

Dear XXX,

I am a researcher from Peking University. My colleagues and I are investigating how companies choose projects to make contributions when joining in a large-scale open source ecosystem. For example, OpenStack consists of more than 1,700 projects, and some companies seem to have difficulty to select projects. We expect our study could help to understand how an OSS ecosystem is developed by various organizations and how a company makes contributions in a more efficient way. I would highly appreciate your response that may take you less than three minutes.

From Openstack's code commit data, we understand that you are an outstanding developer and might be hired by "XXX", which is a new company contributor having joined OpenStack in the past two years. Here are several questions towards the background and the difficulty you may encounter in your early attempts:

Background: Are you supported by the company "XXX" to contribute to OpenStack recently? If yes, do you know why your company want to participate in OpenStack?

Q. We noticed that you contributed to "XXX" projects a lot, e.g., XXX and XXX, why did you contribute to them?

A. Out of self-interest

B. Designated by the company

C. Seems easier to get started

D. Other _____

Q. If the previous answer is B, do you know how your company selected "XXX" from more than 1700 projects?

Q. Are there any obstacles you (or your company) have met in choosing projects? Here are some possibilities:

A. Too many projects

B. Too little documentation

C. Too little community guidance

D. Confused by projects with similar functions

E. Other _____

Q. Impact: Any negative effects do you think the project-choosing difficulty might bring?

Q. Solutions: Do you know any possible solutions for dealing with the difficulty?

Your answer is extremely important for our study! Please note your information will be kept privacy and we will only publish common statistics.

If you have any further questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thanks a lot if you could offer any insights! Sorry if this bothers you.