

**Preface**  
**Message from the Guest Editors-In-Chief**

HIDEO SAITO<sup>†1</sup> and IN SO KWEON<sup>†2</sup>

We are happy to issue the special issue of MIRU2008, held in July 2008. MIRU is the largest domestic conference in the field of computer vision and pattern recognition in Japan. MIRU maintains a good reputation by continuing to have high quality academic papers presented, which is a result of the peer review effort given by the program committees.

In this special issue on IPSJ transactions on Computer Vision and Applications, we are very happy to publish the eight papers that were contributed by the authors of the papers published in MIRU2008. All the submissions to this special issue had to be extended versions of the papers published in MIRU2008 for satisfying with the high quality reviews performed by the internationally well-known expert researchers in computer vision area.

In those eight accepted papers, we are very happy to include the extended papers of the awarded papers in MIRU2008: “Analysis of Subsurface Scattering based on Dipole Approximation,” by Yasuhiro Mukaigawa, Kazuya Suzuki, and Yasushi Yagi, is the extended paper of the paper awarded as the “MIRU Nagao Award”, which is given to the best excellent paper in MIRU2008, and “A Density-ratio Framework for Statistical Data Processing,” by Masashi Sugiyama, Takafumi Kanamori, Taiji Suzuki, Shohei Hido, Jun Sese, Ichiro Takeuchi, and Liwei Wang, is the extended paper of the paper awarded as the “Excellent Paper Award”, which is given to the excellent paper in MIRU2008. We are sure that those two papers represent the excellent research quality of all the papers published in this special issue.

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We would like to thank all the reviewers and associate editors of the submitted papers in this special issue for their efforts in reviewing process.

**Guest Editors in Chief:**

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