



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I want to express my profound gratitude to my supervisor Prof. Vasdev Singh, for suggesting the problem and for the valuable guidance. His extensive knowledge, unfailing optimism, and easy nature have made this thesis an exciting and enjoyable experience, which definitely will shape my future. I am also thankful to him for his constant encouragement, kind advice and support throughout my work.

I would like to thank Prof. R. Sengupta, Head of Department of Chemical Engineering, for providing me the necessary facilities during my work.

I express my sincere thanks to staff of Department of Chemical Engineering, Faculty of Technology and Engineering and also to the staff of Petro-chemical Technology Department, Polytechnic for their help during my work. I am grateful to Prof. D.P. Patel, Department of Applied Mathematics, Faculty of Technology and Engineering for his help and advice in mathematical modeling and simulation studies.

My special thanks to M/s ATR-ASAHI GLASS Process Systems (P) Ltd., 668, GIDC Estate, Makarpura, Vadodara and M/s Jayshree Aromatics Pvt. Ltd., GIDC, Ankleshwar for their help and support in carrying out the investigation on industrial scale setup. I feel highly indebted to Mr. Asif Rangwala of ATR-ASAHI GLASS Process Systems (P) Ltd and Mr. Hasmukh Patel and Mr. Hiren Patel of Jayshree Aromatics Pvt. Ltd.

Last but not the least; I am very much thankful to my family for providing me the cozy and lovable environment at home which was valuable for concentrating on the research work. They deserve special thanks.

Thank you all.

K.S. Agrawal

September, 2012