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DLI Accelerated Data Science Teaching Kit

Lecture 22.2 - Project Idea Checklist: Heilmeier Questions



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How to Develop Great Project Ideas?

Recommendations

- Work on something that you are **excited** about (e.g., NetProbe for eBay fraud detection)
- Is it interesting? e.g., computationally? visualization-wise?
- Is it impactful? (e.g., save lives? fight crime? shorten commute? save resources?)
- Work on something **interestingly challenging**, so you will **learn more**
- Browse the list of datasets on course homepage



George Heilmeier

Former Director of DARPA

Retrieved: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_H._Heilmeier

Heilmeier Questions

Preflight checklist for successful projects

1. **What** are you trying to do?
Articulate your objectives using absolutely **no jargon**.
2. **How** is it done today; what are the **limits of current practice**?
3. **What's new** in your approach; **why** it will be successful?
4. **Who** cares?
5. If you're successful, **what difference and impact** will it make?
How do you measure them (e.g., via user studies, groundtruth data)?
6. What are the **risks and payoffs**?
7. **How much** will it cost?
8. **How long** will it take?
9. What are the midterm and final "exams" to **check for success**?

Retreived: [http://en.Wikipedia.org/wiki/George H. Heilmer](http://en.Wikipedia.org/wiki/George_H._Heilmer)

Retreived: <http://smlv.cc.gatech.edu/2010/10/17/heilmeiers-questions>



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Thank You