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Flow-based arterial spin labeling: from brain to body

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Chapter 11

Curriculum vitae

Suzanne Franklin was born on the 24th of May 1990 in Eindhoven, the Netherlands. She started her university career in Nijmegen, where she studied Physics, specializing in neuroscience to fulfill her life-long fascination with the brain. After two years she decided to switch to a more applied scientific field and went on to study Psychology at the Vrije Universiteit (VU) in Amsterdam. At the Vrije Universiteit, Suzanne obtained her Psychology bachelor's degree cum laude. She specialized in Biological Psychology, which focused on unraveling the underlying mechanisms of the brain. In addition, she participated in the Honours program to follow extracurricular courses.

After obtaining her bachelor's degree, Suzanne went on to do her master's in Biomedical Engineering at the Technical University in Eindhoven. Here, she specialized in Magnetic Resonance Imaging under supervision of prof. Klaas Nicolay. Suzanne was first introduced to non-contrast body imaging during her internship at King's College London, where she worked on a non-contrast technique to visualize the renal arteries under supervision of prof. René Botnar. This spiked her interest for non-contrast imaging and pulse programming of MR-sequences, which led to her starting a PhD-project in Arterial Spin Labeling with Thijs van Osch and Clemens Bos. The PhD-project was a joint-collaboration of Leiden University Medical Center and University Medical Center Utrecht.

Following her PhD, Suzanne briefly worked at 3mensio, developing machine learning solutions for medical image analysis. Currently, Suzanne works as pulse programming developer of novel MR sequences at Philips Healthcare.

Chapter 11

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First and foremost I would like to say that I have thoroughly enjoyed my time as a PhD candidate. I felt completely at home in between the researchers at the LUMC and UMCU, which is a feeling that I did not always experience during my university career. This feeling is partly thanks to the commitment of Thijs and Clemens as my supervisors, but also because of the great atmosphere in both research groups. Despite my shared position in het LUMC and UMCU, I have never felt like there was any competition between the two, which is definitely not always the case in science.

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Clemens, thank you for your unwavering support and your positive energy. You showed me that doing research should be fun, driven by an inherent curiosity. I especially enjoyed our open discussions on MR physics and ASL. During those discussions, you always treated me as an equal, which helped me grow as an independent researcher. I would also like to thank the rest of the drag-and-drop group; Isabell, Anita and Marijn for the good collaboration!

In particular, I would like to thank Isabell, who has made my PhD journey so much more enjoyable. It was amazing to be able to work together with you so closely. Our numerous scanning sessions together not only helped my research, but also broadened my knowledge of techno. In addition, thanks to your organizational skills I never missed any deadline nor forgot any important items on our numerous trips.

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I feel privileged that I have been part of the ‘Gorter-family’ at the LUMC. It is very stimulating to be part of a group of such talented researchers, and I greatly enjoyed our weekly group meeting and Friday afternoons at Lemmy’s.

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