



Thirteen Years Experience of Collaboration of Computer Science and the Humanities in Japan

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Introduction

- IPSJ SIG-Computers and the Humanities
 - Est. 1989
- Prehistory
- Activities of SIG-CH
- Related Projects
- Digital Archiving in Japan

Prehistory of SIG-CH

- National Museum of Ethnology(NME)
 - Established in 1979
 - Research museum



National Museum of Ethnology(NME)



- *Computerized* Museum
- Dr. Tadao Umesao, the ex-president
- IBM main frame computer
- Database, image processing, audio processing
- “*Computer Ethnology* Research Section”
 - Computer science researchers



Birth of the IPSJ SIG-CH

- Based on the activities in NME
- Needs of a place for academic discussion
- Proposal to IPSJ for making a new SIG
- First meeting at NME in 1989



Activities of SIG-CH

- Meetings: 4 times per year
- 7 to 9 paper presentations
- Published as the *IPSSJ SIG Notes* series
- 54 meetings and 433 papers
- Ca 300 registered members
- Text processing, Multimedia, others



Yamashita Memorial Awards

- Similarity retrieval of images (90)
- Analysis of historical documents *Setsuyo-shu* (92)
- Image processing of hand-written historical documents (93)
- Ancient scenery CG modeler (94)
- Multimedia processing of old philosophical book (95)
- Similarity retrieval of Japanese poems (98)
- Digital description of Japanese folk dance (99)



Computers and the Humanities Annual Symposium

- Organized by IPSJ SIG-CH
- From 1999
- First joint international meeting with PNC and ECAI : 2002



Related National Project

- *Grants-in-aid for scientific research* project named “Computers and the Humanities”
- Head: Prof. Akifumi Oikawa
- Priority Areas Research
- 1995-1998 fiscal year



Grant-in-Aid project:

Computers and the Humanities

- Subcategories
 - Databases
 - Image and Multimedia Processing
 - Text Processing
 - Statistical Analysis
- 61 groups, ca 200 researchers
- Symposiums, Special issues of the IPSJ journal and transaction, Textbooks



Succeeding Grant-in-Aid projects

- Archiving Okinawan Historical Documents
- OCR for Hand-written Japanese Historical Documents
- Reconstruction of Classic Studies



Digital Archiving

- Needs for sharing of academic information
- Spread of the Internet and the Web
- Digitally archiving cultural properties
 - Storing information
 - Sharing information
 - Utilizing information

Art Research Center at Ritsumeikan University

- Research and Digital Archiving of Cultural Properties
- Est. 1998
- Intangible cultural properties
 - Japanese dance
 - Noh
 - Kabuki
- ca 300 thousand data items
- Motion capture



Motion Capture of Noh Play



Mr. Kiyoshi Katayama of the Kanze school

Reproduction in CG





Other DAs in Japanese Universities

- Ryukoku University
 - Digital Archive Research Center
- Keio University
 - Research Center for the Art and Arts Administration (Art Center)
 - HUMI project
- Waseda University
 - The Tsubouchi Memorial Theater Museum
 - Digital Archiving Research Inst.



DA organizations

- JDAA: Japanese Digital Archiving Assoc.
- Kyoto Digital Archiving Research Center



Problems in SIG-CH

- Still comprehensive
 - In-depth discussions are necessary
- Spread of IT
 - SIG-CH still needed?



Problems of Computers and the Humanities in Japan

- Problems of system-oriented thought
- Content-oriented approach is required

- Development of Infrastructures
 - Education
 - Human resources policies