



**PSI**

Center for Scientific Computing,  
Theory and Data

# Life of a PhD student

Renato Bellotti

Summer student programme, 07.08.2024

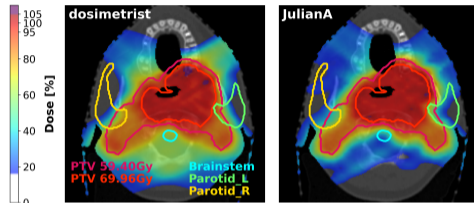


## Renato Bellotti (\*28.11.1994)

- 2013 - 2018: BSc ETH in Physics
- 2018 - 2020: MSc ETH in Computational Science and Engineering
- 2020 - 2024 (hopefully): PhD in Medical Physics

PhD: philosophiae doctor, doctor of philosophy

1. Why I wanted to do a PhD
2. How I got my PhD
3. Start Phase
4. Main Phase
5. End Phase
6. Questions



# Why did I want to do a PhD?



Image by Евгения from Pixabay

# How to become a PhD student?

## 1. Find a supervisor



## 2. Apply for the position



## 3. Shine!



# Choosing a PhD project can be overwhelming!

- Lab vs. desk?
- Applied vs. fundamental research?
- Team player vs lone wolf?
- Tight guidance vs. loose supervision?
- Interdisciplinary vs. domain-specific?

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## Advice

**Listen to your heart! A PhD project is a commitment!**



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## Advice

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## Advice

**Never compare PhD projects!**

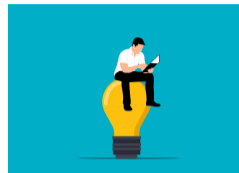
1. What is the problem?
2. How is it currently solved?
3. How can I contribute?



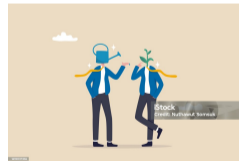
**New friends!**



**Teaching!**

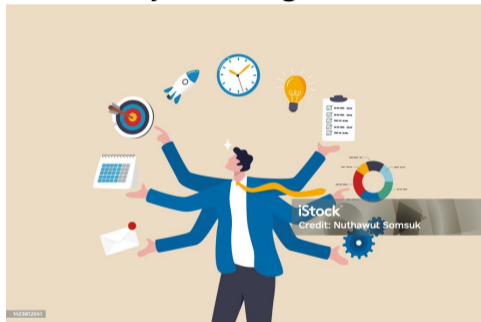


**New knowledge!**



**Mentor students!**

## Project Management



TODOs, deadlines, attending talks, teaching, exams, conferences, ...

## Knowledge Management



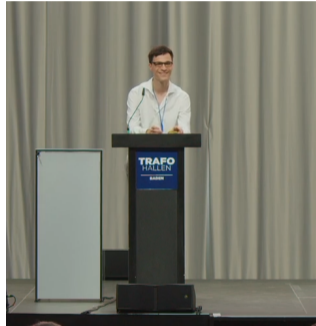
Obsidian, Notion, idea tracking, resource tracking, literature, ...

**Writing a research plan guides you!**

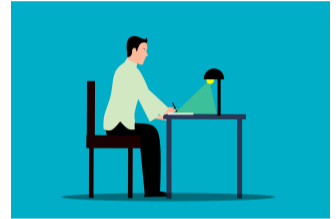
## Do science



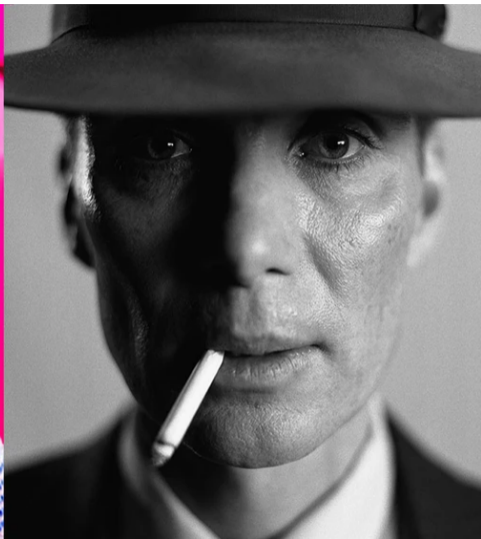
## Present results

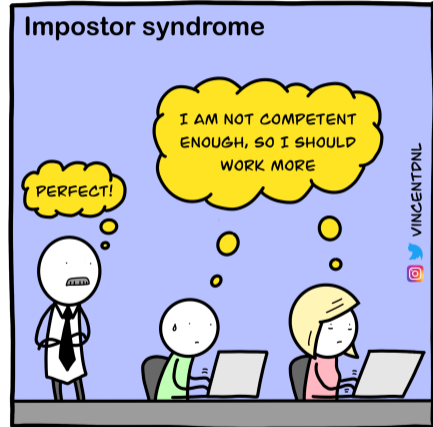


## Publish



# Ups & Downs





# Questions?

Let's connect on LinkedIn or write me an email!

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