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Mamoru Kitaura is a Professor at Faculty of Science in Yamagata University, specializing in optical and structural condensed matter science. He received his PhD from the University of Fukui (Japan) in 1997. He has served on the steering committees of the UVSOR Synchrotron Radiation Facility at the Institute for Molecular Science and the Society of Discrete Variational $X\alpha$.

His recent research focuses on visualizing nonradiative photocarrier dynamics and local structural change involving bulk and surface defects in solids.

Kitaura provided leadership in developing two beamlines for defect studies at the UVSOR synchrotron radiation facility: VUV solid-state spectroscopy and LCS gamma-ray-induced positron annihilation spectroscopy. He has published 94 peer-reviewed academic papers, including the results of his collaborative research with scientists from outside Japan. He received the Outstanding Paper Award from the 15th International Display Workshop in 2008 and the 15th Encourage Award from the Society of Discrete Variational $X\alpha$ in 2010.