UNIVERSITY OF TAMPERE

Faculty of Natural Sciences
Degree Programme in Computer Sciences

Grading of Bachelor's theses in the Degree Programme in Computer Sciences

1. Grading criteria

Examiners consider the following when evaluating a Bachelor's thesis:

1 *Use of source material and familiarity with the sources*. Does the thesis demonstrate that the author has familiarised himself/herself with the literature relevant to the topic? Are references used correctly? Does the thesis demonstrate that the author has become familiar with the findings in the literature?

2 *Balance, structure and consistency.* Does the approach and the results the author has chosen to present show that the author has studied the topic sufficiently and understood the subject matter? Does the thesis form a balanced and coherent whole? Is the structure of the thesis logical?

3 *Thoroughness, independence and critical analysis.* Can the thesis be considered to be a Bachelor's thesis in view of its extensiveness and correctness? Is source material reviewed critically? Does the author use original examples to illustrate matters?

4 *Language, style and finishing.* Do the linguistic form, written form and structure give a well thought-out and finished appearance to the thesis? Does the thesis form a coherent whole that is pleasant to read?

2. Grading

The grading scale for Bachelor's theses is as follows: excellent (5), very good (4), good (3), satisfactory (2) and sufficient (1).

A thesis is graded "good" (3) if it meets the aforementioned evaluation criteria, is well-written and does not have any substantial mistakes.

A thesis is graded satisfactory (2) if it fails to meet some of the criteria but has other compensating merits that demonstrate the author's maturity. The grade can be lowered

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from good to satisfactory if, for example, the conclusions are illogical, the thesis is poorly structured, the arguments are badly reasoned, the work is not independent or the general impression is sloppy.

A thesis is graded very good (4) if it is better, more in-depth or more extensive than an average thesis, and has enough original content. A very good thesis may not have mistakes or be sloppy; it must be critical and analytical.

The other grades (sufficient (1) and excellent (5)) will be granted if the shortcomings or merits of the thesis are so considerable that the grade satisfactory cannot be given, or the grade very good is simply insufficient.

Below are some examples of typical features of theses that are granted a specific grade:

Sufficient (1) = The approach of the thesis is poor, the data is insufficient or the thesis is too constricted. The thesis may include substantial factual errors or structural defects, but it nevertheless fulfils the criteria for a thesis and is written reasonably well.

Satisfactory (2) = The approach is superficial, or the thesis is in some other way inadequate or inappropriate. The author does not understand the significance of the results he/she presents.

Good (3) = A good thesis that is written well and proceeds logically. There are no notable deficiencies in form or language.

Very good (4) = The thesis is better, more in-depth or more extensive than the average thesis. The thesis is pleasant to read: it forms a coherent and logical whole, and the presentation is polished and immaculate. Layout and the use of source literature are both faultless.

Excellent (5) = As in a very good thesis, but the merits are even greater.