

Yuri Ishitoya

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EDUCATION

Ochanomizu University

M.S. in Information Science

Tokyo, JPN

Apr 2025 – Present

- GPA: 4.0/4.0
- Advisor: Prof. Ichiro Kobayashi.

Ochanomizu University

B.S. in Information Science

Tokyo, JPN

Apr 2021 – Mar 2025

- GPA: 3.8/4.0
- Advisor: Prof. Ichiro Kobayashi.
- Conducted graduation research on developing a quantitative bias detection tool based on frequency-based expansion of log-likelihood[2].

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

OMRON SINIC X Corporation

Full Time Research Intern

Tokyo, JPN

Incoming (Jan 2026 -)

- Advisor: Dr. Mai Nishimura
- Knowledge Distillation for LLM/VLM.

German Research Center for Artificial Intelligence (DFKI)

Visiting Researcher

Saarbrücken, DEU

Sep 2025 – Oct 2025

- Advisor: Dr. Boris Brandherm
- Built an end-to-end LLM dialogue framework that integrates environmental sensor data (temperature/humidity) to generate personalized safety advisories.

vislang at Rice University

Visiting Student

Texas, USA

Feb 2025 – Aug 2025

- Advisor: Prof. Vicente Ordóñez Román
- Created a benchmark to evaluate how model scale influences associative reasoning and bias in multimodal understanding[1].

Artificial Intelligence Research Center at Fujitsu Laboratories Ltd.

Short-term Research Intern

Tokyo, JPN

Aug 2024

- Investigated the effect of personality-conditioned language generation within a fair AI-based talent evaluation project[3][4]; presented findings at the Fujitsu Small Research Lab National Conference 2024 (Tokyo, JPN).

Ochanomizu University

Pre-Graduation Research Project (Undergraduate)

Tokyo, JPN

Apr 2023 – Mar 2024

- Advisor: Prof. Takayuki Itoh
- Analyzed gender gap factors across 47 prefectures in Japan by collecting and screening over 300 regional datasets to identify correlations and latent structures underlying disparities[5].

PUBLICATIONS

Refereed / Under Review

1. **Ishitoya, Yuri**, Flores, V., Yang, Z., Cascante-Bonilla, P. & Ordonez, V. *Evaluating Vision-Language Models through a Human-Centered Benchmark* Under revision for resubmission to ACL Rolling Review. 2025.

Non-refereed

2. **Ishitoya, Yuri** & Kobayashi, I. *A Study on Detecting Subtle Biases by Expanding the Log-Likelihood into a Frequency Space* in *Proceedings of the 39th Annual Conference of the Japanese Society for Artificial Intelligence (JSAI2025)* Non-refereed, in Japanese (2025).
3. Ishida, K., **Ishitoya, Yuri**, Kobayashi, I. & Igarashi, Y. *A Study on the Usefulness of an Interviewer Support System that Points Out Gender-Based Judgments* in *Proceedings of the 212th Human-Computer Interaction Study Group (IPSJ SIG-HCI)* Non-refereed, in Japanese (2025).
4. Ishida, K., **Ishitoya, Yuri**, Kobayashi, I. & Igarashi, Y. *Proposal and Development of an AI Interviewer Support System that Points Out Gender-Based Judgments* in *Proceedings of the 39th Annual Conference of the Japanese Society for Artificial Intelligence (JSAI2025)* Non-refereed, in Japanese (2025).
5. **Ishitoya, Yuri** & Ito, T. *Analysis of the Causes of the Gender Gap through Data Comparison and Visualization by the 47 Prefectures* in *Proceedings of the 38th Annual Conference of the Japanese Society for Artificial Intelligence (JSAI2024)* Non-refereed, in Japanese (2024).

FELLOWSHIP & GRANTS

Tobitate! Study Abroad Scholarship, Japan Ministry of Education 2025

- Selected as 1 of 263 awardees out of 1,187 applicants (22.1% acceptance rate).
- Provided JPY 670,000 in funding for a 2-month research visit to DFKI.

MITOU IT Program, Information-technology Promotion Agency (IPA) 2023

- Selected as one of 21 projects out of 153 applications nationwide in FY2023 (13.7% acceptance rate).
- Provided JPY 2.74M in funding for developing Anshin-Yomichi, a mobile application designed to reduce anxiety among women walking alone at night, informed by interviews and surveys with 300+ women.
- After completion of the Mitou program, developed Anshin-Alert, a personal safety app with over 50,000 downloads.

Women Leaders Support Fund, Public Resource Foundation 2023

- Selected as one of 6 recipients out of 103 applicants (6.8% acceptance rate) for a grant supporting emerging female leaders.
- Received JPY 1.00M in funding to found Dots to Code, Japan's largest hackathon for women

HONORS & AWARDS

Research and Academic Excellence

- Oin-kai Research Encouragement Award, Ochanomizu University (2025)
- Pre-Graduation Research Excellence Award, Ochanomizu University (2024)
- The 15th "Bud of Science" Effort Award Winner, "Using Recycled Paper to Control Liquefaction" (2020)

Competitions

- JPHACKS 2023: Finalist Award, Innovator Certification, Yamareco Inc. Award
- Google Hardware Hackathon 2023: Best Teamwork Award
- Giiku CAMP vol.8 Hackathon 2023: First Runner-up
- JPHACKS 2022: Finalist Award, Innovator Certification, Nokia Solutions & Architecture Award, Special Recognition Award

INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE

Yamada Shintaro D&I Foundation (Public Interest Incorporated Foundation)

Software Engineer

Tokyo, JPN
Nov 2024 – Present

- Designed and developed an application platform and a screening system that processed nearly 5,000 applications for a scholarship program supporting female high school students in STEM.
- Served as a panelist at outreach events aimed at encouraging female junior and senior high school students to pursue careers in STEM, sharing personal experiences and promoting gender inclusion in science and technology.

Dots to Code Association

Founder & Representative Director

Tokyo, JPN
Jun 2024 – Apr 2025

- Organized Japan’s largest hackathon for women and non-binary individuals, engaging over 300+ attendees at a Tokyo Dome theater.
- Secured 3.0M JPY in sponsorships from eighteen companies including PwC and Tokyo Dome.
- Hosted small career talk events to empower female students in STEM.

NPO, Waffle.org

Intern

Tokyo, JPN
Apr 2022 – Nov 2023

- Delivered programming curricula to 500+ female students in high school (Waffle Camp, Technovation Girls Japan) and college (Waffle College).
- Planned and conducted data analysis for the 2023 Technovation Girls Japan final report, including survey analysis to support sponsor engagement and reporting, which contributed to an increase in supporting organizations from 18 to 32.

SERVICE

Teaching

- Teaching Assistant, Ochanomizu University: Introduction to Natural Language Theory

Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion (DEI) Leadership

- Co-founder, Blend Gendered Innovation Initiative (2023-Current)
- Co-founder, OchaHack (2023)

MEDIA

1. Recruit Co., Ltd. *Research and Development Needs More Women: Exploring the Potential of Gender and IT from a Student Engineer’s Perspective* In Japanese. 2024.
2. CyberAgent, Inc. *Conference Report: "Women Tech Terrace 2024" for Female Engineers’ Technology and Career Development* In Japanese. 2024.
3. CORE Lab. *Beyond Gender Barriers: The Future Envisioned by Gen Z Engineer Yuri Ishitoya* In Japanese. 2024.
4. Lenovo Japan. *From My Perspective as Someone Familiar with PCs since 4th Grade: Lenovo “ThinkBook 13x Gen4”* In Japanese. 2024.

SKILLS

- **Programming Languages:** Python, JavaScript (Vue.js, React, Node.js), C, Java, OCaml, R, Dart (Flutter), CUDA
- **AI/ML & NLP:** PyTorch, Hugging Face Transformers, scikit-learn, NLTK, SpaCy, NNsight
- **Tools & Platforms:** Firebase, MongoDB, Postman, Docker, Git, LaTeX