



NRELABS.IO

# Learning Automation Without Barriers

with NRE Labs



# Agenda



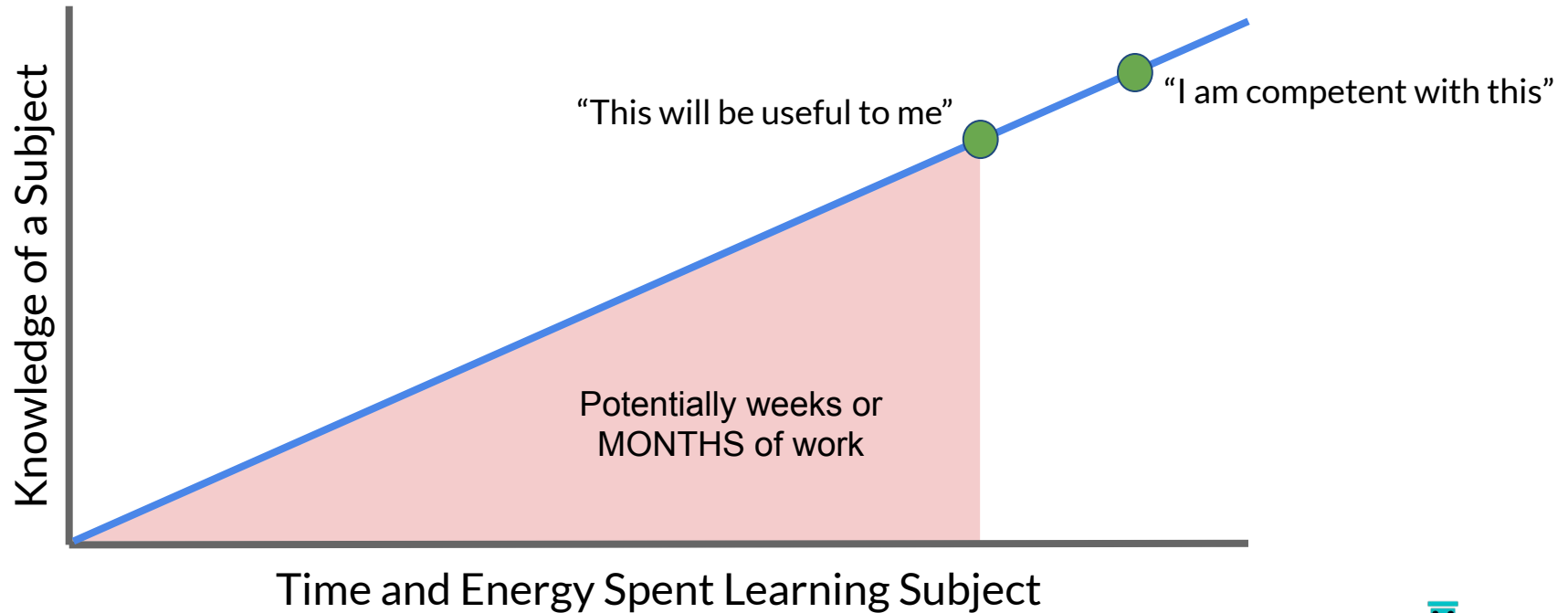
1. The Automation Adoption Problem
2. What is NRE Labs?
3. How NRE Labs Can Help You
4. Contributing to NRE Labs

With automation, you have to be an expert before you are allowed to be a beginner

(this is a problem)



# Time Investment Minimum (TIM) - HIGH

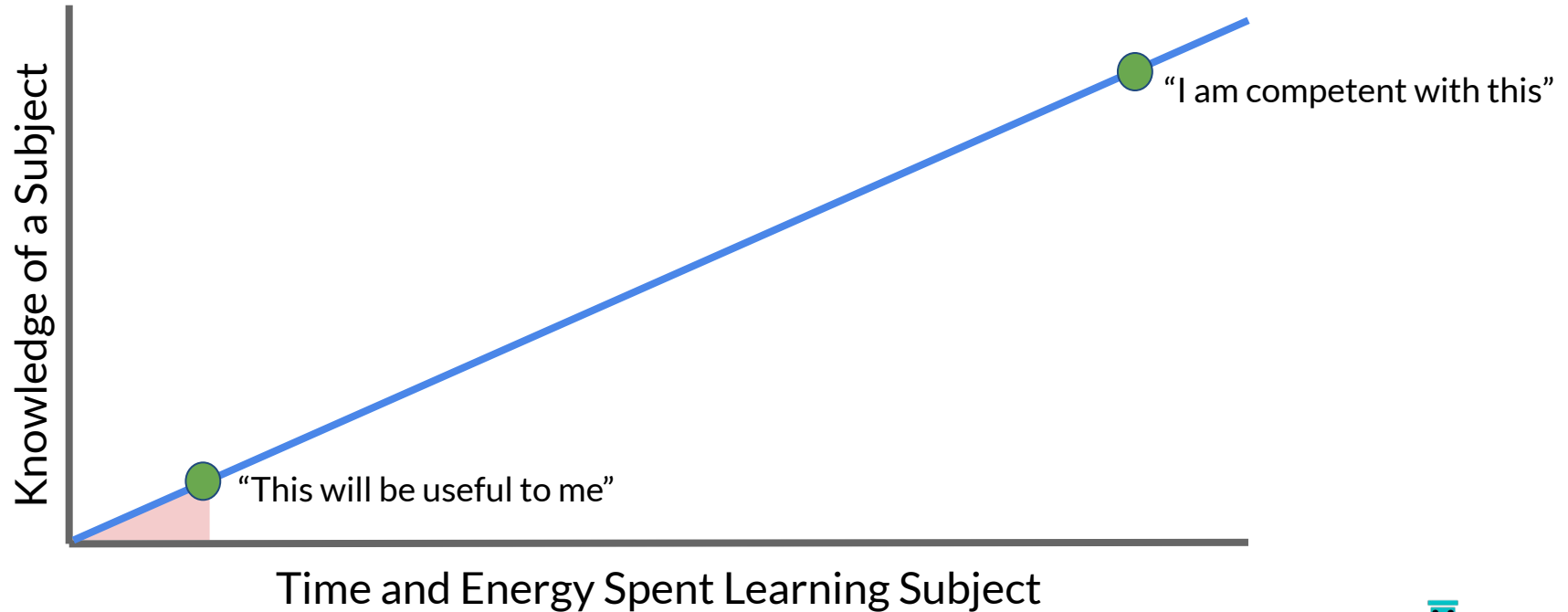




82%

of data center NetOps are  
still manual

# Time Investment Minimum (TIM) - LOW





Community platform for learning and teaching automation and Network Reliability Engineering



- Totally browser-based
- Internet-accessible
- Free - no login, paywall or creepy trackers
- Vendor-neutral
- Open Source (curriculum too!)





To remove traditional barriers to learning new, advanced skill sets, and meaningfully enhance and edify infrastructure professionals around the world

# Interactive, Browser-Based, On-Demand.



NRE  
LABS

## Introduction to REST APIs

### Part 1 - Your First API Request

Author: [Matt Oswalt](#)

[Edit Lesson on Github](#)

With all of the hubbub about automation and programmability, one thing you've probably heard a lot about is APIs, or "Application Programming Interfaces". However, if you don't have any experience with these, it may not be immediately obvious why these are important and why you as a network engineer should learn about them.



In much the same way that the CLI was built for humans to consume, an API is intended to be consumed by software.

In the modern data center alone, there are a virtually unlimited number of interactions taking place between the various IT systems, such as sharing information, updating databases, performing configurations, and more.

These are all happening without **direct** human intervention - *but*, in order to get there, a human had to write that software. And this is why automation doesn't mean humans are out of a job; it just means their job shifts a bit, as they

linux1-cli linux1-cli2 vqfx1-cli vqfx1-explorer

```
Welcome to NRE Labs!  
* Docs - https://docs.nrelabs.io/  
antidote@linux1:~$ python /antidote/server.py  
* Serving Flask app "server" (lazy loading)  
* Environment: production  
  WARNING: This is a development server. Do not use it in a production deployment.  
  Use a production WSGI server instead.  
* Debug mode: on  
* Running on http://0.0.0.0:5000/ (Press CTRL+C to quit)  
* Restarting with stat  
* Debugger is active!  
* Debugger PIN: 250-770-791  
192.168.184.37 - - [21/Apr/2020 21:19:03] "GET /api/v1/switches/all HTTP/1.1" 200 -  
192.168.184.37 - - [21/Apr/2020 21:19:07] "GET /api/v1/switches/all HTTP/1.1" 200 -  
192.168.184.37 - - [21/Apr/2020 21:19:08] "GET /api/v1/switches?name=sw01 HTTP/1.1" 200 -  
  
[]
```

Exit Lesson


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# Focus on the Topic




NRE LABS

Waiting for lesson to finish initializing...



Sweeping technical debt under the rug...



Configuring endpoints for this lesson...

# A Diverse and Growing Curriculum



## Lesson Catalog

Already know what lesson you're looking for? That's awesome - all lessons are linked below.

If you're looking for [collections](#), check out our list of vendors, consultants and community contributors.

Search

Category



Tags



### Unsure where to start?

Use our self-evaluation tool to design your personalized educational journey.

Find my path

| Lesson  | Description   | Tags   |
|---|---|--|
| <a href="#">Ansible for Network Automation</a>              | In this lesson, we'll explore the use of Ansible for multi-vendor network automation  | <a href="#">ansible</a> <a href="#">automation</a><br><a href="#">configuration</a>  |
| <a href="#">Junos Automation with PyEZ</a>                  | PyEZ is a powerful Python library for interacting with Junos devices. In this lesson, we'll explore the use of this library to collect and parse information from our Junos-based network, as well as perform configuration management tasks. | <a href="#">pyez</a> <a href="#">python</a> <a href="#">junos</a><br><a href="#">library</a>                                 |
| <a href="#">Introduction to BASH</a>                        | In production UNIX systems, BASH is the most common UNIX shell. In this lesson, you'll learn how to write simple, but functional, BASH scripts.   | <a href="#">BASH</a> <a href="#">scripting</a> <a href="#">linux</a>   |
| <a href="#">Multi-Vendor Network Automation with NAPALM</a> | Each vendor has their own APIs for interacting with network devices. In this lesson, you'll learn about a Python library that abstracts all these, and allows you to do basic multivendor network automation.                                 | <a href="#">multi-vendor</a> <a href="#">multivendor</a><br><a href="#">automation</a><br><a href="#">network automation</a> |

# Junos On Your Phone!



The screenshot shows a mobile browser interface. At the top, the address bar displays 'go.nrelabs.io/labs/?lessonId=' followed by a tab indicator '23'. Below the address bar is the 'NRE LABS' logo and a red 'Exit Lesson' button. A navigation bar contains three tabs: 'Guide', 'linux', and 'vqfx', with 'vqfx' being the active tab. The main content area is a dark-themed terminal window displaying the following text:

```
condigshowcondig

{master:0}
antidote@vqfx> ...ocols bgp
group PEERS {
  type external;
  neighbor 10.31.0.13 {
    peer-as 64003;
  }
  neighbor 10.12.0.12 {
    peer-as 64002;
  }
}

{master:0}
antidote@vqfx> 
```

Below the terminal window is a standard mobile keyboard with a numeric row (1-0), letters (q-w-e-r-t-y-u-i-o-p), a second row of letters (a-s-d-f-g-h-j-k-l), a third row (home-z-x-c-v-b-n-m-backspace), and a bottom row with symbols (?123, comma, smiley, spacebar, and a blue back arrow button).

# Pre-defined Topologies



NRE LABS

Diagram

## Network Unit Testing w

### Part 1 - No BGP config - Tests

Author: [Matt Oswalt](#)

[Edit Lesson on Github](#)

In this lesson, we're going to talk about running

Being able to describe what we expect "normal

troubleshooting, or when making changes. It

network is supposed to look like on a normal

First, let's take a peek at our network configur

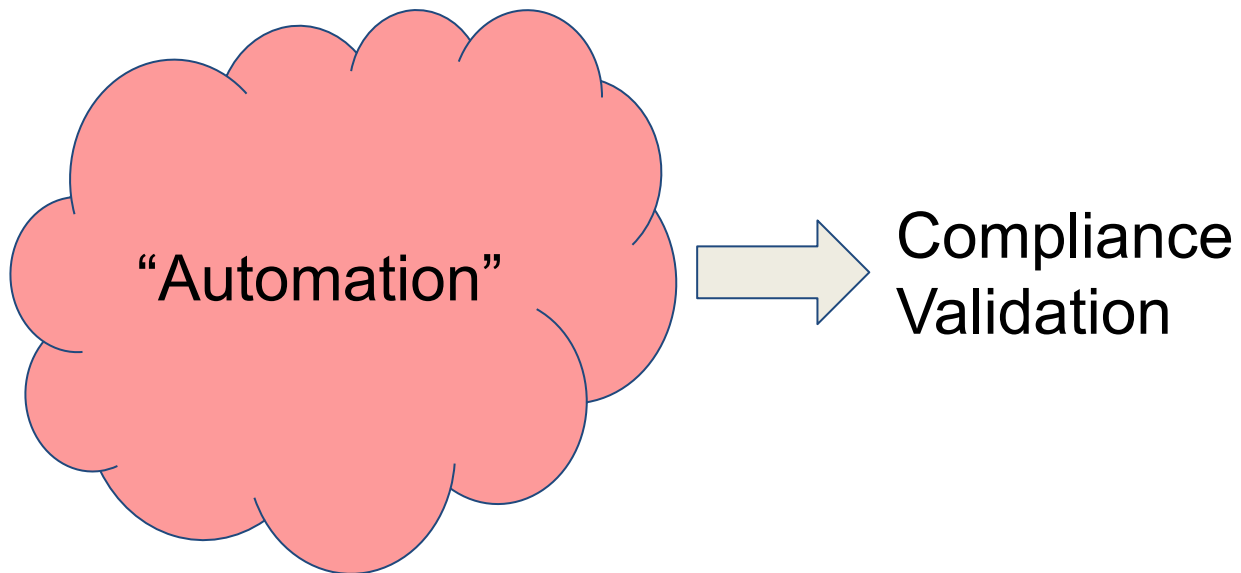
configured:

Run this snippet

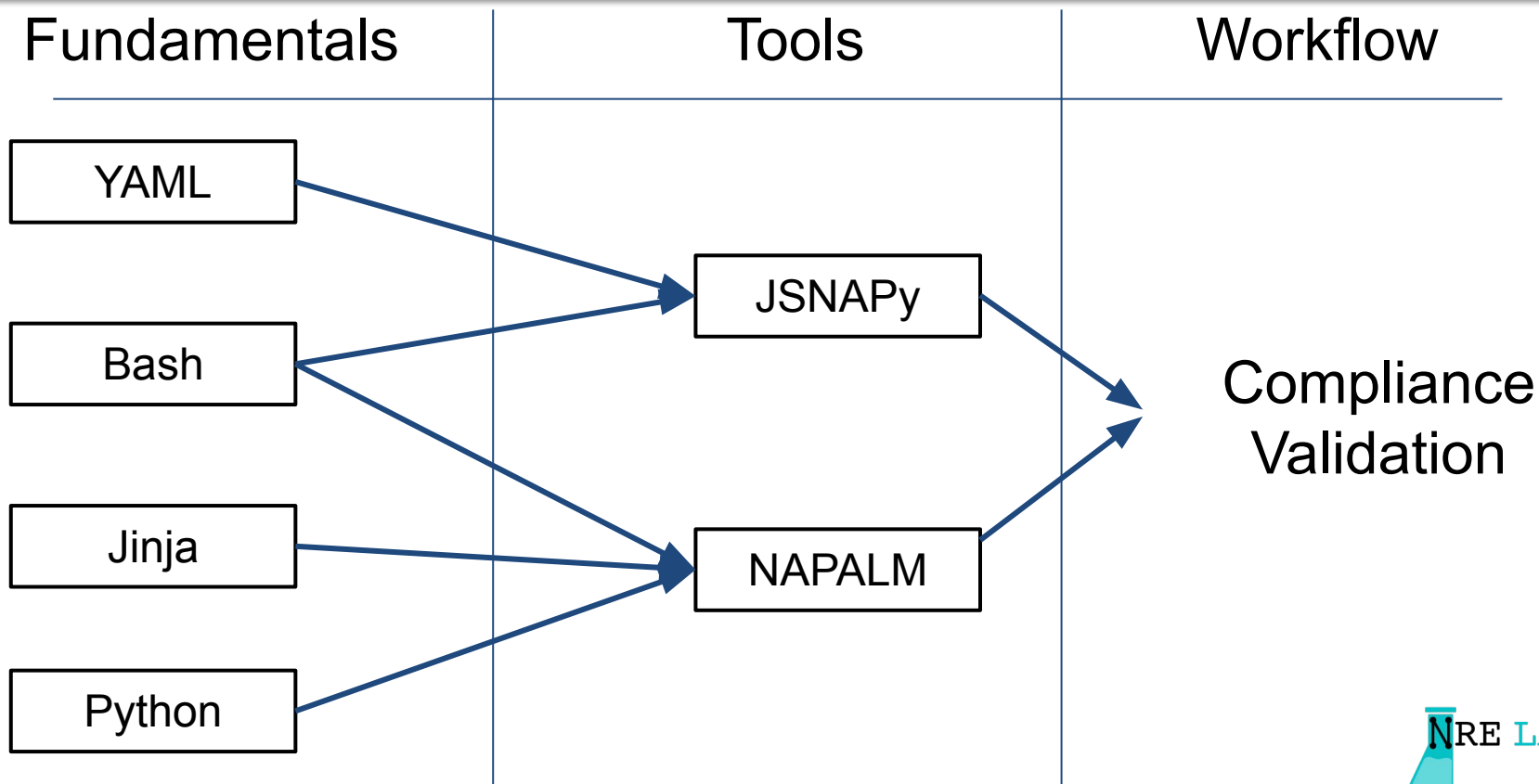
### Lesson Diagram

```
graph TD; vqfx1((vqfx1)) ---|em3 - 10.31.0.11/24| vqfx3((vqfx3)); vqfx1 ---|em4 - 10.12.0.11/24| vqfx2((vqfx2)); vqfx3 ---|em4 10.23.0.13/24| vqfx2; vqfx3 ---|em4 10.23.0.12/24| vqfx2;
```

Close



# Mapping Out Pre-Requisite Knowledge





# Course Advisor



## Identify your strengths

Answer the following questions, so we can construct the lesson plan most relevant to you!

How well do you know NAPALM?



How well do you know Linux?



How well do you know Jinja?



How well do you know YAML?



How well do you know JSNAPy?



How well do you know PyEZ?



[Skip](#)

[Submit](#)

## Your Journey to STIG

1

### Multi-Vendor Network Automation with NAPALM

Each vendor has their own APIs for interacting with network devices. In this lesson, you'll learn about a Python library that abstracts all these, and allows you to do basic multivendor network automation.

[LET'S DO A QUICK REVIEW.](#)

2

### Network Unit Testing with JSNAPY

Unit testing your network devices is one of the fundamental building blocks to CI/CD for networking. In this lesson, we'll explore the use of an open source tool - JSNAPY - for doing just this with Junos devices.

[LET'S DO A QUICK REVIEW.](#)

3

### Junos Automation with PyEZ

PyEZ is a powerful Python library for interacting with Junos devices. In this lesson, we'll explore the use of this library to collect and parse information from our Junos-based network, as well as perform configuration management tasks.

[LET'S DO A QUICK REVIEW.](#)

4

### Automated STIG Compliance Validation

Security Technical Implementation Guides (STIGs) are the configuration



## NRE Labs IS

- ✓ Pre-defined, easy to consume lessons on automation and NRE principles
- ✓ An Open Source project and curriculum - open to all to contribute
- ✓ Vendor-Inclusive

## NRE Labs is NOT

- ✓ Build-your-own topologies
- ✓ A fully-featured demo or PoC platform
- ✓ “Owned” by any one of the sponsoring organizations. This is a community project.

# Contributing to NRE Labs



nre-learning / nrelabs-curriculum

Unwatch 25 Unstar 102 Fork 60

Code Issues 64 Pull requests 11 Actions Projects 1 Wiki Security 0 Insights Settings

Learn next-generation skills for network engineers, all in your browser. <https://nrelabs.io> Edit

Manage topics

1,149 commits 28 branches 0 packages 18 releases 20 contributors Apache-2.0

Branch: master New pull request Create new file Upload files Find file Clone or download

Mierdin fix env var in request preview script Latest commit ba159de 20 hours ago

|             |   |              |
|-------------|---|--------------|
| .github     | Add issue template  | 6 months ago |
| collections | Merge branch 'master' into compatibility-0-6-0                      | 15 days ago  |
| images      | Disable unused and not-working kali and netbox images               | 7 days ago   |
| lessons     | Refined stage 4 of git lesson, moved some content to future stage 5 | 3 days ago   |

<https://github.com/nre-learning/nrelabs-curriculum>

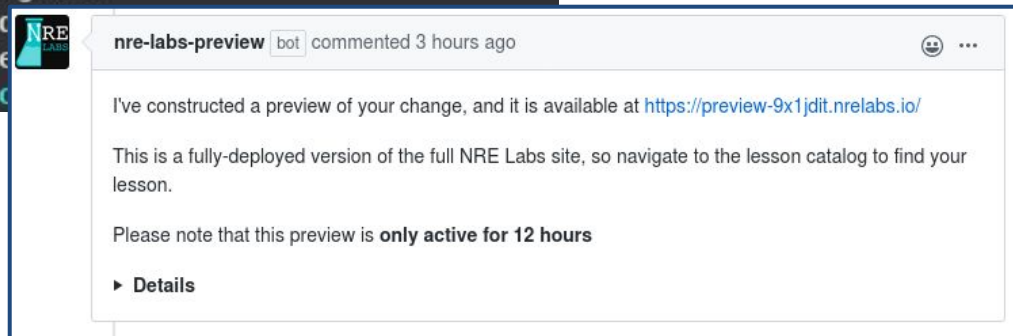
# Contributing to NRE Labs



Start here - [docs.nrelabs.io/creating-contributing/getting-started](https://docs.nrelabs.io/creating-contributing/getting-started)

1. Bootstrap new lesson
2. Open Pull Request
3. Iterate until finished
4. Review and merge

```
mierdin@archimedes > antidote lesson create
Interactively creating new Lesson (
? Name: Introduction to Python
? Slug: introduction-python
? Category: fundamentals
? Diagram:
? View:
? Title:
? Description:
? Tags:
? Preview:
? Publish:
> pro
```





Homepage - [nrelabs.io](https://nrelabs.io)

Forums - [discuss.nrelabs.io](https://discuss.nrelabs.io)

Docs - [docs.nrelabs.io](https://docs.nrelabs.io)

Open Source - [github.com/nre-learning](https://github.com/nre-learning)

Twitter - [@NRELABs](https://twitter.com/NRELABs)

## **No Contribution Too Small!**

- Use NRE Labs and open issues!
- Lesson Contributions - new or existing
- Platform enhancements/fixes

Thank You!