

Overture to the Comprehensive Recital on Culmination of the Journey to Become a Doctor of Philosophy

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Abstract—This paper establishes an evidence based proof strongly contradicting the long standing hypothesis that one starts graduate school with an ambition to win the Nobel Prize and ends it with the hope to have free Pizza and a job. Additional evidence also suggests that the rate of change in ambition does not always strictly obey a monotonically decreasing nature. The results are based on experiments performed during Oct. 2010 - Sept. 2013, documented till 12 Dec. 2013, examined and analyzed till Mar. 2014 and would be comprehensively discussed and concluded in cordial presence of the reader(s) of this paper at the author's PhD defense presentation scheduled at 4:00 PM on 12 Mar. 2014 at School of Medical Science and Technology, Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur, WB, India.

Index Terms—Doctor of Philosophy, computational imaging, graduate school, Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur, machine learning, PhD, research, signal processing.

I. INTRODUCTION

Graduate school is an establishment focused at awarding advanced academic degrees viz. master's and doctoral degrees where students start after having obtained an undergraduate degree. The general (lack of) awareness about (absence of) life in graduate school has inspired the establishment of numerous hypothesis and related publications¹. This paper specifically tests the hypothesis presented in Fig. 1 based on [1] under the guidance of Professor Ajoy K. Ray and Dr. Jyotirmoy Chatterjee.

II. MATERIALS AND METHODS

The experimental data was collected between Oct. 2010 and Sept. 2013 by observing activities of a graduate student embarking on the journey to obtain a Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) at Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur (IIT Kharagpur), WB, India. The multi-center study spanned across India (IIT Kharagpur) and Germany (Technical University of Munich) and briefly at Malaysia, Spain and USA. Data was collected in terms of publication impact of the subject's radical inventions in machine learning for medical ultrasonic [2]–[5] and optical imaging [6], [7]; patents filed and granted; awards and honors; fundings received in sequel to the work since Oct. 2013; companies started; cities, castles, forests, mountains, museums and restaurants visited; languages spoken; people met; relationships and friendships established; weekend brunches; cheese, potatoes, meat, bread and tea tasted; cameras used and photographs clicked.

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¹"Piled Higher and Deeper" (PhD) is the comic strip about life (or the lack thereof) in academia.

YOUR LIFE AMBITION - What Happened??

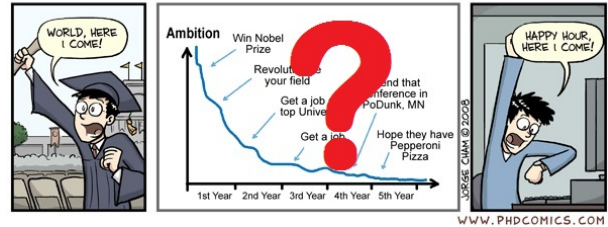


Fig. 1. Illustration of the hypothesis in question about the rate of change in ambition expected through life in grad school [1].

III. RESULTS AND CONCLUSION

Evidence lacks any contradiction to the null hypothesis ($p > 0.1$ based on paired t-test). Hypothesis in Fig. 1 is uncorrelated to the subject's observations and its *universal absoluteness* does not hold true. The reader is cordially invited to attend the author's PhD defense presentation scheduled at 4:00 PM on 12 Mar. 2014 at School of Medical Science and Technology, IIT Kharagpur, WB, India to witness comprehensive disclosure of the journey and its impact measured in terms of the earlier mentioned cost functions.

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