



Future of the Network for Research on Japanese Classical Books

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prepared by Center for Collaborative Research on Pre-modern Texts, National Institute of Japanese Literature







1. Current situation of the project

Project for advancing the frontiers of large-scale academic research efforts

Project to Build an International Collaborative Research Network for Pre-modern Japanese Texts

Term: **2014-2023**

Goals:

- (1) To make publically available on the internet a collection of 300,000 digitized Japanese classic books from various fields, along with their bibliographies (71,000 books will be digitized by March 2016).
- (2) To promote collaborative international research projects through the use of digitized materials.
- (3) To build networks for collaborative international research.



A new public image viewing system starts in April, 2017.



2. Collaborative institutions

20 universities

National Institute for the Humanities

- National Museum of Japanese History
- National Institute of Japanese Language and Linguistics
- International Research Center for Japanese Studies

Other institutions

Digitization of classic books in other institutions Cooperation in building databases by the **National Institute of Informatics**.





Foreign institutions with collaborative agreements

Collège de France
Korea University
University of Florence
Beijing Foreign Studies University
Leiden University
University of Venice
University of Naples
Sapienza University of Rome
Vatican Apostolic Library
University of Cambridge
University of British Columbia
Columbia University
C. V. Starr East Asian Library at
University of California

Collaborative efforts will be strengthened and broadened as this project progresses



3. Two points of view for classic studies

How to read a classic

Training in deciphering cursive scripts

Confirming the meaning of words

Developing programs to help decipher cursive scripts

The Hentaigana App

KuLA

Japan Knowledge

SMART-GS

Classical Books OCR

■ How to gather intelligence data for the study

Portal site of the image

Improvement of search functions

Stable search results

N - J -

User-friendly search

Cross-searching

Tagging

TEI-conformant texts

Embedding DOI



+ Tool development support:

Open Data Ideathon · hackathon



4. Portal site of Classical Books

Improvement of information and image availability

Not individually but comprehensively

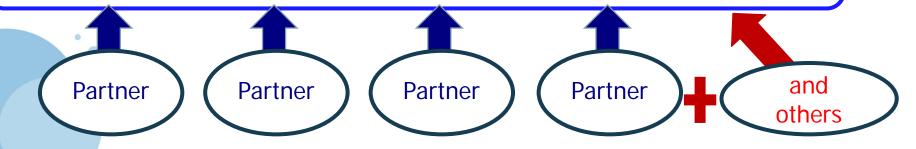
Cross-searching

via NIJL's authorized-management site, not through individual sites.



encouraging unexpected findings

NIJL (Platform for Japanese classics)



国文研 National Institute of Japanese Literature NIJL

5. The reason why NIJL has taken on this project

«To arrive at necessary information»

- Each library has developed a catalog of its collection of classic books.
- NIJL has authorized management regarding the catalogs and micro films of classic books.

Advantage of NIJL:

authorized management of classics

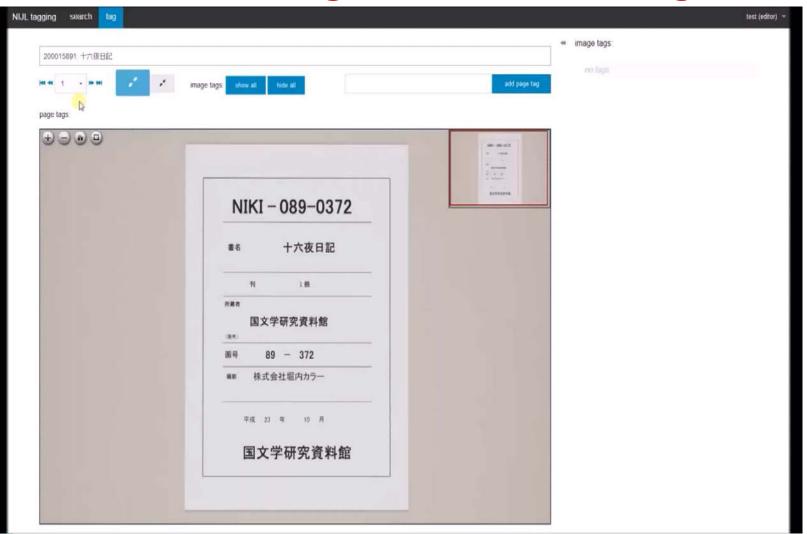
[Renewed URL of Integrated Catalogue of Early Japanese Books]
http://base1.nijl.ac.jp/~tkoten/



■NIJL has been developing a comprehensive bibliographical database of Japanese classics, which includes the "Integrated Catalogue of Pre-modern Japanese Books", an index of classic books from all fields.



Addition of tags to individual images







Social tagging will commence in April, 2017 (initially by researchers)





An example of research by Dr. Kengo Terasawa

 $\left(oldsymbol{v_i} \in \mathbb{R}^{64}
ight)$

Slit Image

(K. Terasawa et al., in MIRU2006)

Application:

Locate a range of images which share similar shapes in a given image

文字認識されていない典籍の画像から、与えられた単語画像と似ている 画像を検索し、出現位置を特定する。



Algorithm for word spotting

[1] Scanned Image [2] Clip by Sliding Window [3] Descriptors (Feature Vectors) [4] Matching

クトルを計算しそれを領域別方向別に集約する。



文書画像をスリット状に 切り出した後, 各スリッ ト画像を特徴ベクトルで 記述。

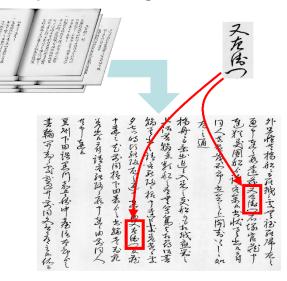
特徴量ベクトルを用いてベクトルの シーケンスのマッチング問題として

Advantages:

No need to manually plot a range of taggs on a given image.

Feasible even for cursive writing.

Applicable for various writing systems.





■Reduced labor for reprinting classical Japanese books

http://doi.org/ 10.1241/johokanri.58.819

- A character which the software was unable to decode
- A character which the software decoded incorrectly
- ■Efficient transcription of necessary books
- ■TEI-conformant texts are currently under consideration.





10. Consistent search results

DOI

Embedding digital object identifiers (DOI) into each digitalized image of a classical book, and recommendation to cite the DOIs in academic papers.

This makes it easy for readers to refer back to digital images of books referred to in academic papers.

This process was very difficult in previous research.

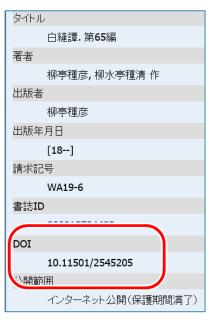
⇒ Research should be verifiable.



Toward verifiable humanities

ex.NDL

■Most work in the humanities has depended on drawing upon fragments and citations of other researchers. However, we must now work to verify these fragments for ourselves.





11. Towards the development of new frontiers via unexpected findings

Search for the word "aurora"

Ex.



Search functions mentioned above

The Database





Azuma-kagami



We aim to promote original research via extraction of various information from the database.



12. Encouraging further interaction with Japanese classic books

To encourage public engagement

Published digitized images and bibliographic information under CC BY-SA: available for everyone.

(NIJL)

As an experiment, 350 digitized classic books have been made public under CC BY-SA to promote open data searching. (In the near future, much more of NIJL's collection will be published.)

http://www.nijl.ac.jp/pages/cijproject/data_set_list.html

From Ideathon to Hackathon



An ideathon was held by NIJL in Kyoto

Developing an idea suggested in the ideathon



13. Encouraging further interaction with Japanese classic books

国文研データセット簡易Web閲覧

To encourage utilization not only by researchers but also by the public

タグ連想検索

よりとも

タグ連想検索

「連想」の語はVannevar Bushの1945年の論文"As we may think"によります。

グラフ中の各夕グをクリックすると、その 夕グが付けられているページ画像が検索表示されます。 同時に、検索窓にもその単語が入りますのでそのまま「夕グ連想検索」ボタンをクリックしていただけば、 その夕グを中心とした夕グの関係が表示されます。 なお、文字の大きさは、登場頻度を表しています。 矢印は、比較的近い夕グであることを示しています。 夕グの情報が増えれば増えるほど、矢印の意味を深めていくことができます。

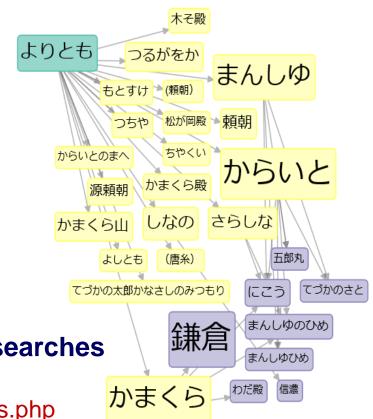
検索例: 鎌倉 物徂徠 御番頭 二御丸火之番

Suggested search

IIIF (International Image Interoperability Framework)
D3.js (Data-Driven Documents) etc....

A user-friendly viewer for open data searches has been released by Dr. Nagasaki

http://www2.dhii.jp/nijl_opendata/openimages.php





Wrap up: Goals of the project

- (1) Promote integrated searching and collaboration as a platform for further research
- (2) Encourage various institutions to engage in this sharing of information

 - **X**Supporting sustainability of their results

To encourage interaction with Japanese classic books in mutually beneficial relationships

