Masaki Nakagawa

Tokyo University of Agriculture and Technology, Japan

He has been working on handwriting recognition, pen-based user interfaces and applications — especially educational applications. Since 1980s, he has been collaborating with many companies and has contributed to develop handwriting recognizers for real commercial use. In 2011, he founded a start-up iLabo, which now sells the best handwriting recognizers for touch-based smart phones, tablets and so on in Japan. In 2012, iLabo was selected as one of the 100 most promising ventures in Japan by Nikkei Business. In 1990, he also introduced User Interfaces for tablet devices and developed several educational applications using various sizes of tablets. His U.S. patents to scroll the window in proportion to the pen speed, called "touch scroll", were sold from his university to a company for the highest amount among all the Japanese universities in the fiscal year 2010.   He is also working on historical document processing to read excavated documents from the Heijo palace (the capital in the 7th century) in Nara, Japan, and to read Chu Nom documents in Vietnam. He received the Minister of Education and Science award of Japan in this April and the contribution award from Tokyo Metropolitan Government in this October. He is a fellow of IAPR (International Association of Pattern Recognition), IEICE (Institute of Electronics, Information and Communication Engineers, Japan) and IPSJ (Information Processing Society of Japan).