Alexander Marc Spiridonov

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Education

09/2022 – 06/2025 MSc. Robotics, Systems and Control, ETH Zurich

final grade: 5.64

09/2019 – 09/2022 BSc. Mechanical Engineering, ETH Zurich

final grade: 5.5 (top 3%)

Publications, Preprints, and In-Preparation

2025 Generalist Robot Manipulation Beyond Action Labeled Data,

Conference on Robot Learning (CoRL) 2025

Alexander Spiridonov, Jan-Nico Zaech, Nikolay Nikolov, Luc Van Gool, Danda Pani

Paudel / paper ☑ / website ☑

2024 SpaceHopper: A Small-Scale Legged Robot for Exploring Low-Gravity Celestial

Bodies, *IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation (ICRA) 2024* Alexander Spiridonov, Fabio Buehler, Moriz Berclaz, Valerio Schelbert, Jorit Geurts, Elena Krasnova, Emma Steinke, Jonas Toma, Joschua Wuethrich, Recep Polat, Wim Zimmermann, Philip Arm, Nikita Rudin, Hendrik Kolvenbach, Marco Hutter / <u>paper</u>

☑ / <u>website</u> ☑

2025 From Simulation to Parabolic Flight: Control and Validation of Legged Robotic

Jumping in Microgravity, IEEE Transactions on Field Robotics (Under Review)
Philip Arm*, Valerio Schelbert*, **Alexander Spiridonov***, Fabio Buehler, Moriz
Berclaz, Jorit Geurts, Hendrik Kolvenbach, Fabian Tischhauser, Hendrik
Kolvenbach, Marco Hutter / <u>website</u> ☑ / <u>CNN Tech for Good</u> ☑ / <u>BBC</u> ☑

Work Experience

06/2024 – 06/2025 Graduate Research Fellowship, INSAIT

- Built scalable VLA pre-training infrastructure from scratch using JAX on TPUs
- Proposed novel method for co-training with human and robot data
- Published at *CoRL 2025* ☑ , view the *code* ☑

11/2023 – 05/2024 **Research Assistant,** Secure, Reliable, and Intelligent Systems Lab, ETH Zurich

- Built an evaluation framework for foundation models under the EU AI Act
- Launch covered by <u>TechCrunch</u> ☑, <u>Reuters</u> ☑ and 100+ stars on <u>github</u> ☑

11/2022 – 12/2023 Research Assistant, Robotic Systems Lab, ETH Zurich

- Built the RL training and sim-to-real pipeline of SpaceHopper
- Deployed in zero-gravity with the European Space Agency (ESA), <u>video</u>

Other Selected Experience

06/2025 – Present **Robot Learning Lead,** ETH Robotics Club, ETH Zurich

• Leading 15 students in the ETH Robotics Club on post-training VLAs for bi-manual dexterous manipulation

04/2023 – 06/2023	 Course Project, Optimization & Decision Intelligence Group, ETH Zurich Worked on Safe Active Exploration in MDPs with correlated state-action pairs using Convex RL. / <u>paper</u> ☑ / <u>poster</u> ☑
09/2021 – 06/2022	 Focus Project, Robotic Systems Lab, ETH Zurich Team Lead - Modeling & Control of SpaceHopper, helped build the software and control stack from the ground up

Teaching Experience

02/2022 - 06/2022	Teaching Assistant, <i>Institute of Electromagnetic Fields</i> Taught exercise classes for the course Electronics and Circuits.
09/2021 - 02/2022	Teaching Assistant, <i>Mechanics and Materials Laboratory</i> Taught exercise classes for the course Dynamics.

Talks and Presentations

10/2025	CoRL 2025 - Spotlight Talk, Talked about my paper Generalist Robot Manipulation Beyond Action Labeled Data
12/2022	IIT Bombay, Ambassador for ETH Zurich at IIT Bombay Techfest 2022.
05/2022	TEDxThun, Talked about legged robots for the exploration of asteroids and moons youtube $\ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ $

Awards

2024	ICRA 2024 Travel Grant, IEEE/RAS
2019	High School Graduate Award in Physics, German Physical Society

Skills

Languages	Technical Skills
German (native), English (native), Bulgarian (native),	Languages: Python, C, C++, HTML, SQL, Javascript
Russian (beginner), Latin (beginner)	Frameworks: PyTorch, JAX, CUDA, XLA, React, A-
	Frame, Three.js <i>Robotics Simulators:</i> IsaacGym,
	IsaacSim, Mujoco, Pybullet, Sapien

Selected Courses

Mathematics:

Analysis I/II/III, Complex Analysis, Linear Algebra I/II, Probability Theory and Statistics

Computer Science:

Control Theory I/II, Models Algorithms and Data, Dynamic Programming and Optimal Control, Optimization for Data Science, Probalistic Artificial Intelligence, Foundations of Reinforcement Learning, Machine Perception, Reliable and Trustworthy Artificial Intelligence