ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

First and foremost I thank Almighty God for His blessings to complete this thesis successfully.

Words fail to express my profound sense of gratitude to my esteemed guide Prof. N. Veeraiah, for kindly suggesting the problem and for his inspiring guidance, constant encouragement and affectionate care throughout the progress of this research work, without whose help this work could not have taken this shape.

I am equally grateful to Prof. A. Moguš-Milanković and L. Pavić, for their help in recording impedance spectra for the samples used in the present investigation.

I express my gratitude to Dr. Y. Gandhi, Sri Ch. Srinivasa Rao, Sri T. Sri Kumar who have helped me a lot in completing this work.

I express my heart felt thanks to my senior scholars, now the faculty members of the Physics Department, Dr. V. Ravi Kumar and Dr. G. Naga Raju for their encouragement.

I am indebted a lot to Mr. N. Venkatramaiah of Pondicherry University for his help in recording the ESR and DSC patterns for some of the samples used in the present work.
I express my sincere appreciation and heartfelt thanks to my teachers and senior scholars Dr. P. Subba Lakshmi, Dr. D.K. Durga, Ms Anila Kumari, Ms Kusuma Kumari, Dr. G. Gowri Devi, Dr. A. Niramala Jyothsna, Sis. Showrilu, for all the support and co-operation extended during the course of this work.


My sincere thanks are due to the University Grants Commission of India, for granting me the Teacher Fellowship that paved the way to pursue research that was my dream for quite a long time.

I express my sincere gratitude to Rev. Dr . Sr. Marietta Pudota, Former Correspondent, Rev.Dr.Sr. Ursula, correspondent, Rev. Dr. Sr. Theresa Cherian, Former Principal, Rev. Dr. Sr. Mercy, Principal, Rev. Sr. Rakkini, Vice-Principal, of my parent institution Ch. S. D. St. Theresa’s Autonomous college for Women, Eluru, for sanctioning study leave to utilize the Teacher Fellowship effectively and also for the encouragement offered throughout my career. I sincerely thank all my colleagues, especially those in the Department of Physics, for their moral support and encouragement.
The help extended by all the non-teaching members of the Physics Department, A.N.U. Nuzvid Campus is greatly acknowledged.

I whole heartedly thank Mrs. Veeraiah, Chandu, and the family members of her Research Director, who provided him the conductive atmosphere to dedicate himself to research.

I would like to acknowledge the help and support of my partner in life, my husband Prathap Chandra and my loving son Vishal, whose presence in life reminded me that no matter how important physics is, there are much more important things in life. In doing this, it is they who have kept me sane, while working on this thesis.

My parents sri. K. Paul and Smt. Lalitha Devi, Aayamma Mary Kamala my In-laws Sri. G. Vasantha Rao and Smt. Kanaka Valli, Uncles, Aunts encouraged me and supported me to go as far as I want to up the educational ladder. This is something I shall always be grateful to them.

I wish to extend my whole hearted thanks to my sisters Smt Vijaya Sri, Smt Kanthi Sri, Smt Sridevi, Smt Santhi Sri, Smt Sandhya Joshi, Smt. Jyothirmayee, Smt Prameela Rani, Smt Malathi, Smt Sujatha, Smt Sunila, Smt Nirupama, brother Paul Kiran and their families for their encouragement, support and affection throughout my research work.
I express my sense of gratitude to my friends Smt Sharmila, Smt Ratna Mary, Smt Venkata Lakshmi, Smt Naga Lakshmi for their continuous encouragement during this course.

Finally I thank one and all who helped me in one way or the other during the course of the present investigation.