How to Succeed in Graduate School at ZJ U?

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A Guide for Students –

How to Do Good Research in CAGD&CG Lab?

http://www.math.zju.edu.cn/cagd

Survive Graduate School

You do not have to be a "star" to survive graduate school, but you need to be well informed.

- Your motivation
- Who and what are available to help you?
- Your supervisor
- Some simple pointers about research
- The five golden rules
Your Motivation

- You goals
  - Diploma? 😞
  - Improve yourself? 😊

- Various abilities: **Do Things Right!**
  - Thinking
  - Writing
  - Communicating
  - Coding
  - …
My Good Students

- **Good attitudes**
  - Enthusiasm and passion

- **Good mathematics**
  - Analyzing the problem professionally

- **Good coding ability**
  - Implementing what you have in mind
Who and what are available to help you?

You do not have to be a "star" to survive graduate school, but you need to be well informed.

- Supervisor
- Our vast research and teaching expertise
- Your fellow students
- Our lab, library, and on-line resources
How to become informed?

- Group seminar and other seminars
- Academic talks and reports
- Web pages of our faculty and research labs
- Library, on-line digital libraries, google, citeseers, etc.
- …
What to look for in a supervisor? (1)

- **Available**
  - Has time and be willing to meet you regularly

- **“Rich”**
  - Has funding and be willing to support you adequately

- **Smart**
  - Has good technical skills, e.g., can help you improve and provide constructive criticism of your work, etc.
  - His/her research well-respected in the field
What to look for in a supervisor? (2)

- Honest and trustworthy
  - Give you sufficient credit for works you have done
  - Speak well of you and your abilities
  - Tell you when you work is or is not good enough

- Share your interests

- Good personal and communication skills
  - Nice, patient, and always encouraging, so you can talk freely and easily about your ideas
Getting the most out of your supervisor?

- Meet regularly - at least once every other week
- Prepare for your meetings and email him/her a brief summary after every meeting
- Keep good records of major milestones
- Show your results as soon as possible
- Don't be afraid to disagree or ask the "silly" questions
- Take the initiative - don't always wait for orders
- Be active and productive
Simple pointers about research (1)

- Be organized
  - Make a journal of your research ideas
  - Set deadlines for yourself
  - Always know where you are
  - Keep your priorities straight and don't go off on a tangent

- Make realistic goals
  - Conquer one problem at a time
  - Publish your work and don't be afraid to say "future work"
Simple pointers about research (2)

- Confront your fears and weakness
  - Find every chance possible to strengthen your math
  - Talk about your research in public whenever you can
  - Practice writing up your work early
- Balance reading, thinking, writing, and coding
- Confidence in yourself, in your supervisor, and in your chosen topic - perseverance more likely to pay off than flip-flopping
Learn more…

- Learn from others
- Writing
- English
- Build up your network - make friends with your peers
- Have a lot of fun!
The five golden rules

- Be self-motivated
- Find the right supervisor
- Make the most out of all available resources
- Be organized, realistic, and confident
- Have a full life, e.g., exercise regularly - you need the endurance when you write up your thesis!
Don’t play too hard!

Don’t work too hard!

Double-wins for everything as possible