Community of
Edinburgh
Research
Software
Engineers

A Way Forward

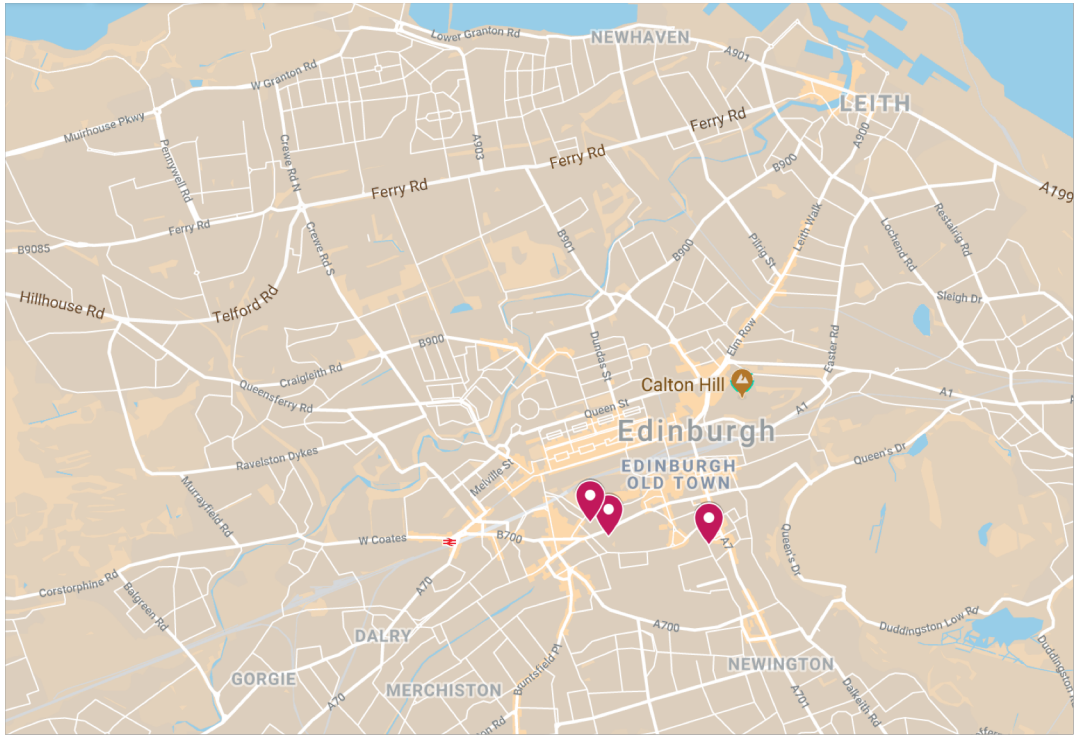
A Personal View

Goals

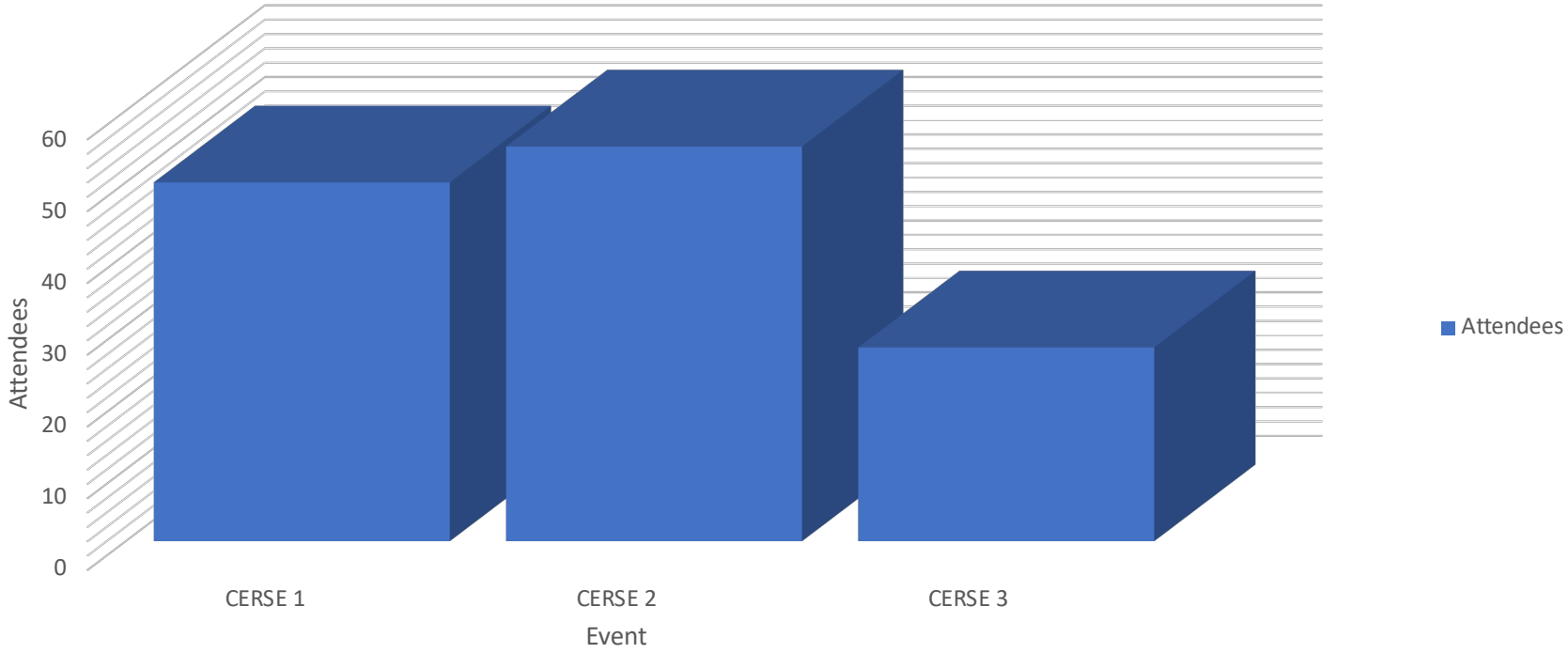
- Cater to Research Software Engineers (RSEs) in Edinburgh.
  - Researchers whose main interest lies in developing software.
  - More verbose definition at: https://rse.ac.uk/who/.
- Bring together people whose role is to develop research software.
  - Networking opportunity – get to know other similar people in Edinburgh.
  - Forum for discussion:
    - Exchange tips, resources, form special interest groups, training, etc.
- Act as a lobby group.
  - Contextualise to particular institutions.
- End up as a grass-roots, sustainable, self supporting franchise.

Distribution of meetings

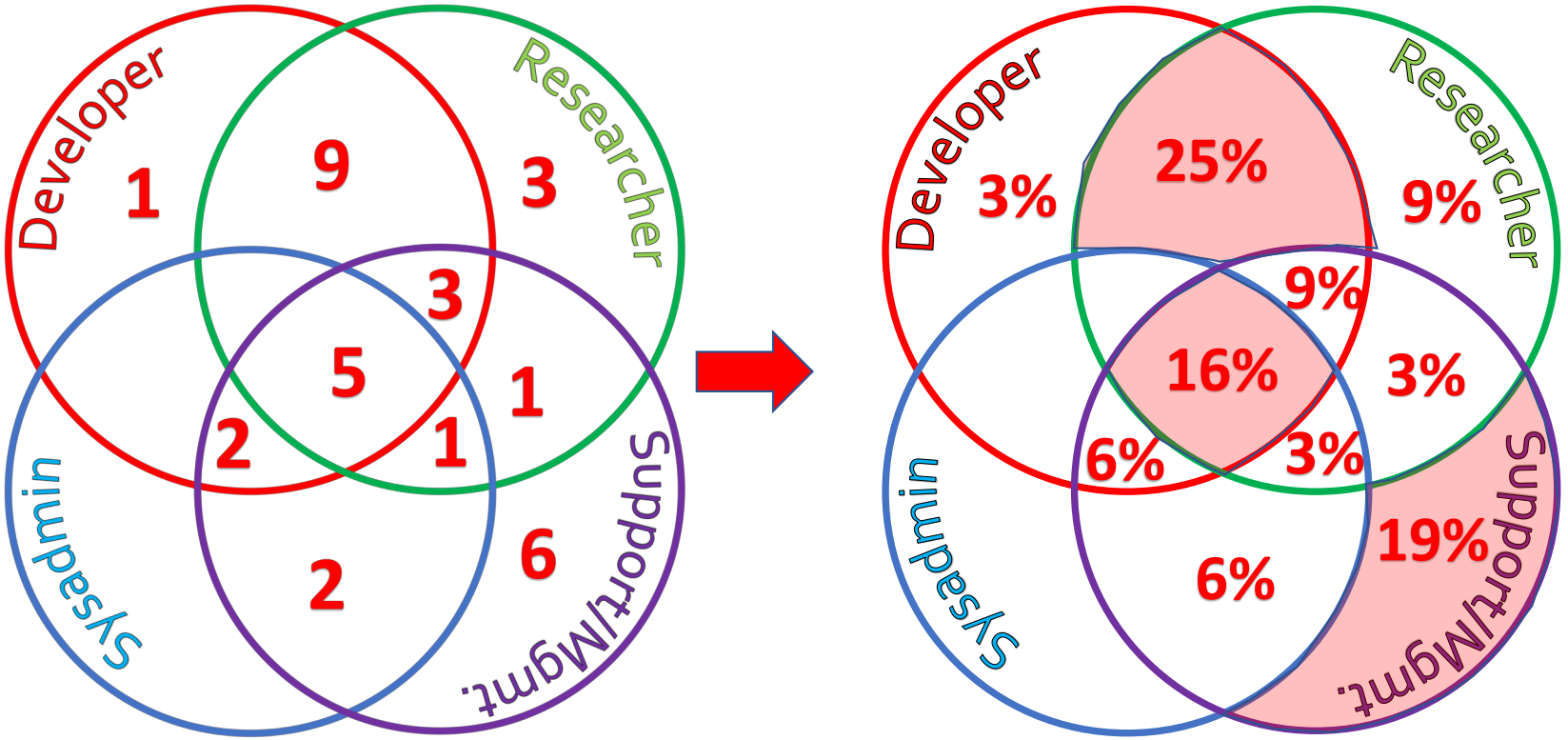
- Tried to move around Edinburgh
  1. Bayes Centre
  2. Edinburgh College of Art
  3. Argyle House
- All Edinburgh University centric
  - Convenience
  - All very central
- Volunteer a future venue
  - Please get in touch
- Are we trying to do too much?



Number of Attendees at CERSE events



Attendees self identify @ ECA CERSE Meeting



Attendees asked to place a sticky on a Venn diagram in the role they saw themselves. 31 Attendees participated.

Edinburgh Carpentries

- Effort working in parallel:
  - Provide basic computing to postgraduates.
  - Better Software, Better Research
- Use materials provided by the carpentries:
  - https://carpentries.org/
- Up to today have:
  - Provided about 8 courses with 13 days of training.
  - More on the way:
    - https://edcarp.github.io/website/
    - https://github.com/edcarp
- You can get involved as an instructor/helper.

Open questions

Originally was going to try to answer these but got you guys to do it!

- What is the right frame to have between meetings?
- Realistically, can we cater to the whole of Edinburgh?
  - We can be open in terms of attendance.
- What is the right time length? 3 hours too long or too short?
  - For other institutions probably want later times?
- What is the best day to hold these meetings?
  - Tried Wednesdays up to this point.

How to proceed

- Looking for the next set of venues for meeting
  - Still trying to inform the community:
    - King's Buildings
    - Little France
    - Western General
    - Rosslyn
    - Heriot Watt/Napier/etc
  - Hope to franchise meetings thereafter
    - One possible operational model
- Looking for volunteers that might want to help organise next meeting
  - Set the agenda/publicise meeting/…

What can you do after today?

- Join the Association: www.rse.ac.uk
- Get notified when the Society launches: 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

- Help us build this community!
  - Suggest events or activities
  - Help organise or host
  - Bring along a friend

Community Resources

slack

https://ukrse.slack.com/ #edinburgh

JISCM@il

Ed-rse-community@jiscmail.ac.uk

GitHub

https://github.com/cerse
https://cerse.github.io/

https://twitter.com/cerse7