

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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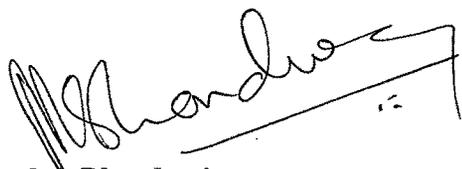
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Last but not the least, I am thankful to my parents, my wife Shweta and my daughter Namarata, who tolerated me, without complaint, during my long hours of study.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Presht Bhardwaj', written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized and cursive.

Presht Bhardwaj

October, 2007