

Nikos Pagonas

Contact

Email: nikospagonas00@gmail.com — Website: nikpag.github.io

Education

Columbia University

PhD in Computer Science

Advisor: Prof. [Kostis Kaffes](#)

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.

Sep 2024 – Present

New York, NY, US

National Technical University of Athens (NTUA)

Master of Electrical and Computer Engineering

Advisors: Prof. [Nikos Vasilakis](#), Prof. [Georgios Goumas](#)

GPA: 9.39/10.00 (14th out of 344 students)

Thesis: “*SPLASH: Scaling Out Shell Scripts on Serverless Platforms*”

Oct 2018 – Jun 2024

Athens, Greece

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.

May 2025 – Aug 2025

Sunnyvale, CA, US

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.

Sep 2023 – May 2024

Providence, RI, US

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.

Dec 2022 – Mar 2023

Athens, Greece

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

Helped revamp the course by redesigning its semester-long project and implementing its autograding infrastructure from scratch.

Spring 2024

Providence, RI, US

National Technical University of Athens

Lab Assistant

Course: Operating Systems

Professors: [N. Koziris](#), [G. Goumas](#)

Spring 2022

Athens, Greece

National Technical University of Athens

Lab Assistant

Course: Programming Techniques

Professors: [N. Papaspyrou](#), [A. Pagourtzis](#), [G. Stamou](#), [G. Goumas](#)

Spring 2020

Athens, Greece

National Technical University of Athens

Lab Assistant

Course: Introduction to Programming

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

Fall 2019

Athens, Greece

**Research
Mentoring**

[Grace Li](#)

Columbia University, BS in CS and Math

Sep 2025 – Present

[Joey Huang](#)

Columbia University, BS in CS

Sep 2025 – Present

[Matthew Lou](#)

Columbia University, BS in CS and Applied Math

Sep 2025 – Present

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