

Chanwoong Yoon

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RESEARCH INTERESTS

Natural Language Processing, AI Safety, Retrieval-Augmented Language Models, Interpretability

EDUCATION

Korea University <i>M.S.</i> - Computer Science and Engineering; GPA: 4.0/4.0	Seoul, Republic of Korea [Mar. 2024 - Presents]
Hanyang University <i>B.S.</i> - Software, College of Computing; GPA: 3.66/4.0	Ansan, Republic of Korea [Mar. 2017 - Feb. 2023]

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCES

Georgia Institute of Technology <i>Visiting Researcher</i> (Advisor: Alan Ritter) <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Working on fine-grained safety moderation of language models.- Funded by Korea University-KIAT Scholarship Program (approx. \$22,000)	Atlanta, GA, USA [Oct. 2025 - Present]
Data Mining and Information Systems Lab, Korea University <i>Research Assistant</i> (Advisor: Jaewoo Kang) <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Improved retriever-augmented language models via context compression and query alignment.- Developed a benchmark for long-context tasks, controlling for information density.- Identified specific attention heads in language models for processing time-specific information.	Seoul, Republic of Korea [Aug. 2023 - Sep. 2025]
Electronics and Telecommunications Research Institute (ETRI) <i>Research Intern</i> (Advisor: Junseong Bang) <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Worked on efficient training of Dialogue State Tracking (DST) models.	Daejeon, Republic of Korea [Jul. 2022 - Aug. 2022]

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

1. **CompAct: Compressing Retrieved Documents Actively for Question Answering.** [C. Yoon](#), T. Lee, H. Hwang, M. Jeong, J. Kang. [EMNLP 2024](#)
2. **Ask Optimal Questions: Aligning Large Language Models with Retriever’s Preference in Conversational Search.** [C. Yoon*](#), G. Kim*, B. Jeon, S. Kim, Y. Jo, J. Kang. [Findings of NAACL 2025](#)
3. **ETHIC: Evaluating Large Language Models on Long-Context Tasks with High Information Coverage.** T. Lee, [C. Yoon](#), K. Jang, D. Lee, M. Song, H. Kim, J. Kang. [NAACL 2025](#)
4. **Temporal Heads: Where Language Models Recall Time-specific Information.** Y. Park, [C. Yoon](#), J. Park, M. Jeong, J. Kang. [ACL 2025](#)
5. **ChroKnowledge: Unveiling Chronological Knowledge of Language Models in Multiple Domains.** Y. Park, [C. Yoon](#), J. Park, D. Lee, M. Jeong, J. Kang. [ICLR 2025](#)

RESEARCH ACTIVITY

Data Mining and Information Systems Lab, Korea University - CompAct: Context Compression for Retrieved-Augmented Language Model <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Developed an active strategy to compress extensive documents without losing information in context.• Showed significant improvements in both performance and compression rate on QA benchmarks• Demonstrated flexibility as a cost-efficient plug-in module with various off-the-shelf retrievers or readers, achieving exceptionally high compression rates (47x). - RetPO: Retriever’s Preference Optimization <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Developed a framework to align query rewriting models with target retriever preferences.	[Aug. 2023 - Sep. 2025]
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- Achieved superior performance, significantly outperforming existing baselines, including GPT-3.5.
- **Evaluating Language Models on Long-Context Tasks with High Information Coverage**
 - Developed a benchmark to evaluate language models' ability to reason over scattered information in dense, long contexts.
- Temporal Heads: Where Language Models Recall Time-Specific Information**
 - Discovered Temporal Heads, specific attention heads in language models primarily responsible for processing temporal knowledge.

Electronics and Telecommunications Research Institute (ETRI) [Jul. 2022 - Aug. 2022]
- Trained efficient dialogue state tracking models with parameter-efficient fine-tuning

AWARDS AND HONORS

Research Fund Recipient, Korea Institute for Advancement of Technology (KIAT) [May 2025]
- Selected to receive over USD 21,000 in research support

Outstanding Research Paper Award, Korea University [Feb. 2025]
- CompAct: Compressing Retrieved Documents Actively for Question Answering (EMNLP 2024)

Encouragement Award, KIISE Korea Computer Congress Competition [Jul. 2022]

Merit-based Scholarships (50% Tuition), Hanyang University [Fall 2020 - Spring 2022]

FULL PUBLICATIONS

6. **Assessing LLM Reasoning Steps via Principal Knowledge Grounding.** H. Hwang, Y. Cho, C. Yoon, Y. Park, M. Song, K. Lee, G. Kim, J. Kang. [Findings of EMNLP 2025](#)
7. **Outlier-Safe Pre-Training for Robust 4-Bit Quantization of Large Language Models.** J. Park, T. Lee, C. Yoon, H. Hwang, J. Kang. [ACL 2025](#)
8. **Rationale-Guided Retrieval Augmented Generation for Medical Question Answering.** J. Sohn, Y. Park, C. Yoon, S. Park, H. Hwang, M. Sung, H. Kim, J. Kang. [NAACL 2025](#)
9. **LAPIS: Language Model-Augmented Police Investigation System.** H. Kim, D. Kim, J. Lee, C. Yoon, D. Choi, M. Gim, J. Kang. [CIKM 2024](#)
10. **Small Language Models Learn Enhanced Reasoning Skills from Medical Textbooks.** H. Kim, H. Hwang, J. Lee, S. Park, D. Kim, T. Lee, C. Yoon, J. Sohn, D. Choi, J. Kang. [NPJ Digital Medicine](#)

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Programming: Python, C, C++
Libraries: PyTorch, NumPy, Matplotlib, Transformers, TransformerLens
Machine Learning & Deep Learning (LLMs): Post-training Strategies (Fine-tuning, DPO)
Natural Language Processing (NLP): Information Retrieval, Retrieval-Augmented Generation

RESEARCH & ANALYTICAL SKILLS

Theoretical Foundations: Linear Algebra, Probabilistic Modeling, Information Theory
Scientific Writing & Publication: Experience publishing at top-tier conferences (ICLR, ACL, EMNLP, NAACL, CIKM)
Collaboration & Mentorship: Experience in academic collaborations as a first author and co-author (mentoring junior researchers)

ACADEMIC SERVICE

- **Reviewer:** ICLR 2026
- **Secondary Reviewer:** ARR Review (Dec. 2025), ACL 2025