

# Christos Baziotis

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## CONTACT INFORMATION

 [cbaziotis.github.io](https://github.com/cbaziotis)  [github.com/cbaziotis](https://github.com/cbaziotis)  [christos.baziotis@gmail.com](mailto:christos.baziotis@gmail.com)  
 London, UK  [papers \(Google Scholar\)](https://paperswithcode.com/cbazi)  [linkedin.com/christosbaziotis](https://linkedin.com/christosbaziotis)

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

My research focuses on the intersection of Machine Learning and Natural Language Processing. I am interested text generation, multilinguality, and enabling models to learn with limited supervision by leveraging prior knowledge from unlabeled data.

## EDUCATION

**PhD Candidate** 2019 - Present

University of Edinburgh (ILCC), UK

Supervisors: [Barry Haddow](#), [Alexandra Birch](#)

· My PhD topic is low-resource machine translation (MT). I have worked on semi-supervised and multilingual MT, improving parameter efficiency, scaling, and (non-parametric) retrieval.

**MSc in Advanced Computing and Informatics Systems**

2017

University of Piraeus, Greece (GPA 9.46/10)

· I worked on sentiment analysis & designed a model that d *1st* at Semeval 2017 Task4.

**BSc in Computer Science**

2014

University of Piraeus, Greece

## WORK EXPERIENCE

**External Research Collaborator**

Jan 2022 - Apr 2022

[Meta AI](#) (FAIR) at Menlo Park, CA, USA (remote)

· I resumed and concluded my internship project that was accepted to EMNLP 2022 (oral).

**Research Scientist Intern**

Sep 2021 - Dec 2021

[Meta AI](#) (FAIR) at Menlo Park, CA, USA (remote)

· I worked on (massively) multilingual translation and showed how to effectively scale hyper-networks and use them to improve parameter efficiency (up to 12x) and performance.

**Applied Scientist Intern**

May 2021 - Aug 2021

[Amazon Research](#) at Palo Alto, CA, USA (remote)

· I analyzed how models handle the translation of figurative language and proposed LitTER, the first automatic metric for measuring literal translation errors (accepted at EACL 2023).

**Software Engineer**

Apr 2014 - Jan 2016

[Profile Systems and Software S.A.](#), Athens, Greece

· Profile develops software for the Banking, FinTech & Investment Management industries.  
· I developed [Axia](#), Profile's cloud-based solution for wealth management.

## SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

(see full list in  
[Google Scholar](#))

**Christos Baziotis**, Prashant Mathur, and Eva Hasler. "Automatic Evaluation and Analysis of Idioms in Neural Machine Translation". EACL 2023. [\[paper\]](#) [\[code\]](#)

**Christos Baziotis**, Mikel Artetxe, James Cross, and Shruti Bhosale. "Multilingual Machine Translation with Hyper-Adapters". EMNLP 2022 (oral). [\[paper\]](#) [\[code\]](#)

**Christos Baziotis**, Ivan Titov, Alexandra Birch, and Barry Haddow. "Exploring Unsupervised Pretraining Objectives for Machine Translation". ACL 2021 (Findings). [\[paper\]](#) [\[code\]](#)

**Christos Baziotis**, Barry Haddow, and Alexandra Birch. "Language Model Prior for Low-Resource Neural Machine Translation". EMNLP 2020. [\[paper\]](#) [\[code\]](#)

**Christos Baziotis**, Ion Androutsopoulos, Ioannis Konstas, and Alexandros Potamianos. "SEQ<sup>3</sup>: Differentiable Sequence-to-Sequence-to-Sequence Autoencoder for Unsupervised Abstractive Sentence Compression". NAACL 2019 (oral). [\[paper\]](#) [\[code\]](#)

Alexandra Chronopoulou, **Christos Baziotis**, and Alexandros Potamianos. “An Embarrassingly Simple Approach for Transfer Learning from Pretrained Language Models”. NAACL 2019 (**oral**). [\[paper\]](#) [\[code\]](#)

Katerina Margatina, **Christos Baziotis**, and Alexandros Potamianos. “Attention-based Conditioning Methods for External Knowledge Integration”. ACL 2019. [\[paper\]](#) [\[code\]](#)

**Christos Baziotis**, Nikos Athanasiou, Alexandra Chronopoulou, Athanasia Kolovou, Georgios Paraskevopoulos, Nikolaos Ellinas, Shrikanth Narayanan, and Alexandros Potamianos. “NTUA-SLP at SemEval-2018 Task 1: Predicting Affective Content in Tweets with Deep Attentive RNNs and Transfer Learning”. SemEval (NAACL) 2018 — **1st place at Task1E**. [\[paper\]](#) [\[code\]](#)

**Christos Baziotis**, Nikos Pelekis, and Christos Doukeridis. “DataStories at SemEval-2017 Task 4: Deep LSTM with Attention for Message-level and Topic-based Sentiment Analysis”. SemEval (ACL) 2017 — **1st place at Task4A**. [\[paper\]](#) [\[code\]](#)

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

### Teacher Assistant

Jan 2022 - May 2022

University of Edinburgh (ILCC), UK

- I designed and organized the labs, tutorials, and assignments for the M.Sc. course “Natural Language Understanding, Generation, and Machine Translation”.

### Research Assistant

2017 - 2019

National Technical University of Athens (NTUA), Greece

- I did research in text generation and transfer learning that led to several publications
- I worked as Teacher Assistant in Speech and Language Processing course
- I was the leader of the NTUA-SLP Team for SemEval 2018, and we achieved top-scoring results at Tasks 1, 2, 3

### Research Assistant

2017 - 2019

Institute of Communication and Computer Systems (ICCS), Athens, Greece

I worked at the project “[BabyRobot](#): Child-Robot Communication and Collaboration”:

- Object Recognition, for enabling the robots to identify children’s workspace.
- Speech Emotion Recognition, for tracking children’s emotions.
- Text Affect Recognition, for monitoring children’s affective state (ASR transcripts).

## COMPETITIONS

Before my PhD I participated in several shared tasks and achieved top-scoring results:

- 1st place in Semeval 2017, Task4A “Sentiment Analysis in Twitter”
- 1st place in Semeval 2018, Task1E “Affect in Tweets”
- 1st place in BioCreative VI Precision Medicine Track, “Document Triage Task”
- 2nd place in Semeval 2017 Task4 [B, C, D] (*Sentiment Analysis*), Semeval 2017 Task6A (*Humor*), Semeval 2018 Task2 (*Emoji Prediction*), Semeval 2018 Task3 (*Irony Detection*)

## OPEN-SOURCE PROJECTS

[ekphrasis](#) (600+ stars in GitHub)

Text processing tool, targeted at social media texts (e.g. Twitter)

[NeAt-Vision](#) (240+ stars in GitHub)

Visualization of the behaviour of NLP deep-learning models (attention, predictions, etc.)

## PROGRAMMING SKILLS

**Proficient:** Python (machine learning stack; PyTorch, NumPy/SciPy, scikit-learn), JavaScript (front-end stack; AngularJS, VueJS)

**Familiar:** Java, C/C++, SQL, RegEx, Linux Shell