

# Yiorgos (Georgios) Chochlakis [ˈjorɣos xoˈxlakis]

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## RESEARCH INTERESTS

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modeling subjective language tasks with LLMs; scalable multimodal & multilingual affective analysis on social media; language grounding and grounding language; scientific rigor

## EDUCATION

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**University of Southern California (USC)**, Los Angeles, CA 08/2021 – Present  
*MSc & PhD in Computer Science* (Expected Graduation: 05/2026)

GPA: **4.0**/4.0

Advisor: Prof. Shri Narayanan

**National Technical University of Athens (NTUA)**, Athens, Greece 09/2015 – 10/2020  
*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

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**Applied Science Intern**, AWS, Bellevue, WA 05/2024 – 08/2024  
Developed methods for robustness in audio-textual representation learning

**Applied Science Intern**, AWS, Santa Clara, CA 05/2023 – 08/2023  
Developed methods for robustness in audio-visual representation learning

**Machine Learning Engineer**, Behavioral Signals, Los Angeles, CA 12/2020 – 07/2021  
Improved speaker identification, caller matching and diarization; tested models for deployment

**Machine Learning Intern**, SCiO, Lefkippos Attica Technology Park, Greece 07/2019 – 08/2019  
Built dataset with relevant features and model for rice cultivation in India

## PROJECTS

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**Capital One Grant**, USC, Los Angeles, CA 01/2025 – Present  
Multiagent LLMs for emotional appraisal of financial data

**Everyday Respect**, USC, Los Angeles, CA 12/2022 – Present  
Measuring & improving police officer communication during motor vehicle stops

**DARPA INCAS**, Information Science Institute, USC, Los Angeles, CA 09/2021 – Present  
Identifying meaningful early indicators of influence campaigns from social media  
Developing SOTA models to handle multilingual data, and a novel annotation scheme

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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**Graduate Research Assistant**, SAIL, USC, Los Angeles, CA 05/2021 – Present  
Conducting research in multilingual and multimodal affective analysis on social media  
Developing scalable, generalizable, and robust models for emotion recognition

**Undergraduate Research Assistant**, SLP group, NTUA, Greece 03/2020 – 11/2020  
Developed novel framework for generative zero-shot learning for my diploma thesis

**Research Intern**, IIT, NCSR Demokritos, Greece 10/2019 – 06/2020  
Published research on elevation surface reconstruction using deep learning

## SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

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**G. Chochlakis**, A. Potamianos, K. Lerman, S. Narayanan. *Aggregation Artifacts in Subjective Tasks Collapse Large Language Models Posteriors*. NAACL, 2025.

**G. Chochlakis**, A. Potamianos, K. Lerman, S. Narayanan. *The Strong Pull of Prior Knowledge in Large Language Models and Its Impact on Emotion Recognition*. ACII, 2024.

**G. Chochlakis**, G. Mahajan, S. Baruah, K. Burghardt, K. Lerman, S. Narayanan. *Using Emotion Embeddings to Transfer Knowledge between Emotions, Languages, and Annotation formats*. ICASSP, 2023.

## HONORS & AWARDS

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**Capital One Fellowship** 2025

**Gerondelis Foundation Scholarship** 2023-2024

**Top Reviewer**, NeurIPS 2022

**Highest GPA in school of ECE Award**, Thomaidis Foundation Grant, NTUA 2019-2020

**Publication Award**, Thomaidis Foundation Grant, NTUA 2020

## ACADEMIC SERVICE

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**SAIL**, USC, Los Angeles, CA

Founded and currently running the lab's 17-member reading group

Mentoring undergraduate and graduate students

**IEEE K-12 Outreach program**, USC, Los Angeles, CA

Served as *team lead* for Fall 2022 USC campus visit for approx. 90 students

Presented introduction and a demo in Spring 2022 USC campus visit to approx. 90 students

**Google ExploreCSR program**, USC, Los Angeles, CA

Served as *student mentor* for Spring 2023 for approx. 50 students

**Peer-reviewing**

ICASSP: 2025, 2024, 2023

NeurIPS Datasets and Benchmarks track: 2024, 2023, 2022

CHI: 2025