

ÚFAL PhD  
study at in a  
nutshell

slides by  
Zdeněk  
Žabokrtský,  
presented by  
Magda  
Ševčíková

# The ÚFAL PhD Study Program at in a Nutshell

slides by Zdeněk Žabokrtský, presented by Magda Ševčíková

ÚFAL seminar, Pec pod Sněžkou

September 16, 2019

# Our PhD study program in numbers

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- 1 out of 5 CS-oriented PhD study programs at the faculty
- ÚFAL PhD students – quite a big company, pervading almost every ÚFAL project
- 19 students currently active in the program
- 3 students supposed to defend in Sep 2019
- additional 7 students in the interrupted status (mostly because of maternity leave)
- 10 new students since Oct 2019...
- ... and perhaps a few more since March 2020
- to make it short: the total number of enrolled students fluctuates between 20 and 40
- 15 supervisors active in 2019/2020

# Updates in 2019/2020

- newly accredited version of the program, available to new students since 2019/2020
- two language mutations
  - P4I3 Matematická lingvistika
  - P4I3A Computational linguistics
- older students can start moving to the new program (hopefully) from January 2020
- some of the recent changes:
  - **broadened scope**, now ranging from (almost) pure machine learning to (almost) pure linguistics
  - more **flexible state exam** settings, depending on one's specialization
  - gradually **improved financial situation** (“basic income” in the 1st year close to 1k\$)

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# The name of the game

PhD students are supposed to

- propose an **individual study plan** at the very beginning
- present your topic, literature review and your planned strategy at an **ÚFAL PhD micro-conference** (year 1)
- go for a **research stay abroad** (6 months, anytime, extra funding available for 2020-2022)
- pass the **state doctoral exam**, including the presentation of a (more detailed) thesis proposal, typically year 2 or 3
- **publish** your intermediate results continuously, ideally at top conferences and in journals
- **participate** in other processes in the institute (grant proposals etc.; no teaching obligations though)
- in order to stay focused, **listen** to your supervisor!
- write **yearly progress reports**
- write up the thesis and submit it for a **defense** (ideally year 4 or 5)

# Nearest upcoming PhD-program-related events

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- September 26: a meeting of all new PhD students before the semester starts (Zdeněk will contact you soon, we'll discuss courses etc.)
- September 27: public defences of 3 PhD theses (by coincidence all 3 in Czech)
- October: we'll start advertising the next opportunity for applying for PhD student positions (submission deadline: December 31, 2019)