

Regulation concerning the Doctoral Program in microsystems and microelectronic (EDMI)

Please note that only the French version is legally binding.

In this document the masculine form is used to designate both male and female genders.

January 1st, 2014

The EDMI Doctoral Program Commission,

taking into account art. 3 al. 3 and 6 al. 2 of the Ordinance on the Doctorate conferred by the Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne of January 26, 1998¹ and 2 al. 4 ch. 3 of the Directives concerning doctoral studies at the Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne of November 21, 2005,²

decrees:

1. Field of Application

The regulation concerning the EDMI doctoral program (hereinafter: EDMI program) sets forth the rules relating to the study plan of the EDMI program as well as the candidacy examination for the formal admission to start the doctoral thesis in the EDMI program of the EPFL. Furthermore it reiterates and details the application of certain essential rules concerning the doctorate at the EPFL.

2. Study Plan

- 2.1 The study plan of the EDMI program requires **12 ECTS credits** (European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System).
- 2.2 At least **4 ECTS credits of these 12 credits** must be obtained during the first year of doctoral studies.

¹ RS 414.133.2

² EPFL LEX 2.4.1

- 2.3 During the doctoral studies, 4 credits minimum out of the 12 credits which have to be acquired, have to be taken from the microsystems and microelectronic doctoral program (EDMI) courses. The **remainder of the 8 credits** may be obtained by successfully passing maximum 4 credits of EPFL master courses, maximum 8 credits in any other EPFL doctoral program courses and maximum 4 credits at a Swiss or foreign university with the approval of the EDM I program director and in accordance with the terms established by the EDM I program. As a general rule, a credit equivalence of up to a maximum of 4 ECTS credits is granted for doctoral courses passed at a Swiss university (including ETHZ). For doctoral courses passed at a foreign university, the credit equivalence is determined on a case-by-case basis. Any courses other than doctoral courses (e.g. Summer school) must also be approved by the EDM I program director. For the credit(s) recognition, the equivalence courses, including the Summer Schools, must all have some kind of an examination at the end of the course (oral presentation, written report, etc.).

3. Candidacy Exam

- 3.1 To be formally admitted to start a doctoral thesis at the EPFL, the candidate must successfully pass the candidacy examination at the end of his 1st year of doctoral studies (art. 6 and 8 al. 1 let. a of the Ordinance on the Doctorate and art. 8 al. 1 and 2 of the Directives concerning doctoral studies at the EPFL). The candidacy examination is a closed (non-public) oral presentation of approximately twenty minutes by the candidate about his research proposal. It is followed by questions from the jury. The candidate must demonstrate the originality of his thesis subject, the objectives and methods envisaged, as well as the hypothesis and related scientific arguments, including the general context of the thesis subject, state of the art of research in the area, position of the doctoral candidate's work within the research area, plan and methodology for the research project as well as the timeframe for its completion.
- 3.2 The jury of the candidacy exam is composed of a thesis director and a thesis co-director (in case of a co-direction) an external member to the candidate's laboratory, who is qualified to be thesis advisor or co-advisor, and a member of the EDM I doctoral program commission who will chair the jury.
- 3.3 After jury deliberations, the thesis director verbally informs the candidate of the result of the candidacy exam. Possible jury recommendations are communicated in writing thereafter. The candidate then receives from the EPFL, a decision to formally admit or refuse the start of a doctoral thesis at the EPFL (art. 8 al. 2 of the Ordinance on the Doctorate).

4. Annual Report

During his doctoral thesis work, the doctoral candidate has the obligation to submit an annual report, the first time a year after the candidacy exam, on the progress of his work to the thesis director, who in turn provides written input and reports to the EDM I program director within a deadline of one month (art. 10 al. 3 and al. 4 of the Ordinance on the Doctorate).

5. Mentoring

A mentor is appointed by the EDM I program director for each doctoral student among the eligible thesis directors in the program. The role of the mentor is to mediate between the doctoral student and his thesis director, other faculty, or the administration. The role of

the mentor is limited to following the personal (not scientific) issues concerning the candidate, and to act as a mediator in case of a conflict or problem. The mentor cannot be part of the candidate's jury for the end of thesis oral examination. A doctoral student may directly contact the EDM I mentor, who will make suggestions to resolve possible issues.

6. Final Provisions

The present regulation shall take effect on January 1st, 2014 and replaces any prior EDM I doctoral program regulation.

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