

Chanuk Lee

 Website  Email  Github  Scholar

EDUCATION

Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology (KAIST) Mar. 2022 – Present

B.S. in Computer Science, Minor in Mathematics

Absent for mandatory military service (ROK Air Force, 2024–2025)

Expected graduation: Aug. 2028

Hansung Science High School

Mar. 2020 – Feb. 2022

Early graduation in 2 years

RESEARCH INTERESTS

My research interests broadly lie in **large language model(LLM) post-training**, with a focus on reinforcement learning and distillation for reasoning models. In particular, My recent works were on exploration in reinforcement learning with verifiable rewards (RLVR), seeking to improve reasoning performance and sample efficiency through better training objectives and exploration mechanisms [1, 2].

More broadly, I am interested in understanding how reasoning capabilities emerge, improve, and can be efficiently transferred through post-training.

PUBLICATIONS

[1] **SAGE: Shaping Anchors for Guided Exploration in RLVR of LLMs**

Chanuk Lee, Minki Kang, Sung Ju Hwang

International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML) 2026

[2] **Nudging Beyond the Comfort Zone: Efficient Strategy-Guided Exploration for RLVR**

Chanuk Lee*, Sangwoo Park*, Minki Kang, Sung Ju Hwang

arXiv preprint, 2026

(*: equal contribution)

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

KAIST MLAI Lab — Undergraduate Research Intern

Oct. 2025 – Present

– Advised by Prof. Sung Ju Hwang.

– Research on LLM post-training: exploration in RLVR and distillation.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Programming Python, PyTorch

LLM Ecosystem Transformers, PEFT, trl, verl, vLLM

Tools Git, Linux, L^AT_EX, Weights & Biases