

Luis Thomas

University Observatory Munich
Ludwig-Maximilians University, Munich, Germany
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Education

- Ph.D. Astronomy** May 2022–Mar 2026 (exp)
University Observatory Munich, Germany
Thesis: *RV follow-up of TESS planet candidates with the MaHPS spectrograph*
Advisor: Dr. Roberto Saglia
- M.Sc. Planetary Science** Oct 2020–Oct 2021
University College London, UK
Thesis: *Detecting helium in exoplanet atmospheres with the Hubble Space Telescope*
Advisor: Dr. Angelos Tsaras
- B.Sc. Physics** Oct 2017–Sep 2020
Ludwig-Maximilians University, Germany
Thesis: *Detecting exoplanets in the habitable zone around M-dwarfs*
Advisor: Dr. Roberto Saglia

Publications

Lead Author

3. **Thomas, L.**, Nielsen, L. D., Acuña-Aguirre, L., et al. (2025), *A&A* 703 A221
Evidence of a gap in the envelope mass fraction of sub-Saturns
2. **Thomas, L.**, Hébrard, G., Kellermann, H., et al. (2025), *A&A* 694 A143
TOI-5108 b and TOI 5786 b: Two transiting sub-Saturns detected and characterized with TESS, MaHPS and SOPHIE
1. **Thomas, L.**, Saglia, R., Pasquini, L., et al. (2024), *A&A* 686 A19
Search for giant planets in M67 V: a warm Jupiter orbiting the turn-off star S1429

Co-Author

4. Grouffal, S., Santerne, A., Bourrier, V., et al. (incl. **Thomas, L.**) (2025), *A&A* 701 A173, 2025
The star HIP 41378 potentially misaligned with its cohort of long-period planets
3. Ehrhardt, J., **Thomas, L.**, Kellermann, H., et al. (2024), *A&A* 692 A220
Confirmation of four hot Jupiters detected by TESS using follow-up spectroscopy from MaHPS at Wendelstein together with NEID and TRES
2. Korth, J., Chaturvedi, P., Parviainen, H., et al. (incl. **Thomas, L.**) (2024), *ApJL* 971 L28
TOI-1408: Discovery and Photodynamical Modeling of a Small Inner Companion to a Hot Jupiter Revealed by Transit Timing Variations
1. Edwards, B., Changeat, Q., Tsaras, A., et al. (incl. **Thomas, L.**) (2023), *AJ* 166 158
Characterising a World Within the Hot Neptune Desert: Transit Observations of LTT 9779 b with HST WFC3

Teaching & Mentorship

Teaching

Basic Lab Exoplanet Detection Supervisor	2024 – 2025
Basic Lab Exoplanet Detection Redesign and update of the lab manual	May 2025

Student Mentoring

Jebraan Mudholkar MSc Thesis Co-supervisor	since 2025
Yutong Liu MSc Thesis Co-supervisor	since 2025
Juliana Ehrhardt MSc Thesis Supervisor	2022 – 2024
Laura Schöller MSc Thesis Supervisor	2023 – 2024
Nicolas Dowling MSc Thesis Co-supervisor	2022 – 2023
Khushi Marlecha MSc Thesis Co-supervisor	2022 – 2023

Selected Talks & Posters

Star-Planet Exchange (SPEX) (Seminar) , ESO Garching, Germany <i>Exploring the formation of warm sub-Saturns through interior structure modelling; invited talk.</i>	Dec 2025
The Fate of Neptunian Worlds (Conference) , Warwick, UK <i>Exploring the formation of warm sub-Saturns through interior structure modelling; contributed talk.</i>	Sep 2025
EPRV 6 (Conference) , Porto, Portugal <i>Exoplanet Detection and mass measurement with the MaHPS spectrograph at Wendelstein; poster.</i>	Jun 2025
Exoplanets V (Conference) , Leiden, Netherlands <i>Exoplanet Detection and mass measurement with the MaHPS spectrograph at Wendelstein; poster.</i>	Jun 2024
ORIGINS PhD Days 2024 (Workshop) , Grainau, Germany <i>Radial Velocity Measurements with the MaHPS spectrograph on the Wendelstein Observatory; contributed talk.</i>	May 2024
Austrian early career conference (Conference) , Salzburg, Austria <i>Radial Velocity Measurements with the MaHPS spectrograph on the Wendelstein Observatory; contributed talk.</i>	Mar 2024
Exoplanets by the Lake I (Summer school) , Munich, Germany <i>Radial Velocity Measurements with the MaHPS spectrograph on the Wendelstein Observatory; contributed talk.</i>	Aug 2023

Observing & Awarded telescope time

PI • HARPS • 9.5 hrs Populating the runaway accretion gap (Prog. 117.2A28)

Co-I • ESPRESSO • 28 hrs Planet evolution in- and around the desert: measuring masses of the young Neptunes orbiting TOI-942 (Prog. 114.277K)

Wendelstein: 52 nights as the sole on-site observer at Wendelstein Observatory. Responsible for the execution of science programs on the 2.1m and 43cm telescopes as well as telescope operating and instrument maintenance.

Service & Outreach

Guided Tours at the Wendelstein Observatory

Giving guided tours to the general public of the observatory at Mount Wendelstein. Explaining the science programs as well as the available telescopes and instruments.

Scientific Referee

Astronomy and Astrophysics

Techmax 40: Exoplaneten

Contribution to the Techmax issue on exoplanets, a booklet by the Max-Planck Society to promote science topics.