ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I would like to place on record my deep sense of gratitude to my research supervisor Dr. Alamelu Nachiappan, Professor, Department of Electrical and Electronics, Pondicherry Engineering College, Puducherry for her motivation, guidance, and encouragement extended throughout the progress of this thesis. It is a matter of pride to be associated with, and getting guidance from a person like her.

I wish to express my thanks to Dr. D. Govindarajulu, Principal, Pondicherry Engineering College, Pudicherry for his encouragement and permission to carry out the research work. I am grateful to my Doctoral Committee members Dr. V. Ramalingam, Professor and Head, Department of Computer Science, Annamalai University, Annamalainagar and Dr. K. Vivekanandan, Professor, Department of Computer Science, Pondicherry Engineering College, Puducherry for providing valuable comments and their fruitful suggestions towards improving the quality of this research work.

I am very much grateful to Professor and Former Head, Dr. S. Kanmani and Dr. M. Ezhilarasan, Associate Professor and Head, Department of Information Technology, Pondicherry Engineering College, Pudicherry for their support during the research work. I wish to express my sincere thanks to my colleagues Dr. Santhi Baskaran and Mrs. R. Kalpana for their motivation, encouragement and constant support during the research work.

I owe a lot to my beloved parents, brothers and sisters who sacrificed their life and made me what I am today. My gratitude is shown to my beloved husband Dr. C. Karthikeyan, who helped a lot for the fine execution of this thesis. I am very much indebted to my son Master. K. Aswin Chinnappan and my daughter Baby. K. Niranchanaa for their support, unlimited love and affection shown during the entire research period. Finally, I am indebted to all my friends for their inspiring encouragement and support in carrying out this research.

SANTHI G