ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

In four exciting years working on complex coacervation at NIZO food research, I learned a lot in the field of science and I owe it to a lot of people. This work couldn’t be achieved without the help and support of a great amount of people to whom I wish to express my sincere gratitude:

- Kees, my promotor, for giving me the opportunity to do a challenging PhD research, for his guidance, his perpetual enthusiasm and his trust during these years.
- All my colleagues of the Product Technology department, for helping me out when I had questions and doubts, but essentially for the good time I had during my PhD. In particular, I would like to thank my (ex-)roommates Charles, Astrid and Joanke with whom I had a lot of fun and who helped me an innumerable amount of times for translation and advices; the PhD group also called AAFJE (Astrid, Arno, Fanny, Joanke) and who became at the end JFK (Joanke, Fanny, Kees). It was very fruitful to have regular meetings among each other to discuss science and day-to-day problems; the “club” for the presents I found on my desk to celebrate special occasions. A lot of people have helped me: thanks to Bertus and Wim for preparing the Gouda cheese; Els for the light scattering experiments and FRAP; Fred for the advices on carrageenan and labeling (among many other things); Gerhard for introducing me to the world of customers; Hans for the SAXS experiments in Grenoble and for your critical reading of my manuscripts (it is/was very useful); Harry for the NMR experiments, your comments on my manuscripts and your everlasting availability; Igor pour nos petites conversations en français, pour tes bons conseils et pour l’intérêt que tu as montré à mes coacervats; Esther, Marja, Jan and Marijke for the great amount of times that you have saved me from tricky situations in the lab, or in front of my computer (Jan), and for the nice horse riding tours (Marijke); Cees for your advices on analytical issues; Jeroen for helping me out with the fluidized bed coating and spray chilling; Marcel for the zeta potential measurements and your knowledge on encapsulation; Marjet, for the collaboration on encapsulation projects and the good memories from our trip in Germany; Martin...
for dealing with my structured plans and the collaboration in several projects; Nel as
the account manager of my PhD project; René for your advices on cross-linking;
Roelie and Jan van Riel for struggling with the HPLC and the SEC MALLS for the
good sake of my experiments; Roland for increasing drastically my knowledge in
rheology and DWS; Saskia for your patience in explaining how to handle the Carri-
Med and for carrying out the last minute experiment; Heidi for helping me with the
administrative documents.

- My other NIZO colleagues, and especially the southern ones: José Escher and Gert
  van den Hoven for all the hours spent in the traffic jams between NIZO and Wijchen.
  Carpooling with you was very nice and entertaining! The team of FNI who helped
  me with MS Nose and flavors, special thanks to Mauritz and Rita. Thanks to
  Cornelie for the nice front page of this thesis and to my colleagues from the library
  and the magazijn!

- I would like to acknowledge Friesland Coberco Dairy Foods (FCDF) for the
  financing of the last two years of my PhD project. Special thanks to Gerard Robijn,
  Hans Nieuwenhuijse, Christel Timmer, and Miranda Huisman for showing so much
  interest in my work and for our regular meetings.

- The Softlink team from Wageningen University: Renko de Vries, Martien Cohen-
  Stuart, Erik van de Linden, and Luben Arnaudov. We met almost every month for
  interesting scientific discussions.

- My ex-trainees: Pascale Louis-Louis, Agnès Gaven, Annemiek Pul-Hootsen,
  Vincent Gervaise, and Frédérique Sanzey who worked hard during their training
  period and who contributed to this thesis. I consider myself very lucky to have
  worked with so motivated and friendly people as you! This PhD would not have
  been the same without you. Thanks!

- My paranimfen: Erika Silletti and Joanke Graveland-Bikker: thanks for being by my
  side for the final test.

- The French team: Christian Sanchez, Christophe Schmitt, and Denis Renard. Merci
  beaucoup pour votre aide au cours de ces 4 dernières années. Au-delà même de
  nos conversations scientifiques, j’ai beaucoup apprécié votre gentillesse. Christian,
  Denis, je garde aussi d’excellents souvenirs de nos 24 h à Grenoble! Christophe,
  merci de ton aide pour mon résumé.

- Remco Tuinier, everything started with you! Thanks for the nice training period I had
  at NIZO. I am very grateful for your help, trust, advises, and mainly friendship! Peter
Schrooyen, thanks for being my co-promotor during the first year of my PhD and for introducing me to the exciting world of encapsulation, for your trust and support. Unfortunately you had to leave, but it turned out fine for both of us at the end!

- The AIO’s of Wageningen University for the fun AIO trip in England; Ab van der Linde from Wageningen University for his help with the zetasizer; Paul Dubin and Christophe Tribet for the interesting and friendly scientific discussions; Thierry Kravtchenko and Colloides Naturels International for providing me with the gum arabic; Prof. Dr. Jorrit Mellema for his advices on rheology.

- The foreign guests who spent some time at NIZO and among them my dear friend Patricia!! Thanks for the good time we spent together!

- My friends who always supported me even if they didn’t (and probably still don’t) understand what I was doing during these last 4 years! Merci Hélène d’avoir relu mon résumé.

- My family, especially my parents and Thomas & Sophie. Merci de votre support perpétuel et de votre confiance, même si vous ne comprenez pas toujours ce sur quoi je travaille!

- And most of all my fiancé Rui Paulo. You were by my side during all these years and I would like to thank you for the interest you have always shown in my PhD, for the patience with which you listened to my stories, and above all, for your love. I am looking forward to our happy future together! *Aimer savoir est humain, savoir aimer est divin.* [Joseph Roux].

Fanny