



Gijs Wuite is professor of physics of life processes at the department of physics and astronomy at the VU University Amsterdam. He obtained his PhD in biophysics under supervision of Prof. C. Bustamante (UC Berkeley, USA) in 2000. In his dissertation work he pioneered single-molecule biophysics on molecular motors moving on DNA. Since 2001 he leads a successful group that focuses on applying physics tool and methods to quantify biological phenomena. Rapid development in biophysical techniques that permit visualization, manipulation and control of complex biological reaction have opened new ways to investigate them, driving many new discoveries. Areas of his research include DNA mechanics, DNA-proteins interactions and biophysical/biomechanical properties of viral capsids. His work has appeared in journal such as Nature, Science, PNAS and Physical Review Letters. But probably the clearest signs of recognition of his scientific standing are his election as member of the Young Academy (2009), an independent platform of young top scientists within the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences (KNAW), his VICI award for which he was ranked first among physicist in 2008, the award of several prestigious ERC grants, member of the Young Global Academy (2014) and founder of the hi-tech startup LUMICKS (2013).