

Editorial

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Dear readers and authors of the Visual Computer,

This year, we are celebrating an anniversary: the Visual Computer is 20 years old. We therefore are dedicating a special anniversary issue for which the pioneers of computer graphics have provided papers. The journal was founded by Prof. Tosiyasu L. Kunii with a group of researchers, most of whom are still on the editorial board. The journal started with four issues a year and has increased its number of issues steadily. Due to the high submission rate and to answer the needs of conferences, authors and readers, Springer will annually publish 12 issues of the Visual Computer starting this year. Although the paper acceptance rate is around 25%, it is necessary to have 12 issues a year in order to satisfy the submission rate. The Visual Computer is therefore becoming an important academic reference in the computer graphics research community.

To start with the 2005 publications, we have merged issue one and issue two. You have a very thick issue grouping together a dozen papers dealing with curves and surfaces, solid modelling in VR, collision detection, surface modelling with ternary interpolating subdivision, curve interpolation, free-form deformation with weighted T-spline, etc. You can observe that the Visual Computer is a journal that mainly offers papers within the broad theme of geometry.

During the year, we will also publish other special issues, such as an issue on the best extended papers of the IEEE symposium on 3D Data Processing, Visualization and Transmission and a special issue on the Israel-Korea Bi-National Conference on Geometric Modeling and Computer Graphics. All selected papers for the conference Pacific Graphics 2005 will be

published in the Visual Computer as a conference volume. We will also have a special issue on Cyberworlds 2005.

I take this opportunity to wish you a very pleasant academic year. I would like to thank the authors and readers of the Visual Computer for their interest in the journal. I would also like to thank the reviewers whose silent work is highly appreciated. Without their hard work, the journal could not exist. I would also like to thank the publisher Springer, particularly Ms. Ria Frauenfeld and Mr. Alfred Hofmann, for their strong support and nice collaboration.

Nadia Magnenat-Thalmann
Editor-in-chief of the Visual Computer

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