



# Per vectum



## FEATURING

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- Meet our New Boardies and Active Members
  - A Guide for Maastricht Newbies
  - Introducing the New Members of the KE Department
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FIRST ISSUE • 2022/2023





# In this Edition

## Getting Started

- 2 Word of the President
- 5 Meet the New Boardies
- 8 Meet the Committees



## Events & Activities

- 10 Welcome Activity
- 11 First Year Trip
- 13 Cycling Dinner
- 15 Scavenger Hunt
- 17 Lest
- 19 Research Lecture
- 21 Oktoberfest
- 22 Beach Volleyball



## Articles

- 23 New Members of the KE Department
- 25 A Guide for Maastricht Newbies
- 27 Cozy Season Starter Pack
- 29 Vectum's World Cup Prediction Competition
- 31 Crossword
- 32 Spot the Difference
- 33 Memes

## PerVectum

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# Word of the



# President

**Dear reader,**

First of all, a warm welcome to all new members and a warm welcome back to all returning members of our association. After two years of lockdowns and travel restrictions, this summer saw somewhat of a return to normal for most people. As such, I hope you were all able to make the most of this break and are now fully recharged and full of motivation for the academic year.

This autumn marks the beginning of my fifth year at Maastricht University, and despite

four long years having passed since my start as a student, I still vividly remember those days when I first moved to Maastricht: how I didn't know anyone yet, how I suddenly had to buy my own meals, or how much higher the pace of the courses was. All in all, those first days felt extremely overwhelming. Yet I was also filled with anticipation for what was to come: for the many friends I would make and many things I would learn. That overwhelming feeling slowly faded as I started to settle in my new home city and got used to the pace of university, but even after four years I still feel excited to start a new academic year, to learn new things and meet new people.

Throughout the years I've spent studying here in Maastricht, Vectum has always been a big part of student life for me. That's why I'm honoured to be a part of the board this academic year and give back to our amazing community in this way. Naturally, I won't be doing this alone: I am joined by Marie Corillon, Filip Hoenjet, Valentin Suruceanu, and Asem Nagata and together we're in charge of managing Vectum's operations for the year. As Secretary, Marie is in charge of, among other things, taking minutes during our board meetings and managing our socials. She is also the Editor in Chief of the PerVectum, making her the main reason you are able to read these words in the first place. Next, we have Filip, our External Affairs Coordinator. His main task is to ensure that our association has funds to continue operating by meeting with potential sponsors, as well as organising career events with some of those sponsors. Moving on, there is Valentin, who is in charge of making budgets and other accounting-related tasks. As Vectum's Treasurer, he decides what we spend our money on. Last but not least, our Internal Affairs Coordinator Asem is responsible for organising our regular Tuesday activities, as well as the first-year trip at the start and the members' weekend at the end of the year. My own role is to oversee this entire process.

Additionally, I represent Vectum in our relations with Scope, the university, and the other econometrics study associations in the Netherlands.

It has been an eventful first period and, with the threat of another lockdown mostly out of the picture for the time being, we were able to organise all activities in person and without any extra constraints. As is tradition, we opened the year strong on top of the Sint Pietersberg with the welcome activity, where we played several games and ended with a picnic, which sadly had to be cut short due to the threat of rain, but in my eyes the fact we got to see so many of our fellow students, both new and returning, more than made up for it. In that same week we also had the first-year trip, which, despite the unconventional location and terrible weather, turned out amazing. The next week some of us got judged for our cooking skills during the cycling dinner, where participants cycled between three hosting houses and each house prepared different dishes for starter, main course, and dessert. The activity in week three was another Vectum Classic™: the scavenger hunt, where we competed to show which team was the wildest. At the end of this week, we also made a trip to Utrecht to compete in the LEST, the national econometricians sports tournament. Despite our best efforts, we didn't win any of the tournaments. Regardless, it was a fun and active day, and a much-needed break from studying for many. In week four we hosted the quarterly research lecture, given by János Flesch this period about his main field of research stochastic games. The schedule of the week that followed deviated slightly from the usual, due to what is commonly Vectum's most anticipated activity for the first period: the Oktoberfest. Despite temperatures already dropping and leaves already turning different colours, we ended the period in a summery spirit with beach volleyball.

Now that we definitively have had to say goodbye to the summer for this year, it is time to look ahead towards period two and three, since there is plenty to look forward to. Firstly, if you enjoyed the LEST last period then you might be excited to hear that next year Vectum will be responsible for organising it. This will be done by the aptly named LEST committee, which will start some time in January and continue until September when the next LEST is held. The applications for this committee will open in mid- to late December and stay open till some time in January (official dates to be announced). Do note, however, that due to the fact that the LEST is held next academic year, it'll be necessary for the members of this committee to still be studying here next year. Next up is the signup for the ski trip, which will also open some time in December. This year Asem, Bjorn, and I will be organising the trip to a still secret location. It'll take place in the second week of April (7th till 16th), which is also the resit week of period 2 and 3, so I hope this can serve as some extra motivation to do well this period. The last thing I wanted to mention is mostly relevant for those in the third year of the bachelor or in the master programme, since it is about the National Econometricians' Day (LED). The LED is the biggest recruiting event for econometrics students in the Netherlands. It will be held in 's Hertogenbosch this year on February 6th and the signups will be on December 1st. Tickets are usually sold out within minutes, so I suggest you note both these dates so you don't forget.

# PERVECTUM 1

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As I near the end of this first Word of the President, I want to take the opportunity to thank some people for the things they have done for the association. Firstly, I want to thank Amber, Joris, Kristina, Tobi, and Dave for their hard work as board members last year. It is because of their effort that Vectum recovered so quickly after Corona and that we are able to do our job. Then, I also want to thank Quinn, Edwin, and Bjorn for their work in the summer committee, which contributed to an amazing start of the year. Lastly, I want to thank my fellow board members Marie, Filip, Valentin, and Asem. Despite some early setbacks it has been truly amazing to see everyone still this motivated and I know that if we keep going like this, we can make it another great year for Vectum.

Finally, I will close off with some words of encouragement to all first-year students and anyone else who might need them: at times it may feel like a course is too difficult or the pace is too high, almost like you have to run up a wall. At times like those it can help to look back at how far you've come, how many similar hurdles you've already overcome, and you'll realise that this one will be no different. The steps you take may seem insignificant in the short term, but over time they will add up and with enough effort you can get over any wall, however steep and tall it may seem at first. With that said, I wish you all a successful year filled with many wonderful Vectum moments.

*Hugo van Oosterhout*

*28th President of Vectum*



# Meet the New Boardies

## President: Hugo van Oosterhout



**Age:** 22

**Nationality:** Dutch

**University year:** 1st year master (5th year in total)

**Favourite course so far:** Programming

**Drink of choice:** Somek (soju + beer)

**Biggest dream:** Own a castle

**Best Vectum memory:** Ski trip 2022 (despite almost losing a finger)

## Secretary & Vice-President: Marie Corillon



**Age:** 22

**Nationality:** Belgian

**University year:** 1st year master (5th year in total)

**Favourite course so far:** Stochastic Processes

**Drink of choice:** COFFEE

**Biggest dream:** That my cat finally loves me as much as I love her

**Best Vectum memory:** Rock'n'roll workshop, cuz I gotta dance with my crush

**External Affairs Coordinator: Filip Hoenjet**



**Age:** 21

**Nationality:** Dutch

**University year:** 1st year master (4th year as a Vectum member)

**Favourite course so far:** Econometric Methods

**Drink of choice:** Dark 'n Stormy

**Biggest dream:** Driving a lap of the Nurburgring in under 7 minutes

**Best Vectum memory:** Probably winning Oktoberfest last year xD. The combination of copious drinking and winning pretty much anything is fantastic. The pic attached must have been a few rounds into the tournament haha

**Internal Affairs Coordinator: Asem Nagata**



**Age:** 22

**Nationality:** Syrian/Japanese

**University year:** 4th year bachelor

**Favourite course so far:** Operations Research

**Drink of choice:** Gin & Tonic

**Biggest dream:** I want to be a voice actor (at some point maybe)

**Best Vectum memory:** Winning the beer-pong tournament last year

**Treasurer: Valentin Suruceanu**



**Age:** 20

**Nationality:** Moldovan

**University year:** 2nd year bachelor

**Favourite course so far:** Probability Theory or Microeconomics (yes I'm crazy 😊)

**Drink of choice:** A normal beer or Moldovan wine, if I'm feeling Gucci I'll have a Tequila-Sunrise cocktail 😊

**Biggest dream:** Find true love and retire my parents early

**Best Vectum memory:** The First Years' Trip 2022, or the first big challenge of our board year, is an experience filled with memories. Meeting our lovely firsties and seeing how nice, kind, and ready to help they are, made this event so enjoyable. Despite all the last-minute changes, the extra work to be done, and even the weather not being on our side, we still had a successful and very fun trip that weekend. If I had to choose one moment of it I would say it's being caught by the storm while we were setting up the Vectum-Tent and us having to save it from flying away

**A big thank you to my fellow boardies for the work they put in for Vectum so far!**

**#VectumLove**



# Meet the vectum Committees 2022-23

## Activities Committee



*From left to right: Dao Quynh Linh, Aleksandra Piekarska, Valeriu Ursu, Valentin Suruceanu, Asem Nagata, Edwin van der Vegt, Quinn Cuijpers*

## External Affairs Committee



*From left to right: Filip Hoenjet, Jurriaan Metzelaar, Valentin Suruceanu, Steef Gottenbos, Jonelle Irish, Shashwat Kumar*

## PR Committee



*From left to right: Dang Bao Ngoc Phung, Aashia Chanana, Marie Corillon, Chiara Venditti, Polina Barinova, Vamsi Bharadwaja Sunkaranam*

## Ski Trip Committee



*From left to right: Hugo van Oosterhout, Bjorn van Wijk, Asem Nagata*

**A warm welcome to all our new active members! ❤️**

# Welcome Activity

**By Ngoc Bao Phung**

The academic year kick-started with our first event: the Welcome Activity! After gathering at SBE, we headed off to Sint-Pieterberg for some fun games, during which we got to meet the new firsties for the first time and reunite with “senior” Vectum members.

We were divided into teams to compete against each other in four different games. Each team came up with their own unique strategies to overcome the water race, to win the name memorizing game and to the ball-throwing game. Nevertheless, the highlight of all games was probably flunkyball, where not only our aiming skills were put to the test, but also our ability to chug beers.



This was when the true competitiveness of many started to show, while some others struggled to finish their sparkling water/beer. Unfortunately, our activities were disrupted by a terrifying thunderstorm. However, after packing our things and moving to De Preuverij, our beloved go-to pub, the fun continued. Over a few drinks, we got to know more about the first-year students and caught up with each other after a nice summer vacation. The evening ended in the pouring rain with all the excitement for the new academic year.



# First Year Trip

**By Quinn Cuijpers**

Vectum has three trips during a year: the members weekend, the ski trip and the first-year trip. These trips are where the Vectum family tightens its bonds, and they are the most fun activities of the year. Last year due to covid the first-year trip was done as a series of fun activities in Maastricht. This year however the covid restrictions were non-existent (thankfully) which was my main motivation to help with the planning of this amazing event by joining the summer committee.

It was amazingly wonderful to be a part of organizing the event together with the rest of the summer committee. Even when things didn't work out exactly as planned sometimes :).

On Friday we gathered in Maastricht in two shifts and were brought to our accommodation in Lommel, Belgium. When our group got to the park, we found what would become our main hangout spot for the rest of the weekend. However, this Vectum tent, which would go on to hold so many good memories, wasn't set up fully yet, so we assembled as a united group and assembled THE tent (with a bit of a storm hurrying us along :)).



Now to move on to the next thing to do which was the food prep. For the first day we decided to go real Dutch: potatoes, meat, and veggies. Together with the rest of the first group we peeled the potatoes and cut some veggies, with laughs and jokes galore of course ;). Later, we kicked the cooking into full gear and had three houses each doing a different part of the meal. All houses had an amazing vibe, but I got to say that the veggie house truly had a vibe unlike any other.

Then we had a game of “never have I ever” with the entire group, with questions specially prepared by our Valentin. Afterwards we went on to drinking games. We had set out multiple games, but the most popular game ended up being Rage Cage. It wasn't hard to see why people were drawn to it, as we were extremely excited while playing it. Unfortunately, that also got the attention of other people that weren't drunk on the Vectum spirit, so we got a lil visit of a security guard :( . So, we decided to head back to the houses and “sleep”.

# PERVECTUM 1

Saturday, after having breakfast, we decided to play one of my favorite games, Cards Against Humanity. Afterwards, we split into many different groups. Personally, I went to play circle volleyball together with a group of people. Others played Flunkyball, while there were also people who just went to relax in their rooms. Later we played a quick round of ultimate frisbee, after which all the groups came together, and we made a circle and threw the frisbee around trying to reach the highest score. Not only did we see some impressive catches, but we also got some of them on camera thanks to the legend Vamsi.

Later we had dinner, which was spaghetti with tomato sauce. Then we played a Vectum quiz, where we learned all about the committee members and the history of not only Vectum, but also Maastricht. Now we get to the best part of the weekend, an idea suggested by Neive, truth or drink. We got to know each other extremely well through these questions. I especially loved the questions I got :). I also loved when we sat outside the tent as a circle and just talked about life for a couple hours afterwards.



Finally, on the last day we left in two shifts again. After divvying up the left-over supplies, we left the park. Here I must give a special shoutout to our additional driver, and the reason we were able to do transport so smoothly, Mia. We were so happy we saw someone who was willing to drive on the signup sheet! I loved the vibe we had in the car ride back to Maastricht and I am sure other groups had an equally joyful drive back.

Lastly, I would like to reserve some lines for the rest of the summer committee. We were able to plan this amazing trip and I am so proud of us. It is a trip that I will never forget, and I know the first years probably think so as well!



" The Tent "



# Cycling Dinner

**By Aashia Chanana**

For the second activity last period, a feast was held by Vectum on September 13th which was cherished by all our members.

All of us were divided into groups keeping our dietary options in mind and a few of our members volunteered to host and be our Vectum chefs.

Every group was served a three-course meal where each dish was prepared by a different host with so much love that you could taste it in every bite. A variety of dishes were prepared by our chefs & sous-chefs including sushi, beef burritos, mushroom cream pasta, and brownies to name some. Despite the weather being rainy the entire evening, all members were excited to cycle around for their next course of the meal.

Our hosts, Tobi & Marie decided they wanted to share their desserts with each other's group, so Tobi took his sangrias and walked to Marie's house where both groups enjoyed brownies and sangrias. The night ended with drinks and dancing at the preuv!



## Reviews of some of the members

It felt great to have the groups enjoy and finish all the food. However, the wines that were carefully selected to enhance the meals were barely touched if at all, with most groups preferring beer, or worse: water.

### *Edwin- 8/10*

We started the night off strong by going to Edwin's place. Where we had wine and sushi together with the sweetest ginger I have ever tasted. Afterwards we took a walk to Filip's apartment and after some calls we were able to get inside. Our second meal was hamburgers with fries which were amazingly cooked by Asem and Filip. Afterwards, we had to say goodbye to one of our group members as he left early, but the rest went on to the third location for which we exploited the bus system. The third location was at Mia's place where we had delicious brownies and ice cream for dessert. It was a great activity that we hadn't been able to do for a while and I hope it will be done again

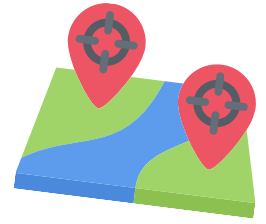
### *Quinn- 9/10*

Our group was the oldies and master students and they were all really fun, we were served some simple snacks and appetizers, a rice main dish and banana bread for dessert. This is really a nice activity and great to see where people live, from newbies to Edwins. I wanted to reintroduce this activity even during my board year (and before) but somehow that never worked out. So, fun that it was back!

### *Amber- 8.5/10*



# Scavenger Hunt



**By Polina Barinova**

Vectum has a lot of incredibly fun events, but the Scavenger Hunt stands out among them. Becoming a member of Scavenger Hunt means signing up for unbridled fun and adventure. It's the best way to get out of your comfort zone, free your mind from thoughts of studying, make new friends, and have a blast.

Meeting at the Vrijthof at 18h30, students were divided into six teams. Each team was given a long list of different, strange and even crazy tasks. After that, the competition began. The challenge was to complete more tasks than the other teams in just a few hours. I think this event broke all records for the number of photos and videos because participants had to send a photo or video report after completing each task.





## PERVECTUM 1



All tasks were different from each other and forced participants to move around the city of Maastricht, communicate with strangers, go skinny dipping in the Maas, and act out the drama in a crowded place. Each student could feel the spirit of Maastricht because communication with residents was an integral part of the long list of tasks.

One of the important conditions was arriving at the meeting place at the bar on time to tally the results, identify the winners, and have fun with music and drinks. Our winning team was Aashia, Inês, Jonelle, Neive, Shashwat and Aggelos.



I think all participants, whether they won or not, got a lot of positive emotions and created new incredible memories of their student life.

# LEST

## By Marie Corillon

Every year, during the LEST (National Econometrics Sports Tournament), econometrics students have the opportunity to show that besides having brains, they also have some cardio. This edition was organised by FAECTOR, the study association for the econometrics program in Rotterdam, and was sponsored by Optiver, Flow Traders, IMC Trading, ChipSoft and Ortec Finance, so a big thank you to all of them (and thanks for the goodies)!

Our Vectum team had to be up bright and early to meet at the station at 6h45 (ouch). Congratulations to everyone who joined, that might have been the most strenuous part of the day. From there, we took several trains and buses to get to the charming city of Utrecht (not the best time for NS to be on strike), just in time to register, get our goody-bags and LEST t-shirts.



We were then divided into different groups: a competitive football team and two ‘sports & games’ teams. While it’s straightforward to imagine what our football enthusiasts were going to do for the day, you might be wondering what ‘sports & games’ look like. Every year, LEST committees put a spin on traditional sports. For example, instead of having traditional running races, we had an inflatable obstacle course, which challenged our balance, a beer crate walking race, which challenged our dexterity, and a race in which one or several team members had to get in a bag and jump their way to the finish line, which challenged our team coordination. We also played Q-tip hockey (basically field hockey but with giant Q-tips instead of sticks), a sort of hockey-handball-football combination, and my personal favourite, the real-life futsal. It’s fair to say that Vamsi’s goal-keeping technique that consisted of throwing himself to the floor while managing to hang to the bar and somehow stop every ball will forever live rent-free in our memory.



# PERVECTUM 1

After roughly two hours of activities, we had a quick lunch to get our energy levels nice and high and got ready for round 2. Though we fought as hard as econometricians against collinearity, the other teams were stronger and Vectum didn't make it to the podium. I guess it just means that we had less time to practice because of how serious we are about our studies. 😊

We finished the day with a dinner buffet, some photobooth shoots, and ran to catch our train home (because we just love sports that much).



Altogether, I truly enjoyed this day from start to finish, from laughing during the train rides to watching my teammates fly off from the inflatable obstacle course, and I'm pretty sad that this will remain my unique LEST experience.



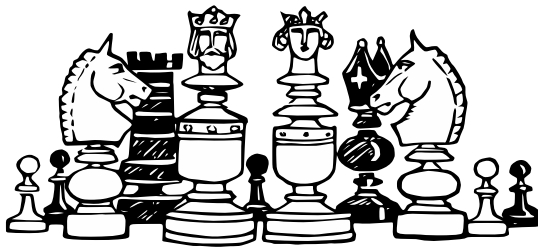
*Ps: Vectum will organise next year's edition! So whether you joined us this year and want to help us make an even better tournament, or are curious and want to get involved in Vectum a bit more, stay on the lookout for the applications, which will open in December.*

# Research Lecture

**By Ngoc Bao Phung**

## **Stochastic games - Decision making in a dynamically changing environment**

For the first period of the year, Vectum was honored to invite János Flesch, our beloved associate professor at UM, to be a guest speaker to share about his research area with us.



Although many of us are familiar with János as a tutor in courses such as Linear Algebra, Analysis, Orientation and Optimization, we have not had the chance to hear much of János sharing about his own research works in our tutorials. In this research lecture, he focused on one of his main topics: stochastic games.

Firstly, he introduced us to Markov decision processes, in which there is only one decision maker, by briefly presenting the model and some theories revolving around it. We also learned that this model can be applied to many aspects in life, such as in inventory management, highway pavement maintenance, etc. For example, with an inventory management problem, János explained how we can help a manager of a liquor store find the best strategy to maximize their payoff.



# PERVECTUM 1

The lecture then advances to multiple decision makers problems: stochastic games. From an example on a fishery game to see whether companies choose to be moderate or greedy, it sparked a question of whether there is a better way to intervene to help the fish population while still making profits. With what János presented throughout the lecture, we learned more about Nash equilibria of stochastic games and how these games can be applied in many other fields of research such as sustainability, patent races, etc.



**We would like to express our gratitude towards János Flesch for his time for this lecture, through which we got to understand more about his field of research.**



# Oktoberfest



**By Aashia Chanana**

The annual Vectum Oktoberfest was held at Het Ruweel on October 7th. The celebration included lots of beer and everyone's favorite German music, the girls donned their most stunning Dirndl, while the boys dressed in their fanciest Lederhosen. Vectum held its legendary beer pong tournament, which was won by the dynamic duo of Sven and Süleyman. Emery unquestionably took home the award for best dressed team member thanks to his stunning, authentic Dirndl.

People were seen showing off their best dance moves as the night continued, and laughter could be heard throughout the space. As the clock struck midnight, we said goodnight and congratulated Asem & Aashia on their birthdays.



Afraid you missed out or eager for the forthcoming edition? The Vectum tradition of Oktoberfest is here to stay. Before you are put to the test to determine who will be the future champion of Vectum, you now have a year to perfect your drinking game strategies and get ready with your traditional German costumes. Bis zum nächsten Jahr!



# Beach Volleyball



**By Chiara Venditti**

This September the cold hit soon and hard. Most of us firsties arrived soaking wet at the first Analysis lecture of the year: what a great welcome! Even though the rain and wind arrived very soon, Vectum had the perfect fix: playing beach volleyball brought summer back for an evening.

We started with a warm-up in a big circle to get our body moving and have fun all together. Then, the games became more and more competitive, and the time flew by until an announcement was made: drinks had arrived! We got together and chatted while enjoying a nice drink, kindly offered by Vectum, but some of us, the most competitive ones, ran to the field again to play and try winning the rematch.



Four volleyball courts were available, so that there was space for everyone to enjoy the game. There was a strong team spirit and the players who had more familiarity with the game helped the others and showed them how to set a volleyball, that's what Vectum is all about: helping each other while having a lot of fun.

The evening ended with some more drinks and peanuts at the bar while everyone was singing along with the amusing owner. Then sadly the night was over and we hopped on the train, the lucky ones – me included – on the car, and headed back to Maastricht.

Vectum ended the first period strong and let us enjoy this sport event that gave us the energy to get through the exam week at our very best!

# New Members of the KE Department



**By Chiara Venditti**

## ***Halil İbrahim Gündüz***

### **Could you introduce yourself?**

My name is Halil Gunduz. Last year I finished my PhD thesis and I am here for my postdoctoral research project. I am from Turkey. I was born in Ankara and spent half of my life in Istanbul.



### **Where were you before coming to Maastricht?**

As academic research and econometrics have always been my field of interest, I started my academic career with my master's degree at Istanbul University. I finished my doctorate in February 2021. My master's and doctoral thesis received awards from different independent institutions, these successes increased my interest in academia. I came to Maastricht University to do a postdoc to improve myself further.

### **What's your area of research?**

My research interest is on high dimensional macroeconometrics models. It is about dynamic relationships between countries and it comprises forecasting statistical links of countries with macro variables. My project is also about the relationship between energy and economics. Indeed, my most recent study aims to investigate why some countries are cleaner than the others with reference to macroeconomic governance.

### **What is your favourite thing about doing research?**

What I love while doing research is the emergence of a new me with new information every day. Doing research is one of the things that makes me who I am, and it changes my worldview and opens my horizons.

### **What's one fun fact about you?**

One of the things I enjoy most is discovering new dishes from different cultures and experiencing it with my friends.

### **How would you describe your colleagues in one word?**

My colleagues are friendly people. I enjoy spending time with them.





## ***Lucas Harlaar***

### **Could you introduce yourself?**

I'm from the Netherlands. More specifically, from a relatively small town called Heiloo, which is near Alkmaar (Noord-Holland).

### **Where were you before coming to Maastricht?**

I have lived (and still do) for 6 years in Amsterdam now. I did my bachelor's in Economics at UvA and master's in Econometrics at VU.

### **What's your area of research?**

Time series analysis by state space methods. With an application on nowcasting macroeconomic variables for our country's official statistical institute CBS, which I'm affiliated to.

### **What is your favourite thing about doing research?**

It is a continuous learning process, where one could discover new things and broaden human knowledge a tiny bit on difficult topics. As a naturally curious person that feels rewarding.

### **What's one fun fact about you?**

I find it very difficult to ride slowly on a bicycle.

### **How would you describe your colleagues in one word?**

Amazing.

## ***Ahn Triêu***

### **Could you introduce yourself?**

My name is Vien Gia Anh Trieu. Everyone can call me Anh for the sake of simplicity. I am from Vietnam.

### **Where were you before coming to Maastricht?**

I studied my bachelor in Maastricht University in Econometrics and Operations Research. I also have my masters in Maastricht as well, in Human Decision Science.

### **What's your area of research?**

I am now doing research in Game Theory and Mathematical Economics. To be more specific, I am working on mechanisms and properties of double auctions

### **What is your favourite thing about doing research?**

I like to study more and do more research in the field that I am interested in

### **What's one fun fact about you?**

One fun fact about myself is that I actually started to be interested in game theory after reading a manga (Japanese comic). In that manga, some concepts of game theory are introduced and I just thought it was very interesting, so I wanted to study more about this field.

### **How would you describe your colleagues in one word?**

I will say that everyone here is so nice. My supervisors are very friendly and helpful. They are also considerate about my study as well as my research progress. All of the other PhD students that I know are also nice and friendly.



# A Guide for Maastricht Newbies

By **Ngoc Bao Phung**

Life in a new city can be appreciably overwhelming, especially for international students who have never been to Maastricht. However, don't worry! Vectum is here to save the day! Here are some tips and life hacks that can come in handy in your student life:

## **Helpful Instagram accounts**

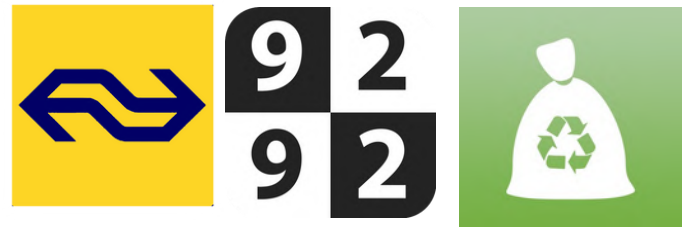
Besides Maastricht University's website, social media is also another great way to stay updated with all the news of Maastricht. Make sure to follow these accounts not to miss out on any part of the exciting Maastricht student life.

### **@vectum.maastricht**

On Vectum's official account, you can find all the announcements about our upcoming events, as well as some amazing photos capturing the best moments of Vectum's past events.

### **@mymaastricht, @newsmaastricht, @dutchnewsnl**

These accounts provide information about Maastricht and the Netherlands in English. It is a great way for non-Dutch speaking students to be informed about the news around the city!



## **Free applications you can install on your phone** **NS, 9292, Google Maps:**

These apps provide general information about travelling and public transport in the Netherlands. You can look for directions, buy public transport tickets and schedule your trips with them.

### **Milieu App:**

Maastricht has different days to collect distinctive types of waste. Not to risk a chance of being stuck with your trash bags for another two weeks, this app can be pretty helpful in keeping track of the trash collecting calendar.

### **Buienradar, Buienalarm:**

Given the unpredictable nature of Dutch weather, you can avoid getting stuck in a nasty rain by downloading these fairly accurate weather forecast apps.

### **Knaek, UniDAYS:**

These two apps offer many exclusive discounts for students so make sure to check them out.





## ***Paid subscriptions***

### **Museumkaart**

Access to more than 450 museums for one year

### **Cineville pas:**

Unlimited access to films in more than 40 cinemas across the Netherlands (in Maastricht: Lumière)

### **Swapfiets:**

A monthly bike subscription with an ensured working bike

### **HelloFresh:**

Delivers step-by-step recipes and fresh, pre-portioned ingredients



## ***Where to study in Maastricht?***

Looking for a place to prepare your homework or to cram for your exam? Here are some recommendations from Vectum that you can check out:

**Inner City Library**

**Randwyck Library**

**Paul-Henri Spaak Learning Spaces**

**Tapijn**

**Koffie**

**Centre Ceramique**

*You can find a detailed article about study spots in Maastricht in the Third edition of PerVectum 2021-22.*



## ***Nice places to go in Maastricht***

### ***Recommendations by Bregje Derks***

#### **Going out:**

The Loft, Hidden cocktail bar Mr. Smith, Clinique, Van Bommel, Cavo, Fessa, Defilé, Complex, Rooftopbar

#### **Food:**

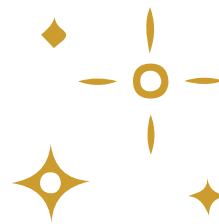
Preps, Piece of Cake Lunchroom, Deli-belge, Pizzeria Piano B, Friterie Wieck, De Brandweerkantine, Bistrot-Bar 't Wycker Cabinet

#### **Coffee:**

Blanche Dael koffiecafé



# Cozy Season Starter Pack



## By Aashia Chanana

At least for me, seasonal depression begins to hit hard as the weather turns colder and you start to realize that the sun sets every day a minute earlier than it did yesterday. I wish I didn't have to leave my house in such conditions because I'm from a country where the sun doesn't set at 4 p.m. during the coldest months and it isn't always pouring rain or so windy.

Since it's dark and gloomy outside, I like to decorate my room with warm, fragrant candles and fairy lights to make it seem cozy. I also prefer to stay in with a movie and comfort food—most often, warm, gooey brownies. Everyone enjoyed the brownies Marie served for the cycling dinner, so here we have the recipe for you guys to try out.

### Ingredients

120g of dark chocolate  
200g of butter  
400g of sugar  
4 eggs  
140g of flour  
1 tsp salt  
½ baking powder



### Recipe

- Preheat your oven at 180°C
- Melt the butter in a pot at very low heat
- In a bowl, mix the butter lightly with sugar until it has no more lumps
- Whisk in the eggs
- Break the chocolate into smaller pieces and melt it in a pot at very low heat, alternatively you can also use the double boiler technique to melt your chocolate.
- Fold the melted chocolate in the mixture, add the flour and baking powder
- Butter your baking tray and pour in the mixture.
- Bake it for 20 minutes at 160-170°C, make sure the brownies are not overbaked
  - Let it cool down and enjoy it with your favorite movie






# ***Movie Recommendations for the Season***

 *Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind* 

 *The Harry Potter Series* 

 *Fantastic Mr. Fox* 

 *Dead Poets Society* 

 *Little Miss Sunshine* 

 *Twilight* 

 *When Harry Met Sally* 

 *The Blind Side* 

 *The Home Alone Series* 

# Vectum's World Cup Prediction Competition

**By Tom McGrath**

## Welcome to the Vectum's World Cup Prediction Competition.

Econometricians are known for their predictive power and now you will be given the chance to win a grand prize and be crowned Vectum's best fortune teller.

As probably all of you know, the World Cup is due to start on the 20th of November where Qatar will take on Ecuador in what is sure to be a thrilling opening match. Qatar are the host nations this year and this has led to controversy since the announcement was made back in 2010 for abuses of migrant workers in preparing the city of Doha for the event. The controversy in this decision was not confined to just the state of Qatar and its human right abuses but also to Fifa the governing body of football around the world, with allegations that senior members of the voting panel were given bribes and swayed a week before the vote.



For those who do not wish to support this year's tournament or are simply not interested are not at a disadvantage as to compete in this competition you do not need to watch the games as all predictions should be submitted before the beginning of the tournament.

## The competition works as follows,

You need to predict the score of each game as well as some additional questions. A correct result will score 1 point while the correct score of the game will earn you 2 points. So, if Qatar beats Ecuador 2-0 and you predicted 1-0, you'd get just 1 point, for the group stages the fixtures are listed for you and it is sufficient to enter the score you expect to occur. For the knockout stage you will need to also enter the teams you expect to play in that match however your predicted fixtures do not need to make logical sense. By this I mean, you could have Netherlands in four of the round of 16 games. Why would you do this? You may think it is too difficult to predict each game and result so in order to try to maximise your points haul you could have high confidence in the Netherlands getting into the round of 16 but you are not sure who against and you could therefore pick multiple teams.

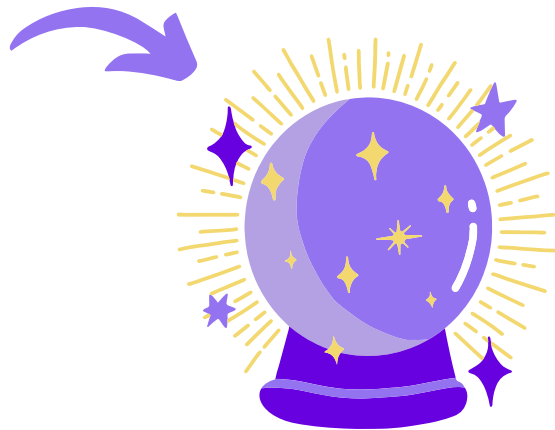
# PERVECTUM 1

Doing this does sacrifice your ability to get the maximum number of points as it will guarantee that some of your results will be wrong. Another approach could be to put the same fixture down multiple times, however you will only receive half points for every repeated fixture after the first.

For the additional questions at the end, you can get the number of points listed on the question. For the questions How many goals, assists corners etc. if nobody gets it exact the nearest person(s) will receive 5 points.

For those with no inclination towards football but would still like a chance at winning the amazing Vectum prize, you could make your predictions based on the following ranking <https://www.fifa.com/fifa-world-ranking/men?dateId=id13792> or feel free to find predictions already created online.

Get your crystal balls ready and start forecasting to enter fill in the following form <https://forms.gle/dghq4niMnKQ8G4RE9>, or click on the crystal ball below.



**The very special prize is... a Vectum hoodie!**

You can have a look on our website to see what they look like (just click on the hoodie below)



# Crossword

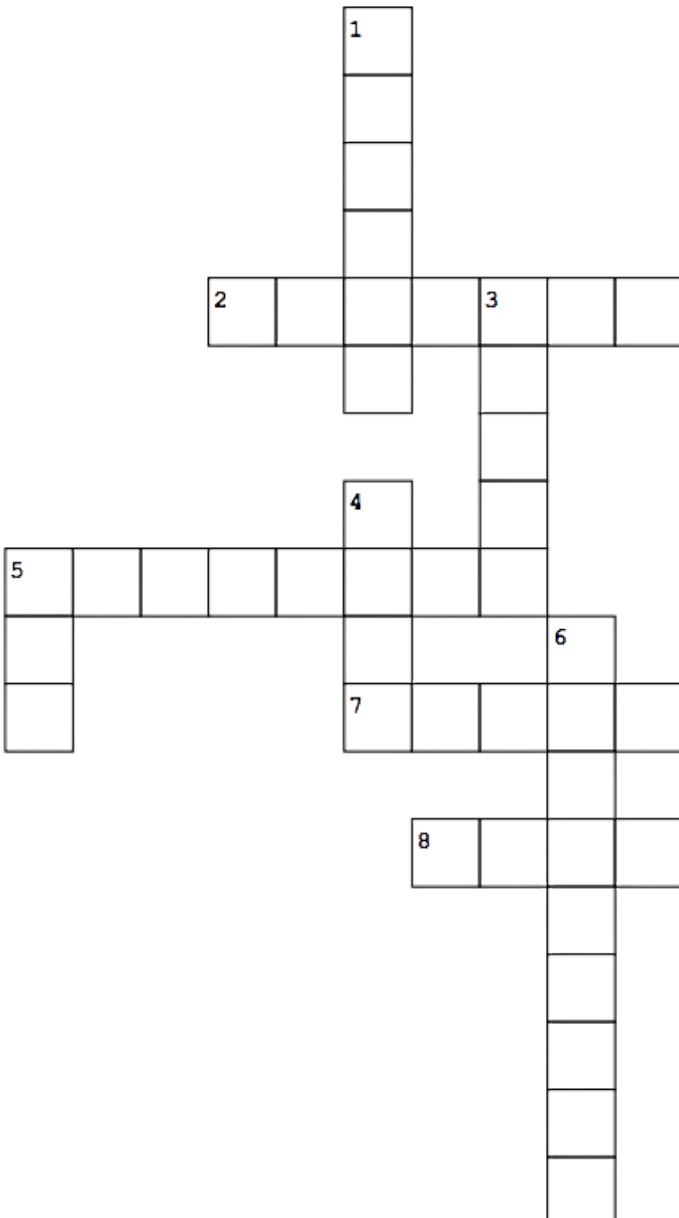
We have reserved the end of this PerVectum for two games: a crossword and a spot the difference. Those games can give you extra points on the Vectum's World Cup Competition. Just send us your solutions (on Whatsapp or at [secretary@vectum-maastricht.nl](mailto:secretary@vectum-maastricht.nl)) some time before the end of the World Cup (December 18th) to benefit from those extra points.

## Across

- 2.** Who organised this year's LEST?
- 5.** What's the name of the shade of the Vectum red?
- 7.** Who was the best dressed at this year's edition of Oktoberfest?
- 8.** How many issues of the PerVectum are published each year?

## Down

- 1.** Where was this year's First Year Trip at?
- 3.** How many firsties are in the PR committee this year?
- 4.** How many years ago did Vectum buy their first legal drink?
- 5.** How many committees are there in Vectum this year?
- 6.** What's the name of the Vectum bar?





# Spot the Difference

There are seven differences between the two pictures from the First Year Trip below. To claim your points, circle the differences in the second picture and send it to us. If you can *name* all the differences, you'll get extra points.



# Mememes

Trojans when the wood horse starts speaking greek



Mussolini when the bushes start speaking Greek



Students when the math starts speaking greek



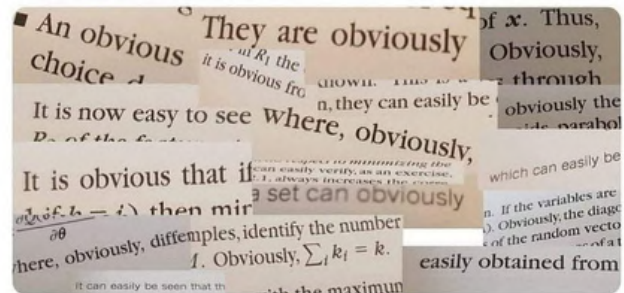
When you pass the course with a 5.5



made with mematic

Professor: "The answer can be found in the book"

The book:



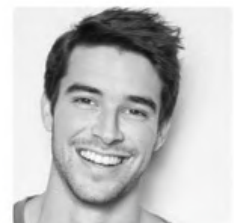
proof by contradiction be like:



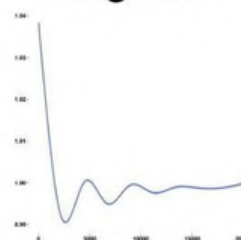
Dear girls, if your guy has



Long Hair



Killer Smile



Proved the Law of Large Numbers

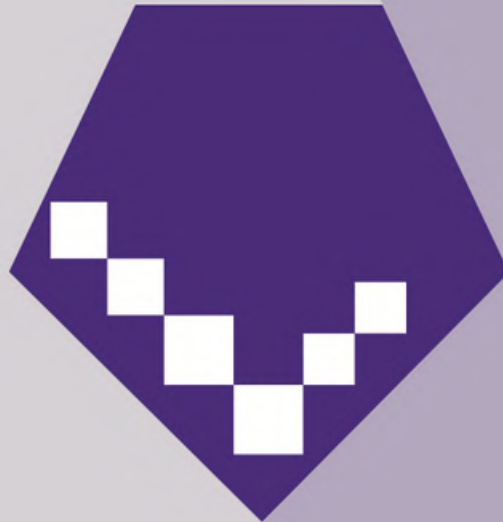


Then he is Jacob Bernoulli

# LED 2023

— 6 February 2023 —

## Kick Off Your Career



Registration: December 1, 20.00 hours

[www.leditbeyourday.nl](http://www.leditbeyourday.nl)

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