

Laurence's Thesis Writing Plan

Introduction

My target is to have well over half the thesis written by my return to official study which is the end of July. I have one chapter (Measurement Uncertainty – theory) already reviewed and my second revision complete. The second theory chapter on RF measurements is mostly written but needs finishing off (a few days work).

My ultimate submission deadline is the 29th September, which is 12 weeks from today.

Chapters

1. Introduction
2. RF and Microwave Measurements (in progress) – no papers all theory
3. Measurement Uncertainty (reviewed, mostly happy) – conf. paper
4. VNA Measurement Uncertainty – 2 conf. papers
5. Measurement Uncertainty in Nonlinear Behavioural Models – IEEE Trans paper
6. Conclusions

I have removed the previous penultimate chapter on “Applications” as I have not had the chance to complete the experiment work for this and no longer have the time available. I am aiming for around 20 pages per chapter, which should total about 120 pages of main text. The existing chapter is 23 pages and the incomplete one is already 19 pages with probably 10 to go. The conclusions chapter may include some work towards the application I was going to include in its own chapter so might approach 20 pages.

My thought now is to focus on running through chapters 4 and 5 first as I was stalling on 2 by not knowing how much information to add there. By writing my research output first I can then figure out what to keep or add in that theory chapter. This also gets the most important information written ASAP for my supervisors to review, as this will be criticised most by the examiners.

I can then sort out chapter 2 and the introduction and conclusion should be straightforward to write by then.

I have existing detailed plans for the technical contents of each chapter which ensure there is a cohesive flow and a story to the information presented. Peter and Nick have seen these before.

In addition to chapter targets I will also set weekly targets and my progress will be sent to Marian for information, but primarily this is a quantitative measure for my own use.

Weekly Schedule

Friday 12 th July	Chapter 3 revisions returned
Friday 19 th July	Chapter 4 draft complete
Friday 26 th July	Goal TBD
Friday 2 nd August	Chapter 5 draft complete
Friday 9 th August	Chapter 4 revisions returned
Friday 16 th August	Chapter 2 draft complete
Friday 23 rd August	Chapter 5 revisions returned
Friday 30 th August	Chapter 1 draft complete
Friday 6 th September	Chapter 2 revisions returned
Friday 13 th September	Chapter 6 draft complete
Friday 20 th September	Processing final reviews
Friday 27 th September	Submission

As I work over the coming weeks, the weekly goals will become more detailed and the point will be to review real progress against planned, with the aim to ensure that workload can be adjusted to ensure each draft submission on time.