Acknowledgements

First, I wish to express my sincere gratitude to my research guide Dr. Karbhari V Kale, for his continuous support in the Ph.D. program. He was always there to listen and to give advice. He is responsible for involving me in the research in the first place. He showed me different ways to approach a research problem and the need to be persistent to accomplish any goal. I thank to Dr. Pradnya K Kale and family for their encouragement.

Special thanks goes to my Dr. Ramesh R Manza, who is most responsible for helping me complete the writing of this thesis as well as the challenging research that lies behind it. He has been a friend and guru. He taught me how to write academic papers, had confidence in me when I doubted myself, and brought out the good ideas in me. (More importantly, he taught me how to work hard and play hard, and how to ski to reduce stress!) Without his encouragement and constant guidance, I could not have finished this thesis. He was always there to meet and talk about my ideas, and to ask me good questions to help me think through my problems (whether philosophical, logical or computational). I also thanks to all the researchers for proving me a nice platform for the research.

I would like to thank, Prof. Suresh C Mehrotra, Prof. Govind K Bichile for their valuable guidance and suggestions.

I am also greatly indebted to many teachers in the past: Specially Mr. Bharat A Shelke and Mr. Suryakant S Revate (Shri Chhatrapati Shivaji College, Omerga) for getting me interested in computer science and coming to the Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Marathwada University, Aurangabad.
I specially thank Mr. Pravin L Yannawar, Mr. Ganesh R Manza for their full support and cooperation during the preparation of this thesis and throughout the research work.

I would like to thank KVKResearchGroup and all the teaching and non-teaching staff of the Department of Computer Science and Information Technology, Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Marathwada University, Aurangabad for their cooperation, support and constant inspiration during my work.

Last but not least I wish to avail myself of this opportunity, express a sense of gratitude and love to my friends and my beloved brother and parents for their support, strength, help, and for everything.

Thank you to all.

Arjun Vithalrao Mane