Acknowledgments

This project has been an enriching experience in many ways. It was a privilege to be part of a team consisting of so many talented people, and I learned much from them. It was by trial and error that I learned how to manage the design of a large program that does not all fit into my head at once. Interaction with my colleagues encouraged the development of the formal specifications of BAM syntax and semantics, which greatly eased interfacing the compiler with the rest of the system. The use of the compiler by several colleagues, in particular the development of the run-time system in Prolog by Ralph Haygood, improved its robustness.

I wish to thank all those who have contributed in some way to this work. Al Despain is a wonderful advisor and a source of inspiration to all his students. Paul Hilfinger's fine-tooth comb was invaluable. Bruce Holmer's unfailing sharpness of thought was a strong support. I also would like to thank many friends, especially Ariel, Bernt, Francis, Hervé, Josh, Mireille, Sue, and Dr. D. von Tischtiegel. Veel dank ook aan mijn familie, et gros bisous pour Brigitte.

This research was partially sponsored by the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DoD) and monitored by Space & Naval Warfare Systems Command under Contract No. N00014-88-K-0579.