§18. Development of FECnet Utilization and Its Application to Education

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The computer network, FECnet was introduced at NIFS for physicists and engineers at universities far from NIFS to join real-time analysis of experimental plasma physics and nuclear fusion research without coming to the NIFS site. We explore the extensive use and the possible application to education of the FECnet.

This year, we prepared an internet live video broadcast system from NIFS at the open house event held at November 3 and 4. This plan was announced in advance in the nationwide mailing list for teachers of technology in junior high schools and in the mailing list for information technology education from primary to senior high schools in Mie prefecture.

Total and peak access numbers for each open lecture are listed in the table. A chat system was also prepared to accept questions to lecturers remotely but only one message was received via e-mail. By improving the chat system with more easygoing atmosphere for newcomers, we can expect many people will join the chat system and thus realize interactive, internet lectures.

Video and sound data of the lectures were uploaded to a video-on-demand (VOD) server system. The corresponding URL is

http://www.nifs.ac.jp/welcome/2001/kouen.html.

An example of the video clip can be shown in the figure when one of the lectures is talking remotely using the VOD technology. Accumulating high quality, educational video resources, more public people will access the VOD system, which will play an important role for public accountability of NIFS.

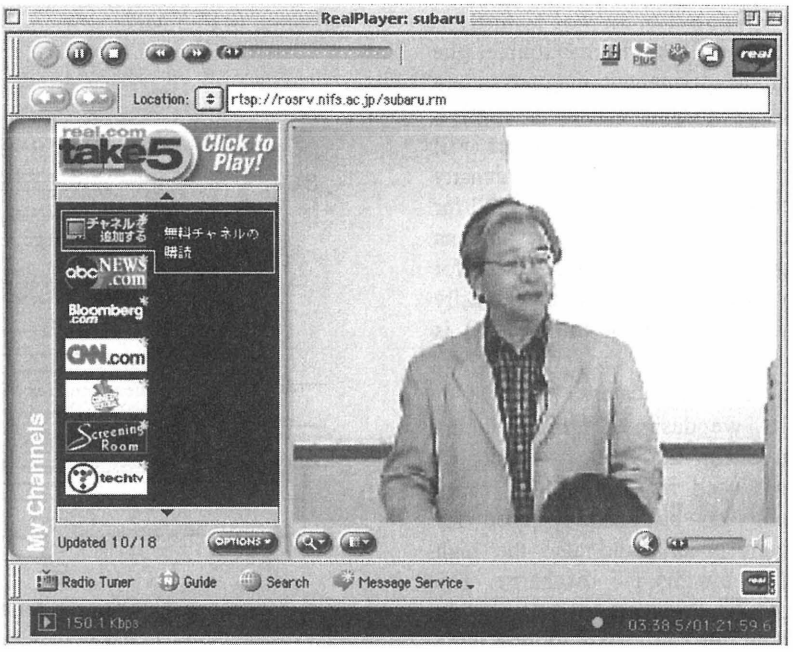

Fig. Video-on-demand.

Table

Date	Time	Total Access	Peak Access
Title			
3-Nov	11:00 - 12:00	67	8
Microwave Application for Pottery			
3-Nov	13:00 - 14:00	47	10
Recent Progress of Large Helical Device			
4-Nov	11:00 - 12:00	65	8
Microwave Application for Pottery			
4-Nov	13:00 - 14:00	57	14
Telescope "Subaru" and Future Space Concept			