

A C K N O W L E D G E M E N T

The author takes this opportunity to extend his sincere thanks to Professor J.S. Dave for suggesting the problem and for the valuable guidance throughout the investigation.

He would also like to express his gratitude and indebtedness to Dr.R.A. Vora, Reader in Applied Chemistry Department, Faculty of Technology and Engineering for the encouragement and inspiring guidance during the tenure of the present work.

The author is thankful to Professor Suresh Sethna, Pro-Vice-Chancellor, M.S.University of Baroda, and Professor S.S. Merh, Dean, Faculty of Science, M.S.University of Baroda, for their keen interest and constant encouragement.

He further records his gratitude to Professor K.N.Trivedi and Professor A.M. Talati for providing all facilities during the research work.

It is also his pleasure to thank Professor S.R. Patel (S.P.University), Dr. J.M. Lohar, Dr.A.P. Prajapati, Dr.S.S. Lele and Shri S.S.Madhava Rao and colleagues for their various help.

Finally, he is also thankful to The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, New Delhi (India) for the award of Senior Research Fellowship.

N.R. Patel