

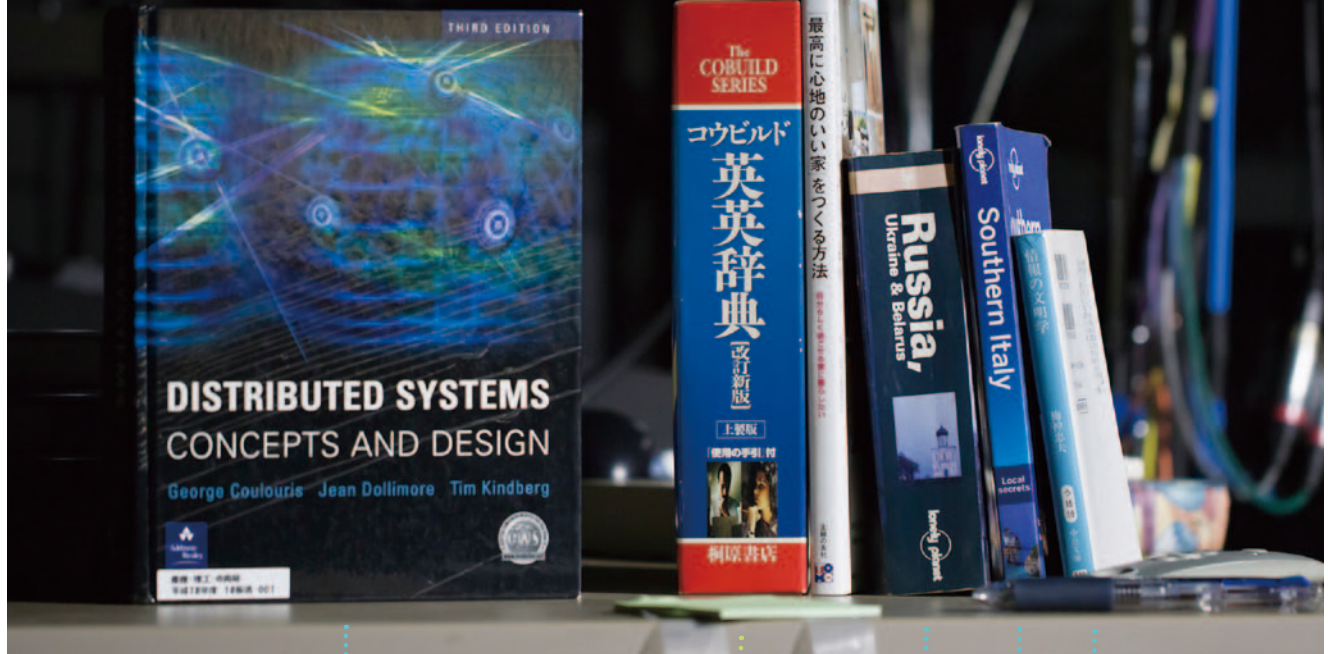
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私の 本棚

My favorite books



The Bible on information systems

● DISTRIBUTED SYSTEMS: CONCEPTS AND DESIGN

This book is on distributed systems, which is my research topic. Instead of offering explanations of workings and mechanisms as final forms of technologies, this book rather emphasizes explanations of why such workings and mechanisms are required. Even now I'm attracted to book titles that include words like "Design" and "Concept." This is perhaps because I was influenced by this book. As reading of this kind, I'd like to recommend "Operating System Concepts" (John Wiley & Sons). Both of these books are written in easy-to-understand English.

For wandering around the world of English

● The COBUILD SERIES ENGLISH-ENGLISH DICTIONARY

I like dictionaries. This may be because I am attracted to encyclopedic collection of information. I bought this English-English dictionary when I was a high school student. This dictionary presents each word together with its usage that effectively illustrate scenes associated with the particular word. I also bought a Cambridge English-English dictionary around the same time, which contained a large number of entries. Comparing dictionaries is also interesting.

The ultimate of overseas travel guides

● Lonely Planet (Russia and Southern Italy)

The "Lonely Planet" series have always been the only and most reliable guide for my overseas travels. Russia was the first overseas destination of my solo trip when I was a university freshman. In those days, detailed Japanese travel guides about Russia were not available. After a search I found this series. The volumes in this series consist mostly of text information and few photos, but the amount and accuracy of information are overwhelming. Above all, information about local foods and dining is truly reliable. I bought "Southern Italy" for our honeymoon trip. I wish to become a Lonely Planet writer myself some day.

It's a costly hobby

● How to Build "The Most Comfortable House"

Architecture is intriguing. It involves the pleasures and pains similar to IT system designing. It requires analyses that take into account factors such as land, lifestyle and community on the time axis. Designing and implementation must be carried out with functionality, beauty and flexibility in mind. Also important are comfort in family's daily life and house maintenance. All of these must be examined from the perspective of family's happy future. Consideration of time axis is the most difficult part.

A specific approach to information society

● Civilization of Information

Each time I pick up this book, I find myself thinking about information from a fresh perspective. Indeed, the contents of this book seem to remain fresh as if defying passage of time. It's an epitome of Prof. Tadao Umesao's thought about how to understand the diffusion of digital information technology in our society. Prof. Umesao was the first Director of the National Museum of Ethnology who took initiative in introducing computers to the museum.

A reminder of my youth's dream

Extra The Mysterious Island

Perhaps this book made me an engineer. The engineer in this story strives to make the members life on a solitary island convenient, taking full advantage of his scientific knowledge. For me, he is an object of never-ending admiration. I believe that the true knowledge is information that we keep in our memory, ready to be used at any time.