# Acknowledgments

I would like to thank the people who helped me in the course of this thesis. First and foremost these are my supervisors, Rogier de Jong and Irene Garonna, who not only supported me with great feedback and ideas throughout the working process, but also offered me insights and experience regarding career planning. They also managed to gracefully put up with a student who decided to put his master thesis on hold for 3 months to pursue an internship in another country, for which I am extremely grateful. Sincere thanks also go to Reto Stöckli of MeteoSchweiz, who created the reanalysed LAI dataset used in this thesis and who gave valuable inputs during the final phase of this thesis. Last but not least my thanks go to my fellow master thesis writer Claudio Henry, who was always there to talk about the writing process, compare progress and share the aches and pains that go with working on and writing a master thesis.