

M1 internships

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The rules

- ▶ You spend 11 weeks doing research work
- ▶ **Not** in a French university, so:
 - Abroad, in a research lab
 - Possibly in a private company (in which case France is possible)
 - Except** if you are an international student, in which case you can stay in France
- ▶ Starting on May 7 or after
 - Warning:* many research labs are empty in August, some in July
 - Possible dates: from May 7 to July 20
- ▶ You find it yourself (with some help)

Organisational matters

- ① Finding a tentative supervisor...
...hence, a topic
- ② *convention de stage* (internship contract)
- ③ visa
start looking at it **early on**
be sure about the procedure
- ④ place to stay: get some help (pointers via the supervisor)?

Looking for an internship

- ▶ Decide of a topic, of places you would like to go
 - ▶ Surf online
 - ▶ Ask advice from researchers (at LIP, elsewhere)
- ▶ When?
 - ▶ Start thinking **now**
 - ▶ Have something to write on the *fiche de choix des écoles de recherche* (you can already write to me and Daniel)
 - ▶ the sooner, the better (in particular regarding visa, etc.)

Getting in contact

- ▶ I am a Master student at École Normale Supérieure de Lyon
- ▶ I am interested in BLI, I have looked at/read BLA (some papers, some research project), which I find particularly interesting
Possibly: I followed/plan to follow the course BLO, where we studied this and that
- ▶ I have to do an 11 week internship, in a research group, starting at the end of May
- ▶ Possibly: your name was suggested to me by BLU
- ▶ I study at ENS Lyon, it is a very selective institution, oriented towards research. You can get in contact with Foo (daniel.hirschkoff@ens-lyon.fr, frederic.vivien@inria.fr, or someone else, at ENS or elsewhere in France) for more information
- ▶ Would it be possible for you to welcome me in your research group? if you are not around during the whole internship, would it be possible to share the tutoring?
- ▶ (*later on*) Financial support? access to facilities (student housing)?

Curriculum Vitæ: focus on academical aspects: courses you followed (provide description of course contents), internships you did. Hobbies are **not** the central thing (language proficiency?)

Agreeing on a topic for the internship

- ▶ Obtain a description of the internship
(typically, 1-2 paragraphs with **bibliographic references**)
- ▶ Forward it to me
You need my agreement (**mandatory**)
- ▶ Someone will be there all along the internship to tutor you

Internship in a private company

- ▶ We insist heavily on doing **research work**
 - ▶ The topic description should be precise enough
 - ▶ Sometimes we ask for an academic co-supervisor (for instance, a researcher which has interactions with the company)
- ▶ We can sign an NDA (non disclosure agreement)
 - ▶ the report will only be read by designated persons
 - ▶ only these persons can attend the student's presentation
- ▶ Absolutely forbidden:
"I cannot provide explanations about this and that"
- ▶ This may also happen in a 100% academic context
- ▶ Warning: may take some interactions with the department of legal affairs at ENS Lyon

Internship contract (*convention de stage*)

- ▶ Once all of the (research) information is available (where, on what, with whom, when); Gather all needed administrative information (who is qualified to sign, ...); Log in Elipse to ask for an internship contract.
- ▶ Try to detect early if difficulties may arise (legal aspects, notably between French laws and their foreign counterparts)
 - ▶ Talk to your tutor
 - ▶ Possibly show the forms to be filled to your tutor
- ▶ Depending on the location, this might be a cause of failure of the internship

Places where difficulties have arisen in the recent past: UK, US, Canada (contract, visa)

In other occasions, things went also very well in these countries!

If trying in one of these countries, start early, be proactive, and work in parallel on a backup plan

- ▶ Some students get paid for their internship
 - ▶ Some others are asked to pay student fees!
(we prefer to avoid the latter; e.g., you are a “visiting researcher”)
- ▶ Alternatives: facilities for your stay, for the meals, etc.
 - ▶ Additionally, your supervisor may put you in contact with relevant persons (administrative staff, PhD students, etc.)
- ▶ ENS Lyon can provide some help, notably for the trip: see
<http://etudes.ens-lyon.fr/course/view.php?id=2023>
<http://etudes.ens-lyon.fr/mod/book/view.php?id=47318>
*Portail des études: Ma page / > Cours / > Informations
Générales / > Partir à l'étranger*
Application deadline: March 15

Evaluation

- ▶ Work as a researcher
 - ▶ Be creative, take initiatives, be curious
- ▶ Be able to explain and present your work
 - ▶ Report: approx. 20 pages
 - ▶ Presentation (beginning of September): approx. 20 minutes
- ▶ Have fun while doing science

During the internship

- ▶ Trips, moving around
 - ▶ Participating to meetings, conferences, etc.
 - ▶ Be sure to handle the administrative part of it
- ▶ Failures
 - ▶ It is difficult to find an internship / to plan a stay abroad
 - ▶ The supervisor is not supervising
 - ▶ You don't like the topic you are working on
- ▶ Keep me informed as soon as possible

Warnings

- ▶ Taking decisions *might be difficult*
If you're uncertain in October, you'll probably be so in February as well
- ▶ Handling all of this alone *might be difficult*
No internship agreement: no internship
To some extent, you are also evaluated on these aspects
- ▶ On the other hand, if you happen not to like too much your M1 internship, at least you tried (things are more tricky in M2)

The sooner, the better!

Important dates

- ▶ March 15: apply to ENS fundings for travel
- ▶ March 15: Internship contract data entered in Elipse
- ▶ April 1: Internship contract sent abroad
- ▶ May 7: Leaving for the internship