

# Bachelor's Theses

## An introduction

Malte Helmert

Based on material by H. Schuldt, L. Probst and S. Heller

# Formal Aspects: Study Regulations

- duration: **3 months (15 ECTS)**
  - “In exceptional cases, requests for an extension [one month] can be submitted to the curriculum commission”
  - exceptions: parallel courses, work, family commitments
- topic defined together with a lecturer
  - They sign the learning contract and grade the thesis
- details specified in a **learning contract**
  - “Within the first month after signing the learning contract, students can cancel their Bachelor’s thesis. A later termination is considered a failed Bachelor’s thesis.”
  - „If the thesis is assessed with an insufficient grade, a second Bachelor’s thesis with a new topic can be written.”
  - „A second insufficient grade for a Bachelor’s thesis leads to exclusion from the study of Computer Science”

# The Selection Process

- use available information
  - this event
  - list of projects of the different research groups
  - BSc project descriptions on group websites
  - directly contact professors/PhD students
  - talk to students in higher semesters/Master students
- can start at any time (by arrangement)
- contact lecturer(s) early, but not too early
- take a look at previous Bachelor's theses
  - <https://archiv.dmi.unibas.ch> (VPN required)
- you can also propose your own ideas
  - but it is up to the lecturers if they are willing to supervise them

# The Bachelor's Thesis

- Bachelor's thesis **is not** yet another programming project
- Bachelor's thesis **is your first individual scientific project**
- important aspects
  - **good scientific practices**
    - individual work: no plagiarism
    - scientific work: reproducibility
    - scientific work: sound theoretical basis
  - sound content, well written report
  - programming is usually an essential part – but only a part – of the thesis
  - final presentation on concepts, implementation, evaluation

# General Aspects

- language: German or English
- programming language: differs from research group to research group
- length of the report: depends on work
- use LaTeX
- use of AI tools: must follow guidelines on department website

# The End(s)

- two “end points” for your thesis
  - **written report**; includes declaration of scientific integrity
  - **presentation** (with discussion)
- **criteria for final assessment**  
(same for BSc and MSc theses, only weights differ)
  - Quality of results (35%)
  - Originality of results (5%)
  - Methodology (35%)
  - Literature research (5%)
  - Written report (10%)
  - Presentation (10%)

**Thank you for your attention.**

Any questions?