

Follow your Python Path!

Learning the Right Way (for you)

Me?

Ray Berg @ray[mondberg]

Former Director Chicago Python
Mentorship Program

Treasurer at ChiPy

Technical Lead at Braintree (Python / Airflow / Systems)



You?

Scripter

Software Developer

Python hatchling

Specialist

Web developer

Artist

Technical Leader



Where are you going?

— — —

Desires + Motivations

Resources

Projects

Work Patterns

Working with a Mentor

Milestones

Desires and Motivations

— — —

What are you personally interested in learning?

What are you motivated to do from inside yourself?

From outside? Are there skills you desire?

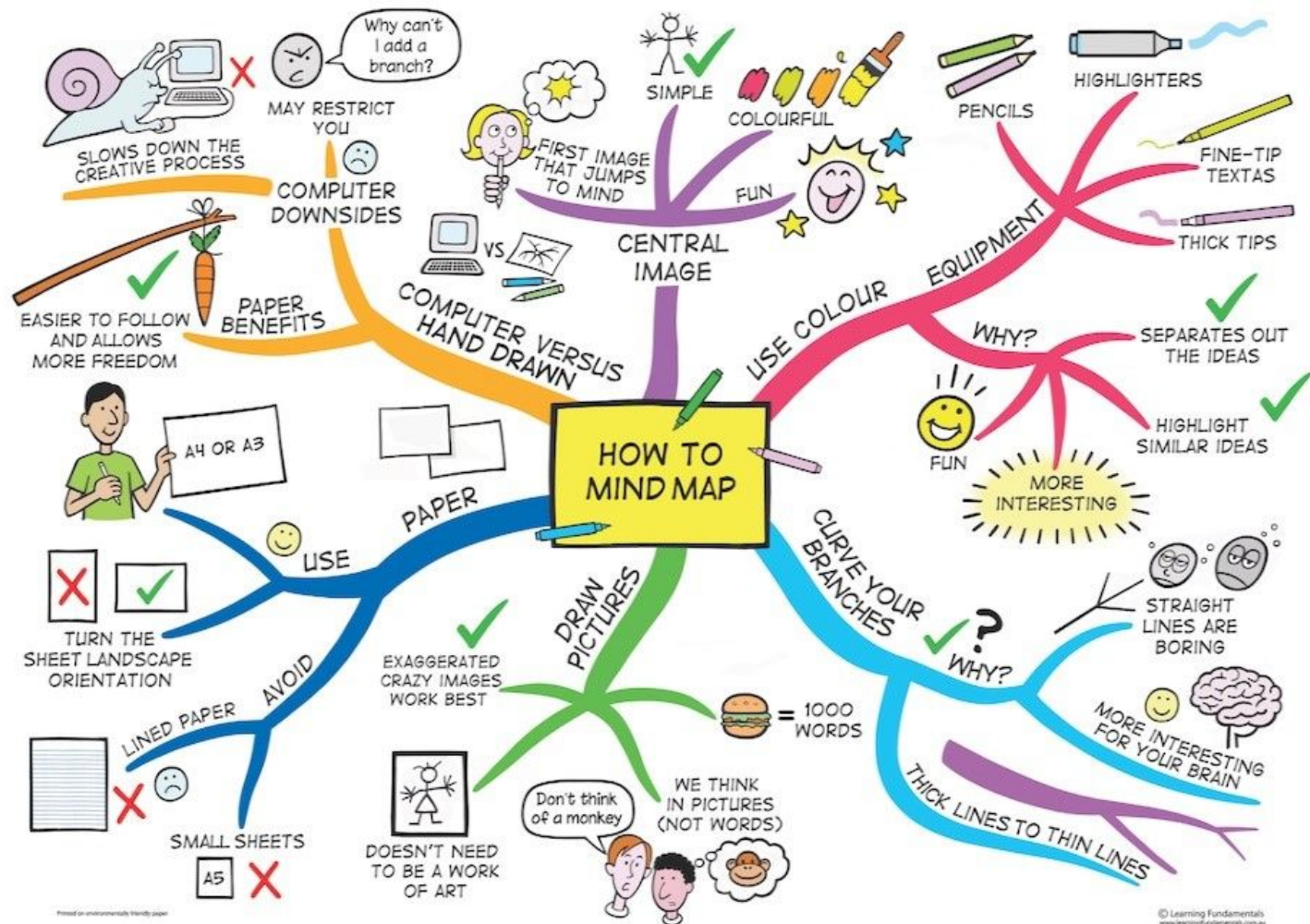
(Beginners) What terms have you heard that interest you?

What makes the terms interesting?

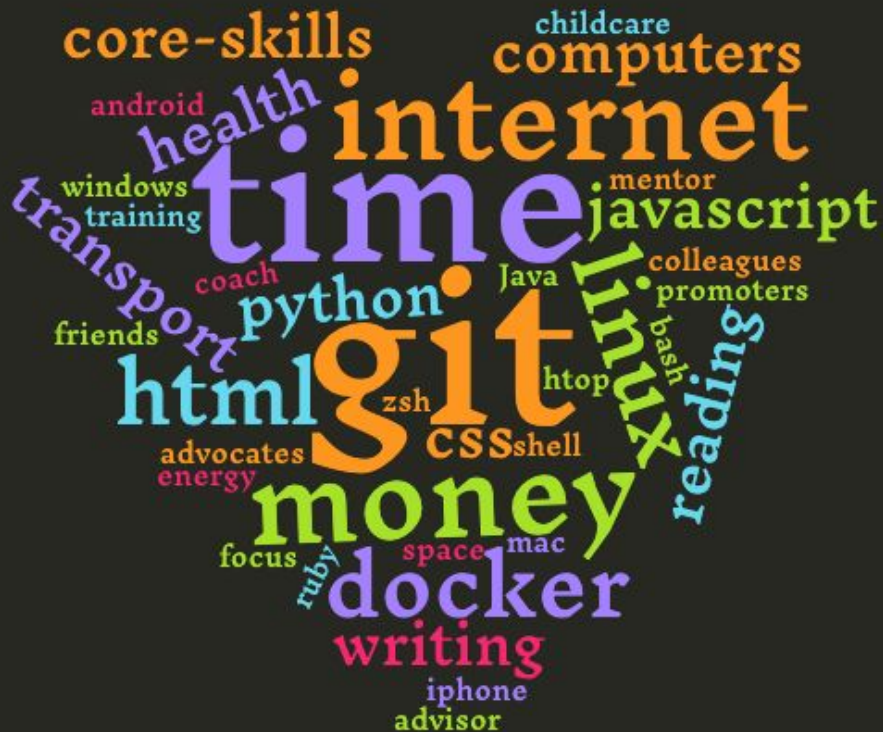
(Seasoned) What is it about your work that makes it worth doing? Whose work do you admire or emulate?

What scares you? How likely is it that you would face that?

Mind Maps



Resources



Projects

Do Discovery!

Technology vs Mission

Structured vs Loose

Control vs Contribution

Python vs EVERYTHING ELSE

Learn to use OOP principles

First Dataplot

Build Tooling for
Refugee Support

Contribute to OSS; one
commit on master!

Build a Command Line Game

Pandas Tutorial

Contribute to PyGame or
PPB

Build and deploy ML
model to website

Build an interactive
game

Build first website from
ground up

Write first Loop

Increase expertise to update
docs on Numpy

Build first website from
ground up

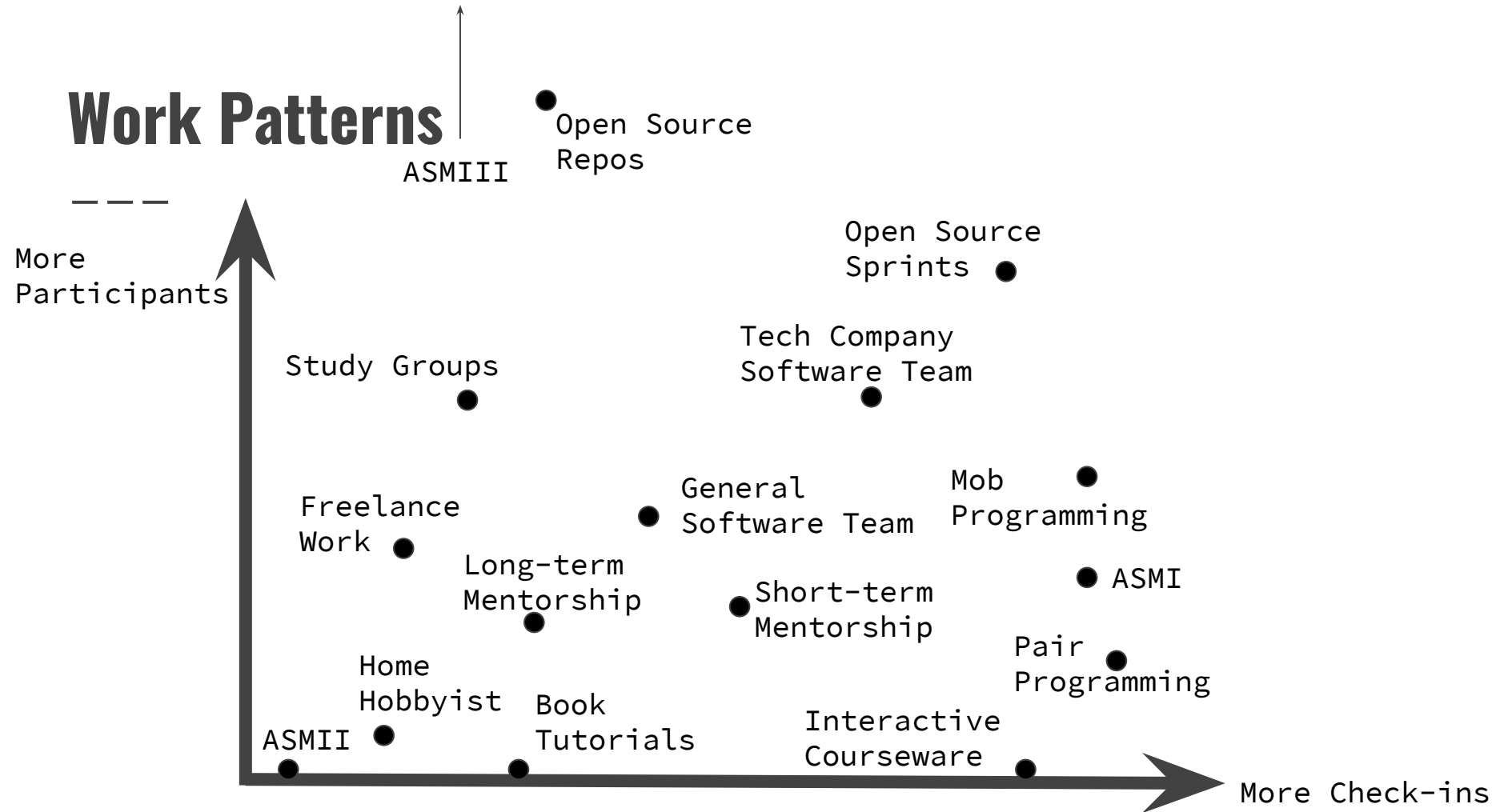
Self-driving car

Au

Turn on lights in my
apartment

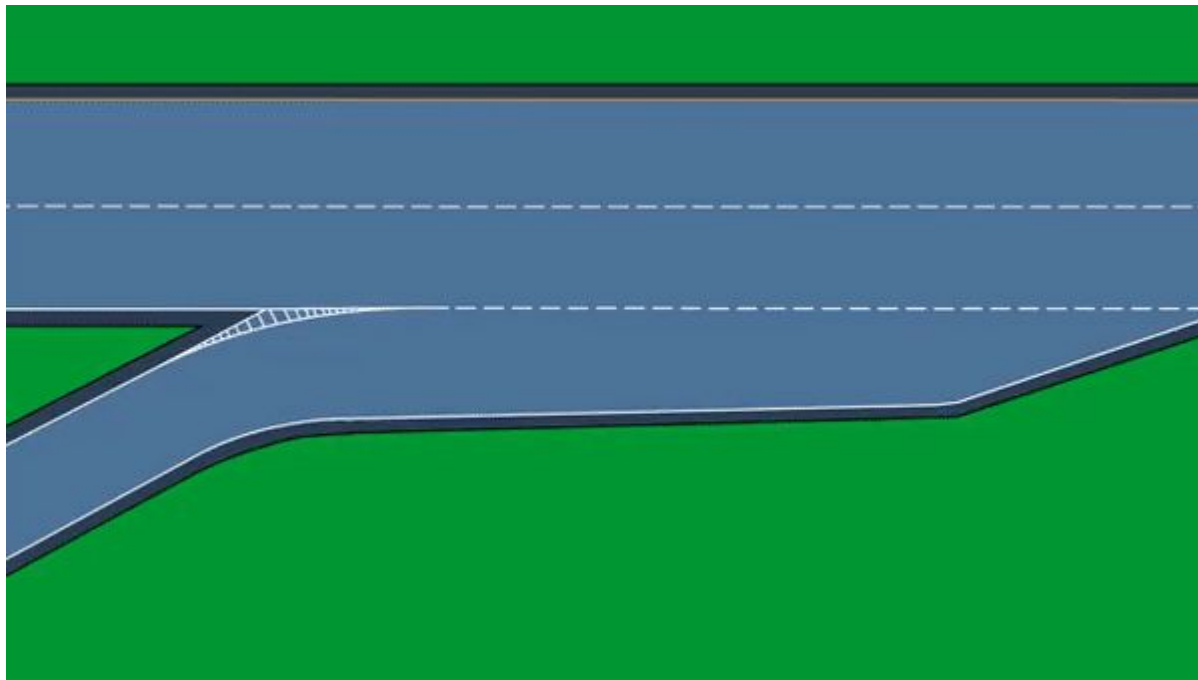
Master git for my python
project

Work Patterns



Hardest Part of Driving

— — —



Milestones

What can we celebrate?

Concrete deliverables at every step

Think smallest unit of valuable work

Think like commits:

Single purpose. Atomic. Statement.



Get 5 commits on
personal repository

Write a module wraps
complex graphing
concept in seaborn

Successfully implement a
generator

Take a $O(n^3)$ algorithm
and make it $O(n)$

Working with a Mentor

Find one. Be One.

Work out schedule / expectations

Work harder; seek out feedback

Low expectations;
high (shared) standards

Expect change



Ask mentor to explain
dictionary comprehensions

Ask mentor to pair on cleaning
data to learn their approaches

Talk about career goals and
what is achievable in 1,2,5yr

Easy Right?



Volunteers?

— — —



Where are you going?

— — —

Desires + Motivations

Projects

Resources

Work Patterns

Milestones

Working with a Mentor

Thank You

— — —



My only truly good idea: Create a `Joy` Label in your inbox and flag every email that makes you smile. Someday you'll need it.

Bail out

