



Those were the days .....

**Some landmarks in the early penetration of  
MR in the Benelux**

.....a personal account.

*Arend Heerschap*

Arend.Heerschap@radboudumc.nl



# Klaas Nicolay

[Nicolay K](#), [Kaptein R](#), [Hellingwerf KJ](#), [Konings WN](#).

$^{31}\text{P}$  nuclear magnetic resonance studies  
of energy transduction in *Rhodospseudomonas sphaeroides*.  
*Eur J Biochem.* **1981** ;116(1):191-7.

1951 Born (Stiens)

1983 PhD (Groningen)

1983 Postdoc Utrecht University (KWF)

1985 University Basel with Seelig (perfused heart)

1987 Huygens Fellowship

1991 Head in vivo NMR facility

1998 Image Science Institute Utrecht

1999 Professor Biomedical NMR TU Eindhoven

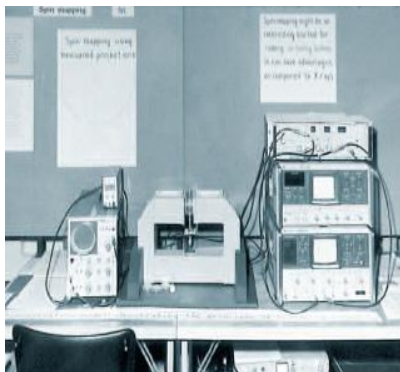
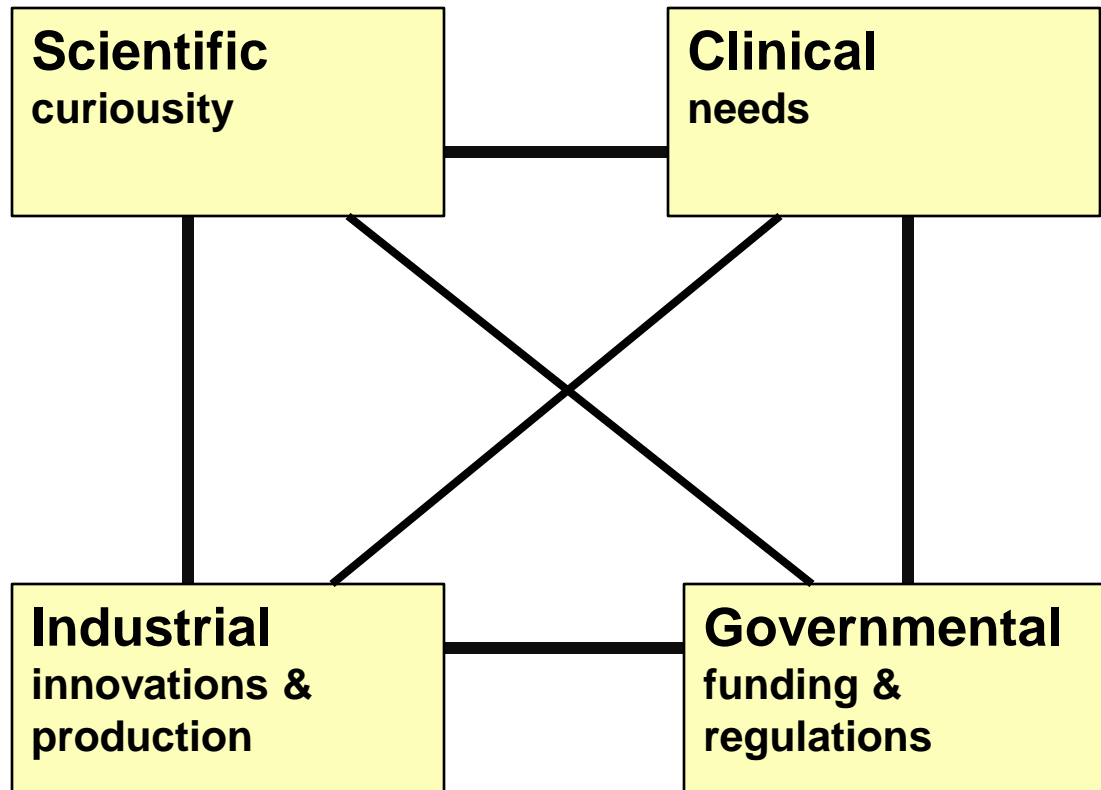
*Science*: molecular imaging , energy metabolism, .....

*Education*:

- Student school at the TU/e
- In vivo NMR course from ~1996

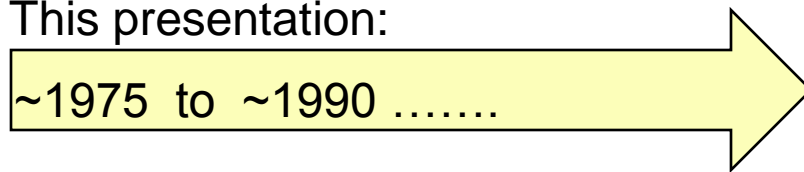


# Progress in biomedical technology



This presentation:

~1975 to ~1990 .....



# 'Early Benelux NMR heroes'



Cornelius J. Gorter  
Universiteit Amsterdam / Leiden

**1942**  
First attempt NMR

Physica IX, no 6

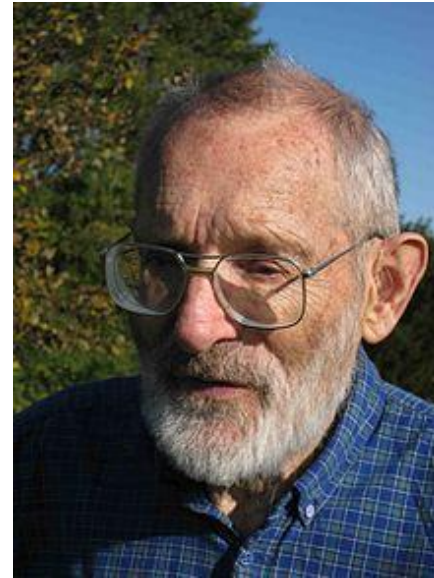
Juni 1942

**NEGATIVE RESULT OF AN ATTEMPT TO OBSERVE  
NUCLEAR MAGNETIC RESONANCE IN SOLIDS.**

by **C. J. GORTER** and **L. J. F. BROER**

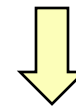
Zeehan-Laboratorium der Universiteit van Amsterdam

Communication No. 2656 from the Kamerlingh Onnes Laboratorium, Leiden



Jean Jeener  
Universite Libre de Bruxelles (ULB)

**1971**  
Inventor 2D NMR spectroscopy  
(Lecture AMPERE Summer School,  
Basko Polje, Yugoslavia)



2-3D Fourier imaging



# Image Formation by Induced Local Interactions: Examples Employing Nuclear Magnetic Resonance

**P. C. LAUTERBUR**

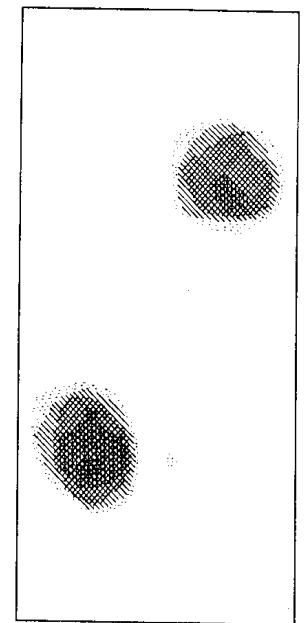
Dep. of Chemistry, State University of New York at Stony Brook

*Nature* **242**, 190 - 191 (1973);

Nobel prize

2003

First MR image: 2 tubes with water  
(projection reconstruction)

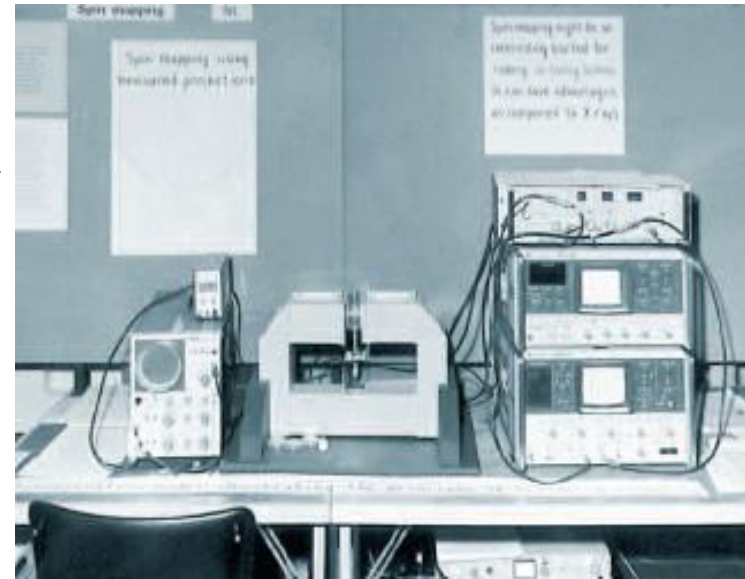
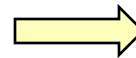


**1974-1978**

Rob Locher

Philips Research Laboratories

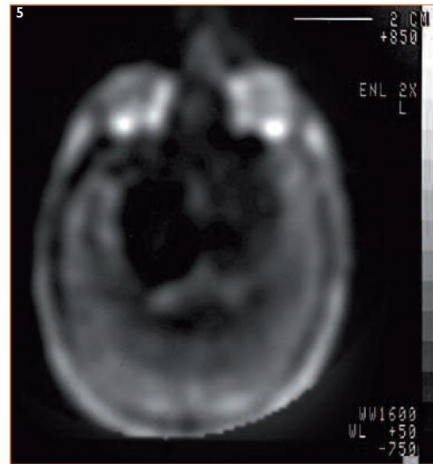
Waalre



1976 Nottingham  
One day NMR imaging

# 1978 – 1983: Proton project (Philips Research Laboratories & Medical Systems)

0.15T resistive magnet  
1 m free bore



**1980**

First image human brain

Single slice

Acquisition: > 5 min

Reconstruction: > 15 minutes



**1981**

First 2D FT image

# Start production and first clinical installations

1983 : Gyroscan R. Installation Leiden University

1984: Gyroscan S5 (superconductive)



# ~1985: major MR imaging problems are “solved”

Seminars in Nuclear Medicine, vol XV,2, 1985

## Nuclear Magnetic Resonance in Oncology

David A. Turner

The application of nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) techniques to the diagnosis of cancer was first explored by Damadian, who proposed that benign and malignant tissues could be differentiated on the basis of characteristic differences in spin-lattice and spin-spin relaxation times (T1 and T2) as determined in vitro with NMR spectrometers. Damadian's thesis was very controversial and never gained widespread acceptance. Not all investigators were able to confirm his findings. Moreover, it was improbable that NMR would ever play an important role in the diagnosis of malignancy as long as biopsy was necessary to obtain material for analysis. However, the potential usefulness of NMR in oncology

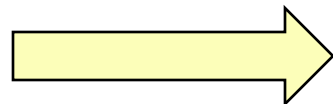
bur, who showed that NMR signals could be spatially encoded to produce images of the examined object. NMR imaging has made feasible the measurement of the T1 and T2 of lesions without biopsy. Unfortunately, initial efforts at characterizing tissues by in vivo determination of proton relaxation times have yielded disappointing results. Nonetheless, NMR imaging will be a powerful tool for evaluating patients with malignant disease because of the unique anatomic information it can provide without exposure of the patient to ionizing radiation. In vivo NMR spectroscopy of  $^{31}\text{P}$  and other sensitive nuclei may add a new dimension to clinical and experimental oncology.

Unfortunately, initial efforts at characterizing tissues by in vivo determination of proton relaxation times have yielded disappointing results

In vivo NMR spectroscopy of  $^{31}\text{P}$  and other sensitive nuclei may add a new dimension to clinical and experimental oncology

*Nuclear Medicine, Rush Medical College and Presbyterian-St Luke's Hospital, Chicago.*

and brain of the most animals. Furthermore, the T2 values of the malignant tissues were approxi-



We need MR spectroscopy



# 1985 – 1990 Philips Research Laboratory MR spectroscopy project



Ru van Stapele (group leader)  
Rob Locher  
Joop van Vaals  
Jan den Boef  
Peter van Gerwen  
Tom Bergman  
Arend Heerschap  
Frans Verschuren /  
Eric van den Boogert



MRS → need high field

Magnet: 6.3T (Oxford Magnet Technology)

Gradients: unshielded 20 mT/m

Coils: home-built

Electronics: Nicolet components

Computer: DEC VAX 11/750

} Home-built MR system  
(Nat lab culture)



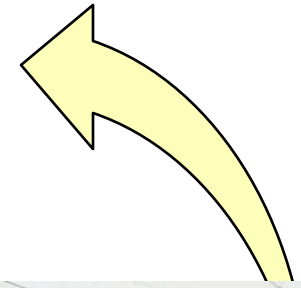
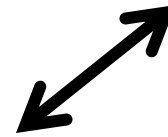
## Proton NMR tomography

P. R. Locher

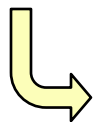
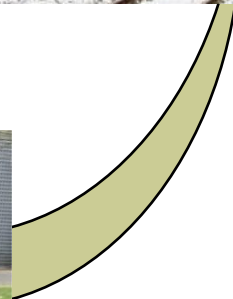
**PET and NMR!**  
new perspectives  
in neuroimaging  
and in  
clinical neurochemistry  
Padova (Italy)  
May 15-17, 1985



## Eindhoven "Animal play Lab"



## Nijmegen Animal Lab



Report

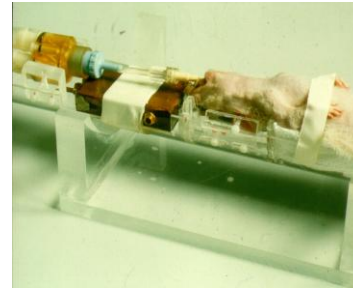
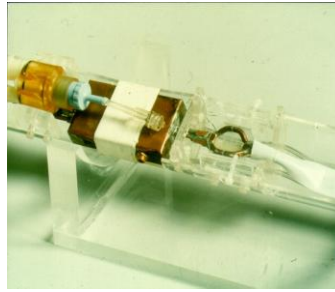


~1988

Body coil (transmit)

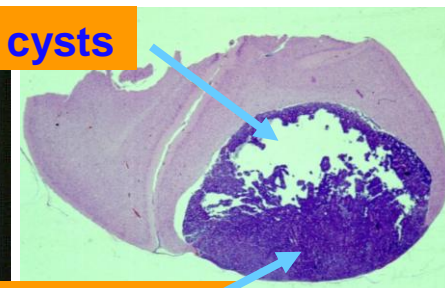
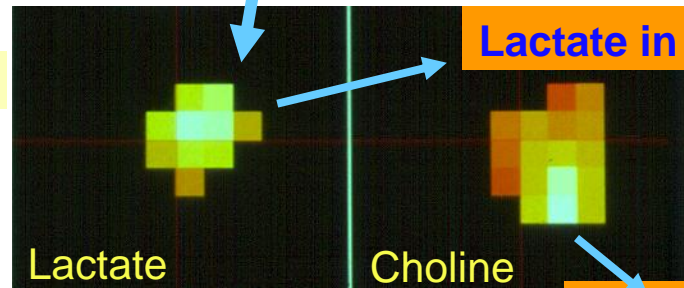
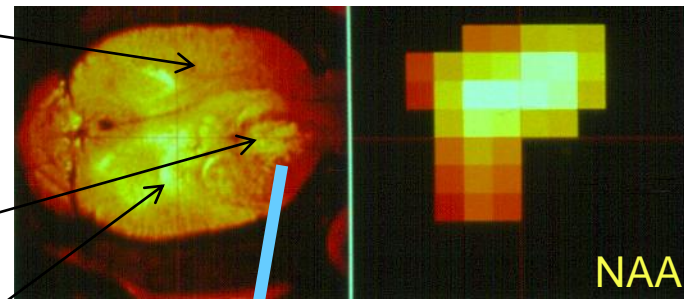
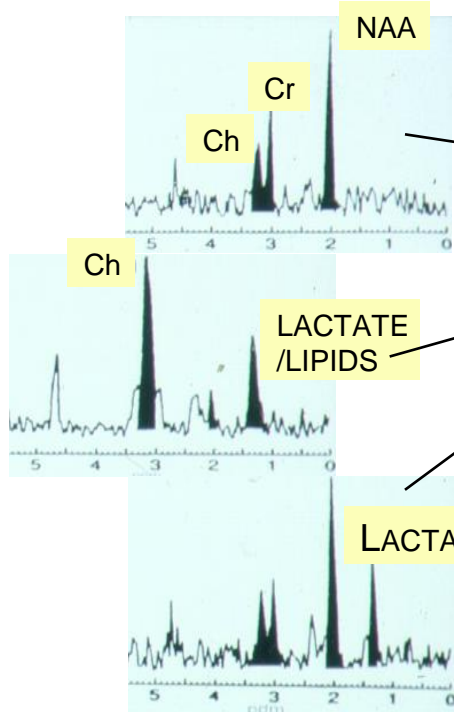


Surface coil (receive)



### Non-invasive in vivo Localized <sup>1</sup>H Spectroscopy Of human Astrocytoma Implanted in Rat Brain

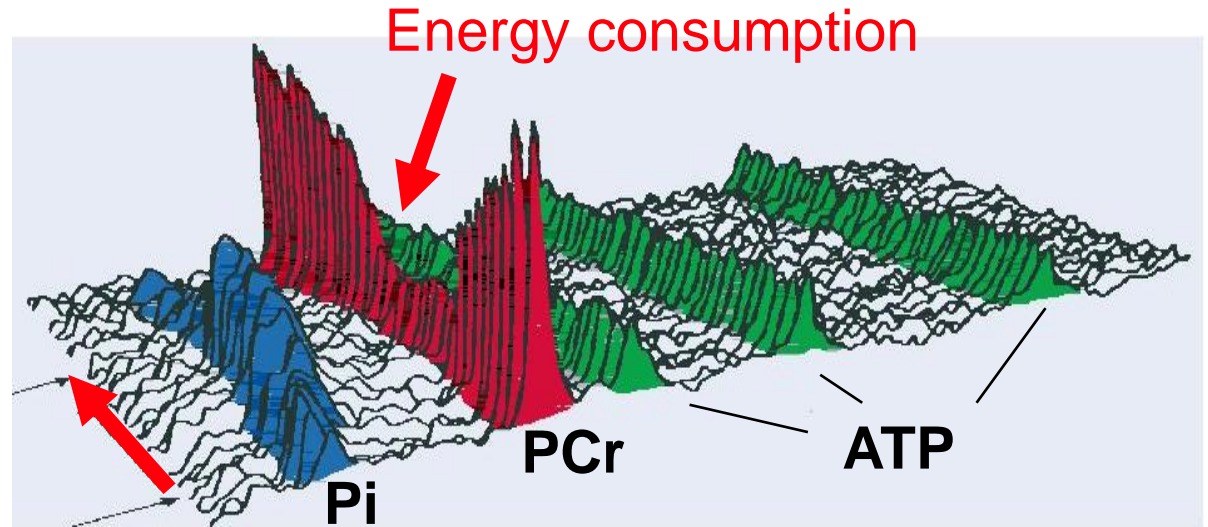
ACE localization



J. J. van Vaals\*, A. H. Bergman, H. J. van den Boogert and A. Heerschap  
Philips Research Laboratories, Bldg WAE, PO Box 80000, 5600 J A Eindhoven, The Netherlands

A. J. van der Kogel, A. C. C. Ruifrok and H. J. J. A. Bernsen  
Department of Radiotherapy, University of Nijmegen, PO Box 9101, 6500 HB Nijmegen, The Netherlands

# 1988: First high field (6.3T) human $^{31}\text{P}$ MR spectroscopy



After 28 years at 7T:



# Horizontal 6.3 Tesla magnet for preclinical MR Imaging

This magnet was part of pre-clinical MRI scanners at 3 research institutions: Philips Nat.Lab., TU Delft and TU/e. Every time it ushered the start of pre-clinical MRI research.

→ symbol of collaboration between academia and Philips Research.

Philips  
Research



Magnet displayed at Joint Research Facility at the High Tech Campus 2012.



Tom Bergman positioning probe. Philips Natlab. ~ 1987.

~1983



Researchers with 6.3T magnet ~1988.

From left to right:  
Tom Bergman, Joop van Vaals,  
Jan den Boef,  
Peter van Gerwen,  
Eric van den Boogert.



NatLab

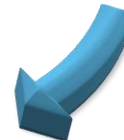
1989



2012



2001



**TU/e** Technische Universiteit  
Eindhoven  
University of Technology



The 6.3 T magnet during installation in 2001 (right) and upgrade in 2005 (above) in N-laag building at TU/e.



**TU Delft** Delft  
University of  
Technology



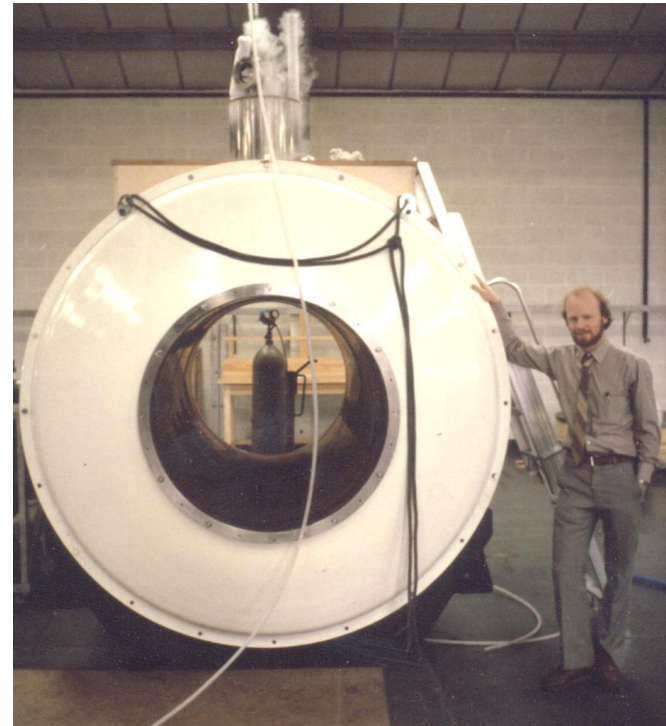
MRI setup @ the TU Delft ~2000.

Back to human MR .....

1980: General Electric (Paul Bottomley)

**Wanted localized human MRS  
(of heart)...  
> Buy highest possible  $B_0$**

**Oxford 2.0T: minimum field spec 1.5T**



TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION FOR NMR SUPERCONDUCTING  
MAGNET AND ITS POWER SUPPLY

September 10, 1980

MAGNET

Maximum Field

2.0 Tesla (target); 1.5 Tesla  
(absolute minimum),

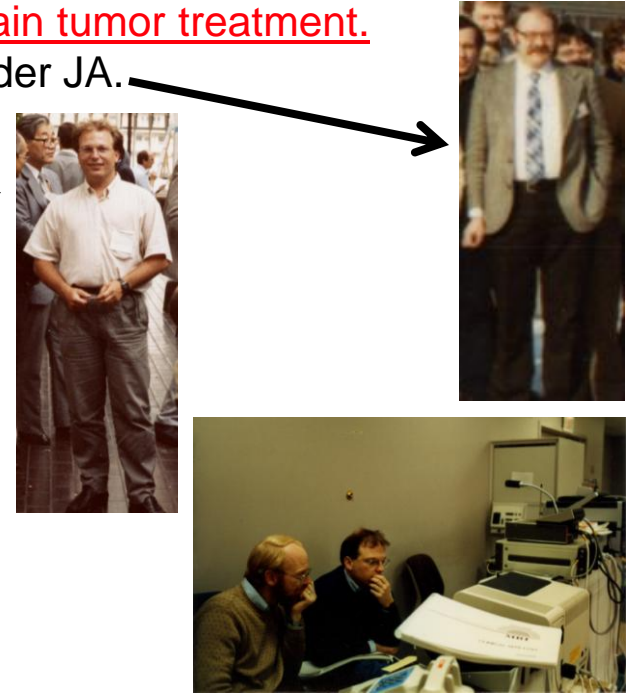
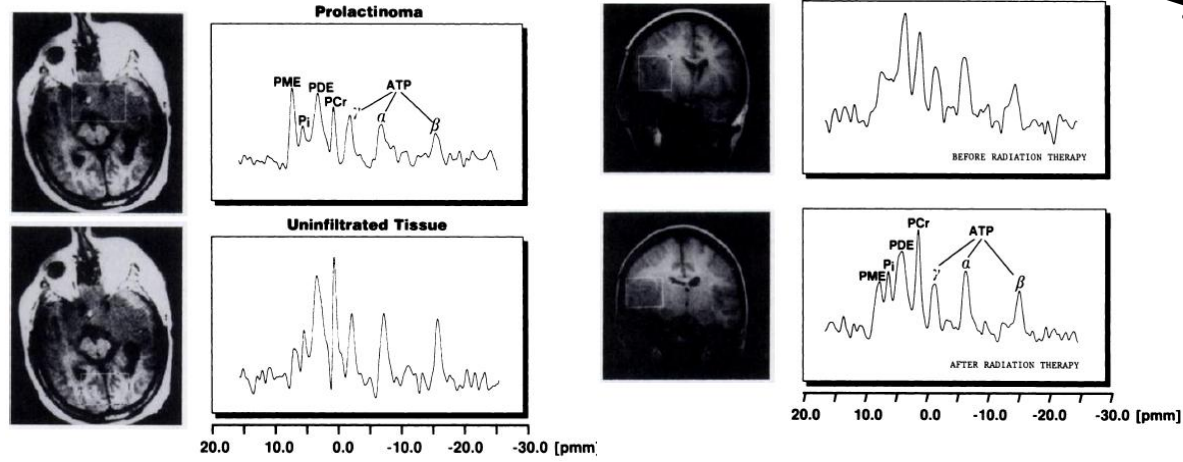
Inhomogeneity

0.1 ppm (in a 10 cm dsv\* (max.),  
for fields between 0.5 and 1.5 Tesla  
0.5 ppm (in a 15 cm dsv (max.),  
for 0.25 to 1.5 Tesla)  
10 ppm (in a 30 cm dsv (max.),

# Developing MR spectroscopy on a 1.5T Gyroscan

## MR image-guided P-31 MR spectroscopy in the evaluation of brain tumor treatment.

Segebarth CM, Balériaux DF, Arnold DL, Luyten PR, den Hollander JA.  
 Radiology. 1987 Oct;165(1):215-9



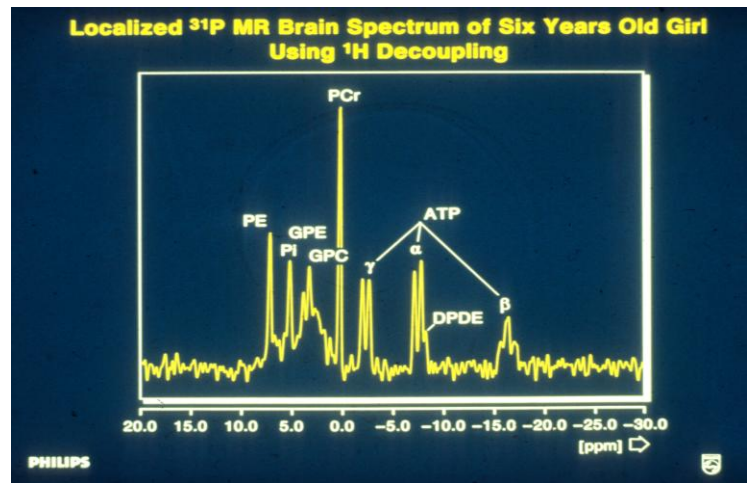
## Broadband proton decoupling in human 31P NMR spectroscopy.

Luyten P, Bruntink G, Sloff F, Vermeulen J, van der Heijden J, den Hollander J, Heerschap A.  
 NMR Biomed. 1989 Apr;1(4):177-83

**FIRST broadband 1H decoupling humans**

## Broadband proton decoupled natural abundance 13C NMR spectroscopy of humans at 1.5 T.

Heerschap A, Luyten P, van der Heyden J, Oosterwaal L, den Hollander J.  
 NMR Biomed. 1989 Sep;2(3):124-32

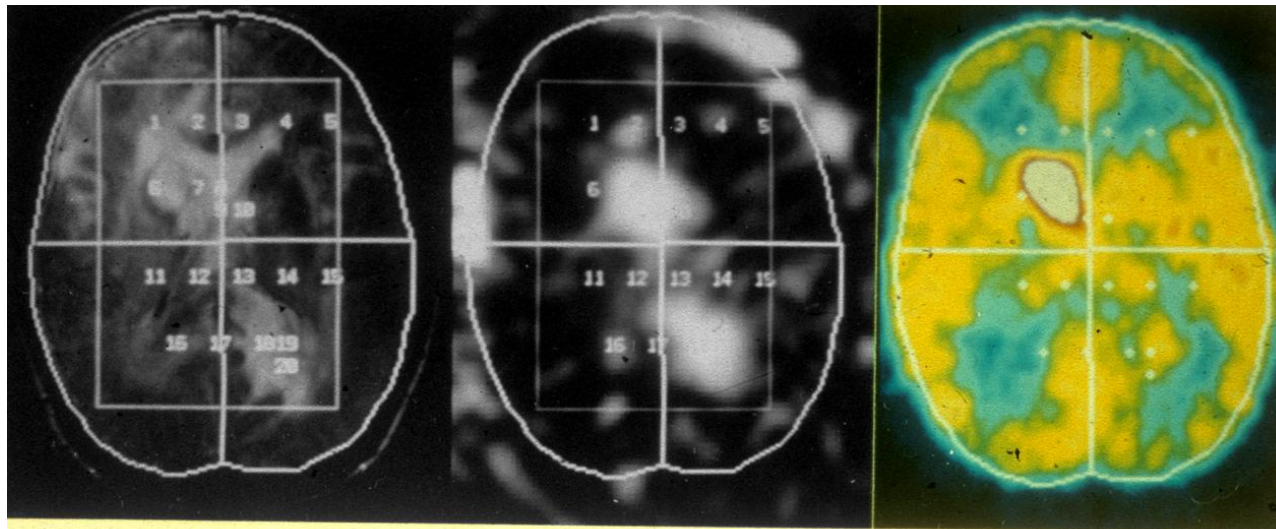


# Developing MR spectroscopy on a 1.5T Gyroscan

## FIRST $^1\text{H}$ metabolic mapping and combination with PET

Metabolic imaging of patients with intracranial tumors: H-1 MR spectroscopic imaging and PET.

[Luyten PR](#)<sup>1</sup>, [Marien AJ](#), [Heindel W](#), [van Gerwen PH](#), [Herholz K](#), [den Hollander JA](#), [Friedmann G](#), [Heiss WD](#). Radiology 1990 Sep;176(3):791-9.



MRI

MRS: Lactate

FDG PET

Multicentric glioblastoma

Max-Planck-Institut für Neurologische Forschung,  
Radiologisches Institut und Neurologische Klinik  
der Universität zu Köln, Germany  
Philips Medical Systems, Best, The Netherlands

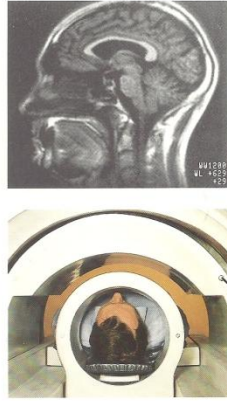
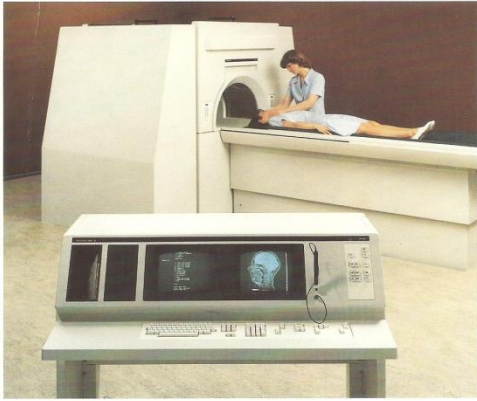


# NMR flyer ~1987

The Philips GYROSCAN is a family of diagnostic imaging systems, based on the principle of Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR). Unlike systems based on the use of X-rays or radioactive isotopes, the GYROSCAN uses no ionizing radiation; the images are derived from radio signals emitted by tissues in the body in response to a rapidly alternating electro-magnetic field.

Mit der Baureihe GYROSCAN bietet Philips Systeme für die NMR-Tomographie (NMR = Nuclear Magnetic Resonance oder Kernspinresonanz). Anders als beim Röntgen und bei nuklearmedizinischen Verfahren wird hierbei nicht mit ionisierender Strahlung gearbeitet.

Le nom de GYROSCAN a été donné à une gamme de systèmes d'imagerie médicale conçus par PHILIPS et fondés sur le principe de la Résonance Magnétique Nucléaire (R.M.N.).



NMR imaging shows no adverse biological effects and is consequently gaining acceptance as a safe and non invasive technique for visualizing internal structures, particularly soft tissues.

At present, NMR imaging is based on the detection of hydrogen atoms and their behaviour in body tissues, providing valuable information on the morphology and chemical composition of soft tissue.

Good results have been achieved in the detection of brain oedema, and the study of pathological processes such as neoplasia, ischaemia and various types of neoplasm and degenerative disease.

The GYROSCAN family includes the 'S5' and 'R', two members dedicated to proton imaging with the most powerful member of the family, the 'S15', giving additional possibilities to observe specific metabolic processes by looking at other elements, such as  $P^{31}$ ,  $Na^{23}$  and  $F^{19}$ .

Das Verfahren beruht auf der Wechselwirkung von Atomkernen des Körpergewebes mit Hochfrequenzstrahlung in einem starken Magnetfeld.

Die NMR-Tomographie wird zunehmend als sichere, nicht invasive Methode zur Darstellung von Weichteilen betrachtet. Hinweise auf schädliche Nebenwirkungen gibt es bisher nicht.

Gegenwärtig wird die NMR-Tomographie vorzugsweise zur Darstellung der Dichteverteilung und des Verhaltens von Wasserstoffatomen in Körpergeweben eingesetzt. Sie bietet morphologische

Informationen über die Dichteverteilung, ebenso beim Studium von Nekrosen, Geschwülden, Tumoren, Abszessen, Schämien und anderen neoplastischen oder degenerativen Prozessen. Die Systeme GYROSCAN R und GYROSCAN S 5 sind für die Messung an Wasserstoffatomen konstruiert, während sich das leistungsfähigste System GYROSCAN S 15 auch für die Messung an anderen Atomkernen ( $P^{31}$ ,  $Na^{23}$  und  $F^{19}$ ) und damit zur Untersuchung von Stoffwechselprozessen eignet.

Contrairement aux appareils basés sur l'utilisation des Rayon X ou d'isotopes radioactifs, les GYROSCAN n'utilisent aucune radiation ionisante: les images sont obtenues à partir des signaux de radio fréquence émis par les tissus humains soumis à une variation rapide alternative du champ électromagnétique. L'imagerie R.M.N. n'a aucun effet biologique et est par conséquent une méthode diagnostique sûre et non invasive pour la visualisation des structures internes, particulièrement des tissus mous. Actuellement, l'imagerie R.M.N. est fondée sur la détection des atomes d'hydrogène

de leur composante de spin. Des résultats cliniques des tissus mous, d'excellents résultats ont été obtenus dans la détection d'oedèmes cérébraux et l'étude de processus pathologiques tels que les nécroses, ischémies, et différents types de tissus néoplasmatiques ou dégénérescents. La gamme GYROSCAN comprend le 'S 5' et le 'R', deux appareils destinés à l'imagerie protonique, ainsi que le 'S15', permettant également l'étude des processus métaboliques spécifiques en observant d'autres éléments tels que le phosphore ( $P^{31}$ ), le sodium ( $Na^{23}$ ) et le fluor ( $F^{19}$ ).

The GYROSCAN family includes the 'S5' and 'R', two members dedicated to proton imaging with the most powerful member of the family, the 'S15', giving additional possibilities to observe specific metabolic processes by looking at other elements, such as  $P^{31}$ ,  $Na^{23}$  and  $F^{19}$ .

... and all early 1.5T MR instruments had  $Na^+$  options

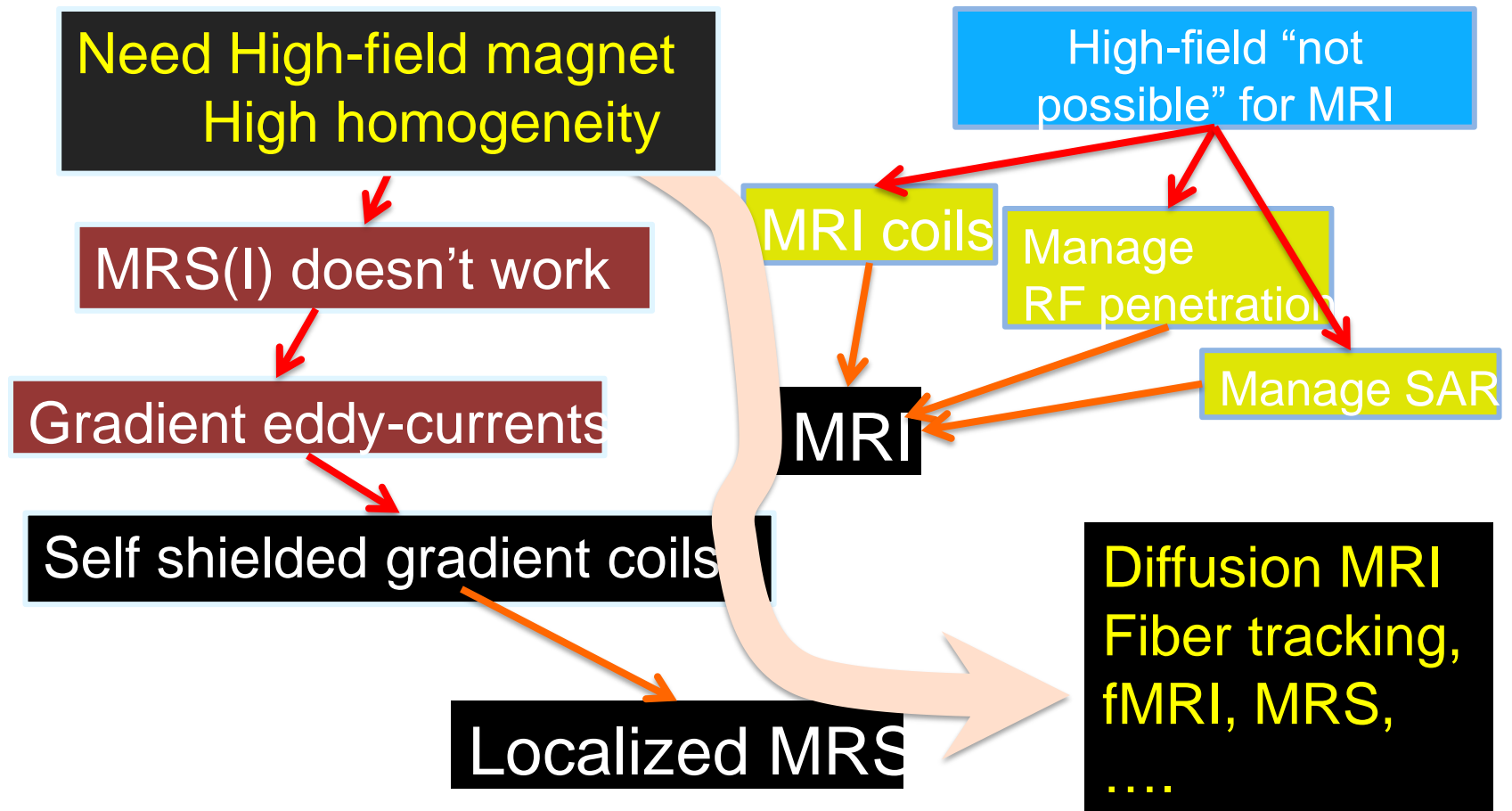
**PHILIPS**



# Results combined MRS efforts for after 1990:

- Ahead with MRS(I)
- Drive for MRI developments (Patents)

## How MR spectroscopy saved brain MRI



# Technical University Delft

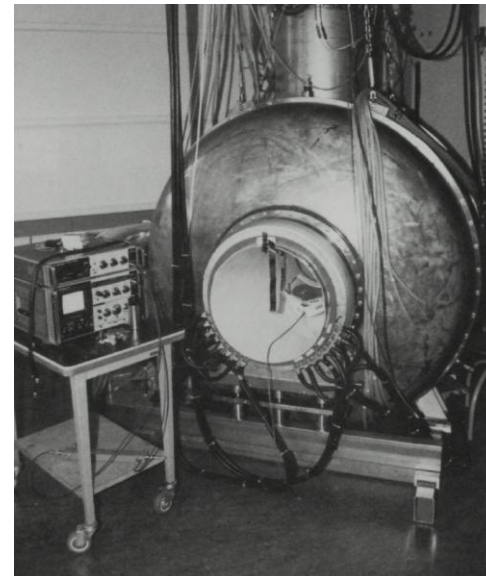
Applied Physics Department: MR and Low temperature groups

~1980 - 1988

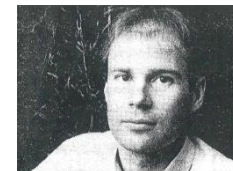
A 1.5 T superconducting magnet with closed cooling system for spin-imaging: an outline

K Pieterman and H Postma

Cryogenics, February 1984, pages 59 to 62.



First quadrature coil



Van Stekelenburg



JOURNAL OF MAGNETIC RESONANCE **95**, 396-404 (1991)

**A Single-Shot Localization Pulse Sequence Suited for Coils with Inhomogeneous RF Fields Using Adiabatic Slice-Selective RF Pulses**

J. SLOTBOOM, A. F. MEHLKOPF, AND W. M. M. J. BOVÉE

*Department of Applied Physics, Delft University of Technology, P.O. Box 5046,  
2600 GA Delft, The Netherlands*

THE LASER sequence !



## 2D Approach to Quantitation of Inversion-Recovery Data

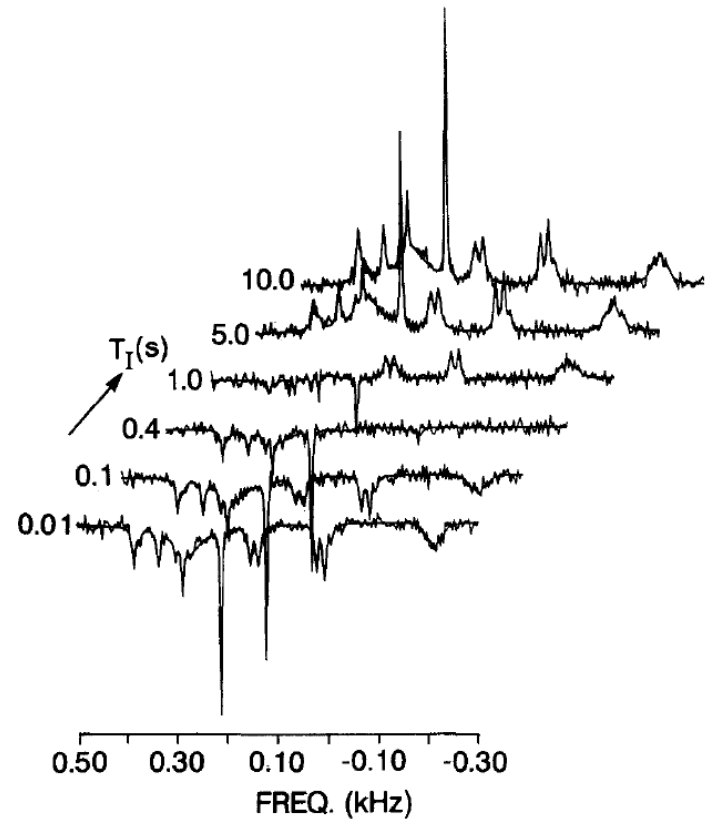
D. VAN ORMONDT AND R. DE BEER

*Applied Physics Department, Delft University of Technology, The Netherlands*

A. J. H. MARIËN, J. A. DEN HOLLANDER, P. R. LUYTEN,  
AND J. W. A. H. VERMEULEN

*Philips Medical Systems, Best, The Netherlands*

JOURNAL OF MAGNETIC RESONANCE **88**, 652–659 (1990)



2D time domain model function

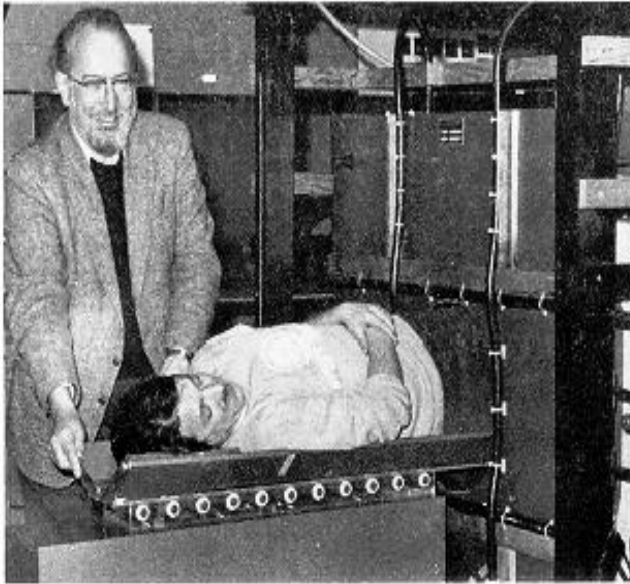
Decanniere C., **Van Hecke P.**, Chen H., **Van Huffel S.**, Van der Voort C., **Van Ormondt D.**,  
Comparison of model function fitting algorithms for the quantification of strongly overlapping peaks in 31P NMR spectra",  
*Proc. of the Society of Magnetic Resonance in Medicine, Twelfth Annual Scientific Meeting, New York, Aug. 1993*, 972 p.,

Decanniere C., **Van Hecke P.**, Vanstapel F., Chen H., **Van Huffel S.**, Van der Voort C., Van Tongeren B., **Van Ormondt D.**,  
Evaluation of signal processing methods for the quantification of strongly overlapping peaks in 31P NMR spectra",  
*Journal of Magnetic Resonance B*, vol. 105, **1994**, pp. 31-37..

→ jMRUI for MRS postprocessing

# 1981-1982

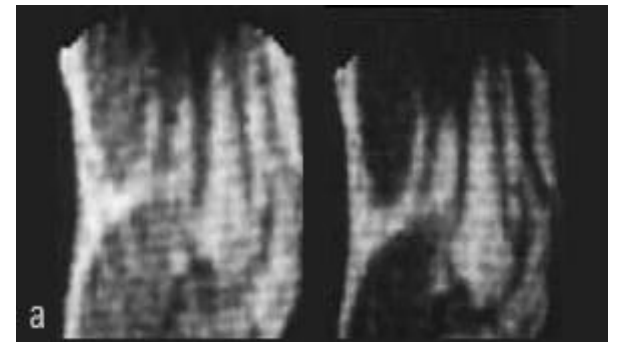
*Dr. Paul C. Lauterbur demonstrates the test model of the Nuclear Magnetic Resonance. Participating in the test is Dr. Robert Muller from Belgium's University of Mons who is spending the year working with Dr. Lauterbur.*



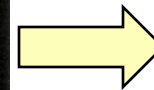
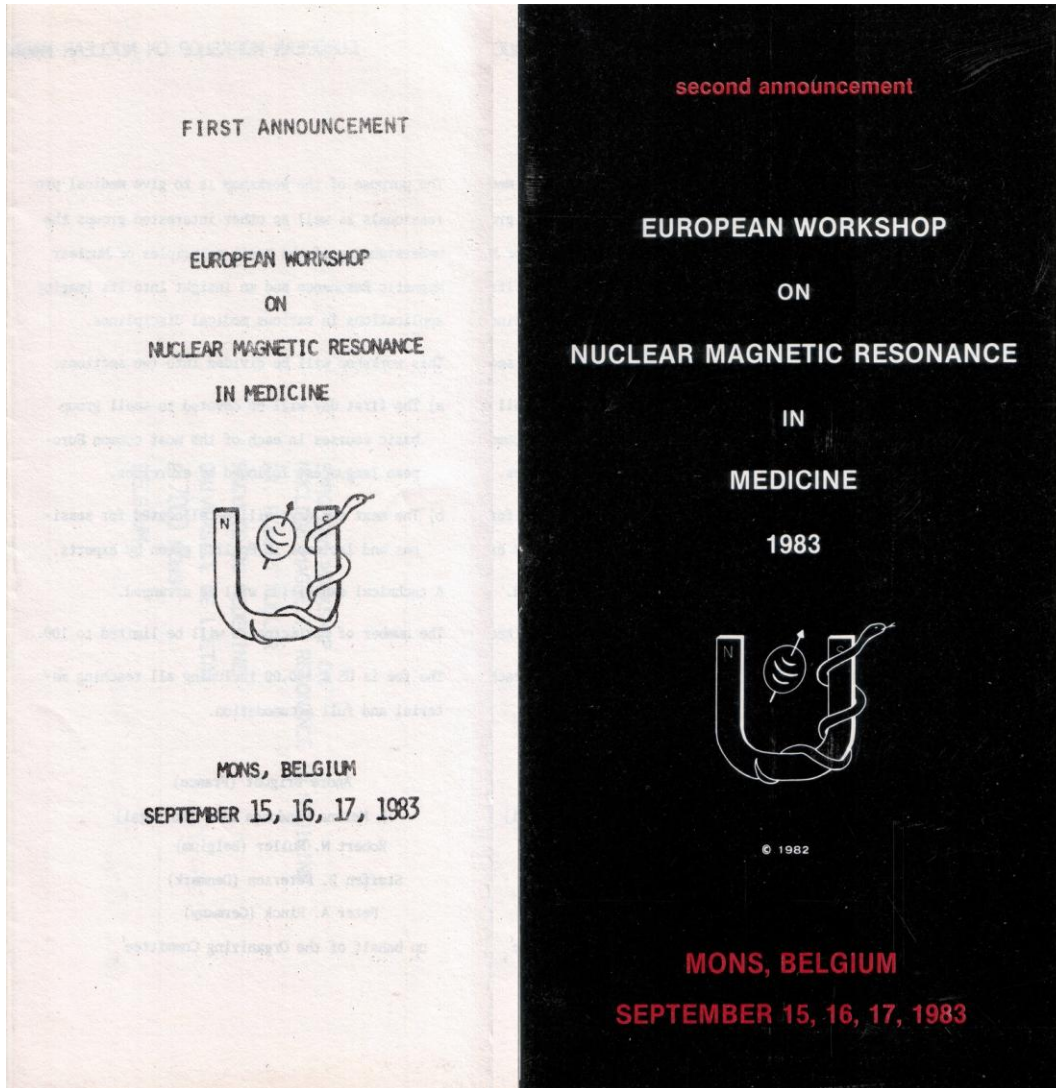
Robert Muller

Mons University

**Muller RN**, Marsh MJ, Bernardo ML, Lauterbur PC.  
True 3-D imaging of limbs by NMR zeugmatography  
with off-resonance irradiation.  
Eur J Radiol **1983**; 3: 286-290.



# 1983 First European *in vivo* NMR workshop



ESMRMB 1985

president 1988



# First installations clinical MR in Belgium

**1983 – 1985**, 2 Technicare 0.15 T resistive magnet machines in private clinics in

- Charleroi (prof M. Collard)
- Middelheim (prof A. Lowenthal)

Appel B, Muller RN, Collard M, Moens E, Mortelmans L, Martin J, Lowenthal A.

**NMR approach of the periventricular white matter.** *Arch Int Physiol Biochim* **1985** 93(5):19

**Abstract:** From a series of 117 neurological patients presenting a pathological periventricular white matter signal on NMR, ....., on their localization in the brain, and on the calculated apparent T2 (T2\*\*) values achieved with the single multi-echos technique ...

- Installations “illegal”, i.e. before governmental regulations w.r.t. MR acquirement (~beds)

**1987 – 1989**, regulations and governmental funding of 0.5 - 1.5T machines

- UZ Gent, VU Brussels, KU Leuven, CHU Liège (Siemens)
- UC Louvain, UL Bruxelles (Philips)



Balériaux D, Deroover N, Hermanus N, Segebarth C.

*Diagn. Imaging Clin Med* **MRI of the spine.**

**1986**;55(1-2):66.

**On 0.5T Philips Gyroscan**

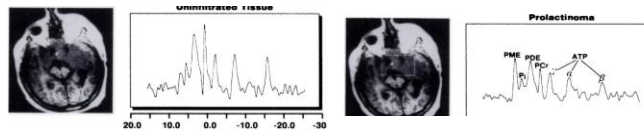


Christoph M. Segebarth, PhD • Danielle F. Balériaux, MD  
Douglas L. Arnold, MD, PhD • Peter R. Luyten, PhD • Jan A. den Hollander, PhD

**MR Image-guided P-31 MR Spectroscopy  
in the Evaluation of Brain Tumor Treatment<sup>1</sup>**

**Radiology** 1987; 165:215-219

<sup>1</sup> From the Hôpital Erasme, Université Libre de Bruxelles, Bruxelles, Belgium (C.M.S.,



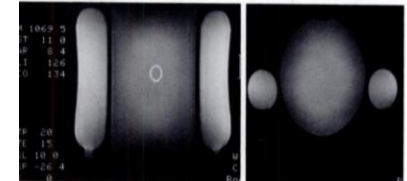
Former PhD student  
Jean Jeener



Van Hecke PE, Marchal GJ, Baert AL

Use of shielding to prevent folding in MR imaging.  
Radiology. 1988 May;167(2):557-8.

University of Leuven



**Achten R**, Demeirleir K, Van Cauteren M, Osteaux M.

In vivo magnetic resonance spectroscopy of muscle metabolism.

J Belge Radiol. 1988;71(2):255-7.

University of Gent



**Carlier PG**, Grandjean J, Michel P, D'Orio V, Rorive GL.

Arterial metabolism as studied in vitro by NMR: preliminary results in normotensive and hypertensive aortas.

Arch Int Physiol Biochim. 1985 Dec;93(5):107-18

University of Liege

**1991 – 1992**, Installation first MRI in Luxembourg (CHL), GE 1.5T



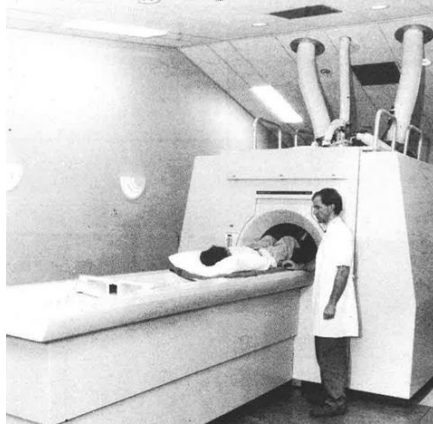
# First installations clinical MR in the Netherlands

**1983 – 1984** Leiden: 0.15T Philips Gyroscan R (van Voorthuisen)

**1983 – 1985** Amsterdam VU: 0.6T Technicare (Valk),

**1985 – 1987** Utrecht, Groningen, Leiden 0.5 – 1.5 T Philips

} Funding under regulation by law (art 18)



Utrecht : Gyroscan S15 with visitor J Barentsz

The Netherlands' initial experience with NMR imaging.

Falke TH, Ziedses des Plantes BG Jr, van Voorthuisen AE.

Diagn Imaging Clin Med. 1984;53(1):43

**Abstract.** A survey is provided of the first clinical results of NMR scanning with an experimental 0.14-Tesla resistive magnet system at Philips Medical Systems at Eindhoven. Between 1981 and 1983, 173 NMR examinations were performed on 43 healthy volunteers and 130 patients.

Contrast enhanced magnetic resonance imaging of the brain using gadolinium-DTPA

**Valk J, de Slegte RG, Crezee FC, Hazenberg GJ, Thjaha SI, Nauta JJ.**

*Acta Radiol.* 1987 28(6):659-65



**1989:** Local chair (I)SMRM Amsterdam



**1987 – 1990** Regulations relieved → funding for 6 more installations .....

The role of MR imaging in carcinoma of the urinary bladder.

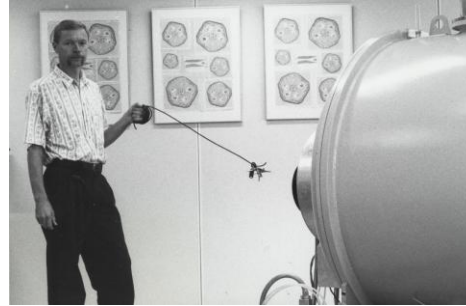
Barentsz JO, **Ruijs** SH, Strijk SP. *AJR Am J Roentgenol.* 1993;160(5):937



**About 1990**, need for installation of dedicated animal MR facilities  
→ high field (> 4T), horizontal wide-bore (mouse, rats, ...)

## 1991

- Dutch in vivo NMR facility, Bijvoet Center, Utrecht
- Klaas Nicolay
- 4.7T SISCO



[<sup>1</sup>H-NMR imaging of fimbria fornix lesions in the rat brain.](#) Dijkhuizen RM, Muller HJ, Tamminga KS, van Doremalen HA, Spruijt BM, **Nicolay K.** Brain Topogr. **1992**;5(2):147-51

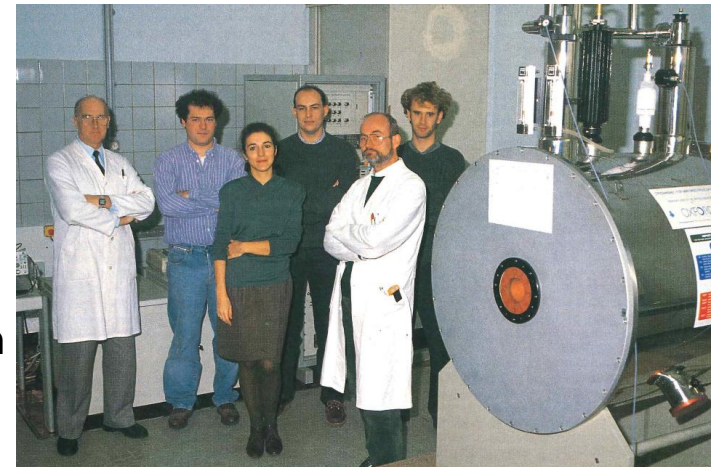
## 1994

- Bio-imaging Lab, RUCA , Antwerpen.
- Annemie van der Linden
- **First 7T MR system (SMIS).**
- ~ 1991 a 1.9T Biospec (Domisse)

In vivo noninvasive determination of abnormal water diffusion in the rat brain studied in an animal model for multiple sclerosis by diffusion-weighted NMR imaging.

[Verhoye MR](#), [Gravenmade EJ](#), [Raman ER](#), [Van Reempts J](#), [Van der Linden A](#)

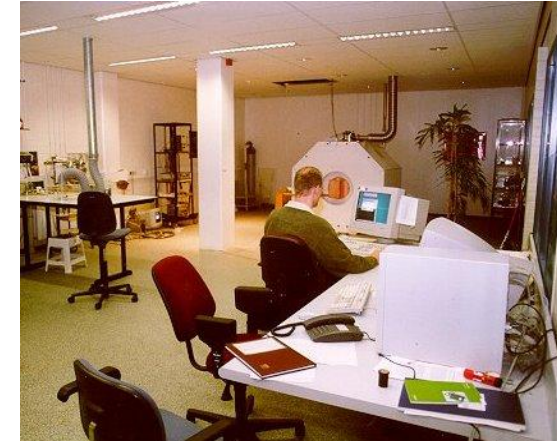
Magn Reson Imaging **1996**;14(5):521-32.



**About 1990**, need for installation dedicated animal MR facilities  
→ high field (> 4T), horizontal wide-bore

## 1997

- Biomedical MR facility Nijmegen
- Arend Heerschap
- 7T MR system (SMIS)
- 1991 ~ vertical 4.7T



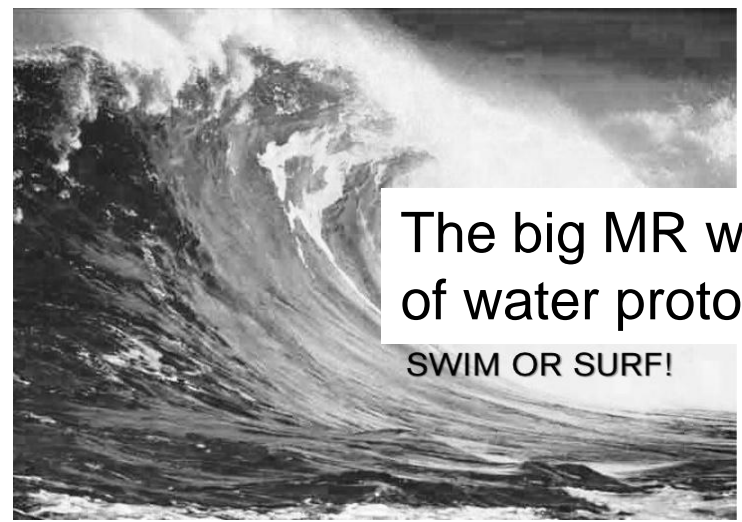
Effects of high energy shock waves on tumor blood flow and metabolism:  $^{31}\text{P}/^1\text{H}/^2\text{H}$  NMR resonance study. Smits G, Cornel E, van de Boogert E, Oosterhof G, Debruyne F, Schalken J, Heerschap A. NMR Biomed. **1994**;7:319

## 2015

- In vivo imaging facility. Luxembourg Institute of Health
- Olivier Keunen
- 7T MR system (MR solutions)



➤ In the 20+ years after 1995 .....



The big MR wave  
of water protons  
SWIM OR SURF!

➤ ISMRM Benelux 2016:

In 40 years:

from



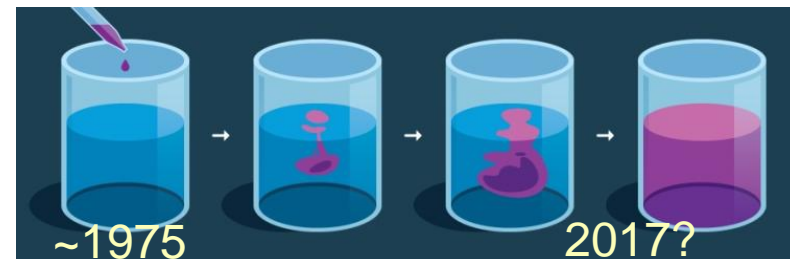
to

>300 “MR researchers”



➤ Magnetic resonance in biomedicine,  
.... more versatile and powerful than initially thought of....

➤ Developments biomedical MR:  
→ a multi-dimensional diffusion  
proces in a vast space



# Acknowledgements

Edwin Heymans  
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Sjef Ruijs  
Andor Veltien  
Pierre Carlier  
Ruud de Boer  
Jeanine Prompers  
Christoph Segebarth  
Olivier Keunen  
Klaas Nicolay

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Biomedical MR group 2015/2016

