Amelia Edmondson-Stait

📍 Edinburgh, UK | ✉ amelia1024k@gmail.com | 🔗 ameliaes | 🔗 ameliaes | 🌐 ameliaes.github.io

Post-doctoral researcher transitioning into software development and testing. Building an R Shiny app during my PhD sparked my interest in software development. Deepened this interest in a software development bootcamp. Excited to bring problem-solving, collaboration and technical skills to a software development career.

Education

CodeSpace Software Development Bootcamp | Edinburgh College
Feb - Apr 2025

- Built a **full-stack** eCommerce website with PHP, SQL, JavaScript, HTML, CSS with Cypress e2e testing.
- Proactively added password hashing and test user management features.
- Initiated task management on **Jira** and organised team meetings for a **group presentation** project.

PhD, Translational Neuroscience | University of Edinburgh
2019 - 2024

- **Quickly learnt new technologies** to develop neuroimaging processing pipelines during a fast-paced project.
- **Took opportunities to learn new programming skills**, eg. SQL and R Shiny app development.
- Set up and **lead a coding club** for our department, fostering collaboration and skill-sharing.

First Class Honours, BSc Neuroscience (with Placement Year) | Cardiff University
2012 - 2016

Experience

Post-doctoral Researcher | University of Edinburgh
July 2024 – Present

- Created genetic analysis scripts for depression research whilst **learning a new language** (nextflow).
- **Work collaboratively on GitHub** with another colleague, using **pull requests** to review each other's code.
- Developing an R package for colleagues to create supplementary tables to reduce time-consuming tasks.
- Continue to lead coding club and **host code review clinics** in my department.

App developer (R Shiny) | University of Edinburgh
Feb - Sep 2023

- Developed an application to facilitate statistical modelling for users without specialist backgrounds.
- **Led task and project management** with **Kanban** board in a 3-person team.
- **Exceeded client expectations** by delivering a prototype beyond minimum requirements, resulting in additional funding for me to develop the app further during a 6-month secondment to my PhD.
- Documented bugs and user-feedback clearly and concisely with sufficient detail with **GitHub issues**.

Research Assistant | University of Cambridge
2016 – 2019

- Reconstructed neurons in a scanned fruit fly brain to create a map of connections; **analysed the data in R**.

- **Large collaboration** with HHMI (USA) and University of Oxford, resulted in authorship of a publication.

- **Trained six new colleagues** in the use of the neuron reconstruction software.

Projects

- **Python Flask** app converts speech to text using OpenAI Whisper <GitHub/>
- Spotify Streaming History Dashboard (**Python Dash**) <GitHub/>
- E-Commerce Website (**PHP, SQL, JavaScript, end-to-end testing (Cypress), Apache, XAMMP**) <GitHub/>
- **JavaScript** Calculator (**automated testing** with GitHub actions and Cypress) <GitHub/>
- **Raspberry Pi** & **Python** Bus Tracker – displays next local bus time to LCD screen <GitHub/>

Presentations & Public Outreach

- Co-created and presented **webinar on git and GitHub** for **The Data Lab** Scotland Community (Apr 2025).

- **Delivered "Code Review in Academia" workshop** to University-wide audience (March 2025) and invited to deliver it again to a new student group (May 2025).

- **Delivered two workshops** to showcase R Shiny app & received positive feedback from users (2023).

- Created a **digital story** to communicate my PhD research to the public, displayed at science festivals (2020).

- Helped run stalls engaging public in research at science festivals (Edinburgh, 2019 & Cambridge, 2017).

Awards

- **Secured external funding** to deliver three workshops on code review (Improving Research Community Builder Award; Oct 2024).

- **Co-investigator** for Wellcome Trust Mental Health Data Prize (R Shiny application; 2023)

- Finalist for the University of Edinburgh's **Good Research Practice Awards** for coding club (Nov 2022).

- Wellcome Trust Translational Neuroscience **PhD Stipend** (2019-2024)