

# CURRICULUM VITAE – SASCHA P. QUANZ

(AS OF JANUARY 2025)

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## EMPLOYMENT

01 / 2024 – PRESENT Full Professor for Exoplanets & Habitability; ETH Zurich, Department of Physics  
06 / 2019 – 12 / 2023 Associate Professor for Exoplanets & Habitability; ETH Zurich, Department of Physics  
06 / 2014 – 05 / 2019 Senior Scientist & Lecturer; ETH Zurich, Department of Physics  
09 / 2011 – 05 / 2014 Senior Research Associate (Oberassistent); ETH Zurich, Department of Physics  
08 / 2009 – 08 / 2011 Post-doctoral Researcher (Assistent); ETH Zurich, Department of Physics  
09 / 2007 – 07 / 2009 Associate / Senior Associate management consultant; McKinsey & Company, Frankfurt, Germany

## EDUCATION

04 / 2004 – 07 / 2007 PhD in Astronomy (summa cum laude – with distinction)  
Max Planck Institute for Astronomy (MPIA), Heidelberg, Germany  
04 / 1999 – 03 / 2004 Diploma in Physics; University of Heidelberg, Germany

## INSTITUTIONAL ROLES

### (SELECTED)

12 / 2023 – PRESENT Delegate of the President of ETH Zurich for Faculty Appointment Procedures  
12 / 2023 – PRESENT Associated Professor at the Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences, ETH Zurich  
08 / 2023 – PRESENT Member of the Department Management Board, ETH Zurich & President of Strategy Commission of the Physics Department  
09 / 2022 – PRESENT Deputy director at the ETH Centre for Origin and Prevalence of Life (<https://copl.ethz.ch>)  
01 / 2022 – PRESENT Deputy Head of Institute, Institute for Particle Physics and Astrophysics, ETH Zurich  
01 / 2020 – PRESENT Associated professor at the ETH AI Center (<https://ai.ethz.ch>)  
06 / 2018 – PRESENT Associated member at the Max Planck ETH Center for Learning Systems (<https://learning-systems.org>)  
09 / 2022 – 09 / 2023 Co-lead of ETH Zurich | Space, a platform to foster and coordinate space activities at ETH Zurich

## INSTRUMENTATION /

### PROJECT LEADERSHIP

01 / 2019 – PRESENT Principal Investigator (PI) of LIFE, a space-based mid-infrared nulling interferometer mission designed to search for signatures of life in the atmospheres of extrasolar planets ([www.life-space-mission.com](http://www.life-space-mission.com))  
12 / 2017 – PRESENT Co-Investigator (Co-I) for METIS, the mid-infrared (3–13  $\mu\text{m}$ ) 1<sup>st</sup> generation instrument for the future Extremely Large Telescope (ELT) (<http://metis.strw.leidenuniv.nl>)  
01 / 2020 – PRESENT Co-Investigator (Co-I) for ERIS a second generation 1–5  $\mu\text{m}$  AO-assisted imager and spectrograph for the Very Large Telescope (VLT) (<https://www.eso.org/public/teles-instr/paranal-observatory/vlt/vlt-instr/eris/>)  
05 / 2014 – 08 / 2024 Consortium Project Scientist for ELT/METIS

## LARGE SCIENCE

### COLLABORATIONS

#### (SELECTED)

2022 – PRESENT International Collaborator in the Leverhulme Centre for Life in the Universe at the University of Cambridge (<https://www.lclu.cam.ac.uk>)  
2020 – PRESENT International Collaborator on a 5-yr "NASA Interdisciplinary Consortia for Astrobiology Research" program "Alternative Earths – How to Build and Sustain a Detectable Biosphere" (PI: Prof. Timothy Lyons, University of California at Riverside)  
2018 – PRESENT Project leader and Board member within the National Center of Competence in Research (NCCR) "Planets" an interdisciplinary, inter-institutional exoplanet program funded through Swiss National Science Foundation SNF (<http://nccr-planets.ch>)

## HONORS / AWARDS

### (SELECTED)

11 / 2019 "Golden Owl" for exceptional teaching awarded by the Association of Students at ETH Zurich (VSETH)  
03 / 2013 – PRESENT Liaison professor and mentor for the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung ([www.fes.de/studienfoerderung](http://www.fes.de/studienfoerderung))  
02 / 2013 Lecturer for the Studienstiftung des Deutschen Volkes ([www.studienstiftung.de](http://www.studienstiftung.de))  
07 / 2007 PhD awarded with distinction (summa cum laude)  
10 / 2004 – 07 / 2007 Full PhD scholarship from the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung for excellent students

## COMMUNITY SERVICE

### (SELECTED)

01 / 2024 Co-Chair for conference "Rocky Worlds III", ETH Zurich (<https://zurich2024.rockyworlds.org/zurich-2024>)  
11 / 2022 Team Lead for Keck Institute for Space Studies (KISS) workshop "Exploring Exoplanets with Interferometry", Pasadena, USA (<https://kiss.caltech.edu/workshops/Interferometry/Interferometry.html>)  
09 / 2022 Co-convenor for EXOA5-session "Devolatilization During Rocky (Exo)planet Formation: Mechanisms, Simulations, and Observations" at the Europlanet Science Congress 2022  
09 / 2022 SOC Co-Chair and main organizer of the international Latsis Symposium 2022 "Origin and Prevalence of Life", Zurich, Switzerland (<https://latsis-origin-of-life.ethz.ch>)

01 / 2021	SOC member for “COSPAR 2020” scientific assembly exoplanet event: “Exoplanet detection and characterisation: current research, future opportunities and the search for life outside the solar system”, Sydney, Australia (and virtual)
2010 – PRESENT	Referee for Science, Nature Astronomy, Astrophysical Journal (Letters), Astronomical Journal, Astronomy & Astrophysics, Publications of the Astronomical Society of Japan, and Astronomy & Computing
<b>NATIONAL COMMITTEE ROLES (MOST RECENT)</b>	
03 / 2023 – 12/2024	Chair of the Switzerland Hub of the Europlanet Society ( <a href="https://www.europlanet-society.org">https://www.europlanet-society.org</a> )
01 / 2021 – PRESENT	Member of the Swiss Committee on Space Research (CSR) of the Swiss Academy of Sciences
01 / 2021 – PRESENT	Swiss representative in the Scientific Council of the European Interferometry Initiative (EII)
<b>MEMBERSHIP OF SCIENTIFIC SOCIETIES</b>	
2019 – PRESENT	Member of the European Geosciences Union
2013 – PRESENT	Member of the Swiss Society for Astrophysics and Astronomy (SSAA)
2013 – PRESENT	Member of the European Astronomical Society (EAS)
2012 – PRESENT	Member of the International Astronomical Union (IAU)
<b>SCIENTIFIC PUBLICATIONS</b>	
2006 – PRESENT	>170 refereed articles published in internationally recognized 1 <sup>st</sup> -tier journals; >100 major non-refereed publications and conference contributions; total <a href="#">ADS citation count</a> : >9600, H-index: 57
<b>TALKS (SELECTED)</b>	
01 / 2025	Invited speaker at “Horizons for Optical Long Baseline Interferometry”, Meudon site of Paris Observatory, France ( <a href="https://horizons-olbin.sciencesconf.org/?lang=en">https://horizons-olbin.sciencesconf.org/?lang=en</a> )
09 / 2024	Invited speaker at the Astrophysics colloquium at the Kapteyn Astronomical Institute, Groningen, The Netherlands
06 / 2024	Invited speaker at the Astrophysics colloquium at the Institute for Astrophysics, Vienna, Austria
10 / 2023	Invited keynote speaker at “ESA Brainstorming on Astrobiology” workshop, ESA/ESTEC, Noordwijk, The Netherlands ( <a href="https://www.cosmos.esa.int/web/exoplanetworkinggroup/esa-brainstorming-on-astrobiology">https://www.cosmos.esa.int/web/exoplanetworkinggroup/esa-brainstorming-on-astrobiology</a> )
09 / 2023	Invited speaker at the “Life in the Universe II” meeting of the Origin Federation, Boston, USA
09 / 2023	Invited speaker at Annual Meeting of the German Astronomical Society (“Exploring the diversity of Exoplanets” splinter session); Berlin, Germany
09 / 2023	Invited speaker at the Astrophysics colloquium at ISAS/JAXA, Tokyo, Japan
09 / 2023	Invited speaker at the Annual Meeting of the Astronomical Society of Japan, Nagoya, Japan
07 / 2023	Invited speaker at lunch seminar, Jet Propulsion Laboratory, Pasadena, USA
07 / 2023	Invited lecture “Exoplanet science with interferometry”, <a href="#">2023 Sagan Exoplanet Summer Workshop</a> , Pasadena, USA
07 / 2023	Invited speaker at the University of Göttingen “Astrophysical colloquium”, Göttingen, Germany
06 / 2023	Invited speaker at the “ <a href="#">Breakthrough Discuss 2023</a> ” meeting organized by Breakthrough Foundation, University of California Santa Cruz, Santa Cruz, USA
06 / 2023	Invited speaker at the RSAA / ANU astrophysics colloquium, Canberra, Australia (virtual)
06 / 2023	Invited speaker at the French Society of Astronomy & Astrophysics Annual Meeting, Strasbourg, France
04 / 2023	Invited speaker at the <a href="#">Space Community Days Switzerland 2023</a> , Bern, Switzerland
04 / 2023	Contributed talk at the EGU General Assembly, Vienna, Austria
03 / 2023	Contributed talk “The LIFE initiative - atmospheric characterization of terrestrial exoplanets in the mid-infrared with a large space-based nulling interferometer”, <a href="#">PLANET ESLAB Symposium</a> , ESA/ESTEC
01 / 2023	Invited speaker at the IPAG/IRAM astrophysics colloquium in Grenoble, France
<b>RELEVANT OUTREACH (SELECTED)</b>	
01 / 2025	Panel member at <i>RETHINKING Exploration</i> organized by ETH Zurich during WEF 2025 in Davos ( <a href="https://ethz.ch/en/the-eth-zurich/global/events/2023/rethinking-exploration.html">https://ethz.ch/en/the-eth-zurich/global/events/2023/rethinking-exploration.html</a> )
10 / 2024	Interview in <i>Tagesanzeiger – Das Magazin</i> “Glauben Sie an Aliens, Herr Quanz?” “Ja, aber...” ( <a href="https://www.tagesanzeiger.ch/aliens-eth-forscher-quanz-sucht-nach-ausserirdischen-im-all-408367404933">https://www.tagesanzeiger.ch/aliens-eth-forscher-quanz-sucht-nach-ausserirdischen-im-all-408367404933</a> )
06 / 2024	Interview in <i>Horizonte Magazin</i> “Teleskope spüren Ausserirdische auf” ( <a href="https://www.horizonte-magazin.ch/2024/06/06/teleskope-spueren-ausserirdische-auf/">https://www.horizonte-magazin.ch/2024/06/06/teleskope-spueren-ausserirdische-auf/</a> )
03 / 2024	Interview in <i>NZZ</i> “Der Wüstenplanet aus dem Kinofilm «Dune» wäre bewohnbar – gilt das auch für echte Exoplaneten?” ( <a href="https://www.nzz.ch/wissenschaft/mit-klimamodellen-kann-man-neben-der-erde-auch-planeten-ausserhalb-unseres-sonnensystems-simulieren-oder-den-planeten-aus-dune-ld.1821127">https://www.nzz.ch/wissenschaft/mit-klimamodellen-kann-man-neben-der-erde-auch-planeten-ausserhalb-unseres-sonnensystems-simulieren-oder-den-planeten-aus-dune-ld.1821127</a> )
12 / 2023	Invited guest commentary in <i>NZZ</i> “Ein Hoch auf das Leben” ( <a href="https://www.nzz.ch/nzz-live-veranstaltungen/ein-hoch-auf-das-leben-sind-wir-allein-im-universum-ld.1768175">https://www.nzz.ch/nzz-live-veranstaltungen/ein-hoch-auf-das-leben-sind-wir-allein-im-universum-ld.1768175</a> )
12 / 2023	Invited panel discussion “Wer sind wir? – Der Mensch ist ein Bewohner vieler Welten” organized by <i>NZZ</i> Podium ( <a href="https://live.nzz.ch/de/events/nzz-podium-schweiz/wer-sind-wir-der-mensch-ist-ein-bewohner-vieler-welten">https://live.nzz.ch/de/events/nzz-podium-schweiz/wer-sind-wir-der-mensch-ist-ein-bewohner-vieler-welten</a> )
12 / 2023	Invited panel discussion “Switzerland in Space” by the Swiss American Chamber of Commerce ( <a href="https://shorturl.at/jAZ69">https://shorturl.at/jAZ69</a> )