Japan in 1999, and M.E. and Ph.D. degrees in control engineering from Tokyo Institute of Technology, Tokyo, Japan in 2001 and 2004, respectively. He was a research fellow of the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science from 2004 to 2005. Subsequently, he served as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Systems Science, Graduate School of Informatics, Kyoto University, Uji, Japan from 2005 to 2011 and an Associate Professor from 2011 to 2017. He is currently a Professor at Nagoya University. He served as an Associate Editor for IEEE Transactions on Control of Network Systems from 2013 to 2019, and serves as Associate Editors for IFAC Journal Automatica since 2014, Non-linear Analysis: Hybrid Systems since 2017, and IEEE Transactions on Automatic Control since 2019. His research interests include analysis and control of hybrid systems.

