# Marco Cognetta

#### Education

2022-Present PhD Computer Science, Tokyo Institute of Technology, Tokyo, Japan

- Advisor: Dr. Naoaki Okazaki
- MEXT Scholar (文部科学省奨学金)

2016-2018 MS Computer Science, Yonsei University, Seoul, South Korea

- Advisor: Dr. Yo-Sub Han
- Thesis: Efficient Algorithms for Two Parsing Problems on Probabilistic Finite Automata
- Outstanding International Student Scholarship Recipient

### 2011-2015 BS Discrete Mathematics, Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, GA

- Minor in Korean
- Advisor: Dr. Anton Leykin
- Thesis: Straight Line Programs and Automatic Differentiation in Python

# Work Experience

05/22- PhD Student Researcher, Google, Tokyo, Japan

Present - Researcher focusing on language modeling and federated analytics on the Gboard

# 08/19-04/22 Software Engineer, Google, Mountain View, CA

- Software engineer on the Gboard team.
- Developed compressed statistical language models for mobile keyboard input.
- Developed TensorFlow Federated infrastructure and compressed sketching models for privacy-preserving federated analytics.
- TA for Google Tech Exchange Applied Data Structures and Algorithms (2020 and 2021).

#### 02/19-05/19 Software Engineering Intern, Google, New York City, NY

- Software engineering intern in the Speech and Language Algorithms research group.
- Developed a compression scheme for finite-state transducers used in keyboard language models which led to a first-author publication.
- Compression algorithm reduced the space requirements of the Gboard keyboard lexicon data structure by 90% compared to the uncompressed version and 58% compared to the previous production compression scheme.
- 09/16-12/18 Graduate Teaching Assistant, Yonsei University, Seoul, South Korea
  - TA for CSI2103 Data Structures, CSI 3108 Algorithm Analysis, CSI3109 Automata and Formal Languages, and CSI6512 Graduate Analysis of Algorithms.
- 01/16-05/16 Upper School Computer Science Teacher, Maclay School, Tallahassee, FL
  - Faculty sponsor of the Computer Science Club.
- 05/15-08/15 Data Science Intern, AirSage Inc., Atlanta, GA
  - Used Python and QGIS to track, analyze, and display population movement patterns.
- 05/12-08/12 Software Development Intern, AirSage Inc., Atlanta, GA
  - Used Python and psycopg2 to construct and store geometric representations of cell towers' effective areas in a spatial database.

# Publications (\* denotes primary authorship)

- 1. Two Counterexamples to Tokenization and the Noiseless Channel
  - Marco Cognetta\*, Vilém Zouhar, Sangwhan Moon, Naoaki Okazaki. LREC-COLING 2024
- 2. Parameter-Efficient Korean Character-Level Language Modeling
  - Marco Cognetta\*, Sangwhan Moon, Lawrence Wolf-Sonkin, Naoaki Okazaki. EACL 2023
- 3. SoftRegex: Generating Regex from Natural Language Descriptions using Softened Regex Equivalence
  - Jun-U Park, Sang-Ki Ko, Marco Cognetta, Yo-Sub Han. EMNLP 2019
- 4. On the Compression of Lexicon Transducers.
  - Marco Cognetta\*, Cyril Allauzen, Michael Riley. FSMNLP 2019
- 5. Online Infix Probability Computation for Probabilistic Finite Automata
  - Marco Cognetta\*, Yo-Sub Han, Soon Chan Kwon. ACL 2019
- 6. Incremental Computation of Infix Probabilities for Probabilistic Finite Automata

- Marco Cognetta\*, Yo-Sub Han, Soon Chan Kwon. EMNLP 2018
- 7. Online Stochastic Pattern Matching
  - Marco Cognetta\*, Yo-Sub Han. CIAA 2018

#### ——— Service

- Workshop for Natural Language Processing Open Source Software (NLP-OSS 2023) Programme Committee
- ACM International Collegiate Programming Contest (Korea Regional) Question Writer (2017, 2018)
- FSU ACM Programming Contest Question Writer (2020, 2021<sup>(x2)</sup>, 2022)
- Hackbright Academy Volunteer Mentor (2020<sup>(x2)</sup>, 2021)
- Seminars on Formal Languages and Neural Networks (FLaNN) (https://flann.super.site/) Organizer (2022 Present)
- The Gradient (https://thegradient.pub/) Editorial Board (2021 Present)

# ---- Advising

- 1. Gordon Lichtstein (2024) Esperanto Morphological Tokenization
  - High School Extracurricular Senior Project
- 2. **Junyoung Lee** (2023) Jamo-Level BPE in Korean Machine Translation
  - Nanyang Technological University (NTU Singapore) Bachelor's Thesis
- 3. Emil Hukic (2022) FST Tokenization for NLP
  - Young Science and Engineering Researchers Program (YSEP) Final Project
- 4. Kosuke Endo (2022) 画像キャプション生成におけるJPEG圧縮への頑健性の改善
  - English Title: Improved Robustness to JPEG Compression in Image Caption Generation
  - Tokyo Institute of Technology Bachelor's Thesis (co-advised with Zhishen Yang)
  - Presented at the Japanese Association for Natural Language Processing conference (NLP2023)
- 5. Haksu Kim, Yumin Lim, Myeongjang Pyeon (2018) Solving k-MPS using Probabilistic Finite-State Automata
  - Yonsei University Capstone Project

# — Conference Talks

- 1. LotteryTickets.jl: Sparsify Your Flux Models
  - Presented at JuliaCon 2023 (July 2023)

# Invited Talks

- 1. The Tokenization Landscape
  - Plenary Meeting of the National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology Artificial Intelligence Research Center's Knowledge and Information Research Team (AIST AIRC-KIRT) (March 2024)

# Skills

- Programming Languages: Python, C++, Julia
- Human Languages: English, Korean, Esperanto