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 *IPSJ 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- Analysis of historical documents *Setsuyo-shu* (92)
- Image processing of hand-written historical documents (93)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- Archiving Okinawan Historical Documents
- OCR for Hand-written Japanese Historical Documents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

- 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
