ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I would like to express my deep sense of gratitude and indebtedness to Dr. K. Soundara Rajan and Dr. K.J. Pillai under whose guidance this thesis work had been carried out. Mere words would not be sufficient to place on record the erudite guidance, sustained encouragement, constructive comments and inspiring discussions with them during the course of this work. I consider myself to be fortunate to have worked under them. They in fact have been the source of inspiration for this work. It has been a privilege and pleasure working under their guidance and it has been an experience, which I shall cherish for a long time.

I would like to thank Dr. P. Dhanunjaya Rao, Principal, JNTU College of Engineering, Anantapur, for his help, and Dr. K. Satya Prasad, Professor & Head, Department of Electronics and Communications, JNTU College of Engineering, Anantapur, for his encouragement, help and timely suggestions.

I would like to thank Prof. K.S.N. Reddy, Principal, K.S.R.M. College of Engineering, Cuddapah and Dr. C.S. Reddy, former Principal, K.S.R.M. College of Engineering for giving necessary permission to carry out this Ph.D work.

I would like to express my heartfelt thanks to Sri. P. Satish Kumar for revising the language of this thesis. I also want to thank my colleagues Sri. M.N. Giri Prasad, Sri. A. Mohan, Sri. K. Raghunath, Sri. K. Ramesh Reddy, Prof. T. J. Prasad,
Sri. Radha Krishna Murthy, Sri. V. Adi Narayana Reddy and others for giving timely suggestions.

I would like to express my gratitude to my uncle Rev. Dr. R. Danamaiah for his constant encouragement. I also want to thank my brother-in-law Sri. R. Pradeep Sam and my brother Sri. B. Gideon Praveen for their timely help in collecting the literature and solving software problems.

My warmest thanks goes to my wife Prashanti, son Stanley and daughter Mukthi for their patience and support during this work.

Finally, I would like to thank Almighty God for giving me wisdom and strength to complete this thesis work.