

## Vacancy:

### EXPLORING HIGHER ORDER MULTIPLEXING IN DIGITAL PCR

#### Job description

The Ghent University Digital PCR Consortium (<https://dpcr.ugent.be>) is a multidisciplinary collaboration of four Ghent University research groups who have extensive expertise in the digital polymerase chain reaction (dPCR). This technology enables unparalleled absolute quantification of multiple nucleic acid targets in a single reaction, but there is an unmet need for tools to design such assays and perform the subsequent automated data analysis.

We are looking for a doctoral fellow who will be working on an interdisciplinary project to design and perform higher order multiplexing assays in digital PCR. You will have access to the newest dPCR instruments and to relevant biological samples from human and veterinary patients. This work will allow to design new types of assays for various applications, such as cancer, virology or basic research and the development of a bioinformatics tool to perform data analysis of this specific type of digital PCR output.

The promoters of this project are: Prof. Ward De Spiegelaere and Dr. Wim Trypsteen. Guidance will also be provided by Prof. Olivier Thas, and Prof. Jo Vandesompele. More information on our consortium can be found on <https://dpcr.ugent.be>

#### We offer

- A full time PhD position at Ghent University for 4 years
- A multidisciplinary environment across different Ghent University faculties, including the faculties of Medicine and Health sciences, Veterinary Medicine and Sciences
- The possibility to work on a state-of-the-art technology and use this technology for various applications through national and international collaborations.
- Opportunity to present your work at leading international conferences
- Opportunity to help in the organization and teaching of international specialist courses on digital PCR.

#### We are looking for

You are holding a master degree in one of the life sciences (e.g. biology, bioscience-engineering, biomedicine, biotechnology, pharmacy or equivalent). Furthermore, you have:

- A strong interest in molecular biology and genetics
- An interest in interdisciplinary research
- An interest in programming languages such as R, Python, ... (some experience is a plus)
- Good interpersonal skills
- Fluency in spoken and written English

**Interested?** Please mail your CV and motivation letter before 14 August 2020 to [Ward.DeSpiegelaere@UGent.be](mailto:Ward.DeSpiegelaere@UGent.be)