

# 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** (e.g., GPT-3.5 shows ~0% improvement with labels, and a ~1.25× stronger pull from priors over labels), analyzing **aggregation artifacts**, leveraging **LLM bias for human error correction**, uncovering how **language modeling interferes with classification** and the strange ways they perform **multi-label classification**.  
Papers in **EMNLP** (x2), **NAACL**, **ICASSP** (x3), **ACII**, **ICWSM**, **NeurIPS**, ...

**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, 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