ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

It gives me immense pleasure to express my sincere gratitude towards my guide Prof. S. K. Shah for his constant help and support without him this thesis would never have been written. Hence, I would like to share the following short tale.

I started working as a research scholar four years ago, I met Prof. S. K. Shah and he agreed to be my supervisor and letting me start as a doctoral candidate at his department, since he has been truly supportive and encouraged me to develop my research interests. He taught me how to locate the problem of study and how to have wide freedom of thought in selecting the research area. His motivation and moral support helped me to expand my perspective by attending national and international conferences/short term workshops and had an opportunity to interact with many eminent personalities in the field. I would like to thank him for his valuable suggestions related to writing the good research proposal and research papers, which will enhance quality of paper. It has been an honor to be his research scholar. Apart from research, he has taught me many ethics which I am sure going to be extremely useful in my professional life.

I take this opportunity to thank Dr. Archana Bhise, Principal of K. J. Somaiya Institute of Engineering and Information Technology, Sion (E), Mumbai for giving me the opportunity for joining the doctorate studies and providing me financial support for participation/publication of my work in international conferences. She has taken a keen and active interest in timely completion of my Ph.D. work and helped me a lot in the preparation of research proposal, synopsis and thesis writing. I am very thankful to all faculty members and supporting staff of Electronics and Telecommunication Department and trekking group of KJSIEIT, Sion, Mumbai for providing stimulating working conditions, their great support and for playing the role of listening group of various speech outputs and their evaluations in my PhD work.

I would also like to give thanks to the Electrical Engineering Department and Faculty of Technology and Engineering, Vadodara, for providing an excellent research and study environment. I thank, Prof. S.K. Joshi (Head of Department), Prof. P. P. Nehte, Prof. Heena
Chandwani and all other faculty members of electrical department, Dr. R. D. Kanphade (Principal, Dhole Patil College of Engineering, Pune), Dr. Pande (IIT Mumbai), Dr. Milind Shah (IIT Mumbai), Prof. S. S. Shitole (Vice Principal, SNDT Santacruz(W), Mumbai) for their valuable suggestions and help which directly and indirectly had a great impact on my work. I also wish to acknowledge, Dr. Kotcha, for her proofreading of the manuscript and good sense of humor.

During my stay at Anand, I would like to thanks two professors. First, I would like to thank Prof. Jitendra Chaudhari for his kind support and help. Secondly, I would like to thank Prof. M.A. Lokhandwala, my roommate for his valuable suggestion and comments in my work. During my stay in V.S. Hall (Post Graduate Hall), I would like to thanks Dr. N. A. Patil, Mr. Sunil Patil and Dr. D. P. Bharambe for his constant encouragement, moral support and taking parental care such as always asking me to keep track of deadlines for submission of semester wise progress report, synopsis, thesis etc.!! I thank my friends Prof. Rane, Dr. Harish, Mr. Hemant, Mr. Riyaz, Mr. Mohit, Mr. Rahul and all other for providing me nice company and discussion in my work. I am also thankful to Prof. Nimit Shah and Prof. Rakshbhai Patel, my colleagues, for their timely help in understanding the concept of Genetic Algorithm and its implementation in MATLAB.

Finally, I owe my parents for always being there for me and teaching me the inherent value of education. Also special thanks to my beloved wife and son, for their consistence support with unlimited love, endurance and scarifies. My wife is my most valuable assets and I am eternally grateful for her emotional steadfastness. Last but not the least; I am thankful to all who helped me directly or indirectly in moving ahead towards my objective. The research grants provided by University of Mumbai are gratefully acknowledged.

Milind Uttam Nemade