

PROFILE

I am an undergraduate student in the Faculty of Engineering at the University of Tokyo, with a focus on Electrical Engineering and Computer Science. My research interests lie in natural language processing, large language models, multilingual evaluation, and language technologies for education and cross-cultural communication.

EDUCATION

The University of Tokyo

B.Eng., Faculty of Engineering GPA: 3.91 / 4.00
Focus: Electrical Engineering and Computer Science
Advisor: Prof. Toshihiko Yamasaki

Tokyo, Japan
Apr. 2022–Mar. 2027
(expected)

University College London (UCL)

Official Exchange Student, Department of Electronic and Electrical Engineering (EEE)
– Nominated by The University of Tokyo for an official exchange programme.
– Completed 90 UCL credits, equivalent to 45 ECTS credits.

London, UK
Sep. 2024–Jun. 2025

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

University College London (UCL)

Research Collaborator
Advisors: Prof. Miguel R. D. Rodrigues & Reem I. Masoud
– Conducted research on Large Language Models and dataset linguistic structure.
– Co-authored a workshop paper accepted to ICLR 2026 Workshop DATA-FM.

London, UK
Jun. 2025–Current

ETH Zurich, Department of Computer Science

Student Summer Research Fellow
Advisor: Prof. Mrinmaya Sachan
– Selected as one of 20 fellows from over 2,000 applications.
– Conducting a research project on multilingual LLM tutors for educational settings.

Zurich, Switzerland
Jun. 2026–Current

SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS

- **Toyota Riken Overseas Scholarship**, selected as one of up to 10 fellows nationwide to receive up to JPY 10 million (approximately USD 65,000) annually for graduate study leading to a Ph.D. abroad, beginning in Fall 2027.
- **ETH Student Summer Research Fellowship**, Department of Computer Science, ETH Zurich, 2026; selected as one of 20 fellows from over 2,000 applications.
- **Vena Energy Scholarship**, awarded to the top two students in a cohort of approximately 1,000 students at the Faculty of Engineering, The University of Tokyo.
- **Gyomu Super Japan Dream Foundation Scholarship**, awarded to selected Japanese students studying abroad for academic excellence.
- **GLP-GEfIL scholarship**, awarded to selected The University of Tokyo students conducting research abroad.
- **ZDS-BA Scholarship Grant**, Center for German and European Studies (DESK), The University of Tokyo.

- **Integration Bee 2025**, 1st Place, University College London.
- **Japan Mathematical Olympiad**, Top 100 in Japan.
- **Japan Linguistics Olympiad**, Top 100 in Japan.

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-reviewed Publications

1. **S. Asano**, J. Baek, and T. Yamasaki, “Beyond Bilingual Transfer: Multilingual Code-Switching in Instruction Tuning,” *Findings of the Association for Computational Linguistics: ACL-IJCNLP 2026*, 2026. (to appear) Also presented at MIRU 2026, a Japanese domestic conference. [\[Paper\]](#)
2. R. I. Masoud, C. Feng, **S. Asano**, S. Alshahrani, P. C. Treleaven, and M. R. D. Rodrigues, “Beyond Training for Cultural Awareness: The Role of Dataset Linguistic Structure in Large Language Models,” *ICLR 2026 Workshop on Navigating and Addressing Data Problems for Foundation Models (DATA-FM)*, 2026. [\[Paper\]](#)

Preprints

1. V. Zouhar et al., “Last Translation Benchmark,” *arXiv preprint arXiv:2609.04173*, 2026. [\[Paper\]](#)

PROJECTS

Africa Youth Social Entrepreneurship Program

Tokyo, Japan / Kenya

Selected Fellow, UNIDO & The University of Tokyo [\[Program\]](#) [\[Pitch\]](#)

Nov. 2025–May. 2026

- Selected through a highly competitive process to develop technology-driven solutions for social challenges in Africa.
- Proposed an NLP-based solution for low-resource languages to bridge the linguistic divide between vernacular and academic dialects in Africa, with a particular focus on Kenya.
- Addressed educational disparities in the transition to secondary education while promoting cultural continuity through language technology.

LEADERSHIP AND EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

UTokyo Africa Akamon-kai (alumini association)

Tokyo, Japan

Founding Member

Mar. 2026–Current

- Contributed to the founding of The University of Tokyo community connecting students, alumni, and professionals with interests in Africa.
- Supported community-building activities to promote academic, cultural, and professional exchange between Japan and Africa.

WORK EXPERIENCE

• Technology, Product, and Education

Mantra Inc.

Tokyo, Japan

Content Development Lead / Research Intern

Jul. 2022–Current

Mantra Inc. is a tech startup specializing in the research and development of technology for manga.

- Developed a human-in-the-loop pipeline leveraging large language models to generate educational content for English learners in Japan.
- Focused on manga-based linguistic nuances and culturally grounded language-learning materials.

- Supervised a team of 10+ contributors and established quality control protocols to ensure pedagogical accuracy.
- Conducted qualitative user studies and analyzed learner feedback to improve the application's learning experience.

MentorMind

Chief Technology Officer

London, UK

Jul. 2025–Mar. 2026

- Led product and technology strategy for an early-stage education technology startup.

RAKSUL INC.

Summer Intern, Engineering

Tokyo, Japan

Sep. 2024

- Worked on English prompt engineering for an LLM-based product description generation system.
- Contributed to a system that reduced human workload in product description creation by approximately 50%.

• **Investment and Policy**

UTEC

Venture Capital Intern

Tokyo, Japan

Mar. 2026

- Conducted market and technology research to support investment analysis in deep tech and university-originated startups.

Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI)

Summer Intern

Tokyo, Japan

Aug. 2022

- Collaborated with policymakers to analyze structural challenges in the Japanese education system, with a focus on increasing the number of PhD holders.
- Provided analytical input from a student perspective to support evidence-based higher education policy discussions.

• **Language Teaching and Translation**

Tetsuryoku-kai

Language Teacher

Tokyo, Japan

Apr. 2022–Mar. 2024

- Taught English to approximately 40 students preparing for competitive university entrance examinations.
- Provided feedback on assignments, graded papers, and supported students in improving essay-writing skills.
- Offered personalized guidance to help students improve study planning and time management.

Bashow Inc.

Translator / Technical Communication Support

Tokyo, Japan

Feb.–Mar. 2025

- Provided Japanese-English interpretation and advisory support during meetings between the Japanese CEO and UC Berkeley intern students.
- Facilitated clear communication of technical and business concepts in the transportation technology domain.

LANGUAGES

- **Japanese:** Native
- **English:** CEFR C2 (TOEFL iBT 118/120)
- **Spanish:** Intermediate, approx. CEFR B1
- **German:** Elementary, approx. CEFR A2

SKILLS

- **Programming Languages:** Python, C/C++
- **Machine Learning / NLP:** PyTorch, Hugging Face Transformers, scikit-learn, LLM fine-tuning and evaluation, prompt engineering
- **Data Analysis:** pandas, NumPy, matplotlib, statistical analysis