



**UTM**  
UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MALAYSIA

## A Webinar Session:

# How to Overcome Challenges in PhD:– to Publish or to Graduate-On-Time?

Friday 25 March 2022

Organized by

Centre for Academic Learning Writing and Support Services (CALWASS)



**PROF. DR. NOR HANIZA SARMIN**

Department of Mathematical Sciences

Faculty of Science

Universiti Teknologi Malaysia

[nhs@utm.my](mailto:nhs@utm.my)

innovative • entrepreneurial • global

# My Education Background



- B.Sc (Hons) Math (Minor in Economics) 1986-1989
- MA Math 1989-1990
- PhD Math 1995-1998 (40 months)

from State University of New York at Binghamton  
(now known as Binghamton University), New York,  
USA

<https://people.utm.my/nizasarmin/>



# WHAT IS GOT?

**Graduate On Time (GOT)** refers to students who completed their study within normal duration



# DURATION OF GOT (FOR PHD)



## GOT-UTM/MYRAII

- 42 MONTHS



MINISTRY OF HIGHER EDUCATION

## GOT-MOHE

- 48 MONTHS





# DURATION OF STUDY (FULL RESEARCH)

	FULL-TIME	
	MINIMUM	MAXIMUM
LEVEL OF STUDY	(REGISTERED SEMESTER)	(SEMESTER)
Master Degree	2 (1 year)	8 (4 years)
Doctoral Degree	6 (3 years)	16 (8 years)

# WHY GOT AND PUBLICATIONS ARE BOTH IMPORTANT?

## FOR GOT

- On-time graduation signals that the applicant is organized, focused, responsible, and meets deadlines.
- Scholarship/Study Leave
- The University and Country's aspiration

# WHY GOT AND PUBLICATIONS ARE BOTH IMPORTANT?

## FOR PUBLICATION

- Thesis Submission requirement.
- Being able to publish shows that you actually know what you are doing and that you have the potential of advancing your field
- Bonus for being hired.
- PhD by publications.



# WHY ELSE DO WE PUBLISH?

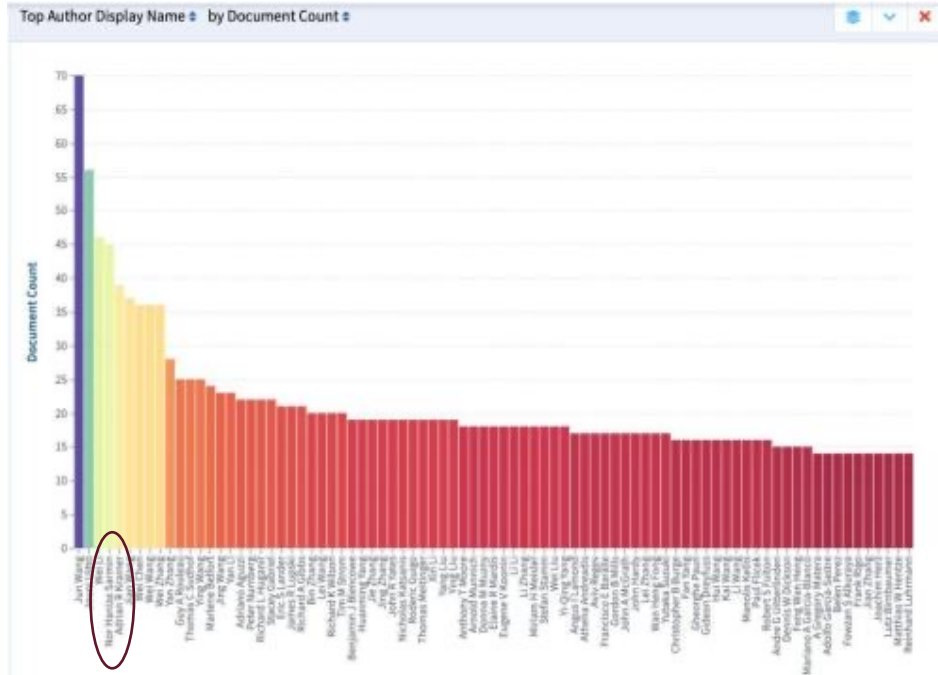
- To pass on the knowledge we have gained.
- To prove the novelties.
- To increase our academic prestige.
- To secure further funding.
- To get a promotion.



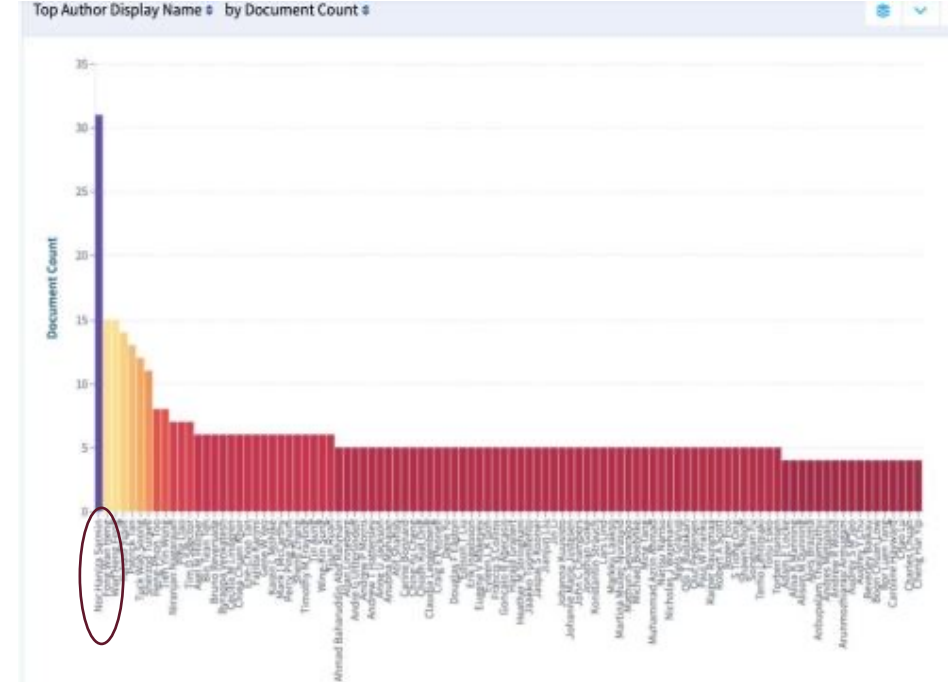
***“If your research is not published in a journal,  
then it does not exist”***

# WHY ELSE DO WE PUBLISH?

# Lens.org - Free & Open Patent and Scholarly Search

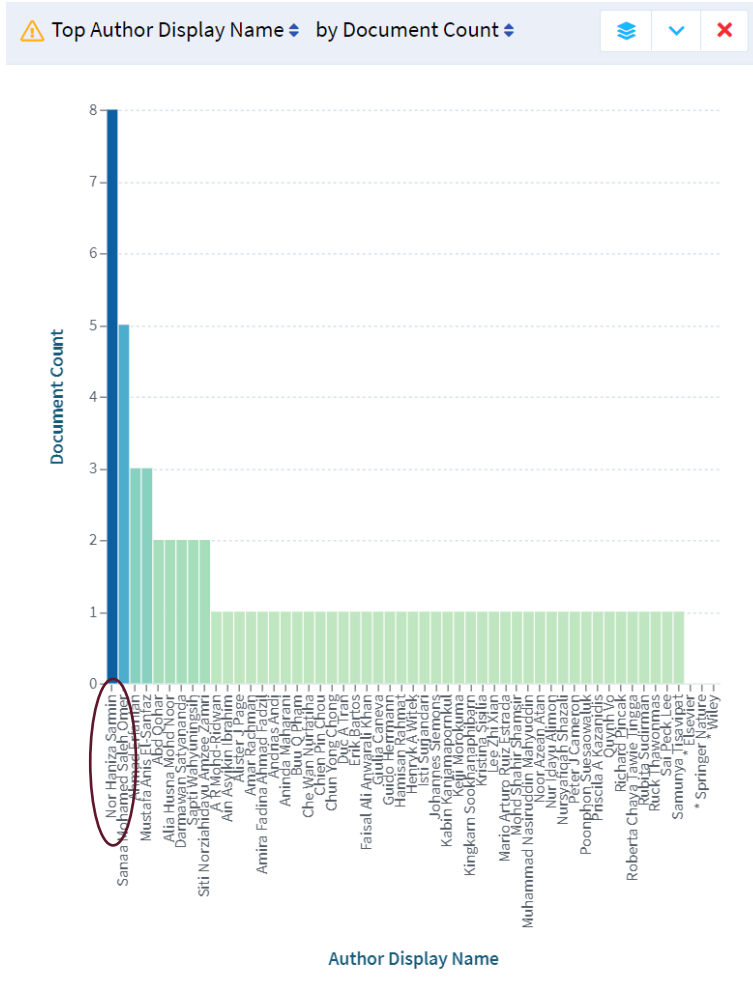


## Top Author Display Name (Splicing System) in the World

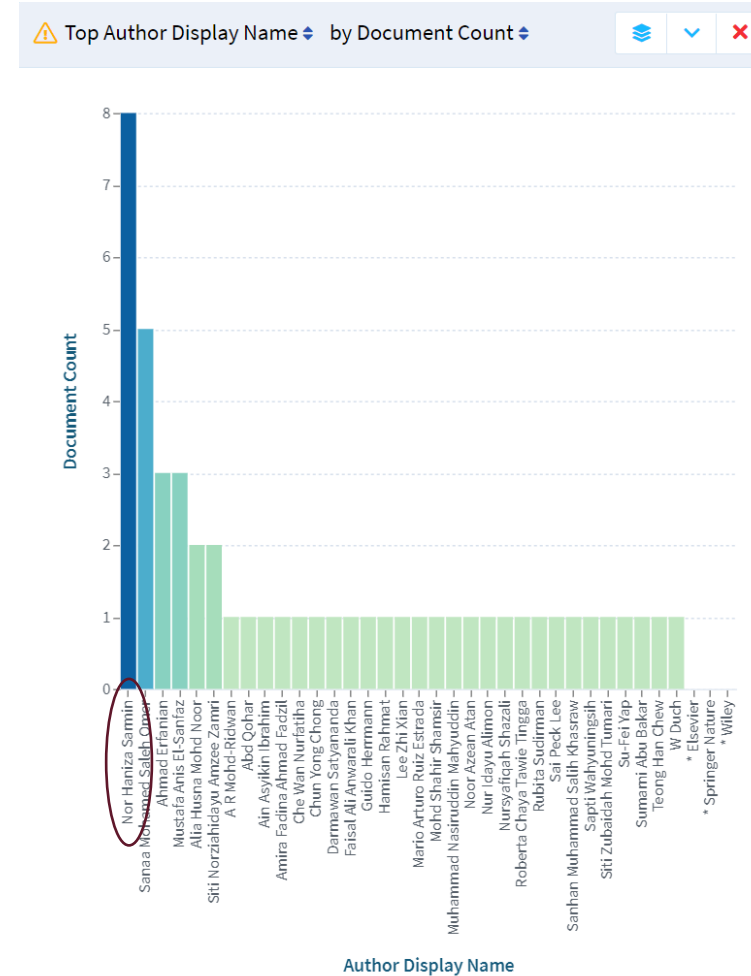


### Top Author Display Name (Splicing System) in Asia

# WHY ELSE DO WE PUBLISH?



Top Author Display Name (**Group Theory**) in Asia



Top Author Display Name (**Group Theory**) in Malaysia



# GRADUATED PHD STUDENTS



# PhD Supervision

(28 students as Main SV, 11 as Co-SV, from 2004-2021)

No.	Name	Year	Thesis submission (semester)	Title
1	Fong Wan Heng (graduated on 26 March 2008)	2004 – 2007	6	Modelling of Splicing Systems Using Formal Language Theory.
2	Azhana Ahmad (graduated on 16 Sept. 2008)	2003 – 2008	9	The Exact Number of Conjugacy Classes of 2-Generator p-Groups of Nilpotency Class 2.
3	Nor Muhainiah Mohd Ali (graduated on 31 Dec 2008)	2005 - 2008	6	Homological Functors and Capability of 2-Generator Groups of Nilpotency Class Two
4	Rohaidah bte Masri (co) (graduated on 17 Nov 2009)	2006-2010	8	The Nonabelian Tensor Squares of Some Bieberbach Groups With Cyclic Point Group of Order 2
5	Norashiqin Mohd Idrus (PT) (graduated on 4 April 2011)	2004 – 2011	12	Bieberbach Groups With Finite Point Groups
6	Loh Ser Lee (co) (graduated on 23 Nov 2011)	2008-2011	6	Graph Theoretical Characterizations and Techniques for Minimization of Connected Graphs Into Single-row Networks.
7	Samad Rashid (graduated on 30 Jan 2012)	July 2009-2012	5	The Nonabelian Tensor Squares and Capability of Some Finite Groups
8	Yuhani Yusof (graduated on 29 Feb 2012)	Dec 2008-2011	6	Non-Simple Splicing Systems and Their Characterizations
9	Mohd Sham Mohamad (graduated on 26 March 2012)	Dec 2008-2011	6	Compatibility Conditions and Nonabelian Tensor Products of Finite Cyclic Groups Of p-Power Order
10	Fadila Normahia Abd Manaf – <a href="#">Fast Track</a> (graduated in March 2013)	July 2009-2012	6	Commutativity Degrees of Nilpotent Groups of Class Two

# PhD Supervision

<https://people.utm.my/nizararmin/phd-students>

No.	Name	Year	Thesis submission (semester)	Title
11	Fariba Karimi (graduated in July 2013)	Dec 2009-2012	6	Mathematical Modeling of Splicing Systems in DNA Computing
12	Sheila a/p Ilangovan (graduated Nov 2013)	July 2010-2013	6	Conjugacy Classes and Graph of Some 2-Groups of Nilpotency Class 2.
13	Faiz Muhammad Khan (graduated Dec 2013)	July 2010 – 2013	5	New Generalizations of Fuzzy Ideals in Ordered Semigroups
14	Abdulqader Mohammed Bin Basri Assaqqaf (graduated Jan 2014)	Dec 2009-2012	7	Capability and Homological Functors of Finite Metacyclic p-Groups
15	Yasamin Barakat (graduated Dec 2013)	July 2010-2013	6	Automorphisms of Nonabelian 2-Generated p-Groups of Class 2
16	Hazzirah Izzati Mat Hassim – <a href="#">Fast track</a> (graduated Nov 2014)	July 2010-2013	7	The Homological Functors and Capability of Some Bieberbach Groups
17	Kayvan Moradipour (graduated Dec 2013)	Jan 2011-2014	6	The Commutativity Degree in Some Finite Groups
18	Zainab Yahya (co) – <a href="#">Fast Track</a> (graduated 2016)	Sept 2011- 2014	7	Representations of Dihedral Groups
19	Sanaa Mohamed (graduated Nov 2014)	Sept 2011- 2014	6	Generalized Commutativity Degrees of Permutation Groups
20	Mathuri Selvarajoo (co) (graduated 2015)	Sept 2011- 2014	7	Probabilistic Splicing System and Sticker System



# PhD Supervision

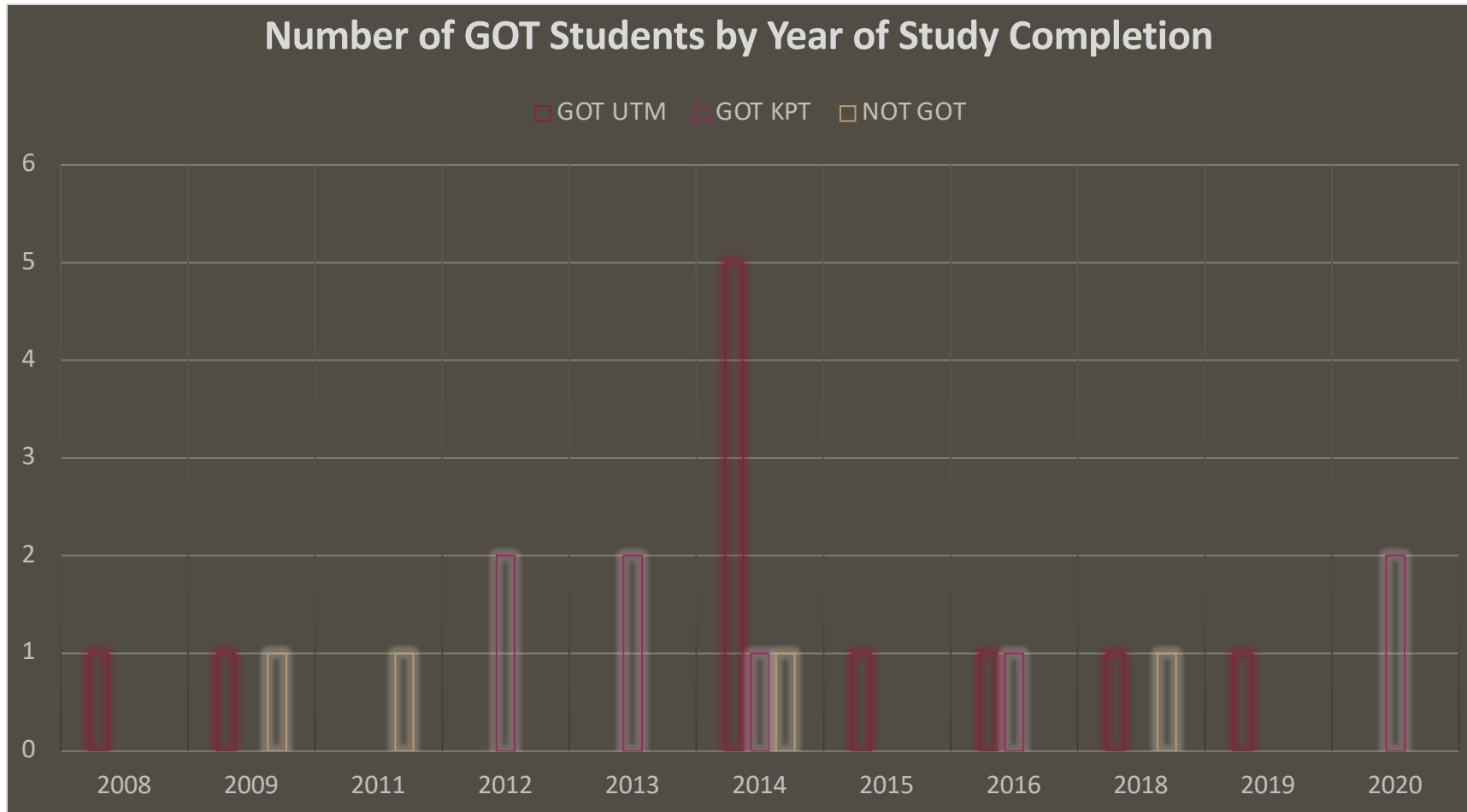
<https://people.utm.my/nizararmin/phd-students>

No.	Name	Year	Thesis submission (semester)	Title
21	Gan Yee Siang (co) – <a href="#">Fast Track</a> (graduated March 2015)	Sept 2011- 2014	6	Computational Power of Weighted Automata in DNA Splicing System and Sticker System
22	Hidayat Ullah Khan (graduated 2015)	Feb 2012 – 2015	6	Intuitionistic Fuzzy Ideals in Ordered Semigroups
23	Rosita Zainal (co) (graduated 2016)	Feb 2012 - 2015	7	The Homological Functors of Groups of Order $p^n$
24	Adnin Afifi Nawi (co) – <a href="#">Fast Track</a> (graduated 2016)	Sept 2012 -2015	8	The Schur Multiplier of Pair for Some Finite Groups
25	Muhammad Azrin Ahmad – <a href="#">Fast Track</a> (graduated Oct 2016)	Sept 2012 – 2015	6	Some Characteristics of DNA Splicing Languages via Yusof-Goode Approach
26	Nurhidaya Mohamad Jan (co) – <a href="#">Fast Track</a> (graduated 2016)	Sept 2012 – 2015	8	Pushdown Automata in Extended Valence H Systems Over Some Permutation Groups
27	Muhanizah Abdul Hamid (co) (graduated 2016)	Sept 2012 - 2016	8	The Relative n-th Nilpotency Degree of Two Subgroups of a Finite Group related to a Graph
28	Mustafa En-Sanfaz (graduated 2016)	Sept 2013 – 2016	8	The Probability that an Element of a Non-Abelian Group Fixes a Set and Its Applications in Graph Theory
29	Siti Afiqah Mohammad (graduated 2018)	Sept 2014-2017	6	The Homological Functors of Bieberbach Groups of Dimension Six with Quaternion Point Group of Order Eight
30	Norarida Abd Rhani (co) (graduated 2017)	Sept 2014-2017	6	An Extension of the Commutativity Degree of Some Finite Groups and Their Graphs

# PhD Supervision

<https://people.utm.my/nizararmin/phd-students>

No.	Name	Year	Thesis submission (semester)	Title
31	Siti Norziahidayu Amzee Zamri (graduated 2018)	Sept 2015-2018	6	A Variance of the Probability That a Metacyclic p-Groups Fixes a Set and Its Related Graphs
32	Rabiha Birkia (graduated 2018)	Sept 2015-2018	6	Energy of Some Graphs Associated to Finite Graphs
33	Ibrahim Gambo (graduated 2019)	Sept 2015-2018	6	Innovative Types of Fuzzy Gamma Ideals in Ordered Gamma Semigroups
34	Suad Saed M Alrehaili (graduated 2020)	Sept 2016 – 2020	7	Some Variances of the Commutativity Degree of Some Finite Groups and Their Applications in Graph Theory
35	Alia Husna Mohd Noor (graduated 2020)	Sept 2016 – 2020	6	3-generator Groups of p-power Order and Some Related Graphs
36	Nabilah Najmuddin (graduated 2019)	Sept 2016 – 2019	7	Graph Polynomial Associated to Some Graphs of Certain Finite Nonabelian Groups
37	Nur Idayu Alimon – <a href="#">Fast Track</a> (graduated 2020)	Sept 2017 – 2020	6	Topological Indices of a Class Of Graphs of Some Finite Groups and Applications to Molecular Structures
38	Nurul Izzaty Ismail (co) – <a href="#">Fast Track</a> (graduated 2021)	Sept 2017 – 2021	7	Generalisations of Splicing Languages from DNA Splicing Systems
39	Amira Fadina Ahmad Fauzi (graduated 2021)	Sept 2017 – 2021	7	The Energy of Cayley Graphs of Some Finite Graphs



	Graduated students	GOT UTM	GOT KPT
Local	65%	48%	80%
International	35%	75%	92%

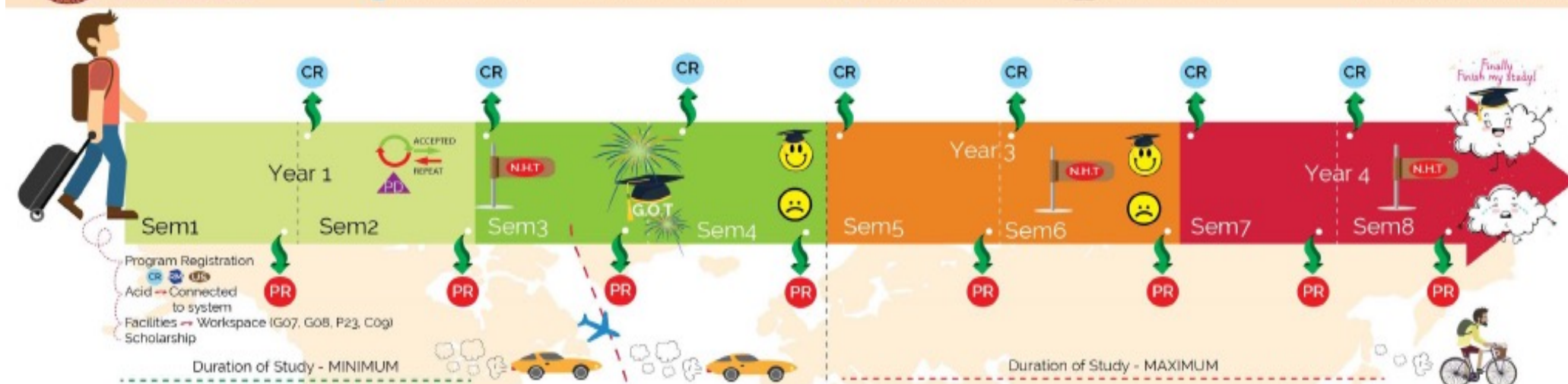


# Active PhD Students

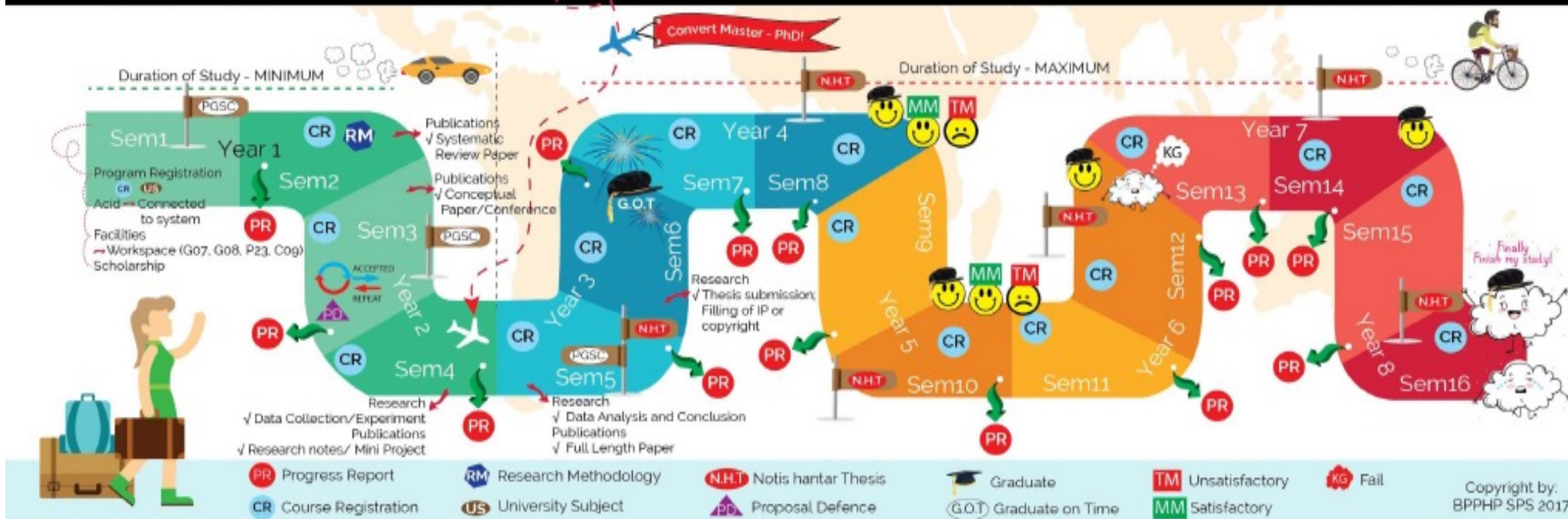
(7 students as Main SV, 3 as Co-SV)



# HOW TO GRADUATE ON TIME?



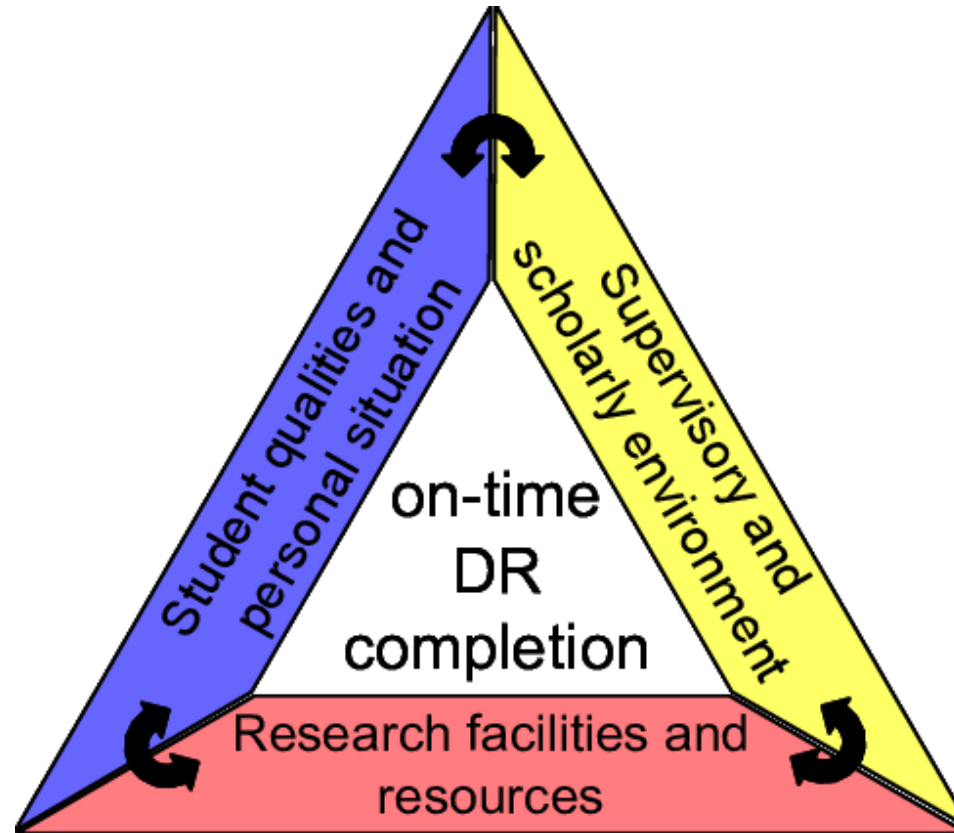
## POSTGRADUATE RESEARCH JOURNEY



# BEFORE REGISTERING

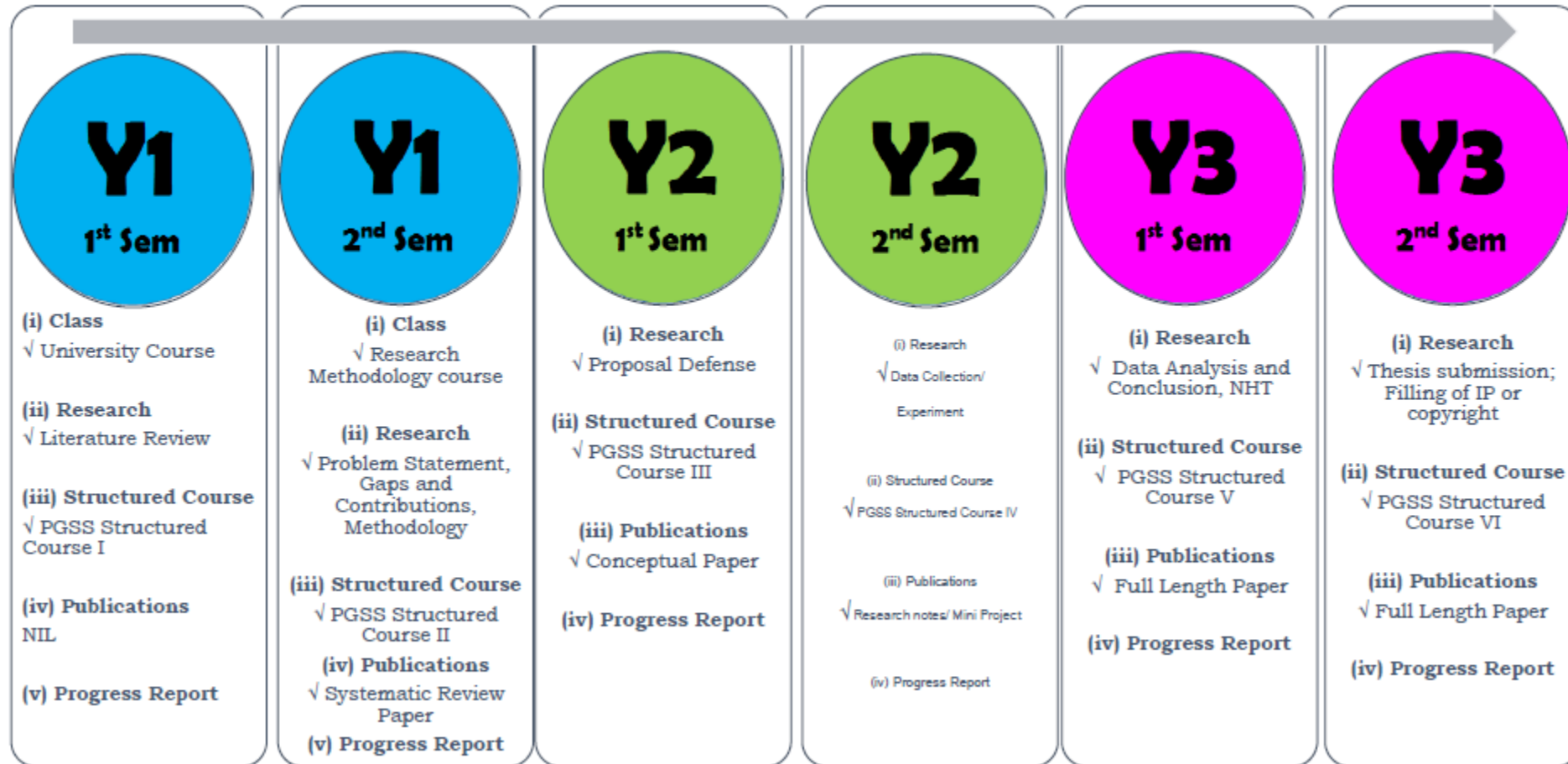
- **Choosing the supervisor**
  - Know supervisor's expertise, reputation, personality, age, male/female, health, race/nationality.
  - Check supervisor's CV in website.
- **Choosing the topic** that the supervisor and you are familiar with.
- **Financial support**
  - Scholarship
  - Study leave
  - Self-sponsored
- **Family support**

# FACTORS CONTRIBUTE TO TIMELY COMPLETION



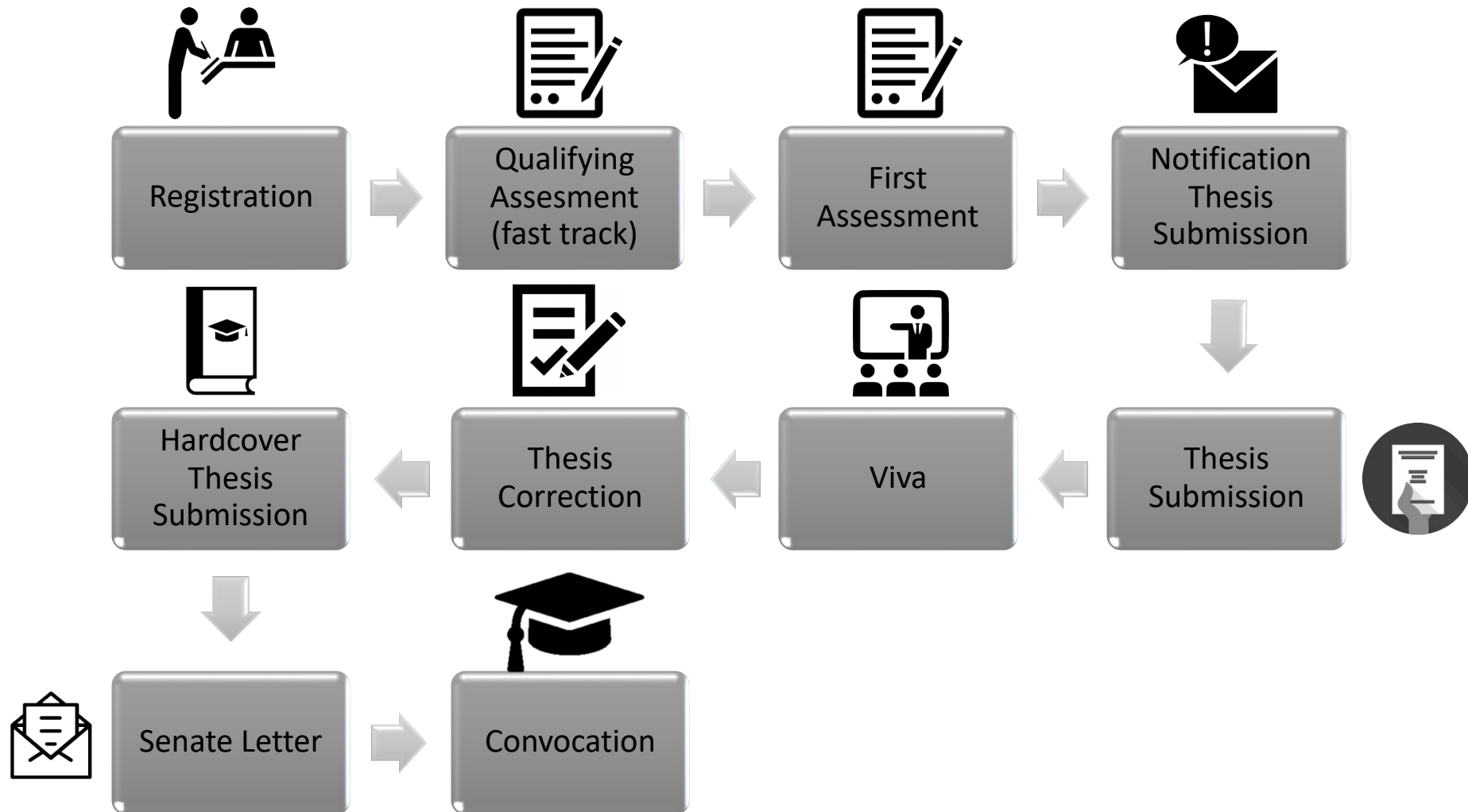


# TIMELINE FOR GOT





# RESEARCH PLANNING



# GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

- Obtained the **Total Credits for Graduation** as determined by the curriculum of the program with academic standing of Good Pass (KB);
- **Pass all the courses required** by the program and pass thesis/dissertation (if required);
- **Paid all fees;**
- **Fulfilled other requirements** that stated in Postgraduate Academic Rules and Regulations.

# GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS (PUBLICATION)

Programme	Requirements
Master by Research	Produced at least one(1) accepted or published publication from journal article, conference proceeding or book chapter.
Doctor of Philosophy	Produced at least one (1) indexed journal article or two(2) indexed conference proceedings accepted or published in SCOPUS/ERA or WOS.

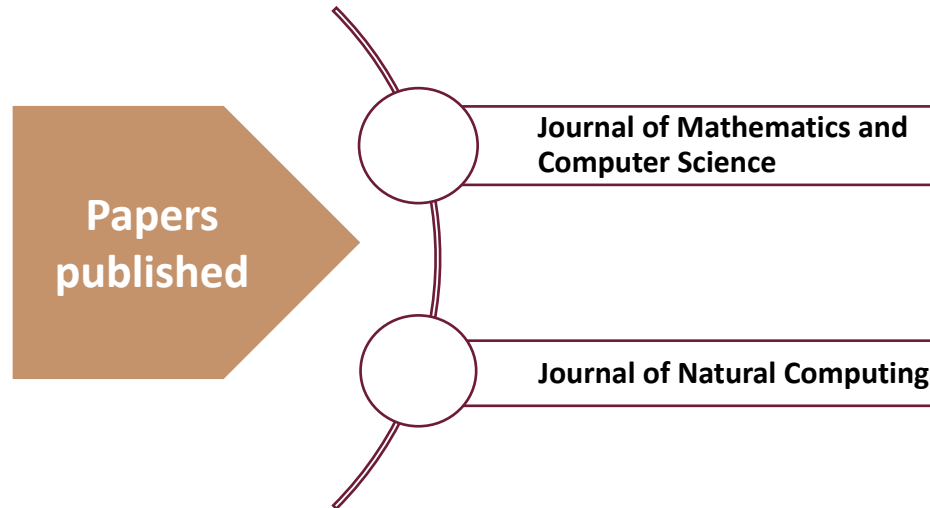
# MY STUDENTS' PHD JOURNEY

# Dr. Fong Wan Heng

Universiti Teknologi Malaysia

Graduated in 40 months (2004-2008)

**Thesis : Modelling of Splicing Systems Using Formal Language Theory**



**SUNY Binghamton, USA**







# CONFERENCES ATTENDED

DR. FONG WAN HENG

1. Second International Conference on Research and Education in Mathematics (ICREM2), Malaysia
2. First International Symposium of Bio-Inspired Computing (BIC'05), USA
3. First International Conference on Natural Resources Engineering & Technology 2006 (INRET2006)
4. International Conference on Mathematical Sciences (ICOMS2007)
5. Konferensi Kebangsaan Permodelan Matematik & Statistik Sempena 75 Tahun UPM, Malaysia
6. Simposium Kebangsaan Sains Matematik Ke-15 2007 (SKSM15), Malaysia

Non-academic  
activities



# Ass. Prof. Dr. Sheila A/P Ilangovan

University of Nottingham, Malaysia

Graduated in 37 months (2010-2013)

**Thesis : Conjugacy Classes and Graph of Some 2-Groups of Nilpotency Class 2.**

## List of publications

<b>S. Ilangovan</b> and N. H. Sarmin, <i>Conjugacy Class Sizes for Some 2-Groups of Nilpotency Class Two</i> , Jurnal Teknologi Special Edition (Sciences), <b>57</b> (1), 2012, pg. 25-33.	Scopus
<b>S. Ilangovan</b> and N. H. Sarmin, <i>Some 2-Generator 2-Groups of Nilpotency Class Two and The Order Classes</i> , International Journal of Applied Mathematics & Statistics (IJAMAS), <b>42</b> (12), 2013, pg. 411-416.	Scopus
<b>S. Ilangovan</b> and N. H. Sarmin, <i>On Graphs Related to Conjugacy Classes of Some 2-Groups</i> , <i>Proceedings of the 20th National Symposium on Mathematical Sciences (SKSM 20)</i> , AIP Conf. Proc., <b>1522</b> , 2013, pg. 872-874. (ISBN: 978-0-7354-1150-0).	Scopus
<b>S. Ilangovan</b> and N. H. Sarmin, <i>a Book Chapter titled Conjugacy Classes of Some Groups of Class Two</i> , <i>Advances in Group Theory, DNA Splicing and Complex Analysis</i> , 2012, pg. 3-18.	Book chapter





# CONFERENCE ATTENDED

ASS. PROF. DR. SHEILA A/P ILANGOVAN

1. International Science Postgraduate Conference 2012 (ISPC 2012), Ibnu Sina Institute for Fundamental Science Studies, Universiti Teknologi Malaysia, Johor Bahru, Johor.
2. 2nd Regional Conference on Applied and Engineering Mathematics 2012 (RCAEM-II 2012), Eastern & Oriental Hotel, Penang.
3. Regional Annual Fundamental Science Symposium (RAFSS 2011), Thistle Hotel, Johor Bahru, Johor.
4. Simposium Kebangsaan Sains Matematik ke-19 (SKSM19), UiTM Pulau Pinang, Malaysia.
5. National Science Postgraduate Conference 2011 (NSPC 2011), Ibnu Sina Institute for Fundamental Science Studies, Universiti Teknologi Malaysia, Johor Bahru, Johor, Malaysia.
6. The First Biennial International Group Theory Conference 2011 (BIGTC 2011), Ibnu Sina Institute for Fundamental Science Studies, Universiti Teknologi Malaysia, Johor Bahru, Johor, Malaysia.

# Ass. Prof. Dr. Gan Yee Siang

Feng Chia University, Taiwan

Graduated in 40 months (2011-2015) – *Fast Track Student*

**Thesis : Finite Automata in DNA Splicing and Sticker Systems with the Presence of Weights**



**Pro-Chancellor  
award**



# LIST OF PUBLICATIONS

ASS. PROF. DR. GAN YEE SIANG

No.	Publications	Indexing and IF
1.	Gan, Y. S. Turaev, S., Fong, W. H. and Sarmin, N. H. Computational Power of Weighted Splicing Systems. <b>Proceeding of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences</b> . 2014. 67(6): 753-762.	WOS IF:0.211
2.	Fong, W. H., Gan, Y. S., Sarmin, N. H. and Turaev, S. Automata Diagram over Abelian Groups. <b>AIP Conference Proceedings</b> . 2013. 1522: 875C882. (ISBN:978-0-7354-1150-0, ISSN: 0094-243X)	Scopus
3.	Fong, W. H., Gan, Y. S., Sarmin, N. H. and Turaev, S. Automata for Subgroups. <b>AIP Conference Proceedings</b> . 2014. 1602: 632-639. (ISSN: 0094243X ISBN: 978-073541236-1, DOI: <a href="http://dx.doi.org/10.1063/1.4882551">http://dx.doi.org/10.1063/1.4882551</a> )	Scopus
4.	Gan, Y. S., Fong, W. H., Sarmin, N. H and Turaev, S. Generative Power of Weighted One-Sided and Regular Sticker Systems. <b>AIP Conference Proceedings</b> . 2014. 1602: 855-862.	Scopus
5.	Turaev, S., Gan, Y. S., Othman, M., Sarmin, N. H and Fong, W. H. Weighted Splicing Systems. In: Li, Z., Li, X., Liu, Y. and Cai, Z. eds. <b>Computational Intelligence and Intelligent Systems</b> . China: Springer. 416C424; 2012.	WOS
6.	Gan, Y. S., Fong, W. H., Sarmin, N. H and Turaev, S. Some Properties and Variants of Weighted Sticker System. <b>International Journal of Applied Mathematics and Statistics</b> . 2013. 45(15): 367C375.	Scopus
7.	Gan, Y. S., Fong, W. H., Sarmin, N. H and Turaev, S. Geometrical Representation of Automata over Some Abelian Groups. <b>Malaysian Journal of Fundamental and Applied Sciences</b> . 2012. 8(1): 24–30.	WOS



# LIST OF PUBLICATIONS (CONT.)

ASS. PROF. DR. GAN YEE SIANG

No.	Publications	Indexing and IF
8.	Gan, Y. S., Fong, W. H., Sarmin, N. H and Turaev, S. Permutation Groups in Automata Diagrams. <b>Malaysian Journal of Fundamental and Applied Sciences</b> . 2013. 9(1) 35–40.	WOS
9.	Gan, Y. S., Fong, W. H., Sarmin, N. H and Turaev, S. Weighted Simple and Semi-Simple Splicing Systems. <b>Malaysian Journal of Fundamental and Applied Sciences</b> . 2014. 10(4): 201-206.	WOS
10.	Gan, Y. S., Fong, W. H., Sarmin, N. H and Turaev, S. Weighted Sticker Systems. <b>Proceedings of the International Science Postgraduate Conference</b> . November 27-30, 2012. Johor, Malaysia. 2012. 48–56.	Proceedings
11.	Gan, Y. S., Fong, W. H., Sarmin, N. H and Turaev, S. Weighted One-Sided Splicing Systems. <b>Proceedings of the International Science Postgraduate Conference</b> . March 10-12, 2014. Johor, Malaysia. 2014. 754–765.	Proceedings
12.	Fong, W. H., Gan, Y. S. and Turaev, S. Weighted Splicing Systems. Recent Advances in DNA Splicing Systems.	Book chapter
13.	Fong, W. H., Gan, Y. S. and Turaev, S. Weighted Sticker Systems. Recent Advances in DNA Sticker System and Watson-Crick Automata.	Book chapter
14.	Sarmin, N. H, Gan, Y. S. Relation of Watson-Crick Finite Automata with Groups. Recent Advances in DNA Sticker System and Watson-Crick Automata.	Book chapter





# NON-ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES

ASS. PROF. DR. GAN YEE SIANG

Committee, Festival Tun Razak  
III, 2008

President, Wushu Group  
Persatuan Kesenian Citra  
Daksina, Unit Kebudayaan  
UTM 2010

Committee, Malam  
Kebudayaan & Pesta Tanglung



Research attachment at Universidade de Brasilia, Brasilia, Brasil

# Dr. Hazzirah Izzati Mat Hassim

Universiti Teknologi Malaysia

Graduated in 48 months (2010-2014) – *Fast Track Student*

**Thesis : The Homological Functors of Bieberbach Groups with Cyclic Point Groups of Order Two, Three and Five**

**Malaysia Book of Record  
as the  
Youngest PhD Holder at the  
Age of 24**





# LIST OF PUBLICATIONS

DR. HAZZIRAH IZZATI MAT HASSIM

No.	Publications	Indexing and IF
1	Hazzirah Izzati Mat Hassim, Nor Haniza Sarmin, Nor Muhainiah Mohd Ali, Rohaidah Masri, Norashiqin Mohd Idrus. The exterior squares of some crystallographic groups. <b>Jurnal Teknologi</b> . 2013. 62(3): 7-13. (eISSN: 2180- 3722, ISSN: 0127-9696)	Scopus
2	Hazzirah Izzati Mat Hassim, Nor Haniza Sarmin, Nor Muhainiah Mohd Ali, Rohaidah Masri, Norashiqin Mohd Idrus. The Schur multipliers of certain Bieberbach groups with abelian point groups. <b>AIP Conf. Proc.</b> 2013. 1522:1069-1074.	Scopus
3	Hazzirah Izzati Mat Hassim, Nor Haniza Sarmin, Nor Muhainiah Mohd Ali, Rohaidah Masri, Nor'ashiqin Mohd Idrus, "Exterior squares of some Bieberbach groups with abelian point groups", Proceedings of International Science Postgraduate Conference 2012 (ISPC 2012), pp 95-112.	Proceedings
4	Hazzirah Izzati Mat Hassim, Nor'ashiqin Mohd Idrus, Nor Haniza Sarmin, Robert F. Morse and Rohaidah Masri, "The structure of the abelianization of a Bieberbach group", Prosiding Simposium Kebangsaan Sains Matematik Ke-19 (SKSM 19), pp 480-486. ISBN: 978-983-42204-8-8.	Proceedings
5	Hazzirah Izzati Mat Hassim, Nor Haniza Sarmin, Nor Muhainiah Mohd Ali, Rohaidah Masri, Nor'ashiqin Mohd Idrus, "Homological invariants of some Bieberbach groups", Proceedings of National Science Postgraduate Conference 2011 (NSPC 2011), pp 292-298. ISBN: 978-967-0194-10-3.	Proceedings



# CONFERENCE ATTENDED

DR. HAZZIRAH IZZATI MAT HASSIM

1. The Second Biennial International Group Theory Conference 2013 , Istanbul, Turkey.
2. The Third International Conference on Mathematical Sciences, Malaysia.
3. Simposium Kebangsaan Sains Matematik ke-21, Malaysia.
4. The Asian Mathematical Conference (AMC2016), BEXCO, Busan, Korea.



Research attachment at Università  
Degli Studi Di Palermo, Italy



Research attachment at Universidade  
de Brasilia, Brasilia, Brasil



Research attachment at Ferdowsi  
University of Mashhad, Iran



# Dr. Siti Norziahidayu Amzee Zamri

Universiti Sultan Zainal Abidin (UniSZA), Malaysia

Graduated in 42 months (2014-2018)

**Thesis : A Variance of the Probability That a Metacyclic  $p$ -Groups Fixes a Set and Its Related Graphs**



Research  
attachment  
in UK





# LIST OF PUBLICATIONS

DR. SITI NORZIAHIDAYU AMZEE ZAMRI

No.	Publications	Indexing and IF
1.	Siti Norziahidayu Amzee Zamri, Nor Haniza Sarmin, Sanaa Mohamed Saleh Omer and Mustafa Anis El-Sanfaz, On the generalized commuting and non-commuting graphs for metacyclic 3-groups, <b>Malaysian Journal of Fundamental and Applied Sciences</b> , 13(3),181-185(2017).	WOS
2.	Siti Norziahidayu Amzee Zamri, Nor Haniza Sarmin, Sanhan Muhammad Salih Khasraw, Mustafa Anis El-Sanfaz and Hamisan Rahmat, On The Commutativity Degree Of Metacyclic Groups Of 5-Power Order Using Conjugation Action, <b>Malaysian Journal of Fundamental and Applied Sciences</b> , 13(4),784-787(2017).	WOS
3.	Siti Norziahidayu Amzee Zamri, Nor Haniza Sarmin, Sanhan Muhammad Salih Khasraw, Sana Mohamed Saleh Omer and Mustafa Anis El-Sanfaz, The probability that an element of a metacyclic 5-group fixes a set and its orbit graphs, <b>AIP Conference Proceeding</b> , 1870,040005(2017).(doi:10.1063/1.4995837)	Scopus
4.	Siti Norziahidayu Amzee Zamri, Nor Haniza Sarmin and Mustafa Anis El-Sanfaz, The conjugate and generalized conjugacy class graphs of metacyclic 3-groups and metacyclic 5-groups, <b>AIP Conference Proceeding</b> , 1830,070015(2017).(doi: 10.1063/1.4980964)	Scopus
5.	Siti Norziahidayu Amzee Zamri, Nor Haniza Sarmin, Sana Mohamed Saleh Omer and Mustafa Anis El-Sanfaz, The probability that an element of a metacyclic 3-group of negative type fixes a set and its orbit graphs, <b>AIP Conference Proceeding</b> , 1750,050011(2016).(doi:10.1063/1.4954599)	Scopus
6.	Siti Norziahidayu Amzee Zamri, Nor Haniza Sarmin and Sana Mohamed Saleh Omer, The probability that an element of a metacyclic 3-group fixes a set of size three, <b>AIP Conference Proceeding</b> , 1707,020027(2016).(doi:10.1063/1.4940828)	Scopus





# AWARDS & NON-ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES

DR. SITI NORZIAHIDAYU AMZEE ZAMRI

**Vice President, Postgraduate Student Society, Faculty of Science (PGSS FS), UTM 2016/2017**

**Second place winner, UTM Toastmasters Club Humorous Speech Contest.**

**Silver medal, badminton competition, sports day, Faculty of Science, UTM**

**3 Minute Thesis Competition**

**Master of Ceremony, Best Postgraduate Student Award 2015.**

**Silver award, 1<sup>st</sup> Graduate Research Exhibition, 2017.**

**Silver Medal, Invention, Innovation and Design Exposition, UiTM Shah Alam, 2014.**

**Gold Medal, Research Invention, Innovation and Design, UiTM Melaka, 2013.**



# CONFERENCE ATTENDED

DR. SITI NORZIAHIDAYU AMZEE ZAMRI

1. The 7<sup>th</sup> SEAMS-UGM Conference, Indonesia
2. Simposium Kebangsaan Sains Matematik (SKSM23), Malaysia
3. The 2<sup>nd</sup> International Conference on Mathematical Sciences and Statistics (ICMSS2016)
4. The Asian Mathematical Conference (AMC2016), Korea
5. 6<sup>th</sup> International Graduate Conference on Science, Engineering and Humanities (6<sup>th</sup> IGCESH), UTM
6. Simposium Kebangsaan Sains Matematik ke-24 (SKSM24), Malaysia
7. 5<sup>th</sup> International Science Postgraduate Conference 2017 (ISPC2017), UTM
8. The 4<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Mathematical Sciences (ICMS4)

# Dr. Ibrahim Gambo (Nigeria)

Graduated in 39 months (2015-2019)

**Thesis : Innovative Types of Fuzzy Gamma Ideals in Ordered Gamma Semigroups**



**Alumni Award**



# LIST OF PUBLICATIONS

DR. IBRAHIM GAMBO

No.	Publications	Indexing and IF
1.	Ibrahim Gambo, Nor Haniza Sarmin, Hidayat Ullah Khan and Faiz Muhammad Khan. The characterization of regular ordered Gamma semigroups in terms of fuzzy Gamma ideals <b>Malaysian Journal of Fundamental and Applied Sciences</b> . 2017. 4 (13): 576-580.	WOS
2.	Ibrahim Gambo, Nor Haniza Sarmin, Hidayat Ullah Khan and Faiz Muhammad Khan. New fuzzy generalized bi ideals in ordered semigroups. <b>Malaysian Journal of Fundamental and Applied Sciences</b> . 2017. 4(13): 666-670.	WOS
3.	Ibrahim Gambo, Nor Haniza Sarmin, Hidayat Ullah Khan and Faiz Muhammad Khan. Characterization of fuzzy quasi ideals in ordered semigroups. <b>Journal of Mathematical and Fundamental Sciences</b> .	WOS
4.	Ibrahim Gambo, Nor Haniza Sarmin, Hidayat Ullah Khan and Faiz Muhammad Khan. New form of fuzzy bi ideals in ordered semigroup. <b>AIP Publishing</b> . Vol. 1830, No. 1, p. 070019 (2017).	Scopus
5.	Ibrahim Gambo, Nor Haniza Sarmin, Hidayat Ullah Khan and Faiz Muhammad Khan. Fuzzy generalized bi ideals in ordered semigroup. <b>Proceeding of 6th International Graduate Conference on Engineering, Science, and Humanities</b> 2016 (IGCESH2016), p. 319-322.	Proceedings
6.	Ibrahim Gambo, Nor Haniza Sarmin, Hidayat Ullah Khan and Faiz Muhammad Khan. On the characterization of bi ideals in ordered semigroups. <b>Proceedings of 4th Biennial International Group Theory Conference</b> . 111-114, 2017.	Proceedings
7.	Ibrahim Gambo, Nor Haniza Sarmin, and Sana Mohamed Saleh Omer. The conjugacy classes of metabelian groups of order at most 24. <b>Jurnal Teknologi</b> . DOI: 10.11113/jt.v77.4232	Scopus



# CONFERENCE ATTENDED

DR. IBRAHIM GAMBO

1. International Conference on Research and Education in Mathematics ICREM 2017, Malaysia
2. 4th Biennial International Group Theory Conference (4BIGTC), Malaysia
3. 5th International Science Postgraduate Conference 2017 (ISPC 2017), UTM
4. 6th International Graduate Conference on Engineering, Science, and Humanities 2016 (IGCESH2016), UTM
5. The 4<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Mathematical Sciences (ICMS), Malaysia.

## Awards

- **Alumni Academic Award** Prize (PhD Category), Universiti Teknologi Malaysia, 2019.
- **Best Postgraduate Student Award** (PhD). School of Graduate Studies UTM, 2019.
- **Competent communicator Award**, Toastmasters International, 2018.
- **Competent Leader Award**, Toastmasters International, 2018.
- **Award Recipient on public speaking and leadership** both at University, District, National and International (Gold, Silver and Bronze) level, 2016-2019.
- **UTM International Doctorate Fellowship Award**, 2018.

## Leadership activities

- **Vice President**, Universiti Teknologi Malaysia [International Students Society \(Central\)](#), 2017/2018.
- **Sergeant At arms**, [UTM Toastmasters Club](#), 2016/2017.
- **Panel**, Local and International Postgraduate sharing, 5 July 2018.
- **Director**, Speak like a Champion Public Speaking workshop, 20 April 2018.
- **Secretary II**, International Graduate Conference on Engineering, Science and Humanity, 2016.
- **Sarawak International Cultural Exchange** at Universiti Teknologi Malaysia, 2018.
- **Committee**, Public Speech challenge and workshop for students, 6-8 May 2018.
- **Committee**, How to publish in a high impact factor journal workshop, 12 March 2018.



# Dr. Alia Husna Mohd Noor

Graduated in 46 months (2016-2020)

**Thesis : 3-generator Groups of p-power Order and Some Related Graphs**



Full time student and work as a full-time teacher at a Vocational College, Grik, Perak, Malaysia



# Dr. Nur Idayu Alimon

Graduated in 44 months (2017-2021) – *Fast Track Student*

**Thesis : Topological Indices of A Class of Graphs of Some Finite Groups and Applications to Molecular Structures**



**GOP at Beijing & Shanghai**



**Parlimen Mahasiswa 2019**



**Silat Competition (National)**





# LIST OF PUBLICATIONS

DR. NUR IDAYU ALIMON

No.	Publications	Indexing
1.	Sarmin, N.H., <b>Alimon, N.I.</b> , & Erfanian, A. (2019). Topological indices of the non-commuting graph for generalised quaternion group. Bulletin of the Malaysian Mathematical Sciences Society. <a href="https://doi.org/10.1007/s40840-019-00872-z">https://doi.org/10.1007/s40840-019-00872-z</a> .	WOS/ Q1
2.	<b>Alimon, N.I.</b> , Sarmin, N.H., & Ahmad Fadzil, A.F. (2017). The adjacency matrix of the conjugate graph of metacyclic 2-group. Malaysian Journal of Fundamental and Applied Sciences (MJFAS), 13(2), 79-81.	WOS
3.	<b>Alimon, N.I.</b> , Sarmin, N.H., & Erfanian, A. (2018). The energy of four graphs of some metacyclic 2-groups. Malaysian Journal of Fundamental and Applied Sciences (MJFAS), 14(1), 59-66.	WOS
4.	<b>Alimon, N.I.</b> , Sarmin, N.H., & Erfanian, A. (2018). The topological indices of non-commuting graph of dihedral groups. Malaysian Journal of Fundamental and Applied Sciences (MJFAS), Special issue on Natural Sciences and Mathematics, 473-476.	WOS
5.	<b>Alimon, N.I.</b> , Sarmin, N.H., & Erfanian, A. (2019). The Wiener and Zagreb indices of conjugacy class graph of dihedral groups. MATEMATIKA, 35(1), 51-57.	WOS
6.	<b>Alimon, N.I.</b> , Sarmin, N.H., & Erfanian, A. (2020). The topological indices of the non-commuting graph for Symmetric groups. ASM Science Journal, 13, 1-5. <a href="https://doi.org/10.11113/jt.v72.2949">https://doi.org/10.11113/jt.v72.2949</a> .	SCOPUS
7.	<b>Alimon, N.I.</b> , Sarmin, N.H., & Erfanian, A. The Harary index of the non-commuting graph for dihedral groups. Southeast Asian Bulletin of Mathematics. 44 (6), 763-768.	WOS
8.	<b>Alimon, N.I.</b> , Sarmin, N.H., & Erfanian, A. The Szeged and Wiener indices for coprime graph of dihedral groups. AIP Conference Proceedings. Accepted.	WOS

**President**, Postgraduate Student Society,  
Faculty of Science (PGSS FS) 2018/2019

**Best Presenter** – Simposium Kebangsaan  
Sains Matematik ke 26, Universiti  
Malaysia Sabah.

**Vice President**, Postgraduate Student  
Society UTM (PGSSUTM) 2018/2019

Pesilat Terbaik (Wanita), Kejuaraan  
Wajadiri Silat Cekak Pusaka Hanafi  
(Negeri Johor), 2018.

**Assistant Trainer**, Persatuan Seni Silat  
Cekak UTM (PSSCUTM)

**Best Speaker**, UTM Toastmasters Club  
17th Chapter Meeting 2020/2021.

**Assistant Fellow**, Kolej Tun Fatimah,  
UTMJB, 2017-2020.

**Finalist**, Ikon Siswa Johor, 16 June 2019.



# CONFERENCE ATTENDED

DR. NUR IDAYU ALIMON

1. Emerging Scientist Conference 2018 (EScon2018), Pulau Spring Resort, Johor, 2-3 May 2018, Malaysia.
2. International Conference on Applied Analysis and Mathematical Modelling 2018 (ICAAMM2018), 20-24 June 2018, Istanbul Gelisim University, Istanbul, Turkey.
3. Joint Workshop for Global Engineers in Asia 2018 (JWGEA2018), 23-28 July 2018, Ritsumeikan University, Japan.
4. The 2018 International Conference on Information Technology, Engineering, Science and Its Applications (ITES2018), 1-2 August 2018, Royal Ambarukmo Hotel, Yogyakarta, Indonesia.
5. International Graduate Conference on Engineering, Science and Humanities 2018 (IGCESH2018), 13- 15 August 2018, Universiti Teknologi Malaysia.
6. Simposium Kebangsaan Sains Matematik ke-26 (SKSM26), 28-29 November 2018, Tabung Haji Hotel, Kota Kinabalu, Sabah, Malaysia.
7. Fifth Biennial International Group Theory Conference 2019 (5BIGTC), 1-4 July 2019, Institut Teknologi Bandung, Bandung, Indonesia.
8. Simposium Kebangsaan Sains Matematik ke-27 (SKSM27), 26-27 November 2019, Tenera Hotel, Bangi, Selangor, Malaysia.
9. International Graduate Conference on Engineering, Science and Humanities 2020 (IGCESH2020), 18-19 August 2020, Universiti Teknologi Malaysia.

# HOW TO MANAGE OUR TIME?

- Time for research
- Time for working
- Time for family
- Time for self?

**How much time do we have in a day???**





# SCHEDULE PLANNING



Discussion with Nur Idayu



Discussion with Nurhidayah



Discussion with Alia



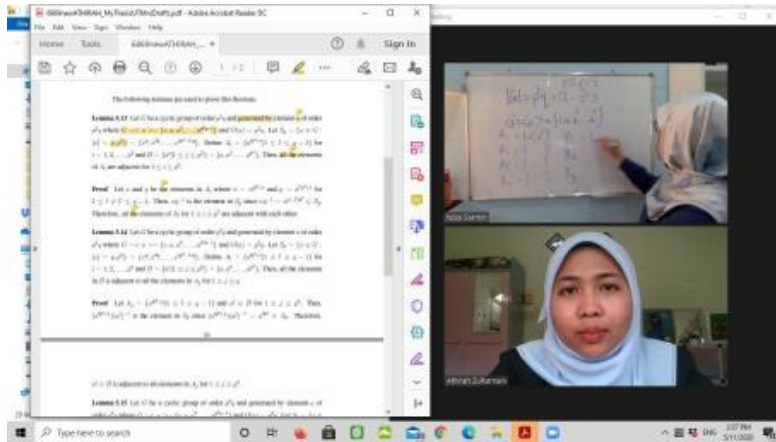
Discussion with Athirah Farhana



Discussion with Athirah and Dr. Hazzirah  
(co-supervisor)

# SCHEDULE PLANNING

(during COVID-19 pandemic)



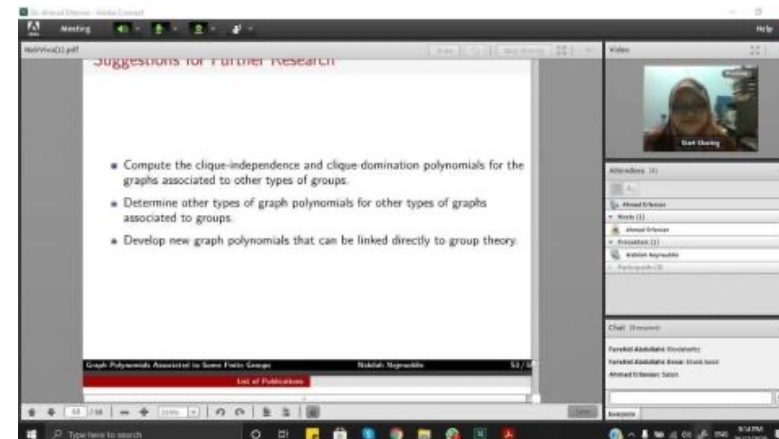
Discussion with Athirah



Discussion with Nurhidayah, Dr. Ibrahim (UTM) and external co-supervisor Dr. Sanhan from Iraq



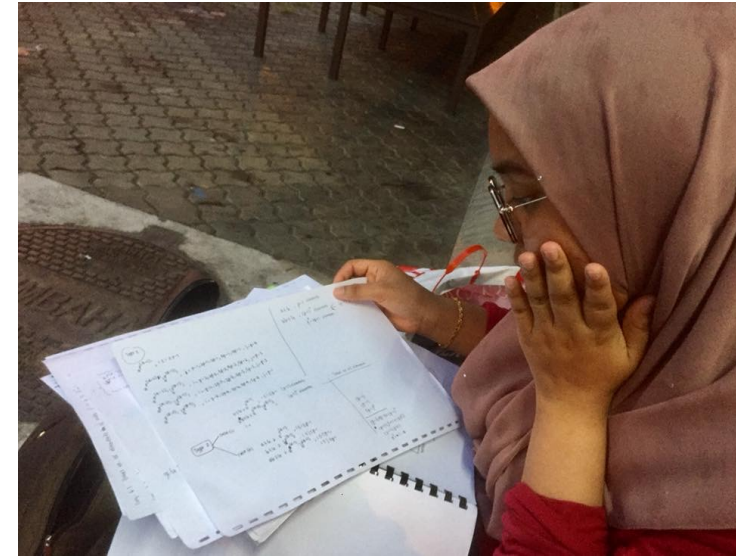
Discussion with Dr. Ibrahim and Hassan from Afghanistan



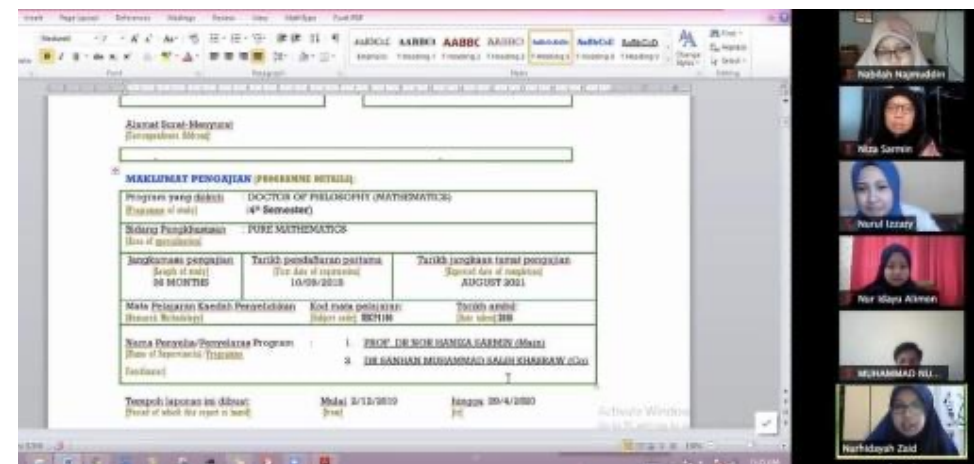
Nabilah's discussion with Prof Dr Ahmad Erfanian, external co-supervisor in Iran.



# UNSCHEDULED PLANNING



# PRESENT RESEARCH PROGRESS



# HOW TO GOT?





# SEVEN HABITS OF HIGHLY EFFECTIVE GRADUATE STUDENTS

## 1. Be proactive

- Take responsibility
- Learn as much
- Ask questions

## 2. Begin with the end in mind

- Define the mission and goals of our research
- Why do I do this/ further my studies?





# SEVEN HABITS OF HIGHLY EFFECTIVE GRADUATE STUDENTS (CONT.)

**3. Put first things first** – prioritize

**4. Think win-win** – Have an “everyone can win” attitude

**5. Seek first to understand, then to be understood** – Listen to people sincerely

**6. Synergize** – work together

**7. Sharpen your saw** – Renew yourself regularly



# DURING PHD

## How to manage your supervisor ?

1. Don't be afraid to ask questions
2. Come prepared
3. Report after meeting
4. Seek help from others

- **Have good working environment!**

For example : Work station/ library

# DURING PHD

**How to manage your  
research?**

# RESEARCH PLANNING

## (Gantt Chart)

No.	Research Activities	Years																																			
		2017				2018								2019								2020															
		S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	
1.	Literature review on concepts of DNA, splicing systems and formal language theory.																																				
2.	Generalise the splicing languages resulting for DNA splicing systems with palindromic and non-palindromic restriction enzymes.																																				
3.	Develop a graphical user interface for DNA splicing system with palindromic and non-palindromic restriction enzymes by using C++ visual programming.																																				
4.	Construct the graphical representation for the generalisations of DNA splicing systems with palindromic and non-palindromic restriction enzymes via automata and graph theory.																																				
5.	Verify the model of DNA splicing system with palindromic and non-palindromic restriction enzymes through in vitro experiments.																																				
6.	Thesis writing, presentation and submission																																				
Technology Transfer Activities																																					
1.	Papers for conference proceedings																																				
2.	Publication of research paper(s) in indexed and non-indexed journals																																				
3.	Exhibition																																				

Key: Completed ■ To be completed ■ Milestone •

1 ESCon2018 2 AIMC 2018 3 ICAAMM2018 4 JWGEA2018 5 IGCESH2018 6 ITES2018 7 SKSM26 8 MATEMATIKA 9 MJFAS 10 INATEX 2017

11 INATEX 201800

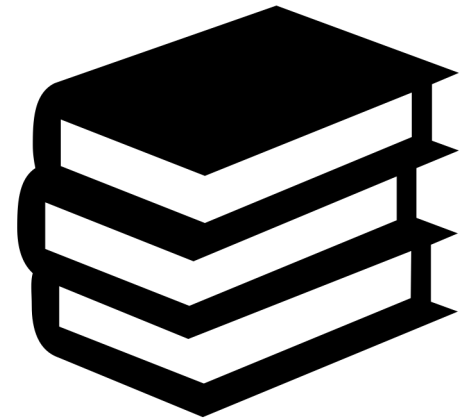
# TIPS ON PUBLICATIONS

## Plan for publication

- of at least a review paper during the first semester
- in conferences (once a year/ every semester?)
- in SCOPUS journals
- in Qi/WOS journals

## Plan for

- attending a publication/related workshops



# RESEARCH PLANNING

## (Academic Calendar)



DATE		PROGRAMME	PUBLIC HOLIDAY
UTM JB	UTM KL		
Postgraduate 27 – 30 September 2021 (International) 4 – 7 October 2021 (Local)	Postgraduate 9 – 10 October 2021 (Local & International)	Registration of New Students Semester I, 2021/2022 Session (October Intake)	
Undergraduate 27 – 30 September 2021 (International) 9 – 10 October 2021 (Local)	Undergraduate 9 – 10 October 2021 (Local & International)	International Student Orientation Programme (ISOP)	
4 – 7 October 2021	4 – 7 October 2021	Student Orientation Week Minggu Mesra Mahasiswa (MMM) Faculty Briefing for Academic Matters	
11 – 14 October 2021	11 – 14 October 2021		
<b>SEMESTER I 17 OCTOBER 2021 – 17 MARCH 2022 – UTM JB ■ 18 OCTOBER 2021 – 18 MARCH 2022 – UTM KL (22 WEEKS)</b>			
17 October – 2 December 2021	18 October – 3 December 2021	Lectures Semester I (First Half) (7 Weeks)	The Prophet Muhammad's Birthday 19 October 2021 (Tuesday) UTM 64 <sup>th</sup> Convocation Ceremony 23 – 26 October 2021 (Saturday – Thursday) Deepavali 4 November 2021 (Thursday)
5 – 9 December 2021	6 – 10 December 2021	Mid-Semester Break for Semester I (1 Week)	
13 December 2021 – 27 January 2022	13 December – 26 January 2022	Lectures Semester I (Second Half) (7 Weeks)	Christmas Day 25 December 2021 (Saturday) New Year's Day 3 January 2022 (Saturday) Thaipusam 18 January 2022 (Tuesday)
30 January – 3 February 2022	31 January – 4 February 2022	Revision Period for Semester I (1 Week)	Chinese New Year 1 – 2 February 2022 (Tuesday & Wednesday) Federal Territory Day (KL Only) 1 February 2022 (Tuesday)
6 – 24 February 2022	7 – 25 February 2022	Final Examination for Semester I (3 Weeks)	
27 February – 17 March 2022	28 February – 18 March 2022	Final Break for Semester I (3 Weeks)	
Postgraduate 28 Feb – 3 March 2022 (International) 6 – 10 March 2022 (Local)	Postgraduate 12 – 13 March 2022 (Local & International)	Registration of New Students Semester II, 2021/2022 Session (March Intake)	
Undergraduate 28 Feb – 3 March 2022 (International) 12 – 13 March 2022 (Local)	Undergraduate 12 – 13 March 2022 (Local & International)	International Student Orientation Programme (ISOP)	
7 – 10 March 2022	7 – 10 March 2022	Faculty Briefing for Academic Matters	
14 – 17 March 2022	14 – 17 March 2022		
<b>SEMESTER II 20 MARCH – 6 OCTOBER 2022 – UTM JB ■ 21 MARCH – 7 OCTOBER 2022 – UTM KL (29 WEEKS)</b>			
20 March – 26 April 2022	21 March – 29 April 2022	Lectures Semester II (First half) (8 Weeks)	Sultan Johor's Birthday (Johor Only) 13 March 2022 (Wednesday) First Day of Ramadhan (Johor Only) 3 April 2022 (Sunday) Haqul Al-Quran (KL Only) 19 April 2022 (Tuesday)
1 – 5 May 2022	2 – 6 May 2022	Mid Semester Break for Semester II (1 Week)	Labour Day 1 May 2022 (Sunday) Hari Raya Puasa 2 – 3 May 2022 (Monday & Tuesday)
8 May – 30 June 2022	9 May – 1 July 2022	Lectures Semester II (Second half) (8 Weeks)	Wesak Day 15 May 2022 (Sunday) Wesak Day (KL Only) 16 May 2022 (Monday) UTM 65 <sup>th</sup> Convocation Ceremony 21 – 26 May 2022 Gawai Dayak (Sarawak Only) 1 June 2022 (Wednesday)
3 – 7 July 2022	4 – 8 July 2022	Revision Period for Semester II (1 Week)	Hari Raya Haji 9 July 2022 (Saturday)
10 – 28 July 2022	11 – 29 July 2022	Final Examination for Semester II (3 Weeks)	
31 July – 6 October 2022	1 August – 7 October 2022	Final Break for Semester II (10 Weeks)	National Day 12 August 2022 (Wednesday) Malaysia Day 16 September 2022 (Friday)
<b>SHORT SEMESTER 31 JULY – 6 OCTOBER 2022 – UTM JB ■ 1 AUGUST – 7 OCTOBER 2022 – UTM KL (10 WEEKS)</b>			
31 July – 4 August 2022	1 – 5 August 2022	Final Break for Short Semester (1 Week)	
7 – 8 August 2022	8 – 9 August 2022	Course Registration for Short Semester 2021/2022 (2 Days)	
7 August – 6 October 2022	8 August – 7 October 2022	Lectures Short Semester (9 Weeks)	

UG : Undergraduate PG : Postgraduate

\*Subject to changes

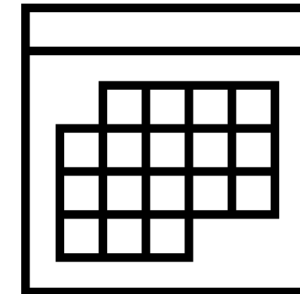
Note : Final Break for Semester II/Semester II is based on the duration of Industrial Training (IS).

Any subject to change is based on the decision made by Ministry of Higher Education for the beginning of new Semester of 2021/2022.



# EARLY/FUTURE PLANNING

- Seminars/Conferences
- Publications
- Notice of Submission of Thesis
- Thesis Write-Up (Table of Contents)
- Thesis Writing
- Viva
- Corrections
- Submission



# FACTORS OF NOT GOT

- ❖ difficulties with **methodological skills**,
- ❖ problems of isolation
- ❖ more serious **commitment given to life outside research**
- ❖ **not familiar** with the process of conducting research, the methodology involved and the conventions of thesis writing.
- ❖ **lack** of understanding, **uncertainty** of the candidates' own capabilities and high levels of **anxiety**.
- ❖ **failed to meet the expectation** of their supervisors and that they had a learning style that did **not match** the supervisor's style.

# FACTORS OF NOT GOT

## ○ Physical

- ❖ Financial constraints
- ❖ Time constraints
- ❖ Lacking of good childcare
- ❖ Lacking of information
- ❖ Geographical isolation
- ❖ Disabilities and ill health
- ❖ Multiple-conflicting responsibilities
- ❖ Job commitments
- ❖ Lacking of support.

# FACTORS OF NOT GOT

## ○ Structural

- ❖ Lacking of transport
- ❖ Limited local learning opportunities
- ❖ Lacking of facilities and equipment
- ❖ Lacking of knowledge on local learning opportunities
- ❖ Lacking of knowledge on learning advice sources.

# ISSUES IN GETTING GOT

- Viva Process
- Thesis Correction



# PREPARATION FOR VIVA

- Qualifying
- First assessment
- Viva
  - Slides
  - What to bring/prepare?
  - How to handle Q&A ?
  - Do's and Don'ts
  - Mock viva



# HOW TO FIND APPROPRIATE JOURNALS IN YOUR RESEARCH AREA?

# CONCLUSION

# THANK YOU AND ALL THE BEST!



<https://people.utm.my/nizasarmin/>



[nhs@utm.my](mailto:nhs@utm.my)



Niza Sarmin



Niza Sarmin



Niza Sarmin



**UTM**  
UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MALAYSIA

In the Name of God for Mankind

[www.utm.my](http://www.utm.my)