Preface
Message from the Guest Editors-In-Chief

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We are happy to issue the special issue of invited papers 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. Recently, the organizing members of MIRU have tried to make MIRU contain a more international aspect, so that high quality research presented in MIRU will be known to people who share the same research interest outside of Japan.

For example, during MIRU2007, the Area Chairs of ACCV2007 were invited to the special workshop and the main conference of MIRU2007, so that they could enjoy the presentations on Japanese research activities. In addition, the organization committee of MIRU2008 invited Professor Tsuhan Chen (Carnegie Mellon University, now Cornell University), who is one of the leading professors of multimedia, to give the keynote talk of MIRU2008. We also had the MIRU International Workshop on Computer Vision 2008 (MIRU-IWCV2008), in which four distinguished computer vision area researchers were invited to give talks.

In this special issue on IPSJ transactions on Computer Vision and Applications, we are very happy to publish the four invited papers that were contributed by the invited speakers of MIRU2008 and MIRU-IWCV2008. For each submission of the invited papers, we assigned an associate editor and two reviewers to decide the final acceptance. Even though all papers were accepted, the authors gave additional effort to improve the quality of their papers based on the comments given by the reviewers. Through this review process, we are confident that all the invited papers are of excellent quality and give significant contributions to all the readers in this research field.

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

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