The 6th International Symposium of the Institute for AI and Beyond

February 10 (Tue.), 2026 2:30pm-6:30pm (JST) **Event Format: Hybrid (Onsite+Online)**

Onsite Venue **FUKUTAKE Learning Theater**
FUKUTAKE HALL B2F, Interfaculty Initiative in Information Studies, The University of Tokyo

Online **Zoom Webinar**

Toward New Science with AI and Beyond

The Beyond AI Joint Project, a collaborative initiative between the University of Tokyo and SoftBank, was launched in 2020. Centered around the Institute for AI and Beyond as its research hub, the project has promoted research in two domains: Basic Research (Mid- and Long-term Research), which aims to create new academic fields through the integration of the fundamental technologies of artificial intelligence (AI) and other scientific disciplines, and Applied Research (High-cycle Research), which seeks to utilize AI to address various social and industrial challenges.
The Mid- and Long-term Research has already produced numerous research achievements, and the targeted new academic fields have now become clearly defined. In this symposium, we will present and disseminate to the international community the outcomes of these efforts, focusing on three newly emerging academic fields and their key research results.

Register via either link to the right.

For onsite participation ▸▸▸
https://form.qooker.jp/Q/auto/ja/0210BAIonsite/reg/

For webinar participation ▸▸▸
https://form.qooker.jp/Q/auto/ja/0210BAIwebinar/reg/

※Registration will close when the number of participants reaches the capacity.

Organized by Institute for AI and Beyond, The University of Tokyo
Contact: Office of the Institute for AI and Beyond, The University of Tokyo E-mail: event@beyondai.jp

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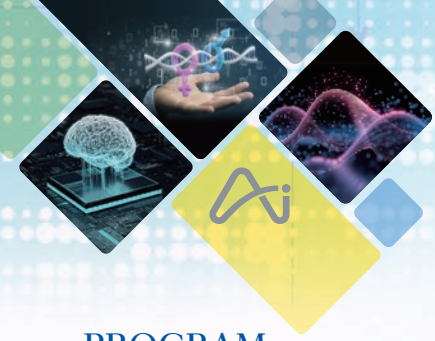

The 6th International Symposium of the Institute for AI and Beyond

Toward New Science with AI and Beyond

Language: English / Japanese (Simultaneous interpretation offered)

PROGRAM

14:30-14:45 Opening Remarks

Teruo Fujii President, The University of Tokyo
Junichi Miyakawa President and CEO of SoftBank Corp.

14:45-14:55 Introduction of The Beyond AI Joint Project・Purpose of the Event

Masami Hagiya Director, Institute for AI and Beyond, The University of Tokyo

14:55-17:35 1st Session (English)

Session 1 Toward building fundamental physics of intelligence 14:55-15:45

Eiji Saitoh Professor, Graduate School of Engineering, The University of Tokyo
Hitoshi Tabata Professor, Graduate School of Engineering, The University of Tokyo
Kenichiro Mogi Senior Researcher, Sony Computer Science Laboratories / Visiting Professor, The University of Tokyo

Session 2 Fusion of the Brain and Artificial Intelligence : Toward the Emergence of New Intelligence 15:55-16:45

Kenichi Ohki Professor, Graduate School of Medicine / International Research Center for Neurointelligence (WPI-IRCN), The University of Tokyo
Yoshiho Ikeuchi Professor, Institute of Industrial of Science, The University of Tokyo
Yuji Ikegaya Professor, Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Sciences, The University of Tokyo
Yukie Nagai Project Professor, International Research Center for Neurointelligence (WPI-IRCN), The University of Tokyo

Session 3 AI and Society : Imagination and responsibility for the future 16:45-17:35

Ai Hisano Associate Professor, The Interfaculty Initiative in Information Studies (III) and the Graduate School of Interdisciplinary Information Studies (GSII), The University of Tokyo
Sang Wook Yi Professor, Department of Philosophy, Hanyang University
Celia Spoden Principal Researcher, German Institute for Japanese Studies
Yuko Itatsu Professor, The Interfaculty Initiative in Information Studies (III) and the Graduate School of Interdisciplinary Information Studies (GSII), The University of Tokyo

17:45-18:25 2nd Session Panel Discussion (Japanese)

Moderator **Masami Hagiya** Director, Institute for AI and Beyond, The University of Tokyo

Panelists (Japanese order)
Yuji Ikegaya Professor, Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Sciences, The University of Tokyo
Kenichi Ohki Professor, Graduate School of Medicine / International Research Center for Neurointelligence (WPI-IRCN), The University of Tokyo
Eiji Saitoh Professor, Graduate School of Engineering, The University of Tokyo
Hitoshi Tabata Professor, Graduate School of Engineering, The University of Tokyo
Tatsuya Harada Professor, Research Center for Advanced Science and Technology, The University of Tokyo
Ai Hisano Associate Professor, The Interfaculty Initiative in Information Studies (III) and the Graduate School of Interdisciplinary Information Studies (GSII), The University of Tokyo

18:25-18:30 Closing Remarks

Masami Hagiya Director, Institute for AI and Beyond, The University of Tokyo

MC **Mika Oki** Project Researcher | URA, The International Research Center for Neurointelligence (WPI-IRCN), The University of Tokyo

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Opening Remarks

Teruo Fujii President, The University of Tokyo

Dr. Teruo Fujii is the 31st President of the University of Tokyo. Prior to taking the President's office in April 2021, he was Executive Vice President in charge of finance and external relations for the university. He also served as the Director General of the Institute of Industrial Sciences (IIS) of the university from 2015 to 2018. He received his Ph.D. in engineering from UTokyo in 1993 and held research positions at IIS and RIKEN prior to becoming a professor of IIS in 2007. He was appointed as President of the Japan Association of National Universities in June 2025.
His research specializes in applied microfluidics systems and underwater technology.

Opening Remarks

Junichi Miyakawa President and CEO of SoftBank Corp.

Junichi Miyakawa is President and CEO at SoftBank Corp. (since 2021), and also serves as Representative Director of A Holdings Corporation and Director of PayPay Corporation. Miyakawa's past positions include Technical Chief Operating Officer at US-based Sprint Corporation (2014), Director, Executive Vice President and CTO of SoftBank Mobile Corp. (now SoftBank Corp.) (2007), Director of SoftBank BB Corp. (now SoftBank Corp.) (2003) and Representative Director and President of Nagoya Metallic Communications Corp. (now SoftBank Corp.) (2000). Prior to these positions, in 1991 he became Representative Director & President of KK Momotaro Internet.

Introduction of The Beyond AI Joint Project・Purpose of the Event

Masami Hagiya Director, Institute for AI and Beyond, The University of Tokyo

After receiving M.Sc. from the University of Tokyo, Masami Hagiya worked for Research Institute for Mathematical Sciences, Kyoto University, and received a Doctor of Science in 1988. He was a professor at Department of Computer Science, Graduate School of Information Science and Technology, the University of Tokyo, from 2001 to 2022. He has been working in the fields of software science and engineering, including theory of programming languages, software testing and formal verification. He is also working in the fields of natural computing (computing by natural phenomena), including DNA computing. He was appointed as the Director of Institute for AI and Beyond in April 2021.

Session 1 / Panelist

Eiji Saitoh Professor, Graduate School of Engineering, The University of Tokyo

Ph.D. in Applied Physics from the Graduate School of Engineering, the University of Tokyo in 2001. Eiji Saitoh specializes in the field of quantum condensed matter physics. He is a global leader in the field of electron spin science and spintronics. Since 2018, he has been a professor at the Graduate School of Engineering, the University of Tokyo and engaged in the Basic Research "Integrating Physics and AI" of the Institute for AI and Beyond as a project research leader since 2020. His research interests include "Integrating Physics and AI" and "Analysis of materials' quantum properties using AI".

Session 1 / Panelist

Hitoshi Tabata Professor, Graduate School of Engineering, The University of Tokyo

Graduated from Kyoto University in 1988. He worked at the Technical Institute of Kawasaki Heavy Industries from 1988 to 1994 and moved to Osaka University, The Institute of Scientific and Industrial Research, as a Research Associate. He was a research associate and associate professor at Osaka University from 1994 to 2002. He was a professor of Nano-science and Nano-technology Center at Osaka University from 2002 to 2006. After 2006, He is a professor at The University of Tokyo. He studies functional oxide thin films and artificial lattices using a laser MBE technique. He is engaged in fusion research of oxide electronics and bioelectronics. He received a Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS) Prize in 2008. He was awarded as a fellow of the Japan Society of Applied Physics in 2014.

Session 1

Kenichiro Mogi Senior Researcher, Sony Computer Science Laboratories / Visiting Professor, The University of Tokyo

Ken Mogi is a neuroscientist, writer, and broadcaster based in Tokyo, interested in the mind-brain problem. He is the author of A little Book of Ikigai (1997) , The Way of Nagomi (2022), and Think like a Stoic (2025).

Session 2 / Panelist

Kenichi Ohki Professor, Graduate School of Medicine / International Research Center for Neurointelligence (WPI-IRCN), The University of Tokyo

Graduated from Faculty of Medicine, the University of Tokyo in 1996. PhD in Medicine from the Graduate School of Medicine, the University of Tokyo in 2000.
After working as an assistant professor at the University of Tokyo, a research fellow and an instructor at Harvard Medical School, he became a professor at Graduate School of Medical Sciences, the Kyushu University in 2010 and a professor at Graduate School of Medicine, the University of Tokyo in 2016.
Professor Ohki is a leading expert on functional imaging of neurons in the brain. He is a global pioneer in technology used to measure the activities of thousands of neurons, and he uses this technology to reconstruct brain information in AI. Ohki pursues a greater understanding of brain information processing in order to develop next-generation AI that functions similarly to the brain.

Session 2

Yoshiho Ikeuchi Professor, Institute of Industrial of Science, The University of Tokyo

Yoshiho Ikeuchi aims to elucidate how the nervous system forms and how the brain functions by creating neurons and three-dimensional tissues (organoids) from human induced pluripotent stem cells. Following research appointments at The University of Tokyo, Harvard Medical School, and Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis, he has pursued an integrated research program at the intersection of neuroscience and tissue engineering since 2014 in Tokyo. At Institute for AI and Beyond, he investigates applications of brain organoids—including platforms for disease modeling, human-relevant physiology, and emerging bio-computing concepts—to translate fundamental insights into practical technologies.

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Session 2 / Panelist

Yuji Ikegaya
Professor, Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Sciences, The University of Tokyo

As a professor at the Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Dr Ikegaya specializes in neuropharmacology and neurophysiology, with expertise in neuronal plasticity and brain health. Since earning his Ph.D. in Pharmaceutical Sciences in 1998, he has focused on fundamental principles governing neuronal microcircuit function through multi-neuron recordings and computational analyses. His research has been featured in journals, including Science (2004, 2011, 2012, 2018, 2019, and 2024) and Nature Neuroscience (2014). Since 2018, Dr. Ikegaya has directed the ERATO Brain-AI Hybrid Project, which aims to integrate AI chips into neural systems, expanding the conceptual and biological boundaries of intelligence.

Session 2

Yukie Nagai
Project Professor, International Research Center for Neurointelligence (WPI-IRCN), The University of Tokyo

Yukie Nagai earned her Ph.D. in Engineering from Osaka University in 2004, after which she worked at the National Institute of Information and Communications Technology, Bielefeld University, and Osaka University. Since 2019, she has been leading the Cognitive Developmental Robotics Lab at the University of Tokyo. Her research encompasses cognitive developmental robotics, computational neuroscience, and assistive technologies for developmental disorders. Dr. Nagai employs computational methods to investigate the underlying neural mechanisms involved in social cognitive development. In acknowledgment of her work, she received the titles of “35 Women in Robotics Engineering and Science” in 2022 and “Forbes JAPAN Women In Tech 30” in 2024, among other recognitions.

Session 3 / Panelist

Ai Hisano
Associate Professor, The Interfaculty Initiative in Information Studies (III) and the Graduate School of Interdisciplinary Information Studies (GSII), The University of Tokyo

Ai Hisano is Associate Professor at the Graduate School of Interdisciplinary Information Studies at the University of Tokyo. Her research focuses onthe history of the senses, the history of technology, and business history with particular focus on the twentieth-century U.S. history. Her recent publication includes Shikakuka suru Mikaku: Shoku wo Irodoru Shihonshugi [Visualizing Taste: Capitalism and a Color of Food] (Iwanami-shoten, 2021) and Visualizing Taste: How Business Changed the Look of What You Eat (Harvard University Press, 2019). Visualizing Taste received the 2020 Hagley Prize in Business History from the Business History Conference and the 2020 Shimizu Hiroshi Book Award from the Japanese Association for American Studies. She holds a PhD in History from the Hagley Program in the History of Capitalism, Technology, and Culture at the University of Delaware. She served as a Newcomen Postdoctoral Fellow in Business History at Harvard Business School (2016–17) and taught at the Graduate School of Economics at Kyoto University (2017–2021).

Session 3

Sang Wook Yi
Professor, Department of Philosophy, Hanyang University

Sang Wook Yi is Professor at the Department of Philosophy at Hanyang University. He holds physics degrees from Seoul National University and a PhD in philosophy of science from LSE, where his thesis won the Robert McKenzie Prize. He founded HY Center for Ethics, Law and Policy of Science and Technology. His research spans AI ethics, synthetic biology, and posthumanism. He has chaired several South Korean government Technology Assessment committees and served as the president of the Korean Society for Philosophy of Science. He is a member of UNESCO's COMEST, where he has been a vice-chair and rapporteur. He also served as rapporteur for the Ad-hoc experts group which drafted UNESCO Recommendation on AI Ethics in 2021.

Session 3

Celia Spoden
Principal Researcher, German Institute for Japanese Studies

Celia Spoden is a Principal Researcher at the German Institute for Japanese Studies (DIJ) in Tokyo. Her research bridges science and technology studies, medical anthropology, and bioethics from a cross-cultural perspective. She has conducted ethnographic research on medical decision-making, end-of-life care, and the social impact of digital technologies. At the DIJ, she works within the Digital Transformation Cluster, analyzing Japan’s innovation policy and robotics strategy in the context of demographic change and labor shortages. In her current project, Spoden examines the opportunities and risks that avatar robots present for society, focusing on vulnerable populations such as individuals with disabilities and chronic illnesses.

Session 3

Yuko Itatsu
Professor, The Interfaculty Initiative in Information Studies (III) and the Graduate School of Interdisciplinary Information Studies (GSII), The University of Tokyo

Yuko Itatsu is Professor in the Interfaculty Initiative in Information Studies, the Graduate School of Interdisciplinary Information Studies, University of Tokyo. She is a social and cultural historian specializing in quotidian practices of media, leisure and power. She is particularly interested in the cultural politics of media representation of gender, race and ethnicity and its impact on social minorities. Through the application of artificial intelligence, she is concerned of its implications in inadvertently exacerbating discrimination and exclusion, but is also hopeful for being an assistive tool for social inclusion. She is also interested in the geopolitics of AI development and governance observed from the Asia Pacific region. She studied at the University of Southern California as a Fulbright Scholar and received her Ph.D. in History.

Panelist

Tatsuya Harada
Professor, Research Center for Advanced Science and Technology, The University of Tokyo

Tatsuya Harada is a Professor in the Research Center for Advanced Science and Technology at the University of Tokyo. His research interests center on visual recognition, machine learning, and intelligent robot. He received his Ph.D. from the University of Tokyo in 2001. He is also a team leader at RIKEN AIP and a vice director of Research Center for Medical Bigdata at National Institute of Informatics, Japan.

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Mika Oki
Project Researcher | URA, The International Research Center for Neurointelligence (WPI-IRCN), The University of Tokyo

Mika Oki holds a B.S. and M.E. in engineering from Waseda University and a Ph.D. from the University of Tsukuba. Her experience includes semiconductor engineering and research positions at AIST and the Institute of Systems and Information Engineering, University of Tsukuba. She is also a visiting researcher at the Center for Cybernics Research, University of Tsukuba. Since 2014, she has contributed to the FUTUREGYM project funded by JST CREST and works across disciplines to investigate Mixed Reality (MR)-mediated social interaction and to design feedback systems that support inclusive educational settings. Her research interests include Human-Computer Interaction, AR/MR, and assistive technologies, which she applies to research management at IRCN.