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Ken-ichi Tanaka's ON and OFF time

Here are some of the shots showing my ON and OFF times from my student years through the period as a teacher, as well as my private life with family.

Presentation at international conference



This photo was taken in 2003 at an international conference, when I made a presentation for the first time in English. Although I can prepare for my presentations, it's unpredictable to know what questions the audience may raise until I finish the presentation. So this keeps me tense until everything is over. Making presentations in English is now common for me, but I still clearly remember that first experience, when I was nervous until my presentation came to an end.

Awarding ceremony of OR Society of Japan



This photo shows me being honored with the Best Paper of the year by the Operations Research Society of Japan in 2012. By lucky coincidence, the person who bestowed the award was Prof. Takeshi Koshizuka who was the mentor for my PhD supervisor Prof. Osamu Kurita during his undergraduate/graduate school days. The contents of the theme of the award-winning paper are as outlined in this web magazine. This award encouraged me because this theme is fundamental part of my subsequent research work.

As a graduate student, I often stayed in the lab until late at night to carry on research. Looking back at those days, work seemed to progress at night much better than in the daytime. My lifestyle shifted to a daytime working pattern, but even now I hit upon a new idea for research during the night.



Student days



This is a view I saw from the window of my lab when I was a student. Taken on a fine day, this shot looks toward the inland direction. Mt. Fuji can be seen in the distance. As my lab faced the south, the Landmark Tower could be seen in the direction of downtown Yokohama. For my break time, I used to looking out the window and eating something sweet. My current lab faces the north and I can see a good view of downtown Tokyo.

Photo taken after my students' graduation ceremony



This photo was taken together with five of the first students of my lab after their graduation ceremony. In the first year of my lab, I had a hard time managing it, repeating trial and error. But I'm sure I will remember it later as a fond memory. I'm looking forward to seeing my students to be successful in various fields of society by using the knowledge of OR.

I took this photo when our family visited Kurohime Heights in Nagano Prefecture. My son is checking the insect net to find a grasshopper he caught. In the evening we went out to hunt kuwagata (stag beetles) and successfully caught a few suji-kuwagata and miyama-kuwagata – kinds of stag beetles that are rare to see in downtown areas. Suji-kuwagata is a very beautiful small beetle. It looks like ko-kuwagata but the shape of its mandibles is slightly different from that of ko-kuwagata. The suji-kuwagata is still alive in our home even after more than a year.



Snapshots of my family



These shots were taken when our family visited Tateshina in Nagano Prefecture. The photo in the center shows my son and myself strolling together in the woods with an insect net. In the right photo, a gomadara-kamikiri, a variety of longhorn beetle, is seen moving on the palm of my son. Gomadara-kamikiri is another beautiful insect, which has white dots on its black wings. There are many varieties of longhorn beetles, many of which are unique and handsome. Areas surrounding our Yagami Campus are rich in greenery, where I've found several different varieties of longhorn beetles.

