



Universiteit  
Leiden  
The Netherlands

## Stochastic resetting and hierarchical synchronization

Meylahn, J.M.

### Citation

Meylahn, J. M. (2019, September 24). *Stochastic resetting and hierarchical synchronization*. Retrieved from <https://hdl.handle.net/1887/78560>

Version: Publisher's Version

License: [Licence agreement concerning inclusion of doctoral thesis in the Institutional Repository of the University of Leiden](#)

Downloaded from: <https://hdl.handle.net/1887/78560>

**Note:** To cite this publication please use the final published version (if applicable).

Cover Page



Universiteit Leiden



The handle <http://hdl.handle.net/1887/78560> holds various files of this Leiden University dissertation.

**Author:** Meylahn, J.M.

**Title:** Stochastic resetting and hierarchical synchronization

**Issue Date:** 2019-09-24

# Acknowledgements

The last four years have not only been a period in which I learned a significant amount about mathematics, but they have also been a period of immense personal growth. Many people have contributed to this in various ways.

First and foremost I would like to thank my supervisors Frank and Diego. They have guided me through the process of doing research and taught me that stubborn perseverance is an essential part of it. They have also been brilliant examples, both in their own way, in how to set up a dynamic and welcoming research group.

I thank all the people in these two research groups as well as the lively group of PhDs at the Mathematical institute for creating an environment it was easy to integrate into. Special mention must go to Andrea, Hakan, Steven, Marta and Leonardo.

Thanks must also go to Jos for sharing his knowledge regarding neurobiology.

Thank you to the lovely community I was a part of through the NETWORKS program. The training weeks were inspirational and did a lot to broaden my perspective. I especially would like to thank Nicos for his friendship.

Doing a PhD in the Netherlands was only possible due to the networking provided by Hugo. Not only did he bring me into contact with Frank, but he also continued to do research with me and offered invaluable advice throughout my PhD.

I thought I read mathematics carefully until I met Conrado, whose method of reading he was willing to share with me. I am grateful for this as well as the conversations of a more philosophical nature that typically followed such a reading. In the same vein, thanks to Lennart and Werner for the many discussions that allowed me to sharpen my critical thinking skills.

In order to remain sane during a PhD, it is necessary to have hobbies outside of mathematics. One of the hobbies most complimentary to mathematics is music and through music I met many wonderful people, who were essential for the completion of my PhD. The most influential was Lenie whose singing lessons were of a therapeutic nature. I was also privileged enough to make music with some fantastic musicians of which I would especially like to thank Aafko, the Jazz/Pop band and the Barbershop quartet. Through Collegium Musicum I was able to integrate into Dutch society. Specially mention must be made of Simone, Esther, Gerjan, Anne, Anne, Maarten and all the Ad Libitum guys.

Moving to the other side of the world is made much easier when you have a home away from home. This was the case in the van 't Hoffstraat, where I lived with Elena, Niels and Abram.

In the last two years of my PhD I also had the indispensable support of Pauline, who I am glad to share this adventure with. Her family has also treated me as one of their own, for which I am very grateful.

Lastly, my family back in South Africa has been exceptionally supportive in all my endeavors. The love and acceptance, regardless of performance, I received from home made it possible for me to freely navigate what it is that I want to do in life without feeling any pressure. This thesis is for them.

# Curriculum Vitae

Janusz Martin Meylahn was born in Cape Town in 1991. After graduating in 2009 from Alexander Road High School in Port Elizabeth, he moved to Stellenbosch to study theoretical physics at Stellenbosch University. He graduated as a Bachelor of Science in 2012 (*cum laude*) and continued with an honours in theoretical physics, graduating in 2013 (*cum laude*). For his Masters of Science he wrote a two part thesis entitled *Biofilament interacting with molecular motors*, supervised in part by Prof. dr. K. K. Müller-Nedebock and in part by Prof. dr. H. Touchette, and graduated *cum laude* in 2015. In the same year he moved to the Netherlands to pursue a PhD under the supervision of Prof. dr F. den Hollander and Dr. D. Garlaschelli with funding from the NETWORKS program. He is currently working as a postdoc at the University of Amsterdam, together with Dr. Arnoud den Boer.