



Farid Rahoui

with fantastic people who taught me a lot. This is where I developed a taste for experimental work and the first time that I really used tools to build or fix things. I also had the chance to travel to several countries for my work, which was a strong incentive to stay. I eventually resigned after two years and settled down for a while in South Korea and South Africa.

Back to France, I enrolled in a Masters degree in Space Sciences at the Meudon Observatory, where I did astronomy-related things for the very first time, although my training was more focused on space missions. From then on, everything went smoothly. I did my Masters' internship at ESO Chile, working with Olivier Hainaut on simulations for extrasolar planet detection with extremely large telescopes, which were supposed to be 100 metres in diameter at that time. I had my first experience with astronomical observations there, starting with the New Technology Telescope! I liked ESO a lot, Chile even more, and I decided to stay for a PhD that I undertook in collaboration with CEA Saclay in Paris. I worked under the supervision of Felix Mirabel and Sylvain Chaty on multi-wavelength observations and modelling of neutron star and black hole X-ray binaries. These sources are very interesting because their

bolometric emission is the sum of that of different components (stars, accretion discs, outflows, jets, dust, etc.) that are strongly interdependent. They allow us to apprehend physical phenomena in extreme environments, whether strong gravitational fields or intense ionising emission. They are however strongly variable on short timescales and in all spectral domains, which forces us to observe them quasi-simultaneously with a large range of space- and ground-based instruments, which is challenging.

After my PhD, I worked for three years with Julia Lee at Harvard University, where I extended my work to active galactic nuclei and radiative transfer modelling. I now have the great honour to start my second year as an ESO Fellow in Garching before, I hope, getting a research position in France and continuing to work in astrophysics.

Personnel Movements

Arrivals (1 October–31 December 2013)

Europe	
Bethermin, Matthieu (FR)	Fellow
Dhawan, Suhail (IN)	Student
Galamez, Maud Muriel (FR)	Fellow
Ginsburg, Adam (US)	Fellow
Guerou, Adrien (FR)	Student
Husemann, Bernd (DE)	Fellow
McLeod, Anna Faye (FR)	Student
Pfeffer, Joel Leslie (AU)	Student
Saturni, Francesco Gabriele (IT)	Student
Zafar, Tayyaba (PK)	Fellow

Chile	
Anderson, Joseph (GB)	Fellow
Beamin, Juan Carlos (CL)	Student
Deschamps, Romain (FR)	Student
Diener, Catrina (CH)	Student
Ertel, Steve (DE)	Fellow
Lorca, Rodrigo (CL)	Procurement Officer
Marsset, Michaël (FR)	Student
Perrault, Florence (FR)	Contract Officer
Yang, Bin (CN)	Fellow

Departures (1 October–31 December 2013)

Europe	
Bayo Aran, Amelia Maria (ES)	Fellow
Bramich, Daniel (GB)	Astronomer
Costigan, Gráinne (IE)	Student
Feltre, Anna (IT)	Student
Huckvale, Leo (GB)	Student
Kains, Noe (BE)	Fellow
Sanchez, Joel (MX)	Student
Scicluna, Peter (GB)	Student
Stoffer, Christina (CH)	Administrative Assistant
Urrutia-Viscarra, Paula Maria Fernanda (CL)	Student

Chile	
Bascunan, Rogelio (CL)	System Engineer
Carter, John (FR)	Fellow
Ebensperger, Carlos (CL)	Drawing Designer
Fluxa, Juan Carlos (CL)	Electronic Engineer
Guzman, Leonardo (CL)	Contract Officer
Lavin, Octavio (CL)	Mechanical Engineer
Miccolis, Maurizio (IT)	System Engineer
Nakos, Theodoros (GR)	Test Scientist
Pauwels, Evert (NL)	Product and Quality Assurance
Saulder, Christoph (AT)	Programme Manager
	Student