

## Acknowledgements

I would like to thank my parents and my brother for their support and encouragement in everything.

I would also like to thank my advisors, Prof. Don McNeil and Asst. Prof. Paktra Kooburat for suggesting and examining the thesis, and Dr. Yupadee Chaisuksant and Rebecca Oyomopito for their help with English writing.

I would like to express my thanks to the examining committee, Asst. Prof. Dr. Phongsri Vanitsuppavong and Dr. Sakchai Kiripat, and the Graduate School, Prince of Songkla University, for supporting the scholarship.

Finally, I would like to thank Lyn McNeil and Chamnein Choonpradub for their kindness when I stayed in Australia, and also Boonsanong Khumpai and Metta Kuning for their suggestions. I thank all my teachers for the knowledge they have given me. And thanks to all my lovely friends.

Wanlapa Pornwiriyaamongkol