Summaries with Coded Segments - phd-story-annotations-merged.mx22

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| **Code** | **Coded segments** | **Summary** |
| Life after PhD | I ended up doing a lot of different things  01 - Andrew Quitmeyer's story (annotated by David): 18 - 18 (0)  ran an open source sex toy company.  01 - Andrew Quitmeyer's story (annotated by David): 18 - 18 (0)  I also had a TV show called “Hacking the Wild!”  01 - Andrew Quitmeyer's story (annotated by David): 19 - 19 (0)  Then I became a tenure track professor at the National University of Singapore  01 - Andrew Quitmeyer's story (annotated by David): 20 - 20 (0)  I led the first digital naturalism conference  01 - Andrew Quitmeyer's story (annotated by David): 22 - 22 (0)  I'm giving up this professor job!!  01 - Andrew Quitmeyer's story (annotated by David): 24 - 24 (0) |  |
|  | So after my PhD, I ended up doing a lot of different things. I ran an open source sex toy company. Creating sex toys is actually quite similar to creating devices for wild animals. They have to stand up against a lot of unexpected abuse and environmental hazards and create stimuli and new interesting kind of less verbal ways of communication. It unfortunately got attacked and destroyed by a horrible patent trolls.  01 - Andrew Quitmeyer's story (annotated by Marek): 18 - 18 (0)  I also had a TV show called “Hacking the Wild!”. It was all right, a lot of these producers did a lot of really shady things, I tried to use my role in this TV show to fight against this shadiness and make things more inclusive, especially for the women, in this man dominated survival genre. They also did things like it wasn't even supposed to be a survival show to begin with. So there's a lot of deception and stuff that lured me into participating in the show. It ended up attracting a broader audience than I would have been able to connect with anyway. So that's always positive. But they would have me do things like, they would tell me okay you have to talk about how you're going to use this technology to defeat nature! And that was not something I was very interested in. So we did a season of that show, it kind of went okay, but we parted our ways.  01 - Andrew Quitmeyer's story (annotated by Marek): 19 - 19 (0)  Then I became a tenure track professor at the National University of Singapore. I've been here for about two years. I've been having really great sessions with my students. The students are just unbelievable and just so awesome and really great to work with to explore a lot of these topics. But the academic system that we're dealing with here has led me to actually resign from my job. So I'm actually resigning from my tenure track assistant professor job by the end of this semester.  01 - Andrew Quitmeyer's story (annotated by Marek): 20 - 20 (0)  I don't 100% know what I'm going to do. My dream goal is to try to start my own art science field station. I want to create these opportunities for artists and scientists and engineers and hackers and everyone interested in this interesting rich combination of where wild field biology meets new digital technology. I want to be able to have a place that puts them together let's them express themselves and experiment and curiously explore all of this together. That's my goal! I'm trying to figure out where this can be, how I'm going to fund it, how I'm gonna keep it sustainable. But a I've done a couple beta test before this.  01 - Andrew Quitmeyer's story (annotated by Marek): 21 - 21 (0)  I led the first digital naturalism conference, which was a big free conference that tried to address a lot of the really terrible problems in academic publishing and sharing of ideas; where academics are being attacked by these people looking to lock off knowledge, which is just a terrible idea. That's not how academia, especially not how science, can proceed by putting things behind paywalls. So instead having a conference where we all collaborate and review each other's ideas and concepts and projects and we share them all back out to the world. This was a huge success! You can see the results at dinacon.org or just look up “The Digital Naturalism Conference”.  01 - Andrew Quitmeyer's story (annotated by Marek): 22 - 22 (0) |  |
|  | I began to make plan for job application after graduation  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by Bach): 59 - 59 (0)  And unlike all graduates, my job application process was a lot harder. Before me, other graduates also got a job in Apple, Microsoft and many other research labs. So I was also confident that I could get a job in two or three months and be able to graduate in the summer of 2018.  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by Bach): 62 - 62 (0)  My job application lasted half a year from the end of February to the end of August, 2018. I made about 50 phone interviews and onsite interviews at eight companies, flied about twenty or thirty trips and drove up to thousands of miles in the summer.  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by Bach): 64 - 64 (0)  Close on graduation day, I received two acceptance letters at two startup companies in Sillicon Valley. After consulting with many friends, I decided to take the position of 'Deep Learning and Computer Vision Researcher' of a self-driving car company. I was the 13th employee of the company  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by Bach): 64 - 64 (0) |  |
|  | my job application process was a lot harder  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by David): 62 - 62 (0)  My job application lasted half a year from the end of February to the end of August, 2018. I made about 50 phone interviews and onsite interviews at eight companies, flied about twenty or thirty trips and drove up to thousands of miles in the summer. I liked Seattle but three companies that invited me to the interview all said that I lacked practical experience. The same thing happened with me in two companies on the East Coast of the United States. Close on graduation day, I received two acceptance letters at two startup companies in Sillicon Valley. After consulting with many friends, I decided to take the position of 'Deep Learning and Computer Vision Researcher' of a self-driving car company. I was the 13th employee of the company.  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by David): 64 - 64 (0)  I was sad after receiving the first refusal emails but afterthat I did not have time to be sad because I had to worry too much about many things including personal works in the summer of 2018  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by David): 65 - 65 (0) |  |
|  | However, eventually you took a decision to leave academia and to land a position in industry  08 - Favio Caruso's story (annotated by David): 7 - 7 (0)  And after my PhD, I got three different job offers coming from industry, and I decided I needed to take advantage of everything I learned  08 - Favio Caruso's story (annotated by David): 10 - 10 (0)  It’s a lifestyle, industry is a lifestyle and you share it with many persons to pursue the same objective  08 - Favio Caruso's story (annotated by David): 18 - 18 (0)  When the PhD refuses to be a pure executor and start looking both on the detail and the big picture, those are the elements that the industry really would need. And these are the skills that PhDs have acquired during their life in university.  08 - Favio Caruso's story (annotated by David): 20 - 20 (0) |  |
|  | the importance of not burning bridges. In your career development, in your career transformation, try to keep contact with previous colleagues is always a great opportunity to learn, and to improve yourself  08 - Favio Caruso's story (annotated by Standa): 2 - 2 (0)  the outcome of this experiment was that companies were more prone to answer to my applications. While most universities didn’t even bother to reply to my emails. And my CV was short with just a list of competences and one or two lines of brief descriptions of previous experiences. And it was never my intention to make it large enough to interest the reader, like most academics expect your CV to be. So, my mindset had changed. And I realised that. I wasn’t paying attention to the words, I was already targeting the industry with my CV. And after my PhD, I got three different job offers coming from industry, and I decided I needed to take advantage of everything I learned. And I wanted to use it for something different than writing a research paper.  08 - Favio Caruso's story (annotated by Standa): 10 - 10 (0)  the ability to handle most of the tasks by myself. And first of all learning how to deal with bureaucracy and financial stuff, even though through the academic point of view. And also the small experience of teaching which I had the privilege to run into during my Phd. It gave me the chance to learn how to make a person understand even complex matters when you have a different education background. Thinking about the industry, not everybody is an engineer or physicist uh I don’t know… chemist. You may want to express yourself in a comprehensible way to be able to make everybody’s life easier.  08 - Favio Caruso's story (annotated by Standa): 16 - 16 (0)  PhD has the tendency to ask a lot of questions about their work. Sometimes this is good and sometimes this is bad. And industry sometimes doesn’t understand that it’s those good moments which are needed for companies. When the PhD refuses to be a pure executor and start looking both on the detail and the big picture, those are the elements that the industry really would need. And these are the skills that PhDs have acquired during their life in university.  08 - Favio Caruso's story (annotated by Standa): 20 - 20 (0) |  |
|  | Another question is definitely: what will I do after? Will I seek a career in academia or outside academia or both?  09 - Geneviève-Grégoire-Labrecque story (annotated by Vojtech): 8 - 8 (0)  applying to be a Public Scholar.  09 - Geneviève-Grégoire-Labrecque story (annotated by Vojtech): 9 - 9 (0) |  |
|  | post-PhD job market sucks  10 - Jack's story (annotated by Gollam): 63 - 63 (0)  possibilities are vast  10 - Jack's story (annotated by Gollam): 66 - 66 (0) |  |
|  | hen went on and did a couple of postdoc contracts  and then went on ultimately to start coaching PhD students and doing the work  that I do now  11 - James's story (annotated by David): 84 - 86 (0) |  |
|  | his student Armando Solar-Lezama is starting a professorship at MIT  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Gollam): 9 - 9 (0)  instance working at LogicBlox or Jane Street Capital  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Gollam): 41 - 41 (0)  accept a position at Carnegie Mellon University  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Gollam): 47 - 47 (0)  To keep myself from thinking about my uncertain future all the time, I start a cybersecurity accelerator, Cybersecurity Factory, with my friend Frank Wang,  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Gollam): 48 - 48 (0)  start a postdoc at Harvard Medical School  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Gollam): 54 - 54 (0) |  |
|  | Armando tells me it is time for me to graduate and go on the academic job market. I tell him the academic job market is a big commitment because 1) I don't know that working alone forever is the best way to achieve the things I want to achieve and 2) the work/life balance doesn't seem great. He says 1) is a result of how he chose to run his group, but if I don't want to put in the work of being a professor then I should wrap up my work as quickly as possible and move on with my life. We are both sad.  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Marek): 40 - 40 (0)  2013-2014 (Year Six). I spend a month having in-person and Skype meetings with people about other career paths, for instance working at LogicBlox or Jane Street Capital. After my mother reminds me I don't have to do computer science anymore, I consider becoming a writer or an artisan specializing in linocut block prints. Rocky, who works on my floor, tells me that usually everyone on the seventh floor can hear when I laugh, but he has not heard me laugh for six months.  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Marek): 41 - 41 (0) |  |
|  | Is there life after Ph.D.?  14 - Jindrich's story (annotated by Standa): 16 - 16 (0)  When by the end of June I signed up as a full-time (linked) data engineer in pharmaceutical industry starting in October, I knew I had exactly 3 months left to finish my thesis. After that point I assumed there would simply be no time to work on the thesis anymore.  14 - Jindrich's story (annotated by Standa): 42 - 42 (0) |  |
|  | enjoy working on theory, but ultimately what I really get  excited about is seeing things being applied outside  15 - Joshua-Dawes's story (annotated by Gollam): 48 - 49 (0) |  |
|  | I was taking my PhD while living in Berlin and now since 10 years I'm in Norway where i became professor  17 - Katrin-Franke's story (annotated by Bach): 2 - 2 (0)  And this is what we tell our PhD students today, less than 10% stay in academia. So when we have 100 PhD students today, only 10 or even less can continue in academia. So from the early beginning, look what is out there, spread your wings and also look for opportunities to continue in other areas of our societies.  17 - Katrin-Franke's story (annotated by Bach): 11 - 11 (0)  Then it's good if you have use the time during your PhD to find ways to educate yourself to be in continuous learning so that the culture shock from PhD to Postdoc is not so big.  17 - Katrin-Franke's story (annotated by Bach): 16 - 16 (0) |  |
|  | In particular for young PhD researchers close to finish, we all have been there wondering 'Oh my God, what shall I do now? What is next? Where to go on from here?' Because as I said in my talk earlier today, getting a PhD is only level 1 in Super Mario and in Super Katrin. At level 2, we need to reorientate ourselves. To be honest, in 2004-2005, shortly before finishing my PhD, I was not sure that I could continue in academia.  17 - Katrin-Franke's story (annotated by Vojtech): 8 - 8 (0)  The good foundation I had by then by being 13 years at Fraunhofer was that I had the experiences from Fraunhofer and working for the industry but also working in research. What you know is that either you go to industry or you try to stay in academia. I applied all over the world to find a follow up position that would allow me to do research. I was mentally prepared to go to industry. I got a great opportunity in Norway at a very small college where I could combine or use the experience I learnt from Fraunhofer working with industry and at the same time building up an academic environment.  17 - Katrin-Franke's story (annotated by Vojtech): 9 - 9 (0)  So my message for everybody, we have all been there. Don't cry if you cannot stay directly in academia. Sometimes it's even good to take a detour in industry because it will give us an exposure and to learn on what is required out there. With new insights you can eventually come back and pursue a second career in academia after pursuing a career in industry.  And this is what we tell our PhD students today, less than 10% stay in academia. So when we have 100 PhD students today, only 10 or even less can continue in academia. So from the early beginning, look what is out there, spread your wings and also look for opportunities to continue in other areas of our societies.  17 - Katrin-Franke's story (annotated by Vojtech): 10 - 11 (0) |  |
|  | So after the PhD it didn't make any difference I was still doing what I was doing during, before and after the PhD.  18 - Luca-Forcucci's story (annotated by Vojtech): 18 - 18 (0) |  |
|  | I am yet to see what the coming years have in store. I feel like this is just the beginning.  19 - Mariam's story (annotated by Standa): 76 - 76 (0) |  |
|  | I had this event in 2002 in December and in January I left the university. Because I had this two months left of work ahead and I had a plan to do it, but I got the job offer from the industry. I started working for the haulage industry in Sweden, in an R&D-based organization - those that once I've done consultancy work for. So I started programming, and started educating, and I started doing a lot of things in the industry. I had really a good time, and I made more money than I did as a PhD student, and all of a sudden it was 2006.  22 - Per-Olof-Arnäs's story (annotated by Bach): 17 - 17 (0) |  |
|  | I am a graduate software engineer at Prevayl, a start-up company based in Manchester. My job focuses on helping build the software that powers the new generation of smart clothing. I focus on building react native features for the mobile application, as well as dealing with the infrastructure and logic behind the app.  23 - Simona-Alexandra's story (annotated by Bach): 7 - 7 (0)  . After university, I had to define and adapt my priorities to accommodate a new schedule and learn budgeting skills  23 - Simona-Alexandra's story (annotated by Bach): 16 - 16 (0) |  |
|  | My studies at UoM have played a great role in opening a new world of opportunities around me. Moreover, having studied here has given me the foundation for a great software engineering career. I got to grasp fundamental knowledge from various computer science fields which have allowed me to find my path in the industry.  23 - Simona-Alexandra's story (annotated by Marek): 10 - 10 (0)  After university, I had to define and adapt my priorities to accommodate a new schedule and learn budgeting skills. It's a big transition, but I became accustomed to it after a few months. It's exciting to start new chapters in life and I am thankful and proud of my whole journey from being an undergrad at UoM to working in the software engineering team at Prevayl.  23 - Simona-Alexandra's story (annotated by Marek): 16 - 16 (0) |  |
| Private life (Non-academic) | I was undermining myself by  procrastinating by as I said showing up late and not really engaging with the  problems that came up  11 - James's story (annotated by David): 27 - 29 (0) |  |
|  | During this time, I look into acquiring more hobbies. I take some break-dancing classes at the Dance Complex but decide it's not my thing. I take up acrobatics (silks, rope, and static trapeze), for which I continue weekly classes on and off for about a year until I realize I am not serious enough about it (and travel far too much) to make continuing worthwhile.  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Marek): 19 - 19 (0)  I live in Seattle this summer, in a studio apartment on Capitol Hill. For traffic and productivity reasons, I take the 7am bus to work and stay at work until 7pm. There is a heated vinyasa yoga studio I go to after work most days. I love having a routine and Seattle in the summer and the energy of Capitol Hill at night, so I am very happy with my life. This summer, thanks to Chris's nomination, I also participate in the Lindau Meeting of Nobel Laureates, where Nobel laureates give talks about science, the research process, and the future of the world. I make friends with scientists from around the world and find the talks inspiring.  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Marek): 21 - 21 (0) |  |
| Private life (Non-academic) > Earning outside of university | then moved to China after that and I did more kind of media meets programming and engineering  01 - Andrew Quitmeyer's story (annotated by David): 6 - 6 (0)  I ended up getting this job that also combined cameras and engineering at this robotics lab, where we were trying to track ants for this collaboration with a group of ant scientists  01 - Andrew Quitmeyer's story (annotated by David): 8 - 8 (0)  You can't just do art unless you're some rich kid or something  01 - Andrew Quitmeyer's story (annotated by David): 9 - 9 (0) |  |
|  | my income earned mainly from teaching more  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by Bach): 10 - 10 (0) |  |
|  | income earned mainly from teaching more  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by David): 10 - 10 (0) |  |
|  | This eventually leads to my first internship  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Gollam): 12 - 12 (0)  win a Facebook Fellowship  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Gollam): 34 - 34 (0)  intern at Facebook  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Gollam): 36 - 36 (0)  continue contracting for Facebook  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Gollam): 37 - 37 (0) |  |
|  | 2011-2012 (Year Four). Armando starts putting pressure on Kuat to return to his project so Kuat stops collaborating with me. I am now collaboratorless and still haven't published anything on this language, now called Jeeves, so I become more and more hopeless. A couple of my friends, Marek Olszewski and Michal Depa, leave school to do startups. Marek invites me to join him. I'm not ready yet, but I have significant FOMO (Fear Of Missing Out). I take a class about startups and become friends with Tiffany Kosolcharoen, then a student at Sloan. Tiffany and I spend hours together every week and she teaches me an immense amount about the startup world.  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Marek): 30 - 30 (0) |  |
|  | A story of compromising research for paid work.  14 - Jindrich's story (annotated by Standa): 2 - 2 (0)  I faced a dilemma later prominent in my Ph.D.: compromising paid work for educational progress. Moreover, back then I still worked part-time at the National Library of Technology  14 - Jindrich's story (annotated by Standa): 13 - 13 (0)  By the end of 2011 it was clear to me that splitting my time between work and education leads to hardly any progress in either of them. As my former position was no longer tenable, in February 2012 I quit the National Library of Technology to focus on finishing my master’s thesis.  14 - Jindrich's story (annotated by Standa): 15 - 15 (0)  Since the research project funding at the University of Economics dried out, I arranged a part-time job for EEA from February to September 2015 working on the COMSODE project. There, I assumed a role of data janitor, tirelessly ETL-ing many government datasets. It gave me a novel perspective on the well-known setting of EU research projects. Working for a commercial project partner meant two things improved significantly: management and funding.  14 - Jindrich's story (annotated by Standa): 31 - 31 (0)  A peculiar turn of events took place in spring 2015. While it previously came short, the OpenBudgets.eu project was eventually funded and we were expected to start working on it as soon as possible, despite any plans we made in the meantime. I reluctantly accepted a part-time involvement on the project, starting in May 2015. With mixed feelings, I asked for a break from my Ph.D., lasting till September 2015 when my contract with EEA ended. Due to the workload I imposed on myself, I was simply unable to fit the Ph.D. in.  14 - Jindrich's story (annotated by Standa): 32 - 32 (0)  Consequently, since 2016 I started carefully reducing paid work to make room for research.  14 - Jindrich's story (annotated by Standa): 35 - 35 (0)  I needed another financial boost, one final kick before I was done with the Ph.D. The strategic alliance with Martin Nečaský came in handy again. Via this link I became a part-time open data expert at the Ministry of Interior of the Czech Republic, working on linked open data in statistics. During the summer of 2017 I pooled my time between this job, my thesis, and OpenBudgets.eu  14 - Jindrich's story (annotated by Standa): 41 - 41 (0)  Unfortunately, despite my careful planning I did not manage to hand in my thesis before starting a full-time job.  14 - Jindrich's story (annotated by Standa): 44 - 44 (0) |  |
|  | at the same time work at the Fraunhofer Society here in Berlin  17 - Katrin-Franke's story (annotated by Bach): 6 - 6 (0) |  |
|  | I wanted to keep my artistic career so it means many art tendencies and many commissions which sometimes became part of the research or not.  18 - Luca-Forcucci's story (annotated by Vojtech): 16 - 16 (0)  Basically I was already working mainly and I worked before I had my own architecture office, I was entrepreneur, researcher, artist I was self-founded, self-dedicated, self-research but published in a high impact factor journals but also exhibition and so on.  18 - Luca-Forcucci's story (annotated by Vojtech): 17 - 17 (0) |  |
|  | I had also worked for about a year and a half after my  degree  19 - Mariam's story (annotated by Bach): 3 - 4 (0) |  |
|  | Maria: If I understand correctly: after your PhD, you decided to leave academia.  PO: Actually, before.  Maria: Before - to take a job in the industry.  22 - Per-Olof-Arnäs's story (annotated by Bach): 10 - 12 (0)  Then I also started a consultancy on the side, writing computer programs for the transportation industry  22 - Per-Olof-Arnäs's story (annotated by Bach): 14 - 14 (0)  I've been keeping the thesis afloat. It was a monograph, so no papers. It was just that things needed to fall into place. Then in 2006, I said to my employer: "I need two months." So they say: "Okay, get two months, when don't have to do anything else." So they were actually funding my PhD thesis. I got December and January 2006-2007 and finished the thesis. It took two months, and I defended it in 2007 - eleven years after I started.  22 - Per-Olof-Arnäs's story (annotated by Bach): 18 - 18 (0) |  |
|  | I was part of UniCS and handled social media posts for my first year of university. I was also a volunteer for the Great Uni Hack during my second year of university and I participated in a few hackathons myself over the years. Through these activities, I learned more about cooperation, communication, organisation, as well as being part of a community of students with similar interests. Whilst hard skills are important in my job, soft skills are a crucial aspect of being part of a team so participating in extracurricular activities has helped me in that regard.  23 - Simona-Alexandra's story (annotated by Marek): 12 - 12 (0)  I started job hunting in my last year at UoM, around November. If you want to secure a graduate scheme, it's important to start early so you can go through a few interviews and get familiar with the process. I usually kept track of what companies I applied for, what interviews I had lined up, and rejections/successes in an Excel sheet to avoid becoming overwhelmed. It can be nerve-wracking in the beginning, but if you have a good CV, a wish to learn, and a positive attitude then it's much easier to find and secure a job.  23 - Simona-Alexandra's story (annotated by Marek): 14 - 14 (0) |  |
| Private life (Non-academic) > Family | the support (the harness) comes from family, friends, loved ones and of course peers and supervisors. These are the people you rely upon to get you through it; to be there in both the good and bad times. However, not all PhD students have a supportive network around them and can often feel isolated and alone. Isolation is common, very common in fact, during a PhD. There are those who work from home, who have families, who are carers, who may be ill themselves (either physically or mentally)  02 - Andy's story (annotated by Standa): 3 - 3 (0)  Use those more sociable occasions to create your own ‘harness’ or support network if you find you do not have support from family or friends.  02 - Andy's story (annotated by Standa): 4 - 4 (0) |  |
|  | My parents had invested me in learning English so much in previous years so I did not want them to carry more burden  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by Bach): 10 - 10 (0)  Brother Nam called me to his office and gave me a thick envelope: "I worked with me in two important projects, so I have a little paying for you and also support you more in the application. Wish you to success"  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by Bach): 11 - 11 (0)  This time, Mr. Long - my brother - helped me a lot  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by Bach): 11 - 11 (0) |  |
|  | I limited my family allowance  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by David): 10 - 10 (0)  My parents had invested me in learning English so much in previous years so I did not want them to carry more burden. Parents also did not understand my ability to be studied abroad and often anxiously advised me to consider going to work.  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by David): 10 - 10 (0)  This time, Mr. Long - my brother - helped me a lot, although he also worried about my ability to succeed.  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by David): 11 - 11 (0) |  |
|  | grew up happy and reasonably well-adjusted in a suburb of Minneapolis, Minnesota, part of a fun  07 - Erin's story - dropout (annotated by Gollam): 5 - 5 (0)  enjoys lots of time with her friends and family,  07 - Erin's story - dropout (annotated by Gollam): 7 - 7 (0) |  |
|  | I'll have  to tell my family my friends  11 - James's story (annotated by David): 48 - 49 (0) |  |
|  | However, I could not disregard the Ph.D.’s negative externalities. The Ph.D. levied a toll on my relationships with others. Oftentimes I grew cold, moody, and unresponsive, as I was churning through the flexible working hours for a precarious income. I definitely was not the cheeriest lad around.  14 - Jindrich's story (annotated by Standa): 50 - 50 (0) |  |
|  | longer breaks with my other  half or travelling for work.  15 - Joshua-Dawes's story (annotated by David): 61 - 62 (0) |  |
|  | you'd be the first like person to do a phd in our family so like you have our support and in case you find yourself following then just let us know and we'll help you  16 - Justin's story (annotated by Bach): 24 - 24 (0) |  |
|  | The first and most important network is of course your family and your loved ones.  17 - Katrin-Franke's story (annotated by Bach): 18 - 18 (0) |  |
|  | The first and most important network is of course your family and your loved ones. Remember on one hand that you are very dependent on them but they are also dependent on you and your loved ones may sacrifice their own life or career just for your PhD. So having this harmony at home even in times of struggle I think is very important.  17 - Katrin-Franke's story (annotated by Vojtech): 18 - 18 (0) |  |
|  | How to parse vowels with Umlauts, how to roll the 'r' at the back of my  tongue, and which bread and cheese to buy. But all in all I can say that I had a supportive family  which helped me in my endeavors to kick start my life a student after my gap year as an Au Pair.  19 - Mariam's story (annotated by Standa): 12 - 14 (0) |  |
|  | I called my mum and I was practically crying. I told her how  I embarrassed myself and how I set a goal that is too high. As always, she said believe that you  can and she comforted me. I decided to forget the horror and embrace the positives.  20 - Nyji's story (annotated by Vojtech): 37 - 39 (0)  To my parents who taught me to never stop believing in myself, and to keep reaching… I am  immensely grateful. I honestly can’t wait to pass these values you taught me to my children.  20 - Nyji's story (annotated by Vojtech): 76 - 77 (0) |  |
| Private life (Non-academic) > Friends | got to hang out with scientists and it was really really cool!  01 - Andrew Quitmeyer's story (annotated by David): 5 - 5 (0)  I had a friend who convinced me to go to grad school  01 - Andrew Quitmeyer's story (annotated by David): 7 - 7 (0) |  |
|  | issues in trying to find time to socialise, dealing with obnoxious peers  02 - Andy's story (annotated by Standa): 2 - 2 (0)  the support (the harness) comes from family, friends, loved ones and of course peers and supervisors. These are the people you rely upon to get you through it; to be there in both the good and bad times. However, not all PhD students have a supportive network around them and can often feel isolated and alone. Isolation is common, very common in fact, during a PhD. There are those who work from home, who have families, who are carers, who may be ill themselves (either physically or mentally)  02 - Andy's story (annotated by Standa): 3 - 3 (0)  Use those more sociable occasions to create your own ‘harness’ or support network if you find you do not have support from family or friends.  02 - Andy's story (annotated by Standa): 4 - 4 (0) |  |
|  | I found a group of about fifteen friends reviewing GRE. The group studied three time a week at a book cafe in Hanoi. On the first day, I saw that all people studied really seriously and methodically. I was so lucky because after the GRE exam, the group also gather together to file and helped each other a lot. The group continued to keep in touch and help each other in after years.  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by Bach): 9 - 9 (0)  Ms. Phuong of the GRE Group gave me a $ 500 envelope and said, "I believe that you will succeed so you can give me back when you go to the US."  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by Bach): 11 - 11 (0)  I was so lucky because there were a lot of Vietnamese students in Penn State. There were a number of Vietnamese families here so I soon found some friends  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by Bach): 52 - 52 (0)  I regularly participated in the activities of the Vietnam Student Association  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by Bach): 52 - 52 (0)  Fortunately, I made friend with two families Mr Quang-Mrs Hang and Mr Long – Mrs Duy. I would never forget beautiful memories with these two families.  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by Bach): 52 - 52 (0)  The first time I called so much to my friends in Vietnam. Then they were busy with their family and due to time difference so I talked less  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by Bach): 54 - 54 (0) |  |
|  | I found a group of about fifteen friends reviewing GRE  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by David): 9 - 9 (0)  The group continued to keep in touch and help each other in after years.  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by David): 9 - 9 (0)  I entered the lab with a friend named Yuelong Li from China in the same year.  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by David): 24 - 24 (0)  igher 0.5 point than Yuelong (it is the first time I got better than Yuelong)  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by David): 29 - 29 (0)  Firstly, I needed to make friend to other students  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by David): 52 - 52 (0)  There were a number of Vietnamese families here so I soon found some friends  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by David): 52 - 52 (0)  I made friend with two families Mr Quang-Mrs Hang and Mr Long – Mrs Duy  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by David): 52 - 52 (0) |  |
|  | the people that i work with in the lab are amazing i really love them and they are like aside from be like properly very good human beings they're they are really somehow inspirational because when you start doing your phd you think that it's going to be very difficult it's going to be very horrible you don't you won't do and sleep you will live out out of coffee and then you see that people that are farther on the on the way that that you are are doing all right and they are doing okay and they are encouraging you to do better so i think that we have a a very good little community of business students  06 - Elvira's story (annotated by Standa): 37 - 37 (0) |  |
|  | I knew other PhD students from other degree courses in the university of Palermo and I, what I remember their way of living  08 - Favio Caruso's story (annotated by David): 6 - 6 (0) |  |
|  | I'll have  to tell my family my friends  11 - James's story (annotated by David): 48 - 49 (0)  my colleagues who me up some of him and  become very close friends  11 - James's story (annotated by David): 49 - 50 (0) |  |
|  | . I am too lazy to make many friend  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Gollam): 13 - 13 (0)  I have two friends I stay with.  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Gollam): 14 - 14 (0)  I wish I had more female friends  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Gollam): 17 - 17 (0)  s I join a feminist discussion group  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Gollam): 18 - 18 (0)  my friend is getting married in Croatia at the end of June  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Gollam): 45 - 45 (0) |  |
|  | Outside of work, I try to avoid using my computer due to my repetitive stress injury. Because of the injury, I am also aggressive about working 8-hour days and taking breaks on weekends. I am too lazy to make many friends so I spend my free time reading, cooking, doing yoga, and running.  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Marek): 13 - 13 (0)  At the beginning of this year, I start telling people that I wish I had more female friends, since I realize that there are many fewer women around me than before. My friend Neha Narula tells me to respond to a call for people interested in starting a graduate women's group and I meet Kay Furman, a PhD student in the Health Science Technologies program. Along with a couple of other graduate women we start Graduate Women at MIT. Such a group had never existed and our proposals are met with a fair amount of skepticism, more from students than from administrators. At this point I still don't have many friends, so I spent many evenings and weekends working on building the organization: recruiting, fundraising, inviting speakers, writing materials about why we need such a group, etc.  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Marek): 17 - 17 (0)  As part of my acquisition of more female friends I join a feminist discussion group, also invited by Neha. We get together about once a month for a dinner hosted in one of our homes. These discussions and my friendships with the women in the group shape many of my views over the next few years.  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Marek): 18 - 18 (0)  To take a break after going straight from turning in my masters thesis to doing a internship, I treat myself by taking a two-week vacation. I take a road trip through Romania (and also parts of Serbia and Hungary) with my friend Florian who I met at some conferences. My friend Kate, who I met through the feminist discussion group and who has moved to Europe for an Erasmus masters program, meets us in Vienna, where Florian is studying.  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Marek): 25 - 25 (0)  This year, I also start to make more friends. I become good friends with my "cohort," the other students interested in programming languages and software engineering who I started with. I also become friends with many female scientists. I never had many female scientist friends before and this makes me happy because I feel much more understood.  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Marek): 27 - 27 (0)  Summer 2014. PLDI is in Edinburgh at the beginning of June and my friend is getting married in Croatia at the end of June. Since Armando is paying for the trans-Atlantic flights, I scheme to remain in Europe for the month.  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Marek): 45 - 45 (0)  I then spend a long weekend in Berlin visiting my friend Kate and a week wandering around various parts of Croatia for vacation purposes. I see Oslo for a day on the way back. I find the entire trip relaxing but find it difficult to return to normal life after.  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Marek): 45 - 45 (0)  For various reasons I also spend a lot of weekends in New York and make more friends with people working on data and journalism.  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Marek): 46 - 46 (0)  To keep myself from thinking about my uncertain future all the time, I start a cybersecurity accelerator, Cybersecurity Factory, with my friend Frank Wang, with the goal of helping research-minded people start companies. After Frank and I ran out of research things to talk about the natural next step was to develop a project of mutual interest and we're both interested pushing academic research into the world.  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Marek): 48 - 48 (0)  I don't have much of a social life this year. For a couple of my interviews I stay with friends beforehand and they listen to my talks. My friends Alison and Tobi make sure to force me out of my house for non-work reasons every once in a while. Every few weeks my friend Angela comes over and cooks me dinner. I remain grateful for my friends.  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Marek): 49 - 49 (0) |  |
|  | isolating  13 - Jillian's story (annotated by Vojtech): 25 - 25 (0)  these people are still often social and active within the  post-graduate community  13 - Jillian's story (annotated by Vojtech): 56 - 57 (0) |  |
|  | However, I could not disregard the Ph.D.’s negative externalities. The Ph.D. levied a toll on my relationships with others. Oftentimes I grew cold, moody, and unresponsive, as I was churning through the flexible working hours for a precarious income. I definitely was not the cheeriest lad around.  14 - Jindrich's story (annotated by Standa): 50 - 50 (0) |  |
|  | then i've got i have my friend one of my best friends lives with me right now in madrid he's working for a startup so like he also supports me a lot  16 - Justin's story (annotated by Bach): 26 - 26 (0) |  |
|  | So find you buddy, support each other and build a strong team. It is a culture of sharing that will help you to make a difference.  17 - Katrin-Franke's story (annotated by Bach): 31 - 31 (0) |  |
|  | The last thing is that I believe in buddies.  17 - Katrin-Franke's story (annotated by Vojtech): 31 - 31 (0) |  |
|  | I felt that it was better  to live in a foreign country under the protection of a host family than to come on one's own.  19 - Mariam's story (annotated by Standa): 8 - 9 (0)  How to parse vowels with Umlauts, how to roll the 'r' at the back of my  tongue, and which bread and cheese to buy. But all in all I can say that I had a supportive family  which helped me in my endeavors to kick start my life a student after my gap year as an Au Pair.  19 - Mariam's story (annotated by Standa): 12 - 14 (0)  I learned to never underestimate the  power of a strong and healthy social circle. My social circle gave me the guidance and desire to  push forward through their support spiritually, morally, mentally and academically. My social circle  is diverse and is made up of people who are high-achieving professors, PhD students, postdocs but  also people that have nothing to do with academia. If there is one valuable thing that I have learnt  while doing my PhD - it is networking. Surrounding myself with supportive people but also  removing or distancing myself from people who are not serving me or my God-given purpose in  life.  You need a solid circle of people around you that you can trust because a PhD can get lonely.  19 - Mariam's story (annotated by Standa): 59 - 67 (0)  Striving for a healthy work-life-balance also helped me on my journey to completing my doctorate.  19 - Mariam's story (annotated by Standa): 74 - 74 (0) |  |
|  | To do the PhD; I have my friends, they have done completely different careers, in industry  22 - Per-Olof-Arnäs's story (annotated by Bach): 41 - 41 (0) |  |
| University life (Academic) | I would say that’s probably the main word that the academia tends to forget is teamwork. And teamwork was something that I did not learn quite enough during my PhD  08 - Favio Caruso's story (annotated by David): 18 - 18 (0)  Academia has the tendency to be very, very closed.  08 - Favio Caruso's story (annotated by David): 22 - 22 (0)  Once you make a mistake, especially a big one, you realise that you have done something that can mark your life forever.  08 - Favio Caruso's story (annotated by David): 22 - 22 (0) |  |
|  | I didn't choose Concordia University as my "home" right away. Rather, I looked at different options thoroughly and it ended up being a good fit for my research and personal life.  09 - Geneviève-Grégoire-Labrecque story (annotated by Vojtech): 18 - 18 (0)  As an institution, I also value the kind of questions Concordia is raising and initiatives it supports to innovate, but also to be more critical, reflexive, inclusive and socially/racially just. Is it perfect? No, but I guess that finding the best fit for oneself, I.e., anchoring the "what, where, how, when, with whom", is about making the most of different factors deemed important for oneself: passion, stimulation, expertise, flexibility, timeline and goals, values, and funding, without it being completely flawless.  09 - Geneviève-Grégoire-Labrecque story (annotated by Vojtech): 22 - 22 (0) |  |
|  | your institution  13 - Jillian's story (annotated by Vojtech): 22 - 22 (0) |  |
|  | Technically my time at Manchester is also my time at CERN, and starting my career in an  applied environment, which is where I want to stay, has been perfect for me. CERN has  the perfect mix of industry and academia; I can do research (engineering and theory) and  publish, and then there are places to actually apply what you've worked on.  15 - Joshua-Dawes's story (annotated by David): 40 - 43 (0)  I support doing a split-site PhD\* (working with industry, as long as there's a research  culture in the part of industry you work with).  15 - Joshua-Dawes's story (annotated by David): 52 - 53 (0) |  |
|  | take a special course where young women could receive advice for instance in how to write a CV  17 - Katrin-Franke's story (annotated by Bach): 13 - 13 (0) |  |
| University life (Academic) > Administrative | I concentrated on preparing other documents.  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by Bach): 18 - 18 (0) |  |
|  | yeah paperwork is the worst i forgot that yeah paperwork bureaucracy in general that's horrible management it's like yeah that's how this help  06 - Elvira's story (annotated by David): 65 - 65 (0) |  |
|  | And first of all learning how to deal with bureaucracy and financial stuff, even though through the academic point of view.  08 - Favio Caruso's story (annotated by David): 16 - 16 (0) |  |
|  | First, I felt that being attached to a single field of study would be restrictive in terms of analyzing the complexity of childhood and children's rights. That's when I found Concordia's Individualized Program.  09 - Geneviève-Grégoire-Labrecque story (annotated by Vojtech): 19 - 19 (0)  Over the years, the program would encourage my creative inclinations, support my need for flexibility in terms of program structure and respect my intellectual autonomy, thus allowing me to lead the kind of research I am passionate about. In my opinion, four years (and counting!) can be a long time if there's no pleasure involved.  09 - Geneviève-Grégoire-Labrecque story (annotated by Vojtech): 19 - 19 (0)  I also feel that my program is human enough to support me if something goes wrong and needs to be addressed.  09 - Geneviève-Grégoire-Labrecque story (annotated by Vojtech): 21 - 21 (0) |  |
|  | There are policies and rules and regulations for everything. Of course, this keeps a lot of people employed, which is sort of a good thing, but it keeps me from doing what I really want. That can be really frustrating. Not only for me,who had been in industry, I think, it frustrates a lot of people -- the bureaucracy of universitie  22 - Per-Olof-Arnäs's story (annotated by Bach): 32 - 32 (0) |  |
| University life (Academic) > Administrative > PhD study obligations | The first thing I had to do was take an English test to see if I must learn more  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by Bach): 24 - 24 (0)  I had to take three courses of presentation and one academic writing course  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by Bach): 25 - 25 (0)  in the first session I took more 2 courses of the Linear Algebra and the Statistics and Probability  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by Bach): 26 - 26 (0)  I can only continue my PhD course if I pass this exam  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by Bach): 27 - 27 (0)  The candidacy exam had content mainly from statistical probability, so during the process of reviewing to take the final exam of Statistical Probability, I had accumulated a lot of knowledge. But this was one of the two subjects I got A-  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by Bach): 28 - 28 (0)  I focused on the exam for candidacy  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by Bach): 29 - 29 (0)  there was a rule in my lab that we must have at least three papers in major magazines before graduation  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by Bach): 38 - 38 (0)  I had to prepare for the second exam in the comprehensive exam  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by Bach): 42 - 42 (0)  After the comprehensive exam  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by Bach): 47 - 47 (0) |  |
|  | I had to take three courses of presentation and one academic writing course  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by David): 25 - 25 (0)  I took more 2 courses of the Linear Algebra and the Statistics and Probability  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by David): 26 - 26 (0)  to prepare for an important exam called candidacy exam. I can only continue my PhD course if I pass this exam.  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by David): 27 - 27 (0)  The candidacy exam had content mainly from statistical probability, so during the process of reviewing to take the final exam of Statistical Probability, I had accumulated a lot of knowledge.  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by David): 28 - 28 (0)  I focused on the exam for candidacy. I got 49.5 / 50, ranked first in the faculty  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by David): 29 - 29 (0)  The rest of the PhD course was a comprehensive exam and three transaction papers to graduate.  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by David): 30 - 30 (0)  I had to prepare for the second exam in the comprehensive exam. In this exam, I had to present the idea of ​​graduation theme in front of a board of four professors  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by David): 42 - 42 (0) |  |
|  | Usually in a week, I meet my supervisor for an hour to go over my progress for the week and discuss tasks for the next week. These can be considered as checkpoints in your PhD, which helps to ensure you are on top of everything. It can be as simple as discussing the result of an experiment to deliberating over a research paper.  04 - Crefeda Rodrigues's story (annotated by Marek): 8 - 8 (0)  We have usually two meetings with everyone in the APT group. One is the monthly group meeting to discuss the progress everyone has been making, problems we have encountered or achievements , (for example, a new publication). A research group will usually consist of people with varying levels of expertise and in different domains and these meetings are organized to make each one aware of the expertise that flows in the group, in case you find the need to tap into it at some point.  04 - Crefeda Rodrigues's story (annotated by Marek): 10 - 10 (0) |  |
|  | I have just submitted my PhD transfer report to my supervisors. What a relief! I was dreaming about  this day for weeks, and am so glad it has finally arrived. Although I really hated the process of  writing this wretched report to begin with, by the end of it I actually acquired taste for it, and  saw the benefits. This important milestone in my PhD life made me reflect on my year of doctoral  studies , and the things that I should have done, or have done better!  05 - Elena's story (annotated by Marek): 5 - 9 (0) |  |
|  | i well i have to teach as part of my formation for phd so but i haven't started yet  06 - Elvira's story (annotated by David): 51 - 51 (0)  restrict to the maximum time that and you have a maximum amount of hours that are like 60 a year  06 - Elvira's story (annotated by David): 53 - 53 (0) |  |
|  | you apply for the phd you should have to find your you're the supervisor so it wasn't the natural procedure i had the same supervisor that i have a master thesis so it was more or less clear that the topic would be the the same it is also an a very interesting topic  06 - Elvira's story (annotated by Standa): 5 - 5 (0)  in my case i have a lot do a lot of paperwork whenever i go to business trips  yeah paperwork is the worst i forgot that yeah paperwork bureaucracy in general that's horrible management it's like yeah that's how this help  06 - Elvira's story (annotated by Standa): 64 - 65 (0) |  |
|  | working on something that is, in your mind, cutting edge technology  08 - Favio Caruso's story (annotated by David): 9 - 9 (0)  And also the small experience of teaching which I had the privilege to run into during my Phd  08 - Favio Caruso's story (annotated by David): 16 - 16 (0) |  |
|  | I spend a couple of weeks reading papers, mostly about parallelism, and report to him every morning about what I've read. He gives me lots of advice about what life is going to be like.  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Marek): 6 - 6 (0)  I take Advanced Algorithms and Machine Learning in the fall and Advanced Complexity Theory in the spring.  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Marek): 7 - 7 (0) |  |
|  | Every PhD journey is slightly different. Your journey will be constructed not only by your  research, but by your supervisory team, your peers, your institution, your working pattern, and so  on.  13 - Jillian's story (annotated by Standa): 21 - 23 (0) |  |
|  | I officially began my Ph.D. on September 20, 2012.  14 - Jindrich's story (annotated by Standa): 17 - 17 (0)  Compared to teaching, other Ph.D. duties were relatively minor and infrequent. Once in a while I had to supervise bachelor’s or master’s theses and oversee admission exams of new students. I enjoyed the apprenticeship of supervising theses more than teaching, although few students invested more than required for a minimum viable thesis. Then there were academic duties that went without explicit acknowledgement, such as peer review, contributing to the bulk of unpaid labour that an obedient member of academia delivers.  14 - Jindrich's story (annotated by Standa): 20 - 20 (0)  The courses I was required to attend were largely irrelevant to the pursuit of my Ph.D. While I endured a course in IT management, I wondered why the courses on statistics or programming were left out of the curriculum. In retrospect, probably the most relevant was the introductory course on basic scientific methods, though it was definitely rudimentary.  14 - Jindrich's story (annotated by Standa): 21 - 21 (0)  I dedicated most of January to preparation for the doctoral state exam required after 3 years of Ph.D. The next month I passed the exam, albeit with a barely satisfying performance, and ticked off another Ph.D. duty: submitted a paper to my university’s Ph.D. symposium. With these tasks out of the way there was only one thing left to do: my thesis.  14 - Jindrich's story (annotated by Standa): 36 - 36 (0)  In December 2016, while entirely immersed in ETL of public procurement data, I realized that I forgot about the deadline for the preliminary thesis defense. By the end of the fourth year every Ph.D. student at my university is obliged to defend an 80% ready thesis. I started hastily piecing up my notes and former publications to meet my deadline coming up in February.  14 - Jindrich's story (annotated by Standa): 38 - 38 (0)  My thesis had meagre 60 pages when I submitted it to the preliminary defense. Yet I managed to conditionally pass the defense thanks to otherwise outstanding results, judged by the modest standards of my university. The stipulated condition was that the thesis would be reviewed once more before the final defense.  14 - Jindrich's story (annotated by Standa): 40 - 40 (0)  Apart from my turning in the thesis there were several other supplements I had to provide, the most puzzling one being a 20-page summary of the thesis. Frankly, who reads a 20-page summary? I thought people read either the abstract or the whole damn thing. Reservations aside, I bit the bullet once again and played by the rules.  14 - Jindrich's story (annotated by Standa): 46 - 46 (0) |  |
|  | main  purpose of your PhD is to teach you how to do research.  15 - Joshua-Dawes's story (annotated by David): 82 - 83 (0) |  |
| University life (Academic) > Administrative > University financing | Some other professors replied but said that they could receive me but no financial support  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by Bach): 14 - 14 (0) |  |
|  | I applied for the 2012 Honda YES scholarship with high expectations but failed  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by David): 11 - 11 (0)  Ms. Phuong of the GRE Group gave me a $ 500 envelope and said, "I believe that you will succeed so you can give me back when you go to the US."  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by David): 11 - 11 (0)  Brother Nam called me to his office and gave me a thick envelope: "I worked with me in two important projects, so I have a little paying for you and also support you more in the application. Wish you to success"  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by David): 11 - 11 (0)  Since August, I was no longer received salary, but I had to pay tuition and insurance for the fall.  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by David): 66 - 66 (0) |  |
|  | i couldn't do my experiments but it was like we are not going to buy this only for you for your thesis because there's a weight of our waste of money so institutional institutional support  06 - Elvira's story (annotated by David): 63 - 63 (0) |  |
|  | one of them infrastructural that i well i didn't have a gp igpu and that has been a major problem because i couldn't do my experiments but it was like we are not going to buy this only for you for your thesis because there's a weight of our waste of money so institutional institutional support yeah that's what that was one problem  06 - Elvira's story (annotated by Standa): 63 - 63 (0) |  |
|  | And first of all learning how to deal with bureaucracy and financial stuff, even though through the academic point of view  08 - Favio Caruso's story (annotated by Standa): 16 - 16 (0) |  |
|  | Unsurprisingly, funding is a key factor to help me through my PhD journey. Although "we should not have to win our salaries" as expressed by a fellow Public Scholar, there are several resources like GradProSkills Scholarship workshops (from which I benefited) to better understand the current funding system, to know the funding opportunities per areas of study, and to make the best possible applications.  Other possibilities within academia range from being funded by a supervisor, working on side research projects that are in line with one's own doctoral research, and teaching. I would recommend not being shy to ask professors, departments, faculties, institutions what is available and what can be done.  09 - Geneviève-Grégoire-Labrecque story (annotated by Vojtech): 26 - 27 (0) |  |
|  | and it got to my third year so the  final year of funding and the pressure had really really really started to  build  11 - James's story (annotated by David): 19 - 21 (0) |  |
|  | Saman pays for me to start early  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Gollam): 6 - 6 (0)  , I TA a new program analysis course taught by Arvind, Martin, and Armando  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Gollam): 24 - 24 (0) |  |
|  | In the following months I started running up into the limits of part-time contracts at the University of Economics. The only reasonable way for me to work more on the LOD2 project was to enroll in the university’s Ph.D. programme in applied computer science.  14 - Jindrich's story (annotated by Standa): 16 - 16 (0)  A cynical view has it that Ph.D. students are little more than a cheap resource to provision teaching  14 - Jindrich's story (annotated by Standa): 18 - 18 (0)  Under this impression, after a year, I decided to forfeit the Ph.D. stipend in order not to be required to teach.  14 - Jindrich's story (annotated by Standa): 19 - 19 (0)  Then there were academic duties that went without explicit acknowledgement, such as peer review, contributing to the bulk of unpaid labour that an obedient member of academia delivers.  14 - Jindrich's story (annotated by Standa): 20 - 20 (0)  Let’s talk money. My Ph.D. stipend amounted to 5400 CZK per month, which was 216 EUR, or 75.8 % of the minimal net wage at the time in the Czech Republic. Back then it was roughly what you would pay for renting a room in a shared apartment in Prague. Since the stipend could not cover the cost of living, I had to find other sources of income, most notable ones being research projects, typically involving uncertain part-time and fixed-term work. I was decidedly a part of the Ph.D. precariat, always compromising my research for paid work.  14 - Jindrich's story (annotated by Standa): 22 - 22 (0)  When the LOD2 project ended my future funding was unclear. By that time our proposal for a follow-up Horizon 2020 project called OpenBudgets.eu was rejected.  14 - Jindrich's story (annotated by Standa): 27 - 27 (0)  I used the gap in funding to do a Ph.D. internship at Politecnico di Bari, Italy, joining the research group of Tommaso di Noia between October and December 2014  14 - Jindrich's story (annotated by Standa): 28 - 28 (0)  re-enrolled as a full-time student in order to be eligible for the internship stipend.  14 - Jindrich's story (annotated by Standa): 28 - 28 (0)  Also, I received a decent funding that sorted out my financial situation for another month and filled in some gaps from the previous period that the university’s stipend failed to cover.  14 - Jindrich's story (annotated by Standa): 30 - 30 (0)  While it previously came short, the OpenBudgets.eu project was eventually funded and we were expected to start working on it as soon as possible  14 - Jindrich's story (annotated by Standa): 32 - 32 (0) |  |
|  | My  first contract with CERN was a Technical Studentship for 13 months  15 - Joshua-Dawes's story (annotated by Gollam): 71 - 72 (0) |  |
|  | i thought that like if if some if by any chance if i found myself floundering because i mean the stipend's not that much to be honest  16 - Justin's story (annotated by Bach): 24 - 24 (0) |  |
|  | I got a grant from the Swiss government. That grant was part of a program called the Swiss artists in labs that would put artists into scientific labs in Switzerland for 9 months. Then the idea was to see what kind of outcome can come from this research and interactions.  18 - Luca-Forcucci's story (annotated by Vojtech): 5 - 5 (0) |  |
|  | One thing that I had not thought  much about before this had been how to secure funding for my PhD. I spent most of my first year as  a PhD student apply for a fellowship.  19 - Mariam's story (annotated by Bach): 38 - 40 (0)  I submitted the exposé to one of the top ten scholarship  foundations of excellence in Germany, which also had funded my Masters'. I got the scholarship!  19 - Mariam's story (annotated by Bach): 40 - 41 (0)  I had to go through so many  steps of drafting and re-drafting the exposé and doing two interviews with different members of the  scholarship foundation before I could get the scholarship.  19 - Mariam's story (annotated by Bach): 42 - 44 (0) |  |
|  | One thing that I had not thought  much about before this had been how to secure funding for my PhD. I spent most of my first year as  a PhD student apply for a fellowship. I submitted the exposé to one of the top ten scholarship  foundations of excellence in Germany, which also had funded my Masters'. I got the scholarship!  19 - Mariam's story (annotated by Standa): 38 - 41 (0)  This by far has been one of the best experiences of my PhD journey. I had to go through so many  steps of drafting and re-drafting the exposé and doing two interviews with different members of the  scholarship foundation before I could get the scholarship. Getting a fully funded scholarship was  truly an achievement.  19 - Mariam's story (annotated by Standa): 42 - 45 (0) |  |
|  | I applied for funding together with the university for one PhD student in a project that was mutually published between us.  22 - Per-Olof-Arnäs's story (annotated by Bach): 22 - 22 (0) |  |
| University life (Academic) > Research | I really liked the sparse models and the mathematical algorithms so I chose the direction of research on the dictionary learning.  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by Bach): 33 - 33 (0) |  |
|  | when we develop theory we steer it by what we know is  needed in our practical setting  15 - Joshua-Dawes's story (annotated by David): 30 - 31 (0) |  |
|  | when I came across object-oriented programming, which was a completely different topic from logistics. I was wondering why it was so, because it was really useful - the modeling tools in the object-oriented programming world was really applicable in logistics, but no one had done it.  22 - Per-Olof-Arnäs's story (annotated by Bach): 14 - 14 (0)  I started to work together with the university. Instead of being a PhD student, I now started projects together with them. We hired a PhD student, we started looking into different areas.  22 - Per-Olof-Arnäs's story (annotated by Bach): 20 - 20 (0) |  |
| University life (Academic) > Research > Dissertation topic | I wanted to figure out how we can incorporate all these new interesting powers that we have with digital media into this kind of naturalistic exploration, this running around, this curiousness, this going in freely, exploring, poking and probing in trying to understand what these animals are doing in their own natural environments.  01 - Andrew Quitmeyer's story (annotated by David): 10 - 10 (0)  digital naturalism  01 - Andrew Quitmeyer's story (annotated by David): 11 - 11 (0) |  |
|  | I remember taking biology classes in my undergrad but always just because I thought they were super fun and it never even really dawned on me that you could really do that as like a career. So I had a little bit of an existential crisis. I'm like oh God I should just been a field biologists, this would have been amazing!  01 - Andrew Quitmeyer's story (annotated by Marek): 9 - 9 (0) |  |
|  | Digital Image/ Signal Processing  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by David): 9 - 9 (0) |  |
|  | Start with...passion. When you start working on your project, the topic that you choose may be  too broad, and needs narrowing down. Well, make sure that you narrow it down to something that YOU  want to do for 3- 4 years, not something that your supervisors or advisors want but something that  YOU are really passionate about. My topic was too vague to begin with, and it took me ages to find  the right focus but now I am quite happy that I am working on a research project that will  contribute to the existing knowledge but at the same time can make a difference to policy and  practice! The only disappointment is that it took me too long to focus the topic.  05 - Elena's story (annotated by Marek): 12 - 18 (0) |  |
|  | i mostly focus my research on finding like potential synergies between classical symbolic approaches such as knowledge graphs and ontologies with a sub-symbolic learning methods such as most neural networks and deep learning related models and i'm mostly focusing on knowledge of embeddings on enhancing knowledge of embeddings by using deep learning approaches and also extracting symbolic information from deep learning approaches  06 - Elvira's story (annotated by David): 1 - 1 (0)  didn't have that much time to define my topic because it was like designated to me by my supervisor and on my master thesis so i've been working on this before starting my phd it was part of my master thesis  06 - Elvira's story (annotated by David): 3 - 3 (0)  extracting rules or give explanations to predictions made by knowledge of many models you know all this opening the black box trend that is going on on machine learning especially  06 - Elvira's story (annotated by David): 25 - 25 (0)  i will develop like a proper tool with that because now it's a lot of algorithms and set of experiments  06 - Elvira's story (annotated by David): 29 - 29 (0) |  |
|  | research on finding like potential synergies between classical symbolic approaches such as knowledge graphs and ontologies with a sub-symbolic learning methods such as most neural networks and deep learning related models and i'm mostly focusing on knowledge of embeddings on enhancing knowledge of embeddings by using deep learning approaches and also extracting symbolic information from deep learning approaches so it's not really properly defined or closed yet but i'm mostly working like in the intersection between those both fields  06 - Elvira's story (annotated by Standa): 1 - 1 (0)  well i actually didn't have that much time to define my topic because it was like designated to me by my supervisor and on my master thesis so i've been working on this before starting my phd it was part of my master thesis and it would be like two years yeah it would be like over two years ago more or les  06 - Elvira's story (annotated by Standa): 3 - 3 (0)  yeah you know when you finish your master thesis and you apply for the phd you should have to find your you're the supervisor so it wasn't the natural procedure i had the same supervisor that i have a master thesis so it was more or less clear that the topic would be the the same it is also an a very interesting topic and most because my background on the thing that i did before joining the group was mostly related to deep learning on itself like mostly applied to images so we need to find like a middle ground that that was between my original background that was mostly material learning with the things that were being developed in the group which are mostly you know knowledge wraps link data intelligence etc so without on starting this line that um well it's working mostly in the intersection so we focus on knowledge of embedding there are a lot of work to do as we could also have focus for example on world embeddings or classification or all that  06 - Elvira's story (annotated by Standa): 5 - 5 (0)  well i ideally it will be yeah ideally we'll be extracting rules or give explanations to predictions made by knowledge of many models you know all this opening the black box trend that is going on on machine learning especially and i'm now really focusing on that and to tackle that i divided it in sub tasks and that's what i what i'm trying to do but the final goal would be will be that  06 - Elvira's story (annotated by Standa): 25 - 25 (0) |  |
|  | But I felt like I was about to go in an unexplored world. Because I didn’t know anyone that had started their PhD in electronics  08 - Favio Caruso's story (annotated by Standa): 6 - 6 (0) |  |
|  | Having some experience of the topic you're about to spend several years of your life studying will  help your cause significantly. This is especially important if your PhD topic is a departure from  any previous research experience at Master's level or elsewhere. Ask your supervisor how you can  prepare in order to hit the ground running. At a minimum, this will include understanding the most  commonly used techniques in your lab, and mastering the fundamental concepts applicable to your  project.  10 - Jack's story (annotated by Marek): 16 - 21 (0) |  |
|  | you don't have a clue what you want from your research, what it  means, how you will carry it out, or produce a thesis so huge that it reminds of you of James and  the Giant Peach.  13 - Jillian's story (annotated by Standa): 36 - 38 (0) |  |
|  | Having secured a team, we needed a challenge it could work on. I started writing down a proposal that later turned into a part of the LOD2 project applying linked open data for running a distributed marketplace of public sector contracts. I based it on a suspicion that linked open data can serve as a better infrastructure for online markets. In such infrastructure, I surmised, we could operate matchmakers to link relevant demands and offers.  14 - Jindrich's story (annotated by Standa): 9 - 9 (0)  There is no way of telling that a Ph.D. is done, except the (arbitrary and untimely) end you set for yourself.  14 - Jindrich's story (annotated by Standa): 42 - 42 (0) |  |
|  | I start by saying that it's aimed at automating, as much as possible, the analysis of  the behaviour of computer programs.  15 - Joshua-Dawes's story (annotated by David): 15 - 16 (0)  this goal consists of developing a lot of theory and then,  based on the theory, implementing tools for developers to use. These tools let software  engineers:  1) describe how their system should behave;  2) check whether it's actually  behaving like that when the program runs; and  3) find the places where there might have been a deviation from expected behaviour, and then try to determine why.  15 - Joshua-Dawes's story (annotated by David): 17 - 23 (0) |  |
|  | the analysis of  the behaviour of computer programs  15 - Joshua-Dawes's story (annotated by Gollam): 15 - 16 (0) |  |
|  | His main research back then was about out-of-body experiences. The idea was to see how we can handle prosthetics, so various issues and so on. Most of the research is conducted to have virtual imagery, meaning the integration of this in the brain is multimodal so the idea was to see what's the role of the sound so we conducted research on that part.  18 - Luca-Forcucci's story (annotated by Vojtech): 6 - 6 (0)  With this idea of how we perceive sounds, what's the role of embodiment into sound and personally I was interested in mental imagery: What kind of mental imagery there would be in the mind of a person when this person will listen to a particular sound or particular composition or particular sound installation.  Obviously, everyone has a personal historical background and memory of course but it was interesting to see if particular space or architectural space would be represented by the brain and if we can find patterns.  18 - Luca-Forcucci's story (annotated by Vojtech): 7 - 8 (0)  The research was practice-based research mainly.  18 - Luca-Forcucci's story (annotated by Vojtech): 16 - 16 (0)  I have more experience with design and art because I worked with it.  It's a very old topic "Art and Science", they were not differentiated back then you had Marcel Duchamps whom was inspired by Heny Poincar�. It goes back to the 12th century in Persia where researchers were also philosophers, poets, astronoms, there is nothing new.  I would say just be original... Well, it's not really original to say that.  18 - Luca-Forcucci's story (annotated by Vojtech): 47 - 49 (0)  A friend of mine works as physicist and he made is PhD on laser- very precise - he worked on microscopes  18 - Luca-Forcucci's story (annotated by Vojtech): 80 - 80 (0) |  |
|  | Having studied at Makerere and knowing what it takes to achieve a PhD  19 - Mariam's story (annotated by Bach): 32 - 32 (0)  I wrote an exposé (proposal) which granted me a spot as  a PhD student at the department of English and American Studies  19 - Mariam's story (annotated by Bach): 37 - 38 (0) |  |
|  | I wanted to research more about novels, films, poetry, art, documentaries by and about Black  people in Europe.  Having studied at Makerere and knowing what it takes to achieve a PhD, I got in touch with the  professor that I felt would be the best fit for what I planned to research about.  19 - Mariam's story (annotated by Standa): 30 - 33 (0) |  |
|  | my topic “Molecular markers design for  oxidative stress tolerance for the entomopathogenic nematode Heterorhabditis bacteriophora”  20 - Nyji's story (annotated by Vojtech): 30 - 31 (0) |  |
|  | provide with the policy yes police with with the the tool to analyze the documents and then the journalists to to have better recommendations  21 - Pablo's story (annotated by Gollam): 9 - 9 (0) |  |
|  | the motivation of the my thesis appeared when i realized that there is a gap in the and during the three projects was the same the panel papers the other reaction they were also the drug agency and the police they always tell me the same day that i am doing name entities ah but i don't want this why not i know this is not a person this is not a this is not a true person that i want this is not a true disease that i want or this is not a true company that i want and what it wasn't interesting to say okay why there's nothing about in the literature to see that kind of things there's nothing to classify or prune the the name entities that i'm taking yeah  21 - Pablo's story (annotated by Vojta): 16 - 16 (0) |  |
|  | In terms of the impact of my work, I get to be part of the team that revolutionises how people train and how their performance is dynamically analysed and used to offer powerful insights and training advice.  23 - Simona-Alexandra's story (annotated by Bach): 8 - 8 (0) |  |
| University life (Academic) > Research > Fieldwork/experimental research | field expeditions  01 - Andrew Quitmeyer's story (annotated by David): 12 - 12 (0)  I did a lot of my PhD field work at the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute in Panama  01 - Andrew Quitmeyer's story (annotated by David): 12 - 12 (0)  distilling it and creating a set of design guidelines so other people like me, or people from nearby fields in engineering, or computing, or design, who want to work with these scientists, can have a set of basic design guidelines for how do you keep the naturalistic values that the scientists have created and maintain in their field without bringing all this technology in that just bulldozers over everything  01 - Andrew Quitmeyer's story (annotated by David): 17 - 17 (0) |  |
|  | I did a lot of my PhD field work at the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute in Panama. There I got to survey what the different scientists were up to, what kind of tools they were using, how they use these tools and how they could use new different types of tools.  01 - Andrew Quitmeyer's story (annotated by Marek): 12 - 12 (0)  I would do workshops out there, we program different types of media, do physical computing, do sensing, all kinds of different things as well as more artistic and cultural forms of exploring what their projects were. I would have them do performance art in the jungle and you know that transects that they would run. I would have them put on performances that involved digital media they could program that would bring in people from the local community to understand what they're doing and how their research works and what's going on with these things at these tiny scales and bring it to a more human like scales.  01 - Andrew Quitmeyer's story (annotated by Marek): 13 - 13 (0) |  |
|  | In the summer of 2014, I was assigned the first topic of classification and detection of cancer cells in medical images.  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by Bach): 34 - 34 (0)  I was tasked with improving the accuracy of taxonomy algorithm  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by Bach): 34 - 34 (0) |  |
|  | I was tasked with improving the accuracy of taxonomy algorithm  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by David): 34 - 34 (0)  I had a magazine article and proposed a new idea for the problem of classification  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by David): 42 - 42 (0) |  |
|  | two main problems have been one of them infrastructural that i well i didn't have a gp igpu and that has been a major problem because i couldn't do my experiments  06 - Elvira's story (annotated by David): 63 - 63 (0) |  |
|  | the way I do research (ethics, methods), volunteering in a consultation on the right of children to a healthy environment, working as a research assistant alongside children in the Growing with the city research project  09 - Geneviève-Grégoire-Labrecque story (annotated by Vojtech): 9 - 9 (0) |  |
|  | read and  digest two or three interesting papers per week at the least  10 - Jack's story (annotated by Gollam): 53 - 54 (0) |  |
|  | A sizable proportion of your time will be spent writing, creating presentations and generally doing  work outside the lab. Deciding how you store and organize this from the get-go is essential.  Backing up work to a server will, at some point, prevent a serious headache. Get into the habit of  noting down everything  — even seemingly irrelevant events can turn out to be important. Also, track your spending from the  very beginning by keeping up-to-date records of everything you purchase; consumables, equipment,  travel costs, the lot. Congratulations, you're now the scientist-accountant you always dreamt of  being.  10 - Jack's story (annotated by Marek): 23 - 30 (0) |  |
|  | I was supposed to do various kinds of analysis  on these...  11 - James's story (annotated by David): 5 - 6 (0)  was  working in the lab and doing these very very very delicate sample preparation  techniques it took two or three days to get things ready to actually run an  experiment and at the very final stage  11 - James's story (annotated by David): 29 - 32 (0)  and then the experiments worked so obviously then  I thought shit now I can't quit  11 - James's story (annotated by David): 65 - 66 (0)  I applied this to all of the rest of the  experiment  11 - James's story (annotated by David): 73 - 74 (0) |  |
|  | we build Verve, an operating system verified for type and memory safety  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Gollam): 14 - 14 (0)  My first year we started with a vague idea  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Gollam): 15 - 15 (0)  people don't care much about data imputation, especially since our results are not particularly good  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Gollam): 15 - 15 (0)  security might be a better application domain  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Gollam): 15 - 15 (0)  spend most of my time working on a tool for stuffing proofs into bytecode and taking them back out  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Gollam): 20 - 20 (0)  I have this OCaml interpreter implementation for proto-Jeeves that I have been working on  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Gollam): 23 - 23 (0)  I build a small conference management system using Jeeves,  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Gollam): 33 - 33 (0)  I am really excited to finally be thinking about the problem of extending the programming model to the database, especially as this is something I had wanted to do for two years  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Gollam): 43 - 43 (0)  spend most of the fall preparing a submission about the Jeeves-based web framework to PLDI  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Gollam): 47 - 47 (0)  I spend the first part of the summer working on writing up the Jeeves-based web framework work, which has continued to be rejected from every conference  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Gollam): 50 - 50 (0) |  |
|  | for at least the next three years you're the only one on the planet doing  this specific research (at least you hope — the original contribution race is a blog for another  day).  13 - Jillian's story (annotated by Vojtech): 17 - 19 (0) |  |
|  | I arranged a part-time job for EEA from February to September 2015 working on the COMSODE project. There, I assumed a role of data janitor, tirelessly ETL-ing many government datasets. It gave me a novel perspective on the well-known setting of EU research projects.  14 - Jindrich's story (annotated by Standa): 31 - 31 (0)  In order to maintain my sanity during my long Ph.D. journey I occasionally worked on things whimsical. One of these “extra-curricular” efforts was DB-quiz, a Wikipedia-based knowledge game imitating a well-known Czech TV show. I found these activities fulfilling, perhaps because they helped me establish a sense in my Ph.D. in opposition to a clear nonsense. Obviously, I could not settle for anything halfway, so I followed through with the joke to the very end and turned DB-quiz into an academic paper, later winning a prize for the best Ph.D. publication at the University of Economics  14 - Jindrich's story (annotated by Standa): 33 - 33 (0) |  |
|  | there is a large  theoretical aspect of my research  15 - Joshua-Dawes's story (annotated by David): 28 - 29 (0) |  |
|  | describe how their system should behave  15 - Joshua-Dawes's story (annotated by Gollam): 20 - 20 (0)  check whether it's actually  behaving like that when the program runs; and  15 - Joshua-Dawes's story (annotated by Gollam): 21 - 22 (0)  find the places where there might have been a deviation from expected behaviour, and then try to determine why.  15 - Joshua-Dawes's story (annotated by Gollam): 23 - 23 (0) |  |
|  | working on a specific field like extracting extracting relations some specific relations from text  16 - Justin's story (annotated by Bach): 7 - 7 (0) |  |
|  | Exactly and for this I had to train people because there's a big difference between hearing a sound and listening to a sound. It was pointed out by the philosopher Roland Barthes. Hearing is a physiological act whereas listening is a psychological act. I had to train people to listen and to have a dedicative listening in order to see those images and ask them what kind of architecture spaces we were seeing and then try to find if there were patterns.  18 - Luca-Forcucci's story (annotated by Vojtech): 12 - 12 (0)  What I perceived is the space that I found among those participants which was 30 people for each piece so it means 180 people in total. The pattern I saw was a very small space, my hypothesis is that space that they perceive is their own body.  18 - Luca-Forcucci's story (annotated by Vojtech): 14 - 14 (0)  Take that time to experiment  18 - Luca-Forcucci's story (annotated by Vojtech): 53 - 53 (0) |  |
|  | Long  hours writing, doing research and drafting papers and also having to work on the side  19 - Mariam's story (annotated by Bach): 67 - 68 (0) |  |
|  | used corpus the most collection of documents are from 2002 and 2003 in a conference continental  21 - Pablo's story (annotated by Gollam): 18 - 18 (0)  there are heterogeneity in the documents there are multi-lingualism documents there are noisy texts b  21 - Pablo's story (annotated by Gollam): 18 - 18 (0) |  |
| University life (Academic) > Research > Scientific project participation | I was assigned the first topic of classification and detection of cancer cells in medical images  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by David): 34 - 34 (0) |  |
|  | I would say that’s probably the main word that the academia tends to forget is teamwork. And teamwork was something that I did not learn quite enough during my PhD. I learned how to deal with myself, and my problems and not with the whole problems of the whole team, in a research team that can happen  08 - Favio Caruso's story (annotated by Standa): 18 - 18 (0) |  |
|  | Are they interested in collaborating in research projects and articles?  09 - Geneviève-Grégoire-Labrecque story (annotated by Vojtech): 20 - 20 (0)  working on side research projects that are in line with one's own doctoral research,  09 - Geneviève-Grégoire-Labrecque story (annotated by Vojtech): 27 - 27 (0) |  |
|  | Don't be afraid to say no  When you begin your PhD, there'll be opportunities abound. If you think that becoming involved in a  new project or opportunity will distract you from your primary interest, don't be afraid to turn it  down. Staying focused on what inspires you will keep your productivity high and your work at its  best.  10 - Jack's story (annotated by Marek): 57 - 61 (0) |  |
|  | initially my project was supposed to be a collaboration between two different  departments  11 - James's story (annotated by David): 3 - 4 (0)  So someone from another department (anther PhD student) was  providing samples and then I was supposed to do various kinds of analysis  on these...  11 - James's story (annotated by David): 4 - 6 (0)  I was shifted  on to a different project... entirely different project - some of the same  skills but it basically meant learning some really new stuff starting again  from scratch  11 - James's story (annotated by David): 13 - 16 (0)  it was a very difficult project because it was instrument  development and things kept breaking down  11 - James's story (annotated by David): 18 - 19 (0) |  |
|  | Armando starts putting pressure on Kuat to return to his project so Kuat stops collaborating with me.  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Gollam): 30 - 30 (0) |  |
|  | I get involved with and become lead author on a PLDI submission with Saman and Martin Rinard about a programming language for trading off power and accuracy. This paper is pretty good for having come into existence over the course of 1.5 months, but not objectively a great paper--and it gets rejected.  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Marek): 8 - 8 (0)  Soon we are meeting and working so much I no longer have time for the other project, which was a suboptimal fit anyway for various reasons.  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Marek): 9 - 9 (0)  2009-2010 (Year Two). I continue to work with Armando, on the project that eventually becomes the Jeeves programming language. My first year we started with a vague idea that dynamic constraint-solving was useful for handling corner cases that static program synthesis could not handle well. We apply this to data imputation. We learn over the course of 1.5 years of paper submissions that people don't care much about data imputation, especially since our results are not particularly good. By the end of my second year, we start thinking that security might be a better application domain. This cumulative work is my masters thesis. We still have many things to figure out at this point so I am not that excited about my thesis. I try to ask for an extension but Armando tells me to just turn it in.  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Marek): 15 - 15 (0)  2010-2011 (Year Three). Now I am done with classes, have no more routine, and have to return to working on my project I am not that excited about, so I am less happy than before. I have this OCaml interpreter implementation for proto-Jeeves that I have been working on. To make things scale, I implement a C backend and a garbage collector. It integrates with the Yices constraints solver. It is hard to do anything with this interpreter because it requires a lot of work to experiment with language features. I do not feel much hope about the project. I shop around for other projects  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Marek): 23 - 23 (0)  Summer 2011. I decide to stay around MIT to focus on research. My groupmate and officemate Kuat Yessenov tells me it would be simple to implement my language as an embedded domain-specific language in Scala. Kuat makes a prototype implementation and begins to collaborate with me on the project. This changes everything. All of the sudden, the language has hope of becoming practical. A nice story about Jeeves emerges: it is a convenient and practical programming model that lets you factor out information flow policies. It seems natural and like the way to go--but formalization is not entirely straightforward and there are some interesting theoretical properties too. It is great to collaborate with Kuat, who is very smart. We submit a paper to POPL. We work hard, staying long nights in the office. I briefly become nocturnal in response to receiving feedback from my advisor in the evening and feeling compelled to make the changes before I sleep.  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Marek): 28 - 28 (0)  During the spring I build a small conference management system using Jeeves, not because I want to but because Armando says it is important to build things to see what breaks. This takes a lot out of me because Jeeves doesn't really work yet and I previously knew little about building web applications. We run out of memory all the time and I have to wake up in the middle of the night to restart the server. For weeks after, my friends make fun of me by sending emails telling me my server is down. For weeks, Armando and I wake up with nightmares in the middle of the night that our server is down. During this process I also realize that in order for language-based solutions to work, we have to have a better story with interfacing with the database. I feel proud that I convince Armando this is an important direction of future work. I also concede that it is important to build things.  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Marek): 33 - 33 (0)  The bigger project I'm a part of gets cancelled around February, for political and not technical reasons. I feel very disappointed, especially because my verifier had been very close to being put into production. I also feel relieved, because I'm exhausted from having two jobs and two social lives.  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Marek): 37 - 37 (0)  ummer 2013. I stay around school to work on the integrity story for Jeeves, which I continue to not believe in.  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Marek): 40 - 40 (0)  After I determine that one of my main issues with my project is that nobody uses Scala for prototyping web apps, I decide to switch to Python. Armando lets me take on an MEng (masters) student to convert our implementation to Python. I find Travis Hance. He finishes the conversion in the fall and we spend all spring collaborating on building a web framework based on Jeeves. I am really excited to finally be thinking about the problem of extending the programming model to the database, especially as this is something I had wanted to do for two years. I love having Travis as a collaborator. We decide to submit to OSDI. During the weeks before OSDI, we work together for 10-12 hours a day. I introduce him to many Kendall Square restaurants. During our breaks, we create Haskell Ryan Gosling.  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Marek): 43 - 43 (0)  Summer 2015. I spend the first part of the summer working on writing up the Jeeves-based web framework work, which has continued to be rejected from every conference. I get the framework to be much faster and work with my collaborators on a cleaner semantics. We submit to POPL and then I work on my thesis. The introduction and related work take much longer than expected, maybe about a month.  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Marek): 50 - 50 (0) |  |
|  | Weeks later I received an email from Sören, who concluded that we are qualified enough not to need help from the LOD2 project, and instead asked if we would consider joining the project as partners to represent the “Eastern Europe”. Well, Czechs like to think they are a part of the “Central Europe”, but I gladly seized this opportunity.  14 - Jindrich's story (annotated by Standa): 6 - 6 (0)  After some discussion it became clear that the National Library of Technology did not have the workforce required to join the LOD2 project. I turned to my next closest institution: the University of Economics in Prague, where I already worked on bibliographic linked data that paid for my November trip to Cologne. There was a small team, led by Vojtěch Svátek, already involved in semantic web research for a number of years. To make this team stronger, we formed a strategic alliance with the group of Martin Nečaský from the Faculty of Mathematics and Physics at the Charles University in Prague, thereby transgressing the traditional organizational boundaries. This union later proved successful and lasted through many research projects we worked on together. It perhaps contributed to our affiliations blending in the minds of our foreign project partners to a nebulous concept of the “University of Prague”.  14 - Jindrich's story (annotated by Standa): 8 - 8 (0)  Having secured a team, we needed a challenge it could work on. I started writing down a proposal that later turned into a part of the LOD2 project applying linked open data for running a distributed marketplace of public sector contracts. I based it on a suspicion that linked open data can serve as a better infrastructure for online markets. In such infrastructure, I surmised, we could operate matchmakers to link relevant demands and offers.  14 - Jindrich's story (annotated by Standa): 9 - 9 (0)  No idea is truly novel, and this one was no different. Its key inspiration came from Michael Hausenblas, whom I met at the Linked Data Research Centre at DERI (now Insight Centre for Data Analytics) in Galway, Ireland, where I worked as an intern in 2010. Michael had similar thoughts earlier and came up with Call for Anything, a lightweight vocabulary for machine-readable descriptions of demands on the Web, and prototyped an application matching developers to businesses using the vocabulary. There already was a well-known vocabulary for describing offers on the Web: GoodRelations by Martin Hepp. Call for Anything and GoodRelations clicked into place and I exchanged emails with Michael and Martin, thinking through an example application of matchmaking, which informed what later became our contribution to the LOD2 project.  14 - Jindrich's story (annotated by Standa): 10 - 10 (0)  We thought these poorly formed ideas through, enveloped them in profound academese, and eventually submitted them as an extension proposal for the LOD2 project.  14 - Jindrich's story (annotated by Standa): 12 - 12 (0)  I decided to fit everything in my limited waking hours and joined the University of Economics as an external researcher working on the LOD2 project.  14 - Jindrich's story (annotated by Standa): 13 - 13 (0)  The habit of following interesting work led me astray from my Ph.D. from time to time. For instance, between January 2013 and May 2014 I followed an opportunity to work with friends from new media studies at the Charles University on a project using semantic web technologies for the long tail of the job market  14 - Jindrich's story (annotated by Standa): 24 - 24 (0)  Contrary to my expectations, my actual contributions to the LOD2 project were rarely related to my Ph.D. More often than not I ended up doing the grunt work of data preparation or was swamped in the project admin and the ever-present “dissemination”. LOD2 project also allowed me to take the inverse role of what I asked for in 2010 at SWIB. It was the National Library of Israel to which I served as a linked open data expert in the PUBLINK programme. As a result, when the LOD2 project successfully concluded in September 2014 most of my Ph.D. work was still left to be done.  14 - Jindrich's story (annotated by Standa): 25 - 25 (0)  When the LOD2 project ended my future funding was unclear. By that time our proposal for a follow-up Horizon 2020 project called OpenBudgets.eu was rejected.  14 - Jindrich's story (annotated by Standa): 27 - 27 (0)  I arranged a part-time job for EEA from February to September 2015 working on the COMSODE project. There, I assumed a role of data janitor, tirelessly ETL-ing many government datasets. It gave me a novel perspective on the well-known setting of EU research projects.  14 - Jindrich's story (annotated by Standa): 31 - 31 (0)  A peculiar turn of events took place in spring 2015. While it previously came short, the OpenBudgets.eu project was eventually funded and we were expected to start working on it as soon as possible, despite any plans we made in the meantime. I reluctantly accepted a part-time involvement on the project, starting in May 2015. With mixed feelings, I asked for a break from my Ph.D., lasting till September 2015 when my contract with EEA ended. Due to the workload I imposed on myself, I was simply unable to fit the Ph.D. in.  14 - Jindrich's story (annotated by Standa): 32 - 32 (0) |  |
|  | CERN's Doctoral Student  programme.  15 - Joshua-Dawes's story (annotated by David): 5 - 6 (0) |  |
|  | When you are applying for a grant proposal,  17 - Katrin-Franke's story (annotated by Vojtech): 20 - 20 (0) |  |
|  | during the three projects was the same the panel papers the other reaction they were also the drug agency and the police  21 - Pablo's story (annotated by Gollam): 16 - 16 (0)  they were deliverable for european project  21 - Pablo's story (annotated by Gollam): 42 - 42 (0) |  |
|  | the most difficult part is that for me the projects i have been working in a lot of places like  21 - Pablo's story (annotated by Vojta): 28 - 28 (0)  to one european project to another country  21 - Pablo's story (annotated by Vojta): 38 - 38 (0) |  |
| University life (Academic) > Research > Writing dissertation | before defending the PhD dissertation successfully on 11/9/2018.  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by Bach): 49 - 49 (0) |  |
|  | I received the excellent dissertation in the faculty in April 2018, before defending the PhD dissertation successfully on 11/9/2018.  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by David): 49 - 49 (0) |  |
|  | The books that I found really useful are  Doing a literature search and Doing a literature review by Chris Hart. They provide a pretty good  picture of how you should go about your reading and writing in the initial stages of your PhD.  Record everything you read and save references. There are a number of great web- based tools  available out there. I personally use Zotero for organising research papers, and Delicious for  bookmarking useful websites, blogs etc. Choose whatever suits you! But take my advice, start using  them from the very beginning, and it will save you loads of time later on.  05 - Elena's story (annotated by Marek): 23 - 29 (0) |  |
|  | when I was writing my PhD thesis, I realised that I needed to write a good and honest CV, and send it both to universities and research institutes, and to companies of course  08 - Favio Caruso's story (annotated by David): 10 - 10 (0) |  |
|  | So, at the final phase of my PhD, especially when I was writing my PhD thesis, I realised that I needed to write a good and honest CV, and send it both to universities and research institutes, and to companies of course.  08 - Favio Caruso's story (annotated by Standa): 10 - 10 (0) |  |
|  | I applied it to the  writing of the thesis so anytime I had an experiment I tried to put  all of my effort in in a relaxed way and when I was writing my thesis I tried to  be as focused as I could on getting it done but without worrying about what the  examiners thought  11 - James's story (annotated by David): 74 - 78 (0)  having enough data to be able to write my  thesis then writing the thesis pretty quickly  11 - James's story (annotated by David): 80 - 81 (0) |  |
|  | I work on my thesis  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Gollam): 50 - 50 (0)  2015-2016. I defend!  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Gollam): 54 - 54 (0) |  |
|  | 2015-2016. I defend! I take two weeks off and then start a postdoc at Harvard Medical School. I slowly ease myself back into having hobbies and seeing friends.  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Marek): 54 - 54 (0) |  |
|  | I recently spoke to a third year PhD student, in the write-up stage, with only 12 weeks to go  before submitting the thesis. They told me that even now they still have periods of perplexity  while writing up.  13 - Jillian's story (annotated by Standa): 39 - 41 (0) |  |
|  | They told me that even now they still have periods of perplexity  while writing up.  13 - Jillian's story (annotated by Vojtech): 40 - 41 (0) |  |
|  | September 2016 marked the start of the final year-long grind on my thesis. In fall of 2016 I thoroughly redone the entire data preparation, meticulously documenting its every step and improving my crude data processing tools on the way.  14 - Jindrich's story (annotated by Standa): 37 - 37 (0)  In December 2016, while entirely immersed in ETL of public procurement data, I realized that I forgot about the deadline for the preliminary thesis defense. By the end of the fourth year every Ph.D. student at my university is obliged to defend an 80% ready thesis. I started hastily piecing up my notes and former publications to meet my deadline coming up in February.  14 - Jindrich's story (annotated by Standa): 38 - 38 (0)  My thesis had meagre 60 pages when I submitted it to the preliminary defense.  14 - Jindrich's story (annotated by Standa): 40 - 40 (0)  With a self-imposed deadline in sight I accepted the need for a bitter compromise. Compared with the original ambitions I left out many interesting experiments to be tried out. By the end of September I was mostly done, given my reduced work scope. Consequently, I passed the additional thesis pre-defense with no problems, giving me a green light to submit the final version of my thesis.  14 - Jindrich's story (annotated by Standa): 43 - 43 (0)  Unfortunately, despite my careful planning I did not manage to hand in my thesis before starting a full-time job. Due to an illness the thesis writing spilt by some weeks into October, with me working the evenings on final editing. I submitted my Ph.D. thesis on October 18. I was ｄｏｎｅ  14 - Jindrich's story (annotated by Standa): 44 - 44 (0) |  |
|  | I was in 2002, which was then my sixth year. We have this final seminar, which is supposed to be two months before PhD thesis is finished, where you have an external opponents, and all your colleagues  22 - Per-Olof-Arnäs's story (annotated by Bach): 16 - 16 (0)  And after that the opponent and you write the report each and say this needs to be done and this is time plan. Everyone signs off, and then you do the work, and a few months later you can publish your thesis.  22 - Per-Olof-Arnäs's story (annotated by Bach): 17 - 17 (0) |  |
| University life (Academic) > Research > Writing publications | The first four-page paper I wrote and edited many times according to the comments of my teacher and coworker for over three weeks  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by Bach): 35 - 35 (0)  Thankfully, that did not happen and my first scientific paper was accepted.  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by Bach): 35 - 35 (0)  there was a rule in my lab that we must have at least three papers in major magazines before graduation  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by Bach): 38 - 38 (0)  My teacher asked me to prepare everything for expanding just accepted conference paper  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by Bach): 39 - 39 (0)  I wrote a paper and by June 2015 I submitted the first draft to a famous magazine on Transaction on Medical Imaging  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by Bach): 40 - 40 (0)  Luckily, I received a response in early August, submitted an update in late September, and received an accepted email in late October. Total processing time was over four months - very fast compared to average time.  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by Bach): 40 - 40 (0)  In February 2016, after submitting another conference paper  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by Bach): 45 - 45 (0)  I had two more magazine articles and was writing one more  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by Bach): 47 - 47 (0)  I also had a few conference articles, including one listed in “Finalist for the best student paper award” on the ICASSP 2017 (more than 1000 articles were accepted, about 20 of them were proposed for the best article award.  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by Bach): 47 - 47 (0) |  |
|  | The first four-page paper I wrote and edited many times according to the comments of my teacher and coworker for over three weeks. I submitted the paper then I was so worried that I had ever dreamed that the article was rejected because its idea had been used before. Thankfully, that did not happen and my first scientific paper was accepted.  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by David): 35 - 35 (0)  ere was a rule in my lab that we must have at least three papers in major magazines before graduation  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by David): 38 - 38 (0)  I wrote a paper and by June 2015 I submitted the first draft to a famous magazine on Transaction on Medical Imaging  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by David): 40 - 40 (0)  I had a magazine article and proposed a new idea for the problem of classification  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by David): 42 - 42 (0)  after submitting another conference paper  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by David): 45 - 45 (0)  I had two more magazine articles and was writing one more  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by David): 47 - 47 (0)  I also had a few conference articles, including one listed in “Finalist for the best student paper award” on the ICASSP 2017 (more than 1000 articles were accepted, about 20 of them were proposed for the best article award.  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by David): 47 - 47 (0) |  |
|  | other problem was that well that you know some disagreements that i have with my with my supervisors like in the puzzle about what did this work with publishers work in our conference no because it's better for you to do it here  06 - Elvira's story (annotated by Standa): 63 - 63 (0) |  |
|  | I decided I needed to take advantage of everything I learned. And I wanted to use it for something different than writing a research paper  08 - Favio Caruso's story (annotated by Standa): 10 - 10 (0)  So it’s not just going back in books and research and writing papers  08 - Favio Caruso's story (annotated by Standa): 24 - 24 (0) |  |
|  | Are they interested in collaborating in research projects and articles?  09 - Geneviève-Grégoire-Labrecque story (annotated by Vojtech): 20 - 20 (0) |  |
|  | I didn't have any publishable results whereas all the other PhD  students in my research group were publishing papers and it really looked  like they were going to finish on time  11 - James's story (annotated by David): 21 - 23 (0)  going on to get enough data  for a couple of publications  11 - James's story (annotated by David): 79 - 80 (0) |  |
|  | I get involved with and become lead author on a PLDI submission with Saman and Martin Rinard about a programming language for trading off power and accuracy  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Gollam): 8 - 8 (0)  not objectively a great paper--and it gets rejected.  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Gollam): 8 - 8 (0)  Armando and I submit a paper to OOPSLA  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Gollam): 10 - 10 (0)  Chris and I have a paper on Verve that appears at PLDI  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Gollam): 22 - 22 (0)  win Best Paper Award  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Gollam): 22 - 22 (0)  submit a paper to POPL  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Gollam): 28 - 28 (0)  Our paper gets into POPL  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Gollam): 32 - 32 (0)  submit an uninspired paper to CAV  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Gollam): 38 - 38 (0)  decide to submit to OSDI  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Gollam): 43 - 43 (0)  OSDI submission gets rejected  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Gollam): 46 - 46 (0)  I spend the rest of the summer cleaning up the paper and doing more work to submit to PLDI  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Gollam): 46 - 46 (0)  We submit to POPL and then I work on my thesis  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Gollam): 50 - 50 (0)  POPL submission gets rejected  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Gollam): 54 - 54 (0)  Our paper finally gets accepted at PLDI  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Gollam): 54 - 54 (0)  I feel relieved to publish the final part of my thesis  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Gollam): 54 - 54 (0) |  |
|  | Obviously, I could not settle for anything halfway, so I followed through with the joke to the very end and turned DB-quiz into an academic paper, later winning a prize for the best Ph.D. publication at the University of Economics.  14 - Jindrich's story (annotated by Standa): 33 - 33 (0) |  |
|  | what i'm trying to do is do based on this experimentation write a paper and in that process i learn the technicalities and what you the kind of skills that you need in order to write a good paper like whether it's accepted or not but that will be my first step right now right  16 - Justin's story (annotated by Bach): 7 - 7 (0) |  |
|  | write your first paper  17 - Katrin-Franke's story (annotated by Vojtech): 16 - 16 (0) |  |
|  | published in a high impact factor journals  18 - Luca-Forcucci's story (annotated by Vojtech): 17 - 17 (0) |  |
|  | Long  hours writing, doing research and drafting papers and also having to work on the side  19 - Mariam's story (annotated by Bach): 67 - 68 (0) |  |
|  | Long  hours writing, doing research and drafting papers and also having to work on the side.  19 - Mariam's story (annotated by Standa): 67 - 68 (0) |  |
|  | published the a lot of things i bought them two more the biomedical papers and the two biomedical papers about the the data of the biomedical domain  21 - Pablo's story (annotated by Gollam): 24 - 24 (0) |  |
|  | i published the a lot of things i bought them two more the biomedical papers and the two biomedical papers about the the data of the biomedical domain this i published in the in that year  21 - Pablo's story (annotated by Vojta): 24 - 24 (0) |  |
|  | It was not really encouraged to write journal papers for us in our discipline, which ended up being a monograph instead of collection of papers, which was extremely difficult to write. You have to write a book instead of writing papers, so most of the work is actually done it at the end instead of during the project. If I had to do it all over again, I would have done a collection of papers and I would have aimed for the right journals and the right topics as steps on the path towards a PhD  22 - Per-Olof-Arnäs's story (annotated by Bach): 9 - 9 (0)  And it is publish, publish, publish  22 - Per-Olof-Arnäs's story (annotated by Bach): 80 - 80 (0) |  |
| University life (Academic) > Research > Academic jobs | I also work on my job applications. I go on the job market, interview, etc. I get some offers, accept a position at Carnegie Mellon University, and defer a year to collect myself before beginning and also to explore my interest in applying programming languages and biological modeling.  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Marek): 47 - 47 (0) |  |
| University life (Academic) > Research > Paper submission | Armando and I submit a paper to OOPSLA but it is not good because we don't start writing it until three days before. I also submit a paper to the Haskell Workshop about my senior undergraduate thesis, but it is not good because I don't know how to write papers. My friend Jean-Baptiste who reads it asks why my blog is so good but my paper drafts are so bad.  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Marek): 10 - 10 (0)  Chris and I have a paper on Verve that appears at PLDI. We win Best Paper Award. I am too young to realize that not all projects go this smoothly and not all papers are this good, so I am confused. Since this is the first paper I ever published, this becomes my new standard for paper goodness. It takes me years to realize that it is possible to do much less and still publish a paper.  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Marek): 22 - 22 (0)  Summer 2011. I decide to stay around MIT to focus on research. My groupmate and officemate Kuat Yessenov tells me it would be simple to implement my language as an embedded domain-specific language in Scala. Kuat makes a prototype implementation and begins to collaborate with me on the project. This changes everything. All of the sudden, the language has hope of becoming practical. A nice story about Jeeves emerges: it is a convenient and practical programming model that lets you factor out information flow policies. It seems natural and like the way to go--but formalization is not entirely straightforward and there are some interesting theoretical properties too. It is great to collaborate with Kuat, who is very smart. We submit a paper to POPL. We work hard, staying long nights in the office. I briefly become nocturnal in response to receiving feedback from my advisor in the evening and feeling compelled to make the changes before I sleep.  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Marek): 28 - 28 (0)  Our paper gets into POPL and everyone is relieved. I am relieved to confirm there is life after Verve. Armando is relieved for obvious reasons. My friends are relieved because they stop thinking I will quit graduate school.  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Marek): 32 - 32 (0)  I make some small efforts to try to publish on what I built, but Armando is not excited and the team at Facebook has scattered. We file a patent.  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Marek): 37 - 37 (0)  I submit an uninspired paper to CAV. One of the reviews says, "I cannot believe there are four authors on this paper and so many typos." I am not excited about anything by the end of this year.  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Marek): 38 - 38 (0)  I love having Travis as a collaborator. We decide to submit to OSDI. During the weeks before OSDI, we work together for 10-12 hours a day.  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Marek): 43 - 43 (0)  Our OSDI submission gets rejected, so I spend the rest of the summer cleaning up the paper and doing more work to submit to PLDI.  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Marek): 46 - 46 (0)  2014-2015 (Year Seven). I spend most of the fall preparing a submission about the Jeeves-based web framework to PLDI.  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Marek): 47 - 47 (0)  Summer 2015. I spend the first part of the summer working on writing up the Jeeves-based web framework work, which has continued to be rejected from every conference. I get the framework to be much faster and work with my collaborators on a cleaner semantics. We submit to POPL and then I work on my thesis. The introduction and related work take much longer than expected, maybe about a month.  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Marek): 50 - 50 (0)  2015-2016. I defend! I take two weeks off and then start a postdoc at Harvard Medical School. I slowly ease myself back into having hobbies and seeing friends.  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Marek): 54 - 54 (0)  Our POPL submission gets rejected and I finally spend a lot of time thinking about how to sell the work (rather than how to do the work). I learn that despite pressures to make the work better until the last minute, I need to fight to spend a long time on the writing, especially if the proposed idea is outside of the mainstream. A nice story emerges about a new and practical web programming model that allows programmers to factor out information flow policies across the multiple runtimes of the application and database. Our paper finally gets accepted at PLDI. I feel relieved to publish the final part of my thesis. And here we are now.  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Marek): 54 - 54 (0) |  |
| University life (Academic) > Social | I don't have much of a social life during this time either. Several people text me "you have to eat sometime" after I repeatedly decline meal invitations.  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Marek): 53 - 53 (0) |  |
|  | go to PhD research schools or PhD organisations to network and to build a community with your peer  17 - Katrin-Franke's story (annotated by Bach): 16 - 16 (0) |  |
|  | Most of all, I learned to never underestimate the  power of a strong and healthy social circle. My social circle gave me the guidance and desire to  push forward through their support spiritually, morally, mentally and academically.  19 - Mariam's story (annotated by Bach): 59 - 61 (0) |  |
|  | Through these activities, I learned more about cooperation, communication, organisation, as well as being part of a community of students with similar interests.  23 - Simona-Alexandra's story (annotated by Bach): 12 - 12 (0) |  |
| University life (Academic) > Social > Academic contacts | I had this really great adviser George Attack on for my masters and he wanted me to be a PhD student and I was like ”no way I'm not doing this!“.  01 - Andrew Quitmeyer's story (annotated by Marek): 11 - 11 (0) |  |
|  | my teacher named Nam, who instructed me at Hanoi University of Technology, encouraged me to apply for a PhD program in US universities and reminded me of Vietnam Education Foundation (VEF).  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by Bach): 6 - 6 (0)  I almost had nothing but the belief of my teachers, my friends, and my own  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by Bach): 9 - 9 (0)  Lecturer Ming Do at UIUC said that my profile was so good, but he did not intend to recruit more students in that year and suggested that I should submit to other teachers in the department.  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by Bach): 14 - 14 (0)  Only Mr.Vishal Monga from Penn State responded positively, just one day after I sent email  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by Bach): 14 - 14 (0)  My only interview was with teacher Vishal Monga on 28th of Lunar December, 2013.  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by Bach): 19 - 19 (0)  I entered the lab with a friend named Yuelong Li from China in the same year.  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by Bach): 24 - 24 (0)  My instructor was quite proud of me because this was a big conference in the industry  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by Bach): 48 - 48 (0) |  |
|  | my teacher named Nam, who instructed me at Hanoi University of Technology, encouraged me to apply for a PhD program in US universities  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by David): 6 - 6 (0)  Lecturer Ming Do at UIUC said that my profile was so good, but he did not intend to recruit more students in that year and suggested that I should submit to other teachers in the department  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by David): 14 - 14 (0)  Only Mr.Vishal Monga from Penn State responded positively, just one day after I sent email:  “Your application seems interesting. I certainly like students with a strong foundation in linear algebra and probability.  Please just apply to Penn State EE.”  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by David): 14 - 16 (0)  Machine Learning taught by Andrew Ng  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by David): 32 - 32 (0)  Convex Optimization of Stephen Boyd  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by David): 32 - 32 (0) |  |
|  | The other meeting we have is a reading group meeting. Here, we pick an interesting paper for the month in any computer architecture topic and we discuss the paper as a group. This helps realize different viewpoints of everyone on a common topic.  04 - Crefeda Rodrigues's story (annotated by Marek): 11 - 11 (0)  The APT group organises a yearly tradition of Welcome meals and Christmas Meals. The Welcome meal is organised for the new PhD students in the group and to go through the interesting and fun process of being introduced to everyone in the group, learning about what everyone is up to or even better, discussing the latest news tidbits – presidential elections in US. Now, that Christmas is near, we have our Christmas meal approaching!  04 - Crefeda Rodrigues's story (annotated by Marek): 18 - 18 (0) |  |
|  | Make a better use of your supervisors. One of my supervisors always says: We are not supervisors,  we are collaborators on your project! Only now I probably understand the full meaning of these  words. Don't simply sit and wait for your supervisors to tell you what to do (that's what I did at  the beginning). When working on collaborative projects, people challenge each other, share ideas,  and create solutions to the existing problems TOGETHER. Supervisors are members of your team! I  agree, your situation might be different, and some supervisors have a very traditional  Master-Apprentice approach. But still, the sooner you take the ownership of you project, the  better! Remember, in 5-6 months you will become an expert in your field!  05 - Elena's story (annotated by Marek): 30 - 37 (0) |  |
|  | i had the same supervisor that i have a master thesis  06 - Elvira's story (annotated by David): 5 - 5 (0)  i have two supervisors  06 - Elvira's story (annotated by David): 37 - 37 (0) |  |
|  | i don't really work with anyone well of course some of the people that have the most impact on me are my supervisors which are really yeah i have two supervisors and so far i'm really happy with them you know we have of course we have our little discussions and all that but that's part of the learning procedure but so far i'm really happy with them they are like really really good people and the people that i work with in the lab are amazing i really love them and they are like aside from be like properly very good human beings they're they are really somehow inspirational because when you start doing your phd you think that it's going to be very difficult it's going to be very horrible you don't you won't do and sleep you will live out out of coffee and then you see that people that are farther on the on the way that that you are are doing all right and they are doing okay and they are encouraging you to do better so i think that we have a a very good little community of business students  06 - Elvira's story (annotated by Standa): 37 - 37 (0)  but would you say that one of these people have what kind of very influential impact on you so yeah so that they influence you in decision making like for supervisors like for example  06 - Elvira's story (annotated by Standa): 38 - 38 (0) |  |
|  | I didn’t meet any other PhD student in electronic engineering but I knew other PhD students from other degree courses in the university of Palermo and I, what I remember their way of living. And I enjoyed the work they were doing definitely. But I felt like I was about to go in an unexplored world. Because I didn’t know anyone that had started their PhD in electronics. So that was more or less something that was definitely keeping me in contact with my department  08 - Favio Caruso's story (annotated by Standa): 6 - 6 (0)  Academia has the tendency to be very, very closed.  08 - Favio Caruso's story (annotated by Standa): 22 - 22 (0) |  |
|  | I started contacting professors and subscribed to mailing lists on themes and from groups of interest to get to know the field, universities, scholars, programs and PhD opportunities locally and abroad.  09 - Geneviève-Grégoire-Labrecque story (annotated by Vojtech): 13 - 13 (0)  To this day, I continue receiving important news, such as recent publications, timely calls for papers and presentations through these mailing lists. It is a way to connect and engage with a wider network and expand one's horizons while sparking reflection and feeding discussions. In that sense, I have discovered forward-thinking networks, such as the Child Rights International Network (CRIN), insightful podcasts like the Critical Childhoods and Youth Studies Collective (CCYSC)'s Awaaz, and artistic, yet critical initiatives, such as the Rights Studio's Blog.  09 - Geneviève-Grégoire-Labrecque story (annotated by Vojtech): 14 - 14 (0)  I also surrounded myself with a supervisor (and a supervisory committee) that I have regular contact with, and who is stimulating and has a good ear. Early on, we addressed the basis of our professional relationship with transparency: do they supervise other students (read here: do they have time for me)? Are they interested in collaborating in research projects and articles? Do they have funding for hiring assistants? How do I/they like to work? How often should we communicate? Do they feel comfortable working with other professors for co-supervision and/or in the supervisory committee?  Every now and then, we still come back to make sure we are on the same page  09 - Geneviève-Grégoire-Labrecque story (annotated by Vojtech): 20 - 21 (0)  being funded by a supervisor  09 - Geneviève-Grégoire-Labrecque story (annotated by Vojtech): 27 - 27 (0)  I would recommend not being shy to ask professors, departments, faculties, institutions what is available and what can be done.  09 - Geneviève-Grégoire-Labrecque story (annotated by Vojtech): 27 - 27 (0) |  |
|  | In addition to Saman's group meeting I also attend Daniel Jackson's group meeting  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Gollam): 11 - 11 (0)  I meet many people, including many people at Microsoft Research  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Gollam): 12 - 12 (0) |  |
|  | Summer 2008. At the end of the summer, I move into my office at MIT, where I am to be co-advised by Mike Ernst and Saman Amarasinghe. Saman pays for me to start early.  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Marek): 6 - 6 (0)  Ras Bodik, a professor at Berkeley who tried to recruit me, emails me telling me his student Armando Solar-Lezama is starting a professorship at MIT. I meet Armando and he sends me many papers to read.  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Marek): 9 - 9 (0)  January of this year I attend my first conference, POPL. Martin pays for me to go after I email him asking how I can get to go to POPL. I meet many people, including many people at Microsoft Research. This eventually leads to my first internship.  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Marek): 12 - 12 (0)  In the spring, Saman and I start what becomes an annual off-site retreat of all the research groups related to programming languages at MIT. People give research talks and we have philosophical discussions about the future of research, publishing, and education. At the first one, we realize there are many more people who have common interests than previously thought. After the first meeting, the professors meet together and decide to do more activities together from now on. From this point forward there is more cohesion and activities like weekly PL-related meetings.  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Marek): 16 - 16 (0)  . Along with a couple of other graduate women we start Graduate Women at MIT. Such a group had never existed and our proposals are met with a fair amount of skepticism, more from students than from administrators. At this point I still don't have many friends, so I spent many evenings and weekends working on building the organization: recruiting, fundraising, inviting speakers, writing materials about why we need such a group, etc.  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Marek): 17 - 17 (0)  This summer, thanks to Chris's nomination, I also participate in the Lindau Meeting of Nobel Laureates, where Nobel laureates give talks about science, the research process, and the future of the world. I make friends with scientists from around the world and find the talks inspiring.  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Marek): 21 - 21 (0)  In February I attend my first workshop at Dagstuhl, a German castle that hosts focused computer science workshops. I have involved discussions many computer scientists working in similar areas. I find it excitiyng. Afterward I meet my friend Kate for a weekend in Brussels and we have adventures as usual.  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Marek): 26 - 26 (0)  This spring I do some traveling. I win a Facebook Fellowship and travel to the Bay Area to give talks at Facebook, Google, and Berkeley. I attend another workshop at Dagstuhl and spend the weekend in Paris beforehand and meet my friend Kate in Barcelona after.  My social life becomes fantastic this year. I find the "party circuit" orbiting a nucleus of social Harvard and MIT graduate students. I meet many interesting and brilliant people.  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Marek): 34 - 35 (0)  During this time, I also visit Andrey Rybalchenko and Byron Cook at Microsoft Research Cambridge. I enjoy myself immensely and have many stimulating meetings and become exposed to the field of executable biology. (Later I find out this was a secret interview.) I determine that nothing else is as exciting to me and even though academia is a big commitment it seems worth it. I tell Armando I'm ready to go on the job market and he says he already told everyone I wasn't anymore and plus it's better for me to wait. I am more than fine with this, since a big issue had been that I don't want to leave yet.  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Marek): 42 - 42 (0)  The previous year I had come across a former problem set partner Carl Schoonover on Business Insider's list of sexiest scientists in the world and discovered he had been achieving my science writing dreams: writing a book, speaking about science, and even starting a group called NeuWrite to promote collaborations between scientists and science writers. I had brought him to MIT to speak, which led to two things: 1) me assembling an RSVP list of Harvard and MIT graduate students interested in science writing and 2) Carl deciding I was a good person to take over the NeuWrite Boston group, as group membership was shrinking and the current leaders were moving away. One of the journalists from my new media class introduces me to science writer Amanda Gefter and we take over the group. We build a new group from the event RSVP list and Amanda's writer friends. I spend much of my free time 2014-2015 building the group, thinking about writing, and writing. I start publishing not only on my own blogs but also in more public venues. A couple of my Quora answers get published on Forbes and my pieces for The Muse get chosen to run in Forbes and Newsweek.  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Marek): 44 - 44 (0)  I set up another visit to Microsoft Research Cambridge and a visit to the Max Planck Institute in Kaiserslautern, Germany. I get good feedback on my work during both visits  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Marek): 45 - 45 (0)  Somewhere in there I take a 36-hour trip to Singapore to give a talk at a data privacy workshop Saman is organizing. Saman gets the people to fly me business class so I can sleep in transit. It is my first time flying business class. I am confused about what to do with such frequent deliveries of hot towels to my seat.  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Marek): 52 - 52 (0) |  |
|  | Your journey will be constructed not only by your  research, but by your supervisory team, your peers, your institution, your working pattern, and so  on.  13 - Jillian's story (annotated by Standa): 21 - 23 (0)  Talk to fellow students  13 - Jillian's story (annotated by Standa): 32 - 32 (0)  Speak to other PhD'ers, speak to others who have completed their PhD. You'll likely find that they  had similar anxieties and fears.  13 - Jillian's story (annotated by Standa): 33 - 34 (0)  Welcome meetings, getting to know some of your  department and your PhD community.  13 - Jillian's story (annotated by Standa): 48 - 49 (0) |  |
|  | Your journey will be constructed not only by your  research, but by your supervisory team, your peers,  13 - Jillian's story (annotated by Vojtech): 21 - 22 (0)  despite supervisors and peers telling them how well  they are doing.  13 - Jillian's story (annotated by Vojtech): 42 - 43 (0)  Welcome meetings, getting to know some of your  department and your PhD community.  13 - Jillian's story (annotated by Vojtech): 48 - 49 (0)  I know  students who have worked in crowded, noisy open- spaces such as coffee shops and common rooms where  the exchange of conversation and ideas with others helps them to be productive.  13 - Jillian's story (annotated by Vojtech): 52 - 54 (0) |  |
|  | the story of my Ph.D. really began in November 2010 in Cologne, Germany. I was there for the Semantic Web in Bibliotheken (SWIB) conference as a co-author of one of the accepted papers. At the conference I met Sören Auer, there to promote the PUBLINK programme of the LOD2 project. While we talked over a coffee break I suggested that the Czech National Library of Technology, where I worked at the time, could use the consulting from linked open data experts offered in the PUBLINK programme. We exchanged business cards and parted our ways. It was the last time I had business cards. They were colourful and sloppy, manually cut from a thin paper. Still, they helped me to forge one of the most impactful connections for my Ph.D.  14 - Jindrich's story (annotated by Standa): 5 - 5 (0)  Weeks later I received an email from Sören, who concluded that we are qualified enough not to need help from the LOD2 project, and instead asked if we would consider joining the project as partners to represent the “Eastern Europe”. Well, Czechs like to think they are a part of the “Central Europe”, but I gladly seized this opportunity.  14 - Jindrich's story (annotated by Standa): 6 - 6 (0) |  |
|  | my future  supervisor at Manchester was looking for PhD students  15 - Joshua-Dawes's story (annotated by David): 10 - 11 (0)  ended up with an unconventional but ultimately ideal supervision team!  15 - Joshua-Dawes's story (annotated by David): 13 - 13 (0) |  |
|  | oscar is my supervisor and mariano who's in the lab he's my he's my tutor  16 - Justin's story (annotated by Bach): 9 - 9 (0) |  |
|  | The next network I think is important is your peers in the lab. Your fellow PhDs, your fellow postdocs, you are sitting all in the same boat. From a culture of sharing within this small environment, the whole group can exceed and they can in a safe and protected environment try out their knowledge and skills.  17 - Katrin-Franke's story (annotated by Bach): 19 - 19 (0)  The next network I believe is important is in the institute, which is the extended version of the lab  17 - Katrin-Franke's story (annotated by Bach): 20 - 20 (0)  And then the network that you build at conferences dedicated to your field.  17 - Katrin-Franke's story (annotated by Bach): 20 - 20 (0)  I strongly believe in the cooperation and impact of science working partitioners, working for instance with the biologists if you are in the domain, or working with technicians, those can often share with you a broad amount of experiences, technical experiences that you have just not earned yet because you are young.  17 - Katrin-Franke's story (annotated by Bach): 21 - 21 (0) |  |
|  | One advice that stuck with me since I'm in computer science is that I should keep my eyes open for positions in the Nordic countries because women in technology are very much supported in the Nordic countries.  17 - Katrin-Franke's story (annotated by Vojtech): 14 - 14 (0)  go to PhD research schools or PhD organisations to network and to build a community with your peers.  17 - Katrin-Franke's story (annotated by Vojtech): 16 - 16 (0)  it's very good to know the criteria, the measures, what do you need to produce. If you have a very dedicated supervisor, he or she will tell you  17 - Katrin-Franke's story (annotated by Vojtech): 16 - 16 (0)  but it's also good to seek knowledge independently and combine it together with the advice from your supervisor.  17 - Katrin-Franke's story (annotated by Vojtech): 16 - 16 (0)  The last time you will have an adviser by your side is during your PhD. Once you are out of the door with the PhD, you are alone.  17 - Katrin-Franke's story (annotated by Vojtech): 16 - 16 (0)  The next network I think is important is your peers in the lab. Your fellow PhDs, your fellow postdocs, you are sitting all in the same boat. From a culture of sharing within this small environment, the whole group can exceed and they can in a safe and protected environment try out their knowledge and skills.  17 - Katrin-Franke's story (annotated by Vojtech): 19 - 19 (0)  The next network I believe is important is in the institute, which is the extended version of the lab. And then the network that you build at conferences dedicated to your field. If you are in the lucky situation that your funding allows you to travel to present your research at a conference, go, spend time, learn from other researchers in the field, broaden your perspectives on the domain and see where others are going. Those colleagues and those friendships that you build at this time, these might be your research partners when you are becoming more senior. When you are applying for a grant proposal, when you are organising a conference, when you are writing a book.  17 - Katrin-Franke's story (annotated by Vojtech): 20 - 20 (0)  And then there is the last network that I would like to mention. I strongly believe in the cooperation and impact of science working partitioners, working for instance with the biologists if you are in the domain, or working with technicians, those can often share with you a broad amount of experiences, technical experiences that you have just not earned yet because you are young. Listen to them. It will give you new perspectives on your research project and broaden your horizon and may give you the idea that eventually adheres to a Nobel prize.  17 - Katrin-Franke's story (annotated by Vojtech): 21 - 21 (0) |  |
|  | I was working with Professor Olaf Blanke.  18 - Luca-Forcucci's story (annotated by Vojtech): 6 - 6 (0)  I am not a neuroscientist but I'm working with them.  18 - Luca-Forcucci's story (annotated by Vojtech): 14 - 14 (0)  I met many people, a lot because I was not stuck in the university where I studied I was there maybe five weeks a year, maximum. I will go to the university and discussed with my supervisor. Because of today possibilities I was communicating more through Skype so I didn't have to be there.  18 - Luca-Forcucci's story (annotated by Vojtech): 29 - 29 (0)  So I met a lot of people during this period of research, also different cultures in research in German university, Swiss university, French university, Chinese University, Brazilian universities. I had a very bright and large perspective on research in my field, in the arts and the struggle encounters by my peers, of course money wise but also supervisors wise.  18 - Luca-Forcucci's story (annotated by Vojtech): 30 - 30 (0)  Then of course it was a lot of inspiring people I was lucky enough to be in great university like EPFL in Switzerland, the brain mind institute in Berlin, the major lab in the world for cognitive science, in particular Olaf Blanke's lab. The interesting thing is that he comes from a family of artists as he's the only one that made it to Neuroscience.  He was even teaching me Art, we were discussing for example this artist called Bruce Norman and he was using this artist that was working on alternative way to look at your body, Olaf Blanke was using this artworks from Bruce Norman to design his experiments.  It was amazing because I was in a scientific environment, I had to be accepted and I have to learn the vocabulary of course because it's super precise but on the other hand I was someone that was totally sympathetic to my research.  The director of the Brain Mind Institute Pierre Magistretti was interested in opera and he had side project where he asked opera singer to sing opera with a certain mindset like sing a part of the opera sad, sing it with a positive image.  It was great I was very lucky to be one year in such environment, it was like going to the Star trek's spaceship everyday  On the other hand I was really inspired by women I have to say because electroacoustic music emerge from a very white middle class western tradition and I always complained that there was not enough women and cultural diversity as well in the labs.  I was lucky enough to meet a lot of women, composer that have to struggle like Pauline Oliveros, she's an icon just like John Cage which is a major figure in his field. I was able to meet her, she is a really generous person. I think there is less competition between women than man. She was a really amazing person and she really open my mind on many aspects about research and life.  Also Ashilow Madre, she was my professor when I was doing my master in Belfast and she is great.  Bonnild Ferrari which was the widow of Luke Ferrari major composer.  Evelyne Gayou part of the GRM, the GRM is the "groupe de recherche musical" at radio France in Paris, so many people.  18 - Luca-Forcucci's story (annotated by Vojtech): 31 - 40 (0)  Choose your supervisor wisely or: Challenge your supervisor. That's what other people often advise in our podcast but apart from that what's an advice you would give to PhD students around the world?  First of all you really need to choose your supervisor for his/her research and not only on his reputation. Reputation of course but you not necessarily have to have a star, a university star. It has to be someone that has experience but someone that you respect that is close to your preoccupation for your research. I don't think that this start system - to just put names next to yours - is a good idea because he/she is usually super busy so you won't see much of them. You have to make your own contribution.  18 - Luca-Forcucci's story (annotated by Vojtech): 45 - 46 (0) |  |
|  | I got in touch with the  professor that I felt would be the best fit for what I planned to research about  19 - Mariam's story (annotated by Bach): 32 - 33 (0)  My social circle  is diverse and is made up of people who are high-achieving professors, PhD students, postdocs but  also people that have nothing to do with academia  19 - Mariam's story (annotated by Bach): 61 - 63 (0) |  |
|  | Having studied at Makerere and knowing what it takes to achieve a PhD, I got in touch with the  professor that I felt would be the best fit for what I planned to research about. I informed him about  my plans to do a PhD while I was still a B.A student, this was about 10 years ago. During that time, I  had heard that most of PhD students in my department had been recommended to pursue a PhD  by their prospective professors.  19 - Mariam's story (annotated by Standa): 32 - 36 (0)  My social circle  is diverse and is made up of people who are high-achieving professors, PhD students, postdocs but  also people that have nothing to do with academia.  19 - Mariam's story (annotated by Standa): 61 - 63 (0) |  |
|  | The next  day, I met with some professors and group leaders just to discuss their projects.  Interestingly, I was positively surprised by how impressed they were with my presentation during  the interview – I could not believe it. Prof. Cantz told me he was impressed by my MSc research  findings and how incredible he finds the potentials of H. bacteriophora as a potent biological  control agents against crop pests. Furthermore, he said I had one of the best recommendation  letters and that I am not a fluke.  Dr. Rothe went on to tell me his own personal story and why I should never give up on my dream  even if I am not selected. Promise me you will continue to pursue your goal, apply somewhere  else, but don’t give up, he advised me. He was very kind and encouraging, he single-handedly  tanked up my motivation and confidence.  20 - Nyji's story (annotated by Vojtech): 39 - 49 (0)  I am forever indebted to all the people who encouraged me down this path. I can never forget  that redefining moment with Dr. Rothe. I am profoundly grateful to my supervisors (Dr.  Balakrishnan and Prof. Ott) who gave me a chance to prove myself. Such an opportunity is quite  rare and I will never forget their magnanimity towards me.  20 - Nyji's story (annotated by Vojtech): 72 - 75 (0) |  |
|  | maybe some linguistics that i have been working with a  21 - Pablo's story (annotated by Vojta): 12 - 12 (0)  what your supervisor is doing let's see taken care of you  some more more or less  21 - Pablo's story (annotated by Vojta): 13 - 14 (0)  no it's the problem is that first one of my supervisors is the image of the group once a year so and the other supervisor other one has really has read a lot of my my preliminary papers my preliminary work to accurate it but so on but yes  21 - Pablo's story (annotated by Vojta): 14 - 14 (0)  you have to initiate it all begins from your initiative yeah well if you you don't like try to step up the comfort zone and try and contact other people then then i think you're doomed  21 - Pablo's story (annotated by Vojta): 50 - 50 (0) |  |
|  | I kept the relationships - I went there for coffee, we had a lot of fee where we sit and drink a lot of coffee in the afternoon, everybody loves it, and that's where you meet all the nice people  22 - Per-Olof-Arnäs's story (annotated by Bach): 22 - 22 (0)  But also, talk to people who are in the system.  22 - Per-Olof-Arnäs's story (annotated by Bach): 80 - 80 (0)  Talk to people who have done it, especially in your own field  22 - Per-Olof-Arnäs's story (annotated by Bach): 80 - 80 (0) |  |
|  | , Cognitive Science Graduate Symposium and the Tufts Graduate Research Symposium, to name a few  24 - Vasanth-Sarathy's story (annotated by Gollam): 4 - 4 (0)  the postdoctoral researchers from Tufts and MGH put together a great spotlight talks event at the Rattlesnake in Boston  24 - Vasanth-Sarathy's story (annotated by Gollam): 4 - 4 (0) |  |
| University life (Academic) > Social > Internships | Earlier I received a message that a Vietnamese-American scholar at the US Army Research Lab - a friend of my instructor - accepted me as a summer internship in 2016. I also came back there to practice again in 2017  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by Bach): 45 - 45 (0)  Until now, I have found it a pity that I should find an internship program at a major technology company.  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by Bach): 46 - 46 (0) |  |
|  | Vietnamese-American scholar at the US Army Research Lab - a friend of my instructor - accepted me as a summer internship in 2016  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by David): 45 - 45 (0) |  |
|  | i did like a brief internship  06 - Elvira's story (annotated by David): 9 - 9 (0) |  |
|  | This eventually leads to my first internship  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Gollam): 12 - 12 (0)  Summer 2009. I intern at Microsoft Research in Redmond with Chris Hawblitzel  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Gollam): 14 - 14 (0)  I intern with Nikhil Swamy and Juan Chen at Microsoft Research Redmond  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Gollam): 20 - 20 (0)  I consider doing an internship in hardware synthesis with David Bacon at IBM Research, but after talking to some people decide I should not switch to this area.  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Gollam): 23 - 23 (0) |  |
|  | January of this year I attend my first conference, POPL. Martin pays for me to go after I email him asking how I can get to go to POPL. I meet many people, including many people at Microsoft Research. This eventually leads to my first internship.  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Marek): 12 - 12 (0)  Summer 2009. I intern at Microsoft Research in Redmond with Chris Hawblitzel. I had seen Chris's talk at POPL about verifying garbage collectors using Boogie and thought it was one of the coolest projects I had ever seen. I had not thought I was qualified to intern with him, but some of the people I met at POPL recommended me to him. This summer, we build Verve, an operating system verified for type and memory safety. I had never verified anything or built an operating system before. I work hard, 10-12 hours a day, because there is so much to learn and because the project is so fun. I work closely with Chris and he teaches me an incredible amount about working with low-level code. Outside of work, I hang out with the other interns. I live in Redmond but on weekends I go into the city, where I have two friends I stay with.  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Marek): 14 - 14 (0)  Summer 2010. I intern with Nikhil Swamy and Juan Chen at Microsoft Research Redmond. They have a dependently typed language called Fine for verifying security properties. I ask to intern with them because I want to take my work in this direction. I spend most of my time working on a tool for stuffing proofs into bytecode and taking them back out. I learn a lot, but the proofs are too big and we never quite manage to get it to work. I also participate in many meetings and calls about the F\* language, which is like Fine but supports proof erasure. I learn a lot about dependent type systems and security concerns.  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Marek): 20 - 20 (0)  I consider doing an internship in hardware synthesis with David Bacon at IBM Research, but after talking to some people decide I should not switch to this area.  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Marek): 23 - 23 (0)  Summer 2012. I intern at Facebook to gain "privacy street cred." I start in July because it's after the POPL deadline. The other interns starting at the same time are all Eastern European college boys. This becomes my friend group for the summer. I live in the city and commute to Menlo Park every day, staying on campus for 10-12 hours. I work hard, building a verifier for privacy policies using Haskell. I like the work but find it isolating because I'm the only person working on my project and it's not clear what I am allowed to talk about outside of work. I take daily walks with my friend Pieter Hooimeijer, who I knew from research and went to Facebook after his PhD. I work harder than I want to because of the potential high impact of this project: it is tied to a pre-launch project and if it launches well, this could be a really nice example of verification in production use at a large company. Armando flies out to Facebook at the end of the summer to discuss my project under NDA. I am so happy to see him.  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Marek): 36 - 36 (0)  2012-2013 (Year Five). I return to school but continue contracting for Facebook. I work on my verifier one day a week and fly out to the Bay Area every few weeks for a few days at a time to continue working on my project  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Marek): 37 - 37 (0) |  |
|  | I used the gap in funding to do a Ph.D. internship at Politecnico di Bari, Italy, joining the research group of Tommaso di Noia between October and December 2014. It was an easy choice. When I surveyed the research literature on matchmaking (the topic of my Ph.D. thesis), I found many links pointing to Bari. In a fortunate turn of affairs, I managed to obtain my university’s internal funding just in time for this internship. Working through a tight series of deadlines I completed my last required Ph.D. courses and re-enrolled as a full-time student in order to be eligible for the internship stipend. This internship was in fact the only period when I could be entirely dedicated to my Ph.D. It was essential in building the fundamental parts of what later became my thesis. I can heartily recommend going abroad for a few months to do such an internship  14 - Jindrich's story (annotated by Standa): 28 - 28 (0)  Immediately after my Bari gig, in January 2015, I followed with a one-month internship at the University of Göttingen, Germany, working with library data on old prints. Here again, I returned back to my roots in libraries. Also, I received a decent funding that sorted out my financial situation for another month and filled in some gaps from the previous period that the university’s stipend failed to cover.  14 - Jindrich's story (annotated by Standa): 30 - 30 (0) |  |
|  | CERN has a few student programmes for students at different stages in their studies  15 - Joshua-Dawes's story (annotated by David): 71 - 71 (0)  first contract with CERN was a Technical Studentship for 13 months. These contracts last  for 6-14 months and give students a good feel for life at CERN and in the surrounding  region.  15 - Joshua-Dawes's story (annotated by David): 72 - 74 (0)  Another amazing opportunity at CERN is the Summer Student programme. This involves  students coming from all over the world for up to 3 months to see what exactly goes on  here.  15 - Joshua-Dawes's story (annotated by David): 75 - 77 (0) |  |
| University life (Academic) > Social > Traveling for science | So eventually that was me going on field expeditions. I did a lot of my PhD field work at the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute in Panama.  01 - Andrew Quitmeyer's story (annotated by David): 12 - 12 (0) |  |
|  | After attending the conference in April 2015  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by Bach): 40 - 40 (0) |  |
|  | in my case i have a lot do a lot of paperwork whenever i go to business trips  06 - Elvira's story (annotated by Standa): 64 - 64 (0) |  |
|  | January of this year I attend my first conference, POP  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Gollam): 12 - 12 (0)  Martin pays for me to go after I email him asking how I can get to go to POPL  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Gollam): 12 - 12 (0)  attend my first workshop at Dagstuhl  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Gollam): 26 - 26 (0)  travel to the Bay Area to give talks at Facebook, Google, and Berkeley.  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Gollam): 34 - 34 (0)  attend another workshop at Dagstuhl  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Gollam): 34 - 34 (0)  set up another visit to Microsoft Research Cambridge and a visit to the Max Planck Institute in Kaiserslautern, Germany  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Gollam): 45 - 45 (0)  take a 36-hour trip to Singapore to give a talk at a data privacy workshop Saman is organizing  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Gollam): 52 - 52 (0) |  |
|  | I was there for the Semantic Web in Bibliotheken (SWIB) conference as a co-author of one of the accepted papers. At the conference I met Sören Auer, there to promote the PUBLINK programme of the LOD2 project  14 - Jindrich's story (annotated by Standa): 5 - 5 (0)  I turned to my next closest institution: the University of Economics in Prague, where I already worked on bibliographic linked data that paid for my November trip to Cologne  14 - Jindrich's story (annotated by Standa): 8 - 8 (0) |  |
|  | You travel to communicate your  research (at the time of writing this, I've had the privilege of giving talks in 4 countries  and will fly tomorrow to give a talk in a fifth country)  15 - Joshua-Dawes's story (annotated by David): 86 - 88 (0) |  |
|  | I travel for work  15 - Joshua-Dawes's story (annotated by Gollam): 65 - 65 (0)  had the privilege of giving talks in 4 countries  and will fly tomorrow to give a talk in a fifth country  15 - Joshua-Dawes's story (annotated by Gollam): 87 - 88 (0) |  |
|  | Then I travelled around the world, visiting six universities, interviewing for PhD positions  17 - Katrin-Franke's story (annotated by Bach): 6 - 6 (0)  If you are in the lucky situation that your funding allows you to travel to present your research at a conference, go, spend time, learn from other researchers in the field, broaden your perspectives on the domain and see where others are going.  17 - Katrin-Franke's story (annotated by Bach): 20 - 20 (0) |  |
|  | And then the network that you build at conferences dedicated to your field. If you are in the lucky situation that your funding allows you to travel to present your research at a conference, go, spend time, learn from other researchers in the field, broaden your perspectives on the domain and see where others are going.  17 - Katrin-Franke's story (annotated by Vojtech): 20 - 20 (0)  the eagerness to reach out started to grow by attending conferences.  17 - Katrin-Franke's story (annotated by Vojtech): 24 - 24 (0)  By being invited to give lectures at other universities. I saw so many different cultures going to universities in Japan, the US, the Netherlands, Canada and I saw that there are other models of working, other ways of collaborating, other ways of research.  17 - Katrin-Franke's story (annotated by Vojtech): 24 - 24 (0)  I dreamed to go abroad shortly after I started on my PhD. I therefore started to read up on what it would mean to go abroad, what support networks are there for people that are going abroad etc. Also very practical requirements such as visa and work permits and so on. And also what is the life cycle of someone going abroad. For instance, it's fully normal that after six months living in a new country you hit the ground and start asking yourself 'Oh my God, what have I done?'. In my case this happened when the nice snowy mountains in Norway and the blue sky were suddenly pitch black and I wanted to come back to Berlin in the real civilization and not only live with woods and bush. But if you know that this is completely normal and that the pink clouds turn into desperation after six months and that you just need to carry on and it will be better again, then you may overcome the six months steps.  17 - Katrin-Franke's story (annotated by Vojtech): 25 - 25 (0) |  |
|  | expedition e.g the Brazilian Amazon rainforest. I stayed there for two weeks with indigenous peoples, rainforest sounds, sounds from cities like Shanghai but also sounds from the body and how they interact between each other.  18 - Luca-Forcucci's story (annotated by Vojtech): 10 - 10 (0) |  |
|  | During much of my time as a PhD student this  audience was made up of White people especially at conferences in Germany and other European  countries.  19 - Mariam's story (annotated by Standa): 51 - 53 (0) |  |
|  | to go to a conference to another country  21 - Pablo's story (annotated by Vojta): 38 - 38 (0) |  |
| University life (Academic) > Teaching activities | my income earned mainly from teaching more  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by Bach): 10 - 10 (0) |  |
|  | you can teach only certain content you can you can evaluate people you can teach like theoretical lessons so it has to be like really specific stuff and really restrict to the maximum time that and you have a maximum amount of hours that are like 60 a year or something like that and in my case for example out of the 60 hours that i have to dedicate to teaching and teaching support lessons that include like you know caring exams and yeah teaching assistants yeah that properly teaching hours that i'm in the in the blackboard teaching stuff are like only 12 out of those 60 so okay and that's like the maximum that that i could get  06 - Elvira's story (annotated by David): 53 - 53 (0)  you have to create yourself in order to become a full teacher so teaching hours are a big chunk of that  06 - Elvira's story (annotated by David): 57 - 57 (0) |  |
|  | i well i have to teach as part of my formation for phd so but i haven't started yet i'm going to start next week so if you have came a week later i will give you some feedback on that but i haven't really started doing my teaching my lessons  06 - Elvira's story (annotated by Standa): 51 - 51 (0)  i i started teaching like like right away when i got into phd  06 - Elvira's story (annotated by Standa): 52 - 52 (0)  he was like really really difficult to teach because there is little you know you have a limited amount of subjects you can only teach in those subjects where your supervisor is teaching and you can teach only certain content you can you can evaluate people you can teach like theoretical lessons so it has to be like really specific stuff and really restrict to the maximum time that and you have a maximum amount of hours that are like 60 a year or something like that and in my case for example out of the 60 hours that i have to dedicate to teaching and teaching support lessons that include like you know caring exams and yeah teaching assistants yeah that properly teaching hours that i'm in the in the blackboard teaching stuff are like only 12 out of those 60 so okay and that's like the maximum that that i could get  06 - Elvira's story (annotated by Standa): 53 - 53 (0)  yeah i really like it in fact well and of course if if that's aside from being part of my phd in the pure research area also as i've mentioned you before you have to create yourself in order to become a full teacher so teaching hours are a big chunk of that so it's not exactly that are these joint spaces my phd and the teaching they are like merged so i don't see it as a waste of time but that's something that i have to do and something that i like to do so  06 - Elvira's story (annotated by Standa): 57 - 57 (0)  when first when first i started teaching i really liked it but the problem then becomes the students right some of them are not so cooperative so yeah you are so  06 - Elvira's story (annotated by Standa): 58 - 58 (0)  this is the worst nightmare of a teacher you know like students some sometimes are really out of out of out of mind okay so the question before the last one have you experienced any kind of major obstacle up open sooner  06 - Elvira's story (annotated by Standa): 60 - 60 (0) |  |
|  | teaches ESL and Civics to immigrants for a non-profit organization  07 - Erin's story - dropout (annotated by Gollam): 8 - 8 (0) |  |
|  | the small experience of teaching which I had the privilege to run into during my Phd  08 - Favio Caruso's story (annotated by Standa): 16 - 16 (0) |  |
|  | teaching  09 - Geneviève-Grégoire-Labrecque story (annotated by Vojtech): 27 - 27 (0) |  |
|  | , I TA a new program analysis course taught by Arvind, Martin, and Armando  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Gollam): 24 - 24 (0) |  |
|  | In the fall, I TA a new program analysis course taught by Arvind, Martin, and Armando. The professors are excited for me to help revamp the course. There are four course staff total and six registered students. Most of the work involves doing the problem sets to make sure they work. It takes a surprisingly amount of time to grade six assignments, since each assignment is likely to make different design decisions. I hold weekly recitation where three people attend. All three students are strong, so most of the time we talk about fun PL topics.  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Marek): 24 - 24 (0) |  |
|  | First and foremost, as a Ph.D. student I was required to teach. A cynical view has it that Ph.D. students are little more than a cheap resource to provision teaching. I was fortunate enough to be assigned with courses at least tangentially related to my Ph.D., including labs in an XML course and several lectures and labs in a course on linked data. The less lucky ones ended up teaching things like the basic Microsoft Office skills.  14 - Jindrich's story (annotated by Standa): 18 - 18 (0)  While teaching can be satisfying and meaningful at times, it also takes a huge amount of time to do it right, especially when you start a new course. The effort spent on teaching has sporadic returns. Rarely you hear any positive feedback, and given that one of the university’s primary goals is to produce the most graduates, you often experience frustration with disinterested and unmotivated students who expect their graduation to be simply a matter of time. Under this impression, after a year, I decided to forfeit the Ph.D. stipend in order not to be required to teach.  14 - Jindrich's story (annotated by Standa): 19 - 19 (0)  Compared to teaching, other Ph.D. duties were relatively minor and infrequent. Once in a while I had to supervise bachelor’s or master’s theses and oversee admission exams of new students. I enjoyed the apprenticeship of supervising theses more than teaching, although few students invested more than required for a minimum viable thesis  14 - Jindrich's story (annotated by Standa): 20 - 20 (0) |  |
|  | supervised three students on this programme  15 - Joshua-Dawes's story (annotated by Gollam): 77 - 77 (0) |  |
|  | i have teach but just few lessons not so much  21 - Pablo's story (annotated by Gollam): 26 - 26 (0) |  |
|  | i have teach but just few lessons not so much  21 - Pablo's story (annotated by Vojta): 26 - 26 (0)  no the lessons because now we are always in this group we are always doing small seminars talks so we are very used to present things or present i don't know of course the extent diamond  21 - Pablo's story (annotated by Vojta): 28 - 28 (0)  this was this teacher was the i have presented two lessons in in his school because he's not he's not from this school and it has been very good for me because to improve my my knowledge of the area yeah  21 - Pablo's story (annotated by Vojta): 32 - 32 (0) |  |
|  | The last year - to get into the department - I, actually did some extra teaching for them  22 - Per-Olof-Arnäs's story (annotated by Bach): 7 - 7 (0)  Yes, I was already doing a lot of teaching. At Chalmers a lot of students teach.  22 - Per-Olof-Arnäs's story (annotated by Bach): 27 - 27 (0)  We gave lectures even, not only supervisions and things like that. Back then, at least. Now, it's more or less just the lecturers and the professor who give lectures. PhD students did a lot of the teaching.  22 - Per-Olof-Arnäs's story (annotated by Bach): 27 - 27 (0)  I am very passionate about teaching and developing new teaching methods.  22 - Per-Olof-Arnäs's story (annotated by Bach): 56 - 56 (0) |  |
| Well-being (Physical-spriritual) | The next was the cooking. I did this for myself because I was away from home when I was nine years old. However, the story of cooking while studying PhD was completely different. In Vietnam, I would have many options if I did not have time for cooking. But in the US, at my living area, Vietnamese food was very limited. Food was generally expensive and a meal was often not good and not enough. Fortunately in my town, there were many Asians, so there were two small Asian markets in which selling all items to make dried-fish, noodle in crab chowder or anything that I remembered. Youtube, memory and imagination helped me to cook a lot of dishes. Later, I and my wife can take turns cooking every day.  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by Bach): 53 - 53 (0)  Another important pleasure was sport. In US, almost people played sports, there were many beautiful people while I was so thin. I played a lot of subjects: running, football, biking, swimming, climbing, bouldering. When having a good physical health, my mental health was also better to study long-distance PhD course.  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by Bach): 55 - 55 (0) |  |
|  | There were ups and downs  19 - Mariam's story (annotated by Bach): 47 - 47 (0) |  |
| Well-being (Physical-spriritual) > Physical health | regular breaks, exercising, and taking days off and holidays  02 - Andy's story (annotated by Standa): 6 - 6 (0) |  |
|  | I played a lot of subjects: running, football, biking, swimming, climbing, bouldering.  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by Bach): 55 - 55 (0) |  |
|  | Another important pleasure was sport. In US, almost people played sports, there were many beautiful people while I was so thin. I played a lot of subjects: running, football, biking, swimming, climbing, bouldering. When having a good physical health, my mental health was also better to study long-distance PhD course  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by David): 55 - 55 (0)  Do not let yourself be sick in the United States. You have to take care of yourself because everyone has their own business. The medicine is so expensive and you still have to work when you're little sick.  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by David): 56 - 56 (0) |  |
|  | Burning calories a.k.a finding distractions from research  Each of us have different regimes to keep ourselves fit. In the APT group, we have activities arranged every week at the Sudgen sports centre; Football on Wednesdays and Badminton on Fridays. Apart from that we also have the occasional table tennis and basketball. The adventurous lot among us also prefer climbing! This is a good time to escape from work, relax our minds and bond with everyone in the lab. I usually like to play badminton, cycle to university and every Sunday I attend ballroom dance classes organized by University of Manchester Ballroom and Latin Society.  04 - Crefeda Rodrigues's story (annotated by Marek): 12 - 13 (0) |  |
|  | 2008-2009 (Year One). I'm recovering from a repetitive stress injury in my neck, so Saman advises me to take hard theory courses that involve little computer us  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Gollam): 7 - 7 (0)  Outside of work, I try to avoid using my computer due to my repetitive stress injury  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Gollam): 13 - 13 (0) |  |
|  | 08-2009 (Year One). I'm recovering from a repetitive stress injury in my neck, so Saman advises me to take hard theory courses that involve little computer use.  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Marek): 7 - 7 (0)  I feel an incredible amount of angst about my uncertain future as I prepare for the job market. I spend one day a week doing extreme exercise, cycling 50+ miles or running 11+ miles, to obliterate all thoughts  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Marek): 46 - 46 (0) |  |
|  | little day trips, snowboarding in the Alps  15 - Joshua-Dawes's story (annotated by David): 61 - 61 (0)  I make sure to stay active by running and doing yoga  15 - Joshua-Dawes's story (annotated by David): 63 - 63 (0)  I can't emphasise enough the importance of being active  15 - Joshua-Dawes's story (annotated by David): 64 - 64 (0) |  |
| Well-being (Physical-spriritual) > Mental health and emotions | I remember taking biology classes in my undergrad but always just because I thought they were super fun and it never even really dawned on me that you could really do that as like a career. So I had a little bit of an existential crisis. I'm like oh God I should just been a field biologists, this would have been amazing!  01 - Andrew Quitmeyer's story (annotated by David): 9 - 9 (0)  Then I work on a little manifesto of exactly what my PhD would be like and tried to set as many boundaries and anticipate as many pitfalls or things that I didn't want to do in my PhD before I set out to actually doing this.  01 - Andrew Quitmeyer's story (annotated by David): 11 - 11 (0)  I'm sick of being behind a computer so an important part of my whole process should be in finding ways that I'm not just stuck behind a screen the whole time.  01 - Andrew Quitmeyer's story (annotated by David): 12 - 12 (0)  I need something that forces me to go outside and be in nature and be with these kinds of animals.  01 - Andrew Quitmeyer's story (annotated by David): 12 - 12 (0)  I was a big weirdo down at the Smithsonian  01 - Andrew Quitmeyer's story (annotated by David): 14 - 14 (0) |  |
|  | So for instance I was like - I'm sick of being behind a computer so an important part of my whole process should be in finding ways that I'm not just stuck behind a screen the whole time.  01 - Andrew Quitmeyer's story (annotated by Marek): 12 - 12 (0)  And you run a real risk if you're taken as your research is just frivolous and you always have to have your excuse in your back pocket to [explain] how does this benefit humans if we're studying these ants and all this kind of stuff.  I think that's just \*\*\*\*. I think it's part of this gross human centric mentality that we have, where humans are the best and everything we do needs to make it so that us humans can consume quicker and create things faster and destroy more of the Earth in record time. A lot of these scientists feel this way too but they have to have this kind of excuse - this is how this research connects - it improves our manufacturing processes.  01 - Andrew Quitmeyer's story (annotated by Marek): 14 - 15 (0)  And even though I tend to issue authority a lot in my personal life it's still even affects me - this you know - it's like what am I doing?! I'm giving up this professor job!! Isn’t this what everybody wants!? But it's not enabling me to actually do the science and do the research and do the artistic explorations and technological explorations that I actually want to do. I feel like it's making me less productive being in this weird academic system that I'm currently in. I'm sure it works out for different people at different other places. But there needs to be alternatives and we need to teach our PhD students what kind of alternatives do exist. So I'm jumping into this big unknown and figuring out what's going to happen so.  01 - Andrew Quitmeyer's story (annotated by Marek): 24 - 24 (0) |  |
|  | mental turmoil that one can face throughout the “PhD journey.” It’s difficult, really difficult in fact, and there are constant set-backs which student’s face particularly with workload and managing demanding supervisors. Not only this, but there are also issues in trying to find time to socialise, dealing with obnoxious peers, managing your own workload and supervisory issues. The fact is mental illness is all too common, but not well reported, and so people start a PhD with a degree of false pretence.  02 - Andy's story (annotated by Standa): 2 - 2 (0)  the support (the harness) comes from family, friends, loved ones and of course peers and supervisors. These are the people you rely upon to get you through it; to be there in both the good and bad times. However, not all PhD students have a supportive network around them and can often feel isolated and alone. Isolation is common, very common in fact, during a PhD. There are those who work from home, who have families, who are carers, who may be ill themselves (either physically or mentally)  02 - Andy's story (annotated by Standa): 3 - 3 (0)  From my own personal experience, the PhD journey is an isolating experience, particularly working from home, but my tip is to never cut yourself off completely from training sessions and the chance to meet others. Use those more sociable occasions to create your own ‘harness’ or support network if you find you do not have support from family or friends.  02 - Andy's story (annotated by Standa): 4 - 4 (0)  Unfortunately, there is a culture of acceptance around mental health issues in academia, a point raised by an anonymous academic through the Guardian website in March 2014 and the constant work load causes students to burn out; exacerbating mental illness. It’s a common problem and something which I have experienced on several occasions and there is an element of guilt which creeps in if you are not doing work. It’s a vicious circle and one which is notoriously difficult to break out of.  02 - Andy's story (annotated by Standa): 5 - 5 (0)  My advice is not to be afraid of taking regular breaks, exercising, and taking days off and holidays. These can all help reduce stress and improve mental well-being. That’s actually one of the advantages of doing a PhD: flexibility – you manage your own workload and you are afforded time off, just as you would be if you worked, so don’t be afraid to allow yourself to unwind.  02 - Andy's story (annotated by Standa): 6 - 6 (0) |  |
|  | I was little more confident and determined to start from that moment. However, I still could not wholeheartedly file a resume because my graduation theme had not been completed.  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by Bach): 6 - 6 (0)  I was really worried that other people usually spend two or three years for preparing the application.  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by Bach): 8 - 8 (0)  I was really touched, and felt more touched when coming home, I opened the envelope and saw a large amount of money inside  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by Bach): 11 - 11 (0)  The result of this exam made me more confident. I seemed to have recovered my passion which had been lost in the studying time in the college.  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by Bach): 29 - 29 (0)  This was a difficult task but I always believed that I can do it.  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by Bach): 30 - 30 (0)  I really liked the sparse models and the mathematical algorithms so I chose the direction of research on the dictionary learning.  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by Bach): 33 - 33 (0)  I changed the algorithm every day much so that my coworker almost had to scold harshly: "I don’t know why you keep changing ideas”  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by Bach): 34 - 34 (0)  I submitted the paper then I was so worried that I had ever dreamed that the article was rejected because its idea had been used before.  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by Bach): 35 - 35 (0)  My confidence increased a little bit  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by Bach): 36 - 36 (0)  I felt that my PhD course seemed to be smoother than the others.  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by Bach): 41 - 41 (0)  After this milestone, I realized a change in the way my teacher talked to me and I also felt more confident when talking to him.  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by Bach): 43 - 43 (0)  I freely came to Vietnam for Tet holiday.  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by Bach): 45 - 45 (0)  Seeing him being proud of me, I also had the same feeling of myself.  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by Bach): 48 - 48 (0)  my mental health was also better to study long-distance PhD course.  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by Bach): 55 - 55 (0)  I was sad after receiving the first refusal emails but afterthat I did not have time to be sad because I had to worry too much about many things including personal works in the summer of 2018. I was sad but never lose hope.  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by Bach): 65 - 65 (0) |  |
|  | were extremely important to me at that time, surely I would never forget  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by David): 11 - 11 (0)  This email made me very glad  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by David): 17 - 17 (0)  After many years of not learning math, I again felt my passion for it coming back when studying these two subjects  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by David): 26 - 26 (0)  The result of this exam made me more confident  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by David): 29 - 29 (0)  I really liked the sparse models and the mathematical algorithms  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by David): 33 - 33 (0)  My confidence increased a little bit  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by David): 36 - 36 (0)  I realized a change in the way my teacher talked to me and I also felt more confident when talking to him.  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by David): 43 - 43 (0)  My instructor was quite proud of me because this was a big conference in the industry. Seeing him being proud of me, I also had the same feeling of myself.  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by David): 48 - 48 (0)  I would never forget beautiful memories with these two families.  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by David): 52 - 52 (0)  I was sad after receiving the first refusal emails but afterthat I did not have time to be sad because I had to worry too much about many things including personal works in the summer of 2018  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by David): 65 - 65 (0)  Always hope, but do not expect too high. Be hopeful and optimistic because negative thoughts never make things better. Do not expect high results if you do not want to collapse.  03 - Vu Huu Tiep's story (annotated by David): 67 - 67 (0) |  |
|  | Although I really hated the process of  writing this wretched report to begin with, by the end of it I actually acquired taste for it, and  saw the benefits.  05 - Elena's story (annotated by Marek): 6 - 8 (0)  • Establish ‘love’ relationship with theory early on! What is the theory underpinning your study?  I've been struggling with this bit for a year! It's not relevant to all social science studies  since some of them adopt a grounded theory approach. But even to arrive at the conclusion that the  existing theories don't meet the needs of your study, you need to know them first. I thought I  hated theories until I started understanding them. It's actually really cool when you realise that  there is enough brain in your head to see the shortcoming of some theory, criticise it and try to  find an alternative approach.  05 - Elena's story (annotated by Marek): 38 - 44 (0)  Learn to manage yourself! Still struggling with this bit... PhD is the time when you learn so  much about yourself, the ways you prefer to work, and what motivates you to work. I am interviewing  PhD students just now, and a number of them mentioned that a key to success in your PhD is  DISCIPLINE! Can't but agree with  05 - Elena's story (annotated by Marek): 45 - 48 (0) |  |
|  | i've always been like attracted to doing research more than working on a on a company  06 - Elvira's story (annotated by David): 9 - 9 (0)  i joined another group another research group the division one and i really liked it there  06 - Elvira's story (annotated by David): 9 - 9 (0)  and so far it's going good i'm enjoying it  06 - Elvira's story (annotated by David): 11 - 11 (0)  you are trying to engorge your cv and and that can be stressful sometimes  06 - Elvira's story (annotated by David): 11 - 11 (0)  i'm really eager for for learning and for starting and knowing knowing this stuff thirst okay so yeah  06 - Elvira's story (annotated by David): 19 - 19 (0)  two supervisors and so far i'm really happy with them  06 - Elvira's story (annotated by David): 37 - 37 (0)  when you start doing your phd you think that it's going to be very difficult it's going to be very horrible you don't you won't do and sleep you will live out out of coffee  06 - Elvira's story (annotated by David): 37 - 37 (0) |  |
|  | you can you can't sleep without thinking  06 - Elvira's story (annotated by Standa): 18 - 18 (0)  i think that's really really important for everyone doing a phd to have a very good security net under you because you are going to have many town falls and many existential prices and a lot of why the hell am i doing am i doing this yeah so the people here are really supportive and are really really good  06 - Elvira's story (annotated by Standa): 37 - 37 (0)  what kind of obstacle are we talking about you know like the usual existential crisis that we all experience no doing  06 - Elvira's story (annotated by Standa): 61 - 61 (0)  some of the benefits of generating is like if it improves mood it reduces stress also so i would recommend that  06 - Elvira's story (annotated by Standa): 70 - 70 (0)  yeah i think that well when i when i journal that i was like in a bad period of my of my life it was you feel a lot of relief once that you see that you may be thinking that you have a bad day or that or whatever and then you look back on the journal and says wow i have improved a lot and things are going much better than they were going so yeah that also helps and so maybe i will have to start doing that again  06 - Elvira's story (annotated by Standa): 71 - 71 (0)  because when i did some literature review on phd phd in then i i found a lot of people in the world that they just talk about the experiences the steps how how it was like painful enough not painful beautiful experiences as well so i think it's it's a place where we can organize our thoughts and just just put it there and and later we can reflect on it so it really has has some some really good benefits but yeah so we have limited time so we have to we need to come up with the solution on that on that thing  06 - Elvira's story (annotated by Standa): 72 - 72 (0) |  |
|  | I could improve things from the inside,  but it was a sick system  07 - Erin's story - dropout (annotated by Gollam): 41 - 42 (0)  I was not succeeding in their program and I didn't want to pursue it  any longer if it meant risking my mental health.  07 - Erin's story - dropout (annotated by Gollam): 53 - 54 (0)  I was sure my family and friends would be  disappointed, that they wouldn't know how to see me afterward and would expect less of me for the  rest of my life  07 - Erin's story - dropout (annotated by Gollam): 56 - 58 (0)  Some people even seem  impressed that I moved on from that toxic situation  07 - Erin's story - dropout (annotated by Gollam): 59 - 60 (0) |  |
|  | I was the only one feeling that I was entering in more of a physics world that was intrigued me  08 - Favio Caruso's story (annotated by David): 4 - 4 (0)  But I felt like I was about to go in an unexplored world. Because I didn’t know anyone that had started their PhD in electronics.  08 - Favio Caruso's story (annotated by David): 6 - 6 (0)  I believe there many students experience something similar to the five stages of grief and loss. But in a reverse way, in maybe just three stages  08 - Favio Caruso's story (annotated by David): 8 - 8 (0)  The first one is acceptance  08 - Favio Caruso's story (annotated by David): 9 - 9 (0)  And the second stage is similar to depression and you will start asking yourself if your research should take longer or if is it still worth studying  08 - Favio Caruso's story (annotated by David): 9 - 9 (0)  And the third stage is anger. And that comes at the end of the PhD when you start being mad at yourself  08 - Favio Caruso's story (annotated by David): 9 - 9 (0)  Do not be scared to try. And do not be scared to fail.  08 - Favio Caruso's story (annotated by David): 22 - 22 (0)  If you have decided to go on with your PhD, that must be because you really want to.  08 - Favio Caruso's story (annotated by David): 24 - 24 (0) |  |
|  | I believe there many students experience something similar to the five stages of grief and loss. But in a reverse way, in maybe just three stages:  The first one is acceptance, where you start accepting you will run a doctorate programme, and it comes with all the high or working on something that is, in your mind, cutting edge technology. And the second stage is similar to depression and you will start asking yourself if your research should take longer or if is it still worth studying, because maybe someone around the world someone is doing it at the same time, but in a better and more articulated way. And the third stage is anger. And that comes at the end of the PhD when you start being mad at yourself. Because you feel like all of the years you have spent on your research, produce something like a drop in the ocean. And the point is, you are so focused in the third stage, expressing your anger, that you forget about how to prepare for what comes next  08 - Favio Caruso's story (annotated by Standa): 8 - 9 (0) |  |
|  | Before I started my PhD, I wondered: why do I want to undertake such an adventure? My answer back then still guides me today: for the love of social science, to develop more tools to better work with children and young people, to contribute to the community locally and beyond.  09 - Geneviève-Grégoire-Labrecque story (annotated by Vojtech): 7 - 7 (0)  In my opinion, four years (and counting!) can be a long time if there's no pleasure involved.  09 - Geneviève-Grégoire-Labrecque story (annotated by Vojtech): 19 - 19 (0)  A reminder though that decent work conditions, including decent wages, are not the only things that matter when it comes to graduate students' mental health or the quality of their research. The overworking culture in academia and the structural inequalities embedded in higher education are unhealthy and things do need to change.  09 - Geneviève-Grégoire-Labrecque story (annotated by Vojtech): 28 - 28 (0) |  |
|  | Undergrad this is not; no one is going to hold your hand through the next few years.  10 - Jack's story (annotated by Gollam): 47 - 47 (0)  you think that becoming involved in a  new project or opportunity will distract you from your primary interest, don't be afraid to turn it  down  10 - Jack's story (annotated by Gollam): 58 - 60 (0)  enjoy it  10 - Jack's story (annotated by Gollam): 68 - 68 (0) |  |
|  | Enter your research with a realistic mind-set as to what can actually be achieved — it's unlikely  you'll  revolutionize your field in a few years of doctoral study. Balancing this realism with a desire to  make a unique contribution to knowledge helps manage your own expectations, and is the key to  making continued progress. You can't do everything!  After you've started  Set clear ‘no further’ markers  10 - Jack's story (annotated by Marek): 32 - 38 (0)  During a PhD, time is precious. Occasionally, things just don't work, even after significant time  and effort spent. It's human nature to persevere with things we really want to resolve. However,  this can be dangerous — before you know it, six months have gone by and you're no closer to getting  that technique to work. Consider how necessary a piece of work actually is, and try to compromise.  For each project, set clear ‘no further’ markers — the maximum time, funding or number of attempts  you'll allow for something that isn't producing. Don't throw good time after bad! Knowing when to  move on is essential for long-term productivity.  10 - Jack's story (annotated by Marek): 39 - 45 (0)  Above all, enjoy it! A PhD is the first step on the ladder to becoming an independent academic, and  the unique freedom it provides is liberating. Use this freedom productively and, with a bit of  luck, your results will speak for themselves.  10 - Jack's story (annotated by Marek): 68 - 70 (0) |  |
|  | and I started with very high expectations both of myself and of the  PhD program in general... I think this is true of most PhD students; nobody  starts with low expectations...  11 - James's story (annotated by David): 6 - 8 (0)  and it looked like my PhD would be  pretty screwed  11 - James's story (annotated by David): 12 - 13 (0)  maintained these high expectations of myself I still wanted to do well  11 - James's story (annotated by David): 17 - 17 (0)  so I had  this level of stress  11 - James's story (annotated by David): 23 - 24 (0)  it was something  inside me so all that tension that had been building up suddenly had kind of  just snapped and my swore loudly stormed out of the lab and didn't know if I was  going to come back so I walked across the campus thinking I can't take this  anymore I can't take all this stress I can't take this constant feeling that  I'm not living up to the standard that I expect of myself or that anybody else  expected me and I thought well maybe I should just quit maybe I should  find some some other job I didn't quite know what I wanted to do  11 - James's story (annotated by David): 37 - 44 (0)  I thought well okay quitting quitting is an option and  it's not a terrible option  11 - James's story (annotated by David): 52 - 53 (0)  without really worrying about the end result  so that pressure to perform that pressure to get the results I wasn't  really worried about it anymore because I could leave my self-esteem was no  longer tied up in how well I did  11 - James's story (annotated by David): 61 - 64 (0)  the way I'd been dealing with my stress the way I'd been  approaching the PhD I've been constantly undermining myself because I put myself  under so much pressure I couldn't think creatively  11 - James's story (annotated by David): 67 - 69 (0)  I tried to put  all of my effort in in a relaxed way  11 - James's story (annotated by David): 75 - 76 (0)  I was writing my thesis I tried to  be as focused as I could on getting it done but without worrying about what the  examiners thought and this simple change in mindset I think made the difference  between me either failing or just quitting  11 - James's story (annotated by David): 76 - 79 (0)  all of that came from basically that  breakdown where I stopped worrying about the end result I stopped worrying about  what it meant about me stop worrying about what anyone else thought about me  and that was it everything stemmed from that simple change  11 - James's story (annotated by David): 86 - 89 (0) |  |
|  | a PhD is not supposed to be a comfortable ride  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Gollam): 4 - 4 (0)  I become more and more hopeles  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Gollam): 30 - 30 (0)  I feel proud that I convince Armando this is an important direction of future work  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Gollam): 33 - 33 (0) |  |
|  | Like many other academics, I will say that graduate school was one of the best periods of my life. I grew immensely, made many friends, and learned about the research process. During my PhD, I largely got to determine my own research agenda and day-to-day schedule. I developed my tastes as a researcher. I developed my tastes as a human being. Also important to me is that I developed some of the most intellectually and emotionally fulfilling friendships of my life. I loved graduate school so much that I decided to stay in academia.  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Marek): 3 - 3 (0)  But this does not give the entire picture. "Loving graduate school" is different from loving a good meal, a thought-provoking film, a pet, or another person. A PhD is about training you to become a researcher. The further you are from being in an experimental field, the further this growth is about concrete skills and the more it is about existential questions of how you want to be. If you want to stay in academia, you must also balance the growth with ensuring you have enough to show at the end for the intellectual coming-out party that is the academic job market. This growth is painful and anxiogenic. Even if you are in a supportive environment and have great work-life balance, a PhD is not supposed to be a comfortable ride. The flip side is that, as my friend Alex describes it, during your PhD every day is "epic."  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Marek): 4 - 4 (0)  It rains a lot this summer and we both become sad. One day, Kuat leaves a fortune cookie fortune on my desk that says "It cannot rain every day."  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Marek): 29 - 29 (0)  Our paper gets into POPL and everyone is relieved. I am relieved to confirm there is life after Verve. Armando is relieved for obvious reasons. My friends are relieved because they stop thinking I will quit graduate school.  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Marek): 32 - 32 (0)  The rest of my research is not satisfying this whole year. I work on extensions to Jeeves that Armando tells me are necessary for the work, but that I am not excited about. We work on integrity extensions to Jeeves that I don't think make sense. What I really want to do is figure out how to extend the Jeeves programming model to the database, but I can't work on this until after we finish this other stuff. I submit an uninspired paper to CAV. One of the reviews says, "I cannot believe there are four authors on this paper and so many typos." I am not excited about anything by the end of this year.  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Marek): 38 - 38 (0)  Armando tells me it is time for me to graduate and go on the academic job market. I tell him the academic job market is a big commitment because 1) I don't know that working alone forever is the best way to achieve the things I want to achieve and 2) the work/life balance doesn't seem great. He says 1) is a result of how he chose to run his group, but if I don't want to put in the work of being a professor then I should wrap up my work as quickly as possible and move on with my life. We are both sad.  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Marek): 40 - 40 (0)  I feel an incredible amount of angst about my uncertain future as I prepare for the job market. I spend one day a week doing extreme exercise, cycling 50+ miles or running 11+ miles, to obliterate all thoughts  12 - Jean-Yang's story (annotated by Marek): 46 - 46 (0) |  |
|  | It can seem stressful and demanding, but remember to enjoy your time as a PhD student  13 - Jillian's story (annotated by Standa): 8 - 8 (0)  You feel nervous, lost, confused and worried. The majority of PhD  students will already have an undergraduate degree and a Masters degree, therefore you could be  forgiven for failing to see why anyone would feel nervous going onto yet another degree.  13 - Jillian's story (annotated by Standa): 10 - 12 (0)  This independent journey is known to be one of the reasons why a PhD can often be somewhat  challenging and isolating. However, a PhD would not be the 'gold standard' of education if it was  stress-free, undemanding and straightforward. Who wants an easy life? Certainly not anyone in  academia!  13 - Jillian's story (annotated by Standa): 24 - 27 (0)  As a PhD student (especially at the beginning) you feel confused and worried that everyone else  seems to know what they're  doing and you don't. Fret not! This is normal and is likely the same thing your peers are thinking  too  13 - Jillian's story (annotated by Standa): 28 - 31 (0)  Speak to other PhD'ers, speak to others who have completed their PhD. You'll likely find that they  had similar anxieties and fears. The beginning of your PhD and finding your feet will be tough  enough, so don't carry even more weight on your shoulders than you have to by feeling worried that  you're not good enough or that you don't have a clue what you want from your research, what it  means, how you will carry it out, or produce a thesis so huge that it reminds of you of James and  the Giant Peach  13 - Jillian's story (annotated by Standa): 33 - 38 (0)  They told me that even now they still have periods of perplexity  while writing up.  13 - Jillian's story (annotated by Standa): 40 - 41 (0)  A fear that the work is simply not good enough, despite supervisors and peers telling them how well  they are doing. As academics (and especially as Brits) we are often too pessimistic and cynical  about ourselves and our work.  13 - Jillian's story (annotated by Standa): 42 - 44 (0) |  |
|  | It can seem stressful and demanding, but remember to enjoy your time as a PhD student  13 - Jillian's story (annotated by Vojtech): 8 - 8 (0)  You feel nervous, lost, confused and worried.  13 - Jillian's story (annotated by Vojtech): 10 - 10 (0)  a PhD can often be somewhat  challenging  13 - Jillian's story (annotated by Vojtech): 24 - 25 (0)  a PhD would not be the 'gold standard' of education if it was  stress-free  13 - Jillian's story (annotated by Vojtech): 25 - 26 (0)  As a PhD student (especially at the beginning) you feel confused and worried that everyone else  seems to know what they're  doing and you don't.  13 - Jillian's story (annotated by Vojtech): 28 - 30 (0)  Speak to other PhD'ers, speak to others who have completed their PhD. You'll likely find that they  had similar anxieties and fears. The beginning of your PhD and finding your feet will be tough  enough, so don't carry even more weight on your shoulders than you have to by feeling worried that  you're not good enough or that you don't have a clue what you want from your research, what it  means, how you will carry it out, or produce a thesis so huge that it reminds of you of James and  the Giant Peach.  13 - Jillian's story (annotated by Vojtech): 33 - 38 (0)  They told me that even now they still have periods of perplexity  while writing up.  13 - Jillian's story (annotated by Vojtech): 40 - 41 (0)  A fear that the work is simply not good enough, despite supervisors and peers telling them how well  they are doing.  13 - Jillian's story (annotated by Vojtech): 42 - 43 (0)  Enjoy this time. Enjoy the first few weeks.  13 - Jillian's story (annotated by Vojtech): 48 - 48 (0)  Enjoy your time and your journey.  13 - Jillian's story (annotated by Vojtech): 60 - 60 (0) |  |
|  | In order to maintain my sanity during my long Ph.D. journey I occasionally worked on things whimsical. One of these “extra-curricular” efforts was DB-quiz, a Wikipedia-based knowledge game imitating a well-known Czech TV show. I found these activities fulfilling, perhaps because they helped me establish a sense in my Ph.D. in opposition to a clear nonsense. Obviously, I could not settle for anything halfway, so I followed through with the joke to the very end and turned DB-quiz into an academic paper, later winning a prize for the best Ph.D. publication at the University of Economics  14 - Jindrich's story (annotated by Standa): 33 - 33 (0)  Submitting your Ph.D. thesis feels like a large open wound you’ve been bleeding from for years finally started healing. A nice feeling.  14 - Jindrich's story (annotated by Standa): 45 - 45 (0)  Finishing the Ph.D. was, first and foremost, a testament to my stubbornness, not to my research prowess.  14 - Jindrich's story (annotated by Standa): 48 - 48 (0)  Hence, my overall evaluation of the Ph.D. is exactly neutral.  14 - Jindrich's story (annotated by Standa): 49 - 49 (0)  However, I could not disregard the Ph.D.’s negative externalities. The Ph.D. levied a toll on my relationships with others. Oftentimes I grew cold, moody, and unresponsive, as I was churning through the flexible working hours for a precarious income. I definitely was not the cheeriest lad around.  14 - Jindrich's story (annotated by Standa): 50 - 50 (0)  I have grown ever so cynical.  14 - Jindrich's story (annotated by Standa): 51 - 51 (0) |  |
|  | I got \*ridiculously\* lucky and ended up with an unconventional but ultimately ideal supervision team!  15 - Joshua-Dawes's story (annotated by David): 13 - 13 (0) |  |
|  | got \*ridiculously\* lucky and ended up with an unconventional but ultimately ideal supervision team  15 - Joshua-Dawes's story (annotated by Gollam): 13 - 13 (0) |  |
|  | i realized it took a while but i realized that it's just when you're working for a big corporate and you even when you're working for a startup then the things that you do are basically the same day in day out because once i mean there is a learning curve in the beginning once you learn that though i mean for a year or maybe two years you're doing the same thing every day just on different like the use cases are different but then in the end what you're doing is basically the same so it was becoming it was rather mundane very boring  16 - Justin's story (annotated by Bach): 20 - 20 (0)  he does not understand my motivations to go into research but i think he supports me nonetheless because he thinks that is what i want yeah  16 - Justin's story (annotated by Bach): 28 - 28 (0) |  |
|  | To be honest, in 2004-2005, shortly before finishing my PhD, I was not sure that I could continue in academia.  17 - Katrin-Franke's story (annotated by Bach): 8 - 8 (0)  But if you know that this is completely normal and that the pink clouds turn into desperation after six months and that you just need to carry on and it will be better again, then you may overcome the six months steps.  17 - Katrin-Franke's story (annotated by Bach): 25 - 25 (0) |  |
|  | I wanted from the bottom of my heart is doing research.  17 - Katrin-Franke's story (annotated by Vojtech): 3 - 3 (0)  In my case this happened when the nice snowy mountains in Norway and the blue sky were suddenly pitch black and I wanted to come back to Berlin in the real civilization and not only live with woods and bush.  17 - Katrin-Franke's story (annotated by Vojtech): 25 - 25 (0)  For me it really helped to know that this happens to many and so when it happened to me I was just conscious and thinking 'Now it kicks in, now I need to carry on'.  17 - Katrin-Franke's story (annotated by Vojtech): 26 - 26 (0) |  |
|  | This by far has been one of the best experiences of my PhD journey  19 - Mariam's story (annotated by Bach): 42 - 42 (0)  Getting a fully funded scholarship was  truly an achievement.  19 - Mariam's story (annotated by Bach): 44 - 45 (0)  One thing that I had to come to  terms with was realizing that I was one of the few Black people doing a PhD in my field in Germany.  19 - Mariam's story (annotated by Bach): 47 - 48 (0)  It can get lonely when you want to find people that can relate to your unique experiences  on both an individual and institutional level as a Black African woman.  19 - Mariam's story (annotated by Bach): 53 - 54 (0)  Most of all, I learned to never underestimate the  power of a strong and healthy social circle. My social circle gave me the guidance and desire to  push forward through their support spiritually, morally, mentally and academically.  19 - Mariam's story (annotated by Bach): 59 - 61 (0)  You need a solid circle of people around you that you can trust because a PhD can get lonely.  19 - Mariam's story (annotated by Bach): 67 - 67 (0)  You might even catch yourself  listening to the cynical voices (sometimes from African communities) who will ask whether your aim  in life is to become an 'ever-student' (der/die ewige Student\*in)  19 - Mariam's story (annotated by Bach): 69 - 71 (0)  I feel like this is just the beginning.  19 - Mariam's story (annotated by Bach): 76 - 76 (0) |  |
|  | One thing that I had to come to  terms with was realizing that I was one of the few Black people doing a PhD in my field in Germany.  19 - Mariam's story (annotated by Standa): 47 - 48 (0)  I had been used to being in a room full of White people as a student, but this even became more  noticeable while I was doing a PhD. As a scientist, or an independent scholar, you are faced with the  task of presenting your work to a wider audience. During much of my time as a PhD student this  audience was made up of White people especially at conferences in Germany and other European  countries. It can get lonely when you want to find people that can relate to your unique experiences  on both an individual and institutional level as a Black African woman.  19 - Mariam's story (annotated by Standa): 49 - 54 (0)  I learned that determination, perseverance, endurance and the will to complete my PhD were the  motor that I needed to help me push forward.  19 - Mariam's story (annotated by Standa): 58 - 59 (0)  . I heard quite a few harsh and  hurtful comments on my journey up the PhD ladder.  19 - Mariam's story (annotated by Standa): 71 - 72 (0)  Striving for a healthy work-life-balance also helped me on my journey to completing my doctorate.  19 - Mariam's story (annotated by Standa): 74 - 74 (0) |  |
|  | The mere  thought that I may get an opportunity to work on something that can potentially benefit a patient,  was really thrilling.  20 - Nyji's story (annotated by Vojtech): 13 - 15 (0)  I was so intimidated…  20 - Nyji's story (annotated by Vojtech): 20 - 20 (0)  That name alone scared the hell out of me. I kept saying to  myself what am I doing here? Niyi, what are you looking for here?  Medical Doctors, Bioengineers, Cancer biologists, Biochemists, Veterinarians, etc. I was frustrated,  and I continued to ask myself…  What am I doing here…?  How did I miss the road…?  My confidence deflated and I just wanted to go back home  20 - Nyji's story (annotated by Vojtech): 22 - 28 (0)  Finally, to anyone reading this, who is coping with rejections, self-doubt, and the frustration that  comes with them…  20 - Nyji's story (annotated by Vojtech): 78 - 79 (0) |  |
|  | So I'm really proud of my PhD thesis.  22 - Per-Olof-Arnäs's story (annotated by Bach): 42 - 42 (0)  And the second one is the actually the most important one; if it is not fun, do not do it!  22 - Per-Olof-Arnäs's story (annotated by Bach): 74 - 74 (0) |  |
|  | It's exciting to start new chapters in life and I am thankful and proud of my whole journey from being an undergrad at UoM to working in the software engineering team at Prevayl.  23 - Simona-Alexandra's story (annotated by Bach): 16 - 16 (0) |  |
|  | Happy summer!  24 - Vasanth-Sarathy's story (annotated by Gollam): 7 - 7 (0) |  |
| PhD program | That's when I found Concordia's Individualized Program. Over the years, the program would encourage my creative inclinations, support my need for flexibility in terms of program structure and respect my intellectual autonomy, thus allowing me to lead the kind of research I am passionate about.  09 - Geneviève-Grégoire-Labrecque story (annotated by Vojtech): 19 - 19 (0) |  |
| Receiving training | I got the opportunity to take a special course where young women could receive advice for instance in how to write a CV, what are the criteria for professorship, what are the measures for excellence, how to apply for professorship, and how to negotiate for professorship positions. I took this course in 2001  17 - Katrin-Franke's story (annotated by Vojtech): 13 - 13 (0) |  |