

Wooseong Yang

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RESEARCH INTERESTS

Large Language Models, Agents, Recommender Systems

EDUCATION

University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC)

- **Ph.D.** in Computer Science (Advisor: Prof. **Philip S. Yu**) Aug 2023 – (May 2027)

University of Texas at Dallas (UTD)

- **M.S.** in Computer Science (Advisor: Prof. **Latifur Khan**) Aug 2021 – Aug 2023
 - Thesis: *Pre-trained Spanish Language Model for Political Conflict and Violence*

Carnegie Mellon University (CMU)

- **Visiting Scholar** @ Language Technologies Institute (Director: Prof. **Jamie Callan**) Jan 2020 – Jul 2020

Sungkyunkwan University (SKKU)

- **M.S.** in Industrial Engineering (Advisor: Prof. **Mye Sohn**) Mar 2019 – Feb 2021
 - Thesis: *Source Domain Identification and Cross-domain Knowledge Transfer Method to Alleviate Data Sparsity Problem in Session-based Recommender Systems*
- **B.S.** in Systems Management Engineering Mar 2013 – Feb 2019

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Adaptive Candidate Retrieval with Dynamic Knowledge Graph Construction for Cold-Start Recommendation | **Wooseong Yang**, Weizhi Zhang, Yuqing Liu, Yuwei Han, Yu Wang, Junhyun Lee, Philip S. Yu | *arXiv 2026 (Under Review)*

Rethinking Memory Mechanisms of Foundation Agents in the Second Half: A Survey | Wei-Chieh Huang, Weizhi Zhang, Yueqing Liang, **Wooseong Yang**, Philip S. Yu, et al. | *arXiv 2026 (Under Review)*

RECODE: A Benchmark for Research Code DEvelopment with Interactive Human Feedback | Chunyu Miao, Henry Peng Zou, Yanning Li, Yankai Chen, Yibo Wang, Fangxin Wang, Yifan Li, **Wooseong Yang**, Philip S. Yu, et al. | *ICLR 2026*

Subgraph-level Universal Prompt Tuning | Junhyun Lee, **Wooseong Yang**, Jaewoo Kang | *Information Science 2026*

LLMinit: A Free Lunch from Large Language Models for Selective Initialization of Recommendation | Weizhi Zhang, Liangwei Yang, **Wooseong Yang**, Henry Peng Zou, Yuqing Liu, Ke Xu, Sourav Medya, Philip S. Yu | *EMNLP Industry 2025*

Cluster-aware Item Prompt Learning for Session-based Recommendation | **Wooseong Yang**, Chen Wang, Zihe Song, Weizhi Zhang, Philip S. Yu | *IEEE BigData 2025 LLMs4All*

Toward User Preference Alignment in LLM Recommendation via Explicit Context Feedback | Weizhi Zhang, **Wooseong Yang**, Yuxin Cui, Zhaohui Guo, Hins Hu, Liangwei Yang, Philip S. Yu, et al. | *IEEE CogMi 2025*

ConfiBERT Spanish: A Pre-trained Language Model for Spanish Politics, Conflict and Violence | **Wooseong Yang**, Sultan Alsarra, Luay Abdeljaber, Niamat Zawad, Zeinab Delaram, Javier Osorio, Latifur Khan, et al. | *IEEE CiSt 2023*

ConfiBERT Arabic: A Pre-trained Language Model for Arabic Politics, Conflict and Violence | Sultan Alsarra, Luay Abdeljaber, **Wooseong Yang**, Niamat Zawad, Latifur Khan, Patrick Brandt, Javier Osorio, and Vito D'Orazio | *RANLP 2023*

ONGOING RESEARCH PROJECTS

Agentic Knowledge Graph Reasoning for Retrieval-Augmented Recommendation |

Retrieval-Augmented Generation for Industrial Product Search (W.W. Grainger, Inc.; PI: Prof. Moontae Lee) |

ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES

[Reviewer] Data Mining Conferences |

- RecSys 2024; KDD 2024; KDD 2025 (1st Cycle); WWW 2025; KDD 2025 (2nd Cycle); KDD 2026 (2nd Cycle)

SKILLS

Systems languages: Python, Java, C++, Matlab | ML frameworks: Pytorch, Tensorflow | Languages: English, Korean