

Curriculum vitae — Jan Leys

Personal information

First name:	Jan	Address:	Boskant 79, 2275 Lille, Belgium
Family name:	Leys	Contact:	jan.leys@gmail.com
Date of birth:	August 5, 1981		0475/76 09 02
Driving licence:	B		

Education

Doctor in Sciences: Physics (Ph.D.) 2007, KU Leuven, Belgium, with a thesis titled “Broadband dielectric spectroscopy of confined liquid crystals and hydrogen bonded liquids”.

Master in Sciences: Physics 2003, with distinction, KU Leuven, Belgium.

Languages Dutch (mother tongue), English (fluent), French (good).

Experience

2003–2007 Ph.D. in Sciences: Physics, KU Leuven, Belgium.

Research into the dynamics of **liquid crystals in nanoscale structures** with **impedance spectroscopy**. Exercise and practical sessions Physics for first and second year Sciences students.

2007–2008 Postdoctoral researcher, KU Leuven, Belgium.

Research into liquid crystals and other forms of **soft matter**, such as **polymers** and **ionic liquids**. Exercise sessions Physics.

2008–2011 Postdoctoral researcher (FWO), KU Leuven, Belgium.

New experimental techniques for the **thermal properties** of soft matter. **Phase separation in liquid mixtures** and the **glass transition** as new subjects. Exercise sessions “Biophysics” for first year students Medicine and Biomedical Sciences.

December 2010–January 2011 Research stay, Université du Littoral Côte d’Opale, Dunkerque, France.

2011–2013 Research associate, Laboratorium voor Akoestiek en Thermische Fysica, KU Leuven, Belgium.

Continuation of the soft matter research. Patent for a **novel type of calorimeter**. Focus shift of the research group towards **biological and medical systems**: proteins, lipids, DNA.

2012 Obtained Qualification pour Maître de Conférences, a mixed education and research position in the French university system, in the subjects Milieux denses et matériaux (Condensed matter and materials) and Chimie théorique, physique, analytique (Theoretical, physical and analytical chemistry).

2012 Research associate, Institute for Physical Science and Technology, University of Maryland, USA.

Research into the properties of **aqueous systems** by **light scattering**, aided by the study of the **thermodynamics** of solutions.

2014–... Voluntary research associate, KU Leuven, Belgium.

Abilities & Interests

Science & Communication

Writing: 30+ **publications** in international scientific journals.
Communication: 40+ oral **presentations** and posters at scientific conferences.
Working in a multidisciplinary and multicultural environment.
Obtaining financing for research projects.
Creating and performing **research projects** with engineers and chemists.
Broad knowledge of **experimental techniques**:
calorimetry and thermal characterisation, impedance spectroscopy, light scattering and neutron scattering; standard laboratory techniques.
Use and development of turn-key and custom measurement equipment.
Two **patent applications** for novel equipment for thermal characterisation.
Broad scientific interests:
materials research, chemical physics, phase transitions, liquid crystals, polymers, aqueous solutions, ionic liquids, medical and biological systems;
equipment development.
Attention for the connections between physics and related scientific fields such as chemistry, biology, mathematics and astronomy; physics of everyday life.

Didactics

Teaching of university students:
exercise and practical sessions Physics for Sciences and Medicine students.
Developing and guiding **projects** for university students (KU Leuven and University of Maryland):
two-day and longer projects for bachelors, including graduation projects,
master theses,
informal guidance of Ph.D. students.
Application of modern media in the classroom.

Computer

Broad general experience in computer use:
Mac OS X, Windows; L^AT_EX, iWork, Microsoft Office; web design.
Development of **virtual instrumentation** in National Instruments LabVIEW.
Data analysis with MathWorks MATLAB.
Notions of programming in C, Java and Objective-C.

Varia

Member of the Vereniging voor Sterrenkunde (Association for Astronomy) and the Werkgroep Weerkunde (Workgroup Weather).
Recreational runner and cyclist.

Personality

Attention for detail and depth. Ready to help, intelligent.