Null Camp

Null Camp is a place where people can come together and work on a task together for a few days. In the current world of 2020 this would basically mean that people will have weekends reserved for a specific aim and would work towards finalizing a goal. The action items that can be taken up at null camp would have to have a definative response:

1. Workshop / Talk
2. Standards/Guidelines Discussion Group
3. Open Source Hackathon

Of these hackathons and discussion groups will be an ongoing effort with the conclusions drawn as part of the hackathon event. Workshop or talks could be a specific topic focused entry.

Workshop / Talk
We can have pre selected talks focused on specific topics and those can then be followed up with discussion and handson.

Standards / Guidelines Discussion Group
There are a large number of standards that need to be addressed in India as well as various Security Standards where Null can contribute. This section would deal with special interest groups (SIG) and final results of effort can be presented and finalized here before being made public.

OpenSource Hackathon
Community has software needs as well as many open source software needs contributors. We can work towards a hackathon focused on a handful of tools or specific tasks and people can collectively solve the issues.
Example: a weekend reserved for adding new features to swachalit.

Duration: 1 day

Initially we can keep 1 or 2 Special interest groups and hackathon topics. Later we can expand as we get more people onboard.

Hackathon
First 1 hour: author would give an idea about a tool and then people can focus on adding features or fixing bugs. Final outcomes to be accepted in the tool in the next 24 hours.

SIG

2 topics and full day discussion and document finalization to take place. End of day the final outcome would then be processed and the resultant document to be Null Branded and posted online in the next 1 week.

Physical Events can be combined with nullcon but virtual events we will have to figure out.

EMAIL DISCUSSIONS

Some of you are already aware as we discussed this at c0c0n this year and offline as well but I want to put it up here and see what others think.

The Idea: So, we are thinking of planning an annual null camp every year. For the first time, of course, no better place than Goa and no better time than a day before nullcon. Later we may want to do it at a new place every year (Kausaul, Dharamshala, XYZ, etc.)

There are two ways we can do it.

1.) Talks: We follow the same style as a null meet and make it a higher platform for good talks. Every chapter lead gets to nominate 1-2 best talks of the year from their chapter and a review team selects 5-6 overall talks which in some sense are the best talks of the null community for that particular year.

In the camp, we do 5-6 talks, followed by may be a short hands on session and an after party of course.

More details on the format and structure can be worked out.

2.) Hackathon: We host the camp in an open style and facilitate resources for it. People can spend an entire evening/night hacking some open source software(s).

I would like to hear if we all first agree on this and then we can put this over on the moderator list.

Low-level details can be worked out later.

Cheers!
Sandeep

Hi folks,

Just to add a bit more context. As of today if we do meet, and meet a lot of good presenters we encourage them to go ahead present at conferences etc but for null as a whole there is no place to show the best of null. This Talks event which is what i initially thought of was suppose to be that the best of null at one place. A lot of null folks anyways travel to goa around nullcon so not

too much of a burden on them but this event would also allow us to nurture good talent and move them forward.

Hackathon idea is good however until and unless we a have a solid target in mind which doesn't require good internet connectivity we might be in a pickle situation as we might not have internet available at most places (I can say for sure all of us have faced those issues)

I wanted it to be relaxed and non formal like null meets but some structure around it.

In order to be fair to all chapters we cameup with the point around doing selections of 2 best talks per chapter and then selecting best of the best from them by a review panel. (its not straight forward and there are lots of hoops we will have to cross but i feel the effort would be worth it)

Similarly if we go with hackathon we need to have a target, we need to have some help available who can help people in hacking the target we also need to decide if we just want to attack or we also want to secure or submit patches etc. So lots of hoops here also.

Please suggest if this idea even makes sense and if some of us are willing to work on it and then we can start working on the details.

P.S. the idea about doing it in dharamshalla etc in next years is lit and i am up for it.

-Anant

Adding Antriksh

My 2 satoshis

1. Dont restrict to best of null talks. Best of null talks can be a track. Keep it open to everyone.
2. My idea with nullcamp was to replicate typical hacker event like SHA2017 etc camp style events. No halls, no conference rooms n stuff.
3. Hackathons, workshops, villages, stalls - Self managed by submitters.
4. Payment - Im thinking everyone needs to pay (even speakers?). No travel reimbursement, no accommodation, no food. Want to talk? Want to put up a food stall? Most welcome. This payment should cover all logistics (we can do a combined funding for the first one, if logistics go beyond inflow).
5. Please note it will be a lot of work with no money. So, whoever is willing to be part of it, please be aware that you will have to spend a lot of dedicated time on it. If you cannot commit, I would advise not to get into it just for the sake of it.

6. If doing during nullcon for the first year, I would advise to do it post nullcon, because most of the folks will be busy with nullcon training and their talks. It would also be kind of a relaxation from the formal conference by camping n stuff. The only important thing is the venue, which Antriksh can suggest.

7. Im ok with Sponsorships, others? The way SHA folks do it is they take in kind and do not give any branding to sponsors.

Will send more as and when ideas come up :)

Cheers,
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Interesting suggestion.

I can help with the Hackathon along with anyone who is interested. I think the null tech WG can lead this initiative. We can probably take this forward like a Google summer of code thing but at a much smaller scale and without the financial incentives that google provides.

I can volunteer to initiate 1 OSS project during the hackathon and mentor 1 person who wants to take the project forward.
Ideally we should come up with 2-3 project ideas (new or existing) and publish it through blog & twitter to attract volunteers. The project can be initiate during the hackathon.

Abhishek

In past few days have spoken with couple of others and some good suggestions were presented. cataloguing them and bunch of points from my side here.

1. If we want to do anything physically at that place we need to find venue first and then we can think around how to use that.

2. I would not suggest a open sky event considering just after nullcon the heat waves are on the higher side so doing any open area event can result more in damage to the equipment and health of participants.

3. Suggestion from Akash which i really liked: Lets do a all chapter (or most of them) in sync event which can be parallel online synced, i.e. we will have physical meets at various chapters but all the chapters will be live streaming and hence people not able to attend anywhere they can open a specific page and that page will have all chapter youtube / streaming option entries.

(something on the lines of how devops or bugcrowd event was done) : This is something i am also excited about and would be willing to bet on in case we are not doing a post nullcon event @ Goa.

4. To be honest if we do something for the community i am not even expecting 100 folks to make a presence. as for cost i would agree we can make it everyone pay but i would love not to keep it too high. If possible lay it bare and show the community where the money went and how. (If someone has objections they are free to try doing it next time :D)

5. Sponsership i am not too keen as we don't want to keep it like yet another conference but we want to focus on the community aspect.

6. I liked abhisek's about hackathon but we would need someone to run point on that. Someone will have to ensure we get meaningful results if we spend time on it. (i am halfway through with my study groups experiments within bhopal and i am not too happy with the results so far.)

7. Like i have said before. We need a bigger and better platform to put null chapters out. if we take other talks etc we are basically making it another con i am not particularly interested in that.

I will send more thoughts and and when i get them sorted.

-Anant