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## Why a PhD?

What does a PhD thesis actually do ?



For my love of science ? For a better job ? For a new challenge ?

## Apply for a PhD

- Where?
- Figure out different systems: US? UK? French? Germany? Japan?
- Which field?
- Which school?
- Which group?
- Spend enough time to gather information
- More than browsing on the internet **Ask people for information !!!**

### PhD study in Switzerland





Matter and materials Energy and environment Human health

Swiss Spallation Neutron Source (SINQ)

Swiss Light Source (SLS)

Swiss Hard X-ray Free Electron Laser (SwissFEL)

Swiss Muon Source (SµS)

High-Intensity Proton Accelerator (HIPA)

Proton therapy center



https://www.psi.ch

## École polytechnique fédérale de Lausanne



Advanced Manufacturing Biotechnology & Bioengineering Computational and Quantitative Biology **Civil and Environmental Engineering** Chemistry and Chemical Engineering **Electrical Engineering** Energy Computer and Communication Sciences **Mathematics Mechanics Microsystems and Microelectronics** Molecular Life Sciences Management of Technology **Materials Science and Engineering Neuroscience Photonics** Physics Robotics, Control and Intelligent Systems https://www.epfl.ch https://phd.epfl.ch/programs

## Photons for Engineering and Manufacturing (PEM)

**Structural and mechanical properties of metals and alloys** In-situ synchrotron X-ray and neutron diffraction Electron microscope characterization Computational simulation methods

Commercial alloys: Mg alloy, Red gold, Ti alloy, Al alloys, nanocrystalline Ni, NiTi shape memory alloy

Additive manufacturing: Ti-6Al-4V, bronze



https://www.psi.ch/pem/photons-for-engineering-and-manufacturing

# Structural and mechanical properties of metals and alloys

#### In-situ X-ray and neutron diffraction

Proposal writing Sample design Manufacturing sample Surface preparation Pre tests before beam time Day / night shifts during beam time

#### **Electron microscope characterization**

Surface polishing Operating microscope TEM lamellar preparation

#### Data analysis Peak fitting routine Fit2D Fullprof suite MATLAB OriginLab ImageJ ABAQUS finite element simulation OIM for EBSD JEM for TEM

#### Reporting

Publication in journals Conferences School report (PhD student)



## Let's be honest: PhD is NOT so fun



## Survival guide

- Ask questions
- Initiate discussion / initiate meeting
- Dare to ask for help
- Prioritize your tasks
- Work / life balance













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