# François Mernier, Ph.D.

ESA Research Fellow (European Space Agency)

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### Persons of reference:

• Prof. Jelle S. Kaastra (Leiden Obs., The Netherlands) – kaastra@strw.leidenuniv.nl

• Dr. Norbert Werner (Masaryk University, Czech Rep.) – werner@physics.muni.cz

• Dr. Jelle de Plaa (SRON, The Netherlands) – j.de.plaa@sron.nl

Born: June 27, 1989 – Brussels, Belgium

Nationalities: Belgian, French

# Current position

ESA Research Fellow, ESTEC (Mentor: Dr. Matteo Guainazzi)

(Noordwijk, The Netherlands)

## Past positions

2017-2019 Postdoctoral Researcher, MTA-Eötvös University (Mentor: Dr. Norbert Werner)

(Budapest, Hungary)

Postdoctoral Researcher, Leiden University (Mentor: Prof. Jelle S. Kaastra)

(Leiden, The Netherlands)

### Skills

2017-2017

Areas of specialization

 $\label{eq:high-energy} High-energy \ astrophysics - X-ray \ spectroscopy - Clusters/groups \ of \ galaxies - Intracluster \ medium - Chemical \ enrichment - XMM-Newton$ 

### Computing skills

SPEX • XMM-Newton SAS Expert

UNIX console – BASH – fortran 90 – Python (incl. numpy, scipy, astropy, matplotlib) Good

– LATEX – XSPEC – HEAsoft – SAO ds9 – Chandra CIAO – Linux – Mac OS

Inkscape – GIMP – C – Windows Intermed. Basic HTML - C++ - IDL - IRAF

LANGUAGES

French - English Fluent

Dutch Intermed.

### Education

PhD in High-energy Astrophysics, Leiden University/SRON 2013-2017

(Leiden/Utrecht, The Netherlands)

2010-2012 MSc in Space Sciences, University of Liège

(Liège, Belgium) – Magna Cum Laude

BSc in Physics, Université Libre de Bruxelles 2007-2010

(Brussels, Belgium) – Cum Laude

HIGH SCHOOL in Latin-Mathematics, Lycée Émile Jacquain 2001-2007

(Brussels, Belgium) – Cum Laude

## Grants & Awards

XMM-Newton observation (PI)- "A deep exploration of chemical enrichment and ther-2020 modynamics of S0 galaxies", AO20, 110 ks (~31 h)

XMM-Newton observation (PI) - "Searching for X-ray non-thermal emission in an ex-2019

traordinarily radio-bright galaxy group", AO19, 210 ks (~58 h)

71th Netherlands Astronomy Conference - Poster Prize: Laureate 2016

Orthograph Championship (French): Laureate 2006

# Scientific responsibilities & collaborations

Co-chair of the Athena Topical Panel SWG1.2 (Athena Science Study team) 2021-now

CHEERS collaboration (PI: J. de Plaa) 2015-now

now

Ongoing projects / collaborations: E. Pointecouteau, D. Barret, N. Clerc (France) – A. Simionescu, H. Akamatsu, J. de Plaa, J. S. Kaastra, L. Gu, M. Guainazzi (Netherlands) – N. Werner, R. Grossová, J. P. Breuer (Czech Republic) – N. Truong (Germany) – F. Gastaldello, C. Pinto, S. Ettori, M. Gaspari, V. Biffi (Italy) – Y. Ichinohe, T. Fukazawa, K. Nomoto (Japan) - Y. Su, A. Tumer (USA) - M.-L. Gendron-Marsolais (Chili) - A. Richard-Laferrière, A. E. Sansom (UK)

## Conferences, Colloquia & Workshops

#### INVITED TALKS

- Dec. 2020 "Chemical enrichment in galaxy clusters", Extragalactic universe with HE and VHE sources, online
- June 2019 "Chemical abundances in the hot atmospheres of galaxy clusters, groups, and elliptical galaxies", Astrophysics of Hot Plasmas in Extended X-ray Sources, ESAC, Madrid (Spain)
- March 2018 "Spatial distribution of metals in the intracluster medium", SnowCluster 2018: The Physics of Galaxy Clusters, Snowbird, Utah (USA)
- Nov. 2017 "Elemental abundances and chemical enrichment in the intracluster medium", Clusters of Galaxies: Physics and Cosmology International Space Science Institute (Workshop), Bern (Switzerland)

### Contributed talks

- Oct. 2020 "Metals (and dust) in the hot gas phase: From massive clusters down to massive galaxies", The Rise of Metals and Dust through Cosmic Times, online
- July 2019 "Chemical abundances and enrichment in the intracluster medium", Tracing Cosmic Evolution with Clusters of Galaxies, Sexten (Italy)
- March 2019 "Chemical enrichment of the atmospheric gas in clusters, groups, and massive galaxies",

  Physics of the Intra-Cluster Medium: Theory and Computation, Budapest (Hungary)
- June 2017 "Radial distribution of metals in the hot intra-cluster medium as observed by XMM-Newton", The X-ray Universe 2017, Rome (Italy)
- April 2017 "Radial metal abundance profiles in the intra-cluster medium of cool-core clusters, groups, and ellipticals", *Physics of the Intra-Cluster Medium*, Beijing (China)
- May 2016 "CHEERS! The origin of heavy elements in galaxy clusters", SRON Science Days, Dalfsen (The Netherlands)
- July 2015 "The CHEERS project", The Metal Enrichment of Diffuse Gas in the Universe, Sexten (Italy)
- May 2015 "CHEERS: Chemical enrichment in the hot gas of galaxy clusters seen through XMM-Newton EPIC", Spectroscopy of Cosmic Plasma in the Era of ASTRO-H, Tokyo (Japan)
- June 2014 "An XMM-Newton view of Abell 4059", The X-ray Universe 2014, Dublin (Ireland)

#### Colloquia & Seminars

- Jan. 2020 "From supernovae to galaxies (and beyond): What metals in hot galactic and cluster atmospheres tell us", *Kavli IPMU Colloquium*, Tokyo (Japan)
- Jan. 2020 "From supernovae to galaxies (and beyond): What metals in hot galactic and cluster atmospheres tell us", *Hiroshima University Seminar*, Hiroshima (Japan)
- Jan. 2019 "Elemental abundances and chemical enrichment in the hot intracluster medium", MPE seminar, Garching (Germany)
- Dec. 2018 "Metals in galaxy clusters and groups, and giant elliptical galaxies hot atmospheres: Recent improvements and current challenges of X-ray observations", *CfA lunch talk*, Cambridge (USA)
- May 2018 "Elemental abundances and chemical enrichment in the hot intracluster medium", *Hiroshima University Seminar*, Hiroshima (Japan)

- May 2018 "Understanding the chemical enrichment pattern in the hot haloes of massive ellipticals, groups, and clusters of galaxies", *Kavli IPMU Colloquium*, Tokyo (Japan)
- March 2018 "From supernovae to galaxy clusters: Chemical enrichment in the hot intracluster medium", Lowell Observatory Colloquium, Flagstaff, Arizona (USA)
- Feb. 2018 "Elemental abundances and chemical enrichment in the intracluster medium", IRAP Seminar, Toulouse (France)
- April 2017 "From supernovae to galaxy clusters: Observing the chemical enrichment in the intracluster medium", *PhD Colloquium*, Leiden (The Netherlands)
- Jan. 2017 "From supernovae to galaxy clusters: Chemical enrichment of the intra-cluster medium seen by XMM-Newton", Ortvay Colloquium, Budapest (Hungary)
- Dec. 2013 "Probing chemical abundances in Abell 4059 using XMM-Newton", Argelander Institut für Astronomie Seminar, Bonn (Germany)

#### Posters

- Sept. 2019 "Metals in the intracluster medium", X-ray astronomy 2019: Current Challenges and New Frontiers in the Next Decade, Bologna (Italy)
- Sept. 2018 "Abundance measurements in the intracluster medium: Consequences of spectral code improvements", Exploring the Hot and Energetic Universe: The second scientific conference dedicated to the Athena X-ray observatory, Palermo (Italy)
- Sept. 2017 "Radial distribution of metals in the intra-cluster medium", The power of X-ray spectroscopy, Warsaw (Poland)
- Dec. 2016 "Radial metal abundance profiles in the hot intra-group and intra-cluster medium",

  The Physics of Groups and Galaxy Properties therein, Paris (France)
- May 2016 "Chemical enrichment in the hot intra-cluster medium seen with XMM-Newton/EPIC", XMM-Newton: The next decade, ESAC, Madrid (Spain)
- May 2016 "The origin of heavy elements in galaxy clusters", 71th Netherlands Astronomy Conference, Nunspeet (The Netherlands)
- May 2015 "An XMM-Newton study of temperatures and abundances in Abell 4059", 70th Netherlands Astronomy Conference, Nunspect (The Netherlands)
- Sept. 2013 "Chemical enrichment in clusters of galaxies from the XMM/Suzaku to the ASTRO-H era", 4th ASTRO-H summer school, Shuzenji (Japan)

# Teaching & Outreach

- 2021 Supervising BSc/MSc student: LEAPS summer programme, ESTEC
- 2021 Co-supervising MSc student (Dimitris Chatzigiannakis): MSc thesis, Leiden Observatory
- 2020 Supervising BSc student (Tora Arnesen): LEAPS summer programme, ESTEC
- 2020 Co-supervising BSc student (Iga Kaczmarek): ESA internship, ESTEC
- "Astronomy on Tap Budapest" (co-organiser), wide audience
- High energy astrophysics (guest lecturer), MSc level, Eötvös University
- 2018-2019 Co-supervising BSc student (Anna Görgei): BSc thesis, Eötvös University
- 2017-2018 Co-supervising BSc student (Ádám Boldog): BSc thesis, Eötvös University
- Sum. 2015 Co-supervising BSc student (Sinancan Kara): BSc thesis, SRON/Bogazici University
- 2014-2015 High energy astrophysics (Teaching assistant), MSc level, Leiden Observatory
- 2011-2013 Private student tutoring (Mathematics; physics), high school level, Brussels
- 2007-now Astronomy camp (teaching & animating, high school level), "Jeunesse et Science ASBL",

### Modave (Belgium)

### OUTREACH TALKS

Aug. 2010 April 2008

"Black holes" (in French), Jeunesse et Science, Modave (Belgium) Aug. 2020 "Space telescopes" (in French), Jeunesse et Science, Modave (Belgium) Dec. 2019 "Clusters of galaxies... and the surprises of their spectacular hot atmospheres", As-July 2019 tronomy on Tap - Budapest, Budapest (Hungary) "The dark side of matter", Astronomy on Tap - Budapest, Budapest (Hungary) April 2019 "Pluto (and the borders of the Solar System)" (in French), Jeunesse et Science, Modave Dec. 2018 (Belgium) "Stellar nucleosynthesis" (in French), Jeunesse et Science, Modave (Belgium) Dec. 2017 "A journey to the stars" (in French), Heydeken rest home, Brussels (Belgium)  $\mathrm{Jan.}\ 2017$ April 2016 "Clusters of galaxies" (in French), Jeunesse et Science, Modave (Belgium) "Clusters of galaxies" (in French), Jeunesse et Science, Modave (Belgium) Aug. 2014 "Massive stars" (in French), Jeunesse et Science, Modave (Belgium) April 2013 "The Sun across time" (in French), Jeunesse et Science, Modave (Belgium) Aug. 2012 "Dark matter" (in French), Jeunesse et Science, Modave (Belgium) Aug. 2011

"Death of stars" (in French), Jeunesse et Science, Modave (Belgium)

"Black holes" (in French), Jeunesse et Science, Modave (Belgium)

## Department responsibilities & initiatives

2020-now	Member of the ESTEC SAC (Staff Association Committee), ESTEC
2020-now	Member/coordinator of the YPAG (Young Professional Advsory Group), ESTEC
2020-now	Organiser of weekly "breakfast seminars", ESTEC
2019	Webmaster of the Lendület Hot Universe Research Group website, Budapest
March 2019	LOC member of the "Physics of the Intra-Cluster Medium: Theory and Computation"
	conference, Budapest
2014-2017	Chair/organiser of regular "Galaxy clusters meetings", Leiden Observatory
2014-2015	Organizer of the colloquium dinner events, SRON
2014-2017	Member of the "Social committee", Leiden Observatory
2013-2014	Online update of arXiv preprints, Leiden Observatory website

Last updated: March 24, 2021