

京都大学 講演会

Kyoto University Lecture

Generative AI vs. Generative Linguistics

Generative AI topics:
(1) societal and
environmental impact,
(2) what it means for
theories of human
language, and
(3) how it works.



Speaker: Sandiway Fong
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Department of Linguistics

Discussant: Masayuki Oishi
Professor, Tohoku Gakuin University

All That Sparkles Is AI

日時 Date

2025年12月5日 12/5/2025 15:00~17:00

使用言語：英語 Language: English

事前申し込みをお願いします。

Please register here.

<https://forms.gle/U5mS9gPoe3R5juXF9>



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Abstract

Modern *Generative Linguistics* has around a 70 year history with roots going further back; for example, Chomsky, in particular, has cited Einstein, von Humboldt, Descartes, and Galileo as inspiration. In contrast, *Generative AI* has come firmly to the fore only recently, but has its roots in classic machine learning. As human language has been a focus of Generative AI, the success of *Large Language Models* (LLMs) has led some, such as Piantadosi, Futrell & Mahowald and Hinton, to pit AI against Generative Linguistics. In the first part of this talk, I will discuss the considerable societal impact of Generative AI. Next, I will review the claims of Piantadosi and the others with respect to Generative Linguistics. The last part of the talk will explain aspects of the inner workings of LLMs relevant to human language.