

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Originally this research work was started under Dr. M.S. Patel. I am very grateful to Dr. M.S. Patel for his help. As he left the department of Statistics, M.S. University of Baroda, I, then, registered as a Ph.D. student under Professor (Mrs.) Indira V. Bhanot.

I wish to acknowledge the assistance of Professor (Mrs.) Indira V. Bhanot who carefully supervised the development of this thesis. Her kind manner often renewed my will to continue when the problem seemed insurmountable.

I am grateful to my wife Mrs. B.A. Parikh, Miss. S.N. Vahia, Lecturer in Statistics and my colleagues for their assistance at various levels.

I wish also to thank Mr. C.N. Kachhia for his very able and painstaking typing of this thesis.

Baroda

February, 1978

Ashok M. Parikh