ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The author wish to acknowledge the contributions made by many in the completion of this thesis. Prof. Don McNeil my chief advisor and Dr. Yupadee Chaisuksant provided help in preparing this thesis and guided me tirelessly throughout this work.

I would like also to thank Asst. Prof. Paktra Kooburat and Assoc. Prof. Yindee Saklertwachara for examining the thesis, and Edward McNeil for his assistance with English writing.

Finally, I would like to thank my parents, my husband, and my son for their moral support.

Metta Kuning