CHRIS SAMARINAS

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EDUCATION

Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Thessaloniki, Greece   October 2013 - Jun 2017
Bachelor of Science (B.S.) in Computer Science
· GPA: 9.67/10.00 (ranked 1/130, highest GPA since **1992** out of 3,000+ CS graduates)
· Ranked 1/130 in national university entrance exam in my department and top 0.2% nationwide.
· Thesis: *Mining answers from the web using information retrieval techniques and machine learning*

WORK EXPERIENCE

National University of Singapore, Singapore   Feb 2020 – Present
Research Assistant
· Research on *latent retrieval for large-scale question answering and fact-checking*.
· Developed Quin, a framework for *large-scale semantic search* that returns text snippets related to questions or statements. Deployed in a real-world semantic search engine for COVID-19.
· Research on *robust and efficient on-device detection of toxic textual content* on the web browser.
· Developed ToxicFilter, a web browser extension for client-side detection of toxic content on webpages without depending on a hosted service.

Plural AI, London, United Kingdom   Oct 2018 – Jan 2020
Research Engineer
· Plural AI is a fintech startup that builds a *knowledge engine* for the finance industry. The company focuses on extracting content from corporate websites and financial statements to enrich a financial *knowledge graph*, and support question answering on complex financial queries.
· Developed a novel framework for *concept extraction* and *saliency scoring* from corporate websites. Owned the whole machine learning pipeline, from the *annotation tool development* and website crawling, to the productionization and deployment.
· Developed a smart tool for efficient curation of an industrial *category graph*.
· Developed a scalable semantic search service of companies using a novel *topic modeling* technique.

Donaco LTD, London, United Kingdom   Jun 2018 – Jan 2019
Research Engineer
· Donaco is an online advertising startup that tries to revolutionize online donations.
· Designed a system for *contextual recommendation* of charity campaigns in news articles.
· Worked on the advertising platform and tried to utilize the real-time user behavior for better ad serving.

Foshan.io, Remote Software Consultant   Aug 2018 – Nov 2018
· Responsible for the development of the new version of the *historical* HotBot metasearch engine.

RESEARCH

Latent Retrieval For Large-Scale Fact-Checking and Question Answering with NLI Training [code] [presentation]
Chris Samarinas, Wynne Hsu, Mong Li (submitted to IEEE ICTAI 2020)
Funded by the *Institute of Data Science* and supported by the *Tensorflow Research Cloud Program*

WAMBy: An Information Retrieval Approach To Web-Based Question Answering
Chris Samarinas, Grigorios Tsoumakas (SETN 2018)

Personalized high quality news recommendations using word embeddings and text classification models (preprint)
Chris Samarinas, Stefanos Zafeiriou

AWARDS

Bioengineering Hackathon, 1st place 2018
EMB IEEE Student Chapter AUTH, StudentGuru

· 1st place for developing DropSense in 48 hours, a platform that monitors and connects elderly with their relatives and paid carers using Wear OS smartwatches.

Hackathon Thessaloniki, Honor 2014
Municipality of Thessaloniki

· Awarded for developing CityReport in 24 hours, an online responsive web application for instant issues reporting.

Great Moment for Education Scholarship, Award 2013
Eurobank Ergasias

· A scholarship for achieving the highest grade at school at the national university admission examination.

National Mathematics Competition, First Prize 2009
Hellenic Mathematical Society

· Awarded for competing in the final stage "Archimedes", top 50 out of 20,000 participants.

GRANTS

Innovate UK Smart Grant 2019
UK Research and Innovation

· Awarded for our work at Plural AI, building a knowledge engine for the finance industry.

Horizon 2020 Grant 2019
European Union Funding for Research and Innovation

· For our research at Plural AI on entity extraction and semantic search.

Tensorflow Research Cloud Program 2020
Google

· Granted free access to TPU pods for 6 months for our project on large-scale latent retrieval.

SKILLS

Programming languages	Python, Java, C, C++, Prolog
Web development	JavaScript, HTML5, PHP, MySQL, MongoDB
Machine Learning	Tensorflow, PyTorch
Other	Kubernetes, noe4j, GCP, Latex, Android development