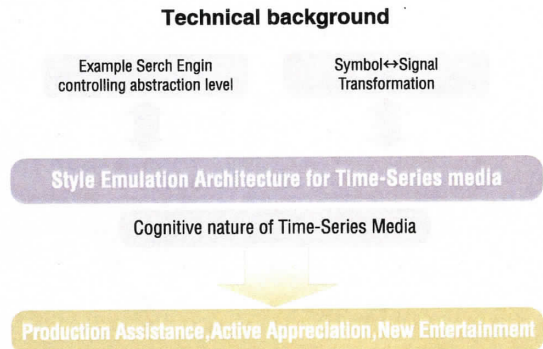


CREST MUSE

Development of Design Reuse Technology for Nonverbal Time-Series Media

This research project is being conducted under the supervision of Professor Haruhiro Katayose of the School of Science and Technology. It was selected by the Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST) under the Strategic Promotion of Creative Research Project to receive research funding of approximately ¥400 million from the Japanese government. This research project aims to develop technologies to assist the production of music contents of nonverbal time-series media using a design reuse approach. This technology is based on common human sensibilities to artifacts and a consideration of the cognitive principles involved with a time-series media representation of music. This study is intended to provide a music production environment that both amateur and professional producers can use and contribute to an increase in Japan's competitive power in the multimedia field through the embodiment of an active experience in the appreciation of art and the formulation of new means of entertainment.



The Miwa and Nagata Laboratories of the School of Science and Technology provided technological cooperation for the creation of blockbuster TV anime “Nodame Cantabile”

The technology of computer animation for piano-fingering developed by the Miwa Hiroyoshi Laboratory and the Nagata Noriko Laboratory of the School of Science and Technology was used for creating the piano-playing scenes in the enormously successful TV anime ‘Nodame Cantabile Pari-hen’. This technology realized graphic recreation of piano-playing motion in animation, including that of finger tips, which had not been depicted in detail in traditional anime.

The Miwa and Nagata Laboratories have been studying and developing technology to generate computer graphics (CG) of human piano-playing motion. In the long term, they are aiming at establishing technologies to automatically generate more human-like CG piano playing motion using only musical score data, by applying theories related to physics, anatomy and optimization algorithms.



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Professor Ogawa of the School of Humanities Awarded the German Siebold Prize

Professor Akio Ogawa of the School of Humanities, has been awarded the Philipp Franz von Siebold prize in 2009.

The Siebold prize is given to a Japanese researcher who has contributed to better mutual understanding between the cultures and societies of Japan and Germany while achieving excellent academic performance. Established by the Federal Republic of Germany, the prize marks its 31st anniversary this year, and is a prestigious award conferred upon just one person selected from a field of contenders representing every academic endeavor, including the humanities, social science and natural science. Professor Ogawa is the first prizewinner selected from KGU, and the award is the first in the field of linguistics.

Professor Ogawa specializes in Japanese-German contrastive linguistics and language typology. He studied abroad as a German government scholar (DAAD) from 1986 to 1988, and at the invitation Humboldt Foundation he stayed in Germany as a researcher from 1996 to 1997. In that capacity he gave numerous lectures, not only in Germany but in other European countries. In 2003 he was invited by Hamburg University to serve as a guest professor, and two years later he was awarded a prize from the Japanese Society of German Literature (Japanische Gesellschaft für Germanistik – JGG). He has presented various books and articles both in Japan and overseas.

The Siebold prize committee praised Professor Ogawa for his contribution to mutual understanding between Japan and Germany, as well as for his academic achievement in German language and linguistics. The official award ceremony will be held in Berlin Bellevue Palace, and President Horst Köhler, of the Federal Republic of Germany, will bestow the prize.