

Data Visualisation[©]

Dr Diarmuid McDonnell & Prof.
Vernon Gayle

AQMEN

University of Edinburgh

March 2019

© Diarmuid McDonnell, Vernon Gayle



The Hackathon

What is a Hackathon?

- Hacking is creative problem solving.
- A hackathon is any event of any duration where people come together to solve problems. [<https://hackathon.guide/>]

It is NOT breaking into government databases or your colleague's Facebook account.

It is NOT a competition against other people in the workshop; some Hackathons are run as competitions but not this one.

Why are we doing it today?

- Chance to work with and learn from your fellow participants.
- Opportunity to test your newly acquired skills on an interesting and challenging task.
- Dedicated blocks of data visualisation practice that you otherwise would probably struggle to carve out time for in a typical week.
- Draw on the expertise of the tutors (but not too much – it is a challenge after all).

How does it work?

- Read the brief in the 'hackathon' folder on the workshop Github repository.
- Tackle the brief using the two blocks of time provided.
- If stuck ask the tutors for assistance. However, this is not an assignment and there isn't an official solution, so use that freedom to make mistakes and to try out different data visualisation approaches.
- Report on your progress and experience of tackling the data visualisation brief.