

General guidelines

The student projects offered at DISAL can be subdivided into *two categories*: master theses (30 ECTS) and semester projects (both at bachelor and master level, between 4 and 12 ECTS, depending on the program). For each project posted, we recommend one of these categories and we will give priority to students looking for the category mentioned in the project abstract. However, if a student is particularly motivated for a project topic and is looking for a *different category* of project, whenever possible, we are happy to discuss and arrange the project effort accordingly. Further goal adjustments will be performed as a function of the number of members in the team (one or two students), for the specific background of the student(s) (communication systems, computer science, environmental engineering, civil engineering, electrical engineering, micro-engineering, mechanical engineering, mathematics, or physics), and the number of credits distributed by a specific project.

In order to maintain a high supervision quality and allow assistants to progress in their own research topics, the Distributed Intelligent Systems and Algorithms Laboratory can only accept *a limited number of applicants per semester or summer period*: every research assistant at DISAL will offer *two projects as main advisor*. Projects might be supervised by two research assistants (a main advisor and a co-advisor).

The mentioned contact name(s) correspond to the project advisor(s).

Type and labeling

Most of the student projects are carried out at EPFL (No. DISAL- or SWIS-) or have been previously performed at Caltech (No. CORO-). However, all sort of exchanges and internships are possible. For instance, from time to time students coming from other institutions work with us as an intern or carry out a project in the framework of their undergraduate or graduate studies at EPFL. In this case, independently from the student affiliation, we use the standard project prefix (DISAL-) followed by the corresponding suffix (see list below) as a function of the project purpose and constraints. Other times, EPFL students carry out their master project in industry or in a foreigner academic institution. In these cases, the hosting institution is mentioned first in the label prefix of the project (e.g., No. EDRL-DISAL- means that the work has been carried out at the Engineering Design Research Laboratory of the California Institute of Technology and the student has been co-supervised by a DISAL member). The current project categories are as follow:

- **SP**: Semester Project, it assigns either 4, 6, 10, or 12 ECTS and therefore implies either 120h, 180h, 300 h, or 360h of work over 1 semester (roughly 16 weeks); the amount of work is highly variable and depends on the teaching programs
- **MP**: Master Project (Master Thesis), it assigns 30 ECTS and therefore implies 900h of work over 4 or 6 months, depending whether the project is carried out at EPFL (by an EPFL student or a European, non-EPFL student coming from institutions aligned with the Bologna framework) or outside EPFL (by an EPFL student).
- **PP**: Pre-doctoral Project, it involves 6 ECTS per semester (i.e. 180 h work), it is carried out in parallel to course work, and can be extended in various ways, typically including periods of full-time work over the summer; its duration ranges from a minimum of a semester to a maximum of one year; it is carried out by future doctoral students in their first year after the admission to the doctoral school but before their candidacy exam.

- **IP:** Internship Project, depends on the type of program, sponsoring, etc., can happen anytime of the year with usually full-time involvement
- **SU:** SUMmer project carried out over the summer, it depends on the type of program, funding availability, etc., it usually spans between 2 and 3 months full-time
- **RT:** Research and Teaching support project, sponsored opportunities for EPFL students during the academic year, it usually involve a few hours/week

Full reports and corresponding results can be requested to Prof. Martinoli but their distribution might be restricted according to possible follow-ups with sponsored research or publications.