Jiyoon Pyo

⚲ Minnesota, US   ✉ jiyoonp0228@gmail.com   🔗 yoo-un-ee.github.io   in yoo-un-ee   ○ YOO-uN-ee

Research Interest

Geospatial AI, Multimodal reasoning, Spatial understanding, Human-centered AI applications

Education

University of Minnesota - Twin Cities   *Sept 2023 – Present*
Ph.D. in Computer Science
- Advisor: Prof. Yao-Yi Chiang

University of Minnesota - Twin Cities   *Sept 2023 – May 2025*
M.Sc. in Computer Science

The Cooper Union   *Aug 2019 – May 2023*
M.Eng. in Electrical Engineering
- Advisor: Prof. Carl Sable
- Thesis: Detection and Replacement of Neologisms for Translation ([ProQuest](#) ↗)

The Cooper Union   *Aug 2019 – May 2023*
B.Eng. in Electrical Engineering (Computer Engineering)
- Minor: Computer Science

Publications

Where's the Chicken? Unpacking Spatial Awareness in Vision-Language Models   Apr 2026
Jiyoon Pyo, Yao-Yi Chiang
[The Blogpost Track at ICLR 2026](#) ↗

FRIEDA: Benchmarking Multi-Step Cartographic Reasoning in Vision-Language Models   Oct 2025
Jiyoon Pyo, Yuankun Jiao, Dongwon Jung, Zekun Li, Leeje Jang, Sofia Kirsanova, Jina Kim, Yijun Lin, Qin Liu, Junyi Xie, Hadi Askari, Nan Xu, Muhao Chen, Yao-Yi Chiang
[Preprint, Accepted to ICLR2026](#) ↗

Augmenting Human-Centered Racial Covenant Detection and Georeferencing with Plug-and-Play NLP Pipelines   Sept 2025
Jiyoon Pyo, Yuankun Jiao, Yao-Yi Chiang, Michael Corey
[10.1145/3764917.3771333](#) ↗

Exploiting LLMs and Semantic Technologies to Build a Knowledge Graph of Historical Mining Data   July 2025
Craig A. Knoblock, Binh Vu, Basel Shbita, Yao-Yi Chiang, Pothula Punith Krishna, Xiao Lin, Goran Muric, *Jiyoon Pyo*, Adriana Trejo-Sheu, Meng Ye
[10.1007/978-3-032-09530-5_26](#) ↗

Leveraging Large Language Models for Generating Labeled Mineral Site Record Linkage Data   July 2024
Jiyoon Pyo, Yao-Yi Chiang
[10.1145/3687123.3698298](#) ↗

Research Experience

Graduate Research Assistant   *University of Minnesota*
University of Minnesota - Knowledge Computing Lab   *Fall 2023 - Present*

Research Intern   *Redmond, WA*
Reykjavik University - Language and Voice Lab   *May 2022 - Aug 2022*

- Contributed to the Icelandic Language Technology 2018-2022 project by researching natural language processing (NLP) techniques for Icelandic
- Collaborated with IcelandAir to develop a [multilingual customer survey sentiment analysis tool](#) ↗
- Evaluated the performance of IceBERT against RoBERTa and XLNet for analyzing customer feedback across different languages

Technologies

Languages: Python, C++, C, Java, JavaScript

Database/Big Data: MySQL, PostgreSQL, Spark, MongoDB