ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The entire research work would not have been performed without support and encouragement of many people. To all of them I convey my sincere thanks. Firstly, I would like to express my gratitude to my supervisor **Prof. Ashok C. Kumbharkhane**, School of Physical Sciences, Swami Ramanand Teerth Marathwada University, Nanded for his continuous support in the Ph.D. program. He always gave me confidence when I doubted myself, and brought vision into me. Without his constant guidance, I could not have furnished this thesis. I have learned a lot on the professional as well as personal fronts while working with him.

I am thankful to Shri. Vijaykumar Katruwar, President, Pathri Taluka Shikshin Prasarak Mandal, Manwath. I am also thankful to Shri. Balkishanji Chandak, Secretary and Shri. Anilji Nakhate Joint-Secretary and all other members of PTSP Mandal for their generosity and allowing me to complete my research work. My special thanks are due to Principal Dr. A. B. Chindurwar, KKM College Manwath, for constant encouragement and support during the study.

I would like to acknowledge all the staff members of the School of Physical Sciences, Prof. R. S. Khairnar, Prof. M. K. Patil, Prof. R. S. Mane, Dr. Mrs. M. P. Mahabole, Dr. A. V. Sarode and Dr. Bogle K. A. for their valuable moral support. Their excellent teaching approach helped me to understand the concepts of research precisely.

I would like to acknowledge my seniors, Dr. Pravin Hudge, Dr. Yogesh Joshi, Dr. Vijay Kalamse, Dr. Sonkamble Satish, Dr. Pramod Pawar for their guidance in the way of learning things. I thank to all my Friends and lab mates Mr. Abdulrehman Pathan, Mr. Amol Deshmukh, Mr. Ganesh Mashalkar, Mr. Nandedkar Sarang, Mr. Shaikh Shafik, Mr. Ram Pawar, Mr. Avadhut Deshmukh, Mr. Tate, Mr. Anil Kydampure, Mr. Kunal Wanange, and Mr. M. Wakde for the enjoyable moments I spent with them.
I am also thankful to Mr. S. Hambarde, Mr. Mehetre, Mr. V. T. Jogdand, Mr. G. R. Aiendwad, and Mr. Kalaba, non teaching staff of school of physical sciences, S. R. T. M. University for their academic support during the research work.

I must be thankful to my colleagues and friends Dr. B. S. Munde, Dr. T. V. Munde, Dr. K. G. Huge, Mr. K. R. Borude, Mr. Y. J. Bagul, Mr. P B. Girase, Dr. D. B. Ravande, Mr. A. M. Kapse, Mr. A. S. Solanke, Dr. S. R. Rathod and all other staff members for their valuable support during the work.

I express my sincere thanks to Mrs. S. A. Kumbharkhane and family including Kum. Neha and Apurva for their kind nature and hospitality given to me during the work.

Last but not least I take blessings of my parents Shri. Anant B. Chalikwar and Sou. Prabhawati A. Chalikwar. This work is made possible by the unexpected love they have shown towards me. I also like to thank my brother Dnyaneshwar Chalikwar, Sister Bhagyashri Tammewar and all family members for their moral support to initiate my future. I am also thankful to my wife Sow. Akanksha and my son Pradyumna for their love and patience during the Ph.D. work. Without her encouragement and understanding it would not have been possible to continue my work.

Pankaj A. Chalikwar