CHAPTER V

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATION

5.1 Conclusions

Partial hydrogenation of polyunsaturated FAMEs of soybean oil biodiesel has been investigated on Pd/SiO₂, Pt/SiO₂, and Pd/SiO₂ catalysts, under pressure 0.4 MPa, 80-120 °C, 150 ml/min of H₂ flow rate, 1000 rpm of stirring rate, and 1 wt.% of catalyst compared to starting oil. It was found that the Pd catalyst presented the highest catalytic activity since it could convert both C18:3 and C18:2 rapidly after 4 h of reaction time. Moreover, it substantially increased the amount of *cis*-C18:1. On the other hand, Ni catalyst showed the lowest catalytic activity. Moreover, the effect of magnesium-modified and temperature on partial hydrogenation were studied. The result showed that increasing temperature of partial hydrogenation of polyunsaturated FAMEs leads to an increase of *trans*-C18:1. In addition, it was found that all magnesium-modified catalysts decreased *trans*-C18:1 formation in the partial hydrogenation of soybean oil biodiesel. Nevertheless, partial hydrogenation reaction plays an important role to improve the biodiesel properties especially oxidative stability.

5.2 Recommendation

Finding the new type of support, which has high surface area and low-cost is another attractive study.