FOREWORD

Special Section on Future Internet Technologies against Present Crises

The catastrophic event that happened on the 11th of March, 2011 in Japan, has killed many lives by the huge earthquakes and tsunamis, and deprived the survivors of places and means for their lives. Its impacts over the production facilities including those for energy and foods have influenced people's lives largely even in those distant places the earthquakes and tsunamis did not directly hit.

While the society suffers as such, the architectures for information communication must take an important role as the basis of connecting people. Those characteristics of the Internet such as resilience and fault-tolerance have become real questions that need to be answered for the society, as communication paths or even electricity for the communicating computers to run were lost in many places just after the crisis. Today, we have to go back to the basics of the design of distributed systems once again, in order for us to make the Internet as a both robust and flexible infrastructure to support people's lives even before and after such big catastrophic events.

In consideration of the above, a special section on "Future Internet Technologies against Present Crises" was planned for the ninth installment in a series on Internet Technology. 12 papers were submitted for this section (9 full papers and 3 letters) and 5 of them are overseas submissions. After a careful review process, 4 papers were accepted for publication (4 full papers and 0 letters). We also have 2 invited papers. The first invited paper is about development of seismometers sensor network for observation on sea floor, while the other is related with governmental information dissemination about the nuclear plant accident. All of the papers should be important in future internet technologies against present crisis.

Finally, the editorial committee members would like to express appreciation to the authors for their valuable contributions and to the reviewers for the noteworthy comments and suggestions, and their cooperation during the reviewing process under a tight schedule.

Members of editorial committee for this special section:
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Katsuyoshi Iida (*Senior Member*)   received the B.E., M.E. and Ph.D. degrees in Computer Science and Systems Engineering from Kyushu Institute of Technology (KIT), Iizuka, Japan in 1996, in Information Science from Nara Institute of Science and Technology (NAIST), Ikoma, Japan in 1998, and Computer Science and Systems Engineering from KIT in 2001, respectively. Since Oct. 2000, he was an Assistant Professor in the Graduate School of Information Science, NAIST. Currently, he is an Associate Professor in the Global Scientific Information and Computing Center, Tokyo Institute of Technology, Tokyo, Japan. His research interests include network systems engineering such as network architecture, performance evaluation, QoS, and mobile networks. He is a member of the WIDE project and IEEE. He is a former vice chair of Internet Architecture (IA) Technical Committee of IEICE. He received the 18th TELECOM System Technology Award, the Telecommunications Advancement Foundation, Japan, the IEICE Communications Society's distinguished service award, and Tokyo Tech young researcher's award in 2003, 2005 and 2010, respectively.