ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

THROUGH THIS LITTLE note and limited space, I try my best to express my sincere gratitude to some of those people without whose help this thesis simply would not have come about. Foremost, I would like to thank the Almighty that has coursed my life across so many people and so many opportunities, and has given me the strength and health that have contributed in shaping up this thesis.

At the outset, I would like to express my appreciation to Dr. Devender Saini & Dr. K.N. Dinesh Babu for their advice during my doctoral research endeavor. As my supervisors, they had constantly forced me to remain focused on achieving my goal. Their observations and comments helped me to establish the overall direction of the research and to move forward with investigation in depth. I thank Dr. Kamal Bansal, Dean, for the academic support and the facilities provided to carry out the research work at the University. I thank him for providing me with the opportunity to work with a talented team of researchers.

I would like to record my gratitude to my Guru, Dr. J.S. Saini for his advice, and guidance. Above all, he provided me with the most needed, persistent encouragement and support in numerous ways. I must say that after starting from the scratch, it was not possible without your endless support and encouragement to come to a position where things became running smoothly. With your unconditional guidance and support I was able to publish my first Journal paper. Your inspiring guidance that I got during my work on Fuzzy Logic and Genetic Algorithm, writing and technical issues have been phenomenal for me.

The role of supportive and welcoming friends and colleagues in the life of a researcher is undeniable. To this end, I would like to thank all the present and former faculty of B.M Institute of Engineering & Technology Sonepat. I offer my special thanks to Lt. Col Yogesh Jain who always supported me and provided me extra space to complete my research work.

My Mother has always been my greatest inspiration. I owe her my heart filled benediction for being the strongest support in the journey towards my dreams and aspirations.

I would be failing in my moral duty if I don't sincerely acknowledge the unsolicited inspiration by Dr. Rajneesh Garg, followed by constant support at every stage.

Along with my supervisor, I would like to thank other faculty members of Dept. of Electrical Engineering, UPES, Dehradun for their cooperation, insightful comments and intellectual support throughout this work.

I am also thankful to the authors whose work has been consulted, utilized and cited in my thesis.

Words fail me to express my appreciation to my wife Gunjan who stood by me throughout with confidence in me, and took the load of domestic responsibility off my shoulders. I also owe her thanks for selflessly letting her passions, and ambitions to synchronize with mine.

Finally, there are my children, who have given me much happiness and keep me hopping. Each one is deeply loved in an exceptional way. My daughter, Manasvita, has grown up watching me study and juggle with family and work. Arhan, the little one, who always try to do everything to make his presence felt, each has contributed immensely to family enjoyment in a special way. I hope I have been a good father and that I have not ignored the family too much during the tenure of my study.