ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I would like to express my gratitude to all those who gave me the possibility to complete this thesis. I am deeply indebted to my supervisor Dr Subha Bhassu and my co-supervisor Dr Jennifer whose help, stimulating suggestions, and build up my interest in research and writing of this thesis.

My beloved parent, Encik Omar and Puan Shaharani, supportive brothers, Mohd Khalaf and Mohd Khairi, and sisters, Nana, Fadilah, and Syahirah, friends, Rathimalar, Jennifer, Jenice, Viki, Rohailah, Ilani, Nadzimah, Aishah, Syikin, seniors, Kak Maimun, Kak Florence, Remmy, Kak Fatty, juniors, Nena, Azwan, Rahimi, Ida, Zulfa, Liana, Wani, Rahman, and lab members, Tian, Qi Bin, Shaun, Giva, Li Min, Huan Yong, Nuri, Yasmin, Bharani, Mahtab, Nita, Fatonah, and Azah, supported me in my research work. I want to thank them for all their help, support, patient and endless love. This thesis is a kind of appreciation to all of them.