# Table of Contents

**Chapter 1** Introduction  
Part 1 Characterizing the genetic architecture of inflammation biomarkers  
Chapter 2 Genetic architecture of the pro-inflammatory state in an extended twin-family design  
Chapter 3 The contribution of the functional IL6R polymorphism rs2228145, eQTLs and other genome-wide SNPs to the heritability of plasma sIL-6R levels  

**Part 2 Genetic and environmental influences on BMI and other metabolic syndrome traits**  
Chapter 4 The heritability of metabolic syndrome traits in a large population-based sample  
Chapter 5 Longitudinal weight differences, gene expression, and blood biomarkers in BMI discordant identical twins  

**Part 3 Beyond DNA sequence: Epigenetic variation**  
Chapter 6 The heritability of DNA methylation in peripheral blood: influences of common SNPs and variability of genetic and environmental variance with age and sex  
Chapter 7 Epigenetic variation in monozygotic twins: A genome-wide analysis of DNA methylation in buccal cells  

**Part 4 Twin studies and complex traits: Future and further considerations**  
Chapter 8 The Evolutionary Paradox and the Missing Heritability of Schizophrenia  
Chapter 9 The continuing value of twin studies in the omics era  
Chapter 10 Summary and discussion  
Chapter 11 Nederlandse Samenvatting (Dutch Summary)  

**Appendices**  
Appendix 1: Supplement to chapter 3  
Appendix 2: Supplement to chapter 4  
Appendix 3: Supplement to chapter 5  
Appendix 4: Genome-wide DNA Methylation data NTR  
Appendix 5: Supplement to chapter 6  
Appendix 6: Supplement to chapter 7  
Appendix 7: Supplement to chapter 9  

**List of Publications**  
**Dankwoord**