

Community of  
Edinburgh  
Research  
Software  
Engineers



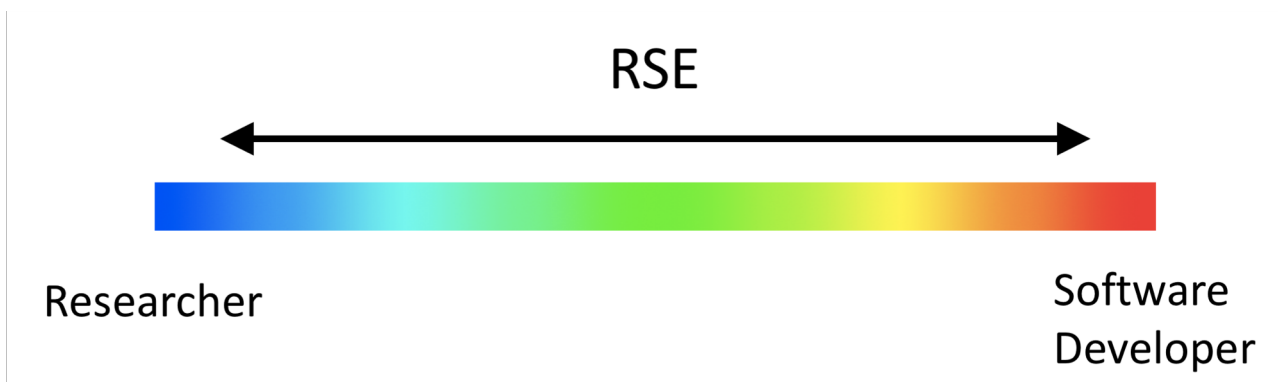
- Bringing together people whose role is to develop research software
- Many RSEs working across Edinburgh, but are often isolated
- ***Github repos, slack channels, mailing lists, meetups – join us!***
- ***<https://github.com/cerse/2018-11-21-ECA>***

# Better together

- Edinburgh area has a large amount of experience and expertise which would be valuable to the RSE community
- The RSE community has a lot of experience and expertise which would be valuable to people around Edinburgh (and they may not know about)
- Opportunities for career development of people in the Edinburgh area

# What is a Research Software Engineer?

- Many people in research organizations around the world combine expertise in programming with an intricate understanding of research. Although this combination of skills is extremely valuable, these people often lack a formal career path, particularly in the academic system. There is no easy way to recognise their contributions, reward them, or represent their views.
- These people are [Research Software Engineers](#)



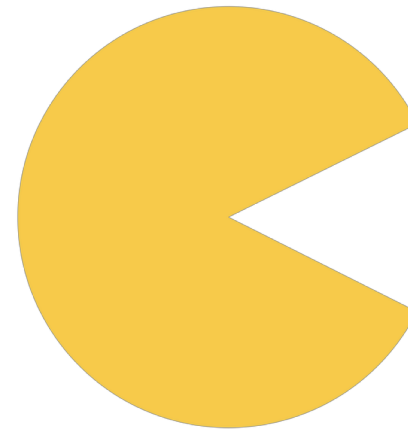
# Why do we care about this?

- RSEs are critical to research but their role is not generally recognised (particularly in academia)
- Career evaluation structures need to be changed to match RSE careers better (e.g. not just publication-based)
- Appropriate career progression structures need to be put in place - should be support for technical advancement, not just managerial
- Recognise value of research software and its development on a par with research outputs
- Demonstrate the importance of RSEs to researchers, institutions and funders

# The Pac-Man rule

- You have explicit permission to join new groups of people
- Meet people
- Make friends
- Join groups
- Battle past awkward silence
- Have a great time with new people

- Give explicit permission for new people to join your group



Stand like Pac-Man!

- Help break the feeling of a clique

Eric Holscher:

<https://www.ericholscher.com/blog/2017/aug/2/pacman-rule-conferences/>

<https://www.ericholscher.com/blog/2017/dec/2/breaking-cliques-at-events/>

# What can you do after today?

- Join the Association: [www.rse.ac.uk](http://www.rse.ac.uk)
- Get notified when the Society launches: [www.society-rse.org](http://www.society-rse.org)
- Join the RSE Slack: <https://ukrse.slack.com/join/signup>
  - and join the #edinburgh channel
- Join the CERSE mailing list: [Ed-rse-community@jiscmail.ac.uk](mailto:Ed-rse-community@jiscmail.ac.uk)
- Help us build this community!
  - Suggest events or activities
  - Help organise or host
  - Bring along a friend