



## Memorandum of Understanding – OPALS Scientific Thesis License

### Scope

This document provides the general terms and conditions for obtaining a full license of the program system OPALS (Orientation and Processing of Airborne Laser Scanning data) for use in a scientific thesis (master and/or PhD thesis).

### Preamble

The Vienna University of Technology, Department of Geodesy and Geoinformation (in the following: GEO) is developing and maintaining the laser scanning (LS) software OPALS. GEO is contributing to the scientific progress in the field of LS by organizing and teaching at courses, both, at GEO and abroad (workshops, tutorials, summer schools...). OPALS is frequently used in the hands-on sessions of these courses and, in general, a free 3-month license is provided to the participants. Above that, GEO is willing to support all students working in laser scanning and point cloud processing in their scientific work by providing a full OPALS license for the duration of their thesis subject to the following terms and conditions

### Terms and Conditions

- The student has to acknowledge the use of the OPALS software in scientific papers and the thesis.
- The student should cite OPALS related articles describing the software concept within the papers/theses (c.f. OPALS manual, Bibliography section).
- The student grants GEO the right to publish a link to papers/theses in the Bibliography section of the OPALS manual.
- The student sends a digital copy of the finished scientific thesis to GEO (preferably in PDF format)
- The student helps maintaining and improving the OPALS system by giving feedback to the OPALS team (e.g.: additional examples for the documentation, documentation errors, bug reports, reports of performance behaviour).
- The student describes (i) the aim of the scientific thesis and (ii) for which tasks OPALS is intending to be used within a short proposal.
- The OPALS license provided by GEO is:
  - a personal license and may not be passed to any third parties.
  - a scientific license, exclusively to be used for the thesis and related scientific papers. The license may neither be used in commercial projects nor in university classes.
  - restricted to the duration of thesis (maximum 4 years). The license is provided as a 1-year temporal license which can be extended till the thesis is finished or the maximum license period is reached.

## Remarks

GEO appreciates if the student provides workflows obtained using OPALS (preferably Python or shell scripts) to be made available to the scientific community (via the OPALS web site by GEO). This is not a strict prerequisite as some theses may be subject to Non-Disclosure-Agreements.

GEO appreciates collaborations with external scientific as well as non-scientific institutions. Thus, students are invited to contribute to the OPALS system beyond the thesis, be it in a scientific or commercial environment. For more information concerning the terms and conditions for such a collaboration please refer to the separate document: Memorandum of understanding – OPALS contributors.

Vienna, January 2013

## Appendix

1. OPALS scientific license proposal



VIENNA UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY  
DEPARTMENT OF GEODESY  
AND GEOSINFORMATION  
RESEARCH GROUPS  
PHOTOGRAMMETRY & REMOTE SENSING

## OPALS Scientific Thesis License proposal

Name	
Address	
School	
Type of thesis	
Title of thesis	
Description	
Intended use of OPALS	

I hereby ask for a full, scientific OPALS license. I have read and accept the terms and conditions as stated in the document "Memorandum of Understanding – Scientific thesis license".

[Signature Student]

[Signature GEO]

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

Place, Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Prof. Norbert Pfeifer

Vienna, Date