Visit https://www.davidoniani.com for my papers, projects, and more!

Education

08/2017 - 05/2021 B.A. Computer Science, Mathematics, magna cum laude, Luther College, Decorah, IA.

Double major in computer science and mathematics. Academic advisor: Dr. Alan K. Zaring.

09/2011 - 07/2016 High School Diploma, 4.0/4.0 GPA, Komarovi Campus School, Tbilisi, Georgia. Graduated with the highest honors. Represented the school in various math and physics olympiads.

Work Experience

06/2021 - Present Research Engineer, DawnLight, Palo Alto, CA.

- Has been the primary maintainer of an Al sensing and signal processing system audio and radar.
- o Developed highly performant AI model for cough detection to be deployed in real-world.
- o Implemented Voice Activity Detection (VAD) system using both AI model and WebRTC inference.
- Continuously improved the documentation quality for the ML and Engineering team docs.

04/2021 – 05/2021 ML Engineering Intern, DawnLight, Palo Alto, CA.

- o Trained and evaluated CNN and Depthwise CNN based deep learning models.
- Developed signal processing algorithms for audio detection.
- Redesigned and improved performance of feature extractor generated using MATLAB-to-C++ transpiler.

02/2020 - 09/2020 Research Intern, Mayo Clinic, Kern Center, Rochester, MN.

- o Major-authored several papers that got accepted at world's major AI and biomedical informatics conferences and journals (ACM-BCB, JAMIA, etc). Publications available on my website.
- o Created automated COVID-19 screening tool based on decision trees to assist nurses and physicians.
- o Built chatbot as extension of GPT-2 model by applying BERT, BioBERT, USE, and tf-idf.
- Utilized node2vec for generating COVID-19 network embeddings and built co-occurrence network.
- Wrote set of programs for extracting information from thousands of EHRs (Electronic Health Record).
- Set up Elasticsearch and indexed millions of documents for use in NLP algorithm.
- Drafted several papers and reports, reviewed over 15 state-of-the-art AI/NLP papers.
- o Worked directly under Dr. Feichen Shen and Dr. Yanshan Wang in the division of Dr. Hongfang Liu.

08/2018 – 01/2020 **Teaching Assistant**, *Luther College*, Decorah, IA.

Fall 2020 Computational Models (CS 260) with Dr. Alan K. Zaring.

Fall 2019 Object-Oriented Programming With Java (CS 252) with Dr. Shafqat A. Shad.

Fall 2018 Introduction to Computer Science (CS 150) with Dr. Alan K. Zaring.

- Held help hours and assisted students with homework assignments.
- Attended all classes and answered questions during the labs.

06/2018 - 12/2018 Web Programmer, Luther College, ITS - Software Development, Decorah, IA.

- o Contributed to the brand new Norse Hub web system which has successfully replaced my.luther.edu.
- Communicated with the team, wrote reports, and attended weekly SCRUM meetings.
- Conducted performance & load testing using JMeter and presented the results.
- Created a data visualization tool utilizing JavaScript DOM.
- Migrated from the Microsoft to the Linux server and refactored the Python code.

03/2017 - 07/2017 **Co-Founder and CEO**, *Warbler*, Tbilisi, Georgia.

- Spearheaded the team of young and enthusiastic software developers.
- Processed five-year data (180k+ rows) of UNE (Unified National Exams of Georgia).
- O Designed the logo; built the pitch, presentation, and the WordPress-based website for the start-up.
- o Created a social media chatbot using Chatfuel API and set up Zoho mailing system.

11/2016 – 09/2017 Freelance Graphic Designer, Behance (not affiliated).

- o Designed logos and posters for various companies in the local and the global market.
- Instructed and taught the basics of design to several aspiring graphic designers.

10/2016 - 06/2017 Sales Representative and Marketing Coordinator, Insta LLC, Tbilisi, Georgia.

- Partook in the complete rebuild and redesign of sales and marketing departments.
- o Contributed to the CRM, was responsible for data gathering, filtering, and entry.

- o Managed social media, responsible for targeted campaigns, copywriting, and image-editing.
- o Cold-called and contacted clients to build and maintain long-term relationships.
- Attended a number of staff meetings and new product/partner presentations.

Research Experience

Fall 2019 Directed research in programming languages with Dr. Alan K. Zaring.

- Redesigned and made a few significant contributions to the type system.
- Introduced the notion of container types to the language.
- o Designed relational operators for container types.

Summer 2019 Collaborative research on visual persuasion with professor Richard K. Merritt.

- Trained convolutional neural networks for image recognition using PyTorch.
- Wrote Python scripts for PDF image/text extraction and data cleanup.
- o Performed an extensive set of both statistical and textual/NLP analyses using state-of-the-art algorithms.

Summer 2018 Collaborative research on unit testing with Dr. Roman Yasinovskyy.

- Automated feedback generation for C++ programming course.
- Redesigned and significantly improved SQL and relational algebra solution checker.
- Designed testable practice problems for the algorithms and data structures course.

Volunteer Experience

- 2016 Transparency International Georgia
- 2016 Khan Academy

Observed Georgian Parliamentary Elections Subtitled Georgian and Russian videos

Activities and Memberships

- 2020 Present Member, Pi Mu Epsilon (Math Honor Society)
- 2017 Present Member, Association for Computing Machinery (ACM)

Honors and Awards

- 2017 2020 Multiple Competitive Scholarships, Luther College
- 2018, 2019 Recipient of 2 Luther College Dean's Office Summer Research Awards, Luther College
- All Semesters Dean's List Recipient, Luther College
 - 2017 Selected Start-up (UnleashAR), TOP 200, Wolves Summit (Largest Startup Conference in EU).
 - 2016 Gold Medal for Academic Excellence, Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia
 - 2014 7th Place (TOP 10) National Mathematics Olympiad of Georgia
- 2011 2016 Five-time Finalist (TOP 30 out of over 3,000 participants), National Mathematics Olympiad of Georgia.
 - 2014 IMO & IPhO Nominee, Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia
- 2011 2016 Won a number of various mathematical olympiads, Varied

Publications and Other Manuscripts

- 2020 A Qualitative Evaluation of Language Models on Automatic Question-Answering for COVID-19 (presented at ACM-BCB)
- 2020 Constructing Co-occurrence Network Embeddings to Assist Association Extraction for COVID-19 and Other Coronavirus Infectious Diseases (published at JAMIA)
- 2020 Setting Up Python Development Environment for Use in a Small Classroom (presented at MICS)
- 2019 Textual and Statistical Analysis of Russian IRA Facebook Advertisements
- 2019 Type Inference Rules For Container Types in CCL
- 2019 The Topology of Robotic Configuration and Motion Planning
- 2018 Unit testing frameworks in the classroom (applied research report)
- 2018 Photography as a socially influential medium in Jennifer Baichwal's Manufactured Landscapes

Language Proficiency

- English, Native
- o Georgian, Native
- Russian, Native
- Japanese, Elementary

Mingrelian, Native

Technical Skills

Languages: Advanced: Python, Haskell, Shellscript (POSIX-compliant), HTML, CSS.

Proficient: R, Rust, Java, SQL, Javascript, TypeScript, C/C++, Zsh. **Acquainted**: Standard ML, Lua, Scheme, VBA, C#, Batch, Prolog.

Tools and Libraries: macOS, Linux, kitty, Neovim, Git, Zola, GitHub, Travis CI, SQLite, Flask, Elasticsearch, Jupyter, RStudio,

PyTorch, TensorFlow, nltk, numpy, scipy, networkx, pandas, scikit-learn, OpenCV, OpenCL.

Other Skills: LATEX, Markdown, Technical Writing.

Other Courses and Certificates

- 2020 GCP for Clinical Trials with Investigational Drugs and Medical Devices (U.S. FDA Focus), CITI Program, A Division of BRANY
- 2019 Machine Learning & AI: Advanced Decision Trees, LinkedIn Learning
- 2019 NLP with Python for Machine Learning Essential Training, Linkedin Learning
- 2018 Machine Learning Crash Course, Google
- 2017 Think About It, Campus Clarity
- 2017 How to Rock Social Media, LinkedIn Learning
- 2016 South Caucasus Leadership Forum Participant, GSFL, Friedrich Naumann Foundation
- 2016 Parliamentary Elections Observation Mission Training, Transparency International Georgia