Publication-Based Dissertations
in the KIT Department of Chemical and Process Engineering

1. A publication-based dissertation must consist of at least three scientific publications (peer-reviewed) to which the doctoral candidate has contributed significantly as first author (generally more than 80%).
2. The publications should be part of a coherent research program and thus be thematically consistent.
3. In cases of shared first authorship, each first author's contribution is weighted proportionally (if there are two first authors, each receives ½ of a first authorship; if there are three first authors, each receives ⅓, etc.).
4. Two of the three publications must already be published. For the remaining publications, submission is sufficient, provided the status is clearly stated (journal and status (e.g., submitted, under revision, accepted)).
5. The dissertation must include an introduction that outlines the current state of the research field, the dissertation's central research questions, and the methods used; this introduction should have an appropriate length. Additionally, the dissertation must contain a coherent discussion and interpretation of the results, as well as a conclusion. The introduction must clearly indicate the research questions the doctoral candidate has pursued. The most important results must be presented in a way that the doctoral candidate's independent scientific work is evident, even without reading the individual papers. Particular care must be taken to clearly indicate one's own contribution, especially in publication-based dissertations that include one or more publications with shared first authorship. The discussion should focus on answering the research questions and highlighting the knowledge gained from the work.
6. The reviewers are instructed to discuss in their reports the extent to which the candidate's independent scientific work is clearly recognizable and also suitable for a dissertation.
7. It is explicitly noted that the respective doctoral regulations, the decisions of the doctoral admissions committee, and the reports prepared by the reviewers remain essential for the respective doctoral procedure.