Akira Kawabata

Ph.D. student

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Research Interests

Scalable oversight, synthetic data generation

Work Experience

Research Engineer, The Asahi Shimbun Company   Apr. 2023 – Mar. 2026

Education

Ph.D. student, Department of Informatics, The Graduate University for Advanced Studies, SOKENDAI (Supervisor: Saku Sugawara)   Apr. 2026 – Present

M.Eng., Nara Institute of Science and Technology (Supervisor: Taro Watanabe)   Apr. 2021 – Mar. 2023

B.A., Hitotsubashi University   Apr. 2016 – Mar. 2021

Publications

- **Rationale-Aware Answer Verification by Pairwise Self-Evaluation**. Akira Kawabata, Saku Sugawara. In Proceedings of the 2024 Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP), 2024. Paper | Code

- **Evaluating the Rationale Understanding of Critical Reasoning in Logical Reading Comprehension**. Akira Kawabata, Saku Sugawara. In Proceedings of the 2023 Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP), 2023. Paper | Code

Awards & Scholarships

- Young Researcher's Encouragement Award, the 29th Annual Meeting of the Association of Natural Language Processing, 2023.

- International News Media Association (INMA) 30 Under 30 Awards, 2025.

- Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS) Research Fellowship for Young Scientists (DC1), 2026–Present.