

Pricope Tidor-Vlad

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Education

- **The University of Edinburgh**, Scotland, UK. | 2020 - 2021

MSc in Artificial Intelligence. Coursework avg. **83.23/100**. GPA: *First class* (4.0).

- **Babes-Bolyai University**, Cluj-Napoca, Romania. | 2017 - 2020

Bachelor's degree in Computer Science. **GPA: 9.87/10. Thesis: 10/10.**

Work Experience

- **Co-Founder – madsimpleads.com & getaiquestions.com** | June 2024 – Present

- Started 2 businesses: first one is a B2B SaaS that provides end-to-end image & video ad generation as a service.
- Second one is a B2C SaaS that provides interview preparation for AI jobs. It's leetcode.com for data / ml space.
- Tools used: *Stable Diffusion, LLM, ComfyUI, Celery, Redis, Gunicorn, Nginx, Firebase, Next.js, Git, Aws, Baseten.*

- **Machine Learning Engineer Lead - Ntropy** | August 2021 – April 2024

- Fintech company series A, developed and deployed language models for financial transactions understanding.
- Some of my work here is public and can be viewed on [this](#) medium post (co-author).
- Hiring operations – interviewed over 100 candidates for machine learning and data science roles at Ntropy.
- Fine-tuning and optimizing LLM usage through smart caching was also a big part of my work.
- Tools used: *transformers in pytorch, onnx&triton, fasttext, sklearn, multi-gpu training, git, jupyterlab, aws, LLM.*

- **Quantitative Research Assistant - Predictiva** | April 2021 – August 2021

- Developed Deep Reinforcement Learning models for portfolio management for algorithmic trading.
- Tools used: *python, RLib, tensorflow keras, cloud computing.*

- **Quantitative Research Intern - Predictiva** | February 2021 – April 2021

- Developed Deep Reinforcement Learning models for quantitative stock trading.
- Tools used: *python, cloud computing.*

- **Udemy Instructor** | June 2020 – August 2020

- I devised and published 2 AI courses. I had about 40 students on Udemy and 15 on Skillshare, with a rating of 4/5.

- **Autonomous Driving Research Intern - GmbH Robert Bosch** | July 2019 – Oct 2019

- Developed optimization and simulation frameworks for camera windscreen distortions. Computer Vision.
- Tools used: *matlab, projective geometry, multivariable calculus, optimization through adaptive algorithms and ML.*

Awards

- Second place at the **IBM MLP Competition** out of 101 projects. Project subject: AI Quantitative stock trading, 2021.
- Two Silver Medals at **South Eastern European Mathematical Olympiad** for University Students 2018-2019.
- Two Silver Medals in **top 10** and a bronze medal in **top 20** at **National Mathematical Olympiad** 2014-2016.

- Member of the **extended national team** for the **International Mathematical Olympiad (IMO)** 2014.
- Top **20** at **National Chess Olympiad**, 2017.
- Diploma from **Babes-Bolyai University** for academic performance 2018.
- Other 70+ prizes in math and chess international and national competitions 2005-2019.

Technical Skills

- Data Science: **Pytorch, Tensorflow Keras, Onnx, Triton, Scikit-learn, Pandas, Polars, Numpy.**
- Programming Languages:
 - Very confident with: **Python, Bash/Shell Scripting.**
 - Comfortable with: **C++, SQL, Matlab, Java, JS.**

Publications – 71 academic citations – all single author

[Google Scholar](#)

- **An analysis on very deep convolutional neural networks: problems and solutions.** Published in the international journal *Studia UBB Informatica*, Vol 66, No 1, July 2021, indexed in *Mathematical Reviews*. Single author. [Link](#).
- **Deep reinforcement learning in quantitative algorithmic trading: a review** on [Arxiv](#), 2021. Single author.
- **A view on deep reinforcement learning in imperfect information games.** Published in the international journal *Studia UBB Informatica*, Vol 65, No 2, October 2020, indexed in *Mathematical Reviews*. Single author. [Link](#).
- **A math problem** published in the **Crux Mathematicorum** international journal; volume 44, no. 8, problem 4377 October 2018. Co-author. [Link](#).
- **Subject 3** at the first Romanian Team Selection Test for **Junior Balkan Mathematical Olympiad** 2015. [Link](#).
- **Deep Reinforcement Learning from Self-Play in no-limit Texas Hold'em Poker.** Published in the international journal *Studia UBB Informatica*, Vol 66, No 2, 2021, indexed in *Mathematical Reviews*. Single author. [Link](#).

Personal Projects

For more projects or additional information check my [GitHub](#) page or my [website](#)'s *projects* and *blog* sections.

- **Poker AI** – I developed 3 Poker agents, the best one using *Deep Reinforcement Learning* and achieving expert human level. I published [one](#) paper related to this project and [one](#) is waiting for publication - *poker.ptidor.com*
- **Portfolio Management with DRL** – my dissertation project with the scope of building a Deep Reinforcement Learning agent with a new reward function to optimize the profits and diversification on a portfolio of stocks.
- **Quant-Trading AI** – I developed expert-system agents based on TA and LSTM. Back-tested on **20** different stocks.

Extracurricular Work

- In May 2021, I was invited to hold two 2h lectures on Reinforcement Learning for **Babes-Bolyai University**.
- Over the years, I devised and proposed over 40 math problems for the **Romanian Mathematical Society**.
- Started a local Chess Club back in 2013 to help teenagers get better at chess.

Other Skills

English professional level: IELTS Certificate 7/9 (C1). **Hobbies:** astronomy, chess, investing, table tennis, gaming.