Acknowledgment

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to my research supervisor Dr. P. V. Ananda Mohan, R&D Division, ECIL, Bangalore for his inspiring guidance to explore new ideas, advice and encouragement throughout the course of this research. He has provided the guidelines for the work, supported and corrected me at difficult times with valuable suggestions. His constant encouragement and thought provoking discussions were helpful for timely completion of my research. I was fortunate enough to come across him as guide. I am extremely grateful to my research co-supervisor Dr. K. Gopalakrishna Prabhu, Registrar, Manipal University, Manipal, who has been involved in the supervision of this research work. I thank him for his encouragement, valuable suggestions and timely help in accomplishing official formalities despite his administrative engagements.

My thanks are also due to Dr. Vinod V. Thomas, Director, M.I.T. and Dr. D. Srikanth Rao, Joint Director, M.I.T. for their continuing support and encouragement during the course of this research work. My special thanks to Dr. K. Prabhakar Nayak, Head, Department of Electronics and Communication Engineering, Dr. Raviraja Adhikari, Associate Director (Research and Consultancy) and Doctoral Advisory Committee members Dr. Udipi C. Niranjan, Dr. M. S. Bhat, and Dr. Niranjan Chipulankar for their valuable suggestions.

My special thanks are due to Dr. Mahant Shetti, M.D, Karmic Microelectronics Pvt. Ltd, Manipal and engineers namely Mr. Madan, Mr. Kiran Damle, Mr. Raghavendra Hebbar and Mr. Pavan Sharma for their technical support and useful discussions.

Finally, I owe much thanks to my wife Dr. Sudha. D. Kamat, son Vishal and daughter Vaishnavi for their patience and understanding. I am reminded of the help and encouragement rendered to me by faculty friends and well-wishers at this moment. My sincere thanks to all of them.

Dattaguru.V. Kamat
Assistant Professor-Selection Grade
Department of Electronics and Communication,
Manipal Institute of Technology,
Manipal University, Manipal-576104, India.