Acknowledgements

I joined Ph.D programme with the intent of honing my knowledge in the field of data hiding and watermarking. Working in this field was very interesting and though provoking journey for me. A doctoral thesis can never be produced by the thoughts and actions of a single person. Repeated technical discussion, mathematical workout and simulations are the major factors that contribute to the evolution of a thesis. During this process I wish to explicitly thank various individuals who have helped me in this voyage.

First and foremost I would like to give my cordial thanks to my guide and mentor Dr. Priti P. Rege for her guidance, encouragement and support. I am extremely fortunate to have the opportunity to work closely with outstanding, highly knowledgeable, yet very friendly person like Dr. Priti P. Rege. I would like to express deep gratitude for her insightful thoughts that envisioned the topic and guided me through the entire journey to the final accomplishment of work. Her perfectionism in technical documentation has significantly molded my technical writing skills. Constant inspiration, unflinching encouragement, trust and support are the invaluable inputs to me during this journey. I am indebted to her very much.

I would like to express my gratitude to the head of Electronics and Telecommunication department Dr. A.M. Sapkal, former head Dr. M.S Sutaone, research progress monitoring committee members, Dr. Mrs. M.A.Joshi, Dr. S. R. Pathak and Prof. A.A. Sawant. They have provided valuable tips and guidance throughout my research career. Their suggestions and compliments have improved my confidence. I am grateful to the head Computer Engineering and Information Technology department Dr. J.V.Aghav and former head Dr. Jibi Abhraham for providing me the facilities and support to carry out my research work. I wish to thank all the faculties and staff members of Electronics and Telecommunication department as well as Computer Engineering and Information Technology department for their co-operation, blessings and well-wishes. I am very much thankful to Dr. Mrs. K. S. Jog for her suggestions, support and encouragement.

I am grateful to the director Dr. Anil Sahastrabudhe, who provided me sufficient facilities and resources to carry out my research work. I am also thankful to deputy director, Dr. B.B. Ahuja, Deans and office staff of College of Engineering, Pune for their support and help which they extended.
I have no words to express my gratitude towards my family, without their support and encouragement, this journey would not have begun. I am thankful to my parents, specially my father, who is the constant source of inspiration for me. I specially thank to my better half Shridhar for his moral support and my son Sarish whose unconditional love is the driving force for me. I express deep gratitude to my siblings and their family members whose well wishes and love is always there for me.

Last, but not the least I thank the Almighty God who gave the strength and courage during whole journey of my Ph.D work.

Mrs. Vandana Shridhar Inamdar