

To God who has always been present in my life.

To my parents for always believing and supporting me no matter what I decided.

*To my sisters, Giga, Jen and Liza, who are my best friends and
who motivate me every day to overcome every new challenge.*

And to my grandmother, guems, who is there for me even when she is far away.

Acknowledgments

I appreciate the access and support of everybody in the Optics branch at NASA Goddard Space Flight Center for the development of the work present in this thesis.

In addition to this, I want to thank my advisor at Goddard, Ph.D. Raymond G. Ohl for suggesting this thesis topic and for his constant support and patience throughout the development of this work.

Also, my university advisor Dr. Marco Antonio Rosales Medina for the revision of this thesis, my professors Dr. Eduardo Tepichín Rodríguez for his useful comments and Dr. Víctor Andreevich Vysloukh Enisova for reviewing this thesis paper.

Furthermore, I want to thank my boyfriend Colin for his faith in me, patience and constant joy, and my friends and professors Bety, Dr. Ramos, Dra. Reyla, Leslie, Liz, Rodrigo and the rest of my classmates for their enthusiasm and support.

I appreciate everybody who I have mentioned here, because without a doubt they all made this theses a little bit easier in different ways.