

Curriculum vitae of Floris van der Tak (January 2025)

Contact Info

Institute: Netherlands Institute of Space Research (SRON)
Address: Landleven 12, 9747 AD Groningen, The Netherlands
Phone: +31 50 363 8753
E-mail: vdtak@sron.nl
WWW: <https://personal.sron.nl/~vdtak/>

Personal

Surname: Van der Tak
Given names: Floris Frits Sebastiaan
Born: 16 November 1971, Leiden, The Netherlands
Citizenship: Dutch
Family status: Married, two children

Education & Employment

07/2023 – now: Honorary Professor in Astrochemistry & Exoplanet Habitability, Groningen University
07/2013 – 06/2023: Professor in Submillimeter Astronomy, University of Groningen
01/2012 – 06/2013: Senior Lecturer in Astrophysics, University of Groningen
01/2011 – now: Senior Scientist, SRON Netherlands Institute for Space Research
12/2006 – 12-2011: Lecturer in Astrophysics, University of Groningen
02/2006 – 12/2010: Submillimeter Scientist, SRON Netherlands Institute for Space Research
10/2000 – 01/2006: Postdoctoral Researcher, Max-Planck-Institut für Radioastronomie, Bonn (D)
03/1996 – 09/2000: Doctoral studies, Leiden University (NL)
PhD thesis title: *The Embedded Phase of Massive Star Formation*
Advisors: prof. dr. E.F. van Dishoeck & prof. dr. N.J. Evans II (Univ. of Texas)
01/1995 – 02/1996: Junior Specialist, Radio Astronomy Laboratory, UC Berkeley (USA)

Research Interests

Physics of the interstellar medium and the formation of stars
Molecular spectroscopy and radiative transfer
Interstellar chemistry
Exoplanet habitability

Publication Record

Articles in peer-reviewed journals: 241 (of which 28 first-authored)
Review papers: 17 (of which 10 single-author invited reviews)
Popular science papers: 6
Books edited: 1
Citations to refereed papers: 13,432
Hirsch index: 60

Supervision Record

B.Sc. students supervised: 24
M.Sc. students supervised: 15
Ph.D. students supervised: 25
Postdocs supervised: 9

Grants and Awards

2024: Co-I, NWA-ORC grant PRELIFE (6,700,000 €) [PI: I.L. ten Kate]
2024: PI, COFUND grant (1,600,000 € EU; 5,700,000 € total) [with W. Roos]
2024: PI, NOVA-ISC grant for LIFE instrument development (250,000 €)
2024: PI, NWO-M1 grant for GUSTO science exploitation (340,565 €)
2024: PI, LKBF + OC funding for Astrochemistry summer school (4,000 €)
2023: Co-I, Planetary Science Network (690,000 €) [PI: W. van Westrenen]

2023: Co-I, Dutch Astrochemistry Network III (1,600,000 €) [PI: I.E. Kamp]
2023: PI, NWO/Kapteyn/Origins grants for astrobiology workshop (total 3500 €)
2021: co-I, NWO/IMPACT grant for software developer (250,000 €) [PI: J.W. den Herder]
2020: co-I, NWO grant for Origins Center (50,000 €) [PI: I.L. ten Kate]
2020: co-I, NWO grant for PepSci research network (1,600,000 €) [PIs: W. van Westrenen & C. Keller]
2019: co-I, Origins Center grant for flux collector telescope (5,000 €) [PI: I. Snellen]
2019: PI, COFUND grant (1,600,000 € EU; 5,700,000 € total) [with W. Roos]
2019: PI, Grants for SPICA conference (total 18,000 €)
2018: Co-I, Startimpuls grant to Origins Center (2,500,000 €) [PI: B. Feringa]
2018: Co-I, Dutch Astrochemistry Network II [PI: E.F. van Dishoeck]
2017: Co-I on 2 CSC grants for PhD studentships (2×100,000 €) [PI: J.R. Gao]
2017: PI, Grants for astrobiology conference (total 25,000 €)
2016: PI, joint RuG/SRON PhD studentship (100,000 €)
2016: Co-I, NWO grant for LLAMA telescope (495,000 €) [PI: W. Boland]

Selected presentations to international conferences

04/2024: Invited talk, *SOFIA and the future of far-IR astronomy* (Stuttgart)
07/2023: Contributed talk, EAS annual meeting (Kraków)
01/2023: Invited talk, *Alien Imaginations* (Groningen)
10/2022: Invited talk, Niels Bohr symposium (Copenhagen)
09/2022: Invited talk, conference *Conditions and impact of star formation* (Puerto Varas)
06/2022: Invited talk, conference *Radiation Transfer in Astrophysics* (Copenhagen)
01/2022: Invited talk, workshop *The next generation IR space missions* (virtual)
06/2021: Contributed talk, EAS session *Sustainable Astronomy* (virtual)
06/2019: Invited talk, conference *Astrochemistry: from nanometers to megaparsecs* (Göteborg)
07/2018: Invited talk, conference *Astrochemistry: past, present and future* (Pasadena)
09/2017: Invited talk, NWO-FAPESP workshop *Science with the LLAMA telescope* (São Paulo)
09/2016: Invited talk, conference *The Milky Way as a star formation engine* (Rome)
04/2016: Invited talk, conference *From star and planet formation to life* (Vilnius)
04/2016: Plenary talk, ESA symposium *Water from clouds to oceans* (Noordwijk)
09/2015: Invited review, Annual Meeting of the *Astronomische Gesellschaft* (Kiel)
08/2015: Invited review, IAU Focus Meeting *Water and life's building blocks in the universe* (Honolulu)

International review committees

2024: Reviewer, Hubble Space Telescope proposals
2023: Reviewer, ANR grant proposals (France)
2023–2025: Member, sustainability working group, European Astronomical Society
2022: Grant proposal reviewer, Italian Science Foundation (FIS)
2022: Reviewer, ERC Advanced Grant proposals
2022: Grant proposal reviewer, German Science Foundation (DFG)
2021–2024: Member, European Space Science Committee (AFP panel)
2020: Reviewer, ERC Consolidator Grant proposals
2019–2020: Topical Team member, ESA Voyage 2050 program
2019: Grant proposal reviewer, Polish Science Foundation
2019: Chair, German SOFIA Cycle 8 TAC
2018: Reviewer, ERC Advanced Grant proposals
2016: Grant proposal reviewer, Czech Science Foundation
2015: Member, German SOFIA Cycle 4 TAC
2015: Reviewer, ERC Consolidator Grant proposals

Science management

2025 – 2030: Scientific Coordinator, NWA project PRELIFE
2025 Project lead, NOVA Phase 6 instrumentation for LIFE
2024 – 2029: PI, MT member, and WP1 leader, COFUND project Evolve
As of 2021: Lead of Imaging Science working group, LIFE mission
2019 – 2020: Project Scientist, SPICA/SAFARI instrument
2019 – 2024: PI, MT member, and WP1 leader, COFUND project oLife
2017 – 2018: Scientific coordinator, SPICA/SAFARI project

2018 – now: Member, ELT/METIS science team

2015 – now: Member, GUSTO science team

Teaching experience

2024: Teacher, summer school *Astrochemistry of star & planet formation* (PhD)

2018–2024: Lecturer, *Planetary Science*, (B.Sc)

2015–2018: Lecturer, *Astrophysical Space Missions*, (B.Sc)

2014–2023: Lecturer, *Star and Planet Formation*, (M.Sc)

2013–2024: Lecturer, *Astrochemistry*, (M.Sc)

2008–2009: Lecturer, *Innovation Management*, (B.Sc)

2007–2012: Lecturer, *The Interstellar Medium* (B.Sc)

Organization of international scientific meetings

2026: Member, SOC, Rocky Worlds 4 (Groningen)

2024: Chair, SOC, summer school *Astrochemistry of star & planet formation* (Groningen)

2024: Member, SOC, *Evolution of complex life on rocky planets* (Leiden)

2023: Chair, SOC, workshop *The (geo)chemistry of terrestrial planet formation & evolution* (Groningen)

2023: Member, SOC, Origins Center conference (Groningen)

2022: Chair, SOC, EAS symposium *The golden decade of infrared astrophysics* (Valencia)

2022: Member, SOC, workshop *The European view on the infrared* (Paris)

2021: Chair, SOC, Origins Center conference (online)

2019: Chair, SOC, SPICA science conference (Crete)

2018: Chair, SOC, Dutch Astronomers' Conference (Groningen)

2017: Member, SOC, NWO-FAPESP workshop *Science with the LLAMA telescope* (São Paulo)

2017: Chair, SOC, KNAW symposium *Fundamentals of Life in the Universe* (Groningen)

2015: Chair, SOC, IAU symposium *From molecular clouds to star-forming galaxies* (Honolulu)

National and local committees

2024 – 2026: Chair, sustainability working group, NOVA consortium

2023 – now: Editor, SRON Newsletter

2023: Member, Selection Committee, Kapteyn faculty position

2023 – now: Member, SRON sustainability committee

2023 – now: Member, sustainability steering committee, University of Groningen

2022–2023: Chair, sustainability working group, Faculty of Science & Engineering

2022: Member, Selection Committee, Kapteyn faculty position

2020–2023: Member, sustainability working group, NOVA consortium

2021–2022: Member, NWO-VENI funding committee

2020–now: Board member, Netherlands Origins Center

2018–2021: Chair, Board of Examiners, Kapteyn Astronomical Institute

2018–2023: Member, Blaauw Prize Committee, Kapteyn Astronomical Institute

2016–2019: Meeting organizer, Groninger Origins consortium

2017: Member, Review committee of NOVA submm instrumentation group

2016–2017: Member, Board of Examiners, Kapteyn Astronomical Institute

2015: Chair, NWO-Rubicon funding committee

2014 – now: Member, SRON Program Committee

Memberships

International Astronomical Union, Division VI (Interstellar Matter)

European Astronomical Society

Royal Dutch Astronomical Society

European Astrobiology Network

Other education and training

Spring 2025: Project Management in IPMA

Spring 2022: Inclusive Recruitment

Fall 2019: Academic Integrity

Spring 2018: Communicating Science to the Press

Spring 2015: Leading a Research Group

Spring 2014: Grant Proposal Writing

Fall 2012: Academic Leadership

Languages

Mother tongue Dutch, fluent English and German, reasonable French, bits of Spanish & Italian

Other interests

Classical music performance (cello), in symphonic, opera, baroque, and chamber music groups

General aviation (VFR), flying Cessna 172 and Piper 28 aircraft

Students and postdocs supervised

B.Sc. students

2024: Emre Bagis

2024: Sietse Klamer (with M. Min)

2024: Ana-Maria Resiga

2024: Akhil Mahesh (with Pieter Dieleman)

2023: Roos Voorhoeve

2023: Lotte de Wit

2023: Geart van der Ploeg

2023: Raymon Ferdinand (with M. Min)

2023: Niall Foley

2023: Ana-Maria Resiga (Honours College; with P. Wesselius)

2022: Marten Veenstra

2022: Jesse Reurink (with M. Min)

2022: Ismail Ahmed Eissa

2022: Daniël van Heuven van Staereling (with K. Frantseva)

2022: Pradyun Singh (Honours College; with T. Schlathölter)

2021: Filip van der Mooren

2020: Dewy Peters

2017: Marrick Braam

2017: Miguel Rodin

2015–2016: Vedad Hodzic (Madrid) [with D. Teyssier]

2013–2014: Leonardo Santos

2008–2009: David Shelton (Hertfordshire)

2007–2008: Sandra de Jong

2006–2007: Ytsen Haringa

M.Sc. students

2025: Sjoerd Koopmans (Science Business & Policy) [with ... RDI]

2024: Julia Wiltenburg [with Marc Rovira Navarro, TUD]

2023: Jappe Jongejan (Science Business & Policy) [with M. Middendorp RVO & W. Looijen, NSO]

2022–2023: Jan Bouma (M.Sc. in Business, Groningen) [with K. Peters & D.P. van Donk, FEB]

2022–2023: Mark Leeuw (M.Sc. in Business, Groningen) [with K. Peters & D.P. van Donk, FEB]

2022: Hilbert de Jong (M.Sc. in Ecology, Groningen) [with R. Etienne, GELIFES]

2019–2020: Mark Oosterloo [with I. Kamp]

2019–2020: Jim Morrison

2019–2020: Marrick Braam

2018–2019: Jesper Tjoa [with M. Müller]

2018–2019: Akke Corporaal [with M. Min]

2017–2018: Nick Oberg

2017–2018: Hylke Hoogland

2016–2017: Marlies van de Weijgaert [with M. Müller]

2010–2012: Annemieke Janssen

Ph.D. students

2025–2028: Soumil Kelkar [with I. Kamp]
2024–2027: Esan Mouli Ghosh [with A.G.G.M. Tielens]
2024–2027: Dennis Koopmans [with L. Wang]
2024–2027: Jelena Bosković Pantović [with G. Groenenboom]
2023–2026: David Konijn [with H. Vedantham]
2023–2026: Emma Postolec [with T. Lichtenberg]
2023–2026: Cristina Cordun [with H. Vedantham]
2021–2024: Alexandra Zetterlind (Utrecht) [with I.L. ten Kate]
2019–2023: Daniele Ronsó (São Paulo) [with J. Lepine & A. Baryshev]
2018–2022: Andres Felipe Ramos Padilla [with L. Wang & S. Trager]
2018–2022: José Silva [with J.R. Gao]
2017–2021: Yuner Gan [with J.R. Gao]
2017–2021: Qian Wang [with J.R. Gao]
2016–2021: Ümit Kavak [with A.G.G.M. Tielens]
2015–2019: William Pearson [with L. Wang]
2014–2018: Kateryna Frantseva [with M. Müller]
2014–2018: Veronica Allen
2013–2015: Bertrand Delforge [with M. Verheijen & J. Pearson]
2011–2015: Evgenia Koumpia
2011–2015: Irene San José García (Leiden) [with E.F. van Dishoeck]
2010–2014: Yunhee Choi
2009–2013: Zsófia Nagy
2009–2013: Kuo-Song Wang (Leiden) [with M.R. Hogerheijde]
2007–2011: Kalle Torstensson (Leiden) [with H.J. van Langevelde]
2007–2011: Matthijs van der Wiel

Postdocs

2023–2024: Christina Dwiriyanti [with J. de Plaa]
2021–2023: Vera Dobos [with I. Kamp]
2020–2022: Adi Chopra [with F. Weissing]
2017–2019: Tobias Beuchert (Amsterdam) [with S. Markoff & M. Hogerheijde]
2012–2015: Woojin Kwon
2011–2012: Ke Wang
2011–2014: Maja Kazmierczak
2008–2010: Matthieu Marseille
2008–2011: Wilfred Frieswijk