ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I am very much grateful to my research supervisor Dr. T. M. Aminabhavi, who has been a source of inspiration throughout my research work. I express my deep sense of gratitude and indebtedness to him for his invaluable help, guidance and constant encouragement in the course of this investigation. I think, I am very lucky to have such a type of person as my research supervisor.

I am extremely grateful to Dr. R.H. Balundgi, Dr. M.I. Aralaguppi and Dr. K.S. Amur, former Registrar and Head of the Mathematics Department for their help, valuable suggestions and encouragement throughout this research work. My sincere thanks are also due to my research colleagues Dr. R.S. Munnoli, Dr(Mrs). Bindu G., Dr. H.T.S. Phayde, Shri. V.B. Patil, Shri. C.V. Jadar, Mr. H.G. Naik and Mrs. Kamalika Banerjee for their help and congeniality during the course of this research.

I immensely thank Ms. Nena McAllum of 3M Industrial Chemical Products Division, St. Paul, USA and Mr. William Stahl of Du Pont's R & D Plant, USA for fabricating the polymer membranes used in this research.

I thank Prof. B.G. Pujar, Chairman, Department of Chemistry and Dean of Science for extending the necessary facilities to carryout this research.
I acknowledge with gratitude the sacrifices and encouragement made by my mother Smt. Sushila and father Shri Fakkirappa S. Harlapur, brother Mr. Shantu and sister Miss Sunita.

With immense pleasure, I wish to thank all my friends, especially, Mr. B.R. Patil, Mr. Somu, Mr. Shrishail, Mr. Krishna Reddy, Ms. Laxmi, Ms. Neeraja and Mrs. Shaila Modi, whose help and encouragement made it easy to complete this work. Also, I deeply acknowledge the encouragement made by Shri Jayadev Agadi, Dr. P.V. Konnur, Dr. B.D. Kumbar and Prof. T.R. Goudar during this work.

Finally, my grateful acknowledgements are due to Department of Science and Technology, New Delhi for appointing me as a Research Assistant under the Major Research Scheme No. SP/UR/204/92.

Date: 27/7/96
Place: Dharwad

Miss Sujata F. Harlapur