

Chuck Zhou

Interactive 2

Project 1

Open source indicate the works that could be share and modify by public because it is made for common benefit. It used to be a term for computer programing, until nowadays people widely use this term to refer to a body of work (code etc.) that could be used and change by the public. At the same time, there is open source software, open source mod, etc.

Open source had create great benefits for both side of creator and user. Once creator create an open source code, everyone can use it for their own good, at the same time, users turned to be helping the developers to fix the problem and develop it more.

However, an issue had occurred called “Open source burn out”, since the creator of open source had gain less and less benefits, for example money and commercial problems, creators no longer create open source works for the public.

“It takes money—a whole lot of money—to make open source work, but it takes recognition and appreciation to make an open source developer happy. As it turns out, maintaining good open source code is difficult. Just ask James Corgan,

who disgorged a litany of reasons why releasing code can take forever. Oh, and without much hope of empathy in return. Or ask Isaac Schlueter, CEO of npm, who agonized over the burden of maintaining code for entitled downstream users who ‘don’t love me.’

As people, we want to be recognized for the good work we do. Open source, however, often tends to maximize negative feedback loops, contributing to developer burnout, as Schlueter highlighted.” (*Why open source developers are burning out: No respect; Matt Asay ; 2017*)

“In the past, for one reason or another, you’ve *really* let issues pile up. You might have seen an issue that was left unanswered for months. Usually, when you go back to address such an issue, the person who opened it never responds. Or they respond by saying, “I fixed my problem by abandoning your project and using another one instead.” That makes you feel bad, but you understand their frustration.

You’ve learned from experience that the most pragmatic response to these stale issues is often just to say, “I’m closing old issues. Please reopen if this is still a problem for you or if you can provide more details.” Usually there is no response. Sometimes there is, but it’s just an angry comment about how they were made to wait for so long.

So nowadays you try to be more diligent about staying on top of your notifications.

Hundreds of people waiting in line are far too many. You long for that line to get down to a hundred, or a dozen, or even the mythical **inbox zero**. So you press on.”

(*What it feels like to be an open-source maintainer; Nolan Lawson; 2017*)

Citations

1. *Why open source developers are burning out: No respect*; Matt Asay ; 2017

<https://www.techrepublic.com/article/why-open-source-developers-are-burning-out-no-respect/>

2. *What it feels like to be an open-source maintainer*; Nolan Lawson; 2017

<https://nolanlawson.com/2017/03/05/what-it-feels-like-to-be-an-open-source-maintainer/>