

Improving your skillset

Programming good research code good

Patrick Mineault

Lesson 5

Maybe the real good code is the friends we made along the way

Lesson 5

Work with better people than you

Reality check

- ▶ People think that programming is a solitary activity
- ▶ Reality: at a place like Google, programming is very social
 - ▶ readability
 - ▶ code reviews
 - ▶ design reviews
 - ▶ pair programming
 - ▶ reading groups
 - ▶ retreats
 - ▶ performance reviews

Practical tips

- ▶ Open an issue in an open source project
- ▶ Open a PR in an open source project
- ▶ Set up pair programming with people in your lab or study group
 - ▶ One person drives, one person co-pilots
 - ▶ Learn how at NMA2021!
 - ▶ CoCalc and DeepNote can do this remotely.

Set up a review circle

You can use Github Pull Requests to give and receive line-by-line feedback on code.

It doesn't have to be lonely

- ▶ Maybe you're the best coder in your lab so you don't have opportunities for growth
- ▶ Contribute to open source projects
 - ▶ NMA & NMC are always happy to have more people!
- ▶ Join a community or hackerspace
 - ▶ BrainHack.org
 - ▶ Meetup
 - ▶ Hackerspaces
 - ▶ PyLadies

Become a wizard!

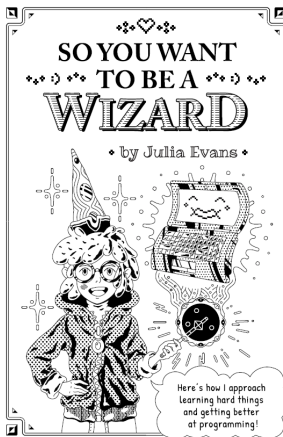


Figure 1: zine by Julia Evans, released under CC-BY-NC-SA 4.0 license

Wizard!

- ▶ Great zine about how to become a wizard from Julia Evans
- ▶ Zine link

You are never finished learning!

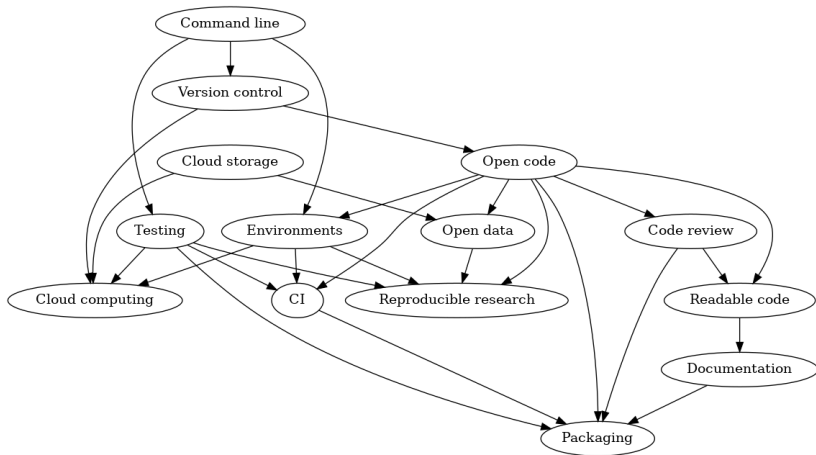


Figure 2:

You can accomplish anything!

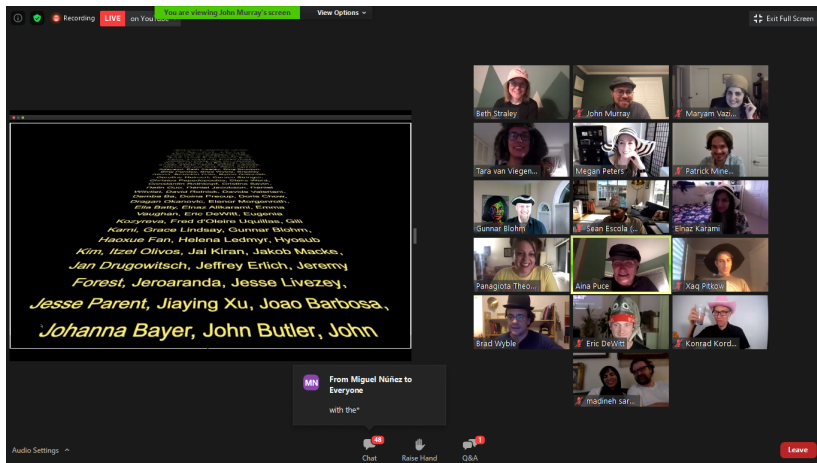


Figure 3:

Lesson 5

- ▶ Work with better people than you
- ▶ It's a bit of a stretch to make this work with the theme of WM & LTM
 - ▶ The most important point: grow with people
- ▶ Your 5-minute exercise: schedule one pair-programming session