# François Mernier, Ph.D.

ESA Research Fellow (European Space Agency)

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### Persons of reference:

• Prof. Jelle S. Kaastra (SRON, The Netherlands) – J.S.Kaastra@sron.nl

• Dr. Matteo Guainazzi (ESA/ESTEC, The Netherlands) - Matteo.Guainazzi@sciops.esa.int

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

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)

2017-2017 Postdoctoral Researcher, Leiden University (Mentor: Prof. Jelle S. Kaastra)

(Leiden, The Netherlands)

### Skills

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

2006 Orthograph Championship (French): Laureate

## 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, M. Wise (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)

Reviewed 5 publications as anonymous referee.

Invited in 2 time allocation committees of X-ray observatories.

### 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

- Mars 2021 "How to understand stars and supernovae by looking at... galaxy clusters", ES-
- Feb. 2021 TEC breakfast seminar, online "From stars to large-scale structures: chemical enrichment in the intracluster medium", Video-Seminar (Observatoire de Strasbourg),
- Jan. 2021 online "From stars to large-scale structures: chemical enrichment in the intracluster
- Jan. 2021 medium", IPAG seminar (Université Grenoble-Alpes), online "From stars to large-scale
- structures: chemical enrichment in the intracluster medium", GECO Café Club (Labsept 2020 oratoire d'Astrophysique de Marseille), online "Dragonfly 44 (...and the dark matter
- April 2020 content of ultra-diffuse galaxies)", ESTEC breakfast seminar, online "Discovery of a
- giant fossil cavity in the Ophiuchus galaxy cluster", ESTEC breakfast seminar, online Mars 2020 "Does gravity really exist? Clues from galaxy clusters", ESTEC breakfast seminar,
- Jan. 2020 Noordwijk (The Netherlands) "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, Nunspect (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

- Supervising MSc students (Teresa Matamoro, Amanda Byström): LEAPS summer programme, ESTEC
- 2021 Co-supervising MSc student (Dimitris Chatzigiannakis): MSc thesis, Leiden Observa-

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	tory
2020	Supervising BSc student (Tora Arnesen): LEAPS summer programme, ESTEC
2020	Co-supervising BSc student (Iga Kaczmarek): ESA internship, ESTEC
2019	"Astronomy on Tap - Budapest" (co-organiser), wide audience
2018	High energy astrophysics (guest lecturer), MSc level, Eötvös University
2018-2019	Co-supervising BSc student (Anna Görgei): BSc thesis, Eötvös University
2017-2018	8 Co-supervising BSc student (Ádám Boldog): BSc thesis, Eötvös University
Sum. 201	5 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	
	Modave (Belgium)
	Outreach talks
Sept. 202	"The link between supernovae, supermassive black holes, and the large-scale Universe",
•	Astronomy on Tap - Leiden, Leiden (The Netherlands)
Aug. 202	
Dec. 2019	
Dec. 2019	by space telescopes (in French), Jeanesse et Science, Modave (Delgium)

tronomy on Tap - Budapest, Budapest (Hungary) "The dark side of matter", Astronomy on Tap - Budapest, Budapest (Hungary) April 2019

Dec. 2018 "Pluto (and the borders of the Solar System)" (in French), Jeunesse et Science, Modave (Belgium)

"Clusters of galaxies... and the surprises of their spectacular hot atmospheres", As-

"Stellar nucleosynthesis" (in French), Jeunesse et Science, Modave (Belgium) Dec. 2017

Jan. 2017 "A journey to the stars" (in French), Heydeken rest home, Brussels (Belgium)

"Clusters of galaxies" (in French), Jeunesse et Science, Modave (Belgium) April 2016

"Clusters of galaxies" (in French), Jeunesse et Science, Modave (Belgium) Aug. 2014

April 2013 "Massive stars" (in French), Jeunesse et Science, Modave (Belgium)

July 2019

"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) Aug. 2010

"Black holes" (in French), Jeunesse et Science, Modave (Belgium) April 2008

# Department responsibilities & initiatives

Member of the ESTEC SAC (Staff Association Committee), ESTEC 2020-now Member/coordinator of the YPAG (Young Professional Advisory Group), ESTEC 2020-now Organiser of weekly "breakfast seminars", ESTEC 2020-now Organiser of a mini-workshop on galaxy clusters (~15 participants from Dutch insti-Jan. 2021

tutes), ESTEC

Webmaster of the Lendület Hot Universe Research Group website, Budapest 2019

March 2019 LOC member of the "Physics of the Intra-Cluster Medium: Theory and Computation" conference, Budapest

Chair/organiser of regular "Galaxy clusters meetings", Leiden Observatory 2014-2017

Organiser of the colloquium dinner events, SRON 2014-2015

Member of the "Social committee", Leiden Observatory 2014-2017

Online update of arXiv preprints, Leiden Observatory website 2013-2014

Last updated: November  $5,\,2021$