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Professor Takashi Yanagawa



Professor Takashi Yanagawa was born on December 2, 1940 in Kobe City, Japan. He received a BS and a MS degree from the Department of Mathematics, Kyushu University, and was conferred a Doctor of Science by Kyushu University in July 1970. He was appointed as a Research Associate at Faculty of Engineering Science, Osaka University in April 1966, and as a Lecturer at the Faculty of General Education, Kumamoto University in April 1969. In February 1971, he joined the Department of Mathematics, Kyushu University as the Lecturer, and promoted to an Associate Professor in March 1975 and to Professor in September 1992. He devoted his 33 years of life in research and education in Kyushu University and retired in March 2004. He was awarded a title of Professor Emeritus by Kyushu University in May 2004. After retiring from Kyushu University, he established the first Government supported biostatistics program in Japan in the Graduate School of Medicine, Kurume University. He is the Director and Professor of the Biostatistics Center, Kurume University, and makes efforts to educate biostatisticians.

His research interests are in Mathematical Statistics and Biostatistics, and is well known as a leading figure in those research areas. He was the President of Japanese Society of Applied Statistics and is the president of the Biometric Society of Japan from 2001 to date. He served several times for the International Biometric Society as a Council member, Finance Committee member and a member of the International Program Committee. He is an elected member of the International Statistical Institute (ISI). He was also a member of the councils of the Japan Statistical Society, the Japanese Society of Applied Statistics, the Mathematical Society of Japan and the Japan Epidemiological Association. He was a visiting scientist at the National Cancer Institute and the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences in the USA, and a senior research scientist at the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial

Research Organization (CSIRO) in Australia. He was also an Adjunct Associate Professor of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in the USA, and a Visiting Professor at the International Statistical Education Center. He is a member of the Science Council of Japan (Nihon-gakujutsu-kaigi) from July 2003, which is established for promotion and permeation of science in all government agencies, industries and people's lives, as the organization to represent Japanese scientists.

He understands the importance of practical data in creating new statistical models and theories. He published over 100 articles and 15 books, which are quite original and influential, covering very wide area of statistical science such as nonparametric inference, analysis of multivariate categorical data and analysis of chaotic non-linear time series data. His papers are cited by many authors in international journals such as *J. American Statist. Assoc.*, *J. Royal Statist. Soc.*, *Biometrics*, *International J. of Epidemiology*, *Envirometrics*, and *Statistics in Medicine* among others. He worked with over a dozen research students, many of them now holding senior positions in statistics in Japan. His research attracted postgraduate students from universities in Japan as well as from overseas. He supervised fifteen Ph. D and thirty four MS. Prof. Yanagawa's work with students typically starts in a collaborative mode, but he extends the collaboration to a wider circle of colleagues. His bibliography well reflects it. He has contributed to the growth of statistical science in Japan through his challenge on scientific and social problems at the forefront, picking up novel mathematical and statistical problems, posing them to students and colleagues and developing theories and methods with collaboration.

All of his students and friends would like to express their sincere and deep gratitude for his much contribution to the developments of the societies of statistical science and Kyushu University.

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