Sehyun CHOI

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EDUCATION

The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST) — **Hong Kong**
Master of Philosophy (MPhil) in Computer Science, supervised by Prof. Yangqiu Song — 09/2022 – 07/2024 *(Exp.)*
- **CGA**: 4.15/4.30 (Asian Future Leaders Scholarship Awardee)

Bachelor of Engineering (BEng) in Computer Science, Minor in Bioengineering — 09/2017 – 06/2022
- **GGA**: 4.01/4.30 (First Class Honours; Dean's List & Academic Achievement Medal Awardee)
- **Relevant Coursework**: Machine Learning for NLP, Deep Learning in Computer Vision, Big Data Management, Honours Software Engineering, Honours Design and Analysis of Algorithms, Honours Object Oriented Programming & Data Structures, Linear Algebra

Handong International School — **South Korea**
Advanced Placement (AP) by College Board & ACT — 02/2011 – 02/2016
- **Subject**: Physics I (*5/5*), Physics II (*5/5*), Calculus BC (*5/5*), Statistics (*5/5*) | ACT (*34/36*)

PROFESSIONAL & RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Naver Corporation — **South Korea**
Machine Learning Research Intern (Papago) — 12/2021 – 02/2022
- Experimented with various Deep Active Learning approaches of querying the most critical data points from the unlabelled pool of datasets in Computer Vision and Natural Language Understanding fields to Machine Translation (MT) tasks
- Improved the efficiency of the fine-tuning process by selecting and training on the most informative data examples, utilizing corpus statistics, pre-trained MT Transformer model's output uncertainty, and the model's encoder representation of sentences
- Identified essential aspects of data selection processes in Active Learning such as uncertainty, representativeness & diversity, and devised metrics to quantify them in an effective manner

KAIST Artificial Intelligence (AI) Lab — **South Korea**
Summer Research Intern — 07/2021 – 08/2021
- Supported the language model detoxification project by researching the literature of eXplainable AI to detect potentially offensive concepts captured in the language models and ablate them
- Proposed a novel framework for detecting the activation of offensive concepts in language models from non-offensive sentences

HKUST Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program (UROP) — **Hong Kong**
Student Researcher (*https://github.com/HKUST-KnowComp/CSKB-Population*) — 02/2021 – 12/2021
- Developed novel methods using Graph Neural Networks (GNN) and pre-trained language models (PTLMs) applied on Commonsense Knowledge Graphs (CKG) and achieved a significant improvement of performance over the previous baselines in CKG Population task
- Performed hyperparameter optimization and ablation study over network components such as different PTLMs or GNN designs to find the best-performing model and attribute the improvement to each component quantitatively

Skelter Labs — **South Korea**
Machine Learning Engineer Intern — 12/2019 – 07/2020
- Conducted experiments to improve the quality of deep learning-based speech synthesis models, such as introducing a new module into network structures, employing data augmentations, and fine-tuning with different datasets
- Utilized data pipelines, microservices, and cloud services such as Spark, Kubernetes, and GCP to perform large-scale training jobs
- Participated in collaborative software development processes using Git and code review systems

PUBLICATION

CKBP v2: An Expert-Annotated Evaluation Set for Commonsense Knowledge Base Population
Arxiv Preprint | *https://arxiv.org/abs/2304.10392*

Benchmarking Commonsense Knowledge Base Population with an Effective Evaluation Dataset
EMNLP 2021 Main Conference | **Doi**: *http://dx.doi.org/10.18653/v1/2021.emnlp-main.705*

AWARD & CERTIFICATE

Naver Clova AI Rush 2021 & 2022 — **South Korea**
2nd place in Unknown Document Classification Task (2022) & 2nd place in Smart Grammar Editor Task (2021) — 2021, 2022
- Trained Korean Pretrained Language Models with model calibration and representation-distance-based out-of-distribution detection techniques in order to determine unknown document distribution while in-domain classification performance
- Improved the benchmark GLEU score by 33% over the vanilla Transformer baseline in Korean Grammatical Error Correction (GEC) tasks by implementing pseudo-data creation with back-translation, two-stage pre-training, and data-mixing in fine-tuning

EY Next Wave Data Science Competition — **Hong Kong**
Country Finalist - Hong Kong (https://github.com/syncdoth/EY_DataWave_Challenge) — 04/2019 – 05/2019
- Performed feature engineering and cleaning of raw data using data handling packages and developed a Recurrent Neural Network Model (LSTM) using eras to predict the behavior of city travelers at a specific time window

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITY

HKUST KSA Machine Learning Study Club — **Hong Kong**
Founding Member & President (https://github.com/syncdoth/ML_STUDY_2020) — 10/2020 – 12/2021
- Organized a machine learning study club of more than 20 students and currently teaching with a self-implemented curriculum, covering Python language, linear algebra, deep learning in TensorFlow API, and real-world application projects using state-of-the-art models

SKILL & INTEREST

Language: Korean (Native) | English (Fluent)
Interest: NLP | Large Language Models | Inference-time Optimization | Knowledge Grounding| Reasoning Ability of AI | AI Safety | XAI