Preface

Before this thesis begins I first wish to thank a number of people who were of prime importance during my work. Without them I could never have finished this thesis. First of all my co-promotor Harry Seijmonsbergen. Already as a first-year-student in 2002 I was intrigued by his course on landscape analysis where we learned to analyze and answer Earth scientific questions with aerial photos and a stereoscope. Since then he became for me a continuous source of knowledge and enthusiasm, a mentor. During my M.Sc. thesis we already found a connection together with Willem Bouten. Harry the geomorphologist, Willem the modeler, and I acted as intermediate. It worked, and my M.Sc. thesis ended up as a manuscript to be published in the highly rated journal *Geomorphology*. Harry, I am truly grateful having you as my daily supervisor. I’ve enjoyed our time together in Haus Juliana in Austria and the mobile homes in Luxembourg where we got to know each other also on a more personal level. I’ve learned a lot from the discussions during field trips in Austria, enjoyed the tooth pain control in the evenings and barbecue sessions in Luxembourg.

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And thanks to Mike Smith for inviting me to Kingston. We’ve spent two months together to fine-tune my ideas and algorithms in different landscapes, which opened up my mind that the methods are more generic and not only applicable in the Alps. I’m sure our collaboration will continue in the future, as we’ve still some stuff to work out in the coming year. And I hope to join you again with the next Luton Marathon Relay!

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