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Curriculum Vitae

I was born on March 3th, 1989 in Almelo, the Netherlands. In 2007 I graduated from high school at the "OSG Erasmus". In the same year I won the Dutch Physics Olympiad, which allowed me to represent the Netherlands at the International Physics Olympiad in Isfahan, Iran.

In 2010 I completed the TWIN physics and mathematics bachelor studies at Utrecht University. Besides that I also participated in a honors program on experimental physics and I wrote my thesis on the mechanical properties of vimentin under the supervision of Prof. Gijsje Koenderink at Amolf in Amsterdam. From 2011 to 2014 I studied theoretical physics at Utrecht University, and for my final research project I specialized in cosmology by writing a master thesis on multi-field inflation under the supervision of Prof. Ana Achúcarro and Dr. Tomislav Prokopec.

In 2014 I was awarded the doctoral de Sitter fellowship at Leiden University. During my PhD I was supervised by Prof. Ana Achúcarro and Dr. Enrico Pajer. The work I did with Prof. Ana Achúcarro and her group resulted in three scientific publications and three in preparation, forming the first part of this thesis. The collaboration with Dr. Enrico Pajer has led to two scientific publications, that constitute the second part of this thesis.

From Oktober 2018 I will be a postdoctoral researcher at DESY in Hamburg in the group of Dr. Alexander Westphal.

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Enrico, thanks for embedding me in your group during your time in Utrecht. The discussions and journal clubs we had were a steep learning curve for me and made me feel very excited. You always expressed your thoughts, opinions and vision very clearly. Moreover, you showed me time after time your very structured way of approaching any problem. I am grateful to both you and Ana for getting in touch with many great physicists around the world and for all the opportunities to speak at workshops and conferences.

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