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by

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B.Sc., Dalhousie University, 2002

A THESIS SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF

THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE OF

MASTER OF SCIENCE

in

THE COLLEGE OF GRADUATE STUDIES

(Biology)

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

(Okanagan)

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# Abstract

The abstract is a concise and accurate summary of the research contained in the thesis. It states the problem, the methods of investigation, and the general conclusions. It should not contain tables, graphs or illustrations. It must not exceed 350 words, and should contain relevant keywords that will facilitate automated information retrieval. There only be one abstract for the entire thesis.

# Lay Summary

The lay summary explains the key goals and contributions of the research/scholarly work in terms that can be understood by the general public. It does not use technical terms and discipline-specific language. It must not exceed 150 words in length.

# Preface

The preface is a statement indicating the relative contributions of all collaborators and co-authors (including supervisors and members of the supervisory committee) of publications or material submitted for publication, emphasizing details of the student's contribution and stating the proportion of research and writing conducted by the student. It should include:

* + Identification and design of the research program.
  + Performance of the various parts of the research.
  + Analysis of the research data.
  + Preparation of manuscripts, if any.
  + A list of any publications or submissions arising from work presented in the thesis including the title of the article and name of the publisher (only if the article has been accepted or published), and the chapter(s) of the dissertation in which the work is located.
  + The name of the particular UBC Research Ethics Board, and the Certificate Number(s) of the Ethics Certificate(s) obtained, if ethics approval was required for the research.

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# Acknowledgements

In this section you can acknowledge the extent to which assistance has been given by members of staff, fellow students, data technicians, editors, and/or others; recognize the supervision and advice given by your supervisor and committee members; acknowledge colleagues with whom you have written journal articles.

# [Dedication](#_Dedication)

The dedication is usually quite short, and is a personal rather than academic recognition. You can use any font or language you wish for the dedication page.

# [Chapter 1: Introduction](#_Chapter_1:_Introduction)

The thesis introduction must clearly state its theme, hypotheses and/or goals (sometimes called “the research question(s)”), and provide sufficient background information to enable a non-specialist scholar to understand them. It must contain a thorough review of relevant literature, perhaps in a separate chapter.

### **1.1 Section Title**

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# [Chapter 2: Body of Thesis (Research Chapters)](#_Chapter_1:_Body)

The account of the research should be presented in the body of the thesis in a manner suitable for the field, and include the following:

* A coherent structure that flows logically and smoothly from chapter to chapter.
* A brief synopsis at the beginning of each research chapter.
* A description of methods used, in sufficient detail to enable a reader to understand how the data were gathered and to apply similar methods in another study.
* A complete account of the research presented in a systematic manner typical of the field of study.
* Students should consult with their supervisors for further guidance about how to structure their particular thesis.

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# Chapter 3: Conclusion

In the conclusion, the student must demonstrate mastery of the field and a contribution to knowledge in the broader discipline. The section includes the following:

* Overall analysis and integration of the research and conclusions of the thesis in light of current research in the field.
* Conclusions regarding goals or hypotheses of the thesis that were presented in the Introduction, and the overall significance and contribution of the thesis research.
* Comments on strengths and limitations of the thesis research.
* Discussion of any potential applications of the research findings.
* An analysis of possible future research directions in the field drawing on the work of the thesis.

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