

Hyemi Song

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Summary

Hyemi Song is a researcher and designer interested in Information Visualization, HCI, and Immersive Analytics. Currently, she studies the complex interplay between Natural Language and Data Visualization in XR within generative AI-powered immersive analytics under the supervision of Dr. Amitabh Varshney.

Educational Background

University of Maryland, College Park, USA, 2022-Present
Ph.D. Computer Science

University of Maryland, College Park, USA, 2022-2024
Master of Science, Computer Science

Rhode Island School of Design, Providence, USA
Master of Fine Arts, Digital + Media

University of the Arts London, London, UK
Foundation, Visual Communication Design

The Catholic University of Korea, Seoul, Korea
Bachelor of Science, Molecular Biology

Research Experiences

University of Maryland College Park, USA, 2022 - Present
Position: Research Assistant (Advisor: Dr. Amitabh Varshney)
Labs: UMD Graphics and Visual Informatics Laboratory, Human-Computer Interaction Lab
Currently working on Natural Language and Data Visualization Interplay in XR within generative AI-powered immersive analytics.

Massachusetts Institute of Technology, MIT Senseable City Lab, Cambridge, USA, 2016 - 2017
Position: Research Fellow, Data Visualization Specialist
Developed an award-winning project, Cityways, Driving DNA, Pisa Pool, Urban Exposure, and more.

NAVER Corporation, Seoul, Korea, 2011 - 2014
Position: UX Researcher
Designed mobile/web UX/UI for a Social Network Service, 'me2day' (Korea's equivalent of Twitter), and designed the Portal Service, 'NAVER' (the largest search engine in Korea).

Teaching Experiences

University of Maryland College Park, 2022 Spring/Summer, 2023 Spring/Summer/Fall
Position: Teaching Assistant
Class: Introduction to Data Science, Web Application Development with JavaScript

Rhode Island School of Design, 2016 Winter
Position: Instructor
Class: Measuring the Universe (2016 RISD Winter Session)

Industry Experiences

Microsoft, Redmond, USA, 2019 - 2022
Position: Senior Designer

Specialized in Data Visualization, Designed for Machine Learning and AI products.
Designed Error Analysis Dashboard, Azure Machine Learning Studio, and more.

Datadog Inc, New York, USA, 2017 - 2019

Position: Product Designer

Specialized in Data Visualization. Designed/developed [Service Map](#), Host, and Infra map.

VINYL Interactive, Seoul, Korea, 2010 - 2011

Position: UX/UI designer

Designed and developed the web/mobile Service Strategies & Proposals, interactive installations, and digital media promotions for 10+ clients; SAMSUNG, Korea Telecommunication, and more. KT Olleh Square won a prize from the iF design awards.

2015 Brothers, Seoul, Korea, 2009 - 2010

Position: Art Director

Designed and directed advertising projects for 20+ clients, including SKTelecom, SAMSUNG, and Korea Technology.

PXD, Seoul, Korea, 2008 - 2009

Position: Interaction Designer

Developed and designed mobile/web UI/UX services for clients including SKTelecom and SAMSUNG.

Kiz Entertainment, Seoul, Korea, 2004

Position: Clay Animator

Participated in Clay animations for an advertisement, and TV Series with 5+ Clients, including Korean Broadcasting System and Dino land.

eyeballNYC, New York, USA, 2015,

Samsung Electronics, Seoul, Korea, 2007,

Cheil World Wide, Seoul, Korea, 2006

Position: Design Intern

Research Projects

1. Natural Language and Data Visualization Interplay in Immersive Environments

1) Speech-Driven Interactions in AI-infused Immersive Analytics, 2023 - Present

Role: First Author

My research explores the complex interplay between natural language and data visualizations in XR environments for users with diverse backgrounds and expertise levels. This work is situated within the broader context of generative AI-powered immersive analytics with multimodal interaction.

2) Interaction Authoring for Data Visualization in Immersive Environments, 2022 - Present

Role: First Author

This project presents a comprehensive analysis by reviewing numerous pieces of literature and proposing directions for authoring interaction in immersive environments.

2. General topics in data visualization

1) Towards Understanding In-context Learning with Contrastive Demonstrations and Saliency Maps, 2023, arxiv.org/abs/2307.05052, 2023

Role: Co-Author

We investigate the role of various demonstration components in the in-context learning (ICL) performance of large language models (LLMs). Specifically, we explore the impacts of ground-truth labels, input distribution, and complementary explanations, particularly when altered or perturbed.

2) Beyond Replication: How Timing and Schematic Similarity Shape Example-Based Data Visualization Design, 2023, *(Under Review)*

Role: Co-Author

This research investigates the influence of examples on visualization design, identifying key factors in idea transfer and effectiveness and guiding future example-based design studies.

Publications

Zongxia Li, Paiheng Xu, Fuxiao Liu, **Hyemi Song**, Towards understanding in-context learning with contrastive demonstrations and saliency maps, arxiv.org/abs/2307.05052, 2023

Hyemi Song, Walking in a place, Walkestra, MFA Thesis, Rhode Island School of Design, 2016

Books & Book Chapters

Hyemi Song, Solar System, Annual Student Artists' Book Juried Contest, Rhode Island School of Design, 2015

Steven Heller, Rick Landers, Raw Data, (Published Works: The temperature of my mind, Visualizing works), 2014

Invited talks (Selected)

Ohio State University Ohio, USA, 2022

Lecture: Data and Human Communication

GyeongGi Cultural Foundation, Seoul, Korea, 2021

Lecture: Data as a communication medium: art, design, and human

San Jose State University San Jose, USA, 2021

Lecture: Data and Human Communication

Workshop: Measuring the temperature of my mind

Jury, Peer Review, Advising service

DIS- Reviewer, Full papers, 2024 - Present

IEEEVIS - Reviewer, Full papers (2023), Short papers (2024), 2023 - Present

PacificVis - Juror, 2022 - Present

IEEEVIS Arts Program - Program Committee, 2018 - Present

A' Design Award & Competition, Italy - Jury Member, 2018 - 2022

Brown University, Computer Science Department, USA - Portfolio Reviewer, 2019 - 2021

Apexart, USA - Jury Member, 2017

Grants, Fellowships & Scholarships

DIS, USA - Awarded a complimentary one-year ACM Professional Membership (for paper review contribution), 2024

IEEEVIS, USA - Inclusive and Diversity Scholarship, 2023

University of Maryland College Park, USA - Dean's Fellowship/Assistantship, 2022-Present

Massachusetts Institute of Technology, USA - Fellowship, 2016 - 2017

Rhode Island School of Design, USA - Assistantship/Fellowship, 2014 - 2016

Samsung Art & Design Institute, Korea - Scholarship, 2007

Awards

IEEE Arts Program, Melbourne, Australia - Accepted for exhibition, 2023 (Project: Solar System)

A'Design Award and Competition, Italy - Winner (Gold), 2018-2019

Information is Beautiful Awards, USA - Long List, 2018

World Changing Ideas Awards (by Fast Company), USA - Finalist, 2018

IEEE Arts Program, Berlin, Germany - Accepted for exhibition

A'Design Award and Competition, Italy - Winner (Iron), 2016-2017

53rd American Graphic Design Awards, GDUSA, USA -Winner (Student), 2016

Spark International Design Awards, USA - Finalist, 2016

Annual Student Artists' Book Juried Contest, USA - Accepted for exhibition and publication at RISD Fleet Library, 2015

Adobe Design Achievement Awards, USA - Semifinalist, 2008, 2015, 2016

Adobe Design Achievement Awards, USA - Honorable Mention 2007

IF Design Award, USA - Winner, 2010
Good Design Award, Japan - Winner, 2010
Seoul Design Olympiad 2009, Korea - Winner (Honorable Mention)
SADI Graduation Award, Korea - Experimental Portfolio Winner
11th Environmental Management Corporation Award, Korea - Winner

Press

Monthly Design (Oldest Korean Design Magazine), Seoul, Korea, 2018
Feature Interview, Title - Data Visualization Designer, Hyemi Song / [Link](#)
Data Vis Today, USA, 2018
Feature Interview, Podcast (Episode 13) / [Link](#)
IdN, Hong Kong, 2018
Featured article (Project: CityWays), IdN is an international Design Magazine / [Link](#)
The Guardian, USA, 2016
News Article (Project: Urban Exposure), Data Visualization at MIT Senseable City Lab / [Link](#)
Visual Loop, Brazil, 2012
Featured article, Title - Finding stories of data visualization from twitter / [Link](#)
Information Aesthetics, USA, 2011
Featured article, Title - Visualizing Works: Hyemi Song's Innovative Portfolio / [Link](#)
Visualising Data, USA, 2011
Featured article, Title - Visualizing Works: Hyemi Song's Innovative Portfolio
Sadi Vision, Korea, 2011
Featured article (Project: Visualizing Works)
IF Online Gallery, USA, 2010
IF Online Gallery (Project: KT Olleh Square)
2009 Seoul Design Olympiad, Korea, 2009
Annual publication for winners
Adobe Design Achievement Award Online Gallery, USA, 2008
ADAA Online Gallery (Project: The temperature of my mind)

Exhibitions

IEEE Arts Program, Melbourne, Australia, 2023 (Project: Solar System)
Design Korea Festival 2020, Design Beyond Data, @Coex, Seoul, Korea, (Declined) 2020
IEEE Arts Program, Berlin, Germany, 2018
A'design Award Winner exhibition, @Mood, Italy, 2017
Shenzhen Design Week, @Shenzhen Convention Center, China, 2017
RISD Nature Lab anniversary exhibition, @Waterman Gallery, USA, 2017
Internet Festival, @Waterman Gallery, Pisa, Italy, 2016
RISD Graduate Exhibition, @Providence Convention Center, USA
Dark Matter, @RISD Sol Koffler Gallery, USA
Image Landscapes, @RISD Gelman Gallery, USA
Annual Student Artists' Book Exhibition, @RISD Fleet Library, USA
2009 Seoul Design Olympiad, @Jamsil Main Stadium, Korea
Sharing Experience 2009, @Zero one center Gallery, Korea
Onepiece Magazine Ceremony Party 500, Korea
Reviewing Hanul Exhibition, @Space Hiut, Korea
GUANGZHOU Design Korea Exhibition, Guangzhou, China
2nd D.I.P. Exhibition, @SADI Space Gallery, Korea
21st D.I.P. Exhibition, @SADI Space Gallery, Korea

SADI Graduation Exhibition, @SADI Space Gallery, Korea

Hanul Exhibition, @Shinhan Gallery, Korea

Chelsea College of Arts Graduation Exhibition, @Hugon Road Gallery, UK

Coursework (UMD)

Explainable Natural Language Processing [Link](#)

Natural Language Processing [Link](#)

User Experience Research Methods [Link](#)

Information Visualization [Link](#)

Advances in XR [Link](#)

Info-Centric Design System [Link](#)

Interactive Technologies in Human-Computer Interaction

Visual Analytics

Bioinformatics (AU)

Embodied Media Design (AU)

Skillsets

Front, Backend, Data Visualization, Data Science, AR/VR

Javascript, React, Redux, Express.js, MongoDB, Python, HTML, CSS, C#

D3js, VegaLit, Matplotlib, Three.js, PyTorch, Unity

Design & Research

Graphic Design, UX/UI design, Interaction Design, UX Research, Academic Research