



Renske M. van der Veen

Department of Chemistry
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Frederick Seitz Materials Research Laboratory
104 S Goodwin Ave
61810, Urbana, USA

Phone: +1 217 300 3184

Email: renske@illinois.edu

Current Position:

Assistant Professor, Department of Chemistry, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Background:

- Since August 2015: Assistant Professor, Department of Chemistry, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
- 2013-2015: Research scientist at Deutsches Elektronen Synchrotron (DESY), Hamburg, and project group leader at the Max Planck Institute for Biophysical Chemistry, Göttingen
- 2011-2013: Postdoctoral scholar, Department of Chemistry, California Institute of Technology
- 2006-2010: PhD at the Swiss Light Source (SLS), Paul Scherrer Institute and the École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL)
- 2005-2006: M.S. in Chemistry, Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (ETH), Zürich
- 2002-2005: B.S. in Chemistry, Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (ETH), Zürich

Honors:

- “Sofja Kovalevskaja Award” of the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation
- “Independent Max Planck Research Group” (MPRG) appointed by the President of the Max Planck Society
- “Prospective Researcher Fellowship” of the Swiss National Science Foundation
- “Swiss Chemical Society Prize”, SCS Fall Meeting, Lausanne
- Doctoral fellowship awarded by the Doctoral School of Photonics, EPFL

Activities:

- Teaching graduate-level course CHEM 590 X, “Materials Characterization at Large-Scale X-Ray Facilities”, Spring 2016, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
- Served as a panelist for grant proposal review for the NSF
- Scientific outreach to make research at large-scale facilities more accessible to the wider public

Interests:

My research focuses on the development and application of state-of-the-art ultrafast (pump-probe) X-ray spectroscopy and scattering techniques to investigate the excited-state dynamics of photocatalytic and photovoltaic nanomaterials. As an Assistant Professor at UIUC I plan to make extensive use of the dedicated time-resolved beam lines (7ID, 11ID) at the APS, but I would also like to expand the time-resolved capabilities of other beam lines.

Goals:

I would be delighted to represent the APS user community and to strengthen the communication between users and the APS management. I will use my 6+ years of hands-on research experience at synchrotron facilities (SLS, DESY) in order to identify the needs and future directions of the APS community and to assist in making the transition during the APS Upgrade. I am also committed to increasing the awareness of X-ray science at large-scale facilities in society and among (under)graduate students. I am currently teaching a semester-long course entitled “Materials Characterization at Large-Scale X-Ray Facilities”, which I would like to expand with a “3-day Synchrotron Bootcamp” for undergrads and graduate students.