

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I wish to thank my supervisors, Prof. Tan Guan Huat and Prof. Richard Wong Chee Seng, for the support, patience, encouragement and opportunities they have given me throughout the course of this study.

I would also like to thank the Department of Chemistry Malaysia (Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation) and University of Malaya for supporting me in this study by providing me with the facilities and financial support to carry out this project.

Special thanks go to Mr. Chan Kee Bian and Dr. Vanitha Kunalan for their intellectual support, as well as their stimulating discussions. Furthermore, I would also like to thank Madam Chee Bok Chooi and Miss Hasliza, the colleagues at the Narcotics Section of the Department of Chemistry Malaysia, for their encouragement, advice, moral support and collegiality.

To my family, I am grateful to my parents for all their love and understanding. Lastly, a token of appreciation is also given to Mr. Chan Wai Bung who has been constantly giving me support and encouragement to carry out this study. Finally, mere words could not fully express my gratitude to all the above-mentioned individuals.