ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The main results of this work were obtained in close collaboration with Drs. U. Das, S. Mukhopadhyay, M. N. Sinha Roy, D. K. Nayek, S. B. Sarkar, L. Mondal, M. Sengupta, and M. Chatterji to whom I would like to express my appreciation for exciting collaboration and a much valued friendship.

I wish to express my gratitude to Drs. B. Talukdar and D. Sen for their consistent support and encouragement and for stimulating me to continually broaden the perimeters of my work.

I would also like to express my deep sense of gratitude to professor A. N. Mitra and Professor F. S. Levin for some valuable suggestions.

I am thankful to professor S. Chakraborty for his kind interest in this work.

Wimolnya Maiti