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This modest work, by no means a culmination of an academic odyssey that began way back in time and space, is nevertheless a conclusion to that stage of life where everything-else-before seems artificial and too simplistic and everything-else-after heralds the setting of reality. But the line that separates these stages often looks so fine that one might be tempted to overlook it or even perhaps down play its importance. In the process, I have learnt that the course of history of mankind or, at the very personal level, one's life wouldn't change much – may be marginally - by works of this calibre. But still, coming this far was not easy and so many people made it possible for me. I would like to take this opportunity to recognize and acknowledge a few people (if not all) who helped me in the long journey of my Ph.D. research and made meaningful contributions to this work.

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