

# ProgTeach: Programming Community of Practice

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# Noteable and ProgTeach: A Whistle Stop Tour

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# ProgTeach



# ProgTeach

- ▶ Community based around computational teaching
- ▶ Sharing good practice
- ▶ Showcase new and supported technologies



What is Noteable?



## Service Description

"The Noteable service is a cloud based platform providing access to Jupyter notebooks online. Noteable provides a central storage space to store and run Jupyter notebooks in a variety of programming languages"

# What are Jupyter notebooks?

- ▶ Computational notebook
- ▶ Multi-language support
- ▶ Open Source
- ▶ <https://jupyter.org/>

The image displays two overlapping Jupyter Notebook windows. The background window shows a 'Welcome to Jupyter' page with a warning message: 'WARNING: Don't rely on this server for production use. Your server is hosted there.' Below this, it provides instructions on how to run Python code in a notebook cell.

The foreground window is titled 'Exploring the Lorenz System' and contains the following content:

In this Notebook we explore the [Lorenz system](#) of differential equations:

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{x} &= \sigma(y - x) \\ \dot{y} &= \rho x - y - xz \\ \dot{z} &= -\beta z + xy\end{aligned}$$

This is one of the classic systems in non-linear differential equations. It exhibits a range of complex behaviors as the parameters  $(\sigma, \beta, \rho)$  are varied, including what are known as *chaotic solutions*. The system was originally developed as a simplified mathematical model for atmospheric convection in 1963.

In [ 7 ]:

```
interact(Lorenz, N=fix(10), angle=(0.,360.),
         sigma=(0.0,50.0), beta=(0.,5), rho=(0.0,50.0))
```

The code cell is followed by a slider interface for the parameters:

- angle: 308.2
- max\_time: 12
- $\sigma$ : 10
- $\beta$ : 2.6
- $\rho$ : 28

Below the sliders is a plot of the Lorenz attractor, showing its characteristic butterfly shape with multiple colored trajectories.



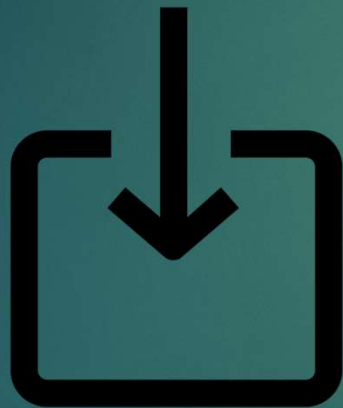
## Why use Jupyter?

- ▶ Able to provide context alongside live code
- ▶ Can create visualisations, data tables, embed media and work with remote data sets
- ▶ Not as daunting as Terminal or IDE
- ▶ Great for introductions to new students



# How to access?

Local Install



Created by Ananth  
from Noun Project

Jupyterhub



Created by AlePio  
from Noun Project

Introducing...





## Why Noteable?

- ▶ Central service supported by EDINA
- ▶ Learn integration
- ▶ Supporting teaching use case across University



## Noteable Pilot – Semester 1

- ▶ >600 users
- ▶ 6 different Schools
- ▶ Alternative use for training
- ▶ Benchmarking service against market

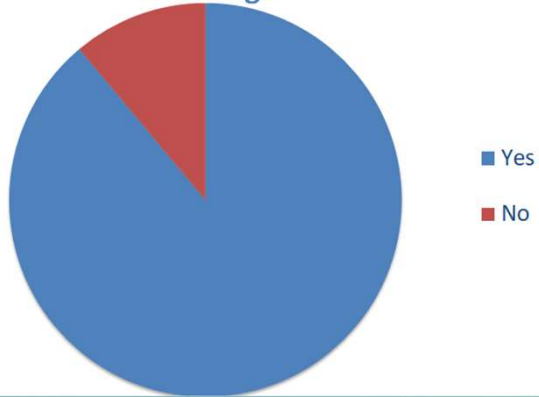


## Noteable Pilot – Semester 2

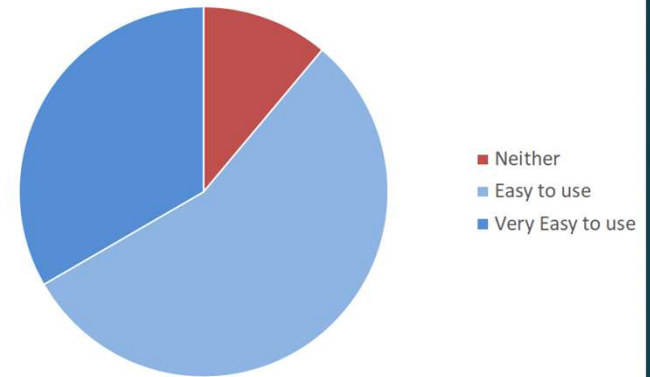
- ▶ >500 users in 4 schools
- ▶ nbgrader implementation
- ▶ First round of feedback
- ▶ Case studies ongoing

# Feedback

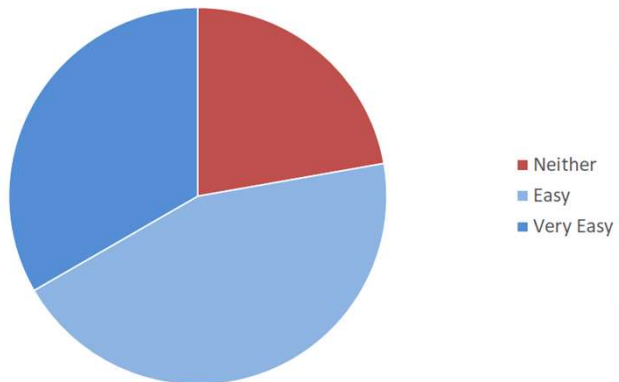
Do you intend to use the Noteable service again?



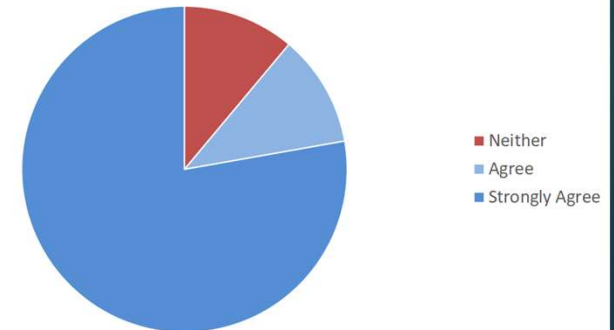
How would you rate the ease of use of the Noteable service?



How would you rate the ease of adoption?



"Using Noteable helped my students to interact with the material"



## Get involved

- ▶ Get in touch to trial Noteable
- ▶ Use Noteable in your classes or training
- ▶ Looking for Jupyter for Research users
- ▶ Share practice with others



# CodeRunner



## Group Discussions

- ▶ In your groups spend 10 minutes discussing what the ideal programming class would be in relation to each of the following topics:
  - ▶ Technology/Tools
  - ▶ Assessments
  - ▶ Space/Room
  - ▶ Method/Material
  - ▶ Different Skill Levels
  - ▶ Outside of class

## Technology and Tools

- ▶ What tools or platforms do you use
  - ▶ Are these language specific
  - ▶ Do these add barriers, students need to learn how to use
- ▶ Do you use tools or platforms that are not related to coding but help e.g. discussion boards
- ▶ What tools or platforms would you like to see supported at the University

# Assessments

- ▶ Do you use specific tools for assessment
- ▶ Do you set regular formative assessments
- ▶ What kind of feedback do you give
- ▶ Do you make use of peer-reviewing
- ▶ Are your assessment entirely code based or theory based
- ▶ Do you set assignments

## Space/Room/Time

- ▶ What is the best/ideal space for you to use and why
- ▶ Are you limited by access to resources I.e. machine with specific software
- ▶ What is the ideal length of session

## Method and Material

- ▶ What type of session do you believe is best
- ▶ Would you encourage students to follow along or work at their own pace
- ▶ Do you encourage group work or peer learning
- ▶ Do you focus on theory first
- ▶ When do you introduce code

## Dealing with different skill levels

- ▶ How do you deal with teaching an audience of different skills levels
- ▶ Do you encourage advanced students to help
- ▶ Do you set activities/challenges for those further ahead

## Outside of Class

- ▶ What work do you set outside of the class
- ▶ Do you set group work
- ▶ Do you have information students access before the sessions
- ▶ What ratio is this compared to in class work