File 20090602.2307: The size of this thing is beginning to make itself understood. I may have oversized the scope. I am re-planning around a new high-priority task (actually four of them) that just became apparent: I need four peer-reviewed papers in the next 13 months. That's do-able, but I need to identify the conferences:

- 1. Paper  $\mathbb{N}$  1 (1st September 2009): motivation and plan to solve the problem. Question: do I need to clearly state my thesis in this first paper? I think Crosstalk is an ideal place to publish it. Task: start writing the paper immediately, so as to get it into the review queue. Immediate task: look at past papers in the same journal for style and length ideas.
- 2. Paper № 2 (1st December 2009): thesis and plan?
- 3. Paper № 3 (1st March 2010): results 1: case studies
- 4. Paper № 4 (1st June 2010): results 2: tool and validation

This will give me four published papers (the fourth may still be in review) at the time I need to file for Confirmation of Status in mid-June 2010. My confirmation of status report can be brief and cite these four published papers. Writing up will be scheduled to take six months starting 1st July 2010, for submission on 31st December 2010.

Dates: I matriculated in Michaelmas, October 2007. The end of six terms is June 2009. The end of ninth term is June 2010, and confirmation of status *must* occur by mid-June 2010.

## References