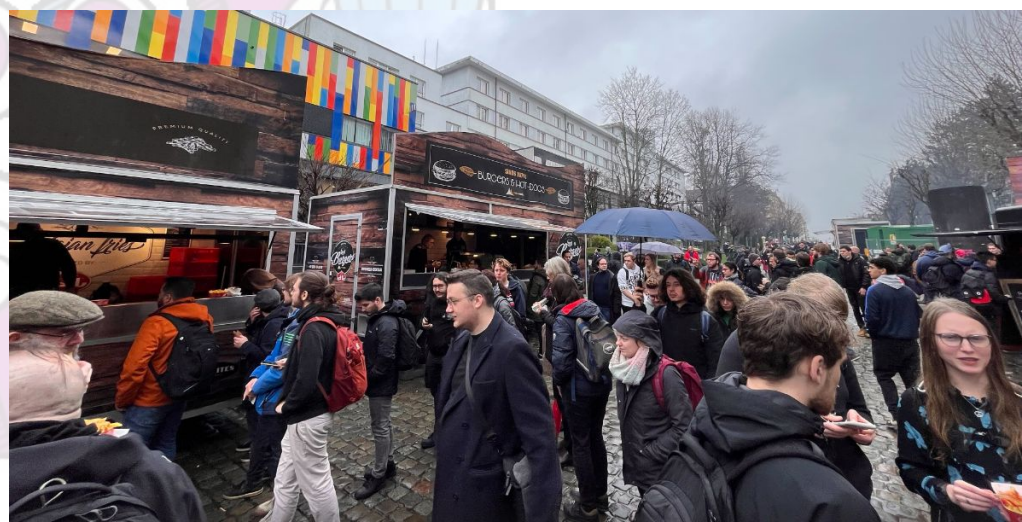


A large, faint, light purple gear-shaped logo serves as a background. Inside the gear is a white cartoon face with large, expressive eyes. The face is wearing a blue and white striped party hat with the number '25' on it. To the right of the face is a small cupcake with a single lit candle. The word 'FOSDEM' is written in large, bold, black capital letters across the center of the gear.

FOSDEM

what it is, why we do it, and how



FOSDEM 101

- Université libre de Bruxelles in Brussels, Belgium, Europe
- Yearly, one weekend in late winter, since 2000
- No commercial angle
- Completely about Open Source, run mainly with Open Source
- No paid staff, volunteers only
- Largest Open Source conference on Earth



Content

A large, faint watermark logo is centered in the background. It features a pink gear with a white face and large eyes. On top of the gear is a blue and white striped party hat with the number '25' on it. To the right of the gear, a hand is holding a cupcake with pink frosting and a single lit candle.

- Main track – staff selects talks
 - Lightning talks
- Devrooms – “conference as-a-service”
- Booths
- 40 fringe events
 - Some companies organize their yearly global engineering all-hands around FOSDEM (e.g. Red Hat)
- No beer event since COVID

Largest on Earth?!

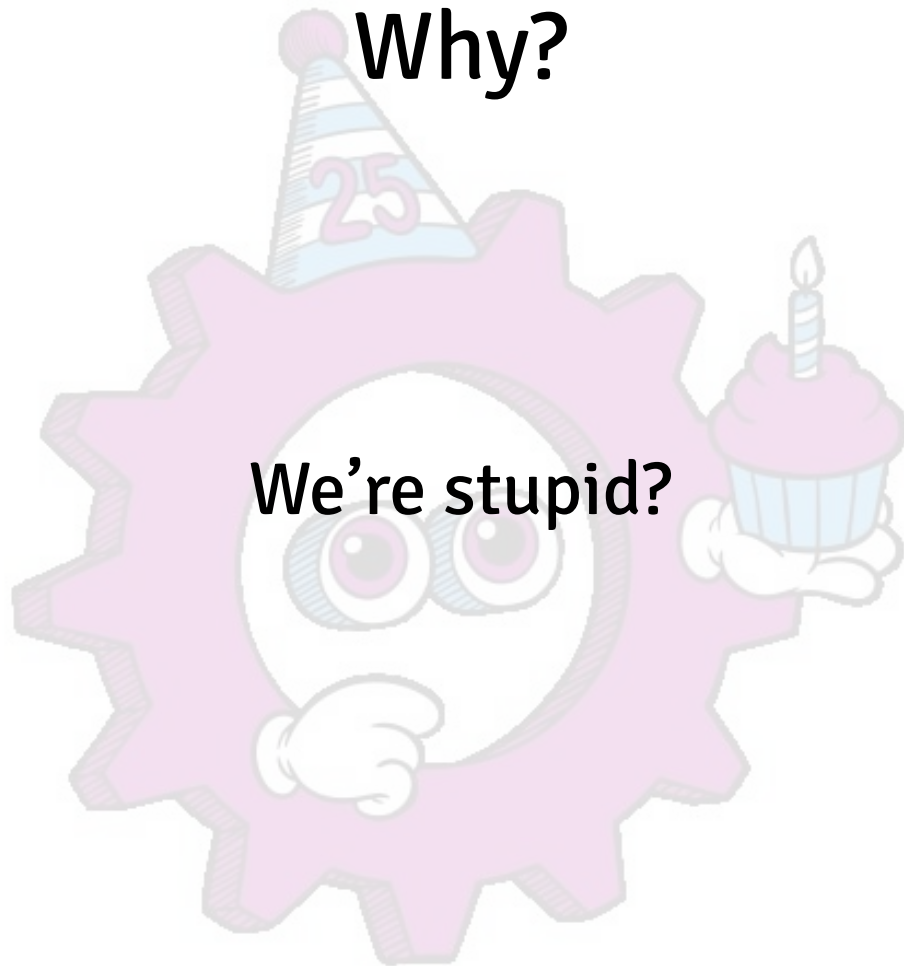
- 1105 talks/events
 - 38 lightning talks
- 1184 speakers
- 70 tracks/devrooms with 217 devroom managers
- 70 project stands/booths
- 43 BoFs
- 174 volunteers
- 28 unpaid(!) “staff”



Why?



Why?



We're stupid?

Why?

We don't believe in sleep?



Why?

BUT: We believe in Open Source!

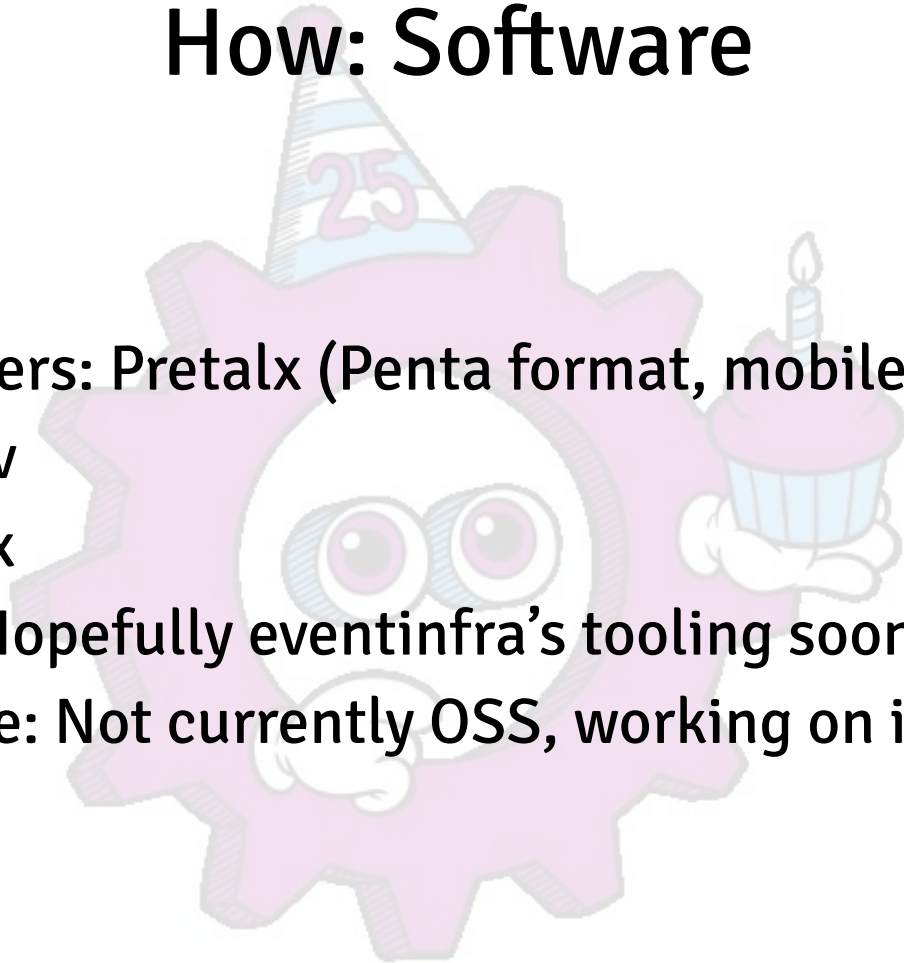


How: people

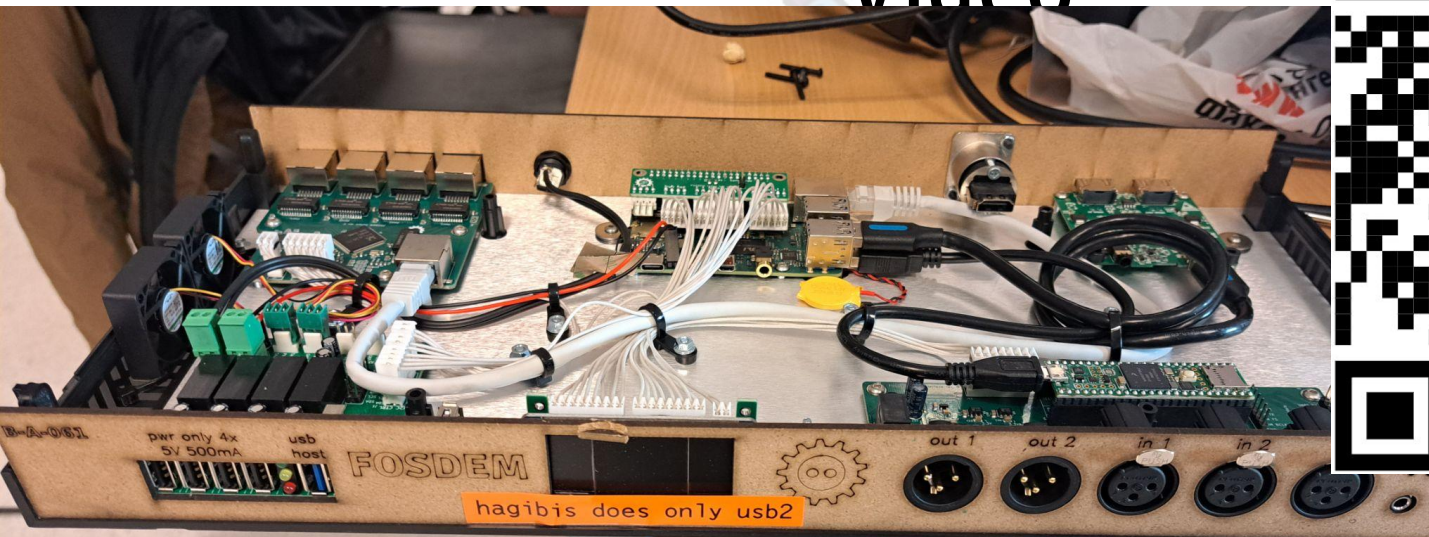
- FOSDEM staff: working over many years, and under the year
- Devroom managers: Running on top of conference-as-a-service
- Volunteers: Doing everything else; many of them for years
- Strong “training on the job” and an element of self-organizing chaos
 - Recent comment “no one really told me what to do, things just happened, and it was always clear how I could help”

How: Software

- Call for Papers: Pretalx (Penta format, mobile apps, etc)
- Maps: c3nav
- Chat: Matrix
- Inventory: Hopefully eventinfra's tooling soon
- Point of Sale: Not currently OSS, working on it



Video



```
cpu t:54.0|f:2000 MHz  
load: 1.31 1.19 0.56  
IPv4: 185.175.218.177/24  
MAC: 10:02:b5:86:07:d1  
2025-01-31 15:26 522b4d5
```

Video



- Fully open source
- We are happy to help you adopt it, can loan it, can help explain
- Also being used here at this conference!



Video render farm



Timelines



Installation of router

2016: Friday
2017: December
2018: December
2019: December
2020: December
2023: January
2024: January 24th (new 10g uplink)
2025: January 6th

Network up and Running

2015: Saturday 5:00
2016: Friday 19:00
2017: Friday 17:00
2018: Friday 12:00
2019: Thursday, last hiccups fixed Fri. 19:00
2020: Friday 18:00
2023: Friday 20:20
2024: Friday ~14:30
2025: Wednesday 16:00, last hiccups fixed Fri 12:20

Timelines

Monitoring

2016: Saturday 12:00

2017: Saturday 09:00

2018: January

2019: January

2020: January (2019!)

2023: January 13th , kept it running ...

2024: Immediate ;)

2025: Jan 13th, 2023 ;)

Video

2016: Saturday 11:30

2017: Saturday 09:30

2018: Saturday 08:30

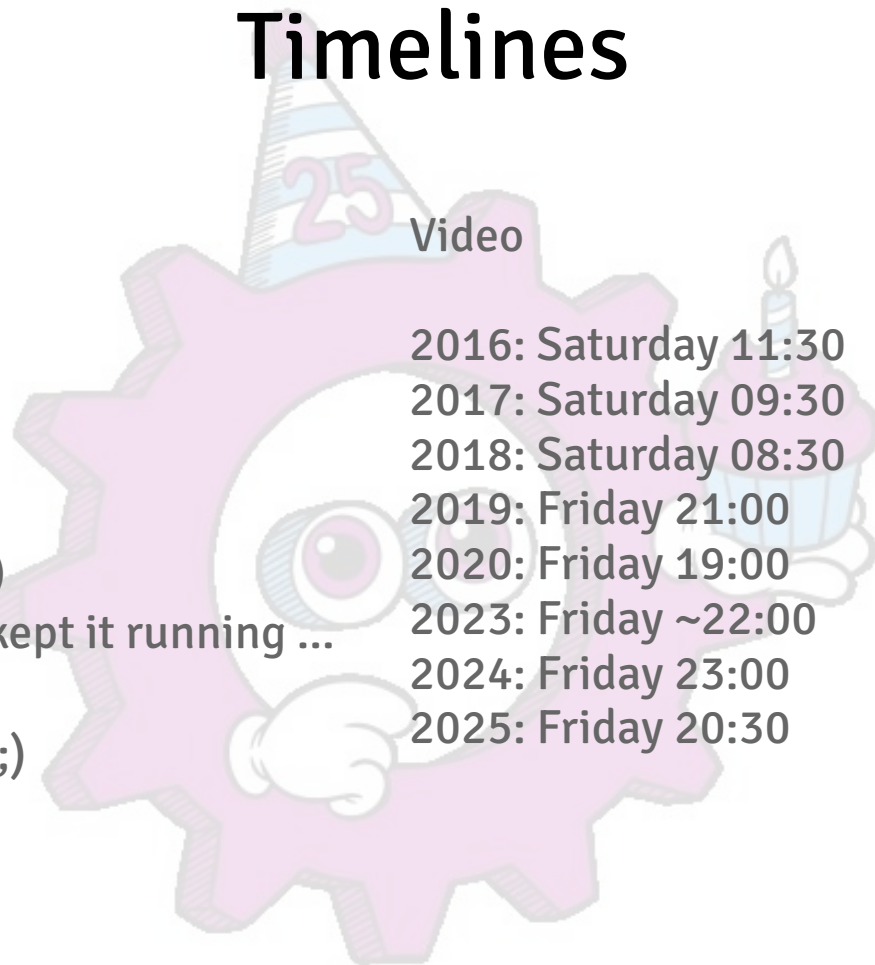
2019: Friday 21:00

2020: Friday 19:00

2023: Friday ~22:00

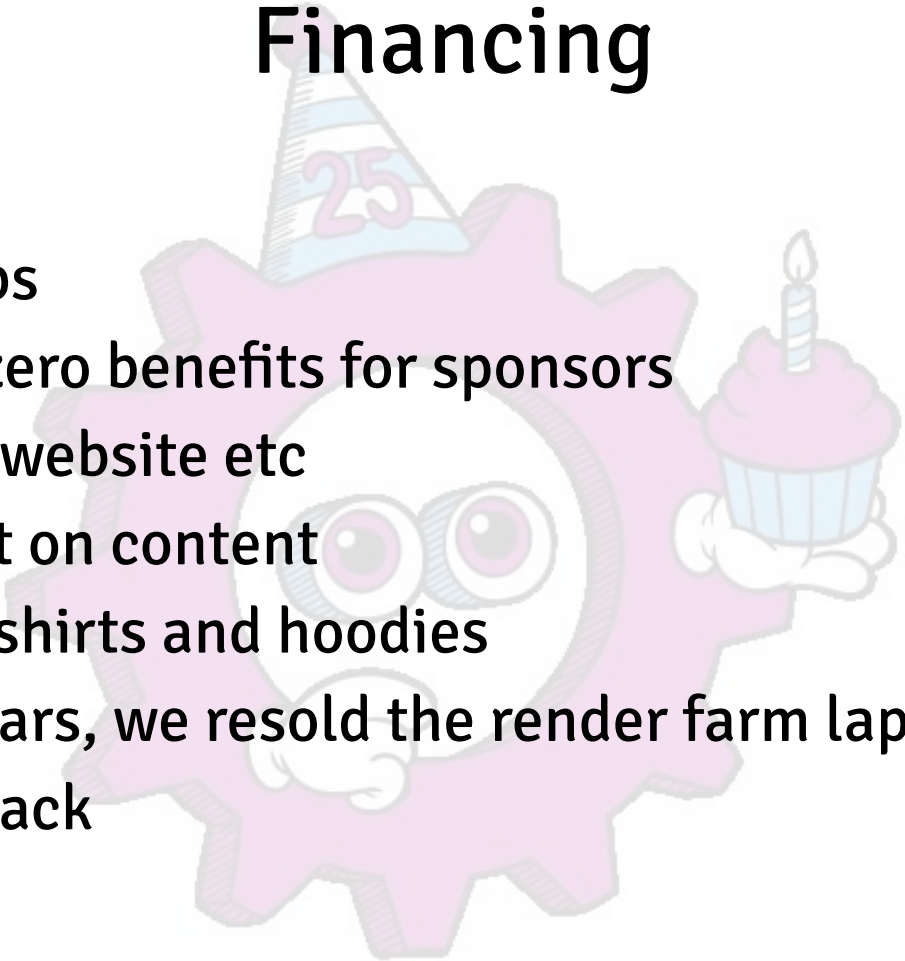
2024: Friday 23:00

2025: Friday 20:30



Financing

- Sponsorships
 - Almost zero benefits for sponsors
 - Logo on website etc
 - NO input on content
- Selling of t-shirts and hoodies
 - Some years, we resold the render farm laptops to get the money back



Clone our conference

- Clone our Infrastructure: <https://github.com/FOSDEM/infrastructure>
- Check out our video setup: <https://github.com/FOSDEM/video/>



How to get involved

- If you want to attend FOSDEM, come find me
- If you want a booth for your conference, I can't promise anything, but let's talk
- We also started ConfConf, a conference about running conferences:
 - <https://confconf.org/>

