

# Erick Schulz

Computational science engineer with a PhD in mathematics interested in research, technical software development and new technologies, with experience in numerical methods, algorithms for simulation, scientific product development and leadership

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🗣 English, French

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## Industry Experience

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**Plexim GmbH**, Zurich, Switzerland

**Head of Scientific Software Development**

2024 - ongoing

**Team Lead Research Scientist**

2023 - 2024

**Scientific Software Developer**

2022 - 2023

- *Core Technology*: R&D in high-performance differential algebraic equations (DAEs) solvers for the simulation of multi-physics, mixed-formulations, mixed-signals circuits and power electronics systems  
*Keywords*: sparse & dense linear algebra, KLU, QR and SVD decomposition, multi-threading, automatic differentiation, ExprTk, Netlist parsing, graph algorithms, Runge–Kutta time-stepping, BDFs, interpolation, error estimation, nonlinear optimization, voltage limiting
- *Product Development*: Building a state-of-the-art SPICE solver with innovative technology (multiyear roadmap); created a native fuzzy-search command-launcher/model-finder tool to improve UI/UX and discoverability of features in our flagship software PLECS; deployed a Python package (thermal-network) using JAX and Optax for surrogate thermal modeling of semiconductor devices (gradient-based fitting, model identification)
- *Real-Time Systems*: Development and stability analysis of new numerical schemes for real-time simulation on FPGAs (RT box)
- *Leadership*: Lead a team of 6 research scientists and engineers (PhDs and Masters); code reviews; supervised Bachelor and Master's theses in collaboration with ETH Zurich; traveled internationally to give workshops to research institutes, engineering firms and manufacturers of semiconductors
- *Tooling & Tech Stack*: C++ with Qt, embedded Lua, CMake, Gitlab, Git (version control), testing pipeline, Python, MATLAB, Octave (for initialization scripts), Modelica, circuit schematic editors

**Mitsubishi Electric Research Laboratories (MERL)**, Cambridge, USA

**Research Intern**

May 2017 - Aug 2017

- *Modeling & Optimization*: Simulation and optimization of large-scale HVAC systems with surrogate models; built a Levenberg-Marquardt optimizer (least-squares) with geodesic acceleration (using SUNDIALS for transients) to fit physically-based models to temperature data (MATLAB)
- *Tooling & Tech Stack*: MATLAB, Modelica, Mercurial (version control)

**Montreal University Hospital Center (CHUM)**, Montreal, Canada

**Research Assistant**, Department of Neurosurgery

May 2012 - Aug 2012

- Conducted literature review on motor learning (brain processes involved in imitation games)

**MEEIR**, Montreal, Canada

**Laboratory Technician**, Research Institute on Electricity of Quebec (IREQ)

part-time, 2010-2011

- Processed and graded ruthenium powder by particle size through multi-stage sieving.

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## Academic Experience

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**ETH Zurich**, Zurich, Switzerland

**Scientific Assistant**, Seminar for Applied Mathematics (SAM)

2018 - 2022

- Research at the interface of numerical analysis and differential geometry (PDEs on manifolds), leading to multiple publications in top-tier journals and presentations at international conferences  
*Keywords*: manifolds, electromagnetism, scattering, domain decomposition, boundary and finite element methods (FEM & BEM), exterior calculus, clifford algebras, resonant frequencies, Hilbert complexes, conservative methods

McGill University, Montreal, Canada

Research Assistant, Department of Mathematics and Statistics

2014 - 2016

- *Scientific Computing*: Developed a Lattice Gauge Theory solver in C for the Yang-Mills equation, implement gradient descent and line search on Principal Fiber bundles
- *Algorithm Implementation*: Implemented an algorithm in C to study Copulas and measures of statistical correlation

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## Education

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ETH Zurich, Zurich, Switzerland

Doctorate (PhD) – Applied Mathematics

2018 - 2022

- **Director**: Prof. Ralf Hiptmair
- **Thesis**: Developed a novel theory of boundary integral equations for the (possibly perturbed) Hodge-Dirac and Hodge-Laplace operators, advancing our understanding of low frequency models in electromagnetism and the structure of first-kind integral equations on manifolds

Polish Academy of Science, Warsaw, Poland

Advance Course – Finite Element Method

July 2019

- Advanced course on the Finite Element Method (FEM) from the European Community on Computational Methods in Applied Sciences (ECCOMAS) organized by the Polish Association for Computational Mechanics

McGill University, Montreal, Canada

Master's (M.Sc.) – Applied Mathematics

2016 - 2018

- **Director**: Prof. Tsogtgerel Gantumur
- **Thesis**: Published the first proof of convergence of Discrete Exterior Calculus (DEC) for the N-dimensional Poisson problem (a method used in digital geometry processing and computer graphics)

Bachelor (B.A.) – Honours Mathematics & Computer Science

2012 - 2016

- Graduated with First Class Honours
- Dean's Honour List (Top 10% of Faculty)
- **Highlights**: numerical methods, differential geometry, analysis & algebra, ODEs & PDEs, algorithms & data structures

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## Teaching & Mentoring Experience

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ETH Zurich, Zurich, Switzerland

Lecturer

part-time, upcoming 2026

- Invited to take over as lecturer for *Numerical Methods for Partial Differential Equations*, a mandatory advanced course of the Computational Science and Engineering (CSE) program

Organizer & T.A.

2018 - 2022

- Contributed in developing the curriculum, exercises and exams for *Numerical Methods for PDEs*; mentored and supervised teaching assistants; led weekly exercise sessions and prepared examinations for large classes
- Weekly exercise sessions for *Numerical Methods for Application in Engineering II*

F.A.C.E., Montreal, Canada

Teacher Assistant

part-time, 2013 - 2015

- Led biweekly exercise sessions for elementary and high school students, focusing on mathematics and science.

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## Activities & Leadership

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NPDECODES Project

2018 - 2022

Project Co-Lead

- Led a team of student developers in creating **NPDECODES**, a C++ repository of ~ 65 physical simulation and optimization algorithms, now the standard framework for the course.  
*Keywords*: wave propagation, convection-diffusion, conservation laws, electrostatics, force calculations, error estimators, convergence analysis, polynomial fitting, method of lines and much more; C++, Python

## Seminars in Undergraduate Mathematics in Montreal (SUMM)

VP Finance

2015 - 2016

Organizing Committee Member

2014 - 2015

SUMM is an annual conference organized in collaboration by students of all four universities in Montreal, QC, Canada. Of provincial scale, it is the largest event of the type in Quebec. It benefits to undergraduate students from universities of both Quebec and Ontario.

## McGill CodeJam - Artificial Intelligence

2014

Hackathon (48h)

- Design and implementation of a facial recognition algorithm based on PCA

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## Skills

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<b>Programming</b>	<b>C++:</b> Modern C++, STL, Eigen <i>Familiarity:</i> CMake, Qt, CUDA <b>Python:</b> NumPy, SciPy, Matplotlib <i>Familiarity:</i> Pandas, JAX, Optax <b>Other:</b> MATLAB, Modelica, LaTeX, Git, GitLab & GitHub <i>Familiarity:</i> Lua, Octave
<b>Core Competencies</b>	Numerical Methods for ODEs, DAEs & PDEs Applied Mathematics Scientific Computing Research & Development Leadership & Project Management

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## Awards

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<b>Nominated for ETH Medal</b>	2022
<b>Graduate Excellence Fellowship Award</b>	2017
<b>Undergraduate Student Research Award (NSERC)</b>	2015
<b>Collegiate Literature Award</b>	2011

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## Publications

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- Multiple international conference presentations in Canada, Germany, Switzerland and UK
- [1] Erick Schulz and Ralf Hiptmair. “First-kind boundary integral equations for the Dirac operator in 3-dimensional Lipschitz domains”. In: *SIAM Journal on Mathematical Analysis* 54.1 (2022), pp. 616–648.
  - [2] Erick Schulz and Ralf Hiptmair. “Spurious resonances in coupled domain-boundary variational formulations of transmission problems in electromagnetism and acoustics”. In: *Computational Methods in Applied Mathematics* 22.4 (2022), pp. 971–985.
  - [3] Erick Schulz and Ralf Hiptmair. “Coupled domain-boundary variational formulations for Hodge–Helmholtz operators”. In: *Integral Equations and Operator Theory* 94.1 (2022), p. 7.
  - [4] Matthias Kirchhart and Erick Schulz. “Div–curl problems and H1-regular stream functions in 3D Lipschitz domains”. In: *Mathematical Methods in the Applied Sciences* 45.3 (2022), pp. 1097–1117.
  - [5] Erick Schulz and Gantumur Tsogtgerel. “Convergence of discrete exterior calculus approximations for Poisson problems”. In: *Discrete & Computational Geometry* 63 (2020), pp. 346–376.
  - [6] Ralf Hiptmair, Dirk Pauly, and Erick Schulz. “Traces for Hilbert complexes”. In: *Journal of Functional Analysis* 284.10 (2023), p. 109905. ISSN: 0022-1236.
  - [7] Erick Schulz, Ralf Hiptmair, and Stefan Kurz. “Boundary integral exterior calculus”. In: *Journal of the European Mathematical Society* (2025).
  - [8] Ralf Hiptmair and Erick Schulz. “Boundary element exterior calculus”. In: *TBD* (in progress).
  - [9] Erick Schulz and Andy T. S. Wan. “Minimal  $\ell^2$  norm discrete multiplier method”. In: *Journal of Computational Dynamics* 12.2 (2025), pp. 212–238. ISSN: 2158-2491.