

# Kahyun Choi

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## Positions Held

**Assistant Professor** *Aug. 2024 - present*

- University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
  - School of Information Sciences

**Assistant Professor** *Jan. 2019 - Jul. 2024*

- Indiana University Bloomington
  - Luddy School of Informatics, Computing, and Engineering
    - Department of Information and Library Science
    - Data Science Program
    - Luddy Center for Artificial Intelligence

\* *(In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, the tenure clock has been extended by two years)*

**Co-Instructor** *Fall 2016*

- University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, School of Information Sciences
- Digital Libraries (LIS560LE)

**Research and Teaching Assistant** *Fall 2011 - Fall 2018*

- University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, School of Information Sciences
- Projects: [Music Information Retrieval Evaluation eXchange \(MIREX\)](#), K-Pop Mood/Genre Annotation, [HathiTrust Research Center \(HTRC\)](#)
- Courses: "Digital Libraries" (LIS560LE), "Machine Learning Team Projects" (IS590ML)

**Software Developer** *Jan. 2009 - Jun. 2011*

- [Naver Corp.](#), Seongnam, Korea
- Member System Development Team

## Education

**Ph.D. (2018) University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign**

- School of Information Sciences
- Dissertation: [Computational Lyricology: Quantitative Approaches to Understanding Song Lyrics and Their Interpretations](#)
- Committee: J. Stephen Downie (advisor), Michael Twidale, Ted Underwood, Sally Jo Cunningham

**M.S. (2010) Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology (KAIST), Daejeon, Korea**

- Digital Media Program
- Thesis: [Performance Improvement of Music Mood Classification Using Hyper Music Features](#)
- Advisor: Minsoo Hahn

**B.E. (2005) Ajou University, Suwon, Korea**

- Graduated with honors
- Information and Computer Engineering

**Exchange student (fall 2004), University of Illinois at Chicago**

- Department of Computer Science
- GPA 4.0/4.0

## Teaching

**Teaching Courses (Main Instructor)**

- "Database Design & Prototyping (IS-455), Fall 2024
- "Database Design" (ILS-Z 511, ILS IU), Spring 2024, Spring 2023, Spring 2022, Fall 2021, Spring 2021, Fall 2020, Fall 2019, Spring 2019
- "Music Data Mining" (ILS-Z 604, ILS IU), Fall 2023, Fall 2022, Spring 2020

#### **Teaching Courses (Co-Instructor)**

- "Digital Libraries" (LIS 560 LE, School of Information Sciences, UIUC), Fall 2016

#### **Teaching Assistant**

- "Machine Learning Team Projects" (IS 590 ML, School of Information Sciences, UIUC), Fall 2018
- "Digital Libraries" (LIS560LE), School of Information Sciences, UIUC, Spring 2017, Fall 2015, Spring 2015, Fall 2014, Spring 2014, Fall 2013, and Spring 2013

## Research Grants

#### **Awarded Grants**

- "[Unbiased AI for Poetry Analysis: Toward Equitable and Diverse Digital Libraries](#)," Institute of Museum and Library Services, Early Career Research Development project of Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Program, Federal, \$420,819, Aug. 2022 - Jul. 2025, Principal Investigator
- "[AI & Co-Design in Public Libraries: Empowering Underserved Youth to Cultivate Symbiotic Relationships Between Artificial Intelligence \(AI\) and Their Communities](#)," Institute of Museum and Library Services, National Leadership Grants, Federal,(\$249,999 in total, my portion is about \$97,741), Aug. 2021 - Jul. 2023, Co-Principal Investigator (PI: Hee Rin Lee)

#### **Selected Unfunded Grant Proposals**

- "AI-Generated Personalized Voice and Its Societal Impact," Faculty Research Support Program-Seed Funding, Internal, \$27,650, 2023, PI: Kahyun Choi; co-PIs: Minjeong Kim, Apu Kapadia, Minje Kim
- "Your Voice in Action: A Community-Driven Approach to Developing AI Voice Reader for Ebooks," Institute of Museum and Library Services National Leadership Grants, Federal, \$249,986, 2020, PI: Kahyun Choi; co-PI: Minje Kim

## Awards, Honors, and Scholarships

#### **Indiana University Trustees Teaching Award**

- Indiana University Trustees, 2023
- Awarded for outstanding contributions to the educational mission at IU

#### **Fellowships**

- Luddy Faculty Fellowship, Nov. 2021
  - "[Computational Poetry Analysis: AI for Literature](#),"
  - With a monetary award of amount \$25,000

#### **Best Presentation Award**

- ASIS&T SIG AI Workshop, 2022 (Presenter: Hee Rin Lee)

#### **Rayward Fellowship and Provost Match Fellowship,**

- University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, School of Information Sciences, 2017-2018
- Received a tuition waiver and stipend for dissertation writing

#### **Women in Music Information Retrieval (WiMIR) Award**

- Received a travel grant to attend ISMIR 2016

#### **Merit-based university scholarships for four semesters,**

- Ajou University, Suwon, Korea, Spring 2004, Fall 2003, Spring 2002, Fall 2001
- Awarded for academic excellence over four semesters

#### **Graduated with honors**

- Ajou University, Suwon, Korea
- Top 4% among the Division of Information and Computer Engineering

## Publications

### Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles, Conference Proceedings, and Other Archival Venues

1. *Kahyun Choi* and Minje Kim, "[A Comparative Analysis of Poetry Reading Audio: Singing, Narrating, or Somewhere In Between?](#)" IEEE International Conference on Acoustics, Speech, and Signal Processing (ICASSP), 2024
2. *Kahyun Choi*, "[Word Embedding-Based Text Complexity Analysis](#)," in Proceedings of the 19th iConference, 2024
3. Selin Akgun, Hee Rin Lee, *Kahyun Choi*, Joseph Krajcik, "[Supporting AI literacy in K-12 Science Education: Raising Critical Consciousness towards Ethical AI](#)," in NARST 2024 Annual International Conference, 2024
4. *Kahyun Choi*, "[Computational Thematic Analysis of Poetry via Bimodal Large Language Models](#)," the Association for Information Science and Technology (ASIS&T), 2023
5. *Kahyun Choi*, "[Bimodal Music Subject Classification via Context-Dependent Language Model](#)," in Proceedings of the 16th iConference (iConference), 2021.
6. *Kahyun Choi* and J. Stephen Downie, "[A Trend Analysis on Concreteness of Popular Song Lyrics](#)," in Proceedings of the 6th International Digital Libraries for Musicology Workshop (DLfM), 2019.
7. *Kahyun Choi* and J. Stephen Downie, "[Exploratory investigation of word embedding in song lyric topic classification: promising preliminary results](#)," In Proceedings of the IEEE/ACM Joint Conference in Digital Libraries (JCDL), 2018.
8. Anders Friberg, Ragnar Schön, Anders Elowsson, *Kahyun Choi*, and J. Stephen Downie, "[Cross-cultural aspects of perceptual features in K-Pop: A pilot study comparing Chinese and Swedish listeners](#)," in Proceedings of the 43rd International Computer Music Conference, (ICMC), 2017
9. Xiao Hu, *Kahyun Choi*, Yun Hao, Sally Jo Cunningham, Jin Ha Lee, Audrey Laplante, David Bainbridge, and J. Stephen Downie, "[Exploring the Music Library Association Mailing List: A Text Mining Approach](#)," in Proceedings of the 18th International Society for Music Information Retrieval Conference, (ISMIR), 2017
10. *Kahyun Choi*, Jin Ha Lee, Xiao Hu, and J. Stephen Downie, "[Music Subject Classification Based on Lyrics and User Interpretations](#)," in Proceedings of the American Society for Information Science and Technology (ASIS&T), 2016
11. Xiao Hu, *Kahyun Choi*, Jin Ha Lee, Audrey Laplante, Yun Hao, Sally Jo Cunningham, and J. Stephen Downie, "[WiMIR: An Informetric Study on Women Authors in ISMIR](#)," in Proceedings of the 17th International Society for Music Information Retrieval Conference, (ISMIR), 2016
12. Yun Hao, *Kahyun Choi*, and J. Stephen Downie, "[Exploring J-DISC: Some Preliminary Analyses](#)," in Proceedings of the 3rd International Digital Libraries for Musicology workshop (DLfM), 2016
13. Xiao Hu, Jin Ha Lee, David Bainbridge, *Kahyun Choi*, Peter Organisciak, and J. Stephen Downie, "[The MIREX Grand Challenge: a framework of holistic user experience evaluation in music information retrieval](#)," Journal of the Association for Information Science and Technology (JASIST), Vol. 68, pp. 97-112, 2016
14. Xiao Hu, *Kahyun Choi*, J. Stephen Downie, "[A Framework for Evaluating Multimodal Music Mood Classification](#)," Journal of the Association for Information Science and Technology (JASIST), Vol. 68, pp. 273-285, 2015
15. Jin Ha Lee, Xiao Hu, *Kahyun Choi*, and J. Stephen Downie, "[MIREX Grand Challenge 2014 on User Experience: Qualitative analysis of user feedback](#)," in Proceedings of the International Society for Music Information Retrieval Conference, (ISMIR), 2015
16. *Kahyun Choi*, Jin Ha Lee, Craig Willis, J. Stephen Downie, "[Topic Modeling Users' Interpretations of Songs to Inform Subject Access in Music Digital Libraries](#)," In Proceedings of the IEEE/ACM Joint Conference in Digital Libraries (JCDL), 2015
17. J. Stephen Downie, Xiao Hu, Jin Ha Lee, *Kahyun Choi*, Yun Hao, and Sally Jo. Cunningham, "[Ten Years of MIREX \(Music Information Retrieval Evaluation eXchange\): Reflections, Challenges and](#)

- [Opportunities](#)," in Proceedings of the International Society for Music Information Retrieval Conference, (ISMIR), 2014
18. Xiao Hu, Jin Ha Lee, *Kahyun Choi*, and J. Stephen Downie, "[A Cross-Cultural Study on the Mood of K-POP Songs](#)," in Proceedings of the International Society for Music Information Retrieval Conference, (ISMIR), 2014
  19. *Kahyun Choi*, Jin Ha Lee, and J. Stephen Downie, "[What is this song about anyway?: Automatic classification of subject using user interpretations and lyrics](#)," In Proceedings of the IEEE/ACM Joint Conference in Digital Libraries (JCDL), 2014
  20. Jin Ha Lee, *Kahyun Choi*, Xiao Hu, and J. Stephen Downie, "[K-Pop Genres: A Cross Cultural Exploration](#)," in Proceedings of the International Society for Music Information Retrieval Conference, (ISMIR), 2013.

### **Workshop Abstracts and Panels**

1. Soo Hyeon Kim, Gi Woong Choi, *Kahyun Choi*, Andrea Copeland, Christine D'Arpa, Sarah Evans, Simpson Lance, Hee Rin Lee, Ayounng Yoon, "[Public Library-University Partnerships in Library and Information Science: Approaches, Challenges, Implications for Translating Research into Practice](#)," the Association for Information Science and Technology (ASIS&T) [Panel], 2023
2. Ji Youn Shin, *Kahyun Choi*, Hee Rin Lee, "[Community-engaged design for STEM education: Students as co-designers of AI programs in public libraries](#)," in Child-Centred AI Design: Definition, Operation, and Considerations ACM CHI 2023 Workshop, 2023
3. *Kahyun Choi*, "[Computational Poetry Collection Analysis via Context-Dependent Language Models](#)," in ASIS&T SIG AI Workshop, 2022.
4. Hee Rin Lee, *Kahyun Choi*, Selin Akgun, Ji Youn Shin, Pooja Malvi, Meredith Dedema, "[AI & Co-design in public libraries: Empowering underserved youth to cultivate symbiotic relationships between Artificial Intelligence \(AI\) and their communities](#)," in ASIS&T SIG AI Workshop, 2022. (**Best Presentation Award**)

## **Advising**

### **Research Assistantship Advising**

- Gyuri Kang (ILS PhD at IU), Summer 2024
- Leyi Zhao (ILS PhD at IU), Fall 2023-Spring 2024
- Meredith Dedema (ILS PhD at IU), Summer 2022-Spring 2023
- Shruti Padole (CS MS at IU), Summer 2022-Spring 2023
- Selin Akgun (Education PhD at MSU), Spring 2022-Summer 2022

### **PhD Dissertation Committee Member**

- Tamy Chambers (ILS PhD at IU), in progress
- Haining Wang (ILS PhD at IU), in progress
- Zheng Gao (ILS PhD at IU); defended in 2020

### **PhD Qualifying Exam Committee Member**

- Pei-Ying Chen (ILS PhD at IU), 2021

### **Independent Study**

- Gyuri Kang (ILS PhD at IU), Spring 2023
- Meredith Dedema (ILS PhD at IU), Spring 2023
- Haining Wang (ILS PhD at IU), Spring 2023
- Sasidev Mahendran (Data Science MS at IU), Spring 2023
- Sumitha Vellinalur Thattai (Data Science MS at IU), Spring 2023

### **Emerging Scholars Research Experience for Undergraduate Women Mentor**

- Alexa Walquist (Undergraduate at Kelley School at IU), Fall 2022-Spring 2023

### **Women in Music Information Retrieval (WiMIR) Mentor**

- Eunjin Choi (PhD at Graduate School of Culture Technology at KAIST), Spring 2022

## Professional Activities

### Advisory Board Membership

- [Audiovisual Metadata Platform](#), Indiana University (IU) Libraries, Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, 2022-2023

### Contributions to Research Communities

- The International Society for Music Information Retrieval Conference (ISMIR), Meta-Reviewer, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023
- The International Digital Libraries for Musicology workshop (DLfM), Program Committee (as a reviewer), 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024
- The International Society for Music Information Retrieval Conference (ISMIR), Volunteer Chair, 2021
- The International Digital Libraries for Musicology workshop (DLfM), Session Chair, 2021
- Midwest Music and Audio Day, Bloomington, IN, Organizing Committee (June 27, 2019)
- The Music Information Retrieval Evaluation eXchange (MIREX), Evaluation Committee leader (Aug. 2014 - Aug. 2016)
- The Music Information Retrieval Evaluation eXchange (MIREX), Evaluation Committee member (Aug. 2011 - Aug. 2013)

### Journal and Conference Reviewer Activities

- Transactions of the International Society for Music Information Retrieval (TISMIR)
- The International Society for Music Information Retrieval Conference (ISMIR)
- The American Society for Information Science and Technology (ASIS&T)
- ACM Transactions on Intelligent Systems and Technology (TIST)
- International Journal on Digital Libraries (IJDL)
- Frontiers in Psychology

### Institutional Services

#### Current at UIUC

- MSLIS Committee, iSchool

#### Past at IU

- Doctoral Steering Committee, ILS
- Faculty Affairs Committee, Chair, ILS
- Master of Information Science (MIS) Review Committee, ILS
- Data Science Curriculum Committee, Luddy School
- Luddy Fellow Selection Committee, Luddy School
- Graduate Student Visit Day Planning Committee, Luddy School
- Departmental Colloquium Committee, October 2019-December 2021

## Outreach and Community Engagement Activities

### Organizing and Hosting Workshops for Teens in Public Libraries

- Maryland AI Workshop for Teens, Carroll County Public Library, Maryland, March 4 and April 4, 2023
- [San Diego AI Workshop for Teens](#), the City Heights/Weingart Branch at San Diego Public Library, June 12 - June 15, 2023

## Presentations

### Invited Talks

- "AI for Libraries and Libraries for AI," Luddy Fellows Research Spotlight, April 5, 2023
- "AI for Libraries," [2022-2023 Luddy Faculty Fellows Talk](#), March 7, 2023
- "Unbiased AI for Poetry Analysis: Toward Equitable and Diverse Digital Libraries," [Pervasive Technology Institute](#) Speaker Series, Bloomington, December 2, 2022

- "Computational Lyricology," ["The Georgia Tech Center for Music Technology Seminar"](#), Georgia Institute of Technology, September 12, 2022
- "Music Trend Analysis," ["IU JSOM Music and Mind Lab"](#), Bloomington, May 2, 2022
- "Automatic Music Subject Classification and a Cross-Cultural Exploration of K-Pop Genre," Shazam, Menlo Park, CA, Aug. 14, 2014.
- "A Cross-Cultural Study on the Mood and Genre of Korean Pop Songs," Pandora Radio, Oakland, CA, Jun. 19, 2014.
- "A Cross-cultural Exploration of K-Pop Moods and Genres," KTH Royal Institute of Technology, Sweden, May 3, 2014 - May 9, 2014.
- Guest lectures about Information Retrieval, Digital Libraries (LIS560LE), Fall 2014, Spring 2015, Fall 2015, and Spring 2016.
- "Performance Improvement of Music Mood Classification Using Hyper Music Features," Sejong University, Seoul, Korea, June 10, 2011

#### **Panel**

- "Expert Panel on the Impact of AI on Library and Information Science," ["Step Up: Next 10"](#), Panelist, October 20, 2023

#### **Talks at Workshops and Doctoral Colloquia**

- Kahyun Choi, "Insights from an Introductory Music-Based ML Course for Library Science Students," DH2024 Workshop Teaching Machine Learning to Humanists, Aug. 6, 2024.
- Kahyun Choi, "Toward Equitable and Diverse Digital Poetry Libraries," DH2024 Workshop Computational Literary Studies: How To Do Research Responsibly, Aug. 5, 2024.
- Hee Rin Lee and *Kahyun Choi*, "Hands-On AI Literacy Programs for Youth," YALSA education session (webinar), Nov. 30, 2023.
- Hee Rin Lee and *Kahyun Choi*, "AI Literacy for Libraries," YALSA's Young Adult Services Symposium, St. Louis, MO, Nov. 10-12, 2023.
- *Kahyun Choi*, "Computational Poetry Collection Analysis via Context-Dependent Language Models," ASIST AI workshop, 2022.
- Hee Rin Lee, *Kahyun Choi*, Selin Akgun, Pooja Malvi, Ji Youn Shin, and Meredith Dedema, "AI & Co-design in public libraries: Empowering underserved youth to cultivate symbiotic relationships between Artificial Intelligence (AI) and their communities," ASIST AI workshop, 2022. (Best Presentation Award)
- *Kahyun Choi*, "Music Thumbnailing," 2016 Annual Meeting of the Association for Information Science and Technology (ASIS&T) Doctoral Colloquium, Copenhagen, Denmark, Oct. 18, 2016 (Travel grant)
- *Kahyun Choi*, "From Lyrics to Their Interpretations: Automated Reading Between the Lines," the IEEE / ACM Joint Conference in Digital Libraries (JCDL) Doctoral Consortium, 2015 (Travel grant)

#### **Posters**

- *Kahyun Choi*, "Topic Modeling Users' Interpretations of Songs to Inform Subject Access in Music Digital Libraries," GSLIS Research Showcase 2015
- *Kahyun Choi*, "The Impact of Music Genre on Music Similarity: A Qualitative Exploration," GSLIS Research Showcase 2015
- *Kahyun Choi*, "Exploring Music Subject Classification Based on User Interpretations of Music," Midwest Music Information Retrieval Gathering (MMIRG), Evanston, IL, Jun. 14, 2014.
- *Kahyun Choi*, "K-Pop Genres: A Cross-Cultural Exploration," GSLIS Research Showcase 2014
- *Kahyun Choi*, "Exploiting Structural Data for Music Exploration," GSLIS Research Showcase 2013
- *Kahyun Choi*, "Music Mood Tag Prediction with Dimension Reduced Tag Space," GSLIS Research Showcase 2013

## **Skills**

- Machine learning tools: PyTorch, scikit-learn, Keras, Mallet, Weka
- Programming languages: Python, MATLAB, Unix shell scripting, JavaScript, R, Java, C, PHP, C with PIC
- Database: MySQL, MongoDB, Neo4j
- Digital library building tools: Omeka, Greenstone
- Others: Linux, NodeXL, Dedoose, Amazon MTurk