

Challenges of Giving Tutorials at PyCon

Moshe Zadka – <https://cobordism.com>

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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

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- ▶ 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.

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- ▶ 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