

# Yew Jin Lim

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Director of Engineering at Google leading Notifications and Proactive AI, focused on innovating Search products through Gen AI, ML, and generally decent engineering



## Professional Experience

 **Google** San Francisco Bay Area  
DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING, NOTIFICATIONS AND PROACTIVE AI LEAD 2023 - Present

- Lead the Notifications and Proactive AI organization at Google's Search Discovery, focusing on innovative Search products using cutting-edge AI technology
- Build innovative Search proactive products and features leveraging the latest tech, including GenAI platforms
- Drive development of systems to keep users informed by digesting world's information and delivering timely, useful notifications
- Enable users to effortlessly use Gen AI to meet their daily needs

AI/ML GenAI Search Engineering Leadership Product Strategy

 **Google** San Francisco Bay Area  
PRINCIPAL SOFTWARE ENGINEER, SEARCH GROWTH ENGINEERING LEAD 2018 - 2023

- Led development of predictive systems for ranking and triggering of multiple proactive/queryless features in Search
- Drove Google Search usage growth by building horizontal technologies for sustainable user acquisition and re-engagement
- Led the Intent Prediction team of 50 members, developing novel techniques using deep learning and data mining
- Developed frameworks for determining user information interests, optimal timing, and presentation methods

Deep Learning Data Mining Team Leadership Predictive Systems Growth

 **Google** San Francisco Bay Area  
SOFTWARE ENGINEER TO SENIOR STAFF SOFTWARE ENGINEER 2012 - 2018

- Led proactive search initiatives using personalized and contextually-relevant signals to enhance Search experience
- Led the spelling correction team and Cross Language Information Retrieval (CLIR) team, making search language-agnostic
- Developed and launched web-scale contextual spell checker that revolutionized document editing by adapting Search spelling technology (2012 launch). System detected context-specific errors traditional spell checkers missed, with documented cases of catching 38+ errors in professionally edited manuscripts. Featured in author Amy Stewart's review: "The genius behind this technology...you are invited to Thanksgiving every year."

Spell Check ML Systems Technical Leadership Search Features

## Education

 **National University of Singapore** Singapore  
PHD IN COMPUTER SCIENCE 2003 - 2007

- Funded by A\*Star-NUS Graduate Fellowship
- Thesis: On Forward Pruning in Game-Tree Search
- Research focus on game AI and machine learning

 **University of Waterloo** Canada  
BMATH, DOUBLE DEGREE 1997 - 2000

- Double Honors Degree in Pure Mathematics and Computer Science
- Graduated with Distinction

## Selected Publications

Lim, Y. J. (2007). *On Forward Pruning in Game-Tree Search*.

Lim, Y. J., & Teh, Y. W. (2007). Variational Bayesian approach to movie rating prediction. *Proceedings of KDD Cup and Workshop*, 15–21.

Lim, Y. J., Kunz, J., Linn, J. G., Gilliland, C. J., Faden, D., & Jhala, S. (2018). *Predicting user needs for a particular context*.

Lim, Y. J., Linn, J., Liang, Y., Steinebach, C., Lu, W. L., Kim, D. H., & Kunz, J. (2021). *Predicting intent of a search for a particular context*.

## Skills

**Languages** English | Conversational Chinese  
**Tech Stack** Python | C++ | Prompt Whisperer  
**Personal Interests** Gardening | Meditation | Reading