

Using TRIZ to Write a Good Thesis on Time

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Abstract. Millions of students worldwide face the challenge of developing a graduate thesis on time every year. Most of them approach such a task for the first or second time, so they can hardly rely on their experience. Working at the university for over 35 years, the author supervised and reviewed numerous theses and observed similar shortcomings appearing again and again. Many requirements constrain the development of a thesis, and some compete with others. The most fundamental issue is that a thesis must be delivered on time and provide good content and adequate quality to earn a degree. This paper briefly introduces the TRIZ approach and uses the thesis writing process to demonstrate how TRIZ tools may help solve problems in a non-technical area. The outcome is intended to serve as a collection of student guidelines and recommendations.

Keywords: TRIZ, Inventive Principles, Function-Oriented Search, Trimming, Feature Transfer, Super-effect Analysis, Thesis writing, Contradictions.