



## รายงานการวิจัย

# THE LEXICAL NEEDS OF CHEMICAL ENGINEERING UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS AT SURANAREE UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

รหัส โครงการ SUT2-203-40-12-16  
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ผลงานวิจัยเป็นความรับผิดชอบของหัวหน้าโครงการวิจัยแต่เพียงผู้เดียว

## ABSTRACT

This project first investigated SUT chemical engineering undergraduate behaviour in relation to their English language textbooks. It was found that although students do in fact use these textbooks, they tend to read the examples and problems much more than they read the text. A likely reason for this was the relative difficulty of the text, and it was hypothesized that this difficulty might in part be caused by the presence of many more "text-structuring" words (as in Winter 1978) in the text than in the examples. Using a 3-million word corpus of basic engineering and chemical engineering textbooks used by SUT undergraduates, it was established that there are lexical differences between text and applications, but these were not describable in terms of "text-structuring" words. Finally, a list was produced of the 5000 most common words in engineering/chemical engineering textbooks was produced, and it was discovered that large parts of the SUT lexical syllabus are irrelevant to the needs of chemical engineering undergraduates.