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Of course, I wanted to produce the ultimate monograph on all aspects concerning verbal prefixes in Polish, be they semantics, aspect, terminativity, syntax ... And yes there was once the ambition to include all prefixes in all Slavic languages as well. The fact is though: such a task is for greater minds with greater abilities and talents. Compared to my original ambitions then, this book must surely look rather diminutive, and what there is, is largely due to the input and inspiration of those Greater Minds I was lucky to have around me. I acknowledge that wholly and gratefully.

I could not have done without my chief supervisor and colleague Wim Honselaar. Without his help I would certainly have gone lost amidst my ambitions. He kept me on the proverbial rails, and more, he did in fact lay the track, points and junctions at times, especially those difficult ones. If there is any discernible direction in my shunting it is entirely due to him. It is amazing how he kept finding time and patience for me in spite of my reluctance to hand over newly written fragments, never doing so until the very last moment. This forced him to read everything in minimal amounts of time but there wasn't a single occasion that he had not actually managed to do so. It must have been so frustrating though and I know that he actually worried. Apologies and gratitude cannot suffice.

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the highest quality and I could never equal his example but thanks to Adrie I got where I am today: firmly in the Barentsen school of thought about aspect and related matters. Adrie is building the Amsterdam Slavic Parallel Aligned Corpus (ASPAC) almost single-handedly and I thank him also for giving me access.

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