## **PREFACE**

This book grew out of my interest in different facets of categorial grammar, which covers a period of five years. The structure of the book shows traces of its derivational history. Chapters 3 and 2 are based in part on Moortgat (1988a) and (1988c), which were originally written in 1985 and 1986. I thank D. Reidel Publishing Company for the permission to use a section from my (1988a). In the original papers the emphasis is on linguistic analysis; in the present context, morphosyntactic phenomena are adduced to illustrate the consequences of the Lambek approach on global grammatical architecture. For more extensive argumentation, and analysis of numerous additional phenomena, the reader can consult the original papers.

It is a pleasure to express my gratitude to all those who helped me, first of all to Flip Droste and Johan van Benthem. Flip Droste introduced me to linguistics and brought me into contact with Montague's writings, so he bears a heavy responsibility for the course I have taken. Johan van Benthem's inspiring work incited me to study the Lambek systems, and the logical perspective on categorial derivability. His guidance during the preparation of this book, his untiring comments and stimulating suggestions have determined the final shape to a large extent, and the book would have gained a lot in terms of soundness and completeness if I had incorporated more of his advice.

Acknowledging indebtedness to a large group of people poses interesting problems of presentation. I will stay close to the format of the Homeric Catalogue of Ships, and keep them geographically ordered. I migrated to Holland because the intellectual climate here struck me as ideal for the study of linguistics in general and formal semantics in particular. I got convinced of this on the train, while reading Thomason (1974), when a casual fellow-traveler invited me to briefly explain (between Haarlem and Amsterdam) the gist of Montague's Formal Philosophy. But why Leiden? It is well known that Einstein, when he was looking for a job, preferred Princeton to Leiden, after having been informed that at the latter University, the transition between life and death is almost unnoticeable. Thanks to Teun Hoekstra and Harry van der Hulst I found out that from a linguistic point of view it can be a very lively place. Over the years, we collaborated on many enterprises and I greatly benefited from their stimulating company. Besides that, they are invaluable informants on disciplines not covered in this book.

My interest in flexible categorial grammar stems originally from the categorial developments emanating, at that time, from Groningen: xii PREFACE

the work of Gosse Bouma, Jan van Eijck, Jack Hoeksema, Elias Thijsse, Ron van Zonneveld, and Frans Zwarts has deeply influenced my thinking. Alice ter Meulen and Theo Janssen encouraged me to investigate the consequences of compositionality for the study of morphology and the lexicon-syntax interface; a concern for compositionality, in empirically interesting forms, is the cantus firmus underlying the following chapters. The participants of the Amsterdam colloquium 'Montague grammar and related topics' provided me with valuable feedback on embryonic forms of the material discussed here, and brought me into contact with many 'related topics' from which I learned a lot.

The Dutch Lexicological Institute (INL) provided optimal facilities for writing this book. But the grand time scale of the Institute (its main project, the Dutch historical dictionary, is measured in centuries, and classifies its editors by generations) is not without dangers, when one is engaged in a quickly developing field of research: it is of vital importance to get occasional forceful external stimuli, in order to write down things that would no doubt be better articulated if I had thought them over for an extra five years. While working on these investigations I twice had the chance of visiting the States on the occasion of the LSA Linguistic Institute, at UCLA in 1983 and at Stanford in 1987, thanks to the financial support of the INL, the Dutch Organization for the Advancement of Pure Research (ZWO, now NWO), and CELEX. This book has benefited in many ways from the teaching of and/or stimulating conversations with people I met during these visits, especially Emmon Bach, Bob Carpenter, Gerald Gazdar, Abel Gerschenfeld, Ed Keenan, Ewan Klein, Glynn Morrill, Remo Pareschi, Barbara Partee, Carl Pollard, Tom Roeper, Ivan Sag, Sue Schmerling, Stuart Shieber, Therese Torris, Hans Uszkoreit, Susan Warwick, Kent Wittenburg and Mary Wood, I am particularly indebted to Philip Miller, Dick Oehrle, Mark Steedman and Anna Szabolcsi for valuable comments and constructive criticism of earlier versions of various chapters which led to many improvements in style and content. Equally important were the categorial conferences held in Tucson in 1985 and in Amsterdam in 1987: I thank the organizers for giving me the opportunity to present the germs of Part One and Two, respectively.

In 1987 I had the occasion to treat parts of this book as a guest lecturer at the Universities of Tilburg and Leiden. I thank Jan van Eijck and Harry van der Hulst for making this possible. The first chapter is the result of the courses I taught, and owes a great deal to the alertness of the people who attended them.

During the last two years, a number of ideas from Part Two have been implemented for the morphosyntactic analysis of the INL text corpus, a project executed in cooperation with the Nijmegen Centre for Lexical Information (CELEX). Implementation of immaculate PREFACE xiii

theoretical ideas could be a horrible shock -- thanks to Dirk Heylen and Ton van der Wouden it was a challenging experience which in turn generated many fruitful ideas. I thank them also for expertly shielding me from every-day practical problems while I was absorbed in the last stages of writing this book. Part Two got its final shape while I was collaborating on a categorial parsing project with the ITI group of TNO (Brigit van Berkel, Erik-Jan van der Linden and Adriaan van Paassen) and owes a lot to their enthusiasm and penetrating feedback. Colin Ewen helped me at a critical point when proportional spacing threatened to turn the many derivation trees into utter chaos.

Real life support is at least as important as the academic encouragement above. I thank my parents for stimulating me from the start to pursue these exotic studies. My children, Joachim and Judith, although they find my year-long preoccupation with such a simple thing as fractions a bit amusing, discovered many unexpected graphical possibilities of Gentzen proofs. Without the continual support of Elisabeth I wouldn't have started this book (and could never have finished it): it is dedicated to her.

Leiden, August 1988