

Daechul Ahn

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RESEARCH SUMMARY

I am a Ph.D. student working toward building AI agents that perceive, reason, and act as humans do. My research began in video-language understanding and multimodal alignment, and has since progressed toward agent reasoning and real-world robotic manipulation. See my [Research Statement](#). I am broadly interested in how AI agents can be made to reason reliably and act robustly in dynamic, real-world environments, with recent work published at ICML 2026 (Spotlight), ICRA 2026, EACL 2026 (Oral), and COLM 2025.

Research Interests: Multimodal AI [C1,C2,C3,C4,C6,J1], Agentic AI [C5,C7,C8,P1], Embodied AI [C8,C9]

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Student in Electrical and Computer Engineering <i>Seoul National University, Seoul, South Korea</i> Academic Advisor: Prof. Jonghyun Choi	Sep. 2024 – Present
Ph.D. Candidate – Course Completed in Artificial Intelligence <i>Yonsei University, Seoul, South Korea</i> Academic Advisor: Prof. Jonghyun Choi	Sep. 2022 – Aug. 2024
M.S. in AI Graduate School <i>Gwangju Institute of Science and Technology (GIST), Gwangju, South Korea</i> Academic Advisor: Prof. Jonghyun Choi	Mar. 2020 – Aug. 2022
M.S. in Electrical Engineering <i>Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology (KAIST), Daejeon, South Korea</i> Academic Advisor: Prof. Yang-Kyu Choi	Sep. 2014 – Jul. 2016
B.S. in Electrical and Computer Engineering <i>Ajou University, Suwon, South Korea</i>	Mar. 2011 – Aug. 2014

PUBLICATIONS

† denotes equal contribution | [C] Conference, [J] Journal, [P] Preprint

Preprints

- [P1] San Kim[†], **Daechul Ahn**[†], Reokyoung Kim, Hyeonbeom Choi, Seungyeon Jwa, Jonghyun Choi, “RTS-GameBench: An RTS Benchmark for Strategic Reasoning by Vision-Language Models”, *arXiv*, 2026. [\[Project\]](#)

Conference Papers

- [C9] Hyeonbeom Choi[†], **Daechul Ahn**[†], Youhan Lee, Taewook Kang, Seongwon Cho, Jonghyun Choi, “SCALE: Self-uncertainty Conditioned Adaptive Looking and Execution for Vision-Language Action Models,” *ICML*, 2026. (Spotlight, Acceptance rate: 2.2%) [\[Project\]](#)
- [C8] Seongwon Cho[†], **Daechul Ahn**[†], Donghyun Shin, Hyeonbeom Choi, San Kim, Jonghyun Choi, “BINDER: Instantly Adaptive Mobile Manipulation with Open-Vocabulary Commands,” *ICRA*, 2026. [\[Project\]](#)
- [C7] Seungyeon Jwa, **Daechul Ahn**, Reokyoung Kim, Dongyeop Kang, Jonghyun Choi, “Becoming Experienced Judges: Selective Test-Time Learning for Evaluators,” *EACL* (short), 2026 (Oral).
- [C6] **Daechul Ahn**[†], Yura Choi[†], Hyeonbeom Choi[†], Seongwon Cho, San Kim, Jonghyun Choi, “What Happens When: Learning Temporal Orders of Events in Videos,” *WACV*, 2026. [\[Project\]](#)

- [C5] **Daechul Ahn**[†], San Kim[†], Jonghyun Choi, “Society of Mind Meets Real-Time Strategy: A Hierarchical Multi-Agent Framework for Strategic Reasoning,” *COLM*, 2025. [Project]
- [C4] **Daechul Ahn**[†], Yura Choi[†], San Kim, Youngjae Yu, Dongyeop Kang, and Jonghyun Choi, “ISR-DPO: Aligning Large Multimodal Models for Videos by Iterative Self-Retrospective DPO,” *AAAI*, 2025.
- [C3] **Daechul Ahn**, Yura Choi, Youngjae Yu, Dongyeop Kang, and Jonghyun Choi, “Tuning Large Multimodal Models for Videos using Reinforcement Learning from AI Feedback,” *ACL*, 2024 (**Oral, Acceptance rate: 2.3%**). [Project]
- [C2] **Daechul Ahn**, Daneul Kim, Gwangmo Song, Seung Hwan Kim, Honglak Lee, Dongyeop Kang, and Jonghyun Choi, “Story Visualization by Online Text Augmentation with Context Memory,” *ICCV*, 2023.
- [C1] Jinwoo Nam[†], **Daechul Ahn**[†], Dongyeop Kang, Seong Jong Ha, and Jonghyun Choi, “Zero-shot Natural Language Video Localization,” *ICCV*, 2021 (**Oral, Acceptance rate: 3.2%**).

Journal Papers

- [J1] Yura Choi[†], **Daechul Ahn**[†], and Jonghyun Choi, “Moment-Aware Video Retrieval for Video Corpus Moment Retrieval,” *IEEE Access*, 2025.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS IN SEMICONDUCTOR

- **Dae-Chul Ahn**, ... “Ultra-Fast Erase Method of SONOS Flash Memory by ...,” *IEEE EDL*, 2015.
- **Dae-Chul Ahn**, ... “Impact of Crystalline Damage on a Vertically Integrated ...,” *APL*, 2016.
- Byung-Hyun Lee[†], **Dae-Chul Ahn**[†], ... “Vertically Integrated Nanowire-based ...,” *Nano Lett.*, 2016.
- *Additional publications: 8 SCI(E) journal papers and 6 conference papers.*

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Research Intern

Aug. 2021 – Jan. 2022

LG AI Research, Seoul, South Korea

Project: Visual sequence generation from a paragraph (Advised by Dr. Gwangmo Song)

Research Engineer — System Semiconductor Data Analysis

Aug. 2016 – Jul. 2018

Samsung Electronics (Semiconductor R&D Center), Hwaseong-si, South Korea

HONORS & AWARDS

Recognized as a ICML 2026 Silver Reviewer	May 2026
Recognized as a CVPR 2025 Outstanding Reviewer (Top 5.6%)	Jun. 2025
BK 21 Outstanding Research Fellowship	Apr. 2025
Yonsei Graduate Fellowship (YGF)	Sep. 2023
Computer Vision Best Paper Award at the 1st Yonsei AI Workshop	Oct. 2022
M.S. Scholarship, Samsung Electronics	Sep. 2014 – Jul. 2016
APROFG Scholarship (Full-tuition), APRO Financial Group	Mar. 2013 – Jul. 2014

ACADEMIC REVIEWER SERVICES (CONF. AND JOURNAL)

: CVPR, ICCV, ECCV, ICML, NeurIPS, COLM, AAAI, WACV, ICRA, IJCV, TPAMI, PR

REFERENCES

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