Japanese HCI Symposium: Emerging Japanese HCI Research Collection

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Abstract

This symposium showcases the latest work from Japan
on interactive systems and user interfaces that address
under-explored problems and demonstrate unique
approaches. In addition to circulating ideas and sharing
a vision of future research in human-computer
interaction, this symposium aims to foster social
networks among young researchers and students and
create a fresh research community.

Author Keywords

User interfaces, interaction design, interactive systems,
interaction techniques, Japan, Asia.

ACM Classification Keywords

H.5.2. Information interfaces and presentation (e.g.,
HCI): Input devices and strategies, Interaction styles,
Prototyping.

Introduction

Human-Computer Interaction (HCI) has become very
interdisciplinary and diverse. In order to develop the
entire landscape of future interactive system design,
the research community should shed more light on
work from various fields and cultural backgrounds.

Japan is an interesting field to seek unique research
directions in interaction techniques and interactive

systems. The Japanese HCI research community has already established well-regarded conferences (*"IPSJ Interaction"* and *"JSSST Workshop on Interactive Systems and Software (WISS)"*) as well as journals, accepting very intriguing work with creative solutions on hard problems. However, Japanese researchers are often unable to have opportunities to present their work at international venues because publication criteria are quite different. This is even a larger barrier for young researchers as they may not have sufficient experience on publishing and presenting at international conferences. Thus, providing an opportunity of presenting latest research outcomes from Japan at CHI will benefit the whole HCI research community as well as Japanese researchers who otherwise would not attend the conference.

This symposium showcases the latest research that cover various topics related to HCI in Japan. We will collect work that is originated from Japan or closely related to the Japanese culture and society. One objective of this symposium is to promote their unique problems and approaches to a wider research community. This symposium is also intended to be a place for young researchers and students to interact with other senior and junior colleagues. To this end, we will encourage participation of young researchers while we will also invite senior members to provide an experienced perspective on presented work.

Symposium Themes

We invite any type of HCI research that is originated from Japan or closely related to the Japanese culture and society, such as:

- Novel interactive systems and interaction techniques;
- Novel hardware and software enabling new forms of interaction with computers;
- Studies for understanding human capabilities related to interaction with computers;
- Theories that explain human behaviors around computer systems;
- Systems and services that address issues prominent in Japan (e.g., population aging, and diversity in working environments); and
- Input and output systems to support creative activities and expressions.

Upon the submission, authors can choose to submit as "CHI Symposium Challenge", which includes the deployment of the proposed system at the symposium. When a CHI Symposium Challenge submission is accepted, the organizers will do their best to accommodate the system deployment at the venue.

The work must be original though it does not have to be complete; work with preliminary results is welcome. Work already published in an archival form at another journal or conference may be considered as a valid submission if the same authors submit and the organizers see strong value for this symposium. A submission of such work should clearly state the existence of related prior publications with references. We even welcome work that can be considered controversial or unconventional unless it could pose strong ethical concerns. This work also aims to broaden participation of young researchers in Japan (e.g., recently-graduated Ph.D.s, graduate students, and even undergraduates who have strong interests in HCI).

Preferences will be given to such participants though we welcome submissions from anyone.

We are experiment a different submission and presentation format for this symposium from a conventional conference. We strongly encourage video submissions. Videos can be illustrating a future form of interactive technologies (more like a vision video) or demonstrating research prototypes and art exhibitions of the authors. A vision video does not need to show a demonstration of any working prototype, but must illustrate a clear, stimulating vision of how interactive technologies could flourish people's life in the future. An extended abstract should include a section of "Future Impact", describing a potential influence that the presented research could offer in 10 – 20 years. This encourages prospective symposium participants to have a long-term research perspective on their research.

All authors with accepted submissions are expected to give poster presentations with demonstrations at the symposium. In addition, some of the accepted submissions will be invited to oral presentations, which will be 15 – 20 minutes long including Q&A. Oral presentations will be chosen based on various criteria, such as the quality of work and diversity of topics. Demonstrations do not have to be fully-developed and can be informal and ad-hoc; even playing demo videos with mobile/tablet devices would suffice. Due to the constraints by the venue, we are not able to accommodate demonstrations that require large space or external special equipment. Demonstrations which will not produce large noise or anything that could potentially affect other symposia and workshops running in parallel will be disallowed. Our intention to

have demonstrations is to encourage active discussions with other participants.

For more details about submissions, please refer to our symposium website (http://hci.tokyo/).

Expected Outcomes

We expect to have the following intellectual outcomes:

- A set of papers illustrating recent work that demonstrates unique research perspectives (most of the papers will be expected to have accompanying demonstration videos);
- A summary poster and online article of our discussions about emerging HCI research topics related;
- A research community consisting of young, active researchers in Japan; and
- Online group on social media to further promote the community (e.g., the symposium website and Facebook group).

All written outcomes will be available on the symposium website. If possible, we would also promote our outcomes to relevant SIGs. We also plan to seek an opportunity to have a follow-up gathering event co-located with HCI conferences in Japan.

Symposium Plan

We will start the symposium with self-introduction and speed networking among participants. This icebreaking would help to create a friendly, interactive atmosphere during the symposium. After this, oral presentations will be given. This session will last until the lunch break.

We will kick off the afternoon session with demos and posters. The organizers will set "prime time" for each demo/poster in which its authors are expected to be in front of their poster and demo to present the work to the audience. At the rest of the sessions, authors can freely choose either to continue their presentation or interact with other presenters.

The late afternoon session will be used for an interactive group discussion. All the attendees (including non-presenting ones) will be divided into groups with 5 – 6 people. Each group will be asked to discuss topics given by the organizers and present a summary of their discussions and conclusions in front of the audience. This group discussion will be relatively short (e.g., 50 – 60 minutes long) as it is intended to strengthen social networks among participants rather than generate a realistic solution to a particular issue in our research field.

We speak English at the symposium as this is a great opportunity for junior participants to accumulate experience as a researcher at an international venue. Mentoring might be offered for those who would be the first time to present at such a meeting.

Pre-symposium Preparation

We already have set up our symposium website (http://hci.tokyo/). We are actively using social network media, such as Facebook and Twitter, to communicate with prospective participants and researchers. We will also proactively advertise this symposium at Japanese journals and conferences.

We already have secured a financial aid from Information Processing Society of Japan, and will seek more from the government and industry. This will be used to support participation in the symposium and conference from Japan.

Post-symposium Follow-up

In addition to normal disclosure of our outcomes (e.g., free access to papers and a poster presentation at the main conference), we will prepare a website to archive accompanying videos submitted to the symposium and presentation materials. We will also seek an opportunity to organize a follow-up workshop co-located with a Japanese conference to maintain the community.