Yookoon Park

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Education

Ph.D. Computer Science, Columbia University — 2019 – present
Advisor: David M. Blei

M. S. Computer Science and Engineering, Seoul National University — 2019
Advisor: Gunhee Kim

B. S. Computer Science and Engineering, Statistics, Seoul National University — 2017

Publications

Yookoon Park, Chris Dongjoo Kim, Gunhee Kim. Variational Laplace autoencoders. In *ICML*, 2019.

Yookoon Park, Jaemin Cho, Gunhee Kim. A hierarchical latent structure for variational conversation modeling. In *NAACL*, 2018.

Yookoon Park*, Juyong Kim*, Gunhee Kim, Sung Ju Hwang. SplitNet: Learning to semantically split deep networks for parameter reduction and model parallelization. In *ICML*, 2017. (* equal contribution)

Research

Improved Posterior Inference for Deep Generative Models
Developed Laplace posterior approximation for deep generative models in order to tackle the challenges of amortized variational inference. Published in *ICML*, 2019 (lead author).

Conversation Modeling using Variational Autoencoders
Proposed a hierarchical latent variable model and a novel regularization technique to overcome the *latent variable collapse* problem in RNN-VAE models for conversation modeling. Published in *NAACL*, 2018 (lead author).

Learning Embarrassingly Parallel Network Structures
Developed novel group sparse weight regularization to split deep neural networks into tree-like layer structure for model parallelization and parameter reduction. Published in *ICML*, 2017 (co-author).

Awards

Kwanjeong Educational Foundation — 2019 – present
Abroad Graduate Student Scholarship.

Korea Foundation for Advanced Studies (KFAS) — 2017 – 2019
Graduate Student Scholarship.

National Science and Engineering Scholarship of Korea. — 2010 – 2016
Undergraduate Student Scholarship.

Teaching

SNU M1522.001000 Computer Vision — Spring 2018
SNU 4190.678 Natural Language Processing — Fall 2017
SNU 4190.101 Discrete Mathematics — Spring 2017