

# Taeksang Kim

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## EDUCATION

### UCLA

#### BS + MS IN COMPUTER SCIENCE

Jun 2017 + Dec 2018 | Los Angeles, CA

Cum. GPA: 3.7 / 4.0

### INTL. SCHOOL OF BRUSSELS

#### VALEDICTORIAN

June 2013 | Brussels, Belgium

## LINKS

Github:// [tspeterkim](#)

LinkedIn:// [tspeterkim3](#)

X:// [@tspeterkim](#)

## COURSEWORK

### GRADUATE

Statistical Modeling in Vision

Bayesian Networks

Large-scale Data Mining

Advanced Machine Learning

Bioinformatics

Natural Language Processing

### UNDERGRADUATE

Operating Systems

Computer Graphics

Computer Organization

Functional Programming

Algorithms & Complexity

Network Fundamentals

### COURSERA

Improving Deep Neural Networks

Neural Networks and Deep Learning

Neural Networks for Machine Learning

Structuring Machine Learning Projects

Machine Learning

## SKILLS

### PROGRAMMING

Python • Go • Java • SQL • Shell

### TOOLS

AWS • PyTorch • TensorFlow • Pandas  
Ray • Spark • Jenkins • Airflow

## EXPERIENCE

### COUPANG | SENIOR ML ENGINEER

Aug 2022 - Present | Seoul, South Korea

- Built the recommendation system for the most popular streaming service in Korea (surpassed Netflix during my tenure).
- Trained GPT-based video embeddings, that others fine-tuned for various downstream recommendation tasks, raising overall playback time by 20%.
- Applied Thompson Sampling to deliver banner and artwork personalization, raising feed engagement by 14%.

### BUZZVIL | ML ENGINEER

Mar 2019 - Jul 2022 | Seoul, South Korea

- Improved e-commerce ads for Buzzvil, Korea's 3rd largest mobile advertising platform (after Google and Kakao).
- Increased ad spending return by 30% through a user-action sequence based BERT model and an Item CF model.
- Taught and organized a 12-week company-wide introductory ML course, making it the most popular study in the company.

### LINKEDIN | ML ENGINEERING INTERN

Jun 2018 - Sep 2018 | Mountain View, CA

- Trained and fine-tuned job response prediction models for the search page that scaled up to 500M+ members.
- Performed feature distribution analyses with Apache Pig scripts.

### PAYPAL | SOFTWARE ENGINEERING INTERN

Jun 2016 - Sep 2016 | San Jose, CA

- Deployed Apache Eagle on top of existing Hadoop clusters as the first real-time log monitoring tool deployed in production.
- Contributed to the Apache Eagle project by future-proofing a HBase log parser.

## RESEARCH

### UCLA NLP LAB | RESEARCH ASSISTANT

Sep 2017 - Dec 2018 | Los Angeles, CA

Worked with **Wasi Ahmad** and **Prof Kai-Wei Chang** to 1) build a sentence-based context retriever using Apache Lucene for open-domain SQuAD, and 2) implement the first TensorFlow version of the Stanford Attentive Reader.

## PATENTS

- [1] Taeksang Kim. Video keyword tagging with generative AI, Korean Pat. No. 10-0098584, 2023.
- [2] Jina Hwang and Taeksang Kim. Sports awareness, mobile feed video player, Korean Pat. No. 10-0071581, 2023.
- [3] Taeksang Kim. Next watch prediction using GPT, Korean Pat. No. 10-0036443, 2023.
- [4] Taeksang Kim. First hero optimization through reinforcement learning, Korean Pat. No. 10-0184572, 2022.