Obin Kwon

Contact Information

Postdoc in Kinetic Intelligent Machine LAB (KIMLAB),

University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, Champaign, Illinois, United States. E-mail: obin.kwon000@gmail.com

Linkedin: https://www.linkedin.com/in/obin-kwon-a99a37193/

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Research Area

Embodied AI, Robot Learning, Perception for Robots

- Scene Representation for Robot Policy

- Decision Making, Imitation Learning, Reinforcement learning

- Visual Localization and Mapping

Skills

Programming Language: Python, C++, MATLAB Software: ROS, PyTorch, TensorFlow, OpenCV

Experience

KIMLAB, Postdoctoral Research Associate.

July. 2024 - Now

- Champaign, Illinois, United States
- Advisor: Prof. Joohyung Kim (joohyung@illinois.edu)
- Developing diverse teleoperation interfaces and robot learning framework for household tasks.

Sequor Robotics, AI/Robotics Researcher.

Oct. 2023 - June. 2024

- Seoul, Korea
- Developed a vision-based robot localization and navigation system in warehouses.

NAVER LABS, Research Intern.

Jan. 2023 - July. 2023

- Seongnam, Korea
- Developed a visual localization system based on simple wayfinding maps.

Education

M.S.&Ph.D. in Electrical and Computer Engineering

2018 - 2024

- Seoul National University, Seoul, Korea
- Advisor: Prof. Songhwai Oh (songhwai@snu.ac.kr)
- Dissertation Title: "Scene Representation Learning for Visual Navigation" (Distinguished Dissertation Award)

B.S. in Electrical and Computer Engineering

2014 - 2018

- Seoul National University, Seoul, Korea

Publications

Jeongho Park, **Obin Kwon**, and Songhwai Oh, "Spatially-Conditional 3D Furniture Generation Model for Indoor Scene Generation," *IEEE International Conference on Control, Automation and Systems (ICCAS)*, Oct. 2024.

Keywords: Scene Generation, 3D Model Generation

Minsoo Kim, **Obin Kwon**, Howoong Jun, and Songhwai Oh, "RNR-Nav: A Real-World Visual Navigation System Using Renderable Neural Radiance Maps," *IEEE/RSJ International Conference on Intelligent Robots and Systems (IROS)*, Oct. 2024. (Oral Presentation, Accepted)

Keywords: Visual Navigation, Localization and Mapping, Neural Rendering, 3D Reconstruction

Obin Kwon, Dongki Jung, Youngji Kim, Soohyun Ryu, Suyong Yeon, Songhwai Oh, Donghwan Lee, "WayIL: Image-based Indoor Localization with Wayfinding Maps", *IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation (ICRA)*, 2024.

Keywords: Visual Localization, Tracking & State Estimation, BEV-map

Jeongho Park, **Obin Kwon** and Songhwai Oh "Attention-Based Randomized Ensemble Multi-Agent Q-Learning," *IEEE International Conference on Control, Automation and Systems (ICCAS)*, Oct. 2023.

Keywords: Multi-Agent Reinforcement Learning, Ensemble Learning

Obin Kwon, Jeongho Park, and Songhwai Oh, "Renderable Neural Radiance Map for Visual Navigation," *IEEE Conference on Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition (CVPR)*, Jun. 2023. (Highlight, Acceptance Rate: 2.5%)

Keywords: Visual Navigation, Localization and Mapping, Neural Rendering, 3D Reconstruction

Nuri Kim, **Obin Kwon**, Hwiyeon Yoo, Yunho Choi, Jeongho Park, and Songhwai Oh, "Topological Semantic Graph Memory for Image-Goal Navigation", *Conference on Robot Learning (CoRL)*, Dec. 2022. (Oral, Acceptance Rate: 6.5%)

Keywords: Visual Navigation, Semantic Scene Graph, Object Detection, Graph-based Localization and Navigation.

Hyemin Ahn*, **Obin Kwon***, Kyungdo Kim, Jaeyeon Jeong, Howoong Jun, Hongjung Lee, Dongheui Lee, and Songhwai Oh, "Visually Grounding Language Instruction for History-Dependent Manipulation", *IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation (ICRA)*, May. 2022. (* equal contribution)

Keywords: Vision and Language based Manipulation, Language Instruction Following

Obin Kwon, Nuri Kim, Yunho Choi, Hwiyeon Yoo, Jeongho Park, and Songhwai Oh, "Visual Graph Memory with Unsupervised Representation for Visual Navigation", *IEEE/CVF International Conference on Computer Vision(ICCV)*, Oct. 2021.

Keywords: Visual Scene Graph, Graph-based Localization and Navigation, Imitation Learning, Reinforcement Learning

Obin Kwon and Songhwai Oh, "Image-Goal Navigation Algorithm using Viewpoint Estimation," *IEEE International Conference on Control, Automation and Systems (ICCAS)*, Oct. 2021.

Keywords: Visual Navigation, Reinforcement Learning, Representation Learning

Minyoung Hwang, **Obin Kwon**, and Songhwai Oh, "Geometric Understanding of Reward Function in Multi-Agent Visual Exploration," *IEEE International Conference on Control, Automation and Systems (ICCAS)*, Oct. 2021.

Keywords: Multi-Agent Reinforcement Learning, Exploration.

Obin Kwon and Songhwai Oh, "Learning to Use Topological Memory for Visual Navigation", *IEEE International Conference on Control, Automation and Systems (ICCAS)*, Oct. 2020.

Keywords: Visual Scene Graph, Imitation Learning, Reinforcement Learning

Honors

Distinguished Dissertation Award

August 2024

- Electrical and Computer Engineering, Seoul National University

Lecture & Research Scholarship

Spring 2024

- Seoul National University

Brain Korea 21 Plus Scholarship

Fall 2020-Spring 2022, Fall 2023

- Seoul National University

Kim Jeong-sik Special Scholarship

Spring 2015 - Fall 2017.

- Kwanak Corporation, SNU Electrical and Compucter Scholarship Foundation
- Full tuition + α

Merit-based University Admission Scholarship

Spring 2014

- Yongin City Scholarship Foundation

Research Experiences

Superhuman Multimodal Sensing for Manipulation,

2024 - Now

- Funded by Toyota Research Institute

Robot Learning: Efficient, Safe, and Socially-Acceptable Machine Learning, 2019 - 2024

- Funded by Ministry of Science and ICT (MSIT), Korea

AI Technology for Guidance of Mobile Robots with Uncertain Maps, 2019 - 2023

- Funded by Ministry of Science and ICT (MSIT), Korea

Autonomous Navigation Multi-Agent Deep Reinforcement Learning, 2020 - 2021

- Funded by Hyundai Autoever

Teaching Experiences

Teaching Assistant @ Seoul National University

- Deep Reinforcement Learning (Topics in Control and Automation) Spring 2021
- Theory and Lab of IoT, AI, and Big Data Fall 2019

- Introduction to Intelligent Systems Fall 2018

Professional Services

Reviewer

- IEEE Robotics Science and Systems.
- IEEE Robotics & Automation Letters.
- IEEE Transactions on Robotics.
- IEEE Transactions on Pattern Analysis and Machine Intelligence.
- IEEE Transactions on Automation Science and Engineering.
- IEEE International Conference on Intelligent Robots and Systems.
- International Conference on Ubiquitous Robots

Talk

- Invited tech talk at NAVER, Feb, 2022.

References

Prof. Joohyung Kim

- Associate Professor at Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign (UIUC).
- Email: joohyung@illinois.edu

Prof. Songhwai Oh

- Professor at Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, Seoul National University (SNU).
- Email: songhwai@snu.ac.kr

Prof. Hyemin Ahn

- Assistant Professor at Artificial Intelligence Graduate School (AIGS), Ulsan National Institute of Science and Technology(UNIST)
- Email: hyemin.ahn@unist.ac.kr

Prof. Sungjoon Choi

- Assistant Professor at Department of Artificial Intelligence, Korea University
- Email: sungjoon-choi@korea.ac.kr