

Regulation concerning the Doctoral Program in Management of Technology (EDMT)

Please note that only the French version is legally binding.

Dated March 15, 2022 (date of entry into force)

The EDMT doctoral program Committee,

taking into account art. 3 al. 3 and 6 al. 2 of the Ordinance on the Doctorate conferred by the École polytechnique fédérale de Lausanne of January 26, 1998¹ and 2 al. 4 ch. 3 of the Directives concerning doctoral studies at the École polytechnique fédérale de Lausanne of November 21, 2005²,

decrees:

1. Field of Application

The regulation concerning the doctoral program in Management of Technology (hereinafter: "EDMT program") sets forth the rules relating to the study plan of the EDMT program as well as the candidacy exam for the formal admission to start the doctoral thesis in the EDMT 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 EDMT program requires **30 ECTS credits** (European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System).
- 2.2 Within the first two years of doctoral studies, **12 ECTS credits** must be acquired **by successfully passing EDMT mandatory core courses**. More specifically, **8 ECTS credits of EDMT core courses** must be acquired **during the first year**; the remaining 4 ECTS credits of EDMT core courses can be acquired either in the first year or in the second year. A list of EDMT core courses is available at the EDMT program's office.
- 2.3 Up to **4 ECTS credits** – but not those required for the first year – can be chosen by the doctoral candidate from all EPFL doctoral course books (including the transferable skills courses) without the approval of neither the program Committee nor the thesis Director (Doctoral commission decision, Cdoct 107, May 2015).

¹ RS 414.133.2

² EPFL LEX 2.4.1

- 2.4 The **remainder of the ECTS credit requirement** may be obtained by successfully passing doctoral courses at the EPFL or a Swiss or foreign university with the approval of the EDMT program Director. 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., Master's courses or summer school) must also be approved by the EDMT program Director. The maximum number of credits, which may be obtained by successfully passing such a course, is 2 ECTS credits.

3. Candidacy Exam

- 3.1 To be formally admitted to start a doctoral thesis at the EPFL, the doctoral candidate must successfully pass the candidacy exam at the end of the 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 exam is an oral presentation of approximately thirty minutes by the candidate about the research proposal. It is followed by questions from the jury. The candidate must demonstrate the originality of the 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 the thesis Director and, where applicable, the thesis co-Director, as well as two professors, senior research scientists (MERs) or other EPFL collaborators authorized to fulfil the function of thesis Director at the EPFL and approved by the EDMT program Director.
- 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 to the candidate 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 the thesis work, the doctoral candidate has the obligation to submit an annual progress report each year, starting one year after the candidacy exam. The candidate submits a summary of the work progress, as well as a point-by-point self-evaluation. In parallel, the thesis Director (and co-Director when applicable) complete an analogous assessment of the work progress. After a joint discussion the report is cosigned by the candidate and the thesis Director (and co-Director when applicable). The candidate then also discusses the progress and wider context with the mentor and they confirm to have met in the annual report, without reporting the content of the discussion which is confidential. Finally, the program Director will add his-her signature to the report. The candidate ensures that the above process is finalized within one month (art. 10 al. 3 and al. 4 of the Ordinance on the Doctorate at the EPFL).

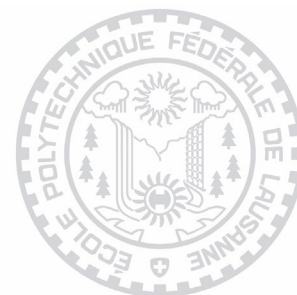
5. Mentoring

- 5.1 Within 3 months after enrolment, the doctoral program assigns a mentor from its pool to each doctoral candidate. The doctoral candidates may change mentor with the agreement of the program director.
- 5.2 The mentor remains anonymous with respect to the thesis Director to ensure confidentiality (it is up to the candidate to keep this anonymity or not). The mentor offers guidance to doctoral candidates regarding academic or career choices, as well as the resolution of any difficulties met within the context of their training, in particular regarding the preparation of their thesis or cases of conflict.
- 5.3 The candidates can contact their mentor whenever they deem it necessary. The candidate and the mentor confer at least once a year as part of the annual report. Exchanges between candidates and their mentor should remain confidential unless both parties agree to disclose to the program Director.
- 5.4 It is recommended that the candidate's mentor does not participate in nor presides over the jury for either the candidacy or the oral exam.

6. Final Provisions

The present regulation shall take effect on March 15, 2022, and replaces any prior EDMT doctoral program regulation.

For the EDMT doctoral program Committee:
Prof. Thomas A. Weber
Director of the program
École polytechnique fédérale de Lausanne



For the Doctoral School:
Prof. Luisa Lambertini
Associate Vice President for Postgraduate Education
École polytechnique fédérale de Lausanne