
FOREWORD

Special Section on Machine Vision and its Applications

The Twelfth IAPR Conference on Machine Vision Applications, MVA2011, was held at the Nara Centennial Hall, Nara, Japan, from June 13 to 15, 2011. Reflecting the growing expectation and demands for machine vision and its applications, the conference attracted more than 200 submissions from 29 countries. In spite of the earthquake and the nuclear disaster in March, 2011, about 220 participants from 30 countries gathered and enjoyed stimulating and fruitful discussions on these topics. Inspired by the great success of the conference, we planned this special section and asked the conference participants and other researchers in this field to submit papers. We have received 34 papers that cover from basic techniques of machine vision to wide variety of its applications, among which 13 papers (including 3 letters) were selected for publication through a rigorous reviewing process. We believe that all the selected papers show the high quality of current machine vision research and contribute to the next steps in this research field.

The Editorial Committee would like to thank all the authors for their valuable contributions and to all the reviewers for their considerable efforts to maintain the quality of the selected papers high under a tight schedule. Finally, as the Guest Chief Editor, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to all the Editorial Committee Members for their outstanding volunteer efforts during the entire process of publishing this Special Section.

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Yasuyo Kita (AIST), Guest Chief Editor

Yasuyo Kita (*Member*) received the B.S. degree in Engineering Science from University of Tsukuba, in 1982 and the Ph.D. degree from Osaka University in 1992. She joined the Electrotechnical Laboratory in 1982 and was a visiting researcher at the Medical Vision Group, Oxford University, from 1997 to 1998. She is now a senior researcher in National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology (AIST). Since 2005, she has also been a Professor at Cooperative Graduate School of University of Tsukuba. Her research interests include computer vision, medical image analysis, and robotics.

