Formal requirements for (Seminar, Bachelor, or Master) theses in econometrics at KIT

Chair of Econometrics (Prof. Dr. Melanie Schienle)
Chair of Applied Econometrics (Jun.-Prof. Dr. Fabian Krüger)

September 29, 2020

This document spells out the formal requirements for a thesis in econometrics at KIT. A LaTex thesis template that satisfies these requirements is available on our websites.

1 Format of the thesis

While we are not overly concerned that you use any particular format, it is important that you use the same format throughout your thesis. A font size of 11pt or 12pt, margin widths of 2.5-3.5 cm, and line spacing between 1 and 1.5 are reasonable choices. In terms of the structure of your thesis, one plausible (though not mandatory) choice is as follows:

- Title page
- Abstract
- Contents*
- Introduction
- Method/Model/Theory (depending on the topic, this can be split up into separate sections)
- Data
- Results
- Conclusion/discussion
- References
- Declaration of authorship
- List of abbreviations*
- List of tables*
- List of figures*

The starred* items are optional, depending on the structure of your thesis.

LaTex is the standard software tool for academic writing, and we encourage you to use it. It requires some effort to learn it, but once you've made that investment it is easy to be consistent. For example, you can change the size of the text font or the width of the side margin by changing a single number in your LaTex code. You can find countless tutorials on LaTex typesetting on the internet. We also offer a latex thesis template on our webpages.

2 References to literature

Citing literature serves several purposes:

- It references the work of other people. Be sure to clearly indicate the source of any idea that is not your own.
- It connects the ideas in studies A and B, or the ideas in study A and your thesis.
- It helps to clarify technical terms or concepts, like "I consider realized volatility measures which are constructed as in Andersen et al. (2003, Section 3.2)."

LaTex comes with a system called Bibtex that you can use to create your bibliography. Please see the thesis template for an example.

3 Handing in the thesis

Please hand in your thesis as a hard copy, and email the underlying pdf file to your advisor. In order to transfer your code and data to your advisor, please choose one of the following options:

1. Hand in a USB-Stick containing your code and data firmly attached to the hard copy version of the thesis
2. Upload your code and data to Github and mention the link to your folder in the introduction of your thesis. *Note: Please do not use this option in case your data is confidential or subject to copyright restrictions.*

References

Andersen, T. G., T. Bollerslev, F. X. Diebold, and P. Labys (2003): "Modeling and forecasting realized volatility," *Econometrica*, 71, 579–625.