

10 Reasons to Become a Researcher

PhD as the first step in the scientific career

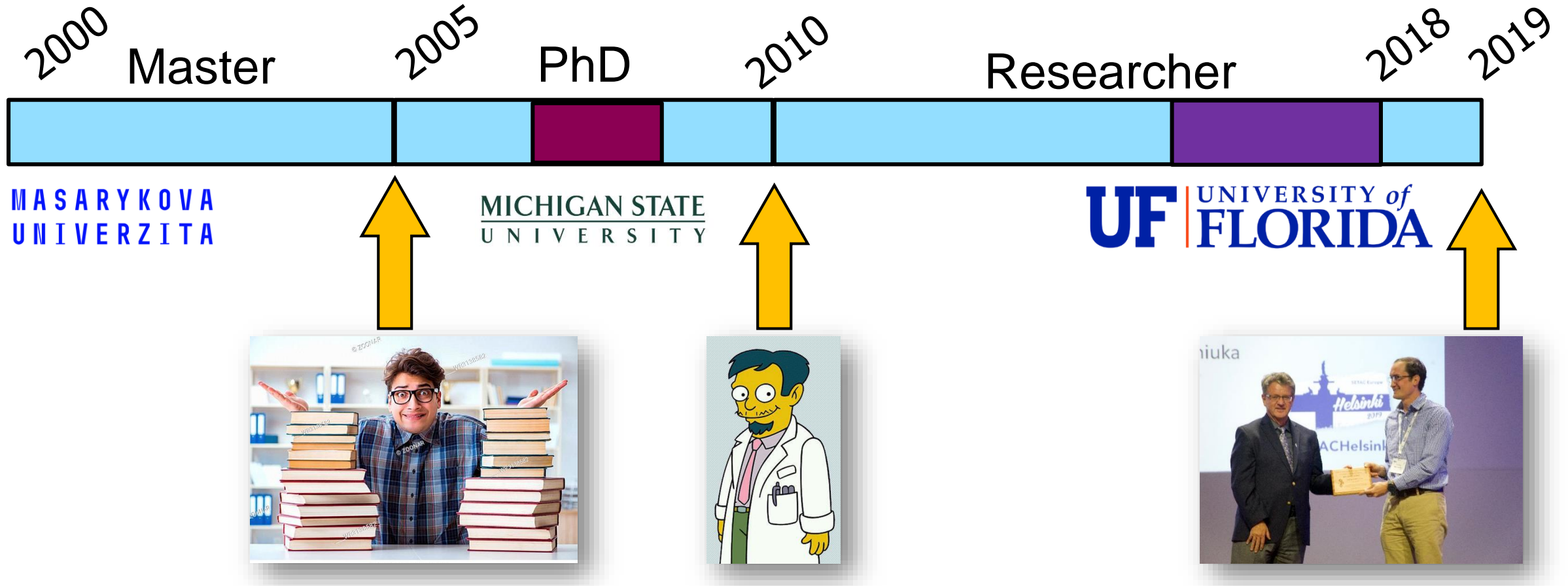
Inspiration by Ondrej Adamovsky, PhD

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EVROPSKÁ UNIE
Evropské strukturální a investiční fondy
Operační program Výzkum, vývoj a vzdělávání

My Journey...

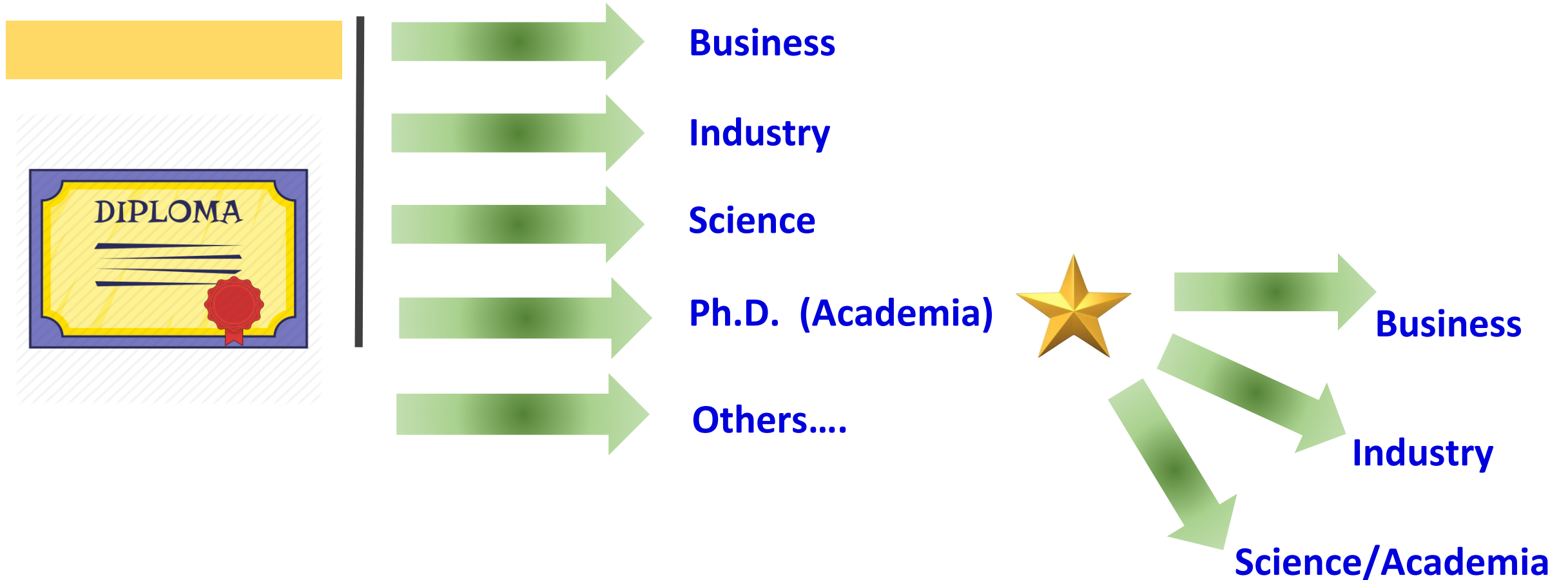


Ondrej Adamovsky, PhD - Researcher@RECETOX

Is a PhD the Right Choice?



Career Directions after your Master...



Who is a PhD Candidate?

- **Independent**
- Motivated
- Curious
- Active
- Pro-Active
- Interested in...



A future holder of a scientific driving license (PhD)

Why a PhD?

***You never know
until you try!***

- Why not! (what do you risk?)
- Excitement and fun
- Building an expertise (4 years of study. I'll be an expert)
- Building soft skills (language, managing, finance, leading, teaching, coordinating, writing, presentations... among others)
- Enjoying the **academic environment** (intellectual stimulation, flexible working hours, mixture of lab and office work)
- Building a network
- Meeting with interesting and friendly people (professors, experts, students, colleagues...)
- Visit interesting places (summer schools, conferences, short term stays, mobility)
- Prestige
- Build up your own career – a key step in a process of becoming a researcher, scientist, expert...
- Life outside the PhD – it is fun to be a member of group with similar interest
- Endless opportunities – open world, job opportunities...

How to succeed in a PhD?...and in a Research Career 1/2

- ✓ Choose the right topic and the right group
- ✓ Do not waste your time in the early years.
- ✓ Don't hesitate to change the topic MSc / Ing ↔ PhD



- ✓ Look for an opportunities – what you can get from your school, supervisor
- ✓ Discuss with your supervisor your carrier plan and progress, make a plan
- ✓ Where is the frontier in your discipline?

How to succeed in a PhD?...and in a Research Career 2/2

- ✓ Be organized
- ✓ Don't wait
- ✓ Read, make summaries
- ✓ Ask questions, talk to your co-students, colleagues
- ✓ Start to publish early, target a specific conference – networking
- ✓ Don't be shy – talk to professors, talk to colleagues at the conference
- ✓ Language is not a problem
- ✓ There are no stupid questions, only stupid answers
- ✓ Apply for an internship/scholarship !!! Do it. Find a group, apply for a grant
- ✓ Build a network / connect to your community– conferences, forums, ResearchGate, social media, podcasts, Medeley, updates... Increase your visibility...
- ✓ Bigger network – bigger chance to get an interesting job, to find co-I
- ✓ Don't be Stuck – lost your motivation? Step back, talk to people and look for an alternative: a different project, a new lab, a job in industry...

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