# Constantinos Chamzas

Updated: Nov. 2021 Houston, USA chamzask-at-rice.com

### Education

William Marsh Rice University

Houston, TX, USA

Ph.D. student in Computer Science, Advisor: Dr. Lydia Kavraki

Aug. 2017 - Present

- 8 Semesters Completed,
- Research Areas: Learning and Robotics, Representation Learning, Motion Planning

Aristotle University of Thessaloniki

Thessaloniki, Greece

Sep.2011 - Apr.2017

- Diploma in Electrical and Computer Engineering
  - Graduated with 'Excellent', 8.86/10 cumulative average (Top 2%)
  - Thesis: Structural Analysis of Handwritten Equations Using Probabilistic Context-Free Grammars

# Research Experience

Kavraki Lab, http://kavrakilab.org/

Rice University, Houston

Aug. 2017 - Present

- Graduate Student
  - Authored research papers in Robotic Learning.
  - Developed open-source software for education and research purposes.

TracLabs Robotics Group, https://traclabs.com/

TracLabs, Houston

Research Intern

Jul. 2019 - Aug. 2019

- Integrated a motion planning framework (OMPL) with existing infrastructure (CRAFTSMAN)
- Investigated experience-based planning in an industrial manipulation problem.

Pandora Robotics Group, http://pandora.ee.auth.gr/ Software Engineer and Tester

Aristotle University, Thessaloníki

Sep. 2013 - Feb. 2015

- Mapped robot's georeferenced track and surrounding environment in a 2D geotiff (Qt, C++)
  - Developed an online diagnostic tester for ROS nodes

### **Open Source Software**

Pyre Library Core Developer/Maintainer https://github.com/KavrakiLab/pyre

April 2021 - present

Robowflex Library

https://github.com/KavrakiLab/robowflex

Core Contributor

March 2019 - present

The Open Motion Planning Library (OMPL)

http://ompl.kavrakilab.org/

Contributor

Jul. 2019 - present

# Awards, Nominations and Fellowships

ICRA 2021 Best Paper nomination in Cognitive Robotics (Top-4) Rice University, Houston

Nominated to relevant papers in a competitive basis

Jun. 2021

NSF Graduate Research Fellowship

Rice University, Houston

Awarded to outstanding graduate students in the US in STEM

May. 2019

ICRA 2019 Travel Grant

Rice University, Houston

Awarded to attendees in a competitive basis

Mar. 2019

Hellenic Professional Society of Texas Scholarship

Rice University, Houston

Awarded to students with Greek Origins for Academic Excellence

Jan. 2018

## **Publications**

- [1] C. Chamzas, C. Quintero-Peña, Z. Kingston, A. Orthey, D. Rakita, M. Gleicher, M. Toussaint, L. E. Kavraki "MotionBenchMaker: A tool to Generate and Benchamark Motion Planning Datasets" IEEE Robotics and Automation Letters (RAL), 2022.
- [2] M. Moll, C. Chamzas, Z. Kingston, L. E. Kavraki "HyperPlan: A Framework for Motion Planning Algorithm Selection and Parameter Optimization" In IEEE/RSJ International Conference on Intelligent Robots and Systems (IROS), 2021.
- [3] Z.Kingston, C. Chamzas, L. E. Kavraki "Using Experience to Improve Constrainted Planning on Foliations for Multi-Modal Problems" In IEEE/RSJ International Conference on Intelligent Robots and Systems(IROS), 2021.
- [4] C. Chamzas, Z. Kingston, A. Shrivastava, L. E. Kavraki "Learning sampling distributions using local 3D workspace decompositions for motion planning in high dimensions" IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation (ICRA), 2021. Top-4 finalist for best paper in Cognitive Robotics
- [5] C. Quintero-Peña\*, C. Chamzas\*, V. Unhelkar, L.E. Kavraki "Motion Planning via Bayesian Learning in the Dark" In ICRA 2021: Workshop on Machine Learning for Motion Planning, 2021.
- [6] E. Pairet, C. Chamzas, Y. Petillot, L. E. Kavraki "Path Planning for Manipulation using Experience-driven Random Trees" IEEE Robotics and Automation Letters (RAL), 2021.
- [7] D. Chamzas, C. Chamzas, K. Moustakas "cMinMax: A Fast Algorithm to Find the Corners in an N-dimensional Convex Polytope" International Conference on Computer Graphics Theory and Applications (GRAPP), 2021.
- [8] C. Chamzas\*, M. Lippi\*, M. C. Welle\*, A. Varava, A. Marino, D. Kragic, L.E. Kavraki "Structuring Latent Representation with Minimal Supervision for Robotic Tasks " 3rd Robot Learning Workshop in NeurIPS, 2020.
- [9] C. Chamzas, A. Shrivastava, L. E. Kavraki "Using Local Experiences for Global Motion Planning," IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation (ICRA), 2019.

#### Teaching Experience

•	Algorithmic Robotics (COMP 450/550) Guest Lecturer	Rice University, Houston $Nov.~2021$
•	Artificial Intelligence (COMP 440/557)  Teaching Assistant	Rice University, Houston Aug. 2019 – Dec. 2019
•	Probabilistic Algorithms and Data Structures (COMP 480/580) Teaching Assistant	Rice University, Houston Jan. 2019 – May 2018
•	Algorithmic Robotics (COMP 450/550) Teaching Assistant	Rice University, Houston Aug. 2018 – Dec. 2018
•	Rice DataScience Bootcamp Teaching Assistant	Rice University, Houston Aug. 2018
•	Statistical Machine Learning (COMP 440/540) Teaching Assistant	Rice University, Houston Jan. 2018 – May. 2018

#### Languages

**Greek:** Mother Tongue

**English:** Level: C2(Excellent)

**German:** Level: B2(Good)