



Agreement of Joint Thesis Supervision

Between

Messina University (Università degli Studi di Messina),
Piazza Pugliatti 1, 98121 Messina (Italy),
Here in after referred to as "UNIME" (Host Institution),
represented by Prof. Salvatore Cuzzocrea, Rector,

and

University of Sfax
Route Matar, km 1 Sfax, Tunisia
jointly referred to as "US" (Home institution),
represented by Prof. Abdelwahed Mokni, President,

and

Miss. Khouloud Abid
Herein after referred to as 'the doctoral student',

in which the aforementioned parties are jointly referred to as 'the parties',

Considering the Framework Cooperation Agreement of Culture and Scientific Cooperation
between University of Sfax and University of Messina (Prot. UNIME 40515/2015);

- conforming to the regulations in force in Tunisia and Italy;
- the art. 4 of the Italian Law n. 210 of 03/07/1998, that provides for the Universities' autonomy in setting up PhD courses within Universities' governmental, educational and scientific autonomy, as modified by the Law n. 240 of 30/12/2010;
- the Italian Ministry of Education, University and Research Regulation concerning PhD programmes, issued with D.M. n. 45 of 08/02/2013;
- the University of Messina Regulation concerning Research Doctorate course issued with the Rector's Decree n. 1015/2016;

For University of Sfax (Tunisia)

- Vu la loi n° 19 du 25 février 2008 relative à l'Enseignement Supérieur



- Vu le décret n°2716 du 04 août 2008 portant organisation des universités et des établissements d'enseignement supérieur et de recherche et les règles de leur fonctionnement;
- Vu le décret n°93-1823 du 06 septembre 1993, fixant les conditions d'obtention des diplômes nationaux sanctionnant les études doctorales tel que modifié et complété par le décret n°97-1801 du septembre 1997, et le décret n°1665 du 04 août 2003;
- Vu le circulaire du 09/46 relatif à la coopération internationale des établissements d'enseignement supérieur;
- Vu le décret n°47 du 4 janvier 2013 fixant le cadre général du régime des études et les conditions d'obtention du régime national de doctorat dans le système «LMD» en Tunisie;
- Vu le circulaire n°13 du 04 avril 2013 relatif à la durée des études, de la formation complémentaire et la valorisation des acquis pour le diplôme national de doctorat.

The following has been agreed:

Article 1 – JOINT THESIS SUPERVISION

The partner institutions hereby agree that they shall assume joint responsibility for the supervision of the doctoral student's doctoral research project, the organisation of the doctoral examination and the award of a doctoral degree.

Doctoral student's personal details:

Surname and first name: Khouloud Abid

Official address (for correspondence): Hedi Cheker Street, 'Colisee' Bulding

Date of birth: 04/07/1995

Place of birth: Sfax, Tunisia

Nationality: Tunisian

Registered as a PhD student in Faculty of sciences of Sfax

Article 2 – SUPERVISION OF THE DOCTORAL STUDENT

The doctoral student shall be supervised by the following thesis advisors:

– At UNIME:

- Name: Giovanni Neri
- Department: Ingegneria e Chimica dei Materiali e delle Costruzioni □ Position: Professor

– At the University of Sfax

- Name: Ramzi Maalej
- Department: Physics, Faculty of Sciences of Sfax
- Position: Professor

The thesis advisors undertake to fully assume their responsibilities as the doctoral student's supervisors, which includes holding consultations when required so as to be able to assess the progress being made in the research project.

– At the Doctoral School of UNIME:

- The PhD student has to follow the rules as described in the Research Doctorate course issued with the Rector's Decree n. 1015/2016, with a particular focus the Art. 20 "Rights and obligations".
- The PhD student should follow the official activities of the PhD program during her staying at UNIME as provided by the coordinator of the PhD program in Ingegneria e Chimica dei Materiali e delle Costruzioni XXXV Ciclo



– At the University of Sfax

- PhD program of Physics

Article 3 – ADMISSION TO DOCTORAL STUDIES – DOCTORAL THESIS SUBJECT

The doctoral student will be admitted at the first year of academic year 2019/2020 of the doctoral course in Ingegneria e Chimica dei Materiali e delle Costruzioni XXXV Ciclo. The doctoral program lasts three years and will end on September 30th, 2022.

At University of Sfax the doctoral student is already registered at “ Doctoral course in Physics” first year, academic year 2019/2020. The duration is 3 years according to decree N° 2013-47. The deadline for the submission of the final thesis is until September 30th 2022

The doctoral program for the student lasts three years and will end until 2022 (third academic year) in accordance with the duration of the Italian doctoral course.

The subject of the doctoral thesis is: **Development of 2D sensing materials**

Article 4 – ENROLMENT AND STUDENT SERVICE FEE

The enrolment fees will be paid only at University of Sfax and the student will be exempted from the payment of fees at the UNI Messina.

Article 5 – AWARD OF THE DEGREE

If the doctoral student has passed the joint doctoral examination successfully, she shall be separately awarded a joint degree by the partner institutions conferring the following degrees:

- Doctor in Physics (University of Sfax)
- Dottore di ricerca in: Ingegneria e Chimica dei Materiali e delle Costruzioni (UNIME)

Article 6 – INSURANCE COVER

The two institution will guarantee Insurance coverage according to the institutional rules and the Italian legislation in force

In Italy, in addition to that, the doctoral student takes all necessary steps in order to arrange health insurance, insurance cover against physical injuries and third party liability whilst performing his or her duties within the framework of the doctoral research project at the two partner institutions, in accordance with the national and institutional rules and regulations in force.

Article 7 – Research at partner institution

The Ph.D program lasts three consecutive academic years and Italian regulation doesn't provide an extension of the legal duration of the doctoral course.

The doctoral student shall spend the following alternate research periods at both partner institutions. The period of the joint research activities will be organized as follow:

Institution	From	To
UNI SFAX (HOME Institution)	15 June 2020	31 January 2021
UNIME	1 February 2021	31 July 2021
UNI SFAX (HOME Institution)	1 August 2021	31 December 2021
UNIME	1 January 2022	31 July 2022
UNI SFAX (HOME Institution)	1 August 2022	30 September 2022



Article 8 – THESIS DEFENCE COMMITTEE

The only Examination Board shall be comprised of six members (professors in the same scientific area) including the two thesis advisors that don't evaluate the candidate.

The two institutions, by means of the Deans, exchange any piece of information and all documents relevant to the organization of the joint research described in the present agreement.

Article 9 – DOCTORAL THESIS DEFENCE (PUBLIC DISCUSSION)

The public defence of the doctoral thesis shall take place in Sfax following the deadline provided by the partners law.

The partners agree that the deadline for the submission of the final thesis is until September 30th 2022. According to Italian rules, to obtain the admission at the final examination, the thesis will be evaluated by two reviewers that are external professors that don't participate in the final examination. If the evaluation of the reviewers and of the Italian Board of professors is positive and they don't ask for modifications of the thesis, the final examination could be taken until November 30th 2022. If the evaluation of the reviewers and the Italian Board of professors is positive, but they ask for modifications of the thesis, the final examination could be postponed until maximum six months. In this case the final examination will be taken until the end of May 2023.

The two institutions have to consider that the student has to publish a scientific publication to be admitted at the final examination according to the Tunisian regulation. The student will have to submitted her scientific publication in due time to allow the final examination until November 30th, 2022.

Article 10 – LANGUAGE

The doctoral thesis shall be written in English .

An abstract of the doctoral thesis shall be supplied in English and Italian.

Article 11 – INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

Intellectual property ownership will be based on the principle of inventor owns in accordance with the respective policies of each of the partner institutions.

Therefore the protection of the research results arising from the doctoral research project, as well as any matter related to filing them, making them accessible, their publication and exploitation shall be discussed and agreed by the partner institutions and be in accordance with the national and institutional regulations in force.

Article 12 – COMMENCEMENT AND VALIDITY OF THE AGREEMENT

The present agreement shall take as and from the date of its execution by the authorised representative of each contracting Institution and expires at the end of final examination procedure according to the Italian law.

Article 13 – VALIDITY OF THE AGREEMENT AND SETTLEMENTS OF DISPUTES

The stipulations of this agreement may not conflict with the provisions of the regulations at the UNIME, host institution. Disputes must be resolved amicably through friendly bilateral consultations. UNIME always agrees that the disputes must be resolved amicably through friendly bilateral consultations.





Agreement of Joint Thesis Supervision

Drawn up in in four original copies, date: 14 SEP. 2019

For Université de Sfax (stamp and signature) Y

President

- Prof. Abdelwahed Mokni



The Professors

Dean of the Faculty of Sciences of Sfax

- Prof. Hamadi Khemakhem



Thesis Advisor

- Prof. Ramzi Maalej

PhD Programme Coordinator

- Prof. Mohamed Hbaieb



The Doctoral Student

Miss. Khouloud Abid



Agreement of Joint Thesis Supervision

Drawn up in in four original copies, date: 21/29/2020

For Università degli Studi di Messina (stamp and signature)

Rector

Prof. Salvatore Cuzzocrea



The Professors

Thesis Advisor

Prof. Giovanni Neri

PhD Programme Coordinator

Prof. Giovanni Neri




