

# Tristan Montoya

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tjbmontoya.com



## EDUCATION

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**Doctor of Philosophy**, Aerospace Science and Engineering  
*University of Toronto*

September 2018 – June 2024  
*Toronto, Canada*

**Thesis:** [Provably stable discontinuous spectral-element methods with the summation-by-parts property: Unified matrix analysis and efficient tensor-product formulations on curved simplices](#)

**Advisor:** David Zingg

**Bachelor of Engineering**, Mechanical Engineering  
*Carleton University*

September 2014 – June 2018  
*Ottawa, Canada*

## CURRENT POSITION

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**Postdoctoral Researcher**  
*University of Cologne*

January 2024 – Present  
*Cologne, Germany*

**Project:** Efficient and robust discontinuous spectral-element methods for the ICON-DG atmospheric dynamical core; partnership with the Deutscher Wetterdienst (DWD) and German Aerospace Center (DLR) funded by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) as part of the [WarmWorld project](#) on exascale Earth system models for kilometre-scale climate predictions

**Advisor:** Gregor Gassner

## PUBLICATIONS IN PEER-REVIEWED JOURNALS

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**T. Montoya** and D. W. Zingg, [Efficient entropy-stable discontinuous spectral-element methods using tensor-product summation-by-parts operators on triangles and tetrahedra](#). *Journal of Computational Physics* 516, 2024.

**T. Montoya** and D. W. Zingg, [Efficient tensor-product spectral-element operators with the summation-by-parts property on curved triangles and tetrahedra](#). *SIAM Journal on Scientific Computing* 46(4), 2024.

**T. Montoya** and D. W. Zingg, [A unifying algebraic framework for discontinuous Galerkin and flux reconstruction methods based on the summation-by-parts property](#). *Journal of Scientific Computing* 92(3), 2022.

## PUBLICATIONS IN CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

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**T. Montoya** and D. W. Zingg, [Stable and conservative high-order methods on triangular elements using tensor-product summation-by-parts operators](#). *11<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Computational Fluid Dynamics*, 2022. **Awarded best student paper.**

## SELECTED TALKS (EXCLUDING ABOVE PROCEEDINGS)

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**T. Montoya** and D. W. Zingg, [Efficient entropy-stable discontinuous spectral-element methods in collapsed coordinates for hyperbolic systems on curved triangular and tetrahedral meshes](#). Contributed talk, *Canadian Applied and Industrial Mathematics Society Annual Meeting*, 2024.

**T. Montoya** and D. W. Zingg, [Efficient entropy-stable tensor-product spectral-element methods on simplices](#). Contributed talk, *9<sup>th</sup> European Congress on Computational Methods in Applied Sciences and Engineering*, 2024.

**T. Montoya** and D. W. Zingg, [Efficient tensor-product spectral-element methods with the summation-by-parts property on triangles and tetrahedra](#). Contributed talk, *SIAM Conference on Computational Science and Engineering*, 2023.

**T. Montoya** and D. W. Zingg, [Efficient and robust spectral-element methods on triangles using tensor-product summation-by-parts operators](#). Invited talk, *NASA Advanced Modeling and Simulation (AMS) Seminar Series*, 2022.

**T. Montoya** and D. W. Zingg, [Unified analysis of discontinuous Galerkin and flux reconstruction methods based on the summation-by-parts property](#). Contributed talk, *International Conference on Spectral and High-Order Methods*, 2021.

**T. Montoya** and D. W. Zingg, [Unified analysis of high-order methods based on the summation-by-parts property: Application to discontinuous Galerkin and flux reconstruction discretizations](#). Contributed talk, *SIAM Conference on Computational Science and Engineering*, 2021.

## OTHER APPOINTMENTS

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- Visiting Researcher** August 2022  
*National University of Singapore* Singapore
- Project:** Koopman operator approaches to data-driven stability analysis of numerical methods  
**Advisor:** Gianmarco Mengaldo
- Undergraduate Student Researcher** May 2017 – August 2017  
*University of Toronto* Toronto, Canada
- Projects:** Optimization of finite-difference operators with the summation-by-parts property on non-uniform nodal distributions; comparison of continuation methods for steady aerodynamic flows  
**Advisor:** David Zingg
- Undergraduate Student Researcher** May 2016 – August 2016  
*McGill University* Montreal, Canada
- Project:** Robust deformation of unstructured grids using radial basis functions and linear elasticity  
**Advisor:** Siva Nadarajah
- Undergraduate Student Researcher** May 2015 – August 2015  
*Carleton University* Ottawa, Canada
- Projects:** Optimal estimation of uncertain parameters in computer models of welding processes; novel interpolation techniques for stress and strain tensor fields using quaternions  
**Advisor:** John Goldak

## AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

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- Best Student Paper, International Conference on Computational Fluid Dynamics 2022
- Ontario Graduate Scholarship 2019 – 2020, 2022 – 2023
- Kenneth Molson Fellowship 2021 – 2022, 2022 – 2023
- Queen Elizabeth II Graduate Scholarship in Science and Technology 2020 – 2021, 2021 – 2022
- Douglas Patton Hogg Memorial Award 2021
- NSERC Canada Graduate Scholarship - Master's 2018 – 2019
- University Medal (highest academic standing of any Bachelor of Engineering graduate) 2018
- Canadian Society for Mechanical Engineering Gold Medal 2018
- Rajesh Ahluwalia Memorial Scholarship 2017 – 2018
- NSERC Undergraduate Student Research Award 2015, 2017
- McGill University Summer Undergraduate Research in Engineering Award 2016
- Allan Buchanan Undergraduate Scholarship 2015 – 2016
- Deans' Honour List 2014 – 2018
- Faculty Scholarship 2014 – 2018

## SUPERVISION OF GRADUATE AND UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH

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- Paula Weiß**, Master of Science thesis student August 2024 – Present  
*University of Cologne (Co-supervised with Gregor Gassner and Benedict Geihe)* Cologne, Germany
- Project:** High-order vertical discretizations for nonhydrostatic atmospheric models
- Fabian Höck**, Master of Science thesis student April 2024 – Present  
*University of Cologne (Co-supervised with Gregor Gassner and Benedict Geihe)* Cologne, Germany
- Project:** Discontinuous Galerkin methods for moist atmospheric flows with rain
- Ruilin (Jerry) Bai**, Bachelor of Applied Science student intern September 2020 – December 2020  
*University of Toronto (Co-supervised with David Zingg)* Toronto, Canada
- Project:** Optimization of summation-by-parts operators for minimal solution error
- Yewon Lee**, Bachelor of Applied Science student intern May 2019 – August 2019  
*University of Toronto (Co-supervised with David Zingg and Masayuki Yano)* Toronto, Canada
- Project:** Comparative evaluation of energy- and entropy-stable discontinuous Galerkin and summation-by-parts methods

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## OPEN-SOURCE SOFTWARE CONTRIBUTIONS AS PRINCIPAL DEVELOPER

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### **TrixiAtmo.jl**

<https://github.com/trixi-framework/TrixiAtmo.jl>

Julia package extending the [Trixi.jl numerical framework](#) for conservation laws to enable the solution of atmospheric flow problems using a high-order discontinuous spectral-element dynamical core

### **StableSpectralElements.jl**

<https://github.com/tristanmontoya/StableSpectralElements.jl>

Julia framework for energy-stable and entropy-stable discontinuous spectral-element methods on general element types based on multidimensional and tensor-product formulations; emphasis on dispatched strategies for matrix-based and matrix-free operator evaluation

### **GHOST: Generalized High-Order Solver Toolbox**

<https://github.com/tristanmontoya/GHOST>

Python implementation of discontinuous Galerkin and flux reconstruction schemes in one or two spatial dimensions with various design choices

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## OTHER OPEN-SOURCE SOFTWARE CONTRIBUTIONS

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### **Trixi.jl**

<https://github.com/trixi-framework/Trixi.jl>

Modified mesh data type to enable the solution of partial differential equations on surfaces

### **NodesAndModes.jl**

<https://github.com/jlchan/NodesAndModes.jl>

Added high-order symmetric quadrature rules on triangular and tetrahedral elements

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## TEACHING

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### **Scientific Computing: Introduction to the Simulation of Atmospheric Flows**

April 2024 – July 2024

*University of Cologne*

*Cologne, Germany*

Assisted in the development and delivery of a new graduate-level course on numerical methods for atmospheric flows, focusing on theoretical and computational aspects of modern high-order discretizations applied to atmospheric simulations; created final project in which students implement a discontinuous Galerkin solver for the shallow water equations on the cubed sphere in Julia and assess its effectiveness for a series of standard atmospheric test problems

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## SERVICE

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### **Lab Representative**, Computational Aerodynamics

December 2021 – June 2024

*Centre for Computational Science and Engineering*

*Toronto, Canada*

Member of the student organizing committee for an interdepartmental group of researchers at the University of Toronto across various disciplines of computational science and engineering

### **Editor**, Physics and Mathematics Section

June 2022 – March 2024

*Canadian Science Fair Journal*

Volunteer editor and mentor for an open-access journal showcasing science projects by students at primary and secondary schools across Canada

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## TECHNICAL SKILLS

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### **Programming languages**

Julia, Python (NumPy/SciPy), C, C++, MATLAB, Fortran, L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X

### **Development tools**

Unix shell, Git, GNU Make, Anaconda, Jupyter Notebook, VS Code, Vim, Emacs, Slurm

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## OTHER ACTIVITIES

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Music (performing guitarist/bassist), cycling, alpine skiing (former ski instructor), non-fiction reading

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## CITIZENSHIP

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Canada, France