Constantinos Chamzas

Houston, USA

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Education

- **William Marsh Rice University** — Houston, TX, USA
  Ph.D. in Computer Science, Advisor: Dr. Lydia E. Kavraki — *Aug. 2017 – Present*
  - 8 semesters completed
  - Research Areas: Learning and Robotics, Representation Learning, 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

- **Kavraki Lab,** `http://kavrakilab.org/` — Rice University, Houston
  Graduate Student — *Aug. 2017 – Present*
  - 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/` — Aristotle University, Thessalonki
  Software Engineer and Tester — *Sep. 2013 – Feb. 2015*
  - Mapped robots georeferenced track and surrounding environment in a 2D geotiff (Qt, C++)
  - Developed an online diagnostic tester for ROS nodes

Open Source Software

- **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)** — `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-Pea, 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-Pea*, C. Chamzas*, V.Unhelkar, L.E.Kavraki "Motion Planning via Bayesian Learning in the Dark" *In ICRA2021: 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)** — 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
  Teaching Assistant — *Jan. 2019 – May 2018*
- **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*

Skills

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

Software: ROS, Keras, Tensorflow, OMPL, MoveIt

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