Nikos Pagonas

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Education

Columbia University   Sep 2024 — Present
PhD in Computer Science   New York, NY, US
Advisor: Prof. Kostis Kaffes
GPA: 3.93/4.00

Member of DAPLab, focusing on AI systems. Working on improving scheduling for agentic workflows, accelerating application-agnostic LLM serving, and providing efficient simulation support for agentic rollouts.

National Technical University of Athens (NTUA)   Oct 2018 — Jun 2024
Master of Electrical and Computer Engineering   Athens, Greece
Advisors: Prof. Nikos Vasilakis, Prof. Georgios Goumas
GPA: 9.39/10.00 (14$^{\text{th}}$ out of 344 students)

Thesis: *"SPLASH: Scaling Out Shell Scripts on Serverless Platforms"*

Experience

Google   May 2025 — Present
Student Researcher   Sunnyvale, CA, US
Supervisor: Prof. Arvind Krishnamurthy

Brown University   Sep 2023 — May 2024
Student Researcher   Providence, RI, US
Advisor: Prof. Nikos Vasilakis

Contributed to PaSh, an open-source Linux Foundation project. Worked on improving the performance of shell scripts by running them on serverless infrastructure, and providing fault tolerance for distributed shell script execution.

Arrikto Inc.   Dec 2022 — Mar 2023
Software Engineering Intern   Athens, Greece
Supervisor: Vangelis Koukis

Explored how to serve PyTorch models more efficiently through KServe, a highly scalable machine learning deployment platform for Kubernetes.

Awards

Gerondelis Foundation Scholarship   2025

Columbia University Presidential Fellowship   2024

Publications

A System-Centric Approach is Necessary for AI Agents
(Under Submission)

λeash: Scaling Out Shell Scripts with Recoverable Serverless Computing
(Under Submission)

Service

USENIX OSDI 2025   2025
Artifact Evaluation Committee

USENIX ATC 2025   2025
Artifact Evaluation Committee

EuroSec 2024   2024
Web and Publication Chair

Teaching

Columbia University   Spring 2025
Teaching Assistant   New York, NY, US
Course: Agentic Systems Made Real
Professors: Eugene Wu, Kostis Kaffes

Brown University   Fall 2024
Teaching Assistant   Providence, RI, US
Course: Systems Transforming Systems
Professor: Nikos Vasilakis
Guided students through a systems research project, including implementation, evaluation, and paper writing. Paper submitted to USENIX ATC 2025.

Brown University   Spring 2024
Teaching Assistant   Providence, RI, US
Course: Distributed Systems
Professor: Nikos Vasilakis
Helped revamp the course by redesigning its semester-long project and implementing its autograding infrastructure from scratch.

National Technical University of Athens   Spring 2022
Lab Assistant   Athens, Greece
Course: Operating Systems
Professors: N. Koziris, G. Goumas

National Technical University of Athens   Spring 2020
Lab Assistant   Athens, Greece

Course: Programming Techniques
Professors: N. Papaspyrou, A. Pagourtzis, G. Stamou, G. Goumas

National Technical University of Athens   Fall 2019
Lab Assistant   Athens, Greece
Course: Introduction to Programming
Professors: N. Papaspyrou, D. Fotakis, S. Zachos

Posters	**Bibarel: Accelerating Agentic Planning Through Dynamic Parallelism and Live Migration**	
	Data Science Day	Apr 2024
		Columbia University Data Science Institute

Bibarel: Accelerating Agentic Planning Through Dynamic Parallelism and Live Migration   Mar 2024
AI Agents for Work Workshop   Columbia Business School

Talks	**SPLaSh: Scaling Out Shell Scripts on Serverless Platforms**	Feb 2024
	Sysread Seminar	Brown University

SPLaSh: Towards Serverless Shell Scripting   Oct 2023
3rd PaSh Workshop   Brown University

Skills	**Prog. Languages**	C, Python, Javascript, Shell, Java, Go
	Platforms	AWS, Docker, Kubernetes, Apache Kafka, Apache Spark
	Tools	Git, LaTeX

Languages	**English**	Fluent — TOEFL iBT 116/120 (C2)
	Greek	Native