

**Examination Regulations (Rules)
of the Faculty of Agricultural and Nutritional Sciences
and the Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences
at Christian-Albrechts-Universität zu Kiel (Kiel University)
for the discipline of 'International Master in Applied Ecology (IMAE)'
leading to a Master of Science degree (M.Sc.) - 2020
(Degree-specific examination regulations (FPO) International Master in Applied Ecology (1-subject) - 2020)
of 14 February 2020**

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Based on Section 52 (1) 1 of the Schleswig-Holstein Higher Education Act (HSG) in the version published on 5 February 2016 (GVOBl. Schl.-H. p.39), last amended by the law of 13 December 2019 (GVOBl. Schl.-H. p. 612), after a resolution was passed by the Conventions of the Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences and the Faculty of Agricultural and Nutritional Sciences of 22 January 2020 and a fast-track decision by the Deans of the Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences and the Faculty of Agricultural and Nutritional Sciences of 30 January 2020, the following Rules were issued:

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§ 1 Scope of application

The international Master's degree programme International Master in Applied Ecology is a joint degree programme by

- Kiel University (CAU),
- University of Coimbra (consortium leader)

Other associated partners are

- University of East Anglia, Norwich
- Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul
- University of Saskatchewan
- University of São Paulo

In conjunction with the Examination Procedure Regulations for students of Bachelor's and Master's Degree Programmes (PVO), these degree-specific examination regulations (FPO) apply to the study of modules offered by the Faculty of Agricultural and Nutritional Sciences and the Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences (Departments of Biology and Geography) at Kiel University. Admission to modules offered by other faculties or other institutes of the same faculty and the respective module examinations are subject to the examination regulations of the respective faculties or institutes. Modules offered by the other participating universities are regulated by the Examination Provisions applicable for the degree programme International Master in Applied Ecology at the respective university. Modules successfully completed at the other participating universities are recognised as part of this degree programme and will be duly allocated the ECTS credits.

§ 2 Objective of the degree programme

The International Master in Applied Ecology Master's degree programme leads to a degree qualifying for a professional career. The final examination ascertains whether the candidate has obtained an advanced scientific-methodological qualification in the field of managing ecological resources and gained the knowledge and skills required to work independently in the field of applied ecology or to pursue a career in research.

§ 3 Academic title

Based on the achievement of a grade of at least 'sufficient' (ausreichend) in the Master's degree programme completed in accordance with Annex 1, the Faculty of Agricultural and Nutritional Sciences, the Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences of Kiel University and the University of Coimbra will award the Master of Science degree (M.Sc.) in Applied Ecology.

§ 4 Admission to the Master's degree programme

(1) Prerequisites for admission to the Master's degree programme are:

1. Possession of one of the following qualifications:
 - a. A Bachelor's degree with at least 180 ECTS credits in a natural science degree programme that includes specialisation in ecology, biology, population genetics, evolution or environmental sciences with a minimum grade of 2.5 (or C+ according to the ECT system). The equivalence of Bachelor's degrees according to the British standard (3 years) will be checked using the NARIC platform (National Agency for the Recognition and Comparison of International Qualifications and skills).
 - b. A higher academic qualification in a discipline that fits with the content of IMAE (see 1a) following the first cycle of a degree programme that is carried out in accordance with the guidelines of the Bologna Process by a state adhering to these provisions.

- c. A higher academic qualification in a discipline that fits with the content of IMAE (see 1a) and which is considered as equivalent to a Bachelor's degree by the Joint Examination Board of the consortium partners (IMAE Examination Committee).
2. English language skills in accordance with the study qualification rules (Studienqualifikationssatzung).
- (2) The application process is organised and conducted by the University of Coimbra. The regulations of the University of Coimbra apply with regard to the time periods, deadlines and procedures. Applications must be addressed exclusively to the University of Coimbra.
- (3) The Joint Examination Board of the consortium partners (IMAE Examination Committee) decides whether the admission requirements are met. The IMAE coordinator specifies the time period and the procedure for assessing the applications. The students admitted formally enrol at the University of Coimbra.

§ 5

Standard period of study, structure of curriculum

The standard period of study is two years. The degree programme is made up of one and a half years of advanced study, totalling 90 ECTS credits, plus preparation of the thesis (Master's thesis, 30 ECTS credits). In order to acquire the academic title in accordance with Section 3 as specified in Annex 1, a minimum of 30 ECTS must be obtained at Kiel University and 30 ECTS at the University of Coimbra.

Students also have the opportunity to study at all partner universities in the third and fourth semesters with the exception of the University of São Paulo. In each semester, at least 30 ECTS must be obtained in the compulsory elective modules pursuant to Annex 1.

Mobility diagram:

	University of Coimbra	Kiel University	University of East Anglia, Norwich	University of Saskatchewan	Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul	University of São Paulo
Semester 1	Compulsory	---	---	---	---	---
Semester 2	---	Compulsory	---	---	---	---
Semester 3	Optional	Optional	Optional	Optional	Optional	---
Semester 4	Optional	Optional	Optional	Optional	Optional	Optional

§ 6

Recognition of study periods, coursework and examinations

The recognition of study periods, coursework and examinations at one of the universities listed in Section 1 (hereinafter referred to as the consortium) occurs in accordance with the contractual agreements within the consortium. The provisions of the current version of the Recognition Rules at Kiel University remain unaffected.

§ 7

Academic year

- (1) The degree programme governed by these degree-specific examination regulations is structured by academic year, beginning with the winter semester. As a general rule, a course will be offered once annually. Courses which, according to the curriculum are planned for an odd-numbered semester, are generally offered in the winter semester.

Courses which, according to the curriculum are planned for an even-numbered semester, are generally offered in the summer semester.

- (2) Registrations for odd-numbered semesters are only possible in the winter semester and for even-numbered semesters only in the summer semester. Registrations in the first semester take place exclusively at the University of Coimbra, those in the second semester at Kiel University.

§ 8

Teaching and examination language

Lectures and examinations will be held in English. In the optional section of the third semester, modules may be taken in German following approval by the Examination Board for the International Master in Applied Ecology degree programme at Kiel University.

§ 9

Examination Board

- (1) The Examination Board responsible for the International Master in Applied Ecology at Kiel University shall arrange the examinations to be completed at Kiel University and carry out the other tasks to be performed within the scope of the applicable degree-specific examination regulations (FPO) and Examination Procedure Regulations (PVO).
- (2) Contrary to the provisions of the Examination Procedure Regulations (PVO), the Examination Board for the International Master in Applied Ecology degree programme at Kiel University consists of four members who are university lecturers, one member from the scientific personnel and two members from the student body. The person in the Faculty responsible for teaching matters, the degree programme and examinations is a member with an advisory vote. The members of this Examination Board and their proxies are appointed by the Conventions of the Faculty of Agricultural and Nutritional Sciences and the Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences, constituted by persons involved in the degree programme.

§ 10

Examinations and module grades

- (1) The type and number of examinations to be provided as part of the modules can be found in the annex and the faculty notices. The Examination Board for the International Master in Applied Ecology degree programme at Kiel University shall decide on exceptions to these rules.
- (2) Examinations may consist, in particular, of term papers, projects, written examinations, protocols, seminar contributions, oral presentations, presentations and oral examinations.
- (3) The duration of an oral examination must be at least 15 minutes, but must not exceed 45 minutes. The duration of a written examination must be at least 30 minutes and no longer than 120 minutes.
- (4) If a module examination consists of several examinations, the module grade will be calculated using the weighting of the individual examinations indicated in the annexes.

§ 11

Further prerequisites for admission to examinations

- (1) If a module contains field trips and practical exercises, admission to the examination requires regular attendance at these courses.
- (2) If a module includes courses that are not mentioned in (1), admission to the examination requires regular attendance at these courses, if the individual students cannot achieve the qualification objective without regular attendance, if attendance is necessary in order to grasp the essential subject-specific methods, or if acquiring competence is dependent on the presence of the other participants, or on being present at a certain place.

- (3) This is the case for all seminars. Regular attendance to seminars is necessary because the participants use scientific sources, make oral presentations based on these sources, and then discuss the contents scientifically with the other participants and the lecturers. These events are not only designed for the lecturers to pass on specialist scientific knowledge, instead the main goal is for the students to develop analytical skills, apply presentation techniques and to improve their discussion skills.
- (4) Attendance is considered regular if the student does not miss more than one date without giving reasons for the non-attendance. If other course dates, a maximum of 20% of all dates, however, are missed due to illness or for other important and justified reasons, the module coordinator can determine a substitute for those parts of the course that were missed, upon application by the student and in justified exceptional cases.
- (5) Courses for which admission to the examination assumes regular attendance are marked in the annex. For all other courses, regular attendance is not required for admission to the examinations.
- (6) Examination prerequisites in accordance with the annex may be requested for admission to the examinations. Individual details will be suitably announced at the start of the respective semester.

§ 12

Restriction of admission to compulsory or compulsory elective courses

- (1) The number of places available for the individual compulsory or compulsory elective courses will be determined by the Faculty Conventions at the request of the module coordinator. If more students initially register for the seminars or practical exercises than there are places available, the Examination Board will determine whether the remaining students can be accommodated through other or additional courses.
- (2) If it is not possible to accommodate all the remaining students, the course administrator will select a number of students from those registered for a degree programme in which the course is envisaged as part of the curriculum, who have promptly registered by the date stipulated by the course administrator and who satisfy the conditions of attendance. Preference is to be given to students whose number of semesters would be increased by non-admission. Equally ranked students will be selected by drawing lots. In order to avoid cases of hardship, the module coordinator may deviate from this procedure upon request.

§ 13

Master's thesis

- (1) When applying for admission to the Master's thesis at Kiel University, the candidate is to propose a topic to the examiner. This does not automatically give rise to the claim for the proposal to be considered.
- (2) The Master's thesis will be supervised by university lecturers and private lecturers of Kiel University, who generally offer modules in the International Master of Applied Ecology degree programme. In exceptional cases and with the consent of the Examination Board for the International Master in Applied Ecology degree programme at Kiel University, the Master's thesis may be prepared at an institution outside the University, provided that appropriate supervision of the candidate is available there. Supervision may also be provided by people working at the supervising facility, who are qualified in accordance with Section 12 of the Examination Procedure Regulations (PVO). The Examination Board for the International Master in Applied Ecology degree programme at Kiel University will determine whether the requirements have been met.
- (3) The first examiner of the Master's thesis is generally a university lecturer or a private lecturer at Kiel University who generally offer modules in the International Master of Applied Ecology degree programme and are authorised to do so in accordance with Section 12 (2) of the Examination Procedure Regulations (PVO). In accordance with Section 5 of the Examination Procedure Regulations (PVO), the second examiner must be an authorised examiner. Assessment may also be performed by people working at institutions outside of

the university who are authorised examiners in accordance with Section 5 PVO. The Examination Board for the International Master in Applied Ecology degree programme at Kiel University will determine whether the requirements have been met.

- (4) Any candidate who can provide evidence of at least 60 ECTS credits may be admitted to the Master's thesis.
- (5) The topic of the Master's thesis may be handed back only once and only within six weeks of the topic being issued.
- (6) The Master's thesis is to be written in English.
- (7) The period from when the topic is issued until the Master's thesis is submitted to the Examination Office is 26 weeks.
- (8) Two hard copies of the Master's thesis and additionally one digital copy are to be submitted to the responsible Examination Office in the form prescribed.
- (9) The Master's thesis will be assessed within six weeks of submission.

§ 14

Assessment of the examination

The conversion table in Annex 2 applies for conversion of the grades from partner universities.

§ 15

Passing the Master's examination and calculating the overall grade

- (1) The Master's examination has been passed if the required 120 ECTS credit points have been obtained from successfully completed modules and the successfully completed Master's thesis in accordance with the provisions of Section 5 in connection with Annex 1.
- (2) The overall grade is calculated by the consortium leader in accordance with the agreements between the members of the consortium.

§ 16

Degree certificate

The degree certificate is issued by the consortium leader. For this purpose, Kiel University supplies an overview of the achievements obtained at Kiel University.

§ 17

Transitional provisions

- (1) For students who are registered at Kiel University on the Master's degree programme in Applied Ecology at the time these Rules come into effect, the Rules that became ineffective in accordance with Section 18 (2) continue to apply in the version previously applicable to these students. They may complete their Master's degree according to the provisions of the degree-specific examination regulations rendered ineffective in accordance with Section 18 (2) by the end of the winter semester 2022/2023. If modules are offered in a different form, these must be completed under the new version. If compulsory modules from the degree-specific examination regulations in accordance with Section 18 (2) are no longer offered, the Examination Board will name replacement modules.
- (2) Students who began their studies before these Rules entered into force can apply to change to the new degree-specific examination regulations (FPO).
- (3) Module examinations which have been completed and passed in full by the date these Rules enter into force will remain valid. Compulsory modules which have already been completed will be transferred with the ECTS credits listed in these degree-specific examination regulations.
- (4) If a student has completed and passed independent parts of a module examination, these will be recognised. The Examination Board determines which additional examinations are

necessary to complete the module, under consideration of the module's learning targets and the purpose of the examination.

- (5) Examinations failed before these Rules entered into force will be set off against the number of attempts allowed under the new examination regulations, provided the structure of the new module examination permits recognition.
- (6) The Examination Board decides regarding special cases of hardship for which the student is not responsible.

§ 18

Entry into force, expiry

- (1) These Rules enter into force on the date they are published.
- (2) At the same time, the degree-specific examination regulations (Rules) of the Faculty of Agricultural and Nutritional Sciences and the Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences at Christian-Albrechts-Universität zu Kiel (Kiel University) for the discipline of 'Applied Ecology' leading to a Master of Science degree (M.Sc.) (degree-specific examination regulations (FPO) Master in Applied Ecology (1-subject)) of 19 May 2016 (NBI. HS MSGWG Schl.-H., p. 56), cease to be in force.

The University Board at Kiel University granted its approval in accordance with Section 52 (1) 1 of the Schleswig-Holstein Higher Education Act (HSG) in its letter dated 13 February 2020.

Kiel, 14 February 2020

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Annex 1: Study programme “International Master in Applied Ecology”

Explanations:

Code: Course Identification Code
Title: Title of the module
Credits: ECTS

Evaluations: = in %

Oral exam = OE
Written Examination = WE
Presentation = DF
Exercise = E
Project/Scientific paper = SP1
Report = RP
Protocol = P
Seminar = S
Field Work = FW

Units of first year – 1st and 2nd semester

1st semester

University of Coimbra compulsory modules (18 ECTS)

Code	Title	ECTS	Examination
02001411	Data analysis in ecology	6	100% E
02036453	Population Ecology in a changing world	3	100% RP
	Behavioral adaptations to environmental changes	3	60% WE, 40% RP
02036464	Field Course in Mediterranean Ecosystems	6	50% RP, 50% FW

University of Coimbra elective courses

Code	Title	ECTS	Examination
02031970	Ecology of disturbed streams	6	70% WE, 30% FW
02001508	Ecotoxicology and Ecological Risk Assessment	6	50% E, 50% FW
02036470	Field Course in Tropical Ecosystems	6	50% RP, 50% FW

2nd semester /1st year)

Kiel University, compulsory elective modules 30 ECTS)

M = mündliche Prüfung/oral examination - R= Referat/oral presentation - K= Klausur/written examination - H= Hausarbeit/term paper - P= Protokoll/protocol - Sb= Seminarbeitrag (zusammengesetzte Prüfung – 2 Leistungen)/seminar contribution (composite examination, 2 pieces), PJ = Projektarbeit/project work - BE = Bericht/report

V = Vorlesung/lecture

S = Seminar

Ü = Übung/exercise

PÜ= praktische Übung/practical exercise

E = Exkursion/field trip

P = Praktikum

T= Tutorium/tutorial

SWS = Semesterwochenstunden/hours per week during the semester, LP = Leistungspunkte/ECTS credit points, PL = Prüfungsleistung/examination in percent [%], if there are several examinations, the proportions of each of the partial examinations in relation to the overall examination are specified in percent [%].

The requirement for attendance of the listed course elements in the compulsory attendance column is stipulated by the degree-specific examination regulations for the degree programmes offering the elements.

Period	Module code	Module description	Compul- sory elec- tive module	Exami- nation prereq- uisite	Teach- ing method	SWS	Com- pul- sory attend- ance	LP	PL
SS	MNF-eco-103	Long Term Analysis of Land- scapes - Field Studies	x		Ü/E	3,5/0,5	E	6	PJ100
SS	MNF-eco-110	Terrestrial Ecosystems – Field Studies	x		Ü/E	1/1	E	6	BE100
SS	AEF-EM023	Fieldtrip Hydrobiology Poland	x		Ü/E	3,5/0,5	E	6	P100
SS	agrarAEF078- 01a	Integrated Management of Rural and Woodland Regions	x		PÜ/E	3/1	E/PÜ	6	SB100
SS	EMAEF043- 01a	Marine and Coastal Ecosystems I	x		V/Ü/E	2/1/1	E	6	SB100
SS	AEF-agr852	Ecosystem Services in Agroeco- systems	x		PÜ/V	3/1	PÜ	6	H100
SS	EMAEF049- 01a	Trade-offs in Protection and Use of Marine Ecosystems	x		S	4		6	SB100
SS	EMAEF047- 01a	Management of Soil Resources	x		V/S	2/2		6	M100
SS	EMAEF013- 01a	Digital Spatial Analysis – Practical Exercises	x		V/PÜ	1/3	PÜ	6	P100
SS	biol240	Field Ecology	x		V/S/PÜ	1/1/2	S/PÜ	5	SB50, P50

3rd semester /1st semester, 2nd year)
Kiel University, compulsory elective courses (30 ECTS)

Period	Module code	Module description	Compulsory elective module	Examination prerequisite	Teaching method	SWS	Compulsory attendance	LP	PL
WS	AEF-EM009	Principles of Environmental Economics & Environmental Planning	X		V	4		6	M100
WS	ecoMNF114-01a	Plant x Environment Interactions	X		V/S/PÜ	2/1/3	S/PÜ	6	P50/PJ50
WS	EMAEF036-01a	GIS in Ecology	X	ungraded H	V/PÜ	1/3	PÜ	6	SB100
WS	EMAEF029-01a	Planning and Managing Science Projects	X		V/PÜ	2/2	PÜ	6	SB100
WS	EMAEF040-01a	Conservation Biology	X	ungraded H	V/PÜ	1/3	PÜ	6	PJ100
WS	AEF-eg006	Environmental Economics	X		V	4		6	K100
WS	MNF-eco 116	Advanced Analytical Methods in Plant Ecology using R	X		V/Ü	2/4	Ü	6	R50%, P50%
WS	AEF-EM018	Integrated Management of Wetlands	X		V/S/Ü	1/2/1		6	H100
WS	AEF-agr076	Integrated Management of River Basins	X		V/S/E	2/1/1	E	6	SB100
WS	AEF-EM031-01a	Ecosystems Modeling	x		V/Ü	1/3		6	P100
WS	EMAEF044-01a	Marine and Coastal Ecosystems II	x	passed module EMAEF043-01a	V/Ü	2/2		6	SB100

Period	Module code	Module description	Compulsory elective module	Examination prerequisite	Teaching method	SWS	Compulsory attendance	LP	PL
SS/WS	AEAEF001-01a	Master's thesis	Compulsory module					30	H100

3rd semester (1st semester, 2nd year)

University of East Anglia compulsory modules (12 ECTS)

Code	Title	EC TS	Examination
ENV-MA17	Evidence-Based Biodiversity Conservation	6	100% E
ENV-MA11	Statistics and Modelling for Scientists using R	6	100% E

University of East Anglia elective courses (18 ECTS)

ENV-MA51	Climate change: physical science basis	6	100% SP
BIO-M522	Evolutionary Biology and Conservation Genetics	3	100% SP
BIO-M56Y	Practical Conservation and Work Experience	3	100% SP
BIO-M55Y	Ecological census techniques	6	100% SP
ENV-MA11	Modelling environmental processes	6	100% SP
ENV-MA13	GIS and its Applications for Modelling Ecological and Environmental Change	3	100% SP
BIO-M519	Univariate statistics	3	100% SP
BIO-M517	Multivariate statistics	3	100% RP
ENV-MA24	Environmental Pollution- Science, Policy and Management	6	100% SP
ENV-MA68	Energy and Climate Change	6	100% SP
ENV-MA73	Sustainable consumption	6	100% SP
ENV-MA87	Stable isotope geochemistry	6	100% SP
ENV-7116B	Natural resources and environmental economics	6	100% SP
ENV-7038B	Science, society and sustainability	6	100% SP
ENV-7031A	Geoengineering the climate: Science and policy	6	100% SP
DEV-7033B	Political ecology	6	100% SP
ENV-7040B	Modern methods in air pollution science	6	100% SP

4th semester (2nd semester, 2nd year)

University of East Anglia compulsory modules (30 ECTS)

Title	CR	EC TS	Examination
UEA-402	MSc. Dissertation	30	100% RP

3rd semester (1st semester, 2nd year)

Universidade Federal Do Rio Grande Do Sul, compulsory modules (11 ECTS)

Code	Title	ECTS	Examination
ECP-00127	Community ecology	3	10%WE, 80% RP, 10% E
ECP-0055	Population ecology	2	50% WE, 50% E
UFRGS-304	Statistical Ecology I	6	70% WE, 30% RP

Universidade Federal Do Rio Grande Do Sul, elective modules (30 ECTS)

Code	Title	ECTS	Examination
BOT-00150	Ecology, management and conservation of tropical and sub-tropical grasslands	6	100% E
UFRGS-306	Landscape Ecology	3	100% RP
ECP-00129	Ecology of Animal-Plant Interactions	3	50% E, 50% FW
ECP-0050	Field ecology	9	30% FW 70% E
ECP-00118	Human ecology and resources management	3	30% WE, 30% RP, 30% E, 40% FW
BOT-00059	Botanic composition and vegetation physiognomies of South Brazilian rangelands	12	80% WE, 20% FW
BOT-00149	Floristic diversity of forest communities	6	50% RP, 50% FW
	Scientific Writing	6	100% E
	Theory in Vegetation Ecology	3	50% RP, 50% E
BOT-00160	Ecological bases for plant conservation	6	50% RP, 50% E
BAN-00023	Ecology of Lizards	4	100% RP
BAN-00070	Evolution, Ecology and Conservation of Mammals	4	100% RP

4th semester (2nd semester, 2nd year)

Universidade Federal Do Rio Grande Do Sul, compulsory modules (30 ECTS)

Code	Title	ECTS	Examination
	MSc. Dissertation	30	100% SP

3rd semester (1st semester, 2nd year)

University of Saskatchewan, Canada - compulsory modules (30 ECTS)

Code	Title	ECTS	Examination
SLSC-898	Knowledge Exchange in Indigenous Resource Management	2	100% E
SLSC-833	Field Studies of Soils	5	30% WE, 70% E
SLSC-813	Fertilizer Speciation and Transformations in Soils	5	70% WE, 30% RP
SL SC-903	Experimental Design and Technical Communication	6	70% WE, 30% RP
SLSC-990	Seminar's in Soil Science	6	100% RP
	MSc. Project Preparation	6	100% RP

4th semester (2nd semester, 2nd year)

University of Saskatchewan, Canada - compulsory modules (30 ECTS)

Code	Title	ECTS	Examination
	MSc. Dissertation	30	100% SP

Annex 2: Grading scheme of the consortium

Grades issued by the partners are converted according the following table:

Numerical National Marks					US Grades	ECTS System	ECTS Distinction
Portuguese System	Canadian System	German System	British System (%)	Brazilian System			
20	96-100	1,0	76	9,6	A+	A+	EXELLENT
19	96-100	1,0	74-75	9,5	A+	A+	
18	91-95	1,3	71-73	9,4	A	A	
17	91-95	1,7	68-70	8.5-9.3	A	A	
16	86-90	2,0	67	7.8-8.4	B+	B+	VERY GOOD
15	81-85	2,3	66	7.6-7.7	B+	B	
14	76-80	2,7	64-65	7.3-7.5	B	C+	GOOD
13	70-75	3,0	63	7.1-7.2	B-	C	
12	70-75	3,3	60-62	6.7-7.0	B-	C	
11	61-69	3,7	55-60	6.3-6.6	C+	D	SATISFACTORY
10	60	4	50-54	6.0-6.2	C	E	SUFFICIENT