

**Regulations on Joint Research Involving the Use of the Spatial Data Infrastructure  
for Research at the Center for Spatial Information Science, The University of Tokyo**

Established: December 2, 1998

Revised: March 14, 1999

May 10, 2000

April 30, 2004

August 9, 2005

January 31, 2007

May 8, 2013

February 24, 2016

March 15, 2019

November 9, 2022

January 25, 2023

March 27, 2024

July 31, 2024

April 22, 2025

**(Purpose)**

Article 1 The purpose of these regulations is to establish the requirements for joint research that involves the use of the Spatial Data Infrastructure for Research (“Data Infrastructure”) at Center for Spatial Information Science, The University of Tokyo (“the Center”).

**(Definition of Terms)**

Article 2

1. Joint research involving the use of the Data Infrastructure at the Center for Spatial Information Science, The University of Tokyo shall be referred to as “Joint Research”.
2. A full-time faculty member of the Center who participates in Joint Research shall be referred to as a “Center Faculty Member”. (Visiting faculty members of the Center are excluded.)
3. A Center Faculty Member or an affiliated faculty member of the Center who accepts Joint Research, participates in the research, or manages the research shall be referred to as a “Host Faculty Member”.
4. A researcher participating in Joint Research who is not a Center Faculty Member shall be referred to as a “Joint Research Investigator”.
5. A Center Faculty Member or a Joint Research Investigator who serves as a representative of a Joint Research project shall be referred to as a “Principal Joint Research Investigator (PI)”.
6. The web server system that allows access to the approved Data Infrastructure for Joint Research shall be referred to as the “Joint Research Assist System” (JoRAS).
7. The committee that reviews and approves Joint Research shall be referred to as the “National Joint Research Examination Committee”.
8. The term “fiscal year” (FY) in these regulations refers to the period from April 1 to March 31 of the following year.
9. All dates in these regulations shall be based on Japan Standard Time (JST, UTC+9).

**(Qualifications for Principal Joint Research Investigator (PI))**

Article 3 An individual who meets any of the following conditions and is deemed appropriate by the Chair of the National Joint Research Examination Committee (“Chair”) may serve as a PI.

- (1) A person affiliated with a research institution in Japan or overseas who is employed exclusively in research or research education.
- (2) A person affiliated with a research-related department of a public research organization who is employed exclusively in research or research education.

### **(Qualifications for Joint Research Investigator)**

Article 4 An individual who meets any of the following conditions and is deemed appropriate by the Chair may serve as a Joint Research Investigator.

- (1) A person affiliated with a research institution in Japan or overseas who is employed exclusively in research or research education.
- (2) A person affiliated with a research-related department of a public research organization who is employed exclusively in research or research education.
- (3) An undergraduate student, a graduate student, or a research student conducting research under the guidance of any of the above-mentioned eligible Joint Research Investigator.
- (4) Any other individual deemed appropriate by the Chair.

### **(Conditions for Joint Research)**

Article 5 Joint Research shall be conducted collaboratively between Center Faculty Members and affiliated faculty members of the Center, and Joint Research Investigators, with the aim of publishing research outcomes in academic journals or equivalent formats.

### **(Application for Joint Research)**

Article 6 Individuals seeking to conduct Joint Research must submit an application to the Chair for approval.

2. Joint Research must designate either a Center Faculty Member or an affiliated faculty member of the Center as a Host Faculty Member.
3. If a Center Faculty Member serves as the PI, they cannot also serve as the Host Faculty Member for the same project.

### **(Approval of Joint Research)**

Article 7 Upon reviewing the application under the preceding Article, the Chair shall grant approval if deemed appropriate.

2. Approval under the preceding paragraph shall be valid only for the fiscal year in which it was granted.
3. Upon obtaining approval, the PI and Joint Research Investigators shall promptly submit a written pledge to comply with the conditions specified in Article 8.
4. The written pledge submitted under the preceding paragraph shall be valid only for the fiscal year in which it was granted. However, individuals participating in multiple Joint Research projects are required to submit only one pledge for the earliest-starting project.

### **(Use of the Center by Joint Research Investigators)**

Article 8 Joint Research Investigators may use the Center's facilities and Data Infrastructure only within the scope of research activities specified in the pre-submitted application form.

2. (1) Joint Research Investigators must adhere to agreements between Data Providers and the Center. They may not sell, rent, transfer, or permit third-party use of the Data Infrastructure or its derivatives.
- (2) Entering JoRAS data into external generative AI services is considered unauthorized third-party disclosure under this regulation. However, in specific cases, approval may be granted following a review process. Researchers must submit a prior request specifying the name of the AI service, the type of data, and the volume of data. Reviews for such requests may require a longer review period.
- (3) External AI services may only be used if the service provider explicitly guarantees that input data will not be used for model training or service improvement. Services that do not meet this requirement, such as OpenAI's ChatGPT under general Terms of Use, are strictly prohibited.
- (4) When researchers affiliated with overseas research institutions use the Data Infrastructure, additional review or procedural requirements may apply depending on the type of data requested, and the review process may require more time than usual. The administrator of the Data Infrastructure has the authority to request the submission of documentation verifying the completion of Research Ethics Training, as required by the institutions with which the PI and the researcher concerned are respectively affiliated. Furthermore, if the Data Provider prohibits or restricts the sharing of data outside the country, the administrator may reject the application or grant approval subject to specific conditions.

3. Each Joint Research Investigator shall be responsible for strictly managing the password for their personal JoRAS account.
4. Any damage to the Center's facilities or the Data Infrastructure resulting from Joint Research usage shall be the responsibility of the respective Joint Research Investigators and the PI.
5. The Center's data administrators shall ensure that Joint Research Investigators comply with these provisions.

**(Responsibility for Expenses)**

Article 9 Any costs incurred under paragraph 4 of the preceding Article shall be borne by the Joint Research Investigators and the PI.

**(Application for Modification)**

Article 10 Any changes, including adding or removing PI, Joint Research Investigators or Data Infrastructure scope, must be submitted to the Chair for approval.

2. Upon reviewing the application under the preceding paragraph, the Chair shall grant approval if deemed appropriate.
3. Validity of the approval under the preceding paragraph may not exceed the Joint Research's approved period.
4. The Chair may exclude part or all of the Data Infrastructure from access by the PI and Joint Research Investigators based on requests from Data Providers or other relevant considerations.

**(Application for Continuation (Renewal) for next FY)**

Article 11 If a Joint Research Investigator wishes to continue the Joint Research beyond the approved period, they shall submit the designated renewal application to the Chair and seek approval during the period from March to April of the fiscal year in which the approved period ends.

2. The maximum duration for Joint Research, including all renewals, shall not exceed five years from the fiscal year in which it was first approved.
3. Upon reviewing the application under the preceding paragraph, the Chair shall grant approval if deemed appropriate.
4. Approval under the preceding paragraph shall be valid only for the fiscal year in which it was granted.

**(Submission of Reports)**

Article 12 Upon completion of a Joint Research project or expiration of the approved research period, the PI shall compile outcomes or progress of activities in a research report and submit it to the Center in the designated format.

2. The Chair may request reports from the PI and Joint Research Investigators during or after the research period on the following matters.
  - (1) The actual usage status of the Spatial Data Infrastructure for Research.
  - (2) Research outcomes and their publication status resulting from Joint Research.
3. When publishing research results from Joint Research in academic papers or other publications, Joint Research Investigators shall acknowledge the source of the Data Infrastructure and indicate that the research was conducted as part of Joint Research with the Center in the acknowledgment section of the publication.
4. The publication of Joint Research results is encouraged through events and symposiums hosted or co-hosted by the Center, and discussion papers or equivalent formats.

**(Revocation of Joint Research Qualification)**

Article 13 The Chair may revoke the qualification of individuals who fail to comply with these regulations or who use the Center for purposes other than those approved.

**(Obligation to Notify Changes)**

Article 14

Joint Research Investigators shall promptly notify the Chair if any of the following circumstances occur during the effective period of Joint Research.

- (1) The Joint Research is completed or discontinued.
- (2) Their affiliation or position changes.
- (3) They cause damage to the Center's facilities.

**Note 1** Joint Research Investigators shall participate as individuals and the use of the Data Infrastructure and facilities shall be limited to their personal use. Accordingly, “a third party” as referenced in paragraph 2 of Article 8 includes members of the organization to which the researcher belongs. Furthermore, the use of the Data Infrastructure and facilities by a Joint Research Investigator is restricted solely to activities necessary for carrying out the approved research project.

**Note 2** Center Faculty Members and affiliated faculty members of the Center may use the Data Infrastructure without submitting a Joint Research application when utilizing it for their own research purposes.

**Supplementary Provision** These regulations shall come into effect as of January 31, 2007 and the provisions of the Regulations on Joint Research Involving the Use of the Spatial Data Infrastructure for Research at the Center for Spatial Information Science, The University of Tokyo shall be applied as of January 31, 2007.

**Supplementary Provision** These regulations shall come into effect as of May 8, 2013.

**Supplementary Provision** These regulations shall come into effect as of February 24, 2016.

**Supplementary Provision** These regulations shall come into effect as of March 15, 2019 and shall be applied to Joint Research projects that submitted an application for Joint Research under Article 6, applied for renewal under Article 11, or applied for modification under Article 10 on or after March 15, 2019.

**Supplementary Provision** These regulations shall come into effect as of November 9, 2022, and shall be applied to Joint Research projects that submitted an application for Joint Research under Article 6, applied for renewal under Article 11, or applied for modification under Article 10 on or after November 9, 2022.

**Supplementary Provision** These regulations shall come into effect as of March 27, 2024, and shall be applied to Joint Research projects that submitted an application for Joint Research under Article 6, applied for renewal under Article 11, or applied for modification under Article 10 on or after March 27, 2024.

**Supplementary Provision** These regulations shall come into effect as of July 31, 2024, and shall be applied to Joint Research projects that submitted an application for Joint Research under Article 6, applied for renewal under Article 11, or applied for modification under Article 10 on or after July 31, 2024.

**Supplementary Provision** These regulations shall come into effect as of April 22, 2025, and shall be applied to Joint Research projects that submitted an application for Joint Research under Article 6, applied for renewal under Article 11, or applied for modification under Article 10 on or after April 22, 2025.

**Additional Note** Joint Research that does not involve the use of the Spatial Data Infrastructure for Research shall be conducted in accordance with the regulations of the University of Tokyo. Joint Research involving the use of the Spatial Data Infrastructure for Research shall be subject to both The University of Tokyo’s regulations and these regulations.

**Additional Note** The establishment standards of the “National Joint Research Examination Committee” shall be in accordance with the “Internal Regulations for the Joint Research Examination Committee at the Center for Spatial Information Science”.

**Additional Note** The examination of Joint Research shall be conducted in accordance with the “Internal Regulations on Examination Procedures by the National Joint Research Examination Committee”.