Nikolaos (Nikos) Flemotomos

✓ nick.flemotomos@gmail.com

J +1 213 421 7498

nikosfl.github.io

in /in/nikosfl

Research Automatic Speech Recognition, Speaker Diarization and Identification,

Natural Language Processing, Machine Learning for Healthcare Interests

EDUCATION Ph.D., Electrical Engineering Aug 2022

University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA, USA

Thesis: Extracting and Using Speaker Role Information in Speech Processing Applications

M.Sc., Computer Science

University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA, USA

GPA: 3.94/4.00

M.Sc., Electrical Engineering

Dec 2018

Aug 2021

University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA, USA

GPA: 4.00/4.00

Diploma (5-years degree), Electrical and Computer Engineering

Apr 2016

National Technical University of Athens, Athens, Greece

Thesis: Robust Acoustic Features for Distant Speech Recognition

GPA: 9.34/10.00

EXPERIENCE Apple, Cambridge, MA, USA

Siri – Automatic Speech Recognition

Machine Learning Researcher

Jun 2022 to present

Manager: Dr. Roger Hsiao

- Exploring machine learning algorithms and optimization techniques for acoustic modeling to improve the automatic speech recognition technologies behind Siri.
- Collaborating with the production teams to quickly deploy research ideas.

University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA, USA

Signal Analysis and Interpretation Laboratory (SAIL)

Graduate Research Assistant

May 2017 to May 2022

Supervisor: Prof. Shrikanth Narayanan

- Proposed methods and frameworks to extract speaker role information in structured conversational interactions and used this contextual information to improve the performance in various speech processing tasks (e.g., diarization, speech recognition)
- Led a subgroup of Ph.D. students that, in collaboration with experts from the medical field, developed a real-world system which processes audio recordings of psychotherapy sessions and gives feedback to the therapist. The system is used for computer-aided therapist training.
- Published results in top-tier journals and peer-reviewed conferences.

Apple, Los Angeles, CA, USA (home office)

Siri – Automatic Speech Recognition

Machine Learning Engineering Intern

May 2021 to Aug 2021

Manager: Dr. Arnab Ghoshal

• Explored acoustic-based speaker adaptation methods for end-to-end speech recognition.

Microsoft Research, Bellevue, WA, USA

Speech and Dialog Research Group

Research Intern

May 2019 to Aug 2019

Manager: Dr. Dimitrios Dimitriadis

- Worked on speaker identification and diarization in meeting scenarios.
- Proposed a novel algorithm for continuous speaker identification based on memory-augmented neural networks (presented at ICASSP '20).

Czech Technical University in Prague, Prague, Czech Republic

Biomedical Data and Signal Processing Group (BioDat)

Research Intern Mar 2016 to Jun 2016

Supervisor: Assoc. Prof. Lenka Lhotská

• Developed an algorithm for automatic sleep staging from polysomnographic signals, motivated by ideas used in speech recognition.

National Technical University of Athens, Athens, Greece

Computer Vision, Speech Communication and Signal Processing Group (CVSP)

Undergraduate Research Assistant

Feb 2015 to Mar 2016

Supervisor: Prof. Petros Maragos

- Explored the Teager-Kaiser energy operator for energy estimation in speech signals.
- Developed a system for single-microphone distant speech recognition, comparing various acoustic feature sets, with an emphasis on those based on the AM-FM speech model.

Software

Programming Languages:

SKILLS

Python, UNIX shell scripting, MATLAB

Tools & Libraries:

Tensorflow, PyTorch, Kaldi, OpenFST, SRILM, LATEX

Graduate Coursework

Analysis of Algorithms, Multimodal Probabilistic Learning of Human Communication, Advanced Natural Language Processing, Law and Intellectual Property, Computational Social Sciences, Mathematics of High-Dimensional Data, Machine Learning Theory, Deep Learning, Machine Learning from Signals, Pattern Recognition, Statistics, Probability, Random Processes

Teaching

University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA, USA

EXPERIENCE

Teaching Assistant

Spring 2019, 2020 & 2021

Speech Recognition and Processing for Multimedia

Society of Astronomy and Space, Volos, Greece

Teaching Assistant

Summer 2011 & 2012

Preparation for the International Olympiad on Astronomy and Astrophysics

Honors and Awards

Myronis Endowed Ph.D. Fellowship

S University of Southern California

Aug 2021 to May 2022

Annenberg Ph.D. Fellowship

University of Southern California

Aug 2016 to Aug 2020

initiation: May 2020

Phi Kappa Phi

Member (academic honor society)

Gerontelis Graduate Studies Scholarship

Apr 2020

Gerontelis Foundation

Travel Grant

Sep 2018

International Speech Communication Association (ISCA)

Honorable Mention

Sep 2010

4th International Olympiad on Astronomy and Astrophysics

MANUSCRIPTS SUBMITTED & IN PREPARATION

- 1. C.S. Soma, **N. Flemotomos**, S. Narayanan, and Z.E. Imel. "That didn't feel good: The Effects of Therapist Confrontation on Client Emotional Expression during Motivational Interviewing", under review.
- 2. C. Berkel. D. Knox, **N. Flemotomos**, V.R. Martinez, D.C. Atkins, S. Narayanan, L.A. Rodriguez, C.G. Gallo, and J.D. Smith, "A Machine Learning Approach to Improve Implementation Monitoring of Family-Based Preventive Interventions in Primary Care", *under review*.

JOURNAL PUBLICATIONS

- 1. C.S. Soma, B. Wampold, **N. Flemotomos**, R. Peri, S. Narayanan, D.C. Atkins, and Z.E. Imel. "The Silent Treatment?: Changes in Patient Emotional Expression after Silence", *Counselling and Psychotherapy Research*, 2022.
- Z. Chen, N. Flemotomos, K. Singla, T.A. Creed, D.C. Atkins, and S. Narayanan, "An Automated Quality Evaluation Framework of Psychotherapy Conversations with Local Quality Estimates", Computer Speech & Language, 2022.
- 3. N. Flemotomos, V.R. Martinez, Z. Chen, T.A. Creed, D.C. Atkins, and S. Narayanan, "Automated Quality Assessment of Cognitive Behavioral Therapy Sessions through Highly Contextualized Language Representations", *PLOS ONE*, 2021.
- N. Flemotomos, V.R. Martinez, Z. Chen, K. Singla, V. Ardulov, R. Peri, D. Caperton, J. Gibson, M.J. Tanana, P. Georgiou, J. Van Epps, S.P. Lord, T. Hirsch., Z.E. Imel, D.C. Atkins, and S. Narayanan. "Automated Evaluation of Psychotherapy Skills Using Speech and Language Technologies", Behavior Research Methods, 2021.
- S.B. Goldberg, N. Flemotomos, V.R. Martinez, M. Tanana, P. Kuo, B.T. Pace, J.L. Villatte, P. Georgiou, J. Van Epps, Z.E. Imel, S. Narayanan, and D.C. Atkins. "Machine Learning and Natural Language Processing in Psychotherapy Research: Alliance as Example Use Case", *Journal* of Counseling Psychology, 2020.

PEER REVIEWED CONFERENCE & WORKSHOP PROCEEDINGS

- Z. Chen, N. Flemotomos, T.A. Creed, Z.E. Imel, D.C. Atkins, and S. Narayanan. "Leveraging Open Data and Task Augmentation to Automated Behavioral Coding of Psychotherapy Conversations in Low-Resource Scenarios", Findings of EMNLP, 2022.
- 2. **N. Flemotomos** and S. Narayanan. "Multimodal Clustering with Role Induced Constraints for Speaker Diarization", *Interspeech*, 2022.
- Z. Chen, N. Flemotomos, V. Ardulov, T.A. Creed, Z.E. Imel, D.C. Atkins, and S. Narayanan. "Feature Fusion Strategies for End-to-End Evaluation of Cognitive Behavior Therapy Sessions", EMBC, 2021.
- 4. **N. Flemotomos**, P. Georgiou, and S. Narayanan. "Linguistically Aided Speaker Diarization Using Speaker Role Information", *Odyssey*, 2020.

 Best Student Paper Finalist
- 5. **N. Flemotomos** and D. Dimitriadis. "A Memory Augmented Architecture for Continuous Speaker Identification in Meetings", *ICASSP*, 2020.
- 6. T.J. Park, M. Kumar, N. Flemotomos, M. Pal, R. Peri, R. Lahiri, P. Georgiou, and S. Narayanan. "The Second DIHARD Challenge: System Description for USC-SAIL Team", *Interspeech*, 2019
- 7. V.R. Martinez, **N. Flemotomos**, V. Ardulov, K. Somandepalli, S.B. Goldberg, Z.E. Imel, D.C. Atkins, and S. Narayanan. "Identifying Therapist and Client Personae for Therapeutic Alliance Estimation", *Interspeech*, 2019.
- 8. N. Flemotomos, P. Georgiou, D.C. Atkins, and S. Narayanan, "Role Specific Lattice Rescoring for Speaker Role Recognition from Speech Recognition Outputs", *ICASSP*, 2019.
- 9. **N. Flemotomos**, Z. Chen, D.C. Atkins, and S. Narayanan, "Role Annotated Speech Recognition for Conversational Interactions", *SLT*, 2018.
- 10. N. Flemotomos, P. Papadopoulos, J. Gibson, and S. Narayanan, "Combined Speaker Clustering and Role Recognition in Conversational Speech", *Interspeech*, 2018.
- N. Flemotomos, V.R. Martinez, J. Gibson, D.C. Atkins, T.A. Creed, and S. Narayanan, "Language Features for Automated Evaluation of Cognitive Behavior Psychotherapy Sessions", *Interspeech*, 2018.
- K. Singla, Z. Chen, N. Flemotomos, J. Gibson, D. Can, D.C. Atkins, and S. Narayanan, "Using Prosodic and Lexical Information for Learning Utterance-level Behaviors in Psychotherapy", Interspeech, 2018.

INVITED & CAMPUS TALKS

1. The Alan Turing Institute, London, UK

Mar 2022

Data Science for Mental Health Interest Group

Automated Quality Assessment of Cognitive Behavioral Therapy Sessions Through Highly Contextualized Language Representations

2. Alberta Hospital Edmonton/University of Alberta, Edmonton, AB, Canada Sep 2021

Forensic Grand Rounds

Towards Automated Large-Scale Evaluation of Psychotherapy

3. University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA, USA

Apr 2021

Interaction Lab

Who Spoke When? and how speaker roles can help us find the answer

REVIEWER Journals:

iScience, International Journal of Human-Computer Interaction, npj Mental Health Research, Applied

Artificial Intelligence, PLOS ONE, Cogent Psychology, Behavior Research Methods

Conferences:

International Conference on Acoustics, Speech, and Signal Processing (ICASSP), Annual International

Conference of the IEEE Engineering in Medicine and Biology Society (EMBC)

SERVICE AND VOLUNTARY

USC Behavioral Science Society

Student executive board member Dec 2020 to May 2022

WORK

Hellenic Student Association of USC

Student volunteer and board member Jan 2018 to May 2019

IEEE Engineering in Medicine & Biology Society NTUA Student Chapter

President Sep 2014 to Jun 2015 Student volunteer Sep 2013 to Jun 2014