**Doctoral Dissertation Outline**

**Doctoral Dissertation Title**

Candidate

Supervisor, field of appointment

Co-supervisor, field of appointment

Place, date

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# PROBLEM DEFINITION

A brief, universally comprehensible introduction to the field of scientific research, defining the fundamental problem and the current state of knowledge or research (i.e. the so-called state-of-the-art) in the scientific research area directly related to the proposed topic, with mandatory references to all relevant scientific literature. The chapter may include illustrations (images, graphs, diagrams, schemes, plans, tables, etc.) if they contribute to a clearer presentation of the problem.

*The recommended length of the chapter is 5-8 pages.*

# DOCTORAL DISSERTATION OBJECTIVES

A brief statement of the final objectives of the doctoral research.

## 2.1 Thesis

The thesis is the fundamental assertion that the candidate intends to confirm or refute in their doctoral research. It is concise and to the point, typically derived from the title, and does not exceed one sentence (the alternative: does not exceed 300 characters). The core thesis of the research may be supported by hypotheses, which can be multiple and define specific parts of the research necessary to validate the core thesis.

## 2.2 Expected original scientific contributions

A statement of the expected original scientific contributions of the doctoral research and their impact on the advancement of the relevant scientific field at a global level.

*The recommended length of the chapter is up to 5 pages.*

# ASSUMPTIONS AND POTENTIAL LIMITATIONS

A statement of any assumptions, simplifications, or limitations of the doctoral research that are necessary for the successful completion of the dissertation.

*The recommended length of the chapter is up to 2 pages.*

# PROPOSED RESEARCH METHODS

A systematic listing of the proposed research methods: it includes a hierarchical definition down to a detailed specification (not a description!) of the anticipated qualitative and quantitative methods.

*The recommended length of the chapter is up to 5 pages.*

# PROPOSED CHAPTERS AND SUBCHAPTERS

A specification of the tentative structure of chapters and primary subchapters of the doctoral dissertation, adhering to the IMRD scheme (Introduction, Methodology, Results, and Discussion). Chapters and subchapters should be correctly numbered using cardinal numbers (without a full stop).

Indicate the chapters (or subchapters) that will contain new scientific research findings.

# BASIC LITERATURE

A list of the primary sources referenced by the candidate in the preceding chapters of the disposition, formatted according to the standards established in the specific research field (e.g., IEEE, APA, ASA, MLA, AMA, ACS, AMS, AIP, CSE, CBE, etc.).

# TOPIC ORIGINALITY ANALYSIS

## 7.1 Justification of topic originality

Justify the originality of the doctoral dissertation topic based on an analysis of existing literature and sources, in accordance with the [Recommendations for Analysing Literature Sources and Proving the Originality of the Doctoral Dissertation Topic](https://moja.um.si/en/study/Documents/Recommendations_Originality%20of%20DD_final_en.pdf) by the Council of the Doctoral School of the University of Maribor.

## 7.2 Information on performed queries

Tabulated and commented results of queries based on selected keywords (up to a maximum of 5) in databases of doctoral dissertations, relevant primary and secondary scientific publication databases, and patent databases, if applicable to the research field. The query results should be presented separately for each keyword (OR – information about the research coverage of each specific field) and for appropriate combinations of keywords (AND – information about the research coverage of combined fields).

Summaries of the most thematically related published studies should be provided, along with comments on how and in what way the proposed doctoral research differs from the existing work.

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| NOTE:  The disposition must be linguistically and grammatically correct!  Technical specifications: font size 11 pt, single line spacing, margins of 2.5 cm on all sides. |