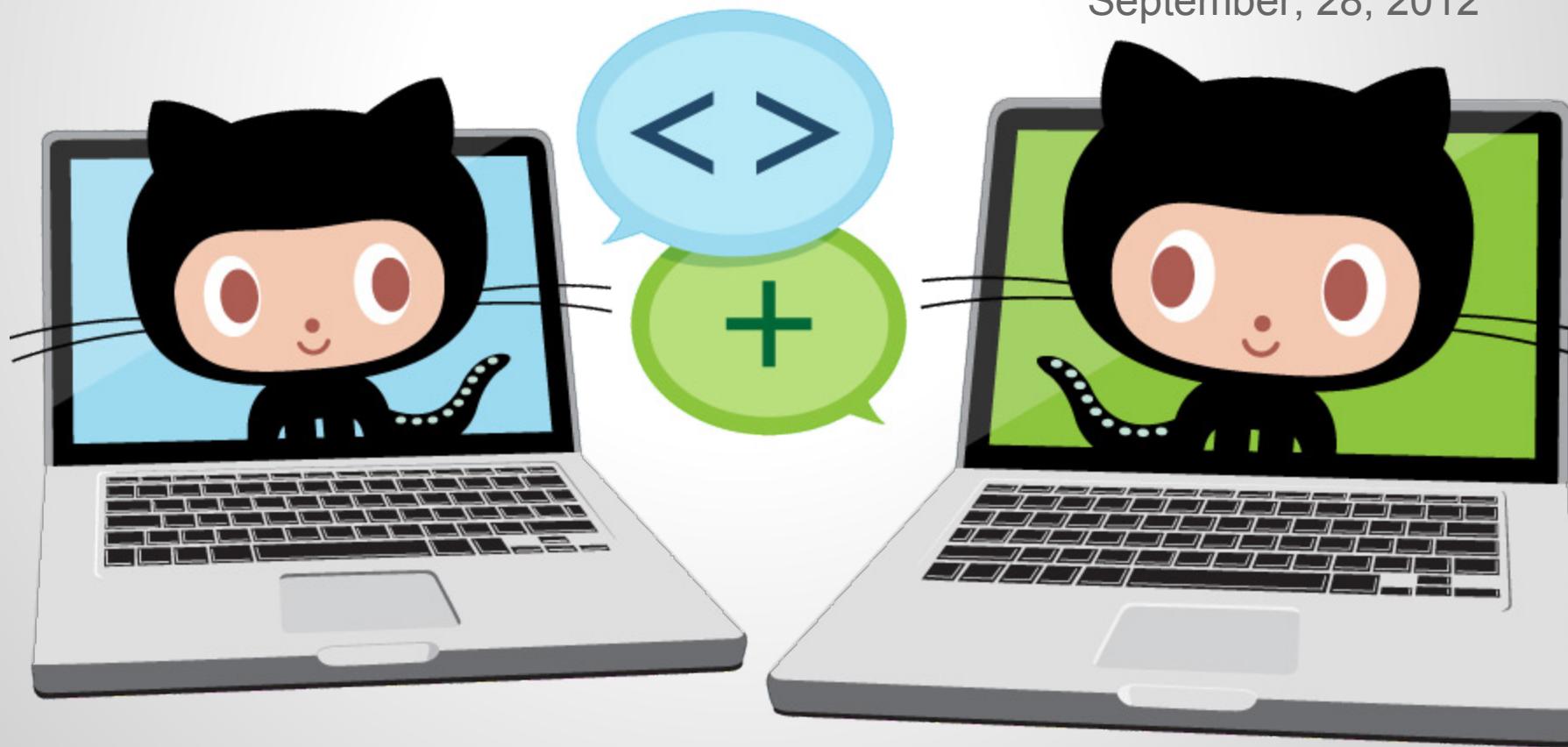


Being a Good OSS Contributor

Jeremy Mikola

Symfony Live San Francisco
September, 28, 2012





Jeremy Mikola

@jmikola

Currently

10gen | the MongoDB company



Previously



Who's using open-source software?



Who has ever...

- Posted on the mailing list or forum
- Collaborated in IRC
- Answered a question on Stack Overflow
- Written a technical blog post
- Opened an issue on GitHub
- Attended a hack day event
- Submitted a pull request
- Published a bundle

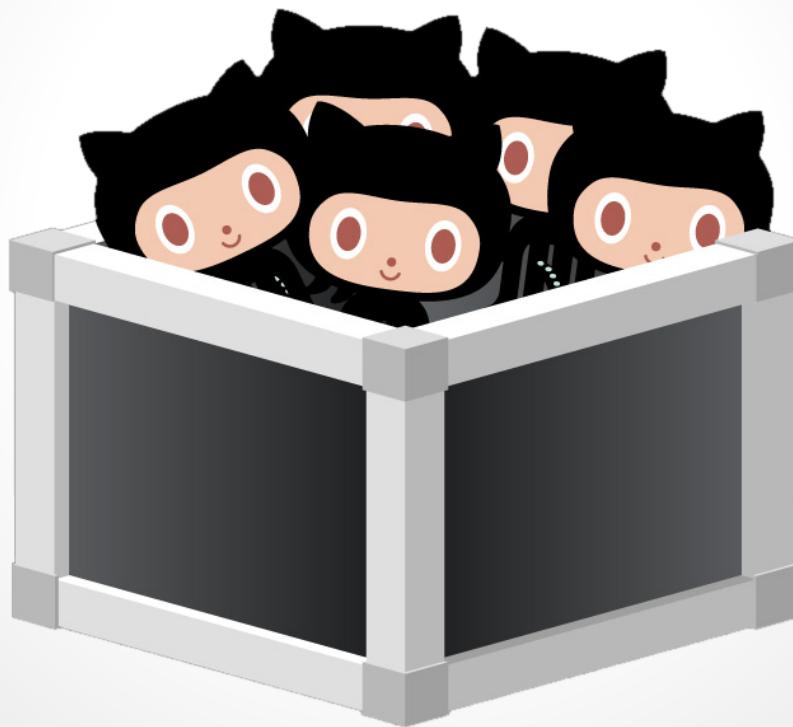
There is no shortage of opportunity.



OSS projects need...

Evangelism

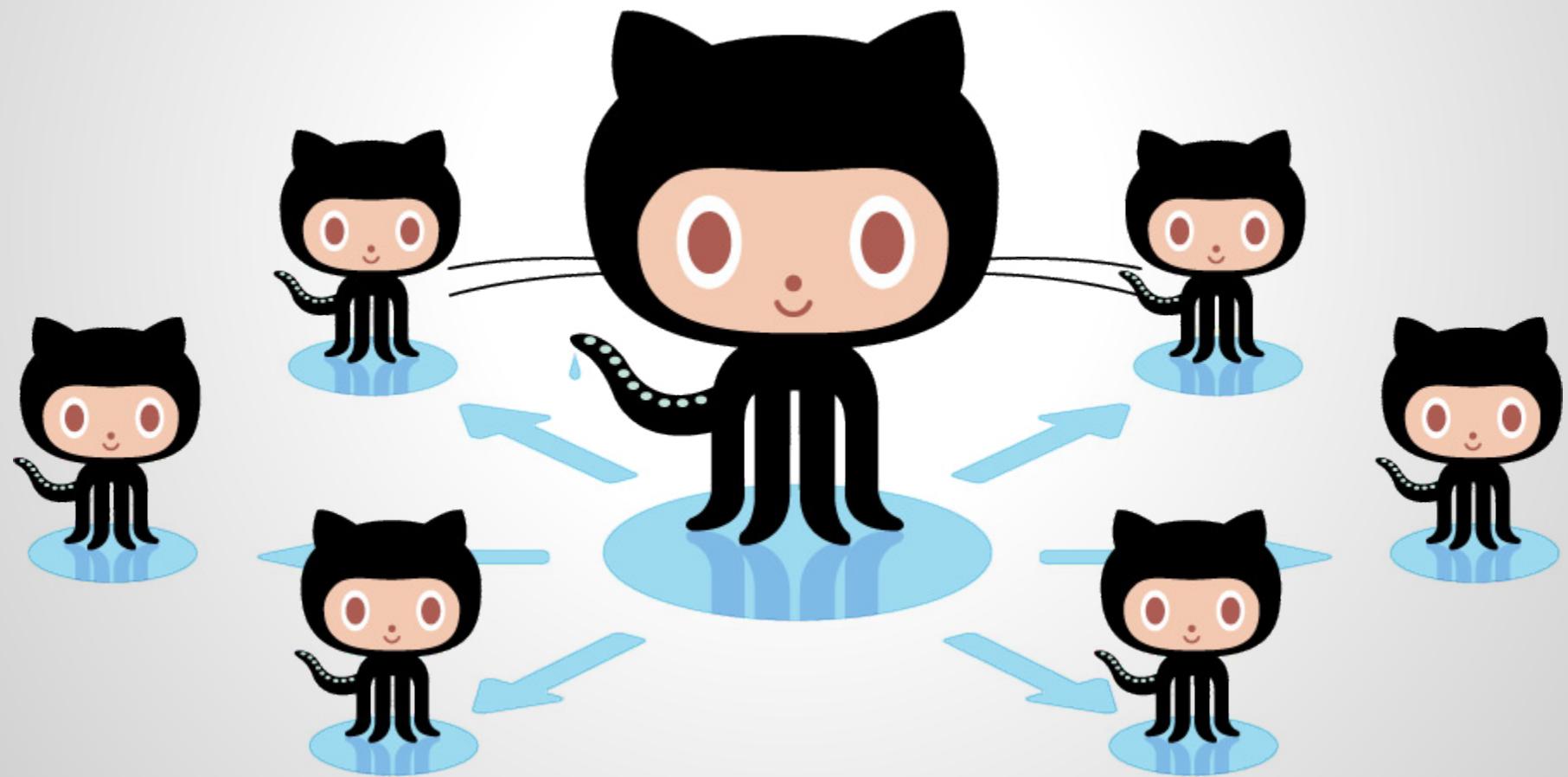
Support



Documentation

Development

Evangelism



How do we...

Discover open-source projects?

Elect to use them?

Become motivated to contribute?

We do not have an infinite supply of Lukas Smiths.



Share Your Experience

- For current and prospective users
 - Blog posts
 - Case studies
- For project members
 - Answering RFC's
 - Weighing new features or changes
 - Highlighting what works and doesn't

Feedback Guides Decision Making*

Praise → Reinforcement

Criticism → Reevaluation

*Except when it doesn't

Don't Omit Criticism

Positive feedback loops are dangerous.

The best criticism is constructive.

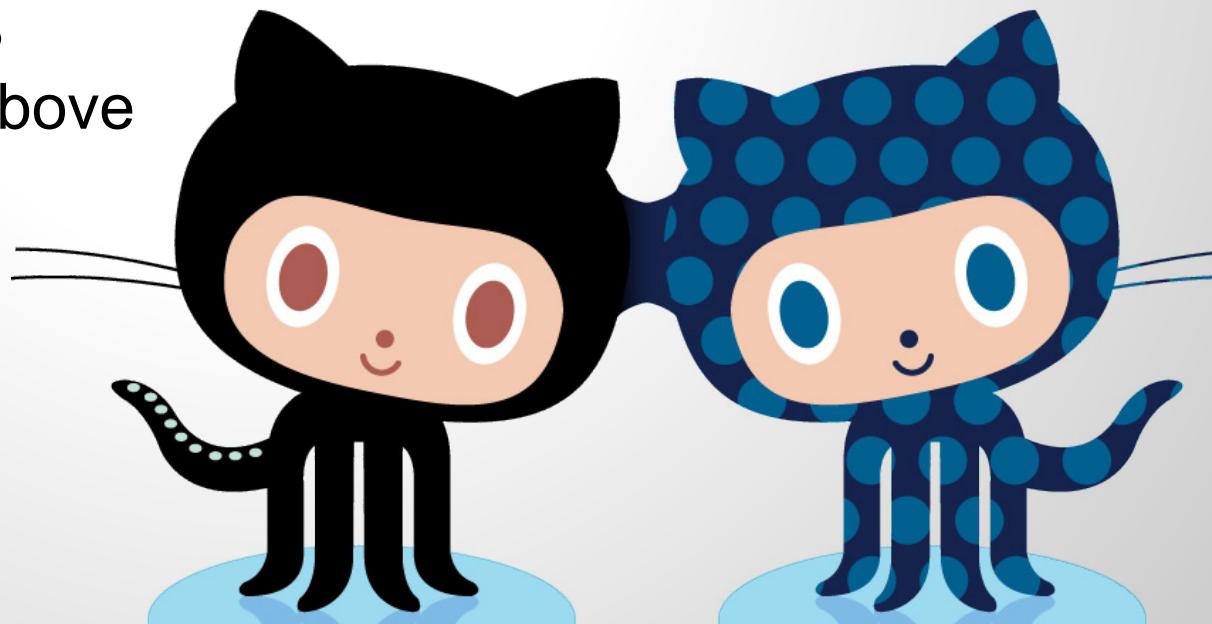
Good decisions require objectivity.



Be an advocate, not a fanboy.

Growing the Community

- As individuals
 - Attend conferences
 - Host local meetups
 - Make friends!
- As companies
 - Sponsor the above





Javier Eguiluz

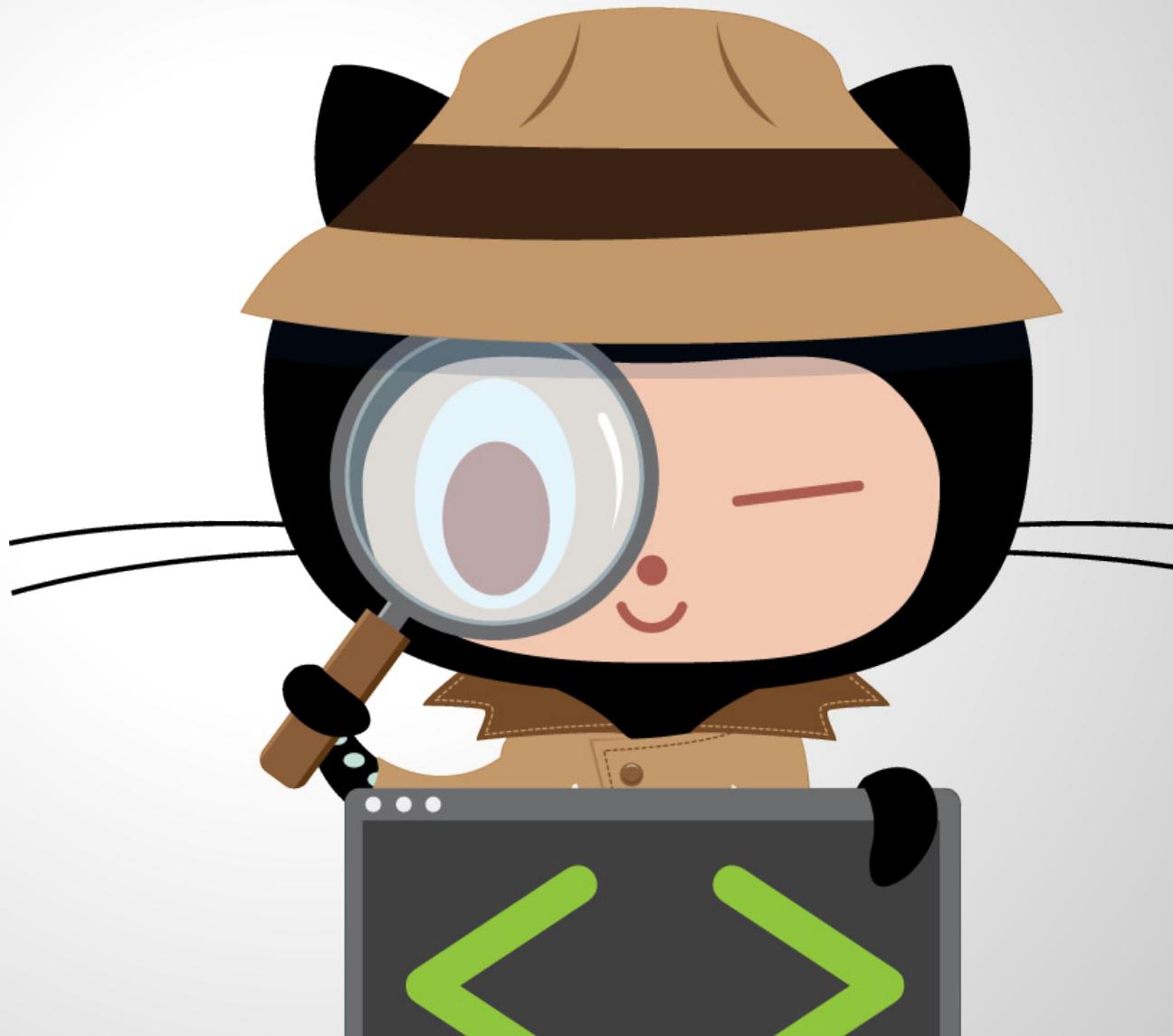


@javiereguiluz

formador, programador, lector, blogger y aspirante a emprendedor

Vitoria-Gasteiz · <http://javiereguiluz.com>

Documentation



How do we...

Get up and running?

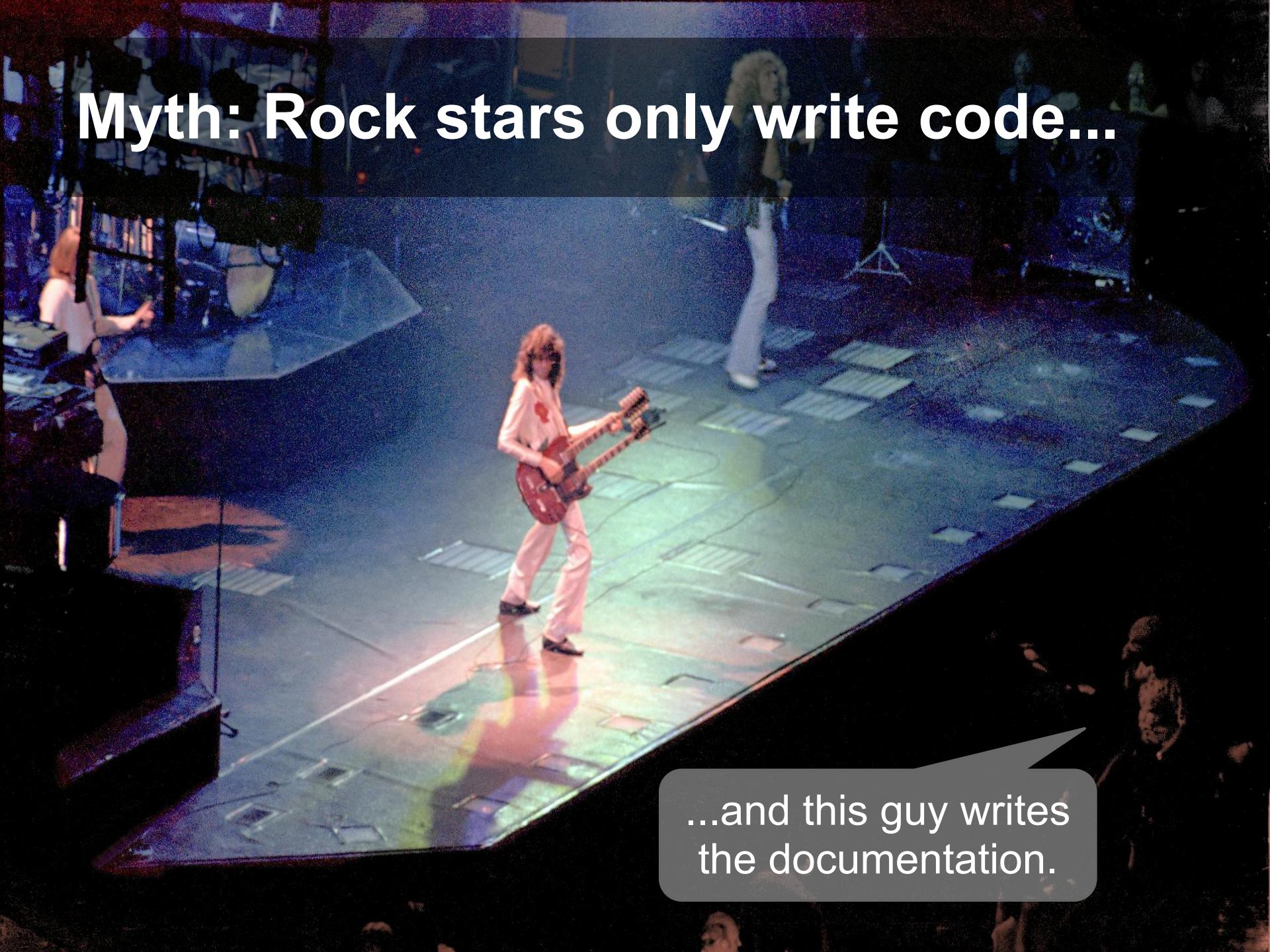
Learn how to use a project?

Get acquainted with a new API?

We do not have an infinite supply of
Ryan Weavers.



Myth: Rock stars only write code...

A photograph of a rock concert stage. In the center, a male guitarist with long hair and a white t-shirt is playing a red electric guitar. To his right, another person in a white shirt and light-colored pants is seated at a keyboard. The stage floor has a grid pattern of illuminated squares. The background is dark with stage lights.

...and this guy writes
the documentation.

[Code](#)[Network](#)[Pull Requests](#) 34[Issues](#) 164[Graphs](#)[Contributors](#)[Commits](#)[Code Frequency](#)[Impact](#)[Punchcard](#)**February 14th 2010 - September 23rd 2012**

Commits to master, excluding merge commits

Contribution Type: **Commits** ▾**weaverryan**

878 commits / 42,107 ++ / 24,334 --

#1

**fabpot**

425 commits / 57,477 ++ / 50,562 --

#2

**richardmiller**

145 commits / 7,012 ++ / 2,427 --

#3

**WouterJ**

90 commits / 769 ++ / 588 --

#4

**hhamon**

46 commits / 1,061 ++ / 306 --

#5

**stof**

35 commits / 1,873 ++ / 862 --

#6

**drak**

34 commits / 4,648 ++ / 3,623 --

#7

**mdppatrick**

32 commits / 389 ++ / 81 --

#8

Documentation comes in all forms.

- Code
- API docs
- Test cases
- README
- The Book™
- Cookbooks and tutorials
- Starter apps and distributions

But most users need these:

- Code
- API docs
- Test cases
- README
- The Book™
- Cookbooks and tutorials
- Starter apps and distributions

Ingredients for great documentation:

Consistent writing style.

Users make the best authors.

Evolves as the code changes.

Wrong documentation is dangerous.



Writing proficiency is essential.



Before You Commit

- Follow conventions
 - Formatting
 - Structure
 - Writing style
- Test your changes
 - Content: grammar, spelling, links
 - Syntax: reStructuredText, Markdown, HTML
 - Build: Sphinx, Docbook

Espanol

Translation opportunities.



Support



Users expect things to work.

Some users ask questions.

Good users file bug reports.

Awesome users submit patches.

**We do not have an infinite supply of
Christophe Coevoets.**





Jeremy Mikola

@jmikola

.@stof is 34th among the 500 most active GitHub users... just slightly behind
#TravisBot at 27 gist.github.com/2657075



Reply



Delete



Favorite

10:33 PM - 20 Aug 12 · Embed this Tweet



pborreli @pborreli

21 Aug

@jmikola and just before @fabpot who is 36th ! //cc
@Stof70

[Details](#)

Support is...

Often a thankless job.

Necessary for growth.

Never finished.

The Relentless Flow of Questions

- Why is the user asking this?
- Refer to existing content if possible
 - Previous discussions
 - Relevant documentation
- Good exchanges deserve visibility

Bug Reports

- Encourage users to report *actual* issues
 - Handle security vulnerabilities responsibly
- Triaging saves time
 - Identify duplicate and invalid reports
 - Cross-reference related or upstream issues
- Fill in the gaps
 - Collect background information
 - Create failing test cases
 - Document workarounds

Code Reviews

- Ensure the test suite passes
 - Is the current test coverage sufficient?
 - Avoid arguments with **travisbot**
- Object calisthenics*
- Coding standards and conventions
 - <https://github.com/klaussilveira/phpcs-psr>
 - <https://github.com/fabpot/PHP-CS-Fixer>

*Helpful principles, but don't go overboard



travisbot commented

4 months ago

This pull request fails (merged [23548ff](#) into [1aa2cfe](#)).



nickl- commented

4 months ago

I give up!

Why would travis complain these two patches are not even related? The problem is not on my side I have checked.



stof commented

4 months ago

@nickl- As I said previously, travis runs the testsuite of composer. As it is failing on 5.3.3 even in master, it is **logical** for it to fail also in your PR.



nickl- commented

4 months ago

It's markdown for crying out loud, what is there to fail?

Leave it I don't have time to play with bots and automated scripts that don't work. I hate this: "**The computer says No**" mentality. Let the computer fix it then what is it here for, just to complain and say **Nooo**? Not in my world I'm very sorry. Bring travis over here for a weekend he'll sing a different tune before long. I've already given you 3 chances now you're just taking the piss. If this is how you see progress I'm better off somewhere else.

Thank you very much and have a nice day.

Closed

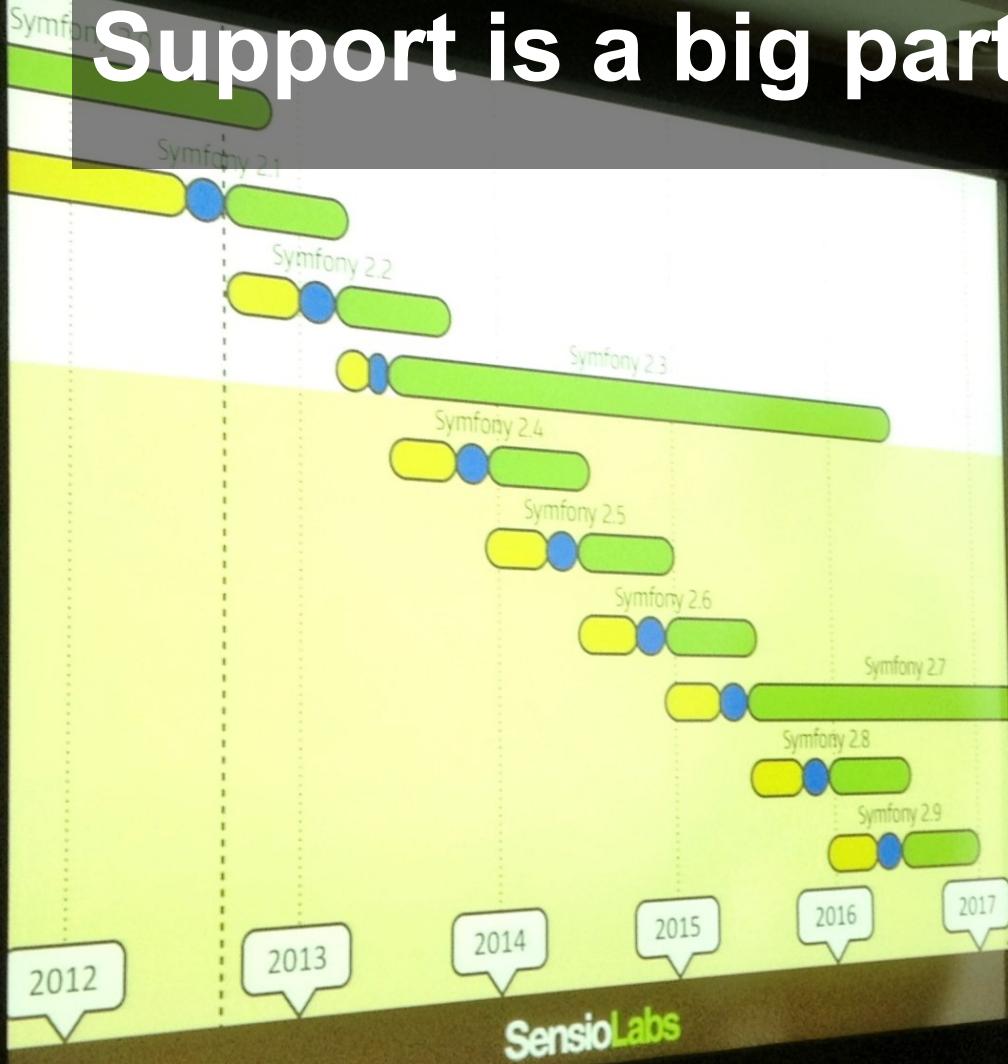


nickl- closed the pull request 4 months ago

Teach others to do what you're doing.



Support is a big part of it.





Donated for the Symfony/Twig/Doctrine security audits

You have helped the community by donating some money for the Symfony/Twig/Doctrine security audits.

This badge is assigned by [symfony.com](#) and its level is [Easy](#).

Recently awarded Users - last 100



Steve Daniels



Pedro Casado



Gianluca Merlo



Bernd Matzner



Daniel Holmes



Nikolai Nikiforov



Stefan
Koopmanschap



eneko zarauz



Sébastien Berger



Michi Lehr



Mario Rezende



Ivan Shakuta



Sören Rohweder



Jacob Dreesen



Bertrand Zuchuat



Kaoru YUKI



Olaf van Zandwijk



Sorin Neacsu



Pascal Borreli



Christian Schaefer



Igor Wiedler

Development



We do not have an infinite supply of
Fabien Potenciers.



...pers have contributed to Symfony2 recently.

1. **Fabien Potencier**
246 commits – 1,468 changes

4. **Eriksen Costa**
14 commits – 7,373 changes

7. **Romain Neutron**
7 commits – 1,003 changes

2. **Tobias Schultze**
40 commits – 1,070 changes

5. **Michał Piotrowski**
11 commits – 461 changes

8. **Victor Berchet**
5 commits – 186 changes

3. **Bernhard Schussek**
32 commits – 9,150 changes

6. **Pascal Borrell**
9 commits – 306 changes

9. **Karma Dordrak**
5 commits – 86 changes

TOP CONTRIBUTORS (ALL TIME)

552 developers have contributed to Symfony2.

1. **Fabien Potencier**
5323 commits – 764,730 changes

2. **Bernhard Schussek**
723 commits – 239,490 changes

3. **Victor Berchet**
339 commits – 22,809 changes

4. **Jordi Boggiano**
309 commits – 16,234 changes

5. **Johannes S**
298 commits – 78,450 changes

6. **Kris Wallsmith**
286 commits – 17,453 changes

7. **Christophe Coevoet**
208 commits – 9,404 changes

8. **Karma Dordrak**
136 commits – 38,313 changes

9. **Ryan Weaver**
133 commits – 4,973 changes

Taking the First Step

How many OSS projects started because of a tangible need for some basic functionality?

How many core developers got their start by fixing a small bug?

Reconnaissance

Start with bug fixes or small tasks.

Collect feedback prior to major contributions.

Join developer chats and roadmap discussions.



Code

Network

Pull Requests

129

Issues

390

Graphs

Open

everzet wants to merge 69 commits into `symfony:master` from `everzet:resource-watc...`

4,199 #4605

Discussion

-o Commits 69

Files Changed 41



everzet opened this pull request 3 months ago

Open

[2.2] ResourceWatcher component (final?)

No one is assigned

No milestone

Bug fix: no

Feature addition: yes

Backwards compatibility break: no

Symfony2 tests pass: yes

Fixes the following tickets: -

Over two
years ago!

+ 4,176 additions

- 23 deletions

This is final rebased version of #3961, which was a refactoring of #391

Short overview

This component is here for tracking filesystem changes. You're registering directory or file resources to track with specific track name (`tracking_id`) and `start()` watcher. Watcher checks for FS changes after specific timespan and if some change occur (file/directory create/update/delete) - watcher dispatches `EventDispatcher` event with `resource_watcher.all`, `resource_watcher.tracking_id` names and `FilesystemEvent` as argument.

7 participants



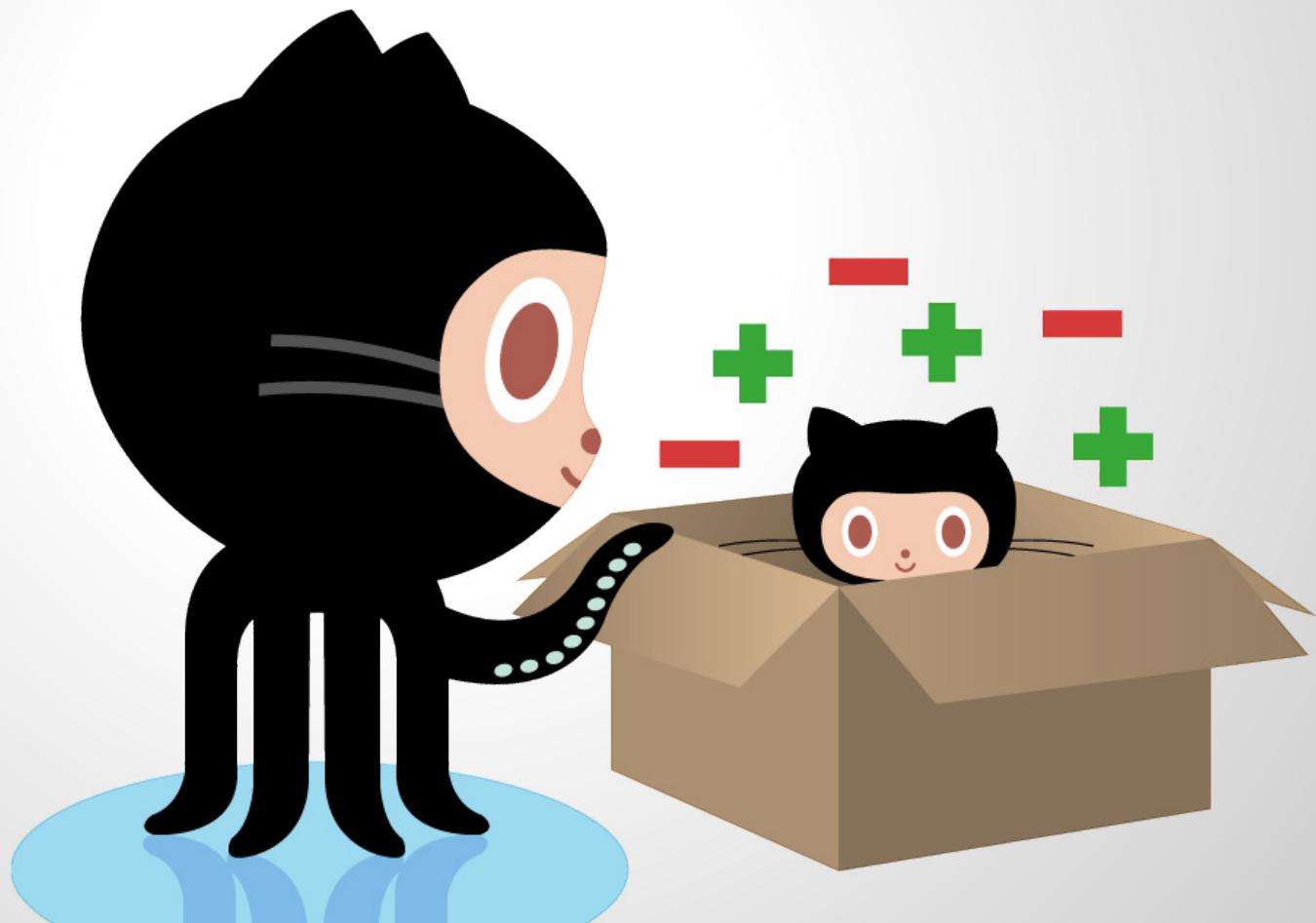
Be a humble contributor.

Who are you implementing this for?

Review your own work before you expect someone else to.

Don't turn code reviews into religious debates.

There are no small contributors, just small changesets.





Pascal Borreli

@pborreli

CEO of my life, CTO of my localhost, co-founder of my son, Symfony evangelist, impulsive typo fixer, web addict but not too much

- <https://github.com/pborreli>

Code

Network

Pull Requests 2Issues 9

Graphs

Closed

pborrelli wants to merge 8 commits into `WhiteHouse:7.x-1.x` from `pborrelli:typos`74  #3

Discussion

Commits 8Files Changed 15

pborrelli opened this pull request a month ago

Closed

Fixed few typos

4 participants



+ 37 additions

- 37 deletions



pborrelli added some commits

a month ago

	pborrelli	Removed duplicated array key	6b6d748
	pborrelli	Removed useless assignment	 df42192
	pborrelli	Removed old param in PHPDoc	045d9c7
	pborrelli	Added missing param in PHPDoc	ad350b5
	pborrelli	Fixed typo in definition of variable	7189255
	pborrelli	Fixed typo in key name	a6cd8e8
	pborrelli	Fixed typo in variable name	20a087e



christiangenco commented

a month ago

That was fast.



pborrelli added a commit

a year ago



pborrelli [Pdf] Removing unreachable "brake"

1bc3ebf



naholyr started a discussion in the diff a year ago

library/Zend/Pdf/Action/AbstractAction.php

[View full changes](#)

```
... ... @@ -156,79 +156,60 @@ abstract class AbstractAction extends Pdf\InternalStructure\NavigationTarget imp
156 156     switch ($dictionary->S->value) {
157 157         case 'GoTo':
158 158             return new GoToAction($dictionary, $processedActions);
159 -             brake;
```

4



naholyr

a year ago

WTF? "brake"? What's supposed to do? Continue to next step, but slower? x]
Thanks god it was unreachable ^^



n1k0

a year ago

Everything next to word "goto" makes me want to brake anyway.



clemherreman

a year ago

Both awesome and scary, IN THE SAME TIME !



ornicar

a year ago

I hope it's going to be faster now.



kherge

Hooray, somebody is contributing to a few of my projects! Find all sorts of typos, and one embarrassing oversight with an argument not being used in a method.



🕒 4d



Reply

🔗 via Alpha



shrop

@kherge nice! that is what it's about.. #opensource



🕒 4d

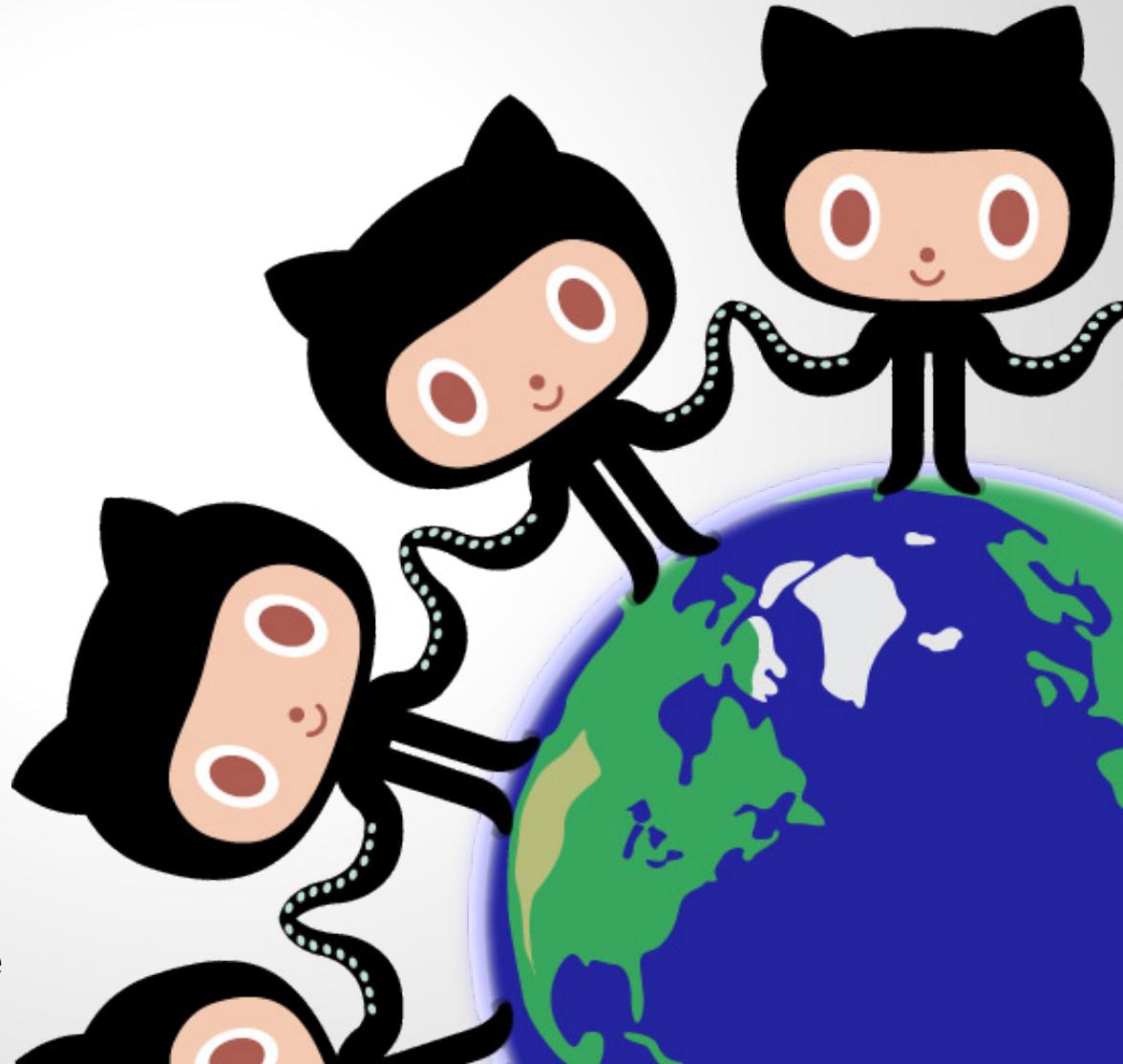


Reply

🔗 via #moApp

🔇 Mute user

Don't create borders where there are none*.



*CLA's may be a valid excuse

[Code](#)[Network](#)[Pull Requests](#)

23

[Wiki](#)[Graphs](#)**Closed**akrabat merged 1 commit into [zendframework:master](#) from [fabpot:fix/escaper](#) 3 months ago

11 #1633

[Discussion](#)[Commits](#) 1[Files Changed](#) 1

fabpot opened this pull request 3 months ago

Closed

Fix exception when iconv or mbstring is not installed (was not reachable before)

+ 6 additions

- 5 deletions

No one is assigned

No milestone

Everything is in the title.

2 participants



fabpot added a commit

3 months ago

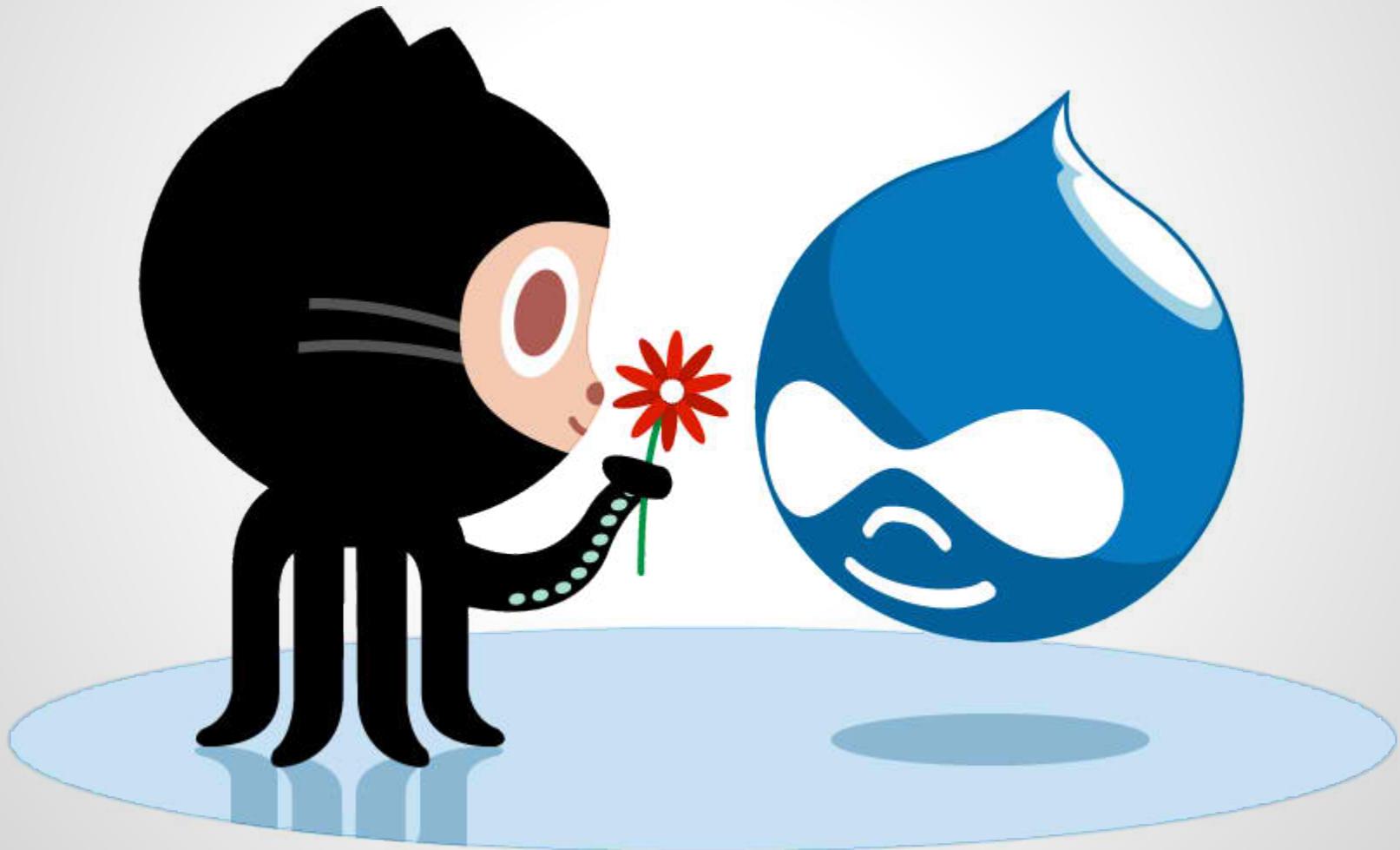
fabpot Fix exception when iconv or mbstring is not installed (was not reacha... [...](#) 65c89ff**Merged**akrabat merged commit 65c89ff into [zendframework:master](#) from [fabpot:fix/escaper](#) 3 months ago

akrabat commented

3 months ago

Thanks.

Collaboration leads to wonderful things.



Don't stop building.





Jacopo Romei

@jacoporomei

Today I say "thank you" to the #opensource community for the best chance of my life as an individual & as a community. Join me with a RT.

Reply

Retweet

Favorite

12

RETWEETS



6:49 AM - 28 Sep 12 · Embed this Tweet

Thanks!

<https://joind.in/7216>

Photo Credits

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- <http://www.flickr.com/photos/downingstreet/3406910050/>
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- <http://www.flickr.com/photos/thewmatt/1864823746/>