

My primary interest is in Artificial Intelligence. In particular, I strive to solve large engineering problems by leveraging Machine Learning techniques. I have a keen eye for design, and prioritise clean, seamless, and elegant implementations. I am also interested in neuroinformatics, and trying to understand why and how the human brain makes the decisions it does.

	Stellenbosch University, BEng	Data Scientist	University of Edinburgh, MSc
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1 Mar '95	Jan '14 - Dec '17	Jan - July, '18	Aug '18 - '19

Personal

Email Address Telephone

aristaki@me.com +27 82 493 1677 (ZA) ari@anastassiou.info +44 7305 596 829 (UK)

Current Address

35 Simpson Loan, Flat 8, Edinburgh, EH3 9GH

Date of Birth

1 March, 1995

Citizenship

South African English (Native)
Greek (EU work auth.) Greek (Fluent)
Zulu (Basic)

Languages

Education

MSc Artificial Intelligence

I am currently undertaking my dissertation, titled 'Nonsequitur or dialogue breakdown detection'. I am cosupervised by Adam Lopez and Alan Nichol, from the University of Edinburgh and Rasa respectively.

BEng Electrical and Electronic Engineering

Supervised by Dr Herman Kamper, with thesis titled 'Query-by-example speech search using visually-ground deep neural network'. I implemented a number of statistical methods to discover the efficacy of using visual-grounding for speech search; received cum laude for my submission.

Saheti School • Primary and High School

Head Prefect

Dux Scholar

IEB Outstanding Achiever (top 5% nationally)

References

Herman Kamper, PhD • Stellenbosch University

Supervisor kamperh@sun.ac.za

Frans Cronje • DataProphet

Employer & CEO frans@dataprophet.com

Tim Wolff-Piggott • DataProphet

Supervisor tim@dataprophet.com

Courses

University of Edinburgh

Machine Learning & Pattern Recognition • Accelerated Natural Language Processing • Machine Learning Practical • Natural Language Understanding, Generation, & Translation • Decision Making in Robots & Autonomous Agents • Data Mining & Exploration

Stellenbosch University

Systems & Signals • Machine Learning • Control System • Electronics • Circuit Design • Entrepreneurship

Experience

Junior Data Scientist • DataProphet

My 6-month internship gave me hands on experience in real-life machine learning problems and development practices. I was also fortunate to work in great team settings, where I was afforded the opportunity for independent and valuable contributions. Projects I worked on included systems for fraud detection, customer retention and clustering, and high dimensional data understanding and visualization.

Publications

ICASSP • Brighton, UK • 2019

Kamper, Herman, Aristotelis Anastassiou, and Karen Livescu. "Semantic query-by-example speech search using visual grounding." ICASSP 2019-2019 IEEE International Conference on Acoustics, Speech and Signal Processing (ICASSP). IEEE, 2019.

Awards

University of Edinburgh, IBM

IBM prize for achieving 3rd place out of 127 teams for our Machine Learning Practical project, titled Forging the Perfect Recognition. We used Natural Language Processing techniques to design a recommender systems to improve employee engagement. This can be found on my repo.