Contributing to Open Source

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Who we are and why we are here!

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What we'll be talking about

- An **introduction** to a typical Open Source Software (OSS) project
- A **look** into OSS communities
- How to **connect** with a community
- **Contributing** code
- Why you should **care**!

A Typical OSS Project

Yes, there is code!

And there are people!

And rules, too.

(we get to that later)

Let’s focus on people!

Community Roles

Owner

Maintainers, Collaborators

Contributors

Community Members

… and more

Owners

- ⇒ Has a project on their account (ownership)
- Person or organization
- Not necessarily the creator
- May define rules, processes and/or structures

Maintainers, Collaborators

- ⇒ Run a project
- Write code & documentation
- Plan development / releases
- May define rules, processes and structures
- Aka. committers, project leads

Contributors

- ⇒ Contribute assets to a project
- Submit code
- Write documentation
- Update a wiki page

Community Members

- ⇒ Care about a project
- Adopters, Users
- File bug reports
- Participate in discussions
- Help users
- Give talks / spread the word

OSS Communities

The values of communities

Or why do we have them?

Outreach

Governance

Culture

Infrastructure

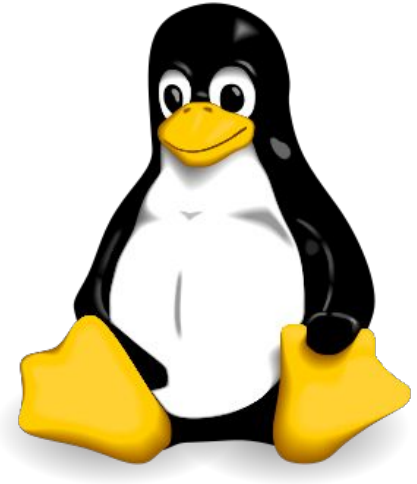
… and more

Apache
SOFTWARE FOUNDATION

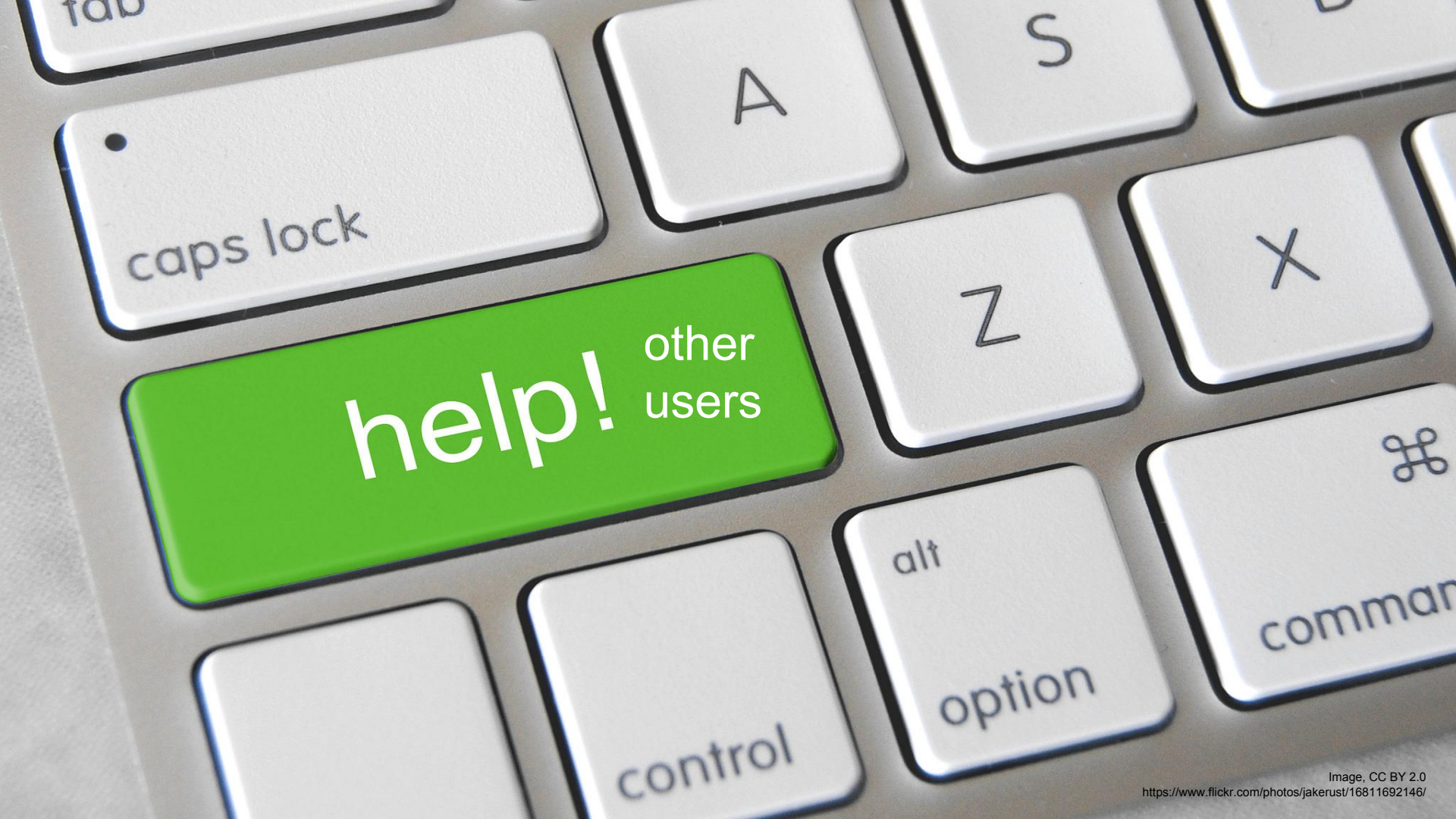
eclipse

GitHub

OpenJDK



Connect with a community



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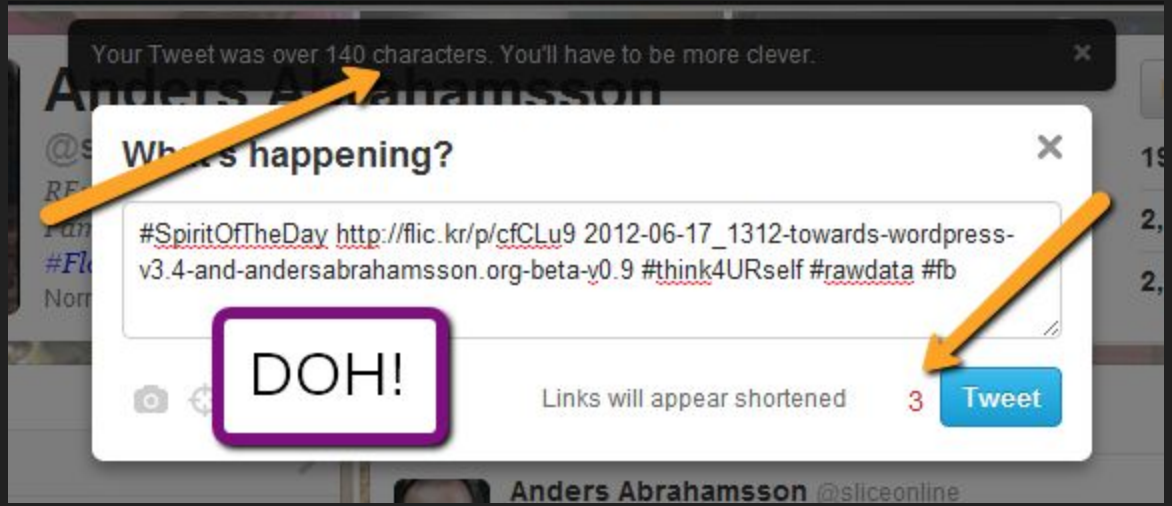
Report problems



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Speak at conferences

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Participate in discussions

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Contributing code

Code

Remember the rules part?

Bug fixes, new functionality

Coding conventions

License

Intellectual property, copyright

3rd party libraries

etc.

Follow the project guides and conventions

- Contribution process
- Coding conventions
- Source code formatting
- Patch size
- Unit tests
- Code comments
- Separate commits/changes (fixing A while working on B)
- Communication & expectations

Intellectual Property

- How is the project licensed?
- Who owns the code you wrote?
- Are you allowed to contribute?
- Are you allowed to (re-) license the code you are submitting?
- What is a Contributor License Agreement?
- Is there a process to follow?

Why you should care!

Thank you!