

Kentaro ONDA

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RESEARCH INTERESTS

Spoken language processing, speech tokenization, self-supervised learning, human perception, foreign accent

EDUCATION

The University of Tokyo, Tokyo, Japan Apr. 2026 (expected) — Mar. 2029 (expected)
 Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering and Information Systems
 Supervisor: Prof. Nobuaki Minematsu

The University of Tokyo, Tokyo, Japan Apr. 2024 — Mar. 2026 (expected)
 M.E. in Electrical Engineering and Information Systems
 Supervisor: Prof. Nobuaki Minematsu

The University of Tokyo, Tokyo, Japan Apr. 2020 — Mar. 2024
 B.E. in Information and Communication Engineering
 Supervisor: Prof. Nobuaki Minematsu

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed International Conferences

1. **Kentaro Onda**, Hayato Futami, Yosuke Kashiwagi, Emiru Tsunoo, Shinji Watanabe, “Phonological Tokenizer: Prosody-aware Phonetic Token via Multi-objective Fine-tuning with Differentiable K-means,” Proc. ICASSP 2026, pp. xx-xx (ACCEPTED)
2. **Kentaro Onda**, Satoru Fukayama, Daisuke Saito, Nobuaki Minematsu, “Advanced Modeling of Interlanguage Speech Intelligibility Benefit with L1-L2 Multi-task Learning Using Differentiable K-means for Accent-robust Discrete Token-based ASR,” Proc. ICASSP 2026, pp. xx-xx (ACCEPTED)
3. **Kentaro Onda**, Satoru Fukayama, Daisuke Saito, Nobuaki Minematsu, “Benchmarking Prosody Encoding in Discrete Speech Tokens,” Proc. ASRU 2025, pp. xx-xx
4. **Kentaro Onda**, Keisuke Imoto, Satoru Fukayama, Daisuke Saito, Nobuaki Minematsu, “Discrete Tokens Exhibit Interlanguage Speech Intelligibility Benefit: an Analytical Study Towards Accent-robust ASR Only with Native Speech Data,” Proc. Interspeech 2025, pp. 221-225
5. **Kentaro Onda**, Keisuke Imoto, Satoru Fukayama, Daisuke Saito, Nobuaki Minematsu, “Prosodically Enhanced Foreign Accent Simulation by Discrete Token-based Resynthesis Only with Native Speech Corpora,” Proc. Interspeech 2025, pp. 2195-2199
6. **Kentaro Onda**, Yosuke Kashiwagi, Emiru Tsunoo, Hayato Futami, Shinji Watanabe, “Differentiable K-means for Fully-optimized Discrete Token-based ASR,” Proc. Interspeech 2025, pp. 1223-1227
7. **Kentaro Onda**, Joonyong Park, Nobuaki Minematsu, Daisuke Saito, “A Pilot Study of GSLM-based Simulation of Foreign Accentuation Only Using Native Speech Corpora,” Proc. Interspeech 2024, pp. 3600-3604

Abstract-reviewed Conferences (no proceedings)

1. **Kentaro Onda**, Joonyong Park, Daisuke Saito, Nobuaki Minematsu, “Simulation of Foreign Accentuation by Discrete Symbol-based Resynthesis Using Only Native Speech Corpora,” Eighth International Workshop on Symbolic-Neural Learning (SNL2024), Tokyo, Japan

Non-peer-reviewed Domestic Conferences

1. **Kentaro Onda**, Satoru Fukayama, Daisuke Saito, Nobuaki Minematsu, “Probabilistic Use of Discrete Speech Tokens Derived from SSL Models for Downstream Task Inference,” Proc. 2026 Spring Meeting of the Acoustical Society of Japan, 1-5-12
2. **Kentaro Onda**, Satoru Fukayama, Daisuke Saito, Nobuaki Minematsu, “Advanced Simulation of Interlanguage Speech Intelligibility Benefit via Multi-task Learning of L1/L2 Using Differentiable K-means for Accent-robust ASR,” IPSJ SIG Technical Report, SLP-158, 2025 (*Encouragement Award*)
3. **Kentaro Onda**, Satoru Fukayama, Daisuke Saito, Nobuaki Minematsu, “An Analytical Study on the Prosodic Encoding of Discrete Speech Tokens,” Proc. 2025 Autumn Meeting of the Acoustical Society of Japan, 1-Q-35
4. **Kentaro Onda**, Satoru Fukayama, Keisuke Imoto, Daisuke Saito, Nobuaki Minematsu, “Exploring the usage of discrete tokens for accent-robust automatic speech recognition only using native speech corpora,” Proc. 2025 Spring Meeting of the Acoustical Society of Japan, 1-11-6 (*Best Student Presentation Award*)

5. Xiai Cheng, Haopeng Geng, **Kentaro Onda**, Daisuke Saito, Nobuaki Minematsu, “Predicting Individual Language Learners’ Oral Imitation By Modeling their Performance using seq-to-seq VC,” Proc. 2025 Spring Meeting of the Acoustical Society of Japan, 3-2-3
6. **Kentaro Onda**, Joonyong Park, Keisuke Imoto, Satoru Fukayama, Daisuke Saito, Nobuaki Minematsu, “Improved Foreign Accent Simulation Using Only Native Speech Corpora Based on Discrete Token Duration Prediction,” IPSJ SIG Technical Report, SLP-154, 2024
7. Xiai Cheng, **Kentaro Onda**, Daisuke Saito, Nobuaki Minematsu, “Analyzing Language Learners’ Oral Imitation Through Machine Model of Oral Imitation with Foreign Accentuation,” Proc. 2024 Autumn Meeting of the Acoustical Society of Japan, 2-Q-31
8. **Kentaro Onda**, Joonyong Park, Daisuke Saito, Nobuaki Minematsu, “Synthesis of Foreign Accented Speech by Self-supervised Learning Only Using Native Speech Corpora,” IPSJ SIG Technical Report, SLP-152, 2024 (**Best Presentation Award**)
9. **Kentaro Onda**, Joonyong Park, Nobuaki Minematsu, Daisuke Saito, “Generating foreign accented speech using native speech corpus only for training,” Proc. 2024 Spring Meeting of the Acoustical Society of Japan, 3-P-17

AWARDS

Encouragement Award <i>from Information Processing Society of Japan (IPSJ) SIG-SLP & SIG-NLP</i>	Dec., 2025
Best Student Presentation Award <i>from the Acoustical Society of Japan (ASJ)</i>	Sep., 2025
Travel Grant Award for Interspeech2025 , 1,000 EUR <i>from the International Speech Communication Association (ISCA)</i>	Aug., 2025
2024 Otagaku Symposium Best Presentation Award <i>from Information Processing Society of Japan (IPSJ) SIG-SLP</i>	Jun., 2024

COMPETITIVE FUNDS

ACT-X , 4,500,000 JPY <i>from Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST)</i> Representative: Kentaro Onda	Oct., 2025 — Mar. 2028
KAKUSEI Project , 3,000,000 JPY <i>from National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology (AIST)</i> Representative: Kentaro Onda	Jul., 2024 — Mar. 2025
MITOU Advanced Program , 15,040,000 JPY (Development grant) <i>from Information-technology Promotion Agency (IPA)</i> Representative: Masatoshi Otake	Jun., 2024 — Feb. 2025

PAPER REVIEWS

TASLP: 2025

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Research Internship , Sony Group Corporation – Tokyo, Japan Mentor: Yosuke Kashiwagi	Sep. 2024 — Present
Research Assistant , National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology (AIST) – Tokyo, Japan Mentor: Satoru Fukayama	Jul. 2024 — Present

OTHER EXPERIENCES

AI Engineer , DubGuild, Inc. – Tokyo, Japan	Oct. 2024 — Present
Software Engineer Internship , MIXI, Inc. – Tokyo, Japan	Oct. 2024 — Oct. 2024

Backend Engineer, Wantedly, Inc. – Tokyo, Japan

Sep. 2023 — Jul. 2024

LANGUAGES

Japanese (Native), English (Fluent)

SKILLS

Programming: Python, Shell Script, Ruby, Go, JavaScript, C, C++, Julia

Web design: HTML, CSS

Other: LaTeX, Git, Microsoft Office, PyTorch, ESPnet