Acknowledgement

Pursuing a Ph.D. is a difficult and scrupulous yet enjoyable task, in which one learns much more over the period and evolves in all aspects. During this period, my belief on the fact that, “Any difficult task can be accomplished, with hard work, perseverance and patience”, grew all the stronger. However, a person’s efforts, when alone are not sufficient to bear fruitful outcomes, the cooperation and coordination of many people involved, impart motivation, encouragement and moral support is almost essential. It gives me pleasure to thank all the people who made this thesis possible.

First of all, my deep gratitude goes to my thesis guide Prof. S. Gurubaran, Head, EGRL, Tirunelveli for his invaluable guidance, suggestions and constant encouragement during the entire period of work and for writing thesis. I believe no word could fully encompass the amount of gratitude I have for his supervision and loving support.

My sincere thanks are due to Prof. R. Rajaram who taught me this new subject in physics. During the course work I gathered subject knowledge and experience from Prof. R.Rajaram through many useful discussions. I owe my gratitude to him for having taught me some basic aspects of life which I found to be very useful in day to day life.

I express my sincere thanks to the Director of IIG, Prof. Mita Rajaram for her cooperation, encouragement. I owe immense thanks to my ex-Director Prof. Archana Bhattacharyya for her motivation, invaluable help for registering my Ph.D at M.S. University, Tirunelveli.
I thank Prof. A. K. Kamra, Indian Institute of Tropical meteorology, Pashan, Pune for his support and encouragement which helped me in completing this work. The knowledge I have gathered from him is enormous. I am grateful to him for the good arrangement made for my stay at Pune and having spent so much time amidst his busy schedule to go through my research work.

I also thank my colleagues (lab engineer’s) Mr. K.U. Nair, Mr. C.Selvaraj and Mr. Gopal Singh Rathod who cheerfully welded, soldered, fixed, assembled, cleaned, and installed all the instruments in this project involved, including digging of enormous pits and installation of mast at Maitri, Antarctica too on my request.

I am grateful to my colleagues Mr. K. Jeeva, Mr. K. Emperumal, Dr. K. Jawahar, Mr. Laxman, Mr. Sheik Bareeth for their patience, during field work.

I should not miss the opportunity to thank my colleague and also classmate from school days, Mr. P. Elango, who is well known to me from the childhood for his constant enragement, motivation, in time moral support and affection throughout this course of work.

I thank Mr. Thiyagarajan, Associate Professor, Dept. of physics, KGS Arts & Science College, Srivaikuntam, and Mr. N.Johnson Jeyakumar, Associate Professor, Dept. of physics, Pope’s College, Sawyerpuram for friendly discussions during this course of work.

I thank our institute members who went to Maitri, Antarctica, installed the GEC equipments and collected valuable data in the extreme climatic conditions. I thank the Leaders &
members of 19th and 28th Indian Scientific Expeditions to Antarctica, who helped me on various aspects to install and smooth operation of our instruments during my stay at Maitri, Antarctica.

I thank Ms. A. Selvarajeswari, Librarian for her efforts in getting the scientific reprints from IIG, Mumbai in time. I would like to acknowledge all the staffs of Balaji Security Services and Joshoph Man Power for their assistance rendered.

I am dedicating this thesis work to my parents (late) both of them uneducated but they were having too much affection and love for me and they were interested in my Doctoral Degree. Finally, I thank my beloved wife and my only son who have been extremely supportive and encouraging, particularly during difficult and challenging times.