BrainHack Flux 2025 (Draft)

Announcement

BrainHack is pleased to announce a 2-day hackathon for the Flux community on September 1-2, 2025. BrainHack aims to provide researchers with the tools to improve their data science and computational method repertoire. The BrainHack event allows attendees to have open time to work in interdisciplinary teams on projects that utilize design and computational techniques to solve problems of interest to the Flux community.

Dates: September 1-2, 2025

<u>Location</u>: Trinity College, Dublin, Ireland

Cost: A nominal fee is charged to hold spots and support on-site lunch: \$50 for

Faculty/Staff and \$20 for Students. (A fee waiver is available upon request.)

<u>Contact</u>: <u>fluxhackinfo@repronim.org</u>

Please note, this meeting and its content is not directly created or managed by Flux. Anyone interested is welcome to attend up to the meeting maximum of 50 attendees.

BrainHack Flux 2025

Collaborative activity to accelerate the adaptation of data science and computational methods in Developmental Cognitive Neuroscience.

Monday & Tuesday September 1-2, 2025, 9am - 5pm At Trinity College in Dublin

Objectives: To introduce the Flux community to the 'brainhack' culture through education and example.

Background: The concept of a 'brainhack' has been growing in popularity for the past 9 years. A brainhack

event combines elements of a 'Hackathon' (collaborative software development) and an 'Unconference' (attendee-interest driven presentations), with a variety of educational activities, to accelerate the adaptation of data science and computational methods in, in this case, Developmental Cognitive Neuroscience.

Schedule:

Monday September 1, 2025

9-9:30am Introduction to Brainhacking for Everyone

Hacking can be for everyone! Yes, you can 'hack' code, but you can also 'hack' an analysis together (not by writing code, but by scripting), you can 'hack' an idea or

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experiment at a conceptual level, etc. Hacking is for everyone, having the clinicians, experimentalists and software developers in the same room is vitally conducive to generating ideas and line of work that can persist beyond the event itself.

9:30-10:30am Project Pitches

Everyone is invited to pitch an idea. What would they like to 'hack' if they could? What are the missing bits of technology or concepts that would advance your area of research? Collecting these ideas helps the group to self organize around topics and needs of common interest.

10:30-10:45 **Coffee Break**

10:45-11:45 Brief Review of the Key Resources for BrainHacking

There are many resources available to assist the hacking community. In this section we briefly discuss these to help make everyone aware of them. If there is interest, many of these can be fodder for the 'UnTutorials' in the afternoon session when greater depth in specific resources can be presented.

Such as: Software development, Data resources, Execution platforms, Data management, Analytical tools

11:45-12pm noon **Group Discussion and Questions**

12-1pm **Break for Lunch**

1-3pm UnTutorials and Hacking

During this time is the opportunity for folks who know what they want to do to start doing (inviting others to join if interested). Also, given the interests and knowledge of those in attendance, folks can offer to run an UnTutorial session. An UnTutorial is a list of potential tutorial topics that could be given, where the attendees vote for tutorials they are interested in, and only the actual tutorials of topics where enough interest is expressed are given.

3-3:15pm *Coffee Break*

3:15-4:45pm Free Hacking

Groups continue working (could be spill-over UnTutorials, if needed), facilitators available to help resolve and encourage participation as needed. We can make sure that facilitators can also provide technical assistance in various common areas.

4:45-5:00pm Brief Project Recaps

Each project team gives a brief recap of progress and next day's goals.

Tuesday, September 2, 2025

BrainHack Flux 2025 (Draft)

9:00-9:30am Project Check In

All projects are invited to give a brief status update. What did they accomplish, what do they still hope to accomplish.

9:30-12pm UnTutorials and Hacking

During this time is the opportunity for folks who know what they want to do to continue doing. Additional Unconference/Untutorial sessions can be scheduled as interest arises.

10:30-10:45 *Coffee Break*

12-1pm **Break for Lunch**

1-3pm UnTutorials and Hacking

During this time is the opportunity for folks who know what they want to do to continue doing. Additional Unconference/Untutorial sessions can be scheduled as interest arises.

3-3:15pm Coffee Break

3:15-4pm Free Hacking

4-5pm Project Reports and Feedback

This is the opportunity for the various project groups (or individuals) to report back to the group what they accomplished. These reports are expected to be very brief (5 or fewer minutes), depending upon the number of participants. Some of this time will be dedicated to feedback and planning in order to gage interest in future events of this sort.

People

BrainHack Organizers: Angie Laird and David Kennedy (developers of the

ABCD-ReproNim Course)

David will not be able to attend the event in person due to a travel conflict, so Angie will be the lead organizer and will be recruiting additional BrainHack personnel to assist with running the event, including: Katie Bottenhorn, Chloe Hampson, and others.

Flux LOC: Rhodri Cusack and Rob Whelan (Trinity College Faculty)

Flux Program Committee: Xiaoqian Chai and Andrew Lynn Flux Leadership: Eveline Crone and Deanna Barch

Flux Management: Kent Prickett