

# Challenges of Giving Tutorials at PyCon

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### **Acknowledgement of Country**

San Francisco Bay Area

Ancestral home of the Muweka Ohlone

### **Conference Tutorials**

- In-person conferences
- Just before main talks
- Cost: \$500+
- Time: around 3 hours

### **Diversity is good**

- Ethnic
- Race
- Gender
- Orientation
- Religion

### **Diversity is not so good...**

- Experience
- Sub-speciality
- Knowledge
- Infrastructure
- Goals

### **OS Diversity**

- Mac OS X: Which version
- Windows: Version + Home/Pro/other exotic + Managed
- Linux: There's always someone with Gentoo

## Installing Python

- No, no Python 2
- App Store?
- Installer from Python.org?
- Pyenv
- Conda forge

## Installing Python Redux

Installing software on modern desktop operating systems is impossible.

## Setting up Python

- Set up a virtual env...
- ...unless you're on conda
- Instructions differ per OS/Python installer

## Setting up environment

- Activate virtuale environment and `pip install -r requirements`
- Except there's no binary wheel for this package for Linux.
- Here's how you install Python binary package build deps
- ...on Ubuntu...
- ...or Fedora
- This other package does not have a windows wheel
- ...here's how you install the free version of Visual Studio
- This other package does not have a Mac OS X wheel
- ...OK to install XCode you need to click yes on the EULA

### **Instructions Beforehand**

- less than half of the class will do them
- Ever wanted to debug visual studio on Windows 10 Home without SP1 not building Twisted over e-mail?
- ...No?
- Too bad, because you just got an e-mail about it
- Hooray, another e-mail because your first guess didn't work. Also, guy who paid \$500 is now mad at you.
- Your second guess didn't work? Get ready to spend 2 hours on Googling. Now guy who paid \$500 has cost you 2 extra hours, and is really mad at you.

### **Installing in class**

- Asking a volunteer to TA something you get paid for feels icky
- ...but those \$1000 you get go really fast if you pay a TA
- ...and debugging Windows 10 Home without SP1 not building Twisted is not much more fun in person
- And also someone is missing class, so they're mad.

### **Machine abstractions**

- Using Docker? Now you have two problems
- VirtualBox? Three problems
- Ever tried to download a 1GB image over conference wifi?

### **No time to know students**

Not even their names!

### **Knowledge diversity**

"Intermediate" is not a thing.

### **Experience diversity**

Ops? Debugging? Algorithms?

### **Outcome diversity**

- Spend time playing with new tech
- Job skills
- Interview skills
- Building portfolio
- Dunno, job paid for me.

### **Sub-speciality diversity**

A data scientist, site reliability engineer, and a web developer walk into a tutorial...

### **Economics**

- Price: \$500
- Paid: \$1000
- Investment: giving tutorial (3hr, but often kills full work day)
- Investment: prep (3hr practice talk, 2hr+ comms beforehand, 10hrs writing and research)
- \$50/hr to give so-so experience

### **Summary**

- High cost
- Low reward
- One shot