

# Sunok Lee

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## Research Interest

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Human-centered design for emerging technologies, UX design to empower people, Human-centered AI, and art-based design methodologies.

## CURRENT POSITION

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Assistant Professor in the Department of Art & Technology at Sogang University.

## EDUCATION

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2020 – 2024	<b>Korea Advanced Institute of Science &amp; Technology (KAIST)</b> Ph.D. Industrial design Daejeon, South Korea, Feb.2020– Feb. 2024 (expected) Advisor: Sangsu Lee
2018 – 2020	<b>Korea Advanced Institute of Science &amp; Technology (KAIST)</b> M.S. Industrial design Daejeon, South Korea, Feb.2018–Feb.2020 Advisor: Sangsu Lee
2014	<b>University of North Carolina at Charlotte (UNCC)</b> Visiting student, Fine art Sculpture NC USA, Jan.2014–Dec.2014
2011 – 2016	<b>Hongik University</b> B.F.A. Metal arts and Design / Sculpture / Teaching profession certificate of fine art Seoul, South Korea, Feb. 2011–Feb.2016

## PUBLICATION

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2025	<b>Sunok Lee</b> , Dasom Choi, Lucy Truong, Nitin Sawhney, and Henna Paakki. Into the Unknown: Leveraging Conversational AI in Supporting Young Migrants' Journeys Towards Cultural Adaptation. (CHI 2025)
2024	<b>Sunok Lee</b> , Dasom Choi, Hyeonjeong Im, Yunjae Josephine Choi, Minha Lee, Hwajung Hong, and Sangsu Lee. Fostering School-aged Children's Critical Thinking Competency about AI Through Art-based Education. ( <i>under review</i> )

Lucy Truong, **Sunok Lee**, and Nitin Sawhney. Enhancing Conversations for Migrant Counseling: Designing for Trustworthy AI-mediated Collaboration between Migrants and Service Advisors. (CSCW 2024)

Minha Lee, Jian Jun, **Sunok Lee**, and Sangsu Lee. 2024. Understanding the Initial Journey of UX Designers Toward Sustainable Interaction Design: A Focus on Digital Infrastructure Energy Reduction. In Proceedings of the 2024 ACM Designing Interactive Systems Conference (DIS '24). Association for Computing Machinery, New York, NY, USA.

Fedor Vitiugin, **Sunok Lee**, Henna Paakki, Anastasiia Chizhikova, and Nitin Sawhney. Unraveling Code-Mixing Pattern in Migration Discourse: Automated Detection and Analysis of Online Conversations on Reddit. (ICWSM Workshop, accepted)

Dasom Choi, **Sunok Lee**, Sung-In Kim, Kyungah Lee, Hee Jeong Yoo, Sangsu Lee, and Hwajung Hong. Unlock Life with a Chat(GPT): Integrating Conversational AI with Large Language Models into Everyday Lives of Autistic Individuals. In Proceedings of the 2024 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI '24). Association for Computing Machinery, New York, NY, USA.

Huisung Kwon, Yunjae Josephine Choi, **Sunok Lee**, and Sangsu Lee. Unveiling the Inherent Needs: GPT Builder as Participatory Design Tool for Exploring Needs and Expectations of AI with Middle-Aged Users. In Extended Abstracts of the 2024 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI '24). Association for Computing Machinery, New York, NY, USA.

2023

**Sunok Lee**, Dasom Choi, Minha Lee, Jonghak Choi, and Sangsu Lee. Fostering Youth's Critical Thinking Competency about AI through Exhibition. In Proceedings of the 2023 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI '23). Association for Computing Machinery, New York, NY, USA.

Dasom Choi, Sung-In Kim, **Sunok Lee**, Hyunseung Lim, Hee Jeong Yoo, and Hwajung Hong. Love on the spectrum: Toward Inclusive online dating experience of autistic individuals. In Proceedings of the 2023 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI '23). Association for Computing Machinery, New York, NY, USA.

- Yeon Soo Kim, Hyeonjeong Im, **Sunok Lee**, Haena Cho, and Sangsu Lee. "We Speak Visually": User-generated Icons for Better Video-Mediated Mixed Group Communications Between Deaf and Hearing Participants. In Proceedings of the 2023 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI '23). Association for Computing Machinery, New York, NY, USA.
- 2022 **Sunok Lee**, Minha Lee, and Sangsu Lee. "What If Artificial Intelligence Become Completely Ambient in Our Daily Lives?" Exploring Future Human-AI Interaction through High Fidelity Illustrations. International Journal of Human-Computer Interaction (2022): 1–19. (SCIE)
- Yeonsoo Kim, **Sunok Lee**, and Sangsu Lee. A Participatory Design Approach to Explore Design Directions for Enhancing Video conferencing Experience for Non-signing Deaf and Hard of Hearing Users. ACM ASSETS 2022 (Poster)
- Minha Lee, Wonyoung Park, **Sunok Lee**, and Sangsu Lee. Distracting Moments in Video Conferencing: A Look Back at the Pandemic Period. In Proceedings of the 2022 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI '22). Association for Computing Machinery, New York, NY, USA.
- 2021 **Sunok Lee** and Sangsu Lee. Hey Alexa, Where are you? A Drawing Study to Understand the User's Mental Model of Environment Surrounding the Conversational Agent. International Association of Societies of Design Research Conference (IASDR'21).
- Kwangmin Cho, **Sunok Lee**, Wonyoung Park, Minha Lee, Wooseok Kim, and Sangsu Lee. Understanding stakeholders' needs for an Emergency Mobile Hospital at an infectious disease situation. International Association of Societies of Design Research Conference (IASDR'21).
- Juhyeong Park, **Sunok Lee**, and Sangsu Lee. MODU: A Story-Based Empathy Expression Training Game for Children with Mild Intellectual Disability and Borderline Intellectual Functioning. In Interaction Design and Children (IDC '21).
- Haena Cho\*, Hyeonjeong Im\*, **Sunok Lee\***, and Sangsu Lee. 2021. "I want more than 👍" User-generated Icons for Better Video-mediated Communications on the Collaborative Design Process. In Extended Abstracts of the 2021 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems. (\*All authors contributed equally.)
- 2020 **Sunok Lee**, Minji Cho, and Sangsu Lee. "What if conversational agents

became invisible?” Comparing users’ mental models according to physical entity of AI speaker. Proceedings of the ACM on Interactive, Mobile, Wearable and Ubiquitous Technologies 4.3 (2020): 1–24.

2019 **Sunok Lee**, Sungbae Kim, and Sangsu Lee. “What does your Agent look like?”: A Drawing Study to Understand Users’ Perceived Persona of Conversational Agent. In Extended Abstracts of the 2019 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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### COURSES TAUGHT

2025 **Department of Art & Technology at Sogang University**  
Spring Semester  
Speculative Design, Design Methodology

2024 **Aalto University, Computer Science Department / Lecturer**  
March 21–June 6  
Conversational AI & Voice Interaction (<https://aaltovai.wordpress.com>)

2022 **Sangmyung University / Lecturer**  
Feb 2021–Dec 2021

- Organized curriculum and conducted a lecture on the interface and system design for 120 design students for a year.

### SPECIAL LECTURE

2023 **Electronics and Telecommunications Research Institute / Invited talk**  
Dec 2023  
Seminar title: *Understanding the Perspectives of Human Beyond What Numbers Can Show, Qualitative Research in HCI*

**Ewha Women University, Graduate School of Education / Invited talk**  
Aug 2023  
Seminar title: *HCI X Education X Art X UX design.*

**Aalto University, Trust-M project / Invited talk**  
Sep 2023  
Seminar title: *Participatory Design for Inclusive User Interfaces Centering on Conversational AI.*

**Naver / Invited talk**  
June 2023

Seminar title: *Designing the future: How design researchers shape user experience for emerging technologies.*

**Bugok Middle School / Lecturer**

May 2023 – June 2023

Fostering middle school students' AI literacy through Art X AI curriculum.

**Southern University of Science and Technology / Invited talk**

Feb 2023

Seminar title: *Transform the caption of your design work from "Personal project" to "Award-winning project"*

2022

**Samsung Heavy Industries / Lecturer**

Aug 2022

- Organized curriculum and conducted a lecture on the design methodology and user experience design.

## WORK EXPERIENCE

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2024

**Aalto University Computer Science Department / Post-doctoral Researcher (@Trust-M)**

Jan 2024– Jan 2025

- Integrating LLM-driven chat bots in the public services for migrants.
- Exploring AI-mediated communication tool for supporting better communication between service advisor and migrants.

2023

**Samsung electronics / Lead UX Researcher (@KAIST)**

Jul 2023– Sep 2023

- Discovering future concepts and user scenarios for next wearable devices.

**NH Investments & Security / UX, UI designer (@KAIST)**

Jan 2023–Mar 2023

- Designing user participatory stock-related events based on gamification.

2022

**Naver (Alto) / UX designer, Research assistant (@KAIST)**

Mar 2022–Jul 2022

- Developed use cases for real-time collaboration based on the Conflict-free replicated data type (CRDT) algorithm to support simultaneous editing of multiple users.
- Prototyping user experience and interface design (<https://yorkie.dev/>).

### **NH Investments & Security / UX, UI designer (@KAIST)**

Jan 2022–Mar 2022

- Revealed the usability problems of the investment app on the current foldable smartphone.
- Developed the design direction to provide a UI optimized for the foldable smartphones.
- Established design guidelines to provide a better user experience for foldable smartphones.

### **AI with Weird Wonderland / Chief curator**

Nov 2021– Mar 2022

- Moderated collaborative workshop with AI developers, HCI designers, and artists to design AI-related exhibits and exhibition programs.
- Designed and curated an exhibition for provoking critical thinking about AI.

2020 – 2021

### **KAIST MCM Research Center / Project lead (@KAIST)**

Aug 2020– Nov 2021

- Conducted user research through focus group interviews and surveys to understand infectious disease situations related to stakeholders' needs and challenges.
- Created design requirements and solutions for mobile expandable negative pressure wards equipped with advanced medical facilities.
- Created scenario video production to promote design solution (<https://youtu.be/x8OKaTSmup8>).

2019

### **Samsung electronics / UX researcher (@KAIST)**

Aug 2019 – Dec 2019

- Conducted user study to understand users' expectations for proactive voice assistants in smart homes.
- Created user scenarios for the user-voice assistant interaction.
- Developed UX design guidelines for proactive voice assistant BIXBY.

### **SL / UX researcher (@KAIST)**

May 2019 – Nov 2019

- Conducted user research for user-autonomous vehicle interaction. Developed user journey map of driving the autonomous vehicle.

- Created design guidelines for better communication methods using the front display of autonomous vehicles.
- 2018      **Naver / UX research researcher and Project lead (@KAIST)**  
May 2018 – Nov 2018
- Conducted user research for understanding the usage pattern of voice assistants in the mobile Naver app.
  - Developed design direction for better usage of voice assistants.
  - Created user scenarios of new design solutions.
- 2017      **SWAROVSKI / Freelance Jewelry Designer**  
Sep 2017 – Dec 2017
- Mickey Mouse celebration collection for 2018 FW
- 2016      **AGATHA Paris / Jewelry Designer and visual merchandise**  
May 2016 – Nov 2017

## AWARDS

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- 2024      **IF Design award**  
**[Doolpay]** e-wallet service for rethinking purchase  
<https://ifdesign.com/en/winner-ranking/project/doolpay-e-wallet-service-for-rethinking-purchase/618419>  
**[Evergrow]** Investment Education Service  
<https://ifdesign.com/en/winner-ranking/project/evergrow-investment-education-service/618273>
- 2023      **NRF (National Research Foundation of Korea) grants \$15,000**
- 2022      **IF Design award**  
**[MODU]** Educational game for children with intellectual disabilities.  
<https://ifdesign.com/en/winner-ranking/project/modu-a-story-based-empathy-expression-training-game/333132>
- 2021      **IF Design award**  
**[KARE MCM]** Control UX for mobile negative pressure isolation ward reflecting the needs of all healthcare professionals and patients.  
<http://mcm.kaist.ac.kr/>  
**[Aline]** Service design helps people align their investment and consumption with their values.  
<https://ifdesign.com/en/winner-ranking/project/aline/310898>  
**[Aqua]** Interactive banking app that takes its cues from how people do accounting in our heads to manage personal assets.  
<https://ifdesign.com/en/winner-ranking/project/aqua/312577>

**[Stockbox]** Stock investment platform that makes it easy for people to enter the stock market by utilizing a metaphor of tangible gifts.

<https://ifdesign.com/en/winner-ranking/project/stockbox/311212>

**[Pinto]** Investment education and experiencing service for teenagers and parents to develop planning habits for investment.

<https://ifdesign.com/en/winner-ranking/project/pinto/311170>

### **Red dot design award**

[Mobile Clinic Module Control UX] and [Aline]

2018

### **Red dot design award Brands & Communication**

**[AI Kids edition]** Voice user interface that has been developed for Naver Clova which can be adapted to any kind of AI speaker.

<https://www.red-dot.org/ko/project/ai-kids-edition-25994>

**[AI Meeting]** Meeting assisting platform helps teams work efficiently and productively.

<https://www.red-dot.org/ko/project/ai-meeting-assistant-25993>

**[Orbit]** Voice user interface provides LED lights to indicate that it has valuable information to share with users to start a conversation.

<https://www.red-dot.org/ko/project/orbit-25996>

## **SERVICE**

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### EXTERNAL REVIEWING

2024

ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI) Papers and Late-Breaking Work.

ACM Designing Interactive Systems (DIS) Papers and Pictorials.

ACM Computer-Supported Cooperative Work and Social Computing(CSCW) Papers.

Archives of Design Research (AODR).

ACM Conversational User Interfaces (CUI).

ACM Symposium on User Interface Software and Technology (UIST)

2023

Archives of Design Research (AODR)

International Conference on Human-Agent Interaction (HAI) Papers.

International Association of Societies of Design Research (IASDR) Papers.

Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI) Papers.

Conversational User Interfaces (CUI) Papers.

2022

International Journal of Human-Computer Interaction (IJHCI).



Designing Interactive Systems (DIS) Papers and Pictorials.  
International Conference on Human-Agent Interaction (HAI) Papers.  
International conference on tangible embedded and embodied interaction  
(TEI) Work in Progress.  
Archives of Design Research (AODR).

2021                      Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI) Case Studies.  
MobileHCI (human-computer interaction) Late Breaking Results.

**<https://breakthroughs.kaist.ac.kr/sub02/view/id/408>**