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My favorite books

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● Ultrafast Spectroscopy of Semiconductors and Semiconductor Nanostructures – In English

Offering numerous case studies, this book provides a review of ultrafast nonlinear spectroscopy in semiconductor nanostructures. It allows you to have a glimpse of the depth and diversity of semiconductor research activities. With “atoms” it is easy to obtain just-as-expected experiment results, while with “semiconductors” it is rather difficult to establish precise theories where experiment results often differ from initial predictions. Semiconductor quantum dots are highly intriguing nanostructured semiconductors with which you can enjoy intellectual stimulus of both atoms and semiconductors simultaneously.

● Nonlinear Optics – In English

This is my textbook on nonlinear optics. I've been using this textbook for years ever since I first learned nonlinear optics as an undergraduate senior during a rinko session. When I was a first grader in the master's course, I participated in an international convention where I just happened to meet the author Dr. R. W. Boyd, which made me feel excited and highly honored. He was very frank and friendly even with a young researcher like me. It was a truly memorable occasion because I knew that as researchers we could discuss equally beyond each other's social status and career.

● “Galileo, the Detective” Series – In Japanese

I like Keigo Higashino's novels and enjoy reading his books during my free time. Of the many interesting Higashino novels such as “The Secret” and “A Journey Under the Midnight Sun,” the “Galileo, the Detective” series are unique science-oriented suspense novels. In this series, the author gives full play to his flexible imagination that combines laws of natural science with tricks behind various crime cases, which truly impresses me. As I reviewed Keigo Higashino's personal profile, I found that he graduated from a department of electronic engineering and once worked as an engineer himself. No wonder he is well versed in physics.

● Physics in the Mirror – In Japanese

The author of this book is Dr. Shinichiro Tomonaga, a winner of Nobel Prize in Physics. This book explains, in a clear and easy-to-understand way, the wondrous as well as “difficult-to-understand” world of quantum mechanics. It contains a short story entitled “Mitsuko on Trial” which is a must for readers. The story humorously explains the wave-particle duality of light by staging a trial with “Ms. Mitsuko Namino” (symbolizing light) as the defendant. I'd like those who are prejudiced against physics as being difficult to read this book.

● The Forefront of Quantum Dot Electronics – In Japanese

This book provides an overview of the latest results of quantum dot electronics research in Japan. Quantum dot is a field of nanotechnology initiated by Japanese researchers. As such, a number of Japanese researchers are actively at work in the world's forefront – a field representing the comprehensive scope of Japanese science and technology. Since I wrote one chapter of this book as one of the co-authors, I have special attachment to this book.

● Quantum Optics from the Basics – In Japanese

“Quantum optics” is a research field that takes a quantum-mechanical approach to light itself as well as interactions between light and substances. This comprehensive textbook is recommended to beginners of quantum optics as it covers the basic theories of quantum optics as well as the latest endeavors toward practical utilization of quantum informatics. This book is memorable for me as I was involved in writing (only one chapter though) for the first time in my life. In addition to myself, two Keio University teachers can be found in the list of co-authors.