ETH

Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule Zürich
Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich

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Memo internal Registration for Master's Thesis in Data Science

The Master's Thesis (MT) is the final requirement of the Master's programme. It is the result of independent scientific research and/or constructive development project including the written report of the results. The MT has to be supervised by a [professor listed on the websites](#) of the Data Science Master's programme. The duration of the MT is 6 calendar months (full-time). The MT is not compatible with outside employment. If a MT is submitted late for unfounded reasons, it will by default be graded as a "fail". In case of a failure, the MT can only be repeated once whereby a new MT topic must be chosen. The D-INFK Director of Studies can extend the deadline for submission of a MT if the student has submitted a legitimate request (sickness, accident or similar reason). Students who wish to work as a teaching assistant while completing their MT may do so only with the formal written consent of the responsible professor.

1. Admission to the Master's Thesis

- Completed Bachelor's programme
- All additional requirements have been successfully completed
- Obtained at least 32 credits in the category core courses
- Obtained at least 28 credits in the category electives
- Data Science Lab (10 credits) completed
- Obtained overall at least 82 credits.

2. Registration for the Master's Thesis

- Before starting the project, electronically register the Master's Thesis: LE 261-0800-00L in myStudies.
- Under "functions", select "project/papers/theses".
- Enter all the details (supervisor, co-supervisor, title, start and, upload task description).
- The signed plagiarism declaration (declaration of originality) is a component of your Master's thesis.

3. External Master's Thesis

A professor listed on the Website of the Data Science Master's programme together with a supervisor from the external institution (advisor from industry) must supervise the MT.

The professor from Data Science must approve the task description and is responsible for the grading of the MT. The MT candidate is responsible for continually informing the Data Science professor of the progress of their research or project. The mentor must as well be in agreement with the topic. It is essential for the MT candidate to reach an agreement with the external institution regarding intellectual property rights. Copies of the proposal for acceptance of the external MT and the intellectual property agreement must be submitted to the D-INFK Director of Studies via the D-INFK Student Administration Office. The D-INFK Director of Studies will then reach a decision. It is not allowed to do the MT while under contract with the external institution. This also means that a salary scale cannot be attached to the agreement. Certain reimbursements are allowed to a limited extent.

4. Grading of the Master's Thesis

The MT is a graded semester performance. In order to successfully complete the MT, a grade of 4.0 or higher must be obtained. The supervisor establishes the assessment criteria in a written report, which can include a presentation. In principle, the following evaluation scale is applied:

Grade	Requirements
6.00	Work and results are publishable for international workshops
5.50	Thesis quality significantly exceeds expectations
5.00	Thesis meets expectations
4.50	Thesis partially meets expectations and has minor deficits
4.00	Thesis meets minimum quality requirements; but has major deficits and is clearly below expectations

5. Submission and archiving of Master's Thesis

An electronic version of the MT, including the plagiarism declaration, must be submitted to the supervisor and the D-INFK Student Administration Office upon completion. The supervisor directly enters the grade via myStudies within 4 weeks upon completion of the thesis.

6. Intellectual property rights on Master's Thesis

Students writing a MT, creating models and/or writing computer programmes, are creators and authors of their work according to Swiss copyright law. We archive all MTs in D-INFK and are allowed to use them within the statutory regulations.

It is highly recommended to sign an agreement concerning intellectual property rights between the responsible person for the MT and the project collaborator / student (see attachment). All intellectual property rights regarding the MT and its results remain basically in the student's possession. In exceptional cases, it may be compulsory (in the course of a research project in industry) to file an agreement between the supervisor of the MT and the student concerning intellectual property rights (e.g. copyright protection for software).

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All questions relating to the necessity of such transfer agreement should be addressed to: ETH transfer, Rämistrasse 101, CH-8092 Zurich, Tel +41 (0)44 632 23 82, E-mail: [transfer@sl.ethz.ch.](mailto:transfer@sl.ethz.ch)

Zurich, January 2024
Prof. Dennis Hofheinz
Director of Studies D-INFK

AGREEMENT

between
ETH Zurich, represented by
Prof. Name
Name and address of unit

(hereafter ETH Zurich)
and
Name of student Address
(hereafter Project Collaborator)
concerning collaborations in relation to his studies at ETH Zürich towards a
Bachelor's/Master's degree/other
and in the area of research area
(hereafter Research Area)

Preamble

The Collaborator is acting as a student under the supervision of Prof. Name and contributing to research and development in the Research Area at ETH Zürich. His collaborations are carried out in the course of his studies towards a Bachelor's/Master's degree/other.

Research results of students outside the scope of an employment contract with ETH Zurich belong to the student him- or herself. Results of his collaborations ("Research Results") may be exploited by ETH Zurich, possibly together with other results that are created at ETH Zurich. To facilitate and to enable a common exploitation of all combined research results, the Collaborator hereby assigns his rights to his Research Results to ETH Zurich. In exchange, the Collaborator shall be treated like an employee of ETH Zurich with respect to any income generated due to his Research Results.

This Agreement regulates the participation of the Collaborator in research and development within the above mentioned Research Area and the rights to the Research Results being created.

1. Collaboration within the Research Area

(1) The Collaborator agrees to keep all research results confidential as well as other information from the research group of Prof. Name that is declared as confidential . This obligation to confidentiality shall persist until he or she is informed by ETH Zurich that the intellectual property rights to the research results have been protected through patent applications or other adequate measures or that no protection is sought. However, this obligation will not extend over a period exceeding 12 months after completion of his collaboration with Prof. Name.

(2) The Collaborator will make available all information, data and research results out of the collaboration to ETH Zurich

2. Intellectual Property Rights

(1) The Collaborator assigns his rights to the Research Results, including inventions and works protected by copyright, but not including his moral rights ("Urheberpersönlich-keitsrechte"), to ETH Zurich. Herewith, he/she cedes, in particular, all rights for commercial exploitations of Research Results to ETH Zurich. He/She is doing this voluntarily and with full awareness and he/she acknowledges that there are other options to participate in projects at ETH Zurich that do not require such assignment of rights.

(2) In exchange, he will be compensated by ETH Zurich in the case of income through the commercial exploitation of Research Results. Compensation will be made as if he was an employee of ETH Zurich and according to the guidelines "Richtlinien für die wirtschaftliche Verwertung von Forschungsergebnissen der ETH Zürich" of 1 May 2014.

(3) If a patent application is filed for an invention based on the Research Results, the Collaborator will duly provide all necessary signatures. He also agrees to be available whenever his aid is necessary in the course of the patent application process, e.g. to respond to questions of patent examiners or the like.

3. Amendments and Additions

Amendments and/or additions of this Agreement can be made in writing, only.

4. Settlement of Disagreements

Should disagreements arise out between the parties, the parties will make an effort to settle them between them in good faith.
In case of failure of these agreements, Swiss Law shall be applied and the Courts of Zurich shall have exclusive jurisdiction.

ETH Zurich

Zurich, _____   _____

Prof. Name

The Collaborator

Zurich, _____   _____

Name of student