Propositions accompanying the thesis

From supernovae to galaxy clusters

Observing the chemical enrichment in the hot intra-cluster medium

- 1. A significant fraction of the intra-cluster medium (ICM) of Abell 4059 may have been enriched in metals via ram-pressure stripping of an infalling galaxy (**Chapter 2**).
- 2. Several sources of systematic uncertainties affect the abundance measurements in the ICM; all of them should be carefully treated and discussed before any attempt is made to interpret these measurements (**Chapters 3 and 5**).
- 3. Ca-rich gap transients, a recently discovered peculiar sub-class of supernovae, may significantly contribute to the chemical enrichment of the ICM (**Chapter 4**).
- 4. Type Ia and core-collapse supernovae have enriched galaxy clusters and groups in the same way, out to at least a third of their virial radius (**Chapter 6**).
- In addition to higher spectral resolution instruments on board future X-ray missions, significant improvements of atomic data, nucleosynthesis models, and ICM simulations are absolutely necessary to understand the chemical enrichment of the Universe.
- 6. Finding a systematic bias in measurements is not necessarily bad news.
- 7. One of the main challenges in the synergy between observations and numerical simulations is to speak about the same quantities, and compare what is comparable.
- 8. X-ray fitting tools should never be used as black boxes.
- 9. The main challenge of doing a PhD in two separate institutes is to maximise the advantages while reducing the drawbacks.
- 10. In some cases, cultural differences are highly significant even below 100 km scales.
- 11. Astronomy can be, and should be used to combat populism and obscurantism.
- 12. Because science, culture, and education are the three main pillars of human civilisations, they should be entirely free and accessible to everyone, at any time.

François Mernier Leiden, April 2017