

Preface

The second edition of this book has undergone many changes. Some parts, such as Chapter 4, have been completely rewritten and others have not been simply updated but extensively revised. I am indebted to a number of people who during the preparation of this new edition gave helpful comments, provided useful information or drew my attention to relevant publications. Thanks are due, in alphabetical order, to Meine Pieter van Dijk, Roelf Haan, Omar Salah, Anne Marieke Schwencke, Jan Slomp, Rachida Talal-Azimi and Kees Versteegh. I am grateful for their advice. It may be unusual to refer in a new edition of a book to reviews of an earlier edition, but I feel Professor Rodney Wilson's review of the first edition warrants an exception (Wilson 2011). This was truly constructive criticism and I have profited greatly from it.