A flavour of family symmetries in a family of flavour models

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Curriculum Vitæ

Le mot impossible n'est pas français.

The word impossible is not in my dictionary.

(attributed to) Napoleon Bonaparte

Reinier de Adelhart Toorop was born in Amsterdam on the 10th of August 1984. The first written evidence of his fascination for science – astronomy in particular – stems from when he was six years old. During his education at the Dr. E. Boekmanschool (elementary school) and the Barlaeus Gymnasium (grammar school) physics and biology could be added to this list. In 2002, just after graduating from high school, he participated in the International Biology Olympiad in Latvia, winning a silver medal.

Later that year Reinier started studying Physics and Astronomy at the University of Amsterdam. In 2003, he was awarded the Physica prize of the 'Koninklijke Nederlandse Academie van Wetenschappen' (Royal Dutch Academy of Sciences) for the grades he received during his propedeuse (first year). After obtaining a kandidaatsdiploma (degree comparable to Bachelor) cum laude in 2005, Reinier continued his studies at the University of Amsterdam with a Master's study in Theoretical Physics. For his research project, he moved to the theory group of Nikhef, the Dutch national institute for subatomic physics. His Master's thesis 'Leptogenesis and the sigmamodel on $SU(8)/(SU(5) \times SU(3) \times U(1))$', written under supervision of Prof. dr. Jan-Willem van Holten, was awarded the biennial Pieter Zeemanprijs for best physics thesis at the University of Amsterdam.

During his university studies, Reinier became interested in competitive debate. In 2008 he won the World Universities Debating Championships in Thailand in the category English as a second language.

After his graduation (M.Sc., cum laude, 2007), Reinier continued his research at the Nikhef theory group as a PhD student under supervision of Prof. dr. Jan-Willem van Holten and, later, Dr. Federica Bazzocchi. Part of the research was conducted at the university of Padova. On the 21st of Februari 2012 he will defend his PhD thesis entitled 'A flavour of family symmetries in a family of flavour models' at Leiden University.

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It's nice to be important,
but it's more important to be nice.

H. P. Baxxter [167], Scooter

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When not among physicists, I spend much of my spare time surrounded by debaters. I think Bonaparte is a wonderful society and I made many, many friends there as well as elsewhere in the debating world. Particular thanks go to my various debate partners and my co-organizers of the European Universities Debating Championships 2011.

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