Caitlin Cabrera

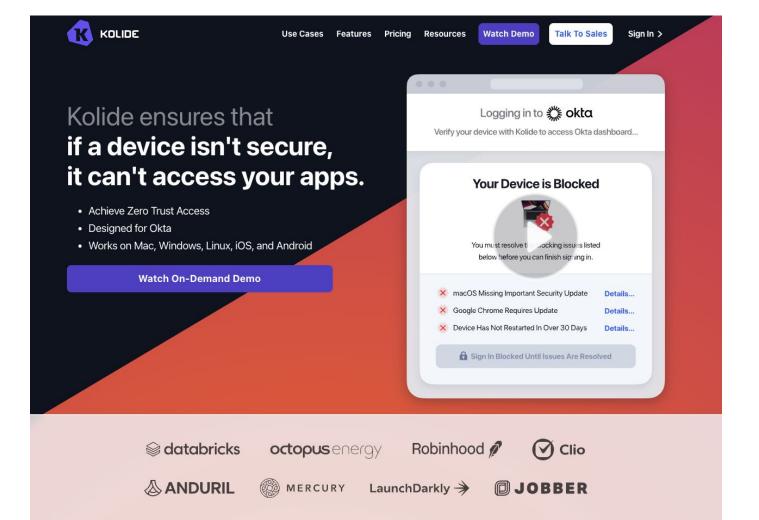
The Power of
Open-Source: How To
Contribute To and Manage
Communities

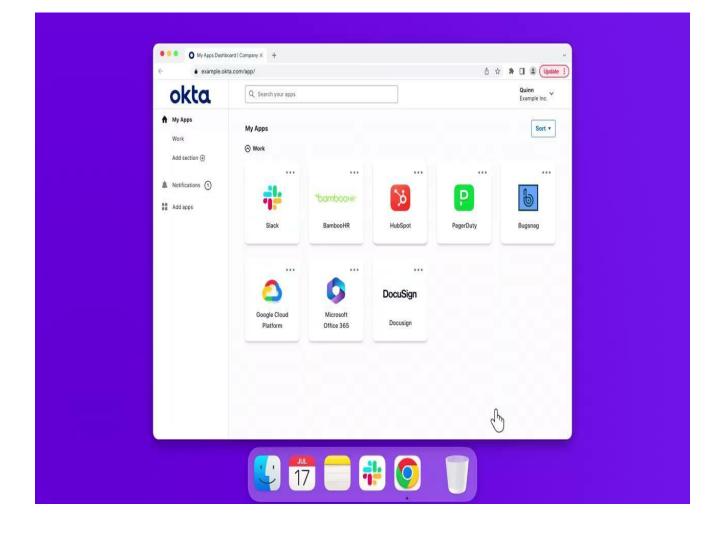
About Me

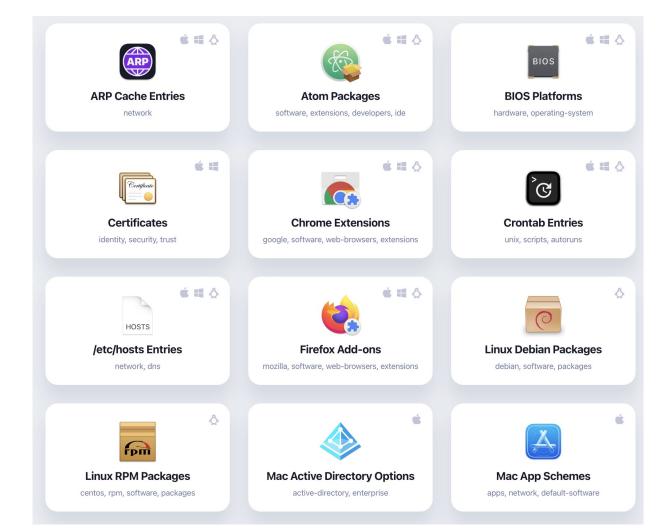
- First of all thank you!
- Came here all the way from Omaha, NE.
- Software Engineer
- Writes a lot of Ruby on Rails in the information security space
- Writes a lot ABOUT Ruby on Rails and the information security space
- Probably lifting weights when I'm not writing code

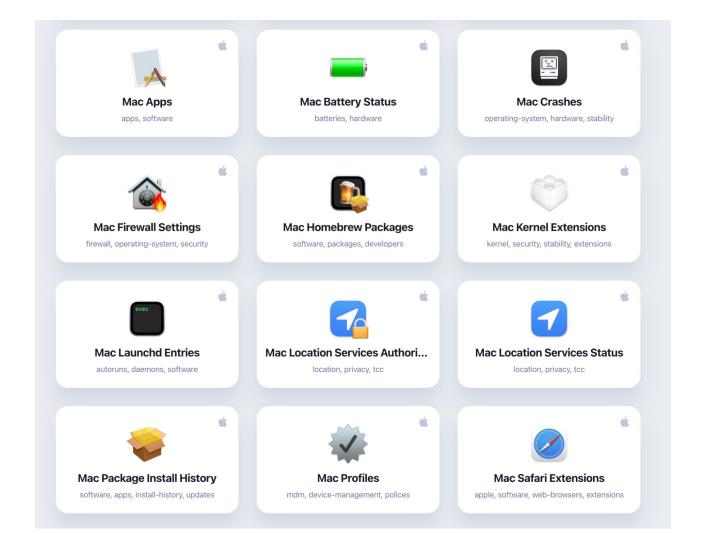
Open source



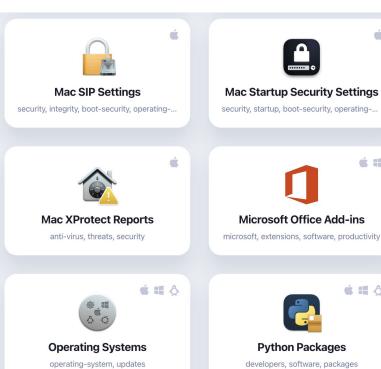






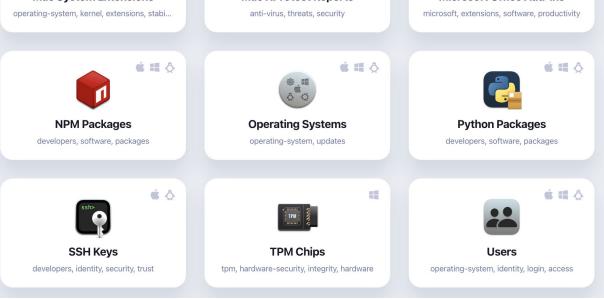


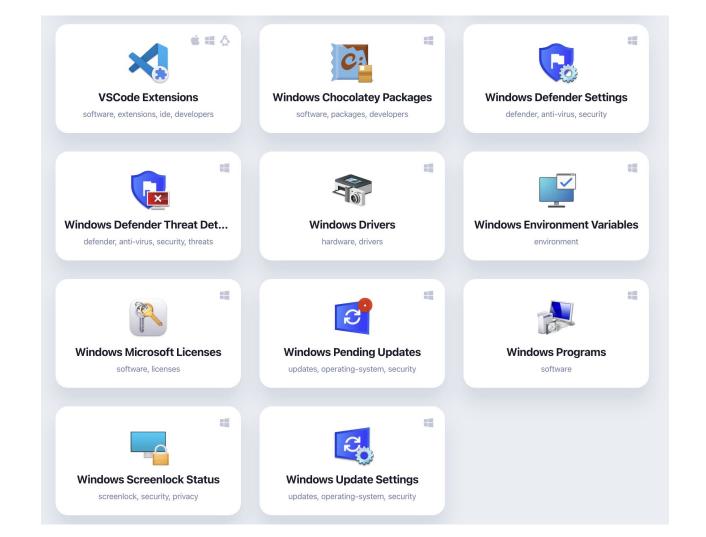




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2 osquery

osquery

- Created by engineers at Facebook
- Open-source framework
- Provides a way to get structured data back from and endpoint
 - Enables a user to write queries to gather information about a machine or a fleet of machines
- This data can then be queried using SQL

Osquery goals

- Operating system support
 - Windows
 - macOS
 - Linux
- Provide reliability while using few system resources (CPU, RAM, etc.)
- Consistent access to data across multiple platforms, making it easy to expose and correlate structured data

```
~ osqueryi
osquery> SELECT * FROM time;
       weekday = Friday
          year = 2023
         month = 7
           day = 14
          hour = 19
       minutes = 4
       seconds = 54
      timezone = UTC
local timezone = CDT
     unix time = 1689361494
     timestamp = Fri Jul 14 19:04:54 2023 UTC
      datetime = 2023-07-14T19:04:54Z
      iso 8601 = 2023-07-14T19:04:54Z
```

```
~ osqueryi
osquery> SELECT * FROM battery;
               model = bq40z651
         serial number = AF8Y1419703LNM0J9TAY
           cycle count = 112
                health = Good
                 state = Battery Power
              charging = 0
               charged = 0
     designed capacity = 8694
          max capacity = 100
      current capacity = 71
     percent remaining = 71
              amperage = -695
               voltage = 11826
   minutes until empty = 483
minutes to full charge = 35
```



275 Tables

account_policy_data

acpi_tables

ad_config

alf

alf_exceptions

alf_explicit_auths

app_schemes

apparmor_events

apparmor_profiles

appcompat_shims

apps

apt_sources

arp_cache

asl

atom_packages

augeas

authenticode

authorization_mechanisms

authorizations authorized keys

autoexec

azure_instance_metadata

azure_instance_tags

background_activities_modera

battery

bitlocker_info

block_devices
bpf process events

bpf_socket_events

browser_plugins

carbon_black_info

carves

certificates

chassis_info

chocolatey_packages

chrome_extension_content_sc

chrome_extensions

connectivity

cpu_info

cpu_time

cpuid crashes

crontab cups destinations

cups_jobs

curl

curl_certificate
deb packages

default environment

device_file

device_firmware

device_hash
device partitions

disk encryption

disk events

disk_info

dns_cache

dns_resolvers
docker_container_envs

docker_container_fs_changes

docker_container_labels

docker_container_mounts

docker_container_networks docker_container_ports

ycloud

users

video_info

virtual_memory_info

wifi_networks wifi_status

wifi_survey

winbaseobj

windows_crashes windows eventlog

windows_eventiog

windows_firewall_rules

windows_optional_features

windows_security_center

windows_security_products

windows_update_history

wmi_bios_info

wmi_cli_event_consumers

wmi_event_filters

wmi_filter_consumer_binding

wmi_script_event_consumers

xprotect_entries

xprotect_meta
xprotect_reports

yara

yara_events

ycloud_instance_metadata

yum_sources

https://honest.security/

Honest Security v 1.0

A guide to endpoint security and device management that doesn't erode your values.

Start Reading →

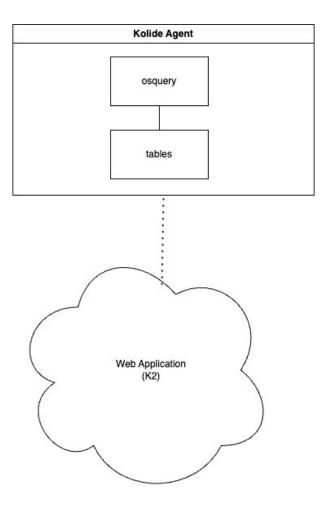
Get the PDF

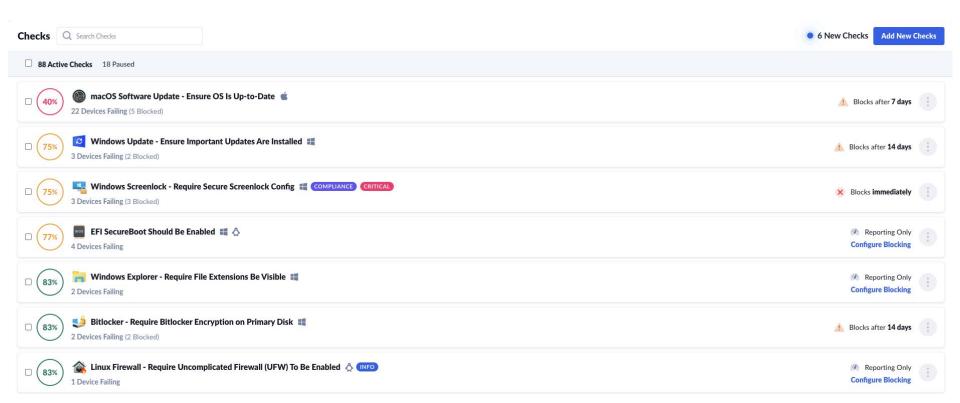
THE TENETS OF HONEST SECURITY

- 1. The values your organization stands behind **should be well-represented in your security program.**
- 2. A positive working relationship between the end-user and the security team is incredibly valuable and worth fostering.
- **3.** This relationship is built on a foundation of trust that is demonstrated through **informed consent and transparency.**
- 4. The security team should anticipate and expect that end-users use their company owned devices for personal activities and design their detection capabilities with this in mind.
- 5. End-users are capable of making **rational and informed decisions about security risks** when educated and honestly motivated.

osquery + Kolide

- Kolide's launcher agent runs on osquery to gather ground truth from devices so that we can determine device compliance
 - https://github.com/kolide/launcher
- Our launcher itself is also open source, and it offers a few extra elements on top of osquery such as automatic updating
- Osquery is essential for our product





• We just learned what osquery is and how it works with Kolide

Let's talk about making a contribution

• The fun part: coming up with an idea and shipping it!

Feature request

What new feature do you want?

Expand the video_info table to macOS. Example of where the information available is in system_profiler -json SPDisplaysDataType

How is this new feature useful?

This would allow collecting information available in the video_info table for macOS hosts.

How can this be implemented?

I haven't dived deep into how this is possible yet, however, Core Graphics may be involved.



video_info

Retrieve video card information of the machine.

Improve this Description on Github

COLUMN	TYPE	DESCRIPTION	
color_depth	INTEGER	The amount of bits per pixel to represent color.	
driver	TEXT	The driver of the device.	
driver_date	BIGINT	The date listed on the installed driver.	
driver_version	TEXT	The version of the installed driver.	
manufacturer	TEXT	The manufacturer of the gpu.	
model	TEXT	The model of the gpu.	
series	TEXT	The series of the gpu.	
video_mode	TEXT	The current resolution of the display.	

My desk



```
~ osqueryi
osquery> SELECT * FROM connected displays;
                      name = ASUS PA328CGV
                product id = 326c
             serial number = ccb2
                 vendor id = 6b3
         manufactured week = 44
         manufactured year = 2021
                display id = 2
                    pixels = 2560 \times 1440
                resolution = 2560 x 1440 @ 120.00Hz
ambient brightness enabled = -1
           connection type = -1
              display type = -1
                      main = 1
                    mirror = 0
                    online = 1
                  rotation = 1
                   . . . . . .
```

.

```
name = Color LCD
                product id = a050
             serial number = fd626d62
                 vendor id = 610
         manufactured week = 0
         manufactured year = 0
                display id = 1
                    pixels = 3456 \times 2234
                resolution = 1728 x 1117 @ 120.00Hz
ambient brightness enabled = -1
           connection type = spdisplays internal
              display type = spdisplays built-in-liquid-retina-xdr
                      main = 0
                    mirror = 0
                    online = 1
                  rotation = 0
```

• • • • •

.

```
name = Hp Vh240A
                product id = 3499
             serial number = 1010101
                 vendor id = 220e
         manufactured week = 0
         manufactured year = 0
                display id = 5
                    pixels = 1080 \times 1920
                resolution = 1080 x 1920 @ 60.00Hz
ambient brightness enabled = -1
           connection type = -1
              display type = -1
                      main = 0
                    mirror = 0
                    online = 1
                  rotation = 1
```

• • • • •

What?

This table adds a connected_displays virtual table which produces multiple rows (depending on the number of displays) giving useful information about a Macbook's internal battery.

Here is what the table looks like for my 15" Macbook Pro 2021:

name	product_id	serial_number	vendor_id	display_week	display_year	display_id	pixels	resolution	ambient_brightness	connection_type	display_type	main	mirror	online	rotation
LC32G7xT	705a	43583645	4c2d	13	2021	2	2560 × 1440	2560 x 1440 @ 120.00Hz		2560 x 1440 @ 120.00Hz		1	0	1	1
Color LCD	a050	fd626d62	610	i 0	0		3456 x 2234	1728 x 1117 @ 120.00Hz	0	1728 x 1117 @ 120.00Hz	spdisplays_built-in-liquid-retina-xdr	0	0	1	0
Hp Vh240A Hp Vh240A	3499	1010101	220e 220e	i 0	0	32	1080 x 1920 i	1080 x 1920 @ 60.00Hz	i 0	1080 x 1920 @ 60.00Hz		0	0	1	1
Hp Vh240A	3499	1010181	220e	i 0	0		1080 x 1920	1080 x 1920 @ 60.00Hz	0	1080 x 1920 @ 60.00Hz	i i	0	0	1	1

Why?

This is meant to resolve #7486. This table provides helpful insights into display age, serial numbers, and resolution.







Easy, right?

Add connected_displays table on macOS

✓ macOS

virtual tables

#7946 by cacab was merged on May 3 · Approved

• We all know software engineering isn't that easy

• Time at Kolide = a little over a year

Ruby on Rails != C++ || Python

Blockers

Contribution

- Research, gathering resources
 - Community written blogs, and the official documentation



TUTORIALS

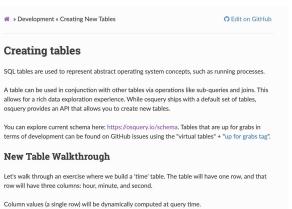
How to Write a New Osquery Table



Introduction

One of my favorite features of <u>osquery</u> is the delightful user experience associated with developing new virtual tables. In this guide, we will work together to implement a new high-value table from scratch that currently doesn't exist in osquery.

Specifically, we will implement a bluetootic table that works on macOS.





Caitlin Cabrera

I'm trying to compile my updated fork of osquery and I'm getting some errors in the configuration stage: anyone in this channel has have insight? build git: (master) cmake -DCMAKE_OSX_DEPLOYMENT_TARGET=10.14 -DCMAKE_C_COMPILER=clang -DCMAKE_CXX_COMPILER=clang++...



becca

if you run git describe --tags --always --dirtywhat do you see?



Caitlin Cabrera

a11449053



becca

you'll want the git describe command to output something that looks like semver (e.g. for launcher i've got v0.13.5-10-g40629c0-dirty), that's how you'll know it's fixed

• There are multiple data sources to pull from to write an osquery table

• Reading a property list (.plist) file

Reading an SQLite database file

Using a macOS API

Shelling out a binary (or utility)

Feature request

What new feature do you want?

Expand the video_info table to macOS. Example of where the information available is in system_profiler -json SPDisplaysDataType

How is this new feature useful?

This would allow collecting information available in the video_info table for macOS hosts.

How can this be implemented?

I haven't dived deep into how this is possible yet, however, Core Graphics may be involved.





```
→ ~ system_profiler SPDisplaysDataType
Graphics/Displays:
   Apple M1 Pro:
     Chipset Model: Apple M1 Pro
     Type: GPU
     Bus: Built-In
     Total Number of Cores: 16
     Vendor: Apple (0x106b)
     Metal Support: Metal 3
     Displays:
       Color LCD:
         Display Type: Built-in Liquid Retina XDR Display
         Resolution: 3456 x 2234 Retina
         Main Display: Yes
         Mirror: Off
         Online: Yes
          Automatically Adjust Brightness: No
          Connection Type: Internal
```

What About Shelling Out to a Binary?

Sometimes when a user of osquery is advocating for a new table, they point to a command-line tool that produces the exact output they are looking for (in our case, system_profiler SPBluetoothDataType does the job). These users might expect the table to be easily developed by quickly asking the osquery process to execute the command-line tool, read its output, and produce a table.



```
table name("connected displays")
description("Provides information about the connected displays of the machine.")
schema([
   Column("name", TEXT, "The name of the display."),
   Column("product id", TEXT, "The product ID of the display."),
   Column("serial_number", TEXT, "The serial number of the display."),
   Column("vendor id", TEXT, "The vendor ID of the display."),
   Column("manufactured week", INTEGER, "The manufacture week of the display. This field is 0 if not supported"),
   Column("manufactured_year", INTEGER, "The manufacture year of the display. This field is 0 if not supported"),
   Column("display_id", TEXT, "The display ID."),
   Column("pixels", TEXT, "The number of pixels of the display."),
   Column("resolution", TEXT, "The resolution of the display."),
   Column("ambient_brightness_enabled", TEXT, "The ambient brightness setting associated with the display. This will be 1 if enabled and is 0 if disabled or not supported."),
   Column("connection type", TEXT, "The connection type associated with the display."),
   Column("display_type", TEXT, "The type of display."),
   Column("main", INTEGER, "If the display is the main display."),
   Column("mirror", INTEGER, "If the display is mirrored or not. This field is 1 if mirrored and 0 if not mirrored."),
   Column("online", INTEGER, "The online status of the display. This field is 1 if the display is online and 0 if it is offline."),
   Column("rotation", TEXT, "The orientation of the display."),
1)
implementation("connected_displays@genConnectedDisplays")
```

#pragma clang diagnostic pop cleanup = [&]() { CFRelease((__bridge CFTypeRef)document); CFBundleUnloadExecutable(bundle); CFRelease(bundle): }; NSDictionary* report = [[[document reportForDataType:@"SPDisplaysDataType"] objectForKey:@"_items"] lastObject]; NSArray* data = [report valueForKeyPath:@"spdisplays_ndrvs"]; for (NSString* obj in data) { Row r; if (data == nullptr) { return results; if ([obj valueForKey:@"_name"]) { r["name"] = TEXT([[obj valueForKey:@"_name"] UTF8String]); } if ([obj valueForKey:@"_spdisplays_display-product-id"]) { r["product_id"] = TEXT([[obj valueForKey:@"_spdisplays_display-product-id"] UTF8String]); } if ([obj valueForKey:@"_spdisplays_display-serial-number"]) { r["serial number"] = TEXT([[obj valueForKey:@"_spdisplays_display-serial-number"] UTF8String]); }

Caitlin Cabrera



I'm working on setting up an integration test and running cmake --build . --target testgives the following: `make: *** No rule to make target test'. Stop. File has been added to CMakeLists.txt Running from the build dir. Any suggestions?

Stefano Bonicatti



hum so, It's a bit weird that it has tried to reconfigure the compiler; I would delete the CMakeCache.txt file in the build folder, then configure again, then build all (since tests do not have a common target to build them, the test target only runs them), and try again.

Caitlin Cabrera



That worked. Thank you!

What?

This table adds a connected_displays virtual table which produces multiple rows (depending on the number of displays) giving useful information about a Macbook's internal battery.

Here is what the table looks like for my 15" Macbook Pro 2021:

name	product_id	serial_number	vendor_id	display_week	display_year	display_id	pixels	resolution	ambient_brightness	connection_type	display_type	main			rotation
LC32G7xT	705a	43583645		13	2021	2	2560 x 1440	2560 x 1440 @ 120.00Hz		2560 x 1440 @ 120.00Hz		1	0	1	1
Color LCD Hp Vh240A Hp Vh240A	a050	fd626d62	610 220e	10	0			1728 x 1117 @ 120.00Hz	0	1728 x 1117 @ 120.00Hz	spdisplays_built-in-liquid-retina-xdr	0	0	1	i 0 i
Hp Vh240A	3499	1010101	1 220e	10	1 0	32	1080 x 1920 i	1080 x 1920 @ 60.00Hz		1080 x 1920 @ 60.00Hz		0	0	1	1 i
Hp Vh240A	3499	1010181	220e	i ø	0	33	1080 x 1920	1080 x 1920 @ 60.00Hz	0	1080 x 1920 @ 60.00Hz	i	0 1	0	1	i 1 i

Why?

This is meant to resolve #7486. This table provides helpful insights into display age, serial numbers, and resolution.







Easy, right?

Add connected_displays table on macOS

✓ macOS

virtual tables

#7946 by cacab was merged on May 3 · Approved

Open source projects

- Managing
- Approaching as a new or first time contributor
- Caveat: there are many types of different types of open source projects
 - Vendor driven
 - Sole proprietor passion project
 - Heavily community based
 - Etc.

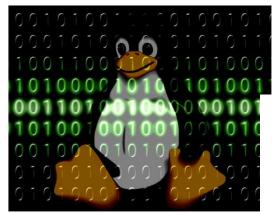
Managing and contributing

- What incentivises developers, managers and contributors?
- How can we best align our projects' mission to serve our use case?
- How can we best encourage the people who are current community members?

8 of the worst open source innovations of the decade



Open source innovations aren't all successes. Jack Wallen shares his picks for the biggest open source failures of the 2010s.



How I Wasted Two Years In Opensource Development

Daniele Fontani · Follow

The story of the side-project failure that let me grow up



The most forgotten open source projects

Unity

While the Unity 3D engine is triumphing in the video game world, its "relative" Unity (Canonical's graphical shell for GNOME) is now almost disappeared in action. It was a great success when Ubuntu implemented it, most users liked it, however, now they have changed it to GNOME and few seem to miss it

Mir

Another of Canonical's jewels that ended up failing miserably, along with Unity, Ubuntu Touch, Ubuntu Edge, etc. Although it is still in development, the truth is that the adoption of this graphic server It's void. Most distros still use X or Wayland.

Ubuntu Touch and FirefoxOS

Canonical also wanted to reach mobile devices with its **Ubuntu Touch**, and although it is a system that opens possibilities compared to Android, and that is still under development by UBports, the truth is that few have launched to adopt it. Their list of compatible devices is very limited.

Firefox OS it was also one of those wonders that seemed like they would go a long way. In this case from Mozilla, and also with the intention of conquering the mobile sector. However, now it is also conspicuous by its absence ...

Diaspora

La **Diaspora social network** It was intended to be a success, with a distributed system, with groups of independently owned nodes operating together, and with the idea of improving privacy and avoiding the control of large corporations. However, that good idea turned into a chimera and few remember it anymore.

I'm an open-source love. I started developing an open-source side project in 2006 and that was the secret that boosts my career. Thanks to the experiments that I have made during this trip I'm now a better developer and I give back something to the community — almost I hope.

I wrote about my vision of opensource as a driver for companies and developers growth <u>here</u> but that is another story 😩

In this article, I want to talk about my experience since 2018 on an open-source low-code platform called $\underline{\text{RawCms}}$.

Why do open source projects fail?

- The most popular reasons for the failure of an open source project are lack of time, lack of interest, competition, and outdated/obsolete technologies (Coelho, 2017)
- There are a lot of elements that can make or break a project
- Each of these elements share a common thread

Community

Open source communities

- Collaboration and culture
- Technology and innovation
- Processes and vision

Open source communities: collaboration and culture

- The "people" piece
- Maintaining relationships with existing developers as well as a focus on creating new relationships with new developers
- Venues for discussion
 - Garnering feedback and discussion with developers/ core team
 - The culture associated with these venues
- Code of Conduct
- Office hours (held by core team)
- Active communities with an overall positive culture

Open source communities: technology and innovation

- Strong, well-defined use-case
- Strong product direction (from core team)
- Emphasis on quality
- Processes in place
 - Tests, linters, straight-forward pull request process
 - CI/CD pipeline

Open source communities: processes and vision

- Core team
- Documentation
 - Blogs (official and unofficial)
- License agreements such as Contributor License Agreements (CLAs)

How can we implement these practices as maintainers and/or contributors?

Checklist (for maintainers)

- Core team with clear roles and responsibilities
 - Approving pull requests, driving product direction and maintaining a standard of quality
- Code of conduct to ensure interactions within your community are governed by a set of standards and promote inclusivity
- Clear process for CLAs (CI/CD pipeline or PR)
 - Should be easy to find, understand, and complete

Checklist (for maintainers)

- Strong documentation, tutorials
 - Usually the first thing potential contributors see
- Formal communities- also listed in the documentation, usually moderated and managed by the core team
- Transparent process for reviewing contributions
- Office hours

Guidelines (for contributors)

- Lurk first
- Start small
- If you have a question, search the community first
- If you can't find an answer to your question, ask!
- Lean on your coworkers and the community
- Advocate for yourself
- Is there a code of conduct? How is it written?
- Still unsure of where to start? Ask!

Summary

- Was able to get assistance and feedback from core team, community members (collaboration and culture)
- Added a new feature to the project (technology and innovation)
- Issue the pull request resolved drove the projects main goals (processes and vision)

Wrapping up

- If your team utilizes a piece of open source software, create a culture that encourages contribution
- Allow engineers time to devote to projects and communities they are passionate about
- Encourage mentorship and a culture of teaching and learning

Open source is for everyone

Thank you / where you can find me

- caitlincabrera.com
- github.com/cacab
- linkedin.com/in/caitlincabrera
- twitter.com/cc_codes
- ruby.social/@cc_codes
- @cacab.bsky.social

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