

Conquering Procrastination

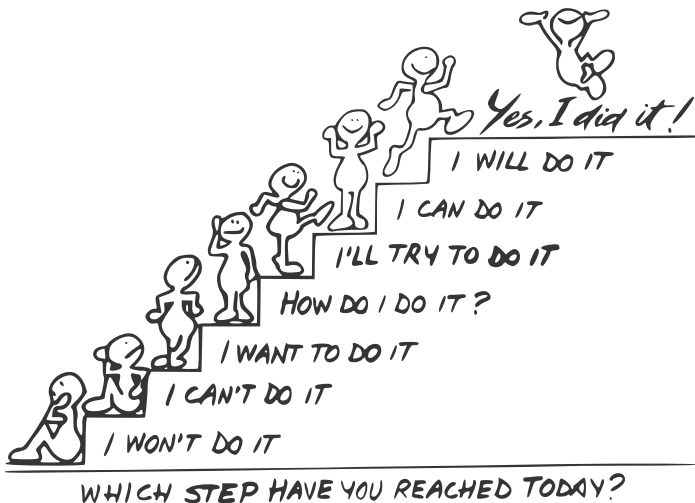
A personal account

Pedro Ribeiro

Department of Computer Science
University of York, UK

12th March 2015

Can you do it?



How to get there?

- ▶ What is the task like?
- ▶ Is it well defined?
- ▶ Does it have a deadline?
- ▶ Can we use *divide and conquer*?
- ▶ How to assess progress till completion?

Puzzles

- ▶ What I do: $a \rightarrow \textit{Chaos} \sqcup a \rightarrow \textit{Skip} \stackrel{?}{=} a \rightarrow \textit{Skip}$

Puzzles

- ▶ What I do: $a \rightarrow \text{Chaos} \sqcup a \rightarrow \text{Skip} \stackrel{?}{=} a \rightarrow \text{Skip}$
- ▶ How I see what I do:



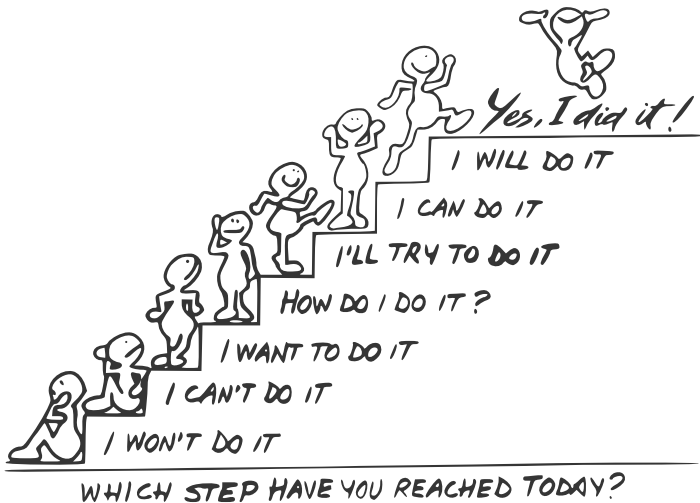
Puzzles

- ▶ What I do: $a \rightarrow \text{Chaos} \sqcup a \rightarrow \text{Skip} \stackrel{?}{=} a \rightarrow \text{Skip}$
- ▶ How I see what I do:

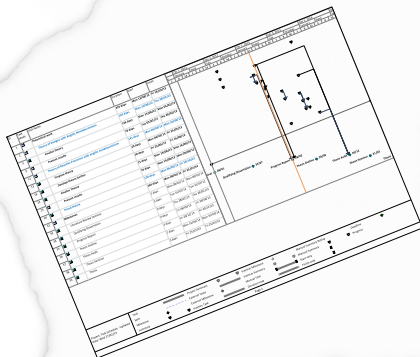


Attempting to solve jigsaw puzzles for which no pieces are yet available.

Can I do it?



Planning



Planning & Executing

Planning:

- ▶ Is a rough estimate possible?
- ▶ If not, can you assess what is likely to be more time consuming?
- ▶ Tackle hard, and highest priority tasks first, then fill in the gaps.

Planning & Executing

Planning:

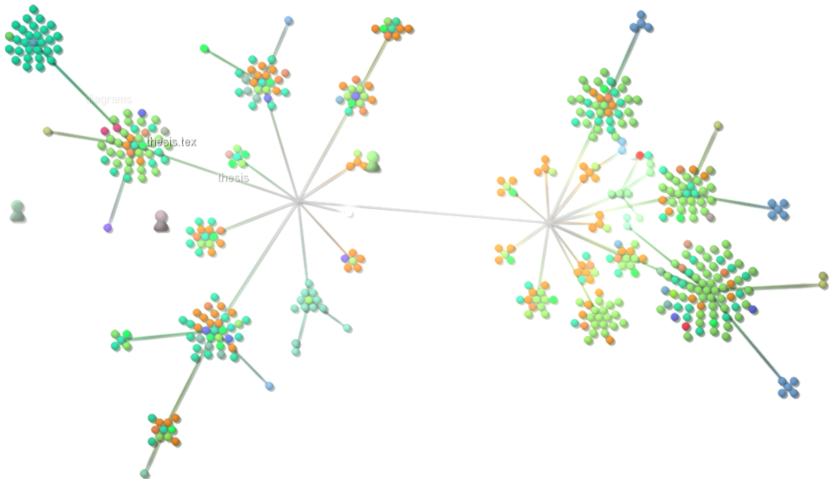
- ▶ Is a rough estimate possible?
- ▶ If not, can you assess what is likely to be more time consuming?
- ▶ Tackle hard, and highest priority tasks first, then fill in the gaps.

Avoiding distractions:

- ▶ Going offline.
- ▶ Regular breaks.
- ▶ Distracting tasks but with a schedule?
- ▶ Multitasking?
- ▶ ...

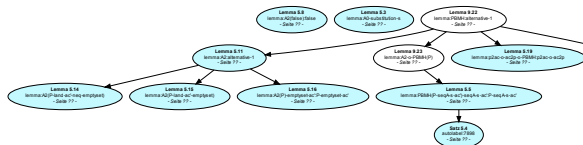
Assessing Progress

Sunday, 21 December, 2014 18:38:35



Assessing Progress

- ▶ Number of units and relation (eg: theorems, modules, ...)



- ▶ Number of commits

Id	Message
cd71f5b	Fixed LaTeX numbering of chapter on Definitions and Bibliography in TOC.
3f3b591	Capitalized the headings in the appendices.
223e2e4	Revised chapter6.tex and conclusions.
3270b4b	Fixed typos in chapter5.tex.
2783617	Fixed typos in chapter4.tex. Adjusted a theorem statement to fit in one line.
6262f1d	Revised acknowledgements, and minor fixes in chapter4.tex and associated appendix.

- ▶ Lines of Code, Words, Chapters, Sections, ...



Yes, I did it!