ACKNOWLEDGMENTS
"No man is an island" (John Donne, poet).
"Nor woman" if I may add.

This dissertation would not have been realized, if it weren’t for the direct or indirect impact, inspiration and embracing support of many different people. So, I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone.

Prof. Dr. Ernest van Lieshout: I cannot thank you enough for your mentorship and guidance. You have embraced me and believed in me from day one. You are a role model for all of us: your immense scientific and statistical knowledge, your professional and personal ethics and morals, your patience and guidance. You see the best in people and you inspire them to bring out their best. Beyond work, you have also been a father figure for me here in the Netherlands and you and your family embraced us (Thea, Dideke, thank you!). Working on this PhD under your guidance was not work; it was fun! I could not have asked for anything more. Heel erg bedankt voor alles!

Dr. Menno van der Schoot: Thank you so much for your mentorship and guidance, your friendship and support. Even though you may claim that your expertise is not in the numerical cognition field, your contribution to my dissertation has been invaluable. What a team we made: when Ernest and myself could discuss “complex statistics” forever, you would always put things in perspective. You have believed in me from day one and your moral support has been priceless! Also, your beautiful family has embraced us: Maartje and Isa, thank you!

I would like to also express my gratitude to the whole MathChild team. It has been an honour to have met and worked with you all. Prof. Hans van Luit, Dr. Evelyn Kroesbergen, Dr. Lisa Jonkman: thank you for all your input, the long and fruitful discussions and all the laughs we had during our meetings. Dr. Erik van Loosbroek, our hearts broke with your loss. Your input and good-hearted spirit was invaluable. You are truly missed. Linda Essers, thank you for all your hard work; this project would not have been the same without you. It was a pleasure working with you. Ilona Friso-van den Bos, I am so happy we got to work on this together, your collaboration has been priceless; thank you for your hard work, all the discussions, your openness and all the laughs we have shared. Of course, the interlinked MathChild project has not come to an end just yet; so I look forward to all our future publications together!

None of our interlinked MathChild projects would have been feasible if it weren’t for the amazing collaboration of the schools across the Netherlands that participated
(in random order): The OBS Herman Gorter and the CB Het Baken in Zaandam, the Christelijke Brede Basisschool Avonturijn in Hilversum, the PCBS Prins Florisschool, the Prins Constantijnsschool and the Oranje Nassauschool in Papendrecht, the PC BS Gustav Hoefer, the BS Leyenbroek and the RK BS Limbrichterveld in Sittard, the PC BS De Regenboog in Geleen, the KBS Sint Jozef, RK BS Sint Augustinus in Elsloo, the BS De Bron in Beek, the RK BS Don Bosco in Stein, the OBS De Bundeling in Bunde, the RK BS Burgemeester Willem in Nieuwstadt, the RK BS Het Avontuur in Born, the BS de Vlieger in Hoensbroek, the RK BS Sventibold in Born, the BS de Hovenschool in Deventer, the OBS de Marke in Apeldoorn, the PCBS De Klimop in Wijk bij Duurstede and the Montessorischool Soest, basisschool St. Aloysius in Baarn. Thank you to all the children and their parents, the directors of these schools and the teachers for their enthusiastic participation and collaboration. I would also like to thank all the other schools that took part in our smaller part-project studies.

A big thank you to all the thesis students, who have helped with collecting data for our studies: Petra, Caroline, Mara, Sandra, Sylvia, Akosua, Elise, Lisette, Charley, Heleen, Renske, Tanja, Anouschka, Marije, Jenny, Tessa, Elike, Anne, Sharon, Derya, Merve, Bianca. A special thank you to Petra Dekker, Elise Passchier and Elaine Bisschop who worked for a longer period with us and did an excellent job.

Cor Stoof and Jarik den Hartog: You made the process of making dots and developing tasks so much fun! Your knowledge and technical support was priceless. Thank you!

Prof. Dr. Bert De Smedt (KU Leuven University, Belgium) and Dr. Camilla Gilmore (Loughborough University, UK): Thank you for your collaboration on two of this dissertation’s projects. Your feedback and collaboration was invaluable! It has been a true honour and pleasure working with you and I look forward to many future collaborations.

Prof. Dr. Daniel Ansari (University of Western Ontario, London, Canada): It has been such an honour and pleasure working with you! Thank you so much for your hospitality and for making me feel so welcome and part of your NumCog lab in Canada; it was an invaluable and very inspiring experience! I look forward to all our future collaborations. Anna Matejko and Stephanie Bugden thank you for your hospitality, your openness and the fun times in London (Ontario). Anna, thank you for teaching me about DTI and fMRI data; it has been such a pleasure working with you! Bea, Moriah, Heather, Ian, Celia, Nikki, Haley, Paul thank you for your hospitality!

Dr. Dylan Molenaar, Dr. Sanja Franić & Dr. Kees-Jan Kan: My SEM mentors. One way or another, I have learned everything I know about SEM from all of you. Thank you!
Acknowledgments

Sanja thank you for your friendship and for introducing me to the world of SEM. Kees-Jan, thank you for trying to answer my various SEM questions. Dylan, thank you for your invaluable collaboration and for managing to make SEM seem fun!

Prof. Dr. Lydia Krabbendam: a heartfelt thank you for all your support and for believing in me.

Prof. Dr. Eveline Crone, Prof. Dr. Wilma Resing, and Dr. Dietsje Jolles (Leiden University): thank you for your teachings during the research master. Your work and devotion was an inspiration.

Prof. Dr. Anastasia Efklides and Dr. Elvira Masoura (Aristotle University of Thessaloniki): thank you for introducing me to the world of experimental psychology and for believing in my potential as a student. When I was in the crossroad of a clinical versus a research path, you showed me the way.

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As tradition has it, friends, families and loved ones are mentioned last:

My amazing office roomies and best friends, Paula Gromann (Paulita), Sarah Plukaard (Sarahaki), & Kim Veroude (Kimmie): This experience would definitely not have been the same without you. You made my PhD years also my happiest years! Thank you for your friendship, your love and support and for getting me through the good and bad times. I love you and I truly could not have asked for better friends and colleagues! At this point I can reveal that the “Sarah and Peter” figures in all our nonsymbolic and symbolic tasks are actually real figures: based on Sarah Plukaard and Peter van ten Tol, thanks for the inspiration! Jeroen Pronk (Jeroenako), Stephanie Wassenburg (Stephanako), Lisanne Bos (Lissanaki): you guys arrived later, you were the “new” PhDs in the block back then, and what an addition you were! Our PhD group was the perfect mix of intelligence and “craziness”. Dank jullie wel voor jullie vriendschap, liefde en steun en alle leuke tijden!

Elena Serbezi & Sia Soldatou: Κουμπάρες μου! Κάθε φορά που βρισκόμαστε είναι σα να μην πέρασε μία μέρα. Σας ευχαριστώ για την αγάπη, τη φιλία και τη στήριξη σας.

Κ. Κούλα Ταχτεβρενίδου, Κ. Παύλε Ταχτεβρενίδη και Αριστέα Ταχτεβρενίδου: Σας ευχαριστώ για όλα!

Μαμά (Claudine Xenidou-Dervou), μπαμπά (Prof. Dimitris A. Dervos), & Αντώνη (Antonis Xenidis-Dervos): Thank you for your loving support, your guidance and inspiration. You have always been there for me, supporting my research dreams and
helping me any way you could to open my wings and follow these dreams. A thank you is not enough. Σας αγαπώ πολύ!

Νικήτα μου (Nikitas Tachtevrenidis): My love, my best friend, my co-traveller, I can never thank you enough. Thank you for joining me in so many different adventures for more than a decade now, for indulging my love for science and research, and for your immense patience and support. You are my home and my source of strength. Το σ'αγαπώ δεν είναι αρκετό.

This book is dedicated to Nikitas and to my family.

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ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Curriculum vitae
Publications
Iro Xenidou-Dervou was born in Los Angeles, California in the USA. She was primarily raised in Thessaloniki, Greece. She obtained her high school diploma in 2001 from the 14th Lykeio of Thessaloniki in Greece. After that she enrolled in the four-year bachelor programme at the Department of Psychology at the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (AUTH). During that time she acquired an Erasmus/Socrates scholarship, with which she studied for a semester at the Department of Psychology at Turku University in Finland. Her bachelor thesis was conducted under the supervision of Prof. Dr. Anastasia Efklides. During those years, Iro also undertook practical training as a psychologist and conducted voluntary work at the Psychiatric Department for Children and Adolescents at the Hippocrates General Hospital of Thessaloniki. She also worked voluntarily at the ARSIS Youth Support Center in Thessaloniki, and at the Media Village in Pallini during the 2004 Athens Summer Olympics and home-tutored third and fourth year primary school students with learning difficulties and behavioral problems.

In 2007, Iro enrolled in the two-year research master program in Developmental and Educational Psychology at Leiden University in the Netherlands. She conducted a research internship at Prof. Eveline Crone’s Brain and Development lab under the supervision of Dr. Dietsje Jolles. Her master thesis project was conducted under the supervision of Prof. Wilma Resing. In 2008, Iro was the representative of the international research master students. In 2009, she worked for a few months as a research collaborator of Jegro educatief – Serious Toys, designing an educational game for children in collaboration with Koninklijke Philips Electronics N.V.

In October 2009, she started her PhD research at the Department of Educational Neuroscience at the VU University of Amsterdam under the supervision of Prof. Ernest van Lieshout and Dr. Menno van der Schoot. This research regarded several part-projects as well as a large-scale longitudinal research project, the interlinked MathChild project, in collaboration with colleagues from Utrecht University (Prof. Hans van Luit, Dr. Evelyn Kroesbergen and Ilona-Friso van den Bos) and Maastricht University (Dr. Erik van Loosbroek, Dr. Lisa Jonkman and Linda Essers). In cooperation with these colleagues, Iro coordinated the longitudinal data collection from schools across the Netherlands. In addition, she acquired teaching experience and supervised bachelor- and master-thesis students. Furthermore, she gained organizational experience by being a board member of ProVU - the association which represents the interests of all PhDs and PostDocs at the VU - and founder and chair of its international branch: iProVU. She was also co-chair of the organizing committee of the JURE 2012 conference, which took place in Regensburg Germany. Since 2012, she has been the JURE assistant coordinator of the EARLI (European Association for Research in Learning and Instruction) Special Interest Group (SIG) 22 “Neuroscience and Education”. In 2014, Iro acquired a talent grant from the VU University of Amsterdam with which she visited as a research fellow Prof. Dr. Daniel Ansari’s Numerical Cognition lab in Canada for three months. Currently, Iro is working in a joint post-doctoral position with the Department of Educational Neuroscience at the VU University of Amsterdam and the GOA project (Number Sense: Analysis and Improvement) at the KU Leuven University in Belgium.
PUBLICATIONS (chronological order)


UITNODIGING
voor het bijwonen van
de openbare verdediging van
het proefschrift
Setting the Foundations for Math Achievement
Working Memory, Nonsymbolic and Symbolic Numerosity Processing
door Iro Xenidou-Dervou
maandag 12 januari 2015
om 15.45 uur precies
in de Aula van
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