Open Source Software (OSS) Development

OSS is developed in two stages

- Project initiation stage

- Community stage

☒ In project initiation stage initial working prototype is developed by a group of programmers. In community stage open source development actually begins. Here project invites contributions from larger community of programmers.

☒ A small team (may be a person) identifies problem and develops initial solution. It also develops initial guidelines for contributors.

☒ A code repository (Code Base) is created for storing evolving code. Code Base is made of multiple directories and files.

☒ There is no formal software requirement analysis in OSS development. The user's community communicates its need directly through bug reports or feature request. Development team members also initiate new requirement through discussions among user groups.

- Most OSS develops a log through which the project keeps track of what is to be done for its progress. Defects are also identified using the log.

- In OSS work is not strictly assigned, by the manager. Here the work is voluntarily taken up by the contributors.

- The code is developed on the private copy to ensure that modified code does not break the application.

- The programmer can request to update the. code base with the newly modified code.

- After testing newly modified code code is updated.

- Then code is frozen ie, new features cannot be added only bug fixing is allowed. This frozen feature indicates code is released.