ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

At the outset, I bow before the almighty for the path shown by him and make me what I am today.

Mobility is the quintessence of life. Stagnancy is the end of it. This work marks the culmination of four years of an arduous journey through the territories of uncertainties. It is, however, not the end of the journey. It only augurs the beginning of yet another journey. But without the inspiration, encouragement, friendship, support and guidance of so many people, this could not have been possible. To them all, at this opportune moment, I wish to express my thanks and gratitude.

This research work would not have been possible without the help, support, supervision and guidance of my supervisor Prof. Ashok Misra who has been a continuous source of inspiration for me from day one. His long experience in research work has given me scope to go to the depth of the subject with patience. His untiring hours of discussion on every problem I faced during the work, has not only got me closure to the solution but also taught me that patience and consistency in work will definitely get rewarded. I find no fitting words to express my gratitude and thankfulness to my guide Prof. Misra.

Next, deepest gratitude are due to my co-supervisor Prof. Saroj Kumar Mishra, who is not only a very good teacher with a good deal of command over his area of academic interest but also an outstanding human being. His penchant appetite for learning, uncompromising stands on morale&never-say-die attitude to mathematical complexities stand him way apart. His attitude towards research, insight into the problems and trust in me, left an indelible impression on this work. Above all, his programming prowess was of great help to me whenever I was stuck. Prof. Mishra is one amongst the very few, I would love to bow before.

I take this opportunity to sincerely thank Prof. M. L. Narasimham, Dean, Academic affairs, CUTM, Paralakhemundi for providing an ambient research environment as well as for giving me his valuable comments and suggestions till the completion of my research work.
I am also thankful to the administration of CUTM, Paralakhemundi for extending the necessary support to carry out my research activities.

I wish to gracefully acknowledge the encouragement, valuable suggestions and inspiration during my research work of Dr. Jaladhar Ojha(Retd. Reader) and Dr. Pratap Chandra Pradhan(Reader), Department of Mathematics, K. K. (Auto.) College, Berhampur.

Foremost obligation demands thanks to my husband Dr. P. K. Tripathy for all the support and dispensation he extended for all these years. His kind cooperation and encouragement enabled me to initiate and complete my Ph.D. work. He was virtually the only parent taking care of my daughter Smruti Sarika. A greater degree of thanks is due to my daughter for her acknowledgement of the helplessness in me during my research work.

Last but not the least; I owe my sincere thanks to all my family members for extending every possible comfort and support to me during this work.

I dedicate this work to lovely memory of my father-in-law Late Ramesh Chandra Tripathy, without whose blessings this work would not have been possible.

Sujata Panda