

NAJOUNG KIM

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ACADEMIC POSITIONS	New York University CDS Faculty Fellow / Assistant Professor, Center for Data Science	2021–2023
	Boston University Assistant Professor, Department of Linguistics	Starting Spring 2023
EDUCATION	Johns Hopkins University Ph.D. Cognitive Science Advisors: Paul Smolensky and Kyle Rawlins	2021
	Johns Hopkins University M.A. Cognitive Science	2017
	University of Oxford M.St. General Linguistics & Comparative Philology	2015 Distinction
	Seoul National University B.A. English Linguistics & Literature B.A. Linguistics (double major) Minor: Computer Science & Engineering	2013 Summa Cum Laude
EXPERIENCE	Student researcher, Google AI	Aug–Nov 2020
	Research intern, Google AI <i>Hosts: Deepak Ramachandran, Ellie Pavlick</i> Improving Question-Answering systems with presupposition verification	May–Aug 2020
	Research intern, IBM Research AI <i>Hosts: Song Feng, Chulaka Gunasekara</i> Evaluating sentence representations for discourse	May–Aug 2019
	Graduate student researcher, Jelinek Memorial Summer Workshop (JSALT) <i>PIs: Sam Bowman, Ellie Pavlick</i> General-purpose Sentence Representation Learning team	Jun–Aug 2018
	Visiting researcher, Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology (KAIST) <i>PI: Jong C. Park</i> Computational modeling of semantic fluency	2015–2016
	Intern developer, NAVER Corporation Knowledge Extraction Team	2013–2014
AWARDS	NSF Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant	2021

Title: *Compositional Linguistic Generalization in Human and Machine Learning*
BCS-2041221 (\$12,771), with Paul Smolensky, Geraldine Legendre & Tal Linzen.

NeurIPS 2019 Travel Award 2019

Best Paper Award, *SEM 2019 2019

Owen Scholarship 2016–2019
Awarded to select incoming doctoral students in natural sciences (\$18,000)

**Mica and Ahmet Ertegun Graduate Scholarship Programme
in the Humanities** 2014–2015
Full scholarship for Master’s degree at University of Oxford (~\$42,000)

SNU Undergraduate Research Program 2013
Grant for select undergraduate research proposals (~\$3000)

SNU Foundation Funds Scholarship 2013
SNU Superior Academic Performance Scholarship 2010–2011

**PEER-REVIEWED
ARTICLES**

Najoung Kim, Ellie Pavlick, Burcu Karagol Ayan, and Deepak Ramachandran. Which Linguist Invented the Lightbulb? Presupposition Verification for Question-Answering (2021). Accepted to the *Annual Conference of the Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL)*. [paper]

Najoung Kim and Tal Linzen. COGS: A Compositional Generalization Challenge Based on Semantic Interpretation (2020). *Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP)*. [paper] [talk]

Najoung Kim, Song Feng, Chulaka Gunasekara, and Luis A. Lastras. Implicit Discourse Relation Classification: We Need to Talk About Evaluation (2020). *Annual Conference of the Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL)*. [paper]

Najoung Kim and Tal Linzen. Compositionality as directional consistency in sequential neural networks (2019). *Context and Compositionality in Biological and Artificial Neural Systems Workshop, NeurIPS*. [paper]

Najoung Kim, Roma Patel, Adam Poliak, Alex Wang, Patrick Xia, Tom McCoy, Ian Tenney, Alexis Ross, Tal Linzen, and Benjamin Van Durme, Samuel R. Bowman, and Ellie Pavlick (2019). Probing what different NLP tasks teach machines about function word comprehension. *Proceedings of the Eighth Joint Conference on Lexical and Computational Semantics (*SEM)*. [paper] **Best Paper Award**

Alex Wang, Jan Hula, Patrick Xia, Raghavendra Pappagari, R. Thomas McCoy, Roma Patel, **Najoung Kim**, Ian Tenney, Yinghui Huang, Katherin Yu, Shuning Jin, Berlin Chen, Benjamin Van Durme, Edouard Grave, Ellie Pavlick, and Samuel R. Bowman (2019). How to Get Past Sesame Street: Sentence-Level Pretraining Beyond Language Modeling. *Proceedings of the Annual Conference of the Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL)*. [paper]

Najoung Kim, Jung-Ho Kim, Maria K. Wolters, Sarah E. MacPherson, and Jong C. Park (2019). Automatic Scoring of Semantic Fluency. *Frontiers in Psychology*. [paper]

Najoung Kim, Kyle Rawlins, Benjamin Van Durme, and Paul Smolensky (2019).

Predicting the Argumenthood of English Prepositional Phrases. *Proceedings of the 33rd AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence (AAAI)*. [paper]

Ian Tenney, Patrick Xia, Berlin Chen, Alex Wang, Adam Poliak, R Thomas McCoy, **Najoung Kim**, Benjamin Van Durme, Samuel R. Bowman, Dipanjan Das, and Ellie Pavlick (2019). What do you learn from context? Probing for sentence structure in contextualized word representations. *International Conference on Learning Representations (ICLR)*. [paper]

Maria K. Wolters, **Najoung Kim**, Jung-Ho Kim, Sarah E. MacPherson, and Jong C. Park (2016). Prosodic and Linguistic Analysis of Semantic Fluency Data: A Window into Speech Production and Cognition. *Interspeech*. [doi] [paper]

Jung-Ho Kim, **Najoung Kim**, Hancheol Park, and Jong C. Park (2016). Enhanced Sign Language Transcription System via Hand Tracking and Pose Estimation. *Journal of Computing Science and Engineering* vol 10.3.

Najoung Kim and Jong C. Park (2016). A Morphological Approach to the Longitudinal Detection of Dementia. *Proceedings of HCI Korea 2016, The HCI Society of Korea*. [paper]

**WORK
PEER-REVIEWED
BY ABSTRACT**

Najoung Kim and Paul Smolensky (2021). Testing for Grammatical Category Abstraction in Neural Language Models. To appear at *The Society for Computation in Linguistics (SCiL)* (selected as talk). [paper]

Sadhwi Srinivas, **Najoung Kim**, and Kyle Rawlins (2020). Maximize Presupposition! and the Korean demonstrative *ku*. Presented at *The 94th Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America (LSA)*. [abstract] [poster]

Najoung Kim, Benjamin Van Durme, Ellie Pavlick, and Paul Smolensky (2018). Linguistically informed tasks for evaluating structure encoded by sentence representations. *WeCNLP Summit*, Facebook HQ, Menlo Park, CA.

Najoung Kim, Kyle Rawlins, and Paul Smolensky (2018). A gradient blend analysis of English PP verbal dependents. *Conference on Interdisciplinary Approaches to Linguistic Theory (CiALT) 2*, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin.

Najoung Kim, Kyle Rawlins, and Paul Smolensky (2018). A gradient blend analysis of English PP verbal dependents. *Acceptability judgments in current linguistic theory*, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona.

**SELECTED TALKS
/ TUTORIALS**

Najoung Kim. Compositional Linguistic Generalization in Contemporary Neural Models of Language. Invited talk at Cornell Computational Psycholinguistics Group. Apr 2021.

Najoung Kim. What Aspects of Meaning are Missing from Current Natural Language Understanding Systems? Invited talk at Boston University, Mar 2021.

Najoung Kim and Tal Linzen. COGS: A Compositional Generalization Challenge Based on Semantic Interpretation.

- Invited talk at NERT lab, Georgetown University, Nov 2020.
- Invited poster presentation at the Microsoft Research AI Breakthroughs Workshop, Sep 2020.

Najoung Kim, Roma Patel, Adam Poliak, Alex Wang, Patrick Xia, Tom McCoy, Ian Tenney, Alexis Ross, Tal Linzen, Benjamin Van Durme, Samuel R. Bowman, and Ellie Pavlick. Probing what different NLP tasks teach machines about function word comprehension and where to go next. Invited talk at JHU CLSP Seminar, Oct 2019.

Najoung Kim, Kyle Rawlins, and Paul Smolensky, The complement-adjunct distinction as gradient blends: the case of English prepositional phrases. Invited talk at the Gradient Symbolic Computation Workshop, Baltimore, Sep 2019.

Najoung Kim, Diego Marcheggiani, Michael Roth, and Benjamin Van Durme, Semantic Role Labeling Tutorial, EMNLP, Copenhagen, Sep 2017.

Najoung Kim, Jung-Ho Kim, Maria K. Wolters, Sarah E. MacPherson, and Jong C. Park. Approximating the Semantic Structures behind Category Fluency Sequences (Poster). MACSIM 6 at CUNY, New York, Oct 2016.

Najoung Kim. Detection and Categorisation of Neograms in Korean Text (+a). Invited talk at Ertegun House, Oxford, 2015.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Program Committee:

- ACL-IJCNLP 2021
- ACL 2020
- EMNLP 2020*, 2018
- *SEM 2019
- EMNLP-IJCNLP 2019
- ACL Student Research Workshop, 2019-2021
- EACL Student Research Workshop 2021

*Acknowledged as outstanding reviewer

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

Association for Computational Linguistics
Cognitive Science Society
Linguistic Society of America

TEACHING

New York University:

- Fall 2021, Capstone Project in Data Science (Instructor)

Johns Hopkins University:

- Fall 2019, Introduction to Computational Cognitive Science (TA/Co-Instructor)
- Spring 2019, Foundations of Neural Networks (TA/Lab Instructor)
- Spring 2018, Foundations of Cognitive Science (TA)
- Fall 2017, Semantics I (TA/Lab Instructor)
- Spring 2017, Language and Advertising (TA)

Seoul National University:

- Winter 2014, Samsung Convergence Software Course, SNU (Instructor)

COMPUTER SKILLS	Python, R, HTML (proficient) Java, C, Scheme/Racket, OCaml (basic) Tools: PyTorch, PCIBex, Mechanical Turk	
LANGUAGES	Korean (native); English (near-native); Spanish (intermediate); Japanese (reading knowledge)	
COMMUNITY SERVICE	Diversity & Representation Committee Colloquium Student Committee <i>Department of Cognitive Science, Johns Hopkins University</i>	2021 2018–2021
	Panelist , BrainIAC Professional Development Event	9/21/2020
	Mentor, Samsung Convergence Software Course <i>Department of Computer Science, Seoul National University</i>	2014
	Peer tutor, English (volunteer work) <i>Seoul National University</i>	2011
	English tutor (volunteer work) <i>Younghak High School</i>	2010