N8 CIR Newsletter

Welcome

January always seems like a long month, indeed the rest, relaxation and festivities of the Christmas break seem a long time ago.

Throughout January we have been busy preparing new workshops for researchers across the N8. This includes an exciting Digital Research Infrastructure Retreat, made possible thanks to generous support from the EPSRC.

Read on to find out more...

Machine Learning

On 17 January we announced that Machine Learning would be the N8 CIR's new theme.

Machine Learning sits at the heart of a large number of modern data processing models and its importance and relevance is only likely to increase. Despite this rising popularity many Machine Learning practitioners operate independently, overcoming challenges and barriers in isolation.

One of the key drives of success for the new N8 CIR theme will be bringing together Machine Learning researchers and helping them to collaborate and share ideas and best practice.

Similarly we will work to identify common barriers and challenges faced by those looking to integrate Machine Learning into their work and develop activities to overcome them.

In order to develop a roadmap for the theme, we are holding A number of workshops at each of the N8 Universities where participants can discuss the challenges and propose improved support and ways of working.

Find out more at: https://n8cir.org.uk/news/ml-theme/

Please note that the events at the University of Leeds and the University of York have already taken place.

Digital Research Infrastructure Retreat

As a subscriber to our newsletter you will already have heard about our Digital Research Infrastructure Retreat that takes place between 28 March and 1 April.

The five-day retreat, taking place face-to-face and virtually, will focus on developing the soft skills specifically associated with working at the interface between researchers and technology.

The event will be modelled on the virtual residences that have taken place at the University of Oklahoma since 2015.

You can find out more about the retreat at: https://n8cir.org.uk/news/dri-retreat/

We'll share more details of the programme via our newsletter, website and Twitter feed. But for now, it may be worth blocking that week out of your calendar so you can maximise the potential benefits of attending, however you choose to do so.

Twitter Data Analysis for Digital Health Research
17 February, 10-11am

Social media platforms provide researchers with unprecedented amounts of data, they can access historic opinions and watch them change and develop over time. Similarly real-time data can be accessed just as easily.

In this session Joseph Allen, Research Associate at the UK Data Service, will explain Twitter's new Academic Tier, which gives researchers access to 10,000,000 Tweets a month from any point in Twitter's history.

Allen will go on to see if it is possible to detect Covid-like symptoms in a population before outbreaks are declared.

Find out more and register for a place at: https://n8cir.org.uk/events/twitter-for-health-research/

R for the Humanities
8 & 15 March, 10am – 12pm

Leah Henrickson returns to deliver a revised version of her popular and well-regarded workshop, 'R for the Humanities.' With an extra 30 minutes for practice and questions, this new session offers a gentle introduction to the R programming language, underpinned by practical examples from Digital Humanities.

Find out more and reserve a place at: https://n8cir.org.uk/events/r-hums-2022/
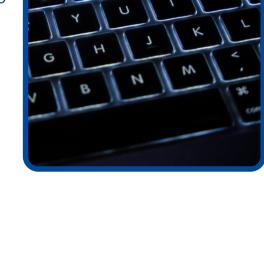
As this is a repeat of the 2021 session, previous attendees need not apply, this will help us to ensure that the workshop reaches as many people as possible.

Intermediate Python
5 & 6 April, 1-3pm

April will see the return of Melodee Beals who will be taking researchers a step further in their Python development with 'Intermediate Python for the Humanities.'

This course takes place over two days and will help participants to acquire, clean and analyse non-textual materials before going on to help participants to create their own visualisations.

Find out more and apply for a place at: https://n8cir.org.uk/events/intermediate-python-hums/

Training Materials

The N8 CIR website is packed with help, advice and information about our work.

We have two sections dedicated to providing online training materials.

The first is a list of materials available across the N8. This was originally prepared in April 2020 to help anyone working remotely: https://n8cir.org.uk/events/online-training/

If you have any materials that you would like to add, please e-mail enquiries@n8cir.org.uk to let us know.

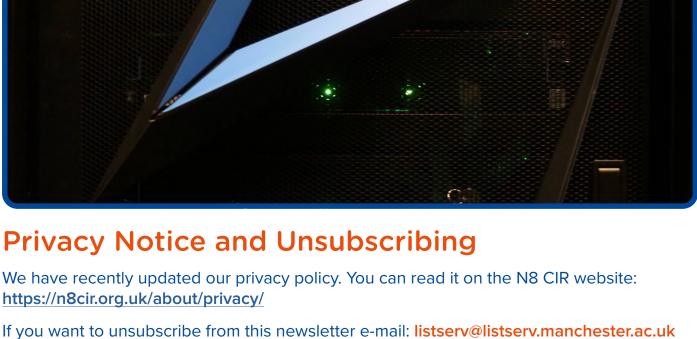The second section comprises recordings, slides, worksheets and, where appropriate, programming notebooks from some of the workshops we have hosted over the last 12 months. You can find these at: https://n8cir.org.uk/events/event-resource/

Bede Update

You can find out how to access the system at: https://n8cir.org.uk/supporting-research/facilities/bede/docs/bede_registrations/

If you're not sure that Bede is suitable for your needs then you can speak to a research software engineer who can offer advice about the system. Full details of how to contact your local Bede support can be found at: https://n8cir.org.uk/supporting-research/facilities/bede/rse-support-bede/

Bede's documentation, including general information about the system, hardware specifications, software environments and job submission scripts can be found at: https://bede-documentation.readthedocs.io/en/latest/

As a Bede user you can also join the Bede User Group where you can discuss issues and network with other users. Details of how to do this can be found at: https://n8cir.org.uk/contact/

Privacy Notice and Unsubscribing

We have recently updated our privacy policy. You can read it on the N8 CIR website: https://n8cir.org.uk/about/privacy/

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