

# Preface

This book emerges from three workshops held over the last three years involving all the principal contributors to the vine-copula methodology. Vines are possibly the most important recent development in dependence modeling. Their flexibility in modeling various dependence structures as well as their potential to construct rich set of distributions promises wide application capabilities. As research and applications in vines have been growing rapidly, there is a need for an authoritative handbook collating the basic results, standardizing terminology and methods. Specifically, this handbook

- (1) traces historical developments, standardizing notation and terminology,
- (2) summarizes findings on bivariate and multivariate copulae,
- (3) summarizes findings on regular vines, and
- (4) gives an overview of applications.

Many of the results presented here are quite new and not readily available in journals. New research directions in relation to vines are also discussed.

For available vine-copula software, please visit <http://risk.ewi.tudelft.nl>.

*D. Kurowicka*