Woohyeuk (Kevin) Lee

School of Information
University of Texas at Austin

woohyeuk.lee@utexas.edu
kweel.github.io

Research interests: personal alignment, preference learning and elicitation, human–AI interaction, open language models.

EDUCATION

M.S.I.S. Information Studies, University of Texas at Austin, expected December 2026
Enrolled in the Ph.D. program in Information Studies, 2024–2026

B.S. Computer Sciences; Information Science, University of Wisconsin–Madison, 2024

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

2026 **Woohyeuk Lee**, James Howison, Min Kyung Lee, Hanlin Li. "Open AI in the Wild: Adoption and Adaptation of Open Models on r/LocalLLaMA." *Proceedings of the 2026 ACM Conference on Fairness, Accountability, and Transparency (FAccT '26)*. doi:10.1145/3805689.3812421

2026 Genevieve Smith, Hiral Patel, Steven Luo, …, **Woohyeuk Lee**, …, David Gray Widder. "Reimagining Open Source and Openness in AI: Co-Creating Responsible Technological Futures." *Proceedings of the 2026 ACM Conference on Fairness, Accountability, and Transparency (FAccT '26)*. doi:10.1145/3805689.3806719

PREPRINTS

2026 **Woohyeuk Lee**, Hanlin Li, David Gray Widder. "Open to All, Shaped by Few: Corporate Dependencies in the Local AI Ecosystem." arXiv:2608.19001

Mixed-methods analysis of 7,681 merged pull requests (2023–2026) on `llama.cpp` triangulated with political economical structures around the project. corporate statements and contributor blogs.

WORK IN PROGRESS

2026 **Woohyeuk Lee**, David Gray Widder. "Little of What Preference Data Says About a Person Is Personal." In preparation for ACL 2027.

Splits 69,101 choices from 827 Community Alignment annotators into position tendencies, a departure from Olmo 3's preference-tuning default that nearly everyone shares, and a personal part. The personal part accounts for 5% of the held-out gain and is mostly style tied to context, and the split replicates on OLMo 2, MultiPref and TL;DR.

2026 **Woohyeuk Lee**. "Why There Is No Wikipedia for Alignment." In preparation for CSCW.

Compares 14 efforts to shape or evaluate model behavior with five long-lived volunteer commons, assessing each on six ingredients of peer production from 90 public documents and trace data from six projects, and proposes a constitution commons of principles and adjudicated cases in place of preference labels.

EXPERIENCE

2022–24 University of Wisconsin–Madison
Research Assistant under Professor Thebault-Spieker

Contextualized Road Safety: reviewed traffic engineering literature, built a spatial database, and proposed new dimensions for parametrizing safety in spatial technologies.

Rural Non/Use of UGC: conducted semi-structured interviews with rural Wisconsin residents on their use and non-use of user-generated content.

2020 PhotonIC Technologies
Software Engineering Intern

Developed an Android app for a modular smart thermometer, interfacing with a microcontroller and the company's temperature sensor in a custom 3D-printed shell.

AWARDS

2024 *Kilgarlin Fellowship*, University of Texas at Austin

2022 *Summer Research Assistantship*, UW–Madison MadColLab

Updated November 2026