

Honda Begins New Joint Research in Artificial Intelligence with Kyoto University Graduate School of Informatics

Honda Research Institute Japan Co., Ltd. (HRI-JP), a Honda R&D subsidiary, has established a project team with the Graduate School of Informatics, Kyoto University and began joint research this month to further accelerate research of artificial intelligence (AI).

Since its foundation, driven by a passion to provide people everywhere with the joy of expanding their life's potential, Honda has been striving to evolve mobility and improve the daily lives of people all around the world with its products including motorcycles, automobiles and power products.

In the midst of this pursuit, and with the advancement of digital technologies, Honda began to see a growing possibility to create value in a wider range of fields beyond its current businesses. Responding to such changes in the business environment, in addition to its continuous pursuit of the art of making things (*Mono-zukuri*), Honda will take on new challenges in enhancing brand story creation about the new value and experiences (*Koto-zukuri*) Honda can provide through the art of making things. In this way, Honda will strive to make people's lives more enjoyable.

Honda believes that AI will be one of the technologies that will make people's lives more enjoyable, and therefore, Honda is striving to develop "AI that collaborates with people," which 1) is capable of understanding and relating to the emotions of people, 2) accommodates and grows together with people and 3) expands the potential of people who play the leading role.

In order to accelerate the development of such new AI, HRI-JP started the project and began joint research with the Department of Intelligence Science and Technology, Graduate School of Informatics, Kyoto University. Professor Takatsune Kumada, who specializes in psychoinformatics, will represent this project and Professor Hisashi Kashima, the department head, also will personally participate in this project, with a goal to establish a concept under which AI that collaborates with people will be broadly accepted and utilized in society.

Honda is envisioning a future society where mobility products and robots equipped with such AI are trusted just like family members and are useful as part of people's everyday lives. In order to continue providing people everywhere with the joy of expanding their life's potential, Honda will continue to strive to create more and more innovations.

■ **Comments by Professor Takatsune Kumada, Department of Intelligence Science and Technology, Graduate School of Informatics, Kyoto University**

“We have high expectations for Honda’s creativity and technological strengths as well as HRI’s research and development capability. Creating a new concept of AI and presenting it to our society is also a very attractive challenge for us in the world of academia. Moreover, we would like to explore new ways of collaboration between industry and academia through this project.”

■ **Comments by Hiroshi Tsujino, President & CEO, Honda Research Institute Japan Co., Ltd.**

“HRI has a long history of conducting joint research with the Department of Intelligence Science and Technology at Graduate School of Kyoto University, which has top-class researchers in a range of areas that include discovering how human beings process information, theory establishment and intelligent information processing. Through this new project we have just begun, we would like to continue proposing new AI research.”

<About Kyoto University>

Established: June 1897

Location: Sakyo-ku, Kyoto, Japan

Representative: Juichi Yamagiwa, President

<About Honda Research Institute Japan Co., Ltd.>

Established: January 2003

Location: Wako, Saitama Prefecture, Japan

Representative: Hiroshi Tsujino, President & CEO

Capitalization ratio: 100% Honda R&D Co., Ltd.

Publicity materials relating to this press release are available at the following URL:

<http://www.hondanews.info/en/>

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