ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The author is indebted to Dr.Vijaya Puri for her astute guidance in suggesting and supervising this investigation. I also take this opportunity to express my sense of gratitude to Prof.Dr.K.L.Narayana, Head Of Department of Physics and Dr.R.K.Puri, Head of Department of USIC. Also thanks are due to Prof.Dr.R.N.Patil (Former Head of Physics Department), who had rendered his help in various ways.

My thanks are due to the authorities of Shivaji University, Kolhapur teaching and non-teaching staff of the Physics and USIC Department.

A very special thanks for my co-workers, Mr.Pradeep Patil and Mrs.Vandan Surve for their active assistance rendered from time to time during the course of this investigation.

Research of any kind is the outcome of cooperative efforts. Thanks are due to many friends specially Seema Bidari, Asha Yadav, Sunita Jog and Vijayalaxmi Kapali.

My greatful thanks are due to my husband Mr.H.R.Gundappa, my father Shri.N.B.Veerabhadrappa, brothers Ravindra, Sathyamurthy, Mohan and my sister-in-law Mrs.Mohini for their constant encouragement during the course.

I owe my thanks to my brother Ravindra for his neat and speedy typing.

(U.V.Nerle.)