

## A Note to Graduate Students Seeking Assistantships

I get many email requests from students seeking financial support. Apparently, most of these messages are sent to all professors indiscriminately and are not much different from *spam*. I do not answer them individually.

Here are some guidelines regarding graduate assistantships.

1. **Teaching assistantships.** Individual professors do not have authority to grant teaching assistantships, as they are allocated by the department. If you are interested in a teaching assistantship, please inquire at the CS department.
2. **Research assistantships.** These assistantships are intended primarily for PhD students while doing research towards their dissertations. Students are chosen after considerable interaction (in advanced courses, seminars, and independent study), in which they prove their abilities and qualifications. The chance of a student getting such an assistantship after a spam message is practically nil. If you are a doctoral student interested in a research assistantship, please take one of my advanced courses, show your academic talent, follow up in an independent study that will exhibit your research potential, and hope that I will be successful in obtaining external research funds.

**However**, I am always interested in new, qualified research students. If you are seeking a research adviser, I will be happy to discuss research possibilities with you (not funding possibilities). But I ask that first you browse in my home page, familiarize yourself with my work, and read some of my papers. If you decide that you are interested and capable, please contact me!