

Technical Committee successfully held at 'Yakushima' island with the world level natural heritages in Japan

*Hisaki Tanaka, Assoc Professor, University of Electro-Communications  
Secretary, General Affairs, IEICE Engineering and Sciences Society*



Fig.1 Human relations development of Technical Committee participants through recreation

Technical Committee on Non-linear Problems is one of Technical Committees in Non-linear Problem and its Applications Sub-society under IEICE Engineering and Sciences Society. It is managed by Chair, Prof. Kiyotaka Yamamura / Chuo University, two Secretaries, Prof. Yoshihiko Horio / Tokyo Denki University and Prof. Isao Tokuda / Japan Advance Institute of Science and Technology. It provides monthly workshops for the members to mutually exchange opinions and encourage their relevant research activities. This committee has a long history of research activities and it is one of the representative Committees, while its management has been taken over by younger generation members so far. Thus, they organized a workshop from 11-th to 14-th in November 2009, at Yakushima island which has been well-known through a lot of world level natural heritages.

Most of the monthly Technical Committee meetings/workshops/symposiums have been normally held at academic institutions in urban area or local cities in Japan, so far. Therefore, the workshop at the remote island enabled the drastic change of the Committee environment in the long history of the Committee. The author coordinated the planning and management of the workshop as the local conference manager. Many participants over 60 persons joined the workshop and it was successfully held through quite many discussions and communications after each presentation. Though the island is far from any urban area in Japan, it rather promoted the participants to know each other. It was very unique in comparison with the other normal Committees from the following viewpoints:

- (1) The number of participants in the special field of non-linear physics was major and above all, they had presentations by many outstanding researchers leading the research activities in the special field but without membership yet. The workshop will encourage them to join the Committee with the membership.
- (2) Prof. Yasumasa Nishiura of Hokkaido University presented a valuable invited talk

entitled “Can Mathematical Science Resolve Social Issues?”, considering the mathematical science which has been regarded as “Invisible Technology” with a great potential to settle the current social issues. His talk exactly matched the natural environment of the island.

- (3) Most of the workshop participants joined an excursion in the island and they could recover their power in the natural heritages. Furthermore, they enjoyed the final social with acquaintance cultivated through the workshop.

Many workshop participants replied their satisfaction to the workshop and planned events, to the questionnaires given by the Committee. It is expected to extend the fundamental idea of the workshop to the other workshops/symposiums/conferences.