# STAVROS NIAFAS Data Scientist/ML Engineer Athens, GR 3+30 694 574 5424 @ sniafas@

sniafas.github.io/

Stavros Niafas has a major in Informatics Engineering while he also holds two Msc's, in Data Science and in Image Synthesis & Multimedia. As a professional ML practitioner has demonstrated experience in both R&D and production settings, from driving ML experiments and PoC's into mature codebases to support e2e ML pipelines and systems. Stavros is a results oriented individual and perceives his craft as a mean to achieve a certain goal. While he keeps a high sense of ownership, he is genuinely dedicated to promote and establish a healthy Al culture within the teams and bridge the gap between technical complexity to non-technical audiences. Stavros is also actively engaged in FLOSS contributions,

sniafas

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#### PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

# Machine Learning Engineer Convert Group (3yrs 3mos)

- Nov 2020 Jan 2024
- Athens, GR

MLOps and systems engineering with strong foundations in Linux environments.

in stavros-niafas

- Developed, tuned and deployed ML powered services in computer vision, time series forecasting, NLP and LLMs.
- Streamlined the end-to-end ML lifecycle with MLOps and CI/CD, automating processes for efficient model deployment.
- Conducted A/B testing and automated analyses, delivering key performance insights for ML models.
- Collaborated with cross-functional stakeholders on PoCs for product and operational enhancements.
- Developed and maintained 4 major and provided PoCs for 6 minor company projects, reaching expected deliverable timelines in all 10 projects.
- Developed, tuned and maintained an end-to-end deep learning based image similarity service that increased up to 30% the performance in customer's content compliance and reduced up to 70% of annotation time.
- Developed a campaign sales seasonal forecasting service that increased usage and feature adoption by 50%.
- Presented technical talks, authored engineering blogs, and contributed to FLOSS, establishing thought leadership.
- Supervised and mentored data science interns, guiding them through project execution and industry best practices.

# Systems Engineer **DeepMed IO (9 mos)**

☐ Mar 2019 - May 2019

- Athens, GR
- Built, configured and maintained deep learning & networking on both on-prem/cloud infrastructure
- Tested & deployed company's projects
- Produced technical documentation and guidelines for reference and reporting

#### Al Engineer

#### DeepMed IO

- 📋 September 2018 February 2019
- Involved in company's project outsourced to external vendor
- Conducted exploratory data analysis, data wrangling and cleaning in within combined data schemas
- Implemented & improved image processing, machine & deep learning algorithms and models for computer vision
- Documented & presented deliverables in customer meetings

## **EDUCATION**

MSc Data Science, GPA: 8.75

**NCSR Demokritos - University of Peloponnese** 

**1** 2019 - 2021

Thesis Title: *Photography style analysis using Machine Learning -* Supervisors: Theodoros Giannakopoulos, Prof. Evaggelos Spyrou

MSc Informatics, Image synthesis & Graphics Design Internet & Multimedia Technology, GPA: 13.96/20

University of West Attica - Université de Limoges

**2014-2016** 

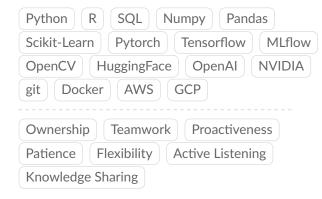
Thesis Title: Image Retrieval platform for building recognition in urban environments - Supervisor: Prof. Anastasios Kesidis

# BSc. Informatics Engineer, GPA: 7.33 University of Thessaly

**1** 2009-2014

Thesis Title: Evaluation and development of Feature Extraction Methods in WCE Video - Supervisor: Prof. Evaggelos Spyrou

# **SKILLS**



# **LANGUAGES**



## **PUBLICATIONS**

#### **Journal Articles**

 E. Spyrou, D. K. lakovidis, S. Niafas, and A. Koulaouzidis, "Comparative assessment of feature extraction methods for visual odometry in wireless capsule endoscopy," Computers in biology and medicine, vol. 65, pp. 297–307, 2015.

#### **Conference Proceedings**

• E. Mitsianis, E. Spyrou, T. Giannakopoulos, **S. Niafas**, and S. Perantonis, "Deep learned features for image retrieval," in *Proceedings of the 10th Hellenic Conference on Artificial Intelligence*, 2018, pp. 1–4.

## OTHER ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES

Reviewer in scientific journals WILEY, link

#### CONFERENCES



Real-world MLOps w/ MLFlow, MLOps in practive w/ MLFlow (workshop)
FOSSCOMM 2021 - University of Macedonia, link1, link2

Photography Style Analysis using Machine Learning
FOSSCOMM 2020 - University of Western Macedonia, link

## **CERTIFICATES**

LinkedIn: Advanced AI: Transformers for CV

NVIDIA: Building Transformer-Based NLP Applications

Coursera: Deep Learning Specialization