

Code Review for Scientific Software

experiences building an [online tutorial](#)

Helen Kershaw
DAReS, NSF NCAR



Terminology

BSSwF Better Scientific Software Fellowship

NSF National Science Foundation

NCAR National Center for Atmospheric Research

UCAR University Corporation for Atmospheric Research

SEA Software Engineering Assembly (UCAR/NCAR)

DART Data assimilation Research Testbed

DAReS Data Assimilation Research Section

AMS American Meteorological Society

Goals

- Tell you about my BSSwF project
- Share my experience building the tutorial
- Share practice and experience with code review from UCAR SEA

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- Tell you about my BSSwF project
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- Share practice and experience with code review from UCAR SEA
- Get you to think about code review

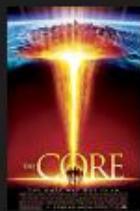
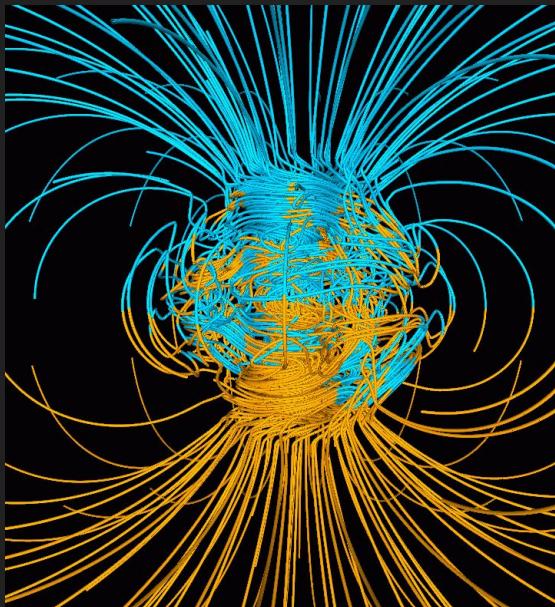
Goals

- Tell you about my BSSwF project
 - Share my experience building the tutorial
 - Share practice and experience with code review from UCAR SEA
-
- Get you to think about code review
 - And the joy of open source software

About me

hkershaw@ucar.edu

About me



The Core >

2003 · 2h 15min · PG-13

Action · Adventure · Sci-Fi

★ 5.5/10 ⚫ Rate

The only way to save Earth from catastrophe is to drill down to the core and set it spinning again.

Jonathan Mound's credits: Additional Crew (as Dr. Jonathan Mound)

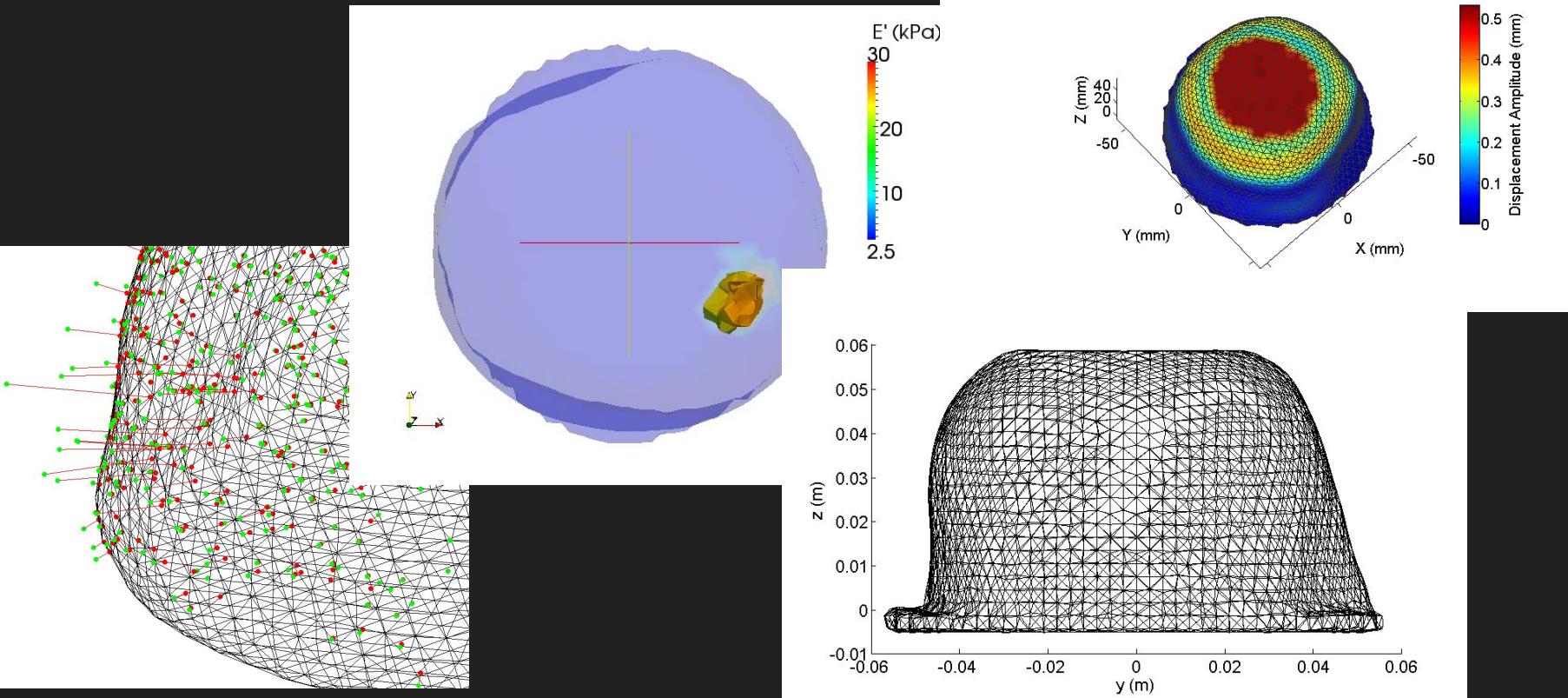
▶ Trailer

+ Watchlist





About me



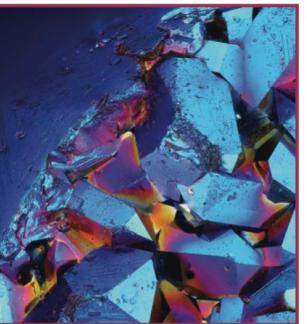
About me

SIGNAL PROCESSING FOR ADVANCED MATERIALS

Khemraj Shukla, Ameya D. Jagtap, James L. Blackshire, Daniel Sparkman, and George Em Karniadakis

A Physics-Informed Neural Network for Quantifying the Microstructural Properties of Polycrystalline Nickel Using Ultrasound Data

A promising approach for solving inverse problems

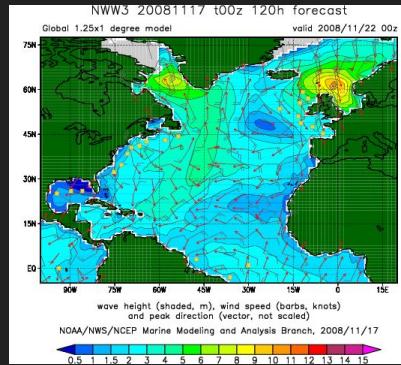


We employ physics-informed neural networks (PINNs) to quantify the microstructure of polycrystalline nickel by computing the spatial variation of compliance coefficients (compressibility, stiffness, and rigidity) of the material. PINNs are trained using ultrasound surface acoustic wavefield data acquired at an ultrasound frequency of 5 MHz for the polycrystalline material. The ultrasound wavefield data are represented as a deformation on the top surface of the material with the deformation measured using the method of laser vibrometry. The ultrasound data are further complemented with wavefield data generated using a finite-element-based solver. The neural network is physically informed by the in-plane and out-of-plane elastic wave equations, and its convergence is accelerated using adaptive activation functions. The overarching goal of this work is to infer the spatial variation of compliance coefficients of materials using PINNs, which for ultrasound involves the spatially varying speed of the elastic waves. More broadly, the resulting PINN-based surrogate model shows a promising approach for solving ill-posed inverse problems, often encountered in the nondestructive evaluation of materials.

Introduction

In recent years, the availability of large data sets, combined with sophisticated algorithms and an exponential growth in computational power, has led to an unprecedented surge of interest in machine learning techniques. Machine learning has been explored in a wide range of disciplines, including image classification problems, including speech recognition, natural language processing, and computer vision, to complex regression problems like the approximation of nonlinear and discontinuous functions. However, the applications of neural networks are less explored in the engineering fields. Physics-informed machine learning approaches define a new paradigm for bridging physical laws with observational data. Recently, such machine learning-based techniques have attracted a lot of attention around the world; see [3] and the references therein. In particular, Raissi et al. [3] proposed the PINN methodology, which can accurately solve the forward problem of inferring the

Digital Object Identifier 10.1109/MDP.2021.3118904
Date of current version: 28 December 2021



A zebrafish model for calcineurin-dependent brain function

Sara Tucker Edmister ¹, Rahma Ibrahim ¹, Rohit Kakodkar ², Jill A Kreiling ¹, Robbert Creton ³

Affiliations + expand

PMID: 34425181 PMCID: PMC8903086 DOI: 10.1016/j.bbrc.2021.113544

Free PMC article

Full text links Cite

DART

Data Assimilation Research
Testbed



Cross-lab

Cross-institution

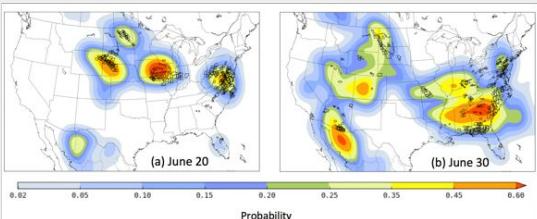
Cross-country

Cross-world



NCAR Real-time ensemble prediction system

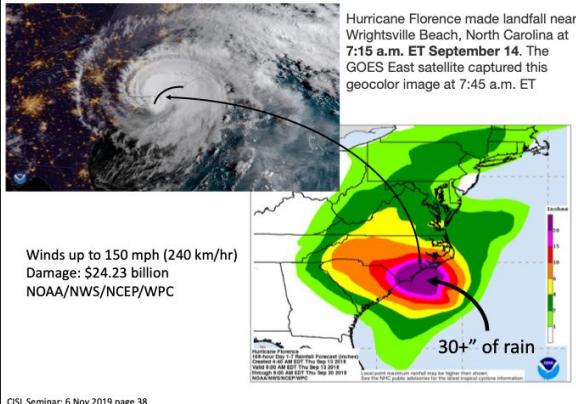
Severe weather forecast for two days compared to NWS warnings



- WRF, 10 member ensemble, GFS for boundary conditions
 - Continuous operation from April 2015 to December 2017
 - 48 hour forecasts at 3km resolution
 - First continuously cycling ensemble system for CONUS
 - CISL Dedicated Queues and Computing Support were Vital

CISI Seminar: 6 Nov 2019 page 28

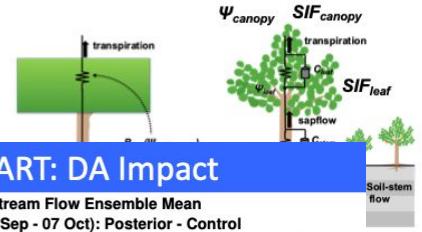
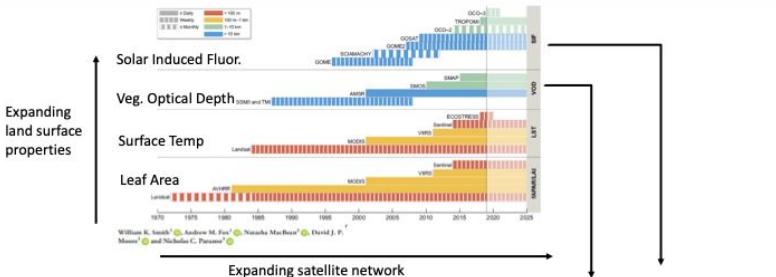
WRF-Hydro/DART: Florence 2018



CISL Seminar: 6 Nov 2019 page 38



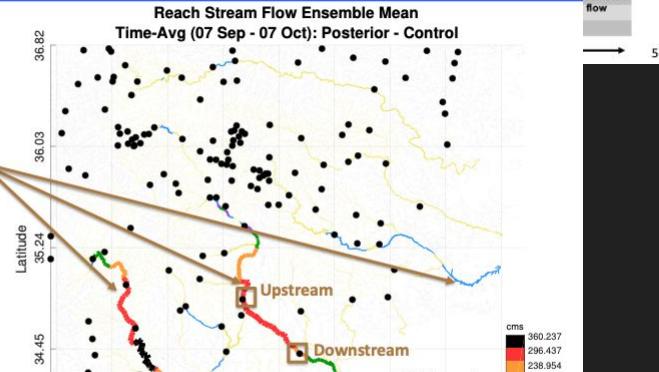
Advancing models & observations together



WRF-Hydro/DART: DA Impact

Assimilation
happens every
hour

Correction along major reaches. DA is adding water to the stream channels.





Featured project: Computational & Information Systems Lab & Research Applications Lab Collaboration

PREDICTING FLOODS AND PROTECTING LIVES



DATA ASSIMILATION FOR THE ENTIRE EARTH SYSTEM

Use ensemble DA techniques with geophysical models spanning the



USE DATA FROM ANY SOURCE, TEST MANY ALGORITHMS

Assimilate any suitable observations. Swap out filter and



LEARN ON LAPTOPS, RUN ON SUPERCOMPUTERS

Compile without MPI for conceptual models or with MPI for GCMs on



Featured project: NC State, UC San Diego, MIT & KAUST Collaboration

UNDERSTANDING GULF OF MEXICO EDDY DYNAMICS



Featured project: University of Michigan, NCAR, NASA & NRL Collaboration

NEXT-GENERATION SPACE WEATHER PREDICTION



DATA ASSIMILATION FOR THE



USE DATA FROM ANY SOURCE,



LEARN ON LAPTOPS, RUN ON SUPERCOMPUTERS

dart.ucar.edu



Better Scientific Software (BSSw)

Software—the foundation of discovery in computational science & engineering—faces increasing complexity in computational models and computer architectures. BSSw provides a central hub for the community to address pressing challenges in software productivity, quality, and sustainability.

GET ORIENTED

Communities Overview

Intro to CSE

Intro to HPC

[Resources](#)[Blog](#)[Events](#)[About](#)

Meet Our Fellows

The BSSw Fellowship program gives recognition and funding to leaders and advocates of high-quality scientific software. Meet the Fellows and Honorable Mentions and learn more about how they impact Better Scientific Software.

[Fellowships Overview](#)[Apply](#)[Meet Our Fellows](#)[BSSw Fellowship FAQ](#)

2023 Class

2023 Class

Fellows

Nicole Brewer
Arizona State University

Improving accessibility of data and software with scientific web apps



Myra Cohen
Iowa State University

Techniques for scientific software testing



Johannes Doerfert
Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory

Demystifying the compiler black box



William Hart
Sandia National Laboratories

Best practices for software supply chain security

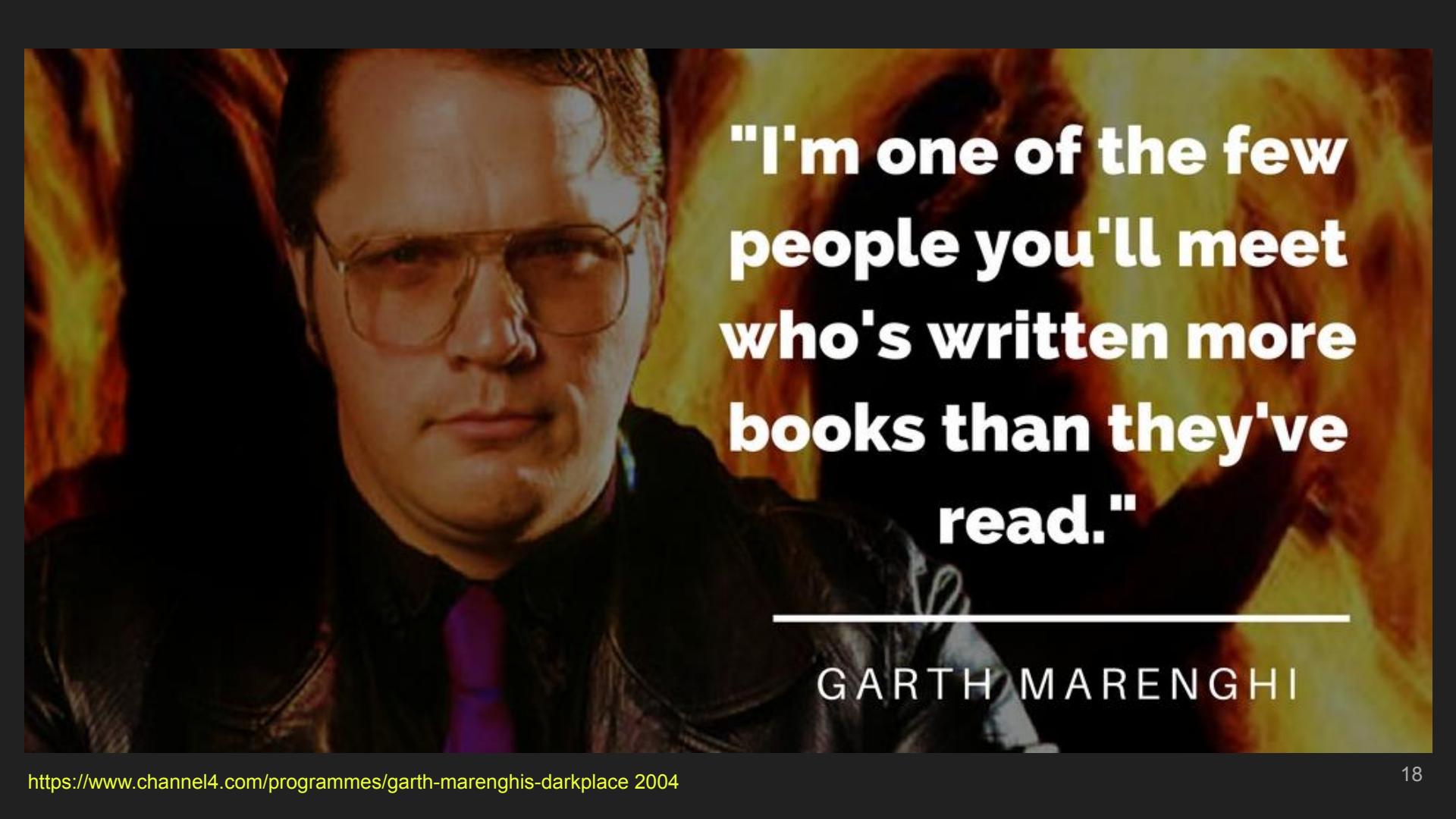


Helen Kershaw
National Center for Atmospheric Research



Rafael Mudafort
National Renewable Energy Laboratory

What problem am I
trying to solve?



**"I'm one of the few
people you'll meet
who's written more
books than they've
read."**

GARTH MARENIGHI

code-review.org

What outcomes would
I like to see?

Outcomes

- People reviewing early and often
- People reviewing **each others code**
- Comfortable with napkin explanations of code
- Become a **better reviewer**
- Better code
- Take a look inside
- More open source contributors!

Outcomes

- People reviewing early and often
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- Take a look inside
- More open source contributors! *Ulterior Motive*

Onboard new
contributors to DART

Onboard new contributors to DART

But not be specific to DART

Code review is a **skill**

Learning **several things** at once

- The mechanics of git and GitHub
- A new programming language
- New science
- Culture of new team

Learning **several things** at once

- The mechanics of git and GitHub
- A new programming language
- New science
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Seasoned professional

Early career

Learning **several** things at once

- The mechanics of git and GitHub
- A new programming language
- New science
- Culture of new team
- And code review

Seasoned professional

Early career

The Tutorial

code-review.org

The Tutorial

Three sets of exercises

- No code
- Python
- Fortran

No code exercises

- Cake recipe
- Article on the women's world cup
- Origami instructions to make a fish

Text Exercise 1: Cake recipe

People have reported several problems with a recipe

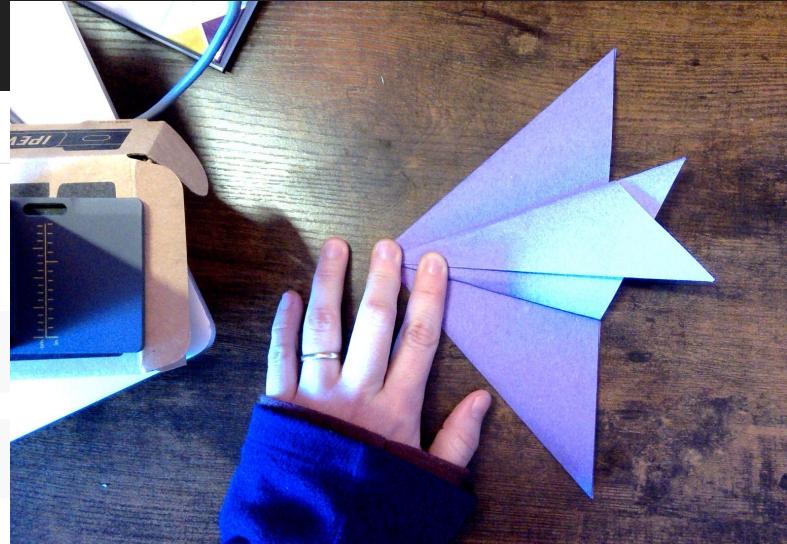
Some examples of user feedback:

Worst Chocolate Cake ever! Not even chocolatey

Yuk! salty

Take a look at the recipe [cake.md](#).

- Are there any problems?



The Tutorial

Three sets of exercises

- No code
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The Tutorial

Three sets of exercises

- No code
- Python
- Fortran

The Tutorial

Three sets of exercises

- No code
- Python
- Fortran
 - Issue + prompts
 - Pull request + prompts

Setting up the tutorial on GitHub



Code Review Tutorial Blog Get Involved

Search docs... Ctrl + / ⌘ ⌘ ⌘

> WELCOME

> SETUP THE TUTORIAL

Set up the Tutorial on GitHub

Create the Exercises

> EXERCISES

> REVIEWING TIPS

> HELP

Set up the Tutorial on GitHub

To do the tutorial exercises interactively you will need a GitHub account.

If you are not ready to setup a GitHub account and run workflows, a 'take-a-look' repository with the exercise issues and pull requests is available at [take-a-look](#). You can follow along with the tutorial and read the issues and pull requests without having to run your own GitHub actions. Skip head to the [exercises](#).

For those working through the exercises, this setup guide will take you though forking the tutorial, enabling issues, setting read and write permissions for workflows, and switching on workflows.

Fork the tutorial repository

The tutorial repository is github.com/scientific-software-reviewers/tutorial

ON THIS PAGE

- Fork the tutorial repository
- Enable issues
- Enable read and write permissions for workflows
- Switch on Workflows

Uncheck Copy the main branch only and click Create fork

- Fork
- All branches
- Enable workflows
- ...

Code Review Tutorial Blog Get Involved

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Barrier before I've started

take-a-look repository

The image shows a GitHub interface with two main windows. The left window displays an issue titled "text: Exercise 1 #1" for the repository "scientific-software-reviewers / tutorial-take-a-look". The right window shows a pull request titled "Exercise 1 text. by github-actions" for the same repository.

Issue Details:

- Title:** text: Exercise 1 #1
- Assignee:** No one - assign you
- Labels:** text
- Comments:** 1 (github-actions bot)
- Body:** Text Exercise 1: Cake recipe
- Feedback:** People have reported several problems with a recipe. Examples include "Worst Chocolate Cake ever! Not even chocolatey" and "Yuk! salty".
- Notes:** Take a look at the recipe [cake.md](#).
 - Are there any problems?
 - Are there spelling errors?
 - Are there deal-breaking errors?
 - What would you say are definite changes that need to be made?
- Improvements:** Take a look at the suggested improvements in the pull request.
 - Do the improvements make the recipe better?
 - Are there any unnecessary changes in the pull request?
 - Are there more improvements needed?
- Markdown Documentation:** The recipe is written in Markdown, a markup language for creating formatted text using a plain-text editor. Markdown is commonly used in README files on GitHub. To learn more about Markdown on GitHub view the [GitHub markdown documentation](#).

Pull Request Details:

- Title:** Exercise 1 text. by github-actions
- Author:** github-actions bot
- Comments:** 2 (github-actions bot)
- Commits:** 2
- Changes:** 24
- Reviewers:** +14 -10
- Code Review:** Review in codespace
- Diff View:** Changes from all commits | File filter | Conversations | Jump to | Review changes
- Diff Content:** The diff shows the conversion of a plain text file into Markdown. It includes sections for "Directions" and "Ingredients".

Setting up the tutorial on GitHub

Code Review Tutorial Blog Get Involved

Search docs... Ctrl + / ⌘ ⌘ ⌘

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Uncheck Copy the main branch only and click

- Fork
- All branches
- Enable workflows
- Run workflows

Setting up the tutorial on GitHub

Create the Exercises

On this page

There are two GitHub workflows for the tutorials.

`create_exercises` creates the exercises.
`reset_exercises` clears the exercises so you can start afresh.

Workflows

To get to the workflows, click the `Actions` tab

Actions Enabled

All workflows

0 workflow runs

There are no workflow runs yet.

Create the Exercises

To create the exercises, click `create_exercises` from the menu on the left

- Fork
- All branches
- Enable workflows
- Run workflows

Create the exercises

Actions

[New workflow](#)[All workflows](#)[create_exercises](#)[reset_exercises](#)[Management](#)[Caches](#)

create_exercises

[create_exercises.yaml](#) Filter workflow runs

...

0 workflow runs[Event](#) ▾ [Status](#) ▾ [Branch](#) ▾ [Actor](#) ▾This workflow has a `workflow_dispatch` event trigger.[Run workflow](#) ▾**This workflow has no runs yet.**

0 workflow runs

Event ▾

Status ▾

Branch ▾

Actor ▾

This workflow has a `workflow_dispatch` event trigger.

Run workflow ▾

Use workflow from

Branch: main ▾

Language *

text

Run workflow



This workflow has no runs yet.

0 workflow runs

Event ▾

Status ▾

Branch ▾

Actor ▾

This workflow has a `workflow_dispatch` event trigger.

Run workflow ▾

Use workflow from

Branch: main ▾

Language *

✓ text

python

fortran

This workflow has no runs yet.

Workflow run was successfully requested.



Actions

New workflow

All workflows

create_exercises

reset_exercises

Management

Caches

create_exercises

[create_exercises.yaml](#)

Filter workflow runs



0 workflow runs

Event ▾

Status ▾

Branch ▾

Actor ▾

This workflow has a `workflow_dispatch` event trigger.

Run workflow ▾

✓ **create_exercises**

create_exercises #1: Manually run by hkershaw-brown

now

26s



scientific-software-reviewers / tutorial-take-a-look

Type to search

Code Issues 7 Pull requests 7 Discussions Actions Security Insights Settings

Filters is:issue is:open Labels 12 Milestones 0 New issue

7 Open 0 Closed

Fortran: Exercise 2 Fortran #12 opened last week by github-actions bot

Fortran: Exercise 1 Fortran #11 opened last week by github-actions bot

python: Exercise 2 python #9 opened last week by github-actions bot

python: Exercise 1 python #7 opened last week by github-actions bot

text: Exercise 2 text #3 opened last week by github-actions bot

text: Exercise 1 text #2 opened last week by github-actions bot

text: Exercise 3 text #1 opened last week by github-actions bot

Author Label Projects Milestones Assignee Sort

Filter by label Filter labels

Unlabeled

- bug Something isn't working
- documentation Improvements or additions to doc...
- duplicate This issue or pull request already ...
- enhancement New feature or request
- Fortran
- good first issue Good for newcomers
- help wanted Use `x + click/return` to exclude labels or `t + click/return` for logical OR

ProTip! Adding [no:label](#) will show everything without a label.

Navigating the exercises

Issues

Pull Requests

Issues

Problem

Pull Requests

Solution

Issues

The screenshot shows a web browser window with two tabs open. The active tab is titled 'Examining Issues - Code Review' and has the URL <https://code-review.org/docs/exercises/examine-issues/>. The browser's address bar also displays this URL. The page content is a tutorial on examining issues in GitHub repositories.

Code Review Tutorial Blog Get Involved Search docs...

Exercises

- > WELCOME
- > SETUP THE TUTORIAL
- ✓ EXERCISES
 - Tutorial Exercises
 - Navigating the Exercises
 - Examining Issues**
 - Working with Pull requests
 - TL;DR
- > REVIEWING TIPS
- > HELP

Examining Issues

An issue is a way to discuss, plan and track work on a GitHub repository.

Issues can be bugs, complaints from users, requests for new features or added functionality.

When reading though an issue,

- Are there multiple problems reported in the issue?
- Can you confirm the issue by reading the code or documentation?
- Do you need to run the code to confirm the issue?
- Can you reproduce the problem?

Each tutorial exercise has an issue describing the problem. This issue contains a link to the code under discussion, and some questions to think about when looking at the issue, the code, and the pull request.

Bonus points:

Think about how you would like people to report issues with your own code. Would you use [GitHub issues templates](#) to prompt people to provide relevant information?

What is important information you would like to someone to give in an issue?

- version of the code being used?
- a small example the shows the bug?
- screenshots of the problem?
- error messages?
- desired solution?
- operating system where the problem occurred (Windows, Mac, Linux)?

← Navigating the Exercises Working with Pull requests →

<https://docs.github.com/en/communities/using-templates-to-encourage-useful-issues-and-pull-requests/configuring-issue-templates-for-your-repository>

Pull Requests

Working with Pull requests

A pull request is a proposed change. A review is feedback on the change.

When you are reviewing, you'll need to assess the scope and size of the pull request. This will give you some idea of how much work will be involved in the review, and what feedback you need to give.

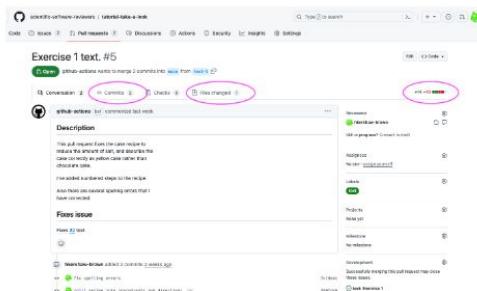
Read the pull request description. Ideally this will give you the scope:

- What's changed.
 - Why the changes were made.
 - What the person is looking for from the review. They may have code ready to release, they may have an urgent bug fix, they may have a draft that they want you to look at before they do any more work.

Small code changes can have big impacts, so lines of code changed does not necessarily correlate with how difficult, important, or necessary a change is. But you can use GitHub to see:

- How many lines of code have been added or removed.
 - How many files have been changed.
 - How many commits were made.

These are circled below in pink, and will give you an idea of how big the pull request is.



The lines of code changed is show by the green/red +/- In this case 14 new lines, 10 lines removed.

+14 -10

Click on 'Files changed' to see what changes are proposed in this pull request

Each exercise has a pull request which proposes a change to the existing code. You can read about the reasons for the change in the issue linked from the pull request description.

The issues contain questions to think about during review.

ON THIS PAGE

Adding comments

Adding suggestions

Add your review

Pull Requests

> WELCOME

> SETUP THE TUTORIAL

✓ EXERCISES

Tutorial Exercises

Navigating the Exercises

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TL;DR

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suggestions and reviews are all done in the 'Files changed' tab.

Exercise 1 text. #3

[Edit](#) [Copy code](#)

Description

This pull request fixes the cake recipe to reduce the amount of salt, and describe the cake as yellow cake rather than chocolate cake.

I've added numbered steps to the recipe. Also there are several spelling errors that I have corrected.

Fixes issue

Pulls #11 test

Reviews

Suggestions

Request

Still in progress? Convert to draft

Assignees

No one—assign yourself

Labels

Development

Milestones

7089d18 Successfully merging this pull request may cause merge conflicts. 47963c8 Next: Exercise 1

Adding comments

To add a comment, click on the `+` or `-` by the line number. A blue box `+` will show up when you hover over a `+` or `-`. You can only comment on the green (new lines of code) or red (code removed) sections.

```

12 - Mix the flour, baking powder, and salt together in a medium bowl.
13
14 - 200g plain all-purpose flour
15 - 1tsp baking powder
16 - 1/2tsp salt
17 - 1/2 cup white sugar
18 - 1/2 cup brown sugar
19 - 3 eggs
20 - 1/2 cup oil
21 - 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
22
23 + Add directions
24
25 + Preheat the oven to 325 degrees F (175 degrees C).
26
27 + Grease a 9x13-inch baking pan.
28
29 + Mix the flour, baking powder, and salt together in a medium bowl.
30
31 + Beat sugar and shortening together in a large bowl with an electric mixer until light and fluffy.
32
33 + Add eggs, one at a time, beating thoroughly after each adding each egg.
34
35 + Beat in 1/2 cup oil, 1tsp vanilla extract, and 1tsp baking powder.
36
37 + Beat in the preheated oven until a toothpick inserted in the center comes out clean, about 40 to 45 minutes.
38
39 + Preheat the oven to 325 degrees F (175 degrees C).
40
41

```

This will open up a box where you can write a comment on the code. The comments support Markdown

```

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41

```

Navigating Pull Requests

size and scope

Start a review -> send one notification when the review is submitted

> WELCOME

Which one of these you choose will depend on who you are working with. Some people prefer the instant collaboration in comments back and forth, some people do not want to get lots and lots of notifications. It's a good idea to ask how someone how they would like to get feedback.

> SETUP THE TUTORIAL

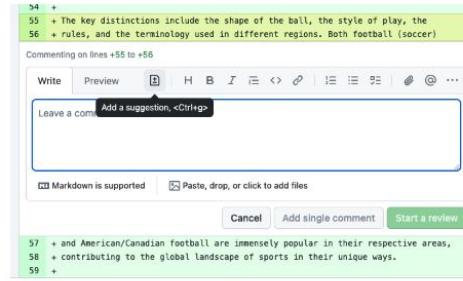
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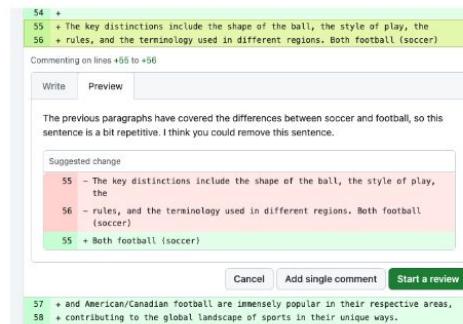
> HELP

Adding suggestions

Suggestions are the same as comments, but you suggest an edit to the code that can be committed from the pull request. Click the suggestion icon in the comment box:



The lines you have selected will show up. Edit this with what you think should be there. You can click preview to see your code changes.



Try committing changes from a suggestion.

Add your review

When you're ready to add your review click the green **Review changes** button.

ON THIS PAGE

- Adding comments
- Adding suggestions
- Add your review

Adding suggestions

Navigating the exercises
Examining Issues
Working with Pull requests
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54 +
55 + The key distinctions include the shape of the ball, the style of play, the
56 + rules, and the terminology used in different regions. Both football (soccer)
Commenting on lines 456 to 456

Write Preview

The previous paragraphs have covered the differences between soccer and football, so this sentence is a bit repetitive. I think you could remove this sentence.

Suggested change

55 - The key distinctions include the shape of the ball, the style of play,
the
56 - rules, and the terminology used in different regions. Both football
(soccer)
55 + Both football (soccer)

Cancel Add single comment Start a review

57 + and American/Canadian Football are immensely popular in their respective areas,
58 + contributing to the global landscape of sports in their unique ways.
--

Try committing changes from a suggestion.

Add your review

When you're ready to add your review click the green `Review changes` button

scientific-software-reviewer / tutorial-table-a-book

Code Issues Pull requests Discussions Actions Projects Wiki Security Insights

Exercise 1 text #3

Changes from all commits ▾ File filter ▾ Conversation ▾ Jump to ▾ 6/1 file diffed 6/1 file diffed

Review changes ▾

1. ## Recipe for Chocolate Cake

2. 1. Yellow cake is delicious! This PR#123 is passed down from my great-great-grandparents.

You're choices are:

- Comment
- Approve
- Request changes

Bonus points:

- What makes a pull request easy to review?
- What makes a pull request difficult to review?

← Examining Issues

TL;DR →

Adding your review

Reviewing

Reviewing

Being reviewed

Reviewing

Being reviewed

Does the pull request address the issue?

Are there any deal breakers that would stop you accepting the changes?

Can you suggest any improvements?

What is a good way to phrase your suggested improvements?

Is the solution overly complicated? Are the comments up to date, necessary, helpful?

Would you accept the pull request as it is now? Are your suggested changes must-do? nice-to-have? nitpicks?

How would you communicate this?

Do you spend a lot of time reviewing the code style? Is it worth having a style guide for contributors? Can you make use of an existing style guide? Or a linter?

Reviewing

Does the pull request address the issue?

Are there any deal breakers that would stop you accepting the changes?

Can you suggest any improvements?

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Being reviewed

When putting in a pull request, how can you make it **easy for a reviewer to understand what you have done?**

What makes a good pull request, what makes a bad pull request?

Can you commit code in a way that lets someone review your code more easily? Should you separate functional changes from style changes?

Would you use a tool such as [commitizen](#) to prompt yourself at commit time? Why? Why not?

Mechanics of the tutorial

Adding exercises

Adding exercises

Two GitHub workflows:

`create_exercises` `create_exercises.yaml`

`reset_exercises` `close_issues_and_pulls.yaml`

Adding exercises

	hkershaw-brown	code review tutorial	...	ce5804d · 3 months ago	 2 Commits
	.github/workflows	code review tutorial		3 months ago	
	Fortran	code review tutorial		3 months ago	
	issues	code review tutorial		3 months ago	
	pull_requests	code review tutorial		3 months ago	
	python	code review tutorial		3 months ago	
	text	code review tutorial		3 months ago	
	.gitignore	code review tutorial		3 months ago	
	LICENSE	Initial commit		10 months ago	
	README.md	code review tutorial		3 months ago	

Adding exercises

issues/{Language}-ex{#}-issue.md

pull_requests/{Language}-ex{#}-pull_body.md

Branch: {Language}-{#}

Adding exercises

issues/{Language}-ex{#}-issue.md

pull_requests/{Language}-ex{#}-pull_body.md

Branch: {Language}-{#}

.github/workflows/create_exercises.yaml is the action that takes ‘Language’, and for each exercise {1..n}:

Adding exercises

issues/{Language}-ex{#}-issue.md

pull_requests/{Language}-ex{#}-pull_body.md

Branch: {Language}-{#}

.github/workflows/create_exercises.yaml is the action that takes ‘Language’, and for each exercise {1..n}:

- creates any issues {Language}-{1...n}.

Adding exercises

issues/{Language}-ex{#}-issue.md

pull_requests/{Language}-ex{#}-pull_body.md

Branch: {Language}-{#}

.github/workflows/create_exercises.yaml is the action that takes ‘Language’, and for each exercise {1..n}:

- creates any issues {Language}-{1..n}.
- creates pull requests {1..n} for branches {Language}-{1..n} using text from {Language}-pull_body.md

Adding exercises

issues/{Language}-ex{#}-issue.md

pull_requests/{Language}-ex{#}-pull_body.md

Branch: {Language}-{#}

.github/workflows/create_exercises.yaml is the action that takes ‘Language’, and for each exercise {1..n}:

- creates any issues {Language}-{1..n}.
- creates pull requests {1..n} for branches {Language}-{1..n} using text from {Language}-pull_body.md

Code is in the directories:

{Language}/exercise{#}

Adding exercises

Branches				
Branch	Updated	Check status	Behind Ahead	Pull request
main	3 months ago	(Default)	0 2	...
backup-Fortran-1	3 months ago		0 2	...
backup-Fortran-2	3 months ago		0 1	...
backup-python-1	3 months ago		0 2	...
backup-python-2	3 months ago		0 1	...
backup-text-1	3 months ago		0 2	...
backup-text-2	3 months ago		0 2	...
backup-text-3	3 months ago		0 1	...
python-2	3 months ago		0 1	...
python-1	3 months ago		0 2	...
Fortran-2	3 months ago		0 1	...
Fortran-1	3 months ago		0 2	...
text-3	3 months ago		0 1	...

.github/workflows/close_issues_and_pulls.yaml

Resets the exercises:

Roll back the repo with git reset hard

Restores the {Language}-{#} branch from a corresponding backup-{Language}-{#} branch

Squashing git history

A screenshot of a GitHub repository's commit history page. The repository is 'scientific-software-reviewers / tutorial'. The main branch is 'main'. The commit history shows two entries:

- code review tutorial** (commit ce5804d) - This commit message contains:
 - main branch for code review tutorial:
 - 3 text exercises
 - 2 python exercises
 - 2 Fortran exercisesThe commit also mentions workflows and branches.
- Initial commit** (commit 05487a6) - This commit message is simply 'Initial commit'. It was made by hkershaw-brown 10 months ago.

main branch has only two commits:

- Initial commit
- Code review tutorial

Squashing git history

A screenshot of a GitHub repository named "scientific-software-reviewers / tutorial". The "Commits" tab is selected. A dropdown menu shows "main" is selected. Below it, a list of commits is shown:

- o- Commits on Dec 29, 2023
 - code review tutorial [code review tutorial](#)
main branch for code review tutorial:
3 text exercises
2 python exercises
2 Fortran exercises
issues/ contains the .md files used in the issue bodies
pull_requests/ contains the .md file used in the pull request bodies
- o- Commits on May 24, 2023
 - Initial commit [Initial commit](#)
hkershaw-brown committed 10 months ago

main branch has only two commits:

- Initial commit
- Code review tutorial

A screenshot of a GitHub repository named "scientific-software-reviewers / tutorial-take-a-look". The "Pull requests" tab is selected. A list of pull requests is shown:

- Exercise 1 python. #10 [Edit](#) [Code](#)
github-actions wants to merge 2 commits into main from python-1
Conversation 0 Commits 2 Checks 0 Files changed 1 +5 -3

Below the pull request, a list of commits is shown:

- o- Commits on Dec 27, 2023
 - add y to vowels [add y to vowels](#)
hkershaw-brown committed on Dec 27, 2023
 - return count of consonants rather than printing the consonant. [return count of consonants rather than printing the consonant.](#)
hkershaw-brown committed on Dec 27, 2023

Examine commit history in exercises

Tutorial Exercises

There are three sets of exercises, all on GitHub. Follow the [setup](#) instructions to create your own tutorial repository to work on.

If you are not ready to setup a GitHub account and run workflows, a 'take-a-look' repository with the exercise issues and pull requests is available at [take-a-look](#). You can follow along with the tutorial and read the issues and pull requests without having to run your own GitHub actions.

For those working through the exercises, running the `create_exercises` workflow will generate the text, python, or Fortran exercises in your fork of the tutorial.

The exercises are in no particular order. You can start with whichever seems the most interesting/applicable to you. Each exercise consists of a GitHub issue describing a problem and a pull request which is a proposed solution to the issue. **Your mission is to review the proposed solution.**

An issue may be a complaint from a user, a bug report, a request for a new feature. Pull requests may be from a colleague, or if your code is publicly available, from someone who uses the code.

[← Create the Exercises](#) [→ Navigating the Exercises](#)

code-review.org

<https://github.com/scientific-software-reviewers/tutorial>

Software Engineering is
“programming integrated over time”

Experiences from UCAR SEA Software Engineering Assembly



What is the SEA?



UCAR Software Engineering Assembly

- Foster community for software engineering professionals within UCAR
- Facilitate effective participation
- Advocate for Software Engineers

SEA Improving Scientific Software Conference April 15th-18th

<https://sea.ucar.edu/conference/2024>



Code Review

Experiences from UCAR SEA Software Engineering Assembly



Experiences from UCAR SEA

Join the UCAR Software Engineering Assembly for a **lightly-moderated discussion** on code review across UCAR.

Any discussion topics are welcome, as are **all experience levels**. We encourage you to share your good and bad experiences with code review.

- Do you use code review in your group? Who does the reviewing? Have you used code review to transfer knowledge between team members?
- Reviewing is hard. Being reviewed can be difficult. How do you give and receive constructive and actionable criticism?
- Do you do in person code reviews? Offline code-reviews? What works, what doesn't?
- Do you spend too much time in review, and have ideas to improve the process?

Experiences from UCAR SEA

Code review feels like someone works with me and we learn from each other

GitHub made it much easier to code review.

When people do not know much about what others do in the code, review gives an opportunity to learn about what is going on in the project

Downside: Back/forth that happens, especially since the code review is not #1 priority. Can slow down the process.

Getting very burned out with code reviews generally
e.g. Do a review, wait ~2 weeks, can feel really negative sometimes
Recently got more negative on it but would love to hear positive experiences about it

Experiences from UCAR SEA

Used to do code reviews in person years ago. Finding bugs and avoiding problems down the line works great. Can't imagine deploying code without reviews. Couldn't maintain the code without reviews.

The objectives can be communicated well beforehand using a pull request template to reduce the overhead of back & forth and expectations for a due date for the pull request can be set.

Experience mostly getting my code being reviewed rather than reviewing others'. Need to coordinate with each other to find the time. Trick is that it'd be helpful to walk the reviewer through the code first.

Communicating what to look at in the code is really important.

Experiences from UCAR SEA

A lot of friction points about code review.

Ethics around code review is not clear.

Code review is a lot of times **not equitable**,
e.g. more pushback for women's code.

Code style actions, automation could be helpful with the code reviewing process to reduce unwanted reviewing (code styling, etc.)

[Systemic Gender Inequities in Who Reviews](#)

[Code](#)

[The Pushback Effects of Race, Ethnicity, Gender, and Age in Code Review – Communications of the ACM](#)

[Presentation](#) by Dr. Kelly Blincoe about code review as a socio-technical activity. Includes relevant data and potential policy implications on code review processes and impact.

Pick the most impactful aspects of the code to comment on, no need to mention everything. Impact can include functionality, quality, maintainability, readability, testability.

Experiences from UCAR SEA

Submitting changes without sufficient descriptions is less helpful.

Sometimes reviews have a lot of back & forth, and can get political. Try to keep it very non-personal. The thing being reviewed is not the person but the code that will benefit an entire project/organization.

It's a **joint responsibility**.

Encourage "the code" and not "your code". **We** are not our code

Make it clear about the asynchronous aspect of the PRs. Also use "why would you do that?" for asking the reasoning (?)

Having been in both scientist and developer perspectives, set expectations and convey what the goals are for each group, **collective set of expectations**. And, things may differ from person to person, even if they are all one kind (e.g. scientist).

Consistency. Type of code you are working on (pure research vs. operational product/deliverable) and **how you set expectations** is also very important.

Experiences from UCAR SEA

1:1 code review in person is a bit different than remote.

Code review as an onboarding task

Do onboarding by working side-by-side rather than a remote pull request review process.
Some form of pair programming.

When getting someone new to our code contributions, **reach out** individually with an email that clarifies some important points about the process.

[How Microsoft do code reviews](#) mentions the use of emojis to describe things like nitpick, thinking out loud, take it or leave it, etc.



Finding Community

Finding Community

- **US-RSE**. A community of people who make research software happen.
- Society of Research Software Engineering which emerged from the successful grass-roots RSE movement and is the successor to the UK RSE Association.
- **Better Scientific Software**. A hub for scientific software development resources.
- **Campus Champions**. Uniting Research Computing Facilitators
- ...

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code-review.org

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USRSE slack

