

Saekwang Nam

Haptic Intelligence Department, Max Planck Institute for Intelligent Systems

Heisenbergstr. 3, Stuttgart 70569, Germany

Phone: +49 159 0135-1652 Email: s.nam@is.mpg.de

EDUCATION

- present** **Ph.D. candidate in Computer Science**, Eberhard Karls University of Tübingen, Tübingen, Germany
Affiliated with Max Planck Institute for Intelligent Systems, Stuttgart, Germany
Advisor: Katherine J. Kuchenbecker, Ph.D.
- 2013** **M.S. in Computer Science**, University of California, San Diego, La Jolla, USA
Academic concentration: Artificial Intelligence
- 2011** **B.E. in Human & Mechanical Systems Engineering**, Kanazawa University, Kanazawa, Japan
Academic concentration: Mechatronics
Summa Cum Laude

EXPERIENCE

Electronics and Telecommunications Research Institute (ETRI) Apr. 2013 - Aug. 2017
Researcher *Daejeon, South Korea*

Theme I: Transparent and soft actuators, mainly covering

- Developing soft actuators based on electro-active polymers
- Figuring out the mechanical properties of dielectric elastomers
- Developing a bio-inspired varifocal lens and film-like mirrors deformed with electrostatic forces

Theme II: Human-computer interactions for haptic applications that includes

- Developing a glass-plate actuator vibrating with the electrostatic force created between the stacked glass plates
- Building a graphic user interface to show values sensed from an optical waveguide-based transparent & flexible sensor array film
- Generating diverse input signals to haptic devices for the evaluation of a newly developed film-type sensor.

Samsung Electronics Co., Ltd.

Jul. - Sep. 2012

Software intern

Seoul, South Korea

I was selected one of the worldwide interns as Samsung's global internship program, targeting excellent foreigners (including Koreans who study overseas) to work at the company in South Korea. In the Device Solutions department, I

- analyzed the traffic volume that wafer-transferring vehicles produce in the semiconductor factories based on their log data files.
- computed the vehicle's maximum and average velocity in real-time and updated the information to their database.

DENSOTECHNO Co., Ltd.

Intern

Aug. 2009

Obu, Japan

- Learned a computer-aided design program (NX).
- Designed a radiator loaded on a Toyota's.
- Conducted simulations under diverse external disturbance conditions.
- Analyzed the areas of the radiator in which the disturbance could cause critical stresses.

AWARDS AND HONORS

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|----------------|---|
| 2020 | KIST Europe Scholarship Award (€1,000), Korean Scientists and Engineers Association in Germany |
| 2020 | Best Poster Prize (with co-authors), EuroHaptics Conference |
| 2017 - present | A full funding for Ph.D. studies, International Max Planck Research School for Intelligent Systems |
| 2015 | Creativity and Innovation Award (with co-authors), ETRI |
| 2015 | Outstanding Paper Award (with co-authors), ETRI |
| 2015 | Outstanding Idea Award, ETRI |
| 2014 | Best Demonstration Award (with co-authors), Asia Haptics Conference |
| 2014 | The Most Popular Demonstration Award (with co-authors), Asia Haptics Conference |
| 2014 | Outstanding Paper Award (with co-authors), Institute of Control, Robotics and Systems domestic conference |
| 2011 | Hatakeyama Award, The Japan Society of Mechanical Engineers |
| 2010 | Kanazawa-kogyokai Award, Alumni Association in Engineering Departments of Kanazawa University |
| 2009 | Special Award, The Japan Society for Precision Engineering Hokuriku-Shinetsu Branch |
| 2006 - 2011 | A full funding for undergraduate studies, Korea-Japan Government Scholarship Program for the Students in Science and Engineering Departments (A stipend of ¥125,000/month and tuition fees) |

SKILLS

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|-----------------|--|
| Software | Matlab, Python, LabVIEW, SolidWorks, COMSOL Multiphysics, L ^A T _E X, C/C++/C#, Unity, Java, Origin, NX, PATRAN, WEKA |
| Hardware | Laser lithography, Metal sputter, Optical microscopes, Scanning electron microscope, Laser scanning vibrometer, Phantom haptic devices, Data acquisition board, 3D optical profiler, Signal generators, Sputter coaters, 3D printers, Laser cutters, |
| Language | English (<i>fluent</i>), Korean (<i>native</i>), Japanese (<i>excellent</i>), German (<i>beginner(A2)</i>) |

PUBLICATIONS

Unpublished Papers (In Preparation and Under Review)

- [U1] **Saekwang Nam** and Katherine J. Kuchenbecker. Optimizing a Viscoelastic Finite Element Model to Represent the Dry, Natural, and Moist Human Finger Pressing on Glass. Submitted to *IEEE Transactions on Haptics (Impact Factor = 3.099)*.
- [U2] **Saekwang Nam** and Katherine J. Kuchenbecker. The Importance of Sweat in Object Grasping: Why Is Dry Finger Slippery? In preparation for submission.

- [U3] **Saekwang Nam** and Katherine J. Kuchenbecker. Transparent Sensor for the Continuous Hydration Measurement of Finger. In preparation for submission.

Journal Articles (Including 2019 Impact Factors)

- [J1] **Saekwang Nam**, Yasemin Vardar, David Gueorguiev, and Katherine J. Kuchenbecker. Physical variables underlying tactile stickiness during fingerpad detachment. *Frontiers in Neuroscience*, 14:235, 2020 (*Impact Factor* = 3.707).
- [J2] **Saekwang Nam**, Sungryul Yun, Jae Woong Yoon, Suntak Park, Seung Koo Park, Seongcheol Mun, Bongje Park, and Ki-Uk Kyung. A robust soft lens for tunable camera application using dielectric elastomer actuators. *Soft Robotics*, 5(6):777–782, 2018. PMID: 30156468 (*Impact Factor* = 5.543).
- [J3] Seongcheol Mun, Sungryul Yun, **Saekwang Nam**, Seung Koo Park, Suntak Park, Bong Je Park, Jeong Mook Lim, and Ki-Uk Kyung. Electro-active polymer based soft tactile interface for wearable devices. *IEEE transactions on haptics*, 11(1):15–21, 2018 (*Impact Factor* = 3.099).
- [J4] Suntak Park, Bongje Park, **Saekwang Nam**, Sungryul Yun, Seung Koo Park, Seongcheol Mun, Jeong Mook Lim, Yeonghwa Ryu, Seok Ho Song, and Ki-Uk Kyung. Electrically tunable binary phase fresnel lens based on a dielectric elastomer actuator. *Optics Express*, 25(20):23801–23808, 2017 (*Impact Factor* = 3.669).
- [J5] Seung Koo Park, Young-Je Kwark, **Saekwang Nam**, Jaehyun Moon, Dong Wook Kim, Suntak Park, Bongje Park, Sungryul Yun, Jeong-Ik Lee, Byounggon Yu, et al. A variation in wrinkle structures of uv-cured films with chemical structures of prepolymers. *Materials Letters*, 199:105–109, 2017 (*Impact Factor* = 3.204).
- [J6] Sungryul Yun, Suntak Park, **Saekwang Nam**, Bongje Park, Seung Koo Park, Seongcheol Mun, Jeong Mook Lim, and Ki-Uk Kyung. An electro-active polymer based lens module for dynamically varying focal system. *Applied Physics Letters*, 109(14), 2016 (*Impact Factor* = 3.597).
- [J7] Seung Koo Park, Young-Je Kwark, **Saekwang Nam**, Suntak Park, Bongje Park, Sungryul Yun, Jaehyun Moon, Jeong-Ik Lee, Byounggon Yu, and Ki-Uk Kyung. Wrinkle structures formed by formulating uv-crosslinkable liquid prepolymers. *Polymer*, 99:447–452, 2016 (*Impact Factor* = 4.231).
- [J8] **Saekwang Nam**, Suntak Park, Sungryul Yun, Bongje Park, Seung Koo Park, and Ki-Uk Kyung. Structure modulated electrostatic deformable mirror for focus and geometry control. *Opt. Express*, 24(1):55–66, Jan 2016 (*Impact Factor* = 3.669).
- [J9] Bong Je Park, Suntak Park, Sungryul Yun, **Saekwang Nam**, and Ki-Uk Kyung. A transparent visuo-haptic input device with optical waveguide based thin film display, sensor and surface actuator. *Sensors and Actuators A: Physical*, 233:47–53, 2015 (*Impact Factor* = 2.904).
- [J10] Sungryul Yun, Suntak Park, Bongje Park, **Saekwang Nam**, Seung Koo Park, and Ki-Uk Kyung. A thin film active-lens with translational control for dynamically programmable optical zoom. *Applied Physics Letters*, 107(8):081907, 2015 (*Impact Factor* = 3.6597).
- [J11] Suntak Park, Bong Je Park, Sungryul Yun, **Saekwang Nam**, Seung Koo Park, and Ki-Uk Kyung. Thin film display based on polymer waveguides. *Optics express*, 22(19):23433–23438, 2014 (*Impact Factor* = 3.669).

- [J12] Sungryul Yun, Suntak Park, Bongje Park, Youngsung Kim, Seung Koo Park, **Saekwang Nam**, and Ki-Uk Kyung. Polymer-waveguide-based flexible tactile sensor array for dynamic response. *Advanced Materials*, 26(26):4474–4480, 2014 (*Impact Factor = 27.398*).
- [J13] Ki-Uk Kyung, Sungryul Yun, Suntak Park, Bongje Park, Seung Koo Park, **Saekwang Nam**, Harsha Prahlad, and Philip von Guggenberg. Flexible visuo-haptic display. *Journal of Korea Robotics Society*, 8:156–163, 2013 (*No Impact Factor Available*).

Peer-Reviewed Conference Papers, posters, and demo presentations

- [C1] **Saekwang Nam** and Katherine J. Kuchenbecker. Sweat softens the outermost layer of the human finger pad: evidence from simulations and experiments. Work-in-progress poster presented at EuroHaptics Conference, September 2020. Award for best poster in 2020
- [C2] **Saekwang Nam** and Katherine J. Kuchenbecker. Understanding the pull-off force of the human fingerpad. Work-in-progress paper (2 pages) presented at the IEEE World Haptics Conference (WHC), July 2019
- [C3] Maria-Paola Forte, Rachael L’Orsa, Mayumi Mohan, **Saekwang Nam**, and Katherine J. Kuchenbecker. The haptician and the alphamonsters. Student Innovation Challenge on Implementing Haptics in Virtual Reality Environment presented at the IEEE World Haptics Conference, July 2019. Maria Paola Forte, Rachael L’Orsa, Mayumi Mohan, and Saekwang Nam contributed equally to this publication
- [C4] Seongcheol Mun, Sungryul Yun, **Saekwang Nam**, Seung-Koo Park, and Ki-Uk Kyung. Initial progress toward a surface morphable tactile interface. In Shoichi Hasegawa, Masashi Konyo, Ki-Uk Kyung, Takuya Nojima, and Hiroyuki Kajimoto, editors, *Haptic Interaction*, pages 113–114, Singapore, 2018. Springer Singapore
- [C5] **Saekwang Nam**, Suntak Park, Sungryul Yun, Bong Je Park, Seung Koo Park, and Ki-Uk Kyung. Influence on deformed shape of electrostatic deformable mirror by the geometry of electrode. In *Conference on Lasers and Electro-Optics*, page JTh2A.7. Optical Society of America, 2016
- [C6] Suntak Park, Jin Tae Kim, **Saekwang Nam**, Bong Je Park, Sungryul Yun, Seung Koo Park, and Ki-Uk Kyung. Pressure sensor using vertical coupling of optical waveguides. In *Conference on Lasers and Electro-Optics*, page JTu5A.144. Optical Society of America, 2016
- [C7] **Saekwang Nam**, Suntak Park, Sungryul Yun, Bong Je Park, Seung Koo Park, Mijeong Choi, and Ki-Uk Kyung. *Highly Flexible and Transparent Skin-like Tactile Sensor*, pages 187–189. Springer Japan, Tokyo, 2015
- [C8] **Saekwang Nam** and Tetsuyou Watanabe. The development of robot hand capable of expressing the movement of the palm(biorobotics). *Proceedings of the robotics and mechatronics conference in Japan*, 2011:1P1–P04(1–4), May 2011

PATENTS

- [P1] Ki-uk Kyung, Bong Je Park, Sang-youn Kim, **Saekwang Nam**, Sun Tak Park, and Sung Ryul Yun. Auto focusing device, May 12 2020. US Patent 10,649,116
- [P2] Seung Koo Park, Sung Ryul Yun, Ki Uk Kyung, Mi Jeong Choi, Bong Je Park, Suntak Park, **Saekwang Nam**, Seongcheol Mun, Eun Jin Shin, Jeong Mook Lim, et al. Light transmittance

control film and composition for the light transmittance control film, January 30 2020. US Patent App. 16/306,866

- [P3] Ki-uk Kyung, **Saekwang Nam**, Bong Je Park, Sun Tak Park, and Sung Ryul Yun. Imaging apparatus with adjustable lens and method for operating the same, December 3 2019. US Patent 10,495,843
- [P4] Ki Uk Kyung, **Saekwang Nam**, Sung Ryul Yun, Bong Je Park, Sun Tak Park, and Seung Koo Park. Varifocal lens module, July 2 2019. US Patent 10,338,280
- [P5] Ki-uk Kyung, Bong Je Park, Sang-youn Kim, **Saekwang Nam**, Sun Tak Park, and Sung Ryul Yun. Auto focusing device, June 26 2018. US Patent 10,007,034
- [P6] Sun Tak Park, Ki Uk Kyung, Sae Kwang Nam, Bong Je Park, Seung Koo Park, and Sung Ryul Yun. Optical imaging device, June 26 2018. US Patent 10,009,546
- [P7] Sun Tak Park, Ki-uk Kyung, **Saekwang Nam**, Bong Je Park, Seung Koo Park, and Sung Ryul Yun. Image processing apparatus and control method thereof, June 5 2018. US Patent 9,992,433
- [P8] Sung-Ryul Yun, Ki-uk Kyung, Sun-tak Park, Bong-Je Park, and **Saekwang Nam**. Microlens array and method for fabricating thereof, February 6 2018. US Patent 9,885,874
- [P9] Sun Tak Park, Ki Uk Kyung, Sung Ryul Yun, **Saekwang Nam**, and Bong Je Park. Display apparatus and manufacturing method thereof, December 12 2017. US Patent 9,841,621
- [P10] Ki-uk Kyung, Sung-Ryul Yun, Sun-tak Park, Bong-Je Park, and **Saekwang Nam**. Shape-variable optical element, August 29 2017. US Patent 9,746,587
- [P11] Sung Ryul Yun, Ki Uk Kyung, **Saekwang Nam**, Bong Je Park, and Sun Tak Park. Artificial muscle, May 30 2017. US Patent 9,662,197
- [P12] Sun-tak Park, Bong-Je Park, Ki-uk Kyung, Sung-Ryul Yun, and **Saekwang Nam**. Active diffuser for reducing speckle and laser display device having active diffuser, May 2 2017. US Patent 9,638,928
- [P13] Sung Ryul Yun, Ki Uk Kyung, Sun Tak Park, **Saekwang Nam**, and Bong Je Park. Thin active optical zoom lens and apparatus using the same, April 4 2017. US Patent 9,612,362
- [P14] **Saekwang Nam**, Sun Tak Park, Ki Uk Kyung, Bong Je Park, and Sung Ryul Yun. Active reflective lens and apparatus using the same, September 15 2016. US Patent App. 15/065,856
- [P15] Sun Tak Park, Ki Uk Kyung, Bong Je Park, Sung Ryul Yun, and **Saekwang Nam**. Variable fresnel lens, April 12 2016. US Patent 9,310,532
- [P16] Sun Tak Park, Sung Ryul Yun, Bong Je Park, **Saekwang Nam**, and Ki Uk Kyung. Reflective varifocal lens and imaging system including the same, August 20 2015. US Patent App. 14/618,282
- [P17] **Saekwang Nam**, Ki-uk Kyung, Sung-Ryul Yun, Sun-tak Park, and Bong-Je Park. Shape-variable optical element and optical read/write device including the same, July 28 2015. US Patent 9,091,810
- [P18] **Saekwang Nam**, Ki Uk Kyung, Sung Ryul Yun, Bong Je Park, and Sun Tak Park. Tunable lens system, July 23 2015. US Patent App. 14/600,369

- [P19] Ki-uk Kyung, Sung-Ryul Yun, Sun-tak Park, Bong-Je Park, and **Saekwang Nam**. Variable-shape optical element, February 12 2015. US Patent App. 14/316,083

TEACHING AND MENTORING

- Jan. 2012 - I had taught **Japanese** to undergraduate students at UCSD for **four quarters**.
Mar. 2013 Although I was not a native Japanese speaker, the lecturers kindly gave me continuous chances to have the TA role based on students' evaluations and the Japanese Language Proficiency Test certificate with the highest level.
- November 2020 I taught the concept of impedance measurements, how to measure the impedance, and how to find the equivalent electrical circuit based on the electrochemical impedance spectroscopy to **Carolyn Anna Both**, a student at Friedrich-Abel-Gymnasium, for one week.

TALKS AND MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS

- Oct. 17th 2020 Reasons for the secure object-grasping by fingers, organized by Korean Scientist and Engineers Association in Germany (Online presentation)
- October 2020 Max Planck Institute for Intelligent Systems published an [article](#) on how well several members in our department participated in the EuroHaptics conference in the COVID-19 outbreak. News of receiving the Best Poster Prize featured in the article.
- May 2017 HelloDD published an [article](#) about the importance of the Technical Research Personnel Program, an alternative means of conducting mandatory military service in Korea.
- January 2017 Chungcheong Today published [Saekwang's opinion](#) about the importance of developing path-breaking technologies.
- June 2014 Many broadcasting companies in South Korea released news about the development of transparent tactile sensor array ([KBS](#), [Daejeon MBC](#), [TJB](#), [Yonhap News](#), [YTN](#), and [Arirang](#)).