



Summary

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Better Scientific Software tutorial
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- **The requested citation the overall tutorial is:** David E. Bernholdt, Patricia A. Grubel, and David M. Rogers, Better Scientific Software tutorial, in Improving Scientific Software, Boulder, Colorado and online, 2023. DOI: [10.6084/m9.figshare.22179748](https://doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.22179748).
- Individual modules may be cited as *Speaker, Module Title, in Tutorial Title, ...*



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Science through computing is,
at best,
as credible as the software that produces it!

Today, We Covered Many Topics...

- Designing software for flexibility and extensibility
- Refactoring software
- Collaborative software development
- Packaging
- Testing strategies for complex software systems
- Reproducibility

And there are Many More We Didn't Have Time For

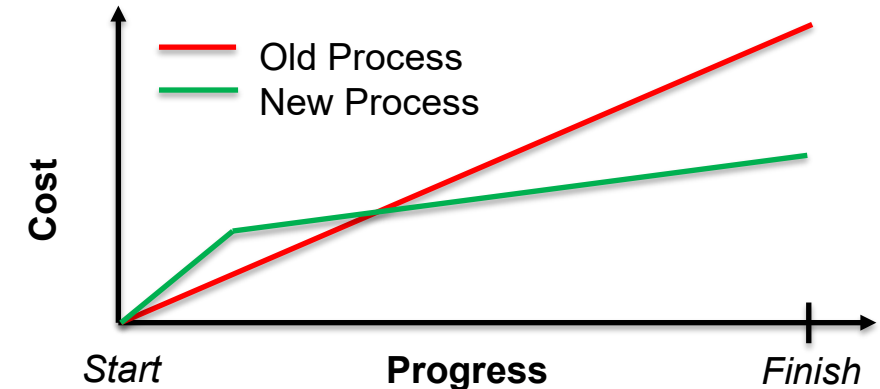
- Documentation
 - Licensing
 - Continuous integration testing
 - Distribution
 - Issue tracking
 - Configuration and building
 - Debugging strategies
 - Building and sustaining communities around software
 - Software publication and citation
 - Requirements gathering
 - Understanding and debugging floating-point math
 - Performance and performance portability
 - ...
- **Also important topics, but...**
 - Less distinction between research software and other software
 - More informational resources available
 - Next-level concerns for starting researchers
 - There's only so much time in the day!

But you're a researcher.
You can't afford to spend
“all” of your time on
software engineering.

A Final Recommendation: Continual, Incremental Software Process Improvement

Target: your project should include “just enough” software engineering so that you can meet your short-term and longer-term scientific goals effectively

1. Identify your team’s “pain points” in your software development processes
 - Help: RateYourProject assessment tool:
<https://rateyourproject.org/>
 2. Set a goal for something to improve
 - Target processes and behaviors, not just tasks
 - Pick something that you can address in a few months that will give you a noticeable benefit
 3. Agree on a plan to address it, identify markers of progress and what is “done”
 - Write them down
 - Help: Progress tracking card examples:
<https://bssw-psip.github.io/ptc-catalog/catalog>
 4. Work your plan, track your progress
 5. When you are done, celebrate...
- 7 ...then pick a new pain point to address



The new process costs something to implement, but it pays off over time

Productivity and Sustainability Improvement Planning

<https://bssw.io/psip>



A goal of [BSSw.io](https://bssw.io) is to provide resources for improving your software processes. If you find useful resources that aren't on BSSw.io, consider contributing. Its easy and quick.

IDEAS
productivity

ECIP
EXASCALE
COMPUTING
PROJECT

Thanks, and Keep in Touch!

- Email comments and questions to bssw-tutorial@lists.mcs.anl.gov
- See the tutorial web site for an archive of all the materials from this tutorial
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