

Acknowledgements

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It should be said that the original subject of this thesis was rather different: it was a more ambitious attempt to give a model for word meaning that was at the same time philosophically plausible, psychologically realistic, and linguistically applicable. In this original set-up, I also had Renée van Hezewijk as a co-promotor and I would like to thank him for the time he invested in guiding me through the psychological literature, even though this aspect does not appear in the present thesis.

Jan van Eijck was the one who originally came up with the idea of investigating Formal Concept Analysis, albeit in a very different setting: his idea had to do with the previous subject of this thesis, and he suggested to model prototypes by means of FCA. As said in the thesis, the idea to apply FCA to dictionaries came from the thesis of Uta Priß, although I cannot remember how or why I came across her thesis.

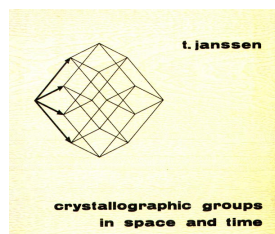
I owe a lot of thanks to Vincent van Oostrom. He helped me with many logical puzzles, often explained new logical theories to me, and checked a number of proofs for this thesis. Furthermore, he often provided me with critical remarks, questions, suggestions, and last but not least many hours of pleasant conversation.

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Finally, I would like to end with a list of names of people. People usually read this section to find their own name, so giving a long list of names should satisfy this wish for many. The people on this list may or may not have had anything to do with my thesis, and are a mixture of friends, family, and colleagues. The list is in alphabetic order, so the people I like best are mentioned first. I hope and assume that I forgot to put a great many people on this list. So here it goes: Anna Mlynarczyk, Annet Geerlings, Anouschka Busch, Astrid Porsius, Balazs Suranyi, Bart Drykoningen, Carolien Porsius, Cilia Witteman, Daniëlle van den Burg, Dimitri Hendriks, Dirk Heylen, Ellen Geerlings, Ellen Gerrits, Elma Blom, Ernestine Elkenbracht, Esther Kraak, Floor Ypma, Frank Wijnen, Frans Verstraten, Gera Heidema, Guus de Ruiter, Herman Hendriks, Igor Boguslavsky, Iris Mulders, Ivana Čače, Jan Bergstra, Janine Luijk, Jeldau Bollema, Johan Rossen, Johan Zuidema, Joost Joosten, Kate Lohofener, Kees Vermeulen, Knud Boucher, Lev Beklemieshev, Lodewijk Regout, Lodewijk Wagenaar, Manuel Tjin-a-Ton, Mechteld Visser, Menno Lievers, Mia Ypma, Michiel Fast, Mieke Stevens, Mies Dieben, Miki Logger, Nada Vasic, Nathalie Kröner, Nynke Visser, Oele Koornwinder, Olga Borik, Oscar Logger, Øystein Nilsen, Pascal Maas, Patrick Brandt, Paz Gonzalez, Piroška Lendvai, Raffaella Bernardi, Raymond Cremers, Richard Moot, Rick Nouwen, Robbert van Rooy, Robert Voors, Roelof Bosch Rudolf Hoyng, Ruud Visser, Sanne Hartog, Saskia de Jong, Severine Rutgrink, Sharon Unsworth, Silke Hamann, Sylvia Huydecoper, Ted Hes, Willemijn Lindenhovius, Willemijn Vermaat, en Xavier van Buchem.