

Alexander Marc Spiridonov

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📅 04/09/2000

🖱 <https://aspiridonov.github.io/>



Education

09/2022 – present **MSc. Robotics, Systems and Control**, *ETH Zurich*

09/2019 – 09/2022 **BSc. Mechanical Engineering**, *ETH Zurich*
final grade: 5.5 (Top 3%)

09/2011 – 06/2019 **Abitur**, *Humboldt-Gymnasium Vaterstetten (HGV)*
final grade: 1.0

Publications

2023 **SpaceHopper: A Small-Scale Legged Robot for Exploring Low-Gravity Celestial Bodies**, *Alexander Spiridonov, Fabio Buehler, Moriz Berclaz, Valerio Schelbert, Elena Krasnova, Emma Steinke, Jonas Toma, Joschua Wuethrich, Recep Polat, Wim Zimmermann, Philip Arm, Nikita Rudin, Hendrik Kolvenbach, and Marco Hutter*
Under review in IEEE Robotics and Automation Letters

Research Experience

04/2023 – present **Research Project**, *Optimization & Decision Intelligence Group, ETH Zurich*
Working on a notion of adaptive safety for Active Exploration in MDPs, using Convex RL.

11/2022 – present **Research Assistant**, *Robotic Systems Lab, ETH Zurich*
Working on the Deep RL control concept of the robot SpaceHopper as part of the European Space Agencies PETRI Program.

11/2022 – present **Semester Project**, *Robotic Systems Lab, ETH Zurich*
Worked on Imitation Learning from graph-based expert demonstrations to pre-train Deep RL path planners for ANYmal in parkour terrains. Currently working towards a publication.

02/2022 – 07/2022 **Bachelor Thesis**, *Robotic Systems Lab, ETH Zurich*
Worked on highly parallelized Genetic and Supervised Parameter Tuning Methods for fast and accurate Zero Shot Sim to Real Transfer.

Teaching Experience

02/2022 – 06/2022 **Teaching Assistant**, *Institute of Electromagnetic Fields*
Taught exercise classes for the course Electronics and Circuits.

09/2021 – 02/2022 **Teaching Assistant**, *Mechanics and Materials Laboratory*
Taught exercise classes for the course Dynamics.

Projects

09/2021 – 06/2022 **SpaceHopper**, *Team Lead - Modeling & Control*
Created the Deep RL control pipeline, trained and deployed locomotion policies.

Talks and Presentations

12/2022 **IIT Bombay**, *Official ETH Ambassador at IIT Bombay Techfest 2022. Presented the legged robot SpaceHopper.*

05/2022 **TEDxThun**, *Talked about the potential of legged robots for the exploration of asteroids and moons*

Awards

05/2019 **e-fellows scholarship**, *e-fellows.net*

05/2019 **High School Graduate Award in Physics**, *German Physical Society*

Skills

Programming Languages

Python, C, C++, MATLAB

Frameworks

UNIX, PyTorch

Languages

German, English, Bulgarian, Latin

Certificates

Cambridge English Certificate (C2)

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, Probabilistic Artificial Intelligence, Foundations of Reinforcement Learning