Efficient and Accurate Natura Language Processing

Languages enable us to think, record experiences, and communicate. Our laboratory explores efficient and accurate **natural language processing (NLP)** to understand the human mind and society through countless words and support various language activities. The pursuit of fast, compact, and accurate models reveals the "shape" of language, as a natural phenomenon, that behaves both probabilistically and regularly (computational linguistics), ultimately leading to the understanding and refinement of human intelligence. https://www.tkl.iis.u-tokyo.ac.jp/~ynaga/index.en.html

We think studies by students with different linguistic, cultural, and academic backgrounds, from their perspectives, elucidate languages; students are able and expected to voluntarily set their research themes. We welcome those who tackle novel tasks, not tied to accuracy-driven studies on worn-out benchmarks.

Read all language in the wild

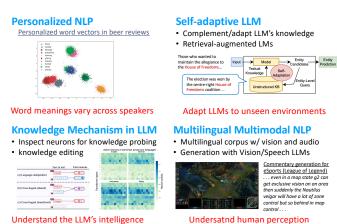
Humans generate vast amounts of real-world information in microblogs (**social big data**), where both quality and quantity change over time. We leverage data structures and algorithms from computer science to achieve **the world's fastest NLP**. Specifically, we have developed a classifier that speeds up as text redundancy increases and implemented a core text processing capable of handling 1,000,000 sentences per second. We have also established a method to instantly detect the emergence and disappearance of real-world entities from text.

The infrastructure for analyzing social big data, built upon our technology, helps us understand situations during disasters such as the 3.11 earthquake and public opinion during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Speak as humans, sensing the unspoken

The meaning of language changes depending on who, when, where, and to whom it is used. Large language models (LLMs), trained on texts from diverse backgrounds, capture the "common denominators" of language and can perform any task. However, adapting LLMs to specific usage contexts remains challenging. We are broadly working on developing adaptable and portable LLMs to broaden their applications.

Specifically, we study knowledge-driven analysis, compression, and deconstruction of LLMs; retrieval-augmented generation to supplement their knowledge; multilingual multimodal LLMs with speakers, context (language, space and time), images, and speech; and user simulation using LLMs.



Our laboratory works closely with the Toyoda and Goda laboratories, sharing resources such as data, computing, and student space. Members **can pursue interdisciplinary research beyond NLP**, including social informatics using full microblog data, and will receive feedback from diverse perspectives.