John Daras

Personal Resume

Personal Info

- ✉ E-mail: daras.giannhs@gmail.com
- ⌨ Github account: https://github.com/giannhsdaras
- ⚲ Location: Athens,Greece
- in Linkedin account: https://gr.linkedin.com/in/ioannis-daras
- ⌗ Birthdate: 13/06/1997

Education

2015-2020   **Electrical and Computer Engineering**, *National Technical University of Athens (NTUA)*, Greece, *Grade: 9.25* .

Third year student

2015   <u>PanHellenic Admission Test</u>

I have entered 18 th in my department after succeeding in PanHellenic Admission Test 2015, with 19,37/20 mark.

2015   <u>Graduation</u>

I graduated from Model Experimental Lyceum of Anavryta with General Mark (Apolytirion) 19,71/20.

Language   <u>English Proficiency</u>

I hold Certificate of Proficiency in English from Cambridge University.

Language   <u>German Level B2</u>

I hold B2 Certificate in German from Goethe Institution.

Working Experience

October 2017-now

Ratle startup

I am co-founder and senior developer of a fintech startup called Ratle. The idea of the company was conceived after receiving a monetary prize and first place at a fintech crowdhackathon competition organized by National Bank of Greece. During the hackathon, we implemented a fully-working and automated contactless transaction system that aims to eliminate the need of the cashiers and the struggle of time-consuming waiting queues in the whole retail market. From then to now, we are part of an acceleration program organized by National Bank of Greece called be finnovative and we improve our Minimum Viable Product. At the time being, the payment is done automatically when you leave the shop powered by a beacon technology based system that tracks the products you have taken with you. Added to this, we added a blockchain layer that boosts the overal security of the transaction procedure.

2016-now

Web Developer at NTUA

Since 2016, I am receiving a scholarship from the Electrical and Computer Engineering department of National Technical University of Athens, for the development and maintenance of the official site of my department. The work involves backend systems development for handling data efficienty, database querying and front-end development using Javascript and css.

Click *here* to visit the site.

September 2017- December 2017

IT internship at IBusiness

During my internship at IBusiness I helped the company to revolutionize the way in which suppliers provide goods for retailers by establishing a web-based auctioning procedure. Specifically, I implemented on my own a hybrid application in which suppliers find new customers. The retailers decide with whom retailer they want to do business with by comparing different offers from wholesalers that are visible through the application.

Click *here* to visit the site of the company.

Projects

Ierou Lochou 39, Metamorfosis,Greee – Postal code:14452

☐ *+306977403147* • ☎ *+302102845687*

✉ *daras.giannhs@gmail.com*

2017-2018 **Ratle project**
One of the most sophisticated problems I have worked on is Ratle project. Read more in the working experience section.

2017 **Celeste smarthome**
Celeste is a prototype of a smarthome. It is a lego house that uses **artificial intelligence** and **machine learning algorithms** in order to learn the habbits of the user and to adjust it's behaviour. Celeste **detects** and **recognizes lego faces** (using haar classifier) and plays music based on the preferences of the majority of legos inside the house. It gives permission to specific rooms to each lego and it learns your eating habbits and warns you when your usual food supplies are missing. Other features are; **voice control** (using text-analysis techniques), **energy saving** based on your usual daily consumption and pet feeding. The project is under active development and it is about to finish soon.

2016 **BlindGuide (wearable device for blind people support)**
BlindGuide is a wearable device that **helps blind people orientate** by producing sound messages when obstacles are around them.The device is controlled by an Arduino and a phone application for android devices. **Gesture** and **voice control**, warning messages, **obstacle detection** are some of the main features of the project. The device won the first place in the National Robotics Competition 2016, called PreSfymmh.

2016 **PresentPerfect (android application)**
PresentPerfect is a social networking application that helps people choose innovative presents for their beloved ones. The application is developed by a programming team called Javengers, in which I am main developer and leader.

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2015   <u>Reminder using beacons</u> (android application)

During my participation in a workshop organized by Execom, a Serbian software company, I developed an android application that sends reminders to the user when he is in specific location. The application tracks the location of the user with beacons which is more effective than gps tracking for inside buildings locations.

Skills

Artificial Intelligence Experienced with a wide range of learning algorithms implemented in python. Familiar with text and image analysis. Supervised-learning and image classification are the fields in which I have experimented more.

Python Fluent with python. It is the programming language that I use everyday in order to implement projects for my university or to develop scripts that automate processes in my computer. More importantly, it is the language that I use for my machine learning projects.

Website development Capable of developing interactive websites using Laravel framework. Efficient javascript developer, familiar with database systems which store data in multiple languages using json format. Fluent with front-end development using bootstrap.

Version control Familiar with git and more generally with version control which I use extensively to all my projects.

Mathematical Software Fluent with Matlab and Mapple. Deep knowledge of numpy python library.

C,C++ I have taken courses in both C, C++. I also use C++ for algorithm competitions. Beta game in c++ has been developed as part of homework for a course.

Data Structures Experience with data structures such as avl trees, m-way trees, lists, matrices and hash tables.

Awards

Competition Award	**Fintech Competition Award**
	With my team, called Ratle, we won the fintech 2 crowdhackathon competition organized by National Bank of Greece and with that a monetary prize of 5000 euros. Shorty after, we won a place at an acceleration program called be finnovative which includes offices and mentorship from technology and business experts in order to continue our project.
Competition Award	**National Robotics Competition**
	I am founder of the team BrainyFools, which won the first place in the National Robotics Competition 2016 with the project BlindGuide that I mentioned above.
Financial Award	**Eurobank award**
	I have been awarded by Eurobank, one of the biggest Greek Banks, with 800 Euros for my success in PanHellenic Admission Test 2015.
Financial Award	**School biggest grade award**
	I have also been awarded by an alumni member of my school, with 1000 Euros as an honor for my score in the PanHellenic Admission Test 2015.

Public Interview

For my success in PanHellenic Admission Test 2015, I gave an interview to the National Television in order to answer questions about the way I studied and the secret of success in this tough procedure.

Volunteering

At the moment, I am leader of the IT team of TEDxNTUA. TEDxNTUA is an annual event that aims to encourage the transfer of knowledge, ideas and thoughts in the community of National Technical University students. Inspired by the TED nonprofit organization, TEDxNTUA's goal is to assist the effort of familiriazing students of Greek universities with ideas worth spreading and to motivate them work on their own projects and improve their own technical and social skills. My role as leader of IT team is to design the website of the event, to create and maintain the database system of the event and to organize IT challenging workshops in order to advance the experience of the audience.

I was an active member of EESTEC, a European non profitable organization that focuses on sharing technical knowledge between European Universities.

I have participated as volunteer in various events. The one that I repute as the most important is Ntuni-Day; an event that took place in National Technical University of

Athens and it's main purpose was to familiarize high school students with the research we perform in NTUA departments.

In my free time, I answer programming questions to Stack Overflow in order to help other students solve their problems and understand deeper their field of interest.

Future Plans

Contributing to scientific and technological society is and will be my main motive. I truly believe that giving shape to innovative ideas is vital part of an engineer's job and that is exactly what I intend to do. While maintaining focus to my studies and getting the most of it, I also wish to get involved in real projects that can change the way we perceive the world. Artificial intelligence is the main field of my interest. I tend to believe that the fascinating world of machine learning can be truly beneficial for all of us and I am motivated to work towards this direction. I would like to use and improve the field of machine learning and contribute to research that happens now by getting involved to the development of large scale applications that satisfy real needs.

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