

Contact information

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Research interests

Pulsar science, with a special focus on:

- The pulsar timing data reduction pipeline
- Pulsar timing array science

Various data analysis topics, especially:

- Time-series analysis
- (Bayesian) data analysis
- Algorithmic development
- Machine learning
- Statistics
- Gravitational-wave detector data analysis

Positions

2013 — now Einstein postdoctoral fellow at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory / California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, USA
2011 — 2013 Postdoctoral fellow at Max-Planck Institut für experimentelle Gravitationsphysik (Albert Einstein Institut), Hannover, Germany
2011 — 2011 Postdoctoral fellow at Leiden Observatory, Leiden, the Netherlands

Education

Leiden University, Leiden, the Netherlands

Ph.D. Astrophysics Leiden Observatory

Dissertation topic Gravitational Wave Detection and data analysis for Pulsar Timing Arrays.

Advisor Yuri Levin

Defended October 2011

Leiden University, Leiden, the Netherlands

M.Sc. Theoretical physics Lorentz Institute

Thesis topic Topics in data analysis and Pulsar Timing

Thesis advisor Yuri Levin

Defended May 2007

International prizes and awards

Einstein fellowship 2013 Awarded a three-year fellowship at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory (*declined*)

Hubble fellowship 2013

GWIC thesis prize 2011 Gravitational Wave International Committee (GWIC) thesis prize 2011. *For an outstanding Ph.D. thesis based on research in gravitational waves.* First time awarded to pulsar timing research.

Stefano Braccini prize 2011 Honourable mention (2nd place). *For the original techniques and infrastructure for data analysis aimed at detecting the gravitational wave cosmological background using pulsar timing delays.*

Teaching experience

Teaching assistant, Leiden University 2007—2011

Several undergraduate/graduate astrophysics courses (e.g. data reduction).

Student teaching assistant, Leiden University 2004—2006

Several undergraduate physics courses (e.g. Advanced classical mechanics).

Mathematics lecturer 2002—2007

Lecturer at Stichting Studiebegeleiding Leiden, high school crash courses

Mathematics lecturer 2002—2007

Lecturer at Stichting Studiebegeleiding Leiden, high school substitute

High school tutor 2004—2007

Tutor for natural sciences, Descartes Onderwijsbegeleiding

Selected refereed publications

- van Haasteren, R.**, & Vallisneri, M., 2014, *Low-rank approximations for large stationary covariance matrices, as used in the Bayesian and generalized-least-squares analysis of pulsar-timing data* ArXiv e-prints, Jun. (accepted MNRAS)
- van Haasteren, R.**, & Vallisneri, M., 2014, *New advances in the Gaussian-process approach to pulsar-timing data analysis* ArXiv e-prints, Jun. (accepted PRD)
- Cornish, N.J., & **van Haasteren, R.**, 2014, *Mapping the nano-Hertz gravitational wave sky*, ArXiv e-prints, Jun. (submitted)
- van Haasteren, R.**, 2012, *Accelerating pulsar timing data analysis*, MNRAS, 429(Feb.), 55—62
- van Haasteren, R.**, & Levin, Y., 2012, *Understanding and analysing time-correlated stochastic signals in pulsar timing*, ArXiv e-prints, Feb. (accepted MNRAS)
- van Haasteren, R. et al.**, 2012, *Erratum: Placing limits on the stochastic gravitational-wave background using European Pulsar Timing Array data*, MNRAS, 425(Sept.), 1597—1597.
- van Haasteren, R. et al.**, 2011, *Placing limits on the stochastic gravitational-wave background using European Pulsar Timing Array data*, MNRAS, 414(July), 3117—3128.
- Ferdman, R.D, **van Haasteren, R. et al.**, 2010, *The European Pulsar Timing Array: current efforts and a LEAP toward the future*, Classical and Quantum Gravity, 27(Apr.), 084014.
- van Haasteren, R.**, & Levin, Y., 2010, *Gravitational-wave memory and pulsar timing arrays*, MNRAS, 401(Feb.), 2372—2378.
- van Haasteren, R. et al.**, 2009, *On measuring the gravitational-wave background using Pulsar Timing Arrays*, MNRAS, 395(May), 1005—1014.

Other publications

- Ellis, J. *et al.*, 2014, *NANOGrav Limits on Gravitational Waves from Individual Supermassive Black Hole Binaries in Circular Orbits*, 2014, Arxiv e-prints, (May)
- Lee, K.J. *et al.*, 2014, *Model-based asymptotically optimal dispersion measure correction for pulsar timing*, 2014, MNRAS, 411(Jul.), 2831—2844
- Lentati L. *et al.*, 2014, *TEMPONEST: a Bayesian approach to pulsar timing analysis*, 2014, MNRAS, 437(Jan.), 3004—3023
- Lentati L. *et al.*, 2013, *Hyper-efficient model-independent Bayesian method for the analysis of pulsar timing data*, 2013, RhRvD, 87(May), 104021
- van Haasteren, R.**, 2012, *Gravitational-wave detection with pulsar timing*, 2012, ASP Conference Proceedings, 467(Dec.), p115—127.
- Lassus, A, **van Haasteren, R. et al.**, 2012, *A Data Analysis Library For Gravitational Wave Detection*, Proceedings IAU Symposium, 291
- Hobbs, G. *et al.*, 2010, *The International Pulsar Timing Array project: using pulsars as a gravitational wave detector*, Classical and Quantum Gravity, 27(Apr.), 084013.
- van Haasteren, R.**, 2009, *Bayesian Bayesian evidence: can we beat MultiNest using traditional MCMC methods?*, ArXiv e-prints, (Nov.)