A cumulative dissertation is only possible upon application (§6 subs. 5 of PromO 2011). The application has to be submitted before the application for assessment of admission requirements.

A cumulative dissertation has to meet the following criteria:

1. There has to be a summarising chapter that introduces the topic.

2. Most of the results have to be published in peer-reviewed journals already or there has to be an approval of publication.

3. The personal contribution in the publications has to be highlighted explicitly.

4. The personal contribution has to be confirmed by the supervisor. The PhD Committee can gather an external report to clarify the issue.

Implementation rules:

- The reasons for a cumulative dissertation have to be justified in the application.

- The summarising chapter should not be shorter than 40 pages.

- The summary should present a thread through the publications. It should take up the contents of the publications and illustrate the link of each publication to the special parts of the scientific work.

- The submitted summary does not have to be identical to the dissertation following.

- The personal contribution has to be explained in detail (½ page per publication). Additionally, the percentage has to be given for every publication.

- At least three articles as lead author have to be published or accepted for publication in international journals. In these publications, the personal contribution has to outweigh that of the other authors.

- After submitting the application, any amendment has to be proposed and justified (e.g. submitted papers).