

# Joonwon Choi

Senior Formal Verification Engineer at Apple  
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## Current Position

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**Formal Verification Engineer, Apple** 03/15/2021 – Current  
I have worked on formally verifying memory subsystems and fabrics in Apple silicon. Reasoning about memory subsystems and fabrics is challenging due to the many optimizations involved in increasing system performance. Our team employs formal-methods tools to provide mathematical guarantees that the system is both safe and live.

## Education

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**Massachusetts Institute of Technology** 09/01/2016 – 02/17/2021  
Doctor of Philosophy in Electrical Engineering and Computer Science  
- Graduate Cumulative GPA: 5.0 (on a 5.0 scale)

**Massachusetts Institute of Technology** 09/01/2014 – 06/03/2016  
Master of Science in Electrical Engineering and Computer Science  
- Graduate Cumulative GPA: 5.0 (on a 5.0 scale)

**Seoul National University** 03/01/2006 – 02/26/2013  
Bachelor of Science in Computer Science and Engineering  
Double major in Mathematical Sciences  
- Graduated with honors (*summa cum laude*)

## Selected Publications

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- [1] **Revamping the Formal Semantics of Verilog for Efficient, Modular, and Foundational Verification.**  
*submitted.*
  - [2] **Hemiola: A DSL and Verification Tools to Guide Design and Proof of Hierarchical Cache-Coherence Protocols.**  
*Joonwon Choi, Adam Chlipala, Arvind.*  
**CAV'22** (*regular paper, Proceedings of the International Conference on Computer-Aided Verification*).
  - [3] **Structural Design and Proof of Hierarchical Cache-Coherence Protocols.**  
*Joonwon Choi*  
**PhD Thesis** in Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, Massachusetts Institute of Technology.
  - [4] **Integration Verification Across Software and Hardware for a Simple Embedded System.**  
*Andres Erbsen, Samuel Gruetter, Joonwon Choi, Clark Wood, Adam Chlipala.*  
**PLDI'21** (*Proceedings of the ACM SIGPLAN Conference on Programming Language Design and Implementation*).
  - [5] **EverCrypt: A Fast, Verified, Cross-Platform Cryptographic Provider.**  
*Jonathan Protzenko, Bryan Parno, Aymeric Fromherz, Chris Hawblitzel, Marina Polubelova, Karthikeyan Bhargavan, Benjamin Beurdouche, Joonwon Choi, Antoine Delignat-Lavaud, Cédric Fournet, Natalia Kulatova, Tahina Ramananandro, Aseem Rastogi, Nikhil Swamy, Christoph M. Wintersteiger, and Santiago Zanella-Beguelin.*  
**SP'20** (*IEEE Symposium on Security and Privacy*).
  - [6] **Crellvm: Verified Credible Compilation for LLVM.**  
*Jecheon Kang, Yoonseung Kim, Youngju Song, Juneyoung Lee, Sanghoon Park, Mark Dongyeon Shin,*

Yonghyun Kim, Sungkeun Cho, *Joonwon Choi*, Chung-Kil Hur, and Kwangkeun Yi.  
**PLDI'18** (*Proceedings of the ACM SIGPLAN Conference on Programming Language Design and Implementation*).

- [7] **Kami: A Platform for High-Level Parametric Hardware Specification and its Modular Verification.**  
*Joonwon Choi*, Muralidaran Vijayaraghavan, Benjamin Sherman, Adam Chlipala, Arvind.  
**ICFP'17** (*Proceedings of the ACM SIGPLAN International Conference on Functional Programming*).

## Working Experience

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| <b>Apple, United States</b><br>Formal Verification Engineer  | 03/15/2021 – Current    |
| <b>Microsoft Research Cambridge, United Kingdom</b><br>Research Intern                                     | 07/02/2018 – 09/21/2018 |
| <b>allm Games, Korea</b><br>Software Engineer (Skilled Industry Personnel as alternative military service) | 04/13/2009 – 09/12/2011 |
| <b>Google, Korea</b><br>Software Engineering Intern (SWE Intern)   | 01/05/2009 – 04/03/2009 |

## Teaching Experience

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|---|-------------|
| <b>MIT 6.887: Formal Reasoning About Programs</b><br>Teaching Assistant | Spring 2017 |
| <b>SNU 4190.310: Programming Languages</b><br>Teaching Assistant        | Fall 2013   |

## Academic Services

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**Program Committee:** VSTTE 2024, PLDI 2024, CAV 2020 AE

## Honors & Awards

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| <b>Kwanjeong Educational Fellowship</b>  | Sep 2014 – May 2019 |
| <b>MIT Emerson Scholarship for Private Music Study</b>                               | Sep 2014 – May 2018 |
| <b>Top Honor (<i>summa cum laude</i>) Certification</b><br>Seoul National University | Feb 2013            |
| <b>Presidential Science Scholarship</b>  | Mar 2006 – Feb 2013 |

Last updated: October 4, 2024