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COVER

STATEMENT OF ORIGINALITY OF THESIS

THESIS APPROVAL

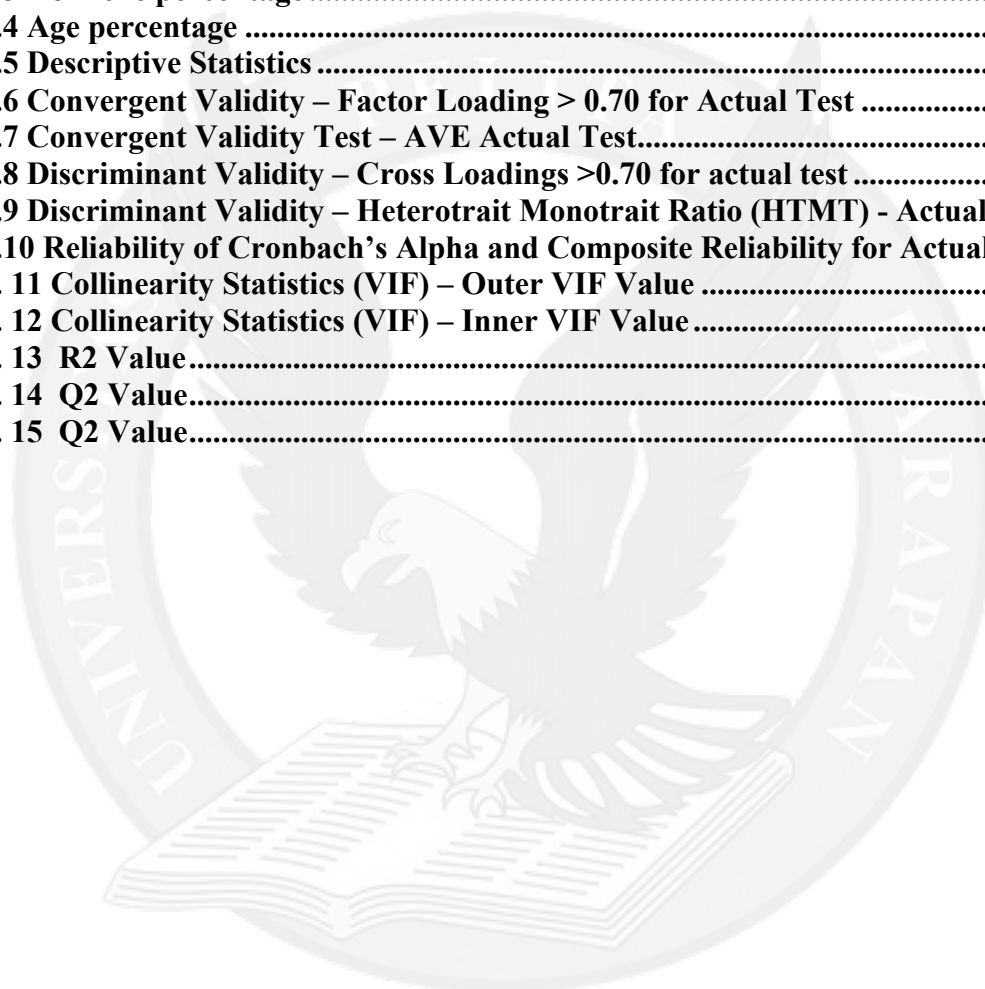
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