

Digital China, Analogue Japan?: A Case of Large Language Model Development

It is often argued that while China underwent a rapid digital transformation during the 2010s, Japanese firms and the government lagged behind. Can we therefore characterize this contrast as *Digital China, Analogue Japan*? This presentation first reviews the state of digitalization in both countries and examines the debates over why Japan fell behind in this process. Building on this foundation, it then turns to artificial intelligence—particularly the development and application of large language models (LLMs)—to highlight the divergent trajectories of China and Japan in the digital era.