

# Ilia Zenkov

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Research Scientist with 2 years experience using Python to generate data pipelines with published results

## Skills

**Languages** Python, SQL, Java, LaTeX  
**Technologies** Django, Postgres, Travis CI/CD, tox, Docker, Spark, Jupyter, Git  
**Tools** PyTorch, sklearn, NumPy, PANDAS, Matplotlib, pytest, Psycopg2, Scrapy, spaCy, Seaborn, SciPy, statsmodels

## Experience

### 🔗 McGill University; Lady Davis Institute

Montreal, QC

RESEARCH ASSISTANT

Sept 2017 - May 2018

- Wrote a custom **Python** script to automate parsing and conversion of binary format experiment data files into **PANDAS DataFrames** and **JSON** for storage using **PostgreSQL**, enabling automated statistical analysis with **NumPy** and **SciPy**
- Designed a semi-automated **data pipeline** for a high throughput drug screening using **PostgreSQL** and **Python** with **PANDAS**, **NumPy**, and **Matplotlib**, producing findings constituting a primary objective in a **\$1M federal grant** (CIHR)
- Accepted presenter at the [Lady Davis Institute Cancer Research Axis Seminar 2018](#)
- Developed from scratch and optimized experiments and **statistical analysis** using **Python** on an independent research project from proof-of-concept through to live-animal experiment stage, culminating in a \$20 000 project **grant proposal**
- Awarded research grant of \$5 000 which covered cost of reagents needed for an independent research project

### 🔗 Harvard Medical School

Boston, MA

VISITING UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCHER

Sept 2016 - May 2017

- **Automated statistical analysis** of numerical experiment data with **Python** using **NumPy**, **PANDAS**, and **SciPy**, automated visualization using **Matplotlib** and **Seaborn**, and enabled access on a local lab server using **Django** and **Gunicorn**
- Built a **Python** tool to track status and inventory of biological samples using **PostgreSQL** for data storage and **PANDAS** to display information in **DataFrames**; deployed as a **RESTful API** using **Django REST framework** and **Gunicorn**
- Designed from scratch, conducted, and optimized experiments and **statistical analysis with Python**, validating a collaborative nanoparticle research proposal; [research accepted and published in a high-impact peer reviewed journal](#)

### 🔗 University of Waterloo Centre for Teaching Excellence

Waterloo, ON

SPECIAL PROJECTS COORDINATOR

Jan 2016 - May 2016

- Identified and statistically analyzed shortcomings in workshop attendance with respect to academic term and attendee faculty membership using **Python** data science and plotting libraries **NumPy**, **SciPy**, and **Matplotlib**.

## Projects

### 🎓 Speech Emotion Recognition by Parallelizing CNNs and Transformer-Encoders • PyTorch • NumPy • sklearn

ACHIEVED 97.11% ACCURACY ON HOLD-OUT SET FROM RAVDESS SPEECH AUDIO DATASET BY COMBINING SPATIAL AND TEMPORAL FEATURE REPRESENTATIONS USING PARALLEL NETWORK ARCHITECTURE WITH STACKED CONVOLUTIONAL AND TRANSFORMER-ENCODER LAYERS, DATA AUGMENTATION, DROPOUT, AND BATCHNORM.

## Peer-Reviewed Publications

### 🎓 Co-Author: Sugar-Nanocapsules Imprinted with Microbial Molecular Patterns for mRNA Vaccination

NANO LETTERS 2020 20 (3), 1499-1509 • IMPACT FACTOR 12.4

### 🎓 Co-Author: Flat Cell Culturing Surface May Cause Misinterpretation of Cellular Uptake of Nanoparticles

ADVANCED BIOSYSTEMS 2018 2 (6), 1800046 • 2020 EXPECTED IMPACT FACTOR 7.5-10

## Education

### University of Waterloo

Waterloo, Ontario

B.Sc. HONOURS BIOPHYSICS

2014 - 2019

Awarded University of Waterloo President's Scholarship of Distinction

Courses: Differential Equations, Linear Algebra, Statistical Mechanics, Computational Physics, Quantum Info Processing

## Personal Interests

🎹 **Pianist:** Classically trained - Rachmaninoff preludes are a favourite

⬆️ **Powerlifter:** Standing Canadian junior national bench press record holder since 2017