

# Improving your skillset

Good research code

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

# Open discussion

Q: what is pair programming?

# 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 study group with fellow programmers (event suggestions from Mozilla).

## 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!

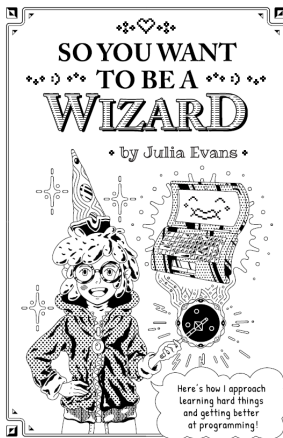
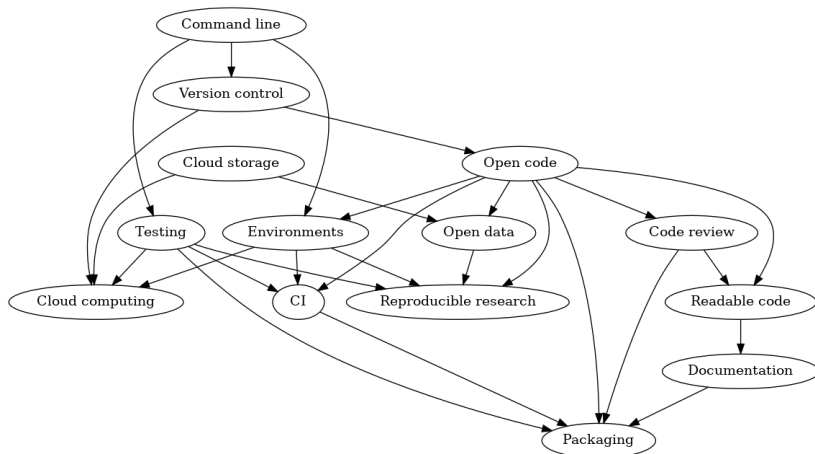


Figure 1: zine by Julia Evans, released under CC-BY-NC-SA 4.0 license

# Wizard!

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

# You are never finished learning!



# Acknowledgement

Thanks to the reviewers, Tyler Sloan and Elizabeth DuPre who made this talk much better.

# You can accomplish anything!

Recording LIVE You are viewing John Murray's screen View Options Exit Full Screen

*Kim, Itzel Olivos, Jai Kiran, Jakob Macke,  
Jan Drugowitsch, Jeffrey Erlich, Jeremy  
Forest, Jeroaranda, Jesse Livezey,  
Jesse Parent, Jiaying Xu, Joao Barbosa,  
Johanna Bayer, John Butler, John*

From Miguel Núñez to Everyone  
with the\*

Chat Raise Hand Q&A Leave

# 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