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- The MD portion is 4 years, and the PhD portion can vary from 3 to 5 years. Thus, in total, the average amount of time for a combined MD/PhD is 8 years.
- 20 years is exorbitant for this type of training. But know that the Hadith of the Holy Prophet (SAW) is that the pursuit of knowledge spans the cradle to the grave.

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- B. Because it allows me to practice medicine and conduct research related to human disease
- C. Because another title makes my business card look nicer

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## Notes

- MD/PhD programs require more time and effort to complete and later to maintain certification. Students of science need to know that MD/PhD programs are best suited for individuals who wish harness the power of both medicine and science.
- Be deliberate about why you wish to pursue such a program.
- Simply gaining titles on business cards can clutter your business card
- And the conversation about titles reminds me of a riddle:
  - What did the thermometer say to the graduated cylinder?
    - You may have graduated, but I have more degrees.
- The message is that Ahmadis should pursue degrees for good reasons.

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- A. Your lab desk is better decorated than your home
- B. You rate coffee shops by the availability of outlets for your laptop
- C. You start referring to stories as "Snow White et al."
- D. All of the above

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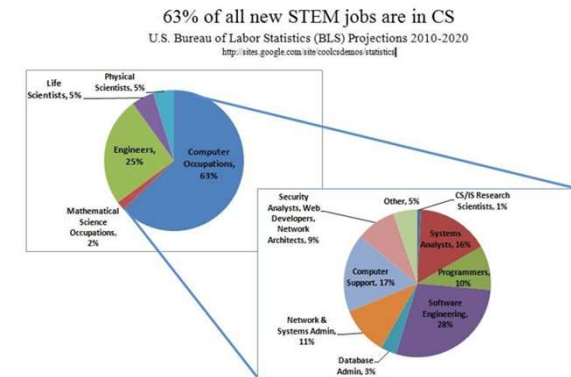
- Graduate school is a time to get immersed.
- Sometimes, it does feel like you are living in the lab.
- And charging your laptop becomes the priority and you start speaking the academic language even with bedtime stories.
- on a serious note about being fully immersed in your studies, Hazrat Khalifatul Masih V is quoted as having said in Ghana in 2008, that, ““Excel others in hard work. Excel others in education. That should be the hallmark of an Ahmadi. Allah told the Promised Messiah (as) that people of your Jama’at will progress in knowledge. Therefore I advise the youth: immerse yourself in your studies to the exclusion of everything else. Advance so much in every field of education that your minimum target becomes the Nobel Prize.”  
(Inaugural Address, April 17, 2008, Jalsa Salana Ghana)

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- D. Physics
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## Notes

- Today, the computer science, or information technology (IT), sector makes up two thirds of STEM jobs.
- In computer science, over one quarter of the jobs belong to software engineers.
- Computer science is among the hottest topics in science today, and thus Ahmadi youth who are considering virtually any field of science, including the social sciences, will gain an edge by having some integral familiarity with coding languages, such as the language called R.
- The message for young, budding researchers in science is to become familiar with computer science.

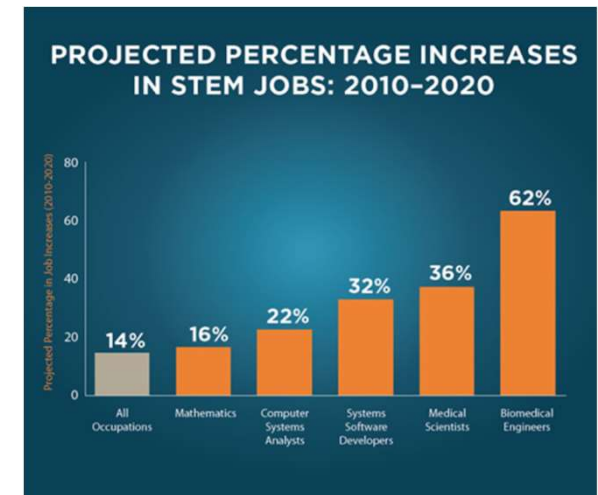


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- While computer science takes the lead currently, the life sciences are making gains.
- Among the life sciences, there are projections for over a two thirds growth in biomedical engineers and a one third growth in medical scientists.
- Overall, STEM jobs have an estimated growth of near 20%, compared to an only 10% increase in non-STEM jobs.
- The message is that STEM jobs are plentiful and continuing to grow. You just have to gain a foothold into STEM (science and technology), which is the title of the current Quran and Science Symposium Series #2.
- Chemistry is a part of the life sciences, and that reminds me of a riddle:
  - Why are chemists great for solving problems?
    - Because they have all the solutions.
- We may not have all the solutions, but the data tell us that pursuing STEM jobs is promising.