Yiorgos (Georgios) Chochlakis

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EDUCATION

University of Southern California (USC), Los Angeles, CA — Aug 2021 – Present
MSc & PhD in Computer Science (Expected Graduation: Aug 2026)
GPA: **4.0**/4.0, Advisor: Prof. Shri Narayanan

National Technical University of Athens (NTUA), Athens, Greece — Sep 2015 – Oct 2020
BSc & MEng in Electrical and Computer Engineering (5-year joint degree)
GPA: **9.56**/10.0 (98th percentile), Thesis advisor: Prof. Alexandros Potamianos

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Applied Science Intern, Amazon Web Services, Bellevue, WA — May 2024 – Aug 2024
Created robust audio-textual representation learning methods to handle completely missing modalities, achieving SOTA emotion recognition in MSP-Podcast (Interspeech paper)

Applied Science Intern, Amazon Web Services, Santa Clara, CA — May 2023 – Aug 2023
Devised audio-visual representation learning methods to deal with partially missing video or audio, outperforming strong baselines in 10 out of 12 benchmarks (Interspeech paper)

Machine Learning Engineer, Behavioral Signals, Los Angeles, CA — Dec 2020 – Jul 2021
Improved speaker identification, caller matching and diarization models to enhance customer service in call centers; tested models for deployment and competitive bidding

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Graduate Research Assistant, SAIL, USC, Los Angeles, CA — Aug 2021 – Present
Focusing on understanding complex multi-label subjective tasks with LLMs, including quantifying the impact of prior subjective knowledge (how much do models rely on demonstrations or prior knowledge of the task), analyzing how labels as majority votes obscures individual perspectives, leveraging LLM bias for human error correction, uncovering how language modeling interferes with classification and the strange ways they perform multi-label classification. 1st-author papers: EMNLP Main (x2), NAACL Main, ICASSP (x3), ACII

Undergraduate Research Assistant, SLP group, NTUA, Greece — Mar 2020 – Nov 2020
Developed a novel framework for generative visual zero-shot learning by leveraging few-shot learning algorithms, achieving SOTA results in 2 benchmarks

Research Intern, IIT, NCSR Demokritos, Greece — Oct 2019 – Jun 2020
Published on surface reconstruction from satellite/drone imagery using deep learning

PROJECTS

Capital One Grant, USC, Los Angeles, CA — Jan 2025 – Present
Designing annotation pipeline for multimodal understanding of subjective narratives in financial and other relevant ads, with a specific focus on subjectivity and subjective reasoning

Everyday Respect, USC & LAPD, Los Angeles, CA — Dec 2022 – Present
Measuring & improving police officer communication during motor vehicle stops through multimodal analysis of body-worn camera footage, with a focus on noisy, highly idiosyncratic, and sensitive data, within a multidisciplinary team of engineers, lawyers, and sociologists

DARPA INCAS, Information Science Institute, USC, Los Angeles, CA — Sep 2021 – Dec 2024
Measured meaningful early indicators of influence campaigns on social media. Developed and deployed SOTA (6.5% IoU improvement) emotion recognition multilingual models and integrated indicators with USC team to detect influence campaigns

ADDITIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

Technical Skills: Extensive use of Python, Pytorch, HuggingFace (training & inference), vLLM
Open-source: `gridparse` (argparse for grid search w/o bash for loops), `legm` (comprehensive logging for ML)
Selected Awards: PhD Fellowship & Scholarship, NeurIPS top reviewer, Top GPA in NTUA 19-20