

# 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

- Developed SOTA unified audio-textual model for missing modalities with accuracy gains in all settings on MSP-Podcast up to 2.2%, enabling efficient model compiling and deployment ([IS 2025](#))

**Applied Science Intern**, [Amazon Web Services](#), Santa Clara, CA May 2023 – Aug 2023

- Devised video representation learning methods for partially missing modalities, outperforming baselines by up to 5.6% in 10/12 cases, improving reliability in real-world noisy scenarios ([IS 2024](#))

**Machine Learning Engineer**, [Behavioral Signals](#), Los Angeles, CA Dec 2020 – Jul 2021

- Built constrained optimization for call-center speaker ID/diarization, achieving 90%+ accuracy

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

**Graduate Research Assistant**, SAIL, USC, Los Angeles, CA Aug 2021 – Present

- Showed interference between language modeling and classification in LLMs ([Main EMNLP 2025](#))
- Exploited LLM biases to perform human labeling error correction ([Main EMNLP 2025](#))
- Exposed how subjective label aggregation obscures individual perspectives ([Main NAACL 2025](#))
- Quantified how LLMs prefer their own subjective priors over human opinions ([ACII 2024](#) & [ICASSP 2025](#)), revealing a systematic bias in in-context learning and CoT prompting
- Achieved SOTA emotion recognition in SemEval 2018 with BERT-based models (2x [ICASSP 2023](#))
- Mentored 8 undergrads & masters to graduation and publications, building leadership experience

**Undergraduate Research Assistant**, [SLP group](#), NTUA, Greece Mar 2020 – Nov 2020

- Advanced methods under limited supervision with visual zero-shot SOTA system in 2 settings.

**Research Intern**, [IIT](#), NCSR Demokritos, Greece Oct 2019 – Jun 2020

- [Published](#) on surface reconstruction from satellite & drone imagery with low-cost deep learning infra

## PROJECTS

**Capital One Fellowship**, USC, Los Angeles, CA Jan 2025 – Present

- Scraped 4k+ multimodal ads, conducted pilots and focus groups to improve annotation pipeline
- Developing multimodal LLMs to distinguish between affect and reason in human decisions

**LAPD Everyday Respect**, LAPD & USC, Los Angeles, CA Dec 2022 – Present

- Acquired 30k bodyworn videos from LAPD, curating a separate open dataset for benchmarking
- Developed AI-enhanced private annotation pipeline for lower-cost annotations w/o privacy concerns
- Building multimodal models to measure and improve police communication in traffic stops

**DARPA INCAS**, Information Science Institute, USC, Los Angeles, CA Sep 2021 – Dec 2024

- Designed emotion taxonomy to act as early indicator to detect social media influence campaigns
- Built SOTA emotion recognition multilingual models with 6.5% IoU gains
- Dockerized to deploy at scale; performed 6M+ inferences multiple times in short time frames
- Integrated with larger USC indicator system to detect campaigns with near perfect accuracy

## ADDITIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

Technical Skills: Extensive use of Python, Pytorch, HuggingFace (training & inference), vLLM, git, docs

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