

Valse Seminar

Xihui Liu 刘希慧

Ph.D. from CUHK

PostDoc at UC Berkeley

My personal experience during Ph.D.

- Read papers (breadth and depth).
- Decide your research direction and stick to it.
- Good habits
 - Survey papers.
 - Think more before coding.
 - Good coding style.
 - Manage your experiments clearly.
- Learn from failures and be confident.
 - Everyone will face difficult times during Ph.D.
- Communicate with your advisors.
- Presentation is important.

My personal experience during Ph.D.

- Understand your strengths and weakness.
- Decide your goals.
 - It's ok not to know your goals at the early stage of Ph.D.
 - Just keep thinking and exploring.
- Communicate with others (labmates, peers, professors, researchers)
- Prepare early.
- The most important thing is to do good research works!

Academia or Industry: Pros and Cons

- Academia
 - More freedom, more responsibility
 - Research, teaching, department duty.
- Industry
 - Research lab
 - focus more on research (no grant writing, teaching, etc.)
 - more computing resources.
 - Product team
 - make products that change the world.
 - much higher salary (especially for AI researchers)

Academia or Industry: How to decide

- Both are good choices, choose the one that fits you best.
- Know your interest, strengths and weaknesses.
- Talk to others about their experiences and feelings.
- Gain experience by internships.

Apply for a Postdoc Position

- Check the advertisement
 - Professor's homepage, department website, institute website
 - Job board on conferences (e.g., CVPR, ICCV etc.)
 - Some social media
- Connect with the professor directly
 - Find the matched professor
 - Send an email to the professor (during the working time)
- Recommendation from professors, mentors, or friends who know you
 - You need to be qualified and have good reputation (to be the one that can be trusted by others)

Prepare for the Interview

- Different styles
- Chat with professors directly.
 - may need deliver a presentation or a short introduction of your research.
- A research talk + 1-1 meeting (similar to interviews for research labs)
 - Usually 45 mins talk, followed by 15 mins QA
 - Then 1-1 meeting (with professor and other members in the group)

Thank you!