

Co-Recipient of the 2012-2013 Best Paper Award from the International Journal of Image and Data Fusion with P.R. Marpu, M. Pedernana, M. Dalla Mura, S. Peeters and L. Bruzzone for the article "Classification of hyperspectral data using extended attribute profiles based on supervised and unsupervised feature extraction techniques."

Co-Recipient of the 2013 IEEE Geoscience and Remote Sensing Society's High Impact Paper Award (with Mathieu Fauvel, Jocelyn Chanussot and Jóhannes R. Sveinsson) for the paper "Spectral and Spatial Classification of Hyperspectral Data Using SVMs and Morphological Profiles," IEEE Trans. on Geoscience and Remote Sensing, vol. 46, no. 11, pp. 3804-3814, Nov. 2008.

Recipient of the 2013 IEEE/VFI Electrical Engineer of the Year with the citation "The joint Award is granted as a recognition for excellent performance in the field of electrical engineering or as a recognition to electrical engineers who have made significant contributions to Icelandic society."

Elected Fellow of SPIE (International Society for Photonics and Optics ) 2013 "For achievements in multi-temporal and hyperspectral remote sensing." 2012 Transactions Paper Award, IEEE Trans. on Geoscience and Remote Sensing for the paper A. Villa, J.A. Benediktsson, J. Chanussot and C. Jutten, „Hyperspectral Image Classification With Independent Component Discriminant Analysis," IEEE Transactions on Geoscience and Remote Sensing, 2011, Volume: 49 , Issue: 12 , Part: 1, Pages: 4865 - 4876, DOI: 10.1109/TGRS.2011.2153861

Outstanding Service Award from IEEE Geoscience and Remote Sensing Society, July 2007.

Outstanding Research Award, Engineering Research Institute., University of Iceland, Nov. 2006.

First Prize in the University of Iceland's technology innovation competition "Upp úr Skúffunum," 2004 (along with Einar Stefansson and Thor Eysteinnsson).

Elected Fellow of the IEEE (Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers), 1.1.2004 with the citation „For contributions to pattern recognition and data fusion in remote sensing"

Recipient of the IEEE Third Millennium Medal "in recognition and appreciation of valued services and outstanding contributions," (received in Hawaii, July 27, 2000)

Recipient of an award certificate from the IEEE Geoscience Remote Sensing Society, for "truly exceptional leadership and guidance, as Chairperson of the Data Fusion Technical Committee during the three years 1996-1999" (received in Hawaii, July 27, 2000)

Recipient of an award certificate from IEEE Region 8 for being the organizer of the IEEE Iceland Section in the year 2000.

Elected in 1999 to the Administrative Committee (AdCom) of the IEEE Geoscience and Remote Sensing Society, for the term 2000-2002. Re-elected in 2002 for the term 2003-2005. Re-elected in 2007 for the term 2008-2010.

Elected in 1996, Chairman of "Technical Committee on Data Fusion" of the IEEE Geoscience and Remote Sensing Society. Re-appointed in 1997 and 1998.

Recipient of the Outstanding Icelandic Young Research Award from the Icelandic Research Council, 1997.

Best Paper Award - Novel Engineering Applications at ANNIE '95, St. Louis, MO, November 1995.

Recipient of the Stevan J. Kristov Award, as outstanding graduate student in remote sensing, Purdue University May, 1991.

Member of Tau Beta Phi from 1984.