ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I acknowledge with my sincere thanks and profound sense of gratitude, the stimulating guidance, constant encouragement, untiring and efficient supervision that I have received from Dr. T. K. Umesh, Professor, Department of Studies in Physics, University of Mysore, Mysore, during the course of my research work. His valuable support and timely suggestions have enabled me to successfully complete the arduous task of preparing this thesis.

My sincere thanks must be accorded to Prof. J Shashidhara Prasad, vice-chancellor, University of Mysore and faculty members of the Department of Studies in Physics, Prof. D Revanassiddaiah Chairman, and Prof. A V Gopala Rao, Prof. L Paramesh, Prof. C Ranganathaiah, Prof. R Somashekar, Prof. K S Mallesh, Dr. M A Sridhar, Dr. M S Chandrashekar. I also wish to thank Prof. Ramakrishna Gowda, and Prof. B Narasimhamurthy (Retired Faculty of the Department of Studies in Physics), for their constant encouragement and support during the period of investigation.

I am grateful to, the University Grants Commission Govt. Of India, the University of Mysore and the Directorate of Collegiate Education Govt. of Karnataka for selecting me under Faculty Improvement program to complete my research work.

It is with great pleasure that I thank Dr. M L Mallikarjuna, Sri K E Ganesh, Sri Vijaya Manjunathaguru, Dr. J Mahadeva, and Sri M K Nagaraj for their help and cooperation at various stages of this work.

It is my pleasant duty to acknowledge the constant encouragement and whole hearted co-operation provided by Dr. C K Viswanath, Principal and my colleagues Dr. P M Satyaramayana, Dr. Mari Gowda, Sri G Krishna Reddy, Maharani’s Science college for women Mysore, for the successful completion of this work.

I express my heartfelt gratitude to my parents Smt. Karriyamma, Sri Beere Gowda, my Father-in-law B Sannaswamy, my brothers S B Rame Gowda, S B Sampthkrisna and my Uncle Subbe Gowda for their co-operation and support.

My wife Smt. Geetha has managed the domestic affairs and helped me in carrying out my research work. I express many thanks to her.