Workshop: Choosing, designing and executing a dissertation research project

MSc/MRes CMEE 2015-16

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Imperial College
London

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IDEA

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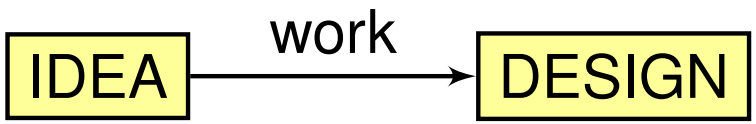

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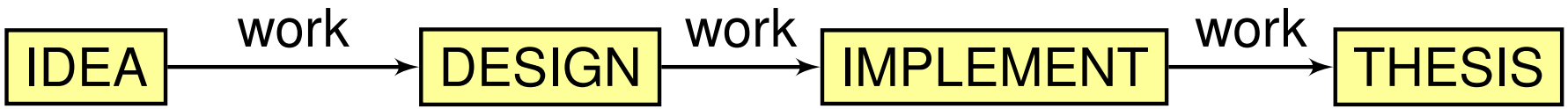

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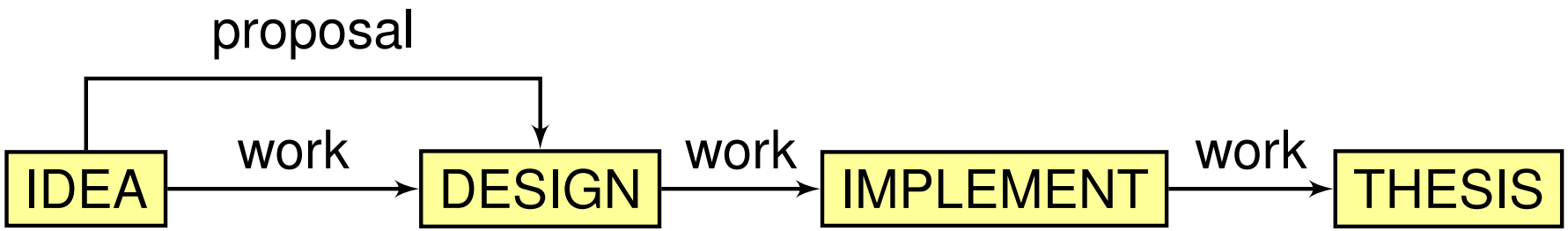

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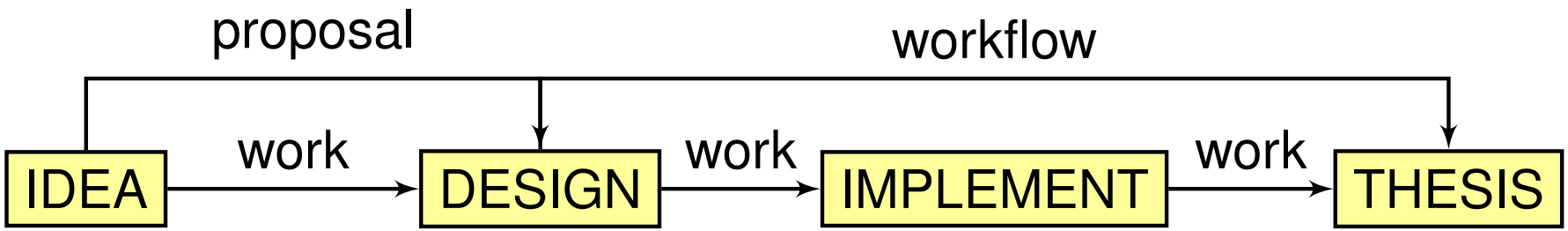

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— Name you paper please – you have 140 characters!

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- What's your view?

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- What's your view?
- And my view is...

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- Supervisor interests: `http://goo.gl/okOvZS` (but you can look elsewhere!)
- Advertised projects: `http://goo.gl/awH7Vf` (but you can look elsewhere!)
- You must have an internal (Imperial College) supervisor (*Why?*)

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- Get feedback from supervisor

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A Gantt chart example

Tasks	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
Objective 1 (Ecoinformatics)					
Initial database development, including literature data compilation					
Database management, augmentation and interface development					
Thermal response model fitting + results write up					
Objective 2 (Interaction Mechanics)					
Development of movement and interaction theory					
Empirical parameterization and computer simulations of theory					
Refinement of theory + results write up					
Objective 3 (Community assembly)					
Development of consumer-resource models					
Parameterization and analysis of assembly dynamics					
Calibration of theory for specific scenarios/data + results write up					

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- Revisit your Gantt chart

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- Explicit is better than implicit.
- Simple is better than complex.
- Complex is better than complicated.
- Readability counts.
- Special cases aren't special enough to break the rules.
- Although practicality beats purity.
- Errors should never pass silently.
- In the face of ambiguity, refuse the temptation to guess.
- There should be one– and preferably only one –obvious way to do it.
- If the implementation is hard to explain, it's a bad idea.

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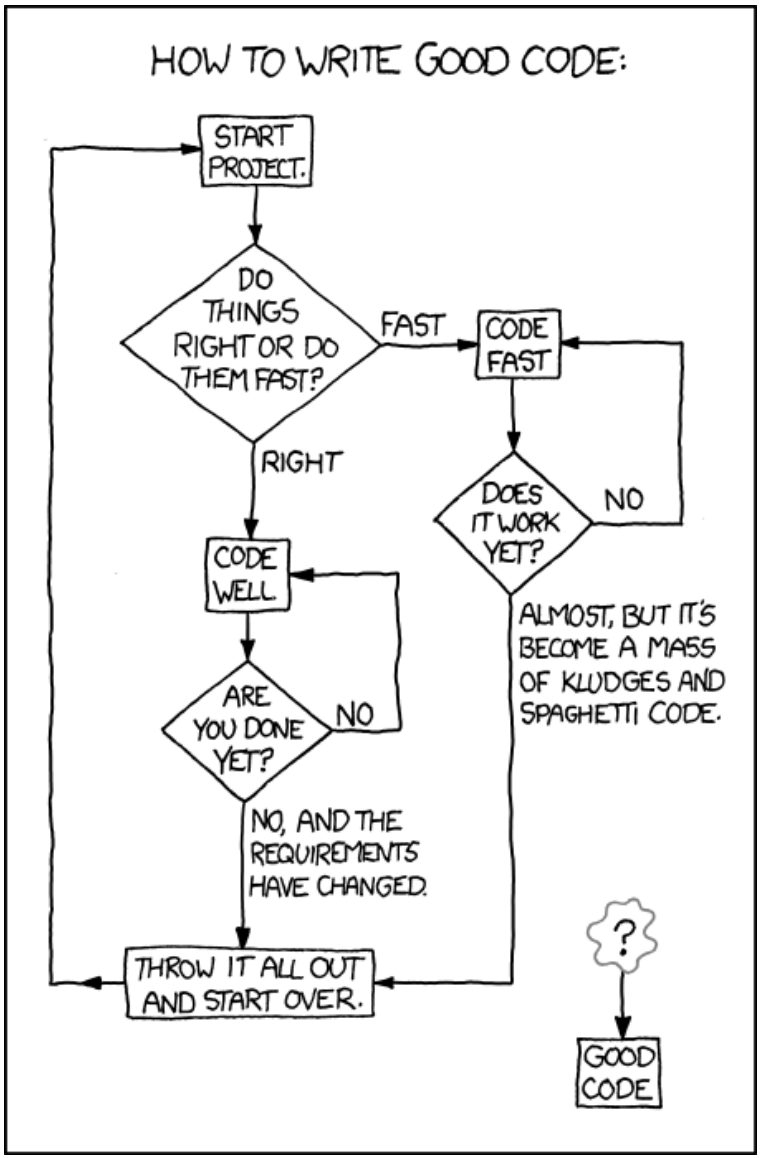

http://xkcd.com/

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- Get feedback from others – give presentations!