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I am originally from Vienna, Austria, where I studied Mathematics at the Vienna University of Technology. After my undergraduate degree I took a break from academia and spend time travelling around the world, becoming really fascinated about the complex processes that create a unique climate for any place on Earth. I then decided to settle for a Master's degree in Applied Mathematics at Heriot-Watt University in Edinburgh, Scotland. The focus of my degree was on biological and ecological modelling and I enjoyed it a lot, especially my summer research project on modelling desertification processes. It became clear to me that a PhD is the best option to continue this type of work, and the MPE CDT is a great place to focus on applying rigorous mathematics for better understanding the science of weather and climate.

What I like most about the CDT is the strong interaction with topics and people from different disciplines; I brushed up my rusty secondary school knowledge of physics, learned a lot about the ocean by working with an oceanographer on my MRes project and I am now based in the Fluid Mechanics section of the Civil Engineering department. Of course this can sometimes be challenging: having to think about how to best communicate your ideas to people with a different background from times feels like trying to speak a foreign language; and also feeling the need to catch up on so much knowledge to succeed in a new field. However, more importantly it feels great to bring mathematical research out to a broader audience and contribute along experts from various fields to research that never loses sight of the bigger picture.

Imperial College and the University of Reading are great places for these interactions. Many talks and seminars from experts of all kind of relevant fields, both from within the university and coming from outside, are held all year around. This creates a truly unique environment for my research to thrive.