

# Alexandra Chronopoulou

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## Education

### PhD in Computer Science

University of Munich (LMU Munich)

Munich, Germany

09/2019- Today

- Natural Language Processing & Machine Learning
- Focus : Unsupervised and Low-Resource Machine Translation, Unsupervised Cross-lingual Pretraining
- Supervisor: Alexander Fraser [[scholar](#)]

### BEng & MEng Diploma in Electrical and Computer Engineering

National Technical University of Athens

Athens, Greece

09/2012-02/2019

- GPA : 8.0/10 (top 15% of class)
- Specialization: Systems, Control & Robotics
- Thesis Topic : Transfer Learning with Deep Neural Networks for Sentiment Analysis and Semantic Modeling, supervised by Alexandros Potamianos [[scholar](#)]
- Relevant Coursework: Natural Language Processing, Neural Networks and Intelligent Systems, Robotics Computer Vision

### Erasmus Exchange Student Program

Polytechnic University of Catalonia (UPC)

Barcelona, Spain

01/2016-06/2016

- Relevant Coursework: Pattern Recognition, Mobile Robots and Navigation

### High School Diploma

Lycée Léonin Nea Smirni

Athens, Greece

09/2009-06/2012

- GPA: 19.4/20 (Highest Honors)
- Nationwide University Entrance Examination. GPA: 19.38/20 (top 1% nationwide)

## Publications

### EMNLP 2020

Proceedings of the Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing

Online

November 2020

- Reusing a Pretrained Language Model on Languages with Limited Corpora for Unsupervised NMT [[pdf](#)] [[code](#)]  
**Alexandra Chronopoulou**, Dario Stojanovski, Alexander Fraser

### Findings of EMNLP 2020

Proceedings of the Findings of the Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing

Online

November 2020

- Domain Adversarial Fine-Tuning as an Effective Regularizer [[pdf](#)]  
Giorgos Vernikos, Katerina Margatina, **Alexandra Chronopoulou**, Ion Androutsopoulos

### WMT 2020

Proceedings of the Conference on Machine Translation, Shared Task Papers

Online

November 2020

- The LMU Munich System for the WMT 2020 Unsupervised Machine Translation Shared Task  
**Alexandra Chronopoulou**, Dario Stojanovski, Viktor Hangya, Alexander Fraser

### NAACL 2019

Proceedings of the Conference of the North American Chapter of ACL

Minneapolis, USA

June 2019

- An Embarrassingly Simple Approach for Transfer Learning from Pretrained Language Models [[pdf](#)] [[code](#)]  
**Alexandra Chronopoulou**, Christos Baziotis, Alexandros Potamianos

### WASSA 2018 (EMNLP Workshop)

Proceedings of the Workshop on Comp. Approaches to Subjectivity, Sentiment & Social Media Analysis

Brussels, Belgium

Oct.-Nov. 2018

- NTUA-SLP at IEST 2018: Ensemble of neural transfer methods for implicit emotion classification [[pdf](#)] [[code](#)]  
**Alexandra Chronopoulou**, Katerina Margatina, Christos Baziotis, Alexandros Potamianos

### SemEval 2018 (NAACL Workshop)

Proceedings of The International Workshop on Semantic Evaluation

New Orleans, USA

June 2018

- NTUA-SLP at SemEval-2018 Task 1: Predicting Affective Content in Tweets with Deep Attentive RNNs and Transfer Learning [[pdf](#)] [[code](#)]  
Christos Baziotis, Nikos Athanasiou, **Alexandra Chronopoulou**, Athanasia Kolovou, Georgios Paraskevopoulos, Nikolaos Ellinas, Shrikanth Narayanan, Alexandros Potamianos

## Professional Experience

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### Machine Learning Engineer

*Behavioral Signal Technologies Inc.*

**Los Angeles, USA (remote)**

*11/2018-07/2019*

- Built text classification models for emotion recognition from conversational data.
- Built neural models using PyTorch for basic emotion recognition.
- Developed machine learning infrastructure framework.

### Software Engineer (Intern)

*NOKIA R&D*

**Athens, Greece**

*07/2017-01/2018*

- Assisted in coding a supervised machine learning algorithm based on Random Forest to predict code fault-proneness on internal team projects using a Cassandra NoSQL database.
- Coded in Python, used scikit-learn. Front-end with Flask.

## Honors and Awards

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- **Top-ranked participation in the Unsupervised Machine Translation Shared Task of WMT 2020**  
1st position in both translation directions, (German-Sorbian and Sorbian-German), using a variant of the MASS model for pretraining, pseudo-parallel data from USMT, residual adapters and BPE dropout.
- **Facebook Scholarship for Attendance at EurNLP 2019**  
Recipient of travel grant in order to attend the inaugural EurNLP summit in London, UK.
- **EETN Scholarship for Attendance at AthNLP Summer School 2019**  
Recipient of scholarship from the Hellenic Artificial Intelligence Society (EETN) to attend the 1st AthNLP Summer School in Athens, Greece.
- **ACM-W Scholarship for Attendance at NAACL 2019**  
Recipient of award from ACM-Women to attend NAACL 2019 conference in Minneapolis, USA.
- **Top-ranked participation in WASSA 2018**  
3rd position in the IEST Task (Implicit Emotion Classification Shared Task) among 30 teams, employing transfer learning from language models for emotion recognition.
- **Top-ranked participation in SemEval 2018**  
2nd position among 3 subtasks in Task 1: Affect in Tweets based on transfer learning methods for deep learning for emotion recognition on both regression and classification tasks.

## Presentations

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- **NAACL 2019** An Embarrassingly Simple Approach for Transfer Learning from Pretrained Language Models  
**Alexandra Chronopoulou**, Christos Baziotis, Alexandros Potamianos [[slides](#)] [[video](#)]
- **EMNLP 2018-WASSA** Ensemble of Neural Transfer Methods for Implicit Emotion Classification  
**Alexandra Chronopoulou**, Katerina Margatina, Christos Baziotis, Alexandros Potamianos [[slides](#)]

## Technical skills

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- **Programming Skills:** Python, C, Matlab, UNIX, Bash, SQL
- **Frameworks:** Pytorch, Keras, Tensorflow, scikit-learn
- **Development:** Git, Jira, Scrum, Jenkins

## Languages

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- Greek (native), English (fluent), French (fluent), Spanish (intermediate), German (intermediate)

## References

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### Alexander Fraser

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### Alexandros Potamianos

*potam@central.ntua.gr*