

Acknowledgements

We are all on earth to help others.
What I can't figure out is what the
others are here for.

Joke by W. H. Auden.¹

I'm not sure how I feel about a PhD that lasted three years; I could have done another one! I won't lie, it was painful (and often is) but always for the wrong reasons: alienation, competition, engineers, Paris (this heaven and hell), war; you name it! Yet, I can't but owe my existence to a certain set of people and institutions that helped me reside even temporarily into the imaginary. Don't be fooled: humans are flawed! However, what makes them unique is their mean and their variance [Sapolsky, 2018]. Below, I mine the mean plus the variance.

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¹Recited by Marvin Minsky in "How To Solve All The Problems In The World" at *ideaCity03*.

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