

Athanasios Vlontzos

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EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Machine Learning London, UK
Imperial College London; BioMedIA group, Advisors: Prof. B. Kainz, Prof. D. Rueckert
Causality and Computer Vision in Medical Imaging; 2018–2022

M.Eng.(incl. B.Eng) in Electrical and Electronic Engineering London, UK
Imperial College London , Degree: 1st Class GPA: 4.00/4.00 2014–2018

D2 Fellowship of the Higher Education Academy (FHEA) London, UK
Imperial College London; As part of the Postgraduate Certificate in University Learning and Teaching 2020–2021

EXPERIENCE

Spotify London, UK
Machine Learning Research Scientist - Full Time Aug '22–Present
Advanced Causal Inference Lab; Explored causal impact of user and artist actions on artist's careers.
Supported negotiations and decisions saving more than 2M USD per year; Work was quoted in Stream On 2023 keynote event.

Apple Cambridge, UK
Machine Learning Research Scientist - Internship Aug '20–Nov '20
Interactive Intelligence Team - worked on word sense disambiguation

Zeit Medical Palo Alto, CA, USA
AI Research Consultant Oct '19 –Aug '22
Advisor to the CEO, Led team on machine learning research for identifying stroke events

NASA Frontier Development Lab Mountain View, CA, USA
AI Research Scientist- Internship Jun '19 –Aug '19
AI Research Scientist developing solutions for enhance predictability of GNSS disturbances

Imperial College London London, UK
Teaching Scholar 2018–2022
Teaching Scholar for the Dept. of Computing. Responsible for course material creation, guest lecturing, lab demonstrations

General Electric Healthcare Buc, FR
Computer Vision Researcher- Internship Apr '2017–Oct '17
Worked Interventional Radiology Applications - localization and classification of medical devices in X-Ray Fluoroscopy

Imperial College London London, UK
Undergraduate Researcher Jul '2016–Oct '16
Machine Learning Undergraduate Researcher with Prof. Erol Gelenbe

SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS

- NVIDIA GPU Sponsorship 2020
- NASA FDL Unexpected Discovery Award 2019
Demonstrated correlation between dynamic auroral structures and GNSS phase scintillations using ML
- Travel Award - ML4PS workshop NeurIPS, Vancouver, BC,CA 2019
- Travel Award - IJCNN, Anchorage, AK, USA 2017

SKILLS

- **Computing:** Python; Tensorflow; Pytorch; Keras; Caffe; C++; HTML; Machine Learning, Computer vision; Causal Inference
- **OS:** Linux; Mac OSX; MS Windows
- **Memberships:** IEEE, IET, MICCAI student member

TEACHING

- **Computer Vision** Imperial College London 2018-2020
Course Code (DOC316/315)
- **Machine Learning for Imaging** Imperial College London 2018-2020
Course Code (DOC416)
- **Natural Language Processing** Imperial College London 2019
Course Code (DOC490H)
- **Deep Learning** Imperial College London 2020
Course Code (DOC460)
- **Computer Graphics** Imperial College London 2019
Course Code (DOC317)

PROJECTS

- **Reinforcement Learning in Medical Imaging** Novel RL techniques for MRI and US Imaging
Led to 3 MICCAI Papers 2018 –Present
- **Causal Reasoning in ML** Novel Causal ML techniques for Computer Vision and Medical Applications 2020 – Present

LANGUAGES

- **English:** Bilingual
- **Greek:** Bilingual
- **French:** B2 Level
- **Spanish:** A2 Level
- **Portuguese:** A2 Level

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

- Station Manager 2018–2019
Imperial College Radio
- Head of Music 2018–2018
Imperial College Radio
- Year Representative 2018–2022
PhD Year Representative
- European Union Science Olympiad 2012-2013
Team of 3; Competed in Physics, Chemistry and Biology Lab Test; 1st place regional level; 5th place National level
- Debating Team 2009-2014
Debater, participated in multiple national competitions

PUBLICATIONS

- [1] L. Schmidtke, B. Hou, **A. Vlontzos**, and B. Kainz, “Self-supervised 3d human pose estimation in static video via neural rendering”, in *Computer Vision–ECCV 2022 Workshops: Tel Aviv, Israel, October 23–27, 2022, Proceedings, Part III*, Springer Nature Switzerland Cham, 2023, pp. 704–713.
- [2] **A. Vlontzos**, B. Kainz, and C. M. Gilligan-Lee, “Estimating categorical counterfactuals via deep twin networks”, *Nature Machine Intelligence*, pp. 1–10, 2023.
- [3] J. Zeitler, **A. Vlontzos**, and C. M. Gilligan-Lee, “Non-parametric identifiability and sensitivity analysis of synthetic control models”, *arXiv preprint arXiv:2301.07656*, 2023.
- [4] M. Baugh, J. Tan, **A. Vlontzos**, J. P. Müller, and B. Kainz, “Nnood: A framework for benchmarking self-supervised anomaly localisation methods”, in *Uncertainty for Safe Utilization of Machine Learning in Medical Imaging: 4th International Workshop, UNSURE 2022, Held in Conjunction with MICCAI 2022, Singapore, September 18, 2022, Proceedings*, Springer Nature Switzerland Cham, 2022, pp. 103–112.
- [5] C. Lebbos, J. Barcroft, J. Tan, J. Müller, M. Baugh, **A. Vlontzos**, S. Saso, and B. Kainz, “Adnexal mass segmentation with ultrasound data synthesis”, in *Simplifying Medical Ultrasound: Third International Workshop, ASMUS 2022, Held in Conjunction with MICCAI 2022, Singapore, September 18, 2022, Proceedings*, Springer International Publishing Cham, 2022, pp. 106–116.
- [6] T. Liu, Q. Meng, J.-J. Huang, **A. Vlontzos**, D. Rueckert, and B. Kainz, “Video summarization through reinforcement learning with a 3d spatio-temporal u-net”, *IEEE Transactions on Image Processing*, vol. 31, pp. 1573–1586, 2022.
- [7] H. Reynaud, **A. Vlontzos**, M. Dombrowski, C. Gilligan Lee, A. Beqiri, P. Leeson, and B. Kainz, “D’artagnan: Counterfactual video generation”, in *Medical Image Computing and Computer Assisted Intervention–MICCAI 2022: 25th International Conference, Singapore, September 18–22, 2022, Proceedings, Part VIII*, Springer Nature Switzerland Cham, 2022, pp. 599–609.
- [8] **A. Vlontzos**, “Towards autonomous diagnostic systems with medical imaging”, 2022.
- [9] **A. Vlontzos**, H. Reynaud, and B. Kainz, “Is more data all you need? a causal exploration”, *arXiv preprint arXiv:2206.02409*, 2022.
- [10] **A. Vlontzos**, D. Rueckert, and B. Kainz, “A review of causality for learning algorithms in medical image analysis”, *MELBA*, 2022.
- [11] S. Budd, M. Sinclair, T. Day, **A. Vlontzos**, J. Tan, T. Liu, J. Matthew, E. Skelton, J. Simpson, R. Razavi, *et al.*, “Detecting hypo-plastic left heart syndrome in fetal ultrasound via disease-specific atlas maps”, in *Medical Image Computing and Computer Assisted Intervention–MICCAI 2021: 24th International Conference, Strasbourg, France, September 27–October 1, 2021, Proceedings, Part VII 24*, Springer International Publishing, 2021, pp. 207–217.
- [12] H. Reynaud, **A. Vlontzos**, B. Hou, A. Beqiri, P. Leeson, and B. Kainz, “Ultrasound video transformers for cardiac ejection fraction estimation”, in *Medical Image Computing and Computer Assisted Intervention–MICCAI 2021: 24th International Conference, Strasbourg, France, September 27–October 1, 2021, Proceedings, Part VI 24*, Springer International Publishing, 2021, pp. 495–505.
- [13] L. Schmidtke, **A. Vlontzos**, S. Ellershaw, A. Lukens, T. Arichi, and B. Kainz, “Unsupervised human pose estimation through transforming shape templates”, in *Proceedings of the IEEE/CVF Conference on Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition*, 2021, pp. 2484–2494.
- [14] G. Sutherland, F. Soboczenski, and **A. Vlontzos**, “A deep reinforcement learning approach to train autonomous space debris remediation spacecraft”, *43rd COSPAR Scientific Assembly. Held 28 January–4 February*, vol. 43, p. 2207, 2021.

- [15] **A. Vlontzos**, Y. Cao, L. Schmidtke, B. Kainz, and A. Monod, “Topological data analysis of database representations for information retrieval”, *arXiv preprint arXiv:2104.01672*, 2021.
- [16] **A. Vlontzos**, G. Sutherland, S. Ganju, and F. Soboczenski, “Next-gen machine learning supported diagnostic systems for spacecraft”, in *International Workshop on AI for Spacecraft Longevity at IJCAI*, arXiv preprint arXiv:2106.05659, 2021.
- [17] T. Liu, Q. Meng, **A. Vlontzos**, J. Tan, D. Rueckert, and B. Kainz, “Ultrasound video summarization using deep reinforcement learning”, in *Medical Image Computing and Computer Assisted Intervention–MICCAI 2020: 23rd International Conference, Lima, Peru, October 4–8, 2020, Proceedings, Part III 23*, Springer International Publishing, 2020, pp. 483–492.
- [18] G. Sutherland, F. Soboczenski, and **A. Vlontzos**, “Utilizing deep reinforcement learning to effect autonomous orbit transfers and intercepts via electromagnetic propulsion”, 2020.
- [19] **A. Vlontzos**, S. Budd, B. Hou, D. Rueckert, and B. Kainz, “3d probabilistic segmentation and volumetry from 2d projection images”, in *The Second International Workshop on Thoracic Image Analysis*, 2020, arXiv–preprint.
- [20] **A. Vlontzos**, H. B. Rocha, D. Rueckert, and B. Kainz, “Causal future prediction in a minkowski space-time”, *arXiv preprint arXiv:2008.09154*, 2020.
- [21] A. Alansary, O. Oktay, Y. Li, L. Le Folgoc, B. Hou, G. Vaillant, K. Kamnitsas, **A. Vlontzos**, B. Glocker, B. Kainz, *et al.*, “Evaluating reinforcement learning agents for anatomical landmark detection”, *Medical image analysis*, vol. 53, pp. 156–164, 2019.
- [22] B. Hou, **A. Vlontzos**, A. Alansary, D. Rueckert, and B. Kainz, “Flexible conditional image generation of missing data with learned mental maps”, in *International Workshop on Machine Learning for Medical Image Reconstruction, MICCAI 2019*, 2019, arXiv–1908.
- [23] K. Lamb, G. Malhotra, **A. Vlontzos**, E. Wagstaff, A. G. Baydin, A. Bhiwandiwalla, Y. Gal, A. Kalaitzis, A. Reina, and A. Bhatt, “Correlation of auroral dynamics and gness scintillation with an autoencoder”, in *Machine Learning for the Physical Sciences; NeurIPS 2019 workshop*, arXiv:1910.03085, 2019.
- [24] K. Lamb, G. Malhotra, **A. Vlontzos**, E. Wagstaff, A. G. Baydin, A. Bhiwandiwalla, Y. Gal, A. Kalaitzis, A. Reina, and A. Bhatt, “Prediction of gness phase scintillations: A machine learning approach”, in *Machine Learning for the Physical Sciences; NeurIPS 2019 workshop*, <https://arxiv.org/pdf/1910.01570>, 2019.
- [25] G. Malhotra, **A. Vlontzos**, K. Lamb, E. Wagstaff, and A. Bhatt, “A deep-learning based approach for predicting high latitude ionospheric scintillations using geospace data and auroral imagery”, in *AGU Fall Meeting Abstracts*, vol. 2019, 2019, NG21A–08.
- [26] **A. Vlontzos**, A. Alansary, K. Kamnitsas, D. Rueckert, and B. Kainz, “Multiple landmark detection using multi-agent reinforcement learning”, in *Medical Image Computing and Computer Assisted Intervention–MICCAI 2019: 22nd International Conference, Shenzhen, China, October 13–17, 2019, Proceedings, Part IV 22*, Springer International Publishing, 2019, pp. 262–270.
- [27] **A. Vlontzos** and K. Mikolajczyk, “Deep segmentation and registration in x-ray angiography video”, in *BMVC 2018*, 2018.
- [28] **A. Vlontzos**, “The rnn-elm classifier”, in *IJCNN 2017*, 2017.