

Acknowledgment

Undertaking this Ph.D. has been a truly life-changing experience for me and it would not have been possible to do without the support and guidance that I received from many people. First of all, I owe it Lord Shiva for calling me to the ancient city Varanasi and granting me the wisdom, health, and strength to undertake this research task and enabling me to its completion.

Foremost, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to my supervisors **Dr. R. K. Singh** and **Prof. R. Mahanty** for the continuous support of my Ph.D. study and research, for their patience, motivation, enthusiasm, and immense knowledge. A person with an amicable and positive disposition, my supervisors have always made them available to clarify my doubts despite their busy schedule and I consider it as a great opportunity to do my doctoral program under their guidance and to learn from his research expertise. Their guidance helped me in all the time of research and writing of this thesis. I could not have imagined having such better supervision and mentors for my Ph.D. study. Thank you, Sir, for all your help and support.

Besides my supervisors, I would like to thank the members of my research progress evaluation committee: **Dr. S. K. Singh**, Associate Professor, Department of Electrical Engineering, IIT (BHU) Varanasi; **Dr. M. Z. Khan Yusufzai**, Associate Professor, Department of Mechanical Engineering, IIT (BHU) Varanasi; for their encouragement, insightful comments, suggestions and hard questions in various presentation during my research work tenure. I would like to thank **Dr. Akshay Kumar Rathore**, Associate Professor, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, Concordia University, Montreal, Canada; for his consistent support and encouragement at different situations of my Ph.D. study. I am grateful to the reviewers whose constructive suggestions and invaluable advice improved the quality of my publication derived from this work.

I would like to acknowledge **Prof. D. Singh**, Head of the Department of Electrical Engineering, IIT (BHU) Varanasi; for his help on various occasions. I would like to thank **Dr. V. N. Lal**, Associate Professor, Department of Electrical Engineering, IIT (BHU) Varanasi; for his support and valuable suggestions on various situations. Also, I would like to thank **Dr. N. K. Swami Naidu**, Assistant Professor, Department of Electrical

Engineering, IIT (BHU) Varanasi; for technical/non-technical discussions as a friend/senior during the last days of my Ph.D. study. Moreover, I am highly obliged to owe my sincere thanks to the technical, non-technical and administrative staff of the Department of Electrical Engineering, who helped me in in all possible ways during the work.

I have to thank many people who are part of my Ph.D., my juniors, seniors, friends and well-wishers. It is very difficult to mention their names here because of a long list. I want to thank them (B.tech M.tech and Ph.D. students of NIT Kurukshetra and IIT (BHU) Varanasi) with utmost honesty because without them it is not possible to reach this point. They have been travelling with me since July 2012 till today to complete my Ph.D. study. As I am a student of these two institutions, I got an opportunity to meet these many people who helped me to reach this position.

Finally, I wish to express my hearty gratitude to my father Subba Rao, mother Mary, brother Vinay Kumar, and sister Vinusha, who always encourages and lets me pursue what I like. They are wonderful and sacrifices a lot so that I can focus on my research; for that, I am infinitely grateful to them.

(Bussa Vinod Kumar)