



OPEN-SOURCE ENGINEERING

Student ID: 2400090115

Semester: Odd

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Course Code: 24CS02EF

Under the guidance of

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1. Understanding the Core Ubuntu Linux Distribution

1.1 Overview and Philosophy

Ubuntu is a powerful, free, and open-source operating system built on top of Debian Linux. It is widely recognized as the most popular Linux distribution for desktop usage due to its balance between stability, usability, and features. Developed by Canonical Ltd., Ubuntu follows the principle of “Linux for human beings,” focusing on accessibility and simplicity. Its design makes it suitable for beginners as well as advanced developers.

1.2 Desktop Experience (GNOME)

Ubuntu uses the GNOME desktop environment, which offers a clean, modern, and efficient user interface. The left-side dock provides immediate access to essential applications, while the Activities Overview serves as a central workspace manager accessible through the Super key. Ubuntu provides strong hardware detection, making it easy for users to install and use without technical difficulties.

1.3 Software Management and Packaging

Ubuntu uses a dual software management system:

1. **APT (Advanced Packaging Tool):** Handles DEB packages for system software and applications.
2. **Snaps:** A containerized package format that includes all required dependencies, ensuring consistent performance across versions. Snaps run in isolated sandbox environments, improving security and reliability.

This combination offers a large, modern, and secure application ecosystem.

3. Encryption and GPG

2.1 Types of Encryption in Ubuntu

Ubuntu supports two major encryption mechanisms: Full Disk Encryption and File/Directory Encryption.

2.1.1 Full Disk Encryption (FDE)

- Fully encrypts the entire disk, including OS files and user data.
- Uses LUKS (Linux Unified Key Setup).
- Requires a passphrase at boot time.
- Protects data from physical theft.

- Usually enabled during OS installation.

2.1.2 File and Directory Encryption

Allows selective encryption of files or folders.

Tools include:

- **GPG (GNU Privacy Guard):** Encrypts files and messages using public-key cryptography.
- **eCryptfs (legacy):** Used for encrypting the Home directory (now replaced by FDE).

2.2 GPG (GNU Privacy Guard)

2.2.1 Key Concepts

GPG uses asymmetric cryptography:

- **Public Key:** Shared with others; used for encryption and signature verification.
- **Private Key:** Kept secret; used for decrypting and signing.

2.2.2 Basic GPG Commands

Generate a Key Pair:

```
gpg --full-generate-key
```

Encrypt a File (Symmetric):

```
gpg -c myfile.txt
```

Encrypt for a Recipient (Asymmetric):

```
gpg --encrypt --recipient "recipient@example.com" mysecretfile.doc
```

Decrypt a File:

```
gpg --decrypt mysecretfile.doc.gpg
```

4. Sending Encrypted Email

3.1 Prerequisites

Both sender and recipient must:

1. Generate GPG keys.
2. Exchange Public Keys.
3. Import each other's keys using:

```
gpg --import recipient_key.asc
```

3.2 Sending Encrypted Email Using Thunderbird

3.2.1 Compose the Email

Write your message normally.

3.2.2 Apply Encryption and Signature

Using Thunderbird's OpenPGP tools:

- Enable **Encrypt**
- Enable **Sign**

Thunderbird will use:

- Your **Private Key** to sign.
- Recipient's **Public Key** to encrypt.

3.2.3 Verification and Sending

The email is encrypted and signed before being sent.

3.2.4 Recipient Decryption Process

The recipient:

- Uses their Private Key to decrypt.
- Uses your Public Key to verify authenticity.

4. Privacy Tools From PRISM-BREAK

4.1 Tor Browser

A privacy-preserving browser that routes traffic through the Tor network, preventing tracking, fingerprinting, and IP exposure.

4.2 Debian

A fully open-source GNU/Linux OS known for stability and strict free-software principles. Highly trusted for privacy.

4.3 Thunderbird

A secure, open-source email client with built-in OpenPGP encryption for safe communication.

4.4 KeePassXC

A local password manager that encrypts all credentials in one secure database.

4.5 Firefox

A privacy-focused browser that supports strong tracking protection and customizable security extensions.

5. Open Source License (MIT License)

5.1 Purpose and Classification

The MIT License is one of the most widely used permissive open-source licenses. It allows broad freedom for reuse, modification, and distribution, even in commercial software.

5.2 Granted Rights

The license permits users to:

- Use
- Copy
- Modify
- Merge
- Publish
- Distribute
- Sublicense
- Sell

as long as they follow the required conditions.

5.3 Distribution Requirements

Only two conditions:

1. Include the original copyright notice.
2. Include the full MIT License text.

5.4 Disclaimer of Warranty

All MIT-licensed software is provided “AS IS,” with no warranty. Authors are not responsible for damages or issues arising from use.

6. Self-Hosted Server – Wikmd (Wiki Server)

6.1 About

Wikmd is a lightweight, open-source wiki server designed for simple documentation. It uses Markdown files for content storage and regenerates pages instantly after edits. Its minimal setup makes it ideal for students and developers wanting full control over their data.

6.2 Key Features

- Markdown-based editing
- No database required
- Instant updates
- Clean user interface
- Easy folder structure
- Fully open source

6.3 Installation Process (My Self-Host Setup)

Step 1: Install Python and Git

```
sudo apt update
```

```
sudo apt install python3 python3-pip git
```

Step 2: Clone Wikmd

```
git clone https://github.com/LukeSmithxyz/wikmd.git
```

```
cd wikmd
```

Step 3: Install Dependencies

```
pip3 install -r requirements.txt
```

Step 4: Start the Server

```
python3 wikmd.py
```

Runs on:

<http://localhost:5000>

6.4 Making the Server Public Using Ngrok

Step 1: Install Ngrok

Downloaded from official site.

Step 2: Expose Port 5000

```
ngrok http 5000
```

Step 3: Public URL

Ngrok generates a public link, e.g.:

<https://random-id.ngrok.io>

Anyone can access the site through this link.

6.5 Summary of My Self-Hosting Experience


This project taught me:

- How local servers work
- Basics of networking and ports
- How tunneling exposes local apps globally
- Fundamentals of hosting websites

It was my first experience hosting a service myself, giving me a strong understanding of how websites function.

WikMD

Translated document



KL HTE
HONORS THROUGH EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING & GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT


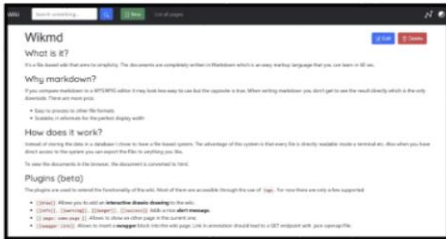
Open Source Engineering

Wiki

A collaborative site for sharing and editing information.

Wiki is a collaborative server on WikMD where users can share, edit, and explore information freely. It's open-source, transparent, and built for learning and creativity. Join to discover, contribute, and grow together!

License: MIT License



- Collaborative platform for sharing and editing knowledge
- Open-source and fully transparent
- Easy access for learning and exploration
- Community-driven with contributions from everyone
- Organized and searchable content for quick reference

Team:

Veera Sai (2400040255)

Steven joy (2400090115)

7. Open Source Contribution

7.1 PR 1: First Contribution

7.1.1 Goal

The aim of the project is to help beginners understand the basic open-source contribution workflow. It explains how to make a simple contribution by adding your name to the *Contributors.md* file.

7.1.2 The Contribution Workflow

The tutorial follows the standard steps used in almost every open-source project:

Fork - Clone - Edit - Pull Request

This is the main process used for team collaboration on GitHub.

7.1.3 1. Setup

- **Fork:** Create your own copy of the repository on your GitHub account.
- **Clone:** Download your fork to your computer using git clone with the SSH URL.
- **Prerequisites:** You must have Git installed. If you don't prefer command line, GUI tools are suggested as alternatives.

7.1.4 2. Making Changes

- **Create Branch:** Make a new branch for your changes:
`git switch -c your-new-branch-name`
- **Edit:** Open *Contributors.md* and add your name.
- **Commit:**
 - Stage the file: `git add Contributors.md`
 - Save the change:
`git commit -m "Add your-name to Contributors list"`

7.1.5 3. Submission

- **Push:** Send your new branch to your GitHub fork:
`git push -u origin your-branch-name`
- **Pull Request:**
Go to your GitHub fork → click "**Compare & pull request**" → submit the PR for review by the maintainers.

7.1.6 Difficulties and Solutions

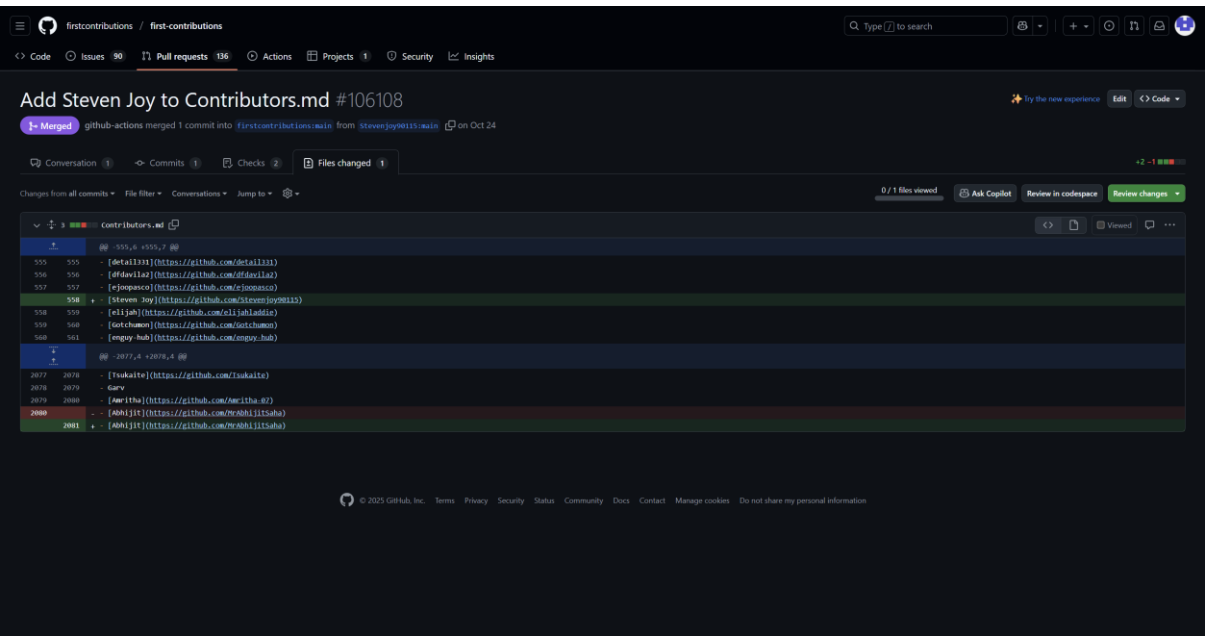
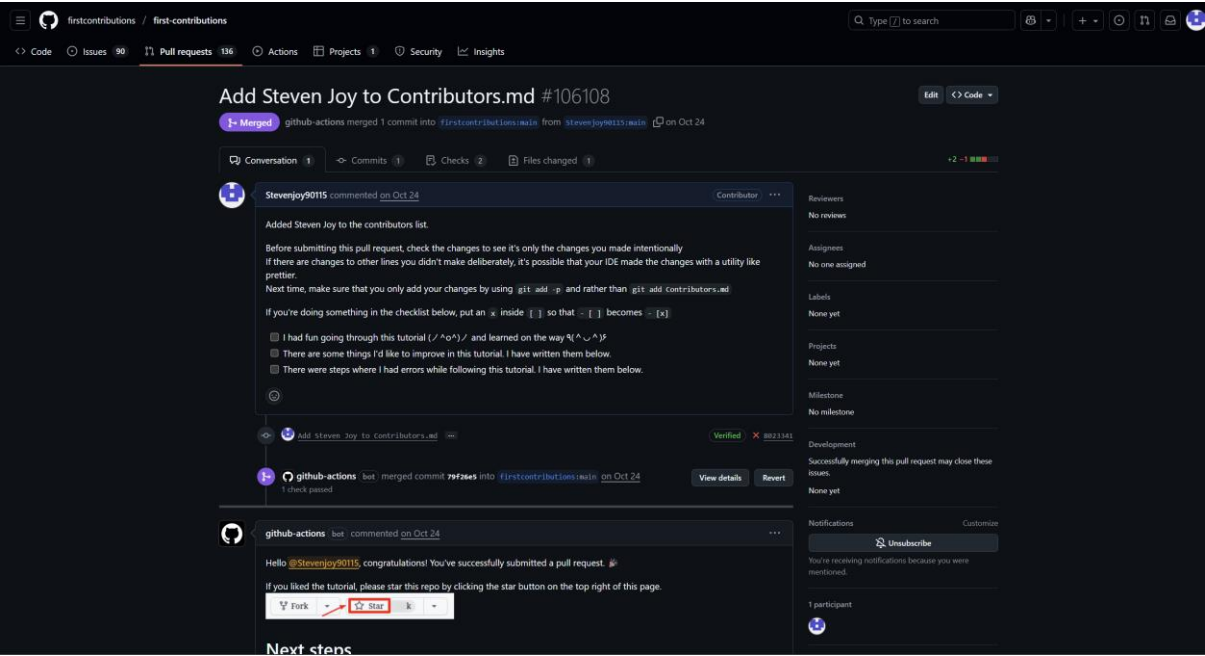
Two common beginner issues are covered:

- **Old Git Version:**
If git switch doesn't work, use the older command:
`git checkout -b your-new-branch`
- **Authentication Error:**
GitHub no longer supports password-based authentication.
Solution:
 - Use SSH keys or a Personal Access Token
 - Make sure your remote URL uses SSH:
`git remote set-url origin git@github.com:...`

7.1.7 Next Steps

After your PR is merged, you've officially made your first open-source contribution!

You are encouraged to explore beginner-friendly issues in other projects and continue contributing.



7.2 PR 2 : Adding CONTRIBUTING.md

7.2.1 Goal

The objective of this pull request was to **add a structured CONTRIBUTING.md file** to the project.

This file serves as a guideline for new contributors, explaining how to set up the project environment, follow coding standards, and submit high-quality pull requests.

7.2.2 Contribution Overview

This PR introduced a complete **CONTRIBUTING.md** document, which enhances the project's maintainability and helps beginners understand the open-source workflow.

The file includes instructions for:

- Project setup
- Branching guidelines
- Commit message standards
- Code style rules
- Procedure to create PRs
- Issue reporting guidelines

7.2.3 Steps Followed

1. Local Setup

- Forked the repository on GitHub.
- Cloned the project using SSH:
 - `git clone git@github.com:stevenjoy90115/<repo-name>.git`
- Created a feature branch:
 - `git switch -c add-contributing-md`

7.2.4 2. Creating the File

- Created a new file named **CONTRIBUTING.md**.
- Added detailed sections such as:
 - How to fork and clone the project
 - How to create branches
 - Coding standards
 - Commit style guide
 - PR review process
- Ensured the content was clear and beginner-friendly.

7.2.5 3. Committing the Changes

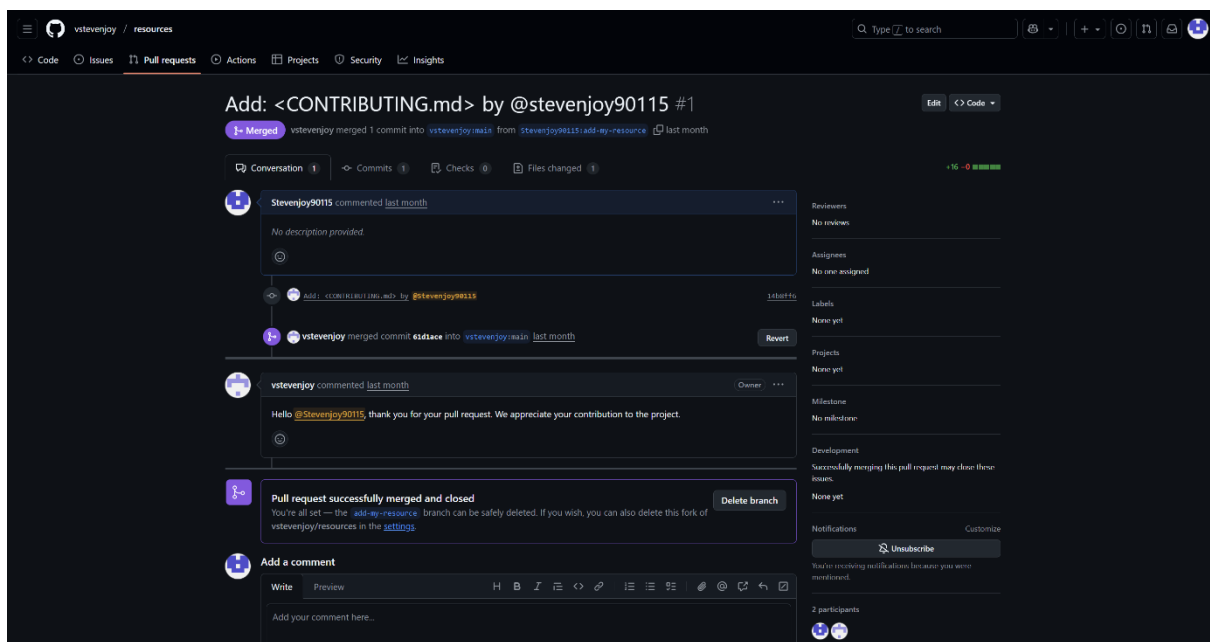
Commands used:

```
git add CONTRIBUTING.md
```

```
git commit -m "Add: <CONTRIBUTING.md> by @stevenjoy90115 #1"
```

7.2.6 4. Submitting the PR

- Pushed the branch:
- `git push -u origin add-contributing-md`
- On GitHub, opened a PR with the message:
“Add: <CONTRIBUTING.md> by @stevenjoy90115”



7.2 PR 3 : Third Contribution

7.2.1 Goal

The objective of this contribution was to add my name “**Steven Joy**” to the *Contributors.md* file in the **zero-to-mastery/start-here-guidelines** repository and complete another open-source Pull Request following the standard workflow.

7.2.2 The Contribution Workflow

This PR followed the same open-source workflow used by most GitHub projects:

Fork → Clone → Create Branch → Edit → Commit → Push → Pull Request → Review → Merge

7.2.3 1. Setup

- **Fork:** I created a personal fork of the *start-here-guidelines* repository on GitHub.
- **Clone:** I cloned the repository to my local system using the SSH URL and the git clone command.
- **Prerequisites:** Git was already installed, and SSH authentication was configured properly.

7.2.4 2. Making Changes

- **Branch:** I created a new branch for this specific update using:
git switch -c add-stevenjoy
- **Edit:** I edited the *Contributors.md* file and added my name: **Steven Joy**.
- **Commit:** I staged and committed the changes using:
 - git add Contributors.md
 - git commit -m "Add Steven Joy to Contributors list"

7.2.5 3. Submission

- **Push:** I pushed my branch to my fork using:
git push -u origin add-stevenjoy
- **Pull Request:**
I opened a new PR titled **“Add Steven Joy”**.
GitHub Actions automatically reviewed my PR and confirmed that it met all requirements.
- The maintainer **LaurelineP** reviewed and approved the PR, and finally merged it into the main branch.

7.2.6 Difficulties and Solutions

This PR did not involve any major difficulties, but the project used automated checks:

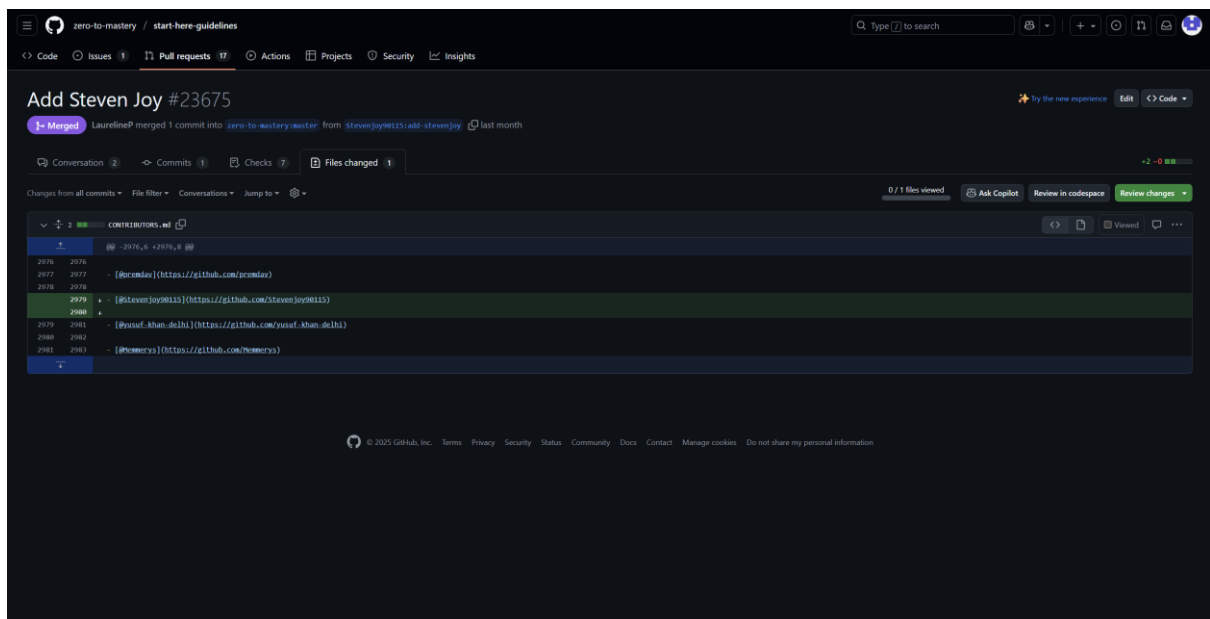
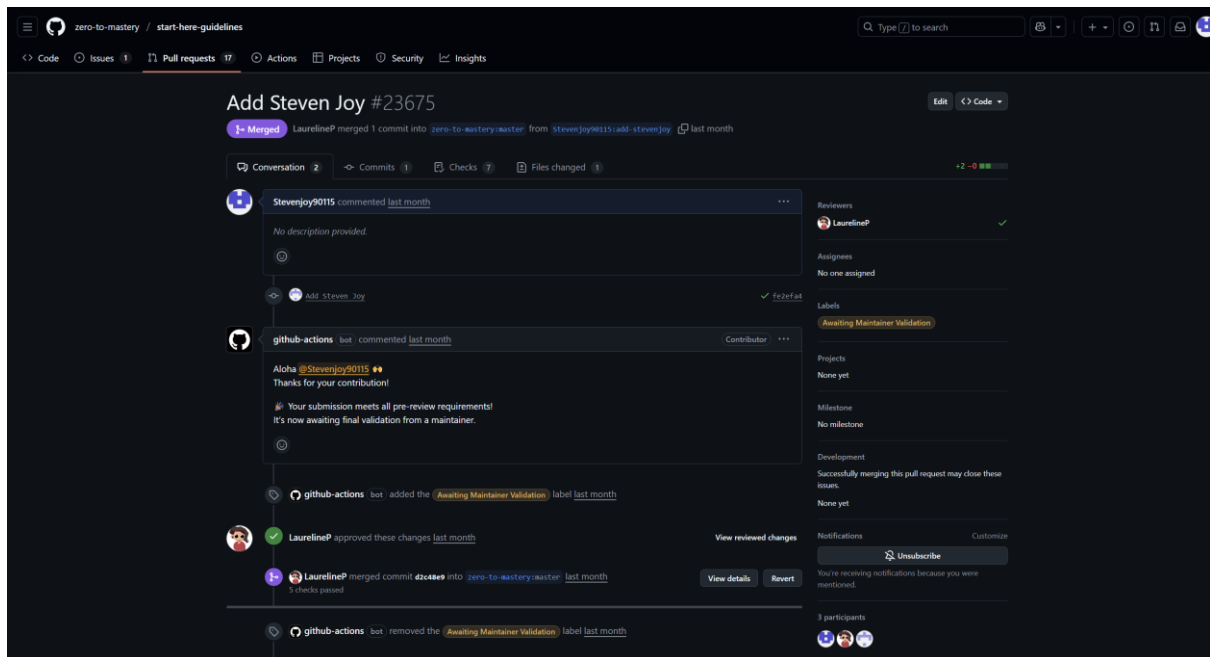
- **GitHub Actions Pre-Review:**
My submission passed all automated validation tests successfully.
- **Maintainer Validation:**
The PR was labeled *“Awaiting Maintainer Validation”* and was merged after manual approval.

7.2.7 Next Steps

This successful PR marks my third contribution to open-source projects. With each PR, I am building confidence in:

- **Working with forks and branches**
- **Writing clean commits**
- **Passing automated CI/CD checks**
- **Collaborating with maintainers**
- **Following professional contribution workflows**

My next goal is to contribute not only documentation but also issue fixes, feature enhancements, and code-level improvements in larger repositories.



7.3 PR : Add Test for Math.max Handling of -0 and +0

7.3.1 Goal

The goal of this contribution was to add a JavaScript conformance test to the **Web-Platform-Tests (WPT)** project. The test verifies the correct ECMAScript behavior of `Math.max(-0, +0)` to ensure consistent results across major browsers.

7.3.2 The Contribution Workflow

Followed the standard **fork → clone → branch → edit → commit → push → pull request** workflow used in large collaborative open-source projects.

7.3.3 1. Setup

- Forked the official WPT repository.
- Cloned the repo using SSH.
- Created a new branch for test development.
- Ensured the test followed WPT's test structure and naming conventions.

7.3.4 2. Making Changes

- Added a new `.any.js` file that checks:
`Math.max(-0, 0) === 0`
- Staged changes and committed with a descriptive message.

7.3.5 3. Submission

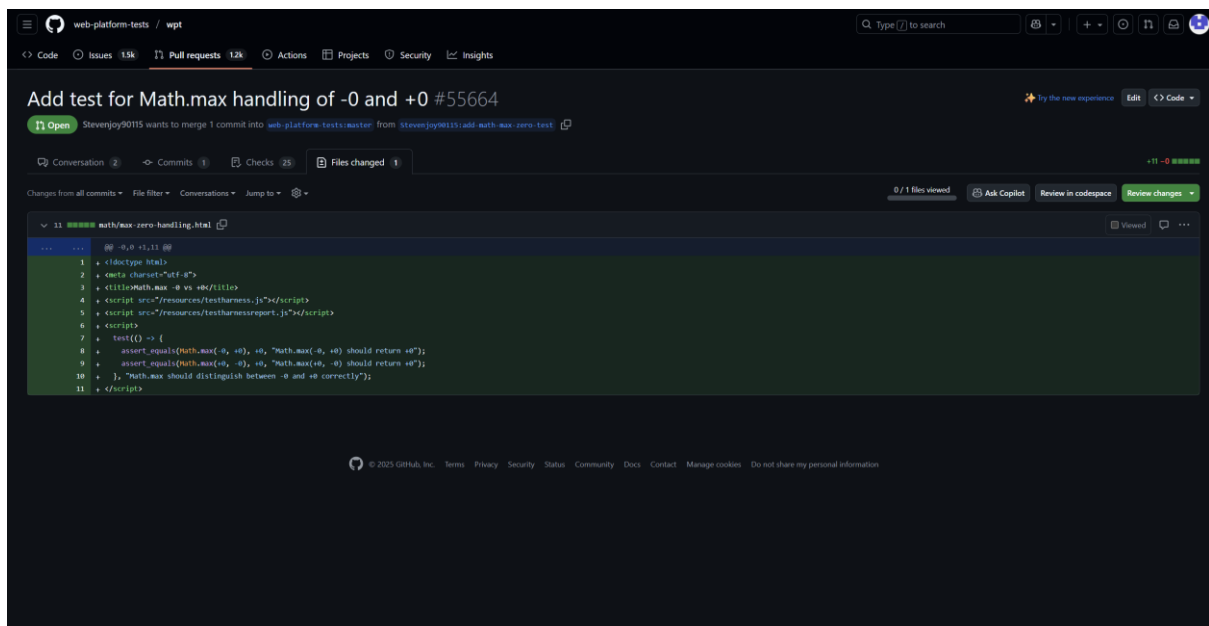
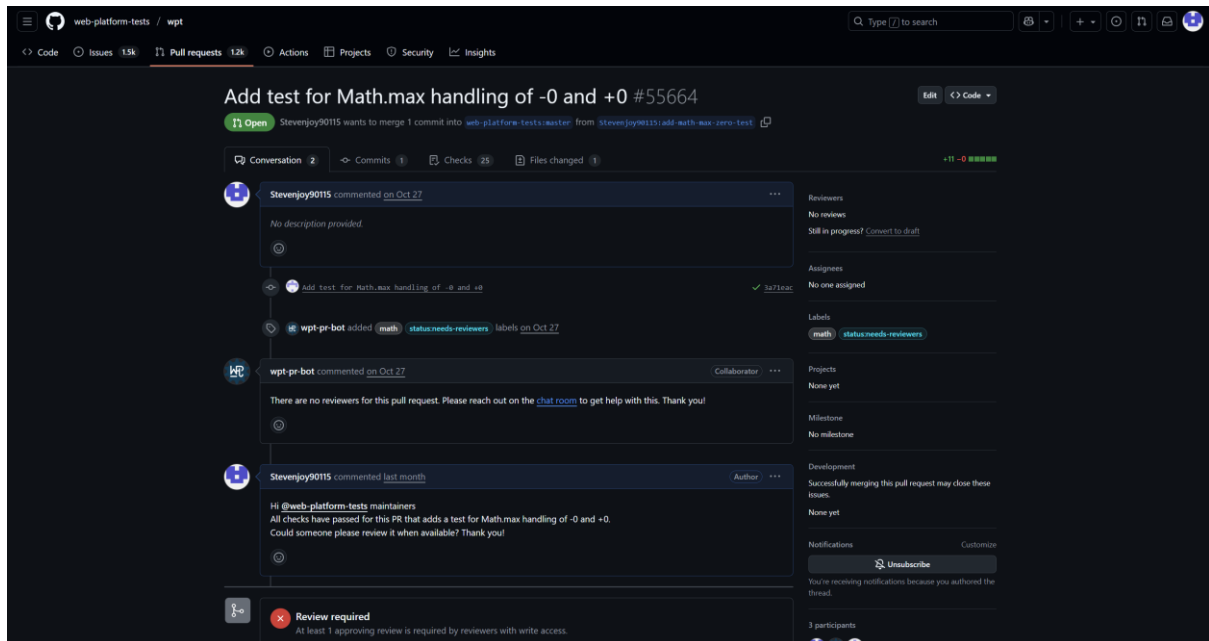
- Pushed the branch and opened a Pull Request titled **"Add test for Math.max handling of -0 and +0"**
- All automated checks passed successfully.
- The bot applied labels (`math`, `status:needs-reviewers`).
- Commented to notify WPT maintainers for review.

7.3.6 Difficulties and Solutions

- **No reviewer assigned:** Bot suggested reaching out; I tagged maintainers politely.
- **Strict test format:** Followed examples from existing Math tests to maintain consistency.

7.3.7 Next Steps

Waiting for official reviewer approval. After merging, the test will help ensure consistent JavaScript behavior across browsers.



7.4 PR: Add Telugu Localized Documentation for Self-Hosted WiKMD

7.4.1 Goal

Enhanced accessibility of the Self-Hosted WiKMD project by adding a Telugu-localized documentation file. This helps Telugu-speaking users follow installation steps, usage instructions, and feature explanations more easily.

7.4.2 Contribution Workflow

Followed standard open-source workflow: fork → clone → branch → edit → commit → push → pull request, ensuring isolated, review-ready, and version-controlled changes.

7.4.3 Setup

- Forked and cloned WiKMD repository.
- Created a dedicated branch for Telugu localization.
- Reviewed existing documentation for formatting and tone.
- Followed documentation guidelines for consistency.

7.4.4 Making Changes

- Created `wikmd_localized.md` in the docs folder.
- Added: tool introduction, installation steps, features, benefits of self-hosting, demo links, and external references in Telugu.
- Ensured proper markdown formatting and tested Telugu rendering.
- Committed changes with descriptive messages.

7.4.5 Submission

- Pushed branch and opened PR: “Self-Hosted WiKMD – Telugu Documentation Added.”
- Included PR description explaining benefits.
- All checks passed; labels added; reviewers requested feedback.

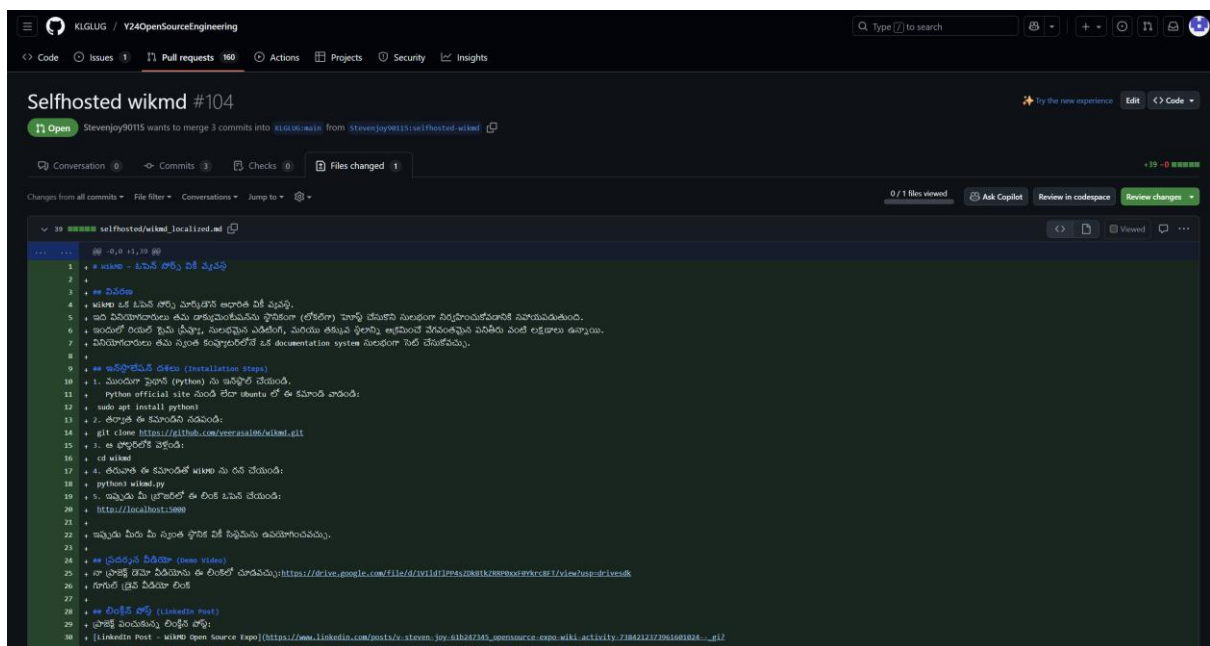
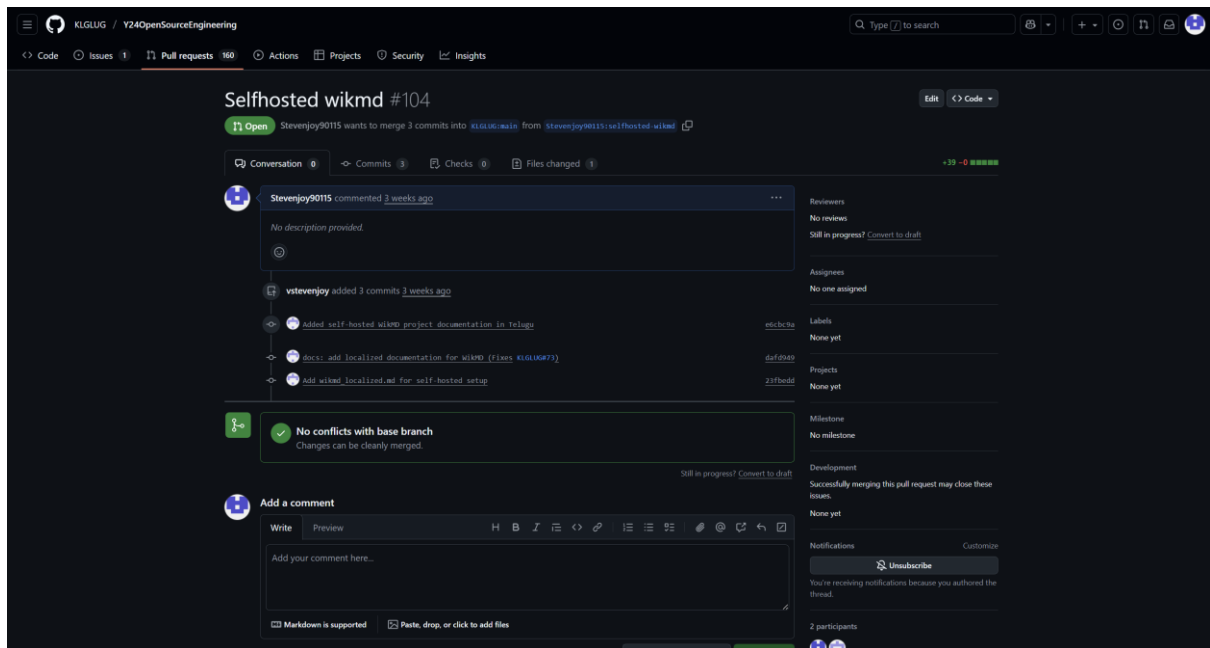
7.4.6 Challenges & Solutions

- Maintained structure and formatting consistent with English docs.
- Resolved Telugu rendering issues using UTF-8.

- Translated technical terms with transliterations and simple explanations.
- Verified installation steps against original README.

7.4.7 Next Steps

Awaiting reviewer approval. Once merged, Telugu documentation will officially help regional users. Future contributions may include expanding localization and creating beginner-friendly Telugu tutorials.



7.5 PR: Add Loading Spinner Feature (#24114)

7.5.1 Goal

Implemented a loading spinner to improve user experience by visually indicating ongoing background operations or data fetching. This helps users understand that the system is processing and prevents confusion during wait times.

7.5.2 Contribution Workflow

Followed standard open-source workflow: fork → clone → branch → edit → commit → push → pull request, ensuring organized and review-ready changes.

7.5.3 Setup

- Forked and cloned the repository.
- Created a dedicated branch for the spinner feature.
- Reviewed existing UI components and styling guidelines to maintain consistency.

7.5.4 Making Changes

- Added a reusable loading spinner component.
- Integrated spinner in key areas where asynchronous data is fetched.
- Ensured smooth animation and proper positioning across different screen sizes.
- Tested component in development environment to verify functionality and appearance.
- Committed changes with clear, descriptive messages.

7.5.5 Submission

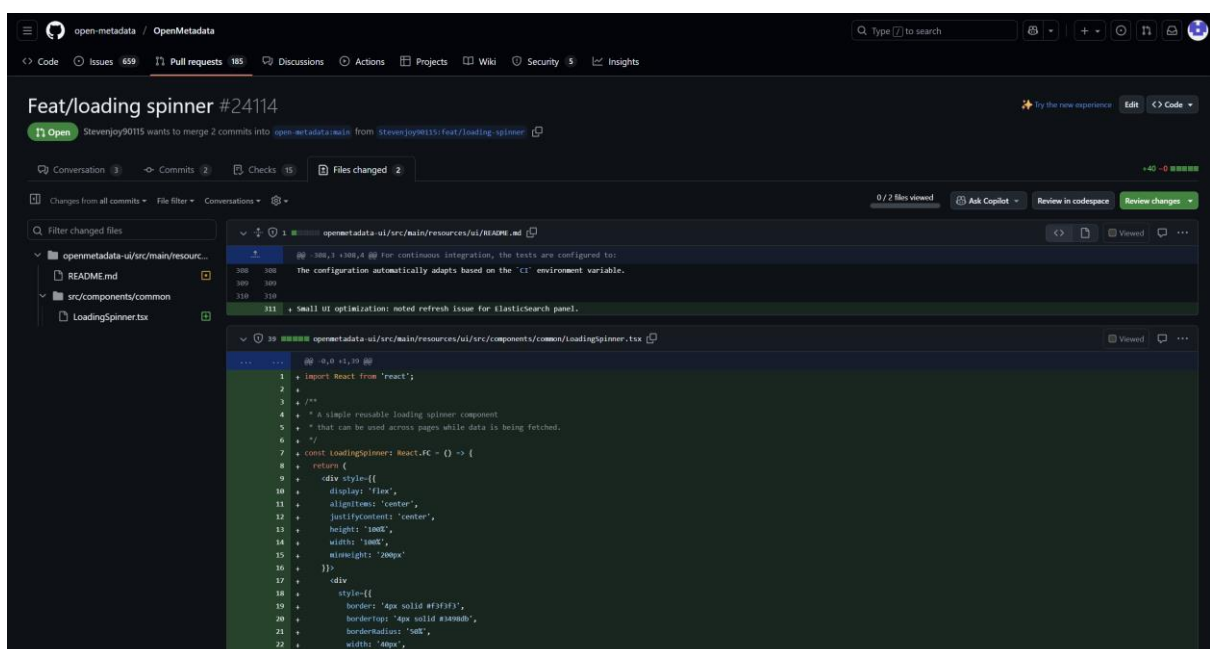
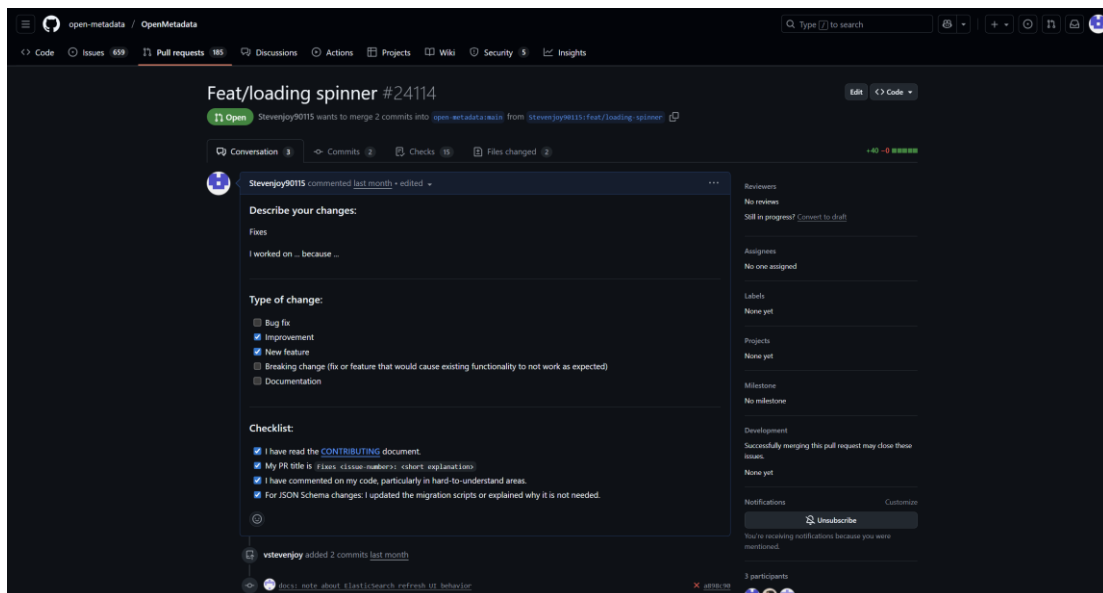
- Pushed branch and opened PR: "Feat: Loading Spinner #24114."
- Added PR description explaining purpose and UX benefits.
- Automated checks passed; reviewers requested for feedback and approval.

7.5.6 Challenges & Solutions

- **Cross-Browser Rendering:** Ensured spinner animations render correctly in all supported browsers.
- **Reusability:** Created a modular component to avoid duplication in multiple pages.

7.5.7 Next Steps

Awaiting reviewer approval. After merge, the spinner will enhance user experience across the application. Future improvements may include customizing spinner styles for different modules and adding accessibility enhancements.



7.6 Issues

7.6.1 Issue 1: Beginner-Friendly AWS Free Tier Guide (#841)

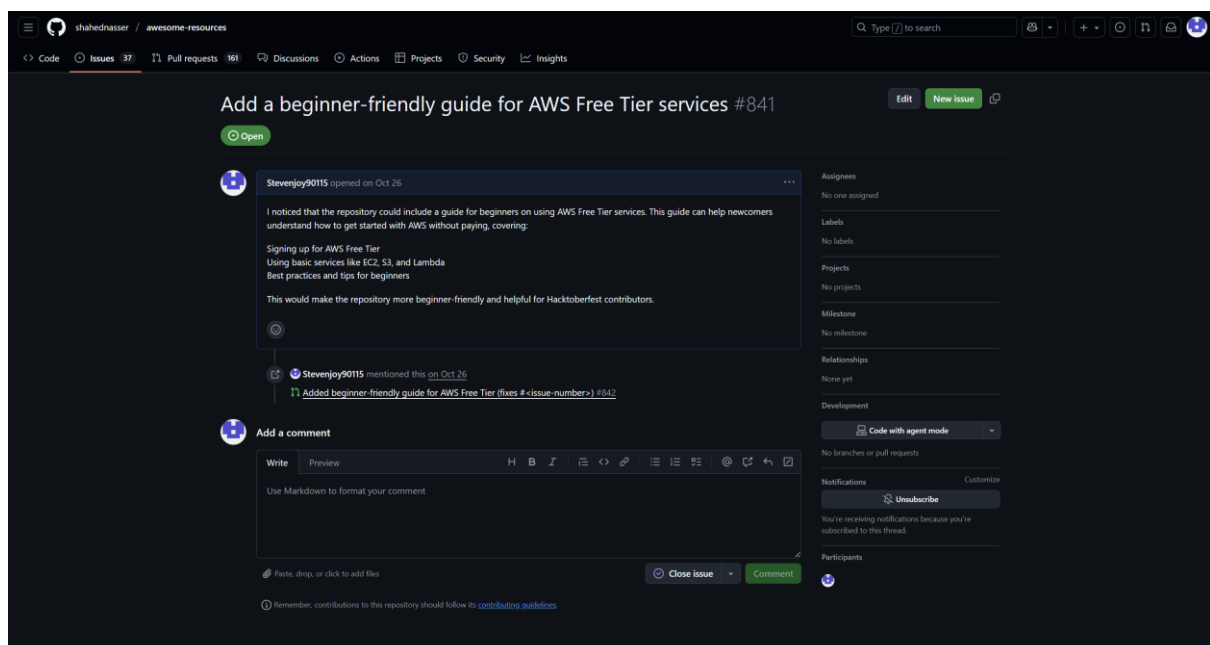
- **Opened by:** Stevenjoy90115
- **Date Opened:** Oct 26
- **Status:** Open
- **Description:**

Suggested adding a beginner-friendly guide for AWS Free Tier services to help newcomers understand how to get started without paying. The guide should cover:

 - Signing up for AWS Free Tier
 - Using basic services like EC2, S3, and Lambda
 - Best practices and tips for beginners
- **Purpose:**

Making the repository more beginner-friendly and helpful for Hacktoberfest contributors.
- **Linked Pull Request:**

Added beginner-friendly guide for AWS Free Tier (#842)



7.62 Issue 2: Math.max -0 vs +0 Test

Ensure Math.max correctly distinguishes between -0 and +0 in JavaScript.

Steps

1. Branch Setup

```
git switch -c test-mathmax-zero
```

2. Test Added

```
it('Math.max distinguishes -0 and +0', () => {  
  expect(Math.max(-0, +0)).toBe(+0);  
  expect(1 / Math.max(-0, +0)).toBe(Infinity);  
});
```

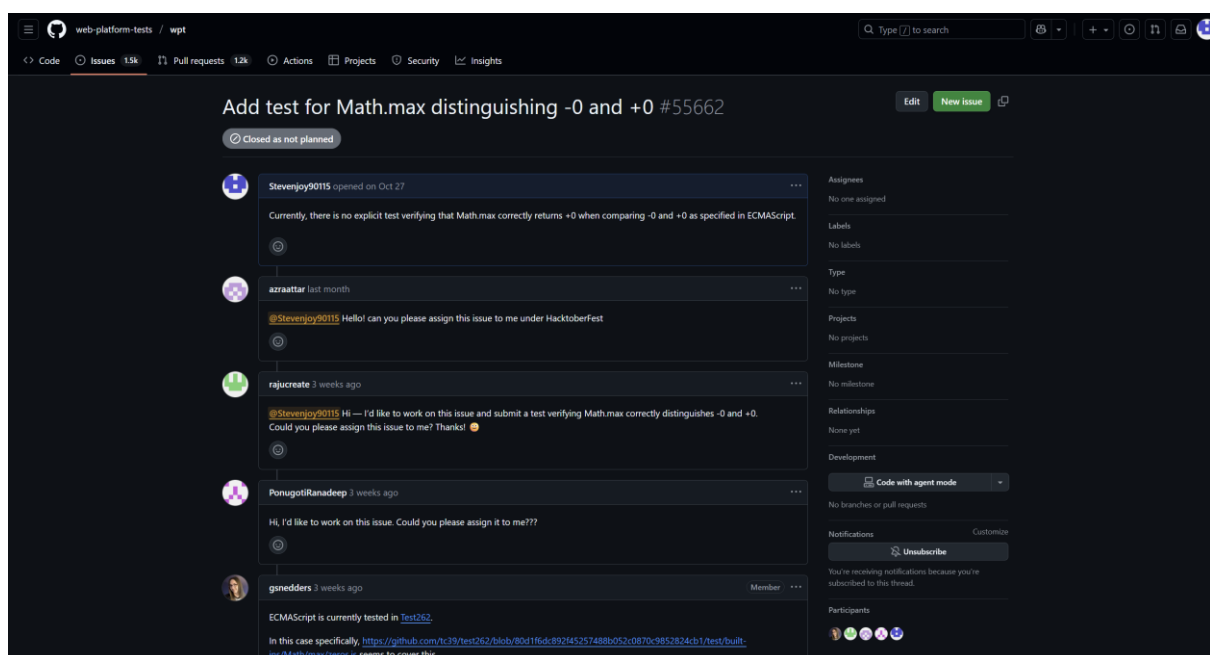
3. Commit & Push

```
git commit -m "Add test for Math.max distinguishing -0 and +0 #55662"
```

```
git push -u origin test-mathmax-zero
```

Outcome

Test confirms Math.max handles signed zeros correctly, improving numeric reliability.



8 LinkedIn Post Links

https://www.linkedin.com/posts/v-steven-joy-61b247345_opensource-expo-wiki-ugcPost-7384212372959330305-83XY?utm_source=social_share_send&utm_medium=member_desktop_web&rcm=ACoAAFZa3rcBRn84Raycc0KYY9mvBRKPiCEXJVC

Journey Of Open Source :

https://www.linkedin.com/posts/v-steven-joy-61b247345_ugcPost-7399121914633551874-EEW2?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktop&rcm=ACoAAFZa3rcBRn84Raycc0KYY9mvBRKPiCEXJVC