Overseas Summer Research Sharing

By Suying Liu

Outlines

Found around the house!

- Preparation
- Application Procedure
- Virtual 'ORF' Experience

Preparation

How to get prepared for conducting research?

Early-stage preparation

- 1. Read more papers or news to find at least one thing interests you
- 2. Explore more by listening to some conference or presentations on Youtube to make sure you want to have a try and have some basic knowledge of this specific areas
- 3. Do not hesitate to seek help from your teachers, tutors and mentors!
- 4. Contact supervisor as early as possible

Application Procedure

How to find an overseas supervisor?

Three typical ways:

- 1. Participate in Undergraduate Research Program (REU,etc.)
- 2. Approach Professor during exchange programme
- 3. Direct email your potential supervisors

Pros and Cons of each approaches:

- For first method, research topics are limited and the selection is competitive; But usually the program is more official and there are requirements of final report
- You are free to choose your favorite topics for method 2 and 3, but it is always possible to get no response

General Procedure

- 1. Look at the professor's' Google
 Scholar page or personal website to
 check their recent work
- 2. Write an informative but precise email (Your background + research interest + goal)
- 3. Prepare for interview (familiar with your CV and clear about the professor's research)





General Procedure

- 1. Prepare the supporting documents for ORF(proposal + reference letter)
- 2. Find an internal supervisor from your home department
- 3. Submit application material and begin your research!





How to write a proposal?

Proposal

- 1. Problem background
- 2. Introduction (What is the Research Problem)
- 3. Methodology (e.g. Mathematics: Analysis? Numerical Method? What are the potential tools?)
- 4. Some planning (e.g. xx weeks of reading/learning + xx weeks of researching)

Virtual Experience

What will happen in a remote research project?

My experience

| Normal Version (f2f) | Remote Version |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Weekly meeting (face to face) | Weekly meeting (zoom) |
| Self-study and paper reading | Self-study and paper reading |
| Discussion with my supervisor | Discussion with supervisors as well as his PhD students (more teamwork) |
| Final report and poster | Final report and poster |

In conclusion, the remote version of research project is nothing but conducting the meeting online.

