

SHOTA SHIIKU

Software Engineer | Technical Lead | PhD Student

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Software Engineer and Technical Lead at ExaWizards Inc., and PhD student at Shizuoka University (Cognitive Communication Lab), collaborating with CoCoCo Lab at Cornell University. Promoted to Technical Lead within six months, leading 0→1 AI product development across B2B/B2C with full-stack ownership. Research focuses on human decision-making and mental representations through computational approaches, bridging collective intelligence and human-AI system design.

EXPERIENCE

Software Engineer (Technical Lead) | ExaWizards Inc.

Tokyo, Japan | Apr 2025 – Present

- Drove 0→1 development of AI-powered HR domain products across B2B and B2C, from architecture to public launch, owning frontend (React/JavaScript), backend (Django/Python), and infrastructure
- Promoted to Technical Lead within 6 months; owned architectural decisions, system scalability, and production reliability across multiple large-scale releases
- Led a lean engineering team (2–4 engineers), mentoring junior engineers while sustaining delivery velocity with zero major production incidents
- Shaped product roadmap as engineering representative, balancing customer needs, technical feasibility, and business impact

Research Intern |

Frankfurt, Germany | Apr 2024 – Jul 2024

Max Planck Institute for Empirical Aesthetics

- Designed and conducted large-scale behavioral experiments integrating human participants and LLM agents, building infrastructure for hybrid human-AI social networks
- Published at CogSci 2025; paper under evaluation at a top-tier journal
- Established ongoing international research collaboration

Software Engineer Intern | Metadata Inc.

Tokyo, Japan | Jul 2022 – Mar 2025

- Shipped end-to-end product features across frontend (JavaScript), backend (Python/Ruby), and infrastructure over a 4-year tenure
- Designed scalable data pipelines and search systems, improving retrieval performance and system reliability
- Led engineer mentoring and onboarding, accelerating new hire productivity

EDUCATION

Doctor of Computer Science (In Progress) | Shizuoka University

Apr 2025 – Present

Research: Human-AI collective intelligence, decision-making dynamics
Advisor: Yugo Takeuchi | Collaborator: Nori Jacoby (Cornell University)

Master of Informatics | Shizuoka University

Apr 2023 – Mar 2025

Advisor: Yugo Takeuchi

Bachelor of Informatics | Shizuoka University

Apr 2019 – Mar 2023

Advisor: Yugo Takeuchi

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

1. **S. Shiiku**, R. Marjeh, T. L. Griffiths, M. Anglada-Tort, N. Jacoby. "Hybrid Human-AI Societies Balance Creativity and Diversity." *Under evaluation*, 2026.
2. **S. Shiiku**, R. Marjeh, M. Anglada-Tort, N. Jacoby. "The Dynamics of Collective Creativity in Human-AI Hybrid Societies." *Proceedings of the Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society (CogSci)*, 2025.
3. **S. Shiiku** and Y. Takeuchi. "Exploring the Mutual Adaptation of Large Language Models and Emergent Decision-Making in Simulated Small Group Interactions." *12th International Conference on Human-Agent Interaction (HAI)*, 2024.
4. **S. Shiiku** and Y. Takeuchi. "Leveraging Emergent Opinion Dynamics in Small-Group Decision-Making: A Simulation-Based Examination of Creativity and Satisfaction." *Journal of Japan Society for Fuzzy Theory and Intelligent Informatics*, 2025.

HONORS & AWARDS

- **JSAI Annual Conference Award**, Japanese Society for Artificial Intelligence (JSAI), 2026 — for the oral presentation "Collective Creativity in Human-AI Co-Creative Societies" (人とAIの共創社会における集団的創造性)
- **Interactive Presentation Award**, Interaction 2024 (IPSJ Symposium), Mar 2024 — for "Cognitive Masking of Unpleasant Sounds through Acquired Self-Efficacy" (S. Shiiku and Y. Takeuchi)

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Languages	Python, JavaScript, TypeScript, Go, Ruby, Kotlin
Frameworks & Libraries	React, Django, Node.js, Ruby on Rails
AI & LLMs	Multi-Agent Systems, Reinforcement Learning, Deep Learning
Infrastructure & DevOps	Docker, AWS

LANGUAGES

Japanese: Native **English:** Professional fluency (work, international research collaboration)