To Eun Kim

Information Retrieval | LLM | Retrieval-Enhanced ML | Language Agents | Evaluation

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Education	**Carnegie Mellon University (CMU)** Aug 2023 - (2028)

Carnegie Mellon University (CMU)   Aug 2023 - (2028)
Ph.D. Language and Information Technology at Language Technologies Institute (LTI).
Advisor: Prof. Fernando Diaz
Focus: Information Retrieval, Retrieval-Enhanced Machine Learning, Language Agents

University College London (UCL)   Sep 2018 - Sep 2022
M.Eng. Computer Science (equivalent to a US Bachelor's & Master's degree) **First-Class Honours**
Minor: Engineering Mathematics
Thesis: Multi-Task Neural User Simulator for Task Oriented Dialogue System

Publications

MoR: Better Handling Diverse Queries with a Mixture of Sparse, Dense, and Human Retrievers
J.S Kalra*, X. Zhao*, T.E. Kim, F. Cai, F. Diaz, T. Wu [paper] [code]
(EMNLP 2025 Main) Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing

TeamCMU at Touché: Adversarial Co-Evolution for Advertisement Integration and Detection in Conversational Search
T.E. Kim, J Coelho, G Onilude, J Singh [paper] [code]
(CLEF 2025 Touché Lab) 16th Conference and Labs of the Evaluation Forum

LTRR: Learning To Rank Retrievers for LLMs
T.E. Kim, F. Diaz [paper] [code]
(SIGIR 2025 LiveRAG Workshop) Spotlight

Tip of the Tongue Query Elicitation for Simulated Evaluation
Y. He*, T.E. Kim*, F. Diaz, J. Arguello, B. Mitra [paper] [code1] [code2]
(SIGIR 2025) 48th ACM SIGIR Conference on Research and Development in Information Retrieval

Overview of the TREC 2024 Tip-of-the-Tongue Track
J. Arguello, S. Bhargav, F. Diaz, T.E. Kim, Y. He, E. Kanoulas, B. Mitra [paper]
(TREC 2025) The 33rd Text Retrieval Conference

Towards Fair RAG: On the Impact of Fair Ranking in Retrieval-Augmented Generation
T.E. Kim, F. Diaz [paper] [code]
(ICTIR 2025) The 15th Int'l Conference on Innovative Concepts and Theories in Information Retrieval
(NeurIPS 2024 AFME Workshop) Top-3 Spotlight

Retrieval-Enhanced Machine Learning: Synthesis and Opportunities
T.E. Kim, A. Salemi, A. Drozdov, F. Diaz, H. Zamani
(SIGIR 2025 Tutorial) (SIGIR-AP 2024 Tutorial)
[Manuscript/Survey] Under Review for Journal Publication

A Comprehensive Survey on Generative Diffusion Models for Structured Data
H. Koo, T.E. Kim [paper]
arXiv, 2023

A Multi-Task Based Neural Model to Simulate Users in Goal-Oriented Dialogue Systems
T.E. Kim, A. Lipani [paper] [poster] [code]
(SIGIR 2022) 45th ACM SIGIR Conference on Research and Development in Information Retrieval

Condita: A State Machine Like Architecture for Multi-Modal Task Bots
J. Ramos*, T.E. Kim*, Z. Shi, X. Fu, F. Ye, Y. Feng, A. Lipani [paper]
Alexa Prize TaskBot Challenge Proceedings, 2022

When and What to Ask Through World States and Text Instructions: IGLU NLP Challenge Solution
Z. Shi*, J. Ramos*, <u>T.E. Kim</u>, X. Wang, H. Rahmani, A. Lipani [paper]
(NeurIPS 2022 Competition) Interactive Grounded Language Understanding in a Collaborative Environment
Research Prize Winner

Attention-based Ingredient Phrase Parser
Z. Shi, P. Ni, M. Wang, <u>T.E. Kim</u>, A. Lipani [paper] [code]
(ESANN 2022) European Symposium on Artificial Neural Networks, Computational Intelligence and Machine Learning

Research & Industry Experience	**CMU LTI** - Graduate Research and Teaching Assistant Aug 2023 - Present

CMU LTI - Graduate Research and Teaching Assistant   Aug 2023 - Present
- Courses taken: 11642 Search Engines (Prof. Jamie Callan); 10701 Intro to ML (Dr. Henry Chai); 11711 Advanced NLP (Prof. Graham Neubig); 11801 Quantitative Evaluation of Language Technologies (Prof. Fernando Diaz); 11797 Question Answering (Prof. Eric Nyberg, Prof. Teruko Mitamura);

UCL Web Intelligence Group   May 2021 - Jun 2023
Research & Teaching Assistant   UCL Centre for AI
- Supervised by Prof. Emine Yilmaz and Dr. Aldo Lipani
- Four research papers, including the leadership of the Alexa Prize TaskBot Challenge (Quarter-finals).
- Four TAships and lecturer for Python programming course.

Raft AI   Jun 2022 - Jul 2022
Machine Learning Engineer Intern   London, UK
- Tabular information extraction from OCR for freight forwarding automation.
- Use of modern dev tools, e.g., Gitlab, Jira, Sentry, Docker, Kubernetes, GCP.

Amazon Alexa Prize TaskBot Challenge   May 2021 - Mar 2022
Team Condita
- Engineered a Task-oriented Dialogue System by using Alexa Skills Kit, Evi, DynamoDB, Lambda, and CodePipeline. Constructed and maintained CI/CD pipelines, deployed multiple microservices with Flask and Docker, dealing with thousands of user conversations with feedback loop (more details in Master's thesis).

UCL (Human-Computer) Interaction Centre - bachelor's group thesis   Oct 2020 - Apr 2021
Project *Olfactory-NLP* with group memebers and Prof. Marianna Obrist .
- Extracted smell-related phrases and clustered multiple passages into different olfactory groups.
- Literature Review: *An NLP Approach to Classify Smell Experiences.* [paper]
- *Exploring the potential of automating the process of clustering smell stories.* [paper] [code]

KB Securities   Jun 2020 - Aug 2020
Data Analyst Intern   Seoul, South Korea
- Built a mutual funds recommender system based on Network Analysis, Hierarchical Clustering and Association Rule Mining.
- Built a stock price prediction system using LSTM and news articles. [code]
- Social media sentiment monitoring system using KB's NLP Engine and Automation software.
- Use of Hadoop ecosystem (Map-reduce, Hive, and Hue).

Royal College of General Practitioners (RCGP)   Oct 2019 - Mar 2020
Software Engineer - UCL Industrial Exchange Network   London, UK
- Implemented a tree-based task-oriented chatbot that assists in checking software compliance regimes of British healthcare organizations based on Dialogflow.

Presentations & Invited Talks   Algorithmic Fairness through the Lens of Metrics and Evaluation @ NeurIPS 2024, ***Towards Fair RAG: On the Impact of Fair Ranking in Retrieval-Augmented Generation***, 14th Dec., 2024.

NLP Interest Group at The Alan Turing Institute, **Can Dialogue Systems Have Theory-of-Mind Ability?**, 24th Nov., 2022. [recording][slides]

Knowledge Graphs Interest Group at The Alan Turing Institute (5th meet-up), **Personal Knowledge Graphs: Towards Better Conversational Assistants**, 27th Oct., 2022. [recording] [slides]

Search-Oriented Conversational AI Workshop (SCAI '22), **A Multi-Task Based Neural Model to Simulate Users in Goal-Oriented Dialogue Systems**, 15th Jul., 2022. [recording] [slides]

Awards	2025 SIGIR NSF Student Travel Award – $2000
	2022 NeurIPS Interactive Grounded Language Understanding (IGLU) – Research Prize – $650
	2022 Automated Knowledge Graph Construction (AKBC) Conference – Registration fee waiver
	2022 SIGIR Student Travel Grant – Registration fee waiver
	2021 UCL Student Union best societies award – *Centenary Award (UCL AI Society)*
	2021 UCL CS Undergraduate Summer Research Internship Fund – £3,200

Teaching Experience	UCL Intense Python Programming course, **Course Co-Organiser and Lecturer**	March 2023
	• Designed and led a new intensive programming course for MSc students.	
	UCL COMP0189 Applied Artificial Intelligence, *Teaching Assistant*	Spring 2023
	• Made weekly practical contents and coursework [GitHub]	
	UCL COMP0071 Software Engineering, *Teaching Assistant*	Spring 2023
	UCL CEGE0004 Machine Learning for Data Science, *Teaching Assistant*	Spring 2023
	UCL CEGE0096 Geospatial Programming, *Teaching Assistant*	Fall 2022
	UCL Artificial Intelligence Society, *Lecturer*	2020 - 2022

Academic Service	Reviewing:
	• CIKM 2022 (subreviewer), ICLR 2023
	Tutorial:
	• SIGIR-AP 2024, SIGIR 2025

Community Involvement	TREC 2025 Tip-of-the-Tongue (ToT) Track, *Organizer*; TREC track website	
	The Alan Turing Institute NLP & KG Interest Group, *member*	Nov 2022
	The Alan Turing Institute Knowledge Graphs Interest Group, *member*	Sep 2022
	Automated Knowledge Graph Construction (AKBC) Conference, *volunteer*	Nov 2022
	UCL Artificial Intelligence Society, *Head of Tutorials Team, Lecturer*	Sep 2019 - Jun 2022
	• **Founder, maintainer, and lecturer** of Machine Learning Tutorial Series	
	• Season 20/21: [GitHub] [Lecture Recordings] ‖ Season 21/22: [GitHub]	
	• Co-organised an international competition, *Climate Hack.AI* [GitHub] [media coverage]	
	NLP paper reading group (Jiphyeonjeon), *Season 2,3 Organizer*	May 2021 - Nov 2022
	• Season 2: Survey on Task-Oriented Dialog System and Knowledge Graph construction. [slides] [recording] (spoken in Korean)	
	• Season 3: Recent Advances and Challenges in Task-oriented Dialogue Systems. [slides] [recording] (spoken in Korean)	
	Google Developer Student Club, *UCL core team - event with Marc Cohen*	Sep 2021 - Jun 2022
	UCL Korean Society, *IT Director - webmail automation*	Jun 2020 - May 2021

Mentoring	CMU Paths to AI, *Mentor*	Spring 2025
	CMU Paths to AI, *Mentor*	Spring 2024
	CMU Graduate Application Support Program	Fall 2023
	UCL CS Transition Mentor, *(helping 1st year CS students)*	Sep 2020 - Jun 2022

Software	**Unified API of Apache Kafka & Google Pub/Sub for model serving**	Nov 2021
	• Serving ML models in an event-driven way. [code]	
	Propositional Semantic Tableau Validator	Dec 2019
	• Propositional logic satisfiability checker based on semantic tableau (implemented in C) [code]	

Professional Training	Google Developers Korea Machine Learning Bootcamp	Oct 2020 - Jan 2021
	Deep Learning Specialization (Prof. Andrew Ng on Coursera)	Dec 2020
	UCLQ Summer School in Quantum Technology	Sep 2020
	Introduction to AI in the Data Center (NVIDIA)	Mar 2020
	KAIST Artificial Intelligence Bootcamp [Project 1] [Project 2]	Jun 2019 - Aug 2019

Major Skills	**Computer Language:**	Python, Java, C, Matlab, R, LaTeX
	Research:	PyTorch, TensorFlow2, HuggingFace, Scikit-Learn
	SW Dev:	Docker, SQL, Kafka, Node, Express, React, Flask
	Platform:	Unix, Git, AWS, Alexa Skills Kit, GCP
	Natural Language:	English (professional), Korean (native)

References	Available on request.

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