

Dario Ackermann

Founder, Student

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About me

IT enthusiast hungry for knowledge, with involvement in various institutions and associations. Currently exploring the wonderful world of biology in Denmark. Involved in improving the financial literacy of high school students in Switzerland. Commonly called a nerd – and proudly so. In my free time, often found among fellow nerds discussing niche interests. My dream vacation? An off-grid cottage with a sauna and lake access in the Finnish woods.

My motto: *Don't complain about things you are not willing to change.*

Social networks

Blog
Instagram
LinkedIn
GitHub
GitLab

Languages

German ●●●●●
English ●●●●●
French ●●●○○
Danish ●○○○○

Work experience

2018 – now **Chief Executive Officer** VirtualAlpha GmbH / VirtualAlpha (Danmark) ApS
Founder/Director at VirtualAlpha - a startup that offers a portfolio management game for educational institutions and their students.

2021 – 2025 **Software Engineer** Netcloud AG
Software Defined Networking (part-time)

2018 – 2020 **Employee** Historic association Sarganserland
Running the business on weekends during my days at gymnasium.

2017 – 2020 **Employee** Hüpfburg Sarganserland
Running the business on weekends and during vacations.

Education

Studies

2025 – **MSc Bioinformatics** Technical University of Denmark
120 ECTS; exch. semester at Leiden University (The Netherlands)

2021 – 2025 **BSc Computational Science and Engineering (CSE)** ETH Zurich
Specialisation courses in Biology and Geophysics, 206 ECTS
Programme Info

Army service

2020 – 2021 **Cyber-Course** Swiss Armed Forces
Education and internship

Secondary education II

2016 – 2020 **Matura (Gymnasium)** Kantonsschule Sargans, SG
Focus subject: Business and Law (5.5, bilingual English)
Complementary subject: Computer science (6.0)

Matura thesis: "Your entire life is online – and might be used against you" Das Internet vergisst nie: Reproduzierbare Angriffsszenarien und Auswertungen. Rating: excellent (6.0)

Secondary education I & primary school

2011 – 2014 **Talent program** Bad Ragaz, SG
1 day per week besides normal elementary school

2008 – 2016 **Primary and secondary school** Mels, SG

Courses and training

2024 **Locked Shields**
Participation in the world's largest cyber defence exercise

2021 **Leadership-Certificate**
Swiss Association for Leadership Training

2021 **Cyber Course**
Swiss Armed Forces

2020 **Certificate of Proficiency in English**
Cambridge Assessment English

2018 Language stay in Eastbourne (UK)

Publications

2025 **High-Fidelity Mesh Generation for Gyrotron Modeling: Integrating Gmsh for Parametric 2D and 3D Electron Optics**
Dario Ackermann
Bachelor's Thesis, Inst. of Mol. Phys. Sci. (IMPS), ETH Zürich

2021 **A debit card for the future - tackling climate change with a privacy-enhancing solution**
D. Ackermann, J. Huber, J. Jörg, J. Nguyenová, R. Zumbrunn
International Swiss Talent Forum

2020 **"Your entire life is online – and might be used against you". Das Internet vergisst nie: Reproduzierbare Angriffsszenarien und Auswertungen.**
Dario Ackermann, supervised by Lukas Fehr
Kantonsschule Sargans

Awards

2023 **Hackathon - First Place** VIScon
VIScon combines a three-day hackathon with a one-day symposium full of talks, workshops and networking opportunities hosted at ETH Zurich

2023 **Finalist (with VirtualAlpha)** SGKB Startfeld Rohdiamant
St.Galler Kantonalbank's prize for young companies supports start-ups in Eastern Switzerland with unique business ideas and models to realize their full potential.

2022 **Grand Finalist** Hilti IT Competition
Team Qualification (Top 9) and participation in the Grand Final at Hilti Malaysia

2020 **Swiss Economy Olympiad** science.olympiad.ch
Gold medal in the national final and
participation in the International Economics Olympiad.

2020 **Best maturity theses** Kantonsschule Sargans
Selection and award

2019 **Swiss Philosophy Olympiad** science.olympiad.ch
Bronze medal in national final.

Extracurricular interests and social commitment

2024 – now Volunteer for VIScon Hackathon (Technical Team)

2021 – now Volunteer at Science Olympiad Switzerland

2021 – 2022 Department Head Political Projects at Young Green Liberal Party of the canton of St. Gallen

2021 Participation at 10. International Swiss Talent Forum about "Rethinking surveillance"

2020 – 2021 Development of an interactive web-based simulation tool to explore different containment strategies for the Covid 19 pandemic.. (*"Smart Investment of Virus RNA Testing Resources to Enhance Covid-19 Mitigation"*, Model from *Gorji et al.*): **corona-lab.ch**

2020 Initiator Petition #keineap2020 (keineap2020.ch) against the holding of gymnasium final examinations in the canton of St. Gallen due to health concerns.

2019 Participation Swiss Youth in Science: Fascinating Informatics, FHNW Brugg-Windisch (Project: Multiplayer Game)

2018 Participation Teilnahme Swiss Youth in Science: Fascinating Informatics, Universität Bern (Project: Image Mosiacing)

2017 - 2020 Instructor «tablet heroes» (infoklick.ch)
Supporting seniors in learning how to use the tablet through courses and on-site visits as well as continuing "e-advice hours" at the library in Walenstadt SG.

2016 – 2020 «Tech-Mentor» Kantonsschule Sargans Support and guidance for students in the use of technical aids

2015 – 2018 Volunteer Website Manager, Volley Pizol, Sargans SG