

PERSONA: **NARI**

Position: **Associate Professor in Innovation Studies**
Organization: **Business School, South Korea**



Background:

Nari studies intellectual property rights such as patents. Among others, she tries to understand the degree to which patents incentivize innovation by allowing innovators to appropriate financial returns vs. stifle innovation by preventing others from recombining ideas that are patented. This issue is a big open question in innovation research but also has important implications for science and innovation policies in different countries.

Nari's challenge:

She needs more and better data that tell her which commercialized products are protected by which specific patents. The currently available data are very limited in scope and size, and they are expensive – mostly coming from commercial data vendors who focus on specific industries such as pharmaceuticals. She could also hire research assistants to hand-collect data, but that would be expensive, take a lot of time, and they would likely miss large chunks of the product universe.