

How Chinese students enjoy open source

----- example of a small group of people in China

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openSUSE Conference 2009

Before the Talk

- Share the experience how a small group of students in China enjoy in open source world

Who Are We

- A group of people
 - full of passion for open source
 - enjoy exchanging and sharing ideas
 - Never deny delicious food
- How they look like ?

Who Are We (Cont.)

This guy even brings his baby to meet us :-)



Who Are We (Cont.)

- Most of these guys studied or study in same university
 - Beijing University of Posts and Telecommunications
- We are open source citizen,
 - Use and develop open source software
 - Promote open source software to school-mates, colleagues, girl/boy friend, wife/husband, etc...

Who Are We (Cont.)

- Some of the members graduated
 - China Mobile, China Telecom, Baidu, Tencent, Novell, IBM, Redhat, Adobe...
- Some of the members still stay in school
 - From second year undergraduate to last year post graduate
- We have a regular meetings.

How It Starts

- How the first meeting happened
 - Firstly knew each other on BBS
<http://bupt.org>
 - Instinct, people wanted to get together and eat something
 - Then found a perfect place to meet and excellent food to eat

How It Starts (Cont.)

10+ persons
ate water-
melon at the
foot of
Chairman
Mao's statue

...



To Be A Regular Event

- The result of the first meeting was unforgettable ...
- Decided to run an open source seminar periodically
- The first period is 1 year, unfortunately ...

To Be A Regular Event (Cont.)

- Then the seminar are more and more regular :-)



Simple Rules

- There are 4 rules to organize the seminar every time

Simple Rules (Cont.)



- Free snack and soft drink provided for all attendees

Simple Rules (Cont.)



- Speaker should prepare slide with at least 3-4 pages

Simple Rules (Cont.)



- Every speaker will get a specially prepared gift

Simple Rules (Cont.)

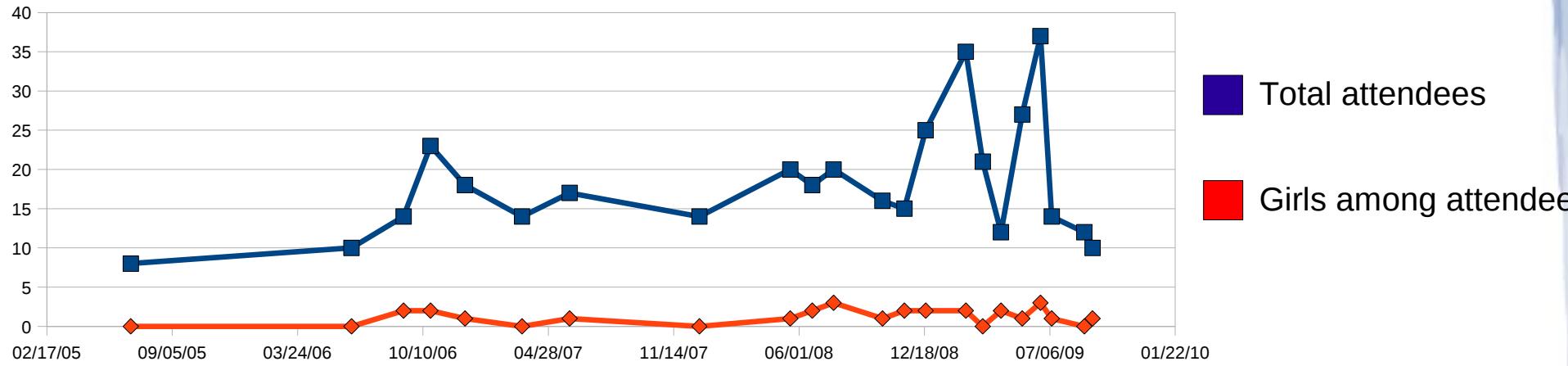


- No question or food left after the seminar

Why Provide Free Food

- To attract more students to come
- To stimulate more movement of the mouths, which in sequence can make people speak more :-)
- To be more relaxed
- Does it work ? ---- Absolutely YES !

Attendees Variable



- Less people when talking about kernel related topics
- More people when talking about application or configuration related topics

Seminar Topics

Not limited to,

- Linux kernel development
 - I/O schedule, sysfs, procfs, kbuild ...
- Programming language
 - Python, perl, libc ...
- Basic knowledge
 - Hardware cache, micro kernel ...

Seminar Topics (Cont.)

- Open source software
 - Wordpress, linux configuration, moblin ...
- Open source quality
 - Open source QA, testing management, ...

Why the seminar rocks ?

- Open source development is regarded as fashion and cool in universities
- Numerous students want to work on open source, but they don't know how to start
- Some times, they just need a little encouragement
- Once they know how to kick off the first step, they start to contribute

Why the seminar rocks ? (Cont.)



- Introduce open source developers to the students

Why the seminar rocks ? (Cont.)



- Encourage students to present their achievement

Why the seminar rocks ? (Cont.)



This girl is very smart, got top prize twice !

- We also held a Linux Question/Answer game in 2007

[SBRM] What's the top prize



Great Thanks to
Robert ! You
signed on 12
books patiently.

- “Linux Kernel Development” autographed by Robert Love.

[SBRM] Almost Exhausted



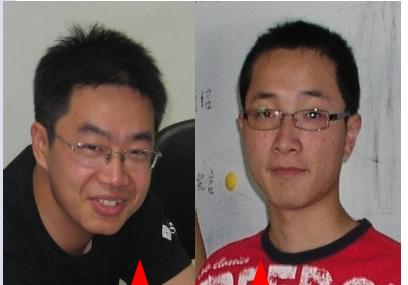
When a guy signed too much, and another guy said thank-you too much ...

- Then we both got almost exhausted ...

Contribution to Open Source

- Most of the contributions are based on openSUSE

Contribution to Open Source (Cont.)

- Porting Jens Axboe's fcache patch from Ext3 to Ext4 file system.
 - Little code hacking
 - The two students read quite a lot of code to understand, and gave 2 talks in our seminar
- 
- These guys make it
- Found and fixed a bug from Jens' patch, confirmed in LSF08

Contribution to Open Source (Cont.)

- Enable Ext4 in GRUB Legacy



This guy
did it

- Google Summer of Code 2008 project
- Prototype on openSUSE 11.1, deployed in openSUSE 11.1 and 11.2
- FATE #305162: Support Ext4 in Grub
- FATE #305691: Support Ext4 as installation option

Contribution to Open Source (Cont.)

- Fix bugs from bugzilla.novell.com
 - BNC #476388 - ocfs2console / DeprecationWarning: The popen2 module is deprecated
 - BNC #448523 - HASIe: ocfs2console seg-faults without correctly set DISPLAY
- Develop a python agent to yast2-multipath



This guy
made it

Contribution to Open Source (Cont.)

- Port openSUSE to MIPS platform



I bring the machine
with me, feel free to
touch it :-)

- Google Summer of Code 2009 project

Contribution to Open Source (Cont.)

- Write a book to introduce Debian Linux.



This guy
wrote this
book



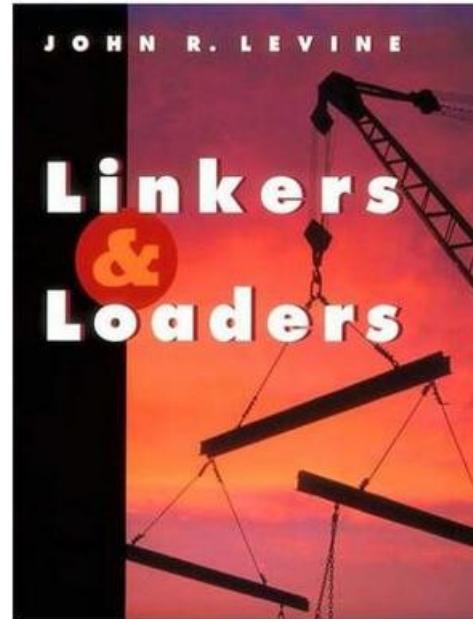
- Just published last week.

Contribution to Open Source (Cont.)

- Translate 'Linkers and Loaders' into Chinese



A Novell
employee



- Will publish end of this month (2009 Sept) ³²

Contribution to Open Source (Cont.)

- Ext4 Patches to Linux kernel.
- Patches to
 - E2fsprogs, ocfs2-tools, Hadoop

Now days

- Own website <http://linuxfb.org> (**Linux funny blah, not for frame buffer!**)
- Own mailing group
`linuxbupt@googlegroups.com`
- Some people graduate, and continue to promote open source in company

Future

- Connect industry to university
 - Find new fresh blood to join
 - Encourage more people to contribute
-
- 1/4th of human being live in China, huge manpower potential for open source world

Credits

- All attendees to linuxfb.org seminar
- Dr. Chen Xu from Intel OTC
- Emily from Sun ERI
- Fred, Pockey, eMBee from BeijingLUG
- Novell employees show heads
- Every one who helps us

Credits (Cont.)

- Thanks to every one here for listening
- Q & A
- Contact me by cloy.li@suse.de