

Ivan Lee

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EDUCATION

University of California, San Diego Ph.D., Computer Science and Engineering	La Jolla, CA 2023–present
University of California, San Diego M.Sc., Computer Science and Engineering	La Jolla, CA 2020–2023
University of California, Davis B.Sc., Nutrition Science	Davis, CA 2009–2012

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Graduate Student Researcher University of California, San Diego Advisor: Taylor Berg-Kirkpatrick	La Jolla, CA 2022–present
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PUBLICATIONS

Refereed Conference Publications

[1] [Readability \$\neq\$ Learnability: Rethinking the Role of Simplicity in Training Small Language Models](#)

Ivan Lee, Taylor Berg-Kirkpatrick

Oral Spotlight (top 5.7%) *Conference on Language Modeling (COLM)*, 2025.

[2] [Optimizing Hidden Markov Language Models: An Empirical Study of Reparameterization and Initialization Techniques](#)

Ivan Lee, Taylor Berg-Kirkpatrick

North American Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics (NAACL Findings), 2025.

[3] [Is attention required for ICL? Exploring the Relationship Between Model Architecture and In-Context Learning Ability](#)

Ivan Lee, Nan Jiang, Taylor Berg-Kirkpatrick

International Conference on Learning Representations (ICLR), 2024.

[4] [HeLo: Learning-Free Lookahead Decoding for Conversation Infilling](#)

Ivan Lee, Taylor Berg-Kirkpatrick

Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP Findings), 2022.

[5] [Masked Measurement Prediction: Learning to Jointly Predict Quantities and Units from Textual Context](#)

Daniel Spokoyny, **Ivan Lee**, Zhao Jin, Taylor Berg-Kirkpatrick

North American Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics (NAACL Findings), 2022.

Refereed Workshop Publications

[6] Good-Enough Structured Generation

Ivan Lee, Loris D’Antoni, Taylor Berg-Kirkpatrick

Deep Learning For Code in the Agentic Era (DL4C) @ NeurIPS, 2025.

WORK IN PREPARATION

Thinking Outside the Brackets: Decoupling Reasoning from Syntax in Constrained Generation

Ivan Lee, Loris D’Antoni, Taylor Berg-Kirkpatrick

Structured Outputs as an Attack Surface

Ivan Lee, Earlence Fernandes, Taylor Berg-Kirkpatrick

FELLOWSHIPS

CSE Department Fellowship, UC San Diego, 2023–2024

SERVICE

Reviewer: ICLR 2025, 2026; ACL Student Research Workshop 2025