# Koji Inoue

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## Research Fields

Artificial Intelligence, Speech Language Processing, Spoken Dialogue System, Human-Robot Interaction

## Work Experience

- 2019 Assistant Professor, Graduate School of Informatics, Kyoto University, Japan.
  - 2023 **Visiting Researcher**, *Division of Speech, Music and Hearing (TMH)*, KTH Royal Institute of Technology, Sweden.
- 2018 2019 **Program-Specific Assistant Professor**, *Graduate School of Informatics*, Kyoto University, Japan.

#### Education

- 2015–2018 **Ph.D in Informatics**, *Graduate School of Informatics*, Kyoto University, Japan. Ph.D. thesis: Engagement Recognition based on Multimodal Behaviors for Human-Robot Dialogue
- 2013–2015 **M.S. in Informatics**, *Graduate School of Informatics*, Kyoto University, Japan. M.S. thesis: Speaker diarization and backchannel detection by combining acoustic and eye-gaze information in poster conversations)
- 2011–2013 **B.S. in Engineering**, *Advanced Engineering School*, Kurume National College of Technology, Japan.

# Publications (Selected)

## Journal Articles

- 2022 **Koji Inoue**, Divesh Lala, and Tatsuya Kawahara. **Can a Robot Laugh with You?: Shared Laughter Generation for Empathetic Spoken Dialogue**. *Frontiers in Robotics and AI*, volume 9, pages 1–11, 2022.
- Koji Inoue, Divesh Lala, Kenta Yamamoto, Shizuka Nakamura, Katsuya Takanashi, and Tatsuya Kawahara. An Attentive Listening System for Autonomous Android ERICA: Comparative Evaluation with Human Attentive Listeners. Transactions of the Japanese Society for Artificial Intelligence, volume 36, pages 1–12, 2021.
- 2020 **Koji Inoue**, Kohei Hara, Divesh Lala, Shizuka Nakamura, Katsuya Takanashi, and Tatsuya Kawahara. **A Job Interview Dialogue System That Asks Follow-up Questions: Implementation and Evaluation with an Autonomous Android**. *Transactions of the Japanese Society for Artificial Intelligence*, volume 35, pages 1–10, 2020.
- 2018 Koji Inoue, Divesh Lala, Katsuya Takanashi, and Tatsuya Kawahara. Engagement Recognition by a Latent Character Model Based on Multimodal Listener Behaviors in Spoken Dialogue. APSIPA Transaction on Signal and Information Processing, volume 7, pages 1–16, 2018.

#### Conference Proceedings

- 2024 Koji Inoue, Divesh Lala, Keiko Ochi, Tatsuya Kawahara, and Gabriel Skantze. An Analysis of User Behaviours for Objectively Evaluating Spoken Dialogue Systems. In International Workshop on Spoken Dialogue Systems Technology (IWSDS), 2024.
- 2024 **Koji Inoue**, Erik Ekstedt Bing'er Jiang, Tatsuya Kawahara, and Gabriel Skantze. **Real-time** and Continuous Turn-taking Prediction Using Voice Activity Projection. In *International Workshop on Spoken Dialogue Systems Technology (IWSDS)*, 2024.
- 2023 Koji Inoue, Divesh Lala, Keiko Ochi, Tatsuya Kawahara, and Gabriel Skantze. Towards Objective Evaluation of Socially-Situated Conversational Robots: Assessing Human-Likeness through Multimodal User Behaviors. In International Conference on Multimodal Interaction (ICMI), Companion Proceedings, pages 86–90, 2023.
- 2021 **Koji Inoue**, Hiromi Sakamoto, Kenta Yamamoto, Divesh Lala, and Tatsuya Kawahara. **A Multi-** party Attentive Listening Robot which Stimulates Involvement from Side Participants. In *SIGdial Meeting on Discourse and Dialogue (SIGDIAL)*, pages 261–264, 2021.
- Koji Inoue, Divesh Lala, Kenta Yamamoto, Shizuka Nakamura, Katsuya Takanashi, and Tatsuya Kawahara. An Attentive Listening System with Android ERICA: Comparison of Autonomous and WOZ Interactions. In SIGdial Meeting on Discourse and Dialogue (SIGDIAL), pages 118–127, 2020.
- 2020 Koji Inoue, Kohei Hara, Divesh Lala, Kenta Yamamoto, Shizuka Nakamura, Katsuya Takanashi, and Tatsuya Kawahara. Job Interviewer Android with Elaborate Follow-up Question Generation. In International Conference on Multimodal Interaction (ICMI), pages 324–332, 2020.
- 2019 Divesh Lala, **Koji Inoue**, and Tatsuya Kawahara. **Smooth Turn-taking by a Robot Using an Online Continuous Model to Generate Turn-taking Cues**. In *International Conference on Multimodal Interaction (ICMI)*, pages 226–234, 2019.
- 2018 Koji Inoue, Divesh Lala, Katsuya Takanashi, and Tatsuya Kawahara. Engagement Recognition in Spoken Dialogue via Neural Network by Aggregating Different Annotators' Models. In *INTERSPEECH*, pages 616–620, 2018.
- 2018 Divesh Lala, Koji Inoue, and Tatsuya Kawahara. Evaluation of Real-time Deep Learning Turn-taking Models for Multiple Dialogue Scenarios. In International Conference on Multimodal Interaction (ICMI), pages 78–86, 2018.
- 2018 Kohei Hara, **Koji Inoue**, Katsuya Takanashi, and Tatsuya Kawahara. **Prediction of Turn-taking Using Multitask Learning with Prediction of Backchannels and Fillers**. In *INTERSPEECH*, pages 991–995, 2018.
- 2017 Pierrick Milhorat, Divesh Lala, Koji Inoue, Tianyu Zhao, Masanari Ishida, Katsuya Takanashi, Shizuka Nakamura, and Tatsuya Kawahara. A Conversational Dialogue Manager for the Humanoid Robot ERICA. In International Workshop on Spoken Dialogue Systems Technology (IWSDS), 2017.
- 2017 Divesh Lala, Milhorat Pierrick, Koji Inoue, Masanari Ishida, Tianyu Zhao, and Tatsuya Kawahara. Attentive Listening System with Backchanneling, Response Generation and Flexible Turn-taking. In SIGdial Meeting on Discourse and Dialogue (SIGDIAL), pages 127–136, 2017.
- 2016 **Koji Inoue**, Pierrick Milhorat, Divesh Lala, Tianyu Zhao, and Tatsuya Kawahara. **Talking with ERICA, an Autonomous Android**. In *SIGdial Meeting on Discourse and Dialogue (SIGDIAL)*, pages 212–215, 2016.
- 2015 Koji Inoue, Yukoh Wakabayashi, Hiromasa Yoshimoto, Katsuya Takanashi, and Tatsuya Kawahara. Enhanced Speaker Diarization with Detection of Backchannels Using Eye-gaze Information in Poster Conversations. In INTERSPEECH, pages 3086–3090, 2015.

2014 Koji Inoue, Yukoh Wakabayashi, Hiromasa Yoshimoto, and Tatsuya Kawahara. peaker Diarization Using Eye-gaze Information in Multi-party Conversations. In *INTERSPEECH*, pages 562–566, 2014.

#### Invited Talks

- 2023 IEEE RO-MAN Workshop, Multidisciplinary Perspectives on COntext-aware embodied Spoken Interactions (MP-COSIN).
- 2021 Otogaku Symposium 2021.
- 2019 IPSJ-ONE 2019, The 81st National Convention of IPSJ.

# Awards (Selected)

- 2023 Award Winner, NETEXPLO Innovation 2022.
- 2023 Outstanding Article, Frontiers in Robotics and Al.
- 2023 **Best Paper Award**, International Workshop on Spoken Dialogue Systems Technology 2023 (IWSDS 2023).
- 2022 Minister of Education Award, Japan Open Innovation Prize (JOIP).
- 2021 **Outstanding Reviewer Award**, International Conference on Multimodal Interaction (ICMI) 2021.
- 2020 **Awaya Prize** (Award for Outstanding Presentations of Young Researchers), Acoustical Society of Japan (ASJ).
- 2013 Valedictorian, Advanced Engineering School, Kurume National College of Technology.

#### Research Grant

## Principal Investigator

- 2023 2026 **Generation and explanation of laughter based on dialogue semantic understanding**, Grant-in-Aid for Early-Career Scientists, JSPS KAKENHI.
- 2021 2023 Human-targeted Evaluation of Spoken Dialogue based on multimodal behaviors, JST ACT-X.
- 2020 2023 **A turn-taking system linked with dialogue understanding and utterance generation**, Grant-in-Aid for Early-Career Scientists, JSPS KAKENHI.
- 2023 2026 A spoken dialogue system based on estimation of mental state using multimodal processing, Grant-in-Aid for JSPS Fellows, JSPS KAKENHI.

#### Co-Investigator

- 2021 Investigation Research on Science and Technology to Overcome the Division of Human Society and Achieve Harmony, JST Moonshot Millennium Program.
- 2020 2024 **End-to-End Model for Task-Independent Speech Understanding and Dialogue**, Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research (A), JSPS KAKENHI.
- 2019 2024 Intelligent Conversational System for Dialogue Engagement and Rapport with Humans, Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research on Innovative Areas (Research in a proposed research area), JSPS KAKENHI.

# Academic Experience

- 2024 **Local Chair**, 25th Meeting of the Special Interest Group on Discourse and Dialogue (SIGdial 2024).
- 2020 2024 Editor, Journal & Transactions of the Japanese Society for Artificial Intelligence.

- 2023 **Secretary**, Special Interest Group on Spoken Language Understanding and Dialogue Processing (SIG-SLUD), Japanese Society for Artificial Intelligence.
- 2023 **Secretary**, IEEE Kansai Section Young Professionals.
  - **Topic Editor**, Dialogue with Robots: Constructive Approaches for Understanding Communication, Frontiers in Robotics and AI.
  - 2020 **Session Co-Chair**, INTERSPEECH 2020.
  - 2020 **Video Presentation Co-Chair**, 21st Meeting of the Special Interest Group on Discourse and Dialogue (SIGdial 2020).

# Teaching Experience

- 2021 **Computer Science Laboratory and Exercise 2**, *Computer Science Course*, Undergraduate School of Informatics and Mathematical Science, Kyoto University.
- 2019 Advanced Study in Intelligence Science and Technology 1, Department of Intelligence Science and Technology Course, Graduate School of Informatics, Kyoto University.
- 2018 Computer Science Laboratory and Exercise 4, Computer Science Course, Undergraduate School of Informatics and Mathematical Science, Kyoto University.
  - 2020 **ILAS Seminar**, *Institute for Liberal Arts and Sciences*, Kyoto University.
  - 2019 Computer Science Laboratory and Exercise 3, Computer Science Course, Undergraduate School of Informatics and Mathematical Science, Kyoto University.