

FOSS for Entrepreneurs

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Background

- B. Tech from N.I.T. Durgapur
- Led my college LUG
- Maintained `opendchub` and wrote `gscribble`
- Improved `codecracker`
- Worked at Zynga
- Currently at GazeMetrix

Popular open source projects

- Linux – Used extensively on servers
- Apache web server -
Serves 70% of the total web traffic on the internet
- Libreoffice, Scribus, GIMP
- VLC
- Eclipse, GNU toolkit(GCC, make, bash etc)
- Chromium, Firefox, Thunderbird
- Git Version Control
- Android
- Python, Ruby, Nodejs, jQuery

What I use

- Ubuntu, Fedora (GNOME)
- Rhythmbox, VLC
- Eclipse, GCC
- Firefox, Chrome, Thunderbird
- Libreoffice
- Python, jQuery, Bootstrap

Companies which open source

- Red Hat - Fedora
- Canonical – Ubuntu
- Google - <http://code.google.com/opensource/projects.html>
- Intel - <http://software.intel.com/sites/oss/>
- Apple - <http://www.opensource.apple.com/> , <http://www.webkit.org/>
- Facebook - <https://github.com/facebook>
- Twitter - <https://github.com/twitter>

Why do they love open source?

- Cost Factor
- Security
- Technical superiority – I don't mean closed source projects are of inferior quality. There are several products for which good open source alternatives do not exist.
- Customization
- Support
- Interoperability on multiple platforms

Starting up

- Open source has made it so easy for people to start new business, all you need is “**that big idea**”.
- Most of the technologies you need will already be available, you just have to execute your idea.

Use case - GazeMetrix

- Python, Flask
- jQuery, Underscore js, Backbone js, Twitter bootstrap
- Tornado web server
- libcv, gcc
- Ubuntu
- Redis, Mongodb
- Nltk
- Lot of other smaller modules

Before Starting up, be a good programmer

- Learn how to code and understand algorithms
- Codechef, Topcoder
- **Find what excites you**, and try to contribute to any open source project in that domain
- Use IRC – its not funky but is extremely useful
- Learn how to write emails :-) read [this](#).
- Don't skip courses at college. I have made this mistake. At least get the basics.

Questions

Feedback: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/GX96XNS>