

who installed some corrective optics, advanced versions of Leon's method were eagerly employed to make the best possible use of the early HST images. While at the ST-ECF, Leon continued to develop and refine these restoration techniques, applying them to both imaging and spectroscopic data.

Leon laid the foundations for the explanation, through radiation pressure and multiple scattering, of the flat-bottomed absorption troughs in the stellar-wind spectral lines of hot massive stars when these mass-loss indicators were discovered with the Copernicus satellite. His explanation of shocks producing X-rays from the same stars solved the riddle

of the co-existence of hot and cool gas. A topic that excited Leon from the beginning to the end of his career was the mutual effects exerted by the components of close and common-envelope binaries. A strong focus of his was the reliability with which system parameters can be extracted from the observations, including astrometry by Gaia. Curiosity to understand how to best interpret observational data was a thread running through Leon's scientific life. In the year 2000, the Royal Astronomical Society honoured him with the Society's Gold Medal for Astronomy.

While in Garching, Leon attended almost every astrophysics seminar, regardless

of the topic. His outstanding broad knowledge and deep understanding of physics became impressively clear in his contributions to discussions, in which he engaged nearly without exception. He enriched the scientific life of the entire local astronomy community, and he generously shared his vast font of expertise with everyone requesting it. He could deliver incisive critique but wrapped in his inimitable sense of humour.

If a single word could ever adequately describe a person, in Leon's case it would be unpretentiousness. Leon is survived by his wife, Ren Wen Wan, and their daughter.

Personnel Movements

Arrivals (1 July–30 September 2018)

Europe

Araujo Hauck, Constanza (CL)	Optical Engineer
Beneš, Nicolas (DE)	Software Engineer
Bergamo, Kevin (IT)	IT Specialist-Network
Bittner, Adrian (DE)	Student IMPRS
Cosentino, Giuliana (IT)	Student
Facchini, Stefano (IT)	Fellow
Fahrion, Katja (DE)	Student
Rubin, Adam (IL)	Fellow
Sqalli Houssini, Omar (AT)	Project Manager

Chile

Flores, Romy Boris (CL)	Facilities Management Supervisor
Gil, Juan Pablo (CL)	Software Engineer
Olivares, Juan Carlos (CL)	Telescope Instruments Operator
Ribas, Alvaro (ES)	Fellow
Ritter, Florian (CL)	Procurement Officer

Departures (1 July–30 September 2018)

Europe

Agnello, Adriano (IT)	Fellow
Augustin, Ramona (DE)	Student
Cikota, Aleksandar (HR)	Student
Hashiba, Natsuki (JP)	Student
Hook, Richard (UK)	Public Information Officer
Janssen, Edmund (NL)	Graphic Designer
Stroe, Andra (RO)	Fellow
Surot Madrid, Francisco (CL)	Student
Vera Sequeiros, Ignacio (ES)	Software Engineer
Warmels, Rein (NL)	Astronomer (Web Publication Manager)
Yen, Hsi-Wei (TW)	Fellow

Chile

Asmus, Daniel (DE)	Fellow
Bolmer, Jan (DE)	Student
Guerra, Juan Carlos (ES)	Instrumentation Engineer
Leftley, James (UK)	Student
Meilland, Anthony (FR)	User Support Astronomer