

Blerim Cici

CONTACT INFORMATION	Ph.D. Candidate Networked Systems University of California, Irvine Irvine, CA 92697	mobile: +1 949 230 5362 e-mail: bcici@uci.edu website: http://tinyurl.com/blerimcici
EDUCATION	<i>Ph.D. in Networked Systems, UC Irvine, USA</i> <i>M.Sc. in Networked Systems, UC Irvine, USA</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• GPA: 3.8/4 <i>B.Sc. in Computer Science, Athens University of Economics and Business, Greece</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• GPA: 8.28/10• Graduated in top-3 of my class.	<i>Sep. 2010 – May 2016</i> <i>Sep. 2010 – June 2012</i> <i>Sep. 2005 – Nov. 2009</i>
INTERNSHIPS	Google, Mountain View, USA As part of the YouTube Video Ads team, I worked on automatic recommendations to video advertisers on how to improve their campaigns. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Evaluation based on missing data showed that the machine learning algorithm proposed could recover over 80% of missing data. Telefonica Research, Spain Analyzed Call Description Records (CDRs), as well geo-social data from Online Social Networks (OSNs). From the data, I inferred human mobility patterns and social graphs that I later used to assess the potential of ride-sharing in four cities (Madrid, Barcelona, New York, Los Angeles). <ul style="list-style-type: none">• I performed data analysis on very large data sets, e.g. the CDRs were more than 2TB.• I developed crawlers to collect geo-social data (geo-tagged tweets, Foursquare check-ins).	<i>June 2015 – Sep. 2015</i> <i>June 2011 – Sep. 2011, Sep. 2012 – Sept. 2013</i>
ACADEMIC RESEARCH	<i>Research Assistant, UC Irvine, USA (Ride-Sharing Project)</i> Designed and implemented an en-route dynamic ride-sharing system. The system accepts requests in real-time and uses on-line matching algorithms to create driver-passenger pairs. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Improved scalability by reducing near neighbor search (NNS) query times on top of MongoDB by 80%. <i>Research Assistant, UC Irvine, USA (MicroCast Project)</i> I worked on the implementation of cooperative streaming for Android devices that are in close proximity to each other. This project (tinyurl.com/microcast) led to the creation of a start-up: www.shoelacewireless.com . <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Main task: I developed pseudo-broadcast in Android, which is necessary for scalable cooperative streaming among devices in close proximity. <i>Research Assistant, Mobile Multimedia Laboratory, AUEB, Greece</i> I worked on Future Internet architectures and publish-subscribe schemes. Project: Publish-Subscribe Inter-networking Paradigm (PSIRP). <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Designed and implemented a Socket API Emulator, a bridge between the document-based PSIRP and the connection-based TCP/IP Internet.	<i>Sep. 2013 – Now</i> <i>Sep. 2010 – June 2012</i> <i>Feb. 2009 – June 2010</i>
MACHINE LEARNING COMPETITIONS	Airbnb New User Bookings (Kaggle): Finished 60th out of 1463 participants (Top 10%). Facebook Recruiting IV: Human or Robot? (Kaggle): Finished 84th out of 985 participants (Top 10%). Santa's Stolen Sleigh (Kaggle): Finished 161st out of 1127 participants (Top 25%).	
PROGRAMMING SKILLS	Programming Languages: Java (proficient), Python (proficient), SQL (proficient), C++ (prior experience), bash/csh (prior experience) Mobile Apps: Android programing with Java (proficient), Java-JNI (prior experience) BigData tools: MongoDB (proficient), Flume (intermediate), Hadoop (intermediate)	

AWARDS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UbiComp 2014: Best paper nominee ward • A Mobile Application Showcase Event (AMASE) 2012 : 1st place in the general category (MicroCast team) • UCI Networked Systems Fellowship 2010-2012 • Conference Travel Grants: NSDI 2012, CoNext 2013, UbiComp 2014. 		
PUBLICATIONS	<p>B. Cici, M. Gjoka, A. Markopoulou, C. T. Butts, "On the Decomposition of Cell Phone Activity Patterns and their Connection with Urban Ecology ", <i>to appear in MobiHoc 2015</i></p> <p>B. Cici, A. Markopoulou, E. Fras-Martnez, N. Laoutaris, "Assessing the Potential of Ride-Sharing Using Mobile and Social Data – A Tale of Four Cities", <i>UbiComp 2014, Seattle, Sept 2014, Best Paper Nominee</i></p> <p>B. Cici, A. Markopoulou, E. Fras-Martnez, N. Laoutaris, "Quantifying the Potential of Ride-Sharing using Call Description Records", <i>HotMobile 2013, Jekyll Island, GA, Feb. 2013</i></p> <p>L. Keller, A. Le, B. Cici, H. Seferoglu, C. Fragouli, A. Markopoulou , "MicroCast: Cooperative Video Streaming on Smartphones", <i>MobiSys 2012, Low Wood Bay, UK, June 2012.</i></p> <p>H.Seferoglu, L.Keller, B.Cici, A.Le, A. Markopoulou, "Cooperative Video Streaming on Smartphones", <i>Allerton 2011, Monticello, IL, Sept. 2011</i></p> <p>G. Xylomenos, B. Cici, "Design and Evaluation of a Socket Emulator for Publish/Subscribe Networks", <i>Future Internet Symposium (FIS) 2010, Berlin, Sept. 2010</i></p>		
PATENTS	Lorenzo Keller, Minh Thoai Anh Le, Blerim Cici, Hulya Seferoglu, Athina Markopoulou, Christina Fragouli, "System and method for cooperative data streaming", US Patent, 13/841,500, Dec 12, 2013		
TEACHING	Teaching Assistant: Introduction to Computer Networks (EECS148), Fall 2013 Teaching Assistant: Introduction to Computer Networks (EECS148), Spring 2012		
OTHER	Web chair for the 2013 Internet Measurement Conference (IMC)		
PROFESSIONAL REFERENCES	<p>Athina Markopoulou Associate Professor, UC Irvine Ph.D. Supervisor athina@uci.edu (+1) 650-504-5582</p>	<p>Nikolaos Laoutaris Senior Researcher, Telefonica Telefonica Supervisor nikos@tid.es (+34) 682361847</p>	<p>Fabio Soldo Senior Software Engineer, Google Google Supervisor fsoldo@google.com (+1) 949-302-1842</p>