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Neutrinos from the milky way

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ABOUT THE AUTHOR

I, Erwin Lourens Visser, was born on the 2nd of January 1987 in Hoorn, a small town in the Netherlands. I lived most of my life in the nearby town of Enkhuizen, in which I also attended high school at the *Regionale Scholengemeenschap*.

From the courses followed at high school, physics was by far my favourite and so the choice of studying physics at the Vrije Universiteit (VU) in Amsterdam was quickly made. When not following courses I could be found in AIK, the physics study association at the VU, for which I was also the treasurer for a year.

I performed my bachelor project in the LHCb group at the Nikhef Institute in Amsterdam, studying the forward-backward asymmetry in the decay of B^0 to $K^{*0} + \mu^+ + \mu^-$. After obtaining my bachelor degree cum laude in 2008, I chose to continue in the field of particle physics with the Particle and Astroparticle physics master. I also performed my master project in the LHCb group, with a more experimental subject this time: the preventing, monitoring and curing of the ageing in the LHCb Outer Tracker.

After obtaining my masters degree in 2010 (also cum laude), I decided to look around for a PhD position at Nikhef. Some of my friends and fellow students did their masters research in the ANTARES group at Nikhef, in the field of astroparticle physics. I applied for a position in the group and was accepted. I didn't apply for a specific position, so an analysis had to be thought up. A presentation in Paris by an IceCube scientist on the subject of neutrinos from cosmic ray interactions with the interstellar medium, lead to the question why ANTARES hadn't performed an analysis on this subject yet, and this became the subject of my dissertation.

Besides working on my analysis, I also did some hardware work for the future KM3NeT telescope, by testing PMTs and later (at the end of my time at Nikhef) full DOMs.

In addition to presenting my work at the numerous collaboration meetings in several European (and one African) cities, I also presented my analysis at the TeVPA conference in Amsterdam and the ECRS2014 conference in Kiel, Germany.

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Erwin Visser