

A letter from the Editor

Gorazd Golob

Editor-in-Chief

E-mail: gorazd.golob@jpmtr.org

journal@iarigai.org

The present issue is comprised of only three papers, however, all three assessed by the reviewers as original scientific papers, covering very different fields within the scope of the Journal. The first one is on the phenomena known and studied for decades, which is present in the conventional gravure printing process and recognized as dots and fingers patterns on prints. The added value is in the new classification of printed samples including the transition stage in forming fingers from dots, based on the analysis of prints retrieved with different print forms, under different conditions, and on different substrates. Added value is also a published link for download the images of all samples, available for further research.

The second paper is dealing with the methods for the improvement of digital image quality. The research was based on the comparison of well-established methods like histogram equalization and a new method based on computational intelligence algorithms mimicking the phenomena of bacteria colony optimization.

The third paper is on the study of the uncanny valley effect in virtual character design used in computer games, which may be considered as a part of a “new” digital media. The authors present a thorough overview of this psychological phenomenon and found relations between the characteristics of virtual characters in the game and the resulting effect on players – participants in the study.

The Topicalities, edited by Markéta Držková (marketa.drzkova@jpmtr.org) bring an overview of the completed projects funded under Horizon 2020, new publications available by Intergraf, and an overview of the winners of the TAGA student awards. In an interesting Bookshelf, the dominant themes are typography, design, and new materials used in functional printing, as well as two books on programming and coding in media and 3D printing.

Three theses are also presented. The first one on electromechanical modeling and control of printed electroactive polymer actuators was defended by S. Sunjai Nakshatharan at the Institute of Technology, Tartu, Estonia. Farhan Rasheed defended his thesis on modeling and physical design automation of inkjet-printed electronics at Karlsruhe Institute of Technology, Germany. The third presented successful author of the thesis is Chikwesiri Tolu Imediegwu, who was dealing with structural optimization of three-dimensional printable structures at the Imperial College London, United Kingdom. All three presented theses are from the field of functional and 3D printing, and also employ modeling to achieve the desired results, showing and confirming the trends for future research and development in printing technology.

The Events section of Topicalities is shorter again, as expected due to the adaptation of the conferences and seminars to our new reality.

The news, non-visible to the readers of the Journal, is a replacement of previously used Copyright Transfer Agreement, signed with every (corresponding) author, to a new Licencing Agreement, based on Creative Commons CC-BY-NC 4.0 copyright protection model. The main difference between the two models is in ownership of copyright, which now remains with authors and is not transferred to the publisher. With the new licensing agreement, it is also allowed to apply for indexing in the directory of open access journals (DOAJ). Papers published in the journals listed in DOAJ are in accordance with the requirements of some funding organizations and institutions, so in the future, we hope for more high-quality papers for publication in the Journal. We already applied for DOAJ, however, the procedure can last for a couple of months.

After a long-lasting pandemic and all the measures needed to bring our lives to normal condition, we are expecting the joint [iarigai](#) and IC International Research Conference in Athens, Greece. It will be a great opportunity for dissemination of knowledge and research achievements for all of us, and we also hope for a series of new papers for publication in the Journal, based on the extended and upgraded conference presentations.

Ljubljana, June 2021