

Vasiliki Tassopoulou

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RESEARCH INTERESTS



Probabilistic Machine Learning, Time-series forecasting, Uncertainty Quantification, Conformal Prediction.

EDUCATION

School of Engineering and Applied Science, University of Pennsylvania

Sep 2020 – Present


PhD Candidate in Bioengineering, AI2D Center for AI and Data Science 

- Advisor: Prof. Christos Davatzikos  Co-Advisor: Prof. Haochang Shou 
- Research focus: Deep kernel learning for time-series forecasting - irregular and sparse biomarker data.

Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania

Jan 2023 – Mar 2025




MSc Statistics and Data Science

- Advisor: Prof. Edgar Dobriban 
- Relevant coursework: Bayesian Modeling, Advanced Statistical Inference, Applied Econometrics, Statistical Learning Theory

National Technical University of Athens

Nov 2013 – Nov 2019



Diploma in Electrical and Computer Engineering (5-year joint BSc & MEng)

- Major: Computer Software, Signals, Control and Robotics; Minor: Computer Systems, Bioengineering.
- Advisor: Prof. Petros Maragos 
- Thesis: *An Exploration of Deep Learning Architectures for Handwritten Text Recognition*  
- GPA: 8.56/10

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant, Artificial Intelligence in Biomedical Imaging Lab


Aug 2020 – Present

Supervisors: Prof. Christos Davatzikos , Prof. Haochang Shou 

- Affiliated with the AI2D Center for AI/Data Science for Integrated Diagnostics and Penn Statistics in Imaging and Visualization Endeavor (PennSIVE).
- Published work in top ML venues (**ICLR**, **NeurIPS**), contributing methods in biomarker forecasting, uncertainty quantification and clinical translation.

Undergraduate Research Assistant, Computer Vision and Speech Communication Lab

Mar 2018 – Nov 2019

Supervisor: Prof. Petros Maragos 

- Completed thesis on *An Exploration of Deep Learning Architectures for Handwritten Text Recognition*, focusing on sequence modeling and statistical learning for structured data.
- Published at **ICPR 2020**: Enhanced sequence recognition using N-gram decomposition and multitask learning
- Tools: Python, PyTorch; experience with CNNs, sequence models, regularization techniques, and optimization for large-scale training.

INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE

Machine Learning Researcher, NASA Frontier Development Lab


June 2021 – Aug 2021

Supervised by Dr. Piotr Bilinski  and Dr. Frank Soboczenski 

- Developed automated systems for analyzing and generating structured reports of natural events using metadata-driven modeling and **Large Language Models**.
- Built and fine-tuned large-scale models with **PyTorch**, **PyTorch Lightning**, and **Hugging Face**, integrating optimization, evaluation, and monitoring pipelines.
- Deployed models on **Google Cloud Platform** and managed experiment tracking using Weights&Biases.

Machine Learning Research Intern, RetinAI Medical AG

Dec 2019 – Aug 2020

Supervised by Dr. Sandro De Zanet 

- Developed statistical methods for **image data validation** and **out-of-distribution detection** using kernel density estimation and feature-based uncertainty metrics.
- Built predictive models for **disease progression**, involving regression over temporal clinical variables and uncertainty-aware deep learning techniques.
- Implemented end-to-end ML pipelines in **Python** and **PyTorch**, including preprocessing, modeling, optimization, and validation.

Machine Learning Intern, DeepSea Technologies

Sep 2018 – Feb 2019

Research and Development Department

- Maintained and enhanced production ML frameworks using **TensorFlow, Python, and Flask**, improving model reliability and deployment workflows.
- Conducted EDA and built **regression models for vessel power-velocity prediction**






Software Engineering Intern, Nokia TC Athens

Sep 2017 – Mar 2018

Research and Development Department

- Performed unit testing and contributed to automated QA processes for large-scale distributed systems.
- Automated testing pipelines and improved development workflow using **JIRA** and CI tooling, significantly increasing engineering efficiency.

PUBLICATIONS

- **V. Tassopoulou** et al., "Personalized Prediction of Brain Trajectories in Aging and Neurodegeneration: Evidence from a Large Multi-Cohort Longitudinal Study" - Manuscript In Revisions (**Nature Aging**)
- **V. Tassopoulou** et al., "Uncertainty-Calibrated Prediction of Randomly-Timed Biomarker Trajectories with Conformal Bands" - **NeurIPS 2025**
- **V. Tassopoulou** et al., "Adaptive Shrinkage Estimation for Personalized Deep Kernel Regression in Modeling Brain Trajectories" - **ICLR 2025** 
- SS Chintapalli et al., "Generative models of MRI-derived neuroimaging features and associated dataset of 18,000 samples", **Nature Scientific Data 2024** 
- **V. Tassopoulou** et al., "Probabilistic Staging in Alzheimer's Disease with Deep Kernel Learning", **OHBM 2024**
- R. Wang et al., "Applications of Generative Adversarial Networks in Neuroimaging and Clinical Neuroscience", **Neuroimage 2023** 
- **V. Tassopoulou** et al., "Deep Kernel Learning with Temporal Gaussian Processes for Clinical Variable Prediction in Alzheimer's Disease", **ML4H 2022** 
- **V. Tassopoulou** et al., "Generating informative and accurate descriptions of natural hazards and phenomena using large transformer-based models", **AGU Fall Meeting 2021**
- **V. Tassopoulou** et al., "Automatic Narrative Generation with Earth Science TRansformer", **NVIDIA GTC 2022**
- **V. Tassopoulou**, G. Retsinas and P. Maragos, "Enhancing Handwritten Text Recognition with N-gram sequence decomposition and multitask learning", **ICPR 2020** 

TECHNICAL SKILLS, FRAMEWORKS

Languages: Python, R, C, Matlab, ML NJ, Prolog

Machine Learning/Deep Learning Frameworks: Pytorch, Pytorch Lightning, Pyro, GPytorch

General: Unix based OS, MS OS, LaTeX, Version Control (Git)

LANGUAGES

English (Proficient-C2), German (Intermediate-B1), Greek (Native)

HONORS-AWARDS

Leventis Foundation Scholarship of Academic Excellence Awarded 6000 USD for my PhD studies	<i>July 2024</i>
Leventis Foundation Scholarship of Academic Excellence Awarded 6000 USD for my PhD studies	<i>July 2023</i>
Gerondelis Foundation Scholarship of Academic Excellence Awarded 5000 USD for my PhD studies	<i>Nov 2021</i>
1st Year PhD Fellowship - University of Pennsylvania Awarded full scholarship of 80000 USD for the first year of my PhD Studies	<i>Aug 2020</i>
The Great Moment of Education Scholarship Awarded 1000 EU because I achieved the highest score in National University Entrance Exams in my school.	<i>Oct 2013</i>

SOCIETIES, AFFILIATIONS AND SERVICE

Co-organizer of **WiML Social @ ICLR 2025**

Reviewer at **ICLR 2026**, **NeurIPS 2025**, **Nature Aging**, **ICLR 2025**, **ISBI 2024**, **MLCN 2024**, **WiML Workshop @ NeurIPS 2024**