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私の 本棚

My favorite books



● PRINCIPLES OF NEURAL SCIENCES -In English

As a postgraduate student, I spent a half year in Denmark to study at the Sensation-Motor Integration Center of Alborg University (the university itself is science and technology-oriented). This book was used as a textbook there. It was a standard textbook in the neural science field. I could learn how neural sciences are taught in class at a science and technology-oriented university. Since I was aiming to become a university instructor in the science and technology field, this experience impressed me. At my lab, I use several chapters extracted from this book for senior students to study first.

● Advanced Medical Care Series Rehabilitation Medical Science -In Japanese

This book is a summary of a variety of medical research works being pursued in the field of contemporary rehabilitation medical science. Most up-to-date trends in research can be obtained. I recommend this book to students newly joining our lab. I used to read it when pondering over ideas for a new research project.

● MATLAB 5 FOR ENGINEERS -In English

As an undergraduate, I participated in a summer course in the United States. I found this book at a bookshop near Harvard University. Many academic books in superb binding fully occupied the shop space from one corner to the other, which was an impressive sight. At Japanese bookshops, the number of academic books is usually very small and books themselves lack attractiveness in appearance. But this particular book revolutionized my consciousness toward the academic world. Fashion-conscious young people were selecting apparently difficult books. I felt that such sense could be tolerated in the academic world. Since I knew that my lab would use "Matlab," I bought one for my own study. I cherish this book as it vividly reminds me of my visit to that bookshop.

● Brain-Machine Interface -In Japanese

This book, in Japanese, concerns the research project I'm engaged in of late. Though a bit too specialized, I read it to get an overview as to what research bodies are engaging in what activities.

● Artificial Life -Translated in Japanese

As a high school student, after school, I often dropped in a bookshop on the campus of the adjacent university, looking at shelves with books on computer and brain. I was very excited to discover academic fields beyond the reach of high school classes. This urged me to learn the field based on the fusion of computer and brain (life) as soon as possible. One day I happened to find this book on the shelf. In those days, the field of artificial life was in fashion. Looking at the author introduction, I was surprised to find that the translator was a graduate student of that very university. If one enters a university, one might even be able to translate books on leading-edge technology fields. The encounter with this book fueled my yearning for universities. As this book concerned the exact field of my interest (interdisciplinary research), I read it eagerly and even played with a trial program on my computer that was included in the book.

● Wonders of Human Body: Its Amazing Mechanism (DVD)

-Translated in Japanese
Measuring and inferring organs inside the human body, such as the brain and muscles. . . Researches in this field are all numerals in the level of academic papers. As such, research results can be hardly conveyed or understood by researchers in other fields as well as the general public. So I'm thinking of creating a CG animation following this DVD as an example. From time to time, even while I was studying abroad, I have seen excellent audiovisual publications produced by National Geographic. Indeed I was impressed with their wonderful approach of delivering highly academic contents in an easy-to-understand way and outreaching general viewers in society.

● Ghost in the Brain -Translated in Japanese

As an undergraduate, I read this book, which impressed me with wonders of the brain. This is a story about a researcher who creates a remedy for a patient with no limbs who complains that he is annoyed by an illusion that his lost fingers are attached to his face. I was impressed with the author's ability as a scientist as he pursued a process of connecting clinical occurrences with an innovative achievement via a scientific approach. Like machines, our brain also exchanges information by electric signals and cells forming a network with each other. In spite of this physical structure, this phenomena continue to develop and transform themselves on their own (even in the case of an adult's brain). The brain is totally different from machines. For machines, "disconnection" simply means "failure." A fascinating book!