

**Status report 3:**

**What was done?**

- Finished planning and design documentation
- Manually went through the compression process on paper several times to ensure I understood how Huffman coding works
- Figured out how to store a representation of the Huffman tree in the binary file
- Began experimenting with the implementation of command line arguments through simple test program (command line arguments are easy!)
- Began writing a set of functions to create, display, and merge Huffman trees

**What got in the way?**

- I initially misunderstood the priority of merging the trees together, and so on paper I created trees that resulted in inflated data, rather than compressed data
- Following through the process on paper took a lot of time, finally getting how it worked was a large feat (and an unfortunate waste of paper)

**What is planned for the following week?**

- Continue working on Huffman tree functions
- Work on parsing files for character frequencies
- Build a Huffman tree from the character frequencies