

Roadmapping to improve community capacity, alignment, and team productivity

Kirstie Whitaker
Jupyter Day
19 October 2026

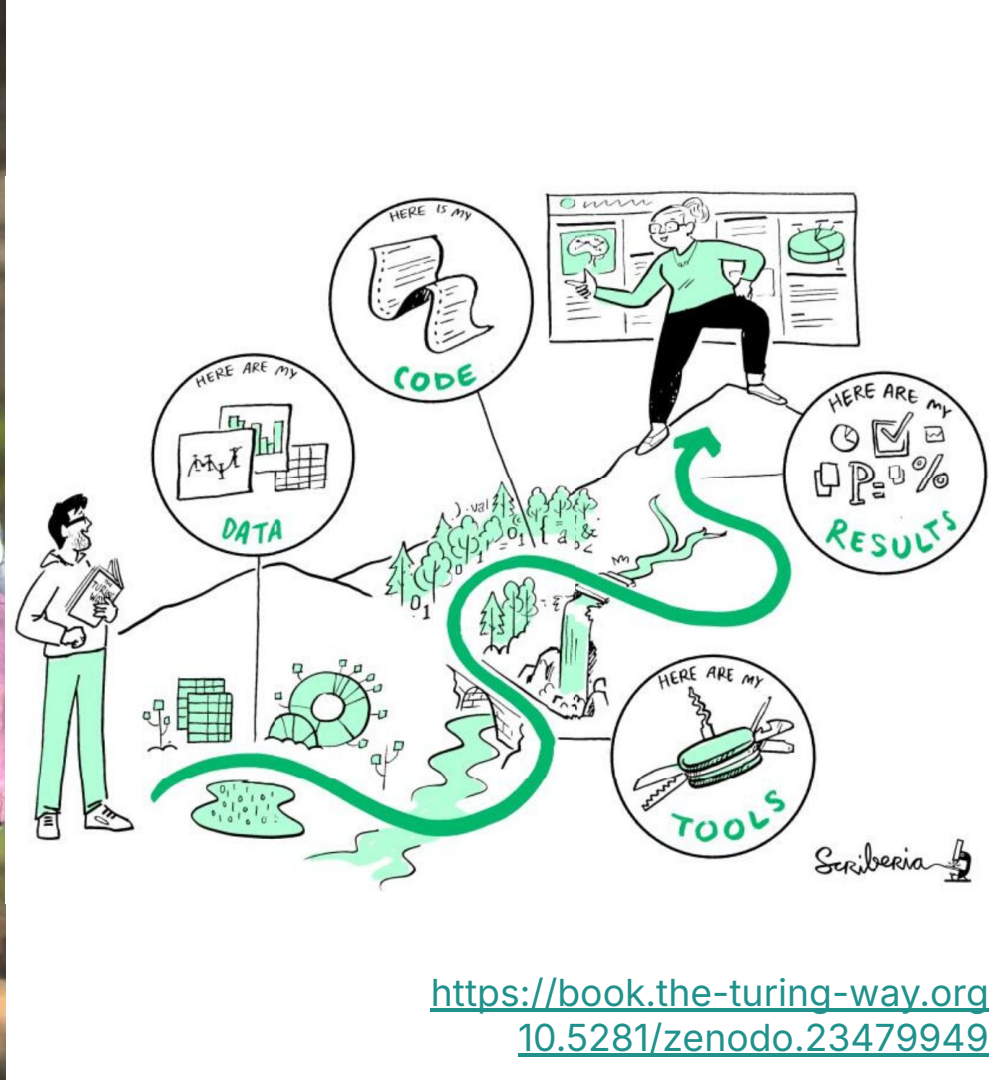
Pronouns: she/her/hers

GitHub: [KirstieJane](#)

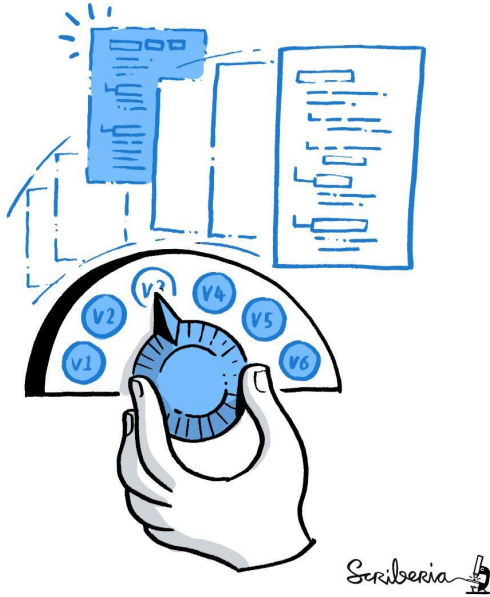
LinkedIn: [KirstieWhitaker](#), [BIDS](#)

BlueSky: [KirstieJane](#), [ucbids](#)

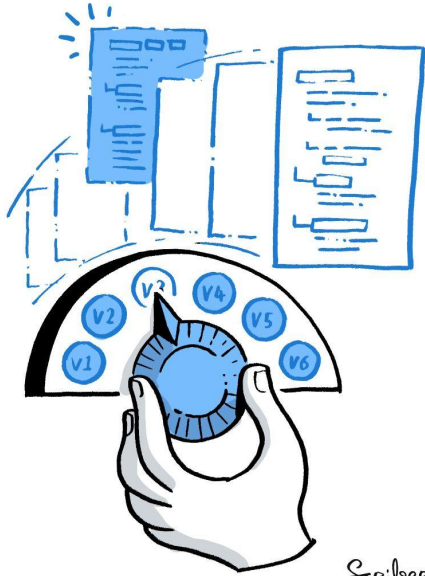
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<https://book.the-turing-way.org/10.5281/zenodo.23479949>



Version control



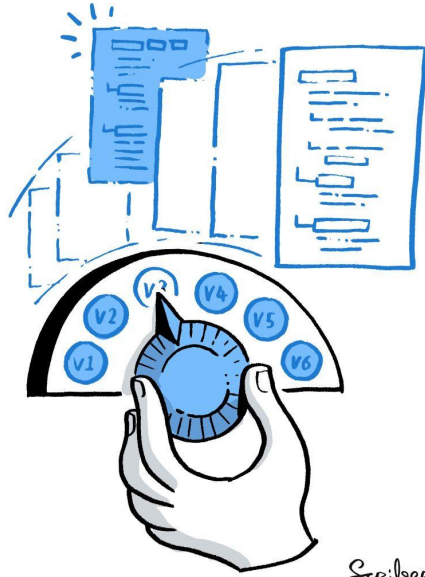
Version control



Collaborate

<https://book.the-turing-way.org/collaboration/github-novice>
<https://book.the-turing-way.org/reproducible-research/vcs>

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Version control

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Collaborate



Contribute

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The Meaning Matrix

benjames.io

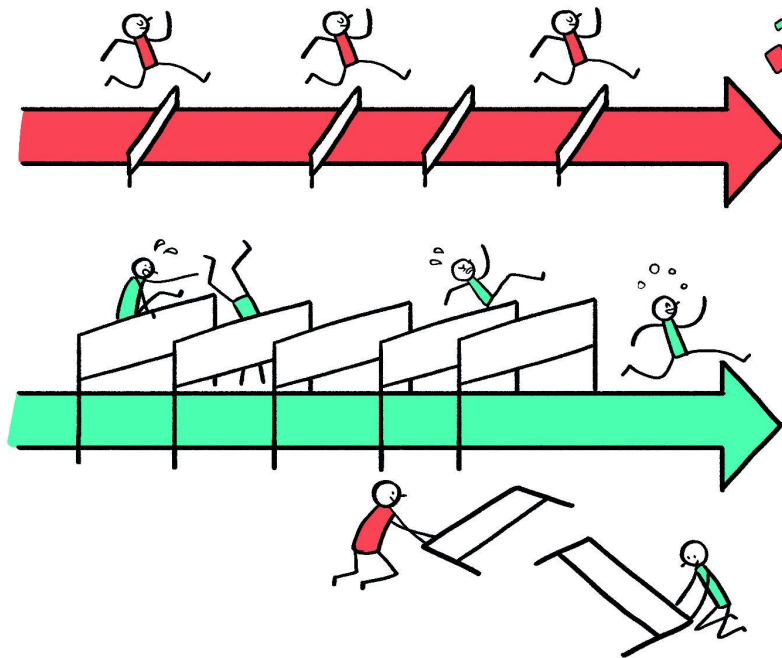
	ALONE	TOGETHER
CONSUMING	• Scrolling / Netflix • Shopping • Duolingo (sorry) BAD	• Getting coffee • Movie night • Eating-holidays • Gaming FUN
CREATING	• Cooking for yourself • Solo art/tech projects • Making a bike/dress/ house/car/book GOOD	• Starting a band, club, company • Building a camp • Putting on a show • Group crafts MEANING IS FOUND HERE

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Barriers to participation



Ethnographic exploration

Voices of JupyterHub

Dan Sholler¹ , Beth Duckles¹ , and Jonah Duckles¹ ¹Organizational Mycology



ORGANIZATIONAL
MYCOLOGY

Abstract

JupyterHub's impact on the world deserves to be celebrated: Over ten years of community-driven work has enabled scientists, students, systems administrators, and all sorts of other groups to collaboratively learn and work together. This report, based on interviews and interactions with members of the JupyterHub community, aims to celebrate these accomplishments. These conversations have also highlighted areas for improvement, from those that support better software (e.g., attracting and retaining new contributors) to those that encourage a healthier, more vibrant community (e.g., enhanced communication and collaboration). While the report is lengthy, we hope you will read it and come away feeling encouraged by JupyterHub's successes and motivated by the project's opportunities going forward.

"I think that is probably the thing I'm most proud of with Jupyter, it's not the awards and all of that. It's how many people we've actually touched."

*Carol Willing
Willing Consulting*

<https://chanzuckerberg.com/eoss/proposals/jupyterhub-community-strategic-lead>

<https://voicesofjupyterhub.orgmycology.com/10.5281/zenodo.23479949>

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"Just contributing to a project like JupyterHub, which is so widely used, is also satisfying in a sense."

*Tarashish Mishra
Development Seed*

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"If I'm doing this voluntarily, most of the time, if I'm going to do anything substantive, it's going to be something that I think is interesting."

*Simon Li
University of Dundee*

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"Honestly, it's used. It's used. It's amazing. It's used by thousands around the world every day. And it's cloud agnostic and it's open source. And that's just really cool."

Kirstie Whitaker
Alan Turing Institute

<https://chanzuckerberg.com/eoss/proposals/jupyterhub-community-strategic-lead>

<https://voicesofjupyterhub.orgmycology.com/10.5281/zenodo.23479949>



Ethnographic exploration

JupyterHub can improve:



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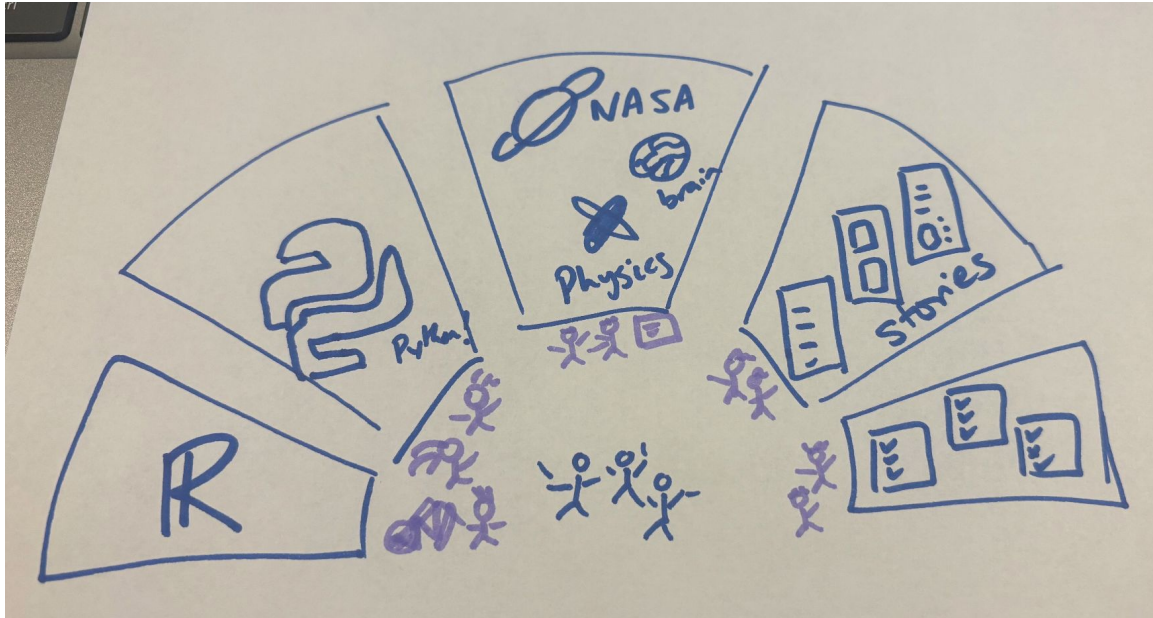
- We **struggle with onboarding** new contributors and delegating responsibilities.
- JupyterHub exists in a complex organizational ecosystem.
 - There have been **challenging interactions** that have caused contributors and maintainers to leave the project.
- JupyterHub's culture needs **collective leadership structures** that seek to better retain contributors and avoid burnout.

Leadership retreat: June 2025



<https://voicesofiuppyterhub.orgmycology.com/10.5281/zenodo.23479949>

What is JupyterHub?



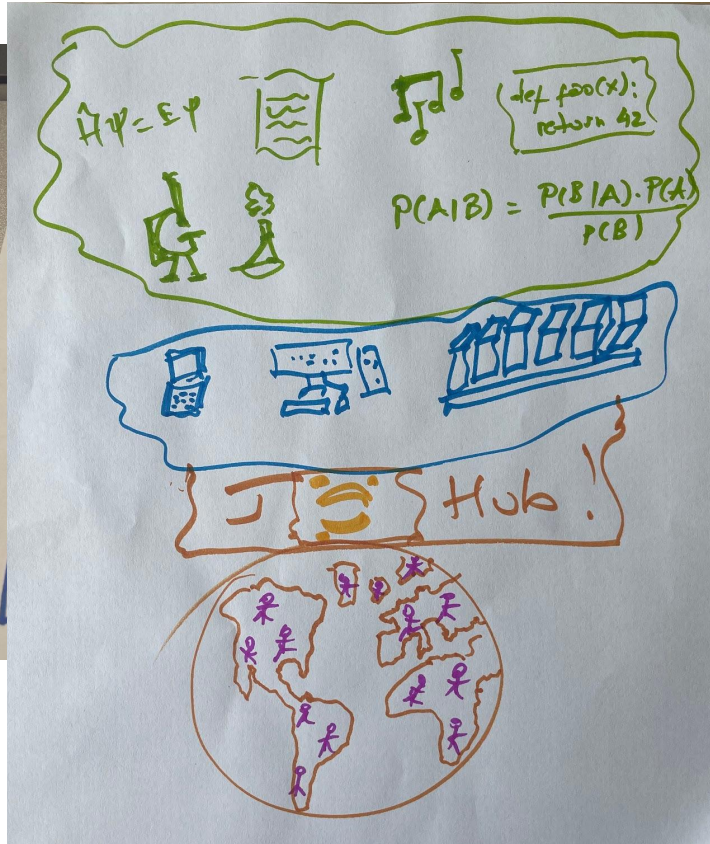
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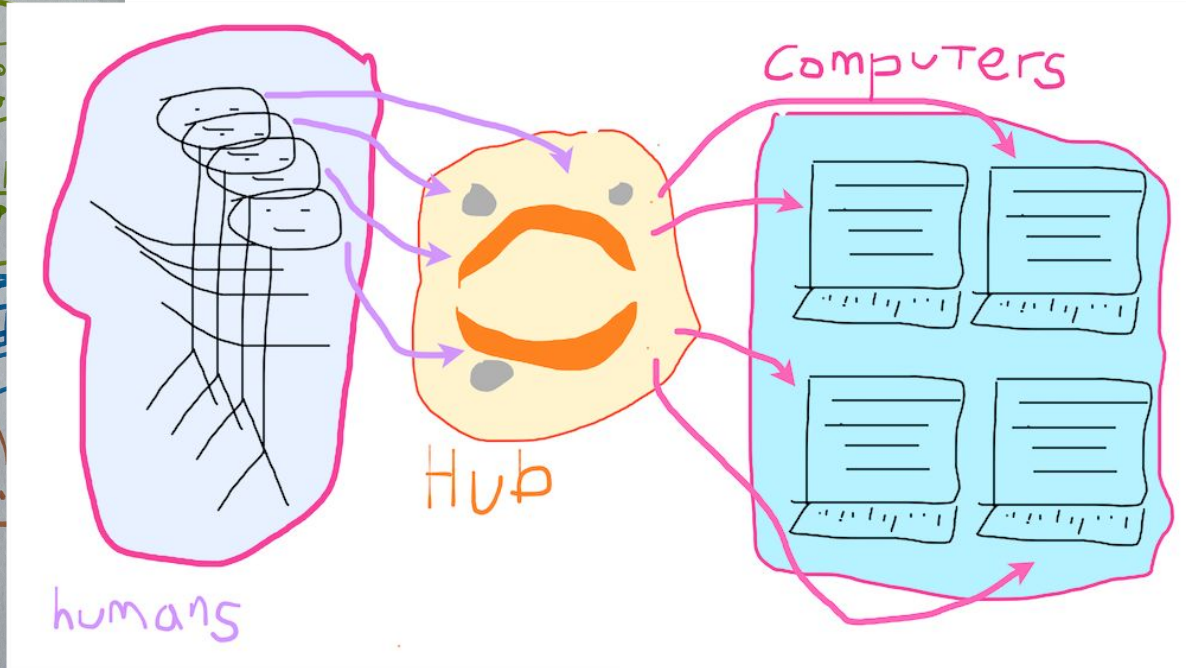
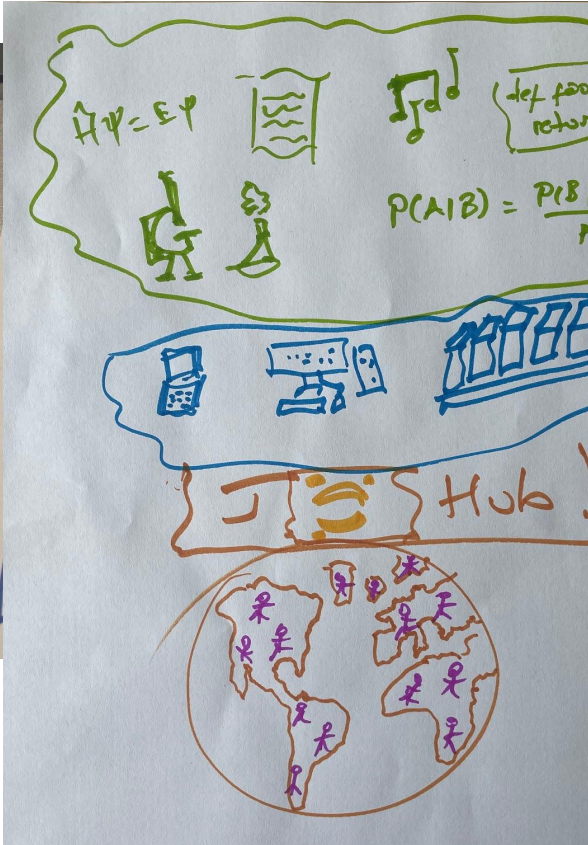
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What is JupyterHub?



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Empowering collaborative computing for everyone, everywhere.



<https://bids.berkeley.edu/news/march-ospo-monthly-knowledge-exchange-roadmap-workshop-jupyterhub-and-binder-share-out>

<https://voicesofjupyterhub.orgmycology.com/10.5281/zenodo.23479949>

Not just for notebooks

Empowering collaborative computing for everyone, everywhere.

JupyterHub democratizes access to interactive computing environments by providing **secure**, **scalable**, and **user-friendly** platforms that enable individuals, teams, and organizations to explore data, and **advance knowledge without barriers**.



Not Just for Notebooks: JupyterHub in 2025

<https://youtu.be/-wwia9YzHOE>

[10.5281/zenodo.23479949](https://zenodo.org/record/23479949)

Roadmapping to improve community capacity, alignment, and team productivity

Community capacity

Alignment

Team productivity

People are our priority.

Every piece of code in
JupyterHub (the
technology) could
change and still deliver
the mission of
JupyterHub (the
project).

Who are the **future contributors** to JupyterHub?



Who are the **users** of JupyterHub?



Who are the **deployers & administrators** of

JupyterHub?



Users of JupyterHub workshop: November 2025

Workshop purpose: Explore possible pathways for users to directly **contribute their expertise back** to JupyterHub.

People learn about JupyterHub updates through **word of mouth**.

One table's advice for staying current was, only half-joking, **"clone Ryan Lovett"** —not the first time the project has heard that!



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Listen to our users and potential new contributors.

Understand their motivations & barriers.

Build pathways to take on maintenance responsibilities.

Alignment

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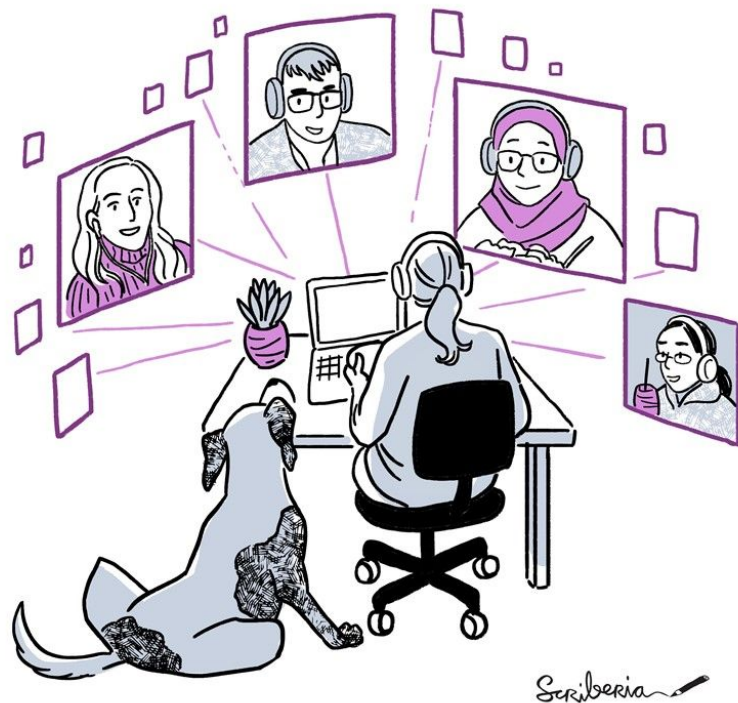
Every piece of code in JupyterHub (the technology) could change and still deliver the mission of JupyterHub (the project).

Team productivity

HubDash: December 2025

Creating. Together.

- Scope migrating docs to Jupyter Book 2
- "What is the point of a roadmapping workshop?"
- add `slow_spawn_message` progress for slow spawns - #825
 - Issue opened in March 2024
 - Simon commented in June 2024
 - Next update in Nov 2025
 - **Collaborative, synchronous review at the HubDash**



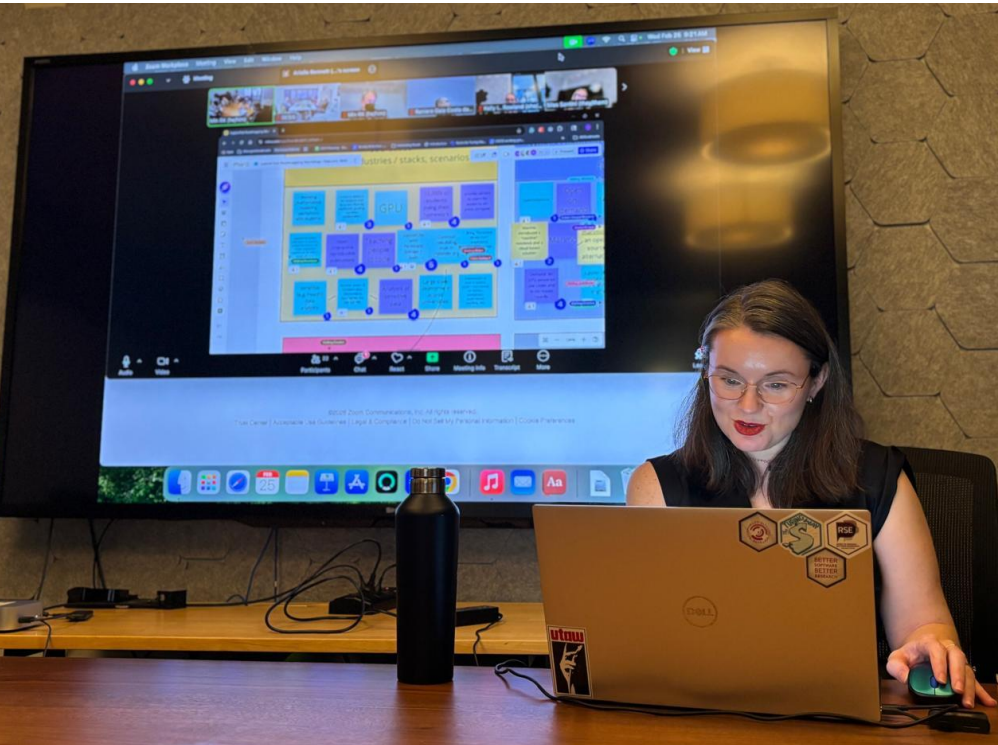
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community-handbook/bookdash
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Roadmapping Workshop: February 2026



[10.5281/zenodo.23479949](https://zenodo.org/record/23479949)

Figuring out how to work effectively with each other!



- In person Hubs in Europe and California
- Remote attendees in European and American time zones
- Remote first collaboration: laptops open, connected to zoom, shared notes online.
- Three 2.5 hour contribution times with one synchronous time that overlapped across time zones

What is the purpose of a roadmapping workshop?

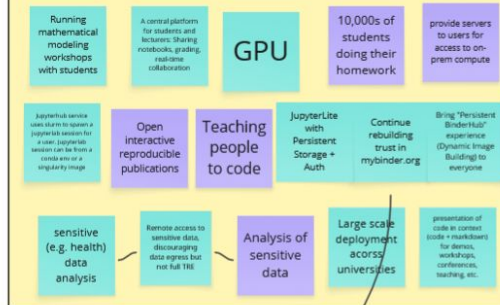
To define a roadmap:
what should we work on?

To figure out how to
keep a roadmap updated!

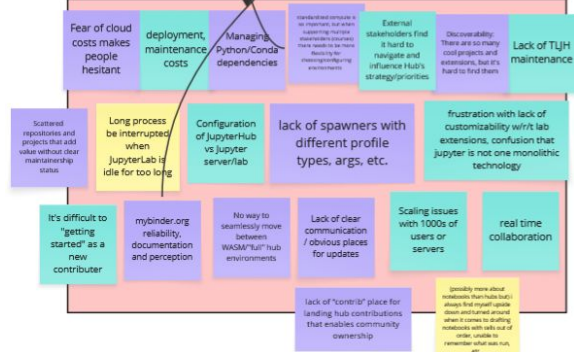
To figure out (as a team) **how to follow a roadmap**

To **support new contributors** to join the project

Different industries / stacks, scenarios



What have our users highlighted to us as issues?



What's changing in the stacks of our admins?
What other projects/products offer similar functionality?



What are we missing, in terms of either functionality, use cases, or as a project?
Why would someone choose a different product?



New funding landscape? Shifts in policy? Different compliance requirements?



Where could JupyterHub go?



Learning together



The International
Interactive Computing
Collaboration

2i2c operates shared cloud infrastructure so communities can focus on their work, not their servers, and they invest back into the open source tools that make their work possible.

Their roadmap is public and continually updated based on funding, priorities, and community needs.



<https://2i2c.org/roadmap>
[10.5281/zenodo.23479949](https://zenodo.org/record/23479949)

Learning together



The International
Interactive Computing
Collaboration

The anatomy of a roadmap initiative:

- Problem Statement
- Proposed Solution
- Proposed Implementation
- How will this fit in the ecosystem?
- Endorsements



<https://2i2c.org/roadmap10.5281/zenodo.23479949>

Enable customizing community-maintained images with repo2docker #2

Open



minrk opened on Feb 26

Member



Problem Statement

As an administrator of a lot of images for use with JupyterHub, I want to empower my users to manage their own image customizations while I take care of the basic infrastructure. A common pattern is that they need a few additional packages beyond the common environment used by everybody. Doing this in Dockerfiles requires people to understand Dockerfiles, which can diverge, and have other maintenance problems. Building with just existing repo2docker doesn't currently fit the "base environment + small additions" pattern, because of duplication and build time costs.

Proposed Solution

Add to repo2docker the ability to build on a user-specified base image and add some packages via the usual well-known files like `requirements.txt`, etc. without starting from scratch creating a full environment or requiring users to write and maintain a Dockerfile.

Proposed Implementation

implementation plan written up to add a new buildpack for this: [jupyterhub/repo2docker#1505](https://github.com/jupyterhub/repo2docker/pull/1505)

How will this fit in the ecosystem?

Solving this problem in repo2docker makes repo2docker a tool more fit for following best practices building related collections of images, and connects to other community projects like jupyter/docker-stacks, pangeo, rocker, rather than the choice between "build a whole environment from scratch" or "write your own Dockerfile" which are the two choices thus far while still meeting our users where they are, for whom a `requirements.txt` is manageable, but a Dockerfile is not.

Endorsements

- [@yuvipanda](#), [@minrk](#), [@yijunge-ucb](#), [@shane knapp](#) and more came up with this plan at the JupyterHub roadmap workshop. [@yijunge-ucb](#), [@shane knapp](#) will lead implementation of the new buildpack.



1

2



<https://github.com/jupyterhub/roadmap>
<https://2i2c.org/roadmap>
[10.5281/zenodo.23479949](https://zenodo.org/record/23479949)

Welcome Sandeep!

**Open Source Research Software Engineer:
Computational Infrastructure**

Hey, by the way, BIDS is hiring 5 roles to join Sandeep to work on BioJupyter and Lightcone Research!

Onboarding task: JupyterHub roadmap #11:
Modernize package metadata in
pyproject.toml



<https://www.lightconersearch.org/careers>

<https://bids.berkeley.edu/news/join-us-were-recruiting-four-positions-build-biojupyter-bids>

<https://github.com/jupyterhub/roadmap/issues/11>
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Team productivity

Still navigating! Hard to find time to write up our notes and disseminate.

Learning with 2i2c and the Jupyter Book team.

HubDash 2 in December 2026!

Thank you Serena!

JupyterHub and Jupyter Book Community Manager

Funded by the Jupyter Foundation

"You go to JupyterCon, meet the people, watch their YouTube videos, participate in online meetings. And then, there is a job posting for a community manager. And you are like: "Nah, they will never hire me", so you set it aside. But then somebody out of the blue tells you to apply because "100% of lottery winners played!"."



<https://blog.jupyter.org/posts/2026/becoming-the-new-jupyterhub-and-jupyter-book-community>

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Creating together: join us!

HubDash: December 2026

- 30 Nov-1 Dec 2026
- Users' survey
- Roadmap review

Collaboration cafes

- 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month, 11am Pacific
- 1 hour, parallel breakout rooms
- Shared with Jupyter Book



[https://book.the-turing-way.org/
community-handbook/bookdash
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Thank you!

