Acknowledgements

This book is based on my doctoral thesis, defended in March 2008, although updates and changes have been made. As a result, the scope and focus of the book are slightly different from those of the thesis. In the process of writing both thesis and book, I have received great support and encouragement from a number of people and institutions. In particular, I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to Professor Steve Anderman (University of Essex), my thesis supervisor, who provided encouragement, invaluable guidance and fruitful discussions over the years. He is also the person to whom I undoubtedly owe my academic career.

My thanks also go to Giorgio Monti (London School of Economics) and Professor Rob Merkin (University of Southampton) for their support and helpful comments on the draft of the book at various stages.

I am grateful to the Max Planck Institute in Munich, Germany, and its employees, who gave me a five month research scholarship at the institute – they were probably the best months of my time as a PhD student. This was not least thanks to Dr Christopher Heath (European Patent Office), Professor Stefan Enkelmaier (York Law School) and Dr Beatriz Conde Gallego (MPI). Furthermore a special thank you goes to the Law Department, University of Essex, Nordea Danmark Fonden and Den Schou Beckmanske Stiftelse which financially supported my research.

On a more personal note, I would like to thank my ‘old PhD friends’ Estelle Askew-Renault and Beate Lichtwardt, as well as my colleagues at the University of Southampton School of Law: Ed Bates, Oren Ben-Dor, Gerrit Betlem, Nick Hopkins, Emma Laurie, Renato Nazzini, Emily Reid, Mark Telford and Caroline Wilson for their helpful comments, discussions, and not least for keeping me sane throughout the final years of writing.

A special thank you goes to Tina Christensen, Christina Hall Frederiksen and Kim Vejen Larsen, without whose wisdom, encouragement and whip I would never have embarked upon a PhD – so: thank you, it meant the world!

Finally, to my family: Paul, my (patient and ever-supportive) other half, my parents, Gunver and Ole, and, last but not least, my sister Anne: thank you for being there for me during the ups and downs.