

Hyeongjun Yang

✉ edbm95@yonsei.ac.kr | 🎓 Google Scholar | 🔗 LinkedIn

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Applications: *Conversational Recommendation / Knowledge-enhanced Recommendation / Knowledge-grounded Dialogue Systems*

Approaches: *Multimodal Knowledge Augmentation / Data-efficient Learning / Knowledge Distillation / LLM Distillation / Coreset Selection / PEFT / RAG*

EDUCATION

Yonsei University, South Korea Mar 2020 – Feb 2026

Ph.D. in Computer Science (Advisor: Prof. Kyong-Ho Lee)

- Thesis: "Towards Conversational Recommender Systems with Contextual Intelligence"

California State University, San Bernardino, United States Sep 2018 – Jun 2019

Exchange Student in Computer Science

Dankook University, South Korea Mar 2013 – Feb 2020

B.S. in Software Engineering

- Mandatory military service (Oct 2015 - Jul 2017)

PUBLICATIONS

(★ denotes first-authored publications)

[13] "RPO-RAG: Aligning Small LLMs with Relation-aware Preference Optimization for Knowledge Graph Question Answering"

Kaehyun Um, Kyuhwan Yeom, Haerim Yang, Minyoung Choi, Hyeongjun Yang, Kyong-Ho Lee

Under Review

[12] "Retrieval-Augmented Knowledge Graph Validation with Large Language Model Reasoning"

Donghyun Kim, Hyeongjun Yang, Chanhee Lee, Seokju Hwang, Kyong-Ho Lee

Under Review

[11] "Data-Efficient Adaptation to Contextual Shifts in LLM-based Conversational Recommendation"

Hyeongjun Yang★, Kyong-Ho Lee

Under Review

[10] "Reliable Distillation of Recommendation Rationales from Large Language Models for Enhanced Conversational Recommendation"

Hyeongjun Yang★, Donghyun Kim, KyuHwan Yeom, Kyong-Ho Lee

Under Review

[9] "Active Learning Framework for Improving Knowledge Graph Accuracy"

Donghyun Kim, Hyeongjun Yang, Seokju Hwang, Kyuhwan Yeom, Midan Shim, Kyong-Ho Lee

IEEE Access 2025 [paper]

[8] "CoreSense: Social Commonsense Knowledge-Aware Context Refinement for Conversational Recommender System"

Hyeongjun Yang★, Donghyun Kim, Gayeon Park, KyuHwan Yeom, Kyong-Ho Lee

IEEE Transactions on Knowledge and Data Engineering (Vol. 37) 2025 [paper]

[7] "Knowledge-constrained Interest-aware Multi-Behavior Recommendation with Behavior Pattern Identification"

Gayeon Park, Hyeongjun Yang, KyuHwan Yeom, Myeongheon Jeon, Yunjeong Ko, Byungkook Oh, Kyong-Ho Lee

Information Sciences (Vol. 692) 2025 [paper]

[6] **"Granular Intents Learning via Mutual Information Maximization for Knowledge-aware Recommendation"**

Hyeongjun Yang★, Yerin Lee, Gayeon Park, TaeYoung Kim, Heesun Kim, Kyong-Ho Lee, Byungkook Oh
Knowledge-based Systems (Vol. 306) 2024 [paper]

[5] **"Bottom-up propagation of hierarchical dependency for multi-behavior recommendation"**

{TaeYoung Kim, Hyeongjun Yang★}, Gayeon Park, Seungmi Lee, Kyong-Ho Lee
Engineering Applications of Artificial Intelligence (Vol. 138) 2024 [paper]

[4] **"Embedding Two-View Knowledge Graphs with Class Inheritance and Structural Similarity"**

Kyuhwan Yeom, Hyeongjun Yang, Gayeon Park, Myeongheon Jeon, Yunjeong Ko, Byungkook Oh, Kyong-Ho Lee
KDD 2024 [paper]

[3] **"Cross-Modal Contrastive Learning for Aspect-based Recommendation"**

Heesoo Won, Byungkook Oh, Hyeongjun Yang, Kyong-Ho Lee
Information Fusion (Vol. 99) 2023 [paper]

[2] **"Confident Action Decision via Hierarchical Policy Learning for Conversational Recommendation"**

Heeseon Kim, Hyeongjun Yang, Kyong-Ho Lee
WWW 2023 [paper]

[1] **"CLICK: Contrastive Learning for Injecting Contextual Knowledge to Conversational Recommender System"**

Hyeongjun Yang★, Heesoo Won, Youbin Ahn, Kyong-Ho Lee
EACL 2023 [paper]

PROJECTS

Refining User Preferences by Leveraging Knowledge Graphs for Conversational Recommender System	Mar 2022 – Feb 2025
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w/ National Research Foundation of Korea (NRF)

- **Project Leader:** Proposal / Research Planning / Development / Validation / Publication
- Related Publications: [1], [2], [3], [8], [9]

Query Intent-based Information Retrieval from Knowledge Graphs	Dec 2023 – Dec 2024
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w/ Samsung Research

- **Project Coordinator:** Proposal / Research Planning

Ontology-based Multi-type Interaction Modeling	Dec 2022 – Dec 2023
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w/ Samsung Research

- **Project Leader:** Proposal / Research Planning / Development / Validation / Publication
- Related Publications: [4], [7]

Knowledge Graph based Intent-Community Detection	Dec 2021 – Dec 2022
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w/ Samsung Research

- **Project Leader:** Proposal / Research Planning / Development / Validation / Publication
- Related Publications: [5], [6]

Development of XAI-based Technology for Smart Energy Platform	Mar 2020 – Feb 2021
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w/ Korea Electric Power Research Institute (KEPRI)

- **Project Member:** Data Collection / Validation
- Energy Ontology Design & Knowledge Graph Construction

SKILLS

(Underlined skills indicate preferred expertise.)

Programming Languages: Python / C / C++

AI & ML Frameworks: PyTorch / HuggingFace / TensorFlow

Knowledge Graphs & Ontologies: RDF / OWL / SPARQL

Development Tools: Git / Docker