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 (but not limited to) the following topics:

- AI for science
- Generative models
- Drug discovery

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 small molecules

Kimlab & The Matter Lab, UofT

Jun. 2023 - Jun. 2023

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

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

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

Conference 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.

Samsung Advanced Institute of Technology (SAIT)

- [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.

Preprints

[p1] GenMol: A Drug Discovery Generalist with Discrete Diffusion

Seul Lee, Karsten Kreis, Srimukh Prasad Veccham, Meng Liu, Danny Reidenbach, Yuxing Peng, Saee Paliwal, Weili Nie[†], and Arash Vahdat[†] (†: equal advising), **2025**.

Reviewer SERVICES

- 2024, 2025 International Conference on Learning Representations (ICLR)
- 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025 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

Honors and	• NVIDIA Graduate Fellowship	2025 - 2026
Awards	• Boeing Undergraduate Scholarship	2018 - 2019
	• KAIST Presidential Fellowship (KPF)	2017 - 2019
	• National Science and Engineering Scholarship	2015 - 2019

References \bullet Prof. Sung Ju Hwang, KAIST

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