How to be a good graduate student
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Being a CS Graduate Student is about

- Learning to do research
- Doing it
- Learning to communicate the results of your research
- Doing it

Why do we do CS research?

- Intellectual: to advance science or technology
  - Passion: You are driven to it (your way to be creative)
- Ego: I must be really smart
- Social: To advance social goals
- Strategic: On the path to reach a goal
- Economic: High paying jobs
- Boredom: For fun
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How do we conduct CS research?

**The 1/3–1/3–1/3 rule:**
- 33% preparation
- 33% actually doing the research
- 33% Communicating (writing paper, oral presentation)

Too often, it is replaced with the "GS rule":
10% - 90% - 0%
What is research?

**Your research is:**
- Your papers
- Your software
- Any tools that you publish

**It is not:**
- Your ideas
- Your proposals
- The notes in your lab book
- Your skills
- Whom you know....

What is good research?

- Ground breaking work (opens us a new line of research, that people follow): Best situation!
- Good incremental work (most frequent for graduate students?)
- Useful work
- Aesthetically pleasing work
- Starts from, and leads to good questions
- Timely

Avoid “me-too” Research!
The Whole Brain Model: Ned Herrmann

What it takes to do good research

1. Time
   2. More Time
   3. More Time!

4. Writing skills!

Sloppy writing is sloppy thinking!