

# Preface

Two of us had necessary research experience in the broad area of optimal designs. One of us had necessary exposition in the area of response surface-related optimal designs. The remaining one had adequate experience in handling factorial designs. Two of us ventured into this emerging area of optimal mixture designs several years back. The other two joined hands and strengthened the research collaboration to the extent that all of us together could see the emergence of a research-level monograph within a reasonable time frame.

We have tried to present and explain, in our own way, the techniques needed for handling the optimal designing problems related to the general area of mixture models and specific areas of applications of such models.

We will consider our efforts rewarded if the readers find the presentations in order and derive enough creative interest in pursuing the research topics further.

Professor Kirti R. Shah has showered unbounded research opportunity on two of us for over 20 long years or so. He has obliged us by very kindly agreeing to write the Foreword for this monograph.

We have a very special point to make. The whole exercise was academically challenging to one of us who had no exposure to this area of research. But with sheer interest, enthusiasm, and dedication, this special collaborator exceeded all our expectations and rightfully deserved a position on the front page of the publication.

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