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# VISIONEN

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May 2023



## Nachwuchs

Magazin des Vereins der Informatik Studierenden an der ETH Zürich (VIS)

# Editorial

Liebe Visionendurchblätterer

Wie viel seid ihr im letzten Jahr gewachsen? Jetzt weniger darauf bezogen, wie hoch ihr euren Kopf trägt und mehr so charakterlich? Wie viele Einträge konntet ihr auf eurer Bucket List abhaken in diesem Studienjahr?

Mein Team und ich haben Artikel zum Thema Nachwuchs gesammelt. Wie immer waren mehr Ideen da, als es schlussendlich aufs Papier geschafft haben. Wenn also auf deiner Bucket List steht: einen Artikel veröffentlichen, nur keine Scheu, genau dafür sind die Visionen da. Vielleicht kommt dann das nächste Tierbaby-Ranking von dir. Neben verschiedenen Gedanken zu Nachwuchs haben wir Ideen für deinen Sommer und Mark hat einen neuen Lieblings-Packagemanager.

Mein persönlicher Festival-Tipp: Fächttüechli mitnehmen (feuchtes Toilettenpapier). Denn die Verdauung ist meist nicht gerade die beste bei viel Alkohol und Fastfood und da auch die Toilettenanlagen zu wünschen übrig lassen, sind alle mit Fächttüechli bestens beraten.

Nun wünsche ich viel Freude beim Durchblättern.



Fiona Pichler

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# Präsikolumne

JULIA BOGDAN - SPENT MORE TIME GOING THROUGH THE VIS ARCHIVE THAN WATCHING LECTURES THIS SEMESTER

Dear readers,

I am excited to report that the organisation of the very first D-INFK Bachelor Graduation is running really well! Anyone who has requested their diploma between May 2022 and April 2023 should have received an email with an invitation. Congratulations!



We're also busy evaluating your nominations for the VIS teaching awards. The best rated TA's will be contacted soon and will be invited to the award ceremony that will take place after the DK (Departments Conference). Thank you to everyone for voting, and also thank you to all the hard working TA's. We would all be lost without you!

Thank you also to everyone who organised events, designed posters, visited HoPo meetings or did anything else for VIS this semester. We got so much done in the past few weeks and none of it would have been possible without every single one of you!

If you're interested in becoming active in VIS as well, we'll have the VIS4U at the beginning of next semester on the 28.9.23, where you can get to know our many different committees and learn what they do. Of course you can also get in touch with the committee presidents at any point in time if you're interested in learning more. If you are already familiar with VIS and would like to become even more involved, there also is the option of joining the board!

If this sounds like something you'd be curious about, you can contact the current board member directly, come by oVIS or write us an email at [vorstand@vis.ethz.ch](mailto:vorstand@vis.ethz.ch).

I'm looking forward to hearing from you!

***"Ask not what VIS can do for you, ask what you can do for VIS!"***

*- Johan Stettler, 2020*



# HoPoKolumne

ANDRI - CONFUSED WHY HOPO TOPICS ARE BEING MENTIONED IN PRÄSIKOLUMNE



**First of all, a Public Service Announcement regarding next semester's curriculum:**

1. Human Computer Interaction has been promoted from an elective to a core subject, increasing the content but also the credits, from 6 to 8. It will take place for the first time next HS and will be part of the Major Information and Data Processing.
2. Data Management Systems will **not** take place next semester as Professor Alonso is taking a sabbatical and no replacement could be found for him. If you rely on taking this subject to complete your master's degree, contact us so we can help you work something out!

These are not all changes coming to next semesters curriculum but the ones that could affect your semester planning the most. Unfortunately, we can only share these two, as the course list has not yet been finalized and we only got permission to share these two ahead of time.

I was going to update you on the two big HoPo projects we currently have but apparently Julia already yonked them for her Präsikolumne. >:( That leaves me with giving you a quick overview of the feedback our spokes people have been busy collecting and evaluating for the subjects of the second and fourth semester. Here are the summaries.

## Algorithmen und Wahrscheinlichkeit

The general feedback is quite positive. Overall, the students are satisfied with the structure of the course. As for the lectures, they find them well paced even though they judge the concepts to be difficult. This semester Prof. Dr. Rasmus Kyng joined Prof. Dr. Angelika Steger and Prof. Dr. Emo Welzl in teaching this course. The majority is either happy or very happy with his teaching. Regarding Prof. Dr. Steger most were very happy with her teaching. Their ability to transmit knowledge is greatly appreciated by the students. This course is also the only one to have bonus exercises which can increase the final grade by at most 0.25. The students consider the bi-weekly minitests suitable to the course but are very undecided on the importance of the peer grading exercises. Some find the variety of the exercises →

given a bit overwhelming (minitests, quizzes, peer grading, theory exercises, programming exercises). Lastly, a lot of students mentioned the desire of having the lectures streamed. They stated that it would help them review the course materials and keep up with the pace of it.

### Analysis I

According to the survey, the majority of students are satisfied with the subject. However, it should be noted that many also find that the script is too difficult and that the professor is not able to convey the material well. In addition, many students feel lost and find the exercises too difficult. Otherwise, there is nothing too unusual.

Professor Kowalski, according to the meeting, is not really satisfied. He emphasizes several times that he wants students to understand the material. He also wants to try to understand the frustration of the students. However, he is forced to work according to the guidelines of the D-INFK, which means he must focus on proofs. In addition, due to the cancellation of 4 lecture hours, the course is somewhat behind, which means that the lectures need to be a bit faster (with less focus on proofs).

The following can be expected:

- An improvement of the script (more examples and general improvement)
- More visualization in the lectures
- Encouragement for students to ask questions (to the professor, TAs, and head-TA)

### Digital Design and Computer Architecture

This year's feedback was mixed. The feedback about the structure of the course has improved, but still lacks behind the other second semester courses. The provided material as well as the various lecture streaming options got a lot of positive feedback. Nevertheless, one of the main critique points was the fast lecture pace and the seemingly overwhelming number of readings. Additionally, the labs have gotten mainly positive responses, although one critique point being that there is too little feedback and possibilities to ask questions.

### Parallel Programming

The feedback was generally positive and showed that the majority thinks the lecture is appropriate and well structured. A few students however think it's too slow and is missing a clear thread. Additionally it was requested to have fewer repetitive code examples.

Another thing some students would like to see is a script and that exercises are released on time. Other students would like to see more coding tasks, especially ones that focus on exam tasks and certain programming patterns. Another issue with the coding templates is that they are confusing at times.

Generally more possibilities to apply the lecture material would be appreciated.

### Computer Networks

Because of the low attendance in the live lecture, we decided to only conduct the online feedback instead of doing live feedback. The results were moderately positive, but not that many people participated, so they might not be representative. The main complaints regarding the lecture

were the weak common thread and the sheer amount of material. When asked about those topics, Prof. Perrig replied that he considers the amount of content the main challenge of the course, but he is expected to give us an overview of how the internet works today, so he cannot do much about that. He is very motivated to restructure the course, maybe even going bottom-up instead of top-down, which would require a lot of work. He might also do more live demos, since there has been high demand for that.

Many students also complained about the 1st project, especially the fact that the project is mainly debugging instead of understanding the protocols, and the documentation is scattered all over the place. Prof. Perrig said he will have a look at that and improve what he can, so next year the project description will hopefully be more exact.

Overall, he seemed very open to suggestions on how to improve the live lecture, so if you have some good ideas, do not hesitate to contact us :)

### Data Modelling and Databases

The feedback was generally positive, but not excellent. Based on the results, most of you felt that the lecture was coherent and appreciated the lecture format. There were no suggestions to improve the lecture itself, as most of the feedback focused on ways to enhance the exercises and TA sessions. Regarding the exercises, many students expressed dissatisfaction with the requirement to answer SQL tasks in the Moodle environment rather than using a platform like Code Expert. In terms of the exercise sessions, most students felt that they only partially or mostly helped them understand the topics covered in the lecture. The main complaint was that the exercise sessions should cover not only

the exercises and solutions but also the lecture content. We will discuss these points with the professors next week.

### Formal Methods and Functional Programming

The feedback was very positive. Since there are no recordings provided, a lot of people go to the lectures and so we had around 150 votes for each question, which should be quite representative. This year we also decided to split the survey into two parts and so there will be another feedback questionnaire for the Formal Methods part in the 10th/11th week of the semester. This way both the professors get feedback on how to improve.

### Wahrscheinlichkeit und Statistik

The feedback was quite controversial, most students criticized the lack of a common thread and that the lecture doesn't really help with the exercises, but the conversation with prof Teichmann was quite positive. As a consequence he wrote an email about the topics of the exam, which were unclear before. Additionally he explained quite well why he structures the lectures the way he does: At the beginning, when we talk about expected value, independence etc, he wants to go deeper in math and focuses not too much on the basics, because he knows that the students already know these topics from AuW. That's also why the lecture and the exercises sometimes didn't match. But as we learn new stuff in the second half and start with statistics, he will work much more with the script and explain those basics.



# NachKomm

BY A COMMITTEE TOO BUSY TO WRITE A  
BYLINE

## What is NachKomm?

We are a committee that takes care of the new students. One thing we offer is high school students taster days (Schnuppertage), during which school students can look into our typical day at ETH. Each student, or Schnuppi as we call them, gets assigned a guide from 1st and a guide from 2nd year. Together they go to a lecture from the 1st and then another lecture from the 2nd year. During the break they collectively get a free! lunch and go on a campus tour. A lot of Schnuppis say that this helps them to decide their path after high school and most of them end up studying Computer Science at ETH. Some of them even join the NachKomm committee themselves :)

We also greet all of the incoming students during the Welcome Day (Ersti Tag) as well as help with the organization of the Prestudy Events. As for Welcome Day, we organize a campus tour for all of the incoming students with a guide in small groups of approx. 10 people. Freshmen get to know a lot of valuable information about ETH and some tips on how to start their studies. They then are also invited to the big BBQ at the Alumni Pavillon that is also organized by us.



## Why should you join us?

We all were Erstis once, not knowing where to find a good study spot or stressing out about the Basisprüfung. A lot of us got some advice from people from higher semesters that helped us find our place at ETH at the beginning. What would it be like without it? That's why NachKomm exists. If you also want to help the newcomers like you were once helped, then you are very welcome in the NachKomm!

NachKomm is also a great opportunity to get more involved in VIS. It's a low effort committee, where you can meet a lot of other motivated students. You get to know about some other cool stuff that VIS does and of course get to enjoy the committee dinner as well as the free lunches during the semester.

## How to join?

If you want to get involved in the Welcome Day (Erstitag) preparations or become a guide for Schnuppis in the Fall Semester, just write us an email at [nachkomm@vis.ethz.ch](mailto:nachkomm@vis.ethz.ch) :)



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# Jöööööh so herzlich Tierbaby-Ranking vom Rucki

FABIAN RUCKSTUHL - VERSTEHT IMMER NOCH NICHT, DASS NIEMAND ANDERES DEN BABYTIERLI ARTIKEL VERFASSEN WOLLTE.

Liebe Leser,

Das Prozedere bei den Visionen funktioniert in etwa immer gleich: In einem Meeting wird zusammen über Artikel für die kommende Ausgabe gebrainstormt. Diese Artikel werden dann nach dem First-Come-First-Serve Prinzip verteilt. Wenn man somit (wie ich) nicht am Artikelmeeting teilnehmen kann, führt dies in der Regel dazu, dass man Artikel zugewiesen bekommt, die niemand anderes schreiben wollte. Aus welchem Grund auch immer, wollte dieses mal aber niemand über herzige Tierbabys schreiben und ich darf das jetzt machen: Jackpot!

Um euch jetzt nicht noch länger von süßen Tierbabys fernzuhalten, hier ist sie: Meine Liste der süssesten Tierbabys, die nicht in jedem "Which-of-this-cute-animals-represents-your-way-of-driving-Buzzfeed-Quiz" vorzufinden sind.



## Schleiereule

Flauschigkeit: 3 von 5  
Kuschelfaktor: 2 von 5  
Haustiereignung: 2 von 5  
Derpfaktor: 5 von 5  
Jöööööh-Koeffizient: 3 von 5

Diesem Schleiereulenküken fehlt eigentlich nur noch die unterlegte Tubamusik, um die Bildkomposition zu komplettieren. So kommt auch der hohe Derpfaktor zustande. Dennoch gehe ich davon aus, dass einige Federkiele eher pieksig als flauschig sind. Daher Abzug bei Kuschelfaktor und Flauschigkeit. Trotzdem sehr niedlich!

Score: 15



## Toucan

Flauschigkeit: 4 von 5  
Kuschelfaktor: 3 von 5  
Haustiereignung: 2 von 5  
Derpfaktor: 3 von 5  
Jöööööh-Koeffizient: 4 von 5

Ich habe ein gewisses Flair für Tiere mit einem völlig überdimensionierten Körperteil, daher finde ich auch Giraffen mega cool. Doch unter uns sind Toucane mit ihrem überdimensionierten Schnabel bedeutend niedlicher als Giraffen. Wahrscheinlich ist so ein langer Schnabel jedoch auch ein Nachteil: Beim Tierzahnarzt bleibt ziemlich viel Geld liegen. Abzug für Kuschelfaktor und Haustiereignung.

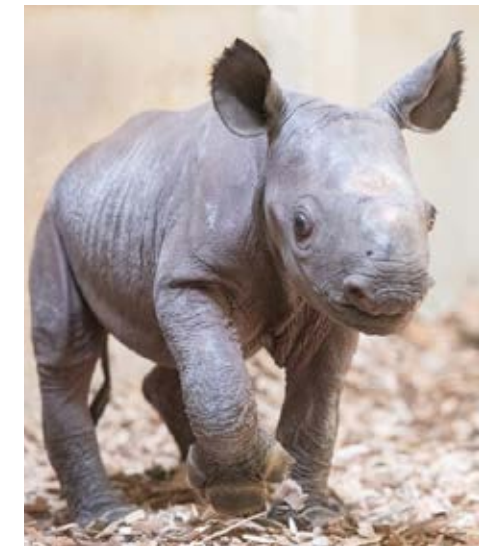
Score: 16

## Rhinozeros

Flauschigkeit: 1 von 5  
Kuschelfaktor: 2 von 5  
Haustiereignung: 1 von 5  
Derpfaktor: 2 von 5  
Jöööööh-Koeffizient: 2 von 5

Ohne Horn fehlt dem NasHORN definitiv etwas... Dem Mutter-Nashorn zuliebe verstehe ich jedoch, warum damit bis nach der Geburt gewartet wird. Die Eignung als Haustier hinterfrage ich ziemlich fest. Insbesondere Erfahrungen eines gewissen Chefs eines kolumbischen Drogenkartells mit ähnlichen afrikanischen Grosstieren unterstützt diesen Gedanken. Die Ohrpuschel jedoch sehen flauschig aus.

Score: 8







### Alligator

Flauschigkeit: 0 von 5  
 Kuschelfaktor: -2 von 5  
 Haustiereignung: 1 von 5  
 Derpfaktor: 1 von 5  
 Jööööh-Koeffizient: 3 von 5

Score: 3



### Axolotl

Flauschigkeit: 2 von 5  
 Kuschelfaktor: 3 von 5  
 Haustiereignung: 5 von 5  
 Derpfaktor: 3 von 5  
 Jööööh-Koeffizient: 3 von 5

Kennst du den Axolotl Song?  
[www.youtube.com/watch?v=MxA0QVGVEJw](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MxA0QVGVEJw)  
 Er ist super! Ausserdem sind Axolotl mega cool, weil sie technisch gesehen nie erwachsen werden, ausser du gibst ihnen Schilddrüsenhormon. Dementsprechend hast du immer einen Freund zur Seite, wenn du jemanden brauchst, um ein Deckenfot zu bauen oder gemeinsam Jaws zu schauen.

Score: 16



### Manta-Rochen

Flauschigkeit: 1 von 5  
 Kuschelfaktor: 4 von 5  
 Haustiereignung: 2 von 5  
 Derpfaktor: 4 von 5  
 Jööööh-Koeffizient: 2 von 5

Ich glaube, es ist selbsterklärend, dass Manta-Rochen gute Umarmmer sind. Ausserdem braucht man beim Kuscheln mit einem Manta-Rochen auch keine Decke. Auch eine Catchphrase um zu einem High-Five anzusetzen ist schnell gefunden: Flosse Genosse!

Etwas Abzug in Punkto Haustierhaltung jedoch aufgrund der etwas schwer umsetzbaren Gestaltung eines Aquariums von mehreren hundert Kubikmetern.

Score: 13

### Blobfisch

Flauschigkeit: 1 von 5  
 Kuschelfaktor: 2 von 5  
 Haustiereignung: 1 von 5  
 Derpfaktor: 5 von 5  
 Jööööh-Koeffizient: 4 von 5

This guy needs a hug! Aber ja, wahrscheinlich sind Blobfische eher unangenehme Mitbewohner. Die Situation erinnert mich stark daran, wie ich es mir vorstelle, mit einem Emo Teenager zusammenzuwohnen: Die Fensterläden sind den ganzen Tag über zugezogen und aus den Lautsprechern ballert My Chemical Romance. Jedoch mit Druckverhältnissen wie in der Tiefsee. Wahrscheinlich sind Blobfische gute Küsser.

Score: 13







### Gottesanbeterin

Flauschigkeit: 1 von 5  
Kuschelfaktor: 2 von 5  
Haustiereignung: 4 von 5  
Derpfaktor: 3 von 5  
Jööööh-Koeffizient: 2 von 5

Ich mag Gottesanbeterinnen. Welches andere Tier hat so krasse Martial Arts Vibes? Umarmungen gestalten sich wohl eher schwerer und insbesondere schmerzhafter. Aber ja, Katzen geben ja bekanntlich auch Love-Bites.

Gute Derpwerte, weil habt ihr schon mal einer Gottesanbeterin beim Laufen zugeschaut?

Score: 12

### Igel

Flauschigkeit: -1 von 5  
Kuschelfaktor: -1 von 5  
Haustiereignung: 4 von 5  
Derpfaktor: 3 von 5  
Jööööh-Koeffizient: 5 von 5

Kinda Pointy, but kinda cute. Basierend auf den Erfahrungen einer meiner ehemaligen Katzen kann ich euch sagen, dass Igel keine besonders guten Kuschelpartner sind. Ausserdem sagt das Internet, dass Igel eher schwer zu halten sind. Ich glaube jedoch, im Internet tummeln sich in dieser Hinsicht nur Amateure, schliesslich traue ich es mir ja sogar zu, Manta-Rochen zu domestizieren.

Score: 10



# Hans was Heiri - Minze oder Münze?

LOÏC & MANUEL - STREITEN SICH WENIGER ALS DIESE SEITE ERAHNEN LÄSST

## Die Feinheiten der Schweizer Mundart erklärt und ausdiskutiert.

**L:** Einer meiner absoluten Lieblingstees ist der Pfefferminztee. Mit Kollegen ging ich nach dem Superkondi (Donnerstag, 7 Uhr, Polyterrasse) brunchen. Die Kellnerin kam und wir bestellten zunächst das Essen. Anschliessend nahm sie die Bestellungen für die Getränke auf. Ich wartete geduldig und dann kam ich endlich an die Reihe: "Für mi gärn es Münzete."

**M:** Was bestellst du? Münzen in den Tee? Oder meinst du doch ein "Minzete"?

**L:** Was dann folgte, war ein für mich unerwarteter Sturm verbaler Entrüstung. Für die Ostschweizer war das "Münze" ein einziges Desaster - wie man darauf kommt, einer Pflanze so zu sagen. Die Zürcher hatten überraschenderweise zwar kein Problem mit der "Münze" (jedoch mit allem anderen). Dafür kam bei denen der Artikel "es" nicht so gut an. Dasselbe Theater gab es ja kürzlich bei einer Redaktionssitzung, als ich von eben dieser Anekdote erzählt habe. Im Gegenteil, fast noch schlimmer: Die Zürcher scheinen sich über "Münze" oder "Minze" nicht einig zu sein.

**M:** Wenn du Kleingeld brauchst, kannst du es auch kalt und trocken haben. Aber wenn "Münze" eine Pflanze ist, wie unterscheidet der gewiefter Berner denn diese Pflanze von einer einzelnen Münze?

**L:** Die Pflanze "Münze" und das Kleingeld "Münz" unterscheiden wir im Berndeutschen ja mit dem "e" am Schluss. [0, 1] Man muss sich nur fertig zuhören und die Sprache und sein Gegenüber wertschätzen, dann stellt das schon kein Problem mehr dar - für mich ist diese Entrüstung nicht ganz nachvollziehbar.

**M:** Das "Münz" kennt man in der Ostschweiz auch. Allerdings scheint der Finanzausgleich in Bern mehr zu helfen, wenn ihr nie über eine einzelne Münze sprechen müsst... "Aber isch jo Hans was Heiri. Für mi gern au en Minztee."

[0] <https://www.berndeutsch.ch/search?q=m%C3%BCnz>  
[1] Das unbetonte "e" (unter Experten als ə/"Schwa" bekannt) wird im Berndeutsch mit einer leichten Neigung zum "ä" Laut ausgesprochen. Man schreibt dies jedoch nicht als "ä", da es sonst zu einer richtigen "ä"-Inflation kommen würde und das für den Dialekt charakteristische starke "ä" wie etwa bei "gärn" diffamieren würde.  
[2] <https://www.berndeutsch.ch/doc/berndeutsch-schreiben-aussprach-nah-v1.pdf>



# Parent - Do you know how to use a condom correctly?

JOHAN STETTLER - FATHER OF 0. ...AS FAR AS I KNOW

Contraception is something that everyone should be familiar with, especially students. When you are a student it is the age where the hormones go wild, you most probably have a bedroom accessible outside your parent's home for the first time, and the amount of alcohol consumed is at a peak. We all agree that it is okay to have fun, obviously with consent and with protection, no discussion there. Yet, some people think they know everything about contraception and I do not doubt that you do, but everyone could use a refresher once in a while.



Pearl Index:

The Pearl Index is an attempt to measure the effectiveness of different contraceptive methods. It obviously has its shortcomings of how exactly you would measure this. The given number for a protection method indicates how many women out of 100 would get pregnant, if they used only this one method for a year. Depending on the source you look at, the numbers can vary.

The Pearl Index is still a nice overview of the well-known studied birth control methods, all summarized with their strengths and weaknesses. One should be informed about it, but the best person to talk about protection is of course your doctor. You should certainly also discuss this topic with your partner(s), obviously.

According to the first source I found on the internet [1], not using any protection has a Pearl Index number of 85. This means 85 out of 100 Women get pregnant, by not using any protection at all, over one year. If your goal is not to get pregnant, then use protection. The odds are clearly against you.



In the remainder of this article, I will focus on the condom. Its Pearl Index number is 2 to 12. This is quite shocking to me. The reason for it is mostly due to people not using or storing them correctly. Therefore, I felt the need to write this article. I am also convinced that, if used correctly, it is still the best birth control. It is the only protection actually working against sexually transmitted diseases. [2]



Tips with condoms:

- Read the fucking manual! All of it. I might have missed a detail in this article.
- Everyone should have condoms at home, whether you have a dick or not. You never know when you have somebody over at your place for sexy-time and "just this once" is just a stupid attitude. Again, diseases are a

thing and the chance of getting pregnant is high. I have a friend who did not have any at home and still went for it. He has triplets now. I know it can be hard (duh) to reject that one chance of getting laid, but just go home and take a shower instead.

- Do not keep condoms in your wallet! They can break! The best place for a condom is in the drawer next to your bed (if not being used). Store them in a safe place, preferably not your bathroom, away from heat, humidity, and any sharp objects. That is the reason everyone has to own condoms, because it is safer to use the ones where you know how they were stored than the ones your partner brought. If you need to take some along, use an appropriate case.



- Do not use 2 condoms at once. The friction between the two can tear them apart.
- Condoms have two sides. You should put them on the right way. If you accidentally put it on the wrong side, toss it away and take a new one.
- Never reuse the same condom.
- Condoms do have an expiration date. This is written on the package and on the wrapper. Don't use expired ones. If you cannot find the expiration date, then don't use them.
- Size matters! The length of the penis is less important than the circumference. If the condom sits too loose, then this has the potential for leakage, and if too tight, then it can burst. You should know your size. If you are jerking off anyway, then try some on to see what size you are. For the non penis-bearers, have some in every size at your place.
- There are thicker condoms for anal-sex. See [3].

- Practice putting it on! Seriously! At least on a banana. Most of you need to be able to put it on drunk. Actually, if you are too drunk to put one on correctly, then don't have sex.
- Only use official water based lube with condoms and not oil based! The oil can destroy the latex.
- If you do not like latex, then use good alternatives. There are latex free ones. See [3]. There is no excuse for not using one.

With that, I wish you a pleasant evening! Stay safe, stay protected!

Sources:

[1]<https://www.profamilia.de/themen/verhuetung/pearl-index>

[2]<https://www.cdc.gov/reproductivehealth/contraception/index.htm#:~:text=Although%20hormonal%20contraceptives%20and%20IUDs,%2C%20gonococcal%20infection%2C%20and%20trichomoniasis.>

[3]<http://www.condomeria.ch> Münstergasse 27, 8001 Zürich



# I feel stupid. — Do you feel stupid too?

FABIAN RUCKSTUHL - WILL BE THE LAUGHINGSTOCK OF THE WHOLE VIS AFTER WRITING THIS ARTICLE



Hello there,  
Recently, I had a really weird and slightly embarrassing realization: Nobody else is wiping his or her ass whilst standing in an upright position. You can imagine how alien I felt, realizing something I assumed was totally normal is actually really peculiar and I have been different about it my whole life.

Here, you, dear reader, come into play: Have you ever been in a similar situation, where you have been wrong about something your whole life? Let's celebrate our uniqueness together in realization that we all have weird misconceptions of life. If you can remember any situation that was slightly like mine, I'd be very pleased if you could

add them to the form (linked with QR code), so I can do a compilation of the funniest misconceptions we all encountered in our lives in a future edition of Visionen. Obviously, posting something to the form is anonymous and I am not able to track whoever has written anything into the form.

Cheers  
Rucki





# The Concept of a Safety Concept

This article exists mainly because two AMIV people from the back in black party don't know what a safety concept is.

## FIONI - SPOTTED IMPROVIDENCE DESPITE QUITE SOME GIN INTAKE

I went to the back in black party rather spontaneously. I called my friend to join me even more spontaneously<sup>[1]</sup> which was the reason for me to arrive alone and having to socialize with strangers. Creative as I am, I can easily conjure a subject to talk about. With the wardrobe people I discussed the size of their beer. But first things first.

There was this poster on the wall more like a tag-station where you could get a bracelet with the color of your relationship status. It was creatively described what color one should get and I liked the ETH-Math-humor, which I don't remember exactly<sup>[2]</sup>. But it was cool. In short: green = single, orange = it's complicated, red = forgiven<sup>[3]</sup>.

So my third chat<sup>[4]</sup> at the party was something like this:

Me: "Ah, one has to decide what color to get." (sentences like this are called conversation openers. Not very bright nor fancy but it opens the conversation.)

Guy at the entrance desk: "Yeah, you have to get one. It's our safety concept."

Me: "No, haha I don't want one. That's not what a safety concept is."

Guy at the entrance desk: "No, that is the safety concept."

Me: "Do you know what a safety concept is?"

Girl also from the entrance desk: "No, he's right. This really is our safety concept. So one knows what you want. You have to take one."

One might read some sarcasm into this discussion, but believe me they were serious. And I was shocked. I did not meet one simple guy, who doesn't get what safety concepts are, I met two people at once.

This is a warning: when you go to such a party don't just take the green bracelet, because apparently some people take that as a yes for whatever and you are not safe. I am only half joking. I low-key still want to empty a glass of water into their faces, hoping to open their eyes and make them see how erroneous their statement was.

My second conversation was me asking why you can only pay by Twint just to annihilate their answer "because we are modern" with a "if you were modern, you would have announced this on your flyers and posters and insta-stories." Because, dear party people, communication is key!

The music was not my gusto, but I liked how the party was not cramped. All in all, my friend and I had fun, while the question remains: was the party fun or are we just fun?<sup>[5]</sup>

- [1] 30min before I arrived at the party
- [2] I drink and don't know things...
- [3] the right word would be taken, of course.
- [4] the first was with the doorman.
- [5] one should ponder over this question more often



Prof. Dr. Manuela Estrich - After her ~~sugardaddy~~ husband Manfred Keller, who took on the concerns of students in an unnamed other student association magazine, apparently retired in secret, then came back, and re-disappeared, Manuela Estrich took over. But since she is the one with taste in this regard, she has chosen her medium a little more carefully.

## What keeps you awake at night Competent answers to serious questions



**Professor Estrich works at D-INFK in the Smart Software Group. There she uses Blockchain, Virtual Reality and Artificial Intelligence to automatically generate API's for ERP systems in the Metaverse. She volunteers at the Soup Kitchen Zurich and is part of the Keller-Kind-Foundation. At Visionen, she helps desperate students and prepares them for the wicked world outside.**

Dear Prof. Dr. Estrich

*In addition to my studies, I teach at some fancy private school. There, all the rich parents feel that their only children are very special geniuses. How do I make them understand that this is unlikely to be the case?*

Cheers  
F.R.

Dear F.R.

Well, my dear, you have quite the task ahead of you. But there is a surefire way to show those parents that their precious offspring are not as exceptional as they might think.

First, you should gather all the students' test scores and compare them to the national average. Then, you should publicly shame the parents for believing their children are geniuses when the evidence clearly shows otherwise.

You could also organize a competition where the students compete against regular kids from public schools, and then they will see firsthand how average their children really are.

Another great idea is to create a "not-so-special" award ceremony where you give out awards for things like "most mediocre performance" or "least likely to succeed". That will surely bring those parents back down to reality!

But the most important thing is to always remind them that their children are just like everyone else and that they need to work hard to be successful. Remember, humility is the key to success!

Kind regards,  
Prof. Dr. Manuela Estrich



Do you have a question? Write to [visionen@vis.ethz.ch](mailto:visionen@vis.ethz.ch) today and we will forward it anonymously to the busy professor!

# Badenfahrt

PASCAL STREBEL -  
ALWAYS HAD HIS PRIORITIES STRAIGHT

Gather 'round for a tale that's quite neat,  
'Bout a little boy who was pretty street-sweet.  
It was the most magical time of the year,  
Ten days of celebration filled with cheer.

The people partied hard both day and night,  
Until the morning light was in sight.  
Masses of food stalls, concerts, and fun,  
Filled the city, from dusk until dawn.  
Bath culture and a bit of art,  
Made it a festival that stole your heart.

They invented cup deposit, ahead of their time,  
But carelessly threw them away, what a crime!  
And the boy saw his chance, took up the fight,  
Against evil drunks lurking in the night.  
He gathered up the cups with great haste,  
And exchanged them for cash, it was no waste.

He spent his fortune on an iPod, so neat,  
But it only lasted a few weeks, what a defeat.  
What a waste of money, he thought with regret,  
But at least for a while, he was the coolest kid,  
you can bet.

If you want to experience this magic too,  
Come to Badenfahrt 2023, it's all true!



# Festivalkalender

Juni 2023

KW	Montag	Dienstag	Mittwoch	Donnerstag	Freitag	Samstag	Sonntag
22				1	2 Summerbrunch	3	4
23				8 Greenfield	9	10	11
24	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
VACATION							
25	19	20	21	22	23	24	25 <del>Jaeger</del>
26	26	27 VIS?	28	29 Openair St.Gallen	30		

Juli 2023

KW	Montag	Dienstag	Mittwoch	Donnerstag	Freitag	Samstag	Sonntag
26						1 Openair St.Gallen	2
27	3	4	5	6 Frauen Feld	7	8	9
28	10	11	12 Gurten	13 Gurten	14 Gurten	15 Gurten	16 Gurten
29	17 PALEO ←	18	19	20 Openair Lurmezia	21	22 FESTIVAL →	23
30	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	31					☺ haha	



August 2023

KW	Montag	Dienstag	Mittwoch	Donnerstag	Freitag	Samstag	Sonntag
31	0 Z 10 X 10 0	1 <u>studying???</u>	2	3	4	5	6
32	7 exam session starts	8	9	10	11 Heitere (Fahne)	12	13
33	14	15 👉	16	17 OPEN AIR GAMPEN 2023 ... es heißt Gampu + bh	18	19	20
34	21	22	23 Zürich Openair	24	25	26	27
35	28	29	30	31	exam session is over :)		

- >festivalkalender
- >look inside
- >studying



Am Freitag 12.5 fand die berühmte Very Important Session am KatzenSee, oder kurz VISKAS statt. Hier einige Einblicke:

# VISKAS FS23

JULIA BOGDAN - HAT IM VIS ARCHIV TATSÄCHLICH ETWAS GELERNT











Danke an alle Helfer und das wunderbare OK!





Das VISKAS gibt es übrigens schon sehr lange. Hier ein paar Einblicke ins VISKAS 1993:



# Nix - The package manager you should be using

MARK CSURGAY - IN THE JOURNEY OF FINDING THE ONE DISTRO TO RULE THEM ALL I UNCOVERED THE BEST PACKAGE MANAGER AND HERE IS WHY YOU SHOULD BE USING IT.

Have you ever tried to install a program, only for it to require some specific Python version, GCC to be exactly version 11, or some other random program you never even heard of? Additionally, you have to figure out where to install what and how, because everybody has their standard on how programs should be installed. A solution for this is a package manager which handles the complete install for you. From checking for dependencies down to what steps have to be executed for the program to be installed correctly.

There are a lot of package managers around. Some of which you might've even used already. A few popular examples include Homebrew for OSX, Chocolatey for Windows, and APT for Debian and Ubuntu. They make installing programs so simple. You can simply look up an application in their online glossary and then execute a quick command for the application to be automatically installed for you. But have you ever wondered how they work?

The package managers all operate slightly differently, but in general, they all share the same elements. They contain a huge list of installation instructions. Each instruction contains all the details required to install the package on a system: how to properly install a package, what dependencies are required, what version the package is, where to download it from, etc.

***“Nix makes it extremely easy to try out programs.***

***The garbage collector will handle removing packages you don't need anymore.”***



Over the last few months, I've been playing around on NixOS which is an interesting take on a Linux distro, but the details are for another Visionen article. The important part is that NixOS comes with a package manager which is simply called Nix. Nix can be quite quickly installed on any OS (even OSX) and comes with a lot of nice goodies. The main selling point that made me fall in love with Nix is the very organized structure for installing programs. Installing a program doesn't require you to handle and install dependencies manually. Additionally Nix makes it extremely easy to try out programs. The garbage collector will handle removing packages you don't need anymore. That way you can try out whatever you want. Anything you don't need will then be cleaned up for you without ever having to think about it again. When was the last time you cleaned out programs and packages you don't need anymore? I barely remember the times I did before using Nix. Now I do it daily in seconds without having to ever worry about breaking my installs. Nix does this all without lacking in the amount of packages it supports as shown on [repology.org](https://repology.org)

So how does installing differ from other package managers? Installing a package with dependencies does not depend on what is already on the system. Every installation is handled in a separate environment. Let's say for example we want to install a program which requires a spe-

cific Python version and some Python library to be built on a clean system. Often what happens with standard package managers is that they try to install a package and then either one of the two following two actions takes place:

- The package manager simply fails, stating that the dependencies are missing. Well great, now we have to install all the dependencies manually.
- But more often, the package manager then notices the dependencies, asks if you want to install them, and then installs the dependencies as well. Now that is cool because it works. But you now have some random dependency installs that you didn't even intend to install and they were solely installed for the building step. You might've already had a Python install before and now you have yet another one with some other version. While this method works and is very often utilized, do we want our system to be filled with random programs that we never even intended to install?

Nix specially combats this. Nix installs all dependencies in a read-only path in a special Nix directory (`/nix/store`). This ensures that when Nix installs Python 3.10, it will always be Python 3.10 and not accidentally have been modified by the user or some non-standard program. Programs that are installed system-wide will then be correctly linked up to the PATH to be able to be called from anywhere.

Nix keeps a close watch on which of the installed packages are required by other programs or are just lying around. With a simple command, Nix is then able to automatically garbage collect all packages that are not required anywhere anymore. This allows Nix to delete packages that were only required to build another package but are not required afterwards or packages that were only installed to quickly try out something.

So how does this trying out of programs work? Say you are looking to test out some photo editors. People say GIMP works nicely. I want to try that out. You can open the terminal, run "nix-shell -p gimp" and bam you are in a terminal environment with GIMP in the PATH. In simple terms, this means I can now run GIMP from this terminal session.

Okay, I tried it out and I don't like it. I can now just close GIMP and my terminal, then when I run my Nix garbage collector it will see that GIMP isn't properly installed anywhere and delete it for me. I've gotten so used to this workflow that I barely install anything globally anymore. I install whatever I need depending on the directory or project I'm currently in. This can then be automated so you never even have to execute anything manually and always have the one single correct Python version in whatever Python project you're in.



```
$ python -V
python was not found
$ cd python-project
$ python -V
Python 3.11.3
$ cd ..
$ python -V
python was not found
```

Now think back to the last programs you downloaded. Possibly even over a package manager. Now think of the last time you went through your installed programs and deleted programs you didn't need anymore. Are you sure you didn't miss one of those hundred Python installs? Join the Nix gang and you'll never have to worry about manually cleaning everything up anymore at <https://nixos.org/>.



# Es war mein erster Tag in Buenos Aires, als mir mein Handy geklaut wurde

RICARDO - HAT DAS HANDY NIE WIEDER GESEHEN

Genau genommen waren es nicht einmal 6 Stunden, als mir mein kratzerloses 256 GB iPhone 11 aus der Hosentasche gezogen wurde. Aber fangen wir von vorne an.

Das Ganze passierte in Argentinien, wo ich meine Reise begonnen hatte. Meine Mutter ist ursprünglich in Argentinien geboren und dann nach Europa ausgewandert. Deshalb lebt ein Teil meiner Familie jetzt noch da.

Mein Cousin dort ist grosser Fan einer deutschen Rockband namens "Die Toten Hosen". Die sind, warum auch immer, ziemlich gut in Argentinien vertreten und haben schon mehrere Touren dort hinter sich gebracht. Mein Cousin feiert ihre Musik ziemlich doll, obwohl die Texte auf Deutsch sind und er kein Wort versteht. Ich finde diese Tatsache bis heute immer noch ziemlich witzig. Ich frage mich, ob er überhaupt weiss, um was die Songs gehen.

Wie es das Schicksal wohl wollte, spielten die besagten Hosen schon bald ein Konzert in Buenos Aires, und mein Cousin war natürlich hyped af und wollte hinfahren. Ich hab ihn dann gefragt, ob er mich auf seiner Fahrt mitnehmen kann, weil ich sowieso als nächstes nach Buenos Aires wollte, ist ja die Hauptstadt von Argentinien und sicher cool zum Anschauen und so weiter. Und eine gratis Autofahrt wollte ich mir natürlich nicht entgehen lassen.

Ein paar Tage später sitzen wir also in seinem Auto auf der Autobahn nach BA und rocken zu Songs von den Toten Hosen. Ich hab wirklich keine Ahnung von der Band und kannte nur die Radio Hits, aber in diesem Moment realisiere ich, dass die schon ziemlich gute Stimmung machen können... In meinem Hype entscheide ich mich spontan, ihn auf das Konzert zu begleiten und kaufe online ein Ticket.



In einer düsteren Konzerthalle, am Rande der Stadt versammeln sich also eine Menschenmenge von Toten Hosen Fans, hauptsächlich Männer mitte 30, vermutlich gerade in einer üblen Mid-life-Crisis, mein Cousin und ich, um das besagte Konzert zu hören. Zu meiner Belustigung sprechen die Toten Hosen kein Spanisch (was ihre "Argentinien Tour" noch absurder macht), so dass der Sänger das Konzert ziemlich awkward auf Denglish anmoderiert.



Dann geht's los. Der Sound ist richtig gut und der Bass ballert rein, heisst: mir gefällt alles richtig gut. Ich mache Fotos, hole dazu mein Handy aus der sicher platzierten Bauchtasche und stecke es geistesabwesend in die absolut unsichere Hosentasche. Und dann, ich springe gerade mitten im Moshpit herum, passiert: Ich spüre, wie der Gegenstand aus meiner Hosentasche gezogen wird, ich dreh mich um, will die Hand mit meinem Handy packen oder immerhin hinterherrennen, aber starre nur in stumme Gesichter, die alle auf die Bühne schauen, mein Handy vermutlich schon 2 Personen weiter in einer anderen Tasche.

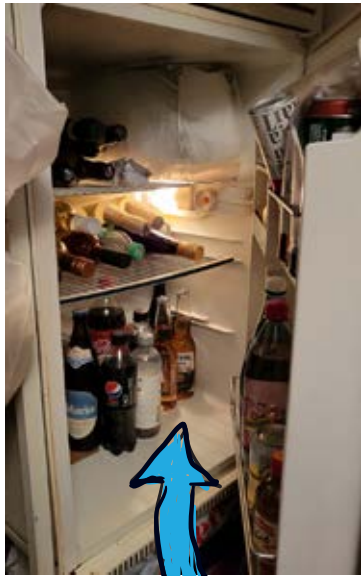
Ab dort sollte es eine lange, painfule Nacht werden, in der ich mein Handy über iCloud sperre (danke Apple) und hilflos versuche, den Standort zu orten. Innerhalb der nächsten Tage verfolge ich über FindMyiPhone, wie mein Handy in ein Viertel ausserhalb der Stadt und dann nach Cordoba buchsirt wird, sehe sogar in welchem Haus es ist, aber das bringt mir gar nichts. Ich mein, was soll ich tun? Hinfahren und Klingeln? "Ähh, sorry, entschuldigen Sie, aber haben Sie eventuell mein Handy geklaut? Ich würde es nämlich gerne wiederhaben." Es besteht eine Chance, dass er sagt "Ich geb's dir für 500 USD" und das wär vielleicht gar kein so schlechter Deal für mich, aber wir alle wissen, dass mir der Dude nach so einer Aktion nicht nur mein Handy, sondern auch meine Leber abgenommen hätte. Im Nachhinein weiss man es natürlich besser. Dass ich das Handy überhaupt mitgenommen habe, dann aus der Bauchtasche genommen und mich danach auch noch in den Moshpit gestürzt habe, kommentiere ich jetzt mit einem GIGA-facepalm. Bitte nicht nachmachen!

PS: Ich hatte natürlich Fotos vom Konzert gemacht. Ich würde sie ja gerne zeigen, aber habe sie leider nicht mehr, weil ähm, naja, du weisst schon... ♠



# A Story about my Ants

FIONI - STILL HAS TO PRACTICE DRAWING ANTS



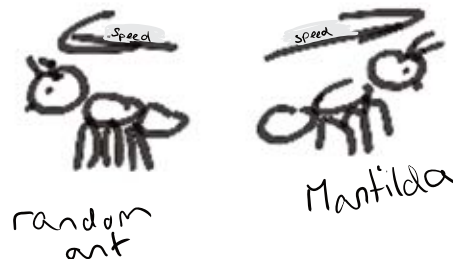
No more ants in here

I finally took my ants out of the fridge and back to my room. Some days later I saw an ant outside of the boxes roaming around. Let's call her Mantilda. I put Mantilda back into the box of colony 1, which you can imagine was not very easy to do without hurting her. Mantilda is very fast. But I finally succeeded.



This might be Mantilda

Of course I kept watching Mantilda to make sure she is okay and with the right colony. She didn't seem too happy. As a regular ant stalker i can tell.



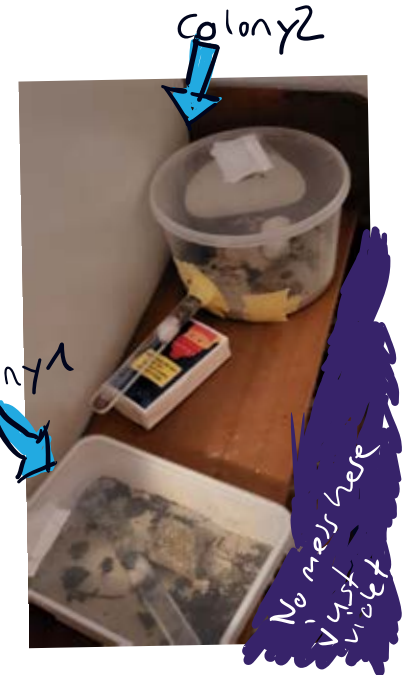
Then Mantilda met another ant and they both speeded off in different directions. The random ant run back to her nest, while Mantilda went to hide. They were both very stressed. I acted quick and took Mantilda out of the box before the random ant was back with her sisters.

I put Mantilda back to colony 2 where she had no problem to find the orientation again and she run straight to her nest. She then alarmed her sisters and queen, which was very interesting to watch.

Meanwhile the random ant had also alarmed her colony and they started searching their box for the intruder. Colony 1 was that busy searching Mantilda, it even ignored the fresh food I had given them. It took them 15min to be sure there was no intruder.



It is no problem if the ants break out from time to time, because they will always stay true to their queen. As long as the queen can't break out and they don't move the nest every thing is under control.



I am a little sorry for random ant which is probably called a liar now. But at least all ants survived.

It was very cool to watch the ants communicate with each other and I am very happy that I saved Mantilda.

I still have to fix the box of Colony 2, because they keep breaking out and exploring my room.



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Infos, wie du einen Artikel schreiben kannst, findest du unter <https://visionen.vis.ethz.ch>

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