

21st URA International Seminar Okayama University

Date: Wed - (水) 21st February 2024 — Time: 16:30

VENUE: Tsushima Campus – International House – Conference Hall

Antoine BOSSARD

(Talk supported by the HESPRI project - HYBRID mode, broadcasted on ZOOM)

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Deciphering Chinese characters: a journey where Asian and Western cultures meet each other

Because of the huge number of glyphs involved, Chinese character memorisation is a very challenging topic, even for native speakers. Several pedagogical methods have been proposed for foreign learners, yet they often end up in a long list of characters rather hard to process. Our approach is different: Chinese characters are considered from a logical point of view. Not only can such approach facilitate character memorisation, but it also enables efficient representation and processing of Chinese characters by computer systems. The handling of Chinese characters by computers is a notorious issue with several ongoing problems, such as the representation of some character variants as well as unsatisfactory encoding methods. For instance and concretely, some characters are still not representable on modern computer systems because they are not included in the character encodings, such as Unicode and JIS, on which rely our systems. And so, they remain nonexistent for our devices. This is an obvious issue for people of these cultures considering the ubiquity of computer systems nowadays.

In this presentation, we will review major properties of Chinese characters and discuss how they could be used to address those issues.

Our approaches can be of great practical interest for Japanese learners, either for professional purposes (students, translators and so on) and for any lovers of Japanese culture and artistic design for instance.

Note: Talk not only intended for academics, teachers and students. All lovers of Japanese Culture are warmly invited

Participation is free of charge but mandatory.

Advanced Registration - **Deadline: Feb 19th** :

a - <https://forms.gle/aDGTdbyfyxVgQbjSA>

b - CC to bernard-chenevier@cc.okayama-u.ac.jp

ZOOM link will be sent to participants registered outside Okayama.



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SPEAKER Short Bio

Antoine BOSSARD is a Professor at the Graduate School of Science, Kanagawa University (Tokyo area) in Japan. He received the BS and MS degrees from Université de Caen Basse-Normandie, France in 2005 and 2007. He got a Ph.D. degree from Tokyo University of Agriculture and Technology in 2011.



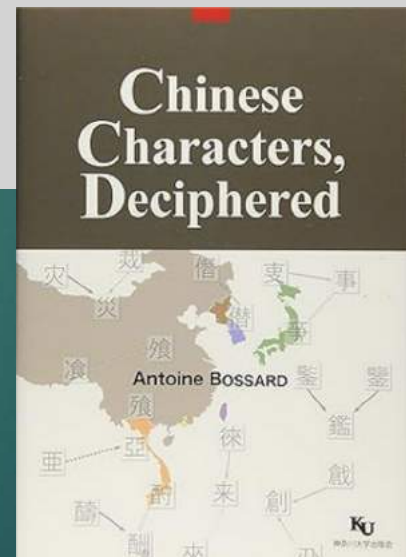
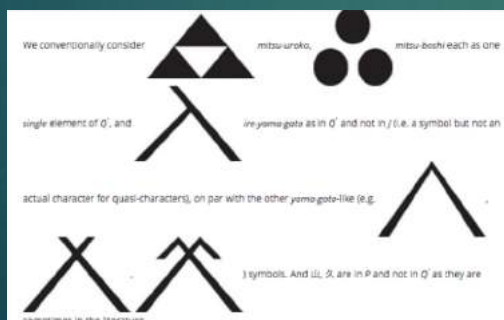
After several years as an assistant professor, notably at the Advanced Institute of Industrial Technology, he joined the Graduate School of Science of Kanagawa Univ. as a tenure faculty. Antoine's research interests are mostly focused on:

- ** interconnection networks (topologies and routing problems)
- ** information representation and processing of Chinese characters.

He is the author of multiple papers in these fields, published in international journals and conference proceedings. He has also written several books, for instance for his students oriented to computer architecture, functional programming, and to Chinese characters learning. He notably drafted a commented translation of the first part of the Dictionarium anamitico-latinum of Jean-Louis TABERD (*French missionary of the Paris Foreign Missions Society, and titular bishop of Isauropolis, in partibus infidelium*).

Among other duties, Pr. BOSSARD is also in charge of the following lectures:
Undergraduates: (i) introduction to computer systems, (ii) computer architecture, (iii) functional programming, and Master level : graph theory.
He is responsible of the Functional and logic programming lecture at Tokyo University of Agriculture and Technology.

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[Inquiry]
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