On the exploration of the DRISC architecture
Yang, Q.

Citation for published version (APA):
Yang, Q. (2014). On the exploration of the DRISC architecture

General rights
It is not permitted to download or to forward/distribute the text or part of it without the consent of the author(s) and/or copyright holder(s), other than for strictly personal, individual use, unless the work is under an open content license (like Creative Commons).

Disclaimer/Complaints regulations
If you believe that digital publication of certain material infringes any of your rights or (privacy) interests, please let the Library know, stating your reasons. In case of a legitimate complaint, the Library will make the material inaccessible and/or remove it from the website. Please Ask the Library: http://uba.uva.nl/en/contact, or a letter to: Library of the University of Amsterdam, Secretariat, Singel 425, 1012 WP Amsterdam, The Netherlands. You will be contacted as soon as possible.
Acknowledgements

When starting to write down words on this page, I know that I am drawing a period to my thesis, also at the same time a period to the life as a PhD student. I did not envisage this when I flew to Amsterdam as it was still far then, but the four-year time has already slipped away and such an occasion is present. However, with tears and laughs, sorrow and joy, failure and success, all past days are now still as fresh as yesterday and will be a lifetime memory, in particular those people who raised me, supported me, helped me and shared homesickness with me.

Even today I keep a clear picture in mind that my promotor, Chris Jesshope, welcomed me at the arrival gate of Schiphol airport and later arranged the accommodation in his apartment for my first night abroad. In the early days here, he also helped solve my living hardships. I was then impressed by his kindness and amiability to his new student only with a connection of just a few e-mails and an one-off Skype chat. He is also a liberal in academic research who advocates openness and freedom. Benefitting from this, I can make my own research plan, explore interesting aspects and practice any ideas. He, as a promotor, always guides and inspires me to make things even better through discussions, each of which witnessed his deep insights and erudition. That is why I am able to produce this thesis from a blank paper. Of course, his literal review and scholastic meticulousness are also indispensable to achieve this. I hereby express my gratitude to him for everything he did for me.

Although I have no official co-promotor, Mike and Raphael actually act as so. Mike introduced the simulator and explained source code to me, which initiated my learning of this completely new architecture from scratch and laid the foundation for future work; When I began to use this platform, Raphael took over Mike’s job to make me familiar with software tools, teach me how to write programs, and help me debug and deal with any simulation problems. More importantly, he shared experience, knowledge and wisdom with me to improve and perfect my work. Without his dedication, I can hardly move this far and reap the harvest today. I am sincerely grateful for their help. Mike, I hope you will finish your thesis soon. And Raphael, your eloquence and extensive learning is always my envy.

The language, research and workplace convenience conspires rather frequent communication between Jian and me. We exchanged ideas to enrich our knowledge base; we devoted intelligence to each other’s research strategies; we worked together to fix this or that kind of technical problems, and we debated intensely to seek right and reasonable answers to experimental phenomena. In this way, we collaborated with each other to make progress together. I therefore thank him for the mutual benefits and the practice of team work.
Many thanks to all the other members of the CSA group with whom I spent every working day. I learnt from your presentations and publications, benefitted from your advice and supports, enjoyed your cakes and group activities, and experienced an international atmosphere with different culture and traditions. All refreshed and promoted me, and enriched my life.

Expatriate as I am, I never feel lonely in Amsterdam because of many compatriots around in Science Park and my neighborhood. We often get together to celebrate Chinese festivals and relish veritable Chinese dishes and hot pots. The lively atmosphere and the familiar taste would be a panacea for my homesickness. We warm each other abroad and would be friends in later life, though we used to be strangers domestically. Thanks guys, you keep me passionate when loneliness approaches, and all of you (I am sure you will know although your names are not listed here) are always in the depth of my heart.

Finally and most importantly, I especially dedicate this thesis to my parents and younger sister, who are watching me all the time, yet it is still far from enough to compensate for the tender solicitude during such a long-time separation. The only thing I can do is keeping striving to live up to your expectations, and you all will be the everlasting impetus.

Qiang Yang, February 2014