

**Always Trust and Challenge  
Yourself – Achieving a Ph.D. in  
Mechanical Engineering**

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# How Do I Grow Up

## ➤ Childhood

- Born in a small village in Zhejiang Province
- Parents are peasants with least expectation from me being a college student

## ➤ Teenage

- Happy and wild junior high school life
- Rigid and formal senior high school study
- Making it possible for getting into a good college

## ➤ College

- Benefited a lot from the excellent environment of USTC
- Built solid foundation for future study and research

# Starting with Ph.D. Study

## ➤ Positive aspects of you

- Excited about the new life and the new research program
- Eager to start your new study and research

## ➤ Negative aspects of you

- Confused about the direction of new research
- Shy to open mouth and ask for help

## ➤ Approaches

- Conduct full literature research to get familiar with the new field
- Take the initiative to talk to your advisor and

# Getting through Ph.D. Study

- ❑ Think smart and work hard;
- ❑ Keep up with reading papers to know what's new in your research area;
- ❑ Attend seminars and conferences in your field;
- ❑ Always give feedback to your advisor no matter whether you finish the job or not. Do not hide yourself and try to solve the problem without keeping him/her informed about the progress;
- ❑ Think clearly of next step for your research before you start to do it;
- ❑ Take good notes about what you have done in your research; You need to learn from your experience as the research goes on;
- ❑ Be patient with the research. It is a long journey and no one can know the end beforehand;
- ❑ Challenge yourself with new and better approach for your research;

# Finishing up Ph.D. Study

- ❑ Grab every opportunity to give a talk about your research, including conference and seminars etc.;
- ❑ Publish your research work at relative journals;
- ❑ Actively interact with other researchers in your field;
- ❑ Actively involved in the different research societies in your field, such as chairing a session or organizing a session;
- ❑ Tell a good story about what you have achieved in your research;
- ❑ Think about the future work in your research area; Getting a Ph.D. is just a step, not the end of your research in the field;
- ❑ Take charge of your future. No one will tell you what to do....