

Life during and (shortly) after the EMCL

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Who am I?

- An EMCL alumnus
- Student of FUB, NICTA and TUD,
- Collaborator of the Language Research Center (FUB), KRDB (FUB), and ICCL (TUD)
- Participant of ESSLLI'11 summerschool and EMCL workshops!
- PhD student at FBK (Trento) since November 2011

- This program offers plenty of opportunities
- Opportunities (usually) don't just knock at your door, look for them!
- Many chances to do networking: Open Houses, Workshops, Summer schools
- Job opportunities: Research groups are usually willing to get good students for small projects
- Remember: People love to talk about their work!

Enjoying the EMCL

- Work hard
- Don't work alone
- Don't just work
- Travel!
- Meet people!

Enjoying the EMCL: Project and Thesis

HOW DO I LOVE YOU, THESIS?
LET ME COUNT THE WAYS...



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There are two ways of dealing with Project and Thesis

- 1 Find a professor that works in a field in which you are interested, and ask for a topic
- 2 Find an interesting problem to solve and then find a supervisor

Both have pros and cons!

Solution 1:

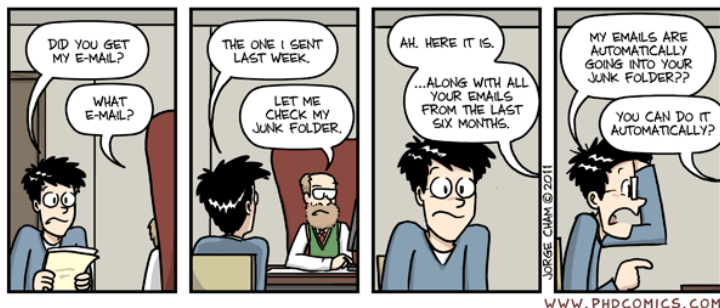
- + You get half-work done (defining the problem)
- + Your supervisor has a good understanding of how to approach the problem
 - “My supervisor told me so”-syndrome
 - Might turn out not to be *that* interesting

Solution 2:

- + You are solving a problem you find interesting
- + You learn how to define a research problem
 - You need to work more to properly define the problem
 - You might aim too high (or too low)
 - You will have less technical guidance since you probably will end up being *the expert*.

Enjoying the EMCL: Project and Thesis (Cont.)

- Don't wait too long for starting to look for a project/thesis.
- No matter when you start, you will always wish you had more time!
- Learn how to manage your supervisor:



- Exploit any suitable occasion to present and discuss your work!
- Start learning \LaTeX , Tikz and a VC system (SVN/GIT) as soon as possible

- If you plan on doing a PhD, remember that (usually) calls are once a year! Start looking early into the top-positions.
- Apply to everything you might be interested to!
- New research group probably has different focus, background and habits: be proud of your background!

Practical Tips For 1st year students

- Bolzano offers good scholarships based on merit, check Provincia di Bolzano website
- In Bolzano there's a thing called 150 ore (hours) that is a way of working in the university (9e/h). Call is usually in end October.
- FBK usually takes students for summer internship (ask Alina or Bishoksan)

Anything (at all) that you want to know?