Seul Lee

Contact

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RESEARCH Interests

My research interest is mainly in developing an automated discovery framework for organic molecules, natural products, or proteins. I especially focus on molecule generation that can bridge the gap between real-world drug discovery and automatic drug discovery. I am currently interested in the following topics:

- AI for science
- Drug discovery
- Generative models

EDUCATION

KAIST, Seoul, South Korea

Ph.D. student, Graduate School of AI

Sep. 2022 - present

- Advisor: Prof. Sung Ju Hwang
- Area of study: Machine learning
- Expected graduation date: Aug. 2026
- GPA: 4.3/4.3

M.S., Graduate School of AI

Mar. 2021 - Aug. 2022

- Advisor: Prof. Sung Ju Hwang
- Area of study: Machine learning
- GPA: 4.2/4.3

B.S., Biological Sciences

Mar. 2015 - Aug. 2019

- Double Major in Aerospace Engineering
- GPA: 4.18/4.3

Research EXPERIENCE

NVIDIA

Feb. 2024 - Sep. 2025

- Fundamental Generative AI Research (GenAIR) Team
- Location: Santa Clara, CA, US
- Position: Research intern
- Research topic: Generative AI for science

Kimlab & The Matter Lab, UofT

Jun. 2023 - Jun. 2023

- Location: Toronto, Canada
- Position: Visiting researcher
- Host: Prof. Philip M. Kim & Prof. Alán Aspuru-Guzik

AITRICS Jan. 2021 - Feb. 2021

• Location: Seoul, South Korea

• Position: Research intern

• Research topic: Docking-optimized molecule generation using RL

Opto-Electro-Robotics Lab, KAIST

Mar. 2019 - Aug. 2019

• Location: Daejeon, South Korea

• Position: Undergraduate researcher

• Advisor: Prof. Jung-ryul Lee

• Research topic: Laser pulse-echo inspection with robot arms

Invited TALKS

- Nov. 2023 • Exploring Chemical Space with Score-based OOD Generation, Hyundai 2023 CTO AI Conference • Exploring Chemical Space with Score-based OOD Generation, Jun. 2023 University of Toronto Oct. 2022 • Score-based Generative Modeling of Graphs via the SDEs, LoGaG: Learning on Graphs and Geometry Reading Group Jul. 2022 • Learning with Graph-structured Data, POSTECH
- Score-based Graph Generation for Material Design, Jun. 2022 Samsung Advanced Institute of Technology (SAIT)

PUBLICATIONS

Conference [c7] Molecule Generation with Fragment Retrieval Augmentation

Seul Lee, Karsten Kreis, Srimukh Prasad Veccham, Meng Liu, Danny Reidenbach, Saee Paliwal, Arash Vahdat[†], and Weili Nie[†] (†: equal advising), Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS), 2024.

[c6] Drug Discovery with Dynamic Goal-aware Fragments

Seul Lee, Seanie Lee, Kenji Kawaguchi, and Sung Ju Hwang, International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML), 2024.

[c5] A Simple and Scalable Representation for Graph Generation

Yunhui Jang, **Seul Lee**, and Sungsoo Ahn, International Conference on Learning Representations (ICLR), 2024.

[c4] Exploring Chemical Space with Score-based Out-of-distribution Generation

Seul Lee, Jaehyeong Jo, and Sung Ju Hwang, International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML), 2023.

[c3] Score-based Generative Modeling of Graphs via the System of Stochastic Differential Equations

Jaehyeong Jo*, Seul Lee*, and Sung Ju Hwang (*: equal contribution), International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML), 2022.

[c2] Edge Representation Learning with Hypergraphs

Jaehyeong Jo*, Jinheon Baek*, **Seul Lee***, Dongki Kim, Minki Kang, and Sung Ju Hwang (*: equal contribution),

Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS), 2021.

[c1] Hit and Lead Discovery with Explorative RL and Fragment-based Molecule Generation

Soojung Yang, Doyeong Hwang, **Seul Lee**, Seongok Ryu, and Sung Ju Hwang, Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems (**NeurIPS**), **2021**.

JOURNAL [j2] READRetro: Natural Product Biosynthesis Planning with Retrieval-Publications Augmented Dual-View Retrosynthesis

Taein Kim*, **Seul Lee***, Min-Soo Choi, Yejin Kwak, Jeongbin Park, Sung Ju Hwang, and Sang-Gyu Kim (*: equal contribution), **New Phytologist**, **2024**.

[j1] Robotic Scanning Technology for Laser Pulse-Echo Inspection

Seul Lee, Jong-min Hyun, Hasan Ahmed, and Jung-ryul Lee, Electronics Letters, 2020.

WORKSHOP [w4] Protein Representation Learning by Capturing Protein Sequence-Publications Structure-Function Relationship

Eunji Ko*, **Seul Lee***, Minseon Kim*, Dongki Kim, and Sung Ju Hwang (*: equal contribution),

International Conference on Learning Representation Machine Learning for Genomics Explorations (ICLR MLGenX) Workshop (Spotlight), 2024.

[w3] Drug Discovery with Dynamic Goal-aware Fragments

Seul Lee, Seanie Lee, Kenji Kawaguchi, and Sung Ju Hwang, International Conference on Learning Representation Machine Learning for Genomics Explorations (ICLR MLGenX) Workshop (Spotlight), 2024.

[w2] A Simple and Scalable Representation for Graph Generation

Yunhui Jang, Seul Lee, and Sungsoo Ahn,

Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems New Frontiers in Graph Learning (NeurIPS GLFrontiers) Workshop, 2023.

[w1] Exploring Chemical Space with Score-based Out-of-distribution Generation

Seul Lee, Jaehyeong Jo, and Sung Ju Hwang,

International Conference on Learning Representations Machine Learning for Drug Discovery (ICLR MLDD) Workshop (Oral), 2023.

Reviewer Services

- 2024, 2025 International Conference on Learning Representations (ICLR)
- 2022, 2023, 2024 International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML)
- 2021, 2023, 2024 Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS)
- 2023, 2024 Learning on Graphs Conference (LoG)
- 2023 NeurIPS AI4Science Workshop
- 2023 NeurIPS Generative AI & Biology Workshop
- 2023 ICLR ML4Materials Workshop

AWARDS

HONORS AND • NVIDIA Graduate Fellowship

2025 - 2026

• Boeing Undergraduate Scholarship

2018 - 2019

• KAIST Presidential Fellowship (KPF)

2017 - 2019

• National Science and Engineering Scholarship

2015 - 2019

References • Prof. Sung Ju Hwang, KAIST E-mail: sjhwang82@kaist.ac.kr