Constantinos Chamzas

Houston, USA

https://cchamzas.com chamzas-at-rice.edu

Education

Worcester Polytechnic Institute

Worcester, MA, USA

July. 2023 - Present

' Assistant Professor, Robotics Engineering

- Teaching Courses: Robotic Motion Planning (RBE550)

- Research Areas: Learning and Planning, Planning under Uncertainty, Task and Motion Planning

William Marsh Rice University

Houston, TX, USA

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

Aug. 2017 - May 2023

- Thesis: Retrieval-Based Learning for Efficient High-DoF Motion Planning

Aristotle University of Thessaloniki

Thessaloniki, Greece

Diploma in Electrical and Computer Engineering

Sep.2011 - Apr.2017

- Graduated with "Excellent," **8.86/10** cumulative average (Top 2%)

- Thesis: Structural Analysis of Handwritten Equations Using Probabilistic Context-Free Grammars

Research Experience

 $Graduate\ Student$

Kavraki Lab, http://kavrakilab.org/

Rice University, Houston

Aug. 2017 - Present

- Authored research papers in Robotic Learning

- Developed open-source software for education and research purposes

NVIDIA Seattle Robotics Lab, https://nvidia_srl.gitlab.io/

NVIDIA, Seattle

Research Intern

Sept. 2022 - Dec. 2022

Worked on robust Task and Motion Planning

Adacomp Lab, https://adacomp.comp.nus.edu.sg/

NUS, Singapore

Research Intern

Jul. 2022 - Aug. 2022

- Developed a POMDP formulation for planning with manipulators

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

TracLabs, Houston

Research Intern

Jul. 2019 - Aug. 2019

- Integrated a Motion Planning framework and experience-based planning in an industrial problem

Pandora Robotics Group, http://pandora.ee.auth.gr/

Aristotle University, Thessaloníki

Software Engineer and Tester

Sep. 2013 - Feb. 2015

- Worked or robot mapping and online diagnostic testers

Awards, Nominations and Fellowships

Future Faculty Fellowship from Rice University

Rice University, Houston

Awarded to Ph.D./Postoctoral students applying to tenure-track positions

Rice University, Houston

ICRA 2021 Best Paper nomination in Cognitive Robotics (Top-4)

Nominated to relevant papers in a competitive basis

Jun. 2021

Sept. 2022

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

Open Source Software

MotionBenchMaker https://github.com/KavrakiLab/motion_bench_maker

Core Developer/Maintainer January 2022 – present

Pyre Library https://github.com/KavrakiLab/pyre

Core Developer/Maintainer April 2021 – present

Robowflex Library https://github.com/KavrakiLab/robowflex

Core Contributor March 2019 – present

The Open Motion Planning Library (OMPL)

Contributor

http://ompl.kavrakilab.org/

Jul. 2019 - present

Teaching Experience

Algorithmic Robotics (COMP 450/550) Rice University, Houston

Guest Lecturer Nov. 2022

Graduate Seminar (COMP 600) Rice University, Houston

Instructor Assistant Sept 2022

Algorithmic Robotics (COMP 450/550) Rice University, Houston

Guest Lecturer Nov. 2021

Artificial Intelligence (COMP 440/557)

Rice University, Houston

Teaching Assistant Aug. 2019 – Dec. 2019

Probabilistic Algorithms and Data Structures (COMP 480/580)

Rice University, Houston

Jan. 2019 – May 2019

Algorithmic Robotics (COMP 450/550)

Rice University, Houston

Teaching Assistant Aug. 2018 – Dec. 2018

Rice DataScience Bootcamp Rice University, Houston

Teaching Assistant Aug. 2018

Statistical Machine Learning (COMP 440/540) Rice University, Houston

Teaching Assistant

Jan. 2018 – May. 2018

Service

Reviewer: IROS, ICRA, RAL, TMECH, TRO

Invited Talks: TU Berlin, IEEE RAS School,

Organized Workshops: "Evaluating Motion Planning Performance", IROS 2022

Skills/Other

Software: ROS, Keras, Tensorflow, OMPL, MoveIt

Programming: C/C++(Expert), Python(Expert), Java(Intermediate), MATLAB(Intermediate)

Languages: Greek(Mother Tongue), English(Excellent), German(Good)

Social: Officer of Rice University's CS-GSA, Graduate Wellbeing Peer

Publications

- [1] <u>C. Chamzas*</u>, M. Lippi*, M. C. Welle*, A. Varava, L. E. Kavraki, D. Kragic "Comparing Reconstruction-and Contrastive-based Models for Visual Task Planning", *IEEE/RSJ International Conference on Intelligent Robots and Systems*, 2022 (IROS), 2022.
- [2] Y. Lee, <u>C. Chamzas</u>, and L. E. Kavraki "Adaptive Experience Sampling for Motion Planning using the Generator-Critic Framework", *IEEE Robotics and Automation Letters (RAL)*, 2022.
- [3] <u>C. Chamzas*</u>, F. Eweje*, L. E. Kavraki, E. L. Chaikof "Human Helath and Equity in an Age of Robotics and Intelligent Machines", *National Academy of Medicine Perspectives*, 2022.
- [4] <u>C. Chamzas</u>, A. Cullen, A. Shrivastava, L. E. Kavraki "Learning to Retrieve Relevant Experience for Motion Planning", *IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation (ICRA)*, 2022.
- [5] C.Quintero-Peña*, C. Chamzas*, Z. Sun, V. Unhelkar, L. E. Kavraki "Human-Guided Motion Planning in Partially Observable Environments", IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation (ICRA), 2022.
- [6] <u>C. Chamzas</u>, 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.
- [7] M. Moll, <u>C. Chamzas</u>, 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.
- [8] Z.Kingston, <u>C. Chamzas</u>, 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.
- [9] <u>C. Chamzas</u>, Z. Kingston, C.Quintero-Peña, 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**
- [10] C. Quintero-Peña*, <u>C. Chamzas*</u>, V.Unhelkar, L.E.Kavraki "Motion Planning via Bayesian Learning in the Dark", *In ICRA 2021: Workshop on Machine Learning for Motion Planning*, 2021.
- [11] E. Pairet, <u>C. Chamzas</u>, Y. Petillot, L. E. Kavraki "Path Planning for Manipulation using Experience-driven Random Trees", *IEEE Robotics and Automation Letters (RAL)*, 2021.
- [12] 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.
- [13] <u>C. Chamzas*</u>, 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.
- [14] <u>C. Chamzas</u>, A. Shrivastava, L. E. Kavraki "Using Local Experiences for Global Motion Planning", *IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation (ICRA)*, 2019.