Inhwa Song

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EDUCATION

Korean Advanced Institute of Science and Technology (KAIST) — **Daejeon, Republic of Korea**
Bachelor of Computer Science, Advisor: Dr. Alice Oh — Feb 2019 – Feb 2025 (Expected)

Georgia Institute of Technology — **Atlanta, Georgia**
Exchange Student, Computer Science, Research Advisor: Dr. Munmun De Choudhury — Aug 2023 – Dec 2023
GPA 4.0/4.0 | Courses: Deep Learning, Knowledge-based AI, Computer Vision, Undergraduate Research

RESEARCH INTERESTS

My research interests are centered around the dynamic interplay between technology design and its influence on individual well-being and mental health. I am particularly fascinated by the ways in which people engage with language models and personal informatics systems. My focus is to delve deeper into these interactions, exploring design strategies for effective interventions. Additionally, I believe that creativity has the power to be a catalyst for enhancing mental health and well-being. This belief drives me to *explore the nexus of technology and creativity, supporting individuals to seek innovative ways in each of their unique contexts to actively improve well-being and mental health.*

PUBLICATIONS

[a.2] Understanding God-Saeng (God生) Phenomenon: Young Generation's Pursuit of Authentic Well-being
Inhwa Song, Kwangyoung Lee, Janghee Cho, Amon Rapp, Hwajung Hong
Full paper | under review

[a.1] The Typing Cure: Experiences with Large Language Model Chatbots for Mental Health Support (under review)
*Inhwa Song**, Sachin R. Pendse*, Neha Kumar, Munmun De Choudhury
Full paper | arXiv [link] | under review | *Equal Contribution

[w.1] Learnersourcing Modular and Dynamic Multiple Choice Questions
Haesoo Kim, *Inhwa Song*, Juho Kim
[pdf] | *ACM L@S 2022 Workshop on Learnersourcing Student Generated Content*

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

*Programming languages, frameworks, and tools are in **teal**. HCI research methods are in **brown-orange**.*

Social Dynamics and Wellbeing Lab, Georgia Tech — **Atlanta, Georgia**
Research Intern, *Advisors: Dr. Munmun De Choudhury, Dr. Neha Kumar, Mentor: Sachin R. Pendse* — Sep 2023- Jan 2024
Investigated the lived experiences of people who have used LLM chatbots for mental health support by conducting a qualitative study on how people used LLM chatbots for their mental health support. Interviewed 21 participants from globally diverse backgrounds. Grounded analysis in psychotherapy literature around effective support, introduced the concept of *therapeutic alignment*, or aligning AI with therapeutic values for mental health contexts.
Methods and Tools: **Study Design** (including ideation, IRB approval, implementation, publication drafting, and submission), **Literature Review, Open Coding, Thematic Analysis, Survey Design, Global User Recruitment, User Targeting, Semi-Structured Interviewing, Office Scripts in Excel, Google UTM, Qualtrics(Survey Design, Javascript Deployment)**

KIXLab, KAIST — **Daejeon, Republic of Korea**
Research Intern, *Advisor: Dr. Juho Kim* — June 2021- Sep 2022
Led the Real-time Interactive Education System Project in cooperation with KAIST CELT(Center of Learning and Teaching Innovation) & KIXLab. Motivated by the movement of cultivating the Student-derived Question-Making Culture in KAIST, I designed, built, and deployed the scalable system KUIZ, solely from end to end, a Real-time Learnersourcing System, Supporting Modular Contribution and Dynamic Generation of Multiple Choice Questions(MCQs), and did a real class deployment. I further expanded it to research, utilizing the system KUIZ, to investigate ways to reduce learners' burden when creating MCQs, while maintaining the quality of created questions.
Methods and Tools: **ReactJS, ExpressJS, NodeJS, Swagger, MongoDB, AWS, NGINX, CSS, Figma, Scalable Software System Building** (including NoSQL Database Schema Design/Development, API Design/Development, System Pipeline Documentation, Deployment), **Literature Review, Iterative Prototyping and Design, Design/Conduct Lab Pilot Study, Real World Software Deployment (Handling 30+ Synchronous Users)**

Data, Interaction, and Design Lab, KAIST **Daejeon, Republic of Korea**
Research Intern, *Advisors: Dr. Hwajung Hong, Dr. Janghee Cho* Nov 2022- Present
Designed and conducted interviews and a 10-day workshop (N=24) utilizing a probe approach and explored how young generations perceive and practice God-Saeng, a recent well-being phenomenon in South Korea, exploring the alignment and misalignment of routine-based technology with their underlying aspirations. This work advocates the essence of authentic well-being, proposing design implications for personal informatics paradigms over fleeting societal trends.
Methods and Tools: **Study Design** (including ideation, IRB approval, implementation, publication drafting, and submission), **Literature Review, Open Coding, Thematic Analysis, User Recruitment, Participatory Workshop Design, Semi-Structured Interviewing**

WORK EXPERIENCE & OFFER

Software Engineer, SPARCS (System Programmers' Association for Researching Computer Systems) June 2020-August 2023
- Designed and implemented KAIST official community website (ARA) with course information and reviews
- Over 400 visitors per day (https://ara.kaist.ac.kr)

Work Offers
Companies and positions where I got work offers from.
Ringle (Series A)
Offered Role: Contribute to designing and building a system so that NLP-based language learning feedback(Complexity, Accuracy, Fluency) is delivered to the end users more efficiently/effectively, provoking behavior change in language learning.
Company Mission: Make Language Learning More Affordable and Motivating

White Cube Challengers (Series A)
Offered Role: Software Engineer (ReactNative.js)
Company Mission: Empower Individuals in Self Development by Building Healthy Habits

FELLOWSHIPS & AWARDS

- KAIST Undergraduate Research Grant, 2M KRW 2023
- Lim Mi-Sook Scholarship, 1M KRW, Honored by Prof. Kyunghyun Cho @NYU 2021
- Superior Leadership Award, KAIST, Top 3% 2020
- Conference Scholarship, KAIST (ACM CHI 2023, ACM UIST 2023, ACM FAccT 2022, NeurIPS 2023)
- Best Freshmen Award, KAIST, Travel Grant 2019
- Grand Prize, World Friends Korea ICT Volunteer as Outstanding Team 2020
- National Excellence Scholarship (full tuition for 4 years) 2019 - 2022
- Hanseong Nobel Scholarship for Gifted, 5M KRW 2018

TEACHING /MENTORING

Teaching Assistant KAIST CS496 Immerse Coding, Instructor: Dr. Sukyoung Ryu
Mentor Hanseong Nobel Scholarship Mentor (2020), High School Math Tutor (2019)

SERVICES

Student President/Representative, KAIST School of Computing, over 900 students Feb 2021 - Feb 2022
Student Volunteer ACM CSCW 2023 (in-person)
Communication Committee, KAIST ACM FAccT 2022
Student Organizer Rising Stars in AI/CS/EE Workshop (Sponsored by Google) 2022
Translation Proofreader, Effective Altruism South Korea Oct 2023 - Present
**Disclaimer: This role does not reflect a strong personal stance on the organization's philosophy.*
Vice President of Public Relations, Daedeok Toastmasters Club Feb 2023 - Nov 2023

TALKS & LOCAL PRESS

Authoring Algorithm for Personal Daily Score (hosted by Open Humans & QuantifiedSelf) [wiki] [video] Oct 2022
KAIST Human of CS [link] May 2023
KAIST Times: My Quantified Self Story [link] Mar 2023

KAIST 100yr Vision Aug 2021
KAIST Vision Quarterly [link] Mar 2021
Daehak Journal Webzine [link] Oct 2019