ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I would like to express my deep sense of gratitude and respect to Prof. V. Kamakshi Prasad for considering me as his scholar and guided me towards successful completion of this research work. His qualities as a teacher, guide and philosopher have attracted me immensely. His discipline and hard work are the great sources of inspiration for me. Association with him for the last six years is a golden part of my life. I sincerely thank him for all the support and encouragement provided besides the valuable time spent with me in discussions.

Sincere thanks to my friend Mr. K. Ananda Kumar for sparing his valuable time and helping me in all respects in completion of this thesis. His philosophical approach towards life and research boosted my self-confidence.

My special thanks to Mr. S. Willson Naik, Assistant Professor in University of Hyderabad for his valuable time to clarify my doubts. The discussion with him helped me a lot in understanding the concepts of thinning. I also thank him for his valuable suggestions at crucial times throughout my work.

I render my thanks to Mr. A. Jitender Phamar, IIT-KGP, who helped me in learning image processing related concepts.
I could not imagine my research work without my friends Sai Nadh, Rajeswara Rao and Nagesh.

I am thankful to Prof. O. B. V. Ramanaiah, Prof. A. Damodaram, Prof. M. Srinivasa Rao, Prof. S. Durga Bhavani, Prof. G. Vijaya Kumari and other staff members of JNTU for their co-operation and encouragement in completion of my research work.

I am thankful to Prof. Col. Dr. T. Surendra, Principal, Dr. B. V. Raju Institute of Technology for his support in completion of my research work.

It is time for me to thank my wife A. Padmavati for her support and co-operation during the period of my research work. I would like to thank my parents and teachers for making me what I am today.

I thank every one who helped me directly or indirectly in completion of this thesis.

Finally I would like to thank the almighty who has blessed me in completion of this research work.

A. Jagna