

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

First of all, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to my thesis advisor Assoc. Prof. Dr. Chulacheeb Chinwanno for giving me an opportunity to accomplish this thesis and keeping me headed in the right direction. His patience, motivation, immense knowledge and guidance helped me in all the time writing of this thesis. Besides my advisor, I would like to thank my thesis committee members: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Prapat Thepchatree and Assoc. Prof. Dr. Corrine Phuangkasem for their insightful comments and very significant recommendations. My thesis would not have been completed without their guidance.

I would like to thank my colleagues in MIR program for encouraging words to keep me working on this thesis until it is completed. I am also thankful to my friends who supported me in the final stage of my research work. I would like to express my appreciation to Mr. Tyler for helping me on grammar checking and to MIR staff members for their kind assistance throughout the course. Finally, I would like to thank my family for understanding and supporting me in every way.