

Typos, Miscalculations, and Tears

Chirag Gokani was brought into the world in 1999 by excellent parents, a loving brother, and gentle grandparents in the peaceful and caring community of Richardson TX. Despite this, Chirag was never able to internalize much of what he was taught. While his elementary-school peers performed Bach, Mozart, and Beethoven on piano, Chirag never learned to properly read music. While his middle-school peers won math competitions, Chirag could hardly perform arithmetic. Chirag's sluggish intellect was prominently displayed in his 10th grade Algebra II class, in which his classmates would loudly groan whenever Chirag dared ask a question. Entirely thanks to the efforts of his saintly Mother, Chirag graduated high school and began his studies in physics at the University of Texas at Dallas in 2017.

Certainly the least talented physics undergraduate student ever, Chirag struggled to learn even the simplest relations of classical physics. He was also slow with the underlying math, epitomized by his first linear algebra exam, throughout which he loudly wept and blew snot into a tissue. In his upper-level courses, Chirag missed physical intuition at every turn, making even his most patient professors impatient. He sheltered behind the mighty intellects of his peers and was thus saved from being completely annihilated by courses on quantum and statistical mechanics. Further, Chirag demonstrated a total lack of skill in numerical and experimental methods, breaking beakers, MATLAB, transistors, and anything else he could get his hands on. The flaccid academic environment and relaxed grading policies in the COVID era helped Chirag graduate from UTD with a B.S. in physics in 2021.

Likely due to clerical error, Chirag was accepted to University of Texas at Austin to study acoustics. There he has contributed to several theoretical studies that would have turned out better without his participation. While his childhood friends have become medical doctors, consultants, musicians, lawyers, and diplomats, Chirag must make up for his lifelong struggles in mathematics by studying for the qualifier exam in the infernal summer of 2023. While he awaits his imminent failure, he progresses rapidly on his trajectory of exponential intellectual decay.