

DAN SCHLOSSER | ADI | DEVFEST

A HACKATHON FOR ALL

MAKING HACKATHONS ACCESSIBLE

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# METHODOLOGY

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- Identify

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- Reframe

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- Ideate

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# SYMPTOMS

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- First-time attendees struggle at hackathons
- Attending hackers > Demoing hackers
- Hackcon schedule

# HACKATHONS ARE INTIMIDATING

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FIRST-TIMERS STRUGGLE



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ATTENDEES > DEMOS



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FIRST-TIMERS STRUGGLE



ATTENDEES > DEMOS



HACKCON SCHEDULE

HackCon Talks Schedule [Prel... dan.r.schlosser@gmail.com]

File Edit View Insert Help Comment only

Comments Share

Note: all talks and topics are followed by a Q&A / discussion.

This schedule is tentative. If you're tagged in a comment, please respond to the comment to confirm that you can make it and are good to give this talk.

Speaking Guidelines: Your talk is 5 minutes long (followed by Q&A unless you hear otherwise :).

If there's a great talk opportunity that is missing here, email [alexey@alexeymk.com](mailto:alexey@alexeymk.com) and let him know!

Saturday, Feb 1st  
At Alley NYC (500 7th Avenue, 17th floor)

930 Breakfast

1000 Kick-off and introductions

1030 Topic: A brief history of hackathons  
Jonathan Gottfried, Twilio Evangelist

1100 Getting Newbies Attending and Productive  
Lightning talks followed by discussion

- Dan Schlosser from ADICU (Columbia)
- Clara Wu from PennApps
- Molly Long from Brown
- Dennis Li from Duke

1200 Topic: Hackathon Management  
Lightning talks on past approaches

- Bryan Clavnoole from PennApps on Logistics & Crisis Management

"I'm not smart enough to go..."

- SOPHOMORE / CS MAJOR @ COLUMBIA



# HACKATHONS ARE INTIMIDATING

# HACKATHONS ARE INTIMIDATING

"HACKATHON CULTURE"



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"HACKTHON CULTURE"



RANKINGS

The screenshot shows the Major League Hacking (MLH) website's ranking page. The top navigation bar includes links for Schedule, News, and About. The main content area displays a table of rankings for different universities. The table has three columns: Attendance Points and Merit Points. The University of Maryland is ranked 1st, followed by Carnegie Mellon University at 3rd. Other universities listed include Princeton University, The State University of New Jersey, Boston College, Boston University, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Columbia University, University of Michigan, and Cornell University.

	Attendance Points	Merit Points
University of Maryland	320	666.66
Princeton University, The State University of New Jersey	217	661.66
Carnegie Mellon University	128	625
Boston College, Massachusetts Institute of Technology	56	442.5
Boston University	92	300
University of Michigan	99	200
Cornell University	20	200

# HACKATHONS ARE INTIMIDATING

"HACKTHON CULTURE"



RANKINGS

The screenshot shows the Major League Hacking (MLH) website's ranking page. The top navigation bar includes links for Schedule, News, and About. The main content area features a large orange box with a white robot icon and the text "Maryland 1ST". Below this, a table lists the top ten universities based on attendance and merit points.

	Attendance Points	Merit Points
University of Maryland	320	666.66
University of New Jersey, The State University of New Jersey	217	661.66
Carnegie Mellon University	128	625
Massachusetts Institute of Technology	56	442.5
Columbia University	92	300
University of Michigan	99	200
Stanford University	20	200

PRIZES



TAKE-AWAY

HACKATHONS ARE  
BUILT BY HACKERS  
FOR HACKERS.



# METHODOLOGY

- Identify
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- Implement

REFRAMED QUESTION

HOW DO WE MAKE HACKATHONS MORE  
ACCESSIBLE?



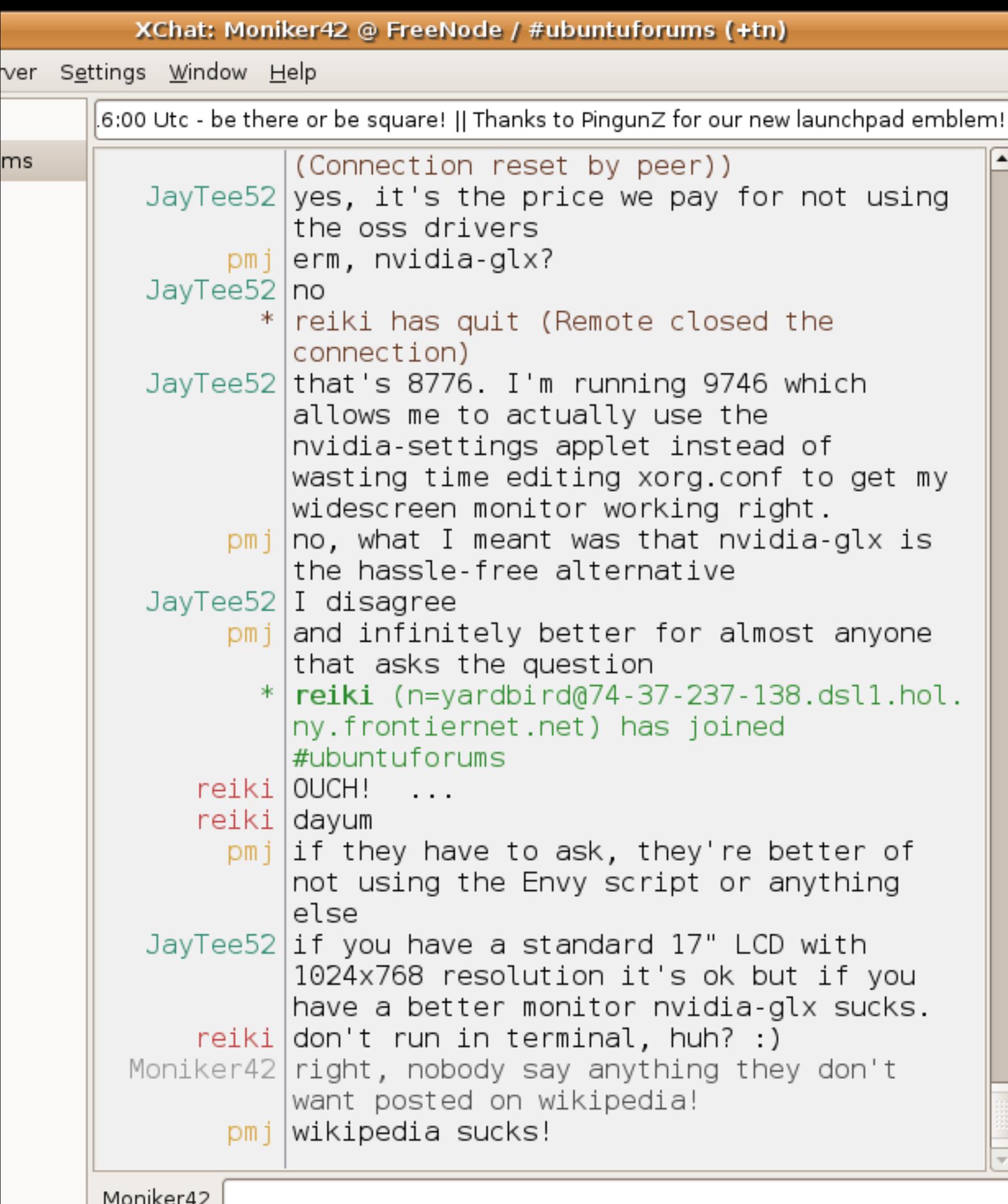
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# ACCESSIBILITY: WHAT DOESN'T WORK

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## IRC HELP ROOMS



# ACCESSIBILITY: WHAT DOESN'T WORK

## IRC HELP ROOMS

XChat: Moniker42 @ FreeNode / #ubuntuforums (+tn)

Server Settings Window Help

6:00 Utc - be there or be square! || Thanks to PingunZ for our new launchpad emblem!

JayTee52 (Connection reset by peer))  
yes, it's the price we pay for not using  
the oss drivers  
pmj erm, nvidia-glx?  
JayTee52 no  
\* reiki has quit (Remote closed the  
connection)  
JayTee52 that's 8776. I'm running 9746 which  
allows me to actually use the  
nvidia-settings applet instead of  
wasting time editing xorg.conf to get my  
widescreen monitor working right.  
pmj no, what I meant was that nvidia-glx is  
the hassle-free alternative  
JayTee52 I disagree  
pmj and infinitely better for almost anyone  
that asks the question  
\* reiki (n=yardbird@74-37-237-138.dsl1.hol.  
ny.frontiernet.net) has joined  
#ubuntuforums  
reiki OUCH! ...  
reiki dayum  
pmj if they have to ask, they're better off  
not using the Envy script or anything  
else  
JayTee52 if you have a standard 17" LCD with  
1024x768 resolution it's ok but if you  
have a better monitor nvidia-glx sucks.  
reiki don't run in terminal, huh? :)  
Moniker42 right, nobody say anything they don't  
want posted on wikipedia!  
pmj wikipedia sucks!

## MENTORS\*



# ACCESSIBILITY: WHAT DOESN'T WORK

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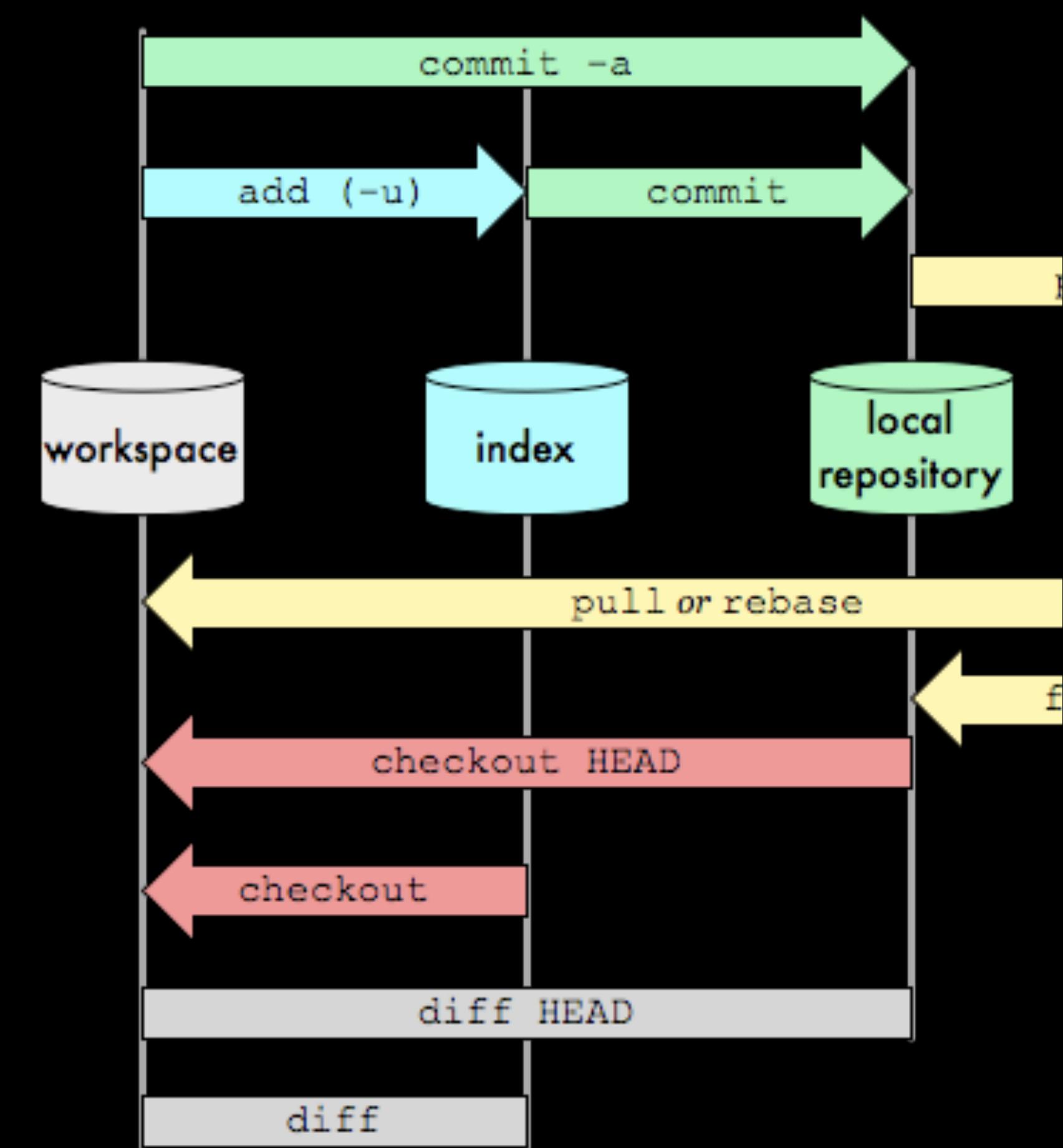
pmj

Moniker42

## MENTORS\*



## INTRO-GIT



TAKE-AWAY

A 1-HOUR “INTRO TO APIs” TALK IS NOT ENOUGH FOR FIRST TIME HACKERS.

```
e: {  
ps: [  
  
    type: "places",  
    name: "Matching Places",  
    - items: [  
        - {  
            id: "4be40357d27a20alaa75935b",  
            name: "Indira Gandhi International Airport (DEL)",  
            contact: {},  
            - location: {  
                address: "Indira Gandhi International Airport",  
                city: "New Delhi",  
                state: "India",  
                lat: 28.55448289261816,  
                lng: 77.0896053314209,  
                distance: 12291  
            },  
            - categories: [  
                - {  
                    id: "4bf58dd8d48988d1ed931735",  
                    name: "Airport",  
                    pluralName: "Airports",  
                    icon: "https://foursquare.com/img/categories/travel/airport.png",  
                    - parents: [  
                        "Travel Spots"  
                    ],  
                    primary: true  
                },  
                - {  
                    id: "4bf58dd8d48988d1eb931735",  
                    name: "Airport Terminal",  
                    pluralName: "Airport Terminals",  
                    icon: "https://foursquare.com/img/categories/travel/airport\_terminal.png",  
                    - parents: [  
                        "Travel Spots",  
                        "Airports"  
                    ]  
                }  
            ],  
            verified: true,  
            - stats: {  
                checkinsCount: 3724,  
                usersCount: 1838  
            },  
            - hereNow: {  
                count: 0  
            }  
        },  
        - {  
            id: "4b6f9e1ef964a52010f82ce3",  
            name: "Gurgaon Delhi Toll Gate",  
            contact: {},  
            - location: {  
                address: "Gurgaon Delhi Toll Gate",  
                city: "Gurgaon",  
                state: "Haryana",  
                lat: 28.55448289261816,  
                lng: 77.0896053314209,  
                distance: 12291  
            },  
            - categories: [  
                - {  
                    id: "4bf58dd8d48988d1ed931735",  
                    name: "Toll Gate",  
                    pluralName: "Toll Gates",  
                    icon: "https://foursquare.com/img/categories/travel/toll\_gate.png",  
                    - parents: [  
                        "Travel Spots",  
                        "Infrastructure"  
                    ]  
                }  
            ],  
            verified: true,  
            - stats: {  
                checkinsCount: 1234,  
                usersCount: 678  
            },  
            - hereNow: {  
                count: 0  
            }  
        }  
    ]  
}
```

# ACCESSIBILITY: WHAT WORKS

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## HELPFUL PEERS



# ACCESSIBILITY: WHAT WORKS

HELPFUL PEERS



EVERYBODY DEMOS



# ACCESSIBILITY: WHAT WORKS

HELPFUL PEERS



EVERYBODY DEMOS



FAMILIAR FACES



TAKE-AWAY

COMMUNITY  
EDUCATION

---

LIVES CHANGED



# REAL LEARNING AT A HACKATHON

CAN IT BE DONE?



# METHODOLOGY

- Identify
- Reframe
- Ideate
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- Implement

# ADI DOESN'T STOP AFTER DEVFEST

WORKSHOPS, RESOURCES, COOKIES & CODE, TECH TALKS, SPEAKERS, ADI HOUSE

# Resources

Brought to you by 

## ADI Resources Page

There are tons of different technologies out there, each of which has its own tutorials, documentation, and community (good or bad). ADI has done the hard work of tracking down the best resources, summarizing each technology, and identify critical concepts based on goal so that the only thing standing between you and the implementation of your idea is a little bit of learning and hard work.

## How To Use This Website

Technology is really intimidating at first, but don't fear! We're here to guide you through.

TAKE-AWAY

NEVER STOP BUILDING  
THE INFRASTRUCTURE  
THAT SUPPORTS LEARNING  
AND COMMUNITY



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# An Accelerated Introduction to Web Development

*Building a webapp in Flask.*

Written and developed by [Dan Schlosser](#) and [ADI](#).

## About This Document

[Top](#)

### Methodology

For the purposes of learning to make a web application using [Flask](#), we will write an entire web application, taking time to dissect how each piece functions and fits. Each section is intended to be modular, but working in order is recommended.

This document teaches the CSS and HTML programming languages, as well as the Flask Python library.

### Prerequisites

Basic knowledge of the Python programming language is suggested. If you don't already know Python, checkout [this ADI-developed tutorial](#). No knowledge of HTML, CSS or Flask is expected or required.

### The End Product

We will be building a web application throughout this series, called "Has it Been Made Yet?". It should let users type in a few keywords for a hackathon idea, and then it will tell them whether or not someone has made that idea and hosted it on [GitHub](#). GitHub is a social network for [open-source](#) code, and is the most popular place for programmers to host their projects (and therefore, a great place to check for our app).

The intro to web development curriculum for DevFest <http://adicu.com/intro-webdev> — Edit

85 commits 2 branches 0 releases 7 contributors

branch: master devfest-webdev / +

Update README.md

danrschlosser authored just now latest commit e41820f151

File	Description	Time Ago
build	add google analytics to generated html	4 days ago
img	finish first draft	12 days ago
python-solutions	Write exercises for Python curriculum	5 days ago
webdev-solutions	Write two Flask extensions	4 days ago
.gitignore	add build system for md->html	10 days ago
README.md	Update README.md	just now
build.sh	update readme and delte duplicate folder	4 days ago
webdev_curriculum.md	Write two Flask extensions	4 days ago
webdev_python_curriculum.md	Update webdev_python_curriculum.md	6 hours ago

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webdev\_curriculum.md · Write two Flask extensions · 4 days ago

webdev\_python\_curriculum.md · Update webdev\_python\_curriculum.md · 6 hours ago

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TAKE-AWAY

THEY LEARN TO  
CODE BY DOING.  
HELP THEM DO.



DAN SCHLOSSER | ADI | DEVFEST

THANKS!

DAN@ADICU.COM | ADICU.COM | DEVFE.ST