

Chiem van Straaten

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Summary of Qualifications

As a researcher I am familiar with multiple scientific disciplines and specialize in quantitative forecasting. I develop statistical and machine learning models of real-world processes and use them to solve challenges in hydrology, meteorology, agriculture and economics. Societal relevance is a key driver for me. As a citizen I am involved with writing, public speaking and the organization of events. The creative and communicative skills obtained there, in combination with my technical skills, make me a useful addition to any team.

Education

2018 – present	PhD candidate, Institute for Environmental Studies (IVM) and Royal Netherlands Meteorological Institute (KNMI) <ul style="list-style-type: none">Probabilistic forecasts of sub-seasonal European weather extremes	Amsterdam, De Bilt
2015 - 2017	MSc. Earth Surface and Water, track Hydrology, Utrecht University <ul style="list-style-type: none">Grade Point Average 4.0Research internship graded with 9.5/10	Utrecht
2012 - 2015	BSc. (Honours) Earth Sciences and Economics, Vrije Universiteit <ul style="list-style-type: none">Cum LaudeThesis on social cost of carbon emissions graded with 9.5/10	Amsterdam

Working Experience

Oct 2017 – Feb 2018	Utrecht University, department of Physical Geography Junior researcher <ul style="list-style-type: none">Time series analysis on Australian droughts (with Univ. of Sidney)	Utrecht
Jan 2017 – Aug 2017	Royal Netherlands Meteorological Institute (KNMI) Research intern <ul style="list-style-type: none">Statistical post-processing of numerical weather forecastsMachine learning and probabilistic models applied to rainfall	De Bilt
Oct 2016 – Dec 2016	International Centre for Agricultural Research in Dry Areas Research intern <ul style="list-style-type: none">Applied crop- and irrigation-modeling to forecast water-stressInitiated contact with local water management and agronomic institutions	Rabat, Morocco

Honours and publications

2019	van Straaten, Whan, Coumou, van den Hurk and Schmeits (2020) The influence of aggregation and statistical post-processing on the sub-seasonal predictability of European temperatures (QJRMTS)
2018	van Straaten, Whan and Schmeits (2018) Statistical post-processing and multivariate structuring of high-resolution ensemble precipitation forecasts. (Journal of Hydrometeorology)
2015	Topsector Water Scholarship: Nominated
2015	Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam Best Bsc. thesis award: Long-listed

Societal Activities

- 2017 – present Poetry and story-telling
- Stadsschouwburg Amsterdam, Toomler, Lab111, Plantage Dok, Keizersgrachtkerk
- 2016 – 2018 happyChaos
- Conception and organisation of events
 - Artificial intelligence ('Error301: human_not_found')
 - Responsibility and power ('Schaduwmacht')
 - Journalism ('De Wankele Waarheid')
- 2016 – 2017 InclUusion
- Buddy for Egyptian refugee student
- 2014 – 2015 Studentengenootschap Kairos
- Vice-president
 - Organisation of interdisciplinary events

Additional Courses

- 2020 Partnership for Advanced Computing in Europe
- Python in High Performance Computing
- 2018-2019 Institute for Marine and Atmospheric Research. Utrecht
- Dynamical Meteorology
- 2016 Institute for Interdisciplinary Studies Amsterdam
- Masterclass Complex Networks: network analysis and modeling with differential equations.
- 2013 – 2014 University of Amsterdam
- Rhetoric: public speaking and speech-writing.
 - Climate and Molecules: open questions in climate science.

Computer Skills

Programming languages:

- R
- Python
- Unix shell (also in HPC environments)

Especially applied to:

- Large datasets. Pre-processing, post-processing, filtering, data reduction.
- Statistical analysis and machine learning.
- Verification of numerical simulations.
- Parallel computing.

Other software: Docker, Git, LaTeX, Stata, QGIS

Languages

Dutch – mother tongue

English – fluent

German – intermediate (Goethe Zertificat B-2)
