

## SERGIO DANIEL HERNANDEZ CHARPAK

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French o Colombian

### Research Overview

I am a passionate researcher on the interface between artificial intelligence / machine learning in healthcare, focusing on leveraging and integrating neuroimaging strategies with implantable neuroprosthetics to restore neurological function to people with spinal cord injury and Parkinson's disease.

### Education

#### École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL)

**Electrical Engineering**, PhD Candidate, defense scheduled for 11.11.2024

*Neuroimaging to Guide the Delivery of Implantable Neuroprosthetics Restoring Neurological Function*

Lausanne, Switzerland

September 2020-Present

#### École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne

**Computational Science and Engineering**, Master Thesis Student

Lausanne, Switzerland

September 2017-February 2020

#### Universidad de los Andes

**Physics**, Bachelor of Science

**Computing Engineering**, Bachelor of Engineering

**Japanese Language and Culture**, Minor

Bogotá, Colombia

January 2010 - March 2017 - GPA **4.23/5.00**

January 2010 - March 2017 - GPA **4.23/5.00**

#### Kyoto Institute of Culture and Language

Intermediate Japanese Student

Kyoto, Japan

October 2013-March 2014

### Work Experience

#### EPFL

*.NeuroRestore - Defitech Center  
for Interventional Neurotherapies  
Lausanne, Switzerland  
September 2020 - Present*

#### PhD student – .NeuroRestore – Clinical Division

Neuroimaging to guide the delivery of implantable neuroprosthetics restoring neurological function. Automatization of generation of personalized 3D models for simulations of spinal cord stimulation paradigms for patients suffering spinal cord injury or other neurological dysfunctions. Solving functional and anatomical variabilities on under the supervision of prof. G. Courtine and prof. J. Bloch

#### EPFL

*G-Lab  
Geneva, Switzerland  
February - September 2020*

#### Scientific Assistant – Neurorestore – Computational Neuroscience Unit

Contributing with image processing, data analysis in several research projects around personalized targeted spinal cord stimulation paradigms for spinal cord injury patients.

#### Nagra Kudelski Group

*Cloud  
Cheseaux, Switzerland  
February – July 2019*

#### Internship – Cloud Infra Team

Enabled real-time deep learning in production for anomaly detection in data streams using Pytorch, TF, Scala, Spark and Deeplearning4J. Developed neural networks models for unsupervised anomaly detection on time series deploying them for real time alert generation under supervision of eng. Arnaud Gaillard.

### Research Experience

#### EPFL

*G-Lab & MIP Lab  
Geneva, Switzerland  
September 2019 - February 2020*

#### Master Thesis - Prof. Courtine's Laboratory & MIP Laboratory (prof. Van De Ville)

Conducted a lumbar Spinal Cord (SC) fMRI study to deconstruct segmental innervation of sensorimotor circuits in the lumbosacral SC in healthy. Integrated it into personalized targeted SC stimulation paradigms for patients under the direction of PhD students A. Rowald, N. Kinany, prof. G. Courtine and prof. D. Van De Ville.

## Curriculum Vitae

### EPFL

G-Lab

Geneva, Switzerland

August 2018 – February 2019

### EPFL

MIP Lab

Geneva, Switzerland

February - July 2018

### Universidad de los Andes

Department of Computing  
Engineering

Bogotá, Colombia

August - December 2016

### Laboratoire CPPM

LSST Project

Marseille, France

June 2016

### Universidad de los Andes

Department of Physics

Bogotá, Colombia

January - May 2016

### Universidad de los Andes

School of Engineering

Bogotá, Colombia

August 2015 - December 2016

### Fermi National Laboratory

Neutrino Division

Batavia, U.S.A.

June 2015 – August 2015

### Tokyo University of Marine Science and Technology

Tokyo, Japan

May 2024 - June 2014

### Master Semester Project - Prof. Courtine's Laboratory

Artificially represented brain input to spinal sensorimotor circuits through the implementation of a DL framework for unsupervised and supervised learning strategies to drive a biomechanical model of the lower limbs in human under the direction of PhD student A. Rowald and prof. Gregoire Courtine.

### Master Semester Project - Medical Image Processing Laboratory

Processed high resolution 7-Tesla brain fMRI data FMRI data using the Total Activation method, and found the innovation-driven Co-Activation Patterns (iCAPs) and their time behaviors on three different paradigms. Worked under the direction of PhD student A Tarun and prof. Dimitri Van De Ville.

### Undergraduate Thesis

Implemented part of an Image Analysis tool for the Segmentation of the aorta artery for quantifications of the elasticity of the aorta artery and calcifications under the direction of prof. Marcela Hernandez and prof. Leonardo Florez.

### Internship - LSST Project

Studied and implemented different image processing and statistic techniques for the detection of transients in astrophysical images. Under the supervision of scientist Dominique Fouchez.

### Undergraduate Thesis

Titled Laniakea in a Cosmological Context. Detected galaxies superclusters in simulated cosmological structures based on galaxies velocities properties under the direction of prof. Jaime E. Forero.

### Undergraduate Research Assistant

Developed Python tools for testing prototypes in the project Astronomical Image processing from large all-sky photometric surveys for the detection and measurements of transients under the mentorship of prof. Marcela Hernandez.

### IPM Intern – Muon G-2 Experiment

Part of the team for the Test Beam of a Straw Detector Prototype in charge of the High Voltage and assisted with the analysis of the data taken under the mentorship of scientist Brendan C Casey.

### Visiting Student - Control and Robotics Laboratory

Assisted with the integration and control of a helicopter with Arduino under the supervision of professors Sho and Ito.

## Teaching Experience

### EPFL

Lausanne, Switzerland

2022,2023,2024

### Master Thesis & Internships Supervisors

*Proprioceptive map of the human subcortical neural motor network*, Meriem Bourouba (Université Paris Cité)

*Recurrent neural networks to study and control motor execution*, Marion Pavaux (Université Paris-Saclay, École des Mines de Saint-Étienne)

*Data-driven identification of lower limbs proprioceptive projections mapping*, Neala Rohner (ETHZ)

*M3D-SAM: Multi-purpose multi-modal zero-shot semi-to-fully automatic segmentation on medical imaging based on SAM*, Hanane Moha-Ouchane (TUM)

*Home-monitoring of gait for Parkinson's disease patients*, Maxime Pillet (EPFL)

*Automated Gait Analysis to Characterise Locomotor Deficits in Home Environments for Parkinson's Patients*, Ian Enderli (EPFL)

*Semi-automatic extraction of the spinal root centerlines*, Raphaël Mariétan (EPFL)

**EPFL**

Lausanne, Switzerland  
2020,2021,2022,2023,2024

**Semester Master projects**

*Robustification of Personalized Spinal Cord Model Reconstruction*, Chléa Schiff (EPFL)  
*Learning the Natural Language of the Spinal Cord using Masked Autoencoders*, Léon Muller (EPFL)  
*Learning the natural language of the spinal cord*, Juliette Hars (EPFL)  
*Robustification of AI pipeline for personalized model reconstruction*, Nicolas Reategui (EPFL)  
*Self-supervised for MRI artifact detection and reconstruction*, Jonas Blanc (EPFL)  
*Automatic, accurate and robust vertebrae-based CT to MRI co-registration*, Benkirane, Ismail (EPFL)  
*Artificial biologically relevant spinal networks linking electrical stimulation and muscle responses in time*, Axelle Piguët (EPFL)  
*Segmentation and Identification of Vertebrae in CT scans*, Aline Brunner (Bachelor - EPFL)  
*Deep learning network for the segmentation of spinal roots*, Quentin Uhl (EPFL)  
*A computational approach to study control and execution of locomotion*, Daniele Hamm (EPFL)

**EPFL**

Lausanne, Switzerland  
2021,2022,2023,2024

**Graduate Teaching Assistant**

Teaching Assistant for Sensorimotor neuroprosthetics, Assistive Technology Challenge courses. Supervised group of students in the development of assistive technologies to solve specific challenges from individuals with disabilities.

**Universidad de los Andes**

Bogotá, Colombia  
2011,2012,2013,2014,2015

**Undergraduate Teaching Assistant**

Teaching Assistant for Object Oriented Programming, Data Structures, Modeling, Simulation and Optimization, and Computational Methods courses.

**Peer-reviewed research articles**

1. **Hernandez-Charpak S.D.**, et. al. Lumbosacral Spinal Cord fMRI: Towards Personalized Mapping Using Task-Evoked Activity. In review, **Imaging Neuroscience**.
2. Phillips, A.A., Gandhi A.P., Hankov N., **Hernandez-Charpak S.D.**, et. al. The implantable system that restores hemodynamic stability after spinal cord injury. In review, **Nature Medicine**.
3. Milekovic, T., Martin Moraud E., Macellari N., Moerman C., Raschellà F., Sun S., Perich M.G., Varescon C., Demesmaeker R., Bruel A., Bole-Feysot L.N., Schiavone G., Pirondini E., YunLong C., Hao L., Galvez A., **Hernandez-Charpak S.D.**, et. al. A A spinal cord neuroprosthesis for locomotor deficits due to Parkinson's disease. *Nat Med* 29, 2854–2865 (2023). <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41591-023-02584-1>
4. Lorach, H., Galvez, A., Spagnolo, V., Martel, F., Karakas, S., Interling, N., Vat, M., Faivre, O., Harte, C., Komi, S., Ravier, J., Collin, T., Coquoz, L., Sakr, I., Baaklini, E., **Hernandez-Charpak, S. D.**, Dumont, G., Buschman, R., Buse, N., ... Courtine, G. (2023). Walking naturally after spinal cord injury using a brain–spine interface. **Nature**, 618(7963), 126–133. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41586-023-06094-5>
5. Squair, J. W., Berney M., Castro Jimenez M., Hankov N., Demesmaeker R., Amir S., Paley A., **Hernandez-Charpak S.D.**, et al. “Implanted System for Orthostatic Hypotension in Multiple-System Atrophy.” **New England Journal of Medicine** 386, no. 14 (April 7, 2022): 1339–44. <https://doi.org/10.1056/NEJMoa2112809>.
6. Rowald, A., Komi, S., Demesmaeker, R., Baaklini E., **Hernandez-Charpak S.D.**, et al. Activity-dependent spinal cord neuromodulation rapidly restores trunk and leg motor functions after complete paralysis. **Nature Medicine** 28, 260–271 (2022). <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41591-021-01663-5>
7. Peñaranda-Rivera J. D., Paipa-León D. L., **Hernández-Charpak S.D.**, Forero-Romero J.E., Superclusters from velocity divergence fields, **Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society: Letters**, Volume 500, Issue 1, January 2021, Pages L32–L36, <https://doi.org/10.1093/mnrasl/slaa177>

**Conferences**

**Society for Neuroscience**

Chicago, IL, USA  
October 2024

**Posters**

*Interfacing brain-decoded motor intentions with the cervical spinal cord to restore voluntary arm and hand movements*, Collin T., Spagnolo V., Sakr I., Carparelli G., **Hernandez-Charpak S.D.**, et al.

**Society for Neuroscience**

Washington D.C., USA  
November 2023

**Posters**

*Automated Generation of Spinal Cord Models for Pre-Operative Planning of Epidural Electrical Stimulation Surgical Interventions*, **Hernandez-Charpak S.D.**, et. al.

*Non-Invasive And Invasive Methodologies of Stimulating the Cervical Spinal Cord in Order to Improve Upper-Limb Functions After Tetraplegia*, Collin T., Spagnolo V., Berny M., Interling N., Hervé J., Sakr I., Galvez A., Carparelli G., **Hernandez-Charpak S.D.**, et. al.

*Automated Configuration of Epidural Electrical Spinal Cord Stimulation for Neurological Disorders*, Carparelli G., Abranches P., Macellari N., Komi S., Yang X., Harte C., Dumont G., Collin T., **Hernandez-Charpak S.D.**, et. al.

**Society for Neuroscience**

San Diego, CA, USA  
November 2022

**Posters**

*A Spinal Cord Neuroprosthesis That Alleviates Locomotor Deficits In PD*, Milekovic T., Moraud E.M., Nicolo Macellari, Moerman C., Raschellà F., Sun S, Perich M.G., Varescon C., Demesmaeker R., Bruel A., Bole-Feysot L.N., Schiavone G., Jianzhong Y., Galvez A., **Hernandez-Charpak S.D.**, et. al.

*A Task-Adaptive Spinal Neuroprosthesis to Improve Gait Deficits in People With Parkinson's Disease*, Macellari N., Moerman C., Sasportes C.D., Harte C., Varescon C., Bole-Feysot L.N., Carparelli G., **Hernandez-Charpak S.D.**, et. al.

**XV LARIM (Latin American Regional IAU Meeting)**

Cartagena, Colombia  
October 2016

**Oral Talk**

**Laniakea in a Cosmological Context:** Galaxies superclusters detection in simulated cosmological structures under the direction of prof. Jaime E. Forero.

## Skills

**Software and programming**

Proficient

Python, MATLAB, C, C++, Java, Git, LaTeX,  
Bash, Pytorch, Microsoft Powerpoint, Adobe  
Illustrator

OS: Linux, Windows and Mac OS.

**Github:** <https://github.com/sercharpak>

Experienced

Sim4life, TensorFlow, Deeplearning4J, Spark, Scala, Processing, Arduino,  
Assembler, UML, MPI, Neuron, Quantum Espresso

**Languages**

French (fluent)

Spanish (fluent)

English (fluent)

Japanese (elementary, JLPT level 4-3)

## References

**Prof. Grégoire Courtine**

Director of *.NeuroRestore*

Ecole polytechnique fédérale de Lausanne

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