Creating a Data Carpentry Biodiversity Curriculum

François Michonneau -- The Carpentries - françois@carpentries.org

Deb Paul -- iDigBio -- dpaul@fsu.edu

The Carpentries

- 2-day workshops
- Focus on foundational computing and data science skills for researchers with no or little coding experience
- Volunteer organization
 - 1,300+ instructors worldwide
- Local communities



The Carpentries Curriculum

- Software Carpentry
 - Building robust research software
- Data Carpentry
 - Skills for working with data
 - Domain specific
 - Ecology
 - Genomics
 - Social Sciences
 - Geospatial
 - Astronomy
 - Economics
 - Image analysis
 -

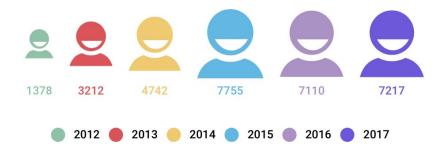


Our Workshops. Our Learners.

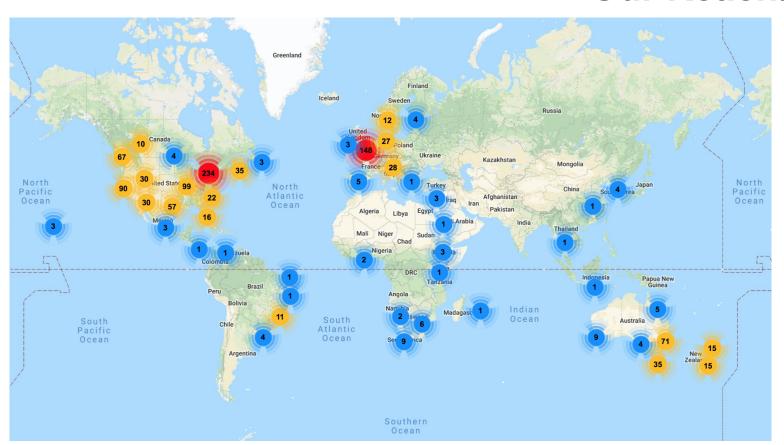
Workshops



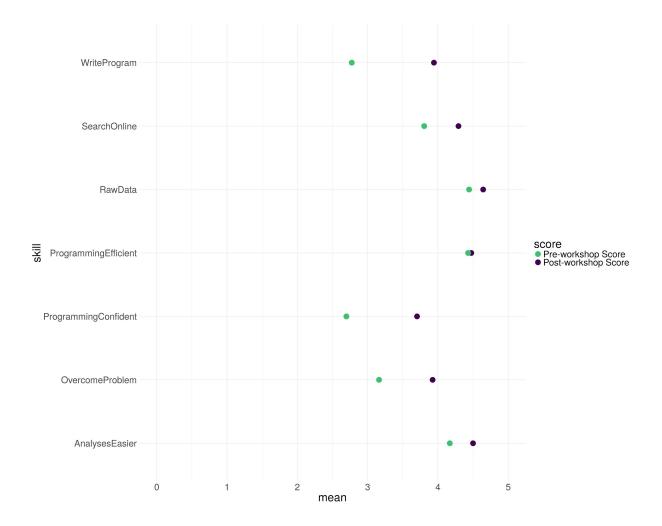
Learners



Our Reach.



Our Impact



Long term

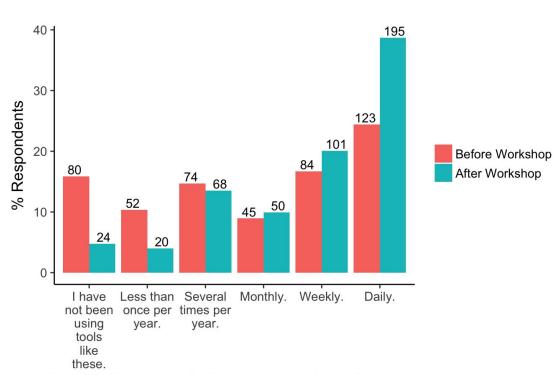
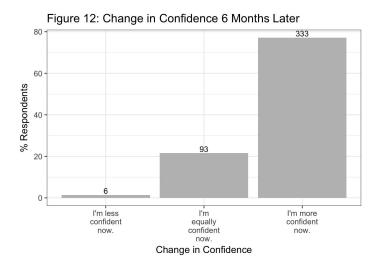


Figure 9: Respondents' Programming Usage Increased

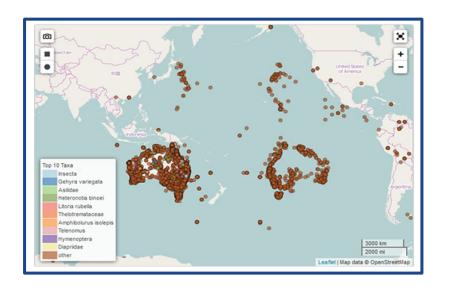


What does a workshop look like?

- Data organization in spreadsheets
- OpenRefine
- Introduction to R or Python with focus on data manipulation and visualization
- SQL

What would a biodiversity data curriculum look like?

- Identify skills and learning objectives
 - Challenges
 - Diverse data
 - Data quality and data cleaning







Data Carpentry Biodiversity data curriculum

- Curriculum developed and sustained by the community
 - Who is interested in getting involved?

- Instructor training
- Maintainers onboarding

- Support from institutional and organizational collaborators
 - Partnership with existing training programs?

What possible skills to include?

some known common skill needs

- data evaluation (fitness for use)
- better spreadsheet skills
- (meta) data standards
- data publishing and reproducible research (FAIR)
- using authority files (taxonomy, geography, people)
- · georeferencing, geospatial data skills
- data visualization
- data formatting and transformation
- scripting and apis
- specific tools/software: GeoLocate, Open Refine, GBIF tools, Kurator, GNR, collection management software,...

- data and media: management
- data quality (messy data, cleaning, validation, automation), visualization, data life cycle

repetitive tasks

- data cleaning
 - transcription
 - editing
 - updating
 - mapping
- batch editing
- data import, export