ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I am extremely thankful to my research guide, Dr. P.K. Ranjekar, for his valuable guidance and advice throughout the course of this work.

I record my deep sense of gratitude to Dr. L.K. Doraiswamy, Director, National Chemical Laboratory, for providing all the laboratory facilities. My sincere thanks go to Dr. V. Jagannathan, Dr. C. SivaRaman and Dr. M.C. Srinivasan for the instructive discussions and the encouragement extended from time to time.

I gratefully acknowledge Dr. Mrs. Vidya Gupta for teaching me the various experiments in the early stages of my work and for her critical comments and timely suggestions. I am also grateful to Dr. S.R. Gadre, Department of Chemistry, University of Poona, for developing the various computer programs which have been most useful in a number of analyses. I thank Dr. V. Shankar for taking a lot of interest in our work and for going through the thesis critically.

I wish to thank my friends Shekhar, Lakshmi, Shirish, Meena, Shubhada and Mr. Hendre for extending all the help that I required during the work and for maintaining a lively atmosphere in the laboratory. Their humour, and, at times, criticism has helped me a great deal.
I am indebted to all the members of the staff of Division of Biochemistry for their kind co-operation. Mr. S.T. Dhume, Mr. M.N. Kamthe and Mr. P.V. Pendse's technical assistance is gratefully acknowledged. I am also thankful to Mr. T. Koshi for his flawless typing.

The financial assistance in the form of a Research Fellowship from National Council of Educational Research and Training, New Delhi is gratefully acknowledged.

M.R. Bhave

Mrs. Mrinal Bhave

October 1984