

Introductory Remarks

Good morning.

Thank you very much for participating in this international workshop on multi-agent (agent-based) simulation as a social science methodology.

In the English language, agent-based simulation or agent-based modeling is more popular than multi-agent simulation or multi-agent modeling. In Japanese, however, the term “multi-agent” is much more popular than the term “agent-based.” A few days ago, I tried two search engines; that is, Yahoo-Japan beta version and Google. According to my experiment, “multi-agent” is eight times as much as “agent-based.” I would like to propose for the workshop today, that both terms can be used interchangeably.

Yesterday, we had four presentations that showed what has been doing in Japan. Discussions that followed were very substantial. I hope that those of you who attended yesterday share my impression that the session was very informative.

I am convinced that today’s workshop is as informative as yesterdays.’ I am personally very excited to learn how other scholars are doing in the field of multi-agent modeling in social sciences. We have four presentations today: two in the morning and two in the afternoon. The schedule is not so tight as the one yesterday, and in each session I would like to have some discussions. The last session is allocated to general discussions, and Professor Akihiko Tanaka will chair.

May I start the morning session, now?

Projectleader
Susumu YAMAKAGE