

# Nikos Pagonas

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## Contact

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## Education

**Columbia University**  
*PhD in Computer Science*  
Advisor: Prof. [Kostis Kaffles](#)  
GPA: 3.94/4.00

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)**  
*Master of Electrical and Computer Engineering*  
Advisors: Prof. [Nikos Vasilakis](#), Prof. [Georgios Goumas](#)  
GPA: 9.39/10.00 (14<sup>th</sup> out of 344 students)  
Thesis: “*SPLASH: Scaling Out Shell Scripts on Serverless Platforms*”

## Experience

**Google**  
*Student Researcher*  
Supervisor: Prof. [Arvind Krishnamurthy](#)

Designed and implemented [Cortex](#), a prototype agentic serving platform that leverages workflow-awareness and stage isolation to improve scheduling and KV cache efficiency in agentic NL2SQL workflows.

**Brown University**  
*Student Researcher*  
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.**  
*Software Engineering Intern*  
Supervisor: [Vangelis Koukis](#)

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

Sep 2024 – Present  
New York, NY, US

Oct 2018 – Jun 2024  
Athens, Greece

May 2025 – Aug 2025  
Sunnyvale, CA, US

Sep 2023 – May 2024  
Providence, RI, US

Dec 2022 – Mar 2023  
Athens, Greece

Awards	<b>Columbia University Presidential Fellowship</b>	2024
	<b>A.G. Leventis Foundation Scholarship</b>	2025
	<b>Gerondelis Foundation Scholarship</b>	2025
	<b>ACM SOSP 2025 Student Travel Grant</b>	2025
Publications	<b>Cortex: Workflow-Aware Resource Pooling and Scheduling for Agentic Serving</b> Nikos Pagonas, Yeounoh Chung, Kostis Kaffles, Arvind Krishnamurthy <i>1<sup>st</sup> Workshop on Systems for Agentic AI (SAA 2025)</i>	
	<b><math>\lambda</math>eash: Scaling Out Shell Scripts with Resumable Cloud Computing</b> ( <i>Under Submission</i> )	
	<b>A System-Centric Approach is Necessary for AI Agents</b> ( <i>Under Submission</i> )	
Service	<b>EuroSys 2026</b> <i>Artifact Evaluation Committee</i>	2026
	<b>SOSP 2025</b> <i>Artifact Evaluation Committee</i>	2025
	<b>OSDI 2025</b> <i>Artifact Evaluation Committee</i>	2025
	<b>ATC 2025</b> <i>Artifact Evaluation Committee</i>	2025
	<b>EuroSec 2024</b> <i>Web and Publication Chair</i>	2024
Teaching	<b>Columbia University</b> <i>Teaching Assistant</i> Course: Networks, Crowds, and the Web Professor: <a href="#">Augustin Chaintreau</a>	Fall 2025 New York, NY, US
	<b>Columbia University</b> <i>Teaching Assistant</i> Course: <a href="#">Agentic Systems Made Real</a> Professors: <a href="#">Eugene Wu</a> , <a href="#">Kostis Kaffles</a>	Spring 2025 New York, NY, US
	<b>Brown University</b> <i>Teaching Assistant</i> Course: <a href="#">Systems Transforming Systems</a>	Fall 2024 Providence, RI, US

**Professor: Nikos Vasilakis**

Guided students through a systems research project, including implementation, evaluation, and paper writing. Paper submitted to USENIX ATC 2025.

**Brown University**

*Teaching Assistant*

Course: [Distributed Systems](#)

Professor: [Nikos Vasilakis](#)

Spring 2024

Providence, RI, US

Helped revamp the course by redesigning its semester-long project and imple-

menting its autograding infrastructure from scratch.

**National Technical University of Athens**

*Lab Assistant*

Spring 2022

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. Papaspyprou](#), [A. Pagourtzis](#), [G. Stamou](#), [G. Goumas](#)

**National Technical University of Athens**

Fall 2019

*Lab Assistant*

Athens, Greece

Course: Introduction to Programming

Professors: [N. Papaspyprou](#), [D. Fotakis](#), [S. Zachos](#)

## Research

### Mentoring

**Grace Li**

Sep 2025 – Present

*Columbia University, BS in CS and Math*

**Joey Huang**

Sep 2025 – Present

*Columbia University, BS in CS*

**Matthew Lou**

Sep 2025 – Present

*Columbia University, BS in CS and Applied Math*

## Skills

**Prog. Languages**

Python, C, Shell, Javascript, Java, Go

**Frameworks**

LangChain, LangGraph

**Platforms**

AWS, Docker, Kubernetes, Apache Kafka, Apache Spark

**Tools**

Git, LaTeX

## Languages

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

**Greek** Native