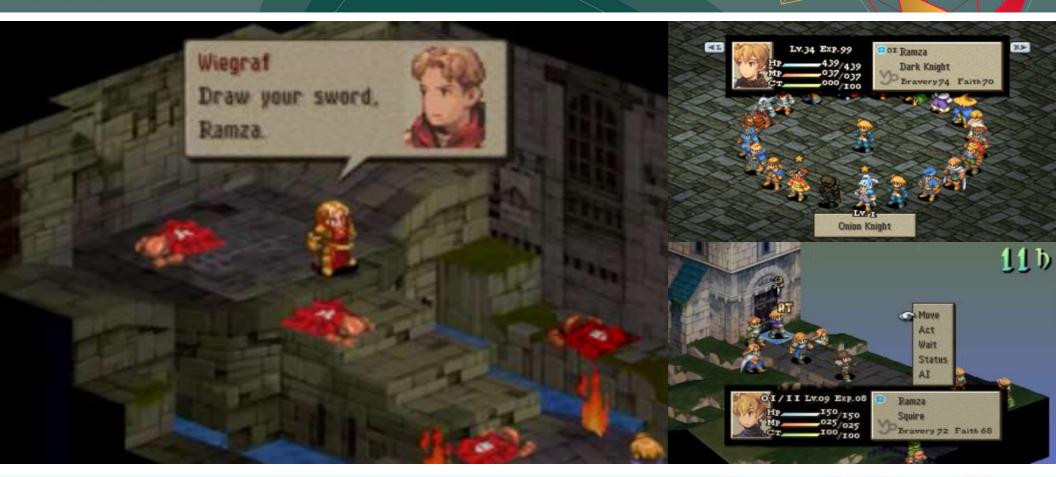
GDC

# Indie Soapbox

Justin Ma Co-founder Subset Games

GAME DEVELOPERS CONFERENCE<sup>®</sup> | MARCH 19-23, 2018 | EXPO: MARCH 21-23, 2018 #GDC18



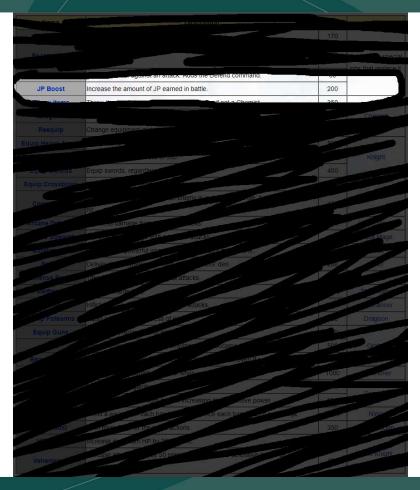














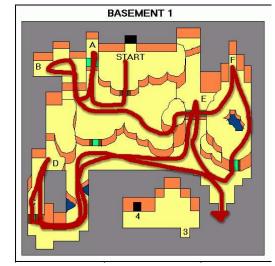


#### JP Boost (or "Gained JP UP")

- Increases Job Experience gained by 50%
- Saves time leveling
- Feel no choice but to use
- Evil

and a second			
		inhs that ren	
	an attack. Auds the Delend command.	00	
JP Boost	Increase the amount of JP earned in battle.	200	
The Home	Theory in the second seco	250	
		Citawa	
Reequip	Change equipment multi		
in Heavy		and the second se	





# **Other Gaming Neuroses**

#### Fear of Missing Out

#### Completionist-ism



# Speedrunning ??

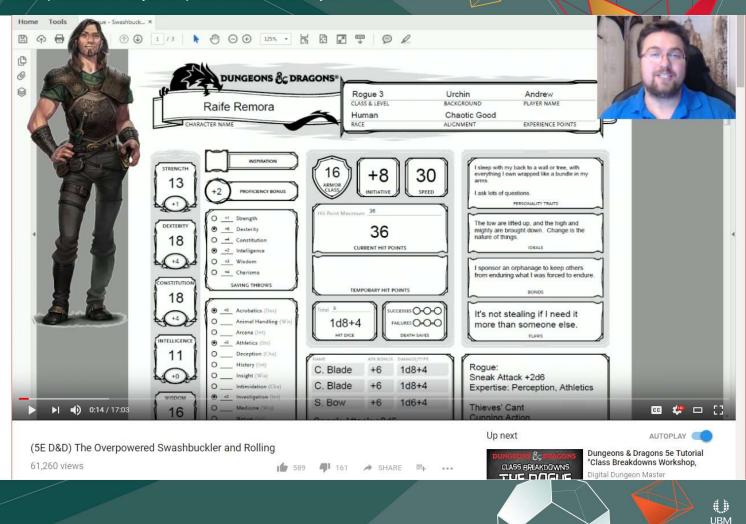




#### Real "Min-Maxing"

Min-Maxing is the characterbuilding strategy of maximizing a specific desirable ability, skill, or other power of a character and minimizing everything else, seen as undesirable.

- the internet



#### <u>"Min-Maxing Curse"</u>

#### The compulsion to play most optimally... even at the expense of having fun

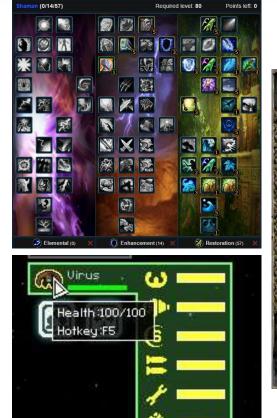
Equipment	= ×.		The weather the weather the affect the the the the the affect the
A +4 Bunny Ban     d Kaho	Angel Wing E ars of Gem +4 Holy Robe	LV17 LV18 Str increased by 1. Mag increased by 1.	You have ascended to level 2 You realize that all your life you have been coasting along as if you were in a dream. Suddenly, facing the trials of the last few days, you have come alive. Choose 3 Attributes to Increase
*terous Rod +5 Deviant Mu ffler Supreme Glo ve	m Hell +5 Bearer's S & hoes Supreme Glo	Lissa Skill increased by 1. Spd increased by 1. Lck increased by 1. Lissa	Strength     55 *5       Intelligence     50 *3       Willpower     50 *2
Status	Show Equip	War Cleric Lv. 18	Agility 30 +2
STR 1 +28 2	TK 76+0 DEF 42+81	Str 17	Speed 30 +2 Luck has an effect on everything you do, but governs no skills.
	MATK342 + 577 MDEF 25 + 102		Gndurance 50 +5
2.03/C	HT 251 FLEE 108+1	Lck 37	Personality 40 +3
	TRITICAL 1 ASPD 150 TATUS POINTS 0	Def 14 Res 20	I Luck 56 R Exit
LUK 1 +2 2 0	ນແລ Tengoku	and the second second second second	The set of the set

# **Concessions**

Sometimes it's necessary

Sometimes it's fun

Sometimes you don't care



Mig	A	ASSASSIN			
Level 91			Next Level 1,923,762,030		
Strength	Strength 196 [106]			1-8017	
Dexterity	226 [180]	No. Carlo			
MF: 164% EG: 196%		Defense		z 10 5	
Vitality	317 [240]	s ta mi na	678	678	
335 355	h.	Life	1297	1297	
Energy	60 [26]	Mana	798	798	
REP : 30 FCR : 73% FHR : 80% FR W: 60% IAS : 0%		DR : 12% PL 67 Resistance		R: 0 67	
		Cold Cold Resistance 102 Lightning Resistance		76 86	
CB : ⊕W :	0% 0	76 Poison Resistance		76	



# 1 - Fun VS Time When being time efficient is less fun





## Defining the Problem

# 1 – Fun VS Time

# Positive 2 – Feedback Loops



When you scale faster than the game expects

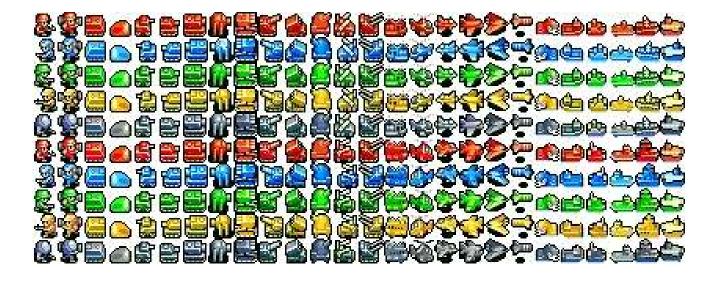






### Defining the Problem

- 1 Fun VS Time Positive
- 2 Feedback Loops



3 – **Optimal Strategy** Why risk learning when one thing works





# Defining the Problem

1 – Fun VS Time
Positive
2 – Feedback
Loops

# k

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**@** 

3 – **Optimal Strategy** Why risk learning when one thing works





#### <u>SUMMARY</u>

#### If the benefit is obvious I feel "forced" to optimize

#### EVEN if it means I have less fun!

#### (help me)







## Tips to Avoid Min-Maxing Traps

1. Try to avoid "increases resources gained" mechanics

- 2. Try to prevent there being an **'optimal' playstyle**
- 3. Don't force the player to **choose between fun and time efficiency**











# Don't Feed the Min-Maxer



#### Thanks!

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