

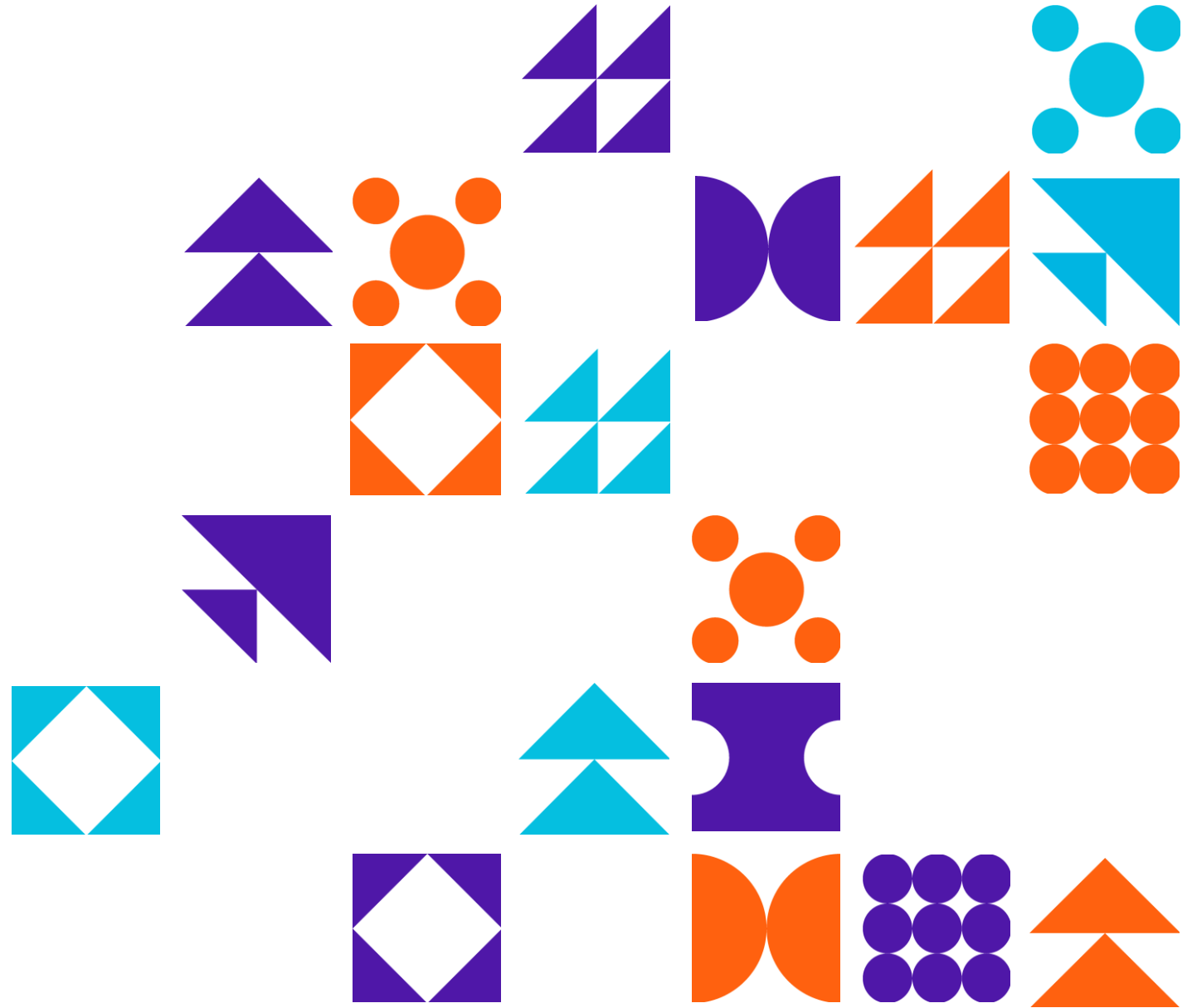
YOUR CAREER IS A JOURNEY

Career Tips for Aspiring, New, and
Accidental Project Managers

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24 FEBRUARY 2024



The illiterate of the 21st century will not be those who cannot read and write but those who cannot learn, unlearn, and relearn.

- Alvin Toffler

AGENDA



An introduction: Why you need to make your career a journey



10 tips to help you on your journey



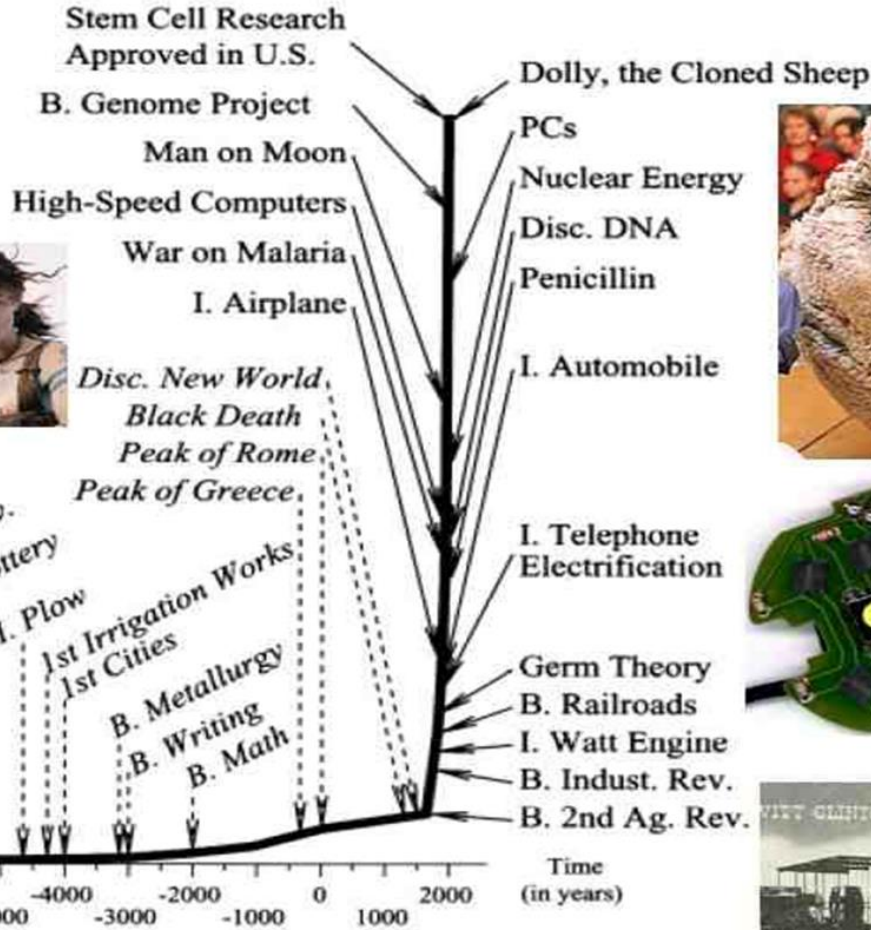
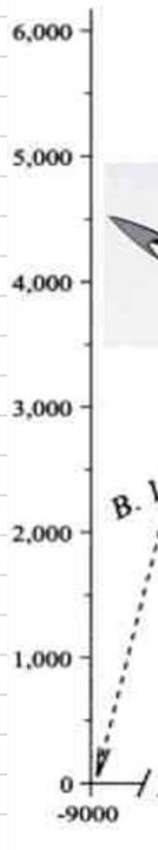
Closing thoughts – Q&A

THE GROWTH OF HUMAN KNOWLEDGE

Year	Knowledge Units	
1	1	
1500	2	
1750	4	Every 50
1900	8	years
1950	16	Every 25
1975	32	years
2000	64	Every
2001	128	year
2002	256	
2003	512	
2004	1,024	
2005	2,048	
2006	4,096	
2007	8,192	
2008	16,384	
2009	32,768	
2010	65,536	
2011	131,072	
2012	262,144	
2013	524,288	
2014	1,048,576	
2015	3.94E+115	Knowledge Doubles Daily
2016	1.48E+225	

After 2016, the numbers are too large to represent in Excel

Population
(in millions)



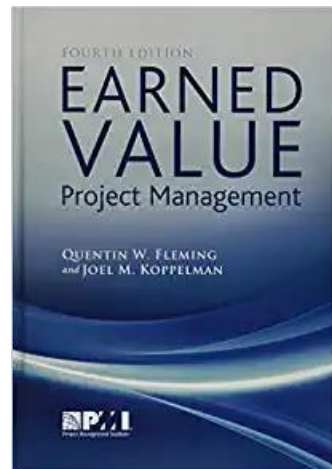
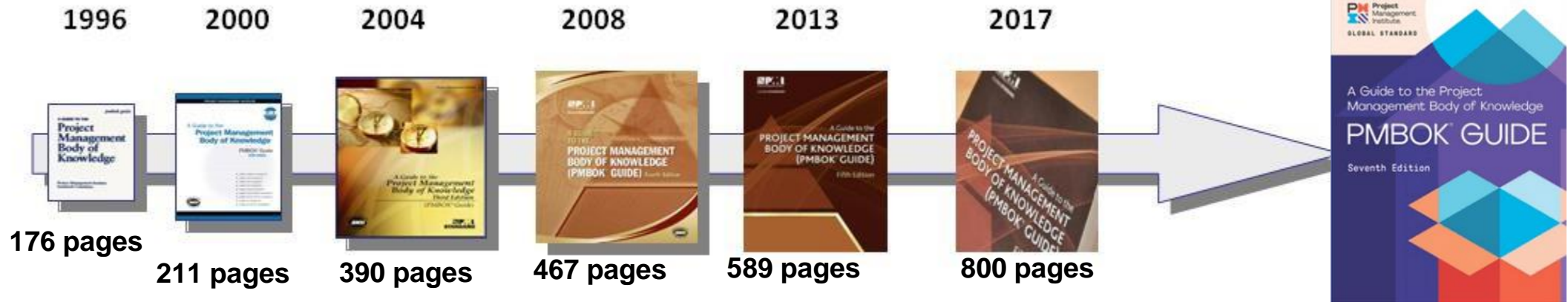
Robert Fogel - *The Escape from Hunger and Premature Death, 1700-2100*

Everything is accelerating at an astonishing speed!

PM KNOWLEDGE GROWTH

August 2021

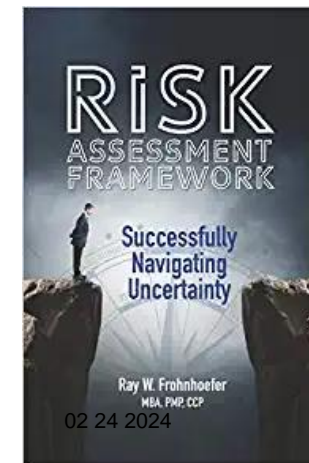
1983
White Paper
~50 pages



230 pages
Vs
9 pages



304 pages
Vs
40 pages



221 pages
Vs
63 pages

A PROBLEM: STAGNANT OR REDUCED EDUCATION, TRAINING, AND EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENTS

PMP requirements have been 35 hours, 3 to 5 years experience for 20+ years

PMP exam prep courses have been at 35 hours for 20+ years

PDU requirements have been 60 for 20+ years

Most “Fundamentals” courses are still one term

Certificate programs are reducing in hours and number of terms

How do you fit 4x-10x the knowledge in the same period??

A PROBLEM: THE CURVE OF FORGETFULNESS

*I see and I forget.
I hear and I remember.
I do and I understand.*
— Confucius



Information tends to be forgotten over time if there are no attempts at retention.

A PROBLEM: DISCONNECT IN MARKET WANTS AND NEEDS



Learners want:

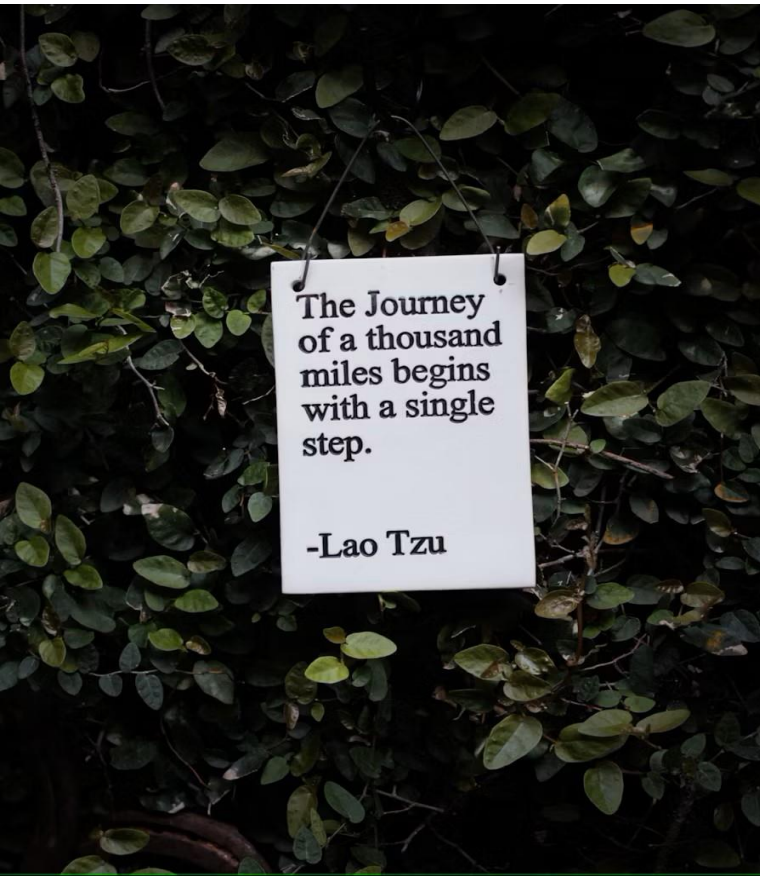
10-minute videos
Faster, shorter classes
Faster paths to certificates
Spoon feeding – no open-ended questions



Learners need:

Repetition
Deliberate practice
Opportunities to enhance retention
More training and continuous learning

TIP #1: PLAN YOUR JOURNEY



- Project management takes knowledge and skill
- Project management comes in many forms
 - Predictive
 - Agile
 - Hybrid
- Map out reasonable goals and objectives
 - Industry
 - Project types

TIP #2: FIND A MENTOR

- Understand the value of mentors
- Find the right mentor
 - Your manager
 - PMI Chapter mentors
 - Online platforms



TIP #3: PROVE THE VALUE OF YOUR CERTIFICATION

- PMP ≠ immediate career advancement
- Cramming ≠ retention
- Will your performance reflect your cert?

TIP #4: BE A CONTINUOUS LEARNER

- Include learning goals in your career map
- Follow up with assignments that apply learning
- Rinse and repeat!



TIP #5: DON'T SABOTAGE YOUR CAREER EARLY



- Practitioners make critical decisions
 - Methods
 - Work assignments
 - How work is done
- With each project
 - Build skills
 - Learn from the journey
 - Take the next step when you are ready

TIP #6: PREPARE BY LEARNING MULTIPLE METHODS

- Predictive, Agile, Hybrid
- Many forms of each
- Be sure the method matches requirements



TIP #7: BE PREPARED TO REPROVE YOURSELF



- “The reward for work well done is more work.”
- One success does not make a best practice.

TIP #8: BE A PROBLEM SOLVER

- Projects rarely go as planned
- Snap decisions
 - Waste time
 - Rarely lead to + outcomes
 - Put you in firefighting mode
- Identify multiple solutions, weigh and choose the best



TIP #9: BECOME A SERVANT LEADER



- There are many leadership styles – servant leadership is one of the best
- Remove roadblocks for your team

TIP #10: KEEP YOURSELF ORGANIZED

- Model desired behaviors
 - Email management
 - Time management
 - Prioritization



THINGS TO DO ALONG THE WAY

- Adjust your journey's map as needed
- Advocate organization-wide PMI membership
- Encourage others to get their certification in a responsible way
- Advocate adoption of project management best-practices
- Assess your organization's PM maturity, formally or informally
- Build a business case for a PMO

CONCLUDING THOUGHT

Project management is a great career path with much room for upward advancement (e.g. Program Manager, CPO). Your skills and experience are transferable across industries and positions. By following these tips, you'll be ready to spruce up your resume, get your first/next project management job, and earn promotions. Yes, it will take time to learn and increase your experience, but as a project manager, you can enjoy a very bright professional future.

ABOUT RAY

CEO/Managing Partner, PPC Group, LLC

35+ Years Project Manager

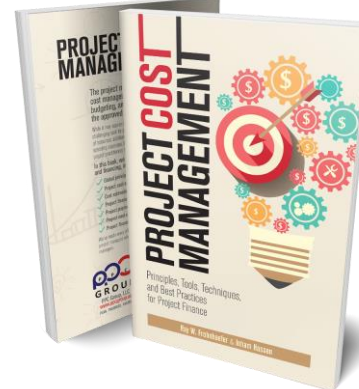
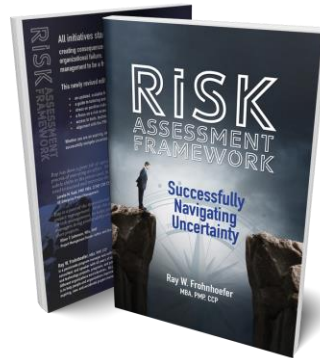
20+ Years Instructor/Trainer/Course Developer

MBA (Technology Mgmt), PMP (2000), CCP (1980s)

PMI Leadership Institute Masters Class (2010)

Learn more at <https://linkedin.com/in/rayf123>

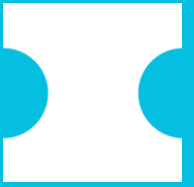
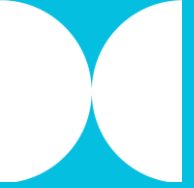
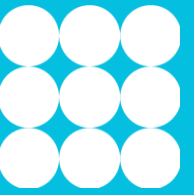
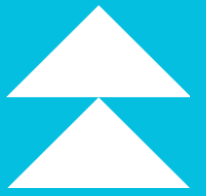
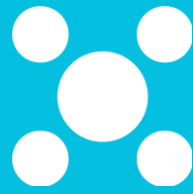
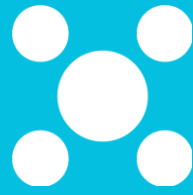
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THANK YOU

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